

THIS PAGE WAS LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY.

Rv	Council Member.	Battaglia	
_,	COMMINAL AVENUAGE.		1

COUNCIL CHAMBER

February	17	20 <u>_1</u> 6
	February	February 17

RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Meadville,

That:

The attached Final Plan of the Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan of the City of Meadville is hereby adopted; and

The members of the City of Meadville Planning Commission, Project Steering Committee, City Staff and the City Council are to be commended for their many hours of work preparing the Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan.

The City of Meadville can begin using the plan to enhance recreation, connections and quality of life for the citizens of the Meadville community.

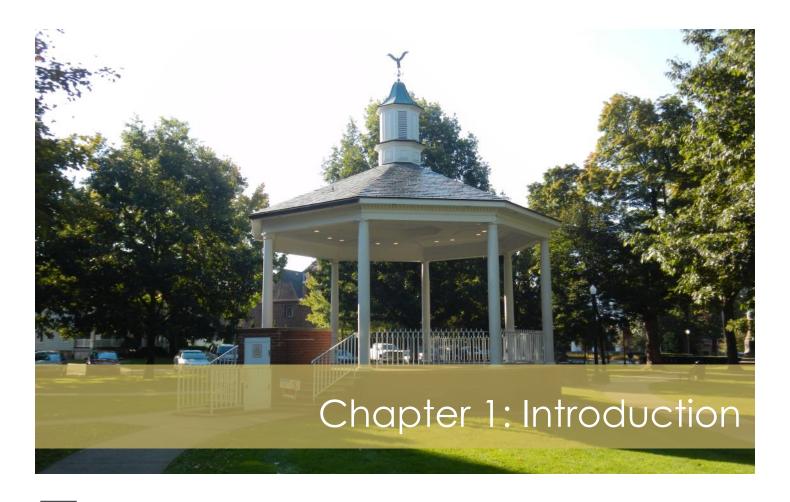
I, Janet L. Niedermeyer, hereby certify that I am the duly appointed Deputy City Clerk of the City of Meadville, and the above Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Meadville held on February 17, 2016 and that a minimum number of Councilmembers were present to represent a quorum.

Deputy City Clerk

THIS PAGE WAS LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY.

Chapter 1: Introduction	
Project Location	1.2
Demographics	1.3
Planning Process	1.5
Public Involvement	1.6
Chapter 2: Inventory and Analysis	
Park & Recreation Facilities	2.1
Programming	2.10
Administration	2.14
Personnel	2.16
Maintenance	2.18
Financing	2.20
Chapter 3: Needs Assessment	
Park & Recreation Facilities	3.1
Programming	3.5
Administration/Personnel	3.9
Maintenance	3.12
Financing	3.14
Chapter 4: Action Plan	
Goal 1	4.2

	Goal 4	4.6
	Goal 5	4.7
	Goal 6	4.8
	Goal 7	4.9
	Goal 8	4.10
App	pendices	
	Stakeholders	A
	Public Meeting	В
	Public Survey	C
	Connections Report	D
	Maintenance Equipment List	E
	Inventory Matrix	F
	Funding Sources	G



he purpose of the Meadville Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan (Plan) is to inventory and analyze all components of parks, recreation, and open space within the City. In 2013, the City adopted a comprehensive land use plan that included recreation in a general sense. One of the high priority recommendations of the plan was for the City to develop a comprehensive park, recreation and open space plan.

It is worth noting here that the term "recreation" is sometimes used rather broadly. For purposes of this Plan, a simple definition of recreation is the entire range of activities, relationships, interactions, and experiences planned for and carried out to meet the needs of residents. This includes providing the spaces and places where recreation takes place. Community recreation and parks is anything and everything the community does to satisfy people's interests.

Studies of recreation use and availability in communities has shown it is important for a number of reasons:

- Provide economic value improve the local tax base and increase property values; attract businesses;
 and City trees save money in storm water retention facility costs
- * Provide **health and environmental benefits** improve water quality, protect groundwater, improve air quality; reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and perceived physical health benefits are significantly related to the length of stay in visits to parks
- * Provide **social importance** parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community; provide gathering places for families and social groups and; community involvement in neighborhood parks is associated with lower levels of crime, vandalism and reduced juvenile delinquency; parks provide a sense of pride and community cohesion

(source: recreation.eku/edu/importance-parks-and-recreation).

PROJECT LOCATION

The City of Meadville is located in Crawford County in Northwestern Pennsylvania. It is accessed primarily from other metropolitan areas such as Erie and Pittsburgh via Interstate 79 as shown on Figure 1-1 below. The City is surrounded by West Mead Township to the north, east and south; Woodcock Township to the north; and Vernon Township to the west. Meadville is the county seat and the home to major institutions such as Allegheny College, the Meadville Medical Center and Wesbury Retirement Community.

Figure 1: Location Map Erie 0 5 10 20 Miles 90 Meadville llegheny NF Cleveland 82 Youngstown Pittsburgh

DEMOGRAPHICS

Note: Unless otherwise noted, the information for this section was obtained from the US Census Bureau, 2010 Census and 2014 American Community Survey

The Meadville Comprehensive Plan (2013) provided a detailed demographic overview. For purposes of this recreation plan, the following excerpts provide a brief overview of the population trends in the City.

Meadville's population as of the 2010 Census was 13,388. 2014 population estimates from the US Census show that the population has declined slightly to 13,238. This continues the City's trend of population loss from 1960. These losses are not overly significant, but they do differ from Crawford County, which has seen some population gain in the decades since 1960, however recent years have shown population loss in the county as well.

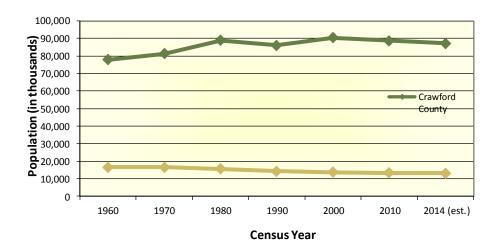


Chart 1.1.: General Population Trends

Age is an important aspect to review as it can determine the level and types of services needed in a community. For instance, if a municipality has an aging population then services needed may include transportation geared for persons with limited mobility, a variety of housing options, and different types of recreation. When a municipality has a younger population with a great amount of school age children this can affect the school district, as well as a demand for more playgrounds and recreational programming. The City has a much higher percentage of high school aged and post secondary school aged population than the County and State, although the high percentage of persons in the post-secondary school age in the City is probably due to Allegheny College students.

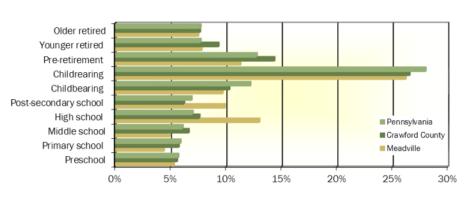


Chart 1.2.: Age of Population

Percent of Total Population

The economic climate in a community is important as it can help to determine how much residents can and / or are willing to pay for recreation. It is important to note that Meadville's median income (in 2013 dollars) was \$31,397, which is significantly lower than the County at \$42,504 and Pennsylvania at \$52,548. Table 1.1 breaks the earnings down into types. Although Meadville has a lower percentage of its population drawing retirement income (17.2%) compared to the County (21.9%) and Pennsylvania (20.1%), a much higher percent of Meadville's population (7.6%) is on public assistance. This indicates that a significant portion of the population is struggling financially and may not have disposable income to spend on recreation.

Table 1.1: Earnings						
	Pennsylvania	Crawford County	Meadville			
With earnings	75.6%	72.1%	68.9%			
With Social Security income	32.7%	38.9%	39.9%			
With Supplemental Security						
Income	5.5%	7.9%	13.7%			
With public assistance income	3.5%	4.7%	7.6%			
With retirement income	20.1%	21.9%	17.2%			

PLANNING PROCESS

The Meadville Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan consisted of three main phases: Inventory and Analysis, Needs Assessment and Action Plan.

Phase I - Inventory and Analysis

This phase included developing the Community Profile, which included a demographic analysis and an inventory of existing park and recreation facilities, programs, management and financing. These were completed through field views by a Certified Park and Recreation Practitioner and supplemented with interviews with key stakeholders with recreation providers and Steering Committee meetings.

Phase II - Needs Assessment

This phase included identifying and assessing the recreational needs of Meadville. The needs assessment was completed utilizing information collected during Phase I and was supplemented by stakeholder interviews, public meetings and surveys and Steering Committee meetings.

Phase III - Action Plan

This phase included developing recommendations to meet the needs identified during previous phases. The action plan was created to address identified needs, while taking into account the reality of the current staffing and fiscal constraints of the City.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In an effort to engage as many people as possible in the planning effort, public input was gathered through a variety of methods.

Steering Committee Meetings

Regular meetings were held with a Steering Committee throughout the project. This committee was appointed by the City as well as West Mead Township (to help develop the Oak Grove Master Site Plan) and was comprised of local elected and appointed officials, municipal staff, the Crawford Central School District, Allegheny College and the Meadville Area Recreation Complex (MARC).

Stakeholder Interviews (Key Person Interviews)

Various stakeholders were contacted to gather information either through a survey, phone interview or in person interview. These stakeholders were identified by the Steering Committee and included individuals and groups that have knowledge of or offer recreation opportunities in the Meadville Area. A full list of stakeholders can be found in Appendix A.

Public Meetings

Two Public Open House Meetings were held during the project. This first meeting took place on January 20, 2015. Approximately 30 people attended and provided input at various stations as well as through an exit survey (results from the meeting notes and exit surveys can be found in Appendix B). The following stations were available at the meeting:

- Park Facilities
- Programs
- * Connections
- * Oak Grove Master Site Plan
- * MARC

The second Public Open house meeting was held on July 21, 2015. 21 people signed in and provided input at the following stations:

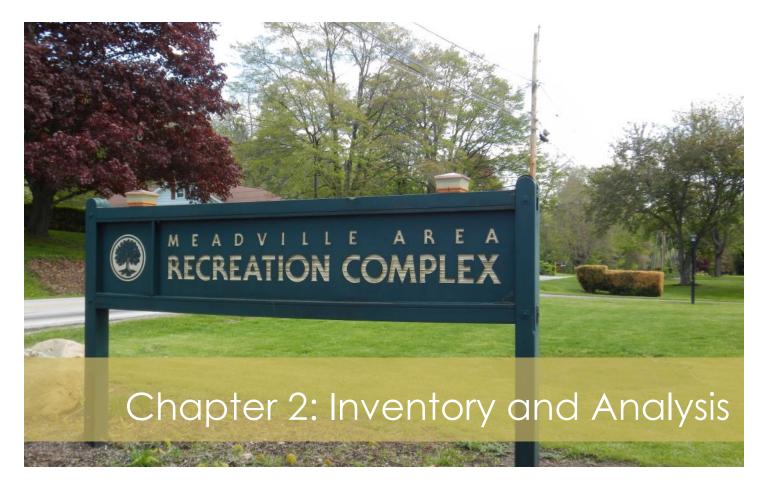
- * Action Items (participants ranked their top 5 priorities in terms of facilities, programs, connections, publicity, finances, staffing, and partnerships, conservation/preservation
- * Oak Grove Master Site Plan

Survey

In an effort to gather additional information from residents and others that could not attend a public meeting, an online survey was available in July 2015. The survey provided respondents and opportunity to rank recommendations in terms of High, Medium and Low priority. This information was then combined with the ranking completed by the Steering Committee and the public at the second public meeting to determine priorities for Meadville in terms of recreation. A full copy of the survey can be found in Appendix C.

Cycle Around Meadville

Providing safe and well defined connections to and within the City of Meadville was identified as a priority early in the planning process. In order to more accurately see what opportunities exist for connections an informal bike ride was facilitated. In addition to a Mackin staff member, eight representatives from the Meadville biking community attended a ride in the fall of 2014. The route included multiple segments throughout Meadville and West Mead Townsihop. The information gathered from this ride helped to inform the potential connections identified on Maps 2, 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D. Further information regarding the potential connections as well as costs can be found in Appendix D.



One of the initial steps in completing the Meadville Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan (Plan) was to inventory the recreation facilities, programs, administration/personnel, maintenance and financing to gain an understanding of what is currently provided and how recreation operates within the City. Data was primarily gathered through interviews with recreation providers and field views.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The City of Meadville and the surrounding region offer a variety of recreational facilities that include municipal parks, sports facilities and trails. Site visits were conducted in order to prepare an inventory of the available recreation facilities. These sites included public as well as non-profit facilities.

- * Public park areas, recreation facilities, programs and services that are provided by national, state, regional and / or local government and are supported by tax dollars for use by the general public.
- * School Facilities recreation facilities owned by educational institutions such as school districts or universities.
- * Nonprofit park areas, recreation facilities, programs and services that are provided generally by social service oriented associations that rely on volunteer support. Nonprofit organizations usually have a specific mission and operate on a non for profit financial basis relying on membership fees, donations and grants.

The City of Meadville owns and operates sixteen parks and recreation facilities. Bicentennial, Cora Clark/Render, Diamond, and Huidekoper are community parks, which are designed to serve the recreation needs of the entire community. The City operates two neighborhood parks as well: HP Way Park (currently under renovation) and Shadybrook Park which are designed to serve their surrounding neighborhoods. The City also owns several Mini Park / Tot Lots and Passive Recreation Areas: Elizabeth Park, General Mead Park, Lincoln Avenue Playground, Pocket Park, Pomona Park, and Shadow Oaks Park. Rainbow Lake and the Unnamed Park are undeveloped city owned property, and DeArment Park is a landscaped gateway into the city. The City owned facilities are described further on the following pages and are shown on Map 1:Existing Resources.



Bicentennial Park is one of Meadville's Community Parks located off of Mead Street, along French Creek. The park is well maintained and is one of the only places within the City with boat access to the creek.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Picnic Grove
- * Log Cabin
- * Boat Launch
- * Pavilion
- * Playground
- * Restrooms

Cora Clark Park / Render Park

16.3 Acres

Description

Cora Clark Park is a Community Park located off Pine Street in Meadville's southeastern section. The park is primarily passive, but does have access to a nature trail and is located adjacent to Render Park, which is a wooded area with potential for additional trails.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Pavilion
- * Picnic Deck
- * Nature Trail



DeArment Park 0.1 Acres



Description

DeArment Park is very nicely landscaped area and serves as a primary gateway into Meadville for those traveling from Interstate 79 and Route 19.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

* Landscaped Area

Diamond Park 4.5 Acres

Description

Diamond Park is a Community Park located in Diamond Square. This area is adjacent to the City and County Buildings and serves as a main gathering area within Meadville. There are various events and concerts held in the park throughout the year. The park is also home to the Shippen Fountain, named for its creator, Evans Shippen and is believed to be the second oldest iron fountain in the Country.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Gazebo
- * Monuments
- * Shippen Fountain
- * Open Grass Areas
- * Benches



Elizabeth Park 0.6 Acres



Description

Elizabeth Park is a passive area within Meadville, located off Chestnut and Alden Streets. The park provides a pleasant area to sit and enjoy nature within an urban neighborhood.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Open space
- * Landscaping with a variety of plants
- * Bench
- * Paved walkway

General Mead Park

0.1 Acres

Description

General Mead Park is a passive historical site located at Randolph and Terrace Streets. The park was developed to honor General David Mead, founder of Meadville and a General during the Revolutionary War.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Open space
- * Historical plaque



HP Way Park 6.5 Acres

Description

HP Way Park is a neighborhood park located off of Highland Avenue and Limber Road. This park is under renovation due to the installation of new water tanks adjacent to the park. A public process is currently underway to determine what types of facilities will be included in the new park.

2.4

FINAL PLAN: February 2016



Huidekoper Park is a community park located at the intersection of Poplar Street, Grove Street and Williamson Road (near the Meadville Medical Center).

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Basketball Court
- * Tennis Courts (2)
- * Playground Equipment
- Large Pavilion (with electricity)

Lincoln Avenue Playground

0.4 Acres

Description

Lincoln Avenue Playground is a mini park / tot lot located off of Lincoln Avenue and Lyon Street in the Fifth Ward of Meadville.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Playground
- Paved area (former basketball court)
- * Storage Building
- * Water Fountain (not currently in use)
- * Sidewalk



Mill Run Pocket Park is a passive recreation area located along Market Street in Downtown Meadville that is currently under renovation. Once the adjacent parking structure is demolished, there is an opportunity to expand the existing park to allow for greater use.



Description

Pomona Park is a passive recreation area located along Linden and Water Streets and is bisected by the French Creek Parkway.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Historic Site with train engine and caboose on tracks
- * Large railroad tooling equipment on concrete pads
- * Open grass area

Rainbow Lake and Open Field

14.7 Acres

Description

Rainbow Lake is located adjacent to Shadybrook Park. There is also a large grassy area next to the lake that is used by Central Crawford School District as a practice field.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Lake
- * Open Space Area



Shadow Oaks Park is a passive recreation area located along Shadow Oaks Drive.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Small Sign
- * Grass area with trees



Shadybrook Park

4.1 Acres



Description

Shadybrook Park is a neighborhood park located along Morgan Street across from the high school football stadium. This park is a well maintained and highly used park within the City.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

- * Pavilion
- Composting toilets
- * Walking path
- * Playground
- * Volleyball Court
- * Basketball Court
- * Open grass activity area

Unnamed Park

25 Acres

Description

The Unnamed Park is a large wooded site located along Liberty Street. The site has steep slopes, which limit its development.

Facilities

The following facilities are located within the park

* Wooded / Wildlife Area



As mentioned previously, regional facilities were also inventoried. There are a number of facilities such as the Meadville Area Recreation Complex (MARC) and the Ernst Trail and municipal parks noted in the Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: Regional Facilities

Name of Facility	Size	Ownership	Facilities Present
Hillcrest Park	14.5 acres	Meadville Housing Corporation	Open Space
Elm & Liberty Street Playground	-	Meadville Housing Corporation	Pavilion, Playground, basketball court
Gator Park	-	Allegheny College	Passive area
Gibson Field	-	Crawford Central School District	Small grass area
Canal Park	o.5 acres	Crawford County Historical Society	Historical site with 8 interpretive kiosks and overlook
Smock Riverwalk	5.3 acres	French Creek Valley Conservancy	Nature Trail
Meadville Area Recreation Center	15.8 acres	Meadville Area Recreation Authority	Indoor & outdoor pool, ice skating rink, three sand volleyball courts, four tennis courts, two picnic shelters, skate park, gardens, trails, hoop house
Crawford Co YMCA	-	YMCA	Fitness center, pool, gym, teen center, class rooms
Eldred Glen	30.4 acres	Meadville Area Recreation Authority	Ball field, soccer field, multipurpose field, restrooms
Autumn Hill Park	-	West Mead Township	Playground, basketball court
Green Mountain Park	-	West Mead Township	Playground, sandbox, basketball court, trail
Oak Grove Park	28 acres	West Mead Township	Ball field, two pavilions, play equipment, trails, horseshoe pits historic setting, Ponce de Leon mineral spring memorial
Lincoln Avenue Sports Complex	-	Vernon Township Maintained by Sertoma Club	Playground, basketball court, four softball fields
Mary Gable Park	-	Vernon Township	Open field, access to French Creek
Kerrtown Park	-	Vernon Township	Basketball court, playground, Kerrtown Community Center
Roche Park	-	Vernon Township	4 ball fields, 5 pavilions, paved walking trails, fitness equipment, playgrounds, basketball court, batting cage, gazebo, volleyball court, horseshoe pits
Sunbeam Field	-	Private ownership	Soccer field
Tamarack Lake	-	PA Fish & Boat Commission	Currently an empty lake with open and wooded land adjacent. Lake is scheduled to be refilled
Ernst Trail	-	French Creek Recreational Trails Organization	Paved trail (7.5 miles complete)
Soccer Complex	90 acres	Crawford County Youth Soccer Association	Fourteen soccer fields – includes larger fields that accommodate several small cross fields

Table 2.1: Continued

Name of Facility	Size	Ownership	Facilities Present
Country Club of Meadville		Meadville Country Club	18 hole golf course, practice range, putting green pool, dining area
Hailwood Golf Course	-	Hailwood Golf Course	9 hole golf course
Whispering Pines Golf Course	130 acre	Whispering Pines Golf Course	18 hole public course
Baseball Complex	-	Meadville Area Youth Baseball	Five ballfields, pavilion, playground
Crawford County Fairgrounds		Crawford County	Fairground facilities/buildings
Black Ash Sportsmen's Club		Sportsmen's club	Rifle range, skeet field, pistol range, clubhouse
Meadville Sportsmen's Club	35 acres	Sportsmen's club	2 trap fields, 2 skeet fields, archery targets, pistol range, rifle range, clubhouse
Meadville KOA		KOA	Camping, snack bar, pavilion, miniature golf, fishing
Crawford Central School District			Gym, playgrounds, football complex
Allegheny College			Gyms, pool wellness center, basketball court, racquetball court, track, sports fields
Johnson-Shaw Stereoscopic Museum	-	Museum	Stereography
Bernie Graham Memorial Park	-	Presbyterian Church	Picnic shelter
Woodcock Creek Lake Park and Dam	311	US Army Corps of Engineers	Picnic areas, playground, overlook, wildlife trails, lake camping area, beach boat launch, basketball court, shelters
Sertoma Club	-	Sertoma Club	Playground, basketball court, four softball fields
Crawford County Historical Society	-	Historical Society	Baldwin-Reynolds House, Canal interpretive site
Crawford County Genealogic Society	-	Genealogical Society	Preserves historical information regarding individuals and families who resided in the county
Bossard Nature Center	-	National Recreational Trail	Self-guided nature trails

PROGRAMMING

Although the City of Meadville does not currently offer programs in its parks, the Meadville area has a variety of public, private and quasi-public entities that provide various forms of recreational activities for residents of the area. A number of public agencies, schools, and trail sites were visited or researched. During field views various representatives providing programming were interviewed. The general consensus indicated a very strong interest in partnering with the City of Meadville to improve the quality of life of the residents of the area through additional programs, and the potential use of the facilities available at their site and at the parks in the Meadville area. The cooperative use of these facilities provides opportunities to develop a variety programs without the expense of constructing additional facilities. These partnership opportunities create a win-win situation for the residents of the Meadville area.

Table 2.2 lists the sites visited along with others that were researched. There were other sites, especially churches that were not visited or researched. These sites may also have potential halls or other facilities that could be used for recreational purposes.

Table 2.2: Community Recreation

Facility Name	Facility Features	Programs	Age & Sex Served	Program Fee
Meadville Area Recreation Complex	Indoor & outdoor pool, ice skating rink, three sand volleyball courts, four tennis courts, two picnic shelters, skate park, gardens, trails, two multipurpose fields, baseball field, hoop house	Fitness, tennis, learn to swim, lifeguard/water safety classes, special events	All	Fee
YMCA	Fitness center, pool, gym, teen center, class rooms	Child care, wellness programs, aquatic programs, special events, senior programs, youth sports, adult sports, health assessments	All	Membership fee
Wesbury Retirement Community	Retirement living, clubhouse, picnic shelter, chapel, gazebo, nature trail, bocce court, horseshoe pit, shuffleboard	Painting classes, quilting, annual trips, antique auto show, Christmas open house, chicken bar-b-que	Seniors, but open to public for special events	-
Pioneer Steam and Gas Engine Society of NWPA	Show Grounds in the beautiful hills of western Pennsylvania near Saegertown in Crawford County	Activities include: saw mill, threshing, parades, flea market, country music, models, oil field engines, antique tractor pulls, antique construction equipment, horses, kiddie pedal pulls, food, crafts, and much more!	Youth/ Adults	Fee
Meadville Community Theater	Theater	Performing Arts, acting classes, comedy improv, small concerts	10 & up	Fee
Academy Theater	Theater	Artistic & cultural events, educational classes, rental space	Youth/ Adults	Fee
French Creek Community Theater	Theater	Performing Arts	Youth/ Adults	Fee

2.10

Table 2.2: Continued

Facility Name	Facility Features	Programs	Age & Sex Served	Program Fee
Snap Fitness Meadville	Variety of fitness facilities, gym	Variety of programs	Teen/Adult	Fee
Bill Lawrence's Personal Fitness	1 1		Youth/ Adult	Fee
Body Firm	Fitness center, indoor track	Aerobics, weights, nautilus circuit	Adult	Fee
Wellness Extension	Gym	Zumba & more	Adult	Fee
Hilltop Studio 83 Dance Club	Dance Center	Jazz, tap, hip-hop, ballet, Zumba, aerobics, musical theater	Preschool - Adult	Fee
Kristine's School of Dance	Dance Center	Jazz, ballet, hip-hop, musical theater	Youth/Adult	Fee
The Johnson Institute of Martial Arts	Martial Arts Studio	Mind & body training, stress management, yoga, chi kung	Adult	Fee
Tang Soo Do American Black Belt Academy	Martial Arts Studio	Tang Soo Do, Self-defense, Combat Hapkido	Youth/Adult	Fee
Archery Lessons of Meadville	Archery facility	Archery lessons	Preschool/ Adult	Fee
Meadville Field Archers	14 target field archery course 3-D shoots, youth events, safety training, special events, indoor shoots, family fun, clubhouse		Youth/Adult	Fee
Plaza Lanes	24 lanes	Special events, tournaments, leagues, parties	Youth/Adults	Fee
Woodcock Creek Nature Center & Stainbrook Park	Picnic area, shelters	Educational programs	All	-

As can be seen from Table 2.2, the residents of Meadville and visitors to the area have a variety of recreational opportunities available. Many of these opportunities are fee based. However, numerous free activities can be found as well.

The MARC provides a large part of the recreation opportunities for the Meadville area. The MARC also works with the school district providing them use of some facilities. The swimming pool and ice skating rink are the two most heavily used facilities at the MARC. However, the other facilities are used regularly as well. The MARC is in the process of developing new and expanding existing facilities as funding becomes available.

The Meadville YMCA also offers a variety of recreational programs and facilities at its current building. There are a variety of sports programs offered for youth including indoor and outdoor soccer, basketball, and junior penguin's floor hockey. An adult basketball program is offered as well. In addition the YMCA has partnered with the Meadville Medical Center in the construction of a new facility where they will be able to expand their fitness program. All of these programs serve a large number of the residents of Crawford County.

The Wesbury Retirement Center primarily serves senior residents at their center, and provides most of their programs on-site. However, they do offer a variety of excursions and several trips throughout the year. There are a variety of programs open to the public as well.

The Sertoma Club is a non-profit organization that operates the Lincoln Avenue Sports Complex. This complex provides a variety of facilities for the Meadville area along with four softball fields to accommodate a growing interest in this sport.

There are also a variety of sports associations that utilize facilities in and around the Meadville area. The City's parks do not have any facilities that serve these organizations, so they have constructed their own, use private ownership facilities, or use facilities in surrounding communities.

Following is a list of sports associations in the Meadville area.

- * Lady Bulldog Soccer
- Crawford County Youth Soccer Association
- Conneaut Lake Area Youth Soccer
- * Meadville Area Soccer Club
- * Meadville Area Youth Baseball
- Meadville Lacrosse Club (Varsity)
- * Meadville Area Little Gridders Football
- Crawford County Youth Hockey Association
- Crawford County Adult Hockey
- * Co-ed Softball at the Sertoma Club

Meadville Area Programs and Participation Trends

According to the exit survey distributed at the first public open house, 82% of the respondents feel that public recreation is either important or very important to their family. Additionally, the remaining 18% feel that recreation is somewhat important to their family. This correlates to 100% of the respondents recognizing a need for recreation in the community. This is an indication that the residents of the Meadville area want recreational opportunities for themselves and their families. In today's society with its pressures, fast pace, crime rates, economic conditions, and health concerns, especially obesity, quality recreation programming is one way to subdue these issues. The survey further indicates that 52% are of the opinion that parks and recreation in the Meadville area is not adequate to meet the needs for all ages, abilities and interests. 85% of those responding indicated that they would participate in new recreation programs if they were offered in the City.

Currently, the City of Meadville doesn't offer any type of recreation programs and isn't interested in offering any programs at this time. However, the City is interested in continuing to host programs and other events in their parks. Most of the programs currently offered by various organizations are held at Diamond Park. In the past the City did offer a summer program for youth. Numerous residents mentioned how much they enjoyed this program and that they would like to see it reinstated. The City should consider reinstating this program perhaps in cooperation with any or all of the following: the school district, Allegheny College, and the MARC.

If at some point in the future the City, or perhaps as a regional initiative, decides to offer recreation programs a parks and recreation director may need to be hired. That person could then begin to expand recreation programming opportunities in the Meadville area. The MARC could be incorporated into such an effort. Regardless of the direction of recreation in the future, expansion of additional facilities and program opportunities is important to the residents of Meadville. Even with the wide variety of opportunities mentioned above, additional recreational opportunities would further enhance recreation in the area.

If new programs are offered in the future, it will be found that some are successful while others are not. This is not uncommon, as it does take time to develop a successful program schedule. It is important to offer a variety of programs building on those that are successful and continually offering new programs. There are many reasons why some programs are successful, while others are not. Following is a list of reasons for program success:

- * **Timing** is perhaps the most important aspect in making your programs successful. A program that is not successful in one season may be very successful in another season or even at another time of the day or week.
- * Trends also affect the success of a program. Trends are things that are popular, but may not have caught on in the community yet. This reverts back to timing. It may be popular in the community in the near future.
- * Instructors are very important to the success of your program. Your instructor's enthusiasm, attitude and style may make or break your program. Seek out quality instructors for your programs and promote them.
- * **Publicity and promotion** are extremely important. Many excellent programs have poor attendance because no one knew about them. Use every method available to get the word out.
- * **Program fees** can affect the attendance at a program. Know your community and what they can afford to pay for the programs. You must determine if you want to cover the direct costs, both the direct and the indirect costs, or make a profit.
- * Location of the program may affect the success. Is there easy access to the program site? Is the facility or area well maintained? Is it a safe location and well lighted if it is an evening program? Available transportation to a program may be another issue as to why people don't participate more.
- * Weather is a major factor in all recreation programming. Outdoor programs are always affected by the weather, which determine if the program can be conducted. However, indoor programs can be affected with people thinking it might be too hot or too cold to go out.



Sign for Wesbury



MARC



Lincoln Avenue Sports Complex

ADMINISTRATION

This section of the plan documents the current policies of Meadville in regards to administering recreation within the City. It includes an analysis of the effectiveness and capacity of the City; the ability to involve the public in long range planning efforts; the ability to work cooperatively with other public agencies, community groups, and businesses; and the effectiveness of existing policies and procedures.

Legal Structure

The City of Meadville's Comprehensive Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan consists of an in-depth study of all forms of recreation in the City and the surrounding area. This plan was commissioned by the City of Meadville which is governed under the Third Class City Code.

The City of Meadville's desire is to improve recreational opportunities in the Meadville area. Parks and recreation are an integral part of building a sense of community. The following describe benefits provided by parks and recreation.

- * Strengthen Community Image and Sense of Place.
 Recreation facilities and programs are key factors in strengthening community image and creating a sense of place.
- * Support Economic Development. Recreation facilities and programs attract and retain businesses, residents and tourists, and increase property values.
- * Strengthen Safety and Security. Park and recreation professionals provide safe environments for recreation and design facilities and programs to reduce criminal activity.
- * Promote Health and Wellness. Participation in recreation improves physical, psychological and emotional health.
- * Foster Human Development. Parks and recreation services foster social, intellectual, physical and emotional development.
- * Increase Cultural Unity. Parks and recreation promote cultural understanding and celebrate diversity.
- * Protect Natural and Cultural Resources. By acquiring, protecting and managing valuable resources, such as streams, greenways, view sheds, forests, and culturally important assets, these resources are protected and habitat is preserved.
- * Facilitate Community Problem Solving. Park and recreation professionals have skills in facilitation and leadership that can be applied to resolve community problems and issues.
- * Provide Recreational Experiences. Through programmed and self-facilitated recreation, a variety of benefits to individuals and society are achieved.

^{*}The above mission information was taken from Barry Weiss's presentation on "Repositioning" Making Parks & Recreation Essential.

Community Relationships and Regional Initiatives

The City has a long history of working with community groups, especially the MARC, to provide recreation services to Meadville residents. The City has worked with the MARC, which opened in 1976, since its inception.

Another regional initiative is this Plan where the City of Meadville, West Mead Township, Allegheny College, the MARC, and others were represented on the Steering Committee and assisted in the development of the Plan. Several trail interest groups are also assisting in the development of the greenways/connections aspects.

Public Relations & Marketing

Effective communication is imperative to inform residents of a community about recreational facilities and programs. According to the exit survey at the first public meeting 29% indicated that they are unaware of the programs available in the Meadville area. It is important for the residents to be aware of the facilities and programs that are offered. Therefore, spending resources on public relations and marketing is money well spent. Currently, the City of Meadville primarily uses the website, newspaper and word of mouth to disseminate information to the residents.

Municipal-School

Currently, the City doesn't have any cooperative agreements with the school district. However, students have assisted with the summer camp program when it was offered in the past and the school would be willing to work with their students to do community service projects through this type of program or others, if offered in the future.

Allegheny College is a major asset to the Meadville area. Meadville already has a working relationship with the College, and the opportunity to expand that relationship through a partnership to provide additional recreational opportunities would greatly benefit the area.

Cooperative Efforts

In today's economy it is imperative to develop partnerships with other government agencies, for-profit enterprises, and non-profit associations. The establishment of these partnerships enhances opportunities through coordinated and collaborative initiatives. Individuals, communities, and businesses are becoming more aware of the benefits of recreation and active living, and the value of partnerships in providing them. Benefits to providing recreation include:

- * Interdependence: People regularly travel to other municipalities for many reasons including recreation.
- * Effectiveness: Offering programs to a broader base increases the chance of having a successful program. The opportunity to locate people with diverse skills to lead programs also increases through partnerships.
- * Economics: Aids in cost savings by creating a greater efficiency in spending for recreational purposes.

Policies & Procedures

The City has a well-defined policy manual for all employees, including a union policy and a non-union policy, and a risk management program administered through their safety committee. There are also established policies and procedures that govern the general operation of the City's recreation and park functions. The following policies and procedures are in place:

- * Rules and regulations that detail the user's responsibilities, which are provided to those renting facilities.
- * Procedures for renting picnic facilities.

Record-Keeping Procedures

Accurate record keeping is vital to the success of any recreation and park effort. It ensures the effectiveness and efficiency of the program, and will eliminate the possibility of forgetting important information that can be used in the future. Written records are especially important when you are writing grants, preparing budgets, submitting awards, and in the case of liability issues.

The City currently maintains records required by law, but these do not necessarily pertain specifically to parks.



DeArment Park Gateway



Memorial at Diamond Park



PERSONNEL

Organizational Chart

An organizational chart shows who is responsible for what, who reports to whom, and how each person is expected to relate to everyone else. It also shows how one department is to work with all of the other departments in the organization. Normally in government, a functional organization chart is used. Functional organizations are made up of specialized departments, i.e. police, public works, building/zoning, parks and recreation, finance, etc., each of which is headed by a specialist. In this form of organization the experts are not only advisors, but, they are in the chain of command and deal directly with the problems. It is critical that department heads, supervisors, and employees recognize their roles in the larger system and that they are aware of their effects on other department's actions. (Effective Supervisory Practices).

The City of Meadville has an organizational chart indicating each department, the divisions, and the employees working in each area as of November 1, 2014. However, there is no park and recreation department so City parks are maintained through the Public Works Department. As new park facilities are added and maintenance improves, it may be advantageous to designate personnel to the parks at least for the spring through fall seasons. This may require the organizational chart to be revised to accommodate changes within Public Works.

Parks and Recreation Personnel

As previously mentioned, park maintenance is completed by the Public Works Department. Public works staffing consists of thirteen full time union workers, four full time non-union workers, two part-time non-union workers, and five summer workers. In addition to all of the standard road work responsibilities, they do all of the maintenance in the parks, except for turf maintenance which is contracted to an outside company (i.e. mowing).

Since the City does not offer any recreation programs at the current time, there is no recreation staff. However, there are park and pavilion rentals which are handled through the City Clerk's office.

Currently there are not any specific job descriptions for employees that work in the parks. Job descriptions should be developed and provided to both new and current employees with details as to what their job entails. These descriptions should be reviewed regularly and discussed with employees. As things change within the parks, items may need to be added or deleted from the job descriptions to keep them up to date. It is also imperative for seasonal/summer personnel to have an understanding of the

position they hold. Therefore, a job description should be written that describes the duties and responsibilities of their position as well as the skills required.

The staffing level for Public Works should be periodically reviewed to determine if there is sufficient staff to meet existing demands as new facilities are developed. Since the general public has indicated through this process that the parks need to be better maintained, more emphasis needs to be placed on maintenance, including hiring additional personnel if needed. Sufficient staff must be in place in order to maintain the park system at high standards.

Volunteers

The City does not have a Parks and Recreation Board. However, the garden club and other volunteers will help cleaning the parks and weeding, especially for "Make a Difference Day' in the community.

Dam at Shadybrook Park



Flag at Diamond Park



Sign at Huidekoper Park

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of the parks is essential to providing safe, usable, and aesthetically pleasing areas for residents and visitors . Providing an efficient and effective recreation and parks maintenance program, can enable the City to enhance recreation amenities, save money, reduce liability, improve life expectancy of facilities, create an attractive park atmosphere, and foster environmental stewardship.

Facilities and Equipment Maintenance

The director of Public Works oversees all work done by this department, including the City's parks. However, the foremen are responsible for ensuring that materials for park tasks are available and establishing the work schedule / daily routine.

Most of the equipment needed for park maintenance is owned by the City. However, the City and neighboring communities will share equipment to avoid duplication. In order to keep the equipment in good working condition, the Public Works personnel perform routine maintenance. They also will do any major repairs within their capabilities.

Budgeting for park maintenance is part of the director's responsibilities. In order for the director to develop an adequate park maintenance budget, input from other staff is gathered. The park maintenance budget has a separate budget number from the line items in the Public Works budget. Therefore, a closer monitoring of park expenditures is possible. The budget does have a projected park capital improvements plan for the next three to five years.

Record Keeping

The public works department currently maintains equipment maintenance records, they do not, however, have a replacement schedule for their equipment. This would be helpful to provide greater efficiency and effectiveness.

A list is maintained by Public Works that provides an identification number for each piece of equipment along with the purchase date, replacement cost, and condition. Adding a projected replacement date to this list would be beneficial in the budgeting process. A list of all the major maintenance equipment owned by the City of Meadville can be found in the Appendix E.

Playground inspection records are also an important part of record keeping. This is a vital document to have in case there would ever be a lawsuit due to someone getting injured on a

playground. The City of Meadville is fortunate to have a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) on staff to perform the playground inspections.

Risk Management

Risk management is defined by DCNR as "the process of making park areas and recreation facilities safer by conducting and documenting routine safety inspections, having procedures in place to correct problems, and performing the necessary work promptly." A risk management plan should cover all recreation areas, facilities, programs and services offered. Each component of park or recreation needs to be thoroughly inspected and compared to the standards of acceptable conditions and then classified as either a safety risk or in good condition.

Currently the City has been reactive rather than proactive when it comes to risk management in that they do not have a written risk management plan in place. As mentioned, regular playground inspections and other general inspections are completed to ensure the safety of park users.

FINANCING

The most difficult issue facing almost every community in its quest to provide safe and aesthetically pleasing parks and a variety of quality programs is finances. Many communities face unexpected issues yearly, either within their parks or within other municipal departments, that often require funding to be redirected, leaving inadequate financing to provide and maintain facilities and programs for their residents. The funds needed to support their facilities and programs usually come from the community's general fund. Since all departments in the community must draw from the general fund to cover their operating and capital budgets each year, it is impossible for each department to be fully funded. In the past and still in some communities today, park and recreation funding has been one of the first areas to be cut when funds are tight. However, many communities are becoming aware of the value of setting funds aside to provide quality facilities and programs.

Table 2.3 shows the overall actual revenues for the City of Meadville from 2010 through 2014, and indicates total available revenues for each year.

Table 2.3: City of Meadville Revenues

	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	Actual 2012	Actual 2013	Actual 2014
Taxes	\$4,633,001	\$4,673,087	\$4,813,668	\$4,861,512	\$4,909,921
Licenses & Permits	\$57,218	\$70,540	\$52,660	\$44,414	\$68,838
Fines & Forfeits	\$162,701	\$165,160	\$195,501	\$157,836	\$155,000
Interest & Rents	\$74 , 228	\$100,466	\$166,984	\$218,136	\$234,113
Grants & Gifts	\$500,396	\$769,835	\$505,101	\$561,147	\$615,993
Other	\$353,943	\$405,669	\$291,643	\$399,076	\$438,475
Departmental Earnings	\$2,203,119	\$2,253,248	\$2,475,062	\$2,541,237	\$2,524,471
-					
Total Operating Revenues	\$7,984,605	\$8,440,006	\$8,500,620	\$8,783,358	\$8,946,811
Percentage Increase	-	5.7%	.7%	3.3%	1.9%

The revenues for City of Meadville have had a relatively steady increase over the past five years with only a small percentage variation. Although there are a variety of resources from which revenues are obtained, several types of municipal taxes account for over 50% of the yearly revenues.

Table 2.4 illustrates the overall expenditures for the City of Meadville from 2010 through 2014. The City of Meadville has seen an increase in expenditures during this time period, but the variations are slight. Throughout the five years expenditures remained less than the revenues received. Continuation of this trend will help maintain the stability of the community and could provide additional monies to improve recreation facilities in the City's parks.

Table 2.4: City of Meadville Expenditures

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Expenditures	\$8,168,492	\$8,262,332	\$8,494,524	\$8,752,243	\$8,873,519
Percentage Increase	_	1.1%	2.8%	3.0%	1.3%

2.20 FINAL PLAN: February 2016

Table 2.5 shows the actual recreation revenues for the City of Meadville from 2010 through 2014. The only recreation revenue resource for the City of Meadville is the rental of the shelters and gazebo located in the parks. These revenues have varied significantly over the past five years possibly due to weather conditions. However, the rentals have averaged a 13.2% increase over this time period. By improving the parks, the City may see more rentals which could generate additional revenue.

Table 2.5: Park & Recreation Revenues

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Recreation Revenues	\$1,845	\$2,400	\$2,625	\$1,725	\$2,550
Percentage Increase	-	30%	9.4%	(34.3%)	47.8%

Table 2.6 shows the actual park and recreation expenditures for the City of Meadville from 2010 through 2014. These expenditures have shown an increase with the exception of 2012. This decrease was due to a significantly lower expenditure for planting improvements. A trust fund of \$10,000 per year is in place to help cover the cost of beautification. In 2013 planting improvement expenditures were increased showing a relatively larger expense than 2012. The average expenditure for these years equates to (-.5%) indicating that park expenses have remained status quo over this time period.

Table 2.6: Park & Recreation Operating Expenditures

· • ·								
	Actual 2010	Actual 2011	Actual 2012	Actual 2013	Actual 2014			
Recreation Authority Contribution for the MARC	\$125,000	\$125 , 000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000			
General Maintenance & Mowing	\$118,242	\$93,399	\$77,925	\$91 , 153	\$116,626			
Planting & Improvements	\$31,701	\$81 , 637	\$7,966	\$27,341	\$13,195			
Various Parade Setup & Cleanup	\$3,750	\$3,900	\$4,100	\$5,200	\$4,500			
Total Expenditures	\$288,693	\$313,936	\$224,991	\$258,694	\$269,321			
Percentage Increase	-	8.7%	(28.3%)	15%	4.1%			

In 2010 and 2011 the City of Meadville had capital expenditures of \$94,000 and \$95,000 respectively for major capital improvements in the parks. Therefore, the total park expenditures for 2010 were \$382,693 and \$408,963 for 2011. Table 2.7 gives a description of the percentage of the total City budget designated to each budget category from 2010 through 2014. This provides a better understanding of the percentage of the budget going to recreation.

The City of Meadville has supported recreation through taxes for many years. During the past five years a relatively steady percentage of budget expenditures has been spent on recreation. However, parks and recreation does rank in the lower half of budget expenditures at number seven out of twelve categories. The average expenditure for recreation has been 3.6% of the budget over the past five years.

Table 2.8 compares the City of Meadville's 2014 projected operating budget to other college communities in Western Pennsylvania with similar socio-economic characteristics. For this comparison only the park operating expenditures were considered. None of the communities selected, with the exception of Slippery Rock, provide recreation programs for their residents. However, they do operate a system of parks in their respective communities. According to the comparisons, the City of Meadville expends a considerably lower amount per capita to maintain their parks then all of the comparison communities, except for Waynesburg. If Waynesburg, which is a very small community with minimal park expenditures, is not considered, Meadville is 54% below the average expenditures for parks. It should also be noted that the City does provide recreation funding to the Recreation Authority for the MARC, as shown in Table 2.6.

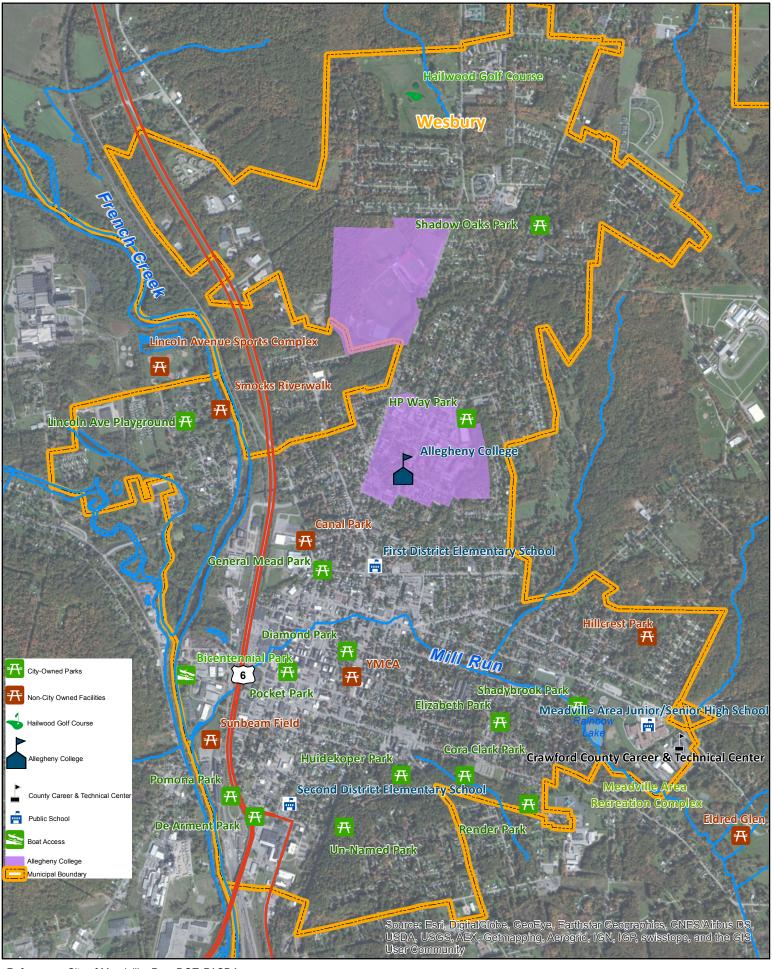
Table 2.7: City of Meadville Expenditure Comparison

	Budgeted 2010	Budgeted 2011	Budgeted 2012	Budgeted 2013	Budgeted 2014
Police	26.4%	27.2%	30.8%	27.4%	28.3%
Fire	18.2%	17.8%	18.1%	19.6%	19.4%
Management & Development	7.2%	6.9%	7.4%	3.3%	3.6%
Finance	5.4%	5.7%	4.8%	5.1%	4.8%
Treasurer	1.4%	1.4%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%
Receiver of Taxes	2.5%	2.6%	1.6%	ο%	0%
City Clerk	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	.9%	.9%
City Council	.6%	.6%	.9%	.8%	1%
City Solicitor	.7%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	.8%
Public Works	10.2%	10.6%	10.6%	13.5%	13%
General Government	21.5%	19.6%	23.3%	23.8%	23.6%
Parks & Recreation	4.7%	4.9%	2.6%	3%	3%

Table 2.8: Budget Comparison with Similar Communities

Community	County	Population	Operating Budget	Per Capita Budget
City of Meadville	Crawford	13,368	\$134,321	\$10.05
Clarion Borough	Clarion	5,276	\$149,025	\$28.24
Slippery Rock Regional	Butler	11,427	\$292,000	\$25.55
City of Butler	Butler	13,757	\$397,577	\$28.74
Waynesburg Borough	Greene	4,176	\$15,600	\$3.74
City of Washington	Washington	13,663	\$227,893	\$16.68
Averages		10,278	\$202,736	\$18.83

2.22 FINAL PLAN: February 2016



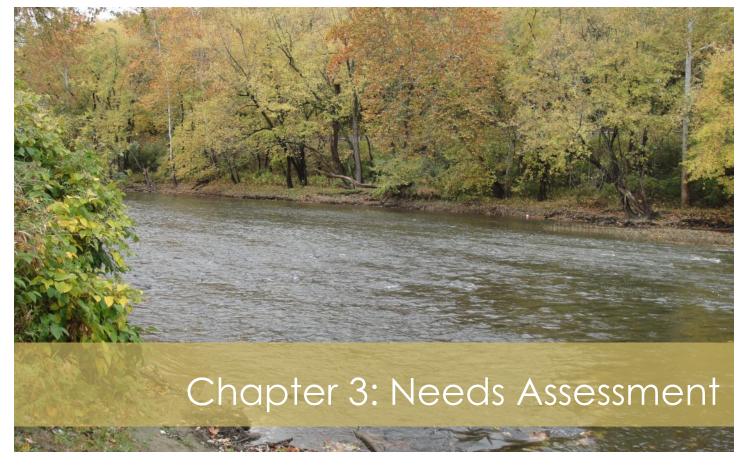
References: City of Meadville, PennDOT, PASDA



Map 1: Existing Recreation Facilities
City of Meadville - February 2016

RIDC Park West 117 Industry Drive Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15275 (412) 788-0472





Once the inventory was complete for the planning process, the next step was to conduct a Needs Assessment for the various plan elements. This was done in order to determine what the high priority issues were facing Meadville in terms of parks and recreation.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The Needs Assessment for park and recreation facilities was based on the following:

- * Field Views: conducted by a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) during the fall of 2014
- * Comparison to Standards: comparison of Meadville's facilities to the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Standards
- Public Input: gathered throughout the process through meetings, surveys and interviews

The City of Meadville has a multitude of recreational facilities available for the residents. These facilities include a diverse assortment of active recreation amenities, such as various courts and fields; trails; indoor and outdoor opportunities; and plentiful open space and greenways throughout the park system.

As part of this plan a detailed inventory of each park owned by the City and the recreational amenities within the park was completed. A record of this information can be found in Appendix F. These inventories created a comprehensive list of amenities available in each park and records the following information:

- * Potential liability issues
- * Maintenance issues
- * ADA compliance
- Condition of the facility/amenity
- * Age appropriate facility

In general the park facilities are in fair condition with numerous maintenance issues and improvements that should be addressed. The issues listed on the park inventories were those noted at the time of the visit. Some of these may have been addressed, and others may have come about since the inventories were completed. It is imperative to maintain a watchful eye on the facilities in order to recognize maintenance problems and address them in a timely manner, especially those that could develop into a hazardous condition.

Four of the parks owned by the City are equipped with playground facilities. These playgrounds are in fair condition, but they are old, not ADA compliant, and should be replaced when feasible.

Many of the City's facilities are not compliant with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Additionally, designated handicapped parking areas with visible signage should be installed at each site that does not currently provide appropriate parking for these individuals. The City has provided good accessibility throughout a large part of Shadybrook Park, Diamond Park, and to the pavilion at Cora Clark Park. Continuing to bring the parks into compliance will enhance the recreation opportunities for all residents of the community.

According to the information collected during the public outreach process, the facilities located in the City's parks are utilized by the residents, but not as frequently as they could be. Improving or replacing existing facilities, constructing some new facilities, and perhaps offering some programs like a summer program would increase the use of the parks.

The proposed development of the interconnected trail system throughout the City (see Map 2) and the surrounding areas should also enhance the use of the parks and increase recreation opportunities. Biking/hiking and the use of an interconnected trail system were some of the primary areas of interest indicated throughout the public input process.

Currently, the majority of the City's parks, especially those with active recreation areas, are located across the southern part of the City. The three exceptions to this are Lincoln Avenue Playground in the central western part of the City, Shadow Oaks Park (open space only) in the northern part of the City, and the proposed construction of a new playground at HP Way Park in the central part of the City.

The City owns a large number of small recreation sites. These areas can create a maintenance issue since each site must be properly maintained and this requires a large amount of resources. Several of the sites are of historical value, while others are primarily passive recreation areas that help to beautify the City so they should be retained. However, consideration should be given to transferring General Mead Park, a very small parcel of land, to private ownership.

Additionally, the City is in the process of acquiring the property located in the front of Cora Clark Park, with the intention of developing this level area for trail, play equipment or other recreational use. This would enhance the recreation opportunities of this park by providing a contiguous level open space between the parking lot for Cora Clark Park and another piece of property owned by the City. With the potential construction of a senior housing complex across the street from the park, there may be a future need to construct facilities that will meet the needs of seniors. Such facilities could include: upgrades to the existing walking trail; construction of a more level walking path, potentially with fitness equipment, along the Pine Street section of the park; pickleball courts; bocce courts; and permanent corn hole games.

Comparison with National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Standards and Guidelines

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has been the organization that sets the standards for parks and recreation in the United States for decades. In their 1983 publication *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*, the organization provided extensive tables with baseline information showing how many people are needed to support each of the different levels of parks; fields and other recreation facilities.

In 1996, NRPA released a follow-up publication, *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*. In this publication, the NRPA has altered its standards by allowing municipalities to document a need and support for a facility, thereby not using population as the basis.

The new standards adopted by the NRPA make it easier for municipalities to construct recreation facilities that their residents need and want. However, in order to provide a baseline, the initial standards are often used for comparison.

NRPA has the following three park categories that are applicable to the parks in the City of Meadville:

- * A mini-park (tot-lot): geared for a small neighborhood within walking distance to residential areas. They may contain a small playground or be a passive recreation area. Tot-lots are generally less than one acre in size and service a radius of less than ¼ mile.
- * A neighborhood park/playground/mini-park: areas for intense recreation activities, such as field games (i.e. soccer or football), court games (i.e. basketball or tennis), crafts, play equipment, and picnicking. These parks should be suitable for intense development, easily accessible, and should be geographically centered with safe access. They typically have a service area of ¼ to ½ mile and should be 1 to 15 acres in size. NRPA recommends 1 to 2 acres of these parks per 1000 resident population.
- * Community parks: include areas suited to recreation facilities such as athletic complexes, courts games, picnic pavilions, and swimming pools. Community parks may be in an area of natural quality for passive recreation or may contain a combination of both active and passive recreation activities. These parks should be suitable for intense development and easily accessible. Often, these parks have natural features such as a body of water. Community parks generally have a service area of 1 to 2 miles and are 25 acres in size or larger. NRPA recommends 5 to 8 acres of these parks per 1000 resident population.

Table 3.1 shows how the amount of park land within Meadville (delineated by the three park categories) compares with NRPA standards. It should be noted that the description of the different types of parks was used in classifying parkland for the City of Meadville. However, the actual use of each site was also taken into consideration. Therefore, some of the park land was considered as a community park even though it didn't contain the number of acres considered in the NRPA standards.

Table 3.1: Park Land Comparison to NRPA Standards

Type Of Park	Acres/1000 Population	Existing Acres/1000 Population	2010 Need	2010 Surplus/ (Deficiency)
Mini-Park (Tot-Lot)	<1	2.73	< 13	(< 10)
Neighborhood Park / Playground	1- 2	10.6	13 to 26	(2 to 15)
Community Park	5 - 8	59.31	65 - 104	(6 to 45)
Note: 2010 Census: 13,368 for Meady	ville			

Meadville is fortunate that land has been set aside in the City for park and recreation purposes. The City, when compared with NRPA standards, is deficient in providing adequate park and recreation land in all three areas, but not significantly in any of the areas. It should also be noted that most of the areas classified as mini-parks are primarily passive recreation areas with Lincoln Avenue Playground being the only true tot-lot.

Table 3.2 shows a comparison between the existing recreation facilities in and around the City of Meadville and national standards. Since the City of Meadville does not have a significant number of facilities located in their parks, Table 3.3 shows a comparison of facilities to national standards considering facilities owned by other entities within the City and facilities located in close proximity to the City (West Mead and Vernon Townships). In order to provide a qualified comparison, the population of West Mead and Vernon was added to Meadville's population for this comparison.

After taking all of these facilities into consideration, the Meadville area has a relatively good supply of facilities in or around the City. However, the City should consider the development of certain facilities within their parks. The planned development at Cora Clark Park will go towards this goal.

Table 3.2: Recreation Facility Comparison (Meadville) to NRPA Standards

Activity / Facility	One Facility 1000 People	Existing	2010 Need	2010 Surplus/(Deficiency)
Baseball Fields	3,000	0	4	(4)
Softball Fields	3,000	0	4	(4)
Basketball Courts	5,000	2	2	0
Football Fields	20,000	0	0	0
Picnic Shelters	2,000	4	7	(3)
Soccer Fields	10,000	0	1	(1)
Tennis Courts	2,000	2	7	(5)
Sand Volleyball Courts	5,000	0	2	(2)
Playgrounds	2,000	5	7	(2)
Horseshoe Pits	7,500	0	2	(2)
Note: 2010 Census: 13,368 for Meadville				

Table 3.3: Recreation Facility Comparison (Meadville Area) to NRPA Standards

Activity/Facility	One Facility 1000 people	Existing	2010 N eed	2010 Surplus/(Deficiency)
Baseball Fields	3,000	10	8	2
Softball Fields	3,000	4	8	(4)
Basketball Courts	5,000	8	5	3
Football Fields	20,000	1 (multipurpose)	1	o
Picnic Shelters	2,000	15	12	3
Soccer Fields	10,000	16	2	14
Tennis Courts	2,000	6	12	(6)
Sand Volleyball Courts	5,000	3	5	(2)
Playgrounds	2,000	14	12	2
Horseshoe Pits	7,500	2	3	(1)
Note: 2010 Census: 24,247 for City of Mead	dville, West Mead Township,	& Vernon Township		

The NRPA Standards are based on the "average" community's needs. Recreation desires and demands vary across the country; therefore, the only accurate method available to gage whether or not the City's recreation facilities are adequate is to ask the users. Kevin Ashner, a planner from the greater Miami park system, argues that the true measure of a good standard is "the level of customer satisfaction." Recognized for his contribution to parks research, Asher suggests the following criteria for good standards in providing recreation:

- * Relevance: reflect the needs and lifestyles of today's residents.
- * People Orientation: reflect the unique needs and preferences of the people in the area being served.
- Performance Standards: provide a basis for measuring achievement of the community objectives
- * Feasibility: be attainable within a reasonable time frame and with available funding sources.
- * Practicality: be simple to understand and apply; based on sound planning principles, information, and a credible development process; and be flexible enough to handle unanticipated situations and changing needs.



Bicentennial Park



Former Shadybrook playground



Pavilion at Cora Clark Park

PROGRAMMING

Information gathered through the process has indicated a desire for more recreation programming and improved recreation facilities. In order to improve recreation programming in the Meadville area there was a strong consensus that a cooperative and collaborated effort between recreation providers is imperative. All of the key persons interviewed stated that the development of these partnerships is very important with several stating that it is critical. They feel that cooperation and communication will aid in getting more people involved, avoid duplication, and develop a greater vision for the area. Throughout the public input process the need for a variety of types of programs and facilities was mentioned. However, two related areas stood out: (1) the development of a variety of trail systems throughout the region and within the parks; and (2) the implementation of environmental and educational programs. A trail system would provide better access to the parks and other areas within the community while increasing the opportunity to incorporate cultural, historical, and environmental programming into the recreation potential in Meadville.

Most of those who participated in the process considered youth, ages six to twelve, to be the best served in the Meadville area in terms of recreation. This is generally due to the large participation in youth sports and the variety of other programs offered for this age group. Teens, adults and seniors are perceived to be the least recreationally served. Teen participation in organized sports starts to diminish, especially as they reach the age of 14 or 15, and trying to encourage them to get involved in programs is often difficult. Adults are usually busy with their families and jobs sometimes limit opportunities to participate in programs. Seniors are often considered to be the least served. With today's active seniors, programs must be provided to meet their needs. Wesbury does provide programming for seniors within their community on a regular basis, but other types of programming should be considered, including utilizing the vast knowledge and talents of seniors to offer additional programs.

The public exit survey at the first Open House Meeting indicated that 85% of respondents would participate in additional programs, if offered. The one program that was mentioned numerous times is the reinstatement of the summer program. This could be done through a cooperative effort with the MARC or YMCA. The summer program or various other programs that keep kids active would be beneficial to the community and should be offered at several of the parks in order to better serve the entire area. In order to develop a well rounded recreational program, passive recreation programs, such as arts & crafts, reading, etc. must be incorporated into the overall summer programming along with a variety of games and sports.

A number of topics were mentioned that hamper the further development of recreation in the Meadville area. Lack of funding is a main obstacle in providing more recreation opportunities. Lack of cooperation, volunteers, dedicated staff, and no vision are some of the other items mentioned as obstacles. However, recreation is important to the area and must be considered as a valuable asset that cannot be dismissed or eliminated. If new or additional programs are offered in the future it is recommended to "go slow" and not offer too many programs at one time. This is a frequent mistake which can extend staff and volunteers too far, diminish the quality of the programs, and create problems for future programs. The following list indicates a sample of the different types of programs that can be made available:

- * Free Programs Offered at no cost. These should be programs that can be offered that would not incur any costs other than some basic equipment and staff/volunteer time.
- * Instructional Programs Provide instruction in a variety of areas for all ages depending on the program offered. They could include: exercise, sports, arts & crafts, drama or many other areas. Partnerships with local businesses such as yoga studios, art stores, bicycle shops, etc. to offer these programs could help the City to offer these.
- * Educational Programs Educate participants in specific areas. Partnering with the school district and or Allegheny College should be explored for these types of programs.
- * Special Events Special one or two day programs generally offered once a year. Examples include community picnics and holiday events (Halloween parade, Meet and Greet with Santa, Easter Egg Hunts, etc.).
- * Age Specific Programs Structured to very specific ages.
- * Unorganized Recreational Opportunities Provides individuals the opportunity to participate in recreation of their choice. This requires facilities rather than programs.
- * Special Needs Programs All programs should be inclusive; however, programs geared specifically for those with special needs should be included in the programming.
- * Cultural & Historical Provide educational opportunities for the participants. Delving into the history of the area, special re-enactments, taking a group to an old cemetery, or planning a program where the participants have to live like they did in the pioneer days can provide a real insight in history and the culture of the past.

If the Meadville area offers future programs or expands programming through the MARC and/or other agencies, they should adopt the use of a Program Cycle. The use of this tool will provide a complete programming process through the assessment of public relations efforts, evaluation of administration and staff, and assessment of program affordability. It will also assist with program staff recruitment and provide a source for additional program needs.

Perhaps the most important part of the cycle is the program evaluation that should be completed by the program participants at the end of each activity. The information obtained from the evaluation will help to determine what parts of the program were most and least effective or enjoyed, what should be eliminated, what publicity methods were effective, and what are the recommendations for future programs.

A similar form should be developed for the instructor and volunteers to complete so that they can provide advice from their perspective. This information should be properly filed and referenced before offering the program again, which will allow continued improvement in the programs and help keep up with the changing needs of the community.

Sample Program Cycle



For any program offered by the City or hosting organization, accurate records should be maintained throughout the process of planning, implementing, and evaluating each program. The records should include the following information:

- * Date and time This will help to determine the best time to offer this program, as some programs are effective only at certain times.
- * **Program Fee/Costs** Was it reasonable? Did you cover costs? What was your profit margin? Were the participants satisfied? Should you increase or decrease the fee?
- * Location Was it suitable for the program?
- * Number of Participants- Documentation of this can be helpful in numerous ways in the future by providing information needed for grants, nomination of programs for awards, etc.)
- * Program Publicity What types were used? What was most effective?
- Program Evaluation This was explained earlier, but it should be maintained for each program
- * Accidents or Injuries Provides valuable knowledge that can eliminate potential problems in the future.

Program Operational Manual

If programs are eventually offered by City, a more detailed operational manual should be developed for each. The manual would provide the necessary information for anyone to step in and effectively run each program when it is offered. The following information should be included:

- * Date, time and location of the program
- * Contacts for the program
- * Detailed description of the program
- * Detailed list of supplies needed to operate the program
- * Timeline for developing each phase of the program
- Set up and clean up procedures
- * Cost elements related to the program
- * Potential revenues generated from the program
- * Program records as addressed above
- * Sponsorship, donations, etc. for the program
- Volunteers, staff needed to successfully operate the program
- * Photos, news releases, newspaper/magazine articles of the program
- * Follow up Thank you letters, volunteer recognition, etc.
- * Program review details after reviewing the program with others, all ideas suggestions, changes should be properly noted.

Accurate record keeping will ensure that future programs are more effective and efficient, save time, and eliminate the possibility of forgetting to address certain aspects of the program, especially if it is a special event.

Americans with Disabilities (ADA)

As the City of Meadville develops new facilities, or improves existing facilities in the parks, they will be required to meet all ADA specification. Existing structures or facilities should be adapted to meet these standards allowing those with disabilities to easily be included in meetings, events and other programs in the community. New standards for recreation became mandatory in 2012, so it is important that the City follow the most recent standards when planning all new recreational facilities and providing amenities at existing facilities.

The City of Meadville is only partially ADA compliant in some areas of their parks. However, most of the facilities are not ADA compliant, particularly due to poor accessibility. This includes not only playgrounds, pavilions, or other similar facilities, but amenities like individual picnic tables, water fountains, port-a-johns, trash receptacles, and trails.

In order to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is required that all public entities operate each service, program or activity in a manner that is accessible to persons with disabilities. If a program or an activity is in a building that is not accessible to a person with disabilities, the City must:

- * Remove the barrier to access into the facility
- * Shift the location to an accessible site
- * Provide the service in some alternative method in an accessible facility
- * Construct a new facility for park programs

The Meadville area should plan and develop or host programs that are inclusive based on the facilities to be used and the programs offered. Printed literature advertising the programs should indicate that the facilities and programs are accessible. It is understood that certain facilities and programs may not be fully compliant at this time, but efforts should be made to meet these needs whenever and wherever possible.

ADA Compliance Information

Regardless of who is offering programs in the Meadville area, ADA compliance is necessary. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 prohibits the discrimination against any individual because of a disability. In most cases this has primarily been taken into consideration in providing access to buildings and other facilities. However, ADA Regulation for Title II, as printed in the Federal Register (7/26/91) states: The Department of Justice's regulation implementing title II, subtitle A, of the ADA which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all services, programs, and activities provided to the public by State and local governments, except public transportation services. Public entities must comply with Title II regulations by the US Department of Justice. These regulations cover access to all programs and services offered by the entity. Access includes physical access described in the ADA Standards for Accessible Design and programmatic access that might be obstructed by discriminatory policy or procedures of the entity.

Therefore, under Title II no person with a disability can be unjustly excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of services, programs or activities of any public entity. Thus, any type of program or activity that is offered must be available to anyone with a disability. The law states that if asked, you must make "reasonable accommodations" which may include: interpreters, aids or other needs. The expense for the accommodations must be incurred by the agency offering the program. ADA only requires a "reasonable accommodation" but what is unreasonable to you might be deemed to be reasonable to another. Losing money on the program is not considered unreasonable. Also, you can not cancel the program to avoid covering the costs incurred to make reasonable accommodations.

A public entity must also ensure that its communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. This obligation, however, does not require a public entity to take any action that it can demonstrate would result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of its services, programs, or activities or in undue financial and administrative burdens.

(The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 – ADA Regulation for Title II)



Bench along Ernst Trail



Shelter at Huidekoper Park



Playground at Lincoln Ave. Park

ADMINISTRATION / PERSONNEL

The lack of dedicated staff and a recreation board at the City limits what can be provided in terms of parks and recreation. There are however, options that can be explored. It is important to keep in mind that the City must conduct background checks according to the new "State of Pennsylvania Background Checks Act of 2014" for any personnel (volunteers or paid) that are working with children.

Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral part of providing staff in the field of parks and recreation. The City currently has volunteers such as the garden club and others that help with cleaning the parks for events such as "Make a Difference Day". There is never enough staff to accomplish everything, however, making it imperative to establish a sound group of volunteers to assist with aspects of parks and recreation. There are a number of options for the City to consider including the following:

- * Recreation and Park Board -This is generally an advisory board of five to nine volunteer members appointed by the City and serve with no pay. Their responsibilities are to recommend policies regarding recreational needs; planning, promoting and supervising programs; providing guidance concerning park development and maintenance; and staffing needs.
- * Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts & similar Organizations Working with these groups is rewarding for the organization and community. Utilizing them to help with programs can provide much needed assistance in running activities and can help the scout earn badges or advance to higher levels in the organization.
- * Community Service Organizations These come in many forms such as: church groups, women's organizations, or service organizations such as: the Elks, Moose, Lions, Rotary, etc.
- * High School/College Students Students look for opportunities to do volunteer service for their applications for scholarships or on resumes. They are a resource for programs or small projects. The City has utilized high school and college students, and this should continue as a resource in the future.
- * Corporate Volunteers Many businesses now require their employees to contribute volunteer time in various capacities. Connecting with these companies and establishing viable volunteer opportunities that are interesting and rewarding for their employees can develop a long lasting source of volunteers.
- * Required Community Service Individuals These are individuals that have been in trouble with authorities for some minor violation. The courts require them to do a certain number of hours of community service in lieu of fines and/or jail time, which can be used to help with minor maintenance or special events.

- * Concerned Citizens These are individuals that are genuinely concerned about the welfare of the community and are willing to devote some of their time to benefit the community.
- * Friends Groups Friends groups are usually concerned citizens that have gone a step further to support the community. They are normally set up as a non-profit 501 C-3. These groups will be discussed more under the finance section.
- * Adopt-A-Park This is a group that will adopt a specific park as their project and help with maintenance and various projects in that park.
- * Renewal Incorporated This organization provides prisoners the opportunity to go out and work in communities as volunteers assisting with various projects.
- * Senior Community Service Employment Program This service provides older adults the opportunity to work at no cost to the municipality. www.experienceworks.org
- * Student Conservation Association Provides students volunteer opportunities, including summer programs and internships serving and protecting national parks, forests and urban green spaces. www.theSCA.org
- * AmeriCorps This is a national service program that allows people to earn money to help pay for education in exchange for a year of service. Some funds may be required to pay these individuals. www.americorps.org

The previous list of resources helps provide some ideas for volunteers to supplement staffing for parks and programs, if offered. Even though these individuals are generally not paid for their services, there is an extensive amount of time and effort involved in locating these individuals and providing the proper guidance, training and direction to maintain quality in the parks and programs they are associated with. The use of volunteers by the City will need to be developed and expanded as more recreational opportunities become available in the Meadville area.

Other Potential Staffing Opportunities

Potential staffing opportunities and technical assistance that may require some municipal funds include the following:

- * Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance (PHEAA) Offers a work study program for students in various fields of study, including parks and recreation. PHEAA will pay 40% of the student's wages so this is a great opportunity to help a student gain experience while keeping wage costs down for the municipality. An application needs to be submitted by December for the following summer program. www.pheaa.org
- * Local Government Academy (LGA)- Sponsors a Municipal Intern Program for both graduate and undergraduate students from area colleges and universities. The students work full time for a twelve week period during the summer focused on a particular project, which could include recreation.
- * The Pennsylvania Conservation Corps (PCC) Provides opportunities to men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 to be paid for their service as a corps member. A municipality can submit an application to have the PCC come into the community to work on a project for one year. Most communities also receive funds to cover the cost of materials for the particular project being completed. www.pcc.org
- * Internships and Practicums A number of local colleges and universities offer courses in the area of parks and recreation in which students are required to do internships before earning their degrees. These students are an excellent source of help for municipal recreation programming, and like to find positions where they are paid, but it isn't a requirement that they are compensated.
- * Peer to Peer Grant This is a consulting service coordinated with PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to help the grantee solve an existing problem or improve services in a specific area. (DCNR Peer-to-Peer Technical Assistance Projects General Information and Guidelines)
- * Circuit Rider Grant This grant is often used by municipalities that desire to offer programs and maintain park facilities through coordinated efforts. With this the communities hire a professional whose salary is paid in full by the grant for the first year. Each year thereafter the grant is reduced by 25% and the municipalities/agencies pay the remainder until the grant is completed when the municipalities start paying 100% of the salary.

Public Relations and Marketing

In addition to having staff to offer facilities and programs, there has to be effective communication with residents about what is available. In order for any marketing or outreach strategy to be successful, you have to know the needs of your community and offer high quality, affordable programs and facilities that will meet those needs. Using catchy titles for programs is one way that can encourage participation.

Since public relations and proper marketing are two of the ways to successfully provide a vibrant parks and recreation programming initiative, it is vitally important for the recreation providers in Meadville area to improve their current methods and develop new methods to inform the residents about recreation in Meadville. As these recreation providers continue to develop facilities and programming, it is important to remember that two of the most effective methods for promoting the facilities and programs are by word-of-mouth and positive-participation-results in past events. Currently, the City of Meadville primarily uses their website, newspaper and word of mouth to disseminate information to the residents.

The use of social media to disperse information to the residents is becoming a very effective way for residents to obtain information, especially for the younger generation. As mentioned, the City does use its website to provide information, and the addition of an on-line calendar would be a great way to provide an 'at a glance' view of the upcoming programs and events. It is imperative that the City continue to maintain and update the website regularly so that everything is current. The website could also provide a link to other program opportunities in the area that residents/non-residents can use. A database of email addresses of all residents who would like to receive additional information concerning recreation facilities and programs should be developed and maintained. Using this list, a biweekly / monthly e-newsletter could be sent out through e-mail blasts.

One of the most cost- effective methods of providing information to a community is through Facebook. It has become a very popular method for all age groups, but it needs to be properly maintained with current information. This does limit you to those who are on Facebook, but it is a very efficient and cost effective way to communicate. The use of Twitter is another method that is effective in reaching primarily those under thirty. Other forms of social media that are popular are: Pinterest, Instagram, Snapchat, You-Tube, Groupon, and Linkedin. These may be considered for future use as methods of communication to the residents, especially the younger generation.

Another method that some municipalities are using is Reverse 911, Swift Reach. There is an annual cost associated with this method for the company to send out the community's information through emails, Facebook, and Twitter. This method does eliminate some staff time in maintaining the database of information required to disseminate this information through these channels.

Other effective "non-internet" ways to disseminate information include:

- * Flyers
- * Local Media
- Street Signs or Banners
- Community Bulletin Boards or kiosks (the Market House would be a great avenue for this type of information)

These are all effective ways to reach the residents with the desired information concerning events in the Meadville area. As additional recreational activities are developed, and new technology becomes available, the City will need to expand their marketing efforts. In order to guide the City in the area of public relations and marketing, policies should be established to ensure proper methods are used.



Log Cabin at Bicentennial Park



Trail at Cora Clark Park



Open Field at Shadow Oaks Park

MAINTENANCE

As in all communities, there are a lot of maintenance projects that need to be addressed in the parks. Many of these are noted in the park matrix inventories (see Appendix F). Based on various forms of input from the residents, it is apparent that maintenance of the parks can use some improvement.

Maintenance Program

The City does not have a formal written park maintenance plan. However, the public works department is looking into developing a plan. The purpose of a formal maintenance plan is to provide staff with information needed to prioritize tasks and complete them efficiently and effectively. A formal plan also helps reduce liability risks and assists in the coordination of project planning.

There are two components to developing the park maintenance plan; a preventative plan and a responsive plan. Currently the City does employ some preventative procedures, such as playground inspections and six month vehicle inspections. The department is researching the development of a preventative maintenance schedule in the near future. A proactive plan is designed to eliminate major issues before they arise by taking into consideration both the short and long range maintenance details. This will not eliminate all responsive issues, but will allow the issues to be handled more efficiently when they arise. Another value to the proactive approach is cost savings. There is a significantly lower cost to providing general maintenance rather than doing major repairs.

To prepare a successful maintenance plan that includes a preventative and responsive component, the City should complete the following tasks as recommended by DCNR:

- * Involve all employees in order to get their complete understanding and support.
- Inventory the resources.
- * Develop a standard for each resource. The standard is a short description of what the resource should look like when the maintenance has been completed.
- * List tasks so resources are maintained up to standards. The tasks should be described in detail so anyone could perform them.
- * Determine the amount of time it takes to do each task.
- * Decide how often each task needs to be done.
- * Schedule tasks into an operational plan and divide them to develop a schedule for each staff person or crew.
- * Implement and monitor the work schedules so adjustments can be made as needed.

A turf management plan is another important aspect in maintaining an aesthetically pleasing appearance for the parks. Although the City utilizes the services of a contractor for their turf management, it is still necessary to establish a turf maintenance plan to ensure that the turf is maintained to the standards desired by the City. This plan may include different standards for each park site, and potentially different standards within a park site based on the condition and quality desired.

Risk Management

Risk management should encompass a proactive approach to eliminating any potential incidents before they occur. Completing the regular playground inspections and maintaining records of the inspection is one of the top risk management priorities to insure the safety of the playgrounds and avoid any potential liability issues. Continued inspections of other facilities and amenities are also important to avoid issues that may arise.

It is imperative that the Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) be allotted the time to conduct regular playground inspection and record these inspections to insure the safety of the playgrounds and avoid any potential liability issues. As another safety precaution for park patrons, the City must conduct background checks according to the new "State of Pennsylvania Background Checks Act of 2014" for any personnel that will be working with children.

Another part of risk management is having staff trained in CPR/AED. The public works employees have CPR/AED training, which should be updated every two years. Consideration should also be given to providing first aid training for all public works staff. The safety of workers is another important consideration that the City takes seriously by providing safety equipment to its workers.

A successful Risk Management Plan should consider the following:

- * Develop a plan of action by prioritizing identified hazards and determining the cost to correct them.
- * Address problems through the correction of hazards.
- * Be pro-active to prevent accidents.
- * Implement mandatory safety training for staff, immediately act on complaints, and repair equipment with parts from the equipment manufacturer.
- * Document all inspections and corrective steps.

The staff should be trained to perform at a minimum the following duties:

- * Continual monitoring of the physical condition of all facilities and open areas.
- * Conduct immediate repairs to minor unsafe facilities and areas.
- * Proper posting of unsafe conditions that cannot be immediately repaired.
- * Prevent use of unsafe equipment and facilities.
- Report safety hazards in writing.
- * Submit accident reports.
- * Complete major repairs as soon as possible

Continual education opportunities should be provided for the CPSI regarding the safety standards published by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and other such organizations. Staff members should also be familiar with contact procedures concerning legal requirements and inspections for conformity to sanitary regulations, criteria for licensing, fire laws, building and zoning codes, pesticide applications, and safety procedures. Fire extinguishers should be located in easily accessible places in the buildings and should be in a highly visible location in road department vehicles and on other equipment. The extinguishers should always have a current inspection tag attached to them. A risk management plan also requires adequate liability insurance coverage.



Memorial at General Mead Park



Log Cabin at Bicentennial Park



Hillside at Unnamed Park

FINANCING

To properly develop a good budget, it is imperative to analyze the previous year's revenues and expenditures, taking into account the economic conditions at the time. Budget revenue and expenditure considerations include:

- * Projected revenues from various sources
- Proposed program expenses
- Administrative expenses
- * Staff expenses
- * Park expenses such as utilities, maintenances supplies, equipment, and contracted work

Rental Facilities

Rental of facilities are the only revenue producing source in the parks for the City of Meadville. Currently, only minimal revenues are received from the following rental facilities.

- * Picnic Pavilions The shelters at Bicentennial, Cora Clark, Huidekoper, and Shadybrook Parks currently generate minimal revenues. Improvements to these facilities could create greater demand and revenues.
- * Gazebo The gazebo at Diamond Park is another rental facility that provides the City with some revenues.

Grants

There are many grants available from various government agencies and foundations. See Appendix G for grant opportunities.

Foundations

Many foundations establish specific types of projects they will fund and include specified locations as to where the project must be located.

Sponsorships

Sponsorships or naming rights are also excellent ways to obtain funds to enhance parks.

Donations

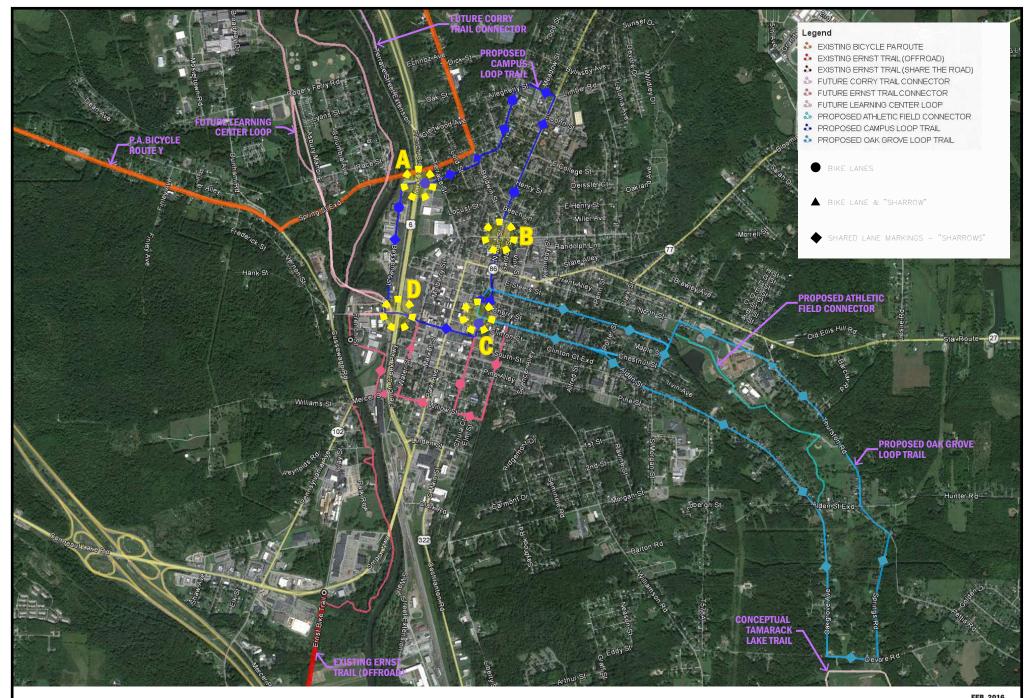
Seeking donations is a part of many recreation endeavors. It can be time consuming, but also rewarding. Whether it is monetary donations, materials, supplies, volunteer time, or some other type, it provides additional value to the project. Donations are beneficial to the businesses as well by providing a tax advantage and a positive public image.

School Specialty

School Specialty is a resource for purchasing numerous products that can be used in providing recreation programs. Even though they are predominately for schools, purchases can be made for recreation programming. Utilizing this opportunity on your own or in partnership with the school district could provide materials for various programs.

Fundraising

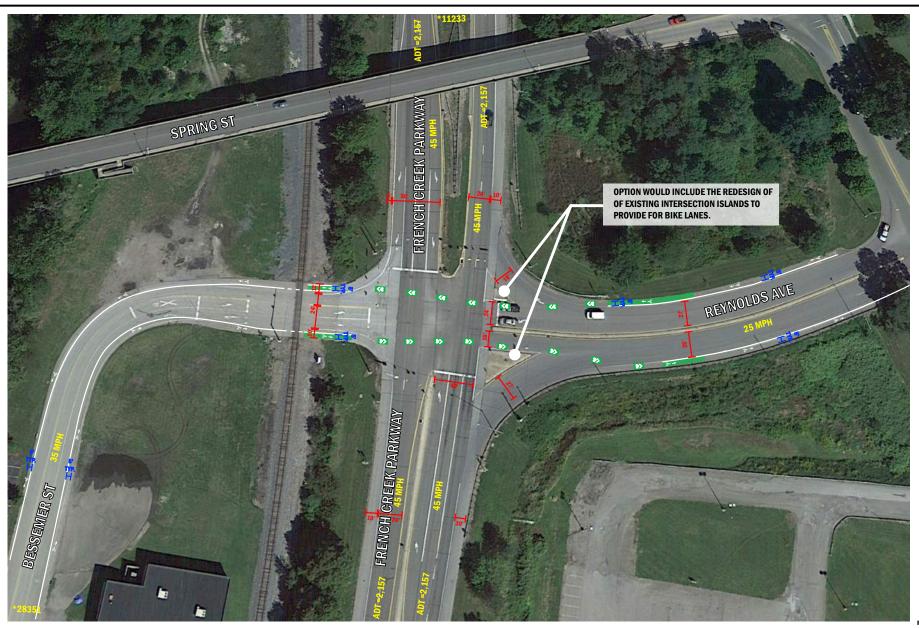
There are many different types of fundraisers to consider. The City should determine what is to be accomplished and what will work in Meadville. The fundraiser will take considerable time and planning to be successful, but it can be very rewarding by providing a community event and generating money for the recreation programs or facilities.



MAP 2: MEADVILLE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, CRAWFORD COUNTY, PA **CITY CONNECTOR PLAN**







MAP 2A: MEADVILLE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, CRAWFORD COUNTY, PA (A) REYNOLDS AVE AND FRENCH CREEK PARKWAY INTERSECTION PLAN



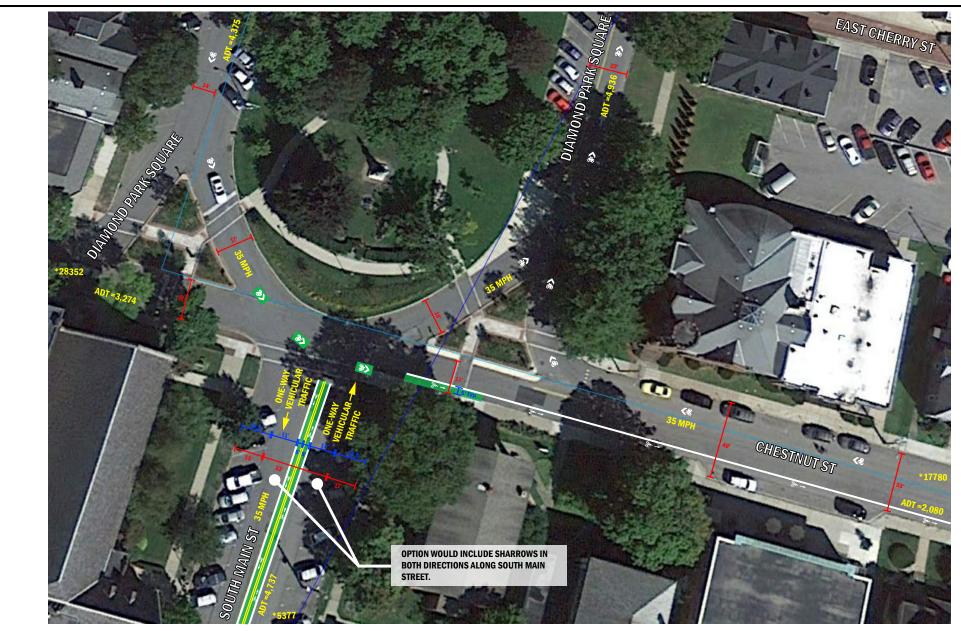




MAP 2B: MEADVILLE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, CRAWFORD COUNTY, PA (B) NORTH MAIN ST AND RANDOLPH ST INTERSECTION PLAN



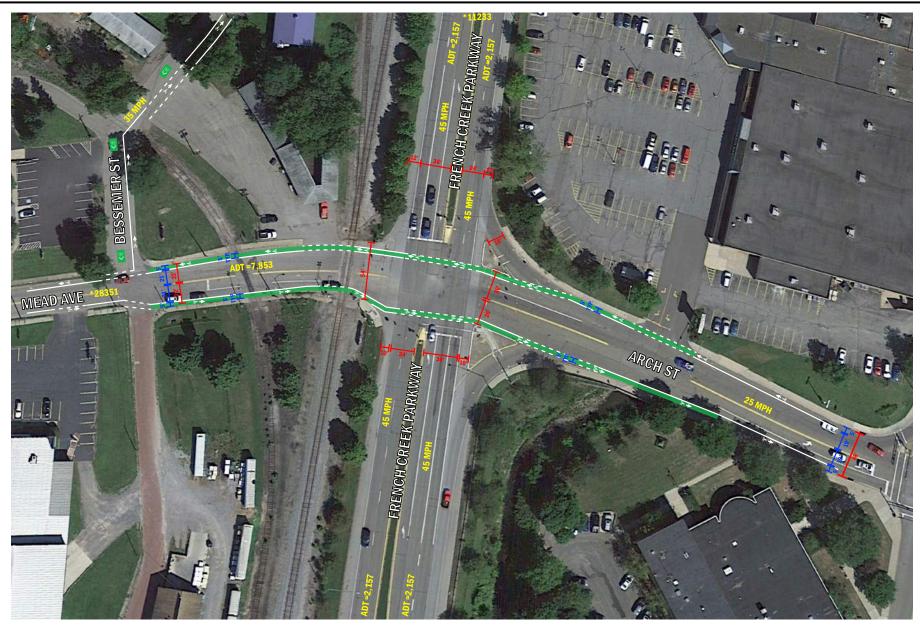




MAP 2C: MEADVILLE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, CRAWFORD COUNTY, PA (C) DIAMOND SQUARE PARK INTERSECTION PLAN



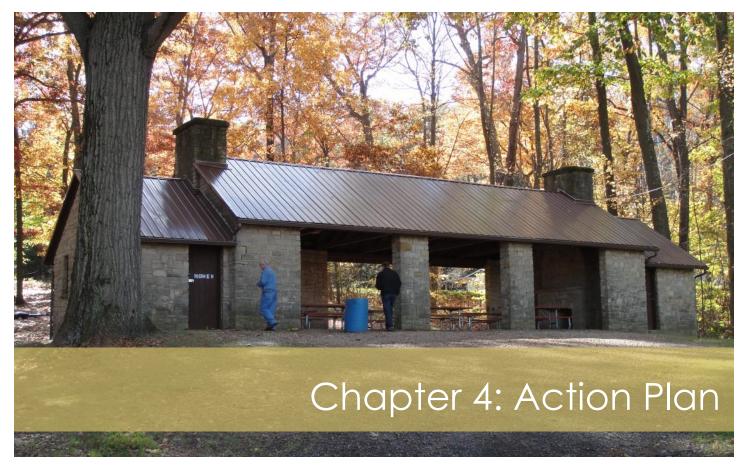




MAP 2D : MEADVILLE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, CRAWFORD COUNTY, PA (D) ARCH ST AND FRENCH CREEK PARKWAY INTERSECTION PLAN







To guide the Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan, a Mission Statement was developed.

"The mission of the Meadville Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan is to enhance recreation, connections and quality of life for the Meadville community."

Eight Project Goals were developed to support the Mission Statement and address priority needs:

- **Goal 1:** Develop and Maintain first class **Facilities** that will meet the needs of all users, while ensuring a high standard of maintenance, cleanliness, safety and aesthetically pleasing areas within the Meadville area parks.
- Goal 2: Develop *Programs* that meet the needs, interests and desires of all the residents of the Meadville area.
- Goal 3: Promote facilities and recreational programs utilizing the most effective forms of **Publicity** for the audience.
- Goal 4: Employ Staff and/or utilize Volunteers to develop and maintain recreational facilities and programs.
- Goal 5: Ensure the long-term Financial health of parks and recreation in the Meadville Area.
- Goal 6: Develop strong Partnerships in an effort to enhance parks and recreation opportunities.
- Goal 7: Promote Conservation and Preservation of valuable Open Space in the Meadville Area.
- **Goal 8:** Develop a Comprehensive Interconnected Multi-Modal System that provides safe bicycle and pedestrian routes throughout the Meadville Area.

A number of Action Items have been developed for each goal. The full list of Actions can be found in the Matrix at the end of this chapter. Through the process (i.e. Steering Committee meetings, stakeholder interviews and public meetings / surveys, the following Actions were identified as highest priority for the City.

Goal 1: Develop and maintain first class **Facilities** that will meet the needs of all users, while ensuring a high standard of maintenance, cleanliness, safety and aesthetically pleasing areas within the Meadville area parks.

This first goal focuses on the parks located within Meadville. Results obtained from input collected during the planning process indicated that the focus for facilities should be on maintaining existing facilities and not adding additional parks. While the City must address routine maintenance and safety hazards within each park as well as ADA issues (identified in the Park Matrices in Appendix F), the following items were ranked as highest priority:

Action Item 1A: Improve Bicentennial Park

Bicentennial Park is an important asset for the City of Meadville. The park is located along French Creek and has an existing launch site. The City is currently undergoing a process in cooperation with the French Creek Valley Conservancy to be identified as a Creek Town. The Ernst Trail group is actively pursuing options to extend the trail into the City with a trail head at Bicentennial Park. Capitalizing on the creek and trail opportunities would make this park a local and regional destination and could greatly enhance visitor traffic into Meadville, not only the park but also local businesses as well. In order to make this park a premiere destination the following items should be addressed:

- * Log Cabin
 - Address the slippery walkways leading to the cabin
 - Treat logs for beetles
- * Boat Launch
 - Work with the French Creek Valley Conservancy to improve boat launch (including signage) and potentially move it to a better location along the creek
- * Restrooms
 - Treat roof to avoid deterioration and remove moss
- * Pavilion
 - New roof and fascia
 - Rotting boards on tables need replaced
- * Playground
 - Install new structure—potentially with environmental theme
- * General
 - Remove invasive plants along creek
 - Install interpretive signage throughout the park explain the history of Meadville and French Creek



Example of nature themed playground equipment in Glen Falls

Action Item 1B: Construct Playground at HP Way Park

HP Way Park is an existing City park located on land that is leased from the Meadville Water Authority. This park previously had facilities, but they were all removed when existing underground tanks were replaced with two 2.5million gallon storage tanks. The Water Authority has agreed to set aside land on the site to build a new playground and park. The City is leading a public input process as this plan is being written to determine what the site should look like and what it should contain. It is highly recommended that the City continue to work with the Water Authority and local residents on this process, and ensure that proper funds are identified to build the park and its facilities once the planning process is complete.

Action Item 1C: Improve Safety and Security in the parks

While there are not a high rate of incidents in the parks, it is always good to ensure the parks and facilities are safe. As was noted during the planning process areas of concern were identified in some of the City's parks in regard to safety. The full list of these items are included in the Park Matrices located in Appendix F. The City should address these items as quickly as possible. Several other items should also be addressed in terms of safety and security. They are:

- * Post signs in the City Parks that include contact information for problems and safety issues that park users may encounter.
- * Provide adequate lighting throughout the parks to improve safety and visibility.
- Repair or restrict usage of hazardous areas and/or facilities immediately.
- Post park rules and regulations in visible locations in each of the Meadville area parks so all park users are aware of what is required of them when using the park system.

Goal 2: Develop **Programs** that meet the needs, interests and desires of all the residents of the Meadville area.

As noted numerous times, the City does not currently offer any recreational programming. There are several community events hosted by the City, but all programming is administered by other entities. The City currently does not have the resources to host recreational programs so new partnerships will have to be established and existing partnerships strengthened in order to offer programs to residents of Meadville.

Action Item 2A: Establish a lead organization to develop recreational programming for the Meadville Area.

The organization most suited for this role is the Meadville Area Recreation Complex (MARC). Staff and Board members of the MARC actively participated in this planning process and have indicated a desire to expand their programming. The City should initiate targeted discussions with the MARC to determine what programs should be offered and what resources the MARC will need to assist in this effort in terms of additional funding, staff, volunteers, etc. Chapter 3 of this plan discusses in detail the types of programs that may be successful and criteria to use in setting a recreation program schedule.

Action Item 2B: Re-establish the Summer Program

In previous years, the City did offer a summer program for youth in Meadville. This program was held at City parks throughout the summer months. During the planning process, many participants noted that they thought this program was very beneficial and efforts should be taken to reestablish it. As previously mentioned, the City does not have the staff resources to offer programs, but this could be something that is discussed with representatives from the MARC as something they could lead (see Action Item 2A). Allegheny College and the Crawford Central School District could also be approached as sources for student volunteers to help staff summer programs.

If this program is re-established, it should rotate through various parks within the City of Meadville if possible. This would allow for children throughout the City to participate.

Goal 3: Promote facilities and recreational programs utilizing the most effective forms of **Publicity** for the audience.

Any facilities or programs offered within the City will not be successful unless people know about them. One of the most effective ways of communicating with residents is through the internet. It is cost effective and most people have e-mail or visit websites / social media sites. This should not be the only method of communication, but it is definitely something that should be explored.

Action Item 3A: Develop an e-mail database of residents who would like to receive recreational information.

The City should begin to develop a e-mail database of people who are interested in receiving updates about the parks and programs. The information can be collected at events or facilities throughout the City and an item should be added to the City's website that allows people to sign up for the contact list. The database can be updated as new people become interested. Once the list is established, there should be one or two people at the City who are responsible for sending regular (perhaps monthly) e-mails blasts regarding park and recreation in the area. This could be used to advertise City events or events that are held by other organizations (such as the MARC, sports organizations, neighboring municipalities, etc.) in the Meadville Area. These organizations should also be contacted to determine if they have contact lists that would like to be added to the Meadville database.

Action Item 3B: Post a calendar of monthly events on the Meadville Website.

In addition to the e-mail database, the existing Meadville website should be updated to include a monthly calendar of events and meetings. This calendar could be used to advertise non-recreation events as well so it includes a full list of what is happening in the City. Similar to the e-mail blast, the calendar can be used by other community organizations as well to share their meeting information. The calendar should be created so that it displays information about the event (in terms of times and locations). If available, the events should be linked to other sites that provide additional information for the uses.

Goal 4: Employ **Staff** and/or utilize **Volunteers** to develop and maintain recreational facilities and programs.

The City currently does not have staff dedicated to parks and recreation nor does it have a volunteer Parks and Recreation Board. Therefore, additional resources will need to be added or volunteers identified in order to offer a quality park and recreation system within the City. Utilizing staff of existing organizations (i.e. the MARC) and identifying volunteers is the preferred method at the present time.

Action Item 4A: Coordinate with Allegheny College for internship opportunities.

Allegheny College students are a great asset for the City in terms of providing volunteers. Students often have to complete community service as part of their degree or may be looking for internship opportunities. A formal partnership should be developed with the College so that each semester, interested students are matched to opportunities that exist for volunteers or internships. In addition to the College, the High School could be a source of student volunteers. The MARC could also be a partner in this effort, in that they could help to manage the student volunteers / interns for the recreation programs that they will potentially offer in the future (i.e. the Summer Playground Program discussed under Goal 2).

Action Item 4B: Establish a list of volunteers.

Students are not the only avenue for identifying volunteers. Residents and members of community organizations should also be explored. The City should establish an easy way for interested people to offer their services, forms should be made available at all events moving forward, and a volunteer item should be posted on the City website that allows people to easily sign up via the web. The e-mail blast discussed under Goal 3 is another option that can be used to identify volunteers. A link to the volunteer web page can be included with each e-mail blast. Meadville is fortunate to be home to many businesses and corporations, these entities should also be approached for volunteer opportunities.

Once the method and list have been established, it can be taken a step further to begin coding individuals interested in specific type of volunteerism and could note if they are willing to volunteer time, funds, supplies, etc.

Goal 5: Ensure the long-term Financial health of parks and recreation in the Meadville Area.

One of the biggest issues in communities is how to pay for parks and recreation when there are so many other pressing needs for the municipal budget. One way to help fund recreation projects is to seek diversified funding opportunities through multiple methods. A list of grants, foundations and other funding sources can be found in Appendix G.

Action Item 5A: Pursue a variety of grants and alternative funding sources for park and recreation development.

Grants are perhaps one of the best sources of obtaining alternative funding for parks and recreation to supplement the monies needed to improve park and recreation opportunities in the community. There are many grants available from various government agencies and from numerous foundations. It does take time to research the various grants, and a thorough knowledge of your project is necessary to write a grant that will be funded. It is recommended that the person at the City responsible for writing grants attend grant seminars and workshops that are offered in western Pennsylvania. The format of some of the grants change yearly requiring a continual update through the workshops offered. Partnering with neighbors, such as West Mead Township, on grant applications for shared equipment or completing a combined application for playground equipment for multiple parks would strengthen the application.

In addition to grants there are other types of funding sources available, foundations being one example. There are generally four types of foundations: (1) private family; (2) community; (3) national; and (4) operating. Similar to grant funding, the various foundations need to be researched to determine what is appropriate for Meadville.

Business sponsors are another source of funding. These can be easy to obtain, if you are well prepared to sell the opportunity. Many businesses look for an opportunity to get their name in front of people, get involved in the community, and create a positive image. In order to obtain these sponsorships, an enticing project or program must be put together in a professional manner and properly presented.

Many of the grants that are available are for feasibility studies, planning and implementation, acquisition, or development. These are great grants to be awarded to your community; however, it is just as important to run programs. It is often difficult to locate grants or other funding sources that will provide financial assistance for programs and equipment. Some funding sources will provide financial support, equipment, or other program resources to help start a specific program or supplement supplies needed for an existing program. This is a good way to get some programs started without a lot of capital outlay for equipment or other information needed to offer a program.

Action Item 5B: Utilize outside funding as a match to lessen the financial output of the City.

Grants often include a match requirement in the award. The City should explore options to use donations, foundation money, other grant awards, in-kind services etc. as matching money towards additional grant opportunities. This will lessen the burden on the City to identify cash match within the City budget.

Goal 6: Develop strong **Partnerships** in an effort to enhance parks and recreation opportunities.

Not a lot of communities can provide all services, especially in terms of recreation, completely in house. It is imperative for partnerships to be developed and enhanced in order to offer a quality parks and recreation program, which will enhance quality of life for residents and visitors.

Action Item 6A: Develop a coordinated and collaborative effort between recreational providers in the Meadville Area.

There are many organizations and entities operating in Meadville and surrounding communities that offer recreation services. In order to reduce duplication and potentially save on resources, an effort should be made to bring representatives from these various organizations together on a regular basis (perhaps only once or twice per year) to discuss what programs and facilities are being offered, what needs exist and how everyone can share in resources (including time, equipment, etc.). A full list of stakeholders identified through this process is located in Appendix A. This would be a good list to start with in terms of identifying who to invite to these meetings. The MARC should be approached by the City to act as the lead entity for coordinating the meetings. This would make sense since they are a major recreation provider in the area that serves a larger population than just the City of Meadville.

Action Item 6B: Coordinate efforts with various trail organizations to ensure a well-defined and safe trail system throughout the Meadville Area.

Providing safe and easily accessed connections within the City of Meadville as well as to areas around the City, was something that was regularly mentioned throughout the planning process. The Ernst Trail is a major asset located just outside the City limits and the organizations like the French Creek Valley Conservancy and the MARC are developing small trails on property located throughout Meadville. Coordinating these efforts to provide an interconnected network of bicycle and pedestrian trails and pathways throughout the City would be beneficial for residents, students and others at Allegheny College, local employees and visitors. Connections are also discussed in more detail in the Action Items for Goal 8.

Goal 7: Promote **Conservation and Preservation** of valuable Open Space in the Meadville Area.

In addition to including information on park and recreation facilities and programs, this plan also looked at open space and greenway opportunities. These are important as they provide passive recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. The City is fortunate in that it does have a number of these types of sites currently in their park system.

Action Item 7A: Maintain the French Creek corridor as a quality water trail.

French Creek is an important asset to the City of Meadville and the surrounding areas. The Pennsylvania Environmental Council along with the French Creek Valley Conservancy, launched a Creek Town program in three Crawford County communities in 2012. There are currently efforts underway to include Meadville as a Creek Town in this program due to its proximity to the creek and the other potential assets (such as connections to the Ernst Trail) and business community located within the City. Supporting these efforts will only enhance the recreation system within the City and provide additional ways for people to recreate including access to water.

Action Item 7B: Retain natural areas and greenway corridors throughout the parks.

Many of the City's parks have open space and wooded areas located within their borders. Keeping these areas as natural and pristine as possible will add to the value of the park and recreation system. As noted above, offering passive recreation as well as active recreation opportunities provides a well rounded park and recreation system and one that can be enjoyed by multiple users. In addition to the open space and wooded areas, trail systems (primarily in Cora Clark Park) should be maintained as natural areas that can be accessed through the trail system. Connecting these trails throughout the City and park system, whenever possible, should also be a priority for the City.

Goal 8: Develop a Comprehensive Interconnected Multi-Modal System that provides safe bicycle and pedestrian routes throughout the Meadville Area.

As discussed earlier, safe and easily accessible connections to and within the City of Meadville was identified as a high priority through the planning process. In order to develop options, a bike ride was held with interested local riders and field views were completed at potential sites. The following Action Items discuss the high priority connection opportunities.

Action Item 8A: Assist with the proposed connections to the Ernst Trail.

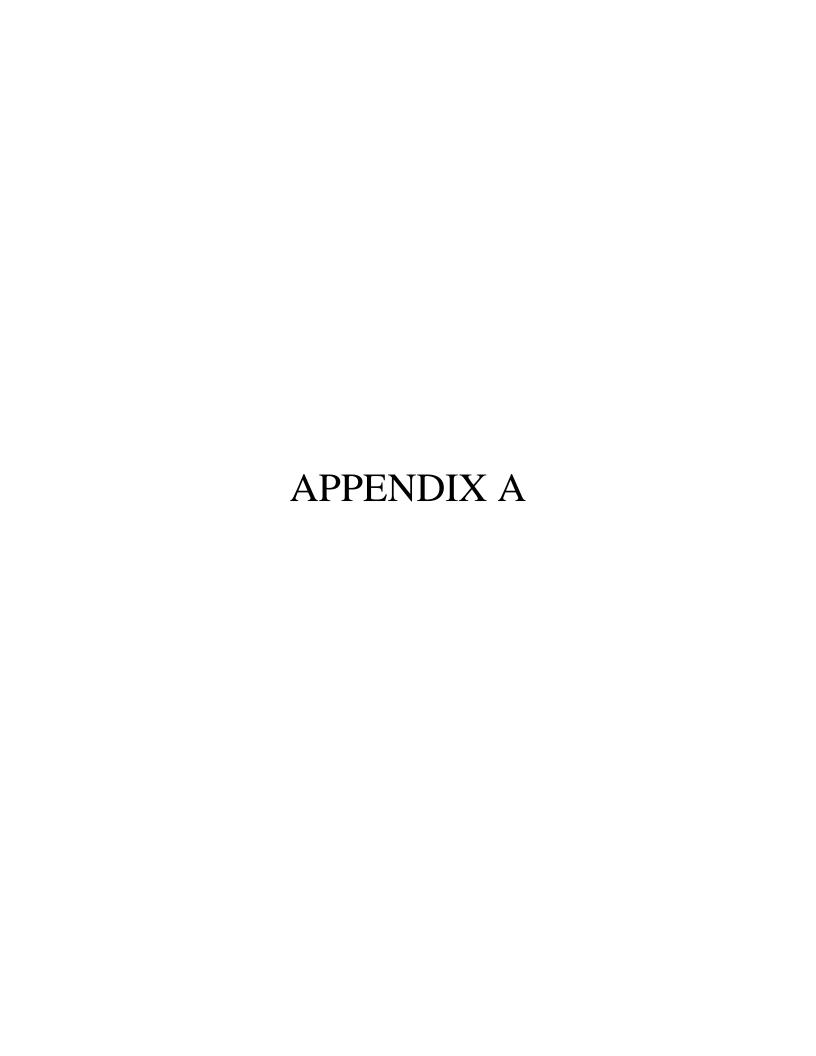
Currently the Ernst Trail does not come into the City boundaries, but there are projects underway to extend the trail from its existing termination into the City with the potential to develop a trail head at Bicentennial Park. Potential alignments are shown on Map 2. The City should make every effort to support the trail extension and when it does link to Bicentennial Park, provide amenities such as signage, additional parking, benches, etc.

Action Item 8B: Implement the Campus Loop Trail.

Providing safe and well marked connections from the Allegheny College campus into downtown Meadville and to Bicentennial Park will benefit the college population, the local businesses and other residents in the City. Throughout this planning process as well as the process that the City undertook in 2012 and 2013 for the Comprehensive Plan, these connections were consistently identified as high priority. Potential alignments as well as trail type (i.e. bike lane, share the road or combination) are shown on Map 2 with additional detail for intersections on Maps 2a, 2b, 2c and 2d. It is recommended that the City utilize these maps as a basis to undertake detailed studies to implement the connections. The local PennDOT representative will need to be involved as these routes do include state routes.

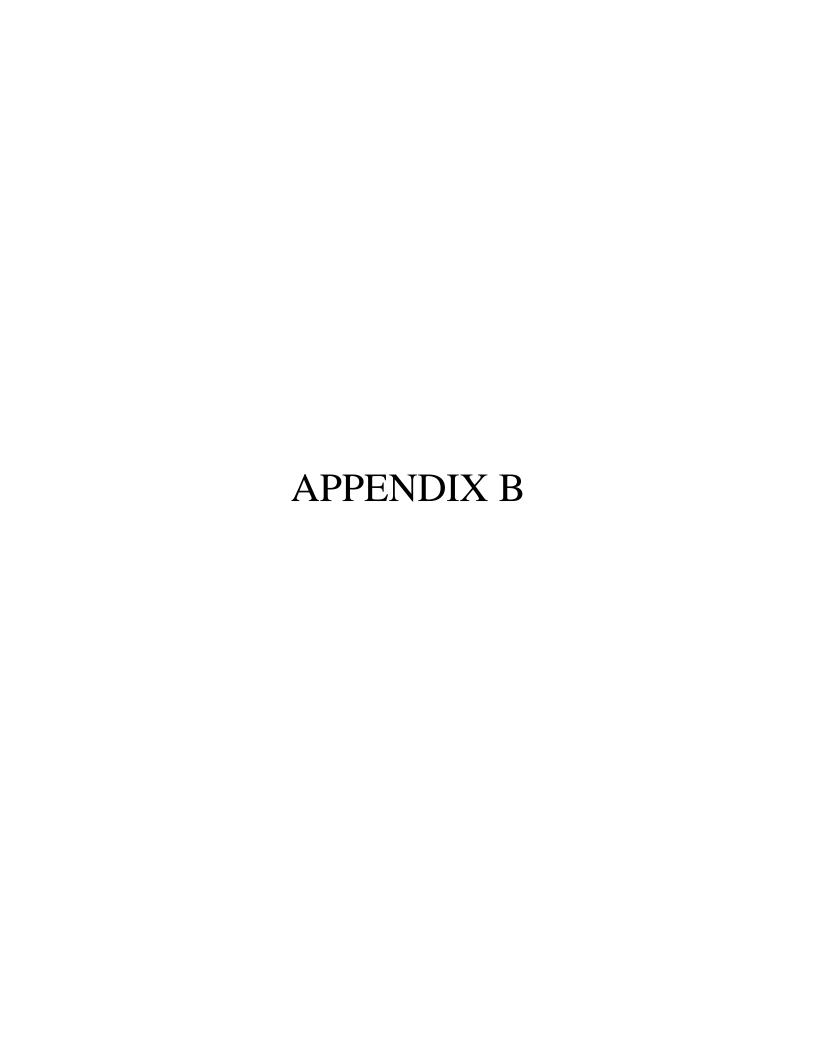
Action Item 8C: Implement the City / Oak Grove Loop Trail.

In addition to the route that connects the Allegheny College Campus to downtown, a route that connects the City to Oak Grove Park was identified as a priority. Similar to the Campus Loop Trail, the potential alignment with trail type can be found on Map 2. The recommendation is for the City to utilize this map and information to begin further detailed studies to determine the feasibility of the route.



Stakeholder List

Name	Title	Organization
Dill Diamich		Meadville Area Youth Baseball
Bill Ditrich		
		Crawford County Soccer
John McGlinn	President	Association
Sara McCarney		Lady Bulldog Soccer (MASH)
Steve Kightliner	President	Little Gridders
		Crawford County Historical
Josh Sherretts	President	Society
Sandy Porter		Railroad & Tooling Museum
Don Goldstein	Professor	Allegheny College
Amara Geffen	Professor	Allegheny College
Bill Ross	Asst Athletic Director	Allegheny College
		Wesbury Retirement
Don Clawson	President	Community
		,
Sam Tranter	Public Works Dir.	City of Meadville
Danielle Bazylak Fettig	Physician Recruiter	Meadville Medical Center
Dave Dickson	Dir. Bldgs/Grounds	Crawford Central School District
Dave Washousky	Director Meadville Community	French Creek Conservancy
Kerstin Martin	Group	Allegheny College
Dick Egglington; David	Совр	ranegaterry contege
Shaffer;		Ernst Trail
Scott Wissinger		Ernst Irali
Jake Laslay	Exectutive Director	YMCA
Kristoph Kocan	Facilities Director	YMCA
Nathan Zieziula		Meadville Area Soccer Club
Chris Nuzback	Exectutive Director	MARC
Craig Gump		Lacrosse Club and Varsity
John Heplin		·
John Frye		
Jennifer Stumbo		Conneaut Lake Youth Soccer
		Crawford County Hockey
James Fadden		Association
Jack Thompson		Sertoma Club



MEADVILLE PARK AND RECREATION PLAN AND OAK GROVE MASTER SITE PLAN OPEN HOUSE MEETING January 20, 2015 -Flip Chart Notes

Station 1: Parks

- Cora Clark
 - Trail improvements (difficult to maintain b/c of erosion problems)
- Huidekoper
 - o Better access (no sidewalks)
- Shadybrook
 - Dog waste station
 - Bike or stroller access from Walnut to Shadybrook Park (footbridge is closed)
 - Some very muddy or wet areas in Shadybrook Park (hard to traverse with a stroller)
 - o Walking / Nature Trail along Mill run from park to hospital
 - Wetland demonstration area (upstream from footbridge); between Grove and Shadybrook is the only natural riparian habitat in the City – this was a student project with Allegheny College, but now the footbridge is closed and the elementary school near there is also closed
- Bicentennial Park
 - o Environmentally themed playground
 - Boat launch
 - o Trail head for Ernst Trail
 - o Interpretive Signage (City did apply for grant through Act 13 money)
 - o ADA fishing dock (fishing is good in French Creek)
 - Connection between park and downtown (also mentioned in the Connections Station) – would help with Creek Town designation that French Creek Conservancy is working on for Meadville
- Amphitheater (for movies and other activities in the parks)
- Skate Park at the MARC facility is owned by City needs a lot of improvements (it gets used a lot)
- Connecting the Ernst Trail into the City is a high priority
 - O Where does the funding come from?
 - o DCNR has a lot of hoops tied to their funding

Station 2: Programs

- Historical Interpretive Trail at Oak Grove Park
- Tennis

Public Meeting #1: January 20, 2015 - Exit Survey Results

Q1: Where	do you Live?							
	Meadville	10	35%					
	West Mead	14	50%					
	Other	4	14%	Richmond Twp., Ve	ernon, Spartansburg	, Cochranton		
Q2: How im	portant is recreation?							
	Very	12	43%				1	
	Important	11	39%					
	Somewhat	5	18%				1	
	Not at all							
Q3: Is Parks	/Rec in community adequ	ate?						
	Yes	11	44%					
	No	13	52%					
	Other	1 (Somewhat)	4%					
Q4: Visits to each park (past year)? Never		Never	1-4 Times	5-10 Times	More than 10			
	Cora Clark	13	6	1	2			
	Diamond	1	10	6	8			
	Eldred Glen							
	Liuleu Gieli	11	9	1	3			
	Elizabeth	11 19	9	1	3			
				1 1 1	3			
	Elizabeth	19	2	1	1			
	Elizabeth Lincoln Ave.	19 16	2 5	1	1 1			
	Elizabeth Lincoln Ave. Hiudekoper	19 16 13	2 5 8	1	1			
	Elizabeth Lincoln Ave. Hiudekoper Bicentennial	19 16 13 10	2 5 8 13	1	1			
	Elizabeth Lincoln Ave. Hiudekoper Bicentennial Mill Run	19 16 13 10 17	2 5 8 13 2	1	1 1 1			
	Elizabeth Lincoln Ave. Hiudekoper Bicentennial Mill Run Shadybrook	19 16 13 10 17 11	2 5 8 13 2 7	1	1 1 1 5 2			

Q5: Why you to to parks (check up to 3)?			
Activities	7	9%	
Ball Fields	6	8%	
Basketball Courts		0%	
Festivals / Events	9	12%	
Hiking / Biking	10	13%	
Log Cabin	1	1%	
Indoor Activities	2	3%	
Close to home	5	6%	
Picnics / Pavillions	8	10%	
Playgrounds	4	5%	
Relax / Enjoy Nature	13	17%	
Swimming	4	5%	
Tennis Courts	2	3%	
Youth Sports	2	3%	
Other	4	5%	Canoe (Bicentennial), Dog Walking (2), Running
Q6: Participate in events / programs in par	st year?		
Yes	12	46%	
No	14	54%	
Q7: If no, why not?		0%	
Too hard to register		0%	
Inconvenient times	1	6%	
Too expensive		0%	
Not suitable to age		0%	
Not ADA accessible		0%	
Not offered near home	4	24%	
Not publicized	5	29%	
Not interested	5	29%	
Other	2	12%	What programs; I'm too old

Yes	23	85%				
No	2	7%				
Maybe	2	7%				
29: What age groups are underserv	ed?					
Preschool (0-5)	3	8%				
Youth (6-12)	5	14%				
Adolescent (13-18)	6	17%				
Young Adult (19-39)	8	22%				
Adult (40-59)	5	14%				
Senior (60+)	9	25%				
Q10: New / improved facilities at Oa	ak Grove					
	Improve	New				
Amphitehatre		7				
Ball Fields	9	1				
Basketball Courts	5	4				
Dog Park	3	7				
Multi-Purpose Field	4	3				
Parking	3	4				
Passive Open Space	2	3				
Pavilions	6	2				
Picnic Areas	5	4				
Playgrounds	7	3				
Pool		2				
Roadways (within park) 4	2				
Soccer Fields	2	2				
Skate Park		2				
Swings	3	5				
Tennis Courts	1	3				
Walking / Nature Trails	6	8				
Other	Connect to Mill Rui	n Trail, Scattered pig	nic tables/benches	s are needed. Restr	ooms (2). Bike	Trail to City

Q11: Additional Comments

Prefer passive recreation (easier to maintain than multiple fields for sports); Oakgrove has a lot of natural areas to take advantage of (using it for ball fields seems unnecessary); It's difficult to get people to utilize what we have (challenge is to get them involved in existing and newly improved facilities); Twp Little League program-baseball/softball-not sure of participation as the reason to combine with Vernon; Offer park morning/afternoon sessions (schools had to offer these programs - good partner); Bike/hike trail along western side of Tamarack Lake (trail around entire Lake would be nice, but eastern side is difficult due to steep bank) to connect with a trail through Oak Grove and entire trail system; Important for West Mead to have a nice park with bike/walking areas; number of springs in the valley that if cleaned would create a good water source; Trails are exceptional addition to any Twp; More events at parks other than the Diamond; The current baseball field (at Oak Grove) needs to be removed and replaced with a multi-purpose dining hall building; Need more/better playground facilities; Need more winter/dry/under roof activities for kids, Improve Bicentennial Park (launch/interpretation) - make it a signature park; Leverage French Creek in connection with recreation; Improve synergy between recreation, residential, and business to maintain economic vitality of our community; Greenways for biking/hiking/roller blading/x-country skiing needed to attract professionals to Meadville

Q12: Perso	ons in household				
	Preschool (0-5)	3	8%		
	Youth (6-12)	2	5%		
	Adolescent (13-18)	5	13%		
	Young Adult (19-39)	7	18%		
	Adult (40-59)	11	28%		
	Senior (60+)	12	30%		

- Nature Play Areas
- Dog Park
- Educational Summer Programs (Huidekoper good location)
- Pickleball
- Summer Reading Club (offered by Crawford Central SD partnership opportunity)
- Concerts in the park
- Theater in the park

Station 3: Connections

- Running / Biking trail along western side of Tamarack Lake coordinate with the Fish and Boat Commission (also noted in the Oak Grove Master Site Plan station)
- Specified Bike Lanes needed throughout the City
- Porter Street Footbridge that connects Walnut to Shadybrook Park is closed (this is an issue)
- North Main Bike Lane going up / sharrows going down
- Coordinate with PennDOT District 1-0 regarding:
 - o Pedestrian / bike improvements for on-road routes and bike lanes
 - Repaving projects (add bike lanes to community streets)
- Off-road trail from MARC to Tamarack (also noted in the Oak Grove Master Site Plan station)
- Bicentennial Park very important to connect Ernst Trail to Bicentennial Park
 - o Connect Mercer Street to Bicentennial along French Creek
 - o Connect Bicentennial to next summer's Ernst Trail Connection
 - Establish route from Bicentennial to Downtown Meadville issue with bypass (Investigate trail along the bypass)
- Enhance and develop greenways (Hospital to Mill Run to Tamarack Lake)
- Complete trail network Ernst Trail to Bicentennial Park to MARC to Oak Grove Park to Tamarack Lake

Station 4: Oak Grove Master Site Plan

- Caps on garbage cans were a good idea
- Morrison Park in Venango County has really neat octagon picnic type pavilions similar to what was in Oakwood Park. It would be neat to do something similar and historical looking at Oak Grove.
- Needs

- Investigate trail connection from park to MARC (north) and Tamarack Lake (south) – connection to lake should include Fish and Boat Commission
- Walking Trail or Loop Trail
 - Walking path from Ponce de Leon springs to park
- o Mountain bike trail (tie in with Tour de Tamarack)
- o Horse Trails (tie animals into the park)
- Geocaching at trails
- o Interpretive signs regarding history (used to be a trolley route .5 cents per ride), culture, environment
- o Picnic areas / bench seating
- o Restrooms
- o ½ marathon around lake
- Destination for Mill Run
 - Nature Trail Start at hospital and go along Mill Run

Station 5: MARC

- Needs
 - o Bike Trails
 - Paved Trails
 - o Connections to City and Oak Grove Park
 - o Cross Country Skiing
 - o Play Ground
 - o Zip Line
 - o Mark items of interest on trails
 - Mark tree and vegetation for educational purposes
- Tail on Tamarack Lake (west side)
- Great to see City, MARC and West Mead working together

Meadville Recreation Plan Public Open House #2 – July 21, 2015 (21 people signed in) Flip Chart Notes

Recommendations

- Vines are killing trees
- Preserve large trees in un-timbered parks
- More plays / music in the parks is needed
- Is there potential to connect Morgan Street to Cora Clark (through a trail)
- Install solar panels along trails
- Improve Smock Bridge
- Walkworks ex. Pedestrian connections

Oak Grove

- Automatic Gate
- Outstanding great
- Would like stockpile moved
- Add an "s" to Springs Road

Public Meeting #2: July 21, 2015 - Ranking Results

RECOMMENDATIONS & PRIORITY LEVELS

Goal #1 – Develop and maintain first class *Facilities* that will meet the needs of all users, while ensuring a high standard of maintenance, cleanliness, safety, and aesthetically pleasing areas and facilities within the Meadville area parks.

Objectives		#1 Rankings
1.1	Utilize green sustainable design in all new construction and in updates to	1
	existing facilities.	
1.2	Create a balance of active and passive areas and facilities in all parks.	1
1.3	Develop a park maintenance manual.	4
1.4	Preserve historical features within the parks such as: the old trolley bed, fence	7
	posts, old building remains, etc.; and identify them with markers for future	
	generations.	
1.5	Utilize coordinated trash receptacles throughout the parks.	6
1.6	Install dog waste stations in parks where dogs are permitted, especially at trail	5
	entrances.	
1.7	Develop brochures for each park indicating the location of facilities especially	4
	trail locations including each loop.	
1.8	Improve safety and security in the parks.	3
1.9	Improve Bicentennial Park.	10
1.10	Improve Cora Clark Park.	8
1.11	Improve Diamond Park.	14
1.12	Construct playground in H.P. Way as proposed.	
1.13	Improve Huidekoper Park.	9
1.14	Improve Lincoln Avenue Playground.	
1.15	Improve Pomona Park.	
1.16	Improve Shadybrook Park	11
1.17	Improve Unnamed Park.	8

Goal #2 – Develop *Programs* that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the residents of the Meadville area.

	Objectives	#1 Rankings
2.1	Retain existing successful events & establish new recreational experiences.	2
2.2	Establish a lead organization to develop recreational programming	8
	opportunities for the Meadville area.	
2.3	Re-establish the summer playground program.	6
2.4	Develop outdoor educational/environmental programs, possibly in coordination	4
	with the schools and college.	

Goal #3 – Promote facilities and recreational programs utilizing the most effective forms of *Publicity* for the potential audience.

	Objectives	#1 Rankings
3.1	Develop a comprehensive email data base of residents who would like to receive recreational information.	1
3.2	Post on the website a monthly calendar of events.	8
3.3	Utilize social media as a method to promote programs and facilities.	5
3.4	Design trail specific brochures and place at trailheads.	2
3.5	Develop a detailed public relations/marketing plan.	1
3.6	Promote programs utilizing local magazines and newspapers.	
3.7	Include all updated recreational information in "Welcome Packets" given to new residents.	1
3.8	Utilize the schools to reach the elementary, middle, and high school students concerning programs for their age group.	1
3.9	Utilize the Meadville & Pelletier Libraries in promoting programs & facilities.	
3.10	Utilize trailhead signs, bulletin boards, and potential kiosks for posting programs and other information.	1

Goal #4 – Employ adequate *Staff* and/or utilize *Volunteers to* successfully develop, implement, & maintain the Meadville Area's recreational facilities & programs.

IIIIpie	implement, & maintain the Meadylile Area's recreational facilities & programs.		
	Objectives	#1 Rankings	
4.1	Coordinate with Allegheny College for internship opportunities.	4	
4.2	Update personnel policies and job descriptions as changes occur.		
4.3	Work with scouting groups to coordinate Eagle Scout and similar projects in the	2	
	Meadville area parks.		
4.4	Coordinate with the high school to develop leadership project opportunities in	2	
	the parks and assisting with programs.		
4.5	Providing staff opportunities to attend workshops & conferences.	1	
4.6	Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials	2	
	toward improving parks and program development.		
4.7	Periodically review staffing levels for the parks to determine if there is sufficient	1	
	staff to meet the demands by the general public as existing facilities are		
	improved and new facilities are developed.		
4.8	Provide and maintain CPR/AED and first aid training.		

Goal #5 – Ensure the long term <i>Financial</i> health of parks and recreation in the Meadville
area by utilizing a variety of methods to fund new and existing programs and facilities.

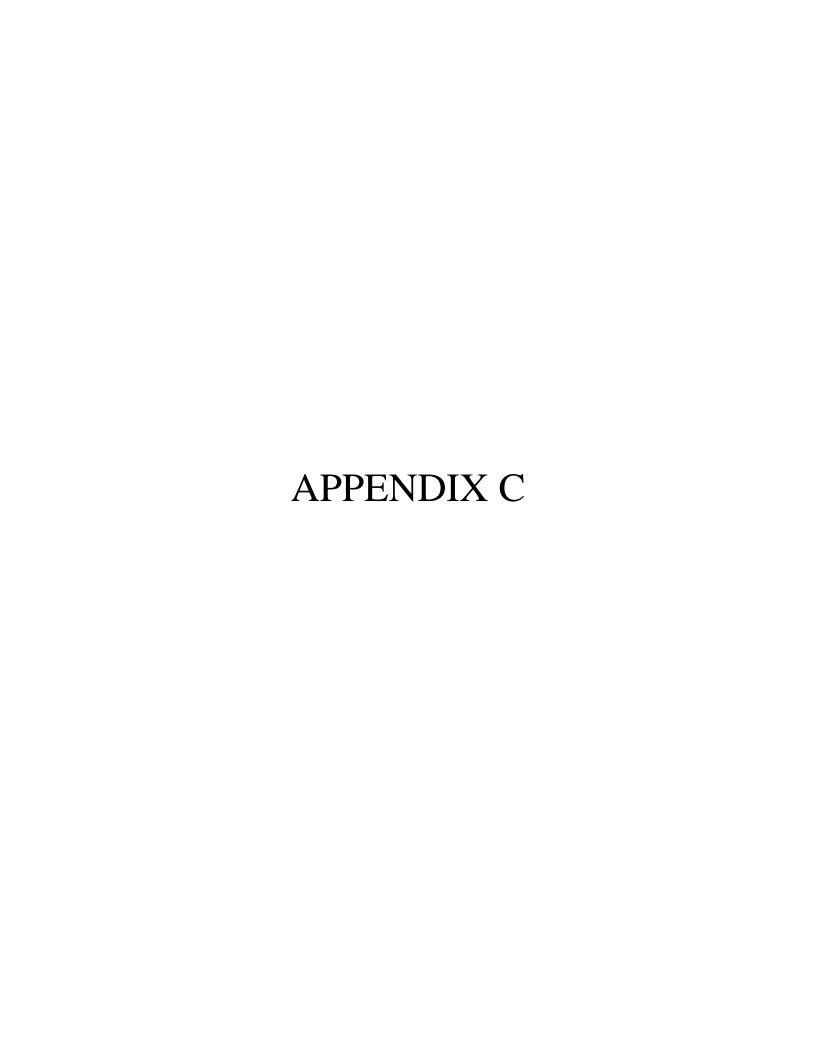
	Objectives	#1 Rankings
5.1	Review fee structure yearly for rental facilities, and any future programs that may	
	be offered.	
5.2	Pursue a variety of grants for parks development.	3
5.3	Develop relationships with potential sponsors and foundations as funding	3
	sources.	
5.4	Pursue other alternative funding sources that may include program supplies &	4
	ideas, equipment, & types of support.	
5.5	Establish revenue policies for fundraising, sponsorships, donations, program fees,	
	facility rentals, etc.	
5.6	Utilize any of the previously listed funds received for parks as a match against	
	grants requiring a match to lessen the financial output of the Cities cash reserves.	
5.7	Design & maintain facilities to be financially sustainable.	1
5.8	Design recreation programs, if offered in future, to be sustainable through user	
	fees, donations, & sponsorships.	
5.9	Develop 3, 5, & 10 year capital improvement budgets.	5

Goal #6 – Develop strong <i>Partnerships</i> in an effort to enhance parks and recreational
opportunities for the Meadville area residents.

	Objectives	#1 Rankings
6.1	Develop a coordinated and collaborated effort between recreation providers in	1
	the Meadville area.	
6.2	Coordinate efforts with the various trail organizations to ensure a well-defined	4
	and safe trail system throughout the Meadville area.	
6.3	Enhance the Cities relationship with Allegheny College in exploring and	
	developing future recreation opportunities for Meadville residents.	
6.4	Coordinate with "I > Meadville" to improve recreation.	1
	Establish a working relationship with senior retirement centers to provide quality	1
	recreation opportunities for senior residents.	
6.5	Develop relationships with local media outlets to aid in marketing.	
6.6	Develop a closer relationship with School District to better coordinate the	
	provision of recreation services.	
6.7	Establish a working relationship with Meadville Medical Center/wellness center	
	to develop a health & wellness initiative.	
6.8	Develop partnerships with the surrounding communities that may enhance	2
	recreational opportunities in the Meadville area.	
6.9	Maintain partnerships with the sports organizations, scouting groups, churches,	1
	businesses, the YMCA, and other recreation providers.	
6.10	Develop written agreements detailing responsibilities of each entity involved in	
	partnerships.	

Goal	Goal #7 – Promote <i>Conservation and Preservation</i> of valuable <i>Open Space</i> in the Meadville				
area	area.				
	Objectives	#1 Rankings			
7.1	Maintain the French Creek corridor as a quality water trail	8			
7.2	Improve the integrity of the Mill Run corridor through environmentally sound	2			
	practices and developing educational opportunities.				
7.3	Follow the recommendations contained in the street tree Plans completed in	1			
	2012. Adapt these plans to other park sites.				
7.4	Develop a comprehensive tree management program that includes indigenous				
	and diverse species of trees, shrubs, and flowers, to be used in the Meadville area				
	parks and properties.				
7.5	Control invasive species in the parks.				
7.6	Maintain the integrity of all streams, hillsides, and environmentally sensitive	1			
	areas in the Meadville area parks, including riparian buffers.				
7.7	Retain natural areas and greenway corridors throughout the parks.	5			
7.8	Preserve the native and ornamental plantings in the parks.				
7.9	Preserve for wildlife all dead trees and down trees that are located in areas that	2			
	will not create a hazardous condition for park users.				

Goa	al #8 – Develop a Comprehensive Interconnected Multi-Modal System that provides safe		
bicy	cle and pedestrian access routes throughout the Meadville area.		
	Objectives	#1 Rankings	
8.1	Implement the proposed City / Oak Grove Loop Trail	9	
8.2	Implement the proposed Campus Loop Trail	4	
8.3	Implement the proposed connections to the Ernst Trail extension (once it is	14	
	complete)		
8.4	Develop an environmental/interpretative trail along the Mill Run corridor.	6	
8.5	Implement the sidewalk improvement plan as discussed as a high priority in the	4	
	Meadville Comprehensive Plan.		
8.6	Install bike racks around the City in partnership with local business owners,	2	
	CATA, etc.		

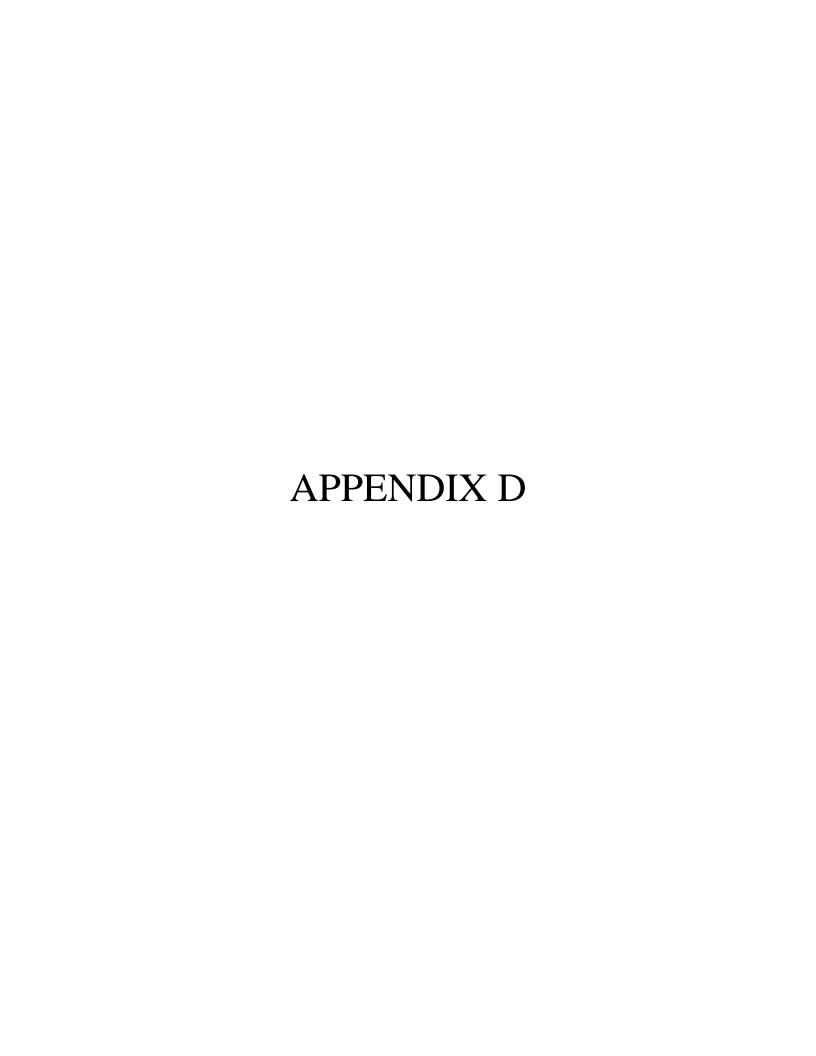


Answer Options	High	Medium	Low
Create a balance of active and passive areas and facilities in all parks.	3	1	0
Improve safety and security in the parks.	2	2	0
improve safety and security in the parks.			0
Improve Diamond Park (i.e. trash receptacles, ADA access ramp to gazebo, new benches, etc.).	2	2	0
Improve Shadybrook Park (i.e. update playground, ADA improvements, improve existing courts, etc.).	2	2	0
Utilize green sustainable design in all new construction and in updates to existing facilities.	2	1	1
Develop a park maintenance manual.	2	1	1
Preserve historical features within the parks such as: the old trolley bed, fence posts, old building	2	1	1
Utilize coordinated trash receptacles throughout the parks.	1	3	0
Install dog waste stations in parks where dogs are permitted, especially at trail entrances.	2	1	1
Improve Bicentennial Park (i.e. walking trail, ADA fishing pier, new playground, etc.).	1	3	0
Improve Huidekoper Park (i.e. trail connections, new drainage system, improve courts, update	1	3	0
Improve Lincoln Avenue Playground (i.e. update playground, add new courts, etc.).	1	3	0
Improve Cora Clark Park (i.e. new playground, outdoor classroom, trail connections, etc.).	1	2	1
Improve Pomona Park (i.e. provide parking area, ADA path to existing displays, etc.).	1	1	1
Improve Unnamed Park (i.e. develop as a nature park, construct trails, connect to Huidekoper Park, etc.).	1	1	1
Develop brochures for each park indicating the location of facilities especially trail locations including each loop.	1	1	2
Construct new playground at HP Way Park.	1	1	2
Goal 2 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resid	│ ents of the Mea	dville area.	
Answer Options	High	Medium	Low
Retain existing successful events in the area & establish new recreational experiences	4	0	0
Establish a lead organization to develop recreational programming opportunities for the Meadville area.	4	0	0
Re-establish the summer playground program that was once offered.	3	1	0
Develop outdoor educational/environmental programs, possibly in coordination with the schools and college.	3	1	0

	only nor and poo	ential audiend	,ᠸ.
Answer Options	High	Med	Low
	4	0	0
Utilize social media as a method to promote programs and facilities.		Ū	
Post a monthly calendar of events on the City's website.	3	1	0
Utilize the schools to reach the elementary, middle, and high school students concerning programs for their age group.	3	1	0
Develop a comprehensive email data base of residents who would like to receive recreational information and send out email blasts about upcoming program alerts, updates, and/or e-newsletters.	2	1	1
Develop a detailed public relations/marketing plan.	2	1	1
Utilize the Meadville Library & Pelletier Library in promoting programs and facilities.	1	3	0
Utilize trailhead signs, bulletin boards, and potential kiosks for posting programs and other information.	2	1	1
Include all updated recreational information in "Welcome Packets" given to new residents.	2	0	2
Design trail specific brochures and place in brochure holder at trailheads.	1	1	2
Promote programs utilizing local magazines and newspapers.	0	_	4
Torriote programs utilizing local magazines and newspapers.	U	3	1
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident	ts of the Mead	ville area.	·
	<u> </u>		Low 0
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and program development.	ts of the Mead High	ville area. Med	Low
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and program development. Coordinate with Allegheny College for park and/or program internship opportunities. Coordinate with the high school to develop leadership project opportunities in the parks and assisting with	ts of the Mead High	ville area. Med	Low 0
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and program development. Coordinate with Allegheny College for park and/or program internship opportunities. Coordinate with the high school to develop leadership project opportunities in the parks and assisting with programs.	ts of the Mead High 4	ville area. Med 0	Low 0
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and program development. Coordinate with Allegheny College for park and/or program internship opportunities. Coordinate with the high school to develop leadership project opportunities in the parks and assisting with programs. Work with scouting groups to coordinate Eagle Scout and similar projects in the Meadville area parks. Provide staff opportunities to attend workshops, seminars, & conferences.	ts of the Mead High 4 3	ville area. Med 0 1	Low 0 0
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and program development. Coordinate with Allegheny College for park and/or program internship opportunities. Coordinate with the high school to develop leadership project opportunities in the parks and assisting with programs. Work with scouting groups to coordinate Eagle Scout and similar projects in the Meadville area parks. Provide staff opportunities to attend workshops, seminars, & conferences. Periodically review staffing levels for the parks to determine if there is sufficient staff to meet the demands	ts of the Mead High 4 3 3	ville area. Med 0 1 1	Low 0 0 0 0
Goal 4 - Develop Programs that meet the needs, interests, and desires of all the resident Answer Options Establish a list of volunteers willing to donate time, service, and materials toward improving parks and	ts of the Mead High 4 3 3 2	ville area. Med 0 1 1 2 2	Low 0 0 0 0 0

Goal 5 - Ensure the long term Financial health of parks and recreation in the Meadville area by utilizi			d new and
Answer Options	High	Med	Low
Design, develop, and maintain facilities to be financially sustainable.	4	0	0
Pursue a variety of grants for the development of the parks.	3	1	0
Develop relationships with potential sponsors and foundations for possible funding sources.	3	1	0
Pursue other alternative funding sources that may include program supplies & ideas, equipment, and other types of non-monetary support.	3	1	0
Utilize any previously received funds for parks as a match for grants to lessen the financial output of the Cities cash reserves.	3	1	0
Establish well defined revenue policies for fundraising, sponsorships, donations, program fees, facility rentals, etc.	1	3	0
Design recreation programs, if offered by the City in the future, to be financially sustainable through user ees, donations, and sponsorships.	1	3	0
Develop a three, five, & ten year capital improvement budget for parks and recreation.	1	3	0
Review the fee structure yearly for rental facilities, and for any future programs that may be offered.	0	4	0
Goal 6 - Develop strong Partnerships in an effort to enhance parks and recreational opportunitie Answer Options	es for the Meady High	ville area resid Med	ents. Low
Coordinate with "I Heart Meadville" organization at Allegheny College to improve recreation.	nigii 4	0 Ivieu	0
		-	
Develop written agreements detailing responsibilities of each entity involved in partnerships.	4	0	0
Coordinate efforts with the various trail organizations to ensure a well defined and safe trail system hroughout the Meadville area.	3	1	0
Enhance Meadville's relationship with Allegheny College by exploring and developing future recreation opportunities for Meadville residents.	3	1	0
Establish a working relationship with senior retirement centers (i.e. Wesbury) to provide quality recreation opportunities for senior residents.	3	1	0
Develop a closer relationship with School District to better coordinate the provision of recreation services.	3	1	0
Develop partnerships with the surrounding communities that may enhance recreational opportunities in he Meadville area.	3	1	0
Maintain and enhance partnerships with the sports organizations, scouting groups, churches, businesses, the YMCA, MARC and other recreation providers.	3	1	0
Develop a coordinated and collaborated effort between recreation providers in the Meadville area.	2	2	0
establish a working relationship with the Meadville Medical Center/wellness center to develop a health	3	0	1
and wellness initiative in the Meadville area.			

Goal 7 - Promote Conservation and Preservation of valuable assets in the	Meadville area.		
Answer Options	High	Med	Low
Maintain the French Creek corridor as a quality water trail.	4	0	0
Retain natural areas and greenway corridors throughout the parks.	4	0	0
Improve the integrity of the Mill Run corridor through environmentally sound practices and developing educational opportunities.	3	1	0
Follow the recommendations contained in the street tree plan completed in 2012. Adapt these plans to other park sites.	3	1	0
Develop a comprehensive tree management program, that includes indigenous and diverse species of trees, shrubs, and flowers, to be used in the Meadville area parks and properties.	3	1	0
Maintain the integrity of all streams, hillsides, and environmentally sensitive areas in the Meadville area parks, including riparian buffers.	3	1	0
Control invasive species in the parks.	2	2	0
Preserve the native and ornamental plantings in the parks.	1	2	1
Preserve for wildlife all dead trees and down trees that are located in areas that will not create a hazardous condition for park users.	1	1	2
Goal 8 - Develop a Comprehensive Interconnected Multi-Modal System that provides safe bicycle and	 d pedestrian acce	 ess routes thr	oughout the
Answer Options	High	Med	Low
Implement the proposed trail from Allegheny College into Downtown Meadville.	4	0	0
Connect Bicentennial Park to the Ernst Trail.	4	0	0
Install bike racks around the City in partnership with local business owners, CATA, etc.	4	0	0
Implement the proposed trail from the City to Oak Grove Park in West Mead Township.	3	1	0
Implement the sidewalk improvement plan as discussed as a high priority in the Meadville Comprehensive Plan.	3	1	0
Develop an environmental/interpretative trail along the Mill Run corridor.	2	1	1





Meadville Bike Route Connections Project City of Meadville

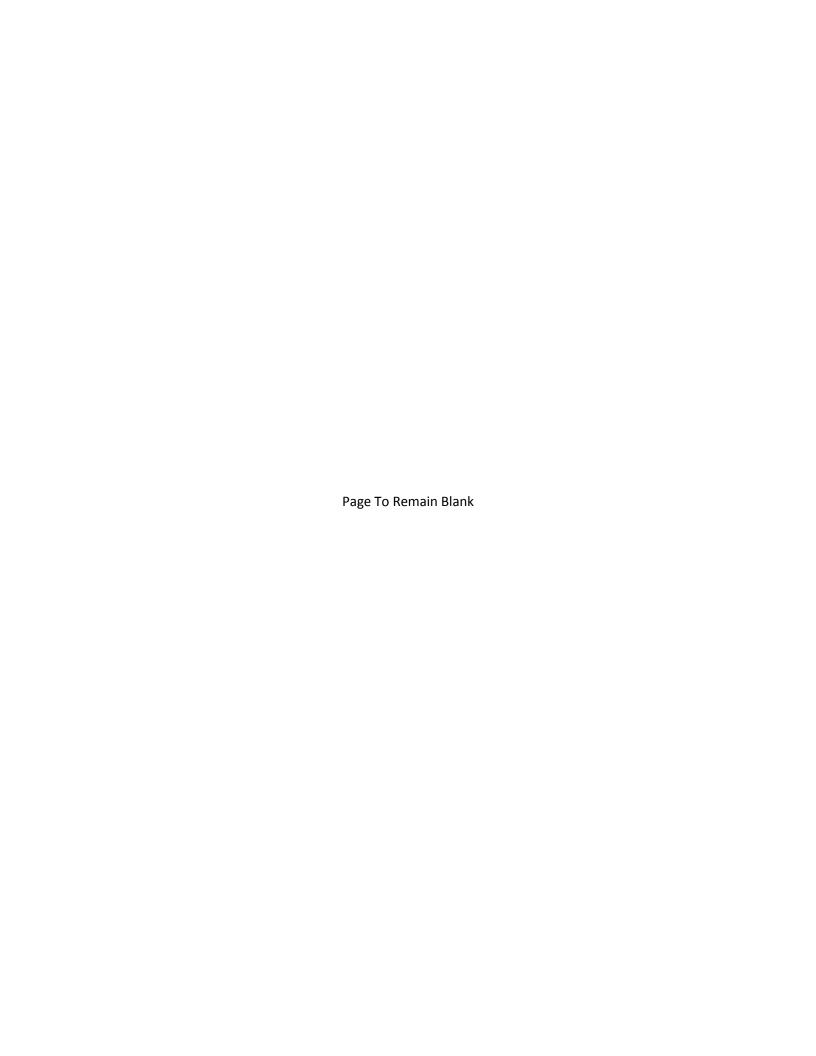
August 28, 2015

Mackin Engineering Company

117 Industry Drive RIDC Park West Pgh, PA 15275

www.mackinengineering.com

Robert W. Genter, RLA, ASLA Project Manager



PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose is to develop a bike route connector plan to link the Ernst Trail to the City of Meadville, Allegheny College and West Mead Township. The project was tasked with developing preliminary plans for a safe and accessible connection for bicyclists to travel in the community between trail, town, campus and township.

The route selection focused on linking key points of interest and facilities; creating bike routes that can be implemented with minimal cost; delineating routes that are intuitive, direct, and easily followed; following existing roadways that provide low volume traffic, and are posted with lower speed limits.

PROJECT GOALS

- Implement a safe and accessible bikeway connecting the Ernst Trail to the City of Meadville, Allegheny College, and West Mead Township
- The intent of this project is to develop a feasible bikeway route while minimizing impacts to existing conditions.
- Minimize parking and automobile travel lanes impacts.
- Provide wayfinding for cyclists
- Increase awareness to motorists that cyclists are using the corridor
- Maintain and improve ADA compliant and accessible routes through intersections and along street corridors; and enhance and add safety features to pedestrian walkway routes

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

The City of Meadville, Allegheny College, and West Mead Township should consider all new road projects, including resurfacing projects, as an opportunity to provide for all modes of transportation- pedestrian, bicycles and automobiles. This will ensure a complete system for transportation and offer your residents choices to travel through the community and between communities.

Many of the bikeway improvements can be accomplished through a 'road-diet', a reduction of the travel lane widths to provide for the addition of a 5' bike lane, or adding a shared lane marking to roads with lower volumes and lower speed limits. The route can be marked with paint and/or hot thermoplastic markings and lines, and route signs (typical PennDOT standards for pavement marking and signs should be used).

Below are examples of bikeway designs recommended in this report.







We recommend that Meadville, West Mead and Allegheny College review and adopt a Complete Streets Policy directing all new roadway and roadway reconstruction projects be designed for safe, accessible travel for all modes of transportation - people who walk, people who bicycle and people who drive in the community - in that order.

The PA Code requires that local authorities be responsible for installing, maintaining and operating all pavement markings for bicycles, such as the bicycle lane symbol. This is enforced through the Bicycle Occupancy Process, which the municipality must adopt by resolution.

GENERAL BIKE ROUTE DESIGN GOALS

The bike route should be:

- 1. **Intuitive** easy for users to find and follow the route
- 2. **Direct -** as straight as possible to the final destination. If not, people will not use it; they go another way, a more direct route.
- 3. **Visible** open and visible for police to see and monitor. The route should be on or near the public right-of-way to be easily patrolled.
- 4. **Safe** marked or constructed with separated travel lanes. Cars, bikes and pedestrians (peds) all move at different speeds; designating travel lanes helps to reduce conflicts.
- 5. **Accessible** ADA compliant throughout the route. Providing accessible routes for all people will provide the most usable corridor for every age, every condition, and every ability.

HIERARCHY OF BIKEWAY DESIGN STANDARDS

If there is enough room in the selected travel corridor, a separated shared use trail, a separated bike lane, or a separated 2-way bike lane should be built. Typically, there is not enough room, so the options below are recommended in the following order:

- 1. Shared Use Trail a separated, non-motorized, shared use trail for pedestrian and cyclists (The Ernst Trail).
- 2. Protected Bike Lane a bike lane marked on the pavement and signed; include marked buffer zone.
- 3. Bike Lane (not protected or buffered) a bike lane marked on the pavement and signed.
- 4. Shared Lane Marking 'sharrow' cyclist share the travel lane and the lane is marked with a shared lane marking symbol and supported with a 'Share the Road' sign.
- 5. Bike Route not marked; can be signed or not signed; the route is mapped for cyclists to follow.

BENEFITS OF ADDING A SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE BIKEWAY INFRASTRUCTURE TO COMMUNITY STREETS

By including bicycle infrastructure into the current roadway system, communities can reduce the need to constantly drive their cars all of the time to the store, to school, to work; this simply provides people with travel options-options that can be made safe, reliable and efficient.

Implementation of the recommendations can result in dramatic health benefits for citizens, reduced traffic and parking congestion, and create safer places to walk and bicycle in your town.

Providing designated bike lanes creates a space for bicyclists, separates bicycle from auto traffic, provides direction and wayfinding to the cyclist, and alerts motorists that cyclists are in the corridor. Bicycle lanes can be used by all cyclists, from experienced to novices. Bicycle lanes encourage newer riders that currently do not ride on the road, or are not comfortable riding on the road, and provide direction and wayfinding to keep them in their lane.

Constructing roadways for all modes of travel (including walking and bicycling) increases access opportunities to employment centers and community resources. A walk-able and bike-able community offers multiple transportation choices to all citizens regardless of age, ability or socio-economic status, and provides for healthier travel choices.

Why Do It?

- Economic energy millions of dollars are spent in each year in PA trail towns (as indicated in the Trail Marketing Report for the Great Allegheny Passage)
- Provide an activity for healthy habits this can change lifestyles and habits of residents, students, faculty & employees
- Marketing Opportunity to become a Bicycle Friendly University (BFU)- Allegheny College; there are
 only two BFU's in PA same opportunity exists for Meadville to become a BFC- Bicycle Friendly
 Community.
- Creation of Active, Attractive and Safe Corridors through your Community create corridors where people feel safe traveling
- Sustainability this is low cost infrastructure that...
 - o changes peoples actions to become healthy habits
 - o reduces traffic congestion
 - o minimizes parking congestion
 - o and decreases air pollution

Local Benefits

- Create a safe trail to town connection This connection will link the downtown business district to the Ernst Trail, which links to a larger trail network.
- Strengthen local partnerships between businesses and agencies, between Allegheny College and Meadville and West Mead Township.
- Build safe routes in the community that will attract more trail and cycling users into Meadville.
- Safely connect homes and places of business to school, shops, and recreation resources for all modes of travel, not just the car.
- Build commuter routes for cycling and provide choices for residents and visitors to easily use and change between travel modes for public transit, walking, cycling and automobiles.

PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

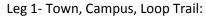
The recommendations typically propose a 'road diet' to the existing roadway. This is simply a re-striping of the travel lanes from 12 and 14 feet wide to 11 feet wide. Remarking the travel lanes provides a form of traffic calming and provides a space for cyclists in the corridor. By marking the roadway with centerlines and edge lines, this focuses the motorist to stay within their lane, typically slows the motorist to the actual posted speed limit, and provides space for other users in the community street (i.e. cyclist and pedestrians).

Marking the road lane edge provides either a wider shoulder for cyclists to move to the side and allow motorists to pass, or provides the space needed for a 5'-6' wide bike lane.

Meadville Comprehensive Recreation Plan, Bike Route Connections Report

As part of the project, Mackin's Director of Land Development, Robert Genter, RLA, ASLA, organized and led a volunteer group of cyclist through the project area. Mr. Patrick Emig of Emig's Cycle Shop helped to gather volunteers and pre-review the selected bike routes.

On October 19, 2014 the group of riders toured Meadville and West Mead Township completing two loop routes as described below. Comments received were favorable for both loop routes; much of the selected route is already being used by local Thursday evening bicycle riders in the community. The routes were chosen to link the Ernst Trail and Bicentennial Park to the City of Meadville; a connection to Diamond Park and Allegheny College Campus; and then to West Mead Township and Tamarack Lake.



Cycle from Diamond Park to Allegheny Campus, and to Bicentennial Park (future connection to the Ernst Trail). This is about a 4 mile trip.



Leg 2- Town, Park, MARC:

Cycle from Bicentennial Park to Diamond Park, to Oak Grove Park and Tamarack Lake; then back to Diamond Park. This is about a 5.5 mile trip.

The routes selected are lower volume and low speed roadways; some of the routes cross higher volume roads at existing signalized intersections. The routes were further studied and the bike route recommendations are shown



and described on the Connector Plans at the end of this document and on Maps 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2D within the Meadville Comprehensive Recreation, Open Space and Greenways Plan.

Proposed Bicycle Routes-

- City Loop- 5.66 miles
- Campus Loop- 3.1 miles
- Athletic Field Connector- 0.64 miles
- Future Ernst Trail Connector- 2.11 mils via S. Main St; or 2.33 mils via Liberty
- Future Learning Center Loop- 3.72 miles
- Conceptual Tamarack Lake- 2.70 miles

The proposed bike route is to be signed and marked on the ground. Signs should be supplemented with a pavement marking at approximately 200' and not more than 250'. Bicycle pavement markings and sign locations are critical at turns, both ahead and behind each turn to provide wayfinding for users. Each route should be designed individually, since each is unique and requires safety and

accessibility consideration. The bike route is also signed to alert motorists that cyclists are in the corridor.







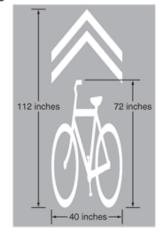


Pavement markings and signs typically are installed at each turning point, a marking and sign ahead of the turn and a marking and sign directly following the turn. This will enhance the wayfinding ability for cyclists at decision points.

Below is guidance from Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) Chapter 9B, MUTCD 2009 Edition, for Shared Lane Markings.

Source: http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/htm/2009/part9/part9c.htm#figure9C09

Figure 9C-9. Shared Lane Marking



- A. Assist bicyclists with lateral positioning in a shared lane with onstreet parallel parking in order to reduce the chance of a bicyclist's impacting the open door of a parked vehicle,
- B. Assist bicyclists with lateral positioning in lanes that are too narrow for a motor vehicle and a bicycle to travel side by side within the same traffic lane,
- C. Alert road users of the lateral location bicyclists are likely to occupy within the traveled way,
- D. Encourage safe passing of bicyclists by motorists, and
- E. Reduce the incidence of wrong-way bicycling.

Guidance:

The Shared Lane Marking should not be placed on roadways that have a speed limit above 35 mph.

Standard:

Shared Lane Markings shall not be used on shoulders or in designated bicycle lanes.

Guidance:

If used in a shared lane with on-street parallel parking, Shared Lane Markings should be placed so that the centers of the markings are at least 11 feet from the face of the curb, or from the edge of the pavement where there is no curb.

If used on a street without on-street parking that has an outside travel lane that is less than 14 feet wide, the centers of the Shared Lane Markings should be at least 4 feet from the face of the curb, or from the edge of the pavement where there is no curb.

If used, the Shared Lane Marking should be placed immediately after an intersection and spaced at intervals not greater than 250 feet thereafter.

Option:

<u>Section 9B.06</u> describes a Bicycles May Use Full Lane sign that may be used in addition to or instead of the Shared Lane Marking to inform road users that bicyclists might occupy the travel lane.

For additional information about sharrows, bicycle signs, and other types of bikeway systems, please refer to the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) website- http://nacto.org/cities-for-cycling/design-quide

BUDGET COSTS

Proposed Bicycle Routes-

•	City Loop- 5.66 miles	between \$50,000 and \$60,000
•	Campus Loop- 3.1 miles	between \$25,000 and \$30,000
•	Athletic Field Connector- 0.64 miles	between \$8,000 and \$10,000
•	Future Ernst Trail Connector-	
	2.11 miles via S. Main; or 2.33 miles via Liberty	between \$20,000 and \$25,000
•	Future Learning Center Loop- 3.72 miles	between \$30,000 and \$40,000
•	Conceptual Tamarack Lake- 2.70 miles	between \$20,000 and \$25,000

Opportunities for economic stimulus-

Refer to the Overall Connector Plan; this map sets the context for the recommended bike route improvements. The Ernst Trail is an east-west route that provides an opportunity to connect Conneaut Lake and Meadville with a separated shared use trail. And, PA Bicycle Route A and PA Bicycle Route Y are additional opportunities to cycling routes into Meadville.

Currently both PA Bicycle Route A and PA Bicycle Route Y intersect just east of Meadville at the intersection of State Route 3016, Cossewago Road and Route 98, Perry Highway. The Ernst Trail is proposed to extend to PA Bicycle Route A; and PA Bicycle Route Y traverses north of the City of Meadville along the Spring Street Extension roadway. These are opportunities to sign, mark and create safer routes for cyclists to enter the city, to spend money, and to possibly stay overnight.

MAINTENANCE

Cost and life expectancy for pavement markings is estimated below:

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

•	Hot Thermo- Sharrow (Shared Lane Marking) –	4 - 6 years	\$250 EA
•	Hot Thermo- Bike Lane Graphic with Arrow -	5 - 7 years	\$350 EA
•	Hot Thermo- Ped Crossing, using 'ladder bars' –	4 - 6 years	\$12 LF
•	Painted-Green Lane markings through intersections –	1 - 3 years	\$3- \$5 SY
•	Painted- Linear 4" wide yellow or white lane markers –	1 - 3 years	\$0.50 LF

Epoxy can be used to mark concrete; its life expectancy is 2-3 years in a roadway and 3-5 years in a bike lane.

The above are estimates for markings in the roadway. If the marking is out of the vehicle wheel path, it will have a longer life expectancy. Obviously, a higher volume road with greater trips and turning movements over the markings will lead to a lower life expectancy.

Cost for SIGNS

Bike Lane, or Share the Road Sign

Signs, and Ped Crossing Signs (post mounted PennDOT Type B sign and post)

between \$200 and \$240 EA



NEXT STEPS

- 1. Agree on how the facility will be maintained. The PA Code requires that local authorities be responsible for installing, maintaining and operating all pavement markings for bicycles, such as the 'sharrows' and bicycle lane symbols.
- 2. Decide which route will be the Phase-1 Project. This choice should be the easiest to implement, has public and political support, and can be completed in a short time with local forces or with a low cost budget; you want the first project to be great success.
- 3. Hire a consultant to complete the design and construction documents for bidding and constructing the Phase-1 Project. The details are what will make the project safe, accessible and convenient.
 - a. The following items may be required:
 - i. Field Survey of chosen alignment
 - ii. Identify owner of roadway corridors: local, county, or state; make application to affected agency
 - iii. If crossing a State Route (SR) or using a SR ROW, apply for permits through the local PennDOT District
 - iv. Environmental Permitting and NPDES Permit Application
 - v. Construction Documents for Bidding
- 4. Bid and build the first phase of the project (Phase-1) to connect trail to campus, campus to borough, and borough to township.
- 5. Begin a campaign to educate users and motorist about bike safety and shared use roadways. Plan and organize a campaign to educated, engage and enforce bike safety beginning with the police force, students and cycle clubs.

We recommend Meadville consider all new site developments, infrastructure projects, and roadway maintenance projects as an **opportunity to improve community connections for all modes of transportation.** All new roadway projects should consider provisions for bike lanes, bicycle 'share the road' markings, and sidewalk extensions to provide safe travel choices for citizens.

We also recommend that the Meadville City Council review the **BFC and BFU programs** and adopt a **Complete Streets Policy** directing all newly constructed and reconstructed roadways to be designed for safe and accessible travel for pedestrians, bicycles and automobiles. *More information about a Complete Streets policy can be found in the Smart Growth America's Complete Streets, Local Policy Workbook at:*

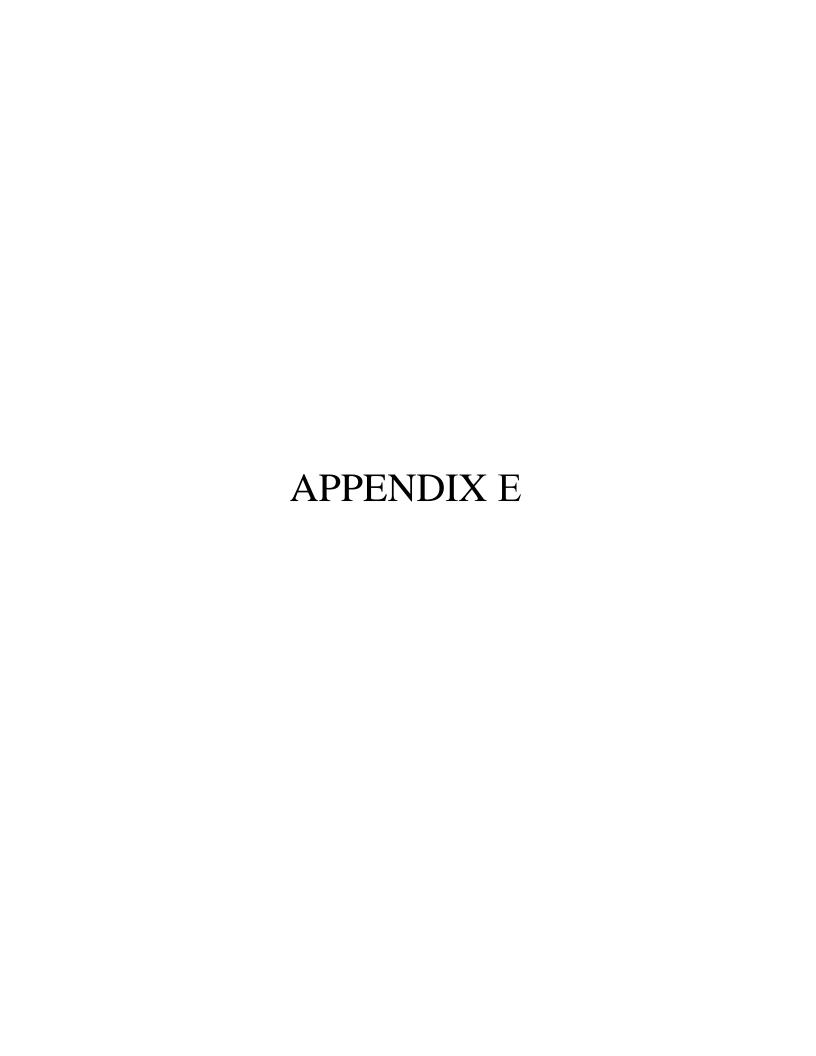
http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/documents/cs/resources/cs-policyworkbook.pdf

Bicycle information for Planning, Design and Promotions can be found at below sources:

- » Advocacy Advance (passionate advocates for bicycling and walking): www.advocacyadvance.org
- » League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community Program, www.bikeleague.org
- » Bikes Belong.org and People for Bikes.org



» Bike Commuting 101, Bike Pittsburgh web page at www.bikepgh.org;



Meadville Maintenance Equipment List

I.D. Number	Purchase Date	Replacement Cost	Condition
		•	
Tarco Trailer	1991	\$32,500	Fair
International 4900 Dump	10/15/93	\$140,000	Poor
International 4900 Dump	1996	\$110,000	Good
International 4900 Dump	1996	\$140,000	Fair
Case High Lift	1995		Fair
International 4900 Dump	7/12/96	\$150,000	Good
Ford F-350 Truck - Parks	5/28/97	\$65,000	Good
Lee Boy Roller			Fair
Ford F-350 Truck	9/7/00	\$36,734	Fair
International 4900 Dump	1/27/00	\$70,636	Good
Ford 4x4 F-350 truck	3/30/01	\$11,500	Good
ROBS Cab Trackless	5/24/01	\$150,000	Poor
Ford F-250 Truck	6/6/02	\$60,000	Fair
Dodge Dakota	4/15/02	\$5,600	Poor
Ford F-250	4/24/03	\$20,530	Good
Ford F-450	7/24/03	\$26,657	Good
International Dump Truck	9/15/03	\$72,685	Good
International Dump Truck	10/19/05	\$84,919	Good
Dodge Ram Pickup	1/15/08	\$36,418	Good
Chevrolet Colorado Pickup	1/22/09	\$18,574	Good
Ford Vac-Con Truck	6/16/09	\$50,000	Poor
International 7400 2x2 Dump	8/14/12	\$139,897	Good
EL Whirlwind Sweeper	8/30/12	\$175,000	Good
Tarco Big T Vac Leaf Loader	9/27/96	\$32,500	Fair
Case Wheel Loader	3/27/06	\$31,572	Good
JCB 426ZX Wheel Loader	8/30/12	\$120,927	Good
JCB 200 Backhoe Loader	11/5/12	\$110,989	Good
JCB 205 Skid Steer Loader	2012		Good
International Dump Truck	2013		Good
International Dump Truck	2013		Good
Old Dominion Vac Leaf Trailer	2013		Good
Ford F-250 w/9' Plow	2014		Good
Homestead Dump Trailer	2014		Good
Ingersal Rand Air Compressor	2001		Fair
Mid Atlantic Trailer	2003		Fair
Komatsu Hydraulic Excavator	2004		Fair



CITY OF MEADVILLE BICENTENNIAL PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Parking Area		Paved lot with 16 parking spaces, one handicap space	Good	All	Yes	
Picnic Grove	Shaded grass area	Four wood/metal frame tables; plastic 55 gallon trash cans	Good	All	No	Install an ADA accessible path to at least one picnic table
Log Cabin	Replica of original 1788 David Meade cabin	Themed walkway to cabin representing the different types of materials used for walks throughout the ages; two sections to the cabin with a breezeway separating the two areas; (1) living quarters with a variety of artifacts, candle lantern, fireplace, loft, small windows; (2) Classroom with bulletin board, six log benches, podium, fireplace, flickering electric lights, candles, small windows; metal roof	Good	All	No	Parts of the walkways are very slippery creating a hazardous condition; install permanent interpretative signage explaining each transition in the walkway; provide ADA access to cabin using a different route; treat log for powder post beetles;
Landscaped Area	Grass & tree area around log cabin	Bicentennial Rock Monument; bluebird nesting box; well landscaped beds with a good variety of plants; time capsule buried 1988 under pin oak	Good	All	No	Continue to maintain landscaped area and retain/replace plantings
Entrance Sign		Well landscaped around sign	Good	All	No	Enlarge and replace using sign foam
Boat Launch	Brick/stone launch area	Split rail fence near entrance to launch area, three different signs entering launch site	Fair	Youth & Adult	No	Launch site gathers silt requiring regular removal; improve signage; improve overall launch area making it more attractive to potential users; improve access to launch area

BICENTENNIAL PARK: Con't.

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Restrooms	Themed style building	Stone building with old style wooden entrance doors; stainless fixtures; Men – urinal, commode, sink; Ladies – two commodes, sink; electric; cedar shake roof	Good	Toddler thru Adult	Yes	Tile dispenser missing in men's side; remove moss from roof and treat to avoid faster deterioration of roofing
Pavilion	Large rentable pavilion	Sign for reservation acknowledgement; grill; ten wooden tables with metal frames; 55 gallon plastic trash cans; concrete floor; one electrical outlet; water fountain; two picnic tables in nearby grove	Fair	All	Yes	Needs new roof & fascia; replace rotting boards on tables; provide ADA access to grill & water fountain; remove staples & tacks from tables
Playground		Swing set with two belt seats; swing mats; woodcarpet surfacing; two spring animals; picnic table	Fair	Toddler to Youth	No	Install new playground structure, perhaps themed to coordinate with park; existing swings – split in support pole; lower swing mat to avoid trip hazard; provide ADA accessibility
General		Lighted telephone/flag pole, good variety of trees & plants throughout the park, power poles go through park	Good	All	No	Trim dead & low hanging branches; remove invasive plants/vines/weeds from planting along creek bank; remove blighted spruce trees as needed; develop a walking trail around the park; construct an ADA fishing deck along French Creek; install interpretative signage in park explaining history of area & French Creek

CRAWFORD COUNTY CANAL PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Overlook	Concrete observation area	Parking area for five vehicles; landscaped; boulder marking Indian trail; water valve; two street lights; kiosk with eight interpretative panels explaining canal system thru Meadville; towpath and canal visible	Good	All	Yes	
		from overlook				

CITY OF MEADVILLE CORA CLARK PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Entrance	Paved road	Limestone parking along road; split rail	Good	All	No	Install entrance sign identifying
Road		fence at end of road				park; designate ADA parking
						space; replace broken split rail
Pavilion	20' x 40'	Can be rented; asphalt trail from	Good	All	Yes	Roof needs replaced; install
	pavilion	parking area; four 16' wood with metal				electrical outlets
		frame tables; one 8' wood with metal				
		frame table; concrete floor, bulletin				
		board; 55 gallon plastic trash cans				
Deck	12' x 20'	Two picnic tables	Fair	All	Yes	Clean & stain decking & railings
						(deck boards are slippery); trim
						branches overhanging deck;
						remove tree limbs to open up
						view into valley; replace rotting
						boards on picnic tables
Rain Gardens	Storm water	Two sites	Fair	N/A	N/A	Designed more as a detention
	detention					pond than a rain garden; clean up
	areas					weeds

CITY OF MEADVILLE CORA CLARK PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Cora Clark	Paved to	Trail signs; marked with tree	Fair	Youth &	Paved	Remove moss from pavement;
Trail	natural trail	paint; benches; nice variety of		Adult	area – Yes	trim overhanging limbs; repair
		trees; Neason Run stream		7 10.0.10	Natural -	benches & remove graffiti;
		w/6' corregated metal pipe;			No	remove graffiti under deck;
		concrete steps w/chain railing;				remove exposed metal post
		wooden steps w/chain railing;				and channel along trail; remove
		bridges;				fallen limbs/trees; install better
		12' x 16' observation deck				directional signs; add
		provides view of stream;				interpretative signage along
		squirrel feeding area; path to				trail at points of interest;
		creek used as sledding area by				reconstruct wooden steps
		children; colorful rock; unique				w/slip resistant material
		bent tree; trail connection to				(hazard- rebar sticking up, steps
		Huidekoper Park; tree growing				angled down & slippery, wood
		into rock – engraved Browning				rotting); install better railings at
		1920; steps to pavilion				steps; control Japanese
		w/wooden railing				knotweed before it spread too
						much; install bridge railing for
						safety; stain deck to preserve;
						reconstruct squirrel feeding
						area; reset trail sign; repair hole
						at end of second bridge; GIS
						trail & create a map posted on
						park bulletin board showing
						trail and distances of loops;
						remove trip hazards along trail;
						remove poison ivy along trail

CITY OF MEADVILLE CORA CLARK PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Eagle Scout Trail	Extension off Cora Clark Trail	bridge	Good	Youth & Adults	No	Install railing on bridge; extend trail into valley, up slope thru Render Park tying back into Cora Clark Trail
General						Acquire property at front of park between parking lot and lower city owned property; use this property as open activity area; install playground; remove graffiti; install dog waste stations to help eliminate waste problem

CITY OF MEADVILLE DEARMENT PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Passive Area	Landscaped	Triangular lot landscaped by W. PA	Good	All	No	
	entrance to	Conservancy; variety of trees, shrubs,				
	City of	flower beds, & ornamental grasses;				
	Meadville	street lights				
City Entrance	Large sign	Landscaped around sign; lighted	Good	All	No	
Sign						
Flag Pole	Centralized	Lighted flag pole; brick pavers & small				
	focal point	retaining wall w/ walkway to flag pole;				
		well landscaped around				

CITY OF MEADVILLE DIAMOND PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/
344-11	6	Well as the sky back at set Palet.	Const	SERVED	ACCESS	RECOMMENDATIONS
Walkways	Concrete	Walkways throughout park; street lights	Good	All	Yes	
	walks	along walkways; two types of benches – 5				
		metal, 6 old style; 13 trash receptacles; flag				
		pole; nice variety of trees; electrical outlets				
		throughout; old working water fountain;				
		new water fountain				
Gazebo	Large	Buellen Band Shell; raised platform; railings;	Good	Youth &	No	
	structure	lighted; used for various events		Adult		
Fountain	40' fountain	Shippen Fountain 1868; 40' concrete pond	Good	All	Yes	
		area around fountain; recognition paver				
		bricks around fountain; fence				
Monuments		Bicentennial rock, plaque, & time capsule;	Good	All	No	
		two canons; tribute to civil war sons –				
		erected 1890; commemoration rock – Col.				
		Wm. Crawford; memorial rock for all war				
		veterans; monument 1888 for 100 th				
		anniversary of settlement of Crawford				
		County; memorial 1915 for volunteer				
		firemen				
Open grass			Good	All	Yes	
areas						
Parking	Metered	Lots on both sides of park	Good	Adults	Yes	

MARC ELDRED GLEN FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Entrance Sign			Good	All	N/A	
Entrance Road & Parking Area	Paved Road & Limestone chip parking	Large parking area	Fair	All	No	Provide ADA parking space & signage
Ball Field	Pony Field	323'R x 323'L x 376C; announcers booth; scoreboard; dugouts w/player benches; straight backstop; concession; coaches box; 4' fence on sides & 6' fence in outfield w/ screening; top caps on fence; advertising signs on outfield fence, grass infield; two practice pitch mounds & plates; bleachers – five 8' five seat aluminum w/o rails, two 15' five seat wooden w/o rails; small plastic & metal trash cans; flag pole behind outfield fence	Good	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility; repair netting above backstop; repair developing lips at infield transition; grass dead right field; way too much infield drying material used
Storage buildings		One large building & a small storage shed for baseball	Good	Adults	No	
Grass area	Area north of ball field	Infield mix storage, small drainage stream	Fair	Adults	No	Improve drainage in wet area by right field fence
Storage Garage		Grass access road to garage; concrete block pile, old portable backstop	Fair	Adults	No	Clean up area
Soccer Field	Large field	Two full size goals; two goals missing bars & nets	Good	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility
Practice Soccer Board	Wooden	Sponsors names	Good	Youth	No	

ELDRED GLEN: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Large Multipurpose Field	Grass area	Two – 15' five seat bleachers w/o rails; shed; 55gallon plastic trash cans; chained access road to soccer field, soccer field sign	Good	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility; bleachers in poor condition- needs replaced
Restrooms	Old structure	Fenced well; small storage shed; water fountain	Poor	Youth & Adult	No	Exposed bar in front and water valve on side can be trip hazards
General		Several drainage ditches; asphalt pad near large storage building	Fair	N/A	N/A	Maintain drainage ditches

CITY OF MEADVILLE ELIZABETH PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
General	Passive	Good variety of landscaping plants &	Good	Youth &	Yes	Add another bench; add
	Recreation	trees; park sign; concrete steps		Adult		interpretive signs to plants &
	Area	w/railings; bench				trees

CITY OF MEADVILLE GENERAL MEAD PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Passive	Grass area	Retaining wall with steps to small	Good	Youth &	No	Install a historical monument
Recreation		grass lot; one large tree		Adult		with interpretative signage
Open Area						about General Mead

CITY OF MEADVILLE GIBSON FIELD FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Open space	Grass field	Practice football & possibly baseball field; parking; not considered as a park area	Good	Youth	No	

CITY OF MEADVILLE H.P. WAY FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Playground		Future site of a playground				Site under construction

CITY OF MEADVILLE HUIDEKOPER PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Parking	Stone		Fair	Adults	No	Drainage issues; no designated handicap
Area	parking with			7.00.00	.,,	parking
	the back					F . 0
	section					
	paved					
Open grass		Multipurpose area w/ a	Fair	All	No	Improve area to provide better usage
area		straight winged backstop				
Wooded	NINE ACRES	Mixed variety of deciduous	Good	N/A	N/A	Bridge tilted – needs repaired for safety;
Area		trees; runoff ditch along grass				construct trails through this area; possibly
		area; bridge; natural path to				develop future facilities in this area
		apartment complex				
Basketball	75' x 95'	Two end baskets & four side	Fair	Youth &	No	Provide ADA access; repair cracks in asphalt
Court	court area	baskets; lighted, steps &		Adult		surface; install nets
		walkway; asphalt surface;				
		fenced – 8' high on sides & 10'				
<u> </u>		high on ends; court lined		O	•	5 454
Tennis	Two courts	Known as Cora Clark Tennis	Fair	Youth &	No	Provide ADA access; resurface courts; paint
Courts		Courts; asphalt surface; 10'		Adult		posts; possibly overlay with pickleball courts
		fence, large gate; push button				
		lighting; signs, concrete steps				
Playground	GameTime	to playground area Small stone parking area; two	Fair	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility; designate ADA
Flayground	Gamerine	benches; three spring rockers;	Ган	Toutil	INU	parking space & expand parking; when
		play structure – fireman's				feasible replace all playground equip;
		pole, spiral slide, climber,				straighten & stain benches, provide drain
		straight slide, four decks;				hole in spring fire truck for standing water,
		crawl tubes; woodcarpet				touchup paint on worn spots; ensure proper
		surfacing; use zone good;				depth of surfacing material; fix drainage issue
		grass areas adjacent to				between playground & tennis court (washed
		playground				out area under fence could be hazard)

HUIDEKOPER PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Pavilion	Large stone structure	Recently upgraded; new metal roof with gutters; two fireplaces; plastic trash cans; six – 8' wooden w/metal frame picnic tables; lighted; restrooms – ladies with two commodes, sink, partitions, men's – urinal, commode, sink, partitions; storage room	Good	All	No	Provide ADA accessibility; provide overall better access; repair drainage issues; install dispensers in restrooms; install electrical outlets in pavilion; remove staples from tables
Play Area	Separated play equipment	Surfacing combination of pea gravel and woodcarpet; caterpillar climber; geodome; buck-a-bout; slide; two bay swings; good use zone; all equipment in an oak grove near pavilion	Fair	Youth	No	Use touchup paint on worn areas; slide – gap is too wide creating a potential choke hazard, needs a slide mat; swing set – install one infant seat, re-bend "S" hook to avoid potential safety issue; lower swing mats to eliminate trip hazard; ensure proper depth of surfacing material
Bench	Near road	Concrete steps; pavers	Fair	Youth & Adult	No	Reset sunken pavers; construct sidewalk along road

CITY OF MEADVILLE LINCOLN AVENUE PLAYGROUND FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Entrance Sign	Sign foam		Excellent	All	N/A	
Sidewalk	Along two sides of park; trees		Good	All	Yes	Trim overhanging trees
Basketball	Basketball Not in use Asphalt surface; curbed; 8' fence on		Poor	-	No	No hoops; neighbors
Court		three sides w/gate; basketball poles				complained
Water	Not in use	In channel	Poor	N/A	No	
Fountain						
Playground	GameTime	Woodcarpet surfacing; five spring	Fair	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility
		toys; buck-a-bout; geodome; play				
		structure – spiral slide, straight double				
		slide tube slide, five decks; three				
		climbers, roof over one deck; plastic				
		trash cans				
Storage	Block	Mural on building	Fair	N/A	N/A	
Building						

WEST MEAD TOWNSHIP OAK GROVE PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Entrance Road	Single lane road	Paved to end of ball field with limestone extending to shelter area; limestone parking area; entrance gate; park signs; grass area to left of entrance road; grove area to right of entrance road with grill, split rail fence along Oakgrove Road – 100' to left of entrance & 170' to right; sand stockpile along road; water spigot	Fair	All	partially	Install new entrance sign; upgrade other signs; widen road; repair potholes or pave entire road; improve grove area – add picnic tables; replace broken/rotting rails; relocate sand stockpile; improve water spigot & provide ADA accessibility; improve parking areas
Stockpile	Township storage area	No trespassing signs; sand, fill dirt, & topsoil	Poor	N/A	N/A	Relocate to less visible area in Township; remove invasive plants – Japanese knotweed, multiflora rose; improve appearance of this corner with appropriate landscaping
Open Space Area	Treed section adjacent to stockpile	Good variety of trees	Fair	N/A	N/A	Develop trail to Tamarack Lake through this area; remove invasive plants & hazardous trees;
Open Field Area	Grass area behind ball field	Approximately 250' x 150' open grass area	Good	All	No	Remove dead tree; remove poison ivy from oak tree; remove old rusted sign post used as foul pole & replace with new post close to outfield fence; develop area as multipurpose practice field for soccer, lacrosse, etc.; install netting along road at far end of field; establish parking along Devore Road; provide ADA accessibility

OAK GROVE PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Ball Field	Little League size field	Approximately 196'R x 206'L; 16' dugouts w/player benches; backstop; dirt infield; plastic trash barrels; small storage shed	Good	Youth	No	Provide ADA accessibility; install bleachers; remove grass from infield; remove old scoreboard posts & replace with new scoreboard; add top cap to fence; remove overhanging tree branches
Volleyball Court	Near 1 st base dugout	Old posts for court	Poor	Youth & Adult	No	Relocate to more appropriate location near shelters & possibly change to sand court
Restrooms	Two Port-A- Johns	Standard style units	Fair	Youth - Adult	No	Construct restroom facilities; provide at least one ADA accessible port-a-john until actual restrooms facilities can be constructed
Electrical Building	Wooden structure		Poor	N/A	N/A	Install new siding to replace rotting siding; install new door to ensure proper security of building
Pavilion #1	16' x 32' shelter	Electric w/three outlets; concrete floor w/ concrete ramp extending 8' out from floor; corrugated sheeting roof; eight wooden picnic tables; grill; two plastic 55 gal. trash cans w/dome lids	Good	All	Yes	Replace missing cover plate on electrical outlet; install lights in shelter; remove staples from tables; establish a designated ADA parking space; provide a better ADA access to concrete ramp; repair roof truss that is broken off; provide ADA accessibility to grill
Sandbox	12' x 12' sandbox	Brown sand	Fair	Toddler & youth	No	Relocate away from parking area; use #35 white sand instead of brown; provide ADA accessible sand structure
Swing Set #1	8' – 2 bay swings	Four belt seats	Fair	Youth & adult	No	Designate use zone; add surfacing material

OAK GROVE PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Spring Animals	Gametime	Two spring animals	Poor	Youth	No	Replace spring animals: one very loose; exposed concrete; no designated use zone; no surfacing material; open areas in bottom of animals create areas for bees
Pavilion #2	16' x 32' shelter	Electric w/three outlets; concrete floor w/ concrete ramp extending 8' out from floor; corrugated sheeting roof; eight wooden picnic tables; grill; two plastic 55 gal. trash cans w/dome lids	Good	All	No	Install lights in shelter; remove staples from tables; construct a parking area near the shelter with a designated ADA parking space; provide ADA access to concrete ramp; provide ADA accessibility to grill
Swing Set #2	8' – 2 bay	Four belt seats	Fair	Youth & Adult	No	Designate use zone; add surfacing material; remove two belt seats and install two infant seats
Horseshoe Pits			Fair	Adult	No	Reconstruct to regulation size; lower stakes; increase size of box; provide ADA accessibility
Ponce de Leon Spring House	Historic spring	Spring house; exterior pool area, landscaping	Fair	All	No	Renovate the site to original appearance; provide ADA accessible route to spring house; install interpretative sign
Trail to Spring House	Natural trail	Wooden bridge over Mill Run	Poor	All	No	Improve trail surface; improve drainage along trail
Trail to Old Lake Area	Natural Trail	Wooden bridge	Fair	All	No	Develop trail around old lake site with interpretative signs for historical features; construct bridge to island that was in the lake; create a focal point on the island, perhaps gazebo

OAK GROVE PARK: Con't

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
General		Street type light pole at each	N/A	N/A	N/A	Remove stumps in grass areas near
		pavilion and in grove near pavilion				pavilions – potential trip hazards;
		#1; guide wires with sleeves on				install a centralized playground
		poles; good mixture of deciduous				perhaps themed after the history of
		trees in groves; bonfire area				the park; provide coordinated trash
		approximately 60' from pavilion				receptacles & recycling cans; provide
		#1				new picnic tables, especially in the
						groves

CITY OF MEADVILLE POMONA PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Historical Site	Train Engine & Caboose on tracks	French Creek Valley Historical Society; electric to caboose; steps to access cars; can tour when open; 1928 -1998 part of Meadville Railroad Yard; slab of concrete "ERIE" display; area fenced in	Good	All	No	Provide ADA access
Tooling		Large railroad tooling equipment on concrete pads	Good	All	No	Provide ADA access
General		Triangular area w/ grass & trees; well maintained; flagpole	Good	All	No	Needs signage; designate a parking area with a handicap parking space

CITY OF MEADVILLE RENDER PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Wooded	Long narrow	Adjacent to Cora Clark Park; wooded	Fair	Youth &	No	Brush dump site on park
Area	strip of land	site; two access points; trail sign at		Adult		property; improve signage
	along Render	entrance from West Mead Township				w/sign identifying Render
	Street					Park

CITY OF MEADVILLE SHADOW OAKS PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Passive	Grass corner	Small sign, grass area with some trees	Good	All	No	Continue to maintain as an
Recreation	lot					attractive area
Area						

CITY OF MEADVILLE SHADYBROOK PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Main Entrance	Paved road to parking area	Parking area – four regular spaces & one van accessible handicap space; split rail w/gate; interpretative sign; park sign	Good	All	Yes	Interpretative sign holding water – needs repaired
Pavilion	20' x 40'	Concrete floor; metal support posts; electrical outlets, bulletin board; plastic trash cans; eight 8' wooden w/metal frame tables bolted down	Good	All	Yes	Sand & paint metal support posts; remove staples & tacks from tables; install cover plate on electrical outlet; repair bulletin board; replace missing light on end of pavilion
Composting Toilets	Two units	Murals painted on units; commode in each; toilet paper holder; window	Good	Youth & Adult	No	Repair lip at entry to toilets to make ADA accessible
Walking Path	Concrete & crushed limestone path	Covered bridge over Mill Run; interpretative signage; detention ponds; well landscaped; foot bridge w/rails; flood control dam; spillway; old pond area in Mill Run; deck overlooking water release area from dam; school artwork on wing walls; stone along creek banks; fireplug; lights along path	Good	All	Yes	Clean & stain railing in covered bridge; clean & remove branch from interpretative sign; repair lip at both ends of foot bridge to improve ADA accessibility; trim red stem dogwood overhanging path; mulch around base of trees; improve lip onto deck to allow ADA access; graffiti on spillway walls & concrete base; remove stumps
Activity Area	Open grass area	Old stone water fountain – not usable; storage building; new water fountain	Good	All	No	Provide ADA access to new water fountain

CITY OF MEADVILLE SHADYBROOK PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Playground	N/A	The play structure was removed in the spring of 2015 due to safety concerns	N/A	N/A	N/A	The City is applying to the County for Act 13 funds to replace the playground with an accessible apparatus and sidewalk. Due to the importance of this project and the availability of funds, this is a high priority for the City.
Volleyball/Basketball Courts	Asphalt courts	Fencing on creek side of courts; asphalt curb to direct water to creek	Poor	Youth & Adults	No	Provide ADA accessibility; courts need repaved – cracks in asphalt, holes between courts create trip hazards; replace fencing; possible change volleyball court to a pickleball court & install either o grass or sand volleyball court; upgrade the basketball hoops & nets
Back Park Entrance	Concrete step entrance	Curbs, posts, sidewalk, brick entry, & lights at top level; steps with metal hand rails; street lights; retaining walls; four landings; security camera; good landscaping	Good	Youth & Adults	No	

CITY OF MEADVILLE SUNBEAM FIELD FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE SERVED	ADA ACCESS	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
Parking Lot	Shared parking area	Many parking spaces	Good	All	No	Designate a handicap parking space
Soccer Field	Large open field	Two soccer goals; 55 gallon trash cans; port-a-john	Good	Youth & Adult	No	Install signage; provide ADA access; repair worn grass areas in front of goals; improve grass areas along sides of field
Access Road	Limestone chip	Along eastern side of field – "Fire Lane" & "Emergency Vehicles"; railroad tracks along road; bridge to businesses	Fair	Adults	No	Improve signs & replace posts in poor condition
Stream	Tributary	Stream on western side of field flowing into French Creek; mowed 25' slope to stream				
Paved Area	40′ x 60′		Poor	N/A	N/A	Could be renovated and used for activities
General		Well groomed area; large open area behind goals; nice trees	Good	Youth & Adults	No	Playground could be install

CITY OF MEADVILLE UNNAMED PARK FACILITY INVENTORY MATRIX

FACILITY	DESCRIPTION	AMENITIES	CONDITION	AGE	ADA	ISSUES/RECOMMENDATIONS
				SERVED	ACCESS	
Open Space	Large wooded site east of Liberty Street	Wooded hillside with some level areas; road cut in off of Liberty – potential parking area; wildlife area	Fair	N/A	N/A	Name park; could be developed with hiking trails, mountain bike trails, pocket parklets, and an outdoor classroom; link to Huidekoper Park



FUNDING SOURCES - GRANTS

Grant	Description	Contact Information
American Legacy	Provides grants of up to \$200,000 for anti-	202-293-5960
Foundation Initiative for	smoking projects.	
Tobacco Control		
Baseball Tomorrow	The Baseball Tomorrow Fund, a joint	www.mlb.com
Fund	initiative between Major League Baseball and	www.baseballtomorrowfund.com
	the Major League Baseball Players	
	Association, offers grants to nonprofit and	
	tax-exempt organizations involved in youth	
	baseball and softball programs.	
Bowerman Track	Provides matching cash grants of up to	http://www.nike.com/nikebiz,jhtml?
Renovation Program	\$50,000 to community-based, youth	page=26&item=bowerman
Offers Grants	organizations that seek to refurbish or	
	construct running tracks. The program	
	distributes approximately \$200,000 in	
	matching grants each year.	
Child and Adult Care	Provides meals and snacks for after school	www.dot.state.pa.us
Food Program (CACFP)	and evening youth recreation programs.	
Department of	This program is designed to offer	Pennsylvania Department of Community
Community and	convenience and save time. The one-step	and Economic Development
Economic Development	online form allows you to apply	Commonwealth Keystone Building
Single Application	simultaneously for one or more of	400 North Street, 4 th Floor
Grants	Pennsylvania's community and economic	Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225
	development financial assistance programs.	1-800-379-7448 <u>www.inventpa.com</u> (select
		single application from "Find Specific
		Initiatives and Programs"
Department of	Whether it's rehabilitating a community	www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Conversation and	athletic field, building a safer playground,	
Natural Resources –	preparing a watershed or greenways plan,	
Community	developing an abandoned rail corridor or	
Conservation Program	protecting a critical natural or open space	
	area, this program has grants to meet local	
	recreation and conservation needs.	
Department of	These funds augment the Community	www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Conversation and	Conservation Partnership grants. The money	
Natural Resources –	will be allocated over several existing grant	
Growing Greener	programs to help communities and	
Program	organizations meet their conservation and	
	recreation goals.	
Department of	Provide funds to develop and maintain	www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Conservation and	recreational trails and trail related facilities	
Natural Resources –	for motorized and non-motorized recreational	
Pennsylvania	trail use .Federal funding for the program is	
Recreational Trails	through the Federal Highway Administration	
Program	(FHWA) and the Transportation Equity Act	
	for the 21st Century (TEA 21).	
Get Outdoors PA	\$1,500 - \$3,000 Grants to fund equipment and	www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Community Partners	training related to outdoor programming.	
	Must be a Get Outdoors Partner	
Department of	The program provides technical and financial	www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Conservation and	assistance to municipalities and river support	
Natural Resources –	groups to carry out planning, implementation,	

River Conservation	acquisition and development activities related	
Program	to river conservation. A registry is	
11081	established to recognize local river	
	conservation efforts.	
Federal Grants	Provides information on hundreds of federal	www.afterschool.gov
Clearinghouse	grants that can be used to support youth	
8 - 1.1.1	recreation programs.	
International Society of	Information to assist with landscaping/tree	http://www. isa-arbor.org
Arboriculture	plantings	<u></u>
Local Government	Serving all of Southwestern Pennsylvania, the	800 Allegheny Avenue, Suite 402
Academy	Local Government Academy's purpose is to	Pittsburgh, PA 15233
110000111)	promote excellence in government by	412-237-3171, 412-237-3139 (fax)
	providing educational opportunities to assist	112 257 5171, 112 257 5155 (1411)
	public officials, employees, and citizens in	
	effectively meeting the needs of their	
	communities.	
NFL Community	Provides grants of up to \$100,000 for capital	212-455-9881
Football Fields Program	improvement projects to improve or create	212 133 7001
1 ootour 1 reius 1 rogrum	football fields in low and moderate –income	
	neighborhoods.	
NFL Youth Football	Provides grants of \$500 to \$2,500 to purchase	www.nrpa.org
Fund	equipment, repair fields, establish new	www.mpu.org
Tund	football programs, and improve existing	
	programs.	
National Gardening	Provides grants of over \$750 for seeds, tools	www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp
Association Youth	and gardening supplies for children to learn	www.kidsgardeiniig.com/grants.asp
Garden Grants	and work in outdoor gardens.	
National Fish and	Provides grants for conservation and	www.nfwf.org
Wildlife Foundation	environmental education projects.	www.mwi.org
Pennsylvania Council	chritomichai eddeation projects.	www.artsnet.org/pca/pca.html
on the Arts		www.artshot.org/pea/pea.mm
Pennsylvania	Funding to clean up abandoned mines, restore	1-877-PAGREEN
Department of	watersheds, and provide new and upgraded	www.dep.state.us
Environmental	water and sewer systems.	www.dep.state.us
Protection –	water and sewer systems.	
Environmental		
Stewardship and		
Watershed Protection		
Pennsylvania	Funding for projects that restore or protect	Bureau of Watershed Management
Department of	impaired water through education, monitoring	717-787-5259
Environmental	or practices to control or reduce non-point	117 107 3237
Protection – Non-point	sources of pollution.	
Source Pollution	sources of politicon.	
Control		
Pennsylvania	Grants for the start-up and development of	Bureau of Watershed Management
Department of	local, voluntary source water protection	717-787-5259
Environmental	programs.	11, 101 3237
Protection – Source	programo.	
Water Protection Grant		
Program Program		
Pennsylvania	Grants and technical assistance for planning	Bureau of Watershed Management
Department of	and implementing stormwater control	717-772-5661
Environmental	and implementing stormwater control	71, 772 3001
Protection – Stormwater		
Management Program		
management i togram		

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection – Stream Improvement Program	State provided design and construction projects to eliminate imminent threats due to flooding and stream bank erosion	Bureau of Waterways Engineering 717-787-3411
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection – Wetlands Replacement Program	Funding and technical assistance for the restoration of wetlands	Bureau of Watershed Management 717-787-6827
PA Cleanways	A non-profit organization that helps communities take action against illegal dumping and littering.	105 West Fourth Street Greensburg, PA 15601 724-836-4121, 724-836-1980 (fax) www.pacleanways,org
Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission — Technical Guidance Program Pennsylvania	Allows public organizations to partner with commission to provide low-cost public boat access, boat docks, or fishing piers.	Gregory Smith 814-359-5150, 814-359-5153 (fax) gregsmith@state.pa.us www.fish.state.pa.us www.pahumanities.org
Humanities Council Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society (PRPS) RecTAP Program	Provides technical assistance grants of up to \$1,500 to help recreation and park boards and departments with specific issues. No matching funds are required.	www.prps.org
Community Services Block Grant	Public entities, including recreation and parks, can be partners in this block grant program	www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ ocs/csbg/index.htm or call 202-401-9344
Common Grant Application Format (Sponsored by Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania)	The Grantmakers of Western PA provide the materials needed to apply for many grants geared toward foundations in the western part of Pennsylvania. Visit their website for links to the common grant application and details on writing your grant application.	Grantmakers of Western PA 650 Smithfield St., Suite 210 Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 471-6488 Fax: (412) 232-3115 Email: info@gwp.org Website: http://web.gwpa.org:4600/grantmakers: Website,grantmakers,home
U.S. Department of Agriculture Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)	Provides funding for breakfast, lunch, and snacks for children ages 18 and under at summer playgrounds, camps, and other recreation programs.	www.frac.org
U.S. Department of Education	Provides information on grants to apply for in cooperation with school districts.	www.ed.gov/funding.html
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Provides information on available grants that can be used to fund recreation programs that improve health.	www.hhs.gov/agencies/grants.html
U.S. Department of Justice	Provides information on crime and violence prevention grants that can be used to support recreation programs.	www.oip.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm
Grants.gov	The federal government's master system for listing and tracking grants. It includes all 50 states as well as federally funded programs.	Grants.gov
Western Pennsylvania Field Institute	The Western Pennsylvania Field Institute is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to making the outdoor recreation community a vibrant centerpiece of this region.	304 Forbes Ave, 2 nd floor Pittsburgh, PA 15222 412-255-0564

Western Pennsylvania	Provides funding matches for the preservation	John Dawes
Watershed Protection	and restoration of water resources and	814-669-4847
Program	watersheds.	011 003 1017
USDA Forest Service	The state of the s	www.fs.fed.us/na/wit
Wood in Transportation		WWW.IBIICAIAB/IIIa WIE
Land & Water		www.dcnr.state.pa.us
Conservation Funds		
Surface Transportation		www.dot.state.pa.us
Program		
Safe Routes to Schools		www.srtacademy.org
Allegheny County		www.county.allegheny.pa.us/economic
Economic Development		412-350-1000
Peer to Peer		www.dcnr.state.pa.us
PA. Conservation Corps		www.dot.state.pa.us
21st Century Learning		www.ed.gov/21stcclc
Program		
NEA Funds Learning in		www.arts.gov/grants/apply/
the Arts for Children		GAP09?LITA.html
Shared Municipal		www.Newpa.com
Services		-
National Recreation &		www.nrpa.org/grants
Park Association		
Keys to Successful	A Small Community Guide to Federal and	444N. Capital St. NW, Suite 397
Funding:	Foundation Resources	Washington, DC 20001
		Phone: 202-624-3550
		FAX: 202- 624-3554
		ncsc@sso.org
		www.smallcommunities.org
Amgen Foundation	The Foundation dedicates substantial	http://www.amgen.com/
Community Life Grants	resources to strengthening and enriching the	citizenship/apply for grant.html
	community, thereby making it a more	Website: http://www.amgen.com/
	desirable place to live and work. This	<u>citizenship/foundation.html</u>
	investment helps to ensure that essential	
	health and social services, environmental	
	programs, the excitement of the sciences and	
	the richness of the arts are more accessible to	
XX 1: 10: :	all members of the community.	
United States	Grants for communities up to 20,000 in	http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/HAD-
Department of	population. Grant funds can be used to	<u>CF Grants.html</u>
Agriculture Community	construct, enlarge, or improve community	
Facility Grants	facilities for health care, public safety, and	
	community and public services. This can	
	include the purchase of equipment required	
	for a facility's operation.	

FUNDING SOURCES - FOUNDATIONS

Foundations	Description	Contact Information
Allegheny	Mostly local pa giving for projects related to	c/o Allegheny Teledyne Inc.
Teledyne, Inc.	youth, disabled, community arts, historical, or	1000 Six PPG Place
Charitable Trust	sports and camps.	Pittsburgh, PA 15222
	Letter form requests with a maximum of 2 pages	412-394-2836
	may be submitted at any time. Include IRS tax-	www.scaife.com
	exempt document. Trustees meet in January,	
	April, July, and October to award grants.	
Bayer	About one-half local/Pa. giving for projects	c/o Bayer Corporation
Foundation	related to youth, disabled, seniors, community	100 Bayer Rd., Building 4
	arts, historical, sports and camps, or economic	Pittsburgh, PA 15205
	development.	412-777-5791
	Full proposal may be submitted at anytime.	www.bayerus.com/community
	Deadlines are 3/15 and 9/15.	/charity/index.html
The Eberly	Grants are awarded for projects related to youth,	610 National City Bank Building
Foundation	community arts, historical, sports and camps,	Downtown Station PO Box 2023
	miscellaneous, or economic development.	Uniontown, PA 15401
	Submit requests in letter format at any time.	724-438-3789
The Grable	Projects awarded for youth, disabled, families,	240 Centre City Tower
Foundation	seniors, community arts, historical, or camps and	650 Smithfield St.
	sport projects.	Pittsburgh, PA 15222
	Grants awarded in February, June and October.	412-471-4550
	Use the Common Grant Application Format of	
TT : (TT 1)	Grantmakers of Western Pa as formal application.	20 CNG T
Heinz (Howard)	Send a letter of inquiry before formal application.	30 CNG Tower
Endowment	Projects must relate to families, youth, disabled,	625 Liberty Ave.
	community arts, historical, or sports and camps.	Pittsburgh, PA 15222 412-281-5777 or 412-391-1040
		412-281-5777 of 412-391-1040 www.heinz.org
Laurel	Grants are awarded for youth, families, seniors,	Laurel Foundation
Foundation	disabled, community arts, historical, conservation	Two Gateway Center
Toundation	and ecology, sports and camps, or miscellaneous	Suite 1800
	projects.	Pittsburgh, PA 15222.
	No call is needed to discuss feasibility.	412-765-2400
McCune	Send letter of inquiry to Executive Director, 2	Suite 750
Foundation	pages maximum.	6 PPG Place
	Grants awarded for youth, families, seniors,	Pittsburgh, PA 15222
	disabled, community arts, historical, sports and	412-644-8779
	camps, or miscellaneous projects.	
The Foundation	Has created a unique map that shows the different	www.foundationcenter.org
Center	funding options by states associated with ARRA.	
The Tony Hawk	Provides funding for construction of skate parks	www.tonyhawkfoundation.org
Foundation		
Directory Of	This publication provides information on	Triadvocates Press
Pennsylvania	foundations in Pennsylvania by regions. Published	P.O. Box 336
Foundations	by Triadvocates Press and researched, compiled	Springfield, PA 19064-0336
	and edited by Damon Kletzien. Can be purchased	Phone: 610-544-6927
	for \$73.50 through:	Eax: 610-328-2805
TIDG E	All All AVDG	Email: <u>DirPaFdns@aol.com</u>
UPS Foundation	Allocates dollars to UPS region offices to invest in	www.ups.com
Community	their communities.	
Investment		
Grants		

U.S. Soccer	The goal of the grantmaking program is to focus	www.ussoccerfoundation.org
Foundation	funding on those programs or projects that	www.assoccorroundation.org
	develop players, referees, and coaches with	
	special emphasis on the economically	
	disadvantaged in urban areas. The foundation's	
	grants program is open to anyone with a soccer-	
	specific program or project that benefits a not-for-	
	profit purpose and meets the established focus.	
Finish Line	Encourages Sport Life Style in America's youth.	http://www.finishline.com/store/
Youth	Funding and assistance for education, sports and	corporate_info/youthfoundation.jsp
Foundation	exercise placing importance on living a healthy	
	lifestyle, bolstering confidence and leadership	
	skills, and teaching youth the importance of	
	teamwork.	
General Mills	Specifically geared towards programming related	http://www.generalmills.com/corporate/
Foundation	to nutrition and fitness.	commitment/champions.aspx
Healthy Youth	Link takes you directly to funding available for	http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/HYFund/list.asp
Funding	Pennsylvania	
Resources		
LPGA*USGA	The program provides the opportunity to develop	Click on this link for more information.
Girls Golf	skills, progress in golf and have fun while	http://www.lpga.com/content_3.
Program	establishing a life-long interest in the game. There	aspx?mid=7&pid=8
	is also a matching grants program, funded by the	
	USGA, that is available to help with the costs	
	associated with additional programming. The	
	funds can be used for equipment, instruction,	
	course and driving range access and the national	
NIEL C	registration fee (per girl \$10).	1,, // 1, 1, 1,
NFL Grassroots	The goal of the NFL Grassroots Program is to	http://www.lisc.org/whatwedo/
Program	provide non-profit, neighborhood-based organizations with financial and technical	programs/nfl/rfp.shtml
	assistance to improve the quality, safety, and	
	accessibility of local football fields.	
Nike	Grants in various categories from cash grants to	http://www.nike.com/nikebiz/
TVIKC	track renovation.	nikebiz.jhtml?page=26
	truck renovation.	inkeoiz.jittiii.puge=20
USGA Tee	The USGA provides matching grants to the	www.hookakidongolf.org
Level Clinic	National Alliance for Youth Sports program Hook	1-800-729-2057
Matching Grant	a Kid on Golf. You must be a participating Hook a	1 000 12) 2031
from Hook a	Kid on Golf site. To participate in Hook a Kid on	
Kid on Golf	Golf, go to their website or call. Upon registration	
	ask about the grant program.	
USTA Adopt-a-	For courts in desperate need of repair with limited	usta.com/communitytennis/custom.
Court Grant	resources. May Deadline.	sps?iType=950&icustompageid=2520
Program	, and the second	
Pew Charitable	Provides grants in a number of program areas	www.pewtrusts.com/grants
Trust	including environment, culture, and health and	
	human services.	
Target Stores	Provides Start Something Scholarships for youth	www.startsomething.target.com/
and Tiger	to use for summer camps, music lessons, sports	<u>info/index.asp</u>
Woods	entertainment, travel expenses, and so on.	
Foundation	Programs enrollment forms are available at Target	
	Stores.	
	This are up also at a fall and the LIDC and also a CC and	I
UPS Foundation	This grant alocates dollars to UPS region offices	www.ups.com
UPS Foundation Community Investment	to invest in their communities.	www.ups.com

U.S. Soccer	The goal of the grantmaking program for fiscal	www.ussoccerfoundation.org
Foundation	year 2005 is to focus funding on those programs	
	or projects that develop players, referees, and	
	coaches with special emphasis on the	
	economically disadvantaged in urban areas. The	
	foundation's grants program is open to anyone	
	with a soccer-specific program or project that	
	benefits a not-for-profit purpose and meets the	
	established focus for the 2005 grant cycle.	
Woman's Sports	The GoGirlGo! Grant and Education Program is	www.womanssportsfoundation.org
Foundation –	dedicated to the development and funding of girls'	
GoGirl Grant	sports/physical activity programs that combine	
Program	athletic instruction and programming with the	
	delivery or educational information aimed at	
	reducing risk behaviors.	
Pittsburgh	Funds for constructing dek hockey courts	pittsburghpenguinsfoundation.org
Penguins		
Foundation		
American Water	Funding for Nature Play Playgrounds	www.amwater.com/corporate-
Charitable		responsibility/Charitable-Foundation
Foundation		
North Suburban		412-761-2113
Chamber of		
Commerce		
Rapides	Walking Trail Mini Grant	www.rapidesfoundation.org
Foundation		

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES – GRANTS, DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIPS

FUNDING	Contact Information	
Mantis Awards for Community & Youth Gardens	www.kidsgardening.com/grants/mantis.asp	
National Tree Trust	www.nationaltreetrust.com	
Kaboom – Playground Grant	www.kaboom.org	
NRG Outdoors	www.nrgoutdoors.org	
NO Child Left Inside Act	www.cbf.org/site	
After School Archery Program	www.afterschoolarchery.com	
Saucony Run for Good	www.sauconyrunforgood.com	
Hooked on Hydroponics	www.kidsgardening.com/grants/HOH.asp	
Healthy Sprouts Awards	www.kidsgardening.com/grants/healthysprouts.asp	
Youth Garden Grants Program	www.kidsgardening.com/YGG.asp	
For the Good of the Game Grants	www.usga.org	
Baseball Tomorrow Fund	www.baseballtomorrowfund.com	
Head Start Body Start Play Space Grant	www.aahperd.org/headstartbodystart	
United States Golf Association Grants	www.usga.org/	
SNAG – Start New at Golf – Equipment	www.snagpros.com	
Annie's Homegrown Garden Grants	www.annies.com/grants_for_gardens	
Together We Play	www.playlsi/Together-We-Play	
Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation Grants	www.ripkenfoundation.org/grants/grant	
USA Football Equipment Grant	www2.usafootball.com/grants	
United States Soccer Foundation Program & Field	www.ussoccerfoundation.org/grants	
Grants		
Dick's Sporting Goods Sponsorships & Donations	dickssportinggoods.sponsorport.com	
US Paralympics Grants	www.teamusa.org	
Achieve Healthy Communities	www.achievecommunities.org	
Urban Revitalization & Livable Communities Act	www.govtrack.us	
The Urban Park & Recreation Recovery Program	http://www.NPS.GOV/UPARR	
Tennis in the Parks	www.usta.com/About-USTA/Tennis-in-the-	
	Parks/Tennis_In_The_Parks	
Sticks for Kids	www.golf2020.com/initiatives/sticks-for-kids.aspx	
Grow Your Park Grant	www.nrpa.org/garden	
The Recreational Boating & Fishing Foundation	www.rbff.org	
Take Me Fishing	www.takemefishing.org	
Good Sports	www.goodsports.org/equipment/apply/	
Moms Team	www.momsteam.com/grants	
Nature Explore Classroom	www.natureexplore.org or 1-888-908-8733	