PARK, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN

December 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Londonderry Township thanks the residents and community members that participated in the planning process and for their commitment to a future guided by the goals outlined within this plan.

Thank You to the Park, Recreation & Open Space Plan Steering Committee

A special thanks to the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan Steering Committee Members that spent many hours helping to prepare this plan.

- Drew Lambert
- Lane Schultz
- Steve Snyder
- Nate Diegel
- Liz Glaston
- Shawn Jacobs
- Josh Matincheck
- Russell Schauer
- Matt Naples
- Monique Dykman

Additional Thank Yous to the Following:

Londonderry Township Board of Supervisors

- Bart Shellenhamer (Chair)
- Ron Kopp (Vice Chair)
- Anna J. Dale
- Mel Hershey
- Mike Geyer

Londonderry Township Manager

- David Blechertas

Thank You to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

This Plan was Prepared by:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Londonderry Township spent over a year developing this plan which focuses on the Township's park and recreation system. It focuses on the following topic areas: park and recreation facilities, open space and natural resources, trails and connectivity, administration and personnel, programming, and maintenance. In addition to these topics, the plan focuses on implementation, which focuses on how to take the goals, objectives and recommendations within this plan and implement them.

WHAT IS A PARK, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN?

- It develops a Township-wide vision specifically for Township-owned parks, recreation facilities, open space, and trails.
- It evaluates existing conditions and community needs, considers trends, analyzes growth projections, and develops recommendations for park needs, improvements, maintenance, connectivity, open space management and potential acquisition.
- It evaluates existing Township-owned open spaces and provides recommendations for enhancing these spaces.
- It addresses alternate ways to protect and preserve open space.
- Through goals, objectives, and recommendations, it provides a basis for local decision making. Further this plan will support grant applications for funding which will assist with implementation of the plan.

PLAN CHAPTERS INCLUDE:

- **Park and Recreation Facilities** – This chapter focuses on the existing amenities and facilities, while looking at standards, trends, and community feedback to guide the future of Township-owned active and passive parks and recreation amenities and facilities. Further this chapter will identify future community needs that can be accommodated in existing and future parks.
- **Open Space & Natural Resources –** This chapter focuses on the Township-owned open spaces that do not include active or passive amenities and facilities.
- **Trails & Connectivity –** This chapter focuses on creating connections to the Township-owned parks, as well as identifying connections that can create safe places for the community to recreate.
- **Administration & Personnel** – This chapter focuses on the 'behind the scenes' of parks and recreation, including rental processes and future grant opportunities.
- **Programming** – This chapter focuses on recreational programming and community events that are offered by the Township, as well as events coordinated by community organizations.
- **Facilities & Equipment Maintenance** –This chapter will focus on the maintenance of the Township's parks.

The three driving forces of this plan are the Goals & Objectives, Financing, and Implementation. These elements will guide the Township toward achieving the future vision for its parks and recreation system.

Throughout the planning process the Township utilized a number of engagement tools to seek feedback from the community, from a survey to an open house, steering committee meetings, and public presentations of the draft plan. Despite the public engagement efforts, public participation was limited. However, the Township remains committed to seeing community input throughout the implementation process, as outlined in the goals, objectives, and recommendations.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The Park, Recreation & Open Space Plan identifies goals and objectives, along with implementation recommendations, which are found in the Implementation Chapter of this plan.

The plan includes the following sections in which goals and objectives were developed for:

- Park & Recreation Facilities
- Open Space & Natural Resources
- Trails & Connectivity
- Administration & Personnel
- Programming
- Facilities & Equipment Maintenance

The following are the goals and objectives that were developed for this plan.

Park & Recreation Facilities

1. Provide and plan for park and recreation facilities and amenities that meet standards, support both active and passive recreation opportunities, serve all ages and abilities, provide access for all, while adapting to recreation trends, and planning for the evolving community.

> 1.1 Develop a Master Site Plan for Braeburn Park and implementation strategy.

> 1.2 Plan for and implement the recommended improvements for Sunset Park that are included on the site visit notes.

> 1.3 Continue to conduct routine maintenance and inspections to ensure the parks are welcoming, safe and clean.

> 1.4 Seek to update ADA amenities to offer a like experience for park visitors of all abilities while aiming to utilize universal and inclusive design.

> 1.5 Regularly survey the community to identify their desires and or needs within the Township owned parks. Recommended on a bi-annual basis.

> 1.6 Develop and maintain a Capital Improvements Plan for updating and replacement of park amenities to help meet standards and provide guidance for prioritization.

2. Build and maintain a strong sense of community through parks, open space and recreation facilities, a variety of programs, and social interactions.

> 2.1 Provide amenities within parks that provide spaces for more programmed events.

> 2.2 Provide comfortable and safe places that enable formal and informal social interactions and experiences.

> 2.3 Implement the recommendations under the "Programming" section.

3. Provide park and recreation facilities including multi-use trails that are accessible to Township residents within a safe 10-minute walk.

> 3.1 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk.

> 3.2 Develop new parks in areas currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk, when and where feasible.

4. Ensure reasonable accommodations based on the park's physical features, amenities and mission.

> 4.1 Use universal and inclusive design when updating and developing parks and their amenities.

> 4.2 Work towards improving the Township's Parks and Recreation Facilities to comply with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act and the 2010 ADA Standards to the fullest extent possible.

5. Implement sustainable and climate resilient practices when constructing, maintaining, updating, and enhancing park and recreation facilities.

> 5.1 Implement stormwater management practices that meet or exceed MS4 requirements and highlight those benefits to the community.

> 5.2 Increase shade at the Township's parks to provide safe places for residents to recreate and enjoy.

> 5.3 Regularly review sustainable and climate resilient parks and recreation practices.

6. Incorporate nature into the existing parks through environmental education, native plantings, clean water and other sustainable practices.

> 6.1 Develop signage (temporary and permanent) and digital resources within parks, open spaces, and along trails to provide environmental education opportunities.

> 6.2 Continue to plant native vegetation in the Township's parks and open spaces and remove invasive and non-native plantings.

7. Create welcoming, well-advertised spaces and places for social interactions.

> 7.1 Integrate existing amenities and construct new features and amenities that promote park user connections and meet the needs of the community as it changes over time.

> 7.2 Ensure Township parks are well signed and advertised with a corresponding registered street address.

> 7.3 Update and maintain the Township's website to include information regarding park locations and amenities.

Open Space & Natural Resources

1. Align proposed Plan Goals with the existing Zoning and Comprehensive Plans.

1.1 Update the Township's Zoning ordinance to be consistent with this plan, and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

1.2 Update the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance consistent with this plan and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

2. Identify high priority open spaces or natural resource areas in the Township for potential acquisition or conservation easements.

2.1 Identify high priority open space and natural resource areas. Prior to acquisition or securing a conservation easement, initial capital investment and long-term maintenance costs should be determined and considered.

2.2 Develop, update and or add identified high priority priorities or areas to a Township Official Map.

3. Naturalize the lands that the Township already owns but are currently mowed.

3.1 Continue to naturalize areas in the Township as appropriate utilizing no mow, low mow, meadows and native plantings.

3.2 Naturalize the field space at Braeburn Park, until a master site plan is developed.

4. Demonstrate land management best practices to not only serve as an educational opportunity but provide inspiration for community members to do on their private property.

4.1 Add signage, both temporary and permanent, paired with digital resources, to serve as an educational opportunity for land management and sustainable land management initiatives the Township has already taken, and will take in the future.

4.2 Create areas of best land management practices that residents and the community is able to visit, interact with and learn about, as well as providing information about how these land management practices could be utilized on their property.

4.3 Buffer, expand and connect natural spaces within the Township.

4.4 Restore and enhance native vegetation in open spaces and along stream corridors while working to remove invasive and non-native species.

4.5 Continue to make improvements to Township-owned parks and open spaces to help manage the impacts of stormwater runoff.

5. Work with organizations in the area to protect, enhance and maintain natural resources within the Township.

5.1 Work with community organizations to achieve each other's goals, while limiting the duplication of efforts.

5.2 Work with community organizations to host events, volunteer days and educational opportunities for the community.

5.3 Enhance and develop partnerships with organizations to assist with monitoring stream and vegetation health.

5.4 Develop and educate community organizations and volunteers on maintenance standards.

Trails & Connectivity

1. Expand and enhance the local and regional bicycle and pedestrian network to provide a safe place for recreation, increased community connectivity and access to community amenities.

1.1 Work to develop plans or feasibility studies for the identified connections.

1.2 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park within a 10-minute walk.

1.3 Add the identified connections to an Official Map for the Township.

2. Develop trails and greenway standards that set the precedence for how trails and greenways within the Township should be designed and developed.

2.1 Develop standards for trails and greenway development that meet or exceed the DCNR Trails Design and Development Principles.

3. Provide safe, sustainable multi-modal recreation and transportation options for people of all abilities.

3.1 Provide safe and accessible routes within parks, as feasible.

Administration & Personnel

1. Develop partnerships among municipalities, local organizations, and recreation providers within the school district to foster a culture of collaboration.

1.1 Work with organizations in the community to help advance the recreation goals of the Township, and the organization when and where feasible.

2. Develop a plan to ensure the long-term financial sustainability for the operation, maintenance, and development of parks, recreational facilities, and programs.

2.1 Create and update a 5-year capital improvement plan for the Townships parks, recreation facilities and programming.

2.2 Develop a cost benefit analysis when considering capital purchases or investment in parks, including any associated maintenance.

3. Expand, update, and formalize partnership agreements in accordance with Board of Supervisors input and approval.

3.1 Develop a standard partnership agreement for organizations that currently utilize the parks and recreation facilities, along with future groups and ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.

3.2 Update pavilion and facility rental agreements to ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.

4. Develop a communication and marketing plan to promote Township recreation services, facilities, and parks for community use.

4.1 Update and modify the Parks and Recreation presence on the Township's main website to include information highlighting Township programs and park-related events.

4.2 Improve the reservation system for scheduling field usage.

4.3 Provide timely communications and updates on accomplishments and progress on park improvements and programming additions.

4.4 Work with the appropriate governing body or agency to provide addresses for Township-owned parks and recreation facilities.

5. Ensure that parks and recreation staffing is appropriate to achieve the goals of this plan and meet the expectations of the community while operating, managing and maintaining the parks to the highest level possible.

5.1 Assess the demand and available resources needed to hire a part time or full time Township staff member who is dedicated to parks and recreation and anticipate additional staff to be needed if improvements are made to Braeburn Park, and the Conewago Floodplain Area opens to the public.

Programming

1. Develop and work with partners and recreation organizations to provide a well-rounded offering of programs for all ages, interests, and user groups within the community.

1.1 Continue to build upon existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to expand programming offerings to Township residents.

1.2 Assess if there is a need for a Township staff member to be dedicated to parks and recreation. (Related to Administration & Personnel Action 5.1)

2. Expand passive recreation programming opportunities.

2.1 Continue to expand the Townships existing passive recreation offerings at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property, and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.

2.2 Build partnerships with community organizations to increase programming opportunities at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.

3. Continue to evaluate, update, and improve programming options and the facilities that aid in these programming opportunities.

3.1 Identify, consider and implement other funding opportunities and ways to increase revenue from programming.

3.2 Continue to gather community feedback on existing programming as well as their desired programming opportunities.

Facilities & Equipment Maintenance

1. Maintain all municipal recreation facilities to the highest level of acceptable standards to ensure clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing facilities.

    1.1 Develop a park maintenance plan.

    1.2 Continue to conduct daily visual inspections and monthly facility inspections to assure that the parks are safe and clean.

    1.3 Develop a Capital Improvements Plan that plans for replacement of facilities and amenities to ensure replacements are made prior to facilities and amenities exceeding their useable life.

    1.4 Consider someone on staff pursuing the Certified Playground Safety Inspector certification or having a CPSI inspect the Township's parks on an annual basis.

2. Continue to build a culture of sustainability within the parks and recreation to promote green infrastructure and the use of alternative methods for park development to reduce maintenance.

    2.1 Continue to use best land management practices such as low mow and meadow within the Township's parks and open spaces.

    2.2 Implement sustainable initiatives in the parks, especially when amenities are being replaced or updated.

3. Work to develop a more efficient and effective park maintenance plan / department.

    3.1 Provide low maintenance amenity alternatives, where and when appropriate.

   3.2 Utilize the park maintenance plan that is developed in Action 1.1.

COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Londonderry Township in Dauphin County is home to about 4,899 residents (2020). Although the Township is near the City of Harrisburg, it boasts rural landscapes, with strategic development largely occurring along key transportation corridors. The Township is situated at the southernmost tip of Dauphin County, with its western boundary being the western shore of the Susquehanna River, southern boundary formed by the Conewago Creek, and the northwestern border formed by the Swatara Creek, aside from where the Township borders Royalton Borough. Within the Township, there are many islands within the Susquehanna Rivier, the largest of which are Hill Island, Shelley Island, Three Mile Island and Bashore Island.

The Township completed a comprehensive planning process at the same time this Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan was developed. During the development of the Comprehensive Plan a Trends Report was developed for the Township, that provides a vast amount of background information, demographics and trends. This document has been attached to this plan in Appendix A. The following are some highlights from this report.

THE TOWNSHIP IS

26.9 SQUARE MILES
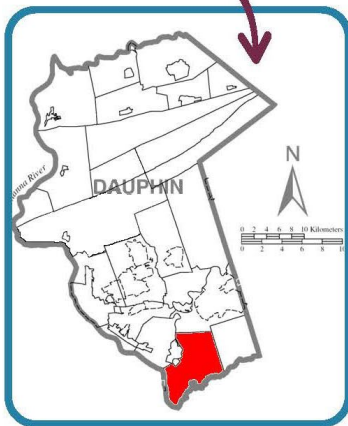
POPULATION DECREASED

FROM 5,235 RESIDENTS IN 2010 TO 4,899 RESIDENTS IN 2020, BUT IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE IN THE FUTURE.

36% OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE TOWNSHIP HAVE CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 & 26% OF THE POPULATION IS UNDER THE AGE OF 18.

42 YEARS OLD IS THE MEDIAN AGE OF TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS.

THE TOWNSHIP HAS

2,132 HOUSEHOLDS (THIS IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE)

89% OF HOUSEHOLDS ARE OWNER-OCCUPIED.

$64,038 IS THE MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the planning process a number of public engagement tools were utilized to gather information and feedback to develop a plan that is rooted in desires and needs of the community. Although public participation was limited, the community has supported park and recreation services in other ways. The Township is prepared to continue to engage the community through the implementation of this plan. The following chapter is a summary of the public engagement opportunities.

OPEN HOUSE

Londonderry Township held an Open House on April 24, 2024, for the Park, Recreation & Open Space Plan. This meeting included a brief presentation explaining the project, the project timeline, and the breakout stations we asked attendees to engage with following the presentation. There were four breakout stations that focused on Vision & Goals, Park & Recreation Amenities, Park Improvements (Sunset Park & Braeburn Park), and Trails & Connectivity.

Due to low attendance at the Open House, an online feedback form was developed to mimic the activities that were conducted at the Open House, to allow an opportunity for those that were unable to attend an opportunity to provide feedback. In total there were 8 attendees in person at the Open House and 8 that participated in the online feedback form.

The following is a summary of the feedback received at the Open House and through the online feedback form.

Vision & Goals

For this activity residents were asked to respond to the question: What do you hope the Park, Recreation & Open Space Plan is able to accomplish?

The following were the responses:

- More variety in recreational activities within the Township
- Updates to Braeburn Park
- Increased walking trails
- Acquisition of land for more parks!
- Look into re-establishing the Park and Rec Board
- Upgraded areas
- Welcome and encourage community utilization of parks
- More places to enjoy community activities and save some green space
- We go to nice parks in other townships to walk the dog. Would be nicer nearby. I've lived here almost 10 years but don't know much about our parks. Stopped by Sunset once to eat, they weren't friendly
- Walking and bike trails, township outdoor movie nights/music, improvements to sunset park! :)
- Counterweight to all the warehouses

Park & Recreation Facilities & Amenities

For this activity residents were given 5 tickets / selections to identify which amenities, facilities, or improvements they would like to see. The following table is the results from this activity.

Park & Rec Facility or Amenity	Open House	Online	Total #	Total %
Walking & Biking Trails	7	6	13	19%
Pickleball	7	1	8	11%
Naturalized Open Space & Green Space	2	6	8	11%
Water Access	3	5	8	11%
Community Garden	1	5	6	9%
Braeburn Park Improvements	5	0	5	7%
Pavilions & Gathering Areas	1	4	5	7%
Sunset Park Improvements	2	2	4	6%
Bocce, Horseshoes & Other Yard Games	0	3	3	4%
Other	0	3	3	4%
Playgrounds	1	1	2	3%
Organized Sports	0	2	2	3%
Multi-Purpose Fields	0	2	2	3%
Tennis Courts	1	0	1	1%
Volleyball	0	0	0	0%

Park Improvements

For this activity residents were able to identify specific improvements they would like to see at Sunset Park and Braeburn Park, by answering the questions:

- If the Township were to make improvements to Sunset Park, what improvements would you like to see?
- If the Township were to make improvements to Braeburn Park, what improvements would you like to see?

The following are the responses to both questions.
- Sunset Park Improvements
    - Disc Golf
    - Additional parking solutions
    - Additional bathroom options
    - Food Truck and fundraising activities
    - Concerts
    - Updated concession stands
    - More batting cages
    - Pickleball
    - Open road to Hillsdale for bikes
    - Continuous walking path around the park, delineations every 1/10 mile
    - A community pool
    - Can any park include play type equipment that an adult with autism/special needs could use? Swings, climbing equipment, slide would be fun

- – Additional playground equipment, improvements to bathroom/snack stand, more organized youth sports (soccer, flag football, etc).
    - – Walking trails
    - – More seating for organized sports watching
- ■ Braeburn Park Improvements
    - – New blacktop surface to accommodate a variety of activities
    - – Basketball, Pickel Ball, and Tennis
    - – New playground with a variety of features to allow children of all abilities to play and access it
    - – Disc Golf
    - – Bathrooms
    - – Possible walking trails for families to utilize
    - – Paved marked parking
    - – New surface of tennis courts and new fencing
    - – I don't know where this is.... so, I guess more advertised events
    - – I do not know where this park is. I have lived in Londonderry for almost 9 years and have never heard of it.
    - – Not sure
    - – Expansion into the woods with trails.

Trails & Connectivity

For this activity, attendees at the Open House were able to view maps in person and identify areas where they would like to see new trail connections, bike lane connections, sidewalks, as well as identify areas that are barriers. The map attached to this memo identifies the feedback that was received at the Open House.

For the online feedback form, this activity functioned differently. Respondents were able to provide comments to help identify where they would like to see new trail connections, bike lane connections, sidewalks, as well as identify areas that are barriers. The following were the comments received on the feedback form for this activity.

- ■ walking trail around old par line golf course
- ■ 230 is dangerous to bike. Braeburn could use trails. From what I understand it's rundown baseball or tennis over there.
- ■ I would love trails with distance markers, facilities along the route and security (emergency boxes, cameras, etc).

Any Additional Feedback

At the Open House and on the online feedback form residents were able to provide any additional comments they had that may be related to the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The following is the additional feedback that was received.

- ■ Take all the farmland and stop building warehouses and housing developments and place the ground "in green" and preserve the native land. If raising taxes keeps these developments out then raise them, residents would prefer that. Also keeps the riff raff out of the township. Save the land and wildlife that we have all grown the love. Would like to see a track or oval trail in the area across from the firehouse.

- I miss the 4th of July festival. will it be coming back?
- We like Trolley Park.
- Preserve the land.

ONLINE SURVEY

Londonderry Township conducted an online community survey to gather information and feedback from residents and community members on parks, recreation facilities and amenities, open spaces and trails. There were 77 responses to the online survey. The responses will be utilized along with State and National Park and Recreation Standards and Trends, and feedback from other community engagement efforts to help guide the goals, objectives and recommendations that will be included within this Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The following is a summary of the results that were received.

A full summary of the survey results is included in Appendix B.

KEY PERSON INTERVIEWS

As part of the planning process, Key Person and Focus Group Interviews were conducted. These interviews were conducted with one or several stakeholders that were identified by the Township, and Steering Committee. Many of the interviews were conducted as an hour-long discussion via Microsoft Teams.

The following organizations and individuals were interviewed:

- Swatara Watershed Association – Bethany Canner & Mike Adams
- Coco Kayaks – Mike Adams
- Hershey Soccer Club – Tony Potter
- Department of Conservation & Natural Resources – Lori Yeich
- Harrisburg Crush Softball – Josh Matincheck
- Londonderry Athletic Association – Josh Matincheck
- Park Maintenance – Matt Naples
- Township Maintenance – Andy Brandt
- Sunset Golf Course Maintenance – Sam Risteff
- Township Manager – David Blechertas
- Township Supervisor – Anna Dale
- Township MS4 Coordinator & Environmental Specialist – Monique Dykman

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee was a key component of the planning process. The Township selected a Steering Committee that was composed of ten (10) members. The Steering Committee met a total of five (5) times and focused on various topics of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The following is a summary of the meetings and topics discussed that help provide insight and feedback to develop goals and recommendations of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

- Meeting #1
    - Introductions
    - Role of the Steering Committee
    - Goals of the Project
    - S.W.O.T Analysis

- Meeting #2
  - Key Person Interview Candidates
  - Park Site Visits
  - Parks and Recreation Amenity Metrics
- Meeting #3
  - Vision Statement
  - Parks and Recreation Goals
  - Trails & Connectivity
  - Open Space & Natural Resources
- Meeting #4
  - Administration
  - Maintenance
  - Programming
- Meeting #5
  - Attendance at the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors Meeting for the Presentation of the Draft Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

HRG presented the draft Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan at both a Planning Commission Meeting and a Board of Supervisors Meeting. These presentations were similar and presented an overview of the planning process as well as the draft of the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

- Board of Supervisors Meeting – November 4, 2024
- Planning Commission Meeting – November 18, 2024

PARK & RECREATION FACILTIES

Londonderry Township has two municipal owned parks which provide passive and active recreation opportunities – Sunset Park and Braeburn Park. The Township parks offer a range of amenities and facilities that include pavilions, playgrounds, ball fields, bocce ball courts, horseshoe pits, sand volleyball courts, tennis courts, soccer fields, and basketball courts. Of the two parks, Sunset Park being the largest at 24* acres and Braeburn Park is much smaller at 5.37 acres. As the parks are different in size and amenities, they serve different purposes in the community.

> *Sunset Golf Course does not have any features that are open to the public for free and walking the course as a non-paying customer is trespassing and a liability risk for the Township. For this reason, it cannot be included in any calculation of park land and there can be no suggestion that it is park land.

What is active recreation?

Active recreation refers to a structured or unstructured activity performed by individuals or groups that requires the use of special facilities, courses, fields or equipment. Active recreation activities include playground use, baseball, soccer, pickleball, tennis and basketball.

What is passive recreation?

Passive recreation refers to recreational activities that do not require prepared facilities used in active recreation. Passive recreational activities place minimal stress on a site's resources. Often passive recreation is highly compatible with natural resource protection, as users witness ecosystem service benefits. Passive recreation activities include walking, hiking, running, biking, and bird watching.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

From this plan's public engagement efforts, we found that parks and recreation facilities and opportunities are important to the community. Survey respondents reported they primarily utilize the parks for the playgrounds. This was followed by relaxation and enjoying the outdoors, utilizing sports fields and courts, and exercising. These results mirror the existing amenities at Londonderry parks, as they are largely geared towards active recreation and youth.

The survey reported that monthly Londonderry residents visit parks located outside of the Township more often than within the Township (60% and 48% respectively). When questioned why residents visit parks outside of the Township about 47% of respondents selected "more facilities and amenities", 46% reported external "facilities are more up to date" and 35% reported they visit other parks as the "facilities and amenities are more appealing to me/my household".

There were numerous questions that were asked about specific amenities and facilities the residents desire, and the full summary of the survey results are in Appendix B.

When completing this study, information was gathered utilizing a public meeting and public survey. Further, working with the steering committee and conducting key person and focus group interviews, we were able to gather additional feedback related to park and recreation facilities and amenities.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILTIIES

Below is a list and map of the Township owned parks that include active and passive recreation amenities and/or facilities:

Park Name	Acres	Park Type
Braeburn Park	5.37	Neighborhood Park
Sunset Park	24*	Community Park/Special Purpose Facility

Note: Sunset Park acres does not include Sunset Golf Corse acres.

Braeburn Park

Braeburn Park is a neighborhood park that is just over 5 acres in size. The park features a basketball court and small play area. The park also features a large grassy area but is not formally programmed. There are two tennis courts that have been closed to the public due to their condition. Overall, the park is underutilized and would benefit from improvements and increased amenities.

What is a Neighborhood Park?

Basic unit of the park system in meeting the active and/or passive needs of the neighborhood. Creates a sense of place for a wide variety of ages.

> Size: 1 to 15 acres

> Service Area: Neighborhood Parks generally serve residents within a .25-to-.5-mile radius

> Facilities: Neighborhood parks can be for active or passive recreation or a combination of both. Facilities can include ball fields and sport courts, picnic and sitting areas, play structures, trails and passive areas with natural features.

Sunset Park

Sunset Park is the most utilized park in the community; with its variety of amenities, it offers something for all ages. The park offers multiple play areas and structures, ball fields, bocce ball, horseshoe pits, and a basketball court. In 2024, batting cages were added to the park by a sports organization, the Londonderry Athletic Association. In addition, the park has three pavilions (one large pavilion and two smaller ones) that include electricity and grills. These are rented frequently during the peak season.

The northern end of the site is currently being developed as rugby fields by a third-party sports organization, Harrisburg Rugby Football Club Inc., under a long-term lease. However, the improvements to the rugby area are developing at a slower pace and smaller scale than originally expected when the lease was signed in 2016.

What is a Community Park?

Meets the broader recreational needs of several neighborhoods. Provides both active and passive recreation and preservation of unique landscapes. Allows for group activities neither desirable nor feasible in neighborhood parks.

Size: 15 to 50 acres

Service Area: Community Parks generally serve a user area of 1 to 2+ miles in radius.

Facilities: Designed for both active and passive uses, facilities can include large play structures, sport courts, ball fields, ice skating, swimming pools, picnic areas, pavilions, open space, unique landscape features, nature study and ornamental gardens with parking lots and lighting as appropriate.

Conewago Trails & Floodplain Restoration Area

In addition to the formal parks, the Township has completed a floodplain restoration project on 100 acres of Township-owned property along Conewago Creek. Although this property is not currently encouraging public access, the Township has plans to add amenities and open some of the area to the public in the future.
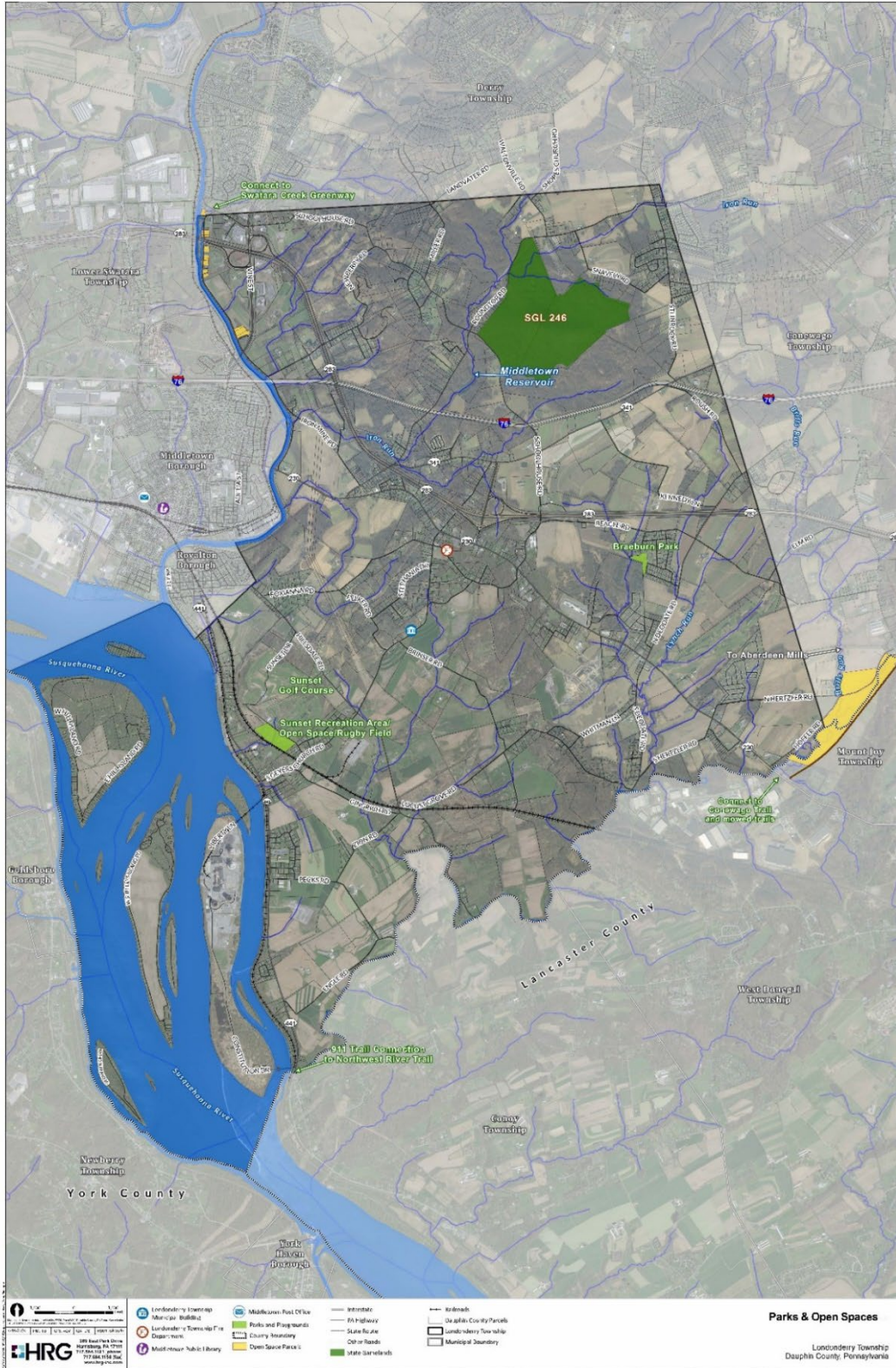
Note: Map is included within the Appendix.

ADDITIONAL RECREATION AMENITIES & FACILITIES

In addition to the Township-owned parks and recreation facilities, there are other publicly and privately owned recreation facilities in the Township, and the surrounding area that offer additional recreation opportunities for Township residents. The following is a list of some of the additional public park and recreation facilities.

Additional Park & Recreation Amenities Nearby			
Name	**Location**	**Private or Public**	**Cost / Fee**
State Game Lands 246	Londonderry Township	Public	No
Canal Lock Boat Launch	Londonderry Township	Public	No
Iron Mine Run Fishing Area	Londonderry Township	Public	No
Londonderry Elementary School	Londonderry Township	Public	No
Conewago Township Park	Conewago Township	Public	No
Conewago Elementary School	Conewago Township	Public	No
Gerber Park	Conoy Township	Public	No
PA Fish & Boat Falmouth Boat Launch	Conoy Township	Public	No
Conoy Canal Park	Conoy Township	Public	No
Fisherman's Wharf River & Trail Access Area	Conoy Township	Public	No
NW Lancaster County River Trail	Conoy Township	Public	No
Shank Park	Derry Township	Public	No
Gelder Park	Derry Township	Public	No
Koons Park	Derry Township	Public	No
Bullfrog Valley Park	Derry Township	Public	No
Poplar Street Park	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Willowood Park	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Elizabethtown Borough Community Park	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Hickory Lane Park	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Fairgrounds	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
East High Elementary School	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Elizabethtown Area High School	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Elizabethtown College	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
Bear Creek Elementary School	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	No
PA Fish & Boat Middletown Access	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Susquehanna Street Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Etnoyer Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Colston Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Middletown Municipal Pool*	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Elner Overdeer Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Oak Hills Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Frey Manor Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Hoffer Park	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Main Street Gym	Middletown Borough	Public	Yes/No

Middletown Middle School	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Robert G Reid Elementary School	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Middletown Area Middle School	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Penn State Harrisburg Campus	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Lyall J. Fink Elementary School	Middletown Borough	Public	No
Old Trolly Line Park	Mount Joy Township	Public	No
Conewago Recreation Trail	Mount Joy Township	Public	No
Kiwanis Park	Royalton Borough	Public	No
Borough Hall Playground	Royalton Borough	Public	No
Market Street Park	Royalton Borough	Public	No
West Donegal Township Civic Park	West Donegal Township	Public	No
Rheems Athletic Association Field	West Donegal Township	Public	No
Greater Elizabethtown Area Recreation and Community Services	Elizabethtown Borough	Public	Yes
Note: All schools have limited and or restricted access to amenities. *Middletown Community Pool is not currently open.			

PARK STANDARDS

Every year NRPA publishes an agency performance review, which analyzes municipalities across the country to develop standards based on municipality size. Since the Township has under 5,000 residents, the following discussion compares the Township to municipalities across the United States that serve less than 20,000 residents. Many of the standards developed are scaled to 'per 1,000 residents' so the comparison is specific to the current population of the Township.

Parkland Standards & Needs

The 2023 NRPA Agency Performance Review identified that municipalities serving less than 20,000 residents have a median of 13 acres per 1,000 residents. The lower quartile is 6 acres per 1,000 residents and the upper quartile is 21.1 acres per 1,000 residents. Based on the Township having just under 5,000 residents, 29 acres would be the lower quartile constraint and 103 would be the upper quartile. Londonderry Township has 29 acres of active and passive recreation parks, the Township has a deficit of about 35 acres compared to the median acres for communities of a similar size.

2023 Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents (Municipalities of Less than 20,000 Residents)

	Standards for Communities Less than 20,000	Recommended Acres for Londonderry Township based on Standards for Municipalities less than 20,000	Actual Township Parkland Acres	Comparison to Township Acres
Lower Quartile	6	29	29	0
Median	13	64	29	-35
Upper Quartile	21.1	103	29	-74

Although the Township is in a deficit with currently accessible parkland acres, the Township recently completed a stream restoration project on 103 acres of Township-owned property along the Conewago

Creek. The site is not advertised as open to the public but within the next five years the Township plans to mow walking paths and allow public access. When this area is open to the public, the Township will have a total of 132 acres of Township owned parkland. With the Conewago Floodplain Restoration area planned to become accessible in the near future, the Township would be over the median parkland acres by 68 acres, compared to communities of a similar size. The following table shows how the increased parkland acreage would change the Township's comparison to municipalities of a similar size.

2023 Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents (Including Conewago Floodplain Restoration)

	Standards for Communities Less than 20,000	Recommended Acres for Londonderry Township based on Standards for Municipalities less than 20,000	Township Parkland Acres	Comparison to Township Acres
Lower Quartile	6	29	132	103
Median	13	64	132	68
Upper Quartile	21.1	103	132	29

As depicted in the chart above, with the inclusion of the Conewago Floodplain Restoration area, the Township would be above the lower quartile by 103 acres and above the upper quartile by 29 acres.

10 Minute Walk

The Township's two parks are in different areas of the community. However, in Londonderry, the majority of Township residents are still not within a 10-minute walk of one of the parks. Just 18% of the Township's residents are within a 10-minute walk to one of the Township-owned parks or the State Game Lands leaving about 4,000 residents without access to a park within a 10-minute walk. The Trust for Public Lands has developed a map that identifies areas with and without access to public parks. It should be noted that the map does not include the Conewago Stream Restoration area (as it is not currently considered a park) or the Middletown Reservoir, but it does include the State Game Lands.
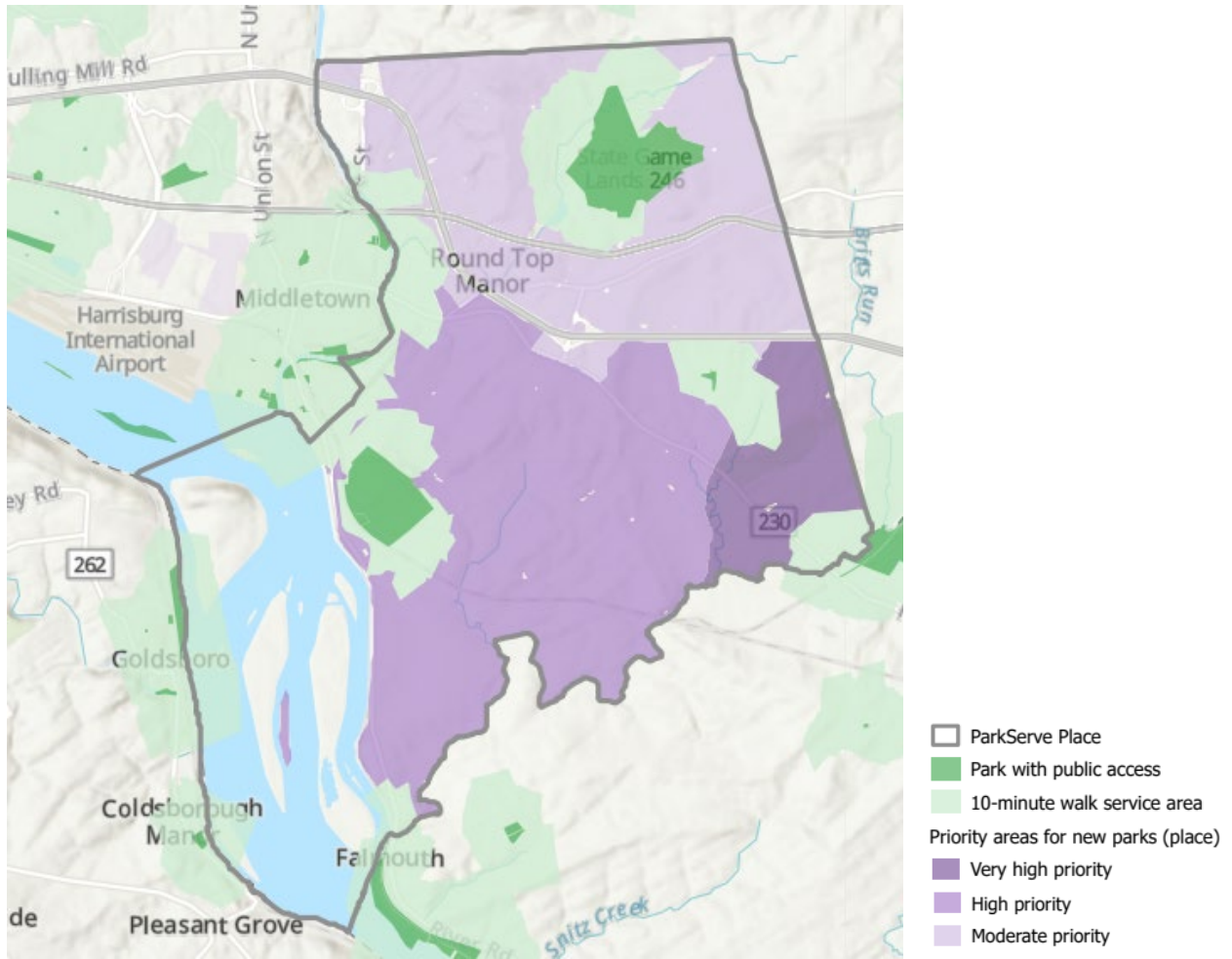
Source: Trust for Public Lands

The Township could approach increasing access to parks for residents in two ways. One way would be to acquire new parkland within the priority areas for new parks. Owning parkland requires much more than the upfront cost for acquisition. The Township must consider the installation of amenities, maintenance costs and staff time. The second way to increase pedestrian access to existing parks would be to install safe access via sidewalks or bike paths. This would both increase walking access for those within a 10 minute walk and increase safe access for those further than a 10 minute walk.

Trails and Connectivity will be discussed further in Chapter 6.

PARK AMENTIES

The majority of the Township's park and recreation amenities are currently geared towards active recreation. Passive recreation opportunities include a short walking trail at Sunset Park and future opportunities when the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Area is open to the public.

The following table identifies the existing park amenities within the Township's parks.

Park Name	Baseball / Softball Fields	Basketball Court	Batting Cages	Bocce Ball	Horseshoes	Multipurpose Field	Paved Trail	Pavilion	Picnic Tables	Playground / Play Equipment	Rest Rooms	Rugby Fields	Swings	Tennis Court	Tot Lot	Volleyball
Braeburn Park	1*	1				1				1			X	2**		
Sunset Park	4	1	X	2	6		X	3	X	1	X	X	X		1	1

*Notes: X = there are those amenities at the park but were not quantified. * There is a backstop at Braeburn Park, however the field has become overgrown and is no longer utilized. The backstop is in functional condition. ** Tennis Courts are currently not open to the public as they are in poor condition.*

Braeburn Park is an underutilized park in the Township. Some of the amenities at Braeburn are beyond their usable lifespan including the tennis courts and basketball court. The tennis courts have been closed to the public for safety reasons. The basketball court is still open for residents to utilize but is in poor condition. The ball field and the multi-use field have not been utilized by sports programs; therefore, maintenance to keep the fields at a competitive level has been deferred. However, both fields could be returned to use as competitive sports fields if there is desire to do so. The play structures within the park are limited but are in usable condition.

Sunset Park's amenities are generally in good condition. The parks ball fields, basketball court, and bocce ball courts are in good condition. The volleyball court is in fair condition with grass and weeds encroaching on the edges. Generally, the play structures throughout the park are in good condition for their age, with the large play structure being in fair condition. The large play structure had some repairs for safety completed in Spring / Summer 2024, which was after site visits were conducted for this project. Two of the three pavilions at the park are in good condition and are heavily utilized, while one is experiencing ground erosion due to its proximity to the stream. The Township no longer rents this pavilion and is planning to remove it and add a new pavilion in a more suitable location. Lastly, the concession, restroom and storage facility are in poor condition and need upgrades, repairs and or replacement. A new storage shed is planned for 2025.

Full site assessment forms and park specific recommendations are included in Appendix C of this plan.

Park Amenity Standards

Park amenity standards have changed and developed over the years. NRPA has attempted to standardize and compare parks and recreation agencies that serve similar populations to try to better understand the needs of different communities. Although every agency and community are different, standards can help guide amenity considerations. The following is a table that compares the Township's existing park and recreation amenities to communities of a similar size.

Amenity Type	2023 % of All Agencies with Amenity	2022 % of All Agencies with Amenity	Standards for Municipalities Less than 20,000 Residents	Recommended # Based on Median	# of Amenity in Township Parks
Playgrounds	95%	95%	2,014	2.4	2
Basketball Courts	86%	86%	3,729	1.3	2
Baseball Fields (Adult & Youth)	79%	79%	3,114	1.6	5*
Tennis Courts	78%	78%	2,805	1.7	2**
Multi-Purpose Fields	69%	68%	3,859	1.3	1
Dog Parks	68%	67%	11,110	0.4	0
Softball Fields (Adult & Youth)	63%	65%	5,440	0.9	0
Community Gardens	52%	51%	8,178	0.6	0
Swimming Pools	51%	53%	9,745	0.5	0
Soccer Fields (Youth)	50%	50%	3,600	1.4	0
Multi-Use Courts (Basketball & Volleyball)	49%	48%	5,093	1.0	0
Tot Lots	48%	45%	5,816	0.8	1
Soccer Field (Adult)	42%	39%	6,955	0.7	0
Skate Parks	41%	39%	10,726	0.5	0
Football Fields	35%	35%	8,637	0.6	0
Pickleball Courts	31%	18%	3,252	1.5	0
Multi-Use Courts (Tennis & Pickleball)	27%	n/a	4,868	1.0	0
Multi-Purpose Turf Fields	25%	22%	9,518	0.5	0

*Notes: * There is a backstop at Braeburn Park, however the field has become overgrown and is no longer utilized, however the backstop is in good condition. ** Tennis Courts are currently not open to the public as they are in poor condition.*

It should be noted that the table above does not include School District facilities and amenities.

A Note on Standards

The most important thing to keep in mind when using standards is an understanding of the Township resident's needs. Standards are not a one size fits all. The true measure of good standards is "level of customer satisfaction," and suggests the following standard criteria:

- Relevance – Standards should reflect the needs and lifestyles of today's and tomorrow's residents.
- People Orientation – Parks and their amenities should reflect the unique needs of the people in the area being served.
- Performance Standards – The municipality should provide a basis for measuring achievement of the community objectives and should measure the quality of recreation service rather than the quantity.
- Feasibility – Parks and their amenities should be attainable within a reasonable period and with available funding sources.
- Practicality – Standards should be simple to understand and apply, while based on sound planning principals and information. They should also be flexible to handle unanticipated situations and rapidly changing needs.

PARK & RECREATION TRENDS

Parks and recreation trends should also be considered during the decision-making process for park development and amenity changes or additions. NRPA publishes a list each year of the top trends in parks and recreation. Trends in parks and recreation should be used as a tool to help guide a community through determining potential amenities to add to their community or amenities that could be adapted. Recent trends have included improved dog parks and indoor commercial recreation centers such as trampoline parks or multi-sport synthetic turf fields. The following is a summary of the trends from 2021 to 2023 published by NRPA:

- **A Decline in Youth Sport Participation**

  Many studies have found a decline in youth sports participation over the years. Prior to Covid-19 restrictions, a study by the Aspen Institute found a decline in youth sport participation from 45% in 2008 to 39% in 2018. Since the pandemic, studies have found that most children ages 6 to 12 quit youth sports by the age of 11 and that 3 in 10 children who played in youth sports prior to the pandemic are no longer interested. It will be important for the Township to monitor the local trends in youth sports participation to assure that recreation amenities continue to meet the needs and desires of the community.

- **Increase Demand for Pickleball Courts & Pickleball Noise Complaints**

  These are two different trends that have been noted over the years (2021 & 2023). In 2021 it was found that the popularity of pickleball began to rapidly increase. Pickleball is an activity that appeals to people of many ages, especially older adults. Many communities responded to the increased demand for pickleball courts by converting tennis courts and developing new courts within their parks. However, with an increase in pickleball courts came an increase in noise.

  Pickleball is a noisier activity than tennis, the sport it is most often compared to. Pickleball-related noises can reach 70 decibels from 100 feet away, which exceeds most local community noise standards. With pickleball being so popular that courts can be found packed from dawn to dusk, communities should consider the location of pickleball courts to assure that residents are not adversely impacted by the location of those courts.

- **Accelerating Impacts of Climate Change**

  With increased average daily temperatures and changes to weather patterns, assuring that parks and their amenities remain safe and resilient has become vital. Many play structures and park amenities absorb heat and can become so hot to the touch that they can't be used during the daytime. This concern increases as daily average temperatures continue to rise. Providing shade through natural tree canopies or shade structures will be important to ensuring safe places to recreate, as well as allowing continued use of the parks in hot conditions. Shade should also be offered throughout parks, including over benches and places where people may sit.

  Another impact climate change can have on parks and amenities is extreme rainfall or drought conditions. Both have different impacts on the parks. With limited rainfall, drought tolerant plants should be considered. Additionally, in areas that see increased flooding during larger rainfall events, providing plantings and infrastructure to allow water to infiltrate should be considered.

■ **A Stronger Community Orientation Toward Health Equity & Social Services**

One of the most important trends identified in 2021 was the increased focus on health and health equity in communities. The movement toward health and well-being was magnified by COVID-19 and has continued beyond the pandemic. Health and health equity have become intertwined with a greater focus on meeting the social needs of communities.

The NRPA Parks Snapshot surveys identified that up to 60% of parks and recreation agencies have been supporting food distribution, food pantries, COVID-19 testing, daycare for children of essential workers and first responders and safe places for learning. It is predicted that parks and recreation departments will do more to address social and racial equality and disparities in providing services to the public in the coming years. This trend could translate into a transformation of the parks and recreation workforce with the hiring of health, equity, trauma-informed and community engagement specialists.

■ **Mindfulness, meditation and stress reduction programs and recreation opportunities**

During the pandemic a focus on one's personal health and wellness including mental health came to the forefront. With this, there has been an increase in demand for programming and passive recreation opportunities for mindfulness, meditation and stress reduction. This could include nature walks, meditation classes, yoga and other activities. It was suggested that municipalities assure that their parks provide places for these activities and offer mindfulness, meditation and stress reduction programming opportunities.

■ **Parks Everywhere – Increased Demand for Access to Parks, Trails & Open Spaces**

Throughout the pandemic, communities saw an increase in use of and increased demand for both outdoor parks and recreation spaces and public places. This demand has continued within communities post-pandemic. With lasting community demand and desire, municipalities should be looking to assure that all residents have access to a park or trail within a 10-minute walk.

■ **Parks as Anchor Institutions**

Anchor institutions are defined as enduring non-profit organizations that create strong social, economic and healthy bonds within communities. Most anchor institutions have been "eds and meds" such as, universities and hospitals. Parks and recreation systems traditionally have not been regarded as anchor institutions, but there is a strong case to recognize parks and recreation agencies and facilities as being part of a critical community support system of anchor institutions.

Regarding parks and recreation as anchor institutions will help shape a new narrative of the value of parks and recreation to communities. Parks and recreation agencies have been able to prove they enable the members of communities to connect to each other daily in a way that eds and meds do not.

NRPA agrees with parks and recreation being viewed as anchor institutions and it aligns with NRPA's strategic vision for health and well-being. NRPA and others are moving away from defining parks as 'amenities', as parks are no longer viewed as spaces that are nice-to-have in communities - they have become essential, vital spaces that offer programs that can be social drivers of health, resilience and equity.

■ **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB)**

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging are important to be considered within any community's parks and recreation network, as communities are made up of various different people with different backgrounds. These differences often meet in social places which include parks, which is why it is vital that municipalities ensure that parks provide places that are accessible to all, provide inclusive and equitable programs and services, and recruit and retain a diverse workforce that is representative of the community. DEIB is represented in a number of the goals, objectives and recommendations within this plan, but should always be considered by the Township as it works through the implementation of this plan.

Park standards and park trends should be used as a tool, when making park amenity decisions, however planning recreation amenities should depend heavily on the community demographics, desires and interests. Parks and recreation trends should be reviewed on an annual basis, from NRPA and compared with the community needs.

PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Provide and plan for park and recreation facilities and amenities that meet standards, support both active and passive recreation opportunities, serve all ages and abilities, provide access for all, while adapting to recreation trends, and planning for the evolving community.

> 1.1 Develop a Master Site Plan for Braeburn Park and implementation strategy.

> 1.2 Plan for and implement the recommended improvements for Sunset Park that are included on the site visit notes.

> 1.3 Continue to conduct routine maintenance and inspections to ensure the parks are welcoming, safe and clean.

> 1.4 Seek to update ADA amenities to offer a like experience for park visitors of all abilities while aiming to utilize universal and inclusive design.

> 1.5 Regularly survey the community to identify their desires and or needs within the Township owned parks. Recommended on a bi-annual basis.

> 1.6 Develop and maintain a Capital Improvements Plan for updating and replacement of park amenities to help meet standards and provide guidance for prioritization.

2. Build and maintain a strong sense of community through parks, open space and recreation facilities, a variety of programs, and social interactions.

> 2.1 Provide amenities within parks that provide spaces for more programmed events.

> 2.2 Provide comfortable and safe places that enable formal and informal social interactions and experiences.

> 2.3 Implement the recommendations under the "Programming" section.

3. Provide park and recreation facilities including multi-use trails that are accessible to Township residents within a safe 10-minute walk.

3.1 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk.

3.2 Develop new parks in areas currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk, when and where feasible.

4.   Ensure reasonable accommodations based on the park's physical features, amenities and mission.

4.1 Use universal and inclusive design when updating and developing parks and their amenities.

4.2 Work towards improving the Township's Parks and Recreation Facilities to comply with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act and the 2010 ADA Standards to the fullest extent possible.

5. Implement sustainable and climate resilient practices when constructing, maintaining, updating, and enhancing park and recreation facilities.

5.1 Implement stormwater management practices that meet or exceed MS4 requirements and highlight those benefits to the community.

5.2 Increase shade at the Township's parks to provide safe places for residents to recreate and enjoy.

5.3 Regularly review sustainable and climate resilient parks and recreation practices.

6. Incorporate nature into the existing parks through environmental education, native plantings, clean water and other sustainable practices.

6.1 Develop signage (temporary and permanent) and digital resources within parks, open spaces, and along trails to provide environmental education opportunities.

6.2 Continue to plant native vegetation in the Township's parks and open spaces and remove invasive and non-native plantings.

7.   Create welcoming, well-advertised spaces and places for social interactions.

7.1 Integrate existing amenities and construct new features and amenities that promote park user connections and meet the needs of the community as it changes over time.

7.2 Ensure Township parks are well signed and advertised with a corresponding registered street address.

7.3 Update and maintain the Township's website to include information regarding park locations and amenities.

OPEN SPACE, NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Londonderry works closely with Dauphin County Conservation District, whose mission is, "To ensure the responsible use of Dauphin County's natural resources; protect and restore the natural environment; promote public health and safety; and enhance the quality of life for all county residents." Following the District, Londonderry employs a watershed approach to conservation of its natural resources, taking into consideration both ground and surface water flow. Londonderry Township is bounded by the Susquehanna River on the west, Swatara Creek to the Northwest, and Conewago Creek in the south. These waterways provide natural area corridors for wildlife passage through the community.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Land Resources

- Based on current land use, more than 60% (61.44%) of Londonderry Township is zoned as Agriculture.
- In a separate calculation, more than half (51.21%) of the Township is categorized as private open space (farms, golf course, cemetery). Of this, 75% is farmland with buildings. In contrast, public open space (parks) barely registers (0.17%) an impact on land use.
- The Township is well-developed with only 12.0% remaining undeveloped/vacant. Of this land, 42.25% of zoned as woodland/timberland; 14.08% (246.05 acres) is State Game Land.
- Agriculture Security Areas (ASAs), intended to protect the rights of farmers and their use of land, encompass 101 parcels in Londonderry Township, with a combined acreage of 5,230.34 acres.

Water Resources

Londonderry Township has several waterways that are heavily utilized for recreation. The largest water system within the Township is the Susquehanna River. Conewago Creek makes up the southern boundary of the Township, and the Swatara Creek primarily makes up the Northwestern boundary of the Township. Smaller tributaries in the Township include Iron Run, and Lynch Run.

An additional water resource located within the Township is the Middletown Reservoir. This property is owned by Middletown Borough but is located within the Township along Iron Run. The Reservoir provides an area for residents to fish and there are some wooded trails through the property, however the Reservoir is experiencing sedimentation which impacts the quality and recreation uses of this resource.

PROTECTED LANDS

There are various protected lands within the Township, which include land trust properties, farm easements and conservation easements. There are two conservation easements in the Township totaling over 800 acres (with some acres extending beyond the Townships borders into Derry Township). Additionally, there are 11 farm easements within the Township, which total over 1,115 acres. Lastly, there are two land trust areas in the Township that total over 20 acres, with some of the acres extending into Royalton Borough.

In addition to the prior mentioned protected properties, the State Game Lands total 201 acres in the northern part of the Township.
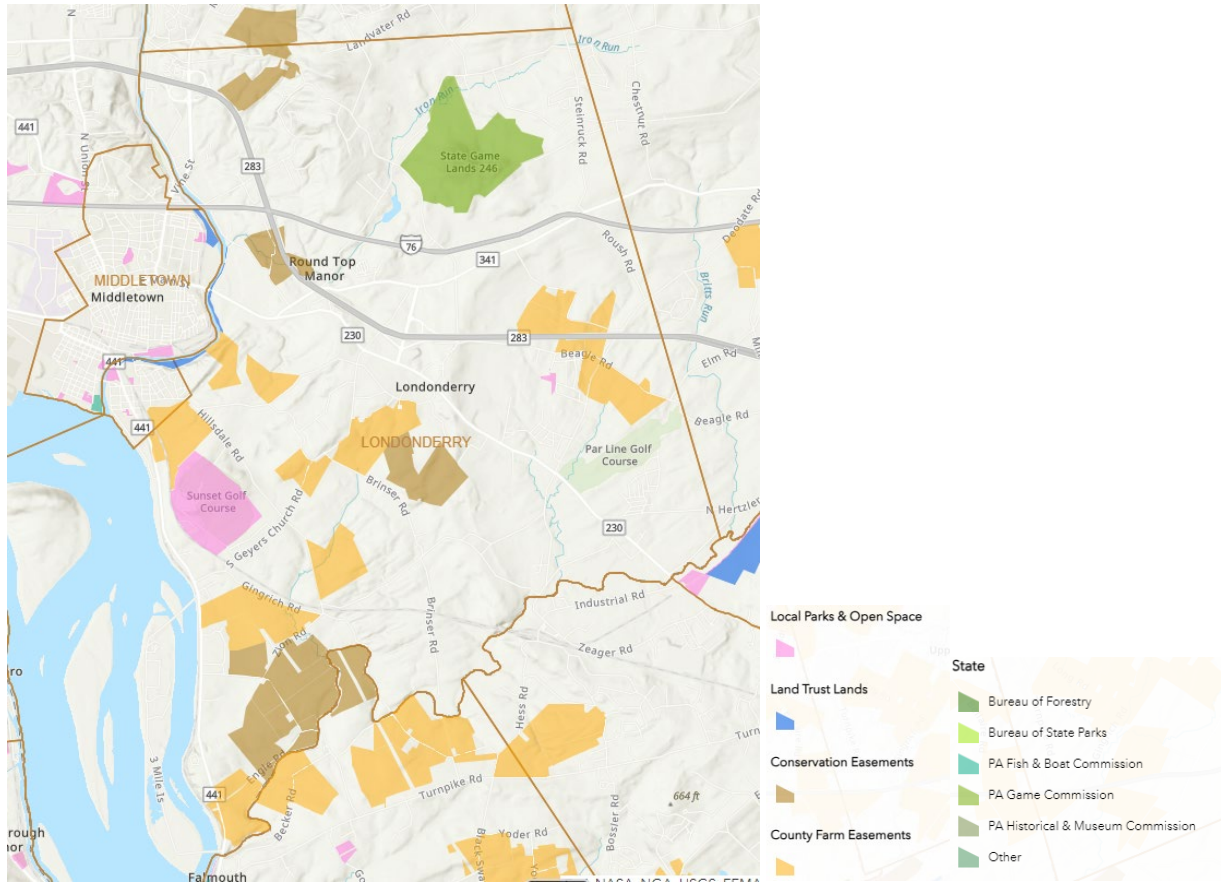
Source: WeConservePA

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Londonderry Township originally was part of Derry Township in Lancaster County. In 1767 the Township was divided into two parts, the eastern section to remain Derry and the western to be Londonderry. It is named after County Londonderry in Northern Ireland.

Derry and Londonderry Townships became a part of Dauphin County when it was established in 1785. Lebanon County was created in 1813 and created a new Londonderry Township which included the eastern half of the original Derry Township. Londonderry Township in Lebanon County was further divided into North and South Londonderry Townships in 1894.

Conewago Township was created in 1850 from southern parts of Derry Township and eastern parts of Londonderry Township.

The 1875 Dauphin County Atlas identified four villages within Londonderry Township:

- Rocktown-located at the intersection of Harrisburg Pike/Route 230 and South Geyers Church Road
- Port Royal- became a part of Royalton Borough when it was incorporated in 1891
- Gainesburg- located along Harrisburg Pike/Route 230 west of Deodate Road
- Bucklock Station- located at the intersection of River Road/Route 441 and Gingrich Road.

The Henry Smith Farmstead/Hidden Spring Farm located at 950 Swatara Creek Road is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The house was built in 1806, and the bank barn was constructed between 1845 and 1847.

NATURAL RESOURCE PROJECTS

Floodplain Restoration of Conewago Creek

Londonderry worked with Mt. Joy Township, neighbors across the creek, to restore the creek back to historic condition by removing 125,000 cubic yards legacy sediment from the floodplain in 2023. In doing so, the Conewago Floodplain Restoration increased stability and functionality, reduced flooding and improved water quality. The hydraulic system was reconnected allowing for better infiltration of ground water. Onsite wetlands were restored creating a more resilient creek and providing better habitat for our native wildlife. This project was funded by grants and fulfilled Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Pollutant Reduction Plan requirements for many communities who participated in the project through Dauphin County WREP.

In May of 2024, the Township received a SRBC Consumptive Use Mitigation grant to plan for phase 4 of the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Project which is planned to continue sediment removal to bolster flood resilience and improve watershed quality.

Swatara Creek Riparian Buffers.

Londonderry Township used FEMA grant funding to buy homeowners out of mortgages at market value in this flood-prone location. Since the homes were demolished in 2013, the Township has been working to plant native trees and shrubs. Tree tubes will remain to protect the trees from buck rub and deer browse until they are large enough to survive deer pressure. The benefits of riparian buffer plantings will be increased natural storm water infiltration, and support for local pollinator populations.

Susquehanna River Islands

The Township continues to monitor the Susquehanna River Islands to remain in compliance with FEMA.

As part of the comprehensive plan process, the Township recognizes the long-term land use patterns of these islands by designating them as Open Space/Natural on the Future Land Use map. This achieves the goal of maintaining the islands as open space.

Sunset Park and Sunset Meadows

At Sunset Park, sustainable efforts have been made. A riparian buffer comprised of native plants which support pollinators was planted along a stream in Sunset Park. This planting will infiltrate stormwater and provide shade to park goers. An acre of meadow was planted near the parking lot of the park to provide an additional location for infiltration and filtration of storm water, reduce erosion, as well as provide support for local pollinators.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

Londonderry Township is part of the Chesapeake Bay drainage area and must fulfill the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The following six Minimum Control Measures

(MCMs) were established by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP), to reduce the discharge of pollutants, protect water quality and satisfy both the Clean Water Act and the Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law. The MCMs are:

- Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts,
- Public Involvement/Participation,
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination,
- Construction Site Runoff Control,
- Post Construction Management, and
- Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations.

MS4 requires implementation of a Chesapeake Bay Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP). Since the Conewago Creek is a tributary of the Susquehanna River, Londonderry's MS4 permit includes the Conewago Creek watershed, thereby requiring PRP projects in this planning area. Watershed land use in the Township is primarily farmland, though encroaching development does pose additional risks.

Many MS4 requirements are addressed through a storm water management plan. Londonderry Township's storm water management ordinance is up to date (2023) and includes an emphasis on the use of green infrastructure and Low Impact Development (LID). Through the Township website and newsletter, Londonderry provides stormwater education for the general public, with additional pages for students, farmers and resources for homeowners. As a municipality under the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, Londonderry participates in the Water Resource Enhancement Program (WREP); this is voluntary and does not replace Storm Water Management through the Township. Rather, it enables the Township to engage with regional services in dealing with water-related issues and environmental regulations.

OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are several recommendations that can help reduce maintenance of open spaces, and regulations that can be implemented to better protect open spaces. The following are some recommendations for the Township related to open spaces.

Expanding Township Open Spaces

The Township has already taken strides in protecting and enhancing open spaces and natural resources, from the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Area to the riparian plantings along Swatara Creek Road. The Township should continue these efforts on existing properties and look to protect and enhance additional open spaces and natural resource areas in the Township where and when feasible. Londonderry should continue to support partners such as the County, Penn State Agriculture and Environment Center, and the Conewago Creek Association to implement identified water quality projects, and protection of natural resources within the Township.

Some areas that were identified for open space and natural resource protection and enhancement are:

- Properties that surround the Conewago Stream Restoration
- Properties that surround existing Township Parks
- Properties adjacent to the Township's properties on Swatara Creek Road
- Riparian buffers along streams for streambank and water quality protection

No Mow & Native Plantings

There are several strategies that can help reduce the number of maintenance hours that are used to keep parks and open space Township properties healthy, functioning well, and looking their best. Two key strategies are utilizing No Mow lawn mixes and native plant species plantings.

No Mow Lawn Mixes - These are a specially designed blend of six slow-growing fine fescue grasses. These cool season grasses are recommended for planting in northern climates of the United States and Canada (above approximately 37 degrees North Latitude). No Mow is also adapted to the coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest, the cooler mountain climates in the east-central states, and in the western mountains from the mid-elevation aspen woodlands to just below timberline.

The blend of fine fescue grasses in No Mow combines the characteristics of each variety to create a turf that:

- Grows to form a dense sod
- Thrives in full sun to partial shade
- Does not require fertilization
- Needs minimal watering (only during extended dry periods)
- Resists most turf grasses diseases
- Biologically reduces weed growth
- Reduces lawn maintenance dramatically
- Serves as an ecological alternative to traditional high maintenance lawns

No Mow thrives in full sun to partial shade on any reasonably well-drained soil, and is particularly well suited to growing on dry, sandy or rocky soils with low Nitrogen levels. Nitrogen fertilizer stimulates leafy growth, which only increases the need for mowing. The application of excessive nitrogen fertilizer can damage fine fescue grasses, so minimal or no fertilization is usually best. No Mow is not recommended for damp soils, or heavy clay soils with less than four inches of rich loamy topsoil.

An established No Mow lawn requires no additional watering, except during extended dry periods in summer. Occasional, deep watering once a week or so provides moisture to the lower roots, and is far superior to frequent, shallow watering. Water before the grass begins to turn brown.

Fertilizers are not recommended for use on No Mow. The use of lawn fertilizers that contain phosphorus are not allowed in many communities and near lakes and streams, due to the negative effects on water quality and algae blooms. Do not apply fertilizers that are high in Nitrogen. Fine fescue grasses require only a bare minimum of Nitrogen. Application of nitrogen can damage fine fescue turf and is strongly discouraged.

No Mow lawns may require occasional mowing during the first two years of establishment to control weeds, especially with lawns that are seeded in spring. Most annual weeds can be controlled by mowing at a height of four inches in the first growing season.

Once a No Mow Lawn is Established, there are Several Mowing Options:

No Mowing: This results in a turf with leaves six to eight inches in high, that will drape over one another to create a low-growing meadow effect. Seedheads, two feet tall, will appear in early to mid-June. The seed stalks will typically fall to the ground by late summer, and the lawn will revert to its normal height of six to eight inches.

Late Spring Mowing: Many people mow their No Mow lawn once a year in June when the seedheads appear. Mowing the grass to a height of four inches removes the seedheads and the turf will re-grow to its normal six-to-eight-inch height.

Fall Mowing: This is a good option for No Mow Lawns under trees or in open woodlands. The fescue grasses usually will not form seedheads when grown in the shade, so June mowing is often not needed. However, leaves from deciduous trees must either be raked up and removed or chopped up with a mulching mower in order to prevent smothering of the turf over winter. To encourage denser turf growth, No Mow lawns should be mowed to a height of one to two inches in late fall, usually around Thanksgiving. This removes dense leaf growth to expose the soil, thus encouraging higher stem density and a thicker turf the next year.

Regular Mowing: For a manicured, traditional lawn look, regular mowing can be done once a month, or anytime the grass reaches a height of five to six inches.

Fine fescues should not be mowed any lower than 3.5 - 4 inches.

Late Spring, plus Fall Mowing: Mowing twice a year is a very popular maintenance strategy.

Many communities found that they preferred to mow them once in the late spring, and once in the fall. Low mow grasses are best in areas that are not indented to be played on such as sport fields, and it is always best to keep a mown lawn edge between No Mow zones and any walkways and/or adjacent properties.

Native Plant Species Plantings - Another way to reduce frequent landscape maintenance is through mass plantings of native shrub, grass, and perennial species in locations of parks, open spaces, and passive recreation areas that are not used for active recreation programs or activities. Similar to No Mow lawns, these are best used in more natural park settings and should have a mown lawn area separating these plantings from trails, walkways, and adjacent properties. Note that these planting areas benefit from seasonal maintenance and site inspection to ensure that invasive plant species that may emerge are identified and removed quickly.

Both native plantings and low mow grasses will require an up-front capital investment for seeding, planting, staff training, and initial maintenance and watering during plant establishment but over time these requirements will reduce significantly and cut down the long-term maintenance costs and hours compared to traditional high maintenance turf grass areas.

Zoning Regulations

There are several different zoning regulations and ordinances that can be used to help ensure that a community's open spaces and natural resources are well protected. The Township has several that are described below.

- Zoning Districts – the Township has an agricultural zoning district. The intent of the district is to protect farming and farmers from development pressures.
- Riparian Buffer Protections - riparian buffer easements shall be measured to be the greater of the limit of the 100-year floodplain or a minimum of 50 feet from the top of the streambank (on each side).

- Stormwater Management – the Township has adopted an ordinance drafted from DEP's Model Stormwater Ordinance which provides additional regulations to reduce the impacts from stormwater runoff.
- Floodplain Management – The Township has adopted regulations to support the Pennsylvania Floodplain Management Act of 1978, and promote public health, safety, and the general welfare of the Township. This ordinance restricts development within the floodplain and addresses existing buildings that were built within the floodplain prior to the ordinance being adopted.

Overall, the regulations the Township currently has in place help to protect the open spaces and natural features of the Township. Although zoning is one way to protect open spaces and natural resources the Township with or without coordination with organizations in the Township, should consider pursuing conservation and agricultural easements where appropriate.

OPEN SPACE & NATURAL RESOURCES GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Align proposed Plan Goals with the existing Zoning and Comprehensive Plans.

   1.1 Update the Township's Zoning ordinance to be consistent with this plan, and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

   1.2 Update the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance consistent with this plan and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.

2. Identify high priority open spaces or natural resource areas in the Township for potential acquisition or conservation easements.

   2.1 Identify high priority open space and natural resource areas. Prior to acquisition or securing a conservation easement, initial capital investment and long-term maintenance costs should be determined and considered.

   2.2 Develop, update and or add identified high priority priorities or areas to a Township Official Map.

3. Naturalize the lands that the Township already owns but are currently mowed.

   3.1 Continue to naturalize areas in the Township as appropriate utilizing no mow, low mow, meadows and native plantings.

   3.2 Naturalize the field space at Braeburn Park, until a master site plan is developed.

4. Demonstrate land management best practices to not only serve as an educational opportunity but provide inspiration for community members to do on their private property.

   4.1 Add signage, both temporary and permanent, paired with digital resources, to serve as an educational opportunity for land management and sustainable land management initiatives the Township has already taken, and will take in the future.

   4.2 Create areas of best land management practices that residents and the community is able to visit, interact with and learn about, as well as providing information about how these land management practices could be utilized on their property.

4.3 Buffer, expand and connect natural spaces within the Township.

4.4 Restore and enhance native vegetation in open spaces and along stream corridors while working to remove invasive and non-native species.

4.5 Continue to make improvements to Township-owned parks and open spaces to help manage the impacts of stormwater runoff.

5. Work with organizations in the area to protect, enhance and maintain natural resources within the Township.

5.1 Work with community organizations to achieve each other's goals, while limiting the duplication of efforts.

5.2 Work with community organizations to host events, volunteer days and educational opportunities for the community.

5.3 Enhance and develop partnerships with organizations to assist with monitoring stream and vegetation health.

5.4 Develop and educate community organizations and volunteers on maintenance standards.

TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY

Londonderry Township is a rural community that was developed with limited sidewalks, trails and bicycle infrastructure. However, as the community becomes more developed, there is an increased desire to have safe places to recreate in the form of a bicycle and pedestrian network. This chapter discusses existing connectivity and recreational trail amenities, as well as desired connections to neighboring trails.

In Londonderry Township, about 18% of residents have access to a park within a 10-minute walk, according to the Trust for Public Lands ParkServe Map. The Trust for Public Lands ParkServe Map considers connectivity via roadways and can identify physical barriers that would prevent people from walking but does not consider if there are sidewalks, or the safety of the route. The ParkServe map is a useful tool to understand underserved areas of the Township.
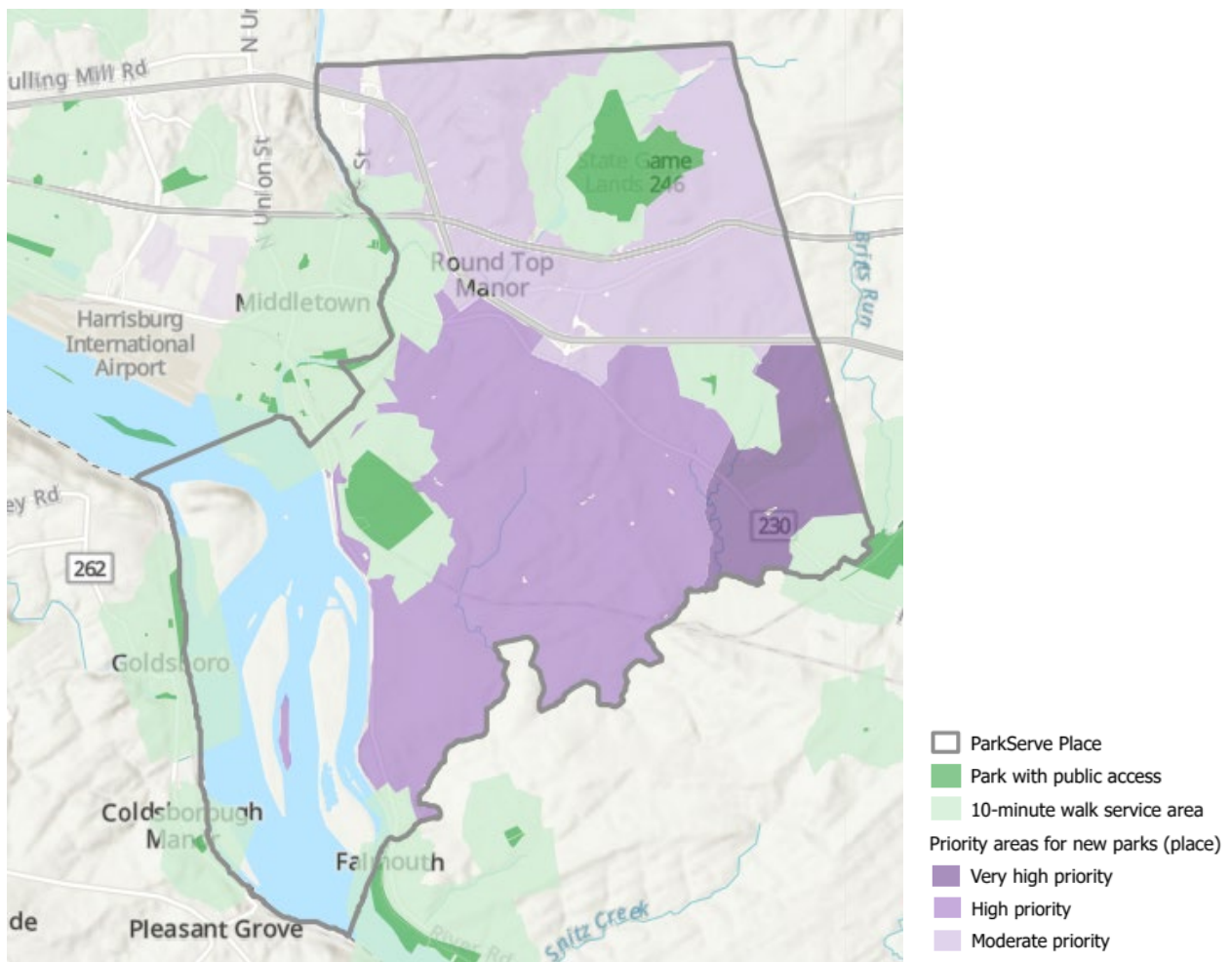
Source: Trust for Public Lands

Within the Township there is only one trail, which is a short trail connecting Sunset Park to Sunset Golf Course. Many residents report they use trails outside of the Township, including the Conewago Recreational Trail and the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail. These two trails are regional trail systems spanning multiple municipalities and offer passive and active recreational opportunities such as walking, jogging,

biking and birding. These two trails were identified as a recreational asset in the community. Creating connections and expanding into these trails was a priority identified by residents and stakeholders.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY

The increased demand for trails and multi-modal connections has been a trend seen across the State and County, exponentially growing in the past five years. Londonderry launched a community survey while developing this Plan. The survey showed trails and connectivity were seen as highly desired amenities; when asked 'how important walking trails are as amenities to the community', 77% of respondents stated they were "very important" and 20% stated they were "important". The remaining 3% of respondents selected that walking trails were "not important" or "no opinion".

Respondents of the community survey noted that they travel outside the Township to utilize trails for walking, running and biking due to very limited options within the Township. When survey respondents reported if they would be interested in increased bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the Township, about 80% stated they would be interested in increased pedestrian infrastructure to walk or run, and 36% of respondents stated they would be interested in increased bicycle infrastructure in the Township.

When asked what the Township's priorities for the next three to five years should be, the number one response which was selected by 68% of respondents was "development of a Township trail and pathway network for a more walkable and bikeable community."

At the first public meeting and working with the steering committee, potential connections were identified and refined to develop recommended trail connections. Similarly, during the Comprehensive Plan process at the public meeting, there was desire for a more connected community that offers more pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

EXISTING REGIONAL TRAILS

As stated, there is a small section of trail that connects Sunset Park and Sunset Golf Course, but there are no multi-use trails within the Township. However, there are two nearby regional trails that provide recreation opportunities to residents, which include the Conewago Recreation Trail and the Northwest River Trail.

The Conewago Recreation Trail is a 5-mile-long linear multi-use trail that connects to the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail. Together these trails total over 20 miles in length and is accessible to residents just beyond the border of the Township on Route 230 in Mount Joy Township. Further, the Lebanon Valley Rail Tail connects to the Horseshoe Trail which spans 138 miles of trail in Valley Forge National Historic Park and the Appalachian Trail.

The Northwest River Trail is over 16 miles of multi-use trail from Collins Road off Route 441 (River Road in Falmouth) to Columbia River Park in Columbia. The Falmouth Trailhead is nearest to the Township. In addition to health and recreation benefits, the trail provides incredible views of the Susquehanna River. Communities along the trail, including Marietta and Columbia, have reported economic growth attributed to trail users.

The September 11th National Memorial Trail is a planned 1,500-mile multi-use trail that links the National September 11th Memorial (Ground Zero), the Pentagon, and the site of the Flight 93 National Memorial. The trail aims to connect and commemorate September 11th.
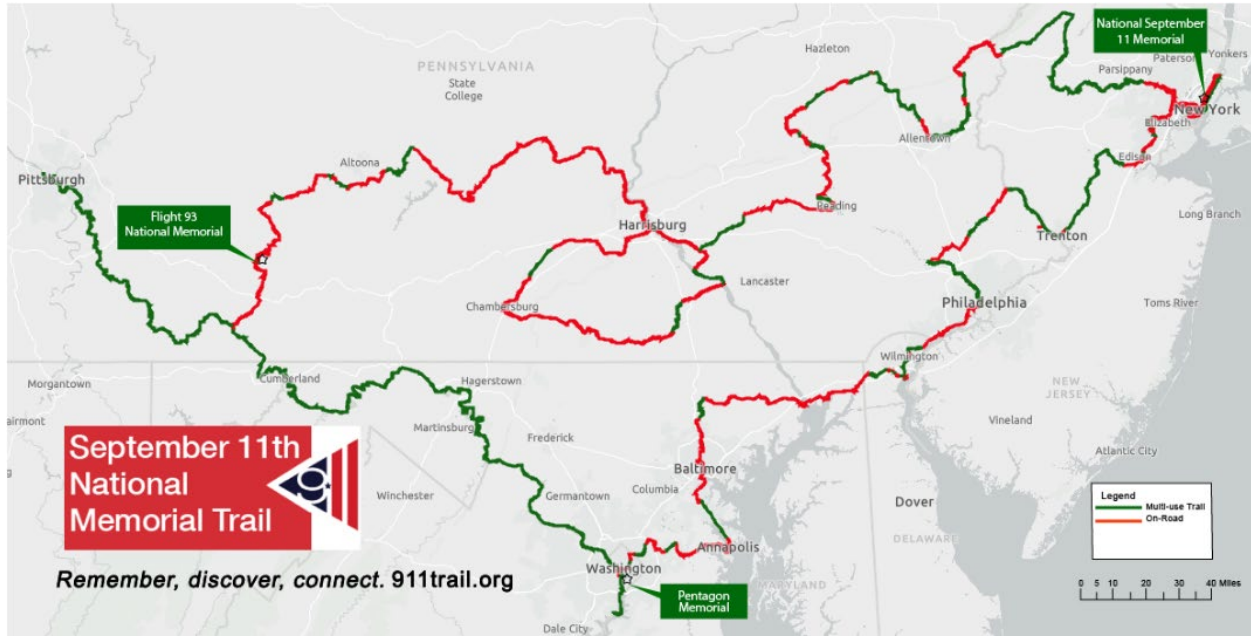
Source: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

The September 11th National Memorial Trail Committee has started discussions of a feasibility study within the next five years. The trail is planned to connect the Northwest River Trail, Conewago Recreation Trail and the Capital Greenbelt. Expansion of any of these three trails has the potential to affect Londonderry Township. The September 11th National Memorial Trail currently utilizes an identified bicycle connection to link these trails together via Route 230 in Londonderry Township. Creating off-road multi-use trails would aid in the development of the September 11th National Memorial Trail. This Chapter has identified trails and connections in Londonderry Township that further support this plan.
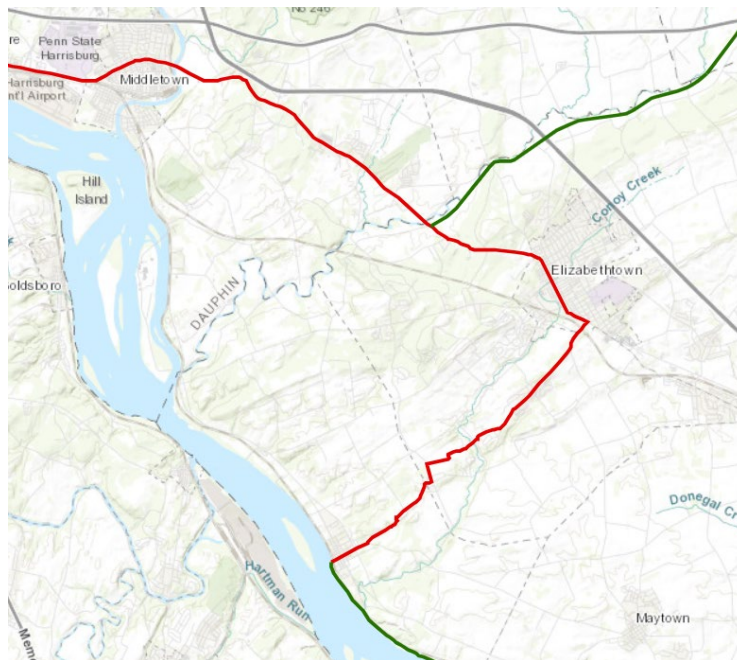
Source: September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance

RECOMMENDED TRAILS & CONNECTIONS

Throughout the public engagement process, several connections were identified to provide access to regional trails and enhance existing recreational facilities. Some of the identified connections will expand recreation within existing Township parks. The following map (also included within the appendix) and narrative describe and identifies these connections in further detail.

As a note, the identified connections will require further studying and analysis to be completed prior to implementation.

Connections 1 & 2 are critical to the overall network, as they would provide opportunities for Township residents to access regional trails that offer opportunities to the benefits previously mentioned.

Connection #1: The Conewago Creek Floodplain Restoration and Reconnection was a three phase, 15-acre restoration completed by Londonderry to fulfil Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Pollutant Reduction Plan requirements. The restoration was completed in 2023, and meadow areas were planted in Spring and Fall 2023, the Township owns over 100 acres of active restoration, maturing meadow and surrounding land. As of Fall 2024, the Township does not encourage public access to the project area, however as the meadows mature, there are plans to create passive recreational access. The planned trails will be mowed pathways through the meadows, which will connect into the existing Conewago Recreation Trail. Planted meadows take 3-5 years to mature, anticipated maturity date should be 2026 to 2028. The Township will need to provide parking and consider other amenities for the site such as bathrooms and seating. Plans for this site are discussed in more detail within the Parks and Recreation Facilities and Amenities Chapter.

Connection #2: Connecting into the Northwest River Trail and furthering the development of the September 11th National Memorial Trail was identified as a second priority connection. The trail would follow River Road (eastern side) and further the off-road portion of the Northwest River Trail. This segment would require coordination with Conoy Township, to connect with the existing trail.

Connection #3: Swatara Creek Road was identified as a trail or a bicycle route. This road is parallel to the Swatara Creek. If Connection #2 was developed and continued through to Royalton Borough, the Swatara Creek Road Trail could connect into the Northwest River Trail. This connection could aid in creating an off-road trail alternative to the current alignment for the September 11th National Memorial Trail. Large linear stretches of property along the Swatara Creek are owned by Manada Conservancy, which could provide opportunities for an off-road trail.

Connection #4: The multi-use trail would utilize the existing trail that connects the park, and Sunset Golf Course and through the golf course to create a connection to Hillsdale Road. This connection is not identified as a priority as the Golf Course is utilized, and creating this connection could impact the players experience as well as potential safety threats from golf balls.

Connection #5: Creating a connection from Braeburn Park to the Conewago Recreation Trail. This connection would be partially within the Township, utilizing Beagle Road, but to complete the connection to the Conewago Recreation Trail would require coordination with Conewago Township.

Connection #6: A bicycle connection along Deodate Road, Roush Road and Steinruck Road was identified as many people bike this roadway and additional improvements could create a safe route for residents to bicycle. From this connection there is a spur connection along Roundtop Road to the State Game Lands.

TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Expand and enhance the local and regional bicycle and pedestrian network to provide a safe place for recreation, increased community connectivity and access to community amenities.

    1.1 Work to develop plans or feasibility studies for the identified connections.

    1.2 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park within a 10-minute walk.

    1.3 Add the identified connections to an Official Map for the Township.

2. Develop trails and greenway standards that set the precedence for how trails and greenways within the Township should be designed and developed.

   2.1 Develop standards for trails and greenway development that meet or exceed the DCNR Trails Design and Development Principles.

3. Provide safe, sustainable multi-modal recreation and transportation options for people of all abilities.

   3.1 Provide safe and accessible routes within parks, as feasible.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL CHAPTER

Administration and personnel are two vital components to parks and recreation in municipalities. These roles are often not noticeable to the community, as many of the aspects are behind the scenes. Administration and personnel work together to support the functions of the parks and associated recreational programming. The following narrative discusses current administration and personnel for parks and recreation in Londonderry Township and offers recommendations as the demand for these services increases.

ADMINISTRATION

Legal Structure

Londonderry Township is a Second-Class Township and is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors as defined in the Second-Class Township Code. The Board of Supervisors is tasked with the general governance of the Township and the execution of legislative, executive and administrative powers. Their role is to ensure sound fiscal management and to promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Township. The Township Board of Supervisors appoints a Chairman, Vice Chairman and a Secretary. In addition to the Board of Supervisors, the Township has an appointed Township Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Township and its departments.

AGENCY PERSONNEL

Parks & Recreation Personnel

The Township does not have a standalone Park and Recreation Department. The Township staff and public works personnel divide park and recreation functions. The Public Works Department has a Park Superintendent and two part-time staff who are responsible for maintaining safe and clean parks and amenities. Programming and administrative duties are completed by Township staff, including administrative staff and the MS4 Coordinator. The following is a description of some of the key supporting staff and functions related to parks and recreation.

- Public Works Department – Assists in maintenance and management at the Township-owned parks and open spaces. Further discussion of their responsibilities related to park and recreation facilities will be discussed in the Maintenance Chapter of this Plan.
- Administrative Staff- Help in scheduling the pavilions and fields for rentals and sports leagues.
- MS4 Coordinator – Helps to program, plan and seek improvements at the parks, as well as implementing sustainable land management practices such as meadows.

Organizational Chart

The Township maintains an up-to-date organizational chart that identifies the personnel within the agency and how they relate to one another. The Township utilizes a function organizational chart, which is made up of specialized departments, 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. It is critical that department heads, supervisors, and employees recognize their role in the larger system. Department heads must be aware of their effects on other Township operations. Therefore, continual communication between departments is necessary to operate effectively.
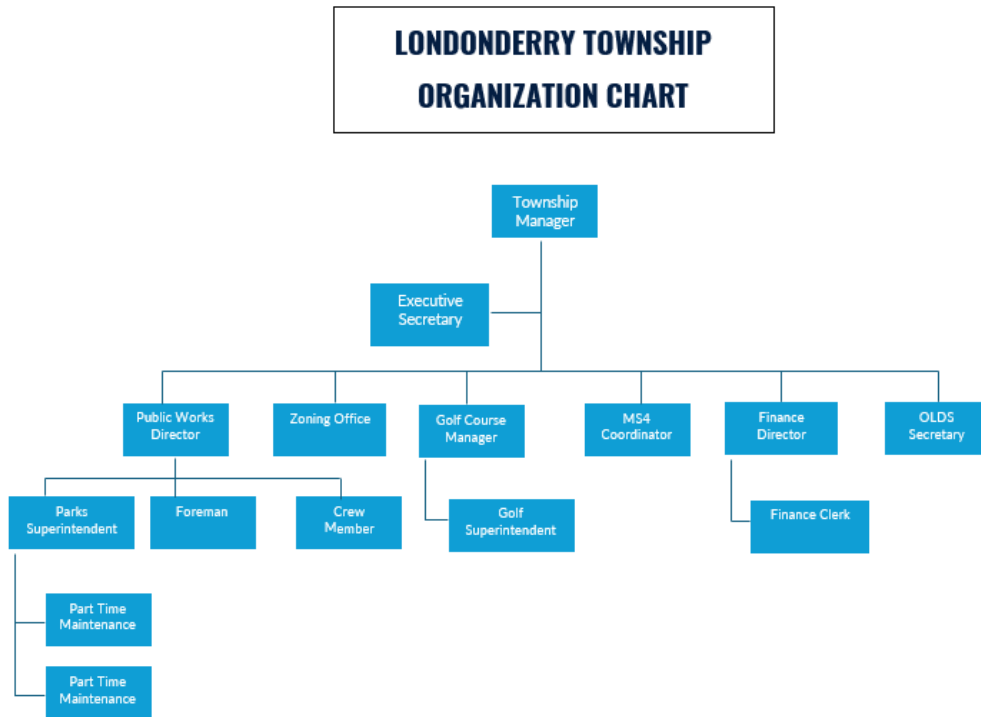
Personnel Policies

Londonderry Township has a detailed personnel manual which was updated in 2024. The manual contains information on hiring processes, work schedules and holidays, benefits, and other employee policies. The Township has a Safety Manual which is being updated by the Township Safety Committee in 2024. The Safety Manual will include contact policies for various operations, the use of PPE, and accident reporting.

Training and Professional Development

Township employees are given opportunities to participate in training, conferences and workshops on a regular basis. Staff are also provided with the opportunity to participate in continuing education and attend training events needed to maintain various professional certifications. Department heads will review training opportunities with the Township Manager based on job function and career path to align training opportunities for employees based on those discussions. The Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society Conference is an example of a professional development opportunity that has been offered to staff in the past.

Record Keeping

Accurate record keeping is vital to the success of any park and recreation effort. The Township maintains all public records in accordance with the Municipal Records Retention Manual issued by the Pennsylvania State Archives. Additional record keeping ensures the effectiveness and efficiency of the program and can eliminate information loss both day to day and generational. Further, proper record keeping will protect the Township if a safety issue arises and has been properly addressed. Written records are especially important when writing grants, preparing budgets, submitting awards, and managing liability issues.

The following is a list of records that should be maintained, updated continually, for records related to parks and recreation.

- **Program Attendance records** – The Township does not currently offer regular recreation programming but does offer occasional special events. If the Township decides to offer recreation programming in the future, maintaining up to date registration will allow the Township to understand the needs and trends.
- **Program Evaluation records** – If the Township decides to host their own programming in the future, the program should provide opportunity for evaluation feedback. Evaluation records will provide direction in program offerings that meet the needs of the residents and receive program feedback.
- **Club or Vendor Contracts and Certificates of Insurance** –The Township requires a Certificate of Insurance for the organized sports organizations. The Township should continue to ensure consistent terms of use and ensure minimum levels of insurance to avoid potential risk.
- **Inventory records** – Inventory records of park amenities and equipment need to be maintained. Accurate inventory records are needed for insurance purposes. Inventory records also form the basis of budgeting for replacement of equipment in future years. An accurate inventory record includes the date and cost of purchase and manufacturer and model information. Equipment Maintenance Records – Having current equipment maintenance records helps the Township ensure all equipment is properly maintained, preventative maintenance is performed, and warranties are protected. Equipment maintenance records can also be used to plan for future capital purchases including replacements and upgrades of equipment.
- **Inspection records** – Inspection records are important for risk management. Inspection records should include all pertinent information needed to ensure the safety of the users, including reporting damage. The Township can then make repairs in a timely manner and avoid potential liability issues.
- **Pesticide application records** – If pesticides are used, detailed information on any applications must be maintained to avoid potential liability issues and to establish proper maintenance of areas where these applications are applied.
- **Weekly work logs** – Weekly work logs offer essential information for scheduling. Logs indicate staff accomplishments, project timelines and can provide insight into additional staff needs.
- **Volunteer records** –Maintaining a list of volunteers and the projects or programs they assist with can engage the community while benefiting the Township. Tracking the hours worked provides a grant match as well as providing insight into reachable projects volunteers can successfully assist with.

As the recreation and park efforts grow, other records and various forms of information may be recorded, filed, and maintained to meet the needs of the Township, assist in budget preparation, and protect the municipality.

Public Relations & Marketing

The Township currently uses the following methods to share information related to parks and recreation facilities, services, and programs to the community:

- Social Media (Facebook)
- Flyers
- Township Website
- Newspaper Ads and Articles

- Email
- Township Newsletter

The online survey revealed that the majority (71%) of respondents discovered parks and recreation facilities, services and programming information from the Township website with the Township newsletter and word of mouth communication as secondary methods.

The Township's website has general parks and recreation related information but could be enhanced to provide more information and be a better resource for residents. The Township could assure that all park and recreation programming and events are well advertised by adding an online Township Calendar, as well as providing a way for residents and organizations to submit facility reservations online. A second way to improve communication could be to expand the information provided online related to the parks. Braeburn currently does not have a street address which makes navigation to the site a challenge. Beyond providing the address for the sites, information about each park should be updated to reflect changes or additions like new walking trails, games courts, fitness stations, ADA play equipment, etc. A brief listing of which parks and amenities are ADA accessible is also advisable. The Township should then continue to maintain and update the website on a regular basis.

The current website does provide links to other recreation and open space opportunities in the area but could be enhanced as it is limited to the Londonderry Athletic Association, Capital Crush, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The recreation programming chapter has identified additional recreation organizations in the region that offer programming.

PERSONNEL ANALYSIS & CHALLENGES

One of the largest challenges the Township faces related to parks and recreation is staffing. The Township has limited staff that is fully dedicated to parks and recreation, with many staff members having primary duties outside of parks and recreation. Based on the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards a community of Londonderry's population should have between 4.4 and 5.6 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs).

PARK AND RECREATION FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTEs) PER 10,000 RESIDENTS
**(Based on Standards for All Muncipalities)**

	FTEs Per 10,000 Residents - All Muncipalities	Londonderry Population	Recommended Parks & Recreation FTEs Based on Standards for All Municipalities
Lower Quartile	4.8	4,899	2.4
Median	8.9	4,899	4.4
Upper Quartile	15.5	4,899	7 .6

PARK AND RECREATION FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTEs) PER 10,000 RESIDENTS
(Based on Standards for Muncipalities with Less Than 20,0000 Residents)

	FTEs Per 10,000 Residents - Municipalities of less than 20,000 Residents	Londonderry Population	Recommended Parks & Recreation FTEs Based on Standards for Muncipalities with less than 20,000 Residents
Lower Quartile	4.8	4,899	3.2
Median	8.9	4,899	5.6
Upper Quartile	15.5	4,899	9.8

Londonderry Township estimates that Township staff spend about 10 to 15 hours a week on park related administrative parks and recreation items, which is about 0.4 FTEs. Park maintenance has two part-time seasonal staff and a Parks Superintendent, which equates to about 1.3 FTEs. Together the Township has about 1.7 FTEs dedicated to parks and recreation (more information on park maintenance is provided within the Maintenance Chapter of this Plan). Londonderry has a deficit of 3.9 FTEs compared to the median of the standards for municipalities less than 20,000 residents, and a deficit of 2.7 based on the median standards for all municipalities.

NRPA found that of the full-time equivalents that support park and recreation functions, 46% focus on maintenance and operations, 30% are programmers, with the remaining 24% focusing on administration, capital development and other functions (Graphic from their 2023 Annual Agency Performance Report to the right).

FIGURE 12: RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARK AND RECREATION STAFF
(AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF AGENCY FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTEs))
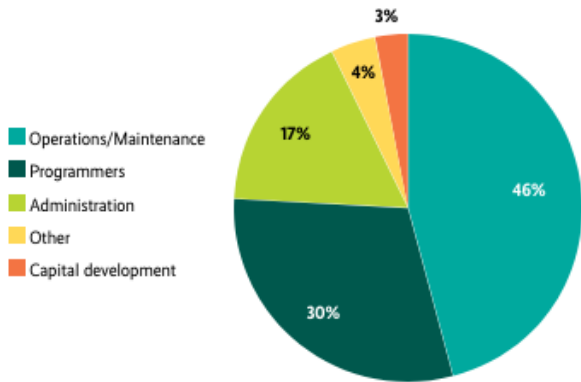
Operations/Maintenance	46%
Programmers	30
Administration	17
Other	4
Capital development	3

Based on this breakdown, the following table depicts the number of FTEs by responsibility for Londonderry Township based on the medians for all agencies and agencies of a comparable size.

	FTE Standards for Londonderry based on All Municipality Standards	FTE Standards for Londonderry based on Municipalities under 20,000 Standards
Recommended Parks & Recreation FTEs Based on NRPA Standards	4.4	5.6
Recommended FTEs Dedicated to Operations/ Maintenance (46%)	2.0	2.6
Recommended FTEs Dedicated to Programming (30%)	1.3	1.7
Recommended FTEs Dedicated to Administration (17%)	0.7	1
Recommended FTEs Dedicated to Capital Development (3%)	0.1	0.2
Recommended FTEs Dedicated to Other Parks and Recreation Items (4%)	0.2	0.2

When looking at the NRPA standards a Township of Londonderry's population should have about 1 to 1.4 FTEs dedicated specifically to administration, capital development and other items. Londonderry Township staff spend about 10 to 15 hours on these administration, capital development and other recreation related items, which equates to about 40% of an FTE. The Township has been able to navigate administrative, capital development and other park and recreation related items through utilizing existing staff.

As the Township expands its parks with the opening of the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Area and the projected increase in population, the staffing deficit will continue to grow, and existing staff may no longer be able to support recreation services. The Township will need to analyze if existing staff will be able to dedicate additional hours to parks and recreation, or if there may be sufficient demand to hire a dedicated park and recreation staff member.

Having a dedicated Park staff member would allow for specialization and the ability to focus on one department's job duties and responsibilities. It would be beneficial to have a dedicated staff member to oversee future improvements and updates to Braeburn Park, Sunset Park, and the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Area. This position may start as part-time and expand to a full-time role, as necessary. This position could relieve administrative duties such as being able to manage rentals, administrative duties, planning of community events and programs, and capital improvement planning, including seeking grant funding for projects. Another option is to make the current Parks Superintendent a dedicated Parks employee and replace his time spent on Public Works projects with another Public Works employee who could be full-time or part-time. Additional park and recreation staffing items related to maintenance and programming will be discussed in their respective chapters.

In the field of parks and recreation, volunteers can be an integral part of providing adequate support. Lack of staffing is a problem faced by almost every park and recreation department. Therefore, it is imperative to establish a sound group of volunteers to assist with programming and other support roles in the parks and recreation department. Following is a list of potential volunteer resources that can be found in many communities:

- **Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts & similar organizations** – The opportunity to work with these groups is very rewarding for both the organization and the community. They are generally required to do community service and/or projects to earn merit badges or advance to higher levels in the organization.
- **Community service organizations** – These organizations can come in many forms such as: church groups, student groups, men's and women's organizations, or service organizations.
- **High School/College Students** – Students will look for opportunities to do volunteer service so they can include the information on their applications for scholarships or on resumes. This is an excellent resource for obtaining volunteers for programs or small projects.
- **Corporate volunteers** – Many businesses now encourage 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 generally individuals that have been in trouble with the authorities for some violation of the law.
- **Concerned Citizens** – These individuals are citizens that are genuinely concerned about the welfare of the community and are willing to devote some of their time to benefit the community through wholesome recreation opportunities.

- **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 nonprofit 501 C-3 organization.
- **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.
- **Senior Community Service Employment Program** – This service provides older adults the opportunity to work at no cost to the municipality.
- **Student Conservation Association** – Provides students of all ages volunteer opportunities, including summer programs and internships serving and protecting national parks, forests, and urban green spaces.
- **AmeriCorps** – This is a national service program that allows people of all ages and backgrounds to earn money which helps pay for education in exchange for a year of service. Some funds may be required to pay these individuals.

The above list of community groups can provide guidance on where to seek volunteers to supplement staffing for the parks and for programs. 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. Often it is difficult to retain volunteers as a continued resource. It is important to maintain records indicating the volunteer's name, type of volunteer work done, and the number of hours they volunteered for grant in kind match and tracking program hours year to year.

ADMIN & PERSONNEL GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Develop partnerships among municipalities, local organizations, and recreation providers within the school district to foster a culture of collaboration.

> 1.1 Work with organizations in the community to help advance the recreation goals of the Township, and the organization when and where feasible.

2. Develop a plan to ensure the long-term financial sustainability for the operation, maintenance, and development of parks, recreational facilities, and programs.

> 2.1 Create and update a 5-year capital improvement plan for the Townships parks, recreation facilities and programming.

> 2.2 Develop a cost benefit analysis when considering capital purchases or investment in parks, including any associated maintenance.

3. Expand, update, and formalize partnership agreements in accordance with Board of Supervisors input and approval.

> 3.1 Develop a standard partnership agreement for organizations that currently utilize the parks and recreation facilities, along with future groups and ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.

> 3.2 Update pavilion and facility rental agreements to ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.

4. Develop a communication and marketing plan to promote Township recreation services, facilities, and parks for community use.

4.1 Update and modify the Parks and Recreation presence on the Township's main website to include information highlighting Township programs and park-related events.

4.2 Improve the reservation system for scheduling field usage.

4.3 Provide timely communications and updates on accomplishments and progress on park improvements and programming additions.

4.4 Work with the appropriate governing body or agency to provide addresses for Township-owned parks and recreation facilities.

5. Ensure that parks and recreation staffing is appropriate to achieve the goals of this plan and meet the expectations of the community while operating, managing and maintaining the parks to the highest level possible.

5.1 Assess the demand and available resources needed to hire a part time or full time Township staff member who is dedicated to parks and recreation and anticipate additional staff to be needed if improvements are made to Braeburn Park, and the Conewago Floodplain Area opens to the public.

PROGRAMMING

Recreation programs and services for residents are offered by the Township, community organizations and nonprofits. The following section provides an overview of programming that is offered to Township residents.

TOWNSHIP PROGRAMMING STAFFING

The Township has no staff that are solely dedicated to programming. However, all current programming is supported by existing staff outside of their main roles, as identified in the Administration and Personnel Chapter.

Based on NRPA standards the Township should have about 1.3 to 1.7 Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) dedicated to park programming. However, given the demographics of the community, and the support offered by third party organizations, the current programming offered in the Township is sufficient.

The Township should continue to build partnerships with organizations in the area to increase programming offerings. Partnerships should emphasize passive recreation and community events, which will be discussed later in this Chapter.

TOWNSHIP OFFERED PROGRAMMING

The Township offers limited recreation programming options, which are in the form of special events and educational events.

- BioBlitz takes place in June and provides an opportunity for participants to categorize biological life on the Conewago Floodplain Restoration Site. This event has had over 30 participants and is free to participate.
- Conewago Darter 5K Fun Run occurs in October, and features a 5K, 1 mile fun run and field day with local clean water and conservation partners. This event draws over 100 participants and has a fee of $30.
- Stars and Stripes was an event the Township had provided prior to COVID for the 4th of July. This event was held at Sunset Park and Golf Course, that included holiday festivities, fireworks and food trucks. This event was free to the community, and historically drew over 2,000 attendees. The Township plans to resume hosting this event in 2026.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAMMING

Community and non-profit organizations offer a variety of sports programming to Township residents. The following is a summary of the organizations that offer programming to Londonderry residents and utilize Londonderry parks and facilities.

Londonderry Athletic Association (LAA)

Londonderry Athletic Association provides baseball, t-ball and softball opportunities to residents in Londonderry Township. The organization offers baseball for youth 8U through 12U, as well as t-ball for youth ages 5 and 6. LAA also offers slow-pitch softball for girls ages 5 to 18 and fast-pitch softball for ages 10U and 14U. LAA offers both a spring and fall league. About 100 children participate in LAA programs in

each season. LAA utilizes the fields at Sunset Park, as well as the batting cages that they built and donated in 2024.

Capital Crush

Capital Crush was formed in 2017 and provides travel softball to players in the Hershey / Hummelstown area. Capital Crush's mission is to extend the experience players receive in recreational softball. It allows participants to develop higher level softball skills and provide a more competitive experience at a reasonable cost. Capital Crush offers teams at all age levels of play. Capital Crush utilizes fields at Sunset Park for games and practices, as well as an annual tournament that brings nearly 22 teams to Sunset Park for a weekend.

Londonderry Bocce League

Londonderry Bocce League is organized by volunteers who administer various leagues throughout the year. There are three separate summer leagues on Monday mornings, Monday evenings and Tuesday evenings from May until the end of August. There is also a fall league that occurs on Monday mornings for six weeks from September to October. Londonderry Bocce has about 50 participants a season including subs.

Harrisburg Rugby Football Club

Harrisburg Rugby Football Club (HRFC) has a lease on a portion of Sunset Park, that they have been working on developing into rugby fields. The club hosted their first rugby match in spring of 2024 and continued to host games and practices on the fields throughout the season. Development of the Rugby Fields and related facilities is several years behind schedule due to limited fund-raising success. The future of the facility will need to be evaluated by the Township.

RECREATION PROGRAMS OFFERED BY NON-PROFITS & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS							
		AGE GROUP SERVED				GENDER	
ORGANIZATION	PROGRAMS OFFERED	PRE-SCHOOL	YOUTH	ADULT	SENIOR	M	F
LAA	Baseball & Softball	X	X			X	X
Capital Crush	Softball		X				X
Londonderry Bocce League	Bocce			X	X	X	X
HRFC	Rugby			X		X	X

Scouting Organizations

Scouting organizations also offer recreation opportunities to Township residents. These organizations include the following:

- Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts

   Cub Scout Pack 97 and Boy Scout Troop 97 are both located in the Township at their 8-acre complex located at 1831 Felker Road. The Cub Scout Pack is open to both boys and girls from kindergarten through 5th grade. The Boy Scout Troop is open to boys in 5th grade to 18 years old.

■ Girl Scouts

Troop 10065 is located within the Township and meets at the Londonderry Fire House. This Troop currently offers programming for girls in 2nd grade through 7th grade. Although Troop 10065 does not offer programming for girls younger than 2nd grade and older than 7th grade, there are other troops outside the Township that offer opportunities from Pre-K through 12th grade.

PROGRAMMING AT SUNSET GOLF COURSE

Sunset Golf Course has golf leagues and tournaments throughout the year that residents and visitors can participate in. Tournaments include, a 2-Man Scramble, an Open Club Championship, and Better Ball of Partners. Currently Sunset Golf Course hosts seven leagues for women's, men's and couples, along with leagues for businesses and organizations in the area. There could be potential to expand offerings as the community grows.

PROGRAMMING ANALYSIS

The Township's programming is largely special events, with sports and scouting organizations providing recreation programming. There is recreation opportunities provided for all age groups. Options are currently limited, however given the demographics and the population, they are sufficient. As the Township grows, there may be increased need for facilities and programs. This may require the Township to hire a park and recreation staff member as discussed in the Administration and Personnel Chapter.

The annual National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review is a good guide for future program development. Per the 2023 NRPA Review, key programming activities offered by at least seven in ten park and recreation agencies include:

■ Themed special events (offered by 89 percent of agencies)
■ Social recreation events (88 percent)
■ Team sports (86 percent)
■ Fitness enhancement classes (81 percent)
■ Health and wellness education (80 percent)
■ Individual sports (77 percent)

In the survey, Township respondents reported the following programs as priority recreation additions the community would utilize:

■ Fitness Classes
■ Passive Recreation Programming
■ Outdoor / Environmental Program
■ After School Programming
■ Inclusive Programming

These opinions are from just one set of feedback received. Should the Township look to enhance existing programming, they should create partnerships with existing organizations and expand offerings.

As the Township hosts programs, they should ensure that accurate participation is being documented. It is recommended that the Township implement a record-keeping system that tracks program type, program year, age group/demographic served, and participation rates.

PROGRAMMING GOALS & ACTIONS

1. Develop and work with partners and recreation organizations to provide a well-rounded offering of programs for all ages, interests, and user groups within the community.

> 1.1 Continue to build upon existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to expand programming offerings to Township residents.

> 1.2 Assess if there is a need for a Township staff member to be dedicated to parks and recreation. (Related to Administration & Personnel Action 5.1)

2. Expand passive recreation programming opportunities.

> 2.1 Continue to expand the Townships existing passive recreation offerings at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property, and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.

> 2.2 Build partnerships with community organizations to increase programming opportunities at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.

3. Continue to evaluate, update, and improve programming options and the facilities that aid in these programming opportunities.

> 3.1 Identify, consider and implement other funding opportunities and ways to increase revenue from programming.

> 3.2 Continue to gather community feedback on existing programming as well as their desired programming opportunities.

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of parks is essential to providing safe, usable, and aesthetically pleasing areas and facilities for the residents of the Township and for visitors from other communities. Providing an efficient and effective recreation and parks maintenance program enables the Township to enhance recreation amenities, save money, reduce liability, improve life expectancy of facilities, create an attractive park atmosphere, and foster environmental stewardship. The Townships parks and open spaces are generally well maintained by the Londonderry Township Public Works Department employees and some contracted work.

Based on various forms of input from Township residents, the maintenance of the parks is seen as adequate. When questioned about park maintenance, they feel that the parks are well maintained based on the financial resources and available staffing but would like to see improvements at Braeburn Park as there has been deferred maintenance.

PARK MAINTENANCE STAFF

The Township-owned parks and open spaces are maintained under the direction of the Public Works Department. Within the Public Works Department, Parks Maintenance division, there is currently one full-time employee and two part-time employees that focus on park maintenance. The full-time employee is the Parks Superintendent who splits his time between Parks Maintenance and Public Works. Full-time staff work 40 hours a week, while the part-time staff work up to 24 hours a week for up to 34 weeks a year. The Parks Superintendent spends about 8 to 10 hours a week dedicated to park maintenance and operations, which is 0.3 full time equivalent (FTE). The two part-time park maintenance staff spend about 20 hours a week dedicated to park maintenance, which equals 1 FTE. Therefore, the Parks Superintendent and the two part-time park maintenance staff equal 1.3 FTEs.

Based on the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Standards for communities with up to 20,000 residents, it is recommended the Township should have a total of 4.4 to 5.6 FTEs, with about 46% of the FTEs dedicated to operations and maintenance, or 2 to 2.2 FTEs. The tables below compare the Township's existing maintenance and operations FTEs to NRPA standards. As a note, NRPA Standards are based on population and are not based on parkland acreage or the complexity of park amenities.

PARK AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS
(Based on Standards for All Muncipalities)

	Recommended Parks & Recreation FTEs Based on Standards for All Municipalities (Total FTEs)	Recommended Parks & Recreation Maintenance & Operations FTEs Based on Standards for All Municipalities	Comparison of Actual FTEs to Recommended Standards
Lower Quartile	2.4	1.1	0.2
Median	4.4	2.0	-0.7
Upper Quartile	7 .6	3.5	-2.2

PARK AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS
(Based on Standards for Muncipalities with Less Than 20,0000 Residents)

	Recommended Parks & Recreation FTEs Based on Standards for Municipalities of less than 20,000 Residents (Total FTEs)	Recommended Parks & Recreation Maintenance & Operations FTEs Based on Standards for Municipalities of less than 20,000 Residents	Comparison of Actual FTEs to Recommended Standards
Lower Quartile	4.8	2.2	-0.9
Median	8.9	4.1	-2.8
Upper Quartile	15.5	7.1	-5.8

No one on the park maintenance staff holds any licenses or certifications. However, the Township is in support of staff obtaining a Spraying License, a Certified Playground Safety Inspector certification, or other licenses or certifications that would benefit the Department.

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

The parks and open space areas are maintained primarily by Public Works with some services being contracted out. The Township's Public Works Department assigns the parks maintenance employee(s) to items such as trash, upkeep, any mechanical issues (bathroom, water fountain, lighting, etc), any issues to playground equipment, mulching, or other maintenance related items.

Township Public Works and Parks Departments regularly completes the following items:

- Playground Inspections – occur twice per month
- Visual Inspections – conducted daily
- Mowing – during mowing season the parks are mowed once per week
- Grooming the Fields – this occurs twice per week
- Pavilion Maintenance – cleanups are conducted as needed based on rentals
- Bathroom Maintenance – cleanups are conducted as needed based on rentals
- Wood Carpet Maintenance – rotated at the beginning of the season and raked and replaced as needed
- Trail Maintenance – checked and maintained regularly
- Field Maintenance – drag the fields as needed
- Trash Collection – checked daily (weekdays)
- Pesticide Treatment – conducted by a contractor

The following list of equipment is used to maintain the parks and other projects by Public Works.

Equipment	Year	Condition
John Deer 855 Mower/Loader	Early 2000's	Poor
John Deer Zero Turn z9 70r	2014	Fair
Ferris Zero Turn 61-inch	2021	Good
Z Cub Cadet Series Pro z960s	2024	Great
Golf Cart	-	Poor
Golf Cart	-	Poor
Water Trailer	-	Fair
Variety of Weed Wackers & Hand Tools	Various	Various

RECORD KEEPING

Park records are organized in binders, stored in the Public Works Building. When the Township completes work in the parks, tasks are logged in the park maintenance binder. Similarly, there are binders for playground inspections and playground preventative maintenance.

A visual inspection of the parks is completed regularly when trash is picked up. A more thorough walk-thru inspection should be conducted at least once a month during the busy seasons. These inspections should be properly recorded, and any deficiencies noted so that they can be addressed in a timely manner. When the inspections are conducted it should also be noted on the maintenance log as a task that was completed.

The Public Works Department maintains records from the inspection of park sites. However, the Township does not have a Certified Playground Inspector and does not have any formal playground inspection reports. It would be beneficial for the Township to have a Certified Playground Inspector conduct inspections of the Township's playground structures. The Township could look to have a member of staff become a Certified Playground Inspector or could train existing staff to be able to perform a more robust inspection of the playground structure than what is currently being completed.

MAINTENANCE PROGRAM ANALYSIS

The Public Works Department does not have a formal written park maintenance plan. Instead, inspections are done on a routine basis, and there is a checklist of tasks for maintenance staff to utilize. This provides maintenance staff with the basic information needed to prioritize tasks and complete them efficiently and effectively. When feasible a formal written plan should be developed and the current inspection points, checklists, and records included. A formal maintenance plan helps reduce liability risks and assists in the coordination of project planning; it also provides guidelines and procedures necessary to correct problems and perform work promptly.

A maintenance plan should be developed for all existing park areas and facilities and in the early development of new facilities to maintain each area effectively and efficiently. The maintenance plan should cover procedures and inventories for all recreation areas and facilities. Each area and facility maintained should be thoroughly inspected and compared to the standards of acceptable conditions. The information obtained should then be incorporated into the maintenance plan. The maintenance plan must be given to the employees to use as a guide providing them with the general information needed for the proper maintenance of each area and the frequency of maintenance for the parks, facilities, and equipment. It is the employee's responsibility to contact the Public Works Manager for instruction on circumstances not covered in the maintenance plan. It is also the employee's responsibility to take notice of safety conditions at each park or facility and take immediate action to protect against accidents or injury until a recognized hazard can be eliminated. Most of these points are already included in the current procedures, which will make it relatively easy to adopt a formal maintenance plan.

There are two components to developing the park maintenance plan, a preventative (proactive) plan and a responsive plan. 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 the cost savings. There is a significantly lower cost to providing general maintenance rather than

doing major repairs. The proactive approach provides a quality ongoing maintenance plan that will ensure safe, usable facilities and encourage patrons to continue coming back.

Township personnel address repair issues when needed. However, as part of the overall maintenance plan, a responsive maintenance plan is needed to accommodate unforeseen issues. This aspect of the plan provides direction for the immediate closing of a facility until repairs can be made. A reactionary plan requires specific and timely attention to the pending issue and will vary with each situation.

To prepare a successful maintenance plan that includes preventative and responsive components, the Township should complete the following tasks as recommended by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR):

- Involve all employees 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. The standards should include specifics such as trash pickup details and frequency.
- List tasks to perform so that the resources are maintained up to standards. The tasks should be described in enough detail so that everyone would know how to perform them.
- Determine the amount of time it takes to do each task.
- Decide how often each task needs to be done. The frequency will determine the quality and cost of maintenance.
- Schedule tasks into an operational plan and divide up the tasks to develop a schedule for each staff person or crew. This could be established with the existing staff, or added in the future, if staffing is increased.
- Implement and monitor the work schedules so adjustments can be made as needed. Have staff track how long it takes to complete each task and then monitor the quality of maintenance.

RISK MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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 the park or recreation area 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.

The Township does not have a written risk management plan in place; however, general inspections, including playground inspections, are completed regularly to ensure the safety of park users. Risk management should encompass a proactive approach to eliminating any potential incidents before they occur. Completing regular playground inspections and maintaining records of the inspection is one of the top risk management priorities to ensure the safety of the playgrounds and avoid any potential liability issues. Continued inspections of other facilities and amenities are also important.

The safety of workers is another important consideration that the Township takes seriously by providing all necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needed for assigned tasks. The Township also has a safety manual outlining the use of PPE and instructions for various tasks as well as accident report forms. The Township has a Safety Committee that meets monthly.

Pesticide application at the parks is largely conducted by a contracted service. When needed, some pesticide spraying is conducted by Sunset Golf Course Maintenance Staff who have spraying licenses.

Risk management is an important aspect of any parks and recreation department that must be taken seriously to provide safe facilities and ensure the safety of park patrons, as well as those performing the work in the parks. It is highly recommended that a written risk management plan be developed and then updated, as needed.

A successful Risk Management Plan should consider the following:

- Develop a plan of action by prioritizing identified hazards and determine the cost to correct them.
- Conduct routine playground safety audits to minimize liability.
- Address problems through the correction of hazards.
- Be proactive to prevent accidents by completing regular inspections with facility conditions, and planning for replacement before reactionary actions are needed.
- 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.
- Conducting immediate repairs to unsafe facilities and areas.
- Proper posting and exclusion of unsafe conditions that cannot be immediately repaired.
- Reporting of safety hazards.
- Submission of accident reports.
- Completion of major repairs as soon as possible.

A risk management plan also requires adequate liability insurance coverage. The Township must continue to maintain adequate liability insurance on all park facilities, equipment, and programs. Township staff must also require organizations utilizing Township parks and facilities to carry adequate insurance for their programs or events. Anytime new equipment is purchased, new facilities are constructed, and new third parties are established; the liability insurance should be revised to reflect all new changes.

FACILITY & EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE GOALS

1. Maintain all municipal recreation facilities to the highest level of acceptable standards to ensure clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing facilities.

    1.1 Develop a park maintenance plan.

    1.2 Continue to conduct daily visual inspections and monthly facility inspections to assure that the parks are safe and clean.

    1.3 Develop a Capital Improvements Plan that plans for replacement of facilities and amenities to ensure replacements are made prior to facilities and amenities exceeding their useable life.

    1.4 Consider someone on staff pursuing the Certified Playground Safety Inspector certification or having a CPSI inspect the Township's parks on an annual basis.

2. Continue to build a culture of sustainability within the parks and recreation to promote green infrastructure and the use of alternative methods for park development to reduce maintenance.

    2.1 Continue to use best land management practices such as low mow and meadow within the Township's parks and open spaces.

    2.2 Implement sustainable initiatives in the parks, especially when amenities are being replaced or updated.

3. Work to develop a more efficient and effective park maintenance plan / department.

    3.1 Provide low maintenance amenity alternatives, where and when appropriate.

    3.2 Utilize the park maintenance plan that is developed in Action 1.1.

FINANCING

The most difficult issue facing almost every community in the quest to provide safe and aesthetically pleasing parks and quality programs is financing. Many communities face unexpected costs within already restricted budgets. Parks and recreation are often seen as luxury items and are among the first departments to redirect funds from. If funds are continually redirected, it leaves inadequate financing to provide and maintain facilities and programs for their residents. Below is an analysis of the Township's financial structure as it relates to parks and recreation, with comparisons to peer communities and national averages where appropriate.

TAX SUPPORT COMPARISON

The funds needed to support facilities and programs typically come from a community's General Fund. Township Departments, except for Sunset Golf Course, rely on the General Fund to cover their operating and capital budgets each year. Major projects such as road and bridge work make it difficult to fulfill all park needs. Historically, when communities have been faced with making budget cuts, park and recreation funding is not prioritized. Since Covid, many communities renewed emphasis on prioritizing parks and recreation, making sure to set funds aside to provide quality recreation facilities and programs. Londonderry Township has strived to provide residents with quality recreational opportunities.

The following table shows the budgeted revenue and expenditures for Londonderry Township from 2020 to 2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Budgeted Revenues	$2,041,812	$2,052,017	$2,243,696	$2,519,070	$3,001,794
Total Budgeted Expenditures	$2,286,421	$2,162,995	$2,443,942	$3,132,680	$3,212,056
Percentage Change in Budgeted Revenue	-	0%	9%	12%	19%
Percentage Change in Budgeted Expenditures	-	-5%	13%	28%	3%
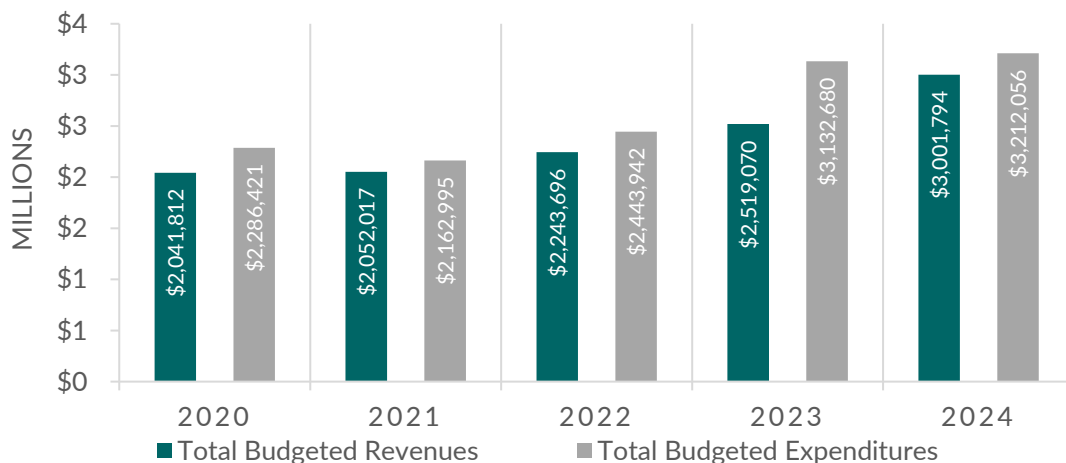
Londonderry Township has seen growth in its budgeted revenue, with the largest budgeted increases occurring in 2023 and 2024. The budgeted expenditures in the Township have varied more in the past five years than the Township's budgeted revenue. The Township's budgeted expenditures decreased from 2020 to 2021, but since 2021 has increased year over year. The largest budgeted increase occurred between 2022 and 2023.

RECREATION REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

Due to the limited programming offered by the Township, the budgeted revenue is largely from field and pavilion rentals, and the Stars and Stripes event the Township used to host (Stars and Stripes anticipated to return in 2026).

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Recreation Revenue	$41,551	$35,157	$5,425	$4,925	$5,925
Percentage Change in Revenue	-	-15%	-85%	-9%	20%
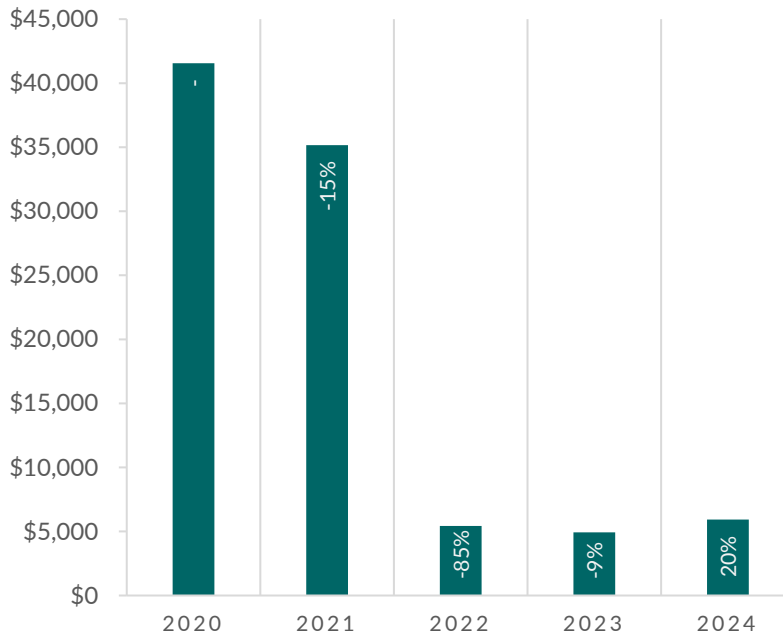
Budgeted Revenue – Recreation	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Park & Rec - Pav & Field Rent (324-100)	$6,551	$157	$5,425	$4,925	$5,925
Park & Rec - Program Fee (324-110)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Parks / Recreation - Intergov. Grant (354-070)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
DCNR - Grant (350-100)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Recreation Fee In Lieu (361-345)	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Recreation Program Fee (367-200)	$35,000	$35,000	$0	$0	$0
Total Budgeted Recreation Revenue	$41,551	$35,157	$5,425	$4,925	$5,925
Percentage Change in Budgeted Recreation Revenue	-	-15%	-85%	-9%	20%

Londonderry Township's budgeted operating expenditures for parks and recreation had an overall increase from 2020 to 2024. In 2021 there was a 2% increase in budgeted expenditure from the previous year. The

following year (2022), the Township's budgeted expenditures for parks and recreation decreased by about 4%. In 2023 the Township's park and recreation budgeted expenditures increased by 41% which was the largest increase from 2020 to 2024.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Budgeted Recreation Expenditures	$79,117	$80,834	$77,585	$109,677	$110,984
Percentage Change in Budgeted Recreation Expenditures	-	2%	-4%	41%	1%
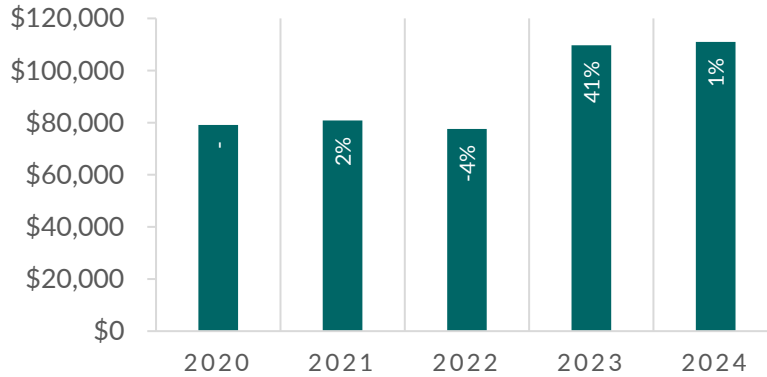
Budgeted Expenditures	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Salary - Park & Rec Seasonal	$8,160	$11,118	$18,401	$9,708	$28,151
Benefits - Park & Rec Seasonal	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
FICA - Park & Rec Seasonal	$506	$689	$1,141	$602	$1,745
Medicare - Park & Rec Seasonal	$118	$161	$267	$141	$409
PA UC – Parks & Rec Seasonal	$350	$454	$350	$611	$1,530
Operating Supplies	$711	$571	$324	$195	$39
Recreation Program Expense	$8,589	$119	$0	$0	$0
S&S Program Expense	$35,000	$35,000	$0	$0	$0
Small Equipment - Park & Rec Seasonal	$538	$538	$925	$0	$1,000
Other Svcs & Chg - Park & Rec Seasonal	$2,990	$2,684	$2,652	$713	$2,705
Jr Golf Prize Bags	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Grant DCNR Trails	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Meals on Wheels	$2,500	$2,500	$2,500	$0	$0
VIP Allocation	$2,000	$2,000	$965	$507	$505
LAA Allocation	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Prof Serv Park Master Plans	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Prop Insurance - Park & Rec	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Liability Insurance - Park & Rec	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Auto Equip Insurance - Park & Rec	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Vision $150K Spending	$0	$0	$0	$0	$3,900
Bldg./Equip Repair & Manit	$10,619	$5,000	$18,538	$66,000	$22,000
Ground Repair & Manit	$7,036	$20,000	$31,522	$31,200	$49,000
Licenses, Dues & Memberships	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Total Budgeted Recreation Expenditures	$79,117	$80,834	$77,585	$109,677	$110,984
Percentage Change in Budgeted Recreation Expenditures	-	2%	-4%	41%	1%

Note: The parks superintendent salary is not included in the parks and recreation operating budget.

BUDGETING PROCESS

The Township uses several tools and considers many factors when developing their annual budget. The Township has largely utilized the inspection reports to plan for replacement and repairs in future years. This also includes the replacement and repairs of the equipment that is utilized to maintain the parks, for example mowers and tools. The tax revenue can be supplemented by grants that the Township receives; these funds need to be spent within a specific timeframe which can affect the budget's dollar amount and spending timeline. The Township anticipates utilizing this Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan to help further guide and inform the budgeting process.

In 2025 the Township aims to focus on maintenance of existing facilities while creating a concept plan for Braeburn Park improvements, and planning for updates at Sunset Park. The budget in coming years will reflect the increase in facility work.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL COMPARISON

The following is a comparison of the Township's parks and recreation revenue, and expenditures compared to both the National Recreation and Park Association's 2023 Agency Performance review and municipalities of a similar size within the State.

It is important to note that when looking specifically at recreation budgeted revenue and expenditures, it does not consider budgeted revenues and expenditures that are within other areas or line items in the budget. Additionally, no two communities are alike, and therefore considerations are discussed in the following section.

Comparison to National Standards (NRPA)

NRPA annually releases an Agency Performance Review. This review compares municipalities and agencies across the nation to provide information on several different factors related to parks and recreation. Not only are median, lower and upper quartiles provided, but the information standards and municipality population ranges are also detailed.

Note: NRPA Standards are based on population size, however they are calculated for Londonderry Township based on their 2023 population.

Londonderry Township's Operating Budget Comparison
(Based on Standards for Less than 20,000 Residents)

Operating Budget	Londonderry Township (Actual)	Municipalities Less than 20,000	Comparison
Lower Quartile	$91,639	$573,150	($481,511)
Median	$91,639	$1,200,000	($1,108,361)
Upper Quartile	$91,639	$2,482,403	($2,390,764)

As depicted in the table, the Township has a smaller operational budget than the standards for municipalities of less than 20,000 residents. However, these statistics may be unrepresentative of the department, as Londonderry's Park Superintendent's salary is not included in the Parks and Recreation operating budget.

Londonderry Parks budgeting remains significantly lower than average when looking at the operating expenses per capita. The following tables list the per capita operating budget compared to the standards for municipalities of less than 20,000 residents, and again when compared to all municipalities.

Londonderry Township's Operating Budget Per Capita Comparison
(Based on Standards for Less than 20,000 Residents)

Operating Budget Per Capita	Londonderry Township (Actual)	Municipalities Less than 20,000	Comparison
Lower Quartile	$18.71	$69.65	($50.94)
Median	$18.71	$120.79	($102.08)
Upper Quartile	$18.71	$229.61	($210.90)

Londonderry Township's Operating Budget Per Capita Comparison
(Based on Standards for All Municipalities)

Operating Budget Per Capita	Londonderry Township (Actual)	All Municipalities	Comparison
Lower Quartile	$18.71	$53.23	($34.52)
Median	$18.71	$94.77	($76.06)
Upper Quartile	$18.71	$173.05	($154.34)

Another way that NRPA compares operational budgets is by looking at the operational budget per parkland acre. The following tables compare the Township's recreation budget per parkland acre, compared the standards of both municipalities of a less than 20,000 residents, and all municipalities.

Londonderry Township's Operating Budget Per Acre Comparison
(Based on Standards for Municipalities Under 20,000 Residents)

Operating Budget Per Acre	Londonderry Township (Actual)	Municipalities Less than 20,000	Comparison
Lower Quartile	$3,160	$3,692	($532)
Median	$3,160	$7,495	($4,335)
Upper Quartile	$3,160	$23,506	($20,346)

Londonderry Township's Operating Budget Per Acre Comparison
(Based on Standards for All Municipalities)

Operating Budget Per Acre	Londonderry Township (Actual)	All Municipalities	Comparison
Lower Quartile	$3,160	$3,521	($361)
Median	$3,160	$7,388	($4,228)
Upper Quartile	$3,160	$17,668	($14,508)

In both tables, the Township's operational budget per capita and per parkland acre is below the lower quartile based on the standards both municipalities under 20,000 and all municipalities.

The Township's operational budget may appear to be in a deficit compared to the NPRA standards, however the standards are for general comparison. Every community has different needs and priorities. Reviewing the NRPA Standards along with budgets of comparable municipalities can be used to better understand how peer communities manage similar parks and recreation responsibilities.

Comparison to Similar Communities

Londonderry Township's revenue and expenditures for the past five years were compared to municipalities of a similar population and other socioeconomic characteristics nearby in Pennsylvania. The three (3) municipalities that were selected include Lower Heidelberg Township (Berks County), East Coventry Township (Chester County) and West Donegal Township, (Lancaster County). These municipalities were selected based on community demographics, land use and development patterns, population size, and parks.

The following table lists the revenue that is budgeted in the comparable communities.

Budgeted Recreation Revenue	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Londonderry Township	$41,551	$35,157	$5,425	$4,925	$5,925
Lower Heidelberg Township	$7,480	$38,480	$18,000	$50,300	$5,450
East Coventry Township	$9,165	$5,000	$5,000	$5,000	$7,000
West Donegal Township	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Londonderry had larger budgeted recreation revenues in 2020 and 2021, but the Township's budgeted revenue has decreased 2022 through 2025 due to Stars and Stripes no longer being operated and receiving donations. Lower Heidelberg has the largest budgeted recreation revenue, which is largely from fee-in-lieu of development fees. Fee-in-lieu payments are one-time fees collected only when developments are built and are known to fluctuate based on new development. East Coventry has comparable park and recreation revenue to Londonderry (from 2022 to 2024). West Donegal Township does not plan for any revenue from their parks; however, they are a part of the Greater Elizabethtown Area Recreation & Community Services (GEARS) for which the Township pays a fee for programming opportunities for their residents.

> **What is GEARS?**
> GEARS was founded in 1976 as EARC (Elizabethtown Area Recreation Commission). In January 2000, after nearly 2 years of extensive planning, GEARS (Greater Elizabethtown Area Recreation & Community Services) began providing services to the Elizabethtown Area. Services provided include administration, scheduling of resources, a community center, child care program, recreation and a senior center.

The following table lists the budgeted expenditures related to parks and recreation in comparable communities.

Budgeted Recreation Expenditures	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Londonderry Township	$79,117	$80,834	$77,585	$109,677	$110,984
Lower Heidelberg Township	$8,400	$2,000	$2,000	$2,500	$1,500
East Coventry Township	$80,194	$94,021	$92,063	$110,281	$122,499
West Donegal Township	$114,285	$109,292	$115,604	$105,350	$105,000

As depicted in the above chart, Londonderry, East Coventry and West Donegal Townships budgeted similar amounts of money for recreation. Lower Heidelberg budgeted expenses show significantly less expenditures for recreation, this can be largely attributed to park maintenance labor not being included within the

budgeted expenditures. As previously mentioned, West Donegal is a part of GEARS and thus their budgeted expenditures include the fees the Township pays to be a part of this organization.

The following table compares budgeted expenditures per capita based on average budgeted recreation expenditures from 2020 to 2024.

Budgeted Recreation Expenditures – Per Capita	Average Budgeted Expenditures	Residents	Per Capita
Londonderry Township	$91,639	4,899	$18.71
Lower Heidelberg Township	$3,280	6,230	$0.53
East Coventry Township	$99,812	7,068	$14.12
West Donegal Township	$109,906	8,994	$12.22

As depicted in the table, Londonderry Township spends the most per capita related to recreation.

Financial Comparisons

The Township's budget is below that of communities nationwide of a similar size as identified by NRPA, however Londonderry's budget is above the communities of a similar size in Pennsylvania. The comparisons are a tool that can be utilized, but the limitations should be considered, which include but are not limited to:

- Is park and recreation maintenance completed by Public Works (or a similar department) and not budgeted under parks and recreation
- How many programs or events are held by the municipality
- Differences in taxes and tax revenue
- Number of parks and park acres
- Difference in recreation amenities

Given the Township does not provide recreation programming other than special events, the Township budget focuses to properly maintain existing amenities. Considerations should be made to ensure that capital purchases are budgeted and planned for, as these will require increased expenditures. If greater programming is offered in the future, the budget will need to be adjusted.

RECREATION FEE IN LIEU

Pennsylvania municipalities may require developers to provide parkland for new developments, or Townships may offer developers the option to instead pay fees or construct facilities and establish private parkland. Londonderry Township has a Fee in Lieu of Dedication for Recreation and Open Space that was updated in December of 2023. The Township requires a $2,200 fee per dwelling unit which is consistent with other municipalities within the region and recreation evaluation performed at that time.

Londonderry's Fee in Lieu of Dedication for Recreation and Open Space can provide increased revenue for the Township's parks and recreation, however, the fees are one-time payments that are based on development. Given the limitations, fees should not be considered as a long-term revenue stream when planning parks and recreation budgets.

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Proper funding has a substantial impact on if a plan can be implemented. Implementation of this plan not only requires adequate funds from the Township to be budgeted annually but will also require securing funds from other sources such as grants. The following are brief descriptions of some of the ways to fund the implementation of this Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan, however, the Township would need to consider if and when these funding sources may be appropriate.

- Property Tax or Income Tax
    - Property Taxes are levied on properties based on the property value and income taxes are levied on individuals and businesses based on their taxable income. Local governments may impose a property tax or income tax to generate revenue for planning purposes. If the tax is passed as an Open Space tax, and defined accordingly, funds generated from the tax may be able to be utilized for specific items related to the implementation of the open space portion of this plan.
- Impact Fee
    - Impact fees are charges imposed on new developments to mitigate the impact on infrastructure and services resulting from the increased population or demand. These fees can be used to fund planning projects that support infrastructure.
- Special Assessments
    - Special assessments are charges levied on properties within a specific district or area to finance improvements or services that directly benefit those properties. This can include funding for planning projects that enhance the local community or neighborhood.
- Grants
    - Townships and counties can seek grants and funding from federal, state and/or regional agencies to support projects. These grants may be specifically allocated to support planning initiatives, infrastructure development or community revitalization. Specific grant programs are listed later in this section.
- Voter-Approved Debt / Bond Issuance
    - Issuing bonds allows local government to borrow money for capital projects, including planning initiatives. The borrowed funds are repaid over time using dedicated revenue sources, such as other taxes and fees. Bonds are approved by voters through a referendum process.
- Development Agreements and Impact Mitigation
    - In some cases, townships and counties negotiate development agreements with private developers that require the developer to contribute funds for projects or build the project as part of the development process. This can help offset the impacts of development on the community.
- Private Donation
    - Private donations are tax-deductible and can help support the efforts of a township or update, replace or build an amenity.
- Sponsorship
    - Sponsorships are like private donations, but investment, cash or in-kind, creates access to exploitable business potential associated with an event or publicized entity.

Combination of Projects & Efforts

It may be beneficial to align parks projects and funding with ongoing projects in the community. An example of combining projects could be coordinated with PennDOT if they are completing a road improvement project, to also complete planned pedestrian or bike infrastructure improvements. Tying projects together is an ideal way to complete projects in potentially less time, employing economy of scale and reducing the disruption in a community.

Potential Grant Funding Programs

Grants are one of the best ways that the Township can fund the implementation of this plan without drawing entirely from the general fund. Most grants will require a match of some amount. Grants help communities by providing funds for implementation that are not in the form of a loan or a bond, both of which would need to be repaid.

There are many types of grants, which operate differently in terms of timelines, types of projects, and required matching funds. Some grant programs require up to a 50% match commitment from the municipality, while others have a lower match requirement or have no match requirement. Federal grants cannot be matched utilizing funds from another federal grant. State grants can be used to match other state grants if the grants originate from different state agencies. Both federal and state grants can usually be used to match one another as well as local county grants.

The following is a list of grant opportunities that the Township could consider seeking funding from to help support the implementation of this Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

Federal Grant Opportunities

    USDA Forest Service - Urban & Community Forestry Program

    The USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Program is the only dedicated urban forest program in the federal government. It is a technical, financial, and educational assistance program that helps deliver nature-based solutions for climate and environmental justice, and green jobs.

- Submission Deadline: June
- Grant Request Amounts: $50,000,000 to $100,000
- Match Requirement: 50% Match Requirement. Match-waivers are available for proposals that deliver 100% of the funding/program benefits to disadvantaged communities.

State Grant Opportunities

    Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) - Greenways, Trails and Recreation

    The Commonwealth Financing Authority (the "Authority") Program provides funds for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects using the Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP). Projects could include development, rehabilitation and improvements to public parks, recreation areas, greenways, trails, and river conservation.

- Submission Deadline: Spring (May)
- Grant Award Amount: Maximum of $250,000

■ Match Requirement: 15% Match Required

Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) - Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2)

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Recreation and Conservation assists local governments and recreation and conservation organizations with funding for projects related to Parks, Recreation, and Conservation. Projects could include planning, acquisition, and development of public parks, recreation areas, trails, river conservation, and access / conservation of open space.

■ Submission Deadline: Spring Submission (April)
■ Grant Award Amount: Depends on the Specific Grant Type
■ Match Requirement: 50% Match Required

Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) - Local Share Account (LSA) – Statewide

The Local Share Account – Statewide Program funds projects in the public interest that improve the quality of life of citizens in the community. Projects could include support of economic development projects, community improvement projects, and projects in the public interest, including parks and recreation. Eligible projects must be owned and maintained by an eligible applicant or a nonprofit organization.

■ Submission Deadline: Spring Submission (March)
■ Grant Award Amount: $25,000 to $1,000,000
■ Match Requirement: No Match Required

PennDOT - Safe Routes to School Program

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is a national and international movement to create safe, convenient, and healthy opportunities for students to walk and bicycle to school. The program encourages students to walk, bike, and roll to school, helping to reverse an alarming decrease in students' physical activity and an associated increase in obesity or other health conditions. Applicants must apply for Safe Routes to School project funding through PennDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set- Aside (TASA) Program. SRTS projects, which can be infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects, and must be within two (2) miles of a public or private primary, middle, or high school (kindergarten through twelfth grade) to qualify for funding.

■ Submission Deadline: The deadline to submit the mandatory Draft Application is in the Summer. Applicants will discuss the draft application with their local PennDOT District and MPO/RPO before submitting the final application, which is due in the early fall. The SRTS Program is currently only offered on a bi-annual basis, with 2023 being an application year.
■ Grant Request Amount: $50,000 to $1,500,000 (higher awards can be justified on a case-by-case basis for "exceptional" projects. There is no minimum for non-infrastructure projects.)
■ Match Requirement: No Match Requirement

County Grant Programs

Dauphin County Local Share Municipal Grant (Gaming Grant)

The Dauphin County Local Share Municipal Grant can be utilized on several different project types, in addition to parks and recreation; projects may include infrastructure, transportation, emergency services, health and public safety, public interest initiatives and human services.

- Submission Deadline: Fall
- Grant Award Amount: There is not a maximum request amount, but applicants should assure the application request is balanced against the priority.
- Match Requirement: No Match Required

Non-Profit & Foundation Grant Opportunities

Major League Baseball - Youth Development Foundation Grant Program

MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation (YDF) is a joint initiative by MLB and MLBPA to support efforts that focus on improving the caliber, effectiveness and availability of amateur baseball and softball programs. The program funds capital projects for field renovations, baseball/softball programs and education initiatives.

- Submission Deadline: Rolling
- Grant Award Amount: The Foundation does not set a funding range for grant requests. The Foundation recommends projects have secured funding from other sources prior to applying. Your organization should ensure the submitted budget includes full details of all program/project expenses as outlined in the budget template.
- Match Requirement: No Match Required

PeopleForBikes - People for Bikes Community Grant Program

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program supports bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. PeopleForBikes focuses most grant funds on bicycle infrastructure projects, such as bike paths, lanes, trails and bridges, mountain bike facilities, bike parks and pump tracks, BMX facilities, end-of-trip facilities such as bike racks, bike parking, bike repair stations and bike storage.

- Submission Deadline: Fall
- Grant Award Amount: Maximum of $10,000
- Match Requirement: 50% Match Requirement

Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) - REI Cooperative Action Fund

REI Co-op founded the REI Cooperative Action Fund, a community-supported nonprofit that partners with and provides financial support for organizations building a new outdoor culture and improving the health and well-being for all people. The grant program has three different focus areas: Connecting People Outside, Creating Spaces Outside, and Centering Health Outside.

Note: This program does not include a traditional grant application, but potential grantees can submit for consideration by using their "recommend a potential grantee" to be considered to receive funding.

- Submission Deadline: "Recommend a potential grantee" forms can be submitted anytime, with funds being awarded in the Spring and Fall
- Grant Request Amount: No request amount requirements
- Match Requirement: No Match Required

American Academy of Dermatology - Shade Structure Grant Program

The American Academy of Dermatology's (AAD) Shade Structure Program awards funds to schools, daycares, parks, and other non-profit organizations for installing permanent shade structures where children learn and play. In addition to the grant, the AAD also provides a permanent sign to be placed near the shade structure featuring sun-safety tips.

- Submission Deadline: Rolling Submission
- Grant Request Amount: Maximum of $8,000
- Match Requirement: No Match Requirement. AAD notes that $8,000 will cover most shade sails of 10' X 10', however many shade projects require additional resources, therefore, applicants should assure they have additional funding necessary for the project to be installed by calendar year end.

Note: The above grant opportunities list is current, and there could be some changes to the match and the time of submission noted under each program. Additionally, there could be new programs and others not included on this list that could be used to help fund the implementation of this plan.

FINACING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Utilize this plan to help aid the budgeting process.

2. Determine feasibility of adding new streams of revenue, or updating existing streams of revenue for Parks and Recreation identified in the "Potential Funding Sources" section of this chapter.

3. Develop a five-year capital improvement plan, once conceptual plans are developed for Braeburn Park and the improvements at Sunset Park.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Chapter focuses on how to take this plan, and implement the objectives, actions and recommendations to help maintain and enhance the Township's Park, Recreation and Open Spaces as a whole. As stated, this plan not only focused on the physical facilities and amenities, but also on the behind-the-scenes items such as administration, personnel, programming and maintenance.

The following pages consist of implementation tables for each topic area of the plan to help the Township in prioritizing the objectives, actions and recommendations. This is based on current and anticipated needs; however, things may change, and therefore priorities may need to be adjusted.

ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION TABLES

Goals

These were the goals that were developed as part of the planning process.

Objectives, Actions & Recommendations

These are under the goals and are actions or tasks that will help meet the desired outcomes of the goals.

Priority

This is the level at which this objective, actions or recommendations should be a priority when determining what to tackle first, along with the timeline. As mentioned, priorities can change overtime, so it is important that these tables get updated and reviewed regularly.

Timeline

This is the recommended timeline to implement the objective, action or recommendation. Some will be short-term which is anticipated to be 1-3 years, mid-term 4-6 years and long-term 7-10 years. Some of these are also listed as on-going and this means that once implemented it should continue to be implemented.

Lead / Support

This helps to identify who should be taking the lead on accomplishing the objective, action or recommendation, or organizing the stakeholders needed to accomplish the objective.

Funding Source

This column identifies potential funding sources for the objective, action or recommendation; however, these could change over time. For example, a new grant program could be introduced that would help fund the implementation of one of the objectives.

Cost

This column provides a general cost that would be associated with implementing the objective.

- ■ $ - New estimated cost up to $50,000

- $$ - New estimated cost $50,000 to $100,000
- $$$ - New estimated cost of $100,000 or more
- N/A is noted where there is not an anticipated new cost

Park & Recreation Facilities & Amenities Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations	Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Provide and plan for park and recreation facilities and amenities that meet standards, support both active and passive recreation opportunities, serve all ages and abilities, provide access for all, while adapting to recreation trends, and planning for the evolving community.					
1.1 Develop a Master Site Plan for Braeburn Park and implementation strategy.	High	Short-Term	Township & Consulting Firm	Township Funds & DCNR C2P2 Grant	$$
1.2 Plan for and implement the recommended improvements for Sunset Park that are included on the site visit notes.	High	Short-Term	Township Staff & Parks Superintendent	Township Funds & Grants (Depends on Improvement)	$-$$$
1.3 Continue to conduct routine maintenance and inspections to ensure the parks are welcoming, safe and clean.	High	On-Going	Parks Superintendent & Maintenance Staff	Township Funds	Existing
1.4 Seek to update ADA amenities to offer a like experience for park visitors of all abilities while aiming to utilize universal and inclusive design.	High	On-Going	Township Staff & Parks Superintendent	Township Funds & Grants (Depends on Improvement)	$-$$$
1.5 Regularly survey the community to identify their desires and or needs within the Township owned parks. Recommended to be conducted on a bi-annual basis.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
1.6 Develop and maintain a Capital Improvements Plan for updating and replacement of park amenities to help meet standards and provide guidance for prioritization.	High	Mid-Term	Parks Superintendent & Township Manager	Township Funds	Existing
2. Build and maintain a strong sense of community through parks, open space and recreation facilities, a variety of programs, and social interactions.					
2.1 Provide amenities within parks that provide spaces for more programmed events.	Low	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants (Depends on Improvement)	$-$$$
2.2 Provide comfortable and safe places that enable formal and informal social interactions and experiences.	Low	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants (Depends on Improvement)	$-$$$
2.3 Implement the recommendations under the "Programming" section.	Med	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
3. Provide park and recreation facilities including multi-use trails that are accessible to Township residents within a safe 10-minute walk.					
3.1 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk.	High	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$

3.2	Develop new parks in areas currently without access to a park, trail or playground within a 10-minute walk, when and where feasible.	High	Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$$$
4. Ensure reasonable accommodations based on the park's physical features, amenities and mission.						
4.1	Use universal and inclusive design when updating and developing parks and their amenities.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$$-$$$
4.2	Work towards improving the Township's Parks and Recreation Facilities to comply with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act and the 2010 ADA Standards to the fullest extent possible, while aiming to utilize universal and inclusive design.	High	On-Going	Township Staff & Parks Superintendent	Township Funds & Grants (Depends on Improvement)	$-$$$
5. Implement sustainable and climate resilient practices when constructing, maintaining, updating, and enhancing park and recreation facilities.						
5.1	Implement stormwater management practices that meet or exceed MS4 requirements and highlight those benefits to the community.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
5.2	Increase shade at the Township's parks to provide safe places for residents to recreate and enjoy.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds, Donations, Programs & Grants	$-$$
5.3	Regularly review sustainable and climate resilient parks and recreation practices.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
6. Incorporate nature into the existing parks through environmental education, native plantings, clean water and other sustainable practices.						
6.1	Develop signage (temporary and permanent) and digital resources within parks, open spaces, and along trails to provide environmental education opportunities.	Low	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$
6.2	Continue to plant native vegetation in the Township's parks and open spaces and remove invasive and non-native plantings.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds, Donations, Programs & Grants	$-$$
7. Create welcoming, well-advertised spaces and places for social interactions.						
7.1	Integrate existing amenities and construct new features and amenities that promote park user connections and meet the needs of the community as it changes over time.	Med	Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
7.2	Ensure Township parks are well signed and advertised with a corresponding registered street address.	High	Short-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
7.3	Update and maintain the Township's website to include information regarding park locations and amenities.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$

Open Space & Natural Resources Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations	Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Align proposed Plan Goals with the existing Zoning and Comprehensive Plans.					
1.1 Update the Township's Zoning ordinance to be consistent with this plan, and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.	High	Short-Term	Township Staff / Consultant	Township Funds / Grant Funding	$-$$
1.2 Update the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance consistent with this plan and the Township's Comprehensive Plan.	High	Short-Term	Township Staff / Consultant	Township Funds / Grant Funding	$-$$
2. Identify high priority open spaces or natural resource areas in the Township for potential acquisition or conservation easements.					
2.1 Identify high priority open space and natural resource areas. Prior to acquisition or securing a conservation easement, initial capital investment and long-term maintenance costs should be determined and considered.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds / Grant Funding	$
2.2 Develop, update and or add identified high priority priorities or areas to a Township Official Map.	Med	Mid-Term	Township Staff / Consultant	Township Funds / Grant Funding	$
3. Naturalize the lands that the Township already owns but are currently mowed.					
3.1 Continue to naturalize areas in the Township as appropriate utilizing no mow, low mow, meadows and native plantings.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$
3.2 Naturalize the field space at Braeburn Park, until a master site plan is developed.	High	Short-Term	Park Maintenance	Township Funds	$
4. Demonstrate land management best practices to not only serve as an educational opportunity but provide inspiration for community members to do on their private property.					
4.1 Add signage, both temporary and permanent, paired with digital resources, to serve as an educational opportunity for land management and sustainable land management initiatives the Township has already taken, and will take in the future.	Low	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$
4.2 Create areas of best land management practices that residents and the community is able to visit, interact with and learn about, as well as providing information about how these land management practices could be utilized on their property.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
4.3 Buffer, expand and connect natural spaces within the Township.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$

4.4	Restore and enhance native vegetation in open spaces and along stream corridors while working to remove invasive and non-native species.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
4.5	Continue to make improvements to Township-owned parks and open spaces to help manage the impacts of stormwater runoff.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
5. Work with organizations in the area to protect, enhance and maintain natural resources within the Township.						
5.1	Work with community organizations to achieve each others goals, while limiting the duplication of efforts.	Med	Mid-Term, On-Going	Township Staff & Community Orgs	Township Funds	$
5.2	Work with community organizations to host events, volunteer days and educational opportunities for the community.	Med	Mid-Term, On-Going	Township Staff & Community Orgs	Township Funds	$
5.3	Enhance and develop partnerships with organizations to assist with monitoring stream and vegetation health.	Med	Mid-Term, On-Going	Township Staff & Community Orgs	Township Funds	$
5.4	Develop and educate community organizations and volunteers on maintenance standards.	Med	Mid-Term, On-Going	Township Staff & Community Orgs	Township Funds	$

Trails & Connectivity Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations	Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Expand and enhance the local and regional bicycle and pedestrian network to provide a safe place for recreation, increased community connectivity and access to community amenities.					
1.1 Work to develop plans or feasibility studies for the identified connections.	High	Long-Term	Township Staff & Consultant	Township Funds & Grants	$$-$$$
1.2 Prioritize completing connections that provide safe access for residences currently without access to a park within a 10-minute walk.	High	On-Going	Township Staff & Consultant	Township Funds & Grants	$$-$$$
1.3 Add the identified connections to an Official Map for the Township.	Med	Mid-Term	Township Staff & Consultant	Township Funds & Grants	$
2. Develop trails and greenway standards that set the precedence for how trails and greenways within the Township should be designed and developed.					
2.1 Develop standards for trails and greenway development that meet or exceed the DCNR Trails Design and Development Principles.	High	On-Going	Township Staff & Consultant	Township Funds	$
3. Provide safe, sustainable multi-modal recreation and transportation options for people of all abilities.					
3.1 Provide safe and accessible routes within parks, as feasible.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$

Administration & Personnel Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations		Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Develop partnerships among municipalities, local organizations, and recreation providers within the school district to foster a culture of collaboration.						
1.1	Work with organizations in the community to help advance the recreation goals of the Township, and the organization when and where feasible.	Med	Mid-Term, On-Going	Township Staff & Community Orgs	Township Funds	$
2. Develop a plan to ensure the long-term financial sustainability for the operation, maintenance, and development of parks, recreational facilities, and programs.						
2.1	Create and update a 5-year capital improvement plan for the Townships parks, recreation facilities and programming.	High	Mid-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
2.2	Develop a cost benefit analysis when considering capital purchases or investment in parks, including any associated maintenance.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
3. Expand, update, and formalize partnership agreements in accordance with Board of Supervisors input and approval.						
3.1	Develop a standard partnership agreement for organizations that currently utilize the parks and recreation facilities, along with future groups and ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.	Med	Short-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
3.2	Update pavilion and facility rental agreements to ensure that the Township is assuming minimal risk.	Med	Short-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
4. Develop a communication and marketing plan to promote Township recreation services, facilities, and parks for community use.						
4.1	Update and modify the Parks and Recreation presence on the Township's main website to include information highlighting Township programs and park-related events.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
4.2	Improve the reservation system for scheduling field usage.	Med	Mid-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
4.3	Provide timely communications and updates on accomplishments and progress on park improvements and programming additions.	Med	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
4.4	Work with the appropriate governing body or agency to provide addresses for Township-owned parks and recreation facilities.	High	Short-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
5. Ensure that parks and recreation staffing is appropriate to achieve the goals of this plan and meet the expectations of the community while operating, managing and maintaining the parks to the highest level possible.						
5.1	Assess the demand and available resources needed to hire a part time or full time Township staff member who is dedicated to parks and recreation and anticipate additional staff to be needed if improvements are made to Braeburn Park, and the Conewago Floodplain Area opens to the public.	High	Mid to Long Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$

Programming Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations	Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Develop and work with partners and recreation organizations to provide a well-rounded offering of programs for all ages, interests, and user groups within the community.					
1.1 Continue to build upon existing partnerships, and develop new partnerships to expand programming offerings to Township residents.	Med	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
1.2 Assess if there is a need for a Township staff member to be dedicated to parks and recreation. (Related to Admin & Personnel Action 5.1)	High	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
2. Expand passive recreation programming opportunities.					
2.1 Continue to expand the Townships existing passive recreation offerings at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property, and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.	Med	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$-$$$
2.2 Build partnerships with community organizations to increase programming opportunities at the Conewago Floodplain Restoration property and other Township-Owned Open Spaces.	Med	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
3. Continue to evaluate, update, and improve programming options and the facilities that aid in these programming opportunities.					
3.1 Identify, consider and implement other funding opportunities and ways to increase revenue from programming (see Finance chapter for additional information).	High	Mid to Long-Term	Township Staff	Township Funds	$
3.2 Continue to gather community feedback on existing programming as well as their desired programming opportunities. Recommended to be conducted on a bi-annual basis.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds	$

Facilities & Equipment Maintenance Implementation Table

Goals, Objectives, Actions & Recommendations	Priority	Timeframe	Lead / Support	Funding Source	Cost
1. Maintain all municipal recreation facilities to the highest level of acceptable standards to ensure clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing facilities.					
1.1 Develop a park maintenance plan.	High	Mid-Term	Park Maintenance	Township Funds	$
1.2 Continue to conduct daily visual inspections and monthly facility inspections to assure that the parks are safe and clean.	High	On-Going	Park Maintenance	Township Funds	Existing
1.3 Develop a Capital Improvements Plan that plans for replacement of facilities and amenities to ensure replacements are made prior to facilities and amenities exceeding their useable life.	High	Mid-Term	Park Maintenance	Township Funds	$
1.4 Consider someone on staff pursue the Certified Playground Safety Inspector certification or having a CPSI inspect the Township's parks on an annual basis.	Med	Mid-Term, and Onging	Park Maintenance / CPSI	Township Funds	$
2. Continue to build a culture of sustainability within the parks and recreation to promote green infrastructure and the use of alternative methods for park development to reduce maintenance.					
2.1 Continue to use best land management practices such as low mow and meadow within the Township's parks and open spaces.	Low	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds / Grant Funding	$-$$
2.2 Implement sustainable initiatives in the parks, especially when amenities are being replaced or updated.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
3. Work to develop a more efficient and effective park maintenance plan / department.					
3.1 Provide low maintenance amenity alternatives, where and when appropriate.	High	On-Going	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	$-$$$
3.2 Utilize the park maintenance plan that is developed in Action 1.1.	High	On-Going (Once Developed)	Township Staff	Township Funds & Grants	TBD

APPENDIX A

COMMNITY BACKGROUND

- Trends Report

TRENDS REPORT

Comprehensive Plan

Londonderry Township

Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

February 2023

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CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A TRENDS REPORT?

Before a community can grow toward a prosperous, sustainable future, it is important to understand the conditions of the community today and how it evolved to this place. This report explores Londonderry Township through seven (7) lenses:

- Demographics – Who lives in Londonderry? How has the population changed over time? What types of neighborhoods have developed? How do we plan for the future?

- Transportation – How do residents of Londonderry travel/commute? Where are the traffic problems? How do we improve the current conditions for greater accessibility?

- Parks & Recreation – Does Londonderry have enough green space? How is that space used? What types of recreation attract current – and future – residents?

- Housing & Affordability – Are there enough places to live in Londonderry? Do more residents own or rent? Is Londonderry affordable and thereby economically attractive to newcomers?

- Economy & Development – What are the top industries in Londonderry? Are they sustainable? Are residents employed? Well-compensated? What was/is the impact of the pandemic?

- Land Use – How does Londonderry balance residential, commercial, and industrial districts? What is the purpose of an overlay? Is there a need to change the zoning code for future land use?

- Public Facilities & Amenities – Who are the Londonderry service providers? Are the needs of residents met? Are providers prepared for growth?

These are some of the questions the Londonderry Trend Report explores on the following pages.

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHICS

QUICK FACTS

4,899
TOTAL POPULATION

44
MEDIAN RESIDENT AGE

$64,038
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

The Township's population has not changed significantly in the past decade. In 2010, the population was 5,235 residents; in 2020 the population was 4,899 residents, a 6.4% decrease.

AGE

In 2020, the median age of Londonderry Township residents was 44 years old, the highest in the area. This median age is 10% higher than that of Dauphin County (39.6 years) or Pennsylvania (40.9 years). The largest percentages of the population were the age categories of 60 to 69 and 0 to 9, which combined represent approximately 16% of the total population.

Median Age (2020)

Location	Median Age
East Hanover	42.3
South Hanover	39
Conewago	41.1
Hummelstown	36.3
Londonderry	44
Dauphin County	39.6
Pennsylvania	40.9
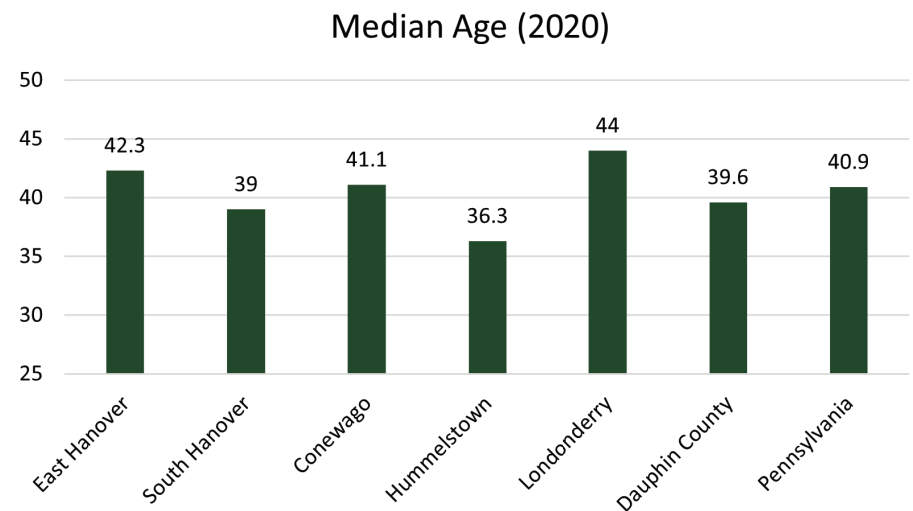
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

HOUSEHOLDS

The Census Bureau defines households as all residents, related and unrelated, living in a housing unit. In 2020, there were 2,132 households in Londonderry Township, according to the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates. This was up from 1,719 households in 2010, representing a 24% increase over the last decade. It is predicted that by 2027 the number of households in the Township will increase by an additional 9%, to a total of 2,294 households (ESRI Housing Profile Report).

In 2020, there were 2,284 total housing units in the Township. Of those units, 1,891 (82.7%) were owner occupied, 241 (10.5%) were renter occupied, and 152 (6.7%) were vacant. In comparison, Dauphin County has a 7.7% vacancy, and the State of Pennsylvania has 11% vacancy overall.

The median household income in the Township was $64,038 in 2020, comparable to both Dauphin County ($63,123), and Pennsylvania ($63,627). The chart below shows the distribution of household incomes in 2020. The chart to the above right shows the distribution of household incomes in 2020. By 2027, it is estimated that the median household income in the Township will grow to about $80,472.
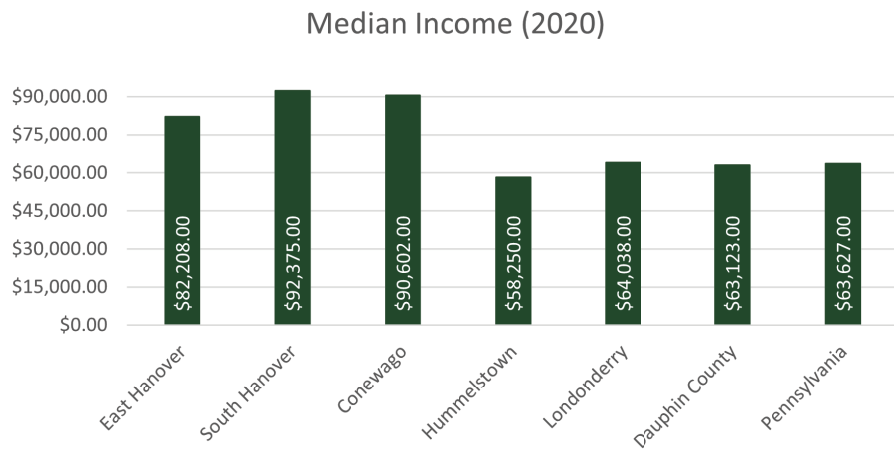
Income Percentages (2020)

- 3.5%
- 20.5%
- 44.0%
- 32.0%

Legend: ■ Under $50K   ■ $50K - $100K   ■ $100K - $200K   ■ Over $200K

Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

Median Income (2020)

Location	Median Income
East Hanover	$82,208.00
South Hanover	$92,375.00
Conewago	$90,602.00
Hummelstown	$58,250.00
Londonderry	$64,038.00
Dauphin County	$63,123.00
Pennsylvania	$63,627.00
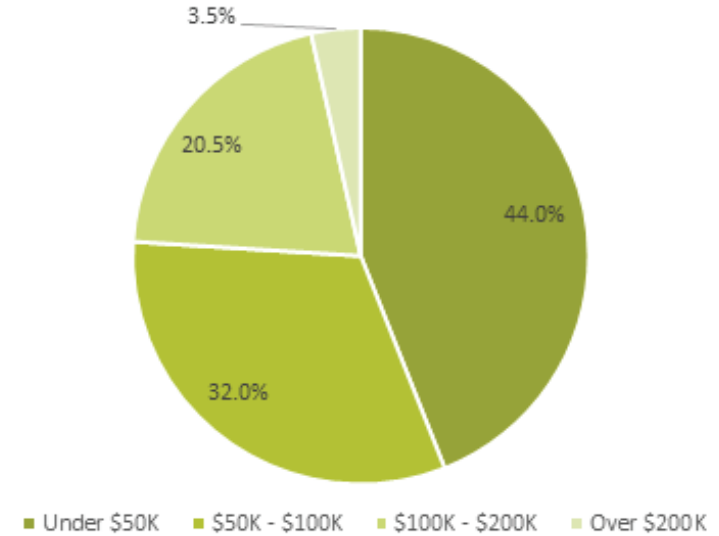
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

Source: Londonderry Township, Facebook

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EDUCATION

According to the 2020 ACS, of the population in Londonderry Township that is 25 years of age or older:

- 92.2% had at least a high school degree/equivalent or higher;
- 22.1% had a bachelor's degree or higher, and;
- 6.8% had a graduate or professional degree.

These values are all comparable to Dauphin County as a whole:

- 89.9% had a high school degree/equivalent or higher.
- 30.8% had a bachelor's degree or higher, and;
- and, 11.6% had a graduate or professional degree.

Londonderry Educational Attainment (2020)

Legend:
- No Degree
- High School
- Some College
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Post-Graduate Degree

Pie chart values: 7.8%, 44.3%, 16.0%, 9.8%, 15.3%, 6.8%
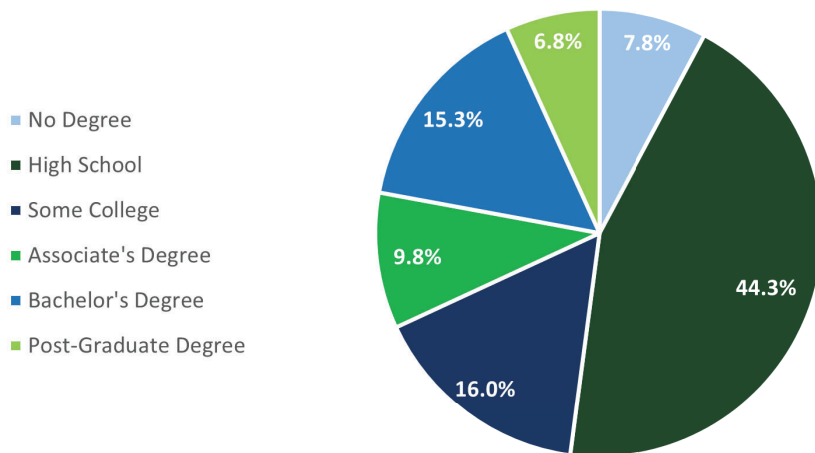
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

TRANSPORTATION

QUICK FACTS

20
MEAN TRAVEL MINUTES TO WORK

21.4%
COMMUTE OF 20-24 MINUTES

88.6%
RESIDENTS DROVE ALONE TO WORK

20
Minutes

According to 2020 ACS, Londonderry's working population has a mean travel to work time of 20 minutes. By comparison, County and State residents was 21.8 minutes and 27.1 minutes in 2020, respectively.

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Londonderry Township is served by two major roadways, PA 283, and PA 230. PA 283 is major arterial roadway, running east/west across the Township, but this route provides limited access within the Township as it can only be entered at the two interchanges located in the Township. PA 230 is a minor arterial roadway that moves high traffic volume east/ west through the Township, providing greater access to developments along the route. Both routes provide access and mobility to the larger region. The Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) also traverses the Township, providing a general regional connection, but there is not direct access to the Turnpike within the Township.

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TRAFFIC VOLUMES

Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) counts for 2021 are available through the PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT) for certain roadways. The highest counts available are for PA 283, where AADT is 42,000 trips. Trips along sections of PA 230 within the Township range from 5,200 to 8,700 AADT. Other roadways with noteworthy traffic volumes include PA 441, which runs north/south along the western side of the Township and has an AADT of 3,600 trips, and PA 341 which runs east/west through the Township and has an AADT of 3,100 trips.

Additional manual traffic counts have been compiled from Municipal Traffic Studies performed by Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) related to projects in the Township. Peak hour intersection counts are included in the table below and depict traffic counts at particularly active intersections in the Township during their busiest morning hour and evening hour. Based on these counts and PennDOT AADT, PA 230 has siginificant activity, which will only increase related to development along the corridor.

Peak Hour & Volume

Intersection	Peak Hour	
	AM (Volume)	PM (Volume)
Toll House Rd (PA 2023) - PA 283 WB Ramp	7:00 - 8:00 (701)	4:00 - 5:00 (587)
Toll House Rd (PA 2023) - PA 283 EB Ramp	6:30 - 7:30 (815)	4:30 - 5:30 (890)
Toll House Rd (PA 2023) - PA 230	6:30 - 7:30 (993)	3:30 - 4:30 (1144)
Schoolhouse Road - PA 230	6:30 - 7:30 (792)	3:30 - 4:30 (908)
Schoolhouse Rd - Beagle Rd	6:45 - 7:45 (97)	3:30 - 4:30 (132)

All counts were performed on March 5, 2019.

COMMUTING

The mean travel to work time of workers sixteen years and over in Londonderry Township is 20 minutes. This is lower than the State and County mean travel to work times of 26.9 minutes and 21.8 minutes, respectively. These times are depicted in the graph below, which also gives a comparison with the neighboring Townships of Conewago, East Hanover, and South Hanover. Londonderry's mean commute time is shorter than Conewago's and East Hanover's, but about a minute and half longer than South Hanover's.

Mean Travel to Work Time (2020)
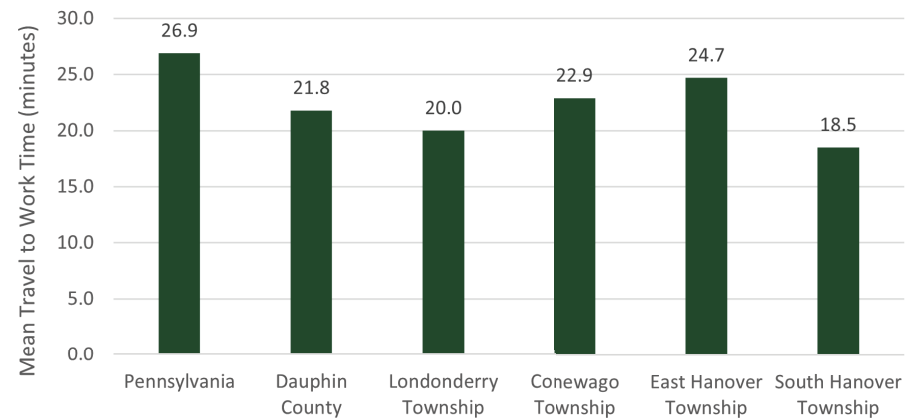
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

An overwhelming majority (90%) of workers in the Township travel to work by car, truck or van. Less than one percent travel by taxicab, motorcycle or other means, and zero percent commute by bike, on foot, or using public transportation. Just under ten percent of the Township works from home (as shown on the following page). Like much of the Country, the Township has seen a significant increase in the percent of workers working from home, up from 4.0% in 2019. This is expected to continue moving forward, decreasing the overall number of commuters. However, reports suggest that mean travel to work times will increase as the United States moves back to pre-pandemic norms, and initial data for Londonderry suggests the Township will follow this trend.

Commute Method in Londonderry Township

0.7% 9.3%

90.0%

- Car, truck, or van
- Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means
- Worked from home
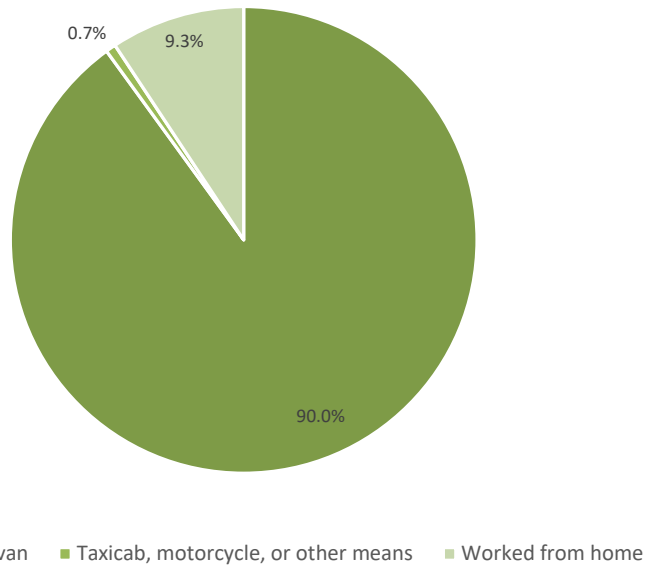
CAR OWNERSHIP

There are several factors that can contribute to car ownership including, but not limited to:

- The number of residents per household;
- Commute distance;
- Socio-economic status;
- The limits of public transportation; and
- Bike and pedestrian infrastructure.

Within Londonderry Township, 98.3% of workers sixteen years or older who are part of a household have access to at least one vehicle, over 50% have access to three or more vehicles. This is fairly consistent with the surrounding townships, the County, and the State.

Vehicle Access in Londonderry Township

| 0% | 10% | 20% | 30% | 40% | 50% | 60% | 70% | 80% | 90% | 100% |

1.7% 15.1% 30.4% 52.8%

- No vehicle available
- 1 vehicle available
- 2 vehicles available
- 3 or more vehicles available
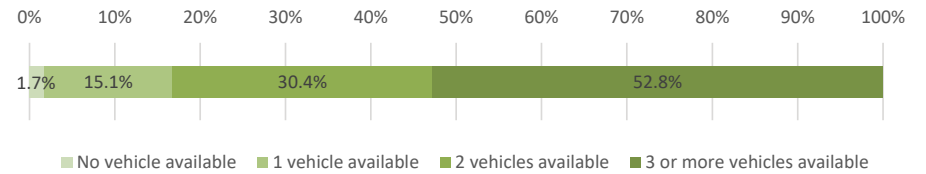
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

The Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the three-county region of Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry Counties. As the official MPO, HATS directs the use of state and federal transportation funds allocated to the region and helps counties, cities, townships, and boroughs access these resources. The use of these funds is guided by the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and documented in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), which is a comprehensive listing of all federal and state-funded transportation projects in the HATS area over the next four years.

The 2023 to 2026 TIP, which went into effect on October 1, 2022, includes two bridge projects in the Township- a bridge rehabilitation/replacement on Hillsdale Road over a Conewago Creek tributary and a bridge rehabilitation/replacement on State Route 2005 (Roundtop Road) over Iron Mine Run.

PARKS & RECREATION

QUICK FACTS

2
TOWNSHIP PARKS

11
ATHLETIC FIELDS AND COURTS

24
ACRES OF PARKLAND

The Township owns and manages 24 acres of parkland and an 18-hole golf course.

Given the 2020 Township population, there are 4.89 acres of parkland per one thousand residents. Based on the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), for a municipality with a population of less than 20,000, Londonderry falls below the national lower quartile of 5.2 acres of parkland per one thousand residents. The national median is 12.9 acres of parkland per one thousand residents. With only two Township

parks, Londonderry has almost 2,500 residents per park. The national median for a municipality under 20,000 residents is 1,233 and the upper quartile is 1,974, so the Township falls well above the number of residents per park that would be found in most locations in the US.

Acres of Park Land per 1,000 Residents

NRPA 2022

12

SUNSET PARK

Located on the west side of the Township, Sunset Park is Londonderry's primary park. It has several outdoor amenities including picnic pavilions, children's playgrounds, four (4) ball fields, two (2) bocce ball courts, a basketball court, beach volleyball, and horseshoe pits. Sunset Park is also where several Township special events take place, including the Stars & Stripes Salute, an annual fundraiser honoring Veterans and current service men and women. The picnic pavilions, equipped with electric, lights, and charcoal grills, hold between 50 and 150 people.

In 2019, the Township received a grant for $150,000 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for further development of Sunset Park. The project included the construction of a pedestrian walkway, comfort station, parking area, ADA access, landscaping, a project sign, and more site improvements. The park currently has no room for additional growth.

Horseshoe Pits at Sunset Park

SUNSET GOLF COURSE

Adjacent to Sunset Park, Sunset Golf Course offers a recently updated 18-hole par 70 Championship Course with over 6,400 yards in length. In addition, the course offers a driving range, snack bar, and a rentable banquet facility that can seat 115 guests. The course is open to the public and is managed and operated by the Township.

Map of Holes at Sunset Golf Course

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BRAEBURN PARK

On the eastern side of the Township, Braeburn Park is a 5.3 acre park with a baseball/soccer field, two (2) tennis courts, a basketball court, and a small playground. Braeburn Park is not as centrally located as Sunset Park and lacks access and parking.

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Sunset Park hosts several recreational programs for residents to enjoy including the following:

- The Londonderry Horseshoe Pitching Association, which hosts a league that runs from May through August

- Bocce Ball games

- Londonderry Athletic Association

  - T-Ball & Baseball for ages 5-12

  - Girls Slow- and Fast-Pitch Softball for ages 5-18

- Boy and Girl Scouts Troops

ADDITIONAL RECREATION

In addition to the Township parks, State Game Land #246 is located in Londonderry. The game land consists of 423.7 acres in the northern part of the Township. There are two maintained parking areas, both of which are readily acccessible from State Route 341 (Roundtop Road) and State Route 2002 (Schoolhouse Road). The game land has a single horseshoe shaped road that provides access by foot only. In addition to hunting deer, turkeys, squirrels, and rabbits, some trapping, hiking and bird-watching are common on the land.

Image of State Gameland #246. Photo Credit: Brianna Marks.

Bordering the Susquehanna River, it is no surprise that that Township also has a boat launch. The Canal Lock Boat Launch is located northwest of the Sunset Golf Course. The boat launch is free to use, and is commonly accessed by kayakers, other boaters, and bird and wildlife watchers.

14

HOUSING & AFFORDABILITY

QUICK FACTS

88.7%
OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSES

2,284
HOUSING UNITS

$165,800
MEDIAN HOME VALUE

Londonderry Households 2010-2027

HOUSEHOLDS

Between 2010 and 2020, Londonderry Township saw a small increase in number of households. According to ACS estimates, in 2010, there were 1,719 households. By 2020 there were about 2,132 households. The number of households in Londonderry is projected to continue to increase slightly, to an estimated 2,294 households, by 2027. To the right is a graph showing the change in households within the Township.
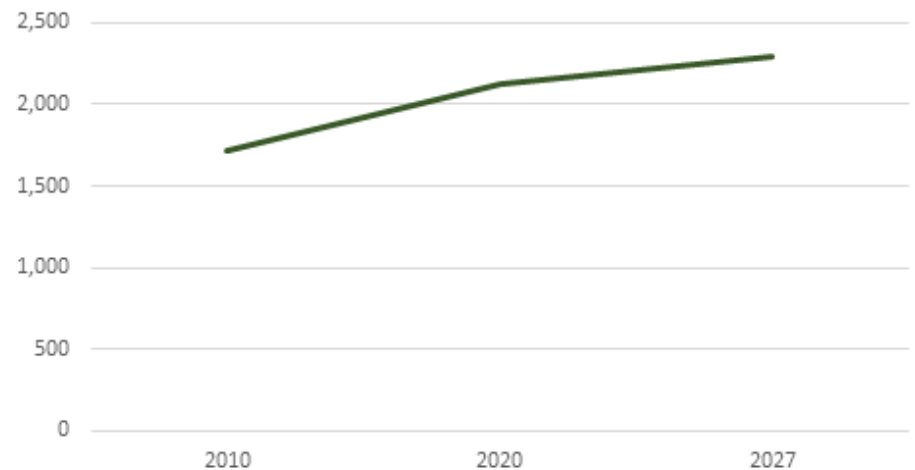
HOUSING UNITS

In 2020, the ACS estimated there were 2,284 total housing units within the Township, including units occupied by households and vacant unit. This is consistent with the number of units found in surrounding municipalities. The following graph shows a comparison of the number of housing units for Londonderry Township and the neighboring communities.

15

Number of Housing Units
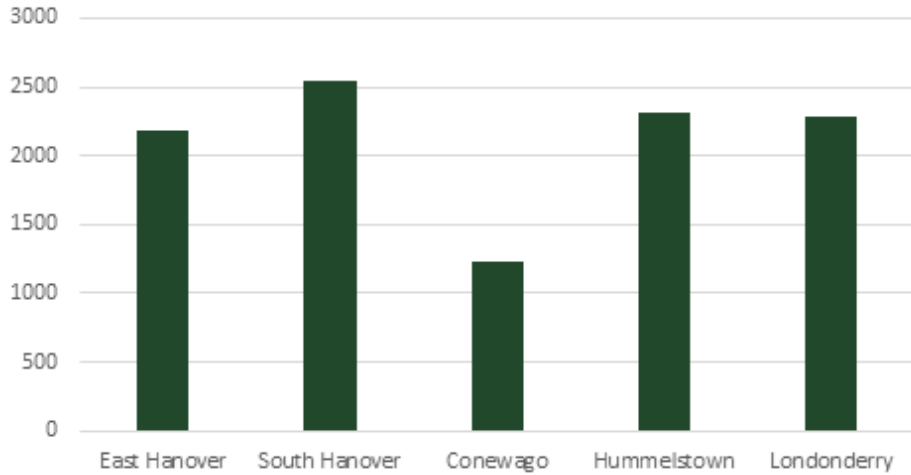
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

Housing Occupancy, 2020

■ Owner Occupied ■ Renter Occupied ■ Vacant
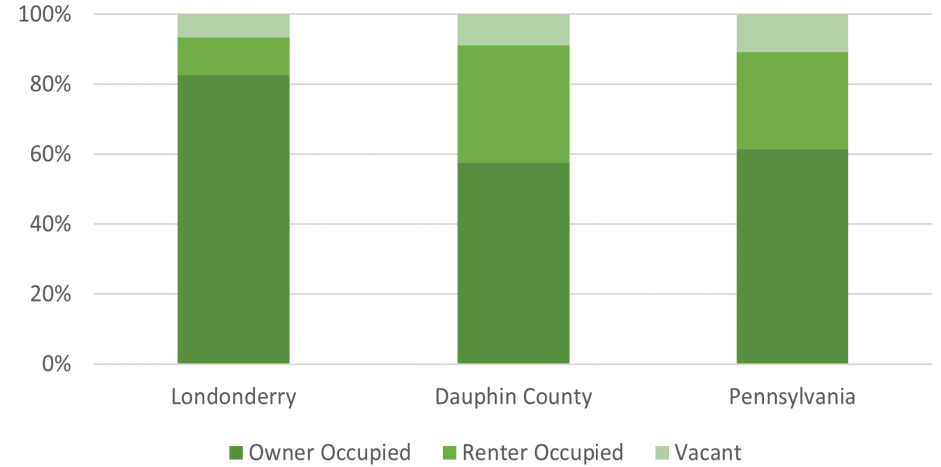
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

Of Londonderry Township's total housing units in 2021, 82% were owner-occupied, 10% were renter-occupied, and 6% were vacant. Londonderry's homeowner rates were higher than the ownership rates in the County and the State. The following graph provides a comparison to Dauphin County and Pennsylvania.

The table below compares housing tenure and occupancy rates for Londonderry Township and the surrounding municipalities. In terms of housing ownership, Londonderry Township is most similar to Conewago Township. The surrounding municipality with the highest owner-occupancy rate was East Hanover Township at 87.6%. Hummelstown Borough has the lowest vacancy rate in the area at below 1%.

	% Owner Occupied	% Renter Occupied	% Vacant
Londonderry	82.8%	10.6%	6.6%
East Hanover	87.6%	9.9%	2.5%
South Hanover	69.4%	26.8%	3.8%
Conewago	84.7%	10.6%	4.7%
Hummelstown	52.5%	47.5%	0%

Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

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The median value of owner-occupied units in Londonderry Township was $165,800 in 2020, which is just below the average for the County and Pennsylvania. The largest percentage of houses, about 41%, in Londonderry are valued between $100,000 and $200,000.

Londonderry Township Housing Value of Owner Occupied Units (2020)

Legend:
- Under $100K
- $100K-$200K
- $200K-$300K
- $300K-$400K
- $400K-$500K
- $500K-$1M
- Over $1M

Pie chart values: 3.80%, 0%, 2.70%, 11.50%, 14.20%, 41.20%, 26.70%
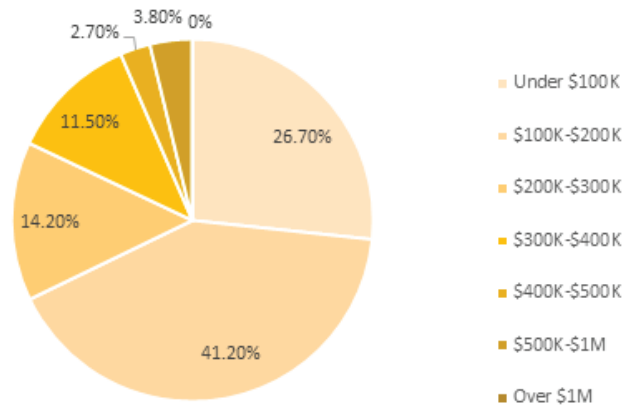
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

Most of the population moved into their current home between 2010 and 2018 (29.4%) followed by those who moved prior to 1989 (27.3%) and those who moved between 2000 and 2009 (26.7%). Only 3% have moved to their current home since 2019. The below graph provides a summary of Londonderry Township's Housing Tenure.

Year moved in, by percentage of population (2020)

Before 1989	1990-99	2000-09	2010-18	2019 or later
27.30%	13.10%	26.70%	29.40%	3.40%
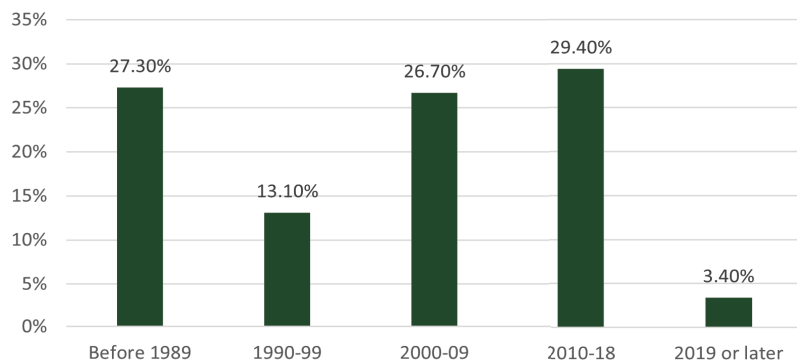
Source: US Census ACS 2020 5-Year

AFFORDABILITY

The National Association of Realtors (NAR) Affordability Index measures whether or not a typical family could qualify for a mortgage loan on a typical home. A typical home is defined as the national median-priced, existing single-family home as calculated by NAR. The typical family is defined as one earning the median family income as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. The prevailing mortgage interest rate is the effective rate on loans closed on existing homes from the Federal Housing Finance Board. These components are used to determine if the median income family can qualify for a mortgage on a typical home.

A value of 100 in the NAR Affordability Index means that a family with the median income has exactly enough income to qualify for a mortgage on a median-priced home. An index above 100 signifies that families earning the median income have more than enough income to qualify for a mortgage loan on a median-priced home, assuming a 20 percent down payment. For example, a composite HAI of 120.0 means a family earning the median family income has 120% of the income necessary to qualify for a conventional loan covering 80 percent of a median-priced existing single-family home. An increase in the HAI, then, shows that this family is more able to afford the median priced home.

Based on the Affordability Index values reported in the ESRI Business Analyst Reports, the Township is a very affordable place to purchase and own a home. The Housing Affordability Index for Londonderry Township in 2022 was 143, meaning a family earning the median family income has 143% of the income necessary to qualify for a conventional loan. Thus, Londonderry Township is a fairly affordable place to live in Dauphin County.

ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT

QUICK FACTS

$64,038
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

154
BUSINESSES

15.7%
TOP EMPLOYMENT SECTOR (RETAIL TRADE)

Dauphin County due to the several hospitals located in Harrisburg and Hershey, including the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and UPMC Harrisburg. Manufacturing was the fourth largest revenue-generating sector in Dauphin County. These data can be seen in greater detail on the following page.

DAUPHIN COUNTY OVERVIEW

Based on the most recent U.S. Economic Census from 2017, the top revenue-generating industry sectors in Dauphin County were Wholesale Trade, Healthcare and Social Assistance, and Retail Trade. This differs from the State industry totals, where Manufacturing, Retail Trade, and Wholesale Trade were the three top revenue-generating sectors. Healthcare generates a larger portion of the revenue in

Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

Dauphin County Sales, Value of Shipments, or Revenue ($1,000) by Industry, 2017

Other Services (except Public Administration)
$1,188,818

Accommodation and Food Services
$909,014

Manufacturing
$3,690,679

Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
$1,209,410

Wholesale Trade
$7,259,128

Health Care and Social Assistance
$9,029,888

Educational Services
$72,832

Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
$698,824

Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
$391,178

Transportation and Warehousing
$1,018,979

Retail Trade
$4,185,295

ABOUT THE DATA:

Businesses are grouped into industries using the two-digit designation assigned by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). The category "other services," designated NAICS 81, includes repair and maintenance; personal care and laundry services; religious, grantmaking, civic, and professional organizations.

Banking & insurance, telecommunications, information, construction, resource extraction industries, and utilities industry data were not available; the information is withheld by the U.S. Census Bureau to avoid disclosing data for individual Dauphin County companies.

Dauphin County Employment by Industry Sector, 2017

SOURCE: 2017 U.S. Economic Census, https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/data/tables.html
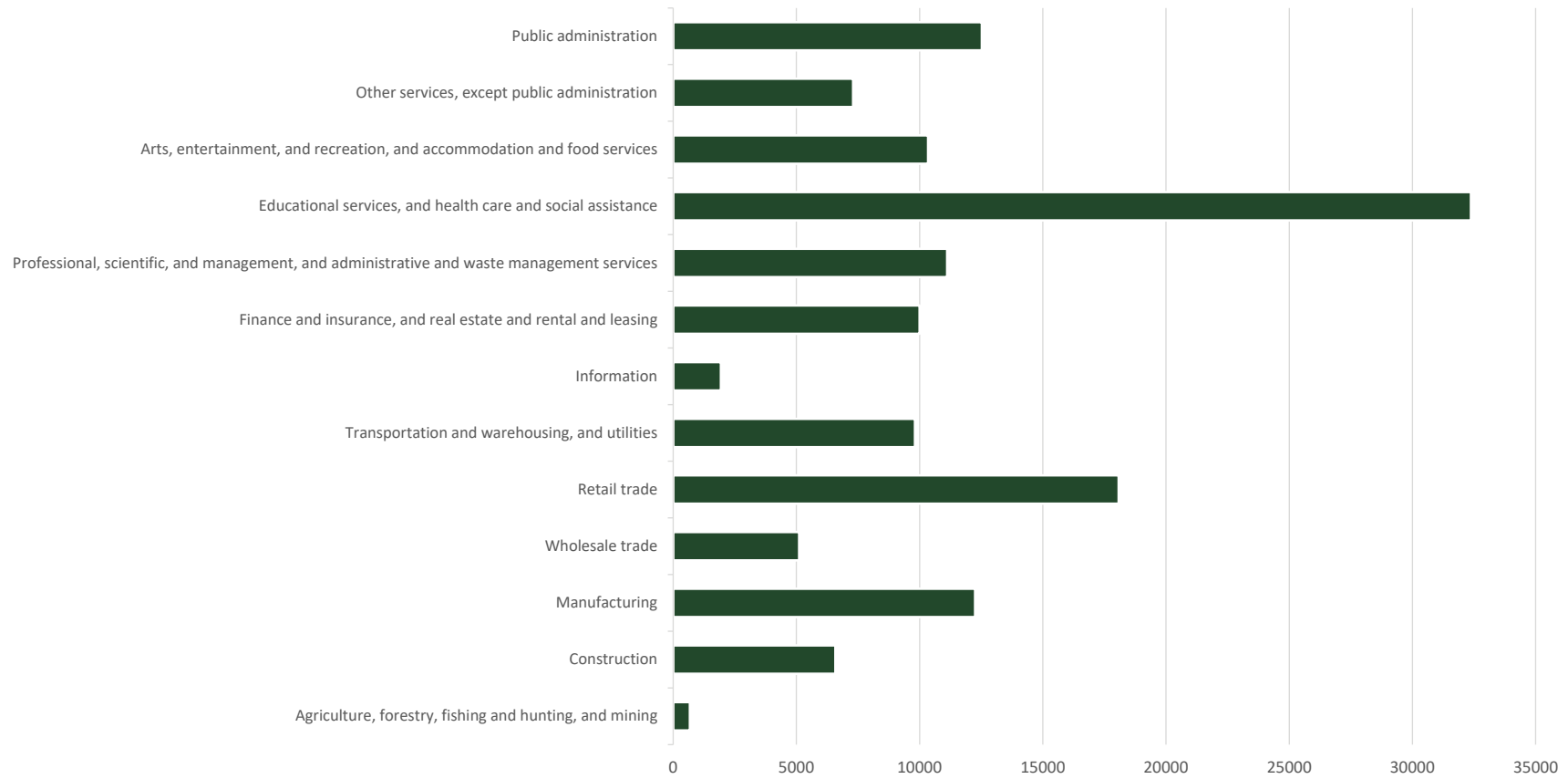
The following discussion utilizes 2017 data for comparison with the most recent revenue data available, therefore, the data shown here may not be consistent with 2020 ACS data used elsewhere in this report.

In 2017, Dauphin County had an unemployment rate of 5.3%, which was lower than the State unemployment rate of 6.4%. The chart above shows the employment of workers in the County by sector in 2017. Education Services, and Healthcare and Social Assistance was the largest employer. This is not surprising as Healthcare and Social Assistance, a subgroup of this sector, was the second largest revenue generator. The sector that employed the second most workers was Retail Trade, which was the third largest revenue generator. Wholesale Trade, which was the largest revenue generator, was the third smallest employer.

The more well-paying jobs an industry provides, the greater its potential positive impact on the local economy. In 2017, the median annual earnings for full-time, year-round employees, sixteen years and older was $45,809.00. At the same time, the median annual earnings in Pennsylvania was over 22% less, at $36,708.00. The chart on the following page shows median annual earnings for the employment sectors in Dauphin County in 2017. Healthcare and Social Assistance, the largest employer and second largest revenue-generator, has a slightly higher than average median annual earnings at $42,367.00.

20

Dauphin County Median Annual Earnings by Employment Sector, 2017

Bar chart titled "Dauphin County Median Annual Earnings by Employment Sector, 2017". Y-axis: Annual Earning (Dollars), from $0 to $70,000. X-axis: Employment Sector.

Employment Sector	Median Annual Earnings
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:	$36,984
Construction	$46,594
Manufacturing	$47,625
Wholesale trade	$43,288
Retail trade	$36,322
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities:	$49,729
Information	$50,215
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing:	$44,238
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services:	$51,198
Professional, scientific, and technical services	$62,715
Educational services	$51,879
Health care and social assistance	$42,367
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services:	$29,677
Other services, except public administration	$41,903
Public administration	$55,179

SOURCE: 2017 U.S. Economic Census, https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/data/tables.html

EMPLOYMENT IN LONDONDERRY TOWNSHIP

Based on ACS data, Londonderry's labor force in 2020 was comprised of 2,594 residents. Of those 2,594 residents, 2,554 were employed and 40 were not. This represents an unemployment rate of 1.5%, down significantly from 9.1% unemployment in 2010. In comparison, Dauphin County's unemployment rate in the beginning of 2020 was 4.4%, down from 6.1% in 2010, and the State of Pennsylvania's 2020 unemployment rate was 5.4%, down from 7.3% in 2010. Low unemployment is expected to continue in Londonderry for the next few years with at least 1,500 jobs being created by the current warehouse development projects, as well as additional commercial employment at the Lytle Farm Development, once completed.

The top industries employing Township residents in 2022 according to ESRI Retail Market Analysis estimates were Retail Trade (15.7% of the workforce), Manufacturing (10.8%), and Health Care/Social Assistance (9.7%). Wholesale Trade and Transportation/Warehousing also employ a significant percent of the workforce, at 8.1% and 7.4% respectively. More importantly, location quotients indicate that these two industries are present at a greater concentration in the Township, relative to the US as a whole, with additional growth expected in this sector based on the previously stated job growth from the warehouse developments.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON EMPLOYMENT

During the COVID-19 pandemic, national unemployment rates rose to levels not seen since the 1930s. The mid-year 2020 unemployment rate in Dauphin County was significantly higher than previous years because of lay-offs and business closures, both temporary and permanent. Low-wage jobs and minority employees were disproportionately impacted by the mix of layoffs and temporary and permanent business caused by the pandemic (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, June 16, 2021).

Across Pennsylvania, 30.9% of employers offered increased opportunities to work from home during the pandemic. Job loss in occupations that offered the ability to work from home was considerably smaller than other occupations (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Response Survey to the Coronavirus Pandemic, September 2020).

RETAIL MARKET POTENTIAL

Dauphin County Unemployment Rate
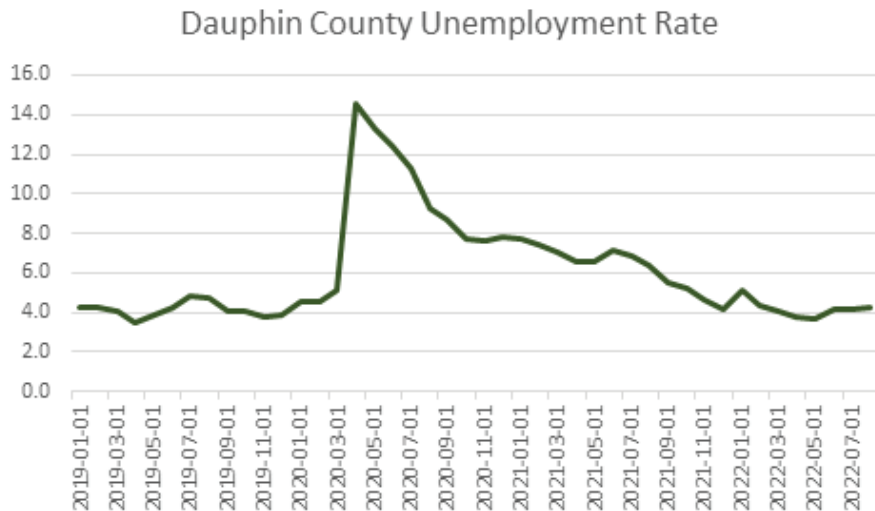
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The 2022 ESRI Retail Market Potential Report analyzed particular market sectors and consumer behaviors for Londonderry Township. Sectors such as Apparel, Automobiles, Electronics, Entertainment, Financial, and more were scored using the Market Potential Index (MPI). The MPI measures the relative likelihood of adults or households, in the specified trade area, to exhibit certain consumer behavior or purchasing patterns, compared to U.S. trends. An MPI of 100 represents the U.S. average.

The Report organizes the MPI scores by category (i.e. Restaurants or Travel) and subcategory (i.e. went to a fast food restaurant in the last 6 months or took an international trip in the last 6 months). Below are the average scores for selected categories analyzed in the Retail Market Report.

Product/ Consumer Behavior	Average MPI Across Subcategories
Apparel	102
Automobiles	108
Cell Phones	98
Computers	101
Entertainment	91
Financial	106
Grocery	102
Health	96
Home	107
Restaurants	98
Travel	94
Total Average	**100**

SOURCE: ESRI Business Analyst 2022

In general, Londonderry Township performs at the national average for market potential, with a total mean MPI of 100. This average is based on having a mix of products performing well above the national average, such as Automobiles (108) and Homes (107), while others such as Entertainment (91) and Travel (94) are several points below the national average. This may be due in part to the mean age of the population.

LAND USE

QUICK FACTS

11
ZONING
DISTRICTS

2,132
HOUSEHOLDS

26.9
SQUARE
MILES

For more information regarding planning and land

development, please visit

https://www.londonderrypa.org/zoning-codes.php

EXISTING LAND USE & ZONING

Londonderry Township is currently home to a healthy blend of land use types. This is evident in the Township's current zoning map, which can be seen on the following page. The current zoning map provides for a mix of land uses, including agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, and two overlay districts. The Township's current zoning map provides for all land uses through the following zoning district designations:

AGRICULTURAL

RESIDENTIAL R-1

RESIDENTIAL R-2

COMMERCIAL C-1

COMMERCIAL C-2

INDUSTRIAL I-1

INDUSTRIAL I-2

PLANNING RESEARCH

MOBILE HOME-RESIDENTIAL

TND OVERLAY DISTRICT

AGRICULTURAL OVERLAY DISTRICT A-O

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Londonderry Township Zoning Map (2002)

A large majority of Londonderry Township is zoned either Agricultural (light green color on the map), or Residential, specifically either R-1 (light yellow) or R-2 (light orange). The agricultural zoning districts are found largely in the northeastern part of Londonderry Township as well as the southern portions. Many of the islands in the Susquehanna River are also zoned Agricultural. In addition, the Township has an Agricultural Overlay District along certain roadways, including River Road, Schoolhouse Road, and Round Top Road.

The Residential Zoning Districts in Londonderry are located throughout parts of the Township including several areas in the northern part of the Township and the center of the Township. The majority of residentially zoned parcels are zoned R-1. The R-1 zones are scattered throughout the Township in the north, south, east, and west. By comparison, the R-2 parcels are located south of State Route 230, between SR 230 and Foxianna Road. Part of this R-2 parcel also has the Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND) Overlay. Another R-2 zone is located around Newberry Road and Lauffer Road, near the Township border with Middletown Borough.

The Township is also home to several mobile home park communities. These communities are zoned Mobile-Home Residential and are identified in a darker green color on Londonderry's zoning map.

Commercially zoned areas of the Township, shown in brown hues on the zoning map as C-1 and C-2 Districts, can be found predominantly along State Route 230 as well as in and around the exit ramps of Route 283. The State Route 230 corridor and the areas near the exit ramps of 283 have been key areas for growth and development in recent years. There is a C-1 zoning district in between the railroad tracks and near the Susquehanna River on the western border of the Township.

The Township does have some areas with Industrial zoning. These areas are somewhat scattered throughout Londonderry. There is an I-1 District, shown in light blue, located off of SR 230; Three Mile Island is zoned I-2. There is also an area zoned, Planning Research (light gray on the zoning map), in between Swatara Creek Road and SR 230, just north of the Township's R-2 zone.

24
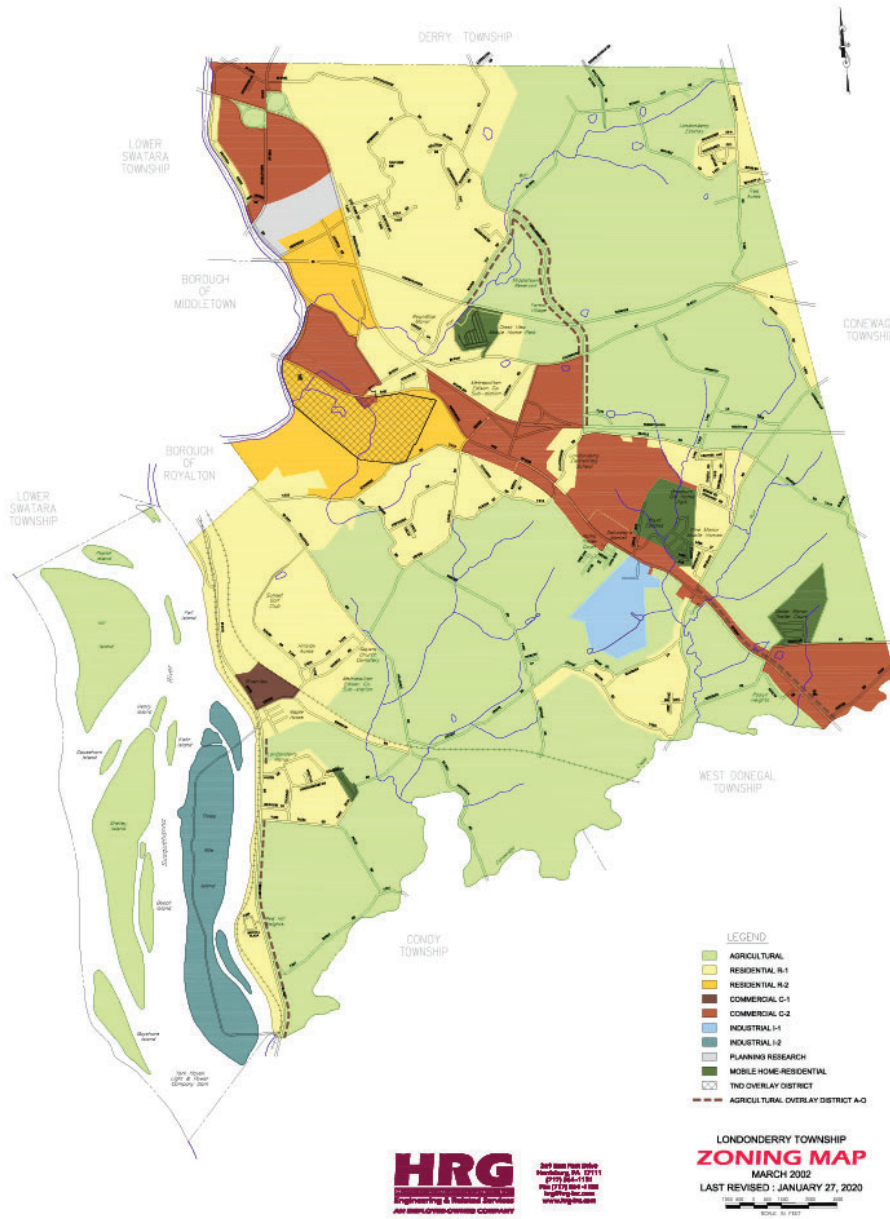
FUTURE LAND USE CONSIDERATIONS

There are currently several warehouse developments either planned or underway in the east, west, and middle of the Township, primarily along State Route 230 and near the exit ramps and interchanges along Route 283. Since the approval of these projects, the Township has decided that new warehouse developments will not be permitted. However, once completed, the existing projects will bring significant employment to the area, increasing the need for housing and transportation. As such, it is important for the Township to establish targeted areas for development, while continuing to preserve its prime agricultural lands.

The Township would like to establish a "town center" within its borders; this is the reason for the TND Overlay District along State Route 230. The Overlay is a key target area for potential mixed use development and could support a mix of housing and smaller-scale, neighborhood-style commercial uses. The presence of these land use types would help to create a town center atmosphere in the middle of the Township.

Goals for future land use in the Township should maintain the rural and agricultural feel to the south and north while targeting areas for continued commercial, industrial, and mixed use development in the central section along State Route 230 and 283. Development of the central section would be enabled by the location of sewer lines running from the Derry Township Muncipal Authority (DTMA) treatment facility north of the Route 283/ Vine St interchange, down Swatara Creek Rd and Iron Mine Rd to Route 230, and then east along Route 230 to Hertzler Rd. The zoning of these areas will be explored in more detail in the Plan, including recommendations for zoning district changes. In addition, the zoning ordinance will be reviewed to ensure that a proper mix of land uses is encouraged in the targeted development areas.

The former Par Line Golf Course property sits vacant and its future reuse is another important element to explore in this Plan. The future use of Three Mile Island is also a key component in the future of Londonderry. The site continues to be under environmental remediation and will likely not be developable during the life span of this Comprehensive Plan.

The image above depicts part of the vast agricultural land in the Township. Overall goals for future land use of the Township should be to maintain the rural and agricultural feel to the south and north.

The image above depicts existing low-density commercial development along Route 230. Future land use goals should include targeting areas for continued commercial, industrial, and mixed use development in the central section along State Route 230 and 283.

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PUBLIC FACILITIES & AMENITIES

QUICK FACTS

4,899
RESIDENTS

1
EMS STATION

1
FIRE STATION

UTILITIES

To meet the needs of the citizens, Londonderry Township is served by a variety of utility providers. Electricity is provided by Met-Ed, a First Energy Company, gas is provided by UGI Utilities, sewer provided by Derry Township Municipal Authority (DTMA), and water is provided by Pennsylvania American Water.

The Township's sewage management is divided into five districts, three public sewer districts and two on-lot management districts. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) mandates the management of these systems through the Pennsylvania Sewage Faciltities Act (Act 537), more commonly known as the Act 537 Program. The Act 537 Program requires all municipalities to develop and implement a comprehensive sewage facilities plan outlining the Township's plan to meet its sanitary sewer needs, which DEP expects to be implemented promptly. The Township's implementation of their Act 537 plan has included several sewer expansion projects, the most notable being the Route 230 extension which began in 2021. This extension will connect with the Derry Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) Southwest Treatment Plant through an intergovernmental agreement to provide services to the area.

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BROADBAND & WIRELESS

Based on data provided by the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA), an independent agency tasked with creating a statewide broadband plan and distributing Federal and State funds for broadband extension projects, all of Londonderry Township is served by mobile wireless internet and satellite. Most of the Township is also served by cable internet, digital subscriber line (DSL), and fiber optic cable. Internet providers in the area include Xfinity, CenturyLink, Frontier, Verizon, T-Mobile, HughesNet, and Viasat. The fastest download/upload speeds available are 1,000 megabites per second (mbps) and 940 mbps, provided by Xfinity and Verizon respectively.

WASTE & RECYCLING

Weekly waste disposal in Londonderry Township is provided by X/S Waste Transport Inc. X/S Waste Transport is a family-owned and operated trash disposal company that has served the region for over twenty years.

Yard waste is not accepted as part of the curbside trash pickup. However, yard waste recycling is provided by the Public Works Department. Grass, leaves, and other yard waste may be dropped off, free of charge, seven days a week from dawn to dusk.

Household goods recycling is provided by Dauphin County, with drop off sites throughout the County. Londonderry Township's officially designated recycling drop off site is Conewago Township, however, all designated sites are available to County residents. Magazines, office paper, phone books, corrugated cardboard and boxboard, newspapers and inserts, aluminum and tin cans, and plastic bottles with recycling symbols on them may be dropped off at the recycling drop off locations. Dauphin County Recycling Center (DCRC), located in Harrisburg, also provides a drop off location for unwanted or obsolete electronics, appliances, computers, batteries, cell phones, thermostats containing mercury, paint cans and many more items. Confidential shredding services are also provided on-site. The DCRC is open Monday through Friday.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Londonderry Township is required to have a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), under the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PADEP's) National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II permit program for storm water discharges from storm sewer systems. The Township has taken several actions to ensure the proper handling of stormwater, as well as to prevent illicit discharge, and improve and protect water quality. In 2010, the Township adopted a Stormwater Management Ordinance (SWMO). They have also developed plans for:

- Stormwater Public Education and Outreach
- Construction Site Runoff Control
- Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New and Redevelopment
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction

Several projects have also been completed to improve water quality through infrastructure and best management practices:

- Conewago Creek Stream Restoration, currently underway

- Swatara Creek Riparian Buffer

- Sunset Golf Course Meadows

- Sunset Park Riparian Buffer

- Sunset Meadows Expansion

- Pollinator Garden at Sunset Park

- Example Rain Garden at the Londonderry Township Building

SCHOOLS

Londonderry is part of the Lower Dauphin School District, which serves four additional municipalities- the Borough of Hummelstown and the Townships of Conewago, East Hanover, and South Hanover. The School District covers close to ninety square miles and is home to 24,736 residents. Approximately 4,000 students attend the District's schools, with enrollment increasing over the last several years. Within the District there are five neighborhood elementary schools (K-5), a middle school (6-8), and a high school (9-12):

- Lower Dauphin High School

- Lower Dauphin Middle School

- Conewago Elementary

- East Hanover Elementary

- Londonderry Elementary

- Nye Elementary

- South Hanover Elementary

There is one elementary school in each of the municipalities served by the District. The middle school and high school are both located in Hummelstown Borough. Additionally, the District includes Price School, which provides a supportive, customized instructional environment for trauma-sensitive students through the Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA).

Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS), a full-time, comprehensive public career and technical school located in Harrisburg, serves Lower Dauphin School District, as well as Central Dauphin, Derry Township, Halifax Area, Harrisburg, Middletown Area, Millersburg Area, Steelton-Highspire, Susquehanna Township, and Upper Dauphin School Districts. DCTS provides programs in construction and manufacturing; visual arts & information technology; health sciences and public services; and transportation, as well as adult and continuing education programs.

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Fire & Emergency Services Department coordinates work in all areas of public safety, including the fire departments, state police, traffic safety, fire codes, and safety related to workers' compensation.

Fire Department

Founded in 1963, the Londonderry Fire Company is an entirely volunteer fire department serving the Township and surrounding communities, including Susquehanna River and Three Mile Island.

Ambulance

Operated out of Londonderry Fire Company No. 1, Londonderry Ambulance is the last fully volunteer ambulance company in Dauphin County.

Special Fire Police

The Londonderry Township Special Fire Police are volunteers and members of the fire company, who provide essential on-scene traffic and crowd control for fires and other 911 dispatched emergencies, as well as planned events in the Township and surrounding area. Fire Police receive specialized training about how to protect fire fighters and equipment by safely controlling traffic and crowds, how to identify hazardous materials, and information about the National Incident Management System.

Emergency Management Agency

The Emergency Management Agency (EMA) was formed to assist the community, fire and police departments with responding to local emergencies. EMA staff trains a team of volunteers to assist the community in case of emergency.

Three Mile Island Emergency Planning

In addition to planning for standard emergencies, the location of the TMI Nuclear Power Plant within the Township requires planning for a potential nuclear emergency. While both Units 1 and 2 are officially in the decommissioning process, nuclear materials remain on site and, therefore, still pose a risk. Emergency planning for TMI is now the responsibility of Dauphin County and Exelon Generation, the site's owner. Emergency Planning for the Three Mile Island Area: Important Safety Information for Your Community and the Annual Special Needs Survey outlines the actions that should be taken in case of a nuclear emergency.

Police Department

The Township does not have its own municipal police department. Instead, law enforcement is provided by the Pennsylvania State Police-Troop H. Troup H serves the Harrisburg Region, including Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, and Perry Counties.

FINDINGS

WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM THIS TRENDS REPORT?

- Demographics – Together, Londonderry residents ages 60-69 and ages 0-9 comprise almost one third of the population. This means that the Township must simultaneously plan for an aging population and young families. Further, the number of households is expected to increase in the foreseeable future, so the Township must be prepared to support growth. The ramifications of these demographics will play an important role in planning for the future of Londonderry.

- Transportation – The location of Londonderry and proximity to arterial roadways helps with accessibility but requires residents to own a car. Commute times to work are average for the region. Current and near future transportation improvement is limited to bridge repair. Walkability/bikeability for transportation purposes is non-existent.

- Parks & Recreation – Sunset Park is a highlight of Londonderry Township, serving multiple open space purposes. While smaller and less accessible, Braeburn Park also serves an important purpose from a recreation standpoint. The Township might consider whether all its parks, recreation, and open space needs are being met, and will continue to be met, in these two parks.

- Housing & Affordability – Compared to its neighbors, Londonderry sits right in the middle for the percentage of homes that are owner occupied. The Township is on the lower end of percentage rentals and the higher end for percentage vacant. Londonderry is a highly affordable location in Dauphin County.

- Economy & Development – Average annual earnings in Londonderry are well above those for the State. While Educational Services, and Healthcare and Social Assistance are strong in the region, Londonderry has proportionally high employment from Wholesale Trade and Transportation/Warehousing, compared to the rest of the country. This is expected to continue, with 1,500 to be created by the current warehouse development projects, along with commercial jobs from the Lytle Farm Development.

- Land Use – Londonderry has diverse land use including residential, commercial, and industrial, as well as two overlay districts. The Township appears to be clear regarding where future development should occur as well as open to the idea of zoning changes to achieve those outcomes.

- Public Facilities & Amenities – Londonderry is meeting the current needs of its residents through well-coordinated service offerings, and the help of dedicated volunteers. The Township has placed stormwater management and emergency planning high among its priorities for the safety and well-being of its residents.

Together these findings provide a foundation, to begin work on a Comprehensive Plan for Londonderry Township.

APPENDIX B

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Community Survey Recap

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY

LONDONDERRY TOWNSHIP PARK RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Location: Londonderry Township Municipal Building

May 31, 2024

Londonderry Township conducted an online community survey to gather information and feedback from residents and community members on parks, recreation facilities and amenities, open spaces and trails. The responses will be utilized along with State and National Park and Recreation Standards and Trends, and feedback from other community engagement efforts to help guide the goals, objectives and recommendations that will be included within the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan. The following is a summary of the results that were received.

Please note that all "Other" or Open-Ended responses are included as provided by the respondents.

1. Are you a Londonderry Township resident?

● Yes	73	
● No	4	
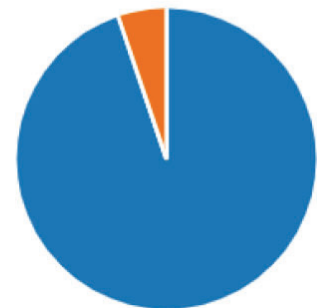
2. Please select the age groups of the members in your household. (Select all that apply)

Age group	Count
Younger than 12 years of age	41
13-18 years of age	12
19-24 years of age	10
25-34 years of age	23
35-44 years of age	24
45-54 years of age	14
55-64 years of age	14
65 years of age or older	19
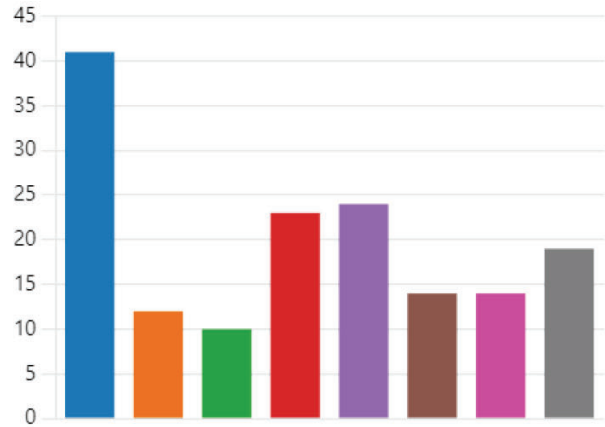
3. If you are involved in a local organization (athletic groups, senior programs, etc.). which ones do you/participate/belong?

33
Responses

Latest Responses

↻ **Update**

8 respondents (**24**%) answered **LAA** for this question.

park neighborhood
baseball association high school Londonderry Braeburn park
Rec league Dauphin Youth Lower LAA dauphin Crush Softball
Silver Sneakers Softball No Athletic Association kids are older
baseball and tennis school baseball dauphin falcons school programs
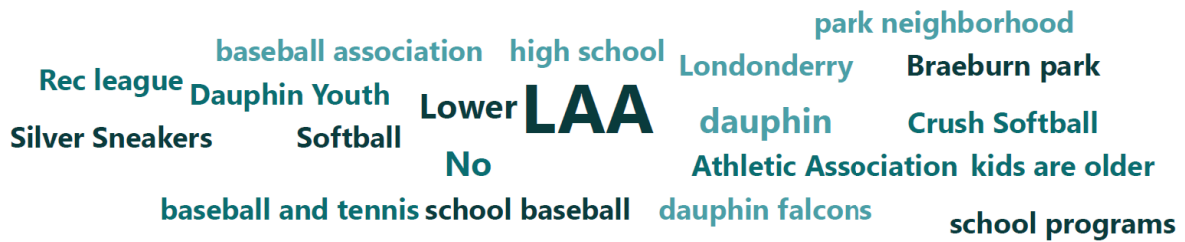
4. On average, how often does your household visit a Township-owned park? Township-owned parks include, Braeburn Park, Sunset Park and Sunset Golf Course.

🔵	Daily	2
🟠	Several times per week	16
🟢	Several times per month	19
🔴	Several times per year	30
🟣	I / We do not visit parks.	10
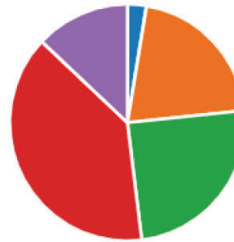
5. Please select the park(s) in the Township you visit the most frequently. Select all that apply (If other, list park and municipality).

🔵	Braeburn Park [Highland and Bo...	16
🟠	Sunset Park [2401 Sunset Drive]	56
🟢	Sunset Golf Course [2601 Sunse...	17
🔴	Middletown Reservoir [Roundto...	20
🟣	I / We do not use any parks in L...	6
🟤	Other	6
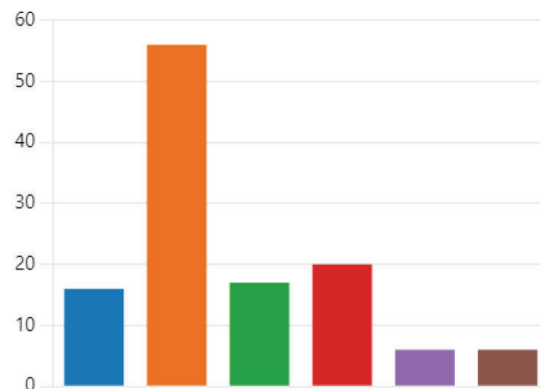
"Other" responses to question #5 include:

- Gelder Park- Derry Township
- Cocoa Castle- Derry Township
- East Hanover Community Park- East Hanover
- Danny Fisher Park, Conewago
- Used to visit sunset for baseball but son is older now
- Not aware of these. Tried Sunset grill years ago but not so friendly
- Visit other parks in area to walk
- I was not aware of these parks

6. Why do you visit these parks the most? (Select all that apply)

🔵 Sports Fields / Courts (baseball ...	34
🟠 Public Programming or Special ...	6
🟢 Simple Relaxation, Enjoy the Ou...	36
🔴 Attend Private Party	13
🟣 Spend Time with Family / Friends	25
🟤 Play at the Playgrounds	44
🟣 Exercise / Fitness, Walk or Bike f...	31
⚫ I / We don't visit any Londonder...	7
🟡 Other	7
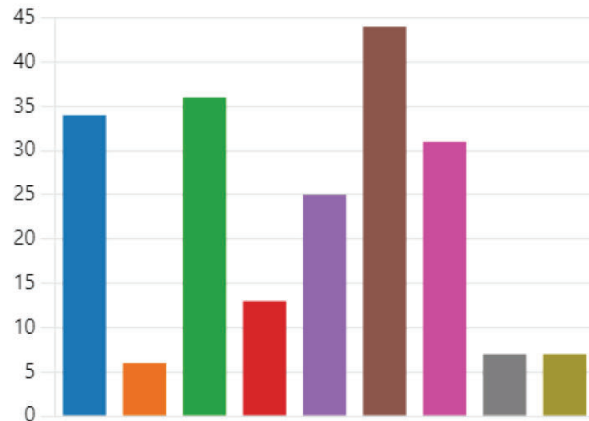
"Other" responses to question #6 include:

- Fishing
- Golf (2)
- Location (3)

7. Is there a park that you DO NOT use for a specific reason? (Select all that apply)

🔵 Braeburn Park [Highland and Bo...	28
🟠 Sunset Park [2401 Sunset Drive]	2
🟢 Sunset Golf Course [2601 Sunse...	8
🔴 Middletown Reservoir [Roundto...	10
🟣 I / We do not use any parks in L...	5
🟤 Other	2
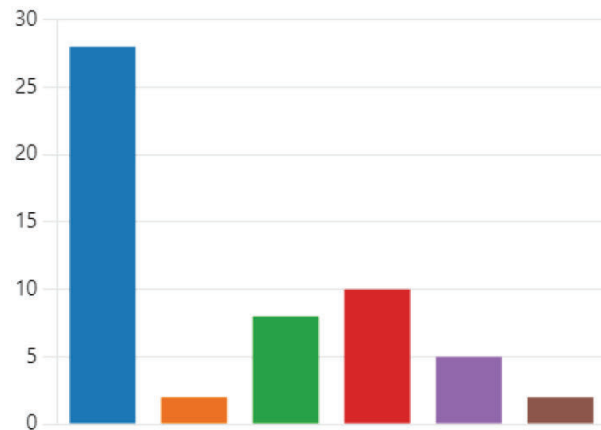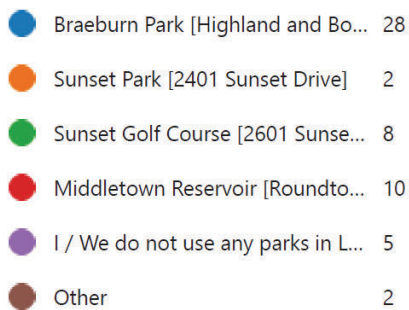
"Other" responses to question #7 include:

- Not aware of which ones, hours, location so use the Rail Trails and Trolly Park.
- Didn't know about it!

117

8. If you selected a park for the previous question, why don't you use that park. (Select all that apply)

● Too far away	5	
● Doesn't have the facilities that I ...	14	
● Safety and security concerns	4	
● Maintenance concerns	8	
● Didn't know the park existed	13	
● Other	5	
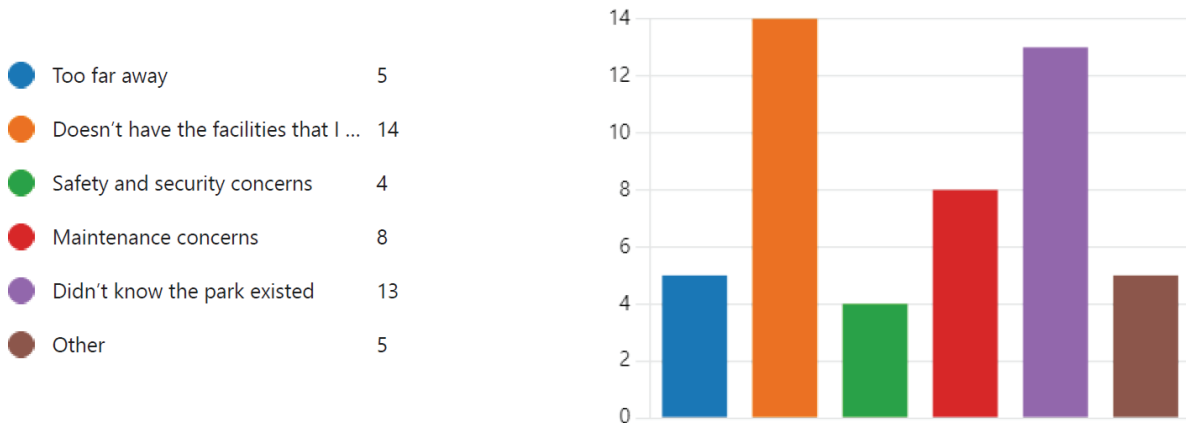
"Other" responses to question #8 include:

- Havet started golfing but may in the future
- Have no reason to visit
- Not much there
- We would use Braeburn Park more often, but the rusty fence, lack of basketball nets, and lack of playground equipment is discouraging. We often drive to Conewago because they have a MUCH nicer playground with more equipment and it is in great shape. Braeburn also doesn't have a bathroom.
- The people that go there are not appropriate for kids to be around

9. On average, how often does your household visit a park located outside of Londonderry Township?

● Daily	1
● Several times per week	14
● Several times per month	31
● Several times per year	24
● I / We do not visit parks.	6
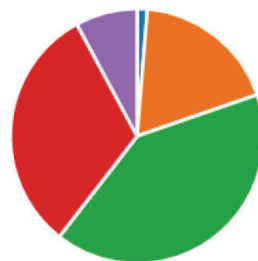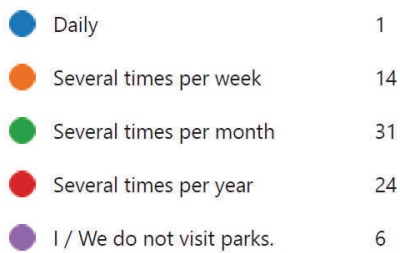
10. What parks/recreation areas that are <u>outside of the Township</u> do you visit? (Select all that apply)

🔵 Kiwanis Park [50 Canal Street, M...	3
🟠 Etnoyer Park [S Wood Street, Mi...	1
🟢 Hoffer Park [325 Mill St, Middlet...	34
🔴 Conoy Township Park [101 Gove...	11
🟣 Lee Fishel Community Park of G...	0
🟤 Terry Dolan Memorial Park [900 ...	0
🩷 Shelley Park [420 Cassel Road, ...	0
⬜ Conewago Recreation Trail [238...	43
🟡 Other	32
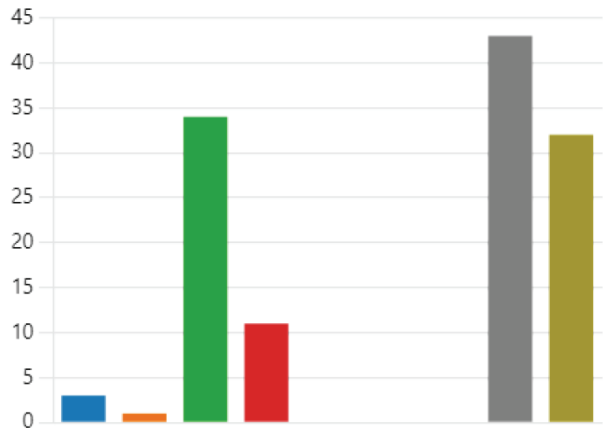
"Other" responses to question #10 include:

- Cocoa Castle- Derry Township
- East Hanover Community Park- East Hanover
- Amos Herr park
- Any place with Pickleball
- Bullfrog
- Conewago Elementary / Parks by Conewago Elementary (2)
- Shanks Park (2)
- Danny fisher memorial park (3)
- Wohlgemuth park-Elizabethtown (2)
- Derry Township
- Etown fun fort
- Etown parks (2),
- Hershey parks
- Etown playgrounds
- Lititz playground
- Mount Joy playground
- Gelder Park (6)
- Oak Hills Park
- George Park (2)
- Shank Park
- Hockey park in Elizabethtown near library
- Hummel Nature Trail & Shiavonni Park
- Middletown HS for tennis courts
- None
- Northwest River Trail

- Old Trolley Line Park (4)
- Parks on the River Trail
- South Hanover parks
- Treehouse playground
- several in Harrisburg
- Raphael Township Park
- Chickies Rock

11. For what reason do you use parks outside of Londonderry Township? (Select all that apply)

🔵 Closer to home	7
🟠 More facilities and amenities	36
🟢 Facilities and amenities are mor...	35
🔴 Facilities and amenities are mor...	26
🟣 Facilities and amenities are mor...	19
🟤 Other	11
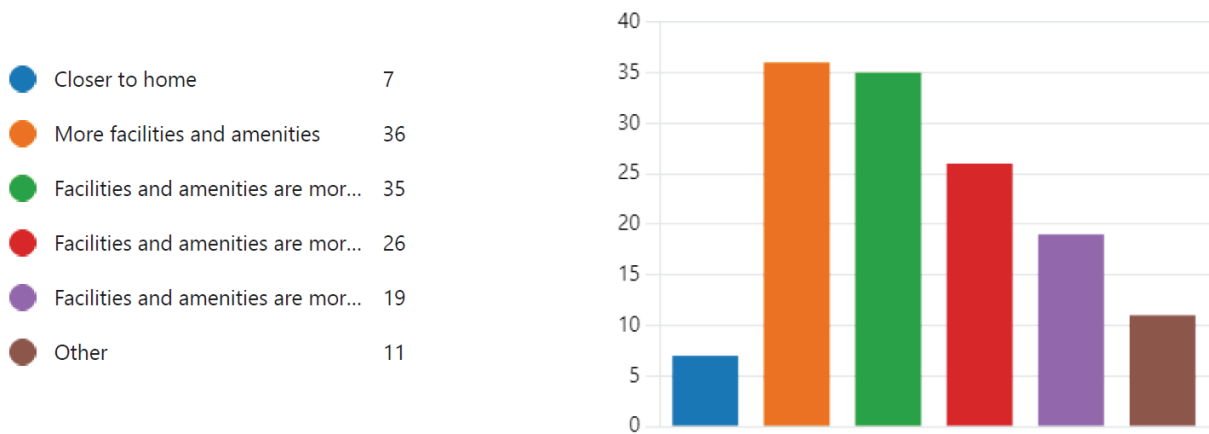
"Other" responses to question #11 include:

- Don't really know what the township offers or where located.
- Closer to after-school activities
- Craft shows
- A lot more nature... Native plants and not many invasive plants
- I use the trail for running and biking, has more distance available
- None
- Pickleball
- Tennis Courts
- Walking trail, trails for toddler bikes
- Walking trails/paths
- We bike on the trail and have picnics.

12. Which amenities would improve your experience at any of the Londonderry Township parks? Rank the importance to your household.
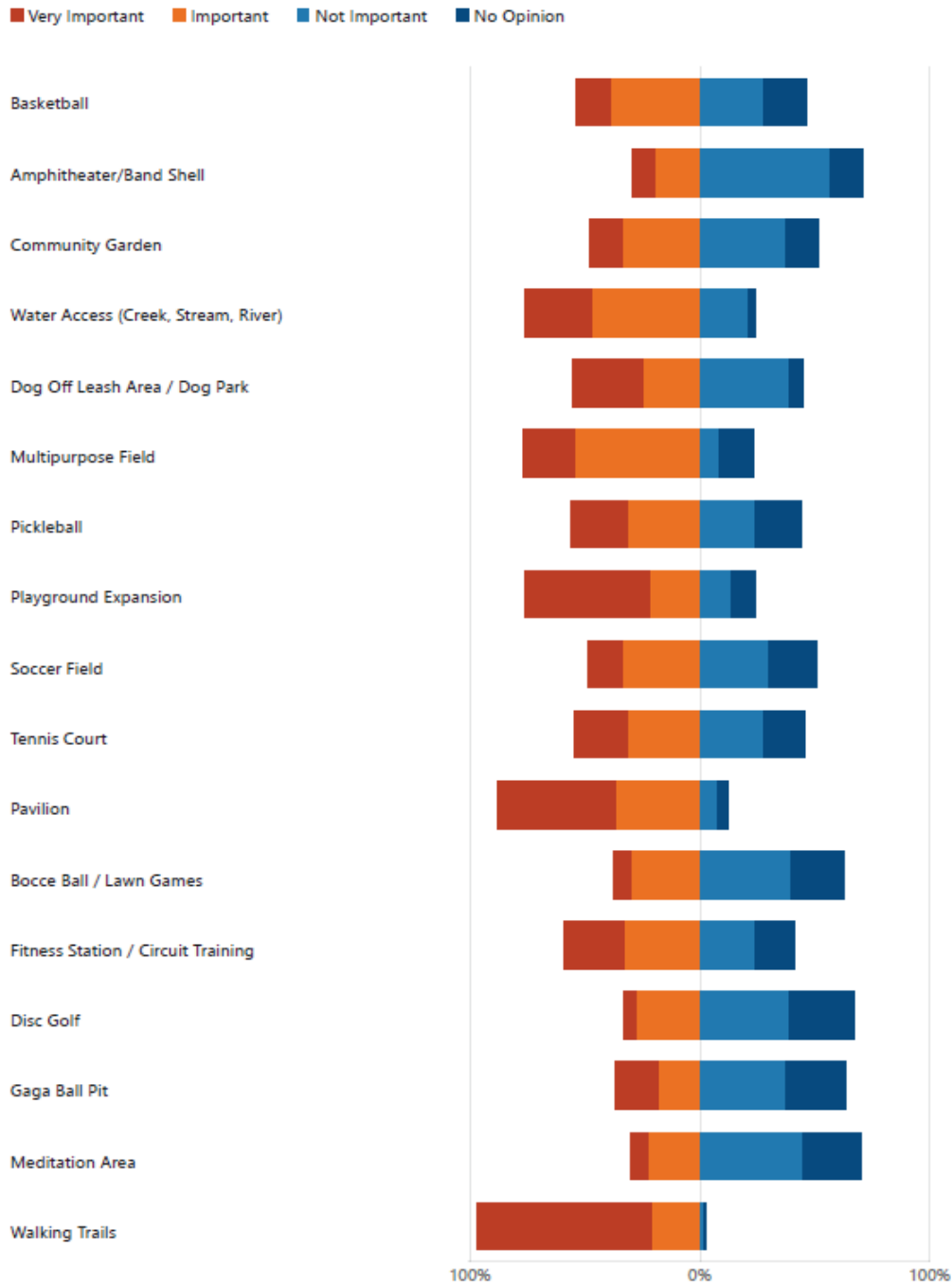
13. How would you rate the current maintenance at Braeburn Park? 1 Star = Poor, 5 Star = Excellent (Please skip if you do not visit this park)

1.76
Average Rating
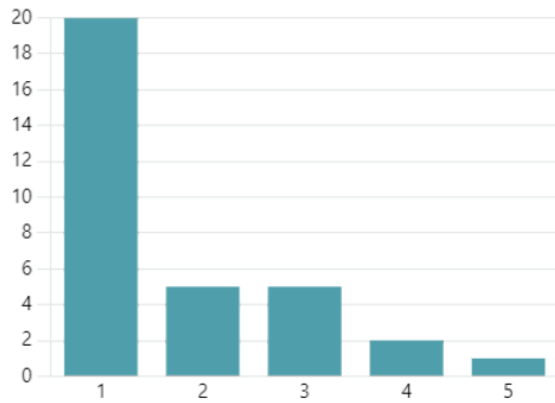
14. How would you rate the current maintenance at Sunset Park? 1 Star = Poor, 5 Star = Excellent (Please skip if you do not visit this park)

3.74
Average Rating
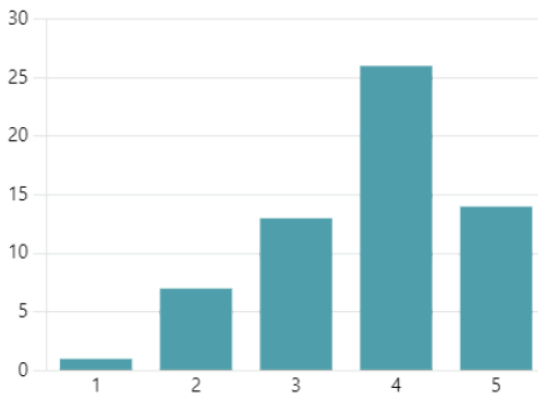
15. How would you rate the current maintenance at Sunset Golf Course? 1 Star = Poor, 5 Star = Excellent (Please skip if you do not visit this park)

3.95
Average Rating
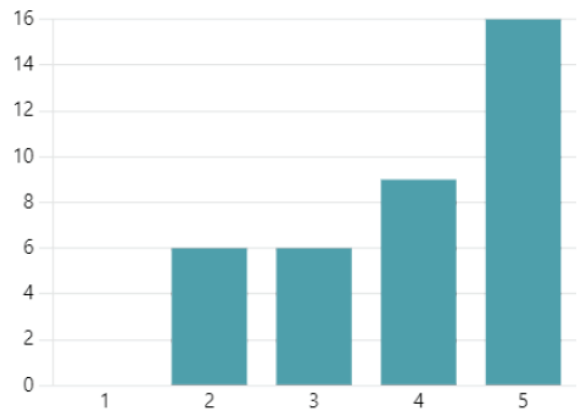
16. Do you walk, run or bike within the Township? (Select all that apply)

- Currently walk within the Towns... 54
- Currently run within the Township 11
- Currently bike within the Towns... 17
- I do not currently walk, run or bi... 17

17. Would you like improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in the Township? (i.e. sidewalks, tails, bike lanes) (Select all that apply)

🔵 Yes, I would like increased pede...	61
🟠 Yes, I would like increased pede...	28
🟢 No, I would not like bicycle and ...	7

18. What type of water activities do you participate in? (Select all that apply)

🔵 Fishing	36
🟠 Kayaking / Canoeing	30
🟢 Boating	18
🔴 Birding	15
🟣 Other	11

"Other" responses to question #18 include:

- None
- Enjoyment
- Swimming (2)
- Playing in the Creek
- Skipping Stones
- Kids throw sticks and rocks
- Swimming- Olympic size pool with concession stands
- Car shows
- Hiking & Mountain Biking

19. On a scale from 1 to 5, how important is it that the Township protect and preserve natural resources within the Township? (Examples of natural resources are riparian buffers, stream corridors, woodland, open spaces)

🔵 5 - Extremely important	54	
🟠 4 - Somewhat important	11	
🟢 3 - Neutral	7	
🔴 2 - Somewhat not important	1	
🟣 1 - Not important	1	
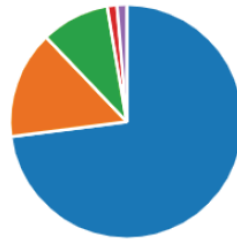
20. How do you learn about news, updates and events happening in the Township (including this survey)? (Select all that apply).

🔵 Community Events	6	
🟠 Township Newsletter	45	
🟢 Family / Friends	31	
🔴 Newspaper Article	8	
🟣 Township Website	16	
🟤 Email	5	
🩷 Londonderry Township's Facebo...	55	
⚫ Other	2	
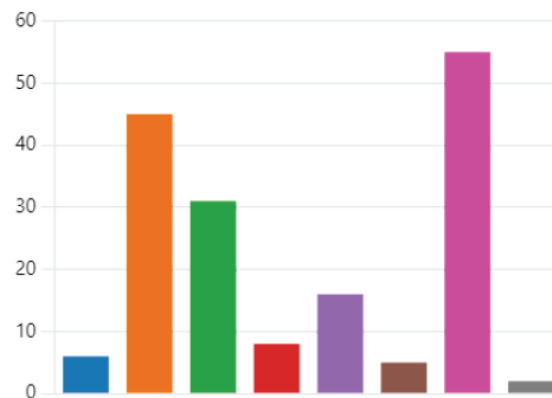
"Other" responses to question #20 include:

- I get the ETown messenger so no info on the Township
- The kids school

21. What additional recreation programs would you like to see offered in the Township? (Select all that apply)

Legend	Count
● Outdoor / Environmental Progra...	25
● Fitness classes (i.e. Zumba)	29
● Adult-Centered programming (i....	20
● Senior Programming (i.e. Bocce ...	17
● Teen Programming (i.e. Dodgeb...	18
● After school programs (For yout...	25
● Inclusive programming (i.e. Aer...	24
● Passive Recreation Programmin...	29
● Other	5
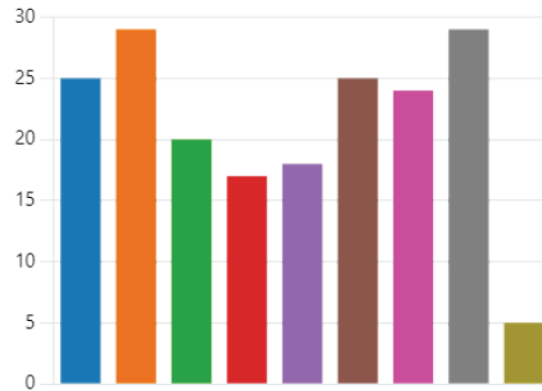
"Other" responses to question #21 include:

- Swimming Facility
- Gym
- Sumer programming for kids
- Youth Sports Clinics (maba offers some)
- Nature trails, with trees, water, flowers,etc to draw in birds, frogs, fish, etc.

22. Over the next 3 to 5 years, what do you think Londonderry Township's focus for parks and recreation should be? (Select all that apply)

Legend	Count
● Offering a greater variety of recr...	33
● Offering a greater variety of spe...	17
● Development of Township trail /...	48
● Enhance recreational amenities ...	27
● Enhance recreational amenities ...	32
● Increased access to water resou...	22
● Increased protection, acquisitio...	30
● Environmental improvements to...	29
● Nothing – maintain the status q...	3
● Other	4
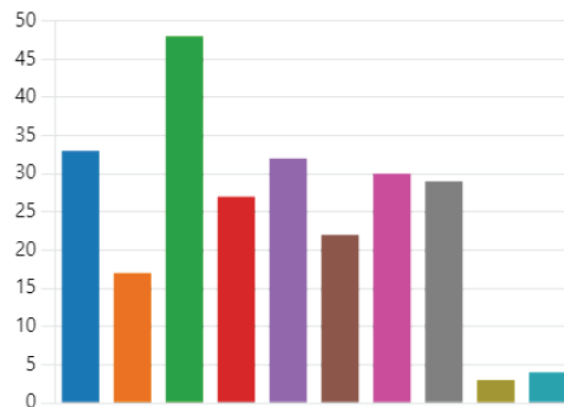
"Other" responses to question #22 include:

- More info so residents can find out what's available. Communication is poor.
- tennis courts at Sunset would be great
- Stop building on the farms and woods with empty warehouses that are awful ugly and taking the land away.
- Acquisition of property for park development

23.   Are there any additional comments you would like to make related to parks and recreation in Londonderry Township?

- A very smooth top on the basketball courts at Braeburn would allow for rollerblading and roller hockey which would be amazing. We could have one basketball court (rarely used) and one hockey court
- All for more walking paths, something around sunset park? Paved pathways for walking like Danny fisher memorial park would be amazing. I end up driving up there just to walk in a safe area.
- Braeburn Park is and has always been neglected.
- Braeburn park is in very poor condition and has not had any updates/maintenance in over 30 years. I think this should be a focus with many young families living in the surrounding areas.
- Braeburn park needs a serious upgrade.
- Bring more programs for the community. Get more Community involvement.
- I grew up around the corner of Braeburn park, the maintenance and park itself has seen much better days but it's never been taken the best care of. Updated playground equipment, small pavilion of some sort, removal of the tennis court, better walkways or paths around the area and possibly an updated basketball court are reasonable updates that are much needed!
- I have 5 acres surrounding my home at ▉▉▉▉▉▉▉▉ in the township.   On Friday a surveyor set up on my property and I am guessing it was related to a walking trail. If I wanted people walking near my home, I would have bought a home in town with sidewalks. I value my privacy and the quietness of country living. Fitness trails sound good until it comes near YOUR home and brings with it loud people, barking and pooping dogs, trash, and just general invasion of privacy. I just request that you take into consideration how you would like people walking through your private backyard at anytime of the day. I would appreciate being contacted about this matter. ▉▉▉▉▉ ▉▉▉▉▉▉
- I have always thought that having an area set aside like at Little Buffalo with their walk-in Olympic sized pool, water spray area, and concession stand would be a huge plus for the township. The closest thing is in Little Buffalo an hour away. It would definitely be a huge draw and could provide additional income and interest to the township.
- I know Sunset park gets a lot of the attention because of all of the ball fields and the golf course being right there. I totally understand as I grew up playing for LAA. However, Braeburn park hasn't been touched since I've been alive and I'm almost 34 years old. The neighborhood of Braeburn is extremely young again with countless young families and children under the age of 10. I hope that a large focus is put on making Braeburn a beautiful park not just for those of us who live in the

neighborhood, but for everyone in Londonderry so that there is another great park for the youth to play at.

- I wish township still had summer program for kids. From 8-12 with activities and fun for kids in the township. My kids were so sad when this was stopped.
- I would strongly support a nine hole disc golf course at and around Sunset Park and Golf Course.
- "I'd like to see the township acquire the property that was Par Line golf course and use it for active and passive recreation.
- I'd like to see a junior golf development program since there are facilities at Sunset GC.
- I'd like something to be done with the tennis courts at Braeburn, either replace or remove them. They're an eyesore for the Township.
- I'd like to see developers pay more in fee in lieu of fees. "
- I'd love tennis courts anywhere at or near sunset park. Bike trails would be great as well, possibly connecting to the nw River trail.
- Interested in walking and hiking, dog friendly trails. Concerns that organized sports bring increased light pollution, traffic, and noise.
- Lately I've noticed at sunset park older kids have been vandalizing the playground and buildings. It would be nice if inappropriate drawing could be covered up so younger kids don't see them.
- More opportunities for people to get together and help one another.
- More resources are desperately needed to improve Braeburn park. If the park and amenities are supported I am confident the park will see more use. Our family and neighbors want to use the space but it is not maintained to a place we feel comfortable doing so. Additionally, this is a great location within the township which is can be a valued resource for many in the vicinity.
- My youngest is 3 and walka with a walker. My eyes have been openes up to how inaccessible our world is for the handicap. I would love to see more handicap accessible areas. Trails that are paved, playgrounds with the smooth rubber (he cant use his walker in the mulch. He also still crawls and scoots around on his butt and thats hard to do in mulch), etc. Lets make the world a better place for people who have disabilities.
- None, thank you.
- Pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball pickleball
- Please conserve our township land!! We don't need anymore warehouses or apartments / trailer communities!
- Repave Swatara Creek Rd - adding in designated pull off areas and bike/walking trails through twp owned areas. Buy corner lot of Elwood and Newberry - turn into park with playground.
- Stop with the warehouses!
- Thanks for asking our opinion! More trails at sunset would be awesome. And expanding that playground or updating some parts!
- Township looks great, well maintained IMO. More programs for youth in the summer and a better job at getting the word out about them and incentives to attract youth to healthy outlets and activities. Partner with other organizations and businesses to roundup support and programs.
- Walking trails would be a huge benefit. I go to the conewago trail very frequently and would use something in the township.
- We were drawn to Londonderry Twp. nearly 20 years ago due to its rural appeal and schools. With all of the building up of Londonderry, the township is quickly changing to a place I no longer

recognize. I do not know that we will stay here for the duration, as originally planned. It's imperative that there are farmland and environmental preservation plans put into place for Londonderry Twp. or it will completely change into your typical suburban area full of warehouses and trucks. It's sad.

- Would LOVE if some of these suggestions would happen within the township - especially things for the kids to sign up for similar to MARA or GEARS in Etown that we get charged more for being a non-resident!

- Would love to thank you all for including the residents of Londonderry Twp with this survey!! You all ROCK!!!!

APPENDIX C

PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- Park & Recreation Facilities Map
- Site Visit Forms

Derry Township

Connect to Swatara Creek Greenway

SCHOOLHOUSE RD

LANDVATER RD
WALTONVILLE RD
SHOPE'S CHURCH RD

Iron Run

Lower Swatara Township

VINE ST

NISSLEY RD
MILLER RD
ROUND TOP RD
SNAVELY RD
STEINRUCK RD

SGL 246

Conewago Township

283
283
76

Middletown Reservoir

ROUSH RD

I-76

Brills Run

IRON MINE RD
Iron Run
341

341

76

Middletown Borough

ADELIA ST

SCHOOLHOUSE RD

KENNEDY LN

230
283

283
Beagle Rd

Braeburn Park

ELM RD
283

Royalton Borough

WATER ST

441

FOXIANNA RD
FELKER RD
STEPHANIA DR

230

BRINSER RD

LYNCH RUN

N DEODATE RD
S DEODATE RD

To Aberdeen Mills

Sunset Golf Course

SUNSET DR
HILLSDALE RD

Sunset Recreation Area/ Open Space/Rugby Field

N HERTZLER RD

Brills Run

HOFFER RD

Mount Joy Township

Susquehanna River

W HILLS ISLAND RD
W SHELLEYS ISLAND RD

GEYERS CHURCH RD

WHITMAN LN
SHERTZLER RD

230

Connect to Conewago Trail and mowed trails

Goldsboro Borough

E HILLS ISLAND RD

LIBERTY LN

GINGRICH RD
LOCUST GROVE RD

Lancaster County

West Donegal Township

PECKS RD
ZION RD

CONSTITUTION DR

ENGLE RD

441

911 Trail Connection to Northwest River Trail

Susquehanna River

PRINCE ISLAND RD

Conoy Township

Newberry Township

York County

York Haven Borough

Legend

- Londonderry Township Municipal Building
- Londonderry Township Fire Department
- Middletown Public Library
- Middletown Post Office
- Parks and Playgrounds
- Open Space Parcels

Interstate
PA Highway
State Route
Other Roads
State Gamelands

Railroads
Dauphin County Parcels
Londonderry Township
Municipal Boundary

1,600 0 1,600 Feet

Parks & Open Spaces

Londonderry Township
Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

SITE INVESTIGATION FORM

CLIENT Londonderry Township
PROJECT NAME Londonderry Township PROS Plan
PROJECT # 001068.0558
DATE OF SITE VISIT 02/29/2024
CONDUCTED BY AE/KM

PARK NAME Sunset Park
OWNER Londonderry Township
LOCATION 2601 Sunset Dr.

HOURS OF OPERATION Dawn to dusk
SIZE 136 acres total; 24 acres parkland

SITE DESCRIPTION Sunset Park is a large community park and consists of a golf course, baseball/softball fields, a rugby field (not in use), basketball courts, a volleyball court, lawn games, and pavilions. The park is locked at dusk with a Park gate and is regularly patrol by local authorities.

PLAY & EXERCISE

5-12 YEAR OLD

Equipment ☒ Large Structure **(1999)**   Freestanding ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐   Swings ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☒ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☒ ADA Walkways ☒ Seating areas **(Not ADA Accessible)**

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism
☐ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☒ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring
☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☒ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts
☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☒ Rusted/corroded metals ☐ Rot

Description Equipment appears to be in good condition despite its age. Township reported that some pieces cannot be replaced due to the fact the playground manufacturer no longer makes specific pieces. Aside from minor cracks or worn pieces in pieces, the equipment looks dated. Equipment – Playworld

U5 YEAR OLD

Equipment ☒ Large Structure **(2001)**   Freestanding ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐   Swings ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☒ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☒ ADA Walkways ☒ Seating areas **(Not ADA Accessible)**

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism
☐ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☐ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring
☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☐ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts
☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☒ Rusted/corroded metals ☒ Rot

Description Play area has 2 tot swings and 2 flat bench swings, a seesaw, a dinosaur spring rocker, and 2 car spring rockers. Equipment appears to be in good condition, though it looks aged and has minor wear and rusting. The metal bench (adult swing) swing is dated, rusted and is fair condition.

U5 YEAR OLD

Equipment ☒ Large Structure   Freestanding ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐   Swings ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☒ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☒ ADA Walkways ☒ Seating areas **(Not ADA Accessible)**

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism
☒ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☐ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring
☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☒ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts
☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☒ Rusted/corroded metals ☐ Rot

Description Play area has a play structure and a seesaw. Equipment appears to be a good-fair condition, though it is showing signs of wear, aging, and rusting.

* Reference Appendix A *Suggested General Maintenance Checklist* from *Handbook for Public Playground Safety*, pages 44 and 45.

CO

TYPE	QUANTITY	CONDITION	BLEACHERS?	DESCRIPTION
Tennis	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor	☐ H ☐ V	

Pickleball	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V
Basketball	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V

Court recently resurfaced. No court lines. "lips" created at court edges to prevent drainage issues. (2) Single post hoops in good-fair condition.

Bocce ball	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	☒ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V

Bench seating accompanied with pits. 3 daytime and 2 nighttime leagues. Leagues maintain.

Horseshoes	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V

Bench seating accompanied with pits.

Volleyball	☒ ☐ ☐ ☒	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	Sand? ☒ Y	☐ N

Wooden posts, net removed during winter months; 2 composite benches at court

DOG PARK

☐ Yes ☒ No Separation of small and large dog? ☐ Y ☐ N # of areas ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Agility Course ☐ Y ☐ N

☐ Water ☐ Gated entrance ☐ Seating ☐ Shade **Condition** ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Poor

Description No dog park present.

FIELDS

TYPE	QTY	CONDITION			BLEACHERS?		DESCRIPTION
Baseball	☒ ☒ ☒ ☒	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☒ H	☒ V	(4) baseball/softball fields – good/fair condition. Fields 1-3 used heavily. Batting cage under construction. Soccer used to play in the outfields. No response from Township. No major drainage issues. Scoreboards present.
Softball	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Multi-purpose	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Football	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Soccer	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Lacrosse	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Field hockey	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Hockey	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	

CONNECTIVITY

☐ **Walking Trail** Length:_____ Surface: ☐ Natural ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt

☐ **Walkways** Surface: ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

☐ **On-Street Parking** ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt # of spaces _____ ADA? ☐ Y ☐ N Qty ____

☒ **Parking Lot** ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☒ Asphalt # of spaces __83___ ADA? ☒ Y ☐ N Qty __8__

☐ **Sidewalks to Park** ADA? ☐ Y ☐ N Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

☐ **Bike Lanes / Paths** ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt **Bike Rack** ☐ Y ☐ N Qty ___

☐ **Bus Stop** Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

AMENITIES

TYPE	QTY	CONDITION			DESCRIPTION	
Restrooms	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☒ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☒ N	Self composting toilet (not open yet) and port-a-potties. Restrooms in concession stand need to be updated.
Benches	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Pavilion	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☒ Poor	ADA ☒ Y ☒ N	Largest pavilion is ADA accessible, other 2 are not. Small pavilion near creek – Part of the pavilion fell into creek. See notes for more information.
Gazebo	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Band Shell	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Amphitheater	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	

Picnic tables	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N		Picnic tables at the pavilions. Wooden and composite picnic tables at park.
Trash receptacles	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	50 gal plastic tubs at park.		
Cooking grills	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	Cooking grills at pavilions. 2 per pavilion.		
Water Fountain	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor			
Little Lending Library							
Lighting	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	Type:	Field Lighting	
Security camera	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	Not aware of any security cameras; however, there is a park gated that is locked nightly and police patrol the park.		
Fencing	☒ Security ☐ Decorative	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☐ Stone ☒ Chain-link ☐ Split-rail ☐ Wrought iron		
Signage	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	Type:			Park identification signage at Sunset Dr.		

NATURAL ELEMENTS

☐ Stormwater BMP   ☐ Natural area   ☐ Wooded Area   ☐ Community Garden
☐ Pond / lake   ☐ Low Mow Areas   ☒ Shade Trees   ☐ Sensory Garden
☒ Stream   ☒ Lawn Area   ☐ Decorative Landscaping
                          ☒ Other
☐ Wetland   **(Pollinator Garden)**

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Rugby Field
  - Rugby club renting land for $1 for 50 years
  - Land was previously forested.
  - Current construction is showing wet areas and grass is not growing fully.
  - Septic tank is beginning to sink.
  - Leftover fill remains on the site; Soil should be distributed over the site to amend soil.
- Gravel walking path adjacent to rugby field (DCNR funded). Good-Fair condition. Township responsible for maintenance.
- Programming – Hosted 4th of July events at the park
- Golf course is profitable. Contains bar and grill restaurant. Superfund site.
  - Needs new roof and carpeting
  - Restaurant is open during the off-season and has regular programming (Thursday night entertainment)
- Pavilion Rentals
  - Call the Township and speak to the office manager to make reservation.
  - Matt prints reservation notice and posts at pavilion on day of reservation.
  - Reservations typically run from April-October; min. 2 per day Saturday and Sundays.
  - Interest in playground closer to pavilions
  - Interest in adding creating a new pavilion with ADA access.
    - Pavilion 1 capacity: 50 people
    - Pavilion 2 capacity: 50 people
    - Pavilion 3 capacity: 150 people
  - Pavilions have electric.
- Storage Garage (adjacent to baseball/softball fields and horseshoes)
  - Intended for storage for Londonderry Athletic Association and for horseshoes.
  - Would be interested in removing both buildings to create one large building
  - Currently no room to store freshly sifted topsoil
- Concession Stand/Garage (adjacent to concession stand)
  - Township and park storage
- Dead tree removal – New plantings
  - Township initiative, marked dead trees (typically ash trees, cause: emerald ash borer)
  - Replaced with native plantings

- Meadow plantings completed in 2020. Intentions to expand.
- Stream buffer restoration completed in 2022.
- About 50 trees have been lost
- They rebuilt the streambed in 2007-2008
- Baseball/Softball Field Maintenance:
  - Township mows; LAA maintains the fields
- Drainage issues
  - Running North to South along the asphalt drive near the volleyball court and the baseball/softball fields (Field 3).
- All fields are used regularly
- There was discussion about extending one or some of the fields and have portable mounds to allow for more age groups
- They have plans to expand the meadow that is in the parking lot area
- The batting cage is going to be improved this year
- One pavilion is falling into the stream, and they noted wanting to remove / move this pavilion.
- Restrooms are open during rentals and portable restrooms are delivered as well
- Restrooms are in need of updates to be ADA
- Mid March – October the restrooms are open
- Some grills need updating, and some have been updated within the last 10 years.

SITE INVESTIGATION FORM

CLIENT	Londonderry Township
PROJECT NAME	Londonderry Township PROS Plan
PROJECT #	001068.0558
DATE OF SITE VISIT	02/29/2024
CONDUCTED BY	AE/KM

PARK NAME Braeburn Park
OWNER Londonderry Township
LOCATION Highland Drive

HOURS OF OPERATION Dawn to Dusk
SIZE 5.37 acres

SITE DESCRIPTION Braeburn Park is located adjacent to a primarily aging community, though there are some younger families coming into the development. The park has a large open grass lawn, a small playground space, a basketball court, and two tennis courts (currently closed).

PLAY & EXERCISE

5-12 YEAR OLD

Equipment ☐ Large Structure Freestanding ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Swings ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☐ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☐ ADA Walkways ☐ Seating areas

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism ☐ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☐ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring ☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☐ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts ☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☐ Rusted/corroded metals ☐ Rot

Description

U5 YEAR OLD

Equipment ☐ Large Structure Freestanding ☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ Swings ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☒ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☐ ADA Walkways ☒ Seating areas **(metal bench adjacent to playground equipment)**

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism ☐ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☐ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring ☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☐ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts ☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☐ Rusted/corroded metals ☐ Rot

Description Playground equipment is in good condition, though it is faded and is dated. There are two swings in the playground area – (1) tot swing and (1) U swing. Seesaw. Underdrains were installed under the playground equipment to prevent drainage issues.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

Equipment ☐ Large Structure Freestanding ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Surface* ☐ Mulch ☐ Poured-in-Place ☐ No safety surface ☐ Problems w/ surface ☐ Displaced loose fill surface ☐ Holes/flakes/buckling of unitary Surface

Inclusiveness ☐ ADA Walkways ☐ Seating areas

Condition* ☐ Hazardous or dangerous debris ☐ Trash / broken glass ☐ Vandalism ☐ Broken equipment/loose bolts/missing caps/cracks ☐ Cracks in plastic ☐ Lose anchoring ☐ Use modifications (ropes/zip ties/equipment rearranged) ☐ Worn/loose/damaged/missing parts ☐ Insect damage ☐ Wood splitting ☐ Rusted/corroded metals ☐ Rot

Description

* Reference Appendix A *Suggested General Maintenance Checklist* from *Handbook for Public Playground Safety*, pages 44 and 45.

COURTS

TYPE	QUANTITY	CONDITION			BLEACHERS?		DESCRIPTION
Tennis	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☒ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	Courts have been closed off to the public. Surfaces have not been resurfaced in ~20 years. Chain link fencing is rusted.
Pickleball	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	

		QTY		CONDITION					DESCRIPTION
Basketball	☒ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V		Single post hoops, backboards in good condition. Nets in fair-poor condition (ripped); faded lines on asphalt.
Bocce ball	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V		
Horseshoes	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V		
Volleyball	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	Sand? ☐ Y	☐ N		

DOG PARK

☐ Yes ☒ No   Separation of small and large dog? ☐ Y ☐ N   # of areas ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐   Agility Course ☐ Y ☐ N

☐ Water ☐ Gated entrance ☐ Seating ☐ Shade   **Condition**   ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Poor

Description

FIELDS

TYPE	QTY		CONDITION			BLEACHERS?		DESCRIPTION
Baseball	☒ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☒ Poor	☒ H	☐ V	Grass overgrown into field. Can be used as a practice field. Minimal-no use. Anticipated that most teams use Sunset Park fields.
Softball	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Multi-purpose	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Football	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Soccer	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	Soccer nets at the edge of park boundary. Not in use.
Lacrosse	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Field hockey	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	
Hockey	☐ ☐ ☐		☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	☐ H	☐ V	

CONNECTIVITY

☐ **Walking Trail**   Length:_____   Surface: ☐ Natural ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt

☐ **Walkways**   Surface: ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt   Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

☐ **On-Street Parking**   ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt # of spaces _____   ADA? ☐ Y ☐ N Qty ____

☒ **Parking Lot**   ☒ Stone ☐ Concrete ☒ Asphalt # of spaces _____   ADA? ☒ Y ☐ N Qty _3_

☐ **Sidewalks to Park**   ADA? ☐ Y ☐ N   Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

☐ **Bike Lanes / Paths**   ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt   **Bike Rack** ☒ Y ☐ N Qty ___

☐ **Bus Stop**   Condition: ☐ Exc ☐ Good ☐ Poor

AMENITIES

TYPE	QTY	CONDITION			DESCRIPTION	
Restrooms	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Benches	☒ ☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☒ N	Metal benches
Pavilion	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Gazebo	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Band Shell	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Amphitheater	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Picnic tables	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor	ADA ☐ Y ☐ N	
Trash receptacles	☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	Wooden trash receptacle at basketball court	
Cooking grills	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor		
Water Fountain	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor		
Little Lending Library						
Lighting	☒ ☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	Lighting at basketball courts	
Security camera	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ Exc	☐ Good	☐ Poor		
Fencing	☐ Security ☐ Decorative	☐ Exc	☒ Good	☐ Poor	☐ Stone ☒ Chain-link ☐ Split-rail ☐ Wrought iron	
Signage	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	Type:			Safety signage; Park Identification signage	

NATURAL ELEMENTS

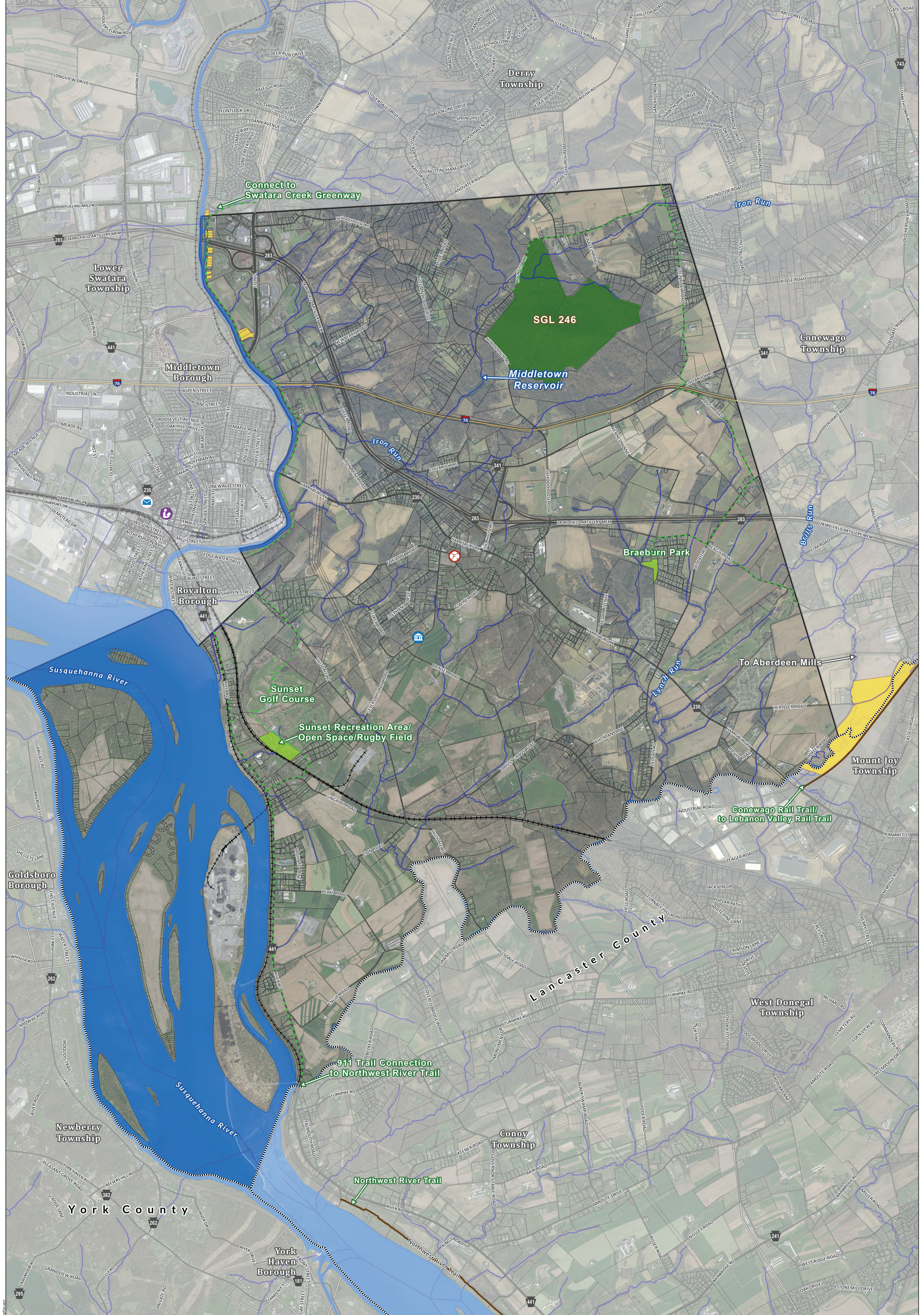|			
☐ Stormwater BMP	☐ Natural area	☒ Wooded Area	☐ Community Garden
☐ Pond / lake	☐ Low Mow Areas	☒ Shade Trees	☐ Sensory Garden
☐ Stream	☒ Lawn Area	☐ Decorative Landscaping	
☐ Wetland	☐ Other		

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Grass is naturally wet on northern end of park.
- Potential storm sewer line proposed through park.
- Minimal signs of vandalism at parks.
- Concession Stand/Storage has electric but is not currently used. Is in need poor condition and in need of repairs or replacement.
- The tennis court surface was evaluated by a contractor and they said it could not be filled and sealed due to the condition its in.
- They would like to have the courts be pervious pavement if possible
- There were picnic tables and pavilion, but it was burned down
- The lot needs to be restriped
- There is some old fill and old sports equipment in the back edge
- The mobile home park is planned to expand into the wooded area, so there may need to be a connection in the future.

APPENDIX D

TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY

- Trails & Connectivity Recommendations Map

Transportation & Parks

Londonderry Township
Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Legend
- Londonderry Township Municipal Building
- Londonderry Township Fire Department
- Middletown Public Library
- Middletown Post Office
- Trails
- Parks and Playgrounds
- County Boundary
- Open Space Parcels
- Local Roads
- State Roads
- Railroads
- State Gamelands
- Parcel Boundary
- Londonderry Township
- Municipal Boundary
- Identified Pedestrian Connections from Open House Meeting

Map Labels
- SGL 246
- Middletown Reservoir
- Iron Run
- Bills Run
- Lynch Run
- Susquehanna River
- Derry Township
- Lower Swatara Township
- Middletown Borough
- Royalton Borough
- Conewago Township
- Mount Joy Township
- West Donegal Township
- Lancaster County
- York County
- Conoy Township
- Newberry Township
- Goldsboro Borough
- York Haven Borough
- Connect to Swatara Creek Greenway
- Braeburn Park
- To Aberdeen Mills
- Sunset Golf Course
- Sunset Recreation Area/Open Space/Rugby Field
- Conewago Rail Trail/to Lebanon Valley Rail Trail
- 911 Trail Connection to Northwest River Trail
- Northwest River Trail

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