

Action Program





ACTION PLAN

The action plan identifies the projects and programs that the Township wishes to undertake in the future. Priorities indicated below as "High" are projects that are intended to be top initiatives in the next 5 years. Priorities indicated as "Medium" or "Low" are intended as longer range initiatives or strategic opportunities to pursue in the event that dedicated funds become available.

Park acquisition is a high priority for the Township at this time, particularly in the dense residential areas of the Northeast and Northwest. With the renewal of the Park Millage, about \$800,000 a year will be generated in revenue, beginning in 2018, for use toward local match for grants to meet this and the other major priority outlined by Township residents - non-motorized amenities. In fact, nine of the 20 high-priority items identified during the 2020 Vision planning process are related to trails, trail amenities, and greenways.

To meet these priorities, in summer 2016 the Township entered into a lease agreement for the purchase of park space in the Northwest [Oak Valley/Waters Roads]. The Township hopes to acquire grant funds for the final purchase in 2017/2018. The Township, in 2016, applied for multiple grants to install additional greenways in our community.

Accessibility enhancement is another overall high priority for the Township. The extensive improvements planned for Montibeller Park, Wall Park, and Township Park are all intended to further universal access and enjoyment of the sites by diverse users. In particular, the development of two use areas in Montibeller Park overcomes a steep slope that currently impedes users with mobility challenges. New restrooms, pavilion shelter, and paved trails at Wall Park increase comfort for all users, but are minimum conditions for enjoyment by sensitive users. The Senior Center parking lot, adjacent to Township Park, was described by many as hazardous due to deterioration, whereas the proposed resurfacing and expansion provide benefits that are particularly appreciated by its intended users.

In the medium term and as grants become available, the Township intends to focus on developing its athletic facilities. Three parks are slated to host volleyball courts, including a sand court at Lillie Park. Fields at Lillie Park, Montibeller Park, and Pittsfield Township Park are scheduled to be renovated, while a new adult workout station and multipurpose hard surface are also planned for Montibeller. Other improvements include irrigation expansion for the soccer fields at Wall Park.

Overall Township Goals

Projects:

Funding Source: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #6, #1, #5

- Park Acquisition in Northeast & Northwest
- Nonmotorized Improvements
- Accessibility & General Park Improvements

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Hickory Woods Park

5415 Crane Road

Projects:

Funding Source: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #2, #5

- Community Garden
- Pavilion
- Volleyball Court
- Disc Golf

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority





Kirtland Hills Park

Kirtland Hills Subdivision: Arcadia Drive & Burnham Road

Projects:

*Funding Source: Local
Fulfills Goals: #1, #5*

- Picnic Tables

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Lillie Park

4365 Platt Road

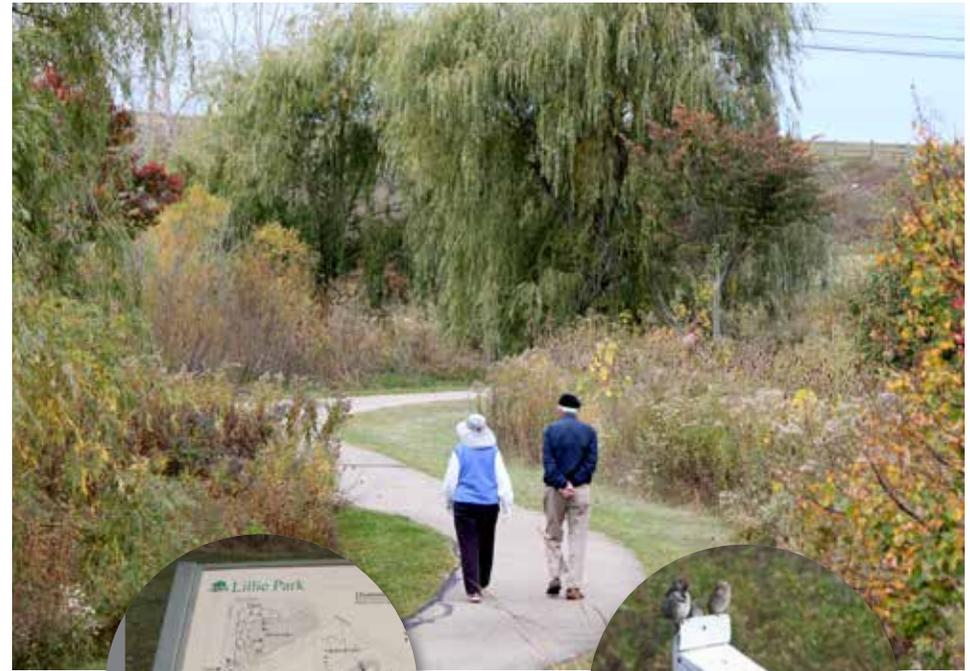
Projects:

Funding Sources: Local, Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #2, #3, #5, #7

- Lillie North: New Docks/Fishing Piers
- Lillie North: Mountain/Bike Trails
- Replace Trail Signs
- Lillie Central: Develop Site Plan
- Lillie Central: Renovate Soccer Fields
- Lillie Central: Athletic Field Complex

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority





Marsh View Meadows Park

300 E. Textile Road

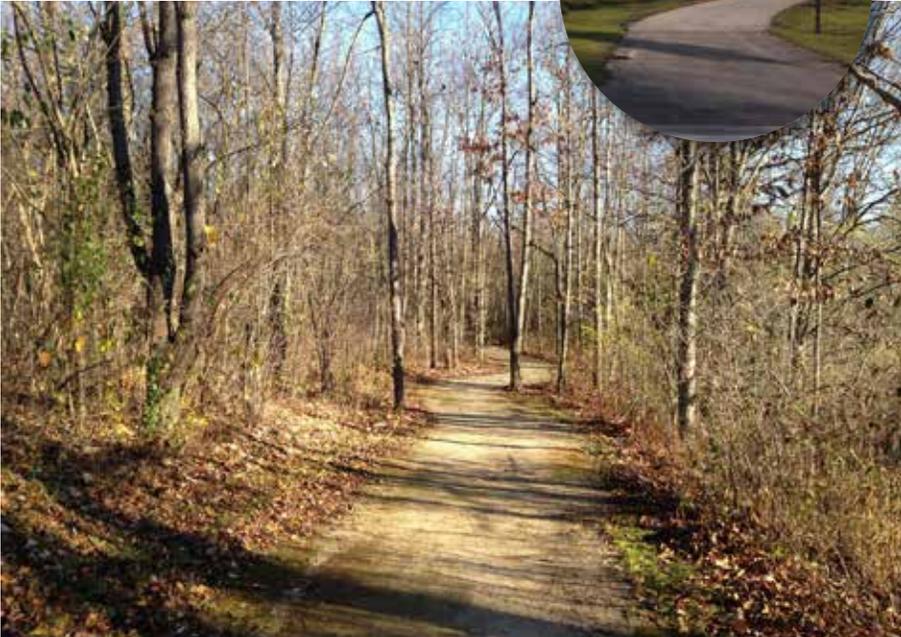
Projects:

Funding Sources: Local, Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #2, #5

- Trail Marking Upgrade
- Volleyball Court

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Montibeller Park

4305 Ellsworth Road

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: ##1, #2, #3, #5

- New Limestone & Boardwalk Trails
- New Paved Trails in Use Areas
- New Pavilion
- Improve Playground
- New Community Building with Restrooms
- Upgrade Ball Fields
- Improve Signage & Wayfinding
- Improve Stream
- Remove Storage Building
- New Multi-Purpose Hard Surface
- New Adult Workout Station

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Morgan Woods Park

Morgan Road

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #3

- Trail Development

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Pittsfield Township Park

701 W. Ellsworth Road

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #2, #3, #5

- Improve/Extend Parking
- Renovate/Expand Senior Center
- Relocate & Improve Athletic Fields
- New Zen Garden
- Install Walking & Fitness Path
- Renovate & Improve Playground

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Prairie Park

6201 W. Michigan Avenue

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #5

- Community Garden
- Shade Shelter

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Preserve/PG Palmer Park

Thomas & Marton Road between Morgan & Textile

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #5

- Replace Trail Signs

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



Wall Park

7401 Platt Road

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #2, #3, #5

- Paved Trails in Use Areas
- New Limestone Fines & Boardwalk Trails
- Extend Greenway South to Park
- Enhance Residential Buffer
- New Restrooms
- New Pavilion
- Expand Soccer Field Irrigation
- Expand Parking

High Priority

Medium Priority

Low Priority



Woolley Park

1315 Textile Road

Projects:

Funding Sources: Grants & Local Match

Fulfills Goals: #1, #2, #5

- Community Garden
- Disc Golf Improvements
- Picnic Tables

High Priority
Medium Priority
Low Priority



ACTION PLAN JUSTIFICATION

The Action Plan is based on the results from various community engagement exercises, in addition to census data and parkland inventory observations. In the next five years, Pittsfield Township can refer to the Action Plan that reflects its recreational goals and funding priorities.



NONMOTORIZED TRAILS | GOAL #3

As with other public input processes since 2009, the 2020 Vision planning process highlighted the fact that non-motorized and multi-modal expansion is consistently prioritized at the top by survey respondents and at the public forums, not just when discussing transportation and land use but also as part of the feedback for parks, recreation, art and culture, and even open space preservation! Clearly and without a doubt, if there is one issue that unites our community, it is expansion of non-motorized - sidewalks, bike lanes, greenways/pathways - amenities in our community. This concept extends into the prioritization of trails within Township parks.



PARKLAND ACQUISITION | GOAL #6

Parkland was often cited as one of the best benefits of living in Pittsfield Township. Between 2000-2014, the township grew by 6,000 people. In order to maintain the same level of service for residents, Pittsfield must secure funds to acquire more parkland and open space, especially in closer proximity to residential areas. While it is difficult to "distribute" parkland evenly, Pittsfield can investigate acquiring land within close proximity to denser residential areas to provide equitable access to recreational space. A particular need is for additional parkland in the northwest part of the Township. Secondly, acquiring parkland protects and preserves natural resources and biodiversity.



PARK FACILITIES | GOAL # 2 & #6

Improving and providing for universal access at the Township parks is an important consideration to provide for the needs of all Township residents. Once residents have arrived at a park, there must be amenities that accommodate for their needs. For example, basic infrastructure like lighting, signs and restrooms that enhance safety features need to be installed more consistently throughout all Township parks. Moreover, one of the biggest concerns, especially with an aging population, is that park infrastructure is not ADA compliant. Some of the biggest necessary changes are paving parking lots and adding ramps for the elderly or disabled to use when visiting.



PROGRAMMING | GOAL #1 & #2

Public input through the 2020 Vision planning process stated that residents want expanded activities at the community center. The current agenda is not meeting the needs of adults who would like to take fitness classes or participate in sports leagues. While the youth programs are generally successful, more needs to be done to provide for age specific progression in such sports as soccer and baseball. More appropriate programming can not only boost revenue coming into the Parks and Recreation Department but could also foster friendships and community by providing a space for residents to socialize. The Township recently adopted "Play for the Fun of it!", as its' slogan to promote this type of social interaction and engagement.