

MEETING SUMMARY

Purpose: Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan Virtual Public Workshop #2

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 22, 2021, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Via Zoom

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome and Introductions	As part of the public engagement component of the Town of Lansing Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan, the Town held a second public workshop to share draft concept plans for enhancement of Town parks and to gather feedback from the community as the Master Plan is being prepared. The event included an overview presentation with opportunities for interactive feedback from participants throughout the workshop with a question and comments section at the end of the workshop. The information gathered from the workshop will be used to help inform the development of the Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan. The event was publicized through a variety of methods, including a press release, pop-up event at Town Hall/Town Ball Fields, hard copy and digital flyers, the Town's social media and website and the project website at www.lansingparksandtrailsplan.com. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the public workshop was held virtually via Zoom. Approximately 25 people logged on to participate in the meeting and over 30 pre-registered for the event. Registration for the event was required and participants could register through the project website. The following items were included on the meeting agenda. Project Overview & Progress Update Draft Park Concept Plans Next Steps/Q & A

Town Supervisor, Ed LaVigne welcomed everyone and introduced the town staff helping the effort. Patrick Tyrrell, Parks & Recreation Supervisor introduced himself as well as C.J. Randall the Director of Planning.

Jaclyn Hakes introduced the Project Team, Parks Rec Advisory Committee, and Town Representatives.

Project Team members present included:

- Jaclyn Hakes, Project Manager, MJ Engineering
- Andris Blumbergs, Planner, MJ Engineering
- Josiah Simpson, Project Designer, PLACE Alliance Northeast

Parks Rec Advisory Committee included:

- Katrina Binkewicz
- Ronny Hardaway
- Becca Lovenheim
- Paul Paradine
- Deborah Trumbull
- Jack Young

Town Representatives

- C.J. Randall, Director of Planning
- Pat Tyrrell, Lansing Parks and Recreation Supervisor
- Edward LaVigne, Town Supervisor
- Jenna Hoellerer, Parks and Recreation Owen Davis, Parks and Recreation

After the Project Team was introduced Ms. Hakes (MJ) provided an explanation of the virtual public workshop and how participants could participate in the event.

Following the "How to", participants had the opportunity to respond to several polling questions utilizing Zoom's online polling features. The purpose of the polling questions was to gain a better understanding of who was participating in the virtual event. The questions and results are presented below:

- 1. Who is joining us this evening?
 - a. Resident (54%)
 - b. Property owner (38%)
 - c. Visitor (8%)
- 2. How did you find out about the Virtual Public Workshop? Select all that apply
 - a. Work of mouth
 - b. Lansing Recreation Website

	c. Town Website
	3. Did you attend Public Meeting #1 on February 26th?
	a. Yes (54%)
	b. No (46%)
	4. How often do you visit Lansing Parks?
	a. Daily (18%)
	b. Weekly (54%)
	c. Monthly (11%)
	d. Occasionally (18%)
	e. Rarely (0%)
	5. Which Town of Lansing Park do you frequent the most?
	a. Myers Park
	b. Salt Point
	c. Ludlowville Park
	d. Town Ball Fields
	e. Town Barn Field
	f. Lansing Center Trail
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	Ms. Hakes (MJ) provided an overview and progress update which included the
	following:
	Project Overview:
	What is a Parks, Recreation and Trails Master Plan?
	 A roadmap to ensure an appropriate balance of facilities,
	amenities, and programs
	Resources for future development and redevelopment of
	Town parks, trails, and recreational facilities
	Project Approach
	RE-THINK – Rethink the physical space and programming
Project Overview	opportunities
	 RE-CONNECT – Reconnect physically within the park; visually
	to the waterfront; and programmatically for the community.
	 RE-FOCUS — Refocus activities within each park to maximize
	the space and focus on the pedestrian realm
	Project Tasks
	 Project Tasks Task 1: Review Existing Data & Plans
	Task 1: Review Existing Data & Plans Task 2: Inventory Existing Facilities
	 Task 2: Inventory Existing Facilities Task 3: Committee Meetings
	Task 3: Committee Meetings Task 4: Manage Public Engagement
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	o lask 6: Public Workshop

- o Task 7: Draft Master Plan
- o Task 8: Implementation Strategy

Public Engagement:

- Community Survey
 - Online through Survey Monkey
 - o Live from October 2, 2020 to December 18, 2020
 - Total of 445 responses

Topic Areas

- Participant Information
- Use
- Facilities
- Program Experience
- Park Specific
- Suggestions for the Future
- Virtual Public Workshop #1
 - Thursday, February 25, 2021
 - Via Zoom Webinar
 - Virtual break-out discussions focused on each park
 - Approximately 60 pre-registered and 40 participated
- Stakeholder Meetings
 - o March 4-8, 2021
 - Six topic-based stakeholder meetings
 - Over 20 stakeholders interviewed to date
 - o Opportunities for collaboration and networking

Stakeholder Topics

- Parks staff
- Parks, Recreation and Trails Maintenance and Programs
- Regional Partners
- Recreation Groups
- Tourism and Business
- Education and Non-profit

Draft Concept Plans

Ms. Hakes then introduced the draft concept plans. Beginning with the development of the concept plans Ms. Hakes showed how the team worked with everyone to develop the concepts and reiterated these are in draft form and are open to and welcome suggestions. Draft concept plan development included:

- Understanding Existing Conditions / Needs
- Staff input

- Public Input
 - Online Survey
 - Public Workshop #1
- Stakeholder Input
- Committee Guidance

Ms. Hakes shared the common themes gathered from previous public engagement.

Public Workshop #1

- Connectivity
- Pedestrian and bicycle amenities
- Parking and restrooms
- Need for additional community/recreation spaces

Stakeholder meetings

- Need for additional community gathering spaces
- Better connectivity
- Parking and restrooms
- Need for additional park staff
- Pedestrian improvements
- Confirmation of needs expressed by public

Draft concept plans were done for the following parks:

- Ball Fields
- Ludlowville Park
- Myers Park
- Salt Point Preserve
- Lansing Center Trail
- Barn Fields

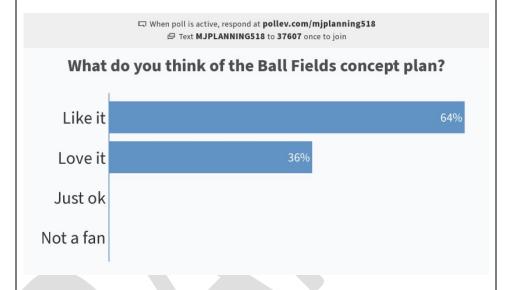
Josiah Simpson, Project Designer, PLACE Alliance Northeast went over the design principles for the Ball fields. Mr. Simpson provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the park and those included:

Ball Fields

- 102 Parking Stalls
- 1 Adult Softball Field
- 6 Little League Fields
- 2 T-Ball Fields
- 1 Bathroom
- 1 Pavilion
- 1 Basketball Court
- Several Play Structures
- BBQ Station

For the draft concept Mr. Simpson identified the additional parking areas netting approximately 33 parking spots in the park. For connectivity, a perimeter path was identified connecting the library to the park with a new crosswalk. Furthermore, a crosswalk was identified across Rt 34 to additional trails across the street. A location for the Bike Racks was identified as well.

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:



Which elements of the Ball Fields concept plan do you like best?

- Walking paths
- Better parking and landscaping
- Crosswalk at rt 34 will be dangerous
- Parking
- Concession stand!
- Added landscaping/shade
- Perimeter trail & parking
- Walking path
- Perimeter path and grass connecting community center
- Walking paths around park perimeter
- Trai
- Trails/paths
- Walking paths and trees
- Parking lot and crosswalks
- Walking paths
- Perimeter trail

What other elements would you like to see at the Ball Fields?

- Clearer connection to town center trails
- Bigger playground
- Pedestrian connection to the Lansing Trails
- Cross walk at woods edge/Bement drive
- Accessibility for persons with disabilities
- Better bathroom
- benches along paths

Ms. Hakes (MJ) introduced the Ludlowville Park with the design principles. These included parking, restrooms, safer access to falls and maintain quiet character and scale of the park. Ms. Hakes then provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the park and those included:

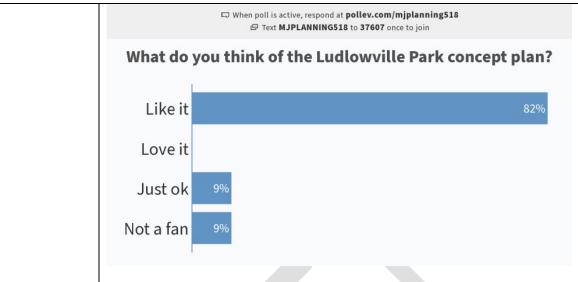
- 13-acre park
- Gazebo
- Basketball court
- Playground
- Pavilion
- Parking (5 stalls)
- Waterfall

Ludlowville Park

For the draft concept key elements introduced included the following:

- Parking area (5 additional spots)
- Pedestrian path
- Accessible overlook
- Formalized trail to waterfalls
- Explore opportunities to utilize north part of property
- Explore opportunities for neighborhood connections

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:



Which elements of the Ludlowville Park concept plan do you like best?

- Perimeter path
- Trail to falls
- Paths and overlook
- Formal overlook area
- Path down to creek/falls
- bathroom
- Parking
- Bathroom & safer access to waterfall
- Better access trail to falls.
- Improved access to falls and bathrooms
- Overlook idea
- Overlook of falls
- More parking
- Access to fall views
- Access to falls and trails across water
- Bathroom.

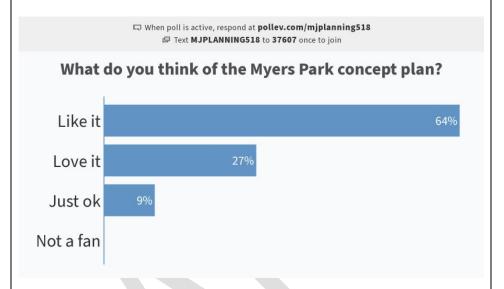
What other elements would you like to see at Ludlowville Park?

- Never new about the north side...
- If trails... accessed from another point
- Info on mill
- Historic/geographic orientation
- Tables for picnic
- Trails on North side
- Trails north side
- Accessible play structure
- We'd like it kept as natural as possible.
- Benches

Explanatory of the geology Development of trails on north side of salmon creek Gazebo larger Bike racks Josiah Simpson, Project Designer, PLACE Alliance Northeast went over the design principles for the Myers Park those included parking (car & trailer), pedestrian circulation, enhance views / access to lake, restrooms, and create more defined spaces Mr. Simpson provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the park and those included: 180 Parking Stalls 15 Boat Trailer Stalls 19 RV Campsites 4, 150 L.F. of Lake Front 950 L.F. of Lake Front without Cars **Bathrooms with Showers** 7 Pavilions 1 Gazebo **Basketball Court** Volleyball Net Kayak Racks 1 Dock For the draft concept key elements introduced included the following: **Myers Park RV** campsites RV bathrooms with showers New bathrooms Moved pavilion Gazebo Expanded beach Basketball court Volleyball court Kayak facility Canoe/kayak drop off Canoe/kayak launch High tensile structure Riverbank plantings Lakefront Marina promenade Open Lawn **Event Lawn Boat Launch** Playground Campsites **Bike Racks**

Mr. Simpson presented examples of high tensile structures, creative seating, and trellis swings to show real world application.

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:



Which elements of the Myers Park concept plan do you like best?

- Yes, get rid of parking on spit
- Beach protective plantings
- Walkways, tent camping
- Better beach and kayak areas
- Footpaths
- protective plantings
- Walkways away from cars
- Better access for kayaks etc.
- Restored beach
- Better beach/swimming area?
- Less cars
- Bathrooms
- RV space consolidation
- tent camping
- Making it less car centric
- More bathrooms
- Swings
- People along the water, cars inland
- bathroom near playground
- Walkways separate from cars
- Additional parking
- Car free shoreline
- Two bathrooms
- More parking

Parking lot relocation

What other elements would you like to see at Myers Park?

- No stone dust on trails that are now grass paths! Like new parking idea. No bridge from Myers Pk.!
- What about non-motorized boat trailers?
- Where is boat dry parking?
- The current swimming area at Salt Point is kind of stinky...it is a trap for debris, is very silty...swimming is better at Salt Point....l'd like to see some good thought put into a better, reengineered or relocated swimming area...
- More boat parking for visitors
- Not sure the parking will accommodate max needs during concert is
- Tent camping spot is odd near entrance
- Lansing does not allow swimming at Salt Point
- Salt Point needs to have connectivity
- Not sure I like the RV camping
- Need to manage fishing, move bait shop!
- Where do the sailboat racks go?
- No bridge to salt point
- Swimming area at Salt Pt
- Where is the bait shop?
- Some pavilions not right close to the water.
- Absolutely no bridge to salt pt.
- I think if we had more tent camping it would be used. And having it not right by the parking lot.
- Stop cutting down the big trees
- More focus on beach improvements
- Walking path to salt point
- A bridge to Salt Point

Mr. Simpson, PLACE Alliance went over the design principles for Salt Point Preserve, those included maintain 'preserve' character, improve lake access & viewing points, and define parking. Mr. Simpson provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the preserve and those included:

Salt Point Preserve

- 10 Parking stalls
- 20 Make-shift parking stalls
- 14 Creek access parking stalls
- 1 Port-a-jon bathroom
- 2,200 L.F. Stone dust walking trails
- Information kiosk
- Non-motorized boat put-in

For the draft concept key elements introduced included the following:

2 Port-a-John bathroom shelters

- Improved Lake Access
- Improved Lake Viewing/ Swimming
- Improved Creek Viewing/ Access
- Bike Racks

Pat Tyrrell did note that the preserve is owned by the DEC and the town manages it and has a 25-year lease on it with 7-8 years remaining.

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:

□ When poll is active, respond at pollev.com/mjplanning518
□ Text MJPLANNING518 to 37607 once to join

What do you think of the Salt Point Preserve concept plan?



Which elements of the Salt Point Preserve concept plan do you like best?

- We do not Weed eat around guard rails. It is a bat area
- Not connected to Myers park
- Keep salt pt as it is. No bridge
- Wooden guard rails
- Replacing the concrete barrier with something softer
- No stone dust on present grass paths
- meandering path
- Not connecting it to Myers
- Walking path
- Lack of cars, focus on nature
- Change in parking and drop off point
- New parking
- Organized parking
- Parking area
- Stream access near Myers Rd

What other elements would you like to see at Salt Point Preserve?

- Small trailer to get my small sailboat to the park
- Eliminate tracks

- I'd like to see people able to walk from Myers Point to Salt Point to limit the need for parking at Salt Point.
- Parking for trailers parallel to railroad tracks
- Elevated observation element
- keep the way it is except for parking
- Not limbing trees near lake. Keep it as it grows.
- Remove invasives
- Walking access from Myers

Ms. Hakes (MJ) introduced the Lansing Center Trail with the design principles. These included parking, restrooms, and interpretive signage. Ms. Hakes then provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the area and those included:

- 4 miles of trails
- Gravel parking area
- Kiosk
- Port-a-John

For the draft concept key elements introduced included the following:

- Formalized parking area
- Kiosk
- Bathroom
- Interpretive signage
- Address drainage for wetlands
- Explore opportunities for additional parking
- Explore opportunities for trail expansion

Lansing Center Trail

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:

What do you think of the Lansing Center Trail concept plan?

Like it

Love it

Just ok

Not a fan

Which elements of the Lansing Center Trail concept plan do you like best?

- No more housing or commercial development
- Addressing wet areas
- Wet areas should be left alone; bridge over them.
- Trail condition improvements
- Bathroom, improvement to parking, possibilities of expansion
- Trail expansion potential
- Expanding it
- Bathroom
- Better parking
- maintaining what is there
- Trail condition improvements
- Bathroom

What other elements would you like to see at the Lansing Center Trail?

- Love it
- No commercial or housing development
- Commit to keeping northern loop natural
- A basic plan for the adjacent land.
- Bike access
- More variety of trails and landscape
- Town should keep this just as trails & not sell for buildings
- Connections to nearby parks and residential neighborhoods.
- Ditto on the pond
- Better control of dog waste
- historical interpretation at sign post areas
- Might need more parking
- Bike access and bike racks
- Elevated observation element
- More trees
- Could a pond be added?
- Access to Conlon Road
- Allow family bike access
- don't drain the wet areas, but put a bridge over them

Ms. Hakes (MJ) introduced the Barn Fields with the design principles. These included parking, restrooms, pedestrian safety, opportunities for use as flex space, protective fencing, and additional recreation amenities. Ms. Hakes then provided a brief overview of existing conditions of the park and those included:

Barn Fields

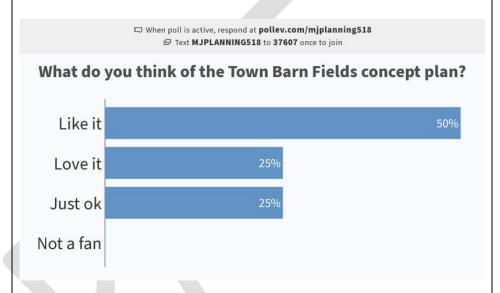
- No formalized parking
- 3 baseball fields
- 1 soccer field

For the draft concept key elements introduced included the following:

- Formalized parking area
- Crosswalk

- Pedestrian path
- Bathroom
- Playground
- Picnic area
- Pavilion
- Protective fence
- Vegetative buffer
- Address drainage and regrade field

Ms. Hakes (MJ) led an interactive feedback session. Participants were asked to participate in real-time polls. The results are listed below:



Which elements of the Town Barn Fields concept plan do you like best?

- feels much more like a park
- Playground X3
- Fence
- Given how little appeal this park has (other than for sports) the plan is pretty good. You can only do so much with this little park.
- The restroom and picnic area
- Pavilion + playground, parking bathroom
- Tree border plantings
- Benches in trees
- Bathroom, parking
- Playground and trees
- Parking and bathrooms
- trees and fence along road
- Bathroom
- Bathroom
- Formal parking
- Pavilion and picnic area
- Parking spots location
- Def plant trees

What other elements would you like to see at the Town Barn Fields?

- Leave mostly as extra sports fields
- if we stay focused on sports fields, there's not room for much.
- Fence would block snowmobile trail access to gas station and crossroads
- Move pavilion and playground away from Rt 34

Following the park draft concept discussion Ms. Hakes provided a series of next steps in the project. Next steps include the following:

- Summarize public input
- Refine Concept Plans
- Prepare Preliminary Cost Estimates
- Prepare Draft Master Plan

Ms. Hakes then opened the floor to Q & A the questions and answers are listed below.

- **Q.** What is the future of the railroad now that the plant has closed? **A.** The land is owned by the railroad company and managed by a holding company Watco. At this time there are no plans to do anything.
- **Q.** What is the future of the Bell Station property?
- **A.** Town is keeping an eye on the property, but nothing is set. Town hopes the land stays natural. The parcel is in the States open space plan.

Next Steps/ Q & A

- **Q.** Have you looked at growth within town and the need for more parklands in underserved portions of town? Are there additional plans to better connect the town and additional trail systems?
- **A.** A big part of the conceptual plan is going to be looking at connections to trails and parks. This will look at any areas that are not connected and seeing if there are available connections. The town is constantly looking at funding sources and ways they can expand on existing parks and trails.
- Q. Do we know any more about the Marina that was for sale?
- **A.** Marina was sold to investors, and they plan on running it for the time being.
- **Q.** During events it is hard to get in and out of Myers Park could a second entrance be added?
- **A.** Unlikely because the residents wouldn't approve, and the traffic flow wouldn't allow.
- **Q.** Does the town own or manage the Myers Hill area and bird boxes? **A.** Yes

Q. Can bikes use the Lansing Center Trails?

A. The town can discuss this with the committee.

To conclude the evening, participants were encouraged to continue providing additional comments or ideas through the project website at www.lansingparksandtrailsplan.com.

This meeting summary conveys our understanding of the items discussed and agreements reached at this meeting. Please forward any additions, corrections and/or questions to my attention.

Submitted by:

Andris Blumbergs, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, PC

cc: Consultant Team, PRTC, Town Planning Department, Parks and Recreation Department