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# MEMO

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**To:** Parks and Recreation Buildings and Grounds Committee  
**From:** Jon Turkel, Assistant Director. *JWT*  
**Subject:** Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting  
**Date:** February 24, 2020

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is scheduled to meet at 3:30pm on Thursday February 27, 2020 in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 107 N. Kent St, Winchester, VA. Items for discussion include:

Items Requiring Action:

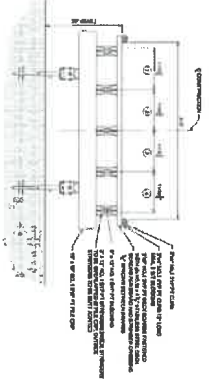
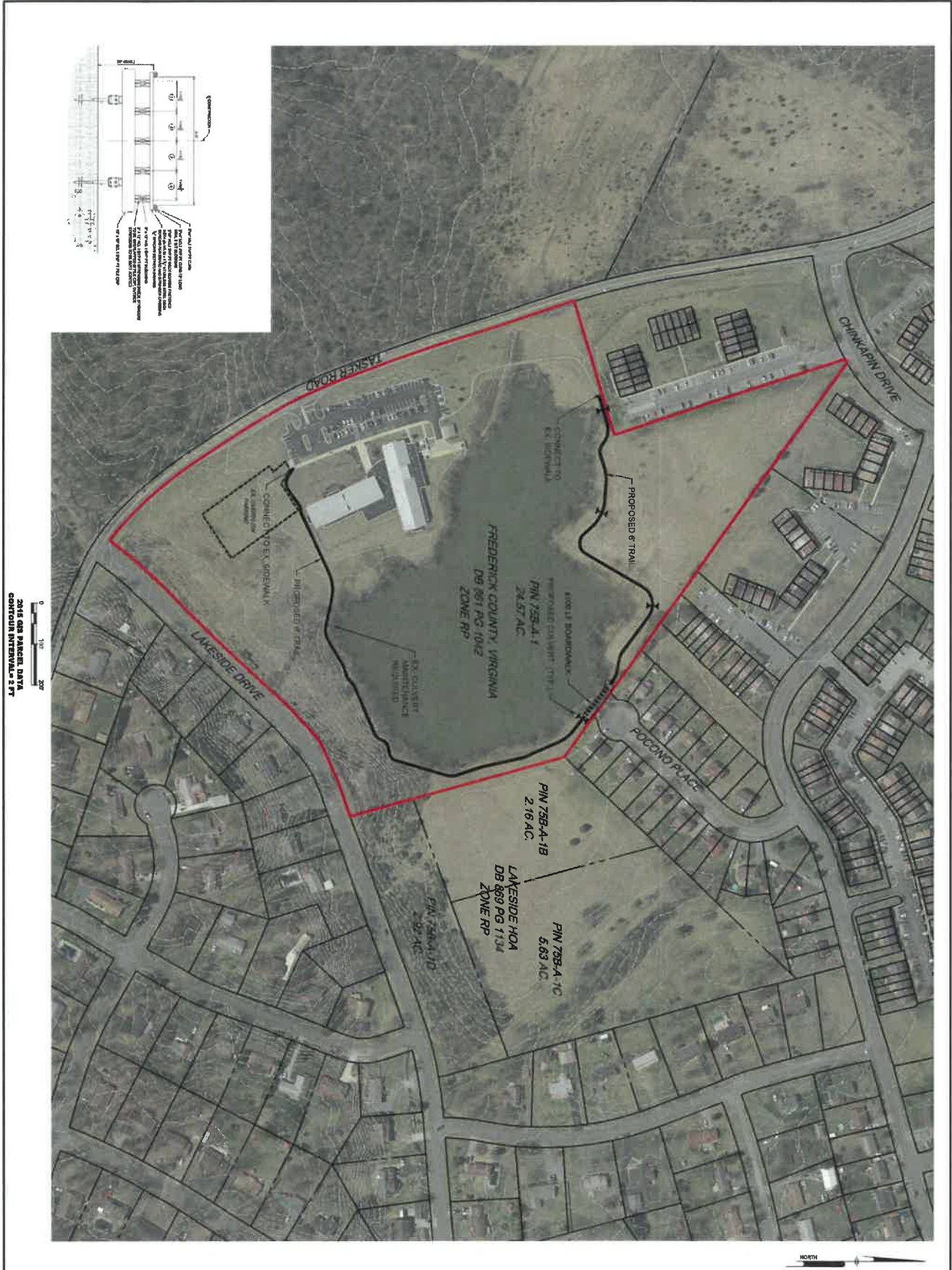
1. **Bowman Lake Trail Funding:**  
Pine Knoll Construction provided the lowest responsive bid to complete the Bowman Lake Trail project for: \$108,075.58. Staff is seeing a funding request recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission for the bid price plus a 10% contingency: \$118,883. Any remaining funds will be returned upon project completion. Trail layout is attached for reference (Attachment 1).
2. **Old Charlestown Road Park (Snowden Bridge) Master Plan:**  
After receiving public input staff is recommending changes to the draft plan previously presented to replace the southern rectangular field with hard surface play courts. Hard surface play courts for basketball, pickleball, and futsal would broaden the appeal of the park to a wider demographic of users and season of use. Staff is seeking a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Commission for any plan modifications. If modifications are recommended and accepted by the Commission, staff would update the Master Plan for final approval. The draft plan and public input comments are attached for reference (Attachment 2).
3. **AARP Grant Application:**  
Staff has identified a grant opportunity through AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and is seeking a recommendation to pursue the grant. The AARP Community Grants program provides funding for recreation projects throughout the country. Projects are funded up to 100% by AARP and no matching funds are requested at this time. Applications are due April 1. Staff has identified a potential project in providing outdoor fitness equipment at Clearbrook Park and is working with a vendor to get an estimate of cost for 2-4 pieces of equipment emphasizing flexibility and range of motion. The AARP

Community Challenge grant program funded \$1.6 million in projects throughout the USA in 2019 with an average award amount of \$10,000.

Informational Items:

4. Staff is seeking guidance on selecting April 4 as a grand opening for Stonewall Park. April 4 is Little League opening day and park opening ceremony would work in conjunction with Little League events.
5. An operations plan for Stonewall Park will be presented by staff for committee comment and guidance.
6. Staff will provide an update regarding response to concerns about off-leash dogs at parks.
7. Other Business

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 FEET  
 DATE AND PLOT NO. AND  
 DRAWN BY: DWAIN/LIBBY 10/20/16

DATE	NO.	REVISIONS	BY

**FREDERICK COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION  
 BOWMAN LIBRARY TRAIL**  
 871 TASKER RD.  
 STEPHENS CITY, VA 22655

**CONCEPT PLAN**

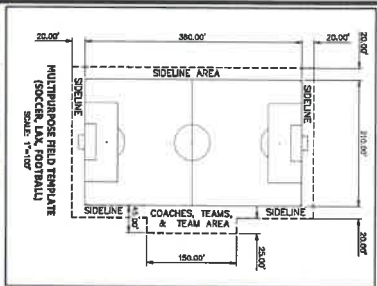
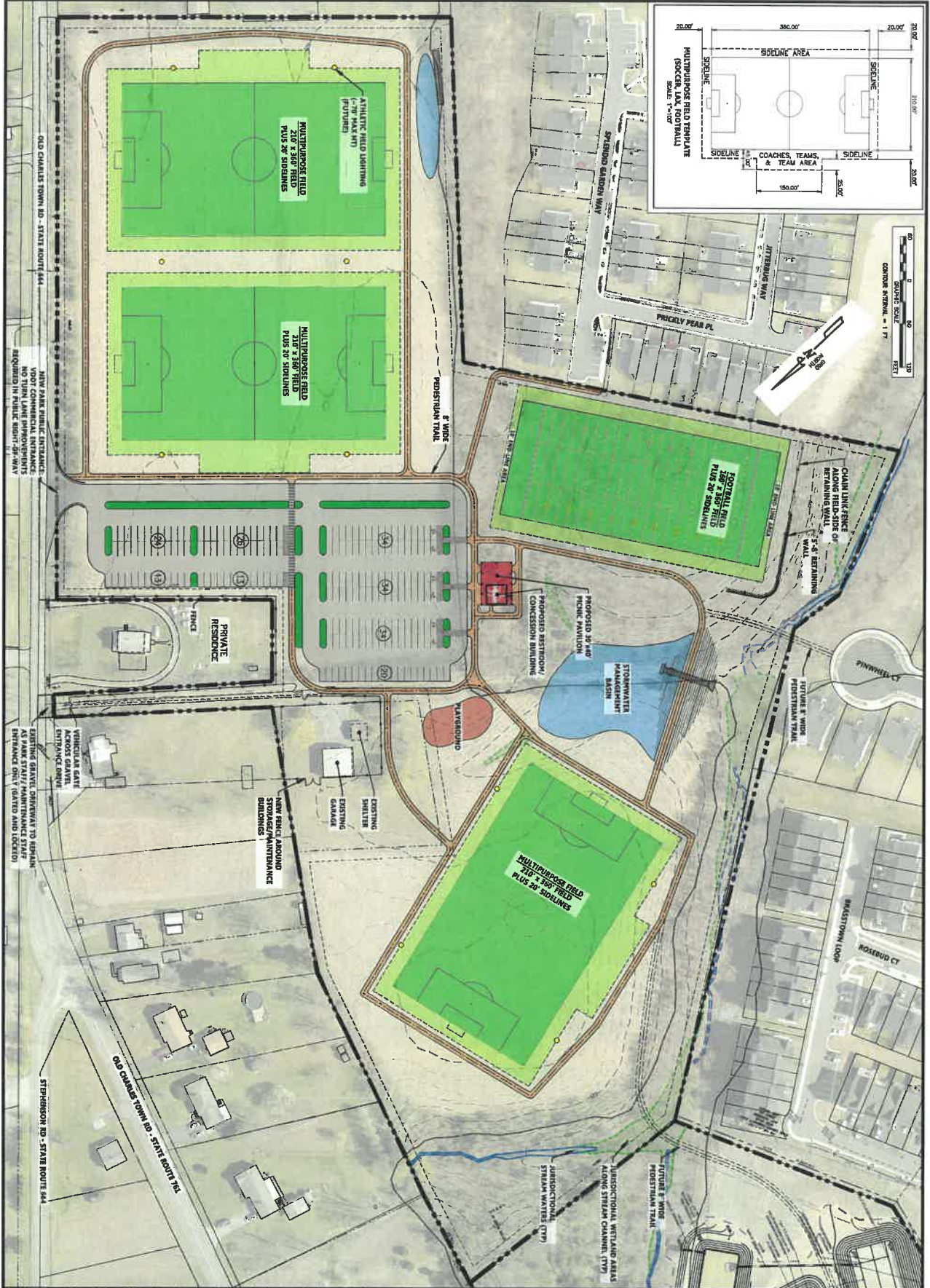
FREDERICK CO. PARKS & RECREATION  
 (540) 866-5678  
 107 N. KENT STREET  
 WINCHESTER, VA 22601

ALL DIMENSIONS MUST BE VERIFIED BY CONTRACTOR AND OWNER MUST BE NOTIFIED OF ANY DISCREPANCIES BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH WORK

**Pennoni ASSOCIATES INC.**  
 117 East Piccadilly Street  
 Winchester, VA 22601  
 T 540.867.2139 F 540.666.0493

FRED-19001-CM-IMP-L01  
 SHEET 1 OF 1

X:\Projects\2019\2019-03-26\2019-03-26\_Snowden\_Bridge\_Park\_Master\_Plan.dwg  
 Proposed: 12/18/2019 8:58:54 AM M. W. W., DWG To PDF v3.1.1



REVISION	NO.	COMMENTS	DATE

PROJECT TEAM	
DESIGNED BY	TRENDON M. QUINCY / PE
CHECKED BY	TRENDON M. QUINCY / PE
DATE	12/18/2019
DWG NUMBER	2986.0
SHEET TITLE	MASTER PLAN RECREATION LAYOUT
SHEET NUMBER	1 OF 1

**SNOWDEN BRIDGE PARK MASTER PLAN**

FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

**GAY AND NEEL, INC.**  
 ENGINEERING • LAND PLANNING • SURVEYING

DESIGN

The information contained on this drawing was prepared by Gay and Neel, Inc. or its employees, consultants, or subcontractors. It is intended for the specific project and site identified on the drawing. It is not to be used for any other project or site without the express written consent of Gay and Neel, Inc.

**Snowden Bridge Park Concept Plan Input: Online and at Public Input Session Comments:**

Build an ice rink, Hagerstown's complex runs in the black every year!
I love this idea. We need a nice park. This area is growing
This would be in my backyard and I'm not in favor of a football field directly behind my home. I was told the only thing that might go behind my home was a small park not a football field. I am against this.
I just dont want big lights behind my house on Splendor Garden Way
Another pool would be nice. Our community is already overcrowded and with more people coming into the neighborhood, people will continue to be turned away at the existing pool. Thank you for your time.
I feel that the football field is too close to the backyards of the houses on prickly pear. Could cause incidental damages and invade privacy slightly. Other than that looks wonderful. Thank you.
Good evening, My name is Cord Culver and I am a homeowner on Pinwheel Court in Snowden Bridge. There are several issues of concern regarding the proposed sports park being built adjacent to Snowden Bridge; the first being the walking path. The walking path connecting to the Pinwheel Court cul-de-sac invites non-residents to begin parking in the already limited available spaces of our residential streets. In turn, that leads to a direct increase in foot traffic. There is a concern that increasing the number of non-residents passing through our direct residential area makes residences along Pinwheel and parallel blocks more susceptible to litter, vandalism and theft, especially during the hours from dusk through dark. Secondly, residents are concerned about the noise from the fields. There is a concern that the noise from games, events, and pedestrians, during both early mornings and later evenings, will have a disruptive effect on the neighborhood. Many of the homes on Pinwheel Court, and nearby streets, have small children with earlier bedtimes and residents do not wish to contend with the noise of the events or pedestrians when it comes to getting their children to bed, nor do they wish to be disrupted by early attendees. The proposed layout of the fields, as they are currently written, and their direct negative impact on what is a quiet, peaceful, and safe neighborhood, is unsatisfactory, and unwelcome. Thank you for your time,
What about a football field?? No where in any of our parks do we have a football field. Did you know we have an amazing go youth travel football team here in town who could really use a nice field to play on
What is the possible timeline of this project?
One less multipurpose field and one pool needed
This seems to be a good use of the space for public use. The entrance should remain on Old Charlestown Road as to not impact traffic through Snowden Bridge. My only other comment is to not install large lights, or limit to only one field with the least impact to the surrounding community.
I think we could go without 1 of the fields. In turn, put a pool there. Because this park is open to the public, charge an admission fee and possibly give the Snowden Bridge residents free or lower cost entry. The pool doesn't have to be anything extravagant. Just a place where the overflow of SB can go to enjoy a swim. Our current pool is extremely overcrowded. Thank you
we really need about 4 Pickleball Courts. we have many people playing and trying to find somewhere to play. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the World. It has grown 650% in the last 6 years and doesn't seem to any letting up. There are over 3 million people of all ages playing Nationwide. As we introduce new people to the game they are automatically hooked and want to play every day. Inside courts would be great as we struggle to find indoor play here in Winchester and Frederick County. Your plan now has ball fields that sit empty so much and I can gaurantee pickleball courts will not sit empty. Thanks
Pickleball is the fastes growing sport in the USA. We have 25+ people showing up nemerous times a week to play at the Winchester Park, Randy Smith Center. Instead of 3 soccer fields, why not allocate at least one for 4 Pickleball / two tennis
Please make 4 dedicated Pickleball courts with lights would even be better.
looks AWSOME '
I think one of the soccer fields should be utilized as pickle ball courts. Pickle Ball is the fastest growing sport in the United States, and it is an easy, and fun game to pick up and play. I believe that one football/multipurpose field, and two soccer fields are enough for the area. I believe that Pickle Ball deserves a proper place in the Snowden Bridge Park.
Pickleball is the fastest growing sport. I have been playing for two years and it's my favorite thing to do. Everyone that tries it loves it. It is frustrating in Winchester because we just don't have many places to play especially indoors and we are limited in our outdoor play. I would love to see a lot of courts here. We have so many people that come and we have to wait because we don't have enough courts. Please consider adding courts! Thank you!!
I would love if plans included a pool!

the football field alone would ruin property value for a good number of people who just had their townhouses built. ... a huge parking lot? what about the destroyed wildlife lands? ...I would never vote for this. this is a bad location for this proposal.
Please put in Pickleball courts
I would love bike/ walking access to this park from Snowden Bridge ( possible off of prickly pear or Thorny crown.
Plenty of playground and bleachers would be nice
Outdoor tennis courts? These could be enjoyed by the county, is it possible to turn the water collection area into a water attraction? Such as a waterfall/ fountain/ something pleasant?
hi. On the far left of the proposed map, there should be a future pedestrian trail that would lead out to Patchwork Drive. Also, when will these pedestrian trails in Snowden Bridge be completed? The developer has yet to develop the roadways for the residents, for example--refusing to open Snowden Bridge Blvd so people could use the traffic light on Rt. 11. It is worrisome that the developer is in no hurry to provide the expected infrastructure. Thank you.
The football field is ridiculous. It is too close to the townhomes. The football field needs to be removed from the plan. It is not fair to the families that live there. There is no privacy or buffer for these families. There is an adequate buffer between the other homes and fields. It looks like the football field was just squeezed into an area where there is no room. No one would want the massive field right in their backyard. It is unfair and no consideration was given to the families that live there. I will fight the football field to be removed.
Please include outdoor tennis courts
This is unexceptional to have the football field right behind the town houses. It is very sqeased in to the area and it is right up on the houses. This is not for the families that live there. I say that there should be no football field there and leave the woods part there for privacy on the behalf of my fellings. And one of the reasons why I bought this house was because of the beautiful woods in the backyard.
The football field that got squeezed in right behind those town house needs to go! It's not fair to the people who live in the townhomes next to the football field. I'm sure the people in the townhomes would be fine if there wasn't a football field right behind their house. I live there and I am fine with everything else, but the football field. The woods need to stay!!
need more places to play
I like the concept but why are there no lights on the football field if you have them on all the soccer fields? Also, I see the fence around the residential parcel, but will the entire park be fenced so that it can be closed?
It would be nice to see some tennis courts as well or in place of some of the other fields.
The park plans look great, but it would be nice to see some tennis courts as well. Seems like the space would be available even if it was critical not to remove or modify the other fields.
We would love to have some nice outdoor basketball courts included at the park.
<i>I'm all in favor of creating new parks, but man, Old Charles Town Road is going to be even more overwhelmed. I really pity the people that have lived there for years and now have to deal with these traffic nightmares.</i>
Roller hockey rink and workout area for adults (pull up and dip bars)
Would you want a football field in your backyard? what will this do to our property values?
I live on Prickly Pear Place in Snowden Bridge and oppose the football field location. It is too close to my backyard. Building it would mean that the trees would have to be destroyed. I enjoy the privacy and watching the birds and wildlife. Please do not build the football field. Sandra Adams
I have been looking at your plan, and while i think it's great that you have all those fields in a little area, a) i'm not sure you have enough parking, and b, i think the parking should be for each field, rather than in one central location . also, at one point, this park was supposed to be the replacement for the ball fields up at clearbrook park, as the quarry took back the land, yet i see no baseball fields. i'm unable to make the meeting, but i hope my concerns get expressed
Are "Athletic Fields" generally deemed a good idea when they will be completely surrounded by existing residential homes? Seems like a bad idea. Also why is there a plan to provide access from the end of Pinwheel Ct to the new park? This park has nothing to do with the Snowden Bridge subdivision. Access would only increase traffic on an already narrow and crowded street as people would attempt to park there to avoid traffic entering and exiting on Old Charles Town Road. I believe that active outdoor recreation purposes is not appropriate for the area considering how small the parcel is and how it is literally surrounded by existing residential homes. I am by no means opposed to a park, just not athletic fields which will bring large crowds, noise and light pollution to existing residential homes.
Please do not waste \$3.6 million taxpayer dollars on this at this time, Frederick County has more pressing needs!
Large enough playground for children to play on like Sherando park has

Would like to see basektball courts. We have AAU Leagues and would like to see outdoor basketball courts.
The football field is close to the Snowden Bridge residences - what could be done to move that to another field? Would some sort of "exercise" equipment be able to be added to the trail? Are there any plans to work on some sort of covered splash pad?
Winchester Wolfpack youth travel football and cheer organization espress' ou rinterest and desire for a reulation football field at this new complex and to offer our support in any way necessary. We have used Old Frederick County Middle School for the last three years, however there is always the threat of losing that field as the property is currently for sale.
the park will be for the community, but I oppose the football field being built really close to my home. It is located at 106 Prickly Pear Place. I am sure that you and members of your department would not like to walk out your backyard and see a sports filed near your home. it will require, per my conversation with a member of the Parks department, that all the trees will be destroyed to build the field. Now I am able to sit on my deck and see the deer, squirrels, and birds. But, if the filed is built, their habitat will be destroyed. Please reconsider to move the football field or eliminate it from the plans.

I am opposed to your current plan which borders my neighborhood. I am requesting more information on this proposal. Your current plan is a nightmare for our community which borders these fields; concerned for our security, and quality of life, and additional concern for our property values. I would ask that you prepare a plan that YOU would feel comfortable if you were a here. For example: a Large buffer to provide safety and noise restraint and would not allow people to enter our neighborhood from said fields. We purchased our homes here without being told of this proposed sports multi purpose or anything of this sort. Please help!

## Jonathan Turkel

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**From:** Jason Fournier <jasonfournier11@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 09, 2020 9:32 AM  
**To:** Jonathan Turkel  
**Subject:** Snowden Bridge Park Concept Plan

To whom it may concern:

I wanted to voice my concerns for the concept plan for the parkland near the Snowden Bridge development along Old Charles Town road. I believe the plan overlooks the safety and privacy of Snowden Bridge residence and this is where I find fault in it. I want to suggest two changes to the proposal.

Like Clearbrook park, there should be a perimeter fence around the property where locked gates are at the entrance to the parking lot and at the various access point along the path. Naturally, these gates can be opened during daylight hours while the park is open. While there is no community around Clearbrook, it is secure all around. This park proposal need to take in consideration that it has a young community surrounding it and the safety of the children should be at the forefront of what I expect from our local government. We live next to the I-81 corridor and we should never turn a blind eye that human trafficking is prevalent in this county. Also, the houses immediately bordering the park are at the most risk of vandalism and this park will open up access to this. I would also like to see security cameras in the parking lot. Security cameras are everywhere, they are cheaper and better today then they have ever been, and there should be no reason that they are not installed at all of our parks across the county. Especially, a newly built one.

I would also like the plan to consider the privacy of the homes surrounding the park. I believe there should be both a visual and sound barrier between the residences and the playing fields. Keeping the tree line along the Prickley Pear line is a free natural barrier that is cost effective. Adding privacy evergreens between the Splendor Garden homes would also create a natural barrier. Having such natural landscaping I believe is a must to any park. There would need to be a change the concept plan to do this. The location of the football field or the elimination of the football field and a change of the proposal to another size field or court.

Finally, these fields are all dedicated to a younger population and discriminate against many who can not run long distances. I believe there could be change to one of the soccer fields into a football field and putting in some pickle ball, tennis, volleyball, or basketball courts where the football field is proposed would bring a more diverse age population to the park, ultimately creating a safer environment due to more adult eyes watching what is going on.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

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~ Jason



I am David Hogan, President and Commissioner of The Winchester Wolfpack. For those of you who aren't familiar with us, we are a youth travel football and cheer organization with AYF (American Youth Football)

We serve youth from all over the area from ages 6 to 13. Our organization is definitely more than just an extra circular activity for our youth that is involved! We place a high expectation on academics. Each child is required to maintain passing grades while in our program. Education first, football second. We also encompass a family unity amongst the children. Some of these kids do not have parental units at home due to working multiple jobs or other circumstances and we embody a family atmosphere for all children involved.

Frederick County has supported us by renting a field to us at the Old Frederick County Middle School for the last three years. We have used that field for practices and games and have been super appreciative. This has in fact become our "Home" field. However, there is always the threat of losing that field as the property is currently for sale.

We came tonight to express our interest and desire for a regulation football field at this new complex and to offer our support in any way necessary.

Parks and Recreation of Frederick County

Re: 25 Acre park to be established adjacent to Snowden Bridge Community

I recently attended the informational meeting on January 28,2020 held at Stonewall Elementary School.

I thought those representing the department were very pleasant and tried to answer questions and address concerns to the best of their knowledge. I also agree that nice parks and athletic facilities can be a welcome addition to a community. My concern,however, is the proximity of this facility,more specifically, the location of the proposed football field and it's proximity to those of us in the Snowden Bridge community who border the park.

My husband and I bought and built our home a little over 4 years ago. We live on Dutchman Ct., which is one street over from Pinwheel Ct...see the map. We chose our lot for several reasons..it was at the end of the cul de sac, we had neighbors on only one side, no one across from us in the cul de sac, and at the time, only nice woods to the left of our home. I could look out front windows and side windows and see a peaceful setting. In time, things began to change as townhouses were built across from us,but we have become used to that. And in the summer the leafed out trees have obscured their view. But this new development of this park and the football field has left me feeling quite upset. I feel things will change drastically if this goes through. We bought this house thinking this would be our 'forever" home as we are in our 70's now. But the thought of noise,lights,increased foot traffic, if an access path is built from Pinwheel,leaves me wondering what to do. It does not seem right that those who currently live here and have invested a fair amount of money in to their homes and most likely chose that location for asthetic reasons,suddenly face the prospect of a drastic change that will negatively impact us. I am hoping that these concerns will be taken in to consideration, not only for the single family homeowners who will border the park, but also for the townhouse homeowners who will have the field right out their back door.

Thank you for the opportunity to express how I feel..unfortunately I don't think this letter truly expresses the stress I am experiencing.

Sincerely,  
  
Linda Hartzell