
Public Hearing Draft Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan Update

JULY 25, 2014

M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks | montgomeryparks.org

Park Planning and Stewardship Division | parkplanningandstewardship.org

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Abstract

This Master Plan Update provides an update to the 1995 Master Plan for Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park. This master plan update provides background materials, describes the history of the original owners of the parkland, describes the public outreach and planning process, and describes the vision and preliminary program of requirements for the three areas of the park.

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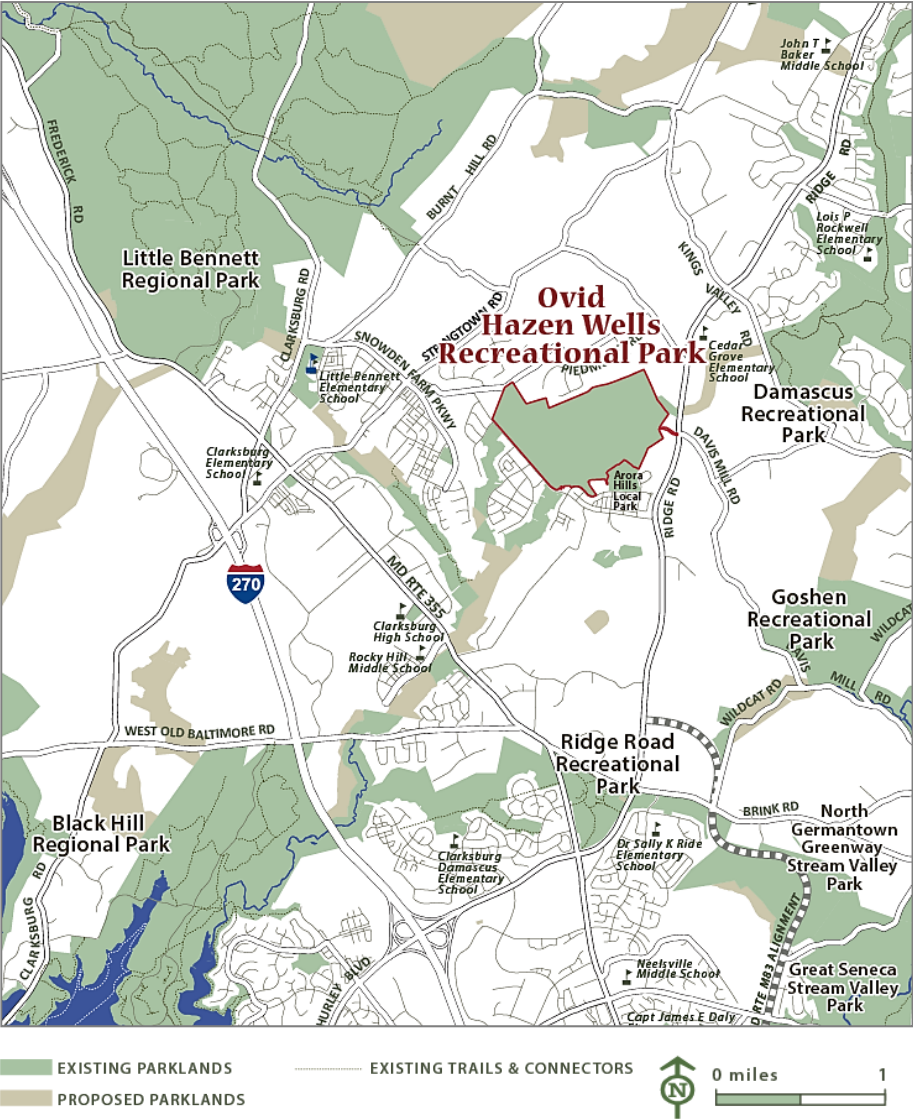


Figure 1 - Park Locator Map

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Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the Plan is to update the *1995 Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan*.

On March 6, 1981, Hallie A. Wells made the decision to convey 290 acres of land in Clarksburg, Maryland and a carousel to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The carousel was installed temporarily at Wheaton Regional Park. The conveyance requires that, once the Ovid Hazen Wells Park is “serving a sufficient number of park users”, the carousel will be relocated there. In 1981 Clarksburg had far fewer residents than it has today. The time to relocate the carousel to Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park has come.

A list of all the conveyance requirements can be found in [Appendix 9: Deed of Conveyance](#).

Guiding Documents

The update to the master plan has been guided by four documents:

[1994 Clarksburg Master Plan and Hyattstown Special Study Area](#)

This plan proposes a trail system that links the three major parks in the study area: Little Bennett Regional Park, Black Hills Regional Park and Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park; provides future residents of Clarksburg easy access to outdoor experiences; creates a trail system that provides linking the Town Center and key community facilities; and proposes that the greenway system be part of the M-NCPPC park system.

[1995 Master Plan for Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park - June 1995](#) [6.9 MB PDF FILE, 101 PAGES]

This plan provides guidance for the development of a Greenway Network; an Active Recreation Area; a Special Recreation Area (which included the carousel); a Natural Recreation Area; and a Potential Future Development Area which has now become Arora Hills Local Park. (See *Figure 3*)

Proposed Park and Open Space System

Figure 48

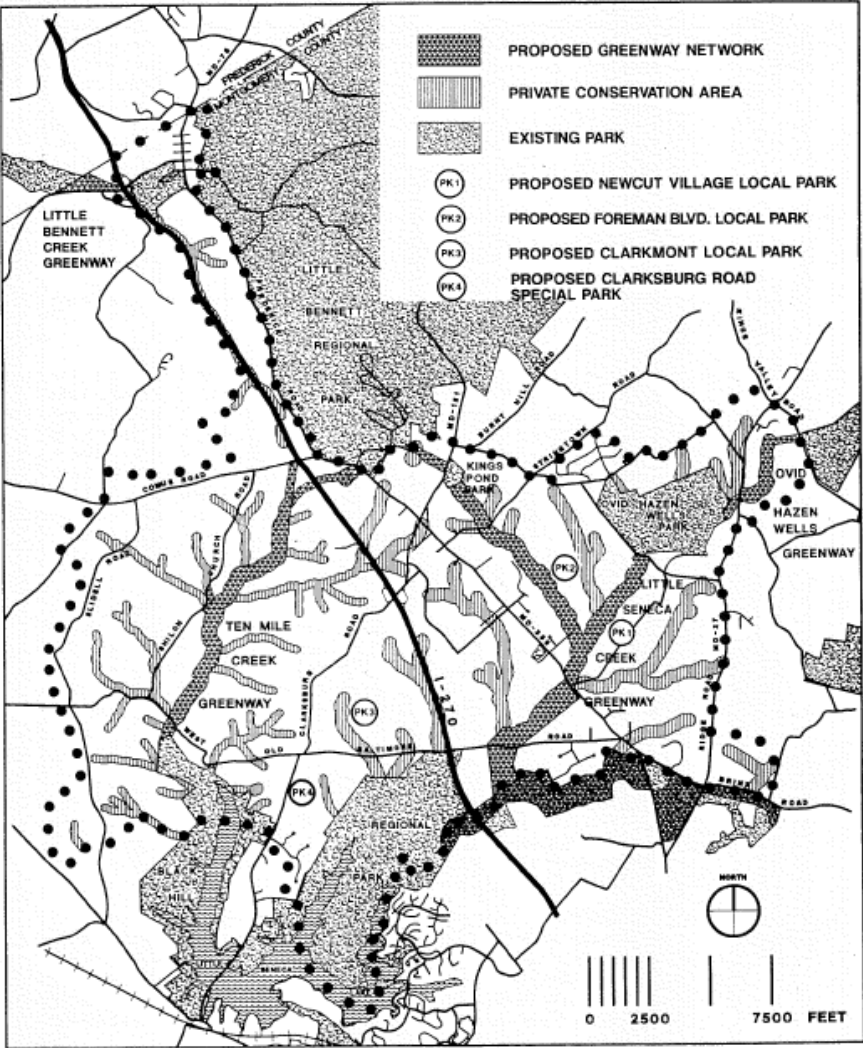


Figure 2 - 1994 Clarksburg Master Plan and Hyattstown Special Study Area, Park and Open Space System (figure 48)

Public Hearing Draft Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan Update - JULY 25, 2014*2002 Red Wiggler Farm Partnership Agreement* [3.6 MB PDF FILE, 94 PAGES]

This agreement is a Public-Private Partnership with M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks. The community farm provides “gainful employment for adults with developmental disabilities through a unique horticulture program that uses organic agricultural practices”. The partnership was approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board in January 31, 2002 (item #5).

2008 Countywide Park Trails Plan – 1998, 2008

This plan provides background materials, describes the planning processes and outlines a plan for the development of Countywide Park Trails in Montgomery County, Maryland. It contains materials on natural and hard surface trail corridors and planning, needs assessments and implementation strategies. It aligns with the 1994 Clarksburg Master Plan’s trail recommendations for linking Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park with Little Bennett Regional Park, Black Hills Regional Park, Clarksburg Town Center, and Damascus.

M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks has been working on an amendment to the *Countywide Park Trails Plan Amendment* which will be reviewed by the Planning Board in the fall of 2014.

OVID HAZEN WELLS RECREATIONAL PARK

APPROVED MASTER PLAN
June 19, 1995

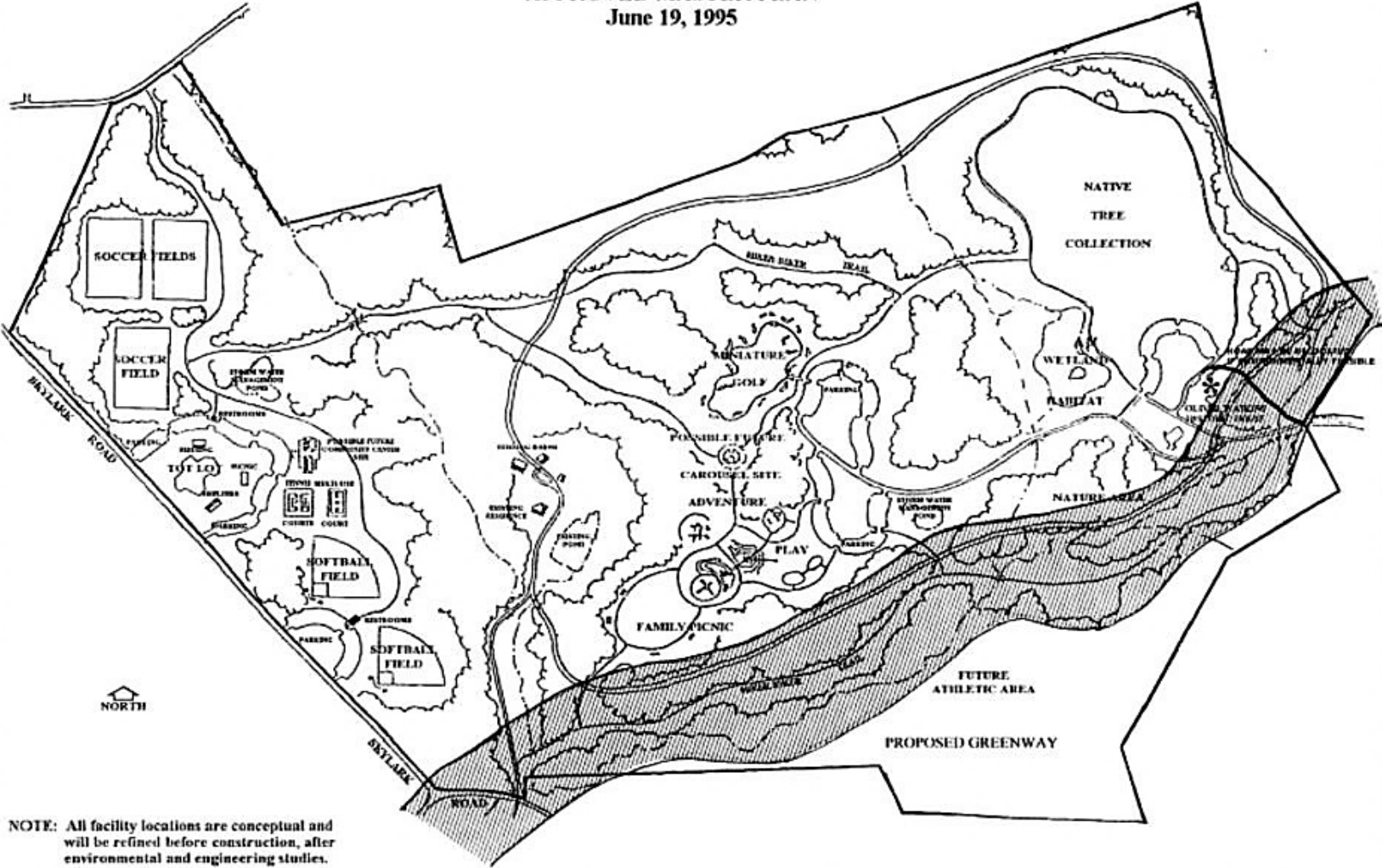


Figure 3 - 1995 Master Plan for Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park

The Park Today

The partially developed 290 -acre Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park is located in the northern portion of Montgomery County in the Clarksburg Planning Area. *(See Figure 1)*

Site Description

Today, Ovid Hazen Wells is a recreational park that includes several active recreation facilities along Skylark Road, including softball, baseball, and soccer fields. It also includes a playground, picnic shelters, trails, stormwater management, landscaping, and parking lots for 285 cars. *(See Figure 5)*

It is home to two historic properties: the Ned Watkins House and the Oliver Watkins house. The park also includes the Red Wiggler Farm, a public-private partnership that supports a community farming operation at the park for youth and adults with and without developmental disabilities. *(Figure 5)*

Active Recreation Area

The Active Recreation Area along Skylark Road *(Figure 4)* has been developed to include:

- 2 soccer fields
- 1 baseball field
- 2 softball fields
- 1 group picnic area with 3 picnic shelters that accommodate up to 100 people each
- 1 large playground
- Portable restrooms provided from April through October
- Looped hard surfaced trails connecting the amenity areas to each other and to the adjacent communities
- Parking for 285 cars

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Figure 4 - Focus Areas of the Plan

Central Area

The Central Area of the park is currently not developed. It includes an historic property, the Ned Watkins Farm, where Ovid and Hallie Wells lived from 1952 until Hallie's death in 1991. The house, pictured below, is designated as an individual resource on the Montgomery County [Master Plan for Historic Preservation](#) and has an associated historic environmental setting of 11 acres - [Appendix 5: Historic Settings Map](#).

The rolling pastures in the Central Area of the park are currently leased and farmed. The developable areas outside of the historic environmental setting, the wetlands and the stream buffers total approximately 62 acres - [Appendix 2: Developable Areas](#).



Above - the Ned Watkins House

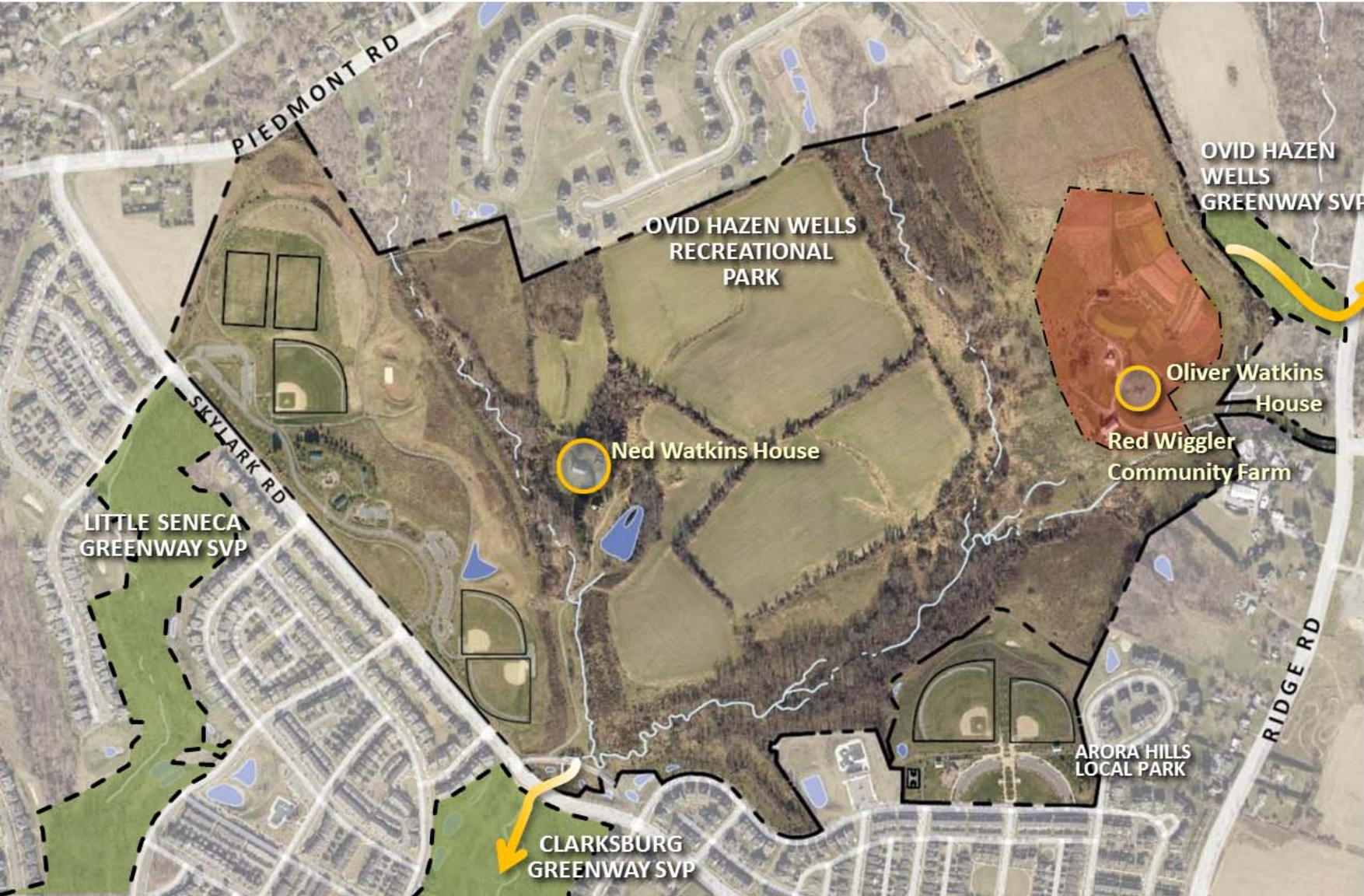


Figure 5 - The Park Today

Eastern Area

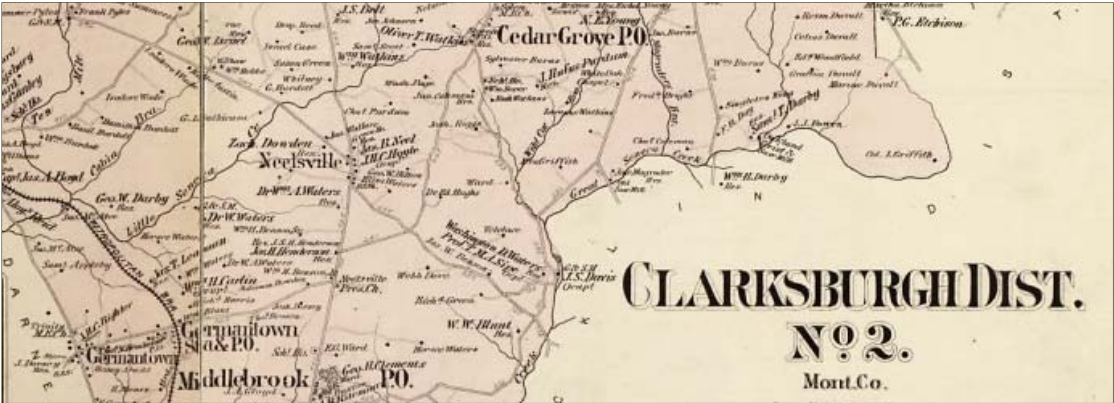
Located in the Eastern Area of the park are the Red Wiggler Farm and the Oliver Watkins Farm. The Oliver Watkins House, pictured below, is designated as an individual resource on the Montgomery County [Master Plan for Historic Preservation](#) and has an associated historic environmental setting of 2.6 acres. The house is currently vacant. -

[Appendix 5: Historic Settings Map.](#)



Above - the Oliver Watkins House

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Above - 1879 Hopkins Map of Cedar Grove, Clarksburg District. Photo Courtesy: Library of Congress



Above left - 1909 Photo of Cedar Grove. Photo Courtesy: Montgomery County Historical Society
Above right - Photo of the Oliver T. Watkins Farm. ca. 1900



The History

Cedar Grove, the Watkins Brothers, and the Wells Family

Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park consists of two farms located in Cedar Grove that were formerly owned by brothers Oliver T. and Edward “Ned” Watkins. The Watkins Family had established roots in the Clarksburg area, beginning with patriarch Alpha Watkins. Cedar Grove was bordered by a road running from Damascus to Goshen and another road running from Hyattstown to Damascus or in current terms, at the intersection of Ridge Road (Rte. 27) and Davis Mill Road. Today, this community has a Master Plan for Historic Preservation designated local historic district that envelopes several structures that speak to how this small turn-of-the-century crossroads town in rural western Montgomery County looked over 100 years ago. Cedar Grove began with the establishment of a general store owned and operated by merchant Oliver T. Watkins. In addition to this general store, Cedar Grove consisted of two churches and parsonages, two schools (post-1865), a post office (1877), a blacksmith shop, a saw mill, outbuildings of every sort (barns, hay barracks, granaries, ice houses, and chicken houses to name a few), fencing, and fine dwellings during the second half of the 19th century.

In 1851, Oliver T. Watkins built a modest farmhouse that was later remodeled in the Vernacular Queen Anne style by 1880. His farm included a smokehouse and a still existing two-story bank barn.

Unlike his brother, Edward was employed exclusively as a farmer – as were most male residents in Cedar Grove. Edward and his wife Sophronia bought their farm from Oliver T. Watkins in 1871. Here, they built a two-story cross gabled vernacular Victorian frame house in 1892 and the farm includes a bank barn, smokehouse, chicken house, and corncrib.

The last owners of the combined Watkins farm were Ovid Hazen Wells and his wife, Hallie. The Wells family decided to deed 295 acres of their farmland to M-NCPPC in 1956. One of the stipulations of the donation was that M-NCPPC would purchase the carousel clearly identified in the 1981 deed and it would be installed at the newly dedicated Ovid Hazen Wells Park when completed. The “Wells” carousel was constructed in the 1910s by the Herschell-Spillman Company, a New York based manufacturer that excelled in the production of “country fair style” hand carved wooden carousels. Our particular carousel has 33 jumping horses, 3 menagerie animals (3 zebras) and 2 chariots. Jim Wells (1917-2001) – a nephew of Ovid and Hallie Wells – was the concessionaire that operated this carousel for Smithsonian Institute on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. from 1967-1981 and ran the Fairhill Farms Antiques that sold the same carousel to M-NCPPC.



Tracy Lee Calfee, 4, of Alexandria, rides on the Mall.

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New Smithsonian Carousel Delights Youngsters on Mall

By Claude Koprowski
Washington Post Staff Writer
The Smithsonian's latest addition to its musical instruments exhibit is one you can ride. It is a carousel which qualified as a genuine instrument because of its band organ heart. But to the kids who pay 25 cents a ride it was just a case of a merry-go-round by any other name. When a mother started explaining its exhibitional importance, little Thomas just bolted for the ticket window. There mustachioed carousel concessionaire, Jim Wells, pulled out a ticket

from a Christmas cookie tin and escorted the rider to his mount and strapped him in. The belts are Wells' only compromise with the original equipment. Otherwise the machine looks very much like it did when it was made in 1922. The 8 1/2 ton machine is located in front of the Smithsonian's original building on Jefferson Drive sw. It can spin 43 children on its horses, dogs, pigs, and assorted fowl. If the kids get bored with the ride, they can always look at the 1922 pinups

painted on the awning over the engine housing. Or they can listen to the band organ which oompas and bangs during each ride. Restored by Wells, the old organ looks like a Rube Goldberg collection of connecting plastic tubes, wooden pipes, and bellows. It can play ten tunes to an automatic, self-reversing roll. Each roll costs \$30. Wells said yesterday he would like to see the merry-go-round become a regular feature of the Mall and hopes its present summer experimental run is successful.

Above - 1966 newspaper article about the "Wells Carousel" at its debut on the National Mall for Smithsonian. Photo Courtesy: Washington Post

Opportunities

The rolling agricultural land and forested stream valleys in this park offer many opportunities to respect the wishes of the Wells to have this area be maintained as a permanent open space, park and/or recreation area for public benefit. The recreation area has been realized on the western edge of the park and in the Arora Hills Local Park to the south. The undeveloped open spaces in the Central Area offer high points with vistas into the historic setting of the two Watkins Farms and the natural wetland areas that provide habitat for the Baltimore Checker Spot butterfly. The plan recommendations will recognize these special areas and provide guidance for proper development or protection.

Potential Constraints

There are currently three areas that may be constrained and will require additional study in the future:

- stream and wetland crossings
- street crossings
- available water and sewer infrastructure

The stream and wetland crossings will be necessary to connect a trail system throughout the park to the existing and future amenities. It will be essential to minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive areas by using the latest construction techniques for sensitive bridge and boardwalk development. - [Appendix 1: Resource Atlas Map](#)

Street crossings will be necessary at Rte. 27/Ridge Road and at Skylark Road to connect a trail system to existing and future trails planned in the Clarksburg and Ovid Hazen Wells Greenways. Preliminary analysis indicates at-grade crossing of Skylark Road will need to meet safety standards provided by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation. The crossing of Rte.27/Ridge Road is more difficult. It will be necessary to look at both surface and under road crossings at this location. (*Figure 6*)

The park is well served by public water along all edges of the park. The public sewer is running under the stream in the valley that separates the Active Recreation Area of the park from the Central Area. This existing infrastructure will be a major factor in determining where public amenities such as restrooms, community gardens and water features get sited. - [Appendix 4: Water and Sewer Infrastructure Maps](#)

Plan Recommendations

Active Recreation Area

The Vision

The vision for the Active Recreation Area is a unique and attractive family destination area. This should be a place where people of all ages want to come to spend an entire day, picnicking, riding the carousel, enjoying the breathtaking views, playing, lounging and walking the extensive trail system. It should be full of trees and beautiful plantings. It should be a one-of-a-kind place for Montgomery County residents and honor the intent of the Wells gift to use the land as open space, for parkland and recreation.

Preliminary Program of Requirements

In order for the carousel to be as successful as it has been at the Wheaton Regional Park, it needs to be supported by other family destination amenities in addition to picnic areas and playground areas. The plan is recommending that the carousel be located on the western side of the park in the undeveloped land adjacent to the existing playground and picnic shelters. This location is ideal because of its proximity to existing amenities and proximity to the existing sewer line in the stream valley. The carousel site will have a beautiful view of the historic Ned Watkins Farm and will have space for the new development planned to support the carousel.



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The carousel will need to be supported by the following improvements:

- A building that would accommodate ticket sales, restrooms and meeting rooms suitable for birthday parties, etc.
- Infrastructure – connection to water, sewer and power.
- A larger themed play area similar in size to an adventure playground but with amenities unique to the park system;
- Additional picnic shelters.
- A splash pad similar in size to the splash park at South Germantown Recreational Park or similar unique synergy creating amenity.
- A dog park.
- A sledding hill.
- A terraced seating and lounge area.
- A community open space for kite flying, etc.
- A trail connection to the proposed Ovid Hazen Wells Trail.
- Food concession areas.





Active Recreation Areas

Focus Area A

1. Carousel Picnic Area & Splash Pad
2. Teen Play Area
3. Sledding Hill/Open green space
4. Lounge Terrace
5. Community Open Space
6. Dog Park
7. Renovated Play Area
8. Trail Connection

Figure 7 - Close-up of the Active Recreation Area

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- A teen activity/play area.
- A maintenance area - *Appendix 6: Maintenance Area for the Active Recreation Area.*
- Additional parking for 270 more cars including bus parking.
- The entire area will need to be accessible according to current ADA standards.

Proposed Parkland next to Active Recreation Area

The plan recommends three parcels of land as future parkland; the 1.06 acre property owned by Dana L. Bennett and the 1.20 acre and 9.72 acre parcels owned by George and Pamela Johnson. The three parcels would total 11.98 acres and would allow for the expansion of the Active Recreation Area.

The additional parkland could also be considered as a potential site for the Future Clarksburg Community Recreation and Aquatic Center.

The Montgomery County Planning Board approved the acquisition by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission of the 1.06 acre parcel owned by Dana L. Bennett on July 17, 2014. (*Figure 7*)



Central Area

The Central Area is the part of the park that includes the Ned Watkins historic house and farm and the leased agricultural fields.

Vision

The plan recommends creating a unique event area using the historic Ned Watkins house and the surrounding historic structures. The Ned Watkins house is in extremely good condition and is an excellent example of 19th century Victorian architecture. The Ned Watkins house will be the central event venue and is envisioned to host events such as weddings, graduations, farm to table fund raisers and organic food cooking demonstrations. The barn will provide shelter for event activities. Careful attention will need to be paid to keeping Historic Viewshed intact. The other buildings; the corn crib and the smokehouse will need to be evaluated to determine their usefulness. The existing entrance road will remain to provide the access into the farm and event areas.

The plan also recommends that the central area be minimally developed so as to keep with the intent of the deed of conveyance which states,

“The land and improvements hereby conveyed shall be used as open space, for parkland, and/or recreation in such manner as to evidence the conservation of soil, water, woods, and wildlife, and to that end, shall be so maintained.”



Preliminary Program of Requirements for the Ned Watkins Historic Area

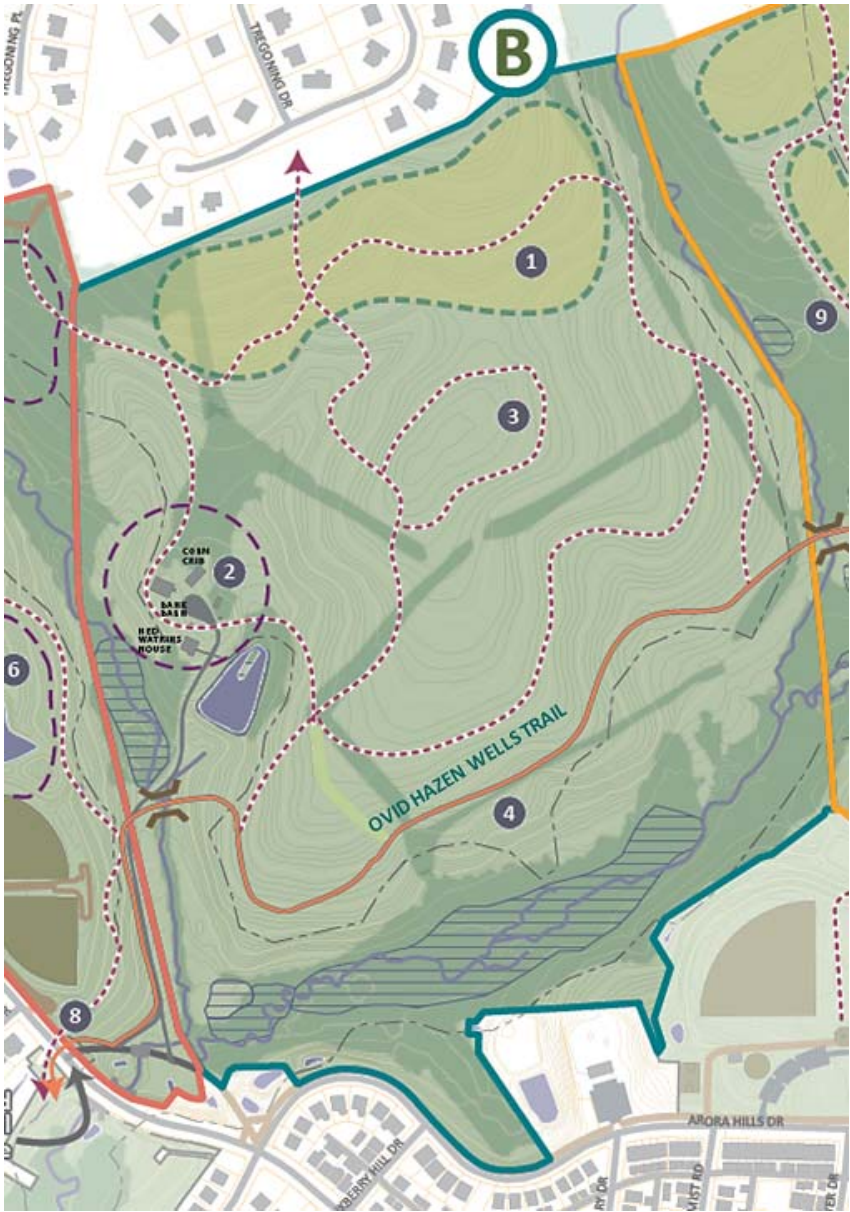
In order to become a successful event center, there needs to be space for 150-200 guests and the following improvements will be necessary:

- Upgrade the Ned Watkins House to be accessible.
- Upgrade the bank barn to be accessible.
- Add a tent pad.
- Add a prefab drop-in restroom facility.
- Create additional parking for the events. Careful design is needed for the parking and drive entrance in the historic setting to maintain the beauty and agrarian feel to the property. The drive and parking material should be in character with the historic setting.
- Upgrade the existing access road into the property. This road is currently wide enough for one vehicle. It needs to be a two-way entry with an improved storm water management treatment and a beautifully designed bridge over the existing stream.

The Plan recommends creating a reforestation buffer along the north edge of the area to screen views of the housing development to the north. The reforestation area will have native plantings and plant identification markers as education for the trail users who pass through the buffer.

The plan recommends that a natural surface trail system be created throughout the Central Area. The trail system is envisioned to function as an interpretive self-guided educational element that takes people to and through unique landscapes. It is also envisioned as a community connector into the many areas of the park. The natural surface trail could accommodate many types of uses including a 5k run and a disc golf course.

Finally, within the Central Area, the Plan recommends the creation of a meadow. The meadow will provide a natural beauty to the rolling fields and will be a beautiful setting for the natural surface trail network. The meadow is envisioned to function as a low maintenance landscape with small areas mowed for the enjoyment of picnics either on a blanket or at a picnic table. The meadow areas will be located where the agricultural fields are currently within lease.



Central Area

Focus Area B

1. Reforestation Buffer
2. Watkins Historic Area
3. Meadow and Trails
4. Self-guided Interpretation

- PARK-WIDE FACILITIES**
- Natural Surface Trails - 5k Course
 - Hard Surface Trails
 - ⬭ Active Recreation Areas
 - ⬭ Programmed Areas
 - ⬭ Bridges
 - ⬭ Additional Parking

Figure 8 - Close-up of the Central Area

Eastern Area

The Eastern Area of the park includes the Red Wiggler Farm and the Historic Oliver Watkins house and farm.

Vision

This Plan recommends a Preliminary Program of Requirements that includes and complements the Red Wiggler Community Farm strategic plan. The Plan also recommends that the Oliver Watkins Historic Area become the site for the Home Food Gardens program.

Preliminary Program of Requirements

Red Wiggler Community Farm

The Red Wiggler Community Farm (RWCF) has been achieving its vision since 1996, when it was founded. Red Wiggler's main tenet is to provide gainful employment for adults with developmental disabilities through a unique horticulture program on a 12 acre certified organic farm.

The bulk of this program focuses on building a vocational structure that identifies and builds on the capabilities of its clients with developmental disabilities. The Red Wiggler Farm currently occupies approximately 12 acres of land in the Eastern Area of the park. There are 7 acres of organic cultivated fields for crops. It uses the historic bank barn for food storage and distribution. It has a new office building with a growing conservatory and it has a solar farm building that



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functions as a working laboratory for energy efficient living and building. The Solar House was designed by an interdisciplinary team of University of Maryland students in architecture, engineering and related fields, and built by students and partners, for the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon in 2005.

In May 2014, the Red Wiggler Community Farm began a strategic plan for the Farm. The Red Wiggler strategic planning process will address mission and vision, define clear goals for programs, growth and resource needs and include performance measures. Red Wiggler Community Farm anticipates that the Planning process will take 9 – 12 months, to provide adequate time for participation and review by staff, the Board of Directors and key stakeholders. The outcome of the process will be a written strategic plan document that presents the Planning process, the research, the analysis, opportunities and strategies that will guide RWCF for the immediate future and the longer term.

Oliver Watkins Historic Farm

The historic Oliver Watkins Farm includes the Oliver Watkins house, the bank barn and the entry drive from Ridge Road, Rte. 27.

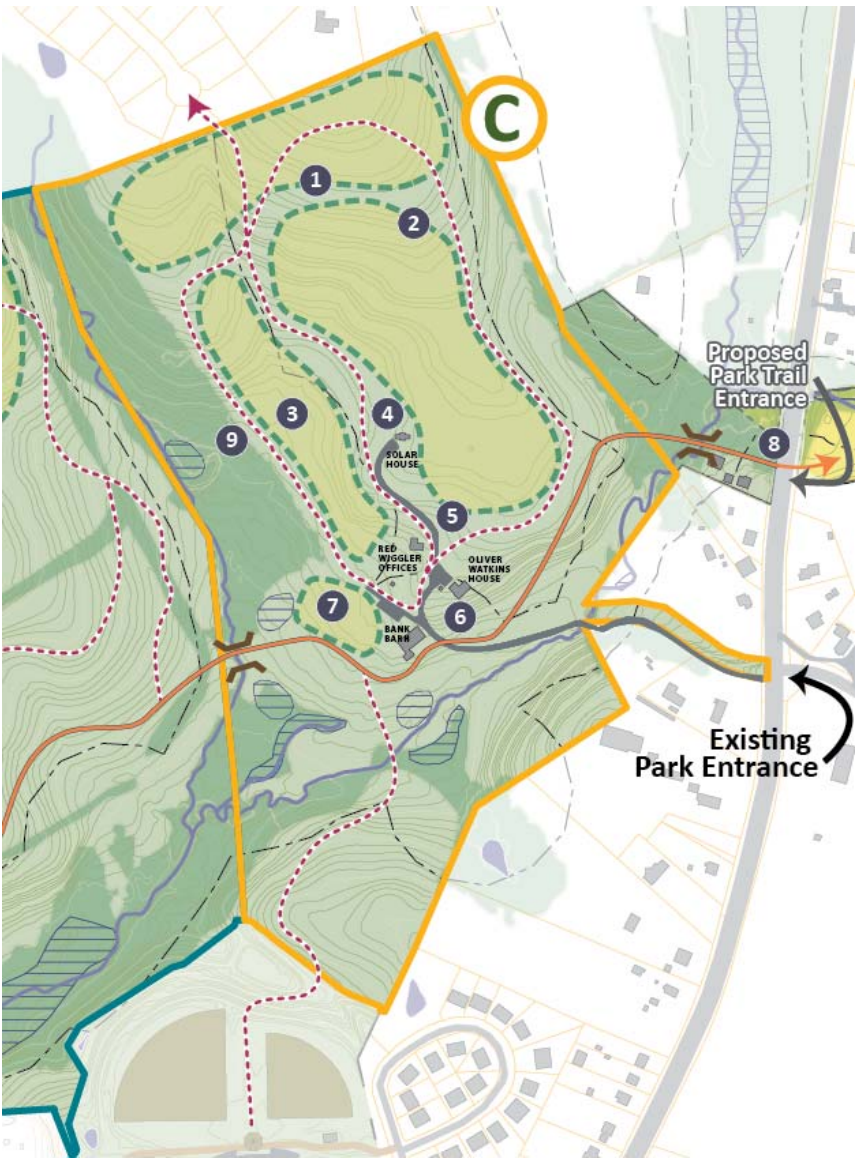
The vision for the Oliver Watkins Farm is to capture the enthusiasm of and to assist with sustaining the local food movement by developing a Home Food Gardens program, designed to demonstrate the techniques and importance of growing vegetables and fruits in home gardens. Home Food Gardens programs also focus on the advantages of home grown food and edible landscapes. The house will be a center for the program and will be developed into offices and classrooms. The public will be encouraged to visit the house and learn about its history from self-guided interpretive panels. Careful attention will need to be paid to keeping Historic Viewshed intact.

In order to become a center for a Home Food Gardens program, the following improvements will be necessary:

- Complete build out for the interior of the Oliver Watkins house for classrooms and offices. Locate an area open to the public for historic interpretation of the house.
- Upgrade the Oliver Watkins House to be accessible.
- Upgrade the bank barn to be accessible.
- Create additional parking for the program. Careful design is needed for the parking and drive entrance in the historic setting to maintain the beauty and agrarian feel to the property. The drive and parking material should be in character with the historic setting.
- Upgrade the existing access road into the property. This road is currently just barely wide enough for two vehicles. It needs to be a two way entry with an improved storm water management treatment and a beautifully designed bridge over the existing stream.

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- Provide a community garden to as a learning plot.
- Provide community garden plots.
- Install demonstration garden areas and interpretation.
- Upgrade utilities to include WSSC water and sewer.
- Install security and deer fence.
- Install irrigation.
- Build maintenance complex to support the facility.
- Incorporate the Red Wiggler operation into the Home Food Gardens program.
- Upgrade main entrance on MD Rte. 27.



Eastern Area

Focus Area C

- 1. Edible Plantings
- 2. Edible Plantings
- 3. Reforestation
- 4. Solar House
- 5. Red Wiggler Farm
- 6. Home Food Garden Center
- 7. Community Garden
- 8. Trail Connection and Trailhead Parking
- 9. Wetland Overlook & Self-guided Interpretation

Figure 9 - Close-up of the Eastern Area

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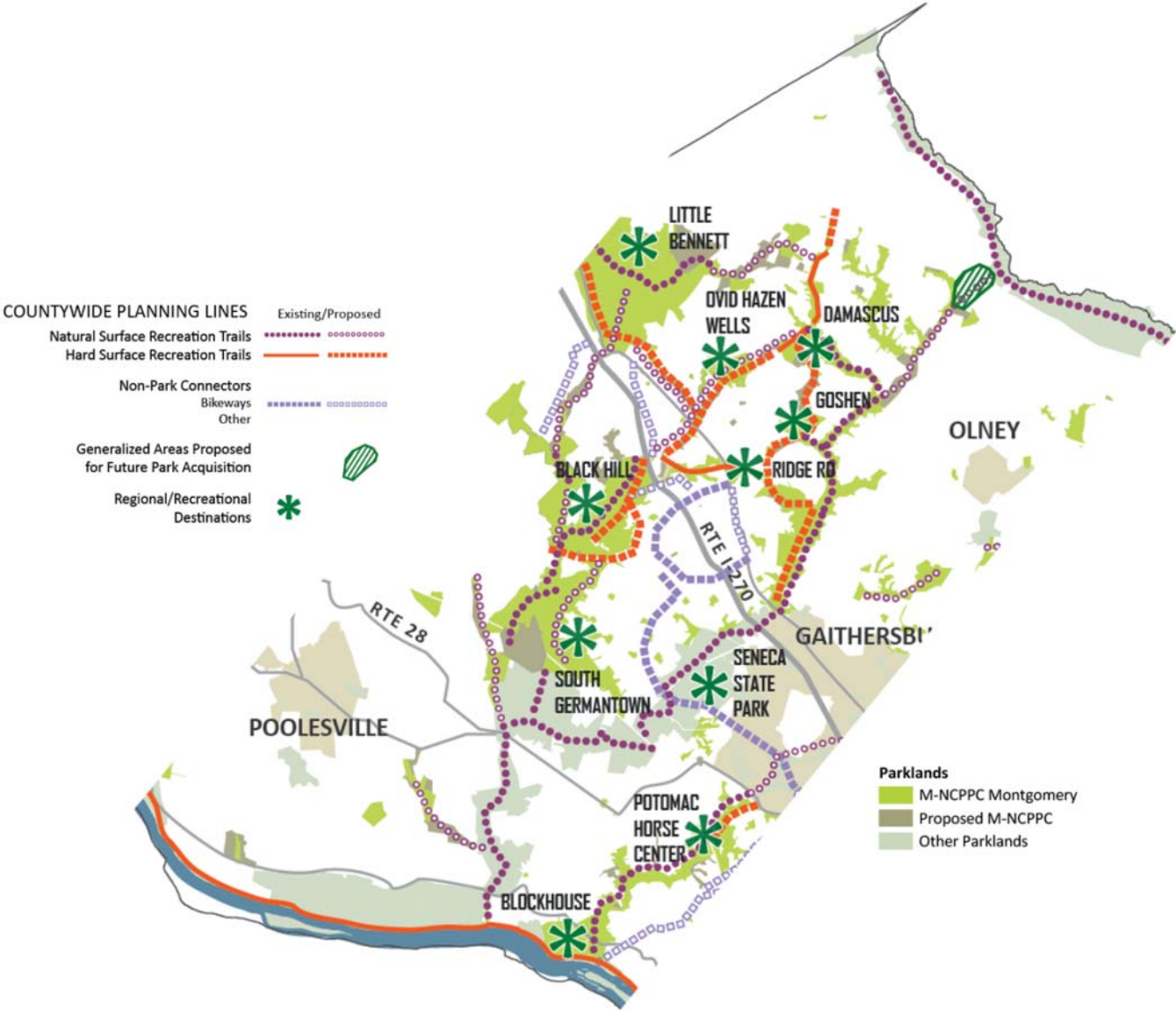


Figure 10 - 2008 Countywide Park Trails Plan, Seneca Greenway Trail Corridor

Expanded Trail System

Since the [1994 Clarksburg Master Plan and Hyattstown Special Study Area](#) the recommendations have been to provide a trail network to connect the numerous public facilities. The Plan recommends that a hard surface trail connection be developed through Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park to connect the existing Clarksburg Greenway Trail to the future Ovid Hazen Wells Trail. *(See Figure 6)*

This recommendation, if approved, will amend the Countywide Park Trails Plan to eliminate a parallel natural surface trail along the same alignment. Analysis conducted as part of the ongoing Countywide Park Trails Plan Update shows that stream valleys on either end of the park are too constrained to support both a hard surface and a natural surface trail in a sustainable manner.

Vision for the Ovid Hazen Wells Trail

This hard surfaced trail will function as a major trail connector to other public facilities such as Little Bennett Regional Park, Black Hills Regional Park and Clarksburg Town Center. This trail will also function as a connector trail within the park, linking the Active Recreation Area with the Central and Eastern Areas. This trail may be enjoyed by walkers, bikers and equestrians. Careful attention is needed when locating this trail so as to make use of the existing stream crossings where possible. It is intended that this trail be constructed outside of the environmental buffers wherever possible.

Preliminary Program of Requirements for the Ovid Hazen Wells Trail

- Create a 10'- 15' wide hard surface trail to link the three areas of the park. This trail will also connect to the existing Clarksburg Greenway Trail and to the future trail system to the east of the park.
- Create unique and attractive trail bridges to act as gateways into the uniquely functioning use areas.
- Add a trailhead parking area along MD Rte. 27 for 8-15 cars.

The Eastern Greenway Link and Trail Connection

Also envisioned since 1994, and which will be included in the upcoming [County Wide Park Trails Plan Amendment](#), is the expansion of the greenway link east towards Damascus. The trail connection east of MD Rte. 27 will be built on environmentally un-constrained proposed parkland expected to be dedicated by developers. A section of parkland has already been acquired to accommodate the future trail.

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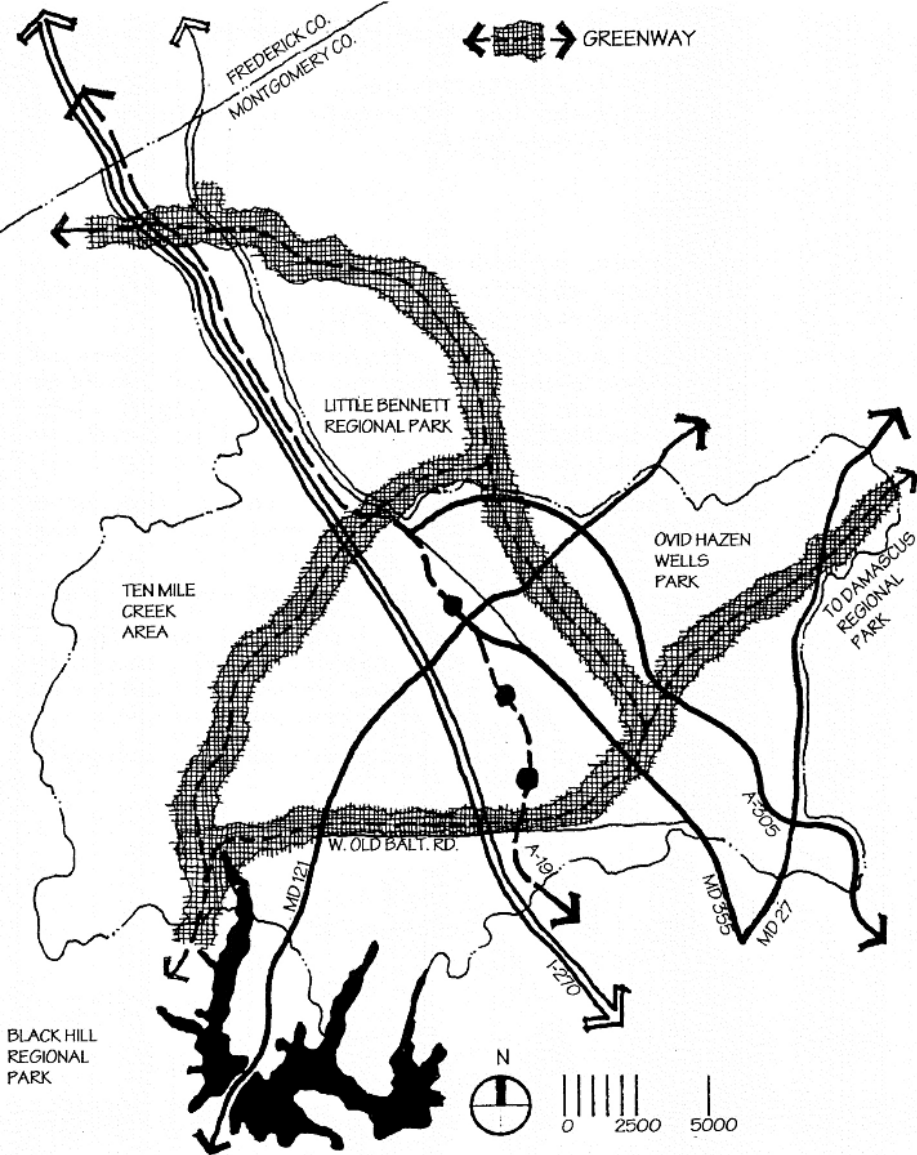


Figure 11- 1994 Clarksburg Master Plan and Hyattstown Special Study Area, Greenway Network, (Figure 9)

The Future Clarksburg Community Recreation and Aquatic Center

In 1995, the Montgomery County Recreation Department recommended that this park be considered as a possible site for the future Clarksburg Community Center. Since that time, the program of requirements for the future Community Center has grown. Below is a chart comparing the old community center program to the new recreation and aquatic center program. It shows that the space requirements have grown from 7+/- acres to 15-20+/- acres.

Program of Requirements 2000	Program of Requirements 2014
Indoor/Outdoor Aquatic & Community Center Facility – 135,000 net square feet	Community Recreation Center – 35,000 net square feet Aquatic Center – 72,000 net square feet
Parking – 350 + spaces	Parking – 400 spaces
Acres needed – 7 +/- acres	Acres needed – 15-20+/- acres*

This Plan recommends that parkland be acquired at the corner of Skylark Drive and Piedmont Road. This site should be considered as a potential site for the future Clarksburg Community Recreation and Aquatic Center. The community has requested that a senior center be considered as part of the program for the new Community Recreation and Aquatic Center.

The parking requirements for the Clarksburg Community Recreation and Aquatic Center will not be able to be mitigated at the adjacent Active Recreation and Carousel Area, as envisioned by this plan (*See Figure 7*).

** The 15-20+/- Acre requirement provides all of the outdoor spaces in the POR including: Sports Fields (2), Hard surface courts (2), Playground (7000nsf) Parking (150 center; 250 Aquatic) plus required space for grade transitions, SWM, environmental easements, buffers, zoning setbacks, forestation, and sufficient “elbow room” to properly design a comfortable SDP to accommodate all components. If the two largest space requirements – parking and sports fields, can be mitigated by adjacent existing facilities or excellent mass transit opportunities, there may be possibilities to reduce the overall footprint to some limited extent. Until site selection, including a feasibility test fit, is complete it is not possible to know the extent, if any, of any space reductions/consolidations.*

Appendices

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Appendix 1: Resource Atlas Map



Appendix 2: Developable Areas



Developable Pods. Approximately 82.14 acres total

Appendix 3: Lease Areas Map



- Stanley Grain & Fertilizer Agricultural lease [expires 12.31.14]
- Month-to-month Park House Lease
- Red Wiggler Lease [expires 6.30.2025]

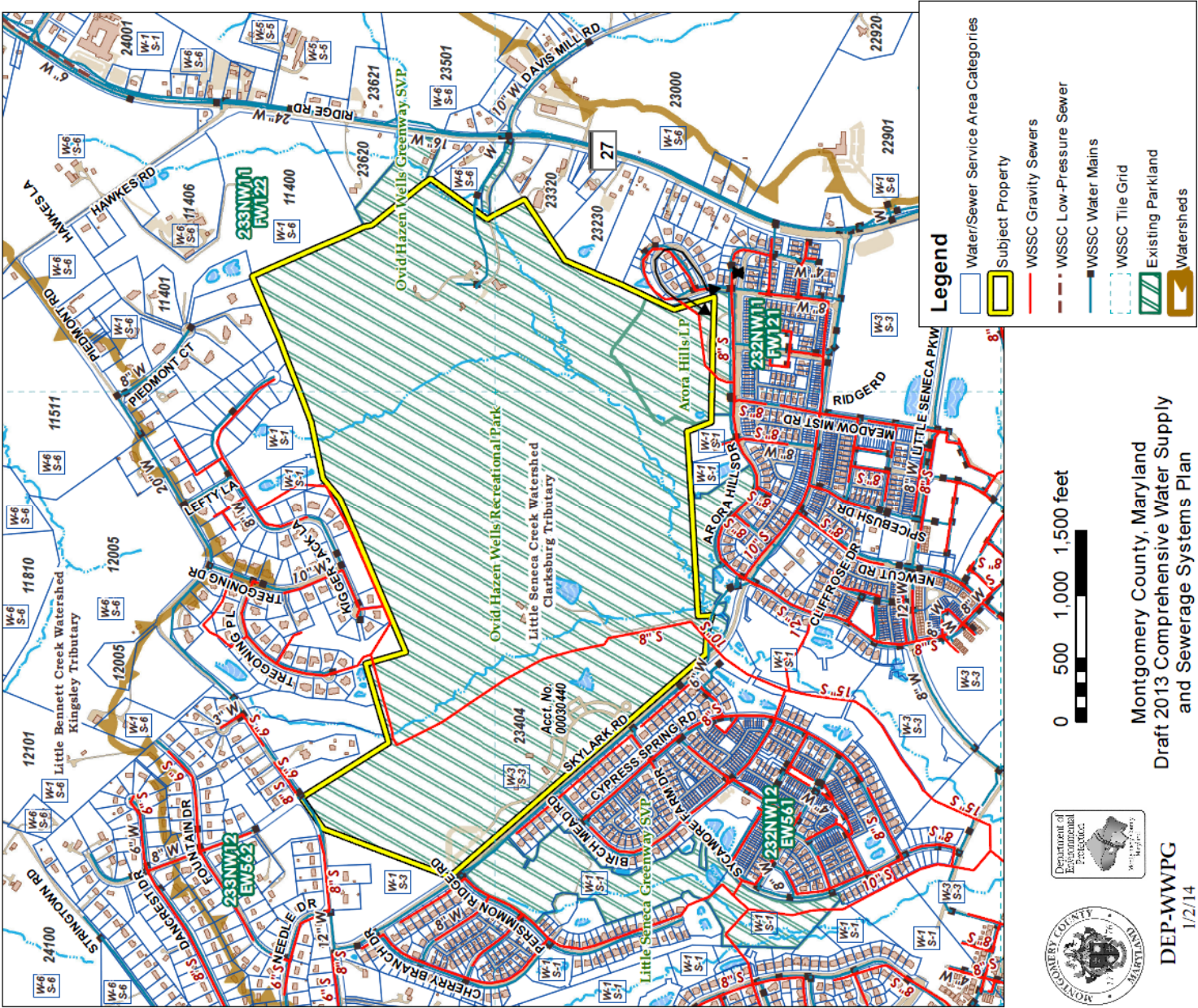
Appendix 4: Water and Sewer Infrastructure Maps



- WSSC Water Pipe
- WSSC Gravity Pipe Wastewater Sewer

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Water & Sewer Service Area Categories Map: General Inquiries/Research Projects
23404 Ridge Road, Clarksburg -- Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park (M-NCPPC)



Appendix 5: Historic Settings Map



- Park-owned Historic Sites
- Historic Settings

Appendix 6: Maintenance Area for the Active Recreation Area

Preliminary Program of Requirement

Area Needed - 2500 sq. ft.

Building - 30 ft. by 55 ft. to accommodate a staff desk, lunch table, phone, and a couple of lockers. The building needs to accommodate maintenance equipment (tractor, utility cart, and infield groomer), hand tools, small power equipment, fuel storage locker, pesticide storage locker as well as shelf and pallet storage for materials and supplies. There should be enough space to allow proper separation between a lighting system and an irrigation control system.

Fence Enclosure - 20 ft. by 45 ft., and to include a gate large enough for a trash/recycling truck to enter to empty dumpsters, and store tractor attachments, extra goals and trash cans for tournament play.

Site Considerations - Should be sited so that maintenance vehicles do not need to traverse a public parking lot. Maintenance area should be situated at the far end of a parking lot and with access to the paved trail system in the park and it should function well without interruption to visitors.

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Appendix 7: Public Outreach

Outreach Plan

Park planning staff attended numerous community meetings from January through spring 2014 to talk about the park master plan update and to hear issues from the community. After this, brought the Issues and Outreach Report to the Planning Board, hosted a public meeting and will bring staff recommendations to the Planning Board in July 2014. The current schedule for the plan is listed in the chart below.

Print Materials

- Big Exterior Signage
- Posters
- E-Postcard/handout

Traditional Media Outreach

- Press Releases / News Announcements
- Presentations - Public Meetings, Events and Planning Board Meetings

Electronic Outreach and Communications

- Public link: www.ParkPlanning.org
- Direct project page link: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkPlanning/Projects/ovid.hazen.wells/ovid.hazen.wells.rp_mp.update.shtm
- Online comment tool page: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkPlanning/Projects/ovid.hazen.wells/online.comments.ovid.hazen.wells.rp_mp.update.shtm
- Parks Department - Parks home page, Event Calendar, Media Center
- Planning Department - Media Center, E-Newsletters
- Calendar Notices - Online news and Blogs: Gazette, Patch, Washington Post
- Contact Lists - PACP Office: County, Regional Service Centers, Elected Officials, Stakeholders. Project Coordinator: Special Interest Groups
- Social Media Posts - Facebook - general and event posts, Twitter - general tweets, updates and reminders
- Project Web Page Content - Project Description, Background and Updates. Public Input: Online Comment Tool, E-mail, U.S. mail. Plan Calendar and Meeting notes - Staff relies on this web page to keep citizens updated throughout the planning process.



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Calendar and Meeting Notes

The events are updated with exact dates and times as soon as they can be reserved. Links to presentation materials, meeting notes and memos are posted for each event as soon as they are available.

DATE TIME	NOTES AND PRESENTATIONS	LOCATION DESCRIPTION
2013		
December	Staff meetings to review plan background.	
2014		
January - March	Attend regularly scheduled public meetings and events including the Clarksburg Civic Association, Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board, the Upcounty Recreation Advisory Board and School PTA meetings to hear the issues. Publicize online comment tool.	Locations will vary. Links will be posted as they become available.
Jan 27	Clarksburg Civic Association - Introductory presentation (PDF, 2.5MB)	
February 19	Upcounty Recreation Advisory Board Meeting- agenda (PDF, 180KB) Introductory presentation (PDF, 1.8MB)	Germantown Community Recreation Center 18905 Kingsview Drive, Germantown, MD
March 29	Kites Over Clarksburg (PDF, 101KB) - Parks Staff attended Kites Over Clarksburg event to meet with the public, tour the park and discuss the plan update. - handout (PDF, 385KB)	Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park 12001 Skylark Road, Clarksburg, MD 20871
April 28	Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board Meeting - Introductory presentation (PDF, 1.8MB)	Upcounty Regional Office 12900 Middlebrook Road, Suite 1000, Germantown MD
May 1	Staff presentation - Park Ridge HOA Meeting	
May 22	Issues and Outreach Report to the Planning Board - agenda item #15 . Staff will present the issues heard to date from the public and will present and outreach strategy and date for the public meeting for the Planning Board to approve. - email notice (PDF FILE)- staff memo (PDF file) - PowerPoint presentation (PDF FILE).	M-NCPPC Main Regional Office (MRO) Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910
May 22	Arora Hills HOA meeting - Staff presentation	
May 28	Public meeting #1 – Preliminary Recommendations Presentation. Links to meeting notes and presentation materials will be posted as soon as they are available. - PowerPoint presentation (1.8MB PDF)	Little Bennett Elementary School Cafeteria 23930 Burdette Forest Rd, Clarksburg, MD 20871
June 16	Public Meeting #2 Present and gather public input on Concept Plans and Preliminary Program of Requirements (PPORs) for the master plan update. - PowerPoint Presentation (PDF, 2.25MB)	Arora Hills Community Center 23030 Birch Mead Road, Clarksburg, MD 20871
July 17	Planning Board Staff Draft Plan Review - Please check the Planning Board agenda for a more exact time closer to the meeting. Links to the Planning Board agenda, memo,	M-NCPPC Montgomery Regional Office (MRO) Auditorium- 8787 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD

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DATE TIME	NOTES AND PRESENTATIONS	LOCATION DESCRIPTION
	and presentation materials will be posted as soon as they are available. - email notice (PDF, 275KB)	20910
	30 day Draft Plan review period for the public	
October 2	Planning Board Public Hearing - Links to the Planning Board agenda, memo, and presentation materials will be posted as soon as they are available.	M-NCPPC Montgomery Regional Office (MRO) Auditorium - 8787 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Winter	Planning Board Work Session #1 for the final plan. Links to the Planning Board agenda, memo, and presentation materials will be posted as soon as they are available	M-NCPPC Main Regional Office (MRO) Auditorium 8787 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910
	Planning Board Final Review and Plan Adoption	
Once approved by the Planning Board, this project will move to our Park Development Division for facility planning.		

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Appendix 8: Public Input

Chart – Comments from the project webpage and emails as of 7-25-14

NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
Clarksburg Civic Association	1/27/2014	Need the carousel here, now!
Upcounty Recreation Advisory Board	2/19/2014	Include a space for the Clarksburg Aquatics and Recreation Center Include Racquetball courts Damascus would support any type of pool facility
Kasane Mihara	2/20/2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First of all I believe the Carousel should be moved to the Park where it belongs - I heard this may happen and think it would be great! 2. Second I think the community and Park system would benefit from some of the items that are in the South Germantown Park (splash park, mini golf, and indoor swim park or adventure playground/tot lots). We visit those and I think it would be nice to have something like that closer to home. Or even something like the tire park in Black Hills park. 3. More trails to ride a bike or have a nice walk. We walk on the current trails at the park but they are not really that long nor go anywhere. 4. More swings, and perhaps a swing for toddlers (only currently two and are always being used/occupied) 5. Perhaps the addition of horseshoes, and volleyball courts 6. And finally more trees! Skylark Road used to have many trees and shaded area along the road and I think that would be nice to bring them back to the park as well!
Lisa Blackwood	2/22/2014	<p>The structure for the carousel needs to be built so that it can be brought to the park. I know this move was in the deed for the county to obtain the land. It would be awesome to turn the Watkins' home into a Nature center for field trips (With the county's new curriculum these are in more need).</p> <p>More play equipment would be wonderful for kids, maybe even fitness stations like the Marauder Trail. Big trees! A dog park would be lovely. I run around the park daily and there are so many dog walkers out.</p>
Destiny Dry Uy 12622 Grand Elm St Clarksburg, Md 20871 301-758-4131	2/22/2014	I am a member of the Clarksburg Civic Association and would like to express my thoughts on the carousel that is currently at Wheaton Regional Park but belongs in Clarksburg in the Ovid Hazen Wells park. I hope someday when I leave this earth that my last wishes and especially promises will be kept. The Hazen-Wells family generously donated their land in Clarksburg and I believe that the promises that the county made to this family should be kept and therefore the carousel should be brought to the land it was intended for to uphold this obligation.
Karen Accardi	2/22/2014	As a Clarksburg resident I have been waiting for the return of the carousel currently located in Wheaton to be returned to Ovid Hazen Park in Clarksburg. Can you please update me on the status of this issue?

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
Teresa Gaspar	2/23/2014	Would it be possible to add a Community Garden space in this park?
Marjorie Greenwood 12216 Dancrest Dr, Clarksburg, MD 20871	2/23/2014	Clarksburg is ready to receive our Carousel. Please do whatever is needed to make this happen. And thank Wheaton for taking care of it all these years. Residence since 1976
Upcounty Advisory Board	4/28/2014	Consider studying the carousel at Glen Echo to understand all the supporting structure needs Concerned about artificial turf fields being located at this park Artificial turf would help extend the use Are you certain about the acres on the Johnson property map – yes they are from the tax map. Do not think the picture of the historic house is the Oliver Watkins House? What is the funding available for the park development – currently there is only money for facility planning for FY2015 and FY2016 We love the Red Wiggler farm and want it to have an opportunity to expand and grow How can Arora Hills be involved and connected? Were there any slaves living on the Wells farm or before that?
Kent Engel Park Ridge HOA – Board Member kentengel@aol.com	5/2/2014	I am sending you this E-Mail so that I can get on record with my thoughts concerning both the Ovid Hazen Wells Carousel and the Community Recreation and Aquatics Center. With regard to the Carousel: I am very much in favor of having it located in the Ovid Hazen Wells Recreation Park. However, I do have some important concerns and suggestions: 1. The sound level must absolutely be both controllable and controlled so as not to disturb the surrounding homeowners. 2. One means of achieving the sound level control may be simply to keep the volume down by whatever means is available on the calliope. 3. Another means of achieving the sound level control would be to plant a dense screen of trees, in an aesthetically pleasing manner, around and near the carousel. Perhaps pine trees would work best. 4. Perhaps a final means of achieving the sound level control would be to put in place a procedure by which surrounding homeowners could have both administrative and legal means of redress, should the sound level prove to be problematic. With regard to the Community Recreation and Aquatics Center: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am very much in favor of having it located in the Ovid Hazen Wells Recreation Park. My preference would be to have it located on the property you said Parks and Planning was seeking to purchase on the corner of Piedmont Road and Skylark Road. • I would further recommend that the facility include some sort of indoor walking track. I am familiar with a facility where such a track was incorporated on the second floor of an exercise area, specifically surrounding a full size basketball court and a moderate cardiac workout area. It provided excellent, year round, exercise for literally hundreds of individuals of all ages.

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
Sarwar Faraz sarwar98@yahoo.com	5/2/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Acquiring the Johnson property would be a great addition to the park. * The Aquatic Center on the Johnson property or any other location is a wonderful idea. It would bring much needed activity which Clarksburg lacks. * I have reservations about the music the carousel will generate all day long. * Soccer fields, baseball fields are welcome. Mini Golf is not. * How about adding a Cricket Oval (field)?
Brad Beeson	5/8 2014	A disc golf course would be a great use of the land. It would cost the county very little money to install and maintain, and would be a super low cost activity that's fun for the whole family. There is enough acreage available so that 27 or 36 holes could easily be installed. For a number of reasons, the west side of the park would seem to be best place for a course. The 20 year old facility in Seneca Creek State Park is a great example of environmental stewardship and volunteerism.
Jeff Popovich 4711 Saul Road Kensington MD, 20895 BLCK DGRD blckdgrd@gmail.com	5/8/2014	<p>I am a Montgomery County resident who lives in Kensington (and grew up in old Gaithersburg). I am writing in response to and support for a recent post on the Maryland Disc Golf Forum regarding a discer's idea of installing a disc golf course in OHW Park. I'd like to urge you to consider the possibility.</p> <p>There is a large disc golf community in Montgomery County but only one public course at Seneca Creek State Park. It is a world class course, one I play at least twice a month, and on weekends it is extremely crowded. A second course in Montgomery County would be wonderful and, if designed correctly, heavily used also. May I suggest you contact the rangers at Seneca Creek State Park and inquire about usage and general observations. We have a very good working relationship with the Park and I believe they can attest to both our heavy usage and maintenance of the park.</p>
Jerry Honis, Chairman and Director of Programming for the Southern Maryland Disc Golf Club down in St. Mary's, Calvert and Charles County.	5/12/2014	I was wanting to show support for rumors of a new Disc Golf course being considered at Ovid Hazen Wells Park by relaying some recent experiences our club has just gone through. On April 26 Charles County (a previously disc golf barren county) opened a brand new course in La Plata at Turkey Hill Park, and we had over 79 players come from Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina and even Massachusetts to play the new course and support the sport in our area. 40 of those players were Southern Maryland locals, half of who never played disc golf before and were eager to learn. In the 2 weeks the course has been open we've seen many of those same locals and same out of towners return to play again and again, bringing more friends and more family each time.
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	I am in agreement. Disc golf courses also double as hiking and bike trails for all of the community, not just disc golfers. Disc golf is an excellent way for those of all ages to be active outdoors. And it is also a great family activity for everybody to get out and have fun. Even the dogs can get out and enjoy being outside. The volunteers do a lot of work to keep the park clean and maintained, as well as getting trash picked up and off the property. Most disc golfers are avid environmentalists who have the best interest of the world at heart
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	Disc golf is a growing sport and it is growing quickly. It is excellent for all ages. The volunteers do a lot of work to keep the park clean and maintained. Fun way to get outside and exercise while

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
		enjoying a very fun activity
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	I don't know why you would do this, but wouldn't this use electricity. A disc golf course would not only be electricity free, but would also have volunteers cleaning and maintaining the park
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	Again, these cost a lot of money. And Germantown not only has plenty of room for this, but why would Clarksburg want a bunch of Germantownians invading with a ton of people every weekend? Put aquatic center at Soccer Plex in Germantown and leave Skylark alone. There would be WAY TOO MUCH traffic at this park. And 27 is only a two-lane road out of Germantown, so an aquatic center would also clog up that road very much on weekends
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	Disc golf would have WAY LESS traffic than some sort of aquatic center. A disc golf course would not cost money like an aquatic center. You wouldn't need to build a structure or run electricity or running water. Aquatic centers are expensive and attract WAY TOO MUCH traffic on Skylark Rd. Especially since there are already 3 or 4 baseball fields and at least one soccer field over there attracting people
	5/14/2014	These all sound expensive. Tennis courts are fine if they are not there. And maybe a basketball court. But there is plenty of room for disc golf, which is a very effective use of land. As the course would double as hiking and biking trails for all to use
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest):	5/14/2014	I agree with this guy. Why spend so much money and try to attract so many people when there are not sufficient roads to get to this place? It would be a nightmare on weekends to head from Germantown toward Clarksburg and Damascus on Rt 27/Ridge Rd
Melio521	5/15/2014	I would love to see a dog park, tennis courts, a bigger, nicer playground than the tiny ones sprinkled throughout the neighborhoods. I love the idea of more green space, but I also want to see purposeful green space. I love the idea of trails and pathways around the area as well. Thank you!
Disc Golf is Fun (Guest)	5/15/2014	These are all good ideas
Clarksburg_Resident (Guest):	5/15/2014	Clarksburg currently lacks many amenities that exist in any other places such as 1. Community Recreation and Aquatic Center, We really need a recreation and Aquatic center that can be used year around, we have pools in some communities only in summer. A community recreation center and aquatic center will be very useful for people of all ages. 2. Place for Kids of all ages to play, a basketball court, tennis court, baseball etc., 3. A place for picnic - There are no nearby shelters that can be used for picnic, A picnic area with bbq places will I be very y useful Thanks.
thebrightside	5/15/2014	Miniature golf, batting cages, tennis courts, trees around the existing playground, more trails, more picnic areas, a small amphitheater with seating like at centennial park in Howard County. Just some ideas :-)
Clarksburg Resident (Guest):	5/15/2014	1. Community Recreation and Aquatic Center. We really need a recreation and Aquatic center that can be used year around, we have pools in some communities only in summer. A community recreation center and aquatic center will be very useful for people of all ages. Also it

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
		<p>will provide kids UpCounty something to do.</p> <p>2. Place for Kids of all ages to play, a basketball court, tennis court, baseball etc.,</p> <p>3. A place for picnic - There are no nearby shelters that can be used for picnic. A picnic area with bbq places will be very useful.</p> <p>4. Miniature golf course.</p>
Sarticus DeGald	5/ 18/2014	<p>I think that most taxpayers want to get the most for the least expense. For parks, I think this should translate to build as little impervious infrastructure as possible and remain as pristine and as close to nature as possible. Enable access, make twisty trails (don't take down trees), and have (already treeless) fields mowed for sports. In addition there are some who feel that we need to make efforts reverse the seeming trend to 'protect' us by placing restrictions on our liberty rather than focusing on the importance of individual responsibility and holding individuals accountable for any action causing harm to anyone else. This site offers a small opportunity for a limited re-enabling of some freedom. The liberty that might be increased here would be to enable enjoying nature naturally. The Eastern woods, especially if the center area funding is minimal and not covered with buildings (put the carousel next to the currently built up area); seem suitable for a clothing optional loop trail. Nude is not lewd. Lewd behavior is unacceptable and way one dresses (or not) in no way should be considered as authorizing any lewd behavior. In the alternative, perhaps enabling women as well as men to not wear shirts on a well-marked trail would be a smaller step towards increasing freedom (and be less sexist than allowing removal of shirts for men and not for women.)</p>
Hi, my name is Jeremy Gieryna	5/23/2014	<p>I was wanting to show support for a new Disc Golf course in your community. I think this would be a great addition for the park which will begin to see more usage with all of the new homes being built. Disc Golf gives people an excuse to get outside and get away from their TV's and computers! You even see some avid Disc Golfers playing year round, rain or shine. Disc Golf is a great, low cost sport in which all ages can play. I am hoping you will give this idea some thought.</p>
Bonnie A. Beavers (Guest):	5/26/2014	<p>Red Wiggler Farm is a terrific asset to Montgomery County. Plan developed for Ovid Hazen Wells Park should fully support Red Wiggler and its strategic plan as a nonprofit.</p>
J. Breiner (Guest):	5/27/2014	<p>The non-profit Red Wiggler Farm is a little known gem. They provide opportunities to educate, feed, employ, & inform across many sectors of our Montgomery County community. Any master plan for Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park needs to value & support it.</p>
Gharris (Guest):	5/29/2014	<p>I want to express my support of Red Wiggler Farm. Their unique position in the community exemplifies so many of our community values through its education efforts, employing county residents who have developmental differences and more. I am strongly in favor of expanding the tax base through development but it must be done while preserving our values. Red Wiggler is an important resource.</p>
KRL	6/2/2014	<p>I strongly support having the Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan update continue to support the Red Wiggler Farm. This is a great asset to Montgomery County. Not only does it exemplify the ideals we hold, by providing a supportive, dignified environment for those with</p>

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
		developmental challenges helping them become productive members of our community, it also provides great educational opportunities for individuals (young and old).
Disc Golf is Fun tallen702		I agree with this guy. Why spend so much money and try to attract so many people when there are not sufficient roads to get to this place? It would be a nightmare on weekends to head from Germantown toward Clarksburg and Damascus on Rt 27/Ridge Rd
Glenn O'Rear (Guest):	6/9/2014	Living in Clarksburg's original community of Fountain View and not being allowed to join any of the local community pools we would welcome a county pool but at our expense as of course as it to be located at Skylark and Piedmont, we already have double the traffic count on needle Dr after the county dead ended Piedmont and now they want even more traffic thru our once quite streets so our children can grow up not being able to ride bikes and fearful of strange cars driving thru day and night? Why punish the residents that have gone thru 12 years of growth without any benefit?
Glenn O'Rear (Guest):	6/9/2014	Agreed, Skylark Rd can't support the current amount of traffic from 27 as they built it to narrow, and the bizarre cut thru from Stringtown will just add more of a nightmare for Fountain View residents as everyone will use needle dr. Put this Rec Center/Aquatic Wonderland elsewhere, Clarksburg is already a traffic mess thanks to a lack of planning, do we really want the county making more plans here??
Clarksburg Resident (Guest):	6/10/2014	I'm a resident of Arora Hills, so this park is right in our backyard (almost literally). We do NOT need the aquatic center in our neighborhood. We already have 2 neighborhood pools, so it would be better to locate it closer to UpCounty residents who do not have another option. Plus, the increased traffic on our roads would just make things even more crowded. No thank you.
living off Skylark (Guest):	6/10/2014	Agreed! We have too much traffic on Skylark already
Clarksburg Citizen (Guest):	6/ 12/2014	Reducing the number of tennis courts from 2 to 1 in Piedmont woods park is inadequate planning. See what happened in Montgomery Tennisplex at Germantown Soccerplex , it is very expensive, crowded, there is no place to park, and it is beyond affordable range for common public. There is no decent Tennis facility in Upcounty, we have to go all the way to Wheaton or cabin john park, which is impossible to get to without a road (the long promised road to Germantown and Clarksburg M-83). We need better public tennis facilities in the count and for us in Clarksburg we need a p lace like Cabin John. Please think about adding couple of lighted tennis courts, indoor court with pay & use model so that people can play year round, practice and get lessons from any one qualified. Please think about providing affordable and quality tennis environment for fast growing youth population in this areas, I moved here 8 year ago, never got a chance to take my kids to tennis, by the time we come home beating all the traffic, it gets dark, the only lighted tennis courts in this area are at Wims Park with 2 spots. One tennis court for this area is useless. Will you even take a chance driving your kids to a park with all tennis gear, when you know that there is only one court ?!

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
	June 17, 2014	Staff Draft Planning Board Presentation
susen (Guest):	6/19/2014	Expand the roads i.e. route 355 and route 27 to accommodate the extra traffic before anything else. we can't handle the traffic for the residents let alone carousel and aquatic center visitors.
Jackie N. (Guest):	6/23/2014	I think a splash park for children of all ages would be great in addition to an aquatic indoor center.
Jackie N. (Guest):	6/23/2014	Also more trails that would encourage outdoor walking/jogging/biking would be great!!!
Rachel Jacobs 23133 Newcut Road Clarksburg, MD 20871	6/24/2014	Dear County Members, As a resident of Arora Hills in Clarksburg I have many concerns regarding the safety of my family. The development has many new roads that are being utilized by the development as bypasses to new shopping centers, schools and access roads. Folks are driving through the roads very quickly and over the speed limits. I have noticed the increase of police monitoring the areas, however stop lights, speed bumps and other modifications might work better on a 24 hour basis. Little Seneca Hwy and Newcut Road are quickly becoming a danger to the pedestrians and motorists. The parking on the sides of the roads is blocking the view of oncoming traffic. There are no pedestrian walkways on Skylark Road for the children to walk to the parks. We love where we live and hope that you understand our concerns so that we may continue to thrive here as a community. I thank you for your time
Beth Van Leer	6/24/2014	I was unable to attend the July 16th meeting to discuss the park's plans for updating the Ovid Hazen Wells Park Master Plan and would like to submit written comments and recommendations as a citizen of Montgomery County. First of all I'd like to commend M-NCPPC on the proposed plan recommendations. I very much agree with the direction that the park has taken as a whole and the 3 areas that have been delineated. I agree with keeping the bulk of development within Area A on the western side of the park. I also appreciate the more natural development of Area B within the Central Area of the park, particularly the Reforestation Buffer area and meadows which would provide much needed habitat support for local birds. The winding natural surface trails will be a great way to connect the public with nature with minimal disturbance. I am familiar with Area C within the Eastern Area of the park. I'm delighted to see the Red Wiggler Community Farm's integration into the pages of the Master Plan proposal. I worked on the farm for 11 years, the last 6 located on the Ovid Hazen Wells Park (2005 - 2011). The nonprofit farm practices environmental stewardship by using organic methods to grow local food, as well as providing community volunteer activities for youth and adults, with and without disabilities. I can truly appreciate the efforts of the park to partner with RWCF over the years, and now, into the future. Thank you! My particular concern, however, is in Area C within the south-eastern area of the park. While working on the farm I became a certified Weed Warrior through Carole Bergman's wonderful program within Montgomery County parks. I also led biological stream monitoring over this time

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NAME	DATE	COMMENTS
		<p>with volunteer groups on the creek which runs through the park. We had pretty good results, high diversity of small populations of benthic macro invertebrates. We partnered with the park naturalist, Denise Gibbs, to establish native plant communities within the disturbed south-eastern wetland areas to provide habitat for the state insect, the Baltimore checker spot butterfly and other local species. These environmental stewardship efforts were in full force for six years, following the discovery of the Baltimore checker spot metacolony in the Clarksburg area that was slated for, and has since been developed.</p> <p>Three native host and nectar plant colonies have now been established in this emergent wetland habitat area and are now supporting this tenuous species that was thought to be no longer viable south of Frederick County prior to the Clarksburg discovery in 2006. I am proposing an extension of the wetland buffer areas in the south-eastern portion of the Ovid Hazen Wells Park to protect the fragile habitat of the Baltimore checker spot butterfly.</p> <p>In 2006, considerable efforts were made to preserve the discovered butterfly colony on the same water system as this park. In 2014, it is still unclear whether these efforts were useful to protect our state insect. I urge M-NCPPC to support this species and protect this region from further disturbance.</p> <p>I recommend the south-eastern portion of Area C should be protected and considered buffer zones for the emerging wetland habitat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) The natural surface trail from Arora Hills local park should be taken out of the Master Plan as it runs straight through this sensitive area and would cause additional disturbance to the butterflies' habitat. 2.) Community Gardens (which I think is a great idea) should be moved from the wetland area. This plan may have been more valid prior to restoration efforts, but the area is transforming into the larger wetland habitat at this point. Possibly moved to Area C 1. Edible plantings, or Area A has a more suitable Proposed Parkland corner on Piedmont and Skylark which could also control additional traffic and provide ample parking. 3.) The hard surface trail also runs through this area. Is there consideration of a wetland trail bridge, similar to the Longwood Gardens trail bridge for sensitive habitat areas? <p>Looking into the future, it is encouraging to see parkland returned to natural areas that support local species. I was born and bred in Montgomery County, MD and remember life before impervious surface development took over. We must put into place proper protection where it is most needed. Preservation needs to happen now, before Maryland's state insect will no longer be able to exist in Maryland.</p> <p>Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments for consideration of the Ovid Hazen Wells Park Master Plan update.</p>

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Mae	6/30/2014	<p>Because schools usually have several kinds of recreation places for outdoor and indoor, we should focus on something that schools haven't offered, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Recreation and Aquatic Center, especially the Aquatic Center (but not using Skylarf Road to minimize the traffic). It's great to be outdoors in Clarksburg in other seasons, but not Winters. So we need something to fill that 5 month gap!!! Community Center should have Computer Room, sport courts and gyms for all age residents. 2. Miniatur golf course - easy and fun for all age. 3. fishing area in Kings Community Park and Pond management
MMS	7/11/2014	<p>Red Wiggler has a wonderful program with a dedicated staff. They are dedicated to the environment, those in need, and to volunteers. Keeping their program going should be a top priority. They have done so much with so little and they are an asset to the community. Actually with all of this recreational free time people seem to have they could visit Red Wiggler and have an appreciation for the use of this part of our park that is truly worth saving.</p>
mb-germantown	7/8/2014	<p>As an long-time Upcounty resident, I encourage the continued support of the Red Wiggler Community Farm at Ovid Hazen Wells Park. Red Wiggler is an incredibly successful partnership between the community and the County. They have been great stewards of the land by fostering their Community Supported Agriculture while provided much needed jobs for adults with developmental disabilities. It has been a pleasure watching Wiggler transition from a fledgling organization to a highly successful farm. Red Wiggler is a great asset to the Upcounty and a great success story for the Parks Department.</p>
JLH	7/8/2014	<p>I would like to enthusiastically support the continued inclusion of Red Wiggler Community Farm in the Master Plan. Red Wiggler in an important asset to the community.</p>
abw	7/8/2014	<p>I have attended 2 public hearings, and I want to thank you for hearing the input of the citizens! I fully support keeping the 'developed' side of the park to the Western edge, with the terrain remaining natural and unspoiled as it heads through the central meadowland through the wetlands to the far eastern edge where Red Wiggler resides. This allows folks who wish to avail themselves of the carousel, playground, picnic and 'splash' areas to drive up, park, and use them, while allowing others to wander the more natural areas of the park freely without feeling crowded by man-made amenities. I'd suggest a small gravel parking area at the trailhead on Route 27 (just north of the existing Red Wiggler entrance) to allow a few visitors at a time to park and offload bicycles to quietly use the trails without having to compete with the noise/parking on the Western edge.</p> <p>Red Wiggler is a major asset, and should be allowed to retain its privacy so that it can continue its mission, and allow its workers/staff/visitors to remain in a quiet and protected environment. I would discourage routing 5 km running trails through their access roads/fields/etc. as is set forth in the current plan. The route as it is currently planned looks a bit like a tangle of spaghetti(!), and would be confusing to all! I suggest reducing the 5 km of running trails to 2.5 km, and allow any</p>

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		<p>potential racers to just run the route twice if it is felt that 5 km of trails are really needed. Otherwise, I'd suggest reducing the running trails to 3 km or less.</p> <p>Overall, I think 'less is more' – the park will evolve over time, and it will continue to be an asset for years to come if it is not overdeveloped early on. There are already plenty of playgrounds, pools, tennis courts, etc. all over the county – but there are not many large tracts of natural parkland around.</p>
Steve Magladry	7/12/2014	Red Wiggler is a treasure, and serves the community in so many ways. It should definitely be preserved in the plans.
Sophia	7/12/2014	I think Red Wiggler Community farm is a great asset to the local community as well as Montgomery County and the Chesapeake region. Not only does Red Wiggler employ disabled adults s, but it teaches our students, trains our aspiring farmers through participating in the Farmer Pilot Project, and provides local produce to area residents. Red Wiggler is also helping to promote and preserve our county's rich agricultural heritage. I have learned a lot about sustainable farming every time I have visited the farm for tours, meetings and conferences. I encourage Montgomery Parks and the Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Master Plan to include Red Wiggler in all future plans.
Virginia Family	7/13/2014	I am not a resident of Clarksburg but Red Wiggler Community Farm has been a destination for my family, at least a couple times each year, for harvest dinners and other events. This farm is an exceptional community minded enterprise that is not only a beautiful destination but an important one for so many people. The fact that this farm has been the model for other non-profits around the country with programs for vocational training and horticultural therapy and healthy food production and the developmentally disabled communities is a testament to the strength of Red Wiggler's mission. The private-public partnership behind this visionary enterprise is maybe one of the most encouraging aspects I have seen and Montgomery County is to be commended for their support of this community farm. My hope is that we might see such an initiative here in my Virginia community.
NE	7/13/2014	<p>We're Clarksburg residents and have been involved with Red Wiggler Community Farm for 17 years and truly appreciate the partnership with Montgomery Parks. The Parks commision has been very forward thinking by involving RWCF on the Ovid Hazen Wells property. The rich agricultural history of the area is preserved thru Red Wiggler's presence not only in land usage but also in building preservation. Combine that with meaningful employment of developmentally disabled adults, learning and voluteer oppourtinites for school children and anyone else in the area and delicious organic vegetables and you have an amazing asset for the community.</p> <p>Keeping the recreational fields and development on the western side of the park and preserving the natural beauty thru the middle of the park toward Red Wiggler farm would make this gem shine. Trails for biking, hiking and running thru the acres of natural beauty would allow people to exercise and access nature without increasing destruction of trees and paved over land.</p>

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Dell Ross	7/15/2014	During my 34 years of assisting persons with disabilities I have never seen anything like the Red Wiggler Farm. The program that the Board of the Red Wiggler and the Parks Department have developed is to be commended for its ingenuity and services provided to the local community as well as county wide residents. Not only does Red Wiggler provide jobs to persons with disabilities, it promotes youth to come out and get their hands dirty as they learn more about where our food comes from. The Red Wiggler is a treasure and should remain in the parks master plan for generations to come!

Chart 2 - Public Meeting Input

IDEAS	YES PLEASE	NO THANKS
Carousel	8 - total comments - Bring it back - Yes, but keep the music down	
Community Recreation and Aquatic Center	5 - total comments - We really need an Aquatic Center here - Only year-round pool in the area - Great for all ages - Community Room - Gym - Indoor fitness track Votes from May 28 meeting - 12	3 - total comments - Poor use of taxes - The proposed regional rec-center system is a bad idea (vs community-based system) - result would be too much traffic
Additional play areas and playground equipment	5- total comments - Playgrounds in the area are too small Votes from May 28 meeting - 8	
Basketball	2 - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 6	
Cricket Pitch	1- total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 4	
Tennis	4 - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 5	
Disc Golf	8- total comments - Good for all ages Votes from May 28 meeting - 5	
Trails and Pathways	3 - total comments - Love it - Disc Golf course can double as walking trail Votes from May 28 meeting - 5	

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IDEAS	YES PLEASE	NO THANKS
Picnic Areas and Shelters with Barbeque grills	2 - total comments - No picnic shelters nearby - BBQ grills welcome Votes from May 28 meeting - 6	
Dog Park	2 - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 6	
Purposeful Green Space	1 - total comments - Should have a purpose - Open playfields for kite flying, etc. Votes from May 28 meeting - 8	
Maintain Natural Terrain/Keep Natural Areas	1 - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 14	
Community Garden	1 - total comments - Can this be at Red Wiggler? Votes from May 28 meeting - 3	
Splash Park	1 - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 10	
Horse shoe court	1 - total comments	
Volleyball court	1 - total comments	
More trees	2 - total comments	
Nature Center in the Watkins House	1 - total comments	
Fitness stations	1 - total comments	
Artificial turf fields	2 - total comments - Artificial turf would help extend the use	- I am concerned about artificial turf fields being located at this park
Red Wiggler Farm Expansion – sustainable gardening areas with solar or wind energy	5 - total comments - Votes from May 28 meeting - 6	
Outdoor spaces for events like weddings, graduations, etc.	# - total comments - Votes from May 28 meeting - 6	
Acquire Johnson property	1 - total comments	
Small amphitheater	1 - total comments	

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IDEAS	YES PLEASE	NO THANKS
Soccer fields	1 - total comments	
Baseball fields	1 - total comments	
Batting cages	1 - total comments	
Miniature golf	2 - total comments - Miniature golf	- Mini-golf is not welcome
Senior Center	# - total comments Votes from May 28 meeting - 10	

Elected & Appointed Officials

Montgomery County Council

Craig Rice, President
George Leventhal, Vice President
Nancy Floreen
Phil Andrews
Roger Berliner
Marc Elrich
Cherri Branson
Nancy Navarro
Hans Riemer

County Executive

Isiah Leggett

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chairman
Francoise Carrier, Vice Chairman

Commissioners

Montgomery County Planning Board

Francoise Carrier, Chair
Marye Wells-Harley, Vice Chair
Amy Presley
Norman Dreyfuss
Casey Anderson

Prince George's County Planning Board

Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chairman
Dorothy F. Bailey, Vice Chairman
Manuel R. Geraldo
John P. Shoaff
A. Shuanise Washington

BACK COVER - DOCUMENT INFORMATION AND INFORMATION DESK BAR CODE