



**WESTFIELD CENTER VILLAGE
PARK MASTER PLAN**

Acknowledgments

“ A hundred years after we are gone and forgotten, those who never heard of us will be living with the results of our actions.”

-Oliver Wendell Holmes

Plan Prepared For:



Plan Prepared By:



Table of Contents

PROJECT OVERVIEW

4

**CURRENT PARK USE AND
CONDITIONS**

5

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
SUMMARY & RESULTS**

6

ONLINE SURVEY

8

FINAL CONCEPT

10

Project Overview

Project Overview

The Village of Westfield Center is a small village located adjacent to I-71 in Medina County, Ohio. The Westfield Center Village Park sits just north of the town center, centrally located to the Village's 1500+ employees and 1100 residents. The Park is a regional draw as well, with 60,000 residents living within a 15 minute drive.

Current greenspaces within the area are focused on singular uses, such as golf courses, and have limited programming and recreational opportunities. The Westfield Center Village Park, which is both centrally located to the area and an existing hub of community activity, is in a strong position to be reimagined as a central community gathering place.

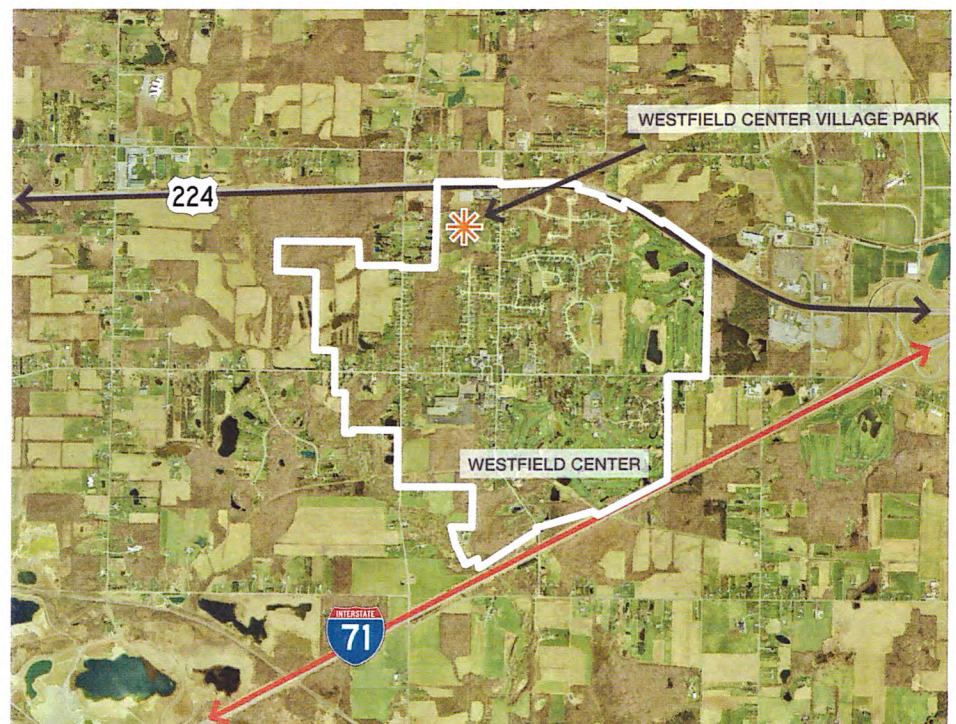
The intent of this project is to enhance and reinvigorate the existing facilities at Westfield Center Village Park, which are in significant need of investment. Currently, the Park has 4 ball fields and a walking trail set on about 30 acres of semi-forested park land, but little other programming to retain existing users and attract new ones. The plan for the Park will create new spaces for community gathering, complement existing activities at the Park, and provide healthy recreation opportunities for area residents and employees of all ages and abilities.

Existing Problem Summary

There is a need to....

1. Reimagine the Village of Westfield Center's central community gathering space
2. Complement existing uses inside the Park
3. Provide active programming for all ages and abilities

The Westfield Center Village Park is in close proximity to the Village's residents, Westfield Insurance employees, and the region, with 60,000 residents living within a 15 minute drive.



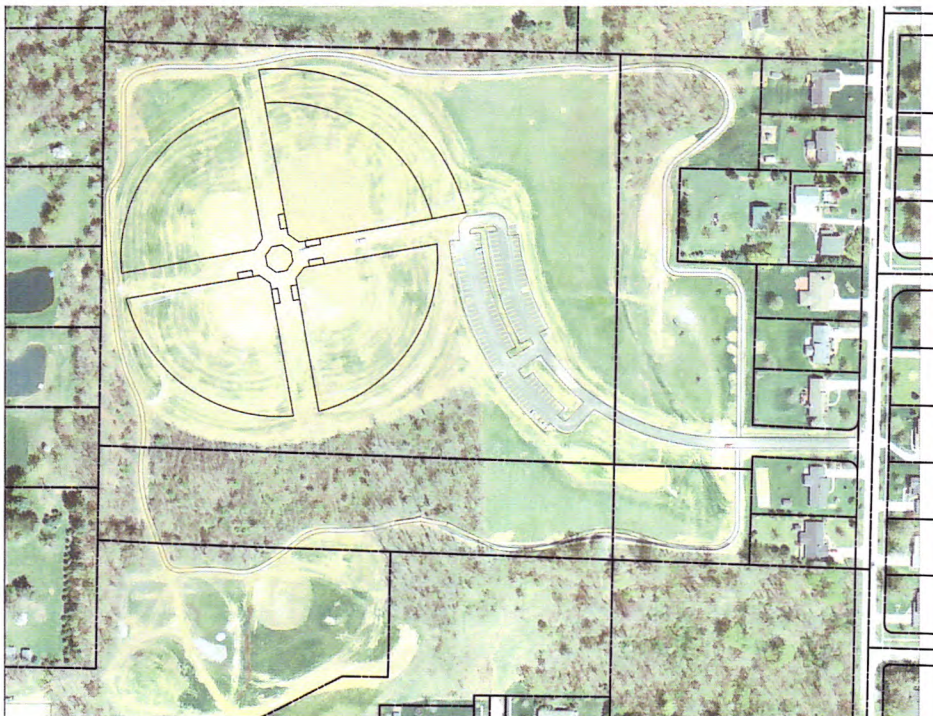
Current Park Use and Conditions

Current Park Users

1. Westfield Insurance Kickball League (60 players)
2. Cloverleaf Freshmen Baseball (15 players)
3. Cloverleaf Hot Stove Baseball League (75 players)
4. Westfield Baseball Association (12-15 players per team, teams range from T-Ball to Senior Leagues)
5. Cloverleaf Girls Softball (15 players)
6. Cricket team
7. 5K races
8. Memorial Day Parade

Who uses the Park?

Despite the limitations with its existing facilities, the Park is a hub of activity for village employees, youth sports teams, and community events. Specific users of the Park are noted to the right. The common thread amongst current Park users is that their activities are often family-friendly events. Youth sports leagues often draw families with other children to games. Races and parades draw family members and supporters, both young and old, to the Park. Despite the nature of programming currently taking place at the Park, there are no family-friendly amenities, such as shade structures, playground equipment, and other attractions, that would help retain existing users while attracting new ones. The site plan outlined later in this application addresses this need.



Westfield Center Village Park currently has 4 ball fields and a walking path. The Park has a significant opportunity to transform into a vibrant hub for community activity. The final concept on page 10 outlines an approach to help maximize the space.

Public Engagement Summary and Results

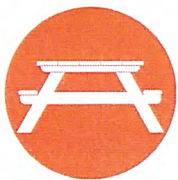
Public Engagement Summary

In 2016, the leadership of the Village of Westfield Center approached the planning team at OHM Advisors to complete a Park Master Plan. The Westfield Insurance Company, which has over 1500 employees within walking distance to the Park, was an integral stakeholder in the planning process.

The planning process was led in conjunction with the planning team at OHM, the Village leadership, and a project taskforce, which helped guide the completion of the project. At the beginning of the project, the group collaborated to identify issues and opportunities facing the Park, and helped develop the community survey which was issued to the public. After analyzing the results from the public engagement process, the planning team and taskforce moved forward to incorporate the public's desires into the final park design.

Key Findings

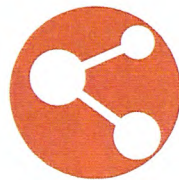
The survey and public engagement exercises yielded results that can be grouped into 3 larger themes. These themes are directly reflected in the final concept (outlined on Page 10).



Opportunities for a community gathering space



Programming to complement existing uses



Strengthened connections within the Park

Big Ideas

Meeting attendees were asked to think creatively and come up with their "big idea." The results are below and many of the items listed are included in the final concept.

- Exercise stations along running trail
- Ice cream stand near baseball diamonds
- Pavilion, picnic shelter
- Shaded areas, woodsy trees, natural look
- Rubberized walking path
- Make the path 1 mile long
- Pavilion
- Fishing
- Splash pad
- Longer running path
- 9-hole miniature golf featuring elements of Westfield buildings
- Dog park
- Functional paved bike trails
- Bathrooms
- Soccer fields
- Basketball/Tennis courts
- Multipurpose field
- Outdoor movie screen for summer Friday nights
- Clean up all dead trees
- Turn benches around to look into park

Pick Your Playground

When asked to vote for their preferred style of play structure to be included in a new playground, the public showed large support for the 'natural' themed playgrounds. This style of play structure features climbable logs and boulders that engage the senses and imaginations of children.



NATURAL

40



TRADITIONAL

6



ARTISTIC

10

Design-A-Park

Meeting participants were also asked to complete a bubble diagram, and sketch out where specific amenities should be located within the Park. One example of a completed Design-A-Park sketch is below.

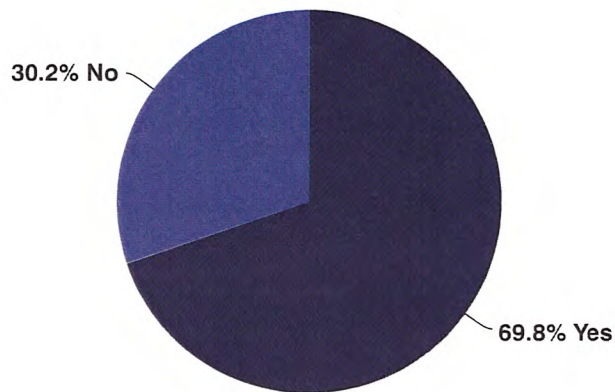


Online Survey Results

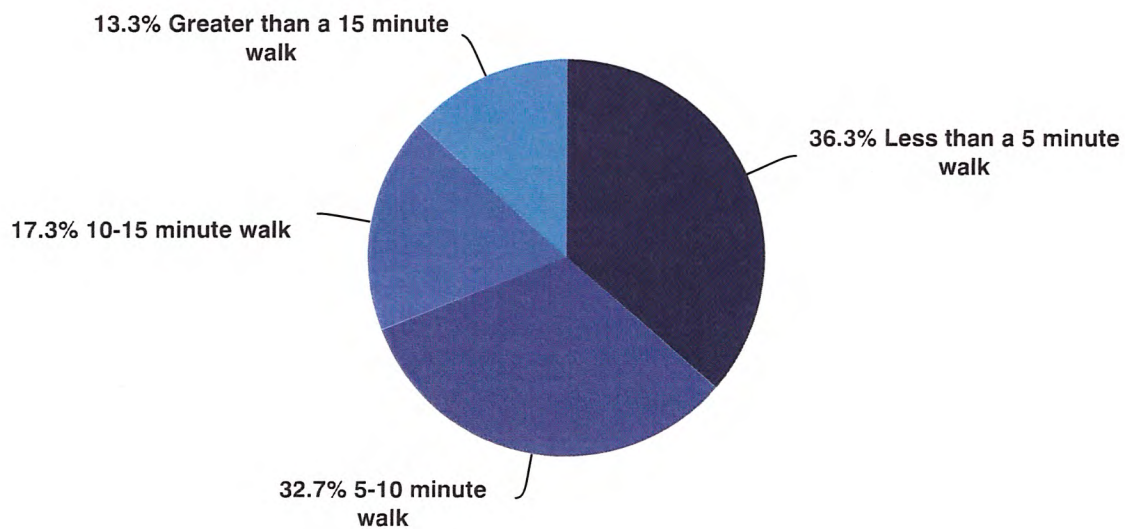
Community Survey

An online survey was created and distributed to the residents and stakeholders of Westfield Center in order to evaluate the current uses for the park and to gather ideas for future improvements. 171 residents and employees answered survey questions. The questions and results from the survey are provided below and on

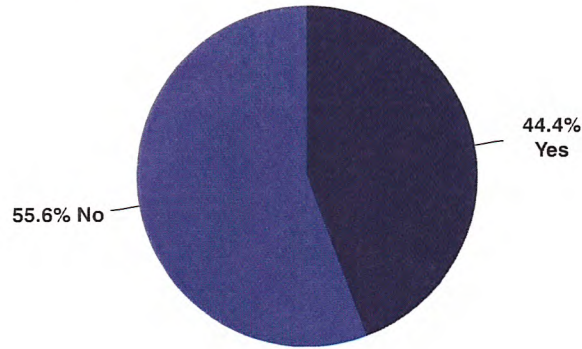
1. Are you currently a resident of Westfield Center?



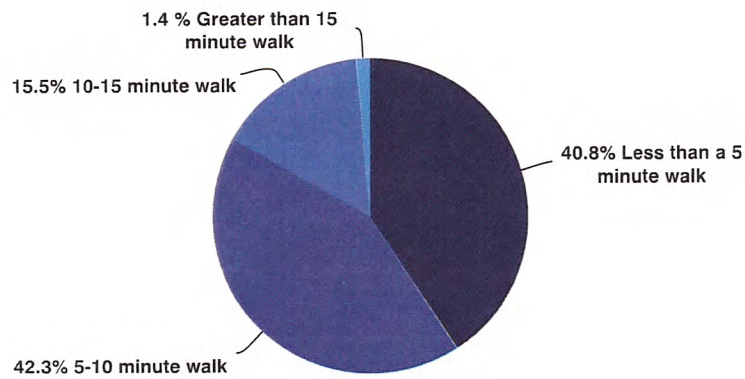
2. How far from Westfield Center Village Park do you live?



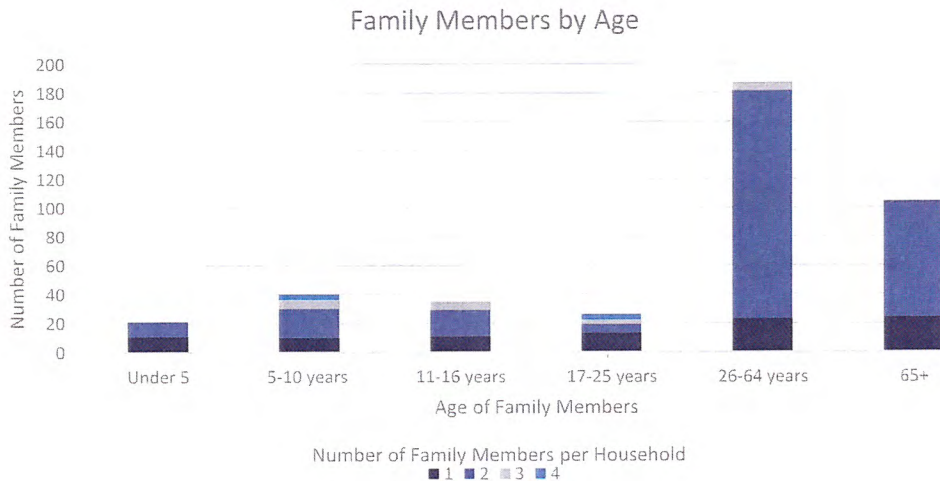
3. Do you or any members of your household work in Westfield Center?



4. How far is your workplace from the Westfield Center Village Park?

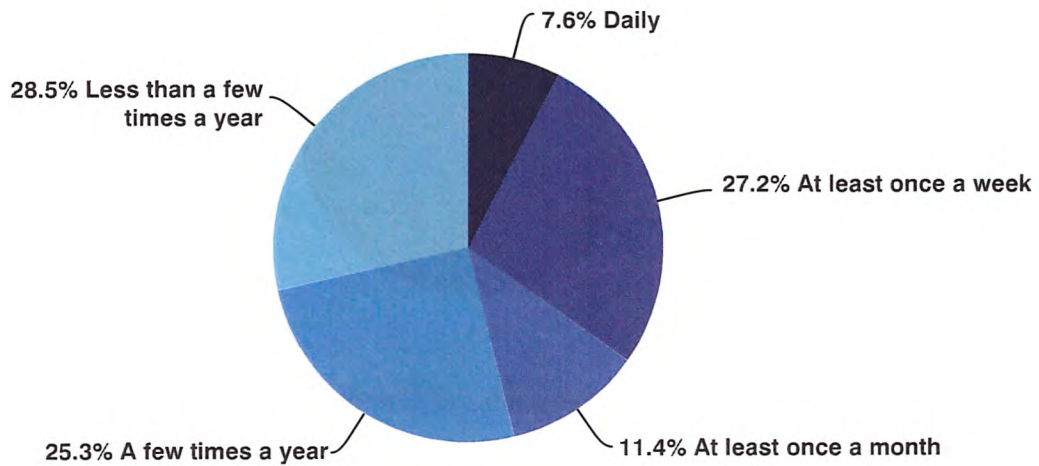


5. Please tell us how many individuals of each category are currently living in your household:

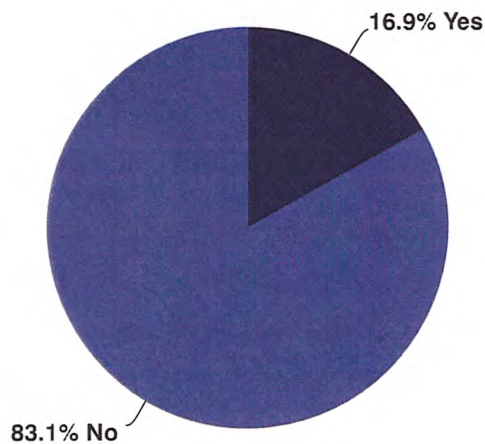


Online Survey Results

6. How often do you or any members of your household currently use the park?



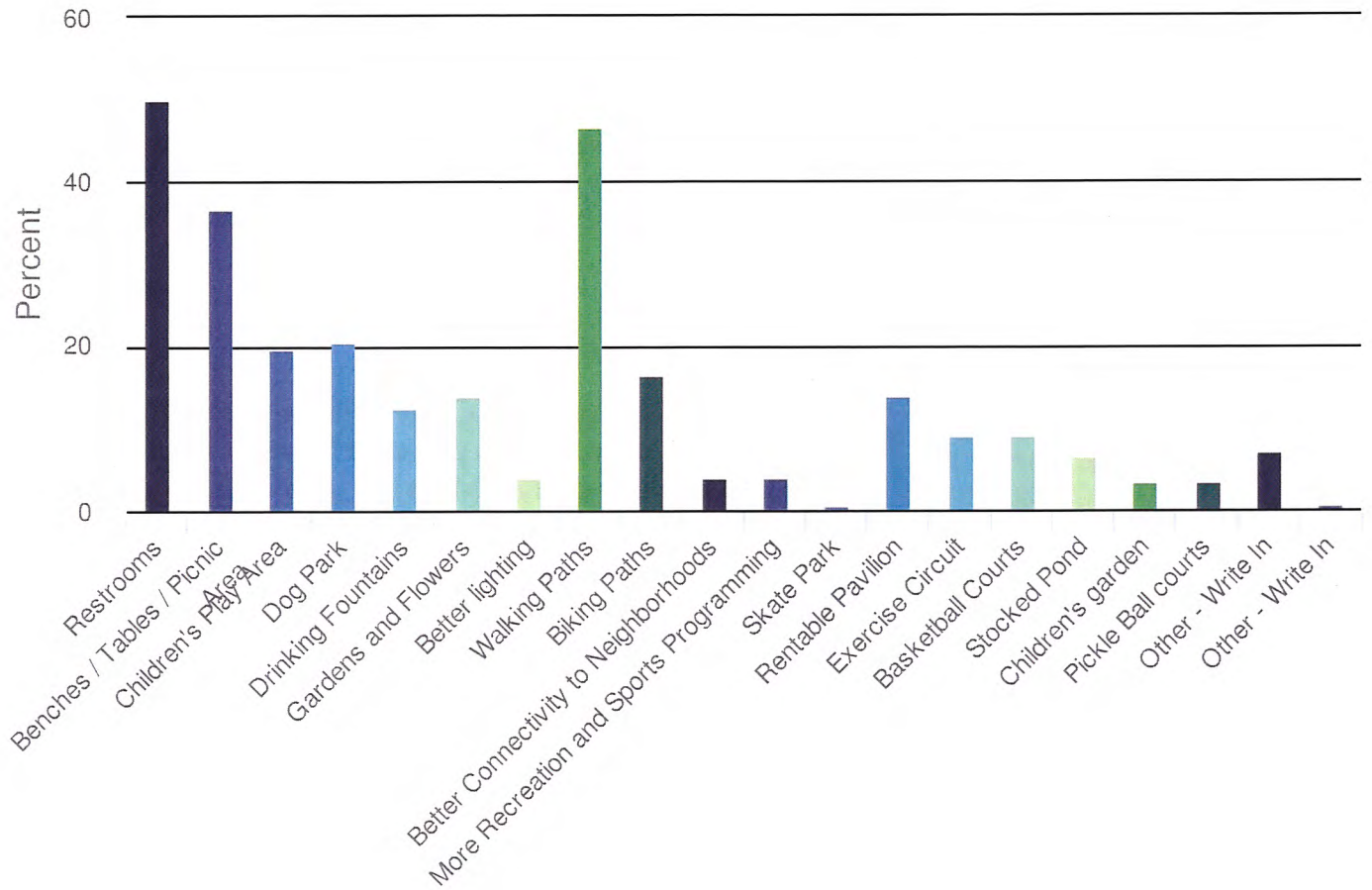
7. Do you or any members of your household take part in organized activities within the park?



...if Yes, which activities do you participate in?

- Baseball
- 5K runs
- Band concerts
- Running
- Fitness center
- Parade
- Westfield Insurance employee rec leagues
- Kickball
- Softball

8. What program elements would best serve members of your household?



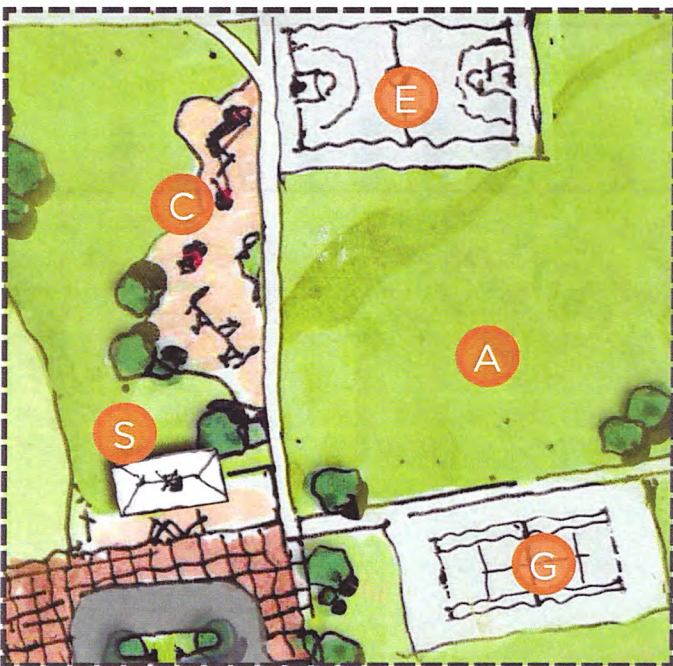
Other options listed:

- Free pavilion
- Ice rink
- Butterfly garden for the endangered Monarch Butterfly
- More trees
- Volleyball court
- Mini golf
- Natural areas
- Off Road Remote Control (RC) Track
- Walking labyrinth

Final Concept

Concept Overview

The site plan on the following page is the final concept for the Westfield Center Village Park. The park will enhance the four existing ball fields in the northwest section of the park, which remain a key attraction for park users. The existing entrance to the park from North Leroy Road is centrally located and easily accessible to the new park amenities. East of the ballfields, an active recreation area contains new athletic facilities and a small nature play area. At the south end of the parking lot, a children's playground provides an accessible area for young families to play and learn. Finally, a rentable pavilion is situated at the center of the park alongside a stocked pond and dog park, transforming a previously neglected area of the park into a vibrant community gathering space. All of the new program elements are connected utilizing the existing perimeter loop. Additional trails have been proposed to reinforce connectivity.



Phase I

The Westfield Center Village Park will be constructed in phases. Phase I, shown to the left and highlighted on the following page, will be partially funded by a NatureWorks grant. This area is a strong location to start development of the Park. The courts, play zone, and shade structure are family-friendly activities that will complement the activity at the existing ball fields. Additionally, the Phase I area is accessible from the main entrance to the parking lot, allowing it to be used immediately. Finally, the area is a combination of active and passive uses, ensuring that this particular space has an opportunity to be used by people and families of all ages and abilities.

- A** Open Lawn
- C** Small Play Zone
- E** Basketball Court
- G** Tennis & Pickle Ball Court
- S** Small Pavilion



- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| A Open Lawn | I Access Road with Drop-off | P Overlook Nodes |
| B Exercise Nodes at Path | J Landscape Berm | Q Stocked Pond |
| C Small Play Zone | K Entry Sign | R Additional Spur for 1-Mile Trail |
| D Dog Park | L Existing Drainage Basin Maintained | S Small Pavilion |
| E Basketball Court | M Pedestrian Entry Paths | T Chemical Toilet |
| F Enhanced Drainage Route | N Rentable Pavilion + Plaza | |
| G Tennis & Pickle Ball Court | O Children's Garden & Playground | |
| H Existing Restroom & Concessions | | |

