



APPENDIX F:

NORTH GREENBUSH RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN, CHAPTER 9: RECOMMENDATIONS





NORTH GREENBUSH RECREATION & OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN

CHAPTER 9: RECOMMENDATIONS

Goal #1

Examine possible opportunities to upgrade and reorganize facilities at the Williams Road Facility (Tax Map Parcel #123.0-3-21.3) to create additional sports facilities and to improve parking facilities. The redesign could implement the ideas of shared field space and shared parking facilities. For example, the existing softball field could be developed into a multi-use field by removing the outfield fence. The outfield and the adjacent property could be developed into a soccer field. The Town of North Greenbush is presently in a long-term deed agreement with approximately 14.9 acres of the 20.04 acre parcel, under the restriction that the lands “always be used for recreational purposes which shall include the continued use by the Twin Town Little League and the Twin Town Senior League of facilities and physical improvements that have been developed by said organizations.”

Short Term Objectives

To initiate discussions with Rensselaer County about reorganization of these facilities.

Goal #2

Develop a Town Facility that consists of one ± 35 acre parcel or a combination of two to three parcels (consisting of the equivalent acreage), which would serve the residential population within the 1.5 mile radius as well as the entire town, providing major sports facilities (i.e. soccer, baseball, little league, softball fields, and basketball and tennis courts), picnic and playground areas, as well as pedestrian trails.

Short Term Objectives

- Identify feasible parcel(s) for the development of a Town Facility. The selected parcel should include approximately 20 or greater acres of lands with slopes that range between 1% and 4% (ideally 2%) to accommodate the team sports fields, including support facilities (15 acres), and the picnic (2 acres), playground (2 acres), and parking (1 acre) areas. The selected parcel should also include approximately 5 acres of moderate (>5%) slopes to accommodate the proposed sledding area. The remaining 10 acres of land should range from 1% to 8% to accommodate the access road and the proposed trail connection. Areas within the Town Facility targeted to accommodate sports facilities should ideally be “open lands”.
 - ⇒ The proposed location(s) of new Town Facilities should be ideally situated centrally within the Town to be easily accessible to all residents;
 - ⇒ The proposed location(s) should address existing areas of residential development currently not served by existing Town Facilities;
 - ⇒ The proposed location(s) should be situated to be easily accessible to the proposed trail system on the NiMo easement;
 - ⇒ The Recreational Master Plan Committee should coordinate with the proposed Robert Parker School for the development of shared sports facilities and associated parking areas. Contact: Nick Stoneman, Director, Robert Parker School
- Encourage land owners to dedicate lands for tax benefits.



- Purchase options to buy desired parcel(s) through greenspace program.
- Identify potential bonding/funding sources.

Long Term Objectives

- Acquisition of Lands.
- Build Town Facilities.

Goal #3

Develop the Hudson River Parcel as a Town Facility that provides access for the residents to water activities (i.e., boating). This Facility should provide seating areas for observing water activities and for trail users.

Short Term Objectives

- Improve existing road to site to allow automobile access.
- Connect existing trail system to the Site.

Long Term Objectives

- Develop Boat Launch.
- Establish and develop seating areas.

Goal #4

Develop Neighborhood Facilities that each consist of between 0.25 and 6 acres, which would serve the residential population within 0.5 mile radius, providing playground areas, seating opportunities, and basketball courts.

Short Term Objectives

- Establish Neighborhood Facilities in existing areas of residential development currently not served by these facilities.
 - ⇒ Establish a Neighborhood Facility that serves the Defreestville Neighborhood, south of Route 43.
 - ⇒ Establish a Neighborhood Facility that serves the southern portion of the Wynantskill neighborhood, the developed area to the North of Snyder's Lake Road, and the neighborhood to the northeast of Snyder's Lake; and future development.
 - ⇒ Establish the Recreation Master Plan Committee (RMPC) in an advisory role to the North Greenbush Planning board with regards to the selection of lands for these Neighborhood Facilities. The RMPC would review the subdivision applications at the conceptual or schematic phase to determine if the parcel or any section thereof falls within the delimited areas of Neighborhood Facilities, as adopted in the Recreation Open Space Master Plan. In the situation that it does



representatives from the RMPC shall make a field visit to the parcel to determine which or if any areas within the parcel are feasible for development of a Neighborhood Facility.

⇒ Encourage land owners to dedicate lands for tax benefits.

Long Term Objectives

- With future residential development, establish Neighborhood Facilities in areas presently not served by existing facilities as residential development occurs.
 - ⇒ Develop a Neighborhood Facility that serves the neighborhood south of Route 43 in the southeastern portion of Town.

Goal #5

To address future high density housing (i.e., apartment complexes, townhouses, and houses with lots that fall below .33 acres), develop Sub-neighborhood Facilities that would serve the immediate development. The Sub-neighborhood Facility should be a minimum size of 500 square feet.

Short Term Objectives

- Institute planning ordinance law that requires a development that meets the above standards incorporate greenspace that serves its residents.
 - ⇒ The owner shall incur both the cost of development of the facility as well as maintenance.
 - ⇒ The owner shall incur a \$600.00 per unit cost as a greenspace fee for any development that exceeds one unit.

Goal #6

Develop a pedestrian network throughout Town that would provide recreational opportunities for walking and biking, as well as link public and private recreational facilities; and connect neighborhoods to public and private recreational facilities within the Town.

Short Term Objectives

- Develop a multiple-use trail system on the NiMo easements that provides the following recreational opportunities: walking/hiking, biking, horse riding, ATVs, cross country skiing and snowmobiling. This trail system would also serve as a means for linking neighborhoods and recreational facilities (both public and private).
 - ⇒ Obtain a liability waiver for 20' access along NiMo easement right-of-way to accommodate the above discussed trail uses.
 - ⇒ In absence of liability waiver, attempt to obtain a 10' right-of-way on neighbor's properties that abuts the NiMo easement for the proposed uses of hiking/walking and biking.
 - ⇒ All pedestrian trails should be developed to conform with A.D.A. standards.
- Develop a pedestrian/bicycle system that provides recreational opportunities as well as establishes linkages



throughout town, connecting neighborhoods to the proposed trail system, connecting neighborhoods to each other, and connecting recreational facilities (both public and private).

- ⇒ Identify roads within the town that accommodate pedestrians with sidewalks and/or wide shoulders.
- ⇒ Identify roads that could be widened to incorporate sidewalks and/or wide shoulders.
 - * Start discussions with County to identify future roads to be upgraded/widened.
 - * Start discussions with Town Highway Department to identify future roads to be upgraded/widened.
- ⇒ Examine the possibility of developing pedestrian trails along existing utility corridors, i.e. trunk sewer lines, and water distribution lines.
- ⇒ Identify areas for potential connector trails, including large tracts of undeveloped land that could incorporate connector trails with future residential development.
 - * Institute ordinance laws that require with each new subdivision, to establish connector trails to the pedestrian network.

Long Term Objectives

- Establish Town Trail Signage Program.
- Develop Multi-use Trail System and Pedestrian/Bicycle Network.