

Committee Meeting #2 December 1, 2021

Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan

TOWAMENCIN TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



AGENDA

- **Introductions**
- **Schedule**
- **Public opinion survey to date**
- **Site analysis**
- **Preliminary concepts**
- **Precedent images**
- **Key person interviews input from Committee**



TOWAMENCIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

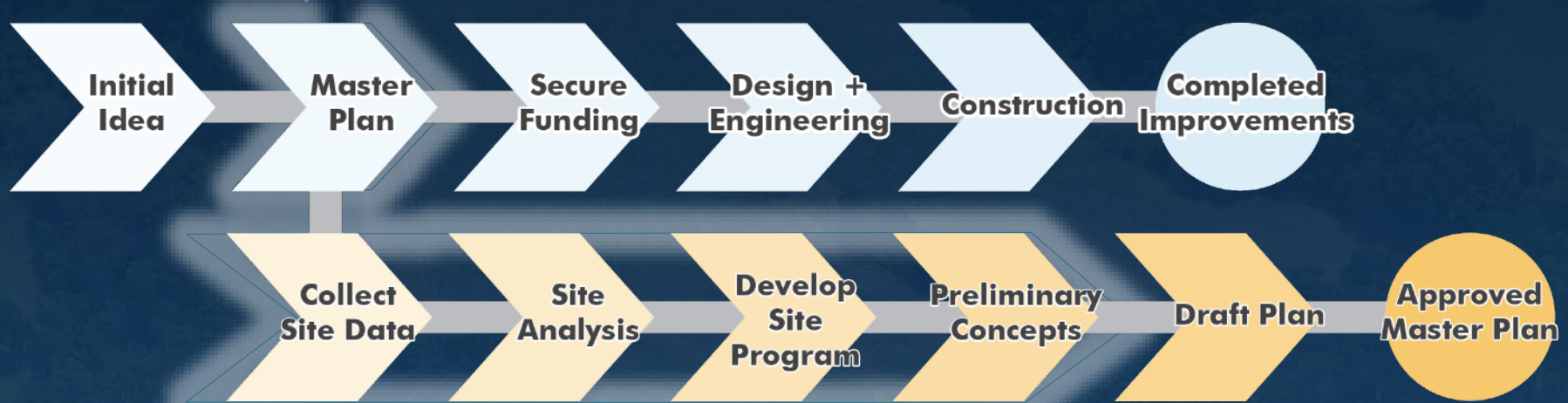
- Michael Lewis – Chair
- Joe Meehan – Vice Chair
- Laureen Sendel-Grant – Secretary
- Gordon Bell
- Barry Forgeng
- Barry Kenyon
- Bill Dauphinee
- Robert Dell
- Chet Ruminski
- Rich Marino
- Dan Littley
- Carter LaBrocq



MASTER PLAN PROCESS

We are Here

“All voices heard, all ideas honored”



Transparent Public Process:

- *4 Study Committee meetings*
- *4 Public meetings*
- *1 Board of Supervisors meeting*
- *10 Key Person Interviews*
- *Online Public Opinion Survey*

MASTER PLAN SCHEDULE

Committee mtg 1 & Public Meeting #1 developed a list of possible design and programmatic elements for the park.

DATE	MEETING	MEETING DETAILS
June 28, 2021	Study Committee #1	Programming & Brainstorming
September 14, 2021	Public Meeting #1	Programming & Brainstorming
December 1, 2021	Study Committee #2	Site Analysis & Initial Concepts
January 18, 2022	Public Meeting #2	Site Analysis & Initial Concepts
March 28, 2022	Study Committee #3	Pre-Draft Plan Review
April 20, 2022	Public Meeting #3	Draft Plan
April 27, 2022	Board of Supervisors Meeting	Review and Comment on Draft Plan
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DRAFT PARK MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of Towamencin Veterans Memorial Park is to honor the service of our armed forces while informing visitors about the importance of their service in a tranquil and passive park setting.”

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Q23: Survey Comments on Mission Statement

14 Responses:

- 5 - No changes to mission statement suggested
- 1 - Disagrees with intent of the Park
- 8 - Suggested Edits

Committee working on edits

DRAFT PARK MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of Towamencin Veterans Memorial Park is to honor the service of our armed forces while informing visitors about the importance of their service in a tranquil and passive park setting.”

- *“To honor and remember the service of...”*
- *“Delete “the service of”. Delete “and passive”. Delete “setting”.*
- *“Can we specify what ‘armed forces’ mean before people expand that definition to dilute the meaning?”*
- *“Too long”*
- *“To honor the service of our armed forces and the importance of their service in a tranquil and passive park setting”*
- *“Maybe change passive to peaceful?”*
- *“Omit passive”*

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY: SUMMARY - 99 responses to date (11/29/2021)

- **94% of responders are Towamencin Residents**
- Average of respondents' township residency: 17.4 years

Age of respondents?

- 0-24: 0
- 25-44: 34%
- 45-65: 40%
- 65+: 26%

Household

- 2-3 people

Family Member in the Military?

- Yes-87%
- No-13%

Recreational Habits

- All Towamencin parks visited
- Fischer's Park - 93% of respondents visited
- Tennis Lukens Cemetery - 20% of respondents visited
- Lots of visits to Valley Forge & Evansburg State Park

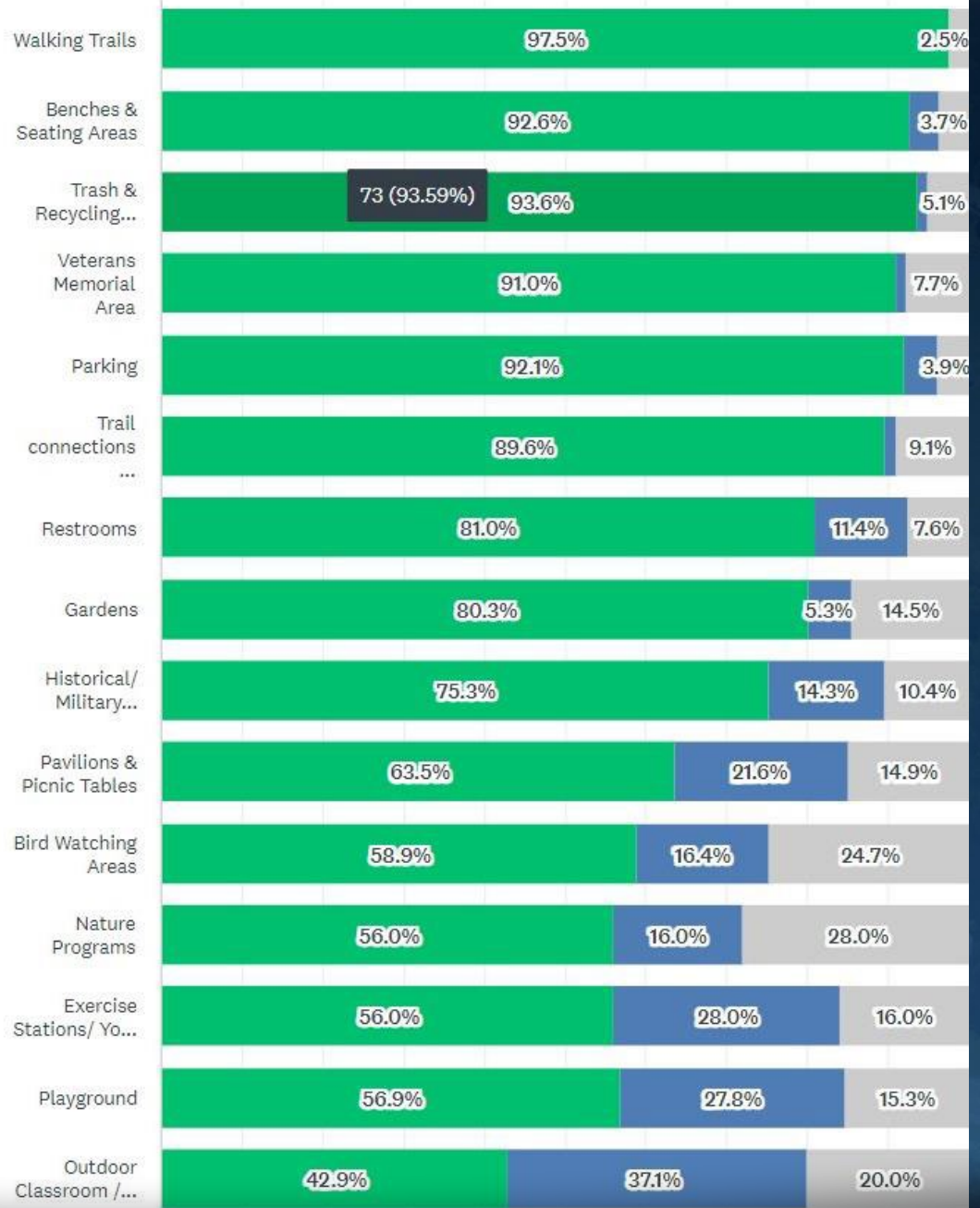
Primary Recreational Activities

- Walking/jogging-87%
- Township Sponsored Programs-46%
- Dog Walking-45%
- Playgrounds 39%
- (Top 4 responses out of 14)

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

Park Elements

Q15: "Specifically, regarding the master plan for the proposed Veterans Memorial Park, which new or additional facilities and activities do you think should be considered? Check all that apply."



PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY Q24: Additional Thoughts/ Comments

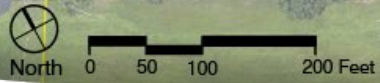
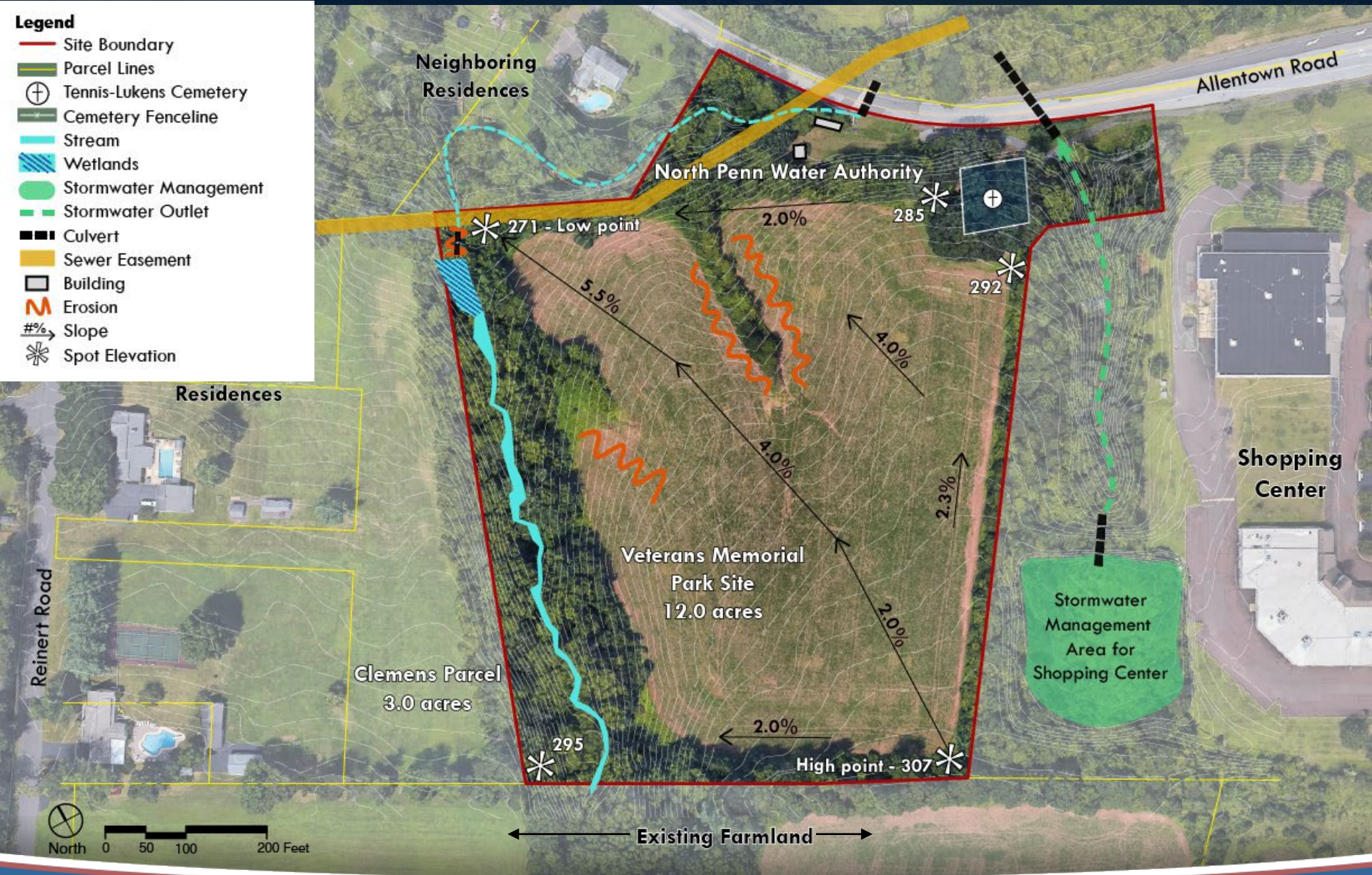
Suggestions

- **Community spaces** are important – “Thank you for getting the opinions of those who live here.”
- **Preserve open space and curate a natural environment** for the enjoyment of residents
- **A place of peace**, representing what we all need
- **Walking trails – pond – gardens**
- Design for **quiet reflection** – no loud gatherings/parties/sporting events
- **Quiet reflection, walking, yoga, quiet activities** – no playground
- **Appreciate those that served, serve, and gave their lives for our freedom**
- **An area for military to come for the ones THEY lost** in wars over the years – **help aging veterans** deal and come to terms with experiences.
- **Security and safety** of visitors
- Closed-in area where **dogs** can run
- Select furniture, equipment, etc. of an **18th century style** – Township has participated in the armed forces since the colonial days

EXISTING CONDITIONS - COMPOSITE ANALYSIS

* North Penn Water Auth. To give parcel to Township

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Parcel Lines
 - Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
 - Cemetery Fenceline
 - Stream
 - Wetlands
 - Stormwater Management
 - - - Stormwater Outlet
 - Culvert
 - Sewer Easement
 - Building
 - M Erosion
 - #% Slope
 - Spot Elevation



SCALE COMPARISON

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Parcel Lines
- Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
- Cemetery Fenceline



SITE ACCESS - EXISTING

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Parcel Lines
 - ⊕ Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
 - Cemetery Fenceline
 - Vehicular Access
 - Pedestrian/Multi-modal Access



SITE ACCESS - POTENTIAL

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Parcel Lines
- ⊕ Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
- Cemetery Fenceline
- Vehicular Access
- Pedestrian/Multi-modal Access

Neighboring
Residences

Allentown Road

Potential Access #1
& parcel acquisition
or easement

Shopping
Center

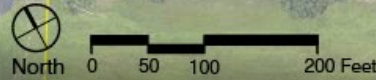
Potential Access #3

Potential Access #2
& parcel acquisition
or easement

Potential Access #4
(from Tomlinson Road)

Existing Farmland

Reinert Road



PRELIMINARY CONCEPT 1

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Parcel Lines
 - ⊕ Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
 - Existing Cemetery Fenceline
 - Major Walkway
 - Minor Walkway
 - Driveway
 - P Parking
 - Major Plaza
 - Minor Plaza
 - ★ Primary Plaza
 - Restroom/Pavilion
 - Play Area
 - Lawn
 - Meadow/Stormwater BMP
 - + Tree



PRELIMINARY CONCEPT 2

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Parcel Lines
 - + Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
 - Existing Cemetery Fenceline
 - Major Walkway
 - Minor Walkway
 - Driveway
 - P Parking
 - Major Plaza
 - Minor Plaza
 - ★ Primary Plaza
 - Restroom/Pavilion
 - Play Area
 - Lawn
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PRELIMINARY CONCEPT 3

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Parcel Lines
 - + Tennis-Lukens Cemetery
 - Existing Cemetery Fenceline
 - Major Walkway
 - Minor Walkway
 - Driveway
 - P Parking
 - Major Plaza
 - Minor Plaza
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Elements of each concept can be mixed or matched with elements from other concepts

Access will be an important determinant to the final design

The existing driveway on Allentown Road likely to be kept as at least township maintenance access

PRECEDENT IMAGES - PATHWAYS



PRECEDENT IMAGES – GREEN & GREY PLAZAS



FDR Memorial



Sellersville

PRECEDENT IMAGES – MEADOWS



PRECEDENT IMAGES – PLAZAS & GREEN SPACES



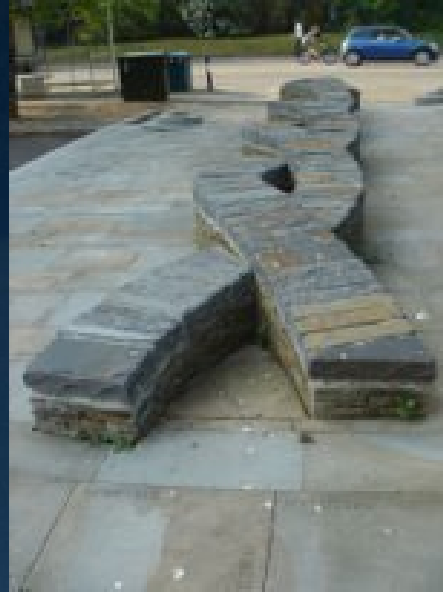
PRECEDENT IMAGES - MEMORIALS



PRECEDENT IMAGES - GARDENS



PRECEDENT IMAGES – ART / INTERPRETIVE / EDUCATIONAL



PRECEDENT IMAGES – NATURE-BASED PLAY AREA



Ollie Owl's
natureplayground

We ♥ trees!

Many animals and birds like me spend much of our time in trees. Trees provide a safe place to build nests and raise babies. Perching in trees is also a great way to look for dinner!

Climb up a perch. What can you see?

Natural Lands Trust



NEXT STEPS

1. Public Opinion Survey available until March 31st, 2021
2. Public Meeting #2 January 18th, 2022- Present Options for discussion
3. Refine Concepts into Draft Plan
4. Committee Mtg #3 March 28th, 2022 Pre-Draft Plan



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CONTACT / MORE INFO

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- **Michael Lewis** | Chair, Towamencin Veterans Committee
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- **Joe Meehan** | Chair, Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee & Vice Chairperson for the Veterans Committee
joe@viacelli.com
- **Don Delamater** | Township Manager
ddelamater@towamencin.org

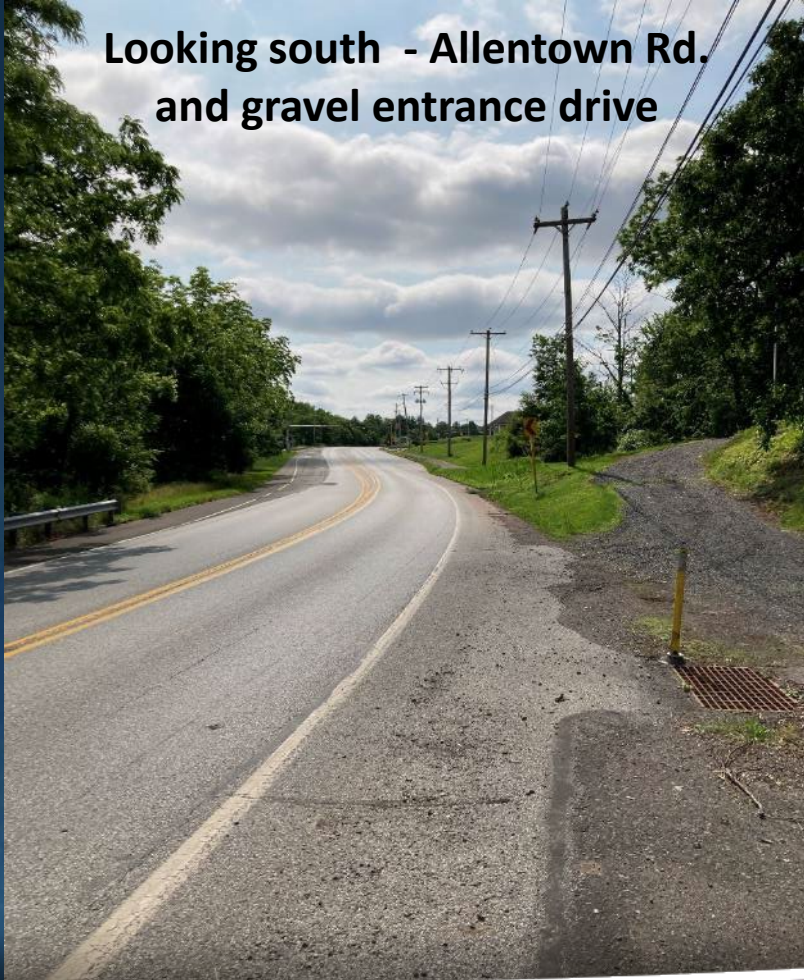
TOWNSHIP WEBSITE:

www.towamencin.org/parksnrecreation.html

The public opinion survey is available until March 31st. Please check the Township website for a link to the survey and for project updates.



SITE PHOTOS – Existing site access from Allentown Road



SITE PHOTOS – Allentown Road frontage



North Penn Water Authority Property



Connector trail to shopping center

SITE PHOTOS – Culverts under Allentown Road



SITE PHOTOS – Tennis-Lukens Cemetery



SITE PHOTOS – Tennis-Lukens Cemetery



Looking north towards entrance



Looking south into site

SITE PHOTOS – Open field at center of site and tree line along perimeter



SITE PHOTOS – Soil erosion



SITE PHOTOS – Stormwater management outlet for shopping center



SITE PHOTOS – Possible access from shopping center via “land bridge”



SITE PHOTOS – Possible access from shopping center via “land bridge”



SITE PHOTOS – Possible access from shopping center via “land bridge”



SITE PHOTOS - Possible location of site access from shopping center

