

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

PARK COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 @ 2:00 P.M.

Sippo Lake Clubhouse – 5300 Tyner St. NW, Canton, Ohio 44708

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call of Members: A. Hayden, D. Freeland, W. Bryan, R. Dublikar, P. Quick
- B. Adoption of Agenda

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS: December 2019

- A. Summary Financial Report
- B. Budget
- C. Grant Status

5. PAYROLLS & BILLS: December 2019

6. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Informational: Upcoming Events
- B. Informational: Proposal to Add Public Comments to 5 Year Plan (2019-2023) (Exhibit A)
- C. Informational: Proposal to Update the Published Trail and Greenway Master Plan Map (Exhibit B)

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution: #20-02-014: Fry Family Park Project
- B. Resolution: #20-02-015: Iron Horse Trail Phase III Contract with the City of Alliance
- C. Resolution: #20-02-016: Copier Lease Agreement Buyout

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Director's Report

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (if necessary)

Roll Call of Members: A. Hayden, D. Freeland, W. Bryan, R. Dublikar, P. Quick

_____to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, and/or compensation of a public employee or official, and/or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing pursuant to division (G) (1) of this section of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC).

_____to consider the purchase of property for public purposes, and/or for the sale of property at competitive bidding pursuant to division (G) (2) of this section of the ORC.

_____to conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action pursuant to division (G)(3) of this section of the ORC.

_____to prepare for, conduct, and/or review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment pursuant to division (G)(4) of this section of the ORC.

_____to discuss matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules and/or state statutes pursuant to division (G) (5) of this section of the ORC.

_____to discuss specialized details of security arrangements pursuant to division (G) (6) of this section of the ORC.

Roll Call of Members: A. Hayden, D. Freeland, W. Bryan, R. Dublikar, P. Quick

10. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE:

NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING: March 4, 2020 at 2:00 PM at the Sippo Lake Clubhouse

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: OLD BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Informational: Upcoming Events

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	BOARD MEMBER
Frogwatch Volunteer Training	February 18, 2020	5p	Sippo Lake Park Exploration Gateway – Science Lab	
Park Board Meeting	March 4, 2020	2p	Sippo Lake Park Clubhouse	
Friends of Stark Parks Board Meeting	March 11, 2020	4p	Sippo Lake Park Exploration Gateway	Ralph Dublikar
Election Day	March 17, 2020	6:30a-7:30p	Various	
Stark County Regional Planning Commission 2020 Annual Dinner	March 18, 2020	6p	Skyland Pines Rustic Lodge (please RSVP to Corianne for reservation)	
Save the Date: Wild Night for Wildlife	September 10, 2020	TBD	Sippo Lake Park Exploration Gateway	
Save the Date: Volunteer Dinner	November 12, 2020	TBD	Sippo Lake Park Exploration Gateway	

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: OLD BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Informational: Proposal to Add Public Comments to 5 Year Plan (2019-2023) (Exhibit A)

Please see attached (Exhibit A) for the proposed addition to the Appendix for the 5 Year Plan (2019-2023) to include all public comments from each of the public meetings and online survey.

Appendix: Comments from Public Meetings



Sign-In Sheet
(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Stakeholder Meeting - Alliance - July 10, 2018)

Name	Representing
Rachel Fackler	Stark REC
Springer, Fredrick	SCRC
Isabella Fackler	City of Louisville
MARK LOCKE	ALLIANCE CAMPBELL
RON RITTENHOUSE	PDA TRADP 177 + FCC
Chris Stanton	PH Union Nat. Co. E
George KIKO	Wm. Hillen Twp.
Adam Fox	Huron-Grandway Urban Center



Sign-In Sheet
(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Alliance - July 10, 2018)

Name	Representing
John Cox	Alliance Parks
Scott Schreiber	MOSS
Pete Moore	MOSS
Tom Crawford	MOSS
Janice Crawford	Maumee Chamber/Board
Bobbi Day	SELF
Don Day	"
RON DERRY	"
Cassidy Gubrie	"
HARRY PAIDAS	ALLIANCE PARKS
Bob Morrison	SELF
Gracie Hanson	"
David Berper	
Jennifer Mackenzie	Maumee Alliance
Katharine White	
Ron + Jane Koko	
Brian Brown	

Sign-In Sheet
(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Stakeholder Meeting - Alliance - July 10, 2018)

Name	Representing
Tate Sturkey	
Spina Lacey	
Josh Staley	
Sam M. Galt	
BJ Willis	
Kay Brown	
Grace Smith	
RAY MORGANSTERN	
MARY CLINE	
NED CASALE	
Joanna MOODY	
Ed MOODY	
Nick Kunkin	
Margaret C. P. P. P.	
Andrew Galt	
Sara Pugh	
Carolyn Galt	
Paul Galt	
Debra Joyce Kasey	

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

July 10, 2018

First Christian Church, Alliance

~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks

Bob Fonte, Stark Parks

Rachel Forchione, SCRPC

Emma Posillico, SCRPC

Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)

General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Posillico gave overview of planning in general and Five-Year Plan's purpose, and explained timeline for the plan update.

Posillico provided Powerpoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed previous five-year plan's recommendations and status of those recommendations. She then went on to explain the process for the Community Participation Exercise, which involved a variety of questions regarding the preliminary survey results that were set up at different stations around the room. She ended the presentation with an overview of next steps in the planning process.

Comment cards and suggestions received at the meeting were collected and summarized below:

- Please complete the trails in the Minerva/Alliance area. Great resource for young people.
- Parks security: area their plans to increase the number of Park Rangers? What about a very simple snack shack added at different locations where restroom facilities are permitted? I recommend adding an additional question about your system security (cyber security; site, locations and facilities; gradually increase number of park rangers; the more visibility of rangers will increase confidence in park system).
- I would like to see enhancement of wildlife protection programs to include shorebird migration stopover sites, e.g. Walborn Reservoir. Stark Parks is doing a great job managing Stark Co. resources.
- Connect Quail Hollow to Marlboro School to Hartville Flea Mkt. Create a trail from Marlinton High to Deer Creek Reservoir; Iron Horse to Silver Park; Castle in Alliance to Iron Horse; Deer Creek to Walborn.
- Suggest providing a route along Freedom Ave. in Alliance (map provided).
- Park closed after hours; any chance of opening the parks during night? Chief- not encouraging that, but if you're riding at night or we don't [] our trails (illegible).
- Open trails at night for people that are working 2nd & 3rd shift so they can use them for commuting to work so they don't have to use roads at night (I work with a guy in Minerva that does not drive and has to ride his bike). The trail in Lisbon to Washingtonville is open 24/7. I understand there are safety concerns with night walking/riding, but if they are required to have lights on the bike and are responsible for their own liability (use at own risk), the trails open at night could be great for nature lovers and... [] (illegible).
- Not wanting to put trails on my property. Not a good use of taxpayer dollars. May depreciate my land value. Fox Ave (Minerva)

- River Street in Alliance beside Alliance recycling center and old railroad line would take you out to Berlin Lake and connect to an existing trail; There is a piece of trail that Mahoning Co. would need to work on. Justin at Mahoning Co. said if Stark Parks would connect, it would move up their priority. Portage Co. would also be interested.
- Iron Horse Trail - follow the original rail line from Nickelplate to Minerva to form loop in Minerva.
- Spend money on "bikers"; youth could benefit. Money on education- mobile education unit, birding, environmental issues; grants for buses for kids; 2 week notice for [] (illegible).
- When will Nickelplate be completed? Rails to Trails guy. Loves group travel the County to ride trails like this; [] to Ashtabula almost done; travels up to Stow and Hudson. Economic Development
- Developing/re-developing Molly Stark status update in which [] (illegible).
- We walk the Iron Horse trail. We are concerned about all the dead ash trees along the trail with trees and branches falling? This is mainly north of Cenfield to Bayton.
- Expansion of trails; lives in Louisville would love connection from Louisville to anywhere- all County.
- Status of Nickelplate Trail for public when volunteering? TrailBlazers email about status "ALL" email; and Minerva connector plans.
- Possibility to work with the HOF Marathon to develop a trail/series of trails that would work well for the Marathon course. Maybe connect Paul Brown Stadium with the HOF Village.
- Nickelplate to continue to Navarre; length of ride currently doing 6 laps to get 25 miles of training on bike; Sippo Valley has some spots getting away from us.
- The trails that converge on Minerva will be a great resource and driver of economic development. More mountain bike trails would be great.
- Concern about how trails will impact adjacent farmlands.
- Want Trail & Greenway Master Plan changed to reflect different route in this area.
- Move the proposed trails in this area to on-road (not through/near farms).
- How much \$ do the trails bring in? Why am I paying for them?
- Don't see a need to put trails in rural areas.
- Improve the efforts to reach out to agricultural stakeholders along the proposed routes.

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

July 10, 2018

First Christian Church, Alliance
~Stakeholder Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Mayor Patricia Fallot, City of Louisville
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Rachel Forchione, SCRPC
George Kiko, Nimishillen Township
Mark Locke, Alliance Chamber of Commerce
Emma Posillico, SCRPC
Ron Rittenhouse, Boy Scouts Troup 177 and First Christian Church
Chris Stanton, Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center
Adam Zorn- Huston-Brumbaugh Nature Center
Other Parks Staff

Emma Posillico started the meeting with an overview of planning in general and the Five-Year Plan's purpose, and explained the timeline for the plan update.

Posillico provided Powerpoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed previous five-year plan's recommendations and status of those recommendations, and went over preliminary online public survey results (375 results so far). She then gave an overview of next steps in the planning process and went into the Stakeholder Participation Exercise.

Stakeholder Participation Exercise:

Question 1: What does your community have that Stark Parks may want to take into consideration with the 2019-2023 Plan?

Fallot- Louisville has a Comprehensive Plan that is 2 years old
-Would like a trailhead (and trail) in the City, preferably on SR 44 (use Metzger Park now)

Fonte- are trying to get developers to put trails in when they're constructing new sites

Nature Center- Don't have any plans in place at the moment, but would like to be able to access Stark Parks from their site (difficult with ag. neighbors)
-utilizing SARTA to provide access between the Nature Center and trail would be helpful
-do currently support events at Beech Creek (is reciprocated)
-joint programming with Stark Parks at the Nature Center is needed

Locke- Union Ave corridor (streetscaping) project underway in 2019
-applied for grant for trail that would run parallel with the project
-a tie from Mt. Union campus to downtown is needed (trail that applied for grant funding for would accomplish this)

Question 2: Have there been any major shifts in the demographics of your community over the past five years? Are any shifts anticipated?

Fallot- St. Thomas student population dropping

-Louisville population in general is stable or slightly increasing; is also aging

Kiko- Nimishillen's population seems to be pretty stable

Locke- Quality of life is essential to attracting people to areas; parks are vital for that

Kiko- Further from the metro area, is there really a need for more parks/trails? The park/trail systems in the denser areas such as Plain or Louisville are great, but the farther out, it seems like there is less use. For example, the Iron Horse- is there enough usage for the expense?

Fonte- It is getting used now, but the trail isn't fully connected yet. Once it's connected, the usage will increase and it will create linkages between destinations, which means economic development for the connected communities

-Some of the busiest trails are perfect examples of this as they weren't previously connected either

Kiko-Are there any bicycle clubs out there that are utilizing the trails?

Fonte- There are, but those clubs generally prefer the roads as they can hit higher and faster mileages on road; the Park District does have some lower-mileage bike clubs though

-Bike lanes will serve in some capacity to connect trails

Fallot- Bicyclists utilize SARTA now to help them commute (the bike racks on the buses are always full)

Fonte- There are now bike racks on every SARTA bus

Locke- A bike lane had been planned for the Mt. Union corridor project, but with the proposed trail running parallel and connecting to the SARTA station, it may not be needed

Question 3: Is there an opportunity for partnership that you see between your community and the Stark County Park District?

Nature Center- There is a need for a partnership between Stark Parks and the Nature Center

Buell- The outdoor recreation/natural resource amenities in the more rural areas of the County (i.e. the Nature Center, Beech Creek Botanical Gardens) offer resources to the community where Stark Parks may not currently have parks/trails

Rittenhouse- The Boy Scouts do trail cleanups now and also interact with the Nature Center on projects. Suggested that each community have one point person that communicates directly with Stark Parks

Kiko- Is the Trail & Greenway Master Plan also being updated now?

Fonte- No, we are just prioritizing the projects on it at this time; we want input from the communities on these; projects that have community support, are shovel-ready, and have funding lined up are the

ones that will most likely become priorities. There are currently eight communities seeking partnerships with Stark Parks

Question 4: Are there any issues that Stark Parks or Regional Planning should be aware of or prepared for at the public meeting?

Kiko- The recent article in the newspaper about the safety issue/assault on the trail may come up

Fallot- She tells people not to go on trails alone

Kiko- Are you allowed to conceal-carry a gun in the parks?

Fonte- Legally in the parks, yes, but not in buildings where it is posted that weapons are not allowed. Restrooms are also "gray areas" regarding conceal-carry laws

Kiko/Fallot- Restroom facilities are nice, but they are expensive

Fonte- Vandalism is also an on-going challenge with the restroom facilities. Stark Parks tries to address vandalism within 48 hours of it being discovered

Kiko- How many Park Rangers does Stark Parks have?

Fonte- 13 full-time and 1 part-time ranger

Kiko- Suggested that the number of Park Rangers be emphasized to the public. He was unaware that there were that number of rangers

Kiko- What is the status on Molly Stark Hospital?

Fonte- Asbestos has been removed from the building. We are working to repurpose it; we applied for a grant to assist with the structure itself, but were turned down

Rittenhouse- Do the Rangers communicate with law enforcement?

Fonte- Yes, they are fully connected into the law enforcement radio and dispatch system

Sign-In

(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Stakeholder Meeting - Canton - July 19, 2018)

Name	Representing
Cindy Chase	Plain Township Historical Soc
Phyllis Rustard	Plain Township Hist
Ernesta Pauline	SPC
Rachel Johnson	SPC
Judy Packer	Plain Twp Hist Soc
Connie Blinn	Plain Twp Hist Soc
Catherine Larkin	City of North Canton
Scott Adams	Plain Twp

Sign-In Sheet

(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Canton - July 19, 2018)



Name	Representing
Jo Ellen Runkowski	Plain Township Historical Soc
Justine Averis	City of North Canton
Maximilian Lill	Plain Twp
Michael Adam Murphy	Boy Scout Troop 935
Joy Hunsicker	
Guthrie Burnett	
Kristen Potter	
Kenneth Shelley	
Jana (Maggie)	
Cheryl Winkler	
Norm Winkler	Longmunk Farm
Pat Quick	
Dave Carlsberg & Marko Bender	SCRC
Sam Brad	SCRC
Mike Avon	SCRC
Jim Truick	SCRC
Mark Ellonberg	Kingston Co

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

July 19, 2018
Plain Township Hall
~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Rachel Forchione, SCRPC
Chief Dan George, Stark Parks
Emma Posillico, SCRPC
Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)
General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Posillico gave an overview of planning in general and the Five-Year Plan's purpose, and explained the timeline for the plan update.

Posillico provided a Powerpoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed some of the previous five-year plan's recommendations and the status of those recommendations.

Chief Ranger Dan George briefly discussed the assault that had recently taken place at Martindale Park. He said local business partners are offering a reward and have a tip line open to help catch the suspect. He informed the audience that they have increased the patrol presence significantly on that trail now, but still encourage park users to practice trail safety.

Posillico then went on to explain the process for the Community Participation Exercise, which involved a variety of questions regarding the preliminary survey results that were set up at different stations around the room. She ended the presentation with an overview of next steps in the planning process.

Comment cards and suggestions received at the meeting were collected and summarized below:

- It would be nice if the church at the former Edgewood golf course could utilize the parks and trails as part of their educational programming classes
- Edgewood- don't like the urban-level density that is being planned there; doesn't match surrounding area
- What's the status of Tam O'Shanter; hate seeing all the golf courses close down
- Need increased signage behind Hoover plant; heard several people say they couldn't find where the trail went exactly at the July 4th race
- For park projects, can the boy scouts submit suggested projects to help offer to do, or does the park district have their own projects
- Need on-road bike lanes on roads beyond just Canton City
- Need on-road bike lanes or wider roads for high mileage bike rides
- Need improved ADA-accessibility on Market near Washington Square (Plain Twp side); have ADA ramp but can't get to it
- Replace the small sidewalk area between Bellview and Easton; it disappeared with Market widening and don't appear to be plans to restore it; many people use that sidewalk to get to Washington Square

- Consider adding a championship-level disc golf course. Costs approx. \$20,000 to install, which is less than a park playground. Local disc golf association has been approached about hosting a national championship in the area. Association has spoken with Jackson Township about adding a course.
- Very interested in connection between Jackson Bog, (illegible), and Towpath.
- Would like to see flushable toilets at Quail Hollow Parks.
- Would like to see more things connected.
- There is no good way to get to Hartville on a bike. In the Netherlands you can ride anywhere – there are all side path asphalt trails.
- Need dog clean-up stations along Lexington Farms. Cleaning up after your dogs does not seem to be of concern to some people.
- Hoover – more signage.
- There was no phone number for the main Stark Parks phone line in the phone book. Would it be possible to look into this?

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

July 19, 2018
Plain Township Hall
~Stakeholder Meeting~

In attendance:

Connie Blinn, Plain Township Historical Society
Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Catherine Farina, North Canton
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Rachel Forchione, SCRPC
Cindy Guest, Plain Township Historical Society
Scott Haws, Plain Township Trustee
Judy Pocock, Plain Township Historical Society
Emma Posillico, SCRPC
Other Parks Staff
Phyllis Rustifo, Plain Township Historical Society

Emma Posillico started the meeting with an overview of planning in general and the Five-Year Plan's purpose, and explained the timeline for the plan update.

Posillico provided a Powerpoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed the previous five-year plan's recommendations and the status of those recommendations, and went over the preliminary public survey results (420 results so far). She then gave an overview of next steps in the planning process and went into the Stakeholder Participation Exercise.

Stakeholder Participation Exercise:

Question 1: What does your community have that Stark Parks may want to take into consideration with the 2019-2023 Plan?

North Canton- City is getting \$750k in state grant funding; doing a park expansion plan for Dogwood Park and the East Maple Recreation Complex

- Want to better connect these to Stark Parks facilities
- Want to connect Dogwood to Hoover Trail

Plain Township- Fountains at Edgewood- the Park District is involved with; communications and advertising assistance would help

- Would like to see Middlebranch Trail tie into Alpine Park (hidden gem)
- Alpine(?) will have all-inclusive ADA equipment at it = destination point

North Canton- the City is also planning a playground at Dogwood Park that is fully ADA-accessible; will be 22,000 sf

Plain Township- Like to find a way to also tie Middlebranch Trail into Diamond Park, which has a loop trail now

Fonte- the Park District will be connecting Saratoga Hills to the High School

Plain Township- Would like Diamond Park to be connected to Saratoga Hills

Fonte- Lexington Farms will connect west to Saratoga Hills; working with the developer now; will be a permanent trail in 2 years

- Alpine and Diamond connections would be off of that; Alpine is on TGMP now but Diamond is not (don't have the right-of-way secured for either yet)
- Right-of-way acquisition is always the hardest, longest part of trail planning and implementation
- Church is giving an easement to the Parks District

Question 2: Have there been any major shifts in the demographics of your community over the past five years? Are any shifts anticipated?

Plain Township- the Township is growing and developing (ex: Edgewood, Lexington, Bob-O-Link area)

- Pushing for younger families a lot
- Edgewood is targeting the aging population
- For the youth population, get a lot of outsiders with the different Diamond Park tournaments; they typically stay in the area for a while though, utilizing other amenities

North Canton- that's the same situation with the Little League fields at Walsh

- Need better access to those ballfields, and to expand parking at
- Planning an amphitheater and water feature at the East Maple Recreation Complex (across from Windsor facility)

Plain Township- Working with their state rep to advance Phase 2 & 3 of Veterans Park (to include an amphitheater, fishing pond, etc.)

Historical Society- What's going in north of Fire Station on Market?

Plain Township- that's a private recreational development (NDSI at Woods Edge) targeting adults, planning to employ those w/ disabilities

Fonte- that general area is hard to develop because of all the water

Plain Township- We're looking to preserve the remainder of that area as green space/wildlife habitat

Historical Society- I believe it's a wildlife sanctuary that is privately owned being managed in partnership with Malone; wildlife in the area has increased; may need trail awareness of wildlife (coyotes, wild turkeys, rabbits)

Plain Township- Any way to make the waterway along the Middlebranch Trail navigable? Would need access points. Know the cost and feasibility is largely unknown

Question 3: Is there an opportunity for partnership that you see between your community and the Stark County Park District?

Historical Society- Working on signage for trails now; would be nice if work together to make the signs better

- Doing interpretive signs for the Canal and Middlebranch Trail now

- Need consistency in signs to keep cohesive

- Should be interpretive signs along trails as there's a lot of history connected with them; good way to engage young adults as well

- Historical Society struggles because don't have their own facility now

- Suggest Parks do mobile apps for self-guided tours; would be more interactive and less wasteful; could use to identify nearest "destination points"

Buell- District does have a basic app, but found same capabilities with a mobile-friendly website; can perhaps do an app as an extension of the website (was suggested working with the Historical Society to build the historical story)

Historical Society- research shows that websites are on their way out; perhaps the District can do different things for different age groups/technology skills

- Considered doing painted history rocks to help provide historical info and engage people more

North Canton- It's in their grant funding plan to do a story walk at Dogwood Park

- Would like to see the City and Stark Parks partner on projects

Fonte- tunnel to connect Hoover Trail is a good partnership example; what's the status on the restroom there?

North Canton- still in talks on restroom; also discussing bike share/charging stations at their park facility(s); in early planning stages now; the difficult part is that the City is greenspace-limited

Fonte- Plain Township is doing a bike share program at Veterans Park now

Buell- the YMCA is trying to utilize a trailhead kiosk

North Canton- 60% of their population is over 60 years old; consideration for that group is needed

Plain Township- have seen an influx of younger families with the newer developments going in

Historical Society- the school district lines don't align with political subdivision boundaries; confusing when trying to determine programming needs

Question 4: Are there any issues that Stark Parks or Regional Planning should be aware of or prepared for at the public meeting?

North Canton- pushed the event out on Facebook, which has over 4,000 followers now

- the recent assault at Middlebranch Trail may come up

Historical Society- has anything developed with that?

Fonte- our Chief Ranger is going to give an update at tonight's public mtg; they are teaming up with local law enforcement to try and catch the suspect

-Have heightened patrols at that trail now, and local business partners are offering a reward for the suspect

-Was the 1st incident like this in 20 years

North Canton- we had a similar incident at Price Park

Fonte- We chose to publicize the incident to push safety; will continue to do so; long-term plans are to hire more Rangers

Historical Society- Restrooms must be hard to oversee

Fonte- Yes, but have cameras on all buildings; and Rangers wear body cameras

Historical Society- What about safety stations along trails?

Fonte- they're not practical along trails, which are so spread out; work better in concentrated areas such as college campuses



(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Canal Fulton - July 26, 2018)

[illegible]

(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Stakeholder Meeting - Canal Fulton - July 26, 2018)

[illegible]



(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Magoolia - July 31, 2018)



STARR COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION

(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Stakeholder Meeting - Magnolia - July 31, 2018)

[illegible]



(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Magnolia - July 31, 2018)

[illegible]

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023
July 31, 2018
Magnolia United Methodist Church
~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Emma Posillico, SCRPC
Malia Watkins, SCRPC
Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)
General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Posillico gave overview of the Five-Year Plan purpose and explained the timeline for the plan update.

Posillico provided a Powerpoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed the previous five-year plan's recommendations and status of those recommendations. She then went on to explain the process for the Community Participation Exercise, which involved a variety of questions regarding the preliminary survey results that were set up at different stations around the room. She ended the presentation with an overview of next steps in the planning process.

Comment cards and suggestions received at the meeting were collected and summarized below:

- Would like local partnerships with other parks. We need trail connections. Want to see playgrounds at Fry Park- partner with Magnolia playground project. Would like access to the ponds at Fry Park so we can fish. (Buell- we plan on having access for fishing and possibly a dock. We need to focus on infrastructure first – parking lot, etc.)
- Clean up the Mill pond, the canal behind Main St., and the basin.
- No trails in Magnolia.
- More hiking and biking in Magnolia area. What is the timeline for a connection of Fry to the Mill?
- Clean the Magnolia Mill pond – there is trash from neighboring house falling into the pond.
- Need to do something about the Mill pond – it's a disgrace.
- I'm a bicyclist and the coarse limestone is a safety hazard. Middlebranch has standing water and erosion was there.
- Very happy about the geo-caching
- Trails around Gervasi use coarse gravel to fix wet areas- this causes problems for bicyclists. Stark Parks' staff member stated that they don't put anything down it's just what happens with existing gravel and water. Commenter does let Stark Parks know when this happens.
- Quail Hollow needs new signs. Quail Hollow looks great since Stark Parks took over. Stark Parks' staff member explained they've been closing some trails, new signage is needed. There are a lot of dead trees there, but commenter and Parks staff understand the value of trees to birds and woodpeckers.
- The signs at Quail Hollow are gone – need new signs- different signs as to what people are looking at – this is educational. (Buell- we have a sign committee and have started with the equestrian signs and bike trails. We will be working on the hiking trail signs and looking to have maps available as well).
- There have been a lot of improvements made to Quail Hollow because of Stark Parks. The educational component is very important for all of the parks. (Buell- it takes time and money. It would be nice to get volunteers to give "tours" and identify the trees, plants, etc.).

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

July 31, 2018

Magnolia United Methodist Church

~Stakeholder Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks

Bob Fonte, Stark Parks

Denise Freeland, Village of Minerva

Emma Posillico, SCRPC

Claudia Rogers, Magnolia Council

Malia Watkins, SCRPC

Other Parks Staff

Due to the light meeting attendance and the attendees' familiarity with Stark Parks staff, Sarah Buell suggested that SCRPC skip the portion of the meeting presentation that provides an overview of Stark Parks and the Five-Year Plan's purpose. Posillico agreed.

Claudia Rogers stated that she was very unhappy with the condition of the Mill pond.

Sarah Buell stated that they are addressing the Mill. The weeds were cut and the pond was filled with water. The mill will be red- they had to repair/replace the wood on one side and are working on the foundation.

Posillico reviewed the Powerpoint presentation portion that discusses the online public survey, which has had 500+ responses. She then gave an overview of the next steps in the planning process and went into the Stakeholder Participation Exercise.

Stakeholder Participation Exercise:

Question 1: What does your community have that Stark Parks may want to take into consideration with the 2019-2023 Plan?

Rogers – Magnolia is on a tight budget – resurfacing streets, built a new fire station. Some people don't like the new station- don't like the "look" of it, some don't like it next to ballfields and park. The Police Department is moving from the Village Hall to where the Fire Department was located (where the old school was).

Freeland – What is meant by large developments?

Posillico – Re-development, shopping, festivals

Rogers – Village is land locked and it floods out. We were looking into possible housing for seniors and/or assisted living, but it "fell through."

Buell – Was the Smith property annexed into the village? (Yes)

Village used to have historical walking tours offered with Canal Days, and sometimes separate from Canal Days. Would be nice to have those again

Rogers – The Blacksmith Shop has been owned by the same family for generations. It is being renovated and they are going to give demonstrations in the future.

Buell – Village Park & Mill area – we would like to give demonstrations on how the Mill worked. We are looking to keep the Mill equipment in good condition (low cost and maintenance -hard to do)

Rogers – We fixed up the restrooms and working on making them ADA accessible.

Freeland – Minerva is straightening the curve on Rt. 30, YMCA is building an addition, the Fire Department is renovating the stage in the park (discussing bathrooms), and Edgewater Golf Course will become a “flight park” after three years (model planes, drones, etc.).

Question 2: Have there been any major shifts in the demographics of your community over the past five years? Are any shifts anticipated?

Freeland – The demographics are shrinking and aging. Sandy Springs Micro Brewery opened recently which has brought people here – bicyclists want trails to go by here.

Rogers – Many are aging. Younger people are moving into the area – too many people and landlords are not keeping up their properties. Bicycle groups (clubs) are going through town on gravel roads because there is less traffic.

Question 3: Is there an opportunity for partnership between your community and the Stark County Park District?

Freeland- Already have partnership with them with trails and educational programs. Looking to Stark Parks for (direction/suggestion) on the stage in the park

Rogers – The Mill

Question 4: Are there any issues that Stark Parks or Regional Planning should be aware of or prepared for at the public meeting?

Rogers – The Mill pond, green algae behind Main St., and the basin. A tree fell in the Canal last year and is still there.

Freeland – Trails and the agricultural community (if they attend).

Sign-In Sheet - Stakeholders

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Rachel Forchione	RPC
Janette Melnichenko	RPC
Kathy Catron	City of Massillon
Sarah Buell	SPD

Sign-In Sheet

<u>Name</u>
Janette Melnichenko
Rachel Forchione
Foster A Rose President MAGI
Foster A Rose
Martha MacEachron
GREG LEINASTED
GEORGE WALSH
Pat Fuller
Paul HESS
JERRY HOLLINGER
ART ROMETO

I would like to suggest that, among the goals identified for inclusion in Stark Park's 2019-2023 Plan be that of expanding our commitment to environmental stewardship not only within the sites that fall under the jurisdiction of Stark Parks but also to the broader environmental systems that interconnect with those sites; and, to do so in such a way as to invite a significant level of community participation through offering programming of the "Citizen Science" type. (More information about Citizen Science programming can be found at www.citizensciencecenter.com).

Among agencies within Stark County, Stark Parks is particularly well positioned to take a leadership role in such an endeavor due to the assets and resources currently available to us. Those assets and resources include:

- A well established, experienced, professional Natural Resource Management Team
- Demonstrated skills in presenting quality, experiential education programming that includes community participation in wildlife/nature observation. Examples include:
 - Adventures in Birding
 - Pollinator Paluza
 - Much Ado About Mothing
 - Floating Lab : Defenders of the Lake
 - Etc.
- Numerous properties situated throughout Stark County that, within their boundaries, include a variety of eco-systems worthy of monitoring/investigation and that interconnect with wider ranging eco-systems important to the environmental wellbeing of the Stark County community. These eco-systems include:
 - Nimishillen Creek/Sandy Creek /Sippo Creek/Tuscarawas River Watershed
 - Deer Creek/ Mahoning River Watershed
 - Mississippi Flyway
 - Monarch Butterfly Migration Routes
 - Etc.
- Existing partnerships with many local educational agencies that include secondary and post-secondary institutions – a potential source for recruiting program participants and for assistance in developing scientifically valid investigation and reporting protocols

I believe that, adopting a goal as described above:

- Fits well into the Stark Parks mission of "stewardship", "education", and "service to community"
- Is readily achievable given Stark Parks' existing resources
- Will ultimately enhance awareness and appreciation of the importance of maintaining and supporting healthy natural environments among the citizens of Stark County

Please feel free to contact me if I can be further assistance in developing this idea.

Regards,

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

August 16, 2018
Massillon Museum, Massillon
~Stakeholder Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry, City of Massillon
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Rachel Forchione, SCRPC
Jonelle Melnichenko, SCRPC
Other Parks Staff

Rachel Forchione started the meeting with an introduction of all in attendance. She then gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting and went into the Stakeholder Participation Exercise.

Stakeholder Participation Exercise:

Question 1: What does your community have that Stark Parks may want to take into consideration with the 2019-2023 Plan?

Catazaro-Perry- Massillon would like to give Bottoms Park on 17th St. to Stark Parks. Also, Massillon would like to partner with Stark Parks on a disc golf course. We are also in the process of receiving a portion of the [DiPetro] property along the river.

Fonte- It is along the west side of the river, south of Walnut, down to right before Erie. It is the former Republic Steel location and former laydown area for the pipeline. The low-head dam is located on the north side.

Catazaro-Perry- We want to open the river for travel and are working with ODNR to do so, but we need a pump station relocation because the pipe currently goes underneath the water. We received a water trail planning study grant for this area from the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District. When we install new pump stations, we would like them to be digital. Digitizing the pump stations is on Massillon's 10 year plan.

Forchione- I've read in previous reports about plans for the Historic Lincoln Byway Corridor. Is that still being pursued?

Catazaro-Perry- The Imagine Downtown Massillon project will be completed in January 2019. A portion of this funding came from SCATS. The project extends from 2nd Street NE to Erie, but we want to extend to the north and south in the future. It will add new curbs, gutters, sidewalks, bump-outs for crossing, a median strip and lighting. We may include sidewalks from Erie to the restaurant plaza.

Forchione- Is there any news on Affinity Hospital?

Catazaro-Perry- We should have a resolution within 6 weeks. Massillon is also proposing an amphitheater for the Duncan Plaza. This area is going to be completely "green". There will be solar lights and a rain garden. We plan to redo 1st Street with the amphitheater, once the funding is secured.

Forchione- Are there any updates for the Sippo Lake Reservoir?

Catazaro-Perry- ODNR told us that the water level in the reservoir must be dropped, which we did, then they said it needed to be dropped a second time. The sides of the reservoir were graded back. The waterfall is still there, but is much smaller. Massillon received \$250,000 from ODNR to undertake this work. The reservoir was an ODNR violation, and ODNR said they wouldn't fund any projects that have violations. We thought that didn't make sense, because these projects should be funded to correct the violations. Massillon has \$265,000 in funding for clean-up in the area. At the north end of the reservoir we are proposing the Jake Roberson memorial park and splash pad, which will be funded through donations and fundraising.

Buell- Is there anything going on at the Spring Hill property?

Catazaro-Perry- The subdivision behind Spring Hill that was annexed from Perry hasn't had any improvements done since the annexation. We plan on installing new storm sewers, curbs and paving in multiple phases. Castle West will be completed next. Also, the Legends was not done correctly. The roads are cement without any under drains, which needs to be addressed.

Question 2: Have there been any major shifts in the demographics of your community over the past five years? Are any shifts anticipated?

Catazaro-Perry- Massillon has grown, a lot of housing units have gone in (over 30). The population is close to Jackson Township's population. The cost of living is down in Massillon and we have an excellent school district, which helps to pull in people.

Forchione- The Stark County Land Bank's demolition lists show that there were not many demolitions completed in the Massillon area as owner-occupancy was relatively high.

Catazaro-Perry- Yes, we have had very few. However, through the NIP program we originally were denied on 20 applications and needed to tweak the applications a bit. Now we are anticipating to take down 80 more homes.

Forchione- Have you seen an increase in school enrollment or population increase in school-age children?

Catazaro-Perry- My daughter is a preschool teacher and I know they are adding more classrooms to her school, so I would think so, but I'm not sure.

Question 3: Is there an opportunity for partnership that you see between your community and the Stark County Park District?

Catazaro-Perry- Massillon wants to partner with Stark Park. We already do through a 99 year lease for maintenance of the trails. We're interested in partnering with them on Bottoms Park, possibly adding restrooms next to the trail. We're also interested in putting in a restroom and disc golf at Lincoln Park, and rerouting a portion of the trail.

Buell- Stark Parks is open to discussion about rerouting a portion of the trail located in Massillon to correct a sharp turn and make it more sensible, but we do not own the property needed to reroute the trail and add amenities.

Fonte- Stark Parks is interested in putting a shelter/restroom complex in at the Cattrell property/The Preserves). It's located along the Sippo Valley Trail and was purchased with Clean Ohio Funds. So far Stark Parks has torn down the barn, cleaned up the park and added parking.

Question 4: Are there any issues that Stark Parks or Regional Planning should be aware of or prepared for at the public meeting?

Catazaro-Perry- I did see a complaint about a bridge on Facebook.

Buell- We're aware there are several bridges along the Sippo Valley Trail that need fixed up.

Fonte- We have been adding transition plates made of stainless steel to repair the bridges.

Buell- Annually we complete a bridge inspection and several along Sippo Valley Trail were mentioned in the report.

Fonte- There is erosion on either side of the bridge, they need to be repaired with concrete, and not just on the deck.

Buell- There are seven bridges along Sippo Valley Trail, so substantial work is needed.

Forchione- Is bridge repair an issue on the Sippo Valley Trail in particular or is it an overall theme within the Parks & Trails system.

Fonte- Just the Sippo Valley Trail in particular. The bridges there are over 100 years old. Plus, new development caused additional drainage into the stream, which caused more erosion and decay along the wood abutments.

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

August 16, 2018

Massillon Museum, Massillon

~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks

Bob Fonte, Stark Parks

Rachel Forchione, SCRPC

Jonelle Melnichenko, SCRPC

Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)

General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Forchione gave overview of planning in general and Five-Year Plan's purpose, and explained timeline for the plan update.

Forchione provided PowerPoint presentation on "What Stark Parks Is," discussed previous five-year plan's recommendations and status of those recommendations. She then went on to explain the process for the Community Participation Exercise, which involved a variety of questions regarding the preliminary survey results that were set up at different stations around the room. She ended the presentation with an overview of next steps in the planning process.

Comment cards and suggestions received at the meeting were collected and summarized below:

- Are any cameras installed for after hours?
- Have the problems disappeared on the trails? Stark Parks Staff- There are still some problems, but many have been handled.
- The staff does a good job on the trails. I regularly use all areas of the towpath.
- Has there been any more activity on the Sippo Valley Trail? I heard there was a phone stolen among other things. It's hard to believe it happened. Stark Parks Staff- We're stepping up trail safety.
- The trail is unstable (asphalt is buckling) between SR 93 & Ben Fulton. Will this be addressed? It needs to be ditched. It is being washed out by the drainage from the field to the south. There is a pipe that needs to be relocated. I can show you where the pipe is located. The trail needs to be trenched both ways from 93 down. It gets clogged in the winter time. Pressure needs to be put on the State because it's a state route where the clean-up area is. East of 93 needs trenched too, it's eroding. Also, the water from the cornfield is an issue. Stark Parks Staff- We're aware and are working on the clean-up.
- On Kenyon, the 1st bridge to the east is going to flood. This will be an issue once the tree falls. The ditches need to be cleaned out. The real problem is underground ditches. Stark Parks Staff- Cleaning the ditch itself doesn't solve flooding. Loss of floodplain and paving also have an impact, need to stop the flow upstream.
- Will any more of the trails be paved? Stark Parks Staff- We will reference the most needy trails list to start paving.
- Consider creating a Citizen Science Movement- is a growing interest in and can possibly do in conjunction with a school/university (get college students involved in projects); possible projects/ideas include: environmental quality class, conservation education, biodegradation. Do as a club/on-going program, not just a one-time event

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

October 4, 2018

First Christian Church, Alliance

~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks

Bob Fonte, Stark Parks

Rachel Forchione, SCRPC

Jonelle Melnichenko, SCRPC

Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)

General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Forchione gave an overview of the Stark Parks' Five-Year Plan process, and explained the timeline for the plan update. This is the 1st meeting in a second round of meetings, which are designed to help prioritize recommendations identified throughout the process to date. The first round of public meetings were held throughout summer 2018. An online survey open to the general public was also available during that time. The results of the public meetings and survey have now been compiled and are being presented during this next round of public meetings.

Forchione provided a PowerPoint presentation on results received from both the online survey and round 1 of public meetings. There were 573 completed surveys and 6 public meetings held throughout the County. This was the first time an online survey has been utilized in the development of the Stark Parks' Five-Year Plan. Discussion of the survey results included the respondent's overall satisfaction with Stark Parks and their satisfaction with the number of recreational opportunities available. The survey also discussed results on: what activities are participated in the most; what is the most pressing need for outdoor recreation opportunities/programming; what are the biggest barriers to participating in outdoor recreation; any safety/security concerns experienced at a Stark Parks facility(s); beliefs on banning or restricting smoking at Stark Parks facilities; and willingness to pay activity fees. Additional topics also reviewed included write-in responses and public comments received to date.

Forchione provided draft recommendation handouts to all those in attendance at the meeting. The handouts contained a compilation of draft recommendations identified from the online survey and first round of public meetings for the Five-Year Plan. The draft recommendations were organized by the corresponding departments within Stark Parks (Administration, Education, Natural Resources, Operations, and Public Safety). Each department had a separate sheet within the handout that contained a list of draft recommendations relating to that particular department. Each participant was asked to pick their top 3 or 5 recommendations (depending on how many recommendations were available) for what they preferred Stark Parks funding dollars be used towards over the next five years. They were also asked to rank those selections. Forchione indicated that each sheet should be ranked separately, rather than the entire handout being ranked overall, as each sheet refers to a different department. Stations for each department were provided around the room to answer questions regarding the recommendations.

Forchione ended the presentation by providing the schedule for the upcoming round 2 public meetings and her contact information. At this point, the attendees were encouraged to fill out the handouts and interact with Stark Parks' staff with questions or concerns regarding the recommendations.

Several attendees had additional questions regarding future trail locations and connections, and regarding the clarification of what constituted a "motorized vehicle."

Stark Parks' Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023

October 11, 2018
Plain Township Hall
~Public Meeting~

In attendance:

Sarah Buell, Stark Parks
Bob Fonte, Stark Parks
Rachel Forchione, SCRPC
Malia Watkins, SCRPC
Other Parks Staff (see sign-in sheet)
General Public (see sign-in sheet)

Forchione started the meeting with an overview of the Stark Parks' Five-Year Plan process. She explained the timeline for the plan update and that this is the 2nd meeting in a second round of meetings, which are designed to help prioritize recommendations identified throughout the process to date. The first round of public meetings was held throughout the summer of 2018. An online survey open to the general public was also available during that time. The results of the public meetings and survey have now been compiled and are being presented during this next round of public meetings.

Forchione provided a Powerpoint presentation on results received from both the online survey and comments received during round 1 of the public meetings. There were 573 completed surveys and 6 public meetings held throughout the county. This was the first time an online survey has been utilized in the development of the Stark Parks' Five-Year Plan. Discussion of the survey results included the respondent's satisfaction with Stark Parks in general and with the number of recreational opportunities available. The survey also discussed results on: what activities are participated in the most; what is the most pressing need for outdoor recreation opportunities/programming; what are the biggest barriers to participating in outdoor recreation; any safety/security concerns experienced at a Stark Parks facility(s); beliefs on banning or restricting smoking at Stark Parks' facilities; and willingness to pay activity fees. Additional areas of general interest noted in the survey write-in options and public comments included items such as requests for additional mountain biking facilities, fishing improvements, disc golf courses, and bathrooms. Park/trail-specific comments made were also discussed briefly, with more in-depth discussions held at the individual stations.

Forchione provided draft recommendation handouts to all those in attendance at the meeting. The handouts contained a compilation of draft recommendations identified from the online survey and first round of public meetings for the Five-Year Plan. The draft recommendations were organized by the corresponding departments within Stark Parks (Administration, Education, Natural Resources, Operations, and Public Safety). Each department had a separate sheet within the handout which asked participants to pick their top 3 or 5 recommendations (depending on how many recommendations were available) for what they preferred Stark Parks funding dollars be used towards over the next five years. They were also asked to rank those selections. Forchione indicated that each sheet should be ranked separately, rather than the entire handout being ranked overall, as each sheet refers to a different department. Stations for each department were provided around the room to answer questions regarding the recommendations.

[illegible]

(Stark Parks 5-Year Plan Public Meeting - Northwest Senior Center - October 29, 2018)

[illegible]

Staff 5yr. Plan
Aug. 13, 2018

	name	Dept
1	Don Griggs	PUBLIC SAFETY
2	Bob Fark	Admin
3	Jason Post	OPS
4	Bob Brown	OPS
5	Dave Patton	OPS
6	Sarah Buell	Admin
7	Jonathan Peterson	E.G. Maintenance
8	Talula Koch	NR
9	Corianne Kocarek	Admin
10	Mariah Veverka	Admin
11	Tracy Hauled-Hyde	OPS/PS
12	Danielle McGuinness	Admin
13	Justin Laps	P.S.
14	Barb Wells	Admin
15	Tiffanie Baumiller	Admin
16	Joseph Donohoe	Ops
17	BRIAN SMITH	ENTERPRISES
18	Bonnie Hunt	Enterprises
19	Jared Shive	Admin
20	Kingsley Martin	ops
21	Mary Grueber	Admin
22	Samantha Collman	Admin
23		



Stark Parks 5-Year Plan (2019-2023)

Staff Open House

Please write down your responses to the Station Questions/Topics below (please feel free to use the back). Please indicate the question number with each response.

- ① aquatics are always popular
- ② ADA requirements
- ③ ~~see~~ general park maintenance, port-a-potty cleanliness
- ④ outlying areas - Minerva in particular
- ⑤ we need to make sure supporting factors (funds, staff, need, etc) are adequate for growth to be successful

If you would like to submit these comments directly to Regional Planning, please mail them or drop them off at 201 3rd St. NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702.



Station Questions/Topics:

1. Are you aware of any growing requests for programs and/or activities? If so, what are they?
 - a. Yes. Stark Parks (Education Department) continues to receive requested programs from schools, organizations, companies, churches, and community groups.
2. Please reflect on the proposed recommendations from the previous 5-Year Plan (see pages 65-80). Are there areas of the plan you think still need work to be completed? Are there any new recommendations that you would like to see? (Please be as specific as possible).
 - a. I would like to see a recycling bin next to every trash can. I would like to see standardized and consistent signage throughout our parks and trails. I would like to see green initiatives put into practice.
3. Have you received any complaints or suggested improvements from the public on any park-related matters?
 - a. Being in front of the public fairly often, I've realized we receive a nice balance of compliments and constructive suggestions. We continually get comments about the good work we do out on the trails, but we have had many suggestions about trail conditions, particularly the areas of limestone washout (e.g. the Middle Branch Trail and the Towpath Trail). I've received comments about improving the condition of the port-o-johns as well as the kiosks.

4. Are there any marketing/public outreach opportunities that you feel are being missed (see previous plan pages 60-62)? Are there any target groups that you feel are not being adequately reached? If so, are there any recommendations for improvements that you would suggest?
 - a. I believe that we have identified the areas (both physical spaces and groups) that need a more concentrated outreach (in reference to the countywide levy pass/fail map) and have done a solid job connecting with those areas through community events, programming, and speaking opportunities in the past calendar year.
5. Looking towards the future, are there any other topics that Stark Parks should consider?
 - a. I would like to see us work toward (more) connectivity in eastern Stark County from Alliance down to Minerva. I would also like to see a plan for the building at Molly Stark Park.

(ex: land/park acquisitions or sales, important cultural or historic sites to acquire, other projects outside of existing Stark Parks services – see previous plan pages 81-84)

Station Questions/Topics:

1. Are you aware of any growing requests for programs and/or activities? If so, what are they? **Not at this time.**
2. Please reflect on the proposed recommendations from the previous 5-Year Plan (see pages 65-80). Are there areas of the plan you think still need work to be completed? Are there any new recommendations that you would like to see? (Please be as specific as possible). **Horse and green initiatives would be two I'd like to see developed more at our locations. Solar, wind power, and electric vehicles would be interesting to show the public we are taking steps to help the environment.**
3. Have you received any complaints or suggested improvements from the public on any park-related matters? **More effort being put into current land and playgrounds before purchasing new ones.**
4. Are there any marketing/public outreach opportunities that you feel are being missed (see previous plan pages 60-62)? Are there any target groups that you feel are not being adequately reached? If so, are there any recommendations for improvements that you would suggest? **Video creation and marketing for all types of events to attract people of all ages to learn more about what we do.**
5. Looking towards the future, are there any other topics that Stark Parks should consider? (ex: land/park acquisitions or sales, important cultural or historic sites to acquire, other projects outside of existing Stark Parks services – see previous plan pages 81-84) **I would sell locations we aren't currently using or have upcoming plans to develop. Ex. Gatehouse, School House, Molly, etc. Would love to see more green initiatives utilized at the parks.**

Are you aware of any growing requests for programs and/or activities? If so, what are they?

What I hear most is that people are interested in more nature programming, diversity in our program offering times and days of the week. For someone like me and most of my friends, I enjoy evening and weekend family programs, especially those around viewing wildlife. I hear this comment pretty often, but we hang out with a lot of working parents 😊

2. Please reflect on the proposed recommendations from the previous 5-Year Plan (see pages 65-80). Are there areas of the plan you think still need work to be completed? Are there any new recommendations that you would like to see? (Please be as specific as possible).
 - Signage continues to be an area where we need to focus. The directional signage is improving we just need to build it out to the rest of the park and then start on interpretive or educational signage.
 - The land acquisition and trail connection program is moving along very well and we always seem to make progress here (though as we move into the tail end of the trail plan those connections are usually more challenging and take longer). Our to do list here is pretty straightforward and the priorities are created as we have public interest and are able to find funding.
 - I think most would agree there is a lot we can continue to provide with amenities: flushable restrooms, kiosks with maps and directions, drinking fountains, dog waste stations, playgrounds, nature play areas, shelters and other creative outdoor spaces.
 - New recommendations: Reinforce the idea that we are part of the economic development component for our county and region. Too often parks are overlooked as the reason people move to an area or neighborhood, as an element that creates a huge impact on people's quality of life, a mental and physical

health resource and one of the few spaces left to the public where they can relax. Along those lines, I think Stark Parks has great opportunity to use these public spaces to maximize the economic impact of its neighbors and partners. Park spaces next to shopping centers, for example the case of Tam O'Shanter Golf Course (slated to be partially commercially developed and the large amount of the acreage to remain green space) could benefit from shared planning to create a really customer/family friendly destination that makes the commercial and public space more valuable. Similar examples exist at Gervasi Vineyard along the Middlebranch Trail and Lake Ave Trailhead on the Towpath with Ernie's bikeshop. More of these public private partnerships create really vibrant and popular spaces that very well may be the places you recommend to your out of town family friends. Or to those guests in town for Hall of Fame.

3. Have you received any complaints or suggested improvements from the public on any park-related matters?

- I have the great opportunity of hearing from Stark County residents daily if not weekly. Most of the comments I hear are positive or of an upkeep and maintenance issue. Part of this is education on what park and greenspaces should look like and part of the improvement for Stark Parks can be helped by better maintenance tracking systems. Almost all could be changed with a little change in our mindset – we are great at moving on to the next big project, but would be well-served to really clean things up and wrap up our loose ends before rushing on to build something new.

4. Are there any marketing/public outreach opportunities that you feel are being missed (see previous plan pages 60-62)? Are there any target groups that you feel are not being adequately reached? If so, are there any recommendations for improvements that you would suggest?

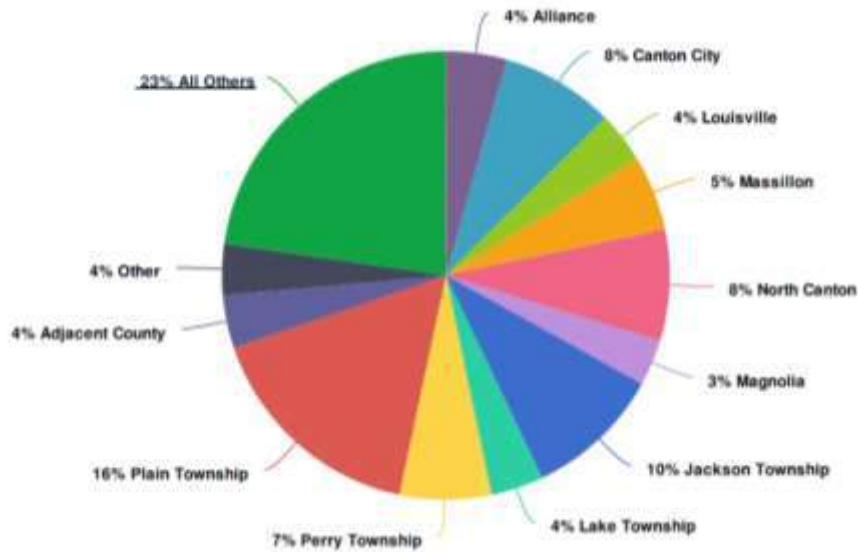
- I would say our connection with SARTA or some kind of public transportation equivalent would be an item that is still on the table. We haven't been able to justify the traffic to SARTA to get the parks on their routes, which we can understand, but is a total bummer. If we could at least get the Exploration Gateway, with the library partnership, bike smart etc. on their route, we would consider that a huge win. Maybe it's time to consider other options: a partnership with Uber or Lyft? I don't have the answer, but one of the most important challenges I feel we face (that we haven't sufficiently addressed or focused on) is getting the inner city communities, and those who have transportation issues to our free resources. In fact, we've been challenged to even access these communities to see what they want. Our surveys usually reach our users or friends of users or at best those who have ready access to internet, transportation and are well connected to what Stark County has to offer. We would love help, direction and some priority in this area.

5. Looking towards the future, are there any other topics that Stark Parks should consider?

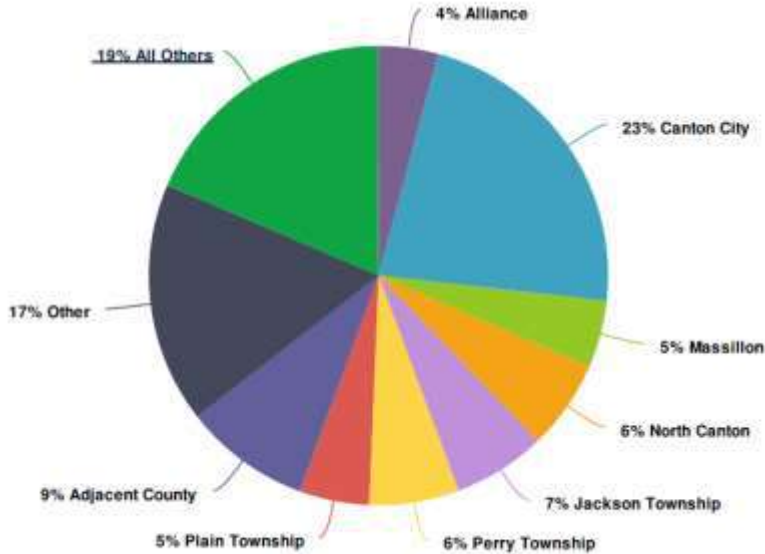
(ex: land/park acquisitions or sales, important cultural or historic sites to acquire, other projects outside of existing Stark Parks services – see previous plan pages 81-84)

Stark Parks Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023 Online Public Survey Results

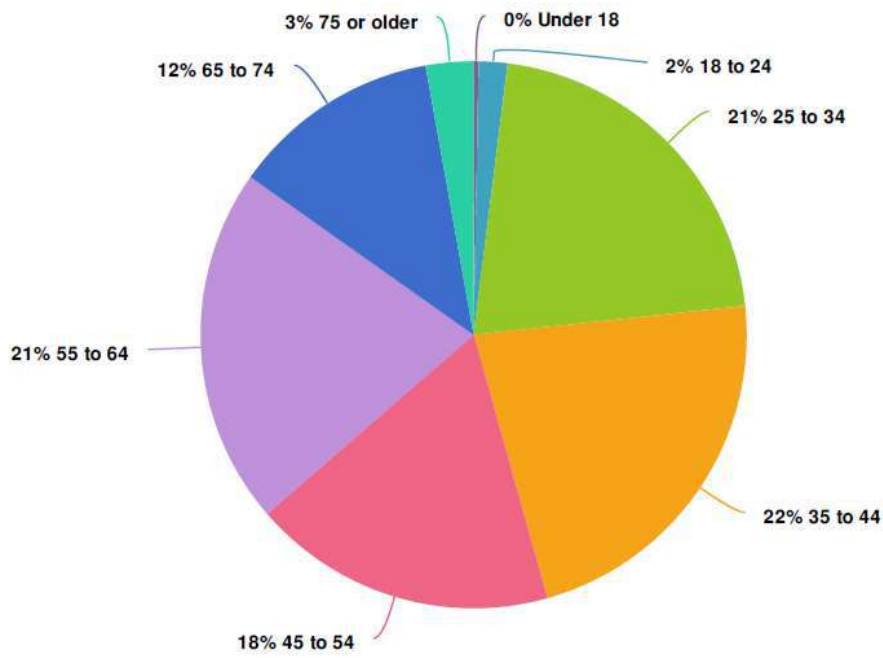
1. What city, village or township do you LIVE in?



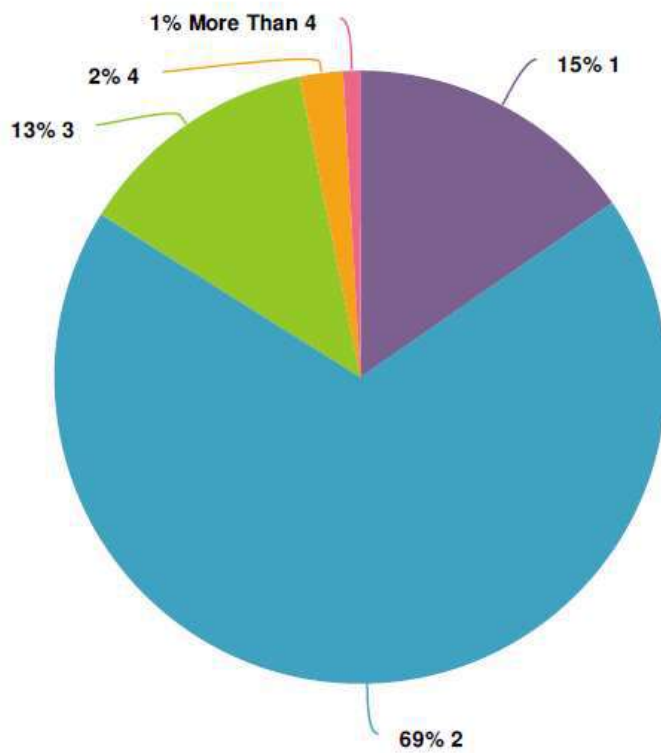
2. What city, village, or township do you WORK in?



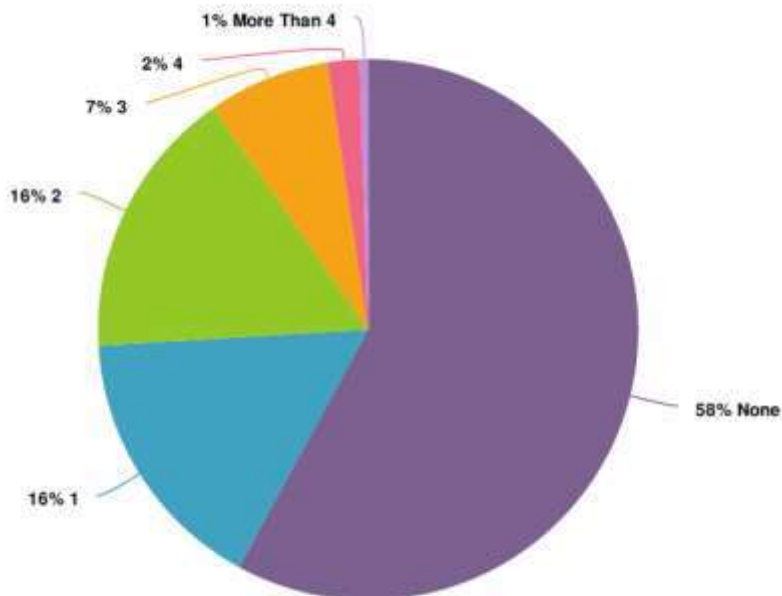
3. What is your age?



4. How many adults (age 18 or older) live in your household?



5. How many children (age 17 or younger) live in your household?



6. What is your impression of the Stark County Park District? Please select the rating that best represents your overall impression, as well as your satisfaction in each of the categories listed.

	Good/Excellent	Average	Poor	Don't Know
Overall Satisfaction with Stark Parks	86.2%	9.6%	2.5%	1.8%
General Condition of Facilities	82.1%	12.6%	2.0%	3.4%
Cleanliness of Facilities	79.6%	13.8%	2.3%	4.3%
Helpfulness of Staff	66.4%	8.6%	1.1%	24.0%
Safety and Security	70.0%	18.5%	2.5%	9.0%
Recreational Opportunities Available	69.9%	21.9%	4.1%	4.1%

7. Please tell us how often you participated in the following activities at a Stark County Park District facility in the PAST YEAR.

	One or more times per week	Once or twice a month	A few times during the year	I'm interested, but did not participate this year	I'm not interested in this activity
Hiking/Walking/Jogging	32.9%	26.5%	27.2%	8.9%	4.6%
Bicycling on a Paved or Gravel Path	14.7%	15.5%	22.1%	28.1%	19.6%
Mountain Biking	6.6%	4.0%	8.3%	25.6%	55.5%
Horseback Riding	1.1%	1.5%	1.5%	28.3%	67.7%
Birdwatching	6.4%	7.8%	16.8%	23.9%	45.2%
Wildlife Viewing/Photography	8.2%	12.2%	22.8%	28.5%	28.3%
Fishing	3.5%	4.9%	16.0%	31.7%	43.9%
Paddling (Canoeing/Kayaking/Paddleboarding)	2.3%	8.5%	19.6%	49.4%	20.2%
Motor Boating	1.3%	1.3%	6.4%	40.7%	50.4%
Winter Sports (Skiing, Sledding, Snow Shoeing, Etc.)	1.6%	3.1%	11.5%	43.6%	40.1%
Geocaching/Questing	1.7%	1.5%	7.0%	26.4%	63.4%
Camping (Walk-In Sites)	1.1%	1.1%	5.9%	45.9%	46.1%
Picnicking	2.0%	8.4%	42.2%	33.8%	13.6%
Nature/Educational Programming	2.2%	5.5%	28.4%	45.8%	18.1%
Recreational/Adventure Programs	1.7%	3.7%	20.3%	51.4%	23.0%
Guided Hikes	1.3%	2.8%	7.6%	50.6%	37.8%
Touring Historic Buildings	1.6%	2.0%	19.0%	59.0%	18.3%
Special Event at a Park Facility	1.3%	6.9%	36.0%	40.0%	15.8%

8. If you participated in an activity at a Stark County Park District facility in the past year that was not listed in the previous question, please write it in below. Also, please state how often you participated in this activity (a few times per year, once/twice per month, once/twice per week).

I participate in disc golf at which ever parks that have a course at them. I play at least 5 times a week pretty in the spring, summer and fall. Winter I throw 2 times a week.

I played disc golf in all the parks ranging from 3-5 times a week for a year straight. Disc golf is growing, get on that train it's helps the community and parks alike.

Disc golf, several times a week, year round!

Disc golf. A few times a week.

Wish there was DISC GOLF!!!!

Disc golf in Massillon and Canton, once/twice per week.

Disc golf.....at least 3 to 4 times a week . would lime to see disc golf at sippo lake. Its one of the fastest growing sports currently

Disc Golf - 1-2 times per week

Dog Walking about twice month

Summer Serenade programs

I've played numerous Disc Golf Tournaments at the parks. They have been fantastic!

A number of disc golf tournaments hosted by the Stark County Disc Golf Association.

Disc golfing- once/twice per week

I play disc golf at county courses. I live in Warren, Ohio but I travel and play the course as several times a year. Particularly the tournament events. Sometimes casual play during the summer.

I disc golf at least once a week. I did this activity twice a month in your parks

Disc golf. 3 or 4 times a werk

Disc golf once/twice per week.

I disc golf about 4 times a week! If I can get in any other time I do but 4 is my average.

I enjoy Disc golf with the stark county disc golf association. They hold events weekly that bring in players from all over the state

Disc golf, casually play a few times every month, occasionally play Friday night league, plus competed in several events.

Disc Golf, once/twice per week

Disc Golf once/twice per week

Need more disc golf. Every park with space should have disc golf #growthesport

Disc Golf, normally I play a couple times every week, but because of a recent injury, i've only been able to go out and play when possible.

Discgolf, once/twice per week

9. Please tell us how satisfied you were with your outdoor recreation experiences at Stark County Park District facilities in the past year. If you did not participate, please check "NOT APPLICABLE". If you were "SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED" OR "VERY DISSATISFIED" with any of the activities, please explain in Question 10 below.

	Satisfied/ Very Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Not Applicable
Hiking/Walking/Jogging	41.2%	6.1%	0.7%	10.8%
Bicycling on a Paved or Gravel Path	27.5%	3.5%	1.8%	39.8%
Mountain Biking	9.4%	3.2%	1.1%	77.0%
Horseback Riding	2.6%	1.3%	0.6%	93.1%
Birdwatching	17.9%	2.2%	0.2%	61.9%
Wildlife Viewing/Photography	22.7%	3.0%	0.4%	51.3%
Fishing	11.7%	4.1%	0.9%	71.6%
Paddling (Canoeing/Kayaking/Paddleboarding)	17.5%	1.1%	0.4%	63.4%
Motor Boating	5.0%	1.1%	0.2%	88.8%
Winter Sports (Cross-Country Skiing, Sledding, Snow Shoeing, Etc.)	8.5%	2.4%	0.2%	80.5%
Geocaching/Questing	6.7%	1.1%	0.4%	85.1%
Camping (Walk-In)	3.3%	1.7%	0.6%	91.2%
Picnicking	26.8%	2.2%	0.2%	44.0%
Nature/Educational Programming	19.4%	1.9%	0.9%	58.5%
Recreational/Adventure Programs	15.2%	2.3%	0.8%	66.7%
Guided Hikes	8.4%	1.3%	0.4%	81.6%
Touring Historic Buildings	13.4%	1.3%	0.9%	71.0%
Special Event at a Park Facility	22.2%	1.5%	0.4%	53.8%

10. If you found yourself "SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED" or "VERY DISSATISFIED" with any of the activities listed above, please explain your dissatisfaction below.

No place to do winter activities in Canal Fulton. No walk-in camps exist in Canal Fulton. Not enough educational programs in Canal Fulton. Would like to see more programs collaborated with the Canal Fulton Canalway Center.

I have walked a couple trails, but the one in North Canton near the old Hoover Building is confusing to me. I don't feel there is enough signage to show where one is supposed to go when it gets into a neighborhood and becomes a sidewalk.

Very dissatisfied!! The mill in magnolia is an embarrassment to the village I wish Stark Parks would move out and let someone actually run the place so the town can enjoy it. Magnolia is a clean town that doesn't need to be brought down by Stark Parks!

The walking trails are covered with bird poop and not very well maintained.

Would like Stark Parks to be comparable to Metro Parks

cleaner facilities such as bathrooms

The bike path in Stadium park doesn't go very far. The portion that goes through Mother Goose Land feels abandoned. Stadium park is covered in goose droppings.

I didnt mark so, but would like to see the boat ramp open more months at Berlin Lake

The area was not maintained very well, there were bee hives under the tables and the trash cans were overflowing at the park by Glen Oak High School

Cleanliness, mostly

The geese make a mess so it isn't an enjoyable walk. Also, there isn't a sense of being safe. I work right across from a park where it would be nice to be able to eat lunch. Nobody here will walk across the street to it because nobody feels safe.

Would really like to have a few nights in the summer at Walborn for night fishing.

trail was not maintained, had large puddles of water

I got tired of the hikes, the leaders walked way ahead and didn't engage much with all participants. If you weren't a regular, you were pretty much on your own.

I've noticed many trails where vegetation has been cut back. While I understand it is necessary sometimes, the result is unsightly and the grounds crew butcher the trails. It makes the trails look terrible. I would also like to see more areas of Cultural Resource Management and recovery wherever possible.

There aren't many options for motor boats.

Would like more options to camp. An RV campsite would really be enjoyed! Thanks!

Loss of equestrian trails and lack of equestrian trails.

We mostly go for playgrounds. Many need newer equipment and upkeep. Need more to do for kids. Restroom facilities aren't great at most.

I wish there were more parks and trails near my area. Overall I love your park system. It has great trails that we can have dogs on and the kids enjoy it.

Very limited fishing and boating . Some gravel path in need of repair. Very limited safety personnel. No adult " playground" areas such as step gliders

Not really dissatisfied but wanted to mention, some of the areas that have gravel have too much and when riding bikes, it's easy to lose your balance. Also, horse do do on trails, even though signs say to keep to the right.

The staff is great but I would like to see more types of historical programs.

No walking paths in alliance closer to Marlinton. Have to go clear to Louisville. Would like something done with Molly Stark Park. Geocaching is fun, but often nothing is found.

The trails themselves are very nice. The connectivity between neighborhoods and communities to the park assets is lacking. If you must load up bikes or people in order to go for a walk, then that simply cuts down on the amount of times most people will use the assets. It would be nice to simply access a trail from the neighborhood that leads to other larger Stark Park locations.

There are not very many options where we live. And Molly Start is not a great place to take my kids. Metzgers is better.

Fishing could be better

Not enough biking trails on gravel or paved in my area.

Maintenance of trails is lacking in parts they are dangerous. We know several people that have fallen on there bikes. Lots of puddles after a rain.

With the using boats for fishing I feel that allowing boaters on the water after dark for night fishing would be a nice thing. You could bring more people to the parks and really bring more enjoyment to the community. I will fish these parks during the day but will go to Berlin to fish at night as it will get me away from some of the people for my kids to enjoy night fishing away from some of the people who don't act very adult like while out I'd like to see longer trails that connect up with other parts of a trail system. I know there's a long term plan in place, but right now, the trails in the south end of the county seem limited.

Wife and I both ride Recumbent trikes Our derailleurs are only 2 inches from ground Stones from trails get caught in chain We have rode all over the state Stark county in our book is the worst for conditions for surface Stark needs more asphalt trails More skaters could use them along with wheel chair people Talk to Summit county parks(Metroparks) Just rode the Freedom last week Timothy M Barr Tbarr5@neo.rr.com

I wish Petros would have more fish . We fished there many times for hours and never caught a fish. We also love sledding there and ran into a closed gate a few times

Not enough miles of horse trails, not challenging enough horse trails, poor enforcement of keeping other user groups off horse-only trails (ie: ATVs at Whitacre Greer).

Not enough options, or don't know the activities even exist. Not enough advertising.

Your horseback riding areas are in poor condition, Quail Hollow, hardly any parking area for rigs. Only one hitching rail and a mounting block in very poor condition, no toilets available, #2 went to Walbourn, horse area is smaller, trails washing out from lake, disappointed, #3 went to Whitacre Greer, trails in bad shape, parking area in poor condition, roads into area in very bad shape, and last one I tried was towpath, you put horseback right next to railbed, hikers don't get spooked by trains , So why isn't that trail next to the tracks? My conclusion

is that your trying to push us out by neglect of our areas. Bikers have all the available trails and they still ride on the road and cause problems.

When fishing we didn't catch anything

Type of volunteer work.

the parks themselves need to have more attention applied to them

Incomplete trails

I would like to see more fishing lakeside sites at Sippo Lake. would need to clear out more areas and set up more picnic benches. Just about every time I fish there, the tables are in use.

Would like more advanced programs geared to adults with an interest in nature, science, conservation, animal rehab, etc. I also think it's especially important to focus on education regarding litter/pollution prevention, recycling, conservation etc.

My experience at Sippo Lake Park left me feeling like I was in a city park and not a nature focused park. The park is attractive and much has been done, but the habitat has been disturbed to the point where the wildlife and birding have suffered. The biking trail is fairly wide to accommodate foot and bike travel, but there aren't any more trails left that are narrow to give one the sense of being "in" nature. One needs to feel the natural ground beneath ones feet sometimes! There used to be some very large trees about where the library is now. I would see baby great horned owls there. Sometimes, nature is best when left to its own with minimal maintenance. I hope the park can recover. Also, for serious bike riding, the trails are too short. It would be nice to see some longer bike trails in the area. I think a lot of people would take advantage of that.

Many of the bike trails need to be updated. Most other trails we have used in other counties are nearly or almost completely paved. They are more enjoyable and safer to ride. More and more, we have been driving out of the county to ride our bikes.

The trails can be pretty rough at times. It would be nice to see some more paved areas. The spring flooding can be hard to keep up with.

Park areas for picknicking are not always kept clean. Not many additional programs are offered in my area. Love walking on the trails in the Stark Parks but there needs to be something done to inforce the " no dogs allowed on paths", where there are clearly stated signs. Also the geese at several parks are just terrible and make a huge mess and smell.

Vandals frequently deface or destroy park property.

Not dissatisfied but I believe you should plant more trees for more shade in our parks.

Well I was never dissatisfied or very dissatisfied but one thing I noticed on some trails is that there is a lot of overgrowth that could be cut back.

Some of the bike paths that are covered with gravel are very loose and it makes it difficult to ride if you have skinny tires. I ride more up in summit county because all of their bike paths are paved.

There needs to be a better system for marking hiking trails. I easily got lost hiking at Walborn Reservoir. Maps of the hiking trails should be made available at each park that are relevant to that specific park.

When walking on trails, persons in groups of 2-3 do not know or bother to move over. They continue to walk abreast, making the person walking the opposite way to have to get off the trail. Also persons walking and texting and not paying attention to surroundings or other persons. It is sad that signage would need posting to eliminate these behaviors, but may be a necessary evil.

Not the best experiences fishing at sippo. Disrespectful patrons, lots of litter and we never seem to catch anything there

We are concerned about bicycle riders in the Hoover Trail. Riding extremely fast and close to walkers w/o making themselves known. Also since the trail has quite a few curves that u can't see if anyone is coming. we're worried that these fast bike riders may run into a walker or mom pushing a stroller who can't quickly get out of the way

"No Fishing" signs were not posted at Whitacre Park and the ranger told my son-in-law and grandson that they could not fish unless they had permission from the owner of the property. This is a PUBLIC PARK that is funded by taxpayer money.....so there should be fishing or no fishing at all. Now there are signs posted, but my grandson was very upset and still talks about this two years later. In addition, a park that is ONLY equestrian is not a good use of space, once again, for a public park that is funded by taxpayer money, but can only use utilized for the few that own horses. There should also be walking paths available for those who do not have horses. Other paths in the area are used for both (Zoar/Bolivar trail).

At Walborn, horse trails are clearly marked, but more often than not, riders will use the hiking trails, which tear up and muddy them. Stricter enforcement would be appreciated. Since Stark Parks took over the park, the trails have been very well maintained, despite the renegade horse riders.

Gravel Trails for Runners/Walkers need to be better maintained (overgrown in areas, weeds in areas). It would also be nice to have the main trails somehow connect for longer runs.

Too many shorelines are overgrown and unavailable for fishing access. Areas that were great fishing spots 5 years ago are completely overgrown now and shore access has become limited. Petros Lake used to be open most of the way around if you were willing to climb down the rocks, now the rocks are so overgrown that you can't get near the water except for one shoreline. Same thing applies at Sippos, Walborn, and Berlin. Winter activities are weather dependent but wish towpath trails were dressed when snow covered and had a more year-round surface to ride on.

Not able to tour any of the building people wanna tour. Its a joke you cant even get close to take pictures. The whole idea of this place is a joke tours of historical buildings oh wait your not aloud to even get within 100 feet of the builidnh any one cares about you wanna make money charge money. To go let people buy permits and sign wavers . but nope that would only make since.

I never knew there were horseback riding options available.

Could the weeds at Petros Park along the trail be mowed back more I feel it is a safety issue for those of us walking alone

May not have participated. And more security at a few trails is recommended

I think the money spent on the trails that Stark Parks wants to put into a walking trail that winds from Magnolia to Waynesburg to beyond into other locations is a waste of money. I walk the existing trails and very rarely see others utilizing them so when I hear about a "vision" to connect these cities with a limited use activity trail, I wouldn't spend the Bucks unless you allowed horses on it too, but I know the Stark Parks leadership doesn't like horses. He needs to look at what CLE Metroparks has done with shared trails for all users . Bike, hike and horse!

I wish there were more opportunities and more programs for nature education.

I think the markings of hiking trails could be much better. You have trails that stop and start at odd places. You need to have trails do a complete loop (start and stop at the parking lot). Instead you have many mini trails that encompass one complete trail. One doesn't know what the total mileage of a trail actually is. You need to look at Summit Metro Parks for guidance.

Adventure and Guided hikes seemed to be lacking or Completely for beginners

Graffiti and trash on newly open to public trail. I've always used the trail for horseback riding. It's always been nice however once it was officially opened up to public, people have been riding bikes/ 4 wheelers leaving trash and graffiti in their wake. It's a shame a few ruin it for all.

None and I emphasize the NONE of the activities available to all other parts of Stark County are available to us in Paris township without driving. It is a shameful comment on Stark Parks.

Basing my review on the Stark Park in Magnolia only: This park and canal is pitiful. What was once the sight of a beautiful mill pond now sits an EYESORE of overgrown weeds and muck! Stark Parks should be ASHAMED to have their name attached to this property if it is constantly put on the back burner for maintenance. We see the mill building being painted but our community would love to see our beautiful park and mill pond become a priority for our community. Don't go buying properties of you can't make the time, funding and resources available to adequately maintain them. It's shameful.

My main comment is there is an area in Minerva that could use an extension of the bike/jogging trail for safety purposes. It would also aid in linking the rural area to an easier access to bicycle or jog into town.

A bit bothered by the geese droppings on the tracks....

Trail completion (Nickleplate) being controlled by a few greedy, ignorant people only interested in themselves. This rail to trail infrastructure would bring national attention if developed. Canton (Stark Co.) is #33 of 50 worst cities in America! We need movement for betterment including Rt 30 & 62 completions. Eminent domain should be forced if no compromise can be made for work arounds and fencing. Oil/gas must do this constantly for the betterment of all. Monies promised for this development are being spent elsewhere leading to future levy distrust. Maintenance of existing trails is a disgrace compared to surrounding park systems. Stark county planning is an oxymoron somehow justifying complete inaction, especially in Louisville.

The biking hiking trails sound be in better condition. Gravel is either much too course or or much too fine (and very deep on SipposValley Trail). Cross walks need to placed where the trail crosses the road. Route 93 intersections with different trails is just plain dangerous. More of the trails could be paved.

Would love to be able to see inside Molly Stark. After remediation, the park should start ghost hunts on the property (even if they start out in a small area until the rest of the areas are safe). Stark Parks could make so much money with the draw for events such as this. (Similar to Mansfield reformatory and Transallegheny lunatic Asylum.) The building is a gem and will draw visitors from all across the US if and when this type of opportunity becomes available.

wish there were more trails in Lake Township

Very disappointed in the land grab that this agency attempts. I value our local park system, but there comes a time where your actions are greedy. You no longer value local agricultural. Why do you think your agency is better equipped to manage the land than american farmers?

The middlebranch trail is in terrible shape for biking; and in general, biking opportunities in Stark County are substandard

I am very dissatisfied with having to ride a bicycle on gravel paths in Stark County, all of the surrounding counties have asphalt paved paths. It's sad that I have to drive 30 minutes or more to get to a safe bicycle path. Gravel or crushed stone is not safe to ride a bicycle on, especially on hills.

I have not been on the trail because of the attack

flooding causes frequent damage to the bike path in the Canal Fulton area. Repairs need to be made to avoid possible injury.

The condition of the Towpath Trail is an embarrassment. It is extremely rocky, uneven, and generally unsafe.

Everyone I have spoken to feels the same way. It's astonishing that Stark Parks has not addressed this yet.

I was very dissatisfied that the connector walk from Bellview to Easton on the northeast side of Market was eliminated as part of the widening. Making communities walkable apparently not taken into consideration.

Fishing, people leave hooks and lines out at portage a lot.

It would be nice to have more snowshoes available

The maintenance at the park in Avondale is horrible. The mowing sucks and every time they mow the damage the disc golf baskets. The grass is let go to long then brush hogged to make a mess. Dead trees that were marked for removal years ago still standing. Weeds the size of trees growing around ponds. Worst park around by far.

Do disc golf at some of the big state parks

Would like to see a much better large mouth bass fishery at petros, sippo, and walborn.

Horseback Riding get kicked off the towpath then the gravel area only place to go is on the other side of the county The cycles should get the same treatment Horses were on the towpath way before them and with the bicycle they try to bump into you while on foot too Get them off of the towpath before someone gets hurt I got bumped in the back of my leg and side I was on the side of the path even

Geocaching. I did not see any geocaching in a few parks of yours. I will be placing some in your park but I would have thought there would be more

I love the Massillon lincon Park because the hole thing is kept up very nicely! Canton, Arb needs some work, and so does Louisville, Wild wood park !

I have been somewhat dissatisfied with the large scale tree removal at some of the parks, Lincoln Park and Wildwood Park in particular. Many trees that appeared healthy were taken down with others that are clearly dead or have large dead branches are left standing. They greatly impact the disc golf courses when they are removed and hurt the quality of the courses when removed on such a large scale.

Other - Write In	Count
ATV/Dirt Bike Trails	1
Additional staff and volunteers monitoring trails for illegal activities.	1
Adult/Kid fitness areas/programs in one	1
Affordable & easier rental of facility	1
After hours boat ramps for night time fishing	1
Archery range	1
Art classes focusing on nature drawing/art	1
Better management and maintenance of what you already have	1
Better programing with city and township parks/recreation departments so we are not getting the same old, same old from all organizations - POOL RESOURCES and FINANCES! You can offer more if you all did not have your independent silos of ownership or operation.	1
Better ramp at Deercreek	1
Bird watching stations with education	1
Expansion of Trails	1
Facilities and trails in Paris Township. Currently there are virtually none. As far as Stark Parks is concerned, Paris Township and Minerva are step-children.	1
I think there should be seperate trails for bicyclists. There are many blind areas on trail on the Gervasi side and I've seen near accidents involving cyclerists/pedestrians.	1
I would like to see the parks have better playground areas and more recreational sport fields, flag football, basketball, tennis, and soccer fields. I also feel like the parks could benefit from having full hook up camping	1
Improved Playground equipment/more playground equipment	1
Iron horse trail extended to Minerva	1
Maintain what you have, leave private property owners alone.	1

Moe diverse sporting activity options	1
More access to food along the trails. Some of the more rural areas don't seem to have this near the trails.	1
More benches along trails	1
More bicycling	1
More bikes through bike smart program, there are no bikes in north canton. Only plain local and canton.	1
More cultural/historic resources that have been recoverd	1
More mile and half mile markers	1
More picnic tables in general	1
More security patrols	1
More small shelters along trails so if you get stuck in the rain you don't get soaked. Nothing huge just the size of the ones with the trail maps and the little roof over it.	1
More trash cans along trails	1
More trash cans for doggie bags. I walk my dog often and if there are more trash cans available there is much less dog "waste" on the trails.	1
More visible presence of Rangers and other security personell.	1
Mountain biking trails	1
Nature education for kids, ages 5-16	1
Paddling access and rental on berlin resevoir	1
Paved bicycle trails like all of the other counties.	1
Photo opportunities	1
Playgrounds/splash pad	1
Remove/dredge lilly pads at Sippo lake	1
Repair lock	1
Safe trails	1
Safety Personnel	1
Security	1
Security, being single, I am a bit fearful to be on trails or other areas alone	1
Splash pad	1
Spray for Poison Ivy	1
Swimming pool	1
Trails open 24/7 like greenway in Lisbon so people that work 2nd and 3rd shift can also enjoy them on their nights off or use them for actual transportation back and forth to work	1
Training bikers to better share the trails with walkers.	1
Trash containers on trails	1
Upkeep playgrounds and more for kids	1
Walking paths near Marlinton HS	1
Water Park	1
Wider trail network that is part of neighborhoods and communities that links to existing trails within Stark Parks	1
Would like to see more free bikes near the Canal Way and Hoover Trail.	1
YES TO DOG PARKS	1
Zip lines, toboggan trails.	1
Zip-lines	1
children's nature play areas	1
longer trails would always be nice, though I don't know if it's possible. Species diversity along trails.	1
more mountain bike trails like Qual Hollow	1
no smoking on trails	1
sledding in the winter	1
splash pad in Sandy Valley area	1
trash cans, covered bridge trail	1
winter activities - sled riding, tubing, etc	1
Totals	66

11. What do you believe are the most pressing needs for outdoor recreation opportunities/ programming in Stark County? If a need is not listed, please write it in. Choose no more than three.

Top 5 Results = Better Trail Connectivity (43.8%); Restrooms & Water Fountains at Trails (41.7%); Better Trail Maintenance (23.1%); More Multi-Use trails (22.2%); and Adult Fitness/Wellness Programs (21.2%)

Need	Percent
Better Trail Maintenance	23.10%
Better Trail Connectivity	43.80%
More Multi-Use Trails	22.20%
More Equestrian-Only Trails	3.40%
More Directional & Informational Signs	15.50%
Restrooms & Water Fountains at Trails	41.70%
Flush Restrooms	18.60%
Better Maintained Facilities	7.10%
Handicapped Accessibility	4.80%
More Paddling Access	9.90%
More Fishing Access	7.60%
More Launch Ramps/Boat Access	5.20%
More Picnic Shelters	11.70%
More Nature/Educational Programming	12.50%
More Recreational/Adventure Programming	11.50%
More Guided Hikes	6.70%
More Camping Sites	11.40%
Additional Staff	7.10%
Disc Golf Courses	12.70%
Recreational Equipment for Rent or Borrow	14.70%
Adult Fitness/Wellness Programs	21.20%
Dog Parks	19.00%
Other - Write In	16.20%

12. For the outdoor recreation/programming options selected in Question 11, please explain why you believe your selections are pressing needs in Stark County.

Would be nice to have (especially at Fry F. Park) more children's options to get families there. For example: climbing log stumps, etc. like at Beech Creek Butterfly Garden.

It feels like where there is a dog park there is community. Veteran's Park in Plain Twp is PACKED with people.

They are in the dog park but they are also all around the park on the trails, etc.

Trails getting crowded, would like to see more trails. Trails maintained ok, but sometimes seems take a long time to repair or remove down trees and branches. Flush restrooms would be nicer, wife doesn't care for port-a-johns.

The more varied activities the more participation.

Aging population. Ease of entrance to trails.

I wish the trails at the Fry Park were gravel. It would make it easier to push my child's stroller when I want to go walking/hiking with him.

The mill has been open to the community for years and now is closed and looks terrible

some of these change may attract more people to the parks

With small children, the importance of bathrooms and available water is very high. They also love to play before/after hikes.

Better trail connectivity allows for longer bike rides and hikes, which will increase trail use.

Our trails are great, but more off road trails would be safer and family friendly. Obviously, these take time to develop and are in progress but I look forward to the day where I can explore most if not all of Stark County via trail.

Keeping the grounds beautiful represents excellence in our community and encourages our community to get outside, be physically active, and enjoy nature. When facilities are poorly maintained or don't feel safe, it is a deterrent.

I clean up after my dog, but would like a receptacle for the waste bags.

Because there are many nice parks and trails, but many are disconnected from each other. Would use more if I could travel throughout the County without getting off trails.

Need options close to home

Need more information on camping sites

Programming for our schools and please send information about programs to our schools (all schools in the county not just the public ones).

Aging community

It encourages general well-being

I feel that there is a need for communities to be connected to each other to allow for them to interact. It's very nice to be able to go from Canal Fulton to Navarre without having to deal with many street crossings. More dog friendly parks would be appreciated too.

We would attempt to visit the Urichsville water park a few times in the summer but unfortunately it is an hour away. The price was affordable as opposed to Kalahari, etc. The distance kept us from visiting more often. If Stark had a water park similar or better than Urichsville, and moderately priced, I believe it would draw many patrons.

They would increase use for everyone

The cleanliness of facilities is not only important for better health, but is more attractive than somewhere not well kept. Flush toilets I feel is part of the cleanliness and better maintenance. Dog parks would be convenient for those with dogs to go and be around others where there aren't people scared or annoyed by our animals.

It would bring more people to the parks. There are some beautiful sites but safety is a big factor. Also, there is so much land being used for new construction. We seem to be more interested in construction than we are in green space and forcing existing vacant building sites be used for new construction to get rid of blight.

None currently available to my knowledge.

Better Trail Connectivity- This would allow distance runners to continue along a trail for a longer period of time and avoid roadways, and different sections of trails could be used to run rather than going to the same location because it offers a longer course. Also, trails could be used to walk/run/bike to different destinations rather than driving Restroom & Water Fountain at Trails- The convenience of having restrooms and water fountains at a trail is a huge benefit. When these are not available, things can head south fast. More picnic shelters- With the availability of more picnic shelters, larger numbers of people could use the areas for parties throughout the year. Adult Fitness/Wellness Programs- Adult activities are becoming more and more popular. I think there would be a lot of interest in having sports leagues and group fitness activities throughout the year. Dog Park- This would provide another place for dog owners to take their pets.

connectivity of trails allows for more hiking options

I get lost easily & as a member should get a rental discount

People need places that are well maintained for their dogs to play and socialize

People are relieving themselves around trails, leaving to get water, and not sure where to turn on trails (like Quail Hollow)

General needs for any visitor.

More trails, especially ones that connect, mean better variety and more people that will want to explore. For our family, we like variety in scenery and trail length. As for CRM attractions, recovering historic property sparks interest with many people, plus it's a great way to potentially employ local people who specialize in CRM work and want to preserve the past for the future. Summit Metro Parks already does this.

Education and group events create better communities

I'd like to see the maintenance of the trails continue to be a high priority. Great work has been done on the Massillon-Dalton trail. You made it safer and easier to ride and run. We love Stark Parks! Keep up the good work!

Biking on the Towpath is difficult when the trail is too rough. Porta-johns need to be cleaned/ emptied more often especially after special events. Access to drinking water would be great!

I haven't seen these at the parks I frequent.

Portapotties= yuck! Love the bike program but want to explore some new trails. There is a great need for free info and opportunities for exercise as our population is more unhealthy.

A network of connected trails is vital to connecting communities. Plus, more options and longer trails (variety) keep people interested and active! Especially in need of loop trails

Have seen suspicious possibly illegal activity on towpath trail. Would appreciate more evening guided hikes.

Restrooms and drinking fountains, especially at trail heads.

More trails provides more opportunities for our community to exercise and use non vehicle transportation
Adult wellness is important to me. I do a lot of camping with my dog and that is what makes me most happy! I think a dog friendly RV Park would help make Stark County a destination! Thanks!

Deer Creek is a beautiful place to fish, however, the boat ramp could be improved.

They reflect my interests.

I think we should have some parks that have outside workout equipment. As a working mother, I don't want to spend my evening at a gym away from my child, so having some outdoor workout equipment at the parks would be amazing. It would be beneficial to parents and promote healthy habits to children.

Over development of rural areas and too much high-speed traffic on roadways has severely limited the trails available for equestrians. There seems to be a greater emphasis on creating more trails for mountain bikers who have a reputation for not being horse-savvy and creating dangerous situations.

Trails like the West Branch trail just end at the creek in the north end, if it instead could be extended across creek and on past Cleveland Ave, connecting it to either Hoover or Middlebranch trails

Great need for fun places for kids to play and explore. Need more interactive play

NE Ohio lacks adequate, affordable, ATV and Dirt Bike riding facilities. Bear Creek costs \$20/day per person.

Other facilities nearby require memberships.

Having safe places in nature to explore, learn and stay healthy are a great asset to our communities.

I know the Frye park is newer but it is the one I use the most. Just wondering if there is any security there (because it is so far out..). And bathrooms instead of a porta potty would be nice.

there are many families in Stark County And I see a lot of them at parks. More picnic tables is better for picnics, more restrooms especially ones that flush are good for everyone, but I know they have a downside and that they have to be staffed.

Our parks need to be as beautiful, useful, and fun as those to the north of us. The more programming the better. I think Nature is everything, and anything connected to nature is important...Also, I ride daily, and although I am very pleased with the trails, some of the crossings could be marked better for safety reasons and some bushes could be cut down for better visibility at the crossings. Single restrooms (with locks) are needed! The only restroom we have is at Ernie's Bike Shop.

More staff = more programming

The only one I know of is massillon city and it's poorly designed with a large hill to descend to get to the park

The advances of bike paths has been great. Expansion in this area would be great.

I believe that if people can rent and borrow equipment to try something new or for those without extra money to spend to participate in such recreations, people will become more active and healthy. Combining that with programs that teach fitness/wellness would make people feel better and that would extend into their families and out into the communities of Stark County.

Some of the trails are very open and far from facilities, need rest stops. Disc golf is only available at a few places. The ability to borrow a bike or other equipment enables more to fully utilize the parks/trails if they don't have a way to transport those items, or no way to own them.

IT has been proven in others area a good trail system brings in revenue. The more types of terrain including both trails to trails, towpath and parks like Whitaker Greer could add paying camping. Then this brings businesses supporting these campers etc. Watering a couple canals could provide some recreation fishing and boating also. The studies are out there. Just have to see what the Stark County area would support and if could bring in surrounding area residents.

Stark Parks has made incredible strides in the past 20-25 years. There are more and better opportunities than ever before. The main thing I feel is lacking is a trail network that extends out into the communities and neighborhoods to invite and guide people into the parks. North Canton has a wide network of trails that do this for its residents. In Perry Twp and other unincorporated areas this is less the case, except in some more affluent areas.

There are not many options for my area. There is no interest in our community from many sources. This is a beautiful area and the only park we have as an option is an abandoned old hospital. And it is creepy.

For those who have health issues or not able to make it a long distance- more clean restrooms would be nice. Also, the trails need to accommodate the walkers and the bicyclist without interfering with each other.

Need more access to water ways

I think more signs would be helpful, especially on the trails that follow roads. Restrooms and drinking fountains would be very nice.

I would like to see a trail connect from the neighborhood on the north side of route 62 (31st-35th St NE) to the trail that runs from Spangler all the way up to GlenOak HS. It would be nice to be able to access the trail from our neighborhood as opposed to either crossing 62 to get on at Spangler or going down Martindale Rd to Martindale park.

Esmont ark trail needs gravel

You cannot bike for long on the trails on the east side of the county. They are too short.

Fishing for the kids in my mind is a good way to keep kids out of trouble. More boating ramps and after hour boating ramps I feel will help others like me who have job boats who don't really want to be out on the big lakes with them competing against overly large boats makes us feel safer that way.

Because they will benefit so many people who use the parks.

These are the things I would like to see any parks system focus on.

Create healthy community options. Travel to Summit Co and CVNP for hiking and bicycling and programs. Draw traffic to to Stark Co. green space needed/valuable. Nature time.

Better connections would make them more practical for actual use for commuting from one place to another for work or pleasure.

The needs that I addressed are the ones that bring people to the parks for activities.

I would love to see another playground or splash pad in our area. Petros is amazing and I love to walk there but there is nothing for kids available . Same with Sippo. The Perry area really needs a splash pad or playground

I know we are out in nature, but there is poison ivy all over the place around the Boat House at the Sippo Lake.

The fitness and wellness especially..Im a personal trainer, so a little biased, but the trails are a great way to get people outside, and fitness is so important with the epidemic, alarming rates of population with weight and fitness problems. Even a simple chin up / pull up bar (few 4x4 posts, metal bar) placed on trails, push up stations ... I know a lot of the parks have exercise equipment, but it would be nice on the hiking trails as well... or ,at e a planned "ruck sack" hike ... or a kettlebell carry / hike / swing meet...

Flushing toilets are always better than a non flush one, and more trails would be great for walking and hiking.

They are most important to us.

There are so many shared trails, new comers are not confident sharing. Not everyone can go to a gym.

too few of dog parks. need more access to walking around the county.

Those are things that interest me.

The more trails the better and camping spots. Be nice to do a thru hike.

More pavilions to rent for events and birthday parties.

Hardly any equestrian trails and the only equestrian site is poorly maintained, #1 question, what did you do with all the money that OHC raised to maintain these trails? Your expensive signs were a waste of money. Cheap ribbon on trees do the same, or a dab of paint. Take a look at Silver Creek, Summit County area, and see how much better it is, than anything in Stark County. Probably, because you're not horse people.

I have little kids. You never know when they will need the restroom or spill their water!

There are already great programs but more would be fantastic!

A trailhead for middlebranch trail near or at Barr elementary would be nice. Currently a lot of people in that neighborhood cut through the school yard and cross the railroad tracks on an unofficial path.

Not enough trails. Dog parks are great. John Tltmas

Population control at the facilities

the existing parks themselves need to have more attention

I believe the trails would be used more overall if they connected to each other.

The incomplete trails limit my use

I would love to be able to walk from Kent State Stark to the North Canton trails.

Would like to see a dog park in the southern part of the county as there aren't any nearby. Still waiting for Fry

Family Park to be fully operational.

Today's focus on wellness

Trail connectivity to neighborhoods would increase trail use - - the Parks should continue to work with communities to expand and assure sidewalk access to and between trails.

The towpath from Lake to Canal Fulton is very rough and getting overgrown.

There are not many locations where someone with a canoe/kayak can easily enter the water. Most adults do not seem very educated on why conservation, pollution prevention, and care of natural resources is so vitally important. More adult fitness/wellness programs would help those trying to live a healthy lifestyle. Outdoor yoga/meditation, adult archery, kayaking, etc. would enhance health while enjoying the outdoors. Group activities are safer as well.

May not be pressing needs, but joint adventures and pooled resources between Stark Parks and the individual cities, villages and township can cut redundancies and offer more financial benefits to be able to offer a Stark County comprehensive parks and recreation program and facilities. Get the schools onboard as well! Lots of space is unused or under used that the public pays for!! Let's be smart about our resources to provide more!!

Please see the following parks and recreation program: <https://apexprd.org/about/>

Stark county, especially Canton, is fairly saturated with houses and retail. We need more green space. Just in Ohio, private ownership of land is over 90%. That leaves 10% for public access. We need to capitalize on protecting the environment and creating places for people to go to get away from city structures. Stark Parks will be acquiring Tam O'Shanter if all goes as planned. This can be an excellent opportunity to create more trails for hiking and biking. Wouldn't it be attractive to start an arboretum with trails? There is one such that comes to mind as a model. It is in Lexington Ky, and I have frequented it often. It is right on the campus of Kentucky State. Consultation with experts is a must. There is much potential!

Would love to see the iron horse trail and the nickleplate joined together and continuing to Minerva. Would make a great connected trail for the eastern side of stark county

I have explained the need for better bike trails above in question 9. I have taken a nature drawing class in Summit Metroparks; it is an enjoyable activity with people of all ages participating. It allows people to experience nature in a different way.

Like to go for long bike rides. Like trails that are connected.

It will help people be more interested in getting out and participating at the parks.

Mostly, my reasoning is selfish. I ride my bike on the trails a lot. But I do feel that there would be more interest in the trails if there were more points of interest along the way. It makes it more fun.

Ways to improve the parks so even more people will use the parks and trails. For comfort, especially for those who travel some distance to use the parks.

We are in desperate need of safe play sets/swings for the children in the Sandy Valley community. Of the parks we have.. only one play set (in Magnolia is safe for the children to play on)... East Sparta does not have a park..only play equipment left from the old school building which are broken and unsafe. It would be so nice to have a park with swings and slides for all children ages and children with disabilities. We have no equipment available for children with disabilities. A splash pad with a walking track and playsets would be amazing for the community. For any of these amenities we must drive 30-40 minutes North.

Better trail connectivity would make the trails easier to access through various communities. Educational/guided activities and more playgrounds/splash pad areas would encourage more families to use Stark Parks. These items would also increase school visits enhancing school/community partnerships.

Schools need help to teach about the importance of the environment and how its degradation affects our quality of life, incl air & water quality, food production, etc.

I find these to be important for the over all enjoyment of the parks.

Better comfort. More options.

Make the parks more inviting that way.

It is very important for outdoor enthusiasts in Stark County to have paths that connect. This provides the opportunity for long distance hiking/biking/running/cross-country skiing. These trails should also offer restroom facilities for outdoor enthusiasts.

Stark county is urban, isolated parks require visitors to travel by car. More walkable, bikeable access to parks and increased connectivity will allow users to enjoy nature without contributing to a global problem; CO2 emissions.

The trail we use is roughly 6 miles round trip. The only RR is at the beginning. I'm not sure what it would look like, but an early morning fitness class would be great. Regularly scheduled family movies at Silver Park would be welcomed.

Give incentive to people interested in learning but not able to be physically active.

Lack of restrooms limits accessibility/enjoyment along some trails and at some parks, especially for people with certain medical conditions, parents with young children, and senior citizens. I would personally like to see more paddling programs to offer options beyond the typical marina hours and locations for people who don't own their own kayaks/canoes.

The Flush Bathrooms would be mostly for convenience. I had little children who refuse to use a porta-potty and we often have to leave to use the restroom. More signage would be helpful on the trails as I have gotten lost once before! Also more staff on hand for when we want to try a new activity or have questions. Sometimes we don't see anyone we can ask about trying a new trail.

I only know of the dog park at Schneider Park. If there are others, I am unaware of them.

Need a program manager

I think the Bike Smart Program has been a great idea and I have rented bikes at several of the Stark Park locations. However , for this program to continue to be successful the paths and trails need to be safe and properly maintained. I also think that allowing people to rent recreational equipment would increase in the amount of people going to the parks.

Since we are "stuck" with Ohio weather, more options for healthy exercise is always needed.

-Getting rid of overgrowth makes everything look better. -People need water.

Scouts could use more primitive group camping like there is at Quail Hollow

I think these give families and community members more options to be outside and active. This makes people want to stay in Stark County rather than move elsewhere.

fitness/wellness: aging population dog parks: lots of dog owners

These options can attract more visitors to the parks, therefore keeping the overall community, in Stark County, in better shape and healthier.

Trails established so far are great but they need to be connected.

Convenience

Would like to see a quality dog park with water access for dogs. Would like to continue to see trail connectivity throughout the county, especially between Canton and Massillon. Would like to see restrooms and water fountains along the trails.

Trail connectivity can help keep commuters safe relative to high roadway traffic

Kids need more to do than sit inside and stare at a screen. We participate when activities are available with our schedules. But we need more on the weekends.

Our age demographic is getting older. Adults need programs for fitness and overall well being.

there are sites suited for this activity and the kids would love it. not a lot to do in the snowy months

Adding or improving those mentioned previously elevate the parks to gain more patrons and in turn more support and involvement from the community

Living in Plain Twp. I am not aware that there are nature/educational programs on our nearest trail which would be the Gervasi/Glenoak trails. Again, I feel that signs should be posted more places informing pedestrian traffic on trail to walk/run single file if you are walking abreast and what side of the trail pedestrian vs. bicyclists are to be on

Trails: improvements for safety and convenience Dog park: convenience for exercise opportunities. Security: I used to walk or ride daily. I had a large dog. I now am hesitant to use the trails while I am alone or with my small dog. I am afraid. I think in all of the years I have used the park trails I may have seen an official person of safety once.

Outdoor recreation and programming instilling comfort and safety in the outdoors is a need a lot of children and families are missing in this technology age

A long distance between restrooms on some trails.

Restroom at Center Rd or W Nimisila Rd smells horrible

Very important to me as a parent with young children

Magnolia Mill pond has been "dry" all summer. I realize that work is being done on the building, but not having a pond ecosystem in place is a mosquito hazard, and it looks terrible. In years past, this has been a nice fishing pond, but this year, no one can fish because it is a mess and is full of weeds. In addition, the weeds around the ponds at Fry Park are so high that it is difficult to be able to get close to the water to fish, especially for younger children.

Horse trails are a wonderful opportunity for horse owners, but a nuisance for hikers when the trails become nearly impassable due to mud/ruts.

Restrooms and water fountains by trails in case of emergencies, and Dog parks for people who may not be able to get their dog the exercise they need because of little to no parks in their area

Some sections of the towpath trail are unsafe. I've had bike crashes in some of those areas.

It's the only way you'll make money you guys are a joke no tours or molly Stark and no one is aloud inside of it.

Permits and waivers oh wow. So hard to charge money to let people in over night.

Without restroom facilities, one finds oneself heeding the call of nature in nature. Renting equipment, or better, borrowing equipment would be great.

Love the towpath and would like it maintained to highest standards.

Mountain biking is a growing sport. More trails means more visitors and tourists. Look at East Rim in the CVNP.

Quail Hollow already gets a lot of visitors. I see tons of bikes on cars in Hartsville. I'd like to see Stark County go all in on Mountain biking!

Because we need to have as many reasons to have our youth engaged in outdoor activity.

For better access in northern Stark County and to reduce congestion at Walborn. A paddle trail would also be fantastic

The trails need better maintenance at Petros though it has come a long way ! The trails at Quail Hollow for riding our wonderful and I would like to see more done at Whitticker Greer possible even an event there for equestrians ... thanks for all you do !

Recent issues with safety

There are few options for dog parks in Stark County, specifically in the north Canton/Jackson area.

Our kids are 10 and 2 so it gets challenging finding activities both kids will enjoy

I would use more of the parks if there were better restrooms and more accessible for kayaking

It would be nice if one could get to a park via an access trail or sidewalk rather than relying on a car to get them there. Directional & Informational Signs (see answer in Q. 9)

Most of the trails I've been on in Stark county are pea gravel, which can be really difficult for someone in a manual wheelchair to be on for an extended period of time, especially if the gravel is thick or has just been laid. I live in Dalton, and the sippo trail in Wayne county is pavement so it's much easier for those in a wheelchair to enjoy. I think restrooms are sufficient, however more water fountains would be great. Disc golf is becoming a very popular sport and I think courses would be well utilized by my generation (I am 22) and could even tempt more kids to get outside. I know trails that connect are in the works or already planned, but I think trail connectivity is important so that people can stay off the roads as they move from trail to trail.

The other options are stupid.

These are things I enjoy and they are somewhat obscure in most parks.

It has been wonderful seeing how people have embraced the trail. To me, the quality of life has improved because of this connectivity. That's why I think the highest priority is to keep the trails as safe as possible. I'm concerned about the recent assault on the Middlebranch trail and the chilling effect it may have on usage, especially for those of us who like long, solitary walks. I'm also concerned that rain has washed out parts of the trail. They are ok for walking (as long as there is no standing water), but I wouldn't feel comfortable biking on some parts that have been affected by wash outs.

Stark county has a beautiful trail that no one seems to know about, it would be nice to see it finally extended and connect to other trails. There are not very many horse trails around here, multi use/ horses/ bikes/ dogs... every one should be able to use it.

What don't you understand about the neglect of Stark Parks in providing facilities in southeastern Stark County. There are virtually none. It is disgraceful.

Connectivity allows for longer runs, more adventuring. Handicapped accessibility is always important in order for spaces to be equitable. Recreational equipment for rent or borrow may entice more usage of the parks - much like the library offers unconventional items for check-out! Adult fitness/wellness programs (such as yoga) will drive attendance at parks. And dog parks are just awesome places for people to socialize and use the park system. Parks seem like good places for parents to bring little kids to run off some energy but I think it's time for your focus to settle more on the older population who would like to walk for recreation and exercise in a safe and maintained area. I'm hopeful also that whomever is reading the comments provided realizes the necessity of a clean, fully functioning bathroom for all ages.

These activities encourage people to go outside and exercise. One of my biggest concerns is safety and it would be nice to have staff to show a presence on the trails for safety

I believe trail connectivity would aid in safety while enjoying outdoor activities. I chose handicap accessibility because I believe everyone should be able to participate with or without limitations. Dog parks are nice for those of us who have dogs and want to take them to a comfortable and accepting area.

I do not currently see good signage. connecting trails would be great for longer use.

We have been looking forward to the completion of more trails in the rural areas of Stark County, so they are longer and more challenging, but hopefully safe for everyone. I know it takes time and money but it seems like a long time getting the Iron horse, the Nickelplate trail, and Minerva connector finished.

With the wet year we are having, nature is growing and pinging on the trail. connectivity is ongoing in your plan. With as hot as it has been, water fountains would be appreciated by the users.

More accessibility means more users. More users make it more valuable.

some trails have no restroom or portajons, branches and brush extending into trails can create hazards, more paved trails would be nice

Need more places to fill water bottle,

More programming will get more people outside, especially children.

We really need to get trails from Alliance to Minerva to Louisville connected.

There is a need for more dog parks, everyone has pets now and they need exercise too.

Easy to go wrong direction on intersecting paths

Trails are overgrown with poor surface and no completion of networks. I ride many systems throughout US with ours being the worst. Where's the pride to bring people here or to bring those here into this century? Inaction is precisely why Canton is #33 of the worst.

Safety, safety and more safety.

More water fountains for endurance activities (eg long summer runs). Trail connectivity to reduce driving for commuting and trail access. Attract long distance tourists.

Connected trails improve long distance biking. Restrooms and drinking fountains improve enjoyment. Directional signs are a necessity on some trails

People want to get outside and enjoy nature. More signs and restrooms make for a more enjoyable experience.

Some trails washed out Trails not connected between old covered bridge park in Canton and Glen Oak HS area
Trails in eastern Stark County have not been developed, extended and connected to the extent called for in the 2014-19 master plan. After attending the public meeting in Alliance on 7/10, I understand a relatively small number of rural property owners are blocking these efforts. Some of the property owners' concerns are understandable, but some are simply ridiculous and not fact-based. From what I heard, I think their position really boils down to, "It's mine and you can't touch it." I find this particularly weird when prominent local business/property owners (Pugh) adopt this hard-line position. Good like with that attitude going forward. Maybe his position could use a little public exposure. I vote for the park levies mainly because of my interest in seeing trail development in the eastern part of the county. Please continue to pursue completion of these trail projects. I am a strong advocate for completing the Nickel Plate and Iron Horse Trail connections as soon as possible.

There are some trails on the towpath that have no porta john

Need for more restrooms. Some trails in the winter have no place to use.

Need more locations in Lake Township

Cleanliness of restrooms. Some smell like straight urine

Needs to be a variety of options for all ages to promote community involvement, and health/wellness

Better connectivity is greatly lacking

All of the surrounding counties have paved bicycle trails. I travel at least 4 times per week in the summer to Summit, Portage, Wayne, Trumbull and Mahoning Counties to ride on their paved bicycle trails. It is costly in time and gasoline to have to do this because Stark County has no asphalt paved trails.

When running/walking/biking in the tow path it is so much nicer the surface in Summit County

Adaptive parks are necessary!! I have a child with special needs and we need MORE equipment that they can use.

We have installed a new biking trail in north canton on Glenwood. We have the bikes art program however the nearest facility is at glen oak. I believe to have better access to bikes in north canton keeps the community active and fit and allows us to take advantage of new trail on Glenwood and existing trails behind Hoover high school and Washington square which connect to glen oak. North canton has lots a residential areas and having smart bikes available helps to create a better image of what is going in between stark parks and north canton as people will be able to visibly see. This is also something people of any family size can take advantage of whether someone has no children or multiple.

I think the programs offered are great but there can always be more.

Motivation

Barrels at parks for dog waste!

The condition of the Towpath Trail is an embarrassment. It is extremely rocky, uneven, and generally unsafe.

Everyone I have spoken to feels the same way. It's astonishing that Stark Parks has not addressed this yet.

Better connectivity to neighborhoods where people live and would not have to drive in order to access a path.

-Opportunities to refill water are very limited along the bike trails. - The Bike trail through Malone's Campus is frequently washed out leaving the trail rutted. -Disc golf is really fun.

Because disc golf is becoming a extremely popular sport, faircrest is a great example of is what to come, please consider making disc golf courses in other locations

Stark County needs a better trail system that is conducive for running, walking and biking across the county.

There is also a need for improved disc golf courses on underutilized land and parks!

Disc golf is an activity many age and skilled level people can enjoy. If the course is done correctly it can and will help bring people to Stark County to play disc golf. Whether for recreation play or tournament play. The local disc golf club has been approached by the PDGA about hosting large disc golf events but due to the lack of championship level courses in our area we had to turn the offer down. More courses in some of our Stark Parks would be amazing and it would get more people out to the parks to enjoy them.

With the facilities that Stark Parks has to offer and the ever growing sport of disc golf we could create together what would be a disc golf destination. People from all over the country would then be using your facilities. With the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton we already see these people come into our area and play disc golf at other parks. Why not let them see the most beautiful parks we have with you.

Several disc golf courses are left up as an after thought in the park. Arbo, shnider park by the high school.

With the Tam O'Shanter property it would be nice to have a "True" Championship disc golf course in Stark County in a very nice area. If the course were to be designed by a world champion that would make it that much better.

We have some courses in the area but none that would be this nice. The cost is low compared to other amenities offered in parks. It brings families together and utilizes the beautiful parks. Also promotes a healthy lifestyle while being relatively cheap. With all of this being said we could possibly host a national tour event or professional worlds tournament. These events have great coverage on YouTube <https://youtu.be/WJrkdigzbY> and that would bring attention to our little slice of NE Ohio. A few of us play an event every year in Emporia, Kansas that brings in

a 2 million revenue to the city in 1 week. All in all I would love to play disc golf at 1 of the beautiful stark parks properties.

I truly believe disc golf is more than just a recreational sport. Many of the Ohio state parks have put in Disc golf courses and I feel stark parks would greatly benefit as well. The Disc golf community is continually growing, and luckily in this area we have some great courses already. There is such a thing as the PDGA and a professional tour not only here in the states it also abroad. Putting in a championship course would make stark county a huge contender for a bid at hosting worlds or even a professional event.

I would just like to say that there should be notifications when large projects are about to take place, like cutting trees on the disc golf courses so a plan can be made to replace the trees that are obstacles. Also at least notify the local clubs so a clear plan can be made to fix the courses sooner.

Activities for children, families, and for handicapped elderly population.

The paths are always clear (branches , debri) I explain the pressing need about getting the bicycles off the path People are being hit with them

You need these at the more outlying parks such as fry and Petrie

Disc Golf is a fast growing sport, inexpensive to play, great exercise, and playable by any age group.

Stark County's disc golf club is the best in the northeast Ohio region. I regularly travel over 50 minutes to participate in their tournaments, and many others travel from further away than I do to do the same. They have the capacity to maintain a quality course and organize and run quality events at it. Continuing to work with them would be a good decision. I wish cities and regional parks organizations were more interested in installing courses in my area, so that an organization like SCDGA could thrive where I live. For the time being however, I am happy to continue traveling to play in their events in Stark County parks.

I believe that disc golf is a growing sport with low barrier to entry that can be fun for all ages and get people not normally interested in parks out into the park system.

Disc Golf is a fast growing sport with increased play. It is great to have options for play. There was a setback with the spiker-arboratum course with the redesign. The addition of other courses would improve the Stark co. Disc Golf scene.

Disc golf is a growing sport

Disc golfers do wonders for parks.

I just started disc golfing last year from people who disc golf, and I've brought in like 5 friends Sence than it's really starting to grow on people. Not many people even know what it is.

The disc golf courses are often crowded in stark county on the weekends. This leads to myself and my friends choosing to go to other county's to play. More courses in your area would greatly increase the sport and the draw to stark county to play

Very active disc golf community and I love the sport

I'm biased as a fan of disc golf, but I'm always in favor of more courses and improvements of some of the current courses. The changes are Arboretum Spike park due to the Hall of Fame were very disappointing and significantly lowered the quality of a great course, seeing all the trees coming down or marked to come down in Wildwood and Lincoln park is also disappointing. I'm not sure if there's been any engagement with the Stark County Disc Golf Club about the trees and if any explanation has been given or input received from the club, but it would be good to see more collaboration between both parties on decisions that impact the courses. Also it seems that many of the bathroom facilities are closed most of the year and when they are open aren't kept very clean or stocked. Again I only have limited experience at the parks, and this pertains mostly to the parks with disc golf courses. I visit quail hollow multiple times per year and love the park and the facilities there so my comments are not a blanket statement for all the parks.

Growing sport and would be nice to have more courses around the area

Growing sport, free to participate, get youth outside.

Discgolf is one of the fastest growing sports not only in our country but the world. It's a fantastic way for family and friends to spend time together and have fun with the added benefit of getting exercise. Add in the fact that most courses are free to play, the cost to get started is minimal and cost effective to people/families of any income. Also of note is that courses actually help showcase other park attractions that may go unnoticed otherwise.

Fitness is so important but falls by the wayside for so many.

People should be inticed to go out and explore more often. Intriguing programs can lure the youth out into the wilderness to expand their minds and get their bodies moving.

13. What are the biggest barriers to participating in outdoor recreation in this area?

Top 4 Results: Lack of Free Time (55.9%); Lack of Access to Info about Parks/Trails (23.3%); Lack of Facilities You Find Appealing; 14.7%); Safety (13.1%)

Value	Percent
Facilities are Poorly Maintained	6.40%
Lack of Access to Information about Parks/Trails	23.30%
Lack of Facilities that You Find Appealing	14.70%
Lack of Free Time	55.90%
Lack of Signage/Information at a Park/Trail	9.10%
Lack of Transportation/Access to Parks/Trails	7.00%
Previous Negative Experience at Parks/Trails	3.00%
Safety	13.10%
I'm Not Interested in Outdoor Recreation	1.20%
Other - Write In	11.50%

Other - Write In	Count
Broken promises!!!	1
Competition with a park with trails like Mohican and Salt Fort are through wooded areas and more scenic. Whitaker Greer needs more trails. Another areas could be set up like WHitacre Greer. People donate for parks and some farms in areas along with old mine area etc could be developed. A couple areas with woods hiking and riding trails would be used because they would be closer. Location does matter.	1
Dedicated mountain bike trails	1
Distrust of agency	1
Enforcement of rules.	1
Establishing more parks in this area!	1
Fry Family Park isn't fully operational yet	1
Having somone to participate in activites with	1
I get the quarterly calendar and it's just so much information! The days are crowded and it's not easy to read. I'd rather get a monthly calendar that's bigger (two months ahead of time) with a short overview of the month ahead.	1
I need to make time	1
I work a 12 hour third shift and on my nights off would love to be able to walk or bike the trails but I am forced to walk the sidewalks through town and can not enjoy these wonderful assets that we have so close. I have a headlight and taillight for my bike but refuse to ride on the roads because of the crazy drivers so due to my work schedule I can't ride anymore unless I drive to Lisbon	1
I would like a trail that is more of a destination. Someplace to get a snack, ice cream or see interesting sights.	1
I'm not as familiar with Stark County as I am with Summit County. When I want to go kayaking, that's where I go.	1
Lack of asphalt trail to ride bicycle	1
Lack of concern and cooperation of lock land owners blocking completion of trails	1
Landowners. Right-a-way for new trail development.	1
Materials available to the public that are easy to find n the internet would be nice versus having to sign up for maps and such	1
More restrooms at places	1
More than 24 hours in a day.	1
Need to know where hiking trails are at near the Minerva area	1

No disc golf courses available	1
No disc golf, no reason to go. All Ohio state parks have courses.	1
Not enough bathrooms for team sports	1
Not very interested	1
Nothing in Marlboro Township	1
Park trails are too far from our home.	1
Parking..Some of the trails have little to no parking or cramped parking. No restrooms or water fountains.	1
The amount of trash fishermen leave behind	1
There is no excuse. your trail system is very extensive and easy to access.	1
Too crowded at disc golf courses	1
Too many lilly pads at Sippos to fish	1
Unpleasant experiences due to poor trail conditions	1
Weather	1
Would love to know about the opportunities and upcoming events	1
easy pedestrian access to trails from residential areas rather than relying on cars	1
need more activities	1
old age	1
we need more trails!!!	1
Totals	43

14. Have you ever had any of the following safety/security concerns at any of the Stark County Park District's facilities? If the answer is yes, please provide additional information in Question 15 below.

Top 4 Results: None of the Above (63.7%); Lack of Lighting (15.5%); Lack of Park Security (16.3%); Lack of Visibility on Trails (10.0%)

Concern	Percent
Drug Paraphernalia	5.70%
Lack of Lighting	16.50%
Lack of Park Security	16.30%
Lack of Visibility on Trails	10.00%
Poor Parking Facilities	5.50%
Threatening Individuals	6.70%
All of the above	0.20%
None of the above	63.70%
Other - Write In	5.50%

Other - Write In	Count
Break ins at local Trailheads	1
Dangerous crossing at High St in Canal Fulton by Lake Lucern. There are no flashing lights or mirrors to be able to cross safely. Cars speed through around the curves and pedestrians/bikers press their luck crossing safely.	1
Dogs off leashes and horse poop on trails	1
Glass and litter on trails, specifically sippos lake. Feels unsafe to take my child that could fall on the glass.	1
Graffiti & trash under the art 62 bridge. This area makes me very nervous	1
Homosexual activity	1
I don't feel threatened myself but I have heard some things from other people, but how could you know what is really going on unless you inform us what is happening.	1
I don't think the man was purposely threatening, but there was a hunter up in a tree with his bow and arrow on the trail. My young grandchild was with me. When the man spoke to us, it scared the heck out of us. Also, it was dangerous for him to be hunting there.	1
Intersections with roads.	1

Lack of respect from people. Kayakers just paddling up and breaking my fishing line and breaking my fishing basket	1
Litter	1
Loose dogs	1
More trash receptacles would be very helpful.	1
No but I carry pepper spray and my phone on trails and often wish for emergency buttons on trails and parking lots just in case	1
No just dick head park rangers.	1
Not sure if mother gooseland is a county maintained park. It's overgrown and sketchy	1
Tires tampered with at Skyland.	1
condition of some trails	1
motor vehicles on trails that are clearly marked that they are not allowed.	1
questionable individuals	1
there are parks to walk in don't believe seperate trails should be a focus	1
Totals	22

15. If you answered "YES" to experiencing any of the safety/security concerns listed above, please provide an explanation below.

Parking is always a concern.

I used to walk in the mornings at the park, but had to quit because I did not feel safe. Some areas were not well lit at all.

In this day and age, you don't know when something/someone will try to harm you.

I feel unsafe going to the park alone at or near sundown or sun-up. I don't recall ever seeing park security. I think an increased presence would be comforting. Some of the bike trails feel very secluded and unsafe if running, walking, biking alone.

Never enough lighting when it comes to parks. Additional police at locations.

i use the covered bridge park trail a lot. would like defined parking area.

I have only seen a ranger once to help with parking for an event. I have never had an issue but it would be nice to see security out on the trails or nearby once in a while, otherwise in my mind all they do is sit in a building waiting for trouble all day. I would like to see them out on bikes along the trails maybe.

Minerva parks are not well kept or supervised.

If you are a female, you are not using good judgement to go to the parks by yourself. If I am not with another person right beside me, I am constantly being approached for money. I can't tell you how many times I have seen drug paraphernalia in the picnic and bathroom areas.

Followed by a person in pick up truck for 20/25 minutes at Stadium park.

Most of the parks are well maintained and safe. Mother gooseland is in poor shape. But it may not be a county property

Would be nice to have park bike patrols on walking trails

No concerns but trails can be isolated

Sometimes see possible illegal activity and no one in the area to report it to. By the time a ranger could be called and respond, the people have already moved on.

Poor parking on iron horse

While hiking through the woods along Price St. near Deer Creek, my son and I encountered what looked to be a dumping ground for meth making products. Ironically as we stepped out of the woods, a deputy was approaching. We informed him of what we found.

Some parking lots at trailheads are small.

I have never personally had safety concerns, but there have been some news stories of things that have happened very close to some Stark parks, and I've never seen a ranger or police presence when I've been there.

There are a few parks that are known for not being as safe

I have never once in my almost 30 years of living in Stark County seeing Park security. Only a handful of times do I remember seeing police in the Parks and they were only driving through

Not enough lighting at Sippo Lake by the Library.

Only saw park ranger 2x this year. No visable security . Poor lighting in some areas

All and all, I feel safe but there have been a few individuals that don't understand the bike rules, (keeping to your right and passing on left) or others walking across the entire width of the trail and not want to move over when you

signal... There are also some people who allow their dogs to roam free and you have to stop for them or worry they will chase you. I carry pepper spray for protection. With parking, some of the sites that used to have parking do not and you're forced to drive elsewhere to park. Another popular area, (Bison/27th NW Mass) is sometimes too crowded and it's also hard to turn around in the lot. I also rarely see park security in this area.

Parking lots in the evening at the Sippo Lake Park is not adequate.

Tires tampered with at Skyland.

Safety is very important, especially for women. Men lurk, and stare. More security is needed to be visible.

Parking can be very limited at some places, more lighting at trailheads/parking areas would be good.

There have been people on trail that has acted strange and scared me. On horse back feel the most secure.

Hiking the least.

As the trails aren't open, there are many times that an individual or small group is isolated from other trail users. It would be nice to know that there's a security presence especially on the Towpath in case there's some kind of emergency or an individual that doesn't have the best intentions for other park users. Even having a phone number posted at the trail heads that people could call would be useful.

In this day and age it just seems like safety is a significantly growing concern. While I haven't had any issues, the news has portrayed some that have.

Molly stark is not a safe park to take my children.

People smoking dope at the park. Individuals showing a lack of respect for my personal property because they told me this is a public ramp which it wasn't a boat ramp which I explained where the boat ramp was at on Walborn

Drug Paraphernalia

Called ranger and told would be dealt with

Someone scratched up several cars at a Birthday party that was at the Boat House at Sippo.

I have never saw security when at the park

Nimishillen Trail has no lighting. One time my sister and I were walking in October and it got dark sooner than we thought and we had to walk a mile or so in the dark. It was very scary for us, and we usually aren't wimpy. But it was genuinely scary.

I rarely see Park Rangers out on the trails. Do you have any park walkers or riders who are aided for others. Are these people FBI checked and have been finger printed. How would I now if someone on the trail is connected with our Stark Parks Staff?

Seen some shady individuals at sippo and there was the problem with the break ins made me nervous to visit with wife and daughter don't want any problems maybe more of a ranger presence and this might have been corrected since my visits

The towpath is a long trail but I would like to see more rangers. It is so isolated even though I have never experienced anything I worry about being on the trail by myself.

In the evening on the back part of the walking trail at Petros it can be a little unnerving when men are parked in their cars.....

Fairly see Park Patrol on site

Have come across unleashed pets often, and also loose dogs with no owner in sight. Once, they were attacking a lady's dog and my husband and I stepped in to assist.

Phone kiosks in remote locations that would automatically call park security would make me feel safer when alone. Blind corners on bike/hike trails and lack of user etiquette = lack of education about trail use. Trash on trails (lots of bottles) filled with unknown substance - concerning. No visible reporting method to report any issues until off the trail (signage as to where you are on trail concerning if you had to report incident or injury).

Once, when I parked my car at the nature center and went for a hike, there was a man sitting in his car. When I returned from my hike, he was still in the parking lot. I took out my phone to call home (I was not concerned about this person) and the man immediately started his car and left. I believe that he thought I was calling park police--I thought that his actions seemed somewhat suspicious.

Many do not feel the wooded trails that we available are safe to navigate. After an individual placing wires across the biking/hiking/jogging trails in Waynesburg many people no longer use the trail for safety concerns.

Deercreek walborn do not seem safe

Done paid aren't well lot. Don't see security very often.

More lights, more cops, please.

In Louisville, numerous times I have experienced motorized vehicles on the trail. When I tried to express to the riders that they were not allowed, they either sped off and created dust or were very disrespectful with "finger messages".

See under other on question 13.

When a trail runs along trees and/or high weeds, visibility is difficult and concerning if you don't know where the trail goes.

if recreating alone, sometimes opt to NOT take a particular trail if it appears visibility is poor.

There needs to be more lighting at the parks and more park security patrolling the hiking trails.

Young children picking up others litter.

Need more rangers on duty I feel safe when I see their presence in the parks.

Security: I used to walk or ride daily. I had a large dog. I now am hesitant to use the trails while I am alone or with my small dog. I am afraid. I think in all of the years I have used the park trails I may have seen an official person of safety once. Threatening individuals: Professionals warn that if you feel uneasy about a person there is probably a good reason. There have been times where I have avoided or left areas due to this reason. I also use the trails less because I am now alone.

Quail Hollow events are sometimes overcrowded

Could use more of a physical presence of a ranger or park security

Very few park personnel are ever seen on the Boover Trail

Some of the walkers at Deer Creek smoke pot while hiking, which defeats the purpose of breathing in fresh air.

Better lighting in various spots needed, for early/late evening running.

Park rangers favoring some people and telling them to leave but then you do the same thing and get a ticket. Its bullshit they make me feel less safe then if it was filled with gang members

Have found needles, condoms & other detritus on more than one occasion, at more than one location.

Would like to see park security on trails a little more. Had a scary incident on trail with a man who was persistent to talk with myself and wanted to pet my dog. I ignored him and called my husband to come meet me on the trail. After speaking loudly on the phone with my husband the man turned around and went the opposite direction eventually.

Walking in the towpath between forty corners and butterbridge and had a questionable man walking not your average walker . It scared me I was alone and haven't walked it since ! X

Some unsavory looking individuals on bike trails at times. Have never been threatened myself, but makes me wary to participate alone

Going to some of the walking trails by myself, as a female, I would like to feel more secure knowing that there are patrols and/or security that is easily accessible.

Certain parks are beautiful but I don't feel safe being there.

Stark county keeps building trails that they cannot monitor to keep users safe. Especially in Paris township this trail is being used mostly for mischief and not sport.

Volleyball courts aren't lit

Sometimes there is no one around. I think having park staff present could deter some of the safety issues

There is never enough security and lighting. Children and women are very vulnerable.

Last in comparison to facilities of all other surrounding areas.

The traffic where trails and roads intersect is sometimes high

south of Martindale park not very visible, felt unsafe by myself and turned around

I feel you can go a very long time without seeing a park individual, as a mom with 2 toddlers I do not feel safe to take them on the trails alone

Trees/shrubs not trimmed high enough for biking. Trees/shrubs too close to path for people to pass.

As a female walking/jogging alone we need more security and better lighting. Too many sketchy people in parks.

Price park does not have lights in the park itself lots of individuals including myself take early morning runs and it would be nice for it to have lighting.

I have experienced and found drug paraphernalia on a few trails and have had a couple instances where I thought I was being followed. And not followed by other people who were out for a walk or bike ride...someone was stalking me on a trail. I walked off and went to the nearest home like I lived there and pretended to call the police...the guy left.

I've never seen a park security when I've been in any trails. I didn't even know we had anyone until the recent incident by the trail.

some trails, while very beautiful, are very secluded and make me a little nervous with my earbuds in while running. the bike trail near gervais has a few very tight blind turns which I have had a few close calls with folks going in opposite directions.

Need more security in maintaining safety

Marijuana is very prevalent at sippo lake area

There have been several reports in the area in the last few years of people being chased on trails and fishing line going across trails to harm people. I wouldn't go out past dark on trails with my family but lighting is important.

Access to security in case of emergencies.

This was explained in a former commit

Never see security.

When it starts to get dark out and I'm finishing up I some times lose a disc because it's multi colored and can't see it because there's no lightning.

Dark on disc golf course in the evening and lost discs

Some trails are in the woods and there is no lighting for it so when it gets dark, it's dark and people can hide in the woods.

I take my friend's kids to the park to hike and I see homosexual activity. Perhaps more activities in those areas/ parks like that promote frequent people usage like hiking trails or disc golf courses could prevent these people from exposing themselves to unwanted people (especially kids!)

I used to run the Perry Sippo trails and on the back trails in the evening there was little to no lighting. They are looking much better than when I ran in 2015 and 2016. I do see people using drugs in their car when I'm taking my daughter to the library. Not ok.

On walking paths I have encountered strange people that are threatening/ intimidating. I would appreciate better visibility or different routes to avoid such individuals. I no longer go on wooded paths with my child alone.

Glass on trails.

16. Are you a dog owner? If you are not, but spend time at Stark Parks with dog(s), please explain in the "other" box.

Dog Owner	Percent
Yes	52.30%
No	45.70%
Other - Write In	2.00%

OTHER:

Daughter has dog
Dog hike... have done them in parks
I take care of my elderly parent's dogs and spend time with friends who are dog owners
My dog passed away a year and a half ago, but we used to spend time there.
See lots of dogs not on a leash or not controlled by owner
Spend time with dogs
We enjoy seeing dogs and watching them play in the dog parks
Daughter walks her dog in the park
Enjoy seeing the dogs others are walking!
Family members w/dogs
Will be in the next 2 months

17. If you are a dog owner, or you spend time in Stark Parks' facilities with a dog, would you like to see dog parks offered?

Yes

Absolutely.

Yes

I don't take my dog to the park

Yes

That would be AWESOME!!!

No

no

I'm not interested but I do believe that people would be interested.

YES

Yes

No

yes, especially areas where dogs can go in the water near park beaches.

That would be great

absolutely, need to get a dog water park area for hot summer days so they can play after a good run on the trail.

Yes

Yes

No dog too small for dog parks

Yes

YES

Yes!!!!

Yes

yes

Yes

Yes

Yes, although two are available to us already, Wingfoot Lake and one south of Glenoak High.

Yes

No

Yes

n/a

yes

No

Sure

YES!!

Yes, These are used often but do need maintained

Yes

No.

Not important to me as my dog does not do well in social settings.

yes

Yes

This doesn't apply to me. My dogs are not dog park friendly. ;)

yes

YES!

No

Yes! We use the dog park at Veteran's Park and Portage Lakes State Park.

Yes

My dogs are too old. But other dog owners like dog parks.

Yes

That would be nice.

Yes, or parks in general that are dog friendly!

Some people would enjoy them but my dog is too anxious.

Sure

I don't take my dog to the park.

Yes

No

I don't use dog parks for personal reasons of safety for my dog. Not all owners are responsible in watching their dogs behavior, but I do realize that many people like dog parks.

Yes

No, I do not like them.

Yes

Yes

Yes

This is not all that high a priority

My dog doesn't do well with others. It might be nice for others though.

Yes

No

Not really interested in dog parks for my dogs since we have ample yard for them to play in

YES! I would love to see Dog Parks offered. This is another reason for the lack of interest. I have 2 dogs and would love to bring them to the park.

Yes

That would be nice

No

Don't bring my dog.

They are nice to have, especially in more urban areas. In Pike Township, there probably isn't a need for one.

Yes, I do. No do not need a dog park.

Not necessarily

No thanks to dog parks! Dog parks can be difficult to keep clean and diseases among dogs can spread.

As a dog owner I still believe we need to add something for our kids and families first before we think about adding a dog park

My dog is evil and i can't take him anywhere

Yes

Not really

Yes

No

Yes!

Yes

That would be nice.

I have two small dogs and I probably would not take them to a dog park because I don't trust that the other owners have control of their own dogs and they might hurt mine.

yes! with some 1 dog only runs (or small group of familliar dogs)

Water bowls at water fountains

yes

yes

Sure

No. I have heard bad things about dog parks. Dog getting into fights and getting injured. I was recommended by a vet to never take my dogs to one.

No, Dog parks aren't necessary in our area.

Yes

Yes. Absolutely. More parks for animals!

I use the veterans park and live close. however, people that are not local don't have the same dog park options

Yes

Yes. There are no dog parks.

NO

Yes!!

No

Yes

yes

TEACH DOG OWNERS RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP and ETIQUETTE. Either more doggie bags and trash cans need to be out or people need to leave their dogs at home. Tired of picking up poo when I do not even own a dog.

And their lack of using a lesh is daunting to runners/walkers and bikers!!

Yes.

Yes

I have an older dog and I am happy walking her on the trails. I have never used a dog park before.

I only like going to dog parks where the dogs need to be registered. My vet does not recommend going to dog parks where anybody can go and you don't know if the dogs are healthy. You could pick up something

Yes very much so

Yes, somewhere the dogs can run around with plenty of area to run freely would be great.

No

Yes

Absolutely, but we do have a dog park in Plain Township, so it's not a critical need for us.

Yes

No

I don't trust other dog owners or people. I don't take my dogs to the park.

No, I'd like to see dogs welcomed at all parks. Dog owners should not be limited on the parks they can enjoy with their companions.

Yes, we would.

Yes

Yes

Yes. The one at Schneider Park is very nice.

yes - but I generally bring my dog on the trails with me

yes!

Yes.

no

Yes!

yes

Yes

Yes!

no they already exist elsewhere and are underused

YES!

Yes

no

Yes. The dog park in the Sippo area is fairly secluded, dark, muddy, and small. I have also been there when the trash cans are full and have not been emptied in a while, and there was trash on the ground. My small dog slipped out of the small area and into the larger dog area through gaps in the fence. I used to live near North Canton and have been to the North Canton park and that area is open, there are trails and paths nearby so that it is not as secluded. It is well maintained and used. You can go for a walk on the trails near the park and stop to allow your dog to run as you walk by.

Yes.

I wouldn't use it. I have a large rural lot

This wouldn't be a top priority to me

Not so much dog parks, but I don't like the "No dogs allowed" signs for the ponds. My dog is a lab, and she likes to swim in ponds.

not necessarily, since trail hiking is an option

Yes

Not really

yes - there does not seem to be very many available

I prefer to take my dog on the trails and see no need for a dog park.

Bluh bad rangers

No.

kkk

yes

Yes

Yes

Yes, also more waste cans on the trails would be nice so I do not have to carry a bag of dog poop so far with me.

Yes, it would be a big benefit for residents

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

A place that is open and the dogs can interact with others

No

Yes that would be great

Yes, also would like to see Price Park allow dogs on the walking path as long as they are on a leash. It's hard walking a dog along with a stroller through the grass. Which is why I don't go there as often as I used to.

Yes!

not necessary

Yes

Yes very much

No

Yes!! A nice large fenced area for dogs to run and play leash free together!

There are no Stark Park facilities nearby.

Not really. I believe that dog parks are overrated and I worry about infections and disease from other dogs.

I do not for my dogs but know a lot of people that live in town and need a place to let their dogs run and play

Yes

yes

as long as dogs are welcome in parks I don't see the need for exclusively dog parks. my dog thinks she's a person anyway.

Our dog likes to walk the trails, so the dog park is not of interest to him. I do see many people take advantage of the dog park at schneider park so they are very popular.

No personal interest. I am fortunate that I have enough property for my dogs.

yes

Yes, not a dog owner but have been and appreciated dog parks

Yes

Not necessarily

I think there is a need for more dog parks in the area with multiple different terrains (land/water etc) to really let dogs run in the open...there is not a whole lot of options that I am aware of in the area

Dog parks pose a greater risk for communicable diseases between pets so we stay away from dog parks.

Agility, more free parks or a small beach for dogs.

Yes

yes, in Lake Township please

I will not take my dogs to public places because of the risk of disease

Yes but separate

No

Yes

YES

Not really interested in dog parks, all parks need to be pet friendly throughout, ie access to water for playing and drinking

Sure

Yes

YES YES YES!!

Yes

I'd love to see outdoor agility equipment and access to swimming for dogs.

I would love to see a nice big dog park in North Canton. I know there is a very nice one across from Glenoak but it's still a drive. We have so many spaces that would be perfect for a dog park!! The field on portage and Charlotte and Hillcrest would be a fabulous place for one!

Yes! The Plain twp Park (I know not part of stark parks) is great, but sometimes is very busy. Having more parks around the county (with proper protocols- licenses, shots, well behaved, non-aggressive) would be amazing. I think that even charging a small fee to make sure that dogs are properly vaccinated & behaved would be fine with me! As this would help ensure the safety of my dog.

No

Yes, with shaded areas

Not really

access to just one dog park locally is fine with me. just an open area they can run free is all that is needed. I feel attention is needed elsewhere

Yes

Yes as long as they're maintained well so my dogs don't get sick.

Yes. Many people love taking their dogs to the dog park.

No

No plenty already

Yes

Sure
 Yes
 Absolutely
 No
 That would be nice
 not for my dogs... they are not always friendly with other dogs (older)
 Yes!!!! Large off leash areas would be fantastic.
 Yes
 No
 No
 Yes please I love to take my dog out side for walks and runs but there aren't really dog parks worth going to. I own dogs, I live in Akron. I come to stark parks for disc golf (and bring the dog often) but I wouldn't drive there for just a dog park.
 I would like to see them offered, as a dog owner whose dog does not get along with other dogs, I have to be very cautious because I frequently run into people with their dogs off leash. I bring my dog disc golfing with me and on leash the whole time, but if an off leash dog approaches my dog get's very worked up and stressed out, I've had to break up multiple fights with other dogs who were off leash and ran over to mine. I think some dog parks would provide options for people to have their dogs off leash safely.
 Yes
 Living in Waynesburg, there are no dogs parks close to my home. At the end of Roosevelt Avenue there is an old park and baseball fields that are no longer utilized because of flooding. Many of us that live near this park take our dogs for walks down there when it isn't flooded or overgrown. The village currently owns the land and only mows it monthly. This would be a nice area to possibly convert into a dog park or other recreational area. This area has alot of potential, but the flooding is a concern.
 YES
 No
 Yes

18. Do you believe that smoking should be restricted at Stark Parks Facilities?

Smoking Restriction	Percent
Yes, smoking should be banned at Stark Parks Facilities.	52.10%
Yes, smoking should be restricted to specific, marked areas of Stark Parks Facilities.	36.60%
No, smoking should be allowed at all Stark Parks Facilities.	11.30%

19. Do you see a need to make current recreation sites more user-friendly for populations such as the elderly, disabled, or non-English speaking? If yes, please provide specific recreation sites where you believe this would be beneficial.

More User-Friendly Sites	Percent
No	70.80%
Yes	29.20%

Yes	Count
All	2
Quail hollow	2
Access to trails and some trails themselves.	1
All park facilities should encourage use by ALL!	1
All parks could be more wheelchair accessible.	1
All sites.	1
All, population is aging, and living longer but many with some issues that limit their abilities but still like to say fish, but getting to those spots can be difficult.	1
Always ways to improve, but generally okay	1
Any opportunity to open up to others is a great thing to do.	1

Any that would be easy for disadvantaged people to get to take advantage of our Beautiful park system!☺	1
Better trails for strollers/wheel chairs (more pavement)	1
Can't think of any specifics but it is good to keep all people in mind when planning.	1
Disabled people want to enjoy life also.	1
Dog park in NC. Handicap parking should be near the park instead of around the turn.	1
Dog parks or parks offering more than walking	1
Elderly & disabled	1
Elderly and Disabled	1
Especially for the elderly and handicapped	1
Everyone should be able to enjoy the facilities	1
For the Elderly and disabled	1
For the elderly and handicapped	1
Fry family park	1
Gives everyone activities to participate in.	1
Groups for special needs or elderly conducted by Recreational Therapist	1
Hoover trail (proximity to senior residences)	1
I don't know of anywhere specific, so I'll just say wherever it is possible to accommodate please do so.	1
I don't understand the question. I think all sites should be user-friendly for all.	1
I think we do a great job, however I think being aware of families who have children with sensory needs would be something to consider	1
I would love to see a few swings that are wheel chair friendly at local parks! Imagine the joy it will bring it!	1
It would be great to see more flat, paved trails. Even small hills make it difficult for elderly or disabled people to walk the trails. The trail on Malone's property would be great for the elderly due to canton Christian home being there, and the paving of the sippo trail (rails to trails) would be AWESOME. My younger brother uses a manual wheelchair as he cannot walk. We live in Wayne county near the west Lebanon trail head for the sippo trail, and when we use the trail we are limited to heading into Dalton or the one mile over to where it becomes Stark Parks because it then changes to gravel, which is too hard for him to push through for very long and the gravel gets stuck to his hands.	1
It's important to be as inclusive as possible at all recreation sites. This is proper and functional design.	1
More paved walking trails	1
More solid surface trails at any of the trails.	1
Not necessarily sites, but more programming geared to those mentioned populations	1
Not sure exactly but there's always improvements be made.	1
Park off Easton on Pinetree. An asphalt path from back parking lot to pavilion would be so helpful to people in wheelchairs.	1
Quail Hollow	1
Quail Hollow	1
Shelters. Pathways to concert/entertainment areas . More playground handicap areas	1
Silver park	1
Sippo	1
Sippo Lake	1
Sippo Marina	1
The Stark Parks web page has great information but it might be difficult for elderly or non-English speaking individuals.	1
The Towpath Trail in Massillon could use signs for non-English speaking	1
The elderly and disabled need a nature fix too!	1
The elderly have more free time than anyone else in most cases. Why aren't parks more geared towards them? The elderly have the most time and would benefit most from using the parks.	1
There are trails available for people in wheelchairs but at some parks they are not very long and don't offer that great of scenery for the person in the wheelchair.	1
Towpath trail	1

Unsure but all sites should have these accomodations.	1
User friendly for all!!!!	1
Walborn Reservoir	1
Walking trails	1
Wheelchair Accessibility	1
Yes for elderly and disabled	1
all	1
all of them should accommodate everyone	1
all sites	1
as needed soo those with disabilities and elderly can enjoy the outdoors. assist non-English speakers to improve their knowledge of English rather than having 150 different languages on signs...you can't discriminate by only posting Spanish as example.	1
at least the disabled because there are younger individuals that may want to go to parks but access is not there	1
elderly	1
handicapped access is always appreciated.	1
in general	1
inclusive park equipment for kids of all abilities to use	1
land and water parks	1
monument park	1
more options for disabled and elderly	1
multi-lingual signage maybe helpful in certain areas, especially around reservoirs where various non-English speaking populations recreate frequently	1
nore quest expect with the HOF	1
not sure	1
off road connectivity	1
the outdoors is for everyone! dual lingual signs at trail heads? some gentle trails with wheelchair access? i want everyone to enjoy the outdoors like i do	1
wider trails, more finished trails	1
Totals	75

20. Are you interested in using trails more for recreational purposes, commuting, or both?

Trail Usage	Percent
Recreation	77.30%
Commuting	0.40%
Both	22.30%

21. Where would you like to see trails extended and/or added?

The entire county
 East/West off-road extension(s) from Gervasi
 I will be excited when the Magnolia trails are usable, like from Fry F. Park into town and toward Waynesburg.
 Trailhead in Louisville
 Would love to have the Sandy Valley area connected village to village.
 Connect the loop from Waynesburg to East Sparta through Magnolia and along the Sandy and Beaver Canal
 Magnolia to Minerva
 Nickel Plate Trail south of Louisville and Iron Horse Trail south of Alliance
 Louisville, Nimishillen,
 No where. We have too many now.
 Minerva
 Southeastern Stark County - Minerva, Paris Twp., Osnaburg Twp., Washington Twp.

Into North Canton/Belden

No where, it would seem that you have wasted enough resources in legal fees trying to take land that was not yours!

No more new trails, improve existing facilities.

Brewster. More connectivity in North Canton.

Trails and fine. Good job.

None

In rural SW Perry

Making trails go more east connecting Canton to Louisville and Alliance.

only if it makes sense

would love the minerva area to extend or even attempt to provide a safe area to run and bike without turning around after a mile.

I would like to see more trail connections.

Living in Jackson TWP, I would like to see more East/West Trails to other areas of the County.

Always

No opinion

multi county especially down to Carroll county no continual trail access from Carroll County into Stark County Trail system

Lake Township

Extended or expanded is funding allows and the additional, future maintenance costs can be paid for.

Yes, more in our community.

unsure

Not sure

around arrow head golf course in N Canton going West.

Don't know.

Louisville, and anywhere it is possible to be honest.

South east portion of the county

Other Canton shopping areas (30th St/Cleveland, Beldon, the Strip)

anywhere that would connect to the Towpath so I don't have to transport my bike to other park areas

Ok, long shot, but can we some how get a sidewalk or trail that runs along applegrove road, connecting main street with market? i see so many people walking it or trying to run in the grass, myself included!

East-West in southern Perry Township, better way to get through Massillon on the Towpath Trail

Nickle Plate at least to 172. Would be nice to connect to Minerva and iron horse.

Jackson twp.

Perry Twp to the Towpath

Kent and Stark State campuses, libraries, Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Add equestrian trails at more facilities and connector trails.

West Branch trail across the creek/Cleveland Avenue

Connect Louisville and Nimishillen townships

ATV and Dirt Bike Trails on previously mined and frequently flooded portions of southern Stark County.

Yes in my area

In the city

More neighborhood areas

Marlboro Township! We have nothing.

I would like to see some sort of a path go all the way around Sippo Lake. Loop trails are great for biking, walking and running.

UP into Camp Tuscarawas and developed into Tuscarawas county. From Navarre to Brewster Beach City, Wilmot areas.

Massillon to Perry Twp. to Canton

Everywhere so that we can encourage more walking and bike riding, as well as discourage a reliance on automobiles. It would be great to be able to use trails to go shopping, access farmer's market or simply go visit with friends in other parts of my community or the county.

I think the trails are extensive. Am awaiting Stadium Park to be complete to use that trail again.

Plain township beyond Middlebranch.

All through eastern stark county, east canton, Louisville, alliance

Jackson Twp

Esmont

Hartville/ Lake township/ north canton

GlenOak high school east

Would like to see a trail head added to access more fishing on deer creek. Have a trail from the greenbower parking lot around the lake to where the lake is on both sides of price street. This would also be good for the walkers or bike riders to see more parts of the lake

I'm am anxiously waiting for the southern Stark trails to be installed and connected, however I know that will take a long time. I would like to see something added in the North Industry/Canton Township area. Perhaps extend the Fry Park trails to the West or North.

North Canton connectivity

Louisville to Minerva and Alliance to Minerva and Alliance to The Berlin lake trail in portage county or at least the old railroad fixed up for a trail to the Mahoning County line so they could start to work on the trail development

fix them

Through alliance but not on roads. Needs to be away from traffic for safety

It would be great if trails were added that allowed people to commute to locations by foot, more frequently. Many of us would walk more to places, such as the grocery store, if there county had more pedestrian-friendly paths for us.

Horse trails extended from Whitacre Greer would be fantastic!

Connect alliance trails to Louisville would be nice.

Up towards the Plain Township section that is separate from the rest of the township. The section close to the Akron Canton airport (north end of North Canton), Orion Ave area.

Nimishillen Trail connected/extended and something offered in the Aultman/6th street area.

I would like to see the trail connected at three places on the Hoover Trail. 1. At the Nature Look out point over the stream 2. On Applegrove from in front of the Danbary Senior Living facility going east along Applegrove to the dead end path before Marquette Street. (Where is this dead end downgraded toward?) 3. You made a bridge under Market Avenue for.....? Is it supposed to connect Hoover Trail with Schneider Trail? THANK YOU for ASKING

east west trail from canton to tow path north trail from middle branch trail to Qual Hollow

Jackson township

Through out the entire county

Belden Village and surrounding areas so visitors don't have rent cars and add to traffic.

Jackson north Canton Louisville

Maintain what you have!

In my town in East Sparta :)

South western Stark toward Wilmot area

Trails to local nursing homes and established Humain societies/rescues to create more traffic and easier access for the elderly.

Good question??

more connectivity

Middlebranch trail to Washington square

Trails should be round-about. That is, they should allow one to walk essentially in a circle rather than simply reverse and walk back the same way from beginning. Would like to see Stark Parks sponsor what are called Volksmarches in Germany -- 5, 10, 20 km. John Titmas

Petros Park

Connect Fry Park to other areas

I don't believe in spending time and money and efforts on trails when the park trails in communities could be updated to help attract people to those villages/towns for business

I would like to see the current system more connected, especially a way to get to the Towpath from the eastern areas such as Plain.

Iron Horse, Stark Electric

Southeast Stark Co. Property here is the cheapest in the county, yet the few trails are fragmented. Also we don't know if the ones continued are even part of Stark Parks. NO SIGNS. I realize you are beginning to realize we exist down here, but the fact you don't even have Sandy Twp. as one of your choices where we live not being listed tells me a lot.

More trails in eastern Jackson Twp.

City of canton

Connections made in southern Stark Co. between trails

Massillon / Jackson Township - - better connectivity for the growing number of developments in Jackson

I do not think we need any more trails until you are able to keep the ones we have better maintained.

As soon as I get into Summit County the trails are so much nicer/

Bike "Highways" between the Towns! <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/beyond-autobahn-germanys-new-bike-highways>

I am hopeful that Tam O'Shanter will be opened up as a park with trails. It would be an excellent location. And certainly, whenever trails can be connected, that would be great. The trails in the area are all truncated and not connected.

As I stated earlier, I would like to see the nickleplate trail and iron horse trail connected and run down to Minerva. I would then be able to use the trail for recreation and commuting to work. If need be.

I would like to see the Iron Horse trail completed between Alliance and Minerva.

A lot of the trail seem to go north to south it would be nice to have more that went east to west and connecting to other areas

There is a lot of potential atb Fry Family Park

All over. I like variety and get bored with the same trail all the time.

Massillon

I would like to see Massillon's northern part of the trail connect better with the southern part. Any place where the trail could go under a bridge rather than over a road would be safer. Connecting paths to existing points of interest would be nice.

All over the county

In the Fry Park and in the Louisville area.

Between N Canton and Lake Twp, perhaps to Quail Hollow

Minerva alliance

Stadium Park.

Stark parks has enough to maintain. Private property owners own land in the country for privacy. If land owners do not want to sell, leave them alone.

The Iron Horse Trail extended

The trails in Alliance area are very nice. We love the Iron Horse Trail.

All over, I love hiking trails

All major county parks connected via trails.

Connect Hoover trail and Middlebranch trail.

Louisville

Current trails are sufficient.

Alliance to Berlin lake

downtown canton - to the Hall of Fame

I'd love to safely ride my bike from Jackson township to downtown canton for work. Fulton Road is prohibitive for that!

Louisville/Minerva

Louisville

connect w/City of Canton riparian areas, neighborhoods, bike paths, historic/interpretive sites, etc.

Connect through Alliance, and to the south and northwest.

Iron horse trail from alliance to Minerva.

Connecting Massillon and canton

I would like to see the north canton trail system connected to the canal towpath system

Completion of Louisville-Minerva trail connection.

Everywhere possible!

In the Massillon-Perry area

North Canton to Hartville to quail hollow via Market/SR43

North Canton

Flat bike and hiking trails in Pike Twp, EastSparta area, thank you for Fry Farm but I can't ride my bike very far yet.

A loop trail at Walborn would be nice to eliminate doubling back from Reeder when starting at the main park.

Near Jackson township

I actually think the trails are located in great places throughout Western Stark County.

Hoover Trail connected to the Middlebranch/GlenOak trail.

More trails around Alliance and Louisville. Open more streams, rivers, ponds, etc to fishing access.

More access to the Tusc. River in Massillon.

Would like to see existing trails maintained properly before more are built.

Lake township/Hartville.

Not sure of anywhere at this time.

Yes, connection through Alliance

Iron horse trail

Whitacre greer and quail hollow.

Canal trails should be connected. Also the rail trails should continue from Louisville to Canton

I would like to see something more done at the Magnolia Mills site. Trail added to make Sippo Lake Park more accessible from the neighborhoods.

Sippo Park has a wonderful trail, it would be nice if it had a loop so you didn't have to stop and turn around.

rural areas

More trail connectivity to and from Louisville

Jackson Township

-12th street to connect downtown Canton to Sippo Lake. -Extending Middlebranch trail south to connect to downtown Canton. -Connections to Quail Hollow Park in Hartville with areas south, and to other parks nearby such as Walborn and Deer Creek.

Would love to see trails connected to other counties and less on road trails

NO MORE TRAILS. QUIT TAKING PEOPLES PROPERTY AND FORCING NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES TO DEAL WITH THE UNWANTED VISITORS

Paris/ Minerva/ east canton area

All over Paris Township and Minerva such as are available in Jackson or Plain Townships.

I would love to see the Iron Horse Trail extended. My father foresaw this 50 years ago and I really enjoy my "Home" trail.

MINERVA PLEASE!!!!!!

Connecting Minerva to run along side 183...it is a high traffic area with a 50 mph speed limit. All middle school and high school sports participants are required to run along side this busy road. I believe a bike/jogging trail would offer a safer route for them as well as connect down town to the rural out-lying areas.

minerva

My area for sure, Eastern Stark County.

Hartville and Lake Township

Northeastern Stark county

Alliance, Louisville area

Quail hollow

Iron horse to Minerva

The trail north of Fulton Dr that ends at a baseball park.....to extend north....

I would like to see more trails at Fry Family Park.

Nickleplate and Iron Horse

Cross town routes (tow path - Tamoshanter - Middlebranch- Louisville). Integration with long term long distance routes (eg Rails to Trails)

Molly Stark

More through the woods on the marina side at Sippo. There is one path I take our dog through but we stay out of the areas with the signs that say to stay on the path. We enjoy the smaller more challenging paths so more availability in the woods would be awesome.

Canton's old Covered Bridge Park; the trail just ends

Eastern Stark County: Alliance, Louisville and Minerva. Complete the Iron Horse and Nickelplate Trails as planned. I prefer (and use) longer-distance rural trails more than urban trails. I drive 1-3 hours to ride trails in other parts of OH and PA at least several times per year. If the long distance trails in eastern Stark County were completed, we would absolutely see out-of-town bicyclists (like me) come to our communities to take advantage of these trails. Recreation opportunities also add to the quality of life characteristics that are important to businesses possibly looking to move into this area.

Nickel Plate, Iron Horse, Minerva Connector, Sandy Creek to Magnolia
 Fry Family Park
 Price park to Hoover trail. Use arrowhead for a trail.
 yes, Lake Township please
 On land you will pay for yourself and not take through abuse of easements
 Bike trails to toe path but NOT thru neighborhoods
 Between hartville or uniontown and north canton.
 Please connect Lake township neighborhoods to Fichtner Park/Trail and Hoover Trail!!
 Connection between Stark trails and summit trails
 In Lake Township, I would like to have a paved asphalt trail to ride a bicycle. I would not like to ride a bicycle on the side of the road for safety reasons.
 I would like to see a bridge built over the west branch of the nimishillen creek on the creek extension behind the ballfields. The trail is .25 miles and then it simply dead ends at the creek. all that is needed is a simple pedestrian bridge
 yes extended and added
 From price park to Hoover high school
 Maybe continue the trail expansion on Glenwood from Price Park?
 I think you're doing great with adding more trails.
 Finish Hoover trail. Connect Hoover to towpath. A better route from middle branch trail to downtown. safety is a concern on lower portion of middlebranch trail- so lights/security or moving closer to market ave would be great.
 Covered bridge park to North Canton YMCA.
 Lake Township
 Connection to towpath from Jackson H.S. is a good example. Great area but no ability to safely walk/run to towpath.
 To Minerva
 None
 I would like to get from downtown canton to north canton safely on trails
 More at fry park
 Lake area
 Canton
 Louisville
 I'd like to see as many trails interlinked to one another as possible, so the future could bike/walk/hike anywhere on a path to somewhere like many other communities have in place.
 I would like to see something done to connect the existing trail in Waynesburg to the old Waynesburg spillway.
 Waynesburg/Magnolia/Malvern
 Throughout the county. Easy access for all.

22. Are there any other areas of interest that the Stark County Park District should consider? For instance, park acquisitions or sales, or important cultural or historic sites to acquire. Please be as descriptive as possible.

I'm sure you've considered it, but I would love for the park to have the historic Elson Home in Magnolia beside the Mill.
 I'd love to see some more connection with zip lining, ninja warrior type obstacle course, sled riding hills, etc
 Consideration of a library/conference rooms, etc. similar to Sippos Lake for the East Sparta Fry area.
 Not happy about paying taxes on something I don't or cannot use
 Slave Underground network linking it to the Metro Parks and then beyond.
 Revitalization near Mother Goose Land. More green space down town. With the HOF village in our future, we have opportunity to create a special experience with green space and unique activities.
 Swimming, ziplines, outdoor concerts/amphitheater, rock climbing walls, etc.
 Stark Parks has more than enough property that needs upgraded facilities, improvement to lakes and streams.

More trails. 12003 (larger home) NAVARRE RD SW and grounds. Built in 1872, was supposed to be used by President McKinley as a retreat. Cooperative with McKinley Museum. Needs preserved and restored.

Hollydale Farm on Dressler now that you are buying Tammy it would make a great addition and protect even more green space.

My understanding is that there are many small lots they were willed to the city, to be dedicated as a parks. I think that number is around 50. Can some of these be sold or gifted to citizens to build houses or join connecting lots to increase city lot size for possible building of attached garages; to reduce the over annual maintenance costs to the Park District.

Provide more shade on play grounds, equipment is too hot sometimes.

Stay true to your promise regarding Tam O Shanter. I'm watching

An affordable water park as noted above.

The more green space developed in this county, especially in the inner city areas, the better for everyone. Acquisition of vacant lots to lease for gardening plots, etc. would also be beneficial.

I think the more green space the better. I would like to see more fishing and boating options.

Halloween Ghosts Walks or other events such as art festival, antique show, etc.

Improve existing facilities instead of acquiring more facilities. Ownership of public land is not free nor without expense. The Park district has enough acreage to over-regulate and prohibit uses of.

I don't know of any off hand but any historic or cultural site that can be acquired, should be, for the sake of future generations.

No but basketball hoops could be added to more parks

a huge network of trails connecting all/most the parks would be ideal.

Stark County Farm

Molly Stark more trails and possibly renovate the hospital. Could any land along the Nickle plate toward Swallen be made into hiking trails (through woods or marshy areas?)

As I mentioned before, an RV Park would help make Stark County a destination. I love what Cleveland Metroparks is doing with their golf courses and Restaurant. Attracting adults to spend more time and money would help our area!

Public swimming pool

How about adding an agricultural site? An historic farm? A great opportunity to preserve piece of history and use it for education. Many children (and adults) would benefit from spending time at a farm in order to understand where our food comes from and perhaps learn how to get involved.

More exercise class options, try to purchase the old railroad hotel in NE Canton, more small parks and playgrounds in Canton.

Since the Reservoir Park in Massillon has taken a nose dive, maybe Stark Parks could take this over and return it to a nice facility with trails, concessions, restroom facilities, etc.

Any land in Marlboro Township. We need a Park with a walking path. Perhaps if they close Marlboro Elementary, this could be a good site to acquire.

The old landfill is in Wayne and merges into Stark near the Wilderness Center. It is closed down. It has hundreds of acres of non buildable but ok for walking hiking and recreation. Owned by Wilmot mining and Mullet. What a great joint venture to renovate between Wayne and Stark for recreational use. Wilderness Center may work on a plan as it is adjacent to this property. Could be a huge area providing an example of land conservation and reclaim for public use.

Fasnacht Farm Park with Trail Connector

YES! Tie your next levy or sales tax renewal to the idea of purchasing Right-of-Way easements for the construction of a wide trail network that connects the entire county.

Louisville and east canton are thriving communities that would enjoy a beautiful park. There is no parks in this area such as Sippo, Atwood lake, canal Fulton livery.... it's just a boring area. It would be so nice to have a beautiful park to visit with my children.

Access for put in and take out for river use

Connecting quail hollow to other parks and possibly the Y/ school complex

Yes, buy land on south side of apple grove st between panther estates and Wellington woods for a park.

some area historical land buying would be interesting.

Acquire the lands needed to connect existing trails into a unified trail system! That would be great.

Another dedicated mountain bike trail somewhere in the south end of the county would be nice too.

Quail Hollow is 45 minutes from my house.

Trying to connect trails to other counties to help with commuting back and forth

fix the trails

Brownfields in place of abandoned houses or businesses

A water splash park that is not in the worst neighborhood.

Dredge Sippo

I think the empty field by the Schneider dog park could become a mountain bike skills area. we would work with plain township.

Establish Volksmarches for community. John Titmas

Try to get Molly Stark fixed up for use.

Contact The Wilderness Center in Wilmont and they know what acquisitions are..

Add a branch of the SV Library to Fry Park

acquire the old mother goose steam engine and coal car and refurbish it and have it someplace where other children can enjoy it as I did in my youth.

More wilderness areas that only allow hiking with little disturbance.

Buy more lakes! More fishing, boating, etc.

I am sure there are, but I do not know of any at the time.

Elson House in Magnolia.

Don't waste government dollars anymore. Stark parks owns enough, focus on what you currently have. It'd be nice to see the park restore stream channel/sinuosity throughout the park system. McKinley Park would be a good candidate. Could also focus on purchasing/acquiring land with natural resources and save their destruction from development. This would help alleviate flooding and could also be another candidate for flood plain reconnection or flood storage.

Free Archery range, disc golf, bocce ball courts that are open to all, plant more trees for shade

Do a feasibility study w/Coon Restoration Co. of Louisville to see if Molly Stark Hospital could have sections removed and portions restored and turned into apartments.

It would be nice to bring new parks into Massillon or canton city limits. Would it be feasible to purchase a few run down home lots, demo the structures and replace with wildflower gardens or a young native forest? I think the potentially troubled youth in the cities could find solace amongst nature.

No. You are doing a nice job. Maybe plant more flowering bushes or trees for enjoyment along the trails.

Children's summer camp

not sure at this time

Genoa One Room School House, as well as Genoa School. There are many ways that the property and the buildings can be used. The elementary will no longer be in use in the near future. It should not be in use, but the history of that building is wonderful. The woodwork, chalk boards, tile work, they all would be worth saving and using for a park facility.

More rentals like at Sippo Lake

I just drove by the Magnolia Mill today on my way to work. Is that the paint color that is going to be used? GREY? Was this the original color?

If at all possible it would be great for the residents of Stark County to have some access to Molly Stark. It is a very unique and historic site and I believe that access would lead to educational and recreational benefits. Unfortunately, it may be too big of a project to undertake.

Better utilization of Lock 4 Park

Let people do over night stays in molly stark moundsville does it all the time at a dam prison.

There is a big field on Gaskill in Alliance that would be a great place for a dog park. It is close to the off ramp of old 62.

Swimming facilities

Extending any bike/walk trail

Are there any abandoned rail road right of ways?

-Fasnacht Farm in Perry Township -Historic house at the corner of Diamond Park in Plain Township and Middlebranch Ave NE (Not sure who currently own this building). -Elson Home in Magnolia. - Jackson Bog

Stop buying property

Does the Park District do regular clean-ups using volunteers? If not, this could be a great way to get people to the parks and learning about the effects of litter and pollution on our park system.

Please clean the Magnolia mill pond.

Any historical site in Stark County should be acquired and preserved no matter how big or small.

Stark parks should keep their interest in preserving land not historic sites.

Acquire old rail line right of way by any means to benefit the majority instead of waiting for the few to slowly fade away.

I love the imitative to acquire and maintain green space but in order to ensure the space is being utilized more comprehensive programing should be taken into consideration

Timken Gate House in Stadium Park, Canton Timken Stables on 13 th St. NW

Hines hill mansion. That would be so awesome to have guided tours through. Maybe even the farm that is on the southeast corner of Hankins and Jackson.

Old Molly Stark facility; couldn't at least part of this be made into a museum? It has some very interesting and different architectural qualities.

Don't acquire properties without a clear intended purpose in mind. Molly Stark: why did the district aquire this? It doesn't seem like there's a clear plan on how to use it, and it's just a drain on park district resources. I'll never understand that aquisition. Sell it!

Property acquisitions related to question #20 response

Arrowhead property for a stark state park.

park acquisition in Lake Township

Update what you have not Add new

Do something about the construction situation just north of Wooster St. It's ridiculous to randomly close off that area of the trail 5 days out of the week.

Acquiring more parks to build disc golf courses on is a good thing to do. Disc golf is a cheaper sport that is great for all ages and athletic ability. You do not need to be the best athlete to have fun and get involved in the sport. It is a huge growing community and brings people together and also a great way to get people up and moving off their couch. If the course is nice, it will attract people from all over and especially if tournaments are ran at the courses. Brings more revenue to the area. Businesses will help sponsor some of the course as well so its a win win for all.

More disc golf courses at Stark Parks current Parks. (Assuming they're designed and installed correctly)

Anywhere where a championship level disc golf course could be installed.

It would be cool if you put in like a little 9 hole disc golf corse at the mickinly monument

Tis a shame Stark Parks don't have a FALL HIKING Spree like Summit county has in place. Hike so many Stark Park trails and receive a shield to be added to one's walking staff. I see generations of families doing this together in Summit Co. Would love to see it happen in Stark county parks!!

It would be nice to have the Waynesburg trail extend beyond where it currently ends behind Shecklers pond. The old brickyard that is across the street and up the hill from where the trail ends would be a nice multi use property to add to the park system.

Repair the aged wooden gates at canal Lock 4 Park. The only thing holding back 1.5 miles of watered Ohio and Erie Canal. I

23. Ninety percent of Stark Parks' revenue is generated from property tax and grants, and currently only ten percent of Stark Parks' revenue is generated from sales or fees. Do you think that Stark Parks should offer more programs that charge fees (such as zip lines, refrigerated toboggan runs, large community events with live entertainment, etc.)?

Activity Fees	Percent
Yes - I would be willing to pay activity fees to increase revenues.	78.30%
No - I would not be willing to pay activity fees to increase revenues.	21.80%

24. Please add any other problems and/or solutions you feel should be addressed in the Stark County Park District Five-Year Plan, 2019-2023.

The maintenance and upkeep of the Magnolia Mill has been horrible. I understand tha there is construction activities going on but that is no excuse to not mow the grass. When people drive through our town and see how bad it looks they associate it with our town and it reflects poorly on us, the residents. You had a third party mowing the grass on a regular basis and they did a great job. Ever since the park took over the mowing it has looked awfull. Maybe the person in charge of maintenance should drive around more to see the condition of the grounds in which you service. Or is it that you

don't care as much because it's in Magnolia, because when I drive by other Stark Park facilities they are kept in much better condition.

Overall a good start in our Sandy Valley area. Would like to expand activities in the SV area.

Definitely need attention to the mill pond it is disgusting to look at and the local children cannot appreciate it

Fair and transparent land acquisition, good neighbor policies

Activities like zip lines and sledding would be wonderful! I appreciate having so many wonderful parks in Stark!

We should have one park system in the county. We have one in each twp. and city. How much could we save via a consolidation?

Did prices go up for kayak rentals? Keep the price points as low as possible as incentive for families and repeat customers, especially Stark Co. residents.

Residents do not want a County connected trail. The individual trails allow access to all residents.

Connecting trails creates an environment that is unsafe and places people at risk.

referring to question 22, I am from Cincinnati, where they have levies for the park system, in addition, there is either a daily or yearly fee. the last year I lived there, the fee was \$8-10.00, for use of all parks. a bargain.

Always keep safety on your agenda and make sure parks are clean and patrol as a visual force for protection. Don't let your success lead you to be lazy. Keep working everyday on doing better. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Love what you are doing and back the program 100 % keep up the good work getting people outside and enjoying nature.

I would like to see more places for things like tennis and fields for neighborhood kick ball games. I know we always are challenged to find things like this when we have family gatherings or just our granddaughter over. She loves to play tennis.

No levies please

The park system looks good on the surface but the Board of Directors should be ashamed and embarrassed that they pay less than a living wage to some very good people. Park staff turn over is to high and the turn over at the very top is to low.

Love the trails and Stark Parks does an excellent job. Personnel are friendly, helpful and quite entertaining on hikes.

I love Stark parks, use them regularly, and donate a couple times a year. I'm happy to pay fees to increase revenue but the beauty of parks is the free recreation for all people to come together so please continue to keep most things free

Would like to see the parks be innovators in the area of solar power on buildings and parking lots.

Please keep the parks as natural and restful as possible, not a source of large entertainment. Stark Parks are wonderful!

Re: question 22. I checked yes and no bc I think basic park services should be free/tax payer supported/donation supported i.e. trails and park access and basic facilities. If having bigger events that have a small fee pulls more people and interest in to the park system, by all means expand!

Love the development of our trails. More trails are best way to grow our parks

I would like to continue to see renovations done at the Mill and Quail Hollow. Those historic sites are important to the existing communities and drawing people to those areas. I would like Stark Parks to think of ways to attract a more diverse population to the park. While the Stark Parks brand is consistent across all parks, I would like to see innovation, and ideas that are outside of the box. Thanks!

As a fisherman, one of the biggest problems I encounter, but not sure how it could be addressed, is the amount of trash people leave behind.

Due to water run-off, I've noticed several different areas on trails with deep divots in them

Safety

Molly Stark Park. Those buildings are an eyesore.

Do not try and raise property taxes.

I travel an hour to get to good horse trails. On the way I buy gas, snacks, pay for camping at some facilities, etc. Biking I jump on sat the R/Trails Wayne/start of Navarre/Massillon area. Camping I go to Mohican, Malabar, Hocking, Trico horse camp in Stark. These areas are getting busier so I see increased interest in outdoor recreation. Maybe renovation of a landfill like near the Wilderness Center could generate a camping community area that would keep people in Stark area. The Other end of county Whitaker Greer could have land developed more also. Having trails run into these campgrounds and link would be awesome. The township roads can be used also

I think it would be fantastic if the park district had more events. For example, it would be great to go see a small performance (quintet from Canton Symphony, bluegrass band, wine tasting, etc) in one any number of parks throughout the system. Be even better if I could ride to and from such events on my bike.

I really do like the free events and how cost effective canoeing and kayaking is at the parks. I wouldn't want to see these things priced out of the general public's means, but would be willing to pay for larger events and activities. I love the partnerships with library!

Safety, security, and activities.

We love everything that has been done and updated at Sippo Lake park!

Less mud trails

I think there should be more fishing derbies for the public. I feel that bringing not only kids but adults alike away to get away and have some fun. West Ville used to do catfish tournaments all the time and now that is no longer taking place. They used to have a lot of people turn out for these. There could be a possibility of increased revenue through the marinas as this will also help with increased money for the parks.

If you add drinking fountains, add dog access. More kayak/canoe rental and classes. More group bicycling trips. Partner with schools for outdoor fitness activities. Environmental - conservation programming, leave no trace. Fishing for adults. Naturalists on staff.

I think you all are doing a great job overall. I just can't wait to see these trails on the eastern side of the county developed and finished. I realize that a majority of the people are in the canton area but we also enjoy this stuff with out having to drive a half an hour or more to do so

Trails need to be paved so more people can use them Talk to Summit and Portage county parks about paving trails Freedom trail is great

More frequent contact with community. Remind us what programs are happening this week. Hold more community action opportunities like bioblitz, garlic mustard pulls, nimishillen clean up, etc.

I think stark parks really stepped up and created wonderful programs for kids . We love messy Friday, archery and the summer camp. The staff at your facilities is amazing . I would love to see a few more things offered for 5 year olds. Maybe a small camp . Playground or Splash pad would be wonderful in the area. Fishing is awesome but people smoking at the park should be stopped .

A water splash park that is not in the worst neighborhood.

Your mascot is Felipe the frog... geocaching mascot, signal the frog... maybe a combined frog cache event... determine how many caches are active on stark park properties, and make an event date that people who have logged all stark park located caches win a special event prize, maybe even just like a pin / bumper sticker, etc. just an idea.

Dredge Sippo

I own a farm, in the Tuslaw School District, so I pay Very High Taxes, that is why I think you should consider rural people's needs, not just the city people that, hike, walk, bike, etc. Improve the Equestrian needs!

I would be willing to pay for things if I had the money to. I dont even go to resturaunts with friends so I can save money. I'm not going to spend it on kayaking...even tho I badly want to kayak. Do Stark Parks appeal and accommodate to poor working college students? (There are plenty in this area) or lower income residence that want to have fun but don't have the cash to blow on an entrance fee. I am always sitting and wondering what activities I could be doing that: 1. I could go to by myself and 2. Are free.

Just need to continue to make sure people are aware of ALL the parks offer!

Five year capital improvement of physical plant and acquisitions

There are multiple grants that Stark Parks applies for and receives that can be used for items, perhaps those should be used on items other than trails.

Please take care of us down south.

Most of the child/grandparent activities are in the daytime during the week, I'm always searching for weekend activities to do

Fees should (of course) be as minimal as possible!

Obviously, I would like to see Stark Parks acquire Tam O'Shanter. Please keep the community informed on these plans. Tree planting programs are important for creating habitat, CO2 sinks, cooling effects against the structure of cities, and aesthetics. Let's make stark county beautiful!

Fry park is an amazing addition to the Sandy Valley community. However would love to see a recreational park with splash pad.. play equipment.. new swings.. swings for children with disabilities.. mommy and me swings..play equipment for children of all ages and abilities. A small paved walking

path around the park would be amazing. Basically a park for the entire family from newborn to 60 can enjoy.

More birding programs

Parks need to be cleaner and better drainage is. Needed often very muddy and wet

Geese, they are dirty and dangerous when it is mating season. I have been chased more than once, and shouldn't have that worry when I am trying to enjoy nature.

Don't let the Hall of Fame take over our parks.

More activities in the Alliance area.

Flush restrooms and running water to wash hands at Quail Hollow, for when Manor House/Nature Center are closed. Restroom and water at Deer Creek Reservoir. More evening kayak/paddling programs. Create Nature Play area(s) for young children. Example nature play areas are at the Wilderness Center, the new Nature Playce at Beech Creek, and in Summit Metro Parks at Liberty Park and Goodyear Heights.

The last we heard, a trail was supposed to come from Market via the new tunnel through the old Edgewater Golf Course and behind our home to Stone Crossing in Plain Township. Our home is a small villa and our yard is equally small. Having a path at the bottom of our yard with strangers walking that close to the house is frightening. The path already runs along one side of our home. Two sides is too much! Since Dehoff now owns the golf course property, couldn't that trail connection be rerouted to come out alongside a street rather than between two homes? Perhaps that is already being considered. If so, I appreciate it.

I would like to see more protection of natural habits, eg. shorebird habitat at Walborn/Berlin reservoirs in Autumn migration season.

expansion into the Louisville area.

Some sort of Park Membership fee that makes membership beneficial and fun would be nice. Not a fee that limits activities. I was once a single mother struggling to survive. There were times when using the park services saved my sanity. I would not have wanted the burden of not having my daughter included because we could not afford to participate. And now, I struggle again. At times the parks, once again, help me maintain my sanity. Please do not charge fees that would limit the things that I can participate in!

Seek a large sum of tax money from the corporation running the Nexus Pipeline which has destroyed a lot of wooded habitats in the area and has environmental hazard potential

Just the fast bicycle riding.

Let people do lock downs in molly stark.

Mow weeds back along Petros ... safety issue

Geese control, to be honest the poop at Price Park (mostly geese poop) is disgusting on the walking path. I have to wash off the stroller wheels or try to get it off the wheels in the grass before getting it in my car. I do love "the take a bag, give a bag" dog poop stations at Veterans and Sippo Park. It helps with people being responsible and picking up their dogs poop, for the most part. I would love to see it at more parks!

You should have an app with information and trail maps.

Stark Parks has become a nuisance in this area. And the fact that we tax payers are paying for Stark Parks to continue to acquire property to build trails that are not patrolled or monitored is infuriating.

You have forced these recreation areas into our backyards and now we as property owners are left to worry about our personal safety and privacy.

I do not feel that asphalt and large gravel is necessary everywhere. Hiking/ Mt biking/ horse back riding, Pavement doesn't always make trails perfect for everyone. Slag or crushed limestone make a cheap nice path.

Provide trails and facilities in Paris Township and Minerva by the year 2019.

I wish there were more doggie waste statons nad trash containers on the trail. People who litter disrespect nature and our trails.

Please clean the Magnolia mill pond.

Need additional trails connected to Minerva

Hire people on the trails for safety and protection, that fit in as regular people without the uniform to help deter crime.

more trail options would be good but only if maintenance does not suffer from resources being spread to thin

Having pay for activities that are more year round

Repaving the rest of Petros Lake roads and shelter parking lots. Also add parking lines to shelter parking lots.

Wonderful new wildlife conservation center. I volunteer. Disappointed in the hose connections (way too difficult to connect and turn on and off-get a bath) and no drainage in concrete ponds. These ponds are hard to keep clean and very time consuming. please fix

Stark Parks and Stark County Planning wake up and look around you. People want recreation that is safe and enjoyable and want their tax dollars improving their communities not just being thrown at "welfare and more farm subsidies" to accommodate the lazy and greedy.

Organized lake swimming Sports/recreational events (eg running races, triathlons). Collaborate where necessary to support the events

Please review my earlier answer regarding an excellent way to save Molly Stark Hospital. After remediation, you can start with small areas to make safe for ghost hunts & overnights. Money raised from such events can be used toward continued renovation to the buildings and will draw people from all over. You can charge \$75 a\$100 per person for an overnight. People will pay the money. We have gone on these types of events and have met awesome volunteers to oversee these types of events at the places we have been to. Transallegheny Lunatic Asylum in Weston, West Virginia is a very similar type of facility (in case you would like to contact to see how they went about proper and safe renovations).

Trails need to have something of interest, such as flowers, plants, placards, etc. Milage markers so you know how far you have liked or biked.

More activities to do, to keep folks in stark... Dog beaches Splash pad

Push for completion of projects in eastern stark county, just as you have done in Jackson, Plain, North Canton, etc. I understand the rights and some of the "concerns" of the rural property owners, but this is a democratic process and the voters have clearly indicated they want these trails. There will always be support and opposition, but the numbers are on your side. Keep pushing for completion, and I'll continue to support those efforts.

Regarding question #22 response - this is not a question of willingness on my part - rather I'd like activities to remain cost free to all (rental equipment aside) so that public access to activities & facilities are utilized to the maximum.

Be more respectful to the Agriculture community, realize that farms are a business. Trails through peoples businesses are not safe for the public or the business owner.

Lighting in parking lots and more of a security presence

I would love to see a peace or contemplative garden added with accessible parking and a water feature.

My only concern is about the lack of asphalt paved bicycle trails in Stark County. I would believe that these trails could also make it easier for a disabled person than the crushed stone or gravel trails. All of the surrounding counties have asphalt paved trails.

I am unhappy upon hearing that more trails will be covered with limestone. I believe some trails should be natural surfaces with rocks, roots, mud, etc. Quail Hollow? Wilderness Center?

Love the trails! Now I am worried & more cautious on them!

Boettler Park in Green is a great example of a park with great trails, clean restrooms and a play area that is fenced in and inclusive for ALL children with great seating options for parents and grandparents.

I want to just add that while I said I would be willing to pay for certain additional items, what does attract people to many of these are the fact that they can participate with no cost. For additional items such as zip lining and canoeing I would be willing to pay a small fee, however to participate in biking or dog parks I would not pay

I think the parks are doing great work & hope it continues! More trash receptacles, dog parks, safety, trail connectivity!

Dog owners that do leash there dogs or keep them on a short enough leash.

Improve the conditions of the Towpath Trail

I Dustin Alcorn am currently the SCDGA (Stark County Disc Golf Association) President and would love to schedule a meeting to discuss options for revenue for Stark Parks assuming disc golf courses can get installed in as many Stark Parks locations. I can be reached at (330) 224-1146 or SCDGAOH@gmail.com.

I think you all are doing a great job. Just add more things to keep people interested and new users to your parks.

Clean up arbo

Disc golf, think I've made it clear..

I currently camp at Seneca lake bc there are not nice camping areas that allow fishing and full hook up camping. I believe that stark parks could charge for full hook up camping and make revenue that way Just help with those rude bicycle riders before someone gets hurt bad on the towpath and the gravel road next to the towpath

The tax payer should not be the only one who pays for the parks in Stark County. Revenue should be generated as stated in #23 so as to collect from a wider range of the population that uses the parks on a very frequent basis.

More disc golf in parks is important. It provides people of all ages a quality outdoor recreation activity that is safe and healthy. Championship level courses can be great for drawing in many visitors, and that should certainly be a focus. To supplement those, it would also be wise to consider installing smaller 6 or 9 hole courses at parks where space is limited but available. Shorter courses like these can be great for introducing beginners and children to the sport while encouraging healthy outdoor recreation.

Disc Golf is the fastest growing sport/ activity in America. I've personally played 1575 different Disc Golf courses in the World (at least 1 in each state/ 5 Canadian Provinces and in England (244 different Disc Golf courses in Ohio). It's so refreshing to see families/ father and kids and men and women all enjoying the flight of the disc. It would be beneficial if Stark Parks had more courses for all to enjoy and all to benefit from and outdoor activity, good cardiovascular activity and good for Stark county coffers as players need gas/food/some might need hotels and then visit other cultural activities in Stark county while they're visiting Stark County playing some Disc Golf ----- - :)

I believe there should high employee standards of kindness. One bad experience with a rude, unkind employee could make people decide to never return to that facility.

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

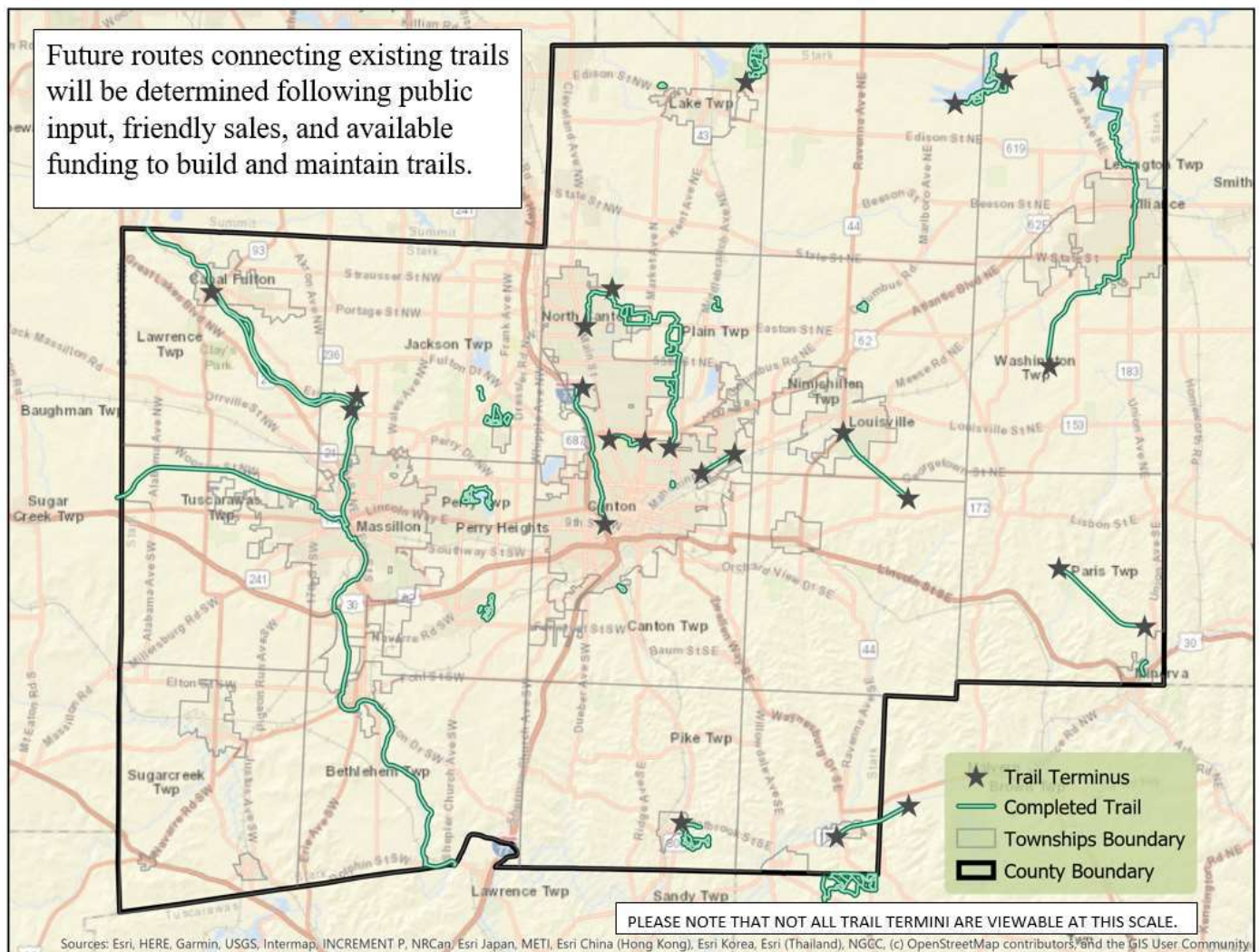
Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: OLD BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Informational: Proposal to Update the Published Trail and Greenway Master Plan Map (Exhibit B)

Please see attached (Exhibit B) for the proposal to update the Trail and Greenway Master Plan. The proposed published map will only show trails completed and under construction. All future routes connecting existing trails will be determined following public input, friendly sales, and available funding to build and maintain trails.

Proposal to Update the Published Trail and Greenway Master Plan Map (Exhibit B)



STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: NEW BUSINESS
SUBJECT: Fry Family Park Project
RESOLUTION: #20-02-014

WHEREAS, the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners approved the Fry Family Park Project as part of the 2019 Project List & Budget with Resolution #19-02-018; and

WHEREAS, the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners authorized the establishment of a change order budget to cover change orders or other unanticipated costs with resolution #19-11-084; and

WHEREAS, a change order in the amount of One Thousand Eight Hundred Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$1,808.50) has been issued by PSI, Inc. for additional concrete testing services; and

WHEREAS, a fee for the final inspection, plumbing permit and air testing required by the Stark County Building Department for the final occupancy permit is quoted at One Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$1,260.00) by D & A Plumbing and Heating, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, these fees total Three Thousand Sixty Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$3,068.50).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners to authorize a transfer of funds in an amount of not to exceed Three Thousand Sixty Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$3,068.50) for the additional concrete testing services and final inspection, plumbing permit and air testing from the Project Fund-Unallocated (072.28.0000.65000) to Capital Outlay-Buildings-Construction Management (072.28.1013.65201) for the Fry Family Park Project.

_____ MOVED to adopt this resolution, which was SECONDED by _____.

DISCUSSION:

MOTION CARRIED on a vote as follows:

Voting Aye:

Voting Nay:

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: NEW BUSINESS
SUBJECT: Iron Horse Trail Phase III Contract with the City of Alliance
RESOLUTION: #20-02-015

WHEREAS, the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners approved the Iron Horse Trail Phase III Project as part of the 2019 Departmental Project List & Budget with Resolution #19-02-018; and

WHEREAS, the Park District received the Clean Ohio Trail Fund grant for construction of the Iron Horse Trail Phase III in the amount of Four Hundred Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Ninety Five Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$417,195.90); and

WHEREAS, the Park District entered into a contract with the City of Alliance for Ninety Four Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (\$94,963.00) which included a contract amount of Eighty Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$86,330.00) and a Ten (10%) contingency for a portion of the concrete and drainage work; and

WHEREAS, the original purchase order issued to the City of Alliance for the Iron Horse Trail Phase III Project was for Eighty Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Three Dollars (\$86,330.00); and

WHEREAS, Robert A. Fonte, Park Director, recommends to allocate the remaining Ten Percent (10%) contingency in the amount of Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars (\$8,633.00) to the City of Alliance for the Iron Horse Trail Phase III Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners to authorize a transfer of funds in an amount of not to exceed Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars (\$8,633.00) from the Project Fund-Unallocated (072.28.0000.65000) to Capital Outlay-Buildings-Design Engineering (072.28.1000.65202) for the Iron Horse Trail Phase III Project.

_____ MOVED to adopt this resolution, which was SECONDED by _____.

DISCUSSION:

MOTION CARRIED on a vote as follows:

Voting Aye:

Voting Nay:

STARK COUNTY PARK DISTRICT

Summary and Recommendations of Agenda Items

CATEGORY: NEW BUSINESS
SUBJECT: Copier Lease Agreement Buyout
RESOLUTION: #20-02-016

WHEREAS, the Stark County Park Board of Park Commissioners adopted the 2020 Budget with Resolution #19-12-101 that included a copier lease; and

WHEREAS, the copier lease that services three copy machines used in the administrative, education and operations offices expires in February of this year; and

WHEREAS, the option to buy out the three leases is less expensive than the amount budgeted to lease the machines in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of park staff to buy the machines for a total amount of Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty One Dollars and Eighty-Nine Cents (\$3,821.89).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners to authorize the copier lease agreement buyout in an amount not to exceed Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty One Dollars and Eighty-Nine Cents (\$3,821.89).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Stark County Park District Board of Park Commissioners to authorize a transfer of funds in an amount not to exceed Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty One Dollars and Eighty-Nine Cents (\$3,821.89) from 07.28.1000.64203 (Purchased Services-Property-Rental-Equipment/Vehicles) to 072.28.1000.65403 (Capital Outlay-Machinery/Equipment-Office) for the copier lease agreement buyout.

_____ MOVED to adopt this resolution, which was SECONDED by _____.

DISCUSSION:

MOTION CARRIED on a vote as follows:

Voting Aye:

Voting Nay:

Stark County Park District
DIRECTOR'S REPORT
January 1 – 31, 2020

1/1/2020	– New Year's Day Holiday – Offices Closed
1/2/2020	– Conducted Meeting with Human Resources Manager and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
1/3/2020	– Conducted One-on-One Meeting with Chief of Public Safety
	– Conducted Meeting with Projects and Administration Manager and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
1/6/2020	– Conducted Meeting with Operations Manager and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
1/7/2020	– Conducted Manager Meeting at Sippo Lake Clubhouse
	– Attended Friends of Stark Parks 2020 Budget Meeting at Exploration Gateway
	– Attended Regional Planning Commission Meeting at Regional Planning Commission Offices
1/8/2020	– Attended Park Board Meeting at Sippo Lake Clubhouse
	– Attended Friends of Stark Parks Board Meeting at Exploration Gateway
1/9/2020	– Presented at Leadership Stark County Class along with the Stark County District Library about the Benefits of Stark Parks and Partnerships
	– Conducted Meeting with Chief of Public Safety and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
	– Attended Canton Regional Society of Professional Engineers (CRSPE) Board Meeting Conference Call
	– Attended Quail Hollow Volunteer Association Meeting at Quail Hollow Park Manor House
1/10/2020	– Conducted One-on-One Meeting with Human Resources Manager
	– Conducted Meeting with Staff Regarding Staffing at Quail Hollow and Fry Park
	– Attended Meeting with Administration and Project Manager and Consultant Regarding Tam O'Shanter Park Development
1/14/2020	– Attended Meeting with Operations Manager, City of Canal Fulton Officials and Ohio Horseman's Council Members at Canal Fulton Regarding the Olde Muskingum Trail in Canal Fulton and Equestrian Use
1/15/2020	– Attended AultCare QuickConnect January Luncheon at La Pizzeria
	– Conducted Meeting with Natural Resources Manager and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
1/16/2020	– Attended Meeting with Education Manager, Operations Manager and City of Canal Fulton Officials Regarding the Canal Board Operations at Sippo Lake Park Clubhouse
1/16/2020	– Attended Wildlife Conservation Center Department Staff Meeting Regarding Levy Updates
	– Attended Education Department Staff Meeting Regarding Updates on 2020 Budget
	– Conducted Presentation at the Township Trustee's Meeting at the Exploration Gateway
1/17/2020	– Attended Operations Department Staff Meeting Regarding Updates on 2020 Budget
	– Conducted One-on-One Meeting with Operations Manager
1/20/2020	– Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Offices Closed

1/21/2020	– Attended Plain Partners Meeting at GlenOak High School
	– Attended Administrative Staff Meeting at Sippo Lake Park Clubhouse
	– Attended Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) Videotaping for Governors Award Nomination at Petros Lake Park Mindfulness Walk
1/22/2020	– Conducted Meeting with Education Manager and Financial Manager Regarding 2020 Budget
	– Attended Visit Canton Event at the Akron Canton Airport
1/23/2020	– Conducted One-on-One Meeting with Natural Resources Manager
	– Attended Quail Hollow Volunteer Association Membership Meeting at Quail Hollow Park
1/24/2020	– Conducted 2020 Budget Staffing Meeting with Human Resources Manager and Financial Manager
1/25/2020	– Conducted Presentation at the Buckeye Trail Association Meeting at the Exploration Gateway
1/27/2020	– Attended Project Update Meeting with Administration and Projects Manager, Operations Manager, Projects Assistant and Financial Manager
	– Attended Visit Canton Executive Committee Meeting at Onesto
	– Attended Visit Canton Board of Directors Meeting at Onesto
	– Attended Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) Meeting at Regional Planning Commission
	– Attended Interview with Canton Repository
1/28/2020	– Attended Introduction Meeting with Stark County Park District Staff and The New Executive Director of the Wilderness Center to review existing and explore future partnership opportunities
	– Attended Meeting Regarding Development Plans and Integration Between Groups at Tam O'Shanter with Wojno Development, ABC Development, CAM Inc., RDL Architects, GPD Group, Jackson Township, EDG and Fiorilli Construction
	– Attended Meeting with Jackson Township Regarding Creating a Combined Plan to Include Drainage, Trails and Recreational Amenities (restrooms, etc.) as well as a Parking Lot Assessment
1/29/2020	– Attended Ranger/Public Safety Department Staff Meeting Regarding Levy Updates

EXHIBIT A

Event/Location	Date	Description	Staff/Vol.
Magi Board MTG	15-Jan	Monthly board meeting - Trail reporting	ML/RS
Stark County Power Squadron	30-Jan	Presentation at annual banquet	JS