



**PRINCETON**  
**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF PRINCETON**  
**MINUTES • NOVEMBER 23, 2015**

**Regular Meeting**

**Main Council Room**

**6:30 PM**

400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

**I. STATEMENT CONCERNING NOTICE OF MEETING**

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of a written notice. On November 20, 2015 at 9:50 a.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Town Topics and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

**II. ROLL CALL**

The Municipal Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Councilwoman Butler, Councilwoman Crumiller, Councilwoman Howard, Councilman Liverman, Council President Miller, Councilman Simon and Mayor Lempert.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Dashield, Administrator, Ms. Cecil, Esq., Attorney, Mr. Kiser, Engineer and Chief Sutter.

**III. 6:30 P.M. CLOSED SESSION: LITIGATION/NEGOTIATIONS**

1. Resolution 15-335 Closed Session

Mr. Miller offered a motion to add Princeton University's Tax Exempt Status and Personnel update to the closed session resolution. Mr. Simon seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Heather Howard, Councilwoman
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bernard Miller, Council President
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

2. COAH Litigation

3. Litigation Update

4. Open Space Acquisitions

5. PCTV Contract

6. Princeton University Tax Exempt Status

Mayor Lempert and Ms. Howard recused themselves from this discussion and left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

7. Personnel Update

**IV. 7:00 P.M. OPEN SESSION**

Mayor Lempert and Ms. Howard returned to the meeting.

Mayor Lempert asked the audience for a moment of silence in memory of Dr. Charles Rojer, Board of Health member, who passed away recently.

**V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The audience participated in the pledge of allegiance.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Butler said that the Historic Preservation Commission will meet with a consultant on November 30, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Witherspoon-Jackson historic designation.

Mayor Lempert said that a new Swatting law has passed in the New Jersey Assembly and has been signed by the Governor.

Mayor Lempert said that there will be a meeting of the Princeton Council at Monument Hall on November 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., to discuss the Affordable Housing/COAH litigation.

Mayor Lempert wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Corrected Minutes September 8, 2014

The minutes were tabled until December 7, 2015 so that Council could have a discussion as to the format they wish to see future minutes presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>TABLED</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
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- 2. Special Meeting September 10, 2015

The minutes were tabled until December 7, 2015 so that Council could have a discussion as to the format they wish to see future minutes presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>TABLED</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
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**VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

William Hoover, 98 Westerly Road expressed his concern over alarm fees. He said that he resented “stealth” fees and said that it was cheaper to not register his alarm and pay the \$50.00 fine. Mr. Hoover stated that if the municipality cannot rectify the “stealth tax” then the municipality needs to do some quick public relations in order to educate our residents about the alarm registration fees.

Steve Hiltner, 139 North Harrison Street, stated that free leaf bags are not really free.

Pam Machold, 713 Prospect Avenue, offered a history of the Open Space Task Force. She asked that the municipality give the arborist staff to adequately do the job.

Bainy Suri, 19 Chestnut Street, Sam Bezilla, 39 Ross Stevenson Circle, Stephanie Chorny, 11 Race Street and Wendy Mager, 459 Cherry Hill Road, all spoke in favor of Council addressing a plastic bag ordinance. Ronald Nielsen, 14 Humbert Street, spoke against a plastic bag ordinance.

## IX. REPORTS

### 1. 15-336 September 2015 Police Report, Nicholas Sutter, Chief

Chief Sutter said that the Safe Neighborhoods Unit was recently honored publically with a governor’s award. Chief Sutter also stated that five officers have been trained in car seat installation. He said the department has also been concentrating on citizen complaints and motor vehicle stops.

Ms. Crumiller noted that there were thirty-five firearms background checks. Chief Sutter said that these could be long arm or pistols and background checks are done based on mandated regulations. He said that just because there have been thirty-five applications, it does not mean that there are thirty five approvals.

Ms. Butler asked for clarification on the number of motor vehicle stops and whether it means that they were issued a ticket. Ms. Butler asked how difficult it would be to detail the summons and as an example add gender, race and ethnicity statistics of those stopped. Chief Sutter said that this was an IT issue that could be looked into.

Mr. Liverman said that there were a growing number of unintended deaths, many of which are related to heroin. Chief Sutter said that the police department has experienced spikes in heroin related deaths and is working with Corner House on education.

### 2. Open Space Task Force Report/Recommendations, Wendy Mager, Passive Open Space Advisory Committee

Ms. Mager reviewed with the Mayor and Council a report of the Passive Open Space Advisory Committee, October 23, 2015.

(Report appended to this set of minutes.)

Ms. Mager said that the committee considered open space totaling less than 1,100 acres. With the exception of portions of Marquand Park, the Pettoranello Gardens section of Community Park North and the native-plant-garden portions of Harrison Street Park and Farmview Fields; these are natural areas rather than designed landscapes. With the noted exceptions, the Committee focused on these

natural areas. The committee concluded after discussion that they would not consider small “pocket parks” with playgrounds/playing fields or other small designed gardens that total about 10 acres, of which Quarry Park/Playground is the largest at 4.54 acres and the smallest is “Paul Robeson Place/Wiggins Street” at .02 acres.

Playgrounds/playing fields and small designed gardens are appropriately under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department/Department of Public Works, as at present.

Ms. Mager said that many of Princeton’s most-frequented passive open space areas are currently largely maintained by volunteers. The principal costs currently incurred by the municipality to maintain passive open space are for mowing and for pick-up of garbage and recycling – both at a limited number of locations as shown on the attached exhibits. Staff reporting to the Director of Infrastructure and Operations created a chart reflecting the mowing costs for properties in the matrix, which totaled \$22,050 annually (Exhibit B). This includes \$3,600 for mowing the sewage treatment plant site and the landfill area on River Road that is slated to become a solar power facility, which should probably not be included. The costs of trash pickup were not quantified. Man-hours for pickup of trash and recycling at passive and active parks were quantified as 25-40 man-hours/week between April and November, and 0-15 man-hours/week from November through March.

Ms. Mager said that the recommendations of the Passive Open Space Advisory Committee are as follows:

1. Plan for and fund the position of Parks Director for passive open space.
2. Include monies in the budget for the other actions identified in the needs section of the report.
3. Increase community awareness of the Open Space Manager and her role so there is a better channel of communication regarding passive open space issues.
4. Finalize/adopt a new adopt-a-park form and enter into adopt-a-park agreements with groups currently working in passive open space parks.
5. Advisory Committee evaluates success of trails maintenance/invasive removal program and other funded actions during next cycle.
6. Municipality publicize contacts/activities of park adopters/volunteer partners on municipal website to encourage participation.
7. Over time, shift high level of open space tax funds being used for maintenance of street trees to maintenance of passive open space parks.

Mr. Dashield thanked the Passive Open Space Advisory Committee for their report and recommends that Council consider the hiring of a consultant to formulate a “plan of attack” to deal with open space management.

Ms. Crumiller said that she liked the suggestion saying that it was a good plan and asked that 15% be included for maintenance of land purchases.

Ms. Butler said that we do need to spend money on stewardship. She thanked Ms. Mager and said that she thought a consultant would be helpful.

Mr. Simon thanked Ms. Mager for the report and said that it would be helpful to have the costs tied to the recommendations.

Mr. Miller suggested either prioritizing the recommendations or looking at putting a referendum on the ballot.

Pam Machold, 713 Prospect Avenue, said that the arboritum is a story of success. She also noted that somehow the "Parks" got dropped from "Parks and Recreation".

Ms. Mager said that we will eventually see a shift on how the open space tax is used in maintenance.

Mr. Dashield said that the report will be reviewed and he will come back to the Mayor and Council with a proposal.

## **X. WORK SESSION**

### **1. Overnight Parking**

Deanna Stockton, Assistant Engineer, said that they were looking for direction to develop a proposed ordinance for introduction in 2016.

(November 19, 2015 memorandum appended to this set of minutes)

Ms. Crumiller said that she thought that the proposal was a good start.

Ms. Butler said that she would like to see an overall plan instead of section by section.

Ms. Howard said that we have five years to harmonize and asked if we should spend the time and resources if we do not have an appetite for change.

Ms. Crumiller said that she did not want to add more free overnight parking.

Mr. Miller said that we have spent a great deal of Council and staff time on this. He suggested that we take what we have from the old Township and old Borough ordinances.

Mr. Simon asked why we don't just leave things as they are.

Ms. Butler said that it does not address parking issues on Leigh Avenue and Birch Avenue.

Jack West, Assistant Engineer, asked if we could look for a consensus on harmonizing the existing parking permits for former Township homeowners. Ms. Stockton asked if we should grandfather the existing permits. Ms. Crumiller said that we should grandfather the permits but begin charging for them. Mr. Simon suggested charging everyone the same and said that he felt that grandfathering was an ugly solution, but that he will go along with that suggestion.

It was the consensus of Council to grandfather existing number of parking permits.

The rest of the discussion was tabled until a future Council meeting.

**XI. ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS**

1. An Ordinance by the Municipality of Princeton Accepting a Right of Way Dedication for the New Roundabout Area Located on Alexander Street at Its Intersection with University Place. (Public Hearing December 7, 2015)

Mayor Lempert and Ms. Howard recused themselves from this discussion and left the room.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Lance Liverman, Councilman	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Patrick Simon, Councilman	
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon	

2. An Ordinance by Princeton Concerning Designated Bus Stop Locations on Bunn Drive and Amending the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974". (Public Hearing December 7, 2015)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bernard Miller, Council President	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Patrick Simon, Councilman	
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon	

3. An Ordinance by Princeton Concerning Amusements and Legalized Games of Chance and Amending the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974" and the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968." (Public Hearing December 7, 2015)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Jo Butler, Councilwoman	
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon	

4. An Ordinance by Princeton Repealing Provisions Relating to Auctioneers and the Cable Television Committee of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974" and the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968." (Public Hearing December 7, 2015)

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]</b>	<b>Next: 12/7/2015 6:00 PM</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Jo Butler, Councilwoman	
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bernard Miller, Council President	
<b>AYES:</b>	Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon	

5. An Ordinance by Princeton Eliminating Proportional Increase in Floor Area Ratio on Undersized Lots, and Amending the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974" and the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968" (Public Hearing December 21, 2015)

Mr. Simon said that if we are looking at the zoning in general, than we need to look at the lot size too. Lee Solow, Planning Director, said that we could do that.

Ted Nadeau, 45 Linden Lane, said that the proposed ordinance will have unintended consequences and asked that the Council be careful of heavy handed, sudden zoning changes.

Chris Tarr, 93 Overbrook Drive, said that his lot is undersized. He said that this is a complex problem that cannot be served by a simple solution. Mr. Tarr suggested that the proposed ordinance be reviewed by the Zoning Advisory Review Board (ZARC).

Louisa Clayton, member of Zoning Board, said that she always sees neighborhood maps with applications. She said that the proposed ordinance suggested a blanket solution where instead a more subtle solution is needed.

Mayor Lempert asked if Council was interested in introducing the proposed ordinance.

Ms. Butler moved to table the proposed ordinance, stating that there was more work to be done. Mr. Liverman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>TABLED</b>
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6. An Ordinance by Princeton Revising the Definition of Floor Area Ratio and Other Terms, Eliminating Certain Exceptions and Exclusions from the Calculation of Floor Area Ratio, and Amending the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974" and the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968" (Public Hearing December 21, 2015)

Ms. Crumiller said that she could support this while amending the language to exclude porches.

Mr. Simon said that he was fine with the language in the proposed ordinance for smaller homes but not for McMansions.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to introduce the proposed ordinance as amended retaining the exemption for porches.

**RESULT:**       **INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]**               **Next: 12/21/2015 4:00 PM**  
**MOVER:**         Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman  
**SECONDER:**    Heather Howard, Councilwoman  
**AYES:**         Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

7. An Ordinance by Princeton Concerning the Fire Prevention Code and Amending Chapter 14, Article II of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974." (Public Hearing December 21, 2015)

**RESULT:**       **INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]**               **Next: 12/21/2015 4:00 PM**  
**MOVER:**         Bernard Miller, Council President  
**SECONDER:**    Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman  
**AYES:**         Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

8. An Ordinance by Princeton Concerning the Municipal Housing Code and Amending Chapter 16, Articles I, II and III of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974." (Public Hearing December 21, 2015)

**RESULT:**       **INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]**               **Next: 12/21/2015 4:00 PM**  
**MOVER:**         Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman  
**SECONDER:**    Lance Liverman, Councilman  
**AYES:**         Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

**XII. RESOLUTIONS**

1. 15-337 Resolution of the Mayor and Council of Princeton to Award a Contract to UniFirst Corporation for Uniforms and Uniform-Related Products and Services for AFSCME Worker Clothing Via National Joint Powers Alliance in an Amount Not to Exceed \$39,508.76 Annually

**RESULT:**       **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOVER:**         Bernard Miller, Council President  
**SECONDER:**    Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman  
**AYES:**         Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

2. 15-338 Resolution on Princeton's Participation in The "Do Not Stand Idly By" Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence

**RESULT:** APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Heather Howard, Councilwoman  
**SECONDER:** Jenny Crumiller, Councilwoman  
**AYES:** Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

### **XIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

**RESULT:** ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]  
**MOVER:** Lance Liverman, Councilman  
**SECONDER:** Bernard Miller, Council President  
**AYES:** Howard, Crumiller, Miller, Liverman, Butler, Simon

1. Bills & Claims
2. Release of Performance Bond in the Amount of \$634,607.39 and Acceptance of Maintenance Bond in the Amount of \$113,941.11 for Improvements to Great Road West to Top Line Construction Corp.
3. Release of Performance Guaranty in the Amount of \$24,432.00 Contingent Receipt of Maintenance Guaranty in the Amount of \$3,664.80 for 8 Dickinson Street; Block 44.01, Lots 28 and 31; Minor Site Plan with Variances and Preservation Plan to Princeton University
4. Request by the Princeton University Art Museum for Pole Banners on Nassau Street, January 9 to April 30, 2016, Announcing the Exhibit "Pastures Green and Dark Satanic Mills: The British Passion for Landscape" .

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott  
Municipal Clerk

REPORT OF THE PASSIVE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
October 23, 2015

INTRODUCTION

On February 10, 2015, the Mayor and Council passed a resolution establishing the "Passive Open Space Advisory Committee" to "aid with advising on the development of annual budget priorities for passive open [space] maintenance activities." The Committee elected Wendy Mager, president of Friends of Princeton Open Space, as its Chair. The other designated members were the Director of Recreation, the Director of Infrastructure and Operations, the Chair of the Environmental Commission, the Chair of the Recreation Commission, the Chair of the Shade Tree Commission, the Chair of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Director of New Jersey Conservation Foundation<sup>1</sup>, the Director of D&R Greenway, a liaison from Council (Jo Butler), the "Municipal Arborist" (Lorraine Konopka)<sup>2</sup> and a citizen representative (Stephen Hiltner).<sup>3</sup> The Committee has met monthly with the exception of August. Two of the meetings were attended by non-member citizens.

SCOPE OF REPORT

The Committee considered the passive open space listed on the attached Matrix (Exhibit A), totaling slightly less than 1,100 acres. With the exception of portions of Marquand Park<sup>4</sup>, the Pettoranello Gardens section of Community Park North and the native-plant-garden portions of Harrison Street Park and Farmview Fields, these are natural areas rather than designed landscapes. With the noted exceptions, the Committee focused on these natural areas. We concluded after discussion that we would not consider small "pocket parks" with playgrounds/playing fields or other small designed gardens that total about 10 acres, of which Quarry Park/Playground is the largest at 4.54 acres,<sup>5</sup> and the smallest is "Paul Robeson Place/Wiggins Street" at .02 acres. Playgrounds/playing fields and small designed gardens are appropriately under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department/Department of Public Works, as at present.

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<sup>1</sup> NJCF was represented by its Stewardship Director, Tim Morris.

<sup>2</sup> Ms. Konopka is also the designated "Open Space Manager," but it is difficult to glean that information from the municipal website. A citizen who attended a Committee meeting and is active on open space matters expressed surprise on being advised of this role.

<sup>3</sup> Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Foundation was designated a member but was not able to participate.

<sup>4</sup> The Committee included areas other than the baseball field, playground and parking lot. Most of the included areas are a designed landscape, i.e., an arboretum.

<sup>5</sup> One of the citizens who attended a Committee meeting expressed the view that the municipality has not taken adequate measures to address storm damage that occurred in Quarry Park. Concern was also expressed about neglect of flower gardens at Barbara Sigmund Park since a citizen volunteer moved away. Prior to consolidation, the "pocket parks" were maintained under the supervision of a former employee in the Department of Public Works.

## CURRENT CONDITIONS/VOLUNTEERS

Many of Princeton's most-frequented passive open space areas are currently largely maintained by volunteers. The following areas were formally "adopted" under the former Township's Adopt-A-Park program: the Pettoranello Gardens portion of Community Park North (Princeton/Pettoranello Sister City Foundation); and The Billy Johnson Mountain Lakes Nature Preserve, Mountain Lakes North and John Witherspoon Woods (Friends of Princeton Open Space). In addition to trails maintenance, FOPOS has been performing invasives removal/planting natives in the parks it adopted. Friends of Princeton Open Space also perform trails maintenance at Tusculum and in the natural areas of Community Park North, although they are not "adopted." FOPOS volunteers maintain certain trails along the Stony Brook, and occasionally do trail work at Woodfield Reservation. The Friends of Rogers Wildlife Refuge, with occasional assistance from FOPOS and NJ Trails Association, have been maintaining trails there.<sup>6</sup>

The Friends of Herrontown Woods have been performing trail and other maintenance in that park (which the County owns, but which the municipality maintains by agreement) and at Autumn Hill Reservation. They are cutting down invasive shrubs in these areas, including the emerging invasive Japanese Angelica Tree, and maintain the kiosk at Herrontown Woods. At Smoyer Park, FOHW is planning to manage a detention basin being converted to native meadow with funding from the federal agency, Partners for Fish and Wildlife.

At Greenway Meadows Park, D&R Greenway advises the municipality regarding the need for management of invasives, restored a 1-acre area (with the Garden Club) with native plants, maintains benches and "poetry path" signs, and will do spot planting in a rain garden to be established, using federal funding, in the detention basin area.<sup>7</sup> A group calling itself Friends of Gulick Preserve has built three footbridges and maintains trails there.

Volunteers also frequently perform tasks at Marquand Park. The Marquand Park Foundation has an endowment from which it can spend approximately \$25,000 annually to preserve the vision of the donor. The Foundation's proposed expenditures for 2015-2016 are reflected on Exhibit C to this report (as is the funding it is requesting from the municipality of Princeton).

While FOPOS will definitely continue to maintain those areas it has formally adopted and will work in other areas as resources permit, and while other volunteer stewards did not express reservations about doing so, the ability to perform maintenance through volunteers is not certain. The nature of volunteer work is that it is optional and requires constant recruiting, as well as supervision and coordination. Woodfield Reservation, a large park at 107 acres, does not have a volunteer support group of its own, and some trails there are in danger of being lost. Other areas that could provide trails

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<sup>6</sup> It is not clear that the municipality is responsible to do maintenance at Rogers Wildlife Refuge other than of the pump that creates the marsh area, although it holds a conservation easement on this privately-owned property. The Committee does not have a copy of the agreement regarding the Refuge in its current form.

<sup>7</sup> The six-acre lot surrounding Mountain Lakes House within Mountain Lakes Preserve is maintained by Mountain Lakes Holding Corporation, a non-profit corporation that is a sister entity to Friends of Princeton Open Space, pursuant to its lease of the house. The municipality is responsible for the gravel parking area (excluding snow plowing) and garbage pickup.

for passive recreation (e.g. Fieldwood, 35.5 acres, and lands along River Road identified to include portions of the Eastern Ridge trail loop) do not have them.

#### CURRENT CONDITIONS, MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES

The principal costs currently incurred by the municipality to maintain passive open space are for mowing and for pick-up of garbage and recycling – both at a limited number of locations as shown on the attached exhibits. Staff reporting to the Director of Infrastructure and Operations created a chart reflecting the mowing costs for properties in the matrix, which totaled \$22,050 annually (Exhibit B). This includes \$3,600 for mowing the sewage treatment plant site and the landfill area on River Road that is slated to become a solar power facility, which should probably not be included. The costs of trash pickup were not quantified. Man-hours for pickup of trash and recycling at passive AND active parks were quantified as 25-40 man-hours/week between April and November, and 0-15 man-hours/week from November through March.

There are gravel parking areas at other parks that are not associated with active recreation; the recent costs – if any – of maintaining these are not known, but presumably are already built in to the budgets of the Public Works and/or Engineering Departments. The Community Park North parking lot serves passive recreation areas; its landscaping was recently upgraded, paid for by an anonymous donor. The ponds at Community Park North and Smoyer Park are maintained by the municipality as needed, as are macadam paths in Pettoranello Gardens, Smoyer Park, Greenway Meadows, Marquand Park and the Van Dyke-Wight tract. The municipality also owns two ponds adjacent to Cradle Rock Road but, so far as the Committee is aware, has not spent funds on “maintaining” them.

At Turning Basin Park, the municipality maintains the picnic pavilion and portable bathrooms as well as the parking lot (gravel). One possible project identified by staff was replacing the wooden steps at this location, which lead down to the D&R towpath.

There are kiosks at Mountain Lakes Preserve (maintained by FOPOS) and Herrontown Woods, as well as large maps and other signage at the Community Park North parking lot that require some maintenance. There is a kiosk with a trails map at Woodfield Reservation. The principal other “structures” in passive open space areas are footbridges and benches, whose locations are reflected in the matrix. The footbridges that the municipality has maintained in the past are located primarily in Woodfield Reservation plus four (one of which is on the driveway) at Mountain Lakes Preserve. Some maintenance of wooden footbridges has been done by FOPOS. The municipality owns a large steel-supported footbridge that crosses the Stony Brook near Jasna Polana and the Hun School, as well as two new small footbridges with steel supports and wooden decking that were recently constructed at Mountain Lakes Preserve. The latter were funded by a foundation grant and the wooden parts constructed by FOPOS volunteers, although substantial Engineering Department time was invested in permitting and contracting/supervising the entity that installed the steel supports.

The Marquand Park Foundation has developed proposed 2015-2016 maintenance and capital budgets for that park. (Attached as Exhibit C.) The budget requests to the municipality for maintenance (\$80,605) include amounts for trash pickup and mowing that presumably overlap with the data

prepared for the Director of Infrastructure and Operations.<sup>8</sup> The Foundation's requests to the municipality also include amounts related to maintaining the baseball field and playground areas and for upgrading the parking lot, which serves both passive and active portions of Marquand Park.

Current use of the municipal Open Space Tax trust fund is reflected on Exhibits D and E. Exhibit D shows that projected revenues for 2015 were \$1,168,529.34, plus \$8,849 of interest, in addition to a prior balance of \$1,392,916. Of this, \$892,854.41 was to be directed to a combination of debt service on prior open space acquisitions and \$300,000 for acquisition of the Lytle Street property next to Mary Moss Playground. \$540,913.00 was appropriated for "Park Maintenance (Estimated)", and \$75,000.00 for "Park Development" (presumably for the then-contemplated enlargement of Mary Moss Playground), leaving a projected balance on 12/31/15 of \$1,052,678. The breakdown of the "Park Maintenance" figure is shown on Exhibit E. This reflects a general item of \$80,000.00 for park maintenance, which according to the Recreation Director is for the hire of seasonal workers who work at active recreation parks and areas around municipal buildings. The remainder of the \$540,913.00 is primarily allocated to salary, overtime and fringe benefits for "Arborist/Maintenance Crew," and "Shade Tree," the bulk of whose time is apparently devoted to maintenance of street trees, tree permitting issues and leaf/brush pickup from residences rather than maintenance of passive open space.

#### NEEDS

Apart from the question of maintenance per se, a need identified by the Committee members and members of the public is for a **Parks Director in charge of passive open space who has adequate time and support to devote to this role**, just as the municipality has a Recreation Director supervising the recreation and playground facilities. The current Arborist/Open Space Manager has shown great energy and dedication in her relatively short time on the job, and has excellent credentials to manage open space/passive parks. However, the other duties assigned to her – managing over 25,000 street trees; dealing with all permitting for tree removal both by developers, residential owners and gas pipelines; and generally responding to all Access Princeton inquiries that relate to growing things – can easily consume all of her time and more. That is especially true since the anticipated effects of the Emerald Ash Borer will probably have a devastating effect on street trees. If the Open Space Manager could devote more time to that function she could, for example, coordinate volunteer citizens, corporate and school groups,<sup>9</sup> survey each passive open space area regularly for invasive species management issues and other maintenance needs, and interact with citizen groups regarding trails

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<sup>8</sup> The Foundation projected mowing costs to be \$14,040 versus the \$3,750 figure used by I&O/DPW staff. The staff did not assign a dollar amount to trash pickup; the Foundation included this with other expenses related to active recreation at an amount of \$7,200.

<sup>9</sup> Friends of Princeton Open Space and Friends of Herrontown Woods each have access to a trained biologist who, in the case of FOPOS, is its employee/Natural Resources Manager. However, some volunteer groups obviously require supervision. The form of adopt-a-park agreement that was used by the Township required work to be performed in accordance with plans, specifications and management guidelines developed by the Township.

location, extension, bike access and the like. As it is, it is not realistic to expect that she will be able to devote a significant amount of time to such tasks.<sup>10</sup>

The principal specific maintenance needs identified by the Committee for natural areas is for **management of invasive species and for municipal assistance with trails maintenance** in parks that do not have any or adequate volunteer support. The Director of Infrastructure and Operations has suggested that the trails maintenance need could be met by hiring crews of 2-3 people with landscape management experience in the spring and fall, and having them go through the parks that have existing trails seriatim. The Committee would like to see such a program initiated in 2016 and then its level of success and the amount that could be accomplished by this level of support would be evaluated. Such a program would be most efficient with some level of supervision regarding removal of invasive plants, shrubs and trees, or at a minimum adequate guidelines. Removal of encroaching invasives is an integral part of trails maintenance. Of course, it would be desirable to attack areas beyond the immediate borders of trails.<sup>11</sup>

**Maintaining the arboretum at Marquand Park**, Pettoranello Gardens in Community Park North, **and the native plant gardens at Harrison Street Park** are tasks of a different character. There is clearly a desire for additional resources to be devoted to Marquand and Harrison Street, although the latter has not been quantified. Marquand Park is heavily used, with annual visitors estimated at over 16,000. The Marquand Park Foundation appears to have adequate professional advice/knowledge about maintenance regimes, but maintaining or rejuvenating the gardens installed at Harrison Street Park would require not only labor but supervision.

Among the requests of the municipality in Exhibit B, a representative of the Foundation identified the following as its top priorities:

1. Repairing the fence along the Guernsey Hall property and the wisteria pergola.
2. Maintaining the mulching program around the specimen trees in the arboretum.
3. Repairing potholes in the parking lot (which serves both passive and active uses).
4. Reimbursement for the experimental ash borer prevention program.

Management of the Pettoranello landscaped gardens appears to be adequately handled by volunteers, as is maintenance of the macadam trails, dam, footbridges and outdoor amphitheater.

A need was identified to perform two tasks in **Community Park North: (i) remove large numbers of trees that were downed in severe storms**. FOPOS did sufficient clearing to retain basic trail circulation, but the removal of these trees, which some perceive as a fire hazard, is beyond its

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<sup>10</sup> The Committee was advised at its September meeting that the municipality has recently hired two additional people to work for the Recreation Department and two additional laborers who will be assigned to Public Works. It is not presently known whether, if at all, these hires would reduce the current workload of the Arborist/Open Space Manager.

<sup>11</sup> Areas of invasives and their types have been mapped in the management plans for the Eastern Ridge and Mountain Lakes Preserve/Mountain Lakes North/John Witherspoon Woods.

capabilities; and (ii) **remove wooden structures that were installed many years ago as “exercise stations.”** These are deteriorating and perceived by some to be potentially hazardous.

A member of the Friends of Gulick Farm indicated that they request (i) installation of trail markers; and (ii) removal of barbed wire and metal post materials that have already been de-installed.

In May of 2014, the Princeton Ridge East Conservation Area Stewardship Plan was completed. This Plan, funded by the County, was prepared for a partnership of governmental and non-profit organizations that included the municipality. It recommended the creation of a loop trail that would link Herrontown Woods and Autumn Hill Reservation, through Princeton Sewer Operating Committee lands, to Gulick Park, Smoyer Park, Van Dyke-Wight and the All Saints property (managed by D&R Greenway), as well as other properties such as Ricciardi and the active-recreation Hilltop Park. **The loop trail segment along the western and southern boundaries of the PSOC land should be implemented, with the assistance of volunteers.**

The Plan also identified emerging invasive species in several properties on the attached matrix: Herrontown Woods, Autumn Hill Reservation, Gulick, Smoyer Park and Ricciardi. Emerging invasive species are species that have not yet become well-established, and presumably can be controlled if eradicated before they are widespread. Thus far, virtually no action has been taken to address this issue except for some volunteer work in Herrontown Woods Preserve.

**In John Witherspoon Woods**, considerable painting of graffiti has occurred on the rocks that are part of or near the feature known as “Devil’s Cave.” Although FOPOS volunteers have made efforts to remove it, they have not been successful. Municipal assistance is needed to **remove the graffiti** and catch the perpetrators.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Plan for and fund the position of Parks Director for passive open space.
2. Include monies in the budget for the other actions identified in the Needs section.
3. Increase community awareness of the Open Space Manager and her role so there is a better channel of communication regarding passive open space issues.
4. Finalize/adopt a new adopt-a-park form and enter into adopt-a-park agreements with groups currently working in passive open space parks.
5. Advisory Committee evaluate success of trails maintenance/invasives removal program and other funded actions during next cycle.
6. Municipality publicize contacts/activities of park adopters/volunteer partners on municipal website and otherwise to encourage participation.
7. Over time, shift high level of open space tax funds being used for maintenance of street trees to maintenance of passive open space parks.

# **EXHIBIT A**

**PASSIVE OPEN SPACE MATRIX (11-18-2015)**

Name	Acres	Stewardship Organization	Trash Pickup	Trails/type & Mileage	Other Facilities/Structures Associated with Passive Area	Deer Browse Problem	Invasive Species Problem	Stream Channel	Area Requiring Mowing	Graffiti or Vandalism Problem	Special Needs
Autumn Hill	78	FOHW <sup>1</sup>	Yes	1.8 mi. - unimproved Yes -- hard surface	Parking area, benches	Yes	Yes	No	No		
Smoyer Park (non-active)	15	-	Yes	.8 mi. - unimproved Yes - combination	Pond/fountain, picnic area, garden plots, storage buildings, detention basin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Comm. Pk. North	71	Note <sup>2</sup>	Yes	.8 mi. - unimproved Yes - combination	Parking lot, bathrooms, large map displays, storage buildings, Benches, pond, footbridges, amphitheater	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		Remove old exercise stations; remove fallen trees from storms
Petoranello Gardens		Yes (Petoranello)	Yes	2.3 mi. - combination	Benches, gravel parking area, mowed and macadam paths, detention basin	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Pond maintenance, geese
Greenway Meadows (non-active)	48	D&R Greenway <sup>3</sup>	Yes	1.9 mi. - unimproved	Parking lot, kiosk	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Native wildflower meadow, monarch meadow
Herrontown Woods	142	FOHW	Yes	.65 mi., primarily macadam	Fence, parking lot, stone structure, wisteria pergola	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	County-owned house, cottage, barn, mowed area. Rare flora, salamanders
Marquand Park (non-active)	13	Foundation	Yes	.4 mi. - unimproved	Stepping stone bridges	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Arboretum
Mtn. Lk. North	25	FOPOS	No	8 mi. - unimproved <sup>4</sup>	Footbridges (stone, wood, steel/wood), benches, dams, boardwalks, gravel parking area, driveway, kiosk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes (dam)		Rare flora, fauna
Mtn. Lk. Preserve	75	FOPOS	Yes	Yes - unimproved 1 mi. - unimproved	None	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	May have constructed bike path in neighboring ROW
Ricciardi <sup>5</sup>	14	?	No	Stepping stone footbridges	Stepping stone footbridges	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Meadow to be mowed between November and March
Tusculum	35	Note	No	Macadam paths	Macadam paths						
Van Dyke - Wight	33.5	-		Yes	Stone steps/bridges, "railroaded" trails, parking area		Yes	Yes	No	Yes - graffiti at Devil's Cave	
John Witherspoon Woods	40	FOPOS	Yes	1.1 mi. - unimproved	Wooden footbridges, plank bridges, "railroaded" trails, parking area		Yes	Yes	No		
Woodfield Reservation	107	Note <sup>2</sup>	Yes	4 mi. - unimproved			Yes	Yes	No		
Lots abutting Cherry Valley Rd.	6.8	-	No								
Fieldwood	35.5	-	No								

<sup>1</sup> Friends of Herrontown Woods

<sup>2</sup> FOPOS does some work in this park, has not "adopted". Town is responsible for management.

<sup>3</sup> D&R Greenway will do "spot" planting in future rain garden around detention basin and advise re: need for invasive plants for monarch butterflies (with Garden Club).

<sup>4</sup> Maintains poetry path signs and benches.

<sup>5</sup> Includes greater Mountain Lakes recreation area

PASSIVE OPEN SPACE MATRIX (11-18-2015)

Name	Acres	Stewardship Organization	Trash Pickup	Trails/type & Mileage	Other Facilities/Structures Associated with Passive Area	Deer Browse Problem	Invasive Species Problem	Stream Channel	Area Requiring Mowing	Graffiti or Vandalism Problem	Special Needs
Gullick	27.6	Friends of Gullick Preserve	No	Yes, unimproved	Footbridge, plank bridges						
River Road	119	-	No	No							
Millstone River	34	-	No								
Smyth Woods	9	-	No	No							
Lands along Stony Brook	84.72	-	No	Yes							
Farmview Fields -- rain garden	9	-	No	-	Detention area with native plantings				Yes		
Harrison St. -- native garden only	.58	-	No	-	Native plant gardens	No					Weeding, watering
Washington Oaks Historic Overlook	19		No	?							
Turning Basin Park	10		Yes	-	Picnic area, canoe rental facility, portable bathrooms		Yes		Yes		
Rogers Wildlife Refuge <sup>5</sup>	39	Friends of Rogers W.R.	Yes		Pump to maintain swamp area			Yes	No		
Two ponds adjacent to Cradle Rock Road	4			-	Dams		Yes	Yes			Becoming choked by water lilies and cattails
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,094.7</b>										

<sup>5</sup> Joint ownership; not clear what entity will manage.

<sup>6</sup> Town holds conservation easement, is responsible to maintain pump.

# **EXHIBIT B**

## Marquand Park

### Proposed Budget for Municipality 2015-2016

Task	Justification	Amount
Trash pickup and cleaning. Includes inspection park and play ground and port-a-potty. Maintain baseball area. Assume two contracted workers at 1 hr each.	2 times a week for 45 weeks per yr at \$40* per hr at 2hr each visit	\$7,200
Rental of port-a-potty	\$80 per month for 12 month	\$960
Tree removal of	Caclulated for an average of 6 large trees per yr at \$1000 per tree	\$6,000
Lawncare; contract should include protection of arboretum trees from mowing equipment	18 weeks per season at \$ 65** per hr at 12 hrs per cut	\$14,040
Tree/ shrub pruning arboretum area; should be supervised by licensed arborist	Average of 50 trees per year at 3.5 hrs per tree at \$90** per hr	\$15,750
Tree/ shrub pruning wooded area; should be supervised by licensed arborist	Wooded area: 45 trees per year at 3.5 hrs per tree at \$90 per hr	\$14,175
Mulch ring maintenance in arboretum; if pesticides are used for weeds, they should be organic based and know not to be harmful for arboretum trees	180 rings at 1 hr per ring at \$65 per hr (Mulch materials are free). Cost based on estimate obtained by foundation from landscape company.	\$14,040
Woodchips and sand replacement playground	Actual cost uncertain	\$1,000
Upkeep of trail, benches, picnic tables, fences, play ground equipment, baseball area, and parking lot repair	Actual cost uncertain	\$6,000
Removal of debris from work done by volunteer deposited in designated areas	3 times in the spring and 3 times in the fall. Assume two workers at 6 hrs per removal at \$40 per hour. Disposal of debris not included	\$1,440
Total	Total	\$80,605

Y e a r l y M a i n t e n a n c e

Watering system for key rare trees in arboretum to protect from droughts (urgent)	Actual cost uncertain	\$20,000
New support for Wisteria Pergola (urgent)	Budget for materials submitted to the Municipality/ labor by volunteers	\$923
Replacement of Rhododendrons in wooded area. Plants and materials.	Actual cost uncertain. Labor and design by volunteers and oversight MPR.	\$10,000
Fix pot holes in parking lot and install bumpers in parking lot to protect plants (urgent)	Actual cost uncertain	\$5,000
Drainage system to extend open pipe near Katsura tree (within next year)		\$500
Renovate and rebuild toolshed as storage place for volunteer equipment (within next year)	Actual cost uncertain	\$500
Total		\$36,923

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Annual Budget Foundation		
Preservation of Park and Accession of New Trees		
Plant health care program (yearly contracted with Woodwinds)	Periodic monitoring and treatment of trees and shrubs for any disease and or insect conditions	\$7,800
Inventory update, risk assessment of trees, oversight accession of new trees and shrubs, signage, and volunteer efforts by certified arborist/park curator.	ongoing by Marquand Park arborist	\$3,000.00
Replacement and accession of (sometimes rare) trees or shrubs in the arboretum area of the park. Some work will be done by volunteers	Budget for 10 trees at \$1000 per tree	\$10,000.00
<b>Education</b>		
Two scholarships to Mercer county students		\$3,000
Maintenance of bulletin board and website; conduct lectures and presentations for community; press releases, update park brochure	Budget for maintenance of website on server and cost of reproducing and xeroxing materials. Work done by volunteers	\$400
Replace or provide new signage for trees and shrubs	Budget for 20 signs per yr at \$15 per sig. Installation of signs by volunteers	\$300
<b>Fund Raising</b>		
Fundraising postage, printing of flyer, newsletter, envelopes	Done yearly in Holiday season	\$800
<b>Admin. Costs</b>		
Accountant fee		\$550.00
State filing fee		\$60.00
	Total	\$25,910.00

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<p>Mulch rings around trees in arboretum part of park. About 100 mulch rings installed in 2014 and 2015 by the Foundation. Project completed</p>	<p>Budget for 180 mulch rings at \$160 per ring. 80 were completed in 2014.</p>	<p>\$28,800.00</p>
<p>Pilot program to protect ash trees from the EAB infestation. Year 1 has been completed.</p>	<p>Budget for 8 trees at \$450 per tree per year for two years</p>	<p>\$1,450.00</p>
<p>Total</p>		<p>\$30,250.00</p>

- \*assume \$40 per hour for contractual trash collection
- \*\*assume \$65 per hour for contractual landscape worker
- \*\*\*assume \$90 per hour for contractual tree worker

# **EXHIBIT C**

Open Space	Per Mow Pricing (via bid process)*	Total Mow Expense**	Garbage/Recycle Pick-Up***	Capital Projects/Maintenance desires
Autumn Hill	No Rec mowing		1-3 X weekly	Bulletin Board?
Smoyer non-active (paths & basins)	30 mows @ \$75 each	\$2,250	1-3 X weekly	Shelter roof replacement (budgeted by REC)
Smoyer non-active (barns & garden)	15 mows @ \$70 each	\$1,050		Removal of nursery (Lorraine?)
CP North/Petronello/Burm/Misc. areas	30 mows @ \$60 each	\$1,800	1-3 X weekly	Stage improvements (budgeted by Rec)
Greenway non-active (basin & barn areas)	30 mows @ \$70 each	\$2,100	1-3 X weekly	
Greenway non-active (walking trails area)	30 mows @ \$40 each	\$1,200	1-3 X weekly	
Herrontown Woods	No Rec mowing			Bulletin Board?
Marquand Park (field/grass areas/playground)	30 mows @ \$125 each	\$3,750	1-3 X weekly	Fence replacement? Pergola rebuild? Desire for annual mulching around trees?
Fieldwood/Griggs	30 mows @ \$115 each	\$3,450	1-3 X weekly	
Mountain Lakes (Lower Earthen Dam area)	6 mows @ \$100 each	\$600		
Ricciardi	No Rec mowing			
Tusculum	No Rec mowing			
Van-Dyke Wight	No Rec mowing			
John Witherspoon Woods	No Rec mowing			
Woodfield Reservation	No Rec mowing			
Lots abutting Cherry Valley Road	No Rec mowing			
Fieldwood/Griggs	No Rec mowing		1-3 X weekly	
Gulick	No Rec mowing			
River Road - SOC (plant site & shooting range)	30 mows @ \$60 each	\$1,800		Once solar project begins...mowing will change
River Road - SOC (landfill)	15 mows @ \$120 each	\$1,800		
Millstone River	No Rec mowing			
Smyth Woods	No Rec mowing			
Lands along Stony Brook	No Rec mowing			
Farmview Fields rain garden	No Rec mowing (DPW)		1-3 X weekly	
Washington Oaks Historic Outlook	No Rec mowing			
Turning Basin Park	30 mows @ \$75 each	\$2,250	1-3 X weekly	Bulletin Board? New water fountain (Rec project)/repair/replace steps to towpath
Rogers Wildlife Refuge	No Rec mowing			

\* Mowing prices via Bid Process annually  
 \*\* # of mows varies depending on conditions  
 \*\*\* Frequency varies by season/size

\$22,050

Garbage/Recycle Pick-Up Notes	Manhours includes active park pickup
April - November = 2-3 visits weekly	25-40 man-hours weekly
November - March = 0-1 visit weekly	0 - 15 man-hours weekly

# **EXHIBIT D**

PRINCETON			
OPEN SPACE FUND	actual	projected	projected
	2014	2015	2016
Balance 1/1/XX	1,238,345.86	1,392,915.89	1,052,677.82
Increased by:			
Amounts Raised by Taxation	1,152,302.00	1,159,680.00	1,165,478.00
Amounts Raised by Taxation-AA	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest Earned	8,849.34	8,849.34	8,849.34
Donations, Repayments, Etc.			
Total Revenues	1,161,151.34	1,168,529.34	1,174,327.34
Appropriations/Expenditures:			
Smoyer Park Completion			
R.W. Johnson Purchase			
R.W. Johnson Down Payment			
Coventry Farm Down Payment			
Coventry Farm Down Payment			
Gulick Farm Down Payment			
Debt Service:	(600,099.32)	(592,854.41)	(590,000.00)
Acquisition / Spec Projects			
Open Space Purchase Assistance	(44,604.25)	(300,000.00)	
Park Maintenance (Estimated)	(361,877.74)	(540,913.00)	(551,731.26)
Park Development	0.00	(75,000.00)	(75,000.00)
Miscellaneous			
Total Expenditures	(1,006,581.31)	(1,508,767.41)	(948,731.26)
Balance Available 12/31/XX	1,392,915.89	1,052,677.82	1,278,273.90

# **EXHIBIT E**

<b>Open Space: Budget detail</b>		
<b>Salary &amp; Wage</b>	<b>2015</b>	
Arborist / Maintenance Crew	\$275,497.00	
Overtime - Shade Tree	<u>\$12,000.00</u>	
<b>Total Salary &amp; Wage</b>	<b>\$287,497.00</b>	
<b>Other Expense:</b>		
Fringe Benefits	147,616.00	
Hardware & Minor Tools	1,000.00	
Equipment & Machinery Parts	2,000.00	
Horticultural Materials	10,000.00	
Membership Dues	300.00	
Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	2,500.00	
Other Contracted Services	8,000.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,000.00	
Park maintenance	<u>80,000.00</u>	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$253,416.00</b>	
<b>Total Open Space /Park expense</b>	<b>\$540,913.00</b>	

**THINK GLOBALLY**  
**ACT LOCALLY**

**RONALD C. NIELSEN**

Humbert Street

eMail: [princetonsfuture@earthlink.net](mailto:princetonsfuture@earthlink.net)

For this or other documents with clickable links:  
<http://home.earthlink.net/~princetonsfuture>

**32**

**NOVEMBER 23, 2015**

*Presentation to Princeton Mayor and Council*

## **OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED RETAILERS' PLASTIC BAG TAX ORDINANCE**

The proposed plastic bag tax has two major justifications:

- (1) Too many plastic bags litter the streets and clog landfills.
- (2) Use of plastic bags should be discouraged to save fossil fuels and reduce climate change, and set an example for the world to follow.

With respect to the alleged litter problem (1), I have observed no significant contribution of retailer plastic bags to street litter. During the past month, I have walked many times through the most commercial parts of town, Nassau and Witherspoon Streets and adjacent side streets, counting the number and types of litter. In all these walks together I have observed no more than a handful of retailer plastic bags, even counting one bag from Michael's, an out-of-town store. Far greater numbers of paper napkins, purchase receipts, paper and plastic cups and lids, plastic soda bottles, and potato chip bags were seen. There were many ATM slips discarded near the bank machines, and, on windy days, many sheets of paper blown off the kiosks onto the adjacent ground.<sup>1</sup> Prior to my Nassau Street observations, I asked the author of this proposed ordinance to identify where all this plastic bag litter could be found, and she refused to answer the question.<sup>2</sup>

The arguments of (2) are manipulative and seek to exploit the emotional good will of the people of Princeton. These arguments cannot withstand close scrutiny:

- A) "Plastic bags are clogging landfills." This argument is used to lay a guilt trip on us so we won't ask, "So what?" The real purpose of a landfill is to bury the trash forever and never disturb it again. Since plastic bags do not contaminate ground water, it makes no difference how many plastic bags there are in a landfill.
- B) "We should use reusable bags at the supermarket to save fossil fuels." Here, the assumption is that the bags have only a single use. But in practice, many, if not most, people also use them as garbage bags. If people do not get these disposable plastic bags from the supermarket checkout counter, then they must buy their reusable plastic bags and their plastic trash bags from commercial manufacturers. Where is the reduction in plastic use?
- C) "The manufacture of disposable plastic bags contributes to climate change." So does the manufacture of any alternative, such as paper bags or reusable plastic bags, which offsets some or all of the gain.
- D) "People on food stamps are exempt from this tax." Making exceptions for any group defeats the alleged purpose of this ordinance.
- E) "We should set an example for the rest of the world to follow." What unrestrained arrogance and self-importance is contained in that notion! Princeton University can claim such an objective, and be well paid for it in the process, but there is no justification for the Town to tax its people for that purpose.

1 My detailed notes will be provided if the Mayor or Council requests them.

2 Emails exchanged are available if the Mayor or Council requests them.

**Pamela Machold**  
Remarks at Meeting of  
Township Committee  
November 23, 2015

In 2009, the Princeton Environmental Commission proposed a resolution to create the position of Parks Director.

From Wendy Mager's very thorough and well researched Open Space Task Force report tonight, under "needs" is:

"A Parks Director in charge of passive open space who has adequate time and support to devote to this role, just as the municipality has a Recreation Director supervising the recreation and playground facilities." Well said!

Our town arborist has also the title "Open Space Manager," but neither she or the person who preceded her could possibly fulfill that dual role, as explained in the report. However, if you gave the Arborist the staff and infrastructure, she could possibly fill this role.

In 1965, I moved to Princeton with my husband and my four month old son. We rented a small attached house opposite Marquand Park. About a week after we moved in, I received a call from a new acquaintance. He explained "You must come to a Town Meeting. We must defeat a proposal to run a road through Marquand Park." Over one hundred people attended the meeting, and an older woman with a very aristocratic voice declared "If you put a road through this park, Princeton will no longer be Princeton!" Everyone stood and cheered, and there was no road.

Tonight, 50 years later, I am probably the same age as that woman, and I am declaring that if we do not create a Parks Director "Princeton will no longer be Princeton.!"

# History

## of the Open Space Task Force

April 30, 2012	Pam's letter
January 1, 2013	Consolidation of Princeton Borough and Princeton Township
January 3, 2013	Princeton Municipality Council sets priorities: "must," "need" and "want"
May 14, 2013	Pam convenes first meeting. Mayor Liz Lempert appointed:  Welmoet Van Kammen Ben Stentz Richard Nosker Neena Patil Dana Molina Robert Hough Jo Butler Wendy Mager Pam Machold (Chair) Greg O'Neil
May 14, June 10 and September 12, 2013	Committee meetings; the Committee was disbanded pending the receipt of a management report from Ben Stentz, Bob Hough and Greg O'Neil and a report from Wendy Mager on "Princeton Ridge Management." The reports were never received.
Winter/Spring 2014	All "Park maintenance" put under Recreation Department by municipal ordinance
April 2015	New Open Space Advisory Committee formed. Mayor Lempert chaired the first meeting and then handed over the liaison role to Jo Butler. Appointees were:  Wendy Mager      Chair, and head of FOPOS Linda Mead      Director of D&R Tim Morris      From N.J.C.F. Jim Waltham      Director, Stony/Brook Millstone Association  Ben Stentz      Director of municipal Recreation Department Bob Hough      Director, Municipal Public Works Department Loraine Konupka      Municipal Arborist

Matt Wasserman	Chair, Municipal Environmental Commission
Steve Hiltner	Citizen; naturalist
Jo Butler	Liason to Mayor and Council
Pam Machold	Municipal Shade Tree Commission
Richard Nosker	Municipal Recreation Board
Steve Cruse	Bike Paths

PAMELA MACHOLD  
713 PROSPECT AVENUE  
PRINCETON, N.J. 08540



Mr. Hendricks Davis  
Chair, Subcommittee on Commissions and Boards  
232 John Street  
Princeton, N.J.08542

April 30, 2012

Monitoring and oversight of the parks and open spaces  
of the combined municipality

I have served on the Princeton Environmental Commission and as President of the Riverside Neighborhood Association. I am a current member of the Princeton Township Shade Tree Commission. I am also Chair of the Board of the Marquand Park Foundation and have served on that Board for over thirty years.

My purpose in writing this letter is to advocate the creation of a Parks Commission to monitor and help oversee the almost 1,100 acres of parks and open spaces that will be the responsibility of the combined municipality. I understand that it would be very difficult to find the funds to support a municipal employee to undertake this responsibility, but what I propose is a commission of volunteers, who would monitor the parks and open spaces and prepare an annual report to the Mayor and the Council. Many years ago, an open space tax was enacted which was dedicated to open space, and an accounting of this fund should also be made annually.

At present, the maintenance of trees in the towns is the responsibility of the respective shade tree commissions and public works departments of the Township and the Borough. However, their responsibilities are diffused and also include other issues. I strongly recommend that a more focused responsibility should be created to monitor and oversee the parks and open spaces, in light of the greatly increased responsibilities of the combined towns. This focused responsibility would include policy, identification of health and safety issues, such as eroded trails and dangerous trees and branches, the condition and creation of trails, signage, invasive species, preservation of habitat, fencing and access and parking.

The creation of a Parks Commission would help implement the 2008 master plan which was put out by the Joint Recreation Board and the goal of maintaining 25% of the land in the new Princeton combined municipality as open space.

In the past, it has been assumed that the parks and open spaces could take care of themselves, but I believe that a stronger and more focused effort is needed to preserve and maintain our natural heritage..

Truly Yours,

Pamela Machold

TEL.:- 609 921-2627 AND E-MAIL:- MACHOLD@AOL.COM



# Municipality of Princeton

Municipal Building  
400 Witherspoon Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540-3496

Department of Community Development  
Office of the Engineer  
Telephone (609)921-7077  
Fax: (609) 688-2026

**ROBERT V. KISER, P.E.**  
Director of Engineering

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Marc D. Dashield, Administrator

FROM: Deanna Stockton, P.E., Assistant Engineer

DATE: November 19, 2015

RE: **Overnight Parking Work Session**

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At the July 28, 2014 Princeton Council meeting, a task force was created to review existing former Borough and former Township parking ordinances, especially related to overnight parking, in the effort to harmonize them for the consolidated Princeton. At the May 11, 2015 Council meeting, the following three options relating to the overnight parking prohibition boundary were considered and rejected:

1. Leave it as is
2. Modify the edges of the existing boundary to be contiguous with roadways
3. Expand it to encompass the entire municipality

**In order to reframe the discussion, we recommend that overnight parking prohibitions be separated from the overnight parking permit discussion.**

In the former Borough, overnight parking is prohibited except on streets where properties have been issued an overnight parking permit. Currently, overnight parking is prohibited on the following streets in the former Township:

Township Street	Hours of Prohibition
Battle Road	2 am – 10 am
Olden Lane	2 am – 10 am
Haslet Avenue	2 am – 10 am
Springdale Road	2 am – 10 am
Carnahan Place	2 am – 6 am
Harris Road	2 am – 6 am
Henry Avenue	2 am – 6 am
Jefferson Road	2 am – 6 am
Moore Street	2 am – 6 am
Southern Way	2 am – 6 am
Witherspoon Street	2 am – 6 am
Alexander Street	2 am – 6 am (M-F)
Mercer Road (along the Princeton Battlefield)	11 pm – 6 am

At the Council meeting in May, members of Council and residents supported keeping the status quo:

- Do not take away the current overnight parking prohibition from former Borough streets, and
- Do not enact a new overnight parking prohibition on former Township streets.

One method to keep the status quo but streamline the ordinances is to indicate the streets and hours of overnight parking prohibition, in the manner of the former Township Code. Use of this method recognizes the existing condition that there are many properties that do not qualify for overnight parking permits under the current criteria excerpted below from Section 19-31(a)(1):

Bona fide residents of Princeton Borough who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for an overnight parking permit to park on borough streets:

1. They reside in dwelling units that are located in the R1, R2, R3 and R4 districts. A dwelling unit for the purpose of this section shall be defined as a building, or entirely self-contained portion thereof, containing complete housekeeping facilities for only one family, including any domestic servants employed on the premises, and having no cooking, food preparation or sanitary facilities in common with other dwelling units and no common and closed space, other than vestibules, entrances, porches, laundry, heating and air conditioning rooms and equipment. This definition shall not include a boarding house, convalescent home, dormitory, fraternity, sorority house, hotel or similar home and other similar building or secondary residence. In addition, multi-family dwelling structures that contain ten or more units are specifically excluded from this definition.
2. On-site parking on the premises of the applicant is physically impossible due either to physical restrictions of the property and/or restrictions imposed under borough ordinance.
3. The dwelling unit of the applicant is in compliance with all applicable local, county and state laws or ordinances and is not the subject of zoning approvals that require the owner to provide parking.
4. A resident of the dwelling unit which is located on state or county roads, private streets or streets of another municipality is not eligible for an overnight parking permit.

*Recommendation: Beginning with the former Borough R1 zone, introduce an ordinance for the prohibition of overnight parking on former Borough roadways where adjacent properties do not meet the criteria for overnight permit parking. As shown on the attached map, the R1 zone extends from Bayard Lane to Elm Road (east / west limits) and from Battle Road to Westcott Road. A review of the historic district development within this zone is necessary to determine if Edgehill Street and Mercer Street should be exempted from such a prohibition.*

### **Future Work Sessions**

If the recommendation to ordinance no overnight parking by street in the former Borough is accepted, the prospective overnight parking permit area will diminish. We can then narrow the focus to properties currently eligible for permits and their locations on municipally controlled streets. Provided below is a list of potential items for consideration at future work sessions:

- Definition of "overnight"
- Eligibility criteria for overnight parking permits
- Number of permits per residential unit
- Number of residential units per property eligible for permits
- Fees
- Designation of permitted parking areas – by street or by area or by some other method
- Exemption from daytime parking time limits
- Establishment of 24 hour residential permit zones

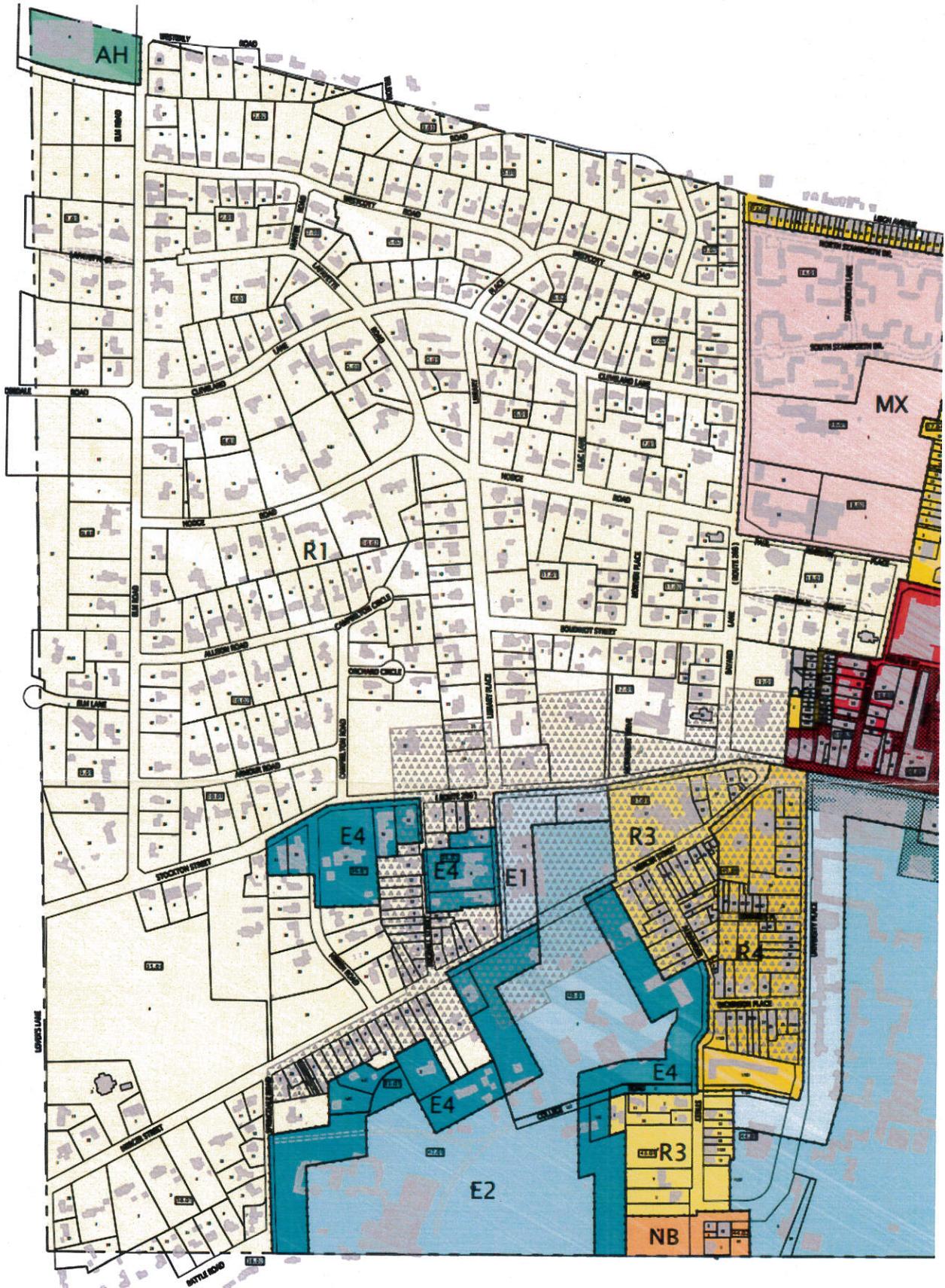
Please contact me or Jack West, P.E., Land Use Engineer, if there are any questions regarding this memorandum.

### **Attachments**

DLS/dls

c: Princeton Mayor and Council  
Kathryn Monzo, Deputy Administrator  
Trishka W. Cecil, Municipal Attorney  
Linda S. McDermott, Municipal Clerk  
Robert Hough, P.E., Director of Infrastructure and Operations  
Jack West, P.E., Land Use Engineer  
Sgt. Thomas Murray III, Princeton Traffic Safety Officer

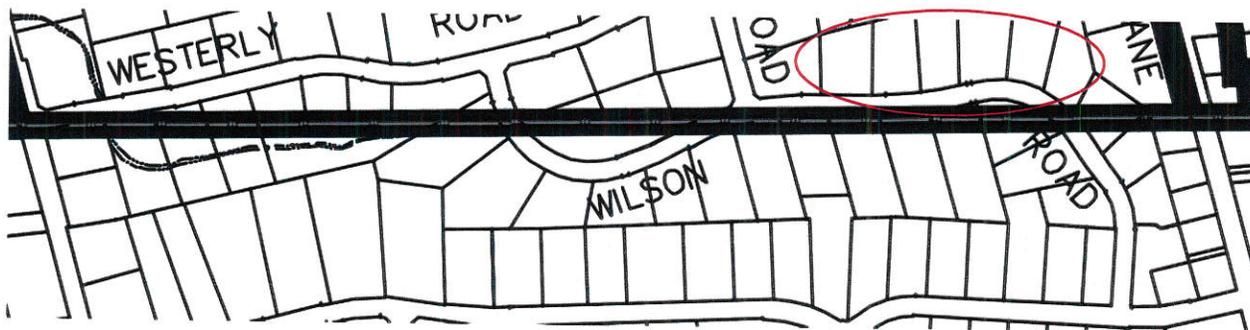
Proposal for Overnight Parking Prohibition in the R1 Zone  
November 2015



**Proposal for Overnight Parking Prohibition in the R1 Zone  
November 2015**

**Proposed Listing of Streets in the R1 Zone Subject to Overnight Parking Prohibition:**

- Armour Road
- Battle Road
- Boudinot Street
- Campbelton Circle
- Campbelton Road
- Cleveland Lane
- Elm Lane
- Hibben Road
- Wilson Road\* - Wilson Road spans the former Borough / Township boundary. Approximately 6 former Township properties (circled in red below) would be impacted by this change.
- Hodge Road
- Hunter Road
- Lafayette Road
- Library Place
- Morven Place
- Orchard Circle
- Springdale Road
- Westcott Road



The following streets are not municipally-controlled and, therefore, not subject to this proposal:

- Alison Road
- Bayard Lane
- Elm Road
- Greenholm Court
- Lafayette Court
- Rosedale Road
- Stockton Street

The following streets within the historic overlay require further evaluation:

- Edgehill Street
- Mercer Street