

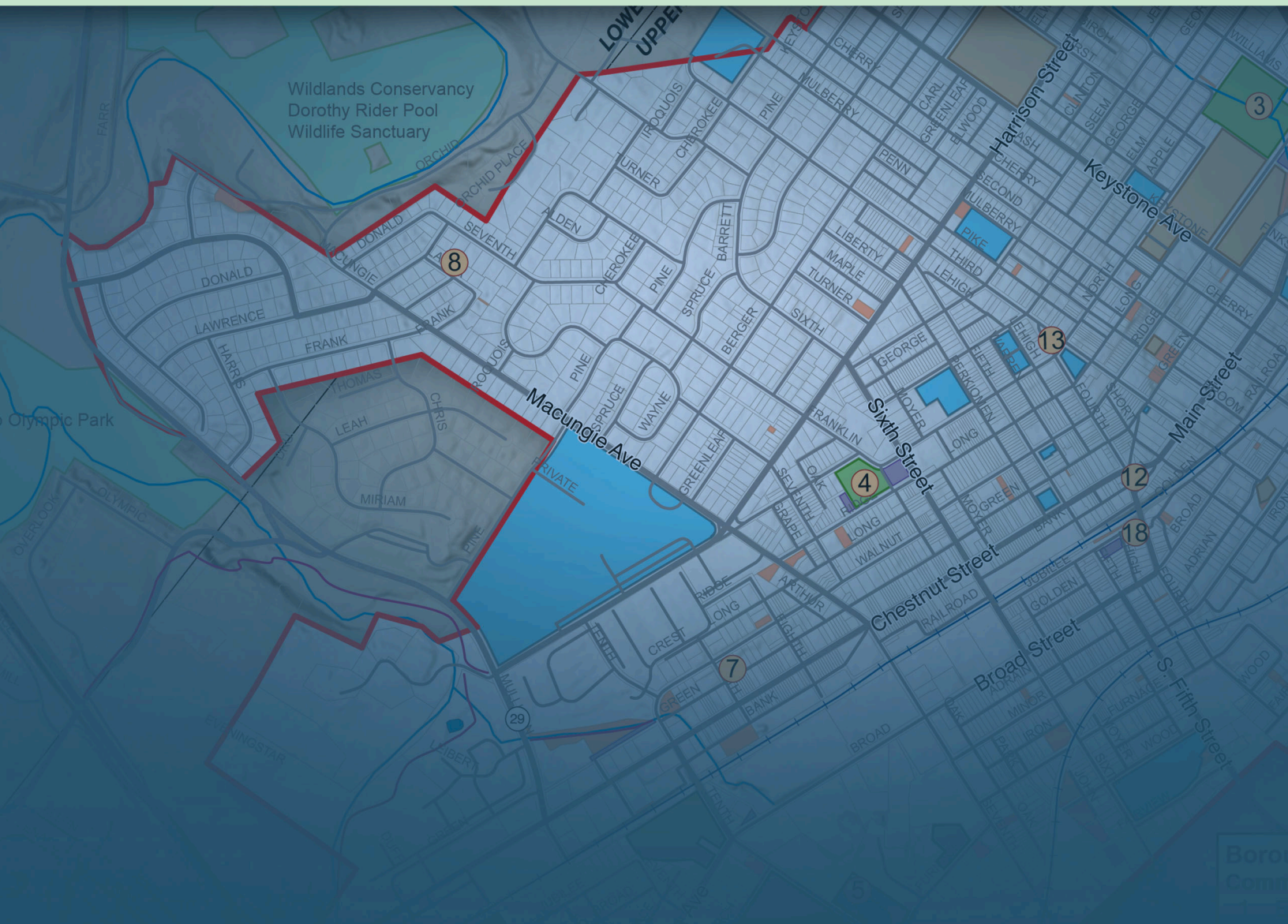


# Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

## BOROUGH OF EMMAUS

Report 1 of 4

# Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan







This project was financed in part by grants from the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) Keystone Recreation, Park & Conservation Fund; and the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) Greenways, Trails & Recreation Program through the Commonwealth Financing Authority.



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# Introduction





## Study Purpose

Emmaus Borough is one of the most densely populated municipalities in the region. The population has remained remarkably consistent over the last several decades and is projected to increase only slightly by 2040. In comparison to many of its more rural neighboring municipalities, the Borough's density makes its' open space and recreational facilities an extremely valuable resource to the community.

Open space is widely recognized for providing communities with a "sense of place" through unique habitats, scenic viewsheds, trails, recreational facilities, and protected cultural and natural resources. Additionally, preserved open space has been shown to be a wise public investment, since open space can: add value to residential properties; provide ecological benefits; provide recreational opportunities and facilities; and enhance the quality of life of the community.

Park and trail usage has expanded greatly after the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic as people sought

an escape in outdoor recreation and open space while being quarantined at their homes. Parks act as outlets to connect with nature and reduce mental stress. Moreover, they improve physical wellness and promote healthy lifestyles; reduce time off from work due to health reasons; and can help lower health care costs for individuals. In addition to individual benefits, these facilities provide a variety of community benefits as well. Parks, trails and open space promote a sense of community through events and park usage. They also act as high priority items when families decide in which community to purchase a home as a municipality's park and recreation system is often the physical face, or identity, of the community. They also provide small children and teenagers opportunities to engage in after-school activities and organizations.

Along with these individual and community benefits, parks, trail and open space provide environmental and economic benefits. These benefits can also be quantified to show the value they provide to communities. The Lehigh Valley Return on Environment report, released in 2014 and prepared by the Lehigh

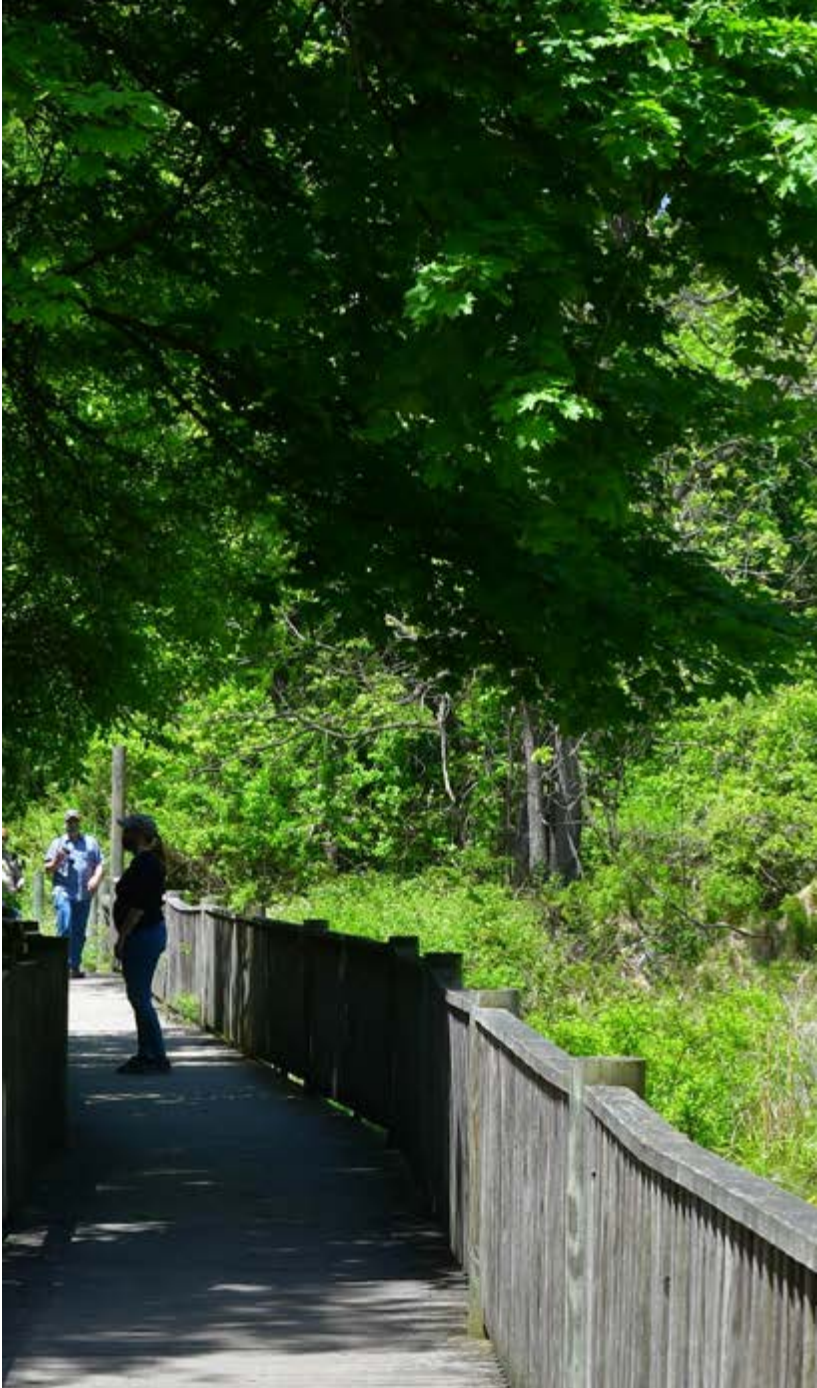
Valley Planning Commission, estimated the economic value created by the open space in the Lehigh Valley. The report found that the current green infrastructure along streams reduces tax dollars by avoiding more than \$110.3 million annually in expenditures for water supply, flood mitigation and water quality. Natural areas also provide over \$22.4 million annually in pollination and \$2.5 million in biological control services (control or regulation of invasive species, pests and disease vectors like mosquitoes) to agriculture, backyards and the natural landscape.

The report also found that an estimated \$795.7 million is spent on outdoor recreation each year in the Lehigh Valley and that recreational activity on open space in the Lehigh Valley creates an estimated 9,678 jobs, inside and outside the region, which generate about \$58.9 million in state and local taxes. In terms of residential property value, the report found that the average premium added to each home within ¼ mile of protected open space is \$14,600 in the Lehigh Valley (this includes parks, natural areas, conservation easements and agricultural easements), and that the total real estate premium credited to living within a ¼ mile of protected open space is more than \$1.8 billion.

The Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways, and Trails Study incorporates elements of comprehensive park, recreation, and open space planning; community greenway and connectivity planning; trail planning; as well as conceptual planning for specific park facilities within the Borough of Emmaus. The plan includes four separate reports to address these elements.

- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Comprehensive Plan
- Greenways and Trails Comprehensive Plan
- Lions Field Master Plan
- Boroline Park Master Plan

These plans will serve as a blueprint for planning by the Borough for the next 10 to 20 years.



## Plan Goals

**“To create a sustainable plan for parks, recreation, and open space that affords equitable access to people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities while providing for responsible management and stewardship of the community's valuable natural and cultural resources.”**



# Municipal Background

Emmaus is a historic community that was originally founded in 1759 as a closed community of the Moravian Church. In the 19th century, iron ore was discovered nearby, and in 1859, the East Pennsylvania Railroad arrived, becoming a major vehicle for industrial growth, which included the production of silk, cigars, and iron. Emmaus was incorporated as a Pennsylvania borough that same year. By the 1960s, Emmaus reached the extents of its current size and has become a sophisticated municipality that includes a park system, municipal services, and a public library. Emmaus is served by the East Penn School District, with Jefferson and Lincoln Elementary Schools, and Emmaus High School located within the Borough.

Emmaus is governed by a seven-member Borough Council. General elections are held every two years, and each member is elected in overlapping four-year terms. The Borough Council is reorganized after each general municipal election, at which time a Council President is selected to preside over meetings, and members elect a chair and vice-chair for the following committees: Budget and Finance; Community Relations, Planning and Development; Health, Sanitation and Codes; General Administration; Parks and Recreation; Public Safety; and Public Works. Primary duties of the Borough Council include adoption of the annual budget, establishment of policies for the conduct of Borough affairs, the enactment of ordinances and resolutions for the protection of the public's safety and welfare, and approval of contracts and bids. The Council appoints the Borough Manager and other respective officials, along with members of various municipal boards and commissions. [www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/government](http://www.borough.emmaus.pa.us/government)

The Parks and Recreation Committee is a three-person panel that is charged with all operational control and management of grounds and buildings used for public recreational purposes. The Parks and Recreation Commission is a nine-member panel that

monitors the parks and recreational activities within the Borough and acts as an advisor to the Parks and Recreation Committee of the Borough Council.

# Regional Context

Emmaus Borough is in southern Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, approximately 50 miles north of Philadelphia, six miles south of the City of Allentown, and 20 miles west of the Delaware River. Emmaus Borough has a total area of 2.9 square miles.

The regional context map shows the relationship between Emmaus Borough, Lehigh County, and the State of Pennsylvania. Emmaus Borough is bordered



by Salisbury Township to the north/northeast, Allentown City to the north, Lower Macungie Township to the west, Upper Milford Township to the south, and Upper Saucon to the east (with no shared municipal boundary). Interstate 476/PA Turnpike runs through the southwest corner of Emmaus, and State Route 309/Interstate 78 runs just north of the Borough. Route 29 runs along and just inside the southwest boundary line of the Borough.

Emmaus sits on the north slope of South Mountain and is bordered to the east and south by the South Mountain Conservation District, which includes natural lands such as the Wildlands Conservancy South Mountain Preserve. Leibert Creek runs through the western portion of the Borough and is a tributary of the Little Lehigh Creek.

# Demographics

The following information focuses on demographics and population information in Emmaus Borough and surrounding municipalities. More information can be found through the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) and U.S. Census Bureau.

<https://lvpc.org/projections.html>

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>

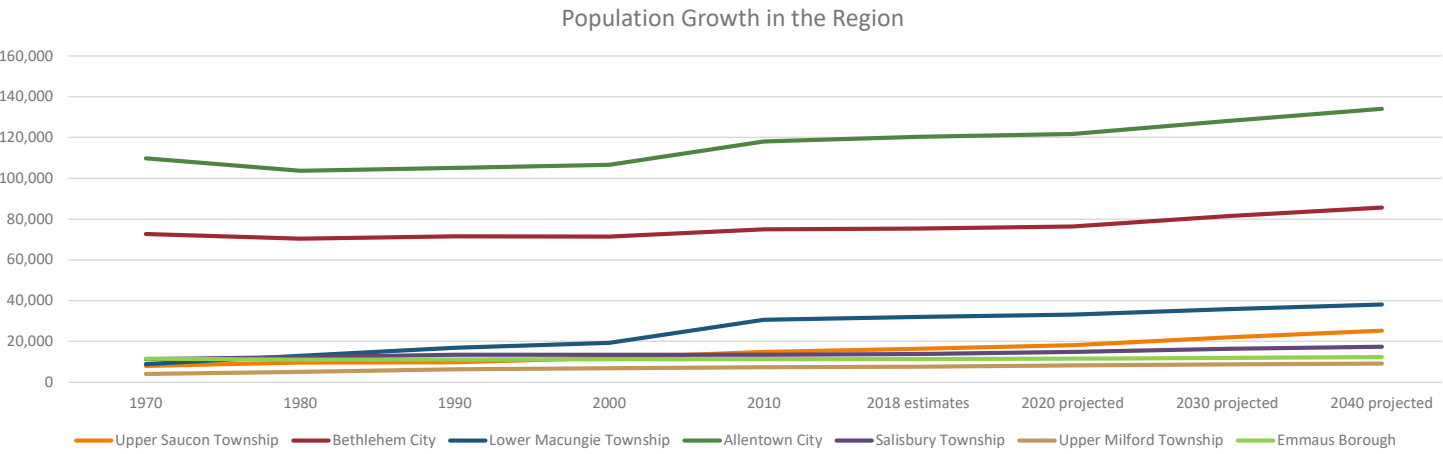


# Population and Projections

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Borough had a population of 11,391 in 2019, which was an increase of less than 0.7% from the 2000 Census of 11,313. In comparison, Lehigh County experienced a population increase of almost 17% within the same time frame.

Emmaus currently has the sixth most densely populated municipality in the County, with the top five being the nearby municipalities of Allentown, Fountain Hill, Coplay, Catasauqua, and Bethlehem. Using the 2019 estimate, Emmaus Borough has a population density of 3,928 people per square mile. This is over three times the density of Lehigh County, which is 1,058 people per square mile.

The population of Emmaus is projected by Lehigh Valley Planning Commission to reach 12,305 by 2040. This reflects only an 8% increase from 2019. In comparison, Lehigh County's population is projected to grow by nearly 21% to 440,394 by 2040, with the largest numerical increases in population to occur in the City of Allentown, Upper Macungie Township, Upper Saucon Township, North Whitehall Township, and Whitehall Township.





Age

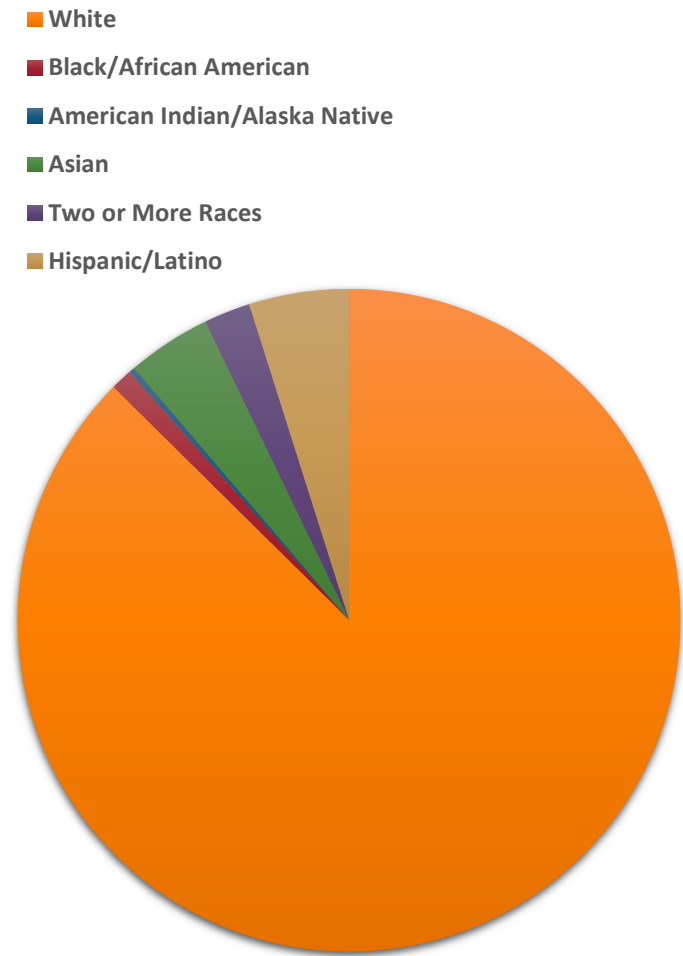
The largest age group in the Borough is 25–34-year-olds, followed by the 35-44 age cohort. The largest increase of population by age from 2000 to 2018 was in people who are 55 and older. The population of people aged 55-59 grew by 65%, the 60-64 population grew by almost 95%, the 65-74 population by 6%, and the 85+ population by 2%. Nearly every other age group population declined, except for populations under the age of five, 10-14 years old, and 20-24 years old, which all increased by 4% or less. The median age is 41.8, which is higher than the County's median age of 39.2. This demographic information suggests that the population is aging and that this plan needs to account for recreational needs of both older and younger residents.

Population by Age Group			
	2000	2018	% of Change
under 5	590	613	4%
5 to 9	702	570	-19%
10 to 14	716	727	2%
15 to 19	581	530	-9%
20 to 24	551	554	1%
25 to 34	1687	1658	-2%
35 to 44	1822	1592	-13%
45 to 54	1496	1356	-9%
55 to 59	522	862	65%
60 to 64	480	933	94%
65 to 74	1064	1125	6%
75 to 84	867	602	-31%
85+	235	239	2%
Total Pop.	11313	11361	0%

Race

Emmaus Borough is predominantly White and does not share the racial/ethnic diversity found in other large communities in Lehigh County. Within Emmaus Borough, 87.4% of the population identifies as White. 4.9% identifies as Hispanic/Latino, 4.1% as Asian, 1.0% as Black/African American, and 0.3% as American Indian/Alaska Native. 2.3% of the population identifies as Two or More Races.

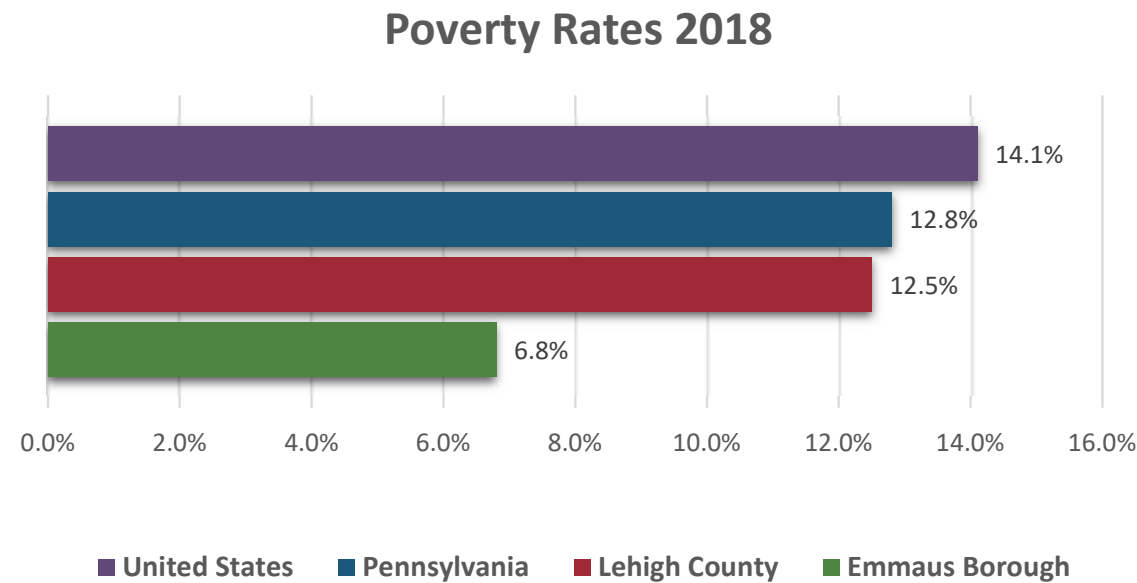
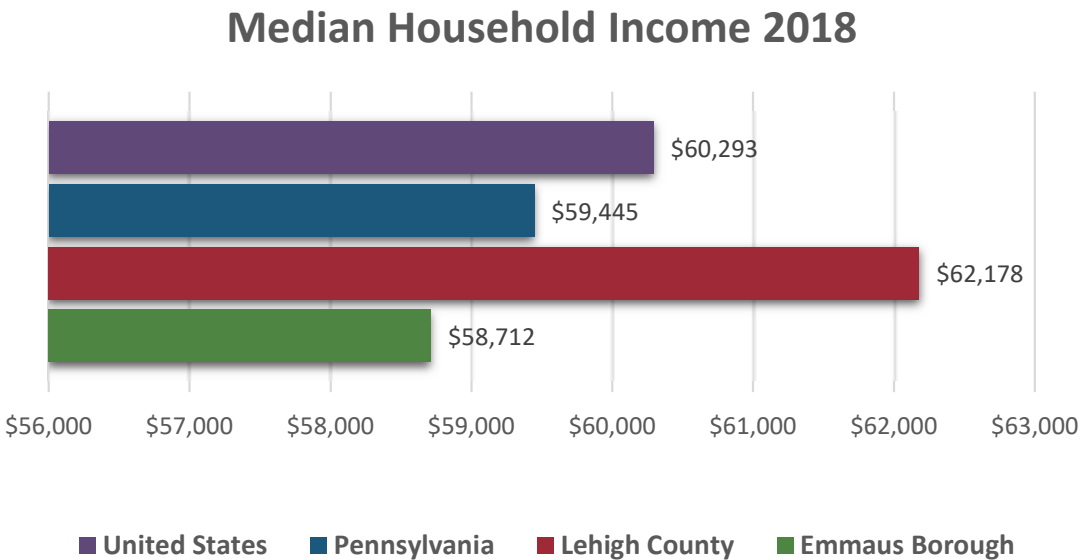
In Lehigh County, 63.4 % identify as White, 25.4 % as Hispanic or Latino, 5.2% as Black or African American, 3.5% as Asian, 3.5%, 0.1% as Some other Race, and 2.4% as Two or More Races.



Income

The median household income in Emmaus Borough is \$58,712. This is roughly 6% less than the Lehigh County median household income of \$62,178 and just below the state average of \$59,445 and national average of \$60,293. 6.8% of the population in Emmaus lives below the poverty rate, which is defined as lacking sufficient

income or material possessions to meet one's needs. This is relatively low in comparison to Lehigh County (12.5%) and Pennsylvania as a whole (12.8%). The income demographic information suggests that Borough residents may have about average disposable incomes for recreational purposes and related purchases.





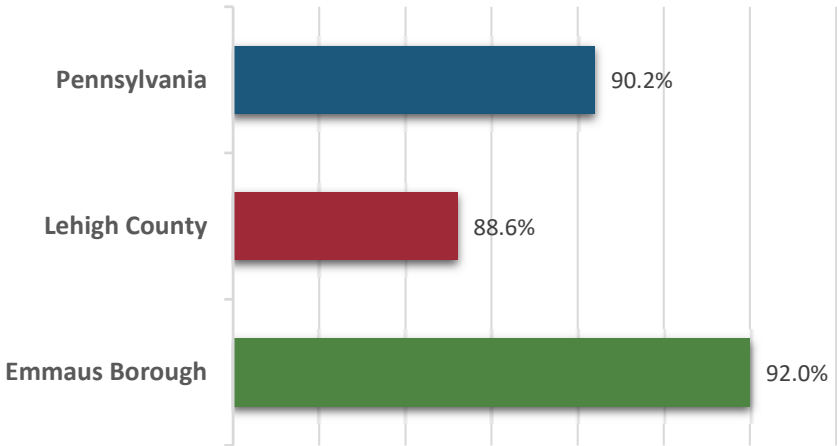
Education

The majority of the population within Emmaus has received some college education, at 58.7%, with over 30.2% of the population obtaining a bachelor's degree or higher. These numbers are on par with or slightly higher than educational attainment rates in surrounding areas. In Lehigh County, 55.6% of the population has had some college education, and 29.4% obtained a bachelor's degree or higher. In

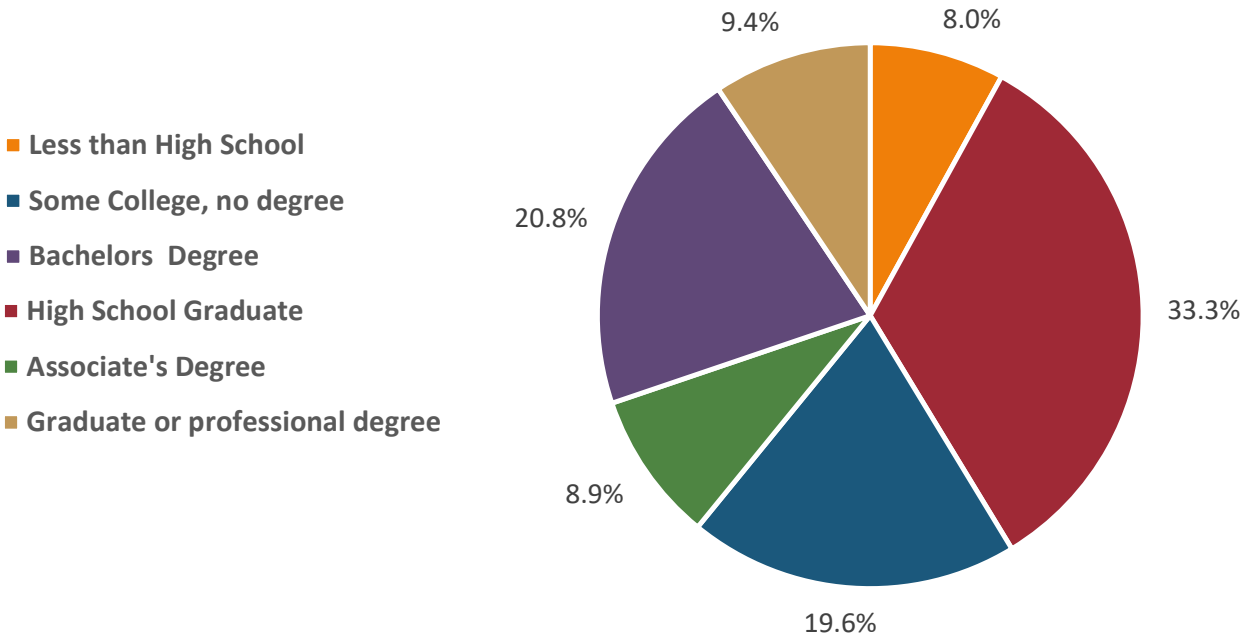
Pennsylvania as a whole, 55.0% has had some college education and 30.7% has obtained a bachelor's degree or higher.

Of the school age population, 39% are in elementary school, 16% are in high school, and 31% are in college or graduate school. According to the PA Department of Education, the Southern Lehigh School District is projected to grow 7% by 2027-2028.

High School Graduate or Higher



Level of Education



Economic Trends

The Borough of Emmaus has a diverse mix of residential, commercial, and light industrial uses and is considered the hub of productivity in southwestern Lehigh county. Its vibrant downtown functions as a walkable, mixed use node that hosts many small businesses. The South Mall on Lehigh Street also serves the community for goods and services. Shangy's is one of the largest beer distributors on the East Coast and Yocco's is a regionally famous hotdog establishment. Rodale Press was another major staple in the community until it was bought by Hearst in 2018 and moved to Easton, PA.

Reviewing 2018 ACS 5-year estimates, the Borough of Emmaus employment rate has continued to grow at an average rate of 1% each year. The most common jobs of residents in 2018 were Office and Administrative Support, Sales and Related Occupations, and Business and Financial Operations. The most common employment sectors for residents in 2018 were Health Care and Social Assistance, Manufacturing, and Retail. These breakdowns show where residents work and do not reflect the businesses in the Borough.





## 2 Inventory & Analysis







## Data Collection and Methodology

In 2020, the Borough of Emmaus selected the team of Simone Collins Landscape Architecture (SC); Certified Park and Recreational Professional, Patrick Stasio; and engineering, environmental, and surveying firm Spotts, Stevens & McCoy (SSM) as the consultants to guide the planning process. The project team also included a Project Committee, comprised of residents, professionals, stakeholders, and Borough staff and Council members.

Data found within this report was compiled using the best available information. This included Geographic Information System (GIS) data from Emmaus Borough, Lehigh County, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, and Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access (PASDA), which was used to prepare field maps and planning documents consisting of the base aerial photography, municipal boundaries, roadways, parcels, contour lines, and other identifying land features. Other

information included previous planning studies, field reconnaissance data, steering committee and public meetings, key person interviews, focus groups, WikiMapping, and an online public opinion survey.

## Site Reconnaissance

The consultants performed an initial field reconnaissance in May 2020 to inventory, analyze, and document existing conditions of parks, trails, and open space. Additional field reconnaissance was completed as needed to gather further insight for the plan. Field data was recorded by the consultants onto the field maps and photographs were taken for use in the Plan. This information was then used in evaluating planning alternatives in the development of the Plan.

## Public Participation

The project was guided by a project study committee that provided critical insight and direction to the consultants in the development of the Plan. The consultants worked with the project committee

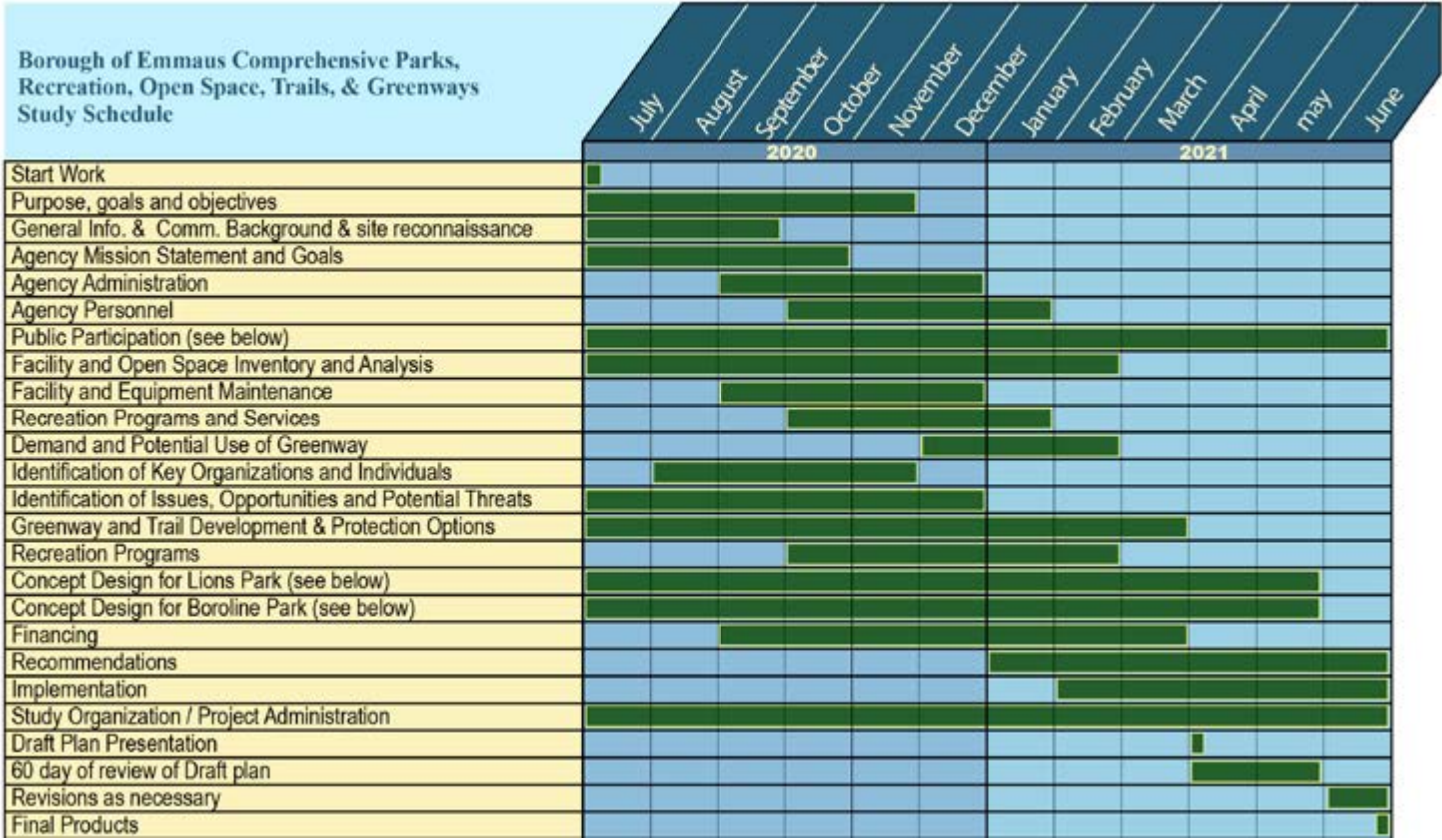
to review the public participation process, gain clarification of data gathered, and guide the planning process before presenting to the public.

Receiving community input is a critical component of a successful comprehensive plan, so it was important for the project team to hear citizens' observations, needs, and visions, and to incorporate what was learned into the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways, and Trails Study. The Borough placed meeting dates, information from prior meetings, and other relevant information and links on their website and Facebook page.

The public participation process included four public meetings, seven committee meetings, four focus group meetings, seven key person and Borough staff interviews, and an online public opinion survey accompanied by WikiMapping, an online interactive mapping tool. A project schedule can be reviewed below. Meeting notes and attendance sheets for each meeting, as well as survey results, can be found in the Appendix of this report.



The consultants spend a day at the Emmaus Farmers Market to inform the public about the study.





Public meeting 1 – Thursday, September 24th, 2020

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, this meeting was held through a virtual format. The consultants began the meeting by introducing the project team and committee. They noted their experience and reviewed the importance of having a plan. The consultants discussed the project schedule, scope, and purpose. The consultants explained that the online survey and WikiMapping would be available after the public meeting and that public involvement is extremely crucial in the planning process to ensure the plan reflects the needs of the community. The attendees were led through an interactive discussion. The meeting was recorded and placed on the Borough's web site.

Public Meeting 2 – Thursday, January 28th, 2021

This meeting was held through a virtual format. The consultants began the meeting by providing survey results and discussing existing information that will be used for the plan. The consultant team then reviewed up to date analysis and introduced concepts for the plan. The meeting was recorded and placed on the Borough's website.

Public Meeting 3 – Wednesday, March 31st, 2021

This meeting was held through a virtual format. The consultants reviewed and explained the recommendations of the draft plan. They presented draft plans for the greenways, trails, and proposed open space acquisition. They also discussed recommendations for programming and recreation enhancements to the existing facilities. The plan then was posted on the Borough's website for a 30-day public review period.

Public Meeting 4 – Wednesday, September 29th, 2021

The final plans were presented to the public at the final public meeting.

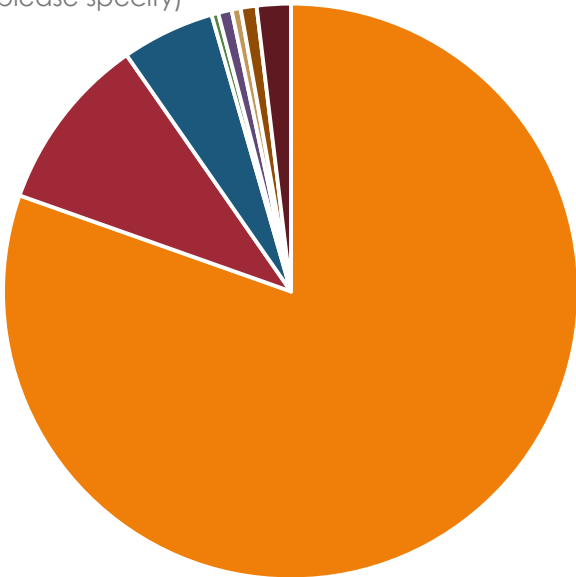
Online Survey/ Wikimapping

A 39-question online public opinion survey was open to the public from September 24, 2020 to April 12, 2021 as a way of obtaining additional comments and ideas from the public about park, recreation, and open space usage and needs. The survey received nearly 800 responses. Respondents were kept confidential, and responses were compiled together and analyzed. All survey results are found in the Appendix of the report. Select responses are shown below.

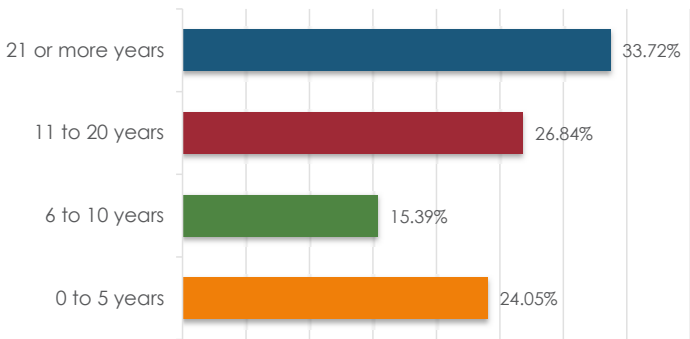


What is the name of the municipality that you live in? What is your age?

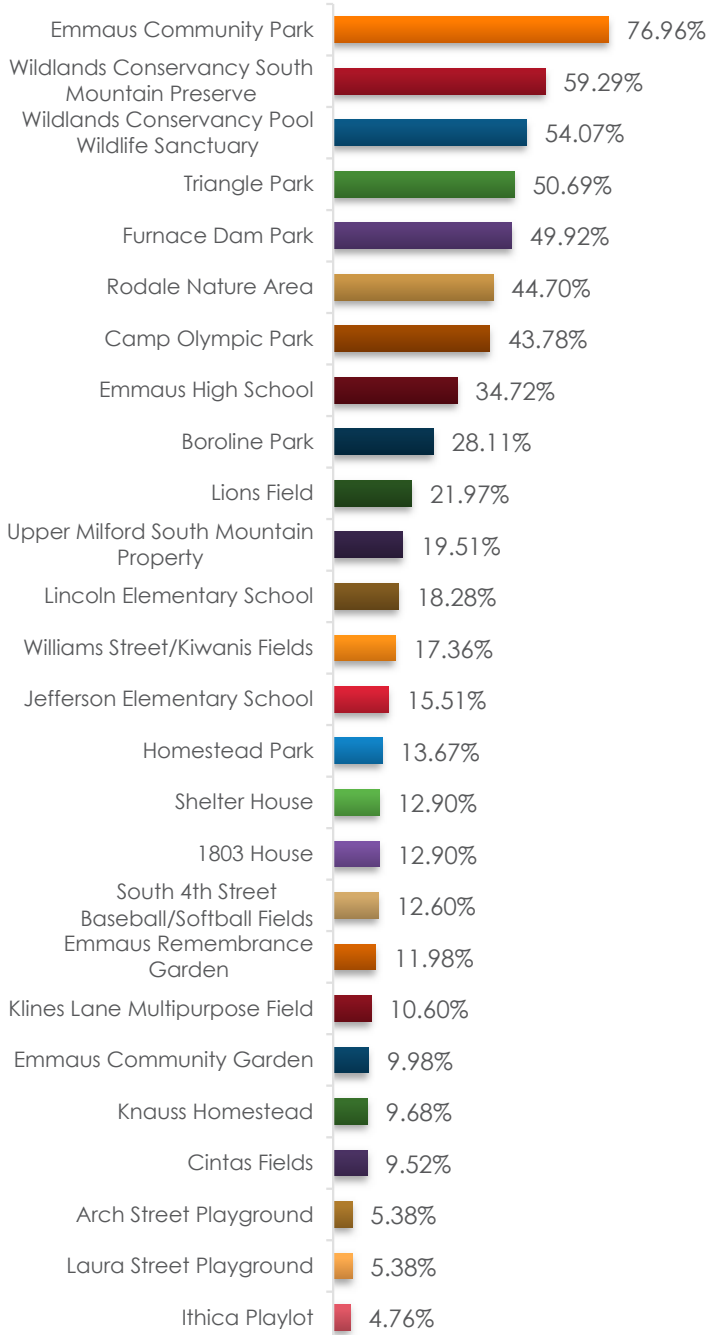
- Emmaus Borough
- Upper Milford Township
- Lower Macungie Township
- Lower Milford Township
- Salisbury Township
- Allentown
- Upper Saucon Township
- Other (please specify)



How long have you lived in your current community?

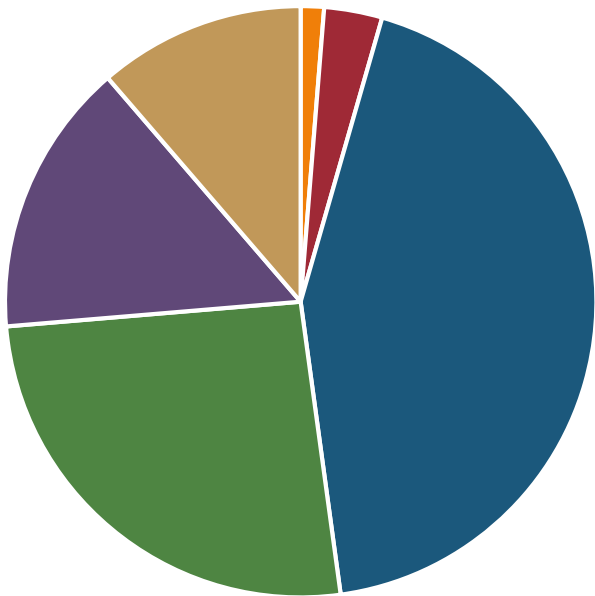


Which parks, natural areas, trails, or facilities do you visit for recreation purposes? (Please check all that apply) Top 25 answers shown.



What is your age?

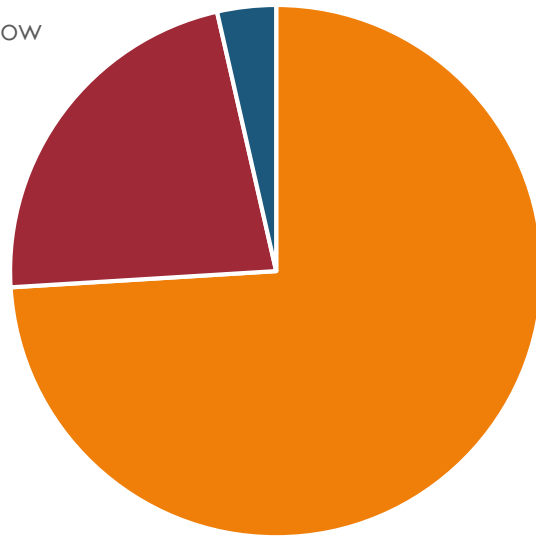
- Under 18
- 18 to 24
- 25 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 or older





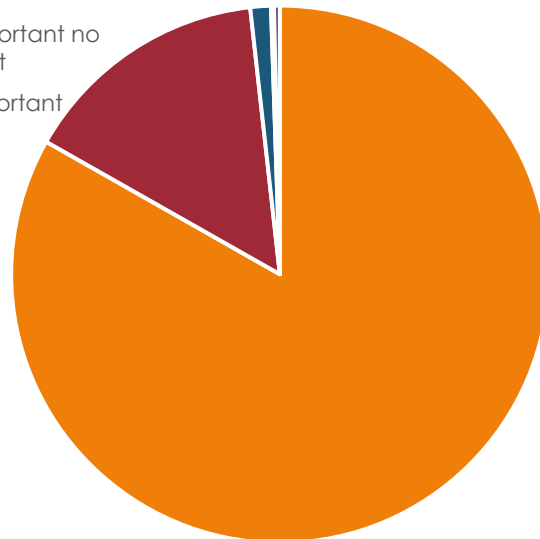
**Do you feel that there are an adequate number of parks, natural areas, open spaces and trails available to you in or in close proximity to where you live?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know



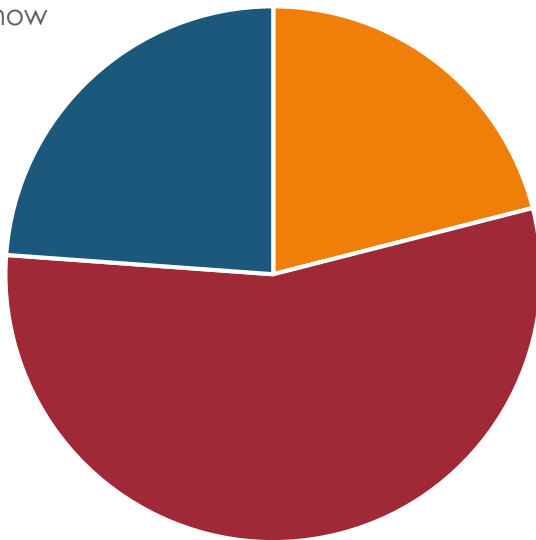
**In general, how important do you feel public parks, trails, natural areas and open spaces are to the well-being and quality of life in Emmaus Borough?**

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Very unimportant
- Don't know

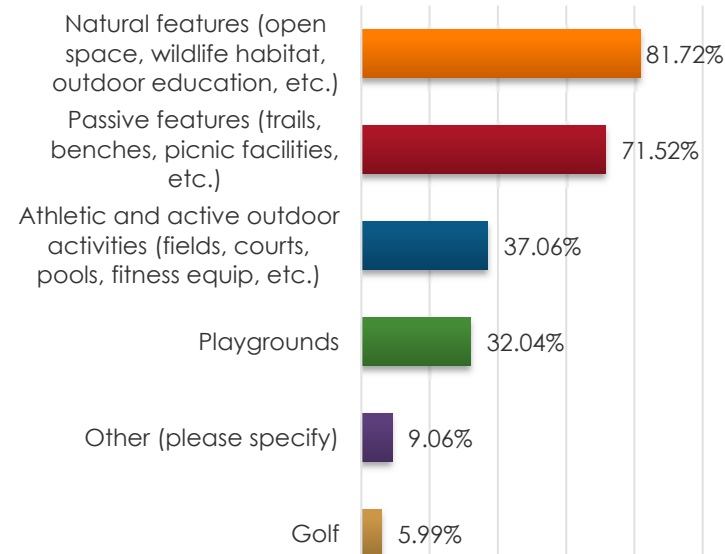


**Do you think that Emmaus Borough needs more sports fields (soccer, baseball, football, etc.)?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know



**What are your favorite types of park features? (Please check all that apply)**



WikiMapping is an online public engagement tool that allows users to provide routes, mark points, and add pictures and comments on a map to show consultants existing conditions, desired connecting routes, and spaces for preservation or recreation.

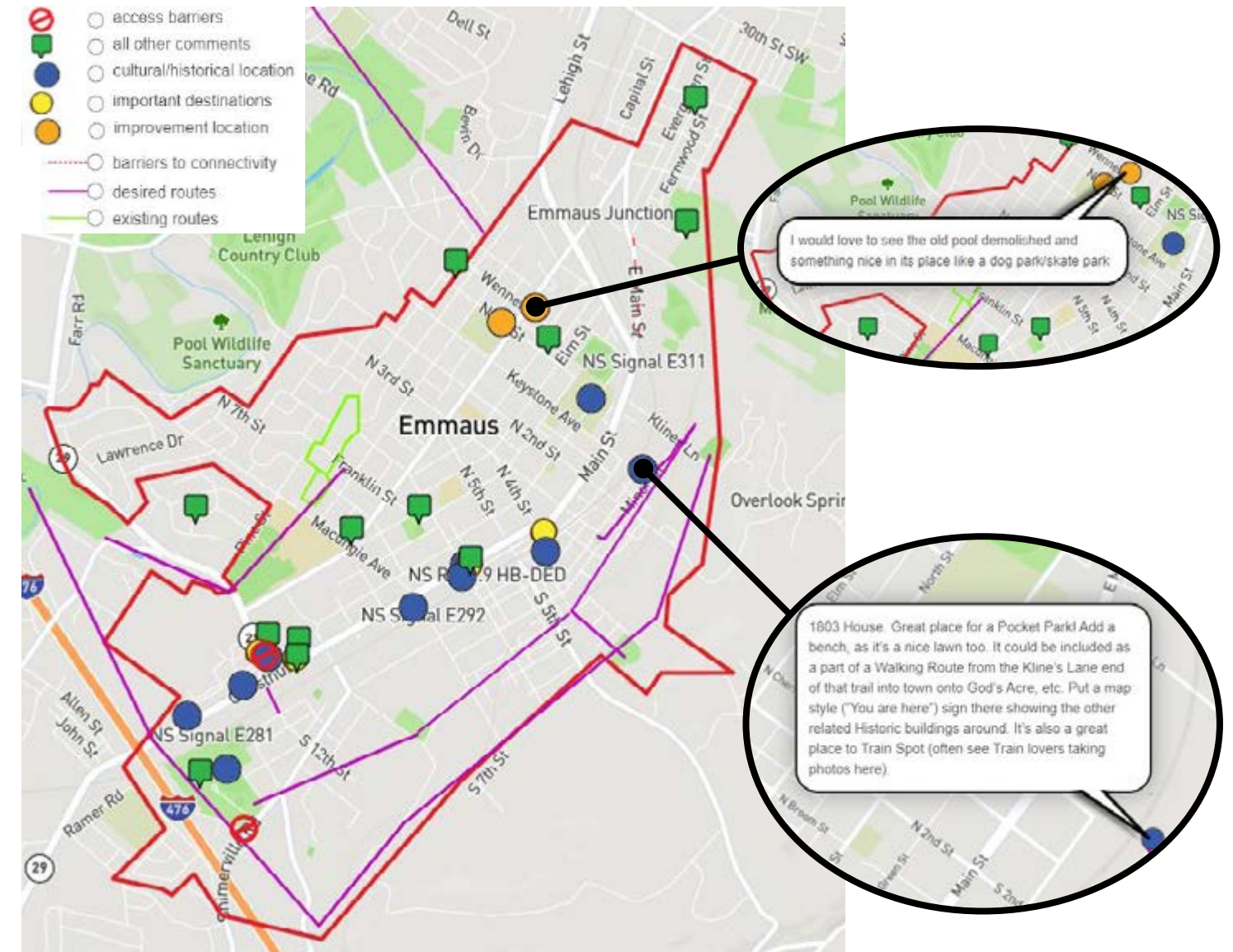
The WikiMapping showed that residents were generally interested in new trail connections. They were also able to point out areas where they felt that there were safety issues for pedestrian and bicyclists. Very few pointed to having new parks, including users noting that they wanted a dog or skate park.

## Key Persons Interviews

The consultants interviewed seven people to discuss the plan and ideas moving forward. The interviews provided some detailed information reflected in the plan.

## Focus Groups

Four focus groups were created to allow persons to discuss the plan through interest groups. The groups were divided into active recreation, passive recreation, schools, and social, religious, and senior organizations. These group discussions were beneficial to the consultants and ensured that the plan was taking into consideration various user groups within the Borough.





# Summary of Existing Planning Documents

## Southwest Lehigh Comprehensive Plan, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) 2017

This plan presents a collective vision for the six municipalities, including the Borough of Emmaus in Southwestern Lehigh County. The other municipalities represented are Lower Macungie Township, Upper Milford Township, Lower Milford Township, and the Boroughs of Macungie and Alburtis. It was the result of almost two years of research and community engagement. One common concern found among these municipalities was changing development patterns and their possible negative impacts on the quality of life in the region. The document is intended to guide all other planning initiatives and future land use decisions including: zoning; subdivision and land development; official maps; traffic impact fees; and parks, recreation, and open space.

## Livable Landscapes – A Park, Recreation, Open Space, Agriculture and Historic Lands Plan for Lehigh County, LVPC, 2018

The purpose of this plan is to provide guidance for development of an open space network that will assist in conserving, restoring, and enhancing valuable natural and cultural resources within Lehigh County. The goal is to promote vibrant and healthy quality of life for residents, while maintaining the unique character of the natural resources throughout the area. The report presents the valuable benefits of open space to the community, economy, and health, referring to the findings in the Lehigh Valley Return on Environment study and the Health Care Council of the Lehigh Valley study, The Road to Health.

## One Lehigh Valley, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC), 2014

This document serves as an update to the Comprehensive Plan, The Lehigh Valley ... 2030, adopted in 2005. The Lehigh Valley Sustainability Consortium (a fourteen-member regional alliance)

organized ten plans around economy, environment, transportation, and livable communities. LVPC assessed these different reports and developed the goals within this document to guide the Lehigh Valley through growth and development.

## Future LV: Regional Comprehensive Plan, Lehigh Valley Transportation Study (LVTS) and Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC), 2019

This report combines the land use planning from LVPC and the transportation planning of LVTS to guide future decision making within this fast-growing region. In the report, people identified protection and preservation of natural resources and having recreational opportunities to be very important. The plan stresses the importance of protecting, preserving, and connecting natural, cultural, historical, and scenic open space to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the residents through inclusive and livable communities. The report provided the consultants additional insight into the Lehigh Valley's future land planning goals and how they correspond with the needs of the Borough of Emmaus. The plan also reveals a lack of connectivity and where sidewalks are needed in the region. This information is important when considering how people within a community will access open space.

## Walk/Roll LV – Active Transportation Plan, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC), 2020

This plan provides a vision of how active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, fits within the larger transportation network that connects the communities of the Lehigh Valley. The plan identifies the economic, health, climate, and equity benefits related to communities that have a strong, supportive, active transportation system. Also identified are existing sidewalks, bicycle, and public transportation conditions within the region. Recommendations for improvements are provided along with examples of how improvements can be implemented. One improvement recommendation in the plan that relates to the Borough of Emmaus is the

Mack Boulevard/Emmaus Avenue (Hamilton Street to Chestnut Street) Bicycle Commuting Corridor.

## Lehigh Valley Return on Environment, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, 2014

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission studied the estimated economic value of open space by measuring impacts across natural system services, air quality, outdoor recreation, and property value. For example, natural system services can save municipalities money through better water quality and storm water management. Additionally, homeowners who live near open space will experience higher property values. The study also identifies how open space has a beneficial impact on quality of life, including provision of basic needs for health and well-being, jobs, food, and supporting a diversity of plants and animals. This report clarifies the economic benefits provided by open space in the Borough.

## Lehigh Valley Greenways Plan – A Regional Greenways Plan for Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, 2007

This plan examines greenways, which can best be described as corridors of open space, whether narrow or wide, that integrate diverse natural, cultural, and scenic features. Connectivity is an important component of greenways, linking together a variety of open spaces. These greenways can be used as cultural/recreation, conservation, multi-use, or scenic corridors. The plan builds on the goals expressed by the 2001 State Greenway Plan. Two greenways exist in the Borough: the Pennsylvania Highlands, which is a nationally recognized scenic greenway, and the Liebert Creek Greenway, a mixed-use greenway that has local importance. Both greenways will be discussed further in the Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Study.

## Other Surrounding Municipal Plans

The consultants reviewed neighboring Open Space and/or Comprehensive Plans such as Allentown Vision 2030, 2019; Salisbury Township Comprehensive Plan, 2012; and Upper Milford Township Park, Recreation,

and Environmental Plan, 2018. These plans helped identify common goals and objectives across the municipalities within the region. Through the reports, a common theme is the desire from residents to conserve open space and create sustainable development that will not interfere with the quality of life that everyone enjoys and wishes to maintain. These plans also assist in creation of open space connection that residents can use as they cross municipal lines.





# Zoning and SALDO Summary

The following is a review of relevant sections of existing Borough ordinances that relate to parks, recreation, open space, and natural resource protection.

## Chapter 16 - Parks and Recreation

This chapter defines parks and provides rules and regulations for park space in the Borough. Key points are noted.

**16-103-19** - states that no pets are allowed to accompany or walk with park visitors, except for service animals.

**16-109** - provides a separate set of Rules of Conduct for Triangle Park. The rules unique to Triangle Park state that no person visiting the park shall:

- Operate wheeled devices which are used for transportation or recreation, such as skateboards, roller skates, and bicycles
- Wheelchairs and strollers are permitted.
- Swim, play, or bathe in the fountain, or introduce any foreign object or liquid.
- Play games that require throwing, kicking, pitching, or projecting any object.



## Chapter 21 – Part 4 - Sidewalk and Curb Construction

**21-401** – Required Installation. In the event that the Borough determines that any street or streets are to be reconstructed or repaved, or that a major public improvement is needed in the right-of-way, after the adoption of this Part, then after review and any recommendation by an appropriate committee, the Borough may require the installation of sidewalks, curbs, handicap ramps and driveway crossovers along or adjacent to those streets within the time limit specified in the official notice provided by the Public Works Inspector. Failure to install and construct sidewalks in accordance with this provision will necessitate the construction of such sidewalks, curbs, handicap ramps and driveway crossovers by the Borough at the property owner's expense plus a 10% administrative fee. A property owner's failure to pay for the Borough's construction of sidewalks, curbs, handicap ramps and driveway crossovers in accordance with this provision shall result in the filing of a municipal lien by the Borough of Emmaus.

## Chapter 22 – Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO)

**22-102** – Purpose of SALDO regulations of Borough of Emmaus is:

- To protect and provide for the public health, safety, and general welfare of the Borough.
- To guide the future growth and development of the Borough, in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan of the Borough.
- To provide for adequate light, air, and privacy; to secure safety from fire, flood, and other danger; and to prevent overcrowding of the land and undue congestion of population.
- To protect the character and social and economic stability of the Borough and to encourage the orderly and beneficial development of the Borough.
- To protect and conserve the value of land throughout the Borough, and the value of buildings and improvements upon the land and to minimize the conflicts among the uses of land and buildings.

- To guide public and private policy and action in order to provide adequate and efficient transportation, water supply, sewerage, schools, parks, playgrounds, recreation, and other public requirements and facilities.
- To provide the most beneficial relationship between the uses of land and buildings and the circulation of traffic within the Borough, having particular regard to the avoidance of congestion in the streets and highways, and the pedestrian traffic movements appropriate to the various uses of land and buildings, and to provide for the proper location and width of streets and building lines.
- To establish reasonable standards of design and procedures for subdivision and resubdivisions, in order to further the orderly layout and use of land; and to insure proper legal descriptions and monumenting of subdivided land.
- To ensure that public facilities are available and will have a sufficient capacity to serve the proposed subdivision.
- To prevent the pollution of air, streams, and ponds; to assure the adequacy of drainage facilities; to safeguard the water table; and to encourage the wise use and management of natural resources in order to preserve the community and value of the land.
- To preserve the natural beauty and topography of the Borough and to ensure appropriate development with regard to these natural features.
- To provide for open spaces through efficient design and layout of the land.
- And finally, to ensure that documents prepared as part of a land ownership transfer fully and accurately describe the parcel of land being subdivided, and the new parcels thus created.

### 22-202 – Definitions

Recreation Land – Land dedicated to the Borough or other entity approved by the Borough for the use of the Borough's residents which is suitable for active uses such as playing fields. Recreation land shall not include areas within the 500 Year Floodplain, powerline or pipeline right-of-way, buffer zones, or storm water management facilities. Recreation land

shall not include areas characterized by wetlands, hydric soils, slopes in excess of 5% or woodlands.

**22-502** – Land Requirements – states lands that are unsuitable for development or that cannot be developed until hazards to life, safety, health, or property have been eliminated. These lands include:

- Land located in a floodplain subject to flooding or which has a high ground water table.
- Land which, if developed, will create or aggravate a flooding condition upon other land.
- Land subject to subsidence.
- Land subject to underground fires.
- Land containing significant areas of slopes greater than 10%.
- Land which, because of topography or means of access, is considered hazardous by the Borough Council.
- Land which is subject to ground pollution or contamination.

**22-506** – Stormwater Drainage – the purpose of this ordinance is to provide a set of standards for storm water management within the Borough. Key points are:

- No person, corporation, or other entity shall block, impede the flow of, alter, construct any structure, or deposit any material or thing, or commit any act which will affect normal or flood flow in any communal stream or water course without having obtained prior approval from the Borough or Department of Environmental Protection, whichever is applicable.
- Where a subdivision or land development is traversed by a natural watercourse, there shall be provided a drainage easement or right-of-way conforming substantially with the line of such watercourse and of such width as will be adequate to preserve natural drainage.
- The Borough will assure that all permanent streams, not under the jurisdiction of other official agencies, are maintained open and free flowing.



- The minimum design criteria shall be a ten-year storm. Higher frequency conditions shall be used in sensitive areas and where an overflow would endanger public or private property.
  - Control Facilities.
1. Permanent control measures/facilities shall be designed to assure that the maximum rate of stormwater runoff is not greater after development than prior to development for a ten-year storm frequency. More stringent criteria may be required in sensitive areas where storm water problems presently exist.
  2. Control Facilities shall be designed to meet, as a minimum, the design standards and specifications of the "Erosion and Sedimentation Control Handbook for Lehigh County."
    - Detention ponds may be waived by the Borough Council on the recommendation of the Borough Engineer at sites in close proximity to the major streams. This is to facilitate drainage prior to stream flooding.
    - In areas underlain with limestone geology, ponds shall be limited to the detention (dry) type unless the developer can show a special need for a retention pond, in which case it shall have a lining. Detention ponds shall be prohibited in areas of known sinkholes unless the pond is lined. If a sinkhole develops in a pond or channel before acceptance by the municipality, a lining shall be required.

**22-510** – Open Space, Lot Siting, Planting and Beautification – the purpose of this ordinance is to provide a set of standards to promote the highest environmental quality possible, including preservation of existing natural features. Key points are:

- Open space. Where the applicant is offering for dedication or is required by ordinance to establish a reservation of open space or preserve an area of scenic or historic importance, a "limit of work," which will confine excavation, earth moving procedures and other changes to the landscape, may be required to ensure preservation and prevent despoilation of the character of the area in open space.
- Tree preservation. Whenever possible, trees shall not be removed unless they are located within the proposed street right-of-way, within the

proposed building area, or within utility locations and equipment access areas. In areas where trees are retained, the original grade level shall be maintained, if possible, so as not to disturb the trees.

- Topsoil preservation. All of the topsoil from areas where cuts and fills have been made should be stockpiled and redistributed uniformly after grading. All areas of the site shall be stabilized by seeding or planting on slopes of less than 10% and shall be stabilized by sodding on slopes 10% or more and planted in ground cover on slopes 20% or greater.
- Landscaping. For all multi-family, apartment, office, commercial, and industrial subdivisions or land developments, a landscaping plan shall be provided and shall include sufficient plantings for the required open space, planting strips, screenings, formal gardens, shade trees and natural barriers.
- Preserved landscaping. When there is a conscientious effort to preserve the existing natural integrity and character of a site and where such preservation effectuates areas of woodland and trees comparable to required planting improvements, i.e., landscaping and buffer screening, the plan may be received in lieu of additional landscaping requirements.
- Watercourse Protection. Where a subdivision or land development is traversed by a natural watercourse, there shall be provided a drainage easement or right-of-way conforming substantially with the line of such watercourse and of such width as will be adequate to preserve natural drainage. Such easement shall be in addition to the open space required in Sec. 510.2.

**22-511** – Contribution for Recreation Purposes – this ordinance describes in lieu of requirements. Key points are:

- Areas meeting the criteria for recreation lands as set forth in Part 2, "Definitions," shall be offered for dedication to the Borough, subject to the approval of the Borough Council. A minimum of 1,100 square feet per lot or dwelling unit shall be offered. Borough Council shall consider the offer relative the following factors:

1.The suitability of the size, shape and landform of the tract for appropriate recreational facilities.

2.Accessibility.

3.Conformity with the parks and recreation element of the Comprehensive Plan.

4.Ability of nearby recreation facilities to serve the subdivision and land development.

5.If land is not suitable, Council would then impose the cash in lieu provision as stated in § 22-511, subsection (2).

- Cash in lieu of recreation land dedication may be offered, subject to the approval of the Borough Council, as follows:

1.The cash in lieu shall be \$1,000 per lot or dwelling unit (the estimated value of 1,100 square feet of recreation land) or such other amount that the Borough Council may adopt by ordinance as shall be in effect at the time of payment.

2.The use of the monies shall be restricted to the purchase of lands or for recreation or open space accessible to the subdivision or land development, the improvement of said areas, the construction of recreational facilities, parks, and other related capital expenditures,



New development under construction by Arch Street Playground.

as recommended in the Borough's Park and Recreation Plan.

**22-513** – Floodplain Area Regulations – the purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the subdivision or development of land within any designated floodplain and provide a safe building site with adequate access.

**22-514 through 22-519** – Landscaping General Requirements – the purpose of this ordinance is to provide general requirements for new landscaping and protection of existing landscaping. Key points are as follows:

- In cases where natural features existing on the site duplicate or essentially duplicate the requirements of the street tree, buffering, or landscaping provisions of this Part, these requirements may be waived by the Borough Council.
- All subdivisions and land developments shall be laid out in such a manner as to preserve the healthy trees on the site. If trees greater than eight inches in caliper are removed, they shall be replaced by trees of 3 1/2 inches minimum caliper which appear on the recommended plant list as found in § 22-518(5).
- Screen planting shall be provided along each perimeter of a parking area. No less than 10% of a proposed parking area must consist of buffer areas and islands and must be landscaped and continually maintained.
- Parking areas of a twenty-vehicle capacity shall be separated from one another by planting strips not less than 10 feet in width.
- Plant material shall be adaptable to the specific planting site and to achieve the specified design objectives of the plan.
- Plant material shall attempt to mitigate adverse microclimate conditions.
- Buffer yards are required along two different land uses and along the rear of reverse frontage lots as specified in the Zoning Ordinance either as buffer or screening requirements. Walls, ornamental structures, appropriate plantings, or a combination of these, not less than four feet in height, may be used subject to the specific



land use areas involved as noted in the Zoning Ordinance and approved by Borough Council.

- Suggested plant material is provided for street trees and buffer plantings.

## Chapter 25 – Trees

**25-102** – Shade Tree Commission – the purpose of this regulation is to describe the responsibilities of the commission, which includes recommendations for:

- tree species for public spaces,
- controlling diseased or pest damaged trees,
- maintenance,
- tree education, and
- regulations for planting and removal.

**25-201** – Tree Fund – A tree fund has been established by the Borough under provisions of when a property owner requests that a tree replacement is not required, or a public tree is removed at the direction of the Shade Tree Commission and a replacement is needed.

## Chapter 26 – Water – Part 3 Little Lehigh Creek Watershed Act 167 Stormwater Management Ordinance

**26-303** – Purpose – states that the purpose of these regulations is to promote the public health, safety, and welfare within the Little Lehigh Creek Watershed by minimizing the damages and maximizing the benefits that are described in section 26-302. These include:

- Manage stormwater runoff impacts at their source by regulating activities which cause such problems.
- Utilize and preserve the desirable existing natural drainage systems.
- Encourage infiltration of stormwater, where appropriate, to maintain groundwater recharge, to prevent degradation of surface and groundwater quality and to otherwise protect water resources.
- Maintain the existing flows and quality of streams and watercourses in the municipality and the Commonwealth.

- Preserve and restore the flood carrying capacity of streams.
- Provide for proper maintenance of all permanent stormwater management BMPs that are implemented in the municipality.
- Provide review procedures and performance standards for stormwater planning, design and management.
- Manage stormwater impacts close to the runoff source which requires a minimum of structures and relies on natural processes.
- Meet legal water quality requirements under state law, including regulations at 25 Pa.Code Chapter 93.4a to protect and maintain "existing uses" and maintain the level of water quality to support those uses in all streams and to protect and maintain water quality in "special protection" streams.
- Prevent scour and erosion of streambanks and streambeds.
- Provide standards to meet the NPDES permit requirements.

## Chapter 27 – Zoning

**27-301** – Designation of Districts and Purposes – of the nine designated districts in the Borough of Emmaus Zoning, two zones recognize environmentally sensitive areas and/or protection of natural resources.

**C-R** – the purpose of this zone is to provide for development only at low intensity on areas that are environmentally sensitive or that have inadequate road access; preserve the water quality of important creeks; and recognize areas that include significant amounts of wetlands.

**R-P** – the purpose of this zone is to provide residential development that protects important natural features of the site while permitting flexibility in certain lot requirements. The zone provides requirements for Planned Residential Developments (PRD) with common open space minimums located to preserve significant natural features. It is noted that the Council may require the establishment and preservation of paths along waterways, with public access easements.

**27-308** – SFCD – Single-Family Cluster Development – within zones C-R, R-L, and R-M; SFCD is allowed for the purpose of flexibility of development within areas that have sensitive natural features. This ordinance provides the requirements needed for allowing this development including an open space requirement of a minimum of 20% of the tract area to be permanently preserved as public, semipublic, or private.

**27-503** – Wetlands – If the Borough Engineer, Planning Commission, or Borough Council has reason to believe that a portion of a site proposed to be altered may possibly meet the state or federal definitions of a "wetland," the applicants(s) may be required to provide a study, prepared by a qualified professional, which delineates that location of said wetlands.

**27-504** – Setback From Liebert's Creek and Major Drainage Channels – The purpose of this regulation is to protect the quality of surface waters, preserve physical access to surface waters in case of future public acquisition, minimize erosion and sedimentation, preserve the natural stormwater drainage system of the area, conserve sensitive wildlife and aquatic habitats, preserve vegetation along waterways that will help screen out eroded soil and other pollutants, and provide for setbacks that can be used as required yard areas for a use.

Setback requirements from Liebert's Creek and Major Drainage Channels dictate that no building or paved area (other than approved street and driveway crossings) shall be located within: (A) 50 feet of the center of Liebert's Creek; or (B) within 10 feet of the center of a segment of a drainage channel if such drainage channel is mapped as floodplain on the Official Floodplain Map. This setback regulation does not apply to public utility facilities or publicly owned recreational facilities.

**27-505** – Steep slopes – The Borough defines steep slopes as 15 % or greater.

**27-515** – Tree Preservation – This regulation provides requirements for any tree removal to protect wildlife and bird habitats, encourage groundwater recharge, avoid pollution of creeks by high temperature runoff,

maintain the attractive character of areas, and conserve energy.

**27-516** – Floodplain Area Regulations – The purpose of these regulations is to reduce hazards to public health, safety, and welfare due to flooding and pollution in areas of the Borough where streams are known to possess flooding characteristics and/or chronic wetness. These flood zones are identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These maps are currently in the process of being updated from the last assessment done in 2009.

**27-517** – Karst Hazards – The purpose of this section is to protect ground water resources and to recognize the potential for damage to improvements and health, and disruption to public services that may arise from sinkholes and/or subsidence occurrence. This pertains to development and stormwater detention facilities. A Karst Hazard Indicator Map is available to assist in identifying areas, but it is noted that this is the only source and further study of an area may be needed. It also notes that exact occurrence of sinkholes and subsidence is not predictable and the Borough, its agencies, consultants, and employees assume no liability from damages that may result from sinkhole activity.

**27-518** – Alluvial Soils – This section identifies alluvial soils that are known to be within the Borough and provides regulations for any development on these soils. The soils identified are:

- Aw – Atkins silt loam
- Ln – Linside silt loam
- Mh – Melvin silt loam
- MkA – Melvin silt loam, local alluvium, 0-3% slopes
- MkB – Melvin silt loam, local alluvium, 3-8% slopes





## Physical Inventory

### Natural Inventory

The residents of Emmaus enjoy a number of natural features that provide beauty, recreational opportunities, and direct and spin-off economic value to the community. The scenic South Mountain borders the south side of the Borough and Liebert's Creek meanders through the west side of town. These two predominant features help define the Borough, and their preservation as significant natural resources grows more important as the Borough reaches its developmental limits.

The Wildlands Conservancy has been an active partner in protecting and/or enhancing some of the important natural features within the Borough, such as providing education and assistance in planting riparian ecosystems along the streams. The Conservancy also manages the South Mountain Preserve, the Dorothy Rider Pool Wildlife Sanctuary just outside of Emmaus and has recently taken over 33 acres of woodland next to the Shelter House.

Understanding the roles of the existing natural features and the environmental services and/or recreational opportunities they provide will promote their role within our built environment. Conservation of open spaces and natural resources will have lasting effects on air and water quality, public health, habitat, property value, and recreation for future residents of the Borough of Emmaus.

### Hydraulics

**Streams** - Streams, rivers, and waterways play important historic, recreational, and environmental roles for people who live in the region. Liebert Creek runs through Community Park in the south side of the Borough. The stream's headwaters start east of the Village of Shimerville, Upper Milford Township, and flow into the Little Lehigh Creek in Lower Macungie Township. There are two other unnamed tributaries that run through Emmaus; while they do not have constant flow, they do receive runoff from South Mountain through the town. One tributary flows into Furnace Dam Pond and then meets with Liebert Creek behind the Meadows Apartments. The other

tributary runs through the Borough just west of State Ave. This tributary collects runoff from various areas starting in South Mountain. It flows through Williams St. Recreation Area and other Borough-owned open space before flowing into the Little Lehigh Creek. This tributary has been the subject of recent streambank restoration efforts from the Borough.

**Ponds** - Ponds are desired for their recreation opportunities and scenic views. The Furnace Dam pond is the only pond with public access within the Borough. It does have site amenities and allows for fishing. There are a few other ponds that exist within the Borough, but they are either on private property or they are manmade stormwater management BMPs.

**Wetlands** - Wetlands are areas that are filled with water long enough to support the variety of vegetation that has adapted to life in saturated soils. As noted in the Lehigh Valley Return on Environment (2014), wetlands provide higher natural system service benefits on a per acre basis than any other land cover. Wetlands are one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems in the world and provide for many important environmental

services. Even some wetlands that are considered seasonal, such as vernal pools, provide needed habitat for many varieties of plants and animals. As a whole, Pennsylvania has lost more than half of its natural wetlands, and even when wetlands are constructed as a requirement of development, they rarely match the full ecological services provided by natural wetlands.

According to National Wetland Inventory (NWI) data, there are two areas of wetlands in the Borough. There is a grouping of emergent freshwater wetlands located in the southern area of the Borough, between Shimerville Road and Pennsylvania Ave. They lie along Liebert Creek in an undeveloped area of woodland cover. NWI also reveals freshwater forested shrubland near the apartments along Mulligan Way. This data is not precise, but it does provide general locations for where these wetlands may be located. The wetlands shown in the area of Mulligan Way are shown where there is already development, but the woodlands behind the apartments may actually be forested shrubland wetlands.





**Floodplains** - Floodplains are low lying areas next to streams, rivers, or waterways that are subject to periodical complete or partial flooding during rain events. Floodplains are meant to flood as part of the hydrologic cycle. The boundaries of floodplains are typically irregularly shaped and often meander through communities, unseen. Flooding under normal circumstances is not dangerous, but when development approaches these areas, risk of damages and possible loss of life increases. When these areas are naturally vegetated, it can help trap and reduce the amount of suspended sediment from upland runoff that would otherwise reduce water quality and impair aquatic habitat. Having a healthy floodplain will also create better downstream conditions while storing large amounts of water that helps replenish aquifers. Regulations protect these important areas and help to protect people from property damage and loss of life.



Flooding in Emmaus Community Park during an intensive rain event in April, 2020. Photo from the web.

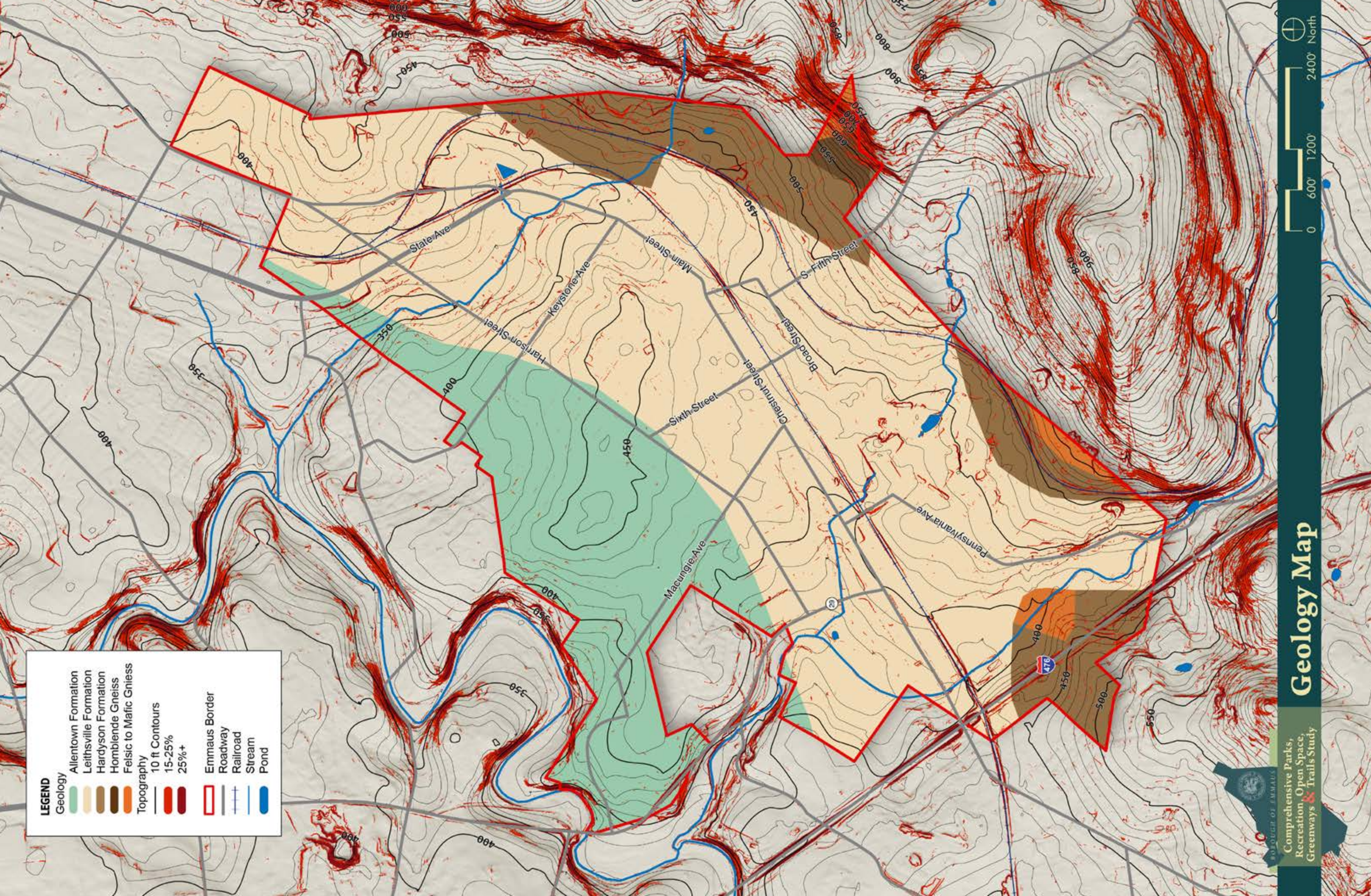
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) produces flood zone maps to identify floodways, 100-year flood zones, and 500-year flood zones. These areas are identified on the Hydrology Map. “100-year flood” does not mean that a rain event will cause flooding that will only happen every 100 years, but rather that there is a one percent chance that a certain amount of rain will fall in a particular location over a set amount of time in a given year. A 500-year flood has a .2% chance of happening within any given year. Since 1950, the Lehigh Valley has had 25 flood events that required federal and state disaster declarations, with the most recent being Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and Tropical Storm Isaias in 2020. The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) was last updated in 2009; FEMA is currently in the process of updating the Lehigh County FIRM, which should be completed in 2021. Recent drafts of the update indicate that flood zones in Emmaus will increase along Leibert Creek and the unnamed tributaries. This is likely due to new development that is leading to additional stormwater runoff and changing weather patterns.

**Alluvial and Hydric Soils** – The Borough notes alluvial soils within their ordinances. These are soils defined as fine grain soils deposited by surface water. Using USDA Soil Survey data, the soils identified as alluvial soils in the ordinance do not exist in the Borough.

Hydric soils are soils that are formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic (absence of oxygen) conditions within the upper layers. These soils currently support or are capable of supporting wetland ecosystems. These soils are typically found along headwater areas, waterways, and along wetlands. These soils tend to have poor infiltration properties and increased runoff. Hydric soils are identified in the Borough along Liebert Creek and along South Mountain. There is also one small area that is located within Borough owned land along the unnamed tributary that flows directly into the Little Lehigh Creek.







## Natural Areas

**Greenways** - Greenways are defined as corridors of open space, that may vary in scale from narrow strips of green that run through developed areas to wider corridors that may incorporate natural, cultural, and/or scenic features. Greenways are an important component of the landscape because the connectivity of open space creates additional value when compared to isolated paths and small pockets of open space. Any preserved open space or waterway is a valuable resource in its own right; but when they are linked together, their beneficial impacts in areas such as habitat conservation, recreational opportunity, and environmental resiliency are multiplied.

To understand the importance of large connected open space, it is essential to understand the environmental functions of core habitats. In general, a greenway that is, for example, half a mile wide will contain habitat for more wildlife species than one that is only 200 feet wide. Greater diversity from large habitat areas leads to greater number of species with greater population, therefore creating a healthier and more resilient ecosystem. Fragmentation of open space creates more edge communities that, in return, increases areas for invasive species and other disturbances to enter and increases the need for maintenance.

In Emmaus, Leibert Creek is a conservation greenway that is identified by the Lehigh County Planning Commission (LVPC). A conservation greenway is defined by LVPC as a greenway that has the primary function of protecting natural resources. Two other greenways border Emmaus: The Little Lehigh, which is considered a conservation/multi-use greenway by LVPC, and the Pennsylvania Highlands, which runs along South Mountain and is considered conservation/scenic greenway by the State. The Leibert Creek Greenway provides a connection between the Pennsylvania Highlands and the Little Lehigh Creek Greenway.

**Woodland coverage** - Woodlands are important, not only to many species of birds and wildlife, but also



Gneiss geology and woodlands of South Mountain.

to mitigate many environmental stressors through reduction of stormwater runoff, erosion control, filtering ground water, purifying air, steep bank stabilization, and moderating climate conditions such as protection from direct sunlight and providing windbreaks.

The majority of the intact woodlands in the Borough exist along South Mountain, which provides the Borough with a scenic backdrop and opportunities for wildlife observation. Other smaller patches of trees exist in the Borough, but they are not large enough to provide any significant ecology.

## Geology

**Steep Slopes** - Emmaus considers areas that possess slopes exceeding 15% and 25% as steep slopes. Steep slopes contribute to erosion, as the potential for soil to migrate increases as slope increases. Disturbance of steep slopes can create heavy sediment loads on waterways, decreasing water quality and decreasing biodiversity of aquatic habitats. Heavy sediments can also reduce the ability of waterways to manage stormwater by reducing floodwater storage capacity within drainage ways.



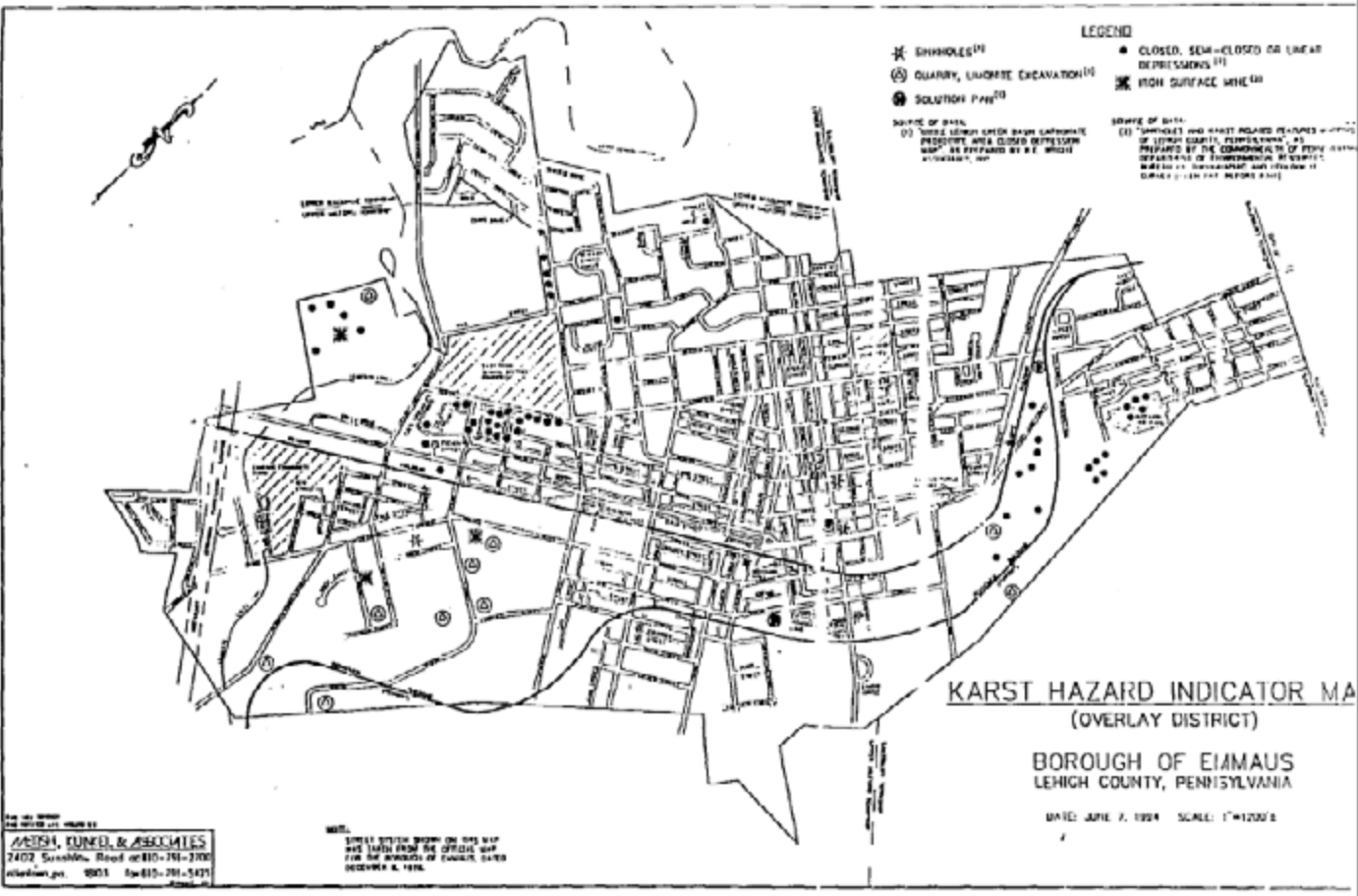
Steep slopes are unsuitable for most active recreation facilities and development. Due to these constrictions, most steep slopes tend to be undisturbed and wooded, which can be desirable for conservation and passive recreation, and often are integrated into open space plans.

Most steep slopes lie within the Pennsylvania Highland Greenway south, west, and north of the Borough. Other areas are found along the railroad tracks and some roadways, but these do not cover large areas.

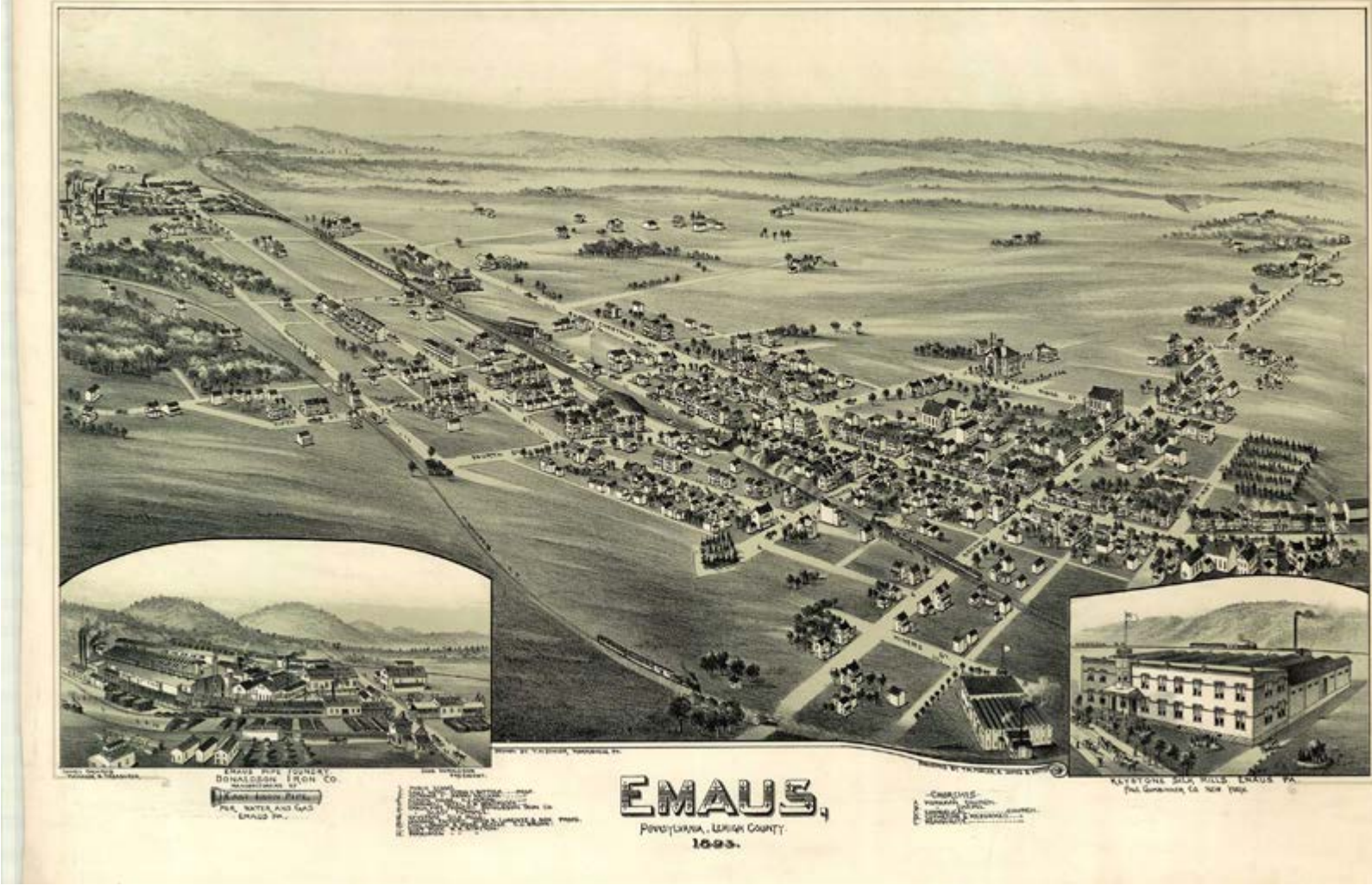
**Karst Geology** – Karst geology is defined by land that is formed over bedrock such as limestone, dolomite, or gypsum; that can form depressions, sinkholes, and underground drainage as water interacts and dissolves these types of stones. This geology is noted in the ordinances of the Borough along with Limonite Excavation. A Karst Hazard Indicator Map, last updated in 1994, is included in the ordinance. The largest concentration of closed, semi-closed, or linear

depression areas as identified in the map are along North St. by the High School and south of Main Street along the unnamed tributary. The map also identifies the most recent Limonite Excavation/Quarry activity along S. 10th St, where past Iron Surface Mine activity is also noted.

The Borough sits upon mostly carbonate bedrock of Leithsville Formation that consists of mostly dolomite rock and Allentown Formation that consists of dolomite rock and limestone. This leads to the Karst geology that exists in Emmaus. The carbonate bedrock can be a main area for groundwater recharge. Excessive runoff, erosion, chemical and biological pollution, and sewage systems that lie in the Karst geology can pose threats to polluting groundwater through fractures or faults found in the bedrock. Additionally, they can cause sinkholes. Sinkholes can cause property damage, injury or loss of life, disruptions to utilities and public services, and roadway damage.



The Karst Hazard Map is part of the Borough's Zoning Ordinances.



## Manmade Inventory

### Historic and Cultural Resources

The historical assets in Emmaus contribute to the cultural landscape that reflects the lifestyles, cultures, and industries that helped shape the character of the Borough. These landscapes are depicted in the local historic built environment. There is a sense of importance in preserving these structures and landscapes, evidenced by the number of historic spaces that are currently owned by the Borough. The Shelter House, Knauss Homestead Farmhouse, and the 1803 House/Jacob Ehrenhardt Jr. House are currently owned by the Borough and are cared for by volunteers, "friends of" or society groups, and/or, as in the case of the Shelter House, an occupant. All three properties are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and have a web site to provide additional information. There are also several places that are eligible to be registered, including the home of the Emmaus Historical Society at 218 Main St.

There are additional programs that assist in connecting the residents of Emmaus to its rich history. These include educational fieldtrips, walking tours, and a yearly Heritage Festival that is organized by the Emmaus Heritage Alliance. Some of these sites have educational signage on site to provide visitors with more information to the historical importance of the site. The Shelter House also publishes an annual journal that is dedicated to the history of Emmaus.

Many of the older buildings that line Main Street help to provide the character that residents appreciate about the area, but currently there are no ordinances or design standards to help protect the historical value.

### Trails and Sidewalks

There is a good existing network of trails and sidewalks in the Borough. This is discussed in further detail in the Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan, the companion study to this report.



Existing Open Space

**Borough Owned** - Emmaus Borough is nearly built out, but there is existing open space that is very important to the health and welfare of the residents. Emmaus encompasses 2.9 square miles, which is equal to 1,856 acres. Of this land, Borough owned parkland makes up 123.7 acres. There is other open space that is also owned by the Borough but does not have park amenities and does not feature Borough facilities or BMPs. They account approximately for an additional 28 acres. Altogether, Borough owned open space accounts for 8% of the land.

**Conservation Open Space** – The Wildlands Conservancy has 13 acres that lie within the Borough limits. This makes up only small percentage of the space within the Borough, but the portion of the South Mountain Preserve that extends into the Borough is part of a much larger space that provides recreational opportunities and brings visitors to the town. Additionally, The Wildlands Conservancy has been partners with the Borough when addressing various restoration projects and education and makes their home at the Dorothy Rider Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, just outside of Emmaus.

**Privately Owned Recreation** –There are approximately 26 acres of private open space that is, for the most part, open to the public. The Rodale walking path accounts for most of this area. Although Rodale has moved from Emmaus, the Borough has worked with the potential new developers of this site to ensure that most of the hiking trails that the community has grown to love will remain. Citizen's Fire Co. #2 hosts private and public events, such as an annual carnival, and has a very well maintained ball field that is used by EYA. The Catholic Veterans Home Association (CVA) also has a ball field, but there is currently no agreement between youth groups and the CVA for use.

**Privately Owned Vacant Land** – As noted, the Borough of Emmaus is nearly built out. However there is approximately 55 acres of vacant parcels that exist and do not have any development in place.



The field behind the Catholic Veteran Home Association.

Existing Open Space

Borough of Emmaus

1856 Acres / 2.9 sq/mi

Borough Parkland

123.7 Acres

Borough Owned Open Space

Approximately 28 Acres

Conservation Open Space

13 Acres

Privately Owned Recreation

26.1 Acres

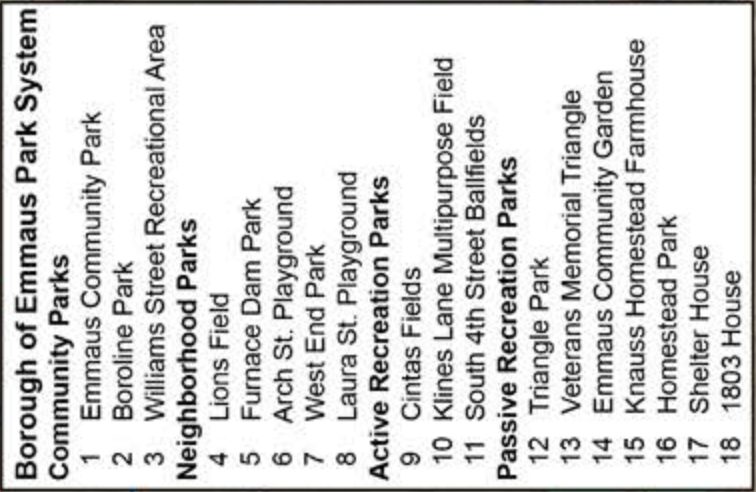
Privately Owned Vacant Land

Approximately 55 Acres

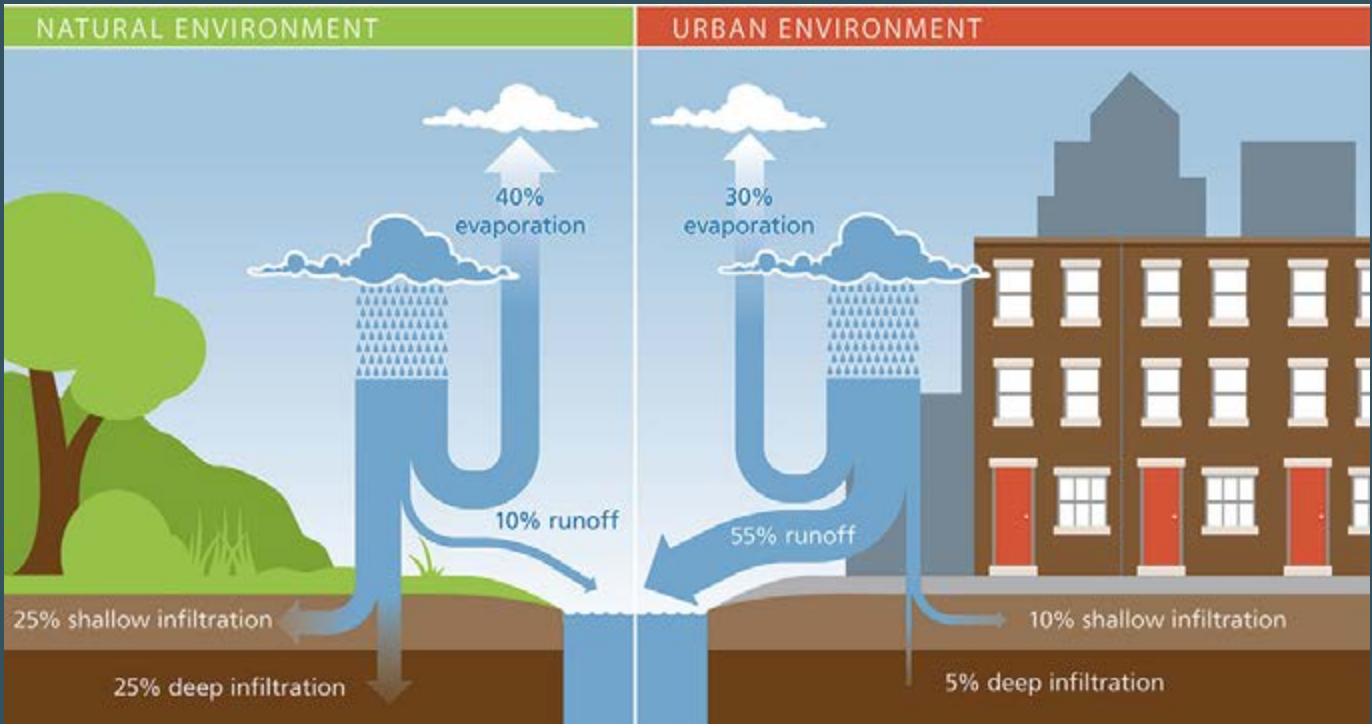
% of Open Space

Boro Owned = 8%

Total = Approximately 13%







Stormwater infiltration is increased when there is more vegetation and less impervious surfaces such as blacktop and concrete. Removing impervious surfaces when possible and using BMPs such as rain gardens, detention basins, and healthy riparian buffers can lessen the amount of stormwater that enters a waterway during rain events which can reduce flooding impacts. Image from [phila.gov/water/wu/stormwater](http://phila.gov/water/wu/stormwater)



Educational signage is a part of the a municipality's MS4 requirements. The Borough has partnered with Wildlands Conservancy, Lehigh County Conservation District, and the Grower Greener program to place these beautiful signs along streambank restoration projects.

When areas of conservation land, privately owned recreation land, and privately owned vacant lands are added to the area of Borough owned open space, the total open space that currently exists in Emmaus equals 13% of the land. But it is important to note that privately owned recreation and vacant lands are not permanent and can be developed at any time. This plan can assist the Borough and residents as they decide how much open space is needed for current and future residents of Emmaus and if it is important that more open space be preserved.

### Stormwater Management MS4

The Borough of Emmaus is required to adopt and implement ordinances that utilize Best Management Practices (BMP) for storm water management as part of their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit compliance. as well as implement Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Portions of the Borough's current stormwater ordinances will need to be updated by June 2022. In addition, the Borough is required to implement a Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) that requires the implementation of BMPs to reduce the existing sediment loading to The Little Lehigh Creek, Lehigh River and Leibert Creek by 10 percent. The required sediment reduction from Emmaus' approved PRP is 18,525 lbs./year. The sediment reduction provided by the streambank restoration project along Leibert Creek in the Community Park is approximately 109,250 lbs./year far exceeding the permit requirements by 90,725 lbs./year. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP) has noted that any excess reduction may be carried over (banked) into the next permit period. The permit periods run every 5 years and Emmaus' current permit expires in 2024. Although the requirements of the next permit period are not known, past experience suggests that future permit load reduction requirements could be from 10-40%.

There is currently funding in place for streambank restoration along the unnamed tributary that runs through the Williams Street Recreation Area. This work will help to decrease sediment loading and, therefore, said loading reduction can be banked for future credits. Similarly, any other BMPs installed by the Borough should also bank any load reduction credits. (Note: BMPs, including tree plantings, may be used as a credit as long as they are within the Borough's storm sewersheds. A storm sewershed is a delineated area which contributes stormwater runoff to a specific downstream point in the sewer system. Stream restoration and streambank stabilization are the only BMPs that can be located outside of the Borough's sewer sheds.)

### Park and Recreation Inventory and Analysis

The Borough of Emmaus has 123.7 acres of parkland spread across 11 active recreation parks and 5 passive recreation parks. Additionally, there are some private recreational areas that have partnerships and/ or allow for public use. The East Penn School District have playgrounds and some amenities open to the public when school is not in session or is not being used for school programs. Overall, Emmaus has a robust park system, but many of these parks were hidden and hard to find due to lack of signage and wayfinding. There was also a lack of any design standards except for the existing old painted concrete benches. It was observed that ADA access and safety standards is needed for the parks.

For this report, the parks have been divided into Community, Neighborhood, Active Recreation, and Passive Recreation parks. Each park was visited by the consultants and a brief description of each park is provided below.

#### Community Parks

**Emmaus Community Park** – The Community Park covers 33.8 acres of land. It is home to the community pool and has an amphitheater. It is the most heavily



Community Park has 9 pavilions that can be rented.



Boroline Park

used park and can hold various types of events throughout the year. This park has many amenities, including: 2 restrooms, 9 pavilions, a playground, 2 ball fields (one lighted), a basketball court, a multi-use field, a volleyball court, and a gaga pit. A .73-mile



Lions Field Park



Leibert Creek runs through Community Park.



Williams Street Recreational Area.

trail also follows Leibert Creek and meanders through parts of the park.

**Boroline Park** – This 5.53-acre park borders South Mountain. A new master plan has been completed as a companion document to this report. Please refer to the master plan for more details.

**Williams Street Recreational Area** – The 7.1 acres of this park are host to mostly active recreation facilities. It has a restroom, a small playground, a pavilion, 2 ball fields with lights, 2 basketball courts with lights, and macadam areas that are used for other sports, such as deck hockey.

#### Neighborhood Parks

**Lions Field Park** – This 2.16-acre park sits next to the Emmaus Fire Department. This park has a new master





The central pond feature of Furnace Dam Park.

plan as part of a companion document to this report. Please refer to the master plan for more detail.

**Furnace Dam Park** – The 3.54 acres of this park are centered around a small pond that allows fishing. It has a small playground with a swing set and a restroom. Recently, the pavilion and sand volleyball court that existed on site was removed. There has been no decision as to if the pavilion will be replaced or what other amenities should be placed at this park. The park is also adjacent to the walking paths behind the former Rodale property.



The wooden structures of Arch St. Park.

**Arch St. Playground** – This small playground is located at the end of Arch Street and is an important amenity for the residents who live in this neighborhood. The playground consists of wooden structures, such as



West End Playground.

a ship and playhouse. These wooden structures are typically harder to maintain and are showing wear and tear. There is also a basketball court on site. With new development that will border this park, it is anticipated that this park will see increased use.

**West End Playground** – This quarter-acre park is located at the intersection of Green St. and N 9th St. The park has a basketball court, playground, and swing set. A couple of new trees have been planted on the grounds.



Laura Street Playground.

**Laura Street Playground** – This .34-acre playground is located on Laura St in the middle of a single residential development. The park has a wooden and plastic playground, swing set, a rider, and basketball court.

## Active Recreation Parks

**Cintas Fields/Knauss Homestead Farmhouse** – The 15.4 acres that make up this area include one ball field, one multi-use field that is predominately used for soccer, the Knauss Homestead Farmhouse, and the Remembrance Garden. The Cintas Uniform Services Co. also takes up some of this land with nearly all their parking sitting on Borough owned land.

The Knauss Homestead Farmhouse is a historic site with a house that was built in 1777 with an 18th century barn. Visits to the homestead is open by appointments only and is managed by the Knauss House Preservation Society

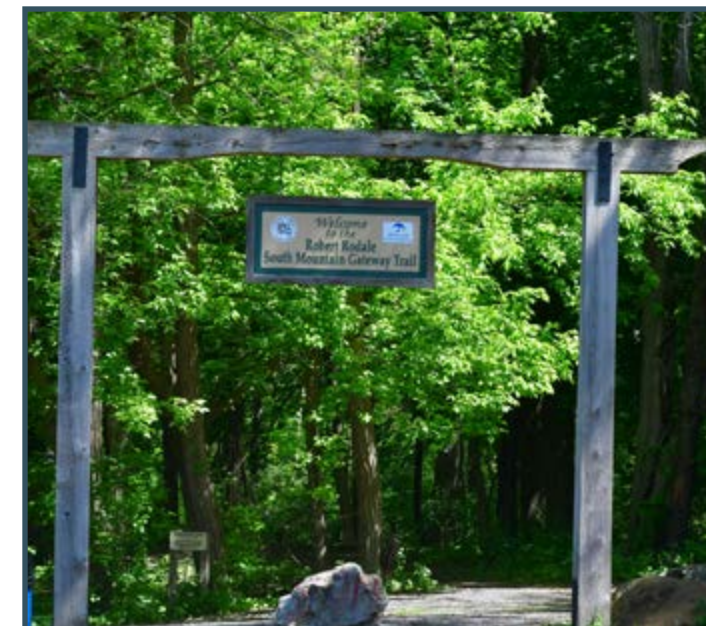
The Remembrance Garden is the work of the Emmaus Commemorative Gardens Foundation and was first opened in 2004. It is open to events such as weddings.



The ball field at Cintas Fields.



The playing fields are adjacent to the Knauss Homestead.



Trail entrance at Homestead Park.



Klines Lane Multipurpose Field.

**Klines Lane Multipurpose Field/Homestead Park** – This 14.2-acre area has a multipurpose field that expands into Salibury Township. There is no parking lot adjacent to the field and the walkway to the field is steep. This area is also the trial head for the Robert Rodale S. Mountain Gateway Trail. This .23-mile trail system connects to the Wildlands Conservancy South Mountain Preserve and Boroline Park.

**South 4th Street Ballfields** – This area hosts two ballfields and a restroom on 13 acres.



Passive Recreation Parks

**Triangle Park** – The .64-acre park lies along the main street of the Borough and is a popular event space. It has a small fountain and hosts events such as the Farmers Market, Old Fashioned Christmas, and Snow Blast. This park is easily accessible by public transportation.



Triangle Park

**Veterans Memorial Triangle** – This small .15-acre lot is a popular spot for the elderly from Ridge Manor Retirement Home. It is mostly lawn with a couple of trees and small planting beds. There are also a couple of benches for sitting. This park is easily accessible by public transportation.



Veterans Memorial Triangle



The Community Garden

**Emmaus Compost Center/Community Garden** – Most of this 14.13 acres is reserved for the use of the composting center that is shared with surrounding municipalities. But this site also is home to the 56 plots of the community garden. This community garden is filled to its maximum and has a waiting list. One plot is reserved as a community plot and gardeners often donate extra fruit and vegetables to the Plant-A-Row for the Hungry program.

Also, on the site is a cyclocross and cross-country track that is managed by Fifth Street Cross and is host to training races throughout the year. The track runs through this site and the adjacent Cintas fields. This is a very popular track in the area and draws cyclists and runners from surrounding area.

The site also has a small retention pond that does have a fence around it, but due to disrepair, the pond can be entered by the gate entrance. This pond could provide a secondary point for fishing within the community, but it was noted that most people do not know that it exists.

**Shelter House** – This historic site consists of 12.73 acres. The Germanic cabin that stands on the site was built in 1734 and is cared for by the Shelter House Society. There is a full-time curator of the home and can be visited by appointment. There is a pavilion and a nature walk that accommodates blind visitors within the area of the house.



Shelter House



1803 House

**1803 House** – This historic house sits on .25-acres and is managed by Friends of the 1803 House. There is no parking for this site, but there is some educational signage. The house rests along the unnamed tributary and the active railroad line. It has seen some damage due to past flooding from the adjacent stream and stormwater basin.

Privately Owned Facilities

**Citizens' Fire Co. #2** – This facility holds private events but also shares its well-maintained baseball field with the EYA and other groups. It is also home to the Annual Emmaus Carnival.

**Rodale Nature Area** – The trails that sit behind the buildings that was once home to Rodale Press has always been open to the public. The trails wind through some meadow areas and are very popular

with the residents of the Borough. The Borough has reached an agreement with the new developers of the site to continue to have trails that are open to the public in this area.

**Catholic Veteran Home Association (CVA)** – Behind the CVA building is a small ball field. At one time, this field was used by the EYA in partnership with the CVA, but this has dissolved over the years and the field now lies unused.

**Wildlands Conservancy South Mountain Preserve** – Adjacent to Boroline Park, the 350-acre preserve has 9 miles of hiking/mt. biking trails that provide opportunities for both active and passive recreation. This preserve attracts visitors from surrounding areas.



The ball field behind Citizens' Fire Co. #2.



Walking trails at Rodale Nature Area.



In addition to the above fields and facilities, a number of private gyms, yoga studios and retailers are located within the Borough and are noted below:

- Anytime Fitness – Services include 24-hour security and access, cardio equipment, strength/free weights, training and coaching
- FreeWill CrossFit – Services include groups classes, workshops, clinics, online performance tracking, personal training, nutrition consultation and mobility assessment
- Living Room Yoga – Services include yoga, tai-chi, body sculpt and workshops
- Emmaus Yoga – Services include a variety of yoga classes
- Emmaus Run Inn – Retailer selling men's, women's and children's shoes and accessories



Playing fields next to the Emmaus High School.

- South Mountain Cycle and Café – Retailer selling a variety of bicycles and accessories; also offers trade-ins, repair and has a café on-site

Community centers are also situated in the nearby municipalities of Lower Macungie Township and Alburtis Borough and are open to residents outside of these communities. A branch of the Greater Valley YMCA and the Jewish Community Center of the Lehigh Valley are also present in Allentown and are available to use by Emmaus residents.

School District Facilities

**Emmaus High School** – This school facility has a multipurpose field, a synthetic turf field, two football fields, a running track, four tennis courts, and a basketball court. The East Penn School District does not have any ball fields and relies on the ball fields provided by the Borough. The school is open to public use after school hours and if there is no school activities scheduled for the amenities.

**Lincoln Elementary School** – This elementary school is located close to Jefferson Elementary School. It has a basketball court and other several hard-court game patterns. There is a playground with newer equipment and an open play area for the students.

**Jefferson Elementary School** – This elementary school is located by Lions Field Park and will sometimes use the park for their students. The school has a basketball court and several other hard-court game patterns on the largely hardscaped school yard. There is also a playground with newer play equipment on the site.

**Seventh Generation Charter School** – The charter school promotes a mission that is based on sustainability and environmental stewardship while developing strong sense of community involvement. The school does not have a large school yard but does have a playground and half-court basketball. This area is closed off to the public.

**St. Ann School** –This school is a Catholic parish school serving students from pre-k to eighth grade. The school yard has playground equipment and open lawn for activity.

Community Benchmarking

Benchmarking is the practice of evaluating or checking against a given standard. Community benchmarking was used to evaluate the park system of Emmaus as compared to seven municipalities of similar size and population count to determine the extent of either deficit or surplus of amenities. An analysis of the amount of recreational space and number of amenities used National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Metrics as a guide.

The following seven municipalities were used to compare with Emmaus' 2019 population density of 3,977 residents per sq. mile:

- East Stroudsburg, Monroe County – 2019 population density per sq. mile – 3,651
- Elizabethtown, Lancaster County – 2019 population density per sq. mile – 4,287
- Northampton Borough, Northampton County – 2019 population density per sq. mile – 3,739
- Perkasie Borough, Bucks County - 2019 population density per sq. mile – 3,413
- Phoenixville, Chester County - 2019 population density per sq. mile – 4,419
- Waynesboro, Franklin County - 2019 population density per sq. mile – 3,202
- Wyomissing Borough, Berks County - 2019 population density per sq. mile – 2,363

Community Benchmarking - Existing Facilities				
	Emmaus Borough	Average	Difference from Average	Difference from Maximum
2019 Population (ACS)	11,533	11,249	284	-4,907
2040 Projection	12,305	-	-	-
Area (Sq. Miles)	2.9	3	0	-1.6
2019 Pop Density per Sq. Mile	3,977	3,631	345	-442
2040 Pop Density per Sq. Mile	4,243	-	-	-
# of Parks	16	8	9	1
Park Area (Acres)	123.7	65	59	47.1
Facility				
Baseball / Softball	9	5	4	3
Basketball	7	4	3	1
Biking / Hiking Trails	1.7	1.6	0.1	-1.3
Football	0	0	0	0
Multipurpose Field	1	1	0	-1
Pavilion / Rental Space	11	3	8	7
Pool	1	1	0	0
Tennis	1	3	-2	-5
Pickleball Court	0	0	0	-1
Skate Park	0	0	0	-1
Soccer	2	1	1	-1
Volleyball	1	1	0	-1
Playgrounds	8	6	3	-3
Street Hockey/Ice Skating	0	0	0	-1
Dog Park	0	0	0	-1
Amphitheater	1	1	0	0
Community garden	1	1	0	0
Recreation Center	0	0	0	-1



Overall, when comparing Emmaus to the other chosen municipalities, the park system's only deficit of facility types is for tennis courts. Two of the municipalities had dog parks or skateparks, and three have a recreation center. Emmaus, when compared to the other municipalities, has an excess of ball fields, basketball courts, and rental pavilions.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) compiles park and recreation agency information from across the country. The NRPA metrics are not to be used as a definitive standard that every municipality should meet since it is understood that there is no single set of standards for parks and recreational facilities that address the unique needs of each community. The organization provides averages for total acres of parkland, total number of parks and amenities, and average operating expenses to assist planners with addressing parks and recreation needs within a community. Using NRPA 2020 data:

- The average number of residents per park is 2,281. Emmaus exceeds this with 887 residents per park even when excluding the three historic sites.
- The average acres of parkland per resident is 9.9-acres. Emmaus exceeds this amount with 11.1-acres per resident. Even when using 2040 population projections, the Borough still exceeds this amount with 10.7-acres per resident.
- Typically, there is one playground per every 3,750 residents. Emmaus exceeds this amount with a total of five playgrounds per 3,750 residents.

To find out more about the 2020 NRPA Agency Performance Review, visit <https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/>



Some areas in the park system have different maintenance needs.

## Maintenance Practice Analysis

The maintenance department functions at a high level with the limited staffing available. One full time park maintenance person is dedicated to park maintenance and is supplemented with seasonal maintenance workers during the spring, summer, and fall. Additionally, Public Works personnel are also available for larger park projects or when emergencies arise. The Borough contracts work out to assist with the overall park maintenance effort. Lastly, community youth providers assist with ballfield maintenance during their in-season sports.

A thorough review of maintenance practices was conducted for the entire park system and for individual parks as well. Analysis consisted of current maintenance practices, staff hours available, risk management concerns, accessibility opportunities, acreage, park amenities, natural areas, waterways, available equipment, current play structure

conditions, and other areas. Additionally, information was gleaned from key person interviews, focus groups responses, direct discussions with staff and administration, and survey results. All the information was compiled in order to prepare this report and the recommendation found therein.

Since all communities differ in maintenance practices, park acreage, and community wants and needs, a set standard is not applied prior to the analysis. Determinations were made based on Emmaus's current practices and future needs, and then compared to National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) standards in the industry for comparison purposes.

The review of the Borough's current park maintenance program reveals that parks are maintained to a basic level of service. Staff performs several basic tasks daily to maintain the parks. These basic tasks include trash removal, rest room cleanings, removal of dangerous conditions (downed branches, broken benches), lawn maintenance, and similar projects. On several visits to the park system on multiple dates over the course of eight months, the project team found the parks to be maintained to the level afforded the Borough with the available staff hours.

Equipment care, vehicle maintenance, record keeping, and community response to needs all function well within the Borough. Contracted services assist to provide maintenance for all Borough property, some typical examples of contracted services include: large tree removal, concrete work, grass cutting, and other tasks that cannot be performed in-house due to resources, work-hours, equipment needs, or specialized technical skill.

During visits to Borough parks over several months, the project evaluated current conditions, maintenance practices, possible future uses, recreational program opportunities, and a risk analysis of each location. All comments for maintenance and accessibility are derived from information provided by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Guidelines for playground safety, the Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA) handbooks and laws, best park maintenance practices, and finally comparisons to industry standards. The CPSC guidelines are guidelines and not laws; however, courts have held that failure to comply with the guidelines usually results in a judgement for the plaintiff. The ADA regulations are law and must be followed.

In each visit, parks and other Borough property maintenance has been adequate. Trash removal, downed branches, lawn care - all received passing evaluations. Staff takes pride in their efforts to provide safe, usable, and visually pleasing parks, though several areas of concern were also noted. Most areas of concern are a direct result of limited staff hours or a lack of knowledge specific to the areas of concern.

A review of the tasks performed and the work-hours necessary to complete the assignments reveals additional full-time employees are necessary and would increase the work output and reduce the risk exposure currently found in each park. The current Public Works staff of 18 workers does not permit for changes in task assignments to free staff hours



Broken rocker at Laurel Street Playground.





to commit to park maintenance. Public Works is responsible for water and sewer, street maintenance, mechanics, and other assignments and adding additional responsibilities to an already lean workforce would not be feasible. While the Borough performs at a high level for staff hours available, many tasks are not performed or are underperformed due to the number of staff-hours available. Increased maintenance is necessary to meet the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) laws, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) guidelines, best maintenance practices, and to provide the needs of the community, as reflected through surveys and interviews.

Emmaus offers continued learning opportunities for staff members. Training seminars, workshops, and conferences afford staff the opportunity to learn, observe, and share knowledge with other professionals and industry leaders; and, in turn, those who attend the training sessions share information learned with other staff members and the public. Seminars provide new information concerning storm water management, best practices, and other environmental issues. Additionally, workshops offer employees to be well informed on current issues

facing the community. Opportunities also provide information related to human resource materials, natural environment best management practices, ballfield maintenance, playground standards of care, turf management, and storm water best practices.

Emmaus encourages and provides the opportunity for staff to attend a variety of professional seminars, workshops, and knowledge-based programs in a continued effort to support the workforce and to provide them with tools necessary to be successful.

### Equipment

The care and maintenance of all equipment is a high priority within the Public Works Department. The high level of service to equipment extends the life of the equipment and helps keep budgetary concerns lower.

An abundance of equipment is available for park work, though additional equipment is recommended in this report. Available equipment for park maintenance includes: trucks, backhoe, tractors, skid steers, wood chippers, hand tools, and other equipment necessary for park maintenance. All equipment is provided by the Public Works Department and is available for park maintenance activities.

### Risk Management

Risk management concerns exist throughout the park system. When considering risk, several laws, best practices, play guidelines, and safety issues are considered.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires accessible areas for people with disabilities. These areas include all areas where patrons may visit while in the park system. Trails, benches, play equipment, sport fields, hard courts, pools, pavilions, parking access, among other areas are all considered. Emmaus does provide some limited access to specific areas; however, overall, the park system fails to meet the requirements as outlined in ADA.

Specific areas of accessibility failures are found in play areas, bench locations, trails, ballfield access, hardcourt access, picnic pavilions, among other

areas. Visitors with mobility issues will have a difficult time accessing some of these areas, and, several of the playgrounds do not permit access, or if access is provided, the equipment is not ADA compliant. Pending the equipment, a certain percentage of the equipment must be available. On larger and newer modular equipment, the play areas do meet ADA laws concerning play within the play structure; however, access is missing or difficult to attain.

A thorough ADA compliance review of the entire park system should be a top priority for the Borough, as failure to adhere to the law can, and often does, result in future issues and possible court cases.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission provides guidelines for park play equipment. While the CPSC guidelines are not law, they are best practices for communities to follow. Failure to follow the guideline often results in a negative result for the community when issues arise.

In site visits, the project team found several play structures that fail to meet the CPSC guidelines in several areas. Deficiencies were found in: play structures, safety surfacing dimensions and depth, safe distances between equipment, obstructions, fall height surfacing, non-conforming play structures, improper maintenance of wooden play structures, and other areas.

Annual play equipment audits provide communities with a detailed report noting areas of concern. A Certified Playground Safety Inspector, which can be a contracted hire, can detail specific areas that require attention. Concern areas are then graded as to the risk exposure for the Borough. Once the report is received, an action plan can be developed to address those concerns, starting with the highest exposure areas.

### Adequacy of Maintenance

The level of service provided though current maintenance practices for the staff hours available provides for basic park services and minor park improvements. Emmaus has a large park system. The

park system provides opportunities for community, neighborhood, and pocket parks permitting all residents the opportunity to visit a park near to their home. Additionally, larger community parks provide opportunities for those traveling from other communities to visit Emmaus. The recognition of Emmaus to provide park opportunities so near all residents is reflective of the forethought by previous administrations and elected officials.

Capital improvements, such as those made years ago and recent improvements, come with a commitment for future maintenance. All too often, communities provide for the upfront capital improvement, then fail to adequately provide funding or staff hours to maintain those capital investments. And, with ever changing best maintenance practices, the maintenance standard changes over time. What may have been appropriate maintenance 20 years ago is not appropriate maintenance currently. Basic park maintenance is no longer the industry standard.



There are many areas throughout the park system that do not meet current ADA standards, such as this walkway, which enters the playground at Williams Street Recreation Area.





Chalk the Walk event at Triangle Park. Photo by Garcia Photography.

## Recreation Programming Analysis

Recreational opportunities are present in Emmaus. The Emmaus Recreation and Entertainment Commission provides many recreational opportunities for the enjoyment of the Borough's residents. These community events are well received in the community and may include: summer concerts, car shows and movies in the park. The Commission continually seeks additional recreation opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

Parks also provide opportunities for spontaneous recreation for individuals, families, church groups, business groups, and other organizations. These recreational opportunities include: park visits, large picnic shelter for gatherings, open spaces, nature enjoyment, and areas for solace within the park system. Additionally, the Emmaus pool provides recreational opportunities for individuals and families.

Youth sport leagues are also prevalent in Emmaus. Youth organizations provide sporting opportunities for Emmaus youngsters and their families. Youth organizations partner with Emmaus Borough to utilize parks for a majority of their sport offerings. The partnership provides sport fields for youth organizations who also assist with field maintenance and preparation and provide Emmaus youngsters and their families sport recreational opportunities.

Private recreation providers are available within Emmaus. Gyms, private ballfields, senior housing recreational developments, trail systems, and other private providers offer recreational opportunities to all Emmaus residents.

All Borough recreational opportunities are open and available to all Emmaus residents, regardless of age or economic background. Residents are encouraged to participate in all events through a variety of advertisements including, social media, Borough website, store front posters, and flyers distributed or posted in the community. While all recreational opportunities are available, restrictions in access may limit some participation at certain locations.

### Deficiencies

Accessibility issues and playground standards were discussed previously in the chapter and need to be reviewed to ensure access for all and to reduce exposure to injury. Moreover, the survey reveals some community desires for additional park amenities, which will be discussed in this report. Emmaus's park system is a large system featuring many desirable park amenities. Emmaus has an abundance of opportunities for people to enjoy their park system. As compared to other communities, Emmaus provides more in terms of parks, play structures, ballfields, hardcourts, trails, and other park attributes. The survey, focus groups, and key person interviews note some community recommendations that should be considered for future capital improvements. Additions such as a dog park, pickleball courts, bocce, and others were noted in the development of this plan.

Recreation programming was a top five response in the survey. Residents are seeking additional opportunities for organized recreation programs and events. Programs may include: summer camps, education sessions for youngsters and adults, senior programs and events, arts classes, hobby and craft programs, among others.

There are several means to attain those community requests. A part time Recreation Director can provide recreation opportunities for Emmaus residents. In-house programming affords Emmaus direct control over the activity, registration process, instructors hired, facilities used, history tracking, and invoicing. Third party recreation providers are an outside agency that bring their recreational skills to the community. Whether it is a summer sport camp, science programs, or skills development, the agency provides the instructors and all equipment. The Borough is responsible for advertising, registration, fee collection, facility scheduling, and the processing payment for the third party provider. Partnerships can also be garnered. These partnerships may provide for additional facility locations (schools or private agencies) and allow for expanded areas in which to hold programs or events.

The overall analysis shows that Emmaus is a community with current recreational opportunities and a vast opportunity for an enhanced level of service for future recreation programs for all residents.

## Administration Analysis

The Administrative offices serve as the central contact point for the residents, businesses, and community groups of Emmaus Borough. The Administration accepts facility reservations, provides park work orders, handles the daily activities of the Borough, and responds to requests from community members.

While reviewing the current formal partnerships related to recreational opportunities, we found few partnerships. Limited partnerships have shown success; however, few recreational programs are offered by the Borough or community groups. Written partnership agreements, or Memorandums

of Understanding, will assist the overall effort of the Borough to define which organizations are responsible for which activities and which tasks.

Partnerships are essential to the success of future offerings within the Borough due to limited Borough staffing and indoor facilities which provide recreational opportunities throughout the year. Written partnerships with the school district and other recreational providers will benefit the community and allow the Borough to offer future programs to meet community requests.

### Marketing Efforts

The current level of public relations and marketing efforts the Borough performs to promote services is adequate. The Borough utilizes their website, Facebook, flyers, brochures, newspapers, posters and signage, and other means to promote recreational facilities. While current practices are adequate, when future recreation programs are offered, there are improvement opportunities which will allow residents more opportunities to access materials and to be involved and well-informed.

Additionally, a Recreation Director, if hired, can serve as the central contact point for Emmaus. In our research, a point that was stressed was that residents do not know exactly where to find all the information or which organization is offering which events. Having a staff person who serves as the central point of information will assist Emmaus residents in finding the information they are seeking.

### Policies for Parks and Recreation Operation

Since the Borough provides limited organized recreation programming through the Recreation and Entertainment Commission, there are few written policies and procedures that govern the agency's general operations. The Borough provides information, policies, and procedure for reservations of park amenities. These include pavilion rentals, ballfield reservations, and other park amenities within Emmaus. The procedures and policies that govern the use of



those facilities are readily available for residents and outline the procedure for rental and use. A review of the fee structure should be undertaken to determine rental fees for the areas noted. Other policies should be reviewed to determine if the fees being charged are appropriate for field use and pavilion reservations. Additionally, some of the policies do not provide for facility use priorities. For instance, perhaps fields are provided to resident youth sports first, then resident teen activities, then resident adults use, followed by non-resident groups (if permitted). These written policies will assist administrative offices in making decisions when multiple requests are made for a particular field and will provide a standard to follow in explaining why a group received a field or not.

### Record Keeping

The current practice of record keeping for park maintenance, when issues are called in from residents, is adequate and is easily trackable. Work orders are prepared and forwarded to the Public Works Director and park maintenance employee for action. Once completed, the maintenance records and executed work order are retained by the Borough. After the completion of the work task, the Borough replies, if requested, to the person logging the comment to ensure the requested work was performed adequately.

Since not all daily work tasks are prepared via a work order, daily park maintenance is not recorded in an easily retrievable manner. Improvements can be made to the daily tracking of park maintenance activities. The current practice is informal. The Public Works Director and park maintenance worker keep the daily activity sheets of work performed with limited technology assistance. The tracking of work performed may improve future work scheduling, task assignments, daily results, and allows for future work scheduling and planning.

### Financing and Funding

All park maintenance activities, including payroll, are funded through the Boroughs General Fund Budget. Emmaus receives minimal General Fund revenues

which are received and derived from facility rentals or facility use fees (such as pavilion and field rentals). Other revenue streams can be created with the addition of recreational programs for people of all ages and abilities. The current recreation fund within the Borough is providing for new park improvements and continued funding is essential to the success for capital improvements.

Some recommendations found later in the report may not generate revenues associated with the various recommendations and each will need to be evaluated to determine if the existing general budget can accommodate the recommendations. Other recommendations may require capital investments to provide for the recommended improvements. Additional recommendations will also generate a small revenue stream which may help to offset the recommendation.

Personnel recommendations, including full time maintenance workers and a part time director of Parks and Recreation, are typically funded through the Borough's general fund payroll budget.

Various funding sources are available to fund capital improvement recommendations and are outlined within the report (Chapter 4). Opportunities to utilize capital improvement funds as leverage for matching grants can provide for 50% to 80% of the capital cost of the improvements to be made using grant funding. However, applicable grants are competitive and the grant must be well prepared in order to achieve funding approval. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is one funding source which provides recreation funding for open space acquisitions, park improvements, and other recreational opportunities. While each capital improvement recommendation will benefit the Borough in general, singular improvements are not generally favorably received by DCNR for recreational improvements. DCNR would prefer a wholistic approach to parks and recreation when determining which projects to fund. In this case, it may be best to review all recreational opportunities

at a location in order to leverage the best possible opportunity for funding. As an example, DCNR is not likely to fund sport field irrigation. The Borough may take a position that the irrigation will be part of an overall improvement for Community Park which may include: handicap accessibility, stormwater management issues, a play area, among other improvements. While the improvements will present a cost to the Borough, the Borough would be in a position to leverage their capital funds for additional improvements by receiving matching grant funding.

One recommendation that would return a revenue stream to the Borough is the position of a part time Parks and Recreation Director. In typical boroughs, the position recoups a portion of the salary and all program costs through program registration fees. It must be noted, however, that while it may be possible to recoup all the costs associated with offering a

recreation department, it is not practical. A good return for the position and program fees would be to generate 50% of the cost of the recreation department or about 25% of the overall Parks and Recreation Department through revenues derived from registrations, special events, and sponsorship opportunities. It should be expected that all program fees and other costs associated with offering the program will be fully recouped, the Borough should expect a 50% return on the salary costs associated with the hiring of a part time Parks and Recreation Director. While there are a few self-sustaining departments, they are the exception, not the rule. The Borough must evaluate the needs and wants of the community as compared to the budgetary constraints. The Borough may wish to review the DCNR model, financing municipal recreation and parks, as a guide for determining program fees and sponsorships.





A photograph of a park with large, leafy green trees and a winding path. The scene is bright and sunny, with a clear blue sky visible through the branches. In the background, some houses and a utility pole are visible. A dark grey banner with a yellow underline is positioned in the top right corner, containing the text '3 Recommendations'.

# 3 Recommendations





# Overall Park Improvement Strategies

As noted in the previous chapter, Emmaus has a robust park system that provides many recreational opportunities for its residents. Parks are one of the main settings for the Borough’s interface with its community, and their importance within a community cannot be understated. Parks are the areas where residents of all ages, ethnicities, economic statuses, and abilities will interact and create community-building experiences that are a tangible reflection of the quality of life within the community. Beyond the many benefits parks provide as open space, they are also noted as important indicators of community livability, and they create a sense of pride within the community. This has become more evident during

the COVID-19 Pandemic, where parks and trails have become essential for support of residents’ physical and mental health, as was reflected in the dramatic increase of park and open space use.

A successful park system:

- Will be a catalyst for community revitalization and economic development, promote public health, create community engagement opportunities, and provide green infrastructure;
- Will have a diverse inventory of assets and sufficient staffing, equipment, and management to maintain safe, functional, and attractive parks; and
- Will be well used, which is a sign that parks are attractive, meet user needs, and are safe.

## Design Standards

Elements within a park serve the form and function of the facility, but they are also an important part of establishing an aesthetically pleasing, creative, and cohesive park setting. Choices in site materials can have the potential to affect the health of a park’s environment and its life cycle. Park materials and design standards should prioritize sustainability. This can include the use of local, sustainable products that are selected for longevity, durability, and ease of maintenance. The standards should also consider consistency in materials, colors, and aesthetic qualities to create a sense of identity or “branding” for the park system. These standards should be used for all park furnishings, park signage, and landscaping.

**Park Furnishings** – Currently, the only park furnishings that are prevalent throughout the park system

are older concrete and wood benches that have been painted. These benches require constant maintenance to replace the wood slats and keep the paint from flaking off.

The current trash receptacles used by the Borough are barrels placed throughout the parks. These barrels are unsightly and do not provide any opportunities for recycling. Additionally, these trash receptacles are not secured and could pose a safety hazard as well as being difficult to empty when full.

The Borough Parks and Recreation Committee should develop a set of standards for park furnishings. These park furnishing standards should then be used to start replacing existing park furnishings that do not meet these standards. Using standard elements will also facilitate common spare parts and maintenance consistency.



Wood and concrete benches are the only park benches that are found throughout the parks in Emmaus. These benches require constant upkeep, including painting to keep them from showing their age. These benches should be replaced with benches that will require less maintenance and will improve the aesthetic quality of the parks.



Trash receptacles found at the parks are unsightly plastic barrels and do not provide separation of recyclables. These trash cans are not secured and could blow over in heavy winds, dispersing trash into the parks. These trash cans should be removed and replaced with trash cans that are part of new park standards decided by the Parks and Recreation Committee.





**Branding/signage** – Currently, Emmaus is using a dark green and beige color scheme that can be seen on the painted benches and newer playground equipment. However, this color palette is inconsistent throughout the park system. A simple yet unique logo design can help identify the park system, and quickly identify Borough recreational facilities.

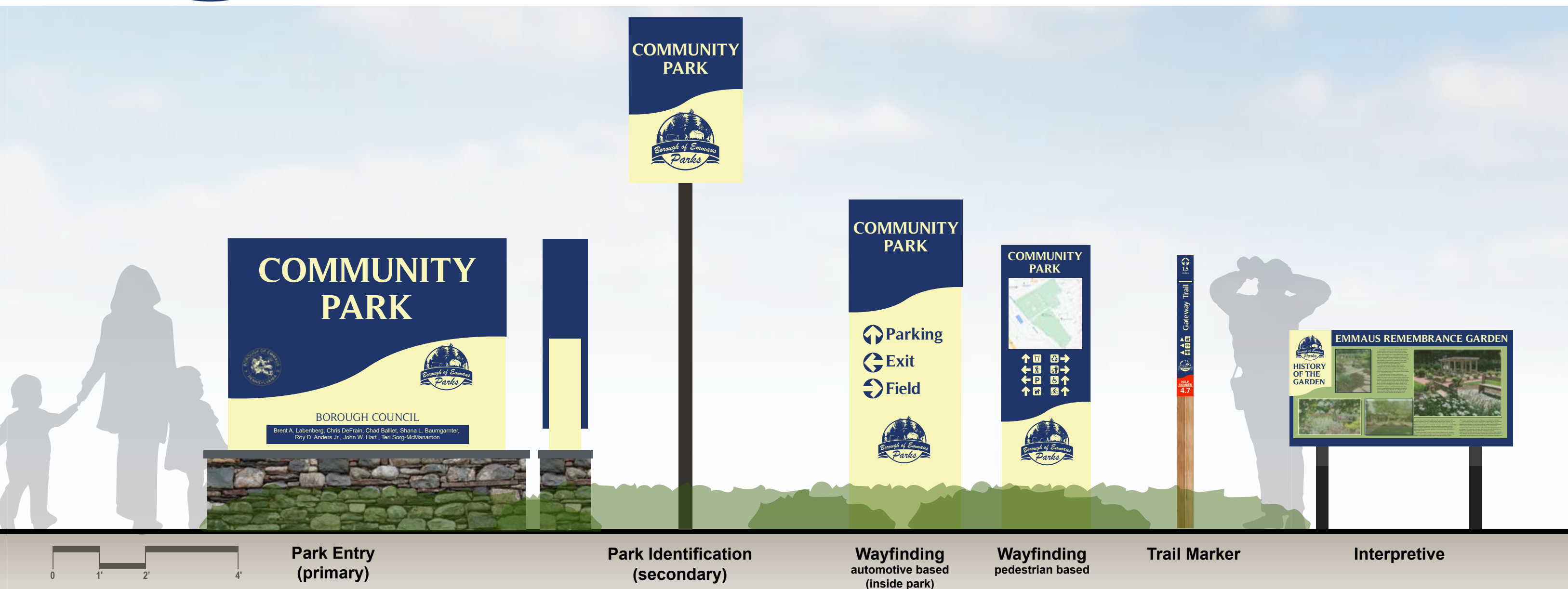
Signage is very important to any park system and should be standardized for three sign types: motorist guidance, park entries and facility identification, and visitor information and wayfinding. These signs need to be easy to read and provide consistent messaging throughout the park system.

The Borough should retain a design firm to create signage standards that brand Borough parks. These logo sign standards could be used Borough-wide.

**Landscaping** – The parks should provide green infrastructure through the use of native plant materials. Plantings can serve many purposes including, but not limited to; shade, absorption of stormwater runoff, habitat, and beauty. The Borough has been successful in partnering with Wildlands Conservancy to assist with replanting riparian zones along the park creeks. Educational signage can inform the public as to the importance of these plants.

The Borough should continue to work with the Wildlands Conservancy to assist with plantings. The Borough also needs to create management plans so that these plants thrive, especially during the first two years of plant establishment. The Parks and Recreation Committee can assist in selecting plants that are low maintenance to avoid creating high demands on Borough maintenance staff.

The Borough should assist residents with setting up “Friends of” groups (either system-wide or park-specific). These groups can provide volunteers to help with management of planted areas of the parks, as well as other park maintenance needs.







**ADA Access / Safety requirements** – ADA Access to the parks has already been recognized by the Borough as a priority improvement to the park system. ADA access includes providing paths to park amenities, bench placement, parking spaces, site furnishings, and inclusive play equipment. Some basics provisions for providing an ADA play area are:

- Providing access to one of each type of ground-level equipment,
- Providing ramps or transfer system to some elevated structures, and
- Surfacing that accommodates people using wheelchairs.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines for public parks were established to reduce serious injury to users of play equipment. The guidelines are recommendations that address hazards that can result in playground related injuries and include:

- Potential falls from play equipment,

- Protective surfacing under and around play equipment,
- Scale of equipment related to users age,
- Playground layout, and
- Installation and maintenance.

It is recommended that the Borough perform an annual playground audit using a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) to identify potential hazards on playground equipment, provide information for equipment specifications and safety surfaces, and provide risk management methods. The Borough should invest in playground surface edging to keep safety surfacing material in the playground fall zones. Other individual park recommendations are provided later in this chapter.

### *Additional Park Amenities*

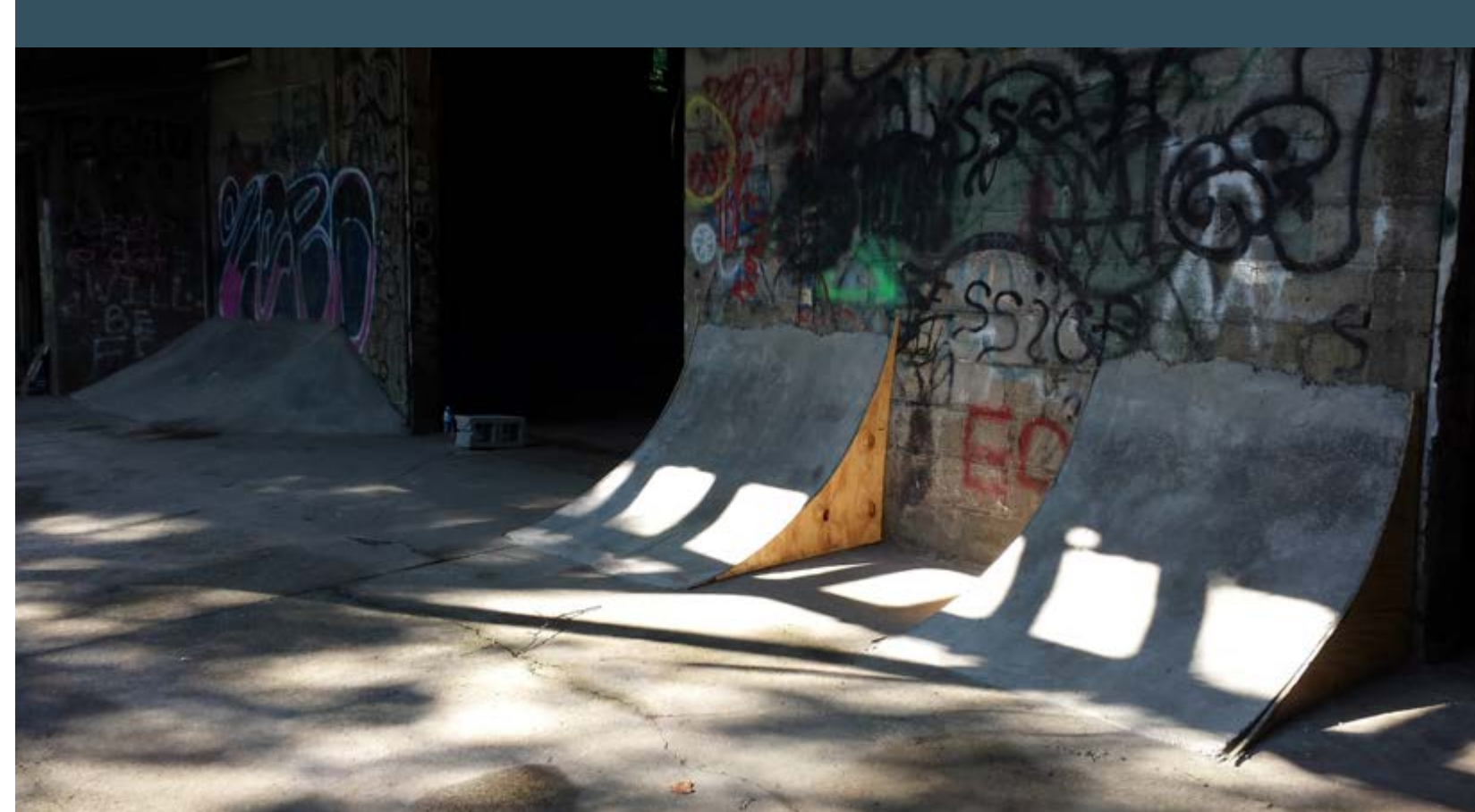
While the Borough does provide a wide range of parks amenities, opinion survey respondents expressed the need for a dog park and skate park. The consultants were also told that there was interest in exploring the idea of a Community Center for the Borough.

**Dog Park** – The park system does not allow dogs or any other pets. This leaves dog owners without local open space for their furry friend. Currently, the closest dog park that residents have mentioned is in Lower Macungie Township, about four miles away.

There are many benefits of dog parks that include:

- Community Building. Dog owners meet other dog owners in their community. This creates a community of like-minded neighbors.
- New Park Stewards. Dog owners can create a new group of park stewards who can help care for a park.
- Safety throughout the day. Dog owners tend to use dog parks throughout the day, adding more eyes and ears to parks, creating more surveillance and safety for all users.

Several areas are identified in this report for providing a dog park. This report recommends that a dog park would be a welcome addition to the Borough park system.



Previously, when there was interest in having a skate park in Emmaus, a group of skating enthusiasts constructed this skate park in a vacant building in the Borough. This building is now slated for demolition to make way for new development, leaving this group without a facility once more.

**Skate Park** – The closest skate park for residents is located at Keck Park in Allentown, approximately five miles away. At the beginning of this study, the consultants were made aware of a homemade skatepark that was located in a vacant building that is now scheduled to be demolished for new development. This report identifies several possible locations for a skate park and recommends that the Borough partner with the local skate park enthusiasts to assist in providing a facility that will promote outdoor recreation and provide a safe place for this activity. Often, concerns over liability have thwarted efforts to create skate parks; however, many communities have overcome these objections with their liability carriers. For example, the South Bethlehem Skate Plaza is a popular facility that has operated successfully for over a decade.

**Community Center** – A municipal community center can include a wide range of indoor facilities. A center can range from a simple gymnasium to a complex that has a pool, meeting and exercise rooms, and many other facilities for a multi-generational clientele.

A threshold population of 15,000 residents is generally the smallest community size for this type of facility. While the Borough does not meet this threshold (11,500 residents), this may be an idea to explore in the future. The Borough should conduct a more extensive analysis of this option than can be done in this study. There are a number of private indoor sports, exercise facilities, and community centers in the area (see Chapter 2). The Borough needs to determine if a community-owned and operated facility provides distinct advantages over these other facilities. The development and operating costs for public community centers are substantial. Partnering with a nearby community is also an option for the Borough; nearby Upper Saucon Township is currently going through this evaluation process. PA DCNR has specific grant funding opportunities for community center feasibility studies. If the Borough wishes to seriously explore this type of recreational facility, it is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Committee confer with the regional DCNR representative to discuss this option in greater detail.



# Specific Improvements to Individual Parks

## Community Parks

A master plan for Boroline Park has been developed as a part of this overall planning process. Please refer to the Boroline Park Master Plan report for recommendations of this park.

**Emmaus Community Park** – It is recommended a master plan be developed for this park. This park has been developed organically over a period of years and we are not aware of a master plan for this facility. A new master plan will provide a new vision for this park and can provide solutions for:

- Updating playground equipment,
- Reducing runoff from the highway and railroad line from entering Liebert Creek,
- Addressing the large runoff pipe along the west side of the park,
- Providing management ideas for the wooded areas of the park,
- Reducing mowing by converting areas into meadows or woodlands,
- Providing more recreation opportunities by planning for underutilized spaces,
- Adding trees into the parking areas, and
- Creating priorities for these and other improvements in this important park.



Some of the playground equipment at Community Park is outdated and does not meet today's safety standards. A master plan may provide opportunities for replacing this equipment with more inclusive play elements.



Areas of underutilized lawn can be re-imagined for additional amenities or converted to meadow/woodland.



Replacing signage with new branding signs will make the park easier to navigate and improve aesthetic quality.



Recent work has been done to Liebert Creek to reduce damage from future flooding events.



More work is needed to address stormwater volume on site to reduce the amount of water entering the creek and improve water quality.



Managing the native environment will take knowledge of plants and a plan. Volunteers can be very helpful.



Adding trees and vegetative strips can reduce stormwater and provide relief from hot exposed blacktop.



**Williams Street Recreation Area / Emmaus Public Library** – A grant was recently obtained by the Borough for streambank restoration. One important recommendation for this area is to “expand” the park into the lawn area in front of the Public Library. This will provide a new civic event space for events such as art shows, cook offs, food trucks, and swap meets. Other recommendations for Williams Street Recreation Area include:

- Expanding the playground,
- Replacing the bridge,
- Defining spaces in parking lots and provide handicap parking,
- Resurfacing basketball courts, and
- Creating a management plan to protect and maintain the new streambank restoration.



The stone parking lots should be defined to provide the maximum parking spaces and provide handicap parking.



The bridge over the unnamed tributary needs to be replaced.



The existing basketball courts need to be resurfaced, and the fence should be replaced.



Streambank restoration has been performed on this unnamed tributary. A management plan is required to prevent failure of these measures.



The playground at Williams Street Recreation Area is small and should be expanded to provide more uses for different age groups. This playground is across the street from the Public Library and could see additional use as programs evolve around the library.



The open space in front of the library has large mature trees and could provide a nice space for community events. The addition of a winding, ADA-compliant trail could provide more programming opportunities.



Neighborhood Parks

A master plan for Lions Field Park has been created as a part of this overall planning process. Please refer to the Lions Field Park Master Plan report for recommendations of this park.

**Furnace Dam Park-** This park will be receiving funds from the Phoebe Home Development to address dam repairs and park amenities. Improvements should include:

- Creating an ADA compliant trail along the east shore of the pond,
- Defining parking areas and add handicap spaces,
- Replacing swing set,

- Replacing the pavilion that was removed,
- Adding bocce ball courts in the space where the old volleyball court was located,
- Removing water fountain and add a vending machine by the restrooms,
- Diverting direct drainage of stormwater from Furnace Street into the pond through the use of BMPs,
- Improving the management of the small, wooded area at the inlet of the pond to enhance habitat, mitigate sedimentation and reduce streambank deterioration, and
- Restore and enhance riparian buffer zone around the pond.

**Arch St. Playground** – Two new developments in the area will provide some funds for improvements to this park. Improvements should include:

- Replacing the wood playground equipment with new playground equipment,
- Resurfacing the basketball court, and
- Defining the parking lot to make sure no cars can enter the basketball court.

**Laura St. Playground** – Improvements to this park should include:

- Removing the bench from atop of the retaining wall,

- Replacing wooden playground equipment and repairing broken equipment,
- Repairing the walkway.

**West End Park** – Improvements to this park should include:

- Adding an ADA compliant trail,
- Moving the swings and playground to provide a safe distance from the fence,
- Reducing the basketball court to a half court
- Removing the chainlink fence and replacing it with a more aesthetically pleasing fence.



The space where the old pavilion once stood is perfect for providing a new pavilion and perhaps Bocceball courts.



Stormwater flows directly into the park, causing bank erosion and degradation of the water quality in the pond. This pond has important ecological value. Stormwater management and riparian buffer enhancement will improve the habitat for inhabitants of this park.



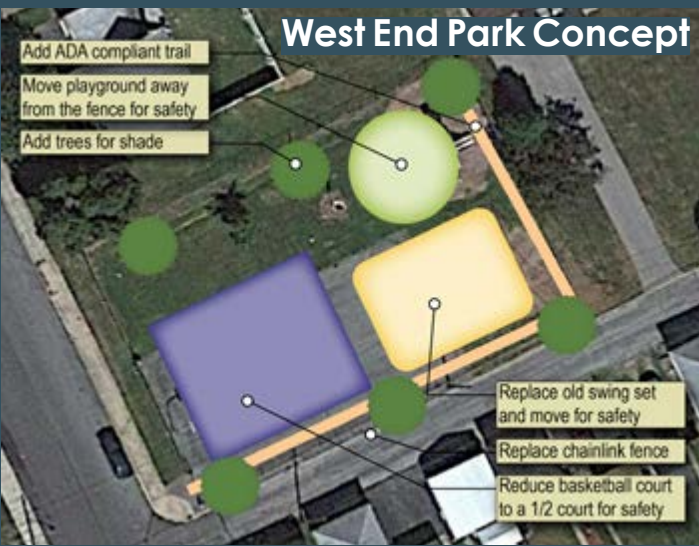
The swingset at this park does not meet safety standards and should be replaced.



The wood playground equipment at Arch St. is hard to maintain and a safety hazard due to broken pieces.



The wood equipment at Laura St Playground will need to be replaced as maintenance and safety becomes an issue.



This diagram for West End Park on N. 9th St. provides a concept to show how elements can be changed and/or moved to address safety and ADA access.



The existing play equipment at West End Park is too close to the fence and is a safety issue.



Active Recreation Parks

**Cintas Field / Knauss Homestead / Community Gardens**–This area should be renamed as "The Knauss Homestead Park" and should include both playing fields, the Knauss Homestead, the Remembrance Garden, the cyclocross track, and the Community Gardens.

- Improvements to this area should include:
- Providing parking especially for use during Cintas working hours. This may need further study to determine an appropriate number of parking spaces,
- Providing a trail connection along Borough owned land to connect to the Klines Lane / Homestead Park area,
- Instituting same goose control measure (as used at Furnace Dam) to drive away geese from the playing fields,
- Opening the pond for public access,
- Regrading fields to reduce runoff going directly into the intermittent creek,
- Decreasing runoff from the composting area and maintaining the compost area to its current size,
- Fencing of the composting area from the rest of these areas to decrease any illegal dumping, and
- Consideration of repurposing the barn as an event space for revenue generation.



The pond is a man-made stormwater BMP. There is a fence around it, but it is open for public access.



The Remembrance Garden is a popular spot for photographs.



There is a small stream that comes from the South Mountain Preserve area and flows into the pond. Some work has been done along the riparian buffer.



The cyclocross track is host to yearly events, and its popularity continues to grow.



The barn at the Knauss House Homestead could present an opportunity for repurposing the structure to be an event space.



The Robert Rodale S. Mountain Gateway Trail along the north of this area is disconnected by the rail line that lies between them. A trail is proposed to connect Knauss House to Homestead Park (refer to the Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan).



**Klines Lane Multipurpose Field / Homestead Park –**  
Park improvements should include:

- Adding handicap parking at the upper level of the playing fields,
  - Providing an improved walkway from the upper parking lot and defining this lot to increase the amount of parking for users of the playing fields,
  - Adding a walking path around the field,
  - Replacing the old wood seating,
  - Reducing mowing in areas by conversion to meadows in areas that are not used for recreation,
- Adding a dog park that separates large dogs from small dogs in the open space below the Water works building,
  - Adding parking for the dog park next to the Water Works building,
  - Providing a connector trail to the Knauss House area, and
  - Filling in the sidewalk gap along Klines Lane to Homestead Park.



The lawn in front of the Water Works building is big enough for a good dog park and is not near any homes



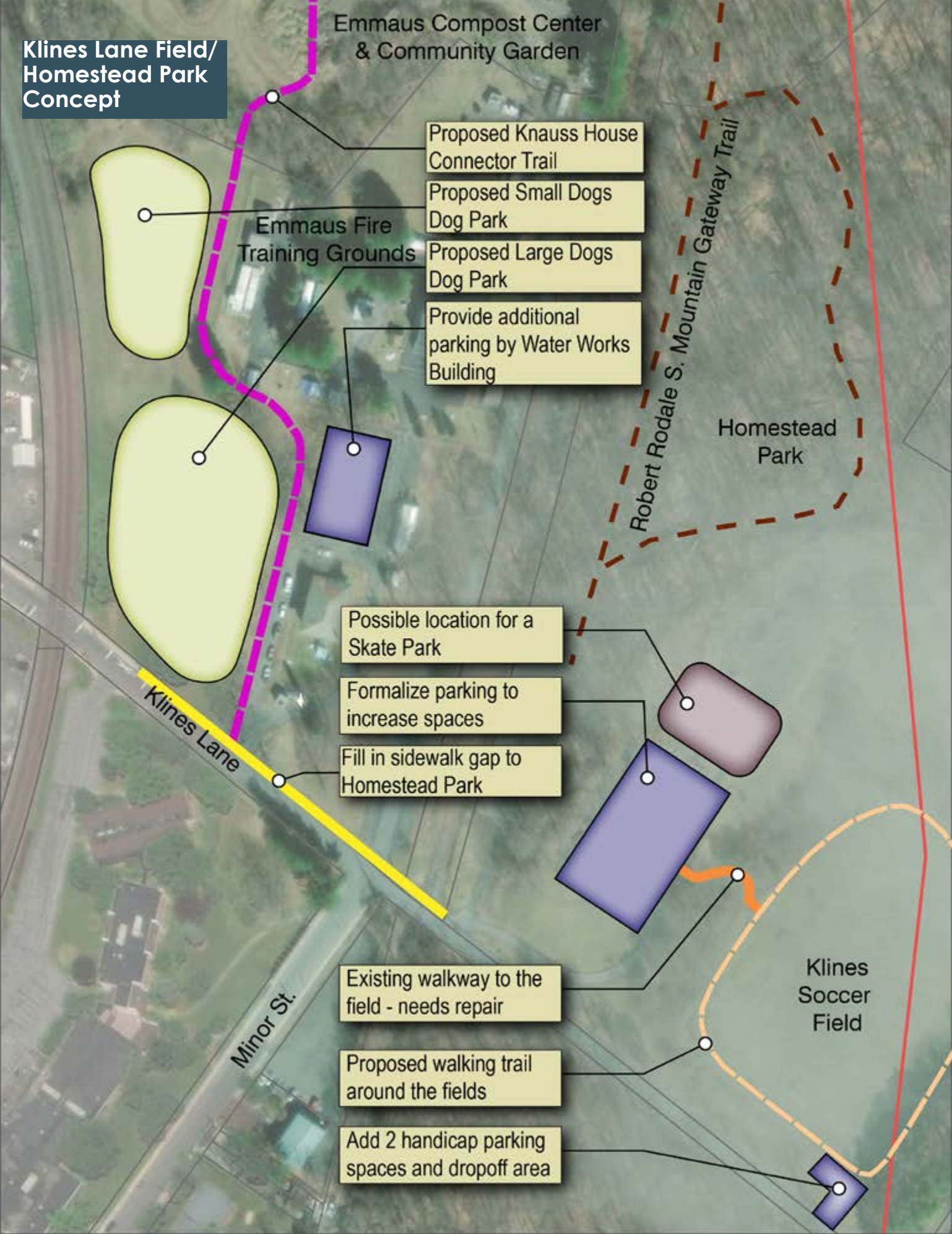
The area by the top of the field would be ideal for adding handicap parking and a drop off area.



The parking lot below the field is currently used for equipment storage and does not provide ample spaces for users of the multipurpose field.



The seating at the field needs to be replaced. A trail can be added around the field to make getting to seating areas easier for people with disabilities.



The fields at 4th Street would benefit from an underfield drainage system.

**South 4th Street Ball Fields** – Funding for improvements to this park and the Shelter House will be made available from the Iron Works Development. Improvements should include:

- Upgrading the restrooms and storage buildings,
- Constructing underfield drainage for the two playing fields, and
- Defining parking spaces.

**Passive Recreation Parks**

**Veterans Memorial Triangle** – Improvements to this park should include:

- Adding plant materials to reduce the amount of lawn space. This could be done in partnership with Ridge Manor to provide gardening opportunities to the residents.
- Adding a small walking loop, and
- Providing a LANTA bus stop shelter.

**Shelter House** – The only recommendation for this site is to prepare a management plan in coordination with Wildlands Conservancy. This will be important as plans are considered for providing a connection to the Upper Milford South Mountain Preserve.

**1803 House** – Improvements to this site should include:

- Improving stormwater management,
- Streambank restoration, and
- Defining parking and the entrance to the site.

**Trails** – Please refer to the Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan.



The lawn space at Veterans Memorial Triangle should be reduced and converted into native plant gardens.

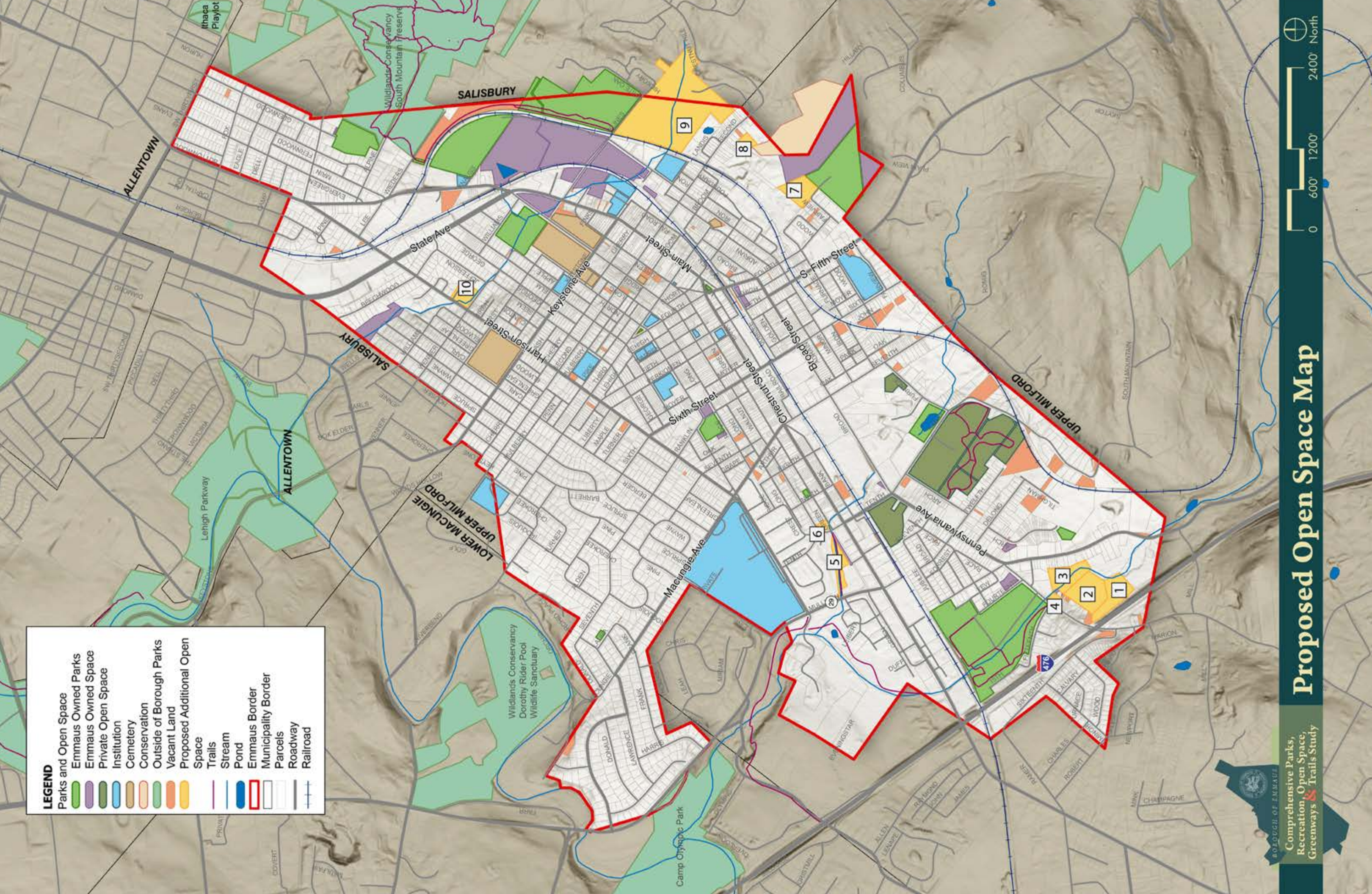


Advertising of the nature trail that accomodates blind visitors at the Shelter House should be increased. This great amenity is rare among parks.



The unnamed tributary that runs along the 1803 House needs a restored riparian buffer to improve stormwater management and increase the quality of the habitat.





## Proposed Land Acquisition for Open Space

The Borough of Emmaus is a small municipality and is nearly built-out. The Borough has secured considerable open space. There is no need to add to the Borough's inventory for active recreational needs. However, there are opportunities for land acquisition for natural resource protection that may also facilitate future trail connections. Several parcels are identified for possible acquisition for open space protection.

The parcels identified for possible future acquisition are described below and the numbers coincide the numbers on the Proposed Open Space Map on the previous page.

**Parcels 1-4** – These four parcels are located on the southern end of the Borough and are vacant. Leibert Creek runs through the parcels and the National Wetland Inventory identifies possible wetlands within these parcels. If these parcels were acquired, they would add approximately 13 acres of open space

that are connected to existing Borough owned land at the end of Asher Street and the Community Park. They could provide an opportunity for the Borough to extend the trail that runs through the Emmaus Community Park into this area as a passive nature trail with educational opportunities.

**Parcels 5 and 6** – Parcel 5 is located above the new Wawa, and parcel 6 is the adjacent parcel across N. 10th Street. The combined parcels equal approximately 2.9 acres of riparian land. Recently, a trail was built along the south side of parcel 5 and there have been some trees planted along the unnamed tributary that flows from Furnace Dam, through both parcels, and into Leibert Creek. The current condition of the parcels shows that there is need for management to ensure that the natural resources are protected. The purpose of acquisition would be for management and protection of the open space.

**Parcel 7** – This 2.27-acre parcel is located north of the S. 4th Street Ballfields and the Shelter House. This is also adjacent to the new Iron Works development. This wooded lot, if acquired, should remain a wooded lot, but has opportunities for a trail connection with the Shelter House and the Wildlands Conservancy Upper Milford South Mountain Preserve.

**Parcel 8** – This one-acre wooded parcel is also adjacent to the Wildlands Conservancy Upper Milford South Mountain Preserve and should remain protected as open space. There could be future opportunities for trail connections within this area of the Conservancy land and the Shelter House.

**Parcel 9** – The Unami Fish & Game Association land covers 30.26 acres and is mostly woodlands. It is also adjacent to Klines Lane Multipurpose Field / Homestead Park. If this land was acquired or if a partnership could be created, this land could provide an opportunity for a trail connection that would connect Homestead Park to the Shelter House as well as increasing the amount of connected open space along South Mountain. There are important headwaters on the site that should be considered for any future use of this land.





**Parcel 10** – This is the only parcel that should be considered for acquisition for adding additional park facilities. This 2-acre lot was once home to the Meadow Pool that has now been closed for nearly 13 years and has been considered a blighted property due to its current condition. This parcel might be an ideal site for a skate park, or outdoor exercise space. Alternatively, the buried stream could be daylighted and the riparian buffer enhanced.

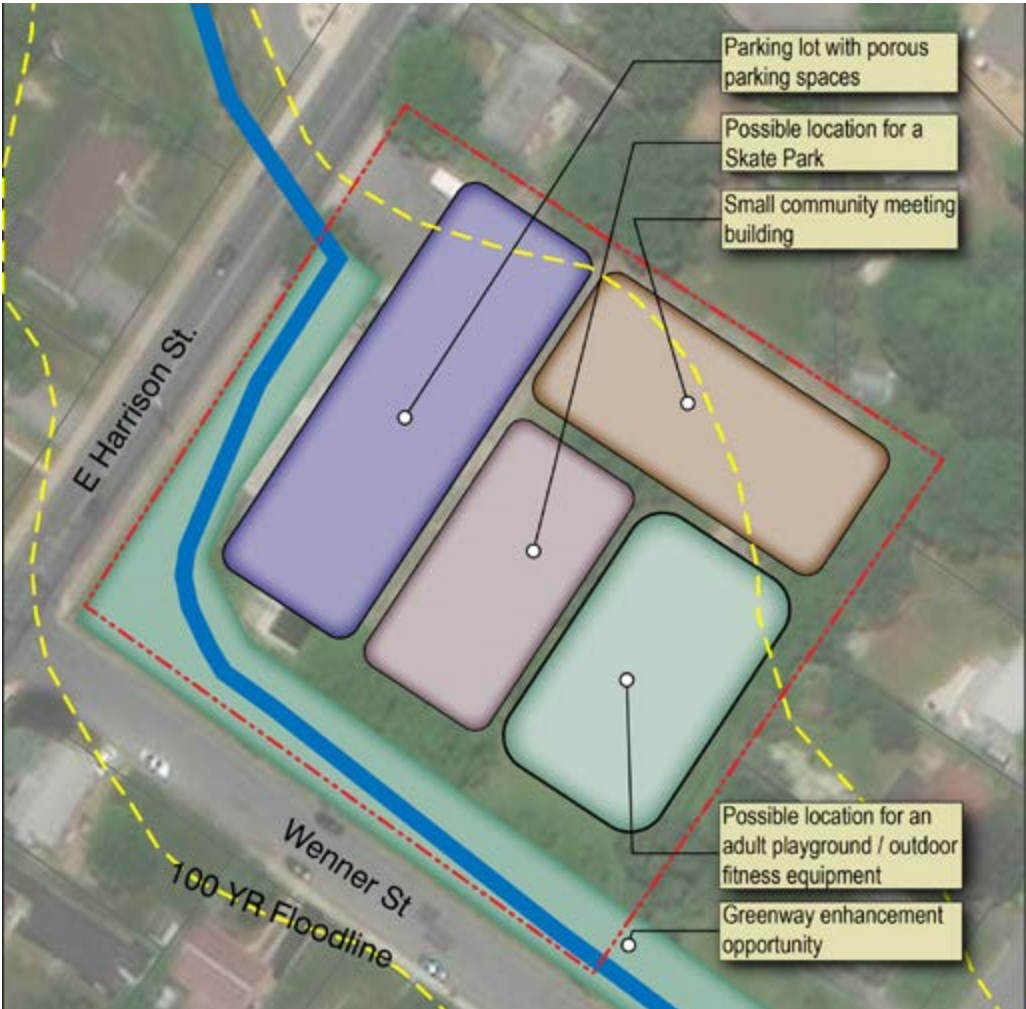
The parcels identified in this report do not require any action from the Borough. They are only identified to show interests for future planning. Municipal acquisition of lands for public open space is a complex process, one with many moving parts. There are a variety of dynamic factors that can make a parcel more or less desirable for acquisition including

a landowner’s willingness to sell a parcel for open space, nearby development pressures, and current economic conditions and land values.

The report does recommend that all the parcels identified be placed on an Official Map as future open space and that the Borough consider the adoption of an Official Map. An Official Map is a combined map and ordinance designed to implement goals and community vision set by a Comprehensive Plan. It shows locations of planned future public lands and facilities such as transportation, recreational parks and trails, and open space. This is an effective negotiating tool for municipalities to ensure development is compatible and supportive of public goals and can advance implementation of infrastructure and open space improvements, sometimes at no cost to

taxpayers.

The Official Map process does not mandate any action by the Borough. However, if a parcel designated as future open space is planned for development or subdivision of a land development or subdivision application, it gives the Borough an opportunity to discuss preserving at least part of the parcel as open space, in addition to whatever provisions may exist in the zoning ordinance for open space preservation or providing residents with public trails. More information can be found in the PennDOT guidebook, The Official Map: A Handbook for Preserving and Providing Public Lands and Facilities, available at <https://www.dot.state.pa.us/public/PubsForms/Publications/PUB%20703.pdf>.



The above concept shows a possible use for the former Meadow Pool if an agreement was put in place for the Borough to acquire this property.

## Historical Preservation Recommendations

The Borough of Emmaus has a proven record of attention to historical preservation. It is recommended that, in order to increase its ability to preserve the historical value of sites, the Borough develop an ordinance that requires a Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) for a subdivision / land development plan. The CRMP will define how an historical asset will be preserved and incorporated into any new development.

The Borough should also consider starting a Historical Committee to assist with creating an updated inventory of historical sites and provide research for

developing a Historic District. This should be done in partnership with the Emmaus Historical Society and the Heritage Alliance.

## Stormwater Management / MS4

BMPs are required for new projects with over 1 acre of earth disturbance. This requirement is for any construction through PADEP and NPDES permitting processes. Borough stormwater ordinances contain the requirements for BMP installation. However, the standards for the MS4 program exceed those for the NPDES permit by at least 10%. Therefore, it is recommended to plan ahead by over-designing

### Stormwater Management Practices



Vegetated Swales Picture by Chris Ktichen Photography



Porous Pavement



Rain Gardens



Rain Barrels



new projects to meet MS4 requirements and not only NPDES requirements.

It is recommended that the Borough prioritize stormwater management improvements within Borough parks and other facilities. Upcoming FEMA flood map revisions show that some flood plain areas along the creeks will grow in size. It will be important for the Borough to invest in solutions to reduce stormwater volumes entering the streams and, therefore, their potential to cause serious property damage and/or death. This report makes note of several parks where improvements can be made to improve water quality and reduce amounts of sediment entering the waterways. This is also echoed within the recommendations for the greenways in the Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan. BMPs such as rain gardens, vegetated swales, detention basins, and porous pavement can help with flood water control and can add beauty and environmental benefits to the Borough's park system. The Borough can also provide incentives for residents to apply stormwater management, such as rain gardens and rain barrels, within their own properties.

The trending theme of the above is keeping tracking of these stormwater management of activities by writing it down and keeping it in maintaining an MS4 file is important in using these stormwater BMPs for future MS4 compliance. . Maintenance of BMPs should also be a key part of the tracking documents. Keeping track of maintenance of BMPs not only provides records for authorities such as PADEP and the EPA but also extends the life of the BMP through regularly scheduled maintenance. Currently, the Borough has kept a thorough records of all MS4 requirements and should continue to do so.

Maintenance of floodplains is typically focused on blockages which, in turn, typically occurs at culverts or bridges. Maintaining culverts and bridges is the responsibility of the owner (typically the municipality) and by a General Permit from the PADEP. The Borough is authorized to perform such maintenance 50 feet upstream and downstream of the structure.



Culverts, such as those that run under State Avenue, should be routinely checked for debris.

## Recreation and Program Recommendations

Recommendations and comments below were formulated through discussions at public meetings, discussions with staff, survey results, key person and focus group interviews, and other communications. All comments were evaluated and researched to determine what may be possible for Emmaus Borough when considering budget constraints, staffing levels, resident expectations and desires, and future opportunities.

Currently, there are few programs offered to residents and limited programs are offered through the Recreation and Entertainment Commission. The evidence reflects the residents desired activities for people of all ages and abilities - this topic was a top five priority in the survey results. The current administration staff performs several functions within the Borough, and to add to their responsibilities to include recreation programming is not advisable. Therefore, the addition of a Part-Time Director of

Recreation would be necessary in order to meet the requests from the community.

Consider the addition of a Part-Time Recreation Director. This position will be responsible for offering year-round and seasonal recreational programs and will be responsible for communication with the Public Works Department for maintenance issues and program needs. The primary focus of the position is to provide organized recreation programs year-round; however, additional duties should also include brochure development, policy recommendations, social media communications, serve as the point person contact for all recreational programs provided throughout the Borough, and be responsible for direct communication with the residents.

A variety of program opportunities are available should the Borough desire. Year round or seasonal organized recreation programs could include in-house instructors, third-party contractors, or public / private partnerships. Programs may include summer camps, short term (6-8 week) educational offerings, health and wellness opportunities, afterschool offerings, sport camps, trips, summer concerts and movies in the park in partnership with the Recreation and Entertainment Commission, agriculture education, among other possibilities. Additionally, one-day special events, if offered, promote a sense of community. These may include pop-up events such as farmers markets, community flea markets, brew pub events, holiday events, to name a few. Passive opportunities may include: star gazing, walking clubs, orienteering, and bird watching.

Successful departments have firm policies and procedure in place to assist the department. Such documentation provides support to the department, or director, and are necessary for decision making. Necessary policies include registration and refund policies, fees scheduling, rental procedures and policies, hiring practices, among others. These policies and procedures provide detailed documentation for the director, the administration, participants, and community groups.

It is important to communicate with other organizations to provide indoor facility space for future program offerings. Partners may include school districts, firehouses, churches, businesses, among others. Develop a use agreement to permit indoor program use and program sustainability. There are no costs associated with this recommendation. By providing indoor recreational opportunities, the Borough will realize additional revenue streams, as may the partnering agency.

Develop a mechanism to recruit and retain program instructors and third-party recreation providers. Instructors and third-party providers will play a large role in the success of the Department to offer year-round or seasonal programs. New Child Protective Services laws exist, adherence to these laws is mandatory. Develop a procedure to identify which instructors or third-party providers need clearances, and most importantly, develop a system to ensure all clearances are provided as outlined in the law.







The Annual Halloween 5K race in Emmaus is a popular event that raises funds for the Borough.

Enlist the Parks and Recreation Commission to review all current policies used for field reservations, pavilion rentals, and other current policies. The review should address facility rental procedures, fees structures, rules and policy, maintenance issues or concerns, and who is eligible to use the facility. The Commission should also develop a fee structure philosophy regarding program costs. For example, instituting a resident rate verses a non-resident rate for programs and facility rentals. A typical fee philosophy may be non-residents are charged 30% more than residents. However, the philosophy must provide an opportunity for programs offered to run. If non-residents are charged additional fees they may not register for a particular program, hence the program may be cancelled due to low enrollment. A well-defined set of policies provides the Director with the tools necessary to provide information to the community with the support of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Borough Council.

While the addition of a Part Time Recreation Director does come with a financial commitment from the Borough, most of the cost is offset though program registration fees, sponsorship opportunities, and other revenues the Borough will realize via the position. Program costs will cover the cost of the program and it is not unusual to recover all of the fees associated with the part time position. Programs may take a couple of sessions before a positive financial return is realized.

## Maintenance Recommendations

The Borough has a large park system and previous boards and administrations have provided ample park opportunities for all residents, by providing recreation space and parks near residences. The forethought of capital improvements and open park space does necessitate the need for annual maintenance. On many visits over eight months, the project team found the parks to be well utilized, even during the pandemic. Parks were clean, litter-free, and visually pleasing overall.

Though parks appeared to be well maintained, current Emmaus maintenance practices show the Borough performs basic park services. This is due to limited staff hours available for park maintenance. While there are numerous parks available to the public, the current parks present a risk exposure to the Borough. Routine maintenance including litter patrol, downed branch removals, rest room cleaning, and grass cutting all were performed well. However, several deficiencies were noted on each visit.

Deficiencies were found in each park on each visit. These deficiencies take many forms and include improper play surfaces under and around play equipment, the equipment itself, accessibility access concerns, accessible play equipment once on the equipment, non-conforming play structures, poorly maintained amenities within the parks, broken or damaged equipment, among other deficiencies. While all park systems have deficiencies, several found within Emmaus pose a direct risk exposure

to the Borough. Some deficiencies are easily correctable, while others will require advanced maintenance and / or capital investments. This is not to say the maintenance employees are not capable of performing work, the lack of maintenance is more a result of limited staff hours available for necessary work performance. Staff is available for the routine maintenance (litter pick up, rest room cleaning...); however, Public Works employees are performing other assignments and are not available for park maintenance. One dedicated park maintenance worker and seasonal workers provide the daily care for the parks. When emergencies do arise, Public Works employees are reassigned to assist the park maintenance issue.

Maintenance personnel should be augmented to include one or two full time parks maintenance workers. The current staff of 18 Public Works employees (1 of whom is dedicated to park maintenance) does not provide the staff hours necessary for the proper care and maintenance of a park system. A review

of the current tasks for the 18 employees reveals additional employees are required to accomplish the work needed in the park system. Current Public Works employees are responsible for water treatment systems, water department, streets, mechanics, and other assignments. Additional dedicated park maintenance workers would enhance the current work performed, providing for better maintenance practices, an enhanced experience for park patrons, and increased safety of all park facilities - all of which reduce risk.

The National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) provides benchmarks for park maintenance standards. After all the information was garnered through the evaluation process, it was compared to the NRPA benchmarks. Since all communities vary, the information gleaned from the NRPA benchmarks serve as a guide for best practices. NRPA notes that for every 12-20 acres of parkland, communities had one Park and Recreation Employee, 45% of which are dedicated maintenance workers. Currently Emmaus





has 128 acres of parkland. Using the criteria of one employee for every 20 acres would result in six to seven parks and recreation employees and 45% of those employees should be maintenance workers, according to NRPA. That calculation shows 2.7 to 3.1 maintenance employees should be necessary for proper park maintenance. The findings and evaluations of work required reflected the need for two additional maintenance workers for a total of three. That determination was then compared to the NRPA standards, and the resulting comparison determined the same need.

The recommendation for two maintenance workers will not only assist the overall maintenance of the parks, but will also provide additional knowledge to assist the Borough in other areas.

Maintenance Worker #1 – should be a qualified individual in park maintenance. This person should also have a background in horticulture and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This experienced person will augment the department by providing in-house knowledge of types of plants and trees that should be used, provide an understanding of native versus invasive plants, and will offer the best materials to be used under specific conditions. The MS4 knowledge will assist the borough by providing a staff person trained on best practices related to stormwater control measures. Since a large portion of stormwater traverses parkland, having someone trained in best practices will assist the Borough in providing information to the state regarding MS4 measures.

Maintenance Worker #2 – should be a qualified individual in park maintenance, but also in playground safety (CPSI), ADA trained, and a turf specialist. A trained specialist in playground standards and ADA laws will help identify risk management concerns and help to reduce those risks to limit the Borough's exposure. A turf trained professional will provide enhanced playing fields, sport fields, and open areas including meadows.

Additional maintenance recommendations are as follows:

- Best Management Practices should be incorporated to a greater level. The Borough should continue to offer maintenance staff the opportunity to attend best management practices seminars, environmental workshops, playground safety courses, and turf maintenance seminars. These seminars and workshops are minimal in cost and provide a wealth of knowledge returned on the investment.
- Hire a Certified Playground Safety Inspector to perform an annual audit of all playgrounds and parks. This audit will detail the areas of risk exposure and detail how to remedy each issue. Issues are rated from high priority to low priority and this rating will assist the maintenance staff as they assign work orders. With the addition of a recommended CPSI on staff, it is still recommended to have an annual audit performed by an outside agent.

## Administration Recommendations

The Emmaus administrative offices serve as the central contact point for residents, businesses, and community groups of Emmaus Borough. Administration services are well received by the community and function at a high-level providing services, responsiveness, and communication with the residents. Administrative staff performs many tasks and each administrator performs additional tasks of responsibility to sustain essential governmental services.

Administrative recommendations are as follows:

- Memorialize a partnership with the School District, churches, firehouses, and community groups to assist in promoting Borough activities and community awareness.

## Administrative Operational Recommendations

Operational recommendations are as follows:

- Charge the Parks and Recreation Commission with developing or reviewing current policies for facility uses which can be enacted by Borough Council.
- Charge the Parks and Recreation Commission with developing a policy for resident and non-resident program fees, which can be enacted by Borough Council. Several models of various fees structures exist through the PA Recreation and Park Society or the National Recreation

and Park Association. Policies will assist the administration when determining fees for future programs and will also provide written documentation when questions arise.

- Provide and advertise annual surveys through free online survey services.
- Continue to utilize the Parks and Recreation Commission to provide outreach and serve as the eyes and ears for the Borough and recreational needs.
- Develop a program and / or brochure that provides information concerning best management practices for environmental concerns, land stewardship, and sustainability.





# 4 Implementation





# Recommendation Implementation Schedule

Implementation of all plan recommendations will require at least a decade or more. Plan recommendations are categorized by timeline priorities of immediate (1-3 years), mid-term (1-5 years), and long-term (6+ years) with relative estimated costs, potential partners, and funding sources. Costs to implement recommendations are divided into three categories:

- Low = less than \$100K,
- Medium = less than \$500K, and
- High = greater than \$500K.

Recommended Implementation Schedule			
Timeframe	Partnerships	Funding Sources	Costs
Costs : <\$100K = low, <\$500K = medium, >\$500K = high			
Park Improvements			
Immediate (1-3)			
Address ADA access to the parks	Parks and Recreation, consulting firm, Public Works	General funds	medium
Address safety issues of park equipment	Parks and Recreation, consulting firm, Public Works	General funds	medium/high
Provide a set of park furnishing standards	Parks and Recreation Committee	General funds	low
Hire firm to design sign standards for the park system	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	General funds	low
Hire firm to complete a master plan for the Emmaus Community Park	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Consulting Firm	General funds, DCNR, DCED	low
Replace park furnishings after a standard has been set	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	low/medium

This plan will need to be revisited and updated periodically, at least every decade, to address new recreational trends and other changes that may occur within the Borough.

The following chart identifies the Comprehensive Plan recommendations for the Borough of Emmaus with the anticipated timelines.

Timeframe	Partnerships	Funding Sources	Costs
Costs : <\$100K = low, <\$500K = medium, >\$500K = high			
Park Improvements			
Immediate (1-3)			
Add/replace signage after a standard has been set	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	low/medium
Start to implement recommendations of park improvements	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	medium/high
Annual Park Audit	Certified Playground Safety Inspector	General funds	low
Mid-term (4-7)			
Continue to replace park furnishings	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	low/medium
Add/replace signage after a standard has been set	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	low/medium
Continue to implement recommendations of park improvements	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	medium/high
Long-term (8+)			
Continue implementation of recommendations of park improvements	Board of Supervisors, Parks and Recreation, Public Works	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest, general funds	medium/high
Open Space Acquisition			
Immediate (1-3)			
Prepare an Official Map to identify approved parcels and the trails plan	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	General Funds	low
Land acquisition for open space preservation	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, Property owners	DCNR, Penn Vest, DCED, General Funds	high



Timeframe	Partnerships	Funding Sources	Costs
Costs : <\$100K = low, <\$500K = medium, >\$500K = high			
<b>Open Space Acquisition</b>			
<b>Mid-term (4-7)</b>			
Continue acquisition for open space preservation	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, Property owners	DCNR, Penn Vest, DCED, General Funds	high
<b>Long-term (8+)</b>			
Continue acquisition for open space preservation	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, Property owners	DCNR, DCED, Penn Vest	high
<b>Historic Preservation</b>			
<b>Immediate (1-3)</b>			
Develop Cultural Resource Mangement Plan	Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors	General Funds	low
Start a History Committee	Board of Supervisors	General Funds	low
<b>Administration &amp; Operations</b>			
<b>Immediate (1-3)</b>			
Add part time Parks and Recreation Director with promotion of full time by year three	Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Supervisors	General funds, revenue from programs	< \$100K
Develop a fee structure philosophy for program costs	Parks and Recreation Commission	General Funds	< \$100K Low Cost
Develop Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with partners	Parks and Recreation Commission, Board of Supervisors, School District	General funds	< \$100K Low Cost
Timeframe	Partnerships	Funding Sources	Costs

Project Partners

Partnerships at the local, county, regional, and state levels will need to be established and maintained in order to help the Borough meet the goals of the Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. Partners can assist in many ways including being advocates of the completion of plan projects by implementing some recommendations themselves, providing volunteering opportunities, and by assisting in securing funds through grants or other means.

Local partners may include:

- East Penn School District
- Private recreation providers (CVA, Citizens' Fire Co. #2)
- Youth sports leagues
- Social and Religious Organizations
- Conservation Organizations
- Historical Organizations
- Other recreation groups (i.e., Fifth Street Cross).

County and regional partners include:

- Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC)
- Lehigh County Parks & Recreation Department

State partners include:

- Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)
- Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)
- Pennsylvania Infrastructure Reinvestment Authority (PennVEST)

The School District, private recreation providers, sports leagues, and social and religious groups can all provide valuable insight to the Borough as to recreational needs of their students and members. Partnering with the Borough would ensure that recreational facilities and programs are in place and meeting the needs of the organizations and the Borough. These groups can also provide volunteer opportunities to assist

with management or maintenance of recreational facilities.

Other organizations such as Wildlands Conservancy and some of the Committees within the Borough can provide more detailed information concerning their area of expertise and can provide valuable partnerships between the groups to create unique programming opportunities that could bring people to the Borough.

County, regional, and state partners can provide funding and assistance with recreation and conservation plans. LVPC is a regional planner and offers opportunities for communities to be part of the larger regional planning network including greenways, trails, and transportation needs. State partners can provide important information to assist a municipality in successfully receiving funding for improvement projects.

Funding Sources

Multiple funding sources are available through grants, incentives, and other programs for the implementation of the recommendations proposed in this report. Examples of funding sources are below:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)



Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2)

C2P2 provides funding to municipalities and authorized nonprofit organizations for recreation, park, trail, and conservation projects. These include planning for feasibility studies, trail studies, conservation plans, master site development plans, and comprehensive recreation park and open space and greenway plans; land acquisition for active or passive parks, trails, and conservation purposes; and new development and rehabilitation of parks, trails, Riparian Forest Buffers, and recreation facilities. Most of these projects require a 50% match, which can include a combination of cash and/or non-cash



values. Grant applications for the C2P2 program are accepted annually—usually in April. Funding from DCNR for “sidewalk” connections will need to be categorized as multi-use trails. More information on this program can be found at the DCNR website: <http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>.

**PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)**



**Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP)**

Administered through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) provides funding for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects. The program awards up to \$250,000 per project to eligible applicants and requires a local match of 15% of the total project cost. Funding from DCED for “sidewalk” connections will need to be categorized as multi-use trails. Additional information on the Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program can be found at:

<https://dced.pa.gov/programs/greenways-trails-and-recreation-program-gtrp/>

**Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PennVEST)**



PennVEST offers both grants and low interest loans for projects that help to manage stormwater and improve water quality. Projects funded by PennVEST contribute to environmental health and resident health, as well as provide jobs for Pennsylvania workers. More information can be found at <https://www.pennvest.pa.gov/Information/Funding-Programs/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Lehigh Valley & Lehigh County**



**Quality of Life Grant**

This grant is provided by Lehigh County to cultural, civic, or recreational non-profit organizations that may be affiliated with a unit of local government, to assist with programs, projects, events, capital projects, or operational support. More information can be found at <https://www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Community-Economic-Development/Grant-Programs/Quality-of-Life-Grant-Application>.

**Tourism Development Grant**

This grant is provided by Lehigh County to municipalities for projects that encourage new or one-time events, first year events, or improve facilities that are regional in nature, that may draw large numbers of people. More information can be found at <https://www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Community-Economic-Development/Grant-Programs/Tourism-Grant-Application>.

**Private Foundations**

There may be regional corporations and foundations that support public works such as park development. Competition for these funds is usually brisk, but opportunities should be researched. Funding is often to non-profit organizations.



Successful partnerships are evident throughout the Borough. The Shelter House is a partnership between the Lehigh and Delaware National Heritage Corridor, DCNR, Emmaus Heritage Alliance, and the Borough of Emmaus.

# Recreation and Maintenance Improvement Cost Estimates over the next 5-Year Period

The recommendations provided below outline what may be necessary to provide recreation programming and improved maintenance practices for Emmaus over a five-year period.

Recreation programming was a top five need based on the survey results. Additionally, the key person and focus group interviews reflect the desire for organized recreational opportunities for Emmaus. In reviewing the opportunity for programming, the current Administrative staff performs their job functions, and additional duties, and it is not feasible to add additional responsibilities to the current staff. If recreational programs are in Emmaus's future, the following recommendations will be necessary to provide quality programming for the residents.

As noted in chapters 2 and 3, maintenance staff hours provide basic park maintenance services. Previous Councils and Administrations have done a wonderful job of providing parks and other capital improvements for all Emmaus residents. Parks are easy to locate, within walking distances to most residences, and are well used. With all the capital improvements and open space areas provided, comes annual maintenance. And, with maintenance responsibility comes risk management measures to ensure all park locations are accessible and meet current safety standards.

The recommendations detailed below will reduce the risk exposure currently found in Emmaus. More than that, Emmaus will be in a position to enhance their current maintenance practices to provide safer, more enjoyable parks for all residents. Relieving dangerous park conditions should be the top priority for Emmaus. Once risk areas are reduced and practices are modified to perform annual risk assessments, Emmaus will be able to focus on increased maintenance practices enhancing park visitations in the future.

**Year one recommendation notes:**

- A Recreation Director will provide organized recreational offering in the Borough. Additionally, this person will serve as a one point source for information. A common comment expressed through this process was that folks do not know where or how to find information. Program instructor fees, supplies costs, facility rentals, brochure development, and all other costs associated with programs is recovered via program fees. Larger community events will require sponsorship to provide the funds necessary to hold such large events.
- Maintenance Worker – should be a qualified individual in park maintenance. This person should also have a background in horticulture and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). This experienced person will augment the department by providing in-house knowledge of types of plants and trees that should be incorporated into the parks, provide an understanding of native versus invasive plants, and will offer the best materials to be used under specific conditions. The MS4 knowledge will assist the borough by providing a staff person trained on best practices related to storm water control measures. Since a large portion of stormwater traverses parkland, having someone trained in best practices will assist the Borough in providing information to the state regarding MS4 measures.
- Hire a Certified Playground Safety Inspector to review all the parks in Emmaus. The review will detail specific areas of concern requiring immediate attention. The report will provide high priority areas and rate each park deficiency and the risk associated with that deficiency. This report can then be used to plan maintenance to reduce the exposure in the parks.
- Equipment assists the maintenance staff to perform all the functions associated with park maintenance. The current park vehicle is not a 4x4 vehicle and is an older vehicle.

Also recommended for Year One, with no associated costs:

- Written agreements with community organizations (schools, firehouses, churches, and private providers) will provide opportunities for programs for youngsters through adults.



While some programs will occur out of doors, others require an indoor facility to hold the event. Certainly, during the fall, winter, and spring indoor locations are required.

- Develop a mechanism to recruit instructors to teach a variety of classes, camps, or other programs. This includes contracted service providers and third party agency providers.
- Provide a policy for background checks for all participant recreation providers who offer recreational programs in the Borough. This includes instructors hired by the Borough to provide program instructions and third party providers who offer camps through the Borough. Criminal Background, FBI Fingerprinting, Child Abuse, and Mandatory Reporter Training are required for anyone working or volunteering with youngsters.
- Develop a policy for attracting recreational providers, advertising recreational programs,

and program evaluation, which may include free survey services provided on line.

- Develop contracts for various types of instructors for program providers. These may include employee contracts, third part service providers, and volunteers.
- Charge the Parks and Recreation Commission with developing or reviewing current policies for facility uses which can be enacted by Borough Council.
- Charge the Parks and Recreation Commission with developing a policy for program resident and non-resident fees, which can be enacted by Borough Council. Several models of various fees structures exist through the PA Recreation and Park Society or the National Recreation and Park Association. Policies will assist the administration when determining fees for future programs and will also provide written documentation when questions arise.

Add a part-time Recreation Director 1,400 hours at a rate of \$22.00 per hour	\$30,800
Increase Park Maintenance Staff by adding one full time employee (includes benefits)	\$100,000
Hire a consultant to perform a playground Audit (Certified Playground Safety Inspector, C.P.S.I.)	\$1,200
Purchase a new 4x4 pick up truck for maintenance needs	\$40,000
Grand total year 1	\$172,000

Year Two recommendation notes:

- Emmaus owns a small tractor which assists in park maintenance needs. Small attachments to this equipment aids the maintenance division by permitted for additional work accomplishments. Attachments may include: infield rakes, augers, leaf vacuums. In this recommendation, a small leaf vacuum is recommended; however, Emmaus should review maintenance practices to determine which attachments are needed.

- A best management brochure will be available to assist residents, posted on the web-site and distributed through the Borough in the parks and other areas. It also assists with Borough to meet the MS4 educational requirements.

Also recommended for Year Two, with no associated costs:

- The Recreation Director should engage in program surveys to determine if the department is meeting the needs of the community. Various free on-line surveys are available to meet this recommendation.

Continue the part-time Recreation Director 1,400 hours 3.5% increase	\$31,880
Continue the Park Maintenance Staff full time employee (includes benefits)	\$105,000
Annual consultant to perform a playground Audit (C.P.S.I.)	\$1,200
Purchase Tractor attachments to assist with park maintenance efforts	\$12,000
Develop best management practices brochure for distribution to residents	\$1,250
Grand total year 2	\$151,330

Year Three recommendation notes:

- A small wood chipper provides maintenance assistance by allowing the workers to remove and chip low hanging branches, downed wood, and small tree removal.
- Maintenance Worker #2 – should be a qualified individual in park maintenance, but also in

playground safety (CPSI), ADA trained, and a turf specialist. A trained specialist in playground standards and ADA laws will help identify risk management concerns and help to reduce those risks to limit the Borough's exposure. A turf trained professional will provide enhanced playing fields, sport fields, and open areas including meadows.

Continue the part-time Recreation Director 1,400 hours 3.5% increase	\$32,995
Continue the Park Maintenance Staff full time employee (includes benefits)	\$110,000
Annual consultant to perform a playground Audit (C.P.S.I.)	\$1,400
Purchase a small wood chipper that can maneuver through the parks	\$16,000
Increase Park Maintenance Staff by adding an additional full time employee (includes benefits)	\$110,000
Grand total year 3	\$270,395

Year Four recommendation notes:

- Evaluate the part time Recreation Director position. This determination should review the success of the position to determine the continuation of the position, ending the position, or elevating the position to full time status.

Continue the part-time Recreation Director 1,400 hours 3.5% increase	\$34,150
Continue the Park Maintenance Staff full time employees (includes benefits)	\$230,000
Hire a consultant to perform a playground Audit (C.P.S.I.)	\$1,400
Grand total year 4	\$265,550

Continue the part-time Recreation Director 1,400 hours 3.5% increase	\$35,345
Continue the Park Maintenance Staff full time employees (includes benefits)	\$245,000
Hire a consultant to perform a playground Audit (C.P.S.I.)	\$1,500
Grand total year 5	\$281,845







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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	6/25/2020 7:00 pm
Re:	Committee Meeting #1	Issue Date:	07.13.2020

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Dr. Kristen Campbell – Superintendent,  
East Penn School District

Kristie Fach – Wildlands Conservancy

Bill Held – President, Emmaus Youth  
Association

Brett Lenig – President, East Penn  
Emmaus Midget Football Association

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Gabe Lloyd – Long Tail Creative – Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Tyler Long – Owner, Emmaus Run Inn /  
Race Coordinator

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Stringfellow – Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Sarah Leeper, RLA, ASLA – SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Michelle Armour, Staff LA – SC

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

Kent Morey – Spotts, Stevens and  
McCoy



## GENERAL NOTES:

### INTRODUCTION

1. At 7:00 pm, Peter Simone started the meeting with introductions.
2. Pankaj Jobanputra explained the importance of planning, the project schedule, the public participation process, and the project scope.
3. Rob Gladfelter gave overviews of the parks and open spaces of Emmaus and their amenities.
4. Sarah Leeper gave more in-depth examinations of Lions Field and Boroline Park. Sarah mentioned the potential to meet requirements of the MS4 plan in these parks.
5. Geoff Creary spoke about trails and greenways of Emmaus, explaining the distinction between the two. Geoff went over characteristics of Emmaus (abundant greenspace, a dense urban area, foot and car traffic, an existing sidewalk network, and destinations as seen on Google Maps). Geoff shared the Strava maps showing running and biking patterns, which revealed corridors to investigate further. Geoff also explained that by current design standards, greenways are the evolution of yesterday's channelized streams.

### BRAINSTORMING: CARD TECHNIQUE & DISCUSSION

Peter S. led the Committee through a brainstorming session. Committee Members were encouraged to offer information about existing conditions and ideas for going forward, such as amenities the community may benefit from. These were organized into Goals, Facts, Concepts, and Partners. The conversation is summarized as follows:

1. Bill Held stated, "We are here as EYA monitors to make sure we get our word in here. Our fields are all used and all in service." They are used primarily for softball/baseball. He noted that the Catholic War Veterans field may not be as used as others, but that it is private. Every field is used 5 days a week. During the spring season, the fields are maxed out, and in the fall, they are at three-quarters capacity.  
Older kids have Community Park to use. The park on South 4<sup>th</sup> St is getting money to be refurbished – He suggested lights, fields, fences – anything that will be good for the kids. Bill asked if the idea here is to give the whole community a nicer place to walk and clarified that he and his colleague(s) specifically address the needs of the kids. **Peter S. asked if Bill could follow up with list of suggestions, and Bill agreed to follow up with a wish list by email.**
2. Brent Stringfellow presented an idea for Furnace Dam; the Rodale building is turning into 55+ assisted living facility and he believes the residents will need something to do. He proposed shuffleboard as an example of an activity catered to an older community.  
Pat Stasio mentioned that pickleball is becoming very popular with seniors.  
Brent S. also suggested that a better playground system at Lions Park – since the park is in the center of town – would mean that the park would see more activity.
3. Chad Balliet, to follow up on the discussion of Lions Park, suggested a four-season get together space (such as a 4-sided pavilion). He suggested taking an inventory of all playground equipment and identifying under-utilized parks with no available equipment. He also suggested the addition of bathroom facilities, possibly at Lions Park. Chad noted that the Strava maps are incredible. He suggested providing awareness signs for walking and running paths. Chad B. also suggested lighted fields for fall games.
4. Kacey Lloyd stated that she runs a cycle cross series, mostly on Emmaus compost property land, which runs from September to the beginning of December. She suggested looking at how trail systems link together. She cited that there is much mountain biking activity in Emmaus, specifically mentioning South Mountain. She proposed bike lanes and signage as an



improvement. Kacey L. pointed out that the local bike shop is busy with new customers, presumably because people who cannot go to the gym due to current circumstances are riding bikes. This means that more inexperienced bikers are on the road, alongside experienced bikers and traffic, and this presents safety concerns. She suggested creating safe routes for people to travel, and that these routes could link with trails.

Sarah Leeper asked Kacey if there are any other locations where she runs or can run her cycle cross class. To this, Kacey asked if Camp Olympic is part of the plan, because she used to run a class there, and it could be an alternative to the compost center, though the relationship there is good – garden people are in and out of the area, but cycle cross is held at the end of gardening season. Kacey stated that runners also use the cycle cross track. Kacey stated that the terrain gets ripped up, but the crew does a pretty good job of fixing and reseeding the area.

5. Kristen Campbell, Superintendent of East Penn School District, expressed her appreciation that their facility was on the list of facilities. She stated that a new field is being installed at one of the schools.

Regarding potential community needs and use, Kristen stated that there are two elementary schools – on North St. (Jefferson Elementary) and Seem St. (Lincoln Elementary) – whose health and fitness teachers use Community Park for activity days. She appreciated the previous suggestions for playground equipment because the elementary school playgrounds are small, and in the evenings and summer they get crowded. She stated that families appreciate and use community parks heavily.

6. Shana Baumgartner started by saying that she was present mostly to listen, but that, as a resident and parent, she sees increased trail connectivity and signage as important as a way to promote trails in town to make families aware of them. She suggested that interactive, online digital trail maps could be a tool to help people to plan their trail routes. She also stated that pickleball and bocce ball sound like good ideas and suggested conducting a survey of 55+ residents in the community to determine senior friendly programs. Shana suggested improvements on ADA access, as well as playground equipment improvement (Lions and Boroline Parks being priorities). She pointed out that Lions Park is near Jefferson Elementary, and that the school, camps, churches, and afterschool daycare all use it.
7. Roy Anders stated that the Williams St basketball courts need total resurfacing and new, safe backboards. He also pointed out that the lighting systems are older, and that more efficient lighting would be great.

Williams St. fields, a Kiwanis park, also have lighting, but they are older.

Roy suggested addressing the gaps in the trails systems – for example, getting from Boroline Park to 4<sup>th</sup> St by a connector trail (he pointed out that new apartments are being developed in that area).

Peter S. asked if the Borough has an official map, to which the answer was that there is no updated map. Roy stated that 4<sup>th</sup> St will have a walking path to 2<sup>nd</sup> St. He suggested finding a connector route from Klines Ln to downtown and Furnace Dam. Roy expressed interest in both urban routes and trails. He stated that the train system runs through the whole Borough and asked if a trail system can come off of that. Peter S. asked who owns the RR and what it is used for. Brett Lenig stated that it was probably the old Perkiomen Railroad, and that they store railroad cars there.

8. Tyler Long stated that improving runner and cycling safety is an important improvement. There are currently no bike lanes and, as a cyclist and runner who owns a store in the heart of Emmaus, he sees nearly every day in the newspaper that a runner or cyclist is hit by a car. He also suggested that the Borough collaborate with the two major races in Emmaus – the 4



runner and Halloween 5k – to have signage designating the race routes so that people can run them even when the events are not happening.

9. Shane Pepe expressed his appreciation, stating these are all great ideas. He went on to state that Emmaus is seeing increased vandalism in the parks and suggested examining security measures. He also suggested creating passive recreation opportunities, such as a dog park. He stated that there are empty lots that people have asked to be examined for such purposes, such as the old Meadow Pool which is owned by Shangy's.
10. Kristie Fach stated that the study will be enhancing an already great system and suggested more trail connections and creating a safer ability to run and ride with 'share the road' signage or the like. Kristie also suggested examining parks and access and improving ADA compliance. She suggested protecting natural resources, using infrastructure to make unique opportunities to create more natural areas in every park.  
She stated that Wildlands and the Conservation District have been collaborating, and discussed, MS-4, protection of stream corridors (specifically against erosion), and looking at adjacent infrastructure. They have been working with the Borough and will send more information. Kristie pointed out that area ponds are a nice feature that bring people out, but that they need to be balanced with wetland restoration – open sitting water leads to poor water quality, and having more healthy streams is better for water quality.  
Peter S. asked Kristie about trees that will do well in changing climate, and Kristie responded that she will share which plants they find are doing well amidst changes due to issues like lanternfly.
11. Peter S. asked Shane P. to speak more about the vandalism, asking what kind of vandalism has been seen. Shane P. responded that, lately, Community Park has been a target – they have found graffiti on the football building and bathroom, a pickup truck has been smashed up on two occasions, something on the pool house was smashed. He said that near the compost center, vandals smashed up an old police car attempting to get the light and siren, and the tires were slashed. Shane stated that this is not a normal thing, but that in last two to three years they are seeing increased vandalism. Boroline Park is a little out of the way, and there has been suspected drug activity – people pulling into the lot and pulling back out.
12. Peter S. asked the Committee if there were any more thoughts about facilities before moving on.
13. Brent S. suggested a nice paved path around Community Park. He pointed out that people stop at the playground equipment to do exercise, so putting workout stations and bodyweight exercise equipment along the path could be a good addition.
14. Roy A. suggested that the subject of a skate park will come up from the community. Shane P. said that the Borough has discussed it because a group of people – mostly teenagers and some in their mid-upper 20s – asked for a skate park in the past. There had been issues with people getting into trouble for skating at the fountain and at Triangle Park. Shane suggested that maybe the Borough should have taken the request more seriously and hadn't looked very deep into it before the issue 'dropped off'. It turned out that the skaters had made their own park in an abandoned building on the site where a new apartment building is to be built. Since the old building was demolished and secured more people on skateboards and BMX bikes are being seen at Triangle Park and around the Borough, though probably not same core group of people. Kent Morey added that SSM is currently working with a group for a skatepark in the City of Reading, so we may have some minor connections there.
15. Peter S. then opened the discussion up for ideas on **Trails and Greenways**.
16. Shane Pepe asked if there is a way to connect South Mountain to where the Borough's trails are, and to connect down to the other end of town to land that we sold and can connect to 4<sup>th</sup> St.?



He agreed that the railroad could be an asset, and that we would like to see a nature connection there through rest of town. He also expressed desire for a better urban connection with safer crossings – there is major fear of Chestnut St and safety in crossing there.

17. Peter S. directed the discussion to the **Lions Field master plan**.
18. Sarah L. asked if there is information on community events that happen there. Shane P. stated that EYA uses the park a lot for league play. A neighborhood church in the area build the gaga pit and is very active in the park. The flagpole was provided by Lions Club. Regarding the buildings: The larger white building near left field is the Borough gym for employees and volunteers, and the green building by the park is used for Lions Club storage and EYA storage. The Lions Club does not run any activities out of the park, but they do donate money as they feel some responsibility towards the park.
19. Peter S. asked if the buildings are sewerred. Roy A. answered that, yes, the back building is plumbed, and the gym building has water and sewer. Sarah L. suggested that maybe restrooms can be put in.
20. Sarah L. asked if there are certain age groups to consider for play. Shane P. answered that they see a lot of young kids, and that it was designed for young kids – 12 and younger. They also see “a lot of older teenagers meddling at night.”
21. Brent S. stated that Lions Park is heavily used by EYA, especially in spring, and for practice in the fall. He opined that the field could definitely be shortened because it is used mostly for t-ball and biddy, and that kids don’t typically even hit balls out of the infield. The extra space could be used for playgrounds or create a space geared towards teenagers. Also, by shortening the ball field, Jefferson would have more room for their field day.
22. Sarah L asked if there is a full sidewalk route to elementary school. The response was that there is – and one crosswalk at 6<sup>th</sup> and North, next to the fire station.
23. Shane P. mentioned that parking does turn into a problem. They are looking at whether the fire station needs to be expanded, which would further take away from the parking lot.
24. Roy A. stated that the ball field is turned right into the sun, and suggested rotating it, perhaps looking at the infield setup and moving it towards the back. Sarah L. answered that we can definitely look at the orientation. Also, to receive funding from DCNR, fields have to oriented toward the north-northeast.
25. Roy stated that, typically, they have a port-a-potty at the field. Shane P. said that there could theoretically be restrooms put in.
26. Pete S. asked if there was something ‘magical’ about the location of the ball field, or, if there was another location to replace this field, could EYA as easily operate at there. Shane P. answered that, for EYA, it’s about numbers, so as long as they have enough fields to play they don’t care where it is. Peter S. suggested that the park might be a good place for a mostly passive recreation with a larger playground – almost like a town green – where teenagers could have a plaza closer to the street, if the field were moved. Shane P. asked Bill for input on this question. Peter S. asked again if there is anything magical about having the softball field there – or could it be moved? Bill answered that it wouldn’t matter, as long as they have a place to play – there is nothing emotional about the location. He added that the space is needed because “we’re fighting for time as it is.”
27. Roy A. suggested that the park needs more and/or new equipment. Much of the equipment has been taken out because it came down, and it needs to be replaced for the children in that area. Sarah L. asked if there is any interest in incorporating nature-based play, water play, or inclusive play. Roy A. answered that there is currently no equipment for a handicapped child, so opportunities should be created for them to have equipment to safely play on.
28. Peter directed the discussion to **Boroline Park**.



29. Shane P. stated that, since the ball field is a hot commodity for tournament play, parking is a big complaint for neighbors of the park all summer long. Sarah L. asked if it flows out into the streets, to which Shane answered "yes." Shane explained that there are 1 ½ hour caps on each game, and in a 10 hour period they are trying to cram in 5 games. Peter S. asked if replacing that field in another location with more parking would be a good thing, to which Shane answered "potentially."
30. Brent S listed several locations used for baseball: Williams (Kiwanis) fields for A ball, bidy, travel; the High School and Williams for softball; South 4<sup>th</sup> St for A ball; South 4<sup>th</sup> St back field for AA (no AAA); Cintas for AAA and AA; Community Park Legion field for AAA and Legion.
31. Roy A. suggested that the tennis and basketball courts could be resurfaced. Shane agreed, saying that they would be used more if they were resurfaced. Brent S. pointed out that the school tennis courts are open to public after 4:00pm; this was confirmed by Dr. Campbell, who stated that the track and tennis courts are open to public after 4:00pm, but that to use the pool, groups have to go through a permit of use.
32. Boroline is used for baseball and softball, up to 9-10 years old. The fence is over 200 ft out.
33. Sarah L. asked if there is anything that people want to see in the park. She mentioned that the topography could be used in creative ways, such as creating a sledding hill. Roy A. responded that there are no hills to sled on in Boroline.
34. Shane P. stated that community events are typically held at Community Park, not Boroline.
35. Peter S. stated that the team will need some advice on how to contact the neighborhoods of Boroline and Lions park for public meetings.
36. Sarah L. pointed out that trails lead to each doorstep of the (Boroline) Park and suggested that perhaps a trail system could be added through the park.
37. Someone suggested that parking could be added for the trail head for South Mountain. Shane P. added that trail parking fills up quickly; another attendee stated that the Alpine St entrance way fills up very quickly, but people can park inside of the park, and the lot is rarely if ever 100% full.
38. Peter S. asked Kristie if there is opportunity for additional parking. Kristie responded that it is not great if trying to go to the trail head; expanding the existing parking would expand into the park itself.
39. Bill H. stated that parking is a problem every night of the week, and that people are ticketed all the time for parking in no parking spots. He stated that if the ball field were shifted over, a chunk of the park could be taken for parking. He stated that there is a lot of space that could be taken from the park, and that planning parking would make the situation much better. Bill suggested that the park does not need a 70 ft base line option, as he does not think they have had a game that required one in the last 5 years.
40. Peter S. asked about the area behind restroom, and if parking could be put there if a landscape screen and fence were added. Bill answered that the space is not used, so maybe. He went on to say that no one wants a parking lot next to their house, but the neighbors don't like people parking up their street either.
41. Sarah L. asked if there is enough parking at Community Park, to which Shane P. answered, "For the most part." Sometimes simultaneous events fill the parking; the road beside the creek is used for overflow parking, but rarely. There is adequate parking for the most part – parking by the creek just requires some walking.
42. Chad Balliet asked what do most park systems do for hydration and suggested looking to see if more water fountains can be added; there is currently one at Triangle Park. He also brought up water fill stations. Peter S. talked about different options of water fountains, bottle-fill stations, dog water fill stations. Peter said that, amidst possible developments regarding concerns about COVID, fountains at various parks can be examined. Sarah L. stated that the bottle fill is a trend



that will probably strengthen. Chad B. asked if these present a large maintenance expense. Peter S. answered that these amenities tend to have a 15-year lifespan, and that there are very good manufacturers. They do sometimes need to be shut off in the winter. Kacey Lloyd suggested that, in light of COVID, foot pedal operated fountains be looked into; Peter S. agreed.

- Chad B. asked about the possibility of getting vending machines with snacks, and whether they would be owned by the Borough or leased. Pat Stasio answered that Upper Moreland does have some vending machines that they contract out, and items cost no more than \$2. There are some issues with this; regarding security, park staff can pull down a gate over the machines – otherwise, they may go through a couple of years of meddling (it seems to go in a one to two year cycle.) The Borough could do well as far as profits if there are tournaments held.
- NEXT STEPS
- PJ discussed the next steps of the process, which include:
- Committee Meeting 2 on September 9th
  - a. Boroline Park Public Meeting 1 on **September 16<sup>th</sup>**
  - b. Lions Field Public Meeting1 on **September 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - c. The Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan / Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan Public Meeting 1 on **September 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - d. SC will:
    - a. Finalizing the survey
    - b. Continue to gather data
    - c. Conduct mapping and analysis
    - d. Prepare the wiki-mapping
    - e. Prepare for the Farmers' Market visit on August
- 1. Peter S. wrapped up the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and encouraged the Committee to reach out to anyone on the SC team with questions or additional information.

## **BRAINSTORMING IDEAS LISTED**

The following is the information and ideas gathered from the card technique:

### **PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

#### **GOALS**

- Meet demands for children's recreation
- Create recreational opportunities for people of all ages (children, teenagers, young adults, 55+)
- Increase ADA accessibility/compliance
- Protect natural resources

#### **FACTS**

- Ball fields:
  - Williams, Kiwanis – A ball, bity, travel
  - Highschool, Williams and Kiwanis
  - South 4<sup>th</sup> – A ball
  - South 4<sup>th</sup> back – AA ball
  - Community Park - AAA, legion and junior legion
  - Back of Community Park - softball
  - Cintas - AA and AAA ball



- Tennis and basketball courts are well used
- Tennis is only at Boroline and HS
- HS tennis and track are open for public after 4PM; pool must go through waivers
- Most community events held at Community Park
  - Other than days with simultaneous events, parking doesn't seem to be 100% filled
  - Overflow parking along the creek
- Vending machines make up to \$3000 a year in nearby municipality
- Increased vandalism is seen in parked recently
- Unused lots have been looked at for recreational use (ex. Old Meadow Pool)

#### CONCEPTS

- Use infrastructure to make opportunities for more natural areas in every park
- New playground equipment
- Create opportunities for passive recreation (ex. Dog park)
- Add more drinking fountains
- Bottle fill option
- Foot paddle water fill station
- Electronic vending machines leases
- Skate park
- Recreation facilities for 55+ community at Furnace Dam
- Paved path with workout stations around Community Park
- Lighted fields for ball games
- Inventory of underutilized parks lacking playground equipment
- Examine security measures

### GREENWAYS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN

#### GOALS

- Create safer streets for pedestrians and cyclists
- Create more connectivity and awareness of trails
- More ADA accessibility/compliance

#### FACTS

- Bicycle use has increased (presumably due to COVID-19/gym closures); more inexperienced riders on the road
- Pedestrians and cyclists are struck by cars often
- No bike lanes currently
- Mountain biking is popular, especially in South Mountain
- Fully functioning RR runs through Emmaus
- There is fear of Chestnut St and safety issues in crossing there

#### CONCEPTS



- Online digital trail maps
- Trail connection wide enough for bikers
- Address gaps in the trails systems (ex. add connector trail from Boroline Park to 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Trail system along RR – nature connection through town
- Trail connections
  - from South Mountain to the Borough's trails
  - the other end of town to land sold land
  - to 4<sup>th</sup> St
- Bike lanes, safe bike routes
- Safe pedestrian crossings
- Signage
  - Wayfinding to trails
  - "Share the Road"
  - 4 runner and Halloween 5k: designate race routes so that people can run them all year

## **MASTER PLAN FOR LIONS PLAYGROUND**

### **GOALS**

- Meet demands for children's recreation
- Create opportunities teenager recreation

### **FACTS**

- Used by elementary schools, camps, churches, and afterschool daycare

### **CONCEPTS**

- 4-season gathering space (ex. 4-sided pavilion)
- Restrooms

## **MASTER PLAN FOR BOROLINE PARK**

### **GOALS**

- Meet demands for children's recreation
- Create opportunities for teenager recreation

### **FACTS**

- Ballfield is hot commodity for tournament play
- Overflow parking on streets is an issue for neighbors all summer
- Tournaments go from 8AM-6PM
- Softball puts 1.5-hour caps on games – cram in 5 games
- Coach pitch and softball
- Boroline used for baseball and softball, baseball used for 9-10 year olds
- Infield was made for 60-70 ft; fence is over 200 ft out
  - Full field is rarely if ever used in the last 5 years
- Really no hills to sled
- Pavilion is rented out



- No Borough-wide community events held here
- Alpine St Trail parking fills up quickly
- Topography not graded for new parking where trailhead is
- Games during fall and spring, parking on residential streets, people are ticketed

#### CONCEPTS

- Courts resurfaced
- Shift field for parking
- 70 ft base option could be yielded
- 60 ft base path with 200 ft center
- Additional parking
  - Maybe parking in linear area behind RR
  - Ball Field can be smaller to create room for parking

#### PARTNERS

- School District
- EYA
- Lions Club
- Kiwanis

This report represents the Professional's summation of the proceedings and is not a transcript. Unless written notice of any correction or clarification is received by the Professional within ten days of issue, the report shall be considered factually correct and shall become part of the official project record.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Michelle Armour  
Staff Landscape Architect





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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Live Event	Meeting Date/ Time:	9/24/2020 7:00 pm
Re:	Public Meeting #1	Issue Date:	10/8/2020

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Reed, Public Works

Brent Stringfellow – Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Jackie Parks, Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Andrea Singmaster, Eastern National

Joe Parks, Penn Lighting

Gene Clock

Brian Witt

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Michelle Armour, Staff LA – SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Peter Simone (PS) began the meeting at 7:03pm with Project Committee and Team introductions and consultant experience
2. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) continued with an overview of the master planning process, discussing the need for a plan, the project schedule, project scope, and the online public opinion



survey/Wikimapping. He emphasized the importance of public participation, and SC's mantra: "Every voice is heard; all ideas are honored."

3. Rob Gladfelter (RG) continued with a presentation of the Borough park tour, discussing parks that the Team has inventoried and visited, and listing the facilities at each park.
4. Geoff Creary (GC) continued with a presentation of trails. He discussed the project area, destinations, sidewalk inventory, Strava running and biking route data, and corridors to investigate. GC then defined and discussed greenways, pointing out that some of the greenways in the Borough are channelized and degraded; an opportunity to improve conditions and bring nature back into these areas.
5. PS introduced the brainstorming session with an explanation of the Card Technique, encouraging participants to make their suggestions heard; no bad ideas.
6. The presentation then opened up to public comments/Q&A/brainstorming for Goals, Facts, Concepts, and Partners (via text comments and call-in):
  - a. Shane Pepe: "We are getting ready to apply for a \$2 million grant for reconstruction of 2nd Street. Are you looking at this street, as it connects the Borough up over South Mountain? If so, let's talk in the next few days if possible."  
PS: "We can certainly do that and we will talk about that. I assume that might be a multimodal grant through DCED so that is interesting and could be an important connector that affects this project."
  - b. Gene Clock: "Would like for a pathway to the Knauss Homestead."  
PS: "We will put that in our suggestions."  
Gene Clock: "Request that the name of Cintas Fields be changed to the Knauss Homestead ball fields since the ball field originally was part of Knauss Homestead. And we now have a sign at East Main Street directing folks to the Knauss Homestead."  
PS: "We will put that up as a suggestion. Thank you, Gene."
  - c. During a pause, PS noted that, "one of the challenges has been getting folks to attend these meetings. We've discussed with the committee, but if anyone has any suggestions on how we might get the word out and get better attendance, we can assist with that."
  - d. Anonymous: "Connecting trail to Saucon Valley rail trail."  
PS referred to GC or RG on this answer.  
Rob Gladfelter (RG): "I can answer that, being as we just did the Upper Saucon open space Plan. Upper Saucon is looking to increase their bicycle paths and work in conjunction with neighboring areas. This is something that we will be looking at...it would be a partnership."
  - e. Gene Clock: "As a note of information the Remembrance Garden is part of the Knauss Homestead."  
PS: "We will make a note of that, thank you."
  - f. PS brought the presentation back to the parks tour to spark conversation.
  - g. PS: one of the reasons we want to look at stormwater management opportunities in the parks is because of the MS4 plan, which mandates the Borough to get as much stormwater into the ground as possible and not into the sewer system to improve water quality. Every five years the Borough has a plan that they submit to DEP and has to abide by.
  - h. Community Park –



- i. PS: Has areas of potential to contribute to MS4 requirements. Our engineers will be looking at opening up the constricted waterway in the culvert there, as an opportunity to open up that floodway and reduce flooding downstream by holding more stormwater on this park site. Handicapped accessibility is something we will be looking at for all parks to make sure that the Borough is conforming as much as possible with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act so that everyone has good access through the parks system. Any other comments from the team about Community Park on opportunities that we may not have seen here so far?
- ii. RG: We can look at not only the opportunity for greenway trails connection, but how people in the community get to that park safely.
- iii. GC: You can see through the strava data that people are heading down there. The sidewalks and wide shoulders lend themselves to a good connection to the largest park in the Borough. It has great bones; how to we make it even better?
- iv. Shane Pepe: Interesting Fact: We just received an emergency DEP permit for Community Park to dredge and remove the silt for a 1,600 lf section.
- v. PS: That's really valuable information for us to know. We will want to understand the basis of that permit and will make sure that our stormwater engineer knows about that going forward.
- vi. Brent Stringfellow (Brent S.): I think one question is how we can cross the railroad tracks from Community Park (if it is even possible), without having to backtrack to 10th street.
- vii. PS: We've dealt with railroad crossings often in our trail work – that is an important question and we will look into it as part of this connectivity study.
- i. Arch St Playground –
  - i. A small facility, but sometimes the smaller the facility, the more important it is to that specific neighborhood. One thing that is evident here – there are a couple of nice play areas, but they're out in the sun. One of the basic things we could recommend doing is adding trees which is an inexpensive way to create shade in playground. Every parent is aware of the dangers of getting too much sun and sunburn. Even in a small park, we can add shade and also beauty through the introduction of trees that give color, fall color, or whatever the attributes might be.
  - ii. RG: Not a lot of people know about this playground. Wayfinding and signs throughout the Borough to let people know where these parks are will be very important moving forward.
  - iii. Shane Pepe: As part of the approved development that is adjacent to this park, the developer has agreed to donate \$15k - \$20k for the development of Arch Street Playground. That money will come in soon.
  - iv. PS: That's awesome news and we will take that into consideration
- j. Furnace Dam –
  - i. PS: This is a unique park; one of the great things about it is that kids and adults can fish here. How do we make fishing more accessible for people with mobility issues? How do we protect the water quality here? If I recall correctly, there's a



missing link in terms of walking around on the sidewalk near the Rodale property – how do we make a safe crossing? Geoff will be looking at how to connect those green spaces so that it's a safe place to cross – I don't think there's a crosswalk there. Anything else here?

- ii. RG: At one point there used to be a volleyball court that has since been removed. The Borough is not planning to put back the volleyball court, so this might be a good opportunity for people who are looking for a different type of facility there to give us a suggestion.
- iii. Brent Reed: It was going to be basketball but still thinking about it.
- k. Rodale Nature Area –
  - i. PS: Not Borough owned but very important. We will investigate how the Borough can support this park and make connections to it better.
  - ii. GC: I was impressed to see through the Strava data and when we were out there how popular that trail is with the community. A lot of people are using it to run and connect to. For a private park it seems to get a lot of use.
  - iii. RG: It also provides an opportunity – it has meadows – so it also works well for stormwater management.
  - iv. PS: If Rodale wanted to do this – and this is in their wheelhouse – I don't know how much that lawn gets used, but maybe part of that lawn could be meadow, which would increase the stormwater mitigation function and reduce runoff from the site. Those are some of the basic questions we can ask as we go through these.
- l. West End Park –
  - i. Another small park, but important to the neighborhood. Basic improvements – we'll look at all of the ages of play equipment in all of the small parks.
  - ii. GC: This park brought me back to my childhood. It was a really nice pocket park right in the middle of a neighborhood where children didn't have to walk far to get to it. Yet, there were a couple of missing sidewalks. It wasn't bad to walk in the road, but we could improve on that. The sun was very hot, and there was no escaping it.
  - iii. RG: There were some young trees that were just planted, some new playground facilities. One concern – we noticed that the basketball net was right up against the fence against the sidewalk, with no buffer. We usually prefer a 5-10' buffer so that if someone runs to do a layup and trips, they're not running into a fence. So, we may be looking at how we can improve the safety there.
- m. Laura Street Playground –
  - i. GC: We met a family there that considered this to be their neighborhood park; the one that they claimed ownership of. It was good to see people take pride in their own little parks. A pleasant park, good shade trees, and happy children playing in it.
- n. Triangle Park
  - i. PS: A really important civic space in the Borough. Pretty attractive, there may be some tweaks that we can recommend to make it more so.



- ii. RG: Sarah and I were there for the Farmers' Market. It was great, even through this pandemic, how many people were able to come visit, and how open the space becomes when the parking lot is emptied and given to the vendors.
- o. Veterans Memorial Triangle
  - i. PS: Another interesting space – more of a civic space.
- p. S. 4<sup>th</sup> St Recreation Area/Shelter House
  - i. RG: We noticed that the ballfields could be upgraded for use, and how people park is something that we may look at.
- q. Brian Witt: Are you planning on using local Emmaus companies to develop these projects?
 

PS: Some of that depends on funding. Maybe for some of the small projects, the Borough might do in house with local funding. I forget what the threshold is for publicly bidding things – it might be up to \$75K now – but you could certainly use local companies without going through the bid process as long as you're under the threshold. For larger projects where you go to DCNR, DCED, or other sources, where you might be building three, four, or \$500,000 projects, those have to be publicly bid. Local companies who do public work will probably bid on those, but when you're using public money to have to go through a public process, you have to select the lowest responsible bidder, which is not always a bad thing. So, you can to do some local selection, but if you're using large amounts of public money you do have to bid it.
- r. Shane Pepe: As part of the approved plan for the upcoming housing development near Lions Playground, the developer must pay a fee of \$1,000 per unit. I forget the number, but it's somewhere between \$24k and \$40k that will be dedicated to Lions Playground improvements. While I'm on it, an approved development that is near S. 4th Street will be paying \$144,000 in dedicated funds towards the improvements to the recreation area on South 4th Street.
 

PS: One of the keys here is our rule #1: never use local money unless you leverage it. So, I would hope that we can work with the Borough to take that money that you've collected locally and leverage it against a grant program or several grant programs. It's great to have that match money in hand, but you want to leverage it if possible. I know that you've done that in the past, but I just want to remind folks that that is possible.
- s. Brian Witt: Is there a list/order to the parks that will be developed. Is there a time line such as tree planting in the spring-pruning / maintenance in the winter concrete in the summer?
 

PS: Once we come up with park-by-park general improvements, we'll have that list and there may be a priority within each park. For Boroline Park and Lions Field, we'll have a very detailed plan. Then the task will be, "Out of the whole system, where should the Borough focus their priorities?" We will work with the committee to come up with an initial priority list that will go out with the draft plan, for the committee and the public to look at, and then we'll come back with a preferred priority list. This may be the direction for the Borough to go, though sometimes with grant programs you want to be opportunistic; there may be a grant program that emphasizes a particular kind of improvement. Similarly, with the trail and connectivity plan, we'll come up with a list of proposed improvements and then suggest some priorities. PJ mentioned at the



beginning that this is a 10-20 year blueprint moving forward, so this will be a long term plan that won't be done overnight and will take the persistence of going back every year and seeing what has been done and what should be done in the next year or two years.

- t. Roy Anders: Good area at South 4th to try to tie in trails.

PS: We will make sure we look at that as we go forward.

- u. Brent Reed: The back field at 4th St. needs to have drainage looked at. Storm runoff kills that field.

PS: We will take a look at that. I know that's a smaller park but maybe there's opportunity for stormwater management to solve that problem.

- v. Homestead Park and Klines Soccer Field –

- i. PS: This is a really large facility. You do have access on that road that goes alongside the park for, I assume, coaches and to get the sports equipment up there. This is the area that is adjacent to your composting facility and the fire training facility. The day we were up there, there were a number of firemen battling a blaze in that concrete structure. There could be a lot of opportunities here with the trails that go through what looks like an old land fill area.
- ii. RG: We noticed that, to get to Klines Field, there was a large hill that we had to walk up. If we want to make this more ADA accessible, we'll want to look at how we can make a parking lot at the top of the hill next to that, rather than climbing up that large hill. And again, wayfinding – we had to walk across the parking lot just to find ourselves to that spot, as it was.
- iii. PS: That side road that goes up to a pull-in, there might be an opportunity, at least for handicap access. As you probably know, working with DCNR, they're very careful; if you're doing any new fields or proposing improvements, they want to see handicap access for spectators. So that's an important part of all of these park plans and improvements.
- iv. Brent S.: The accessibility comment is a good one, as is wayfinding. There isn't much to let you know the field is there from the trails.
- v. Shane Pepe: Could we have a road of some sort that goes along the railroad to get back to that field area?
- vi. PS: We will look into that.

- w. Williams St Recreational Area

- i. RG: This had two large ballfields and gets a lot of use day and night. It had the open macadam, two basketball courts. It also had a stream system, there was some planting being done. It went into a larger stormwater BMP, and then there was another stream drainage that went into it. These are all things that we will be looking at.
- ii. Roy Anders: Basketball court could use resurfacing.
- iii. GC: You can see there are a lot of cracks that they've worked on over the years. We walked there, there were some pretty large cracks to get tripped up on.
- iv. RG: By the ball courts there is a large stone area used for parking.
- v. PS: We'll be interested in finding out what the disposition of that area is.
- vi. Anonymous: Is it worth looking at a partnership with RCN or service electric supply company for public Wi-Fi?



PS: That is an interesting comment, in terms of making your parks Wi-fi hotspots, during this health crisis we're in. I'm not sure that work life will never be the same for a lot of people and the ability to go to a park on a day like today and take your computer, sit outside, and tie into the Internet and get some work done makes the parks even more desirable and functional in terms of daily life.

- vii. RG: What makes it unique for this park (Williams St Recreational Area) is that its right across the street from the public library.
- viii. PS: One thing we did talk about when we were here was if the space in front of the library could be put to better use. Right now, it's a big green space, maybe there are a few benches, but could the space in front of the library be turned into more of a civic space with more benches or sitting areas? There's potential there.
- ix. Shane Pepe: The Arts Commission has proposed a use in the space at the library. It would be worth a conversation with them, as they have a concept plan for it.
- x. PS: We will get in touch with them, get a look at that plan, and have a conversation with them.
- x. Cintas Fields –
  - i. This seems like a symbiotic relationship there, with the use of the fields. You have to go across the railroad to get to the field from the trail. There may be a way to make that connection a safe connection across.
- y. Lions Field –
  - i. The meeting for this Field is on October 13<sup>th</sup>. This is a great location – one discussion we had with the Committee was if the ball field could be relocated and Lions Park could become something else. To me, it has the feel of a town green or a town commons. It's surrounded on at least three sides with residential and on one side by the fire company and some other less residential buildings. It's a great space – if there's a better place to put that ball field, maybe this could become something else.
  - ii. RG: Another idea – there are other open spaces that we will be looking at that could possibly have a field. There was an important note that there are elementary schools nearby that do not have large spaces and use this field and playground.
- z. Boroline Park –
  - i. PS: Has a lot of topography and unprogrammed space. De facto parking lot for South Mountain trailhead, a lot of that parking gets used for people using the trail. There's a connection on the upper-side where, if the community needs more parking here, there's a way to bring that in. There's a lot of good potential here.
  - ii. GC: People use the park as a short cut, just to get through to the other side, which is nice. It is a safe spot for kids to go running or riding through without having to worry about traffic.



- iii. RG: There's a trail that goes from Ithaca playlot, just north, all the way down to the Homestead area.
  - iv. GC: We heard that there is quite a parking issue there in the community, and there are unused spaces in the park – could they be used for parking. While we were there, we saw that the parking would fill up quickly and dissipate quickly.
  - v. PS: That's a delicate balance because you've got greenspace, and sometimes it's hard to make that tradeoff of greenspace for parking. I'm sure that's going to be an important conversation as we go forward with this park.
- aa. 1803 House
- bb. Emmaus Compost Center and Community Garden –
  - i. I think there will be an important conversation here with the Borough about the compost center and community garden – are there other unprogrammed spaces here that maybe could be utilized better.
- cc. Open space between Beechwood St and Williams St.
- dd. Emmaus High School –
  - i. PS: Part of our charge, and Pat Stasio will be working with us on this, is to understand the scheduling of the school and how the community can use this.
- 7. PS wrapped up the brainstorming session, stating that our challenge is getting the word out on meetings and getting better attendance, so we will work with the Committee to try to do that.
- 8. PJ discussed:
  - a. Next steps:
    - i. Boroline Park and Lions Field Public Meeting 1 – Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan/Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan Public Meeting 2 – Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>
    - iii. Continue to gather data
    - iv. Mapping and Analysis
    - v. Develop concepts
  - b. Borough website
  - c. Public opinion survey link and Wiki Mapping link
  - d. Team contact information
- 9. PS wrapped up the meeting, reiterating the charge to get more attendance at public meetings and thanking everyone for their time.

## BRAINSTORMING CARDS:

GOALS n/a

### FACTS

- Getting ready to apply for \$2 million grant for 2nd St.
- Remembrance Garden is part of Knauss Homestead
- Rodale: popular trail; has meadow on other side
- West End Park: Basketball net right against fence, no buffer zone
- Laura Street Playground: Small neighborhood park - close to families
- Veterans Memorial Triangle: More of a civic space



- Lions Field: Developer must pay fee of \$1000/unit - \$24-40k will be dedicated to Lions
- Approved development near S 4th will pay \$144k to recreation here
- Lions Field: Near schools who use this playground
- Boroline Park: Used as a shortcut, trail from Ithaca Playground

## CONCEPTS

- Pathway to Knauss Homestead
- Community Park: Potential for MS4/BMPs
- Wayfinding and signs for where parks are
- Cintas Field: Request change to Knauss Homestead field
- ADA accessibility at all parks
- Furnace Dam: Trails; volleyball court removed - was going to have basketball court
- Connecting to Saucon Valley Rail Trail
- Community Park: Emergency DEP permit to dredge and remove silt for a 1600 lf section
- Arch St. Playground: Developers of adjacent development agreed to donate \$15-20k for development of Arch St.
- Community Park: How can we cross RR tracks w/o having to backtrack to 10th St.?
- Rodale Nature Area: SWM in meadow
- West End Park: Couple of missing sidewalks
- South 4<sup>th</sup> St: Ball fields should be updated
- Maybe using local firms for improvements for smaller projects
- Timeline for tree-planting, pruning, maintenance
- South 4th St: Tie into trails
- South 4th St: Backfield needs to have drainage looked at - SW does damage
- Will work with Committee on priority list
- Klines Field: Opportunities for trails
- Klines Field: Parking lot next to field
- Klines Field: Wayfinding
- Klines Field: Road that goes along RR to get to field
- Looking at RCN or other providers for Wi-fi
- Better use space in front of library
- Cintas Field: Safe access across tracks
- Art Commission has proposed use in front of library - have a concept plan



- Other unprogrammed spaces at Community Garden
- Lions: pine trees dying, maybe removing fields and doing botanical garden

PARTNERS n/a

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Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Michelle Armour  
Staff Landscape Architect





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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	9/29/2020 7:00 pm
Re:	Committee Meeting #2	Issue Date:	10/20/2020

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Gabe Lloyd – Long Tail Creative – Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Michelle Armour, Staff LA – SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Peter Simone (PS) begins the meeting at 7:03pm.
2. PS notes that SC will provide this presentation to Committee members the next day.
3. PS begins the presentation with brief Consultant introductions and a review of takeaways and main points from Committee Meeting 1 and the three Public Meetings to date.
4. PS opens a discussion about getting public participation for meetings, which has been difficult.  
Three suggestions:
  - a. Flyers distributed the week of Oct 5 for Boroline Park and Lions Field meetings by the Borough



- b. Switch public meetings to “Meeting” format vs. “Live Event” so that meeting attendees can have actual conversations
  - c. Flyer distributed to businesses, supermarkets, schools, etc.
- 5. Shane Pepe (SP) thinks Meetings would be better, and that it would be more appetizing to participants to be able to talk back and forth. He also believes that the Borough needs to target neighborhoods in vicinity of Boroline Park and Lions Field better; need to target the people who will use them by getting something into the hands of the neighbors. Chad Balliet (CB) has volunteered to drop off flyers in neighborhood. SP recommends at least 100 flyers per neighborhood. CB suggests a three-block radius. SP points out that that the area around Lions Field is more heavily populated. PS says that SC will make a new poster that can be printed in Black and White and will set up the next public meeting in the Meetings format.
- 6. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) continues the presentation with Demographics, Initial Survey Results, and Relevant Planning Documents.  
PS made note of the difference in survey results between wanting more “neighborhood parks” vs. “Borough parks”, wondering how people view the descriptions differently.
- 7. Geoff Creary (GC) continues the presentation with Connectivity 101, invites the Committee to take a bike ride with SC sometime in the coming weeks, and continues with Greenways 101.
- 8. Rob Gladfelter (RG) continues the presentation with Inventory and Analysis Mapping.
- 9. Pat Stasio (PSt) continues the presentation with Programming and Recreational Analysis. He discusses maintenance analysis, and says that he spoke with Brent Reed, who is new to his position.  
SP points out that the cited operation budget is not correct. PSt states that he is continuing to gather information, confirming for accuracy and speaking to different people. The report will provide recommendations for future maintenance and needs.
- 10. PS discusses Next Steps, which include continued analysis, Focus Groups, and Key Person Interviews. PS asks the Committee for suggestions for focus groups and key person interviews. Roy Anders (RA) asks SP if he still has the list previously put together. SP says yes:
  - a. Active Recreation groups:
    - i. CycleCross
    - ii. Emmaus Run Inn
    - iii. Wesley Works – Wes Barrett – also organizes Halloween 5K
    - iv. South Mountain Cycle – organizes many events, charitable races
    - v. Emmaus Youth Association
    - vi. Youth Football Association – Brett Lennig
    - vii. Western Lehigh Soccer League – exclusive use of Klines Field
    - viii. USSSA softball – Jeff Kittle
    - ix. Zumba / Aqua Zumba
    - x. Living Room Yoga
    - xi. Emmaus Yoga
  - b. Passive Recreation groups:
    - i. Wildlands Conservancy – Scott Cope, VP of Education
    - ii. Birdwatching groups
  - c. Schools:
    - i. Seven Generations Charter School – most active with 350 students



- ii. St. Ann's – elementary school with 300 students
- iii. East Penn School District schools (2 elementary schools, high school)
- iv. Schools are currently virtual, may be hybrid in Nov
- v. Active Learning Center daycare
- vi. Creation Play Station – daycare near Community Park, uses park everyday
- d. Social / Religious / Senior groups:
  - i. Lions Club
  - ii. Rotary Club
  - iii. Kiwanis (some overlap in membership with these three groups)
  - iv. Fields at Indian Creek (55+ community)
  - v. Ridge Manor Senior Center Apts.
  - vi. Emmaus Public Library
  - vii. Emmaus Arts Commission
- 11. PS asks if the Committee can assist in providing contact information for the focus groups.
- 12. Key person interviews – need to start to develop a list to get started in the next couple of months. These are sometimes done when the draft plan is out for review.

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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	1/7/2021 7:00 pm
Re:	Committee Meeting #3	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Gabe Lloyd – Long Tail Creative – Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Reed – Emmaus Public Works

Brent Stringfellow – Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Tyler Long – Owner, Emmaus Run Inn /  
Race Coordinator

Wesley Barrett – Wesley Works –  
former Council member / long-time  
Halloween Race Coordinator

Marie James

Jason Reisenberger

Michael Yozell

David Deschenes – Emmaus Youth  
Association

Chris Schmidt – Keystone Running  
Company

Lynn Donches

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Michelle Armour, Staff LA – SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional



## GENERAL NOTES:

1. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) opened the meeting with the agenda, project schedule, and updated survey and WikiMapping results.
  - Shana Baumgartner commented that the number of survey respondents seems low and asked if there is a target number of participants to ensure that there is enough information to be valuable. She said that a survey regarding LED streetlights received over 300 responses, suggesting that ideas to get more participation need to be brainstormed.
  - Peter Simone (PSi) asked if the surveys were posted to the landing page of the Borough's website, and Ms. Baumgartner replied that she would check on that.
  - Shane Pepe said that one possible reason the response to the streetlight survey may be that the Borough offered to mail hard copies of the survey to participants, in addition to an online option.
  - An attendee suggested printing door hangers for targeted neighborhoods.
  - Robert Gladfelter (RG) reminded the Committee that SC previously attended the Emmaus farmers' market and handed out postcards with the survey link, which was successful. SC offered to design and print another postcard for the Borough to distribute to residents.
2. PJ continued the presentation with an overview of Emmaus zoning and SALDO.
3. Michelle Armour (MA) presented information regarding the Master Plans for Boroline Park and Lions Field, including ideas from the first public meeting, three preliminary concepts each from the second public meetings, and feedback received from the community regarding the concepts. RG then presented three schematic layouts for a new t-ball field location to replace the ball field at Lions Field were to be removed – two layouts included space for a dog park.
  - Jason R. recommended a few examples of bike repair stations, including one at the Hellertown trail head of the Saucon Rail Trail, to inform Boroline Park.
  - Lynn D. attendee asked if there would be any conflict in the alternate ball field location with the Cyclocross events, to which RG answered "no".
  - Attendees expressed preference for Lions Field concept 3. Brent S. noted that the concept leaves more open field space, which is valuable in that part of the Borough.
4. RG presented existing parks and open space, a park amenities inventory, and community benchmarking.
5. Pat Stasio (PSt) presented findings related to management and maintenance analysis.
  - PSi asked if any Borough parks currently have camera surveillance. Shane P answered "no" but noted that Borough Council has budgeted funds to put up cameras around one of the parks, with a direct link to the police station.
6. Geoff Creary (GC) presented information regarding park service areas, sidewalks/sidewalk gaps, off road trails, on road bike routes, and a proposed sidewalk/trail/bike network.
  - Kacey and Gabe L. suggested that, since people who participate in Cyclecross at the compost center live throughout Emmaus, a fair amount of people ride up 6<sup>th</sup> Street to get there. They suggested sharrows on 6<sup>th</sup> Street to lead from the northwest side of town to the course.
  - Jason R. iterated that sharrows need to be placed far from the curb where it is safe to ride, and not over hazards such as drainage ditches, curb parking, and storm drain covers, since bicyclists are expected to ride over the center of the sharrows.
  - Jason R. suggested that Harrison Street would be a good candidate for a bike route, as it provides connection to many routes. Gabe L. seconded this thought, noting that it is a major



throughway, and asked if consideration was given to encouraging people to go to the Weis (at S. Cedar Crest Blvd. and Chestnut St.) and Giant (at 31<sup>st</sup> St. and Emmaus Ave.) supermarkets by bicycle. GC responded that high retail routes can be overwhelming to some cyclists, and confident riders will ride these routes anyway, so we try to avoid high retail roads in favor of routes that are good for a wider range of skill levels. However, we can look into these routes.

- Lynn D. noted that, as an avid walker, it would be helpful to have sidewalks where there are none on either side of Keystone Ave., by the cemetery. Geoff responded that we saw those gaps as well and do have them mapped out and proposed.
  - An attendee asked about the area next to 10<sup>th</sup> St., formerly owned by Rodale and now owned by Phoebe Ministries, and if there is any plan regarding the track there. Shane P. answered that Phoebe's development plan indicated that the trail will be kept as it is. Lynn D. noted that the Rodale Trail is great for cross country skiing; people walk in the ski paths, and she suggested educational signage to deter this.
7. RG presented natural resources and parcels for proposed open space acquisitions.
- Shane P. noted that three of the listed parcels may not be applicable. The wooded area was given by Rodale to the church and is undevelopable – the Borough looked into this property previously. The parcel off Chestnut and Cedar Crest now has a Wawa; there is a walking trail on the parcel along the creek, connecting from 10<sup>th</sup> St. to a footbridge on Cedar Crest that crosses the creek, then up to North St where a developer has to install a crosswalk. Shane agreed to get the development plan to SC.
  - Brent noted that, across the street from the proposed parcel on Glenwood St, there is a house that is bank-owned, next to the well house on the same side as the ball field at Boroline Park. The house should be going up for sheriff's sale, and Brent estimated that it could go for a little under \$200,000.
8. RG discussed tools for assisting in open space acquisition, as well as existing and proposed future locations of stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs). He noted that the SC team still needs MS4 data to continue with this task.
- Jason R. suggested stargazing as Borough-sponsored events to observe astrological happenings. Borough could turn out lights for scheduled events to provide dark space.
    - Camp Olympic (not Emmaus Borough-owned, but potential for collaboration with Lower Macungie)
    - Boroline Park
    - Klines Avenue
  - Rob responded that this is a great idea that can be brought up in discussions regarding park programming.
9. PJ presented the next steps, including:
- Scheduling focus groups/key person interviews
  - Upcoming meetings:
    - Comprehensive Recreation and Open Space Plan / Comprehensive Trails and Greenways Plan, Public Meeting 2 – January 28th, 2021
    - Committee Meeting 4 – Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>
    - Boroline Park Public Meeting 3 – Thursday, April 1st, 2021
    - Lions Field Public Meeting 3 – Wednesday, April 7th, 2021



- Team contact information

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Sincerely,  
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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	1/28/01 7:00 pm
Re:	Public Meeting #2	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Reed, Public Works

Tyler Long – Owner, Emmaus Run Inn /  
Race Coordinator

Gene Malloy

Lynn Donches

Elizabeth Hughes

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Michelle Armour, Staff LA – SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

### GENERAL NOTES:

- Peter Simone (PS) opened the meeting, welcoming attendees and providing instructions for participation in the MS Teams Meeting platform.
- Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) gave an overview of the agenda, team and committee introductions, project schedule, and project scope. PJ reviewed important points from Public Meeting 1, public survey results to date, demographics, relevant planning documents, and zoning/SALDO.



- Robert Gladfelter (RG) discussed existing parks and open space inventory and analysis, as well as community benchmarking.
- Pat Stasio (PSt) shared maintenance and programming analysis.
- Geoff Creary (GC) presented Connectivity 101, park service areas, sidewalk gaps, and trails
- RG discussed greenways, natural resources, and open space acquisition.
- Michelle Armour (MA) reviewed the Park Master Plan processes for Boroline Park and Lions Field to date, including important points from Public Meetings 1 and 2 and preliminary concepts for each.
- PJ shared next steps, the Borough website, links for the public opinion survey/WikiMapping, and consultant contact information.

### Questions/Comments:

- Brent Reed clarified that the Borough has moved forward to correct ADA issues since the consultants' last visit (before flooding).
- Roy Anders asked if Fire Company #2 was included in the findings – Emmaus Youth Association uses the field for baseball with permission from the Fire Company. The Fire Company also holds a carnival there once a year.
  - RG responded that SC explored placing a ball field there, looking at how it could be used.
- Gene Malloy asked if there are any plans for a dog park – something like what Allentown has could be nice; residents only, disposition check for dogs to be able to participate.
  - PS responded that the Borough has an animal enforcement officer. He stated that it can be done safely, and dog owners often become good stewards of park facilities.
  - Shane Pepe added that, if it is the will of the community, he believes the Borough Council would be open to the idea of a dog park, given a proper location were found. The animal control officer does a great job. He suggests moving forward with the study and that the Council will want to act on the will of the community.
  - PS added that the key is to find a location not close to residents and with a reasonable amount of parking.
- Shane Pepe provided an update, suggesting a meeting is in order, to discuss \$44,000 awarded by DCNR for Williams Street Park, with additional funds from DCED for streambank restoration.

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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	2/10/2021 7:00 pm
Re:	Committee Meeting #4	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Stringfellow – Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Tyler Long – Owner, Emmaus Run Inn /  
Race Coordinator

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

Kent Morey – Project Stormwater  
Engineer

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Peter Simone (PS) welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) opened the presentation with the agenda, project schedule, and updated survey and WikiMapping results.
3. Pat Stasio (PSt) presented information on recreation programming, maintenance and budget.
4. Kent Morey (KM) discussed MS4 and BMPs.
5. Rob Gladfelter (RG) discussed park and greenway improvements and potential parcels for acquisition.
6. Geoff Creary (GC) presented information on proposed trails and sidewalks.



7. PJ continued the meeting by discussing the Official Map and its potential application in the Borough.
8. RG concluded the meeting by summarizing the preliminary recommendations.
9. The meeting was then opened up for discussion.
10. Shana Baumgartner (SB) asked for additional data on the requests for dog and skate parks.
11. PJ replied that the team will provide this information.
12. There was discussion on the availability of benchmarking data for walking and biking.
13. The team noted that there are WalkScores available for walking. Biking is also extremely popular at the current time as more people are biking. There is also a shortage of bikes available for purchase.
14. KM noted that for MS4, a municipality is required to conduct public outreach and education. The public meetings for this study can be included in the yearly MS4 reports and counted as outreach if there is discussion on BMPs.

This report represents the Professional's summation of the proceedings and is not a transcript. Unless written notice of any correction or clarification is received by the Professional within ten days of issue, the report shall be considered factually correct and shall become part of the official project record.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Michelle Armour  
Staff Landscape Architect





**SIMONE COLLINS**  
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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/18/2021 7:00 pm
Re:	Committee Meeting #5	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Roy Anders – Emmaus Borough Council /  
Former EYA board member

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Wesley Barrett – Wesley Works –  
former Council member / long-time  
Halloween Race Coordinator

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Gabe Lloyd – Long Tail Creative – Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Brent Reed – Emmaus Public Works

Brent Stringfellow – Emmaus Planning  
Commission

Tyler Long – Owner, Emmaus Run Inn /  
Race Coordinator

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

Kent Morey – Project Stormwater  
Engineer

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) opened the presentation with the agenda, project schedule, and updated survey results. He then presented the main takeaways from the focus groups and key person interviews.
2. Rob Gladfelter (RG) discussed park improvements, including the refined concepts for Boroline Park and Lions Field.
3. Pat Stasio (PSt) presented information on recreation programming, maintenance and staffing.



4. RG discussed potential parcels for acquisition.
5. Geoff Creary (GC) presented information on proposed trails and sidewalks.
6. RG presented information on greenway improvements.
7. Kent Morey (KM) presented information on MS4/BMP recommendations.
8. PJ concluded the presentation by discussing next steps and opened the meeting to discussion.
9. A question was raised about the possibility of edible gardens and gardening education.
10. The team noted the presence of the community garden and farmer's market at Triangle Park and the possibility of additional gardens at other Borough parks.

This report represents the Professional's summation of the proceedings and is not a transcript. Unless written notice of any correction or clarification is received by the Professional within ten days of issue, the report shall be considered factually correct and shall become part of the official project record.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/31/2021 7:00 pm
Re:	Public Meeting #3	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Kelly Anderson

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Lynn Donches

John Hart

Mark Heimbach

Julie Kaye

Kacey Lloyd – Long Tail Creative / Fifth  
Street Cross (cyclocross)

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Carl Timmcke

Mark Wolfmeyer

Anne Zayaitz

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Pat Stasio – Certified Park and  
Recreation Professional

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Peter Simone (PS) welcome everyone to the meeting and introduced the team.
2. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) presented the project schedule, and updated survey. He then discussed the benefits of parks, open space and trails and reviewed relevant findings from the *Lehigh Valley Return on Environment* Report.
3. Rob Gladfelter (RG) then discussed park improvements at the various parks.
4. Pat Stasio (PSt) then discussed recreation programming, recreation opportunities and maintenance recommendations.



5. RG followed up with parcels to acquire for open space.
6. Geoff Creary (GC) discussed trails and the trail plan.
7. RG then talked about greenway recommendations and MS4/BMP recommendations.
8. PJ concluded the meeting by discussing the next steps and the release of the draft plans on April 12.
9. The meeting was then to open to discussion.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Michelle Armour  
Staff Landscape Architect





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## MEETING NOTES

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	9/29/2021 7:00 pm
Re:	Public Meeting #4	Issue Date:	10/26/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Shana Baumgartner – Emmaus Borough  
Council / Chair of Parks & Recreation  
Committee

Shane Pepe – Borough Manager

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council

Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA – Simone  
Collins Landscape Architecture (SC)

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Michelle Armour, ASLA – (SC)

Debra Snyder

Christopher Rabasco

John Hart

Other Attendees: Rich, Chris, Anonymous

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Peter Simone (PS) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the team.
2. Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ) presented recommendations for park improvements.
3. PS presented recommendations for programming, administration, finance, and maintenance; proposed open space acquisition; trails and connectivity; and greenways.
4. Shane Pepe (SP) commented that the Borough obtained RecDesk in the spring and the department is already benefiting from it. The Borough uses it for the swimming pool, concessions, POS, etc. SC noted that the recommendation to implement recreation software will be removed from the final report.
5. Michelle Armour (MA) reviewed the park master plans for Lions Field and Boroline Park.
6. PJ discussed the next step, which is for the Borough of Emmaus to determine priority projects for grant applications (2022 and in the next few years).



7. SP thanked the consultant team. He noted that despite challenges during the pandemic, the public opinion survey was successful. Realizing this lays out 10-15 years of work, this maps out a plan for what the community wants and needs and will help Borough Council to move forward with recreation opportunities.
8. PS made a note that if there may be an infrastructure bill that will provide federal funding for improvements, this will put the Borough in a good position to apply for connectivity improvements.
9. Shana Baumgartner (SB) thanked the consultant team for presenting the plans in phases to make them more manageable, for their responsiveness to questions and requests, and for listening and incorporating feedback. SB thanked the Parks and Recreation Committee Members for their involvement throughout the process.
10. Rich stated that the whole plan is wonderful. One concern goes back to the proposed dog park at Klines Lane – this is close to the railroad tracks, and the trains always blow their horns which could set off/scare the dogs. He suggested altering or moving to a different location. PS responded that no one had made this comment yet and that, if/when the Borough looks to create a dog park, there could be a better site. PJ noted that the Shangy's pool site was another location considered during this study.
11. PS thanked the Committee and everyone present for their involvement, stating that the consultant team thoroughly enjoyed working on this project. He invited the Borough to call SC in the future if SC can help with any questions going forward and stated that it would also be a pleasure to work together again in the future.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Michelle Armour  
Staff Landscape Architect





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## FOCUS GROUPS MEETING

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/3/2021 10:00 am
Re:	Active Recreation Meeting	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Chad Balliet – Emmaus Borough Council  
/ Owner of South Mountain Cycle

Lynn Donches – Resident; Walker; Park  
User

Kim Draves – Treasurer, Emmaus Youth  
Association

Angela Grigoli – Fields Coordinator,  
Western Lehigh United Soccer

Bill Held – Coordinator, Emmaus Youth  
Association

Gabe Llyod – Fifth Street Cross

Dave Pryor – Unpaved Pennsylvania

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Dave Pryor (DP)-Excited about rail trail possibility, connections by gateway trail, close to Community Park, would be creative and fun.
2. Lynn Donches (LD)-One connectivity issue is at Rodale trail as it's difficult to be able to get on Main. Some people are hesitant to walk on the road, and with people texting, it's really dangerous. On 10<sup>th</sup> St., where Pennsylvania and Broad meet, there's no crosswalk marked at this intersection. At library, at the conjunction of Chestnut, E Main, there's no pedestrian signs posted. If you want to cross over to the restaurant, it's dangerous.
3. Kim Draves (KD)-I agree with Lynn, should be improvements where you have to slow down for pedestrians.
4. Geoff Creary (GC)-I suspect it is a PennDOT issue, does not meet PennDOT guidelines. While I'm big proponent for crosswalks, this scope isn't part of that, it would have to go into a more detailed study.
5. LD-Would it be possible to put sidewalks along Keystone.



6. GC-Might be difficult with unmarked graves along cemetery.
7. DP-What about meandering path.
8. GC-Possible, we can go into shade and sun, also there would have to be an agreement with the utilities.
9. KD-People who live near cemetery may think their properties go to roads edge.
10. GC-We would scale changes further out.
11. Rob Gladfelter (RG)-At Lions Field, the idea was bringing in walking trail to go around the whole space so somebody can walk around the park. There will also be a new development around fire company.
12. KD-There is a lot of sun exposure.
13. RG-The idea is to bring in trees but keep ballfield in consideration, they will bring in seating areas and benches for kids, we believe there is also plan for water access.
14. Chad Balliet (CB)-What about an option for vending machines.
15. RG-Maybe we consider the storage area for vending and restrooms.
16. KD-EYA uses storage it but Borough owned.
17. Bill Held (BH)-Boroline has water fountain and, it also drains quickly.
18. LD-At Boroline, there are currently parking issues.
19. RG-One concept is to bring in additional parking in north, idea is making it more walkable, maybe sidewalk along Alpine too, so we are getting those connections in.
20. DP-Maybe parking lot is not best use of space, there is ample parking within neighborhood.
21. LD-I had read about a kind of sidewalk that's maybe a marked trail, maybe put a hump to separate lanes from traffic lanes.
22. GC-There are those style trails, side paths, depending on funding sources, have to be protected, we could take a peak at that.
23. Gabe Llyod (GL)-With a double stroller, we would we need 6 feet in order to have buffers.
24. BH-Borolone field is used exclusively for youth softball and baseball, originally set up for older baseball so you could shrink these fields, 200' fences are fine with them, 50' swath of outfield could go away and be used for something else.
25. Angela Grigoli (AG)-We are a nonprofit soccer club with 14 teams, I am the newly appointed field coordinator, with the Borough we have exclusive use of Klines and Cintas (used for 9v9 small-sited play), we have not been able to use Cintas because it looks like the geese make a huge mess and because its reserved for 9v9, any way to address this issue and any way to repel geese.
26. RG-Pat Stasio is working with us, and I'm sure he ran into this issue and he may have good solutions, we will bring this to Pat's attention.
27. AG-For Klines, maybe consider lighting or an artificial turf.
28. GC-We will look at that for the field, maybe you can get partnerships.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Pankaj Jobanputra, AICP  
Project Planner / Project Manager





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## FOCUS GROUPS MEETING

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/3/2021 3:00 pm
Re:	Passive Recreation Meeting	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Scott Cope – VP of Education, Wildlands  
Conservancy

Lynn Donches – Resident; Walker; Park  
User

Kristie Fach – Director of Ecological  
Services, Wildlands Conservancy

Jeanne Harakal – President, Emmaus  
Historical Society

Maryellen Kanarr – Library Director,  
Emmaus Public Library

Chris Strohler – Senior Conservation  
Planner, Wildlands Conservancy

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Kristie Fach (KF) – Would BMPs include meadow and pollinator.
2. Rob Gladfelter (RG) – Yes, we will introduce some kind of ecological feature, also energy dissipator.
3. KF – Lots of opportunities in open space, could be packaged through stormwater.
4. Chris Strohler (CS) – Any feedback on increasing parking at Boroline.
5. RG – Not in the south because of slope but perhaps in northern part.
6. CS – Maybe reconfigure parking lot, it's heavily used lot for park and preserve, seems to be high traffic area going in and out, any opening of secondary access to current parking lot we'd be interested in as we have a lot of facilities here and it would help with any future programming we would do.
7. RG – Hopefully with additional spots, it would help reduce need.
8. CS – When you talked about regional trail connections and rail trail, look at all active lines.
9. Geoff Creary (GC) – Line is currently active, the lesser of 2 active lines has a couple cars a week on it, main industries utilizing it are no longer there, if rail does fold, good opportunity to make it rail trail.



10. Lynn Donches (LD) – For the parking at Boroline, it may be helpful to mark parking spaces so parking isn't haphazard, people leave way too much space in between cars; an unwritten rule in winter is if people don't pick up after their dog, they will leave plastic bags on trail.
11. GC – We hear people throwing droppings into trees, every trail is seeing this.
12. Jeanne Harakal (JH) – Is there going to be a smaller committee that will work on historic preservation issues.
13. RG – Not right now, but can be discussed for the future, there should be communication.
14. JH – Historical Society basically functions in historic preservation and as museum, has not gotten into preservation of properties except for properties we own and historic houses that Borough owns. There is no central contact, every historic property seems to have own story. An architect in Emmaus, Alan Hawman, who has done Main St tours, is familiar as to when properties were built. I will say Historical Society is an all volunteer organization, we don't have expertise to evaluate properties that needs to be preserved, we don't know what Borough is looking to do.
15. RG – We're not sure if there was a local list of historic properties.
16. JH – As the Historical Society, we have joined with other historical properties in the Borough and have done tours. We have multiple walking tours developed and we can talk to the Borough.
17. RG - If you can share with us, information on tours and walks, that would be great.
18. JH - There is a group called Heritage Alliance involving historic properties, also involves Main St partners who work with us, as well as the library and churches. It does offer functions and holds a Heritage Alliance Day.
19. JH – Last year Borough was talking about creating Historic Commission, certain organizations felt they didn't have capacity to participate, we were working on that, the Commission was tasked with identifying houses on Main that could be part of a District but lacked funds.
20. Maryellen Kanarr (MK) – Across the street from the playground along Ridge, there's a crosswalk but doesn't have ADA dips so bikes, wheelchairs can go across.
21. RG - This park has a small playground, Borough understands we're talking about ADA accessibility, looking at more inclusive equipment.
22. LD – I walked Keystone, some shrubs in right of way, plenty of room to keep trees there so there might be a possibility for a sidewalk.
23. LD – To Jeanne's credit, the Historical Society is amazing.
24. MK – For any walking path, library is thinking of a story-walk, where after so many feet there's 1 page of a storybook along the path, would be cool to include something.
25. RG - Great idea for programming.
26. JH – Great suggestion by Maryellen, not sure people aware that Heritage Alliance has started a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade education program, it expanded each year to add another elementary schools, we were going to do 5 elementary schools and field trip days to each historical site.
27. RG - Any partnerships between Wildlands and Borough.
28. KF – We are working with Borough and Conservation District on streambank restoration, continuation of plantings, looking at other opportunities and open spaces.
29. RG - Any type of management plan.
30. KF – Typically we bring in volunteers for plantings.
31. CS – We do community and school programming, from public space perspective, context of this plan, having implementation is key, also a good network with sidewalks and existing trail connections would be great, we want to see more promotion outside Borough proper to look at



nature preserves. Connectivity is tough to the Pool Sanctuary due to elevation changes, maybe make people aware of our preserves, especially on South Mountain. Near the Shelter House, we own 33 acres to the east and in the next year, we are working with the Borough on access planning and how we utilize this preserve.

32. Scott Cope (SC) – From education programming, we don't do a whole bunch, we do programs with schools, we use Boroline Park and Community Park for water festival for kids, other than that not a lot of interest. We wouldn't rule out other things. Looking at maps, some of things you covered, a proposed dog park near fire training center would be annoying to park attendees as they have live fires there.
33. JH – For the Shelter House, wasn't sure if Wildlands was involved in this, but a year ago, they created a sensory trail and a trail that the blind could possibly walk on; they also talked about Moravian Trail to South Mountain from Bethlehem.
34. RG - Shelter House sensory trail is there.
35. CS – We haven't done anything with this trail on our property, we do have sensory trail at Pool which we are expanding, another one close by.
36. CS – We worked with Borough to put sharrows on Lynnwood St to connect to Ithaca St playlot, also working on expanding access points to preserves.
37. LD – For the 33 acres by Shelter House, was that county owned.
38. CS – That was County property, if there's hunting we don't know about it.
39. LD – What are the 5 preserves.
40. CS – There's the property next to Shelter house; a property on Oak Hill Rd, the Buehler Memorial Park which is a 30 acre preserve; South Mountain, which is over 400 acres; the Poole Sanctuary; we also have the Burkhardt preserve on Orchid Place. Biggest thing we would like to see is coordination with Borough and teaching the residents of Borough about our properties.
41. CS – Don't think Macungie has sidewalks for a stretch, there's not a clear way to get to Pool.
42. LD – At Rodale Phoebe, there was cross-country skiing, I used to ice skate at Furnace Dam.
43. RG – Borough is working with new land development at Rodale making sure trail still exists.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Pankaj Jobanputra, AICP  
Project Planner / Project Manager





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## FOCUS GROUPS MEETING

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/4/2021 10:00 am
Re:	Schools Meeting	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Amanda Cossman – President, Seventh  
Generation Charter School

Keith Haseman – Active Learning Center

Lisa Lechmanik – Administrative  
Assistant, Lincoln Elementary School

Nicole Neagley – Director of Student  
Services, Seventh Generation

Steve Onushco – Facilities Director, East  
Penn School District

Chancity Young – Director, Active  
Learning Center

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Steve Onushco (SO) - District relies on Borough parks, they do not have baseball or softball on the high school, practices occur at Community Park. Few other parks are utilized, there are conflicts with spring sports who try to get little league going.
2. SO – For Community Park, any things you are recommending at park, such as better infrastructure, rainwater, etc.
3. Rob Gladfelter (RG) – We will get better idea at site visit, we are also looking at ADA accessibility.
4. SO - Love future green space idea, fabulous from educational point of view, kids can do science experiments and other things.
5. Amanda Cossman (AC) – Agree with what Steve has said, we're K-5, our families and families we see in Borough utilize nature trails. The District would be happy to have groups and other schools help, focus on natural systems.
6. AC– With dog park and skate park, that's two interesting concepts, that's exciting, any talk of adding nature trail along side of dog park.



7. GC-Would be nice to put some type of trail in, we will look in the field if there are any wetlands, if a trail could work in this area, it might. South Mountain Cycle sets up trails.
8. RG - Lisa, how much does Jefferson use Lions.
9. Lisa Lechmanik (LL) - Our school uses Kiwainis and Williams St, think Lions is used more by Jefferson, the walking trails are great.
10. LL - Lincoln has a huge population that does walk to school, concern is crosswalks on Harrison where children are supposed to cross, there's not enough crossing guards to get kids safely across.
11. AC – At Klines Lane, you have public library, there are some sidewalks, might be something to explore with Borough, you can create a nice connection.
12. Geoff Creary (GC)- Some sidewalk gaps on Klines Ln, a spot that could be well served.
13. AC– Hope would be a lot more community traffic on the sidewalks, it's a struggle to get to 2<sup>nd</sup> St.
14. SO – Would be curious to know how many secondary school students would be willing to bike.
15. GC – Whole mindset of riding has drastically changed, used bike market is hot, kids want to ride bikes, think trend will be an upward trend.
16. AC – Would your group watch farmers market and see how groups are walking through spaces.
17. RG – We did see how people are coming through, a lot of people want that walkable community, having something like Triangle Park is unique.
18. AC – With your designs, Sunday traffic could really blossom, people can get coffee, walk to dog park or skate park, and by afternoon, go to microbrews further down the road; looking at this Sunday aspect would be great.
19. LL – Lincoln students will walk to Conservancy, as you get to Macungie, no sidewalks and it's narrow; doesn't make sense to take bus, but they do love it.
20. AC – We do go to Conservancy, if there was a way up there by foot, that would be ideal.
21. GC – We discussed that with Wildlands, there is a gap that's been added, we do see importance

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Pankaj Jobanputra, AICP  
Project Planner / Project Manager





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## FOCUS GROUPS MEETING

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/4/2021 3:00 pm
Re:	Senior / Social Groups Meeting	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Jennifer Hasili – Deputy Executive  
Director, Lehigh County Housing  
Authority / Ridge Manor Senior Center  
Apartments

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC  
Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC  
Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Jennifer Hasili (JH) - Seniors like somewhere to gather, they like to sit on benches.
2. JH - Some of South Mountain trails may be strenuous for seniors, looking for more walking trails, safety and security.
3. JH – They are looking for activity equipment along the way, depending on how accessible they are.
4. JH - We have 2 buildings on Ridge and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, there's a little park at 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, they go there and sit. They also like to walk downtown to Triangle Park.
5. JH - Not sure how much seniors use nature trails, they like to stay more downtown with its benches and safety.
6. JH – Seniors are not as active in the winter.
7. JH – We do not have shuttle service, more than half of our population still drives. There is also LANTA bus service. At Ridge 1 and Ridge 2, the bus stop is caddy corner to our buildings.
8. JH – Seniors go to farmers market and when car shows come through, they participate. They also enjoy the Halloween parades.
9. JH - Not sure how often they make it to parks unless they drive; they use paved paths more so than trails, if they have cane or walker.



10. JH - They would want transportation to parks and other destinations; they get picked up and taken to stores by their family; those people that have families with kids in sports will get picked up or meet their family at the park.

Sincerely,  
SIMONE COLLINS, INC.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Pankaj Jobanputra, AICP  
Project Planner / Project Manager





**SIMONE COLLINS**  
**LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**  
119 EAST LAFAYETTE STREET NORRISTOWN, PA 19401  
PHONE: 610.239.7601 FAX: 610.239.7606  
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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	2/22/2021 9:30 am
Re:	Key Person Interview – Alan Sylvestre	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Alan Sylvestre – Chair, Emmaus  
Recreation and Entertainment  
Commission

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Big thing is connectivity – maybe more bike lanes through Borough.
2. I'm new to Commission, main goal is to plan summer entertainment series, which consists of concerts in the park, a lot takes place at Emmaus Community Park. This year we're adding events at Triangle Park, maybe next summer around town, we different events. Commission has been restructured, been around for a long time. Summer concerts are key events, they run from Memorial Day to Labor Day, on Sunday evenings, we've also added movie nights. We have 2-3 movie nights, which are family friendly movie nights.
3. We've put out a few ideas, people seem interested in chili cookoff or a bbq event, maybe like a rib cookoff. It's tabled right now, also in the process of potentially adding free outdoor cardio drumming class, we were approached by group. We do have yoga in the park, at Community Park.
4. Overall, loved amenities and facilities presented. I appreciate arts pavilion, covered areas, only thing on my end, if funds were available, invest in A/V for the arts pavilion, it's better for the bands. Personally, I'm really happy for what we have, Community Park has lot of open space.
5. Don't think there are any issues with parking, Borough has reserved pavilion for Sunday nights, don't conflict with other groups, when we have movie nights, will check with sports groups.



6. I am also member of the Arts Commission, when I took role on Entertainment Commission, I thought about how we can have partnerships. During summer concert series, we had ideas of putting on games, activities for kids, lawn games; we talked about the Arts Commission painting and drawing up designs, creating a festive look.
7. We have a liaison, Shana Baumgartner, if we need auxiliary officers, we go to her, we put in an application. We also go to Park and Rec meetings to update them and get ideas.
8. For this summer series, since we're adding Triangle Park events, we are trying to push to get bigger businesses to sponsor events.
9. Would love to have a recreation administrator, sometimes I'm not 100% sure who I go through, having 1 person to facilitate everything might be easier.
10. Think groups like DaVinci Science could do a lot for parks, also Wildlands Conservancy, they have so much great educational stuff.
11. We wanted to find a place with access to open space, and I feel we have that here. Maybe we add some pavilions, we could repaint existing pavilions, make it more colorful. Also want to look at ADA accessibility.
12. I feel like from my end, we are pretty adult-heavy in terms of facilities and events; we are trying to find ways for kid friendly events, for us, biggest thing for our daughter is access to the outdoors, we love being outside. I feel like if we can find a way to get more scheduled programming, with other third party groups, like science centers, or live animal talks, we can get more kids involved.
13. Our summer concert series are planned for Friday night, it's done this way to make sure events are happening in conjunction with downtown business hours. Main St Partners has emails with all downtown businesses seeking feedback, it's been pretty good so far.
14. We live over near the High School, love sidewalks here. In addition to Harrison, maybe connecting the old downtown area with trails. With South Mountain Trails and Rodale Trails, I feel like there's a divide between north and south, maybe we create a pipeline that connects all the corridors together.
15. We have quite a bit of playground equipment, and as a parent, making sure we upkeep with safety is important.

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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	2/22/2021 11:00 am
Re:	Key Person Interview – John Price	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

John Price – Fire Chief, Emmaus Fire  
Department  
Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC  
Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Lions Field look good to me, I favor re-orienting ball field away from park, don't think players will reach the fire station. Parking does get tight on game days, 26 space lot is adequate for my staff, I've seen this lot filled when there are scheduled games. On a typical day shift, there's probably 12-13 spaces used, then shift change occurs, night and weekends are a little less hectic, can easily bring in another 6-8 people. Staff doesn't have time to drive around looking for parking. Currently lot is posted for emergency responders only.
2. Don't think enforcement is necessary, but think signage needs to stay in place to try to discourage parking. Understand our new parking is going into the park, so understand need to accommodate park facilities.
3. Think having dedicated parking along Ridge for emergency might be hard as residents do park there.
4. There are no conflicts with responders and park users. Our staff uses gym, gym gets heavy usage, it's not open this year much due to renovations and Covid.
5. I like orientation of field away from the station, totally understand that relocation.
6. Park uses a porta john in the summer, it gets positions in parking lot, at the corner closest to the field.
7. No issues with access, fire trucks exit off 6<sup>th</sup> St., no conflicts with events.
8. No partnership events with Borough.



9. People get lost in the walking trails at Community and Boroline Parks and call 911, maybe extra signage is needed. In the last 3 years, we are pulling people off the mountain 3-4 times a year.
10. Trails in Conservancy aren't big enough for gators, they could only get part way up, first responders go by foot. For the less mountainous trails, we will walk in and walk out for emergencies.
11. Can't think of safety concerns, concern is people slipping and falling.
12. Thing to recall is there is a problem with swimming pool and problems with pipe bursts and ruptures.
13. We maybe have half a dozen accidents with pedestrians and bicyclists.
14. Mostly Chestnut/Main St is a focus for accidents, as many calls come in for the mountain as well as the main streets.
15. No major concerns with sharing the road, with rail to trails – big issue is trail maintenance and if people have issues, have signage.
16. Harrison is a primary route for fire trucks, east west route is Chestnut and Harrison, north south is Harrison. I have not used new speed tables.
17. Once I see engineering for speed tables that allow quicker speeds, I would give evaluation, bump outs narrow lanes for us.
18. Ladder truck is our longest truck – roughly 53 ft, twin axle on the rear, no tricky turns on the main thoroughfares. 10 years ago, trucks started to get wider for diesel requirements, went to 100" wide.
19. No opinion on sidewalks, one area that's hazardous for pedestrians, along East Main Street, where road narrows, at the bridge over RR, runners here are in a lane of travel and there's no safe way for pedestrians.
20. Chestnut gets flooded, also Cedar Crest Blvd. South 2<sup>nd</sup> St also floods, where 2<sup>nd</sup> crosses over tracks. Railroad acts as levy holding water back, tracks are elevated 10' above normal grade.
21. We are present for Kiwanis at Easter Egg hunt, present for fire safety events, we have ties with Community Days at the park. We don't necessarily have stand by crews.
22. We generally try to take advantage where we can for more involvement, it's all a balancing act. We try to focus heavily on elementary schools.
23. We are good with no lighting at Lions, okay with that.
24. We are all for water features.

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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	2/22/2021 1:00 pm
Re:	Key Person Interview – Troy Schantz	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Troy Schantz – Deputy Chief, Emmaus  
Police Department  
Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC  
Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. Parks have been established for many years, Lions has had diversified changes. Lions was regularly used 3-5 nights a week for baseball. Playground doesn't get utilized as much as it did years ago. For our purposes, on way back from high school, gets used at that time of day where kids stop to congregate. Not a whole lot to do there, other than baseball field which does get used. Personally if you keep field there, it's logical to put it at the left of the park.
2. Lions – not a whole lot of vandalism. Boroline is different, problem with underage drinking, not so much vandalism, it's secluded, out of the way.
3. At Community Park, biggest issue is juvenile skateboarding at pavilion or brick wall around enclosed pavilion. At Furnace Dam, fishing at dam, we would have people fish after night, very little damage here. For Arch St – 99% of people don't know it's there.
4. As far as vandalism, biggest problem is water damage from major flooding, poor blacktop or existing waterways can no longer handle flow. Community Park had damage last spring, how to direct water runoff would be important, vandalism not a big concern.
5. West End Park gets used by older kids, they have couple games. If you improve this, may be maintained easier cause it's in center of town,
6. They are looking into camera systems at Community Park, as far as other parks, not nearly as much. As a general rule, more money tied to Community Park, police pistol range is in long bldg.



7. We have capability of doing all functions in police cars, they do sit throughout Borough. Sometimes cumbersome to type on laptop in car, they park in HS lot or different parks, sit and fill reports.
8. Personally, I don't have issues with skate park, so where do you put it and what do you take away. It would alleviate problems, any damage we incur in Borough would be from skateboarding, other issue is once you put skatepark in, you will attract people from different areas and will congregate here.
9. Lot of residents around Shangy's pool were not in favor of a skate park, probably better off looking at Klines Lane area for skate park because it wouldn't be next to residential area.
10. Don't think anyone would be opposed to dog park, find area and consider it, I think Lions Field would be perfect place for dog park because seeing amount of pedestrian traffic and people who utilize playground here, you could put in dog park.
11. Two places where you get safety concerns on trails are on RR tracks behind Community Park and also South Mountain. Also, elderly and Alzheimer patients are getting lost, maybe some better markings would help. I know at Alpine St they have a reference map, you can still get lost, maybe widen path or clear underbrush. To my knowledge, no issues of people getting assaulted or harassed on these trails.
12. With anything on roadways, you're talking about increased danger, without increasing widths of roads, how do you designate bike lane. Harrison is the alternate turnpike of the Borough. No one does 25mph on Harrison, I've clocked people doing 75. The only traffic control on Harrison would be at State Ave, first stop is 3<sup>rd</sup>, it's a 4-way, then 6<sup>th</sup>, then Macungie, these are 4 ways, I would put in speed table nearby. From 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, you have 3 Stops, people have talked about more stop signs to alleviate speeds, can't say I would be in favor of removing stop signs. 3<sup>rd</sup> St is a bus nightmare, for public and school buses. Removing stops would be nightmare
13. Pennsylvania Ave doesn't have parking, no plans to reinsert parking, if you're looking at bike lanes anywhere, this is your best place.
14. In terms of flooding, they dredged the creek, realigned it with large rocks so it will not be an issue. Ballfield, RR tracks have been under water, debris and mud got into pools, hopefully they addressed this with dredging. It would flood out Chestnut St., generally not a problem for the park system.
15. Boroline Park doesn't have an issue for flooding, pavilion is lower than the ballfield, so don't have to worry about losing facilities.
16. At Williams St, there's a substantial amount of rain to flood out, hits everything from South Mountain, does get lot of water from mountain. It's all based on how clean and open the culvert pipes are, if you get something that blocks culvert you get excessive flooding. When there's a lot of debris in these drainages, not sure who cleans them out. Is Borough doing it? We would keep our end clean, lot of trees from flooding did not get cleaned from Leibert's.
17. In terms of sidewalks, the sidewalk is responsibility of homeowner, when you tell people you have to replace it, you get resistance. If you do skateboarding, biking, people might get hurt. Borough requires sidewalks, we have fairly a extensive sidewalks system that's maintained, people are required to fix it, don't know how much more you can do than that.
18. We need better crosswalks. People need to utilize crosswalks. Route 100 has a nice system, draws attention to it. You can make existing crosswalks safer. Generally speaking, we don't have a lot of people getting hit by cars. We did have an accident, an 11-12 year old girl got hit, so they dropped the limit from 35-25.



19. As far as connecting other things, make existing things better. I don't see problems with cyclists, maybe 1-2 a year, mirror hits, for example.

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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	2/24/2021 2:00 pm
Re:	Key Person Interview – Wes Barrett	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Wes Barrett – Owner, Wesley Works  
Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC  
Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

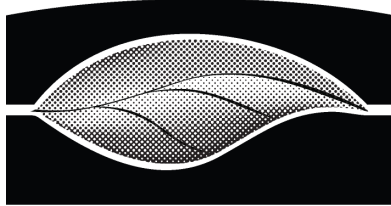
1. I served on Council for 13 years, moved 2 blocks outside Borough, I have a business on Chestnut St. We are building homes across from Lions Field, the site is at the bldg. owned by Rodale, we're building 22 homes and apartments.
2. Recreation assets are notable for Borough and how they get used, large collection of residents use connectivity to get to different parks.
3. We started the Halloween Race, a Borough fund raiser, in 2007, seemed like a no-brainer. Raised \$125,000, which goes to the parks, way to offset park costs for activities like summer concert, youth events, etc. We started at 150 people, now average 400-450. It is a 5K, entire route, starts and finishes at same point, at the high school.
4. If I look at one thing, it's the trail system, it is important. We're landlocked community, letting people know about amenities and how they get there, is important.
5. We need signage to help with connectivity. With South Mountain Gateway, there was no easy way to get there before, now you go down Minor St and access all those trails. You also have the Wawa trail, kids can bike there.
6. As far as amenities for parks, number one complaint is updating equipment, we have an impact fee, which we are going to use to help rebuild Lions Field.
7. The new development near Arch Street Playground was also going to improve this park.



8. I had proposed an ordinance that when every time a home was sold, if it didn't have sidewalks, they had to be installed. It's a great time for these transactions to happen now as house prices are rising. I had it all mapped out as to how to enforce it. We have a draft copy of it with maps, and I think long term it's so positive.
9. Brown Printing, which used the RR line, is no longer there, as well as other major users. Everyone admits this line is used a couple times a week, at most 3 cars, twice a week.
10. In terms of bike lanes, on the center lane that exists on Main St, you can create a bike lane by eliminating this and having angled parking with a designated bike plan. It would be safe and the space is there.

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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/4/2021 1:00 pm
Re:	Key Person Interview – Teri Sorg-McManamon	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Teri Sorg-McManamon – Borough  
Council; Chair, Community Relations,  
Planning & Development Committee

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC

Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

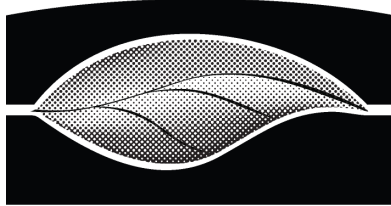
1. Seems like the greenways for Emmaus would be blueways, one suggestion is to have greenway usable for events, like they do in Bethlehem.
2. The rail trail should be listed as a long term item.
3. We've looked at Harrison so often, it's a corridor that gets from one side of town to the other, connectivity here is great when it's part of a bigger picture.
4. I've been a proponent of making Broad and Pennsylvania a major corridor. This is an artery we should be paying attention to for parks.
5. There is a long stretch on Broad without stop signs.
6. It will be great for people when they realize things we recommend in the park study won't cost residents.
7. The Arts Commission will fulfill public arts
8. Think we can talk more about BMPs for compost and gardens.
9. Remembrance Garden and Cintas Field are connected by a parcel, love the idea of benches and having that public aspect.
10. We just stated talking about the Official Map.
11. When it comes to priority, maintenance is a huge deal. I get calls about parks not having playgrounds. People are donating money to fix things.



12. There is an age group of kids that don't have a park anymore because equipment has deteriorated. Maintenance is a big deal.

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## KEY PERSON INTERVIEW

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Project:	Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Plan	Project No.:	20001.00
Location:	Microsoft Teams Meeting	Meeting Date/ Time:	3/5/2021 3:30 pm
Re:	Key Person Interview – Craig Smith	Issue Date:	4/12/2021

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### ATTENDEES:

Craig Smith – Chair, Community Garde  
Commission  
Pankaj Jobanputra (PJ), AICP - SC

Geoff Creary, Project LA - SC  
Rob Gladfelter, Project LA - SC

### GENERAL NOTES:

1. We have 56 plots reserved for community members, looking for ways to improve conditions.
2. We have an enclosed-in fence, we get deer issues otherwise.
3. We are dog lovers at the garden
4. We didn't have great access up until a few years ago, you had to have access to compost facility first.
5. We are allowed to park near the gate to unload equipment. We have no facility for storage, we took 1 plot and made it community plot, we're going to put a shed here.
6. We have 30 people that garden, max plot is 2 plots, and you only need an interest in gardening to join.
7. We are growing typical plants like tomatoes and peppers, watermelon, pumpkins.
8. One thing we do is we grow for Plant-a-Row for Hunger, people can donate.
9. We love Community Park, we also enjoy concerts.
10. If you want to get more people into gardening, Learn the Garden program may be of interest. Have more community events.
11. I'd like to see more connections to Rodale.

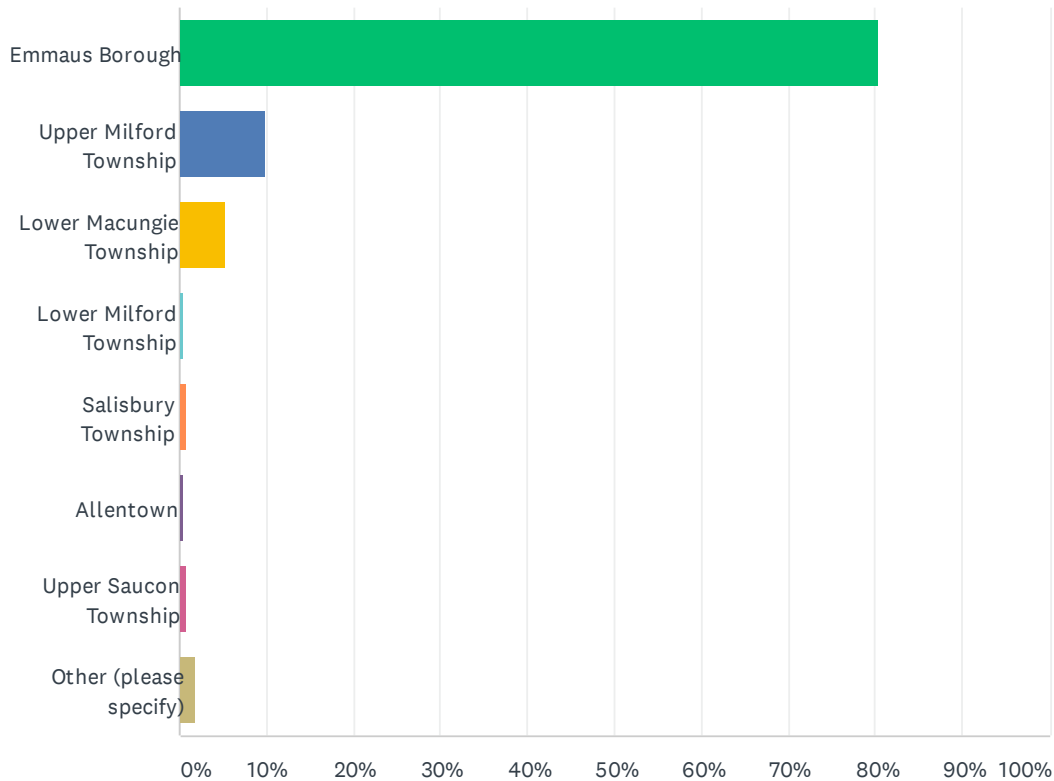


Sincerely,  
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## Q1 What is the name of the municipality you live in?

Answered: 786 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Emmaus Borough	80.41%	632
Upper Milford Township	9.92%	78
Lower Macungie Township	5.22%	41
Lower Milford Township	0.38%	3
Salisbury Township	0.76%	6
Allentown	0.51%	4
Upper Saucon Township	0.89%	7
Other (please specify)	1.91%	15
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>786</b>

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Hereford Township	3/26/2021 4:09 PM
2	Macungie Borough	3/8/2021 2:28 PM
3	Upper Macungie	3/7/2021 8:43 PM
4	Rockland	3/7/2021 8:30 PM
5	Alburtis borough	3/7/2021 8:11 PM

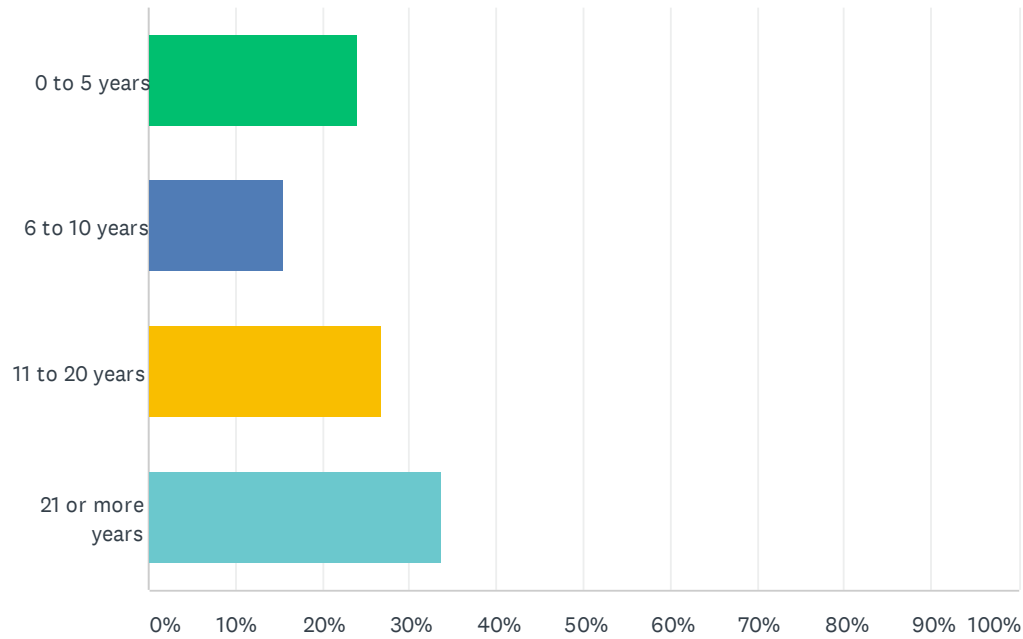


# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

6	South Whitehall Township	3/7/2021 8:05 PM
7	Longswamp Township	2/5/2021 5:04 PM
8	Upper Macungie	2/4/2021 7:18 PM
9	Ghana	2/4/2021 1:33 AM
10	On the border of Emmaus so we do frequent Emmaus Community Park	1/27/2021 5:07 PM
11	Vero Beach, FL; Lived in Emmaus from 1949 to 1972, 1963 Emmaus High School Graduate	1/27/2021 2:47 PM
12	Rent Borough fields for softball tournaments	1/19/2021 10:19 AM
13	Macungie	1/18/2021 7:07 PM
14	Bethlehem	10/13/2020 3:35 PM
15	South Whitehall Township (Orefield)	8/15/2020 2:38 PM

## Q2 How long have you lived in your current community?

Answered: 786 Skipped: 3

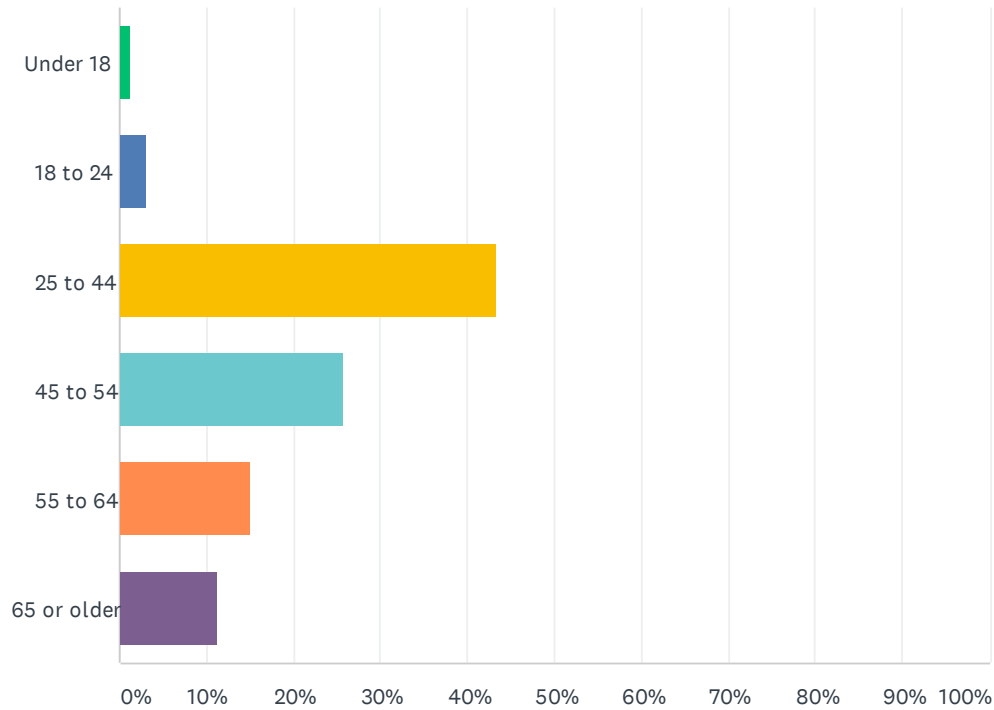


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0 to 5 years	24.05%	189
6 to 10 years	15.39%	121
11 to 20 years	26.84%	211
21 or more years	33.72%	265
TOTAL		786



### Q3 What is your age?

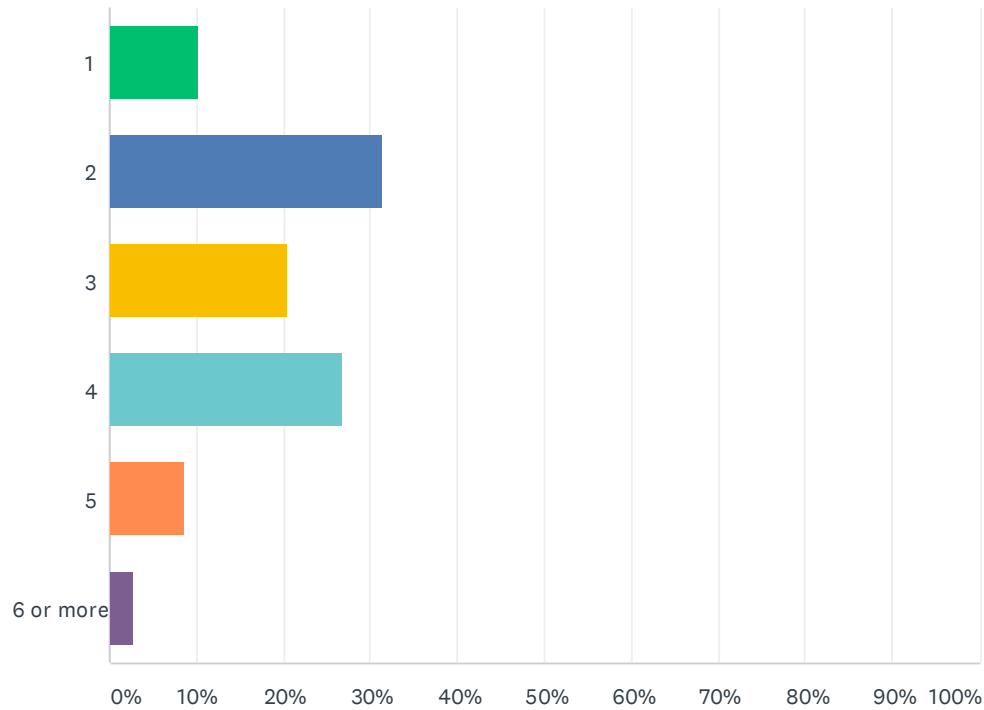
Answered: 786 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	1.27%	10
18 to 24	3.18%	25
25 to 44	43.38%	341
45 to 54	25.83%	203
55 to 64	15.01%	118
65 or older	11.32%	89
TOTAL		786

## Q4 How many people currently live in your household?

Answered: 786 Skipped: 3

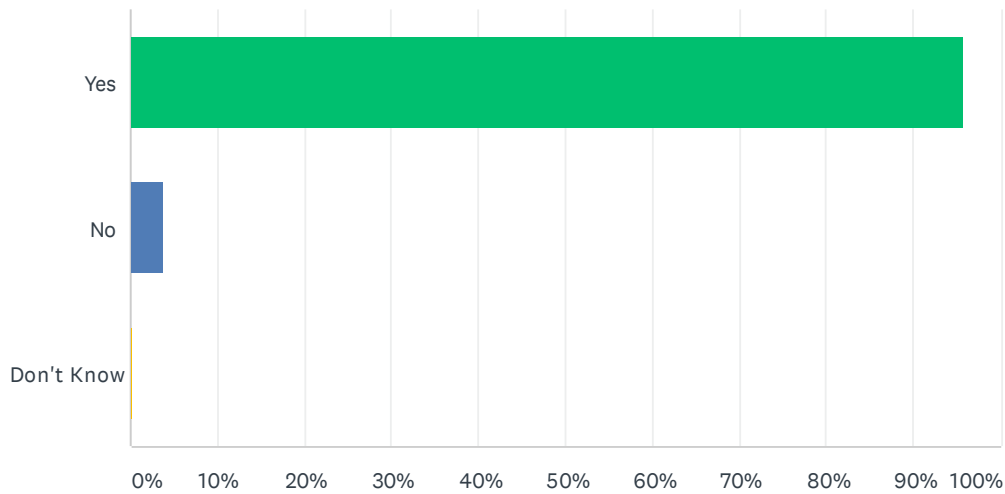


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	10.18%	80
2	31.30%	246
3	20.48%	161
4	26.72%	210
5	8.52%	67
6 or more	2.80%	22
TOTAL		786



**Q5 In the past 24 months, has any member of your household participated in any activities in parks, natural areas, or open spaces in or around Emmaus Borough? This would include any recreational activity, such as walking, biking, participating in team sports, swimming, bird watching, boating, etc.**

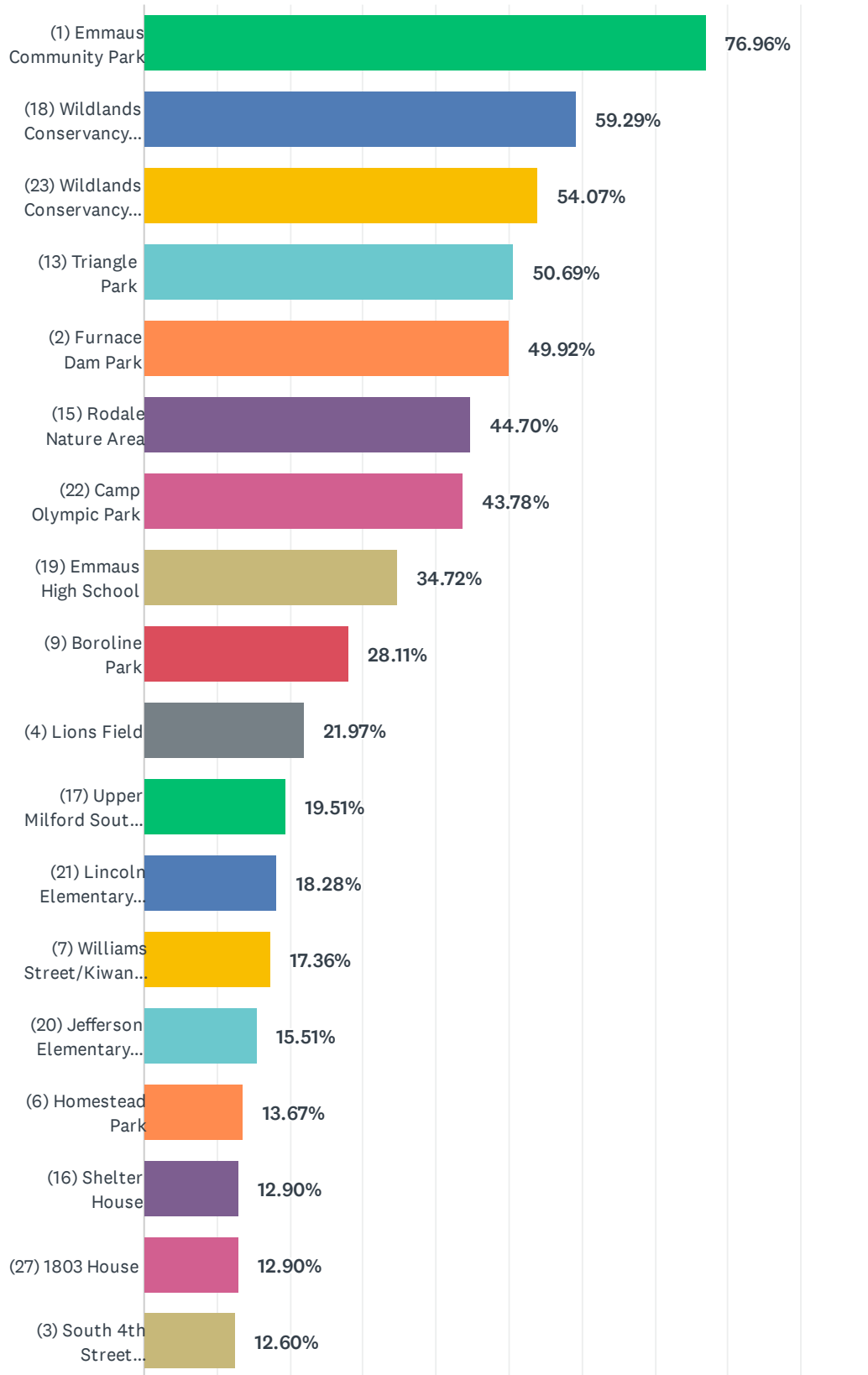
Answered: 657 Skipped: 132



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	95.89%	630
No	3.81%	25
Don't Know	0.30%	2
TOTAL		657

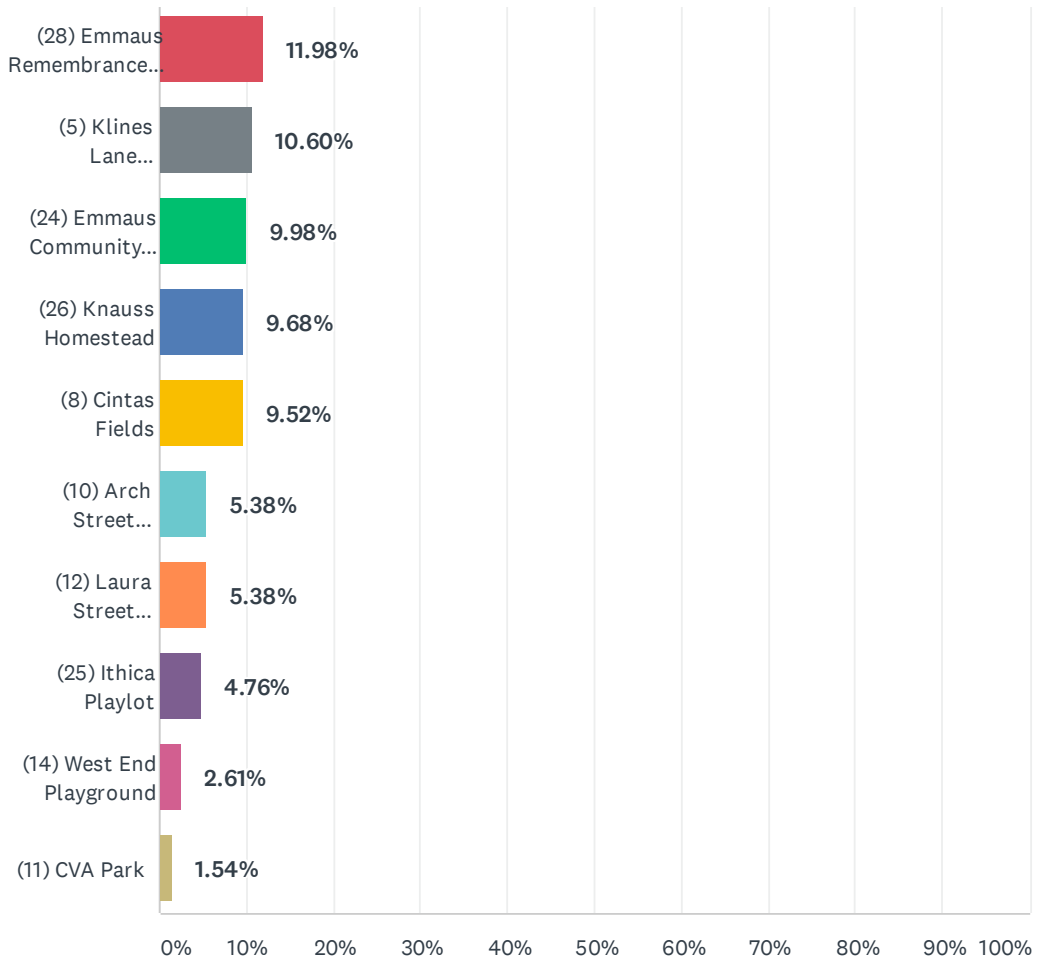
## Q6 Which parks, natural areas, trails, or facilities do you visit for recreation purposes? (Please reference the above map. Please check all that apply)

Answered: 651 Skipped: 138





## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
(1) Emmaus Community Park	76.96%	501
(18) Wildlands Conservancy South Mountain Preserve	59.29%	386
(23) Wildlands Conservancy Pool Wildlife Sanctuary	54.07%	352
(13) Triangle Park	50.69%	330
(2) Furnace Dam Park	49.92%	325
(15) Rodale Nature Area	44.70%	291
(22) Camp Olympic Park	43.78%	285
(19) Emmaus High School	34.72%	226
(9) Boroline Park	28.11%	183
(4) Lions Field	21.97%	143
(17) Upper Milford South Mountain Property	19.51%	127
(21) Lincoln Elementary School	18.28%	119
(7) Williams Street/Kiwanis Fields	17.36%	113
(20) Jefferson Elementary School	15.51%	101
(6) Homestead Park	13.67%	89
(16) Shelter House	12.90%	84
(27) 1803 House	12.90%	84
(3) South 4th Street Baseball/Softball Fields	12.60%	82
(28) Emmaus Remembrance Garden	11.98%	78
(5) Klines Lane Multipurpose Field	10.60%	69
(24) Emmaus Community Garden	9.98%	65
(26) Knauss Homestead	9.68%	63
(8) Cintas Fields	9.52%	62
(10) Arch Street Playground	5.38%	35
(12) Laura Street Playground	5.38%	35
(25) Ithica Playlot	4.76%	31
(14) West End Playground	2.61%	17
(11) CVA Park	1.54%	10
Total Respondents: 651		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The streets	3/31/2021 9:37 PM
2	Birding at the pond at the community gardens	3/7/2021 9:51 PM

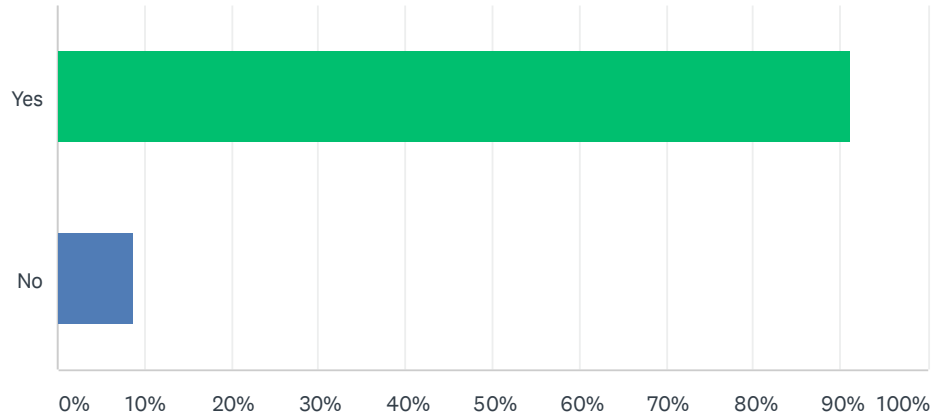


# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

3	Walking the trail near the new Wawa.	3/7/2021 9:09 PM
4	South Mountain Gateway Trail	3/7/2021 8:20 PM
5	Trails	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
6	I don't go because dogs aren't allowed on any trails or in the parks.	2/4/2021 9:02 AM
7	African beach resort	2/4/2021 1:37 AM
8	General downtown historic area	2/3/2021 1:36 PM
9	walk roadways	2/2/2021 3:08 PM
10	Wooded area top of 10th street	1/28/2021 11:28 AM
11	When I lived in Emmaus I frequently used Pine Tree Park (Community Park),As a child I Played Baseball for Kiwanis Team	1/27/2021 2:56 PM
12	Jasper Park	1/17/2021 8:37 AM
13	Jasper Park	1/16/2021 8:47 PM
14	Upper Saucon community park	1/16/2021 9:37 AM
15	Walk the trail near future Wawa, other walks.	1/16/2021 8:19 AM
16	We can't go to the parks because they miss Police Department likes to harass my family	1/15/2021 11:45 PM
17	Mountain Bike trails on south mountain	12/3/2020 5:59 PM
18	Cyclocross Track by Compost	10/13/2020 3:19 PM
19	Trail that connects Boroline to Klines Lane	10/9/2020 4:26 PM
20	the nature trail from Klines Lane to Wieders Lane (not sure if that is #6)	10/2/2020 7:29 PM
21	Fire Company 2 baseball field	8/20/2020 4:58 PM
22	Trail that connects Boroline to Klines Lane	8/17/2020 3:36 PM
23	Jasper park	8/17/2020 3:19 PM
24	Jasper Park	8/17/2020 1:35 PM

# Q7 Do you walk, run or bike on area trails or roadways? (NOTE: As part of the public participation for this project, you will be able to propose trail routes, connections and improvements on the project Wikimap.)

Answered: 656 Skipped: 133

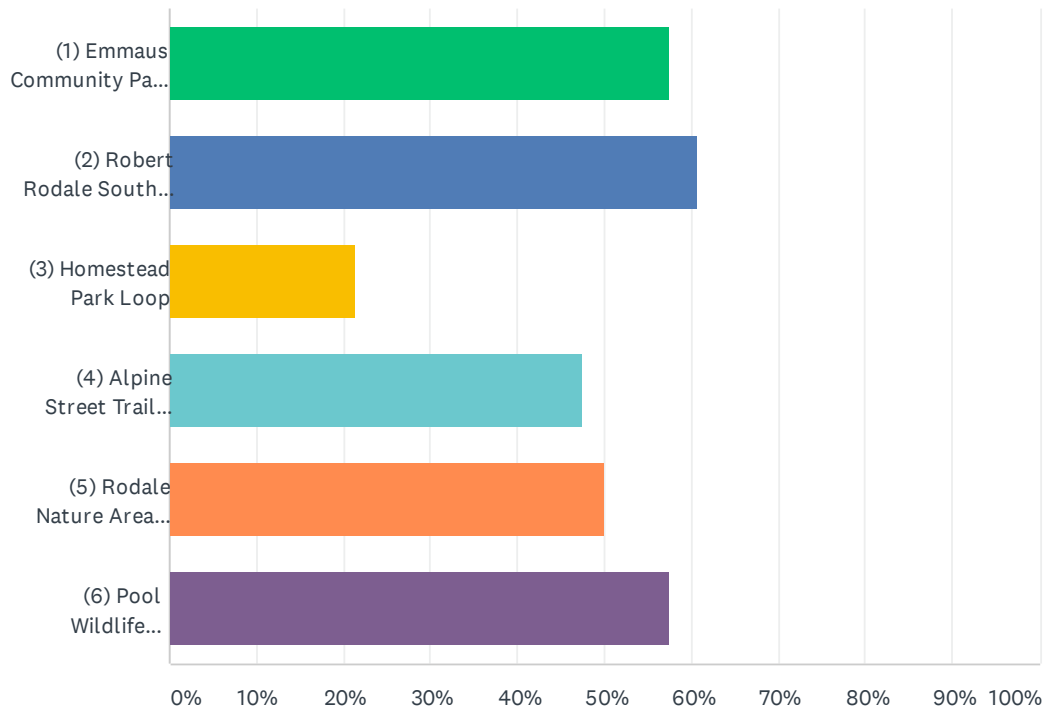


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	91.31%	599
No	8.69%	57
TOTAL		656



## Q8 If you do use area trails, which ones do you use? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 564 Skipped: 225



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
(1) Emmaus Community Park Trail	57.62%	325
(2) Robert Rodale South Mountain Gateway Trail	60.64%	342
(3) Homestead Park Loop	21.28%	120
(4) Alpine Street Trail / Wilderness Trail	47.52%	268
(5) Rodale Nature Area Trail	50.00%	282
(6) Pool Wildlife Sanctuary Trails	57.62%	325
Total Respondents: 564		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Founders Trail - the perimeter of the Emmaus village as it was delineated in 1759. See Barbs.	3/31/2021 9:37 PM
2	south mountain	3/31/2021 3:38 PM
3	Little Lehigh Parkway	3/25/2021 12:26 PM
4	Area round where I living	3/8/2021 10:56 AM
5	I actually go to Lehigh Parkway most.	3/7/2021 9:31 PM
6	Trail near the new Wawa	3/7/2021 9:09 PM
7	Wildlands Conservatory S. Mountain Trails	3/7/2021 9:04 PM

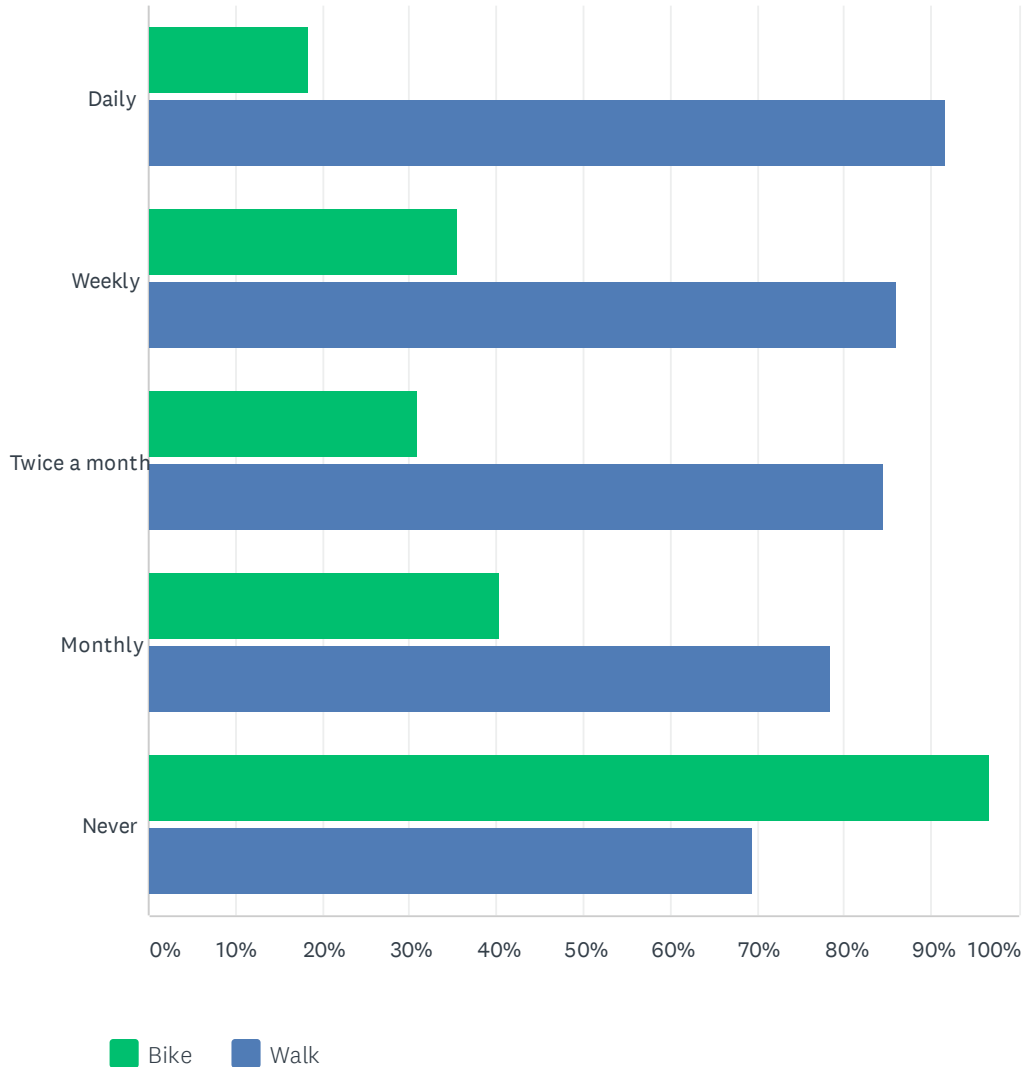
# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

8	South Mountain Gateway Trail	3/7/2021 8:20 PM
9	na	2/8/2021 11:13 AM
10	Beach road	2/4/2021 1:37 AM
11	Not sure of the names where I am walking	2/3/2021 1:36 PM
12	n/a	2/2/2021 3:08 PM
13	Wooded area top of 10th street	1/28/2021 11:28 AM
14	See Below applies when I lived in Emmaus	1/27/2021 2:56 PM
15	Fish hatchery	1/17/2021 11:11 AM
16	Trail near Wawa	1/16/2021 8:19 AM
17	I also walk my dogs around borough streets - not in favor of a dog park	12/9/2020 8:32 PM
18	Trail across from Emmaus High School (old golf cart trail) to Indian Creek Rd	12/3/2020 8:06 PM
19	around town & gulf circle	10/9/2020 3:44 PM
20	South Mountain above old football field	8/24/2020 10:07 AM
21	Trail that connects Boroline to Klines Lane	8/17/2020 3:36 PM
22	Jasper park	8/17/2020 3:19 PM



## Q9 How often do you bike or walk to work/school or to run errands?

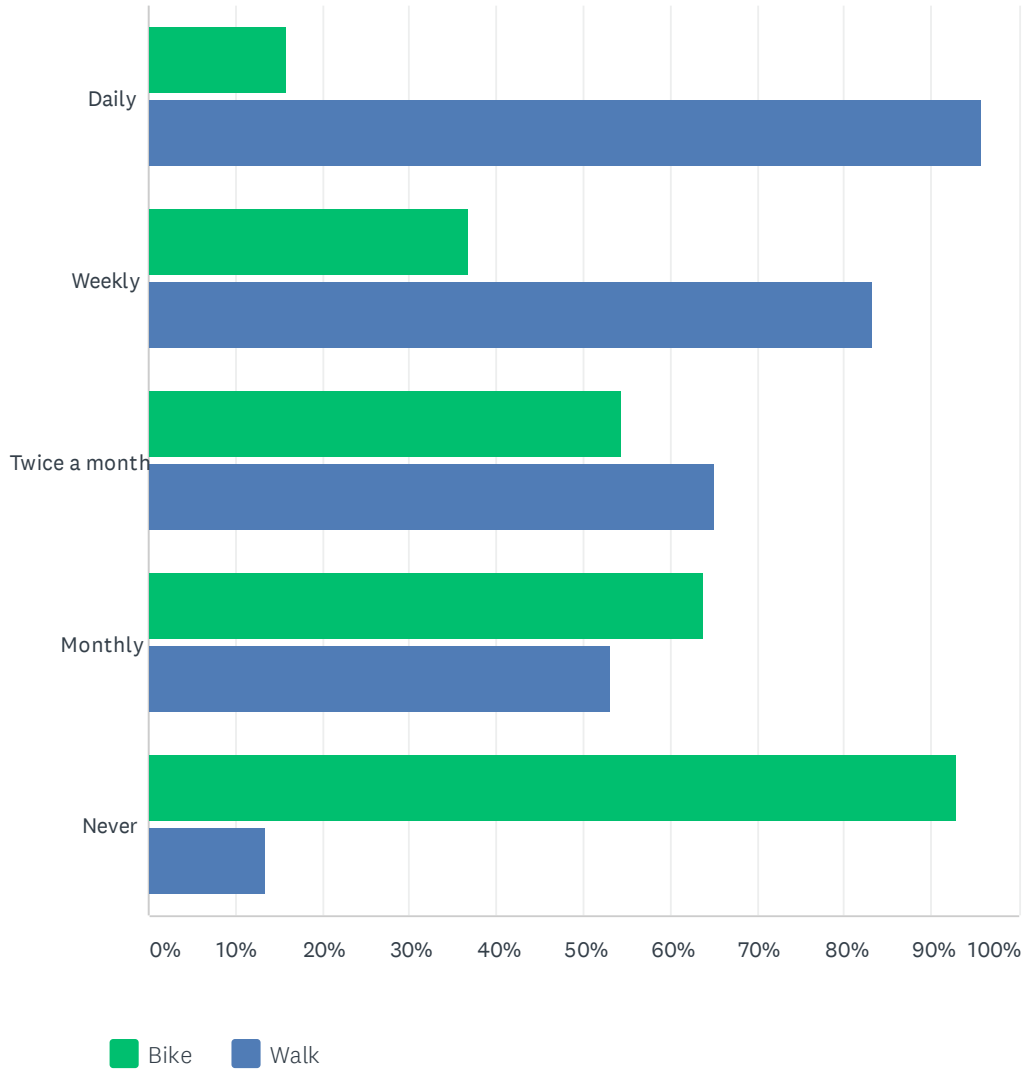
Answered: 613 Skipped: 176



	BIKE	WALK	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Daily	18.47% 29	91.72% 144	157
Weekly	35.58% 74	86.06% 179	208
Twice a month	31.01% 40	84.50% 109	129
Monthly	40.30% 54	78.36% 105	134
Never	96.69% 234	69.42% 168	242

## Q10 How often do you bike or walk for recreational purposes?

Answered: 645 Skipped: 144

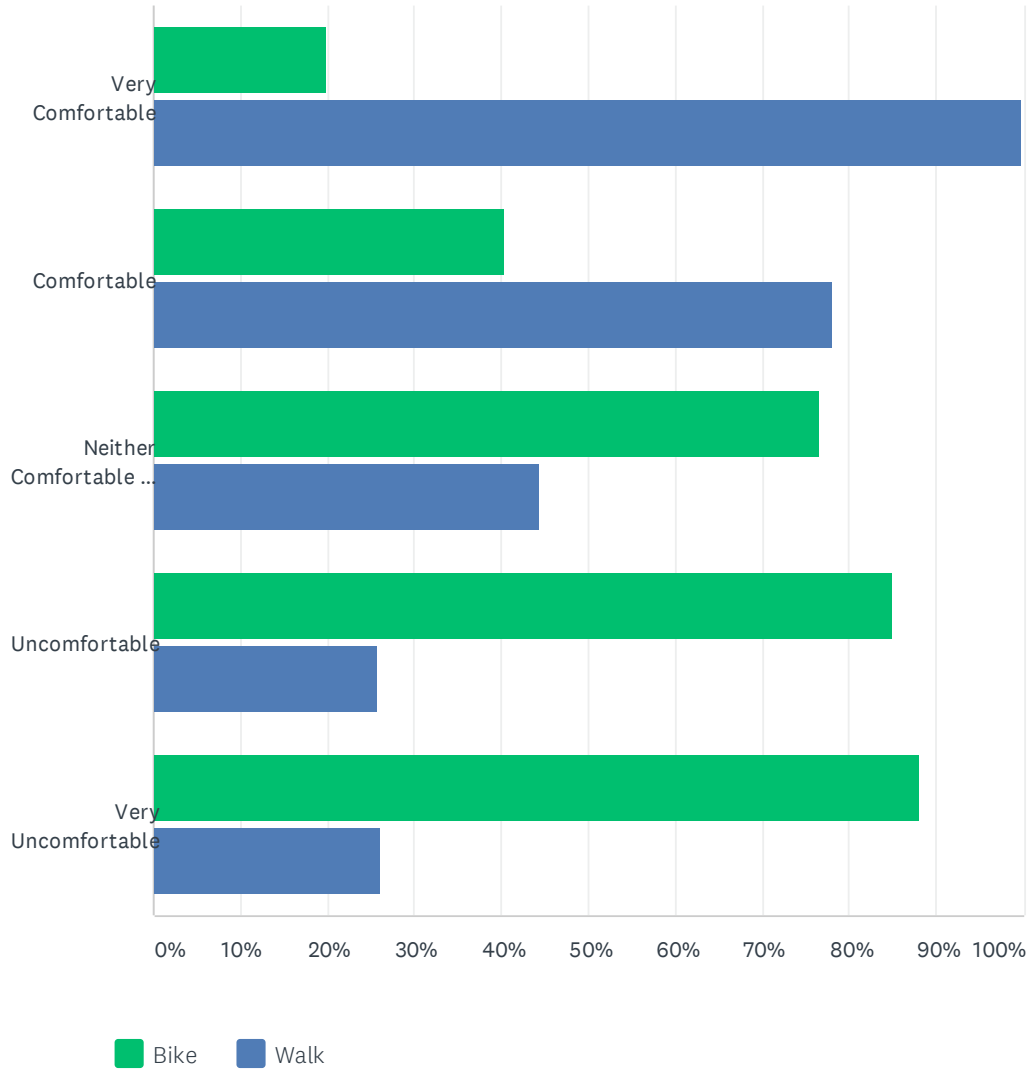


	BIKE	WALK	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Daily	15.93% 54	95.87% 325	339
Weekly	36.90% 124	83.33% 280	336
Twice a month	54.47% 67	65.04% 80	123
Monthly	63.85% 83	53.08% 69	130
Never	92.78% 90	13.40% 13	97



## Q11 From a traffic safety perspective, how comfortable do you feel biking or walking in Emmaus?

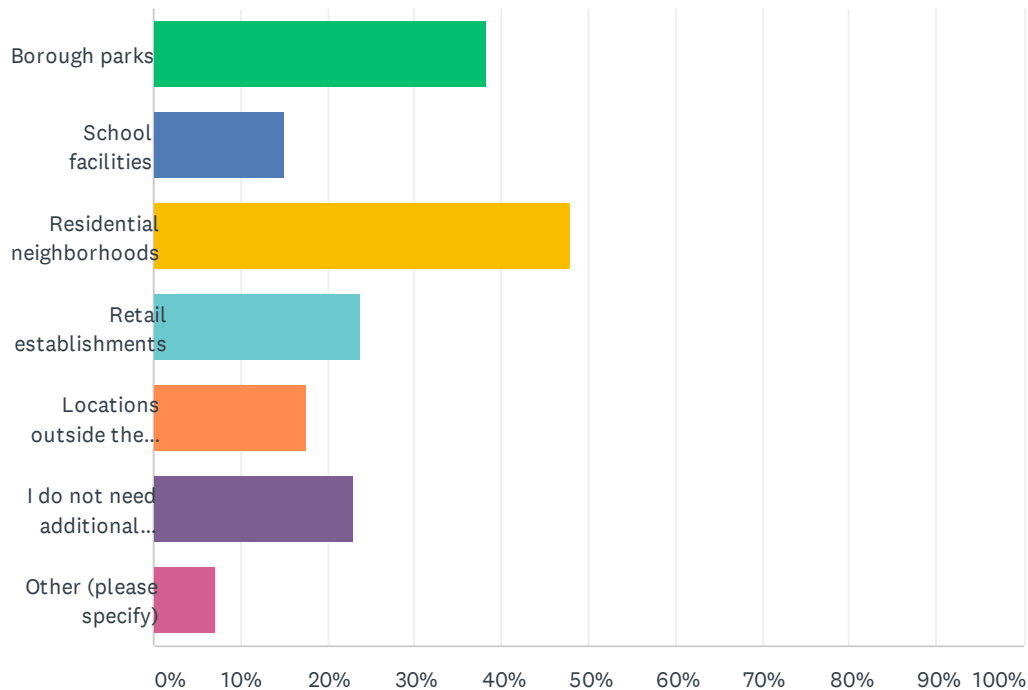
Answered: 652 Skipped: 137



	BIKE	WALK	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Very Comfortable	19.94% 64	99.69% 320	321
Comfortable	40.33% 123	78.03% 238	305
Neither Comfortable or Uncomfortable	76.58% 121	44.30% 70	158
Uncomfortable	84.96% 96	25.66% 29	113
Very Uncomfortable	88.10% 37	26.19% 11	42

## Q12 In what areas would you like improved pedestrian and bicycling access? (Please check all that apply.)

Answered: 611 Skipped: 178



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Borough parks	38.30%	234
School facilities	15.06%	92
Residential neighborhoods	47.95%	293
Retail establishments	23.90%	146
Locations outside the Borough	17.68%	108
I do not need additional pedestrian or bicycling access	23.08%	141
Other (please specify)	7.04%	43
Total Respondents: 611		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	side streets especially very narrow areas for bikes	4/3/2021 11:18 PM
2	Across main roads (to make roads like Lehigh St and Emmaus Ave easier to cross)	4/1/2021 3:31 PM
3	increased safety at the crosswalk @ 12th and Pennsylvania. Very dangerous to cross, as many cars do not yield, including borough vehicles.	3/31/2021 3:38 PM
4	Please repair damaged sidewalks and gaping potholes in streets without sidewalks (Keystone Avenue)..	3/29/2021 3:43 PM
5	Parts of 700-1000 block of broad street.	3/19/2021 7:26 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

6	It's unsafe to cross chestnut st due to heavy & speeding traffic	3/17/2021 3:43 PM
7	Walking is fine. Better bikeways are needed.	3/15/2021 12:48 PM
8	Safer walking/bike access to Camp Olympic across Cedar Crest	3/10/2021 1:44 PM
9	Bike paths throughout the borough would be helpful due to traffic	3/8/2021 9:47 AM
10	That designated crosswalks are observed by motorist	3/8/2021 9:03 AM
11	Please allow dogs in community park	3/7/2021 9:16 PM
12	Trail near Wawa	3/7/2021 9:09 PM
13	Triangle area to stores abutting Cottage & Bloom	3/7/2021 9:04 PM
14	I would like a continuous walking/biking trail in the borough of Emmaus. It doesnt matter where, but just somewhere.	3/7/2021 8:55 PM
15	Alleys	3/7/2021 8:36 PM
16	Specifically along Pennsylvania Ave past Shimersville Rd	3/7/2021 8:26 PM
17	From intersection of Chestnut st and Cedar Crest Blvd to Lehigh Valley Hospital CC (nearly hit by tractor trailers and speeding SUVs from behind even when biking on the shoulder with flashing lights on me on my comutes to work). I think road should be widened and have designated bike and walking lanes.	2/28/2021 2:37 PM
18	Let's get green space that doesn't increase taxes that people with dogs can enjoy. :)	2/4/2021 9:02 AM
19	Sidewalks between areas. More signage. Places of interest walking maps.	2/3/2021 1:36 PM
20	Sidewalk maintenance. Hazardous in many places	1/27/2021 10:22 AM
21	Put an indoor place in for the bikers	1/19/2021 8:45 AM
22	Curb's too high	1/17/2021 9:52 PM
23	Harrison streets needs to replace yield to pedestrian signs specifically N 2nd St	1/17/2021 11:11 AM
24	Dog park	1/16/2021 9:43 AM
25	I would love to see a community center with b-ball courts to have an open gym atmosphere	1/16/2021 9:39 AM
26	Crack down on speeding on Harrison St!!!	1/16/2021 8:43 AM
27	?	1/16/2021 8:19 AM
28	Downtown area	1/16/2021 8:10 AM
29	I	1/16/2021 7:29 AM
30	Access across train tracks at 12th street. Pedestrian crossing	1/16/2021 2:40 AM
31	Sidewalk by Big Woodys on Chestnut St , into Emmaus right through town	1/16/2021 1:43 AM
32	Considering a little girl got killed by a car I'm terrified to let my children outside to walk or bike= nobody abides by the speed limit not the Emmaus Police Department not the borough= employees or the residence for god sake's to Emmaus Police Department won't even give= people who go through bus lights tickets it's a waste of their time the police department needs= to clean up attack and make Despereaux safer and stop harassing innocent people	1/15/2021 11:45 PM
33	Downtown, I.e. the triangle area. Crossings there I don't feel are the safest.	1/7/2021 3:08 PM
34	Main St and Chestnut St roadways from State st to Cedar Crest should have a cohesive traffic management plan that allows for pedestrian foot traffic on sidewalk and bike traffic in a bike lane.	12/8/2020 6:33 PM
35	The sidewalks throughout the borough are terrible and definitely need to be more ADA friendly and better fit for cycling, walking, pushing strollers, etc.	10/12/2020 10:25 PM
36	Chestnut street through town as the borough trees are messy and the roots have caused the sidewalks to be pushed up	10/12/2020 9:22 AM

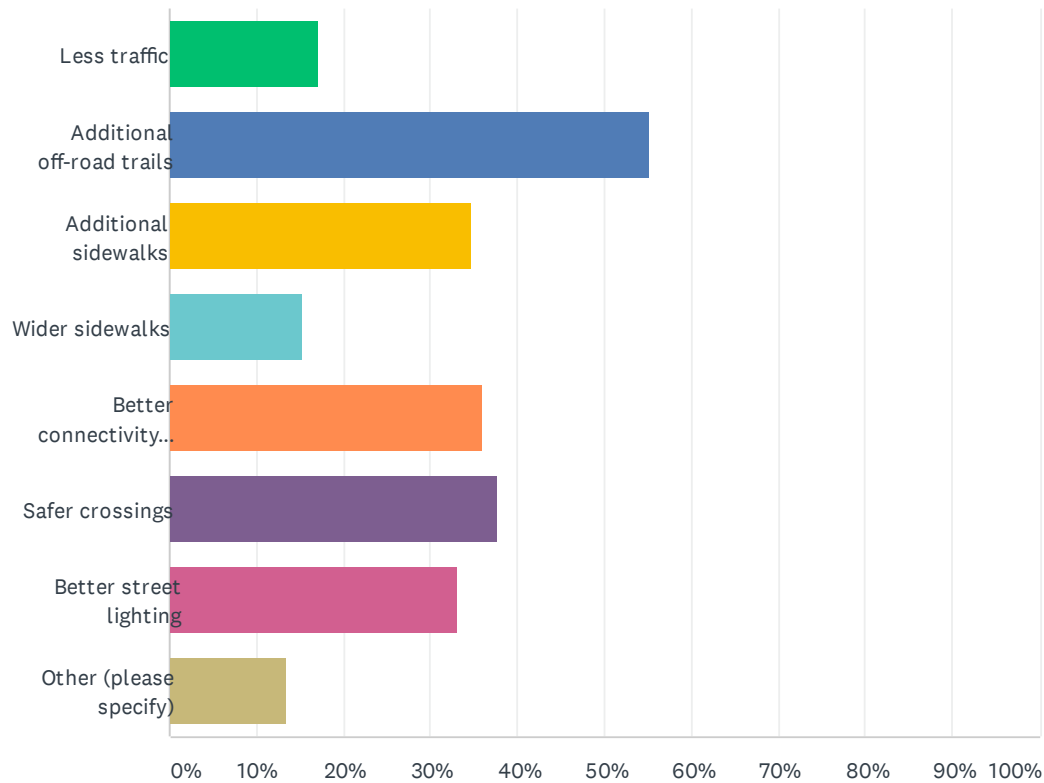
## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

37	Main street. Or an alternative nicely paved trail parallel to main street. A way to get to your destination without the worry of heavy traffic	10/10/2020 9:55 PM
38	0	10/10/2020 8:03 AM
39	Access to retail under the railroad tracks by the Emmaus Community Park.	9/15/2020 10:16 PM
40	Access to Camp Olympic	9/15/2020 8:18 PM
41	Furnace Dam Park	8/18/2020 8:10 PM
42	We need connections between the parks	8/17/2020 9:37 PM
43	bicycle friendly roadways	8/15/2020 2:46 PM



## Q13 What would encourage you to walk more? (Please check all that apply.)

Answered: 603 Skipped: 186



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Less traffic		17.08%	103
Additional off-road trails		55.22%	333
Additional sidewalks		34.66%	209
Wider sidewalks		15.26%	92
Better connectivity between sidewalks		35.99%	217
Safer crossings		37.65%	227
Better street lighting		33.00%	199
Other (please specify)		13.43%	81
Total Respondents: 603			

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Motorists and cyclists actually stopping at intersections to allow pedestrians to cross.	3/31/2021 3:17 PM
2	Monitor speed limits	3/30/2021 3:16 PM
3	The creek area running through Emmaus Park looks terrible! Empty and un inviting! They destroyed the natural beauty.	3/29/2021 9:22 AM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

4	Greater emphasis of pedestrian crossings.	3/26/2021 5:22 PM
5	Larger trails	3/26/2021 1:39 PM
6	safer crossings on Harrison Street especially	3/23/2021 9:33 AM
7	Shade Bush/Tree Commission enforcement	3/22/2021 4:59 PM
8	Safer sidewalks. Some are pretty bad	3/20/2021 11:19 AM
9	More hiking trails	3/17/2021 7:04 PM
10	More even sidewalks	3/17/2021 5:10 PM
11	Move the location of the Sunday Farmer's Market to Lions park, a much larger and spread out area for safety. Vendors can set up in the grassy park area with ease.	3/16/2021 8:08 AM
12	Error	3/15/2021 4:30 PM
13	Feel very safe walking	3/15/2021 12:48 PM
14	Main street traffic does not like to yeild to children crossing for for school in the mornings.	3/11/2021 9:36 AM
15	speed enforcement	3/9/2021 5:00 PM
16	Places that allow pets	3/8/2021 9:03 AM
17	Wildflower refuge areas	3/8/2021 7:33 AM
18	Maintenance of existing sidewalks	3/7/2021 10:15 PM
19	Allowing dogs to walk in Community Park	3/7/2021 9:16 PM
20	None, I feel good walking on sidewalks	3/7/2021 8:55 PM
21	Sidewalk all the way up Pa Ave.	3/7/2021 8:40 PM
22	More curb cuts. There are many areas without them	3/7/2021 8:30 PM
23	Nothing I feel safe and walk as much as I want	3/7/2021 8:20 PM
24	Allow dogs at community park	3/7/2021 8:02 PM
25	I feel safe walking around Emmaus	2/28/2021 2:37 PM
26	A reason to walk more than I do already	2/4/2021 11:38 AM
27	Trails where my dog is allowed.	2/4/2021 9:02 AM
28	Benches (not just on Main St) at destinations.	2/3/2021 1:36 PM
29	More connecting ramps	1/27/2021 9:50 PM
30	Hiking	1/27/2021 7:54 PM
31	More handicapped parking in triangle so I can enjoying walking to do my shopping and recreation	1/27/2021 5:29 PM
32	There are lots of missing curb cuts that are challenging for pushing a stroller and of course for wheelchair users as well	1/27/2021 4:55 PM
33	Sidewalks are very uneven and hard for running, or walking with a stroller	1/27/2021 1:57 PM
34	Better sidewalks	1/27/2021 10:22 AM
35	Self motivation. Nothing to do with my neighborhood as I feel the traffic is pretty safe here. Not too much offroad traffic, usually local to the residents in Little Lehigh Acres.	1/27/2021 9:28 AM
36	Off road trains with sporadic lighting	1/20/2021 1:33 PM
37	Nothing	1/19/2021 6:50 AM
38	Police should be patrolling main streets where pedestrians walk. There have been numerous times where cars don't slow down and actually speed up while we take our dog for a walk.	1/18/2021 11:23 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

39	Even/ better maintained sidewalks	1/18/2021 9:26 PM
40	Updated sidewalks	1/17/2021 9:52 PM
41	Development that is conducive to walking.	1/17/2021 9:12 PM
42	Nothing needs to be changed	1/17/2021 12:00 PM
43	Dog park	1/17/2021 12:01 AM
44	More trails	1/16/2021 8:31 PM
45	Being able to walk my dog	1/16/2021 2:57 PM
46	For night time	1/16/2021 2:55 PM
47	I would love a sidewalk from woodys in Emmaus to Weis. I can't cross that bridge it's so dangerous before construction so much worse now and people still cross it.	1/16/2021 12:58 PM
48	Enforced speed limits	1/16/2021 8:43 AM
49	The police department start giving people tickets going above the speed limit and that includes themselves when they decide not to abide by the speed limit	1/15/2021 11:45 PM
50	Bathroom access or portable potties throughout the borough	1/15/2021 9:58 PM
51	Monitor speed in alley ways.	1/11/2021 8:36 AM
52	Less shady manufacturing company's/employees.	12/30/2020 7:12 PM
53	The sidewalks on S 10th St from Walnut to North Sts are terrible. No ramp access by the apartments and sidewalk only on one side	12/9/2020 8:32 PM
54	alleys are great for biking	12/9/2020 8:18 PM
55	Changing the timing of traffic lights, and making it easier to cross the intersection in both directions at Chestnut Street and Cedar crest Boulevard.	12/5/2020 9:17 AM
56	A better world	12/3/2020 7:26 PM
57	Sidewalks in better condition.	10/13/2020 9:45 AM
58	The sidewalks being fixed from the roots of the borough trees pushing them up	10/12/2020 9:22 AM
59	Better sidewalks! They're horrible on the main roads	10/10/2020 8:03 AM
60	Enforced speed limits and traffic regulations	10/3/2020 7:03 PM
61	Lower traffic speed -- 20 MPH is plenty	9/29/2020 4:36 PM
62	Fix the sidewalks and curbs. Too many trip hazards.	9/16/2020 9:10 PM
63	Access to Retail at Emmaus Community park under railroad tracks	9/15/2020 10:16 PM
64	Bike and running lanes on one side of street. Would have to eliminate on street parking on side of street that is designated for bike /run. I think this is better solution than improving sidewalks. Keep sidewalks as is for walking only.	9/2/2020 10:49 AM
65	Police enforcement of stop signs	8/31/2020 7:23 PM
66	wish ALL parks allowed leashed dogs	8/21/2020 10:31 AM
67	speed bumps in heavy traffic/pedestrian areas	8/20/2020 4:58 PM
68	Cutting off the low branches of the trees around the Triangle	8/18/2020 10:04 PM
69	lower health insurance rates	8/18/2020 3:17 PM
70	People adhering to stop signs!	8/18/2020 7:38 AM
71	Better sidewalk conditions - less trash on sidewalks	8/18/2020 6:01 AM
72	Motorists to actually obey crosswalks	8/17/2020 10:02 PM
73	Better paved roads	8/17/2020 9:12 PM

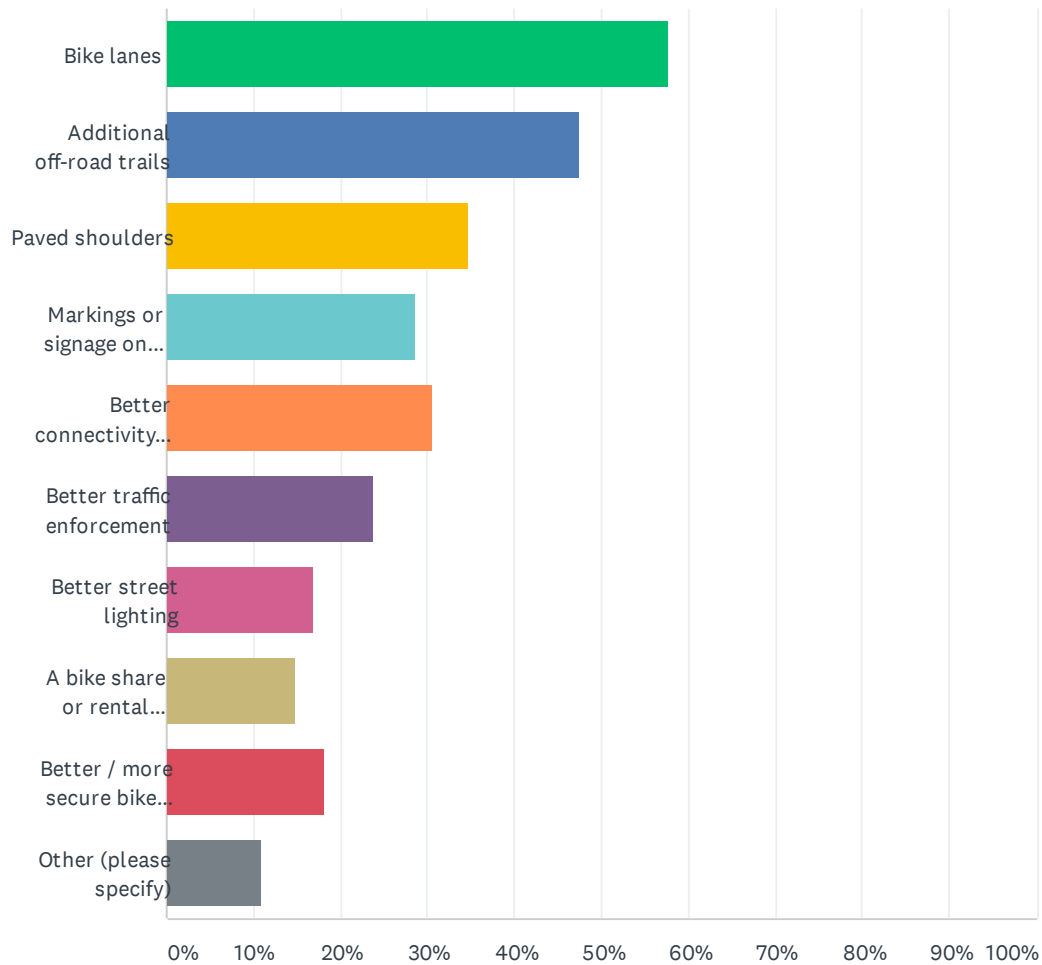
## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

74	I would utilize the parks and trail more if a few of them could be dog friendly.	8/17/2020 9:11 PM
75	Walk with my dogs	8/17/2020 7:58 PM
76	Being able to walk my dog in the parks, like you can do in Macungie	8/17/2020 4:31 PM
77	Many Sidewalkes ar in need of repair, I've fallen a few times due to bad sidewalks	8/17/2020 4:30 PM
78	One way street traffic	8/17/2020 4:18 PM
79	Level sidewalks	8/17/2020 3:48 PM
80	Sidewalks in better conditions	8/17/2020 3:12 PM
81	A place to walk to	8/16/2020 1:55 PM



## Q14 What would encourage you to bike more? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 501 Skipped: 288



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bike lanes	57.68%	289
Additional off-road trails	47.50%	238
Paved shoulders	34.73%	174
Markings or signage on roads	28.74%	144
Better connectivity between bike facilities	30.54%	153
Better traffic enforcement	23.75%	119
Better street lighting	16.97%	85
A bike share or rental program	14.77%	74
Better / more secure bike parking	18.16%	91
Other (please specify)	10.78%	54
Total Respondents: 501		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Maintenance of existing facilities	4/1/2021 3:31 PM
2	I don't bike, I prefer to walk.	4/1/2021 1:31 PM
3	I don't bike	4/1/2021 7:04 AM
4	Establish new urban trails- open space at library including sculpture garden.	3/31/2021 9:37 PM
5	Probably won't bike	3/31/2021 3:21 PM
6	We don't bike	3/29/2021 9:22 AM
7	Definitely more traffic enforcement for Harrison Street	3/23/2021 9:33 AM
8	Only 4x4 miles in Emmaus. Already EZ to bike to from places. UM needs to widen roads for safer biking/running South Mountain.	3/22/2021 4:59 PM
9	Nothing, I don't bike	3/20/2021 2:09 PM
10	I dont bike	3/19/2021 5:44 PM
11	Refer to previous answer	3/16/2021 8:08 AM
12	N/A	3/7/2021 9:16 PM
13	N/A	3/7/2021 9:04 PM
14	Sidewalk up Pa Ave. Shoulder is not wide enough to feel safe	3/7/2021 8:40 PM
15	The alleys are great for biking. More designated bike safe alleys connected by bike lanes	3/7/2021 8:36 PM
16	I'm not a bicyclist	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
17	bike lane connecting Cedar Crest Blvd to Lehigh Valley Hospital CC. Also, a bike lane going through downtown Emmaus to South Mountain cycle store.	2/28/2021 2:37 PM
18	Not interested in biking	2/8/2021 11:13 AM
19	Map of connected areas for biking/walking	2/4/2021 7:14 PM
20	Less aggressive drivers	2/4/2021 11:38 AM
21	n/a	2/2/2021 3:08 PM
22	No sign visible	1/27/2021 7:54 PM

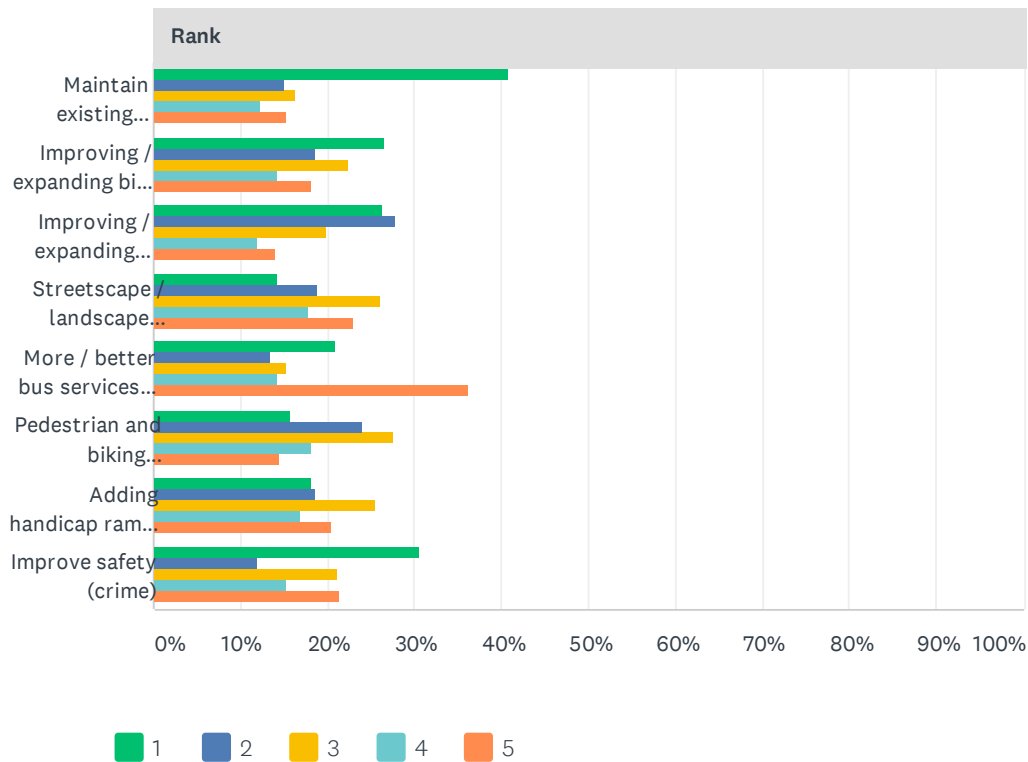


## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

23	I can't bike so no answer	1/27/2021 5:29 PM
24	More trails. I don't bike on the street.	1/27/2021 11:09 AM
25	not a biker	1/26/2021 10:52 AM
26	Na	1/23/2021 12:15 PM
27	Indoor biking area	1/19/2021 8:45 AM
28	Need a bike	1/19/2021 6:53 AM
29	Don't bike	1/19/2021 6:50 AM
30	I do not bike	1/18/2021 11:34 PM
31	A	1/18/2021 10:01 PM
32	Roads are in terrible shape around Emmaus, repaving roads would make it safer to bike and for drivers	1/17/2021 8:59 PM
33	One bike route that weaved through the borough would be great. We bike with kids and only utilize a few routes due to parking on both sides of the street, narrow roads, speeding vehicles, lack of crosswalks, and unsafe paths for family biking. And we are saying this after living in Philly, NYC, Pittsburgh, NJ where we cycled on streets as main mode of transportation.	1/17/2021 11:11 AM
34	I don't want to bike more	1/16/2021 4:57 PM
35	Sidewalk from Trivet to Eyer so kids can walk or ride safely. People are still walking it but unsafe. Buckeye road should have sidewalk.	1/16/2021 12:58 PM
36	I'm leagally blind don't bike	1/16/2021 9:37 AM
37	I dont own a bike	1/16/2021 8:45 AM
38	N/A	1/16/2021 8:19 AM
39	Safer crossing at intersections.	1/16/2021 8:06 AM
40	community workshops on safety or marketing that promotes safe practices for sharing road with cyclists	1/13/2021 6:38 PM
41	Less on street parking	12/4/2020 11:54 AM
42	Access from town to Indian Creek Road	12/3/2020 8:06 PM
43	I don't bike	10/26/2020 11:15 PM
44	Better places to take children learning how to ride. Many people have been using the high school parking lot while school isn't in session because it's the biggest and flattest place for the kids to learn, but can also be dangerous when the kids learning to drive use the same area.	10/12/2020 9:22 AM
45	Nothing	10/10/2020 12:01 PM
46	Enforced speed limits	10/3/2020 7:03 PM
47	Repaired roads	9/25/2020 11:59 AM
48	not a bike person	9/16/2020 8:10 AM
49	Access to business under railroad tracks at Emmaus Community park	9/15/2020 10:16 PM
50	if ALL parks allowed leashed dogs	8/21/2020 10:31 AM
51	Sidewalks in better shape	8/17/2020 9:50 PM
52	Do not bike	8/17/2020 9:03 PM
53	One way street traffic or one side street parking	8/17/2020 4:18 PM
54	Nothing	8/17/2020 3:19 PM

## Q15 Rank the five (5) most important issues that could create better connectivity in Emmaus. (1=High Priority, 5=Low Priority)

Answered: 614 Skipped: 175



Rank						
	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
Maintain existing infrastructure (sidewalks, roadways, etc.)	40.89% 238	15.12% 88	16.32% 95	12.37% 72	15.29% 89	582
Improving / expanding bike paths and routes	26.61% 145	18.53% 101	22.39% 122	14.31% 78	18.17% 99	545
Improving / expanding sidewalks and pedestrian paths	26.39% 152	27.78% 160	19.79% 114	11.98% 69	14.06% 81	576
Streetscape / landscape projects to improve corridor aesthetics	14.31% 71	18.75% 93	26.21% 130	17.74% 88	22.98% 114	496
More / better bus services and routes	20.93% 81	13.44% 52	15.25% 59	14.21% 55	36.18% 140	387
Pedestrian and biking improvements in commercial corridors	15.65% 82	24.05% 126	27.67% 145	18.13% 95	14.50% 76	524
Adding handicap ramps / accessibility	18.26% 80	18.72% 82	25.57% 112	16.89% 74	20.55% 90	438
Improve safety (crime)	30.45% 123	11.88% 48	21.04% 85	15.35% 62	21.29% 86	404

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY AND RANK)	DATE
1	Emmaus in my opinion is safe and monitored appropriately to maintain safety	4/2/2021 1:15 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

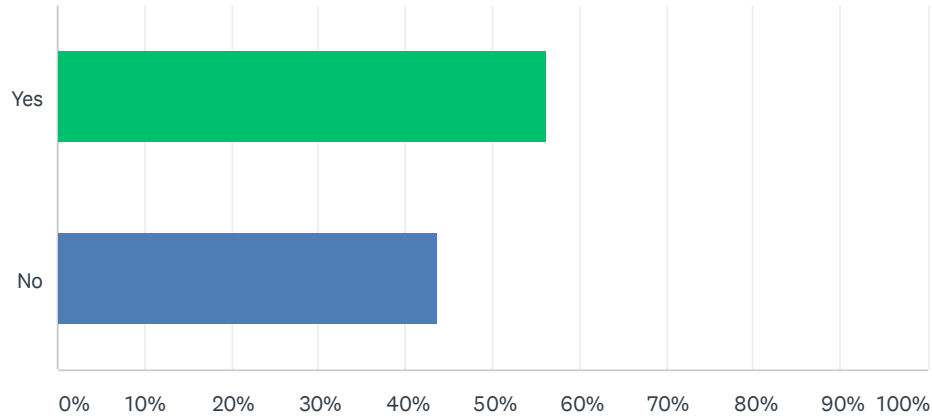
2	None	3/31/2021 9:37 PM
3	5. Plant trees	3/31/2021 3:45 PM
4	enforce the yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. the flags were great, but people FLY down pennsylvania ave. the crosswalk to the ONLY dog friendly park is DANGEROUS!	3/31/2021 3:38 PM
5	Pedestrian bridge from 5th st (near Volpe's) across the train tracks (toward Chestnut) - 3	3/27/2021 5:01 PM
6	Emmaus is only 4x4 miles. It is connected with Minor, Broad, Walnut Streets.	3/22/2021 4:59 PM
7	Safer crosswalks Penna Ave speeding cars 1	3/21/2021 3:46 PM
8	Better enforcement of sidewalks being cleaned / bushes trimmed back	3/7/2021 10:56 PM
9	Allowing dogs to be walked in Emmaus Community Park	3/7/2021 9:16 PM
10	Adding a sidewalk on Pennsylvania Ave past Shimersville Rd	3/7/2021 8:26 PM
11	Better promotion of Bike safety laws	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
12	Space where people who don't have children and do have dogs can enjoy the outdoors.	2/4/2021 9:02 AM
13	Comfort/Rest areas along walking areas. Just basic bench to sit on for those of us who can't walk far at once. - 5	2/3/2021 1:36 PM
14	Handicap parking availability downtown is horrible. The one main spot in the Triangle sometimes isn't even available because snow is plowed into the spot. Also no one monitors all the people parking there without handicap placards so they can "Just run into the store for a second". Seems the Borough forgot about their elderly and challenged residents.	1/27/2021 5:29 PM
15	Creating better connectivity (walking paths) within the borough (rank #2)	1/27/2021 5:15 PM
16	Better and more lighting	1/18/2021 8:31 PM
17	FIX AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY POOL	1/17/2021 7:13 PM
18	Beautifying corridor aesthetics could be done in conjunction with the Emmaus Arts Commission who are already working on a series of hydrant design programs	1/17/2021 11:11 AM
19	Please connect the parks to a mayor trail like D&L I go to Allentown one on Albert St.	1/16/2021 12:58 PM
20	build a skatepark please- rank 1 there is nowhere to skate in emmaus	1/16/2021 11:15 AM
21	I feel Ramps and sidewalks go hand In Hand	1/16/2021 10:31 AM
22	Lighting on streets in neighborhoods 16th st	1/16/2021 9:22 AM
23	More dog friendly parks, please! Maybe you could provide plastic bag stations (I.e., like they have at Jasper Park)	1/16/2021 8:27 AM
24	Lighting for crosswalks in winter especially. It gets dark early.	1/16/2021 7:29 AM
25	Sidewalks in the Neighborhood behind Big Woodys - Robert Rd to West Wood St , & etc better street lights too	1/16/2021 1:43 AM
26	Better enforcement of vehicles running red lights, or ignoring pedestrians in the crosswalk.	12/5/2020 9:17 AM
27	Roads and parking need most attention.	12/4/2020 11:54 AM
28	Handicapped accessibility should be a given- that's where money should be spent first- how could that even be on the same lists as landscaping?!?	10/16/2020 6:38 PM
29	Alternative smoothly paved roads / trails	10/10/2020 9:55 PM
30	Zoning -- Use zoning code and form based codes to keep Emmaus designed for people, not cars.	9/29/2020 4:36 PM
31	Traffic rule enforcement	8/31/2020 7:23 PM
32	Enforcing rules relating to dogs walking. I frequently encounter dog poop (definitely not deer), both leashed and unleashed dogs in Borough parks.	8/20/2020 7:56 AM
33	Safety is not ranked because I feel very safe	8/17/2020 9:50 PM

34	Being able to walk dogs in the parks	8/17/2020 4:31 PM
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## Q16 Have you or other members of your household visited gymnasiums or other private recreational providers for fitness or recreational purposes within the last 2 years?

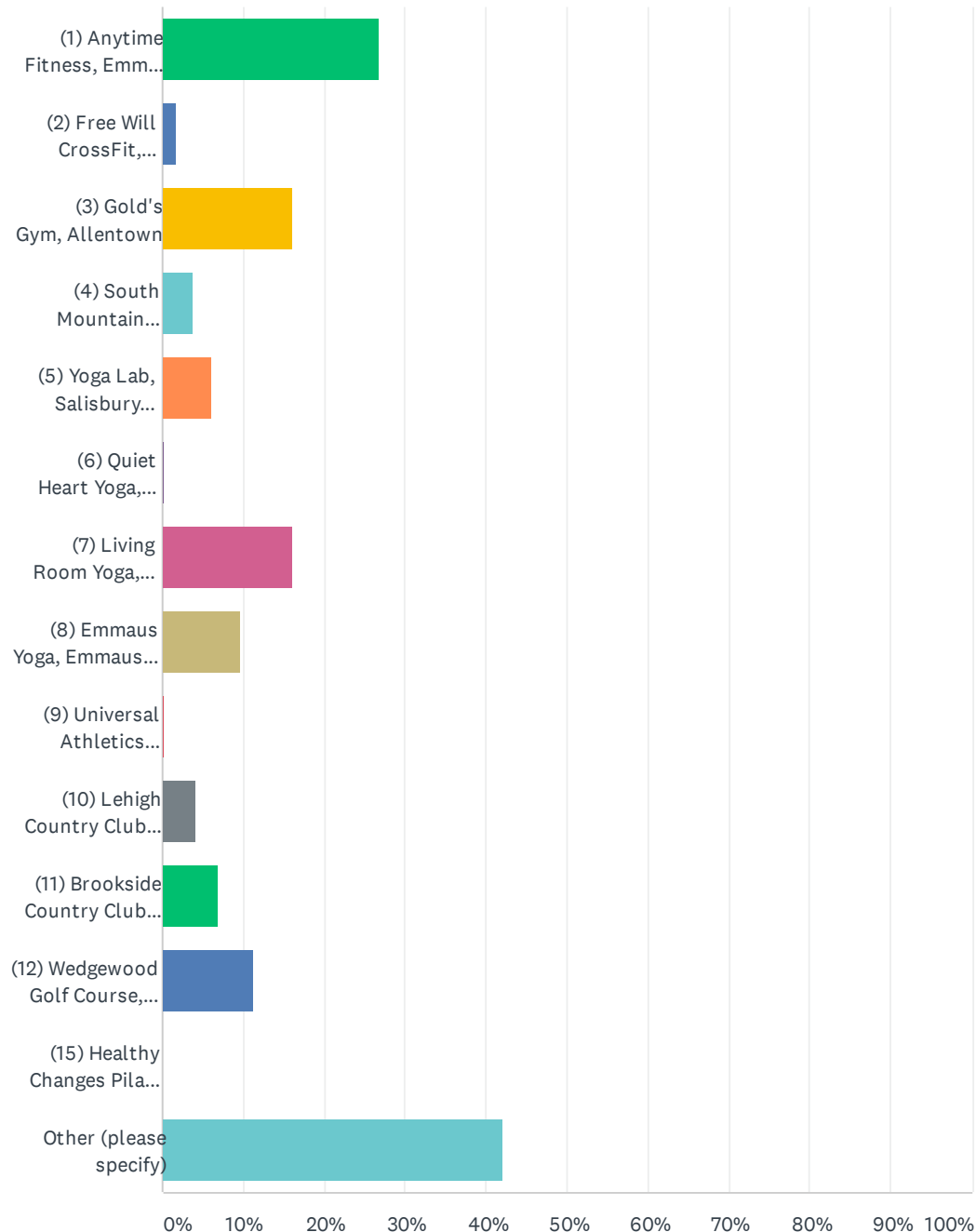
Answered: 651 Skipped: 138



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.37%	367
No	43.63%	284
TOTAL		651

## Q17 If you answered yes to Question 16, which private recreational providers have you or members of your household used in the last 2 years? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 352 Skipped: 437





# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
(1) Anytime Fitness, Emmaus Borough	26.70%	94
(2) Free Will CrossFit, Emmaus Borough	1.70%	6
(3) Gold's Gym, Allentown	16.19%	57
(4) South Mountain CrossFit, Allentown	3.69%	13
(5) Yoga Lab, Salisbury Township	5.97%	21
(6) Quiet Heart Yoga, Allentown	0.28%	1
(7) Living Room Yoga, Emmaus Borough	16.19%	57
(8) Emmaus Yoga, Emmaus Borough	9.66%	34
(9) Universal Athletics Fitness Center, Allentown	0.28%	1
(10) Lehigh Country Club, Lower Macungie Township	4.26%	15
(11) Brookside Country Club, Macungie Borough	6.82%	24
(12) Wedgewood Golf Course, Upper Saucon Township	11.36%	40
(15) Healthy Changes Pilates (628 Main St., Reading)	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	42.05%	148
Total Respondents: 352		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	The Fitness Plaza	4/5/2021 8:51 AM
2	LVHN and st. Luke's programs.	3/31/2021 9:38 PM
3	Max fitness	3/31/2021 7:50 PM
4	Rosies Boot Camp, Camp Olympic	3/31/2021 5:00 PM
5	Lehigh Valley Martial Arts	3/31/2021 3:47 PM
6	YMCA	3/31/2021 3:10 PM
7	LVHN Fitness	3/28/2021 5:53 PM
8	Planet fitness	3/28/2021 10:10 AM
9	Iron run	3/25/2021 7:28 PM
10	ESA	3/25/2021 12:27 PM
11	Steel Fitness	3/22/2021 5:00 PM
12	St Lukes Physical fitness chestnut st	3/21/2021 8:44 AM
13	Club Volleyball	3/21/2021 8:31 AM
14	Planet fitness	3/20/2021 2:11 PM
15	do not think it's your business	3/17/2021 1:25 PM
16	East penn fitness academy	3/17/2021 10:28 AM
17	Barre3	3/16/2021 6:14 PM
18	Barre 3 Allentown	3/16/2021 10:44 AM
19	my employment which is not in the area	3/11/2021 3:25 PM

# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

20	Maxx	3/9/2021 11:25 PM
21	Planet Fitness Allentown	3/9/2021 9:28 AM
22	Frank Donley Training	3/8/2021 1:51 PM
23	JCC	3/8/2021 9:03 AM
24	Blue Moon Equestrian Center, Cooperburg	3/8/2021 8:55 AM
25	Planet fitness	3/8/2021 8:30 AM
26	planet fitness	3/8/2021 6:29 AM
27	Iron Crush	3/8/2021 5:46 AM
28	Max in Trexlertown	3/7/2021 11:57 PM
29	The meadows clubhouse	3/7/2021 10:17 PM
30	Planet Fitness	3/7/2021 9:16 PM
31	Crossfit Threefold in Coopersburg	3/7/2021 9:05 PM
32	West End Yoga	3/7/2021 8:48 PM
33	Upper Perkiomen YMCA	3/7/2021 8:41 PM
34	School gym	3/7/2021 8:39 PM
35	Maxx Fitness	3/7/2021 8:21 PM
36	Gym near our old house	3/7/2021 8:15 PM
37	Planet Fitness	3/7/2021 8:11 PM
38	LVHN gym	2/28/2021 2:38 PM
39	Planet Fitness Allentown	2/18/2021 5:02 PM
40	Antigravity Yoga Lab	2/16/2021 3:27 PM
41	Elite sports	2/16/2021 8:50 AM
42	Lvhn gym	2/5/2021 12:23 PM
43	Maxx Fitness Trexlertown; Emmaus Aquatic Center	2/4/2021 7:13 AM
44	Sure way	2/4/2021 1:38 AM
45	Steel premier	2/3/2021 2:56 PM
46	YMCA Upper Perkiomen	1/29/2021 4:26 PM
47	Lehigh Valley Martial Arts	1/27/2021 4:56 PM
48	HOA Gym	1/27/2021 2:57 PM
49	LA Fitness	1/27/2021 2:51 PM
50	YMCA Upper Perk	1/27/2021 1:41 PM
51	Steel Fitness, West End Yoga	1/27/2021 11:09 AM
52	Planet Fitness	1/27/2021 10:09 AM
53	Planet fitness	1/27/2021 9:49 AM
54	Five Star Swim School	1/26/2021 11:57 AM
55	Steel fitness	1/25/2021 9:06 AM
56	Muhlenberg College gym	1/23/2021 10:28 AM
57	La fitness	1/22/2021 7:41 PM



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

58	planet fitness, fitness maxx	1/22/2021 11:32 AM
59	Steel Fitness	1/19/2021 3:18 PM
60	Maxx Fitness	1/19/2021 1:26 PM
61	College gym	1/19/2021 9:43 AM
62	Max	1/19/2021 8:46 AM
63	Maxx	1/18/2021 11:55 PM
64	Maxx	1/18/2021 10:02 PM
65	Iron Crush, Trexlertown	1/18/2021 9:27 PM
66	Private location	1/18/2021 8:50 PM
67	Orangetheory, Rodale Aquatic Center, Trident Swim and Tennis Club	1/18/2021 7:53 PM
68	Eights Gym and Yoga Lab	1/18/2021 7:51 PM
69	None	1/18/2021 7:13 PM
70	Maxx fitness	1/18/2021 7:01 PM
71	St Luke's physical therapy	1/18/2021 7:47 AM
72	Maxx Fitness	1/17/2021 12:34 PM
73	steel fitness	1/17/2021 11:20 AM
74	St Luke's performance gym and steel fitness on cetronia road	1/17/2021 11:12 AM
75	Planet Fitness	1/16/2021 9:36 PM
76	Elite sports academy	1/16/2021 7:51 PM
77	Max fitness	1/16/2021 7:15 PM
78	St Luke's fitness center	1/16/2021 4:57 PM
79	Planet Fitness	1/16/2021 4:44 PM
80	Iron Crush	1/16/2021 4:26 PM
81	Planet Fitness	1/16/2021 10:04 AM
82	JCC of Allentown and Lower mac community center	1/16/2021 9:40 AM
83	Steel fitness	1/16/2021 9:27 AM
84	Barre 3 studio	1/16/2021 9:21 AM
85	Steel Fitness and St Luke's gym	1/16/2021 9:08 AM
86	Planet Fitness	1/16/2021 8:44 AM
87	Maxx fitness	1/16/2021 8:15 AM
88	Steel fitness	1/16/2021 5:47 AM
89	Maxx fitness Trexlertown	1/16/2021 12:16 AM
90	Planet Fitness	1/12/2021 8:35 AM
91	Ce tumbling, perkiomen township	1/11/2021 8:37 AM
92	ESA - Sports Center and batting cages, the former Emmaus bowling alley	12/8/2020 6:34 PM
93	Steele fitness	12/7/2020 2:25 PM
94	LVHN gym	12/5/2020 10:20 AM
95	Lehigh valley health center fitness center	12/5/2020 10:09 AM

# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

96	Maxx trex	12/4/2020 4:07 PM
97	Emmaus Borough gym. FINISH IT!	12/4/2020 11:55 AM
98	Emmaus Aquatic Club	12/3/2020 8:27 PM
99	Planet fitness, Allentown	11/14/2020 6:12 PM
100	Upper Perk YMCA	10/26/2020 11:16 PM
101	Lv sports turf	10/17/2020 9:47 PM
102	Eights Gym Alburtis	10/16/2020 7:06 AM
103	YMCA	10/13/2020 3:46 PM
104	East Penn Children's Fitness	10/13/2020 3:01 PM
105	Rec center	10/13/2020 12:23 PM
106	IC Training, Trexlertown	10/13/2020 10:04 AM
107	Upper Perk YMCA	10/13/2020 9:57 AM
108	St Luke's Physical Therapy	10/13/2020 9:46 AM
109	Upper perkiomen ymca	10/10/2020 9:57 PM
110	Planet fitness allentown	10/10/2020 8:35 AM
111	Uppe Perk YMCA	10/9/2020 11:01 PM
112	LVHN gym	10/9/2020 4:26 PM
113	St Lukes and exercise class at Camp Olympic	10/9/2020 3:50 PM
114	St Lukes West	10/9/2020 3:45 PM
115	Planet fitness	10/3/2020 7:04 PM
116	A pilates place near Rodale Institute I think	9/29/2020 4:37 PM
117	LVHN Fitness Center	9/25/2020 12:00 PM
118	Steel Premier Fitness	9/15/2020 10:17 PM
119	YMCA	9/2/2020 10:50 AM
120	Lvhn fitness center	8/31/2020 5:54 AM
121	Maxx Fitness	8/26/2020 10:21 AM
122	Maxx fitness Trexlertown	8/25/2020 1:39 PM
123	Emmaus Run In	8/25/2020 1:25 PM
124	ALC emmaus	8/23/2020 1:02 PM
125	CURVES for women	8/22/2020 4:51 PM
126	Planet Fitness, Quakertown & Fox Tale Stud Farm, Upper Saucon	8/21/2020 9:34 AM
127	Rodale aquatic	8/21/2020 7:01 AM
128	Planet fitness	8/20/2020 6:43 AM
129	Steel fitness	8/18/2020 11:25 PM
130	Planet Fitness	8/18/2020 3:18 PM
131	Lower mac rec center	8/18/2020 8:40 AM
132	Parkettes	8/18/2020 8:11 AM
133	Maxx Fitness / Soldierfit	8/18/2020 7:38 AM

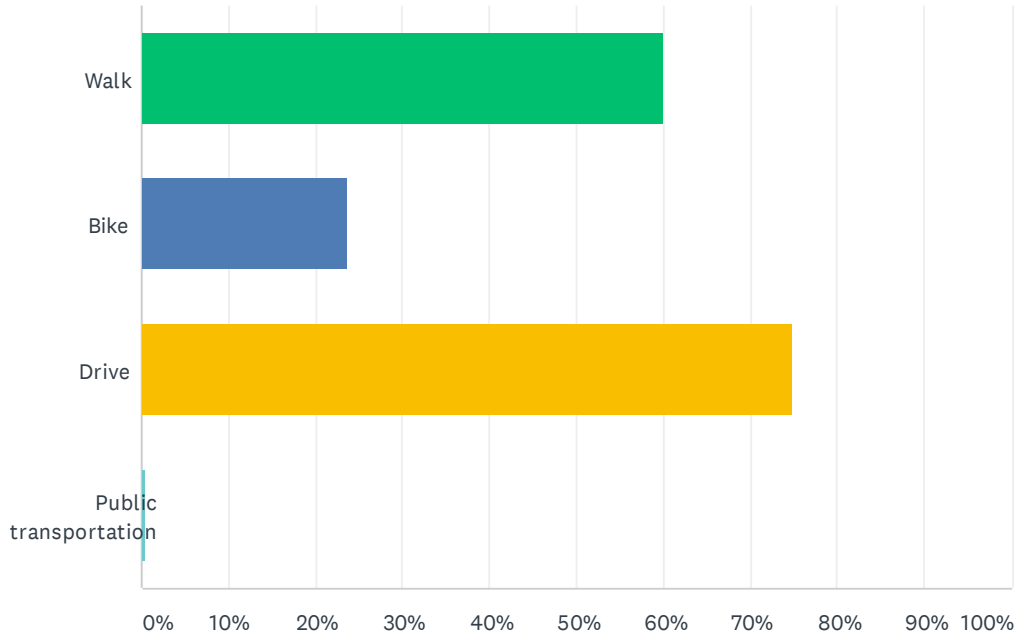


# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

134	Max fitness	8/18/2020 2:04 AM
135	Rosie's Boot Camp Camp Olympic	8/17/2020 9:38 PM
136	Steel fitnessz	8/17/2020 8:28 PM
137	Ap	8/17/2020 6:07 PM
138	Pf	8/17/2020 5:59 PM
139	St Luke's gym and steel fitness	8/17/2020 4:20 PM
140	Maxx Fitness, Trexlertown	8/17/2020 4:12 PM
141	Steel Fitness (swim lessons)	8/17/2020 4:04 PM
142	Max fitness	8/17/2020 4:00 PM
143	St Luke's at West End	8/17/2020 3:49 PM
144	While traveling in FL	8/17/2020 3:37 PM
145	YMCA, Iron Run	8/17/2020 1:38 PM
146	ymca allentown	8/16/2020 8:53 AM
147	Lehigh valley parkour. Lehigh valley martial arts.	8/15/2020 8:14 PM
148	Lehigh valley martial arts	8/15/2020 7:53 PM

## Q18 How do you usually travel to area parks? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 617 Skipped: 172

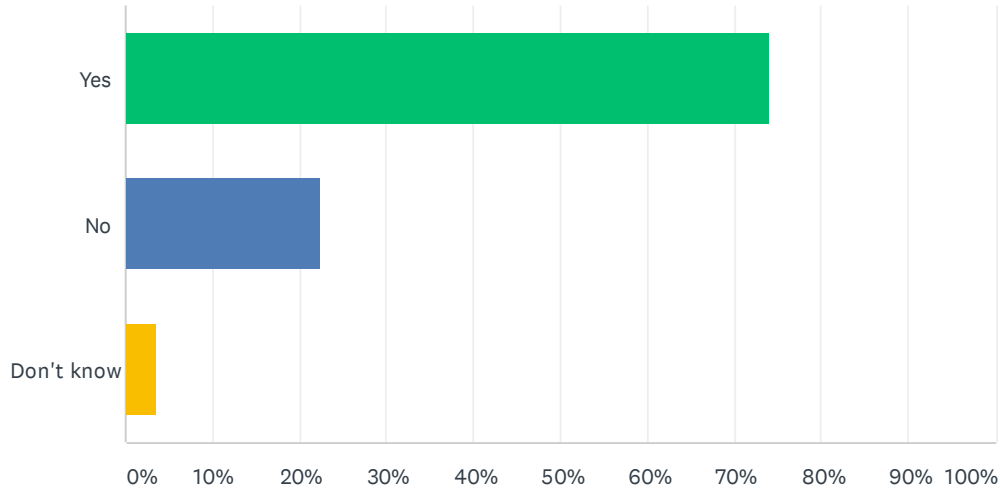


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk	60.13%	371
Bike	23.66%	146
Drive	74.88%	462
Public transportation	0.32%	2
Total Respondents: 617		



## Q19 Do you feel that there are an adequate number of parks, natural areas, open spaces and trails available to you in or in close proximity to where you live?

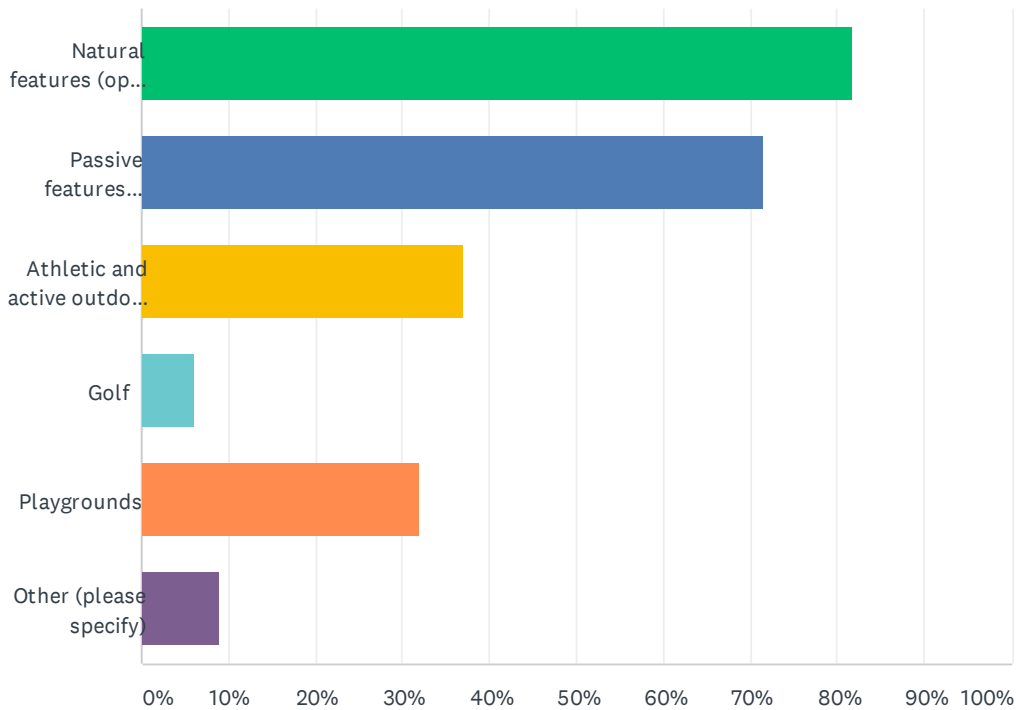
Answered: 616 Skipped: 173



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	74.03%	456
No	22.40%	138
Don't know	3.57%	22
TOTAL		616

## Q20 What are your favorite types of park features? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 618 Skipped: 171



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Natural features (open space, wildlife habitat, outdoor education, etc.)	81.72%	505
Passive features (trails, benches, picnic facilities, etc.)	71.52%	442
Athletic and active outdoor activities (fields, courts, pools, fitness equip, etc.)	37.06%	229
Golf	5.99%	37
Playgrounds	32.04%	198
Other (please specify)	9.06%	56
Total Respondents: 618		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Restrooms	4/1/2021 6:46 AM
2	None	3/31/2021 9:43 PM
3	swimming areas	3/31/2021 4:05 PM
4	Dog Friendly. Currently, in SAFE walking distance from our house, there are NO parks. (Rodale is dog friendly, if you want to deal with trying to cross pennsylvania)	3/31/2021 3:41 PM
5	Dog park	3/31/2021 3:11 PM
6	flower gardens	3/28/2021 7:44 PM
7	Na	3/25/2021 6:19 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

8	Skateparks	3/17/2021 7:57 PM
9	Parks that allow dogs on leashes	3/17/2021 7:28 PM
10	Biking trails (paved and mountain)	3/10/2021 1:48 PM
11	trails	3/9/2021 9:30 AM
12	Pet friendly	3/8/2021 9:07 AM
13	Dog park	3/8/2021 6:39 AM
14	Dog Parks	3/8/2021 6:27 AM
15	Dog park in Emmaus	3/7/2021 10:49 PM
16	Allowing dogs to be walked in the park	3/7/2021 9:20 PM
17	Long biking/walking trails	3/7/2021 9:01 PM
18	EMMAUS COMMUNITY POOL	3/7/2021 8:29 PM
19	DOG PARK WOULD BE NICE....	3/7/2021 8:28 PM
20	Dog Parks, please.	3/7/2021 8:16 PM
21	Disc Golf	3/7/2021 8:15 PM
22	tennis, all weather tracks for running, biking trails	2/28/2021 2:44 PM
23	Large art displays	2/3/2021 2:57 PM
24	Signs naming the place, and providing some interest in other close areas, ie. "you are here" maps	2/3/2021 1:40 PM
25	Disc golf	1/27/2021 2:27 PM
26	clean bathrooms	1/27/2021 10:11 AM
27	Ponds/lakes, I love furnace dam and greenlane	1/19/2021 8:49 AM
28	I want as much land preservation as possible!	1/17/2021 8:39 PM
29	need for pet areas , Emmaus park signs say no pets	1/17/2021 11:21 AM
30	Climbing walls, natural playscapes (rusty keeler style)	1/17/2021 11:15 AM
31	Bike park, skate park	1/17/2021 9:50 AM
32	Skatepark	1/16/2021 7:54 PM
33	Skateboard Parks	1/16/2021 7:11 PM
34	Splash pad	1/16/2021 12:18 PM
35	Please do not put any golf courses in emmaus. They are a waste of green space and are generally bad for local ecosystems	1/16/2021 11:18 AM
36	Skate and dog oarks	1/16/2021 9:29 AM
37	I prefer less crowded areas.	1/16/2021 8:49 AM
38	A dog park would be awful nice	1/15/2021 11:48 PM
39	Dog park	1/15/2021 11:45 PM
40	more disc golf and pickle ball courts	1/15/2021 10:03 PM
41	incorporation of historic properties, interpretive panels about the area	1/12/2021 5:31 PM
42	Skate Parks	12/4/2020 3:52 PM
43	Dog park	10/28/2020 11:43 AM
44	Splash pads	10/12/2020 10:30 PM

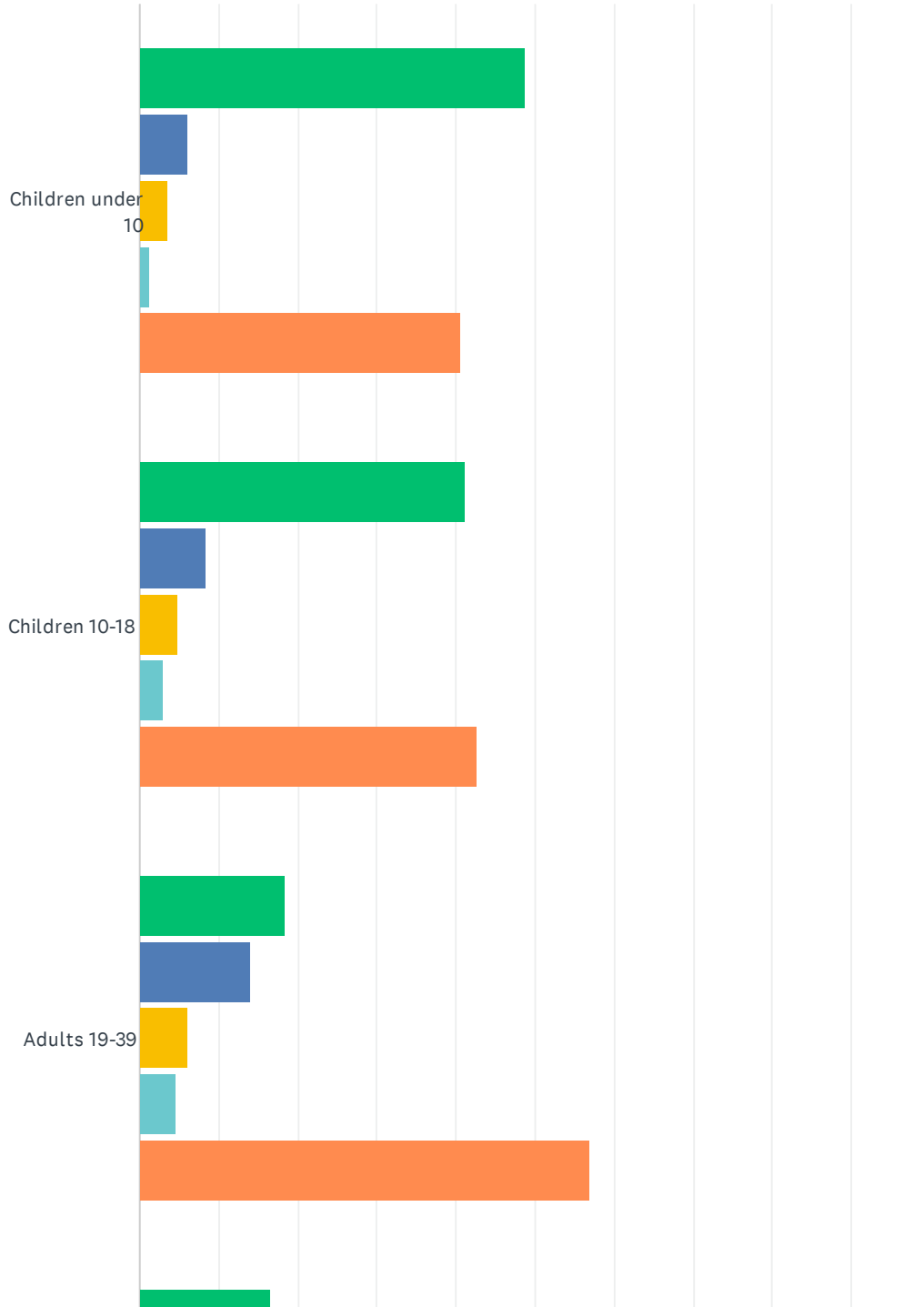
# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

45	Trails	10/9/2020 4:27 PM
46	Love the wildlands conservancy on South Mtn.!!	10/5/2020 3:15 PM
47	Pool	9/16/2020 3:59 PM
48	Mountain bike trails	9/15/2020 8:22 PM
49	Dog park !!!! Would love a dog park in Emmaus	8/20/2020 6:45 AM
50	Fishing, kayaking	8/18/2020 11:28 PM
51	rest rooms availability	8/18/2020 3:21 PM
52	Disc golf	8/18/2020 10:21 AM
53	Dog park	8/17/2020 8:02 PM
54	Trails	8/17/2020 6:12 PM
55	Naturescapes and nature playgrounds	8/17/2020 4:23 PM
56	Restrooms	8/17/2020 3:22 PM

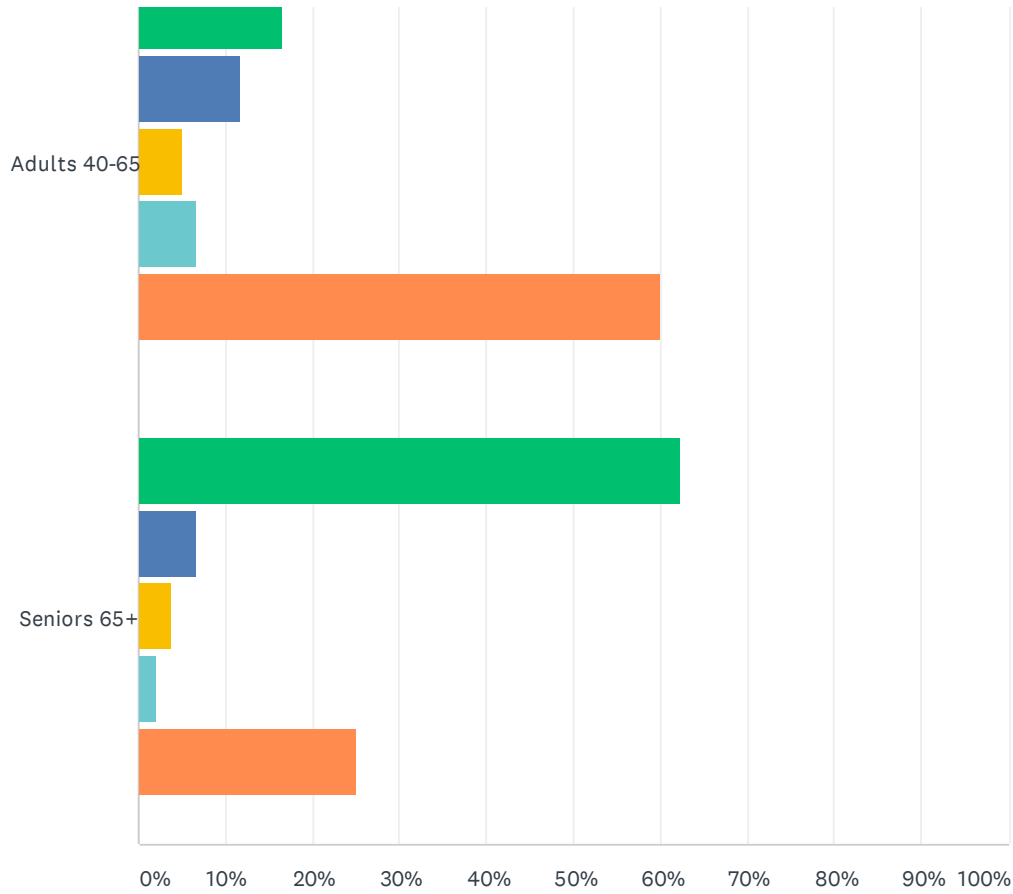


Q21 Thinking about members of your household who are in the age groups listed below, how many trips in total have the members of your household made to parks, trails, natural areas and open spaces in the past 24 months? For example, a family of 4 visiting a park equals 4 separate trips in the appropriate age groups below. (If certain age groups are not applicable, leave boxes blank.)

Answered: 606 Skipped: 183



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study



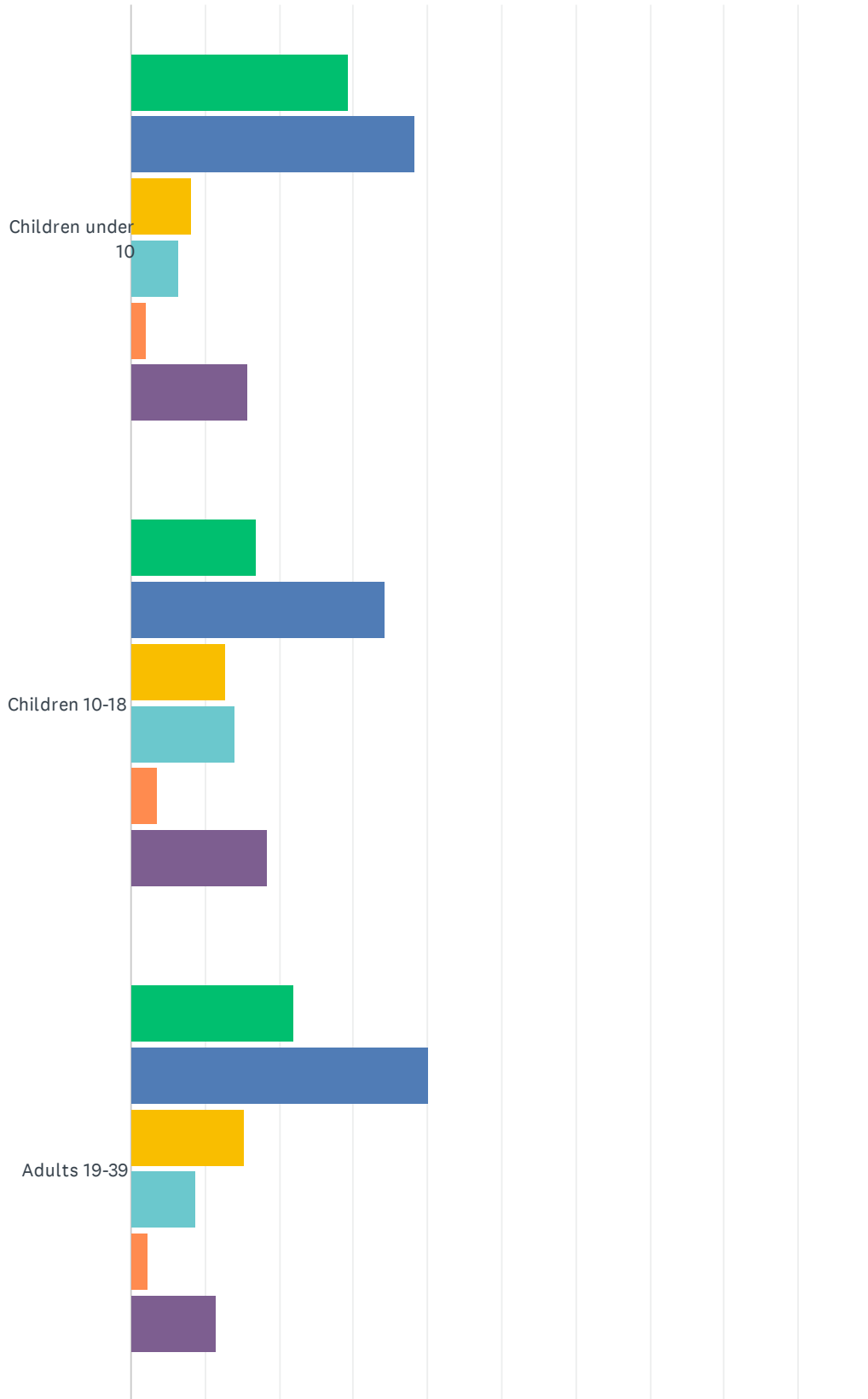
None 1-3 4-6 7-9 10 or more

	NONE	1-3	4-6	7-9	10 OR MORE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Children under 10	48.65% 162	6.01% 20	3.60% 12	1.20% 4	40.54% 135	333	2.79
Children 10-18	41.21% 143	8.36% 29	4.90% 17	2.88% 10	42.65% 148	347	2.97
Adults 19-39	18.35% 69	14.10% 53	6.12% 23	4.52% 17	56.91% 214	376	3.68
Adults 40-65	16.52% 75	11.67% 53	5.07% 23	6.61% 30	60.13% 273	454	3.82
Seniors 65+	62.40% 151	6.61% 16	3.72% 9	2.07% 5	25.21% 61	242	2.21

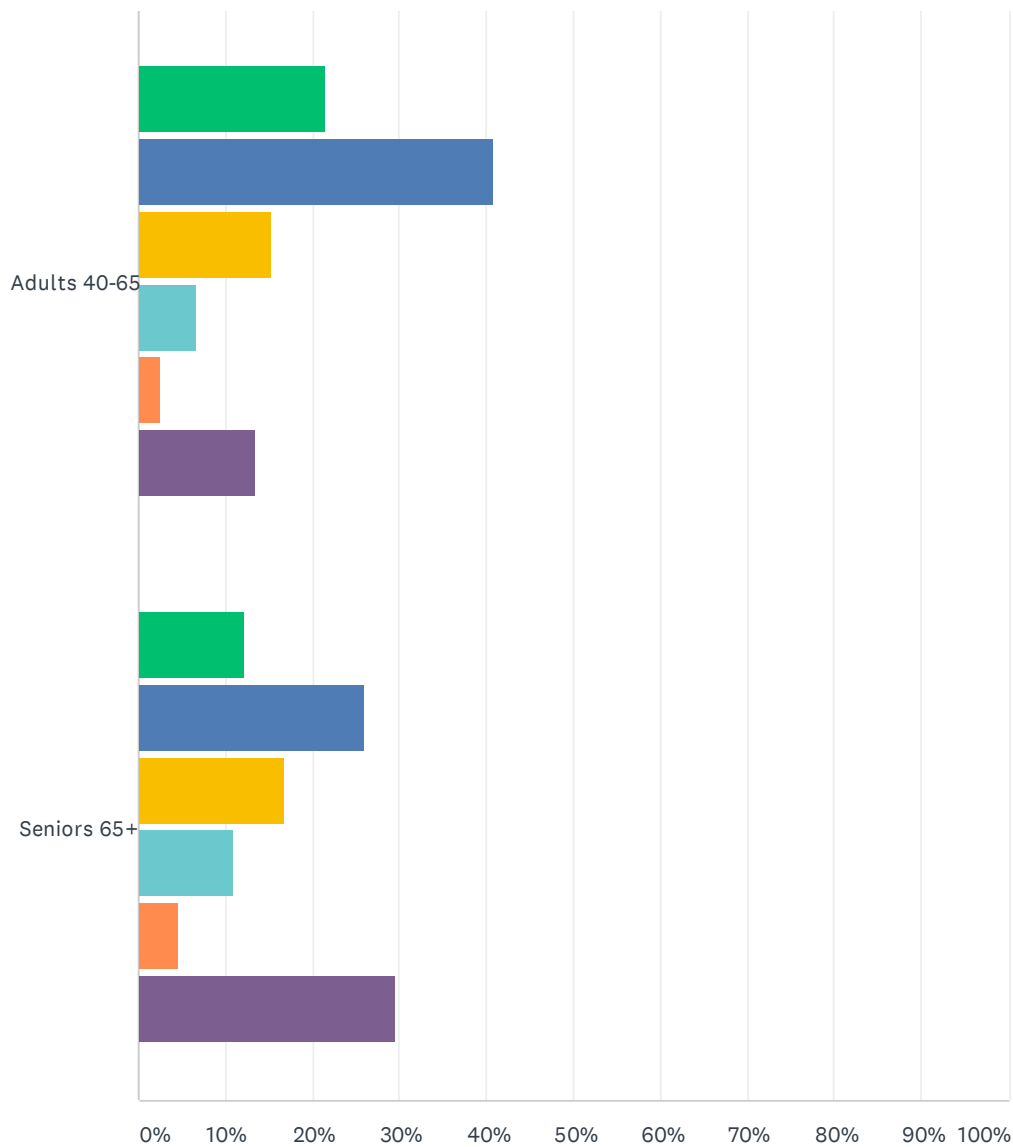


## Q22 In general, how well do you think the age groups listed below are served by parks, recreation, and open space in or near Emmaus Borough?

Answered: 604 Skipped: 185



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study



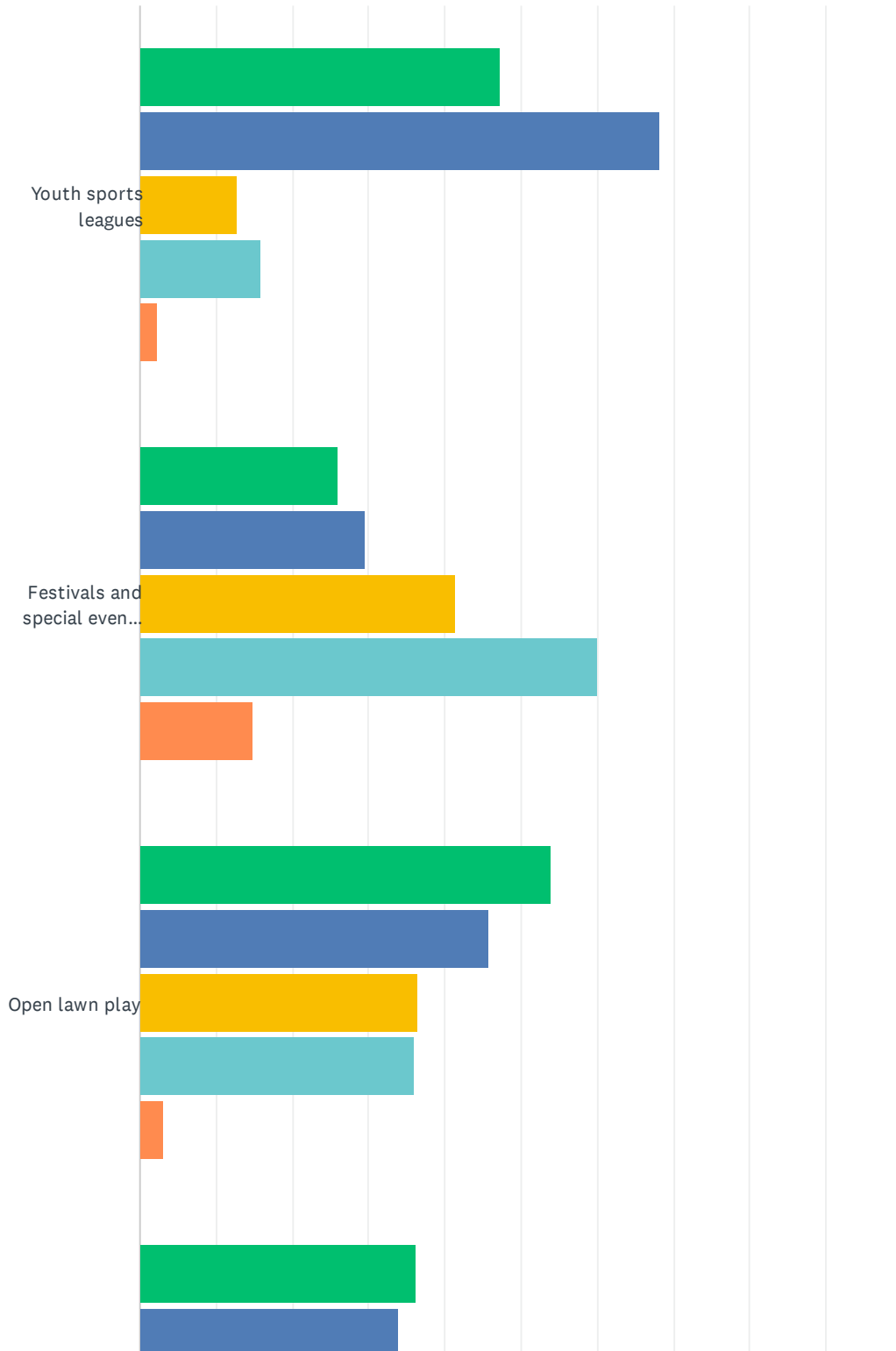
■ Very Well
 ■ Somewhat Well
 ■ Neither Well nor Poorly
 ■ Somewhat Poorly
 ■ Very Poorly
 ■ Don't know

	VERY WELL	SOMEWHAT WELL	NEITHER WELL NOR POORLY	SOMEWHAT POORLY	VERY POORLY	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Children under 10	29.21% 156	38.20% 204	8.24% 44	6.55% 35	2.06% 11	15.73% 84	534
Children 10-18	17.01% 90	34.22% 181	12.85% 68	13.99% 74	3.59% 19	18.34% 97	529
Adults 19-39	22.06% 118	40.19% 215	15.33% 82	8.79% 47	2.24% 12	11.40% 61	535
Adults 40-65	21.47% 117	40.73% 222	15.23% 83	6.61% 36	2.57% 14	13.39% 73	545
Seniors 65+	12.18% 61	25.95% 130	16.77% 84	10.98% 55	4.59% 23	29.54% 148	501

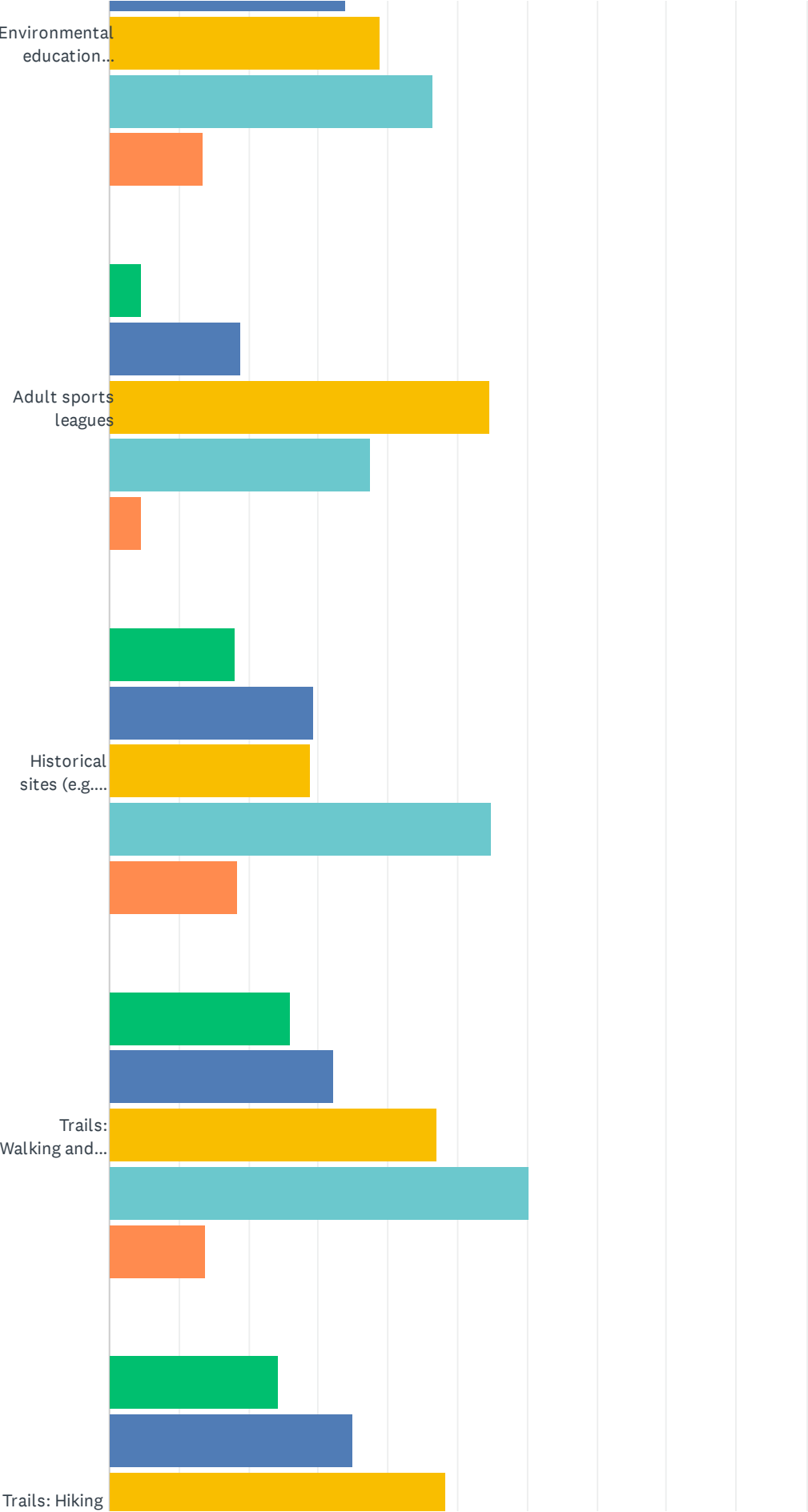


Q23 The following is a list of outdoor activities often found in parks, natural areas, open spaces or recreation facilities. What activities did each age group in your household participate in and around Emmaus Borough?  
(Please check all that apply)

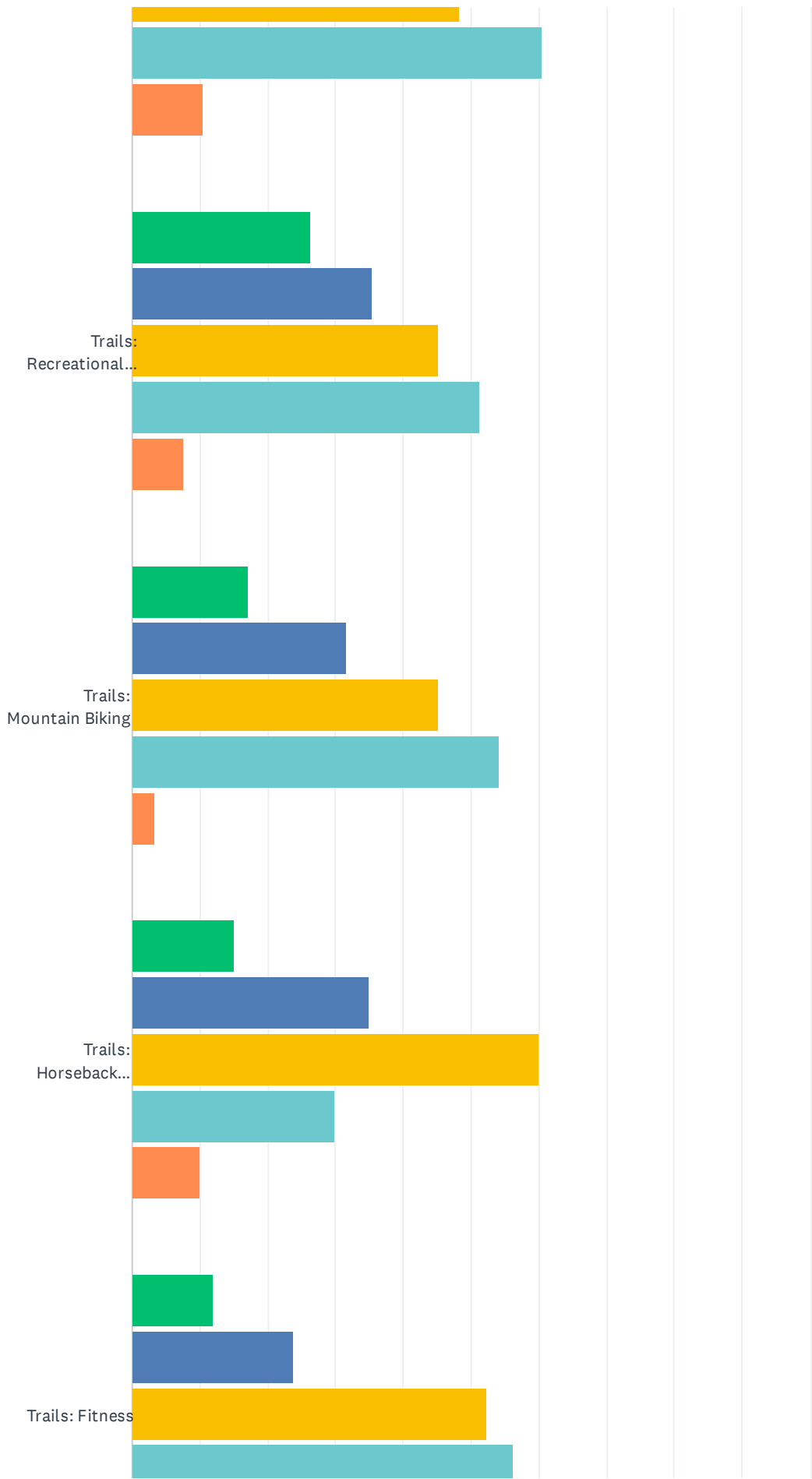
Answered: 595 Skipped: 194

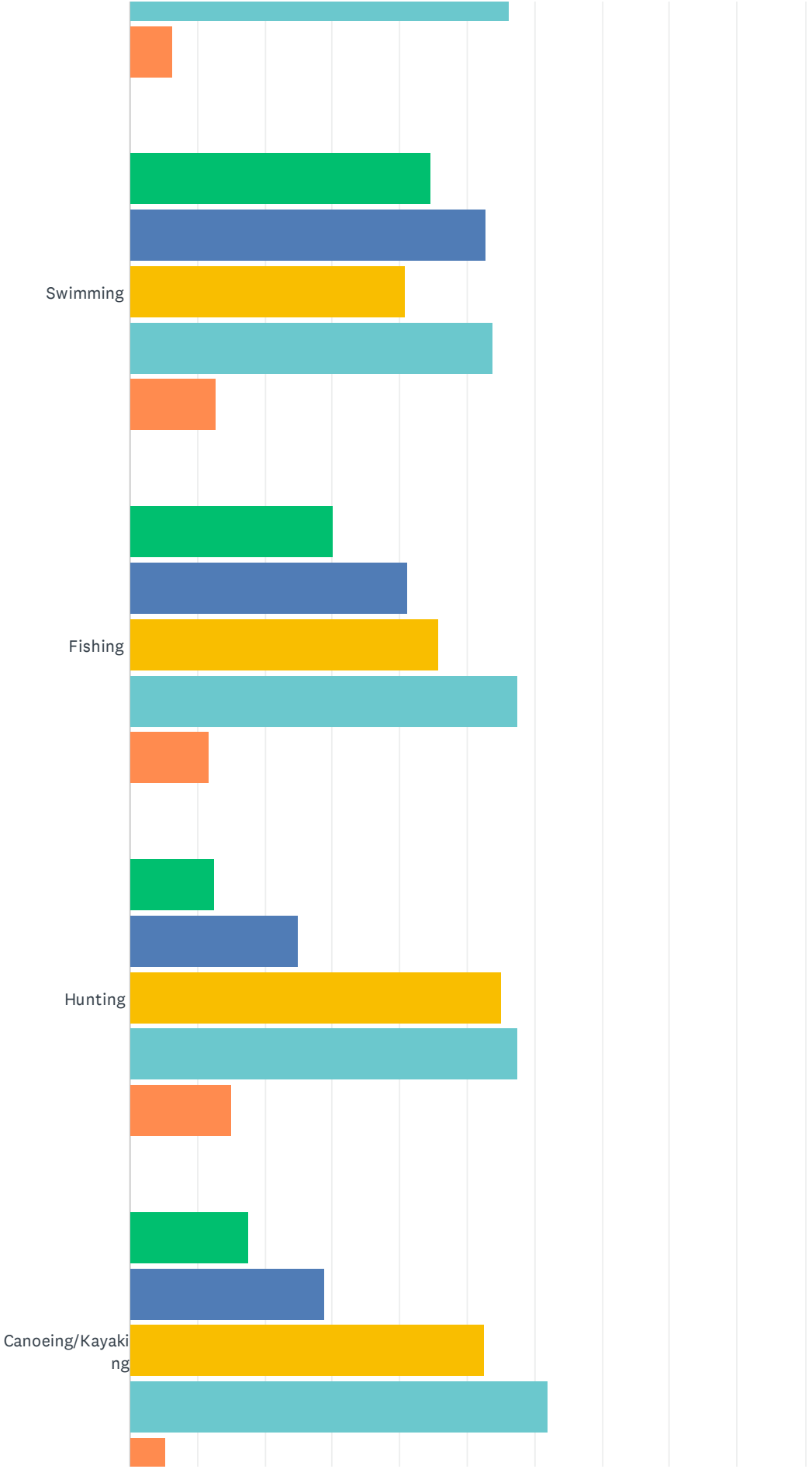


Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

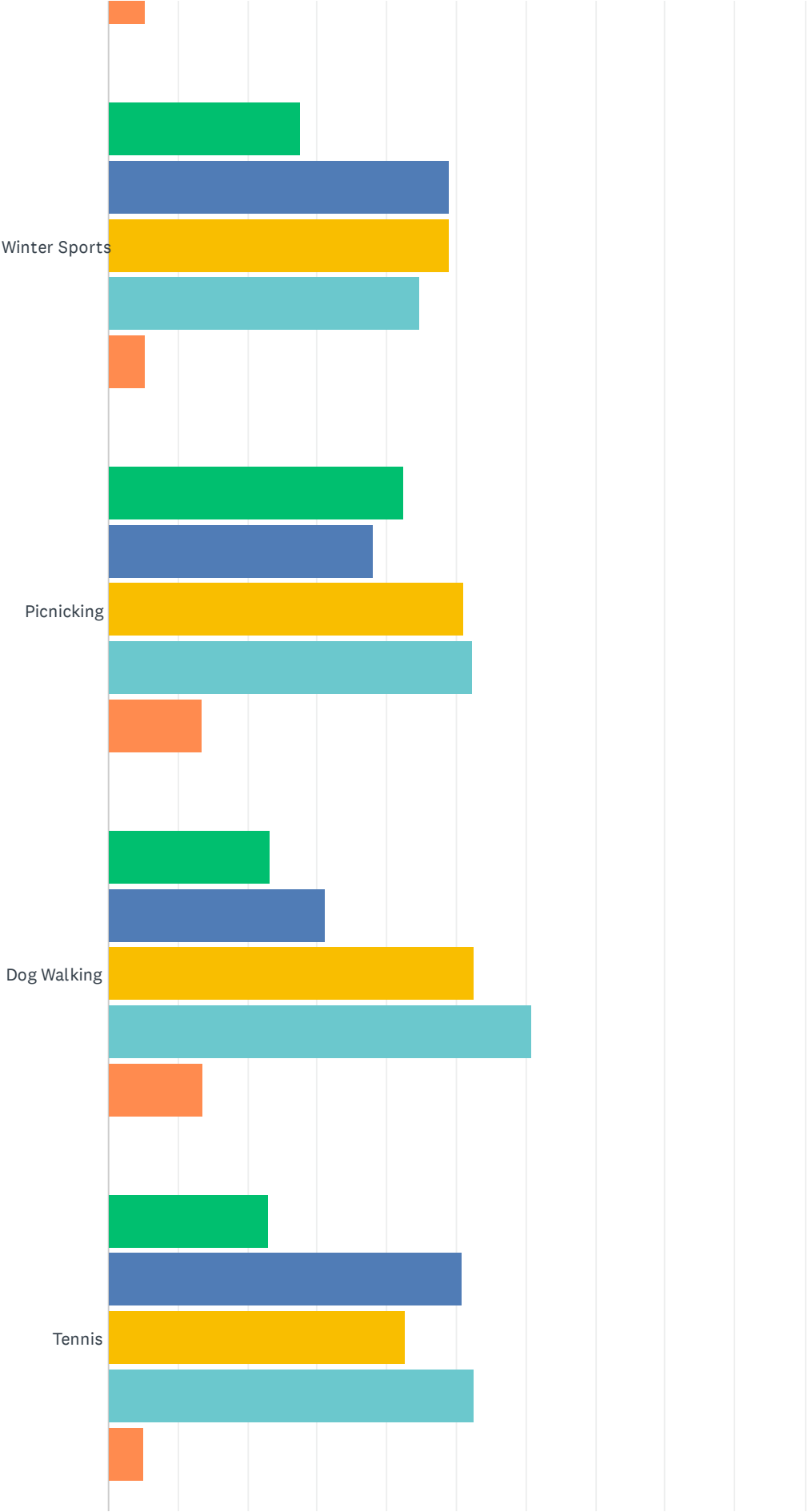


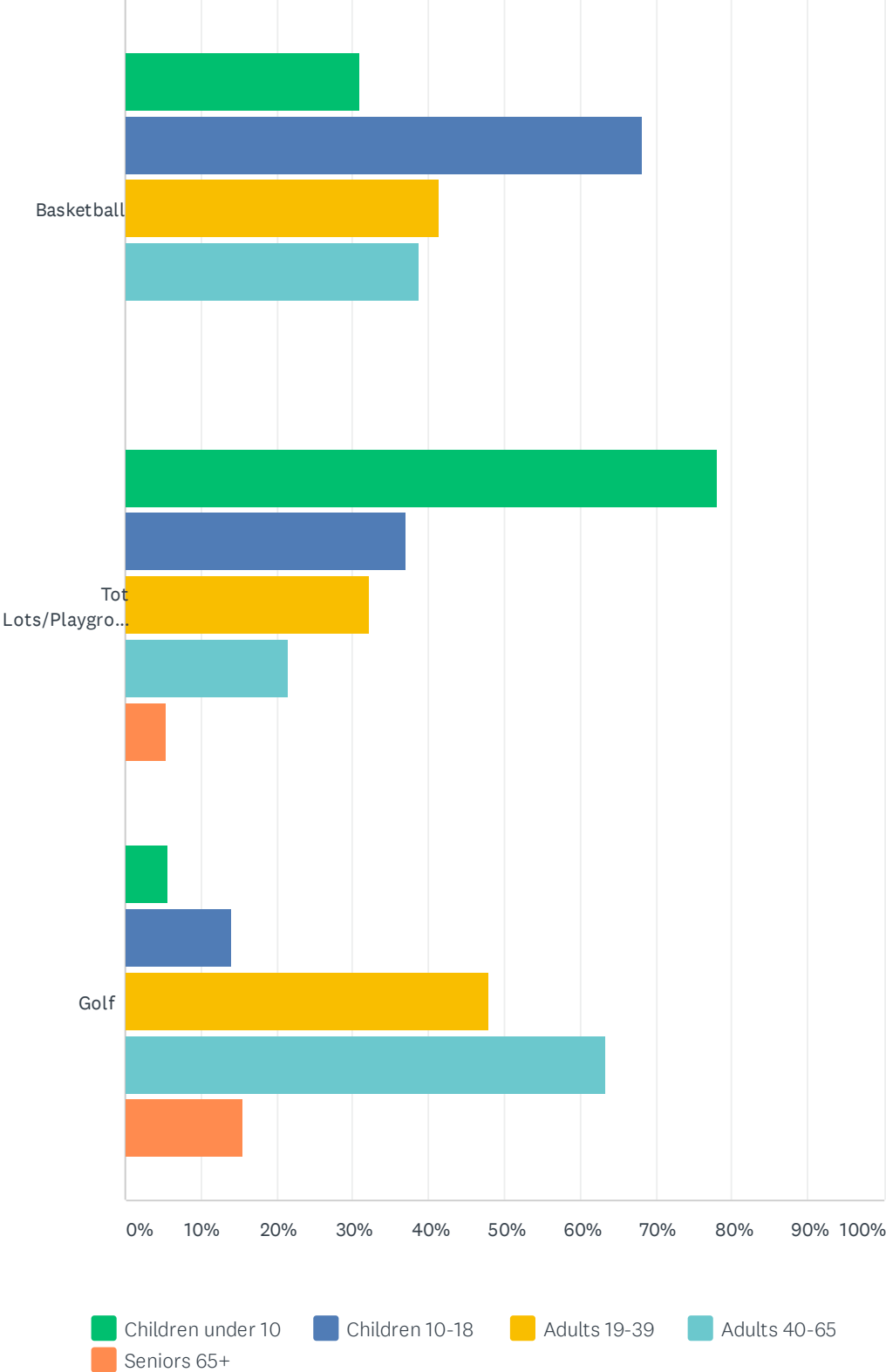














# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

	CHILDREN UNDER 10	CHILDREN 10-18	ADULTS 19-39	ADULTS 40-65	SENIORS 65+	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Youth sports leagues	47.27% 104	68.18% 150	12.73% 28	15.91% 35	2.27% 5	220
Festivals and special events (e.g., concerts, theater)	25.96% 108	29.57% 123	41.35% 172	60.10% 250	14.90% 62	416
Open lawn play	53.88% 139	45.74% 118	36.43% 94	36.05% 93	3.10% 8	258
Environmental education (e.g., nature studying, bird watching)	36.22% 92	33.86% 86	38.98% 99	46.46% 118	13.39% 34	254
Adult sports leagues	4.69% 3	18.75% 12	54.69% 35	37.50% 24	4.69% 3	64
Historical sites (e.g. 1803 House, Knauss Homestead)	17.98% 41	29.39% 67	28.95% 66	54.82% 125	18.42% 42	228
Trails: Walking and jogging	25.88% 140	32.16% 174	47.13% 255	60.26% 326	13.86% 75	541
Trails: Hiking	24.29% 111	35.01% 160	48.36% 221	60.39% 276	10.50% 48	457
Trails: Recreational Cycling	26.34% 59	35.27% 79	45.09% 101	51.34% 115	7.59% 17	224
Trails: Mountain Biking	17.12% 25	31.51% 46	45.21% 66	54.11% 79	3.42% 5	146
Trails: Horseback Riding	15.00% 3	35.00% 7	60.00% 12	30.00% 6	10.00% 2	20
Trails: Fitness	11.90% 25	23.81% 50	52.38% 110	56.19% 118	6.19% 13	210
Swimming	44.50% 97	52.75% 115	40.83% 89	53.67% 117	12.84% 28	218
Fishing	30.07% 46	41.18% 63	45.75% 70	57.52% 88	11.76% 18	153
Hunting	12.50% 5	25.00% 10	55.00% 22	57.50% 23	15.00% 6	40
Canoeing/Kayaking	17.53% 17	28.87% 28	52.58% 51	61.86% 60	5.15% 5	97
Winter Sports	27.66% 26	48.94% 46	48.94% 46	44.68% 42	5.32% 5	94
Picnicking	42.38% 89	38.10% 80	50.95% 107	52.38% 110	13.33% 28	210
Dog Walking	23.13% 71	31.27% 96	52.44% 161	60.91% 187	13.68% 42	307
Tennis	22.95% 14	50.82% 31	42.62% 26	52.46% 32	4.92% 3	61
Basketball	31.03% 36	68.10% 79	41.38% 48	38.79% 45	0.00% 0	116
Tot Lots/Playgrounds	77.96% 145	37.10% 69	32.26% 60	21.51% 40	5.38% 10	186
Golf	5.63% 4	14.08% 10	47.89% 34	63.38% 45	15.49% 11	71

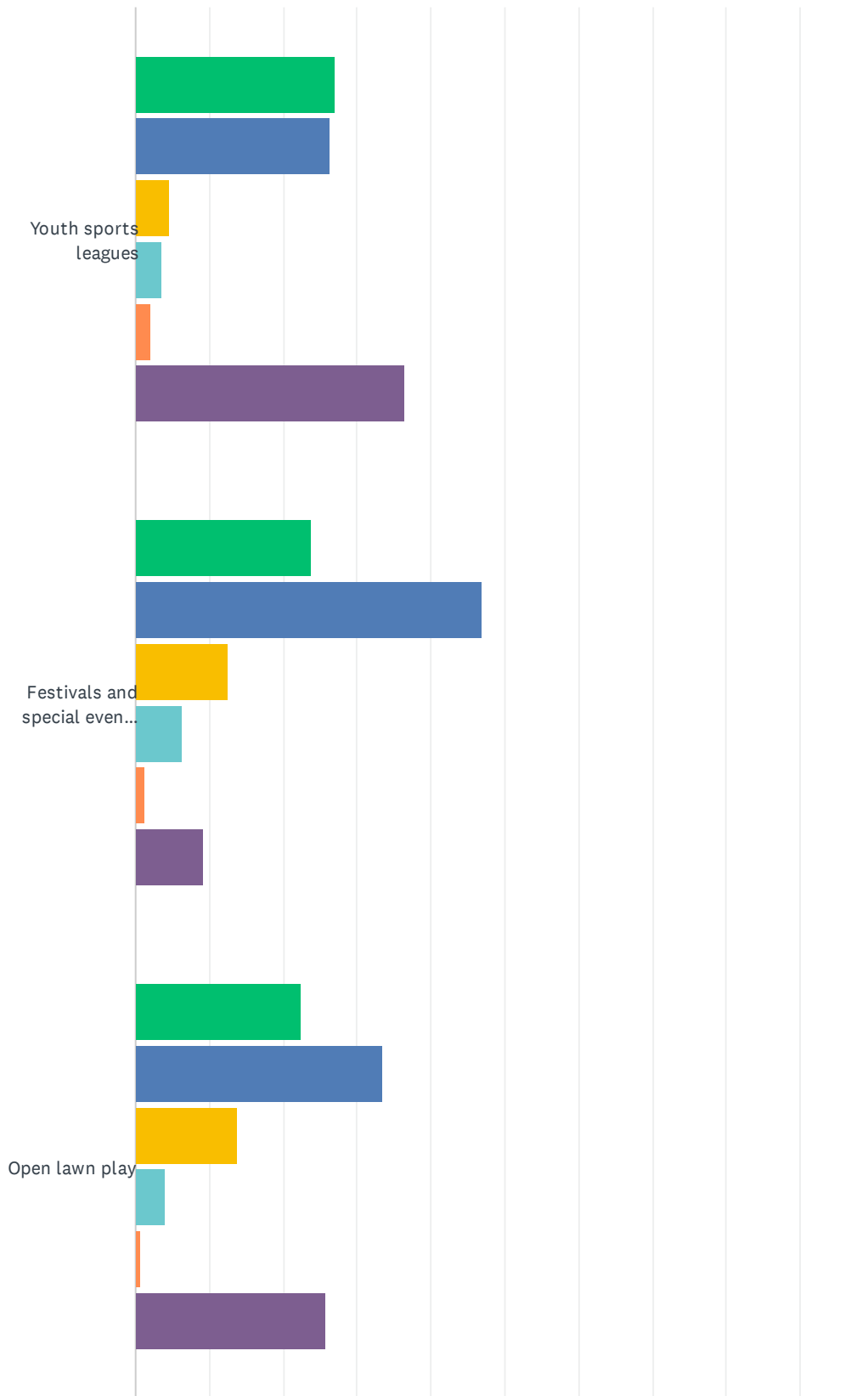
# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

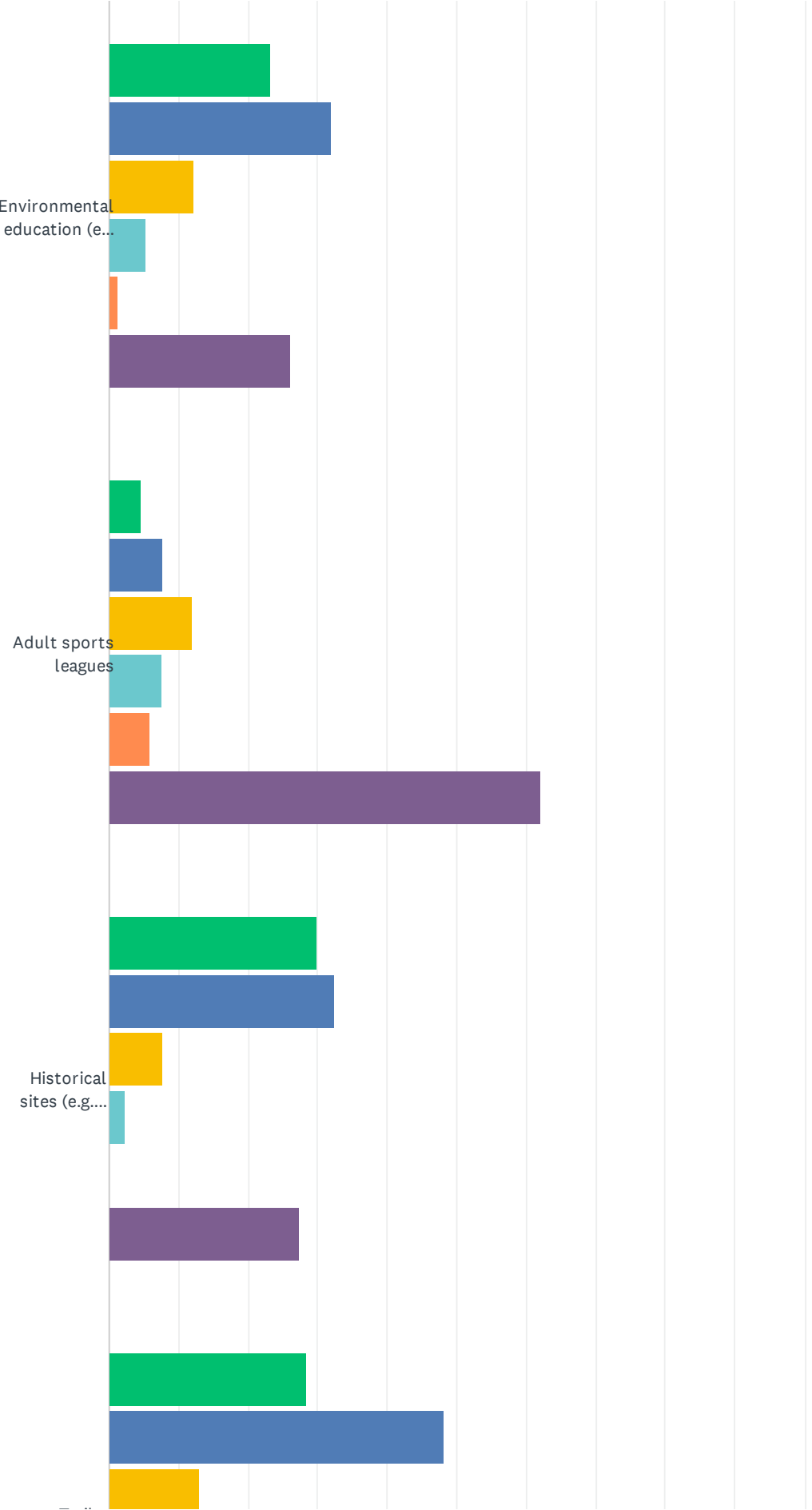
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None	3/31/2021 9:43 PM
2	Aqua Zumba classes	3/7/2021 8:23 PM
3	We all go to the farmer's market each week	3/7/2021 8:17 PM
4	Disc Golf - Camp Olympic	3/7/2021 8:15 PM
5	Soccer adults 19-39	2/28/2021 2:44 PM
6	But dogs aren't actually allowed anywhere so we just walk along the roads.	2/4/2021 9:04 AM
7	mainly walking	2/2/2021 3:11 PM
8	Gardening and composting	1/17/2021 11:15 AM
9	Disc golf	1/16/2021 3:00 PM
10	Pickle ball, disc golf	1/15/2021 10:03 PM
11	softball, scavenger hunts, geocaching	1/12/2021 5:31 PM
12	Our parks don't allow dogs or we would walk ours in one on leashes	12/9/2020 8:36 PM
13	FINISH BOROUGH GYM.	12/4/2020 11:58 AM
14	Hammock hanging	10/10/2020 10:03 PM
15	Would love a dog park in Emmaus	8/20/2020 6:45 AM
16	Tinkergarten, outdoor music and art programs	8/17/2020 4:23 PM
17	Shooting Sports	8/17/2020 3:38 PM



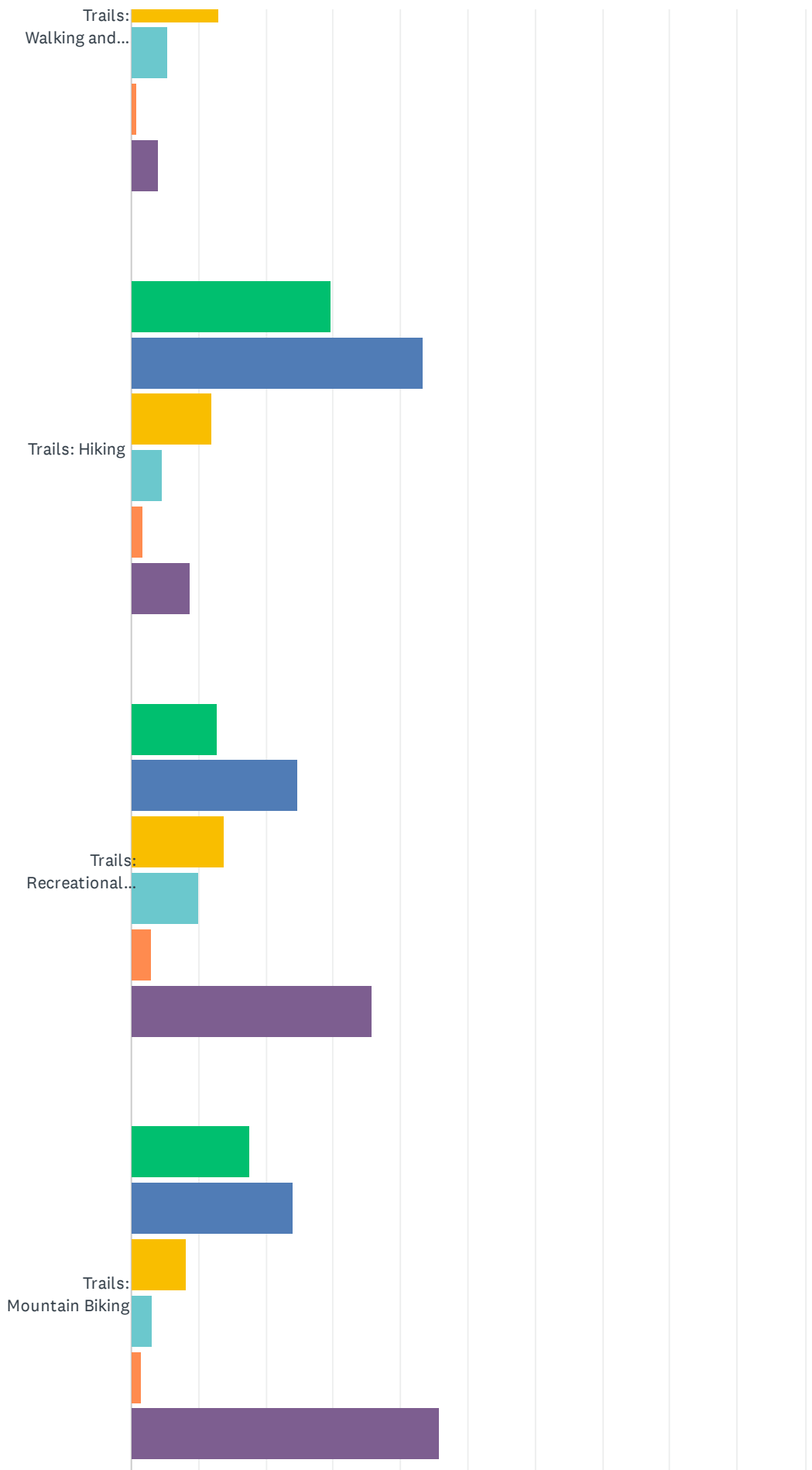
## Q24 How well is each activity provided for in or around Emmaus Borough? (Please check below)

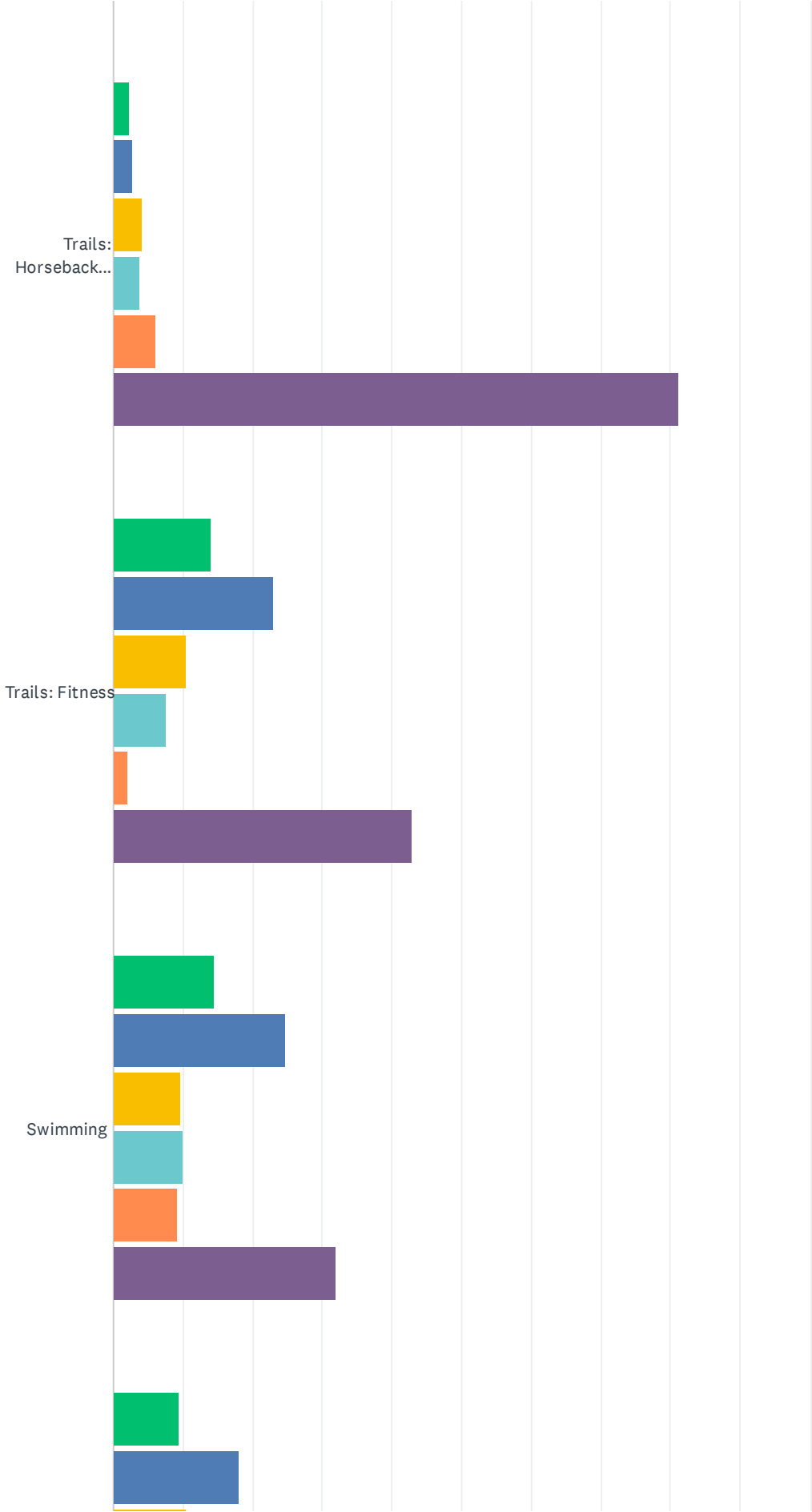
Answered: 558   Skipped: 231



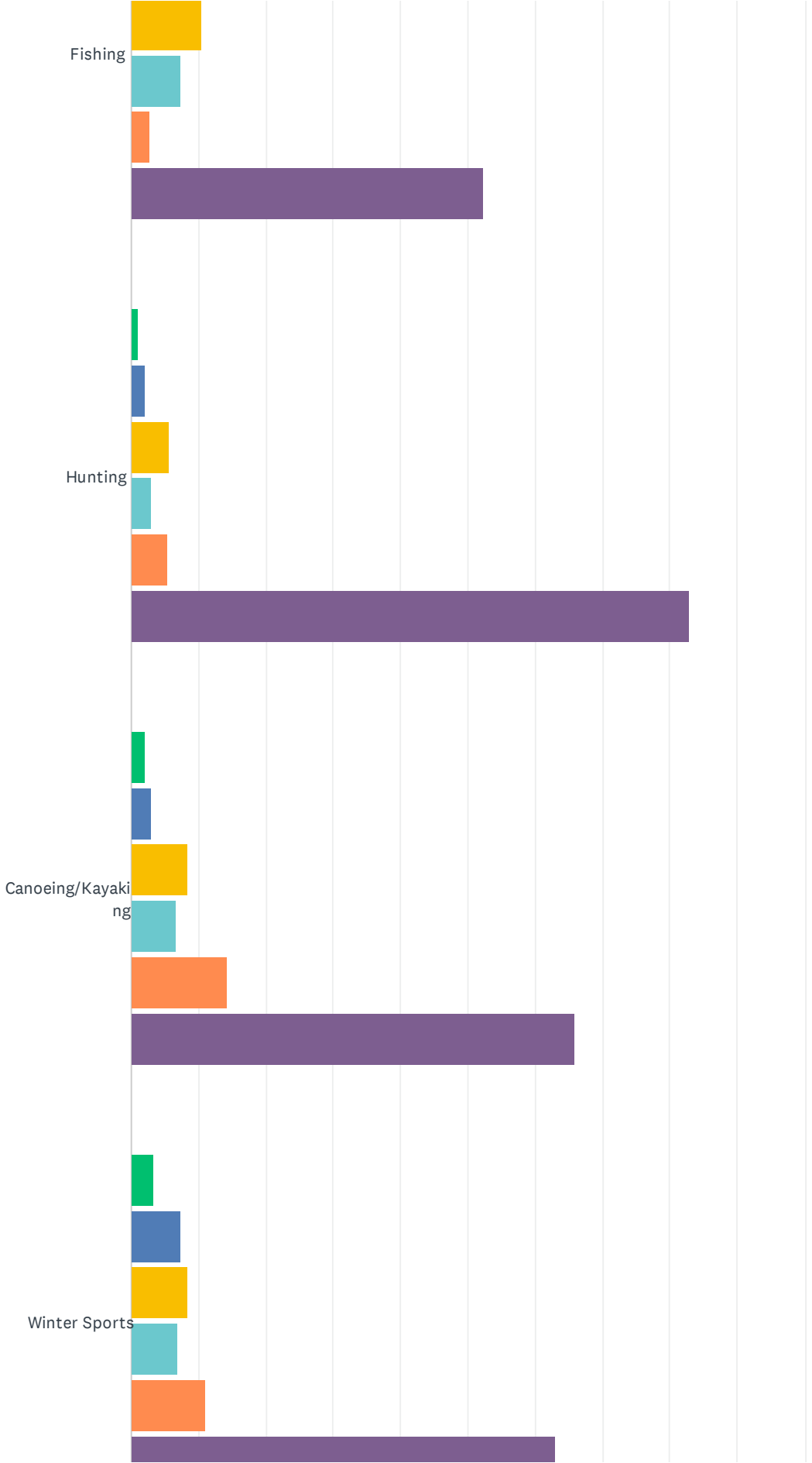


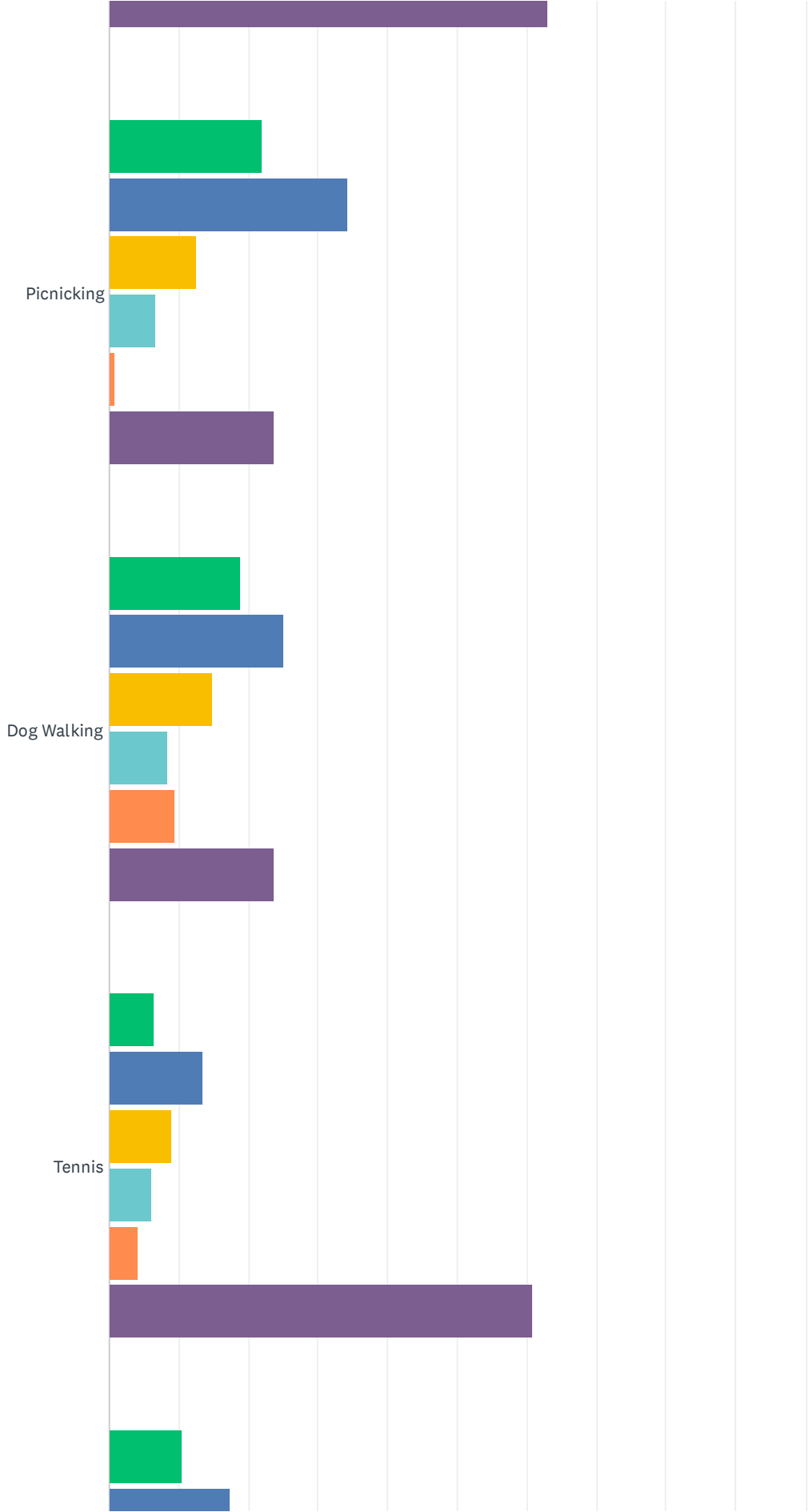






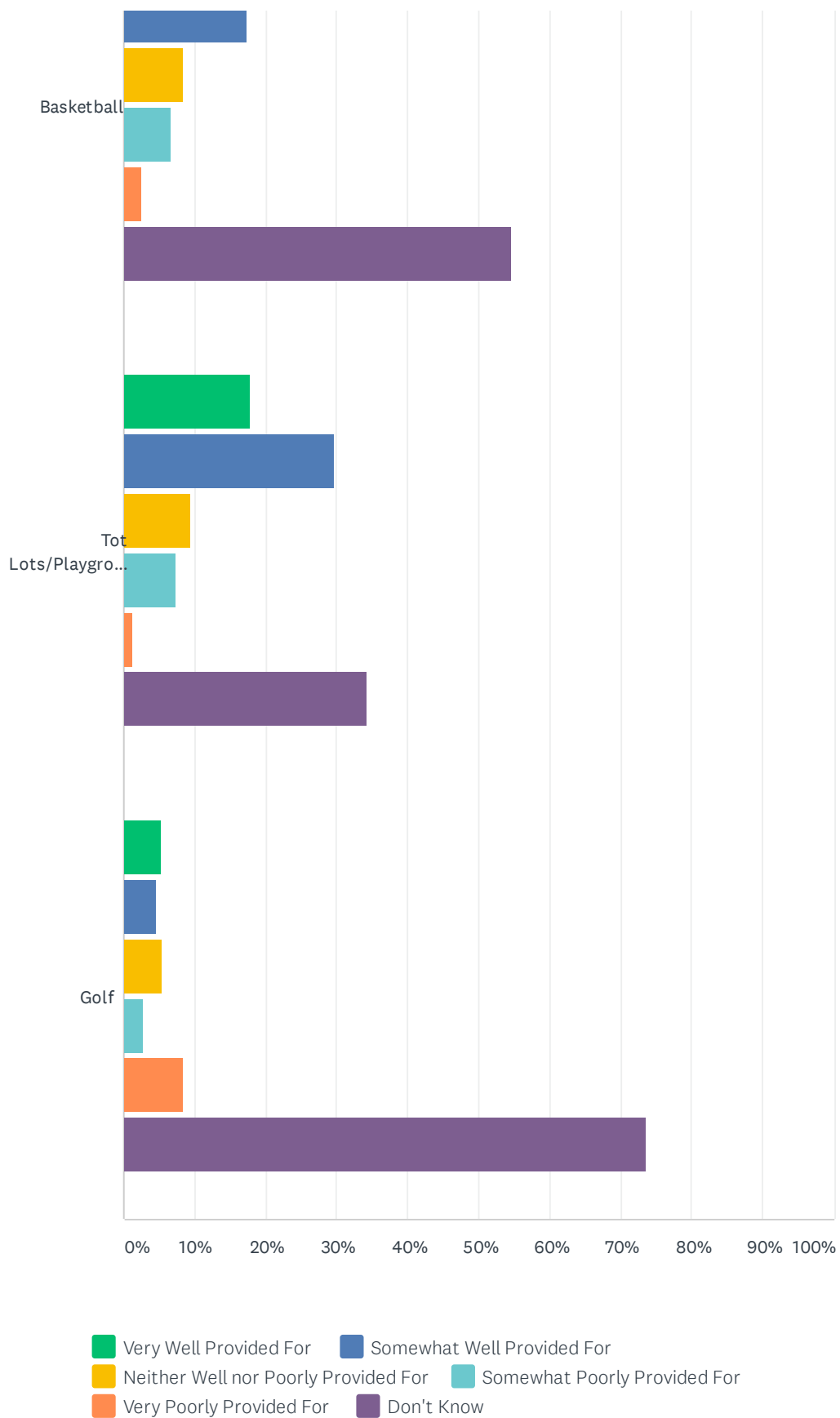








# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

	VERY WELL PROVIDED FOR	SOMEWHAT WELL PROVIDED FOR	NEITHER WELL NOR POORLY PROVIDED FOR	SOMEWHAT POORLY PROVIDED FOR	VERY POORLY PROVIDED FOR	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Youth sports leagues	26.94% 142	26.38% 139	4.55% 24	3.61% 19	2.09% 11	36.43% 192	527
Festivals and special events (e.g. concerts, theater)	23.84% 128	46.93% 252	12.48% 67	6.33% 34	1.30% 7	9.12% 49	537
Open lawn play	22.39% 116	33.40% 173	13.90% 72	4.05% 21	0.58% 3	25.68% 133	518
Environmental education (e.g. nature studying, bird watching)	23.22% 121	32.05% 167	12.09% 63	5.18% 27	1.34% 7	26.10% 136	521
Adult sports leagues	4.60% 23	7.80% 39	12.00% 60	7.60% 38	5.80% 29	62.20% 311	500
Historical sites (e.g. 1803 House, Knauss Homestead)	30.02% 154	32.36% 166	7.80% 40	2.34% 12	0.00% 0	27.49% 141	513
Trails: Walking and jogging	28.54% 153	48.13% 258	13.06% 70	5.41% 29	0.93% 5	3.92% 21	536
Trails: Hiking	29.71% 156	43.24% 227	12.00% 63	4.57% 24	1.71% 9	8.76% 46	525
Trails: Recreational Cycling	12.77% 65	24.75% 126	13.75% 70	10.02% 51	2.95% 15	35.76% 182	509
Trails: Mountain Biking	17.55% 89	24.06% 122	8.09% 41	3.16% 16	1.38% 7	45.76% 232	507
Trails: Horseback Riding	2.27% 11	2.69% 13	4.13% 20	3.72% 18	5.99% 29	81.20% 393	484
Trails: Fitness	13.94% 70	23.11% 116	10.36% 52	7.57% 38	2.19% 11	42.83% 215	502
Swimming	14.40% 74	24.71% 127	9.73% 50	10.12% 52	9.14% 47	31.91% 164	514
Fishing	9.46% 47	17.91% 89	10.46% 52	7.24% 36	2.62% 13	52.31% 260	497
Hunting	1.02% 5	2.04% 10	5.70% 28	2.85% 14	5.50% 27	82.89% 407	491
Canoeing/Kayaking	2.02% 10	2.83% 14	8.30% 41	6.68% 33	14.17% 70	65.99% 326	494
Winter Sports	3.27% 16	7.35% 36	8.37% 41	6.94% 34	11.02% 54	63.06% 309	490
Picnicking	21.96% 110	34.33% 172	12.57% 63	6.79% 34	0.80% 4	23.55% 118	501
Dog Walking	18.77% 98	25.10% 131	14.75% 77	8.43% 44	9.39% 49	23.56% 123	522
Tennis	6.56% 32	13.32% 65	9.02% 44	6.15% 30	4.10% 20	60.86% 297	488
Basketball	10.45% 51	17.42% 85	8.40% 41	6.76% 33	2.46% 12	54.51% 266	488

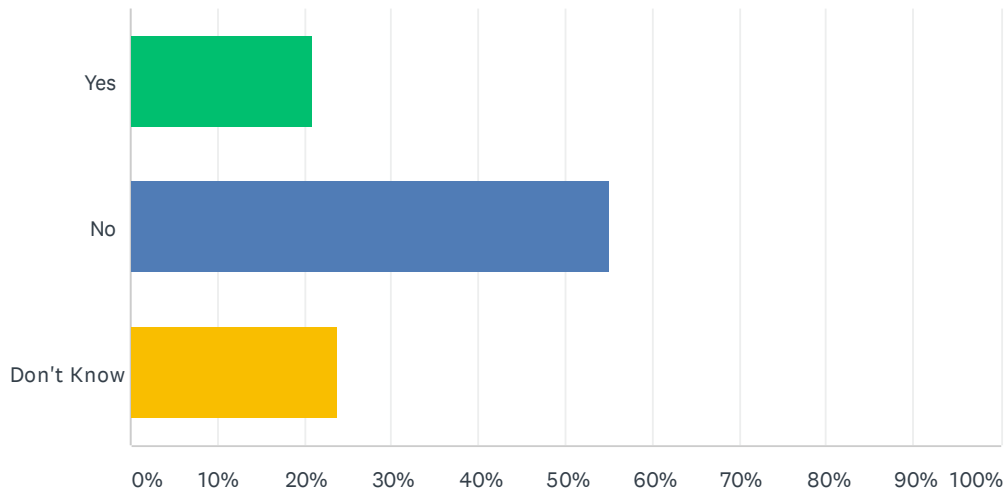
# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

Tot Lots/Playgrounds	17.80% 89	29.80% 149	9.40% 47	7.40% 37	1.20% 6	34.40% 172	500
Golf	5.32% 26	4.50% 22	5.52% 27	2.66% 13	8.38% 41	73.62% 360	489



## Q25 Do you think that Emmaus Borough needs more sports fields (soccer, baseball, football, etc.)?

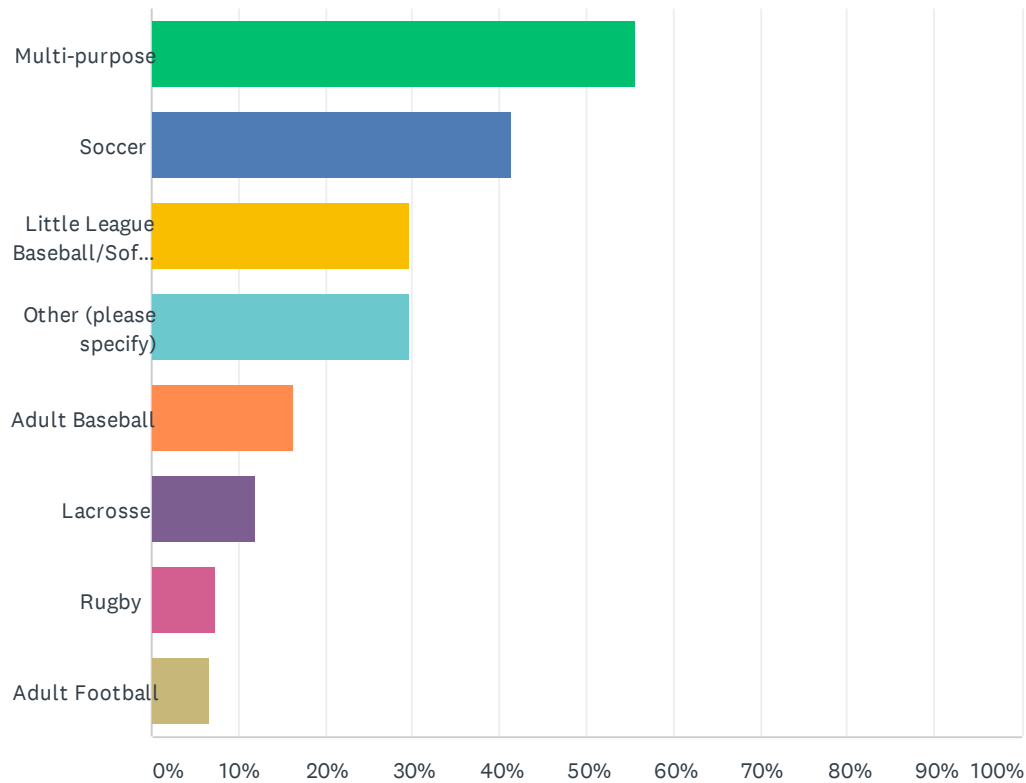
Answered: 566 Skipped: 223



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.02%	119
No	55.12%	312
Don't Know	23.85%	135
TOTAL		566

## Q26 If you answered yes to Question 25, which sports do you feel are in need of fields? (Please check all that apply)

Answered: 135 Skipped: 654



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Multi-purpose	55.56%	75
Soccer	41.48%	56
Little League Baseball/Softball	29.63%	40
Other (please specify)	29.63%	40
Adult Baseball	16.30%	22
Lacrosse	11.85%	16
Rugby	7.41%	10
Adult Football	6.67%	9
Total Respondents: 135		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	swimming	4/1/2021 1:43 PM
2	None	3/31/2021 9:48 PM
3	the fields that we have are not maintained	3/30/2021 11:43 AM

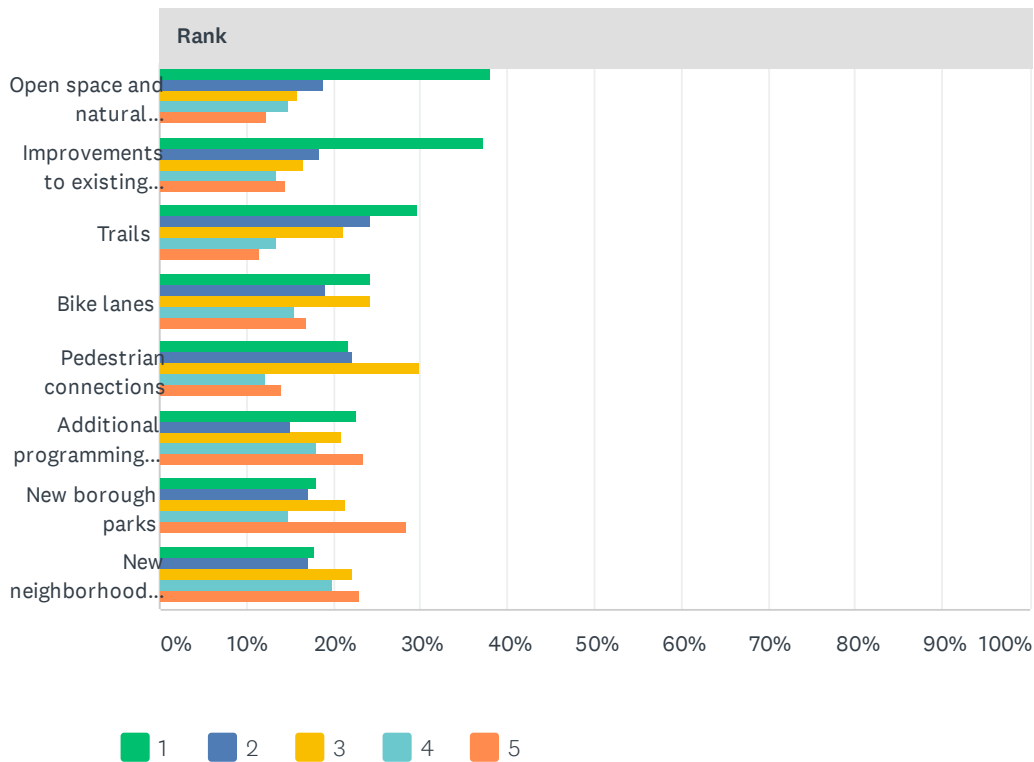
# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

4	Skatepark	3/17/2021 7:59 PM
5	I feel basketball courts need to be updated. A street hockey court would be cool too	3/17/2021 7:09 PM
6	Error	3/15/2021 4:35 PM
7	Skate park	3/9/2021 10:28 PM
8	Fix the ones we have before getting new ones	3/8/2021 10:04 AM
9	Dog park	3/7/2021 8:45 PM
10	Disc Golf course	3/7/2021 8:18 PM
11	Basketball	3/7/2021 8:17 PM
12	n/a	2/2/2021 3:13 PM
13	Adult Hockey	1/18/2021 11:40 PM
14	Hockey Rink (outdoor)	1/18/2021 11:29 PM
15	If the boro maintained the current fields better or gave money to the EYA to do so, that would help too. Lower Mac get about \$50K from the their township	1/18/2021 9:41 PM
16	N/A	1/18/2021 7:17 PM
17	Skateboarding park	1/18/2021 2:27 PM
18	Basketball Courts	1/17/2021 10:04 PM
19	Frisbee	1/17/2021 11:19 AM
20	Skatepark	1/16/2021 7:57 PM
21	Skateboard Parks	1/16/2021 7:13 PM
22	Basketball courts	1/16/2021 4:53 PM
23	Fix existing basketball courts. Especially Boro-line with new hoops	1/16/2021 11:15 AM
24	Martial arts and volleyball	1/16/2021 9:22 AM
25	N/A	1/16/2021 8:52 AM
26	Better basketball courts	1/16/2021 8:08 AM
27	Skate park	1/16/2021 2:47 AM
28	Tennis	1/7/2021 4:31 PM
29	Street Hockey	12/12/2020 10:10 PM
30	I said yes but it's not quantity it's quality. The fields we have are in horrible condition and have not been maintained at a level consistent with other local and regional communities	12/8/2020 6:41 PM
31	Golf	12/4/2020 12:16 PM
32	Basketball	10/13/2020 12:31 PM
33	area for body building	9/15/2020 7:49 PM
34	Community turf field	8/18/2020 11:30 PM
35	Field Hockey	8/18/2020 7:43 AM
36	Trail running	8/17/2020 6:17 PM
37	Basketball	8/17/2020 6:04 PM
38	A lit soccer field.	8/17/2020 5:35 PM
39	Indoor facilities ( YMCA, Community Center)	8/17/2020 3:28 PM
40	wiffle ball	8/16/2020 8:59 AM



## Q27 Please rank the top 5 priorities that you feel Emmaus Borough should focus on in this plan. (1 = High Priority, 5 = Low Priority)

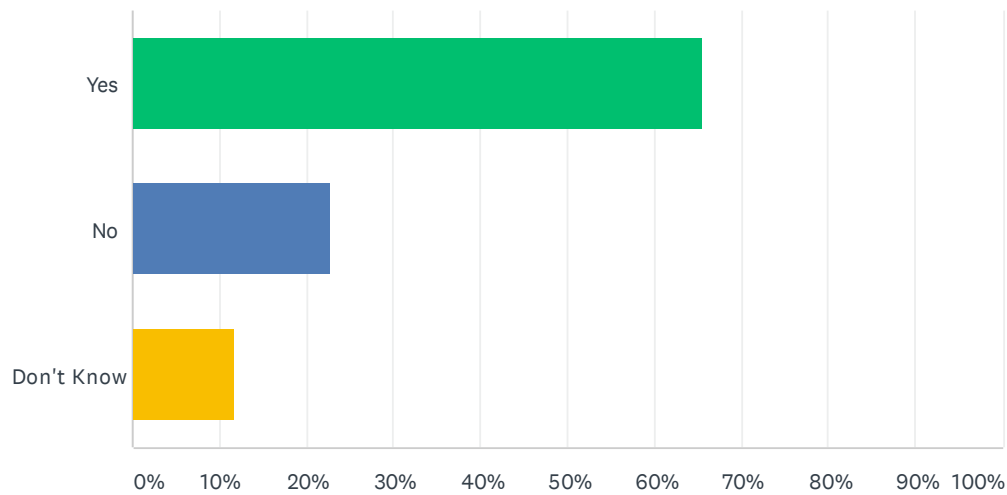
Answered: 535 Skipped: 254



Rank	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL
Open space and natural resources preservation	38.03% 178	18.80% 88	15.81% 74	14.96% 70	12.39% 58	468
Improvements to existing facilities	37.19% 167	18.49% 83	16.48% 74	13.36% 60	14.48% 65	449
Trails	29.72% 137	24.30% 112	21.04% 97	13.45% 62	11.50% 53	461
Bike lanes	24.26% 99	19.12% 78	24.26% 99	15.44% 63	16.91% 69	408
Pedestrian connections	21.80% 92	22.27% 94	29.86% 126	12.09% 51	13.98% 59	422
Additional programming (e.g. summer camps, playground program)	22.59% 82	15.15% 55	20.94% 76	17.91% 65	23.42% 85	363
New borough parks	18.03% 64	17.18% 61	21.41% 76	14.93% 53	28.45% 101	355
New neighborhood parks	17.82% 62	17.24% 60	22.13% 77	19.83% 69	22.99% 80	348

## Q28 Do you think that more public parks, natural areas, and open spaces are needed in Emmaus Borough?

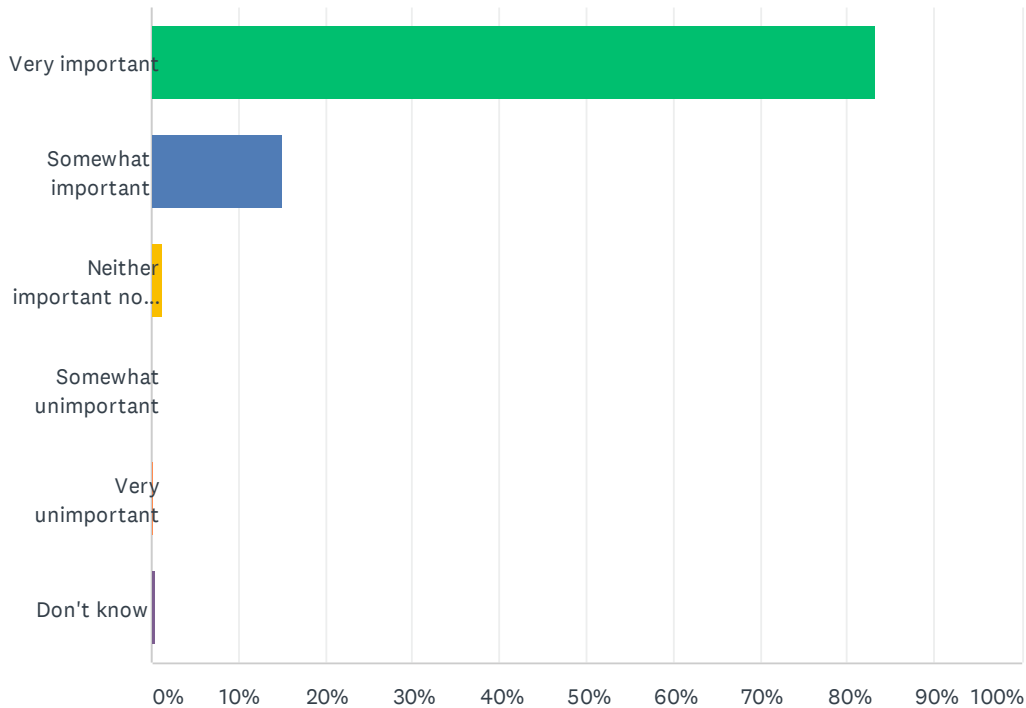
Answered: 559 Skipped: 230



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.47%	366
No	22.72%	127
Don't Know	11.81%	66
TOTAL		559

## Q29 In general, how important do you feel public parks, trails, natural areas and open spaces are to the well-being and quality of life in Emmaus Borough?

Answered: 566 Skipped: 223

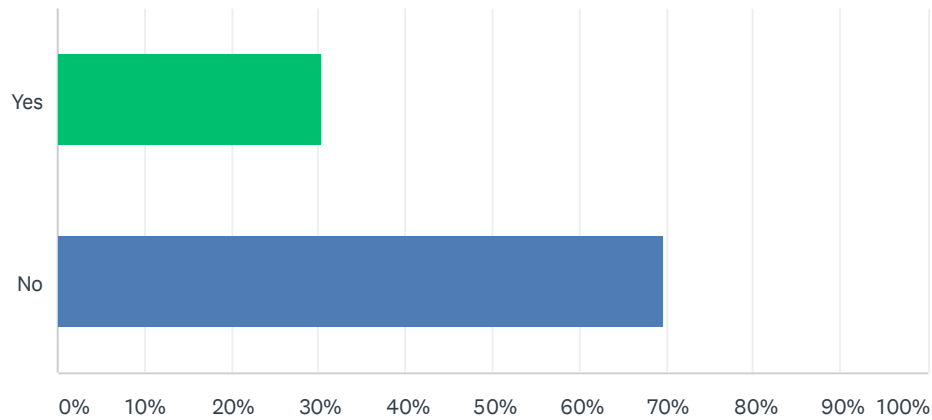


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	83.22%	471
Somewhat important	15.02%	85
Neither important nor unimportant	1.24%	7
Somewhat unimportant	0.00%	0
Very unimportant	0.18%	1
Don't know	0.35%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>566</b>



## Q30 In the past 24 months, have you or members of your household used the recreational facilities at Lions Field?

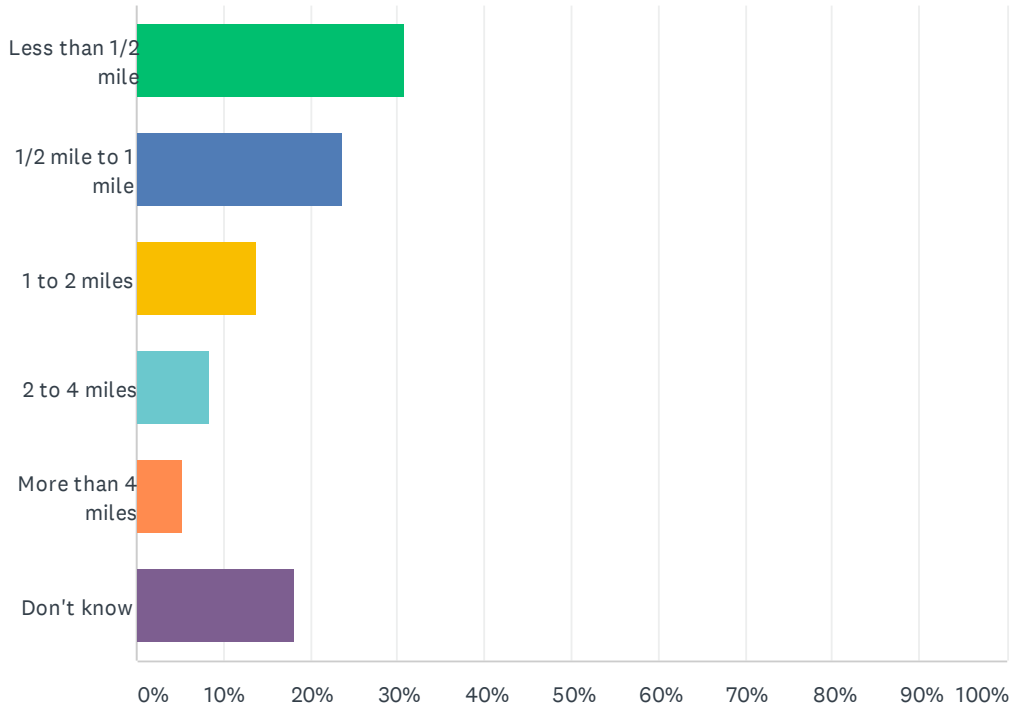
Answered: 503 Skipped: 286



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	30.42%	153
No	69.58%	350
TOTAL		503

## Q31 If you answered yes to Question 30, how close do you live to Lions Field?

Answered: 225 Skipped: 564



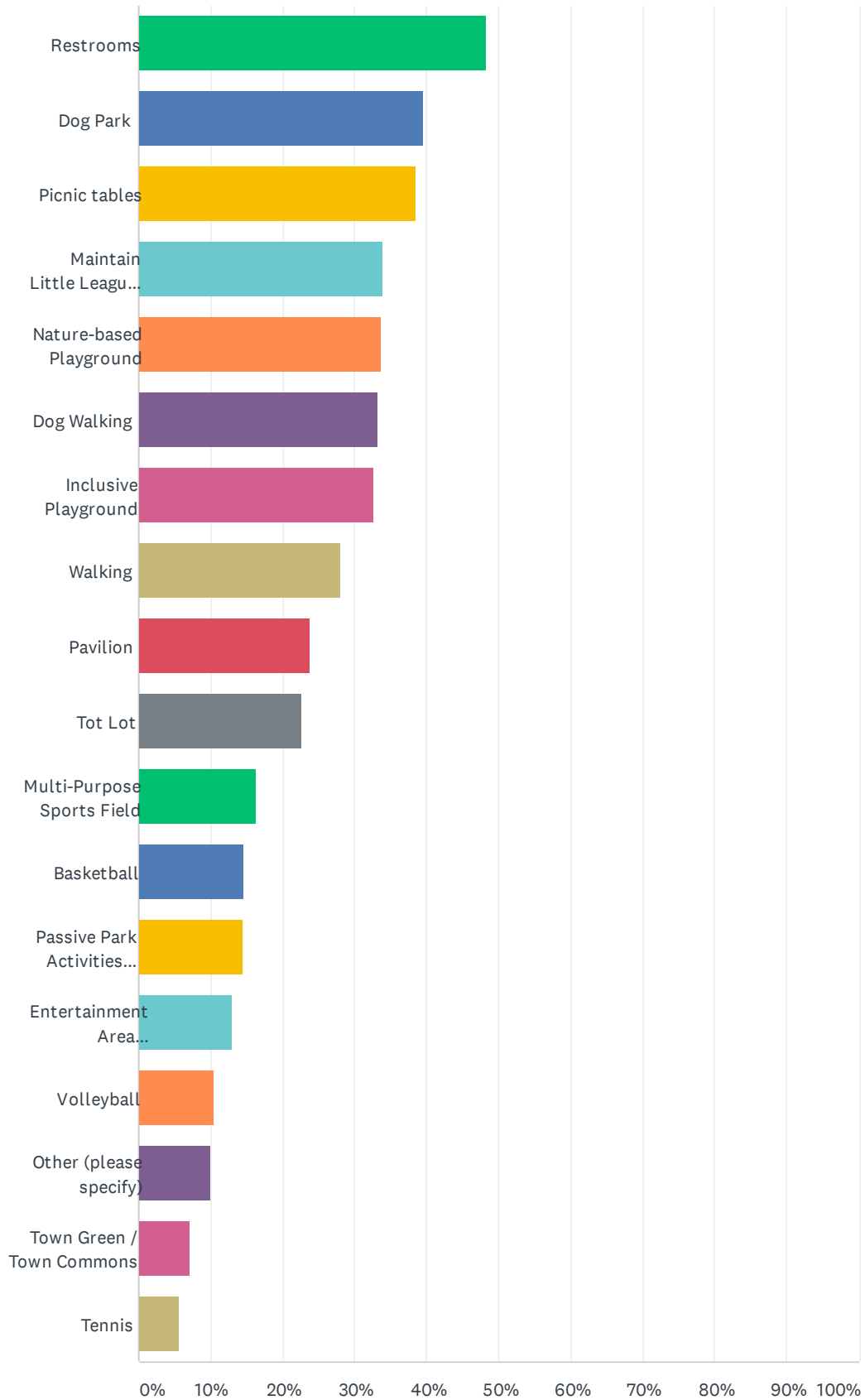
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1/2 mile	30.67%	69
1/2 mile to 1 mile	23.56%	53
1 to 2 miles	13.78%	31
2 to 4 miles	8.44%	19
More than 4 miles	5.33%	12
Don't know	18.22%	41
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>225</b>

## Q32 What types of facilities or activities would you like to see available at Lions Field?

Answered: 306   Skipped: 483



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Restrooms	48.37%	148
Dog Park	39.54%	121
Picnic tables	38.56%	118
Maintain Little League Baseball/Softball Fields	33.99%	104
Nature-based Playground	33.66%	103
Dog Walking	33.33%	102
Inclusive Playground	32.68%	100
Walking	28.10%	86
Pavilion	23.86%	73
Tot Lot	22.55%	69
Multi-Purpose Sports Field	16.34%	50
Basketball	14.71%	45
Passive Park Activities (e.g. bird watching, nature observation/photography, climbing)	14.38%	44
Entertainment Area (Amphitheater)	13.07%	40
Volleyball	10.46%	32
Other (please specify)	10.13%	31
Town Green / Town Commons	7.19%	22
Tennis	5.56%	17
Total Respondents: 306		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Climbing equipment for older children	4/1/2021 10:02 AM
2	Landscape design .	3/31/2021 9:50 PM
3	a safe walking path to get there, but its about 3 and a half miles just for us to get there, we need more dog friendly parks!	3/31/2021 3:44 PM
4	fix the equipment that is there	3/30/2021 11:44 AM
5	Jefferson Elementary is right there. Lyons is a spill over area. Why spend on unnecessary improvements are not needed.	3/22/2021 5:13 PM
6	Soccer field(s)	3/19/2021 5:44 PM
7	Skatepark	3/17/2021 8:02 PM
8	What about trying ice hockey court again but think it would work better on the grass vs. in the court	3/17/2021 7:12 PM
9	Skate park	3/9/2021 10:34 PM
10	Pollinator garden refuge	3/8/2021 7:40 AM
11	Skate park (something for teens)	3/7/2021 10:17 PM
12	Skate park	3/7/2021 10:05 PM

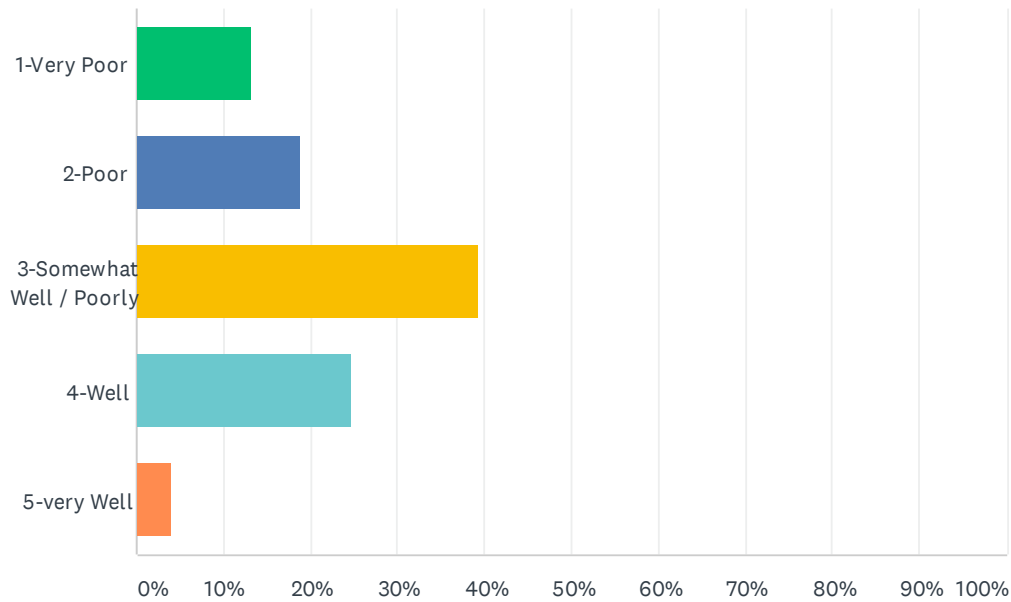
## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

13	Emmaus is a very unfriendly dog community	3/7/2021 8:09 PM
14	Any trails or places where you can actually take your dog would be awesome. I love paying taxes to not be able to do anything in the borough.	2/4/2021 9:06 AM
15	n/a	2/2/2021 3:15 PM
16	Outdoor roller skating rink	1/30/2021 1:03 PM
17	Patrol the park better, get the drugs and dealers out of Lions!	1/18/2021 9:44 PM
18	Bike park	1/18/2021 9:16 PM
19	N/A	1/18/2021 7:17 PM
20	Skateboarding park	1/18/2021 2:29 PM
21	Skatepark	1/17/2021 9:56 AM
22	Skatepark	1/16/2021 7:58 PM
23	Skateboard Parks	1/16/2021 7:14 PM
24	We need a dog park!!!	1/16/2021 6:47 PM
25	Baseball/softball training facilities, hitting/ pitching net, hitting wall etc.	12/8/2020 6:44 PM
26	Skate Park	12/4/2020 3:55 PM
27	Smooth paved trail for roller blading, biking, Longboarding	10/11/2020 12:49 AM
28	There is so much room in that field and all i have seen in the past few years is them taking more away from the playground. Make the park something great for the community to use!	10/10/2020 8:03 AM
29	Spray and splash park	10/9/2020 8:19 PM
30	Freenotesharmoniypark.com	9/16/2020 9:22 PM
31	Fix the shed that is moldy and houses equipment and supplies.	8/18/2020 9:28 AM



### Q33 On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being very well maintained, how well-maintained is Lions Field?

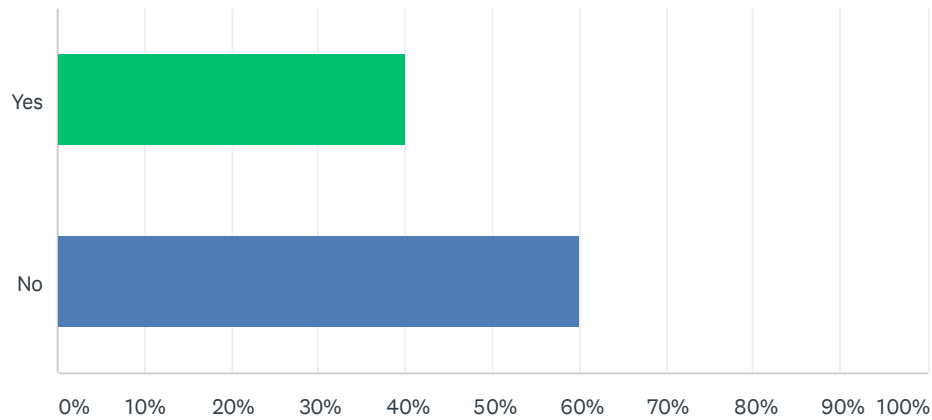
Answered: 280 Skipped: 509



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1-Very Poor	13.21%	37
2-Poor	18.93%	53
3-Somewhat Well / Poorly	39.29%	110
4-Well	24.64%	69
5-very Well	3.93%	11
TOTAL		280

## Q34 In the past 24 months, have you or members of your household used the recreational facilities at Boroline Park?

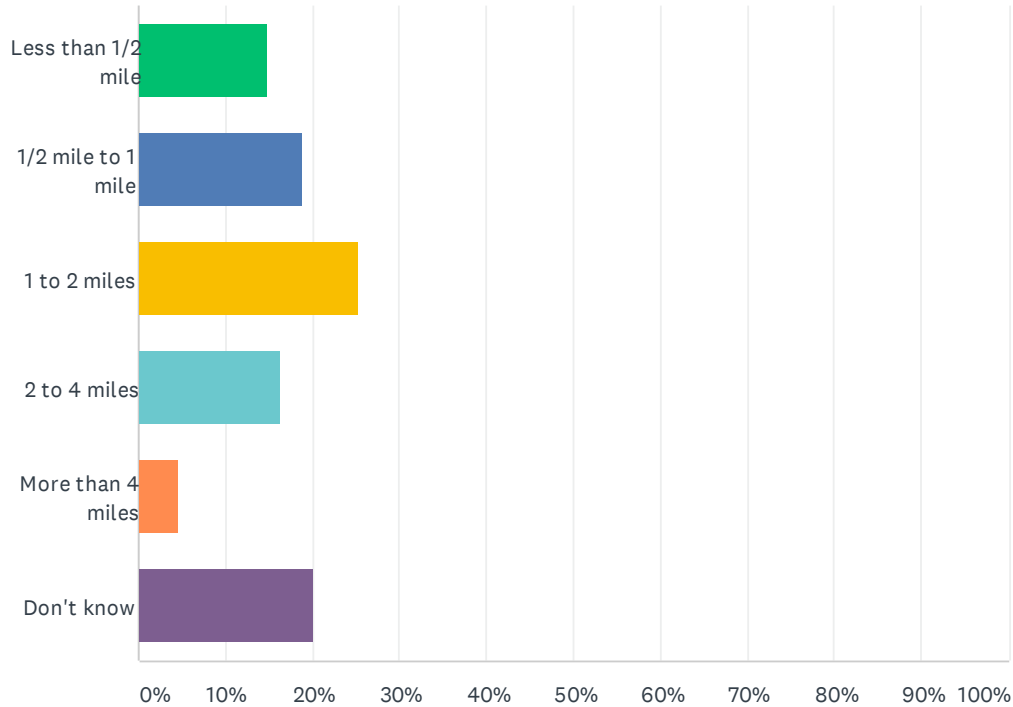
Answered: 448 Skipped: 341



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	39.96%	179
No	60.04%	269
TOTAL		448

## Q35 If you answered yes to Question 34, how close do you live to Boroline Park?

Answered: 244 Skipped: 545

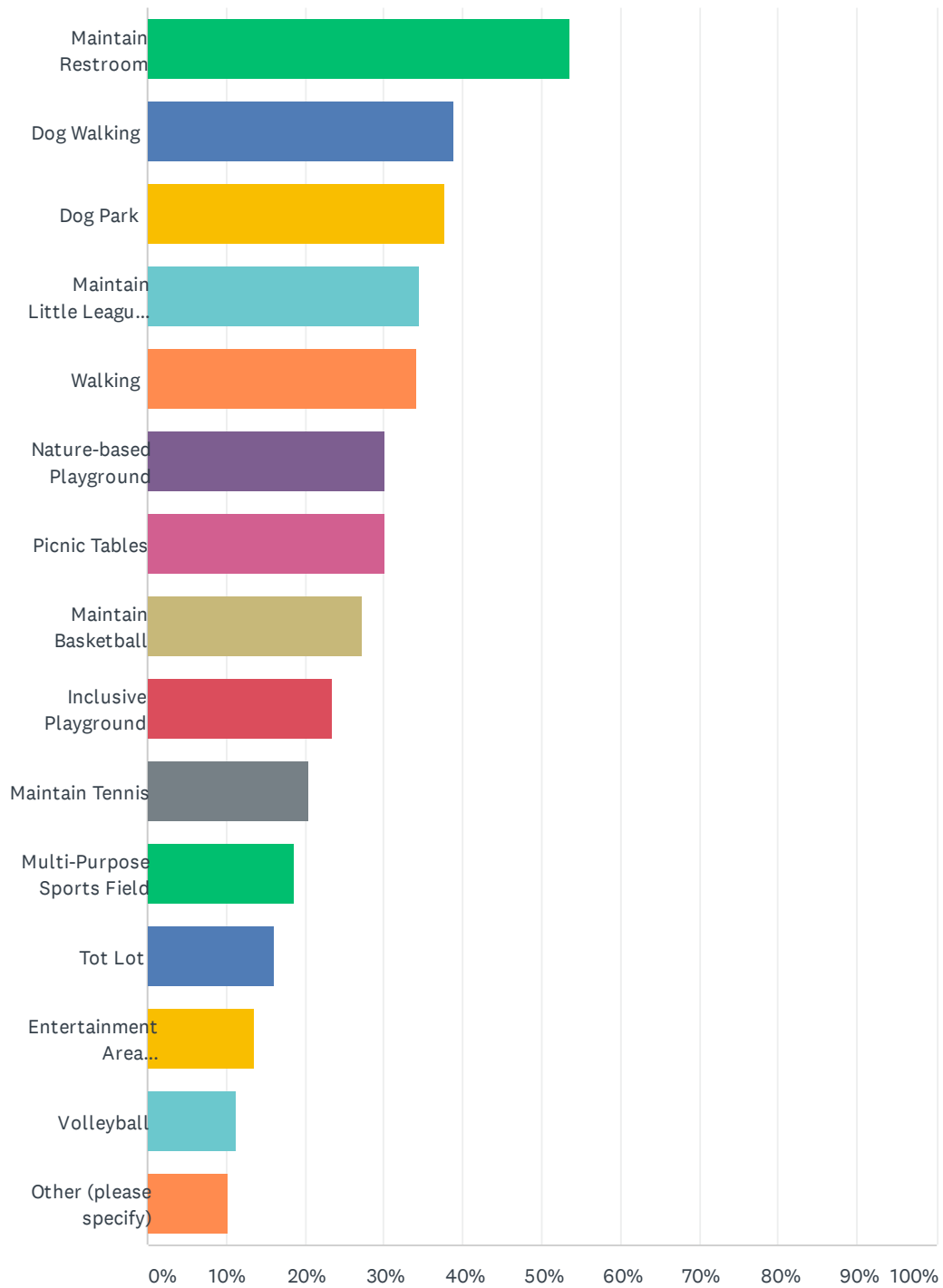


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 1/2 mile	14.75%	36
1/2 mile to 1 mile	18.85%	46
1 to 2 miles	25.41%	62
2 to 4 miles	16.39%	40
More than 4 miles	4.51%	11
Don't know	20.08%	49
TOTAL		244



## Q36 What types of facilities or activities would you like to see available at Boroline Park?

Answered: 273 Skipped: 516



# Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Maintain Restroom	53.48%	146
Dog Walking	38.83%	106
Dog Park	37.73%	103
Maintain Little League Baseball/Softball Fields	34.43%	94
Walking	34.07%	93
Nature-based Playground	30.04%	82
Picnic Tables	30.04%	82
Maintain Basketball	27.11%	74
Inclusive Playground	23.44%	64
Maintain Tennis	20.51%	56
Multi-Purpose Sports Field	18.68%	51
Tot Lot	16.12%	44
Entertainment Area (Amphitheater)	13.55%	37
Volleyball	11.36%	31
Other (please specify)	10.26%	28
Total Respondents: 273		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	55 and over community, tax basis without kids.	3/22/2021 5:13 PM
2	Skatepark	3/17/2021 8:02 PM
3	The basketball hoops are terrible. I feel bad for the kids that use them. Upgrade! And replace the tennis courts	3/17/2021 7:12 PM
4	Wildflower pollinator refuge	3/8/2021 7:40 AM
5	Skate park	3/7/2021 10:58 PM
6	I don't know what kind if space Brookline park has	3/7/2021 9:07 PM
7	Disc golf course	3/7/2021 8:20 PM
8	soccer fields	2/28/2021 2:56 PM
9	n/a	2/2/2021 3:15 PM
10	Cultivate native plants/flowers for habitat and beautification	1/30/2021 1:20 PM
11	Skateboarding park	1/18/2021 2:29 PM
12	Skate or bike park	1/17/2021 12:46 PM
13	Skatepark	1/17/2021 9:56 AM
14	Skatepark	1/16/2021 7:58 PM
15	Skateboard Parks	1/16/2021 7:14 PM
16	Need brand new basketball hoops	1/16/2021 11:18 AM
17	More robust gateway to south mountain trails. Better map and signag	12/8/2020 6:44 PM

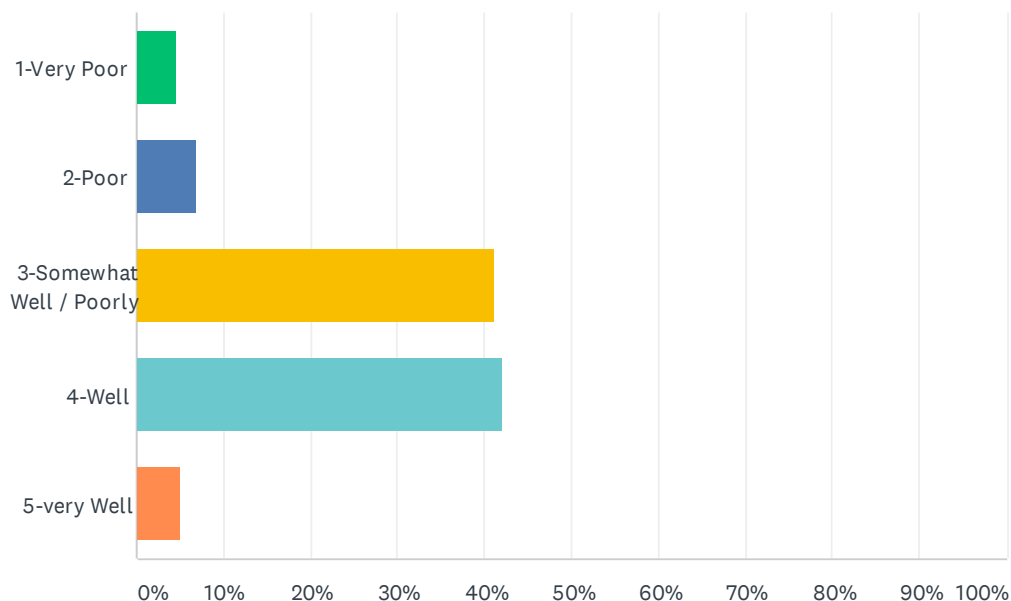
## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

18	Skate Park	12/4/2020 3:55 PM
19	FINISH BOROUGH GYM	12/4/2020 12:01 PM
20	Hi	11/2/2020 8:33 PM
21	Skate park	10/17/2020 9:52 PM
22	Skate park	10/11/2020 5:31 PM
23	Smoothly paved trail	10/11/2020 12:49 AM
24	So much room for growth here too! Expand off the already there sport fields. Since its right off of the south mountain trail, this is a perfect park to work on!	10/10/2020 8:03 AM
25	Drive bike through to get to the trail to Klines Lane	10/9/2020 4:31 PM
26	Bike Parking, sidewalk connections to park, bike lanes to park	9/29/2020 4:51 PM
27	Better landscaping, use of open areas	9/15/2020 10:22 PM
28	People often bring their dogs into this park. I believe this is against park policy.	8/20/2020 8:04 AM



## Q37 On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being very well maintained, how well-maintained is Boroline Park?

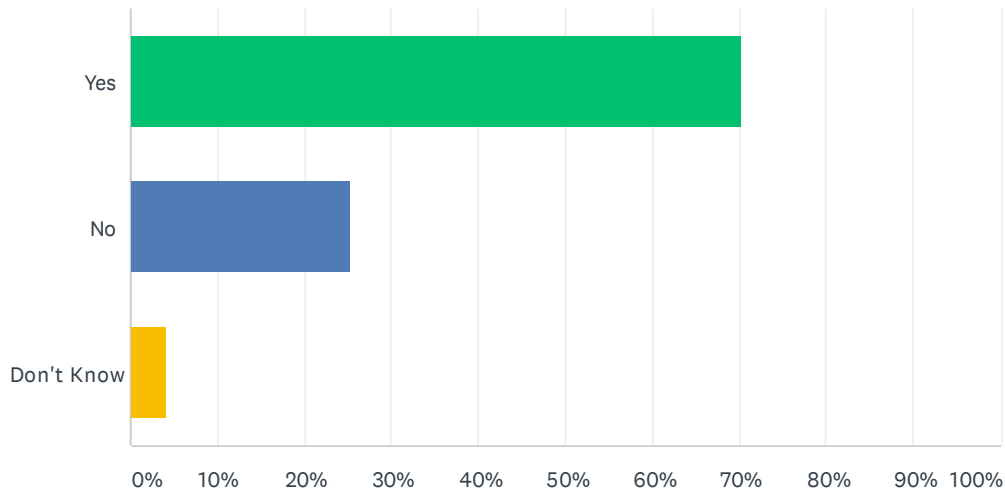
Answered: 259 Skipped: 530



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1-Very Poor	4.63%	12
2-Poor	6.95%	18
3-Somewhat Well / Poorly	41.31%	107
4-Well	42.08%	109
5-very Well	5.02%	13
TOTAL		259

## Q38 Generally, are your household's recreational and open space needs being met in or around Emmaus Borough?

Answered: 539 Skipped: 250



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	70.32%	379
No	25.42%	137
Don't Know	4.27%	23
TOTAL		539

## Q39 If you have any additional comments or ideas, please provide them below.

Answered: 219 Skipped: 570

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	So far I love all of our park options. I just did not know about all of them until recently. Perhaps more advertising of the various parks and their facilities would be really great.	4/5/2021 8:59 AM
2	there's always room for improvement .... sceneric wise , space wise ....frozen ice sales..... seating benches , canopy areas	4/3/2021 11:34 PM
3	Remove the No Pets Allowed painted signs from the Emmaus Community Park perimeter trail. Permit dog walking around the Perimeter Trail. This was an unwritten rule permitted activity for many years by the Park Police, with an understanding that No Pets Are Allowed within the park and on the athletic fields. Adopt the same rules in place at Alburtis Lockridge Park (under Lehigh County jurisdiction), all Lower Macungie Parks (under Lower Macungie ordinances) and Allentown Parks such as Trexler Park, and Cedar Creek Park (under Allentown rules). Those rules are simple: 1. Pet walking is permitted. 2. Dogs must be leashed at all times. 3. Owners are required to pick up after their pets. These rules are posted at all of those parks. The 1 mile perimeter loop at Emmaus Community Park was a wonderful asset that I enjoyed 4 seasons per year with my dog. It provided both exercise and solitude for the both of us (the trail is also a lightly used resource, especially after the close of the Summer Pool and Holiday Season between Late September and May. There are many dog walkers in Emmaus that could benefit from an exercise and quality of life perspective. Emphasizing that Emmaus Community Park is a Public Park and should be inclusive of the substantial dog walking community in Emmaus Borough. Thank you.	4/1/2021 9:17 PM
4	Creation of a solution to the problem of out-of-borough residents damaging/littering/vandalizing on and around hiking/biking trails, most notably in the South Mountain Preserve	4/1/2021 4:44 PM
5	my family enjoys the facilities at Community Park especially the pool and the concert pavilion	4/1/2021 1:45 PM
6	Create a history path to the historic and architectural gems in the community.	3/31/2021 9:52 PM
7	Enforce rule of no pets	3/31/2021 6:33 PM
8	Avoiding speeding cars (or cars failing to stop) while crossing streets, or walking in streets where there are no sidewalks, are my biggest concerns. Thank you.	3/31/2021 5:08 PM
9	Allow swimming at the furnace dam.	3/31/2021 4:08 PM
10	the community park should be open to dogs. lets face it, there are several rules at the park, no bikes, no dogs, no skateboards, etc... with ONLY 1 rule strictly enforced. trust me, i can see people on bikes pass cops in the parking lot sitting in the park, FROM MY HOUSE! nothing is said about it. the concern of dogs being a liability? how about the shooting range next to the playground? thats NOT a liability? how about enforcing rules such as leashing, licensing pets, and stopping dog owners to make sure they have bags to clean up after their pets so we can keep the park safe and clean. living near the community park - this is the only SAFE park to walk to without crossing major roads. this should be open to all borough residents, two and four legged alike.	3/31/2021 3:51 PM
11	The borough is lacking dog friendly walking spaces. Community Park is fantastic, other than not allowing dogs. It's a great, open space that should be able to be enjoyed by the all borough residents, not just those that are human. Furthermore, the skating and other rules aren't enforced so the no pets rule shouldn't be the one rule that is.	3/31/2021 3:28 PM
12	The old abandoned pool along Harrison street should be repurposed into something. Also, Harrison street should be monitored more closely by Emmaus police for speeders as it can be a busy and difficult street to cross.	3/31/2021 3:24 PM
13	I would really appreciate a dog park being put in in the borough. I feel that we have so many nice parks but no where that we can let dogs run off leash and socialize.	3/31/2021 3:18 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

14	Sidewalk throughout the borough are important for walker, parents with strollers, and kids.	3/30/2021 9:19 PM
15	Please fix broken and uneven sidewalks and repair street potholes.	3/29/2021 3:51 PM
16	Open the pool.	3/29/2021 1:16 PM
17	Dredging the creek that runs through Emmaus Park was a terrible idea. I don't see how what they've done will prevent flooding and the natural beauty of the area has been destroyed! It's been depressing walking the trail through the park!	3/29/2021 9:39 AM
18	The town is charming though with new developments, commercial and residential, it is at risk at losing some of that small town feel. I thought a park should have been established on 4th street where housing is proposed. The vandalism and graffiti are ancient history there and it would have made a nice picnic grove on South Mountain and also protect wildlife. Its cooler on the Mountain in the summer time, and would have made a nice shaded retreat close to the city but not right next to traffic and macadam.	3/28/2021 7:53 PM
19	Emphasis on deconflicting cars from bikes is a must. Children need neighborhood connection to bike trails that keep them safe from cars.	3/26/2021 5:29 PM
20	Dog park/area needed	3/25/2021 6:23 PM
21	Sculpture Park	3/23/2021 10:36 AM
22	We moved here to Emmaus because we believe it has the potential to be one of the best areas to live here in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas. Trail systems are so important to make this happen. Supporting a community that is pedestrian & bike friendly will bring about more of the same. A unique and artistic downtown area is also very important. Love the fire hydrant painting! We need more outdoor murals to really make the downtown pop. We have so many good things here in Emmaus - I think the breweries have been supplied a nice niche here too. We have a wonderful Farmers Market as well. Creating a safe place to travel by foot & bike is extremely important since parking is limited. However, we still have too many unsafe drivers speeding down Main Street and Harrison Street. We obviously need more ticketing and speed signs until people get the hint - or it won't be of benefit to create more walkways and bikeways. One more item - we are a dog loving community here!! One thing I've seen in other towns is dog poop stations that supply a place to grab a bag and a place to put their waste. Especially at parks!	3/23/2021 9:59 AM
23	I think our parks could be improved upon, Lower Macungie and South Whitehall have wonderful parks and playgrounds compared to Emmaus. Ours are not maintained. I think Lions park needs to be a playground due to proximity to elementary schools.	3/22/2021 8:38 PM
24	Between Schools and current parks, there is plenty of open space. Laurel and Boro Line parks should be sold and developed. Emmaus Community Pool losses money for the residents of Emmaus when adding in infrastructure needs. Sell to EMAC or another bidder and buy/broker deal for old Meadow for Emmaus residence only. These novel ideas are not cost effective and mostly serve a transient resident that is here today and gone tomorrow.	3/22/2021 5:29 PM
25	Our family likes the current mix of parks, trails, etc in Emmaus. Like that Lypns has big open grass field for kite flying. Playground there needs rehab, but don't need to add courts. Tennis courts at Alpine need cleanup. Biking in Emmaus generally is nice in my opinion as is except on Chestnut street due to traffic, parking, no shoulders. A planned bike path maybe on parallel alleys to Chestnut may be nice to better enable biking to businesses on Chestnut safely.	3/21/2021 8:54 AM
26	The community pool is very important along with upkeep and safety of existing recreational tools/park s and sidewalks	3/21/2021 1:01 AM
27	There are no playgrounds on the south side except furnace dam. Our kids are no longer small but we always had to drive to a playground for them. It is a very large area that has no playgrounds equipment.	3/20/2021 11:31 AM
28	Please increase the amount of open space. More people have discovered the outdoors since Covid and open space is more important than ever.	3/18/2021 12:12 PM
29	Id like to see a skatepark in the area	3/17/2021 8:03 PM
30	I don't use any parks within the borough because they don't allow dogs. I spend most of my outdoor time with my dog.	3/17/2021 7:37 PM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

31	All the parks need series upgrades. I think klines lane space could be better used. Each park should have something unique Like street hockey court Racquet ball/ hand ball Volley ball court that's nice without glass in it I can't say this enough upgrade the basketball hoops at Boroline. stock more fish in furnace dam would be nice for the kids. More hiking trails? Is Possible to connect trail at dump to 4th street? Thanks -Pat	3/17/2021 7:20 PM
32	More walking paths and define bike lanes would be very beneficial	3/17/2021 7:18 PM
33	I would love to see the Boroline Park be updated. There is so much area there for more options and updated climbers. My family and I go very often and I know a couple of the families in the neighborhood go too. This updated would make several families happy.	3/17/2021 5:20 PM
34	I wish the municipal pool were only open to residents of east penn schools district. Too many people come from Allentown and are disruptive.	3/17/2021 3:51 PM
35	again, PARKING crazy when so many things are scheduled at the main emmaus park at one time --- PARKING ISSUES	3/17/2021 1:30 PM
36	I'm an avid hiker so more hiking trails are always a good thing.	3/17/2021 12:59 PM
37	Additional walking paths as well as pet access to community park. I can't easily walk my dog where my home is located. The community park is my closest green space.	3/16/2021 6:21 PM
38	The parks need to be dog friendly!!	3/16/2021 6:10 PM
39	I believe that the swimming pool is pitiful in comparison to some area pools such as lehighton and quakertown. I am sure that if it was nicer, such as music from speakers using a radio station perhaps, cheaper concessions which would allow more people to stay longer and eat food, better shade, and nicer pool features more people would pay to use the pool. I'm very disappointed in it.	3/15/2021 4:38 PM
40	Connecting biking to the Lehigh Parkway at the Fish Hatchery would be very good. Bike lanes anywhere would be a plus.	3/15/2021 12:55 PM
41	Chestnut Ridge is not maintaining the open space there is a problem with unleashed dogs on their property. They are eroding the water path with poor facilities practices. Wealth management is another destroyer and should be watched	3/15/2021 9:37 AM
42	We live in the Stryer section and there is no safe way besides the Gateway Trail for us to walk and get to the main part of town....please look into this!	3/11/2021 3:34 PM
43	I would like to see a dog park located somewhere in Emmaus. I would even volunteer to be part of the maintenance for the park.	3/11/2021 9:50 AM
44	Loved having the fifth street cross track set up for biking and cross country skiing.	3/10/2021 1:56 PM
45	I love the idea for a dog park! I would also enjoy increased natural areas in some of the borough's smaller parks (tree planting, wildflowers, native plants) such as the tiny one on 9th Street between Chestnut and Walnut.	3/8/2021 1:07 PM
46	Borough should buy the old pool property on Harrison st. Dog walking. It is already fenced in. The old pool house could be rented out for dog grooming business and a pet store. Revenue for the borough. It would be a great area for pets to run / walk. Not sure if borough could buy it ? I believe Shanty's own it. Looks a little dumpy. Fix it up a little make it look nicer.	3/8/2021 12:27 PM
47	I would like to see the area at 4th street above the shelter house transformed into a beautiful nature area. All downed trees removed and have the youth make the area a beautiful place for the future. I think an organization should be formed. Young and old spending free time building trails and uncovering the beauty and making wildlife feeding areas and exposing the fields of rocks for adventure.	3/8/2021 12:16 PM
48	I would love to have a dog park I speaking about this I am a dog owner. If humans have areas to run, meet others, and relax in. Why can't our furry animals because they are also included in our family as a child, companion, best friend and even a Emotional Support Animal.	3/8/2021 11:11 AM
49	I would really love to see some more trails or connectivity between parks!!! Thank you for all you do!	3/8/2021 10:25 AM
50	Please do not entertain any dog parks, people do not take care of their animals products as it is. People are not responsible enough for this to be an option	3/8/2021 10:13 AM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

51	Would love to have more walking and biking trails, and more easily labeled, and posted. Most trail signs have been destroyed or are unreadable. I also feel like access to bike trails is limited and I am no avid biker so would prefer a non mountain trail, but not the neighborhoods roads. Also perhaps more clean ups. With the windy weather and snow there has been a lot of trash around.	3/8/2021 9:30 AM
52	Be pet friendly, hidden cameras for security and to find and fine irresponsible pet owners who do not pick up dog waste, provide bags and waste cans, all parks need more trash facilities and enforcement of people who litter. You take pets out of parks but allow people to trash our parks with litter	3/8/2021 9:19 AM
53	We need a indoor recreation center much like Lower Mac. We could have indoor basketball, exercise classes, walking etc. all winter long. I think this is the most important thing that could be done. Also, the Williams street basketball courts are poorly maintained should be lite at night. Police officers could monitor it.	3/8/2021 8:06 AM
54	We want to see dedicated no spray refuge wildflower gardens for pollinators in our parks! The bees and butterflies need our help! :)	3/8/2021 7:41 AM
55	Dog park	3/8/2021 6:41 AM
56	Need more dog walking in parks. Currently dogs not allowed in most areas	3/8/2021 1:48 AM
57	There is so much trash and such all throughout the borough and so many areas that are not being maintained since businesses have left. Possibly a volunteer program could be set up with the area schools to get the borough cleaned up?	3/7/2021 11:14 PM
58	Would love to see a dog park or a skateboard park in the borough. Someplace teenagers could safely hang out.	3/7/2021 10:59 PM
59	The older kids need something. A skate park ! Somewhere in town they can walk to .	3/7/2021 10:06 PM
60	Emmaus Community Park should be open to dogs. It should also be cleaner. Lions Field's playground is antiquated and in need of repair; Quakertown is installing a new playground (Panther Playground) which is inclusive (rubberized surfaces for wheelchair access) and it is anticipated to be a big community draw. More public art at the parks would be amazing -- sculptures, installations, murals, maybe even a visual scavenger hunt similar to the one at Cedar Creek Playground in Allentown, Ott Street.	3/7/2021 9:40 PM
61	Please allow dog walking in Community Park. We feel like we punish our dog, by not allowing him to walk in the park. We live across the street from park, and people break your rule every day. So make it official, allow them in, so us non-rule breakers can quit punishing our dogs.	3/7/2021 9:27 PM
62	Dog park in Emmaus would be great. Skate park for the teenage kids would be nice too!	3/7/2021 9:22 PM
63	Trail near Wupgrading awa needs a good upgradin	3/7/2021 9:17 PM
64	Main emphasis from me is a walking/biking that is at least 2 miles long. I haven't thought about hiking that much, but hiking would be nice to see around the borough as well. Much thanks for your consideration.	3/7/2021 9:09 PM
65	Not many parks allow dog walking or provide an area dedicated to dogs. Some parks are poorly lit with limited facilities like trash cans/ benches. Parks seem to be neglected in terms of paving, cleanliness and traffic safety. In terms of safety games like Pokémon go are great for parks and bring many people and new people to the towns parks. However some people drive around the parks instead of walking. This can and has created unsafe conditions for my family while using the parks. Steps should be taken to limit the accessibility of vehicles in some parks.	3/7/2021 9:08 PM
66	Cleaning up and maintaining the parks we already have in Emmaus would be great, especially Arch Street park.	3/7/2021 9:00 PM
67	Thank you!! Remember how awesome our alleys are and promote them	3/7/2021 8:50 PM
68	Would really love to see "rail trail" like walking paths like they have in Hellertown/Saucon Valley.	3/7/2021 8:49 PM
69	A dog park would be great for emmaus!	3/7/2021 8:47 PM
70	Nice wheelchair accessible walking path that allows dogs would be great. Also Emmaus park	3/7/2021 8:45 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

walking path is sketchy at certain times of day. It would be better if it was safer and connected properly. A community center would be awesome for all sorts of indoor and outdoor activities.

71	For exercise, I usually go into Allentown. There's not a good 3 mile loop for running in Emmaus	3/7/2021 8:35 PM
72	Most of the parks in the Borough do not allow dogs & we really need a place for WELL BEHAVED dogs to play! I have a Service Dog & I really need a place for him to be able to run free & play with other dogs & people when not working!	3/7/2021 8:35 PM
73	DOG PARKS ..	3/7/2021 8:33 PM
74	Would love to see a walking trail around the perimeter of camp olympic. Wish there were horse friendly trails. I think emmaus in general has a lot of parks and they are generally well maintained, but with the exception of south mountain, they are all short trails, it would be nice to have longer trails.	3/7/2021 8:32 PM
75	A dog park would be a great addition to our borough! Thank you for all of your hard work. I love living here.	3/7/2021 8:26 PM
76	I would LOVE a dog park. ALSO, I would like a program that helps cyclists and motorists understand how to share the road. There's a GREAT video series (here's the first one <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9sdtkhJ9tg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9sdtkhJ9tg</a> ) by PA Safe Routes to Schools which discusses this. I know it's great - because I wrote it... but I have seen mistakes mostly made on cyclists' part - no lights at night, no signaling... etc. Just my two cents.	3/7/2021 8:23 PM
77	It would be nice to see a 9 or 18 hole disc golf course in Emmaus(south mountain trail area)!!	3/7/2021 8:21 PM
78	put up rims and nets up at Ithaca play lot so there will be less negative and abusive activity to the courts at alpine park	3/7/2021 8:21 PM
79	Why can you not walk your dog in "community " park??? Dogs are also not welcome at the triangle. This town is way behind.	3/7/2021 8:10 PM
80	adult soccer League	2/28/2021 2:57 PM
81	Handicap parking is a problem especially at community park. Handicap trying to use the pool have a difficult time. More parking is needed at the pool. Not all people who swim can walk the distance from the parking lot.	2/16/2021 10:44 AM
82	Interested in bike lanes. Don't feel comfortable biking in town	2/5/2021 12:30 PM
83	Emmaus quality of life may benefit more from additional parking and better public transportation than additional recreational efforts.	2/4/2021 11:45 AM
84	Emmaus is an awesome place to live if you have school aged children. If you don't have kids there's really not a whole lot of benefit. Events seem to cater to kids and most if not all park and trails are closed off to dogs. Y'all are doing a great job at allowing senior care facilities to be built and arranging movie nights and other activities for children... But you do absolutely nothing to cater to a younger demographic that doesn't have or doesn't want to have children.	2/4/2021 9:09 AM
85	Not everyone knows the NAMES and/or locations of the parks. Promotion of the all of the History of Emmaus sites, including Pocket Parks, and historical homes and businesses (mini version of Bethlehem's tourist/history plan).	2/3/2021 1:51 PM
86	very comfortable area to walk; feel safe - more familiar with south side near 4th and 5th Streets.	2/2/2021 3:16 PM
87	An outdoor roller rink would be a great addition to the Emmaus Borough. Not every child is involved in sports or is small enough to play on a playground but anyone of all ages can be involved in roller skating! It keeps you active and is alot of fun! And it would be an added bonus having it be outdoors!	1/30/2021 1:10 PM
88	I love living in Emmaus. South Mountain Preserve is an absolute jewel and the Gateway trail allows my family to walk or ride into town without encountering busy roads. I would love to see an interconnecting trail system throughout Emmaus and connecting Pool Wildlife Sanctuary.	1/29/2021 4:38 PM
89	Conected sidewalks, benches at neighborhood parks like west end	1/27/2021 10:00 PM
90	Thanks for the consideration and thoughtful planning as you navigate improving our community. Open space and nature as well as youth activities create a healthy and vibrant community	1/27/2021 9:47 PM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

91	Community Park has been looking tired and run down. I have recently seen some clean up work going on. The walking trail to the right of the park and across the lions bridge needs clean up. My wheelchair couldn't get into some of the bridges including the Lions without help from someone pushing it. There should be better handicap ramps to access the bridges.	1/27/2021 5:35 PM
92	I think the walking/biking questions are too general. For example, people (like me) tend to walk/bike a lot more when it's warmer rather than when it's colder. Also, some of the questions don't even apply--you really can't kayak anywhere "around" Emmaus--same thing w/ playing golf or hunting. That said, I really think the borough needs to concentrate on improving on what we already have, preserving what little open/natural space we have, and working to create a better connected system for walking and biking within the borough.	1/27/2021 5:27 PM
93	There's not anything particularly well suited to really little kids (under 3) within walking distance of our home, so I feel like the little one gets left out.	1/27/2021 5:03 PM
94	I have lived in Emmaus for a little over a year and have enjoyed walking and exploring, especially during Covid. I think a nice walking path connecting different areas of Emmaus would be nice.	1/27/2021 4:04 PM
95	I tied to answer some questions from my memory of living in Emmaus (A really nice community). Other questions I answered as a senior citizen. I hope my survey will not damage your net results.	1/27/2021 3:07 PM
96	Something that would be useful would be a place that lists all the available places for families to go, and what can be done there. We have been out and about a lot to nature areas with the pandemic and have found (a) there are many places we didn't know exist, but stumbled on or had friends tell us about, (b) many of the paths are too thin to really do social distancing, but hopefully that won't be relevant for much longer. Also, some places it isn't clear if it is OK for the public to use--like the Jefferson Elementary playground. . so it would be nice if that was made clearer.	1/23/2021 10:38 AM
97	A dog park would be a great addition to the community, not only to serve pets in the neighborhood, but I also think it would contribute to more and better relationships among residents	1/19/2021 3:21 PM
98	Wish list would be for upgraded infield mix for all baseball/softball fields, better maintenance, fences on all fields that can be moved based on sport., Willing to provide some investment if Borough is willing to invest. THanks, Jeff Kittle USSSA Eastern PA-nj	1/19/2021 10:25 AM
99	Only 2 tennis courts need to be maintained. All basketball courts need to be maintained or upgraded. Trail in Community Park, at Rodale, and Homestead trail are great assets!!! Not sure where else trails could go in Emmaus. Thank you!!	1/19/2021 7:10 AM
100	There needs to be better traffic enforcement on chestnut street. Cars a constantly exceeding the 25 MPH. I live on chestnut and this is a serious issue. There needs to be a better way to do pedestrian crossing, as well as better officer patrolling. The offer overs who just sit in the EHS parking lot are not doing anything for the community.	1/18/2021 11:43 PM
101	Add/Improve outdoor basketball courts. Indoor rec center with full basketball courts would be a wonderful addition to the community.	1/18/2021 9:42 PM
102	Please add a skate park! Camp Olympic is small and crowded all the time!	1/18/2021 9:17 PM
103	There should be more lighting and improvements to the existing lighting	1/18/2021 8:40 PM
104	I think Emmaus really needs a dog park	1/18/2021 8:16 PM
105	A dog park in Emmaus would be fantastic	1/18/2021 8:12 PM
106	Bike trails! So biking doesn't have to be done on the roads with traffic, but not mountain biking.	1/18/2021 2:37 PM
107	Their is no place for anyone to skateboard. As a 43 year old man I don't need to be chased by the cops because of the recreational activities I choose. I know it's been brought up several times and the borough has no intentions of helping or listening to those that skateboard.	1/18/2021 2:32 PM
108	Public basketball courts are all in need of maintenance & repair	1/17/2021 10:09 PM
109	Preserve and maintain open space and land please! I do also love the idea I'd a natural based playground!	1/17/2021 8:42 PM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

110	Please invest in fixing and maintaining the pool in Emmaus Community park. There's been complaints from patrons AND employees for years and not much has been done to fix it. The conditions of the pool have been neglected for some reason even though it is the most popular attraction in the town.	1/17/2021 7:20 PM
111	Would love to see more options for family biking. Also more playgrounds with activities for multiple ages.	1/17/2021 4:32 PM
112	Fix Meadow Pool on Harrison Street! It would give Emmaus members an additional pool to go to (Community becomes crowded). Meadow Pool has also become a dump. It's half dug up and now overgrown with weeds. It looks horrendous.	1/17/2021 12:08 PM
113	I used to have a dog and wished I had been able to walk him on the trail in the Community Park as I live only 3 blocks away. Walking along the streets was boring.	1/17/2021 11:54 AM
114	I think the pandemic has opened a lot of eyes to the importance of outdoor recreation and spaces. Having more natural playscapes for children where they can play, run, hide, pretend, and interact with a small amount of children is essential. I'm a NB/outdoor educator and I'm utilizing nature studies all the time but mostly in my own backyard. Furnace dam is cute but I am worried about homeless people and drug use there. Lyons park is terrible. I answered those questions incorrectly in the survey I thought I was looking at Williams park. We need more youth engagement in outdoor spaces, more tiered experiences for people of all ages. Climbing materials, things for teens to interact with, adults to interact with, fitness equipment or trails, more community and child gardens.	1/17/2021 11:34 AM
115	Skatepark and dog park please! The old Meadow Pool could be a great spot and would finally take care of the horrendous eyesore.	1/17/2021 9:58 AM
116	I wish there was a dog park inside the borough. It would be great to not have to travel out of the Borough to utilize other municipalities dog parks.	1/17/2021 9:06 AM
117	A skate park would be nice!	1/17/2021 8:42 AM
118	I'd love if Emmaus had a gated dog park. We travel to Lower Macungie which is only a short drive but would love if Emmaus provided it	1/17/2021 12:07 AM
119	Dog park, skate park	1/16/2021 10:06 PM
120	I feel that the parks in Emmaus have a lot of potential. I grew up in Emmaus Borough through the 1990's, and our parks were awesome. I visited Lion's Field within the past 6 months and was sad to see that there was not much of a park left. I do feel that the borough's youth would benefit from a skate park. There are several areas around the borough that have been empty or abandoned for years, and they would better serve as a skate park and community/rec center.	1/16/2021 8:57 PM
121	Clean the bathrooms at Emmaus Community Park or remodel them so the filth that has been in the same spots in those bathrooms for years is gone. They need an upgrade desperately.	1/16/2021 8:00 PM
122	We need a skatepark	1/16/2021 7:21 PM
123	Build a skateboard Park	1/16/2021 7:14 PM
124	Dog park	1/16/2021 6:58 PM
125	Dog park please!!	1/16/2021 6:47 PM
126	The trails at alpine street are the best outdoor activity spot in Emmaus. I wish we had more trails thru the woods like those on alpine street. The lower trails get pretty crowded on the weekends especially so I definitely think there's community interest in hiking trails like that.	1/16/2021 5:07 PM
127	Need an inside hall for open basketball courts etc or a open area for skatepark or street hockey games	1/16/2021 3:34 PM
128	Improve playgrounds - equipment, basketball courts, picnic areas, and swimming opportunities.	1/16/2021 3:04 PM
129	Can you make the trails longer, maybe connect to larger trails. D&L trail connectivity? That would be so perfect.	1/16/2021 1:14 PM
130	Dedicated dog parks	1/16/2021 12:46 PM
131	Emmaus needs a skatepark. period	1/16/2021 11:21 AM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

132	Need a skateboard park! Nothing exists. Just one for the whole town to use	1/16/2021 11:18 AM
133	We need places to walk with our dogs, most are banned from every park in the borough. Provide dog bags and trash cans to encourage self clean up. There needs to be more safe bike trails for the young riders and safe equipment and tables in the parks for recreation. Our streets and sidewalks all need maintenance, the brick crosswalks are more of an eyesore than appealing in any manner.	1/16/2021 10:46 AM
134	I just moved to Emmaus. I'm leagally blind. Street corners need better cross walk hand signals. Maybe like the ones that talk and flash. Handicap accessibility at corners needs improvement.	1/16/2021 9:51 AM
135	Would love to see a dog park, or dog daycare facility. Preferably repurposing the old Meadow Pool, whoever owns it.	1/16/2021 8:55 AM
136	Too much new construction, destroying open spaces. There's so much wildlife traipsing around the streets, due to their homes being taken away. We also need more dog friendly areas!!!!	1/16/2021 8:35 AM
137	I would love a dog park and sidewalks in residential neighborhoods that don't currently have them.	1/16/2021 8:22 AM
138	I think emails would benefit from a dog park,	1/16/2021 7:56 AM
139	Safer ways to get to parks and more clean up. We would use more often if they were maintained.	1/16/2021 7:37 AM
140	I would like to see dog walking at community park trail	1/16/2021 2:49 AM
141	More sidewalks needed in neighborhood Especially along chestnut( Big Woodys ) St over the bridge to connect by Rite Aide	1/16/2021 1:50 AM
142	Thank you for asking our input!	1/16/2021 12:25 AM
143	Please seriously consider adding a dog park or two. It would be the perfect addition to the borough. We have so many dogs that want to get out and run. The closest park is 15 minutes away. It would be nice for it to be 5 minutes. Thank you!	1/15/2021 11:50 PM
144	Walking is our main exercise, but there are no open restroom facilities in the winter for those of us who like to walk far. Could also use more during other seasons as well. Our family also enjoys pickle ball, but must travel elsewhere to play like Macungie or Allentown. The same goes for disc golf.	1/15/2021 10:11 PM
145	We need better speed and pedestrian crosswalk enforcement. Pennsylvania Ave is a racetrack with minimal attention to pedestrians attempting to cross the street at designated crosswalks.	1/12/2021 8:48 AM
146	Having ease of access to outdoor activities was a strong factor in my wife and I moving to Emmaus. I do think pedestrian connectivity, especially crosswalk safety around high-trafficked corridors, should be a priority.	1/7/2021 3:14 PM
147	Boroline Park is rather poorly upkept or secured. There's no signage indicting where the park is, nor is it lit up properly at night. The basketball court looks very old and is rather poorly maintained. The tennis court needs a re-paint and fences replaced. There are ALWAYS deer in or around the park no matter the time of year, or day. There should be more signage about dear in the surrounding park area, as you can expect anywhere from 5-30 deer in one night as far down as Fox Street.	12/12/2020 10:15 PM
148	It's completely unacceptable for Emmaus to not have a dog park when surrounding communities have them.	12/11/2020 12:42 PM
149	Would like to see a fountain park for kids, area for teens, area for leashed dog walking	12/9/2020 8:41 PM
150	Could always use more pocket parks	12/9/2020 8:30 PM
151	Based on the demographics of Emmaus, having 3-4 highly maintained and updated parks such as Boroline, Williams st, Community Park and potential Lions Field, is important to the success of the Emmaus youth programs who are drastically losing participation to club and tournament teams in all sports due to access to better facilities for both training and competition. This is lost revenue in Emmaus for park rental fees and for larger events, parking and concession revenue.	12/8/2020 6:48 PM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

152	I'm not sure how this can be done, But I would love to see the borough, and the zoning board find a way to discourage subdividing residential properties, and cram in as many buildings into small spaces as possible.	12/5/2020 9:29 AM
153	Would think a dog park would be nice for this area	12/5/2020 7:38 AM
154	Would love to see a dog park at Lions. People bring their dogs all the time, and it's generally safe, but there's enough traffic that there could be an accident some day if a dog is off leash.	12/4/2020 5:32 PM
155	Skate Park	12/4/2020 3:55 PM
156	Are there places to play/practice golf? That's a selfish indulgence but would be great to have in the boro	12/4/2020 12:17 PM
157	A dog park would be fantastic to offer to borough residents. Also, FINISH THE BOROUGH GYM! Your Employees are getting restless and fat....	12/4/2020 12:03 PM
158	We live very close to Lions Park and if you compare the park from 20 years ago with the park today it's disappointing that the playground equipment has slowly declined from a full playground to just swings and a merry-go-round and one small climber. More climbing and slides would be nice to have there again.	12/4/2020 11:48 AM
159	The big thing is to maintain and refurb what we have. Roads are awful, sidewalks haphazard, and many of the neighborhood playgrounds/tot lots need new equipment. It's also dangerous to walk/bike in many parts of town, particularly commercial areas where we should be encouraging it. Walking/biking along Main/Chestnut Street is hair-raising and I'm nervous when my teens want to walk to town or bike the neighborhood. We ideally need a truck bypass so big rigs and people in a hurry can dodge our main street. Emmaus has a LOT of great stuff in it and I don't mean to disparage the hard work of Borough workers and volunteers. It's just that it feels like living safely and healthily is *just* slightly out of reach, and with some changes we could make that more of a reality. (Honestly, it's a Valley-wide issue, not just here.) Thanks for asking for our input.	12/3/2020 8:44 PM
160	Please educate trail etiquette in new hikers! Mountain bikers are getting a lot of crap for just existing. And the Covid hikers aren't adhering to rules	12/3/2020 6:55 PM
161	Thanks for caring! We love Emmaus and always have. Keep up the great work. Have a happy holiday!	12/3/2020 5:33 PM
162	Need a dog park	10/28/2020 11:47 AM
163	Emmaus needs a large scale rec center with greenway connectivity	10/18/2020 7:53 AM
164	Would love other areas besides the pump track geared for teens. Skate park would be great. Paved trails as well.	10/17/2020 9:53 PM
165	Most important thing would be to improve our parks in the area so that they're now desirable and safe to enjoy! A dog park would be awesome too	10/13/2020 11:29 AM
166	I answered yes, but they need to be maintained better	10/13/2020 7:45 AM
167	As a family, we love Emmaus so much mainly due to the fact that you can walk however long you want and go shop, grab some food or go visit friends and family who are also in Emmaus, but I was just saying the other day how it really needs some TLC. The sidewalks are dangerous and not ADA or child friendly at all, and the parks are an embarrassment compared to for example Grange Park. The town is becoming very young as a lot of the original owners/builders of the houses are passing away, and I'd really like to see parks being given new life and being more appealing for families to go to.	10/12/2020 10:40 PM
168	Please install some pull up bars at some of the parks, especially Community Park.	10/11/2020 4:22 PM
169	As far as making Emmaus Pedestrian or walker friendly, I think something needs to be done with crosswalks, timing of stoplights, and buttons to request a green light that don't seem to work. One of the worst areas to try to walk to, is anything west of Cedar Crest Boulevard. There is a walk/don't walk signal, but you still have to navigate through traffic when you're trying to cross.	10/11/2020 8:45 AM
170	This was a neat thing to do for our community. Thank you. I only wish for safer smoother trails for walking off main street, and for my hobby of roller skating. Sidewalks in Emmaus aren't the best for it.	10/11/2020 12:51 AM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

171	Lions park is in very bad shape. Please consider modern family equipment that is safe for children to play on.	10/10/2020 9:14 PM
172	They are but we have been finding ourselves looking for more to do, more trails to walk, more places to see. I want to see a lot more preserve life, similar to pool, all around emmaus! Would be really great for the kids to have a safe space to be in nature more	10/10/2020 8:04 AM
173	It is heartbreaking to see the forest be decimated at the base of South Mountain at Arch St. How did this happen?? Deer and other animals have been displaced. The landscape has completely changed along the side of the mountain as you drive down S. Mountain Dr. to S. 10th St. It's a sad reminder that our Borough needs to tighten its policies on development and prioritize preservation of the very few acres we have left in our town. This absolutely has to be a priority to maintain the quality of life!	10/9/2020 11:21 PM
174	There should be a safe on-street connection between the Stryer section and the rest of the borough, and also signed bike lanes through the boro. The Gateway Trail needs upkeep, it was badly washed out this summer. There should be designated recycling bins in the borough parks. The playground at Lions Park is severely outdated and unsafe.	10/9/2020 9:32 PM
175	There are AMPLE playground and walking trail opportunities in the borough. Would love to see something unique or a splash and spray water park similar to the ones at Upper Macungie.	10/9/2020 8:21 PM
176	In comparison to other areas we visit emmaus parks really lack in creative play areas for our children.	10/9/2020 8:04 PM
177	As of late, Boroline's pavilion area has become bogged down with things from trash, diapers, beer bottles, and whatever other trash is left when visitors from Allentown use this facility. I don't know the answer to prevent this other than more patrolling and fines being given out.	10/5/2020 3:26 PM
178	Allow dogs in all parks. Most people are responsible pet owners. This would also provide opportunities for youth community service projects.	10/3/2020 7:23 PM
179	I spent years bike commuting around Philadelphia. I've continued to bike for fitness, recreation, and running errands in Emmaus. I also walk a lot for the same reasons. Overall, I think Emmaus is generally well connected for walking and cycling. I also think that it is comfortable for cycling, but I am a person who has battled aggressive drivers, red light/stop sign blowers, and speeders on the road. I think Emmaus could be a more bike and pedestrian-friendly town. I think the problem is most people don't realize that they can easily bike or walk Emmaus in order to visit friends, go shopping, go to a park, etc. Borough should have events, like open streets, where different routes through Emmaus are closed to cars. Each Open Streets event could feature a different park. During Open Streets, people can get out and experience what it is like to ride a bike on the street without cars, making them more comfortable with the idea of using a bike for transportation. Open streets are also for walkers/runners to be able to get out without fear of cars. There can be "bike rodeos" where kids learn the safety of biking. Perhaps some wayfinding signage throughout Emmaus can show how far places are by walking. I've noticed that destinations need bike racks so that people can lock up their bikes securely while they go about their business. More street furniture, like benches with backs, could help seniors be able to walk around further. There could be a walking group that walks Also a public art "trail" or historical "trail" -- in my mind art or historical signage/QR codes for audio recordings -- around town could get people walking to various destinations. Providing a better bus stop experience -- bench, shelter, bus maps, and times -- could help get people riding Lanta. Maybe a Lanta bus could come to the farmer's market or an open streets event and people can check it out and ask the Lanta representative questions. I do think a bike share program in Emmaus would be interesting to pilot. I do not think sharrows should be used at all -- they confuse both drivers and cyclists as to what to do. For bike lanes, Emmaus should go all-in on protected bike lanes or separated bike lanes and work with other municipalities and gov agencies/departments on bike lane connections so that a bike lane just doesn't end and leaves cyclists stranded on a busy street, like Cedar Crest Blvd.	9/29/2020 5:18 PM
180	Please provide safe pedestrian/bike access to Camp Olympic! We live in Little Lehigh Acres, but 29 is too dangerous to cross.	9/16/2020 9:26 PM
181	Our Family uses the Emmaus Community Park for most of its recreational activities and work.	9/16/2020 8:17 AM
182	There was no mention of people with disabilities in this survey. The Borough must consider this population in any improvement of Parks and recreation. I do not know of any friendly playground in Emmaus that a person with disabilities could use.	9/15/2020 10:39 PM



## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

183	I thought parks such as the Community Park are open to bicycles as of 2013, however there is still a no bicycling sign between the baseball field and the restrooms.	9/15/2020 8:31 PM
184	A safe walking/biking connection to the trail along Little Lehigh Creek would be an amazing improvement to non-driving connectivity for Emmaus.	9/15/2020 2:45 PM
185	I feel there needs to be improvements for pedestrians and bike crossings at Harrison st and State rd	9/8/2020 9:27 PM
186	The kids are asking for a tree house to be put into the Emmaus Park	9/4/2020 1:33 PM
187	I've answered in a few of these questions that I do feel my needs are being met by Emmaus parks. However-- I would LOVE to see more walking, hiking, and biking facilities in the borough! It would make our borough even better!	8/25/2020 4:27 PM
188	Please improve connectivity for pedestrians and bikers. This would be good for the health and well being of our community and support local small business.	8/25/2020 1:31 PM
189	Emphasize the rich Historical/Cultural resources that make Emmaus special. Knauss Homestead, 1803 House, God's Acre and Shelter House could be connected by a Walking Trail. All Historic houses should be surveyed, and mapped for public interest. A survey of trees in Emmaus should be available for recreational interest. A Historic Commission needs to be established and a Plan formed to preserve the history, help with grant applications, mitigation of losses, and promotion of the cultural resources.	8/22/2020 5:05 PM
190	I would really like to see a dog park in the borough!	8/20/2020 4:17 PM
191	Would love a dog park !!	8/20/2020 6:48 AM
192	Would like to see a multi use turf field that the community can use. Not just at the high school. Love another stocked fishing pond or kayaking down at wildlands would be cool.	8/18/2020 11:33 PM
193	Please be sure to have all current facilities around the borough maintained and maintenance budgeted for in the future before building any new facilities. Remain cognizant that citizens work really hard for every penny they pay taxes with and that grants are not free money	8/18/2020 10:22 PM
194	Introduce a referendum for taxpayers to decide on a dedicated recreation tax to fund these projects.	8/18/2020 3:28 PM
195	I would prefer if the parks allowed dogs or if a dog park was made available -- or even if a few select parks allowed dogs.	8/18/2020 9:30 AM
196	I would like to see more things for older kids. There's a lot of playgrounds and every school has basketball courts but there's no spaces geared toward teens other than the pump park at Camp Olympic. Maybe a hand ball area and a skate park would be a nice addition to our park system.	8/18/2020 8:34 AM
197	Fix Furnace Dam Park. It is an eye sore to live near. There is an algae bloom the size of the pond. The bridge is still not finished. There is no garbage can by the playground. The dam wall at the basin is crumbling. The silt catch before the pond is over full. The only big positive is there are very few geese!	8/18/2020 7:47 AM
198	Need a afer bike connections through town. Also need to improve existing sidewalk conditions. Sidewalks need maintenance to fix, cut back overgrown landscaping, eliminate trash that blocks sidewalks.	8/18/2020 6:31 AM
199	Need more pet friendly places to walk dog	8/18/2020 6:30 AM
200	I usually go to the parkway for all my needs	8/18/2020 4:11 AM
201	We need to maintain what we have. Our community park is a mess with fewer trees every year. Our roads are in horrible condition with grass growling the street. While it is good to be friendly I often see borough workers socializing for extended periods of time when they should be working.	8/18/2020 2:47 AM
202	I think Emmaus should provide dog waste containers. There are so many dog walkers and it would help to keep yards free from dog waste.	8/17/2020 9:43 PM
203	Emmaus has sufficient parks. Need to be maintained better. Repair the pool!0	8/17/2020 9:14 PM

## Emmaus Borough Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study

204	Would like more preserved area - not much left	8/17/2020 8:08 PM
205	More dog friendly areas. We have parks/ trails surrounding our house but none allow dogs.	8/17/2020 6:07 PM
206	There are plenty of basketball courts available outdoors, but the playing surfaces are not well maintained. It would be great to see some of those upgraded, particularly Williams St. and Community Park). Additionally, it would be great if there was a facility that allowed for the offering of indoor sports (e.g. basketball, indoor soccer, volleyball) during winter months and could have other uses throughout the year. That being said, we are blessed to live in Emmaus where there is support for as many recreational and open spaces as there currently are.	8/17/2020 6:01 PM
207	Please update playground by the fire station	8/17/2020 5:36 PM
208	Being outside is important, and it would make Emmaus a destination for outside money if the parks and trails were well-kept, clean, and beautiful. People would want to come here and spend money at the various businesses. If the Borough is growing in population the parks and public pedestrian areas should increase also. We're not a big city like Allentown but we can be small and beautiful.	8/17/2020 5:29 PM
209	Would like dog friendly parks	8/17/2020 5:04 PM
210	I have written to the borough before about this....we live close to Williams street and the bridge leading from the playground to the baseball field is in sorry shape-not to Me too the prolific growth of poison ivy all over it. Those fields host a lot of tournaments-it's too bad the general area isn't maintained better for our out of town guests. I have mentioned this to the borough before and offered to help weed...instead the poison ivy was just sprayed with weed killer....so now then it was just brown poison ivy potentially harming pets and people and the waterway right there.	8/17/2020 4:41 PM
211	I wish people visiting Boroline Park they would not throe trash on the ground, the parking lot is littered lately	8/17/2020 4:37 PM
212	We can use more, preserved green spaces. We love camp Olympic but with the new layout of the disc golf course we can't play or picnic down passed the basketball courts by the two trees. We love the eco park and prefer developmentally appropriate eco and nature playgrounds that are not made of plastic or metal and encourage balance, self confidence, cooperation, and natural materials. We need more trees and gardens and an incorporated play space with open areas, hiding spots, interactive gardens, mud play, and sensory paths. We need spots that are safe unlike furnace dam park which seems like a meth-haven or homeless camp. And Lions park which the playground was a rusty death trap. We spend over 1000 hours outdoors a year (individually) and with the pandemic everyone is spending more time outside. We need safe and calm natural options so we can play outside in public, possibly with our small pods, yet still be able to not be in a crowded space, even when outside.	8/17/2020 4:34 PM
213	I would love to see more kids biking and walking to school, but the safety issues prevent this. Dimly lit, poorly maintained or non-existent sidewalks (school travel is mostly done in dim or dark hours), and traffic issues all contribute to the problems.	8/17/2020 4:11 PM
214	Dogs are not allowed in most parks near my home.	8/17/2020 4:07 PM
215	We need dog walking trails.	8/17/2020 4:02 PM
216	There needs to be a better communication or community awareness about picking up after your dog if you own a dog. often dogs deficate on lawns and their owners do not pick up. I don't want to have to put a sign on my nice lawn - but there needs to be a stricter enforcement of the existing code.	8/17/2020 3:46 PM
217	Create off road bike trail to the Lehigh Parkway	8/17/2020 3:42 PM
218	Think some areas need to be better suited for strollers/walkers/wheel chairs to access on side walks	8/17/2020 3:21 PM
219	It would be great to see the parks connect between the borough and other parks outside of the borough to expand the trail networks. Better bike routes through town, a bike rack at the farmers market, collaboration between the borough and other towns on bike routes and lanes.	8/15/2020 9:57 PM

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Proposed  
Skate Park

Formalize parking to  
increase spaces

Fill in sidewalk gap to  
Homestead Park

Klines Lane

Existing walkway to the  
field - needs repair

Proposed walking trail  
around the field

Klines  
Soccer  
Field