

**Meeting Minutes: Central/Buchmiller/Sunnyside Parks
 Master Plans
 Study Committee Meeting #6**

Date: March 19, 2007
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Shuts Environmental Center - Central Park
By: Chuck Strodoski
Project No.: 06LAN-01

Persons Attending: James Hackett, Director, Lancaster County Parks and Recreation
 Ralph Goodno, Lancaster County Conservancy
 Dave Martin, West Lampeter Township
 Sam Slaymaker, Rockford Foundation
 Mike Domin, Lancaster County Planning Commission
 Nevin Greiner, Lancaster County Conservation District
 Randy Moyer, West Lampeter Township
 Chuck Strodoski, YSM
 Ann Yost, YSM

Purpose of the Meeting: To review the conceptual alternatives for Central and Buchmiller Parks.

Of Record:

1. A. Yost provided an update on work completed since the last study committee meeting. Additional key person interviews have been completed and the process of talking to key contacts is continuing. Rettew Associates has completed a draft of the Forestry Management measures for the parks.
2. A. Yost presented a draft of the Vision Statement for the parks. The draft was viewed as a purpose and not a vision. The statement should reflect the ultimate vision for the parks. Each park should have its own unique vision. The visions should tie to the existing County Parks Mission Statement. Additional language should include items such as; well maintained facilities, safe environment, preservation of natural features, serving the urban population, and home for wildlife. YSM will prepare a Vision Statement for each park and further define goals and core values based on the discussions.
3. C. Strodoski presented the Conceptual Alternatives for each park. Maps of each alternative are attached to these minutes. Discussion regarding the presentation of the alternatives included the following:

Central Park

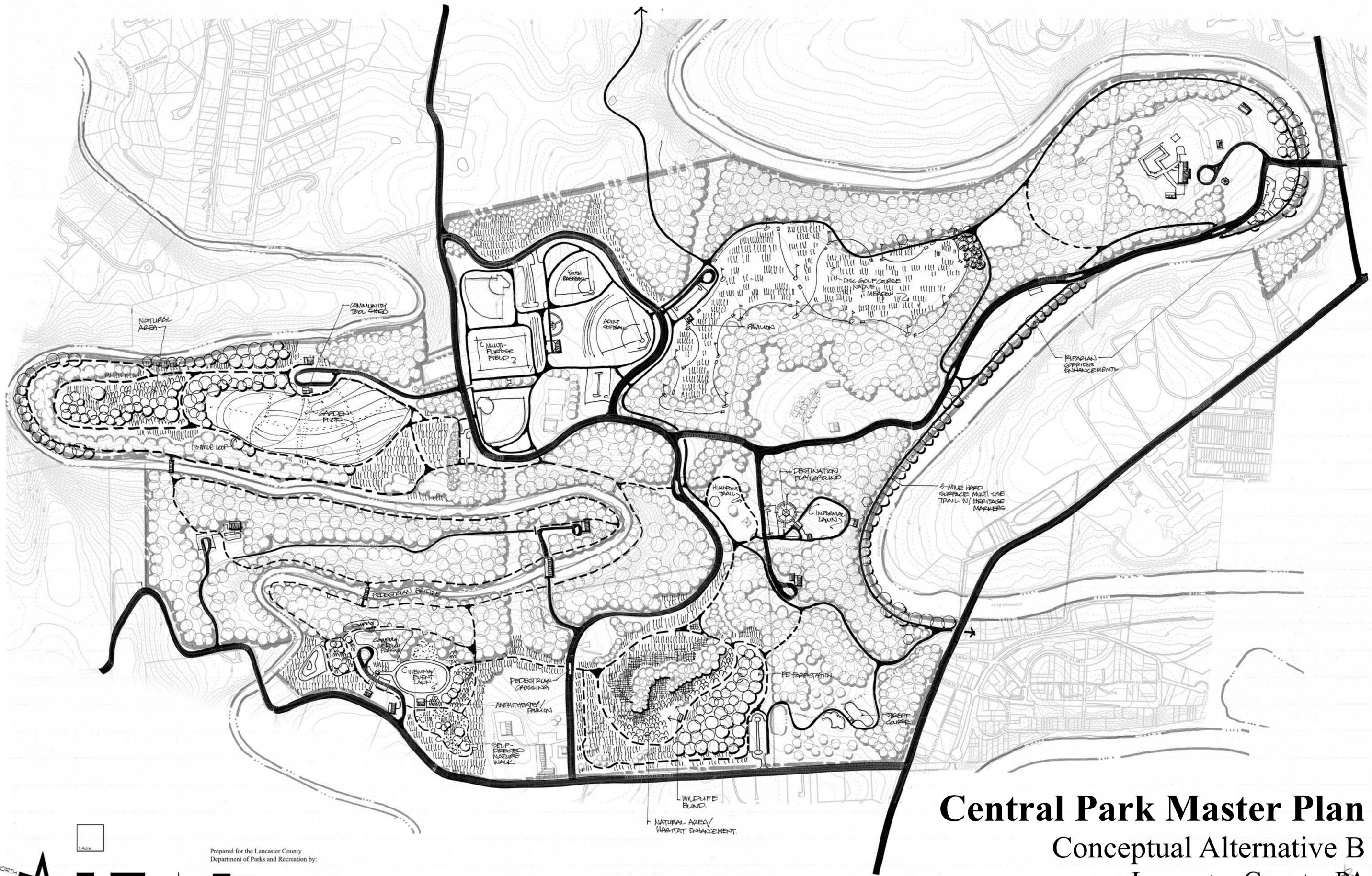
- Each alternative illustrates a shortened cul-de-sac at the existing camping area to reduce paved areas and increase the natural area and camping opportunity at the woods edge.
- Trail connections to known or targeted trails within West Lampeter Township should be added to the plan. In particular, trail extensions along the Mill Creek should be provided to the east and west to connect to proposed trails identified by West Lampeter Township on the Township's draft Official Map.
- The need for additional athletic fields and/or maintaining existing athletic fields was questioned. Committee members suggested that athletic fields should be the responsibility of local municipalities and not the County Park system. The County, by funding municipal recreation, has shown commitment to local municipalities. West Lampeter has recently developed a new community park and is expanding its recreation facilities. The loss of the fields near the skate park would contribute to the naturalization of the park, and appeared favorable. The County Park should target providing unique recreation facilities, use areas, and natural areas that draw users County-wide.
- Maintaining the garden plots in their current location was favorably reviewed.
- Each alternative explores closure of portions of the existing internal road network. The reductions in roads within the park was favorably reviewed, as it would expand pedestrian/bicycle trails through the reuse of abandoned road corridors, decrease impervious cover, reduce pedestrian and vehicular conflict, and reduce/discourage "cut-through" traffic in the park. J. Hackett has traffic counts for the park. J. Hackett believes the City Police Department would welcome the closure of roads. Redirecting traffic past Rockford was not favorably reviewed. YSM will explore other options to minimize roads in the park, while maintaining a functional road network.
- No new concession stands are provided in the alternative designs. Concessions such as canoe rentals, etc, may be considered.
- The plan should promote the pedestrian/bicycle routes and convey roads as secondary.
- Increased use of exhibit farmhouse should be explored. The farmhouse could serve as a hostel or a fresh produce co-op should the garden plots be relocated to the area.
- The natural area enhancements illustrated on Conceptual Alternative B around the environmental education center and north of the maintenance facility were favorably reviewed.
- A suggestion was made to relocate the destination playground to the area near the pool at the northern end of the site. This area is problematic due to periodic flooding and surrounding park features.
- A suggestion was made to locate the destination playground near the athletic fields.
- The scenic overlook area, east of Rockford is developed as a destination area within the park in both conceptual alternative plans and was reviewed favorably as a location for expanded use which may include a picnic pavilion, destination playground, open lawn, scenic overlook area, and interpretation of Indians use of the site.
- The naturalization of the entire southern peninsula was favorably reviewed. N. Greiner raised concern regarding the loss of revenue. The loss of revenue should be considered.

- Proposed improvements on the landfill were questioned. The alternatives suggest minimal improvements in the area of the landfill. Settlement is a concern. J. Hackett noted the existing restroom structure on the landfill will be removed due to structural failure. Disc golf was well received as an option for development of the landfill. Currently, the Buchmiller Park hosts 70 disc golf events per year and is a revenue source for the park.
- A 15-acre dog park was explored as an option on the landfill. The size of the dog park was not favored. A. Yost noted that a trend for larger dog parks is evolving due to the wear and tear on the turf surface and popularity of the parks. Currently, Central Park is dog friendly, permitting dogs under control of their owners. There was some interest in a dog park, but smaller than the 15-acres illustrated on the overlay sketch. J. Hackett noted that there is no access to water in the landfill area and water is important for dog parks.
- Basketball courts should be located near the athletic fields.
- The naturalized planting north of the Maintenance Complex, across Golf Road was favorably reviewed.

Buchmiller Park

- C. Strodoski briefly presented the alternatives for Buchmiller Park. Both alternatives maintain the existing disc gold course. There was little discussion on Buchmiller Park due to the meeting time running out. Buchmiller Park will be considered at the next study committee meeting.
4. A. Yost concluded the meeting by outlining the next steps in the planning process. YSM will provide copies of the alternative designs to the committee for further review and consideration (attached to these minutes). The next study committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 16th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be a continuation of the discussion of the conceptual alternative plans. Any comments, ideas or recommendations should be forwarded to ysm@ysmla.com in advance of the April 16th meeting for consideration.

Provide changes or corrections to these meeting minutes to C. Strodoski at YSM within one week of receipt.



Central Park Master Plan
 Conceptual Alternative B
 Lancaster County, PA
 February 2007

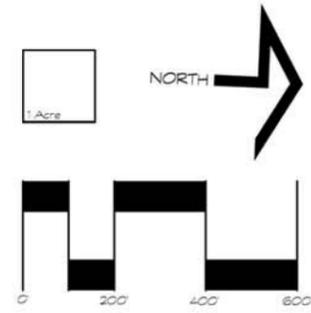
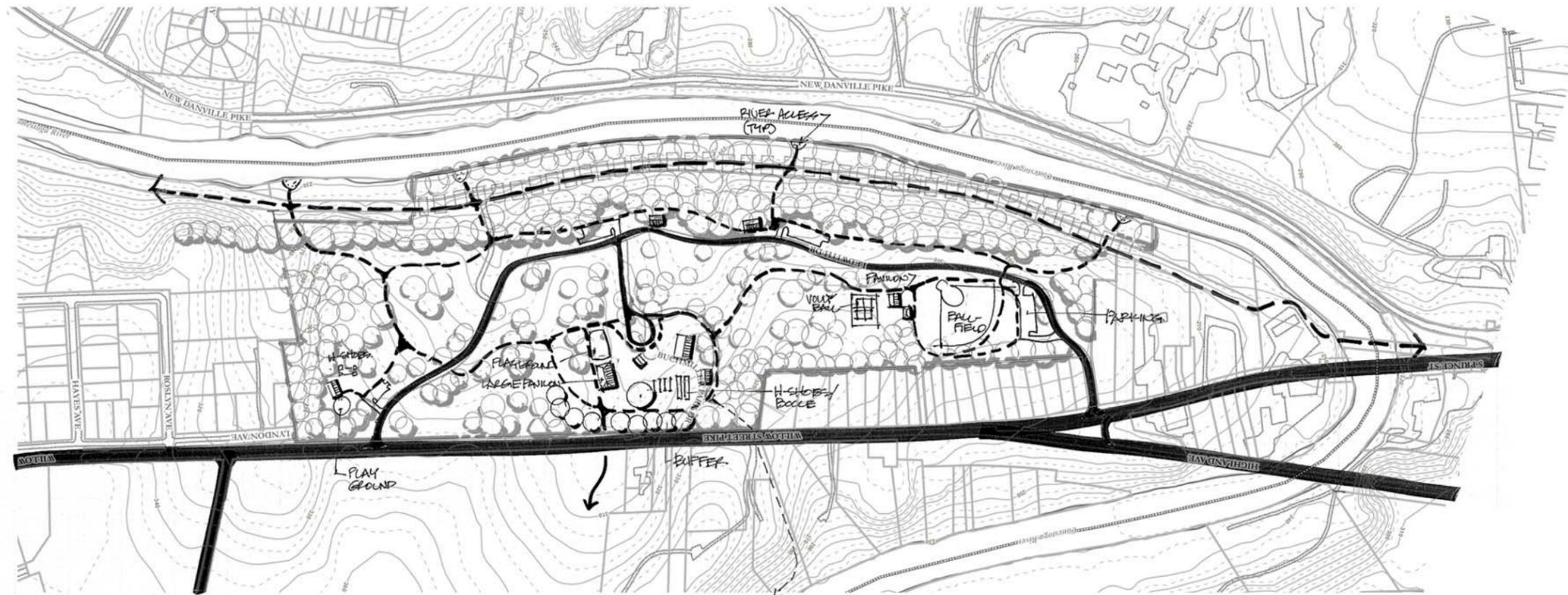
Prepared for the Lancaster County
 Department of Parks and Recreation by:

ysm Landscape Architects
 10 South Netherberry Street
 York, Pennsylvania 17402
 (717) 852-8000 phone
 (717) 852-8769 fax
 www.ysm.com

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Department of Parks and Recreation by:

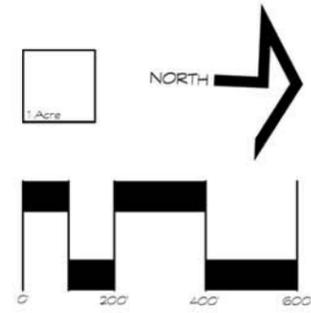
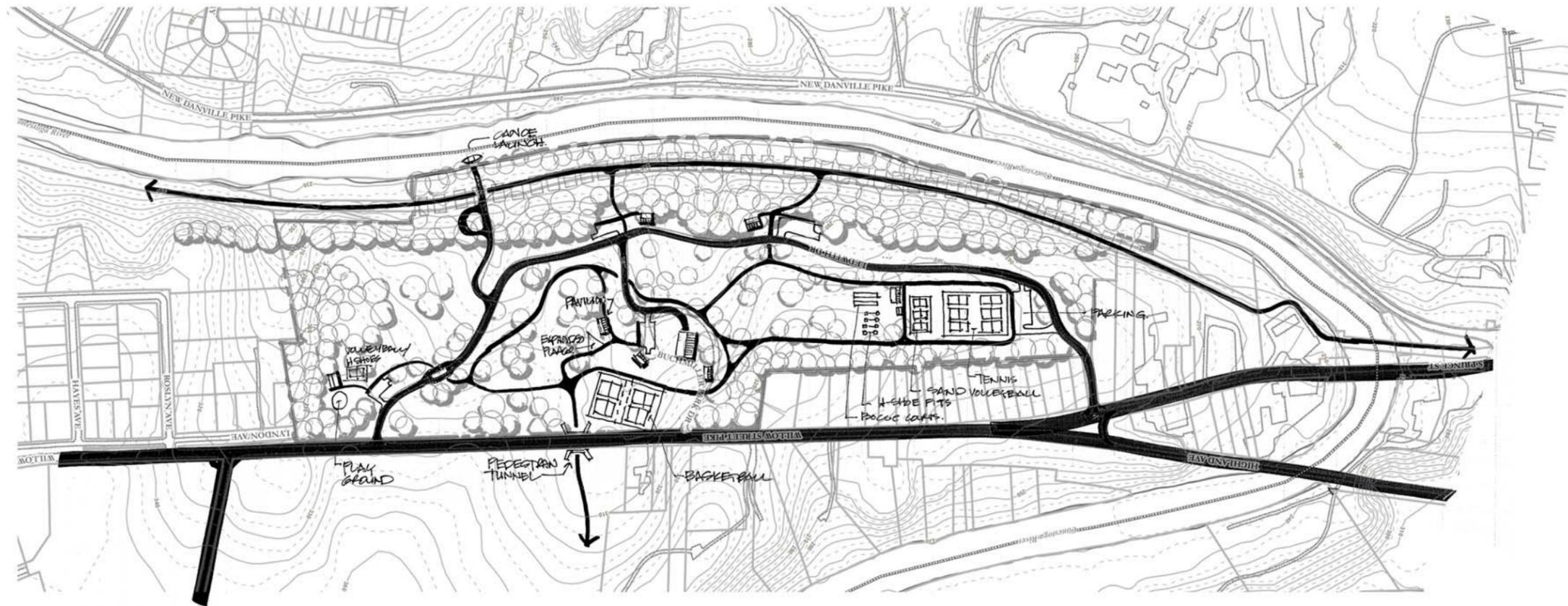
ysm
Landscape Architects
19 South Newberry Street
York, Pennsylvania 17401
(717) 852-9959 phone
(717) 852-9759 fax
www.ysma.com

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Buchmiller Park Master Plan

Conceptual Alternative A

Lancaster County, PA
February 2007



Prepared for the Lancaster County
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ysm
Landscape Architects
19 South Newberry Street
York, Pennsylvania 17401
(717) 852-9959 phone
(717) 852-9759 fax
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