

VII. Implementation Costs

A. Introduction

The major recommendations were identified in Section VI. This section will provide detailed itemization of the improvements to be made at each existing park, as well as an order of magnitude cost estimate. These budget costs assume the projects will be bid and built by a contractor, and will be designed to high standards to last a long time. The general budget cost for the development of the new recommended parks is also identified in this section. The reader must keep in mind that it is not expected for the County and the cities to bear all of these costs. Some could be funded or provided by the County or cities or other entities such as homeowner associations, developers, non-profit organizations, leagues, or other agencies. The proposed development is planned to meet the needs of city and residents over a period of 10-20 years or more. These implementation costs do not include land acquisition.

B. Existing Parks

The following project costs are order-of-magnitude cost estimates. The concept plans provided are very general and the designs should be coordinated with neighborhoods and park users through a more formal park design process. They are intended to illustrate possible park configurations and how the proposed facilities could fit on the site.

	Cost
1. County & City Facilities	
Community Parks	
a. Ben Topmiller Park at Lake Luzerne (Greenville Little League)	
Determine future use of the baseball complex area after fields are relocated to a new park	
b. Paradise Park (Powderly)	
Replace playground	\$60,000
Replace School House roof	\$5,000
Paved walkways for improved access	\$20,000
Groups to adopt and furnish buildings	
Subtotal for Construction	\$85,000
Contingency (10%)	\$8,500
Construction Total	\$93,500
Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$11,220
Project Total	\$104,720

Implementation Costs

Neighborhood Parks

a.	Central City Park	
	Skate Park	\$300,000
	Basketball courts	\$60,000
	Shelter between courts & skate park	\$30,000
	Small sprayground	\$150,000
	New picnic shelter	\$80,000
	Restroom	\$100,000
	Upgrade existing playgrounds and safety surface	\$60,000
	Upgrade existing shelter	\$20,000
	Paved walking path	\$24,000
	Steps to courts	\$12,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$836,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$83,600
	Construction Total	\$919,600
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$110,352
	Project Total	\$1,029,952
b.	J. P. Morgan Memorial Park (Greenville)	
	Convert pool house to community room	\$150,000
	Sprayground	\$350,000
	Skate Park	\$300,000
	Octagon shelter (2)	\$160,000
	Paved concrete ramp/walks (6' wide x 995')	\$42,000
	Paved walking paths (6' wide x 2430')	\$32,400
	Upgrade amphitheater (stage, seats, walks)	\$150,000
	Parking along Chatham Lane	\$14,400
	Parking on Jail lot	\$24,000
	Resurface tennis courts-Patch cracks	\$20,000
	Resurface basketball court - new asphalt	\$16,300
	New basketball court	\$30,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$1,289,100
	Contingency (10%)	\$128,910
	Construction Total	\$1,418,010
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$170,161
	Project Total	\$1,588,171

Implementation Costs

c.	Beechmont Community Park	
	Upgrade playground	\$60,000
	Picnic shelter	\$60,000
	Basketball court	\$30,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$150,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$15,000
	Construction Total	\$165,000
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$19,800
	Project Total	\$184,800
d.	John T. Rice Park (Powderly)	
	Upgrade playground	\$60,000
	Replace stage	\$20,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$80,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$8,000
	Construction Total	\$88,000
e.	Bremen Park	
	Upgrades currently in progress	
	Replace playground	\$60,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$60,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$6,000
	Construction Total	\$66,000
f.	Dunmor Park	
	Long term replace playground	\$60,000
	Basketball court	\$30,000
	Walkways	\$8,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$98,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$9,800
	Construction Total	\$107,800
g.	Weir Ballfield Park	
	Improvements recently made	
	Long term-replace playground	\$60,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$60,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$6,000
	Construction Total	\$66,000

Implementation Costs

Mini-Parks

a.	Gish Park (Central City)	
	Paved walking path	\$20,000
	Upgrade parking lot	\$12,000
	Full size basketball court	\$30,000
	Two shelters	\$120,000
	Upgrade playground and safety surface	\$40,000
	Sign	\$2,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$224,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$22,400
	Construction Total	\$246,400
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$29,568
	Project Total	\$275,968
b.	South Carrollton Park	
	New playground	\$60,000
	Signage	\$2,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$62,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$6,200
	Construction Total	\$68,200
c.	Mose Rager Park (Drakesboro)	
	No improvements planned	
d.	Simmons Street Park (Drakesboro)	
	Add playground	\$60,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$60,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$6,000
	Construction Total	\$66,000
e.	Midland Community Center	
	No improvements planned	
f.	Ennis Community Center	
	Replace playground	\$60,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$60,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$6,000
	Construction Total	\$66,000

Implementation Costs

- g. Millport Community Center
No improvements planned
- h. Nelson Creek Community Center
No improvements planned

Special Use Parks

- a. Central City Wellness Center
Improvements by City
- b. Veterans Plaza (Greenville)
No improvements planned
- c. Muhlenberg County Boat Ramp
No improvements planned or use State Fish and Wildlife Grants
- d. Muhlenburg County Senior Citizens Center
No improvements planned
- e. Flying Mules Remote Control Airplane Site
No planned improvements
- f. Central City Boat Ramp
No improvements planned

Linear Parks

a.	Rail-Trail (Greenville to Central City)	
	Widen existing 6 mile long trail to 10'	\$300,000
	Light central portion (assume 3 mile area to be lighted-lights spaced at 125')	\$422,400
	Signage	\$5,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$727,400
	Contingency (10%)	\$72,740
	Construction Total	\$800,140
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$96,017
	Project Total	\$896,157

Nature Parks

- a. Brizendine Nature Park (Greenville)
Funded through grants and volunteers

2. School Facilities

- a. Central City Elementary
 No improvements planned
 Pending determination of fields for consolidated Little Leagues
- b. North Middle/Longest Elem.
 Schools to replace facilities once new school is built
- c. Bremen Elementary
 Schools to replace facilities once new school is built
- d. Greenville Elementary
 No improvements planned
- e. South Elementary
 No improvements planned
- f. MHS - East Campus
 No improvements planned
- g. MHS –West Campus
 No improvements planned
- h. South Middle School
 No improvements planned

Total Existing Parks	\$4,607,768
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C. New Parks and Facilities

Since these properties have not been Master Planned, an average figure of \$60,000 per acre has been used. This figure is based upon an analysis of recently developed parks. The major facilities area based upon recently similar facilities in Kentucky and adjacent states. These figures include contingencies, design costs, and construction costs.

1. County Parks

- a. New Large County Central Park
 Based on the MCHS West Campus Concept
- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Nature trails (rear half of park - 3 miles) | \$115,000 |
| Dog park | \$60,000 |
| Parking lots at rear (off of Dean Rd.) | \$150,000 |
| 5 field lighted baseball/softball complex | \$1,500,000 |
| 4 field lighted baseball/softball complex | \$1,000,000 |
| Restroom/concession/press box buildings (2) | \$500,000 |
| Restroom building | \$100,000 |

Implementation Costs

Large parking lot	\$500,000
Roads	\$250,000
Earthwork and drainage	\$1,000,000
Utilities	\$500,000
Access road bridges (2)	\$200,000
Footbridges (2)	\$60,000
Tennis Courts (2)	\$60,000
Basketball courts (2)	\$60,000
Sand volleyball courts	\$25,000
Picnic shelters (6)	\$360,000
Large all-access playground	\$200,000
Small playground	\$60,000
Sprayground	\$350,000
Paved trails at front portion (2 miles)	\$200,000
Subtotal for Construction	\$7,135,000
Contingency (10%)	\$713,500
Construction Total	\$7,848,500
Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$941,820
Project Total	\$8,790,320

b. Equestrian Park

Parking Lot	\$150,000
Indoor Equestrian Arena	\$1,300,000
Classroom/restrooms/kitchen	\$220,000
Outdoor Equestrian Ring with bleachers	\$100,000
Trails (to be developed by others)	
Subtotal for Construction	\$1,770,000
Contingency (10%)	\$177,000
Construction Total	\$1,947,000
Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$233,640
Project Total	\$2,180,640

Implementation Costs

c.	ATV Park	
	Parking Lot (50 cars)	\$80,000
	Indoor classroom/restrooms	\$200,000
	Trails (to be developed by others)	
	Subtotal for Construction	\$280,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$28,000
	Construction Total	\$308,000
d.	Shooting Skills Park	
	Parking Lot (50 cars)	\$80,000
	Classroom/restrooms	\$200,000
	Shooting ranges (by others)	
	Subtotal for Construction	\$280,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$28,000
	Construction Total	\$308,000
e.	Family Aquatic Center	\$3,993,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$3,993,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$399,300
	Construction Total	\$4,392,300
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$527,076
	Project Total	\$4,919,376
f.	Lake Luzerne Park	
	Nature trail around lake (1.73 mi.)	\$65,000
	Boat ramp	\$50,000
	Picnic shelter (2)	\$120,000
	Parking	\$86,000
	Roadway	\$80,000
	Signage	\$2,000
	Subtotal for Construction	\$403,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$40,300
	Construction Total	\$443,300
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$53,196
	Project Total	\$496,496
g.	Indoor Sports & Recreation Center	\$10,000,000
	Budget figure - cost will vary due to facilities and size	

Implementation Costs

2. Community Parks

a. Greenville Main Street Plaza

Site earthwork	\$1,000
Excavate and recompact basement fill	\$15,000
Dry-laid stone wall	\$24,000
Dry-laid wall at base of rear building wall	\$13,000
New façade on rear wall	\$12,000
Yard drains and drainage pipe	\$4,400
Two Mustang statues (based upon use of in-stock sculptures from a Lexington area sculptor) and installation. Other options should be explored.	\$50,000
Paved path	\$3,000
Exposed aggregate concrete stream bed	\$7,600
Recirculation equipment and pumps	\$50,000
River rock placement on edge of stream and walk	\$4,000
Sod	\$1,500
Small ornamental trees	\$1,200
Landscaping	\$5,000
Painting of scenes in arches of rear wall	\$25,000
Subtotal for Construction	\$216,700
Contingency (10%)	\$21,670
Construction Total	\$238,370
Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$28,604
Project Total	\$266,974

b. Central City Festival Park

Clearing and grubbing	\$15,000
Stage (not including temporary roof)	\$30,000
Electric supply for booths and stage	\$50,000
Walking path	\$32,000
Landscaping	\$20,000
Pave booth space under RR	\$50,000
Subtotal for Construction	\$197,000
Contingency (10%)	\$19,700
Construction Total	\$216,700
Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$26,004
Project Total	\$242,704

Implementation Costs

3.	Neighborhood Parks	
	a. Graham Neighborhood Park (+/- 10 acres)	\$600,000
4.	Linear Parks	
	a. Rail Trail Extension	
	Routes to be determined. Assumed length of approximately 5 miles.	\$650,000
	(Does not include land acquisition)	
	Subtotal for Construction	\$650,000
	Contingency (10%)	\$65,000
	Construction Total	\$715,000
	Design/survey/bidding (12%)	\$85,800
	Project Total	\$800,800
	Total New Parks and Facilities	\$28,913,310
	Total New and Existing Parks and Facilities	\$33,521,078

VIII. Action Plan

A. Capital Improvement Ranking

The Master Plan Steering Committee reviewed the potential solutions and recommendations of the Master Plan and then participated in an exercise to establish priorities to provide direction to the Fiscal Court, City Councils, Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation and other organizations in the implementation of this Master Plan. The Committee Members were asked to rank each of the improvement projects in the order of priority for the overall project. Following the review of all the public input processes and analyses, the Master Plan Steering Committee was asked to provide their individual ranking for the recommended capital improvement projects. The priority ranking was to indicate the importance of the improvements and not necessarily the order in which they would be developed. Table 13, Capital Projects Priority Ranking, identifies the capital improvement ranking based on total points and the median of the ranking for each item.

Following the Steering Committee meeting in which the Committee performed the ranking process, some members were absent and therefore, they were given an opportunity to submit their ranking. The Committee met for one last time to review the implementation priorities and developed the following overall guiding principles as the priorities based on this ranking system.

Table 13: Capital Projects Priority Ranking

**Capital Projects Priority Ranking
Muhlenberg County Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

Master Plan Steering Committee Members were asked to indicate a High Priority (3), Medium Priority (2), Low Priority (1), or Not Needed (0) for each item on the list. The priority ranking is for the level of importance of the improvements and not necessarily the order in which they will be developed.

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Capital Projects</i>	<i>New Park Acres</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
1	Acquire land and develop a Central County Park with picnic areas, trails, natural area, baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, football fields, playgrounds, etc.	100-150	2.85	57
2	Upgrade the playgrounds at all community centers and neighborhood parks to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines.		2.55	51
3	Widen the entire Rail -Trail and add lights to the central portion.		2.30	46
4	Develop the skate park, restroom and improved facilities at Central Park in Central City in the area of the former pool and tennis courts.		2.15	43
5	Improve access to park facilities with sidewalks and trails.		2.10	42
5	Develop bike trail linkages from the Rail -Trail to the MCHS East and West Campuses and into downtown Greenville and Central City.		2.10	42
5	Develop a consistent park entrance signage program		2.10	42
8	Work with the School Board to redevelop the Bremen Park after the new school is built. Park should include basketball courts, playground, paved walking trail, picnic shelters, tennis courts, soccer fields, and baseball/softball fields.		1.95	39
9	Acquire access to land and develop an equestrian focused facility with equestrian arena, classroom, and trail system.		1.90	38
10	Develop a Family Aquatic Center.		1.85	37
10	Develop a sprayground, skate park, picnic shelter and other improvements at Morgan Park in Greenville - Sprayground and skate park must be after a new family aquatic center is developed.		1.85	37
10	Improve Gish Park in Central City. Upgrade playground and basketball court. Add picnic shelter, sidewalks to facilities, and parking.		1.85	37
10	Acquire and develop a Neighborhood Park in the Beechmont area with a playground, picnic shelter, walking trail, soccer field, and basketball court.	5-10	1.85	37
14	Acquire access to land to be used for an ATV Park. Develop infrastructure with an entry area with parking, signage and trail maps.		1.80	36
15	Acquire access to Lake Luzerne and develop a perimeter walking trail, picnic areas, and fishing access areas.		1.70	34
15	Develop a Central City Downtown Plaza to support festivals and events and to serve as a community gathering space.		1.70	34
17	Develop a new indoor sports and recreation center in the south-central area of the County (Powderly/Greenville Area) to complement the Wellness Center in Central city.		1.65	33
17	Develop a large playground in Simmons Street Park in Drakesboro.		1.65	33
19	Acquire access to land to be used for shooting ranges and sports. Develop the main entry area infrastructure with parking, signage, and ranges.		1.60	32
20	Develop a downtown plaza in downtown Greenville at the corner of Main Cross and Main Street on the vacant lot.		1.55	31
21	Establish a small Neighborhood Park in the Graham area with a basketball court, picnic shelter, and playground.	5-10	1.58	30

B. Action Plan

The Action Plan provides a summary of the recommendations that were presented previously along with a time line for implementation and the responsible party. The terms and abbreviations that are used are defined here for clarity.

M CPRD	Muhlenberg County Parks and Recreation Department	CIP	Capital Improvement Program
City or Cities	Cities within Muhlenberg County	OB	Operations Budget
FEMJF	Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation	Board	Muhlenberg County Parks and Recreation Board.
County	Muhlenberg County	Schools	Muhlenberg County Board of Education
Partner	Other organizations working with M CPRD	Region	Other recreation provider or agency in the region

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
A.	Plan Implementation					
1.	Present Final Master Plan to the Martin Foundation Board & Task Force, and Fiscal Court	✓				Consultant, Steering Committee, FEMJF
2.	Final Public Presentations	✓				M CPRD, Consultant, Steering Committee
3.	Present the Master Plan to community organizations to gain support	✓				M CPRD, FEMJF
4.	Reference this Master Plan in the County Comprehensive Plans	✓				County
5.	Revisit the Master Plan at maximum five year intervals to evaluate progress, update the goals, etc.		✓	✓	✓	M CPRD, FEMJF, County

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
6.	Develop a Greenways and Trails Master Plan	✓				M CPRD, FRMJF, County
B.	Administration & Staffing					
1.	Advertise for and hire a Parks and Recreation Director	✓				County, FEMJF
2.	Establish a Parks and Recreation Board. Research the legal requirements to meet KRS and establish Inter-Local Agreement and By-laws. Appoint Board Members	✓				FEMJF, M CPRD, County, Cities
3.	Hire an administrative assistant	✓				M CPRD, FEMJF
4.	Hire a Recreation Programmer / Aquatics Director		✓			M CPRD, FEMJF
5.	Develop internships to supplement program coordinator with internships from universities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	M CPRD
6.	Add maintenance staff with horticultural background to improve park and recreation landscaping, floral displays, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	County,
7.	Add full time and seasonal maintenance staff as needed with the expansion of land, trails, etc. identified in the Master Plan.		✓	✓	✓	County

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
C.	Land, Parks and Facilities					
1.	Acquire land to be used as the Muhlenberg County Central Park with picnic areas, trails, natural area, baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, football field, playgrounds, etc. Coordinate with the sports organizations in the planning and design of the facilities.	✓	✓			MCPRD, FEMJF, County, Partners
2.	Upgrade the playgrounds at all community centers and neighborhood parks to meet CPSC Guidelines.	✓	✓			MCPRD, County, FEMJF
3.	Widen the entire Rail-Trail and add lights to the central portion.	✓	✓			MCPRD, County, Cities
4.	Develop the skate park, restroom and improved facilities at Central Park in Central City	✓	✓			MCPRD, City
5.	Improve access to park facilities with sidewalks and trails.	✓	✓			MCPRD, County, FEMJF
6.	Develop bike trail linkages from the Rail-Trail to the MCHS East and West Campuses and into downtown Greenville and Central City		✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, County, FEMJF, Cities,
7.	Develop a consistent park entrance signage program	✓	✓			MCPRD, County,

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
8.	Work with the School Board to redevelop the Bremen Park after the new school is built. Park should include basketball courts, playground, paved walking trail, picnic shelters, tennis courts, soccer fields, and baseball/softball fields.		✓			M CPRD, Schools
9.	Acquire access to land to be used for an equestrian focused facility with equestrian arena, classroom and trail system.		✓	✓	✓	M CPRD, County, FEMJF, Partner
10.	Develop a Family Aquatic Center		✓	✓		M CPRD, FEMJF,
11.	Develop a sprayground, skate park, and shelter and other improvements at Morgan Park in Greenville		✓	✓		M CPRD, City, FEMJF
12.	Improve Gish Park in Central City. Upgrade playground and basketball court. Add picnic shelter, sidewalks to facilities, and parking.	✓	✓			M CPRD, City,
13.	Acquire and develop a Neighborhood Park in the Beechmont area with a playground, picnic shelter, walking trail, soccer field, and basketball court.		✓			M CPRD, FEMJF, County
14.	Acquire access to land to be used for an ATV Park. Develop infrastructure with an entry area with parking, signage and trail maps.	✓	✓	✓	✓	M CPRD, County, FEMJF, Partner

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
15.	Acquire access to Lake Luzerne and develop a perimeter walking trail, picnic areas, and fishing access areas		✓			MCPRD, County, FEMJF
16.	Develop Lou-Ray Park in Downtown Central City as a festival oriented park		✓			Central City
17.	Develop a new recreation/indoor sports center in the central to southern part of the County (Powderly/Greenville)			✓		MCPRD, FEMJF
18.	Develop a large playground in Simmons Street Park in Drakesboro			✓		MCPRD, City,
19.	Acquire access to land to be used for shooting ranges and sports. Develop the main entry area infrastructure with parking, and signage, and ranges.		✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, County, FEMJF, Partner
20.	Develop a Downtown Greenville Plaza park at the corner of Main Dross and Main St.		✓			City of Greenville
21.	Establish a Neighborhood Park in the Graham area with a basketball court, picnic shelter, and playground.			✓		MCPRD, FEMJF
D.	Programs					
1.	Establish core guidelines for proposed programs with the primary goal of character building and youth development	✓				MCPRD, Board, Partners

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
2.	Hire program staff and establish programs, primarily oriented to youth. Initial programs will utilize existing park facilities and expand into new parks and indoor facilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
3.	Partner with the State Division of Fish and Wildlife, Extension Service, 4H, and others to provide nature education programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, County, Partner, Region
4.	Coordinate with partners, schools, and churches to provide transportation to programs and parks.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Partners
5.	Partner with Muhlenberg County Schools and the County Community Centers to use indoor spaces for recreation programs. Expand into a sports and recreation center when it is developed	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Schools, County
6.	Develop monitoring program for customer/user feedback on programs and facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
7.	Development of Special Events, festivals, cultural arts programs.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
E.	Partners					
1.	Develop and enhance partnerships with the State Division of Fish and Wildlife, Schools, 4H, Universities, and others to provide nature education programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Partner, Region

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
2.	Continue an open dialogue and partnerships with public schools for facility use and programs.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Schools
3.	Coordinate among various organizations to cross market, coordinate, and promote programs and activities. Includes brochures, web site, media programs, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Partners
4.	Establish a separate account within the Martin Foundation designated for donors & sponsorships.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, FEMJF
5.	Partner with other organizations in the development and operations of specialized facilities such as the ATV Park, Equestrian Park, and Shooting Skills Park.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Partners
F.	Fiscal Resources					
1.	Research methods to develop revenues and sponsorships for programs and events.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
2.	Broaden the support and opportunities for volunteerism and philanthropy.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, FEMJF
3.	Pursue alternative funding for Capital Improvements such as grants, sponsors, foundations, partnerships.	✓	✓	✓	✓	County, FEMJF, Partner
4.	Use Master Plan as a tool to promote donations and sponsorships.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Foundation

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY
5.	Develop a fee structure for the use of ball fields to support maintenance.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, County, Partners
6.	Develop program opportunities to increase revenues.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
G.	Maintenance					
1.	Coordinate forces of the Cities and County to maximize efficiency for maintenance	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, Cities, County
2.	Develop a volunteer base to assist in the maintenance, development, and monitoring of the trail system and parks.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD
3.	Develop an Adopt-a-Park or trail program to promote volunteerism and community support.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MCPRD, County , Partner

C. Potential Funding Sources

To maintain and improve the quality of life in Muhlenberg County, more facilities and programs must be developed and more funding is needed to operate and maintain the new facilities. This Plan has a large capital funding need and, as the recommendations of this Plan are implemented, additional operations and maintenance funding will also be necessary. No new facilities should be constructed without a steady source of funding for operations and maintenance.

A wide variety of funding sources will be necessary to fund the long term improvements that are recommended in this Master Plan. There is no single source that could pay for all of these recommendations, therefore, it is imperative that persons trained in municipal finances and grants work closely with this Master Plan to determine appropriate sources for the recommended improvements.

1. General Funds

The County and cities already budget funds for operations and capital improvements for the parks and facilities. Increasing the amount of funding is something that must be approved by the Fiscal Court and/or City Councils with the improvements competing against the many needs of the community such as roads, infrastructure, and services.

2. Public/Private Partnerships

These are typically utilized when the public and private sectors cooperate toward a common goal and utilize public and private monies to meet this goal. For example, the County or a city may have land that it could allow a group such as a private investor to develop athletic fields.

3. Public/Public Partnerships

A Public/Public partnership takes place when two or more public agencies cooperate in the development of a project. There are many instances where this could be appropriate in Muhlenberg County. For example, the County or a city may have the land and Muhlenberg County could assist in paying for the development of facilities on government owned property. There may be cases where communities share in the development of a regional type facility such as athletic complexes, recreation center, skatepark, or other regional type facilities. In addition to cooperating in the development of the cost, some of these agencies could cooperate in the ongoing operations of the facilities as well.

4. Grants

- a. **Land and Water Conservation Fund** – The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program provides up to 50% reimbursement assistance for state and local government subdivisions (cities, counties, park districts, joint recreation districts,

and conservancy districts) for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of recreational areas.

Funding is issued to the State and it is at the State's discretion how much of that funding will be made available for local government. The LWCF program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States.

- b. **Recreational Trails Program –The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)** – The primary source of federal funding for greenways is through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). There are many sections of the Act that support the development of bicycle and pedestrian transportation corridors. Those sections that apply to the creation of greenway systems include:

Section 1302 - Symms National Recreational Trails Fund Act (NRTFA): A component of TEA-21, the NRTFA is a funding source to assist with the development of non-motorized and motorized trails. The Act uses funds paid into the Highway Trust Fund from fees on non-highway recreation fuel used by off-road vehicles and camping equipment.

Motorized and non-motorized trail projects receive a 30-percent share of annual appropriations. Forty percent of the appropriation must be spent on projects that accommodate both user groups. States can grant funds to private and public sector organizations. NRTFA projects are 100-percent federally funded during the first three years of the program. Grant recipients must provide a 20-percent match.

Section 1047 - National Scenic Byways Program: This component of TEA-21 is designed to protect and enhance America's designated scenic roads. Money is available for planning, safety and facility improvements, cultural and historic resource protection, and tourism information signage. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities can be developed in conjunction with scenic roadway projects. Some states with Scenic Byway Programs have developed greenways in conjunction with this initiative.

Section 1008 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program: The CMAQ program was created to reduce congestion on local streets and improve air quality. Funds are available to urban communities designated as "non- attainment" areas for air quality, meaning the air is more polluted than federal standards allow. A grant recipient must demonstrate that its project

will improve air quality throughout the community. Funding requires a 20-percent local match.

- c. **Coal Severance Funds** - Coal severance grants are available for any coal-producing county to assist in diversifying local economies beyond coal production through the LGEDF grant process. LGEDF grant money can also be granted to specified entities by line-item appropriation.

HB 380, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-2008 biennial budget of the Commonwealth, expanded the definition of eligible grant activities to include nonrecurring investments in the following: public health and safety; economic development, including industrial development; public infrastructure; information technology development and access; and public water and wastewater development.

- d. **Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program** – The USDA provides small grants of up to \$10,000 to communities for the purchase of trees to plant along city streets and for greenways and parks. To qualify for this program, a community must pledge to develop a street-tree inventory, a municipal tree ordinance, a tree commission, committee or department, and an urban forestry-management plan.
- e. **Small Business Tree-Planting Program** – The Small Business Administration provides small grants of up to \$10,000 to purchase trees for planting along streets and within parks or greenways. Grants are used to develop contracts with local businesses for the plantings.
- f. **Economic Development Grants for Public Works and Development of Facilities** – The U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), provides grants to states, counties and cities designated as redevelopment areas by EDA for public works projects that can include developing trails and greenway facilities. There is a 30-percent local match required, except in severely distressed areas where federal contribution can reach 80 percent.
- g. **Community Development Block Grants** – CDBG Grants have been utilized for facilities such as recreation centers and park renovation/development in primarily low-income neighborhoods, which is only appropriate in some areas of the County. The CDBG program is available to city and county governments for a variety of projects. Entitlement communities are ineligible. The CDBG program areas and descriptions are listed below.
 - (1) **Community Projects:** Funds may be used to address human service needs such as health departments, senior centers,

crisis centers and facilities that provide services to low and moderate income persons.

- h. **Grants through Private Foundations and Corporations** – Many communities have solicited greenway funding from a variety of private foundations and other conservation-minded benefactors. Some grants are:
- (1) **Felix E. Martin, Jr. Foundation** – This Foundation is funding this Master Plan and has committed to fund one million dollars for the first five years of operation of a Parks and Recreation Department. The Foundation may be a source for additional funding for facilities and programs in the future.
 - (2) **REI Environmental Grants** – Recreational Equipment Incorporated awards grants to nonprofit organizations interested in protecting and enhancing natural resources for outdoor recreation. The company calls on its employees to nominate organizations for these grants, ranging from \$500 to \$8,000, which can be used for the following:
 - Protect lands and waterways and make these resources accessible to more people
 - Better utilize or preserve natural resources for recreation
 - Increase access to outdoor activities
 - Encourage involvement in muscle-powered recreation
 - Promote safe participation in outdoor muscle-powered recreation, and proper care for outdoor resources
 - (3) **Coors Pure Water 2000 Grants** – Coors Brewing Company and its affiliated distributors provide funding and in-kind services to grassroots organizations that are working to solve local, regional and national water-related problems. Coors provides grants, ranging from a few hundred dollars to \$50,000, for projects such as river cleanups, aquatic habitat improvements, water quality monitoring, wetlands protection, pollution prevention, water education efforts, groundwater protection, water conservation and fisheries.
 - (4) **World Wildlife Fund Innovative Grants Program** – This organization awards small grants to local, regional and statewide nonprofit organizations to help implement innovative strategies for the conservation of natural resources. Grants are offered to support projects that accomplish one or more of the following: (1) conserve wetlands; (2) protect endangered species; (3) preserve migratory birds; (4) conserve coastal resources; and (5) establish and sustain protected natural areas, such as

greenways. Innovative grants can help pay for the administrative costs for projects including planning, technical assistance, legal and other costs to facilitate the acquisition of critical lands; retaining consultants and other experts; and preparing visual presentations and brochures or other conservation activities. The maximum award for a single grant is \$10,000.

- (5) **Bikes Belong** – Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. The grant program is a national discretionary program with a small budget, to help communities build TEA-21-funded projects. They like to fund high-profile projects and like regional coalitions. An application must be supported by the local bicycle dealers (letters of support should be attached). Bikes Belong also offers advice and information on how to get more people on bikes. Government and non-profit agencies are eligible and no match is required. The maximum amount for a grant proposal is \$10,000. Applications may be submitted at any time and are reviewed as they are received.
- (6) **Wal-Mart Foundation** – This foundation supports local community and environmental activities and educational programs for children (among other things). An organization needs to work with the local store manager to discuss application. Wal-Mart Foundation only funds 501(c)3 organizations.
- (7) **Baseball Tomorrow Fund** – The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is a joint initiative of Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association. The mission is to promote and enhance the growth of baseball in the United States, Canada and throughout the world by funding programs, field and equipment purchases designed to encourage and maintain youth participation in the game. Information on the fund can be found on their web site at www.baseballtomorrowfund.com. Their grant cycles are for four year review cycles throughout each year. The fund's headquarters is located at 245 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10167
- (8) **American Greenways Grant** – The American Greenways program is designed to develop new action-oriented greenway projects; assist grassroots greenway organizations; leverage additional money for conservation and greenway development; and recognize and encourage greenway proponents and organizations. Applications may be submitted from March 1 to June 1 each year.

- (9) **The Kodak American Greenways Awards Program** – Eastman Kodak, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society provide small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. The annual grants program was instituted in response to the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors recommendation to establish a national network of greenways. Made possible by a generous grant from Eastman Kodak, the program also honors groups and individuals whose ingenuity and creativity foster the creation of greenways.

Since 1993, the American Greenways Program of The Conservation Fund has acknowledged individuals, organizations, corporations and public agencies for their exemplary leadership and efforts to enhance the nation's outdoor heritage. The Conservation Fund has partnered with the Eastman Kodak Company to honor these leaders through the Kodak American Greenways Awards program.

The Conservation Fund and Kodak accept nominations of individuals, organizations, corporations and public agencies that should be recognized for outstanding achievement related to the creation of greenways, blueways, trails and open space systems throughout America. The recipients of the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at the National Geographic Society Headquarters in Washington DC. The program typically honors 3-4 awardees each year.

- (10) **American Hiking Society Grants** – The American Hiking Society created the National Trails Fund in 1998, the only privately supported national grants program providing funding to grassroots organizations working toward establishing, protecting and maintaining foot trails in America.

For 2005, American Hiking distributed over \$40,000 in grants thanks to the generous support of Cascade Designs and L.L.Bean, the program's Charter Sponsors.

To date, American Hiking has granted more than \$240,000 to 56 different trail projects across the U.S. for land acquisition, constituency building campaigns, and traditional trail work projects. Awards range from \$500 to \$10,000 per project.

What types of projects will American Hiking Society consider?

- Securing trail lands, including acquisition of trails and trail corridors, and the costs associated with acquiring conservation easements.

- Building and maintaining trails which will result in visible and substantial ease of access, improved hiker safety, and/or avoidance of environmental damage.
- Constituency building surrounding specific trail projects - including volunteer recruitment and support.

For details and application forms see the American Hiking Society website at: <http://www.americanhiking.org/alliance/fund.html>

5. **General Obligation Bonds**

Several communities within the state have recently utilized General Obligation Bonds for the development of park and recreation areas. With current interest rates, these have been very attractive to cities and counties that have the income from other sources for debt service.

6. **State Funds**

In the past, some communities have utilized funds from the state budget for acquisition and development of lands for recreation centers, swimming pools, parks and other recreation facilities. In addition, other communities have been able to get state funding directly through the Legislature in the State's budget for particular projects.

7. **Development Impact Fees and Fees in Lieu of Land**

Many jurisdictions require park land for recreational purposes when residential, commercial or industrial development occurs. When areas proposed for dedication of park land are not accepted by the Planning Commission, then fees are received in lieu of dedication. This money can be deposited with the local government and specifically designated for Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Funds. In many communities in Kentucky, developers are required to provide either land or fees that are based upon the impact for increased recreational demand that will be placed upon the local government from the proposed development. There are many good models of this practice. These funds are used for capital improvements. The Planning and Zoning Commission should evaluate their regulations and practices to be consistent with the recommendations of this Master Plan.

8. **Friends of Muhlenberg County Parks and Recreation**

The "Friends of Muhlenberg County Parks and Recreation" could be established as a separate 501-(C)-3 non-profit organization or a fund could be established through the Martin Foundation for the purpose of acquiring land, funding development of parks and recreation facilities, accepting donations of land or fundraising. This type of organization would be in a better position to negotiate for the purchase of land than a public entity such

as a city or county. Also, some individuals would be more inclined to donate land or funds to a non-profit conservancy than to a city or county government agency, even though the tax benefits are basically the same. In addition to fund raising and land donations, the “Friends” could also accept life estates, land donated in an individual’s will, and promote conservation and scenic easements on individual’s properties.

This organization should have a very active Board of Directors who would work closely with a specific municipal staff person. The organization would develop a relationship with corporations throughout the Muhlenberg County community and then make use of those relationships to help supplement or fund projects. This organization could help to match corporations with the facilities/programs that meet their respective corporate image.

a. Areas to Consider Fundraising

- (1) Foundations.
- (2) Corporations.
- (3) Individual Retirement Gifts.
- (4) Develop Bequest Giving Program.
- (5) Green Fund Raising (Donors who are interested in protecting the environment).
- (6) Individual/Family Gifts.
- (7) Gifts such as land.
- (8) Maintenance endowments.