

VIII. Action Plan

A. Priority Recommendations

The Master Plan Steering Committee reviewed the recommendations of the Master Plan and then participated in an exercise to establish priorities to provide direction to the Middletown Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, the Township Committee, and others toward the implementation of this Plan. In this exercise, committee members were asked to rank a list of capital improvements that have been recommended throughout this Master Plan. Table 21 identifies the priorities for the recommended capital improvements. The ranking of each improvement is indicated on the left hand side of the table. The total points received for each improvement by 13 committee members is indicated on the right hand side. Also on the right are the median ranking by the committee members and the rank of the item by median. This varies slightly from the overall ranking by points.

The indoor aquatic center ranked the highest by the committee members. This is followed by upgrading all of the existing athletic fields. Third on the list is a new community and recreation center in the southern part of the Township. This could be developed in conjunction with the indoor aquatic center, which would be the most efficient use of space in the building. This item ranked second in terms of the median but in overall points was ranked third. The fourth item included upgrading of all playgrounds which is already in process by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs.

The fifth item on the list is the development of an ice rink complex as part of a public/private partnership. This is followed by two items tied for sixth place at the Croydon Hall Synthetic Turf Fields and the development of a Trails and Greenways Master Plan and the development of those trails. The development of synthetic turf fields in the River Plaza area at the Muratsuchi site or other site within this area was ranked eighth on the list. Development of outdoor basketball courts at various sites was ninth. This was followed by the development of restrooms at a variety of parks.

The next two items on the list deal with renovations of existing facilities including renovating the Croydon Hall Senior Center and replacing the Tonya Keller Bayshore Recreation Center with a new facility. These indoor improvements are followed by improved access to the rivers and lakes, ten new picnic shelters at various sites, new playgrounds at six various sites, and upgrading of the beaches with restrooms and replenished sand. The bottom portion of the list includes development of some new facilities such as a dog park, development of Stevenson Park, new maintenance facility at Bodman Park, outdoor amphitheater, skate park, sprayground and upgrading the Butler Park baseball field to 90 foot bases.

Table 24: Capital Projects Priority Ranking

Master Plan Steering Committee Members were asked to place a number in the far left column that indicated their priority for the proposed improvement. Their priority ranking is for the importance of the improvement and is not necessarily the order they will be developed. The ranking is based on the total points received for each capital improvement with the lowest total being the highest priority.

Capital Improvements Ranking

Rank	Improvement	Median	Median Rank	Total Points
1	Indoor Aquatic Center	3.5	1	62
2	Upgrade all athletic fields turf and infields	5.5	3	75
3	New Community and Recreation Center in southern part of the Township	4	2	86
4	Upgrade all playgrounds	8	7	95
5	Ice Rink Complex (as part of a public/private partnership)	7	6	101
6	Croydon Hall synthetic turf field	6.5	5	106
6	Trails and Greenways Master Plan and development	8	7	106
8	River Plaza Area Synthetic turf fields - Muratsuchi or other site	6	4	117
9	Outdoor basketball courts at 5 various sites	9.5	9	118
10	Develop restrooms at Tindall, Normandy and Lincroft Acres Parks and Fairview in non-leased area.	10	10	133
11	Renovate the Croydon Hall Senior Center	12.5	11	152
12	Replace Tonya Keller Bayshore Recreation Center with a new facility	13	13	155
13	Improved access to rivers and lakes	13	13	161
14	10 new picnic shelters at various sites	13.5	15	162
14	New playgrounds at 6 various sites	12.5	11	162
16	Upgrade the beaches with improved restrooms and replenished sand	15	16	174
17	Dog Park	16	17	187
18	Prepare Master Plan and continue to develop Stevenson Park as a passive park with picnic areas, trails, etc.	16	17	189
19	New maintenance facility at Bodman Park	16.5	20	191
19	Outdoor amphitheater	16	17	191
19	New Skate Park	16.5	20	191
22	New Sprayground - at Bodman or Normandy Parks	18.5	22	198
23	Upgrade Butler Field to 90' bases	20	23	212

Action Plan

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. Please refer to Section III for a more detailed explanation of the recommendations. The terms that are used are defined here for clarity.

MDPRCA Staff	Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs	Foundation	Non Profit fundraising arm of MDPRCA
Township	MDPRCA Staff	Sponsor	Corporate sponsor
County	Township of Middletown	OP	Operating budget
Schools	Monmouth County Park System	CIP	Capital Improvement Program
Partners	Middletown Public Schools	Donor	Individual or corporate philanthropic donation
Committee	Other organizations working with MDPRCA	Grants	Government or foundation grants
Volunteers	Master Plan Steering Committee	Open Space	Open Space Funds of the Township
Planning	Volunteers	MCIA	Monmouth County Improvement Authority
	Middletown Township Planning Department	Consultant	Master Plan Consultant

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
A.	Plan Implementation						
1.	Present the Final Master Plan to the Master Plan Steering Committee, Recreation Advisory Committee, Township Committee, and the public.	✓				MDPRCA, Committee, Consultant	
2.	Adoption of the Plan by the Township Committee and Planning Board.	✓				MDPRCA, Staff, Township	
3.	Present the Master Plan to community organizations to gain community awareness and support.	✓				MDPRCA, Staff	
4.	Review progress and update the Master Plan at maximum 5 year intervals.		✓		✓	MDPRCA, Staff	Township

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
5.	Fund and develop a Trails and Greenways Master Plan for the Township	✓				MDPRCA, Planning	Township
B.	Land Acquisition and Facility Locations						
6.	Investigate land for potential ice rink complex to be developed and operated with a partner.	✓	✓			MDPRCA, Partner	Partner
7.	Determine location for new Recreation and Community Center in the central-southern part of the Township.	✓	✓			MDPRCA, Township	Township
8.	Determine location for River Plaza Area synthetic turf field.	✓	✓			MDPRCA, Township	Township
9.	Research and acquire locations for improved access to rivers and lakes.		✓	✓		MDPRCA. Planning	Township, Grants, Donor, Foundation
10.	Focus new acquisition with Open Space Funds on parcels that allow connections of parks, schools, neighborhoods, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA, Planning	Township, Grants
C.	Existing Facility Improvements						
11.	Upgrade Croydon Hall football field with synthetic turf.	✓				MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
12.	Upgrade all athletic fields, turf and infields.	✓	✓			MDPRCA, Schools	CIP, MCIA, Schools
13.	Complete upgrade of all playgrounds and replace when needed.	✓				MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants
14.	Complete an accessibility assessment of all facilities and implement the recommendations.	✓	✓			MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants, Foundation
15.	Develop new restrooms at Tindall Park, Normandy Park, Lincroft Acres Park, and Fairview Park on non-leased land.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants
16.	Develop five new outdoor basketball courts at existing parks.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants
17.	Develop ten new picnic shelters at existing parks.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants
18.	Develop six new playgrounds at various existing park sites.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants
19.	Upgrade the beaches with new sand and upgraded restrooms.	✓				MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA
20.	Develop a new maintenance facility at Bodman Park.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA
21.	Upgrade Butler Field to 90' bases.			✓		MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA
22.	Renovate the Croydon Hall Senior Center.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, MCIA, Grants, Foundation

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
23.	Upgrade the Swim Club with a new concession area, indoor program area, sprayground and pool improvements.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	Swim Utility
24.	Expand and renovate the Hillside Recreation Center.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, Grants
25.	Light existing ballfields where possible to increase playing time and field usage.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, Grants
D.	New Facility Development						
26.	Develop synthetic turf field complex in the River Plaza area.	✓	✓			MDPRCA, Township	CIP, Township
27.	Develop a new recreation and indoor aquatic center in the central to southern part of the Township.		✓	✓		MDPRCA, Schools	CIP, Grants, Schools, Foundation, Donor, Sponsor
28.	Replace the Tonya Keller Bayshore Recreation Center with a small recreation center			✓		MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation, Donor, Sponsor
29.	Develop a Dog Park.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation, Donor, Sponsor

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
30.	Prepare a Master Plan and develop Stevenson Park as a passive park with picnic areas, trails, etc. Include the neighbors and surrounding community in the planning process.		✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation
31.	Develop an outdoor amphitheater.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation, Donor, Sponsor
32.	Develop a new Skatepark / Teen Park.		✓			MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation
33.	Develop a new sprayground at Bodman or Normandy Park.			✓		MDPRCA	CIP, Grants, Foundation
E.	Programming						
34.	Expand the Pre--school and Toddler programs when new recreation centers are developed.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	OP
35.	Increase the structured program opportunities for after-school youth.	✓	✓			MDPRCA	OP
36.	Increase adult opportunities at the Croydon Hall facility when not in use by seniors.	✓	✓			MDPRCA	OP
37.	Increase seasonal staff and expand hours of recreation centers for teen and adult programs.	✓	✓	✓		MDPRCA	OP, Township

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
38.	Develop programs for individuals with special needs. (Received 2008 State grant of \$15,000)	✓	✓			MDPRCA	OP, Foundation, Grants
39.	Develop a monitoring system for customer feedback on programs and facilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
40.	Develop a Master Plan for Poricy Park to provide the environmental education programs desired by the community.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, Partner, Foundation
41.	Continue to develop an increased level of program and facility usage statistics for monitoring use and program needs.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
42.	Develop user group advisory groups to assist in program recommendations such as: a teen council; special needs council, etc..	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
43.	Develop additional revenue producing programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
F.	Cooperation and Coordination						
44.	Develop a Youth Sports Advisory Council to discuss common issues, field usage, etc.	✓				MDPRCA	OP
45.	Continue to coordinate with Middletown Schools on use and maintenance of facilities on their property.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA, Schools	OP, Schools

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
46.	Continue an open dialogue among the various groups to cross market, coordinate, and avoid duplication of programs and activities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA, Partners, County, Region	OP
G.	<i>Budget Recommendations</i>						
47.	Continue participation of staff in the budget process.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
48.	Investigate using portions of the Open Space Funds for maintenance. (May require a ballot question/ordinance.)	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
49.	Continue to coordinate with the State Green Acres Program and the Monmouth County Improvement Authority (MCIA) on funding park acquisition and improvements.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	MCIA, MDPRCA
50.	Utilize the \$2.5 million that has already been bonded for the development of artificial turf fields. This is a 3 year issue and there is 1 year left.	✓				MDPRCA	CIP, Township
51.	Increase revenue generation through rental of new picnic shelters.		✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
H.	Partnerships						
52.	Develop a "Friends of the Parks" organization to raise funds for acquisition, programs, and development through donations, sponsorships, endowments, trusts, and grants.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	Foundation
53.	Establish a public/private partnership for the development and operations of an indoor ice arena complex.		✓	✓		MDPRCA, Township	Partner
54.	Continue partnerships with other non-profit organizations for trail development and management, acquisition, and park development.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA, Foundation, Region	CIP, Region, County, Grants, Foundation
55.	Investigate a partnership with the Board of Education for the development of the indoor swimming pool facility and ice hockey rink.		✓	✓		MDPRCA, Schools	MDPRCA, Schools, Partner
I.	Maintenance						
56.	Upgrade the Bodman Park Maintenance Facility to provide better facilities to improve the efficiency of maintenance staff and life span of the equipment.		✓	✓		MDPRCA	CIP, OP
57.	Add another satellite maintenance facility.			✓		MDPRCA	CIP, OP

Action Plan

NO.	ACTION	0-2 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	6-10 YEARS	10+ YEARS	RESPONSIBILITY	FUNDING SOURCE
58.	Emphasize the strong need for additional maintenance funds from the Township to properly maintain existing facilities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	Township
59.	Identify methods to provide quality control of maintenance operations and budget needs.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	CIP, OP
60.	Develop a volunteer base to assist with maintenance and development of trails.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA, Volunteers	OP, Volunteers
61.	Provide continued training for maintenance staff on subjects as playground safety, ballfield and turf maintenance, horticultural practices, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓	MDPRCA	OP
62.	Add maintenance staff with horticultural background to improve park entrances and floral displays.	✓				MDPRCA	OP