



# POP2025

Village of Williamsville

Park's Guidance Document and Master Plan

Public Hearing

May 11, 2020

# 2009 Community Plan

- ▶ Details specific guidelines for the village's future in the areas of:
  - ▶ Development
  - ▶ Infrastructure design and updates
  - ▶ Capital projects
  - ▶ Formation of municipal policies and decision making.
- ▶ 2.3 Land Use Objectives and Actions
  - ▶ Objective 4: Create a Village Wide “Green Highway”
    - ▶ Action 1: Prepare a Park Improvement Plan
    - ▶ Action 3: Carry Park Across Main Street
    - ▶ Action 4: Create a Recreational Greenway
  - ▶ Objective 1: Ensure that Village Zoning is Consistent with the Comprehensive Plan

## Objective 4: Create a Village Wide “Green Highway”

- ▶ A ribbon of green:
  - ▶ connecting Island Park and Glen Park with Amherst State Park
- ▶ Not readily visible or easily accessible from Main Street
- ▶ Each park functions in relative isolation
- ▶ Better physical and visual connections would allow them to function as a larger unit and create a regional system of interconnected parks
  - ▶ Glen Park Sign
  - ▶ Volunteer Pocket Park
- ▶ Ideally this would take place in the context of an overall Village park plan

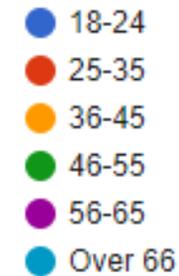
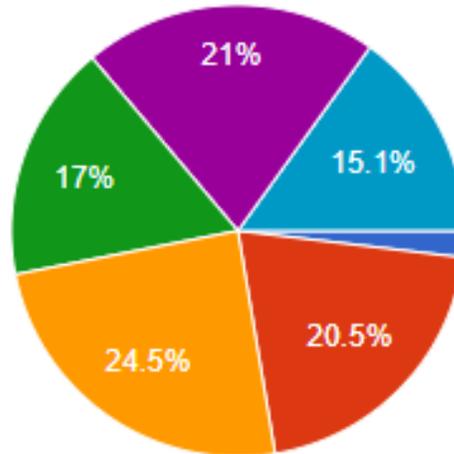
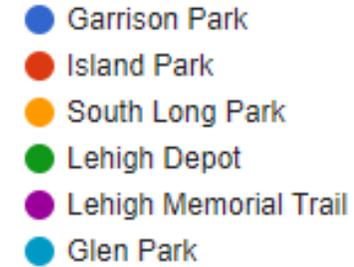
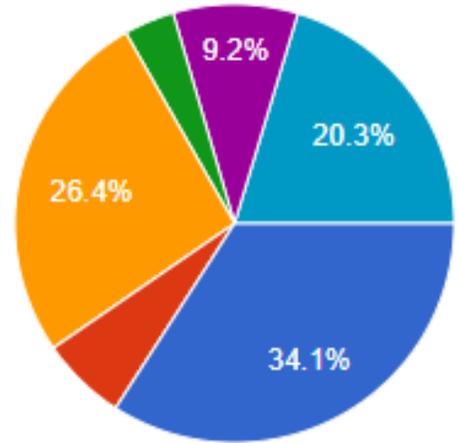


# Objective 4, Action 1: Prepare a Park Improvement Plan

- ▶ A unified park plan to ensure that the Village can properly plan for park improvements
  - ▶ Draw together all the various recommendations and components into one document
  - ▶ Include feasibility and fiscal analysis
  - ▶ 2007 Budget: \$40,000 to \$85,000 - **COMPLETED FOR FREE**
- ▶ Park's Committee started in earnest last summer
  - ▶ Island Park Pool closure
  - ▶ Damaged playground equipment at S. Long
  - ▶ S. Long Land Swap and Section House
- ▶ Started by updating the 2009 Parks Survey - completed in May 2019

# Parks Survey Summary

- ▶ 381 respondents
  - ▶ 91% were Village residents who lived near one of the Parks
  - ▶ Roughly equal distribution of age ranges
  - ▶ 45% had children under 18



# Parks Survey Summary - Garrison Park

- ▶ Important Features
  - ▶ 61.4% Permanent Bathroom Facilities
    - ▶ 21.3% Changing Room at the Pool
  - ▶ 34.4% Improved Pool Area
  - ▶ 32.3% Cookout Facilities/Picnic Tables
  - ▶ 26.8% Additional Children's Toys/playground



# Parks Survey Summary - Island Park

## ▶ Important Features

- ▶ 47.2% Kayak/Canoe Launch
- ▶ 36.7% Additional Walking Paths
- ▶ 32.8% Playground Equipment
  - ▶ 18.4% Additional Children's Toys/playground
- ▶ 29.4% Cookout Facilities/Picnic Tables
- ▶ 26.5% Permanent Band Shell
- ▶ 24.7% More attractive entry to the Bridge
- ▶ 19.7% Additional Restrooms
- ▶ 18.4% Gazebo/Shelter Improvements

## ▶ Splash Pad, Pool, or other water feature

- ▶ 49.1% Zero Depth Splash Pad
- ▶ 41.7% A convertible multi-use facility incorporating water play with a covered area for seating or stage/band shell
- ▶ 38.3% Park Fountain
- ▶ 26.2% Educational Water Table incorporating Ellicott Creek



# Parks Survey Summary - South Long Park

## ► Important Features

- 52.2% More Trees
  - 50.3% Walking Paths
  - 39.6% Improved Tennis Courts
  - 32.3% Community Gardens
  - 31% Zero Depth Fountain/Splash Pad Area
  - 29.1% Cookout Facilities/Picnic Tables
  - 28.1% Improved Basketball Courts
  - 27.6% Larger Rentable Gazebo/Park Shelter
  - 27% Improved Ball Diamond
  - 21.8% Improved Soccer Field
  - 21.3% Additional Children's Toys
- 77% positive on a new layout to enhance connection the Railroad Depot



# Parks Survey Summary - Lehigh Railroad

## ► Important Features

- 44.6% Railroad-themed Children's play features
- 44.4% Walking Paths
- 27.8% Historic Interpretive Signage
- 24.7% Add An Engine
- 23.4% Improved Parking
- 14.7% Relocate RR cars to the Historic RR Alignment

## ► Uses of the Section House

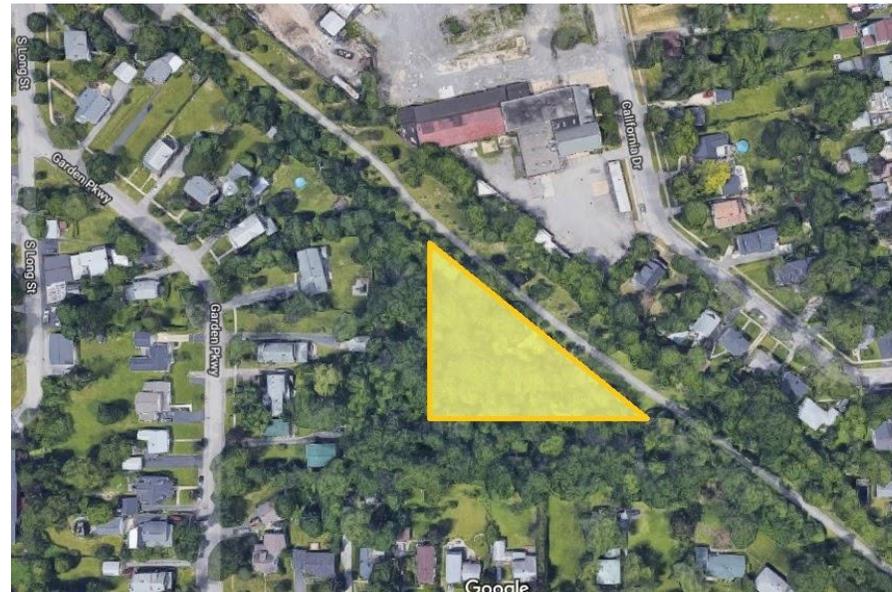
- 51.8% No opinion
- 33.1% Relocated Williamsville Historical Society
- 29.7% Offices for the Lehigh Depot Society



# Parks Survey Summary - Miscellaneous

- ▶ Driveway Connection to S. Long
  - ▶ 70% rated 5/10 or above in favor
  - ▶ Many expressed confusion about the topic and image presented
  - ▶ Many expressed concern about vehicular/pedestrian interaction
  - ▶ Subsequently discussed at Village Board meetings last summer

- ▶ Dog Park along Lehigh Trail
  - ▶ Not a Village Funded Project
  - ▶ 78.5% rated the idea 5/10 or above in favor



# Parks Guidance Document (PGD)

- ▶ Living document addressing all Village owned parks
  - ▶ Garrison Park
  - ▶ Island Park
  - ▶ South Long Park
  - ▶ Lehigh Railroad District
  - ▶ Lehigh Memorial Trail
  - ▶ Park-like Areas
    - ▶ 1812 Park (Triangle)
    - ▶ Volunteer park (PLA)
- ▶ Glen Park is jointly owned and has its own document
- ▶ Broken into four main sections
  - ▶ Overview
  - ▶ Existing Conditions
  - ▶ Operations and Maintenance
  - ▶ Future Plans and Developments
- ▶ Aligned with New York Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
  - ▶ Outlines four “overarching themes”
  - ▶ Directly addresses 8 of NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Office’s stated goals
  - ▶ Can be leveraged for Grant funding

# Parks Guidance Document (PGD)

- ▶ Overview
  - ▶ Mission and Vision
  - ▶ History, Ownership, Zoning, and Location
  - ▶ Rules and Regulations
- ▶ Existing Conditions
  - ▶ Physical Description
  - ▶ Buildings, Infrastructure, and Landscaping
  - ▶ Special Features, Sports/Recreational Equipment
  - ▶ Relationship with Adjacent Properties
  - ▶ Security
- ▶ Operations and Maintenance
  - ▶ Responsibilities, Oversight, Budgeting
  - ▶ Care and Maintenance Schedule for inventory
- ▶ Future Plans and Developments

# Future Plans and Developments

## ▶ For All Parks

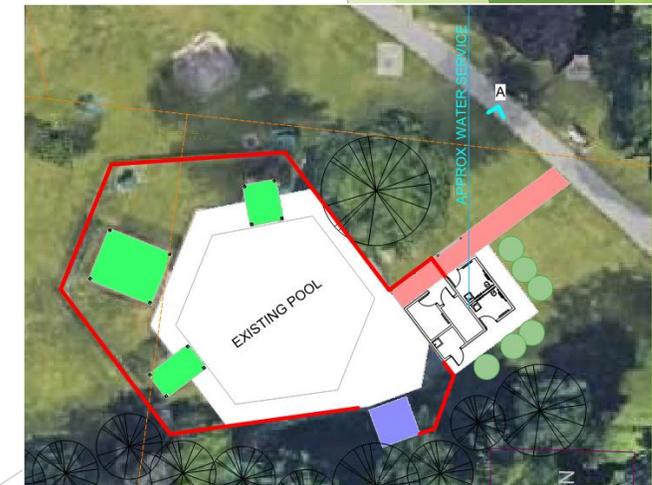
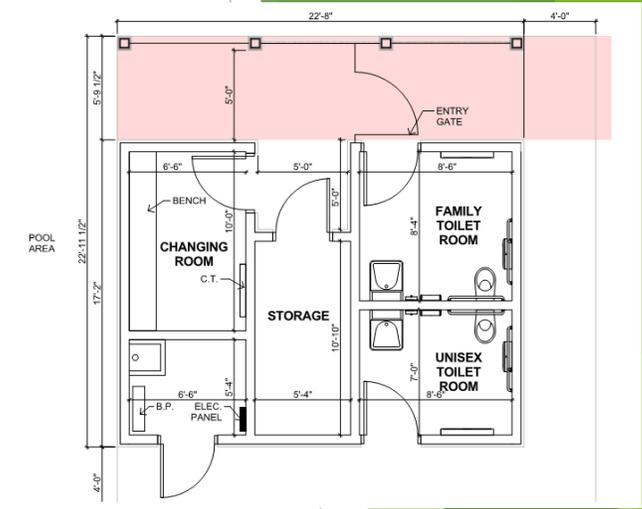
- ▶ Create, establish and foster volunteerism
- ▶ Establish new Community Activities to promote and increase usage of the parks
- ▶ Consider social media presence and branding
- ▶ Standardize signage, create consistent, welcoming gateway entrances

## ▶ Garrison

- ▶ Improve/increase Parking along Park Street
- ▶ Provide additional shade at Pool ✓
- ▶ Fix pool leak, improve access and slip-resistance ✓
- ▶ Improve, update, and maintain existing Gazebo
- ▶ Include additional tables/seating
- ▶ Consider adding additional grills
- ▶ No plans for additional play features
- ▶ Construct new permanent bathroom building
  - ▶ Incorporate changing rooms and storage
  - ▶ Relocate and update pool equipment
  - ▶ Provide safe way to check residency/collect user fees to fund further maintenance

# Garrison Park Bathroom

- ▶ Previous attempts at “pre-fabricated” systems met with resistance
- ▶ Study completed by Flynn Battaglia Architects May 21, 2019
  - ▶ Total footprint < 500-sf
  - ▶ Professional estimate completed by Trophy Pointe
- ▶ Estimated Construction Value IF PUBLICLY BID: +/- \$298000 (\$616/sf)
  - ▶ About \$81000 worth of materials excluding utility improvements



# Future Plans and Developments

## ▶ Island Park Buildings/Infrastructure

### ▶ Bathroom

- ▶ Repair and upgrade the finishes in the bathrooms ✓

### ▶ Pavilion

- ▶ Paint a mural on the back wall
- ▶ Clean and paint roof framing
- ▶ Purchase retractable sides ✓
- ▶ Remove railings along the west side of the pavilion, create an expanded patio area; improve landscaping.

### ▶ Construct Performance Shelter/Stage

### ▶ Remediate significant shoreline erosion as part of LWRP

### ▶ Repair/modify Weir/Dam system as part of LWRP

# Future Plans and Developments

## ▶ Island Park Buildings/Infrastructure

### ▶ Parking

- ▶ Add medians and trees in library lot and municipal lot
- ▶ Make less car-centric, possibly narrow parking lot
  - ▶ Requires cooperation with the Town of Amherst

### ▶ Paths

- ▶ Create improved paths and connections
- ▶ Establish a grander entry/new bridge
  - ▶ Install visible “Island Park” entry arch on Main Street similar to Glen park
  - ▶ Establish an alternative or additional entry over dam on east side of island

### ▶ Add kayak/canoe launch

### ▶ Playground Equipment

- ▶ Replace big toy with modern inclusionary playground for ages 2 to 12
- ▶ Consider replace playground equipment

### ▶ Pool Replacement

- ▶ Consider a new water feature to take the pool’s place, Splash pad?



## Island Park Master Plan Village of Williamsville, NY

October 16, 2019

### Proposed Improvements:

- ① Gateway monument (along the lines of mill stone at pathway between library and Village Hall)
- ② Improved connection to Main Street and Glen Park: add pedestrian walkway along east side of library, similar in character to pedestrian corridor along west side
- ③ Reduce parking lot width to free up space for new pedestrian walkway
- ④ Raised crosswalk
- ⑤ Landscape improvement and pedestrian sidewalk along rear of library
- ⑥ Gateway arch at entrance to Island Park
- ⑦ Future pedestrian access when dam is replaced
- ⑧ Picnic table with grill on post, located under trees (8 each this end of park)
- ⑨ Lower creek viewing area (small seating area under willow tree)
- ⑩ Existing restrooms and water fountain

- ⑪ Splash pad (approx. capacity: 64 children)
- ⑫ Replace existing play equipment with accessible playground
- ⑬ Existing shelter with picnic tables
- ⑭ Utilize existing block building for kayak-related storage and rentals
- ⑮ Kayak storage racks
- ⑯ Tiered boulders provide access to water
- ⑰ Flagstone/paver terrace and creek overlook with single kayak launch and accessible gangway
- ⑱ Great Lawn
- ⑲ Retain 13'-wide path for vehicular access to pavilion
- ⑳ Multiuse amphitheater on tiered (8", 16" 24") concrete stage to accommodate Williamsville Community Band (90 members), Amherst Symphony (100 members), outdoor movies, etc.

- ㉑ Flagstone/paver walkway connecting overlook, amphitheater and pavilion
- ㉒ Flagstone/paver terrace overlooking creek provides outdoor event space at pavilion. Could include pergola element. Remove railings between pavilion and terrace.
- ㉓ New entrance hardscape at pavilion to match proposed terrace materials
- ㉔ Vehicular access to storage on south side of pavilion
- ㉕ Provide pavilion improvements – potential improvements include lighting, restrooms, sink/prep area, interior repainting, lowered ceiling, mural, etc.). Restrict storage at pavilion to park-related items to reduce traffic in park.
- ㉖ Picnic table with grill on post, located under trees (3 each this end of park)
- ㉗ Creek/dam overlook terrace; photo opportunity area (family photos, senior pictures, wedding photos, selfies, etc.)
- ㉘ Future pedestrian access when dam is replaced
- ㉙ Future nature trail/boardwalk loop

TOWN HALL

MAIN STREET

6

5

3

1

2

5

LIBRARY

WILLIAMSVILLE





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## Island Park Master Plan Village of Williamsville, NY

October 16, 2019

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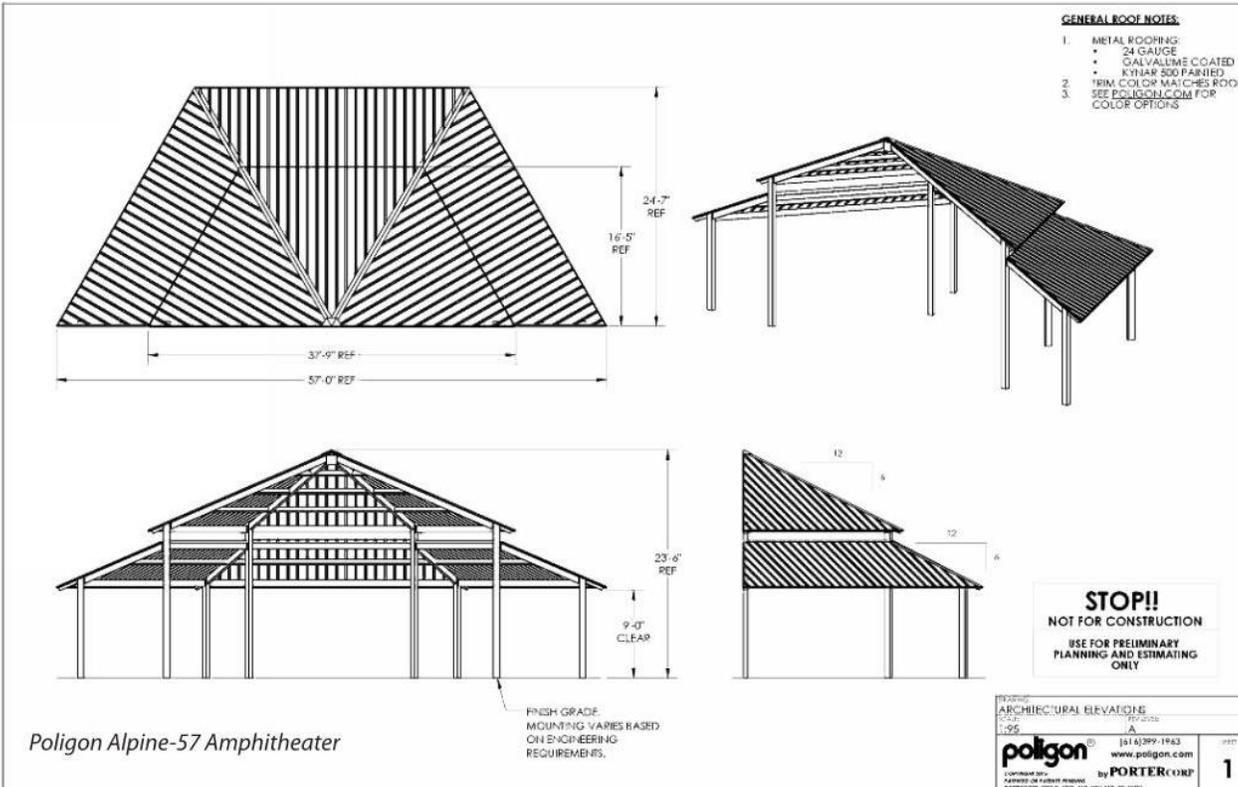
Poligon Alpine-73 Amphitheater pictured  
(larger than proposed Alp-57)



### Poligon Alpine-57 Amphitheater

Band pavilion benchmarking:

- spoke with three local music instructors and members of Amherst Symphony, Orchard Park Community Band, Erie County Wind Ensemble and others
- W Seneca Pavilion is too small, but Orchard Park pavilion is a good size for about 80 adult performers
- to accommodate 100 performers, add 6' to the depth of the stage at Orchard Park Pavilion
- Set stage height equal to standard riser height (8", 16" or 24")
- Orchard Park pavilion stage is approximately 43.5' wide x 27' deep



## Island Park Master Plan - additional images Village of Williamsville, NY

October 16, 2019



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October 16, 2019

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# New Island Park Playground - Fall 2020



- ▶ Parks Committee interviewed two consultants
  - ▶ Head-to-head design competition based on \$125000 equipment budget
  - ▶ Solicited input from Mill Middle School students
- ▶ Scope of site demolition and improvements to be completed by DPW staff
- ▶ Community Build needs volunteers

- ▶ Complete Replacement of all existing playground equipment
- ▶ Includes:
  - ▶ 2-5 playground with two slides + bucket swings
  - ▶ 4 person inclusionary “We Saw”
  - ▶ 4 swings, “buddy swing” and inclusionary Oodle Swing
  - ▶ 3 slides, Mobius Strip and net Climbers + various other climbers, balance beams and monkey bars arrange in a challenge course
  - ▶ Phase two: ZipKrooz
- ▶ Estimated Construction Value \$180000
- ▶ Made possible by a \$125000 DASNY Grant thanks to Assemblywoman Karen McMahon



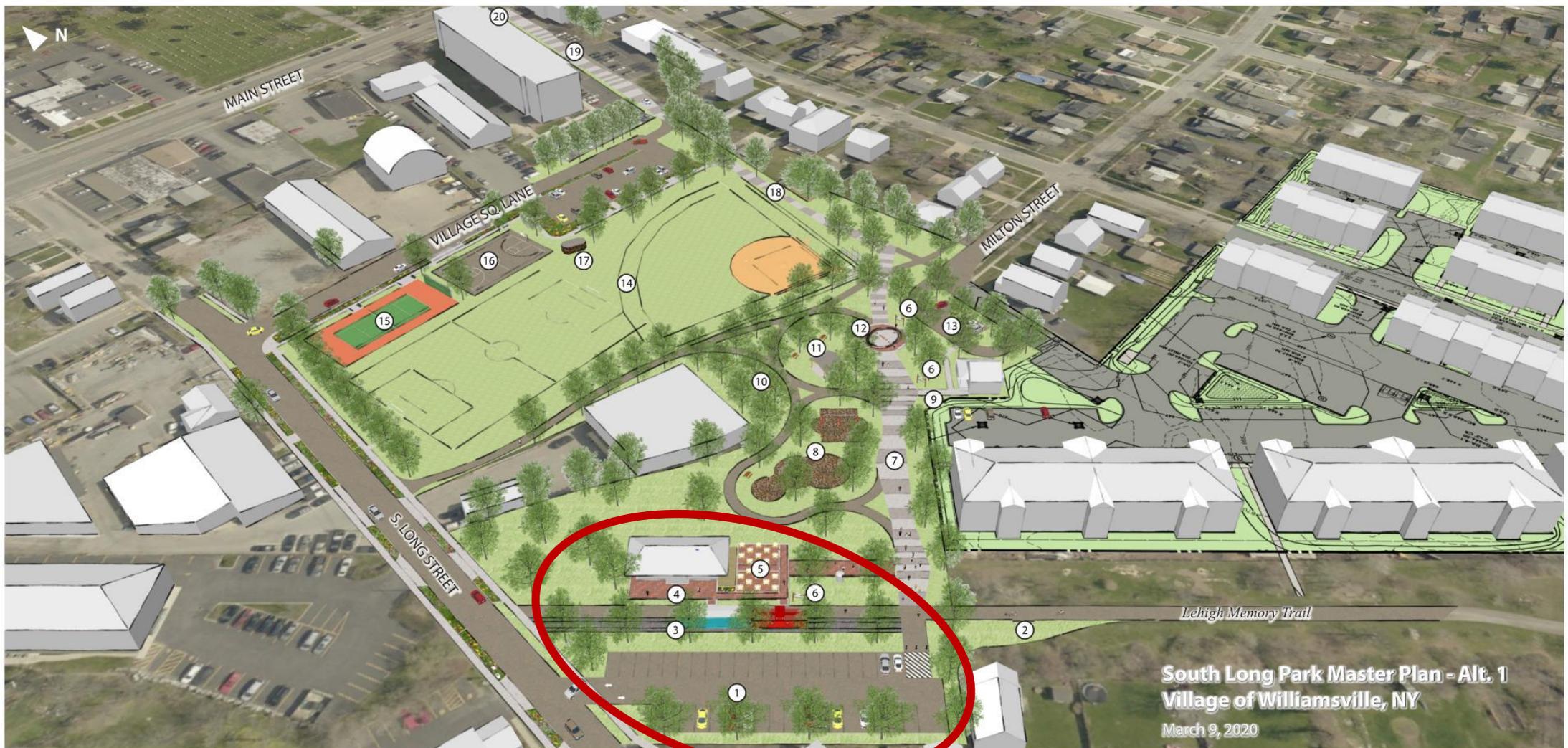
# Splash Pad

- ▶ Original Position shown not compatible with playground wood chips
- ▶ Pad will require:
  - ▶ A dedicated 3" waterline at 100-150 GPM
  - ▶ An 8'x10' Utility room in the bathroom building or old pool house for mechanicals
  - ▶ A 4" drain line
  - ▶ All new utilities must cross the creek
- ▶ Estimated Construction Cost \$200000 without utility improvements
  - ▶ Utility improvements estimated at \$80000 to \$150000
- ▶ Is this the right place for a water feature?



# Future Plans and Developments

- ▶ South Long Park, Lehigh Trail and Depot District
  - ▶ Relationship to Pertinent Adjacent Properties
    - ▶ Down zone park as parkland and not Mixed Use (MU) or Multi-Family Residential(R3M)
    - ▶ Mural/block (planting/berm) international chimney building
      - ▶ Village should pursue acquisition and demolition of the yellow warehouse building
    - ▶ The park is directly linked, both physically and from a planning perspective, to the VoW Railroad District. All efforts must...create symbiotic benefits to each and...not negatively impact the other
    - ▶ Asher Crossing abuts Depot District and overlooks Lehigh Trail
  - ▶ Entire project depends on phased construction - Shell Game
    - ▶ Starts with relocation of DPW side yard and Section House Improvements
  - ▶ Parking
    - ▶ No additional parking is needed at the north end, but improve parking by using 96 South Long as part of an expanded Railroad District
    - ▶ Consider a public parking plan at the Section House
  - ▶ Improvements to Depot
    - ▶ Acquire Engine and relocate Train Cars to Historic Rail Alignment
    - ▶ Increase outdoor paver surface around building for rental opportunities
  - ▶ Signs
    - ▶ Create destination signage and entrance gateway
    - ▶ Create and install interpretive signage related to Depot



**South Long Park Master Plan - Alt. 1**  
**Village of Williamsville, NY**  
 March 9, 2020

**Proposed Improvements:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① Parking lot (dead end, two-way circulation), 41 spaces</li> <li>② Reddy bike rack and bicycle repair station</li> <li>③ Rail spur for displaying rail cars, engine and caboose (rails in stone bed)</li> <li>④ Hardscape improvements at depot entrance</li> <li>⑤ Outdoor terrace provides formalized event space at depot (banquet table setup pictured)</li> <li>⑥ Interpretive signage including: (1) railroad history, Depot, Station Master House, interactive human sundial, trail network)</li> <li>⑦ Station Master Walk - shared pathway provides: (1) continuation of Lehigh Memory Trail north through S Long Park to Station Master House and Main Street; (2) venue for farmers market (35 or more vendors) and other events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⑧ Playground</li> <li>⑨ Pedestrian connection to Station Master House</li> <li>⑩ Picnic table with grill on post, located under trees (7 each)</li> <li>⑪ Picnic Shelter (20'x 20')</li> <li>⑫ Plaza with interactive human sundial and perimeter seat walls</li> <li>⑬ Drop-off loop/plow turnaround with parking for Station Master House (5-6 spaces)</li> <li>⑭ Great lawn: multiuse space for play fields, events, open space. Fields pictured for reference include softball field and 11U-12U size soccer field.</li> <li>⑮ Relocated tennis court with hitting wall</li> <li>⑯ Relocated basketball court; doubles as ice rink in winter</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⑰ Relocate existing gazebo</li> <li>⑱ Continue trail connection through park to Village Square Lane and Main St. Utilize same materials as Station Master Walk to emphasize connectivity</li> <li>⑲ Re-envision Village Square Lane as a shared vehicular and pedestrian street. Utilize same materials as Station Master Walk to emphasize connectivity</li> <li>⑳ Park wayfinding sign at Main Street and Village Lane</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|



# Future Plans and Developments

- ▶ South Long Park, Lehigh Trail and Depot District
  - ▶ Paths
    - ▶ Expand Lehigh Trail Connection to Main Street with “Section Keeper’s Walk”
    - ▶ Convert East end of Village Square Lane into shared vehicle and pedestrian alley
    - ▶ Improved crosswalks at South Long and Village Square Lane, mid-block crosswalk at Lehigh Trail?
  - ▶ Park Shelter
  - ▶ Section House
    - ▶ Pursue funding for exterior repairs and updates
    - ▶ Consider future uses including but not limited to:
      - ▶ office space for WNYRHS
      - ▶ possible future home of the Williamsville Historical Society
  - ▶ Playground Area
    - ▶ Relocate to more suitable location
    - ▶ Replace big toy, possibly with a railroad interpreted theme
    - ▶ Replace swings



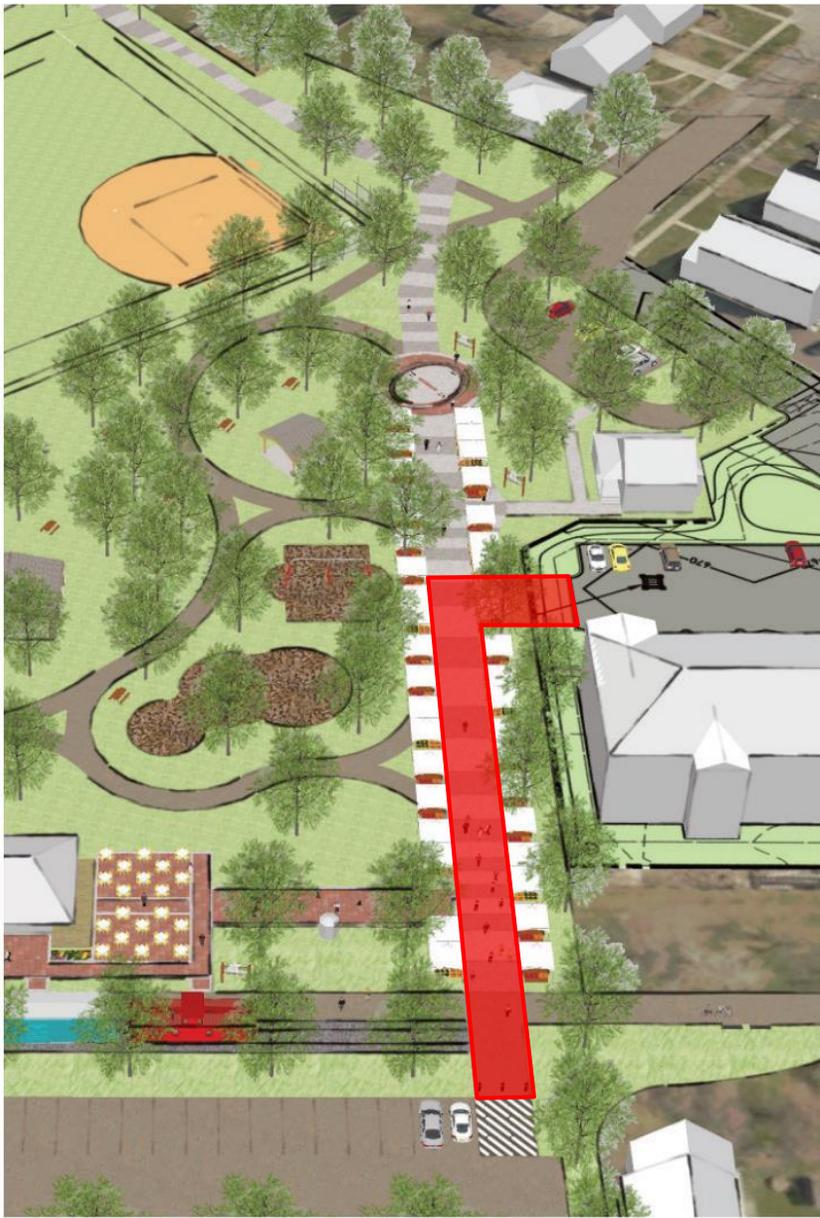
**South Long Park Master Plan - Alt. 1**  
**Village of Williamsville, NY**  
 March 9, 2020

**Proposed Improvements:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① Parking lot (dead end, two-way circulation), 41 spaces</li> <li>② Reddy bike rack and bicycle repair station</li> <li>③ Rail spur for displaying rail cars, engine and caboose (rails in stone bed)</li> <li>④ Hardscape improvements at depot entrance</li> <li>⑤ Outdoor terrace provides formalized event space at depot (banquet table setup pictured)</li> <li>⑥ Interpretive signage including: (1) railroad history, Depot, Station Master House, interactive human sundial, trail network)</li> <li>⑦ Station Master Walk - shared pathway provides: (1) continuation of Lehigh Memory Trail north through S Long Park to Station Master House and Main Street; (2) venue for farmers market (35 or more vendors) and other events</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⑧ Playground</li> <li>⑨ Pedestrian connection to Station Master House</li> <li>⑩ Picnic table with grill on post, located under trees (7 each)</li> <li>⑪ Picnic Shelter (20'x 20')</li> <li>⑫ Plaza with interactive human sundial and perimeter seat walls</li> <li>⑬ Drop-off loop/plow turnaround with parking for Station Master House (5-6 spaces)</li> <li>⑭ Great lawn: multiuse space for play fields, events, open space. Fields pictured for reference include softball field and 11U-12U size soccer field.</li> <li>⑮ Relocated tennis court with hitting wall</li> <li>⑯ Relocated basketball court; doubles as ice rink in winter</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⑰ Relocate existing gazebo</li> <li>⑱ Continue trail connection through park to Village Square Lane and Main St. Utilize same materials as Station Master Walk to emphasize connectivity</li> <li>⑲ Re-envision Village Square Lane as a shared vehicular and pedestrian street. Utilize same materials as Station Master Walk to emphasize connectivity</li> <li>⑳ Park wayfinding sign at Main Street and Village Lane</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|



Lehigh Mem



**S. Long Park Master Plan - additional images  
Village of Williamsville, NY**

March 9, 2020



**South Long Park Master Plan - Alt. 1**  
**Village of Williamsville, NY**  
 March 9, 2020

**Proposed Improvements:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
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|--|--|--|



# Future Plans and Developments

- ▶ South Long Park, Lehigh Trail and Depot District
  - ▶ Sports/Recreational Facilities
    - ▶ Move play areas to accommodate/ enhance visual/traffic flow and use
    - ▶ Redesign entire park's recreational and sport facilities
      - ▶ Relocate basketball courts, tennis courts, soccer field, baseball field to most appropriate location
      - ▶ Improve Soccer field with proper soil surface and underdrainage
  - ▶ Relocated/Reconstructed Gazebo







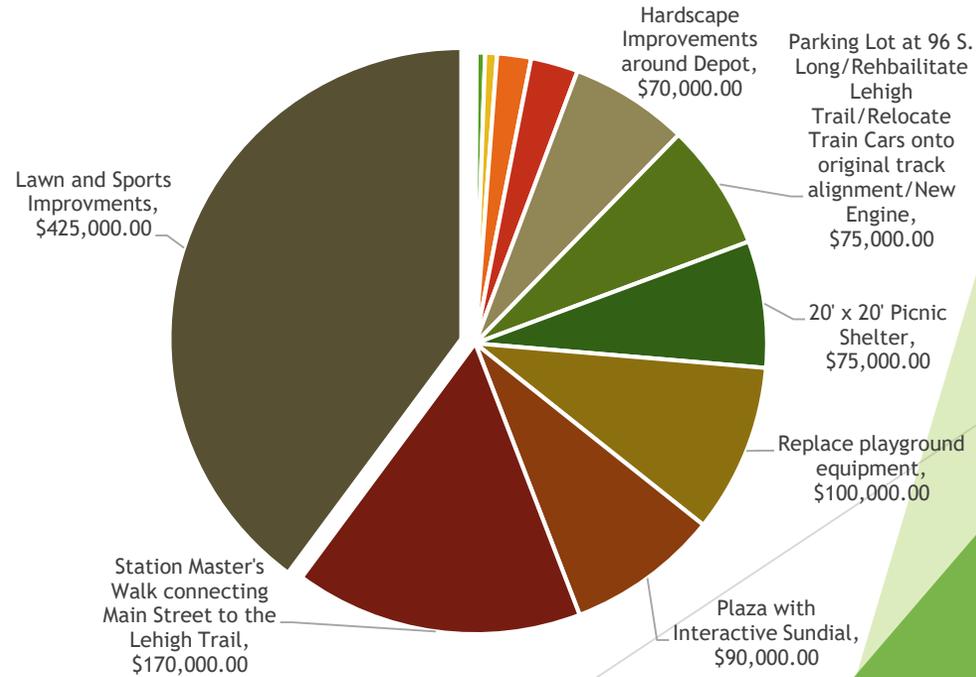
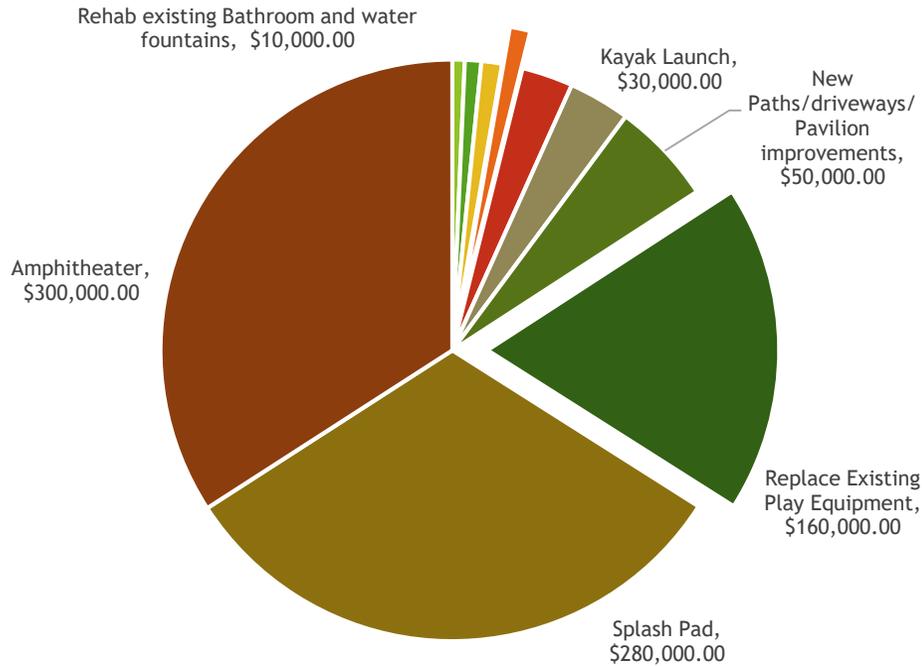
**South Long Park Master Plan - Alt. 2**  
**Village of Williamsville, NY**  
 March 9, 2020

**Proposed Improvements:**

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- ② Reddy bike rack and bicycle repair station
- ③ Rail spur for displaying rail cars, engine and caboose (rails in stone bed)
- ④ Hardscape improvements at depot entrance
- ⑤ Outdoor terrace provides formalized event space at depot (banquet table setup pictured)
- ⑥ Interpretive signage including: (1) railroad history, Depot, Station Master House, interactive human sundial, trail network)
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- ⑧ Playground
- ⑨ Pedestrian connection to Station Master House
- ⑩ Picnic table with grill on post, located under trees (7 each)
- ⑪ Picnic Shelter (a) 20' x 20'; (b) 30' x 34'
- ⑫ Plaza with interactive human sundial and perimeter seat walls
- ⑬ Drop-off loop/plow turnaround with parking for Station Master House (5-6 spaces)
- ⑭ Great lawn: multiuse space for play fields, events, open space. Fields pictured for reference include softball field and 11U-12U size soccer field.
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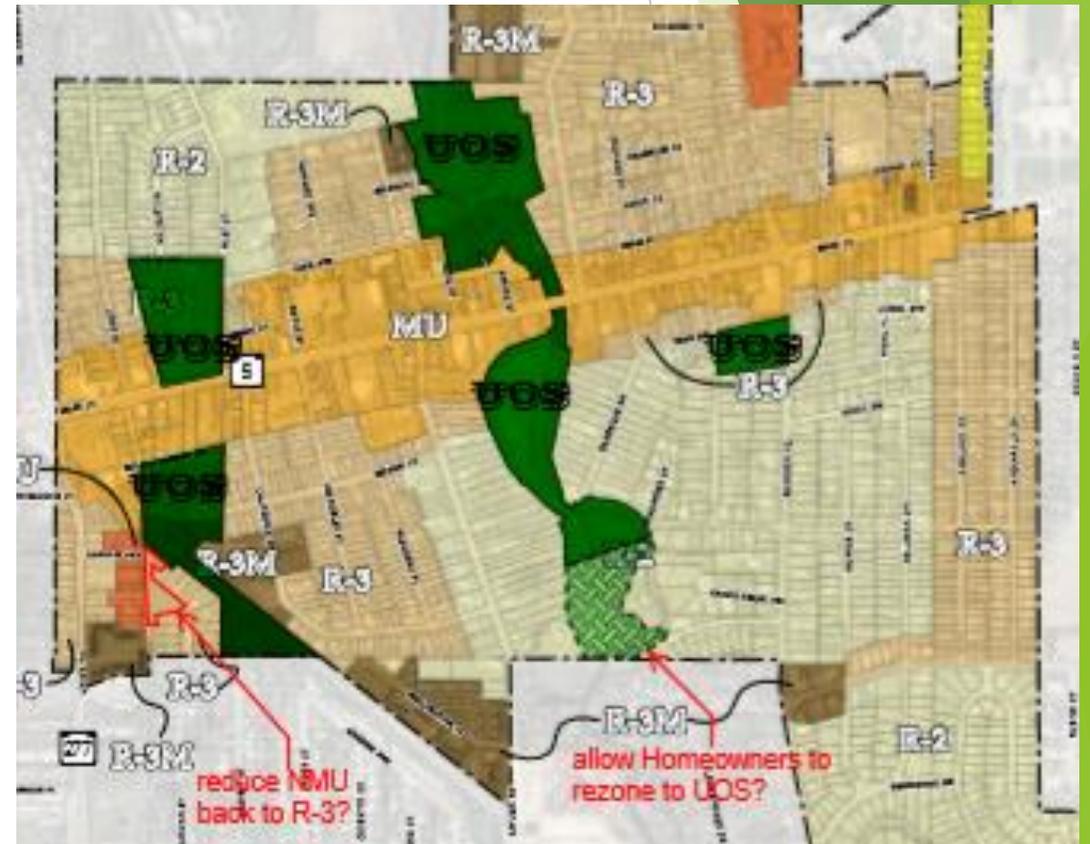
# Picture Our Parks 2025 - \$2.1M to \$3M Budget

- ▶ Garrison Park: \$175,000 to \$300,000
- ▶ Island Park: \$879,000 to \$1,358,000
- ▶ South Long/Williamsville Depot/Lehigh Trail: \$1,065,000 to \$1,326,000
  - ▶ Parks Capital Improvements Line increased to \$150,000 to cover between 25 and 38% of total cost



# Objective 1: Ensure that Village Zoning is Consistent with the Comprehensive Plan

- ▶ Public Hearing on Downzoning South Long Park and Lehigh Depot to R3: June 10, 2019
- ▶ Revised property boundaries to separate DPW property and Village Square Lane from Park
  - ▶ Combined 135 Milton Street into Park boundary
- ▶ Downzoning must go to Planning Board before final decision can be made
- ▶ NEXT STEP:
  - ▶ Parks Committee is proposing new Zoning designation: Urban Open Space
    - ▶ provides regulations and guidance for new development and rehabilitation in and around our parks and natural assets to preserve their quality and character





# POP2025

Any Questions?