

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

PARKS & RECREATION - AUTHORIZE TROWBRIDGE DAM/TOWNSHIP PROPERTY LEASE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2022, the Board of Commissioners (Board) accepted the Parks Recreation Plan and to incorporate the recent recommendations of the Parks Advisory Board into the Parks Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Parks Advisory Board recommendations included to work with Trowbridge Township for assistance (funding) and negotiate with the DNR to lease the Trowbridge Dam Property located on 26th Street and add it to the County Parks System; and

WHEREAS, this represents approximately ten acres at the Trowbridge site with additional property along the side of the river.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to the degree a negotiated lease is reasonably consistent with other Park agreements with Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the County Administrator is authorized to sign all necessary documents to complete this action; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that consistent with DNR expectations, boat launch fees may not be applicable to this site.



ALLEGAN COUNTY
REQUEST FOR ACTION FORM

Completed RFA form must be attached to a work order request through the Track-It System. If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Administration @ ext. 2633.

RFA#: 209-694
Date: 01/18/22

Request Type Routine Items
Department Requesting Parks
Submitted By Brandy Gildea
Contact Information bgildea@allegancounty.org

Select a Request Type to reveal and complete required form.

Description

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is working on the removal of the Trowbridge Dam. The project is similar to the removal of the Otsego Township dam. On the Otsego project the temporary water control structure was built, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) then stepped in to remove contaminated sediment and the remaining dam structure. After cleanup was complete, the temporary structure was removed and the river was returned to its natural course. Updates on the cleanup and dam removal can be found <https://response.epa.gov/trowbridgedam>

The DNR has approximately ten acres at the Trowbridge site with additional property along the side of the river that could be developed in to a future recreational/park site. The DNR, with the help of the EPA has reached out to local stakeholders (township, county, cities etc.) to see what interest there is in developing this site and who would take on responsibility of maintenance and operation. Development of this property in to park land would not likely occur until 2024/25 or even into 2026. The EPA is developing a plan to leave the property in a manner most suited for use by the community. Over the last year the EPA & the DNR has held many meetings with the local community, Kalamazoo River groups, and other stakeholders to determine a concept design, solicit resident and user suggestions and answer questions. The concept plan with supporting imagery is now completed and can now be used for the different stakeholders to determine who and how the property may be managed.

The DNR and Trowbridge Township have looked to the County to see if they would lease (with DNR -similar to Ely Lake Campground and New Richmond Bridge Park) and operate this property/park.

The Allegan County Parks Advisory Board through the review of the Recreation Plan determined that this would be a great addition to the county parks system. It would meet many of the goals and objectives, and provide many types of recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities.

The following motion and recommendation as made to the BOC by the Parks Advisory Board:

A motion was made by Brown, seconded by Langeance that after review of the recreation plan and additional information that they had no changes to the current recreation plan/parks and would recommend the BOC work with the Trowbridge Township for assistance (funding) and negotiate with the DNR to lease the Trowbridge Dam property located on 26th Street and add it to the County Parks system. The motion carried by roll call vote. Yes -5, No -0, Absent -4

- Brown: Yes Dykstra: Absent
- Clark: Yes Formsma: Absent
- DeYoung: Yes Kapenga: Yes
- Dugan: Absent Metz: Absent
- Langeance: Yes

The Parks Manager has also attached to this work order an estimated budget (expenditures and revenues) for this property/park, the concept plan with supporting imagery and all the past Administrative Updates.

Based on the information received, the motion and recommendation from the Parks Advisory Board, the Parks Manager is recommending the BOC authorize the County Administrator to assist in the negotiations with DNR and Trowbridge Township.

Trowbridge Dam

Existing Conditions, Opportunities, and Master Plan Options

August 23, 2021



CONCEPT 7

K INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE FOR HISTORIC TURBINES ACROSS THE RIVER



PARKING COUNT
STANDARD PARKING: 51
TRAILER PARKING: 12



LEGEND

- | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A PARK ENTRANCE | E OUTDOOR LEARNING | I RESTROOMS | M RELOCATED POWER POLE | Q FISHING DOCK | U BRIDGE ACROSS RAIN GARDEN |
| B PARKING LOT | F ACCESSIBLE WATERCRAFT LAUNCH | J RUSTIC FENCE | N OVERLOOK WITH RIVER VIEWS AND SEATING | R RIVERVIEW TRAIL | V GAZEBO |
| C RESTORED WETLANDS AND STREAMBANK STABILIZATION | G NATURE PLAYGROUND | K INTERPRETIVE TURBINE SIGNAGE | O OPTIONAL BOAT LAUNCH | S BIOSWALE | |
| D PAVILION | H RESTORED PRAIRIE | L PICNIC AREA WITH MOWED LAWN | P RESTORED WOODLAND | T FUTURE PARKING | |

BIOSWALES



A bioswale in the parking lot at the LA Zoo, both sides of the parking lot drain into it. Image from https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/bioswales_can_improve_water_quality_resources



<https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/street-design-elements/stormwater-management/bioswales/>



A bioswale at Providence College near the Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies. The swale collects water from the road to the left of the image and the surrounding area.



<https://www.watershedcouncil.org/bioswale.html>



<https://www.planetizen.com/node/72154>

PERVIOUS PAVEMENT



Pervious concrete by Bay Area Pervious Concrete
<http://www.bayareaperviousconcrete.com/>



Comparison showing regular asphalt vs permeable asphalt.
<https://sustainablebuildingsinitiative.org/toolkits/climate-resilience-toolkits/stormwater-mgmt/paving-and-asphalt/toolkit=230>



Permeable pavers
<https://commercial.unilock.com/products/a-z-products/all/ecoloc/?region=3>



Pervious concrete
<https://challenge.abettercity.org/toolkits/climate-resilience-toolkits/flooding-and-sea-level-rise/paving-and-asphalt/toolkit=229>



Permeable asphalt along naturalized ditch
<https://www.freshcoastguardians.com/resources/green-strategies/porous-pavement>



Permeable paving cells are open cells that are filled with gravel or with soil to have grass grown in it.
<https://www.truegridpaver.com/complete-guide-permeable-paving-systems%EF%BB%BF/>

NATURE PLAYGROUND



Custom built log climbing structure and bench.
Abby and Anna's Yard



Custom built log climbing structure
<https://www.buildwithrise.com/stories/natural-playgrounds-at-home>



Custom built play tables and balance beams
Oxbow Nature Playground



Sully on a log chair.



Natural playground equipment, logs to climb and jump across.
<https://www.earthscapplay.com/natural-playground-equipment/>



Natural playground
<https://menalmeida.blogspot.com/2019/09/pictures-of-natural-playgrounds.html>



Fiber glass reinforced concrete shaped as a crawl through log.
<https://playworld.com/nature-inspired>

INTERPRETIVE EDUCATION



Turbines from the Trowbridge Dam



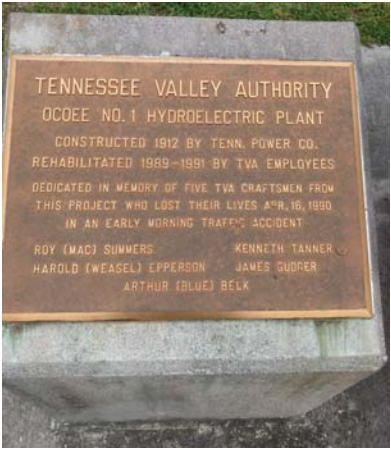
Where the turbine entered the dam structure.



Turbine display of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Ocoee No. 1 Hydroelectric Plant



Where the turbine entered the dam structure.



Plaque commemorating Ocoee No. 1 Hydroelectric Plant