

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION**

*Parks & Recreation Committee*

**Issue Briefing**

**Topic:** Barmouth Trailhead Schematic Design Report

**Prepared By:** Donna L. Heller, Director of Parks & Recreation

**Date:** March 1, 2019

- I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:** Receive the Cynwyd Heritage Trail Barmouth Trailhead Schematic Design Report.
- II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:** Plans and studies must be received by the Board of Commissioners.
- III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable):** Parks & Recreation Department policy to use plans to direct the development of Township Parks.

**IV. Other Relevant Background Information:**

Barmouth was identified as a priority location for trail improvements as part of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail (CHT) Phase II Plan completed by Natural Lands Trust in 2015. The Phase II Plan provides a guide for appropriate uses, identifies a long-range vision for future development and/or programming and defines the future of the trail and its place in the park system. This Schematic Design is an early stage in the evolution of the Barmouth project that establishes the general design direction and provides recommendations for site layout, materials, furnishings, and planting, laying the groundwork for development of Construction Drawings. The Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail (FOCHT) funded the cost of this Plan and shepherded the process through a Steering Committee and Community involvement. The complete document can be found on the Townships website with the following link: <https://www.lowermerion.org/home/showdocument?id=21668>

The Schematic Design was developed from the following objectives.

- Provide safe multi-user trail access
- Provide additional and improved parking
- Increase shade on site
- Identify and demarcate Barmouth for both people on the Trail and those accessing the Trail from Belmont and East Levering Mill Roads.
- Enhance the connection to West Laurel Hill Cemetery (WLH)
- Address stormwater and drainage issues
- Provide sewer, water, and electrical service to the Trailhead
- Provide material storage for Trail maintenance
- Provide opportunities for Public Art

The Plan provides creative solutions to meet the objectives as well as perspective renderings and documentation to support fundraising efforts to continue to move the Plan forward.

- V. **Impact On Township Finances:** There is no financial impact to receive the plan. The estimated cost to implement all recommendations contained in the plan is \$2,086,132. The specific improvements will be subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners and will be brought forward for consideration during the life of the plan through the Capital Improvement Program including leveraging funding sources and partnerships to create financial savings.

**PRIMARY SCOPE: TRAILHEAD ACCESS, DESIGN, UTILITIES & AMENITIES**

SITE DEMOLITION & PREPARATION	\$ 119,950
SITE MATERIALS (PAVING, WALLS, RAILINGS)	\$ 147,275
PLANT MATERIALS	\$ 103,350
STORMWATER & SITE UTILITIES	\$ 344,970
SITE FURNISHINGS (STRUCTURES, SEATING, SIGNAGE & LIGHTING)	\$ 394,850
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS*	\$ 486,366
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,596,761</b>

\*Additional Estimated Project Costs include 25% Construction Contingency, 12% Professional Design Fees, 5% Survey and Geotechnical Fees, and an allowance for Permit and Mobilization Fees.

**ADDITIONAL SCOPE: PARKING & NEIGHBORHOOD GATEWAY PARKING**

BARMOUTH GATEWAY**	\$ 176,570
LOT 'A'**	\$ 146,431
PARKING LOT 'B1'**	\$ 166,370
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 489,371</b>

\*\*Each individual Additional Scope item includes 25% Construction Contingency, 12% Professional Design Fees, 5% Survey and Geotechnical Fees, and an allowance for Permit and Mobilization Fees.

- VI. **Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends the Board receive the Barmouth Trail Head Schematic Design Master Plan.