

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Erin Crouse, Chair,
Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Commission

SUBJECT: Recommendations for the Obey Creek Development Agreement

DATE: April 15, 2015

At our April 15, 2015 meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (6-0) to make the following recommendations related to the proposed Obey Creek Development:

1. The Parks, Greenways, and Recreation Commission would like to be consulted prior to the implementation of key details in the recreation design that are not specifically covered by the Development Agreement.
2. Highland Park:
 - The developers should include a splash park. The splash park could be provided in lieu of, or in addition to the water feature mentioned in the design guidelines.
 - Dedicated public restrooms should be placed at this site.
 - A small additional recreation amenity for young children should be provided at this site. Such a facility might be a playground for younger children or some other feature. This would not be intended to replicate the large play structure at nearby Southern Community Park.
3. Overlook Park:
 - Public restrooms should be located near this site since it is a standalone recreation facility and the entranceway to the Wilson Creek Preserve.
4. Wilson Creek Preserve:
 - Amenities such as a community garden or picnic facilities should not be located in the quarry area. We have strong concerns about use, safety, and maintenance so far from the road. We believe that the focus of development in this area should be on trails, and only limited amenities such as benches should be included.
 - A permanent conservation easement should be put into place over the entire preserve once the Town takes ownership of this property. The easement could be similar to the Morgan Creek Preserve conservation easement.

- All trails in the preserve should be built to accommodate mountain bicycle usage. This means extra care must be taken to assure that trails drain well and do not develop erosion problems.
5. We support the greenways and sidepath as they are currently described in the development agreement.

Members Present: Erin Crouse (Chair), Regina Blalock, Joan Guilkey, Mary Musacchia, Bob Myers and Raymond Wong **Members not present:** Steve Price (Vice Chair), Joe Battle,