

MINUTES OF THE STRONGSVILLE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021 IN THE MIKE KALINICH SR. CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

CALL TO ORDER:

Council President Schonhut called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING:

The Assistant Clerk of Council certified that the meeting had been posted in accordance with Ordinance No. 2004-273.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members: Matthew A. Schonhut, James A. Kaminski, Gordon C. Short, Joseph C. DeMio, Kelly A. Kosek and Annmarie P. Roff. **Also Present:** Assistant Clerk of Council Tiffany Mekeel. **Administration:** Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Law Director Neal M. Jamison and Economic Development Director Brent Painter.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Schonhut – Alright, go ahead Neal.

Mr. Jamison – Can I just certified funding, please? You been watching too much... curb your enthusiasm...

(Laughter)

Mr. Schonhut – Go ahead, bud.

Mr. Jamison – Based upon careful review of the proposed December 28, 2021 Council meeting agenda, I hereby certify that funds will be made available for all ordinances and resolutions on such agenda requiring certification of funding.” So, signed by Eric Dean, Assistant Director of Finance.

A copy of that memo is attached to the back of these minutes.

Mr. Schonhut – Thank you sir. Now, we'll move on to ordinances and resolutions. We have two; Ordinance No. 2021-177 is going to go on first reading tonight; due to not being able to get signature from the other side of that. So, Ordinance No. 2021-176; is a collective bargaining agreement with our Sergeants and Lieutenants Unit. F.O.P. Parma Lodge #15; the recommendation on that is to suspend and adopt. Mayor, Neal, anything you wanna add on that at all?

Mayor Perciak – No, they were very cooperative and we were glad we were able to get this done and as we go through other things, I'll update you on the other collective bargaining agreements.

Mr. Schonhut – Cool; so, Ordinance No. 2021-176 is suspend and adopt; Ordinance No. 2021-177 will be first reading. Do you just want to go through voting on that first before we do Town Center stuff?

Mr. Jamison – Pardon me?

Mayor Perciak – Yes.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Mr. Schonhut – Tiffany, take it away.

Mrs. Mekeel – Very well.

Ordinance No. 2021-176 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A NEW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF THE POLICE, PARMA LODGE #15 (SERGEANTS AND LIEUTENANTS UNIT) AND THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by Mr. Short to suspend the rules requiring every ordinance or resolution to be read on three different days, second by Mr. DeMio. All members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion to adopt by Mr. Short, second by Mr. DeMio.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carries. Ordinance No. 2021-176 ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 2021-177 by Mayor Perciak and All Members of Council. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A NEW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF THE POLICE, PARMA LODGE #15 (CORRECTIONS OFFICERS) AND THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Placed on first reading and referred back to committee.

Mr. Schonhut – That will take us over to the Town Center...

Mayor Perciak – Just, if I may, Mr. President...

Mr. Schonhut – Yes, sir...

Mayor Perciak – On the Corrections Officer contract; they were unable to get it to us on time today from what the Law Director and I understand. They have voted in favor of accepting the contract and we should have it on the Council agenda for Monday. Further, Neal, one last thing, would you want to quickly mention the Fire contract or...

Mr. Jamison – Yeah, so we're close. We had another meeting this afternoon. They're finalizing, they're ratification of it once the membership...we think it's going to positive; so, we'll have that on the agenda for Monday as well.

Mayor Perciak – So, that's a step in the right direction and so, for everyone to know, I want to thank Neal specifically for coming in on Christmas Eve with me to work this thing out with the Firemen. Most Law Directors would've told me to wait 'til Monday; but, he was there and helped us through this and worked on it the day after Christmas and worked on it yesterday and today and this is going to be the first time in a long time that we're able to get you a contract without a lot of protracted nightmares. We're meeting with the Dispatchers tomorrow; we hope. We had two other meetings setup with them. They've been unable to either get their Lawyer to the meeting or they have been unable to attend because of the current COVID situation. So, we hope that we will get discussions going with them tomorrow.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (cont'd):

Mayor Perciak (cont'd) – I spoke with our Safety Director, and Patrol, we hope to have something from them very shortly too. Neal, I don't recall if Charlie Goss said...have the Patrolmen voted yet? Or are we waiting for a vote on that?

Mr. Jamison – I don't know that Mayor. I just don't...I know that it hasn't been ratified yet. I don't know where it stands in the process.

Mayor Perciak – So, we have been working, truly, that's all we've been doing the last few weeks is contracts; so, we hope to have as much in to Council on Monday and that ends my report on all of these contracts. And then, if I may Mr. President, we'd like to give everybody a brief overview of the Strongsville Town Center Enhancement and Walkability. This is just the first step of many in this; but, we'd like you to have this so that you see it before...because we're going to start going out looking for grants and financial aid on this; so, its only right you guys see it. So, that's where we're at.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Schonhut – Easier if we come down so we can see it?

Mayor Perciak – Whatever you want to do.

Mr. Schonhut – You're going to be scrolling through it, Brent or how do you want to do it?

Mr. Painter – Yeah, yeah. I'm going to run through. It's a short presentation.

Mr. Schonhut – What does everybody want to do? Down, up? Up, down?

(Multiple conversations)

Mr. Painter – Maybe a little longer.

(Laughter)

(Multiple conversations)

A copy of the presentation is attached to the back of these minutes.

Mr. Painter – Great. If you don't mind, I'll hop right in and as the Mayor said, we've started to look at different funding sources and really want to make sure we're keeping Council up to date and in the loop on the early process that we're at. So, some of the first couple slides are just an overview that a lot of you are very familiar with. The Town Center area, as we defined it, is almost 82 acres. It consists of all kinds of amenities. Again, all of you well aware of this; but, from this facility to our Food Bank, to our rec center, the library, we have all kinds of events from our Rib Burn Off to the Homecoming and this area generates hundreds of thousands of visitors each and every year. And we've been working on this Town Center, as a community, for many years. We've gone through lots of steps in the redevelopment from Westwood Commons retail to the new Food Bank facility that was spearheaded by our Rotary Club and our Chamber of Commerce. We've had improvements through the studies that have been done. Whether it was the Pearl Road and Strongsville Middle School intersection; making that safer and easier to travel.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mr. Painter (cont'd) – Pearl Road and Westwood Drive intersection; also, improvements and then obviously, significant changes at Pearl and Royalton Roads as well. But, it hasn't stopped there. There's been new lightening on the Commons along the Freedom Trail. As all of you can see, the clocktower has just been completed. The renovation. Old Town Hall has been repainted. This past fall, with the great support from Chick-fil-A, they sent their workers out and worked on Castletown playground and they re-stained the facility and helped bring new life to that facility that is really in good shape; but, needed some new painting. And the list goes on and on; one of the big things we've heard a lot about pickle ball and Bryan Bogre, our Rec Director went out and re-did the tennis courts in the area and included lines for pickle ball to allow that. So, it's been a work in progress. Not something that's just starting today; but, something that we continue to work on. But, through this Town Center initiative, really, it comes down to our focus has been, as we've met administratively on two primary goals; one, to improve connectivity and walkability within this area and then two, to construct new community amenities; with specific focus on area families, seniors that live in the area, we have Westwood Commons apartments in the area; and then also children with disabilities and what we can do to add more ADA complaint facilities and amenities for them. So, I'll keep this moving right along, this is, and I'm sorry if you're having to flip through a lot; but, if you go to page six; we did do a survey, as all of you are aware. It was released on September 3rd; we had over 1,000 responses and the top three responses or requests for the area that we heard from the residents; number one was an outdoor swimming pool. 632 responses. Number two was a splash pad and then a new playground. Those were the results of the survey. If anybody would like to see the full survey, we have it. David Sems has it. We'd be happy to share it; but, I also wanted just to quickly throw up, and I won't belabor the point; but, I wanted to show all the studies that have been done of this area. We had, obviously, our Master Plan, we did Wayfinding Analysis, looking at the signage. NOACA did a comprehensive study just of this area in 2015, and then in 2009; Jennifer Milbrandt spearheaded a walkable community workshop. All of these studies are available online at www.strongsville.org/towncenter if anyone wanted to go through any of them; see them. We've made them all available. And one last note, on those studies, each one of them included public participation. So, residents have had input throughout the study of this area throughout the years. So, getting down to it. This is a zoomed in look at one of the baseball fields, if you can tell, from the map. You have Safety Town and then the baseball field that's closest to Zverina Drive. That field would be going away through the initial plans and creating some new community amenities in that area. The first being a fully compliant ADA...ADA compliant playground. 12,350 square foot; Bryan Bogre has said, it will be one of the nicest playgrounds in the State of Ohio in his mind. He's put a lot of time into this. Working on different amenities that can be included in that. Serving children of all different abilities and age groups. The cost estimate for that is about \$600,000.00. This includes installation, it includes having a soft ground. It won't be a mulch floor for the playground; but, almost like the, the weather stone. Am I saying, that right? Floor to that playground to make it safer and softer. Moving along, one of the big things that the Mayor's pushed for and we've looked at doing is having kind of a signature Community Pavilion that we can utilize in that space as well. This is actually a facility that's in Lake County; but, it has a nice fireplace, indoor space to rent, also some different picnic tables. All of this is just general ideas of what it would look like as we're going through process...

Mayor Perciak – Matt, this is being designed specifically for you; so, you can have your wedding there.

(Laughter)

Mr. Painter – And the estimated cost again is about half-million dollars and you can see the placement of these amenities on the map on the right-hand side. One of the big issues that we've had for many years is the lack of bathrooms; public restrooms in this whole area.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mr. Painter (cont'd) – So, this would be part of this project is to create a building that would have five family style bathrooms. So, those are bathrooms that are individual. You can go in and lock the door and family... something, usually that families appreciate and can be used as a changing room as well. That facility is about \$490,000.00; almost half-million dollars to do. It includes some storage, some piping equipment for a splash pad and also some additional space that we can use for; whether it's for community events or different events that we have in the area within the building. We're also working with an idea of an interactive foundation or splash pad in the area. Again, we are in the middle of this; but, have some really great discussions going on and those can range anywhere from \$550,000.00 to you know, close to \$800,000.00; but, was definitely clearly heard through the survey and the discussions we've had as a community that this is a request that people have asked for. And something really important, I think, to this whole thing and it will connect with another slides is how to do we get more community space out of this area and as many of you know, that long rectangle now, is just want access drive that leads back to the baseball fields that Bryan's employees can drive down to do some different work on the fields. We really want to reinvent this whole area. Have that as community space. Have it walkable, instead of it being an access drive. Have it a walkway that we can have farmer's markets, we can have food trucks assemble. We've planned for all of that to be accommodated in that area. And then we also, know that no matter what great playground you have, I know with my kids, sometimes the best part is just running around in some open greenspace. So, we made sure that we incorporated that greenspace in this initial plan. As you can see, on the map itself, the whole area, with the playground, fountain, the open space, the bathrooms, all has a fence around it for safety for the children. That was a really quick run through of it; but, I wanted to, and I guess when we're talking about enhanced connectivity and walkability, going back to the slide, if you look right above Safety Town, I guess that would be to the north of Safety Town, you can see that we've actually altered the parking lot to create some better connectivity in that area. Right now, if you wanted to go to the backyard preserve, you're either walking through a parking lot over or near a pretty big slope; so, we'd be extending some greenspace and putting some new paths in to allow better connectivity to these new trails; these new amenities so that people aren't walking in a parking lot with their kids or their family members. On that note, we've spent a lot of time, and this is in your packet on page 13, it maybe easier to see; but, we've spent a lot of time with Brandstetter Carroll, who we've been working with as an Architect and myself, the City Planner, Bryan Bogre, our Rec Director, obviously the Mayor, Jennifer Milbrandt, our Engineering Department have all looked at these projects and the initial planning and wanted to make sure we did better on connectivity. So, as you can see, all the red lines in this... any of the line really are going to be, if they're not existing, they're going to be enhanced through this project. I'm sorry, if they're not existing, they'd be built. If they are existing, they would be re-enhanced and cleaned up a little bit. But, we have all kinds of areas within this Town Center. The main culprit being behind the rec center. They're always been a plan to connect a path and we've never done it. I think its time for us to do that and we can with this now, is to finish that off. To better use, wayfinding to show that there's paths and they're a Backyard Preserve for residents to use and then also to extend a pathway all the way to the south of our rec center where you can see right now it ends; but, could be a future expansion to future areas where the path can continue. But, the whole focus has been on trying to make this much more walkable; much more connected and we have some of that infrastructure in place; but, we're really lacking connectivity and through this process, we've really tried to do that and address that. And this is zooming in, right at the... near the Food Bank there, the entrance on Zverina Drive, making some significant changes there. One, looking at a roundabout, instead of a three-way stop. Adding some new signage, monument signage and so forth. Doing a better job on wayfinding and showing where the assets are and branding our City through that way and then also, looking at different trails. The blue line we see a lot of kids, especially from the middle school that aren't going around to the Freedom Trail; but walking along that road and how can we make that safer for them. And also, looking at the gravel lot there now, and seeing what we can do to incorporate some new parking in that area as well.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mayor Perciak – The carny lot.

Mr. Painter – Yes. I did not say that. The Mayor did. So, that was a 30-second overview of something we've spent a lot of time on; but, this is kind of...

(Multiple conversations)

Mayor Perciak – Just on the trails...

Mr. Painter – Yes...

Mayor Perciak – Also, they're going to...we hope that they will also have mile markers.

Mr. Painter – Right. Yep. Absolutely. Yeah. There would be community or City maps, area maps is the right word at the beginning and the end of those areas; one by the Commons that would point out where these amenities are. We really lack that now. So, at the end of the day, where we're at today it's about \$325,000.00 in cost for the improved connectivity and \$2.6, maybe north of that for constructing some of the new community amenities. We're currently working with Brandstetter Carroll to put more of the species together. Obviously, that would all come back to all of you to look at and to vote on; but, as the Mayor, myself, and other folks at the City have started to look at grants and have discussion. It didn't feel right to continue on any of those conversations before we at least showed you a preliminary overview.

Mayor Perciak – As far as the grants, we met with Mike Gallagher this morning and we've asked him for a \$1.5 from the County; from the ARP funds. He didn't seem offended at all for his district, as Brent and I found out, he has approximately \$4 million available. So, we told him since you live here and since you were our Council President, it's time to step up and truly, he was very receptive and he going to bring out the County Council President here and we said we need to go to Council first here and at least update them as to what we've been talking about here for years. Then, as soon as Brent says, as soon as we have all...the entire scoop of the job, we'll come to you for authorization to go to Brandstetter and get it going. What we would hope would happen is that we can keep moving this along and when Brandstetter is doing this, you can all have your input of this, that, or another. Move something around; but, I need to start raising money for this thing and we also know that we should be getting our final distribution of our ARP funds in June of 2022; but, you know that is a moving number. So, as soon as I know what it is, I'll let you know.

Ms. Roff – So, as far as grant money goes, and with the trails going through and come towards the library; Kelly and I had talked with Bryan in regards to looking at possibly a storybook type trail also and with it being so close to the library there, maybe that could be some of the grant money we could get and add that to...that into it. Maybe?

Mayor Perciak – Anything is on the table right now; but, I do not know what the final numbers are going to be and as soon as we can ascertain what the numbers are for all of this; because this is far more than I anticipated on spending. So, we're going to have to figure out how this is all going to be funded.

Ms. Roff – Absolutely.

Mr. Painter – And, Bryan Bogre has brought up that discussion.

Ms. Roff – Okay.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mr. Short – And Mayor, is there...is this on? Can she hear...

Mayor Perciak – Yeah.

Mr. Short – Is there any chance for private donations we can ask from...

Mayor Perciak – Oh, yes...

Mr. Short – The private sector to sponsor a playground or sponsor some trail parks so we can...

Mayor Perciak – But if they're going to do that, I mean we're talking sponsorships in the hundreds of thousands of dollars...

Mr. Short – Right, right. We're talking about \$3 million plus project; so, and then outside of grant funding, is this going to be coming out of the Rec Budget or Capital Improvements or...

Mayor Perciak – Not determined yet because I have to see where the rest of the ARP money is going to come from and where it's going to come from but I hope to use some of that.

Mr. Short – Gotcha, okay.

Mr. Kaminski – So, one question, first of all, excellent job. This is really nice and I think residents will really be happy with some of the plans in the center of town. What about, we've looked at additional parking for all of these events? And how it...

Mayor Perciak – Well, that's what we...that's what Brent brought up. We have to look at that carry lot and see if we can convert that into parking. The problem we have there is I have to make sure it's properly engineered before we start laying blacktop. So, that would be the additional space for parking; but beyond that, there really isn't a whole lot of spots to go for, Jimmy. I mean we're...it's pretty much utilized.

Mr. Kaminski – Yeah.

Mr. Painter – And I would add, we do have a large lot by the Senior Center there that hopefully, as we make it more walkable and connectivity and we have more amenities in that area, you'll also see people utilize that lot more.

Mayor Perciak – Way, on the other end, closer to Target.

Mr. Kaminski – Okay.

Ms. Roff – Have we also looked at, possibly, with the Historical Society being right there too, grant money to come from that type of dollars...

Mayor Perciak – That, I don't, I have to be honest with you, I don't know.

Ms. Roff – Okay, okay.

Mr. Painter – Yeah, I know we will definitely have more discussions with the Historical Society about making sure they are comfortable in ways they can incorporate. We've done the same with the library.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mr. Painter (cont'd) – We've had initial discussion with them; but again, we wanted to, per the Mayor's comments, we wanted to make sure we came here first. So that none of you were hearing us out there talking about this before you knew about it.

Ms. Roff – No, no, and it looks great. I think you did a nice job, definitely. And to Mayor, and I know, I know that Jim Carbone had talked about it and the Economic people...the people that have been on Economic Development have brought it to them; so, obviously, I think with all the time that they've talked about, you know, this center of town; hopefully they can step in get their wheels turning for dollars. That would be awesome. But, yeah, it looks great. You did a nice job on it. I appreciate it.

Ms. Kosek – It looks great, at least, I don't think anybody can hear me out that probably...

Mayor Perciak – We can hear you.

Ms. Kosek – You can. My only question is, it looks like where the placement of restroom area, the pump room, that there is the anticipation that we'll be using those two baseball fields in future development, is that the idea?

Mr. Painter – Yeah. That's been discussed. There's an opportunity there for that. As of right now, Bryan and his team have indicated that they need those fields. They're utilizing those. So, it's not in this first phase to take those away; but that would definitely be an opportunity or something that could be revisited in the future.

Ms. Roff – Is that where the existing is right now, for the bathrooms there?

(Multiple conversations)

Mr. Painter – Yes, yes. So, that building would come...

Ms. Roff – So that makes sense too then.

Mayor Perciak – We have to do something with that...

Ms. Roff – Oh yeah, yeah...

Mayor Perciak – Regardless of what we do with this, we still, that's a situation that we have to remediate, yes.

Ms. Roff – Yes, that makes sense.

Mr. Schonhut – Anybody have anything else? It looks good. It's a realistic plan. I think we all know we have to spend money in this area to do something to attract younger families and back to the center of town and I think it's a realistic plan without spending \$10 million. Adding a lot of good things there too. With not too many operating costs...

Mayor Perciak – It's the beginning. And your correct. That was what we took into consideration is ongoing operating costs; because at the end of the day, that is what bogs down these types of situations. You know, just like we read that they wanted an outdoor pool. Well, that's easier said than done. Especially in today's day and age. You're talking millions. And then the ongoing cost of it. The trails, we'll have to do it.

OTHER BUSINESS (cont'd):

Mayor Perciak (cont'd) – But we can break all that down between service and parks and everything else and nothing stays the same. However, we're...with all the technology that we have today for everything that we do, it makes our job a little bit easier and even, you take all...you know this connectivity of all these trails. Years ago, that would've been a nightmare. Today it's really doable simply because of engineering and how we can get things done. And what we need to do.

Mr. Painter – And to this point of where we're at now, we've just had great cooperation without all the departments. David Sems is, he's great with technology and security and has brought some great points to the table and Ken and Lori, from the Engineering Department and Joe Walker, everyone's brought their expertise to this initial idea.

Mayor Perciak – So if someone wants naming rights; half million dollars. I'm serious; so...

Mr. Kaminski – Per item, right?

Mr. Short – The Ann Roff Roundabout...

Mr. Schonhut – Ann Roff Roundabout. There you go...

(Laughter)

(Multiple conversations)

Mr. Short – We may put that on, free of charge. How about you just give it to her. You don't even have to pay for that.

Mr. Kaminski – That's a great place to put the first roundabout. People will see how lovely they are and actually, maybe change their mindset.

Mayor Perciak – How well they work.

Mr. Schonhut – Anybody have anything else? Last officially...

Ms. Roff – As far as the wetness part, we don't have an issue there? Trail wise and...it's pretty dry, that area.

Mayor Perciak – We'll work through all that and we'll make certain, we have Brian Zimmerman, we haven't given him this yet, but we will.

Ms. Roff – How close are we to those back trails? Getting to towards the Metroparks?

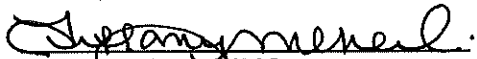
Mr. Kaminski – Yeah, that's a lot of work.

Ms. Roff – I'm just kidding, dreaming, dreaming...

Mr. Kaminski – We looked at that when I was on Council last time because I was looking at expanding, we were looking at expanding the Freedom Trail and there's a lot of cost. There're some ravines. There's some engineering that has to be done; but, there's a ton of potential too; for marathons and other things, you know. Races, all that. But, yeah, there's more money involved in that.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Council, President Schonhut adjourned the meeting at 5:31 p.m.



Tiffany Mekeel, MMC
Assistant Clerk of Council

January 18, 2022
Date

CITY OF STRONGSVILLE, OHIO


FINANCE DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

Date: December 28, 2021
To: President and Members of Council
From: Eric Dean, Assistant Director of Finance
CC: Mayor Thomas P. Perciak
Neal M. Jamison, Law Director
Subject: Certification of Funding for December 28, 2021 Council Meeting

Since I will not be present at the December 28, 2021 Council meeting, I respectfully request that the "Certification of Funding" below be read at the meeting in my absence in order to confirm and document the funding in accordance with law.

**CERTIFICATION OF FUNDING
FOR
DECEMBER 28, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING**

Based upon careful review of the proposed December 28, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda, I hereby certify that Funds will be made available for all Ordinances and Resolutions on such Agenda requiring certification of funding.

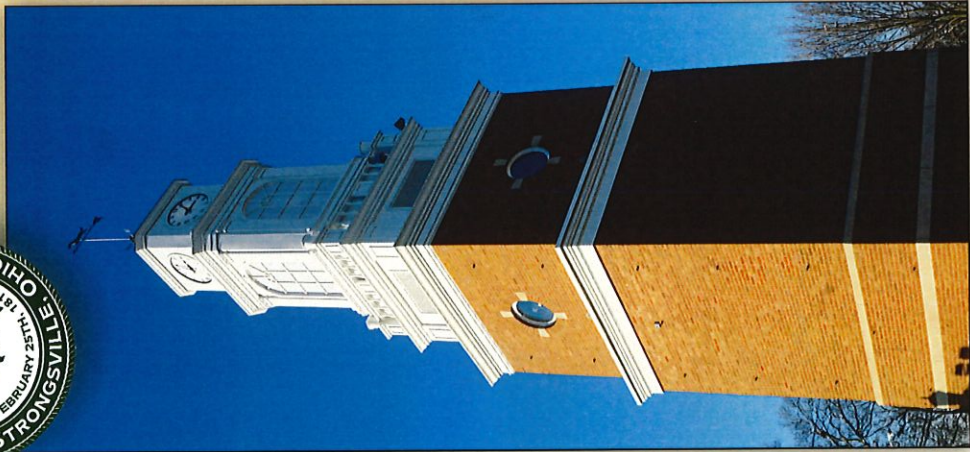

Eric Dean
Assistant Director of Finance

Date: 12/28/2021



THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE

THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE

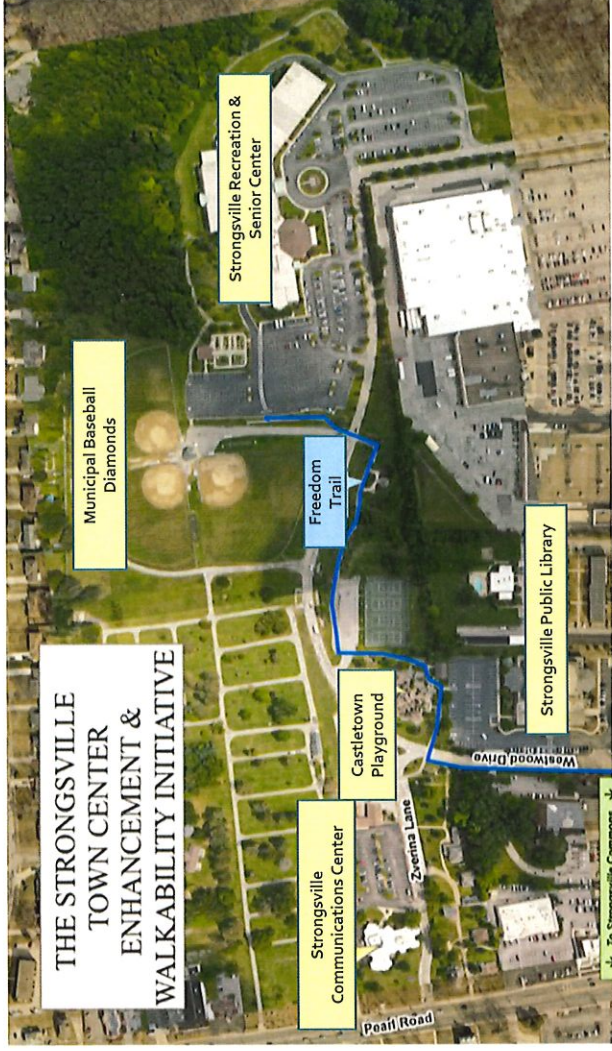




THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE

Project Area Overview:

- 81.75 acres extending from SR-82/US-42 intersection north past Zverina Lane
- Contains numerous community amenities utilized by hundreds of thousands of residents/visitors each year
- Area amenities include:



- The Strongsville Commons
- Strongsville Police Headquarters
- The Strongsville Backyard Preserve
- Westwood Senior Living Apartments
- Strongsville Safety Town

- Strongsville Recreation & Senior Center
- Cuyahoga County Public Library Strongsville Branch
- Strongsville Communications Center
- Westwood Commons Retail Development
- Public Baseball Diamonds, Tennis Courts, & Castletown Playground

- Strongsville City Council Chambers
- Strongsville Historical Society
- Southwest Regional Dispatch Center
- Strongsville Food Bank
- The Freedom Trail & multiple hiking trails

- Annual community events including the City Homecoming Festival & Fireworks, Strongsville Rib Burn-off, Winter Wonderland Celebration/ Fireworks, and more make the Strongsville Town Center one of the most visited areas within SW Cuyahoga County



THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE

THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE

Completed Town Center Improvements

- Redevelopment of Westwood Commons Retail Center
- New Strongsville Food Bank Facility
- Pearl Road & Strongsville Middle School Connectivity
 - New Crosswalk & Pedestrian Countdown Signal
 - Optimized Signal Timing for Pedestrian Safety
- Pearl Road & Westwood Drive Intersection Improvements
 - ADA Curb Ramps
 - New Pedestrian Countdown Signal
 - Optimized Signal Timing for Pedestrian Safety
- Pearl Road & Royalton Road Intersection Improvements
 - Intersection Redesign (Utilizing NOACA Studies)
 - ADA Curb Ramps
 - New Pedestrian Countdown Signal
 - Pedestrian Refuge Islands
 - Optimized Signal Timing for Pedestrian Safety
- Upgraded Lighting on the City Commons & Freedom Trail



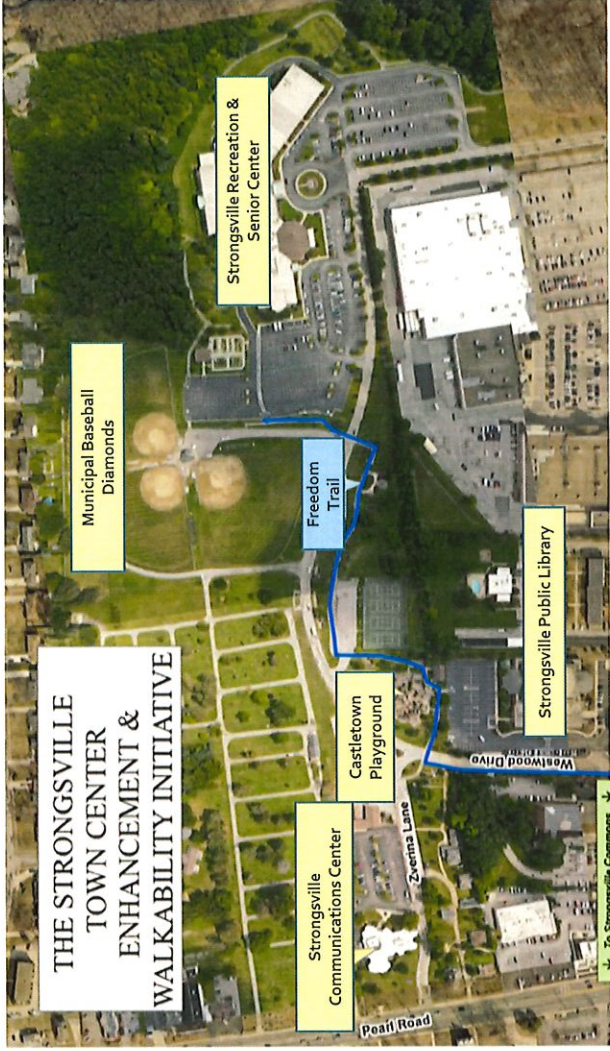
- Clock Tower Renovation
- Old Town Hall Repainting
- Castletown Playground Repair
- Stamped Concrete Branding
- Tennis Court Repair

-Resurfaced to include Pickle Ball Courts



THE CITY OF STRONGSVILLE

Realizing the importance of the Strongsville Town Center, the City of Strongsville launched the Strongsville Town Center Enhancement & Walkability Initiative



Two Primary Goals of the Initiative:

- Improve the CONNECTIVITY & WALKABILITY within the Strongsville Town Center Area
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 - Area Families
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ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY
INITIATIVE**

New Community Amenities



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Community Amenities Survey Results

- Survey released September 3, 2021
- **Goal:** *Seek input from Strongsville residents on the types of new amenities they would like to see in the Town Center*
- **Response:** Over 1,000 survey responses
- **“Top 3” Results:**
 - Outdoor Swimming Pool (632 respondents ranked in “Top 3”)
 - Splash Pad (578 respondents ranked in “Top 3”)
 - New Playground (370 respondents ranked in “Top 3”)

STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER STUDIES

Strongsville Master Plan: Completed in May 2019, in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Strongsville Wayfinding Analysis Report: Completed in May 2019, in partnership with Guide Studio

Strongsville Town Center District Redevelopment Plan: Completed in August 2015, in partnership with the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)

Strongsville Walkable Community Workshop Report: Completed in February 2009, in partnership with the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)

*Each study listed above included public/stakeholder participation

*All reports are available in full at:

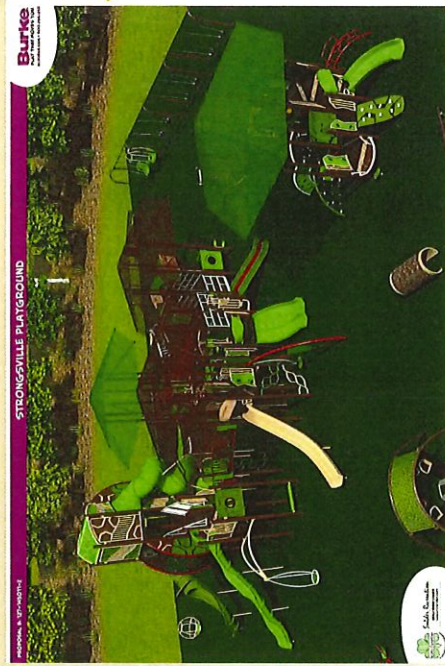
www.strongsville.org/towncenter



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New Community Playground

- Fully ADA compliant playground designed to accommodate children with disabilities
- 12,350 SF
- Cost Estimate: \$600,000

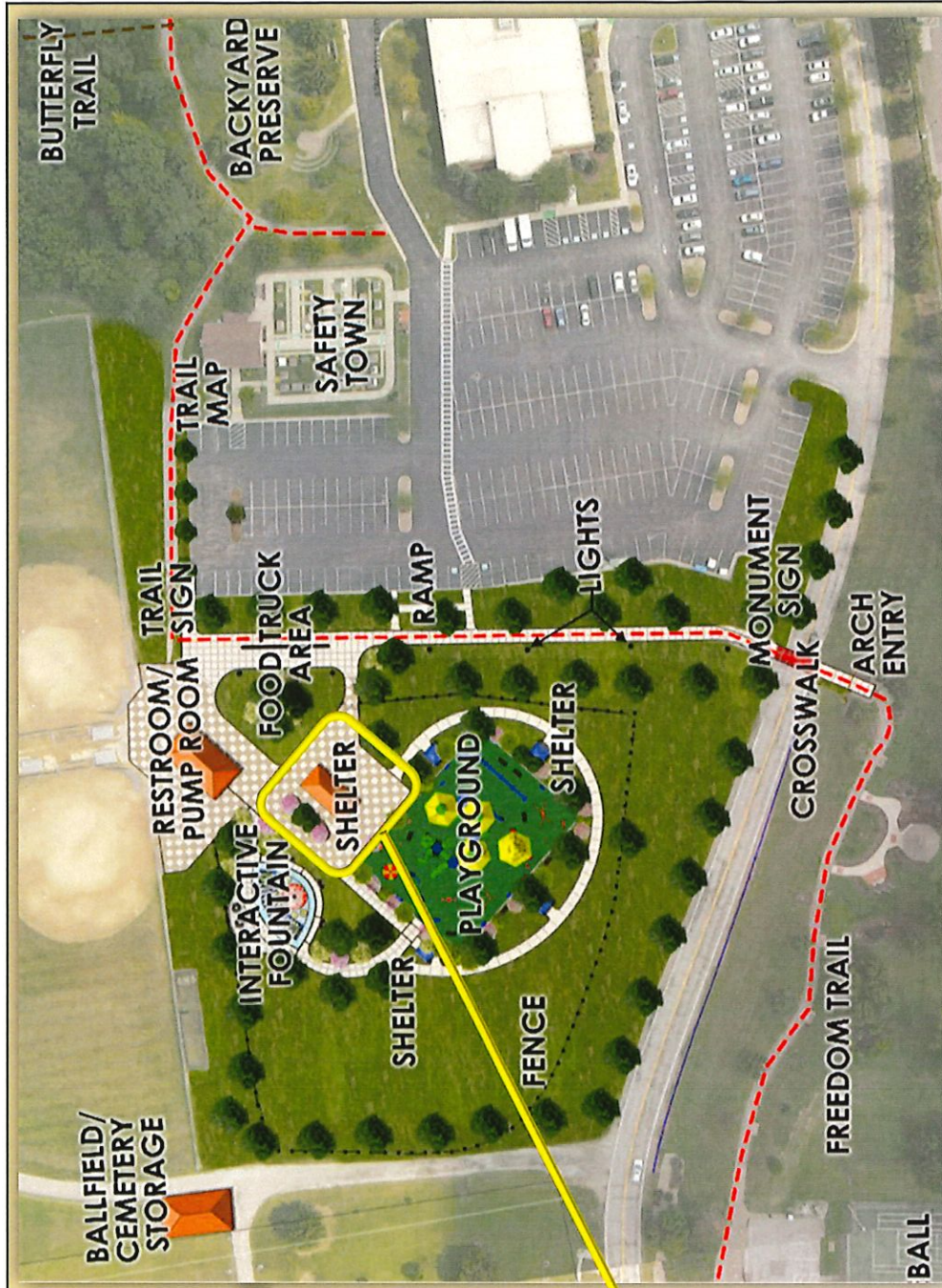
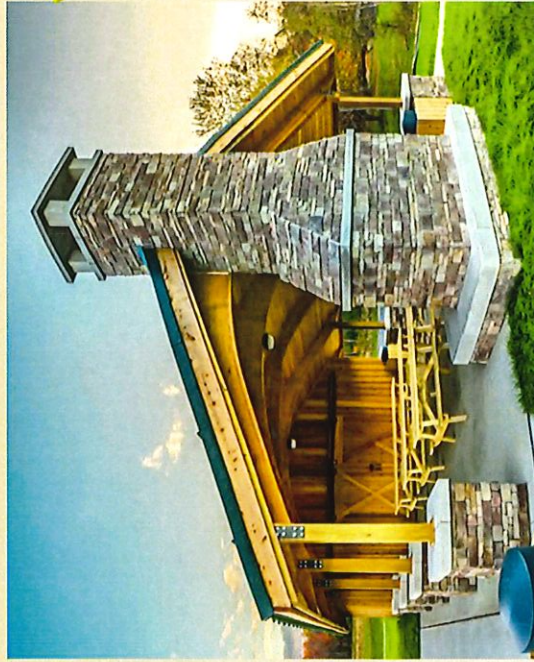


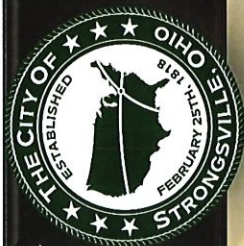


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New Community Pavilion

- Centrally located community gathering place
- Features including fireplace & enclosed meeting space
- Cost Estimate: \$500,000

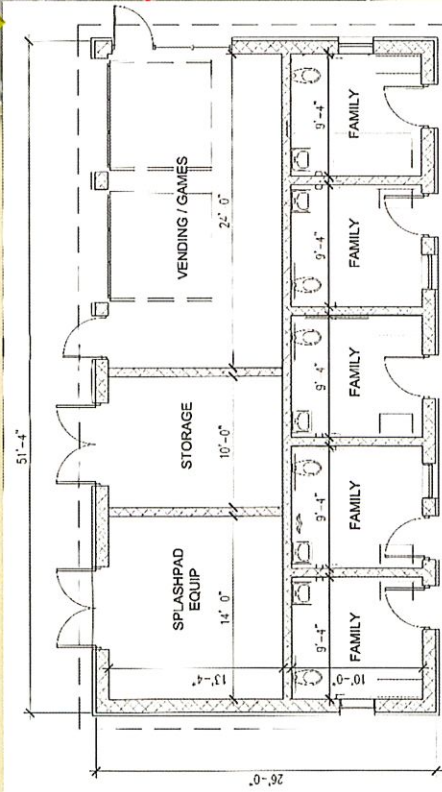
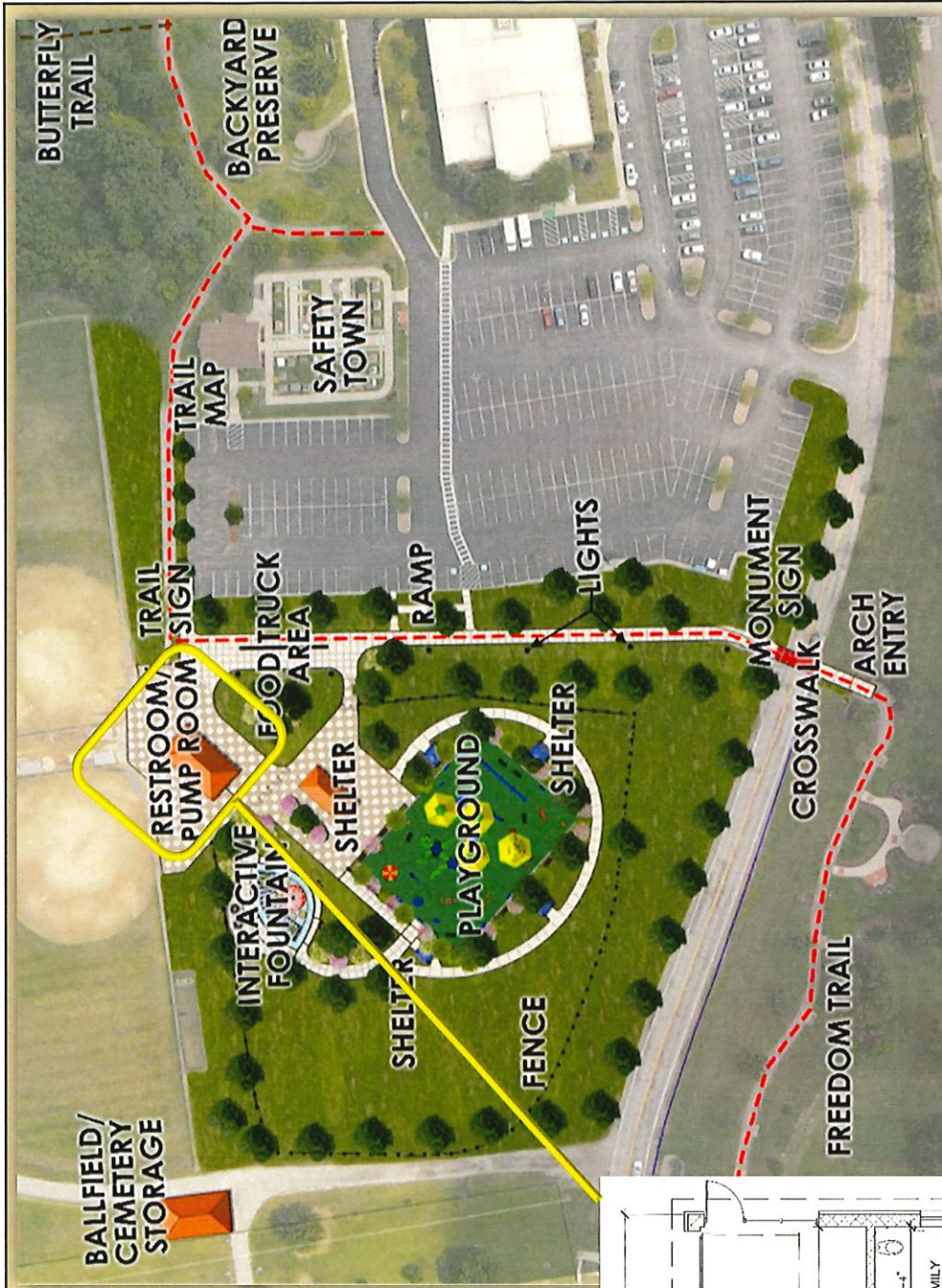




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New Family Restrooms

- Five family restrooms designed for families and individuals with disabilities
- Building also contains vending machine area & ticket booth/sales capability for events
- **Cost Estimate: \$490,000**



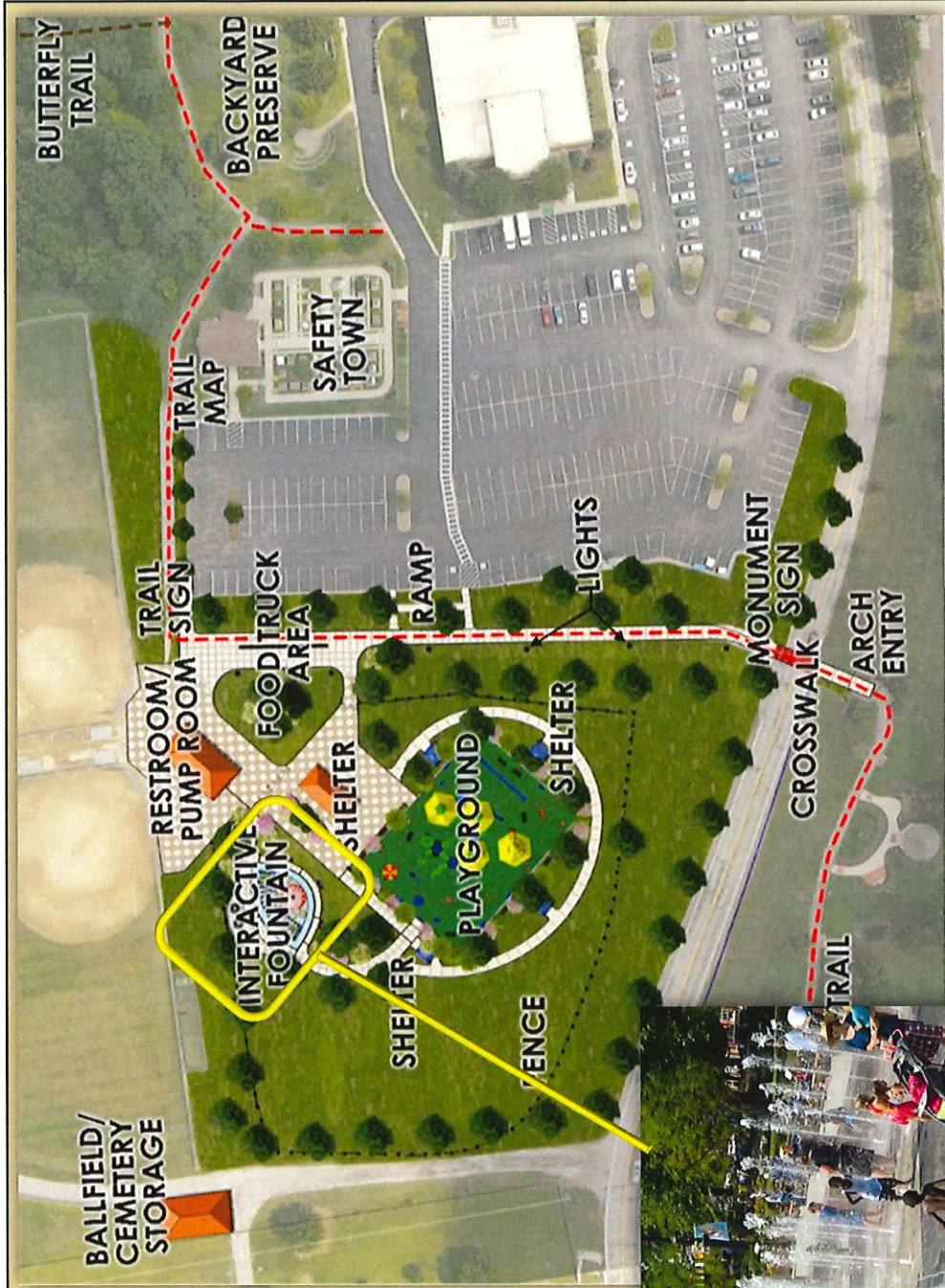
Restroom Floor Plan



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New Interactive Fountain

- Interactive water feature for use by children with ADA features & seasonal flexibility
- Cost Estimate: \$550,000 to \$800,000

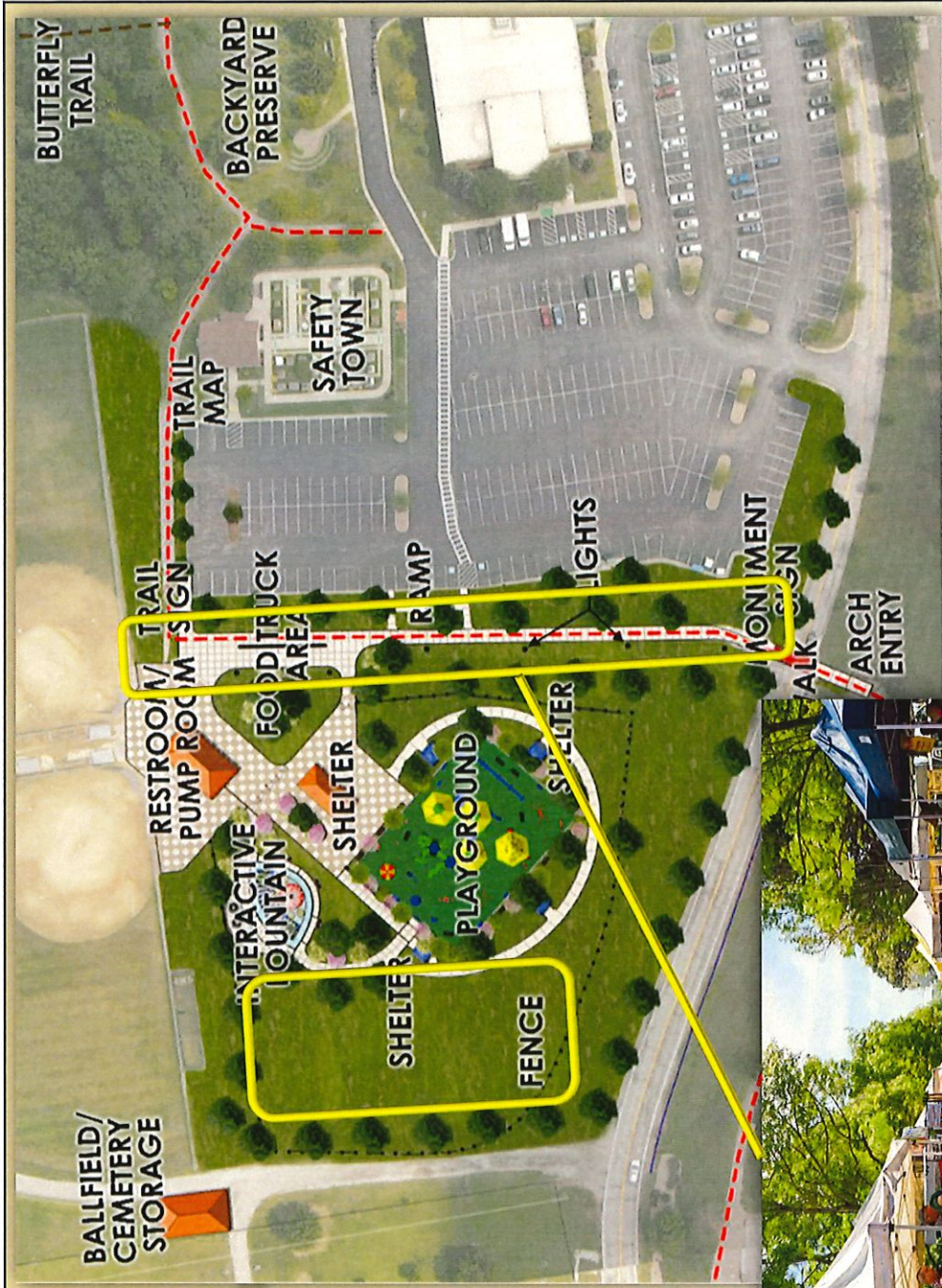
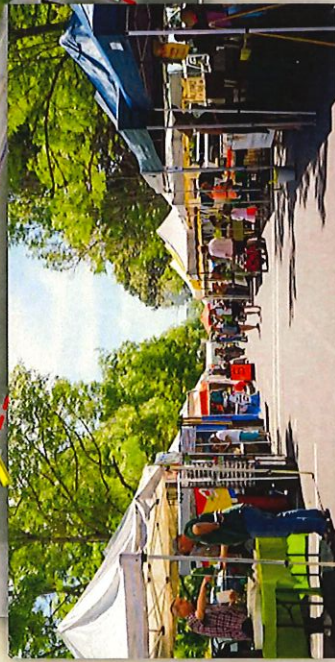




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New Public/Green Space for Community Use

- Redesigning access road to walkway
- Staging area for food trucks, farmers markets, and other community events
- Fenced-in green space for play or community events such as movie nights, etc.





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INITIATIVE**

Enhanced Connectivity & Walkability

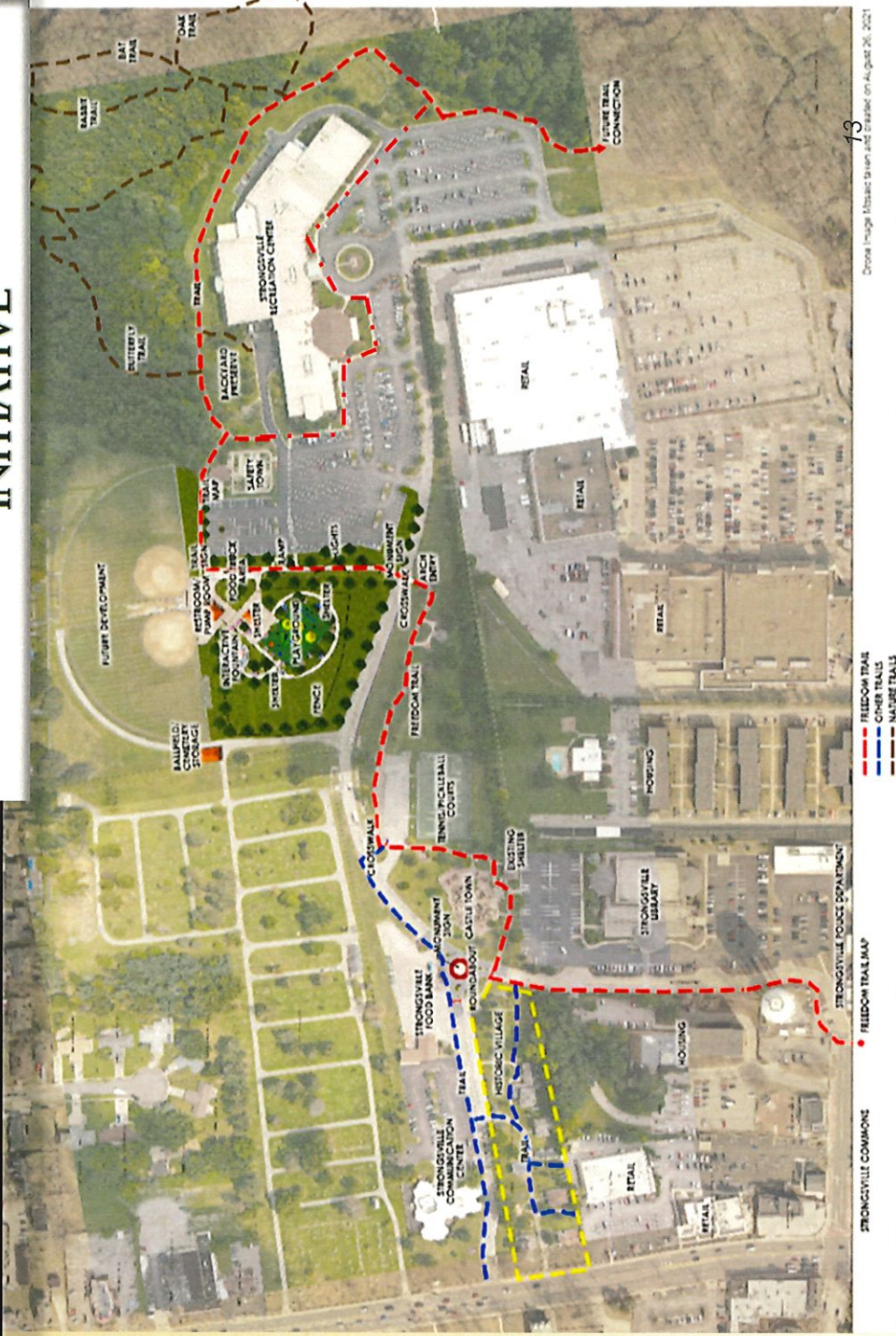


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THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE

Improved Connectivity & Walkability

- Upgrades/Improvements to existing walkways and trails, including the Freedom Trail
- Completion of the trailhead north of the Strongsville Recreation & Senior Center walkway, allowing for better access the backyard preserve and hiking trails
- Increased pedestrian safety through new connects in Staging area for food trucks, farmers markets, and other community events
- Updated wayfinding signage to better identify area amenities and trails

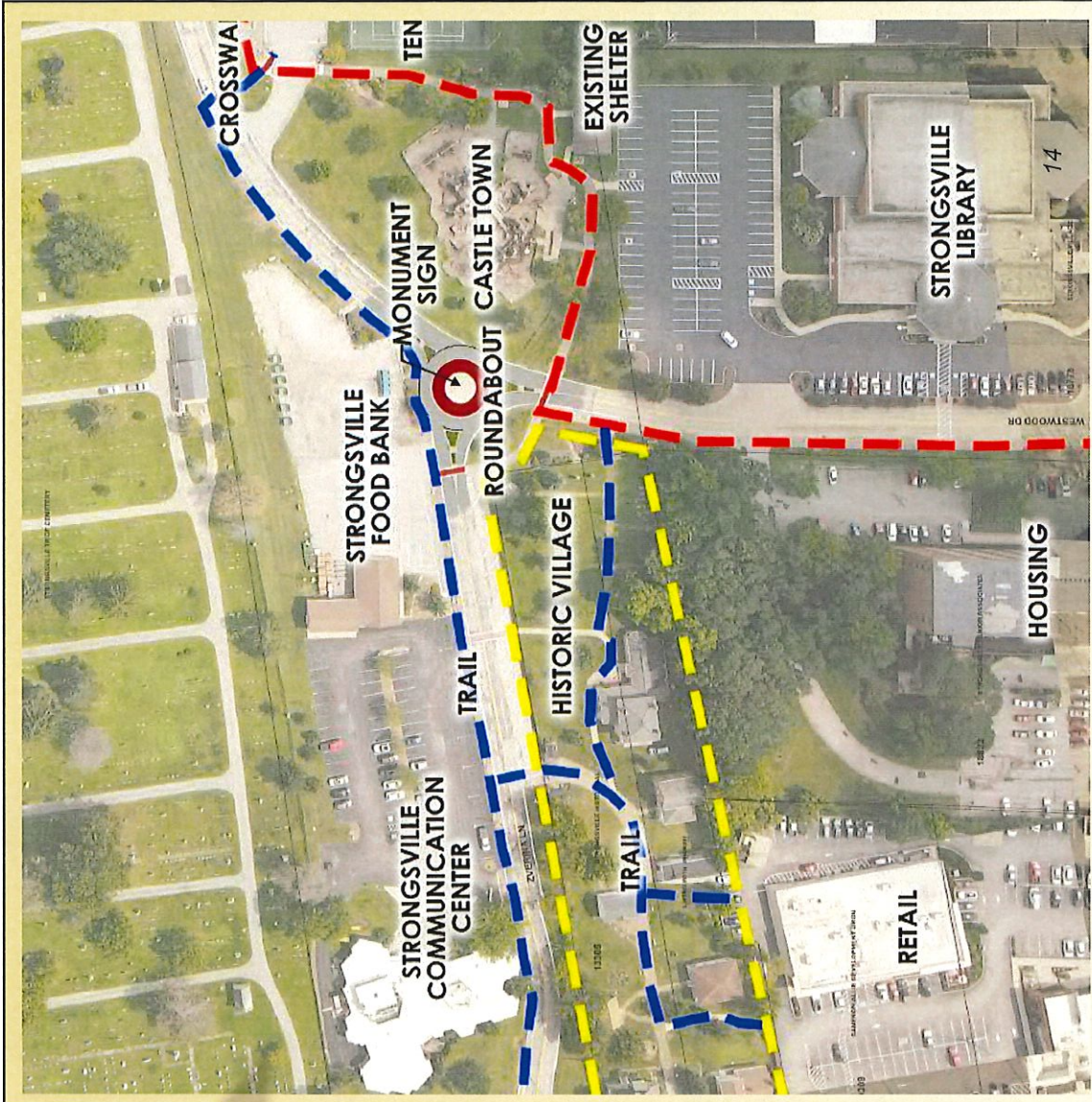




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New Zverina Drive Entryway & Signage

- Redesigned entry to the Strongsville Town Center off of Zverina Drive, including potential:
 - Roundabout
 - Gateway Monument Sign
 - New paved parking lot next to Strongsville Food Bank
 - New walkways to improve connectivity in the area





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In Summary

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Anticipated Costs for Each Initiative:

- Improved Connectivity & Walkability:
\$325,000
- Construction of New Community Amenities:
\$2,600,000

THE STRONGSVILLE TOWN CENTER ENHANCEMENT & WALKABILITY INITIATIVE

