

Recreational Planning for the Fremont Community

The City of Fremont, Dayton Township and Sheridan Charter Township joined together to develop and adopt the Fremont Area 5-Year Recreation Master Plan, which has been in place since 2001. It was envisioned that creating an area-wide recreation plan would enable the communities to provide recreational opportunities to their residents in the most efficient, effective and fiscally responsible manner. Sherman Township joined cooperative efforts in 2006 and Bridgeton Township has recently expressed interest in joining as well, so we look forward to their new involvement and fresh ideas.

The current 5-yr Recreation Plan will soon expire, so the Fremont Area Park & Recreation Advisory Committee will start the renewal process at a series of meetings throughout the next couple months, the first being Monday, January 30th @ 6:30 PM, in the Fremont Area District Library's Community Room.

The committee is comprised of representatives from the City of Fremont, Dayton Township, Sheridan Charter Township, Sherman Township, Fremont Public Schools and soon Bridgeton Township. The Committee's primary responsibility is to oversee the task of preparing, recommending and enacting a Recreation Master Plan for the Fremont Area. Public input will be received through public meetings and communications to the Committee.

The Master Plan's "Action Plan" details the culmination of the Committee's research and discussions into recommended goals, guidelines and capital improvements for the next five year period. The results of the background studies, recreation inventory, needs analysis and Advisory Committee discussions will be used to create the Action Plan. As part of the Action Plan, the 5-yr Capital Improvement Schedule is a guideline, which is updated by the Committee annually.

Since the Committee's establishment, the 5-yr Capital Improvement Schedule within the Recreation Master Plan has been annually reviewed and updated. Below are some of the new facilities created since inception:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Town & Country Path (5.5 miles) | Branstrom Park Multi-Purpose Court/Ice Rink |
| Fremont Skate/Bike Park | Sheridan Township Boat Launch Playground |
| Branstrom Park Disc Golf Course | Sheridan Township "The Refuge" bike park |

Currently, the Committee is comprised of local residents within the four jurisdictions and is as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Todd Blake | Pam Zuchowski | Jean Sherman |
| Brian Hettinger | Becky Content | Jim Featherstone |
| Roger Tuuk | Marian Oosterhouse | Bryan Kolk |

Please feel free to join them at their upcoming meetings to participate in or even listen to the planning process.