

Nathaniel Thayer Memorial Park

Concept Plan and Vision

Lancaster's Thayer Memorial Park is a 22 acre plot of town-owned land directly behind the Town Green and Thayer Memorial Library, in what is quite literally, Lancaster's back yard. Lancaster is fortunate to have such an unusual asset in the heart of our town, a credit to Pauline R. Thayer who gifted the land in the name of Nathaniel Thayer just prior to her death in 1934.

"...to be used by said town for the purpose of providing a proper and adequate recreation and playground center for the inhabitants of the Town of Lancaster"

Today



BBall

Pump
Track

Wetlands
(no access)

Skating
Rink

Softball
(Non-regulation)

Utility Field

Tennis
(closed)

Baseball

Wetlands
(no access)

Woods/Trails

Today

Feature	Today
Utility Field (behind Memorial School)	Yes (needs renovation)
Tennis	Yes (but closed)
Basketball	Yes (Usable but in rough shape)
Softball	Yes (non-regulation)
Little League Baseball	Yes
Wooded Trails	Yes
Skating Rink	Yes
Pump Track	Yes (needs maintenance)

What is a Phased Approach?

- Several smaller projects taken on as funding is available
- Concept Plan is meant to show locations
- Details are defined at the Phase level
- Phases are currently being defined
- Phases inform fundraising plan
- Will be seeking interest groups to work on each phase
- Public input and review for each phase
- Allow neighbors and community to help define character

How do we Define Character?

- Enhance the neighborhood and the community
- Source of pride for the neighborhood and community
- Provide a gathering place for neighborhood and community
- Mixed use – something for everyone... All generations.
- Aesthetically fit in with neighborhood and small town feel
- Inviting, Safe, Community oriented

NOTE: Images in this presentation DO NOT reflect actual designs. They are meant to show what is possible in terms of design and to serve as a guide to the kind of character we are looking for in the Park.

CONCEPT PLAN / PARK LAYOUT





Playground

- Landscaped
- Plenty of shade
- Areas to rest
- Avoid chain link
- Opportunity for unique design



Playground





Playground



Community Park





Community Park

- “Park within a Park”
- Designed Landscape
- Areas to rest
- Community Gardens

- Passive Area
- Possible synergy with future use of Memorial School





Community
Park





Wooded Trails

- Offset removal of existing Woods
- Leverage unutilized land





Accessible Paths



Field House

- Concessions, Storage, Bathrooms
- Design in keeping with local character





Community
Pavilion

- Common Area adjacent to Field House
- Fire Pit – All season use
- Picnic/Party/Gathering area



Community
Pavilion



Seasonal Skating Rink

- Adjacent to Field House and Pavilion
- Temporary structure



Amphitheatre



- Music, community theatre, education, scouts
- Natural look and feel
- Takes advantage of existing slope



Parking

- Landscaped
- Not just an open lot



Basketball



- Tight landscaping
- Lighting not part of Master Concept Plan

Tennis



Multi-use

- Volleyball
- Pickleball
- Lighting **not** part of Master Concept Plan





Baseball / Softball



Baseball / Softball



- Design structures in keeping with local character
- Lighting not part of Master Concept Plan.



Utility Field

- Local Youth Sports (Soccer, Lacrosse, etc)
- Local Adult Leagues (Frisbee, Flag Football)
- Other events
- Neighborhood play space
- Added Revenue Stream for maintenance
- Lighting not part of Master Concept Plan.



Dog Park



- Landscaped
- Plenty of Shade and seating
- NOT a square plot of dirt with chain link!

Pump Track



- Can be scoped and located in the future
- Special maintenance required so need to ensure volunteer help



Other Possibilities

- Gaga Pit
- Horseshoes
- Bocci



Borders and Berms



- Serve as visual and aural barrier
- Minimal use of Chain Link

Borders and Berms



Feature	Today	Future
Utility Field	Yes (needs renovation)	Yes
Tennis	Yes (but closed)	Yes
Basketball	Yes (Usable but in rough shape)	Yes
Softball	Yes (non-regulation)	Yes (regulation)
Little League Baseball	Yes	Yes
Wooded Trails	Yes	Yes
Skating Rink	Yes	Yes
Pump Track	Yes (needs maintenance)	Yes
Passive Park / Garden	No	Yes
Amphitheater	No	Yes
Playground	No	Yes
Dog Park	No	Yes
Accessible Paths	No	Yes
Field House and Community Pavilion	No	Yes
Picnic Areas	No	Yes
Ample and Modern Parking	No	Yes

CONCEPT PLAN / PARK PHASES

