



COUNTY of FREDERICK

Parks and Recreation Department

540/665-5678

Fax: 540/665-9687

E-mail: fcprd@fcva.us

www.fcprd.net

MEMO

To: Parks and Recreation Buildings and Grounds Committee
From: Jon Turkel, Assistant Director
Subject: Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting
Date: January 31, 2025

The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet at 10am on Tuesday February 4, 2024, in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 107 N. Kent Street, Winchester, VA 22601. The agenda is as follows:

Action Items:

None

Information items:

1. Project Updates

Other Business

1. Request for trail connection between Sherando Park trails and Cedar Meadows subdivision
Staff is seeking guidance on a request received for a trail connection at Sherando Park. A representative of Cedar Meadows subdivision, Mr. Daniel Pratt, is requesting a trail connection between Cedar Meadows and nearby Sherando Park trails. Attached is a copy of the correspondence, a map showing the area, and a mark-up showing the requested trail. (**Attachment 1**).
2. Abrams Creek Trail – Adjoining Landowner Feedback
Staff is updating the committee on public outreach and seeking guidance on input received.
On December 19, 2024, staff sent information letters to all adjoining property owners along the Abrams Creek Trail Phase I corridor. The purpose of the letter was to ensure that adjoining property owners were aware of the trail and had the opportunity to provide feedback while the project is in the design phase. Of the 41 letters sent, only one response was received. This was a phone call on January 24, 2025 from Mrs. Michelle Keenan. Mrs. Keenan expressed her interest in having the trail project abandoned or at a minimum having a barrier fence installed along the side of the trail. Mrs. Keenan cited concerns about trespassing, trash, wildlife, and illegal drug consumption. A copy of the letter, map of Mrs. Keenan's property location and boundary, and an image of the proposed trail corridor in the area. (**Attachment 2**)



'[External]'Cedar Meadows - Sherando Park Access

From Daniel Pratt <dlpratt123@aol.com>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 1:20 PM

To Jonathan Turkel <jturkel@fcva.us>

Cc Stacy Herbaugh <sherbaug@fcva.us>; Cory Smith <csmith@fcva.us>

 1 attachment (7 MB)

cedar.sherando.path_20250117_0001.jpg;

Hello Jon,

Thank you for the prompt response!

I've attached a suggested route for the path. It angles into the existing mountain bike path in such a way that cyclists are unlikely to misunderstand it as a bike path. Still, it might require a "NO BIKES" or directional sign.

The aerial view appears to be a few years old. Cedar Meadows has installed a tall white fence to replace one that was damaged. It's very easy to get around the fence a very short distance to the right, where one currently encounters a barbwire fence on relatively high ground. (To the left is lower ground that is often wet from pond overflow.) The path can begin there and proceed at right angles to the barbwire fence (which is parallel to the tall white fence here). I believe the trees have grown a fair bit, so if a new aerial view can be made, that would be advantageous.

Cedar Meadows is a 55+ community and residents may appreciate having future editions of your Master Plan map designate our pond as "PRIVATE RESIDENCES", similar to the existing designation for a tract to the west. Possibly you can consider not showing the new path on maps available to the public.

If the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is open to the public, I will try to attend in case there are any questions.

Dan Pratt

On Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 09:25:50 AM EST, Jonathan Turkel <jturkel@fcva.us> wrote:

Hello Daniel,

I appreciate you reaching out with the idea of a trail connection between Cedar Meadows and Sherando Park. Before moving this forward I'd like to ask for just a little more clarity on where exactly you are thinking of having this connection. Attached is an file with an image of both the Master Plan you referenced and an aerial view of the park. If you could mark up one of the images with the trail alignment you are thinking that would be great.

Also, requests like this are something we would typically take to the Parks and Recreation Buildings and Grounds committee for discussion, consideration, and approval. I think your timing is good as the next meeting is scheduled for the first week of February, with the agenda going out the week prior. If we can get the initial information together by the end of next week we can get this on the agenda.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Jon

Jon Turkel

Assistant Director

Frederick County Parks and Recreation

107 N. Kent Street

Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 722-8300

From: webmastr@enotify.visioninternet.com <webmastr@enotify.visioninternet.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 7:34 PM

To: fcprd <fcprd@fcva.us>

Subject: '[External]'Email from Frederick County Website

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Email Parks & Recreation

Date & Time: 01/14/2025 7:34 PM

Response #: 2408

Submitter ID: 90532

IP address: 2601:5cf:8381:ac70:526:4420:bd12:55a3

Time to complete: 21 min. , 59 sec.

Survey Details

Page 1

Frederick County uses the form below for email communications instead of traditional links within the pages due to the use of software on the internet which collects mail addresses from web pages to send unsolicited commercial email, or "spam". To better assist you, fields marked with an asterisk are required.

1. Your Name

Daniel Pratt

2. Your Email

DLPratt123@aol.com

3. Your Phone Number

540 866 2302 (email preferred)

4. Subject

Access to Sherando Park from Cedar Meadows

5. Message

I reside at 122 Bleeding Heart Drive in the Cedar Meadows community, which borders Sherando Park on the northeast. Our pond is clearly visible above Area 2 on the Master Plan for the North section. With the approval of the Cedar Meadows Homeowners Association's Board of Directors and enthusiastic support of many residents, I request that a pedestrian path be made from our pond to provide the residents here with direct access to the park.

The shortest useful path would proceed from the pond in a roughly south-southwesterly direction through a forested area, connecting with an existing mountain bike trail. No one in residence here has shown any interest in riding mountain bikes, so a path wide enough for two people to walk side-by-side would suffice. The path need not be a perfectly straight line and can certainly take advantage of certain existing gaps in the trees. A portion of barbwire fencing would have to be removed. (Eventually, according to the map, a Shared Use Trail is to be built. When it connects to Landgrant Road, some residents might want to ride bicycles on a paved surface. That would be a matter for a future Board of Directors to consider with you, when the time comes.)

When Cedar Meadows was formed two decades ago, an easement was given to Frederick County Parks & Recreation for park ingress/egress in precisely the desired spot. It will probably be best if the path is constructed only to the community border, giving parkgoers an additional clue that they have reached the boundary. Cedar Meadows itself is private property.

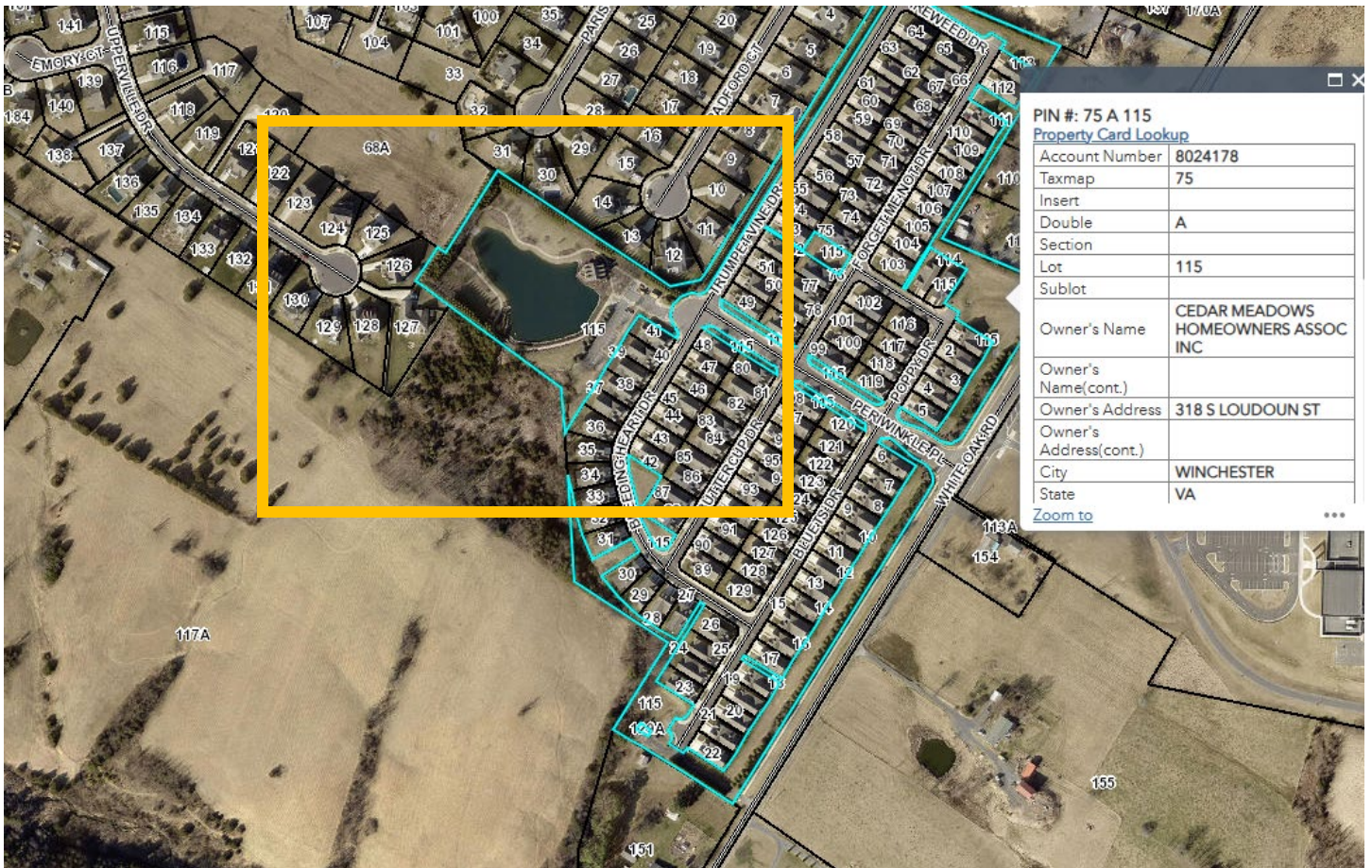
Please let me know whether you need additional information or wish to visit the pond. Many residents are eager to have this shortcut to the park by spring, if at all possible.

Daniel L Pratt

The County of Frederick respects your privacy. Other than as required by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act or as may be reasonably anticipated in connection with the conduct of the County business to which your communication relates, Frederick County does not disclose, sell, share or trade any information from communications sent to the County. Please note, though, that any written communication, including any e-mail message, sent to a public official and/or employee of Frederick County becomes a public document and may be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. This means that a copy of any such message could be requested by a citizen, or a member of the media, may be subject to disclosure, and if disclosed could be reprinted and/or used in a public forum by the requestor.

If you need immediate assistance or have questions about the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and its impact on this communication, please call (540) 665-5600.

Thank you,
Frederick County



December 16, 2024

[Landowner's Name]

[Landowner's Address]

[City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear [Landowner's Name],

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about an exciting development in our community that may directly affect your property. The Abrams Creek Trail project (see project vision on reverse side) is being planned, which will provide an opportunity for outdoor recreation in a unique part of Frederick County.

The project aims to create a multi-use trail in the Abrams Creek corridor. This trail is designed to benefit residents and visitors alike by offering a safe and scenic path for walking, cycling, and other recreational activities while encouraging a healthier lifestyle within the community.

As your property is adjacent to the proposed trail route, we would like to ensure that you are fully informed about the project and have an opportunity to provide feedback. We understand that you may have concerns about the impact this development may have, and we are committed to addressing any questions or concerns.

We are currently planning Phase I of this three phase project and are exploring the best ways to design and implement the trail while minimizing disruption to the surrounding landowners. We are interested in your feedback and have set up a detailed information and comment page on the Parks and Recreation website: fcprd.net, "Parks & Facilities", "Abrams Creek Trail."

Additionally, if you have any initial thoughts, questions, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me directly at (540) 722-8300 or jturkel@fcva.us. Your feedback is invaluable to ensure this project benefits everyone involved.


Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to working with you and keeping you informed as the project progresses.


Sincerely,

Jon Turkel
Assistant Director

ABRAMS CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL

3 Phase Development Plan

Phase I: 

Phase II: 

Phase III: 