

**Open Space  
Presentation  
to Council**

September 9, 2013



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## Background

November 4, 2003 Referendum passed with a vote of 2001 YES and 1018 NO.

### *Public Question*

Shall the Borough Council of the Borough of Madison adopt an ordinance establishing an "Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund," which shall have the following provisions:

1. The "Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund" shall be funded through the collection of local property taxes in the amount of two cents (\$0.02) per \$100 of assessed property value.
2. Said fund shall be designated for the purposes of acquiring and maintaining property or easements within the Borough of Madison and surrounding municipalities for the purpose of open space and historic preservation, natural resources protection, and the addition of active and passive recreation lands.
3. Any property or easement purchased by the "Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund" shall not be sold or conveyed unless and until authorized by binding Public Referendum.



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

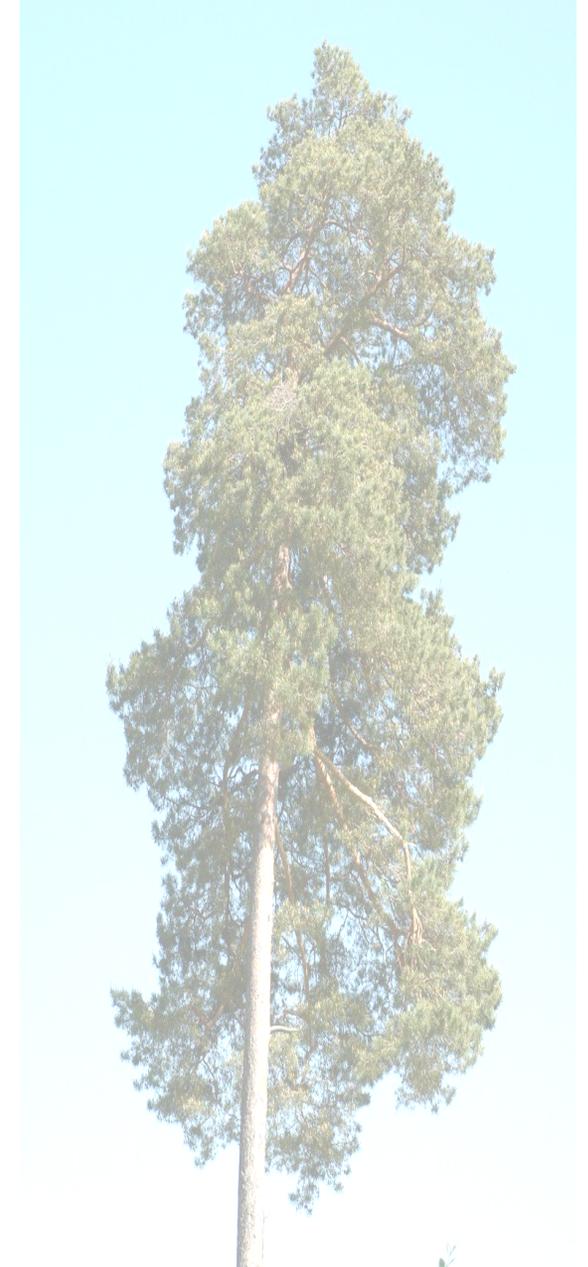
## Committee

Ordinance 54-2004 established the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Advisory Committee as follows:

Committee of ten members:

- 1 Member from Council
- 1 Member from the Recreation Advisory Committee
- 1 Member of the Environmental Commission
- 1 Member from the Planning Board
- 1 Member from the Historic Preservation Commission
- 1 Member from the Parks Advisory Committee
- 4 Members who are residents of the Borough

Hold a minimum of 6 public meetings annually



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## Committee (cont)

### Purpose and Responsibilities

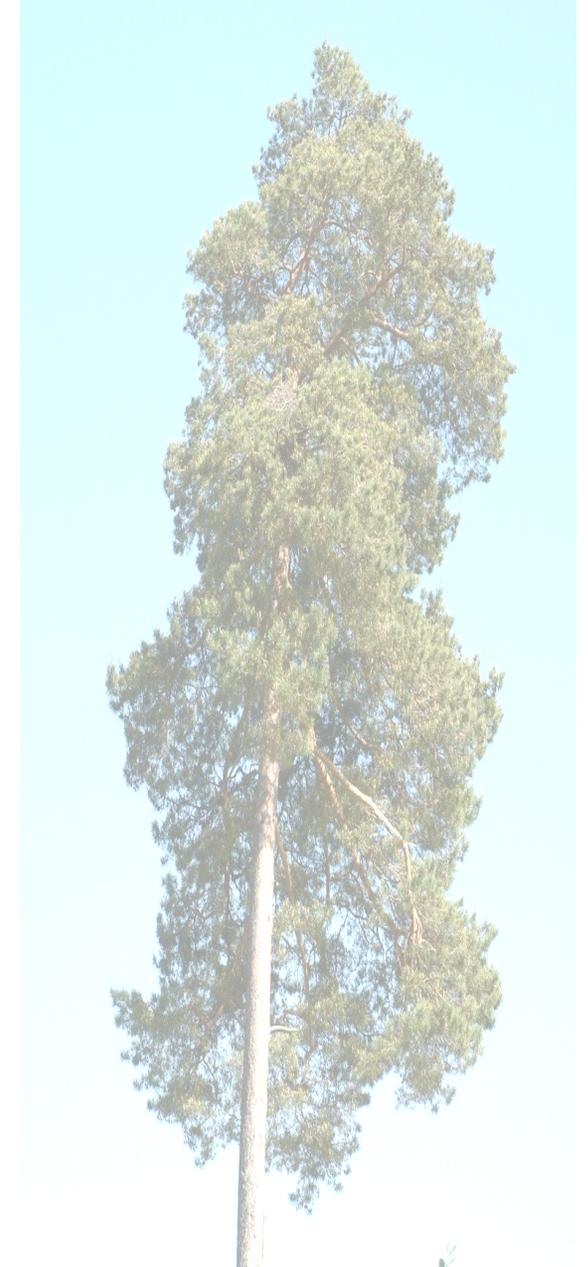
To make recommendations to Mayor and Council regarding the Open Space and Recreation Plan, to increase and maintain public interest and support for the plan, and to advise on issues relating to use, preservation and acquisition of open space,

To make recommendations to Mayor and Council as to properties to be acquired or otherwise protected,

To prioritize acquisitions and recommend the method of acquisition or preservation,

To recommend that the Mayor and Council apply for County, State and non-profit foundation grants to supplement the trust fund,

To interact with other boards, commissions, committees and groups to obtain input for development of the Open Space program



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## 2013 Committee Activity/Meetings

1. Reviewed and updated list of eligible properties available in Madison and along our borders
2. Completed financial review of Open Space Trust Fund
3. Developed Open Space Fund Request Form
4. Identified projects for possible Open Space Trust Fund contributions. To date, the committee has recommended to the Council the use of the Fund for Bayley-Ellard improvements and the Cole Park fountain repairs. In October, the Committee will be recommending \$125,000 for the first phase of the Museum of Early Trades & Crafts capital project.
5. Participated in the 2013 Green Fair.
6. Participating in the MRC Master Plan Advisory Committee.
7. In discussion with the Morris County Park Commission to extend a walking trail from Bayley Ellard and the Traction Line down Danforth across Park Avenue to the MRC.



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## 2013 Open Space Trust Fund Activity

<b>Beginning Balance as of 1/1/13</b>				<b>\$343,895.00</b>
<b><u>INFLOWS</u></b>				
State Green Acres Funds		\$1,592,000.00		
Madison Athletic Foundation		\$157,488.00		
Tax Levy		\$610,450.00		
Field Rentals and User Fees		\$39,475.00		
		<b>total</b>		<b>\$2,399,413.00</b>
<b><u>OUTFLOWS</u></b>				
Principle on note			-\$130,000.00	
Interest on notes			-\$185,211.00	
Debt Repayment			-\$1,692,000.00	
Community Garden			-\$9,357.00	
Environmental Expenses MRC & BE			-\$88,886.00	
Bayley Ellard Field Remediation/Parking Lot			-\$350,000.00	
Cole Park Fountain Repair			-\$8,000.00	
		<b>total</b>		<b>-\$2,463,454.00</b>
<b>Ending Balance as of 9/9/13</b>				<b>\$279,854.00</b>



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## 2013 MRC Debt Repayment & Refinancing

Original Land Acquisition	\$13,050,000
Original Turf Field Cost	\$3,500,000
Debt on land on 1/1/13	\$4,480,000
Debt on turf on 1/1/13	<u>\$3,263,000</u>
Total Debt	\$7,743,000

### August debt repayment & refinancing

Reduce debt on land	- \$1,592,000
Reduce debt on turf	- \$100,000
Long Term Bond on land	\$2,880,000
Long Term Bond on turf	\$1,263,000
Short term note on turf	<u>\$1,900,000</u>
Total Debt	\$6,043,000



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## Potential Future Projects

1. Ongoing capital project for Museum of Early Trades & Crafts
2. Bayley Ellard field improvements including seeding, bathrooms, a concession stand and seating.
3. Site improvements at the MRC including additional parking on the north side; MRC Trail Grant match per resolution; MRC paving and trench drain; south side remediation; rain garden upgrades; plantings at the turf fields; score boards and bleachers.
4. Rebuild nature hut at Rosedale Memorial Field



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

## Open Space Trust Fund Projections

From 2004 - 2012, the Open Space tax generated approximately \$420,000 annually for projects. After the MRC debt financing, the Open Space tax will generate approximately \$260,000 net available for projects (\$610,000 – 350,000).

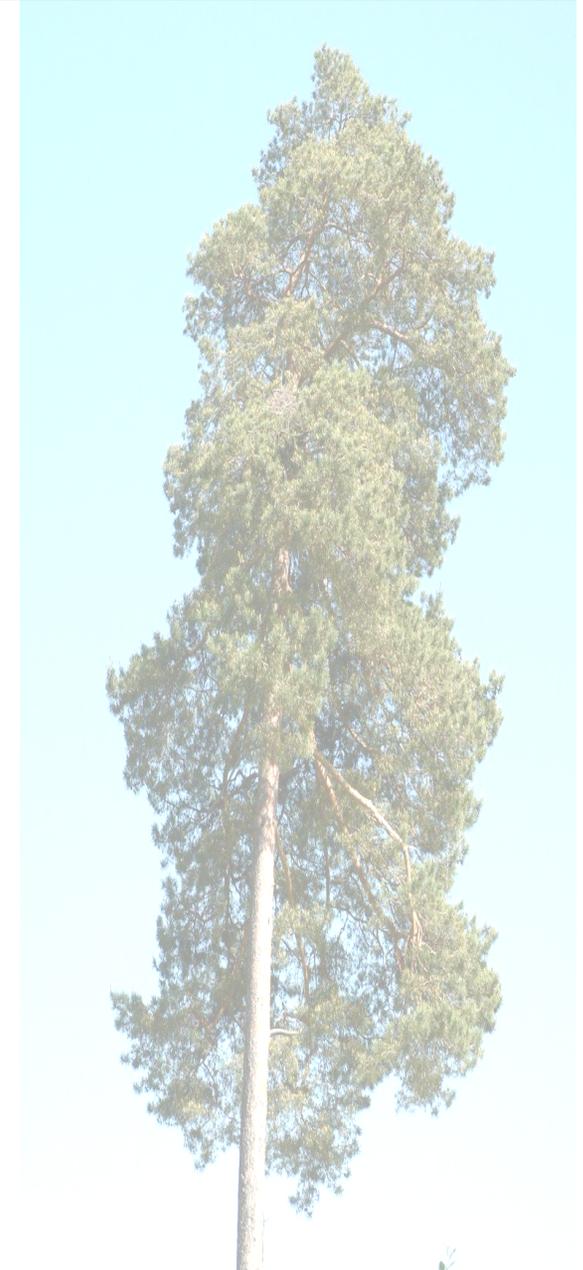
### 2014

MRC Debt Payment	\$349,830
MRC Note Interest	\$19,000
MRC Turf Note Principle Pmnt	\$114,932
MRC Trail Grant Match	\$18,500
METC	\$125,000
MRC Paving and Drainage	<u>\$90,000</u>
	\$717,262

### 2015

MRC Debt Payment	\$345,230
MRC Turf Note Principle Pmnt	\$114,932
METC	<u>\$100,000</u>
	\$560,162

Open Space Tax is expected to generate approximately \$610,000 annually.



# Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation

**Questions?**

