

Dry Runs for Eatontown Walks

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1 Walking Routes

1.1 Leon Smock (80 Acres Park)

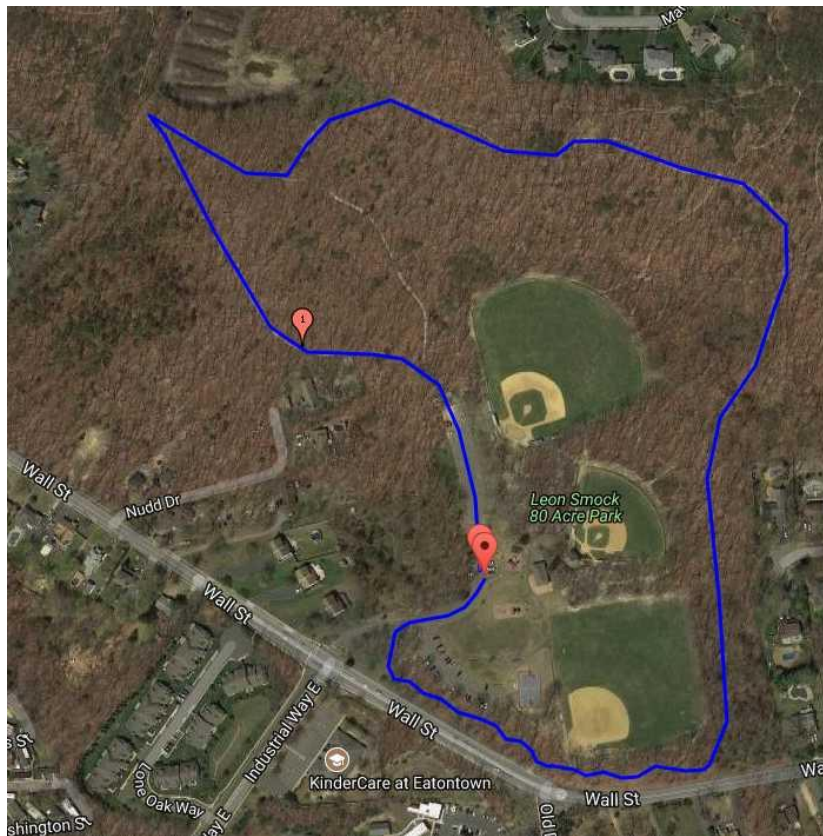
Date / Time: 5 December 2017, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Attendance: Janice Grasso, Virginia East, Erik Brachman, Stephen Fratini

Apologies: Candace Faust

The walk started in the parking lot and went counterclockwise around the outside perimeter of the park (mainly on the Green trail). Janice recorded the distance at around 1.57 miles but there were a few “detours.” Without the detours, the walk is around 1.15 miles.

See a trace of the path at <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7175328> and below



Janice noted that there is also a well-marked and measured interior trail of exactly 1 mile. This would be another possibility for the walk.

The plan is to do the walk before the egg hunt on March 24, 2018. The bathroom facilities will be open at this time of year.

1.2 F. Bliss Price Arboretum to Wampum Lake and back

Date / Time: 9 December 2017, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

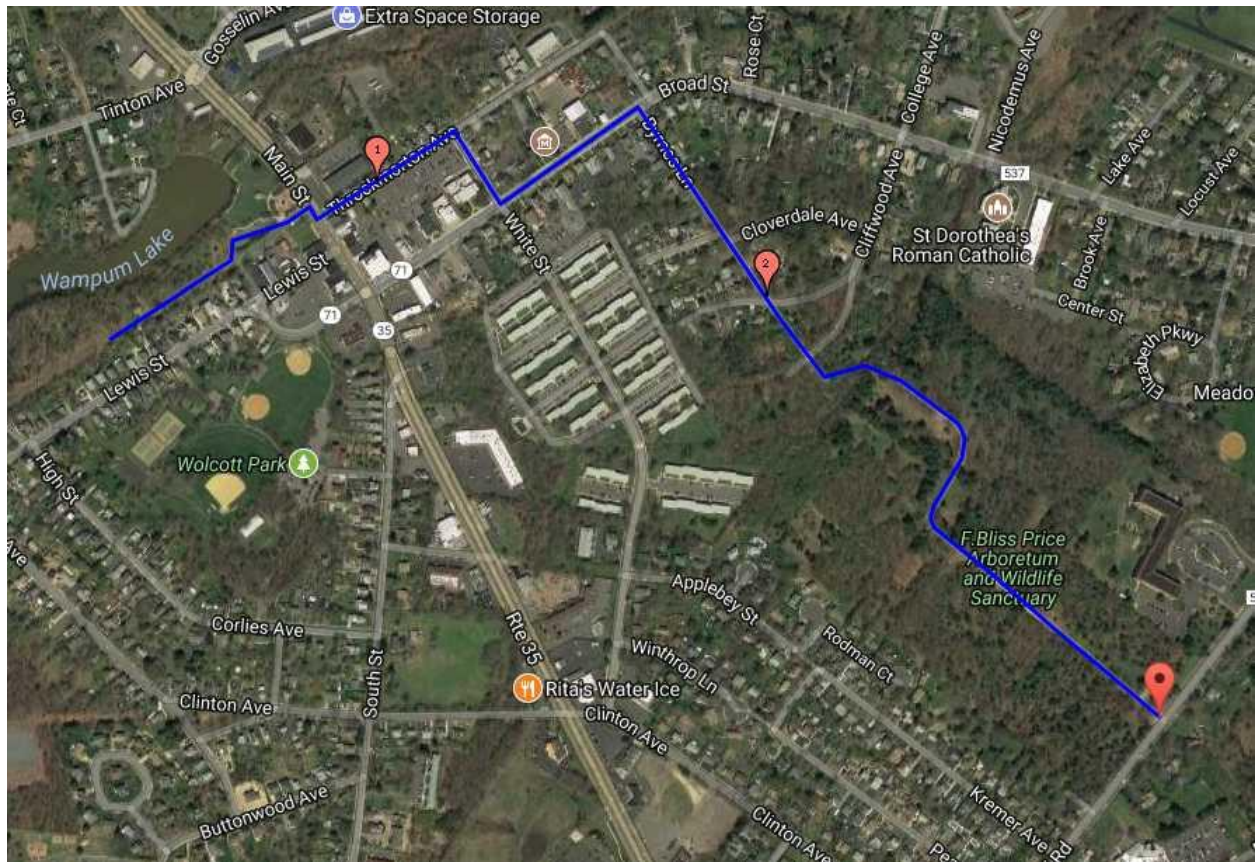
Attendance: Virginia East, Stephen Fratini

Apologies: Candace Faust, Janice Grasso, Erik Brachman

The walk started in the arboretum parking lot and proceeded Northwest through the arboretum and exiting at Byrnes Lane. We then proceed along Broad Street to the borough hall and then to Throckmorton Ave, crossed Route 35 and then into Wampum Lake park. We then retraced our trail back to the start. Round trip is about 2.5 miles.

- Noted that there is a bathroom at the exit of the arboretum unto Byrnes Lane, bathrooms at borough hall and at Wampum Lake.
- The parking lot at the arboretum may be too small if we get a good turn-out. We could allow for parking on the grass next to the parking lot and use the parking lot next to the Meadowbrook school playfields. Another option is to start the walk at borough hall.
- It might be nice to add a visit to the Eatontown Museum as part of the walk.
- Steve and Virginia both thought the trail along Wampum Lake need further work before using this for an organized work. There is some good potential here – perhaps a biking / walking path (gravel or even blacktop).
- Recommend a marked crossing between North and South side of Broad St. somewhere around borough hall.

See the route at <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7175334> and below:



1.3 Woodmere

Date / Time: 27 January 2018, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Attendance: Candace Faust, Stephen Fratini

Apologies: Janice Grasso, Virginia East, Erik Brachman

The route is about 2.7 miles, with several small hills. It starts and ends at the Woodmere Elementary School.

The street along the route is very wide and would make a good candidate for a bike path.

This may also be a good route in the hot summer months because of the shade from trees along much of the path.

The sidewalk is narrow and you pretty much need to walk single file. Car traffic is very light.

There are a few hilly areas which would make the path difficult for those in a wheelchair if unmotorized. In any event, others should be able to help.

Areas in need of handicap crossings at the following intersections:

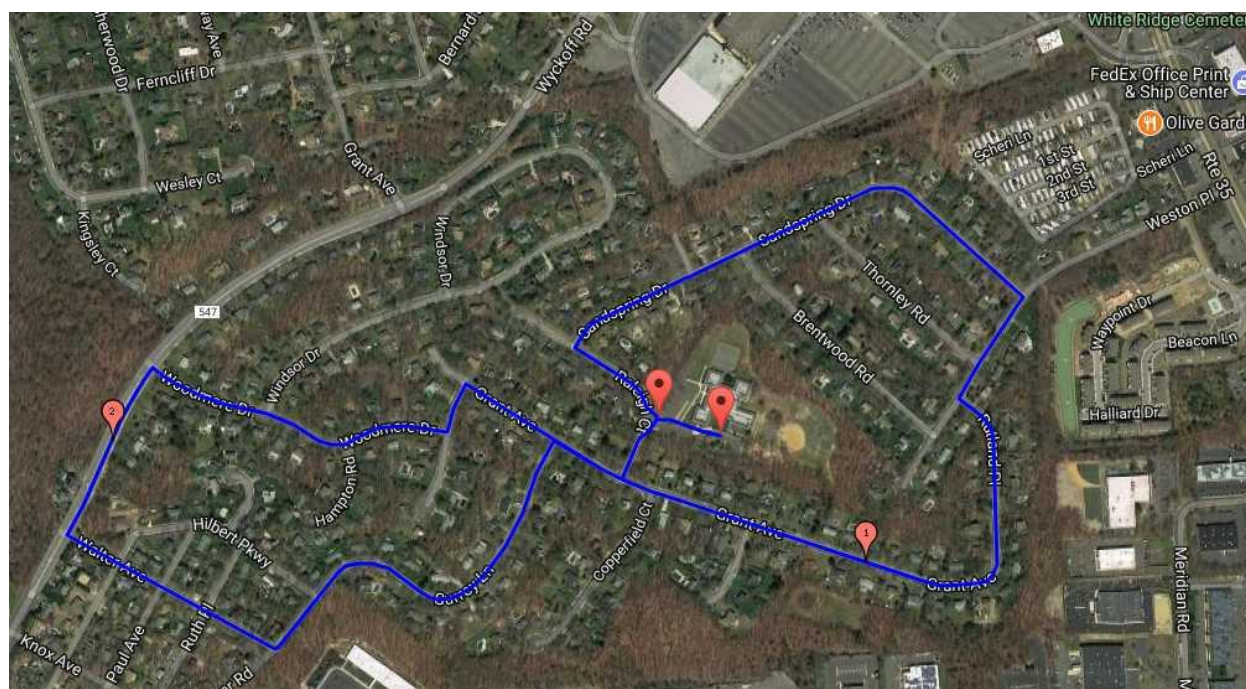
- Fieldstone and Grant, Old Shark River and Grant, Surrey and Grant, Raleigh and Grant

Walter Ave. (between Cortland St. and Wyckoff Rd.) – need to add a sidewalk at this corner. Would be nice to add a planter and bench (assuming this area belongs to Eatontown).

There is no sidewalk on Shark River Rd. going Southwest from the intersection at Walter Ave.

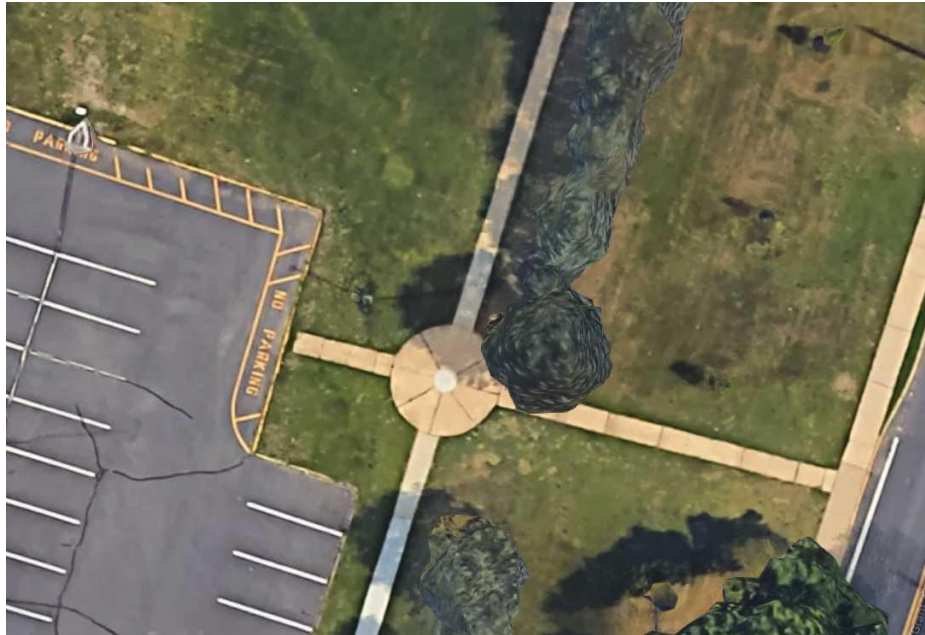
Does anyone know who owns the property (large wooded lot) across from Wyckoff/Woodmere? This borders Route 18 (so perhaps it is owned by the state of NJ). This would make a nice park.

See the route at <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7185790> and below:



- Continue the walkway in front of the tot park (within Wolcott Park). Right now, to get from one loop to the other (near the tot park), you need to take a V-shaped route (not good for bicycles or runners)
- Patchwork is needed on the path by the tennis courts. Perhaps makes this wider for work vehicles (presently, the work vehicles are making burrows in the dirt next to the path).
- Franklin presently has no sidewalk but is wide enough for one to be installed

- Add crossing striping, cobblestone, etc. at the Clinton / Maple triangle
- (regarding the walk itself) incorporate a stop at Triangle Park
- The sidewalk at 61 Buttonwood is raised – 4 inches very large
- Buttonwood/Carolyn over grown trees and bushes into sidewalk
- At exit from Vetter school, the sidewalk is falling apart
- When doing this walk, use the far-end parking lot (next to Memorial Middle School) as a way to get to the playing fields in the back
- Regarding the playing fields behind Memorial Middle School, the walkway should be extended all the way back to the fields and around the total field for walkability
- Geese droppings are a problem with the playing fields at Memorial Middle School (Note: consult with S. Carpenter on ways to make this less problematic)
- There are two paths (behind Memorial and Vetter) that once connected old Fort housing to school. These are now blocked off. Suggest that, at some point, these paths be reopened.
- Near the old flagpole entrance to parking lot, there is no handicap accessibility (as shown in the photo below).



1.5 Roundtrip from Husky Brook Park

Date / Time: 4 March 2018, 10:00 AM – 11:10 AM

Attendance: Candace Faust, Virginia East, Anthony Talerico (first part of walk), Stephen Fratini

Apologies: None

Four of us (listed above) first walked around the Husky Brook trail (shown below and at <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7206843>). This is about .85 miles.

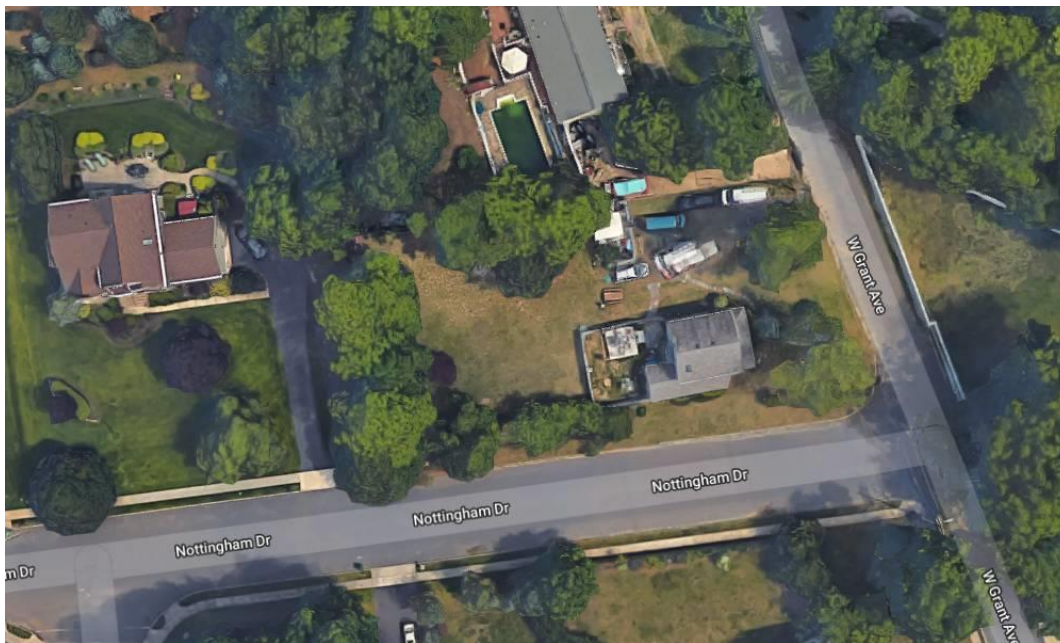


Anthony needed to leave after the initial trail walk. Candace, Virginia and Steve then did the walk shown below but we started along West Grant.

The route for this part of the walk would make for a good bike path (streets are wide and very few cars).

Identified Issues:

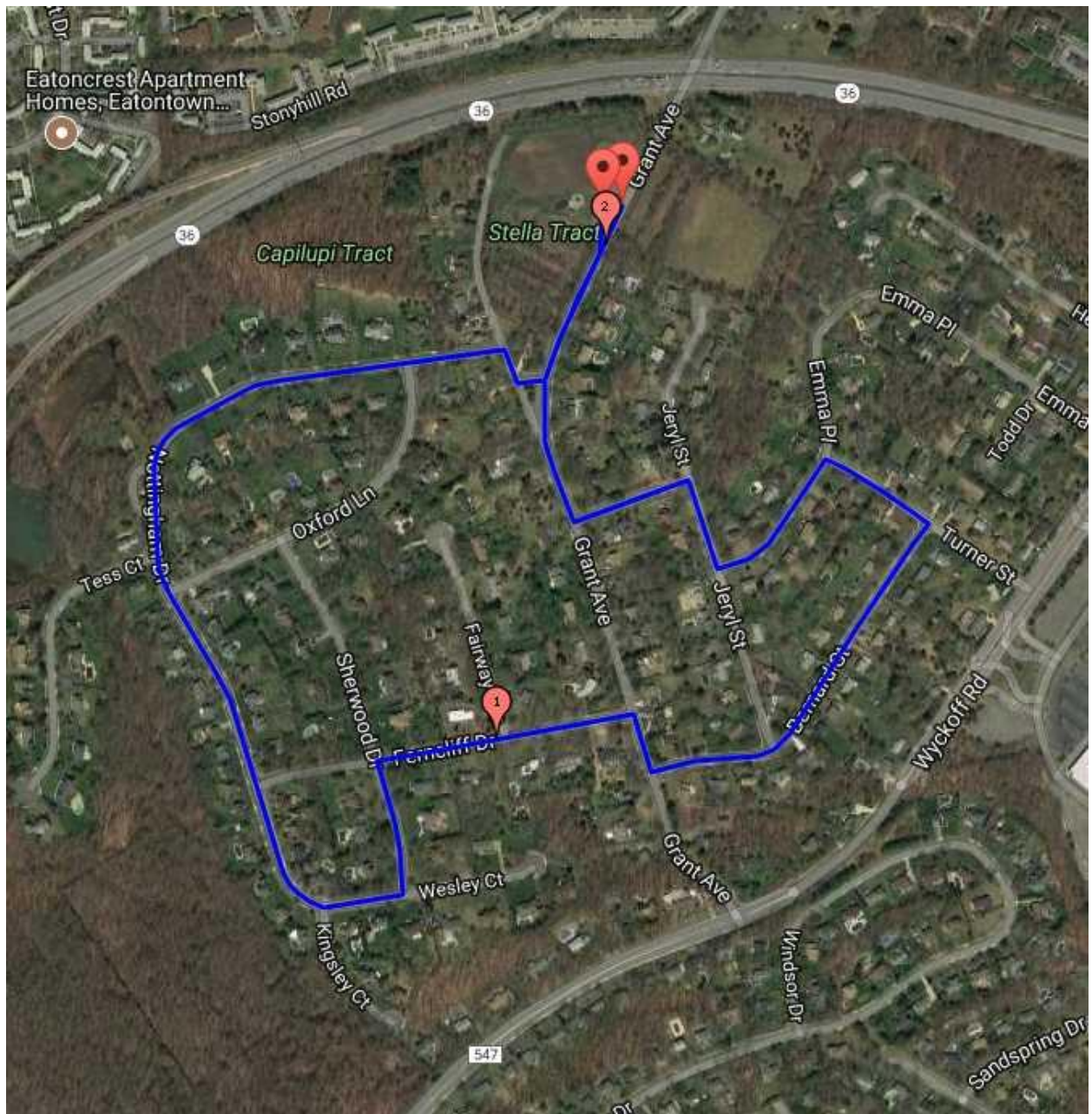
- There is an issue with parking (only about 10 spaces). This would need to be increased before any community walk. Anthony noted that it may be possible to add more parking on the other side of East Grant near the community garden.
- Extend Nottingham sidewalk to intersection of Nottingham and Grant (see missing sidewalk in figure below):



- Raised sidewalk at 133 Nottingham needs to be fixed
- Raised sidewalk at 33 and 51 Emma Pl - sidewalk raised
- Repaint crossing at Community garden and Husky Brook park.

This route shown below is about 2 miles (roundtrip). If we include the Husky Brook trail, that would be another .85 miles.

See the route at <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7185796> and below:



1.6 Historic Route

Date / Time: 21 April 2018, 6 PM – 7:15 PM

Attendance: Candace Faust, Virginia East, Kevin Halversen, Barbara Denegar, Joe Calandra, Don Griffiths, Stephen Fratini

Apologies: None

This route is about 2.15 miles (roundtrip).

The URL for this route is <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=7229113>

Start in the Borough Hall parking lot and proceed East along Broad Street until Watson Pl. At this point, turn around and follow Broad St. to the intersection with Route 35 and then turn around again (to return to the Borough Hall parking lot).

Notes about the route:

- Joe offered to update the brochure concerning the Eatontown Historic Route to include more detailed directions and to add some other points of interest (mostly homes).
- Several of the walkers recommended that a crossing be placed just East of the intersection of White St. and Broad St. (perhaps near the Eatontown Historic Museum).
- Steve suggested that we should eventually put a bike / walking path from Broad St. to Fort Monmouth. Virginia noted that there was a prior agreement not to open-up Nicodemus Ave. [Editor's note: this would be ideal for a bike / walking path.]
- Need to trim-back the hedges between Eatontown Borough Hall and St. James' Church
- Welsh Farms sidewalk: area near water-meter is damaged (requires repair)
- Loose gravel and blacktop by Nicodemus Ave. (at side entrance to Fort Monmouth)
- The entire block after the Nicodemus sidewalk (going East) needs to be cleared of dirt and overgrowth. Currently, there is a very small path for walking.
- Sidewalk repair is needed at 261 Broad Street.
- On both sides of Broad street, there are several areas that need attention concerning cracks and chips in the sidewalk, and clearing of overgrowth onto the sidewalk.
- At 234 Broad Street, pole / water-line / sidewalk – issue with vines
- Small sinkhole on sidewalk near house at the intersection of Irving Pl. and Broad Street needs to be fixed
- St. Dorothea's u-shaped entrance: damage to sidewalk and curbing
- Bridge / sidewalk over brook (next to St. Dorothea's): the sidewalk raised
- At 24 Broad Street, there is a hole by the driveway.
- There is no crossing-light button to cross Broad Street by the 7-11

2 Summary of Suggested Improvements

- Within Eatontown Parks, Playing Fields and Schools
 - Clear trail along old railroad tracks (just South of Wampum Lake)
 - Suggest gravel or asphalt (would allow for easier bicycle access)
 - (Wolcott Park) Continue the walkway in front of the tot park Right now, to get from one loop to the other (near the tot park), you need to take a V-shaped route (not good for bicycles or runners)
 - (Wolcott Park) Patchwork is needed on the path by the tennis courts. Perhaps makes this wider for work vehicles (presently, the work vehicles are making burrows in the dirt next to the path).
 - Geese droppings are a problem with the playing fields at Memorial Middle School (Note: consult with S. Carpenter on ways to make this less problematic)
 - Regarding the playing fields behind Memorial Middle School, the walkway should be extended all the way back to the fields and around the total field for walkability
 - There are two paths (behind Memorial and Vetter) that once connected old Fort housing to school. These are now blocked off. Suggest that, at some point, these paths be reopened.
 - There is an issue with parking (only about 10 spaces). This would need to be increased before any community walk. It may be possible to add more parking on the other side of East Grant near the community garden.
- Street Crossings
 - Add marked crossing on Broad St. near Eatontown Borough Hall. In particular, it is recommended that the crossing be placed just East of the intersection of White St. and Broad St. (perhaps near the Eatontown Historic Museum).
 - Concerning the Woodmere walk, areas in need of handicap crossings at the following intersections:
 - Fieldstone and Grant
 - Old Shark River and Grant
 - Surrey and Grant
 - Raleigh and Grant
 - Add crossing striping, cobblestone, etc. at the Clinton / Maple triangle. This might require several marked crossings. Right now, there is none.
 - Repaint crossing at Community garden and Husky Brook park.
 - There is no crossing-light button to cross Broad Street by the 7-11
- Bicycle Paths
 - Concerning the Woodmere walk, the street along the route is very wide and would make a good candidate for a bike path.
- Missing Sidewalks
 - Walter Ave. (between Cortland St. and Wyckoff Rd.) – need to add a sidewalk at this corner. Would be nice to add a planter and bench (assuming this area belongs to Eatontown).

- There is no sidewalk on Shark River Rd. going Southwest from the intersection at Walter Ave.
- Franklin Ave. (just South of Wolcott Park) has no sidewalk but is wide enough for one to be installed
- Extend Nottingham sidewalk to intersection of Nottingham and Grant
- Damaged Sidewalks
 - The sidewalk at 61 Buttonwood is raised (4 inches very large). There is also some damage to the sidewalk.
 - On Grant between Buttonwood Ave. and Carolyn Ct., the trees and bushes are overgrown and blocking most of the sidewalk.
 - At exit from Vetter school, the sidewalk is falling apart (need to check exact location of this)
 - Raised sidewalk at 133 Nottingham needs to be fixed
 - Raised sidewalk at 33 and 51 Emma Pl - sidewalk raised
 - Need to trim-back the hedges between Eatontown Borough Hall and St. James' Church
 - Welsh Farms sidewalk: area near water-meter is damaged (requires repair)
 - Loose gravel and blacktop by Nicodemus Ave. (at side entrance to Fort Monmouth)
 - The entire block after the Nicodemus sidewalk (going East) needs to be cleared of dirt and overgrowth. Currently, there is a very small path for walking.
 - Sidewalk repair is needed at 261 Broad Street.
 - On both sides of Broad street, there are several areas that need attention concerning cracks and chips in the sidewalk, and clearing of overgrowth onto the sidewalk.
 - At 234 Broad Street, pole / water-line / sidewalk – issue with vines
 - Small sinkhole on sidewalk near house at the intersection of Irving Pl. and Broad Street needs to be fixed
 - St. Dorothea's u-shaped entrance: damage to sidewalk and curbing
 - Bridge / sidewalk over brook (next to St. Dorothea's): the sidewalk raised
 - At 24 Broad Street, there is a hole by the driveway.
- Handicap Access
 - Near the old flagpole entrance to the Vetter school parking lot, there is no handicap accessibility.