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**Wilson Park Task Force Report**  
**Executive Summary**  
**Presented to the City of Summit**  
**Common Council**  
**July 1, 2008**

JUN 25 2008

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
SUMMIT, N.J.

The Wilson Park Task Force, formed by a resolution of the City of Summit Common Council on November 7, 2007 has completed their mission and has met their seven goals and responsibilities. Their findings are as follows:

Wilson Park is a well used, well loved treasure in the City of Summit and should be preserved for future generations to enjoy in a safe, relaxed and pastoral neighborhood setting. There is no desire to change the use, profile or culture that has evolved over the years at Wilson Park. The overwhelming interest is in the total rehabilitation of the ball field, upgrades and improvements to the current amenities and the preservation of the current atmosphere.

The Wilson Park Task Force makes the following recommendations to the City of Summit Common Council:

- The total estimated cost of the requested improvements to Wilson Park is \$750,000. This estimate was made with the concept that additional funding would come from public/private partnerships and the volunteer efforts of local community groups and sports organizations.
- The Wilson Park Task Force also recommends a two phase approach to the project. The first phase would involve the rehabilitation of the sports field, with the second phase involving all other amenities within Wilson Park.
- The total rehabilitation of the ball field should be included in the Capital Improvement Plan for 2008. The list of recommended improvements can be found in the body of this report. These improvements are seasonal in nature and should be timed to keep the fields open for play if possible. Estimated cost: \$500,000.
- A previous Capital Improvement allocation of \$50,000 should be earmarked for this phase, bringing the first phase Capital Improvement Plan request to \$450,000.

- The recommended improvements to the park amenities include but should not be limited to the playground, basketball courts, platform tennis courts, restrooms, walkways, trails, parking and "Art Park" enhancements. This list would represent the second phase of the project, and should be included in the 2009 Capital Improvement Plan.
- The second phase of the project requires further research, observation and community consensus building. The opening of the Wilson Primary Center and its impact on the parking, traffic and park usage still remains to be seen.
- There was an interest among members of the Wilson Park Task Force and members of the neighborhood in a one way entrance into the park from Springfield Avenue. This issue has been explored in the past and was found to be cost prohibitive. More discussion may be required prior to planning for this portion of the park. However, the cost of such an entrance should not jeopardize the improvements to the park.
- There are several outstanding issues related to the portions of the park closest to the Wilson Primary Center that still need time for resolution. These are details within the body of the report.

## **The Wilson Park Task Force Report**

In the spring of 1974, the Summit Board of Recreation proposed the recreational development of Wilson Park adjacent to the then, new Wilson School. The plan included six tennis courts, four paddle courts, a basketball court and baseball/sports field. At that time, it was enthusiastically received. In August 1975 it was dedicated and opened for use by Summit residents and has been well used and well loved to this day.

Since the dedication of Wilson Park, many changes have occurred with the passage of time including the closing of Wilson School, the leasing of the property to local non profit organizations and the transformation of the Wilson School facility into a Primary Center and Board of Education offices in 2008.

Throughout these 34 years, with all of the changes in the City of Summit and the Board of Recreation, the one thing that has been consistent is the fact that this park is well used, well loved and in need of improvements. Although there have been some annual improvements and additional new uses like the “Art Park”, Wilson Park remains a popular neighborhood park that serves the immediate neighborhood and provides active and passive recreation for residents throughout the City of Summit.

Recognizing these facts and the future needs of Wilson Park that may be influenced by the new Wilson Primary Center and Board of Education properties, this was the time to take a comprehensive look at this wonderful City asset.

### **The Wilson Park Task Force**

On November 7, 2007, a resolution was adopted by the Common Council for the establishment of the Wilson Park Task Force based on the following factors:

1. There have been expressions of interest from local non profit organizations to participate in improvements to the fields
2. Wilson Park now includes an “Art Park” as one of the park’s attractions
3. The Wilson School building renovation project is nearing completion and will have an impact of the park visitors and its neighbors.

The mission of the Wilson Park Task Force is to examine the current uses for Wilson Park, consider the possibilities of public/private partnerships to fund and expedite improvements and to solicit community consensus on such improvements.

Seven goals were set for the Task Force that included, but were not limited to:

1. Establish the needs of sports organizations and scholastic teams that use Wilson Park
2. Examine ways to make the "Art Park" more compatible with park users and neighbors
3. Research and recommend other active and passive uses for Wilson Park
4. Study parking and traffic impact on Wilson Park and the neighboring area
5. Discuss the Wilson School needs and scheduling impact of the school
6. Explore the concept of public/private partnerships for funding construction
7. Consider the rest room usage and any need for other support buildings and storage

Responsibilities were also defined for the Wilson Park Task Force as follows:

1. Perform the tasks necessary to address the Task Force Mission and Goals
2. Conduct a neighborhood meeting to review the Task Force findings and gather community consensus
3. Make a presentation of findings to the Mayor and Common Council for consideration

| <b><i>Representing: (voting)</i></b>                          | <b><i>Names</i></b>              |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Department of Community Programs-Director (Chair)*            | Judith Leblein Josephs           |
| Department of Community Services-Director*                    | Beth Kinney                      |
| Board of Education – Administrator *                          | Louis J. Pepe/Roger Jarman       |
| Council General Services Representative*                      | Ellen Dickson                    |
| Neighborhood Representatives (2) *                            | George Klacik<br>William Carey   |
| Community Programs Advisory Board – Chairperson or Designee * | Debbie Crisfield for Diana Rosen |
| Summit Junior Baseball  | Rich Apostolik                   |
| Summit Soccer Club  | Dan Confalone/Patty McDonald     |
| Summit Area YMCA  | Tim Weidman                      |
| Mayor's Arts Committee  | Michael Tcheyan                  |
| Summit Area Chapter- American Red Cross                       | Christine C. Hodde               |
|   |                                  |
| <b><i>Staff for technical assistance (non voting)</i></b>     | <b><i>Names</i></b>              |
| Department of Community Programs – Assistant Director         | Mark Ozoroski                    |
| Joint Fields Committee  | Paul Cascais                     |
| City of Summit – Treasurer                                    | Ron Angelo                       |
| Board of Education – Director of Athletics                    | Mike Sandor                      |
| Summit Police Department – Traffic Division                   | Lt. John Dougherty               |

### ***(\*) Steering Committee Members***

Six members of the Wilson Park Task Force will comprise the Steering Committee. In that capacity, they will be charged with formulating all recommendations of the Wilson Park Task Force to the Common Council.

### ***Timeline***

The Wilson Park Task Force will begin its work upon being fully populated and will present its findings to the Mayor and Common Council not later than 120 days from the first meeting. This timeline may be adjusted by the Mayor and Common Council should further research and investigation be deemed necessary.

### **Meetings of the Wilson Park Task Force**

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Organizational Meeting and Workshop                 | Thursday, January 24, 2008 |
| Field Use Meeting (Working Group)                   | Friday, February 1, 2008   |
| Task Force Working Meeting-                         | February 11, 2008          |
| Neighborhood Meeting Planning (Working Group)       | April 9, 2008              |
| Neighbor's Meeting                                  | May 7, 2008                |
| Task Force Meeting – Review Draft Report & Finalize | June 19, 2008              |
| Task Force Presentation to Common Council           | July 1, 2008               |

### **Neighborhood Input**

The primary concern throughout the Wilson Park Task Force's work was the collection of input, information and comments from the neighborhood. Recognizing this concern, George Klacik, Neighborhood Representative hand delivered a letter to 61 homes around Wilson Park to gather their thoughts to be able to properly represent their concerns. The responses to those letters were compiled by Mr. Klacik and used throughout this process. The responses are attached to this document.

Bill Carey, Neighborhood Representative reached out personally to the neighbors directly across from the "Art Park" to solicit their input on the "Art Park". He reported back to the full Task Force.

From the inception of the Wilson Park Task Force, plans were made for a Neighborhood Meeting to discuss the research and potential recommendations. Working with George Klacik and Bill Carey, plans were made for a forum that would allow for interaction with the neighbors, a briefing and an evaluation instrument. This meeting was held on May 7, 2008 at the Board of Education Offices. The input gathered at that meeting will be found later in this report.

Meeting notices were delivered by first class mail to all residents within 400' of Wilson School/Wilson Park.

### **Press Coverage/ Public Outreach**

Press coverage of the creation of the Wilson Park Task Force was found in both the Independent Press the Observer and at [www.cityofsummit.org](http://www.cityofsummit.org)

Announcement of the Neighbor's Meeting appeared in the Independent Press, Observer and [www.cityofsummit.org](http://www.cityofsummit.org)

### **Participating Organizations Provide Input**

Following the January 24, 2008 meeting, organizations participating in the process were asked to submit their recommendations and concerns related to the park. The American Red Cross, Colonial Crossroads Chapter and Summit Junior Baseball submitted written comments. Those comments were discussed and are included later in this report. Each participating organization was represented by either the President or their appointee.

### **Immediate Concerns & Action Taken**

#### **Parking Problems – Sunday Soccer**

Based on input from the neighbors, there was an immediate concern over parking and congestion on Oakley Avenue, in particular on Sundays. This problem was attributed to the YMCA Soccer program's permitted time on the Soccer Field. Tim Weidman of the YMCA met with Mark Ozoroski, Assistant Director of DCP to find alternative fields for both spring and soccer requests from the YMCA.

#### ***Solutions***

1. The City will make every attempt to provide two fields in the fall for the YMCA's soccer program to alleviate the parking congestion around Wilson Park.
2. They YMCA will make every effort to utilize fields in other towns such as Millburn or New Providence, as their program is regional.
3. When utilizing Wilson Park, the YMCA will make every effort to encourage participants to park in the parking lots at Wilson Park and not in the neighborhood.

#### **Board of Education Issues – Parking and Park Use**

Judith Leblein Josephs, Director of the Department of Community Programs met with Paul Griggs, past Board of Education Business Administrator and later will Louis Pepe his successor in regard to several issues of concern to the membership of the Task Force including parking needs, lighting concerns, playground needs, traffic issues and outstanding obligations following the Wilson Primary School rehabilitation.

#### ***Solutions***

The following concerns were addressed and resolved:

1. The old playground behind Wilson School will be removed
2. The new playground adjacent to the school will be available to neighbors after school hours. The current playground at Wilson will not be monopolized by the school or off limits to the public. ***The Board of Education has confirmed that they are moving forward with the installation of the Primary School Playground at Wilson. Bids were received and they estimate that the project***

*should begin on or about July 1, 2008 with a completion date of July 31, 2008. The playground is a BCI System 3000 Handicapped Accessible. It will be installed by Giordano Contracting, a licensed installer of BCI Burke equipment. It will be available to residents outside of school hours.*

3. There are no plans to add any additional parking spaces to the driveway area.

#### ***Outstanding Issues***

The following concerns still need to be addressed. Meetings with the Board of Education Business Administrator Louis Pepe and representatives of the Department of Community Services will be held on these outstanding points:

1. The grassy area next to Board of Education offices was formerly a walkway to the baseball field. They have only planned for grass at this area, and are not planning to replace the walkway. This is a problem and a deterrent to having visitors park in the lot and walk to the field. It is also needed to bring machinery and supplies to the ball field. *On June 2, 2008, Roger Jarman, Louis Pepe of the BOE and Paul Cascais of DCS met and discussed the installation of a 4' wide macadam sidewalk to join the parking lot to the existing macadam path along the fields. This will be a cooperative effort/shared service with the City and the BOE. The DCS will supply the equipment and manpower, the BOE will pay the cost of the materials.*
2. The grassy area where the Tennis Courts had been was to be used as a staging area by the Board of Education during the construction. Their agreement with the City was to repair, grade and seed the area when the staging was done. This was not done and the area is not conducive to play. *The BOE has reached out the architects on the project to determine what remediation did take place. A copy of the June 21, 2008 resolution of Council reflecting this arrangement is attached to this document. (On June 21, 2006 a resolution of the Common Council authorized the use of the former Wilson Park Tennis Courts as a staging area for the Wilson Primary School Construction project). See attached resolution.*
3. The Board of Education cannot substantiate the number of parking spaces they will be using when school is in session or during a Board of Education meeting. *The BOE has identified a total of 69 parking spaces in the main parking lot that borders Wilson Park. The BOE is in the process of marking designated parking for Administration, Central Office Staff and Teachers through signage and stenciling in order to permit easy ingress and egress for snow removal. They are reserving the spaces along with the first 10 slots on the outer perimeter beginning at the entrance of the lot. They are leaving 21 slots available along the outside perimeter closest to the park for visitors of the building and/or residents who utilize the park during the day. BOE meetings will afford residents and visitors to the park all of the teachers and staff parking slots for availability (59 spaces) It is recommended by the Wilson Park Task Force that this parking plan be reviewed by the Department of Public Safety Traffic Division.*

4. The lighting in the parking lot has been upgraded and/or timers need resetting as neighbors feel the lighting is now a problem for several of them.
5. Traffic and congestion at drop off and pick up times is of concern to the residents and they are looking for a traffic report.

*(On December 21, 2004 a resolution of the Common Council transferred the Wilson School Property to the Summit Board of Education for the sum of \$1.00.) See attached resolution.*

### **Planning Objectives**

A total of five planning objective categories were created to categorize all of the suggestions and considerations collected by the Task Force. Their inclusion in these categories was not an endorsement of their need, but purely a recording of the input received by the Task Force and for review by the neighbors at the Neighbor's Meeting.

#### **Planning Objective #1 Improve vehicular and pedestrian access/parking**

- Explore a new entrance to the park off of Springfield Avenue (\*)
- Increase line of sight at current entrance and exit (\*)
- Improve traffic signage (\*)
- Improve walkways and paths (\*)
- Provide security lighting on paths
- Increase parking spaces (\*)
- Replace walkway/driveway from parking to ball field (\*)
- Create paths through the wooded area (\*)
- Create a children's bike route

#### **Planning Objective #2 Improve the athletic field for baseball and soccer**

- Reconfigure ball field by moving back home plate and backstop (\*)
- Add drainage to the infield (\*)
- Grass the infield (\*)
- Add irrigation (\*)
- Level and improve field conditions (\*)
- Replace backstop, player and spectator protection (\*)
- Provide a storage building for mowing equipment
- Move the scoreboard for greater visibility
- Improve the pitching and warm up areas (\*)

**Planning Objective #3 Improve park amenities and attractions**

- Rehabilitation of the basketball courts (\*)
- Improve the platform tennis courts and new lighting controls (\*)
- Upgrade the restroom facilities (\*)
- Increase the amount of water fountains (\*)
- Update the playground and include accessible equipment (\*)
- Improve the green space near the parking (former tennis court area) (\*)
- Provide signage on the nature trails
- Provide signs governing park use (\*)

**Planning Objective #4 Improve landscaping, plantings, trails and fencing**

- Create a formal landscape environment
- Return the park to a pastoral setting (\*)
- Remove invasive Norway Maples
- Remediate drainage issues near the Red Cross (\*)
- Remediate drainage issues behind homes on Oakley Avenue (\*)
- Provide more picnic tables (\*)
- Label plantings for educational purposes
- Prune trees/ add new trees to the inventory (\*)

**Planning Objective #5 Enhance the art park to compliment the park plan**

- Improve the landscaping around the art pieces (\*)
- Improve the walking paths through the park (\*)
- Coordinate signs, furniture and colors in this area
- Remove or replace perimeter fencing around the Red Cross building
- Install decorative fencing where needed

**(\*) The items marked with an asterisk scored a 3 or higher in a survey shared with those neighbors in attendance at the Neighbor's Meeting. Items were ranked from a low interest of 1 to a high interest of 5. These items were complied by the WPTF with input from neighbors and Task Force members who participated in the process.**

### **Neighbor's Meeting – Recording of Public Input**

The following suggestions and concerns were raised by the residents who attended the Neighbor's Meeting of May 7, 2008. These suggestions followed the presentation of the 5 Planning Objectives.

- Improve the grassy area that was the tennis courts
- Basketball courts need major rehabilitation
- Restrooms need update
- Additional water fountains
- No interest in lighting the walkways for evening security
- Better signage for access to the park and Primary Center
- We need behavioral changes – visitors to the park don't understand where to park
- Sunday soccer is overbooked
- More parking is needed for the Primary Center
- Concerned about traffic once the Primary Center is open
- More benches and tables along the paths
- Preserve the trees – new plantings
- Keep the park pastoral
- Playground needs improvements and handicapped accessibility that is attractive to all children
- Parking lot lights since the building renovation need to be on timers or realigned
- There are areas that are too bright and others that are too dark
- Fencing around the park is old, broken and in need of replacement
- There are wet areas throughout the park both adjacent to the Red Cross and along the homes on Oakley Avenue
- Provide a timer system for the Paddle Tennis Courts
- Replace the walkway/road that connected the parking lot to the ball field
- Concerned about the traffic once the Primary Center is open
- Walkways, trails and paths can be added and/or improved
- Baseball field needs total rehabilitation including infield, outfield, irrigation, drainage, backstop, player and fan protection. Total rehab
- Beekman neighbors also have wet areas behind their homes.
- Engineering study is needed to eliminate the wet areas and prevent new wet areas when the baseball field is rehabilitated.
- Why not have access from Springfield Avenue?
- Why not one way on Beekman?
- We need enforcement of NO Parking on Oakley Avenue

## **Wilson Park Task Force Recommendations**

The Wilson Park Task Force process has been running simultaneous to the City's Capital Improvement Budget process. For that reason, those members of the Task Force in attendance at the May 7, 2008 meeting were informed that a Capital Budget request was made in anticipation of their full report. The amount needed to fund improvements to Wilson Park is estimated at the amount of \$750,000. That amount was determined through discussions with the City Engineer with an estimate of \$500,000 to rehabilitate the baseball and soccer field and \$250,000 for the other park improvements. The area of the highest priority is the baseball and soccer field improvements due to seasonal nature of field construction. Funding this improvement in 2008 would minimize the time that the fields would be out of play.

Although no formal vote was taken, those in attendance agreed with submitting the request, while the report became finalized for presentation. They recognized that the project was really one of two steps; the need for improvements to the field and the remaining park needs. The discussion of a possible entrance off of Springfield Avenue and potential issues with traffic and parking at the Primary Center will take more time and public discussion. They did not want to delay the Capital Budget request and possible funding of the ball field improvements.

The ball field improvements should include a complete renovation including drainage, irrigation, realignment of the right field line, leveling of the entire field, power, water, player and spectator protection, warm up areas and walkways to the field. Special care should be taken to remediate any low and wet areas that currently affect the neighbors as well.

The Wilson Park Task Force accepts the concept of public/private partnerships for possible improvements to all of the areas of improvement needed in the park. These improvements should be forwarded to the Sponsorship and Naming Committee for their consideration. Improvements to the baseball and soccer field should be in partnership at some funding level with the organizations that utilize this field. They were especially supportive of utilizing scouts, organizations and resources of the Arboretum to accomplish these goals.

The "Art Park" appears to be welcome by the neighborhood, with the exception of the large metal piece located on Oakley Avenue. Requests from several neighbors to have this piece removed were funneled through the Task Force to the Mayor's Committee on the Arts and the Department of Community Services.

The pastoral, relaxed atmosphere of the park should be preserved and enhanced with plantings, trees and flowers that reflect a natural environment. The concept of the City partnering with Eagle Scout projects, the Arboretum and other groups to achieve some of these recommendations is welcomed and encouraged.

Amenities that must be updated include; but are not limited to the basketball court, handicapped accessible playground, paddle tennis court lighting, restroom, water fountains, benches, tables and fencing. The grassy area where the tennis courts once stood should be made into a healthy stand of grass for casual play.

Traffic, parking, access and egress are primary concerns of the members of the Task Force along with those members of the public who have participated in this process. A possible entrance to the park off of Springfield Avenue appears to be of interest to the residents. A resolution of the Common Council on June 21, 2006 states clearly that the cost of any such entrance or exit off of Springfield Avenue would create hazardous conditions, as well as increase the cost of any improvements to the park in excess of \$1 million dollars. Although the neighbors' interest in this issue need to be further discussed, it should not jeopardize any improvements to the park. If indeed the City or the County are not interested in this proposal, the concept should be dismissed and the plans for the park improvements could begin.

The park entrance and exit have sight limitations. The increased traffic for the new Primary Center makes these improvements a high priority. The Board of Education's parking plan for striping and signage of the lot need to be reviewed by traffic safety and accepted by the City.

In the long term view, behaviors will need to be changed to get more park visitors to utilize the parking lot and not park illegally along Oakley Avenue. Some of this will be addressed with reduced field use on Sunday mornings and with possible improvements to signage and access.

The individual recommendations within each area of the Planning Objectives should be used by the Engineering Department in creation of a master plan for the improvements to Wilson Park. Those items of highest interest were marked accordingly in this document. Once a conceptual plan is created, a Neighbors Meeting should be held to discuss the concept in more detail.

There is no desire to change the use, profile or culture that has evolved over the years at Wilson Park. The overwhelming interest is the rehabilitation of the ball field, upgrades and improvements to the current amenities and the preservation of the current atmosphere. In closing, Wilson Park is a well used, well loved treasure in the City of Summit and should be preserved for future generations to enjoy in a safe, relaxed and pastoral setting.

**Department of Community Programs**  
**Wilson Park Task Force**  
***Membership Contact List***  
**2008**

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## **Support Documents**

## **Wilson Park Task Force**

### **Support Documents**

- A. Wilson Park Task Force Neighbors' Meeting Agenda – May 7, 2008
- B. Invitation to Neighbors' Meeting
- C. Neighbors' Meeting Press
- D. Planning Objectives Survey Document Sample
- E. Planning Objectives Survey – Master Results
- F. Wilson Park Task Force Meeting Agenda – February 11, 2008
- G. American Red Cross Colonial Crossroads Chapter Project Comments
- H. Memo re: Judith Josephs DCP & Paul Griggs BOE Meeting Notes
- I. Wilson Park Task Force – Parking and Field Use Meeting Notes
- J. Summit Junior Baseball – Project Comments
- K. Memo from: William Carey – Neighbor's Representative re: Art Park
- L. Wilson Park Task Force Organizational Meeting – January 24, 2008
- M. Letter from George Klacik, Neighbors' Representative – Soliciting Input from neighbors
- N. Wilson Park Task Force Summary of Responses – January 23, 2008
- O. Wilson Park Task Force Press – Formation of Task Force
- P. December 18, 2007 Resolution adding additional Neighbor Representative
- Q. November 7, 2008 Resolution creating the Wilson Park Task Force
- R. June 21, 2006 Resolution of Common Council Authorizing Board of Education Use of Wilson School (Tennis Courts) as staging area
- S. December 21, 2004 Resolution of Common Council transferring Wilson School Property to the Board of Education
- T. Board of Education Proposed Parking Plan for Wilson School

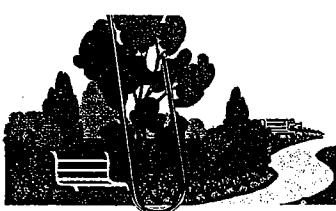
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**Wilson Park Task Force**  
**Neighbor's Meeting**

***Wednesday, May 7, 2008***  
***7:30 PM***

**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of Task Force Membership**
- 2. Task Force Mission, Goals and Tasks**
- 3. Summary of Task Force Planning Considerations**
- 4. Open Forum – Neighbor's Thoughts and Concerns**
- 5. Explanation of Planning Objectives Survey Document**
- 6. Distribution of Survey Document**
- 7. Report Timeline**
- 8. Closing Remarks/Adjournment**



# CITY OF SUMMIT

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

100 MORRIS AVENUE, SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY 07901

JUDITH LEBLEIN JOSEPHS CPRP  
DIRECTOR

PHONE: (908) 277-2932  
FAX: (908) 277-2978

MARK OZOROSKI  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

April 23, 2008

Dear Friends and Neighbors of Wilson Park:

Mayor Jordan Glatt and the City of Summit Common Council established the Wilson Park Task Force in November of 2007.

Their mission was to examine the current uses for Wilson Park, consider the possibility of public private partnerships to fund and expedite improvements, solicit community concerns and gather community consensus on such improvements.

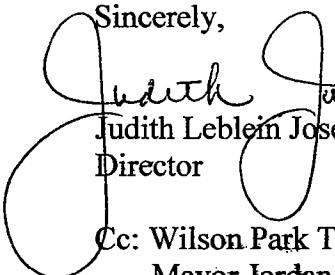
**You are invited to attend the Wilson Park Task Force Neighbor's Meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Board of Education Meeting Room at the Wilson Primary Center/Board of Education Offices.**

You will have an opportunity to meet with the members of the Wilson Park Task Force and share your thoughts and ideas for improvements to the park. The members of the Task Force will share the information that they have collected and discussed over the past several months. You will be given an opportunity to have open discussion with the membership. We will provide a Planning Objectives Survey for you to complete that will help to shape the Task Force's recommendations to the Common Council.

We hope that you will join us on May 7<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the ordinance creating the Wilson Park Task Force has been included in this mailing. We hope that you have a chance to review the ordinance to have a more thorough understanding of the group's mission, goals and responsibilities.

We share a love for this park that has served the community well. We look forward to a creative and inspiring exchange of ideas, recommendations and concerns.

Sincerely,

  
Judith Leblein Josephs CPRP

Director

Cc: Wilson Park Task Force Members  
Mayor Jordan Glatt  
Members of Common Council

## Wilson Park meeting tonight

SUMMIT — The Wilson Park Task Force will host a neighbors meeting scheduled on Wednesday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the Summit Board of Education Meeting Room in the school board offices at the new Wilson Primary Center. Neighbors of Wilson Park and other residents are welcome.

The Wilson Park Task Force was created last November by

Mayor Jordan Glatt and the Common Council. Its mission is to examine the current uses for Wilson Park, consider the possibility of public-private partnerships to fund and expedite improvements, solicit community concerns and gather community consensus on such improvements.

Those who attend the meeting will have the opportunity to meet with the members of the task force and present their thoughts and ideas for improvements. The members of the Wilson Park Task Force will share information they have gathered and discussed over the past several months. Participants will also have the opportunity to rate interest in a variety of possible improvements to help the task force to determine planning and funding priorities.

Questions about the meeting may be directed to Judith Josephs, director of the Department of Community Programs, 908-277-2932 or [jjosephs@cityofsummit.org](mailto:jjosephs@cityofsummit.org).

15

**Wilson Park Task Force**  
**City of Summit**

**Planning Objectives Survey**  
**May 7, 2008**

**RANKING ORDER**

|                            |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very<br>Low<br>Importance  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Very<br>High<br>Importance |   |   |   |   |   |

**Please note your opinion on the importance of the following features  
By ranking each item from 1 (very low importance) to 5 (very high importance)**

**This Planning Objective Survey is purely a vehicle to judge community interest in a variety of possible improvements. It will help the Wilson Park Task Force to establish planning and funding priorities for their recommendation to the Common Council.**

**PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

**Improve vehicular and pedestrian access/Parking**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Explore a new entrance to the park off of Springfield Ave. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Increase line of sight at current entrance and exit        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Traffic signage improvements                               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Improve walkways and paths                                 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Better security lighting on paths                          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Increase parking spaces                                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Replace walkway/driveway from parking to ball field        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Create paths through wooded area                           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. Create a Children's Bike Route                             | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

### **Improve the athletic field for baseball and soccer**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Reconfigure ball field by moving back home plate and backstop. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Add drainage to infield  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Grass the infield  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Add irrigation   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Level the field & improve field conditions                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Replace the backstop   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Build a storage building/small garage for mowing equipment     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Move the scoreboard for greater visibility                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. Improve pitching and warm up area                              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

### **Improve park amenities and attractions**

|                                       |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Basketball court rehabilitation    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Platform Tennis Court improvements | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Restroom facilities upgraded       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Increase amount of water fountains | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Children's Playground updated      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Improve green space near parking   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Provide signage on nature trails   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Provide signs governing park use   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

### **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

#### **Improve landscaping, plantings, trails and fencing**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Create a formal landscape environment    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Return to a more pastoral setting        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Remove invasive Norway Maples            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Remediate drainage issues near Red Cross | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Provide more picnic tables               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Label plantings for educational purposes | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Prune trees/ add new trees to inventory  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

### **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

#### **Enhance the art park to compliment the park plan**

|  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Landscaping improvements                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Improve walking paths throughout park       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Coordinated signs, furniture, and colors    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Perimeter fencing around Red Cross property | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Decorative fencing at other locations       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

**Please feel free to add your own suggestions for improvements to the park:**

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**Wilson Park Task Force**  
**City of Summit**

**Planning Objectives Survey**  
May 7, 2008

**RANKING ORDER**

|                            |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Very<br>Low<br>Importance  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Very<br>High<br>Importance |   |   |   |   |   |

Please note your opinion on the importance of the following features  
By ranking each item from 1 (very low importance) to 5 (very high importance)

**This Planning Objective Survey is purely a vehicle to judge community interest in a variety of possible improvements. It will help the Wilson Park Task Force to establish planning and funding priorities for their recommendation to the Common Council.**

**PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

**Improve vehicular and pedestrian access/Parking**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Explore a new entrance to the park off of Springfield Ave. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Increase line of sight at current entrance and exit        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Traffic signage improvements                               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Improve walkways and paths                                 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Better security lighting on paths                          | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Increase parking spaces                                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Replace walkway/driveway from parking to ball field        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Create paths through wooded area                           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. Create a Children's Bike Route                             | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## PLANNING OBJECTIVE

### Improve the athletic field for baseball and soccer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Reconfigure ball field by moving back home plate and backstop. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Add drainage to infield  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Grass the infield  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Add irrigation   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Level the field & improve field conditions                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. Replace the backstop   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. Build a storage building/small garage for mowing equipment     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. Move the scoreboard for greater visibility                     | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. Improve pitching and warm up area                              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

## PLANNING OBJECTIVE

### Improve park amenities and attractions

|                                       |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Basketball court rehabilitation    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
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### **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

#### **Improve landscaping, plantings, trails and fencing**

|   |   |     |     |     |   |
|---|---|-----|-----|-----|---|
| 1. Create a formal landscape environment    | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4   | 5 |
| 2. Return to a more pastoral setting        | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4   | 5 |
| 3. Remove invasive Norway Maples            | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4   | 5 |
| 4. Remediate drainage issues near Red Cross | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4   | 5 |
| 5. Provide more picnic tables               | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4   | 5 |
| 6. Label plantings for educational purposes | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4   | 5 |
| 7. Prune trees/ add new trees to inventory  | 1 | 2   | 3   | (4) | 5 |

### **PLANNING OBJECTIVE**

#### **Enhance the art park to compliment the park plan**

|  |   |     |     |   |   |
|--|---|-----|-----|---|---|
| 1. Landscaping improvements                    | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Improve walking paths throughout park       | 1 | 2   | (3) | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Coordinated signs, furniture, and colors    | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Perimeter fencing around Red Cross property | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4 | 5 |
| 5. Decorative fencing at other locations       | 1 | (2) | 3   | 4 | 5 |

**Please feel free to add your own suggestions for improvements to the park:**

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**Wilson Park Task Force**  
Monday, February 11, 2008  
7:30 PM

**American Red Cross**  
695 Springfield Avenue  
Summit, NJ 07901

**AGENDA**

1. Task Force Assignment Reports
2. Create list of recommendations for park improvements
3. Create list of traffic, parking and signage recommendations
4. Should the sports organizations contribute to the improvements? With what conditions?
5. Set Neighborhood Meeting date and location
6. Create the format for the Neighborhood Meeting
7. Next meeting date of the WPTF.



**American  
Red Cross**

Colonial Crossroads Chapter

**Summit Office**  
695 Springfield Avenue  
Summit, New Jersey 07901  
Tel: (908) 273-2076  
Fax: (908) 273-9103

**Madison Office**  
1 Madison Avenue  
Madison, New Jersey 07940  
Tel: (973) 377-0455  
Fax: (973) 377-2088

[www.colonialcrossroadsredcross.org](http://www.colonialcrossroadsredcross.org)

**Christine C. Hodde**  
Executive Director

January 29, 2008

To: Wilson Park Task Force

From: Christine Hodde, Executive Director, Colonial Crossroads Chapter

The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross has the unique position of being surrounded by Wilson Park, maintained by the City of Summit. Our goal is to ensure that the main structure and carriage house are kept in sound condition within the residential character of the original buildings. We also keep in mind our surroundings, a woodland park setting, and the former site of an estate. Therefore, although the interior spaces have gone through minor readjustments to accommodate our business operations, both buildings have been largely unchanged since 1902. The grounds are also in better shape with consistent maintenance. As I mentioned in the task force meeting, our board of directors, guided by the strategic planning committee, is looking into the long term use of these buildings.

There are buffer areas of planting and fencing on all sides of our property, which need tending by the city. We would welcome replacement of the existing fence, thinning of scrub trees and underbrush, constructing connecting wood chip paths, all of which would enhance our accessibility and partnership with our park neighbors. We would also urge any landscaping decisions to be made by professional gardeners, keeping in mind the beauty and hardiness of indigenous trees and shrubs, as well as the original plantings on the Wilson estate.

Probably the area of most concern is our side yard, which is adjacent to the "art park". We face constant flooding during rains, enough so that vehicles parked next to that section of land, have suffered damage in rising waters. We suggest that the task force keep in mind the land indentation on our property, when making any landscaping decisions in the park.

Another minor, yet necessary, concern is snow removal on our sidewalk. Due to financial restraints, we rely on a volunteer to keep the sidewalks, as well as other parts of the property, cleared after a snowfall. Any inclusion of our front sidewalk by the city during the snow removal process would be much appreciated by us and the pedestrians.

6.

**Formerly the Southeast Morris and Summit Area Chapters**

*Servin@ Berkelev Heights. Chatham Borough. Chatham Township. East Hanover. Florham Park*

# Memo

**To:** Wilson Park Task Force

**From:** Judith Leblein Josephs

**CC:** file

**Date:** 2/1/2008

**Re:** Meeting with Paul Griggs re: WPTF Questions

---

I met with Paul Griggs, Business Administrator for the BOE on his last full day prior to his retirement.

Paul will be staying on in a consulting basis and will still be representing the BOE on the Task Force.

These items were discussed:

There will be a new playground built for use of the school during the school day at the far end of the building. It will be enclosed by a fence, but he expects that there will be public access outside of the school day.

He was open to the idea of posting some information at each school site concerning closing down school playgrounds when students are present. This is a safety concern of the Principals. I suggested that there be signage to inform residents of the policy. He agreed to present it to the Principals of all the schools with playgrounds on the property.

The former playground equipment behind the school will be removed. It will not be replaced at that location. I informed him that baseballs often go into that area. It should not be used for children when baseball games are held. He said that they were going to be using it for Staff breaks. He appreciates the note of caution.

The area next to the building, adjacent to the parking lot is planned to be grass. There are no paths or driveways planned. I explained to him that this area will be a problem on several levels. It limits vehicle access to the baseball field. When wet, it will become a muddy mess for spectators who will walk to the field from the parking lot. I also discussed with him that with the present design, he needs to create a safer walkway for children who will be going to the grassy area next to the Platform Tennis Courts.

There is a desire to use that grassy area near the platform courts for recess.

A storage container will be placed in the rear of the building for maintenance equipment. It will be green.

There are no plans to add any additional parking spaces along the driveway.

## **WILSON FIELD TASK FORCE**

### **Field Use**

1. With the completion of turf fields, the Y could have two fields in the fall but probably not the new turf fields.
2. Many of the fields are not being used on Sunday because they are assigned to sports programs that involve traveling teams. The fields are used for home games but not utilized when traveling teams play away. This does not help other sports leagues in most cases because they need consistent schedules and can't notify hundreds of participants on a weekly basis regarding the location of games. Even when away games are known, rain dates may be scheduled at the last minute for a traveling team and the field would not be available for another group.
3. The recreation department has 54 soccer teams in its fall program and does not run a spring soccer program.
4. With a variety of sports in the spring, Wilson is not assigned to the YMCA.
5. Two or three sod fields may be out of commission this spring because they were partially re-constructed in the fall but the jobs were not completed.

### **Solutions to Sunday afternoon concerns**

1. The City will make every attempt to provide two fields in the fall for the YMCA's soccer program to alleviate the parking congestion around Wilson Park
2. The Y will make every attempt to utilize fields in other towns such as Millburn or New Providence
3. When utilizing Wilson Park, the Y will make every effort to encourage participants to park in the parking lots at Wilson Park and not in the neighborhood.



**Summit Junior Baseball League**  
**P.O. Box 59**  
**Summit, New Jersey 07902-0059**

January 28, 2008

**Wilson Park Task Force**  
C/O Ms. Judith Leblein Josephs, Director  
Department of Community Programs  
City of Summit  
100 Morris Avenue  
Summit, New Jersey 07901

**Re: Summit Junior Baseball League Recommendations to Wilson Park Task Force**

Dear Wilson Park Task Force;

The Summit Junior Baseball League, Summit's largest all-volunteer organization, which provides baseball and softball programs for 1,300 Summit boys and girls each year, is pleased to provide you with a listing of suggested improvements to the Wilson Park area as formulated by its Board of Directors.

The main focus of our Board's recommendations relates to the necessary improvement of the baseball field. In our opinion, time is of the essence. The baseball field at Wilson Park is in serious need of repair. It is our hope and desire that the Wilson Park project as it relates to the baseball field be started in the fall of 2008 for the field to be ready for use in 2009.

However, we recognize that this is a community facility and some Board members have provided additional suggestions relating to the overall project as Summit residents who use Wilson Park. These suggestions are specifically noted below.

With regard to the baseball field, we strongly recommend the Task Force consider the following:

1. Possibly reconfigure the field to provide additional yardage down the right field line. This may involve either moving the backstop back and slightly changing the field's configuration by shifting it to the right to avoid issues with the left field line (trees and possibly playground), or removing or shifting the path that runs behind the right field area. Since the field will be completely redone, having the engineers reconfigure it for optimal yardage should be seriously looked at.
2. Add drainage to the infield, this is a major priority.
3. Grass the infield. This would be the ideal and is very much desired, but should be done only if there is a serious commitment to maintain the field. If the City will not make a firm maintenance commitment then the infield should be skinned.

4. Add irrigation to the entire field. Failing to do so will only take away from improvements as there will continue to be an inability to grow grass, among other things.
5. Level the entire field. At present the left field area, depending on where you stand, is estimated to be about 2 – 3 feet below the grade of home plate with the downward slope continuing as you move away from the backstop area.
6. Ensure there is proper electric power running to the field area for the use of pitching machines among other things, and to allow for electricity to be run to a scoreboard.
7. Place a water fountain at the field, one currently does not exist.
8. Provide a water hose hook up for the infield.
9. Replace the backstop.
10. Level and configure the warm-up pitching areas to allow for easy maintenance.
11. Ensure there is adequate ingress and egress for vehicles to get to and leave the field for maintenance and for emergency services purposes.
12. A garage-type of structure for housing a tractor for field maintenance work, bases, line marker chalk, line paint, rakes, shovels and other field-related tools and to store the batting cage net during the off-season is required. The SJBB shed at the field can be kept there, but over time it will need to be replaced. Now would be the ideal time to put in a concrete permanent structure.
13. Move the scoreboard to a location where it can be more readily seen.
14. Field scheduling: this is very important. The field scheduling process needs to be improved upon. There are only two full-sized baseball fields in Summit (Wilson and Memorial), and one possible field to use at the upper high school. Field use by groups needs to be done not just by 'days' or large chunks of time. This historical way of scheduling fields has resulted in fields not being used for substantial periods of time during peak hours or weekend days as organizations would say they needed the field but then not actually schedule anything there, effectively just wanting to reserve the field for their program. As Wilson Park will be natural grass facility, there should be additional attention paid to the use of it by programs that would chew up the grass field. Those programs should be assigned to turf fields if at all possible. If Wilson is to be used by soccer or lacrosse it should be used by the youngest groups as they would, theoretically, provide less wear and tear to the field.
15. It is a concern that the playground that previously existed when the Wilson facility was used as a pre-school was situated too close to the baseball field. It would not be unusual for baseballs to be hit into the playground. The playground needs to be moved further away from the baseball field's left field to help ensure the safety of the children who would use that facility.
16. In general and in addition to the above, there is a considerable amount of tree pruning that needs to be done, and some trees may possibly have to be removed depending on the final plan.

Wilson Park Task Force

17. Maintenance is a major issue. If Wilson Park is to be redone, the City must commit to maintaining the facility. In this regard, the City should commit to allocating user fees each year for the field's maintenance.

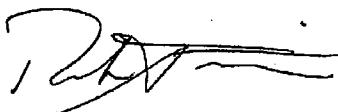
Other suggestions from individual members of the SJBB Board as private Summit citizens:

1. Walking paths for passive use around the entire facility (it would need to be back far enough so as to not interfere with games).
2. Upgrade the current bathroom facilities.
3. Basketball courts be placed somewhere in the park. If the current location is used those courts need to be replaced.
4. Add a small playground for very young children.
5. In the area where the tennis courts previously stood, possibly a small baseball field that could be used by K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade children.
6. Picnic tables at various appropriate locations in the park.
7. If the 'art park' is to be retained, that it be better situated and that the trees and bushes be reviewed and signage added to best ensure that people actually know the art park is there.
8. Traffic and parking need to be reviewed.

SJBB appreciates being given the opportunity to provide this feedback as the Task Force considers its recommendations for the Park. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact us.

We look forward to working with the Task Force and the City as it upgrades Wilson Park, a very necessary project.

On Behalf of the Summit Junior Baseball Board of Directors,



Richard Apostolik  
President

K.

## MEMORANDUM

To: Wilson Park Task Force

From: William Carey

Date: February 11, 2008

Re: **Oakley Avenue Residents Whose Homes Face the Art Works in Wilson Park**

---

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> I met with each of the four homeowners on Oakley Avenue whose homes are facing the art section of Wilson Park. (These are the residents in house numbers 13, 15, 17 and 19.) They were unanimous in their wish to see the "claw" shaped sculpture removed and for the area to grow back to its old wooded self. They do not want a hedge running along the front of the wooded area, and they were not seeking the removal of all of the art works. The owner of the first house wants a fenced-in dog park in the area where the tennis courts previously existed. Another neighbor was concerned about the City's liability if someone gets injured by playing on the art. They did not express any other particular wish for the park itself, other than a general desire for it to be revitalized. Of course they expressed their concern over the overwhelming traffic and parking on Oakley in the fall season on Sunday afternoons.

I told them that there is a modest budget that will be used to fund one or more projects toward the restoration of the park in 2008. Further, I stated that there soon would be a neighborhood meeting with the entire Wilson Park Task Force, and that they would receive notices as soon as a time and place were established.

### **Meeting with Art Committee**

On February 5<sup>th</sup> I attended a meeting of the Mayor's Arts Commission at Town Hall. I was invited by Michael Tcheyan, who is a member of that group. The Commission members stated that the "claw" will be removed within the next few months and relocated to another location in Summit. In addition, some of the other artwork may be moved and may or may not be replaced. I explained to the group what the Wilson Park Task Force was seeking to accomplish, and they appeared pleased with the information that I presented.

**Wilson Park Task Force**  
**Organizational Meeting**

**Thursday, January 24, 2008**

**7:30 PM**

**Summit Recreation Center**

**100 Morris Avenue**

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Overview of Mission, Goals and Responsibilities**
- 3. Establishment of Timeline and Work Plan**
- 4. Review of Wilson Park Current Conditions and Uses**
- 5. List of Current User/Neighbor Issues with Wilson Park**
- 6. List of Stakeholders Needs/Wish List**
- 7. Discussion of Needs List and Possible Conflicts between Organizations**
- 8. Prioritizing Lists**
- 9. Discussion of Public/Private Partnerships**
- 10. Set Meeting Schedule**

M.

**GEORGE KLACIK, JR.**  
27 OAK FOREST LANE  
SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY 07901

Dear Neighbor,

January 12, 2008

The Common Council of the City of Summit has established a new Wilson Park Task Force. I have been appointed as a member, to bring ideas and concerns of the neighbors, to the Task Force. I attach copies of the correspondence I received to further explain the purpose of the Task Force, which is to complete its work and report to the Common Council within 4 months.

Please let me know of your ideas and/or concerns on the use of Wilson Park. It would be helpful if you could get back to me by January 22, 2008 so I can be ready to participate in the first meeting of the Task Force on January 24. You can write to me at the above address, call me at 273-7850, or send email to [gklacikjr@aol.com](mailto:gklacikjr@aol.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*George Klacik*

**WILSON PARK TASK FORCE****SUMMARY OF RESPONSES RECEIVED FROM NEIGHBORS****AS OF January 23, 2008**

1. Bring back pastoral setting in keeping with Wilson family's desire to keep grounds park like. Create peace garden somewhere in park. Willing to help organize group to work on this.  
Establish children's safety bike route, like others that exist. A path with "teaching signs"
2. Concerning increased traffic on Beekman Road that will come, Volume and Speed are of concern. How does Council plan to control this, considering the large number of young children that live and play in the area? Create an entrance to Wilson from Springfield Ave, directing traffic to this route. Strong police presence to ticket speeders.
3. A map to scale of the area under consideration would be helpful.  
Art in the Park area should be restored to more natural state. Art better displayed in downtown areas. If it remains, more substantial buffer needed. Should not be expanded.  
Fields should be used by only one group at a time. No multiple Y soccer games. A safety issue and field became a dust bowl from overuse.  
Baseball field was nicely restored, but then washed away. Walk way is a muddy mess and dangerous.  
Watch nonprofit's agenda, steering utilization to suit their particular purpose.  
Traffic-consider Springfield Ave. access to Park, reducing traffic on the Beekmans and Oakley. Parking must be a primary consideration. On Oakley two cars cannot pass.  
Aggravated drivers become reckless. Activities should be limited to available parking.
4. Biggest concern is parking. Sundays difficult due to Y soccer. Driveway blocked most Sundays. Police called and tickets issued, but real pain and dangerous. Have had to back down the street to let other cars pass.
5. Concerned about the condition, use, expansion of Wilson Park. Neighbors have fought for 3 years for new parking restrictions so it is not a one-way bottleneck for every athletic event.  
Dog owners use Wilson as a dog run and allow their dogs to run free causing safety and health issues for other animals, adults and children. This will be an even larger problem when school opens. Perhaps convert former tennis court area to an enclosed dog run, like Echo Lake Park. Charge to use with Summit Downtown card.

6. The City agreed many years ago to limit parking on the exit road from the School. Parking should not be extended any further.
7. The playground was built by the neighborhood, and they should continue to be able to use it. A schedule of when the kindergarten children will use the playground should be established so neighbors schedule their time to use it for pre-school children.
8. Wanted more than one neighborhood representative, and at least one from Oakley. Was satisfied when he learned Bill Carey is on the committee. Last year Oakley residents woke up to the Art Park one day, with no consultation or notice. Nearly every household signed a petition to Common Council to voice displeasure over the changes and safety issues.
9. A sign, like the one on the backstop explaining park usage, should also be placed at the Oakley Avenue entrance. The neighborhood raised money for the playground. If the school intends to use it, some sharing arrangement should be established. Is the parking lot to be used by the people using the Park and field? If so will a walk way be reestablished to the Park? The parking lot that extended over to the Field has been removed and grassed in. An entrance off Springfield Ave for the School and the Park would help mitigate traffic issues that exist and will get worse when the School and Park are in full use. The School, with its half day sessions, and Board of Ed. Administrative offices, will create more traffic than has ever existed on the surrounding streets. When the Art Exhibit was put in, too many trees and shrubbery were removed. The park like setting has been ruined. Can it be repaired?
10. More police presence is necessary in the Park and the parking lot. Teenagers drink alcohol and smoke, leaving empties and garbage regularly. Drugs are sold in the parking lot. Will the school use the playground? If so an arrangement needs to be made with the neighbors and other users. The sand box and a swing were recently removed. Will they be replaced? Railroad ties used as boarders have rotted exposing metal spikes, which is hazardous. Is there a plan for the tennis court area? Perhaps it could be leveled and used for soccer for younger children. The softball/baseball field is an asset and should not be removed. Too many lights are left on at the School. It is a waste of money, energy and a nuisance.
11. Just moved into the area. Likes the Art Exhibit. Wilson should not be turned into another Memorial Field. It cannot support multiple fields like Memorial. Keep the trees and the park like setting, which also provides a buffer to the surrounding houses. The parking along Oakley is a major problem. You cannot drive down the street when cars park on both sides of the street. Make the whole street no parking on one side.

# Park task force formed

By Joseph M. D'Alise

## Staff Writer

SUMMIT — Judith Leblein Josephs, the new director of the Department of Community Programs has recently looked into making improvements to Wilson Park in Summit by forming a Wilson Park Task Force.

One of the several top priorities for Josephs was to make some much needed improvements to Wilson Park, which is used as a soccer and baseball field, has tennis courts and displays several art exhibits. The Task Force was created to examine the current uses of the park and expedite improvements to the park through public/private partnerships.

According to Josephs, there has been interest in a partnership by several organizations, including Summit Soccer, Summit Junior Baseball, the Summit Area YMCA, the Mayor's Committee for the Arts, the Board of Education, and the Summit Red Cross who all use the park at times.

"Our three main goals at this point are to assess what improvements the park needs, discuss how to pay for the improvements, and find out what the neighbors will think of this

project," Josephs said.

The department's Advisory Board will meet on Jan. 17 and the Department of Community Programs will meet on Jan. 24 to discuss these goals. According to Josephs, "we only have a 120-day shelf life, or mission, to get the final report to the town."

When asked about her optimism for the new department's future, Joseph said, "It is very exciting to be a part of a new department and, yes, I am very optimistic about its future success. We are trying to build a strong department that will encourage a healthy community and I think we are well on our way."

As of November, Mayor Jordan Glatt and the city's Common Council formed the new Department of Community Programs headed by Josephs, as well as a new advisory board for the department. According to Josephs, some purposes of the department are to develop senior programs in the city, oversee the contract with the Summit Area YMCA for the Youth Center, and to make a more comprehensive program in general.

Joseph M. D'Alise can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 124, or *The Observer* server@TheLocalSource.com.

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12/20/07

**ADD A NEIGHBORHOOD MEMBER -  
WILSON PARK TASK FORCE**

December 18, 2007

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT:**

That the membership of the Wilson Park Task Force, as created on November 2, 2007, be expanded by adding another Neighborhood member who shall not be on the steering committee.

Dated: December 18, 2007

I, David L. Hughes, City Clerk of the City of Summit, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of said City at regular meeting held on Tuesday evening, December 18, 2007.

City Clerk

ESTABLISH AND APPOINT  
WILSON PARK TASK FORCE

November 7, 2007

WHEREAS, the subject of improvements to Wilson Park has been actively discussed in recent years and the following points need consideration:

1. There have been expressions of interest from local non-profit organizations to participate improvements to the fields.
2. It now includes an Art Park as one of the park's attractions.
3. The Wilson School building renovation project nears completion which will have an impact on the park users and its neighbors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT:

That the Wilson Park Task Force be and it hereby is established as follows:

**Mission:**

The Wilson Park Task Force will examine the current uses for Wilson Park, consider the possibility of public/private partnerships to fund and expedite improvements and to solicit community concerns and gather community consensus on such improvements.

**Goals:**

1. Establish the needs of the sports organizations and scholastic teams that use Wilson Park
2. Examine ways to make the Art Park more compatible with park users and neighbors
3. Research and recommend other active and passive uses for Wilson Park
4. Study parking and traffic impact on Wilson Park and the neighboring area
5. Discuss the Wilson School needs and scheduling impact of the school
6. Explore the concept of public/private partnerships for funding and construction
7. Consider rest room usage and any need for other support buildings for storage

**Responsibilities:**

1. Perform the tasks necessary to address the Task Force Mission and Goals
2. Conduct a neighborhood meeting to review Task Force Findings and gather community consensus
3. Make a presentation of findings to the Mayor and Common Council for consideration

**Membership:**

| <b>Person:</b>                                      | <b>Representing:</b>                                       |
|---|--|
| Judith Josephs                                      | Director of the Department of Community Programs (Chair)*  |
| Beth Kinney   | Director of the Department of Community Services*          |
| Paul Griggs   | Board of Education Administrator*                          |
| Common Council Member                               | General Services*  |
|   | Neighborhood Resident Representation*                      |
|   | Chairperson of the DCP Advisory Board *                    |
|   | Summit Junior Baseball                                     |
|   | Summit Soccer Club   |
|   | Summit Area YMCA   |
|   | Mayor's Arts Committee                                     |
|   | Summit Area Red Cross                                      |
| <b>Staff for technical assistance (non-voting):</b> | <b>Representing:</b>                                       |
| Mark Ozoroski                                       | Assistant Director of the Department of Community Programs |
| Paul Cascais  | Chair of the Joint Fields Committee                        |
| Ron Angelo  | City of Summit Treasurer                                   |
| Mike Sandor   | Director of Athletics - Board of Education                 |
| Lt. John Dougherty                                  | Summit Police Department - Traffic Division                |

**(\*) Steering Committee Members**

Six members of the Wilson Park Task Force will comprise the Steering Committee. In that capacity, they will be charged with formulating all recommendations of the Wilson Park Task Force to Common Council.

**Timeline:**

The Task Force will begin its work upon being fully populated and will present its findings to the Mayor and Common Council not later than 120 days from the first meeting. This timeline may be adjusted by the Mayor and Common Council should further research and investigation be deemed necessary.

Dated: November 7, 2007

I, David L. Hughes, City Clerk of the City of Summit, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of said City at regular meeting held on Wednesday evening, November 7, 2007.

City Clerk

AUTHORIZE BOARD OF EDUCATION USE  
OF WILSON SCHOOL ██████████ AS  
STAGING AREA

B1806

K.  
June 21, 2006

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is requesting the use of the existing closed ██████████ at Wilson School as a staging area for the Construction Project at Wilson School advising that it will remove the fencing, level the area and plant grass when it finishes using the area, and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer and the Superintendent of Public Works both feel this was the optimum place to keep the equipment and recommend that opaque construction fencing be put on the existing fence to further block the view from the residents and the surrounding park area, and

WHEREAS, the determination was made that the movement of the construction vehicles from this location to the work site would be minimal and the contractor will be responsible for safe passageway of pedestrians during the construction phase which presents the best option available for the location of the equipment, and

WHEREAS, extensive studies were completed regarding the traffic flow and the possibility of exiting onto Springfield Avenue that determined that exiting on Springfield Avenue would create extremely hazardous driving conditions and both the Engineering Department and the Police Department recommended against having the school exit onto Springfield Avenue, and

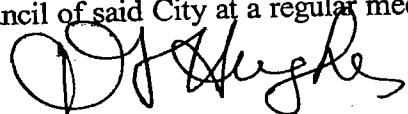
WHEREAS, both the Engineering Department and the Police Department agreed significant improvements would have to be made both on Springfield Avenue and Oakley to eliminate the hazardous conditions which improvements would include the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Springfield Avenue and Oakley, significant regarding along Springfield Avenue, and the acquisition of property for construction and other roadway and pedestrian safety improvements with costs estimated to exceed \$1 Million not including right-of-way acquisition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT:

That permission is given to the Board of Education to use the existing closed ██████████ at Wilson School as a staging area for the Construction Project at Wilson School and a reasonable time thereafter subject to it removing the fencing, level the area and plant grass when it finishes using the area.

Dated: July 11, 2006

I, David L. Hughes, City Clerk of the City of Summit, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of said City at a regular meeting held on Wednesday evening, June 21, 2006.



City Clerk

S.

**TRANSFER WILSON SCHOOL PROPERTY  
TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

December 21, 2004

WHEREAS, the Wilson School Task Force was established by the Common Council to study and consider various options for use of the Wilson School property and it recommended that the needs of the school district be the first option considered for future use of the Wilson School property; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education conducted public meetings on October 14,2004, October 28,2004, November 11, 2004, November 18,2004, December 8,2004, December 9,2004, and December 16,2004, at which time the board and public discussed the school district future space and enrollment issues; and

WHEREAS during the said meetings, discussion included various building options, all of which included the use of the Wilson School property; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education has determined that the Wilson School property is needed to address future space and enrollment needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT:

1. That there is no longer a municipal need for the Wilson School property.
2. That it accepts the request of the Board of Education to acquisition Wilson School property.
3. That it hereby directs the City Solicitor and Director of Community Services to prepare any necessary documents to transfer the Wilson School property to the Board of Education.

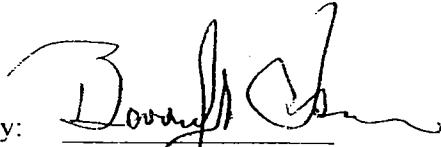
Dated: December 21, 2004

I, David L. Hughes, City Clerk of the City of Summit, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Common Council of said City at a regular meeting held on Tuesday evening, December 21, 2004.

City Clerk

COPY

Prepared By:

  
Barry A. Osmun, Esq.

**BARGAIN AND SALE DEED WITH  
COVENANTS AGAINST GRANTOR'S ACTS**

THIS DEED made as of March 10, 2005

**BETWEEN**

**THE CITY OF SUMMIT**, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, having its City Hall at 512 Springfield Avenue, Summit, New Jersey 07901 ("Grantor"),

**AND**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**, a body corporate of the State of New Jersey, having its offices at 90 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey 07901 ("Grantee"),

The words "Grantor" and "Grantee" as used herein shall mean all Grantors and Grantees listed above.

**TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP.** Grantor grants and conveys (transfers ownership of) the property described in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof to the Grantee. This transfer is made for the sum of ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00). Grantor acknowledges receipt of this money.

**TAX MAP REFERENCE.** (N.J.S.A. 46:15-2.1) City of Summit, Union County, Lot 25 in Block 1702, as shown on the official tax maps of the City of Summit, Union County, New Jersey.

**PROPERTY.** The property consists of the land and all the buildings and structures on the land in the City of Summit, County of Union and State of New Jersey. The legal description is:

SEE SCHEDULE A ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Grantor herein by deed of the Board of Education of the City of Summit, Union County, New Jersey, dated March 22, 1989 and recorded April 7, 1989 in the Union County Clerk's Office in Deed Book 3593 at page 93&c.

**GRANTOR'S COVENANTS.** (N.J.S.A. 46:4-6) Grantor covenants that the Grantor has not allowed anyone else to obtain any legal rights which affect the property. Grantor further covenants that the Grantor has done no act to encumber the property.

**SIGNATURES.** Grantor signs this Deed as of the date at the top of the first page.

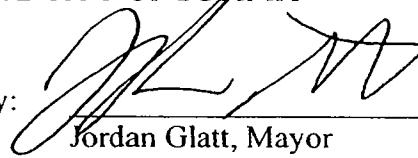
Attest:



David L. Hughes, City Clerk

THE CITY OF SUMMIT

By:



Jordan Glatt, Mayor

STATE OF NEW JERSEY }  
COUNTY OF UNION } SS.

On this 10 day of March, 2005, before me, the subscriber, personally appeared Jordan Glatt, who acknowledged himself to be Mayor of the City of Summit, and that he, as such official, being authorized so to do, executed the foregoing Deed for the purposes therein contained, and that he signed his name thereto by authority of the Common Council of the City of Summit, its governing body, and that he made this Deed for \$1.00 as the full and actual consideration paid or to be paid for the transfer of title. (Such consideration is defined in N.J.S.A. 46:15-5).

Barry A. Osmun  
Barry A. Osmun  
Attorney at Law of the State of New Jersey

**Record and Return to:**

Paul E. Griggs, Esq.  
Secretary/School Business Administrator  
Board of Education  
90 Maple Street  
Summit, New Jersey 07901-2545

# BENJAMIN & WIZOREK, INC.

*Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors*

230 Main Street • Madison, New Jersey 07940 • Phone (973) 377-5086 • Fax (973) 377-5533

March 7, 2005

## METES AND BOUNDS DESCRIPTION

for

Tax Lot 25 in Block 1702

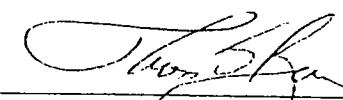
Beekman Terrace, Summit, New Jersey

BEGINNING at a point in the Southeasterly sideline of Beekman Road, said point being distant 210.36 feet as measured Northeasterly from the intersection of said sideline of Beekman Road with the Easterly sideline of Beekman Terrace, running thence,

- (1) Along the Southeasterly sideline of Beekman Road, North 73 degrees 00 minutes East 52.67 feet to a point, thence
- (2) South 01 degree 01 minute 20 seconds West 212.48 feet to a point, thence
- (3) South 89 degrees 41 minutes East 101.92 feet to a point, thence
- (4) South 02 degrees 00 minutes West 638.26 feet to a point, thence
- (5) South 87 degrees 34 minutes 20 seconds West 320.48 feet to a point in the Easterly sideline of Hillview Terrace, thence
- (6) Along said sideline of Hillview Terrace, North 01 degree 01 minute East 282.67 feet to a point, thence
- (7) Still along the same, North 89 degrees 26 minutes West 15.97 feet to a point in the Easterly sideline of Beekman Terrace, thence
- (8) Along said sideline of Beekman Terrace, North 00 degrees 34 minutes East 199.64 feet to a point, thence
- (9) South 89 degrees 42 minutes East 110.00 feet to a point, thence
- (10) North 00 degrees 34 minutes East 110.00 feet to a point, thence
- (11) South 89 degrees 42 minutes East 67.92 feet to a point, thence
- (12) North 00 degrees 34 minutes East 60.92 feet to a point, thence
- (13) South 89 degrees 41 minutes East 19.92 feet to a point, thence

(14) North 01 degree 21 minutes 20 seconds East 196.80 feet to the point and place of BEGINNING.

BEING in accordance with a survey prepared by Benjamin and Wizorek, Inc. dated February 2005.



---

Thomas S. Benjamin  
Professional Engineer & Land Surveyor  
Lic. No. 21207



State of New Jersey  
**SELLER'S RESIDENCY CERTIFICATION/EXEMPTION**  
(C.55, P.L. 2004)

(Please Print or Type)

**SELLER(S) INFORMATION (If Multiple Sellers, Each Seller Must Complete a Certification)**

Name(s)

City of Summit, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey

Current Resident Address:

Street: City Hall, 512 Springfield Avenue

|                         |       |          |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|
| City, Town, Post Office | State | Zip Code |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|

Summit,

New Jersey

07901

Home Phone

Business Phone

( )

( 908 ) 522-3600

**PROPERTY INFORMATION (Brief Property Description)**

|          |        |           |
|----------|--------|-----------|
| Block(s) | Lot(s) | Qualifier |
|----------|--------|-----------|

1702

25

Street Address:

Beekman Road

|                         |       |          |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|
| City, Town, Post Office | State | Zip Code |
|-------------------------|-------|----------|

Summit,

New Jersey

07901

Seller's Percentage of Ownership

Consideration

Closing Date

100%

\$1.00

March , 2005

**SELLER ASSURANCES (Check the Appropriate Box)**

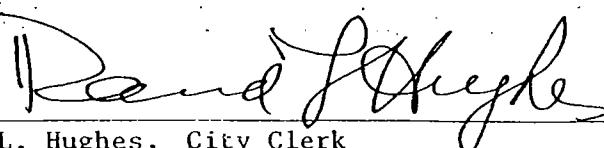
- I am a resident taxpayer of the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54A:1-1 et seq. and will file a resident gross income tax return and pay any applicable taxes on any gain or income from the disposition of this property.
- The real property being sold or transferred is used exclusively as my principal residence within the meaning of section 121 of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s. 121.
- I am a mortagor conveying the mortgaged property to a mortgagee in foreclosure or in a transfer in lieu of foreclosure with no additional consideration.
- Seller, transferor or transferee is an agency or authority of the United States of America, an agency or authority of the State of New Jersey, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Government National Mortgage Association, or a private mortgage insurance company.
- Seller is not individual, estate or trust and as such not required to make an estimated payment pursuant to N.J.S.A.54A:1-1 et seq.
- The total consideration for the property is \$1,000 or less and as such, the seller is not required to make an estimated payment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54A:5-1-1 et seq.

**SELLER(S) DECLARATION**

The undersigned understands that this declaration and its contents may be disclosed or provided to the New Jersey Division of Taxation and that any false statement contained herein could be punished by fine, imprisonment, or both. I furthermore declare that I have examined this declaration and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct and complete.

March 10 , 2005

Date

  
David L. Hughes, City Clerk  
(Seller) Please indicate if Power of Attorney or Attorney in Fact

Date

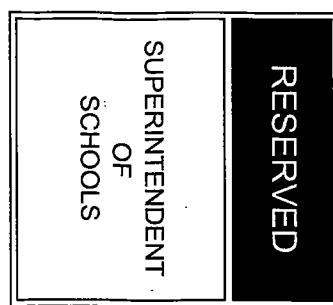
Signature

(Seller) Please indicate if Power of Attorney or Attorney in Fact

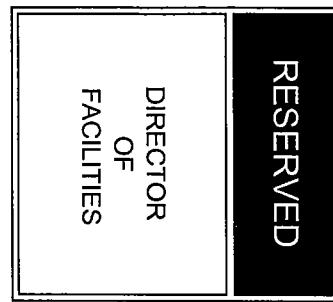
## Summit Administrative Offices

### Designated Parking

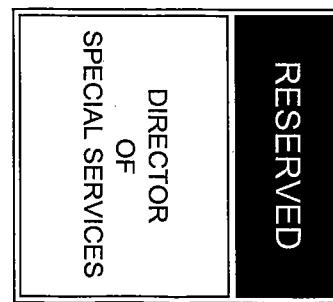
| Space # | Sign Description                     | Space # | Sign Description            | Space # | Sign Description                    |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1       | <b>SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS</b>     | 11      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b> | 22      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>         |
| 2       | <b>ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT</b>      | 12      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b> | 23      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>         |
| 3       | <b>SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR</b> | 13      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b> | 24      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>         |
| 4       | <b>ASST. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR</b>  | 14      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b> | 25      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>         |
| 5       | <b>DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES</b>   |         |                             |         |                                     |
| 6       | <b>DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES</b>        |         |                             |         |                                     |
| 7       | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>          | 66      | <b>VISITOR PARKING</b>      | 69      | <b>SPECIAL SERVICES STAFF</b>       |
| 8       | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>          | 67      | <b>VISITOR PARKING</b>      | 68      | <b>SPECIAL SERVICES STAFF</b>       |
| 9       | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>          | 68      | <b>VISITOR PARKING</b>      | 67      | <b>SPECIAL SERVICES STAFF</b>       |
| 10      | <b>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</b>          | 69      | <b>VISITOR PARKING</b>      | 66      | <b>DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES</b> |



Signs 12" x 18"



Signs 12" x 18"



Signs 12" x 18"

**STENCIL**  
CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF  
VISITORS  
TEACHING STAFF

2nd Slots  
2nd Slots  
2nd Slots  
2nd Slots  
**PRINCIPAL**  
**SPECIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR**  
**NURSE**  
**SECRETARY**

15-21  
54-63  
TEACHING STAFF  
TEACHING STAFF

**WILSON SCHOOL  
ONE STORY BRICK BUILDING**

**TOTAL LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE = 1.82 ACRES**

