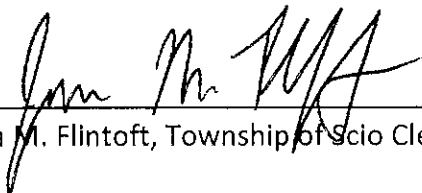


TOWNSHIP OF SCIO
PARKS & PATHWAYS MILLAGE POLICY

I hereby certify that the Parks and Pathways Millage Policy
was adopted by the Board of Scio Township at its regular meeting
held on December 13, 2022



Jessica M. Flintoft, Township of Scio Clerk

Parks & Pathways Millage Policy Statement

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to guide planning, construction, and maintenance of various facilities, funded in whole or in part by the Scio Township Parks & Pathways Millage or other funds, including nature preserves, parks, trails, recreational opportunities, and a network of non-motorized pathways in accordance with the Parks and Pathways Ordinance.

Goals: To develop and maintain nature preserves, parks, and non-motorized pathways. The resulting network of non-motorized pathways will connect Scio Township residents and visitors to nature preserves, parks, neighborhoods, the business district, and other community destinations. This network will serve as a safe means for movement throughout the Township for pedestrians and cyclists.

Background: In 2004, Scio residents supported a new millage to protect natural and agricultural land by funding the Open Space Fund, advised by the Land Preservation Commission (LPC). This millage was renewed in 2012. The LPC has protected nearly 1,500 acres since its inception, including multiple Township-owned nature preserves. In 2015, the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) was created to develop plans to make these accessible to the public.

In 2010, the Township's Paths Technical Advisory Commission issued a report recommending the creation of a network of shared-use pathways. Work began on the Zeeb Road Pathway. The Transportation Alternatives Planning Committee (TAP) was launched in 2017 and developed a concept plan for a system of pathways to allow people to move safely through the Township without using a motorized vehicle.

In 2019, the LPC, PAB, and TAP began to coordinate more closely. One resulting proposal was the Parks and Pathways Millage. The millage was placed on the ballot by the Scio Township Board of Trustees and approved by Township voters in August 2020.

In 2022, PAB and TAP combined to create the Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Committee (PPP). It was found that both PAB and TAP were working on similar projects under one budget; a coordinated effort seemed more effective and efficient than working as separate committees.

Authority: The Scio Township Board of Trustees is the decision-making authority.

Application: This policy applies to all Township elected officials, appointed officials, department heads, employees, contractors fall under the Parks and Pathways Ordinance.

Purpose: The fundamental purpose of the Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Committee (PPP Committee) is to advise and assist the Scio Township Director of Parks, Preserves, and Pathways (Director of PPP) and the Board of Trustees (BOT) in matters related to the implementation of the Scio Township Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan (PROS Plan). The PPP Committee will also advise and assist the Director of PPP and BOT on use of Parks & Pathway Millage, Tree Fund, and any other funds relevant to the accomplishment of its mission. Its

responsibility may include research, recommendations, and education related to the specific charge stated herein, and to assist the Township Board with implementation of projects in the PROS Plan. PPP will coordinate with the Planning Commission on recommendations to the BOT that include PUD engagement.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan: The Paths, Preserves, Parks, and Open Space Master Plan (PPPOS) will serve as the guiding document for expenditures of Parks & Pathways Millage funds, and other related funds. PPP will oversee the five-year update of the PROS Plan consistent with the Township Land Use Master Plan.

Plan Review: The PROS Plan is subject to review by the Planning Commission and approval by the Board of Trustees. The PROS Plan shall be amended as needed to incorporate required revisions from PPP. All parties will solicit and receive public input for the formulation of the PROS Plan and share in annual progress reports.

Coordination: PPP will coordinate with other Township bodies including the Planning Commission, Land Preservation Commission, and Downtown Development Authority. All bodies require one BOT representative as a member.

Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Project Management Team: An executive team, consisting of the Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Director, Township Administrator, and Township Supervisor may facilitate implementation and oversight of PPP projects. The Project Management team can draw on Township staff and consultants to advise as appropriate for each project. This forum may also serve as a means of coordination across other Commissions on relevant issues prior to project approval. The Parks, Preserves, and Pathways Director will act as liaison between the Project Management Team and PPP.

Implementation: All proposals to the BOT shall include a project plan which will provide costs, timeline, operational and financial resources, and Township responsibilities. The execution of a project plan may be overseen by the executive team and/or Township employees. Regular progress reports will be made to the appropriate originating body and the BOT.

Design Criteria: The Township will follow all the current Local, State, and Federal guidelines and laws which provide guidelines for safe and reasonable access to all. The following are guidelines are pathway element widths:

- Sidewalks: five (5) feet minimum width
- Paths: eight (8) feet minimum width
- Pathway bridges or boardwalks: ten (10) feet minimum width

Maintenance: The PPP will oversee planning and implementation for maintenance of preserves, parks, and non-motorized pathways. Township staff charged with responsibility for this work will review work plans with, and provide regular updates to, the PPP. Proposals for

major maintenance expenditures will be discussed and reviewed by PPP before submission to the BOT.