

Inventory and Analysis of Existing Facility Conditions

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (NHDES) SITE INSPECTION

Parks and Recreation Director Vint Choiniere met with NHDES Shoreland Section Supervisor Darlene Forst on September 14, 2016 to inspect each of the facilities that would be impacted by the recommended improvements outlined in this Master Plan. None of the recommended improvements were met with any particular concern by Ms. Forst. She highly recommended that the Town of Meredith submit an informal conceptual plan for each facility to the NHDES, prior to submitting a request for permit. During the site inspection, Ms. Forst recommended that any improvements to Upper and Lower Prescott Park requiring a NHDES permit be included on the same permit application. The site inspections were very positive and encouraging, as no major roadblocks were identified by Ms. Forst.

LOWER PRESCOTT PARK - 13 Acres

367 D.W. Highway

History

Prescott Lumber Company owner Frank Prescott donated land for the purpose of encouraging athletics and sports to the Town of Meredith in 1922. The Meredith High School baseball team played their first game at Prescott Park on May 5, 1928. Two tennis courts were added in 1940. Construction of Rt. 3 began in 1948 which had a major impact on Lower Prescott Park. A little league baseball field was constructed in 1956 located at the current Field 1 location. Lower Prescott Park was the site of the Town Dump until it was relocated to Jenness Hill Road in 1956. In 1965 a second youth ballfield was constructed, as well as a basketball court. In 1974 the ice skating rink was constructed and included lights. In 1979 a building once used as a blacksmith's shop was donated to the Town of Meredith, relocated to Lower Prescott Park and was dedicated to Ralph "Pa" Smith, a long time caretaker of the park. The concrete block restroom building was constructed in the mid 1980's and a wooden playground structure was added in 1989. Lower Prescott Park has been the site for the majority of recreational activity taking place in Meredith for nearly 100 years,

and it will continue to play a key role in providing recreational opportunities for the community well into the future.

Features:

- (1) 60' Diamond with skin infield with lights
 - (1) 60' Diamond with skin infield no lights
 - (1) Diamond with skin infield accommodates both 60' and 90' no Lights
 - (1) Batting cage
 - (2) Youth soccer fields no lights
 - (1) Ice skating rink with lights
 - (1) Basketball court with lights
 - (1) Skate park with lights
 - (1) Seasonal restroom building includes Town Water and Sewer Service, maintenance workshop, skate park service room, and equipment storage.
 - (1) Heated Storage Building
- Benches, Picnic Tables, Bleachers, Drinking Fountains
- Gravel parking lot -122 vehicle capacity

Lower Prescott Park – User Groups

Inter-Lakes High School

Varsity and JV Softball

Middle School Baseball & Softball

Middle School Boys & Girls Soccer

Youth League Baseball & Softball

Inter-Lakes Youth Soccer

Parks & Recreation Youth Soccer

Parks & Recreation Summer Camp

Parks & Recreation Summer Soccer Camp

Reach the Beach Road Race

Kennel Club Dog Show

Existing Conditions

Lower Prescott Park sees heavy use from April 15 through November 1 by many different scheduled sports groups. In the winter months primary uses are ice skating and snowmobiling. Although the athletic field playing surfaces are in good condition the remaining elements of the park are 50 years old, or older in some cases, and are in need of repair or replacement. Much of the park drains poorly, especially Fields 1 and 3, which has a negative impact on the spring baseball and softball schedule for Inter-Lakes High School. These two fields were unplayable far later in the season than ever before in 2017. The fact that there are no sidewalks or designated walking paths, and a lack of parking at Upper Prescott Park, combine to create very unsafe conditions for foot and vehicle traffic.

Recommended Improvements

Long Term: Design full renovation of Lower Prescott Park and construction of new parking lot and sidewalks at Upper Prescott Park.

Cost Estimate: \$35,500 **Projected Completion:** 2018

Given the age of the park elements and the magnitude of the issues caused by poor drainage and lack of parking at Upper Prescott Park it would be most efficient and cost effective to renovate Lower Prescott Park in one project. Although it would require a significant investment, in the long term it would be the most efficient method of making the much needed improvements. This option would also avoid the inefficiency of making improvements to individual elements of the park over the next 5 years, only to

effectively “lose” the improvements made if and when a full park renovation is needed in 12-15 years. If and when a full park renovation is made, commitment would be needed 2 years in advance, and the effort would need to be well coordinated between the Town of Meredith, SAU, and youth sports coordinators. During the construction phase many athletic programs would be displaced and a well-coordinated effort would be required to accommodate all the impacted programs. The Parks and Recreation Director, ILHS Athletic Director, and Youth Sports Coordinators all work very well together and each would play a key role in coordinating the effort. No matter what strategy is determined to sequence the scheduling of facility improvements, long term solutions to ever worsening conditions such as poor drainage, lack of parking, and unsafe pedestrian and vehicle traffic flow should be studied. These conditions will certainly worsen over time as demand for the park continues to increase. A full renovation of the park would include a thorough study of synthetic vs. natural playing surfaces, need for lighted facilities, skating rinks, indoor athletic space, etc. A careful review of annual maintenance costs would be included as well.

Short Term: Interior & Exterior Renovation of Restroom Building (Building #2)

Cost Estimate: \$ 11, 957 **Projected Completion:** 2017

The seasonal building is approximately 35 years old and is in poor condition. It houses a work shop for the Parks and Recreation Dept., seasonal restrooms, and storage for Inter-Lakes High School softball, youth league baseball and softball, and Parks and Recreation Dept. maintenance. The building requires a new roof, exterior trim, exterior paint, replacement of all toilets and sinks with commercial grade fixtures, lighting, and doors. All of these items are original to the building construction and are in need of replacement. The Parks and Recreation Dept. has partnered with the Meredith Rotary Club to complete this work, which is scheduled for 2017. The Rotary Club will provide professional labor and the Town of Meredith will provide the materials.

“You can measure the health of a town by the vitality and energy of its streets and public open space.”

~ William H. Whyte



Lower Prescott Park Restroom Building Roof Replacement and Other Repairs Required

Replenish & Grade Parking Lot & Service Road

Cost Estimate: \$15,000 **Projected Completion:** 2017

In 2010 the gravel parking lot was dramatically improved, as the project included grading specifications and 2 grass treatment swales, which drain into the wetlands just south of the parking lot. Although the project improved the parking lot conditions, it left the Parks and Recreation Dept. with a maintenance challenge. The grading specifications which were included in the DES permit required a very slight elevation pitch of 1%. This causes water to pool and remain long after every rain event, making conditions difficult for visitors to navigate after parking. It is also challenging for maintenance staff to paint the parking lot lines with water constantly in the way. The gravel service road leading from Lower Prescott Park to Upper Prescott Park is in very poor condition and is in need of repair.

The service road was originally intended to be utilized only by those authorized such as handicapped individuals or people with mobility issues, maintenance staff and very limited use by user groups, program volunteers, and coaches. Because the service road was expected to see limited use, the existing service road at the time the Upper Prescott Park Project was

constructed in 2002 was not upgraded. From 2002 to 2006 the service road was gated, limiting the amount of traffic to authorized personnel and handicap access. However, in 2006 the NH Governor's Commission on Disability ruled that the gate was in violation of The Americans with Disability Act, and ordered the gate to remain open at all times. This dramatically increased the traffic flow to Upper Prescott Park, which caused the service road to fail. Since that time the Parks and Recreation Dept. has attempted to maintain the service road with assistance from Public Works, however because it was originally constructed with limited traffic expectations, it is always filled with pot holes and water pooling. The Parks and Recreation Dept. has partnered with the Public Works Dept. to properly build and shape the service road as well as replenish the gravel and regrade the parking lot. Work is scheduled to be completed in 2017.



Lower Prescott Park Parking Lot - Ponding After Rain Events

Resurface Basketball Court at Prescott Park

Cost Estimate: \$9,000 per resurfacing

Projected Completion: 2017

Cracks are present in the court surface. Although the court is safe, cracks are now wide enough to worsen quickly. Recommendation is to repair the cracks with the Armor Repair System, the same process that has been used to successfully resurface the tennis courts in the past. The cost estimate includes coloring the surface and painting the court lines. The Armor System applies three layers of surface and a strong bonding material to repair the cracks. The contractor has estimated the repair will hold for 7 years. The repairs are scheduled for completion in 2017 and are funded within the 2017 operating budget. Industry standards recommend resurfacing asphalt surfaces every 5 years. Additional funding is included in the master plan budget.

Evaluate Skate Park Viability & Operational Procedures/Research Upgrade Cost

History

In 2000 and 2001, prior to building the skate park, the Parks and Recreation Dept. offered several bus trips to skate parks in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. The trips were very popular and typically 30-40 students in grades 4-12 participated on each trip. The trips were organized by Parks & Recreation Director Vint Choiniere in response to the growth and popularity of the sport.



At that time it was commonplace to see many skate board and biking enthusiast skating and biking down the middle of Main Street, often times grinding on curbing, store fronts, park benches, or anything at all that they could enjoy as a challenging obstacle. Although they meant no harm this activity obviously threatened the safety of bikers and skaters, motorists, pedestrians, and it disrupted activity for business establishments as well.

During this time the Parks & Recreation Director thoroughly researched the possibility of building a skate park here in Meredith. Topics of his research included construction materials, hours of operation, policies and procedures, liability insurance, safety precautions, skate park special events such as competitions and lessons, and whether or not to supervise the skate park. Although elements constructed out of concrete or steel frames with skate like riding surfaces were available at the time, they were cost prohibitive and the project had no start-up funding. Therefore it was determined that the elements would be constructed out of wood frames and steel riding surfaces. Although these materials do not have as long a life span they would be more affordable and more easily constructed by local contractors and volunteers. There was strong support from everyone involved to require the skate park to be supervised at all times, and this policy has been in place during the skate park's entire existence.

The Town of Meredith made the first contribution by paving over the old tennis courts no longer being used, allowing for that location to become the site of the new skate park. It was ideal in that it was fenced in and included lights. Initial fund raising provided enough materials to allow the construction of 5 elements, with the assistance of local contractors. The skate park opened in the fall of 2001 and it was immediately very successful with strong participation. A typical day would draw 35-50 participants. An attempt was made to supervise the skate park with volunteers. However, within a few weeks after opening the volunteers were unavailable to fulfill their original commitment. The Parks and Recreation Director stepped in and provided the supervision himself for the remainder of the fall season until the park closed for the season in late October. Given the popularity of the skate park and the strong desire by parents, the Parks and Recreation Director, and the Board of Selectmen to maintain supervision at the skate park, funding was included in the 2002 Parks and Recreation Department operating budget to supervise the skate park with paid staff. Thanks to funding provided by the Glenn Hart Fund, William Andrews, The Town of

Meredith, and many others who donated time, services, materials, and funding, several additional elements were added in 2002-2004. On August 2, 2003 the skate park was dedicated to Glenn Hart, and named the Glenn Hart Memorial Skate Park in his memory.

Skate Park Attendance Declines & Hours of Operation Are Reduced

From 2001-2008 attendance at the skate park remained strong, averaging 35-50 participants per day. The skate park was open from 3:00-8:00 on school days and 12:00-8:00 on non-school days, including weekends. Special events were offered and coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Dept. such as skate boarding lessons and competitions. From 2008-2012 attendance began to decline, with the skate park drawing an average daily attendance of 12-15 participants, and special events were no longer viable.

The Parks and Recreation Department received substantial budget cuts in 2010 and 2012, and the budget was level funded in the years following the reductions. Funding was cut for many long standing services and programs. For example lifeguards were eliminated at both beaches, a loss of staffing was experienced in maintenance, summer camp, and the after school program. Funding for programs such as the Concert Series, Easter Egg Hunt, and Family Movie Night was eliminated. Programs that did not generate revenue or were experiencing low participation were the first to be eliminated or see a reduction. The skate park operated free of charge to participants and due to declining participation and budget reductions, the hours of operation were reduced to Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays beginning in 2013. The skate park operated 3 days per week from 2013-2015 and participation continued to decline during those years. In 2016 the skate park hours were further reduced to Saturday and Sunday. The average daily attendance in recent years has been as follows: 2015 (7.3), 2016 (7.7), and 2017 (6.2).

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Future of the Skate Park

Q. Does the Town of Meredith have funding available to replace the aging wooden elements and replace the cracking pavement?

A. The Town of Meredith does not currently have funding earmarked for the replacement of the elements and/or pavement. The Parks and Recreation Dept. has maintained the structural integrity of the elements and painted the riding surfaces each year. The original

wooden elements, which are still in use, represent approximately 50% of the elements and have little useful life remaining. The cracks in the pavement are filled each year, however this only has served to slow the rate of cracking and many are in need of repairs by a professional contractor. Brendan Hart, Glenn Hart's son, has been discussing the possibility of making upgrades to the skate park with Parks and Recreation Director Vint Choiniere during the past year. Brendan recently launched a Go Fund Me campaign to benefit the skate park.

Q. Would the Town of Meredith consider supervising the skate park with volunteers?

A. Town Manager Phil Warren has indicated that he would not support volunteer supervision due to liability and the fact that the position requires the volunteer to enforce compliance of policies. Early attempts to supervise the skate park with volunteers failed, and it is unrealistic to expect volunteers to stay committed to an operation schedule of 7 days per week for 7 months, as was originally the case. Even a schedule of fewer hours would be difficult to maintain with volunteers, as even the most well intentioned volunteers have busy lives that are filled with higher priorities.



Q. Would the Town of Meredith consider operating the skate park without supervision?

A. According to Town Manager Phil Warren, the Town of Meredith's Liability Insurance provider looks upon the skate park operation more favorably because it is supervised by paid staff.

Q. Would the Town of Meredith consider funding the expansion of hours at the skate park?

A. This question will be answered during the 2018 budget discussion, which will begin in October 2017. Although participation numbers have decreased over the past few years, advocates for the skate park feel that the decline in participation is related to the reduced hours and the inability of the Town of Meredith to replace the aging elements. Advocates feel that that if the hours were expanded, and some new concrete elements were added, and if the aging asphalt was replaced with a new concrete skating surface, the improvements would generate a renewed interest and participation numbers would increase. The decision to expand the hours of operation with paid supervision is a decision to be made by the Board of Selectmen after careful review of all the circumstances.

Q. What would it cost to expand the skate park hours to 7 days per week?

A. The additional cost to staff the skate park from 3:00PM-8:00PM on school days and from 12:00PM-8PM on non-school days from April 15-October 31 would be \$ 13,625.

Recommendations

Obtain Repair Cost Estimates: TBD **Projected Completion:** September 2017

If given direction by the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen to do so at the Master Plan discussion scheduled on July 17, 2017 the Parks and Recreation Director will research cost estimates to purchase new concrete elements and to replace the aging pavement with a concrete riding surface. Approximately 50% of the wooden elements are in good condition and have useful life remaining. Removing and replacing the pavement with concrete would require a substantial commitment, both in funding and logistically. All elements would need to be moved out of the skate park in order to remove the asphalt and pour the new concrete slab. Many of the elements are too large and heavy to move without being damaged. Given that the majority of the larger elements are located on one half of the skate park, one option

might be to replace the pavement on the other half of the skate park with concrete, and repair the remaining pavement with a contracted service. This would allow new concrete elements to be placed on the concrete section of the newly aligned area, along with wooden elements still in good condition. Fortunately most of the larger elements are among those that are newer, were constructed by a professional skate park builder, and they are among the most popular by participants.

In order for the skate park to be viable and regain the important role it once played, a community wide effort will be necessary. Under any scenario the effort will certainly require a cooperate effort between public and private agencies, something the Parks and Recreation Department has been successful with many times in the past.

Replace Backstop and Fencing at Field #2

Cost Estimate: \$ 20,000 **Projected Completion:** 2018

The backstop and fencing at Field #2 is in very poor condition and is in need of replacement. Repairs have been made however the backstop is now leaning heavily. Footings are visible and are beyond repair.



*Lower Prescott Park
Field #2 ~ Fencing and Backstop in need of replacement*

Evaluate “Pa Smith” Building

Cost Estimate: TBD

Projected Completion: 2018

The “Pa Smith” building, up until the opening of the Community Center in 2006, served as a program building for the Parks and Recreation Dept. Since 2006 it has been utilized as storage for both maintenance and seasonal program equipment. Several years ago the Meredith Code Enforcement Officer expressed concern over the safety of the building given its’ age and condition, and recommended using only the first floor for storage. He recommended utilizing the second floor very sparingly. The building has working electric heat, but is never heated. The building sits on cinder blocks and has shifted over the years. The building should be evaluated thoroughly by a qualified professional to determine whether or not it is safe to use. Given that the building once served as a blacksmith shop, and was donated to the Town of Meredith, it should also be evaluated by an architectural historian to see if it has value in this regard. Once the research has been completed a determination can then be made as to the best course of action to take regarding the building.



“Pa Smith” Building

Repair Field #3 Batting Cage

Cost Estimate: \$2,000

Projected Completion: 2018

The Field #3 batting cage was installed in 1994. Repairs have been made over the years however the stability of the posts have been compromised and some of the fencing fabric has failed due to the pounding of the balls against it during batting practice. The posts require corner braces to stabilize them and the fabric is in need of replacement.



Batting Cage Field #3

Ice Skating Rink: Improve the ability to make, maintain, and preserve a quality ice skating surface

Cost Estimate: TBD

Projected Completion: TBD

Because the skating rink is exposed to the elements and the ability to maintain quality ice is dependent on the weather and temperatures, it is a challenge to provide quality skating

conditions on a consistent basis. The rink has a gravel bed and is enclosed by a gravel berm along the perimeter. Hawkins Brook serves as the source of water for flooding. The recommendation is to obtain cost estimates to add features such as a warming hut and heat to the existing restroom to make the rink more user friendly. To provide the best possible skating surface it is recommended that a hard surface be added to the rink to provide a level and consistent surface on which to make ice. It is also recommend that a hot water source be added to allow for a quality finish coat when flooding. Hot water would also allow the use of a mini Zamboni to be utilized to prepare quality ice conditions. The hot water source would also serve the restroom if one could be added. A public address system would allow music to be played during special events, family skating nights, and would also allow coordinators of events to make announcements. Providing a roof over the rink would be a tremendous asset to keep the elements off the ice surface. The rink could serve many purposes during the warm weather months as well. Given that the current rink location has lights it has great potential to be a popular recreation area. Many students who responded to the Master Plan survey indicated that they would enjoy more skating opportunities.

It may also be possible to relocate the skating rink to the basketball court or tennis courts given that both have a hard surface and lights. All of these options should be researched so that best option can be developed to improve the skating opportunities to the community.

Leave all the afternoon for exercise and recreation, which are as necessary as reading. I will rather say more necessary because health is worth more than learning.”

~Thomas Jefferson



Prescott Park Ice Skating Rink



Prescott Park Ice Skating Party



Field #1



Soccer Field A



Field #2



Soccer Field B

Install New Play Experience Area

Cost Estimate: \$85,000

Projected Completion: TBD

The wooden playground structure installed in 1989 was demolished and removed in the fall of 2016. The slide was cracked in several places, swing bearings were failing, and replacement parts were unavailable for the structure. A new play space in the same location would serve many different programs such as the Summer Camp Program and After School Program. A new creative play experience in that location would also serve the many families who attend sporting events at the park, as siblings of the game participants would enjoy the playground while the game is being played. An effort would be made to provide a play experience that is unique and not a duplication of any other existing playgrounds in the community.



Site of Future Play Experience Area

Purchase Above Ground Irrigation Rain Cannon

Cost Estimate: \$9,000

Projected Completion: 2018

The athletic fields do not have an automated underground irrigations system making them vulnerable to brown out conditions in July and early August. It is recommended that an above ground water cannon be purchased and incorporated into the turf management schedule. This would be a valuable addition to the maintenance team's resources. The existing well would serve as the source of water for the water cannon.



Brownout due to lack of water

UPPER PRESCOTT PARK - 21.74 Acres

367 Daniel Webster Highway

History

The property where Upper Prescott Park is located was originally owned by the Inter-Lakes School District. An agreement was established between the Town of Meredith and the

school district in 1998, whereby the school district provided use of the site for recreation and the Town of Meredith agreed to develop, maintain, and manage the park. The Prescott Park Expansion Committee was formed to conduct a recreational needs analysis, design the park, and establish a shared usage philosophy of the park. It was determined that the park would be managed and scheduled by the Parks and Recreation Director. The park would be reserved for school district use on school days from 2:30PM-5:30PM. All other times would be shared between the Parks and Recreation Department, youth sports leagues, and the general community.

The shared use originally established by the committee has worked very well and remains in place today. A good working relationship between the Parks and Recreation Director, Inter-Lakes Athletic Director, and the various user group coordinators has allowed for scheduling flexibility. This has worked well for scheduling coordination especially when facing weather related re-scheduling of athletic events. The park opened and was dedicated on September 13, 2003. The New Hampshire Phantoms professional soccer team provided a youth soccer clinic which was followed by youth soccer games played by the Inter-Lakes Youth Soccer League.



Prescott Park Opening Day and Dedication Ceremony - September 13, 2003

Features

- (1) 90' Baseball Diamond
 - (1) Batting Cage
 - (1) Triple Bull Pen
 - (1) Youth Soccer Field
 - (1) Regulation Soccer Field
 - (6) Tennis Courts (2 with lights)
 - (1) Restroom with Town Water and Sewer Service, Maintenance, Storage Building
 - (2) Walking trails connecting to the Inter-Lakes School District campus
- Irrigation System: All Fields are Equipped with Automated Irrigation
- Benches, Picnic Table, Bleachers, Drinking Fountains

Upper Prescott Park - User Groups

Inter-Lakes High School
Varsity & JV Baseball
Varsity Boys & Girls Tennis
Varsity & JV Boys & Girls Soccer
Varsity & JV Boys & Girls Lacrosse
Inter-Lakes Youth Soccer
Youth Lacrosse
Babe Ruth Baseball
Legion Baseball
Adult Baseball
Adult Soccer
Adult Tennis (60 members in the adult tennis club)
Inter-Lakes Day Care – Tennis Lessons
Parks and Recreation Tennis Lessons
Walkers on Service Loop Road



Field #4 and Tennis Courts

Existing Conditions

Upper Prescott Park is heavily used from April 1 to November 1 by all of the user groups listed above. All playing surfaces and the tennis courts are in very good condition. The park drainage plan was well designed and the playing surfaces are playable soon after rain events. The tennis courts have been resurfaced every 5 years and are in good condition.

As explained previously in the Lower Prescott Park section the original plan for Upper Prescott Park included only limited parking for authorized personnel and for people with handicaps and mobility issues. When parking was no longer restricted in 2006, a very unsafe conflict was created among vehicles and pedestrians, and the conflict continues today. The park lacks safe walking paths and adequate parking. Two existing battery operated scoreboards, which serve the baseball and soccer fields are obsolete. The baseball scoreboard is inoperable and replacement parts for repairs are unavailable. The walking paths connecting

the park to the Inter-Lakes School District campus are steep in some areas and the walking surfaces could be improved. The addition of lighting along the paths would add a great deal of safety and security.

Recommended Improvements - Design Parking Lot and Sidewalks

Cost Estimate: Included in Lower Prescott Park Design **Projected Completion:** 2018

Contract with a professional design firm to design additional parking and safe traffic flow for vehicles and pedestrians traveling to and from Upper Prescott Park. Scope of work should include updating of the storm water management plan, existing site data, and consultation with DES, a civil engineer, and landscape architect.

This recommendation is of the highest priority at the park, as it presents a dangerous risk every day from April 1 to November 1 from 2:30PM-Dusk. Once the gate at the entrance of the service road in Lower Prescott Park was opened on a permanent basis in 2006, the original layout of Upper Prescott Park was sure to fail. All of the fields and courts are scheduled to their capacity each and every day during the school year. On many occasions games and practices are scheduled on the fields at the same time. At these peak times the risk to pedestrians is severe. With the lack of any organized or formal parking area cars are parked on both sides of the service road, around the building blocking access to maintenance doors, and in grass areas.

The area is filled with blind spots as cars are constantly backing into traffic as pedestrians are walking in the same service road with very young children in hand while also pushing a stroller. Pedestrians are forced to walk in the same travel path as vehicles because there are no sidewalks or walking paths on which to walk. The greatest risk is created when cars block access gates to the fields and tennis courts, blocking access through the gates for emergency response vehicles responding to an injured athlete. The congested parking also prevents an emergency response vehicle from travelling freely up the service road in response to an emergency.

Eyewitness reports confirm that emergencies have occurred that required owners of parked cars that were blocking the access gate to be located, and asked to move their car, to allow the emergency vehicle access through the gate to attend to an injured athlete. Proper no

parking signage is posted on all gates and at the building. All parties involved such as the administrators of athletic programs, coaches, players, and visiting team bus drivers have all been asked to park in the parking lots located at Lower Prescott Park or the Inter-Lakes School District campus. The Police Department has been made aware of the situation. However, so few comply with the request and given that the situation has only worsened since 2006, it is imperative that a new parking lot and traffic flow is developed, to allow for vehicles and pedestrians to safely visit and enjoy the park.



Blocking Emergency Access Gate









Construct New Parking Lot, Sidewalks and Drainage.

Cost Estimate: TBD

Projected Completion: 2019

Construct new parking lot, sidewalks and drainage as designed by the professional design firm.

Replace Baseball Scoreboard

Cost Estimate: \$8,000

Projected Completion: 2018

The baseball scoreboard is battery operated, was installed in 2003, is no longer working, is obsolete and parts are no longer available for repairs. The scoreboard must be replaced with a new scoreboard powered by electricity. The cost estimate includes the installation of a new electrical source to power the new scoreboard.

Install lighting and improve conditions along the north and south trails

Cost Estimate: \$50,000

Projected Completion: 2020

The north and south walking trails connect the park to the Inter-Lakes School District campus. In some locations the elevations are steep, especially on the north trail, making it challenging for some to navigate. It is also challenging to navigate the trails at dusk, especially after the conclusion of soccer practices and games in the fall. The trails are heavily used. It is recommended that a stairway be added to the north trail where the elevation rise is steep to ease the walk up the hill to the elementary school. It is also recommended that lighting be added to both trails for safety and security. The Inter-Lakes School District has supported the idea of making these improvements in early discussions with their maintenance administrator. This project would require, and undoubtedly receive from both parties, a cooperative effort between the Town of Meredith and the school district.



*Looking down the north trail connecting the
Inter-Lakes School District campus to Upper Prescott Park*

Install netting to protect tennis players from foul balls coming from adjacent baseball field

Cost Estimate: \$15,000 **Projected Completion:** 2018

Foul balls hit from the baseball field into the tennis courts places the tennis players at risk of being struck by the foul balls. The risk is present nearly every day as baseball and tennis activity very often take place at the same time.

Replace lighting at the tennis courts with LED lighting

Cost Estimate: \$15,000 **Projected Completion:** 2027

This recommendation is meant to recognize that although the existing lights are in good working order, they will require an upgrade at some point.