



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Commonwealth Transportation Board

Shannon Valentine
Chairperson

1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(804) 786-2701
Fax: (804) 786-2940

Agenda item # 5

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

January 19, 2021

MOTION

Made By: Mr. Stinson, Seconded By: Dr. Smoot

Action: Motion Carried, Unanimously

**Title: Recreational Access to Christiansburg Signature Park
Project RECR-154-253, Town of Christiansburg**

WHEREAS, § 33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia* sets forth that the General Assembly of Virginia has found and declared that it is “. . . in the public interest that access roads and bikeways to public recreational areas and historical sites be provided . . .” and sets aside highway funds for such purpose, “. . . [w]hen the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation has designated a public recreational area as such . . . and recommends to the [Commonwealth Transportation] Board that an access road or bikeway be provided or maintained to that area”; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) have adopted a joint policy to govern the use of the Recreational Access Fund pursuant to § 33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia*; and

WHEREAS, the Christiansburg Town Council has, by appropriate resolution, requested Recreational Access funds to provide roadway access to adequately serve recreational facilities located off of Peppers Ferry Road Northwest (Virginia State Route 114) and said roadway access is estimated to cost \$1,709,473; and

WHEREAS, this request has been considered by the Director of DCR and has been found to comply with the provisions of § 33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia* and has designated the site a public recreation area.

Resolution of the Board

Recreational Access – Christiansburg Signature Park – Town of Christiansburg

January 19, 2021

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that from the Recreational Access Fund \$350,000 (\$250,000 unmatched and \$100,000 matched) be allocated to construct the access road and \$75,000 (\$60,000 unmatched and \$15,000 matched) be allocated to construct the bikeway to the Christiansburg Signature Park, Project RECR-154-253, contingent upon:

1. All right of way, environmental assessments and remediation, and utility adjustments being provided at no cost to the Commonwealth; and
2. Execution of an appropriate contractual agreement between the Town of Christiansburg and VDOT to provide for the:
 - a. design, administration, construction and maintenance of this project;
 - b. payment of all ineligible project costs, and of any eligible project costs in excess of the allocation amount for the roadway access project from sources other than those administered by VDOT; and
 - c. provision of the required matching fund, up to \$115,000, by the Town of Christiansburg for appropriately documented eligible project costs.

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CTB Decision Brief

Recreational Access – Town of Christiansburg Christiansburg Signature Park

Issue: Pursuant to § 33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia*, the Town Council of Christiansburg has requested funds from the Recreational Access Program to provide adequate roadway access to facilities within Christiansburg Signature Park.

Facts: Section 33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia* provides that the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) shall expend from funds set aside for the construction of access roads and bikeways to public recreational areas and historical sites. CTB Policy requires that the locality provide all rights of way, utility adjustments, and environmental assessments and remediation at no cost to the Commonwealth. Further, this section of the *Code of Virginia* grants the CTB the authority to construct access roads and bikeways to public recreational areas and historical sites when the governing body of the locality in which the access road is to be provided passes a resolution requesting the road and when the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has designated the public recreational area as such and recommends to the CTB that an access road be provided to that area.

The Town of Christiansburg owns and operates Signature Park and plans to construct new facilities within the 45 acres of recreational area off of Peppers Ferry Road Northwest (Virginia State Route 114). New facilities planned include a dog park, four sports fields, a playground and pavilion, and parking facilities that do not currently have adequate access. The proposed project consists of a 330-foot right turn lane on Route 114, and a 45-foot wide median divided asphalt roadway from Peppers Ferry Road Northwest (Virginia State Route 114), south approximately 0.18 mile to the new parking area. The roadway access project will also include the construction of a shared-use path, which will connect Peppers Ferry Road Northwest (Virginia State Route 114) to the park. The Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT's) Salem District staff has estimated the cost of the road access project to be \$1,709,473. The Town of Christiansburg will administer the design and construction of the proposed road access project and the road will become part of the Town's system, maintained by the Town.

VDOT's Local Assistance Division has coordinated with DCR staff to confirm support for the project. The Director of DCR has designated Christiansburg Signature Park as a public recreational area (attached) and recommends utilization of Recreational Access funds to provide adequate access to the park.

Recommendations: VDOT recommends that Recreational Access Program funding in the maximum amount of \$350,000 (\$250,000 unmatched and \$100,000 matched) for the construction of roadway access be approved and \$75,000 (\$60,000 unmatched and \$15,000 matched) for the construction of bikeway access be approved, subject to certain contingencies

Action Required by the CTB: Prior to expending funds set aside for access roads to public recreational areas and historical sites, the *Code of Virginia* specifies that the CTB shall declare by resolution that the access road project be provided. A resolution is provided for formal vote.

CTB Decision Brief
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Result, if Approved: The aforementioned allocations will be made and VDOT and the Town of Christiansburg will proceed with the recreational access roadway project.

Options: Approve, Deny, or Defer.

Public Comments/Reaction: None

TOWN OF CHRISTIANSBURG

Established November 10, 1792

Incorporated January 7, 1833



RESOLUTION REQUESTING FUNDING FOR A COMBINED RECREATIONAL ACCESS ROAD AND BIKEWAY

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Christiansburg Town Council held on April 14, 2020, on a motion by Stipes, seconded by Huppert, the following resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 to 1:

WHEREAS, the Christiansburg Signature Park property is owned and is to be developed by the Town of Christiansburg, as a recreational facility serving the residents of Christiansburg and adjoining localities; and,

WHEREAS, the property on which this facility will be located has no access to a public street or roadway and will require the construction of a new roadway which will connect to Peppers Ferry Road, N.W. (Virginia State Route 114); and,

WHEREAS, the procedure governing the allocation of recreational access funds as set forth in Section 33.2-1510 of the Code of Virginia requires joint action by the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Commonwealth Transportation Board; and,

WHEREAS, a statement of policy agreed upon between the said Director and Board approves the use of such funds for the construction of access facilities to publicly-owned recreational or historical areas; and,

WHEREAS, the Council has duly adopted a zoning ordinance pursuant to Article 7 (Section 15.2-2280 et seq), Chapter 22, Title 15.2 of the Code of Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, it appears to this Council that all requirements of the law have been met to permit the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to designate the Christiansburg Signature Park as a public recreational facility and further permit the Commonwealth Transportation Board to provide funds for access to this public recreation/historical area in accordance with Section 33.2-1510 of the Code of Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, the Council agrees, in keeping with the intent of Section 33.2-405 of the Code of Virginia, to use its good offices to reasonably protect the aesthetic or cultural value of this road leading to or within areas of historical, natural or recreational significance; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Christiansburg acknowledges that the State Environmental Review Process (SERP) must be completed prior to any construction activity on this project as a condition of the use of the Recreational Access Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Christiansburg hereby guarantees that the necessary environmental analysis, mitigation, and fee simple right of way for this improvement, and utility relocations or adjustments, if necessary, will be provided at no cost to the Virginia Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Christiansburg Town Council hereby requests the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to designate the Christiansburg Signature Park as a public recreational area and to recommend to the Commonwealth Transportation Board that recreational access funds be allocated for an adequate access road to serve said park area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commonwealth Transportation Board is hereby requested to allocate the necessary recreational access funds to provide a suitable access road and bikeway as hereinbefore described.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager and/or his designee(s) be authorized to act on behalf of the Town Council to execute any and all documents necessary to secure the funding sought through the Recreational Access Program up to, but not exceeding, \$425,000 state funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Christiansburg Town Council hereby agrees that the new roadway including the bikeway so constructed will be added to and become a part of the road system of the Town of Christiansburg.

Upon a call for an aye or nay vote on the foregoing resolution at a regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Christiansburg, Virginia held April 14, 2020, members of Council stood opposite their names as indicated:

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Samuel M. Bishop	X			
Johana Hicks		X		
Steve Huppert	X			
Merissa Sachs	X			
Henry D. Showalter	X			
Bradford J. Stipes	X			
D. Michael Barber, Mayor*				

* Votes only in the event of a tie.


Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council


D. Michael Barber, Mayor

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



Rochelle Altholz
Deputy Director of
Administration and Finance

Russell W. Baxter
Deputy Director of
Dam Safety & Floodplain
Management and Soil & Water
Conservation

Nathan Burrell
Deputy Director of
Government and Community Relations

Thomas L. Smith
Deputy Director of
Operations

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

October 19, 2020

Mr. Stephen C. Brich, P. E.
Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Commissioner Brich:

In accordance with §33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia*, I recommend designating the Christiansburg Signature Park at 300 Peppers Ferry Road in the Town of Christiansburg as a public recreation area. The park land is approximately 45 acres and owned by the Town. Plans for significant improvements including sports fields, a playground, pavilion and parking are currently underway.

I hereby recommend to the Virginia Department of Transportation that Recreational Access Road funds be provided to this area as allowable under §33.2-1510 of the *Code of Virginia*.

Your Local Assistance Division can provide further details regarding the project.

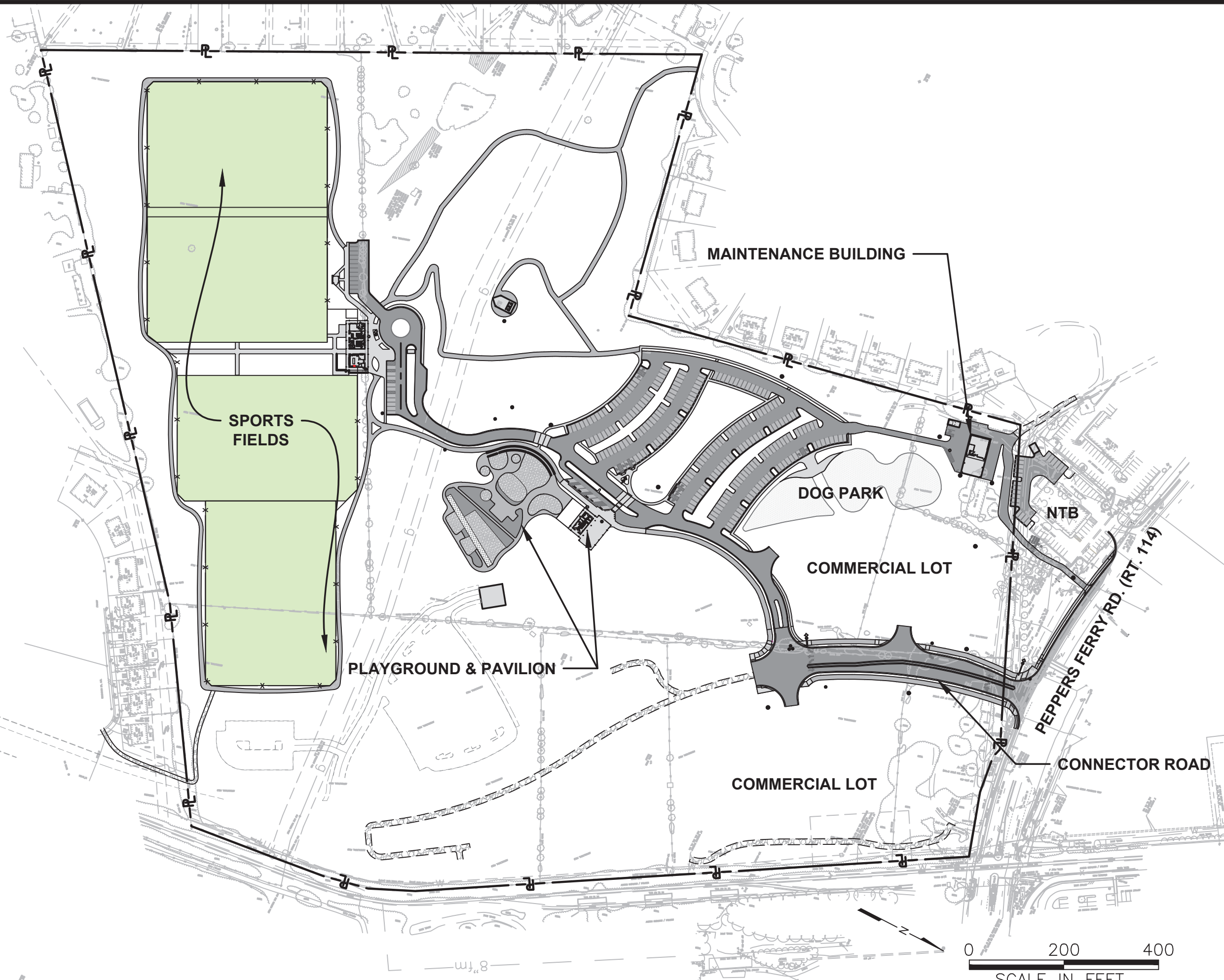
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clyde E. Cristman".

Clyde Cristman
Director

CC: Johnathan Liss, Virginia Department of Transportation, Local Assistance Division
Jesse Miller, Virginia Department of Transportation, Assistant Resident Engineer
Kelly McClary, Director of Planning & Recreation Resources Division, DCR
Wayne Nelson, Town of Christiansburg, Director of Engineering
Samantha Holtzscheiter, Town of Christiansburg, Civil Engineer

Apr. 07, 2020 - 12:15pm \\DATA01\Projects\2018\20181638\Engineering\CAD\20181638_SHEET_CONNECTOR_ENTRANCE_SKETCH.dwg



CHRISTIANSBURG PARK
300 PEPPERS FERRY RD
CHRISTIANSBURG, VA

PROJECT NO.	20181638
LAT.	37.158623
LONG.	-80.429428
DATE:	07 APR 2020
DRAWN BY:	BEC
CHECKED BY:	MTC

CONNECTOR ROAD AND PARK