



UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP

Comprehensive Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #1 (CM1)



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Procedures/ Meeting Logistics
3. Why Plan?
4. Project Schedule
5. Project Scope
6. Site Reconnaissance Tour– June 18, 2024
7. Public Opinion Survey
8. Existing Data
9. Next Steps
10. Discussion



Consultant Team

Simone Collins Landscape Architecture – (610) 239-7601

- Peter Simone, RLA, FASLA, Principal
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- Robert Gladfelter, RLA, ASLA, Project Manager
rgladfelter@simonecollins.com
- Leonard Bustos, Staff Landscape Architect
lbustos@simonecollins.com



Certified Park & Recreational Professional

- Derek Dureka, CPRP



Steering Committee

- Matthew Bernard
- Ray Boronyak
- Lori Clement
- Karen Fitzpatrick
- Peter Grodziak
- Thomas Male
- Abigail Pasterski
- James Petrunak
- Bradley Reese
- Jorge Romero
- Yvonne Schweighardt
- John Serratore
- Mike Sicinski
- Jennine Thomas



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Procedures/ Logistics

In-Person Meetings

- Schedule: Confirmed
- Reminders
- Draft Notes + Presentation distribution:
Edits/Comments due 2 days after receipt
- Final notes approval by UMT
- Posting to UMT Website

Email Communications: Please copy R. Griffiths on communications to SC

Reminder: Committee Meeting Notes become part of the Appendix material of the report



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Why Plan?

Township park and recreation facilities are the most visible component of local government. Residents interact with Upper Macungie Township through parks and recreation more than any other township facility and program.

- Plan for current needs and future growth of Upper Macungie Township parks, open space, and recreation system
- The community facilities are essential green infrastructure that provides physical, spiritual & health benefits
- Makes your community competitive to attract businesses & residents
- Can be utilized as a planning tool to guide decision making for the Township for the next 10 to 20 years for improved facilities, non-motorized connectivity (trails), preserving open space, and enhancing recreational programming, maintenance, and staffing.



The growth of Upper Macungie...

Projected population growth of 18,000 between 2020 and 2050 (67% growth).
Total Lehigh Valley growth is 100,000 overall (you are 18% of that growth!)

14,000 new jobs in the Township between 2020 and 2050 (second only to Bethlehem)

- Where will these people play?
- Where will these people enjoy and be restored by the natural worlds?
- Where will these workers recharge their batteries?

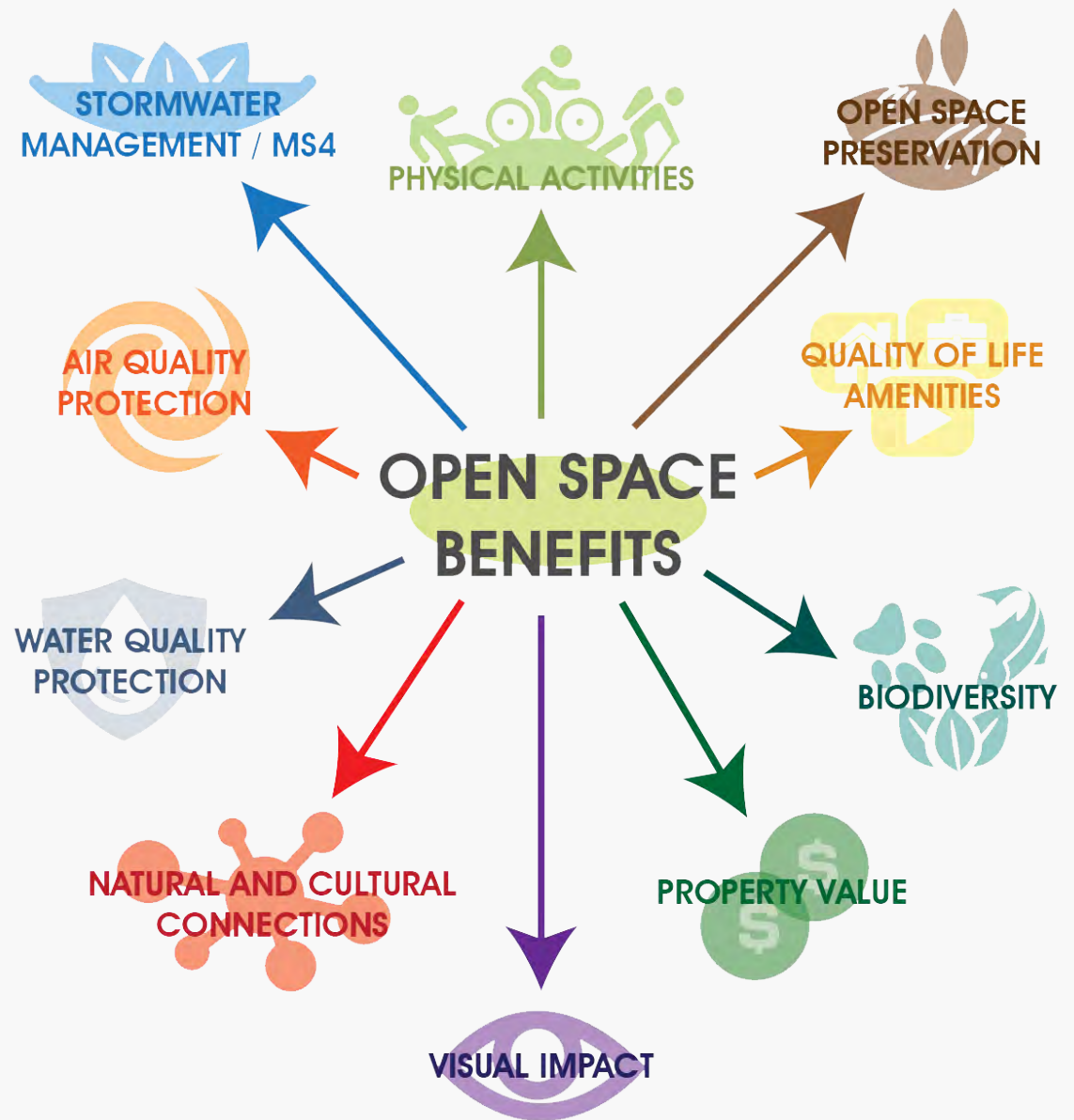
The Lehigh Valley Return on Environment Report (2014) takes on added significance in the context of this amazing growth in the Township and in the entire Lehigh Valley.



Open Space Definition

Open spaces are areas of land and water designated for use as active or passive recreation and/or for natural resource protection. Open space includes:

- Parks with both active and passive recreation
- Agricultural lands – including wineries
- Natural lands such as wetlands, woodlands, etc.
- Untended lands
- Connecting greenways, blueways, and trails

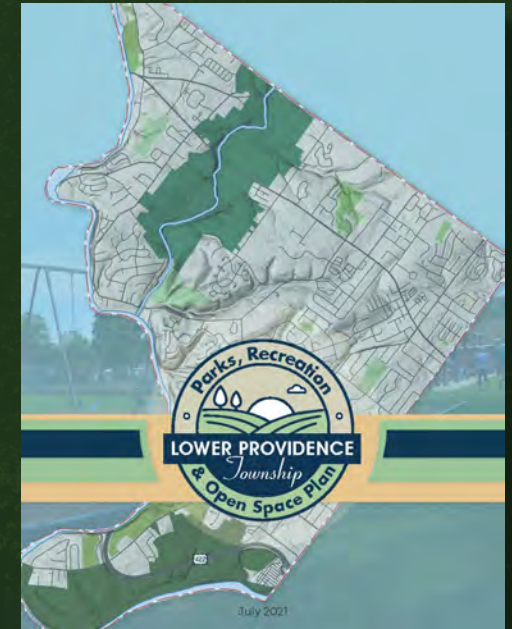
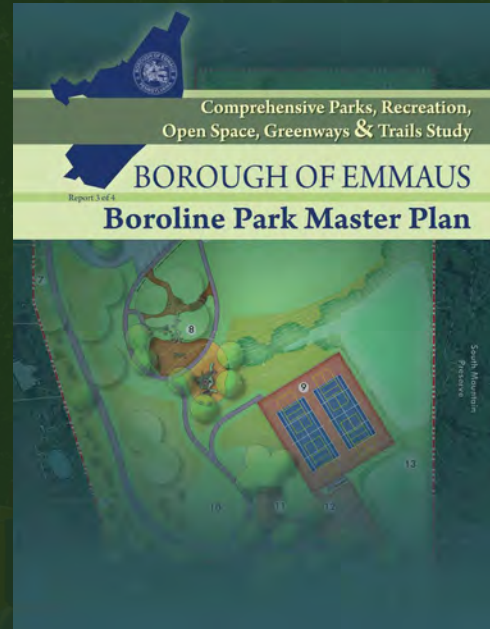


Consultant Experience

- Abington Township, Montgomery County, Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Plan
- Upper Saucon Township Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Greenway Plan
- Lower Providence Township, Montgomery County, Comprehensive Parks, Recreation & Greenway Plan
- Borough of Emmaus Comprehensive Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan
- East Hanover Township, Dauphin County Comprehensive Recreation Plan
- East Fallowfield Township, Chester County, Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan
- Bethel Township, Delaware County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan
- Woolwich Township Open Space & Recreation Plan, Woolwich, NJ
- Towamencin Township, Montgomery County, Parks System Evaluation & Recommendations
- Sullivan County Open Space and Greenway Plan
- Limerick Township, Montgomery County Open Space Plan
- Exeter Township, Berks County Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- Cumberland County Open Space Plan
- Monroe County Open Space Plan
- Green Lane Park Master Plan, Montgomery County (3400 acres)
- Detweiler Park Master Plan, Dauphin County



Consultant Experience



- Upper Saucon Township Comprehensive Recreation & Open Space Plan (2020)
- Borough of Emmaus Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Greenways & Trails Study (2021)
- Limerick Township Comprehensive Open Space Plan (2021)
- Lower Providence Township Parks, Recreation & Open Plan (2021)



Project Schedule



			2024						2025						
			JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE
NOTICE TO PROCEED		Thurs, June 6th	X												
PHASE 1 - PLAN GOALS & DATA COLLECTION				←											
PHASE 2 - BASE MAPPING-INVENTORY/ ANALYSIS				←											
PHASE 3 -RECOMMENDATIONS & COST ANALYSIS								←							
PHASE 4 - PLAN PREPARATION/ REPORT											←				
MEETINGS / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION															
Steering Committee Meeting #1	Kick-off, Protocols, Goals	Tue, Sep 10, 2024				X									
Steering Committee Meeting #2	Programming Brainstorming/ Visioning	Thu, Oct 10, 2024					X								
Steering Committee Meeting #3	Public input/ Focus Group Input Review	Tue, Nov 12, 2024						X							
Steering Committee Meeting #4	Initial Concept Review	Tue, Jan 14, 2025							X						
Steering Committee Meeting #5	Draft Plan Preview	Tue, Mar 04, 2025								X					
Steering Committee Meeting #6	Comment Review / Final Plan Revisions	Tue, May 06, 2025									X				
Public Meeting #1	Programming Brainstorming/ Visioning	Mon, Oct 21, 2024					X								
Public Meeting #2	Analysis & Initial Concepts	Tue, Jan 21, 2025							X						
Public Meeting #3	Draft Plan Presentation	Thu, Mar 13, 2025									X				
60 DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD											←				
Public Meeting #4	Final Plan Presentation	Tue, May 20, 2025												X	
Park & Recreation Board Meetings (2)		Thurs, Aug. 15, 2024 and Thurs, March 20, 2025			X							X			
Planning Commission Meeting (1)		Wed, Sep 18, 2024				X									
Board of Supervisors Meetings (2)		Thurs, Oct. 3, 2024 AND Thurs, May 1, 2025					X						X		
Focus Group Mtg 1	Recreational Programming	Oct. 2024				X									
Focus Group Mtg 2	Parks Facilities	Oct. 2024				X									
Focus Group Mtg 3	Open Space Preservation	Oct. 2024				X									
Public Communications: Press Releases/ Newsletter Articles	As Directed by Steering Committee		X						X						
Key Person Interviews (10)					←										
Online Public Survey				←											
Special UMT Events (3)	National Night Out (August 6th); Barktoberfest-Tent. Oct. 2024); Other Event-TBD			X											
Publish Final Report/ Plan		Fri, Jun 06, 2025													X



Project Schedule



Committee Meetings:

- Committee Meeting #1 - September 10, 2024 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Committee Meeting #2 - October 10, 2024 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Committee Meeting #3 - November 12, 2024 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Committee Meeting #4 - January 14, 2025 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Committee Meeting #5 - March 4, 2025 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Committee Meeting #6 - May 6, 2025 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)

Public Meetings:

- Public Meeting #1 - October 12, 2024 (7:00 PM)
- Public Meeting #2 - January 21, 2025 (7:00 PM)
- Public Meeting #3 - March 13, 2025 (7:00 PM)
- Public Meeting #4 - May 20, 2025 (7:00 PM)

Township Commission Meetings

- Park & Recreation Board Meeting - August 15, 2024 & March 20, 2025 (7:00 PM)
- Planning Commission Meeting - September 18, 2024 (7:00 PM)
- Board of Supervisors Meeting - October 3, 2024 & May 1, 2025 (7:00 PM)



Project Scope

Data Collection/ Analysis/ Engagement

1. Existing conditions inventory and data collection
2. Activities and facilities analysis
3. Site reconnaissance
4. Vision, goals & objectives
5. Public Participation
 - 4 Public Meetings
 - 6 Steering Committee Meetings
 - 3 Focus Group Meetings
 - 2 Park and Recreation Board Meetings
 - 2 Board of Supervisors Meetings
 - 1 Planning Commission Meeting
 - Township Staff Meetings
 - 10 Key Person Interviews (virtual)
 - Special Events
 - Press Releases
 - Public Opinion Survey



Recommendations

6. Report with recommendations for open space, recreational facilities and programming, and multi-modal and greenway connections
7. Implementation strategies
8. Regulations, management, planning and financing





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Site Reconnaissance

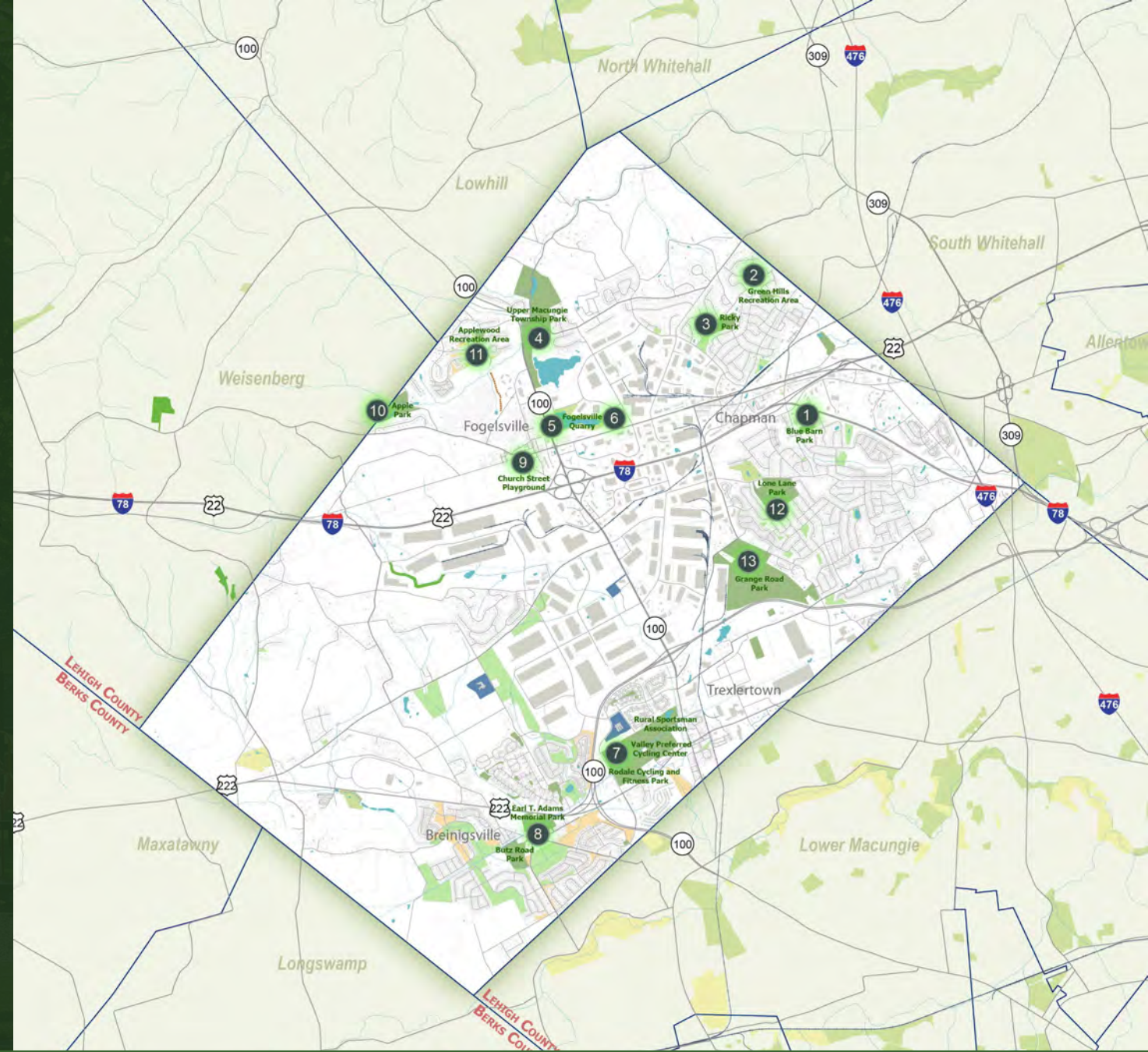


Site Reconnaissance – June 18



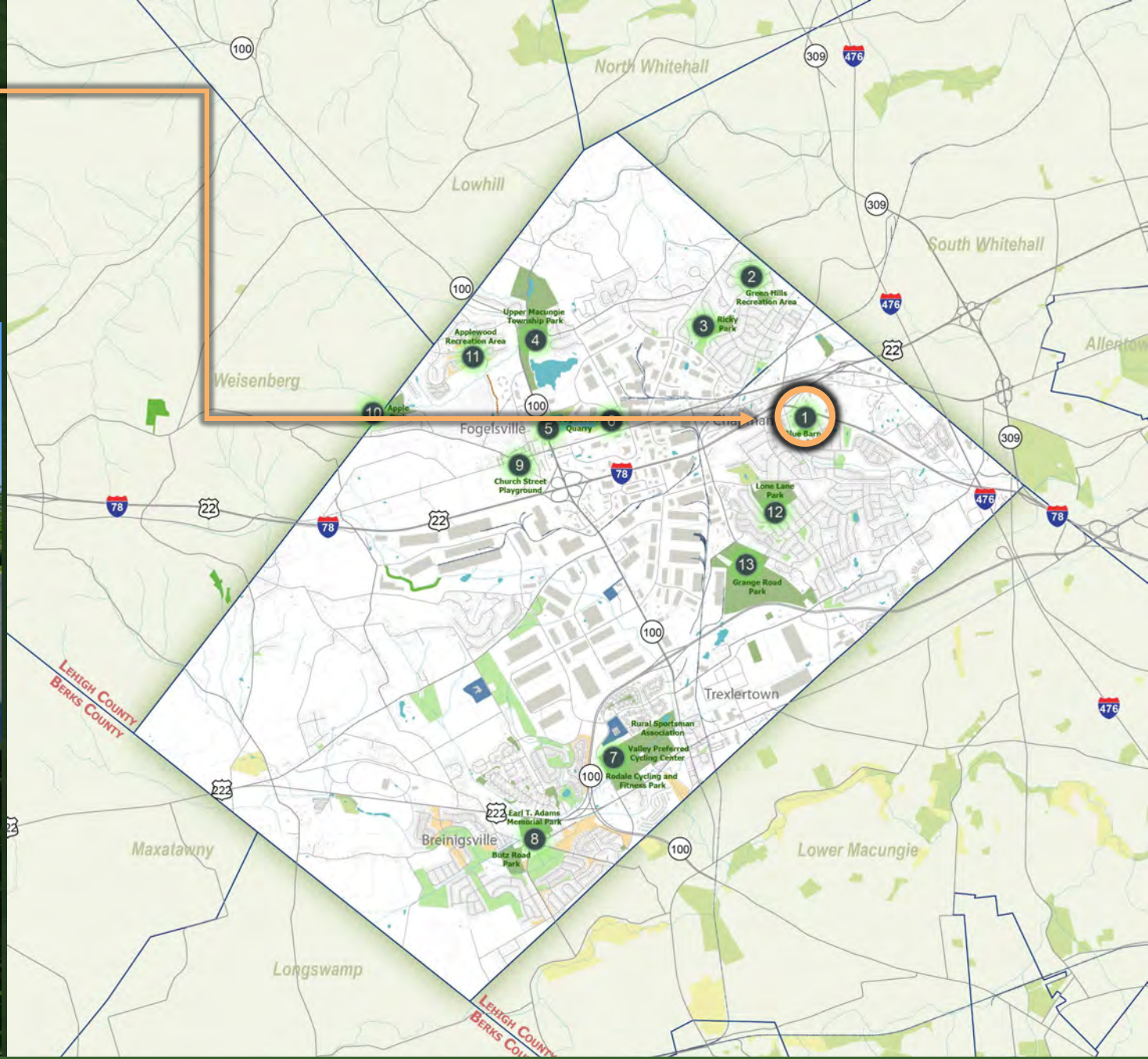
Township Tour of Parks

1. Blue Barn Park
2. Russet / Kay Brook Green Hills Park (Private)
3. Ricky Park
4. Hassen Creek Trail / Fogelsville Dam Park
5. Route 100 Upper Macungie Park
6. Fogelsville Quarry
7. Rodale Park / Velodrome
8. Breinigsville Park / Earl Adams Memorial Park
9. Church Street Park
10. Apple Park
11. Applewood Recreation Area (Private)
12. Lone Lane Park
13. Grange Park



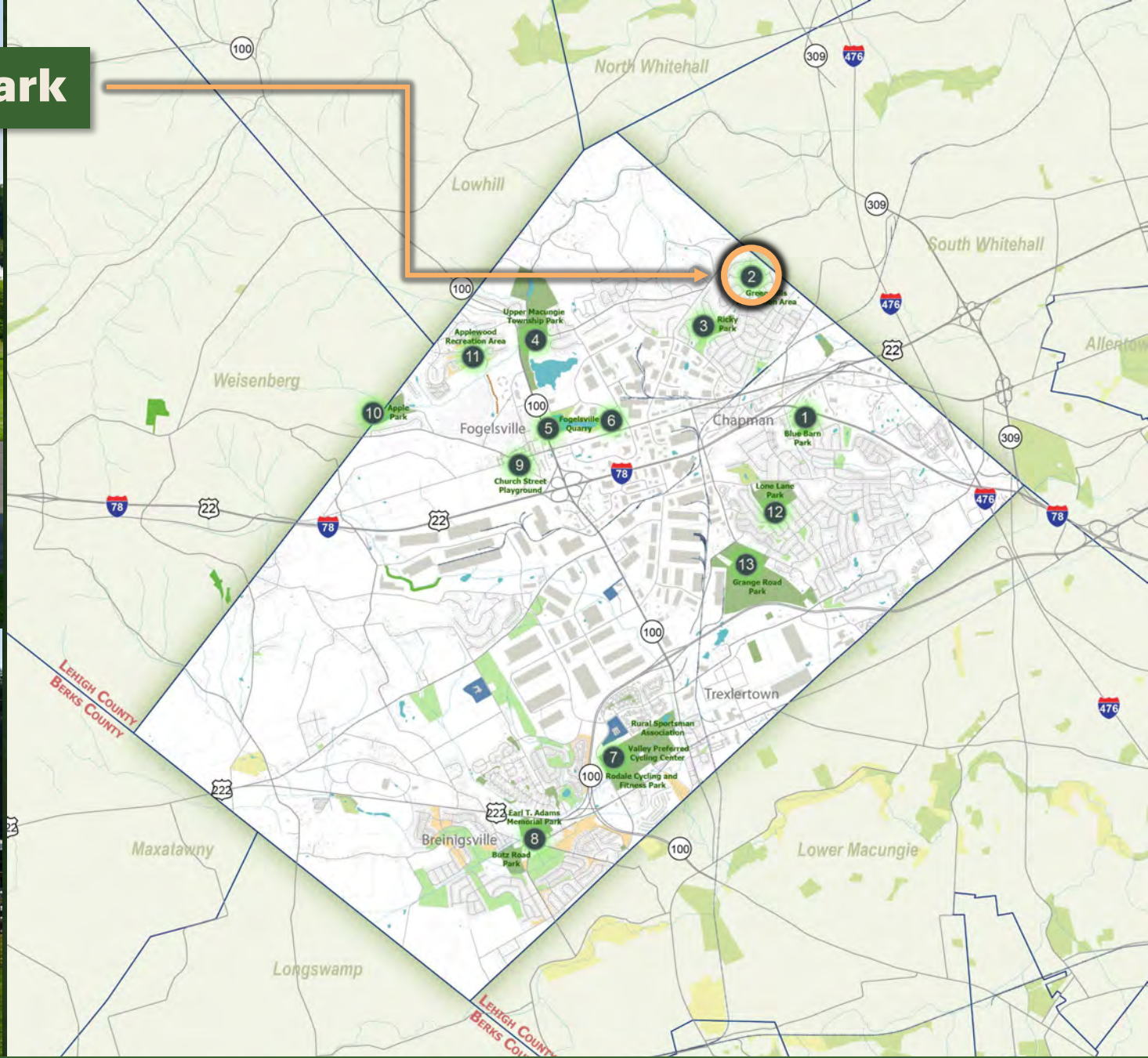
1. Blue Barn Park

- 3.9 acres
- 1 Basketball Court
- 3 Tennis Courts



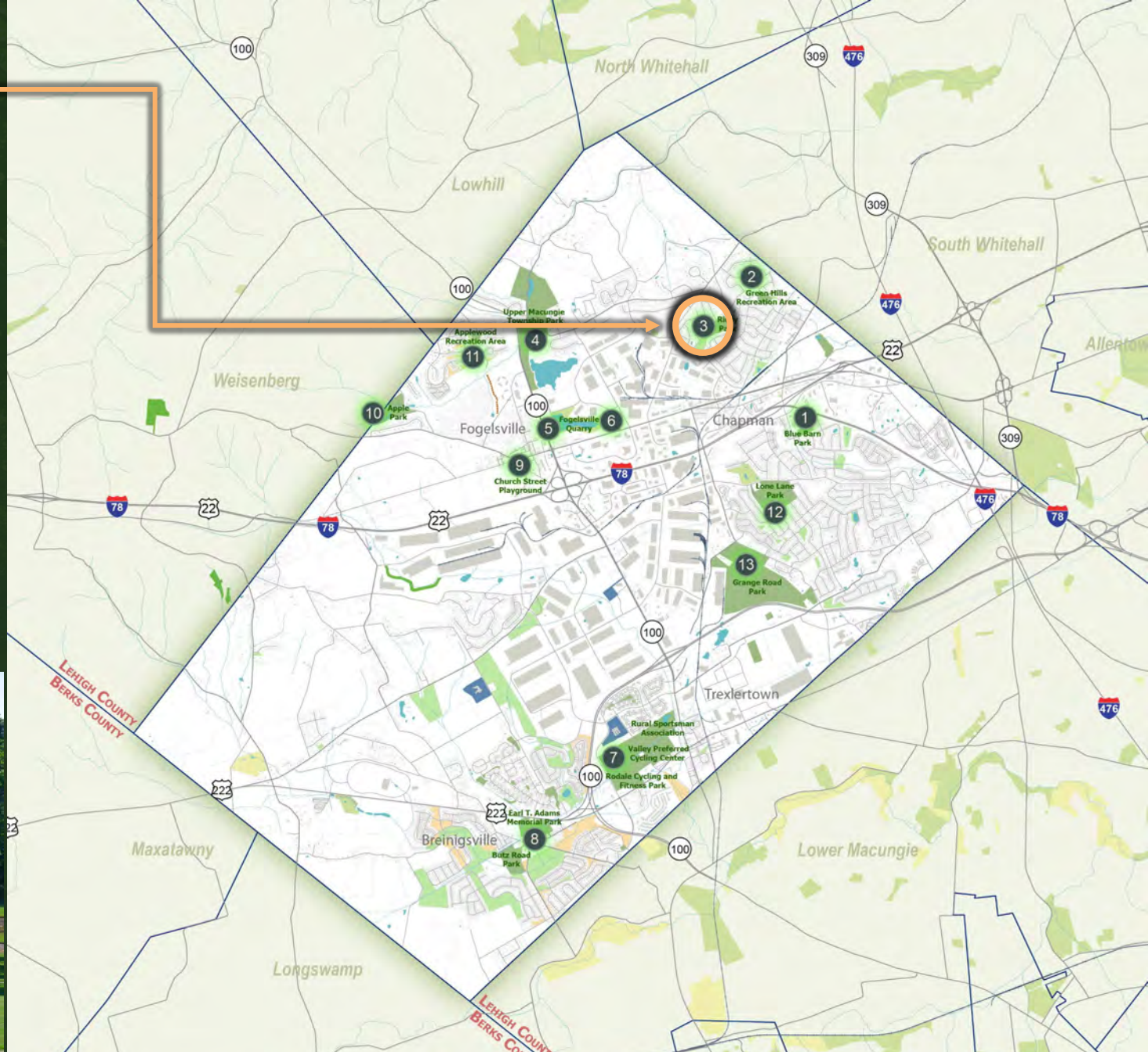
2. Russet / Kay Brook Green Hills Park

- 3.52 acres
- Private Swim Club
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Playground
- 1 Basketball Court
- 1 Multiuse Field
- Horseshoe Pits
- Kay Private Swim Club
- New facilities being added

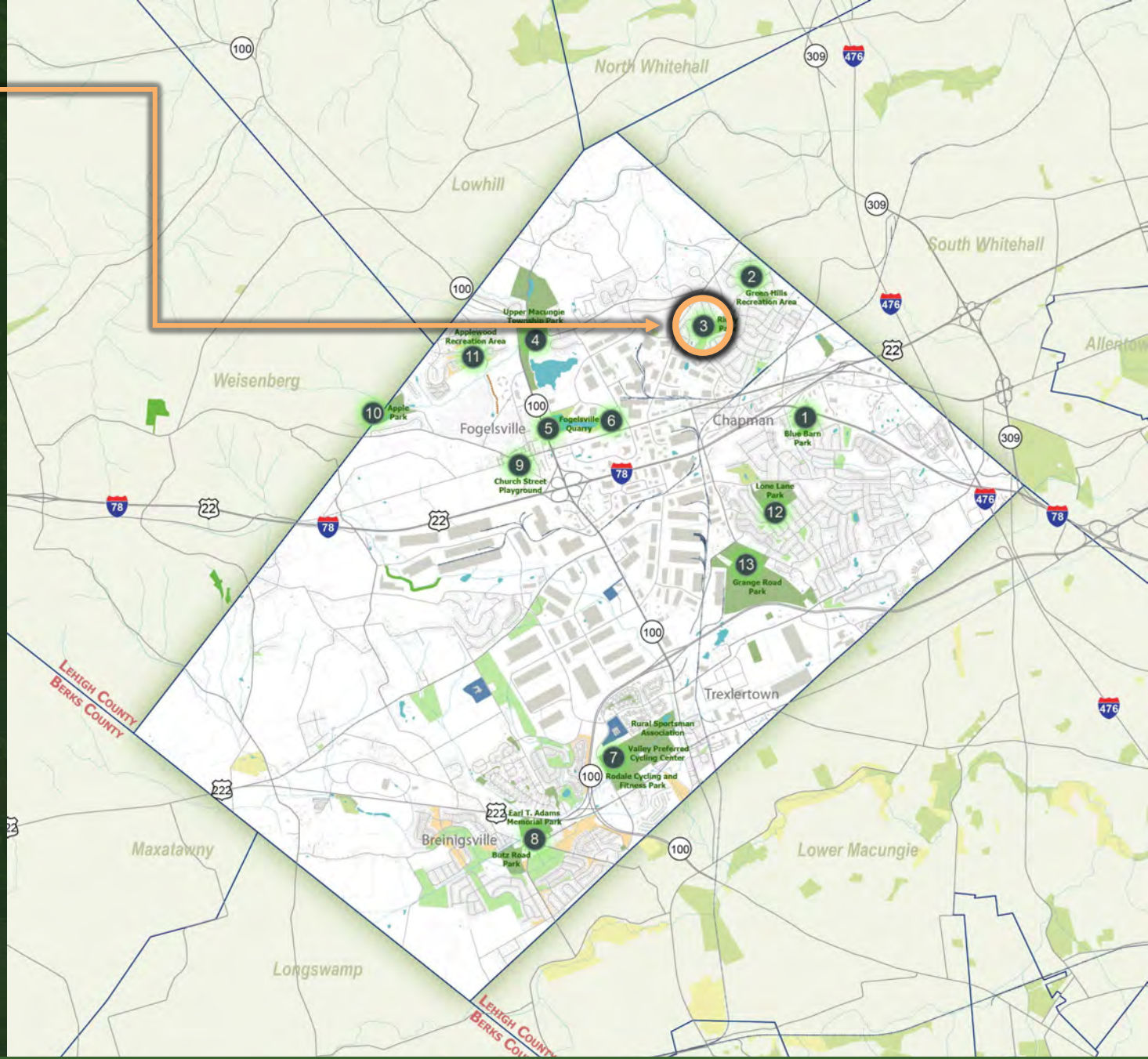


3. Ricky Park

- 19.37 acres
- Trails (.5 miles)
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Pavilion
- 1 Baseball/Softball Field
- 1 Basketball
- 1 Multiuse Field
- 2 Tennis Courts
- 2 Playgrounds
- Picnic Area
- Water Fountains

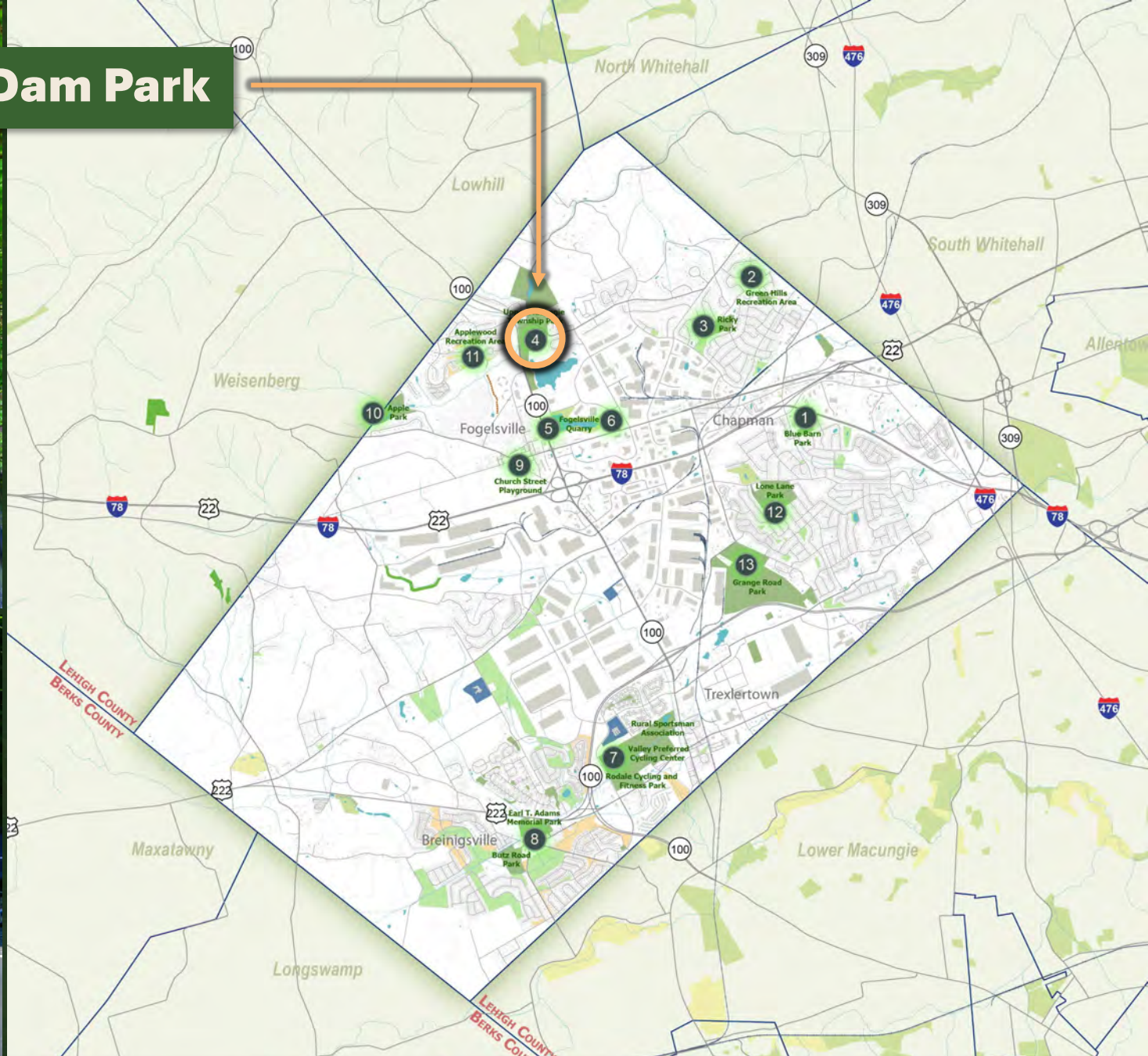


3. Ricky Park

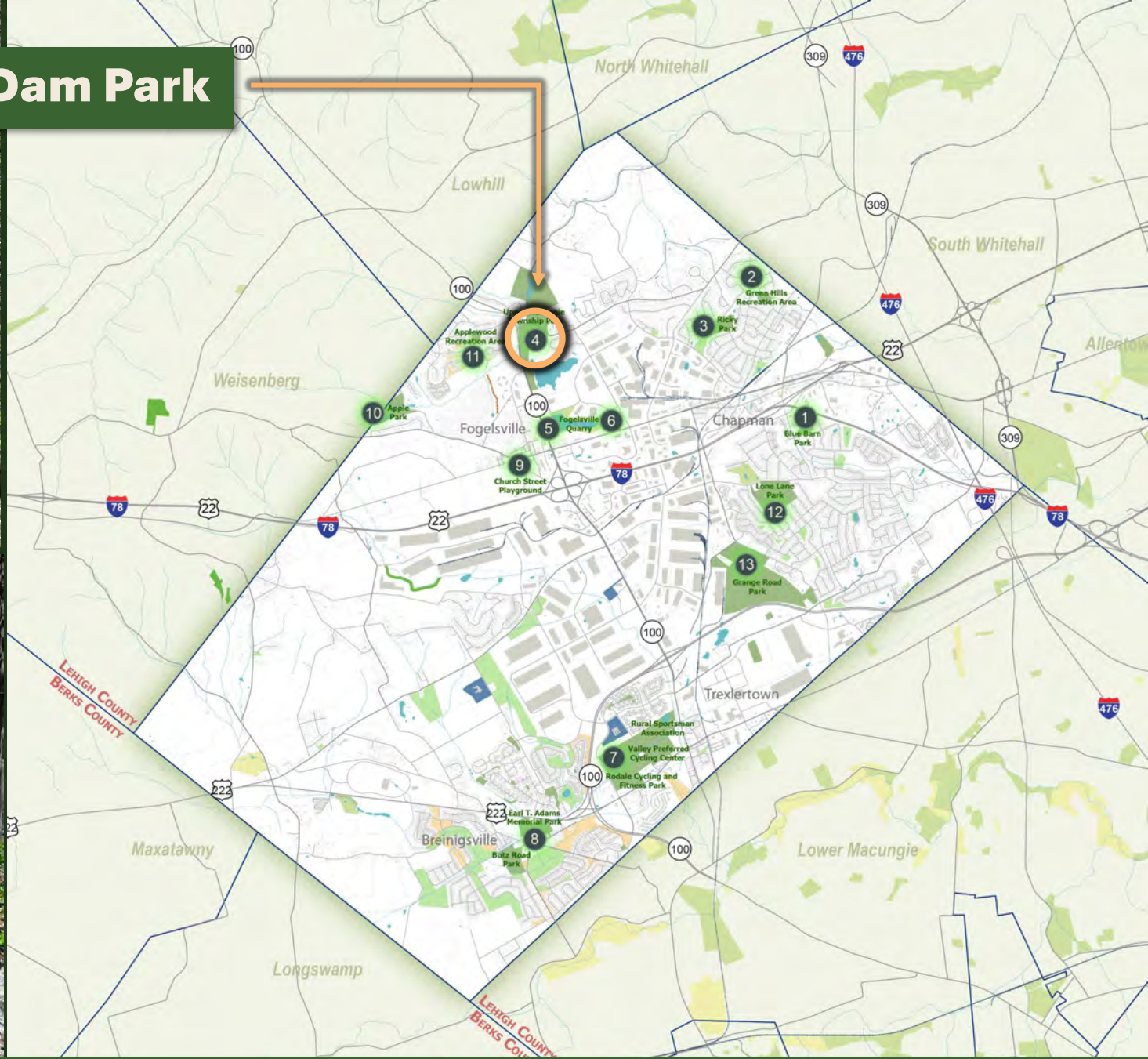


4. Hassen Creek Trail / Fogelsville Dam Park

- 50.7 acres
- Trails (.9 miles)
- Fishing Area

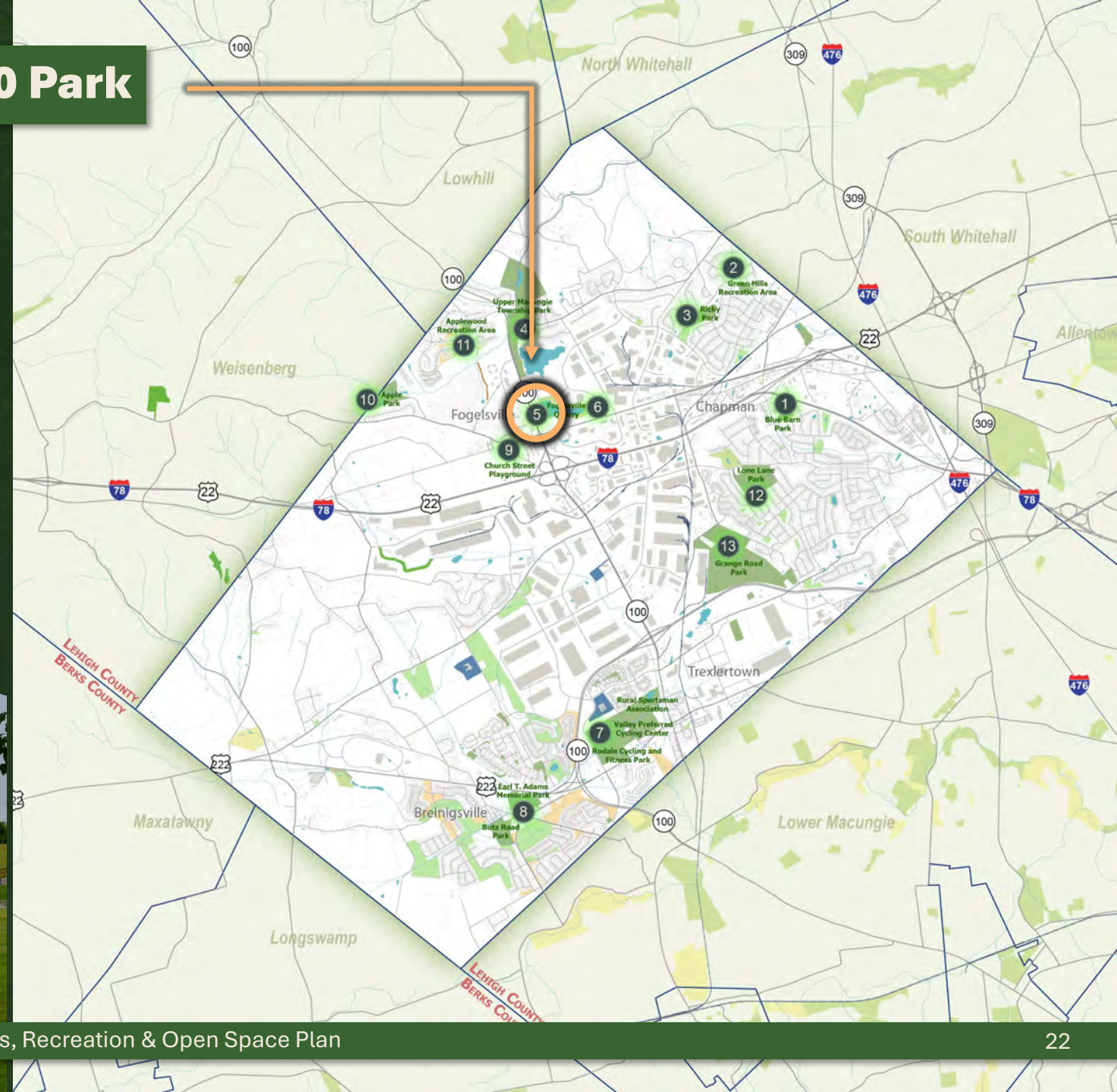


4. Hassen Creek Trail / Fogelsville Dam Park

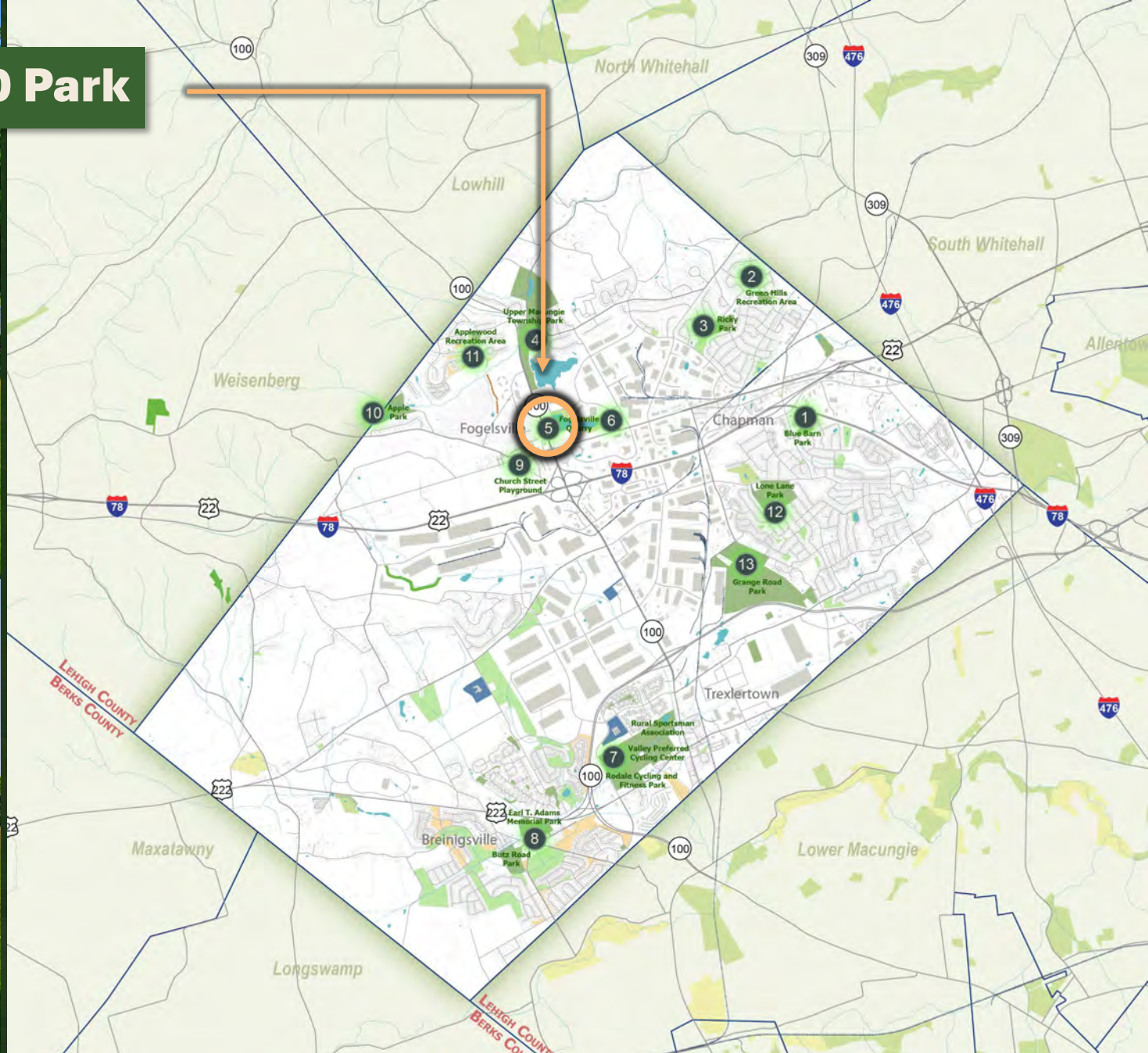


5. Upper Macungie Park / Route 100 Park

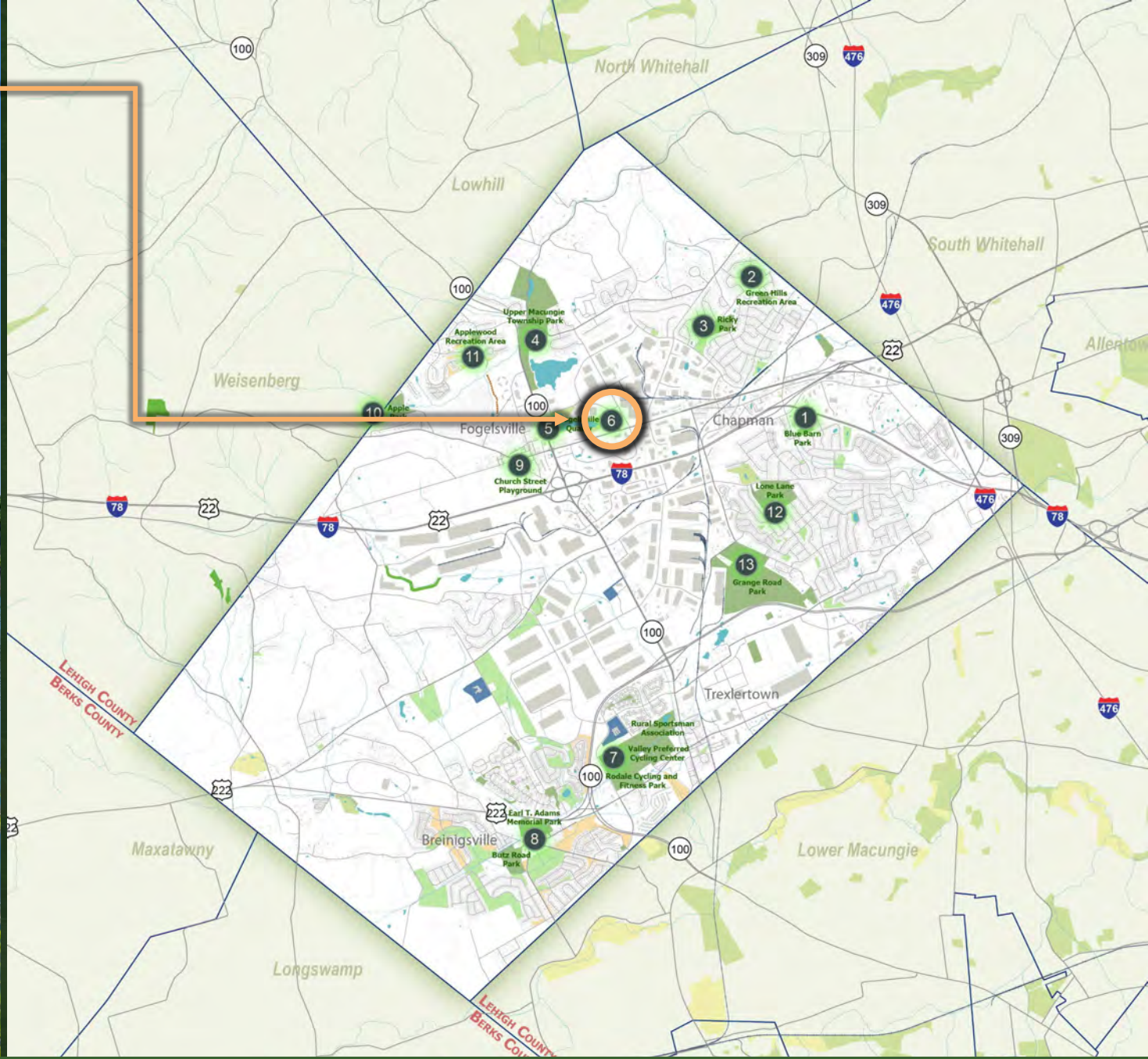
- 37.7 acres
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Playground
- 1 Multiuse Field
- 2 Volleyball Courts
- 2 Baseball/Softball Fields
- 2 Pavilions
- Picnic Area
- Disc Golf
- Dog Park
- Horseshoe Pits
- Water Fountains



5. Upper Macungie Park / Route 100 Park

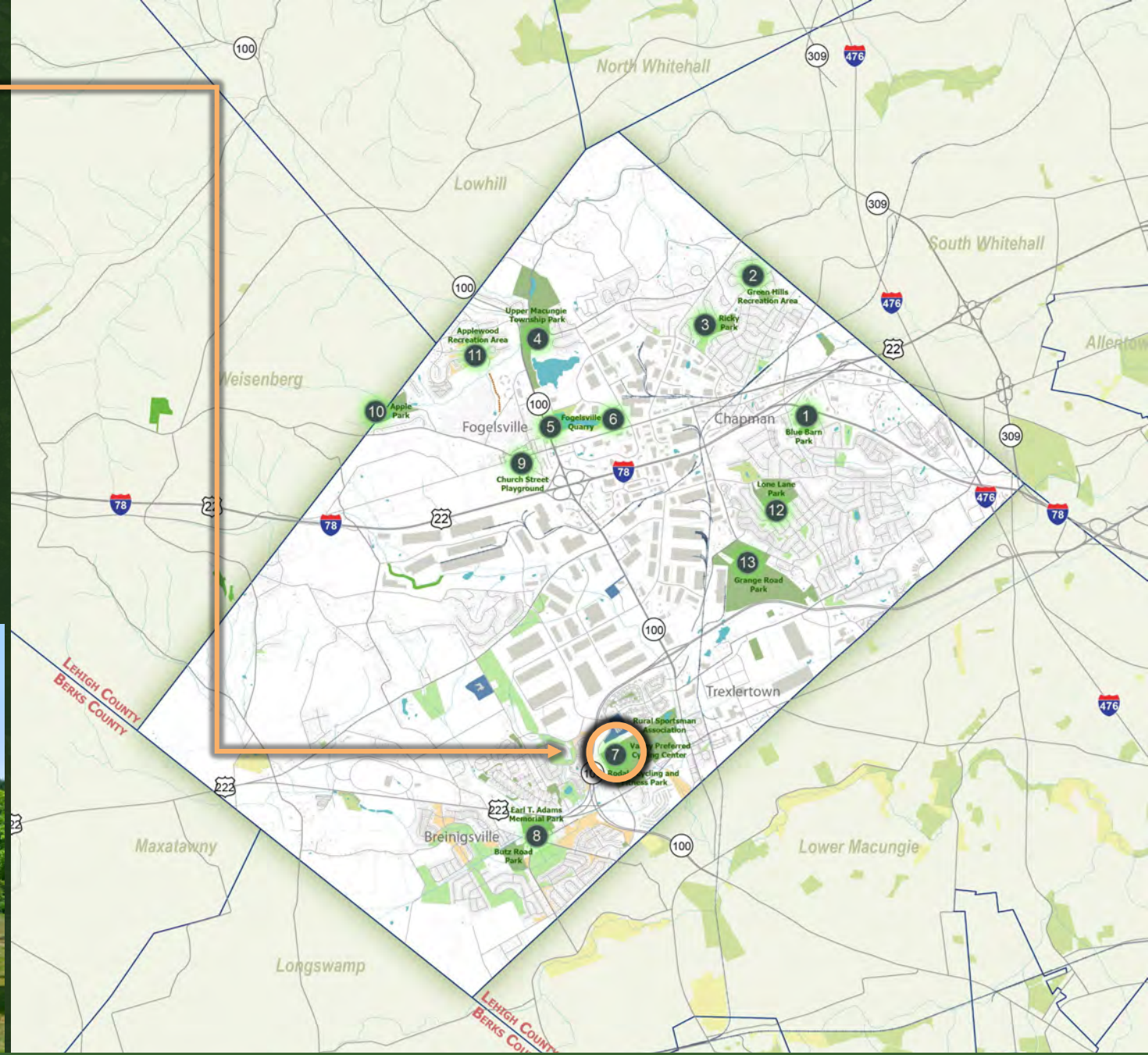


6. Fogelsville Quarry



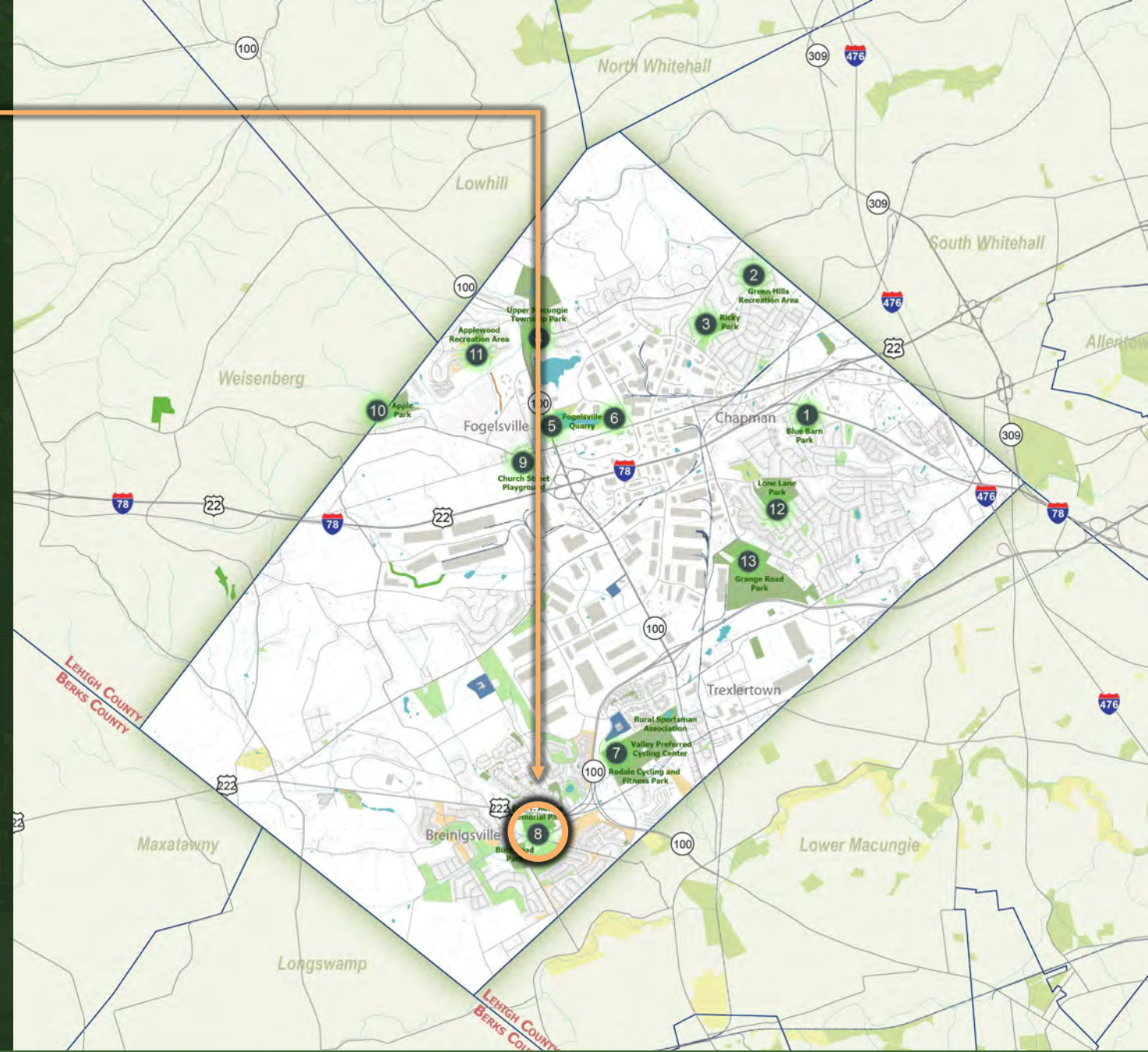
7. Rodale Park / Velodrome

- 103.4 acres
- Owned by Lehigh Valley
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Playground
- 1 Basketball Court
- 1 Volleyball Court
- 2 Baseball/Softball Fields
- 2 Soccer Fields
- Velodrome/Bicycle Course
- Wetland Boardwalk

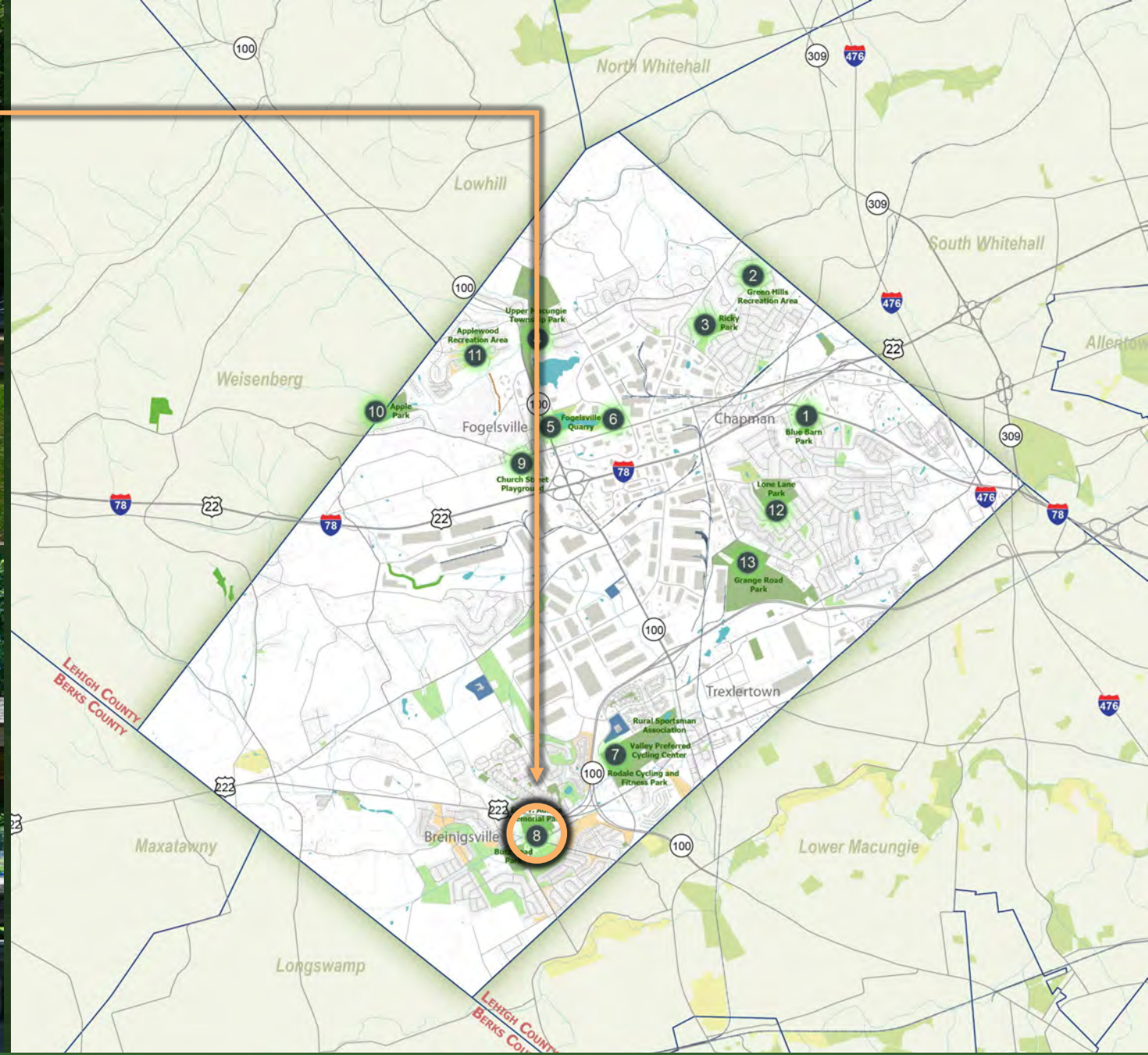


8. Breinigsville Park / Earl Adams Memorial Park

- 20 acres
- Trails (.6 miles)
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Playground
- 1 Basketball
- 1 Volleyball Court
- 2 Pavilions
- 3 Baseball/Softball Fields
- Picnic Area
- Horseshoe Pits
- Game Tables
- Water Fountains

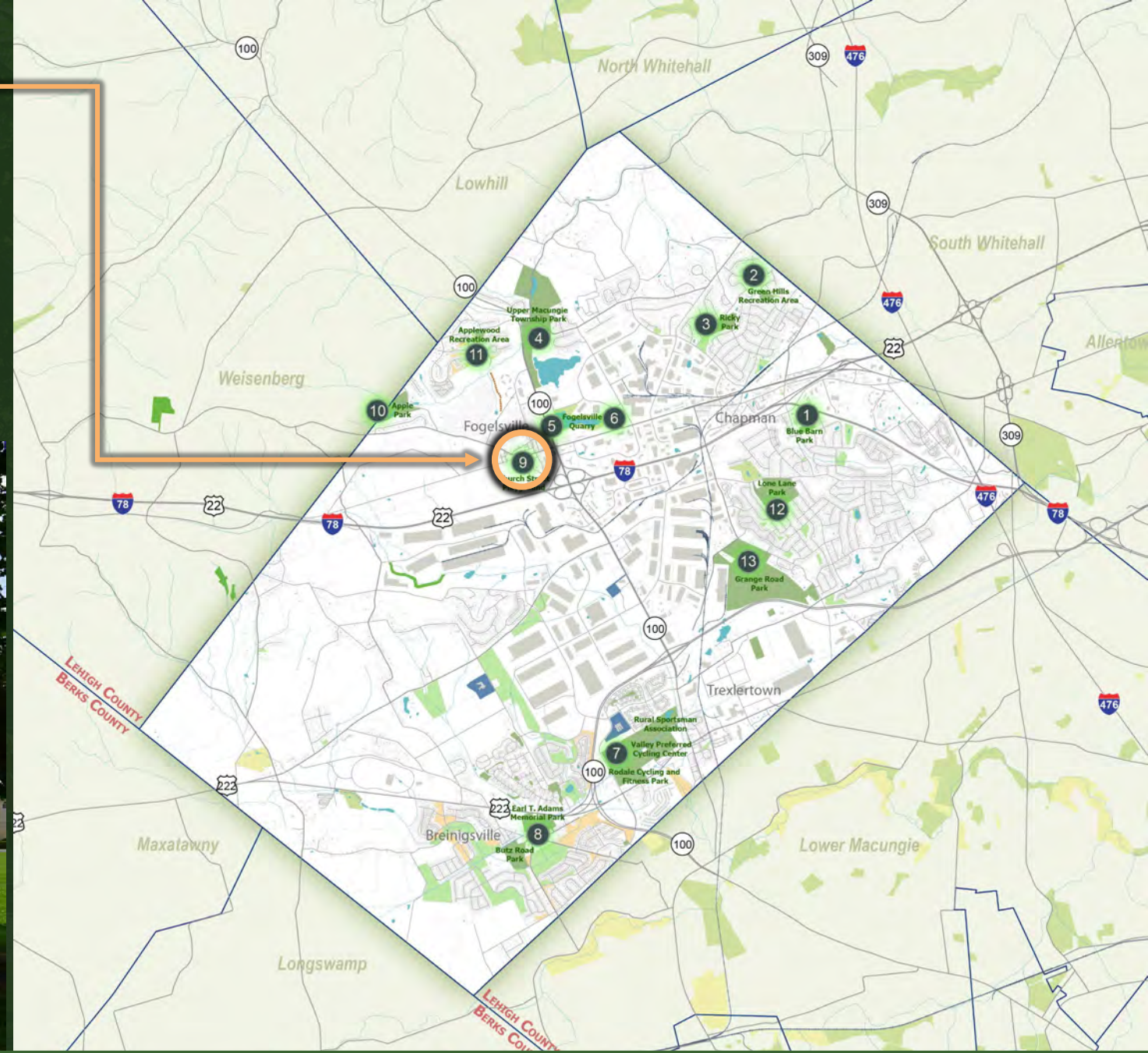


8. Breinigsville Park / Earl Adams Memorial Park



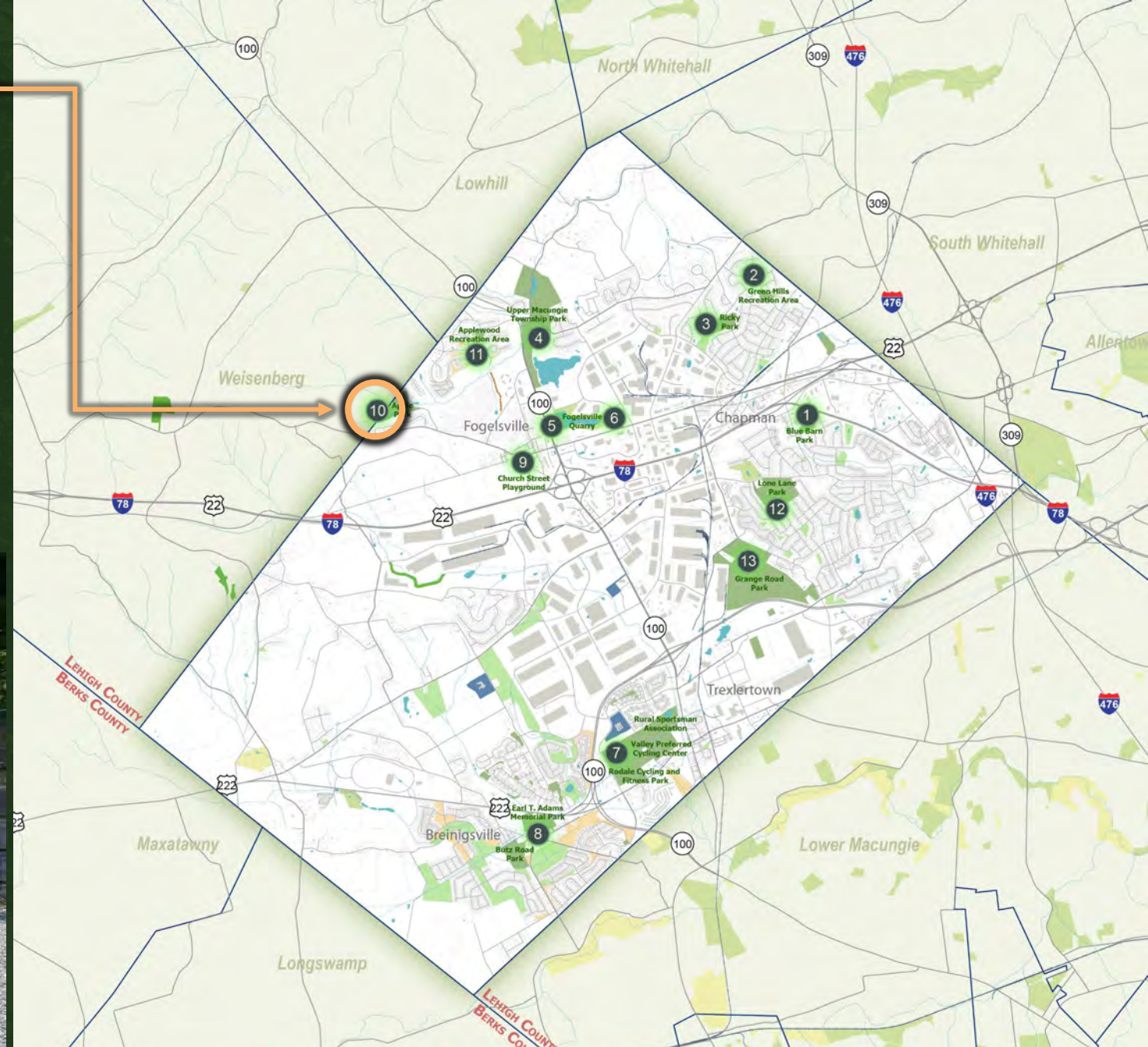
9. Church Street Park

- 2 acres
- 1 Pavilion
- 1 Basketball Court
- 1 Multiuse Field
- 1 Volleyball Court
- Porta John

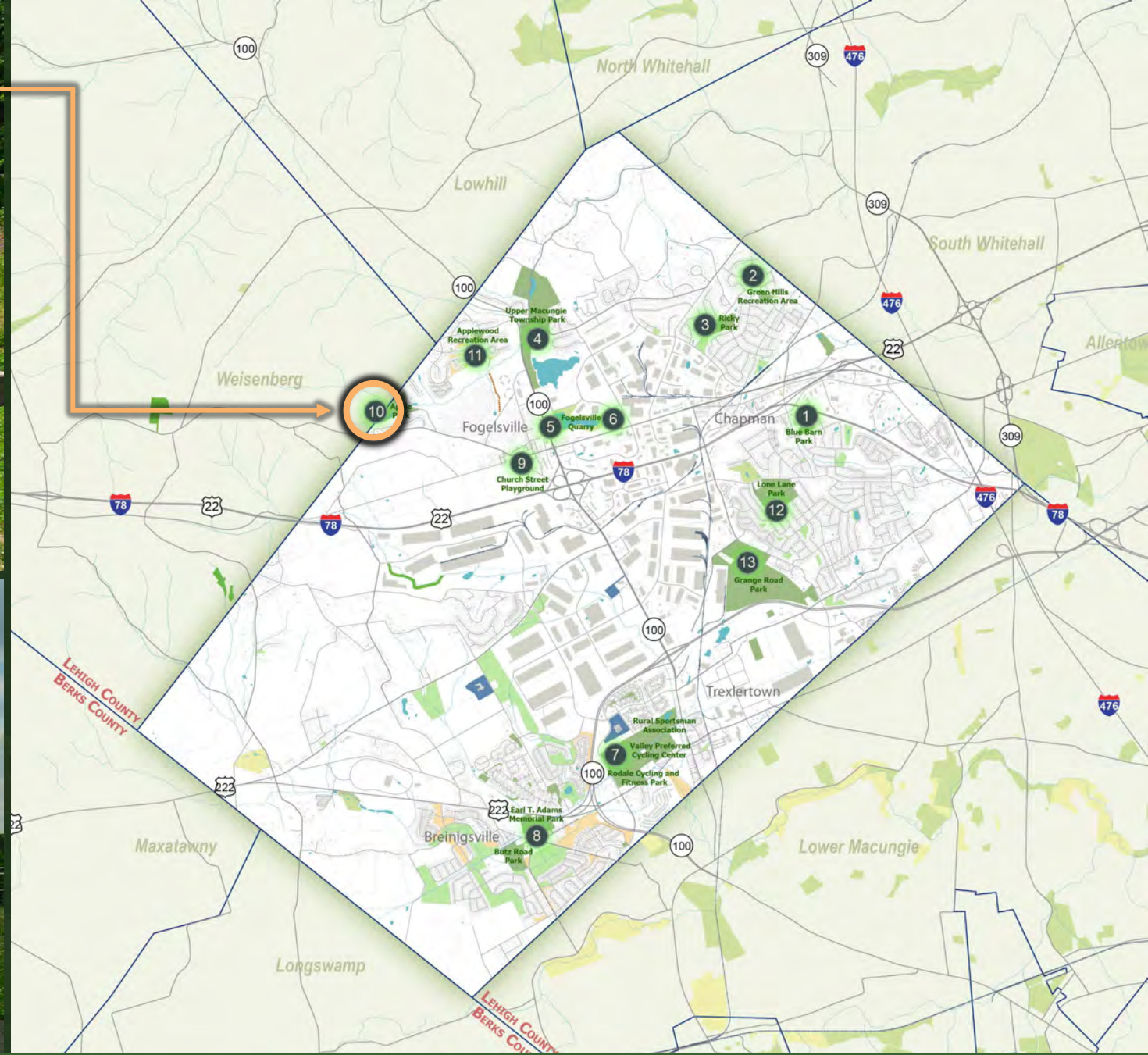


10. Apple Park

- 20.66 acres
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Multiuse Field
- 1 Soccer Field
- Picnic Area
- Fishing Area
- 3 Ponds (South of Packhouse Rd.)
- Porta John

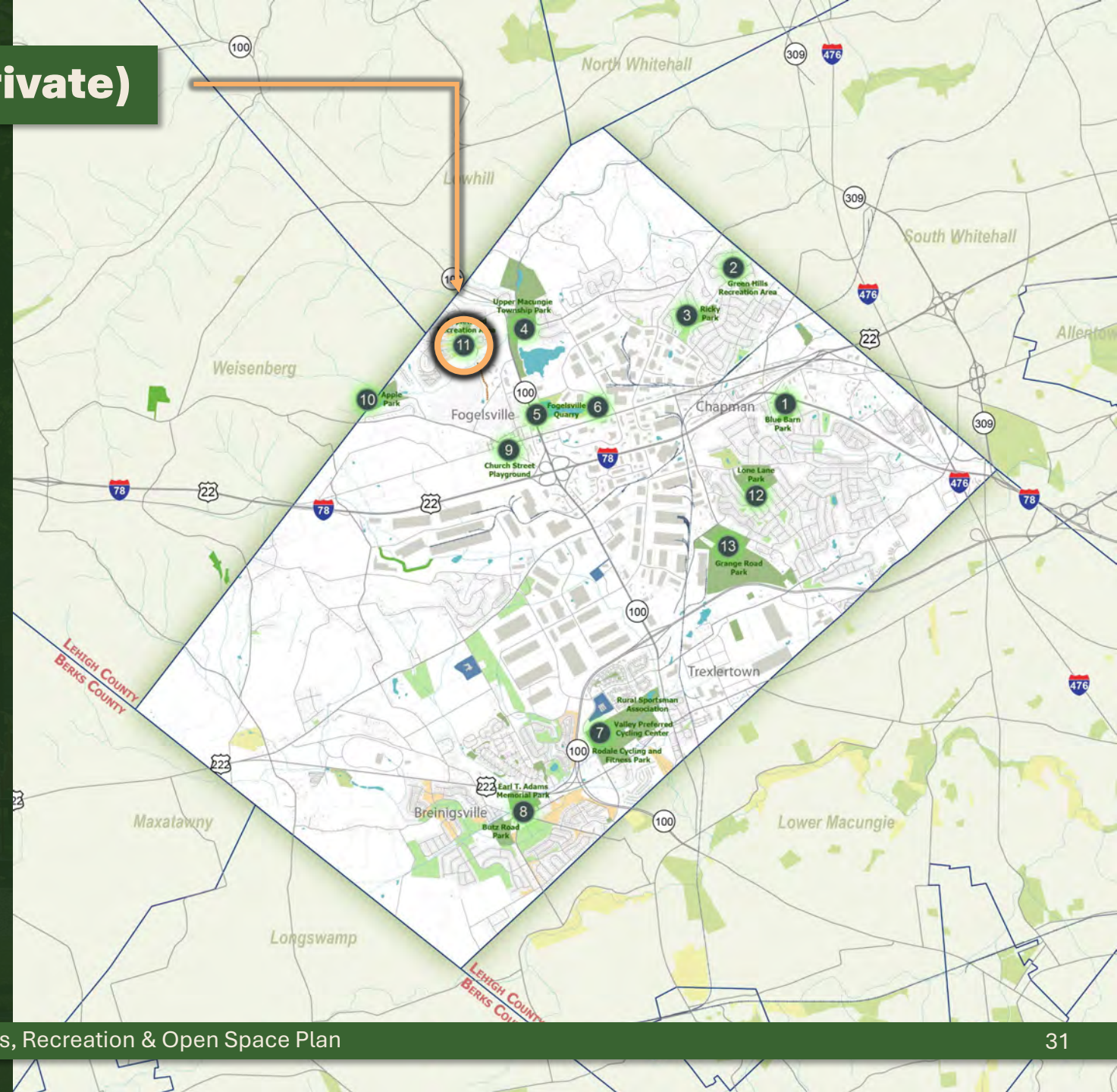


10. Apple Park



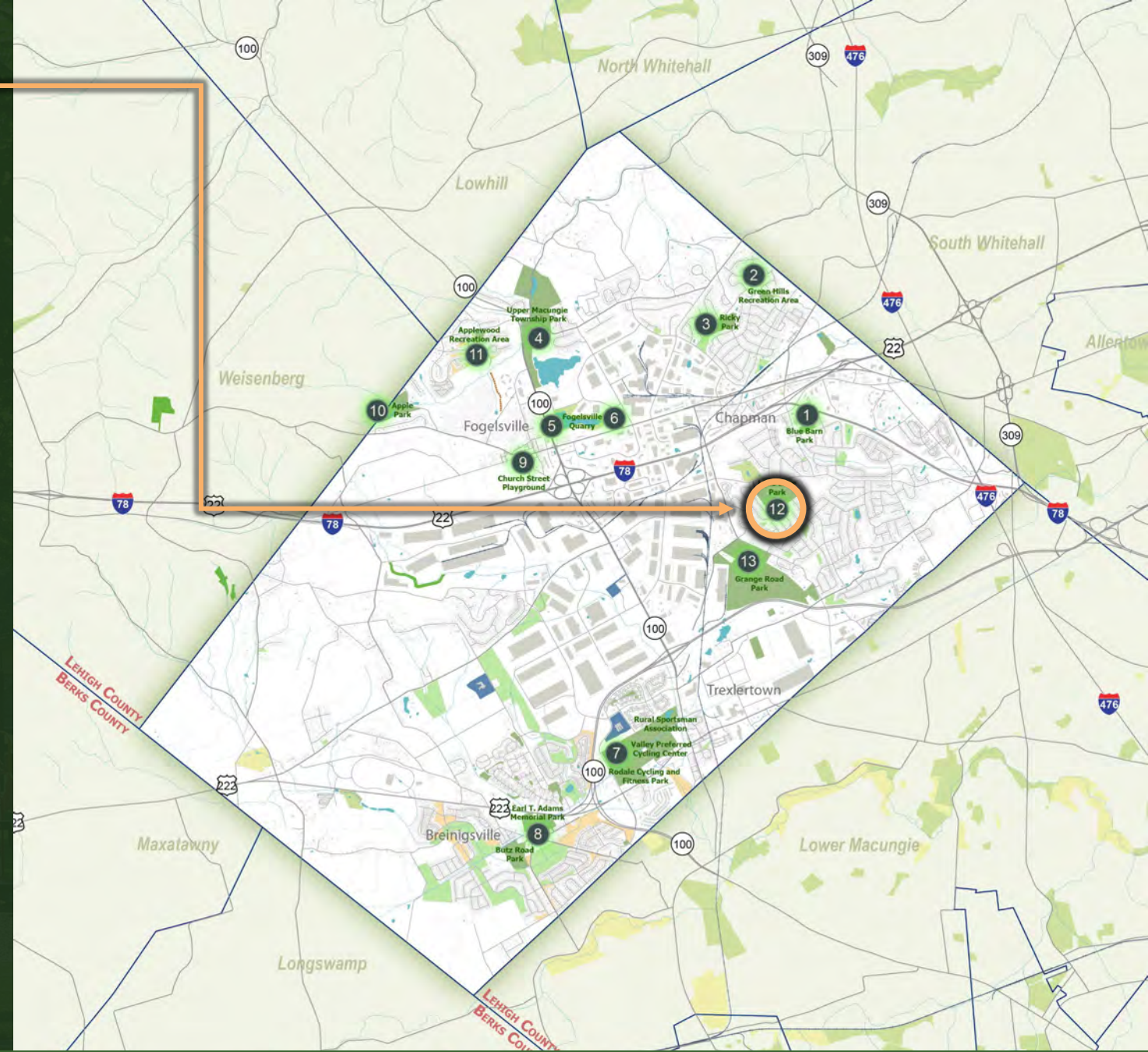
11. Applewood Recreation Area (Private)

- 6.92 acres
- 1 Playground
- 1 Basketball
- 1 Tennis Court
- Pool
- Applewood Clubhouse (Private)
- Applewood Homeowner Association

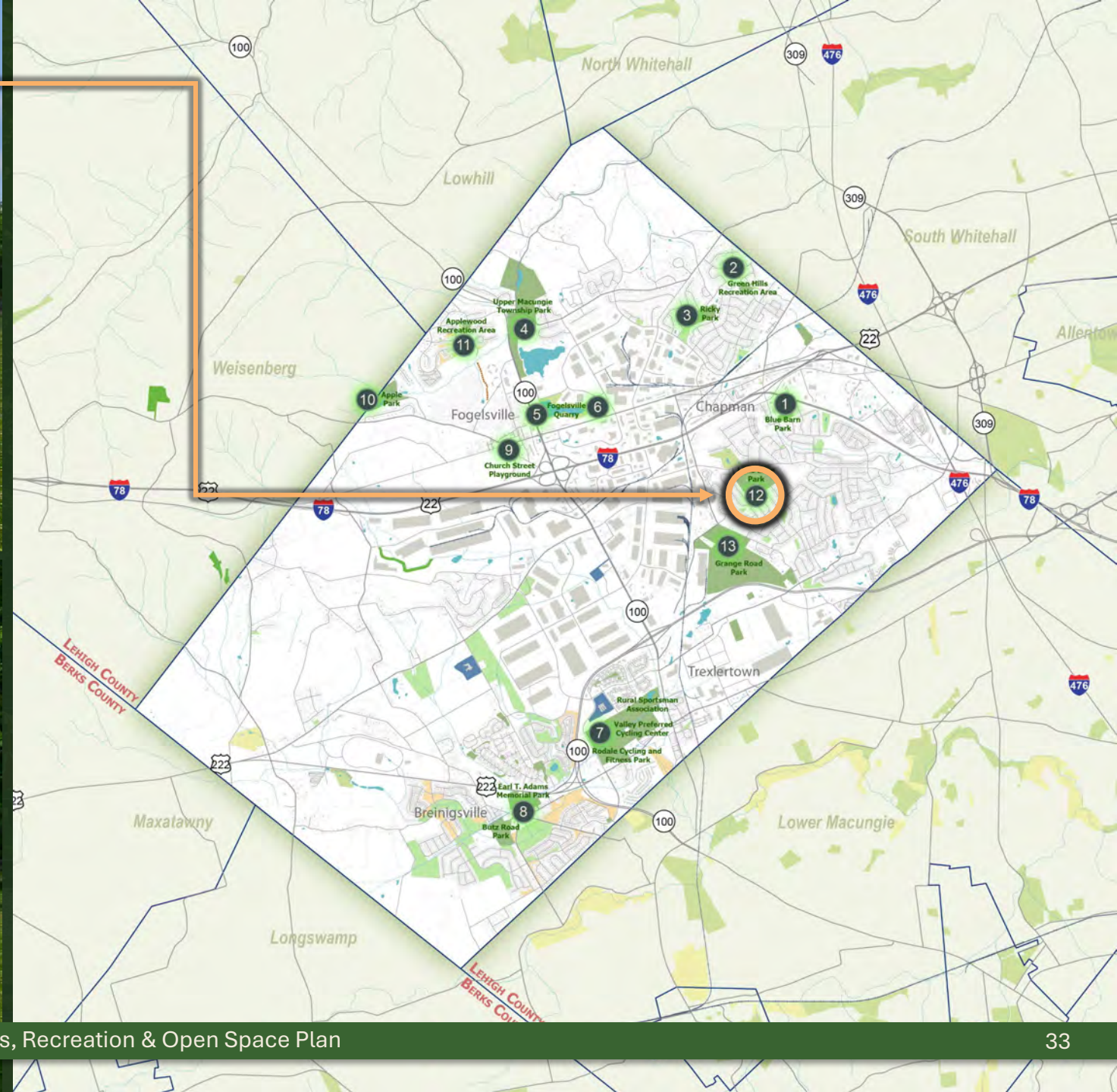


12. Lone Lane Park

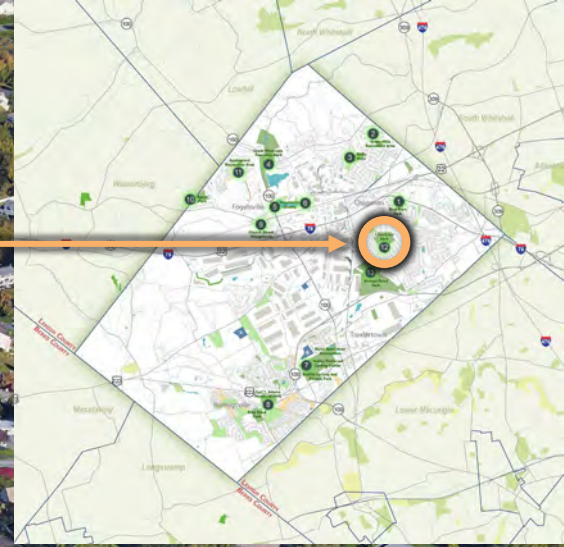
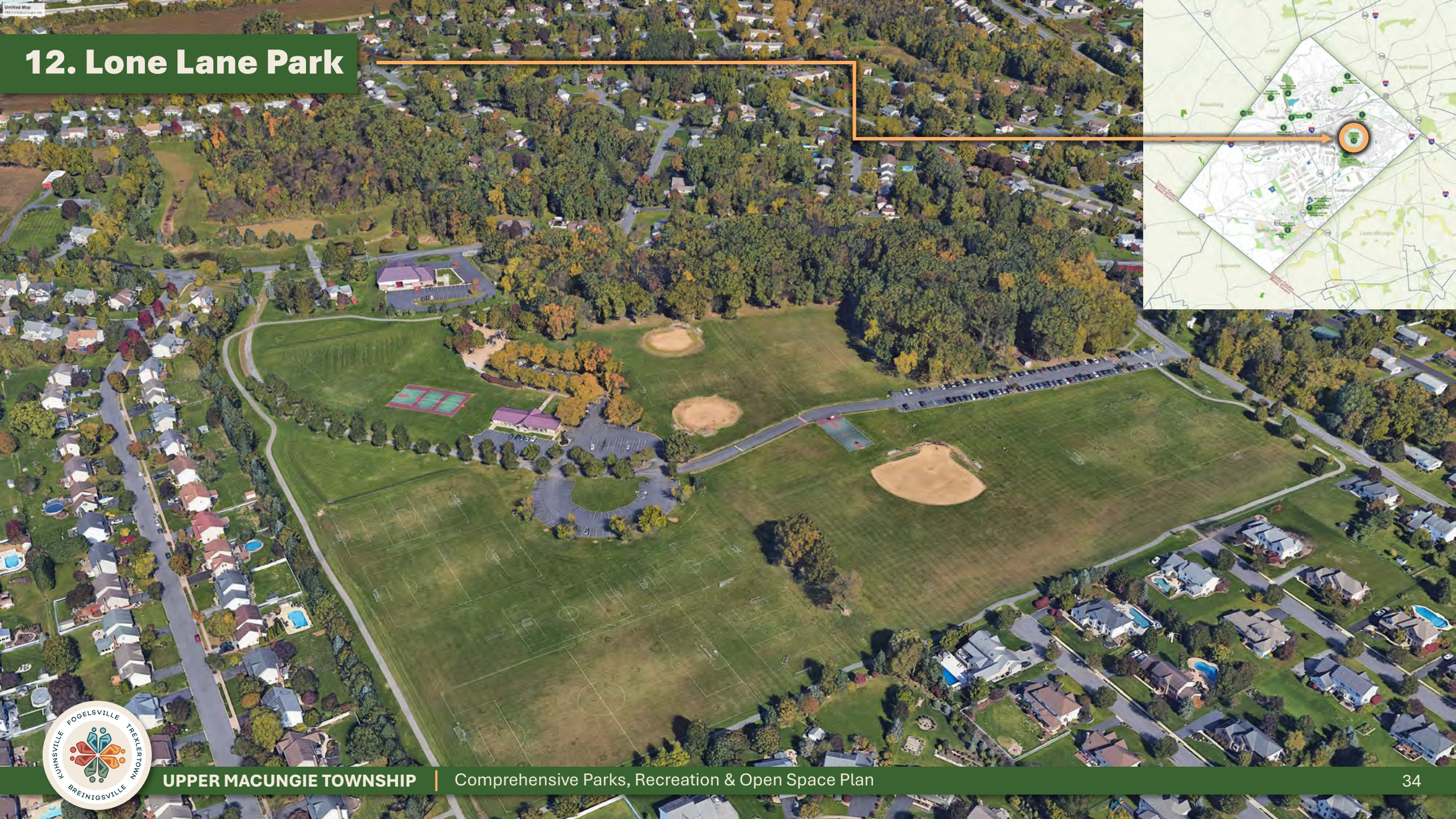
- 41.5 acres
- Trail (1 mile)
- 1 Restroom
- 1 Pavilion
- 1 Playground
- 1 Volleyball Court
- 1 Basketball Full Court
- 1 Basketball Half Court
- 2 Pickleball Courts
- 3 Baseball/Softball Fields
- 3 Soccer Fields
- 11 Multiuse fields
- Picnic Area
- Horseshoe Pits
- Water Fountains



12. Lone Lane Park

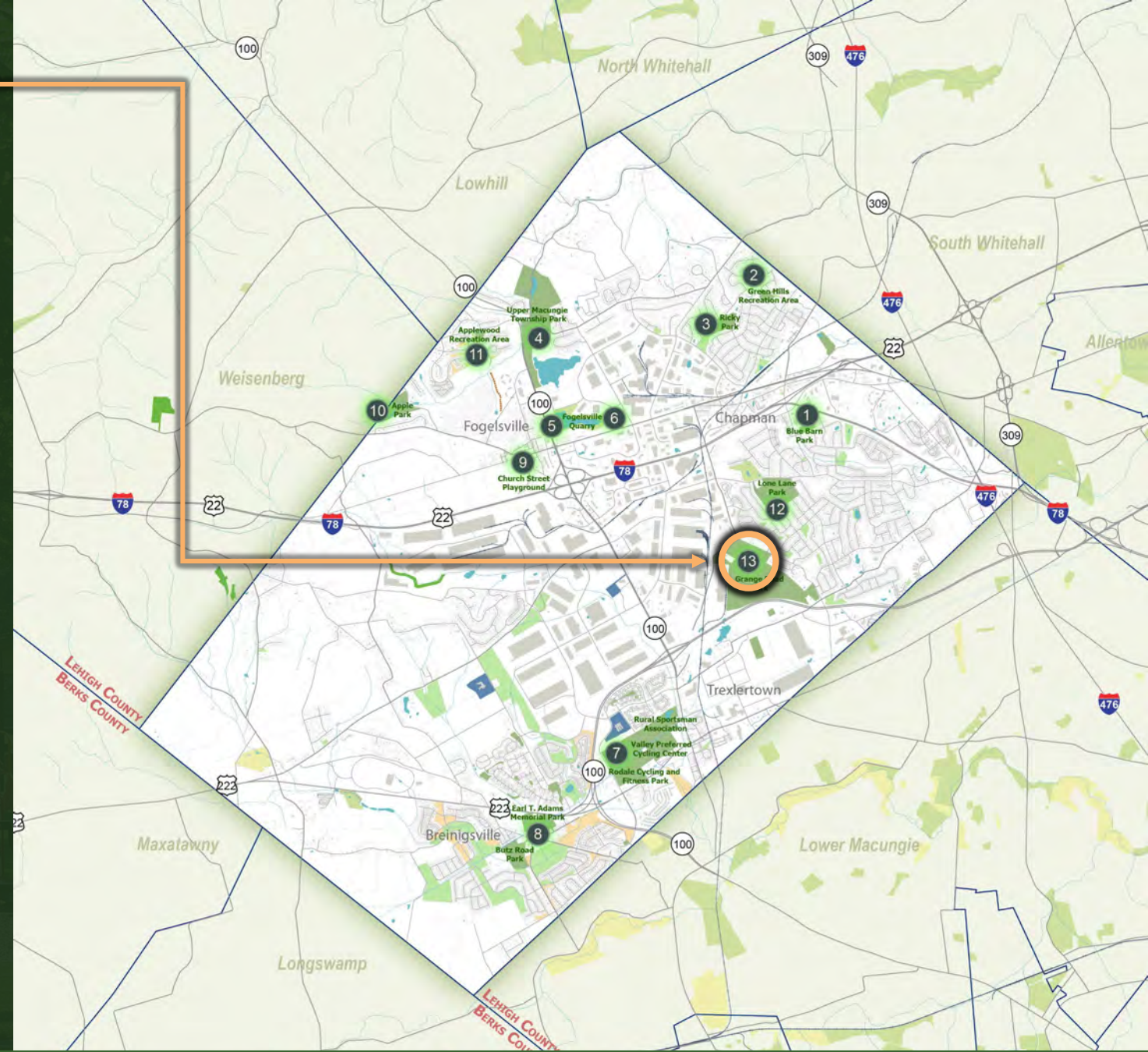


12. Lone Lane Park

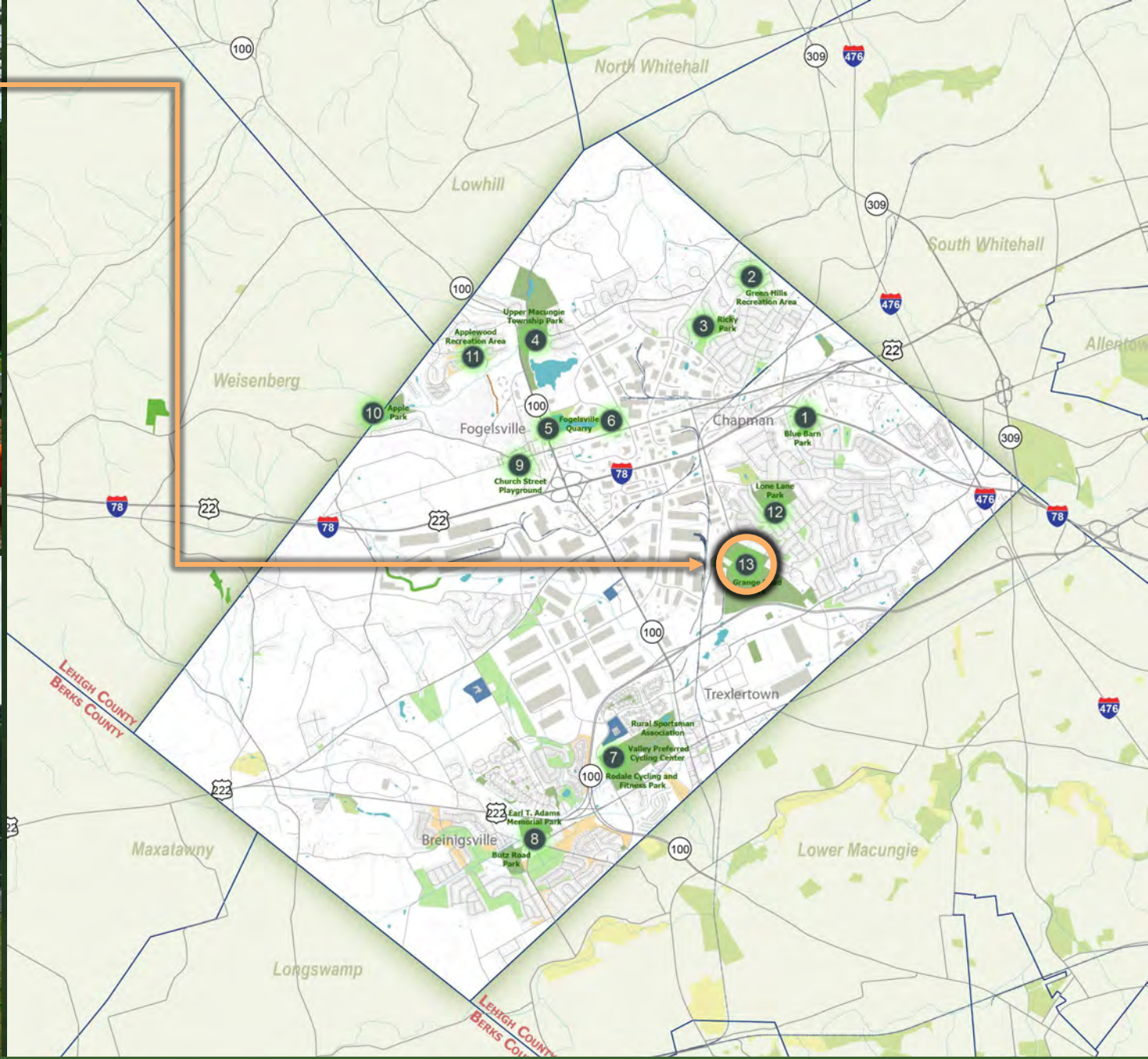


13. Grange Park

- 157.6 acres
- 1 Playground
- 1 Baseball/Softball Field
- 2 Restrooms
- 4 Basketball Courts
- 6 Pavilions
- 7 Multiuse Fields
- 7 Soccer Fields
- 12 Pickleball Courts
- Splash Pad
- Picnic Area
- Dog Park
- Event Space
- Community Center



13. Grange Park



13. Grange Park





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Public Opinion Survey



Public Opinion Survey

- Survey opened on August 5th
- Survey will close on May 13, 2025

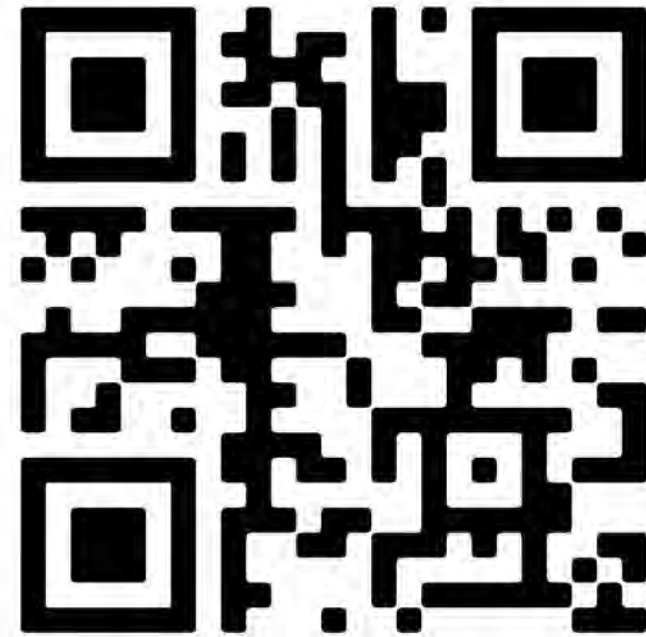
Survey's Intent Summary

- Following the Comprehensive Plan in addressing the priorities established during that process for the Township (connectivity; open space; recreation)
- Assessing perceptions of the current state of UMT Parks; desired improvements and attitudes toward long-range ecological and agricultural preservation
- Keeping it short and user-friendly!



Please!

Take the Survey

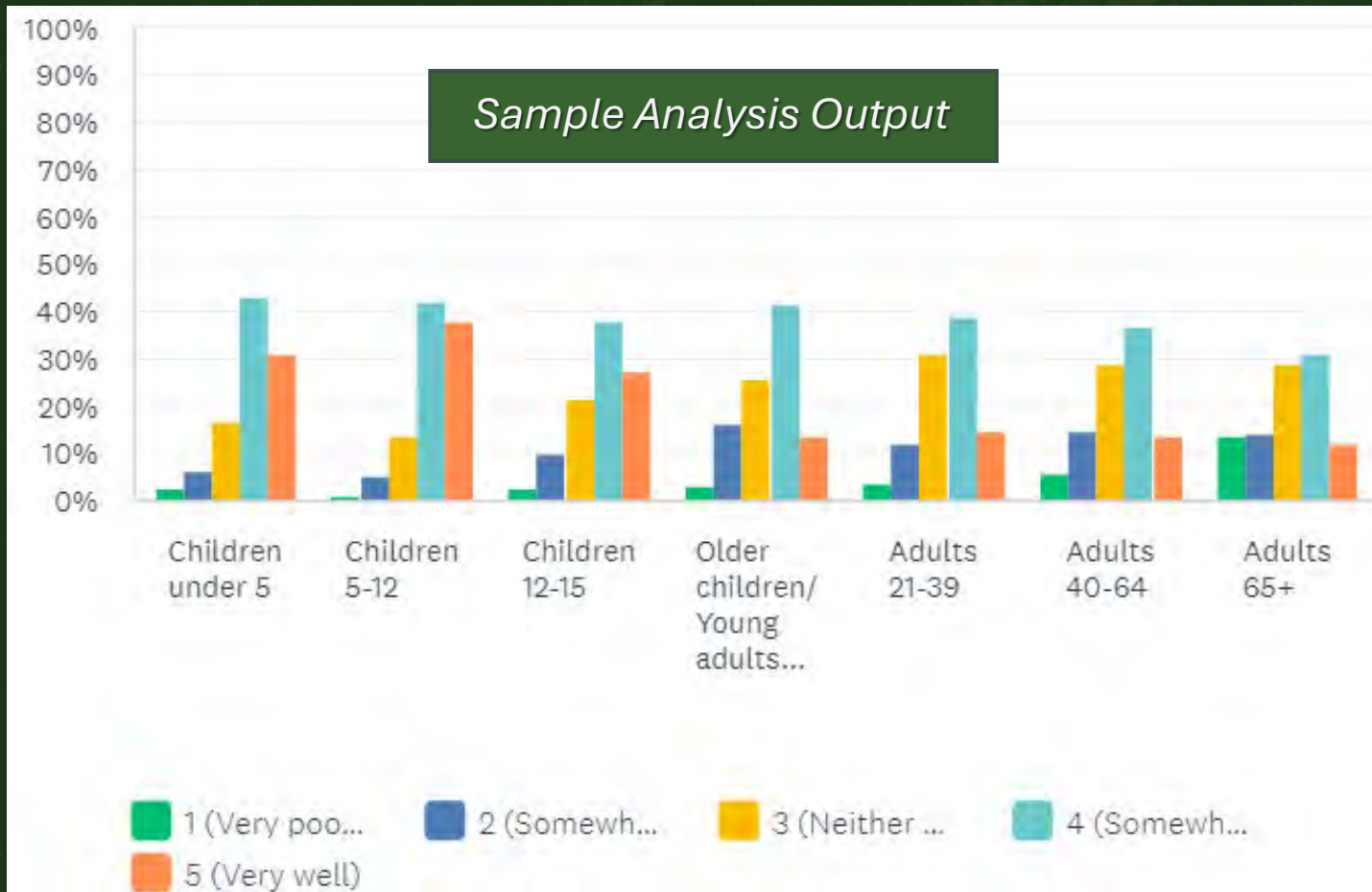


<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UpperMacungieCROSP>

Public Opinion Survey - STATUS

Q18

- In general, how well do you think the age groups listed below are served by the parks, recreation, and open space in Upper Macungie Township?



381
Responses
to date!





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Existing Data

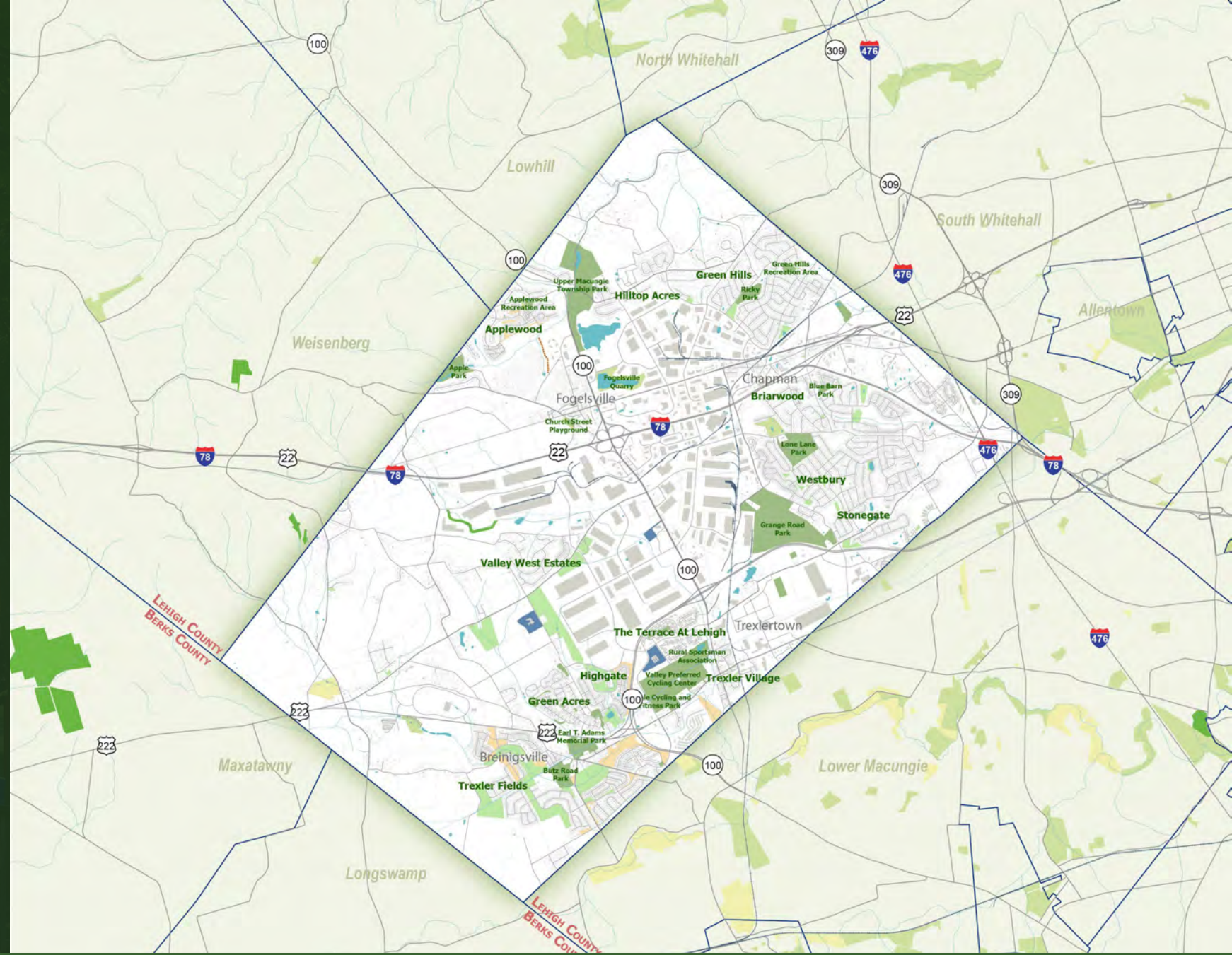


Existing Data

Project Area

Legend

- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream

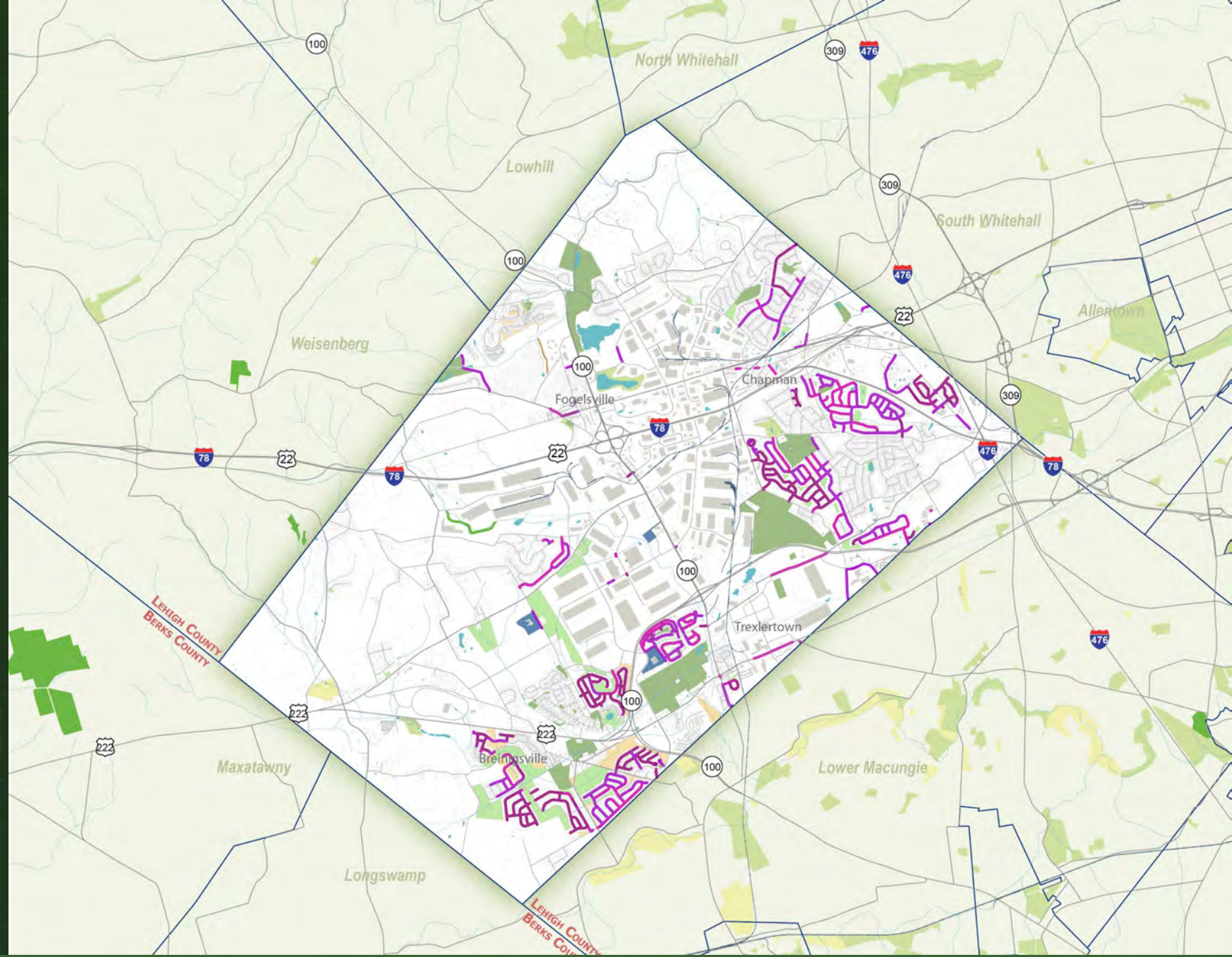


Existing Data

Sidewalk Inventory

Legend

- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream
- Sidewalk (Both Sides)
- Sidewalk (One Side)

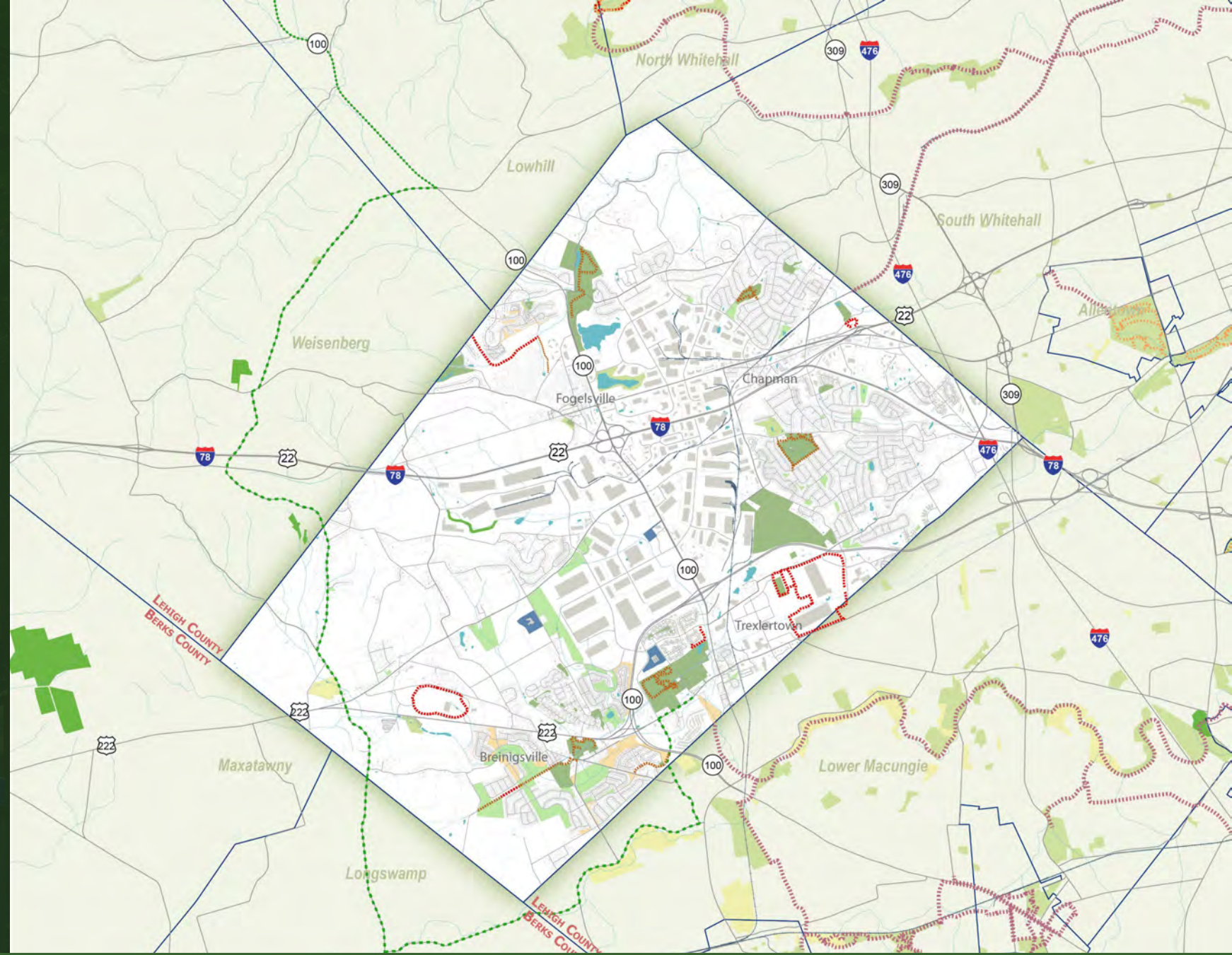


Existing Data

Existing Trails

Legend

- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream
- Existing Trail - Private
- Existing Hiking Trail - Public



Existing Data

STRAVA Run

Legend

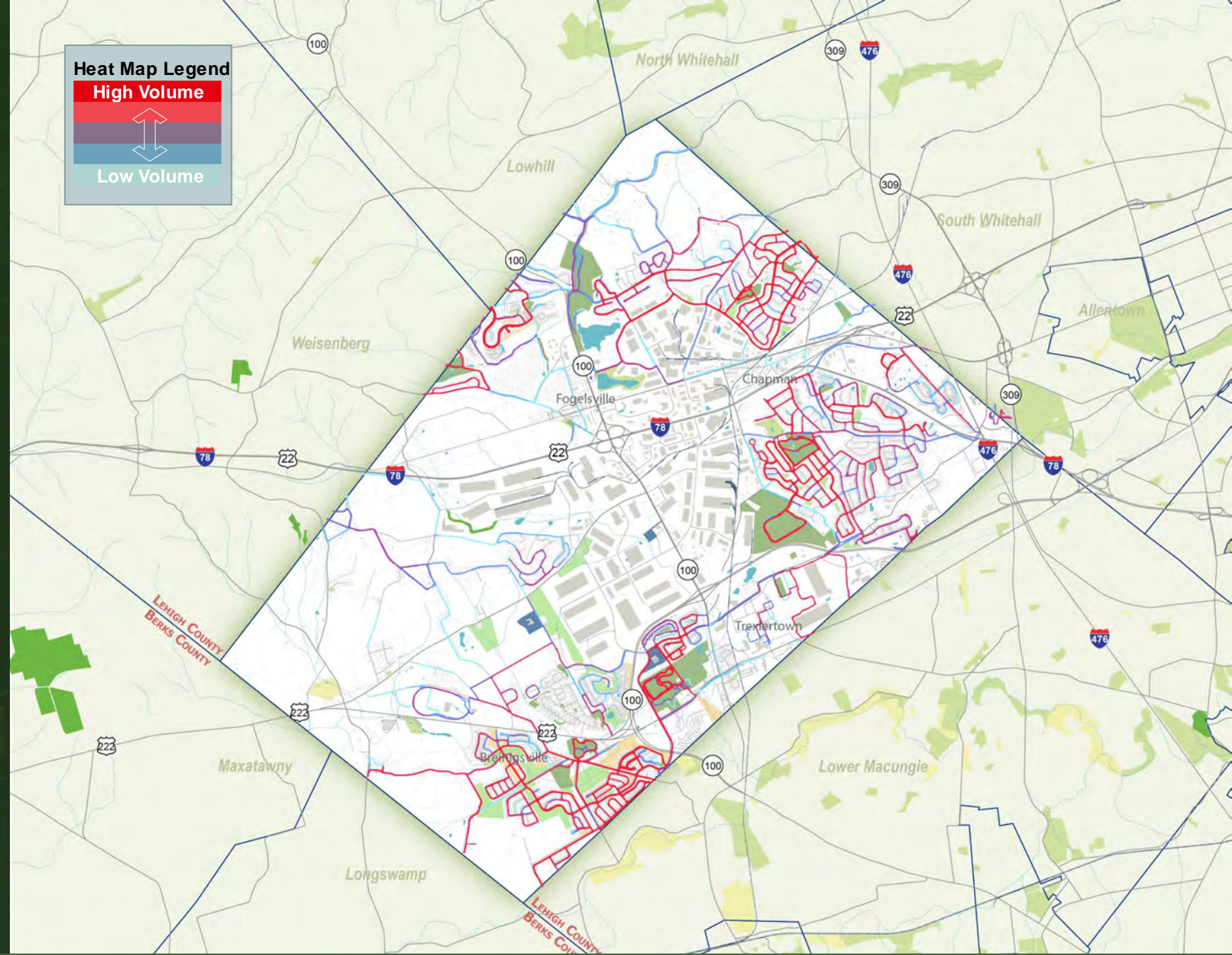
- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream

Heat Map Legend

High Volume



Low Volume



Existing Data

STRAVA Ride

Legend

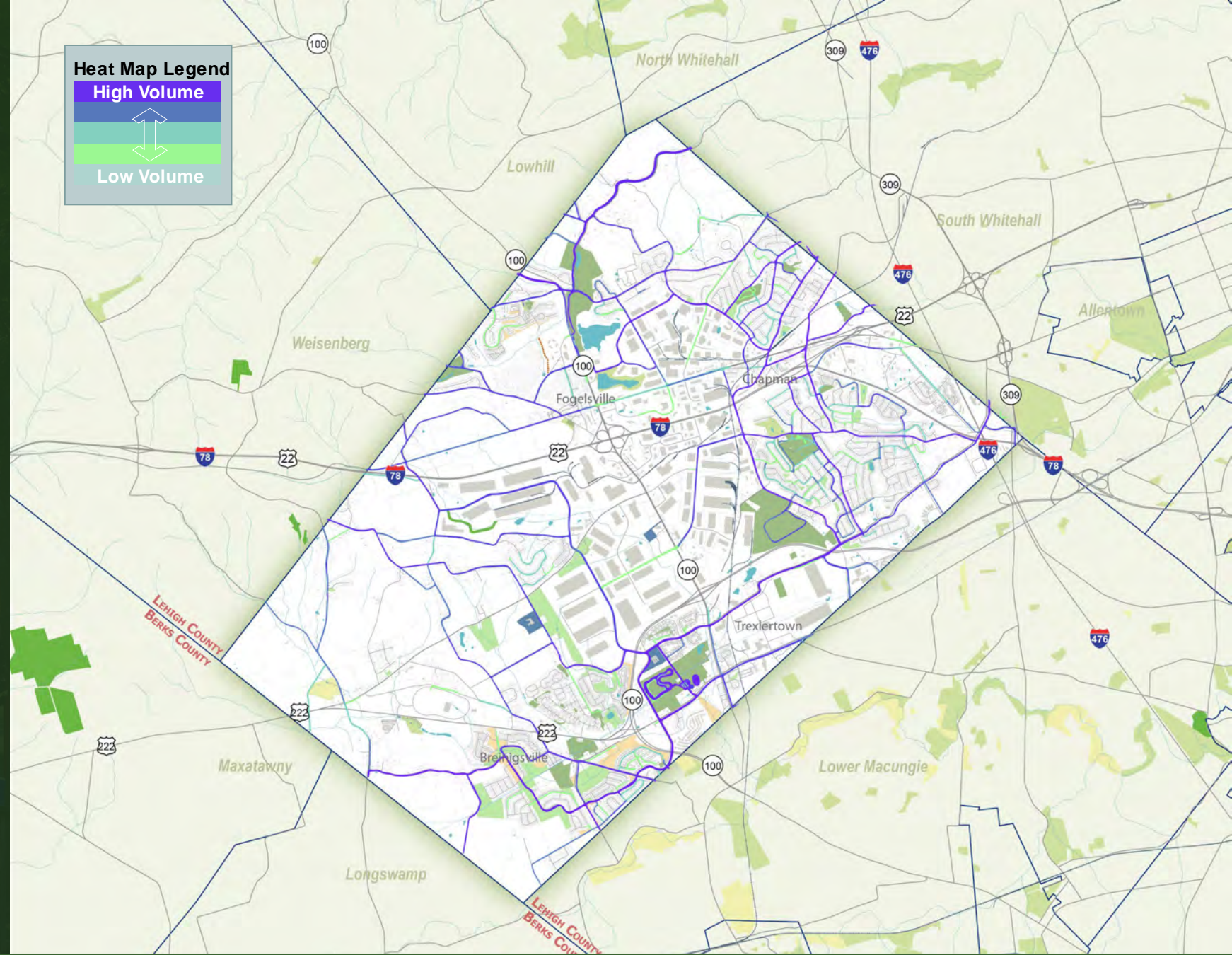
- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream

Heat Map Legend

High Volume



Low Volume

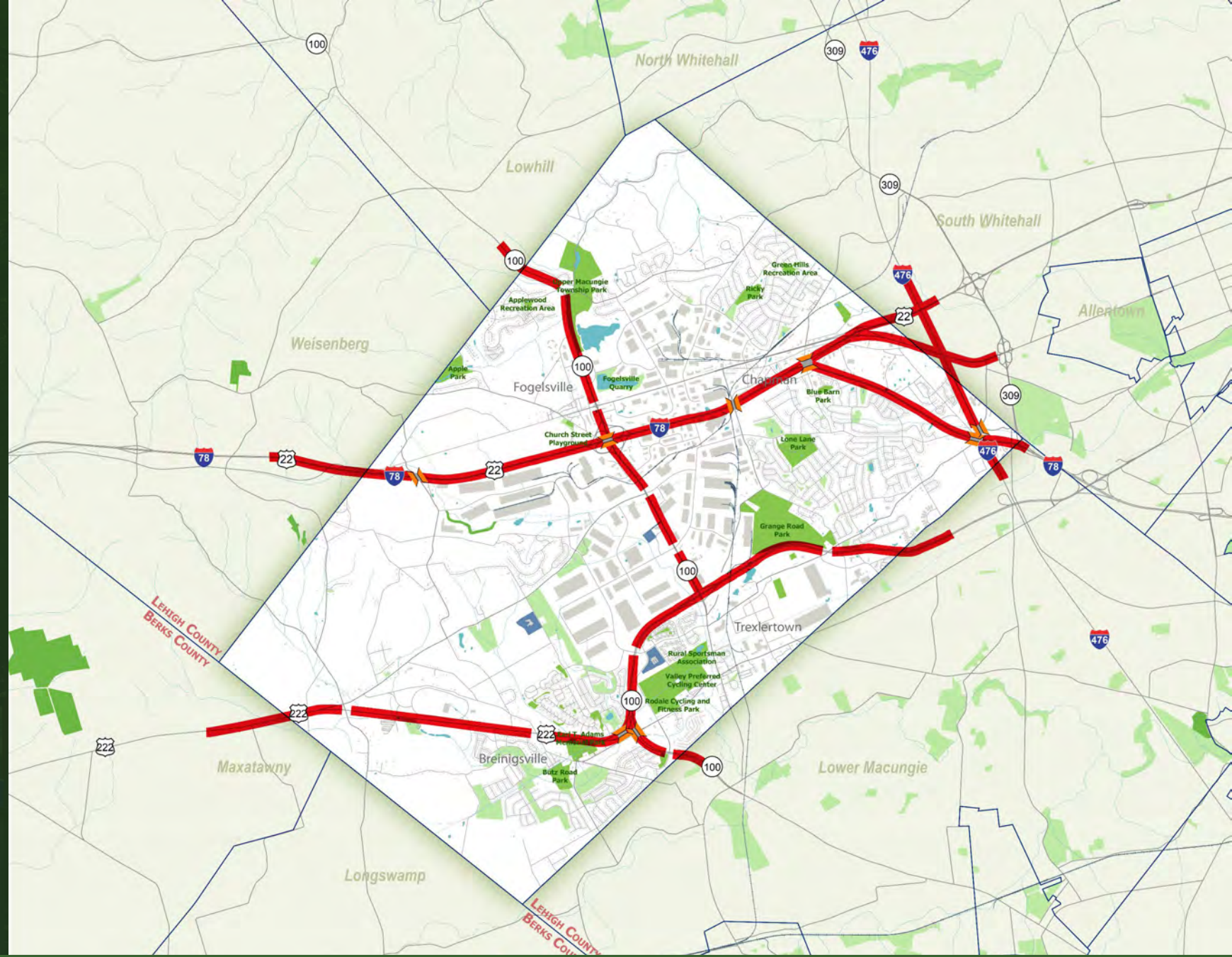


Existing Data

Barriers

Legend

- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream
- Major Roadway Barrier
- Bridge Barrier

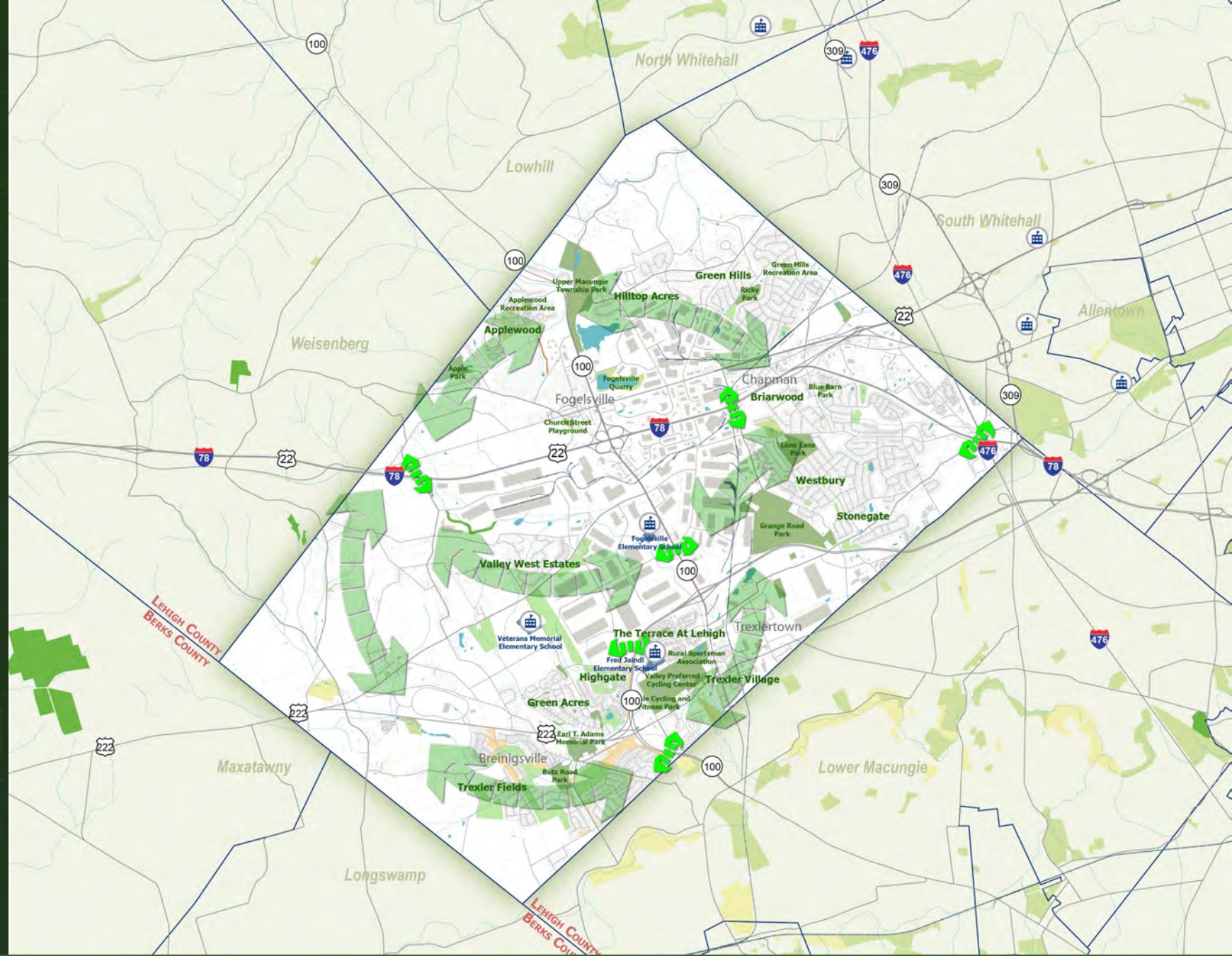


Existing Data

Make Connections Between Parks

Legend

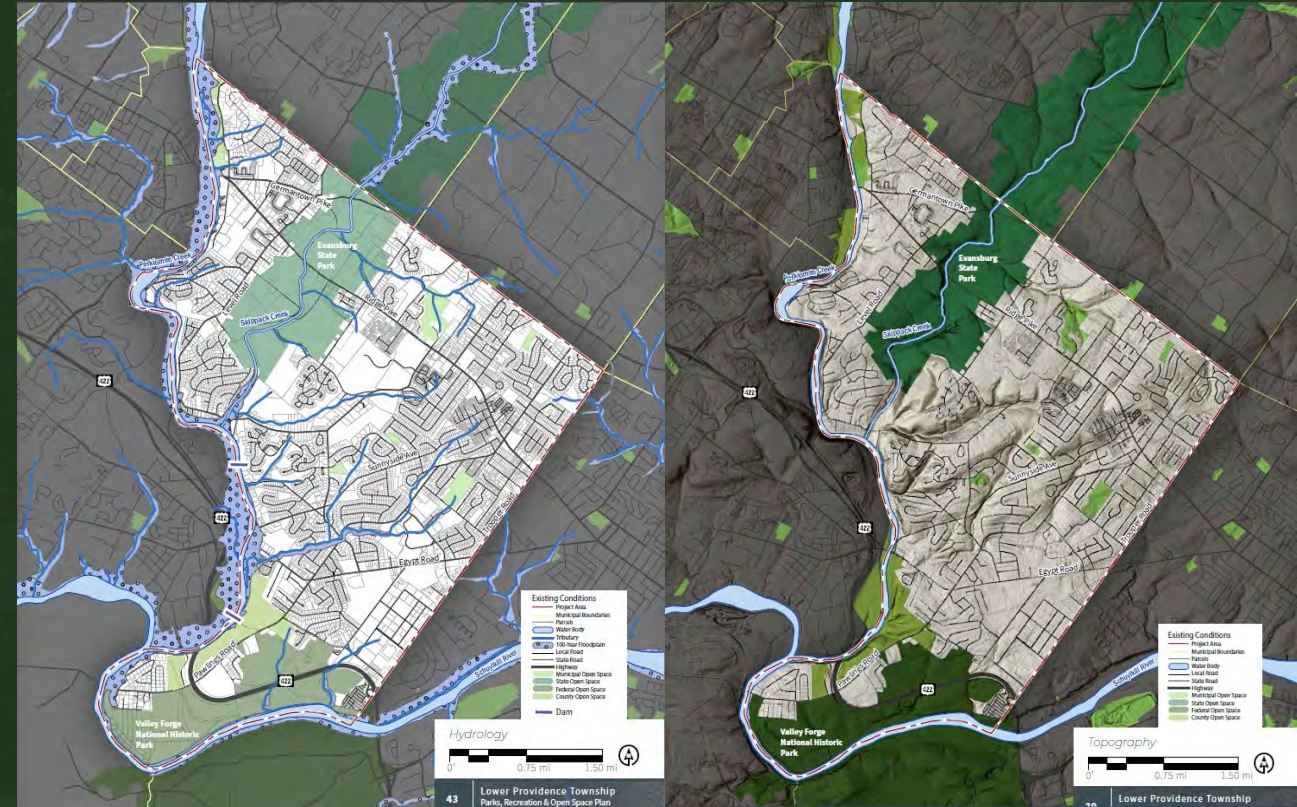
- Local Road
- State Road
- Railroad - Active
- Parcel Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Park and Rec
- Open Space
- Institutional
- Water/Stream



Existing Data

Data Currently Being Collected for Analysis Maps:

- Preserved and ASA Agricultural Land
- Natural resources – hydrology , geology, vegetation and topography
- Current Zoning/ SALDO regulations
- Community placemaking / Cultural Heritage
- Benchmarking
- NRPA (*National Recreation and Park Association*) matrix



SAMPLE – Hydrology and Topography Analysis
Lower Providence Township





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Next Steps



Next Steps

Upper Macungie Township Events:



- Fire Department Appreciation / Movie Night – Friday, September 13, 2024 (5 PM), Grange Park (Splash Park)



- *Re-Scheduled!* National Night Out! – Sunday, October 20, 2024 (5:30 PM)



Brainstorming & Discussion

GOALS

Goals for the project — initially broad, then specific

Facts - What we know already about Upper Macungie Open Space and Recreation

FACTS

CONCEPTS

Ideas for attaining project goals – Opportunities for improvement

Partners - Groups, Businesses, Institutions to create a partnership with

PARTNERS



Brainstorming & Discussion

<u>GOALS</u>	<u>FACTS</u>	<u>CONCEPTS</u>	<u>PARTNERS</u>
PROVIDE FOR ALL AGES	MANY MUNICIPAL PARKS	SAFER PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS	DCNR
PRESERVE RESOURCES	EXISTING TRAILS	DOG PARK	LEHIGH COUNTY
IMPROVE SAFETY FOR PEDESTRIANS & BICYCLES	EXISTING PLAYGROUNDS	“50 FOOT TALL WATER SLIDE”	LOCAL BUSINESSES



Next Steps

NEXT

Committee Meetings:

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- Committee Meeting #2 - October 10, 2024 (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
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Township Commission Meetings

- Park & Recreation Board Meeting - August 15, 2024 & March 20, 2025 (7:00 PM)
- Planning Commission Meeting - September 18, 2024 (7:00 PM)
- Board of Supervisors Meeting - October 3, 2024 & May 1, 2025 (7:00 PM)





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Discussion





Thank You

Contact Information:

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