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# **LAKE SHELBYVILLE MASTER PLAN**

## **KASKASKIA RIVER WATERSHED SHELBYVILLE ILLINOIS**

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### **APPENDIX B – AGENCY AND PUBLIC COORDINATION**

The following pages identify partner and stakeholder letters, news releases, and public comments on the Master Plan. All comments have been addressed.

DRAFT

## **News Release Email Contacts**

### **Newspapers**

Alton Telegraph – Alton IL  
Beardstown Newspaper – Beardstown IL  
Beecher City Journal – Beecher City IL  
Bloomington Pantagraph – Bloomington IL  
Champaign News Gazette – Champaign IL  
Dewitt County Constitution - Farmer City IL  
Effingham Daily News – Effingham IL  
Greenup Press – Greenup IL  
Herald & Review – Decatur IL  
Herald Enterprise – Golconda IL  
Macoupin County Enquirer – Carlinville IL  
Neoga News – Neoga IL  
News Progress – Sullivan IL  
Pana News – Pana IL  
Peoria Journal Star – Peoria IL  
Ramsey News Journal – Ramsey IL  
Shelbyville Daily Union – Shelbyville IL  
Taylorville Daily News – Taylorville IL  
Toledo Democrat – Toledo IL

### **Magazines**

Heartland Outdoors  
Midwest Outdoors

### **Radio Stations**

97.3 Radio – Taylorville IL  
KMOX Radio-St. Louis MO  
WCRC-Radio Effingham IL  
WEJT- Radio Effingham IL  
WGN Radio – Chicago IL  
WLKL- Lakeland – Mattoon IL  
WPMB/WKRV Radio - Vandalia IL  
WSMI Radio – Litchfield IL  
WSOY Radio – Decatur IL  
WMCi Radio - Mattoon IL  
WXEF/WKJT Radio – Effingham IL

### **Online News**

Shelby Co. News

### **TV Stations**

ABC News Channel 15 – Springfield IL WAND-TV. Decatur IL  
WCIA-TV- Champaign IL  
WEIU – Charleston IL

**Other Interested Parties**

Chips Marine  
Ed Baumgarten  
Jim Deer – City of Pana  
Shelby Historic House & Inn  
Shelbyville Works – Brian Tucker  
Kathy Kniksic – Lake Volunteers Association

**Congressional Contacts**

The Honorable Chapin Rose, State Senator  
M-103F State House  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217)558-1006  
(217)782-9586 FAX

The Honorable Richard Durbin, US Senator  
525 S. 8th Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

The Honorable Mark Kirk, US Senator  
607 East Adams  
Suite 1520  
Springfield, IL 62701

The Honorable John Shimkus, US Congressman  
101 North 4th St.  
Suite 303  
Effingham, IL 62401

The Honorable Adam Brown, State Representative  
Illinois House of Representatives  
314 Capitol Building  
Springfield, IL 62706

**Partners**

Eric Maxey  
Lake Volunteers Association  
P.O. Box 23  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Nancy Cruitt  
Lithia Springs Marina  
611 N 6th Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Dan Mohr  
Findlay Marina  
536 Cr 800N  
Findlay, IL 62534

Jon Fayhee  
Sullivan Marina & Campground  
925 IL-32  
Sullivan, IL 61951

Jerry Yockey, Chairman  
General Dacey Trail Committee  
1501 West Main Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Eric Harris  
CIMBA  
212 Elm Springs Dr.  
Sullivan, IL 61951

CIOSA (Central Illinois Sportsmen for Outdoor Accessibility)  
Attn: Bob Kerans  
3045 S. Franklin St. Rd.  
Decatur, IL 62521

CISOA  
Attn: Bob Hill  
9095 Texas Church Road  
Clinton, IL 61727

**Agencies**

Kathy Reiser, County Extension Director University of Illinois Extension  
1125 WN 2nd Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Robert Amling, Chairman  
Shelby County Office of Economic & Community Development .  
669 N 825 East Rd  
Tower Hill IL 62571

Dave McCabe, Chairman  
Moultrie County Board  
10 S. Main St.  
Sullivan, IL 61951

David Cruitt, President  
Shelby County Board  
P.O. Box 230  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Freddie Fry, Director  
Shelby County Tourism/Lake Shelbyville Area CVB  
315 E. Main Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Greg Reynolds, Chairman  
Shelbyville Chamber of Commerce  
143 Morgan Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Vonda McConnell  
Shelbyville Chamber of Commerce  
143 Morgan Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Jared Rowcliffe  
Shelby County Emergency Mgt  
315 E. Main St.  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Stepheny McMahon  
Sullivan Chamber and Economic Development  
112 West Harrison  
Sullivan IL 61951

#### **Other Contacts**

##### **Cultural**

Rachel Leibowitz  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Preservation Services Division  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507

##### **EPA**

Kenneth A. Westlake  
US EPA, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Blvd E19J  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Bruce Yurdin  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
Bureau of Water: Watershed Management Section  
1021 N. Grand Avenue East  
P.O. Box 19276  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

**USFWS**

Matt Mangan  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
Ecological Services  
Marion Illinois Sub-Office  
8588 Route 148  
Marion, IL 62959

**USDA**

Doug Peters  
USDA-NRCS  
111 N. Cedar Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

**Local City Leaders**

Bill Ashley, Mayor  
Village of Bethany  
P.O. Box 352  
Bethany, IL 61914

John Diss, Mayor Village of Findlay  
P.O. Box 199  
Findlay, IL 62534

Jeff Johnson, Mayor City of Shelbyville  
170 E. Main Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Ann Short, Mayor City of Sullivan  
Sullivan City Building  
2 West Harrison  
Sullivan, IL 61951

Terry Kuhl, Mayor  
City of Windsor  
1016 Maine Street  
Windsor, Illinois 61957

**Non-Governmental Contacts**

Ted Horn  
Sierra Club Belleville Group  
30 S. 87th St.  
Belleville, IL 62223

The Nature Conservancy  
PO Box 440400  
St. Louis, MO 63144

Robert D. Shepherd  
Izaak Walton League of America  
16 Juliet Ave  
Romeoville, IL 60446

Kathy Andria  
American Bottoms Conservancy  
P.O. Box 4242  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208

**IDNR**

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
Office of Water Resources  
One Natural Resources Way, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271

Mike Mounce  
Fisheries Biologist  
1660 W. Polk Ave.  
Charleston, IL 61920

Richard Glazebrook  
IDNR Superintendent,  
Eagle Creek and Wolf Creek State Parks  
R.R. 1 Box 16  
Findlay, IL 62534

Stan Duzan, Superintendent  
IL Department of Natural Resources  
West Okaw and Kaskaskia Rivers WMA  
562 State Hwy 121  
Bethany, IL 61914

Dave Wahl  
Kaskaskia Biological Station  
RR 1, Box 157  
Sullivan, IL 61951

Wes Cattoor, P.E., CFM  
Water Supply Engineer  
IDNR - Water Resources  
1 Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702

**Illinois Department of Agriculture**

Terry Savko  
Illinois Department of Agriculture  
Bureau of Land and Water Resources  
P.O. Box 19281 State Fairgrounds  
Springfield, IL 62794-9281

**Other Partners**

Bruce Condill  
Board of Directors  
Upper Kaskaskia Watershed/KWA  
1749 Co Rd 1900 N  
Arthur, IL 61911

Tom Colclasure  
Executive Director  
Shelby County Community Services  
1810 W. South 3rd Street | P.O. Box 650  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Steve Jurgens  
Upper Kaskaskia Watershed/KWA Board Member  
206 Taylor Lane  
Arthur, IL 61911-1680

Dr. Gerald A. Snyder MD Board Member  
Lake Shelbyville Development Association/KWA  
1960 Highlawn Road  
Decatur, IL 62521

Jonathon Manuel CPESC-IT  
Resource Conservationist - Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation Dist. 2110 W.  
Park Ct.  
Champaign, IL 61821

Christopher Ware  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
621 West Leander  
Clinton, IL 61727

Penny Clay  
Coast Guard Auxiliary  
1107 Jefferson Ave.  
Charleston, IL 61920

Don Koonce, Sheriff  
Shelby County Sheriff Dept.  
151 N Morgan St.  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Chris Simms, Sheriff  
Moultrie County Sheriff s Dept.  
1505 West Hagerman  
Sullivan, IL 61951

Clay Brush, Commander  
Moultrie County Dive Team  
PO Box 380  
Bethany, IL 61914

Glenda Plunkett  
Marketing/ Volunteer Coordinator Shelby Memorial Hospital  
200 S. Cedar Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Sullivan Ambucs  
Attn: Jim Bales  
#15 Kas-Villa Acres  
Sullivan, IL 61951

David Tallman, Police Chief  
City of Shelbyville  
100 W Main St.  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Tim Miller  
Spores-N-More Committee  
1025 N. Wood St.  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Steve Buchtel, Executive Director Trails for Illinois  
1639 Burr Oak Road  
Homewood, IL 60430

Austin Pritchard, Commander  
Shelby County Dive Team  
1903 E 750 North Road  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Gene Davis, Secretary/Treasurer Heartland of Illinois RC&D  
111 North Cedar, Suite 3  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Linda Voris  
Spores-N-More Committee  
29 Ritchie Dr.  
Windsor, IL 61957

Shelby Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 560  
Shelbyville, IL 62565  
Attn: Kevin Bernson  
Attn: Josh Shallenberger

CPO Brian McReynolds Wolf Creek SP  
1837 N. Wolf Creek Road  
Windsor, IL 61957

Louis Yockey, General Dacey Trail Committee  
1 Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702

Shelby Co. HWY Dept.  
Attn: Alan Spesard  
1590 St. HWY 16  
Shelbyville, IL 62565



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Operations, Readiness and  
Regulatory Division

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
ST. LOUIS DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
1222 SPRUCE STREET  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2833

NOV 05 2015

Honorable Mark Kirk  
607 East Adams  
Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Senator Kirk,

The St. Louis District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is updating the Carlyle Lake, Lake Shelbyville, and Kaskaskia River Project Master Plans. The purpose for updating these plans is to bring them into compliance with current USACE policies and regulations, update visitor use trends, and obtain public input to ensure future activities are accomplished in an environmentally sustainable manner.

These Master Plans address outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship activities occurring on lands owned and easement lands managed by the Corps of Engineers at the above mentioned Civil Works Projects. These Master Plans do not address shoreline management, water control or water quality, since these activities are included in other Corps of Engineers operating plans.

We are coordinating this effort with appropriate Federal, State, and local government agencies as well as non-government organizations, stakeholders, and members of the public. We will be conducting workshops to obtain input from members of the public according to the following schedule:

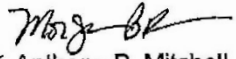
- Sullivan, IL: November 17, 2015, 6-8 pm at the VFW, 1132 State Highway 32
- Shelbyville, IL: November 18, 2015, 6-8 pm at the Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center, 1989 State Highway 16
- Carlyle, IL: December 3, 2015, 2:30-5:30 pm at the Mariners Village Resort Conference Center, 1 Resort Drive
- Vandalia, IL: December 8, 2015, 5-7 pm at the Americas Best Value Inn, 1920 N. Kennedy Blvd.
- Germantown, IL: January 12, 2016, 5-7 pm at the Germantown American Legion, 1105 Sycamore St.
- Red Bud, IL: January 13, 2016, 5-7 pm at the Kaskaskia Regional Port District Office, 336 N. Main St.

-2-

➤ Chester, IL: January 14, 2016, 5-7pm at the Chester Public Library, 733 State St.

I would like to extend a personal invitation for you and/or your representative to participate in any or all of these public workshops. Should you have any questions, and to confirm your attendance, please contact Julie Ziino at (314) 331-8016 or via email at [Julie.Ziino@usace.army.mil](mailto:Julie.Ziino@usace.army.mil). Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

  
for Anthony P. Mitchell  
Colonel, U. S. Army  
District Commander



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

LAKE SHELBYVILLE MANAGEMENT OFFICE  
RURAL ROUTE 4, BOX 128B  
SHELBYVILLE, IL 62565-9804

November 5, 2015

Dave Wahl  
Kaskaskia Biological Station  
RR 1, Box 157  
Sullivan, IL 61951

Dear Dave:

The St. Louis District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is updating the Carlyle Lake, Lake Shelbyville and Kaskaskia River Project Master Plans. The purpose for updating these plans is to bring them into compliance with current USACE policies and regulations, update visitor use trends and obtain public input to ensure future activities are accomplished in an environmentally sustainable manner.

These Master Plans will guide the management activities on government-owned and leased lands located at the above mentioned Civil Works Projects. Decisions about land use classifications at these projects may affect future management of natural resources and outdoor recreation opportunities. Input from your organization and the general public will help define the revisions to our currently outdated Master Plans.

Because our organizations work so closely together, your input is extremely valuable to the update process. The Corps of Engineers will hold two public workshops around Lake Shelbyville. They will be held at the following times and locations:

November 17 - Sullivan VFW, 1132 State Highway 32, 5 – 7 pm

November 18 - Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center, 1989 State Highway 16, 5 – 7 pm

In addition to the public workshops, a separate workshop has been set up just for our partners and stakeholders. This workshop will be held December 2, 3 – 6 pm at the Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center.

I would like to extend a personal invitation for you and/or a representative to attend any of the Lake Shelbyville workshops. Please feel free to contact Maria Shafer at 217-774-3951 if you have any questions concerning the Lake Shelbyville Master Plan process.

Sincerely,

Jon Summers  
Assistant Operations Manager



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of Engineers®**

St. Louis District

For Immediate Release:  
9 November 2015  
Release No.: 16-06

# NEWS RELEASE

Contact:  
Phil Manhart (217) 774-3951 ext 7010  
[Phil.J.Manhart@usace.army.mil](mailto:Phil.J.Manhart@usace.army.mil)

## **Lake Shelbyville Master Plan Update Public Workshop**

**Lake Shelbyville** – The US Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville is currently in the process of updating its Master Plan. Lake Shelbyville, along with Carlyle Lake and Kaskaskia River Project, are updating their plans simultaneously. The Master Plan addresses outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship activities at each project. The updated Master Plan will provide a current inventory and assessment of land and water resources and physical improvements, any changes to resource use objectives and an evaluation of current and future needs required to protect the natural and cultural features of the lake. Emphasis will be placed on increasing efficiency of operations through consolidation, repair and rehabilitation. The Corps of Engineers will be holding two public workshops around Lake Shelbyville. They will be held at the following times and locations:

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November 18 - Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center, 1989 State Highway 16, 5 – 7 pm

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-30-

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ST LOUIS DISTRICT – LAKE SHELBYVILLE**

1989 State Hwy 16, Shelbyville, IL 62565

<http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/LakeShelbyville.aspx>

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EDITOR'S PICK

## Corps seeks input for Lake Shelbyville plan

By SHARON BARRICKLOW For the Herald &amp; Review Nov 22, 2015 0

SHELBYVILLE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is asking area residents for ideas and suggestions to improve tourism, ecosystem protection, wildlife management, recreation and flood control at Lake Shelbyville.

The corps hosted two public meetings, one in Sullivan and one in Shelbyville, last week to seek public input on the lake's master plan, an every 10-year document that sets the goals and direction for lake management.

Surrounded by GIS maps of the lake, corps employees asked visitors to share their ideas for improving the lake and the Corps relationships with Moultrie and Shelby counties.

"Providing the public with the experience they want is important to our mission," park ranger Phil Manhart said.

Manhart said the corps would take feedback from the two public meetings along with information gathered at meetings with other stakeholders in the area to put together a comprehensive 10-year plan. The Lake Shelbyville plan will mesh with a similar plan being developed for Lake Carlyle. He said the corps depends on feedback and assistance from the public.

"Over the years, we've had to figure out ways to do more with less," he said. "That's why it is important that we focus on the things the public really want and care about."

At the Shelbyville meeting, members of Shelby Partners, an economic development group of area communities, were adding their ideas to the list.

"We're especially interested in adding additional signs," said David Young, a Shelby Partners board member.

"We'd like to find a way to add more highway signs directing visitors not only to Lake Shelbyville in general, but also to specific places at the lake."

Young said another item on the group's wish list is Wi-Fi hot spots at Lake Shelbyville campgrounds. With more than 1,500 campsites, he said it was unrealistic to expect visitors to go without Internet service.

"We have visitors from the Chicago area who think they've gone to the end of the earth," he said. "They want to get away, but they also want to stay connected while they vacation."



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## 2016 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan Update

The Lake Shelbyville Master Plan update process began this fall with the first public meeting on November 17, 2015. The Master Plan was last updated in 2004.

The 2016 Master Plan update will incorporate a Watershed Approach among the three Corps projects located on the Kaskaskia River: Lake Shelbyville, Carlyle Lake and the Kaskaskia River Project. All three project Master Plans are being updated in FY 16 and will include a common approach to addressing issues.

Below is a definition of what the Master Plan (MP) encompasses:

*A Project Master Plan is defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural, and cultural resources throughout the life of a Corps water resources development project. In general, it defines "how" the resources will be managed for public use and resource conservation. The MP does not address the specifics of regional water quality, shoreline management, or water level management. Additionally, the operation and management of associated prime facilities (dam, gates, powerhouses, spillways, etc.) is not included.*

A draft update will be produced and is expected to be available for comment and review by late April 2016. After a 30 day comment period, the final draft will be completed with approval anticipated near the end of the September 2016.

As information and notices become available they will be posted to this page. Sections of the 2004 Master Plan are available for viewing and download through the links below. The full version of the plan is available on the document bars to the right. Please be aware, the full version of the Master Plan document is large and may take a long time to open/download.

## Lake Shelbyville Master Plan Public Meetings Schedule

1st Public Meeting 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Nov. 17, 2015	Sullivan VFW – Sullivan IL
2nd Public Meeting 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Nov. 18, 2015	Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center
3rd Public Meeting 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Dec. 8, 2015	Americas Best Value Inn – Vandalia

## Master Plan Schedule

Public Comment Submission	Dec. 31, 2015
Deadline	
Draft Available for	Late May 2016
Comment	
30 Day Comment Period	Late June 2016
Ends	
Final Draft Completion	Late July 2016
Master Plan Update	Late Sept. 2016
Approval	

## 2004 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan

- [Main Document](#)
- [Appendices](#)

## ST. LOUIS DISTRICT

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Master Plan Update](#)

## Announcements

## Draft Available for Comment

Where: Lake Shelbyville Project Office  
1989 State Highway 16  
Shelbyville IL 62565

When: TBD

Who: Anyone Interested in the 2016 Lake  
Shelbyville Master Plan Update

## Contact

Mailing Address:  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Lake Shelbyville Project Office  
Attn: Master Plan  
1989 State Highway 16  
Shelbyville IL 62565

Telephone:  
Phone: (217) 774-3951  
Fax: (217) 774-2014



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**Lake Shelbyville Master Plan update public workshop scheduled**  
 Date: • Tuesday, Nov 10, 2015  


The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville is currently in the process of updating its Master Plan. Lake Shelbyville, along with Carlyle Lake and Kaskaskia River Project, are updating their plans simultaneously.

The Master Plan addresses outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship activities at each project.

The updated Master Plan will provide a current inventory and assessment of land and water resources and physical improvements, any changes to resource use objectives and an evaluation of current and future needs required to protect the natural and cultural features of the lake.

Emphasis will be placed on increasing efficiency of operations through consolidation, repair and rehabilitation.

The Corps of Engineers will be holding two public workshops around Lake Shelbyville. They will be held at the following times and locations:

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A joint public workshop will be held with Carlyle Lake at a future date, as will other public workshops concerning Carlyle Lake and Kaskaskia River Project. Those times and locations will be announced later.

The workshop is informal. No formal presentation will be made. Maps of the lake will be posted in each location to show current facilities. Comment cards will be available for comments and suggestions.

For further information, contact the Lake Shelbyville Project Office, 217-774-3951.

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**Community Calendar**  
**UPCOMING EVENTS...**  
 (Click event for details)  
 Habitat for Humanity in Shelby County Board of Directors meeting  
 Thu, May 12, 2016 at 7:00pm  
 Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
 Mon, May 16, 2016 at 6:00pm  
 Windsor City Council Meeting  
 Mon, May 16, 2016 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
 Mon, Jun 6, 2016 at 6:00pm  
 Windsor City Council Meeting  
 Mon, Jun 6, 2016 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Harriek Village Board Meeting  
 Tue, Jun 7, 2016 at 6:30pm  
 Habitat for Humanity in Shelby County Board of Directors meeting  
 Thu, Jun 9, 2016 at 7:00pm  
 Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
 Mon, Jun 20, 2016 at 6:00pm  
 Windsor City Council Meeting  
 Mon, Jun 20, 2016 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
 Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
 Mon, Jul 4, 2016 at 6:00pm  
 Windsor City Council Meeting

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 Select word:  

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avowal	dozens

Match each word in the left column with its synonym on the right. When finished, click Answer to see the results. Good luck!

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### New subdivision plans revealed

Date: Tuesday, Dec 08, 2015

**T**he former Shelbyville Country Club could be the centerpiece of a new subdivision of single family homes, condominiums and townhomes, the Shelbyville City Council learned Monday night.

Dave Rifstuck, a Chicago area businessman, told the council he had been coming to Lake Shelbyville as a visitor since he was a young teen.

"There are people who really love coming to the lake and would like to come more than once a year for a weekend or week," he said.

The land for the proposed "Lake Trails" subdivision is already in the city limits and Rifstuck said all roads in the development would be city streets with public access.

He asked the city to support a request to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to build a boat dock with public lake access at the site. In addition, he said a new large pond would be built on the property to allow some of the possible 210 housing units to have "waterfront" access.

The plan also includes an expansion of the General Dacey Trail to the proposed lake access site.

Rifstuck said the development could be part of a larger growth on the city's north side. He said plans include bicycle rentals and a restaurant and he hoped to partner with one of the existing lake marinas to provide services at the boat dock.

"I have no, zero interest in running a dock," he said.

Council member Glib Smart said getting the Corps to approve lake access at the site had been tried before.

"SCCS Ventures wanted to do it," he said. "If Dick Gloede couldn't get it done I don't know how it would be approved this time."

Rifstuck said the previous plan had kept the road private.

"The Corps is interested in our plan because any lake access would be open to all, not only off a private road," he said. "Three weeks ago we met with Congressman (John) Shimkus and he has helped us explain to the Corps that this project is not only important for the Lake Shelbyville area but for the state of Illinois. In this case, the city would be the lease holder on the waterfront access."

Shelby County Board Chairman David Cruitt said while he supported the idea of a subdivision he was against a new lake access point.

"I think you're opening a can of worms because what is done for one will have to be done again. People come to this lake because there aren't buildings and docks jutting out all over the place," he said. "Lake Sara, Lake Decatur, they all have that. We don't and it makes Lake Shelbyville appealing."

Rifstuck said the new development would provide the area with up to \$1.9 million in annual property taxes and up to \$200,000 in sales tax. He said the subdivision was a good fit for the area.

"I wanted to come here and put to rest a lot of rumors," he said. "All the roads will be public access, the pier would be public access and it's not going to be a trailer park or campground."

The council voted unanimously to support the plan with the Corps of Engineers including asking for the water access.

"It would be good for the city," council member Bill Shoaff said.

Mayor Jeff Johnson said the city needed to be involved in the development process.

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Thu, May 12, 2016 at 7:00pm

Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
Mon, May 16, 2016 at 6:00pm

Windsor City Council Meeting  
Mon, May 16, 2016 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
Mon, Jun 6, 2016 at 6:00pm

Windsor City Council Meeting  
Mon, Jun 6, 2016 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Herrick Village Board Meeting  
Tue, Jun 7, 2016 at 6:30pm

Habitat for Humanity in Shelby County Board of Directors meeting  
Thu, Jun 9, 2016 at 7:00pm

Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
Mon, Jun 20, 2016 at 6:00pm

Windsor City Council Meeting  
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Shelbyville City Council Meeting  
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"This will affect future growth," he said. "We need to be involved."

Johnson said the city will also be asking the Corps to make plans for a future resort in the Shelbyville area.

In other business Monday, the council:

-Approved the annual tax levy that was presented last month.

-Approved purchase of the county's former Animal Control facility for \$1. The building is located on city property and the two governmental bodies have shared expenses over the years.

-Heard from Smart that the downtown "Rock Creations" building would be expensive to demolish. Police Chief David Tallman said possibly business district or TIF funds could be used to pay for the tear down but the remaining lot, closed in on three sides by other property, would have no resale value.

Tallman also said he had sent a letter to property owners about their burned-out home, giving them until February 20 to remove the debris.

"It's a dangerous situation," he said. "I tried to mediate a sale of the property to a neighbor but it didn't happen. It's about \$15,000 to have it torn down on a piece of property that is essentially worthless. It's a shallow lot and not a good neighborhood for new construction."

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EDITOR'S PICK

## Lake Shelbyville development gets council's support

SHELBYVILLE – The Shelbyville City Council voted unanimously Monday night to encourage the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to approve a Chicago area developer's plans for a housing development near Lake Shelbyville.

Dave Rifistack told the council he purchased the site of the former Shelbyville Country Club in December 2013 to develop a subdivision with homes and condominiums for year-round and vacation homes.

Rifistack is asking the Corps to provide lake access for boat docking at the site and was seeking the city's support.

He said the Lake Trails project could include up to 210 housing units and provide up to \$1.9 million in annual property taxes.

"All of the roads would be public and the lake access would be public lake access," he said.

His plans for a pond to provide some waterfront building sites adjoining Corps property already have been approved and Rifistack said other amenities would include kayak and canoe access, bike rentals and expansion of the General Dacey recreational trail. A restaurant also would be part of the development.

"There have been a lot of rumors," he said. "I wanted to clarify that all of the roads will be public access, the pier would be public access and it's not going to be a trailer park or a campground," Rifistack said.

Shelby County Board Chairman David Cruitt said increased boat docks were not a good idea.

"I've been around since the beginning and the Corps plan was three marinas and Eagle Creek (resort) and that's that," Cruitt said. "If you open the door to this you're going to have something that's going to snowball."

Cruitt said Lake Shelbyville visitors like the natural views on the lake.

"They're not wanting to see buildings and docks coming out," he said "I'm not against the subdivision but allowing access to the lake is a can of worms you don't want to open."

The Corps is taking public comments on future plans for Lake Shelbyville until Dec. 31.

"We have significant interest in the property," Mayor Jeff Johnson said. "It's part of the city and could affect future growth. We need to be involved."

**Master Plan Comment Cards**

The following have been grouped according to comment. The response is placed at the end of each group.

**1. Request for land use classification change from Low Density Recreation to High Density Recreation with the creation of a day use area under lease to the City of Shelbyville**

**1a.** Do not allow any boat docks at the old country club or anywhere else on the lake. This takes away from the natural look of the lake. This will hurt tourism plus there are 3 marinas on the lake with slips available.

**1b.** I believe that a day use area and docking area should be located in the “LD-16 Big Red Multiple Resource Area”

**1c.** The Lake Shelbyville Project and surrounding wildlife areas have continued to provide critical habitat and refuge for many wildlife species in an area of the country where habitat is limited. It provides access to the public for a large number of outdoor activities that would not be available otherwise. I believe conserving the natural boundary to the lake and continuing to manage these areas for wildlife and fisheries should be a main priority in the new master plan. Housing developments and lakeside recreation are plentiful at other reservoirs in Illinois where natural buffers are not. Please continue protecting the natural shoreline of the lake.

**1d.** I was concerned about the proposal to add a boat dock in the Shelbyville Country Club area. That seems to me to be a benefit to only one entity and would open the door for more “private” docks. The lake would lose the thing that makes it unique – its natural look. Bad.

**1e.** We need to get Eagle Creek Resort opened up again to attract the tourism that we have lost. We also do not want to allow any further encroachments on the lake such as boat docks and piers.

**1f.** I understand that the Corps of Engineers is updating the Master Plan for Lake Shelbyville and is considering a request from a developer (who has recently purchased the old County Club property and has plans to sell lots for high-end summer homes and condos) to change that property into a high dense use area and allow for the construction of a boat dock and slips in the cove. Please be informed that I prefer that Lake Shelbyville remains as is with a public greenbelt around it.

**1g.** In reference to a proposed boat dock being built adjacent to the proposed Lake Trails subdivision.

The developer says that there will be a public access road to the dock via a restaurant and bicycle rental business. But he has no desire to run either business or boat dock.

This is just a smoke screen for what will be essentially a private dock for the residents of the subdivision.

This will allow the developer to have a selling point for his property with the question who will maintain this boat dock and access to it not clear.

I do not think it is in the best interest of Lake Shelbyville to allow this. It will set a precedence for this type of development around the lake and will mitigate the green belt effect which makes this lake appealing.

The area is highly erodible and with the lake being a flood control lake the placing of a dock at this location will be a problem.

**1h.** I would like to voice my support of the Lake Trails subdivision project on Lake Shelbyville. Including boat docks for the subdivision is a great idea.

Thank you to all Corps officers that keep our lake beautiful.

**1i.** I read the article in the paper on the housing project and wondered how long has this been public; I had just heard about it when I seen it in the paper. It sounds like the deal was done before the public new (sp) about it. I agree with the Board Chairman David Cruitt, I think once this is approved, you will open it up to the world to develop housing projects all over the lake and you as well as I do that it will happen. There are no other lakes in the state as unique as this. Please don't let this happen, we will all regret it, except the developers, more greed. I have been coming here since the lake was built with my family and then moved here in late 1999. All access to this lake should be Corps property or state run as is today. I just can't believe this is being considered. It sounds like it's a done deal and we don't have any say in the matter. At least this decision should be held off until all area people get to speak.

**1j.** My husband and I just learned that a developer is asking the Corps to allow the placement of private docks on Lake Shelbyville. I also understand that as you prepare the lakes Master Plan that you can choose to include those docks. We are asking that the corps not do that. We enjoy the lake for its recreation...boating and fishing. And especially for fishing the docks are not good.

My husband has fished lakes that have those docks and it takes away fishing area for the fishermen and it they take away from the beauty of the lake and its surrounds. Please say no to docks on the lake.

**The following comments were taken via phone conversation.**

**1k.** Spoke with a gentleman on December 5<sup>th</sup> 2015. He is an avid user of the lake to include hunting, fishing, boating, and camping. He is very opposed to the Corps allowing any future docks on Lake Shelbyville. He said there is plenty of opportunity between the three marinas and the state park.

**1l.** Spoke with a lady on December 10<sup>th</sup> 2015. She is very opposed to the Corps allowing any future docks on Lake Shelbyville. She said there are not many places you can go and enjoy the outdoors and experience what Lake Shelbyville has to offer. Allowing more docks would be detrimental to the lake.

**1m.** Spoke with a gentleman on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2015. He is very opposed to the Corps allowing any future docks on Lake Shelbyville. He is handicap and participates in the events at Lake Shelbyville that cater to the handicap folks. He said allowing more docks would ruin the lake. He said we already have enough docks between the three marinas.

**1n.** Spoke with an individual that wanted to remain anonymous on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The individual is originally from Chicago. Now lives adjacent to the lake and owns 17 acres. This individual said there is no place in Illinois like Lake Shelbyville. Opening up for more docks would ruin the Lake and what it has to offer. You can come to Lake Shelbyville and feel like you have left home and all the hustle and bustle and have an enjoyable vacation. Allowing more docks would ruin the experience. The individual also stated there are plenty of empty slips in the current marinas.

**1o.** Spoke with a gentleman on December 15<sup>th</sup>. He is very much opposed to future develop on Corps land adjacent to the “old Country Club”. He said it would open a whole can of worms, to where everyone would want a dock. He said there is not enough land to actually develop into an actual recreation area other than a boat dock. Plus that is a steep wooded hillside and that would just add to more environmental issues, in which there is already plenty of erosion.

**1p.** Spoke with a gentleman on 7 January 2016 concerning Lake Trails subdivision. He is not in favor of allowing docks in that area. The land is too steep and he believes the erosion caused by trails will be harmful to the lake. He thinks that if one developer is allowed to put docks in, this will open the door to others building on the lake. He also believes that if the developer wanting to put the subdivision in is interested in the lake, he should take over Eagle Creek Resort and build that back up.

**1q.** I saw recently in the Shelbyville (IL) Daily Union article that a development was proposed (and approved) by the City of Shelbyville City Council for the Shelby Country Club area bordering Federally-owned property managed by THE US Army Corps at Lake Shelbyville. The proposed development included housing, a “Five Star Restaurant” and a boat dock to service the area, particularly the restaurant. There was discussion of the City of Shelbyville providing utilities to the area with the anticipated tax revenue of between 1.2 and 1.9 million dollars. After observing the failure of the Eagle Creek Resort at Eagle Creek State Park approximately half-way up the lake, such an extensive development seems ill-advised. The resort has not operated at all for many years and I doubt that it ever operated in the black or it would still be operating. I also doubt that the resort ever produced the tax revenue to the Village of Findlay or Shelby County that the original developers projected. The Eagle Creek Resort development included boat docks, an expensive restaurant and a golf course. It is also my understanding that the State of Illinois provided some degree of financial support and incentives to the resort’s developer. Even that combination could not prevent its failure. I’m also sure that whatever jobs the original developer promised are no longer there if they ever were.

While the latest proposed development differs from that at Eagle Creek Resort in some respects, considering the failure of the resort, it seems unlikely that the recent proposed development will be able to deliver what is being promised - although anything, I suppose, is possible. In addition, there are other land areas designated in the current Lake Shelbyville Master Plan as available for development. There is no need to designate an additional Federal land area for development.

The portion of the land proposed for development includes a very small area, approximately two acres, that is Federally-owned. Currently, it is my understanding that this area is designated as “Low Density Recreation” in the Current Master Plan. Re-designating this as “High Density Recreation” is unreasonable not only due to its small size, but also due to the steepness of the shoreline in the area. The area cannot sustain high density recreation use without adding to the already severe shoreline erosion continuing to be experienced at many areas around Lake Shelbyville’s shoreline. Under consideration is construction of a boat dock in this area. What is the purpose of the dock? To service a “Five Star Restaurant”? At best the dock’s use would be seasonal if it is even used at all. The docks at the Eagle Creek Resort certainly weren’t used year-round and didn’t keep the resort from failing. If such an ambitious proposed restaurant actually did survive, the patrons would come from the land side, not from the water side.

Or could the proposed dock be intended in the long run for use by the folks living in the proposed housing units? If that is the case, permitting such use would get a foot in the door for other subdivisions and other adjacent landowners to make an argument that they, too, should get their own boat docks. One of the unique features of Lake Shelbyville is its pristine, undeveloped shoreline. If you don’t think allowing “one tiny

little dock” - leading to many other docks along the shore - would cause Lake Shelbyville to become an eyesore, take a look at Corps of Engineers lakes such as Table Rock, Barclay, Bull Shoals, Lake Lanier and others who have permitted large numbers of boat docks, both public and private. Does the general public using the lake really want that to happen? In addition, when Lake Shelbyville was built, leases were awarded to three marina operators who were to provide docking and other marine services to the public. If other docks are permitted on the lake, not only is the shoreline’s beauty ruined, we will have failed to protect our long-term partners, i.e. Lithia Springs Marina, Findlay Marina and Sullivan Marina.

In addition, Lake Shelbyville has Flood Control as a primary project purpose. The lake’s operation frequently leads to extreme water level rises and falls. This would wreak havoc on a dock permanently placed at the restaurant, or any other location, without provision for removal or adjustment during high and low water conditions. The proposed docking area is not conducive to removal due to the steep shoreline at the area. In any event, low water during the winter months coupled with ice formation during most winters make placing a dock there unfeasible. If there is any question as to the adverse effect of high water, low water and ice surrounding docks, talk to the three Lake Shelbyville marinas about the gyrations they have to go through as water and weather conditions change.

Although the City of Shelbyville has approved the proposal, it is interesting to note that the Chairmen of both the Shelby County Board and the Moultrie County Board have both come out against the proposal according to the Shelby Daily Union news article. Why is that? Who will benefit the most from the proposed development: The general public or only those who can afford to buy housing in the proposed area and afford to eat at a “Five Star Restaurant”?

In short, I am not in favor of designating the small portion of Federal land in the proposed development area as “High Density Recreation”, or any other designation that would allow a boat dock to be built there. I am also not in favor of building a dock there under any circumstances. Considering the policy that directed the purchase of the land for Lake Shelbyville (which, it is my understanding, was a different policy from that used to purchase the land for Carlyle Lake) it seems clear that there was never the intent to extensively develop Lake Shelbyville’s shoreline. I would also imagine that a document search would reveal laws, policies and regulations currently in place that limit such shoreline development.

**1r.** Our family has had a boat at Lake Shelbyville for many, many years. We very much appreciate the natural beauty of the lake. We would, however, enjoy the opportunity to visit a restaurant with a dock in Country Club Cove. Limited and carefully planned development can enhance tourism and still maintain the natural beauty of the lake.

**1s.** In regards to the planned development on Lake Shelbyville. I believe this would be a mistake. Lake Shelbyville is an exception to all the other lakes around, it has not been developed and should not be developed in any other way than it already has. As a fisher and a hunter and also a conservationist, I believe altering the ecosystem of the lake as well as private ownership adjoining the lake will serve as a doorway to more private ownership on the lake. Lake Shelbyville is a public space already enjoyed by many. If the development goes through what's to keep it from being a quagmire similar to Eagle Creek.

And lastly state law requires hunters maintain at least 200 yards between structures and campsites and 300 yards from docks. The areas proposed are great hunting and fishing spots. If these are sold to private owners you may have disputes and complaints over property lines i.e. what's owned by land owner vs. what's public. Is the water line the property line? One final note if the development goes through and tenants move in, during hunting season will they be aware that people actually hunt from boats on the lake and in the woods. This may cause the tenants to file noise complaints. Then where does it end?

Thank you for your time.

**1t.** I am not in favor of extending the green line for the new development. I moved back to my hometown after 40 years living in Chicago. The lake is truly a treasure for the town. It is pristine mainly due to the bar on commercial enterprise right on the lake. Lake Shelbyville is the reason that most people know where we are in the state. If the development of the former country club is necessary for economic development, then it will be attractive whether there is a public dock or not. There are too many examples of failed lake development and housing in the area; let's not make Shelbyville another one.

**1u.** My opinion regarding changing the Master Plan to allow docks to be built around country club cove would lead to more docks in other coves. As a house boater at Lithia Springs Marina, I believe that would open this up to the docks in other coves and take away from the beautiful shoreline.

**1v.** I would like to keep the lake as it is today with a green belt. Do not think should allow private developments lakeside.

**1w.** I am in favor of retaining the "pristine natural" nature of the current shoreline and would be against allowing private, additional location of docks. Any increase of docks should be done at existing marinas and resort. Thanks!

**1x.** It has been brought to our attention that the Corps of Engineers are being asked to change the Master Plan. As a long time and current lake user I don't think opening up the lake for additional docks is a good thing. We feel there is sufficient docking areas now with the marinas now serving the lake. The green belt around the lake makes the lake a beautiful attraction for all to enjoy.

Thank you for your time.

**1y.** I embrace change and economic development but I don't believe that changing the Master Plan for one developer to build a subdivision is the correct action. Not sure that the development talked about will work... not enough information given at this point.

**1z.** I am a wife and mother. My husband and son use the lake, also my grandchildren. We like the lake as it is. We don't want to see any change to government property on the lake.

**1aa.** I do not think it is a good idea to put anymore boat docks on government property on Lake Shelbyville. There are enough boat ramps on the lake. Everything seems to be going smoothly as to how the lake is managed. Why change it

**1bb.** I am writing you to express my concern for allowing any sort of development around Lake Shelbyville that would intrude upon the green belt.

My opinion is that any type of intrusion on the green belt would ultimately have a very negative impact on the ecology and perhaps economy of Lake Shelbyville communities.

From my numerous years of renting boats to hundreds of tourists I personally know how important the green belt & mainly "untouched" wilderness around the lake is to those that travel to Lake Shelbyville.

Please keep the natural beauty of the lake as it is for future generations to enjoy as I have.

Thank you for your time & consideration.

**1cc.** I believe the recommendation to allow a right of way to be allowed/given/awarded to any party to cross property assigned to the Eagle Creek Resort or a State Park or any land owned and managed by the Army Corps of Engineers at the Lake Shelbyville site is a mistake and should not be granted. First of all, it establishes a bad precedent. Secondly, allowing the construction of another boat dock/marina is most unnecessary. There now exists a sufficient number of docks and marinas to well serve users and visitors to Lake Shelbyville. Third, one of the main reasons Lake Shelbyville is popular is due to its beauty and the wide open views, especially as seen from the lake itself. People come to this site to recreate and to enjoy the beauty and natural landscape of the State Parks and Army Corps land. USACE has created a wonderful site. It is a true

asset for users who come from the area, the State and other parts of the country. Please do not allow any defacing or marring of this gem.

Thank you for considering my comments.

THE  
CITY OF SHELBYVILLE  
Municipal Building • 170 East Main Street  
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(217) 774-5531

December 9, 2015

Mr. John Summers  
Assistant Operations Manager  
Lake Shelbyville Project Office  
1989 State Route 16  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Re: Master Plan Update

Dear Mr. Summers:

The City of Shelbyville offers the following suggestions for the 2016 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan update:

1. Establish a public use and Lake access area lease at LD-16 Big Red's Multiple Resource Area.
2. Re-open the resort at Eagle Creek. The existing infrastructure and amenities would support the redevelopment of the resort facilities. Once the future of Eagle Creek is determined, the City would like to offer areas around Shelbyville for a resort facility. The City would like the option to present to any potential developers several areas on the south end of the Lake. This would include Dam West, the area between Dam West and the LD-16 (Water Tower Point Multiple Resource Area), the Hunter Lake Multiple Resource Area, and the Lithia Springs Recreation Area and Marina. Although the Dam West Area (North 9<sup>th</sup> Street) would be our first choice, we would like for any legitimate developer to have input into selecting the area most feasible for development.

Thank you for giving the City of Shelbyville an opportunity to present our ideas for the betterment of our community and Lake Shelbyville.

Sincerely,



Jeff Johnson  
Mayor

**Response to comments to change land classification from Low Density Recreation to High Density Recreation to allow a day use area under lease to the City of Shelbyville:**

**The Environmental Assessment addresses this request. See Appendix A.**

## **2. Request to change land use classification from Low Density Recreation to High Density Recreation in an area west of Sullivan Marina and Campground**

**2a.** I would like the land across Route 32 to the west to be included in the new Master Plan for the Sullivan Marina & Campground to expand.

**2b.** I would like to request that the land to the west of Sullivan Marina & Campground (just across Route 32) be included in the new Lake Shelbyville Master Plan for future expansion of the Sullivan Campground.

**2c.** I would like the land to the west of Sullivan Marina & Campground (just across Rte 32) be included in the new Lake Shelbyville Master Plan for future expansion of the Sullivan Campground.

**2d.** I would like to see the Army Corps included the land west of Sullivan Marina for further expansion of the marina. Sullivan Marina & Campground continues to grow & expand and is vital to the economy of our area.

**2e.** I would like to ask that the land to the west of the Sullivan Marina & Campground (just across Route 32) be included in the new Lake Shelbyville Master Plan for future expansion of the Sullivan campground.

**2f.** We, Sullivan Marina and Campground have interest in expansion opportunities on the piece of ground directly to the west of our current leased area.

**2g.** I am Store Manager of the Sullivan IGA, which is a full service retail grocery store in Sullivan if you aren't familiar with us. I see quite an increase in my business in the summer months due to the tourism we see because of the campgrounds nearby and Lake Shelbyville. I have heard talk of a possible expansion idea for Sullivan Marina & Campground, that would expand to the land across Route 32 to the west. I would like to see that be included into the 2016 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan, because I see an expansion being a plus to my business and to Sullivan as a whole.

**2h.** I think that opening the land west of Sullivan Marina would bring added development to the north end of the lake, which Sullivan would welcome. Good.

**Response to request to change land use classification from Low Density Recreation to High Density Recreation in an area west of Sullivan Marina and Campground:**

**The Environmental Assessment addresses this request. See Appendix A.**

### 3. Request for expansion of General Dacey Trail

**3a.** Connect Lone Point to Coon Creek with a multi-use dirt trail. The trail would be built mainly on the sewer utility line. This trail would meet the goals established by the General Dacey Trail Master Plan of connecting high density use areas. I believe we have the knowledge and resources to successfully build and maintain this trail section. This would also add to the length of the Illini Trail experience.

**3b.** The Central Illinois Mountain Bicycling Association (CIMBA) has a continued interest in mountain biking and multi-use trail at the Camp Camfield area. Through a partnership many miles of beautiful trails have been established, maintained and improved in this area. It is the desire of the group to finalize construction of the final proposed segment of trail which would constitute one additional mile of trail. CIMBA would continue its mission to maintain this additional trail with the same level of commitment. The Black section of trail was previously discussed and agreed upon in the Making Trails Work program.

**3c.** Concerning the Camp Camfield trail system, CIMBA would like to revisit the original Phase 3 and Phase 4 areas. There is potential there to implement a point-to-point trail that would be a great addition to the system. Of course, CIMBA would assume all maintenance duties. We would like to discuss this with you if possible.

**3d.** CIMBA would like to complete the “Black” Trail at Camp Camfield. The trail was part of the 2014 Making Trails Work project but was never completed. The area has been surveyed and approved by Lori (Lara) Anderson in 2010. CIMBA would perform all construction as well as maintenance in the future. This is to be our final trail in the system and we could then construct a new kiosk with updated maps and signage.

**3e.** Explore the feasibility of a multi-use trail connecting Camp Camfield to the Bo Woods Campground.

**3f.** Bicycle route designated around entire lake with signs

**3g.** Great job! I’ve got nothing but praise for the current leadership & Corps employees! They have done a fantastic job of working with the community on tourism, recreation and development of our assets. I’d like to see these efforts continue, especially enhancing bicycle infrastructure and opportunities. I’m happy to volunteer to help with these projects in whatever capacity needed. Great folks! Phil, Jon, Matt, Brock, Sarah, Lee, Jeremy

Extend sidewalk by beach to connect to causeway sidewalk over to new shelter and widen along beach to allow bicycle access.

Extend trail to east edge of property (State Rte 16 access) to allow for future extension toward Windsor, as part of National Bicycle Route system.

Extend and connect existing trail sections.

Develop water trail map and infrastructure on the north end of the lake.

Develop primitive campsite on bike trail – scenic point

Continue to add mileage to existing bike trails at Camp Camfield and Shelbyville.

Officially open Chief Illini Trail to mountain biking.

**Response to request for expansion of the General Dacey Trail:**

**The General Dacey Concept Master Plan was developed in 2002 and approved as part of the 2004 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan. Suggestions will be incorporated into the Lake Shelbyville Operational Management Plan. Trails with completed Environmental Compliance checks will be coordinated as funding allows and/or through partnerships. Environmental Compliance policy will be followed for other trails.**

#### 4. Request to reopen Eagle Creek Resort

THE  
**CITY OF SHELBYVILLE**

Municipal Building • 170 East Main Street  
Shelbyville, Illinois 62565  
(217) 774-5531

December 9, 2015

Mr. John Summers  
Assistant Operations Manager  
Lake Shelbyville Project Office  
1989 State Route 16  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Re: Master Plan Update

Dear Mr. Summers:

The City of Shelbyville offers the following suggestions for the 2016 Lake Shelbyville Master Plan update:

1. Establish a public use and Lake access area lease at LD-16 Big Red's Multiple Resource Area.
2. Re-open the resort at Eagle Creek. The existing infrastructure and amenities would support the redevelopment of the resort facilities. Once the future of Eagle Creek is determined, the City would like to offer areas around Shelbyville for a resort facility. The City would like the option to present to any potential developers several areas on the south end of the Lake. This would include Dam West, the area between Dam West and the LD-16 (Water Tower Point Multiple Resource Area), the Hunter Lake Multiple Resource Area, and the Lithia Springs Recreation Area and Marina. Although the Dam West Area (North 9<sup>th</sup> Street) would be our first choice, we would like for any legitimate developer to have input into selecting the area most feasible for development.

Thank you for giving the City of Shelbyville an opportunity to present our ideas for the betterment of our community and Lake Shelbyville.

Sincerely,



Jeff Johnson  
Mayor

**4b.** Compel the State to make a decision on Eagle Creek Resort or return it to USACE.

**4c.** Open Eagle Creek Resort. This is a must for the economy of Shelby County.

**4d.** US Army Corps should take over Eagle Creek Resort area and demolish the hotel rather than throwing more money at more studies.

**4e.** We need to get Eagle Creek Resort opened up again to attract the tourism that we have lost. We also do not want to allow any further encroachments on the lake such as boat docks and piers.

**4f.** Rebuild Eagle Creek Resort

**4g.** Corps needs to take back Wolf and Eagle Creek from State of Illinois

**4h.** Work with State of IL to re-open Eagle Creek facility!

**4i.** Relocate or rebuild resort

**Response to request to reopen Eagle Creek Resort:**  
Eagle Creek Resort, located on property under lease to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, has been closed since August 2009. The IDNR has undertaken a study to determine what, if anything, can be salvaged. However, the study has stalled and has an indefinite completion date. The Corps continues to work with the IDNR to resolve this issue to either reopen the resort in its present form or construct a similar regional attraction.

## **5. Request to dredge an area around Sullivan Marina**

**5a.** I would also like there to be a priority on dredging the north end of the lake near the Sullivan Marina to expand the opportunities for boaters on the north end of the lake.

### **5b. Sullivan Marina dredging**

**5c.** The channel from Sullivan Marina and Campground to Bo Woods is becoming more and more shallow each year. This is becoming dangerous for boaters even during summer pool, who wish to travel this end of the lake. In addition, the docks at Sullivan Marina are damaged from going aground each winter during drawdown. Remedies, such as dredging and/or water control deviations should be looked at. We are willing to help any way that we can.

### **5d. Sullivan Marina dredging to upgrade the boating facility**

**Response to request to dredge an area around Sullivan Marina & Campground: Current Operations and Maintenance budget at Lake Shelbyville does not provide capability to dredge Sullivan Marina. Lake Shelbyville continues to submit a budget package for dredging in the Sullivan Marina area, to include a channel to the Whitley Creek Boat Ramp.**

## 6. Other

**6a.** Widen boat ramp at Lithia Springs Access Area to accommodate 2 boats/trailers

**Response: The Corps plans to widen all boat ramps on the project to accommodate a courtesy dock and at least two launch lanes to meet current Corps design standards. Plans are contingent upon funding.**

**6b.** Increase the frequency of Lake Shelbyville and Carlyle water quality testing. The testing is down to three times a year. It used to be 6 or more and should be at least that again.

**Response: Current budget constraints have reduced the frequency of water quality testing. This will continue until budgets allow for an increase in testing.**

**6c.** Remove logjams above wildlife area.

**Response: The Corps does not have the authority to operate on lands it does not own.**

**6d.** Please put the sign back up for the “Fin & Feathers” pond. Old sign was rotten and fell apart and had to be removed last year.

**Response: Arrangements have been made to install new sign at Fin & Feathers in 2016.**

**6e.** Make the normal summer pool of the lake 600'. Easy to remember, public friendly. Easy to know actual daily height above or below 600'. I realize that 0.3' is a lot of actual water in the lake, but what actually determines 599.7' as summer pool?

**Response: 600 foot summer pool – The pool level of 599.7 was calculated based on anticipated flows, watershed drainage, and the amount of time it would take to lower lake levels down to normal recreation pool.**

Lake level indicators at the boat ramps would be very helpful to boaters as they are launching their boats.

**Response: Although this is not a Master Plan issue, comment will be taken into consideration in order to improve customer service.**

**6f.** As chair of UKEP (The Upper Reach) a meeting will be held on November 23, 2015 at 1 pm in Arthur. We will be discussing and editing the projects we have prioritized for the Upper Reach. Temporary titles and categories follow: (Not in order)

Environmental Compliance – wastewater treatment, a regional solution

**Response: Facilities at the north end of the lake are all connected to the City of Sullivan wastewater treatment system. The Corps operates two systems on the south end of the lake and will continue to investigate opportunities to connect these systems to the City of Shelbyville, an effort which will improve efficiency and reduce USACE Operations & Maintenance costs.**

#### Sedimentation Study Lake Shelbyville

**Response:** Budget packages are submitted each year to conduct a full sedimentation study on Lake Shelbyville. Package has yet to be funded.

#### Land owner contact – non-point, erosion, sedimentation control

**Response:** USACE cannot direct landowners on how to manage their property. USDA/NRCS and other agencies have programs that encourage landowners to participate in conservation measures.

#### Conservation/agriculture easements

**Response:** USACE cannot direct landowners on how to manage their property. USDA/NRCS and other agencies have programs that encourage landowners to participate in conservation measures.

#### Creek/stream stabilization

**Response:** The Lake Shelbyville Corps can only complete work on USACE owned lands. Budget packages are submitted annually to complete work on Lake Shelbyville property. These packages remain unfunded.

#### Watershed water quality analysis

**Response:** Current budget constraints have reduced the frequency of water quality testing. This will continue until budgets allow for an increase in testing.

#### Lake Shelbyville Greenway

**Response:** The Shoreline Management Plan governs the use and development of Lake Shelbyville's lands. It is the policy that private exclusive use will not be permitted on new lakes or on lakes where no private facilities existed as of 13 December 1974, the date of the implementing regulation (ER 1130-2-406). Current policy is documented in the Lake Shelbyville OMP.

#### 6g. Upper Kaskaskia portion of KWA Plan of Work

**Response:** UKEP portion of KWA Plan of Work has been incorporated into Lake Shelbyville's Operational Management Plan.

#### Lake Shelbyville Sedimentation Study

**Response:** Budget packages are submitted each year to conduct a full sedimentation study on Lake Shelbyville. Package has yet to be funded.

#### Landowner contact for non-point erosion and sedimentation control

**Response:** USACE cannot direct landowners on how to manage their property.

Conservation easements in sensitive area

**Response: USACE cannot direct landowners on how to manage their property. USDA/NRCS and other agencies have programs that encourage landowners to participate in conservation measures.**

Stream (river) bank stabilization

**Response: The Lake Shelbyville Corps can only complete work on USACE owned lands. Budget packages are submitted annually to complete work on Lake Shelbyville property. These packages remain unfunded.**

Watershed water quality analysis

**Response: Current budget constraints have reduced the frequency of water quality testing. This will continue until budgets allow for an increase in testing.**

Wastewater environmental compliance – a regional approach

**Response: Facilities at the north end of the lake are all connected to the City of Sullivan wastewater treatment system. The Corps operates two systems on the south end of the lake and will continue to investigate opportunities to connect these systems to the City of Shelbyville, an effort which will improve efficiency and reduce USACE Operations & Maintenance costs.**

1135 wildlife habitat restoration project

**Response: 1135 project remains a part of the 2016 Master Plan and is contingent upon funding by both the Corps and the State of Illinois.**

**6h.** The VFW donated a 5x7 American flag for the Woods Lake fishing pier (Tyler Goble). Hopefully, the flag will eventually be mounted and lighted. Additional a Thank You to the VFW would seem to be necessary.

**Response: The flag will be raised at the grand opening of the Wood's Lake fishing pier in June 2016.**

**6i.** New Convention Center and motel complex in Shelbyville at 9<sup>th</sup> St.

**Response: Through mutual agreement with the City of Shelbyville, this has been deferred until a decision has been made about Eagle Creek Resort.**

Wi-Fi on both sides of the lake in all campgrounds

**Response: The Corps is currently investigating Wi-Fi opportunities within Lake Shelbyville campgrounds.**

6j. Better signage throughout the system and 50 miles out in each direction

**Response: Lake Shelbyville has a sign plan in place that identifies signs to be added and replaced. Current budget constraints limit the amount of sign work we can complete each year. We are open to working with any group or individual that can help improve signage in the region.**

6k. Need restrooms at the Dacey Trail, some handicap accessible

**Response: While this is not a Master Plan issue, Lake Shelbyville will review the suggestion and consider contingent upon funding and/or partnership.**

Would like to see a small amphitheater at the 9<sup>th</sup> St. Beach (near the parking lots). This could help at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July when fireworks are scheduled at the lake. Bands, entertainment, etc. could be held in that area for other special events, too. Make sure electrical supplies are adequate and water is available for vendors that might participate.

**Response: While this is not a Master Plan issue, Lake Shelbyville will review the suggestion and consider contingent upon funding and/or partnership.**

6l. Wi-Fi hotspots in parks

**Response: The Corps is currently investigating Wi-Fi opportunities within Lake Shelbyville campgrounds.**

Guzy wetlands needs a sign (Rte 128)

**Response: The Guzy Wetlands is under IDNR ownership and management. Information passed along to that agency.**

Interactive trail guide with wildlife and tree/flower identification

**Response: While this is not a Master Plan issue the request will be taken into consideration to improve customer service. Project is dependent upon funding and staffing.**

6m. Wi-Fi hotspots in campgrounds

**Response: The Corps is currently investigating Wi-Fi opportunities within Lake Shelbyville campgrounds.**

Wildlife studies to regulate the hunting so numbers are not decimated (population counts)

Corps, you are doing a fine job! Thank you

**Response: Lake Shelbyville actively monitors the huntable species to ensure species are not overharvested. Spring turkey surveys are sent to all tag holders annually and documented increases in numbers have been recorded. A white-tailed deer check station was implemented in 2006 to sample 50% of the deer harvested during shotgun deer season. Biologists work closely with IDNR to**

reduce gun tags when warranted. Waterfowl flights are flown each week during the season to monitor the waterfowl populations utilizing the lake as well. Lake Shelbyville has a vested interest in ensuring a huntable population is always available to hunters.

**6n.** Lake Sedimentation study to determine the water holding capacity of the lake.

**Response: Budget packages are submitted each year to conduct a full sedimentation study on Lake Shelbyville. Package has yet to be funded.**

Landowner contact person to work in the watershed to inform landowners of the importance of reducing non-point source pollution and programs to aid them in their efforts to control nutrient levels

**Response: USACE cannot direct landowners on how to manage their property. USDA/NRCS and other agencies have programs that encourage landowners to participate in conservation measures.**

Continuing work on regional wastewater treatment to protect the lake from pollution

**Response: All Corps facilities at the north end of the lake are tied into the Sullivan wastewater treatment system. The Corps operates two systems on the south end of the lake and will continue to investigate opportunities to connect these systems to the City of Shelbyville, an effort which will improve efficiency and reduce USACE Operations & Maintenance costs.**

Watershed water quality analysis monitors in Lake Shelbyville, Carlyle Lake and the Lower Kaskaskia to aid in the effort to reduce nutrient levels in the watershed

**Response: Three water quality tests are conducted annually on Lake Shelbyville by USACE employees. A report is provided each year.**

Complete 1135 wildlife habitat project at Lake Shelbyville

**Response: 1135 project remains a part of the 2016 Master Plan and is contingent upon funding by both the Corps and the State of Illinois.**

Study seasonal water levels to increase the amount of water for water supply from Lake Shelbyville

**Response: This is a water management issue, not addressed in the Master Plan.**

Improve direction signs around the lake

**Response: Lake Shelbyville has a sign plan in place that identifies signs to be added and replaced. Current budget constraints limit the amount of sign work we can complete each year. We are open to working with any group or individual that can help improve signage in the region.**

Continue studies to find aquatic plant species that will grow in the lake and establish these plants for fish and wildlife habitat and bank stabilization

**Response: In 2012, an aquatic specialist surveyed the lake and made suggestions to improve the aquatic plant diversity in Lake Shelbyville to increase fish and wildlife habitat as well as stabilize the banks. Each year Lake Shelbyville staff in conjunction with IDNR plants numerous aquatic species based on these recommendations with little success due to untimely flooding. Staff will continue to work on establishment.**

Wi-Fi hot spots at campgrounds

**Response: The Corps is currently investigating Wi-Fi opportunities within Lake Shelbyville campgrounds.**

**6o.** Add “Scenic Overlook” signage on Rte 16 for Visitor Center overlooks.

**Response: Lake Shelbyville has a sign plan in place that identifies signs to be added and replaced. Current budget constraints limit the amount of sign work we can complete each year. We are open to working with any group or individual that can help improve signage in the region.**

**6p.** Fishing should be listed as the first activity throughout the Master Plan as it is the most popular activity on the Lake Shelbyville complex. It is usually listed last throughout the document which does not reflect its prominence.

A draft proposal to allow fishermen to place woody debris in the lake for fish habitat has been drafted and sent to Army Corps Administrators. Action needs to be completed on the proposal as the lack of woody habitat is having a profound negative impact on important game fish species.

**Response: A policy outlining guidance permitting fishermen to place woody vegetation in the lake is currently being drafted. There is no definite timeframe for completion**

Page 12-11 d) Fisheries Management add: “Nursery ponds are used to aid in stocking walleye, sauger, smallmouth bass and largemouth bass. IDNR fish hatcheries supplement the lakes fishery by stocking muskie, walleye, and on occasion other species.”

“Fisheries biologist is stationed in Charleston IL”

“The establishment of aquatic plants is important to game fish species. Aquatic plants are introduced when possible.”

Section 4-04 – ECOLOGIC b) add sauger, yellow bass, and smallmouth bass to the species list.

Section 5-03 ECONOMIC POTENTIAL c) remove “best bass fishing lake in the state” and replace with “lake supports a diverse and quality fishery”.

The utilization of waterfowl management area for “short term” nursery ponds should be considered and explored. This is a much more economical alternative to constructing a dedicated nursery pond. Areas with potential include parts of the McGee and Okaw Bluff Waterfowl Management Areas and the wetlands in the Whitley Creek Bottoms. The primary target species would be walleye and sauger, which would be released into the lake around Mid-May to allow for planting in these impoundments.

**Response: This has been discussed in the past. However, due to frequent flooding, these are not considered viable as the investment in fish species could be lost to overtopping of area. A dedicated nursery pond is planned but funding is currently not available.**