



BRISTOL TOWNSHIP

Office of the Township Manager

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bristol Township Awarded \$240,000 Grant to Develop Community Park/Green Space at Heavily Blighted Former Trailer Park Site

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Bristol Township residents will soon celebrate the transformation of a dilapidated former trailer park lot located in the Croydon section of the township into a passive recreation, community park. Bristol Township Council President Craig Bowen announced on Tuesday a \$240,000 grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's Greenways, Trails, and Recreation grant program that will help to fund the improvement project at the now vacant Miller Trailer Park site.

"Community parks are vital to ensure a high quality of life for children and families in our community," said Bowen. "This grant funding allows us to transform what was once a neighborhood eyesore into a beautiful green space that young people and families can go to daily to walk, run, or take in the scenery," he said.

"This was truly a team effort starting with Council, Township Manager Bill McCauley, Deputy Manager Scott Swichar and Senator Tomlinson and Representative Davis all working together to make a dream come true," said Bowen. "Next year, we will have another jewel in the crown and the updated version of, "A Tree Grows in Croydon," he said.

In 2016 Bristol Township purchased the neglected 3-acre lot from a private developer using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funds with the intent of transforming the blighted site into a safe community park. Due to years of neglect, the site had become contaminated by pollutants, littered with trash, and overgrown with weeds and brush. With the help of the Redevelopment Authority of Bucks County, the site was remediated last year, and the pollutants were removed from the soil, said Bowen.

As part of the transformation, township officials will rename the lot "Cedar Avenue Park" and will install attractive landscaping and shady trees, a paved trail, and a welcoming entry wall and walkway at the entranceway to the park. Construction on the \$700,000 project is scheduled to begin in Summer 2018 and anticipated to be complete by the Fall 2018.

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