

BOROUGH OF BERNARDSVILLE

NOTICE OF SCOPING HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Borough of Bernardsville is holding a scoping hearing in accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program at N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.8, on Monday, June 28, 2021, at 8:00 p.m. in the Council chambers at the Borough Hall, 166 Mine Brook Road, Bernardsville, NJ. If the June 28, 2021 Council meeting is held remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic, you will be able to participate in the scoping hearing from a smartphone or tablet via Zoom by joining meeting number 837-200-4581. If you are joining from a desktop or laptop computer with a web browser, open <https://zoom.us/j/8372004581>. Please check on the Borough website <https://www.bernardsvilleboro.org> or call the Borough Clerk’s office during normal business hours at (908) 766-3000 before the June 28, 2021 Council meeting to determine whether the scoping hearing will be held in person or via Zoom.

At the scoping hearing, Bernardsville Borough will consider disposal of portions of Claremont Field (Block 69, Lot 8) to owners of the following properties:

Street Address	Block	Lot(s)	Size of Park Property to be Disposed of
71 Claremont Road	69	5	3,115.33 sq. ft.
75 Claremont Road	69	6&7	8,366.35 sq. ft.

Both of these as areas of Claremont Field are located across the stream from the bulk of Claremont Field, both contain existing private encroachments consisting of parking lots that serve the office buildings that front on Claremont Road, neither has ever been used by the Borough for recreational or open space purposes and neither has ever been considered part of Claremont Field. The purpose of these proposed disposals is to resolve existing encroachments at Claremont Field and replace two areas of the park that cannot be used for recreation purposes with property that will better serve the Borough’s recreation and open space needs.

Members of the public are invited to participate in this public hearing at the time and place noted above. In the alternative, written comments may be submitted to the Bernardsville Borough Clerk during the public comment period that will close two weeks after the date of the scoping hearing, or until July 12, 2021. All written comments should be submitted to:

Anthony Suriano, Clerk
Borough of Bernardsville
166 Mine Brook Road
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

With copies to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Green Acres Program
Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship
Mail Code 501-01, P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Atten: Jessica Patterson, Somerset County Steward
Jessica.Patterson@dep.nj.gov

At the scoping hearing, the Borough will:

1. Explain that the purpose of the hearing is to accept public comment on a major disposal of parkland that is under consideration and is described above.
2. Describe the proposed disposals, including the lands affected, the total acreage of parkland to be affected and the project for which the disposal is sought.
3. Set forth the compelling public need that the project would fulfill, the significant public benefit it would yield or the exceptional recreational and/or conservation benefit it would provide.
4. Discuss past and ongoing efforts to identify alternatives to the proposed disposal considered by the local government and the reasons for rejecting any alternatives and to the extent know, the compensation that the Borough will provide for the proposed disposal or diversion.
5. Accept comment on any alternative sites suggested by the public and alternative methods of achieving its proper objectives without the disposal of parkland.

Anthony Suriano, Clerk
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