

# Creative Trail Funding

## Two Case Studies

Donna Folland

Oakland County Parks and Recreation (OCPRC)

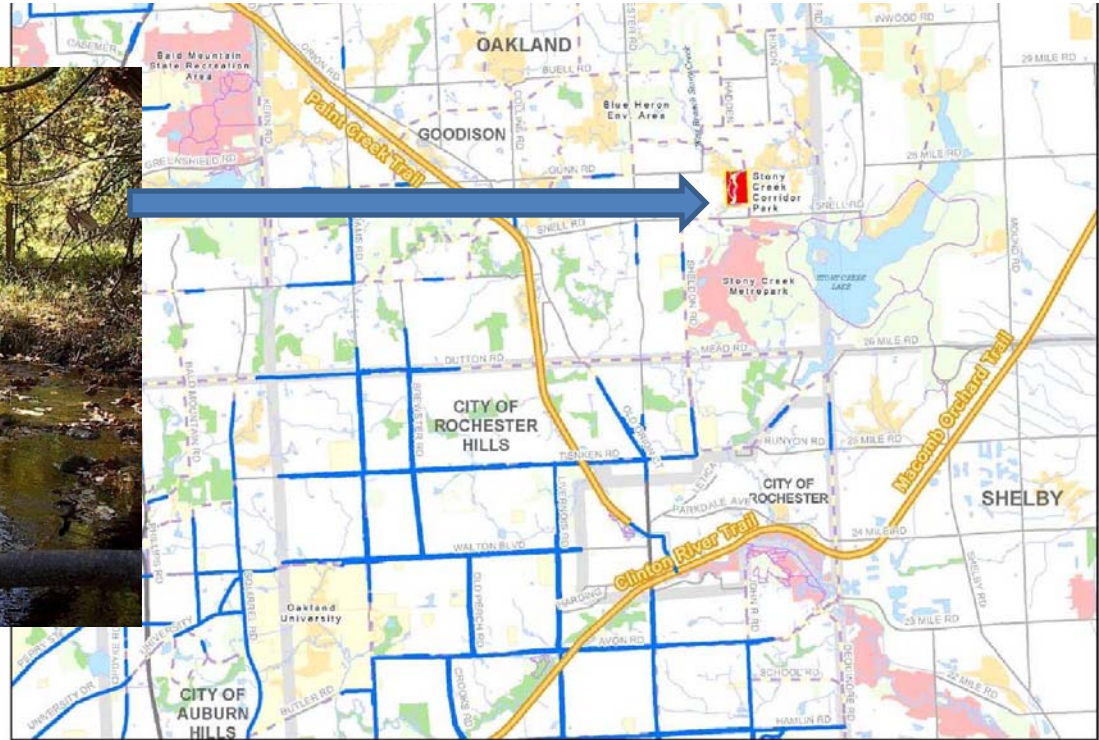
Melinda Milos-Dale

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation (OTPRC)



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

Owner: Charter Township of Oakland, Oakland County, MI  
Easement Holder: Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy (SRRLC)



Oakland Township  
Stony Creek Corridor Park Acquisition  
MNRTF Grant Application  
Potential Natural Area & Trail Linkages

\*\*The information provided herewith has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys and other public records. It is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as one. Users should consult the information sources mentioned above when questions arise.\*\*



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

## Project Synopsis

- In 2003, family of 50-year landowner contacts OTPRC and SRRLC
- Desires to sell vacant parcel at market value and preserve site's natural features
- Local /state ecological surveys indicate parcel's environmental value
- Parcel location can provide regional trail link
- OTPRC has 10-year .75 mil Land Preservation Millage funds available for acquisition of natural habitat –could match grant funding
- SRRLC-held conservation easement could protect site's natural features
- OTPRC and SRRLC partner to finance purchase of conservation easement and fee title purchase of property



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

## Project Characteristics

61-acre property includes:

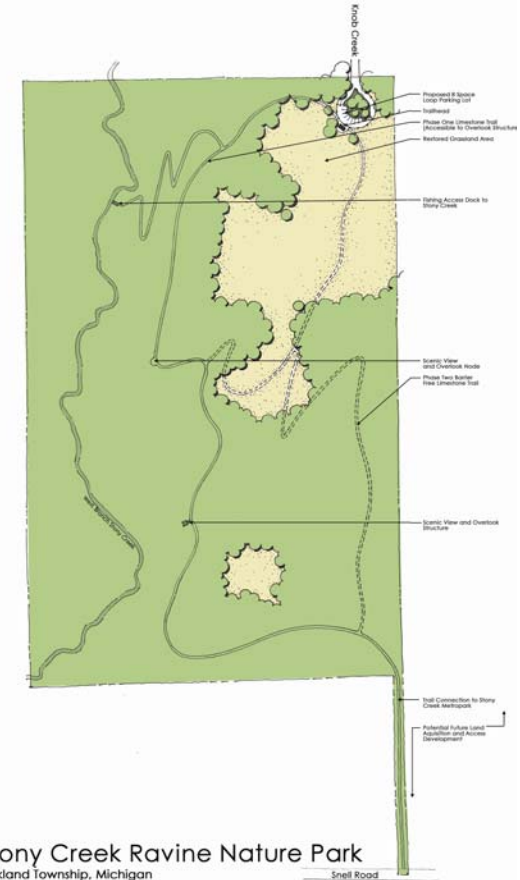
- one-half mile pristine stretch of West Branch Stony Creek
- creek, floodplain, oak-hardwoods, grasslands habitats

36-acre conservation easement:

protects water quality and fishery, floodplain, steep slopes

Township Park will provide:

environmental education, wildlife observation, hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, fishing and controlled hunting



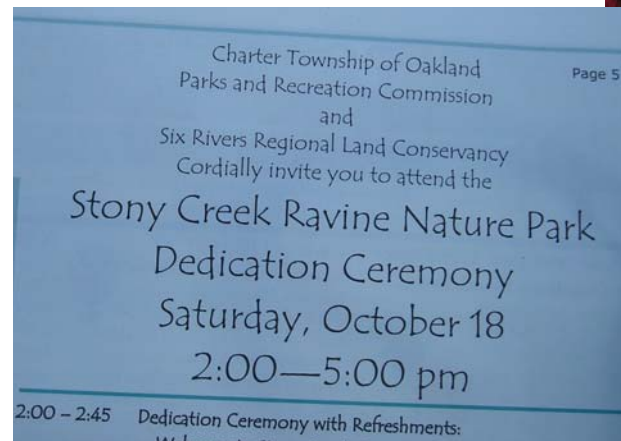
McKenna



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

## Partnerships and Collaboration

- Family of Barkev and Nancy Israelian Kezlarian
- Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission
- Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy
- Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority
- Clinton River Watershed Council
- Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services
- Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources & Environment (Michigan Natural Features Trust Fund)
- Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources & Environment (Non Point Source Program)
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (GreenWays Initiative)



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

## Project Financing

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Conservation Easement</u>	<u>Property Fee Title</u>	<u>Total Property Value</u>
Non-Point Source 319 Grant	\$ 525,000		\$ 525,000
GreenWays Initiative Grant	\$ 75,000		\$ 75,000
Landowner Donation	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000
MI Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant		\$ 633,600	\$ 633,600
Oakland Twp Land Preservation Funds		\$ 716,400	\$ 716,400
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	\$ 700,000	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 2,050,000



# Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

## Trail Amenities

### Barrier-Free Multi-use Trail providing:

- Regional Connection between Paint Creek Trail, Historic Goodison, Bear Creek Nature Park, Stony Creek Metropark and Macomb Orchard Trail
- Local Connection between proposed paths along Snell and Gunn Roads

### Multi-use Nature Trail providing:

- Scenic Views of Stony Creek
- Fishing Access to West Branch Stony Creek



# Scioto Audubon Park

Columbus, Ohio



# Scioto Audubon Park

## Project Synopsis

71-acre park development on the Whittier Peninsula along the Scioto River in downtown Columbus, includes 56 acres of brownfield remediation:

- 18-acre Northern Tier is a former railroad yard and historically industrial area, approved for walking trails, playfields and a dog park.
- 26-acre property where the 18,000 s.f. Grange Insurance Audubon Center was built using sustainable design
- 12-acre former Lazarus Warehouse property, where 35-foot climbing wall and playground areas are located
- Cleanup assessment is beginning on the 80-acre Southern Tier – now the Columbus Impound Lot



# Scioto Audubon Park

## Partnerships and Collaboration

- Metro Parks – Central Ohio Park System
- City of Columbus Parks and Recreation
- Audubon Ohio
- U.S. EPA Region 5
- Ohio Department of Development



# Scioto Audubon Park

## Project Finance

\$10 million park development, with brownfield assessment and cleanup partially funded by:

- \$200,000 U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment grant
- \$400,000 from U.S. EPA's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (\$200,000 grant and \$200,000 no-interest loan)
- \$742,000 Clean Ohio Assistance Fund grant



# Scioto Audubon Park

## Trail Amenities

Park connects mass transit with a regional trail network.

The ADA-accessible Scioto Greenway runs through the park, going south about 2 miles to Berliner Park, and north to Bicentennial Park.

<http://www.metroparks.net/TrailsSciotoAudubon.aspx>

At Bicentennial Park, the Scioto trail connects to the 18.4-mile Olentangy Greenway Trail, which connects Columbus, OSU and Worthington, ending at Worthington Hills Park.

<http://www.centralohiogreenways.com/OlentangyTrail.htm>



# Conclusion

In Oakland County and Southeast Michigan, we have the opportunity to grow our trail network by integrating trail connectivity into green space conservation, stormwater management, water resource conservation, wetland restoration and brownfield redevelopment. This also creates the opportunity to access less traditional funding resources for trails and develop connections in more highly developed parts of the County.

