

Huffman Master Plan Key

Pre-Final Concept

Park Wide

- Tell the story of the park
 - History
 - Wright Brothers
 - Huffman Family
 - Huffman Dam
 - Geology
 - Trilobite
- Continue Invasive Species removal
 - Continue to work with MVMBA volunteers to continue invasive work in mountain bike trail area
 - Look for ways to control lesser celandine primarily east of the river
- Continue to restore and enhance various habitats throughout the park with native plantings
 - Develop a habitat plan for the MoMBA portion of the park
- Open views of the lake especially along Lower Valley Pike and from the Redtail Use Area

Trails

- Utilize and enhance the outer loop trail at MoMBA to allow for a variety of park users including young mountain bikers to ride with non-mountain biking parents. Novice skill features should be developed along the loop to allow for skill development and play.
- Develop a gravel hardened or natural surface route for mountain bikes between the Mad River Trail at the Huffman Dam and MoMBA. Provide a loop option on the east side of the river utilizing primarily existing monitoring well roads and connect to Main Park via a new bridge. When this section of trail is closed for flooding, riders can use the paved trail over the dam and connect to Lower Valley Pike to connect back to the bike trail connector at the Main Park entrance.
- Enhance hiking trails in the Main Park area including a new curvilinear trail through the prairie area below the dam.
- Utilize the existing level benches on the dam to provide exercise loops to runners and walkers. Install steps to connect between the top, middle and lowers benches.
- Ensure park users are directed to Huffman Prairie along the paved pathway between Huffman MetroPark and Huffman Prairie. Work with Wright Patterson Air Force Base to notify park users when the access gate is closed.

Use Areas (Yellow numbered circles on the plan)

1- MoMBA Use Area

- Continue to improve the user experience including adding options for non-riders including picnic, nature play and access to the multi-user loop for walking and jogging
- Power of 10+ Activities:
 - Mountain Bike
 - Picnic
 - Camping
 - Restroom and trail head
 - Learn and practice new skills
 - Rent a mountain bike
 - Take a family trip to try mountain biking
 - Attend a mountain bike race
 - Take a jog while the kids ride along the multi-use loop
 - Try the tot track
 - Nature play
 - Learn new skills on a pump track

2- The Advanced Skills Use Area

- This area is the home to a historic cemetery, an old general store and a mobile home park
- Stabilize and protect the historic cemetery
- Repurpose the old foundations and built features to provide a unique mountain bike advanced skills area
- Power of 10+ Activities:
 - Visit the historic cemetery
 - Develop and practice advanced mountain bike skills on a variety of features
 - Take an advanced mountain bike skills development class
 - Watch advanced users hone their skills on the built features
 - Learn about the history of this part of town
 - Work with other volunteers to build and maintain features in this part of the park
 - Ride the high thrills features as the terminus to a long ride out the Mad River Corridor
 - Sit and watch the aircraft fly over from the Air Force Base
 - Support conservation efforts by removing invasive species and planting native species

3- Main Park Use Area

- Reduce the overall parking area by about 50% to reduce maintenance efforts and long-term capital costs
- Enhance the use area to ensure picnic style activities continue and ensure lake access is maintained and improved
- Install a new restroom facility to support the use area
- Power of 10+ Activities:
 - Learn about the Huffman Family and their impact on the region
 - Learn about the transportation history in the area including the train and traction lines
 - Learn about the Mormon Camp
 - Enjoy the view of the river and lake

- Take a bird watching walk
- Have a picnic
- Launch a kayak on the lake
- Walk across the Mad River on the suspension bridge
- Grassy play including Frisbee and ball throwing
- Take a lunch break

4- Redtail Use Area

- Develop an accessible connection to the end of the multi-use trail on top of the dam
- Maintain the view of the lake by removing invasive species
- Expand bat habitat and bat support amenities along with interpretation improvements
- Power of 10+ Activities:
 - Start a bike ride
 - Take a run or walk across the dam
 - Enjoy a stroll around the lake
 - Picnic
 - Have a party or reunion in the shelter
 - Restroom and trail head
 - Take a hike
 - Grassy play including Frisbee and ball throwing
 - Introduce built in games such as corn hole and large games
 - Learn about bats

5-New Kauffman Road Primary Use Area

- Develop a new park entrance which will become the primary use area and front door for the MetroPark
- Create a low impact green parking lot for approximately 50 cars
- Create a new trail head for activities offered in the MetroPark, along with directing visitors to Huffman Prairie, the Wright Brothers Memorial National Park Site and the regional bike trail network
- Develop a new restroom, trail head, trail loop, picnic shelters and associated primary use amenities to promote increased use of the MetroPark
- Screen the operations area from the park use area
- Power of 10+ Activities:
 - Take a trip to Huffman Prairie
 - Take a trip to the Wright Brothers Memorial
 - Take a lunch break from Wright State University of Wright Patterson Air Force Base
 - Explore the history of MCD on the Huffman Dam
 - Picnic
 - Have a party or reunion in the shelter
 - Restroom and trail head
 - Take a hike
 - Learn about fossils and the State Fossil the Trilobite

- Access the bike trail
- Grassy play including Frisbee and ball throwing
- Introduce built in games such as corn hole and large games

Entry Areas (Red numbered circles on the plan)

E1- Route 4/ Lower Valley Pike

- Work with ODOT to open view and add signage to significantly reduce vehicles from overshooting the exit
- Provide signage on SR 4 to identify the park entrance
- Ensure a clear vehicular direction to Lower Valley Pike and not across the dam
- Create a safe multi-user connection between the top of the dam and the Redtail Shelter area which provides protection from vehicles exiting Route 4

E2- Pedestrian Gate to Huffman Prairie

- Work with Wright Patterson Airforce Base to notify park users when the gate needs to be closed for security purposes
- Create wayfinding opportunities to direct park users to Huffman Prairie

E3- Proposed Kauffman Road Entrance

- Work with ODOT and other local municipalities to create a new signalized entry into Huffman MetroPark to allow for the large populations located south of the park to have direct access to the park and build awareness of the park's presence
- Develop park identity signage to help build awareness of the park to vehicles using Kauffman Road and SR 444

Plan Notes (Green lettered squares on the plan)

A. MoMBA Skills area and overflow parking

- Grade and stabilize area as a grassy area to be used for basic mountain bike skill classes and for use as overflow parking for larger events
- Create additional skill building features along the perimeter of the area such as a terra-scaped hill

B. Tot Track

- Develop a more suitable surface for the tot track to reduce maintenance efforts and provide a higher quality experience for users
- Add two small picnic shelters to the area
- Add bike playground elements inside the loop
- Add additional trees to provide shade for the area

C. Develop a new MoMBA Support facility

- A new structure will be constructed to replace program elements in the existing barn including bike repair, storage and rentals
- Develop a small concession stand to support activities
- Develop office or staff support space

- Develop a covered shelter area to be used for meetings, events and gatherings. The shelter should include roll up doors to allow for at least three season use
- Signage and wayfinding should be included to direct park visitors to the facility for classes, meetings and rentals
- Develop the facility in conjunction with MVMBA to provide mutually beneficial spaces

D. Pump Track and Bouldering Area

- Develop a new paved or pre-manufactured pump track to be used as a free-standing element as well as support for new skills classes and progression from the tot track area
- Integrate a bouldering area for a wide range of ages
- Ensure the tot track and pump track are developed for easily defensible use by parents of younger children to be able to allow for some free-range play while using the shelters in the tot track area
- Plant additional trees to provide shade for the area

E. Gravel Vehicular Access Drive

- Provide controlled vehicular access to support special events and to provide parking for overnight camping

F. Camping Area

- Develop a central gathering area including a fire pit, firewood box and picnic tables to support 5-6 individual primitive campsites surrounding the central gathering area (Similar to back country sites)
- Camping should be developed to allow for individual sites to be reserved or to allow for a large group to utilize the facility
- Camping use should be limited to times that the trails are open and FRMP should retain the right to cancel camping activities when trail conditions require the area to be closed

G. Spectator Connector

- Develop a sustainable trail connector to allow non-mountain bikers to gain access to the Five Points Area to interact with users and watch mountain bike activities including both day to day activities and special events

H. Develop a Loop Multi-User Trail

- Utilize most of the vehicular service drive to allow a variety of users to use the facility to support mountain bike activities. The trail can be utilized by users not wanting to mountain bike but allow younger riders to develop skills while other members of the family are riding the trails
- Develop skills areas along the loop to supplement those found of the Hilltop Flow Trail

I. Enhance the Hilltop Flow Trail

- Continue to expand skills areas along the trail where appropriate
- Work with Conservation Staff to plant trees along the trail to help to reduce weather impacts on the natural surface trail and to provide shade to users
- Work with Conservation Staff to enhance the prairie areas in this area and provide interpretive opportunities to educate riders about the natural habitat

J. Improve Main Trail System

- Continue to improve and maintain the existing trail system including the addition of more advanced skill element options in the existing system
 - Continue to work the remove invasive species and plant native species to improve the habitat in the trails area. Use plantings strategically to screen areas between trails to enhance both the ecosystem and the rider experience
- K. Enhance and Expand the Creekside Trail
- Once the barn and other structures are removed, expand the trail system in this area to improve the ride of this section of the trail
- L. Off Road Trail Connector
- Work within the existing right of way or with the land owners in this area to develop a mountain bike friendly side path to allow a safer connection between the Cemetery Use Area and MoMBA
 - Explore the opportunity to allow the side trail to leave the right of way with the current land owners using easements or use agreements to create a better experience for users
- M. Historic Cemetery
- Protect and interpret the existing cemetery
- N. Advanced Mountain Bike Skills Area
- Develop an advanced rider's area using existing and newly constructed elements including jumps, larger rollers and other technical features to provide another level of activity
 - Utilize exclusion elements at the points of entry to the trail to help ensure that appropriately skilled riders only can access to the area
- O. Multi-Use Connector Trail
- Develop a gravel hardened connector trail between the main park and the Cemetery Use Area
- P. New Restroom
- Develop a new restroom facility which can handle frequent flooding of the park
 - Restroom should be located on the higher part of the park above the parking area
- Q. Mad River Pedestrian Bridge
- Develop an accessible cable supported bridge for trail users installed on the previous alignment of the rail line where the existing stone abutments are located
- R. Trail Connections
- Create multi-user accessible connections from the paved trail on top of the dam to the Redtail Use Area
 - Ensure protection from exiting vehicles from Route 4
- S. Huffman Lake
- The lake cannot be dredged so it will eventually silt in overtime and become more of a wetland landscape. Fishing currently occurs in the lake but has fallen off as a result of the lake silting in
 - Continue to provide access for small paddle craft, birding and wildlife tours and access for paddling takeout from the Mad River
- T. East Park Trails
- Utilize and enhance the existing gravel access roads for the monitoring wells to provide multi-user access to this part of the park

- Strategically add and remove roadway sections to create meaningful loops and a more curvilinear layout while still providing access to the wells
- Explore opportunities for mountain bike skill features that can withstand frequent flooding
- Control access to this section of the park using a gate at the stream crossing to inform users when this section of the park is inaccessible due to flooding

U. New Paved Dam Top Trail

- Enhance the new paved trail on top of the dam with shaded exercise stations at several locations where the trail curves and creates wider areas
- Create an interpretive station on top of the spillway to educate users about the dam and the flood control system in the Miami Valley
- Take advantage of the views to downtown Dayton from the dam

V. Dam Side Exercise Trails

- Utilize the two benches on the side of the dam to create exercise loops for runners, athletic groups from the Base and Wright State University
- Install steps at each end of the dam to enhance the exercise experience

W. Lake Outlet

- Stabilize the outlet structures and provide a safe pedestrian crossing to the lake-river peninsula

X. New Prairie Trail

- Create a new natural surface trail to provide users additional access to the tree line and prairie area for hiking and bird watching activities

Y. Dam and River Overlook

- Create an overlook point to this scenic location to observe the creek, Mad River and the dam spillway
- Add additional gravel pathway to provide a completed loop trail section

Z. Operations Area

- Make improvements to the operations area as outlined in the repair and replacement plan
- Provide new access to the operations area from the new entry point at Kauffman Avenue
- Screen operations area from the proposed new entry and public use area