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## Neighbors' concern changes Anderson Twp. park design

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The proposed rear portion of Johnson Hills Park will have a slightly different look.

After multiple residents from the Sanctuary of Ivy Hills neighborhood, which abuts the park, expressed concern about the back entrance amenities Anderson Township Park District officials modified the plans.

Executive Director Ken Kushner said the parking lot has moved deeper into the park, the restrooms have been moved and the orchard is closer to the park property line in the new design.

"There is a substantial amount of greenspace between us and the neighbors," he said.

Kushner added that the road to the parking lot at the back entrance, off Crooked Stick Court, would be cut at a downward grade to further reduce visibility of cars to neighboring homes.

The Park District has also proposed creating berms topped with trees to provide an additional buffer for the neighborhood.

Both Lynn Finzer and Greg Fermann, who live closest to the park's back entrance, said they are pleased that the Park District has been listening to their concerns, but still have some issues.

Fermann said the restroom facility is actually closer to his home than in the original plan and he would like to see the parking lot moved further into the park.

He said the buffer, however, is a big improvement to shield his home from park activity.

Finzer shares Fermann's concerns, but also questions the proposed trail head near the end of her front yard and the community demand for the restored Moorman House at the back of the park.

"It really is a matter of placing the Board in the position of the homeowner, viewing it from the perspective of a neighbor," she wrote in an e-mail.

"We are hopeful there is a well thought out plan for the stages of completion before it all begins."

Both Fermann and Finzer said they are meeting with Kushner to further discuss the changes.

## Additional Facts

### Cell tower

The contract between the Anderson Township Park District and Arcadia Communications to build a cell tower in Johnson Hills Park expired Feb. 5.

Park Commission President Duffy Beischel said Arcadia Communications never acted on the option

to build the cell tower

Neighbors who lived near the park lambasted the proposal for a monopole cell tower, similar to the one in Beech Acres Park.

Supporters said the tower would have generated significant revenue for the Park District.

Beischel said he would not rule out the possibility of working with another company to bring a cell tower to the park in the future.

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