



For Immediate Release – Friday, December 7, 2018

CONTACT: Pamela J. Salokangas: [psalokangas@crcog.net](mailto:psalokangas@crcog.net), 814-231-3071

### **Public Input Wanted!**

**State College, PA:** Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) and the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) are very pleased to announce that the year-long Centre Region Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan kicked-off in November, the goal of which is to evaluate and create forward-thinking recommendations on parks and recreation opportunities in the six Centre Region municipalities, with a particular focus on facilities, programming, funding, and governance. The six participating municipalities include the State College Borough, and the townships of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton.

Through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, the project's Steering Committee chose the project's consultant team to be Recreation Park Solutions and Yost Strodoski Mears. Both firms bring years of consulting and planning work to include many other comprehensive studies, park planning projects, and peer-to-peer consulting. "The Steering Committee is very pleased with the team chosen to lead us through the Comprehensive Study; these consultants have experience with regional recreation and short- and long-range planning, and will bring a fresh perspective to the current operations," says Pam Salokangas, CRPR Director.

Coming up very soon will be two options for public participation. First, the Steering Committee and its consultants will host a public meeting on January 30 at 7:00 PM at the State College Area High School South Building's cafeteria; interested participants should enter via the Central Plaza Entrance. The project consultants will provide a brief overview of the project and request the public's input.

The second option for public participation will be a mailed survey to area residents. Not everyone will receive the randomized survey, but if people do receive it, the Steering Committee hopes that recipients will complete the survey (30 min. or less). Completed surveys will be entered into a drawing for prizes like season pool passes, pool day passes, amusement park tickets, gift certificates and more! This survey will also be available online for those who do not receive the randomized version in the mail. Once the Steering Committee has details for the online survey, it will announce that information.

Director Salokangas says "Please plan on attending the first public meeting on January 30 and help us to plan the future of parks and recreation in YOUR community!" This project is supported through a grant provided by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

###