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## Parking, paved access coming soon to Anderson Twp. park

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Plans are under way for development of Johnson Hills Park.

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Officials from the Anderson Township Park District recently surveyed the park, off Little Dry Run and Bridle roads, looking at the potential for future uses.

Park Commissioner President Duffy Beischel said the park district plans to pave a two-lane access road and parking lot this year, and an architectural firm will present concepts for the park in August.

"We want to get an understanding of what the public would like to do," Beischel said.

"Some want us to do nothing and others want amenities."

Ken Kushner, the park district's executive director, said there are plans for a 3-mile trail around the perimeter and improving other hiking trails within the park.

He added that playgrounds, shelters and fishing ponds were also discussed as potential uses for the property.

"It's a huge piece of land ... there are a lot of possibilities," Beischel said.

"We are trying to figure out what we can afford and a timeline to work within our budget."

Other ideas for the park, Beischel said, include Frisbee golf, camping, exercise trails and transforming the house into a nature center.

Kushner said park development would likely take 20 years.

Johnson Hills Park is 136 acres and was donated to the park district by Marian Johnson in 2000.

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