



## Park districts to swap land

5:52 pm, Mar 31, 2011 | Written by lwakeland | 0Comments

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Two local park districts are finalizing an agreement to swap land.

The Anderson Township Park District will transfer approximately 2 acres of land at Clear Creek Park, off Ohio 32, to to the Hamilton County Park District to help complete a portion of the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

In exchange, the Hamilton County Park District will transfer a 45-acre piece of Johnson Hills Park, off Little Dry Run and Bridle roads, to the Anderson Township Park District.

“We did the land swap in order to continue the bike trail ... that will go along Clear Creek Park,” said Ken Kushner, executive director of the Anderson Township Park District.

“It kept the whole project moving forward and when it’s all done we will own all of Johnson (Hills Park).”

Jack Sutton, executive director of the Hamilton County Park District, said the land transfer continues a partnership agreement both park districts began in 1998.

The Hamilton County Park District agreed to buy 45 acres of land from Marian Johnson, who lived on the Johnson Hills Park property, and she deeded the rest of her land to the Anderson Township Park District, Sutton said.



The Hamilton County and Anderson Township park districts are working on a land transfer agreement that would help finish a segment of the Little Miami River scenic trail.

The Anderson Township Park District has been leasing that piece of the park since 1998. The deed states the land must be maintained as a public park.

“We helped the Anderson Township Park District preserve that property and now the opportunity has come up to make the transfer over to them,” Sutton said.

“With us working on the bike trail project we were in need of approximately 2 acres to help move that forward. It’s a logical conclusion.”

Kushner said the 45-acre piece of Johnson Hill Park is near the front of the property, where the Anderson Township Park District plans to build a lake this year.

Sutton added that the scenic trail continuation along state Route 32 should be finished by the end of 2013 and will eventually connect to the trails around Lunken Airport.

It would connect to a 2,200-foot segment the Anderson Township Park District built in 2009.

The land transfer agreement should be finalized by summer, Sutton said.

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