

Colbert County Alloys Park Master Plan

A plan for developing Alloys Park as a regional recreational asset.



Colbert County Alloys Park Master Plan

Prepared by White, Lynn, Collins & Associates, Inc.
&
The Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments



White, Lynn, Collins
and Associates,
Inc.



NACOLG

May 1, 2009

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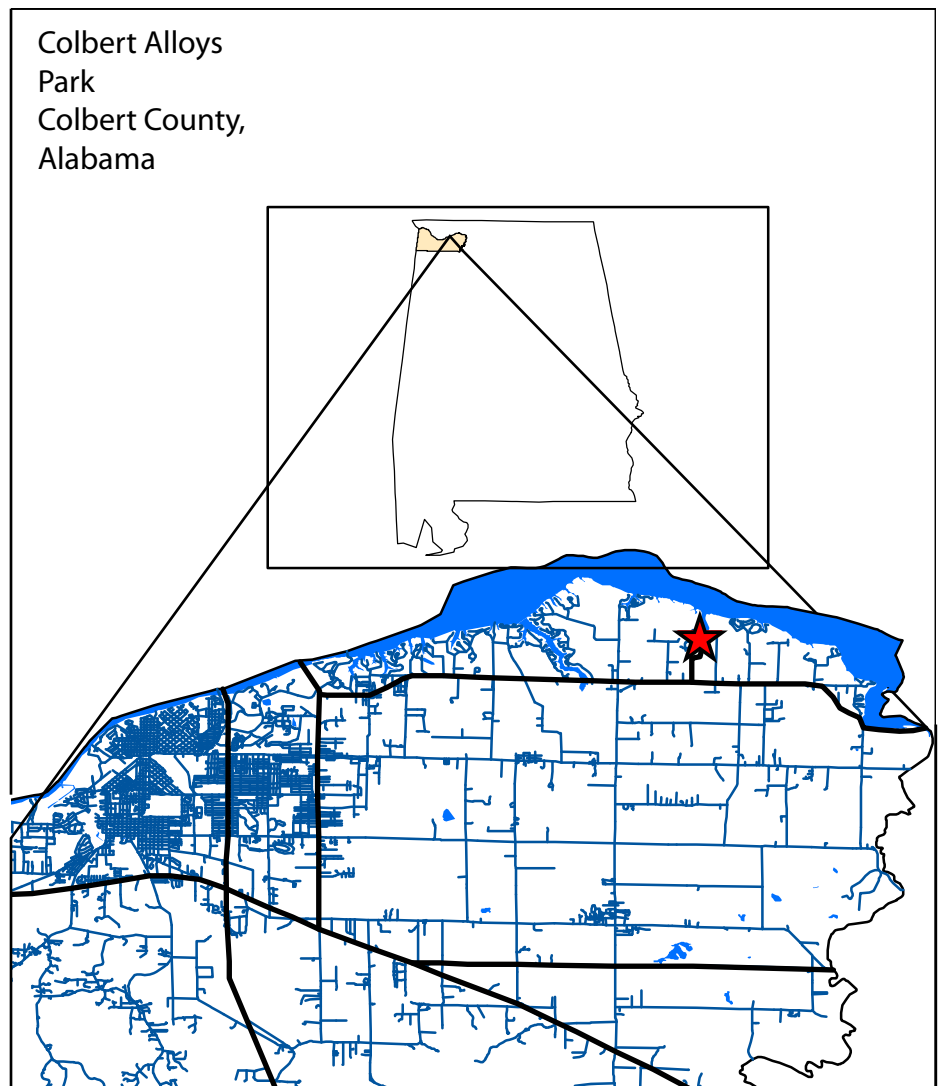
I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose and Plan Description

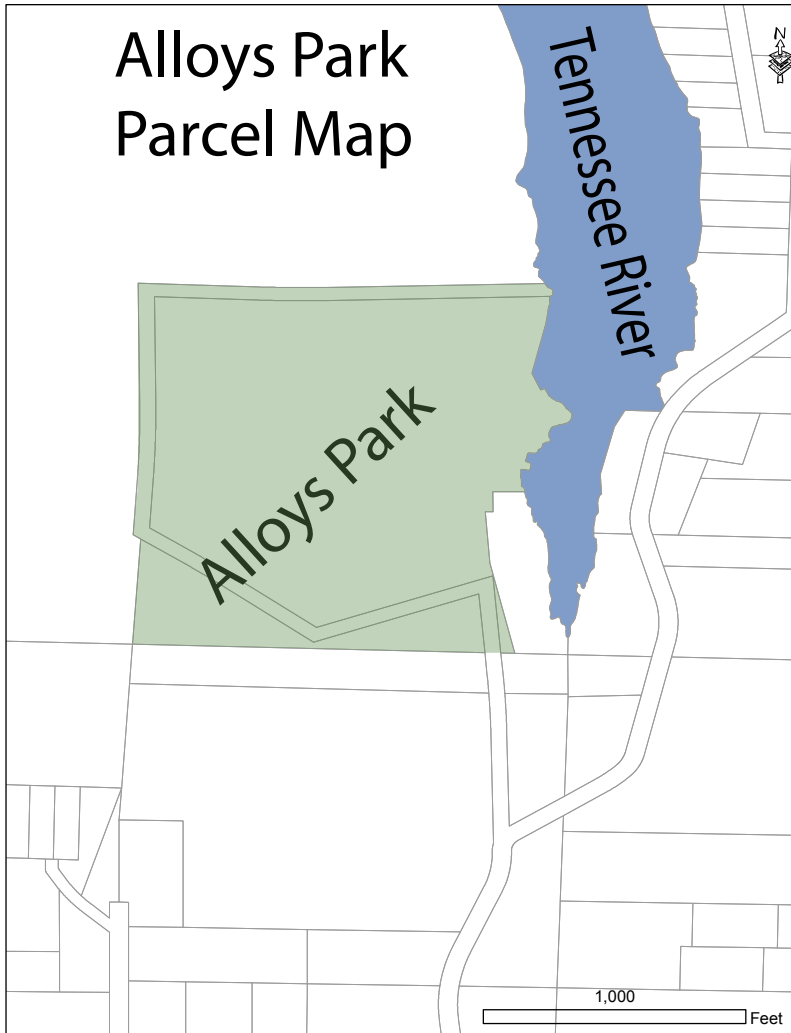
The purpose of the Colbert Alloys Park Master Plan is to guide appropriate park uses and their general location within the park property. The plan serves as a long-range vision for developing and programming improvements to the park property. The plan addresses which park elements will be included on the site, environmental considerations, and proposed design considerations. While the master plan is conceptual in nature and does not generally address issues related to engineering or specific park operations, it does contain information useful to determine the appropriate course and direction for future park improvements. The master plan serves as a vision for the development of the park property and provides guidance to promote specific uses within the park while protecting and coordinating activities throughout the property so that the overall quality of recreation provided on site is in accordance with the wishes of the public. By considering options for park development and consolidating preferred solutions into an overall master plan for the property, the County Commission and residents of Colbert County are more assured that the park is improved in ways that preserve the quality and sustainability of the site's recreational and environmental assets. When approved, the plan will provide site review and development guidance for all improvements on the site and should be referred to prior to design or construction of improvements.

B. Property Description

Colbert County Alloys Park is located in the north-central part of the northeastern quadrant of Colbert County, adjacent to the Tennessee River and approximately 7.75 miles upstream from Wilson Dam. The Park is accessed from River Road 7.6 miles from State Route 133 and 5.3 miles from the Lawrence County Line. River Road runs generally east and west across the northeastern quadrant of the county, from Muscle Shoals, Alabama to the Lawrence County, Alabama line—a distance of about 12.81 miles. The Park is found on a 36-acre site 1.2 miles north of River Road, adjacent to Gargis Hollow, a stream-fed slough of Wilson Lake on the southern shore of the Tennessee River. The main river channel is located 3000 feet north from the closest point of the park site.



The Park's boundaries are irregular, roughly square, and bounded by parcels containing great variety in terms of topography, slope, vegetation and property usage. To the north and west is a large adjacent parcel that is characterized by agricultural open space and sporadic forest with slopes varying from relatively flat and open to the east to moderate to steeply sloping and forested to the north. A single residence is located north of the site, but the remaining shoreline on the park side of Gargis Hollow is undeveloped forestland. Property to the southeast slopes steeply toward the bed of the stream found at the mouth of Gargis Hollow. Immediately south of the park the territory consists of moderately steep slopes and forestland surrounding a tributary stream.



C. Property History

The property was purchased from adjacent landowners by the Reynolds Retirees Association in 1965 and was operated and maintained as a recreational park by its members from that time until 2009. Initially, the park was operated with a small allocation from Reynolds Manufacturing, an aluminum manufacturer and major local industry and employer established in Colbert County in 1941. Reynolds Manufacturing was instrumental in supplying the wartime demand of U.S. effort in World War II and, following the war, eventually grew to become one of the largest producers of aluminum for consumer goods in the world. In 1999, the Sheffield plant was purchased by Wise Alloys. In recent years, rising costs and declining park usage have led to difficulties maintaining the property. In late 2008, the Reynolds Retirees Association and the Colbert County Commission entered into an agreement whereby the County would take over ownership, maintenance, and operation of the park, provided that it remained available for recreational use.

Without the help and support of Reynolds Retirees Association, this opportunity would not be available. Special thanks are due this organization and its members from the residents and county commission of Colbert County, Alabama.

II. PARK PURPOSE & SIGNIFICANCE

A. Park Purpose

The purpose statement for the park is intended to provide a general umbrella describing the role of the park in the county's recreational plan and its intended uses and improvements. Colbert Alloys Park is best described as a regional, special multiple-use park. The purpose of Colbert Alloys Park is to:

- preserve and protect natural resources and the enjoyment thereof by residents and visitors to Colbert County;
- provide access to and enjoyment of the Tennessee River and Wilson Lake for residents and visitors;
- provide active and passive recreation opportunities to residents and visitors;
- provide gathering space for civic and cultural events within a preserved and serene natural environment;
- provide opportunities for motorized and non-motorized camping;
- generate revenue sufficient to support operation and maintenance of park facilities;

This document integrates these purposes into an overall plan for the development and use of the park property.

B. Park Significance

A number of factors contribute to the significance of Colbert Alloys Park within the context of Colbert County's recreational facilities. Colbert Alloys Park will provide unique recreational opportunities due to its location on the south shores of Wilson Lake. The park's location is central to eastern Colbert County and, when completed, will provide an important recreational asset for residents of this area. Additionally, the park is accessible to residents of central and western Colbert County, as well as western Lawrence County. Given the scope of potential improvements available on site, the park is well situated to become a regional recreational asset for several counties in northwest Alabama. When fully developed, the park will support recreational camping, public gatherings, walking and hiking trails, and boat access to Wilson Lake on the Tennessee River.

III. EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS AND FACILITIES

A. Natural Elements

1. Topography- the topography of the site is interesting in that it divides the property into three special use districts that have no significant internal drainage basins or streams. The uppermost park elevations are found at the western edge of the property (approximately 630 feet above mean sea elevation (MSE)) and slope gently away from the property to isolate the park from the rest of the drainage basin in which it sits. The effect is that no major streams flow through the park property. Adjacent forested, grassland, and waterfront areas create a biologically diverse habitat with no major stream crossing to be disturbed by park development. The higher elevations make up an area suitable to camping, recreational vehicles, public gatherings, hiking, and various other forms of active and passive recreation. Another distinct topographic area is located within and immediately adjacent to the site's transitional slopes. The viewshed areas adjacent to steeper grades are exceptional opportunities for passive recreation and public gatherings. The contours create natural amphitheaters that can be improved upon with relative ease for maximum sound and visual quality. Meanwhile, the transitional slopes themselves provide an opportunity for hiking and walking trails of varying degrees of challenge. Finally, the lower elevations are found adjacent to Wilson Lake and provide a completely different sort of opportunity associated with waterfront access.

2. Soils- The soils of the area are reasonably well-suited for recreational development. Fullerton soils are predominant in the park property and are differentiated primarily by slope. These soils are found primarily on ridges, are made up of dolomite and limestone parent materials, are well-drained, and tend toward moderately high to high capacity to transmit water. Typically, they are composed of gravelly silt loam near the surface to a depth of about 6 inches and gravelly clay to a depth of approximately 75 inches. Areas of lesser slope have greater suitability for septic tanks, roads, campgrounds and trails; however, limitations can be overcome through appropriate engineering design. No soil units in the park property are classified by the USDA as prime farmland units.

Colbert Alloys Park Site Features

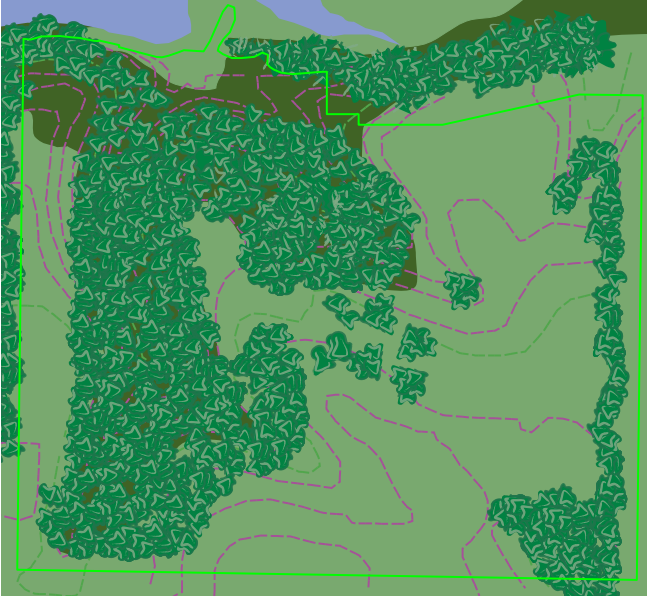
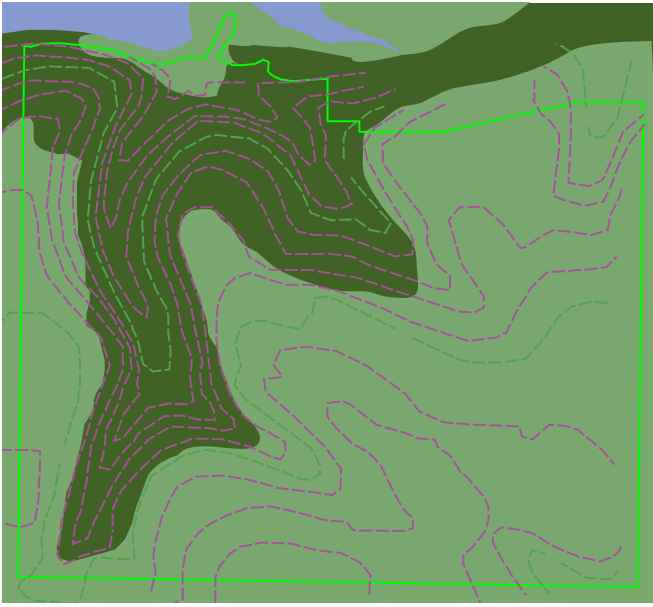
Topography and Vegetation

Colbert Alloys Park is a 40-acre recreational site in northeastern Colbert County. The property is divided into three main topographic areas based on elevation and slope. Other park features, such as drainage, soils and vegetation, generally follow these contours. Major drainage features and streams are absent from the park due to a ridgeline that divides the property from the remaining drainage basin. Soils are primarily Fullerton soils, differentiated by slope.

- Lower elevations exist between 500 and 520 feet. This area is made up of lakefront property that is suitable for waterfront activities and boating.
- Upper elevations range from 630 to 570 feet in terrain that is flat to gently sloping. These areas are well suited to camping, hiking, and various passive recreational activities.
- Upper and lower elevation are separated by slopes that add diversity to park's recreational opportunities. Contours drop suddenly at approximately 70 feet above the lake and give very good views of the riverfront below. The slopes provide a good opportunity for hiking and trail development.
- Vegetation is clear in the upper and lower elevations of the park. Steeper contours are wooded, primarily with hardwoods. The canopy provides good shade for trail areas and adjacent camping and gathering spaces. Much of the park is not wooded, creating diversity in scenery and area for active and passive open space recreation.



Amphitheater
 Boat launch
 Campground
 Fishing
 Picnic area
 RV campground
 Self-guiding trail
 Showers



North
 (illustration not to scale)

Colbert Alloys Park Aerial Photograph



1 inch equals 175 feet

B. Historic, Cultural, and Scenic Resources

No known historic or cultural resources exist on the site; however, the Tennessee River basin has been inhabited by Native American civilizations for many thousands of years. The site has been in continuous use as a recreational facility under the private ownership of the Reynolds Retirees Association for over thirty years and no significant archaeological finds have been discovered. However, with any riverfront development there is always some potential that such evidence will be uncovered in the process of site development, in which case appropriate measures must be enacted to preserve such artifacts.

The park property possesses tremendous scenic resources and provides an opportunity to preserve an important viewshed for adjacent properties and riverfront traffic. The park's elevation and slopes provide a good view of Gargis Hollow from above and a narrower view of Wilson Lake from lower elevations. The park is located across Gargis Hollow from a residentially developed riverfront drive and is visible to approximately eighteen adjacent properties. Preserving and promoting these assets will be an important outcome of the park's development.

C. Listing of Existing Facilities

The property is currently divided into special use areas that support several activity types. The lower elevations adjacent to the waterfront contain existing boating and support facilities. An area near the center of the property contains a pavilion that is suitable for use as a gathering place. Along the north edge of the property, improvements have been installed to support recreational vehicle camping. The caretaker's lodge is found near the park entrance. Remaining properties are undisturbed open space or forestland.

The park is currently improved with the following existing facilities:

Boating Area

- Boat launch;
- Two docks (structurally unsound);
- Boat area restroom facilities (unsound);
- Stabilizing wall;

Pavilion Area

- Covered Pavilion (60' x 80')
- Concrete Stair

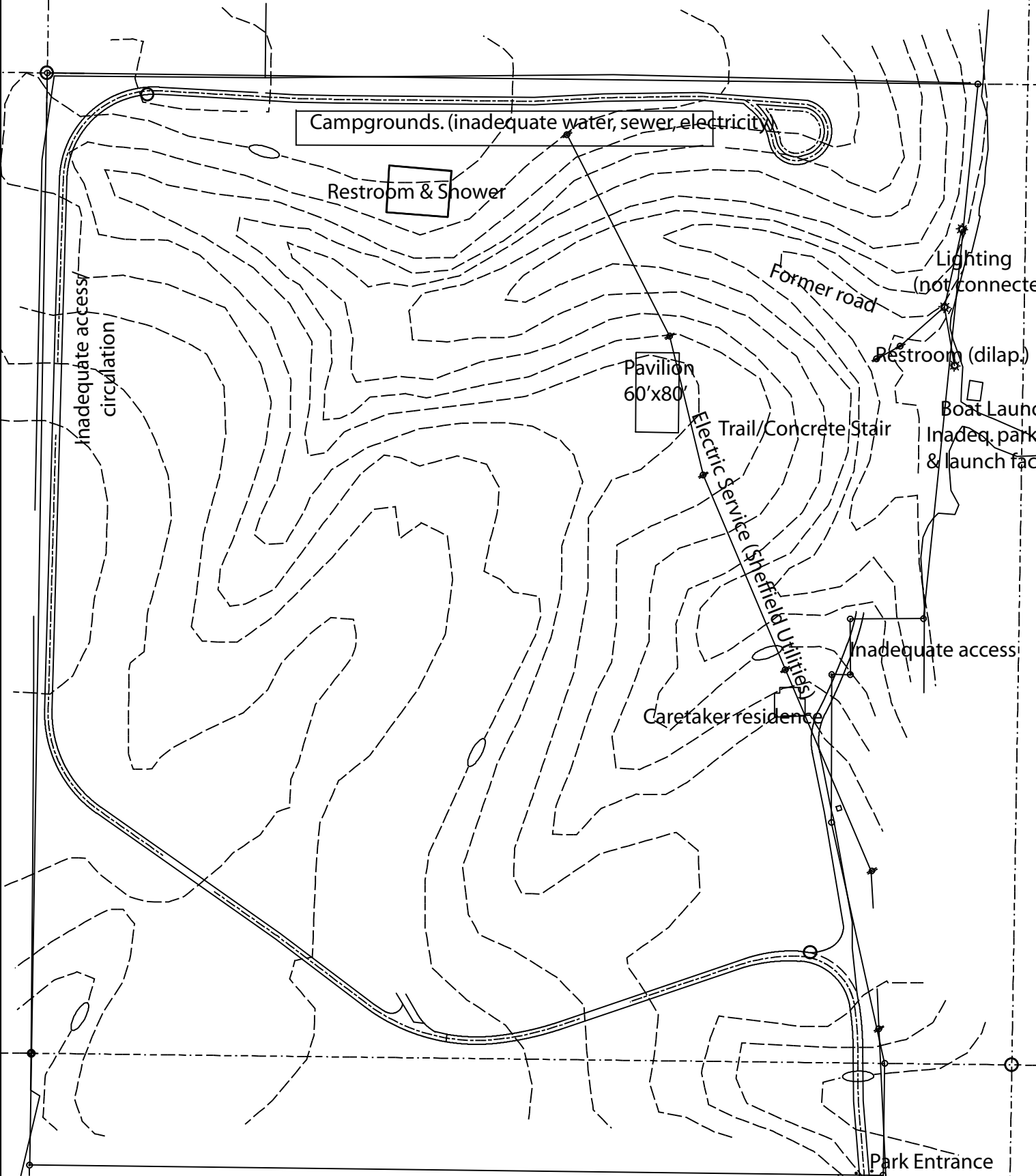
RV Area

- RV spaces (water, electric hookups x 10)
- Restroom and Shower Facilities
- Well Pump House

Caretaker's Lodge

- Structure and Infrastructure for Home Site

Colbert Co. Alloys Park Plan Existing Conditions



North
↑ 1 inch equals 175 feet

6" water @ Gargis Hollow Rd.

IV. CONCEPTUAL PLAN

A. Overview

Colbert County Alloys Park will be owned and operated by Colbert County. The Colbert County Commission will have jurisdiction over its development and use. The Colbert County Engineer's office will provide maintenance for the property. Day-to-day operations at the park will be conducted by an on-site caretaker, who will be provided living quarters in existing housing. The park will operate as a multiple use regional park and will provide boat access to the Tennessee River at completely refurbished launch facilities, gathering space in existing pavilion areas and a proposed new amphitheater, rustic and recreational vehicle camping opportunities, a variety of walking and hiking trails, and a number of passive recreation opportunities- including a proposed new overlook that will view Gargis Hollow and the Tennessee River. The park's primary recreational use areas are defined by topography, forest cover, and access to allow for diverse recreational opportunities on site.

B. Description of Planned Park Elements

Area 1. Recreational Vehicle and Overlook

The RV and Overlook Area is located at higher park elevations under a forested canopy along the north side of the park property. This section of the park is relatively isolated topographically by moderately steep slopes, which will provide campers with a sense of the rurality of the location. The sites will be accessible by a road entering the park from the south and curving around through the park along the property line. Additionally, this portion of the park property will be accessible to the pavilion, waterfront, amphitheater, and open spaces by a series of trails and paths. The final RV campground will be completely refurbished with new water and wastewater connections and will be designed to provide for approximately 20 RVs at full capacity. Sanitary facilities will be available within this area at the refurbished bath house. The proposed new overlook, which will rest at the crest of the steep slopes over the riverfront will look out on Gargis Hollow from a height of approximately 80 feet and will provide a grand view and opportunity for passive recreation.

Area 2. Open Space

The second area of the park is located at higher elevations throughout the western perimeter of the park. This area is open space bounded by trees along the park's property line and denser forested terrain in the transitional slopes. This area will be devoted to open space, which can be utilized for picnicking, camping, and occasional festivals. Heavy traffic will be discouraged in the area to maintain an open and uncluttered character throughout the park.

Area 3. Public Gathering Facilities- Pavilion and Amphitheater

The transitional slopes of the park are covered by an extensive hardwood canopy without significant underbrush, leaving stable and open slopes reasonably clear of obstructions. These areas provide good views and are well-suited for locating gathering facilities and passive recreation attractions. The existing pavilion is located at upon one such ridge, and a proposed new amphitheater would be located within a natural bowl nearby. These features would provide an attractive environment for festivals, gatherings, and other organized events. Sanitary restroom facilities will be provided in this area.

Area 4. Backslopes

The more significant slopes of the park property are located within wooded areas and are shaded by a thick hardwood canopy. These areas are relatively clear and accessible and are suited to hiking and walking trails of varying difficulty. Proposed development in the park will include recreational trails following contours and elevations in a manner limiting maintenance while providing an interesting and easy-to-moderate degree of challenge. Trail design will follow principles and practices that limit erosion or damage to adjacent undisturbed property and thereby lessen the amount of trail maintenance required. The trail system will be designed for recreation and to link various points of interest within the park property to one another.

Area 5. Riverfront

The park's riverfront will be developed to accommodate activities surrounding a new boat launch. The new launch will be constructed farther north than the existing launch and new access roads and parking will be installed. Parking facilities will accommodate approximately 20 vehicles and trailers. Restroom facilities will be provided nearby. The existing seawall will be replaced and tie-offs will be installed along the new wall instead of piers. The new boat launch will be one of the few public access points to the Wilson Lake available in Colbert County and is expected to be a primary attraction of the park. Appropriate measures will be implemented to control sedimentation/siltation in order to maintain the facility for future use.

C. Conceptual Layout

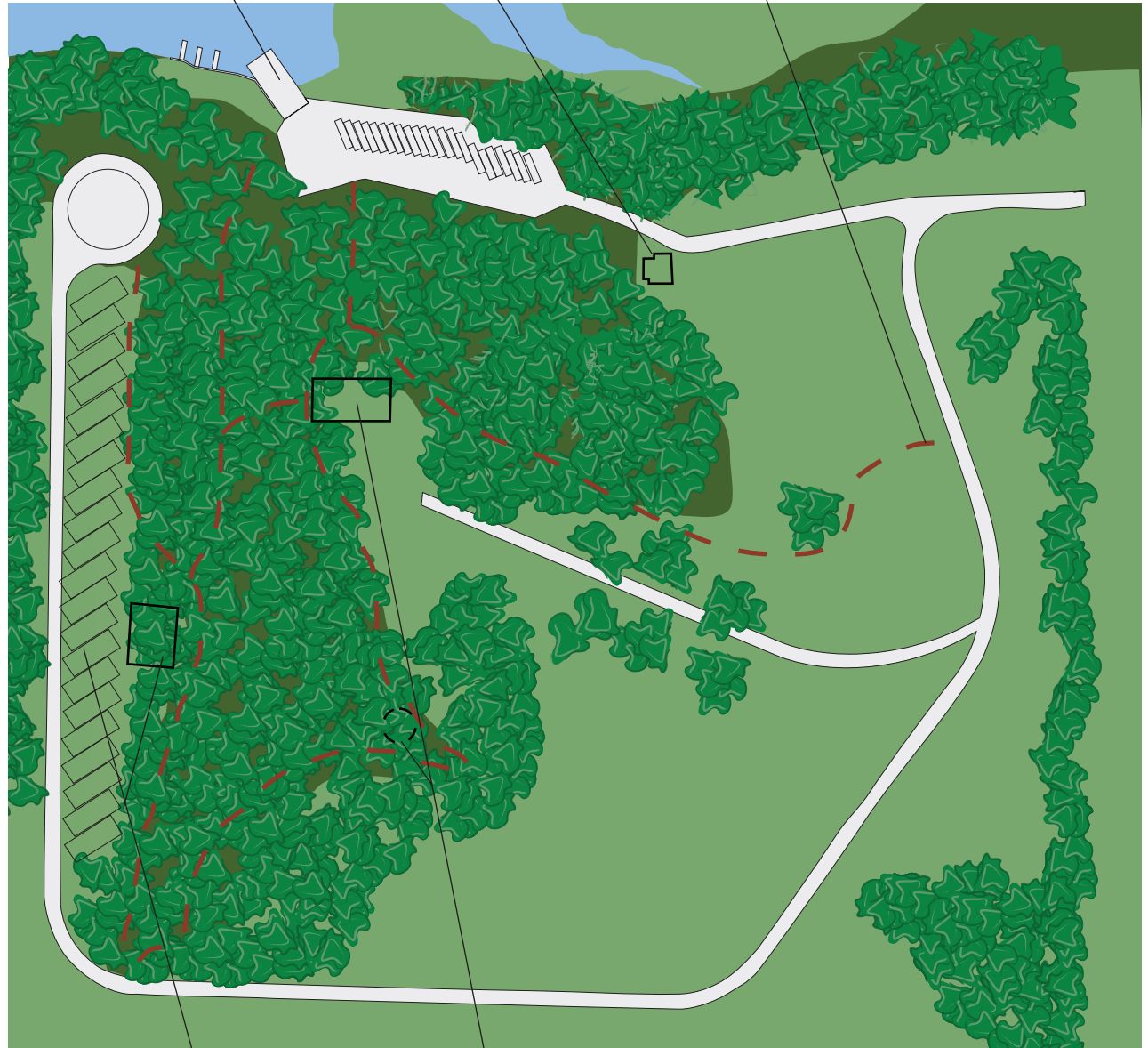
A conceptual sketch of proposed park developments was arranged and included in the Master Plan.

D. Public Involvement

The conceptual design was presented for public review and comment at a hearing on February 5, 2009. Approximately three dozen residents were present at the meeting, which was held in the nearby East Colbert Senior Center located about 5 miles from the park's location. While there were concerns such as the effect of increased boat traffic and the need for sound management of camping facilities, support for the project was generally very strong among attendees. Also in attendance were members of the Reynolds Retirees Association, who likewise expressed strong support for public management of the facility. Newspaper coverage of the park has helped publicize the development.

Colbert Alloys Park Proposed Development Plan

Preliminary Concept 2-5-09



Recreational Vehicle Campground- fully served RV camp sites, restroom & shower facility.



Amphitheater & Pavilion for festivals, events and gatherings.



Open space for formal events, camping, and activities.



Waterfront featuring public access to Wilson Lake, boat launch, parking, restroom facilities, seawall & piers.



Staff Residence for maintenance, visitor information & security.



Recreational Trails- over a mile of new trails connecting park areas.



V. IMPLEMENTATION

A. Preliminary Improvements List and Cost Estimates

A preliminary list of required improvements and cost estimates was generated as part of the Master Plan. These features reflect initial conceptual design and will be modified and improved upon as detailed construction and design development occur.

B. Funding Sources

The Colbert County Commission will provide the principal funding for park improvements through direct contributions of cash and labor and the use of matching funds and in-kind contributions for grant opportunities. A large portion of the park's development can be accomplished through existing resources, such as grading and surfacing of many existing roads and parking areas and the placement of trash bins and garbage receptacles in the park. Other major improvements, such as the installation of trails and renovations to the boat launch, will most likely require assistance from public agencies. Although grant resources are limited and competitive, the following is a partial listing of potential resources that the County may utilize to fund park improvements.

Alabama Department of Natural Resource Conservation
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs- Recreational Trails Program
Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs- Land and Water Conservation Fund
The Tennessee Valley Authority
Private Foundations

C. Operation and Management

Colbert Alloys Park will be owned by Colbert County and will be under the authority of the Colbert County Commission. Maintenance will be provided through the Colbert County Engineer's Office. A permanent caretaker will live on site and perform duties necessary to the park's maintenance.

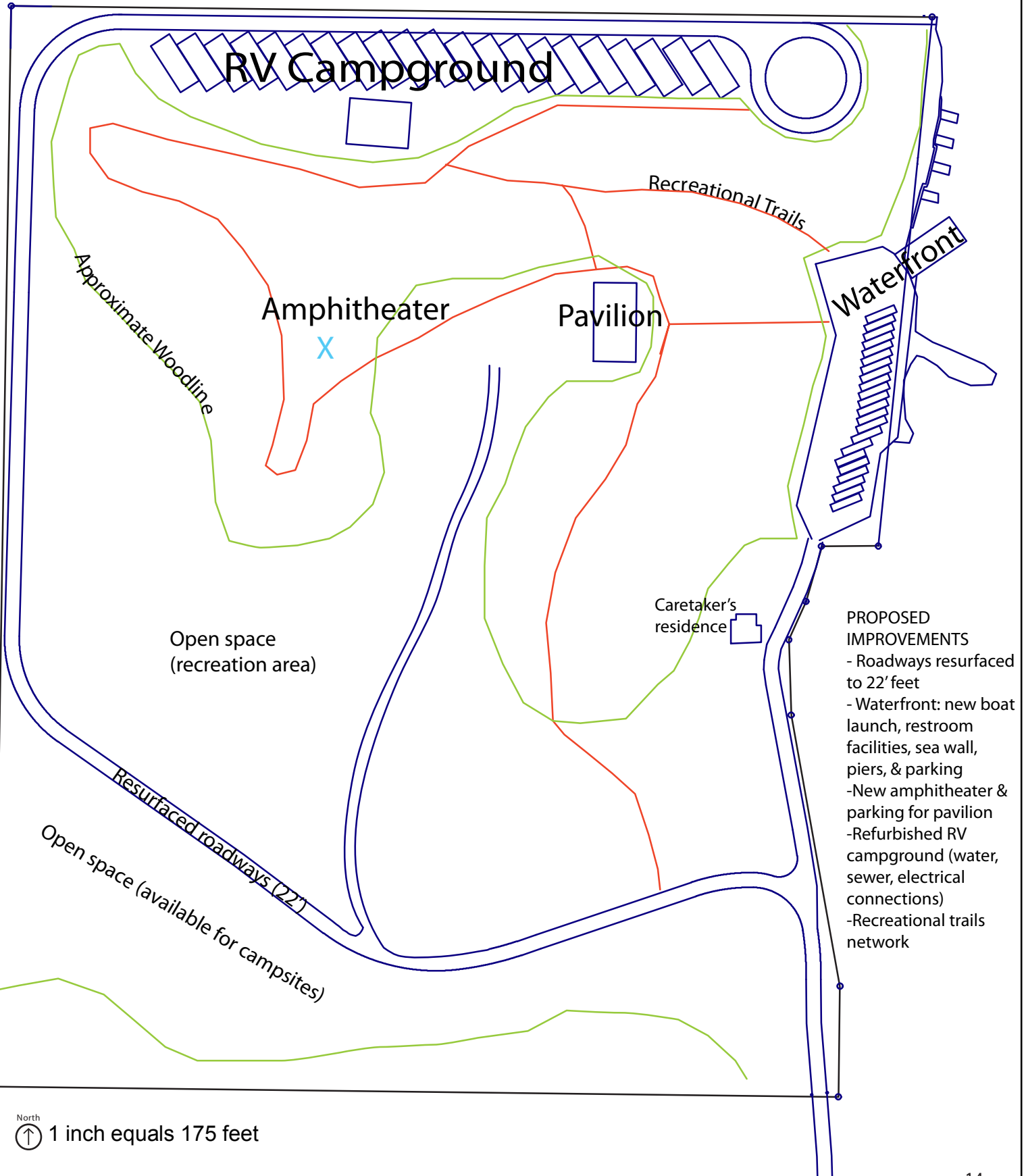
Caretaker duties- The caretaker will collect fees associated with the use of park property. The caretaker will maintain the grounds immediately surrounding the caretaker home. The caretaker will maintain litter controls within the park property, including delivering waste and litter from garbage bins to a central point for collection by the County. The caretaker will enforce the posted hours of usage for those sections of the property with limited hours.

Hours of Operation- Limited hours of operation will be enforced for all portions of the park except boating facilities, which will be open 24 hours per day. Gates will be used to control entry to restricted areas during closed hours.

Fees- Fees will be collected for certain uses of park property and will be used to offset the cost of maintenance. Fees are anticipated for use of recreational vehicle campgrounds, tent camping, and major gatherings. No fees are anticipated for other uses of park property, including picnicking, walking and hiking, and use of boating facilities.

Recreational Vehicle Camping- The recreational vehicle camping area of the park will be available for limited recreational visits, not to exceed a duration established by the County Commission.

Colbert Co. Alloys Park Plan Proposed Improvements



- PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**
- Roadways resurfaced to 22' feet
 - Waterfront: new boat launch, restroom facilities, sea wall, piers, & parking
 - New amphitheater & parking for pavilion
 - Refurbished RV campground (water, sewer, electrical connections)
 - Recreational trails network

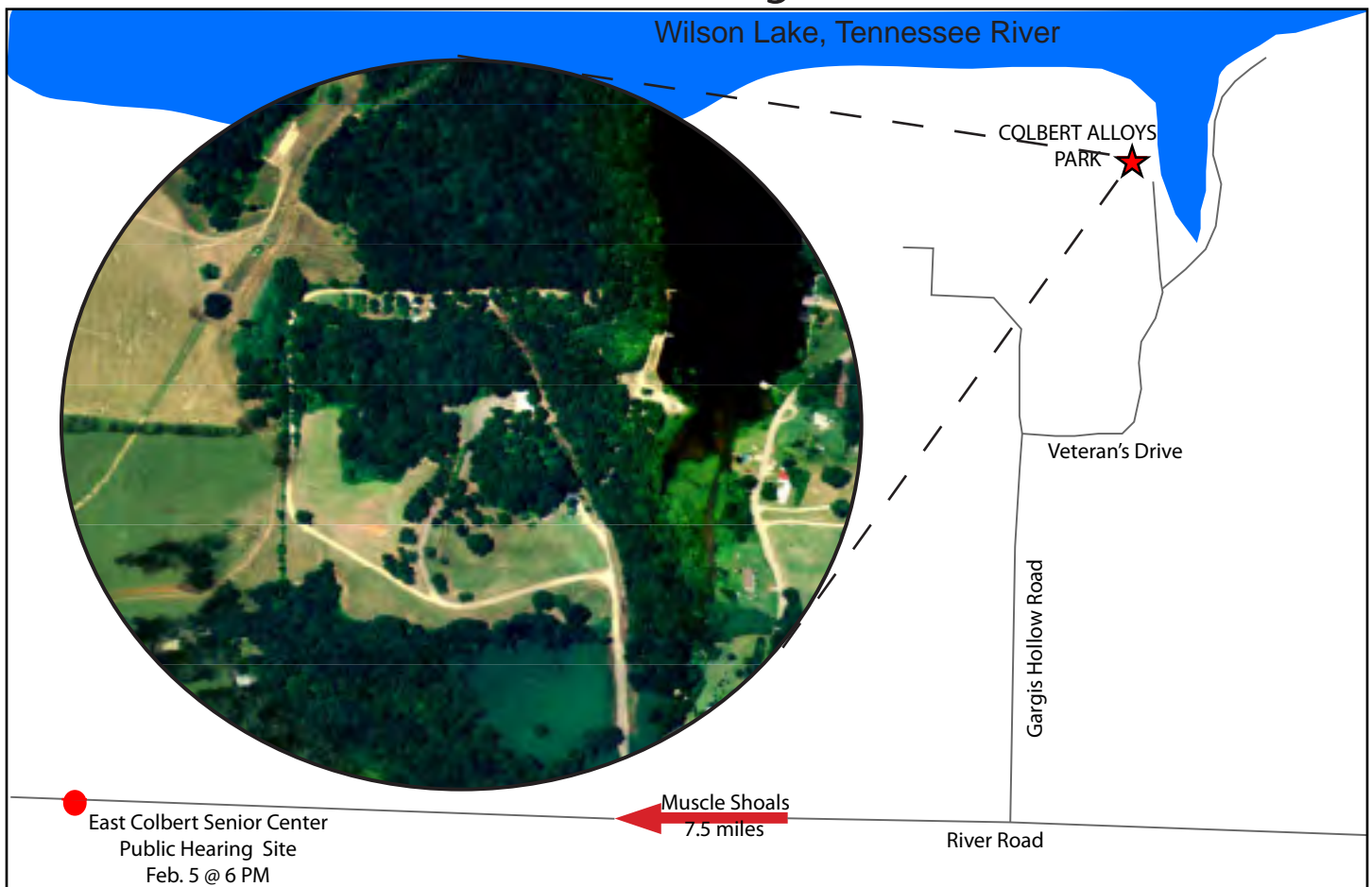
North
 ↑ 1 inch equals 175 feet

Preliminary
ENGINEERS ESTIMATE OF COSTS
ALLOYS PARK
COLBERT COUNTY, ALABAMA

| Revised 12-30-2008 | | Estimated | | | |
|--|---|-----------|-------|------------------|-----------------------|
| BOAT RAMP ACCESS ROAD (PHASE I) | | | | | |
| Item No. | Description | Quantity | Units | Unit Price | Total Cost |
| 1 | Clearing and Grubbing | 1 | LS | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| 2 | Earthwork | 2000 | CY | \$5.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 3 | Dense Graded Base 6" Thick | 3319 | SY | \$6.00 | \$19,914.00 |
| 4 | Asphalt Paving 2" Thick | 365 | TN | \$75.00 | \$27,375.00 |
| 5 | Erosion Control | 1 | LS | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$62,289.00 |
| BOAT RAMP AND BOAT PARKING AREA (PHASE I) | | | | | |
| Item No. | Description | Quantity | Units | Unit Price | Total Cost |
| 5 | Dredging | 1 | LS | \$25,000.00 | \$25,000.00 |
| 6 | Boat Ramp Construction | 1 | LS | \$25,000.00 | \$25,000.00 |
| 7 | Electrical & Lighting | 1 | LS | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 8 | Sea Wall and Finger Piers | 1 | LS | \$22,000.00 | \$22,000.00 |
| 9 | Restroom Facility | 1 | LS | \$80,000.00 | \$80,000.00 |
| 10 | Septic Tank and Field Lines | 1 | LS | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| 11 | Earthwork | 10000 | CY | \$5.00 | \$50,000.00 |
| 12 | Dense Graded Base 6" Thick | 4820 | CY | \$6.00 | \$28,920.00 |
| 13 | Asphalt Paving 2" Thick | 530 | CY | \$75.00 | \$39,750.00 |
| 14 | Pavement Striping | 1000 | LF | \$2.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| 15 | Erosion Control | 1 | LS | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$272,670.00 |
| ACCESS ROAD TO CAMP GROUND (PHASE II) | | | | | |
| Item No. | Description | Quantity | Units | Unit Price | Total Cost |
| 16 | Clearing and Grubbing | 1 | LS | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| 17 | Earthwork | 3200 | CY | \$5.00 | \$16,000.00 |
| 18 | Dense Graded Base 6" Thick | 7822 | SY | \$6.00 | \$46,932.00 |
| 19 | Asphalt Paving 2" Thick | 860 | TN | \$75.00 | \$64,500.00 |
| 20 | Erosion Control | 1 | LS | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$130,432.00 |
| CAMP GROUND IMPROVEMENTS (PHASE II) | | | | | |
| Item No. | Description | Quantity | Units | Unit Price | Total Cost |
| 21 | Repairs to Bathhouse | 1 | LS | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 |
| 22 | 3" Water Service Line | 4000 | LF | \$8.00 | \$32,000.00 |
| 23 | 6" Water Line | 3000 | LF | \$15.00 | \$45,000.00 |
| 24 | Electrical Service to Campsites | 1 | LS | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| 25 | Septic Tank and Field Lines | 10 | EA | \$5,000.00 | \$50,000.00 |
| 26 | Dense Graded Base 6" Thick | 5250 | SY | \$6.00 | \$31,500.00 |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$223,500.00 |
| WALKING TRAILS, AMPHITHEATER, & MISC. (PHASE III) | | | | | |
| Item No. | Description | Quantity | Units | Unit Price | Total Cost |
| 27 | 8-foot Asphalt Bike and Pedestrian Trails | 5000 | LF | \$25.00 | \$125,000.00 |
| 28 | Electrical to Amphitheater | 1 | LS | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 29 | Amphitheater Stage Construction | 1 | LS | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| 30 | Clearing and Grubbing for Amphitheater | 1 | LS | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| 31 | Improvements to Road to Pavillion | 1 | LS | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| 32 | Pave Parking Lot at Pavillion | 1 | LS | \$17,000.00 | \$17,000.00 |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$183,500.00 |
| Total Project Construction Cost | | | | | \$872,391.00 |
| Contingency @ 10% | | | | | \$87,239.10 |
| Engineering | | | | | \$95,963.01 |
| Administration | | | | | \$50,000.00 |
| Total Project Cost | | | | | \$1,018,354.01 |

Appendix

Announcing a Public Hearing on the development of Colbert Alloys Park



A 40 acre recreational park is located in Colbert County on the Tennessee River.

- Waterfront access- boating, fishing, and water sports. Will have all new launch facilities.
- Camping facilities- Will have fully served RV facilities, primitive campsites.
- Pavilion & Amphitheater- 60'x80' covered pavilion and proposed new amphitheater for gatherings and festivals.
- Walking Trails- over a mile of new trails throughout the park.

Public Hearing

Thursday, February 5th, 2009

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

East Colbert County Senior Center, 6229 River Road

| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--|--|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|---|
| Do you support the project as presented here tonight? | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | YES | |
| Please provide any additional information | | | | Stairs from camping site to dock | | | can think of none now. If later ideas come I will call Rex. Amphitheater will be wasted money. Will not be used to warrant the expense. |
| How did you hear about this meeting? | Ron Hall and newspaper | Flier | | Senior meeting | Senior citizens center | | newspaper |
| Were representatives able to answer your questions? If not, were you offered further assistance? | YES YES | YES | Posted info flyer | | | YES | |
| | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Do you support the project as presented here tonight? | YES | YES | YES | YES | | | YES w/modifications: 1. No wake zone protecting homes on east side of slough. 2. Enforcement of 90 day rental to assure no long term usage. |
| Please provide any additional information | Local volunteers to help work to get park in order and conservation project. | | | | | | [Same response as prior question] |
| How did you hear about this meeting? | Posting at Foodland | Newspaper | I live at camp as caretaker | Word of mouth and newspaper | | By accident | |

Were representatives able to answer your questions?
If not, were you offered further assistance?

YES

YES

YES

YES

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TIMESDAILY.com

Residents support plans to develop park

By [Russ Corey](#)
Staff Writer

Published: Friday, February 6, 2009 at 3:30 a.m.

A majority of Colbert County residents who attended a public meeting Thursday support the county commission's plans to develop a new park along the Tennessee River in the eastern part of the county.

"We need something like that," said east Colbert County resident Paul Tolbert, who lives about four miles from the park. "I like the idea of it. It's going to be a big project."

Preliminary plans produced by the engineering firm of White Lynn Collins & Associates indicate it will take more than \$1 million to develop the park.

The Colbert Alloys Park off River Road is an old campground that was donated to the county by a group of Reynolds Alloys retirees.

The commission plans to develop the 40-acre park using grant money during a period of five to six years.

District 1 Commissioner Rex Burleson said the first of three phases will involve improvements to an existing boat ramp, parking lot and entrance road. A new rest room facility would be built near the boat ramp.

L.W. Wagon, a former Reynolds Alloys employee who has been using the boat ramp for years, called the commission's plans to improve the park "fabulous."

"I'm not a camper, but there are so many people that are," Wagon said. "There are no facilities around here."

Burleson said other phases will involve improvements to the recreational vehicle camping area, followed by the construction of about a mile of walking trails.

"Most of the money will have to come from grants," Burleson said. "It's going to be first class."

Commissioners Emmitt Jimmar and Roger Creekmore attended the meeting and agree there's a need for a campground like this in the east end of the county.

Nearly 30 residents attended the meeting and looked over preliminary plans for the new park.

Bradley Williams, of White Lynn Collins & Associates, said he will take the comments left by residents and use them to develop further plans for the park.

Nathan Willingham, a community planner with the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments, said NACOLG is assisting the commission in the project.

"We're mainly making sure that what's down there is used in accordance with what the commission wants and what the community wants to see," Willingham said.

Williams said having plans in place will help when grant money becomes available.

The only complaints came from residents in the Gargis Hollow area who fear increased boat traffic in the slough where they live will affect their quality of life.

Russ Corey can be reached at 740-5738 or russ.corey@TimesDaily.com.

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TIMESDAILY.com

Commission OKs park improvements

By [Russ Corey](#)
Staff Writer

Published: Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 3:30 a.m.

Colbert County commissioners agreed Tuesday to move forward with improvements to the new Colbert Alloys Park by seeking permits to dredge silt from the slough near the park's boat ramp.

Commissioner Rex Burleson said the ramp is unusable because of the amount of silt that has accumulated near the ramp, lowering the depth of the slough at that point.

Burleson said the commission will ask the Tennessee Valley Authority to sign off on the project, then ask the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to issue a permit for the work to take place. The commissioners said the county can seek bids for the dredging once the permit is approved.

The county acquired the park earlier this year from a group of Reynolds Alloys retirees that had managed the recreational facility.

In other business, the commission:

- appointed Belinda Carmichael to the board of directors for the Riverbend Center for Mental Health.
- appointed Burleson to the Northwest Alabama Cooperative District.
- approved the installation of signs directing residents to the county's four storm shelters.
- agreed to dedicate the Ford City storm shelter to Sheffield businessman Bob Love and to purchase a bronze plaque that will be mounted at the shelter.
- approved a \$5,000 appropriation to the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.
- approved the installation of a "Welcome to Ford City" sign that will be purchased with Burleson's discretionary funds.
- agreed to allow members of the Riverton-Rose Trail Volunteer Fire Department to construct a cover for the pavilion at Rose Trail Park, provided they can provide the county with proof of liability insurance.

- awarded a \$27,375 bid to McMackin Business Systems for an electronic filing system for the revenue commissioners' office.
- approved a \$75 appropriation to the Alabama National Fair And Agricultural Exposition.
- approved the purchase of a \$1,045 advertisement in the TimesDaily's "Living Here" publication.
- issued a proclamation recognizing 100 years of 4-H.

Russ Corey can be reached at 740-5738 or russ.corey@TimesDaily.com.

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County to dredge near boat ramp

By [Russ Corey](#)
Staff Writer

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County commissioners voted Tuesday to solicit bids to dredge a slough near the boat ramp at the Colbert Alloys Park.

Commissioner Rex Burleson said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has approved a permit to dredge the area.

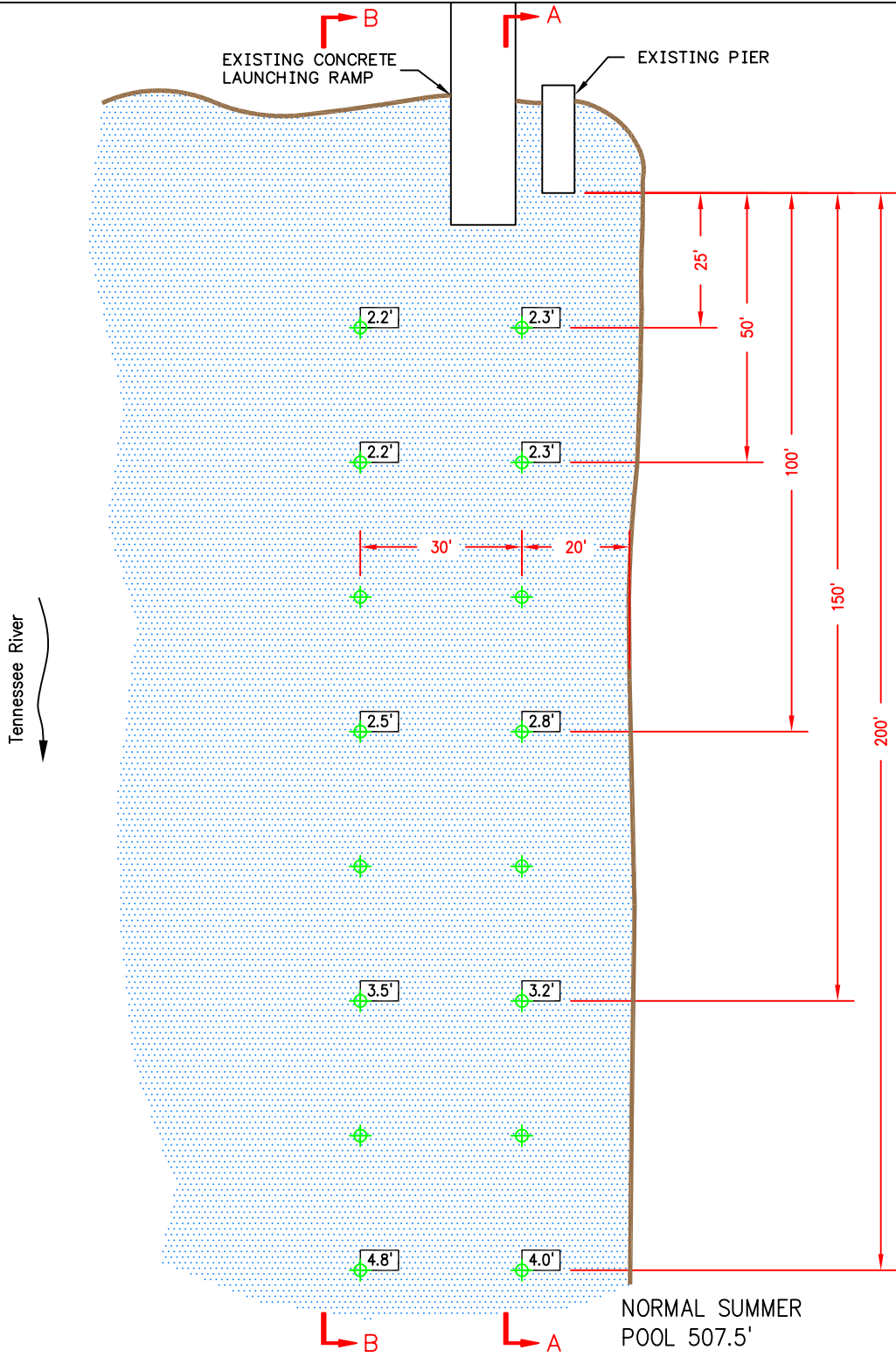
He said the Tennessee Valley Authority had no objections to the project.

Burleson said TVA will provide Cypress trees that the Alabama Forestry Commission will plant near the ramp later this year.

In other business, the commission:

- agreed to hire two temporary workers to help in roadside "white goods" collections.
- agreed to pave the Colbert County Farmers' Market parking lot for \$6,991.
- agreed to pave the Colbert County Health Department parking lot for \$27,993.
- promoted investigator Jim Berryman to chief deputy.
- paid a \$9,891 invoice to Patterson and Wilder for work on the National Alabama project.
- honored the county's firefighters and emergency medical technicians.
- agreed to an energy audit on the courthouse.
- approved a \$1,375 change order to the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments transit building at the county road department.

Russ Corey can be reached at 740-5738 or russ.corey@TimesDaily.com.



- NOTE:**
1. TVA FLOWAGE EASEMENT IS 509.34' MSL.
 2. WATER LEVEL DURING DEPTH MEASUREMENTS: 506.11 MSL.



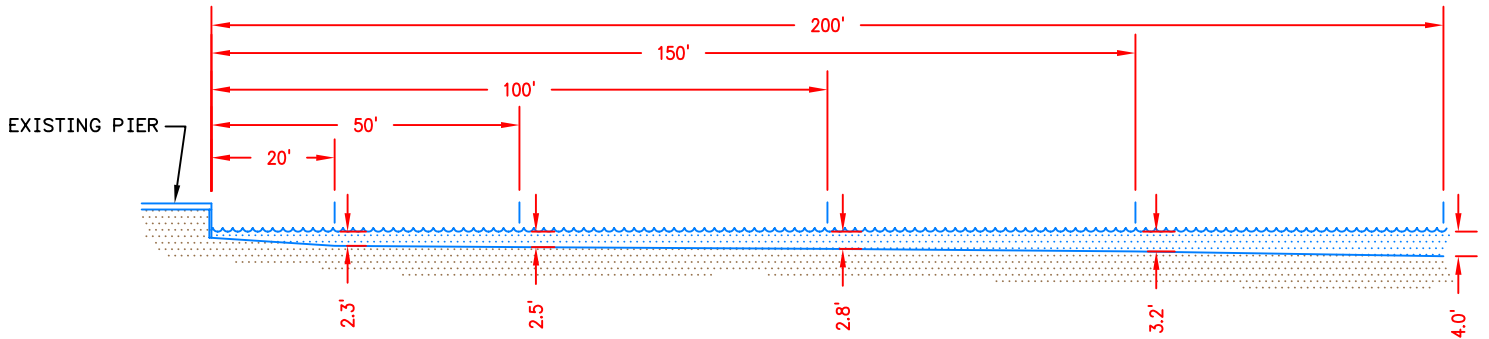
FIXED PIER

Project Location Information

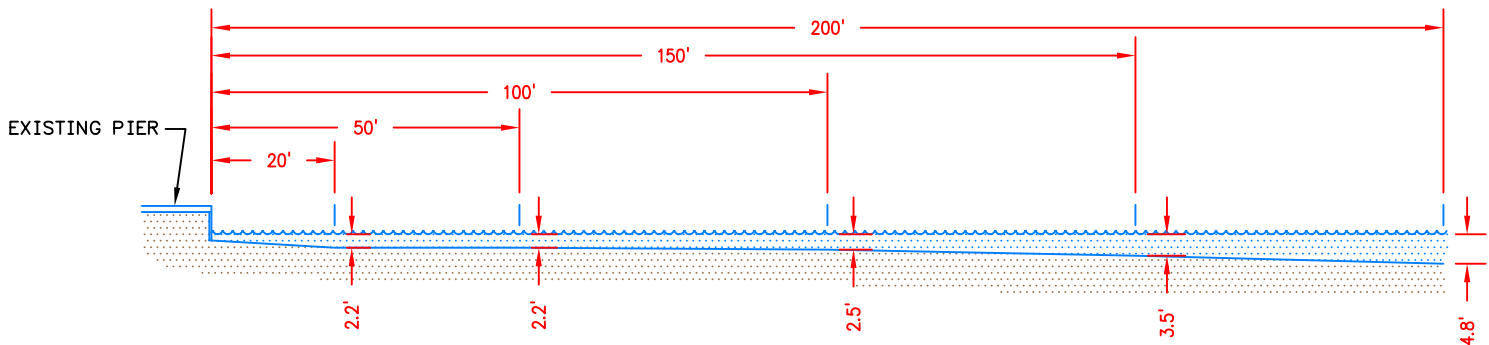
| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------|---------|
| Applicant | Colbert County Commission | | |
| Reservoir | Wilson | | |
| Tract Number | WDRE100 | | |
| Subdivision | Colbert Alloys Park | | |
| Lot No. | N/A | Map No. | 6D/53SW |
| River | Tennessee River | River Mile | 268.9L |

TVA Number Assigned
WDRE 100 SHT. 1

Scale: 1/32" = 1'-0"



SHEET 2 SECTION A-A



SHEET 2 SECTION B-B

NOTE:

1. TVA FLOWAGE EASEMENT IS 509.34' MSL.
2. WATER LEVEL DURING DEPTH MEASUREMENTS: 506.11 MSL.



FIXED PIER

Project Location Information

TVA Number Assigned
WDRE 100 SHT. 2

Applicant Colbert County Commission
Reservoir Wilson

Tract Number WDRE100
Subdivision Colbert Alloys Park

Lot No. N/A Map No. 6D/53SW
River Tennessee River River Mile 268.9L

Scale: $\frac{1}{32}'' = 1' - 0''$