



MUNICIPALITY ^{of} PRINCETON

Department of Infrastructure
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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council
From: Inga Reich, PhD., *Open Space Manager*
Subject: Adopt-a-Park Agreements with Friends of Herrontown Woods for Autumn Hill Reservation and Herrontown Woods
Date: July 8, 2026

Attached for Council's approval at its July 13, 2026 meeting are two Adopt-a-Park Agreements with the Friends of Herrontown Woods (FOHW) for the municipally-owned open space areas known as Autumn Hill Reservation and Herrontown Woods.

Since 2013, the Friends of Herrontown Woods have volunteered their efforts to maintain the trails and open space in Herrontown Woods and Autumn Hill Reservation. In 2020, Princeton Council entered into a lease agreement with FOHW for the area surrounding and including the Veblen House and Cottage at Herrontown Woods, but it was silent regarding the open space management activities being performed by FOHW. Princeton appreciates the dedicated service of FOHW volunteers at Autumn Hill Reservation and Herrontown Woods, and we seek to formalize the partnership between Princeton and the Friends of Herrontown Woods as permitted by the "Adopt-a-Park Law" N.J.S.A. 40:12-20, *et seq.* The attached Adopt-a-Park Agreements contain a Management and Use Agreement (Exhibit A), which stipulates the guidelines for open space usage and management and lays out the responsibilities of each partner.

At a future council meeting, a Lease Agreement between Princeton and FOHW related to the Veblen House and Cottage will be on the agenda for authorization. This agreement must be approved by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program before it can be finalized, unlike the Adopt-a-Park Agreements.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (609) 921-7077 ext. 7635 or by email at ireich@princetonnj.gov.