

May 13, 2022

Borough of Califon Planning/Zoning Board  
39 Academy Street  
Califon, NJ 07830



**Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan  
Draft Goals and Objectives**

Dear Board Members:

Pursuant to our recent discussions, below you will find a draft of potential goals and objectives for the Open Space and Recreation Plan Element of the Borough Master Plan. While these are certainly important to setting forth the Borough's vision, they do not need to carry the same weight as those expressed in the Master Plan, which can often be implicated in cases where variance relief is required relative to the negative criteria. Here the focus should be wide.

- Provide passive and active recreation opportunities within the Borough to meet the needs of all residents
- Provide an open space network throughout the Borough that connects to open space in adjacent municipalities
- Utilize open space preservation as a means to protect the Borough's valuable natural resources including ridgelines and steep slopes, scenic vistas, stream and river corridors, mature forest and critical wildlife habitat
- Provide open space along the South Branch of the Raritan River that provides riparian buffers while allowing public access for recreation opportunities
- Maximize use of the Borough's open space tax by partnering with the State, Hunterdon County and local and regional land conservancies to preserve open space
- Provide appropriate public facilities within existing parks
- Enhance natural areas within existing parks to provide better habitat for native species while managing invasive species
- Create a trail network that connects open space within the Borough and open space in adjacent municipalities
- Utilize recreation opportunities to support tourism and local businesses

We trust the Board will find this information useful. Should you wish to discuss this memo prior to our meeting on May 18th, please feel free to contact me via e-mail ([jkyle@kylemcmanus.com](mailto:jkyle@kylemcmanus.com)) or phone at 609-529-8692.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Kyle", with a stylized flourish at the end.

James T. Kyle, PP/AICP, Board Planner

Cc: Jonathan Testa, Esq., Board Attorney (via e-mail)