



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF PARKS AND FORESTRY  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO  
P. O. BOX 1420  
TRENTON, N. J. 08625

May 15, 1975

The Honorable Michael S. Arcieri  
Mayor, Hopewell Township  
Route 546 and Scotch Road  
Titusville, New Jersey 08560

Dear Mayor Arcieri:

I am writing to help clarify the current status of plans for Washington Crossing State Park and propose a course of action which I hope may be useful to all concerned.

In 1971, the State commissioned the firm of Charles T. Main to prepare a Master Plan Study of the Park. This request was based at that time on the desire of the Department to upgrade and improve all historic type parks for the Bicentennial Celebration. This Master Plan was completed in the fall of 1973. Members of the staff at that time expressed reservations on several conceptual points in the plan. Because of these reservations and the lack of adequate funding, the Plan as presented was not adopted.

In an effort to get the project moving again, the Department of Environmental Protection has requested the Department of the Treasury to engage a professional consultant for design and engineering. As master plans are conceptual in nature, it was our feeling that major modifications could still be made during that phase of the design.

As a result of several staff discussions within the past several days, I now feel it would be most appropriate to review the Master Plan for the purpose of revision prior to design. You can appreciate the fact that I have been Acting Director for less than three months and, unfortunately, have not had the opportunity to thoroughly review this proposal in the depth that it deserves.

If I may now offer the following as a method of responding to our joint concerns.

1. As the Department has not officially adopted the master plan, we would propose that a public information meeting be held at which comments, criticisms and/or suggestions would be received on the proposed plan.

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2. After this meeting, the Department would review all the material, information, and comments and revise the Master Plan appropriately.

3. The Department will prepare or have prepared an environmental assessment of the plan in accordance with Executive Order 53 prior to any substantial design work being undertaken.

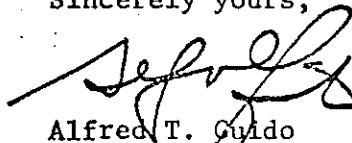
We would appreciate your comments on this procedure.

In addition, I call to your attention that the Division of Parks and Forestry is working in close cooperation with the Economic Impact Subcommittee of the New Jersey Bicentennial Commission in an effort to provide minimal facilities at the Park for 1976, when an influx of visitors is expected. We shall keep you informed as events progress. To this end, I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of our most recent meeting on this subject. As you can see, the discussions are only in the preliminary phases.

To facilitate your review of the Master Plan, I am enclosing two (2) copies of the limited supply of the full document plus a number of single folders briefly describing the Plan. Please keep in mind the status of these documents is that they are not official and are for discussion purposes only at this time.

You may be assured of our desire to cooperate with local officials and citizens in this matter and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely yours,



Alfred T. Guido  
Acting Director

ATG:DG

Enclosures