



City of Dublin

Office of the City Manager  
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# Memo

**To:** Members of Dublin City Council  
**From:** Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager *MQA*  
**Date:** December 4, 2014  
**Initiated By:** Megan O'Callaghan, Public Service Director  
Fred Hahn, Director Parks and Open Space  
**Re:** Grounds of Remembrance - Maintenance Improvements Update

## Background

The attached memo included in the November 17, 2014 Council packet set forth recommendations for improvements to address the maintenance challenges at the Grounds of Remembrance.

As a part of that memo, staff recommended using charcoal gray color epoxy material to protect and highlight the engraved letters on the recognition pavers at the Grounds of Remembrance. This was in response to concerns raised about the readability of the messages.

Additional concerns have been raised about the readability of the "Dublin Veterans Park" sign along Dublin Road. Staff believes that using the same charcoal gray color epoxy material suggested for the recognition pavers would also serve the purpose of making the sign along Dublin Road more readily visible.

## Recommendation

In addition to the recommendations set forth in the November 17, 2014 memo, staff recommends using a charcoal gray color epoxy paint to highlight the engraved letters on the Dublin Veterans Park sign along Dublin Road as a means to protect and highlight the sign message. Staff believes that the resulting contrast between the painted letters and the surrounding limestone will provide the desired effect.

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**To:** Members of Dublin City Council  
**From:** Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager   
**Date:** November 13, 2014  
**Initiated By:** Megan O'Callaghan, Public Service Director  
Fred Hahn, Director of Parks & Open Space  
**Re:** Grounds of Remembrance Maintenance Improvements

## Summary

Staff has concluded research to determine recommended improvements to address the maintenance challenges we have encountered at the Grounds of Remembrance. Staff's research included consultation with several material vendors, Ohio Concrete, and the original project designer, Lisa Rapport.

### *Path Material*

It is important to understand the designer's original concept of the aggregate path design. Below is a picture of the existing path. According to Ms. Rapport, the design concept was to "create a strong sense of texture underfoot along the path walkway, with each of the limestone strips 'pacing' the walk into intervals. The entrance concrete was considered to be a really big threshold to the site - smooth in preparation to the 'crunch' of the path. This same occurs at the entrance to the cemetery, a threshold at the crossroads of these paths. Simultaneously, this aggregate treatment provides a softness to the landscape, a kind of natural soft and hard surface like a ravine walk, architecturalized within the confines of the park." Rapport further requested that "...if the replacement material is concrete, then the idea would be to give (the path) a very rugged texture alternating with the smooth limestone stripes." Because this contrast in texture is essential to the design concept, Staff researched several rough texture material options.



Several potential walkway material options were outlined in the October 9, 2014 memo to Council regarding "Grounds of Remembrance Maintenance Update". (see attached) In addition to those options, Staff has identified Exposed Aggregate Concrete as a viable solution. An exposed aggregate surface is obtained by placing concrete and then removing the outer 'skin' of cement paste to uncover decorative coarse aggregate. Because of its durability and skid resistance, an exposed aggregate finish is ideal for flatwork including sidewalks and plazas. The aggregate utilized could potentially be crushed limestone that would look similar to the existing path material. This is a product that is proven and there is color flexibility in terms of the coarse aggregate that is selected. Below is a picture illustrating the texture that can be achieved with exposed aggregate concrete.



*Recognition Pavers*

Staff researched the option of sealing the engravings on the recognition pavers with an epoxy material to both protect and make the lettering more readable. This is a viable option that comes in either charcoal or black colors. The replacement cost of the existing pavers is around \$50 each and the cost of adding epoxy to new pavers is marginal. There are currently approximately 210 engraved pavers so the total cost is estimated to be \$10,500. The installation base for the pavers should also be improved upon reinstallation.



**Charcoal**



**Black**

### *Path Railing*

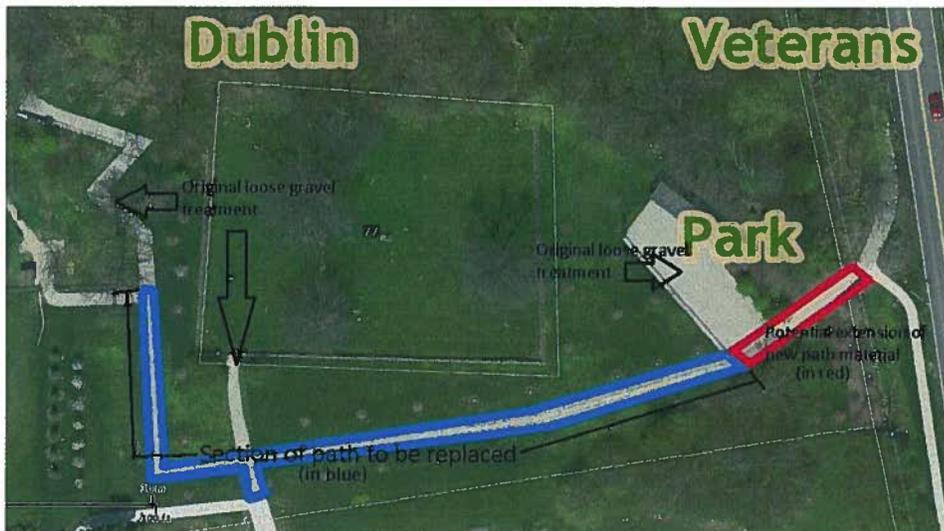
The existing path has two outside railings and a center railing that separates the path into two aisles. Staff evaluated removing the center railing permanently and it is our opinion it unnecessarily clutters the appearance of the path. Further, the presence of this railing would complicate the removal of the existing path material and installation of new path material. The two outside railings could remain.



### **Recommendations**

Staff recommends initiating a project to improve the Grounds of Remembrance site as follows:

- Replace the existing loose gravel path at the locations identified in blue, and potentially the area in red, below with a more stable, textured, aesthetically pleasing material such as Exposed Aggregate Concrete. The coarse aggregate would potentially be crushed limestone that would look similar to the existing path material.



- Reuse the limestone pacing strips on a stabilized base.
- Replace all of the recognition pavers with new pavers with charcoal epoxy lettering.
- Remove the existing middle railing and repair the two outside railings to remain.

Should Council approve these recommendations, our next steps include working with Hull & Associates on the development of construction documents, determining a reasonable construction schedule, and bidding the construction project. As soon as construction documents are developed we will be able to provide a project cost estimate and schedule. In furtherance of this goal, we recommend, we proceed with placing the order for replacement pavers immediately to avoid scheduling issues with the engraver.



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# Memo

**To:** Members of Dublin City Council

**From:** Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager 

**Date:** October 9, 2014

**Initiated By:** Megan O'Callaghan, Public Service Director  
Fred Hahn, Parks and Open Space Director  
Laura Ball, Landscape Architect

**Re:** Grounds of Remembrance Maintenance Update

## Background

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on our efforts to address the maintenance challenges we have encountered at the Grounds of Remembrance in Veterans Park. Staff has been identifying and evaluating several options to improve the aggregate path and pavers. We are looking for a path product that is fully stabilized, thus remaining unaffected by storm events, has texture and little to no sheen to emulate the original path aesthetics, and is slip resistant for the safety of our park visitors. The options currently under consideration are outlined below.

## Summary

### Option #1: Soluv + Mt. Airy Granite crushed stone

This option was suggested by artist Lisa Rappaport and notably used at the FDR For Freedoms Park in New York. It involves using a resin-based binder in combination with crushed stone to create a ¾ inch thick wear course that can be placed directly subsoil. The final can be dulled at time of installation with sand-blasting to reduce glossy finish.

Staff is hesitant to use another resin-based binder. Soluv has only been on the market for three years and staff is concerned that there are no long-term performance records.



**Option #2: Filter Pave**

FilterPave is a regionally sourced stone used with polyurethane elastomeric binder to create a permeable surface. The system is the most permeable of options under review. The product has been in use since 2008.

Staff is researching surface sheen and color options.



**Option #3: Porous Concrete**

This is a concrete product that uses a mixture of water and cementitious material to form a thick coating around aggregate particles. The application under consideration assumes a standard base since water retention is not feasible on the slope.

Staff is reviewing aggregate sizes to produce a more finished appearance.



**Option #4: Nature Stone + Poured Cement**

Nature Stone is a stone and epoxy flooring product rated for outdoor use. Widely used residentially (indoor and outdoor) and locally at the Scioto Audubon Park in Columbus (outdoor application). The purchase price of this product includes installation by Nature Stone Company. This product

requires reapplication of binding material every few years to avoid cracking and must be installed on top of poured concrete. This finished product has a glossy finish and is not permeable.

This option has been ruled out due to the glossy finish, high level of maintenance, and cost.



#### **Option #5: Acid Washed Concrete**

Muriatic acid is applied to a concrete surface that exposes the concrete aggregates and creates a more earth-toned appearance. This application was most recently used on the Coffman Park large Dublin Irish Festival bridge.

Staff is considering this option as a backup, since it loses much of the originally intended textural qualities and does not improve water movement issues.



At this point in the process, staff believes that the base material can be salvaged for most of the options under consideration, only disposing of the top gravel fines and separation fabric.

Staff is also evaluating removing the center rail permanently and is in the process of determining whether this rail is necessary for ADA accessibility. The presence of the rail complicates existing surface demolition and new surface installation and will impact costs.

**Recommendation**

This is an informational memo. Staff will be consulting a local engineering firm to discuss the project, review the product options, and share site considerations in mid to late October. Staff anticipates being able to make a firm recommendation with course of action and projected costs in November.