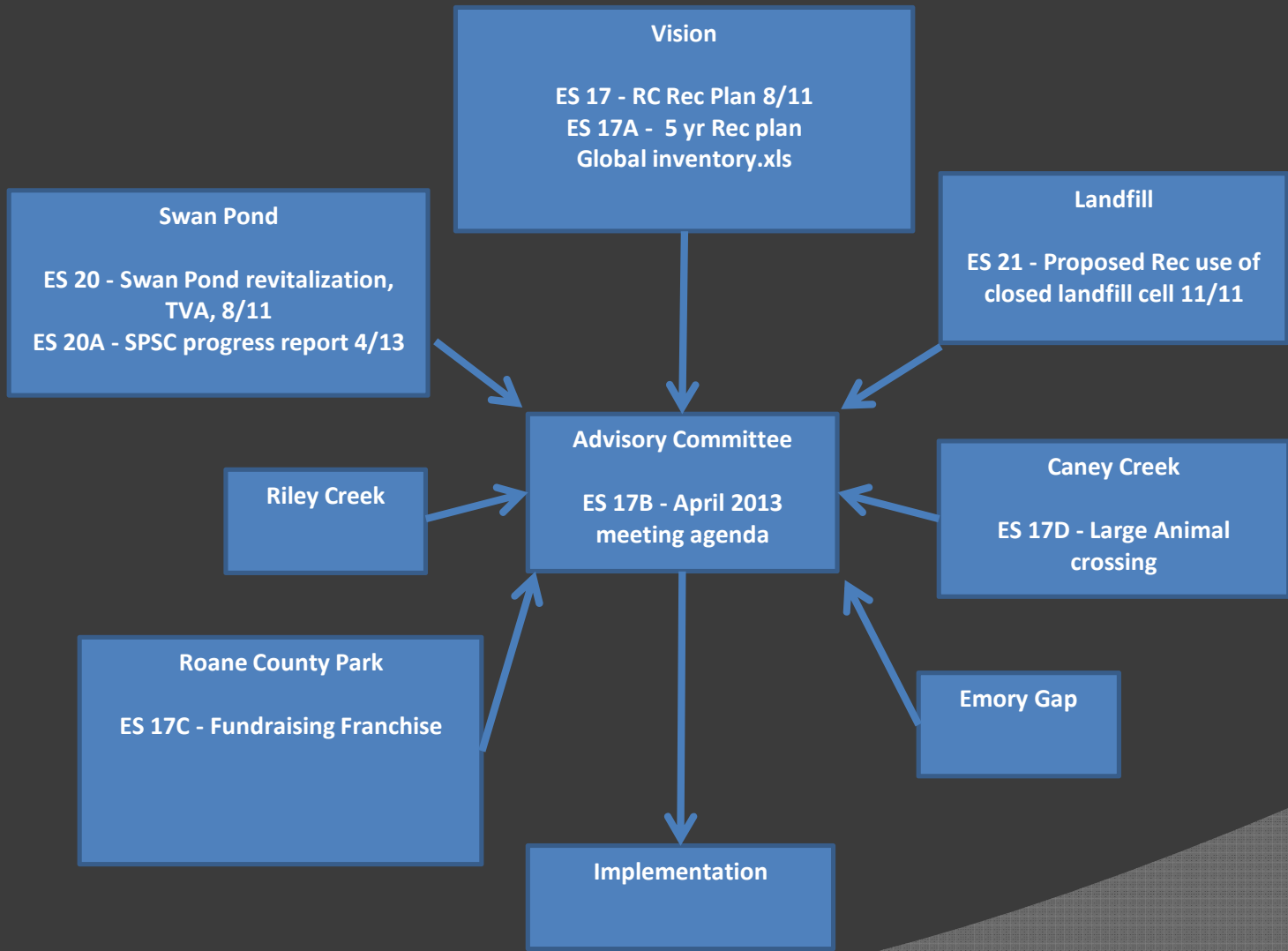


ROANE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
TOGETHER WITH  
ROANE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

A **UNIQUE** OPPORTUNITY

To benefit the community by  
establishing an equestrian trail  
system linking Roane State Expo  
center to the Caney Creek  
Recreation Area

Executive Summary 17d  
June 2013



# Vision

- ◎ Develop a means for horses and riders, plus pedestrians, to safely cross US70
- ◎ With the goal of:
  - Realizing the recreation potential of an idle county property
  - Bringing the associated *economic impact* and quality of life benefits to the state
  - Adding value to Roane State's Program

# Benefits

- ⦿ Increased participation in Roane State Expo events by adding the value of trail riding while at the event
- ⦿ Increased overnight usage of Roane State facilities by travelers in need of horse friendly accommodations
- ⦿ Provide a foundation for the additional development of the 60 acre resource for developing a system of bike/hike trails

# In economic terms

- Increased tourism
- Increased attendance at RSCC Expo activities
- Refueling locally
- Restaurant activity – overnight stays
- Retail impact – Walmart and Lowes nearby
- Near the I-75 and I-40 travel corridors  
connecting the annual events in Dallas, Florida, Mid west, OK City  
and major concentrations of population (Charlotte, east coast, NY,  
PA)

# Case History – to be investigated

- ◎ Cochran Mills Park, Fulton County GA
  - 30 acres
  - 6 miles of trails
  - Hiking, playground, picnic area

Determine the programming, usage, benefits associated with this development

Determine the similarities/differences with our 60 acres, learn their lessons

# Caney Creek Rec Area

- 60 acres
- Appropriate terrain
- No similar facility in Tennessee
- 3-4 miles of trail potential in first phase
- Appropriate for SORBA type mountain biking

# Caney Creek + RSCC = UNIQUE

*There is no similar facility (with stabling, trails, overnight camping in convertible horse trailers-with hook-ups, open to the public, and a covered arena) in Tennessee or within a 150 mile radius*



# Further development

- ◎ Geo caching
- ◎ Cross country running events and training
- ◎ Motorcycle touring – primitive camping (Honda Hoot)
- ◎ Easements from adjacent property owners to extend trail and mileage
- ◎ Link with RCP, RV Park walking trails

# Challenges

- Impossible without an animal crossing – due to need for expansive parking and inability to trailer horses across highway
- Select route to Rec Area from the South side of US70 (TVA, Roane County, TDOT involvement)

# Caney Creek 60 acres



# Paths to park





# June 2013 update

- From: Starkey, Stan [mailto:starkeys@roanestate.edu]
- Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 9:15 AM
- To: 'Mike Beard'
- Cc: 'Joanne Mitchell'
- Subject: RE: Trails @ old campground
  
- Mike – Just wanted to give you a quick update. TDOT had their public comment session for the road widening project last Thursday and they did have the animal crossing tunnel incorporated into the design as we had discussed, so it looks like it should be good to go. They do have the money allocated for right-of-way acquisitions which should start this fall. If all goes well and the construction money gets approved in the next budget cycle, we could see construction begin sometime in the next 18 months or so.
  
- 
- I guess the next step would be to start working with the County Highway folks and TVA to see if we can get a box culvert or something installed a little ways upstream on Post Oak Creek to make the trail crossing behind the Sewer Plant/Convenience Center. Also probably wouldn't hurt to start a conversation with the neighboring property owners to see if we could get some sort of easement or land use agreement put in place to provide more room for a nice network of trails.

# The Team

- ◉ Stan Starkey – Roane State Facilities Director
- ◉ Dan Gibbs – Roane State VP
- ◉ Joanne Mitchell – local enthusiast and trail development volunteer. She is the equine representative for the state of Tennessee Commissioner's Council on Greenways and Trails. (RTP grants)
- ◉ Bobby Mitchell – developer of Cochran Park trail system
- ◉ Roane County Parks and Recreation
- ◉ TDOT
- ◉ TVA

