

To the Village of Russia Residents:

We take great pride in our community and the benefits of living in a tight-knit small village. It is continually amazing to see the progress of our community as it continues to evolve.

For the past several years, we have been fortunate to see several projects that have greatly enhanced our community park and the surrounding area. The school track, new park playground, school playground, pickleball courts, and gazebo have been wonderful additions that have brought more and more people to the area.

For some time, the Village of Russia, Russia Park Board, and Russia Wellness Foundation have kicked around some ideas on further additions to the park. We know we could desperately use new bathroom facilities in the park and have old playground equipment that needs to be removed. Our shelter house is showing its age and is rarely in use. A 9-person committee was formed with members from each of these organizations to come up with a solution to meet this need for years to come and further improve the park and its use. Upon much discussion, it was decided to upgrade from our current shelter house to a pavilion that includes year-round restrooms. Some committee members received input from residents over the past few years that the village could enhance the park with the addition of a splash pad. Conceptual renderings and pictures are shown below.

The committee members have looked at a number of area shelter houses and pavilions as well as splash pads to come up with what we think would best enhance our park offerings. Due to the cost of the proposal, we are actively applying for major grant opportunities that would cover more than 50% of the project. For one of the larger grants, we believe it's advantageous to combine both projects to increase the chances of being awarded. Also, it is more cost-effective to combine both projects. The village has committed to help fund this project as well as several donors. We feel that if we are awarded the grants along with the funding from the village and the donors, only a small fund drive, at most, may be needed to offset the cost of the project. We will not put this on a levy. If the grants are not awarded, then it's likely the project would need to be scaled back. The proposed design for the pavilion and splash pad is shown below.

We value everyone's opinion and want our park area to be a place for all residents and visitors to enjoy. We are using Survey Monkey to gauge interest from the community. We have a short 4-question survey that you can access here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RussiaParkSurvey>. **Please complete the survey by Friday, November 11, 2022.** Please reach out with comments or questions to any of the committee members below. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jake Borchers
Brandon Simon
Stephanie Fullenkamp
Jeff Simon
Aaron Condon
Jared Goubeaux
Mary Jo High
Treg Francis
Adam Barga

Pavilion

*Shown below is Fort Loramie's pavilion. The proposed design of Russia's pavilion would be similar, but we are incorporating a few design and aesthetic changes.



Pavilion Interior



Splash Pad



Location

