Top 10 Conversion Issues on Parks & Open Space Funded with PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Grant Assistance:

1. **Pipeline/Energy Development** – New or expanded right-of-way or permanent easement that gives control of a portion of a park to an oil and gas company or public utility. This may also include associated structures that impact the surface of the land.

2. **Leases/Exclusive use** - Agreements between the grant recipient and an organization/entity that gives over control of the funded property. Leases can take many forms such as agriculture, commercial or vendor, ground leases, etc.

3. **Property Sold/Transferred** - Grantee sells or transfers the property to an individual or entity who is not eligible for DCNR grant funding or does not have a recreation or conservation mission.

4. **Development** - Any non-recreational development such as hotels, residential areas, restaurants, schools, etc. that occurs within a protected site funded by DCNR.

5. **Cell Towers** - Telecommunication structures and the access to them that are not used for internal park communications is inconsistent with grant funding restrictions.

6. **Municipal Uses** - Non-recreational structures built on the DCNR funded property. Examples include but are not limited to municipal buildings, recycling facilities, fire stations, maintenance buildings/sheds, etc.

7. **Composting/Recycling Facilities** - These facilities are non-recreational in nature and are not supported on a DNCR funded property.

8. **Encroachments** - Private property encroachments include utility sheds, gardens, vehicles, wood piles, sheds, etc. from neighboring landowners that sit over the DCNR funded property boundary line.

9. **Above Ground Utilities** - New or expanded right-of-ways such as power lines, phone lines, pumping stations, etc. on DCNR funded property.

10. **Restricting Public Access/Signage** - Posting no trespassing signs, locking gates, and in any way restricting public access is not allowed on a funded park site. Reasonable access restrictions for health and safety (no access after dark) are acceptable if applied to everybody. All grant funded sites must have a sign acknowledging DCNR grant assistance.

**Note:** There are nuances to each of these issues based on the type of funding received and the legislative restrictions associated with that funding. This list is non-inclusive, but highlights the most common conversion issues. For more information please contact us via RA-NRBRC_CONVERSIONS@pa.gov.