



# COLLIER TOWNSHIP

[www.colliertownship.net](http://www.colliertownship.net)

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## COMMISSIONERS

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George E. Macino, President • Wilson J. Durisko, Vice President • Wayne M. Chiurazzi, Esq. • Nichole M. Kauer • Jason C. Oskamp

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**For Immediate Release:                      January 30, 2014**

**Contact Information:                      Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager**  
**[SSirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:SSirabella@colliertwp.net)**

## **VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO FILL 4 VACANCIES ON BOARDS**

**Volunteers are being sought to serve on two Collier Township Boards.**

**There are openings for two alternate members on the Parks and Recreation Board and two alternate members on the Civil Service Commission.**

**To apply please email, Valerie Salla, Township Secretary, [vsalla@colliertwp.net](mailto:vsalla@colliertwp.net) or call 412 279-2525 Ext. 210 stating your interest and postal mailing address.**

*Pennsylvania Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence - 2015*  
*Pennsylvania Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence - 2015*  
*Allegheny County Banner Community - 2015*  
*Live Well - Collier Township - 2015*

2418 Hilltop Road, Suite 100 • Presto, Pennsylvania 15142 • 412.279.2525 • Fax 412.279.2380



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 26, 2014

**CONTACT:**

Sal Sirabella, Manager

412 279-2525

### **Collier Township Honored as a 2014 Banner Community**

**Collier Township, Pennsylvania** – has been named a 2014 Banner Community by the Allegheny League of Municipalities for providing effective, efficient and accountable services to its residents and businesses. The designation also acknowledges Collier Township's efforts to inform and engage citizens through frequent and open communication, public events and community activities.

"The Banner Community Program recognizes municipalities that implement best practices in all aspects of their operations and that govern in an inclusive, collaborative manner," said Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, who is also chairman of the Allegheny League of Municipalities. "These are cities, boroughs and townships that understand fiscal accountability, customer service, and civic responsibility."

To be recognized as a Banner Community, a municipality must demonstrate its commitment to the following best practices each year:

- Training and education for its elected and/or appointed officials;
- Active participation in professional organizations, such as the Allegheny League of Municipalities, Allegheny County Boroughs Association, Allegheny County & Western Pennsylvania Association of Township Commissioners, and Allegheny County Association of Township Officials;
- Active participation in its Council of Governments, as well as intergovernmental cooperation, sharing of services, and other joint efforts with one or more municipalities;
- Sponsorship and/or promotion of community events and activities, such as a community day, parade, cleanup day, municipal open house, crime awareness effort, and benefits or fundraisers; and
- Routine communication with residents through a newsletter, website, email or other method, as well as active participation with local elementary, middle and high school students, such as speaking to classes, sponsoring special events, and offering internships and/or student shadow days.

"Collier Township is really honored to be named for the *second consecutive year* a Banner Community," said George Macino, President of the Board of Commissioners, "Residents and businesses rely on the various services we provide on a daily basis, and they expect and deserve us to be as efficient, effective and professional as possible. We take that responsibility very seriously. That's why we're always striving to improve our operations and to provide the highest quality of life for our community."

A best practice that Collier Township implements is enhanced communications with residents through establishing a cable public information channel, newsletters, events mailings, email blasts, utilization of a new LED Message Board, enhanced website which posts all agendas and meeting minutes of all Authorities, Boards and Commissions, implementation of an internet based complete Parks and Recreation management system called eTrak-plus that will allow residents desktop and online registration, scheduling, membership management, league scheduling and reporting.

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For Immediate Release: 4 March 2014

Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

### **COLLIER TOWNSHIP RECEIVES \$169,711.00 GRANT FOR COLLIER DISCOVERY PATH**

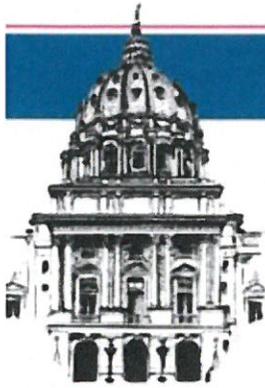
**Collier Township, PA** – The Collier Township Board of Commissioners and the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation are proud to announce the award of a \$169,711.00 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development’s Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program. The funds will enable the first phases of construction of the Collier Discovery Path.

The Collier Discovery Path is a proposed 2.10 mile pedestrian / bicycle trail from Thoms Run Road near the intersection of Route 50 through the Neville Park neighborhood and Township-owned property behind the PENNDOT District Offices ending at Hilltop Park. “The Collier Discovery Path has been a planned initiative of the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation as their goal is to connect the many wonderful places in our community, including our residential areas, business district, schools and historic places to Collier’s parks and already existing Panhandle Trail network,” stated President George Macino. “By road, all of our schools, parks, residential and commercial areas are spread out. However, by the creation of this Collier Discovery Path, a vast majority of “places” within our community can be connected via this initial 2.10 mile trail segment.”

The total project is forecasted to cost \$502,846.00 and through this DCED grant request, Collier will match the project with in-kind labor, equipment, materials, additional grants and capital funds. Future phases of the Collier Discovery Path will extend out Hilltop Road connecting to the Panhandle Trail and “Bible-Walk” Trail.

Pennsylvania Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program funding is made possible by the Marcellus Legacy Fund established by Pennsylvania Act 13 of 2012. The Marcellus Legacy Fund allocates resources to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open spaces, parks and beautification projects within Pennsylvania.

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# NEWS RELEASE

*from*  
State Senator  
**MATT SMITH**

37th Senate District

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**STATE SENATOR MATT SMITH**  
37<sup>th</sup> Senate District –  
Allegheny/Washington

CONTACT: Lauren Fraley  
PHONE: 412-571-2169  
MOBILE: 724-747-0692  
[lfraley@pasenate.com](mailto:lfraley@pasenate.com)

**Smith Announces Trail Grants for Collier Township**

**MT. LEBANON, Mar. 25, 2014** - - State Senator Matt Smith (D-Allegheny/Washington) today announced \$250,000 in state grant funds to go toward the construction of a trail in Collier Township.

“State investment in our open spaces and vast trail network will yield immediate economic and quality of life improvements to Collier Township,” said Smith. “I applaud Collier’s forward thinking and responsiveness to the needs of its residents.”

The township was awarded \$169,711 from the Department of Community and Economic Development through its Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program and \$80,289 from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Partnerships Program. The total Collier Discovery Path trail project is slated to cost \$502,846 with the township funding the balance through recreation funds, volunteer labor and in-kind donations.

“The Collier Discovery Path has been a planned initiative of the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation as their goal is to connect the many wonderful places in our community including our residential areas, business district, schools and historic places to Collier’s parks and already existing Panhandle Trail network,” said Collier Council President George Macino.

Eventually the Collier Discovery Path will connect with the Neville’s Wood Trail and Panhandle Trail as well as Settler’s Ridge Park and the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden.

“I am always pleased to help secure investment in our community resources that make western Pennsylvania a wonderful place to live. The Collier Discovery Path will significantly add to the quality of life in Collier and connect residents to many other regional assets,” Smith added.

Like many communities, Collier lacks sidewalks in many residential neighborhoods. The 2.1 mile trail will promote a healthy lifestyle and provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists alike. The Collier Discovery Path will begin at Thoms Run Road near the intersection of Route 50 and wind through township-owned land before ending at Hilltop Park.

“By road, all of our schools, parks, residential and commercial areas are spread out. However, by the creation of this Collier Discovery Path, a vast majority of “places” within our community can be connected via this initial 2.1 mile trail segment,” Macino added.

The project was scored by the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation as a “High Value Project.” In order to use funds in the most efficient manner possible, the township has partnered with the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation for in-kind contributions and volunteer labor.

Construction of the trail is expected to begin late 2014 or early 2015.

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For Immediate Release: 2 July 2014

Contact Information: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

### COLLIER TOWNSHIP TO BREAK GROUND FOR NEW MEADOW PATH AT HILLTOP PARK – THE COLLIER DISCOVERY PATH

Collier Township, PA – on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM, the Collier Township Board of Commissioners, members of the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation and other dignitaries will take part in the official ground breaking of the new Collier Discovery Path (CDP). The ceremony is to take place at the "Meadow Path" section of the CDP at Collier's Hilltop Park.

The Collier Discovery Path Project is a 2.10 mile pedestrian and bicycle trail that will start at the intersection of Thoms Run Road and Pennsylvania Route 50 near the historic Woodville Plantation -Neville House, continue through Township-owned property behind the PENNDOT District 11 offices ending at Hilltop Park. The Collier Discovery Path has been a planned initiative of the Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation as their goal is to connect the many wonderful places in our community, including our residential areas, business district, schools and historic places to Collier's parks and already existing Panhandle Trail network. By road, all of our schools, parks, residential and commercial areas are spread out. However, by the creation of the Collier Discovery Path, a vast majority of "places" within our community will be connected via this initial 2.10 mile trail segment.

"The total project is forecasted to cost \$502,846.00 and through \$169,711.00 in Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Greenways and Trails grant funds, \$80,289.00 of Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant funds, \$143,675.00 of "in-kind" labor and materials, \$25,000 in donation funds already raised by Collier's Friends of Parks and Recreation, we stand confident to spur additional foundation support to fully fund the full construction of this much-needed trail. Future phases of the Collier Discovery Path will extend out Hilltop Road through our Nevillewood neighborhood, connecting to other parks and the Panhandle and Montour Trails," stated President of the Board of Commissioners George Macino.

Currently, the Meadow Path section of the CDP is open to the public. To support the success of the Meadow Path, the site allows dog walking. The Meadow Path at Hilltop Park is equipped with pet stations, which supply free dog waste bags and a convenient place to dispose of such. The site also has plenty of parking through the recent construction of a uniquely designed round-about parking lot. Collier Commissioners have also set a series of park rules for the Meadow Path including: dogs permitted on leash only, dog owners are responsible for their pets, no motorized vehicles, no alcohol, drugs or tobacco products, no hunting or fires and the facility is open from dawn to dusk.

"The Meadow Path is developing as a great place to observe native wildflowers, it can be used for walking year-round, and is a great facility for all people, and their dogs, to walk, exercise and enjoy nature," stated President of the Board of Commissioners, George Macino.

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# COLLIER TOWNSHIP

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For Immediate Release: 9 July 2014

Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

## **COLLIER TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS APPOINT CRAIG LEE CAMPBELL AS CHIEF OF POLICE**

**Collier Township, PA** – The Collier Township Board of Commissioners announce the hiring of veteran Pittsburgh Police Lieutenant, Craig Lee Campbell as their new Collier Township Chief of Police.

On Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, Chief Campbell will bring his 26 years of law enforcement experience to head the Collier Township Police Department. Chief Campbell has a bachelors degree from Penn State University in Administration of Justice, has obtained multiple law enforcement certifications and is highly decorated, receiving the Medal of Valor, Purple Heart for injuries sustained by gunfire, multiple Meritorious Service Awards and Certificates of Commendation from the City of Pittsburgh. He has served with the City of Pittsburgh, Bureau of Police since 1993, rising from the rank of Police Officer to Lieutenant in 2012. Prior to Pittsburgh Police, Chief Campbell served with the Spring Township, St. Clair Borough and Mahanoy City Borough Police Departments. Through his law enforcement carrier, he has been actively involved in many facets of police work including patrol, administration, S.W.A.T., training, traffic enforcement and investigations. In his 16 years as a working supervisor with the Pittsburgh Police, he has experience managing budgets, resources and personnel effectively and efficiently.

“We welcome Chief Campbell to Collier Township. Coupled with his extensive experience, specialized training and skills, we are confident that he will not only be well embraced by the community and our officers, but he will improve elements of public safety here in Collier,” stated Board of Commissioners President George Macino.

The official swearing in ceremony for Chief Craig Campbell will be held at the Township Commissioner’s Meeting on Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM at the Collier Township Municipal Building. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The hiring of Chief Campbell is upon the retirement of long-time Police Chief, Thomas Devin, who retired after 37 years of service on July 31, 2014.

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For Immediate Release: 9 July 2014  
Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

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For Immediate Release: 2 October 2014

Contact: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

### **COLLIER PARK TO HOST 2014 PRO BIKES CYCLO-CROSS FESTIVAL ON OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**Collier Township, PA** – The Collier Township Board of Commissioners have partnered with Pro Bikes to host the 2014 Pro Bikes Cyclo-Cross Festival at the new Collier Township Park on Nike Site Road. The Cyclo-Cross Festival is planned for Saturday, October 11, 2014, 9AM to 4PM, free admission for spectators.

“This is a great race for beginners young and old to jump in and try out, and is even an enjoyable activity to watch as all races are multiple laps and you will see the race unfold in front of you. All are encouraged to come out and ride, race, cheer and have fun,” stated Board President George Macino.

“The Pro Bikes Cyclo-Cross Festival at Collier Park will feature better grass, a smoother surface, pavement, a sand pit, as well as a pavilion and new restroom facilities. Food catering will be provided by Point Brugge Café and Rivertowne Brewing,” stated Craig Cozza of Pro Bikes.

To register for the race and for more information, please visit: <https://www.bikereg.com>  
Cash awards will be provided to top winning contestants in multiple categories, results are posted to [www.USACycling.org](http://www.USACycling.org)

Cyclo-cross is a form of bicycle racing. Races typically take place in the autumn and winter, and consist of many laps of a short (1.5 – 2 mile) course featuring pavement, wooded trails, grass, steep hills and obstacles requiring the rider to quickly dismount, carry the bike while navigating the obstruction and remount.



# COLLIER TOWNSHIP

[www.colliertownship.net](http://www.colliertownship.net)

For Immediate Release: 7 October 2014

Contact Information: Salvatore Sirabella, Township Manager  
[Ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:Ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

## **Leaf and Yard Waste Collection Underway in Collier Township**

**Collier Township, PA** – From Monday , October 13 and through November 21 , 2014 the Collier Township Department of Public Works will be collecting leaves at the curbsides throughout the residential streets of the community, and yard waste that is dropped off at the Public Works Stock Yard Facility.

Curbside leaf collection allows residents to rake their leaves to the curbside or edge of the property along the residential roadways. Resident's also have the option to bag the leaves if they wish, using only brown leaf and garden bags – NO PLASTIC bags will be accepted. After November 21<sup>th</sup>, leaves will only be collected if bagged in brown paper leaf bags.

To help facilitate the collection and proper disposal of other yard wastes such as grass, branches and garden waste; Collier Township offers a Yard Waste Drop Off location at the Public Works Stock Yard at 110 Noblestown Road, Carnegie PA 15106. The Drop Off Collection Site is operated, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Tree branches are to be bundled and not exceeding 4 foot in length and 2 feet in diameter. Grass, Leaf and Garden waste is to be bagged using paper bags – no plastic bagging will be accepted. No bag or bundle may exceed 40 pounds.

For additional information on the services offered by the Collier Township Department of Public Works, please visit [www.CollierTownship.net](http://www.CollierTownship.net)

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**COLLIER TOWNSHIP – 2015 PRELIMINARY OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET**  
**HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 12, 2014**

***Total Operating Budget: \$7,439,935***

- Revenue - \$7,445,700
- Expenditures - \$7,439,935

***Total Capital Budget: \$1,029,396***

***Total Operating and Capital Budget: \$8,469,331***

**No increase in the tax structure:**

**Balanced Budget.**

- **No Tax Increase – Earned Income Tax Increase**
- Earned Income Tax - remains at 1% (.5% Collier Twp. - .5% CV School District).
- Real Estate Tax – maintains the current millage rate of 2.73 mills. The final 2013 millage rate was reduced from 3.5 mills to 2.73 mills. The Township has not increased Real Estate Tax rates in over 30 years.
- **Business Taxes – no increase in the current Business Privilege Tax or Mercantile Tax.**
- Maintain Debt Service expenditure for 2014 - \$522, 102.

**Highlights:**

**Salary Adjustment:**

- Public Works – 4.0 % Contractual
- Police – 4.0% Contractual
- Administration – to be determined

## Parks and Recreation

- Complete the construction of Collier Community Center.
- Opening and staffing of Collier Recreation Center 7 days a week.
- Recreation Programing – enhanced - as to addition of Program Coordinator.
- Hilltop Park - Addition of playground equipment and Upgrades – partial grant funded.
- Maintain on-line parks permitting and community center room usage reservations and payment.
- Meadow Path at Hilltop Park – Collier Discovery Path Construction - Phase One of Three Phases Construction – partial grant funded State DCNR, DCED, and Fiends of Parks and Recreation.
- Site and Build Dog Park - Molly Dog Park - Grant and Donations from Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation.
- Upgrade to Veterans Monument and Flag Day Memorial- Gazebo Park – Convert to LED Lighting and Gazebo Repair- Phase 3.

## Public Works

- Hire new public works laborer – dedicated to field, courts and parks maintenance.
- Upgrade fleet with the purchase of additional trucks including 35000GVW Truck.
- Purchase of additional equipment including 40HP tractor, grass cutting equipment.
- Municipal Building Roof Repairs - \$20,000.
- Public Works Garage- Continue to upgrade with replacement of unit heaters- 14,000.
- Public Works Garage Continue in Safety improvements to with installation of LED lighting - \$14,000.
- Purchase and implementation of a Salt Brine Snow and Ice Removal Program.
- Storm Sewer Improvements – township wide.

## **Public Safety**

- Additional hire of two police officers.
- Upgrade fleet with the purchase of a police vehicle.
- Continue to keep the police force current by providing additional training, continuing education and support - \$45,000.
- Institute an Access Control Identification System – for all township employees.- \$40,000
- Continue to upgrade Police Station improvements.
- Institute a standard uniform policy.
- Continue to provide two officers to the Chartiers Valley School District to act as Student Resource Officers.
- Fire - \$185,000 in grants to 3 VFD's.
- Codes and Fire Enforcement - Blight Elimination Program – raze 4 structures – partial grant funded.

## **Initiatives:**

- Land Development – Planning – Upgrade to Zoning Ordinance.
- Historical Society – planning.
- Support Chartiers Valley Flood Control Project
- Continue to support contributions to non-uniform and uniform pensions to a 90% funded level.
- Maintain flat debt service payments to the prior year.

**FINAL PASSAGE – December 10, 2014**

**Budget will be posted on the Township's Web Site at: [colliertownship.net](http://colliertownship.net)**



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For Immediate Release: 10 December 2014

Contact: Salvatore M. Sirabella, Township Manager  
[ssirabella@colliertwp.net](mailto:ssirabella@colliertwp.net)

### COLLIER TOWNSHIP'S 2015 BUDGET TO BE ADOPTED DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> NO TAX INCREASE

**Collier Township, PA** – the Collier Township Board of Commissioners have adopted the 2015 Township Budget. The 2015 operating budget is a balanced spending plan equal to \$7,445,700. There are no tax increases proposed for 2015, keeping Real Estate Tax millage at 2.73 mills, and Earned Income Tax rates at 1% (.5% Collier Township / .5% Chartiers Valley School District). There is also a separate capital budget plan proposed in 2015 to provide for larger community improvement projects. Capital budget allocation in 2015 is set to be \$1,029,396.

Made possible by the Commissioner's 2015 Budget is a number of noteworthy highlights including the following:

#### Parks and Recreation:

- Completion of the construction of the Collier Community Center
- Opening and staffing of the Community Center 7 days per week.
- Recreation programming enhanced with the addition of a Program Coordinator
- Addition of Playground Equipment and upgrades to Hilltop Park
- Maintain on-line parks permitting and Community Center Room usage reservations and payments.
- Construction of Phase 1 of the Meadow Path at Hilltop Park
- Construction of a Dog Park (Molly's Dog Park) – funded through private donations and grants from Friends of Collier Parks and Recreation and Gene Czamble ( Molly Fund)
- LED Lighting Upgrades to the Veterans Monument and Flag Day Memorial

#### Public Works:

- Hire a new Public Works Laborer that will be dedicated to field, court and park maintenance.
- Upgrade DPW Fleet with the purchase of new trucks
- Purchase additional equipment including a 40HP tractor and grass cutting equipment.
- Upgrade heaters within the DPW garage
- LED Lighting improvements within the DPW garage
- Purchase and implementation of a Salt Brine Snow and Ice Removal Program.
- Storm Sewer Improvements – Township Wide

Public Safety:

- Hire two additional Police Officers
- Upgrade fleet with the purchase of a police vehicle
- Continue to keep the police force current by providing additional training, continuing education and support - \$45,000
- Institute an Access Control Identification System for all township employees
- Continue to upgrade Police Station improvements
- Institute a standard uniform policy.
- Continue to provide two officers to the Chartiers Valley School District to act as Student Resource Officers.
- Fire - \$185,000 in grants to the three Volunteer Fire Companies, increase from 2014 of \$15,000.
- Codes and Fire Enforcement – Blight Elimination Program – raze 4 structures – partially grant funded.

Initiatives:

- Land Development – Planning – Upgrade to Zoning Ordinance.
- Planning for a Historical Society
- Support Chartiers Valley Flood Control Project
- Continue to support contributions to non-uniform and uniform pensions to a 90% funded level.
- Maintain flat debt service payments relative to the prior year.

“The final budget will be posted online at [www.CollierTownship.net](http://www.CollierTownship.net) and available for public inspection at the Township Office after December 10<sup>th</sup>. We encourage the public to review the Township’s budget plan,” stated Township Manager Sal Sirabella.

“As a united Board, we are excited about the fiscal framework outlined within the 2015 Budget as it will allow the community to expand and improve many essential elements of the Township such as public safety, public works, parks and recreation programs and services without a tax increase. We are proud that we can continue to deliver quality services while keeping living within our community affordable,” stated Board of Commissioners President George Macino.

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