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Bay County Area
Recreation Plan 2019 - 2023

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Recreation Plan 2019 - 2023

Bay County Board of Commissioners

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Participating Communities

City of Auburn
City of Bay City
Bay County
Bangor Township
Beaver Township
City of Essexville
Frankenlust Township
Fraser Township
Hampton Township
Kawkawlin Township
Merritt Township
Monitor Township
City of Pinconning
Portsmouth Township
Williams Township

For the Bay County Recreation Plan

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Introduction

With rich natural features including over 30 miles of Saginaw Bay shoreline, Bay County has abundant opportunities for recreation. The natural features and shoreline are a regional tourism draw and serve as an important component and contributor to the County's economy and overall quality of life.

According to the National Park and Recreation Association, parks and recreation have three values that make them essential services to communities:

1. **Economic Value**
    - Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.
    - Parks and recreation programs and facilities provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies from sports tournaments and special events such as arts, music, and holiday festivals. Economic activity from hospitality expenditures, tourism, fuel, recreational equipment sales, and many other private sector businesses is of true and sustained value to local and regional economies. This indirect economic value is in addition to direct revenues that are gained from park facilities and programs.

2. **Health and Environmental Benefits**
   - Parks are the places that people go to get healthy and stay fit.
   - Parks and recreation programs and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors.
   - Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.

3. **Social Importance**
   - Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for citizens and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.
   - Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.
   - Parks have a value to communities that transcend the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion to every community.

Geographically, Bay County is well-positioned to exemplify these benefits. Bay County is located within a unique and diverse ecological area within Michigan. It is part of the Saginaw Bay watershed. Its rich resources support agriculture, manufacturing, tourism, outdoor recreations, and a vast variety of wildlife. The Saginaw Bay watershed is Michigan's largest watershed (8,709 square miles), including a part of 22 counties. The Bay contains sections of white sandy beach shorelines as well as freshwater coastal wetland areas. The watershed drains approximately 15% of Michigan's total land area.

Regional Plan with 15 Participating Communities

Recognizing the importance of regional recreation and cooperative planning efforts, community officials from across the County have joined together in an effort to develop a Parks and Recreation Plan aimed at improving and developing recreational resources in Bay County.

Bay County led the effort to complete this recreation plan. Fourteen of the governmental jurisdictions within Bay County have also participated in this multi-jurisdictional recreation plan. Those 14 governmental jurisdictions include 10 townships and four cities:

1. Auburn
2. Bangor Charter Township
3. Bay City
4. Beaver Township
5. Essexville
6. Frankenlust Township
7. Fraser Township
8. Hampton Charter Township
9. Kawkawlin Township
10. Merritt Township
11. Monitor Charter Township
12. Pinconning
13. Portsmouth Charter Township
14. Williams Charter Township

Figure 1 shows a map of Bay County and the communities that are participating in the recreation plan.

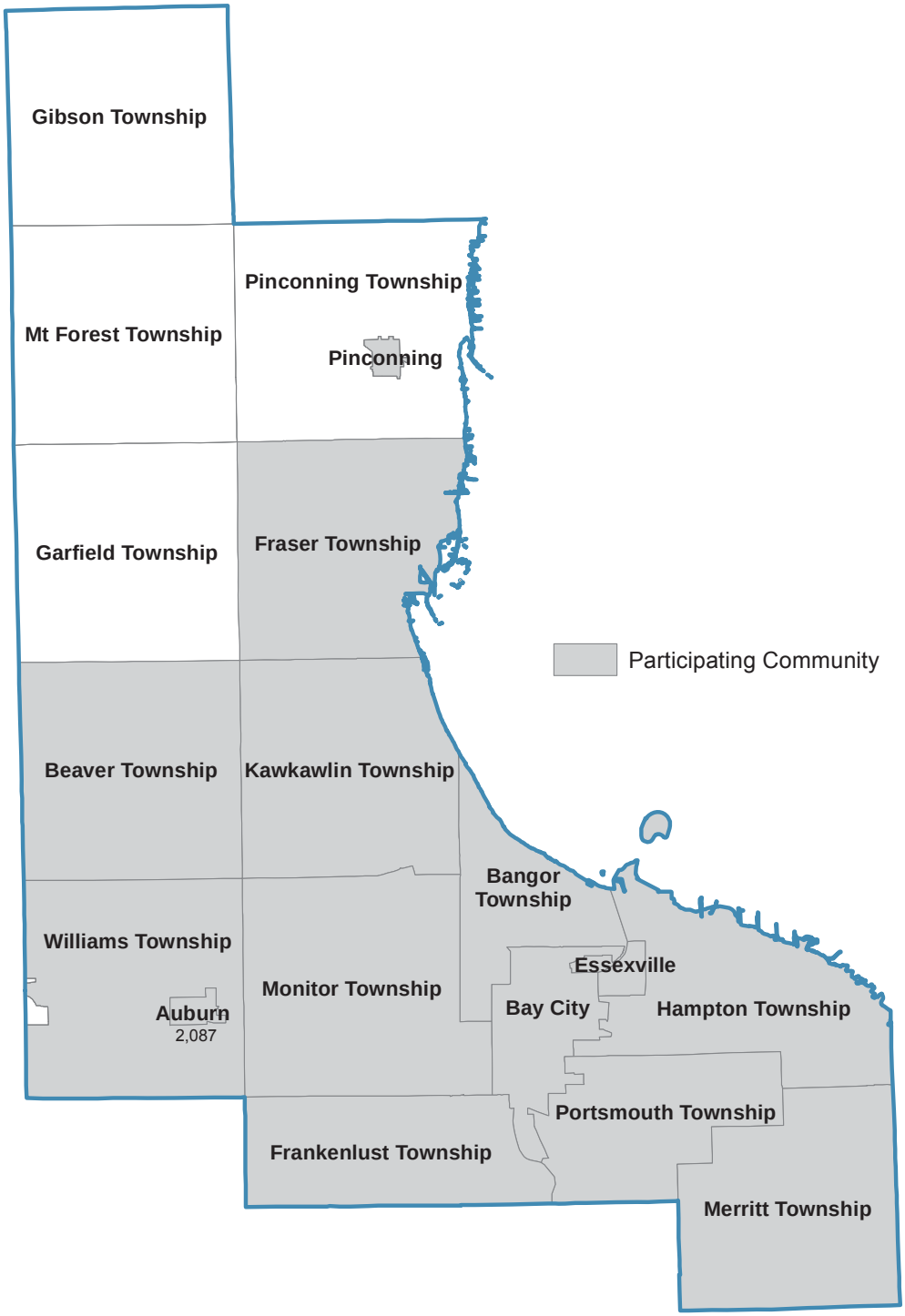


Figure 1 – Communities that are participating in the Bay County Area Recreation Plan

About this Plan

In accordance with the State recommended five-year cycle for recreation planning, this updated plan covers the five-year period 2019-2023. The content and process follow requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a community recreation plan.

This document is intended to serve as a guide in the planning for future park and recreation opportunities, services and implementation. Population shifts, new development and changing attitudes towards leisure have added additional pressures to the community's existing parks and recreation system, thus increasing the need for both short and long-range planning.

Recommendations such as land acquisition, and facility expansions and construction, and even the design of a neighborhood park improvement, will require additional study or involvement of residents in order to address the site-specific details. This plan lays the foundation upon which these activities can build.

Implementation strategies are identified over the next five years, at which time the plan will again be updated. The delineation of these improvements will aid Bay County and the other communities participating in the plan in grant solicitation from the DNR and other granting agencies, as well as with long range capital improvement budgeting. Additionally, during the next five years, it is important for Bay County and the participant communities to reference the plan and make appropriate priority adjustments as conditions change and funding opportunities arise.

The plan is an update of the 2014 Recreation Plan that included Bay County and 15 constituent communities. The document is formatted such that data related to the overall County comprises the first portion of the Plan. The second half of the plan provides detailed information regarding each of the participating communities, including the inventory, goals and objectives, and action plan for each community. The document concludes with an overall summary and description of the adoption process.

Community Description

Bay County is located in east central lower Michigan along the mouth of the Saginaw Bay. The County is largely rural, with the majority of the land being used for agricultural purposes. There are 444 square miles in Bay County and approximately 35 miles of Saginaw Bay/Lake Huron shoreline. Bay City is the county seat of Bay County and it serves as the commercial and employment center of the County. Bay County is part of the Great Lakes Bay Region, which consists of Bay, Saginaw, and Midland Counties.

Fourteen townships and four cities are located within Bay County. A small portion of a fifth city, Midland, is also located within Bay County.

According to the 2010 Census, Bay County has a population of 107,771 in 44,603 households, giving it an average household size of 2.38 persons. The July 1, 2017, population estimate was 104,239. The population has seen a slight decline each decade since 1980, when the population peaked at 110,157 people.

According to the 2016 population estimates program the median age of residents in Bay County is 42.7 years. This is more than three years greater than the median for Michigan, which is 39.5 years. It is five years greater than the median age of the United States which is 37.7 years. This is worth noting because an older population may have differing needs in terms of recreation facilities and programs.

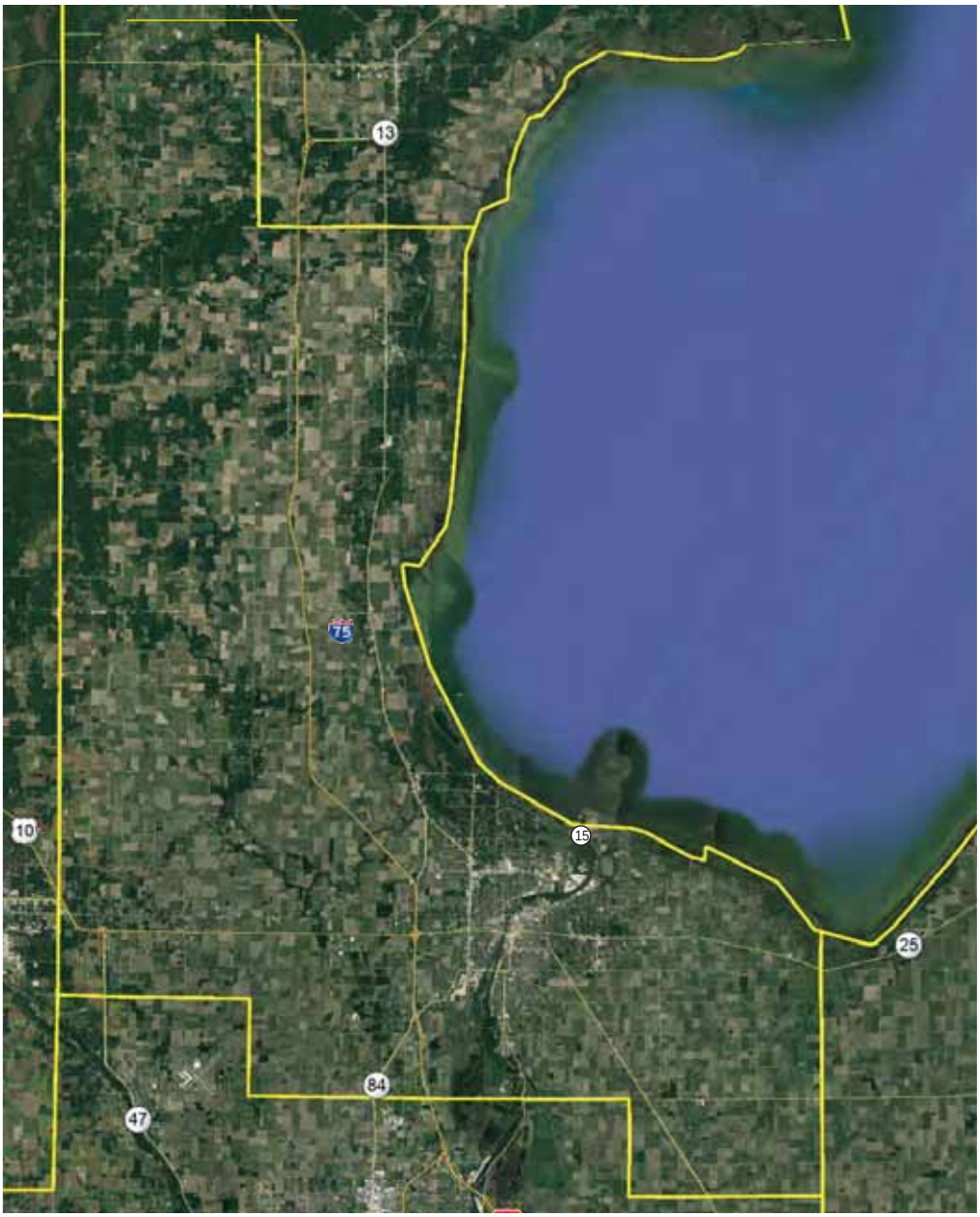


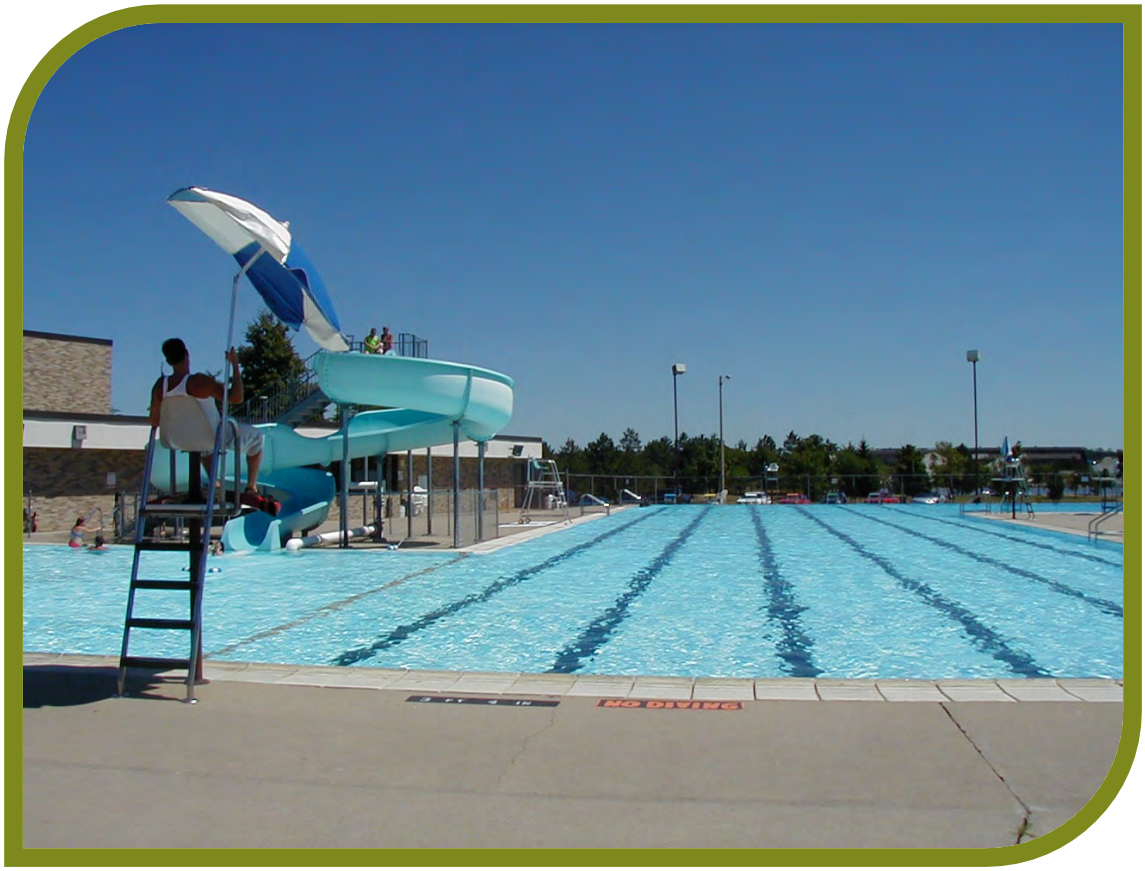
Figure 2 – An aerial image shows the rural nature of Bay County, Bay City as the population center, and the location of major thoroughfares. *Image Courtesy of Google Earth*

Another population that can have differing needs in terms of recreation facilities and programs is the disabled. At 16.6%, Bay County ranks higher than Michigan and the United States in the percent of the population with a disability. This statistic generally correlates directly with age. The higher the median age, the larger the disabled population.

Figure 3 shows some of the significant demographic data regarding the residents of Bay County as they compare to Michigan and the United States.

	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	42.7	39.5	37.7
% of Population 65+	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
% of Population under 18	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	77.9%	73.0%	65.10%
Average Household Size	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
% Below Poverty Level	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 3 – Demographic data comparisons for Bay County, Michigan and the United States. *Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.*



Administrative Structure

Governing Bodies and Administration

Bay County Board of Commissioners

A seven-member elected Board of Commissioners governs the Bay County. As the elected governing body, the Board of Commissioners is responsible for establishing countywide policy, articulating priorities, and adopting an annual operating and capital improvement budget. Through its policy setting functions, the Board of Commissioners establishes recreational opportunities through land and facility use decisions and funding appropriations for programs. The Board of Commissioners is organized into different committees. Recreation planning and programming generally falls in two of these committees. Specifically, the Personnel and Human Services Committee reviews recommendations made by the County Executive for personnel matters, including staffing and filling of vacancies and other planning functions. Budget appropriations, authorizations for grant applications, the establishment of fees and other financial matters are the responsibility of the Ways and Means Committee.

County Executive

In 1978, Bay County voters approved the optional unified form of County government as specified by PA 139 of 1973, with an elected County Executive. The County Executive is responsible for the

administrative oversight of recreational facilities and programming, community planning and economic development. Day-to-day management decisions affecting recreational facilities and activities is the responsibility of the Facility Manager and Recreation Facilities Director. Broad community development and recreational planning, including non-motorized trails, Saginaw Bay shoreline access and land use improvements is under the direction of the Environmental Affairs and Community Development Director.

A recreation staff organization chart is shown at the end of this chapter in Figure 6.

Programming

Bay County offers a variety of programs at its park facilities and it cooperates with other communities and school districts to expand those offerings.

At the Civic Arena

The Bay County Civic Arena, established in 1997, provides ice skating opportunities in the form of figure skating, speed skating, and hockey. These programs provide opportunities for skaters of all ages. Non-profit collaboration occurs with the SK8 Bay Figure Skating Club, the Bay County Hockey Association, local school districts and others.

Three youth summer camps are offered each summer, and learn-to-skate is available on a year-round basis. A youth 3 on 3 hockey league is offered as well as four seasons of adult hockey. The Civic Arena serves as the home ice for the SK8 Bay Figure Skating Club and four hockey teams: Bay City Wolves high school team, the Bay Area Thunder high school team, Bay County Blizzard, and Icehawks Junior hockey. The Civic Arena also hosts numerous hockey tournaments and exhibits each year.

At the Community Center

Bay County owns and operates the Bay County Community Center, located adjacent to Veterans Memorial Park (which is owned by the City of Bay City) at 800 John F. Kennedy Drive. Constructed in the 1970's, the Community Center is home for the county operated summer youth recreation programs during June, July and August each year. It also serves as the home of the original portion of Bay County Sports Hall of Fame. An outdoor swimming pool is operated each summer at the Community Center site. Programs for young people and families are offered, as well as use by BAYS, the Bay Area Youth Swim team.

Other programs offered at the Community Center include fitness classes, pickleball, badminton, and knockerball. Shuffleboard is offered in conjunction with the Department of Aging. The Community Center is also used by men's basketball, volleyball, and church league basketball groups.

At the Golf Course

Bay County owns and operates the Bay County Golf Course, an 18-hole public golf course established in 1966. It serves as a host site for local high school golf programs, and it is home to many leagues as well as open golf opportunities for the public. The course is home to group golf outings for businesses and a variety of tournaments. The golf course also offers youth golf clinics.

At the Bay County Fairgrounds

xBay County owns and operates the Bay County Fairgrounds, located at 800 Livingston Avenue. This multi-use facility serves as home to the Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition each year in early August. Other activities include use of the handicapped accessible grand stands for shows and events such as tractor pulls and demolition derbies. The site also has a canteen building used for events. It is often rented for private parties and it is used as a congregate nutrition site for Senior Citizens operated by the Bay County Division on Aging.

Bay County works cooperatively with the Bay County Fair Board, Humane Society of Bay County, and other groups on programs offered at this location.

Other Cooperative Programs

Bay County works collaboratively with the Bay County Softball Association to provide softball league play using the lighted diamonds in Veterans Memorial Park. These diamonds are owned by the City of Bay City but maintained by the Bay County Parks and Recreation maintenance staff. The Bay County Softball Association covers the cost of that maintenance.

Current Funding Sources and Budgets

Sources of revenues for Parks and Recreation in Bay County include the county general fund, user fees, rental fees and donations. A breakdown of two years of budget data for revenues and expenditures is shown in Figures 4 and 5.

Figure 4
BAY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETED REVENUES

	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
User Fees	$832,280	770,231
Rental Fees	$653,481	593,000
Donations	$21,727	$8,900
Other Revenues	$20,008	$12,732
TOTAL	**$1,527,496**	**$1,384,863**

Figure 5 BAY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETED EXPENDITURES		
	2017 Budget	**2018 Budget**
Operation, Maintenance & Programming	$2,252,276	$2,223,169
Capital Expenditures	$35,085	$29,800
TOTAL	**$2,287,361**	**$2,242,969**

Role of Volunteers and Relationships with School Districts, Other Public Agencies, or Private Organizations

The County serves the population within its geographical and political boundaries. To serve its citizens, elected officials and staff seek out the input and involvement of others. On-going communication with citizen groups, other elected officials and staff of the surrounding municipalities, schools, private non-profit organizations, and private sector assures a coordinated effort. Although the community does not have a formally recognized recreational advisory group, several other groups of citizens fulfill essentially comparable responsibilities.

These other groups including associations, collaborations, and fund-raising efforts, provide countless volunteer hours developing, maintaining and providing recreational opportunities for the citizens of Bay County. The Bay County Volleyball Association and Basketball Association of Bay County meet with staff, at a minimum, twice each year. Similarly, meetings with Golf League Secretaries and the Bay County Softball Association occur at season opening and closure. Efforts are directed at developing programming. These efforts are fostered by strong relationships with the local schools and non-profit community that provides access to other facilities and programming. Activities also occur on a weekly basis with the Division on Aging, which is located on the north side of the Community Center.

In addition to the County operated summer recreation program, Bay County provides funding for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bay County with site locations in Bay City, Essexville, and Pinconning. In 2018, funding for these programs was $13,000. Several hundred children are served each year.

Outside the Community Center, Bay County maintains, by contract, lighted softball diamonds which are owned by the City of Bay City. This City/County/Softball Association collaboration at this location has been a long-standing arrangement for many years.

At the Bay County Fairgrounds, the County works in concert with the Bay County Fair Board, MSU Extension and 4-H, and the Humane Society of Bay County. In 2006, the County established a dog park at the site with funding provided by the Humane Society and labor by the County staff.

Recreation Policies and Procedures

Generally, policies and procedures fall into two categories. First, there are those established by the Board of Commissioners and County Executive that apply to all county departments such as the County purchasing policy, annual budget, and schedule of fees. Facility Managers, along with other county administrators, develop other department specific procedures. Examples of these procedures include fee waivers, rules of facility use, and cash handling practices.

Recognizing the County's limited financial resources, the organization has adopted a general practice that prioritizes lower or no cost opportunities for youth while adult opportunities generally require payment. Adult sports activities such as softball are responsible to cover all program cost through user fees.

In general, when planning recreational opportunities, programs always provide opportunities for the needs and the skills of each individual enrolled. Programs are broad based, and every effort is made to provide updated programs to meet the changes in recreational trends. Programs are planned and offered for the following:

- Elementary, Middle School, High School & Adults
- Senior Citizens 60 and above
- Individuals with disabilities

Seminars, classes and other planned activities will involve well-trained and educated instructors to provide the participant with the best possible experience. The program will involve opportunities for everyone educationally and recreationally. Opportunities for team competition will be programmed. Currently, adult basketball and volleyball are played at the Community Center and adult hockey at the Civic Arena. Additional athletics will be planned where interests exist and when facilities are available. Bay County programming strives to improve the physical and social well-being of the individual.

Bay County has continued to focus on wellness activities for county employees, as well as county residents. Under this initiative, employees will be offered incentives to utilize county recreation facilities for physical activities which promote good health and wellness. This includes use of the fitness centers at the Community Center and Civic Arena, free fitness classes, lap swim, and noon ice skate, and discounted golf.

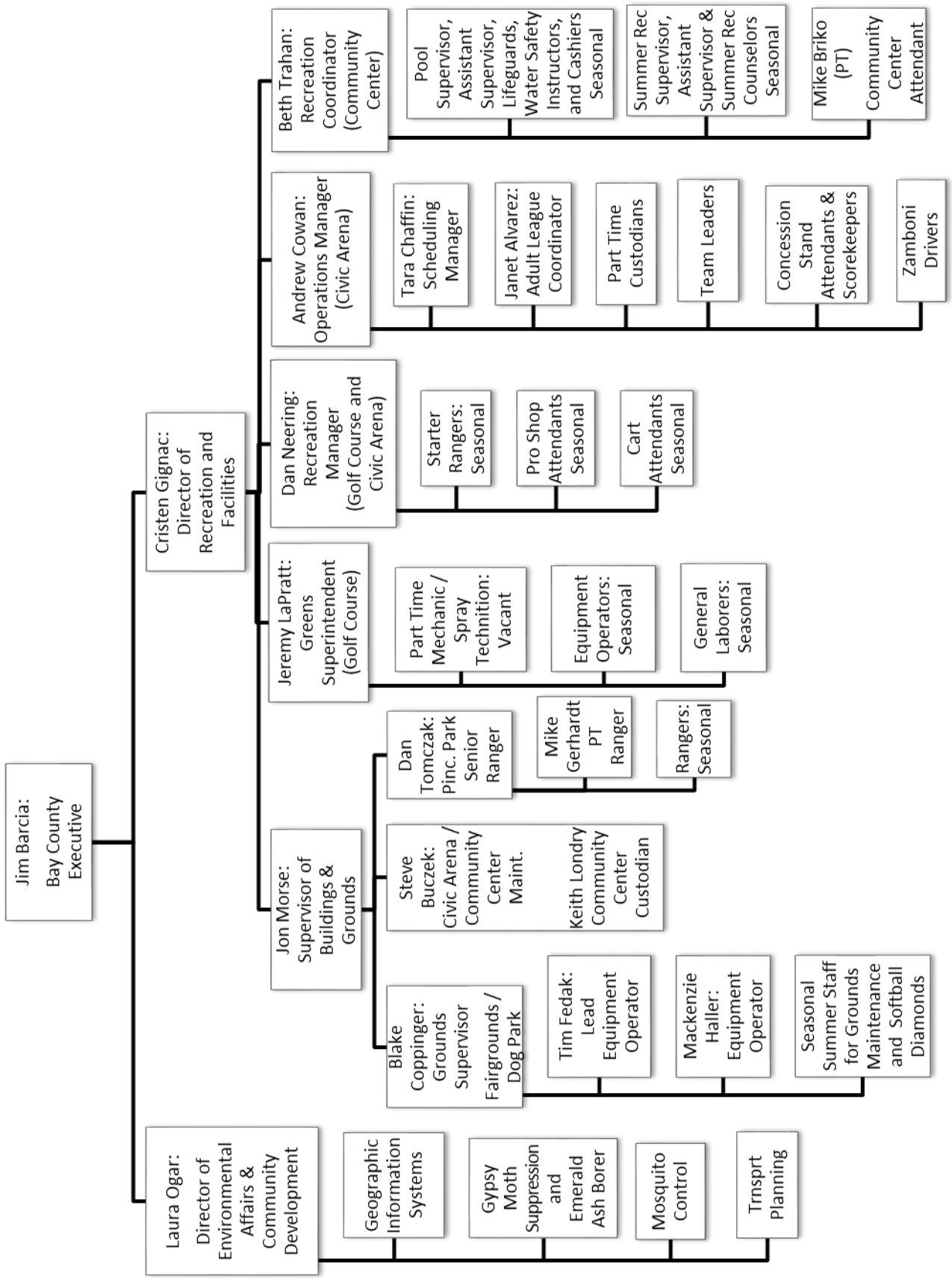


Figure 4 – Recreational staff organization chart for Bay County.

Recreation Inventory

In order to plan for parks and recreation in the future, communities need to examine the types of facilities that currently exist in Bay County. It is also helpful to compare these existing facilities to various standards as one measure of the adequacy of the parks and recreation facilities in the community. The inventory was completed by updating the inventory used in the previous plan. The consultant and County staff worked together to complete any updates or revisions. They also completed an accessibility review of each park's facilities.

Park Classification

The Recommended Classification System for Local and Regional Open Space from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources defines seven types of parks that may be applicable to parks within Bay County.

A **Mini-Park** is less than one acre in size and is less than 1/4 mile from a residential setting. It is used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs. **Neighborhood Parks** are generally 5 - 10 acres in size and they serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. Their service area is generally 1/4 to 1/2 mile. **School-Parks** can combine parks with school sites to help meet the recreational space needs for the community. **Community Parks** serve a broader purpose than Neighborhood Parks. They have more amenities and usually serve two or more neighborhoods within 1/2 to three miles and are generally 30 - 50 acres in size. Neighborhood Parks, Mini-Parks and Community Parks tend to be provided by local governing jurisdictions. This can be seen in the inventories of many of the communities that are included in this plan. Their parks are smaller and tend to meet the needs of the local community.

A **Special Use** facility is oriented toward single-purpose use. The Bay County Community Center/Swimming Pool, the County Golf Course, and the Civic Arena are all classified as Special Use Parks in Bay County. A **Natural Resource Area** is land set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The Discovery Preserve (formerly known as the Keit Wetland Preserve/Euclid Linear Park) is a Natural Resource Area. A **Large Urban Park** is typically 50 to 75 acres and its focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. In Bay County, the County Fairgrounds and the Pinconning Park are classified as Large Urban Parks. A **Park Trail** is located within a greenway, park, or natural resource area and its focus is upon recreational value and harmony with the natural environment. The trails in the Discovery Preserve and the Pinconning Park are park trails.

A Bay County park location map is provided at the end of this section.

Bay County Parks

Bay County Community Center and Pool

Area: 4 acres

Location: 800 John F. Kennedy Drive, Bay City

Park Classification: Special Use

Accessibility: 4

Service Area: Entire County

The Community Center was developed jointly by the State of Michigan, City of Bay City, and Bay County. Now owned and operated by Bay County, the Community Center offers a variety of recreational facilities. The large gym provides an excellent location for basketball, pickleball, volleyball, fitness classes and other team sports. A smaller, multi-purpose sized gymnasium is suitable for basketball, and

gatherings such as wedding showers, trade shows, and card tournaments. The facility also houses a batting cage and a weight room/fitness center. Meeting rooms of various sizes can accommodate groups up to 240 people. The outdoor pool features a lap swim area, slide, and wheelchair access ramp.

Each summer the Community Center hosts a summer recreation program for area youth. Young people enjoy many social building skills, make new friends, and enjoy fun activities like arts and crafts, sports, and field trips.

Bay County Civic Arena

Area: 5 acres

Location: 4231 Shrestha Drive, Bay City

Park Classification: Special Use

Accessibility: 4

Service Area: Entire County

The Bay County Civic Arena offers two ice surfaces year-round. An Olympic sized ice surface (100’ x 200’) and NHL sized ice surface (85’ x 200’) provide opportunities for hockey, figure, speed, and open skating. The facility also offers concessions, an arcade area, pro shop and nine locker rooms. A community room can seat up to 40 people comfortably for birthday parties and other special events like wedding showers. A 20,000 square foot dry floor surface is available for a variety of events, such as concerts, auto/boat/rv shows and trade shows.

Working in partnership with the Bay County Hockey Association, the arena offers year-round hockey programming for youth of all ages. The facility also includes an arena pro shop with skating equipment, repair, and sharpening, a concession area, and an arcade.

Bay County Fairgrounds

Area: 42 acres

Location: 800 Livingston Street, Bay City

Park Classification: Large Urban Park

Accessibility: 3

Service Area: Entire County

The Fairgrounds features a grandstand with race track, various barns, campsites, pavilions and exhibit halls that are used primarily for the Bay County Fair. Other amenities include a walking path, playground, open playfield, a dog park and a canteen building that is used as a congregate meal site for the Division on Aging, for wedding receptions, showers, graduation parties, reunions, etc.

Pinconning Park

Area: 205 acres

Location: 3041 E. Pinconning Road, Pinconning

Park Classification: Large Urban Park

Accessibility: 3 (lacking accessible pathway to beach, no push button entry doors to bath house)

Service Area: Entire County

Pinconning Park features year-round back to nature facilities and amenities located on Saginaw Bay. The park is popular for birdwatching, nature viewing, waterfowl hunting, swimming, and fishing. It includes 62 campsites and 6 camping cabins for overnight stays. Nature features include two trails (1.4 miles and .4 miles) that wind through the woodlands and delicate wetland ecosystem. Two observation towers are placed along the trails. Other amenities at the park include two pavilions, playground, boat launch, canoe/kayak rental, and bathroom with showers.

Bay County Golf Course

Area: 145 acres

Location: 584 West Hampton Road, Essexville, MI 48732

Park Classification: Special Use

Accessibility: 3 (does not have accessible picnic tables in the pavilion)

Service Area: Entire County

The Bay County Golf Course is an 18-hole facility located in Hampton Township. It features continuous cart paths winding throughout the course and a full fleet of golf carts. The course also features a practice putting green adjacent to the clubhouse. Three local high schools use it for their home golf course.

Other Bay County Owned Recreation Facilities

Discovery Preserve – The 9-acre Discovery Preserve at 1701 Euclid Avenue in Bay City was formerly known as the Keit Nature Preserve & Euclid Linear Park. In 2015, the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy began managing the park so that it could become a learning landscape for children and families. It includes a nature playground, boardwalk, spotting scope, birdhouses, and a pavilion. It is one of the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy's Outdoor Urban Recreation (O.U.R.) projects.

Stoney Island – This is a seven-acre island located within the Saginaw River west of Harry Browne Airport. It is undeveloped.

Par 3 Golf Course – This 17-acre parcel was formerly a private golf course driving range that included three golf holes. It is currently undeveloped.

Grant History

Bay County has received nine DNR recreation grants. They are listed below:

1. LWCF 26-00163 – Veterans Park, $27,796, Development
2. LWCF 26-0075 – Pinconning Park, $44,000, Acquisition
3. LWCF 26-00561 – Veterans Park, $17,539, Development
4. LWCF 26-00809 – Pinconning Park, $33,845, Development
5. TF88-110 – Pinconning Park, $60,000, Development
6. BF92-311 – Pinconning Park, $71,900, Development
7. TF95-255 – Keit Linear Park, $375,000, Acquisition
8. CM00-164 – Pinconning Park, $95,538, Development
9. TF00-354 – Bay County Wetlands Improvements (Keit Linear Park), $88,226, Development
10. TF01-087 – Bay County Trail Improvements (Fairgrounds), $22,000, Development
11. TF09-027 – Pinconning Park Improvements, $325,000, Development

All of the improvements are open, functional and operational. It should be noted that the encumbrances associated with the two Veterans Park projects are in the process of being transferred to the City of Bay City since the City owns Veterans Park.

Water Trails

Due to the rise of paddling sports and recreation activities in the past decade, considerable effort has been spent to develop water trails on the Saginaw Bay and its tributaries. In 2015, Bay County completed the Saginaw Bay Blue Water Trail Development Plan. It was undertaken by Bay County and its partners to identify sites and to create a preliminary map of ready-to-use landing sites. The plan investigated each of those sites and add others that were not identified. The plan also identified deficiencies in each site and proposed possible site improvements that would make each landing more usable by paddlers. A map of the water trail access sites is included in the Appendix.

Non-Motorized Trails

Trails are generally identified as one of the most desirable recreation facilities in any community. Many of the communities within Bay County have developed stand-alone trails in their community or they have developed trails that are part of a larger network. These are listed below and described within each jurisdiction's section of the plan.

- Bay County Riverwalk Trail System consisting of:
    - Riverwalk/Railtrail Loop – Bay City
    - Portsmouth Township Rail Trail
    - Bangor Township Rail Trail
    - Bay City State Park Trails

  A map of the Bay County Riverwalk Trail System is included in the Appendix.
- Hampton Rail Trail – Hampton Township
- Fraser Township Rail Trail – Fraser Township
- BayZil Rail Trail – Frankenlust Township

In recent years Bay County has joined with Midland and Saginaw Counties in the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail (GLBRT) Alliance to develop a plan to link the three counties in a combined trail network. Several sections of the trail have been completed. The Bay Zil Rail Trail is part of the GLBRT Trail. A map of the GLBRT Trail is included in the Appendix.

Other Significant Public Bay County Recreation Facilities

In addition to the park and recreation facilities owned by the local jurisdictions that are described elsewhere in this plan, there are five significant large state-owned recreation facilities in Bay County:

Bay City State Recreation Area – 540-acre state park just north of Bay City on Saginaw Bay. Includes a spray park, observation towers, fishing, hunting, trapping, visitor center, pavilions, beach, and approximately 135 campsites.

Tobico Marsh Nature Area – 1,848-acre wildlife refuge that is located adjacent to the Bay City State Recreation Area. Tobico Marsh State Game is undeveloped and contains a variety of habitat, from small pockets of cattail marshes and oak/maple climax forest to Tobico Lagoon, a 900-acre body of water and the largest remaining wetland along Saginaw Bay. The entire area is home to deer, beaver, muskrat, and mink, but it's the wide variety of birds, especially waterfowl, that makes this refuge significant. It includes 4.8 miles of trails.

Quanicassee Wildlife Area – Approximately 980 acres in two separate areas in Bay County's Hampton Township. Additional acreage is located in Tuscola County. The Quanicassee Wildlife Area features large wetland tracts and Saginaw Bay frontage.

Nayanquing Point Wildlife Area – Approximately 1,040 acres in Fraser Township. Nayanquing Point is a collection of farm fields, diked pools, mud flats and Saginaw Bay marshland. It is known as an important bird area by the Audobon Society. It includes an observation tower and waterfowl hunting areas. An additional 130 acres is located to the north in Pinconning Township.

Crow Island State Game Area – Approximately 25% of the 3,489-acre game area lies within Frankenlust Township in Bay County. It is managed to promote safe nesting, brood rearing and migration stop-over habitat for local and migratory waterfowl and shorebirds and to provide for myriad hunting and non-consumptive wildlife related recreational pursuits.

Accessibility

Creating a park system that is safe, accessible and usable to all individuals within the community, including those with disabilities, is essential. Bay County has done considerable work to meet the requirements of the ADA and provide barrier free access to many of its facilities. Among its efforts includes a review of all buildings and programs.

A grading system has been developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to easily identify those parks and facilities which are most and least handicap accessible and usable, based on the ADA guidelines. The accessibility grading system uses a five point system ranging from one, none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines, to five, the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

MDNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreational Facilities

Accessibility Grade	Definition
1	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
2	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
3	Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.
5	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

An Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance assessment of Bay County's parks was conducted during the spring of 2008, reviewed in 2013 and again in 2018. The assessment consisted of a visual inspection of each park in regards to access and circulation in relation to the park facilities. This was done so that the Recreation and Facilities Department would have a basis when considering any physical improvements to make park facilities more readily usable by persons of all abilities. As noted in the inventory listing, some of the parks do not meet all criteria for handicap accessibility. The County Board of Commissioners will continue its efforts towards improving accessibility at all County parks.

Natural Resources Inventory

A resource inventory can be used to identify open space areas that may be desirable for protection and/or public access through acquisition or other means. In Bay County, the most significant natural resource is the Saginaw Bay, and its shoreline. Public access to the 38 miles of Bay County shoreline is extremely limited. Private residential development occurs along much of the beachfront shoreline except for the Bay City State Recreation Area. In other areas, the shoreline is predominantly state-owned wildlife refuge area where public access is restricted.

The Bay provides habitat for large populations of waterfowl, birds, and more than 90 fish species. It provides a wide variety of year-round recreational activities which comprise an important component of the Bay County economy. The Saginaw and Kawkawlin Rivers are two large rivers in Bay County that drain into Saginaw Bay. These rivers and the wetlands that surround them are also significant natural resources in Bay County. As described above, the Michigan DNR controls significant natural resource lands in Bay County, most of which are along the bay and river shorelines. Bay County and all of the communities that contain bay or river shoreline should take care to preserve and protect these unique resources so they can be enjoyed for generations to come, while also keeping options available for creating public access.

Lastly, there are some large stands of woodlands scattered across Bay County that can also be considered significant natural resources. These may be worthy of public preservation, especially if there is concern that they may be lost due to development or agricultural use. The state-owned lands and the large woodland tracts can be viewed in the aerial image in Figure 7.

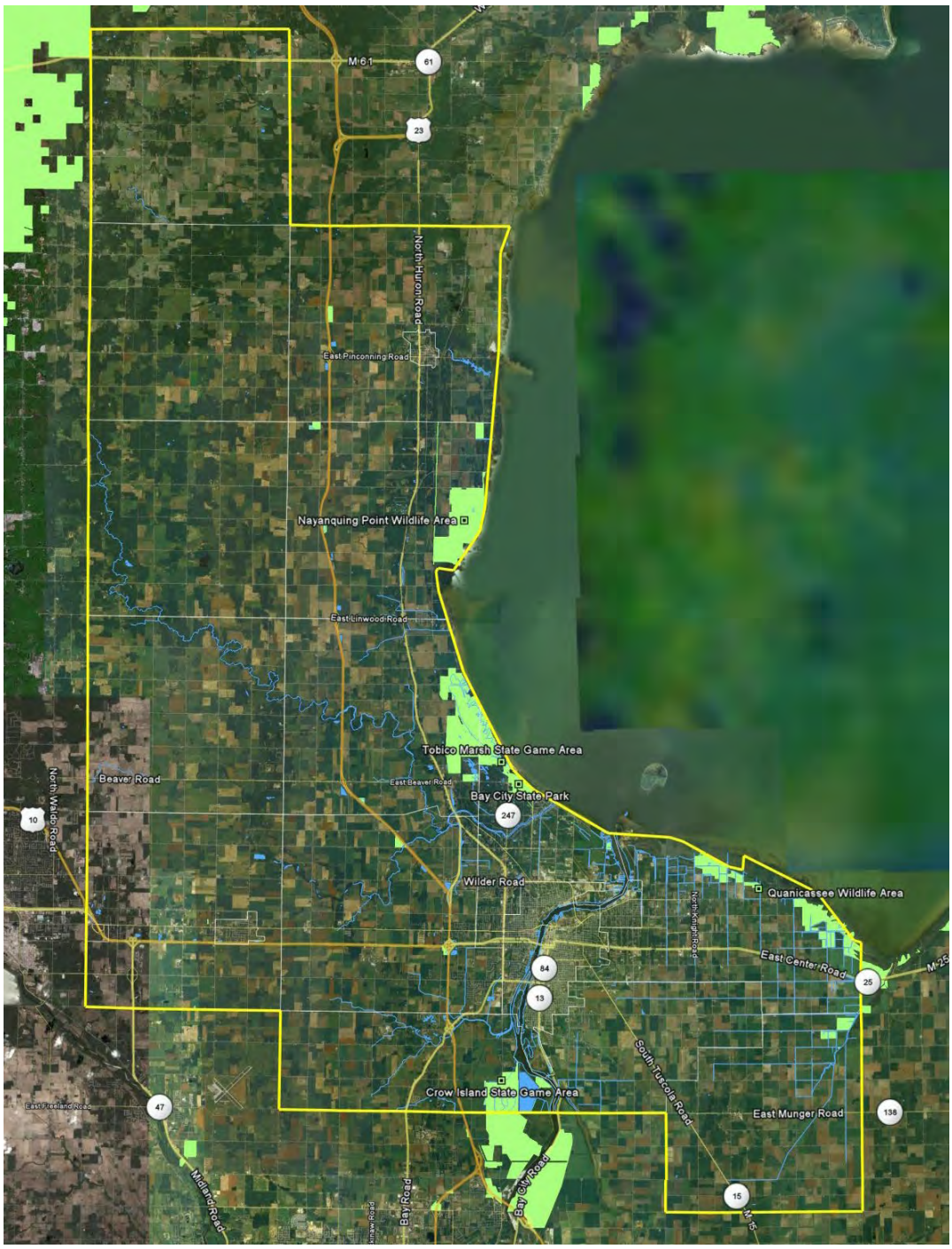
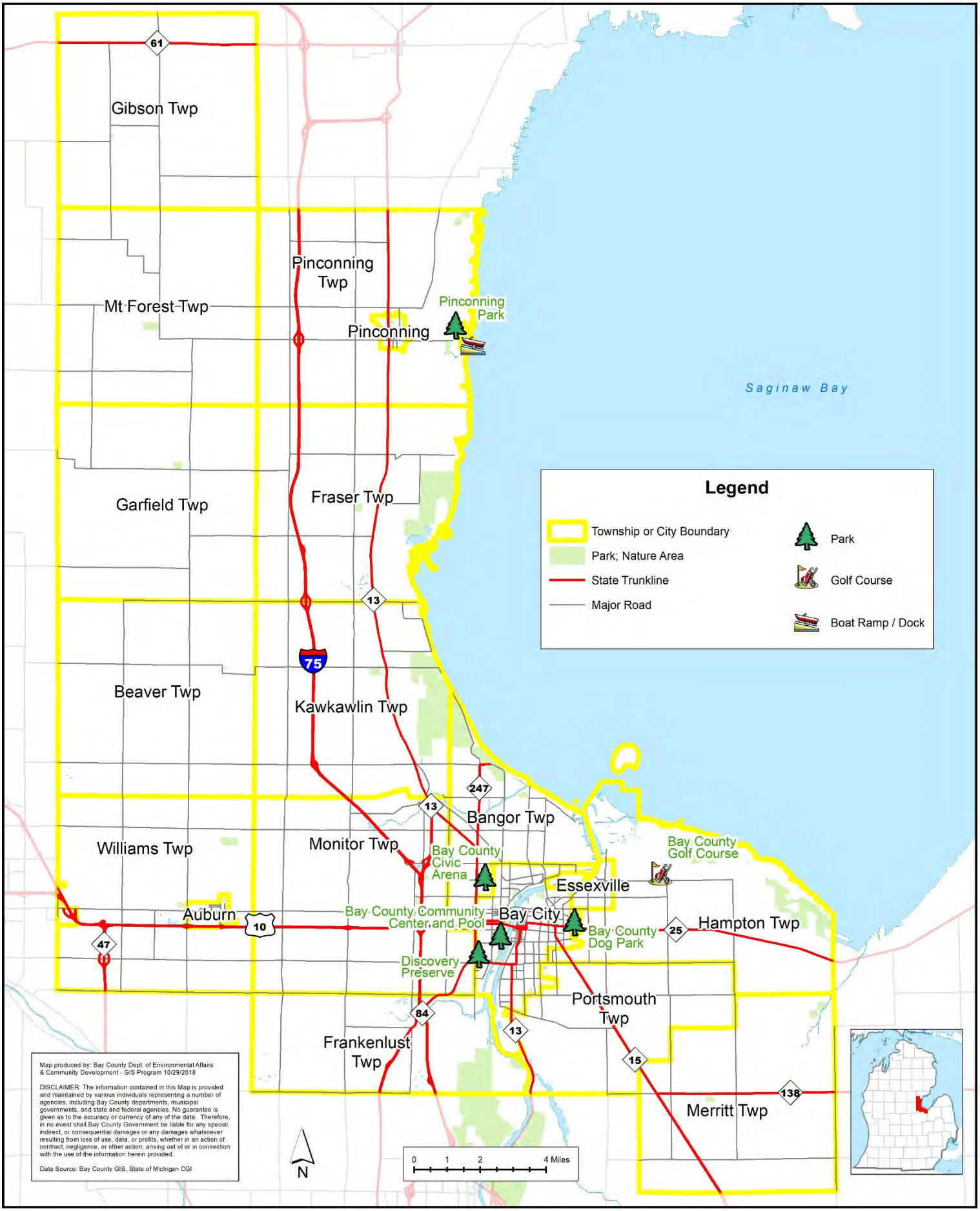


Figure 7 – The natural resource lands protected by the Michigan DNR are highlighted in light green. *Source: Nature Conservancy Conservation and Recreation Lands Database*

Bay County Recreation Facilities



Community Input

To comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation Open Space and Greenway Plans, Bay County provided two public input opportunities – an online survey and an advertised public meeting held prior to adoption of the plan. The online survey was used as its primary method for community input. The survey was developed with general questions about parks and recreation. All respondents were also presented with survey questions about Bay County Parks and Bay City Parks. Bay City chose to present its survey questions to all survey respondents because its larger parks tend to be used by all county residents.

Each other participating community was also offered the opportunity to add questions to the survey that would be seen only by those respondents that indicated they lived in that community. The following communities added questions to the survey that were specific to their community: Auburn, Beaver Township, Hampton Township, Kawkawlin Township, and Monitor Township.

The survey was primarily distributed online. Paper copies were also developed for those communities who indicated a need for them. The survey was available from September 10, 2018 until October 2, 2018. It was publicized with a variety of methods:

- Bay County website
- Bay County individual park website pages
- Bay County Park Facebook posts
- Bay County Facebook posts
- Spicer Group Facebook boosted posts (advertisements)
- Participating community websites

- E-mail blasts with survey links from Bay County and participating communities
- Via the Environment Report on Delta College Q-90.1 FM radio
- Fliers that were distributed to all local communities for posting in public places
- Postcards for distribution

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Bay County is updating its Parks and Recreation Plan. This plan will document what we want to do with parks and recreation across the County and in **your community** in the upcoming years. Please take a few minutes to take our online survey so we know what you think about the County and local parks in Bay County. It will help us to plan for the future!

Go to **www.BayCountySurvey.com**

Mobile device users scan here!

Notifications about the survey included a QR code that could be scanned by mobile device users.

The survey received 956 complete responses and another 315 partial responses, whereby the respondent completed at least one question. This is a huge increase over the input received in 2013, when the survey had 342 responses. A compilation of all survey responses is given in the Appendix. Highlights of the survey are described in the paragraphs below.

General Park Questions

Satisfaction with Parks

When asked to rate their feelings regarding statements about County and local parks, the respondents had varied opinions. More than 35% of respondents were neutral regarding their satisfaction with County Parks. Slightly less than one-third agreed that they were satisfied with County park and recreation facilities in Bay County. Approximately 23% of the respondents disagreed with the statement that they were satisfied with County park and recreation facilities in Bay County.

Thirty-eight percent of respondents agreed that they were satisfied with local parks in their community. Slightly more than 31% were neutral regarding that statement and 27% disagreed. See Figure 8.

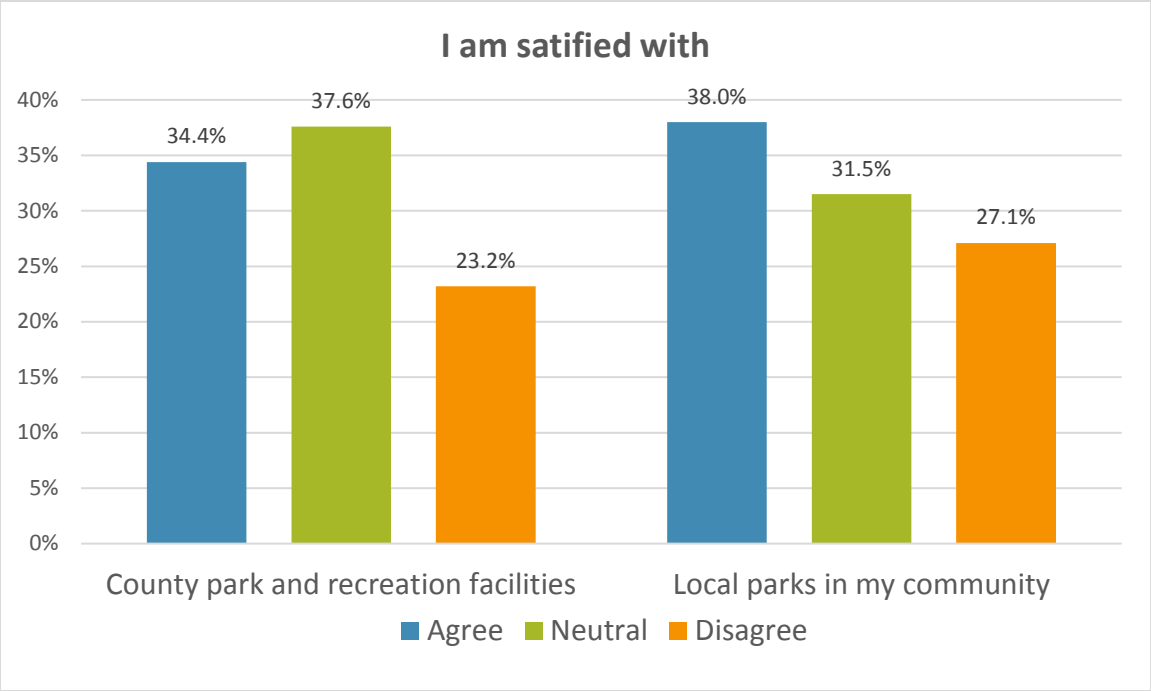


Figure 8 – Respondents opinions were mixed regarding their satisfaction with County and Local parks.

Natural Areas

Survey respondents had strong positive feelings about improving access to and enhancing natural resources and recreation opportunities on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River as well as how preserving natural areas and water resources have a positive effect on their quality of life. Nearly three-fourths of the respondents agreed with the statement that the preservation of natural areas and water resources in our community has a positive effect on my quality of life. More than 90% agreed with the statement that It is important to improve access to and enhance the natural resources and recreation opportunities on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River.

Recreation Opportunities Missing

Respondents were presented with 16 potential recreation facilities and asked to check those that were missing or that they wanted more of in their area. Respondents could also fill in a response that had not been indicated. Walking and biking trails/paths was, by far, the most popular facility checked with nearly 57% of the respondents checking that item. The top seven items needed are shown in Figure 9.

One hundred ninety-eight respondents wrote in other recreation opportunities that were missing in their area. Frequent other responses that were written in included a clean beach, access to water or waterpark, and tennis courts.

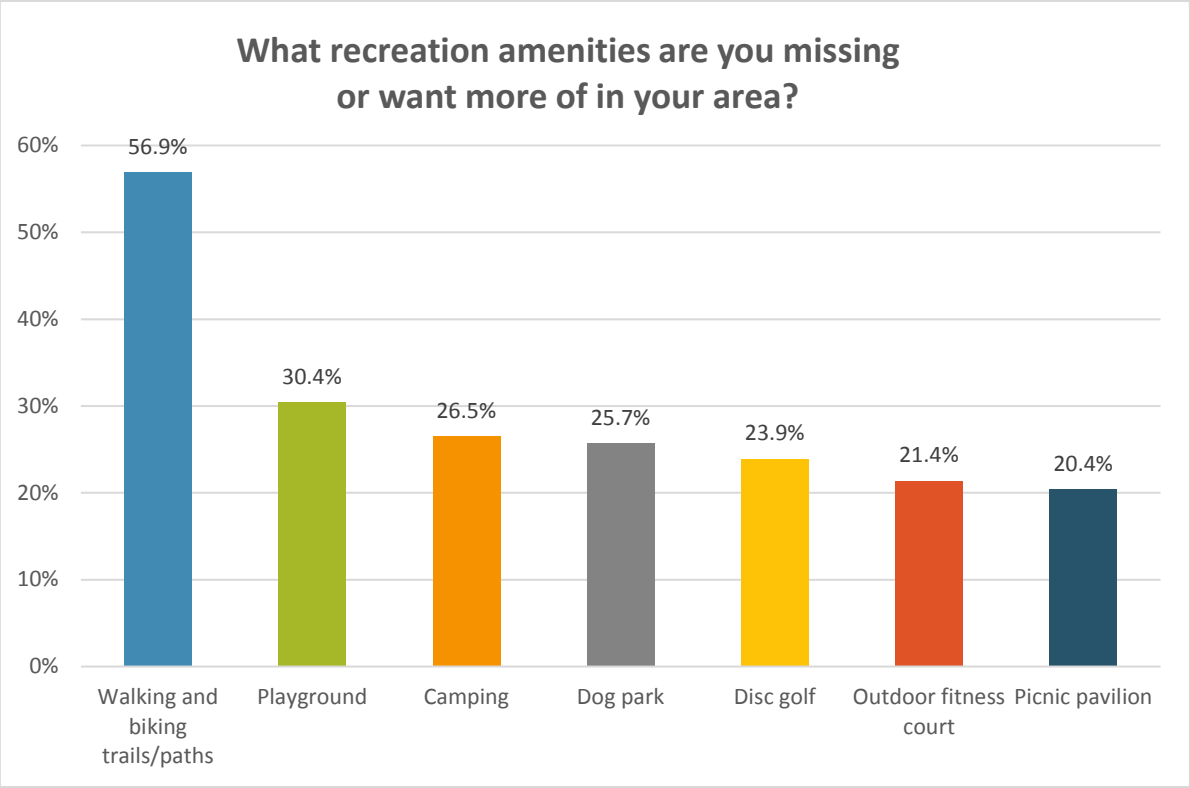


Figure 9 – Top seven recreation amenities missing or wanting more of.

Programs

Question 4 of the survey was a fill in the blank question that asked what kind of recreational programs the respondents would like to see added to their community. Nearly 550 respondents provided an answer. Many of the more popular answers mentioned facilities as opposed to programs. For example, more than 100 respondents again mentioned the need for a path or walking trail. Fifty-two mentioned the need for disc golf. The most popular response in terms of programs was fitness, aerobics, or yoga classes. Other answers were widely varied including such items as a ladder ball tournament, golf league, fishing clinics, cheerleading, and archery.

Seniors and Active Older Adults

Question 5 asked respondents to write in the types of recreational opportunities that wanted to see added in Bay County for senior citizens and active older adults. Three hundred sixty-nine responses were received. Answers here were similar to the things that were needed for the general population. Walking programs and trails were mentioned nearly 150 times. Other responses included fitness and exercise classes, yoga, pickleball, and dancing.

Bay County Parks

The next section of the survey asked questions about the five recreation facilities that are operated by Bay County: the Civic Arena, Community Center and Pool, Bay County Fairgrounds and Dog Park, the Bay County Golf Course and Pinconning Park. Respondents were provided space to provide written feedback about each facility. More than 100 written comments were received about each park. The Fairgrounds received the most comments at 222.

Respondents were asked to rate two factors as good, ok, or poor for each park: maintenance and appearance and handicap accessibility. Figures 11 and 12 show the result for those questions for those people **who had an opinion**. It should be noted that at least 30% of the respondents checked "don't know" for their response. For some of the questions the percentage who indicated "don't know" was over 70%.

In terms of maintenance and appearance, the County Golf Course had the highest percentage of respondents who rated the park as good (59.7%). The County Fairgrounds and Dog Park had the smallest percentage of respondents who rated the park as good in maintenance and appearance at 26.6%.

Handicap accessibility was rated good by the most respondents for Pinconning Park at 57.2%. The County Fairgrounds and Dog Park had the smallest percentage of respondents rating handicap accessibility as good at 36%.

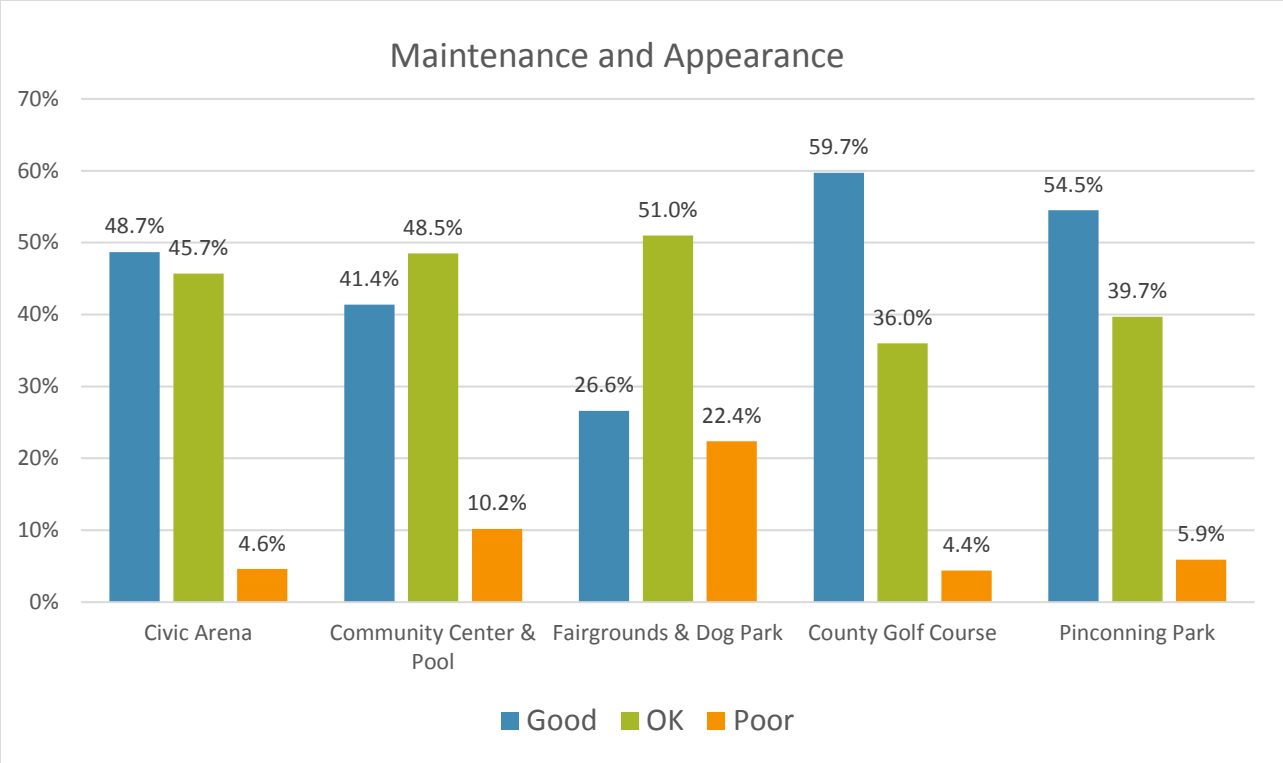


Figure 10 – Respondents were asked to rate the maintenance and appearance of the five park facilities that are owned and managed by Bay County.

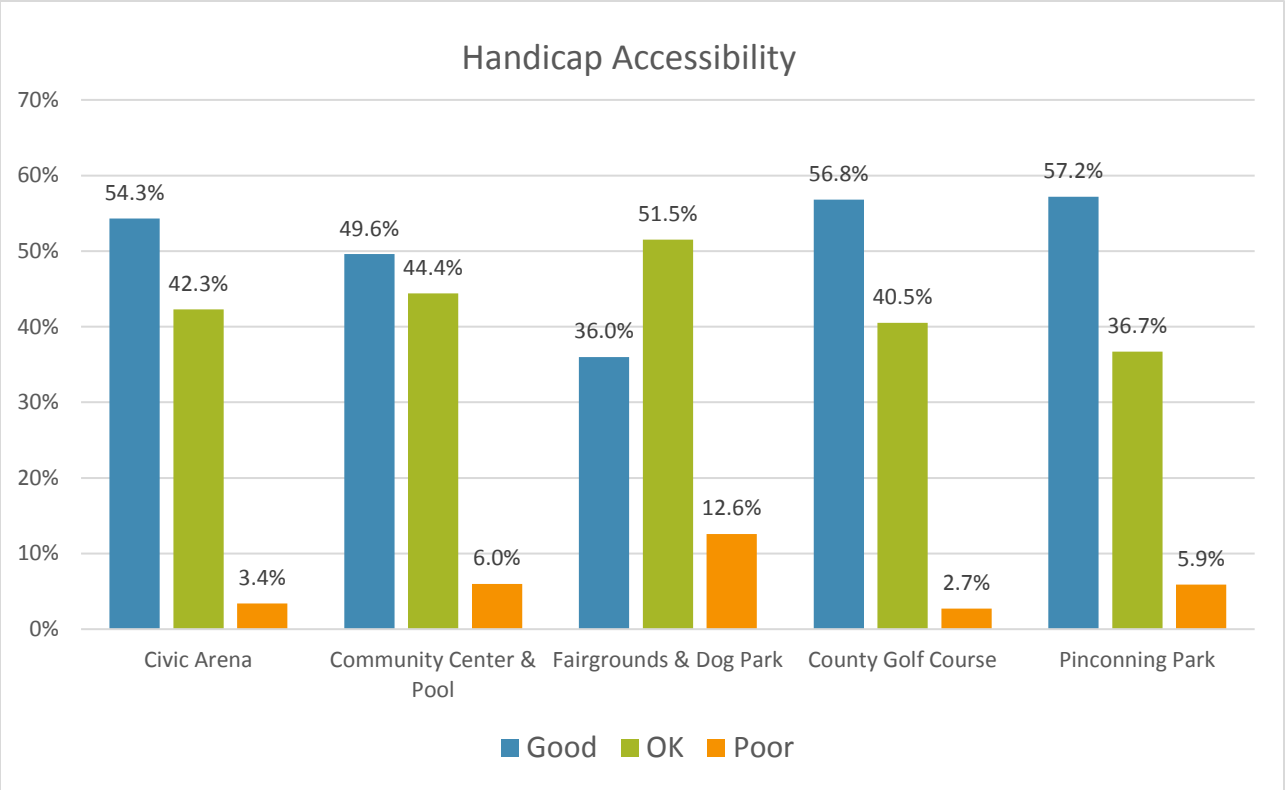


Figure 11 – Respondents were asked to rate the handicap accessibility of the five park facilities that are owned and managed by Bay County.

Other Communities

The following communities asked specific questions as part of the online survey:

- Auburn
- Bay City
- Beaver Township
- Hampton Township
- Kawkawlin Township
- Monitor Township

Since many of its parks are regional in nature, the Bay City questions were offered to all survey respondents. The other individual questions were offered only to those who responded that they were residents of that community.

Goals and Objectives

Introduction

Developing goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. The overall goal of a parks and recreation department is to provide recreation opportunities for the community and/or region it serves. More specific goals must be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served, the physical and environmental characteristics of the area, and the input of the community.

Goals are the broadest level. They are overreaching and general. Objectives carry out the purpose of the goal. The Action Program is the last level and it identifies specific projects, acquisitions, and programs. The Action Program can include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, and operation and maintenance actions. Bay County formulated the following goals and objectives in 2014 based upon the characteristics of the overall community, the input received at the community input sessions and the survey. They were reviewed for the 2019 Recreation Plan. These goals are applicable for Bay County parks and recreation and many of them also apply for the individual participating communities.

GOAL 1

Retain public land for future generations.

Objectives:

1. Retain existing parkland and acquire new public lands to meet the recreational needs of the community.
2. Promote and enhance the financial stability of Bay County's Parks and Recreation Division.
3. Preserve and protect open space and significant natural features in Bay County.
4. Increase access to the Great Lakes shoreline.

Comments and Justification

Residents of Bay County are proud of their parks and recreational facilities. They realize they are part of the quality of life in the area. New parcels of land may need to be acquired so specific facilities can be added or so that special natural features can be preserved.

GOAL 2

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to activities improving health and fitness.

Objectives:

1. Provide passive and active programming for a variety of ages and abilities of the population.
2. Continue to work with existing recreation partners in the community to provide programs, leagues, and special events. Explore options for new and expanded partnerships to provide additional recreational opportunities.

Comments and Justification

Due to limited resources and staffing, recreational programming and facilities in Bay County are provided by several different organizations and entities. Some of them work with the County in some capacity. The County wishes to continue facilitating and enhancing these relationships, where feasible, so as to meet the needs of residents without offering duplication of services. One successful example from recent years is the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail group which is working together with Bay County to establish trail connectivity across Bay, Saginaw, and Midland Counties.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Bay County.

Objectives:

1. Continue to add amenities to Bay County park facilities based upon community input and need.
2. Maintain and upgrade existing facilities to provide park facilities that inspire a sense of community pride.

Comments and Justification

The county will use community input along with recreational trend data to formulate recreational capital improvement plans for the future. It will also work to improve and maintain existing facilities to keep them current, functional, and efficient.

GOAL 4

Provide trails and multi-use paths for recreational and transportation use.

Objectives:

1. Update the Bay County non-motorized trail plan.
2. Where possible, connect trails to regional trails and destinations.
3. Where feasible, encourage the County Road Commission to provide easements for trails and trail corridors that will connect to regional trails and destinations.

Comments and Justification

All forms of non-motorized transportation are becoming increasingly important across the United States. Multi-use paths, trails, and bike lanes are used for recreation and transportation. Paths can be used for active and passive recreation and they are just one of many ways that can increase the health and fitness of a community.

GOAL 5

Make Bay County a better place to live for seniors and people with disabilities.

Objectives:

1. Promote the development of an inventory of services and opportunities in our community that promote the independence and quality of life for older adults and the disabled.
2. Initiate partnerships with other units of government and recreation providers to promote the development of senior friendly community amenities.
3. Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities, developing improvements and upgrades to park facilities that are handicap accessible.
4. Continue program development for special needs populations.

Comments and Justification

According to the 2016 ACS 5-year estimate, the median age of Bay County residents is 42.7 years. That is more than three years greater than that of the State of Michigan at 39.5 years and 5 years greater than the median age of the United States which is 37.7 years. As the baby boom population continues to age, there will be increased demand for recreational facilities and services that meet the needs of aging adults. There was strong support for programs for senior citizens and active older adults in the online

survey comments. Further, Figure 3 shows that the 16.6% of County residents have a disability. This population also has special needs in terms of recreational facilities.

Bay County is attentive to the needs of its senior citizens and all those who have some diminished capacity that may limit their access to recreational resources in the community. Designs will incorporate the philosophies and principals of universal design and they will address Communities for a Lifetime goals. Communities for a Lifetime is an assessment and improvement planning process that helps make a community more "aging-friendly".

GOAL 6

Provide youth development programming and expand recreational facilities for such in Bay County.

Objectives:

1. Encourage new sports leagues in Bay County based upon community input, recreation trends and general need.
2. Encourage the addition of one-day recreation events for youth in the community.
3. Provide a mechanism to assist youths with financial need to participate in County recreational activities.

Comments and Justification

Recreational opportunities for youth in Bay County are both numerous and diverse. The inventory of recreational resources substantiates both diverse recreational opportunity and geographic distribution of youth recreational facilities. This recreation plan supports the inclusion of new and emerging new youth recreational projects and facilities, like the skate park constructed in Bay City, that further diversify the types of recreation in which youth can engage and/or expand the geographic distribution of existing recreational opportunities in Bay County.

GOAL 7

Develop recreation opportunities that focus upon and take advantage of Bay County's natural assets.

Objectives

1. Develop public fishing opportunities in Bay County.
2. Develop public hunting/shooting range opportunities in Bay County.
3. Develop opportunities, alone or in partnership with others, to educate citizens about natural resources and environmental stewardship in Bay County.
4. Develop recreation opportunities that take place along the Great Lakes Shoreline.
5. Continue to work to develop the Saginaw Bay Blueways Water Trail.

Comments and Justification

Bay County has some unique natural resources and habitats. It is part of the Mississippi and Atlanta flyway for migratory birds. The Saginaw Bay provides a shoreline wetland habitat and a great location for sport fishing – especially walleye. Woodlands provide habitat for deer, raccoons, muskrat, squirrels, rabbits, and other small game. Bay County wishes to incorporate these features into its parks and recreation facilities. Further, it wishes to educate the public about the unique environments in Bay County.

GOAL 8

Promote community awareness for all the recreation opportunities that Bay County has to offer.

Objectives:

1. Work with the local convention and visitor's bureau to promote recreation opportunities in Bay County.
2. Keep the county web site and recreation database updated regarding recreation opportunities in Bay County.
3. Use social media to promote recreation opportunities in Bay County.

Comments and Justification

In order for citizens to take advantage of recreation opportunities, the community must be aware of them. Several survey respondents commented that they were not sure of what recreational opportunities were available in the County. As improvements and upgrades are undertaken, the County and its constituent communities need to celebrate their accomplishments and share their successes at meetings, on web sites, and with the media. Further, since Bay County has abundant shoreline and unique natural resources, it attracts recreational tourists and visitors from across the state, creating the secondary economic benefits talked about earlier in this document. The County needs to continue to promote all that it has to offer across the state.

Action Plan

With goals and objectives in place, Bay County was able to develop a 5-year action program to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives. County staff reviewed the Action Plan items from the 2014 plan and updated and added to them as needed. The Action Program details the direction the community wishes to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of area park and recreation opportunities.

Potential projects were assigned a priority of 1 through 5 with 1 being most important and 5 being least important. Each action item relates to one or more of the numbered goals from the Goals and Objectives chapter. Potential capital improvements described in this Plan have been established not only to provide a framework for decision makers but also to enable the County to apply for grant funding for these proposed projects.

The project list in not a fixed element and it is neither all-inclusive or exclusive. The schedule reflects the results of the input received from the online survey and County staff. Future circumstances, especially availability of funding, may change priorities or require reprioritization of items.

The action program is shown in the table at the end of this section.

Financing Potential Improvements

Funding for parks and recreation capital improvements can come from a range of local, state, and federal programs. Grant funding is available for parks and recreation projects. However, applicants need to target potential funding agencies and programs very carefully so as to meet the specific criteria

required. The Appendix contains a current listing of programs and agencies that can provide funding for parks and recreation projects.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	**Priority**	**Relates to Goal**	**Justification**
Pinconning Park			
ADA accessible kayak launch	1	2, 3, 5, 7	Increase water access.
Add locational, informational, and interpretive signage.	1	3, 5	Increases usability of parks.
Additional bathhouse	1	3, 5	To meet increased demand.
Floating walkway and fishing pier	1	1, 3. 5, 7	Community input requested shore fishing.
Add cabins and campsites (rustic and modern)	1	3, 7	Based on need.
ADA bathhouse updates	1	3, 5	To make facilities more accessible and functional.
Expand shoreline access	2	2, 3, 5, 7	To enjoy the opportunities on the Bay.
Day Use Activities	2	2, 3	More activities for visitors.
Playscape	2	3, 6	Additional play opportunities needed for children.
Expand the trail system	2	2, 4	Community input.
Interpretive building	2	1, 7	Adds educational element.
Dog park/beach.	2	3, 5	Additional facility for park users.
Parking lot redesign and reseal, including additional ADA parking	3	5	Deteriorated. More spaces needed. To make facilities more accessible.
Audio interpretive displays	3	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Spray park.	3	3, 6	Mentioned in community input.
Additional telescopes	4	3, 7	To enjoy unique natural resources.
Basketball area	5	2, 6	Provides an additional recreational opportunity.
Low voltage electrical lighting	5	1, 3, 5	Improves park safety & access for those with disabilities.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	**Priority**	**Relates to Goal**	**Justification**
Bay County Fairgrounds			
Improve existing facilities such as bleachers, grandstand, track and stables. (Includes roofs, electrical and utility upgrade, path and driveway resurfacing).	1	2, 3, 5	Facilities are outdated, old, and unsafe.
Additional ADA parking spaces	1	5	To make facilities more accessible.
Universal Access playscape area with fitness area, playscape, surfacing, water fountain, fencing, signage, benches and picnic tables	1	3, 5, 6	Existing playground equipment is old and outdated.
Add recreation/leisure activities such as permanent yard games.	3	2, 3	Community input survey.
Expand the dog park.	3	3, 5	Community survey. Need to separate large and small dogs.
Add bleachers at corrals.	4	2, 3	To allow people to sit and watch.
Civic Arena			
Replace one Zamboni.	1	2, 3, 5	Improve maintenance and ice condition.
Upgrade old and outdated systems including heating, AC, solar, foam, and parking lot.	1	2, 3, 5	Aging and not functional.
New seating with universal accessibility	1	3, 5	Improves functionality and accessibility.
Fitness room upgrades	3	2, 3	Improve functionality.
Community Center & Pool			
New gym floor in small and large gym	1	3, 6	Existing is old and outdated.
Marketing and advertising campaign to increase usage	1	8	Increased awareness and revenue.
Add promotional signage.	1	8	Community is not aware of what is offered here.
Accessible tables	1	3, 5	Improves accessibility.
Building upgrades: roof, heating, AC	2	2, 3	Needed capital improvements. Existing is old and outdated.
Shower replacement in pool locker room	2	3, 5, 6	Existing is old and outdated.
Improve fitness equipment.	2	2	Existing equipment is old and outdated.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	**Priority**	**Relates to Goal**	**Justification**
Community Center and Pool (continued)			
Add an outdoor recreation experience.	2	2, 3	Additional amenity. Take advantage of outdoor space.
Spray Park	4	3, 6	Mentioned in community input.
Golf Course			
Two fairway mowers	1	3	Maintain existing course condition.
Netting for driving range	1	3	Improves safety.
Pathway to pavilion	1	5	Improves accessibility.
Replace member barn roof	1	3	Existing is old and outdated.
2nd ADA cart	2	5	Improves accessibility.
New tractor and greens mower	2	3	Maintain existing course condition.
New golf carts	2	3	Replace old and outdated.
Construct new pavilion with light, power and grills.	3	3, 5	To allow for group gatherings.
Consider offering cross-country skiing, foot golf, disc golf, or other alternative recreation.	3	2, 3	Adds additional activities to increase usage.
Remodel existing outdoor restrooms.	3	3, 5	Improve accessibility.
Trails			
Expand motorized and non-motorized trail opportunities.	ongoing	2, 3, 4	Community input priority.
Develop trail between Delta College and SVSU.	2	2, 3, 4	Connect the two universities.
Complete the Bay-Zilwaukee Trail to Bay City Railtrail/Riverwalk. (Iron Belle Trail link).	2	2, 3, 4	Part of Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Plan.
Begin to develop the Bay City to Midland Connection of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail.	3	2, 3, 4	Part of Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Plan.
Signage, lighting, and non-motorized facility improvements for the Urban Recreation Heritage Route to the Bay	3	2, 3, 4	Improvements to enhance the trail.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	**Priority**	**Relates to Goal**	**Justification**
Trails (continued)			
Enhance the Saginaw Bay Blue Water trail system including signage, portages, etc.	3	2, 3, 4, 7	Part of 2015 Bay County Saginaw Bay Blue Water Trail Development Plan.
Programming			
Explore programming for senior citizens and disabled by forming partnerships with applicable groups such as MI Sports Unlimited and Bay County Division on Aging.	1	2, 3, 5	Adding programs not currently available. Mentioned in community input.
Develop partnership with local community recreation and tourism providers.	1	2, 3, 6	Adding programs not currently available.
Promote Bay County recreational opportunities, especially Saginaw Bay access.	1	8	Community is not aware of what is available. Tourism and economic growth opportunities.
Develop a partnership with local community education providers for programming at county facilities.	1	2, 3, 6	Adding programs not currently available.
Explore offering hunter safety classes.	2	6, 7	Mentioned in community input.
Miscellaneous			
Develop outreach brochure that describes parks in Bay County.	1	1, 8	To communicate with residents and visitors about facilities offered.
Begin a Parks & Recreation Endowment fund.	1	1	To provide financial stability for the Parks and Recreation functions in Bay County.
Develop social media awareness campaign.	1	8	Improve awareness and usage of county facilities.
Work with community groups to develop an additional disc golf course in Bay County.	1	3	Requested in community input survey; takes advantage of current recreational trend.
Continue to purchase lands for cultural opportunities.	1	1, 7	To meet need for specific cultural opportunities.
Acquire lands to increase public shoreline access to the Saginaw Bay.	1	1, 7	To reduce the shortage of public access points on Saginaw Bay.

Bay County Recreation Plan Action Items			
Action Item	**Priority**	**Relates to Goal**	**Justification**
Miscellaneous (continued)			
Improve existing access to Saginaw Bay including beach maintenance equipment, swimming access, seasonal fishing docks, and ADA Kayak launches.	1	1, 3, 7	To increase access to the Saginaw Bay. Requested on survey. Taking advantage of unique natural resource.
Continue to invest in community enhancement and recreational features.	1	1 - 7	To meet community needs.
Convene local public sector recreation providers to implement a joint purchasing program for recreation suppliers.	2	1	Cost saving measure.
Develop interactive web site or social media platform to communicate with residents regarding parks and recreation.	2	1, 8	To communicate with residents and visitors about facilities offered.
Explore opportunities for environmental education in the parks.	2	2 ,7	To educate youth and adults and provide a different type of recreational opportunity.
Develop an inventory of significant open space and natural resources in Bay County.	3	2, 7	So as to document potential sites for preservation and/or acquisition.

City of Auburn

Community Description

The City of Auburn is located in southwestern Bay County between Midland and Bay City. It is surrounded by Williams Township. Auburn largely serves as a bedroom community for people who work in the nearby cities of Midland, Bay City, and Saginaw. According to the American Community Survey, the 2016 5-year population estimate for Auburn is 1,935.

Other significant demographic data for Auburn as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 12 on the following page.

	Auburn	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	40.1	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	16.7%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	21.2%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	62.7%	77.9%	73.0%	65.10%
Average Household Size	2.13	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	18.7%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$52,396	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per capita income	$29,536	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	14.4%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	7.3%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 12 - Selected Census Data for the City of Auburn as compared to the county, state and country.

Administrative Structure

The City Commission and the Auburn-Williams Recreation Board are responsible for all parks and recreation functions of the City, including the City parks. The Auburn-Williams Recreation Board is composed of twelve members representing the City of Auburn and Williams Township. As the administrative head of the City, the City Administrator carries out the policies that are made by the Commission and directs and coordinates the work of all City departments. It is the City Administrator's job to keep the Commission informed of the conditions and needs of the City and to make recommendations for action as the need arises. The City Administrator also prepares the annual budget for Commission recommendation and upon its enactment sees that its provisions are upheld.

Maintenance activities for parks and recreation are implemented by the Auburn Department of Public Works (DPW) and designated work is contracted with private service companies. Three full-time employees of the DPW currently carry out maintenance activities at the parks.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The City of Auburn/Williams Township Recreation Board administers recreational activities. This is a joint 12-member recreation board with equal representation from both units of government, each having 6 members on the board. Five of the Auburn representatives on the board are at-large members appointed by the City Commission and the sixth member is appointed from the City Commission. Each unit provides $9,000 a year for planning and implementation of recreational activities. The board currently provides organized baseball/softball activities, organized gun range programs, summer day-camp program and organized outings. The recreation board also provides recommendations for recreational facilities, maintenance and improvements to the City's administrative staff.

Volunteers assist the parks through coaching, the gun range programs, and flower bed maintenance throughout the year. The Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the Auburn Jaycees own a 20-acre piece of property adjacent to the Auburn Community Park. They sponsor the annual Auburn Corn Festival which uses their property and the Community Park property. Soccer fields were added to the Jaycees property in 2013.

The City of Auburn and Williams Charter Township have strong relationships through the school district and civic organizations that help to facilitate recreational activities in the area. This is illustrated with the new community recreation building that was recently constructed in the main park on Jaycee Drive. The pavilion serves many groups in the area from the Lions Club, Jaycees, Special Olympics and many more. It features heated bathrooms, kitchen, educational training/meeting room, and a sizeable roof structure. Various recreational activities are held in the facility including basketball, pickle ball and hockey. During the summer months, the facility is host to the local Farmer's Market. In the winter, the facility and the surrounding area will feature a choreographed Holiday Light and Sound Display. It will serve as the gathering place for festivals and the Holiday Tree lighting.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation in Auburn are the city general fund, park rental fees, and donations. The current and next year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 13
AUBURN PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS

	2018 (proposed)	2017 (actual)
Operation & Maintenance	$98,121	$101,158
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	$9,000	$9,000
Capital Expenditures	$0	$80,000*
Total	**$107,121**	**$171,158**

*This is a contribution from the DDA used as part of the overall funding of a new community recreational pavilion with a covered hockey/basketball/multiuse area, enclosed and heated ADA compliant bathrooms, kitchen space and meeting rooms. The new facility built in 2017-18 will exceed a total cost of $750,000 finance through the USDA loan and grant program and DDA funding support.

Recreation Inventory

The City of Auburn reviewed its recreation inventory from the 2014 plan and updated it accordingly. The inventory data as compiled from those forms is shown on the following page.

Grant History

The City of Auburn has received two DNR grants for its Auburn City Park. All improvements are still in place and functional.

- BF98-247 - $22,500, Auburn City Park Fishing Pier Development
- LWCF 26-01736 - $62,000, Auburn City Park Pond Improvements

Figure 13 AUBURN RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Auburn Community Park	**Auburn Recreation Area**	**Auburn Shooting Range****
Park Type*	Community Park	Neighborhood Park	Special Use Park
Acreage	20	4	140 (10 used)
Accessibility*	4	4	
Service Area	Auburn / Williams Twp.	Auburn / Williams Twp.	Auburn / Williams Twp.
Ball Diamond	2		
Multi-use Path	1 mile	Yes (on dikes)	
Pavilion	3		
Picnic Area	Yes		
Ice Skating	Yes		
Horseshoes	12		
Sledding		Yes	
Archery/Gun Range			Yes
Pond/Observation Docks	Yes		
Restrooms	Yes		
Playfield (open space)	Yes		
Basketball Courts	3		
Fishing	Yes		
Sand Volleyball	1		
Pickleball	2		
Playground	1		
Grills	6		
Dog Walking	Yes		Yes
Farm Market	Yes		

*See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** The Auburn Shooting Range is located north of the City of Auburn on the east side of 9-Mile Road south of W. Wheeler Road. See the Williams Township Map for exact location.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Auburn developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in 2013. The goals were reviewed for the 2018 plan.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade the City of Auburn's recreational and support facilities in order to offer parks and recreational activities the community can be proud of.

Objectives:

1. Retain and maintain the existing Auburn City Park and acquire new public lands to fulfill the recreational needs of the city and local community.
2. Provide multi-use recreational opportunities at park facilities.
3. Make active and passive park facilities available to as many individuals as possible.
4. Ensure that improvements and upgrades to the Auburn City Park are handicap accessible.
5. Provide adequate maintenance of all City parks and recreational facilities.
6. Consider the long-term or on-going maintenance costs of all future park improvements to City recreational facilities prior to making such improvements.
7. Utilize volunteers to assist with special events and maintenance opportunities.

GOAL 2

Promote coordination of recreational facilities, programs and activities with other recreation providers to avoid duplication and use City resources wisely.

Objectives:

1. Provide facilities that complement those of Bay County, Williams Township, the school district and other groups.
2. Cooperate and contribute to community wide recreation projects.
3. Seek active participation in the planning of recreation facilities and/or opportunities that affect the City and Williams Township residents.
4. Initiate interaction and cooperation with the school system.
5. Develop and formalize an agreement to jointly share and support mutually beneficial facilities.
6. Work with the schools to improve the recreational facilities available to the community at the school sites, particularly elementary schools.
7. Engage in joint purchasing with other governmental units when feasible with the goal of saving tax dollars.

GOAL 3

Provide quality recreational opportunities to improve health and fitness with extra emphasis placed on organized youth activities.

Objectives:

1. Provide organized programs and activities for a variety of ages with an emphasis on youth programs through the Auburn-Williams Recreation Board.
2. Continue to partner with existing recreational partners to provide recreation programs, events, and leagues.

GOAL 4

Develop a recreation system that will be responsive to, and effective in, meeting the present and future needs of residents.

Objectives:

1. Update the recreation plan as needed and entirely review the plan every five years.
2. Develop an interactive web site to communicate with residents regarding park and recreation opportunities.
3. Explore marketing services and sponsoring special events.
4. Use the City newsletter to identify what is happening, what's available, who to talk to, and to seek community input.
5. Use local newspaper to highlight recreation news whenever possible.

GOAL 5

Provide access trails and multi-use recreational paths.

Objectives:

1. Cooperate and participate in intergovernmental efforts to establish a non-motorized greenway and trail system connecting Midland County to Bay County.
2. Coordinate possible routes, methods, and funding to connect non-motorized greenway and trail systems in Bay and Midland Counties to the Auburn City Park.
3. Identify possible non-motorized routes, methods, and funding to connect Auburn City Park with the Williams Township Park.

GOAL 6

Develop methods to meet future recreational needs in the City.

Objectives:

1. Pursue a variety of possible funding sources, including state and federal grant programs.
2. Explore a means for evaluating and accepting private donations of land, time and monies.
3. Budget funds for a recreational capital improvement program each year to improve recreational facilities and eliminate deficiencies.

Action Plan

The City of Auburn developed the following items that it wishes to consider for improvements for the next five years. This list is based on known issues and needs in the parks and feedback from the community input survey.

1. Develop an ADA compliant fishing dock/pier connected and accessible by means of the paved walking path.
2. Resurface and widen the walking path for better ADA accessibility complete with lighting.
3. Improve baseball fields by replacing outfield and dugout fencing and adding designated fenced in "on deck" areas. This will help protect against injury and provide a safe and enclosed area for swinging bats.
4. Update the playground equipment near the ball diamonds with handicap accessible equipment. This will ensure a safe place for children to play.
5. Install a fountain in the City park pond for not only aesthetic purposes but also for beneficial aeration. This project would enhance the existing fishing docks.
6. Complete projects for the improvement of drainage throughout the City parks.
7. Reconfigure the entrance to the Community Park utilizing curb and gutter, islands, spacing and safe walkways to provide a safer more restricted roadway for the park facilities on Jaycee Drive. This will increase safety, direct and reduce traffic speed, provide more appropriate and defined parking.
8. Add a spray park feature to compliment the play scape area.
9. Acquire additional property when available and feasible to expand community park offerings.
10. Replace and install ADA Picnic tables near the play scape and the new pavilion while also upgrading benches.
11. Landscape for better wind and sound barriers around the new pavilion.
12. Develop an outdoor fireplace area for gathering and warming at the Community Park.
13. Develop a disc golf course.

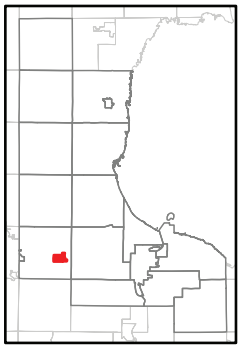
Park and Trail Locations in Auburn Michigan

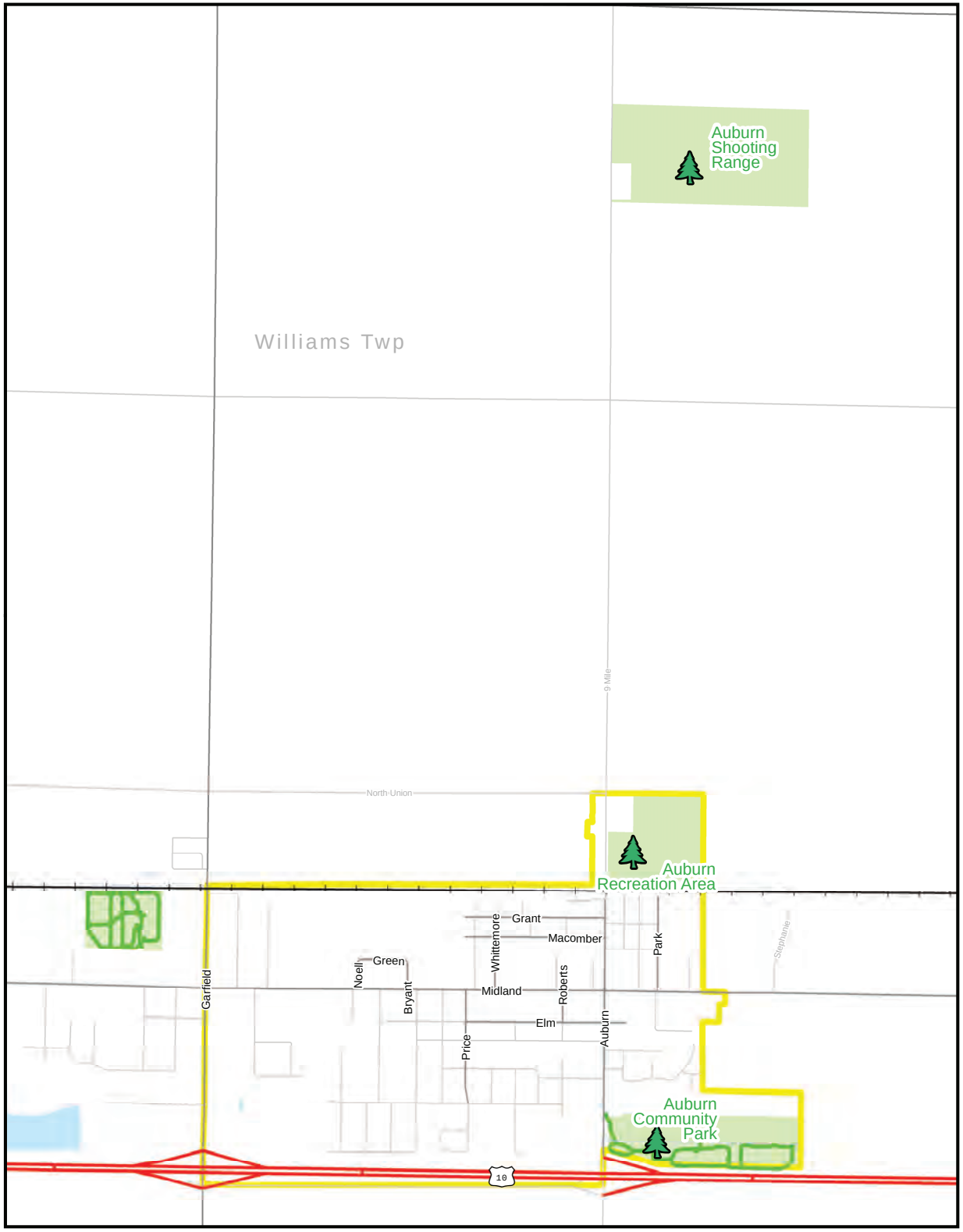
Legend

- Township
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock
- Park; Nature Area

N

0 625 1,250 2,500 Feet





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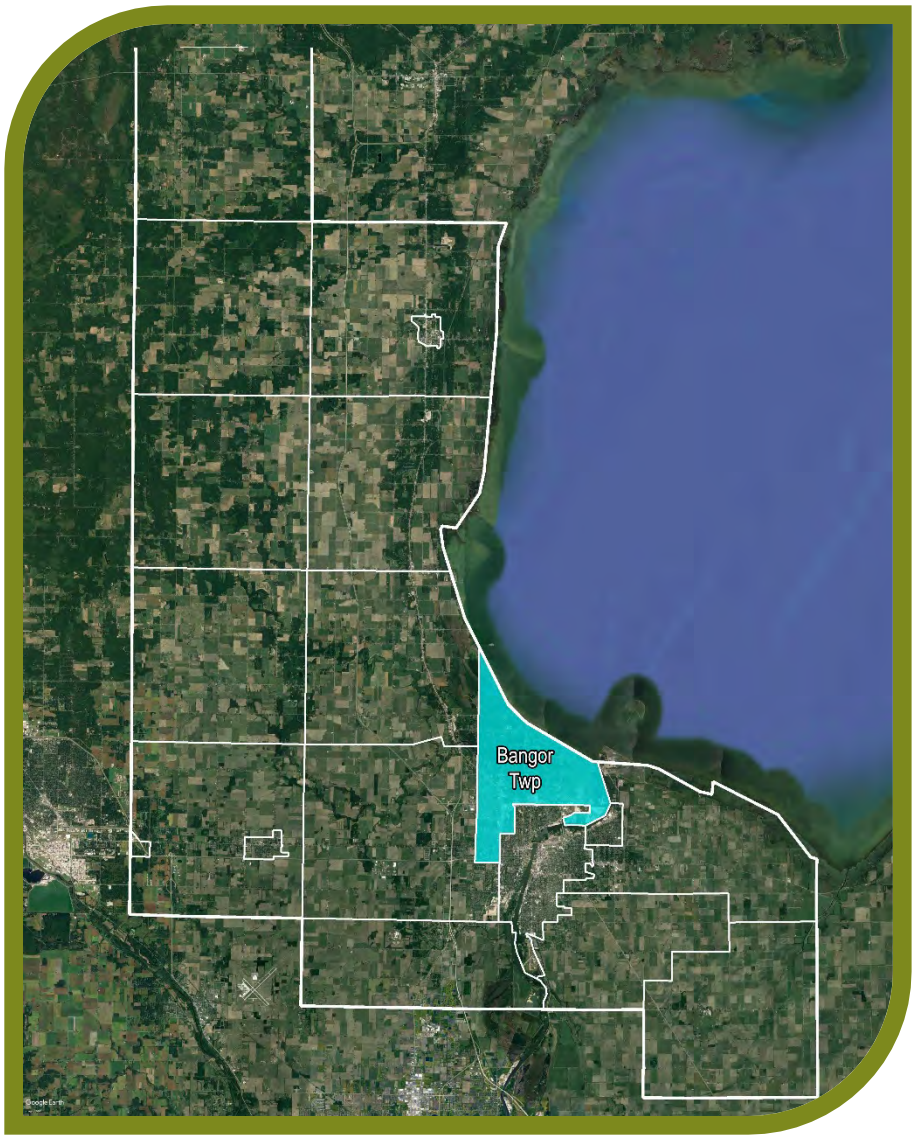
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI



Bangor Township

Community Description

Bangor Township is located north of the cities of Bay City on Saginaw Bay. Founded in 1859, the Township has large areas of woodlands, wetlands and industrial areas. Bangor is the third oldest Township in Bay County. Residential uses are clustered in various areas, most of which are near Bay City in the southern part of the Township and near the Bay City State Park in the northern part of the Township. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Bangor Township has 14,358 people. It is the second highest population of all the jurisdictions in Bay County. Bay City has the highest population at 34,110.

Other significant demographic data for Bangor Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 15 below.

	Bangor Twp.	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	45.3	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	22.6%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	19.0%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	73.0%	77.9%	73.0%	65.10%
Average Household Size	2.35	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	16.9%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$45,158	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$25,853	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	14.8%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	16.8%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 15 - Selected Census Data for Bangor Township as compared to the county, state and country.

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Bangor Township are administered by the seven-member Township Board. The Township Maintenance Department has one full-time employee responsible for maintenance and two part-time seasonal employees work at the boat launch.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Bangor Township pays Bangor Township Schools to run a very limited sports program for the Township. Two volunteers facilitate many activities at parks and recreation facilities in Bangor Township. These include mowing the lawn at the park and rail trail and maintaining the flowers.

Bangor Township also has a cooperative relationship with the Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum, which docks the USS Edson at the Independence Boat Launch park. The Edson is a retired United States Navy destroyer that has been converted to a museum. The Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum owns the museum buildings and dock at the site. It also maintains the parking area for the museum. The Township leases the land used for the museum and parking to the Museum.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Bangor Township is the township general fund. The Township wishes to explore grant funding for future projects. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 17.

Figure 16 BANGOR TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2019	**2020**
Operation & Maintenance	$10,000	$10,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	$5,000	$5,000
Capital Expenditures	$0	$0
Total	**$15,000**	**$15,000**

Recreation Inventory

The Township reviewed its inventory from the 2014 Bay County Area Recreation Plan and updated it accordingly. Bangor Township owns and operates one special use park and a park-trail. It also owns an undeveloped parcel that can be developed into a park. See Figure 17.

Figure 17 BANGOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Bayside Park	**Independence Boat Launch**	**Rail Trail/Patterson Road Trailhead**
Park Type*	Undeveloped	Special Use	Park-Trail
Acreage	30	5	5.6 miles
Accessibility*	NA	5	5
Service Area	NA	Bay County	Bay County
Boat Launch		Yes	
Pavilion			Yes
Picnic Area			Yes
Restrooms		Yes	Yes
Waterfront Property		Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14 and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

The establishment of realistic and agreed upon goals and objectives are essential to the formulation of attainable long-range plans. Goals serve as guidelines for the development of policies and plan recommendations. The primary goal implicit in all other secondary goals is the desire of the officials and citizens of Bangor Township to develop and maintain an attractive, pleasant, clean, healthful and economically stable community environment.

GOAL 1

Seek means of expanding recreation programs and facilities designed to serve the needs of all segments of Bangor Township's population.

Objectives:

1. Foster cooperation with adjacent communities and other recreation providers. Coordinate Bangor's recreation plans with those adjoining communities and the County as a whole to help avoid costly depreciation and to create a greater variety of recreation opportunities.
2. Cooperate in the coordination of land use planning efforts and in the provision of area wide recreation services, facilities, and programs.
3. Encourage joint use of school site and buildings.
4. Stimulate interest among established groups, such as P.T.A.'s and business service organizations, to assist the Township in developing recreation areas in Bangor.

GOAL 2

Assure the preservation of sufficient open space and the development of recreation facilities to adequately serve the needs of Bangor Township's present and anticipated population.

Objectives:

1. Encourage the acquisition of land and a conservation measure to protect specific natural features.
2. Encourage cooperation with Federal, State, County and Local agencies in the preservation of open space as a natural resource. Work closely with the County, State and Local recreation authorities in developing interregional recreation open space areas.
3. Encourage, wherever possible, the development of future public open spaces on a scale large enough to allow the implementation of a multiple use concept of recreation services.
4. Encourage a Township-wide development pattern that will provide for convenient and ample recreation areas throughout the Bangor community.
5. Encourage subdividers to provide recreational areas in new residential developments.
6. Encourage a diversity of both public and private recreational facilities.
7. Preserve floodplains and wetlands for recreation use wherever possible.
8. Coordinate efforts of land subdividers and school officials in developing recreation areas and facilities.
9. Encourage the use of drainage courses and utility easements for recreation purposes.
10. Develop design standards which permit drains to be incorporated as an integral part of a recreation area.
11. Wherever feasible, develop pedestrian pathways and bicycle paths following public and utility corridors.

12. Seek involvement in all State and Federal programs which can assist the Township in providing improved services and facilities to residents.

GOAL 3

Continue to operate and maintain recreational facilities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Bangor Township.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Bangor Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan. Local funding would come from the general fund of the Township or the Township Schools. Some funds for additions to the Linear Park may be available through the Bay Area Community Foundation or other grants. Expanded descriptions of some of the projects are found in the paragraphs following the five items below.

1. Maintain amenities to the existing rail trail such as parking and restrooms.
2. Develop a community park that would connect to the rail trail. This park would provide parking and service facilities for the trail and serve as a standalone community park. It is envisioned that the park would contain the following type of facilities:
    - Picnic tables and grill
    - Pavilion
    - Restrooms
    - Landscaping
    - Fencing
    - Parking facilities
    - Playground equipment
    - Basketball courts
    - Soccer Fields
    - Open space for beach volleyball, etc.
    - Tennis courts
    - Horseshoes
    - Shuffleboard
    - Jogging trail
    - Physical fitness exercise stations
3. Provide three public bike repair stations.
4. Maintain/replace dock at the boat launch.
5. Work with the school system to expand active recreational facilities through Bangor Township Schools and continue to support Bobcat Recreation.
6. Resurface existing Trail
7. Expand Bangor Rail Trail – An expanded Bangor Trail/Linear Park would build on a successful effort ongoing in Bay County to develop a trail system. Trails completed to date are heavily utilized and it is expected that an effort to connect spurs to the Trail will ultimately compliment the Trail throughout the Township. The Township will work closely with the Bay Area Community Foundation to establish the trail. The Foundation has been instrumental in the development of current trails in Bay County.

    There are two options for a trail expansion that follow. Formal proposals have not been advanced, and not all individuals who have interest in the property have been contacted. Aside from the usual issues of the establishment of spurs on the trail, specific logistical concerns must be addressed such as where the trail will connect with the City of Bay City's trail. Alternatives

have been established to provide flexibility and to provide options for these issues. Specific descriptions of the options are being plotted into maps that will be available in the near future.

- Option I – A connector from the Bay City Mall. Start at the southeast corner of the Bay City Mall plat, then go north along the easterly and northerly curb of the mall's drive and parking area to the east side of State Road, then continue north within the State Road right-of-way to the Dow pipeline property. Then go east on the Dow pipeline property, crossing Bangor Road and continue until crossing Patterson Road and connect to Option III.
- Option II – Start at the Bangor boat ramp located on the north side of the Saginaw River, just east of the Independence Bridge, and follow the railroad to Norwich Street. Continue North within the Norwich right-of-way to the south side of Wilder Road, cross Wilder Road, follow the railroad right-of-way northwesterly to Patterson Road. Then connect to the trailhead on Patterson.

General Cost Estimates

The following costs have been estimated for some of the action items listed above.

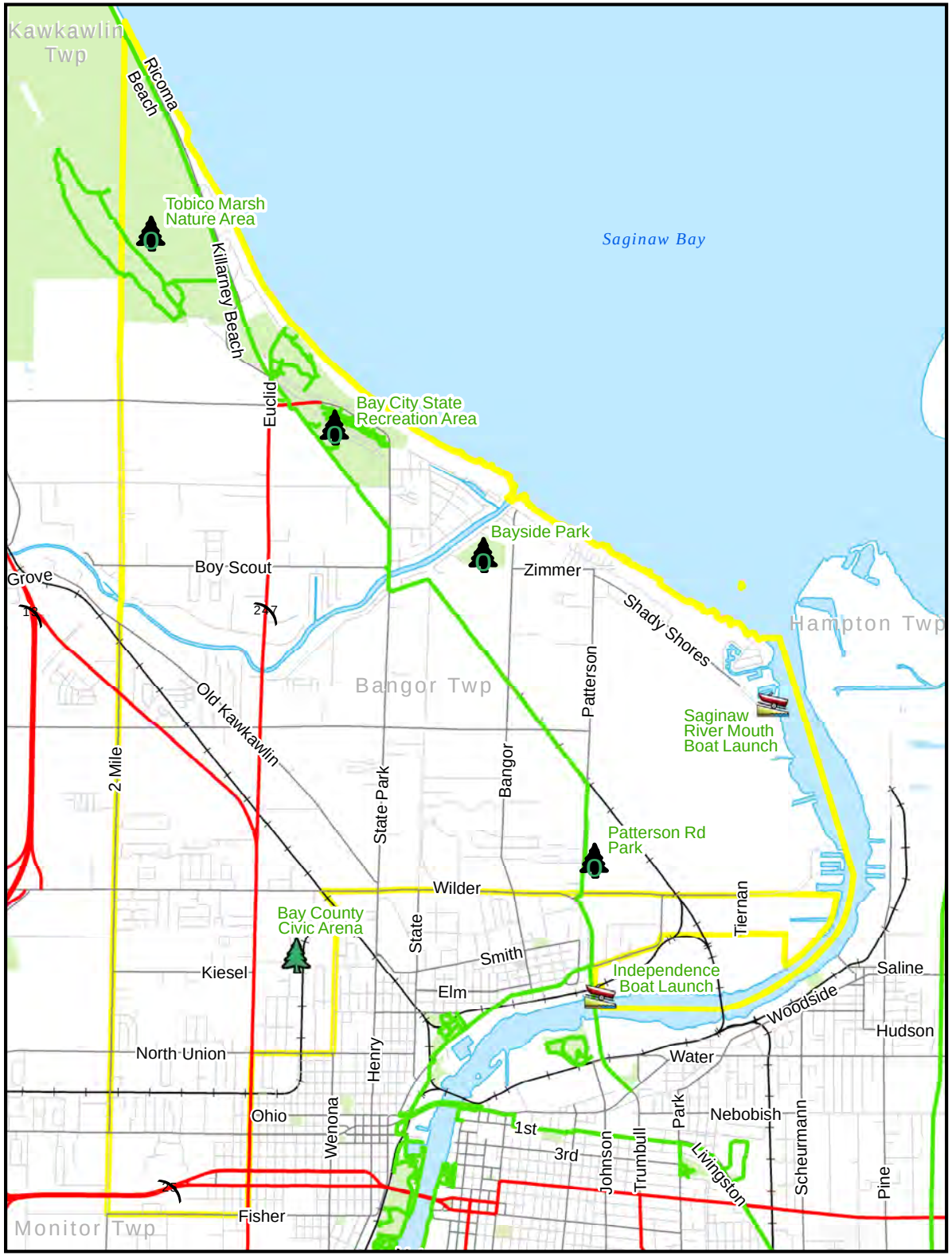
Linear Park Expansion	
• Trail and complimenting facilities design	$30,000
• Trail development	$120,000
Expanded School Recreational Facilities	
• John Glenn High School jogging trail	$25,000
• John Glenn High School four mini basketball courts off block parking lot	$7,000
• West Central School playground equipment	$25,000
• West Central School upgrade ball diamonds	$15,000
• West Central School mini basketball courts	$7,000
Bobcat Recreation Annual Contribution	$5,000
Rail Trail Bike Repair Stations	$2,800
Trail Resurfacing	$286,000

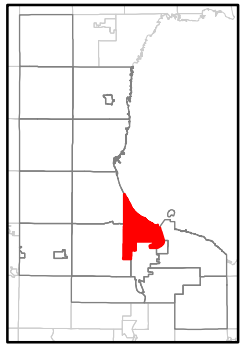
Park and Trail Locations in Bangor Township Michigan

Legend

- Township
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





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Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Bay City

Community Description

Bay City is the county seat of Bay County and its largest municipality in terms of population. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, population of Bay City is 34,110. The City encompasses 11 square miles and is bisected by the Saginaw River, which flows northerly into the Saginaw Bay. It is bordered by the City of Essexville, as well as Hampton, Bangor, Portsmouth and Frankenlust Townships.

Bay City's roots are in the lumbering industry of the late 1800's. The Center Avenue historic district is lined with lumber baron homes that are a testament to the wealth and prosperity of that era. In the 20th

century, the community went on to be a center for shipbuilding and manufacturing. The Saginaw River was the hub for all of these activities. Today, the Saginaw River serves as the recreational center of the community. The City's flagship parks, Veterans and Wenonah, are located across from one another on the river and they serve as the location of various festivals and events throughout the year. The river is lined with boats, marinas, fishing piers, and trails. It has been the site of major redevelopment activity over the past 20 years, including new housing in warehouses and other historic buildings in Downtown Bay City and Uptown Bay City, which is billed as a live, work and play development. It includes brownstones, sidewalk cafes, offices, hotels, and locally owned shops.

Demographics

According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Bay City has a population of 34,110. In 2010, the population of Bay City was 34,932, down from 36,817 persons in 2000. The population of Bay City peaked in 1960 at 53,604 residents. Over the last several decades the city's population has declined with the greatest decrease of over 15% occurring between 1970 and 1980. The loss of population in Bay City reflects a larger national trend of people migrating out of urban areas and into suburban and rural areas, along with change in household size, due to an aging baby boomer population. In some instances, communities have seen a reversal of this trend, with residents moving back into urban areas especially in downtown centers. This trend is occurring in Bay City where residential living units are being constructed in renovated historic buildings in the downtown area.

Other significant demographic data for Bay City as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 18 below. It is worth noting that Bay City is typical of urban areas in Michigan. Residents of Bay City are younger, less affluent, and are less likely to own a home than residents of Bay County and the surrounding jurisdictions. These factors have implications for parks and recreation facilities and

	Bay City	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	36.7	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	14.1%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	24.0%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	69.6%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.37	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	15.6%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$34,102	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$20,367	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	17.3%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	23.1%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 18- Selected Census Data for Bay City as compared to the county, state and country.

programming. For example, renters tend to have less greenspace available to them at home (smaller shared lots, apartment buildings, etc.). This means they may have a greater need for parks and open space in order to spend time outdoors. A younger median age may indicate a need for more active sports programming and youth activities.

Administrative Structure

Bay City has a commissioner-manager form of government. The City Commission consists of nine members who are nominated and elected by the ward system. The voters also choose a Mayor who is elected at large. A City Manager is appointed by the Commission and is largely responsible for the day-to-day administrative functions of the City.

Figure 19 illustrates the organizational chart in Bay City's governmental structure. As can be seen, Parks is an operational unit under the direction of the City Manager and the Department of Public Works Director. The City Parks Division maintains all facilities comprising the community parks system. This includes the maintenance of buildings and grounds, and includes equipment, furnishings, walkways, parking lots, drives and utility systems.

The city does not have a formal role in recreation programming. However, it hosts many special event programs in its parks.

RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

Planning

The Bay City Planning Department works with Parks Division staff to develop plans for recreation improvements in the community parks system. The County Recreation Department is included in the planning process when facilities are being designed to support recreation program activities.

The Park and Recreation Plan considers recommendations from the City's Citizens District Councils to define recreational interests, and to coordinate recreation planning with other city planning and development activities.

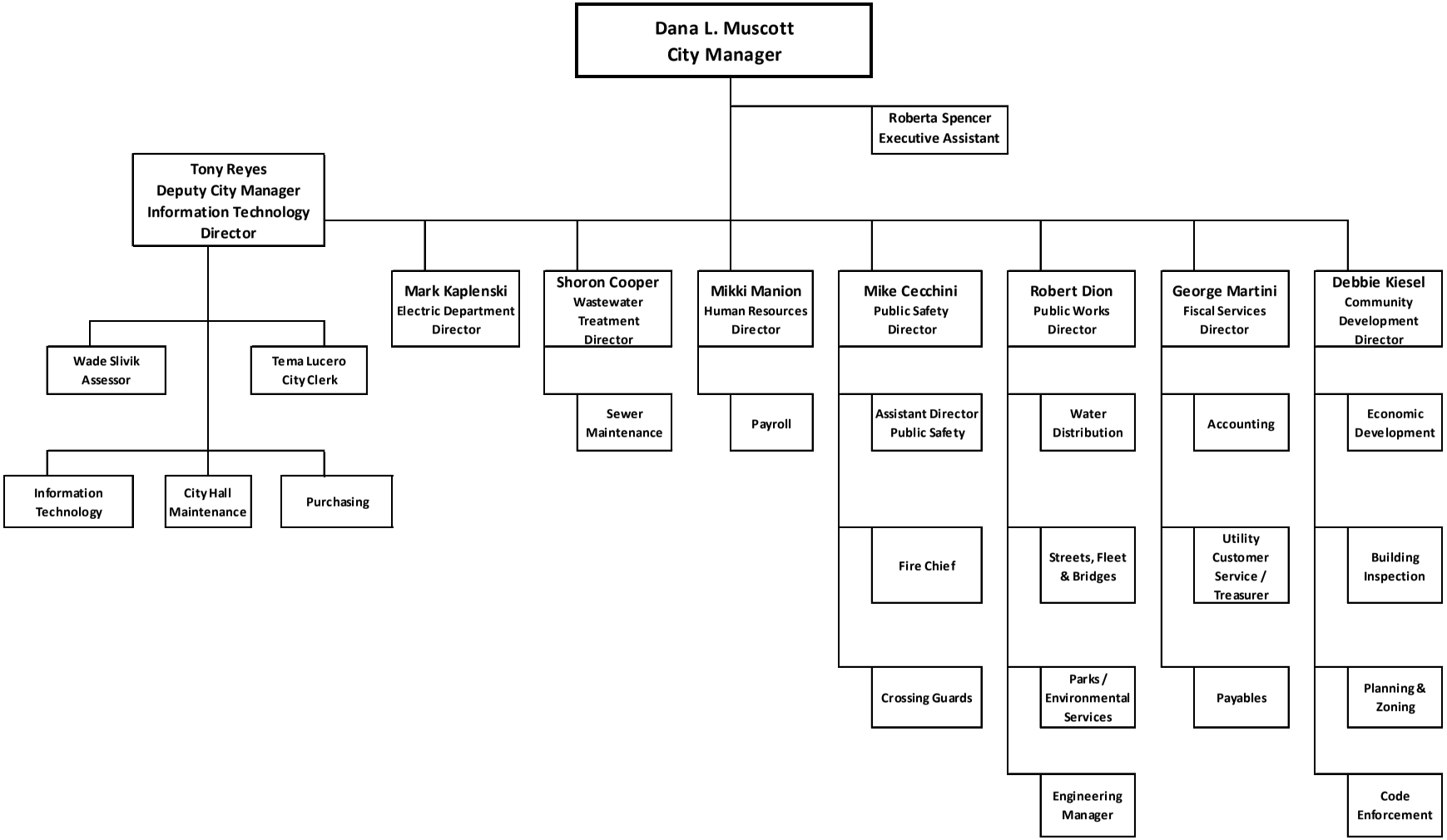
Issues related to the planning of recreation facilities require coordination and communication between a number of municipal entities, including: Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Engineering Department, Parks Department and the City Commission. In addition, the planning and implementation of physical recreation space is reviewed by the Planning Commission based on the Municipal Planning Act 285.

Maintenance/Operations

The Parks Division, under the direction of the Public Works Manager has responsibility for managing and maintaining the community park system. Responsibilities are shared with Bay County as it relates to facilities used for programmed recreation activities such as softball diamonds. In addition to maintaining community park facilities, the Parks Division has a number of other non-parks related responsibilities. These include managing and maintaining the Liberty Harbor Marina, James Clements Airport and Oakridge Cemetery. During the winter months, personnel have snow removal responsibilities in locations throughout the City. These varied and non-park related responsibilities mean that less time is available for park maintenance.

Figure 19

City of Bay City Organizational Chart



The approved personnel complement for the Parks Division during FY2018 is 6 full-time employees and 14 part-time employees.

Part-time employees are primarily used to supplement the full-time labor force during the summer months. Employees are hired through a contractual labor service. Additional labor services are occasionally retained through volunteer groups, local work programs sponsored by the school system, and community service programs administered by detention centers and the local court system. Part-time personnel are deployed to assist in performing general maintenance routines, provide services for special events, and to staff the Liberty Harbor Marina. Contractual employees assist with the maintenance and management of the James Clements Airport and Oak Ridge Cemetery.

During the winter months, full-time employees are responsible for plowing cul-de-sacs and alleys citywide, school crossings, parking lots associated with business districts, and public properties and park walkways. Depending on weather conditions, they also perform maintenance in parks, refurbish picnic tables and benches, and repair equipment and clear brush at the Airport.

Park maintenance operations are generally structured into maintenance routines. Typical maintenance routines include: mowing, litter pickup and removal, restroom cleanup, park facilities inspection and repair, special event services, snow removal and horticultural tasks.

Opportunities to adopt and implement "best practices" is an on-going process. Incorporating successful practices into parks operations will standardize work functions while enhancing the quality of services. Examples of best practices established include mulching leaves on park lawns during the fall instead of collecting and removing them.

Efforts continue to identify and reinforce critical maintenance routines that comprise core services, and to regularly monitor and evaluate them on the basis of efficiency, effectiveness and cost. Changes have been implemented affecting both maintenance practices and policies that will bring more focus to service priorities. As an example, special events sponsors are being required to provide a higher level of maintenance support for their activities, which has significantly reduced the City's involvement.

Volunteers clean up Wenonah Park

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Strategic partnerships continue to be developed with groups, individuals, and organizations to provide a pool of volunteers to assist with maintenance. Examples include a cooperative program with the Bay Area Community Foundation Railtrail Committee to manage the care of pocket parks located along 10 miles of the Riverwalk and Riverwalk/Railtrail loop in the city, and partnerships with Master Gardeners and volunteers to maintain Veterans Memorials and perennials gardens in the Kantzler Arboretum. Parks Department staff will continue to identify, pursue and promote similar initiatives in the future. Guidelines have been prepared to assist in identifying the required procedures for volunteers, as well as a list of potential projects.

The City works cooperatively with Bay County on the maintenance of the ball diamonds in Veterans Park. The Bay County Softball Association runs the leagues in Veterans Park. Other cooperative relationships include the Bay City Rowing Club and the Boys and Girls Club who use and lease the facilities at Bigelow Park. The Columbus Avenue Management Board manages Columbus Green. The Sage Library leases Pershing Park. The Bay City DDA coordinates Friday at the Fall concerts and does the maintenance for the Third Street Waterfall Park. The Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy takes care of the Golson Park Nature Area and they assisted with development at the Rowing Club. The State Theatre programs concerts and children's activities at Wenonah Park.

Special Events

Bay City Parks are host to several special events each year which serve as a regional tourism draw. Most of them are possible due to cooperative relationships with local community organizations, such as the YWCA, the Bay City DDA, the Bay City Fireworks Festival Board, and the Bay County Historical Society. Some of the larger special events include:

The Tall Ships Celebration is a large special event in Bay City that uses Wenonah and Veterans Park

- Easter Egg Hunt – Wenonah Park
- Michigan Walleye Tour Fishing Contest – Saginaw River
- Riverside Arts Festival – Wenonah Park
- Cool City Car Show – Wenonah Park
- Santa Arrival – Wenonah Park
- 4th of July Fireworks Festival – Wenonah Park and Veterans Memorial Park
- Tall Ships Celebration – Wenonah Park and Veterans Memorial Park
- River of Time Living History Event – Veterans Memorial Park
- Birney Park Car Show – Birney Park
- Blooperball Tournament – Defoe Park
- Rockin River/River Roar – Veterans Memorial Park and Wenonah Park

Budgets

The Parks Division budget for 2017 through 2019 is presented in Figure 20. The budget expenditures for personal services and fringe benefits, operating supplies, capital outlay and other services and charges are included in the budget figures.

The budget for park maintenance is determined in the same manner as other general fund budgets. Each department and division present a proposed budget to the City Manager, based upon previous budgets, current year needs, and the City's five-year Capital Improvement Program. The City Manager and the Finance Director then work out a proposed budget that is submitted to the City Commission. The Commission holds hearings, votes on a preliminary budget and is subsequently adopted.

Figure 20

BAY CITY PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS

	2017/2018	2018/2019
Operation & Maintenance	$1,131,590	1,116,196
Programming	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$50,000	$50,000
Total	**$1,181,590**	**$1,166,196**

Bay City Recreation Inventory

There are 25 public park and recreation sites owned and operated by the City of Bay City, covering approximately 240 acres. These sites range in size from 0.1 acre to 90 acres, and they contain a wide variety of active and passive uses. Seasonal and year-round parks have a regional emphasis. Veterans Memorial Park, Wenonah Park and Bigelow Park (Middlegrounds) provide superior recreational complexes because of their size and location on the Saginaw River. These public park and recreation areas within Bay City serve not only Bay City residents because they draw heavily from the entire county and throughout the region.

The following is a brief history for each of the City parks and a general description of recreation elements provided. A recreation inventory chart and a park location map follow the park descriptions.

Battery Park

Battery Park is a dedicated passive park located in the downtown area encompassing the four corners located at Center Avenue and Jefferson Street. It is one acre in size and was platted as a public square in 1849. It features short paved pathways, trees, benches, and the two southerly quadrants serve as a passive park area for the Bay County Public Library. On September 30, 2017 a Gold Star Families Memorial Monument was added to the Park. Also added were Iron Shell Gun Monuments replicating Civil War Artillery.

Bicentennial Commons Park

Bicentennial Commons Park is actually two small parks located on the east and west ends of Veterans Memorial Bridge. The park space provides lawn area with a scattering of trees. The west

parcel is city-owned and has a flagpole and a covered picnic table. The park space on the east side of the river contains a 30-foot monument as a memorial to the veterans of the Revolutionary War. The property is maintained by the City but is owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Bigelow Park

Bigelow Park is located at the north end of Middleground Island and is approximately 11.8 acres. The property for the park was donated in 1929 as a gift from Charles Bigelow, who operated a large sawmill on the riverfront. Additional land was purchased by the City in 1949 and it was developed into a park in 1991. The park contains an extensive footbridge that crosses the river channel and connects the park to Veterans Memorial Park and the Riverwalk. Playground equipment and a pavilion were constructed by the Bay City Lions Club. The pavilion is frequently rented for family reunions, company picnics and other social events. The new Riverview Discovery Island Play Station will be built in 2019. A concept plan is provided in the Appendix.

The north end also contains a Victorian style building leased to the Bay City Rowing Club as a clubhouse, a Boys and Girls Club facility, and a transient boat dock. The Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy worked with the Rowing Club to complete improvements on the gravel apron leading to the dock as well as adding a new kayak and canoe launch ramp. This was one of the Conservancy's Outdoor Urban Recreation Projects (O.U.R.)

The Bay City Rowing Center is part of Bigelow Park in Bay City. It is a cooperative partnership among the City of Bay City, the Bay City Rowing Club, and the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy.

Birney Park

Birney Park is bordered by 9th Street, 10th Street, Jackson Avenue and Madison Avenue and is 3.5 acres in size. Formerly known as Madison Park, this large rectangular park was renovated in 2010 and includes a center plaza, shelter, picnic facilities and a playground. It is primarily an open playing

field with playground equipment and a covered pavilion. Along with Carroll Park, Birney Park is one of the oldest parks in the City.

Universal design was used in the last renovation of this park to allow for accessibility to all amenities.

Breakers Cove Park

A 6.6-acre public open space along the Saginaw River, the park includes a walking path, lighting and bench seating. The parcel was improved when the Breakers Cove condominiums were constructed in 1998. The walking path was recently extended northward to Wenonah Park.

Carroll Park

The 13.7-acre Carroll Park is located on the northeast corner of Groveland Road and Park Avenue. The park is the oldest platted park in the City, established in 1875. The unique features of the park include a duck pond and bridge and a large stand of old maple and oak trees. The park is located in the center of the Historic District and is bordered by historic homes. It can be accessed by the Riverwalk/Railtrail loop. Park facilities include playground equipment, an informal ball diamond, tennis courts, a pavilion and picnic areas. New gaga ball courts were installed in 2018. A concept plan for Carroll Park is included in the Appendix.

Carroll Park

In terms of accessibility, there are no accessible paths to the tennis court, ball diamond and playground.

Cass Avenue Boat Launch

The Cass Avenue Boat Launch was constructed in 2003 and is adjacent to the Saginaw River at the end of Cass Avenue. The one-acre site features a single boat dock, restrooms and a small grassy area with bench seating.

Columbus Green

Columbus Green is a ½-acre public square dedicated in 2003, bordered by Columbus Avenue, Washington Avenue and Fitzhugh Street. It includes brick walking paths, benches, four flag displays and a butterfly garden. The Columbus Avenue Management Board maintains oversight of this park.

Defoe Park

Defoe Park is adjacent to Marquette Avenue and is 11 acres in size. The park includes three little league diamonds and two adult softball diamonds, a playground, shelter, picnic facilities and a skate park. The original 3-acre property was given to the city by the North American Construction Company in 1914. The company stipulated that the land be used for "playground or park purposes" and went by the name of Aladdin Park. It was later renamed Defoe Park in honor of Harry Defoe of the Defoe Shipbuilding Company.

Movie night at Defoe Park

Edward M. Golson Boat Launch and Nature Area

Located at the intersection of the former Johnson Street and the Saginaw River, the 43-acre recreational facility was completed in 2003. It provides two boat launch platforms and a ramp specifically designed for handicap accessibility.

Included in the 43-acre park is a 26-acre nature area with paved and gravel trails that includes two viewing platforms overlooking a wetland are provided. The Nature Area is run as a collaboration between the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy and the city of Bay City. It has received support from General Motors, as well. The Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy identifies it as one of its Outdoor Urban Recreation Projects (O.U.R).

The site includes a large gazebo for use as a covered shelter area for student classroom tours, as well as a river viewing and fishing platform. A bald eagle nesting area is a unique feature of the site. Universal design was utilized in the last renovation of the park to allow for accessibility to all amenities including a wheelchair boat ramp.

Hewitt Park

Hewitt Park is 5.4 acres and is bordered by Johnson Street, Hampton Street, 19th Street, and 20th Street. It is a rectangular sports park that contains two tennis courts, a baseball diamond, a playground, and a basketball court. The park name was formally changed from "Hewitt Field" to "Hewitt Park" in 1994.

Infinity Skate Park

The Infinity Skate Park is located adjacent to Defoe Park on Marquette Avenue and contains 5.06 acres. This outdoor recreation area opened in 2002 and is a professionally designed facility with an elaborate network of cement ramps.

Infinity Skate Park

Joseph M. Trombley/Banks Park

Trombley Park is a small 1/2-acre park located in the Banks area. The park serves the neighborhood and offers tennis and basketball courts. The park had been casually known as “Smith Park” or “Banks Park,” but in 1985 the City Commission formally renamed it “Joseph M. Trombley / Banks Park” named for an early settler who established the Village of Banks in 1843. A new gaga ball court and playground were added in 2018.

Maplewood Park

Maplewood Park is a 9.7-acre park bounded by 1st Street, 3rd Street, Sheridan Street, and vacated Van Buren Street. The park provides a baseball diamond and is popular for its basketball courts. Nearly all of the park amenities are accessible.

Nate Doan Park

Nate Doan Park is located in the Midland Street Neighborhood and is 6.4 acres in size. It is designed for low-impact activities and includes a playground and a small, hilly playfield. A shelter building and restrooms are provided on the site. The park, established in 1977 is named in honor of Mr. Nate Doan, a community volunteer.

Pershing Park

Pershing Park is adjacent to the Sage Library located in the Midland Street Historic District. The parcel is one and a half acres and contains green space, trees and a monument dedicated to Veterans of World War I. The park is leased to the Sage Library with the Library responsible for upkeep.

Ramsey Park

Ramsey Park is 1.3 acres located in the west area of the City adjacent to Fisher Avenue. It was deeded to the City for park purposes in 1949. This is a small, irregularly shaped parcel in a residential neighborhood and contains a small playground and open space.

Rexer-Jablonski Park

Rexer-Jablonski Park is a 3.3-acre park that was designed and constructed in 2004. The park is named after two police officers killed in the line of duty near the present park site. Elements include a memorial area for the fallen officers, open play area, playground equipment and other amenities. The park was constructed using the principals of universal design.

Riverwalk/Railtrail Loop

The Riverwalk/Railtrail loop is a non-motorized 10-mile trail that surrounds the east side of Bay City and follows the west bank of the Saginaw River. The trail is an asphalt and cement path on land once used as railroad right-of-way. The Riverwalk/Railtrail loop connects or passes very near to the following parks: Maplewood Park, Carroll Park, Bigelow Park, Ted Putz Nature Area, Riverwalk, Veterans Memorial Park, Dwan Property, Defoe Park, and Infinity Skate Park.

The Riverwalk is a scenic path that provides public access to the Saginaw River and is part of the route of the Iron Belle Pathway. The path is paved to encourage use by cyclists and roller-bladers. The pathway travels through Veterans Memorial Park, Kantzler Arboretum, and along the riverfront. A pier with a large gazebo extends into the Saginaw River. The Riverwalk was connected to Bigelow Park when a pedestrian bridge was built in 1993. Access and continued improvements to the system on the east side of the river will provide public use of the riverfront and will expand the Riverwalk to both sides of the river. The railtrail will soon be extended southward from the City to Frankenlust Township and is part of the Iron-Belle Trail.

Part of the Riverwalk/Railtrail near the Uptown Bay City Development.

The railtrail paths and amenities are fully accessible.

Roosevelt Park

Roosevelt Park is a 2.8-acres park adjacent to Broadway Avenue in the south end. Originally named Broadway Park, it was renamed Roosevelt Park in 1907. A boulder and a memorial plaque are located in the park in memory of a Native American Indian whose remains rest beneath the stone. The park also provides a tennis court, playground equipment, shelter, picnic facilities and open space area.

Sovereign Field

Sovereign Field is a City-owned park located at the corner of Truman Parkway and Woodside Avenue and is 3.2 acres in size. Established in 1974, it lies adjacent to another baseball diamond that is privately owned. This park is used by the North East Little League.

Ted Putz Nature Area

Located on the western bank of the Saginaw River at Ivy Avenue in the Salzburg Business District, this 4-acre park is an open space area and contains a boardwalk overlooking wetlands along the river floodplain.

Third Street Waterfall Park

Third Street Waterfall Park is a new park space located in downtown of the foot of Third Street and the Saginaw River. The side includes a limestone waterfall fountain, seating areas, a bridge and deck, signage, landscaping, and lighting. The Downtown Development Authority provides the maintenance for the park.

Veterans Memorial Park

Overview

Veterans Memorial Park (also known as Vets Park) is the central park of Bay County containing approximately 97 acres. It is roughly 1.2 miles long and 0.2 miles wide. This area includes land that encompasses Liberty Harbor Marina, the Veterans Memorial Park ball fields, Kantzler Arboretum, Santa House, and Trombley House. It includes the Riverwalk and the Riverwalk/Railtrail loop. Major community events such as the 4th of July Fireworks celebration, the River of Time and concerts take place in the park. A new gaga ball court was installed in 2018. A concept plan for North Veterans Park is included in the Appendix.

Liberty Harbor Marina is part of Veterans Memorial Park.

Improvements are still needed at this park to make it fully accessible. There are not

accessible pathways to all of the features such as the playground, sand volleyball, and some of the ball diamonds. There is no accessible seating area at some of the ball diamonds.

Liberty Harbor Marina

Liberty Harbor is a public marina just north of Veterans Memorial Bridge. Liberty Harbor is listed as one of 80 certified harbors by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Facilities include the 100-berth marina, shower, restroom and parking lot.

Kantzler Memorial Arboretum

The 12-acre arboretum is a landscaped plaza with various plantings maintained by civic and private organizations. It is located along the riverfront near the Bay County Community Center. The Davidson Dry Dock, a 500-foot inlet that had once been used for ship building, is located on the north edge of the arboretum. A pedestrian bridge crosses the dry dock at its mouth and joins with the Riverwalk that runs the length of Veterans Memorial Park and beyond.

Kantzler Arboretum is part of Veterans Memorial Park.

Santa House and Trombley House

The Santa House is a log building that is leased seasonally to Santa House Inc. for its event every December. The site is located near the entrance to Veterans Memorial Park on John F. Kennedy Drive.

The Trombley House is Bay County's first frame house, completed in 1837, by pioneer Joseph Trombley and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Trombley House was moved to this site in 1981. The structure is owned by the Bay County Historical Society. The house is being restored, maintained, and used by the Bay County Historical Society for public events.

Wenonah Park

This 6.1-acre downtown park is centered on an amphitheater and is used primarily for special events and arts performances at the World Friendship Shell. It is decorated with a large oval sculpture and water fountain that can be seen down the length of Center Avenue. The seawall which

accommodates all sizes of vessels was renovated in 2010 using a Michigan Natural Trust Fund Grant. In 2017, the Downtown Development Authority, in partnership with the City, constructed a multi-purpose pavilion shelter (known as the Nickless Family Community Pavilion) that provides ice skating opportunities in the winter months.

The State Theatre schedules both paid and free concerts throughout the summer and in conjunction with major events such as the 4th of July and the Tall Ships Festivals. It also offers free children's programming and concerts. Wenonah Park was established in 1908 and has a rich history serving as public space in the downtown area.

Universal design was utilized in the last renovation of the park, allowing for accessibility to all amenities, including restrooms and building doorways.

Fountain in Wenonah Park.

Accessibility

The consultant reviewed and updated the accessibility scores from the City's 2014 Recreation Plan based upon an aerial photography review of the parks and input from the City parks director. Comments regarding accessibility were provided for some of the parks in the previous section. An accessibility score is included in the inventory chart on page 16. An explanation of accessibility scores is provided in the Bay County inventory chapter on page 20. With the exception of Ramsey Park, all of the parks in Bay County have some accessible features. The most common accessibility features that are missing include accessible paths to amenities and signed and marked ADA parking.

To the extent possible, accessibility improvements will be funded through operating budgets that support yearly maintenance routines. Capital improvement monies will be requested for individual projects that require significant funding support, and which cannot be undertaken as a routine maintenance operation. It should be noted that in the period since the 2014 Recreation Plan was improved, all park improvements have been developed with universal accessibility.

BAY CITY RECREATION INVENTORY

		Acreage	Classification	Accessibility Rating	Shelter	Gazebo	Restroom Building	Activity/Concession Bldg	Porta-Potty	Storage Bldg	Parking Lot	Street Parking	Tennis Court	Basketball Court	Sofball Field	Baseball field	Play Areas & Equipment	Benches	Seat Swings	Fixed Picnic Tables	Picnic Grills	Fixed Trash Receptacle	Drinking fountain	Flag Ple	Bleachers	Bike Rack	Lighting	Electric Outlets	Water Service	Monument/Memorial	Trails & Hiking	Walking	Bicycling	X-Country	Fishing	Boat Launch or Dock	Special Events & Festivals	Open Space	Picnicking	Nature Study- Wildlife	Water Features	Other
1	**Battery Park**	1.0	MP	N/A								X						X				X																				
2	**Bicentennial East**	1.4	MP	N/A																				X					X	X												gardens
3	**Bicentennial West**	0.5	MP	N/A														1																								
4	**Bigelow Park**	11.8	RP	3	1		X	X	2	2	X						X	17		9	5	12		1		2	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	
	Rowing Club					1		1			X							2																		X						X	
5	**Birney Park**	3.5	NP	5	1							X					X	2			6		2				X	X		X								X	X			
6	**Breaker Cove**	6.6	NP	3														4				4										X	X		X	X		X	X			
7	**Carroll Park**	13.7	CP	2	1				2	1	X	X	4			1	X	10		8	10	4	2	1			X	X	X			X						X	X	X	X	gaga ball
8	**Cass Ave. Boat Launch**	1.0	SUP	3					2		X																X								X	X					X	
9	**Columbus Green**	0.2	MP	4																																						
10	**Defoe Park**	16.3	CP	4	1		X	1	1		3				2	3	X	14		2	1	6	2		1	3	X	X				X	X					X	X			skateboarding
11	**Golson Boat Launch**	43.0	RP	4	2				4		X							12		1		1				X	X			2	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	
12	**Hewitt Park**	5.4	NP	2	2					1	X	X	2			1	X	6			1	4	1	1		1	X		X									X	X			
13	**Maplewood Park**	9.7	NP	2	1							X		3		1					6	7	3	1			1	X	X		X	X	X	X				X	X			
14	**Nate Doan Park**	6.4	NP	1	2						X					X	2	4		1	2		1	1		1	X		X	X			X	x				X	X			
15	**Pershing Park**	1.5	MP	N/A																																						
16	**Putz Park**	3.7	NP	3							X							5									X								X			X	X	X	X	
17	**Rail Trail**	10.0	PT	4														64	2													X	X									sledding
18	**Ramsey Park**	1.3	NP	1								X				1	X	2		1																		X				
19	**Rexer Jablonski**	3.3	NP	3	1			3				X					X	4						1			X	X	X									X	X			
20	**Roosevelt**	2.5	NP	2	1							X	1		1		X	6		3	2	3	1			1	X			X								X	X			
21	**Sovereign Field**	3.0	SUP	3							X				1		X								X																	
22	**Trombley/Banks Park**	0.7	NP	3		1						X	X	X			X	2		2	2					1	X											X	X			gaga ball
23	**Wenonah Park**	6.1	RP	5	1		X			X	X							14		4			1	20			X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X			X	art/sculpture, performing arts
24	**Veterans Memorial Park**	19.5	RP	3	2	1	2	2	6	1	5	X	6		6		2	131	9	44		3	3	4	X	X	X	X	X	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	6 volleyball courts, fitness equipment, sledding, gaga ball, art/sculpture, arboretum
25	Liberty Harbor Marina						X			1	X							23	2	4	6	8	2			1	X	X	X		X	X	X			X		X	X		X	

See page 13-14 for definition of park classifications

Parks and Trail Locations in Bay City Michigan

Neighborhood Park

5. Birney Park
6. Breaker Cove Park
12. Hewitt Park
13. Maplewood Park
14. Nate Doan Park
16. Ted Putz Nature Area
18. Ramsey Park
19. Rexer-Jablonski Park
20. Roosevelt Park
22. Trombley / Banks Park

Regional Urban Park

4. Bigelow Park
11. Golson Nature Area
23. Wenonah Park
24. Veteran's Memorial Park

Special Use Park

8. Cass Ave Boat Launch
21. Sovereign Field

Community Park

7. Carroll Park
10. Defoe Park

Mini Park

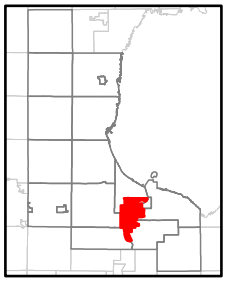
1. Battery Park
2. Bicentennial Commons East Park
3. Bicentennial Commons West Park
9. Columbus Green Park
15. Pershing Park
25. Waterfall Park

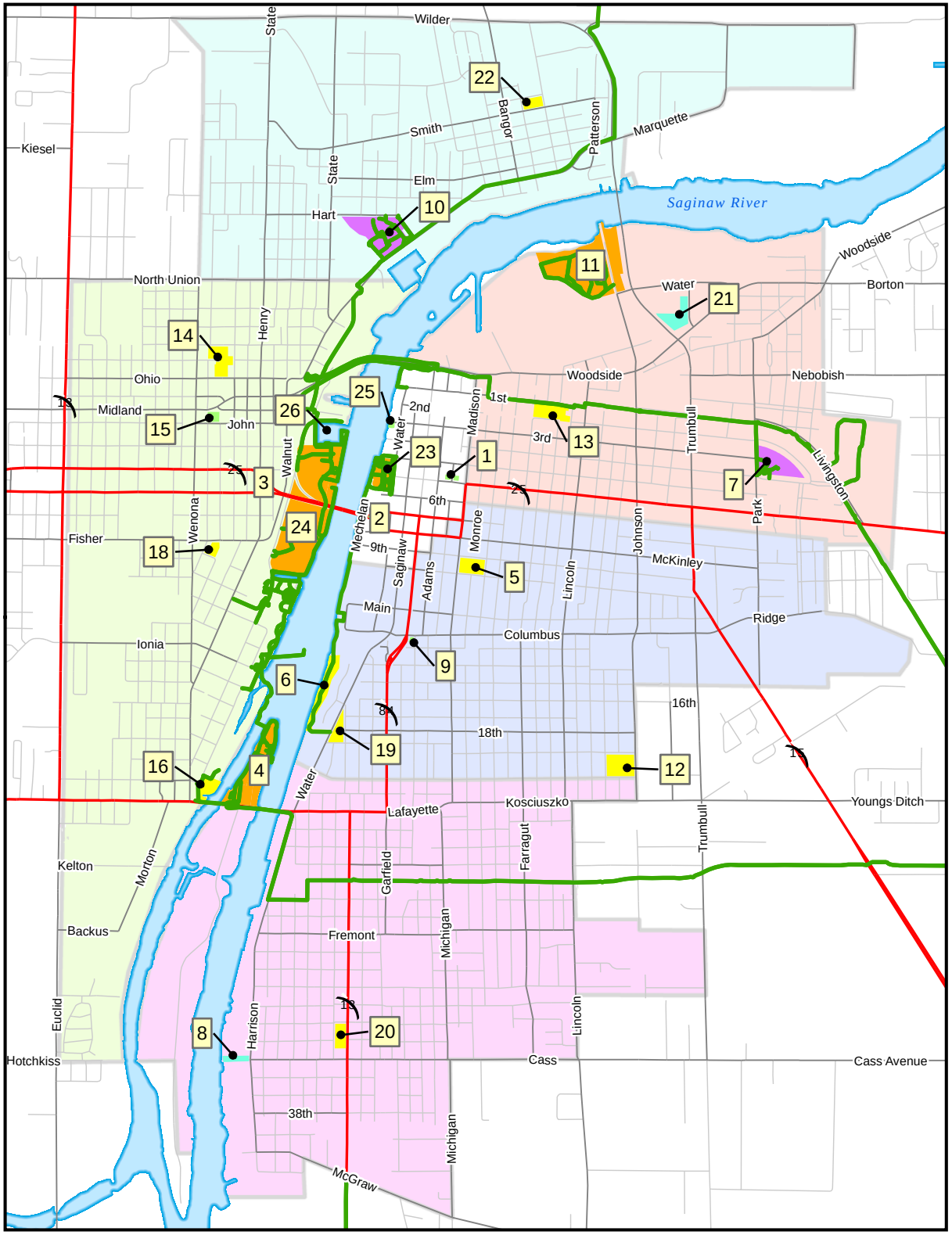
26. Liberty Harbor Marina

Columbus CDC
Midland Street CDC
Northwest CDC
Northeast CDC
Southend CDC

State Trunkline
Major Road
Minor Road
Riverwalk Railtrail

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





Map produced by: Bay County Dept. of Environmental Affairs & Community Development - GIS Program 10/29/2018

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this Map is provided and maintained by various individuals representing a number of agencies, including Bay County departments, municipal governments, and state and federal agencies. No guarantee is given as to the accuracy or currency of any of the data. Therefore, in no event shall Bay County Government be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, whether in an action of contract, negligence, or other action, arising out of or in connection with the use of the information herein provided.

Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Other Local Outdoor Recreation

The Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy and Michigan Sugar Company have rehabilitated and developed a natural space with dedicated single-track trails for mountain bikes, trail running, and hiking. The 26-acre Michigan Sugar Trails site is located on the Middlegrounds with trails open to a wide variety of users. Birders, fishermen, walkers, runners and cyclists all can enjoy the trails for recreational purposes.

Single-track, natural surface trails do not exist elsewhere in Bay City. The existing trail network loops throughout the site and covers a variety of terrain, providing quality riding experiences for riders of all levels.

Grant Assisted Projects

Bay City has received 17 previous recreation grants. All improvements are still functioning and being used with the exception of the tennis courts at Maplewood Park and the exercise path in Veterans Park. The tennis courts are no longer in use, having deteriorated beyond their expected lifetime. The exercise path fitness stations have been removed due to deterioration and safety issues.

- LWCF 26-00896 – $51,295 Maplewood Park Improvements, 1977
- LWCF 26-01060 P – $15,577, Nate Done Park Acquisition, 1978
- LWCF 26-01060 Q – $73,667, Veterans Park Acquisition, 1978
- LWCF 26-01425 – $98,866, Exercise/Handicap Path, 1986
- TF87-128 – $400,000, Bay City Saginaw River Pier, 1987
- LWCF 26-01487 – $162,865, Veteran's Memorial Park Riverwalk, 1988
- BF89-315 – $163,500, Bay City-Hampton Railtrail, 1989
- TF89-030 – $375,000, Wenonah Park Riverfront, 1989
- BF90-325 – $31,500, Carroll Park Tennis Court, 1990
- BF91-075 – $518,000, Veterans/Bigelow Footbridge, 1991
- BF93-228 – $335,000, Riverwalk E.P.A. Link, 1993
- TF93-229 – $55,000, Riverwalk Land Acquisition, 1993
- TF93-230 – $60,000, Bay City Railtrail-27th Street Land Acquisition, 1993
- TF98-006 – $178,000, 27th Street Railtrail Development, 1998
- TF06-022 – $500,000, Wenonah Park Renovation, 2006
- TF09-062 – $325,000, Birney Park Renovations, 2009
- TF17-0023 – $300,000, Imagination Station Playground, Bigelow Park, 2017

Goals and Objectives

Bay City has established the following Mission Statement to provide direction and guide decision making, as well as establishing practices and policies that with guide the improvement of recreation opportunities.

Bay City Parks and Recreation Mission Statement

Enhance the community and the city's vitality through its parks and recreation areas and to provide safe and welcoming opportunities to play, learn, and build community.

The goals and objectives which follow embody many of those stated in for the county-wide system, while elaborating on those most applicable to the City of Bay City.

The annual Fireworks Festival is a huge tourism draw in Bay City

Goal 1

Provide facilities and services that meet the diverse recreational needs of residents and visitors to the community.

Objectives:

1. Provide a balanced recreation system characterized by a variety of active, passive and cultural opportunities.
2. Provide a recreation system that reflects the needs of all users.
3. Emphasize quality of facilities and programs rather than quantity, especially in view of existing budget constraints.

Goal 2

Support the preservation and restoration of park areas or features having historical, cultural, architectural or natural significance. Preserve and enhance parks as a visual resource in the community.

Objectives:

1. Maintain existing plant communities, while continuing to improve landscapes by introducing new plantings and historical tree species, such as elms and chestnuts.
2. Adopt superior design practices. Ensure that all park improvements are utilitarian, attractive and fit within the context of existing site features.

Goal 3

Continue efforts to enhance the river corridor.

Objectives:

1. Execute Master Plans for Wenonah and Veterans Memorial Park to reduce activity conflicts, and to rehabilitate areas to better support both current and future uses.
2. Capitalize on opportunities to expand use of the river, by providing improved access for a variety of activities like fishing, boating and walking.
3. Strengthen pedestrian connections to parks within and from neighborhoods.
4. Strengthen both physical and pedestrian connections to parks within and from business districts.
5. Join with other entities to promote the river as a major recreational resource.

Bay City Rowing Club taking advantage of the Saginaw River recreational opportunities.

Goal 4

Achieve a sound financial basis for maintenance and development.

Objectives:

1. Develop long term funding strategies including the investigation of establishing a maintenance endowment fund.
2. Investigate opportunities to implement select fees.
3. Shift more financial responsibility for event services to event sponsors.
4. Develop a reliable base of volunteers to assist with maintenance needs.
5. Aggressively pursue state and federal grants for recreational improvements.
6. Seek alternative sources of funding including private donations and local grants.
7. Create an endowment program for tree plantings.

Goal 5

Increase public awareness and participation of the parks.

Objectives:

1. Utilize the City of Bay City website, newsletter, press releases to communicate information.
2. Cooperate with local volunteers, non-profit organizations and foundations that are actively participating in park improvements.
3. Explore opportunities and establish priorities for public-private partnerships to realize the full potential of park spaces.

Goal 6

Elevate the cultural qualities of the community, by incorporating visual arts disciplines in parks design and development.

Objectives:

1. Whenever feasible, promote and emphasize the unique characteristics of individual neighborhoods and the community, by incorporating artistic, historical and/ or cultural features in park areas.
2. Strengthen relationships with the local arts community, to identify opportunities to incorporate art and cultural features in park areas.

Exercising along the Saginaw River.

Goal 7

Adopt a sound planning basis for future park developments.

Objectives:

1. Develop master plans for all parks identifying needs and improvements.
2. Continue to assess community needs
3. Continue to monitor leisure trends to validate future improvements and to exploit the opportunity to modify or add services.

4. Develop a “Maintenance Impact Statement” for all proposed park improvements.
5. Insure sufficient funding is available to support all new developments or programs.
6. Focus on the rehabilitation of existing facilities.
7. Identify and modify underutilized facilities.

Goal 8

Ensure current and future park facilities comply with all facility use and development standards.

Objectives:

1. Perform regular safety inspections on all play equipment.
2. Inspect all park areas for compliance with the “American With Disabilities Act”.
3. Develop a transition plan to address barriers to accessibility.
4. Incorporate universal accessibility and safety standards into all new designs.

Goal 9

Continue to develop partnerships with entities to program and maintain facilities.

Objectives:

1. Renew agreement with Bay County for continued cooperative programming and maintenance of community park areas.
2. Promote cooperation and resource sharing among recreation providers.
3. Support volunteer efforts to maintain and improve park areas.
4. Pursue “community service opportunities” with the local court and school systems.
5. Inventory potential maintenance needs
6. Where feasible, design facilities for multi-purpose uses.

Goal 10

Improve the efficiency of park maintenance and management operations.

Objectives:

1. Develop priorities for maintaining service levels.
2. Refine maintenance routines.
3. Enhance personnel training
4. Equip workforce with state-of-the-art tools and equipment.
5. Apply new technologies to maintenance management (equipment, methods, and materials).
6. Develop data base and inventory of each park facility.
7. Upgrade and continue to improve maps, records and record keeping.
8. Refine policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
9. Adopt best practices.

Action Plan

Bay City has developed list of capital improvements for the next five years. This list is based on known issues and needs in the parks and feedback from the community input survey. Each of these projects will accomplish one or more of the goals and objectives listed above.

Figure 21 BAY CITY PARKS AND RECREATION ACTION PLAN				
Location	**Type of Improvements**	**Year**	**Estimated Cost**	**Potential Funding Source**
Dwan Property	Open for public access	2019-2020	$20,000	City/local grant
Middlegrounds (Bigelow Park)	New rugby field	2018 – 2019	$30,000	Rugby Team
Wenonah Park	Phase III bandshell renovation	2020	$1,500,000	DDA, City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Railtrail	Extension south to Bay-Zil Trail	2020-2021	$300,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Maplewood Park	Site improvements* and new playground	2021	$200,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Nate Doan Park	Park renovation	2022	$250,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Ramsey Park	Site improvements*, splash pad, new playground, picnic area and umbrellas	2022	$480,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Vets Park	Picnic area with umbrellas, parking lot rehabilitation, food truck lot	2022	$450,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Defoe Park	New playground (Hart Street), site improvements	2023	$275,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Wenonah Park	Site improvements*, new decorative water feature, parking lot rehabilitation, restroom rehabilitation.	2023	$500,000	DDA, City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Carroll Park	Site improvements*, new playground and parking lot rehabilitation.	2024	$240,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants
Roosevelt Park	Site improvements*, picnic area with umbrellas, splash pad, new playground	2024	$580,000	City, local grants, CDBG, and DNR grants

** Site improvements typically include sidewalks, benches, rubbish/recycling bins, and lighting.*

Beaver Township

Community Description

Beaver Township is located on the west side of Bay County, approximately 10 miles northwest of Bay City. Townships bordering Beaver are Williams to the south, Garfield Township to the north and Kawkawlin Township to the east. Midland County's Larkin Township is located to the west. The Township is very rural and the land is used largely for agricultural purposes. The Kawkawlin River flows across the northeast portion of the Township. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Beaver Township has a population of 2,849.

Other significant demographic data for Beaver Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 22 below.

	Beaver Twp.	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	42.6	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	22.2%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	21.4%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	88.7%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.75	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	16.4%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$53,844	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$26,758	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	14.4%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	5.6%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 22 - Selected Census Data for Beaver Township as compared to the county, state and country.

Administrative Structure

The Beaver Township Board is responsible for all parks and recreation functions in Beaver Township. Beaver Township formed a Parks and Recreation Committee in 1979 which oversees parks and recreation functions in the community. Nine people serve on the committee – eight from within the community and one rotational Board of Trustees member. Committee members are appointed by the Township Board of Trustees. The group meets monthly.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Beaver Township owns and operates a Township Park. Additionally, recreational facilities are provided to the public by the Beaver Athletic Association and Zion Lutheran Church and schools. There are also recreational programs put on at the Beaver Township Hall. The Township provides three annual recreational programs and has plans to include more special events in the coming years. Volunteers serve the parks in the capacity of activities such as park clean up, programming organization, and other functions as needed.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation functions in Beaver Township are the township general fund, grants, and donations. Most recently, the Township received an $11,870 grant from the East Michigan Council of Government's 2017 Mini Grant Cycle for playground equipment.

Figure 23 BEAVER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2017-18	**2018-19**
Operation & Maintenance	$2,417	$3,005
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	$5,442	$6,535
Capital Expenditures	$12,100	$6,660
Total	**$19,959**	**$16,200**

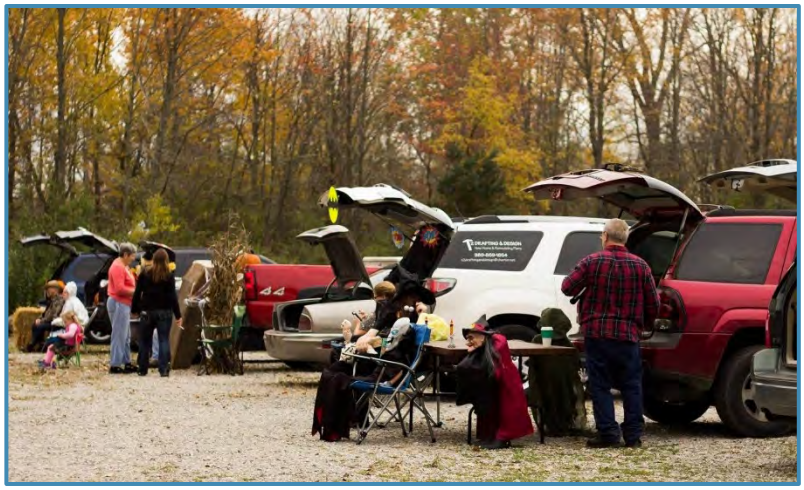
Recreation Inventory

Beaver Township completed a park inventory in summer of 2018. The Township has two park facilities, the Township Park and the area around the Township Hall. They are working on expanding the outdoor recreation opportunities at the Township Hall. The parks are inventoried in the table below.

Figure 24 BEAVER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY		
	Beaver Township Park	**Beaver Township Hall**
Park Type*	Community Park	Mini-Park
Acreage	15	2
Accessibility*	2	3
Service Area	Beaver Township	Beaver Township
Basketball Court		1
Horseshoe Pits	Yes	
Parking Facilities	Front and Rear Parking Lots	Front
Pavilion	Yes	
Picnic Tables	4	
Playground	1	
Restrooms	Port-a-John only (Handicap-Accessible)	
Walking Trail	1	

* See County inventory section on pages ____ for definitions of park type and accessibility. Beaver Township needs improvement in several areas in order to increase its rating for accessibility. Needed are paved, striped, and signed ADA parking spaces; accessible pathways to all amenities; accessible picnic tables; accessible grills; and wheelchair spaces next to benches.

Goals and Objectives



Beaver Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community in 2013. These were reviewed and verified in 2018.

GOAL 1

Continue to promote the park and its facilities.

Objectives

1. Establish and maintain contacts with the public, residents, local schools, and organizations encouraging use of the park and shared use of other facilities.
2. Preserve and protect open space and significant natural features in the Township and the park.

GOAL 2

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for the area residents.

GOAL 3

Develop recreational facilities that provide accessibility for people of all abilities.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Beaver Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

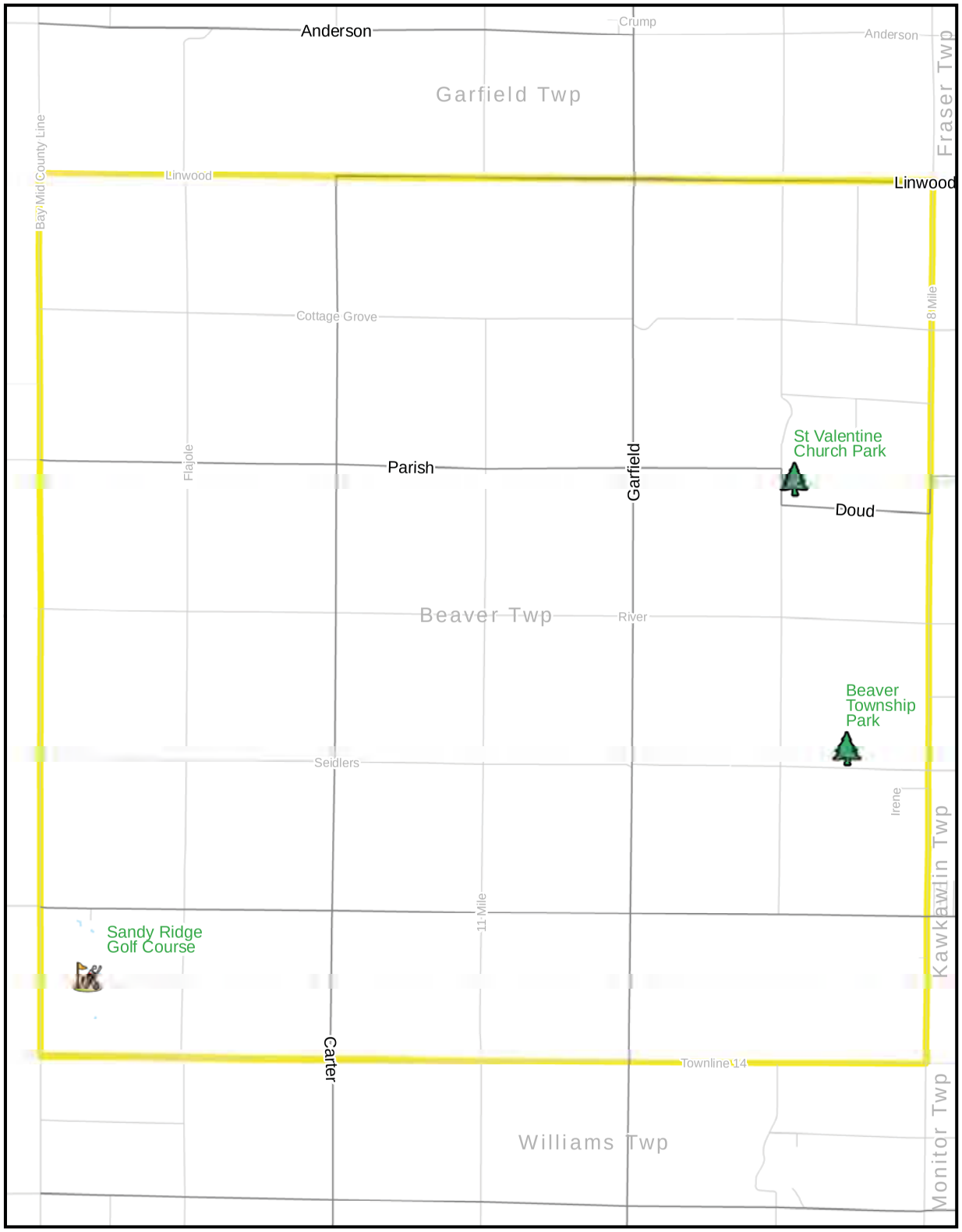
1. Expand Township recreational facilities and utilities.
2. Update and expand existing trails and tracks.
3. Continue holding annual events.

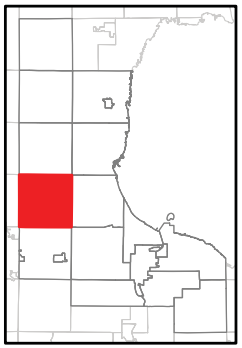
Park and Trail Locations in Beaver Township Michigan

Legend

- Township
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





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Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Essexville

Community Description

The City of Essexville is a small community located on the Saginaw River that is sandwiched between Bay City on its west and Hampton Township to the east. The City contains approximately 900 acres and most of the land is developed for residential use. There are significant industrial uses along the 1.4 mile stretch of the Saginaw River frontage in Essexville. Most of these are storage for grain and construction materials that take advantage of the river and adjacent railway for transportation. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Essexville has a population of 3,418.

Other significant demographic data for the City of Essexville as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 25 below.

	Essexville	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	38.9	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	17.8%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	22.7%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	89.4%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.42	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	22.7%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$49,531	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$29,017	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	15.5%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	15.2%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 25 - Selected Census Data for Essexville as compared to the county, state and country. *Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.*

Administrative Structure

The City of Essexville operates and maintains its municipal facilities under the auspices of the City Manager, in conjunction with the Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works is responsible for park maintenance. Recreation facility planning is done with the assistance of the Recreation Committee. The Recreation Committee is composed of community residents who are appointed by the City Council. This committee reviews plans that the City is proposing in regard to recreation and makes suggestions to the City Administration. The City of Essexville does not provide any recreation programming and its recreation expenditures are used for capital improvements and maintenance.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The Essexville Little League Association sponsors baseball and softball programs for youth.

Budgets

The source of funding for parks and recreation in Essexville is the City general fund. The current and next year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 26.

Figure 26 ESSEXVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2016-17	**2017-19**
Operation & Maintenance	$20,921	$36,310
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$0	$0
Total	**$20,921**	**$36,310**

Recreation Inventory

Essexville has 7.80 acres of parkland in seven different parks. Five of these parks are very small at less than one-half acre. The quantity of parkland in the City has more than doubled in the past five years with the addition of the new Ransom Essex Park, which was part of the former Hughes Elementary School. This adds a large open space four-acre parcel to the City's park properties. The recreation inventory was completed from the existing recreation master plan and updated as necessary by City staff. It should be noted that Essexville-Hampton School facilities are also used for local public recreation.

Figure 27 ESSEXVILLE RECREATION INVENTORY								
	Smith Park	Municipal Park	Main Street Boat Launch	Veterans Memorial Park	Woodside Right-of-Way Park	Woodside - Borton Plaza Park	Youth Memorial Park	Ransom Essex Park
Park Type*	NP	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP	NP
Acreage	2.04	0.1	0.77	0.12	0.2	0.1	0.38	4.09
Accessibility*	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Service Area	City	City	City	¼ mile	¼ mile	¼ mile	¼ mile	City
Basketball Court		2						
Multi-use Path							Yes	
Pavilion	Yes							
Picnic Area	Yes							
Sand Volleyball	Yes							
Boat Launch	Yes		Yes					
Grills	Yes		Yes					
Restrooms	Yes							
Open Playfield								Yes
Swingset	Yes							

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Accessibility – Accessibility scores are rated as such because not all amenities in the parks are fully accessible. There may not be accessible paths to features and/or ADA parking spaces may be lacking or not adequately signed.

Grant History

The City of Essexville has received one DNR recreation grant. In 1991, it received $69,000 from the MNRTF (TF91-254) for improvements at Smith Park. The improvements are still open and functional.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Essexville developed the goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community in 2014. They were updated for the current plan.

GOAL 1

Increase recreation opportunities along the Saginaw River.

Objectives:

1. Develop a marina.
2. Develop shore fishing and viewing areas.
3. Link recreational opportunities with multi-use paths.
4. Add a boat launch.

GOAL 2

Provide recreation opportunities for senior citizens and the disabled.

Objectives:

1. Insure that all future improvements are ADA accessible.

GOAL 3

Improve the quality of Neighborhood Parks.

Objectives:

1. Provide more active recreational opportunities in Essexville.
2. Work on cooperative agreements with the school district to enhance outdoor recreation on existing school facilities.

GOAL 4

Provide recreation facilities in known recreation deficient zones.

Objectives:

1. Acquire additional park/open space acreage to develop as a neighborhood park facility on the western side of the City.
2. Promote the redevelopment of vacated lands for recreational use where appropriate.

GOAL 5

Provide more citywide recreation opportunities.

Objectives:

1. Add multi-use paths, focusing on areas near the Saginaw River and paths that will provide a linking trail network across the City.
2. Develop an ice skating rink, dog park and walking paths in Ransom Essex Park.
3. Develop outside gathering areas at the various municipal parks.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Essexville has identified the following items to be part of its action plan. Each project will work toward accomplishing one or more goals and objectives identified above.

1. Main Street Overlook and Fishing Pier - Redevelopment of Main Street street-end to include a boat launch and ADA accessible fishing pier and viewing platform.
2. Smith Park – Renovation of Smith Park to include fishing pier and park improvement.
3. Hughes Field – Continue to develop the elementary school property as a neighborhood park. Investigate the availability of additional land on the west side of the City to develop into a neighborhood park.
4. Develop a seawall and fishing platform at Smith Path.
5. Develop an outdoor auditorium (band shell) at Ransom Essex Park.

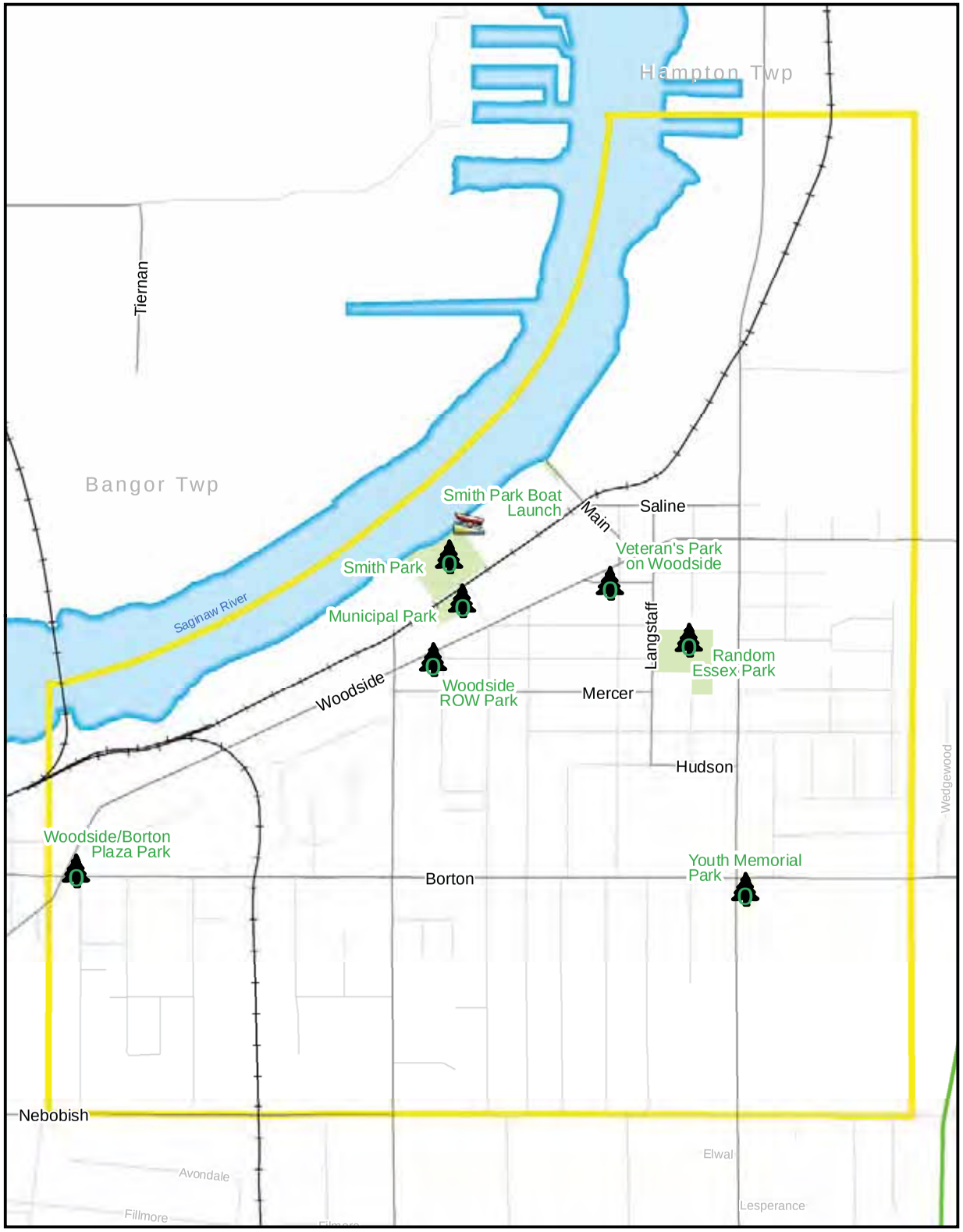
Park and Trail Locations in City of Essexville Michigan

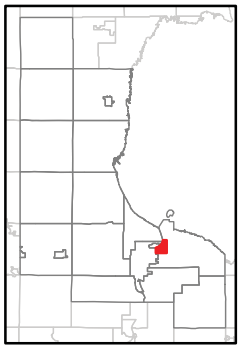
Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

N

0 380 760 1,520 Feet





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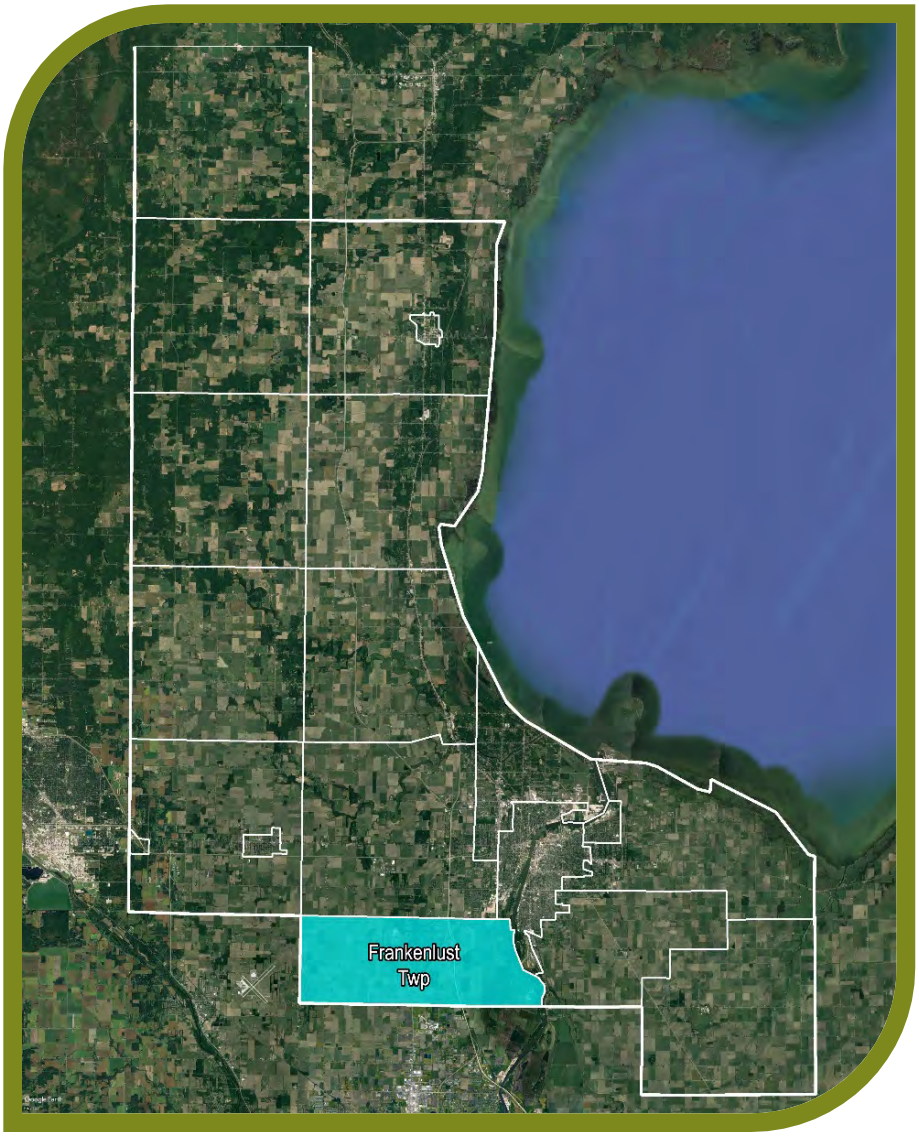
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI



Frankenlust Township

Community Description

Frankenlust Township is located in southern Bay County, southwest of Bay City. It is one of the County's smaller townships, at 23.05 square miles. The majority of the land in the Township is used for agricultural purposes. There is a significant amount of wetlands in the southeast portion of the Township near the Saginaw River. Bay Valley and Saginaw Valley Golf courses are also located in Frankenlust Township. The Township is the home of Delta College, the community college that was established to serve Saginaw, Midland, and Bay Counties. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Frankenlust Township has 3,562 people.

Other significant demographic data for Frankenlust Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 28 below. In general, the Township's residents are older and wealthier than other townships in Bay County.

	Frankenlust	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	45.4	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	19.7%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	19.7%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	76.5%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.50	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	38.4%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$75,714	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$35,261	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	8.1%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	15.2%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 28 - Selected Census Data for Frankenlust Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

In Frankenlust Township, the Parks Committee and the Township Board handle the parks and recreation functions. The Parks Committee is made up of 8 to 10 volunteer township residents. They meet monthly from March through November. Their decisions are subject to approval by the Frankenlust Township Board. These residents also serve as volunteers who perform parks maintenance activities.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Frankenlust Township works closely with the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Committee for maintenance of the GLBRT Trail in Frankenlust Township. Currently, the Saginaw County Parks maintains the trail for the GLBRT Committee.

Budgets

Funding for Parks and Recreation functions in Frankenlust Township come from the Township general fund and donations. Budgets for the current year are shown in the chart below.

Figure __ FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2017-2018	**2018-2019**
Operation & Maintenance	$10,000	$10,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$0	$0
Total	**$10,000**	**$10,000**

Recreation Inventory

Frankenlust Township owns two parks, the Frankenlust Township Park and the Frankenlust Nature Park. Since the development of the 2014 Bay Area Recreation Plan, Frankenlust has also added 3.5 miles of the Great Lakes Bay (GLBRT) Trail. This section of the trail is known as the BayZil Rail Trail. The 2018 inventory was completed by updating data from the previous plan. A concept plan for the Nature Park and a park location map are provided at the end of this section.

Figure 30 FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Frankenlust Township Play Park	**Nature Park**	**GLBRT Trail**
Park Type*	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	Park-Trail
Acreage	7.9	23	3.5 miles
Accessibility	3	3	5
Service Area	Entire Township	Entire Township	Region
Basketball Court	Yes		
Nature Trail	Yes	Yes	
Pavilion	Yes		
Picnic Area	Yes	Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes (2 ponds)	
Playground	Yes		
Playfield (open space)	Yes	Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Accessibility – Accessibility scores are rated as such because not all amenities in the parks are fully accessible. Some features do not have accessible paths to access them and/or ADA parking spaces may be lacking or not adequately signed.

Grant History

Frankenlust Township has received two recreation grants from the DNR. Both are for the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail. All improvements are still functional.

- TF11-089 – $300,0000, GLBRT Trail Development
- TF14-0234 – $280,000, GLBRT Trail Development

Goals and Objectives

Frankenlust Township developed the following goals for parks and recreation in the community in 2014. They were reviewed for the 2018 plan and no changes were made.

GOAL 1

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Frankenlust Township.

GOAL 2

Develop the Township Park into a family friendly active use park.

GOAL 3

Develop the Nature Park into a quiet, natural, passive park.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Frankenlust Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

1. Add electricity to pavilion at Play Park.
2. Rebuild dam between hatching pond and main pond at Nature Park.
3. Widen and pave handicap walkway at Play Park.
4. Add bathroom to pavilion at Play Park.
5. Make the Nature Park more handicap-accessible.
6. Consider adding a gazebo on the hill at the Nature Park.
7. Identify different plants and trees at the Nature Park.

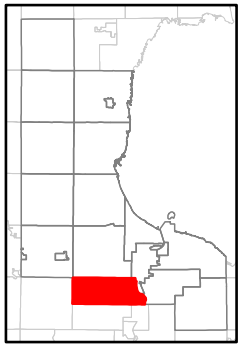
Frankenlust Township Nature Park
Map Design by The Print Shop
Distance Legend and Markers
Outer Loop = 3/4 Mile
Inner Loop = 1/2 Mile
Side Loop = 1/4 Mile
= Bench
= Porta Potty
= Bat House
= Information
= Picnic Area
= Duck House
= Bird House
= Dock
Dodge Pond
Michael's Turtle Pond
White Tail Trail 412'
White Tail Trail 186'
Frog Loop 620'
Fawn Trail 792'
Oak Trail 1050'
Mallard Trail 269'
Lilac Lane 473'
Garden Path 185'
Garden Path 298'
Eagle View 386'
Eagle View 435'
Fox Trail 217'
Fox Trail 286'
Chatail Trail 286'
Turtle Trail 551'
I-75
Three Mile Road
Hotchkiss Road

Park and Trail Locations in Frankenlust Township Michigan

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Legend

- Township; City
- Park; Nature Area
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock



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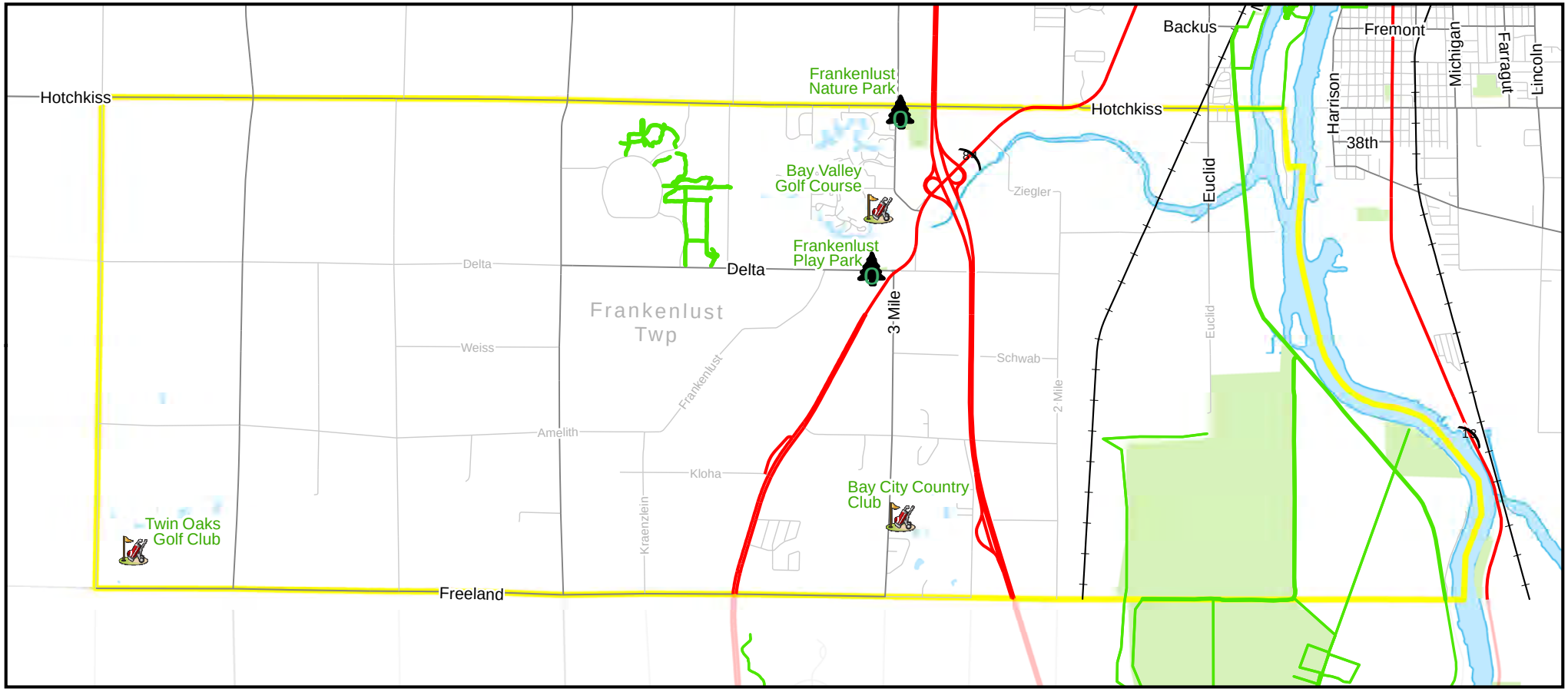


Fraser Township

Community Description

Fraser Township is located on Saginaw Bay approximately 10 miles north of Bay City. It contains the northern portion of the community of Linwood. The Township lands are largely used for agricultural purposes. Large tracts of woodlands are located along M-13 which traverses the east side of the Township from north to south. According to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate, Fraser Township has 3,145 people.

Other significant demographic data for Fraser Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 31 below. It is worth noting that Frasier Township's median age is higher than all other

communities in Bay County, except Merritt Township. It also has a very high percentage of owner occupied homes, at 93.8%.

	Frasier	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	50	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	24.8%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	16.5%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	93.8%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.36	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	11.9%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$47,133	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$23,243	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	22.5%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	17.5%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 31 - Selected Census Data for Fraser Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Fraser Township are administered by the Township Board. It contracts out grass cutting for the Township Park. The Township has no recreation programming of its own. Volunteers coach the soccer teams in the community.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Volunteers coach the soccer teams in the community. The local school district uses soccer fields at the Township Park for practice. The Township Park also serves as a storage area for football equipment for Pinconning Linwood Area Youth Football.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Fraser Township is the Township general fund. Current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 32.

Figure 32 FRASER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2017	**2018**
Operation & Maintenance	$6,000	11,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures*	NA	NA
Total	**$6,000**	**$11,000**

***** The Township has $10,000 to $15,000 available for capital expenditures.

Recreation Inventory

Frasier Township updated its existing inventory based on the 2014 Plan. Fraser Township has two parks which are inventoried in the chart below. It also leases a trail from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources that has recently been developed as part of the Iron Belle Trail. It should be noted that the Linwood Road Scenic Park is owned partly by Fraser Township and partly by Kawkawlin Township. The portion north of Linwood Road belongs to Fraser Township and the portion south of Linwood Road belongs to Kawkawlin Township. A location map for the parks is contained at the end of this section.

Figure 33 FRASER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Township Park	**Linwood Road Scenic Park**	**Iron Belle Trail**
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use Park	Park Trail
Acreage	80	.8	3.5 miles
Accessibility*	3	2	3
Service Area	Entire Township	Bay County	Fraser Township
Boat Launch		Yes	
Football/Soccer Fields	Yes		
Ball Diamonds	2		
Pavilion	Yes		
Grills	2		
Horseshoes	2		
Picnic Area	Yes		
Restrooms	2		
Playground	Yes		
Playfield (open space)	Yes		
Waterfront Property		Yes (500')	

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Accessibility – Accessibility scores are rated as such because not all amenities in the parks are fully accessible. Some features do not have accessible paths. ADA parking spaces may be lacking or not adequately signed.

Goals and Objectives

Fraser Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community when the 2014 Recreation Plan was written. Those goals and objectives were reviewed and verified for the 2019 Plan.

GOAL 1

Provide a safe place for children to play.

Objective:

Maintain recreational playground equipment for children aged 2 – 12 that complies with current safety standards.

GOAL 2

Improve existing park facilities so as to provide recreational facilities that the entire community can be proud of and thereby increase usage.

Objective:

Improve and upgrade existing ball field.

GOAL 3

Provide more information to the community about the Iron Belle Trail

Objective:

Inform residents and visitors about bird and wildlife watching opportunities along the Iron Bell Trail.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Fraser Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

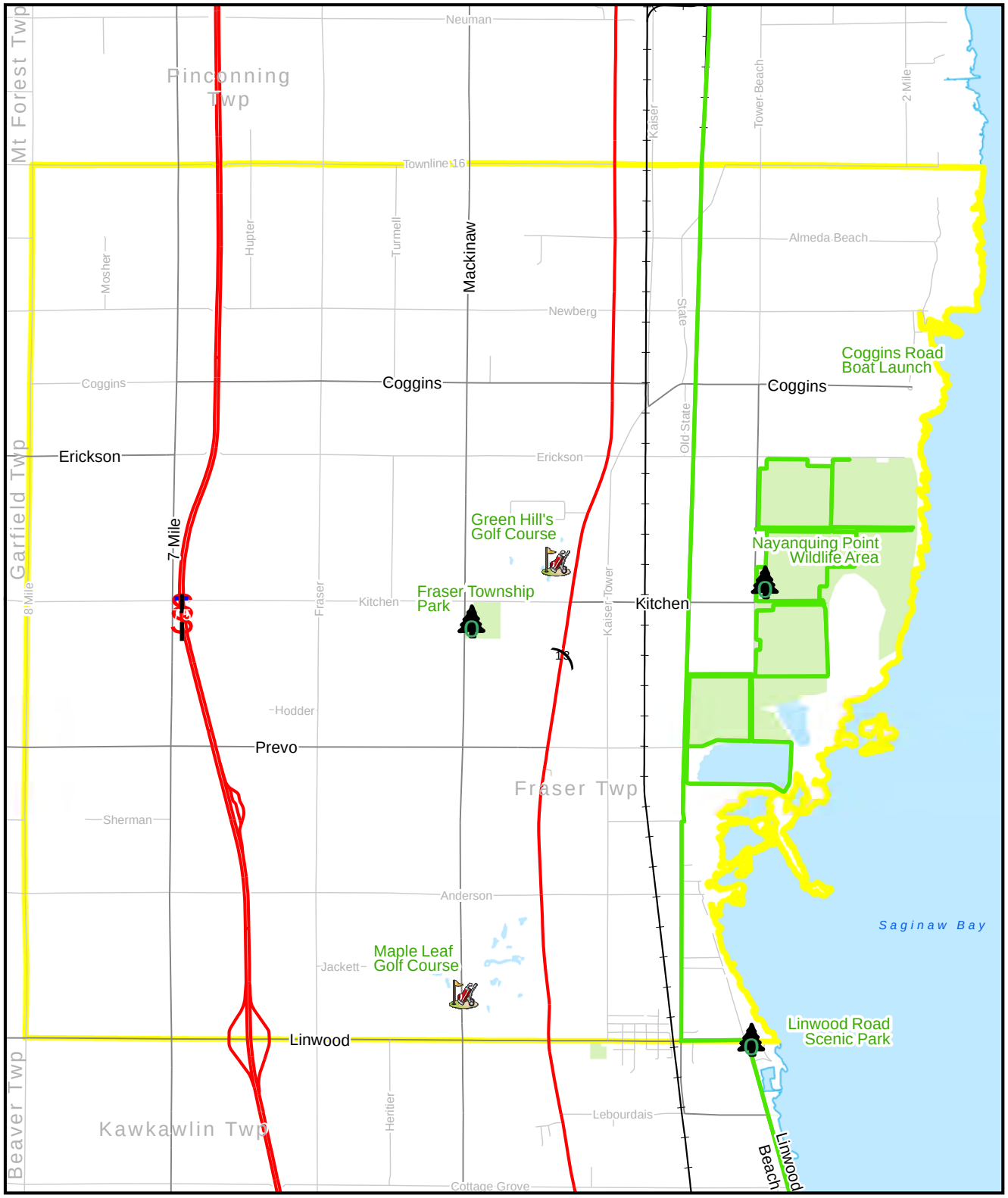
1. Develop a disc golf course on the Township's 80-acre parcel.
2. Convert a ball diamond at the Township Community Park into a dog run.
3. Add information about the Township park and recreation opportunities on the Township website.

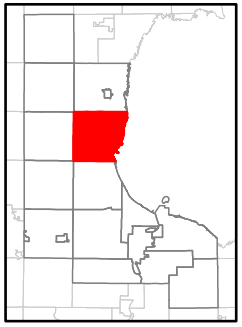
Park and Trail Locations in Fraser Township Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





Map produced by: Bay County Dept. of Environmental Affairs & Community Development - GIS Program 10/29/2018

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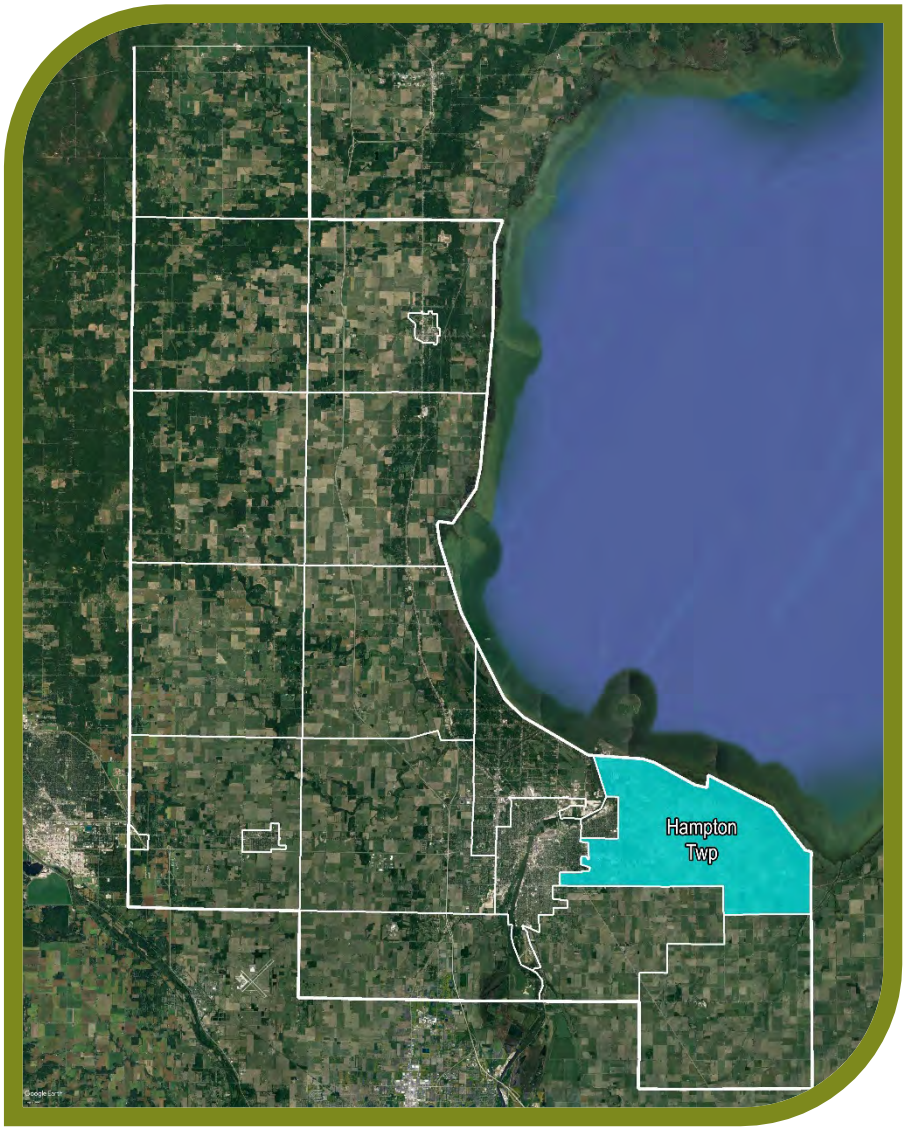
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI



Hampton Township

Community Description

Hampton Charter Township is located in southeast Bay County, east of Bay City and Essexville. It contains approximately 9 miles of Saginaw Bay shoreline and 1.5 miles of Saginaw River frontage. The eastern portion of the Township is known for its rich agricultural lands. The western portion of the Township is more densely populated, serving as an extension of Bay City. This area features several apartment complexes and senior living centers. The shoreline is dotted with wetlands that serve as habitat for wildlife and waterfowl. M-25 is the major roadway in the Township. It runs east to west across the southern portion of the Township and it carries the majority of the traffic in and through the

community. The population of Hampton Township is 9,521, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

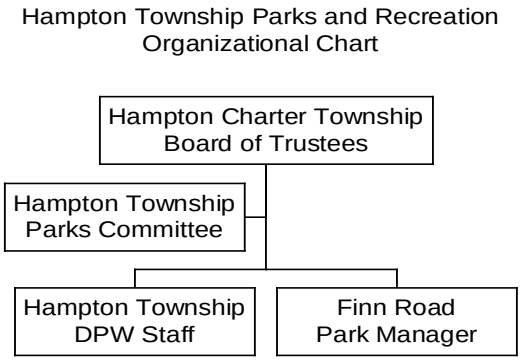
Other significant demographic data for Hampton Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 34below.

	Hampton	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	48.5	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	21.9%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	18.3%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	64.8%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.17	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	20.1%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$45,865	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$27,023	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	18.0%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	14.9%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 34 - Selected Census Data for Hampton Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

The Township Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the parks and recreation function in Hampton Charter Township. The current parks and recreation department functions are operated under the DPW and carried out by three full-time DPW workers.



The seven-member Department of Public Works staff is responsible for operating and maintaining the parks in Hampton Charter Township. Additionally, a full-time manager is hired for Finn Road Park during the summer months. The Township Board of Trustees is advised by the Hampton Township Parks Committee regarding park related issues.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Hampton Charter Township has a good working relationship with the Essexville-Hampton School District in terms of parks and recreation facilities. The Hampton Charter Township DPW staff maintains the fields at Pondside Park for practice fields.

Hampton Charter Township has representation on the Bay County Riverwalk / Railtrail Committee. This committee is an initiative of the Bay Area Community Foundation and it deals with issues relating to operating, maintaining, and improving and extending the existing Riverwalk / Railtrail. The group focuses on visioning and fundraising as well. Membership includes representatives from various governmental units, governmental agencies (i.e. Road Commission, Bay County Transportation Planning Department), the community at-large and the Bay Area Community Foundation.

Budgets

The sources of funding for parks and recreation in Hampton Charter Township are the Township general fund, campground fees, Finn Road Boat Launch fees, and pavilion rentals. The current and previous year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 35
HAMPTON TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS

	2016	2017
Operation & Maintenance	$86,830	$83,888
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures*	$63,654	$48,720
Total	**$150,484**	**$132,608**

Recreation Inventory

Hampton Charter Township currently owns six recreational facilities. A seventh parcel at the end of Callahan Road has been acquired by the Township but has not yet been developed. Hampton Township reviewed its inventory from the 2014 Recreation Plan and updated it accordingly. The parks inventoried for Hampton Charter Township are found on the following pages.

Figure 36
HAMPTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY

	Bay-Hampton Rail Trail	Ridge Road Park	Pondside Park	Finn Road Campground	Jones Road Park	Nature Trail	Callahan Road End Property
Park Type*	Park-Trail	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	Special Use	Special Use	Park-Trail	Not developed
Acreage /Distance	1 mile	6 acres	30 acres	12 acres	3 acres	3.5 miles	2.5 acres
Accessibility*	4	2	2	3	2	4	NA
Accessibility Comment		No ADA marked parking. Lacking paths to amenities.	No ADA marked parking. Lacking paths to amenities.	Restroom not fully accessible	No ADA marked parking.		
Service Area	County	Neighborhoods within 2 miles	Entire Twp.	Entire Twp. & beyond	Entire Twp. & beyond	Entire Twp.	Entire Twp.
Ball Diamond		Yes	2				
Multi-use Path	Yes			Yes		Yes	
Pavilion		2	Yes	Yes			
Tennis Courts			4				
Playground		Yes	Yes	Yes			
Basketball Court			Yes				
Sledding Hill		Yes	Yes				
Picnic Area		Yes		Yes			
Restrooms	Yes**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Open Playfield		Yes	Yes	Yes			
Campground				57 sites			
Boat Launch				Yes	Yes		
Overlook Platform				Yes	Yes		
Saginaw Bay Access				Yes	Yes		Yes
Other	Benches	Grills, Horseshoes	Pond	Grills, Benches			

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

** Portable restrooms only.

Grant History

Hampton Township has received six DNR Recreation Grants for acquisition of or improvements to its parks. All projects are open and functional with the exceptions as noted below.

- LWCF 26-00460 – $30,011, acquisition of 10 acres for Finn Road Park
- TF724 – $34,783, Pondside Park Improvements (tennis courts are no longer lit – 42 years old)
- TF26-01464 – $99,000, Finn Road Park Improvements
- BF90-041 – $53,600, Hampton Railtrail
- TF00-063 – $130,800, Expansion of Finn Road Park
- TF15-0011 – $182,300, Finn Road Park Improvements

Goals and Objectives

The Hampton Charter Township Parks Committee formulated the following goals and objectives in 2008 based upon the characteristics of the overall community and the input received from the Bay County community input survey. The goals were reviewed and verified for the 2014 plan and they have been reviewed and verified again for the 2019 plan.

GOAL 1

Provide safe broad community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 2

Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.

Objectives

1. Develop programs for special needs population.
2. Ensure that improvements and upgrades to parks are handicap accessible.

GOAL 3

Develop a non-motorized trail network in Hampton Charter Township.

Hampton Charter Township currently has two separate trails – the unpaved Nature Trail and a portion of the paved Bay County Railtrail/Riverwalk. Based on community input, the Township would like to expand its trail system and develop a network of trails for residents and visitors.

GOAL 4

Acquire more park land as needed and as it becomes available.

GOAL 5

Improve communication with residents regarding parks and recreation facilities and programming.

Objectives

1. Improve the Township's Parks and Recreation web site to communicate with residents regarding park and recreation.

2. Develop a brochure that describes the parks in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 6

Provide recreational facilities that take advantage of the water based natural resources in Hampton Charter Township.

Objectives

1. Add shore fishing facilities in Hampton Charter Township.
2. Develop swimming access points in Hampton Charter Township.

GOAL 7

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration given to activities improving health and fitness.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, community input, and available resources, Hampton Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan.

1. Remove the tennis courts at Pondside Park. The tennis courts are more than 40 years old and are no longer repairable.
2. Consider options for open space at Pondside Park after the tennis courts are removed.
3. Upgrade the playground equipment at Pondside Park. The existing playground equipment is old, outdated, and potentially unsafe.
4. Upgrade the playground equipment at Finn Rod Park. The existing playground equipment is old, outdated, and potentially unsafe.
5. Upgrade the trail between Finn Road and Jones Road Park. New gravel is needed.
6. Upgrade the gravel parking lot at Jones Road Park.

Park and Trail Locations in Hampton Township Michigan

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map produced by: Bay County Dept. of Environmental Affairs & Community Development - GIS Program 10/29/2018

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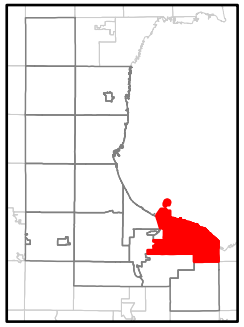
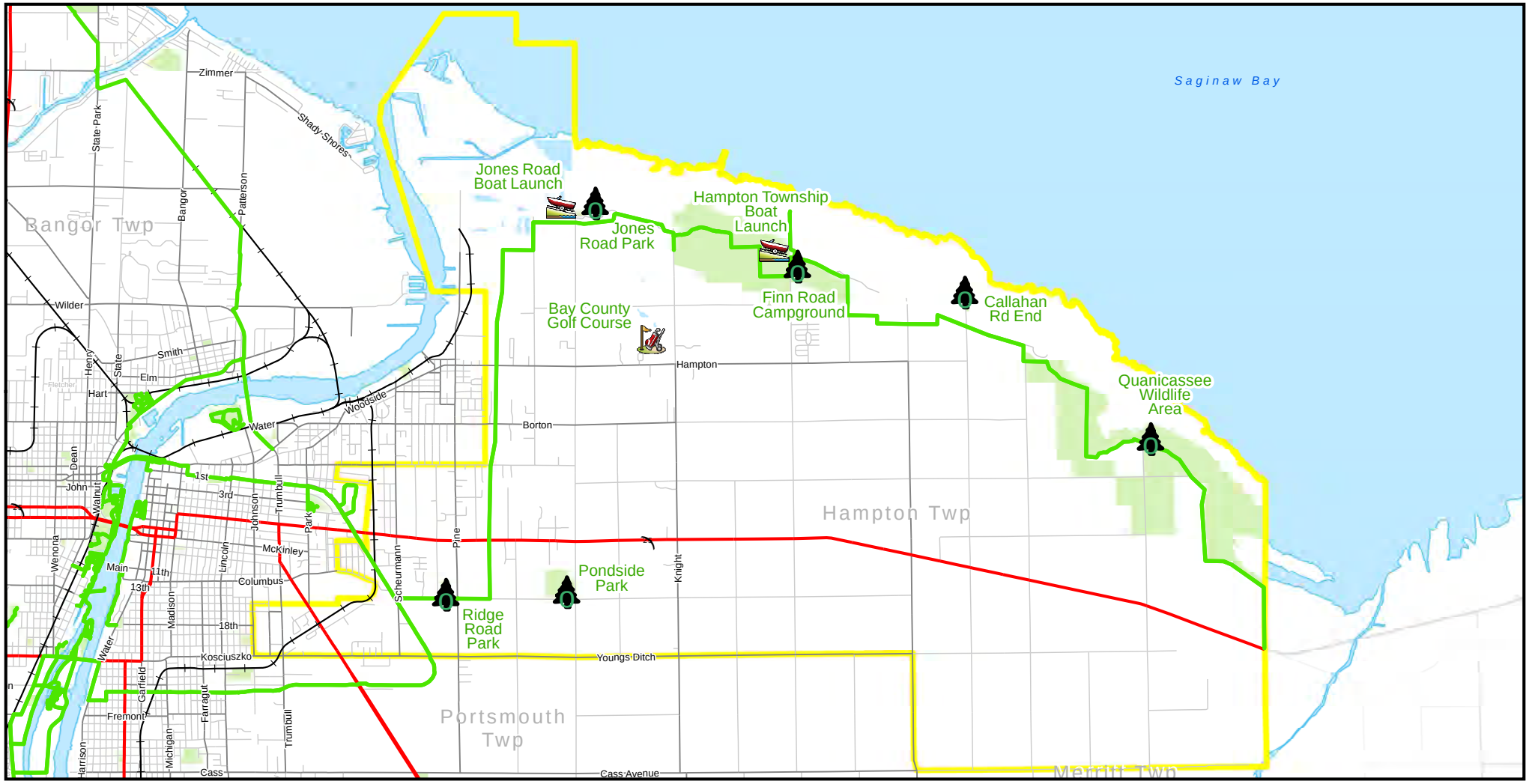
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Legend

- Township; City
- Park; Nature Area
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock





Kawkawlin Township

Community Description

Kawkawlin Township is located north of Bay City and Monitor Township along Saginaw Bay. Lands within the Township are largely agricultural with some woodlands and wetlands located near the Bay and along the Kawkawlin River. The wetlands contain the large Tobico Marsh Wildlife Unit of the Bay City State Recreation Area. The nearly 2000-acre Tobico Marsh serves as habitat for a wide variety of wildlife and waterfowl. The unincorporated community of Kawkawlin is located in the southern part of the Township, along M-13. The population of Kawkawlin Township is 4,764, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

Other significant demographic data for Kawkawlin Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 37 below.

	Kawkawlin	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	45.3	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	17.5%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	21.9%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	91.1%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.46	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	18.6%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$53,942	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$29,178	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	14.9%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	8.7%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 37 - Selected Census Data for Kawkawlin Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

The Township Board is responsible for the function of parks and recreation in Kawkawlin Township. The Township contracts the responsibilities of grass cutting and parks maintenance each year. One part-time employee monitors the pavilion at Kawkawlin Park.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Volunteers assist with several parks and recreation programs in Kawkawlin. Volunteers serve as coaches and work in the concession stand for the youth baseball league. Volunteers who participate in the Kawkawlin youth ball league maintain the Township's four ball diamonds. Volunteers also work in the Township's Archery program as instructors. There are about 40 to 50 volunteers who assist with Parks

There are many examples of ongoing relationships with community organizations in the facilitation of parks and recreation in Kawkawlin. Bay Area Soccer Association (BASA) teams use the Township soccer field for practice. During the Linwood Pickle Fest, the ball fields are used for a tournament, and the township hall is used for a pageant.

Budgets

Funding for the park and recreation budget in Kawkawlin Township mainly comes from the Township general fund, with a small amount of support coming from fundraisers and donations. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown below.

Figure 38
KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS

	2017-18	2018-19
Operation & Maintenance	$17,650	$14,200
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	0	$500
Capital Expenditures	0	$15,000
Total	**$17,650**	**$29,500**

Recreation Inventory

Kawkawlin Township reviewed and updated the inventory completed as part of the 2014 Recreation Plan. Kawkawlin Township owns one traditional park, Kawkawlin Park. It owns a portion of Linwood Scenic Park. The portion of Linwood Scenic Park on the north side of Linwood Road is owned by Fraser Township and the portion of the south side of Linwood Road is owned by Kawkawlin Township. Kawkawlin Township also owns four additional Saginaw Bay waterfront access points. Those include a small beach park knows as Brissette Beach and three road end easements. The road end easements are 66' wide areas located at the end of Boutell Road, Cottage Grove Road and Lebourdais Road.

Since 2014, the Township has added two additional parcels in its recreation inventory. The first is a 40-acre parcel on the Kawkawlin River that the Township would like to see developed into a kayak launch. The second parcel is located at the east end of Jose Road. It contains a parking lot that is used for people who wish to access the Tobico Marsh.

Another important park in the community is Linwood Bicentennial Park, owned by the Pinconning School District. The parks are inventoried in the chart below. A park location map is included at the end of this section.

Grant History

Kawkawlin Township has received two past DNR Grants. All improvements are still open and functional.

- LW26-00829 – $10,073, Kawkawlin Township Park Improvements (1976)
- TF95-253 – $34,500, Lindwood Road Scenic Point Boat Launch (1995)

Figure 39 KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY					
	Kawkawlin Park	**Linwood Scenic Park**	**Brissette Beach Park**	**Bond & River Road Site**	**Jose Road Lot**
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use Park	Special Use Park	Undeveloped	Special Use Park
Acreage	53	0.8	0.2	40	.88
Accessibility*	3	2	2	NA	2
Accessibility Comments	Lacking accessible routes to amenities, ADA parking spots	No ADA Parking	No ADA Beach Access		No ADA Parking
Service Area	Entire Township and community of Linwood	Fraser Kawkawlin Townships	Fraser Kawkawlin Townships	Township	Township
Archery Equipment	Yes				
Ball Diamonds	4				
Football/Soccer Fields	2				
Boardwalk		Yes			
Playground Equipment	2				
Tennis Courts	2				
Open playfield	Yes				
Pavilion	Yes				
Grills	3				
Restrooms	2				
Waterfront Access		Yes	Yes	Yes	
Swimming Beach			Yes		
Boat Launch		Yes		Proposed Kayak Launch	

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

The Township developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community in 2014. They were reviewed and verified for the 2018 Plan.

GOAL 1
Encourage community health and fitness while promoting "the community" for all groups.

GOAL 2
Provide safe and enjoyable recreational activities.

GOAL 3
Offer appropriate access and opportunities for our special needs population.

Objective:

Add more ADA accessible equipment and amenities to the parks and other recreational facilities.

GOAL 4
Enhance the natural beauty of our parks.

GOAL 5
Strengthen recreationally related social opportunities within the community.

Action Plan
Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Kawkawlin Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan. Each project will work toward accomplishing one or more goals and objectives identified above.

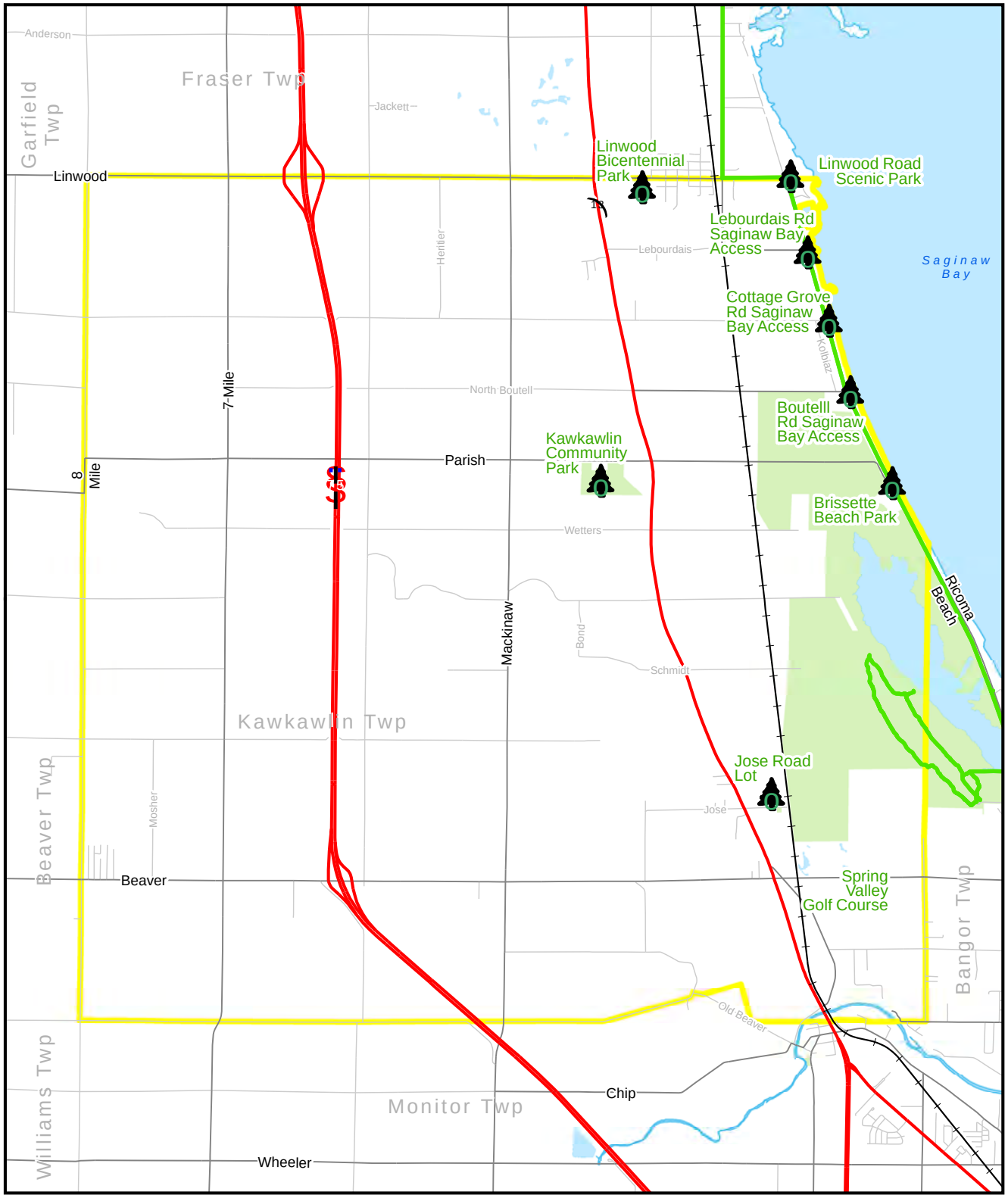
1. Design and dig a pond for swimming and fishing activities.
2. Design and develop a walking path in park and through the wooded area.
3. Create beach volleyball courts.
4. Create sledding hill.
5. Provide a splash park.
6. Add a skate park.
7. Construct a new smaller building for recreational and community use with bathrooms that are accessible from inside and outside.

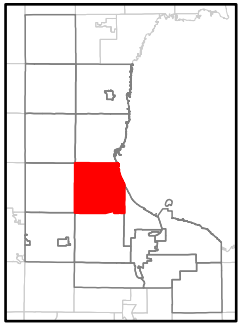
Park and Trail Locations in Kawkawlin Township Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





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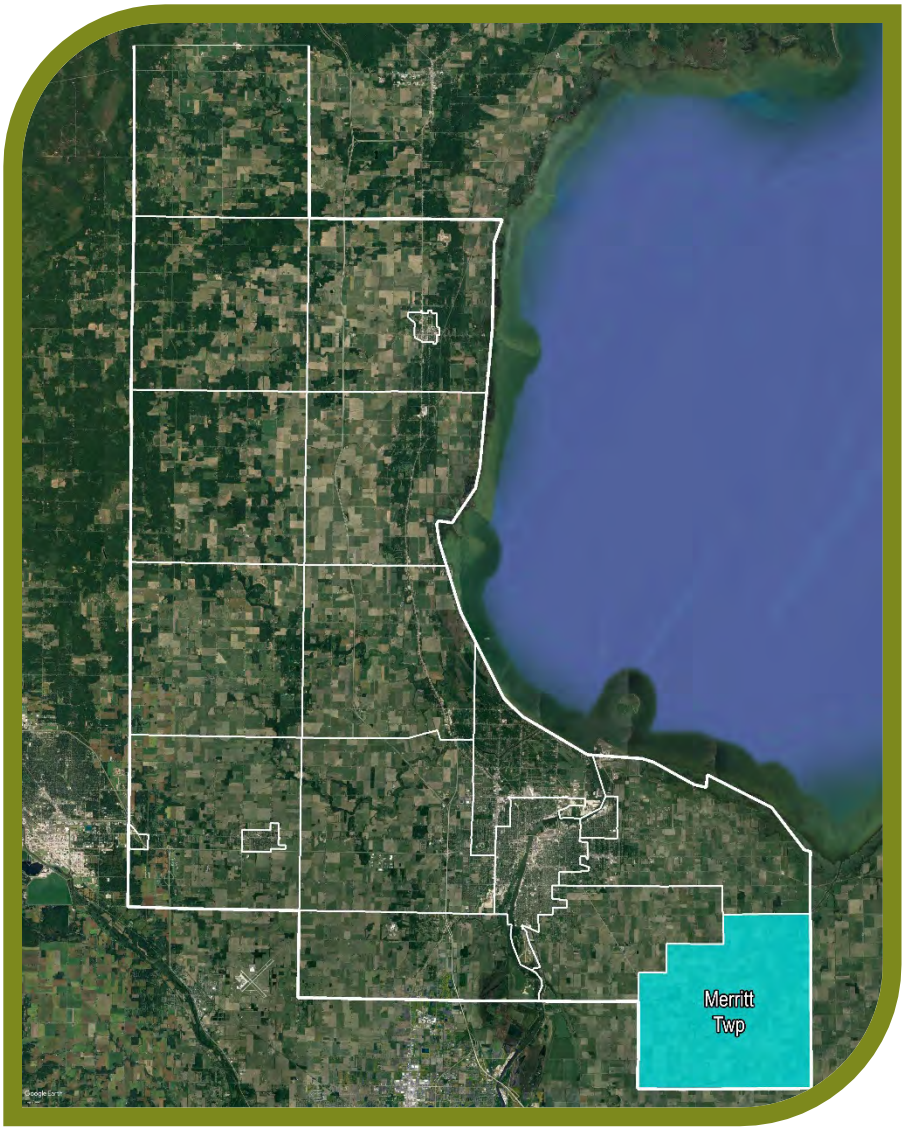


Merritt Township

Community Description

Merritt Township is located at the southeast corner of Bay County, south of Hampton Charter and southeast of Portsmouth Township. It contains the unincorporated community of Munger. The land in Merritt Township is largely rural and agricultural. The population of Merritt Township is 1,198, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate. It is the smallest township, in terms of population, in Bay County.

Other significant demographic data for Merritt Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 40 below. The median age of 50.5 years is the highest of any of the municipalities in the County.

	Merritt	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	50.5	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	21.0%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	17.3%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	92.2%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.79	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	20.0%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$64,265	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$32,849	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	13.1%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	6.1%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 40 - Selected Census Data for Merritt Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Merritt Township are administered by the Township Board. The Park is maintained by Township staff.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The Township works closely with the Munger Volunteer Fireman Corporation which assists with many functions including administering the summer ball program for boys and girls. Approximately 20 to 25 volunteers assist with the youth ball program each year.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Merritt Township is the Township general fund, donations, and the Munger Volunteer Fireman Corporation. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 41.

Figure 41 MERRITT TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2017-18	**2018-19**
Operation & Maintenance	$4,000	$5,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$1,360	$1,360
Total	**$5,360**	**$6,360**

Recreation Inventory

Merritt Township has one park, Habina Park. The Township reviewed the inventory from the 2014 plan and updated it accordingly. It is inventoried in Figure 42.

Figure 42 MERRITT TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Habina Park
Park Type*	Neighborhood
Acreage	18
Accessibility*	4
Service Area	Entire Township
Ball Diamond	2
Multi-use Path	¾ mile
Pavilion	Yes
Picnic Area	Yes
Restrooms	Yes
Playfield (open space)	Yes
Soccer Field	Yes
Tennis/Pickleball Court	Yes
Basketball Court	Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Grant History

Merritt Township has received two recreation grants in the past 10 years. All improvements are still open and functional.

RP13-462 – $45,000, Habina Park Playground, (2013)

MNRTF 26-01747 – $50,000, Habina Park Improvements (2015)

Goals and Objectives

In 2014, Merritt Township developed the following goal for parks and recreation in the community. Those goals were reviewed and verified for the 2019 Plan.

GOAL 1

Provide a park that the community can be proud of.

GOAL 2

Provide a safe trail system which will promote health and fitness for Township residents.

GOAL 3

Provide family friendly activities in the park.

GOAL 3

Provide safe equipment for youth participating in activities.

Action Plan

Merritt Township developed the following items that it wishes to consider for improvements for the next five years. This list is based on known issues and needs in the parks and feedback from the community input survey. Each of these projects will accomplish one or more of the goals listed above.

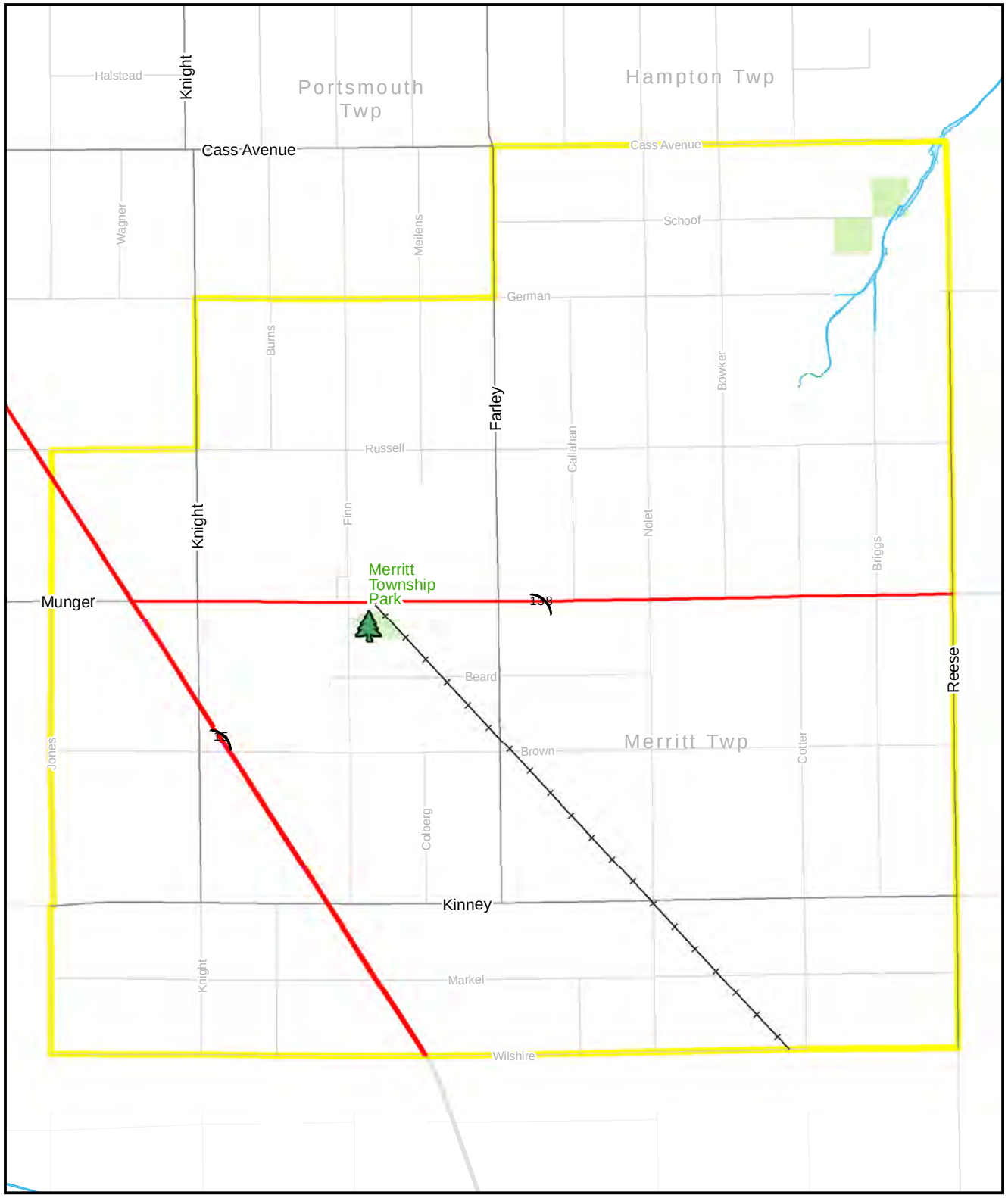
1. Provide a non-motorized walking trail between Reese and Munger.
2. Provide a non-motorized walking trail between Munger and Bay City.
3. Update youth softball equipment.
4. Upgrade restroom facilities.

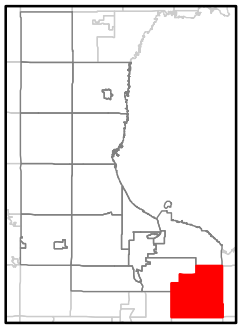
Park and Trail Locations in Merritt Township Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





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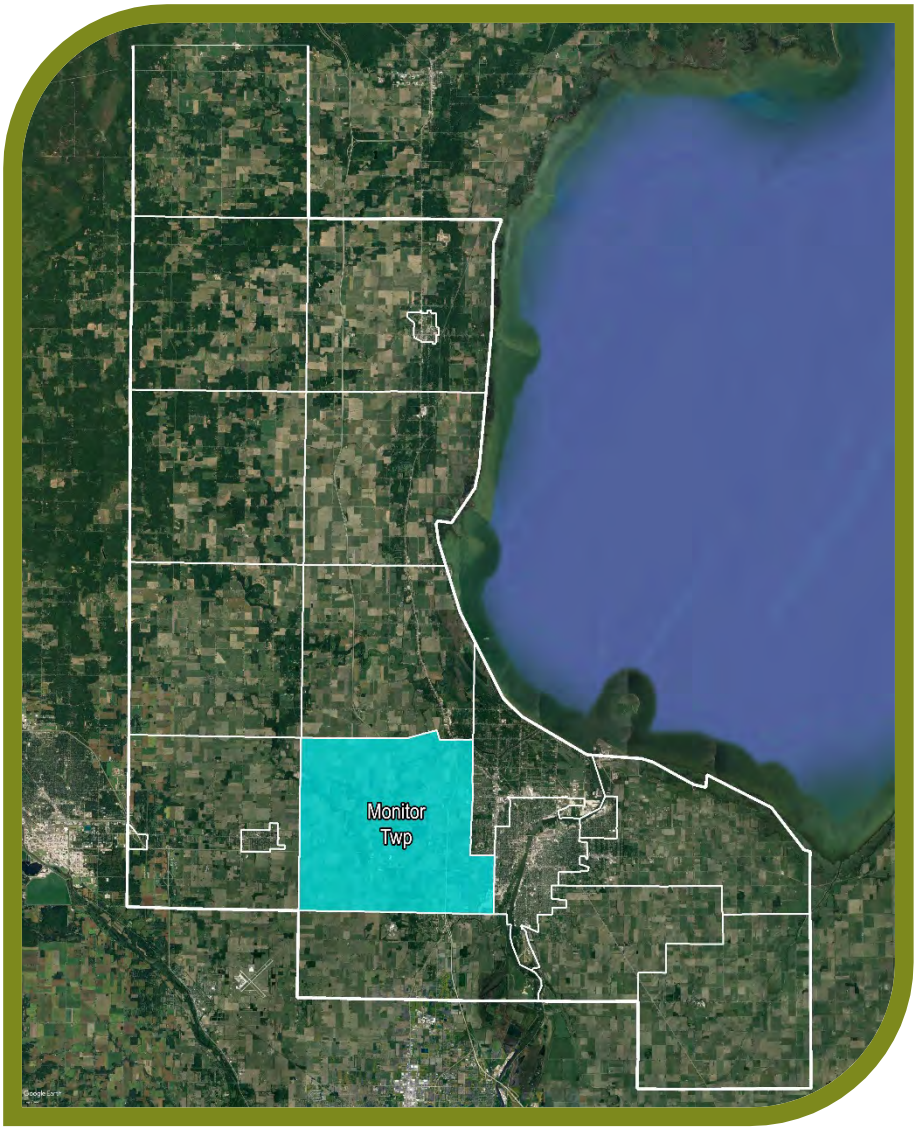
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI



Monitor Township

Community Description

Monitor Township is located west of the City of Bay City and Bangor Township. It is largely rural and agricultural in nature, with more densely used residential and commercial lands located on the east side of the Township, adjacent to Bay City. It is the home of Bay City's Michigan Sugar Company factory as well as the Valley Center Technology Park. The population of Monitor Township is 10,617, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate. It is the second largest Township in the county, in terms of population. Bangor Township is the largest.

Other significant demographic data for Monitor Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 43 below.

	Monitor	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	48	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	23.2%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	19.5%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	91.2%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.44	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	22.6%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$53,674	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$27,146	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	17.1%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	11.1%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 43 - Selected Census Data for Monitor Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Monitor Charter Township are administered by the seven-member Township Board. One part-time employee maintains the two parks in the Township. This employee performs custodian and grounds maintenance work at both parks and reports to the Township Supervisor.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Not applicable

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Monitor Township is the Township general fund. Two years of budget data is shown in Figure 44.

Figure 44 MONITOR TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2018	**2017**
Operation & Maintenance	$12,510	$33,751
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$139,733	$5,000
Total	**$142,243**	**$38,751**

Recreation Inventory

The Township reviewed the inventory from the 2014 plan and updated it accordingly. Monitor Township has two parks that comprise 22.5 acres. They are inventoried in the chart on the following page.

Grant History

Monitor Township has received two DNR recreation grants in the past. All improvements from the projects are still open and operational.

- LWCF 26-01705 – $69,200, Monitor Township Park Improvements (2010)
- LWCF 26-01770 – $102,300, Monitor Township Park Improvements (2016)

Figure 45 MONITOR TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY		
	Monitor Park	**Steih Park**
Park Type*	Community Park	Special Use
Acreage	21.25	1.24
Accessibility*	4	2
Accessibility Comment		Lacking ADA marked parking
Ball Diamonds	2	
Non-Regulation Ball Diamonds	2	
Canoe Launch		Informal
Dog Waste Stations	Yes	
Grills	3	
Horseshoe Pits	4	
Pavilion	Yes	
Picnic Area	Yes	Yes
Playfield	Yes	Yes
Playground Equipment	Yes	
Restrooms	Yes	
Universally Accessible Path with Fitness Stations	Yes	
Waterfront Property		Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Goals and Objectives

In 2014 Monitor Township developed the following goals for parks and recreational facilities in the Township. They were reviewed and verified in 2018.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade Monitor Township's recreational facilities so as to have parks the Township can be proud of.

GOAL 2

Develop Steih Park to increase its use.

GOAL 3

Make existing parks more user-friendly.

Action Plan

Based on the goals, objectives, and community input, Monitor Township has identified the following items to be part of its action plan. Each project will work toward accomplishing one or more goals and objectives identified above.

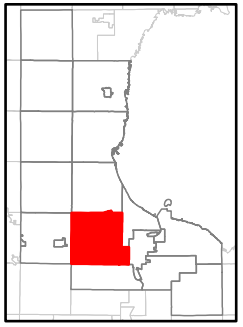
1. Add picnic tables and grills to Steih Park.
2. Build a pavilion at Steih Park.
3. Pave the roadway at Monitor Park.
4. Add lighting around ball diamonds, paths, playground area, and parking areas at Monitor Park.
5. Make Monitor Park useable all year round.
6. Improve the ball diamonds at Monitor Park.
7. Add a floating kayak launch and fishing dock at Steih Park.
8. Add a basketball court at Monitor Park.
9. Add a pavilion at Monitor Park.
10. Add a soccer field at Monitor Park.
11. Add an all-season pavilion that can be used for ice skating in winter at Monitor Park.
12. Add an unleashed dog play area at Monitor Park
13. Add fitness stations at Monitor Park.
14. Add tennis courts at Monitor Park.
15. Add lighting at Steih Park.
16. Repave the parking lot and sidewalk in Steih Park.

Park and Trail Locations in Monitor Township Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles



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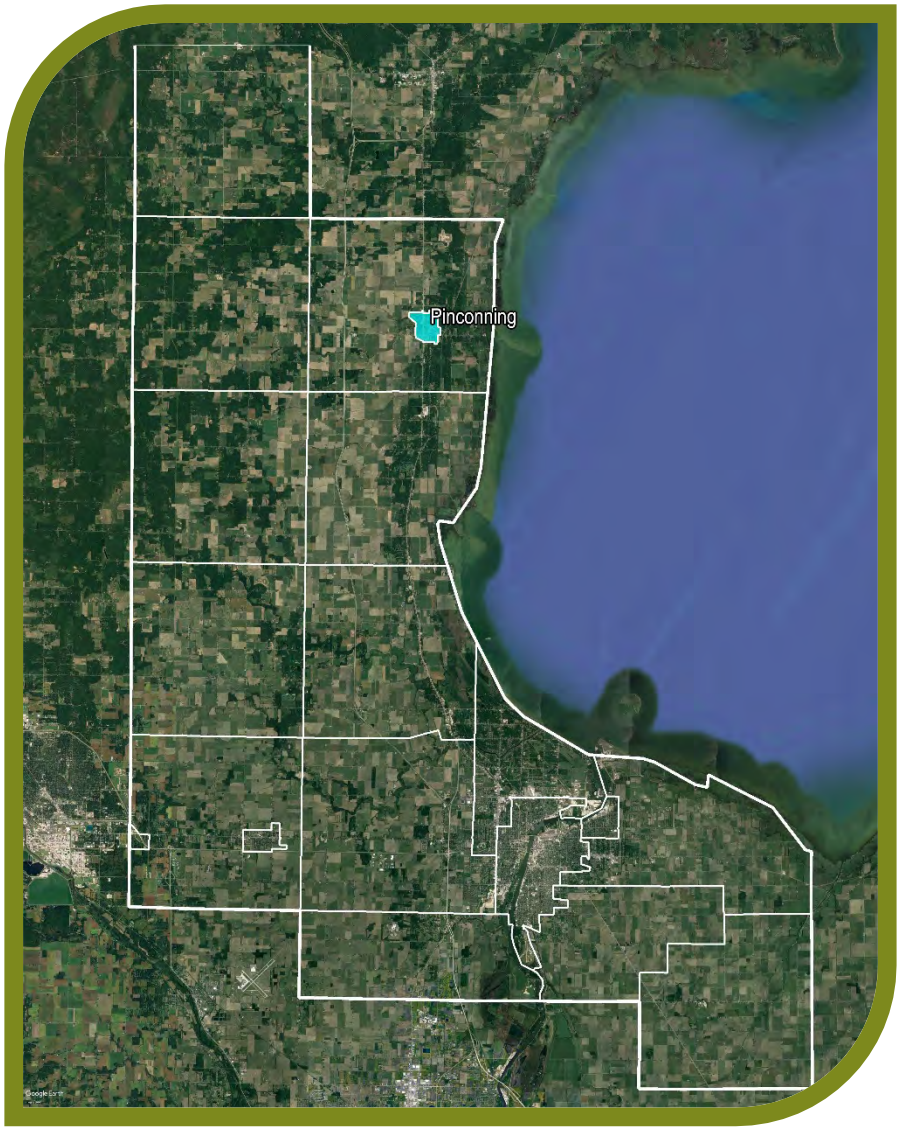
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Beaver Twp
Kawkawlin Twp
Bangor Twp
Williams Twp
Monitor Twp
Frankenlust Twp
Beaver
Boy Scout
Chip
Wheeler
Wilder
Kiesel
North Union
Ohio
Midland
Fisher
Salzburg
Hotchkiss
Delta
7 Mile
Mackinaw
Monitor
3 Mile
2 Mile
Euclid
Old Kawkawlin
Herb Stein Memorial Park
Kawkawlin River Canoe Launch - Wheeler Road
White Birch Hills Golf Course
Bay Area Soccer Assocation
Monitor Community Park



Pinconning

Community Description

The City of Pinconning is located in northern Bay County approximately 18 miles north of Bay City. Surrounded by Pinconning Township, it is two miles east of Saginaw Bay. The Pinconning River flows west to east across the middle of the City. The population of Pinconning is 1,249, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

Other significant demographic data for Pinconning as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 46 below. It is worth noting that the City's proportion of residents that are under 18

(26.3%) is the highest of any of the municipalities in Bay County. It also has the highest poverty level at 23.6%.

	Pinconning	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	39.1	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	15.0%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	26.3%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	69.3%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.17	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	14.4%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$30,347	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$17,278	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	14.0%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	23.6%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 46 - Selected Census Data for Pinconning as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

The Pinconning City Council is responsible for the parks and recreation functions in the community. They are advised by a three-member subcommittee for parks and recreation. The Pinconning DPW handles the maintenance for the park.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Recreation programming is provided by local baseball, softball, and soccer programs. Numerous volunteers assist as coaches. The City also works with Pinconning Area Schools, Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce and Bay County Mental Health. These organizations use the city park for various festivals and events such as Cheesetown Challenge and Tuesdays in the Park.

Budgets

The source of funds for parks and recreation functions in Pinconning is the city general fund and rental fees from the pavilions and gazebo. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 47.

Figure 47 PINCONNING PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2018/2019	**2017/2018**
Operation & Maintenance	$12,000	$12,00
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$0	$0
Total	**$12,000**	**$12,000**

Recreation Inventory

The City owns and operates two parks and a trail known as the Pinconning Riverwalk. The City completed an updated inventory for the parks and provided it to the planning consultant. The inventory for the park is shown below. A park location map is provided at the end of this section.

Figure 48 CITY OF PINCONNING RECREATION INVENTORY			
	Doc Letchfield Park	**Pinconning Riverwalk**	**Hartwick Park**
Park Type*	Community Park	Park Trail	Mini-Park
Acreage	24	.7 miles	.23
Accessibility*	3	4	3
Accessibility Comment	Missing accessible paths to amenities and signed handicap parking		
Service Area	City and Township	City and Township	Local neighborhood
Ball Diamonds	3		
Batting Cages	2		
Pavilions	2		
Gazebo	1		1
Concession Stand	1		
Tennis Courts	2		
Bandshell	1		
Playscape	Yes		
Open Playfield	Yes		
Soccer Fields	Yes		
Restrooms	Yes		
Walking Trail		Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages_____ for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Grant History

The City of Pinconning has received one recreation grant from the DNR. In 1997, it received an $18,000 MNRTF grant to purchase two parcels of land on the Pinconning River. The parcels were used to develop the Pinconning Riverwalk trail, which is still open and operational.

Goals and Objectives

The City of Pinconning has developed the following goals and objectives for parks and recreation.

GOAL 1

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Bay County.

Objectives:

1. Continue to add amenities to Pinconning Park facilities based upon community input and need.
2. Maintain and upgrade existing parks to provide facilities that inspire a sense of community pride.

GOAL 2

Provide recreational facilities for all ages and abilities.

Objectives:

1. Improve ADA accessibility at existing facilities and ensure all new amenities are accessible.

GOAL 3

Provide non-motorized paths and trails for recreational and transportation use.

GOAL 4

Maintain and improve access to the Pinconning River.

Action Plan

The City of Pinconning developed the following items that it wishes to consider for improvements for the next five years. This list is based on known issues and needs in the parks and feedback from the community input survey. Each action plan item works to accomplish one or more of the City's park and recreation goals and objectives.

1. **Doc Letchfield Park Upgrades**
    - Make restrooms handicap accessible
    - Redo parking lot to include drainage and repave handicap markings
    - Add new fence and maintain all fences around al ball diamonds and park
    - Upgrade and maintain play scape area for more ADA accessibility for all children

- Upgrade our electrical system, water and sewer to a more efficient up-to-date system
- Upgrade and repave tennis courts and add new fence

2. Doc Letchfield Park New Recreational Improvements

- Add two volleyball courts
- New basketball courts
- Add a splash park
- Horseshoe pits
- Disc golf
- Playfield open space
- Multi-use paths
- Dog Park
- Sledding
- Regulation pony league diamond with fence, bleachers, and dugouts
- More picnic tables, benches, playground equipment for all ages, and ADA equipment
- Outdoor fitness court
- Cross country skiing
- Swimming pool
- Improvements to community building including air conditioning

3. River Trail and Pinconning River

- Clean up Pinconning River and Nature trail
- Make river kayak accessible
- Parking space for Kayak to launch
- Add a dock at river for kayaks
- New lighting on trail
- Provide necessary signage and markings

4. Other

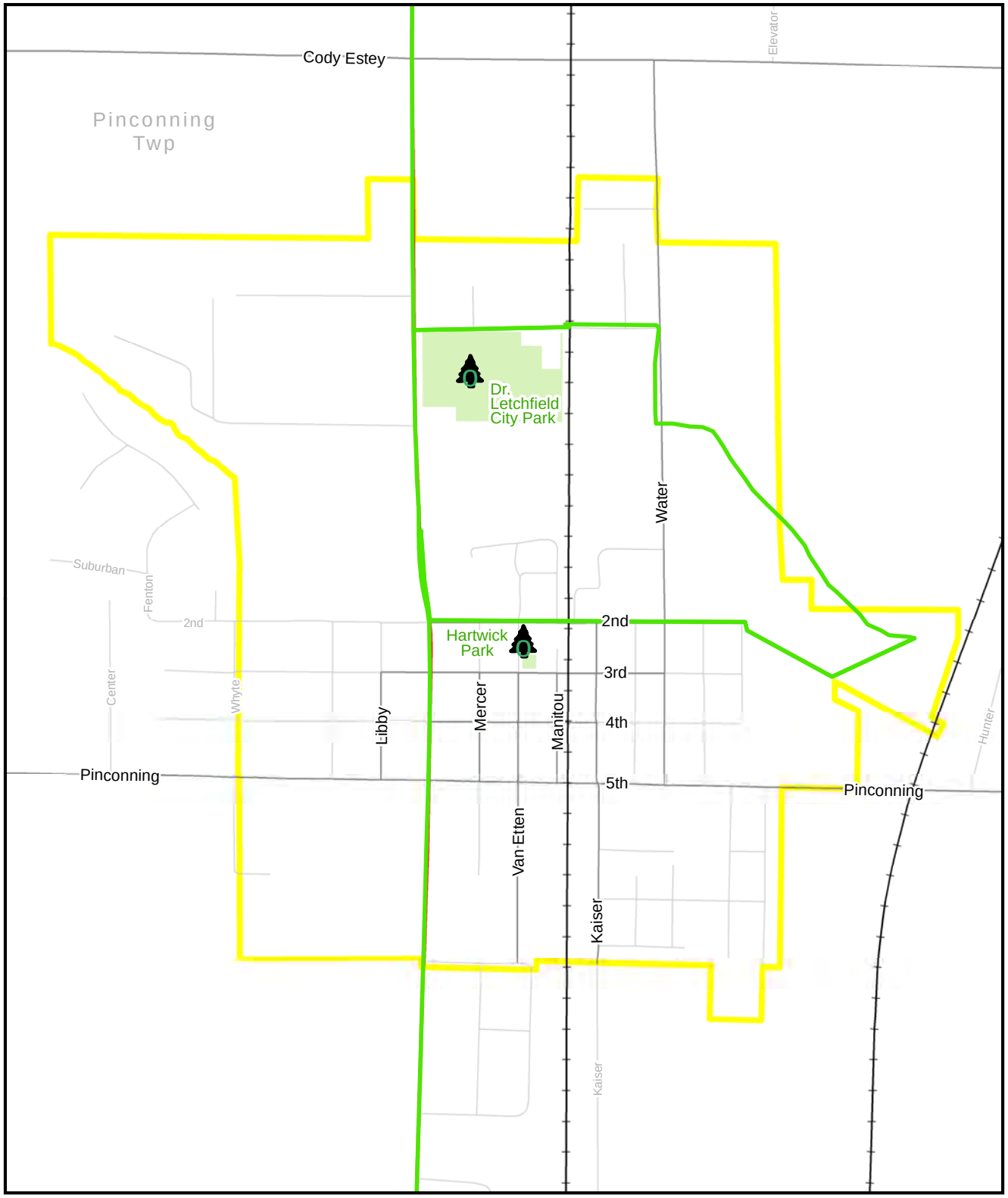
- Expand trail to the Bay County Park
- Add more walking and biking trail paths
- Add camera security systems at all parks
- Provide different social activities for all ages: movies, dancing, playing cards

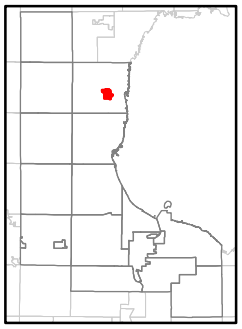
Park and Trail Locations in Pinconning Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 300 600 1,200 Feet





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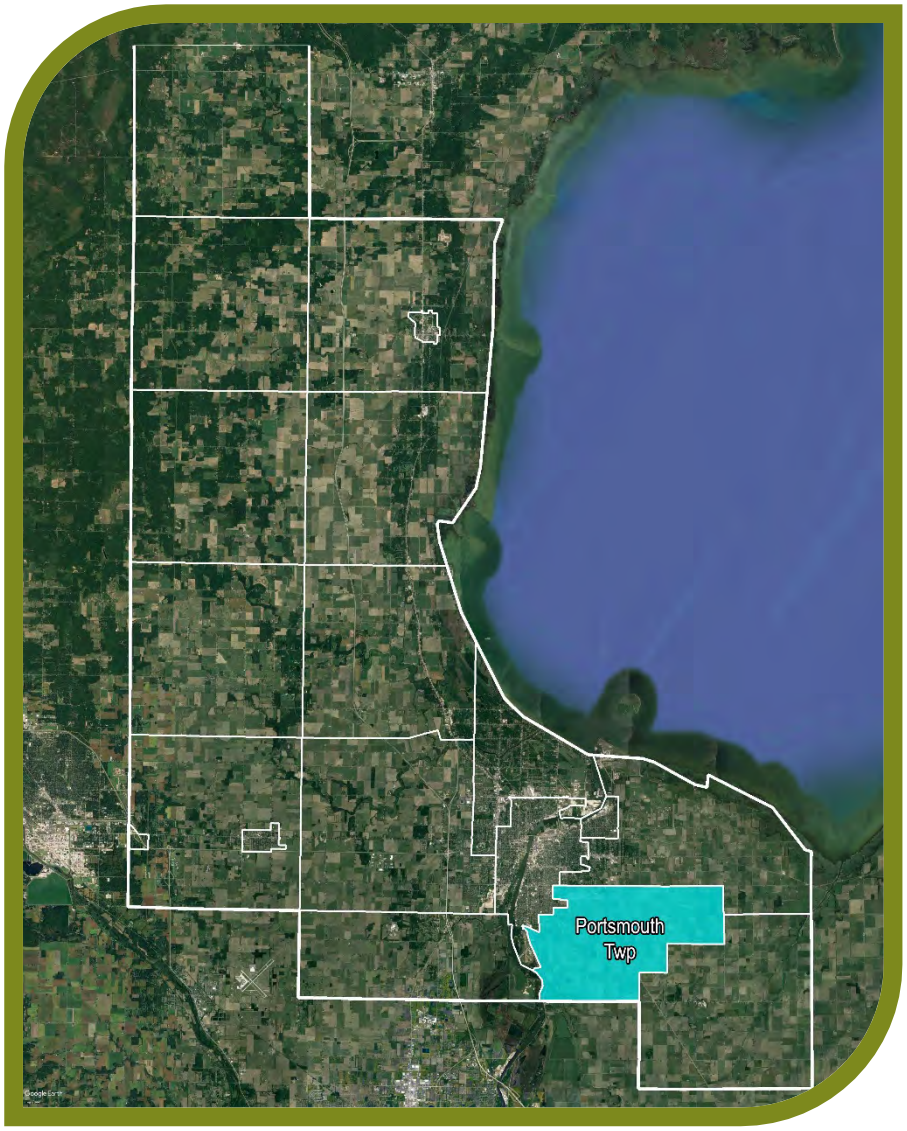

Portsmouth Township

Community Description

Portsmouth Township is located in the southern Bay County, southeast of Bay City and south of Hampton Township. At 20.1 square miles, it is one of the smaller townships in the County. The land within the Township is largely agricultural with some more densely populated residential lands in the northwest adjacent to Bay City. The population of Portsmouth Township is 3,239, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

Other significant demographic data for Portsmouth Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 49 below. It is worth noting that Portsmouth Township has the highest

proportion of owner occupied homes (95%) of any municipality in the County. It also has the lowest poverty rate and proportion of the population that is disabled.

	Portsmouth	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	47	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	18.7%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	19.6%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	95.0%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.52	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	16.9%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$49,375	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$23,790	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	8.3%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	4.3%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 49 - Selected Census Data for Pinconning as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Portsmouth Township are administered by the Township Board. Portsmouth Township has part-time seasonal employees who perform tasks such as mowing and trimming.

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

The Bay County Railtrail Committee has adopted pocket parks which are maintained by citizens. The Bay Area Community Foundation performs the adoption process for these pocket parks. Volunteers serve the Township parks and recreation by maintaining pocket parks.

Budgets

The source of funding for the park and recreation budget in Portsmouth Township is the township general fund. The Township does not have a specific budget line for parks and recreation activities. Recreation funding is included as part of the overall Building and Grounds budget. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 50.

Figure 50 PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2019	**2018**
Operation & Maintenance	$4.000	$4,000
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)	NA	NA
Capital Expenditures	$0	$0
Total	**$4,000**	**$4,000**

Recreation Inventory

Portsmouth Township owns Portsmouth Township Park and a portion of the area Railtrail. The inventory was updated based upon a review of the 2014 inventory. The inventory of amenities in the parks is shown below. A park location map is provided at the end of this section.

Figure 51 PORTSMOUTH TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY		
	Portsmouth Township Park	**RailTrail**
Park Type*	Community Park	Park-Trail
Acreage	3.5	2 miles
Accessibility*	3	4
Accessibility Comments	Lacking paths to amenities. Insufficient ADA Parking	
Service Area	Entire Township	Entire County
Beach Volleyball	Yes	
Playground Station, including slide, etc.	Yes	
Basketball court	Yes	
Horseshoe Pits	Yes	
Pavilion	Yes	
Restrooms	Yes	
Merry-go-Round	Yes	
Swing set	Yes	

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Grant History

Portsmouth Township has received two DNR recreation grants for the Bay County Riverwalk-Railtrail. All of the improvements are still open and functional.

- TF95-200 – $102,300, Development of the Township Railtrail (1995)
- LWCF 26-01735 – $71,300, Railtrail improvements (2013)

Goals and Objectives

Portsmouth Township developed goals and objectives for parks and recreation when the 2014 Recreation Plan was developed. Those goals were reviewed and verified for this plan.

GOAL 1

Retain public land for future generations.

Objectives:

1. Retain existing parkland and, if the opportunity becomes available, acquire new public lands to meet future needs of the community.
2. Preserve existing recreational facilities and acquire new public lands to enhance and expand those facilities.

GOAL 2

Provide quality leisure time activities with special consideration for improving health and fitness.

Objectives:

1. Provide new features and upgrade facilities with consideration for health and safety.
2. Continue to work with existing recreation partners in the community to provide programs and facilities for special events, if needed.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, broad, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all residents of Portsmouth Township and Bay County.

Objectives:

1. Continue to add amenities to Portsmouth Township Park based upon community input, need, and funding
2. Partner with other units of government and recreation providers to further promote broad-based recreation where available in Portsmouth Township.

GOAL 4

Enhance and improve the existing Railtrail (Portsmouth Township section) for recreational use.

Objectives:

1. Where possible, connect existing Railtrail to regional trails and destinations.
2. Where feasible, encourage the Bay County Road Commission to provide easements for trails and possibly help with maintenance and improvement projects.
3. Develop and enhance existing features of the Railtrail to ensure that it is accessible to the greatest number of people and meets existing and future safety concerns.

Action Plan

1. Network with area realtors regarding potential lands that may become available for future development opportunities.
2. Continue to maintain and upgrade existing facilities by utilizing a Township maintenance person, who has a background in safety training. Continue to utilize work crews from the Department of Corrections to maintain and improve facilities at the Township Hall.
3. Start and maintain a dialogue with neighboring townships, Bay County, and Bay City so as to be included in any broad-based recreation opportunities.
4. Apply for any state and/or federal grants that could be used to enhance and improve the existing section of the Railtrail that runs through Portsmouth Township. Also work with Railtrail Committee to utilize its maintenance endowment fund' to maintain the trail.

Park and Trail Locations in Portsmouth Township Michigan

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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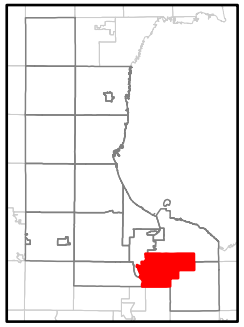
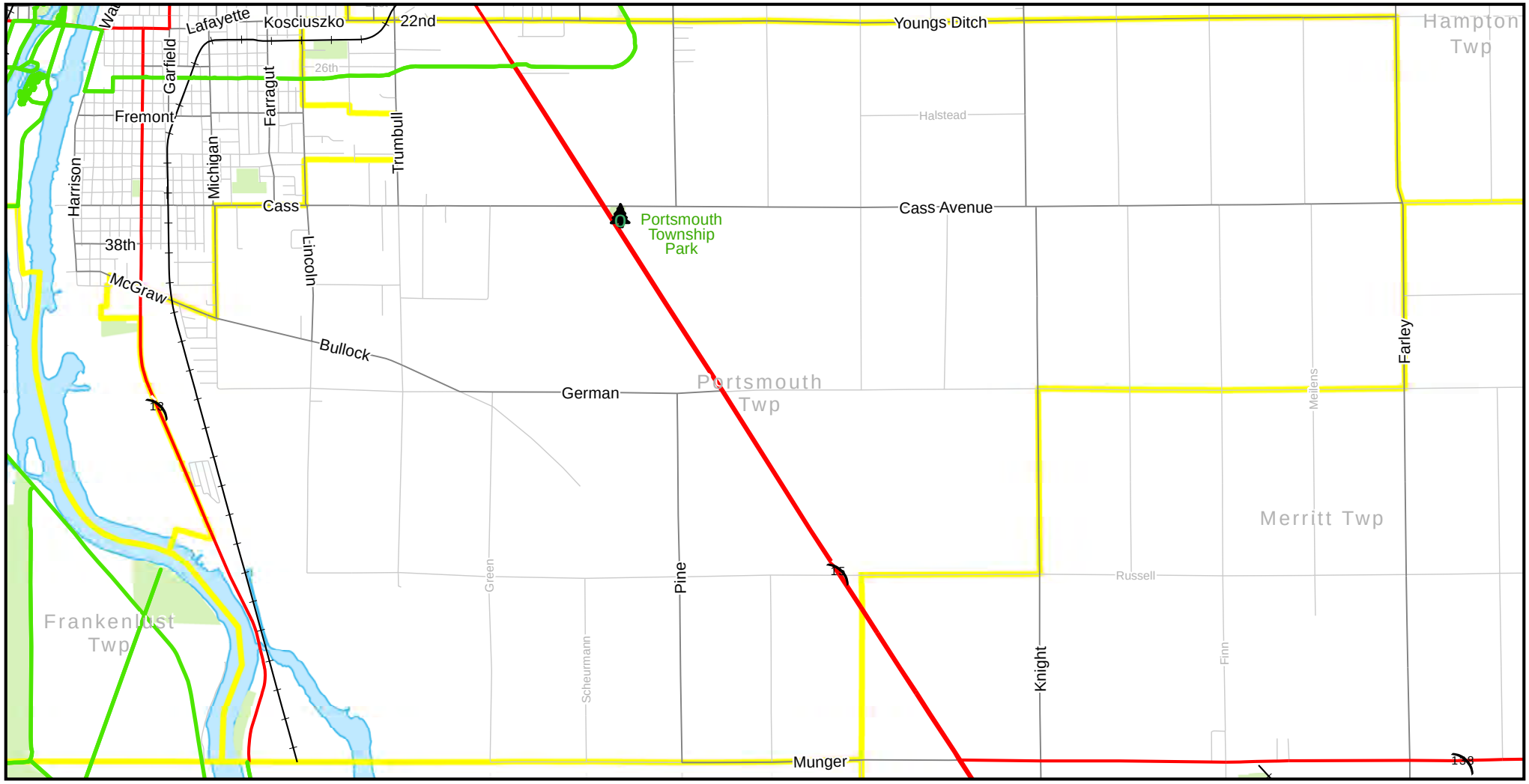
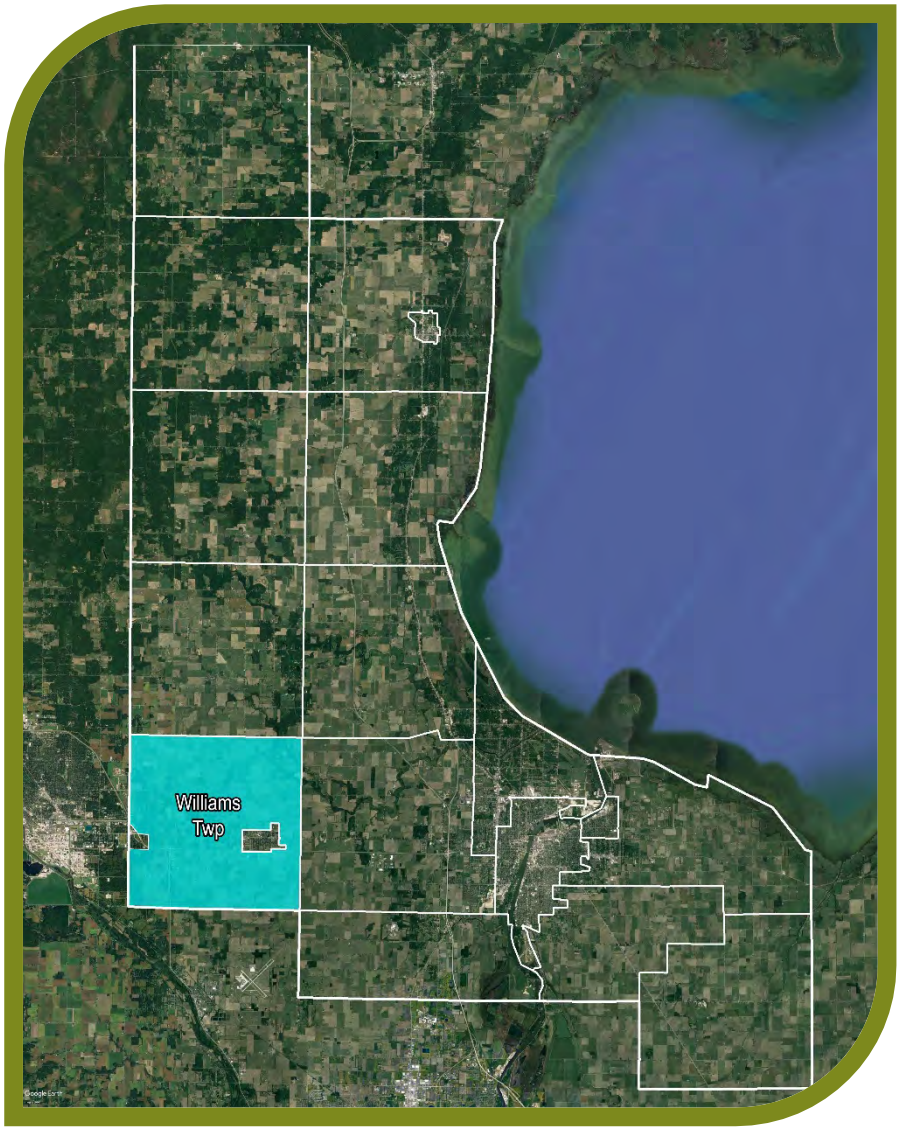
Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Legend

- Township; City
- Park; Nature Area
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock







Williams Township

Community Description

Williams Township is located in the southwest corner of Bay County, east of the City of Midland. The Township surrounds the City of Auburn. The land within the Township is largely agricultural with some more densely populated residential areas around Auburn and Midland. The population of Williams Township is 4,851, according to the 2016 American Community Survey 5-year population estimate.

Other significant demographic data for Williams Township as compared to the county, state, and country is shown in Figure 52 below. It is worth noting that Williams Township has the second highest median household income of any municipality in the County while having one of the lower median ages.

	Williams	Bay County	Michigan	United States
Median Age	39	42.7	39.5	37.7
Population 65+	13.9%	18.3%	15.4%	14.5%
Population under 18	22.6%	21.0%	22.5%	23.1%
Owner Occupied Homes	92.1%	77.9%	73.0%	65.1%
Average Household Size	2.72	2.39	2.51	2.64
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	23.5%	18.1%	27.4%	30.3%
Median Household Income	$72,962	$45,851	$50,803	$55,322
Per Capita Income	$28,061	$24,753	$27,549	$29,829
Disabled	15.5%	16.6%	14.2%	12.5%
Poverty level	4.8%	15.8%	16.3%	15.1%

Figure 52 - Selected Census Data for Williams Township as compared to the county, state and country. ***Source: 2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Population Estimates.***

Administrative Structure

Parks and recreation functions in Williams Township are administered by the Township Board. Operation and Maintenance of the Township Park is handled by the Department of Public Works, which consists of one full-time and two part-time seasonal employees and one part-time seasonal gardener.

The Auburn-Williams Recreation Board is composed of twelve members representing the City of Auburn and Williams Township. Williams Township's six members are comprised of 5 members appointed by the Township Board and one member who is a Township Board member. The recreation board meets six times a year. It coordinates recreation programming as described below and also provides recommendations for recreational facilities, maintenance and improvements to the Township Board. Each unit provides $9,000 a year for planning and implementation of recreational activities

Programming, Volunteers, and Cooperative Relationships

Williams Township works with the City of Auburn and the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association to coordinate recreation programming. This includes activities such as youth baseball, summer recreation, and soccer coordination. The Summer Recreation program is a free six-week program for children 5 to 12 years old, operated by a combination of paid staff and volunteers.

Budgets

The sources of funding for the park and recreation budget in Williams Township are the Township's general fund, grants, and donations. The current and prior year parks and recreation budgets are shown in Figure 53.

Figure 53 WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGETS		
	2018	**2017**
Operation & Maintenance	$37,000	$22,470
Programming (leagues, special events, etc.)*	$9,000	$9,000
Capital Expenditures**	$195,000	$98,000
Total	**$241,000**	**$129,470**

* These figures represent the Summer Recreation Program, administered by the Auburn - Williams Recreation Association. The City of Auburn and Williams Township each provide $9,000 per year toward programming to include youth baseball, softball, and soccer.

**Approximately $98,000 was spent in 2017 for the purchase of property to expand Williams Township Park. Approximately $195,000 was spent in 2018 for park upgrades including access pathway 6' wide, landscaping, play equipment and site furnishings, PIP/EWF surfacing.

Williams Township Park

Recreation Inventory

Williams Township owns one park, Williams Township Park. The park has been expanded by 4 acres since the 2014 Plan. To complete the current inventory, the Township reviewed and updated the inventory from their previous recreation plan. The inventory of amenities in the park is shown in Figure 54. A location map for the park is shown at the end of this section.

Figure 54 WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP RECREATION INVENTORY	
	Williams Township Park
Park Type*	Community Park
Acreage	22
Accessibility*	4
Service Area	Entire Township and the City of Auburn
Basketball Courts	1
Volleyball Courts	Yes
Football/Soccer Fields	1
Playground Equipment	Yes
Ball Diamonds	2
Horseshoe Pits	2
Pavilion	1
Restrooms	Yes
Grills	12
Multi-Use Paths	1.25 miles
Fitness Course	Yes
Picnic Area	Yes

* See County inventory section on pages 13, 14, and 20 for definitions of park type and accessibility.

Grant Assisted Projects

Williams Township has received five previous recreation grants for the Williams Township Park. All improvements are still functioning and being used.

- TF913 – $8,000, Acquisition of 3 acres
- LWCF 26-01376 – $47,443, Township Park Improvements
- LWCF 26-01501 – $55,370, Township Park Improvements, Phase II
- TF15-0145 – $140,600, Acquisition of 4 acres
- LWCF 26-01761 – $100,000, Township Park Improvements

Goals and Objectives

In 2009, Williams Township developed the goals and objectives for parks and recreation in the community. They were reviewed and verified for the 2014 and the 2019 Recreation Plan.

GOAL 1

Continue to improve and upgrade Williams Township recreational and support facilities in order to offer parks and recreational activities the community can be proud of.

Objectives:

1. Retain and maintain the existing Williams Township Park and acquire new public lands to fulfill the recreational needs of the township and local community.
2. Preserve and protect open space for recreational activities and programs.
3. Provide adequate maintenance of the Williams Township Park and recreational facilities.

GOAL 2

Provide quality recreational opportunities to improve health and fitness with extra emphasis placed on organized youth activities.

Objectives:

1. Provide organized programs and activities for a variety of ages with an emphasis on youth programs through the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association.
2. Continue to partner with existing recreational partners to provide programs, events, and leagues.
3. Identify new recreational partners to meet the Township's current and future recreational needs, goals, and objectives.

GOAL 3

Provide safe, community-based recreation opportunities that improve the quality of life for all Williams Township and Auburn Area residents.

Objectives:

1. Continue to add features to Williams Township Park as identified by public input, the Auburn-Williams Recreation Association, and the Township Board of Trustees as needed.
2. Continue to maintain and provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities.
3. Ensure that improvement and upgrades to the Township Park are accessible.

Williams Township Park

GOAL 4

Develop and provide access to trails and multi-use recreational paths.

Objectives:

1. Cooperate and participate in intergovernmental efforts to establish a non-motorized greenway and trail system connecting Bay, Midland, and Saginaw counties.
2. Coordinate possible routes, methods, and funding to connect non-motorized greenway and trail systems in Bay, Midland, and Saginaw Counties to Williams Township Park.

GOAL 5

Develop a recreation system that will be responsive to and effective in meeting the present and future needs of residents.

Objectives:

1. Review the recreation plan as needed and update it every five years.

Construction photo of recent playground addition at Williams Township Park.

Action Plan

Williams Township developed the following items that it wishes to consider for improvements for the next five years. This list is based on known issues and needs in the parks and feedback from the community input survey. Each of these projects will accomplish one or more of the goals and objectives listed above.

1. Develop an overall Master Plan for the Williams Township Park to plan for future improvements.

2. Resurface or reseal walking paths as needed.
3. Install fencing in northeast corner of park by Dell Creek Drain and railroad track and configure to prevent prohibited vehicles from entering the park.
4. Improve baseball fields by replacing backstop fencing, adding dugouts, adding outfield fencing, and other pertinent features.
5. Add a spray park type water feature.
6. Improve video security system to promote safety and protect facilities at Township parks.
7. Complete projects for the improvement of drainage throughout the Township parks.
8. Connect park via pathways or sidewalks to the non-motorized greenway and trail system when available in Williams Township.
9. Acquire additional property to fill park needs if it is available at a reasonable cost.
10. Explore the development of pocket parks in subdivisions and residential areas of the Township.
11. Develop a mini practice area for disc golf.
12. Add pavilion and restroom facilities for the west side of the park.
13. Continuation of sidewalks along the Midland Road right-of-way from 11 Mile Road west to the Township Boundary.
14. Promote private business ventures to increase recreational awareness and uses in Williams Township.

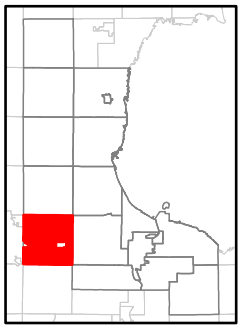
Recent playground addition at Williams Township Park.

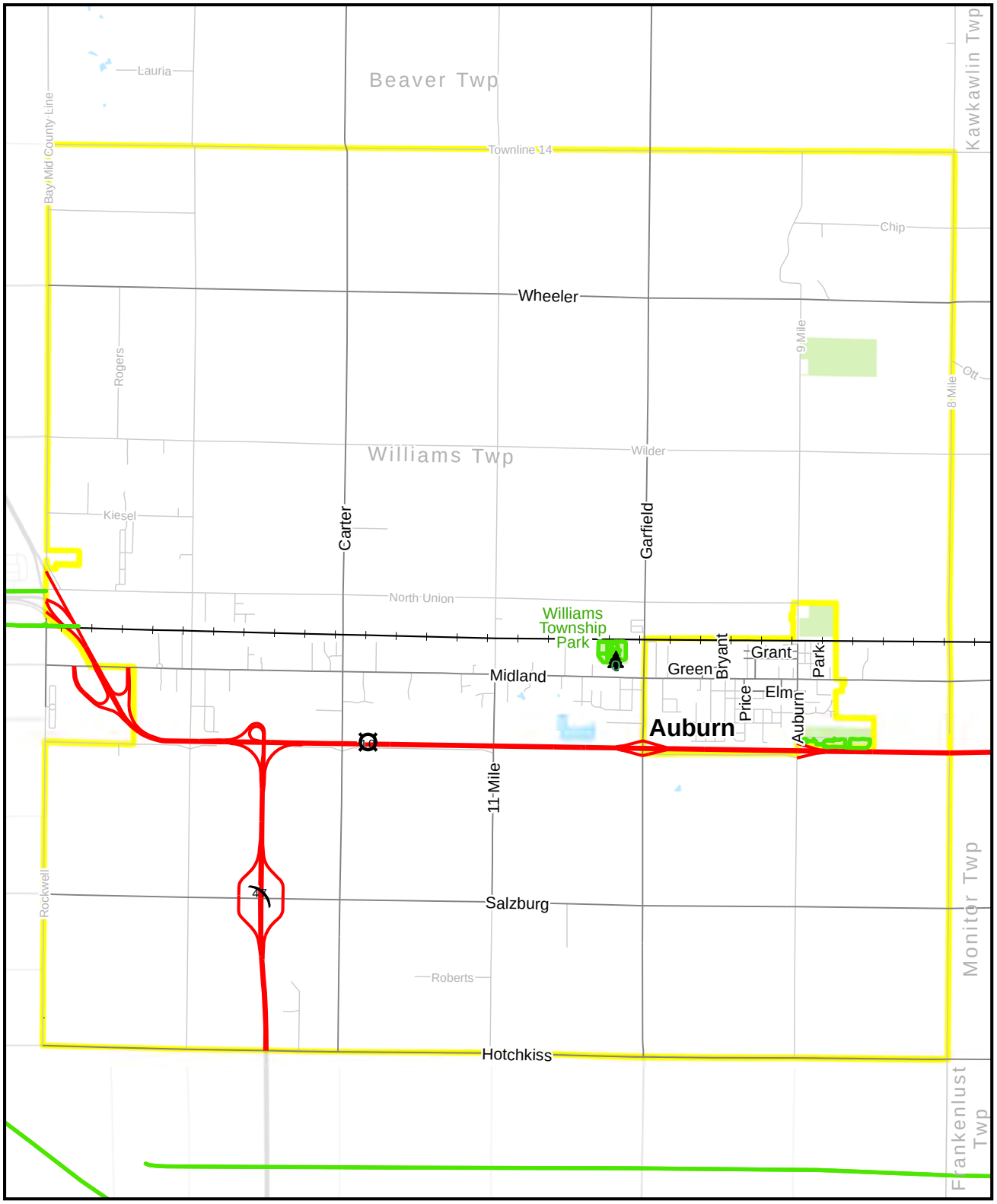
Park and Trail Locations in Williams Township Michigan

Legend

- Township; City
- State Trunkline
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Railroad
- Non-Motorized Trail
- Park; Nature Area
- Park
- Golf Course
- Boat Ramp / Dock

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





Map produced by: Bay County Dept. of Environmental Affairs & Community Development - GIS Program 10/29/2018

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this Map is provided and maintained by various individuals representing a number of agencies, including Bay County departments, municipal governments, and state and federal agencies. No guarantee is given as to the accuracy or currency of any of the data. Therefore, in no event shall Bay County Government be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages or any damages whatsoever resulting from loss of use, data, or profits, whether in an action of contract, negligence, or other action, arising out of or in connection with the use of the information herein provided.

Data Source: Bay County GIS, State of Michigan CGI

Summary of the Planning Process and Adoption

In its continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, Bay County has developed an multi-jurisdictional Area Recreation Plan as a tool to guide the development of community park and recreational facilities and locations over the next five years. This plan is the latest effort by Bay County and 14 of its constituent communities to establish recreational goals and objectives for recreation across the County. The plan will also provide the County and the participating communities with eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assist the community in reaching its recreational goals.

Bay County contracted with Spicer Group of Saginaw, Michigan, to assist them with completion of the Bay County Area Recreation Plan. Spicer worked with Bay County staff members to develop a format and schedule for completing the plan. Two group meetings were held with representatives from the participating communities during the course of preparing the plan.

Data was collected about the participating communities including maps, demographics, park information and an inventory of existing facilities. This data was collected from a number of resources

such as: forms completed by the participating communities, county staff, the existing Bay County Recreation Plan, Bay County GIS Department, various websites and through field observations.

Community input was collected during the summer of 2018 via an online survey. Participating communities then reviewed existing goals and objectives for parks and recreation in their community and updated them, if needed. Communities that had not developed goals and objectives previously, did so for this plan. Each community also planned for an action program to accomplish the goals and objectives of the plan.

The consultant completed the draft Bay County Area Recreation document and it was made available for review at the Bay County Building and four of the branches of the Bay County public library for at least 30 days beginning on December 1, 2018. A PDF file of the draft was also available on the Bay County web site and on several of the participating community websites. The reviewing opportunity was advertised in the Bay City Times. The final opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public meeting held prior to adoption of the plan. This meeting was held on January __, at 4:30 p.m. at the County Building. In the weeks following the public hearing, each participating community adopted the joint recreation plan via resolution. Communities with parks and recreation committees or commissions had that body pass a resolution recommending adoption prior to the governing body's adoption. Copies of the advertisements, public meeting minutes, and the resolutions are included in the Appendix.

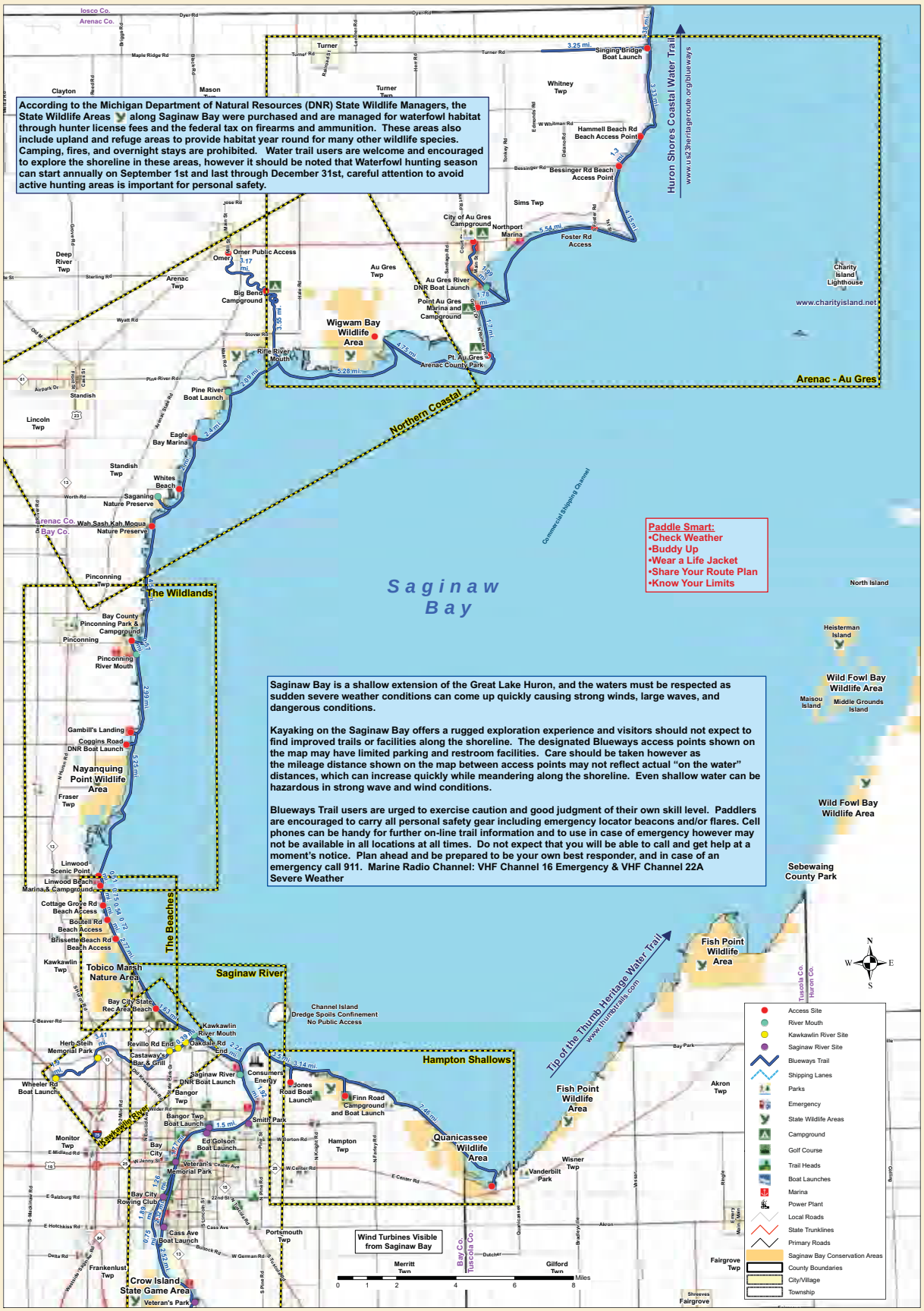
Appendix A – Trail Maps

Saginaw Bay Blueways Trail

You can find much more information on our unique cultural and historic features plus additional water trail information on our web site or by using the QR codes provided.

www.michiganwatertrails.org

www.bchsmuseum.org

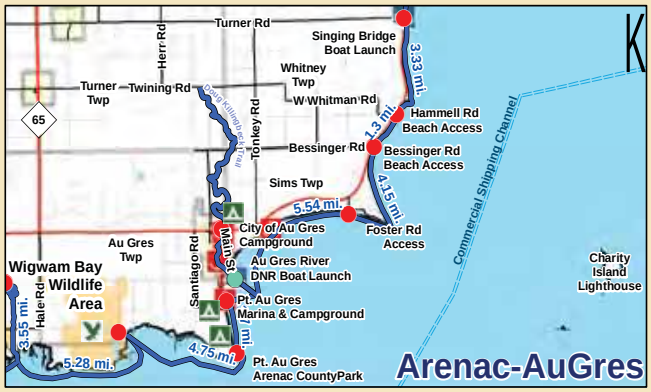


According to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) State Wildlife Managers, the State Wildlife Areas along Saginaw Bay were purchased and are managed for waterfowl habitat through hunter license fees and the federal tax on firearms and ammunition. These areas also include upland and refuge areas to provide habitat year round for many other wildlife species. Camping, fires, and overnight stays are prohibited. Water trail users are welcome and encouraged to explore the shoreline in these areas, however it should be noted that Waterfowl hunting season can start annually on September 1st and last through December 31st, careful attention to avoid active hunting areas is important for personal safety.

Saginaw Bay is a shallow extension of the Great Lake Huron, and the waters must be respected as sudden severe weather conditions can come up quickly causing strong winds, large waves, and dangerous conditions.

Kayaking on the Saginaw Bay offers a rugged exploration experience and visitors should not expect to find improved trails or facilities along the shoreline. The designated Blueways access points shown on the map may have limited parking and restroom facilities. Care should be taken however as the mileage distance shown on the map between access points may not reflect actual "on the water" distances, which can increase quickly while meandering along the shoreline. Even shallow water can be hazardous in strong wave and wind conditions.

Blueways Trail users are urged to exercise caution and good judgment of their own skill level. Paddlers are encouraged to carry all personal safety gear including emergency locator beacons and/or flares. Cell phones can be handy for further on-line trail information and to use in case of emergency however may not be available in all locations at all times. Do not expect that you will be able to call and get help at a moment's notice. Plan ahead and be prepared to be your own best responder, and in case of an emergency call 911. Marine Radio Channel: VHF Channel 16 Emergency & VHF Channel 22A Severe Weather



Water trail map

Go ahead, get wet, printed on water resistent paper

Michigan's Saginaw Bay Blueways Trail

Michigan's Great Lakes Water Trail

Bay County Department of Environmental Affairs & Community Development

Project partners

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

LIAA

GL

Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

Bay County Historical Society

... and volunteers from the Saginaw Bay Area.

Financial assistance for this project was provided, in part, by the Michigan Coastal Zone Management Program, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and U.S. Department of Commerce.

Bay County Riverwalk Trail System

Explore over 21 miles of paved trails in the beautiful Bay City area. The trail system consists of two sections: a northern rail trail that connects with Bay City State Recreation Area and Topico Marsh Nature Preserve, and "the loop," which encircles Bay City on an abandoned railway and series of boardwalks along the Saginaw River.

Tobico Marsh, one of the largest remaining coastal wetlands on the Great Lakes, includes 3.5 miles of nature trails open to bicycles. To explore the 9.5-mile Bay City Loop, start at Veterans Memorial Park where you'll see the remants of Bay City's shipbuilding era and the skeletons of two sunken ships.

Bay County Riverwalk Trail Access

	Access Site	Parking	Restrooms	Water
1	Bay City State Recreation Area	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	DeFoe Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Veterans Memorial Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Bigelow Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Tuscola Road Staging Area	Yes	Yes	No
6	Carroll Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
	BayZil Rail Trail Access			
7	Hotchkiss Road Trailhead	Yes	Portable	No
	Kochville Township Path Access			
8	Elmer Lange Park	Yes	No	No
9	Krossroads Park	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Zilwaukee Pathway Access			
10	Zilwaukee Riverfront Park	Yes	Yes	Yes

BayZil Rail Trail

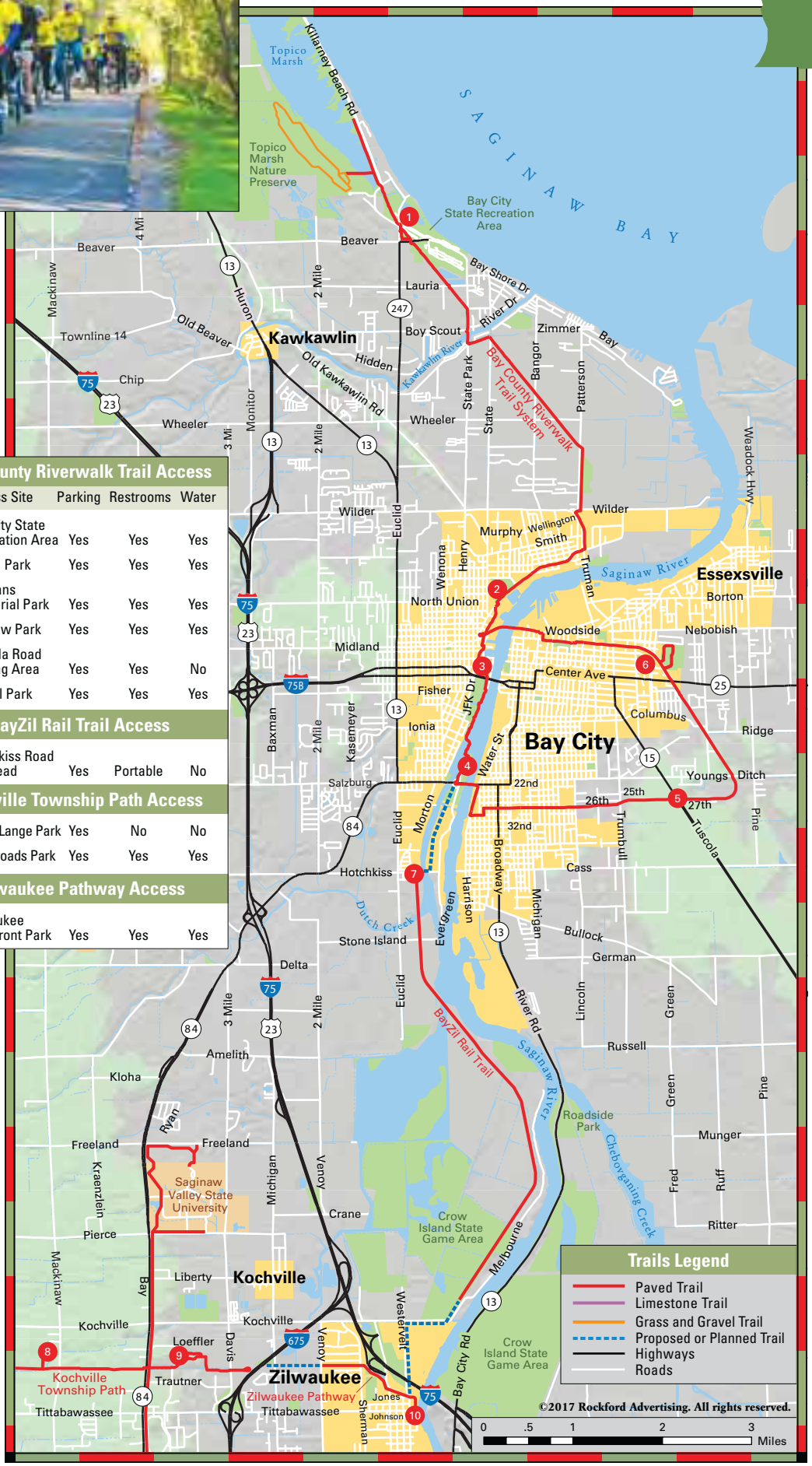
On October 15, 2016, a ribbon-cutting ceremony offically opened the 6.2-mile BayZil (Bay City to Zilwaukee) Rail Trail. This is one of Michigan's newest and most beautiful trails, running parallel to the Saginaw River on an abandoned railbed and crossing two bridges through vast marshes teaming with waterfoul. Scenic and serene, you will love every inch of it. The Hotchkiss Road Trailhead offers the only public access to the trail, which dead ends just north of Kochville Road. A southern trailhead is in the planning phase.

Kochville Township Path

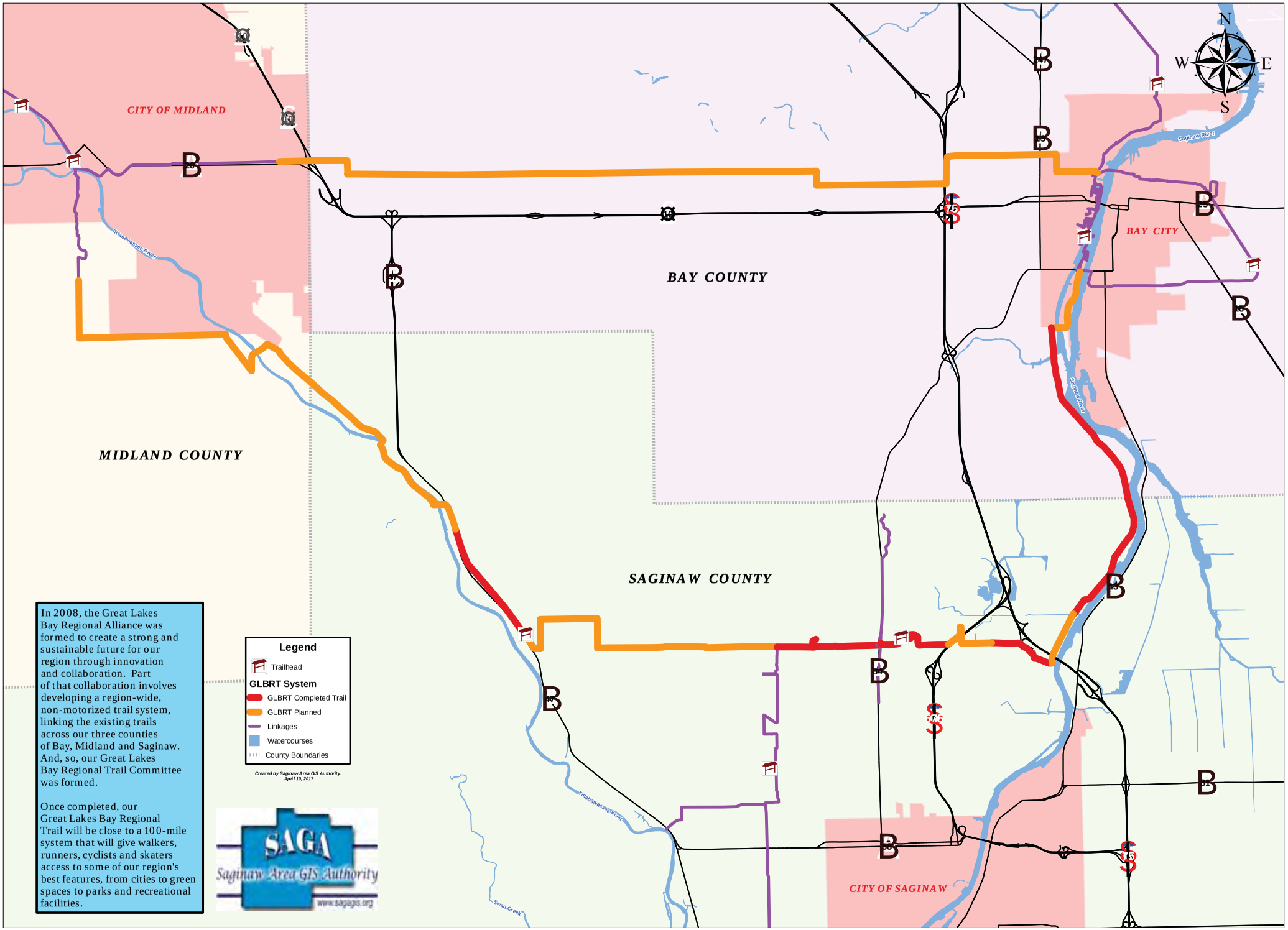
Ride or run on over 6 miles of paved non-motorized trails connecting the campus of Saginaw Valley State University with Elmer Lange Park and a scenic loop at Krossroads Park.

Zilwaukee Pathway

The 2-mile Zilwaukee Pathway is a paved non-motorized trail that begins at Zilwaukee Riverfront Park and travels west by the Zilwaukee Bridge.



Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail System



In 2008, the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance was formed to create a strong and sustainable future for our region through innovation and collaboration. Part of that collaboration involves developing a region-wide, non-motorized trail system, linking the existing trails across our three counties of Bay, Midland and Saginaw. And, so, our Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail Committee was formed.

Once completed, our Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail will be close to a 100-mile system that will give walkers, runners, cyclists and skaters access to some of our region's best features, from cities to green spaces to parks and recreational facilities.

Appendix B - Community Input Survey Results

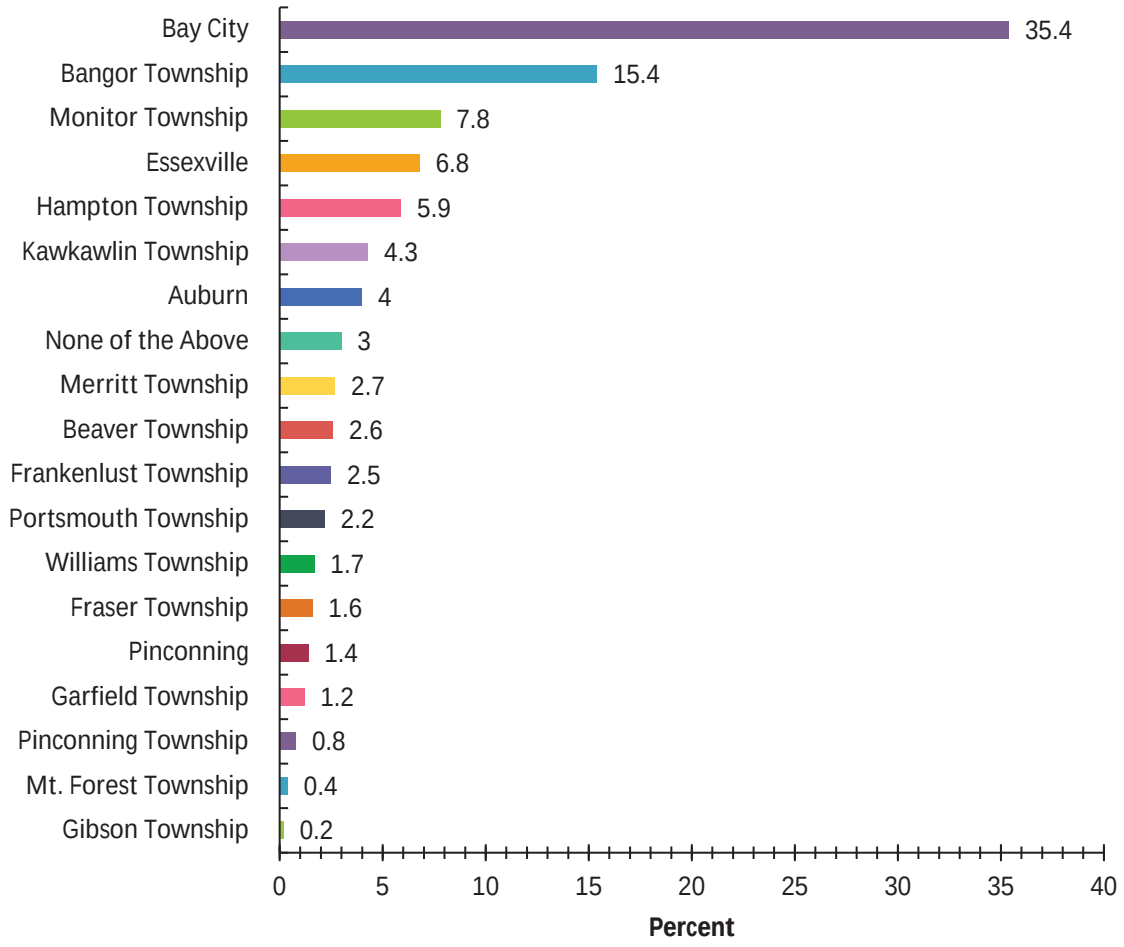
Final Report for 2019 Bay County Recreation Plan Online Community Input Survey

Response Statistics

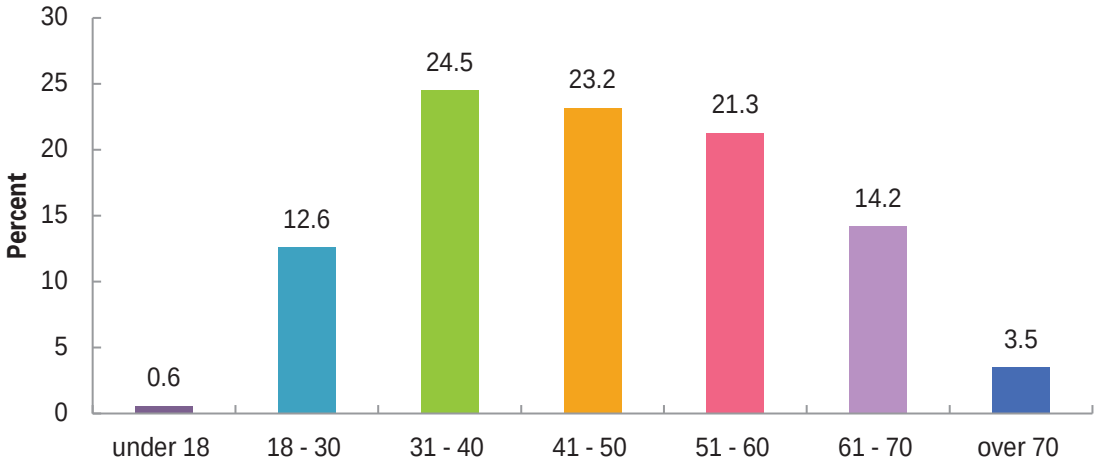
- Survey Available from September 10, 2018 – October 2, 2018
- 956 Completed Responses (Respondent entered the survey and completed all the way through to the end)
- 315 Partial Responses (Respondent completed at least one question)
- This reports compiles all completed and partial responses

Note – Text responses that were non-responsive such as “don’t know, N/A, and not sure” were removed. All other are printed as received.

1. Where do you live? (1,267 Total Responses)



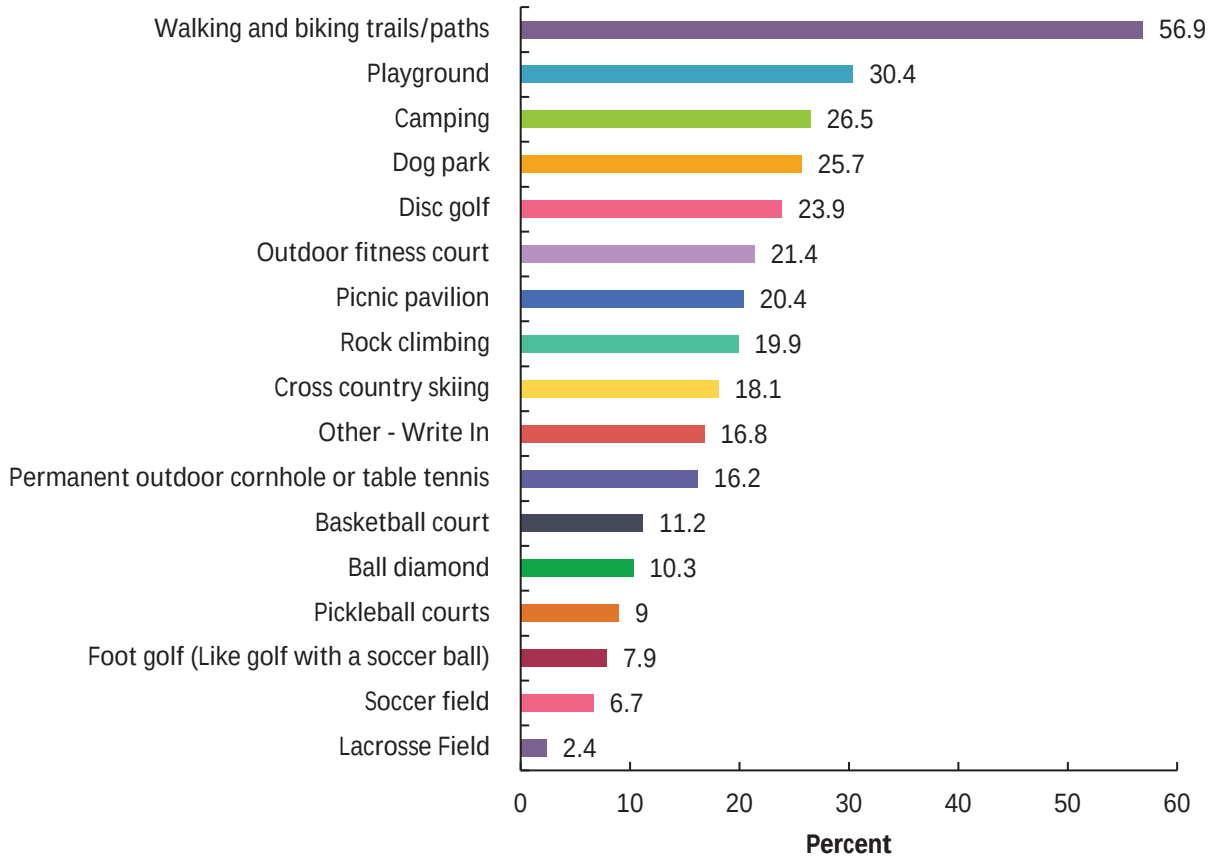
2. What is your age? (930 Total Responses)



1. Please rate your feelings regarding the following statements about parks in Bay County.

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Don't know/no opinion	Responses
I am satisfied with the COUNTY park and recreation facilities in Bay County.	34.4%	37.6%	23.2%	4.8%	1,259
I am satisfied with the LOCAL parks in my community.	38.0%	31.5%	27.1%	3.3%	1,254
The preservation of natural areas and water resources in our community has a positive effect on my quality of life.	74.1%	17.7%	5.8%	2.4%	1,257
It is important to improve access to and enhance the natural resources and recreation opportunities on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River.	91.1%	6.2%	1.7%	1.0%	1,255

2. What kind of recreation opportunities are you missing or want more of in your area? Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In

1. A beach without E.Coli
3. A clean beach
4. A place to swim. Remove the man made island and let the natural current do its job. Nasty water!
5. A splashpad in Caroll Park
6. A trail similar to Midland City forest that could be used for mountain biking, trail running, & cross country skiing.
7. A water park would be amazing!
8. ADA accessable playgrounds
9. Access to facilities such as restrooms along trails
10. Access to the kawkawlin river Bayside subdivision
11. Access to water
12. Access to water for swimming or wading
13. access to fishing areas
14. access to the bay and rivers
15. Adult Hockey (days)
16. Although seemingly impossible equestrian trails would be awesome.
17. Amusement park for youngsters like the old Tony's Park
18. An actual Boardwalk, not a dock.
19. any park without alcohol allowed
20. A place for live music and dancing near the river.
21. archery
22. Atv/utv trails
23. Baby pool toddler area splash pads at more parks
24. Bathroom facilities that aren't out houses, Rivers edges cleaned up by Lafayette Bridge!
25. Bay Access... For public and private waterfront.
26. Bay city state park needs a boat launch in the park, also a pier for fisherman to fish at. A larger pier would stop the mud along the shore line. This park is beautiful, but it really needs a pier starting at the old waterworks and heading out on an angle towards Linwood. This would stop the poor conditions at the beach.
27. Beach
28. Beach access
29. Beach that is safe to swim in!
30. Beaches and rail trail
31. Beachfront and more fishing access
32. Better access on North end of Pincomning Park on Codey Estey Road for ice fishing access to the Bay
33. Better golf courses
34. Better horse area for the people in the community
35. Big Boardwalk
36. Bigger boat launch near the Saginaw River mouth.
37. Bike rail trail.
38. Birding areas
39. Boat launches/ Water access
40. Boat rides/boat rental
41. Cable Park-Aqua park

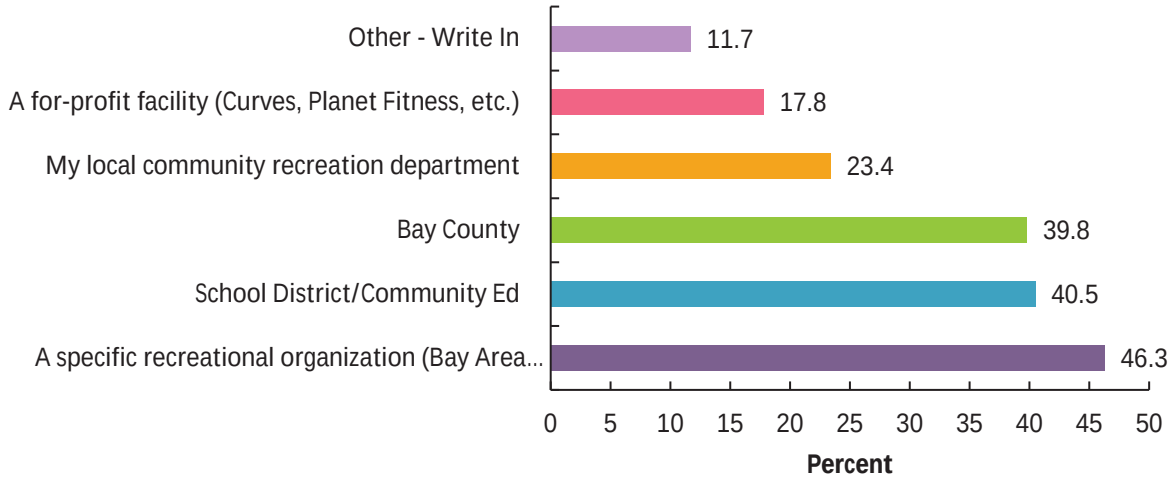
42. Camp & fish
43. Canoe/kayak opportunities
44. canoe/kayak livery
45. Clean beaches
46. Clean beaches/swimming
47. Clean water/beaches
48. Cleaner Beaches
49. Cleaniness
50. Designated bike lanes/ bike routes
51. Designated off leash areas for dogs. Dog parks are germ and disease ridden
52. Disc Golf
53. disc golf
54. Disc golf
55. Dock launch at state park. Patterson road is way to super congested 90 percent of the time
56. Dog park in Merritt Twp near the playground behind the Twp Hall behind On the grounds where they hold the derby and festival there's plenty of room for one! Lights in the back corner of the trail there too for those of us who walk at night.
57. Dog beach
58. Dog park on West side
59. Driving Ranges
60. Easily accessible beach
61. Equestrian
62. Fair Grounds.
63. Fair access to ALL of our parks
64. Fair grounds
65. Fairgrounds
66. Fishing
67. Fishing Pier
68. Fishing access
69. Fishing docks
70. Fit trail stations and playgrounds where smoking is prohibited
71. Fitness activity stations (like pull ups, etc .) along walking or running trails.
72. Fix the hockey rink and get rid of cohen
73. Gaga ball
74. Geocaching
75. Golf
76. golf driving range
77. Golf course
78. Grandstands at the bay county fair updated
79. Handicap accessability
80. Handicap accessable parks & equipment for all recreation areas, including playgrounds.
81. Handicaped kayak launchj
82. Handicapped kayak launches like on E in Frankenmuth
83. handicap swings
84. Hockey Rinks
85. Horse trails

86. Hunting
87. i am too disabled to do any of these things, i love just going and sitting outside watching people and birds and hear the flowers are beautiful from those that can walk to see them. someday it will be me
88. improve what we have!
89. I wish the biking/walking trail did not have barriers on them, I realize why they are there, but now that I have graduated to a three wheel bike, the find it difficult to use them
90. I would like to see some work done on the sledding hill in Vet's park. I know attention to it makes us liable, however, perhaps we could build a hill and make it safer, perhaps put steps alongside the bridge to keep the children away from the road and provide a longer slope toward the park. Also, we really need to build an large outdoor skating rink in Vets Park kids need exercise in the winter and the one in Wenona Park is not large enough. how about something at the fair grounds, maybe cross country skiing trails, connecting to the rail trail. little league fields should be mandatory for the qualilty of life in this community.
91. I would love adult/baby swing.https://www.aplayfulpath.com/the-expression-swing-happy-chair/
92. Ice skating
93. Improve existing
94. In relation to Outdoor Fitness; Caliathenics $ Strongman because of specificity, to not be confused with Crossfit or Survival fitness. THANK Y😇U
95. Indoor Flush Handi Cap Toilets. Port a Pots and Walkers Wheelchair is Safe ir Sanitary.
96. Indoor Pool & Water Park
97. Indoor community pool
98. Indoor track to walk in the winter that is pet friendly
99. Kayak launch
100. Kayak launches
101. Kayak launches
102. Kayak launches and trails
103. kayacking, paddle barding, hiking trails,horse back riding trails, instruction
104. Kayaking
105. Lets take care of what we have before anymore
106. Lighted tennis courts
107. medium size dog park, too many large (medium dogs) intimidate the small dogs.
108. More docks/peirs to fish from
109. More Arobics
110. More actual public playgrounds. I k ow $$ is tight but some are really falling into disrepair. More skate parks too.
111. More boat launches on kawkawlin river
112. More boating, kayaking, and canoeing
113. More children's play grounds
114. More connecting trails with other cities
115. More handicap accessible
116. More hunting land
117. More native flowers
118. More picnic tables in the parks
119. more splash pads
120. More seating along the trails for elderly and others to be able to rest when needed.
121. multi use areas
122. Natural exploration area

123. Nature preserve areas and classes, like Chippewa nature center
124. Nature trails
125. New play ground equipment ar roosevelt Park
126. None at the time
127. None, money should be spent on police an fire protection!
128. outdoor chess/checker table/bench sets
129. ORV trails/ open the county roads
130. Off road path like the Sugar springs trail
131. Orv trails
132. Outdoor Paddleball Court
133. Outdoor hockey pavilion
134. Outdoor skating rink
135. Park store with in the park and campground areas
136. pickleball is the #1 growing sport in the u.s.a. for the last 6 years...
137. Pier in the bay
138. Pool
139. pool
140. Pools
141. Public Fishing Areas Other than the river.
142. Public tennis courts
143. Quit wasting riverfront property on condominiums and office/business space!
144. RC outdoorTracks, ATV/UTV/Dirtbike park(google the mounds atv park)
145. RC track
146. Rainbows end playground, saginaw
147. Reg. Golf & Beach activities
148. road s wider so bikers can ride safer in trafic
149. Roller Hockey
150. Roller skate/ Roller blade, Target range
151. Running trails/paths
152. Shade trees, green space
153. Shooting range
154. Shoreline clean up. Pharagmite control and other invasive species
155. shoreline fishing
156. skating rink/ice arena
157. Sidewalks on n.union and Euclid
158. Single track wooded trails
159. Sledding beaches
160. Some place to ride my horse
161. Some sort of sports team to draw people to our community.
162. Special needs accessible at parks and campgrounds. nicer updated playgrounds and facilities at the Campground and more campgrounds, more activities to do at parks like the rock climbing and other physical activities. More activities for families to do together. We do have picnic pavilions but they need to be cleaned up and updated. Another dog park with separate sections for small dogs and big dogs and more dog walking areas. Public dog Beach area. More kids parks. And many many more special needs facilities and activities, not just wheelchair but sensory activities.
163. Splash Pad

164. Spray pad and keep the outdoor pool open on weekends!
165. Spray park
166. Stop allowing people to hunt in natural habitat
167. Stop putting money into parks and fix the bridges
168. Swimming
169. Swimming / Beach
170. Swimming for dogs
171. swimming parks
172. Swimming. We need to clean up the beach
173. Tennis
174. Tennis Courts
175. Tennis complex
176. Tennis court
177. tennis court
178. tennis courts
179. Tennis courts
180. The ability to actually enjoy our water without the muck and smell!!
181. The bay to be clean to swim in. No more brown water.
182. The race track that many people enjoy
183. The spray park is a hit maybe add to it
184. The tennis courts in our area are in desperate need of repair.
185. this is me emphasizing outdoor fitness equipment for adults. We used them all the time in Spain
186. To have more trees and small packet parks.
187. Toddler/ baby play areas
188. Trails for cross country biking
189. trails to enjoy riding my horse
190. Updated playgrounds and seating to enjoy the outdoors
191. Valley ball
192. Volleyball
193. Volleyball courts
194. walking clubs, yoga
195. Water parks
196. Waterpark
197. Zip line course
198. zip line

3. Recreational programs include youth sports leagues, adult sports leagues, special events (Easter egg hunt, daddy-daughter dance, etc.) and instructional classes (fitness, golf, hunter safety, etc.). Who provides the recreational programs that you and your family have participated in? Please check all that apply.



OTHER – WRITE IN

1. 4H
2. 4h
3. 4H!!!!!!
4. An adult football league would be cool, i had to go way out in saginaw for hunters safety for my daughter, shoulf be something around here
5. BASA
6. Bay City State Park
7. Bay City State park
8. Bay City State Park
9. Bay Co Civic Arena
10. Bay County 4H
11. Bay County 4-H, MSU Extension
12. Bay County fair grounds
13. Bay County Library System
14. Bcsp
15. Boys and Girls Club
16. Boyscouts. Dnr. Moose
17. Camp Fairytales fun runs
18. Chippewa Nature Center and also church events
19. Church
20. church
21. Church
22. Churches
23. Churches
24. Churches. Special education programs.
25. City of Bay City
26. Clay target shotgun sports, personal financial support of gun clubs.
27. communities outside Bay County that offer disc golf within natural areas
28. Delta College

29. DNR
30. Dnr
31. DNR (at state park)
32. Duncans - hunters safety
33. Easter egg hunt- church
34. Essexville needs local comm ed classes again, especially in fitness
35. Fishing
36. Friends of State Park
37. Honestly, we go to Midland a lot for the parks.
38. Hunters safety we completed in arenac co
39. I have to go to other areas to find mountain bike trails . I prefer rustic natural trails like Deer runs
40. I want a disc golf course
41. Id love to see the rec league program grow. As someone relatively new to the area, I felt discouraged from getting involved because I dont know enough people to put together a team.
42. Individual fitness experts etc often hold yoga or other classes. Would be nice to offer some at Merritt Twp Hall next to Shannon's firehouse
43. Jaycees
44. Library
45. Lions club. Rotary clubs, Jaycee
46. Little league
47. Little League
48. Little League Baseball
49. Little Leagues
50. local businesses, non-profits
51. Local churches
52. Local churches, and hospital
53. Local community organization (Rotary Club)
54. Local non profit
55. Locals getting together to put on Crump Days
56. Mid Michigan Golf Center in Midland
57. Midland
58. Midland county
59. MSU Extension and 4-H
60. MSU Extension for Bay County Fair
61. My Church
62. My church
63. My church AUMC
64. My Church. However it is not in Bay County.
65. NELL
66. No idea because there is so little. Take a trip to Fort Collins, CO and see how behind the times we are
67. Non profit organizations
68. Non profit organizations
69. Northeast Little League
70. NorthEast Little League, Bay Area Youth Football
71. Nothing out here, so not used.
72. OLLI through SVSU
73. planetarium,bay city state park, disability services resource center
74. Private business
75. Private groups
76. Rail trail
77. Sag. Bay Land Conservancy
78. Saginaw basin land conservancy
79. SBLC

80. Soccer leagues
81. State (campground)
82. state of michigan
83. State park
84. state park
85. State park recreation
86. State Theater
87. Svsu
88. The bay county fair board
89. The Silver Derby Bar,(now closed)the Crump Pump,The VFW,People that put together Crump Days
90. the Tax payer
91. These programs dont exist
92. Township families
93. Walking & biking
94. We utilize trails at the Bay City State Park frequently.
95. Work
96. Zion Lutheran & Delta College

4. What recreational programs would you like to see added to your community?

1. 1. Family dance night or Sunday afternoon at the pavilion. Teach simple dances that everyone can do and then have DJ play so people can dance and be active. 2. Group walks. Kind of like the bike rides. People meet and walk a route of 1-3 miles. 3. Group tai chi in a park.
2. A board or website to make it easier to find out what's going on locally other than word of mouth or driving to the dnr office.
3. A disc golf course
4. A dog park.
5. A donation ran archery range
6. A dow garden type of park.
7. A few more free fishing day events. Improve the local parks, carole park, fair grounds, and develop more bike l/walk trails in rural areas near garfield rd heading south towards auburn from crump.
8. A fitness center like the Y that is affordable for all.
9. A free ice skating rink, free instruction for sports programs, handicap accessable parks & recreations for all age groups, more camping areas, places for group bonfires , other forms of free entertainment. All handicap accessable.
10. A much larger playground with swings. I would like to see water and septic along with power.
11. A paved pedestrian route following the Railroad route that goes from Valley Plaza through Auburn to Bay City. Following a Coal Mine theme with Monuments Erected at the old Mines that made the area famous. Where are the Wolverine Mine Shafts and what kind of Coal is still below us today?
12. A place where our kids can go. There is nothing around here for our youth to go. A rec center with basketball courts volleyball courts hockey etc.
13. A place where people have the chance to fish without having to spend so much money on boats and trailers. A place to target practice before hunting season.
14. A playground for children would be awesome. Take a look at playgrounds around america. Even some in other countries. One could learn a lot rom investigating in this. Or just look at dow gardens. People of all ages need opportunities to get out and walk and exercise after are brutal winters.
15. A recreation center around the northern end of Bay City.
16. Access to a track would be great. HIgh schools are getting stingy about public use.

17. Access to the bay for boat ramps or walkway into the bay for fishing access. Not everyone has boats. Augres has a great walking pier to fish on.
18. Access to water. Sailing, boating, kayaking, canoeing etc
19. Accessible Recreational Opportunities for young and middle age adults in wheelchairs
20. Activities anyone can pop in and do without cost/appointments, like planned Walks, Yoga or Tai Chi at the park/beach, outdoor fitness courts (playground equipment for adults/teens), walk/jog track
21. Activities for seniors
22. Activities for Visiting Family
23. Added events to the Bay County golf course. I understand it is a niche sport, but the communication for other events outside of the County Tournament are very poor.
24. Adding to Jones Road park.
25. Additional archery options
26. Additional biking, hiking, walking trails along with an extended fishing dock at the Pinconning Bay County Park plus continued improvement of the beach area.
27. Adult evening or weekend
28. Adult flag football
29. Adult leagues and activities
30. Adult Softball, kickball
31. Adult Volleyball
32. Adult/fitness programs for parents
33. Allowing bikes in the Bay City skatepark. Im sick of having to drive to Saginaw, Midland and MT. Plesant when we have a perfect facility closer to my home.
34. Allowing bikes in the Bay City skatepark. Im sick of having to drive to Saginaw, Midland or Mt. Plesant to ride my bmx bike when we have a perfect place closer to my home.
35. An adult sports league would be great! Softball maybe? I could get a team put together from work pretty easily.
36. An archery range somewhere in northern Bay County would be great. Maybe at Pinconning Park?
37. An Easter Egg hunt would be fun!!
38. An outdoor skating area, specifically ice skating, would be nice.
39. Any of the ones listed, arts and crafts. Games for kids.....movie nights
40. Any sports for kids that are just for fun. So many kids can't play organized sports because they have become so expensive. It would be nice to have a true rec league for kids soccer or basketball.
41. Anything for kids is great. Kids are the future!
42. Anything that avoids opening the damn Bridges
43. Anything to get people OUTSIDE! Rock/wall climbing, canoe/kayak/paddle board launches, cross-country ski/snow shoe trails, ice skating
44. anything youth related and senior activities including PICKLEBALL
45. Anything! Do something with this town other than building another riverfront condo place where "real" families cannot afford or worrying about getting another bar in Bay City. Put money toward things that pre-teen to age 19 yr olds can do. Geocaching, disc golf, evening dances, anything to get them up off the couch and off the video games for awhile!
46. Archery
47. Art classes. Language classes. Intermural sports.
48. Art in the park
49. Art programs.
50. as I had mentioned, ice skating rink (outdoor) with warming house and large enough to really skate. enhance the sledding hill, or build a new one. Baseball for little league, of course.

51. ATV Paths
52. Ball diamonds and volleyball for the kids.
53. Bangor Township does not even have ONE park so anything would be an improvement. County wide, it is my opinion that almost EVERY park should have an option for disc golf. Even if small parks had 1 or 2 disc golf targets or baskets, many would enjoy them in an horse shoe type game or by creating their own games. Natural walking and biking trails ANYWHERE in Bangor township
54. Baseball facility similar to Victory Park in Canton, Michigan or Grand Park in Indianapolis, Indiana. Please visit them.
55. Basketball
56. Basketball baseball more rail trails
57. Basketball courts playgrounds
58. Bathrooms at carol park. Repairs to rail trail for bikes. A beack at the state park that looks like Caseville or build a beach and have it county run.
59. Bay City desperately needs another decent playground for our children. The one by the river was demolished some years ago and never replaced. I know there is one at the state park but for those of us on the other side of town that can be too far to drive to very often. Something should be available closer to down/up town. The small playgrounds in that area are neglected and aged.
60. Bay County has many programs but the cost to participate in many of the sports for youth is sky high; baseball, soccer, hockey, basketball, softball. Most families can not afford the cost for these sports.
61. Bay county is a baseball area...a strong practice area with cages and facilities for all to practice (all ages)... Outdoor fitness area
62. Bay County needs a disc golf course. The disc golf community is growing everyday and this gives us a tremendous opportunity for more tourism dollars. Currently Bay City is the only community in the Tri Cities to not have a course. Another added benefit is disc golf course are fairly in expensive compared to other community projects. A course being put on to already purchased land cost around 25000 with tee pads, baskets and signage included. You will also find a large group of local volunteers ready to spring into action to make the course happen. As we speak there is a Tri City Disc Golf Facebook group that has over 900 members currently. Disc golf is no longer the sport of hippies and burn outs, it has transformed itself into a reputable and profitable sport. Please consider this when deciding about future parks. All it takes is a few phone calls to other local communities to see the benefits they have gained from disc golf. Thank you for your time!!!!!! Please email me with any questions
63. Beach and Water Activity
64. Beach/swimming
65. Before we start adding parks we NEED to fix our roads and update our sewer lines and water system.
66. Better access for fishing in Cody Estey Road Pincomning
67. Better access for land based fishing
68. Better access to the water near the State Park.
69. Better ball fields on the river to provide travel tournaments. Bring money to all the hotels that have been built recently
70. Better beaches
71. Better cleaner play grounds
72. Better fairground development. The last few years the fairgrounds have been falling apart and no one seems to want to fix them. Youth of our community need to be able to use those facilities to further develop long term growth in the community
73. Better groomed Cross Country trails.
74. Better restroom facilities
75. Better swim areas
76. Better the 4h

77. Better upkeep and repairs to existing playgrounds. Clean beach access.
78. Bicycling
79. Bike club
80. Bike paths
81. Bike paths — especially on Delta and Hotchkiss Rds for students. The bike path on Bay Road dead ends abruptly at Hotchkiss.
82. Bike paths or sidewalks assessable at Wilder and Euclid areas. Something like center courts in Saginaw. With basketball volleyball and walking path indoors
83. Bike paths Walking trails
84. Bike paths within Bay County including downtown and side streets. Many roads are not safe to bike due to no or small road shoulders.
85. BIKE specific trails, BIGGER swings, bike events/races, adult sports not held on Wednesday's (volleyball esp), disabled community sporting events
86. Bike trails, playground, climbing wall
87. Bikes race leagues, more hunting programs
88. Biking path and free outdoor movies in the summer.
89. Biking paths. Splash park. Improved walking paths.
90. Bring back the fitness stuff on rail trail or Riverwalk. Enforce the no alcohol policies on properties
91. Camping
92. Camping areas
93. Camping with educational programs at the campground. Better dog park.
94. Camping, improved dog park.
95. Can programs become available in rural areas or near our smaller towns?
96. Canoe, kayak, fishing, boat launches, fishing piers, ponds.(Kawkawlin River)
97. Canoe/kayak rental, scuba/snorkeling, zip line course
98. Children's dance classes Children's hiking Children's gardening Community garden
99. Classes at the community center
100. Classes such as fly fishing and cross country skiing. Leagues that run for short seasons (6 weeks) rather than a six month period.
101. Clean beach, not just one small area, but the whole beach. Clean clear and no charge to use it. Right now it is nasty, it is sad that we have more clean water than anyone and it smells and is full of slime
102. Clean the ball diamonds, volleyball court, horse shoe pits, and fill in holes where children play in Monitor twsp park. The pavilion needs attention and the bathrooms need another coat of paint. Take care of what is available before adding more.
103. Clean up state park beach more, ice skating on the west side like it used to be.
104. Clean up the state park beach like it was in the 70 and 80's we've lost billions from this in the area.
105. Clean water for swimming
106. Cleaner and maintained playground sets and grass/weeds maintained
107. Cleaner Beach
108. Cleaning all the weeds and cleaning are beaches up
109. Cleaning up more of the poluntants, water and land
110. Community dog walks.
111. Community exercise classes,
112. Continue improving Fairgrounds- promote camping and maybe swap meets, car shows etc.... it used to be amazing in its heyday, needs to be maintained to preserve buildings.
113. Continued improvements at State Park. More family centered river front activities/destinations.
114. Corn hole tournaments

115. Cornhole
116. Cornhole Toss
117. County wide soccer fields open to the public and maintained by the county.
118. Cross country running and skiing trails
119. Cross country skiing
120. Cross country skiing, bike trails
121. Cross Country skiing, youth learn to hunt programs, youth learn to fish, hockey
122. Curling
123. Disc golf
124. Disc Golf
125. Disc golf
126. Disc golf and better upkeep on the swings on at the park. Also a rock climbing area.
127. Disc golf by state park
128. Disc golf course
129. Disc golf course
130. Disc golf course and an RC track to race in a track and jumps. Like a dirt bike course to race RC's on
131. Disc golf courses
132. Disc golf for sure
133. Disc Golf is a definite need. My husband and I have to travel 30 minutes just to enjoy the sport. There are so many great locations where this could be a great asset to our community, unfortunately most public areas are not being utilized to their full potential.
134. Disc Golf is a growing sport and it is truly a shame that Bay City and the county lack courses that would help the local economy and provide safe healthy recreational opportunities for the young and old alike Bay County is deficient in this regard even compared to much smaller communities
135. Disc golf league
136. Disc golf league, recreational disc golf for high school students
137. Disc golf leagues and dog off leash training areas.
138. Disc Golf leagues, Spikeball league, Activities/leagues for the handicapped
139. Disc Golf Ultimate Frisbee league
140. Disc golf, more hiking/biking areas (or expansions within BC State or tobico rec areas).
141. Disc golf, volleyball courts, multi purpose areas
142. Disc golf. Use the areas around the State park parking lots not being used as potiential course. You could also use Veterans park as a course area.
143. Disc Golf.....were about the only county in the state that doesnt have a public course or any for that matter.
144. DISC GOLLLLLFFFFF
145. Disk Golf would be great. We could have leagues. We need more stuff to do in the winter too. Maybe the kids can have an E-Sports League in City Market or something
146. Dog beaches
147. Dog classes
148. Dog Classes Yoga & Pilates Hunting & fishing classes
149. Dog park with a place for dogs to swim on West side,Like Defoe park
150. Dog parks for smaller breeds.
151. Drop-In Group Fitness activities at the rec center or in the parks. ~Yoga by the River (or beach) would be great. ~Free Silver Sneakers walking club ~Preschool Play Groups ~Active adult activities ~Add outdoor exercise equipment along park walkway. ~Add a sensory walk path for kids in park. ~ Add community

gardens Check out Virginia Beach's Rec center programs: https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/parks-recreation/Pages/default.aspx

152. Educational nature program
153. Elementary age cheerleading and Pom Poms
154. Enjoy the bay county golf course the most I feel there are a lot of programs already
155. Equitable and accessible fitness classes
156. Exercise, Tai Chi.
157. Extend the railtrail to Monitor township, or have a bike path for those who live in the country.
158. Family excersize and meeting your neighbors.
159. Family friendly activities
160. Fast pitch softball for adults co ed
161. Finish connecting rail trails with Saginaw and Midland. Update/care for current park/playground areas.
162. Fishing
163. Fishing and hunting programs
164. Fishing Clinics
165. Fitness
166. fitness center, gym. fitness classes, indoor pool/sauna.
167. Fitness classes after work hours (after 5:00 PM) or early morning (6:00 am).
168. Fitness Course (think walking trail with different strength training exercises along the way)
169. Fitness program
170. Fitness program geared towards children
171. Fitness programs Yoga
172. Fix some of the playground equipment. For example, Vet's Park.
173. Fix up the ball diamonds at Vets Park. Access to the water or pier at State Park. Sidewalks on Euclid ave and roads to colleges and rectreation areas. It would be nice to have a minor league team and quality fields for ball games as well as the stadium to be used for concerts. A gate the police could open and close in winter months off vets bride instead of the barricades blocking the road when it is not necessary. Staff to maintain these areas. Clean up the river in the city from trash and logs.
174. Flag football for kids, more summer programs for kids,
175. Flag football! Dog sports.
176. Foot Golf
177. Foot golf
178. Fragmities need to be controlled at the road ends and public access sites. We want to see and have access to the Bay.
179. Free senior exercise programs. Pickle ball leagues, and better camping facilities.
180. Fun and safe activities for teens
181. Furthering of rivertral/ walkway to our township. I love walking it and always have to pack my dogs up to go to town to walk it. No sidewalks out here on country roads.
182. Golf
183. Golf Instruction
184. Golf league
185. GOLF LESSONS, BETTER PUBLICITY FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER AT LOCAL EVENTS SUCH AS CONCERTS, TALL SHIPS, ETC.
186. Good walking and biking trails. Our roads are dangerous to walk on. myself and my sister have recently taken falls walking on Mackinaw road because of no shoulder and Boutell road is uneven and makes my back sore when I don't walk right in the middle of the road. My husband andI both like to play pickleball at

the community center in bay city, but there are no local locations for that sport. I generally go to the State park to walk.

187. Group fitness classes offered in the townships More recreational opportunities for younger people Expanded services at the Community Center (more classes, broader variety, aimed at a younger population)
188. Group outdoor activities for adults such as walking. I'm single, age 62 and prefer outdoor activities and would like opportunities to do an activity where I can converse with others.
189. Group programs that provide opportunity to meet others who enjoy same activity (i.e. guided hikes, cross country ski or snowshoe hikes, outdoor fitness classes, etc.)
190. Group things for older adults and seniors, yoga ,walking, dance, wheelchair walker fitness programs
191. Gus Macker
192. Hiking club, biking club
193. Hiking/trails Obstacle Courses
194. Horseback riding.
195. How about some disc golf courses. Maybe that'll help keep some kids off the streets.
196. hunter safety , disc golf
197. Hunter safety, boater safety,
198. I believe that better overall maintenance is needed on the rail trails already in place. It seems like once they are put in, they become forgotten. I really enjoy the idea of outdoor fitness - it makes sense in today's health conscious society. I believe Bay County needs to find the age group they wish to target first. If there are more elders in the area, more wheelchair or handicap accessible areas would be important. If it is a younger age group the disk golf and outdoor fitness would be a hit.
199. I currently play in our local indoor and beach volleyball leagues. I also play softball at Vets park. I occasionally take my dog to the dog park in essexville. Would I would like is a dog park on the west side. Most importantly Disc golf!!!! I drive to frankenmuth, Saginaw, Freeland, Midland, mt pleasant, AuGres, west branch and so many other places to play disc golf. Which means I buy my gas my lunch and other things in those towns instead of spending it in my own city. You build a great course and people will travel to come here and spend their money in our community.
200. I don't know, we don't participate in them.
201. I love all that Bay City has to offer....
202. I love the Riverwalk and use it often. Wish the upkeep was a little better. Wonder if you could have groups responsible for keeping different areas cleaned up like they do on the highways.
203. I miss the Community Ed programs we used to have. Also having outdoor adventure classes would be fun.
204. I really miss the Essexville Community Ed classes. I used to go to exercise classes at Bush School and miss having some kind of "class" in Essexville instead of everything being in Bay City. Lots of empty buildings that could be used. Also, would need to be affordable!
205. I really want disc golf!
206. I support all parks for family activities.
207. I take advantage of adult exercise programs offered by Bay County. Would like these to continue with additional programs when possible.
208. I think programs need to advertised more.
209. i think what we have is great, i think regular up keep and maintenance is needed. especially in bay city parks in the city limits. vets park has such great options to walk near water and has playgrounds but often the playgrounds are dirty or the slides broken. i tend to stick to auburn where the 2 parks here are very nice and kept up.
210. I work in Bay County but I live in Saginaw County. I think it would be great if Bay County built a disc golf course somewhere in the County. Midland County has a course and Saginaw County has at least four courses that I know of. Being a part of the disc golfing community for almost 10 years now, I can say that most disc golf enthusiasts enjoy discing at various courses, and the addition of a course in Bay County will certainly add to the recreation value of Bay County parks.

211. I would like a handicap bathrooms or port a potty at all parks and even the rail trail
212. I would like to see better cooperation between the residents and thos in charge of the parks. After all it is our tax dollars that support the parks. I know there is a difference in city and county parks and the majority of the discourse is regarding the city parks but I would like to see the county try to lead by example and show the city how you should treat your residents.
213. I would like to see more activity's added like in the metro-Detroit areas. Like water slides bigger splash parks or actually getting to swim in the bay.
214. I would like to see more fitness related activities that would include the whole family. A rock climbing, ariel park for zip lines, and other hands on jungle gym type of family activities.
215. I would like to see more indoor year-round dancing--especially line dancing. More educational hikes would be nice too--we have the talent for our own Halloween night animal hike, not just Bay City. Beginning snowshoe and cross country would be nice too.
216. I would like to see more playgrounds in areas without high crime. The playground near Baytown had a shooting and the equipment was destroyed. Birney Park isn't in a safe area.
217. I would like to see more programs for toddlers during the school year and more things for school aged kids in the summer.
218. I would like to see safe roads so we could bike places safely
219. I would like to see the ball diamonds down at vets park better maintained. They have really gone down hill over the years and are not very well kept at all.
220. I would like to see the county have a more active role in activities that get children and adults out of the house.
221. I would like to see the fairgrounds become the family gathering place it once was. Put aside the Bay City and Bay County differences and unite to make the community a better place .. meaning the city included and not just the outlying townships... Make it a place where families can come and play with their kids again and even add some family style fitness outdoor equipment...A water park at the fairgrounds would be a great addition for Bay County tax payers to enjoy similar to the one at State Park
222. I would love a disc golf course. Having to drive 30 to 45 minutes just to play the sport i love takes a bit out of my gas tank.
223. I would love more dog parks, safe places to exercise, and bike paths.
224. I would love to have the rail trail & more trails open to horses. Other areas such as Saginaw & Midland county's have them.
225. I would love to see a disc golf course added somewhere in or around Bay City. The sport is growing rapidly, and has a strong following in the area. SVSU has even established a disc golf team that has completed on a national level. Bay City is the only one of the Tri Cities that does not have a disc golf course. The county and surrounding areas would benefit greatly from the addition of a new course.
226. I would love to see the water cleaned up at the state park. We have everything - but the sand flees and the contaminated water create a less desirable atmosphere. Please see the "Rainbows End Playground" in Saginaw next to Walmart for a few great ideas.
227. I would really like to be able to ride/drive with my friends horses on the rail trail, here instead of trailing down to Saginaw to do same. When I was younger, we used to ride from Bangor Twp. along side the tracks to the Pinny area and back. Long before there was such a thing as a rail trail. There are trails open to horse traffic in Midland Co. also. Neither area,Sag.or Midland,can compare with the Bay Shore area.
228. I would really like to see somewhere to go kayaking and/or canoeing locally.
229. I would truly like to see what we have maintained. After the recent rains my husband and I walked in Wenona park and were disgusted at the debris left on the walk way and not scooped up by employees
230. Ice hockey
231. ice skating times fit for working families. evening, weekend skate times
232. I'd be happy with a nice dog park out here.

233. I'd like the launch by the boat house to be cleared out so you could kayak in the back channels. How about also covering the spheres by the old children's park!! We can't get those little handprints back!! They have been sitting uncovered since last winter! My daughters print is there! Tennis courts in vets park are in terrible shape! How about giving some land to the northeast little league for their use! Kids need stuff to do around here to keep them out of trouble! It is disgusting what you have done to them!!
234. I'd like to see maybe more sports. The variety is very limited. The closest fencing location is Freeland, and there are no water related activities.
235. I'd like to see more options available on the west side of Bay City such as a dog park and outdoor workout area.
236. I'd like to see more organized events like: walking groups, cycling groups, fitness classes, hiking groups, groups that involve kids, crafting groups.
237. I'd like to see nicer/updated playgrounds.
238. I'd like to see recycling bins in our parks in addition to trash cans, I'd like a bigger emphasis on recycling countywide aswell.
239. I'd like to see the boys that spent time cleaning Mike's park get their ball diamond back. Shame on the mayor and the city for taking that away from the boys. They do way more for the community than a stupid pavilion. No more privatization of our parks or ridiculous requests to get grant money for things that benefit the pocket of a few. At this time, they should be paying for all maintenance and utilities for that park..including the damaged wall they conveniently covered with a stupid selfie sign that faces the hideous pavilion instead of the water. AND ACCESS TO THE BATHROOMS THAT WERE PROMISED TO US. This city needs more accessible, not porta john bathrooms at parks. if you are worried about vandalism, install some freaking cameras. they are beyond cheap at menards and I'm certain they would donate some!
240. I'd like you to remove the excess spoils from the Bayside Park Park!
241. I'm fine with what is already offerd.
242. I'm satisfied with the rec programs available to me and my age group.
243. Imagination station needs to be rebuilt are you serious right now
244. Improve 4h which already exists.
245. Improved ball fields at vets park
246. Improvements to hiking and biking trails, the restrooms in particular need attention.
247. Improvements to the fairgrounds and grandstands
248. Indoor community pool and the outdoor one needs better cleaning and supervision
249. Indoor pool, outdoor yoga. It would be nice to have rentals at the state park trails: bikes, foot scooters, cross county skies, kayaks, etc. Could bay city partner with them to offer that?
250. Indoor tennis, senior workout training
251. Indoor track to walk in the winter that is pet friendly.
252. Info or classes to preserve nature, bees, butterflies, gardens, lakes, etc.
253. Instructional classes
254. Instructional classes, community events
255. It would be nice for my local community to have more events where whole families can participate. There are three currently, all centered around holidays. It would be nice to have something in the summer that wasn't holiday related.
256. It would improve our area to have quality water access and beach access. It is very unfortunate that we live surrounded by lakes but ours is so dirty and smelly that no one wants to swim in it. We shouldn't have to drive to the other side of the state to experience a beautiful clean lake to enjoy.
257. Just cleaniness
258. Just fixing up cleaning up parks especially bradway so my grandkids have some we're to play.the playground there is broken just the lack of repairs in Bay City baycounty is sad

259. Just put things That have a small foot print on land and add dubble the trash cans so people hopefully use them more.
260. Just take care of what is in place, walking and bike trails need some work.
261. Kayak and other non motorized water sports rentals
262. Kayaking
263. kayaking
264. Kayaking at State Park with a rental site and easy loading dock
265. Kayaking on the Bay
266. Kayaking, Hiking
267. Keep ADULT slowpitch softball down at Vet's Park.
268. Keep the little league
269. Keep the ones we have clean and secure. Build more playgrounds for kids
270. Kick boxing Dance instruction Community Ed programs like we used to have in Essexville.
271. Kickball and dodgeball leagues
272. Kids activities
273. Kids swim lessons. Community ed classes for a variety of things
274. Lacrosse
275. lacrosse, a cheaper program for gymnastics
276. Lacrosse, cycling, winter fatbike trails, fishing, kayaking
277. Ladder ball tournament
278. Land conservation classes for youth
279. large fishing pier
280. League activities, tournaments
281. Lessons for tennis, advertisement of current health clubs in the area.
282. Lifelong learning. Social activities
283. Little league baseball
284. Local Audubon Christmas Bird Count Wildflower planting day Wild berry harvest Community cook outs Camp fire story nights Triathlon More opportunities to participate in sailboat races
285. Local Boating Safety with Saginaw River / Bay Awareness Information.
286. Local, adult community ed programs such as sewing class, cooking class, dancing lessons, exercise groups
287. Love the idea of disc golf
288. Low cost mom and baby fitness sessions
289. Low cost senior fitness program
290. Maintain The Bay County Fairgrounds - provide better drainage and more paved paths. Improve bath house conditions.
291. Maintain the river walk and stop selling areas around our private parks. They are the best part of the city and why I remain here.
292. Maintained cross country ski trails, additional bike paths from Bay City to Pinconning and beyond
293. Maintaining the Bay County Fairgrounds and utilizing and promoting the campground area.
294. More 5k runs, maybe a minnie-Marathon!
295. More access to the bay, more wooded rec. areas like Midland city forest.
296. More activitie for families with children.
297. More activities at Bay City Recreational Park (State Park).
298. More activities for working families with very young (baby, toddler) age children. Many activities sound great but are either during the day when parents are working or too late in the evening for the kids.
299. More affordable recreational/non competitive sports for kids who don't play for a school.

300. More agriculture/farm activities
301. More basketball courts available for travel basketball and individual workouts
302. More basketball courts.
303. More bike and fitness opportunities.
304. More bike paths or at least wider major roads in Beaver Township. sharing a narrow road with 55 mph traffic is suicide.
305. More bike trails. A cleaner beach
306. More biking
307. More biking any hiking trails that are linger with a great view
308. More camping and backpacking
309. More camping.
310. more cardio drumming, low impact aerobics, chair yoga for staff. Better times of classes or more classes
311. More community ed classes in Bangor/bay city
312. More community education classes for adults offered in evenings.
313. More Disc golf courses
314. More dog friendly events
315. More dog friendly off leash areas. Dog pool and or beach
316. More duck marshes
317. More educational programs (like the rowing club) get people interested in the programs we already can provide with what we have (running, hiking, biking, kayaking,etc...)
318. More emphasis on 4H & MSU programs. Sports aren't for everyone. Its proven how animals can help heal a person from the inside out. Lets use our fair grounds more the just the fair and get the 4H kids in there teaching the pblic about agriculture, organic gardening, knitting, animal shows all year round. Use the canteen for public parties like getting to know your neighbors in your community kind of cook outs.
319. More family events on a local level
320. More family oriented. Picnic facilities, playground
321. More fitness classes through Bay County...during times that working people can participate.
322. More for children, to get them outside instead of on computers
323. More for families and teens. Better playground equipment for young children also disabled children and disc golf for teens. Would be nice to have a workout park for adults and elderly.
324. More for the young children
325. More full family organized activities.
326. More funding for Little League in the area
327. More Handi Cap Accessible Areas
328. More handicap
329. More handicap accessible trails and boating facilities
330. More horse/youth get togethers
331. More hunting areas
332. More inclusive activities and playgrounds for the special needs community
333. More indoor activities for children
334. More kids activities
335. More local disc golf events
336. More mountain biking.
337. More nature programs
338. more nature programs
339. More off road bike trails and more winter activities.

340. More opportunities for kids to learn about the waterways, natural resources, Bay County history, archery or anything outdoors.
341. More opportunities for teens to keep them out of trouble. Weekend activities and options for teens not interested in sports.
342. More opportunities to utilize the Saginaw Bay
343. More options for indoor volleyball
344. More options for parks that can be a spot for family picnics, reunions, work picnics, events, etc.
345. More outdoor activities for kids; fishing, archery.
346. More outdoor fitness classes, art classes for kids, events and things to do most weekends.
347. More outdoor ice skating rinks
348. More outdoor naturalist type, bird watching, etc.
349. More parking for the walking trails
350. More parks for walking, dog friendly. Picnic More parks for walking, dog friendly.
351. More paved bike paths
352. More places to offer open swimming also for adults .
353. More planned kids events throughout the year.
354. More playground equipment at parks
355. More programs for kids. They need something to do.
356. More programs to get kids into hunting.
357. More public bank fishing opportunities. Not just the big river. How about open up some of the ponds and streams to the locals for fishing. That would be cool for those of us with disabilities that are not able to do all that other sporting/walking/riding stuff that you are speaking of. Seems that you all have forgotten about the disabled people in our community.
358. More rail trail stuff for bikes. A place to get water, or rest.
359. More recreational activities at the Bay City State Park. Increase visibility and improve the public's opinion on the beach, making it more of a tourist destination. It's such a hidden gem!
360. More recreational classes that teach things to adults. Most recreational classes are for children, but adults pay the taxes and deserve classes and activities also.
361. More recreational sports for young kids!
362. More seasonal activities for children outside.
363. More spaces to walk dogs safely
364. More special events for holidays. Any chance Bay County is planning on a bigger community center? Midland has some nice stuff offered: http://www.greatermidland.org/community-center/
365. More special needs programs like sensory tables put in from corn boxes to special swings. Baseball, basketball for special needs. More family programs. More physical activities for families, zip lines, outdoor ice skating rink, Etc. Family camping programs. Same city discount cards for camping.(state park discount if you live within the same city limits).
366. More sports and recreational programs for youth at no cost, because of so many at risk and financially disadvantaged families in the area.
367. More stuff for young kids 3-7
368. More teen programs & places geared towards teen to hang out
369. More things for children.
370. More things to just get out and enjoy nature
371. More to do as a family
372. More toward teans.give them more to fo
373. More trail systems tied together.
374. More trails.

375. More walking/ hiking trails
376. More women's softball, more beach volleyball than just at Vet's park, more winter volleyball throughout the entire county, a county fitness class location near Auburn, more local activities for kids in the summer to spend the whole day at.
377. More woods trails, basic single track so that optional for less populated hiking area. Dog friendly
378. More youth sports programs and classes (baby & me, art, yoga)
379. More. Community ed classes for hobby type activities offered at local scools
380. Mostly a fitness park! Check out the fitness park at the hospital in West Branch!!! Something like that! It's awesome!
381. Mountain bike trails
382. Mountain bike trails
383. Msintenance and improvements to our history fair grounds
384. Mushroom hunting guides and tours
385. Natural preservation and actually be able to use the parks.
386. Nature and natural areas. A interpretive trail highlighting the lumbering days and when native Americans inhabited the area.
387. Nature programs for kids
388. Nature talks/walks.
389. Nature type programs
390. Naturecamps for children to learn more about the resources and people that used to inhabit our community
391. Need electicity for graduation parties and other parties
392. Need more batting cages and open gym times for the community center. Too much down time and better nightly customer service. Some newer equipment in work out rooms.
393. Nice play grounds with maintained equipment. We have so many broken playgrounds.
394. Nightly events, volleyball, cardio drumming, walking groups
395. No government paid activities.
396. Non motorized sports (kayaking, sup, canoeing), rock climbing,
397. None
398. None
399. None
400. none
401. None fix the bridge quit adding to the problem
402. none maintain the ones we have.
403. None we already have a enough.
404. None, save the money.
405. Northeast little league get the extra land they were promised. Need the land so more kids can play and be safe. Garbage over kids isn't good for the community.Doesn't say much for our leaders. Very disappointing
406. Not exactly a "program," but the spray park at the Bay City State Park is great. Adding another in northern Bay County would be wonderful!
407. Not programs, but mud bike tracks
408. Not really sure
409. Not so much about recreational activities, but state park camp ground could use a little help. Every year the mid section gets flooded out. Every year is worse than the last . Some fill in of some kind may help , before it is too late and campers take their vacations else where.
410. Nothing, just enhance what here.
411. open the lagoon to fishing for kids..
412. Organized youth's programs. Would like to have more up here for kids

413. Orv trails
414. Our area State Park does a fantastic job of offering family oriented, educational programs. Thanks for all your hard work. Please keep it up!
415. Our community just added new basketball courts and tennis/pickle ball and it has been a great addition to our park.
416. Our fairgrounds need to be updated. Not only the barns, but also the camping.
417. Outdoor activities for kids ie treasure hunts, outdoor book reading, guided walks, etc
418. Outdoor exercise course
419. Outdoor exploration areas for children, more bike trails, another water/spray parks, fitness/wellness for families
420. Outdoor fitness area, more bike trails
421. Outdoor fitness centers, and to be sure little leaguers have facilities - Bay City is wanting to squeeze out little leaguers and adult baseball. That means that the rowing club and the boys and girls club are part of the state law they are hiding behind and will also be squeezed out.
422. Outdoor fitness courts for adults (along with kids playgrounds) would be really nice. Could you add some outdoor chess/checker table/bench sets? Gardening. Holiday events, like a Halloween parade on Vets park trails, so kids can show off costumes, allow pets too:)
423. Outdoor fitness in addition to rail trail Better beach volleyball and organized leagues
424. Outdoor Fitness park where you can do different exercises on different pieces of equipment. Also dirt trails to run on in a forest area. More Run/Walk 5ks
425. Outdoor fitness... Baseball/softball practice facility Disc golf bins at parks
426. Outdoor group fitness classes would be fun! Easter Egg hunt at the State Park. Kids fitness programs.
427. Outdoor hockey. ..ice rink on the west side. Maintain what we already have including the vets park tennis court.
428. Outdoor ice rinks and things to do summer and winter that are family oriented
429. Outdoor ice rinks in the winter
430. Outdoor pickleball court - can use tennis courts
431. Outdoor Pickleball courts.
432. Outdoor work out facility
433. Outdoor yoga
434. Outdoor yoga classes Gun and archery ranges
435. Outside yoga
436. Paddle board yoga, pickle ball leagues, x country skiing, snow shoeing
437. Parks
438. Parks with added fitness areas
439. Pet swim area that is cleaner than the bay.
440. Pickle ball and senior programs.
441. Pickle ball.
442. Pickleball, dog park
443. Picnac tables, pavillion. grills, more bus routes
444. Picnic area and park with access to the kawkawlin river for Bayside subdivision
445. Playgrounds for young children, adventure courses (disc golf, foot golf).
446. Playgrounds in safe neighborhoods, another campground, cross country ski trails, fishing docks.
447. playgrounds that provide more access to disabled people (both physical and mentally disabled), community get togethers
448. Pool
449. Programs for kids after school

450. Programs I mentioned above.
451. Public archery or firearm ranges. More local activities it is a 25 miles drive to downtown
452. Rail trail
453. Recreation program for kids sports soccer for example
454. Rental kayaks
455. Road biking tours. The nearest is over an hour away. Why not have something local?
456. Rock Climbing
457. Rock climbing would be awesome.
458. Safe walking areas
459. Saginaw river awareness
460. same comment cannot use any - no opinion
461. Scout sponsored park maintenance days
462. Self defense, youth hunting programs, youth gun/bow safety classes.
463. Senior citizen activity, walk activities, social get to gethers
464. Senior Citizen programs
465. Senior classes like Tai chi or easy yoga. Fishing access closer to home like Finn Park with camping & boat launch. Safe hiking trails. Active retirees
466. Senior programs
467. senior stuff
468. Shooting range
469. Shuffle board for the old folks!
470. Softball and baseball
471. Softball at Vet's Park for young girls. Football for little ones in Bay City.
472. Someone to keep the Linwood Park updated. It never gets any better. If it weren't for the Linwood Youth Organization keeping the diamonds in great shape during the spring and summer you would never see any kids down there.
473. Something along the paths of the park to encourage activity as you are walking or running you stop and do an excercise, stretch, game or other activity.
474. Something I can take my dog too.
475. Something more exciting for pre-teens like dances ,concerts, things pre-teens and younger children need more of. We have enough for older adults.
476. Sport teams such as volleyball, basketball, softball
477. Spray park farmers pavilion
478. Spring Football
479. Stone break wall and harbor at the State Park.
480. Strongman competitions, Pickleball, Dancing, Chess, Baking 😇😇😇😇😇😇😇
481. Strut your mut
482. Survival classes. Natural nature remedies. More family programs
483. Tackle football
484. Tackle football for 3rd grade and up
485. Tai Chi
486. Teaching about natural species and uses of them
487. Teen events
488. Tennis
489. Tennis league
490. Tennis programs

491. Tennis, walking/run group.
492. The county has 3 buildings that offer exercise equipment for the county employee to work out. However, it would be nice to go to any of them and get a good workout. For example, it would be nice to go to the Civic Arena and have a few more choice of exercise machines, Along with some aerobic classes offered.
493. The disc golf parks, more real playground areas. I know this gets hard as vandals like to wreck stuff for others. But Bay City has always been a great place for their playgrounds & it seems that's been really lacking. Skate parks too. 1 is awesome but it's not enough. Gotta say tho, still doing an awesome job.
494. The park that is close to the house has been updated but not recently. The problem with it is you have paid for updating but not enough patrol , kids are still being destructive and not enough police or lad of correcting what is going on.
495. The playground equipment In the South End could use some work.
496. The rail trail off Center is not fixed. Terrible attempt. Very disappointing
497. The removal of hunting this close to the regular hiking paths in the Tobico Marsh. What on earth were they thinking? We take our families here.
498. The Y does a wonderful job of providing sports programs for our Youth. I would love to see lacrosse added. As far as our park system - Mishawaka Indiana has a beautiful park system all connected with walking and bike paths along the river. A foot bridge of some sort would be a huge asset as trying to walk over our bridges feels dangerous and is extreamly noisy and unpleasant.
499. There is absolutely a need for more playgrounds and recreation activities for small children both indoors and outdoors. There are almost zero indoor playground type activities available for small kids. Bay city also desperately needs a disc golf course.
500. Things designed for teen! Preferred indoor activities. There isnt anything for them free or at a cheap cost especially in the winter in Bay City.
501. This is not a program that needs to be added as we currently have it, which is the Bay county 4H program. This is such an amazing program for the youth. When needs attention is our Bay County Fairgrounds. My daughter participates in 4H by showing horses and the horse Barn is in a great need of attention. It needs a roof and we need the other end updated with stalls. The livestock barn needs attentions as well. And how about putting time into our grandstands there. My husband races and so does our daughter and the grandstands are in desperate need of maintained and re-structure. Let's build our Bay County 4h program back up for the kids of Bay County!!!
502. Toboggan run
503. Trail riding for kids to learn the area and spots on the trail
504. Trail running
505. Trampoline park
506. Unsure
507. update infastructure of present facilities.
508. Upgrade Fair grounds facility and infrastructure
509. Vets park ball fields are an eye sore. This is an ideal spot for baseball/ softball travel teams and tournaments with great economic impact to the region. Wish the rail trail had more access to the bay. Would like to see more electronic surveillance as a detracrion ro vandals at our parks and recreational facilities. Love our Riverwalk and rail trails in the area.
510. Volleyball
511. Volleyball
512. Volleyball fun league for adults and kids
513. Volleyball leagues, pet events, kids enrichment
514. Walking parks. 8
515. Walking and biking
516. Walking clubs, with start/end location where there is plenty of parking.

517. Walking fitness, beach volleyball
518. Walking or biking clubs
519. WALKING PATHS
520. Walking paths, biking paths. Nice areas to access both the river and bay.
521. Walking trails near township hall.
522. Walking, nature trails, atv trails
523. Wall climbing, more winter sports
524. Water park, Kayak launches
525. Water park, zip lines, clean beaches
526. Water sport rentals off the beach,i.e. kayak, volleyball court, kite, pontoon boat, personal water craft, paddle boat/bike, etc.
527. We did swimming lessons when the kids were young...not sure if that is still available for a reasonable price.
528. We have many assets, but low income and middle income families are not able to benefit from many of our recreational assets. The out-of-pocket expense is a barrier for ALL community members to be afforded equitable access to our great gyms, YMCA, Community Center, Delta and SVSU gyms, etc. If we want to raise equitable access to our many great recreational programs, we need to consider/re-consider the costs.
529. We need more events to bring law enforcement and community together. Movie nights at little league fields were great start, let's keep it going, things like it, and involve fire side of PSO more.
530. We often drive to Midland's Dow Gardens for their activities---I'd take strong cues from them and Chippewa nature center.
531. We operate a non profit. Above the Wake and are writing a plan in Saginaw for a cable park and aqua park. I have ideas for bay as well I know you have the Dow money to do what I believe we can get down and bring thousand of visitors to bay county
532. We would love for the community center pool to be open on weekends.
533. We would love more trails! We use the Finn road trail and rail trail but would love more hiking trails. Maybe add some fun things for the kids to use along the way! Lookouts to the bay etc
534. Weight excerzie area. Pool closer in the southend of bay city
535. Well i think the parks need updating.
536. Why not support the programs we have. Splitting mowing on the ball fields at Vet parks is a joke. Concession stand lack of repair for over a year and you don't even fix stuff when the health dept points it out.
537. Work out facilities in northern Bay county
538. Would like county to pursue development of old waste water plant next to State Park. Breakwall/boardwalk/boat launch and marina.
539. Would like to see park improvemrnts.for our kids. Especially Carol.park. What a beautiful park with such a crummy play area.
540. Would really like to see our water at State Park cleaned up. Then it would be perfect....
541. Wrestling
542. X country skiing, using the old railroad tracks to create bike path into EssexVille
543. Year round pool.
544. Yoga and other fitness classes at the Twp Hall or nearby in Munger
545. Yoga, parent & child exercise programs,
546. Youth and adult tennis (beginner through advanced) Bicycle club Healthy eating on a budget featuring local produce/foods
547. Youth golf league
548. Youth volleyball

5. What types of recreational opportunities would you like to see added in Bay County for senior citizens and active older adults?

1. Fishing pier on middlegrounds by Lafayette Bridge.
2. 1. Game/Poker tournaments, quilting & book clubs, yoga/tai chi, silver sneakers walking group, gardening. 2. Organized Volunteer or Community Service Groups: Gardening Club, SPCA/Pets, Food Banks/Drives, Local Events, Kids/Youth Guidance: teach reading, parenting tips, life skills, building, games, etc. Make available to middle aged adults too!
3. 1. Walking groups. 2. Community garden beds, maybe a small volunteer orchard-excess produce can be donated. https://communitygarden.org/ 3. Outdoor playground equipment for seniors
4. 50 softball
5. A disc golf course
6. A fitness park. Espically in the downtown area near the friendship shell.
7. A musical event that is also a scavenger hunt.
8. A park with a walking loop like Williams park in the Bangor Township area.
9. A place where senior citizens have the chance to fish off a pier like Oscoda or Tawas has. An outdoor theater like we use to have.
10. A short range Disc golf course in Carrol Park.
11. A tennis court, pickle ball court or something of that nature.
12. A walking program
13. Access to a clean Beach
14. Access to fishing & wheel chair friendly trails farther out in the county
15. Activities at the beach. Shuffle boards, walking paths along the water.
16. Activities held at the fair grounds
17. Actually, expansion of rail trails would be extremely helpful.
18. Added paths for biking and walking near State Park
19. Added walking and biking trails
20. Again more quite trails.
21. Already doing a nice job!
22. Already listed above! Senior fitness like easy yoga or tai chi. Safe hiking with benches & camp & fish like Finn Road
23. Anything for seniors would be nice.free senior fishing.
24. Anything that includes and keeps our elderly and aging moving
25. anything that keeps them active and socialize
26. Anything that would enable them to get outside and enjoy
27. Anything they would like
28. Anything..
29. Art and music classes
30. As someone who plays disc golf every day, i see many older people getting out there and having a blast. I feel most of them dont know about it though and would love to see the sport spread
31. Auburn has a great fishing pond, new outdoor hockey rink, summer basketball court, farmers market all in one spot. Makes sense and very well maintained.
32. Bacci ball
33. Badminton or croquet
34. Ballroom, square dancing or other dance lessons Coffee/cafe spot(s) for socialization Gardening club Sewing club Water aerobics and other group exercise classes Card parties More opportunities that partner youth

and seniors together (ex: reading mentoring program) or programs that teens/young adults could assist less mobile seniors to get out into the community for concerts, plays, etc. Fall color tours

35. Basketball courts, hiking and biking trails
36. Bay City does a great job
37. Bay County DOA offers many senior & adult programs. Continue.
38. Beginner yoga/yoga for arthritis
39. Better bathrooms at parks
40. Better lit walking paths, paved walking paths that aren't falling apart. Adding walking/biking lanes along more roads.
41. Bike trails
42. Bike trails, walking trails
43. Biking hiking trails
44. Biking paths
45. Biking trail
46. Biking, tennis, walking
47. Bingo
48. Birding activities
49. canoeing and kayaking opportunities and cross-country skiing.
50. Card nights nature walks
51. Card playing
52. Ceramics
53. Chair vollyball
54. Chair Yoga, wellness screening, dances, breakfast club/prayer group, game night(with old school games)
55. Chess matches? Shuffle board?
56. Classes at the community center such as art, Knitting club, etc.
57. Classes such as fly fishing, cross country skiing, bike clubs at a slower pace. Leagues that run for short seasons, like 6 weeks involving low impact sports like darts, cornhole, and video bowling. Exercise classes; with low impact, using exercise bands, yoga and tia chi.
58. Classes. Tai chi. Walking clubs. Bridge/domino/ mahjong tournaments.
59. Coffee time
60. Comfortable places to sit outdoors; in the shade from the summer sun, and protected from the wind and elements in the winter.
61. Community center open at 5am for county employees. This would allow us to make use of the fitness center before work.
62. Community ed
63. Community fitness facility
64. Community garden Fit trail stations
65. Community walks
66. Concentrate on the shut-ins!
67. Corn hole area
68. Crafts
69. Crafts , Game nights , Movie night , taking them to local Football games and Baseball games.
70. Crafts, card games, exercise program
71. Cross country skiing
72. Dances

73. Dancing, Baking, Playing an Instrument, Singing, Strong man, Strong woman competitions, Masters competitions 😇😇😇😇😇😇😇
74. Dancing, boat rides along the Saginaw River.
75. Dietary/walking groups
76. disc golf
77. Disc golf
78. Disc golf
79. Disc golf
80. Disc golf
81. Disc Golf
82. Disc golf
83. Disc golf is good for the young and old alike.
84. Disc golf, water fitness and more walking paths
85. Do we have bocce ball and other activities available in the area.
86. Dog obedience classes, yoga, short term seasonal craft classes
87. Easier access for wheelchairs, motorized wheelchairs, Amigos, etc. at pavilion, parks, Tobico Marsh. Braille signage, smartphone enabled audio in parks n Marsh. Hydro lift at pool for disabled.
88. Easier access, music or show events.
89. Easier safer access
90. Easy access to parks and water
91. easy/paved/low grade trails.
92. Entertainment for seniors with limited mobility
93. Euchre
94. Euchre tournaments, open volleyball,
95. Euchre, cornhole, public movies of the genre,
96. Events that seniors of all abilities can attend, movies, fishing. Not just for kids
97. Exercise opportunities
98. Exercise pool
99. Expanded walking trails and picnic areas
100. Fishing
101. Fishing
102. Fishing access points
103. Fishing pier like augres does.
104. Fishing, bingo, things to do outside
105. fitness class,
106. Fitness classes
107. Fitness classes at the community center.
108. Fitness classes- maybe 8 week outdoor fitness challenge with a point system for doing outdoor fitness activities with prizes at the end.
109. Fitness classes, dances, games etc
110. Fitness program
111. Fitness Social events Family events Meals
112. Fitness Trail for older adults, see Masonic Pathways or other for reference.
113. Free admission to the pool
114. free exercised classes

115. FREE OR LOW COST INDOOR SWIMMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED AND SENIORS WITH POOL BEING CLOSED TO ONLY THOSE PARTICIPANTS AT SPECIAL TIMES.
116. Game day/night
117. Get grandma outside more
118. Get our youth involved with the elderly. They can learn from each other. Use the canteen for dances for the elderly, ballroom, line dancing, square dancing ect.
119. Get them OUTSIDE. Look up bike carts for seniors, amp up volunteer recruiting for ANYTHING
120. Getting them involved
121. Give them the opportunity to do things in the 100 High rises and assisted living homes that are already taking over our community...
122. Golf Instruction, Ballet, aerobics
123. Group activities to network, such as the bike ride that takes place on Thursday.
124. Group activities using the local resources.
125. Group exercise,
126. Group potlucks and fitness classes, perhaps? I'm not super-familiar with the needs of this age group.
127. Group walking
128. group walks (many elder are by themselves) bird watching group outdoor easy chair yoga/meditation
129. Handicap accessibility, especially to fishing areas.
130. Handicap walkways
131. Handicapped accessible parks
132. Have game boards so they can play chess checkers. Or just cards
133. Have no idea what they would want
134. Healthy fun
135. Hiking and bike trails
136. Hiking trails and dog parks
137. Horse shoes , corn hole games and so many others.
138. horseshoes
139. Housing
140. Hunting
141. Hunting and boating activities
142. I am not familiar with what is currently offered.
143. I believe a walk in Senior Center much like the addition on the Midland Community Center would be a welcome addition to Auburn which is a growing community.
144. I don't know enough about what is offered to comment (although Tai Chi is also good for seniors).
145. I have not participated in these and do not know what is available. Perhaps more advertisement would be warranted.
146. I think Bay County does a good job of things for our seniors. With the different DOA programs and Community Center classes I think it is covered well.
147. I think the parks and recreational opportunities are already adequately filled.
148. I think we have what we need. Seniors need to feel safe going to the parks.
149. I would love to see bike paths in my community. I actually saw an old man riding an arm bike (not sure on the technical name but where you pedal with your arms) last night in Beaver Township and the car coming behind him didn't notice him until he had to slam on his brakes.
150. I would suggest fitness days, group bike rides, etc. if there isn't any already in place.
151. I'm 55 , am I older !! I travel to West Branch and Midland every week to ride . Been doing it for 30 years ,
152. I'm not sure what's out there now, but some gatherings would be nice.

153. Indoor pool with classes and free swim times!!!!!!!
154. Indoor walking track & pool. Yoga & Pilates. Pair up elders with kids for after school programs.
155. Indoor walking track. more exercise programs. tai chi.
156. Involvement
157. It would be nice to have a public facility with an indoor track that could be utilized on a per visit fee schedule. I am not interested in joining a fitness club just for the use of an indoor track in inclement weather. Saginaw Twp has such a facility (although they do not charge for using the Center Court facility)
158. Just more bike and walking trails.
159. Kayaking, day trips, bike races,
160. Less expensive programs for swimming. The Y is too expensive
161. Like I said investigate some time and I'm looking at videos online with playgrounds and Recreation areas and other states and countries and incorporate some of that into our Parks and Recreation for all ages
162. line dancing, yoga, meditation/mindfulness classes, cooking on a budget, visiting programs where children are paired with an older adult to play a sport
163. Local, adult community ed programs such as sewing class, cooking class, dancing lessons, exercise groups
164. Love that the community center has classes and workout rooms.
165. Maintain current senior programs at the same level or increase funding for activities and day trips.
166. Maintain walkways
167. Make all parks accessible. Love the new a cessible walks at the state park.
168. Maybe an outdoor walking route with extra benches and aids along the way
169. Maybe some volunteer groups where folks can help out the community to keep active.
170. Maybe something like Pinochle games or other card games for the long winter ahead.
171. Maybe trail walk with instructor ...fitness
172. Meet and greet with card games for senior citizens. Or dances in a pavilion.
173. More adults only ice skating sessions at the civic arena
174. More Bank Fishing places. Again, a lot of our Seniors are not able to be active. Once again, you are shuttering them out.
175. More benches for walkers
176. more biking trails with perhaps more areas to sit and enjoy nature
177. More biking/walking trails.
178. More bus tours to local venues.
179. More camping. More campgrounds for larger rigs. And without the problems at Bay City State Park - dead, falling trees; water standing after rain.
180. More competitive events where they can win prizes, or tournaments where they can compete.
181. more crafting groups such as knitting crocheting classes or groups
182. More exercise activities.
183. More for handicap.
184. More free indoor oldies concerts, dances, wheelchair accessable trails, pools designed for handicappers/seniors,
185. More group actitivites to maintain fitness and social interaction like walking on rail trail, historical walks, board games at community center, etc.
186. More handicap accessible trails and walking locations
187. More inside walking and low or no cost exercise equipment
188. More local low-cost exercise facilities for seniors.
189. More locations for low cost or free gyms like at the community center.
190. More nature programs

191. More nights out similar to the Essexville Garber musical night, a ride to a local restaurant (price controlled) and a free musical, if every high school did this and busing was available the elderly people would have 4-5 nice nights out per year.
192. More outdoor activities and gathering places for games and hobby interest.....
193. More outdoor activities with walking/wheelchair access so that seniors can feel independent. More public restrooms that are clean in parks and with good lighting.
194. More paved walking trails
195. More paved walking trails so that those that wish to walk that have to use a walker or those that want to take a loved that is in a wheelchair with them on a walk can do so
196. More programs like the Osteoarthritis prevention exercise program put on by the Division on Aging.
197. More riding and walking areas
198. More senior activities for northern Bay County.
199. More senior outdoor projects,
200. More stuff on the water. More boating.
201. More trails and get together programs so care givers have places to take older people
202. More trails for bird watchers. A place for activities like crafting. Fishing access.
203. More walk and bike trails
204. More walking and bike pathways.
205. More walking trails
206. More walking/biking trails, fitness trails, kayak launches
207. More walking/fitness group activities outdoors. I fell like the Community Center and all the places Department on Aging uses for senior activities are great. I'd like to see them expand that during the warmer months to include local activities that are outdoors. Also, activities where they can actively engage with the younger generations in their families, which I believe is a must for mental health.
208. more wheelchair access to the Bay.
209. Nature strolls
210. Nature walks, night walks, golf cart tours. The Chippewa nature center has great programs.
211. Need more awareness of what is available.
212. Nice shuffleboard courts perhaps.
213. No government paid activities.
214. None fix the bridge
215. None, they are old and cant play so why waste money.
216. Noon lunches/programs at the new pavilion in Wenona Park.
217. Not sure if there are senior dances but I know my mother would love to attend dances
218. Offer so kind of fitness classes in the parks.
219. OPEN BATHROOMS!
220. Organized biking activities, workouts in the park, walking clubs, senior classes.
221. Organized walks on numerous trails and Riverwalks.
222. Our older citizens have a wealth of knowledge to share. I love to see my son matched up with an older adult at a program. I think opportunities to mentor our youth would benefit both groups.
223. Outdoor dancing, pedal cart rentals,
224. Outdoor exercise opportunities and indoor anything for winter - walking, exercise stations.
225. Outdoor Fitness and Socialization Opportunities
226. Outdoor fitness equipment & yoga, indoor pool.
227. Outdoor pickle ball courts
228. Outdoor tables with checkers/chess, nice walking paths

229. Outdoor workout equipment. Free dance lessons in town parks or squares. maybe tai chi in the park. Activities to bring people together, that are available for any adult and are free of charge. We pay enough in utilities and taxes to constantly by paying money to do anything in this town.
230. Park bingo
231. Park walk and talks with other seniors/friends
232. Pathways made handicap accessible from vehicles to paths
233. Paved Walk trails
234. Pavilions
235. Personal fitness
236. Pickel Ball
237. Pickle ball
238. Pickle ball and biking.
239. Pickle ball court
240. Pickle ball.
241. Pickleball
242. pickleball is fun
243. Pickleball outdoor courts
244. pickleball, access to indoor walking
245. Pickleball, walking club
246. Picnics cookouts and outdoor activities
247. Picnics, walk activites
248. Places to walk indoors in the winter
249. Pool and exercise classes for low cost.
250. Programs that bring seniors together with other age sets.
251. Programs they can sign up for. My mom would love a walking group at a specific time to meet at the rail trail or different spots around town.
252. Public restrooms not just port-a-johns in our parks. Upgrade existing parks, too many worn out amenities. Take care of what we have so seniors can safely enjoy it.
253. Quite a few cement chess tables in a small vicinity. You would have to bring your own chess pieces, but at least they would be getting together. Book clubs, Community tables, bird watching Club, sewing clubs that donate their items to people or children that need mittens and gloves and blankets. Senior citizens volunteering for other senior citizens reading to them, playing games and much opportunities for them to volunteer. Card playing Club. senior citizens volunteering at schools. It's important for the new generation to with the older generation. They can both learn from each other a great deal. More Community dances.
254. Rail trail walks
255. Ramps on the ends of ALL sidewalks for those in wheelchairs
256. Riding bicycle lanes
257. Rock trading
258. Safe places for them to walk.
259. Safe walking trails
260. Safe, convenient walking trails
261. Safer walking opportunities
262. Safer walking/biking paths. Many bicyclists think they are training for a race and they endanger us older people walking out dogs. Or a nice safe dog park.
263. Same as above,that;s where the driving part comes in. Joints can't take a saddle like I used too, but have as much fun driving a cart.

264. Same as my other suggestions. Dancing, group walks, tai chi, pickle ball is very popular with seniors but there needs to be instruction to get people started.
265. See last answer. Tai-chi and square dancing, yoga outside, chances to help build wildlife habitats like bird houses or bat houses would be nice too.
266. See previous alomgbwith swimming
267. See previous answer
268. See previous question Cross country skiing - maybe by the State Park or a golf course?
269. Senior olympics, exercise classes,
270. Senior services and community center programs great.
271. Senior yoga in the park, guided bike tours
272. Set times and days of outside activities. Biking, walking, etc..
273. Several activities should be added for the senior community. There isn't much in Auburn.
274. Shuffle board
275. Shuffle board
276. Shuffle board
277. Shuffle board walking groups
278. shuffleboard
279. Shuffleboard
280. Shuffleboard
281. Shuffleboard
282. Shuffleboard, bocce ball or lawn ball.
283. Shuffleboard, card playing,
284. Sidewalks and bike lanes on the main roads (ie. Midland Rd., Euclid, and Wilder), because there are some on parts of the roads, but are not all along the roads. Without them all along, many have to be put in danger and putting drivers on the roads in danger.
285. Skeet shooting
286. Smoothly paved areas would be important if they are wheelchair bound. Maybe some group activity times where they can socialize and play minor games like bingo or chess. Gardening actives might not be a bad idea either like allowing them to help plant some potted flowers.
287. Social dances
288. Social events and day trips.
289. Social outings, bingo
290. special programs to help in their mobility, and quality of life.
291. Spin classes
292. Sports
293. Sports leagues
294. Stupid question. Research is showing to stop the segregation because of age. The Boomers are the fastest growing population and together we should enjoy each other no matter of the age.
295. SWIMMING
296. Tai chen
297. Tai chi Plein air art Birding
298. Tennis courts
299. Tennis courts
300. The bike trail along Midland Rd to go out further towards Midland
301. Things closer to their townships not 25 miles away
302. This seems to be well developed and broadly promoted.

303. Trips to tiger baseball, trips to ford field, better orginizatikn of activities and cluds, gatherings. More community concerts especially in the winter. Expanded bus hours and more routes
304. Trips, and classes (art, exercise, computer)
305. Trolley tours
306. Wade pool
307. Walk clubs.
308. Walk path
309. Walking / nature paths with seating spaced closer together, low speed orv trail (my mother in law loves golf cart cruises)
310. Walking and biking opportunities
311. Walking and biking.
312. Walking and fitness groups
313. Walking areas
314. WALKING CLUB, LUNCHEONS WITH SPEAKERS, EARLY BIRD DINNERS
315. Walking clubs and or Tai Chi and chair yoga classes
316. Walking clubs, corn hole tournaments, dog parks
317. Walking clubs, light exercise classes, something active and social.
318. Walking clubs, tennis leagues
319. Walking fitness
320. Walking groups
321. Walking groups
322. Walking groups. Lots of people love to walk but are concerned about safety related to walking alone, traffic, etc.
323. Walking lanes in the community
324. Walking outdoors, bicycling, archery. More outdoor programs.
325. Walking paths and instructional classes
326. walking paths or even sidewalks improved to eliminate hazards with landscaping/shrubs between the road and the sidewalk.
327. Walking paths, cornhole,
328. Walking paths.
329. Walking trail through a disc golf course.
330. Walking trails
331. Walking trails all handicap accessable
332. Walking trails with better lighting anddog waste bags
333. WAlking wheel chair excess
334. Walking, entertainment, leisure
335. Walking, hiking, biking trails.
336. Walking, hiking, swimming. Bird watching
337. Walking, water exercise
338. Walking/bike trails
339. Walking-biking paths
340. Walks
341. Water activities, handicapped equipped parks ie picnic tables, DANCES!
342. Water aerobics, handicap accessible walkways that aren't busted up or cracked.
343. Water fountains, benches and walking trails.
344. Waterfront Sitting Pavillions

345. We do have good programs. Just have to use them.
346. We need to start with cleaning up the environment. (Water) I fear if you do not start there all of your efforts will cause further damage. We need to start at the root - mosquito prevention - clean air and water.
347. Wheel chair access
348. Why not shuffleboard, chess, horseshoes etc - like that? Maybe even accessible playground equipment too? That could be a senior citizen & disabled park? I k ow that stuff for horseshoes etc may be iffy- too much could be used as weapons or insurance liabilities. But permanent chess, checkers, backgammon - and bring your own pieces? That should seem doable
349. Winter opportunities to walk indoors at places other than the Bay City Town Center. Indoor tracks that are free for seniors and at-risk groups.
350. Women's basketball leagues
351. wonder if we could get a canoe rental or kayak rental going on the river??? perhaps kind of exercise classes for seniors, like jazzersize.
352. Work out park.
353. Workout training, tai chi
354. Would like to have an indoor place place to walk.
355. Would like to see more biking paths.
356. Would like to see more fitness classes that are scheduled after 5 pm. There are still senior citizens that work, and I am finding the majority of these classes are during the day.
357. Xc ski or snowshoe/hiking areas, walking areas
358. Year round indoor pool
359. Year round water activities/swimming for ones health with minimal fees. Many senior citizens don't have the luxury of "extra" money to spend on such.
360. Yoga
361. Yoga
362. Yoga
363. Yoga
364. Yoga and a walking club son i one has to walk alone, especially with ya change of seasons to have a facility in Munger or nearby open for walking in the evening like the malls used to do. Or a meet up in the rail trail in Munger in the evening on the derby grounds for a walking club
365. Yoga and tai chi
366. Yoga in the park for seniors. More things to just get people outside to enjoy what we have. The movies in the parks are awesome!
367. Yoga, chair exercise, balance training, cards
368. Yoga, swimming, and cycling
369. You should hire a Recreational Therapist to run programs through the county for older adults.

BAY COUNTY

1. Please evaluate the following aspects of the Civic Arena.

	Good	OK	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and Appearance	32.1%	30.1%	3.7%	34.1%	1,107
Handicap Accessibility	25.7%	20.0%	1.6%	52.6%	1,103
Quality/Friendliness of Staff	23.9%	23.1%	3.3%	49.7%	1,106

2. Do you have any other feedback regarding the Civic Arena?

1. A lot of athletes from Bay City go to Saginaw and Midland and not sure why.
2. Better advertising
3. Better advertising/programming for young children to drive skill development.
4. Better open skate times/days and have the skate guards actually work
5. Billy in particular has always been extremely helpful when my son has attending hockey classes and camps.
6. Can be hard to find an employee.
7. close it.....we lose money on it every year. Not to mention the Sheriff's Office gets dispatched to fights there all the time.
8. Closer handicap parking would make it easier to reach for those with ambulatory disabilities, especially in foul weather. Prices for low income people are unaffordable.
9. Cohen is terrible. U should probably get some who's played hockey to run a hockey arena. It's not rocket science. Fix showers and if it rains the roof leaks and soaks ur clothes
10. Complete waste of money. We were told it would "pay for itself" in ten years. Never makes any money. Sucks on County revenue.
11. Continue tp provide skating and hockey opportunities.
12. Could it be used during low hockey season for other purposes?
13. Create dry floor events and marketing for extra needed revenue.
14. Didn't know it was a county park. Have rarely been there.
15. Elevate visibility, haven't really done do since the late 90's. I think many have forgotten it is even there anymore.
16. Employees always standing around when the place is a pigsty they should be cleaning things up to make people want to visit the facility.
17. EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE IN BAY CITY
18. Expensive
19. Facility used to be operated much better with staff who seemed to know their jobs and kept it fun. The current staff seem to have a lack of background and experience in community recreation / ice arena management, have very little or very poor customer service training / skills, and the overall apperance of the facility has slipped over the years. It is apparent that the focus of operating this facility has strayed from focus on the user and their positive experience. Culture is driven by leadership, which has been non-existent or not engaged in improving staff morale, improvement of the user experience and growth in external partnerships to help support operations. These activities are all inter-connected and should be actively focused on to improve operations at the Civic Arena by improvement in staff training, better management and oversight, increased focus on the user experience, and an overall improvement of the culture of the organization to make it a much more inviting place to visit again.

20. Fantastic and friendly staff. The facility is in reasonable shape for its age. They host one of the best drop in hockey schedules in the area.
21. Get a disc golf course
22. Great facility, but it needs better marketing.
23. Great place
24. Had very poor management. We left to play hockey in Midland due to Brett Goik letting the hockey association bully people they didn't like. Might be better now that he's gone.
25. Have been there in many years
26. Have only been in there once or twice
27. Have only been there a few times.
28. Have only been there for bday parties, seems nice
29. Have t been there.
30. Haven't been there in years
31. Hope it continues operation....always good to have a place for youth and adults alike to participate in open skate and stay active.
32. Host events to get more people familiar with the facility that are not necessarily hockey families.
33. how can you have a NO cut hockey program and still cut 2 five year olds. How can they learn to play if they don't get a chance. They should change the wording for the program (mini mites).
34. I believe that if you are a paying member of the fitness equipment at the community center you should also be allowed to use the equipment at the civic arena. And if you play/pay for hockey the fitness rooms at all the facilities should be included in the hockey fees.
35. I did not know that there is a weight room.
36. I did the learn to skate program here for 5 years. The Civic Arena and it's programs are a STAPLE in Bay County!
37. I didn't know it was owned by Bay County.
38. I do not want to put anymore money into the civic arena -- I do not use this and feel only a few people use this facility.
39. I don't attend. I thought ice time was expensive previously
40. I don't play hockey...I have no one in my family who plays hockey...the ice skating times are few and far between...:(
41. I don't use it. Money should stay with the golf course
42. I don't use the Civic Arena.
43. I don't utilize the civic arena and don't really know anyone that does so I can't provide feedback.
44. I feel Like they need to take advantage of the holidays and offer themed skates for the youth. Example: Halloween skate, Christmas, valentines
45. I feel that this facility is financed with a disproportionate amount of county tax dollars. It serves a relatively small portion of the community.
46. I had my daughter's birthday party there a few years ago. The staff was so highly unorganized. No one explained the order in which we should of planned the activities like skate first, cake and presents second. Which made it very confusing when we were rushed off the ice and out of the birthday room.
47. I have never been inside as I didn't realize it was county owned and accessible to my family
48. I have only been there once or twice and it was clean and well maintained.
49. I haven't been hear. Maybe more awareness and communications about community programs.
50. I haven't been there in many years, so I don't know.
51. I haven't been there in several years.
52. I haven't been there since I was a little kid, I remember it being nice back then.
53. I haven't used the Civic Arena.

54. I like that the BCLS book sale goes on there. But I rarely see any other non-ice events advertised for it anymore. It seems like it could use more advertising to bring people to it.
55. I live in bay county and haven't heard anything about the civic center to even know what it offers
56. I love that there are different events held here and it's not all just indoor ice skating and hockey!
57. I LOVE the book sale every year. Perhaps more community events like this could be found to incorporate to the Civic Arena?
58. I never see any advertisements for it
59. I play drop in hockey and feel it is unfair to cancel drop in hockey in order to host other programs or tournaments.
60. I think the times for open skating should be changed to meet people's needs better.
61. I wish it was more affordable to have my son take skating lessons
62. ice times for working families
63. Improve water fountains/shower areas
64. Is it not just for skating? If it has other ueses it is not well publihed.
65. It appears to be utilized by a small percentage of the community, I miss the ice skating rinks in the parks which could be utilized by everyone in the community.
66. It has been a long while since I have been there. It seems like it was a very small venue.
67. It has nothing to offer me
68. It is a pricey family outing (family of five). We try and go once a year, but would probably go more often if it was more affordable. We have to rent skates and then pay open skate fees
69. It is cold - lol
70. It is dirty and run down.
71. It is the only county facility we have used. Would like to see skating lessons for special needs kids added. Our kiddo can't quite keep up with the regular lessons because of her developmental disability.
72. It needs a good cleaning maybe some fresh paint. More options in the concession stand. Otherwise for all the time I've spent there, I would say it's pretty up to par.
73. It needs to publicize itself more. Work with local media to tell people what's going on there.
74. It services the smallest number of residents but pulls money from other facilities (BCGolf Course) to keep it running.
75. It smells
76. It smells in there and the whole idea of having only 2 rinks used in a 3 rink facility is a ridiculous waste. I don't feel that the facility is paying for itself at all.
77. It was built to give people a place to ice skate, take lessons, when I have been in there the staff doesn't seem to know what they are doing or are rude.
78. It's almost like a waisted space there should be more advertising cheeper prices would gain customers make more money
79. It's been consistently losing money for the county. As an employee I keep hearing how funds are so tight. Maybe we should get rid of this facility.
80. It's difficult to access the calendar to find out about skate times, and it is unclear what a newcomer is to do in the building.
81. I've ice skated there in the past, there weren't enough chairs for assisting skaters on the ice. (To use for help learning to skate)
82. I've only been there once, as a spectator for an adult rec league. Do they have open skate for kids or any instructional dates? If so more advertising of these would be great.
83. I've only been to the civic arena for a field trip and the prices were high
84. Ive really only gone there for the public library book sale in the summers...seems cool
85. Less hockey, more icecapades

86. Locker rooms stink.
87. Look at additional income streams, charge visitors of games a buck or two. Also in the summer or down times, check with local soccer clubs, BASA, Nationals, if they would be interested in futsal, run an add for futsal soccer. Clubs could utilize the dry floor.
88. Love the civic arena! It is a great asset. We use it many times a year and my son will soon be playing hockey.
89. Love the Civic arena. Hockey league and open skating.
90. Love the facility but the employees are not always the most attentive
91. Love watching youth and adult hockey at the Civic arena. Thanks for continuing to support such places!
92. Loved skating here. Would love more open skate hours.
93. Lower the cost for youth to play.
94. Maintenance and competent employees would be lacking. Water pouring into the locker rooms and they did nothing about it. The ice is in poor shape. I don't feel it is run as well as it was 10 to 15 years ago. No pride in keeping the arena in shape
95. Make it easier for new skaters to go out and try cause when we were there we had a hard time enjoying are self due to more advanced skaters almost running are daughter over as she was learning to skate
96. maybe get grant money for the giant ice rink that benefits the city instead of some puny one in a privatized pavilion.
97. Maybe promote ice skating more. Possibly a billboard rental, people forget about the ice skating rink, there maybe more interest once the outside rink is up and running at the shell.
98. Money spent for very few to use. Waste of our money.
99. More equipment for cardio
100. More open figure skating opportunities.
101. More open ice skating opportunities and more times for ice skating classes and lower prices for both!
102. More times for open skate
103. My family don't use the civic arena
104. Need more hours of open skate when kids are out of school.
105. Need more open skate times
106. Need more open skate times that work for kids during the school year
107. Need more signs exposing where to go and prices. Signs need to he more eye catching and easy to read.
108. Needs a new speaker system for games.
109. Needs enhanced weight room. Cleaner bathrooms.
110. needs more marketing and public relations on what/where the civic arena is- I am a new resident and have not heard of what the civic arena actually is.
111. Needs more uses the skating.
112. Needs some updates
113. needs some updating.
114. Needs to be open to the public more. I tried to buy gift certificates for a gift and they weren't available.
115. Needs to have it's parking lot top coated and new lines it looks closed and vacant because weeds are growing in the parking lot
116. Never heard of it
117. Never been, but hope it is fully ADA accessible
118. Never interacted with staff when I've been there for Birthday parties. Always seems empty to me.
119. No I have not been there for years
120. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
121. no- other than needs more advertising, community flyer advertising events.
122. No our family doesn't really use The civic arena except for rec ice skating occasionally in the winter.
123. No well advertised, don't know anything about the activities there..

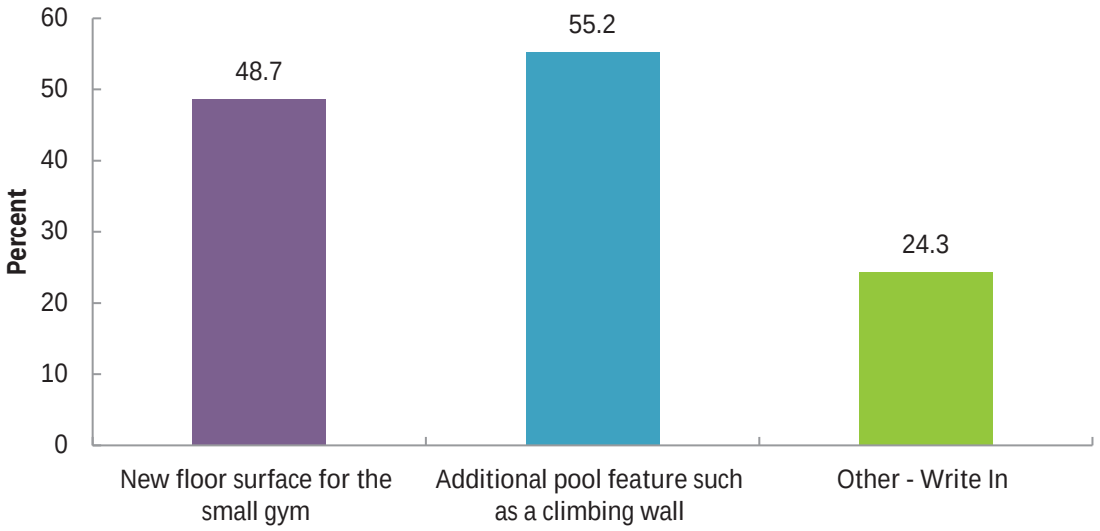
124. No, do not use it
125. No. I have only been there a couple times. They should advertise more and maybe have some school specials.
126. Not really dont/ havent used the facility. But i would like to see more venues there for the general public. (Like home show)
127. Odor issues
128. Only been there 1x
129. Only been there 3 times for events, but was always impressed by everything except the parking. that was a meh it's ok.
130. Only go there for the annual library book sale. Enjoy that!!!!
131. only time there was to watch senior Olympics corn toss and will do it again next year.
132. Only used a few times. Good for open skate.
133. Only used twice. Don't have an opinion.
134. Open skate times and stick and pick times are never accurate, and staff is often unable to assist with accurate times.
135. Outside looks dated
136. Over the past 14 years we have spent a lot of time at the Civic Arena, since most of the activities, hockey games, practices, etc are in the late afternoon and evening it would have been nice to be able to have contact with the scheduler and other personnel who work in the business office. Perhaps a varying schedule to be there when the majority of users are at the arena. They are in fact serving a population of families who work during the day to provide the means to afford hockey/skating, it would make sense they are there at the times of greatest use. The staff who run the pro-shop and snack bar have always been helpful, friendly and courteous.
137. Please update the website, it is so difficult to navigate and find updated information, not user friendly
138. Pro shop could use a little more inventory.
139. public skate hours are limited
140. Repairs needed on benches, doors, flooring, showers, etc. Weekend fun skates with lights and music.
141. Season passes to come and skate for a couple months at a set price
142. Seniors could use the facility while Kids are in school
143. serves a limited audience
144. Should be open to more than just ICE hockey. What about those people that can not skate? After all, it is funded by the taxpayer.
145. Should be used for far more events, like the Dow Event Center.
146. Should be used more for events and shows. It is not just an ice arena.
147. Should have originally built a 1 rink multi purpose arena civic center with seating for up to 3-4 thousand.....but too late now.
148. Start curling leagues
149. The building is starting to look old. It's look as if no maintenance and or updates have been done.
150. The civic arena has been making a turn in the right direction. Seems that there are more events happening there lately.
151. The condensation bumps on the ice during the summer are very dangerous, and sometimes it is so bad you can't skate at all. It makes for a wasted trip and wasted admission cost when you show up and can't skate because of the bumps.
152. The facilities need many updates. While they are being maintained, there is only so much you can do with what you have. This also makes it not as handicapped friendly as it should be. There needs to be many updates to make it friendly for all residents.
153. The ice is cold
154. The ice is often a bit soft.

155. The ice rink has been going downhill since it opened. I've worked there and play there still and the overall quality of programs are far below other rinks in area.
156. The last time I went in there the 4 treadmills did not work.{ would not start}
157. The main entrance has some raised cement. It creates a large gap that is easily tripped over. Making it a safety hazard for people with handicaps as well as everyone else.
158. The outside looks forgotten about.
159. The restrooms need to be updated and cleaned more often.
160. The showers in locker rooms could use some updating otherwise is in good shape.
161. They should have more programs for kids and cheaper hockey for kids
162. This is a great facility that is important to our family. Our daughter participates in ice skating and LOVES the time she spends there.
163. This seems underutilized. It is a beautiful facility. Perhaps more promotion of all that it offers might be helpful. Or at least promotion about how many people do utilize the facility.
164. Time to sell it
165. Too expensive for many families to have equitable access to this amazing resources. It's cost prohibitive for low, middle and upper middle class families.
166. Train the staff regarding blood borne pathogens. I cut myself there, and the staff did not clean the ice where my blood had dripped until I suggested they do so.
167. Under Utilized and not much marketing
168. under-utilized.
169. Update the sound/PA system and score boards
170. Very crowded
171. Very Good
172. Very nice and clean
173. Very old looking needs updating and color. No one I know goes there or even has the interest in going there. Most of the people I know have never been there.
174. Waste of money
175. We are at the civic arena multiple times a week. The ice has issues that I believe is due to the ceiling dripping. Let's fix that up
176. We attended open skate within the last year. The employee sharpening skates was unfriendly and seemed frustrated because we paid to have skates sharpened. The other employee working the cash register was "hanging out" / socializing with a group of kids who were there just to hang out and not skate. We also tried to participate in a "learn to skate program" where it was more about learning figure skating moves opposed to helping my kids actually learn to skate.
177. We enjoy using the ice, but the open skate times are tough for younger kids in school
178. We enjoy year round ice
179. Well kept
180. Well marked signage for emergency injuries. Who to contact. Is the staff trained in first aid?
181. What does it do
182. Whatever is done should be maintained at a high level
183. Wish they had a children's rate for open skate, or a multi pass discount. Other than that, great arena!
184. Would be nice to have bleachers on both sides of each rink. Or somehow moving the players/coaches bench on other side of rink. Would make it easier to see the whole rink
185. Would be nice to have the facility updated.
186. Would love to be able to buy annual passes so we can enjoy it more often as a family.

3. Please evaluate the following aspects of the Community Center and Pool.

	Good	OK	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and Appearance	25.6%	30.0%	6.3%	38.1%	1,103
Handicap Accessibility	20.7%	18.5%	2.5%	58.2%	1,101
Quality/Friendliness of Staff	24.0%	22.3%	3.0%	50.6%	1,098

4. What kind of improvements would you like to see at the Community Center? Please check all that apply.



OTHER - WRITE IN

1. A spray pad would be a great addition to the pool area.
2. Add a disc golf course somewhere near by.
3. Additional pool to
4. Additional workout equipment
5. Afternoon Aerobics for adults
6. Air conditioning in weight room. Improve bathroom & showers.
7. Air conditioning when you work out
8. A spray pad would be a great addition to the pool area.
9. Add a disc golf course somewhere near by.
10. Additional pool to
11. A spray pad would be a great addition to the pool area.
12. A spray pad would be a great addition to the pool area.
13. Add a disc golf course somewhere near by.
14. Additional pool to
15. Additional workout equipment
16. Afternoon Aerobics for adults

17. Air conditioning in weight room. Improve bathroom & showers.
18. Air conditioning when you work out
19. An overall update. Bike rentals
20. better air conditioning in the fitness room
21. Better cooling system for fitness area
22. better flooring for shuffleboard
23. better gym
24. better hours
25. better restrooms
26. Better signage for days open and hours.
27. Better treadmills
28. Bigger locker room/changing rooms, bigger gym area for floor exercises (examples: more space to stretch, do crunches, etc.)
29. Bigger pool
30. Blue chemical dye to find pee.
31. Bottom of pool is sharp
32. Bus route service
33. Classes/activities for the community
34. Cleaner and updated bathrooms/shower/changing room.
35. Cleaner pool with using better chemicals that don't burn kids eyes
36. Cleaning the pool (vacuum) more often. lots of dirt, peeling paint, bandaids
37. climbing wall indoors, other features that would draw families
38. Close it down and subsidize ymca for lower admission rates.
39. Completely upgrade the pool...copy Midland community center
40. Cool down pool or diving pool
41. Covered Pool Like in the,Midland Community Center that can be used year round.
42. Craft classes for kids and adults.
43. Don't use the pool
44. early hours (5am)
45. ENCLOSE THE POOL FOR ALL YEAR SWIMMING
46. Enclosure
47. Enlarged/updated work out area
48. evening pickleball and outdoor pickleball
49. Ever since I be gone to the community center it's been confusing on where to go, what is where. Especially during summer program. I've been over there and have watched this program,. It's poorly supervise by other children that are supposed to be helping out with programs for the summer smaller children. They don't pay attention to the children I've witnessed this myself. Pool prices are way too expensive that's why we invested in the pool for her kids ourself
50. General updating
51. Get ride of the pool. It loses money every year.
52. Gym updated
53. Heat in the pool. It's so cold!!
54. Heated pool
55. Huge fan in changing bathrooms
56. I dont use it, however that floor qas an issue 30 years ago. Would be nice to connect that faculity to ball tournaments and visitors.

57. I have only been in the lobby.
58. I think it's time for a complete face lift.
59. I would like to see the small gym redone and the ceilings increased and the floor improved to an actual wood floor.
60. improved AC and heating humidity in big gym
61. improved fitness facility
62. improved heating and cooling system
63. indoor disc golf putting for seniors and youngsters
64. Indoor pool
65. indoor pool
66. Indoor pool
67. Indoor pool for water exercise
68. Indoor pool so everyone can swim indoor all year.
69. Indoor pool!!!
70. It looked like it needed some updating to at least the bathrooms the last time I was in there.
71. It would be nice to see the addition of come waters features for the kids, similar to that they have at Plymouth Park in Midland.
72. Keep clean and well maintained
73. Larger workout area
74. Lift for handicap
75. locker room and better hours for pool
76. Longer hours for pool. I cannot use it at all since it is only open til 5 during the week. I couldn't believe it was closed on the weekends. What a waste.
77. Longer hours/earlier hours
78. Major exterior facelift. It is tired, run down and simply not welcoming.
79. More activities for kids and teens
80. More activities. Need to publicize more.
81. More advanced fitness classes
82. More availability for evening yoga classes, more than once a week
83. More baby/toddler friendly pool
84. More classes.
85. More community program offerings - althletic, arts, exercise
86. More evening classes for those who work 8-5
87. More fitness classes
88. More FREE programs for kids
89. More open hours
90. More places to lay in the sun. Food truck.
91. More recreational programs for kids year round
92. More rooms to have more programs and places for groups to meet
93. More shaded areas by the pool
94. More things for mobility impaired
95. More winter family activites. Futsal, etc
96. Needs an overall updating.
97. new shuffleboard tape
98. new tape on the shuffleboard courts
99. newer fitness equipment!

100. Nicer locker rooms
101. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
102. None fix the bridge we don't need to be entertained
103. Nothing if it's not paid for by grants
104. Offer some Hot tubs.
105. Open after work and on weekends so parents aren't forced to take time off of work to take their kids to the pool
106. Outdoor water fountain...sometimes building is closed
107. Ping pong tables
108. Please advertise this facility more. Why not add an enclosed pool area for bad / winter weather? The Y etc is too expensivE. But perhaps a bit of indoor pool imagination (slides, fountains etc) would really get this going.
109. pool classes like aqua aerobics
110. Pool locker room usually smells like urine and is dirty. Need doors on the toilet areas.
111. Pool more accessable for amputees.
112. Pool seems to big. Possibly down size the pool.
113. Put more money back in the pool
114. Putting baskets for disc golf putting league.
115. Rebuild pool/modernize slide
116. Renovate the entire building and start hosting monthly activities
117. Repair pool liner. It is in poor shape and deteriorating. Also locker rooms are outdated and in need of an overhaul.
118. Replace the refs for the basketball league, the disrespectful refs has lead me and several other players to play at the YMCA instead of the CC
119. Rock wall
120. schuffleboard paint - not tape
121. Seems to be under used. Maybe a better marketing plan? Or a summer "membership"? I know my kids would love to go there, but I always forget it's there.
122. Slides, larger, more seating
123. Some adult hours only to have some "workout" secession's
124. some of the work out machines are junk
125. Something like that up here
126. Special days for handicapped children and adults
127. Splash park when the pool has reached its end!
128. Spray park
129. Tape for shuffleboard court
130. Tennis courts
131. The bottom of the pool fixed.
132. The bottom of the pool is degrading in the aspect that there are sharp edges in a few spots. Had a grandson cut his foot in one area.
133. the outdoor appearance/maintence of that building is poor
134. There are so many new fitness classes for pools - pool yoga, pool poles, etc
135. Update bathrooms
136. Update locker rooms and bring back an updated basket system for belongings
137. Update of facilities
138. Update the community center building

139. Updated equipment
140. Updated locker rooms
141. Updated locker rooms and more sun sheltered seating!
142. water area for small kids
143. Water park type for the younger kids
144. Zero entry pool for accessibility

5. Do you have any other feedback regarding the Community Center?

1. A climbing rock wall should not be in pool area. It's for serious potential rock climbers to learn and practice.
2. Add additional hours for the pool and possibly weekends
3. Adult swim time
4. Again, they could use more advertising to let people know what is available. Also, when renting out spaces, the kitchen could be available again and the appearance is run down.
5. Always impressed with the center and the staff.
6. Another thing we pay for but are not close enough to use.
7. Basketball or other organized sports for youth.
8. Batting Cages/pitching machines
9. Beth Trahan is great.
10. Better advertising
11. Better hours for pool
12. Better upkeep of the pool
13. Better weight room
14. Building seems to be utilized frequently by various groups & events.
15. Close the pool and build a better activity center where it was. The pool loses money every year.
16. Community education Opportunities
17. Don't know what Is offered from the community center
18. Don't use the germ infested pool. Was at a bridal shower in one of the conference rooms and was not impressed. It was outdated.
19. Enjoyed it when I used to play basketball there
20. Extended days/hours for the pool. Host theme nights during the season - such as a couple evenings with glow swim. Increase utilization of the gyms by hosting some friendly challenges - such as pickleball, basketball or volleyball.
21. Extended hours during the summer for pool use would be wonderful
22. Fitness classes which would be offered for the majority of the county employees who work during the time the majority of the fitness classes are offered.
23. Free swim days
24. General updating
25. Get back the really good juried art fairs/craft shows... not the vendors that crochet towels
26. Getting out the word on activities held at the community center. I never hear anything on what's going on there. A lot of people don't even know they exist.
27. Great place
28. Great place.
29. Hallway floors, mop board in rooms
30. Have a website to sign up for programs like Driver's Training, Reserving meeting rooms etc.
31. Have been there in a few years but when I did the facility was fantastic.

32. Have more avertisment for the community center and pool. Especially on social media because there are some people that doesn't know about it
33. Have more family activities provided at the community center
34. Haven't been there in years. It was deteriorating years ago. No idea who even goes there or what it is used for.
35. Hot tub
36. Hours open are hard for working people to use the facilities
37. I absolutely LOVE the exercise classes. I love the yoga and drumming classes and that they are available for free and after work hours. Always clean and Beth is a great instructor. Maybe get more help to have more evening classes as Beth shouldn't have to do them all. LOVE that they are FREE to County Employees.
38. I do not use the community center.
39. I don't know enough about it
40. I don't use the facility so I can't comment on its condition or needs
41. I enjoy the community center. I wish more people knew about it and used it.
42. I feel like this building is very under utilized. Am I wrong? There should be more kid friendly classes or events being held here.
43. I feel the Community Center is under utilized.
44. I have never swam there so i really don't know
45. I have only attended private events (baby/wedding showers), and walk by there from time to time, but it seems like a nice facility
46. I like the price it cost to use the place and I like the fact you don't have to sign a contract. Paying monthly is very nice. Thank you '
47. I love the arbor walk outside the community center. We used the building say a free bathroom after our walk.
48. I love the yoga classes
49. I only take advantage of chair yoga and schuffleboard. I mostly use senior center side.
50. I play volleyball at the community center and we are very respectful of the facility and the floor but there have been many times we have come in for a game and noticed damage had occurred by other groups who used the facility. If shows etc are going to be allowed to be hosted there an investement should be made in a mat that covers the floor for the events to protect the hardwood so it doesn't have to be repaired and updated so often. The small gym is terrible and not up to date. It should be made into a regular gym with at minimum a wood floor.
51. I spent a lot of summer days here. Fun times with the camp and playing at the pool!
52. I support keeping the community pool open and accessible.
53. I think the charge for kids to get in is to high. There are many kids who would love to come there but can't afford it.
54. I think they need more equipment in the fitness center, bike panel has been broke for over 4 years, air would be nice in the fitness room, pool would be good to have more lap time.
55. I think we need to continue to keep that pool open. Swimming is just as important as baseball,soccer,etc. So many families cannot afford a pool of their own. All kids should have an opportunity to use it in the summer.
56. I thought this facility was closed. Again, not well advertised.
57. I use it for parts I have always been happy, with everything there
58. I used to work out at the community center but the machines are not maintained and unusable, Haven't been there in a while so maybe it's changed??
59. I wish there were more specific times set aside for the special needs children in the area.
60. I would like more activities offered
61. I would like to know more about this in general, I didn't know it existed until filling this out.

62. I would like to see it open for more classes of different kinds--dance, yoga, tai-chi, informational talks or interactive projects.
63. I would like to see more communication about the programs and events there.
64. if the pool was enclosed and usable year round, you would get a lot more interaction with the community.
65. improve general appearance, looks blah and old.
66. In the summer they offer a child camp program. It would be nice if that was a 8am till 6pm program to help with working parents that can not accommodate for 1/2 camps.
67. It could use some updating and lighting.
68. It is an important part of our community and should be upgraded as necessary.
69. It is too far to go to be involved in the activities there
70. It needs new larger lockers. new treadmills
71. It needs to feel fresher and like a place you want to spend time
72. It should be rebranded as a senior center to distinguish itself from higher quality family resources like the YM, and marketing efforts need to improve considerable if it is to sustain its purpose into the next generation.
73. It would be great to offer rock climbing!
74. It would be nice if the pool was open during the holidays. We went there on July 4th, in the afternoon, and it was closed.
75. It would be nice to have a bigger workout facility.
76. It would be nice to have someone on staff that could recommend certain exercise plans/routine. Like a personal trainer assistant or along those lines -- to show people how to use the machines, etc.
77. It's been years since I have been there.
78. It's getting pretty outdated.
79. I've lived in Bay City my entire life and used the pool all the time as a kid in the 90s. Is it still open?! It seemed to be closed years ago. If yes, promote this more! Midland's Plymouth pool attracts so many people, Bay City's should be able to do the same.
80. I've never attended. Wasn't aware of me being able to go
81. I've never been there and I live less than a mile away.
82. I've never used the Community Center
83. Jared is an awesome friendly life guard
84. Lifeguards are jerks.
85. Like to see more things/ activities for geral public
86. Longer days, open more hours, Saturdays.
87. Longer pool hours
88. Love having youth swim meets at the community center. And the open/free swim one day a week for youth.
89. Love the facility
90. low cost activities/classes for seniors & preschoolers: like gardening, cooking, arts/crafts, etc.
91. Maybe something for a little shade. Seniors can't handle all that hot sun but like swimming
92. More aggressive infection prevention
93. More awareness as to how to take full advantage of opportunities.
94. More classes, better promotion and sharing of the information about what is offered.
95. More family oriented fitness classes and indoor track for walker and runners
96. More fitness activities in the evening hours for people who work.
97. More parking
98. More parking.
99. More publicity about what goes on there I don't even know.

100. My daughter loves swimming there with her swim club in the summer, so glad it's open still as I used to swim in it when I was a kid. The maintenance guy in the community center could be nicer, he's kind of crabby looking during our volleyball games.
101. My family rarely uses the community center
102. Need to communicate programs better
103. Need updates on equipment and open gym times. Seems to be a couple programs that are catered too and others just get scraps. It is a community center for the community
104. needs major updating if not a new facility altogether.
105. Needs more accessibility for the handicapped in our community. And also more things for pre-teens to do thats affordable
106. needs more programs for adults as well
107. Needs more rules for pool use and better info on open times.
108. Needs to be advertised more
109. NO TOO EXPENSIVE TO TAKE CHILDREN TO. ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE SEVERAL CHILDREN
110. No. I was last in the building for a running event. It looked in need of general updating but otherwise clean.
111. Offer a lot of activity
112. offer evening aerobic classes, a lot of people work during the day.
113. Only go there annually for Project Connect as a vendor.
114. Open more times
115. Perhaps open for more hours for lap swimming too.
116. Please clean the vent in the ceiling
117. Please look at and study midland community center and programs. That is what we need for everyone unlike the ymca that is unaffordable
118. Pool open everyday, all summer long.
119. Pool open on weekends!!!
120. pool! Market it!
121. Really enjoy taking instructional fitness classes by Beth Trahn. Very good leader.
122. Rental fees for the rooms are kinda high.
123. Replace the refs for the basketball league, the disrespectful refs has lead me and several other players to play at the YMCA instead of the CC
124. Rework water slide stairs to not cause line to form in walkway past slide. Causes congestion and confusion on busy days.
125. Riverside provides exceptional opportunities for seniors. The staff is fantastic.
126. Should be the hub of the park and it is not connwctwd to the outdoor activity there. I have visited these types of parks and community rec in Missouri and South Dakota and they are very nice.
127. So expensive!
128. Some of the equipment needs to be fixed/replaced.
129. Staff could definitely be friendlier
130. Start fixing what we already have up at the parks
131. Steady hours, especially on the weekends and evenings. More fitness classes offered in the evenings- 5:30 and after.
132. Stupid rule you can't beverages in gym. How stupid is that?
133. Summer program for kids is great!
134. The Community Center does well to meet community needs but needs to be bigger with a walking track and expanded programming.
135. The community center is a very nice place
136. The hours - what about evening/night adult only swimming in the truly hot months? Or pool movie night?

137. The hours are not friendly to those who work and the length of time the pool is open does not work for me and my family.
138. The large gym has many issues for safety. The heating and cooling systems fail regularly and the ceiling sometimes is wet and leaks during heavy rain. This makes it dangerous to use. Sometimes the floors are slippery because of weather conditions as well.
139. The lifeguards there are very helpful and kind. Please keep it open
140. The person(s) who work there are solely focused on aerobics. She is always on vacation and never answers or returns phone messages. Not a friendly environment unless you're into aerobics with a bunch of women. Yes, I'm female. The gentleman who worked there prior was always welcoming and inviting and was always accessible. I no longer have a membership and have chosen the Bay Area Family Y instead. Close the pool!
141. The pool area is seemingly always dirty.
142. The price is too high! We don't go anymore because we can't afford it. It's cheaper to drive to Caseville
143. The renovation of floor in big gym was much needed and is appreciated
144. The roof height in the small gym is too low and the bathrooms need updating
145. There are many small rooms that could be updated. Air conditioning is needed. This place gets extremely warm. The offices need major updates and places for storage of records and paperwork. It always appears as though there isn't enough space for supplies so storage would be nice too.
146. There is no pool close to Auburn, it would be nice to have an indoor pool out here
147. There needs to be some serious updates to.the building and some major marketing to keep this gem going
148. They kicked me out for getting beat up when I was 14 and I said I would never go back
149. They need to promote recreational leagues more, to draw in New teams.
150. Time to design and build a new facility with a modern local-demographic driven mission?
151. To me it seems like with just a few improvements the building could be better used. Improve the gym so it's usable. Offer swim lessons at the pool.
152. Too expensive for many families to have equitable access to this amazing resources. It's cost prohibitive for low, middle and upper middle class families.
153. Update the pool
154. Update the softball fields. At least keep 4 of them at ASA regulations.
155. Use the facility for sports
156. Used to love playing in the basketball rec. leagues back about 20 years ago.
157. Very nicely run, great staff
158. We don't use the community center
159. We love the summer program for kids and the pool, but the community center in Midland has so much more to offer.
160. We need a disc golf course
161. Whatever is done needs to be maintained at a high level.
162. Wish we could use it more but partly is the advertising & when it's opened etc.
163. wonderful community asset.
164. Years ago our volleyball leagues were played there. Not sure what happened but would be nice to get back in there
165. Yes lots of Improvement in the facility and the staff. The staff has very poor attitudes
166. You need good summer programs like the Midland Community Center offers.

6. Please evaluate the following aspects of the Bay County Fairgrounds and Dog Park.

	Good	OK	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and Appearance	17.5%	33.5%	14.7%	34.3%	1,091
Handicap Accessibility	16.9%	24.2%	5.9%	53.0%	1,088
Dog Park	19.4%	27.3%	6.8%	46.5%	1,087

7. Do you have any other feedback regarding the Bay County Fairgrounds and Dog Park?

1. A marked sign where people with aggressive dogs should not allow their pets in the dog park, and that pets must be supervised. I no longer go there after two aggressive dogs went unsupervised and went after my pet.
2. Add disc golf course
3. Add ice skating rink and warming house??
4. Again it is not clean and groomed.
5. Aggressive dog breeds should not be let in. It's why we stopped going.
6. All of our parks and areas need quality accessibility for anyone with a handicap.
7. Always trashed
8. Approximately 30 miles from my house
9. As a 4H leader I am embarassedby our facities and what our grounds look like. The livestock barn leaks terribly on the kids projects and public that come to view them in nearly every section of the barn! We need bathrooms with changing and showering areas for the kids and leaders. A portapotty is an groos, dirt and stinky. This year public teens kept tipping them over as a joke & we were expected to use these! Look at any other county with a 4H program and you will see an disgraceful difference. These kids deserve more! The public deserves more to see the fair and projects these kids work so hard on, I think everyone making financial decisions should come walk through the fair grounds on a rainy day and see what its like.
10. As a former 4Her, I am fond of it, but improvements are sorely needed. People who work hard to try to get grants for improvements are turned down because it is run by the county. It does not attract the public because it is so old and run down. The grounds look neglected, even the planters are so old and don't get proper attention from the county. The horse barn needs improvement as well as the livestock area and the whole exterior of the buildings are dated and run down looking. Where the kids do their games at the end of the week is beyond the horse corral area and is nothing but a weed patch. The Canteen area is fine. All and all, the Fairgrounds does not show our pride in our community
11. As I wrote prior the fraigrounds needs extensive work!! Our horse barn needs a new roof and finish thenother end of stalls.. bathroom need to be available closer to the barns and the bath area of our horse barn does not drain and should be expanded as well. Please the fairgrounds is an important pArt of our community for our KIDS! The 4h program helps build kids to be successful in life and gives them amazing like skills. The grandstands is in desperate need of attention as well and how about more of a campground for ya when camping at the fair !! The fairgrounds needs help!!!
12. Barns can be better maintained, stands on the track are 1/2 torn apart, parking is lack. Arena needs maintained properly. More clubs & teams that can utilize the facility is more funds to maintain & improve it
13. Bay county fairgrounds is falling apart and the county doesn't seem to want to repair. My family has used these facilities for years and we have noticed the inability to maintain the facilities.
14. Bay county fairgrounds needs to improve there bathrooms so that they are more handicap accessible. They also need to make the grandstands more handicap accessible for people with walkers or canes by decreasing the amount of incline there is to go up to get into the stand

15. Bay county has one of the most attended dog parks I've ever seen. It could use more shade (trees or a pavilion), and additional lighting. I think it could be beneficial to repipe the water lines so water is accessible from inside the play areas. There need to be explicit rules prohibiting people from playing on the agility equipment, which needs maintenance. Perhaps adding a child's play area adjacent to the park would help to curtail inappropriate use of the equipment. The davison dog park had a dog washing station- effectively a hook for the leash and a hose with a nice nozzle which is wonderful. They also have a hose that goes into the play area so a pool could be filled in the summer. We've used the park daily for the last year and a half and we really appreciate it.
16. Been a while since I've been there
17. Better dog park. More toys.
18. Better fair
19. Better parking for events. Traffic has backed up to Center Ave for festivals
20. Better upkeep!
21. Better water conditions...for example a run off troth
22. Bigger area and more light would be nice. Also something to help with mud and flooding
23. Bigger area for running
24. Bigger area with trees and trails
25. Bigger enclosure for dog park, maybe staff checking vaccine records before allowing people to put their dogs together
26. Campground facilities should be marketed to utilize the grounds more. Barns and grandstands need continued maintenance to keep them in good shape to continue with the events held there.
27. Clean up grandstand area. Fix up horse area.
28. Concentrate on something indoors!
29. Could be a location for archery range.
30. Could it be open for more camping?
31. Could use more business support from the big corporations in our community small community fair for the area we live in
32. Cover the stands from heat to watch the derby
33. Definitely needs a facelift
34. Dog park could be better. if you google top dog parks in michigan; they are in Kalamazoo; Grand Rapids, etc.
35. Dog park could use something for shade.
36. Dog park fencing needs improvement, since my dogs can get out. Need a bigger area also.
37. Dog Park isn't handicap accessable for all. More paved surfaces for wheelchairs, strollers, etc. are needed.
38. Dog park needs newer and more secure fencing. My dog almost got out within 30 seconds.
39. Dog park needs to be bigger, have paved walking paths so it is handicap accessible. Have been to many dog parks around the country, there are singe interesting features that could be added. Walking paths within the dog park, swimming pool, that looks like a natural pond.
40. Dog play dates
41. Drinking fountains need repairs better access to water for dogs, more agility
42. End rules about people managing their dogs, cameras feeding into a/c offices
43. Everyone loves it!
44. Fair grounds could be groomed better. More attention could be brought to fair week and camping should be advertised throughout the whole season
45. Fair grounds looks like it's been abandoned for some years. Dog park needs to be cleaned daily.
46. Fair grounds, did not need a medical marijuana doctor/ Tent at the fairgrounds I was very disappointed in seeing that, for $100 you could get a card so disappointing to see Bay City at the fairgrounds I was very disappointed with Bay City, we have people dying from drugs and we add something more doesn't make

sense to me, medical marijuana should be something a doctor prescribes not just going to fairground picking up a card, don't we have enough problems with alcohol, drugs, now we add marijuana who's going to monitor any of this? Now more burden on our police department and fire department so sad, Finally getting cigarettes out of the picture and we add marijuana. Our poor children.

47. Fairgrounds are in poor shape and poorly located. Fair attendance seems low due to its location and that the buildings and facilities are woefully outdated.
48. Fairgrounds could use a complete makeover
49. Fairgrounds is not terribly appealing
50. Fairgrounds need to continue to be improved so they stay around for future use
51. Fairgrounds needs updating. Barn roof, new paint, horse wash rack does not drain, looks outdated.
52. Fairgrounds roads are poorly maintained
53. Fairgrounds seems to be under-utilized. Large area could be enhanced and used for more events that draw people to Bay County. Dog Park could be larger. Animal Control okay area could be larger for dog exercising.
54. For the dog park drainage, especially in the spring, can be an issue. I'm not sure what the fix if for that but at times it's nearly unusable because of the standing water and/or mud around the entrance area.
55. Get rid of the dog park and maintain the fairgrounds like the county is supposed to do. The lady that donated that property a long time ago would be very disappointed to see the condition of those grounds today. And it is not the responsibility of the fair board to keep those grounds and buildings neat and in good condition. The County commissioners should be ashamed as to how that place looks today.
56. Getting old
57. Has a handicap port a potty at the dog park, sidewalk for the canteen was uneven the last time i was there hard for a wheelchair and the building in the fairgrounds and the barns could be fixed
58. Host more family events at the fairgrounds
59. I am not a dog owner but support this park 100%
60. I do not agree with dog parks
61. I dont use the dog park, for fear of getting my animal sick.
62. I have never used the god park. I like that there is a dog park but I dislike that it is located so far away from all of the other large parks like Vets and Wenona.
63. I haven't been to the dog park in 10 years. We have a dog and do not use it.
64. I love the adoption event there.
65. I miss ice skating and sledding there in winter .my kids never got to experience that
66. I never know how to introduce a new dog there.
67. I remember the fairgrounds as a youth in Bay City.... it is a shame it is in the condition it is in. That being said, the community as a whole used to do a much better job of taking care of it's own. Volunteerism is dead. Having a minuiscule parks and rec budget doesn't help matters.
68. I strongly feel that the county continue to maintain the buildings-barns,grandstands,merchant buildings. It should not be forgotten and we want to keep enjoying events hosted there. The events also needs to marketed more.
69. I think the amenities such as the barns could use some updating.
70. I will not take my dog there because there is no control if my dogs have all necessary vaccinations
71. I wish the aggressive dogs could be eliminated or have a separate park for just the pit bulls. My dog has been gone after several times and even attacked by 2 dogs whose owners just watched and wouldn't help get their 2 dogs off of mine! I also did not receive a single apology but I was able to get my dog away from them. I refuse to take her there anymore because of the amount of pit bulls that frequent this park.
72. I would like to see the grand stand rebuilt (with roof)
73. I would love to go to the dog park but not sure how "clean" it is from other dog lovers.

74. I would love to see a area in the State Park set up for Dogs to play.and offer some things for people to work on dog training free to public.
75. I would love to see more events at the fair grounds. There's a big area that sits unused a lot of the time. I think Bay County should be more proactive in bringing events to that area.
76. If I were able I would contact Cobblestone Homes and have them sub divide the fair grounds and build some really nice houses in there. It's a nice spot, next to Carroll Park, would bring in some much needed tax $$$. I live in a Cobble Stone condo on the river and a day does not go by when someone asked me who to contact to purchase one of these condos. They are selling as fast as they can build them and the taxes provide to the city coffers. Than move the fair grounds either to Auburn or Hampton Twp. Keeping in mind and being respectful to the people that live there. It really bothers me when the city makes decisions that are hurtful to our people, like when they build those town houses in monitor twp., near Bay Valley, destroying property values and views of tax paying citizens with their lives work on the line, or what they did to Wenona Park, ruined the way the park was laid out.
77. If you can't expand, the fair is losing relevance
78. Improve camping area. Advertise camping area, extra revenue for more improvements. Improve/update livestock and equine areas. Update canteen
79. improve drainage, when it rains it is a mess at the fairgrounds. More paved sidewalks/paths and improve the bath house.
80. Improve it. Give people a reason to want to come out there not just for the Smash Up Derby or anything else like that make a walking trail around the park make the dog park bigger
81. It is not still kept. But why not have one on the other side of town. Where more of your Bay County Residents live.
82. It is still nice to be able to attend the Bay County Fair.
83. It looks trashy
84. It would be a wonderful place to have concerts held
85. it would be nice to have more trees along the outside edge of the park for more shade in the dog areas like on the west side of the area
86. its always dirty and the grass needs cutting
87. It's always looks dirty. Not typically stocked. Could use better maintenance, more interesting a tivities, trees and clean-up
88. It's extremely muddy would like to see better drainage
89. It's in need of so many repairs. I think it's due for a complete overhaul, or it should be just leveled for green space. We don't go there anymore because of the dangers and hazards of dilapidated facilities.
90. It's inconvient to travel across the bridge and through the east side to get to the dog park. I'd like to see one on the west side!
91. Just happy to see green space rather than concrete and view blocking pavilions downtown.
92. Larger dog park. Less muddy terrain
93. Lawn is always cut, but what is there to do there? Our fair is a joke. It's unsafe.
94. Like to see more events and updates to grand stands and that area
95. Looks run down. Not supportef
96. LOVE jane good and everything she is doing to build up the canteen.
97. Love the dog park. Wish there were more.
98. Love the up keep in the barns and arena
99. Maintaining the park up grade it
100. Make sure people are picking up after themselves and properly disposing of trash
101. Making it bigger or maybe make a pond so some dogs that like to swim can swim. My dogs love to swim and there isnt a lot of places where dogs can swim.
102. Monitor the folks that bring their animals there. Some think they own that place

103. More activities for the dogs
104. More camping would draw more people to site
105. More dog agility equipment would be nice
106. More events there. The County fair is much to be desired.
107. More frequent monitoring.
108. More items, bigger
109. More obstacles for the dogs, all inclusive fair
110. More room and activities could be added and maybe even a monthly obedience instruction.
111. More room and activities for dogs.
112. More shade and people seats
113. My family typically visits the Midland Fairgrounds because the facilities are better maintained
114. N/A for the fairgrounds since I have not been there in quite a few years. The dog park looks well maintained however.
115. need a dog park closer to pinconning e.g. pinconning park
116. Need more community events that are family friendly
117. Need more things inside for dogs to interact with.
118. Need one on the West side of the river.
119. Need open space dog park on west side
120. Need to add revenue to make much needed upgrades to the infrastructure. (electrical & water mains)
121. Need to put some serious money into the fairgrounds as a whole
122. Need to replace the fencing and grand stands.
123. Needs better publicity
124. Needs improvement. No facilities. No chairs. No toys. Not maintained well
125. needs lots of updating in fairgrounds and dog park. Very unlevel where you park. Needs sidewalks so handicap can go on and not fall. Need better places to park. Very unsafe. Maybe cement handicap parking spaces. Handicap bathrooms.
126. Needs more patrolling, often have people doing illegal or inappropriate things there. A playground area for children would be nice too. As well as actually having an ice rink every winter.
127. Needs more to do like Swings, etc. The fair is very low par. We want a better carnival! Grounds maintenance is looking good!
128. Needs to be bigger, monitored better to be kept clean. There are some really nice dog parks through out the country, incorporate some new features and improve the dog park.
129. Needs to be bigger.
130. Needs to be kept up better and monitored somehow.
131. Needs to be taken care of better. Looks run down.
132. Needs to have more upgrading
133. Needs updating
134. New roof on horse barn, would like to see more community involvment in maintenance
135. Nicer seating area for people... possibly covered
136. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
137. No doggie here, so we've never been.
138. No one really wishes to attend the fair any more. Bring in a better, cleaner ride company and more grandstand seats.
139. Our dog loves the dog park! Have water inside the big dog part
140. Overall appearance of the fair grounds is old/worn. Maybe could use some landscaping or something. Large entrance gate near the dog park needs repair/replacement Fairground sign needs fresh paint Dog park could have better accessibility for amigos or wheelchairs More agility apparatus for dog park

141. Parking at the dog park is too close to the traffic flow. Maybe move parking to the east side of the park??
142. Paved pathways
143. Place gravel around the bottom of the fence so that my dog can play freely without being on the leash , because if the dog is unleashed there are several large openings in the bottom of the fence that they can get out of. Gravel could even be donated from Wirt Stone Docks.
144. Please maintain the Bay County Fairgrounds. The barns, grandstands, merchants buildings and canteen need work so the community and 4-H families can continue to benefit from them. This is such a huge resource that isn't being fully utilized. Look for ways to promote the fairgrounds - put some money into it, so it will attract people.
145. Put an RC track there
146. Repaint. Add new activities. Separate areas for diff age and size dogs. Free vaccines and food for poor pet ownere
147. Roof on the horse building is in horrible shape. Horse arena by said barn is a disgrace. Grandstands needs a roof of some sort. Fences on property are in rough shape some falling down and other gates are falling apart. Power poles on property are a Saftey hazard for anyone who enters the grounds!!
148. Sad that it does not get a LOT of use.
149. Seems the same people are at the dog park, and when new people come they really aren't welcome. Not your problem, just an observation.
150. Seems under used
151. Sell it
152. Separate park needed for small breeds.
153. Should have more use of the Fairgrounds or maybe some exercise classes in the Canteen that would be more accessible to Essexville Residents.
154. Some lighting issues that need addressed.
155. Some shade trees would be nice. More toys for the dogs to play on. If it's made more attractive to people through design and decoration, then more people will bring their dogs there to play.
156. Spend some time and money to rejuvenate the fairgrounds....Bay County seems to think that this venue is unimportant as they spend dollars on the west side of the county and have let this park go down the drain... we have an area that can become something great but the interest of Bay County seems to be in the township and not the inner city locations... Yes stop spending all the tax dollars on the townships and share with the property that is falling to the wayside in our city community and it's residents
157. Sure wish the fair was bigger event, but I'm sure it has to do with the level of involvement in local 4-H.....I don't have a dog, but LOVE to visit the dog park!!
158. Swimming area for dogs, better quality agility equipment (or just replace it).
159. Take care of existing trees and/or plant new trees. Use water bags on trees so they can grow. The grounds look like they need some funds so the area looks better
160. The area which formerly was used for horse racing looks terrible.
161. The Bay county fair grounds are just embarrassing for any outside of the county to see. I've been to many small in population size county's that have a way better taken care of, updated and just nicer fair grounds then what we have. The fair really just needs to be razed and rebuilt.
162. The Bay County Fairgrounds & Dog Park are very small & pretty far away from where I live
163. The bay county fairgrounds is a disgrace shame on bay county for not taking care of it and putting some funds away to support our youth so they can showcase what they work so hard for the fairgrounds are dumpy...
164. The Bay County Fairgrounds is falling apart. So many children benefit from this facility when doing 4H
165. The Bay county fairgrounds is in need of some serious maintenance. The roof on the barn leaks, the grand stands are in poor shape. The electrical is terrible. The fairgrounds overall need a major facelift. The fair and 4h are a big part of this community and seem to be forgotten

166. The buildings look like they need roofing & maintenance repairs, the bathrooms need updated, & the grandstands need a lot of maintenance & repairs.
167. The county should continue to maintain the facilities/grounds. Barns need maintenance
168. The dog park is pretty far out of the way for many Bay County residents, it would be nice to see one on the west side of the river.
169. The dog park is unsafe regarding dogs attacking others and the spread of disease in my opinion.
170. The dog park needs more areas for dog training. It gets a little cramped when more than 6 groups show up.
171. The dog park needs to be bigger.
172. The equipment in the dog park is in disrepair and dangerous. Would love new equipment and more activities for families with dogs. Not many activities for pet parents. Some equipment for agility training would be great!
173. The fair was a disaster this year. Apparently the amusement provider was double booked. I paid for my daughter's wristband and there was only one ride for her size available.
174. The fairgrounds and bleachers need improvements in appearance
175. The fairgrounds are in need of repairs and updates. The buildings that the animals are housed in during fair are old and honestly look nasty upon arrival. The entire area could use a face lift.
176. The fairgrounds are terrible! Very run down and all needs to be updated!
177. The fairgrounds is in poor shape - roads are bad, besides the dog park & the rental hall there's not much there. That would be a good spot for some cross country ski trails & walking track.
178. The fairgrounds isn't used to its potential. The fair is a joke and needs to be better managed. The grounds could be used to develop more senior programming.
179. The fairgrounds need a huge overhaul. Lots of things need updating. Need to bring in better events other than just derby's into it
180. The fairgrounds need better upkeep not only so more events can be held there but also for the health and safety of the animals already there.
181. The fairgrounds need desperate updates. The barn roof leaks in both the livestock barn and the horse barn. It would be wonderful to add a shooting sports (archery in particular) area at the fairgrounds. Please invest in this facility it's important to our family and our community.
182. The grand stands are in rough shape and walking up the steep walk ways is not the easiest for the elderly and kids. I feel as if this could use a nice make-over for not only the community but also for the safety of everyone.
183. The grand stands need better handicap access
184. The horse barn need to be fixed up and put on a new roof. Clean out the barns and let the 4H kids use them. Instead of the county putting all there crap in it.
185. The horse barns roof leaks when checking out the animals at the fair when it's raining. Love camping at the grounds.
186. The Livestock and Horse barns are in desperate need of new roofs. While I was attending the Fair this year, during a rain that had happened while I was there. I was getting rained on while being in both barns. I feel this is unsafe and not good for the animals being housed in those barns.
187. The livestock and horse barns need some repair. A lot of volunteer hours and money has gone into that facility, which is okay to a point, but it seems that 4-H is being taken advantage of, compared to other county properties and buildings. There are a lot of family's that use these facilities
188. The only bad thing is the snooty people that get mad when you bring your pit bull and there little dogs bite my dog and they get mad at my dog
189. The park looks nice, but the fairgrounds look rundown. It could be more clear about how to stay there and add some fun things for kids to do. I remember going and playing there when I was a kid.
190. The park needs more obstacles and room.

191. The road is horrible and dangerous to walk on! The rail trail is good except where it meets the road near the grandstands, which is a broken ankle waiting to happen as there is a huge drop off between the two. The grandstands needs painted. The vines on the fences all around the grounds is an eyesore. The back gate needs replaced and made larger too as it currently does not allow the entire grounds to be secured in case of emergency (the gate can't be closed and locked properly). There needs to be a fence all around the pit area so that it can be locked because people go in there and ruin the grass and track, especially when it is muddy. There are no good security cameras, so even when people do destroy property, there is no way to identify them. The drainage on the fairgrounds is terrible. The tiles should probably be checked and cleaned. The campground is amazing since it has been upgraded (which I hear the County did not pay for but rather 4-H/fairboard did. Shame on the County if that is true), but you never see it advertised so hardly anyone knows about it. HUGE loss of income opportunity by not advertising the campground, especially when there are 4 county departments on the grounds that could monitor the campgrounds and payments. It's a shame that millions can be spent on a pavilion downtown where there is very little parking and greenspace when we have an amazing fairgrounds just down the road with lots of parking area and room to grow for bigger events, but the county doesn't want to put any money into the fairgrounds. The County could pay for a new roof on the horse barn if it would advertise and have relationships with the boarders instead of just ignoring them. Heck, take a little off Sue's rent every month and let her manage the horse barn. Instead it seems that they are not letting any more boarders into the barn, which is a shame for agriculture in the area as people have less and less places to keep their livestock, especially with all of these ridiculous local ordinances lately. If the county hired someone, even part time, to manage just the fairgrounds like it does for the other recreational facilities, it could become a booming and active place for events of all kinds. But the county seems to be ashamed of it and would rather pour all of its money into a golf course (when there are plenty of golf courses in the county!) and Pinconning Park instead. If the county doesn't want to maintain the fairgrounds, they should give it back to the fair (not sell because the fairboard and 4-H have put enough money back into those grounds over the past years, from what I can see) or help the fair move out of there so that they can sell those grounds to someone who will use them. It's a huge shame to see those grounds wasted and then to watch the fair struggle to keep the grounds up when they are just renters (which is a whole other crock of bologna that they have to pay so much and receive so little from the County). If the fair owned the property, maybe they would put in the money and time to bring new events onto the grounds and make it a location of pride in the community again. The county has just sat back and watched those grounds wither. What happened to the master plan for the fairgrounds? There was talk of a farmers market/pavilion like Auburn just built, which would be amazing there since City Market really isn't a farmers market and the downtown outside market is so crowded where it is. There is just so much unused potential at the fairgrounds.
192. There should be a disc golf course near by
193. They r useless
194. This is a huge sore spot for those of us who made significant use of the fairgrounds in 4-H in the 80's & 90's. The facilities are obsolete and there is no dedication to it's operations, marketing, alternate modern uses, or services. A huge waste of resources in its current state. Either sell it, privatize operations, schedule a community input session to figure out how to capitalize on it, or some other proactive combination of solutions.
195. This is a major farming community and yet we have one of the weakest fairs in the area. It really is a shame. Our facilities are old and falling apart. There are no buildings to showcase a 4-H program. There is no building for a 4-H to meet. Hence we have a poor program.Thee are no stands near the horse rings. You must stand the entire time in the hot sun. The walkways are rough for walking. The dog park is a flea infested, uncut mess.
196. This would be a good area for more bike riding activities, rock climbing wall.
197. Time to design and build a new facility with a modern local-demographic driven mission?
198. Too small
199. Update the barns and add restrooms
200. Update the fairgrounds. They look the same as when i was a kid

201. Updates on barns and buildings.
202. Use it many times nice addition. Maybe have some dog related activities or offer dog class etc. Would be nice to promote animal training etc.
203. Use the campgrounds for camping
204. Water faucet is hard to opporatate inside dog area. Why not have the controls in where the dogs are.
205. Way too small for the amount of use. Also, inconsiderate pet owners not picking up after their dogs makes it a breeding ground for germs and disease.
206. We need to bring in more events to raise funds for the fair. Our fair is going downhill and it pales in comparison of it's former years. With all the fairs around that are so overpriced it was nice to have ours because you could actually afford to make it a few day event.
207. We quit going due to the "medium" size dogs scaring the heck out of the small dogs, I think a third area for medium dogs should be added. A ten pound dog does not enjoy being prey to a 40 pound dog.
208. What happen to the A-frame and the dog activities at the dog park?
209. What happened to all the agility things for the dogs?? I think it should be a little bigger. We also need to have more than 1 dog park. I can't take my dog there because he doesn't like other dogs, but would love to take him somewhere where he wouldn't be in a small place with a bunch of other dogs. I'm trying to train him to be nice, but I don't have a place to do that at
210. Whatever is done needs to be maintained at a high level.
211. wish dog park was bigger with more stuff inside
212. Wish there was an antique festival held there annually like Midland has. Don't care for the noisy car events (figure eights, demo, etc.). Disrupts the neighborhood (80 year old parents live near by and the fumes/smells from these events are a health hazard to them; unfortunately they do not have air-conditioning)
213. Work on the grass so there are not dirt/mud areas by the entrance. Pick up poop that people dont get. I think people are too busy talking and dont notice their dog had pooped
214. Would be nice to have a dog obstacle area
215. Would be nice to have another dog park in the south end so we don't all have to go towards essexville. The deep south (south of broadway) has very limited resources
216. Would be nice to have some doggy playground equipment for them to jump over and under etc like Frankenmuth has for example.
217. Would like see some obsticals and more ways to train. More locations be nice.
218. Would like to see a dog park on west side or Bangor Township
219. Would like to see more events at this location
220. Would like to see MORE events there through out the year. Really miss the olod grand stands and the shows that used to be held there. It was a place that USED to be out of town, now it is a "green space" that is highly under used. Fix the grandstands,maintain the track,clean up the infield for more family fun. Look what Midland did by having a full time Fair Board that takes care of it ,like their own. Someone to really manage it, per say. It is so much fun fun to see the faces of the kids in the city neighborhood when there are thing like the "twilight" horse shows there. It could be a place to bring city and county kids together in a fun way. This space is VERY under utilized
221. Would like to.see a play area back. A swing, slide,.etc. Starting.to see a few more people camping there now. It would be nice for the.kids. Should keep the horse barn.open for people.to board their horses. Where else in any city can you take a child.to go see horses up close? Believe it or not some kids would probably never get to.see one. What a.treat.
222. Yes. The horse barn need a new roof. Also, the grandstands could use some work. Handicap parking doesn't seem to be that available.

8. Please evaluate the following aspects of the Bay County Golf Course.

	Good	OK	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and Appearance	21.9%	13.2%	1.6%	63.4%	1,032
Handicap Accessibility	14.6%	10.4%	0.7%	74.4%	1,041
Quality/Friendliness of Staff	18.9%	11.6%	1.3%	68.1%	1,040

9. Foot golf is golf with a regulation soccer ball kicked into 21" golf cups. Foot golf courses are built on regulation nine-hole traditional golf courses, using the existing traditional golf fairway. However, the greens and tees are separate from those on the traditional golf course. How do you feel about adding foot golf to the Bay County Golf Course?

	Percent
Sounds great!	39.0%
Not sure	35.0%
No, we don't need it.	26.1%

10. Do you have any other feedback regarding the Bay County Golf Course?

1. A driving range would be nice.
2. A very in - proportionate amount of funds have been spent there vs other areas in the county thru out the years
3. Along with foot golf, it is very easy to add baskets onto a golf course and have it be very profitable. For instance the course in lainsburg has 2 seperate golf courses with 2 different disc golf courses pretty much behind the greens of the golf course. Will bring in a lot more business
4. Amateur night would be nice or a non competitive golf league
5. And disc golf course
6. Another area that consistently loses money for the county. Perhaps this should be sold and the county could collect the tax dollars for it.
7. Anything to draw more use is a positive step
8. As opposed to foot golf, a disc golf course would be beneficial. Several golf courses in the state have added disc golf in recent years, ie. Marlette. Courses generally charge $5 per disc golfer with the option of a cart for more money. Disc golf is very low impact to the course, relatively inexpensive to build a course, and has very little effect on ball golfers playing on the course. In most cases disc golfer are asked to yield to the ball golfers. It would also bring more business to the pro shop to add discs, which are relatively inexpensive, and don't take up a ton of room.
9. Asset to our community, love the youth programs promoting golf....it continues to be affordable.happy to have my tax dollars support our county course.
10. Beautiful
11. Beautiful
12. Better explanation to golfers to stay off of private property that butts up to golf course

13. Bunkers need new sand and ponds were a bit low this year. Other than that the course was in excellent shape.
14. Clean and repaint the bathrooms!
15. competes with private golf course, since does not pay taxes has an unfair advantage
16. Continue to make improvements, to the course, equipment and carts!
17. Curious to c how much revenue the course generates. Would like to c some of that reinvested in the course.
18. Didnt know we had one
19. Disc golf and foot golf.
20. Doesn't take on water well. Better drainage needed.
21. Drainage is bad. Events get cancelled when it rains.
22. Enjoy it greatly, tho I think the price is a tad steep for 18 holes and a cart. The employees are great, always courteous!
23. Floods a lot, carts need some work as well as the grasses.
24. Foot golf is not working at other courses in our area.
25. Foot golf should have its own separate space if tee times would be eliminated to accommodate it.
26. Foot golf sounds fun don't know much about it.
27. Foot golf sounds interesting as long as it isn't an expensive activity
28. Foot golf sounds like a good idea, bit it would frustrate the actual golfers that are using the course and the customer loss would not be covered by the foot golfers
29. Foot golf sounds retarded
30. Footgolf tried at Maple Leaf and did not work out. Foot golf and regular golf should not co-exist. The golf course is well kept. And projects that Bay County takes on should be well maintained.
31. For a county golf course the cost of golf is high like the course but hardly play there because of that
32. Golf course could use some drainage tile. It was closed quite a bit this year and a little investment of drain tile would have helped tremendously in keeping the course open.
33. Golf course if used enough should be left as is. But if not, foot golf and regular golf may be a good mix and good usage of the course.
34. Golf course is used by a select few...please spend money where more accessible to lower income individuals
35. Golf is a sport that is available in many places and can be costly - I would lie to see more money and resources put into activities that can be a pick up type game to provide positive activities for kids/teenagers/young adults that do not have a budget for positive entertainment and sports
36. Great course for the price
37. Great facility. It would be great if Bay County residents could get a discount. I'd use it more, if I could afford it.
38. Great place. Money maker for the County.
39. Has been kept up pretty well and seems to be fairly well used
40. Have you ever considered adding disc golf to the course? I have played at a few courses that have both like pine hills in lainsgburg MI. It seems to work well. Disc golfers don't mind paying to play a nice course especially to have a cart.
41. Host theme nights once a month to get more participation during the season. Give the best "dressed" a prize or a golf pass so then they come back.
42. I have never foot golfed, but think it sounds fun for autumn or early winter. I am a regular golfer.
43. I heard recently it really has gone downhill
44. I liked the punch card system
45. I live on the other side of the county and this course is not convenient for Kawkawlin residents. I do not wish to add any more county funds to this facility.
46. I normally golf on weekdays and would like to see more concessions open.

47. I really enjoyed the tougher conditions this year (longer rough and faster greens). Would love to see youth clinics/camps and leagues.
48. I think at a reasonable price, many people would participate in foot golf.
49. I think foot golf would be a great addition and would engage people that don't normally golf
50. I think the foot golf is a great idea. How about in the summer have a league for it? I think the local soccer players would play this in the summer during soccer downtime. Advertise with the school, local soccer clubs. Tryouts are in June around fathers day. Hand out flyers with promos or something. I think you would do very well.
51. I thought the new superintendent did a great job this year despite poor growing conditions. There were browned out spots along the collars and tees, but being a former assistant superintendent, I understand that not everything can be perfect. Greens were in fantastic shape, especially for the county tournament. During play for the tournament, I felt that it was distracting having golf carts moving about with spectators, despite the rules saying that spectators and caddies must walk. I think that some feel that they are above the law at that course and need to be brought down a bit. I also think that there needs to be better communication to the community
52. I would love this!!!
53. I'd be interested in foot golf!
54. I'm all for increasing the use of existing facilities . . . but I don't think that the two activities will co-exist well together.
55. incorporate disc golf course
56. Instead of adding foot golf add disc golf. You will see a far larger player base.
57. Invite family play (at times there is not league play) where children are allowed share parents clubs. Must be scramble format. Have hamburgers and hot dogs and drinks available at a couple locations throughout the course.
58. It has never looked better!!
59. It is finally starting to look good, and relatively not expensive so it's easier to play there for seniors, The course needs help with women's tees they are too long for a woman. Please don't take away the only golf course we have in Hampton township, (Essexville)
60. It's a nice course, just keep maintaining it and improving it.
61. It's an okay course but with some attention and manicuring it could be much better.
62. I've golfed 3 times this year at the course and the conditions and service was top notch.
63. I've never been to the Bay County Golf Course, so I have no opinions about it.
64. Keep it solvent.
65. Keep the golf course for golfers! No foot golf!
66. Keep the profits there not in General Fund
67. Keep up the good work
68. Like I said fix the bridge
69. Long as it's not in a county park or a state park have at it
70. Lower cost a little
71. Lower price
72. Lower the fees. Have a day for beginners so everyone can play. Prices of rental clubs for beginners who don't have clubs
73. Maintenance has taken a drastic turn over the past couple years.
74. Maintenance of the greens could be better.
75. Marketing. Marketing. Marketing. (The best PR was actually the news about the Goiks' embezzelment, kept the facility in the front and center of the public eye for a while.)
76. Modernize, update appearance and difficulty.
77. Modify to support disc golf.

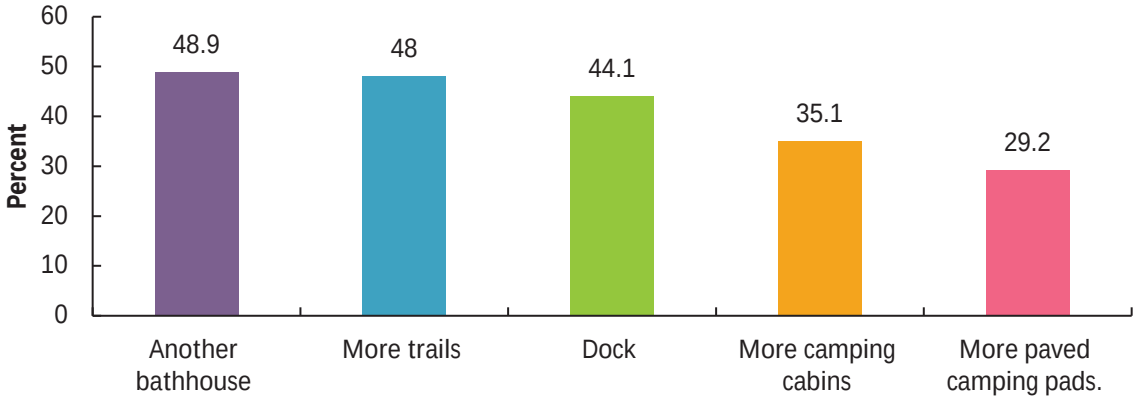
78. Need a driving range
79. Need an upgrade on carts
80. Need disk golf course
81. Need new golf carts.
82. Need to address the drainage of the course. I feel way to much revenue is lost each year because of the poor drainage of the course
83. Need to do something about the flooding issue when it rains.
84. Need to invest in some drainage
85. Need to lower prices for bay county employees
86. Need to repair or replace the netting along Arms rd that protects the houses from errant golf balls. Also remove the dead trees on the course
87. Needs golf Instruction opportunity.
88. Needs to be titled badly, the poor drainage is one cause of lost revenue and damage to fairways...
89. Needs updates.
90. never been there it should be self supporting or closed
91. Never even heard of this and I am a young adult with kids.
92. Nice course and well-maintained. Important to our locals and seniors.
93. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
94. Not Needed
95. Offer children's golf clinics
96. Please do not create foot golf opportunities ahead of Disc Golf
97. Put in disc golf
98. Sink some money in the concession stand area. Would be a great addition to golf outings to be able to use the kitchen area
99. Soccer is the fastest growing sport in the world, makes sense to join in.
100. Sorry don't golf. Can we frisbee it?
101. Sounds like something as a disabled person I could probably do and might actually enjoy.
102. Sounds like you have all ready decided to build one,
103. That soccer golf sounds like something I may try if it's free/cheap. Golf is an expensive sport and soccer can be done much cheaper (just institute a no cleats rule)
104. The County has better things to spend its money on than a Golf Course, especially when there are about 8 other ones in the county. There is no need that the county is filling by owning and operating a golf course.
105. The course needs more drainage & some trees cut down that are dead. Otherwise the course is used by many people
106. The golf course is a great asset to the community. I think it has the nicest fairways of any course in the area.
107. The golf course looked rough the last time I golfed. Burned out fairways, dry greens. It has looked better in years passed.
108. The golf course needs better drainage
109. The location of this golf course is too far out of town.
110. The money the golf course makes should stay with the golf. Like to see the in course out of bounds removed and more bunkers ditches and lakes added to improve difficulty of course
111. The person in charge has no clue on how to run a golf course. A young smart ass who thinks he owns the place. New management needed immediately.
112. The staff comes across as very "snobbish". The course is usually in good condition, but the course is flat and very open.
113. They should add a disc golf course on the ball golf course
114. They should add disc golf tees and pins to their course.

115. This golf course is pretty far away from anyone. Don't think it would be an attraction for youth
116. This sounds SO COOL! I live near some fine private courses and play there - but Foot Golf would be something to engage our community.
117. traditional golf courses are also adding disc golf in much the same way foot golf is added. I say add both disc golf and foot golf, serve the ENTIRE population of Bay City / County
118. Very friendly staff
119. We absolutely love the Bay County course. The greens are in excellent condition. We love our league nights and the new carts are very nice. Dan had done great things with the course and we are excited to see what the future holds.
120. We need to try new things around this area. There will always be negative responses, but you don't know until you try it. Thanks for the option.
121. We shouldnt be wasting our money on running a golf course.
122. Well maintained and a great asset to our community. We should have another on the West Side.
123. What about disc golf too!
124. Why are we paying for golf courses?
125. Would be great to have cross country ski rental and ski trails in the winter
126. Would be nice if they had a dining area.
127. Would prefer disc golf first
128. You need to spend the profits from the course on the course. BCGC used to be a place we golfed 4 days a week and were proud to be members. Sand traps aren't maintained, snack shop isn't open. Pro Shop doesn't carry a good variety of merchandise, etc. Poor management has driven away too many customers.

11. Pinconning Park is a full service campground and day use park located east of Pinconning on Saginaw Bay. It includes nature trails, a beach area, playground, regular campsites, and camping cabins. Please evaluate the following aspects of Pinconning Park.

	Good	OK	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and Appearance	19.9%	14.5%	2.1%	63.5%	1,040
Handicap Accessibility	15.9%	10.2%	1.7%	72.2%	1,039
Quality/Friendliness of Staff	17.3%	12.0%	0.7%	70.0%	1,039

12. What other amenities would you like to see added at Pinconning Park? Please check all that apply.



13. Do you have any other feedback regarding Pinconning Park?

1. a dog park would provide an excellent, inexpensive, area for community members to congregate in and meet. this would also provide a safe walking area to walk dogs off the higher speed country roads or highways. walking dogs can be dangerous on the higher speed roads; promoting walking dogs or exercising with them in a dog park is helpful for promoting overall community health.
2. A great place to take kayaks or swim
3. a nice long fishing pier that can be used all year.
4. A place to unload horse trailers and ride "the rail trail"
5. Add an archery range
6. Animal friendly beach
7. another play ground,pool
8. Anything that would draw more people to use it, more welcoming, cleaner, more activities
9. Atv/utv trails would be nice
10. Bay County NEEDS a NICE BEACH!
11. beautiful campground. maybe clean up pebbles on the beach.
12. Beautiful park with hard working, friendly staff.
13. Benn living in the area 2 years and didn't know about it.
14. Best county park we have
15. Better docking area for boaters is really badly needed
16. better maintenance of dock and channel markings
17. Better management of beach and waterfront.
18. Can you add a fishing dock? Love the kayaks offered there!
19. Checked out out along time ago. Had no full hook ups so never went there
20. Clean the beach
21. Cleaner beaches please
22. County should sell it to Pinconning

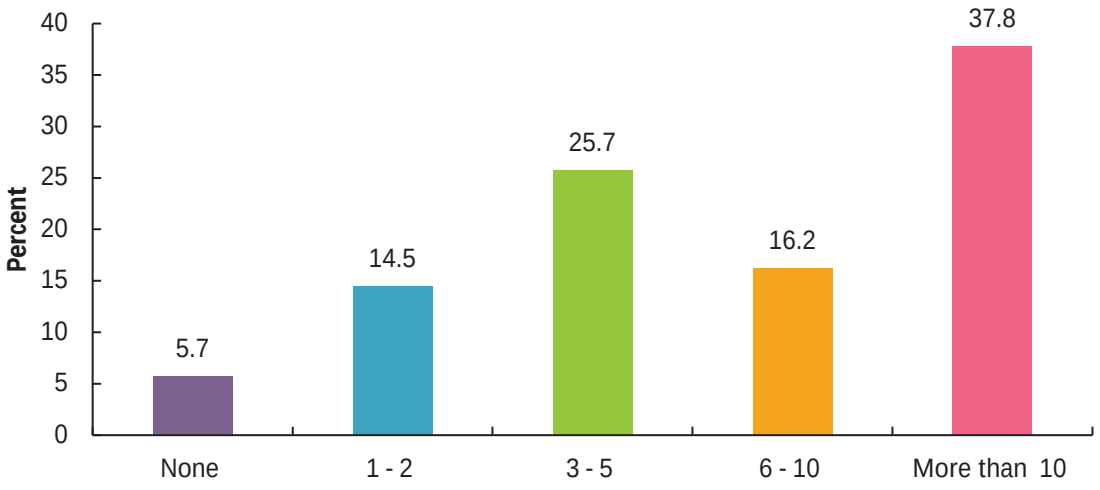
23. Day Park area and Beach area need to be cleaner and made where it is more handicap accessible
24. Did not even realize ther was a Pinconning Park.
25. Didn't even know it exsisted! Will have to check it out
26. Didnt know it existed
27. Dig and dike the channel access
28. Do NOT feel safe with the permanent residents with their OWN shed, decks, etc. This is a CAMPGROUND, not a trailer park. Not happy at ALL! We have been there for gatherings (family reunion) which was very nice. The beach was okay. BUT...when you drive around the park, there is a noticeable difference between the campers and long-term residents. Don't feel safe walking the trails there.
29. Do not think it will be as great of a place to camp anymore if we have to listen to wind turbines
30. Finish disc golf course
31. fishing options
32. Fishing pier - if not already there. boat launch - if not already there, I've not been there in the last year,
33. Get RID of the annual campers! It looks like a trailer park and is unwelcoming to families. Tractor trailer drivers using the campground as a residence has to stop. The whole place looks trashy.
34. Great place
35. Great play ground for the kids.
36. Have allowed too man seasonal campsites taking up good sites for weekends ... last time I was there it looked like a trailer park some of the trailers and junk around were terrible .. quit camping there because of the lack of spots and the look of the seasonal sites ..
37. Have not been there as sites were not available when I called. Someday I hope to camp there.
38. Having good bathrooms at campgrounds is a must!!
39. Horse access trails
40. I absolutely LOVE the Pinconning Park
41. I did not even know this existed and I have lived in Bay City and Essexville my entire life. We go camping all the time.
42. I did not know this existed
43. I didn't know it about it at all.
44. I didn't know it was there
45. I don't go there because of the length of my camper
46. I have never been th Pinconning Park. I have heard of it but never think to go there
47. I have never been there or used it. Truthfully I didn't even know it existed.
48. I haven't camp there yet,It is in my plans for next summer
49. I liked it when I was there. Only complaint was bugs
50. I love this park.
51. I work in Pinconning , love takeing a ride for lunch to the park but don't feel welcome , Signs say stop and Pay , for a 20 min lunch. We are under utilizing the waterfront in Pinconning. Too bad text sellers don't keep it open for all to use.
52. Improve boat launch (more ramps) Mark channel better (more marker bouys) er Add handi cap fishing dock
53. incorporate disc golf if space allows

54. It is a great place with so much potential. Add more campsites/cabins would be beneficial since it tends to be full most weekends. Adding a swim pad or float with a slide in the deeper part of the swim area would be a great addition. Adding an enclosed pavilion for parties would draw more people since there are limited buildings in the area for these events.
55. It seems like a nice park
56. It should have a full 18 hole disc golf course installed
57. Its nice. We enjoy it. Beach grooming and cleanup is nice if we go swimming there
58. I've lived in bay city for 20 years and I've never been to the Pinconning Park.
59. I've visited Pinconning Park many times over the past few years. I almost left the first time I went to the park after seeing the fee signs. I'm still not sure if I have to pay a fee for use of the park. If so, it should be free for County residents
60. Keep improving the beach. Looking good.
61. Looks like it would have a lot of mosquitoes
62. Looks terrible! Junky campers in there! Sites small. Not taken care of.
63. love this park need to add more trees
64. Make it more mobility friendly
65. Make the trails wide enough to drive down so mosquito control can spray more. While the park is beautiful, a swamp is a terrible location for a campground since the mosquitoes are so bad!
66. More campsites
67. More paved trails for easy access for people in wheelchairs
68. More public bank fishing places, that we are allowed to fish in would be nice.
69. More rustic campsites
70. More user friendly with pets and children
71. Needs more publicity because I didn't know anything about it, or where is is, or that it's a county park.
72. Needs to be advertised more. It's a great close place to go with families.
73. Never been there but I'll check it out!
74. Nice campground for the area
75. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
76. No seasonal sites. When people live at the campground it takes away the fun of camping for others.
77. No very nice love the trail very nicely taken care of.
78. People love camping. The more things you offer, the more people you will attract.
79. Pinconning Park could be, and should be, so much better than it is.
80. Pinconning park is one the few nice county owned park we have. I would like to continue to see improvement to the park. I believe we should have other county parks in bay county also that can give similar recreation opportunities or better. We should have parks in other areas of the county in areas likes woods, river side, open areas or a mix of all three.
81. Please advertise this place better. I want aware it even existed and it sounds great.
82. Price is a little high. Maybe a cut rate for County Employees.
83. Promote it more. Lived in Bay County my entire life and didn't even know it was there.

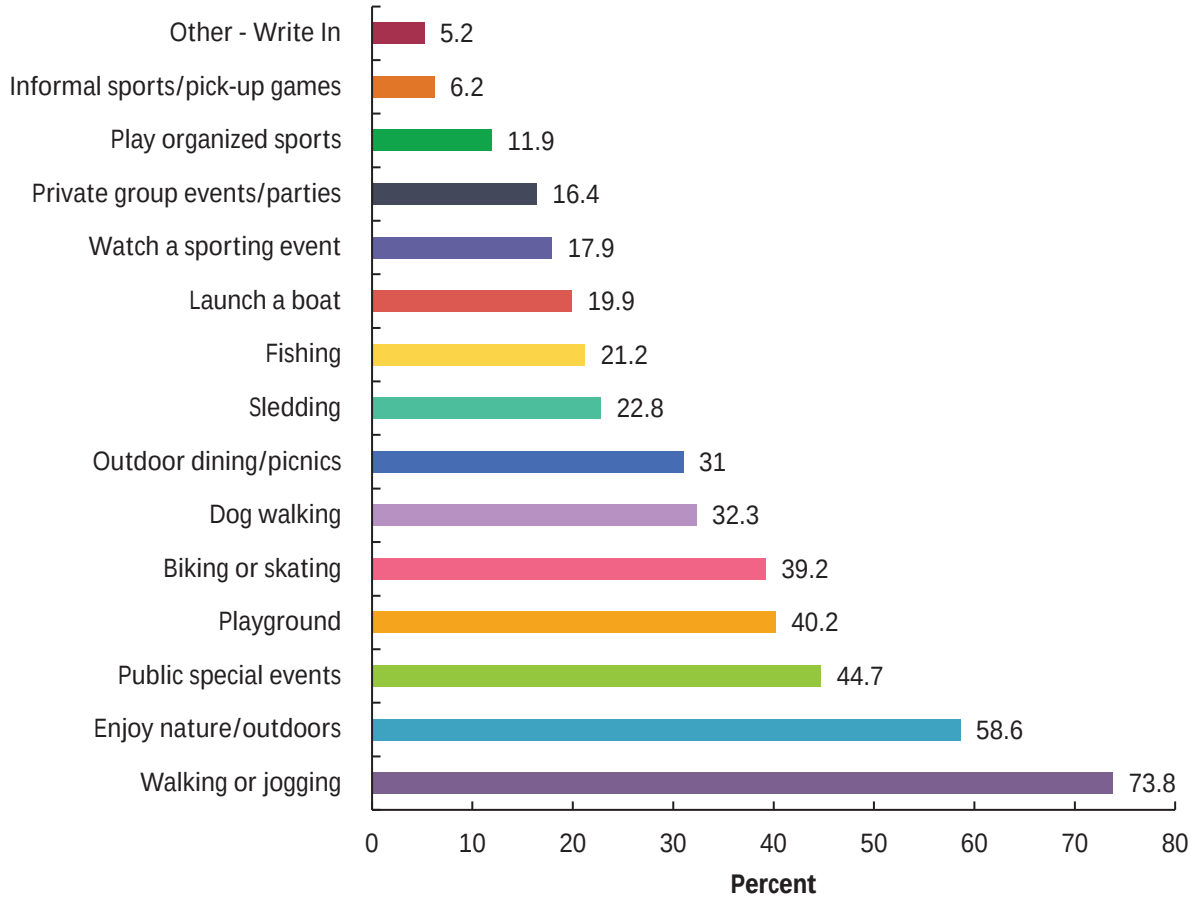
84. revise the disc golf course that became a closed facility when the county was supposed to buy the old Blizzard Hills to expand Pinconning Park. No expansion, no disc golf course. That was a real lose, lose transaction
85. sewer on sites
86. Showers and bathrooms by the beach , and more trails
87. Sign that says if non motorized watercraft (canoes, sups, kayaks) have to pay launch fee.
88. Someplace to camp with horse like farther uo north. Would like to camp with them closer to hone
89. Sometimes parking is filled to capacity. Handicap accessibility for kayakers and easier access to the water edge. This might be a good location for a spray park. The trails are great, extending them or adding more would be a good addition. This is a jewel in the community and it is very well managed. Thank you!
90. The beach is ok but it could use a cleaning.
91. The park is full most weekends and some times has to turn campers away. If there were more camping spaces, campers wouldn't need to be turned away.
92. The park is ok but I think it should be self supporting
93. The park keeps adding lots but doe's not up-grade power , I have burned up 3 air unit relays,2 furnaces relays, and now a coverter do to low voltages,per a repairman!This come's to about $1000----- Didn't have this problem till they started adding all the lots!! Also lost the food in the frigt. 2 !
94. The staff is amazing. The beach is now very nice. Make this a pet friendly beach
95. They are fabulous! So proud of our park!
96. they have camping cabins? always need plenty of clean bathrooms and showers.
97. They need a larger park and need to up date the stuff they have out there more trails that connect to one another and more viewing towers to over look the water when riding a bike the board walk it really nice to ride on the drit and sand are really hard to bike in may want to lokk into more boardwalk for the trails
98. This is fantastic that disc golf is open out there !
99. Time limit on what age camper should be allowed in there because it looks like a dump
100. To many mosquitoes to camp there
101. too many permanent residents
102. Use for kayaking....excellent clean spot!
103. Used to camp there years.ago with my kids, loved it. Drive thru there on occasion and.can't.believe it. People are.camping.on.top of each other. My niece.camped out there a few years ago and you could probably reach out from their window.and.touch the.camper next to them. They should not have permanent.campsiites. The best sites are taken up and it is not fair. It almost felt like a trailer park.
104. Very nice place! I don't know if it would cost to much but maybe a spray park over by the playground.
105. We love this gem
106. We've not camped there, but we do enjoy going to play in the water because it is great for little ones. However, there is always trash on the ground.
107. Why is it that a tax payer funded park charges a daily access fee? That seems fishy.
108. Wish there were more camping parks
109. Would be nice to have a viewing tower on the southern side of the beach
110. Would love to see them finish the course, i beleive they have the first 6 holes up already but really looking forward to the finished project
111. Your seasonal people are not real friendly and are off putting for others

BAY CITY PARKS

1. How many times have you visited a Bay City Park in the past year?



2. How do you use Bay City parks? Please choose all that apply.



OTHER – WRITE IN

1. Beach volleyball.
2. Build a disc golf course
3. car show
4. Concerts
5. concerts
6. Cookouts for holidays during the warm weather
7. Duck Watching
8. Enjoying the gardens. Pickleball Carrol Park
9. Feild throwing for practicing disc golf
10. Field practice for disc golf.
11. Fireworks
12. FIREWORKS
13. Geocaching
14. Geocaching and painted rocks
15. Hunting
16. I bring my own basket to play disc golf sometimes
17. I play live acoustic music
18. Just enjoying the ducks at Carroll park under the natural shade
19. Kayaking
20. Launch kayaks.
21. Little League
22. music festivals
23. Nonya
24. pickleball
25. picture taking
26. Play Pokemon Go!
27. Pokemon
28. pokemon
29. Pokemon Go
30. pokemon go
31. Practice disc golf
32. Practice throwing discs, if the park has enough space
33. Spray Park
34. Summertime City Events
35. thay need boat launch
36. Vet's Park/ Rail Trail
37. walk in the neighborhood
38. Walk through on my daily walk to/from work.
39. wednesday music and birney park car show this year
40. would like to see more than 1 place for pickleball
41. Yoga

3. Please evaluate the following aspects of the parks owned and operated by Bay City.

	Good	Ok	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Variety of Facilities/Amenities	37.4%	45.7%	11.2%	5.7%	944
Maintenance and Appearance	31.2%	47.4%	16.8%	4.7%	943
Safety and Security	27.6%	44.1%	19.4%	8.9%	942

4. Are the amenities at Bay City Parks open and available for use when you visit the parks?

Value	Percent
Yes	83.2%
No. Please explain.	16.8%

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN

1. Bathrooms locked
2. A lot of the playgrounds have broken equipment
3. Bathroom
4. Bathroom are dirty or locked or not available
5. Bathroom at the pavilion should be open at least during daylight hours.
6. Bathroom cloesde
7. Bathroom closed sometimes
8. Bathroom facilities aren't always
9. Bathrooms
10. Bathrooms
11. Bathrooms always locked or dont work.
12. Bathrooms are always closed
13. Bathrooms are an issue.
14. bathrooms are closed
15. Bathrooms are either locked or unusable due to cleanliness.
16. Bathrooms are few and far between
17. Bathrooms are not available in the winter, but we live in Michigan! We can't stop exercising in the winter☺
18. Bathrooms are either locked or unusable due to cleanliness.
19. Bathrooms are few and far between
20. Bathrooms are not available in the winter, but we live in Michigan! We can't stop exercising in the winter☺
21. Bathrooms are often closed
22. Bathrooms are often locked
23. Bathrooms are often locked and I have three small children
24. Bathrooms aren't available
25. Bathrooms at pavilion not always open

26. Bathrooms closed too often
27. Bathrooms locked. Public access blocked during for profit events.
28. Bathrooms might be locked or dirty
29. Bathrooms need more
30. Bathrooms need to be open in Wenonah park even when there are no events
31. Bathrooms need updates
32. Bathrooms not always open
33. Bathrooms not open in wenonah Park! Should never have built that stupid pavilion! Park is too small for that! It's water under the bridge, but those are my thoughts
34. bathrooms should be open daytimes in the summer months
35. Bathrooms take awhile to be opened in the spring.
36. bathrooms, only the outhouses are open
37. Better bathrooms
38. Better restrooms needed especially for those with urinary bladder medical problems.
39. Bring back the bathrooms to Wenona Park
40. Broken and hazardous equipment
41. Broken playground equipment at Nate Doan Park. It doesn't affect use, but the vandalism makes it unsightly and a bit less nice for kids to use.
42. Build a disc golf course
43. Closed bathrooms
44. Closing parks at 9:00 PM is too early, especially on the waterfront. Need to be open at least until 10:00 Pm and preferably 11:00 PM.
45. Depended o. The day if was an event yes. Otherwise I se not always.
46. depends
47. Downtown parks closed for pay events too often
48. During special events many of the park amenities are closed to the public unless you pay a fee.
49. I like to bike ride through Wenona Park and many times it is fenced off. Makes it hard to get through the park, also makes it hard when walking, sometimes the fences are all the way to the river, and across the riverwalk.
50. I like to jog along the river walk & through Wenonah Park. The bathrooms used to be open, but recently they haven't been. Also, it would be nice if there was a water fountain in Wenonah Park. There is one in the new pavilion, but the doors are locked. It would be nice to have one available in that area on hot days like we have had this summer. I believe there is only one working fountain along the river & it is next to the tennis courts in Vets Park.
51. I loathe that the downtown parks are closed for special events and that cover charges are requested for events like the fireworks, tall shops, etc.
52. In the off season the bathrooms are not open as well as in the evenings.
53. It depends, if special events can't use unless you pay.
54. Lack of restrooms
55. later evening hrs and weekend hours should be expanded for the working people and families
56. Many bathrooms are always locked or there are no restrooms at all. Many playgrounds are in disrepair
57. Many times, the bathrooms are not open for public use. Recently, I participated in the Special Olympics Torch Run. The person renting the warming house at vet's park said that someone was supposed to come and open the restrooms. That never happened, which was disappointing to see from our county.
58. More bathrooms
59. Need port-a-john in March
60. No bathrooms

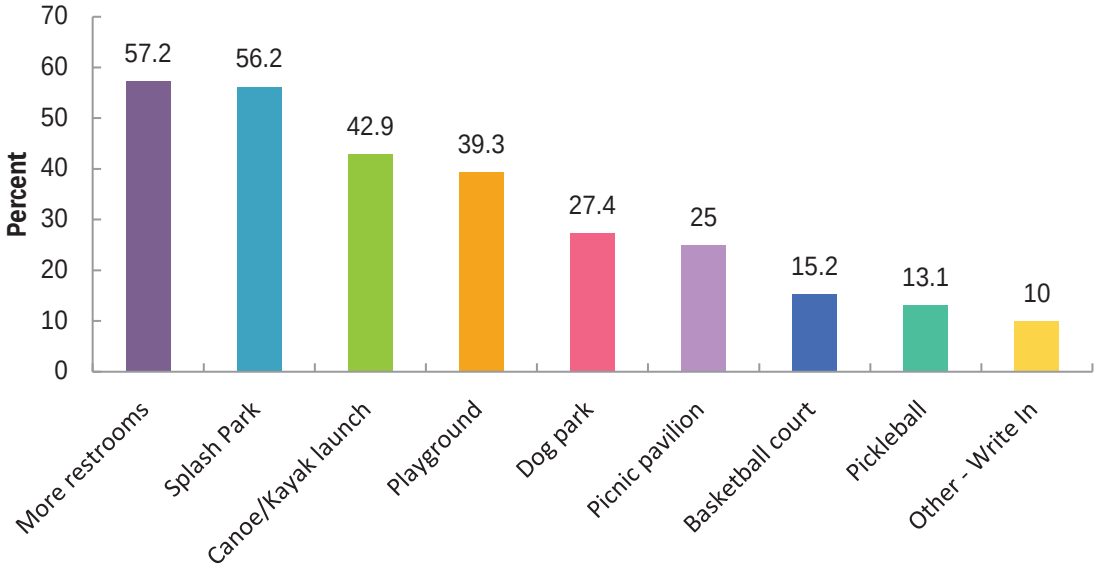
61. No bathrooms in Wenonah Park for fall/winter fishing
62. No fishing cleaning station that was paid for
63. no many are closed do to vandalism or disrepair
64. No picnic tables. They are gone. Have to rent them
65. normally locked
66. not always.
67. Not at night but understandable due to safety
68. Not enough picnic tables at Sovereign Field
69. Not enough restrooms anywhere
70. Not in the evening in the summer downtown.
71. Often bathrooms are locked. Other than that, yes.
72. Often, Bathrooms locked, drinking fountains don't work or don't exist
73. Oftentimes, restrooms are in unusable conditions.
74. Only 1 pavillion at Bigelow park and someone is always there. Can't sit down and eat with the family. Only port a pottie down there and they are horrible. Playground area has trash in it, we are always cleaning it up. Grass gets long before someone finally cuts it, then there are clumps of grass everywhere. Winona park is always closed during the summer, as a tax payer, that is appalling when we want to walk downtown and we get cut off. The cut out near the water is disgusting with green slime and debris and stinks, no bathrooms. Tired of trying to go to Vets Park or another park in the summer to find it blocked off for an event. As a taxpayer I want to be able to enjoy the parks that I help pay for too.
75. Picnic tables were removed from Sovereign Field during the last little league season and access gate was padlocked then fenced over preventing access to grassy areas in retaliation to efforts by the president to secure land that had been promised to the league previously.
76. Play area has been wrapped up in vets for 2 years also previous comment about the west bound vets bridge access is closed when not necessary put a gate up and have the police monitor the access
77. Playground equipment is often broken and sectioned off.
78. Playground in vets park has two slides that are barricaded/closed.
79. Poor
80. poor restrooms at vets park.
81. Porta-Johns are provided but the bathrooms are closed as people miss use the amenities.
82. Public restrooms and water closed in winter
83. Rest rooms closed
84. Restrooms are often closed and water fountains don't work.
85. restrooms are usually locked
86. Riverwalk shouldn't close at night!
87. Roosevelt Park is near my son's preschool. I took him a few weeks ago, unfamiliar with the area, and was dismayed to see if roped off and unfit for play. I understand money is tight and the neighborhood is maybe not what it once was. I do think though that the kids who live in the area should have a safe structure.
88. Seems like a lot of the playgrounds have broken equipment
89. Some are locked.
90. some are not
91. Some have no bathrooms
92. Some parks do no0t have bathrooms but those that do are always open and well maintained
93. Some playground equipment is in disrepair
94. Some times there aren't bathrooms with easy access because they are either locked or parks don't have bathroom available
95. sometimes bathrooms are locked during daylight hours

96. Sometimes restrooms are locked and drinking fountains do not work
97. Sometimes the water fountains aren't working, but that may be weather related?
98. sometimes the workers just plow the entrances shut in winter.
99. Special events
100. sponcered events
101. The bathrooms are always locked.
102. The bathrooms are normally closed at Wenona park.
103. The bathrooms at the new Wenona Park pavilion were locked.
104. The bathrooms at Wenona Park are not always open.
105. The bathrooms have been locked.
106. The brick bathroom building at Bigelow park should be available at all times instead of just the port a pottys being available especially during the fourth of July festivities and the other major holidays so that the handicapped people can use them instead of the port a pottys because some people can't use the porta pottys due to wheel chairs and walkers or the height of the toilets in the porta pottys and the fact that the porta pottys do not sit very steady.
107. The few times we have gone to vets park the bathroom is locked
108. The out house stink, and need better care, I don't feel that Bay City workers do a very good job on taking care of the parks, years ago we had beautiful parks, well cared for, not anymore
109. The Porta-Johns are always full, a mess and pretty much unusable.
110. The regular public bathrooms are always closed. And portable facilities are always over flowing with human waste and dirty
111. The rest rooms are dirty and would not want my children to use them.
112. There are currently no public restroom facilities in Wenonah Park except for unsightly port-a-potties.
113. They are often dirty
114. They not open late or open year around
115. toilets are usually locked
116. Toilets were very dirty.
117. too many commercial events in Wenonah Park
118. Usually evening. BThrooms closed
119. Usually the restrooms are closed.
120. Water fountains never work
121. Webinar park has been far less accessible since the new pavilion was built.
122. Wenona Park is Filthy
123. Wenonah and its restroom facilities seem to be closed off to private events frequently
124. Wenonah parks bathrooms are not open. Locked!!
125. West side memorial park is sad. Grass is not kept mowed. Tennis courts are just pathetic!! It is like the park that is the last to take care of!!! When I have called and complained I was told that Memorial park is renovation is not part of the "Master Plan"!! Really!!! SAD.....

5. Have you been able to reserve a pavilion in a BAY CITY park when you needed one?

	Percent
I haven't tried to reserve a pavilion in a Bay City Park.	86.3%
Yes, I have been able to reserve a pavilion.	9.6%
No, there was no availability for a pavilion when I needed one.	4.1%

6. What kind of amenities would you like to see added to Veterans Park in Bay City? Please choose all that apply.



OTHER – WRITE IN

1. A disc golf course
2. A playground that has things for all ages of kids
3. Actually maintain the softball fields. They are in need of dirt on the infields.
4. adult playground equipment
5. adult/teen fitness equipment
6. Amphitheater for concerts on west side.
7. Animal free zones
8. ANYTHING for children. There is a desperate need for an area for children at vets. It's so sad. Our favorite place is now one we dont go to
9. Better water and better Maintenance
10. Bike Police
11. Calisthenics & Strongman 😁😁😁😁😁😁😁
12. Carousel
13. clean restrooms do to the homeless using them for their storage. Also they hang out around there drinking around the palvillon during meal time that children would be there th families.

14. Clean up maintain cleanliness at existing pavilion
15. Cleaner. Graffiti and trash removal. Park st park
16. Climbing wall, special needs accessible playground, more physical family activities, more Children's physical activities. Outdoor ice skating rink again, and cement playing tables(just painted chess tables, need to bring your own chess pieces).
17. Concession stand open daily
18. Disc golf
19. Disc Golf
20. disc golf
21. Disc golf course
22. Disc golf.
23. Fishing Pier.
24. Fishing pond
25. Fix the tennis courts
26. Fix up the ball diamonds so we can host tournaments and bring in more visitors to the great city. Also use the community center as the hub for the park
27. fix what you already have. Why add more when you don't take care of what you have already
28. Frisbee golf
29. Get rid of the Porto potties and actually build and maintain real restrooms like other parks in other Cities. They are disgusting and very unappealing to visitors.
30. handicapped kayak launch
31. Hunting
32. I would also like to see officers patrolling on bikes or electric scooters. I have been verbally assaulted several times while running on the river walk, and very scared before, I think that could have been avoid if these type of people knew there was full time security.
33. ice skating rink, large one.
34. I've been thinking about Vets Park a lot. And I believe it should be developed. I think those baseball fields are a waste of riverfront property. Keep the park by Liberty Harbor, but those baseball fields are a waste.
35. large pavillion
36. lighted tennis courts
37. Maintain ball fields.
38. mini disc golf course
39. Mobility challenged access
40. More paved walking paths.
41. more trees
42. More trees!
43. More trees, more atmosphere benches things to read. You people need to investigate and watch and look at some of the other parks around the country and you think of some ideas some parks have a little spot that children can go and learn how to farm a little Prospect Garden where people can come and help Garden lots of different ideas are out there investigate people
44. NO ALCOCOL
45. None fix the bridge
46. None. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
47. Not clised off for pay events so often
48. only for my brother when he visits
49. Out door paddleball court
50. outdoor adult/teen fitness equipment

51. Outdoor fitness area
52. Outdoor hockey pavilion
53. playground equipment for kids and adults
54. pool
55. RC track
56. Regional Events: (Car Shows / Food Trucks / Concerts) need to get more people coming to Bay City !
57. Revamp ball fields by bridge.. it's a $$ maker for the City and the league's that play down there. Maintenance
58. Roller Hockey
59. Safer and easier accessible sledding area. Maybe something similar to the sledding park they have in Midland.
60. Security
61. Security and Maintenance
62. Skating rink
63. Skating rink, pavilion for bands, field hockey rinks,
64. Small children's games. There is nothing for the little ones to do in this town, Free
65. Sorry I don't know, don't have little kids anymore
66. Sports pavilion. Like what Auburn just put up off 9mile
67. tennis
68. Tennis Court
69. Tennis courts
70. TENNIS COURTS
71. Tennis Courts update
72. tobbagan/sled schute
73. vending at the launch
74. What's pickle ball
75. Zip lines

7. What one thing would you do to improve the BAY CITY Parks?

1. 1 the lunch programs during the summer aren't good. I expected to feed my child and they gave my 3 year old a salad. The woman working at the state park was extremely mean.
2. 1. Add community gardens/orchards. 2. Offer Yoga, Tai-Chi & Walks in the park - free drop in times. 3. Offer special days/events to encourage folks to go to parks: Picnic in the Park Sunday, Take a Hike Weekend, Yoga in the Afternoon, Pets in the Park Day, Senior Walks, Mommy & Me Mornings, etc.
3. 1st - rail trail maintenance 2nd - upgrade old structures
4. 36 hole Disc Golf Course
5. A lacrosse area would be nice somewhere. As would a roller hockey area like Midland has near Emerson Park.
6. A Splash park at Carroll Park. There is room and it would accessible
7. A splash park would be nice because the state park one is always packed because it's the only one in all of bay city! Also maybe a baby/toddler friendly pool would be nice!
8. Access to restaurants in the immediate area. Canton has a bar and restaurant right in the middle of their softball fields. They also drive a golf cart around and sell food beverages.
9. Add a disc golf course.
10. Add a splash park

11. Add bench seating near playgrounds for easy seating to watch grandchildren or your own kids..
12. Add disc golf.
13. Add flowers!!
14. Add flowers. Try to brighten them up kinda look gloomy
15. Add more activities for archers and shooters
16. Add more family friendly areas.
17. Add more lighting and security. The summer months are mainly when the parks get used and usually get used at night to escape the heat.
18. Add more nature parks like the city forest in midland
19. Add more picnic opportunities
20. Add more play equipment and events
21. Add more policing to the parks, a lot of the parks are trouble markers and vandalism going on. When we had more bike police riding around in the area we less issue with this.
22. Add more thing for kids to do,better play ground water park ,bathrooms
23. Add new playground equipment
24. Add restrooms to the parks that dont have one
25. Add security
26. Add twenty space campsite park on the Liberty harbor marina end of Veterans Park. Purchase the St. Hyathiths Church property in South End and make a baseball and soccer park.
27. Advertise so people know what is available to use at all the parks. Map of parks to residents.
28. Again plant trees and take care of them. Be able to take care of parks with adequate funding. Perhaps get someone to help with planting designs to allow effective maintenance
29. Allow bikes in the skatepark and fix the lights
30. Appearance/maintenance
31. Awareness - promote them more with the offerings they have.
32. Ban all animals
33. Ban smoking
34. Basketball courts
35. BATHROOMS
36. Bathrooms and security
37. Bathrooms maintained more then they ate now.
38. Bathrooms need to be clean and accessible.
39. Bathrooms need to be kept clean. The last time I tried to use the bathroom, there was stool smeared all over the walls. I am sure maintenance was as disgusted as I was. I have been afraid to try another bathroom in the park since.
40. Bball hoop maintenance need to be improved.
41. Better bathrooms
42. better beach waters
43. Better care of the equipment or at least updated equipment. Also equipment for children with disabilities, like special swings.
44. Better Grounds maitenance!
45. Better lawn maintence. Keep trash picked up.
46. Better maintenance
47. Better maintenance & upkeep
48. Better maintenance of the drinking fountains, especially the ones on the rail trail.
49. Better maintenance.

50. Better playgrounds
51. Better playgrounds for kids. Updated equipment and fenced.
52. Better restroom facilities ALL YEAR. (yes, even in the winter) And keep them clean.
53. Better restrooms
54. better upkeep
55. Better upkeep and repairs to existing playgrounds.
56. Better/More activities for young children
57. Boat Launch Area needs to be Kept Clean. More Restrooms
58. Bouncy castle rentals.
59. Bring a playground back to vets park!
60. Build another play scape for the younger kids.
61. Build disc golf course
62. Build disc golf courses
63. Cameras for security feeding into police n sheriff stations. More bathrooms with handicap accessible, including Amigos type chairs. Outside cameras monitoring vandals
64. camera's mounted to deter vandalism
65. Cameras- too many problems at them
66. Can we keep the geese from soiling the sidewalks? Deter them from an area or attract them to a certain area (away from the sidewalks).
67. Catch and prosecute vandals.
68. Clean all the goose poop
69. Clean duck/goose droppings off the sidewalks
70. Clean off the dirty drawings and graffiti.
71. Clean playgrounds and remove playground equipment that is no longer safe.
72. Clean porta johns are desperately needed.
73. Clean them up. Goose poop and boat launch as eell as the walk along the river are filthy and not well patroled by the police.
74. Clean Them!!
75. Clean up landscaping
76. Clean up the goose dropping off the sidewalk in vets. Lol
77. Clean up the goose poop on the rail trail along the river.
78. Clean up the trash. And I do when I see it.
79. Clean up the water!!!!!!!!!!!!! Find a way to clean up the Bay. It's a lofty ask, but, the water is so gross I itch after being in it. It smelled so horrible after kayaking that I couldn't get the smell out. It needs to be cleaned up.
80. Clean up trash people leave behind.
81. Clean up, maintenance
82. Clean water. More winter activities.
83. Clean, well-lit restroom facilities
84. CLEANER RESTROOMS OR PORT-A-JOHNS, WHICH SEEMS TO BE IMPOSSIBLE, AND NOT THE CITY PARK'S FAULT.
85. Cleaner Water and less mosquitoes and sand flees
86. Cleanliness
87. Cleanliness
88. Cleanliness and more security
89. Cleanliness of the restrooms/ Porta potty

90. Community clean ups, reaching out to schools, ISD, to support clean ups
91. Continue to add events like Hop Riot, Chalk walk, taste of downtown etc that bring visitors to our city
92. Create a baseball facility for travel sports.
93. Currently only skateboards are authorized use at the skate park, why not have foot scooters? Crazy ordinance.
94. Cut down over grown weeds and trees! Like in the park on river walk area, senior citizens in Riverwalk Meadows can't enjoy the view of the river, fireworks or Uptown across the river because of over grown trees! Keep rifraft out!
95. Decrease prices for renting. Might encourage more paid usage
96. Definitely playgrounds kids can use. After the imagination station closed we were promised another would be built. It's been a couple years and nothing. The other playground near Buey 18 is crumbling. These are great places to add equipment for the kids. We need more in Veterans park. I see a great need on the west side and it is definitely being neglected. Our family along with several others go for bike rides along the river at Veterans park and our kids have nowhere to play.
97. Disc golf
98. disc golf offered in EVERY Bay City park. It is very inexpensive and would only enhance and encourage the youth to get outdoors and enjoy
99. Disc golf!!!! You have no idea how much time and money I spend going to play disc golf because I can't play in my own town
100. Dog parks
101. Dog parks, bathrooms
102. Dog watering station
103. Doggie poop bags .
104. don't think you can. my brother lives in Austin tx and he does kayak - I cannot participate in much
105. Dont use them enough
106. electricity available for campers during fireworks
107. Enforce the ordinances and alcohol policies
108. Ensure that restroom facilities are open, maintained, and available for the public during day time hours and special events.
109. Ensure they are accessible to all.
110. Everything ball diamonds are a mess grass and trimming around fences at fields and bleachers are bad and restrooms
111. Fewer concerts at Wenona Park - too much noise this past summer!
112. Finish rail trail connections.
113. Fix and maintain playground equipment
114. Fix or remove playground equipment immediately after it breaks rather than roping it off.
115. Fix the slides
116. Fix the tennis courts.
117. Fix them Broadway playground is unsafe.im a grandmother of 9 we drive to Auburn or Midland because Bay City parks are not will maintain .I live across from the park on Dean to much teens an drugs going on there that park could us basketball court so the means would have something to do instead of damage the park maybe security cameras at that park would help live 9 years by the park.my grandkids can't play there because of daily Fighting an weed smoking .just to stress the parks need fix an updated especially Broadway
118. Flower beds community gardens
119. flushing toilets, changing tables for babys
120. focus on cleaning and loose trash.
121. General maintenance of equipment. Paint when necessary, and fix broken equipment

122. Get rid of graffiti on slides
123. Get rid of City Events Coordinator
124. Get rid of City Events Coordinator!!!
125. Get rid of the Parks Director.
126. Get the drunks that hang out at vets by the bridge they don't need to hang out there.
127. Good bathrooms
128. Grass cutting/ appearance
129. grrom them a little better
130. Handicap bathrooms
131. Handicapped swings
132. Have bikes/scooters available to rent
133. Have closure hours again at Carroll Park with the parking lots chained. Police presence to keep transients from sleeping under the pavilion.
134. Have late night hours the parks are closed and enforce them. This may help minimize destruction to park property.
135. have more offerings for families with young children
136. Have more planned and advertised activities
137. Help Little League add a field at Soveriegn Field
138. Hold more kids events
139. How about we put in a disc golf course since we turn down everything else like casinos and baseball teams.
140. I am a runner, and I use the river walk and surrounding areas several times a week. The outhouses need better upkeep. Thank you for plowing the trail in the winter!
141. I do miss the old Wenonah park layout, it used to be our favorite especially to river watch from....see boats.
142. I don't do to many of the parks unless my kids are playing sports there
143. I feel like several of the parks are on HORRIBLE condition. Broken slides, ect. They are very poorly maintained.
144. I feel that the areas to play for children are horribly maintained. Most of the playground equipment and tennis courts are an eyesore and/or broken.
145. I have been to larger cities with beautiful areas to walk. Flowers, easy accessible sidewalks.
146. I like to jog along the river walk & through Wenonah Park. The bathrooms used to be open, but recently they haven't been. Also, it would be nice if there was a water fountain in Wenonah Park. There is one in the new pavilion, but the doors are locked. It would be nice to have one available in that area on hot days like we have had this summer. I believe there is only one working fountain along the river & it is next to the tennis courts in Vets Park.
147. I think anything that goes on in Bay City parks or BC in general is monopolized by the people in this town who have money.
148. I think that someone should be tasked with spraying weeds and grass grow My up through the concrete/bricks at Wenonah Park. I also think that someone should power spray the cement by the river, when the water sits on it, it gets slippery and algae covered, it also gathers debris that tends to give off a foul odor. That must be off putting to visitors. Our downtown area is quite special, I would like it to appear more upkept than it does.
149. I think the kids got a raw deal with the ball field by Independince bridge taking away a field that they have used for years for a dump station.
150. I will never attend another concert at Wenonah Park because of the pot smoking allowed and the drunks stumbling over everything! I will not recommend concerts to anyone.
151. I wish they would put a new playground in where they tore down the imagination station. Lots of kids are there when parents are playing ball and no longer have anything to play on.

152. I would add more trails to run or walk on. I like seeing the views of nature. I think having a canoe or Kayak launch spot or even a spot to be able to rent canoes or kayaks would be awesome.
153. I would add recycling bins and plant more trees in Barron parks like vets.
154. I would focus on upkeep and safety, fixing things in a quick and proper fashion.
155. I would like to see existing play grounds updated and maintained better. Some of the parks, like the colorful one by the boat launch at Veterans Park, have broken dangerous slides. It has been that way for a while and was just recently blocked off. Also it would be nice to see some parks with astro turf to make them more handicap accessible.
156. I would love to see restrooms at all parks in Bay City.
157. I would make all equipment was up to date and maintained.
158. I would make sure there are an adequate number of drinking fountains and assure they work properly.
159. If it was feasable, security cameras.
160. If you don't have one, start a volunteer gardening/park improvement group/club.
161. Improve appearance. Add a track around some of the parks
162. Improve maintenance of existing structures and facilities.
163. Improve paved surfaces, lighting and security. Put up emergency push buttons and some security cameras.
164. improve security
165. Improve Tennis Courts!!
166. Improve the tennis courts
167. improve water quality
168. Increase maintenence capacity
169. Install cameras to keep people from destroying them.
170. Involve Appledore more
171. It seems as if the maintenance & upkeep has gone way down....in a way. I realize that vandalism & patron stupidity leads to some of this. I hope it improves... My kids in their mid to late teens still love the parks. As a fam we do frequent them. Disc golf is a fave, something that's not at parks in BAY CITY now
172. It would be nice (and a safety improvement) for railings to be installed on the Uptown side of the Riverwalk. And it would be really cool - but probably impossible - to connect both sides of the Riverwalk.
173. It would be wonderful if we could have activities for young children at a few different parks around the city like we had when I was young. They had older teenagers/college kids who organized crafts, sport teams etc. & kept us busy every weekday in the summer from 9:00am until 3:00 pm or so.
174. It's pretty good now
175. Just keep them up. Adding stuff is not going to improve the park when they are not taken care of current
176. Kayak
177. Keep green space
178. Keep out out of towners.
179. Keep rest rooms open in the winter
180. Keep the equipment up and security to protect playground equipment from being ruined.
181. Keep the softball fields
182. Keep the weeds down, like in the cracks of the sidewalks and such. Other towns look so neat and tidy and especially along our city STREETS.
183. Keep them clean!
184. keep them CLEANER
185. Keep them cleaner. Bring back more music
186. keep them looking new. Don't get behind on the maintenance.
187. Keep them repaired, clean, and friendly
188. Keep them well lit, nice and clean, and have activities that appeal to the community.

189. Keep them! More clean and safe restrooms
190. Keep up on making sure equipment is safe
191. Keep up on mantaince.the park on Broadway had broken parts for months some are still broken
192. Keep wond mill's away so you can't see them from tje parks.
193. Later access to the bathrooms
194. Lawn maintenance weeding playground areas
195. Let the Little Leagues have their parks that they personally maintain and quit trying to push baseball out!
196. Lighting improvements and clean up under the bridges. Removal or repair of deteriorating pavement in Vets Park. Stairs from Vets Bridge to the ballfields on the west side.
197. list is too long
198. Listing of the Bay City Parks
199. Litter pick up and/or a way of preventing/discouraging cigarette butts from being everywhere... it's gross.
200. Loitering of homeless and questionable people. We are not comfortable taking our kids to play when there are groups of people wearing filthy clothing, appearing unkept and smelling of urine, alcohol and body odors staring at us. We couldn't even get to the port a potty at our last visit because they would not allow us through.
201. Maintain grass, more restrooms, clean playground areas and stop blocking the entire park off for an event. Not everyone wants to go to the events, some people just want to walk through the park. Put events in a private arena or area
202. Maintain playground equipment. Always see stuff that's broken and unattended.
203. Maintain them (cleaned and fixtures repaired) and hold supervisors and employees responsible for this
204. Maintain them!
205. Maintain what there is. Fix the broken playground equipment.
206. Maintaining them
207. Maintenance
208. Maintenance
209. Maintenance and up keep. Paint where need, plant flowers, make the spaces look cared for like special attentions and detail were done.
210. Maintenance on playground structures.
211. maintenance on the playgrounds
212. Maintenance security and playgrounds
213. maintenance.
214. Make a disc golf course
215. Make a disc golf course or 2 somewhere.
216. Make a mandatory school program to teach kids that things that people throw on the ground will very likely make it to the water and what that means for the second largest body of fresh water in the world.
217. Make all of them more handicap accessible. And add regular bathrooms
218. Make improvements on equipment and add skate parks on East side.
219. Make it more accessible and useable for very large concerts and events.
220. Make it safe! There are nasty people doing drugs, vandalizing, and harrassing people. I have seen drug deals, homeless people sleeping, and teens trashing the parks.
221. Make playgrounds safe and functional. Almost all parks have play equipment that is broken. All need restrooms and garbage cans
222. Make safe playgrounds for kids
223. Make safety, soundness of structure, and cleanliness a priority.
224. Make sure availability/hours continues
225. Many of the donation and history displays appear damaged by sun and age.

226. Maybe have a clean up day , and plant some flowers or shrubs just make it look cleaner
227. MIntsin better playground facilities, including bathrooms
228. Modernize and keep more clean
229. Monitor the people who loiter for hours in the pavilion. It can be creepy and make the parks seem unsafe at times.
230. More access for bathrooms
231. More amenities , better overall maintenance
232. More benches for seating.
233. More bike paths
234. More color, art, ways to make each park stand out
235. More community gardens.
236. More cross country bike paths like at the middle grounds
237. More dog friendly, more lighting, better upkeep
238. more easy access fishing spots.
239. More events during summer
240. More inviting. Unique seating options. Cleaner bathrooms and more kid friendly.
241. More lighting at night
242. More lighting. Keep the boat launches free of debris.
243. More little kids safe play equipment...playground shade for when the slides are hot so no one gets burned
244. More marches
245. More parks, more maintence.
246. more pickleball courts
247. More playgrounds/swings
248. More playgroup equipment! Vets park is in desperate need
249. More police
250. More police patrol police presence
251. More police patrols
252. More police presence
253. More restrooms, more frequent maintenance of restrooms
254. More security especially at Veterans.
255. More sitting areas,.Maybe a canopy to sit under.
256. More special events. Start a Memorial Weekend Boat Parade along the river, with an evening 'parade of lights' - patriotic themed. Add local vendors, food courts, a small carnival section. It would be a nice kick off for summer. We had one in Norfolk, VA for Christmas, but too cold here. Some kind of Christmas in the Park events would be nice too.
257. More tennis courts
258. More trails
259. more trees, better maintenance of equipment.
260. More updating! Newer equipment, special needs accessibility, better facilities!
261. More upkeep
262. More variety of activites
263. More walking paths, art or item of interest, more bathrooms and better maintenance of the bathrooms. Wenona Park really needs to have the indoor bathrooms back open. I used them a lot and am missing them a lot this year.
264. Move those baseball fields to another location, or disk golf.
265. Mow the grass on a regular basis

266. New administration
267. new playground equipment
268. Nice play grounds, saftey features, swimming for pets and people.
269. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
270. No fee activity's or add rental equipment booths add more restrooms . When visitors dock boats they don't bring tennis equipment or sports equipment open a rental booth with balls horseshoes .cornhole . Things for family's to use for a hour for a small fee .. we lack family stuff . And things for young adults to do that's why our young people are leaving the area and raising their children in other towns and states ..
271. Not sure what can be done about the goose poop but it's awful sometimes! The play set (haven't been to in forever so I don't know if it's fixed) to be fixed or updated.
272. Nuke the geese.
273. Occasional security or something.
274. Offer security
275. Often grounds upkeep lacks
276. On going maintenance to ensure beauty and safety.
277. Open the Damn bathrooms!
278. Organized outdoor basketball leauges
279. Other cities have large fenced in play grounds. We need more than the one at state park for the size of our city.
280. Outdoor fitness equipment
281. Overall maintenance. Many parks are outdated or in disrepair. Many of the playgrounds are in poor shape and there is no plan to repair them. Mainly more funds need to be directed to upkeep as it was years ago.
282. Parking is an issue sometimes
283. Pavillion fees are too expensive. Parks need updating and maintenance
284. Perhaps a rock wall.
285. Plant new trees, maintain the green space
286. Playground
287. Playground equipment needs updating. Northeast needs the extra land promised to them. Bay city should think about the kids and not the stinky garbage.
288. Playgrounds are aged and need updating.
289. Please take care of the geese at Vets. They are a nuisance and the feces left behind is terrible. You can't even enjoy the landscape and view of the river when walking because you have to constantly look down and watch where you step.
290. pool,more camp sites
291. Promote the existence of the various parks and their amenities. They are beautiful and often go underutilized unless there are paid events. In promoting them you could also share dates when parts of parks will be closed due to paid events, etc.
292. Promotion / Awareness
293. Provide more access to the Saginaw Bay.
294. Put as much money into the parks on the West side of town as you do the east side.
295. Put concession stands in each park.
296. Put in an outdoor theater.
297. Rake beach daily
298. Real bathrooms instead of Porto potties. Something that wouldn't make out of towners think twice about visiting
299. redo paths, tennis courts, and play grounds
300. Refresh the landscaping

301. Replace broken equipment plant flowers
302. Restroom facilities and park appearances
303. Restrooms downtown. Wenona park is closed putting picnic tables back for people at other parks. Benches to sit on
304. Restrooms! Other than restrooms, you do a really good job at maintaining the parks.
305. Restrooms.
306. Safety
307. Safety. So many hoodlum looking youth - scares us and keeps us out of parks. The destruction that's been caused needs to be stopped. River walk - a major draw needs to be updated.
308. Safety...the parks are NOT maintained, equipment is in poor condition. Get a new parks manager that cares and wants to see things improve
309. Sections of the Rail Trail need to be repaved and landscaping needs some attention.
310. security in evening.
311. Security people making round and seeing about vandalism drug sales
312. Security personnel
313. Send out in a mailing what parks are available the their best features.
314. Sidewalk maintenance
315. SOFTBALL FIELDS!
316. some parks only have baby swings and alot of the time, they older kid swings are damaged or someone comes and wraps them over the top and they become unusable. Also restrooms at parks
317. Sometimes there are uncomfortable situations of too many homeless or vagrant people hanging out at the pavilion near boat launch...
318. Space for at least 9 disc golf holes would be amazing.
319. Speakers in Vets park so the free concert can be heard from the free concerts in Wenona Park. It's hard to maneuver with a disability and crowd in Wenona Park so we sit in Vets park to try & hear the concert.
320. Specialize parks: make unique features that make each park worth visiting/using as opposed to having several parks with run down playgrounds/unused tennis courts. Eg - Roosevelt Park could be a pickle ball destination, Hewitt Park a great toddler playground, Etc
321. Spend some time updating the playgrounds
322. Splash Pad to Carroll Park, functioning bathrooms in all city parks, especially at Wenona
323. Spray for bugs. They were pretty bad the last time we went
324. Spray park to take the stress off the state park
325. Staff them so someone is always responsible for monitoring, maintenance, general questions, and event programming (pop up food trucks, free popcorn, tennis ball purchases, etc...) specifically thinking about Carroll Park but others make sense for this too.
326. Strategic improvements according to consensus based plans that preserve greenspace and capitalize on natural features.
327. Take better care of what is already in the parks.
328. Take care of the little ponds.
329. Take the control out of the hands of the DDA. The new Avila office in Wenonah Park is tearing the community apart. Stop abusing the tax payers for the benefit of a few.
330. Tear down the pavilion in Wenonah Park. Rebuild the band shell, and fix the existing bathrooms.
331. Tear them down and put up a parking lot
332. Tennis and basketball courts. Go back to ice skating rinks in winter.
333. Tennis courts at vets need updating
334. Tennis courts updated
335. The appearance in some locations looks abandoned. Just a little attention could make it look better.

336. The bathrooms are terrible. The ones at Wanona never opened this summer. The one's in the new building appear to be only open during events.
337. The small play structure at vets park has had the slides boarded up for a very long time, unacceptable. You need to fix those AND put in a new playground in where the old imagination station was. Also, the playground at state park is in need of updating as well.
338. The tennis courts are a mess and we always need to wait for one of the "good" courts.
339. The trees and bushes need more trimming, some are over grown over the walkways and tables.
340. There needs to be better garbage clean up. The River is full of trash along vets park. There also needs to be enforcement of the leash laws for dogs in the parks. I frequently walk my dog in the parks, but too many times I've had to cut the walk short due to off leash dogs causing issues with my leashed dog.
341. There's goose feces all over vet's park sidewalks.
342. They all need playground equipment. Most of the parks I can't take my 16 month old granddaughter to play because they are all for older kids. Hardly any swings or slides anywhere. No jungle gyms, just not enough playground equipment for kids of all ages
343. They are fine the way they are
344. They need to be updated and cared for. I am a Parks supporter
345. Trash removal daily at park st park
346. Treat Memorial Park (westside) with the same pride, opportunity, creativity, and vision as the east side of Bay City. It is very obvious to most that it is not!! :-(
347. Up to date equipment and handicap friendly.
348. Update playgrounds and fix what needs to be fixed. Bathrooms have maintenance needs at times too that don't seem to be addressed.
349. Update take better care of them
350. Update the amenities we already have, such as the tennis courts at Vet's Park. Or add a playground back since the Imaginations Station had to be demolished.
351. Update the playgrounds!
352. Update what we have!
353. Updated playgrounds
354. Upgrade play equipment
355. Upgrade playgrounds and clean up existing playgrounds.
356. Upkeep on the playgrounds. Broken slides, broken playground equipment.
357. Veterans Park needs to be utilized better especially next to the marina.
358. Vets park baseball activity area - MOW all the area twice a week when grass is growing. Outside ball teams comments on poor conditions.
359. Vets park needs attention and amenities that would draw the public to it from many events and concerts and tennis courts, skating ribbon
360. watch out for the drug trafficking that goes on and the destruction that the kids are doing.
361. We go to the fire works every year. While the trees in Vets park are nice they have grown up so much you can't see the fireworks from near the old house. Especially the low displays. My wife and I have been going to the pier to watch it but it is getting crowded.
362. We need a fenced in playground with safe, new equipment
363. We need more things in this town for young people and their families to do. I've strive for many years to find a places too take my children when they were little and people are still doing it. If we have to leave our own community to find some kind of entertainment we're not going to have the money Revenue in our own town. The younger people with families and less income want things to do too, create something with everyone in mind.

364. Wenona park has sketchy people drinking in the pavilion almost every time we walk by it, which is often. Why are drinkers allowed to congregate there on a regular basis. I rarely see police or city authorities in the park.
365. Wenona Park is really a mess. The layout of the park has really been messed up with the addition of those blue roof buildings. In the past the layout was pleasing to the eye, it had a focal point, (the sculpture) and the bricks and steps provided a lovely green, uncrowded park. Can anything be done about that horrible blue roof building? It really looked so much better without it. Maintaining the parks is always an issue, broken bricks, weeds. etc. Maybe they will have to have the park redesigned, with the new structures in the picture. The original design has been ruined. Maybe they will have to remove the band shell.???
366. When something is removed replace it with something else. The parks keep shrinking and offer children less to play on.
367. Work on keeping them cleaner

8. Do you have any other comments regarding BAY CITY parks?

1. A few of our parks are in pretty bad areas and I've left a park when people and their kids were acting sketchy. I don't know if there is anything anyone can do about that geography unfortunately. We enjoy biking to different parks and letting the kids out to play.
2. A lot of graffiti.
3. A new playground with a splash pad would be great at Vet's park where the rainbow playground is.
4. Access to bay besides state park just to be able to enjoy the view
5. Actively engage the EPA & MDEQ to allow access to the Saginaw Bay. Clean the beaches
6. All are out dated boring for older kids
7. All in all we love our parks!
8. Allow taxpayers to enjoy them without blocking them with rude security guards.
9. Bay City needs to empower local CDCs through funding to maintain and upgrade all parks
10. Bay City parks are used a lot here. Many updates are needed to make these parks safe and more accessible to all residents.
11. Bay City parks nees some to. Nothing like when I was a kid. 30 yrs ago
12. Besides adding restrooms no
13. better grounds maintenance efforts
14. Better maintenance care. Grass cut. Playground upgrade needed.
15. Better playground and a splash park by the river would be nice. We do not get out to the one by the bay. It is a bit of a drive
16. Bring in more events in the parks such as a larger car show or firetruck muster like Frankenmuth does.
17. Broadway is unsafe there's a end on top that kids can walk an jump off there's nothing there to go on seems like part is total off .it's just sad that that park looks so run down my be a bathroom or bavillion be at that bark all of people use that park . I feel parks in Bay City compare to Saginaw Auburn an Midland don't come close to them the maintenance takes to long repairs take to long I'm a grandma of nine Foster mother of 15 .we're at parks all year long .but travel out of Bay City to have a decent park for the kids to play at
18. Build disc golf course
19. Carroll Park is a favorite....Also like the mini parks such as on Columbus.
20. Carroll park is a masterpiece, and it should not be touched unless updating the playground equipment in its current footprint.
21. Clean them up and make them safe
22. Clean them up more security at date don park on Dean teans daily smoking weed an fighting live next to the park for 9 years .shringes drugs teens with nothing to do
23. Continue to add resources (Money) to the development of Veterans and Wenonah Parks . . . make both sides of the river a viable location for regional and national events.
24. Could be cleaner

25. Did I mention the bathroom situation? My favorite two walks are from Bigelow to Kantzler and along the river in Wenona Park. Those parks are awesome!
26. Disc golf Disc golf Disc golf
27. Disc golf course would be nice
28. Do not expand hunting. Please make us feel safe. That decision was disturbing.
29. Do you need anything painted? Call PAINT WHERE IT AIN'T @ 989-252-6183 ask for Chris!
30. Do you really need alcohol to bring in money. I pay the same price to watch a concert and can't even watch it. If you ask Ken Promotions, all he says is "what's your problem"
31. Doing great usually. Love when they have music!
32. Don't ever reduce the size. Always make them bigger.
33. Find a lot of needles and such- it would be nice if the grounds were picked up better.
34. Fix the water fountains!
35. get rid of the wooden platform on the riverwalk next to the river. Paint is peeling off. it is ugly and not needed
36. Give the parks like Soverign Field more space and funding for the town's Little League programs.
37. Give the property to Northeast little league! Bay City does not a garbage empire! There feasible plan for them is not a safe option for kids. It stinks now down there and the flies are horrible! Very disappointed with the city manager commissioners and the head of parks and Recreation!
38. Hate the pavilion, should have repaired what was already on there like the band shell and other facilities, used to love to spend time in the park.
39. I appreciate having the river walk!
40. I can't believe the train tracks go right thru parks for kids baseball, it came thru when I was watching my nephew play & seemed dangerous.
41. I could be a beautiful place for kids to play if they would fix things.
42. I do enjoy walking in the parks and frequently go with my dogs. Except for goose poop which just happens. Always enjoy my walks. Would be nice to have few more natural obstacles throughout the parks to walk through like some woods etc. But again I could get that depending on park I went too.
43. I feel there has been A LOT of money & grants towards the parks. I wish someone would invest this much time and energy into saving our run down fair grounds.
44. I forgot to mention poor quality of tennis courts
45. I hate what the fools have done to Wenonah Park. I have no respect for city leaders. They need to tear the monstrosity down give Nickless their money back and admit their stupidity
46. i like the parks. use often for entertaining grandkids.
47. I miss the ducks at Carroll Park. Volunteer groups have to clean it up and paint the bridge and structures. That is nice, but I wish the park service made that a priority.
48. I realize the safty people are busy but when the parks are suppose to be closed that when it seem especially in the summer the kids start hanging out the after dark and that seems when the trouble really starts
49. I really enjoy the walking pathways
50. I think putting money into Wenonah park was a waste when township parks are suffering
51. I utilize the rail trail everyday around the south end of Bay City. The water fountain near the old Kulhman building hasn't worked right for several years and no one seems to check these because if they did they would realize it needs fixing. I can't speak of the others but I think this is something that should be checked out each year to make sure they are in good working order. What's the sense in having them if they don't work. I think we are very fortunate to have the rail trail to enjoy the beauty of our town.
52. Ice cream & snack pavilion would be nice
53. I'd love for roads such as Midland Rd (Bangor Township to Auburn) or StateParkDrive (Wilder to Bay City Recreation Area) to have sidewalks to get to them. It'd be so nice to leave my home and walk to a park without the concern of crazy drivers running me or my family over. Also, it would be awesome to have a path closer to the water and for the beach to be cleaned up from the farthest east end of the state park down to the removeable bridge and other clean up areas that were added (which I am very thankful for!!!!!!). There are so so many dead fish and birds tho....
54. If Roosevelt Park is one of them, it needs a major update to the playground equipment.
55. If they are not used regularly then close them and use the fund elsewhere.

56. If you're going to have city parks, you have to make sure they are safe and patrolled. I live near Birney Park and will not let my kids play there due to dirty drug needles, fights and drug deals occurring. In addition, the equipment is showing a lot of wear and tear and is not maintained, it's unsafe. It's a shame the kids in a neighborhood that is trying to turn itself around is unable to safely play in the local playgrounds
57. I'm thinking there is more funding available through grants.
58. IMPROVE THE SOFTBALL FIELDS.
59. It would be nice to focus more on fixing up existing parks so there are more nice neighborhood parks instead of focusing on building a new large park.
60. Its time we get a public Disc golf course in this county period.
61. I've already stated them elsewhere in the survey.
62. Keep the softball fields
63. keep them as parks, not Disneyland
64. Keep them rifraft free and free of graffiti!
65. lack of maintence
66. Lighting.....Our parks need lighting at night to help the police stop them from being hangouts.
67. Love bigalow
68. Maintain the parks we have.
69. Maintainance is embarrassing. Condition of tennis courts and pavilions other than the bran new one are generally disappointing. Investing and maintaining places where the community can be active and look forward to it, would positively impact the community. Huge cracks in courts, eroded surfaces, worn and weathered nets, etc. That is what bay city parks look like.
70. Make a disc golf course
71. Make sure the restroom are locked after the park closes to keep it looking nice.
72. Make this city workers do their job take care of these parks, maintenance, Have better security so our children can play there we never had to worry about a child years ago, when you had the ice rink, sledding, now you're going to bring marijuana into the picture where is her children going to go, to be safe from this drug, you go down any Main Street and there It is, going overboard don't you think.
73. Many of the playgrounds don't seem very safe for little kids (very cracked/broken slides, steep drop offs on playground due to broken safety rails or ladders). Some parks don't have restroom or porta potty access, or they are not regularly cleaned. I take my kids downtown very frequently to use the river walk and am SO thankful for the Wenona Park pavilion and restrooms. Total game changer for parents with small kids. It would be AWESOME to get even a small playground in downtown somewhere. Even just a swing set. Vets Park would be a great spot, too, since the playground that's just north of vets park should probably just be torn down (really not safe or fun for kids, a lot of vandalism). We are always at a park when weather allows, and we are so thankful for all the work you all are doing!
74. many parks, limited use and limited options for use except as green spaces, picnic spaces
75. Maybe the addition of police call boxes like campuses have
76. Maybe you already do this but if not it would be nice to try & get people from the neighborhood to have an annual clean up day at their neighborhood park. People would take an interest maybe & get to know some of their neighbors better.
77. More charging stations, water fountains
78. More concerts
79. More of them. We always go to the school's to play
80. More restrooms. It's hard to share our most valuable resources with kids, seniors, and visitors when they can not relieve themselves.
81. My family and I go to either island or Freeland multiple times a week 2 Disc Golf well out there we constantly clean and pick up trash as well it's good to teach the children to keep the environment clean and keeps them out of trouble I have a family of five and it's hard to take everyone to go do things are movies $100 dinners $100 you can go disc golf be one with nature for a few dollars it's all about bringing families together. But if it hasn't happened yet, we will never get one
82. My son's school is near Roosevelt Park. We use that park often and would like to see the playstructure fixed. If it has not already been repaired.
83. Need more trash cans and picnic tables with grills by them

84. Need new equipment / activities! Needs Big Time updating! Special-needs areas!
85. Need security cameras
86. Need to better taken care of
87. Need to keep things painted and clean. Flowers planted. Keeps crime away
88. New management!!!
89. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
90. No bike speeders on highly traveled river front rail trails
91. Not enough play stations.
92. Not mowed often enough
93. noticed poison ivy when walking across mowed area
94. Once again, just look at what Midland is doing, and do that. I can't even tell you how many times we have chose to drive to Midland rather than just walk down the street.
95. Only that Wenona Park is down town and it should be a jewel for the City. It needs some designers to redesign the park., maybe they could paint those blue things.
96. Only used riverfront and rail trail.
97. Open a concession stand by the sledding hill in the winter for sledders and ice fisherman. Hot drinks and a few food options.
98. Overall nice variety
99. Overall on par or in some cases better than most cities in the state I've lived in.
100. Overall you probably have to many parks to keep up with. Better to have less Parks and keep them in great shape.
101. Perform needed upkeep before more is built. Maintain any new amenities rather then build and forget about keeping up with repairs.
102. Play area for kids. Swings are tore. Playground needs mulch. Fix playground.
103. Please fix broken equipment.
104. Please improve the restroom facilities so that families with young children may eventually be able to fully utilize our park system.
105. Police, clean up, and update the parks.
106. Poorly managed. These are vital to a great community
107. Port a Johns are not bathrooms
108. Porta-Johns on the rail trail are very dirty.
109. Put up more play equipment. More benches for the elderly to enjoy the river. Clean up the goose poop more regularly
110. Quit building condo's! Before long there won't be much for access to the waters edge. Put the condo's somewhere else and leave access to the water front alone! How many do we need and why should they have exclusive use of the water front!!!!! With the amount of people that come to our events such as the 4th of July fireworks, things are getting pretty crowded down there.
111. Quit charging tax paying residents to enter during special events. We pay taxes to support n maintain, don't make us pay twice. Charge vendors more as they charge customers a lot.
112. Quit screwing Relay for Life.
113. Really need something that caters to toddlers like a Tony's Park, maybe a small zoo. We seem to go to Saginaw, and Deer Acres is no longer. Something like that.
114. REOPEN fish cleaning station at the Marina
115. Restrooms and drinking fountains are important.
116. Schedule food trucks at parks throughout the county, lunch and dinner. The vendors pay a small fee to help pay for trash and facility maintenance.
117. Some of the parks appear better maintained, more well lit, and generally in better order than others. It would be nice to see investment in all of the parks to bring them to a common standard.
118. Soveriegn Field should be turned over to NELL
119. Splash park would be Wonderful at Vets
120. Start giving schools free tickets each month to reward our young kids for good behavior.. like ice skating or roller skating or bowling. Summer Swimming passes Hook them on a sport or activities and they will spread

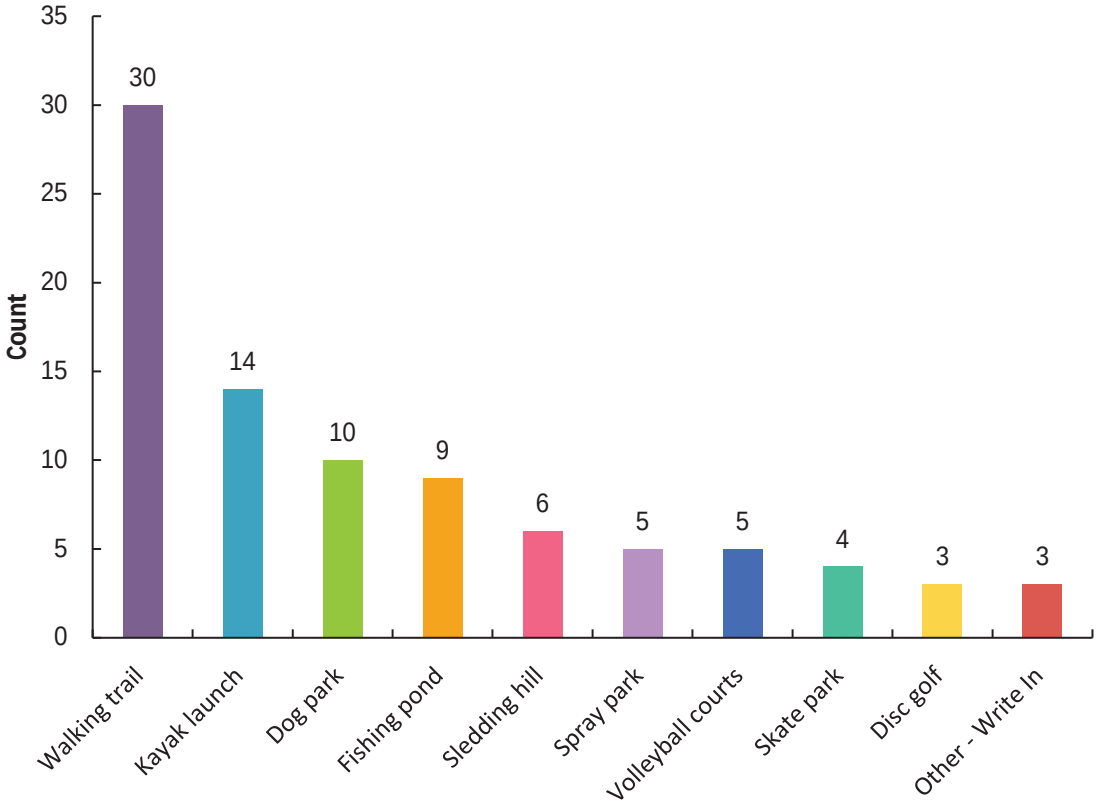
the word and bring friends. I believe that's why we have crime and drug problems . Kids and young adults have nothing to keep them busy they are bored .. hire these kids to work in the parks .

121. Start giving the west side of bay city (Vets Park) some love.
122. Take care of all parks
123. Thank you for the recreational opportunities currently offered, and thanks for asking for our input.
124. Thankful for our P&R. Keep it clean, need more winter activities. Nature is our best resource.
125. The amount of dog feces on the rail trail/riverwalk can sometimes be difficult to deal with. This is more of a comment towards the dog owners who neglect their duty to clean up than it is towards the city.
126. The city neglecting Roosevelt, DeFoe, and the Skate Prk is a shame
127. The City ruined a once-beautiful Wenonah Park by selling it to the highest bidder.
128. The Columbus Park is very Welcoming to the Business District. The new look is great.
129. The lighting of pathways
130. The most unpleasant part of our parks is the constant dodging of bird droppings. Golf courses have successfully kept geese away with the use of shepherding dogs.
131. The new pavilion in Wenona Park is an eye sore
132. The one's I visited seem well taking care of.
133. The Parks & Recreation department seems to be severely mismanaged, as evidenced by misinformation provided directly from "officials" and the way these situations have been handled.
134. The parks and recreation manager needs to find a new job and quit taking away from our youth.
135. The parks need to be kept clean and maintained. Trash containers need to be emptied an a regular basis and the containers need to look nice and fresh. Weeds and grass need to be tended to and in general the parks need to be in top shape at all times.
136. The pavilion in wenona park is awful.
137. The pavilion in Wenonah Park is a great asset, the up grading to Columbus Park is a great asset to the Business District. Both parks a kept in great shape.
138. The rail trail is in horrible condition. The softball fields need working lights. Maybe someone patrolling the parks? not police, but someone hired specifically for that?
139. The recent concerts at Wenonah Park promoted by Ken Shelton have been a pleasant addition to Bay County. Great acts, close to home at affordable prices.
140. The transfer station is stinky and is causing lots of flies at northeast. You should help build character for the kids by giving them more space to grow and not a garbage empire..shame on the city manager, commissioners, and the head of parks and recreation. Your feasible solution is not in the best interest of childrens safety. Wake up people!!!!
141. The vandalism is awful, maybe increased patrolling? All improvements and resources cost so much, I know asking for more patrolling and better maintenance is hard for our community to afford.
142. The west side of the city needs a big park for kids. Losing the imagination station took so much away from so many families
143. There are often a lot of homeless people walking around the boardwalk trails on both sides of the river
144. There are too many in neighborhoods that me and my family would never go because of safety and general poor appearance of park.
145. There's too many
146. These parks are public, special groups should not be allowed to close or charge entry to them.
147. They are one of Bay County's greatest assets. These are a must for our community. I am ok with not working to plant a lot of flowers and allowing Michigan's wild flowers and grasses to be grown in these areas.
148. they are perfect for me - just like state park - gives me a place to sit outside and just enjoy the day around me - even if I just watch people and birds
149. They are relatively well, maintained overall. They cannot restrict teenagers no matter how annoying they can be.... policies and policing meant to discourage their presence to appease retirees is unfortunate.
150. They are terrible. The playgrounds are falling apart
151. They need to have plenty of things for younger children not just adults
152. To many.
153. Update Riverwalk area - would be great if it made a complete circle encompassing both sides of the river.
154. Used to play tennis at park in Banks by firebarn. There hasn't been a net for at least 3 years

155. Vandalism has been a problem.
156. Very nice to walk your dog nicely maintained
157. We are building new tennis courts on east side yet the vets park tennis courts need repairing.
158. We need lots of green space-it allows people to interact. I appreciate the parks!
159. We need splash parks downtown for children and families. I'll
160. Well maintained and asset to Bay City & Bay County!
161. Wenona Park downtown has had enough money spent on it. Move on to other parks.
162. What is to be done about that big sand hill at Nate Doan park? its dangerous and an eyesore. We love the Community Center pool, although can only go there on the reduced pricing day due to our budget.
163. What they have done to wenonah Park should be a crime!!! The park is too small for what they want to do there!! Will never attend a function being held there!
164. When I was growing up here, we had several parks with playgrounds for kids. When I moved back here from Florida last year, I was sad to see that many playgrounds are gone, parks are completely empty. We do not have enough playgrounds here for kids. Parks where you can walk your kids, meet up with other families, etc. Bay City is really lacking in this Dept.
165. Why did they stop maintaining the ball fields at vets park.
166. Why don't you look into places like the metro parks. When I do anything with my kids, we leave bay city/county. Not much to offer us. I love the metroparks!
167. Would like to see events scheduled in other months other than summer months.
168. Would love a disc golf course. We have plenty of room with all of our parks
169. Would love to see more playgrounds/parks on the west side of the city. Something like Carroll Park with trees, pavilions, swings, and playscapes.
170. Yes bay city had grown quite a bit so we need bigger parks and more picnic tables.

KAWKAWLIN TOWNSHIP

1. What recreational facilities would you rate as most needed in Kawkawlin Township? Please check up to three responses.



OTHER – WRITE IN

1. Pickleball courts
2. Boat Launch

HAMPTON TOWNSHIP

1. Many of the amenities at Pondside Park (Jones Rd and Ridge Rd) are old and in disrepair. What should Hampton Township's priorities be for improvements at Pondside Park?

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not really needed	Responses
Repair and upgrade the tennis courts, including pickleball	29.4%	45.1%	25.5%	51
New playground equipment	58.0%	38.0%	4.0%	50
Upgrade the ball diamond	36.0%	48.0%	16.0%	50
Add basketball courts	24.0%	46.0%	30.0%	50
Add a soccer field	22.0%	46.0%	32.0%	50
Add a dog park	28.0%	32.0%	40.0%	50
Add a walking trail	50.0%	34.6%	15.4%	52
Add fitness stations	28.0%	32.0%	40.0%	50

2. Are there other improvements that should be considered for Pondside Park?

1. Anything to entertain kids! Is there anything more we can do with the hill? Sledding Hill or toboggan
2. Better restrooms out house alful
3. Bring back sledding. Lights.
4. Clean restroom
5. Continue to keep the nets repaired on the tennis courts
6. It has been a while since I've used the restrooms there but I think they were not in good condition.
7. Picnic area and pavilion. Perhaps rail trail spur to attract additional visitors.
8. Remove tennis courts
9. Restroom upgrade
10. Restrooms
11. Restrooms! They're unusable, which prevents our community from accessing this wonderful resource.
12. Splash Park
13. The bathrooms are almost none existed.
14. This park should either be completely overhauled or just sold off and the money put towards Finn road park.
15. Update bathrooms in both parks
16. Walking trail would be nice
17. walking track

3. What improvements would you like to see at the Finn Road Park and Campground?

1. Access to the Bay for Kayaking and paddle boarding via a walking trail to the bay instead of having to leave from the boat launch
2. Bathrooms
3. Clean the parking area to make more space for parking
4. Expand the park for more recreational actives and add a kayak/canoe launch.
5. Fishing decks along side the canal
6. Keep it cleaner
7. Made bigger if able to
8. More campsites
9. More trails and bathrooms - lookout for the bay. Kids playground
10. Never used it. Walk the trail though and like that although do not like hunting in a walking trail!
11. Open access to play ground for township residents
12. People use it, Raise their rates and make it prettier, better lighting, bath house, bathroom, play ground equipment, maybe a basketball court, use the raised rates to do this, make it family friendly
13. The trial out to the bayneeds attention.
14. This is an amazing park! They've made many wonderful improvements. I use this park all the time and am satisfied with it.

4. What improvements would you like to see at Wood's Park, also known as the Bay-Hampton Rail Trail at Young's Ditch Road?

1. Add more amenities to it
2. Bathroom and lights
3. Better restrooms, lighting, more playgrounds equipment, this is a good place to walk, but you have no reason to stop or stay there, nothing for children to do, family friendly at all parks.
4. It's adequate.
5. Permanent restroom, water bottle fill station. Use as a rest stop for those circumnavigating the entire trail loop.
6. Play ground equipment
7. Remove bridge and just put in concrete sidewalk.
8. The park could be expanded to be more like a park. It's more like a parking lot for a tail head then a park. Their is a large piece of land next to the park that could be used to make many new recreational opportunities.

5. What improvements would you like to see at Ridge Road Park (between Pine Road and Scheurmann Road)?

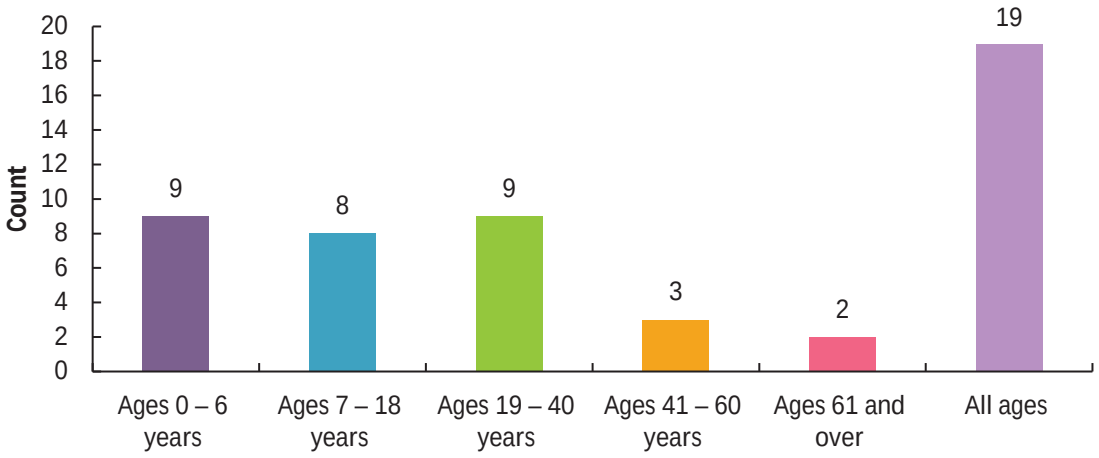
1. Allow dogs for leashes walking.
2. Better playground
3. Didn't even know this park existed. Maybe better signage?
4. Don't use that park but would if I knew more about it
5. Improved restrooms.
6. Improvement to the ball field. Clean restroom
7. It's adequate.

8. More family friendly you spend all this money for adults but nothing for children protection, add cameras to protect our parks, parks are suppose to be family friendly when did it change.
9. New equipment
10. Newer bathrooms. Newer playground equipment. Utilize ballfield in back. Maybe bring back ice skating rink.
11. Update and add things to it
12. Update playground equipment.
13. Update playground.
14. Updated playground equipment, restrooms
15. update playground equipment - same equipment since the 1980's

6. What types of activities would you like to see added to our Hampton Township parks for seniors and active older adults?

1. Better lighting, more benches on trails, people are old need to rest more, and better security.
2. More organized activities
3. More walkways with exercise stations
4. Paved walking trails
5. Program to help in mobility and quality of life.
6. The trails are very important to seniors. Keep clean and safe.
7. Walking paths,
8. easy access to walking paths
9. walking trails

7. What age group do you think benefits most from our parks?



BEAVER TOWNSHIP

1. How should Beaver Township prioritize parks and recreation initiatives in the future?

	High Priority	Priority	Low Priority	Not Necessary	Responses
Enhance programs and special events	18.5%	48.1%	29.6%	3.7%	27
Upgrade and expand facilities at existing Township Park	29.6%	44.4%	18.5%	7.4%	27
Add recreational amenities at the Township Hall property	40.7%	22.2%	33.3%	3.7%	27
Acquire new park land	14.3%	35.7%	28.6%	21.4%	28
Developing trails	29.6%	48.1%	18.5%	3.7%	27
Protecting natural resources	37.0%	48.1%	11.1%	3.7%	27
Achieving a balance of all of the above	34.6%	46.2%	15.4%	3.8%	26

OTHER – FILL IN - HIGH PRIORITY

1. Dig a pond
2. Relocate to a safer areA
3. Splash pad at the fire department
4. Update current park on Seidlers rd by clearing trees

2. When do you think the following facilities should be established or expanded in Beaver Township?

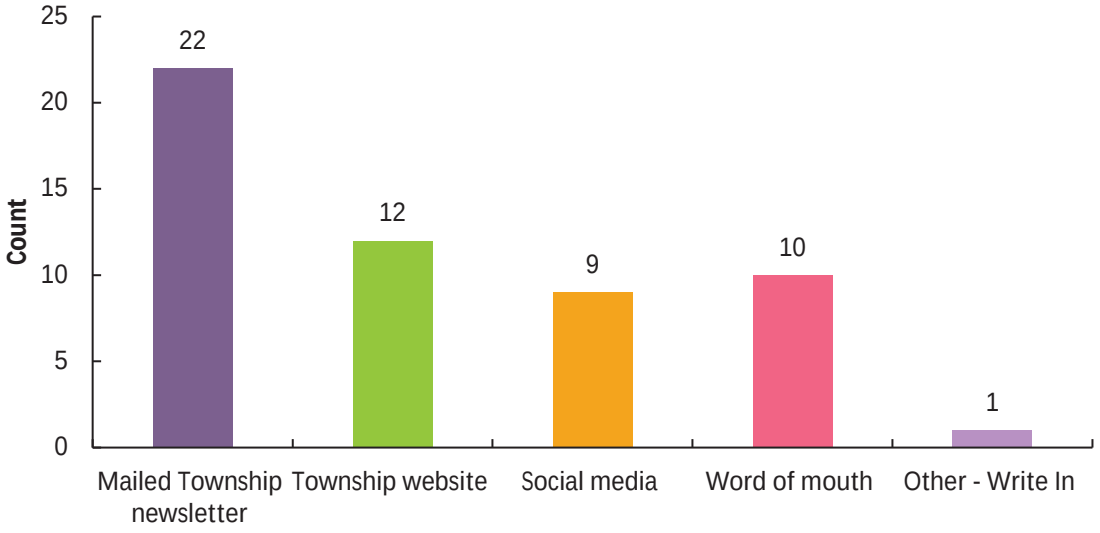
	As soon as Possible	In 5 to 10 years	Not needed	Responses
	Row %	Row %	Row %	Count
Walking paths	61.5%	34.6%	3.8%	26
Bike Paths	42.3%	53.8%	3.8%	26
Natural Areas	38.5%	38.5%	23.1%	26
Shade/trees	32.0%	36.0%	32.0%	25
Picnic Pavilion	26.9%	42.3%	30.8%	26
Playground	26.9%	46.2%	26.9%	26
Outdoor Ice Rink	11.5%	19.2%	69.2%	26
Small splash pad	11.5%	26.9%	61.5%	26

Comfort Facilities: restroom, benches, etc.	42.3%	42.3%	15.4%	26
Parking Areas	32.0%	36.0%	32.0%	25

OTHER – FILL IN - AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

1. Clear trees and brush blocking road and view
2. Electricity
3. Splash Pad

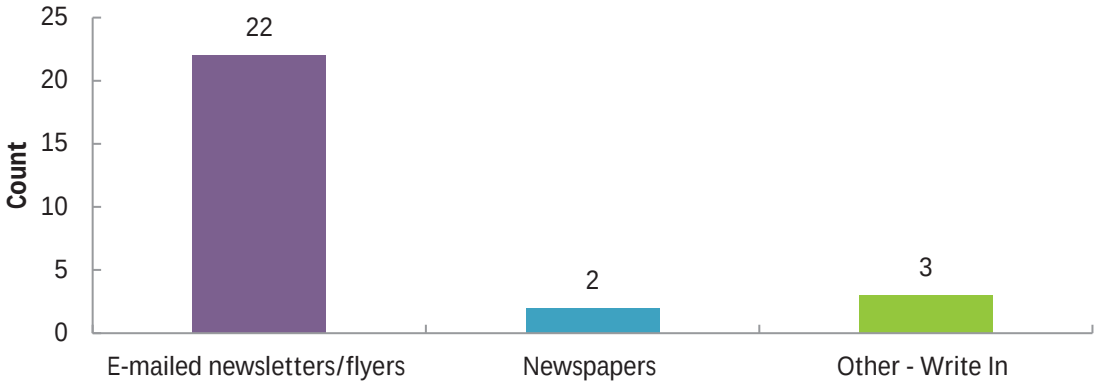
3. What is your CURRENT method of getting information about Beaver Township's recreation opportunities. Check all that apply.



OTHER - WRITE IN

I've never heard of anything happening in my Township besides the possibility of wind turbines

4.When learning about the Township's recreation opportunities, which of the following communication methods would you use if they were available? Check all that apply.



OTHER - WRITE IN

Facebook events

Social media

The billboard in front of the twp Hall

5. What one thing would you do to improve Beaver Township parks and recreation?

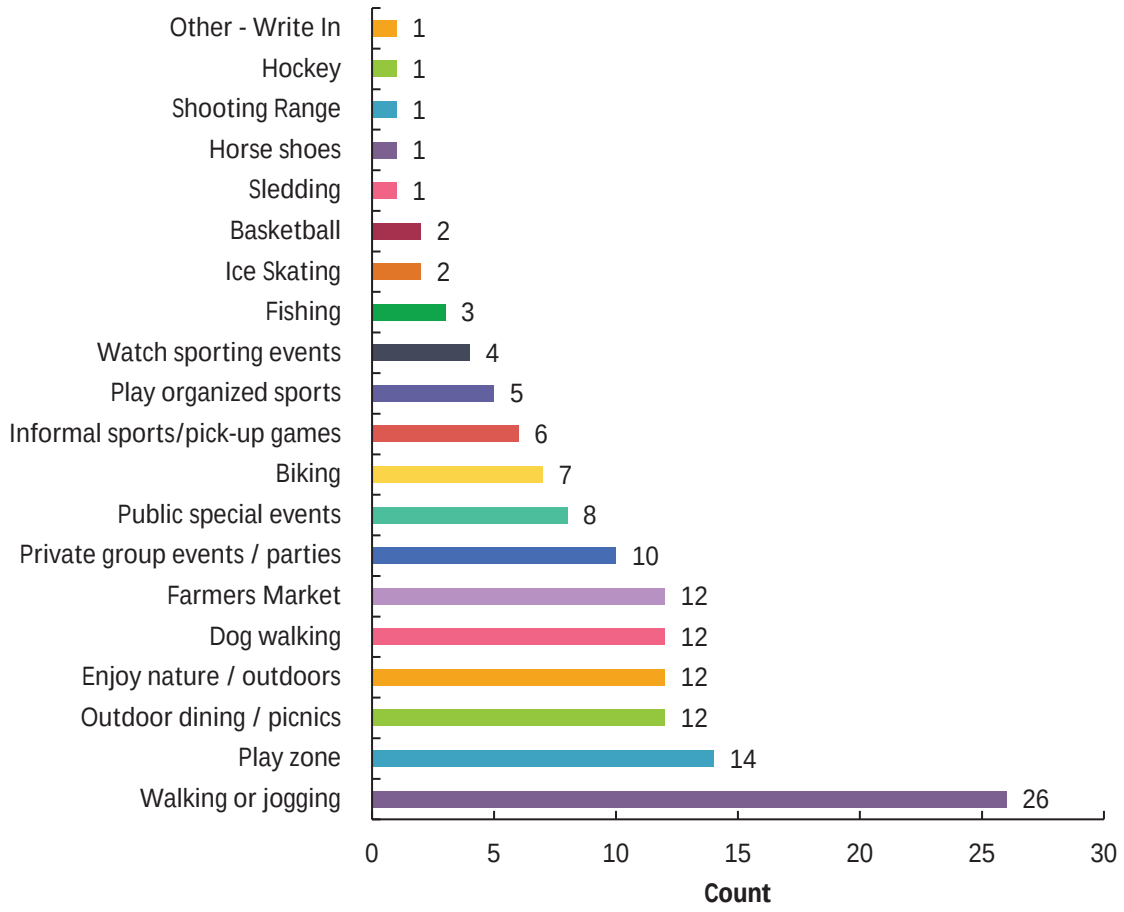
1. Add parks/rec facilities to the Township Hall.
2. Electricity would increase the number of times i rent the pavilion. Wasp/bee/mosquito control would be a big bonus as well.
3. I believe bike paths to the various bay county parks would bring in a lot of people. Having a way to excercise would be great. There's nothing convenient for our residents to do. If we want to join a gym it is easily a 20 minute drive anywhere.
4. I would move it to a safer location. It is in a secluded area. I would not feel safe going there alone or with children. It should be in a higher traffic area.
5. Just keep improving. Great job so far.
6. More board member involvement. I've never seen the treasurer or the fire chief at any park event. It portrays a disintrest in the well being of the community.
7. Please Fix fence in back of park and relocate nature trail so it goes some were else then to our private land behind the park. The trail was there because or all the unwanted trespass could get to our land and go fishing to catch the fish that we buy and plant there. Then the township made it a nicer trail that leads them right to our land. We catch some of the park visitors often. We have had someone stealing from, but they could come from other areas around our land. We pay our taxes you would not want people in your back yard. We have had this land over 50 years.
8. Possibly excavate a pond
9. Spend time expanding play facilities toward all ages, increase amenities at Township Hall for those of us who are uncomfortable with using the park, and hold more events geared toward whole families rather than just the children. Car shows, cornhole/horseshoe tournaments, etc.
10. The land between the park and the road is too grownup and needs to be cleared. The park is too secluded and appears unsafe. The seclusion promotes bad behavior and highlights the possibility of someone getting attacked. We are very excited about the Beaver Twp. park but will wait for the south brush to be cleared before using it.
11. We love the small park in Beaver township, but would love to see some walking or bike trails as well. It's not safe to ride our bikes on the country roads.

CITY OF AUBURN

1. What is your level of familiarity with the following parks owned by the City of Auburn?

	Have visited this park	Aware of the park but have never been there	Didn't know this park existed	Responses
Auburn Community Park at Jaycee Drive next to US-10	97.0%	3.0%	0%	33
Auburn Recreation Park on Auburn Rd. north of the RR tracks (also known as the Dog Park)	66.7%	27.3%	6.1%	33
Auburn Shooting Range - north of Auburn on the east side of Nine Mile before Wheeler Rd.	15.2%	60.6%	24.2%	33

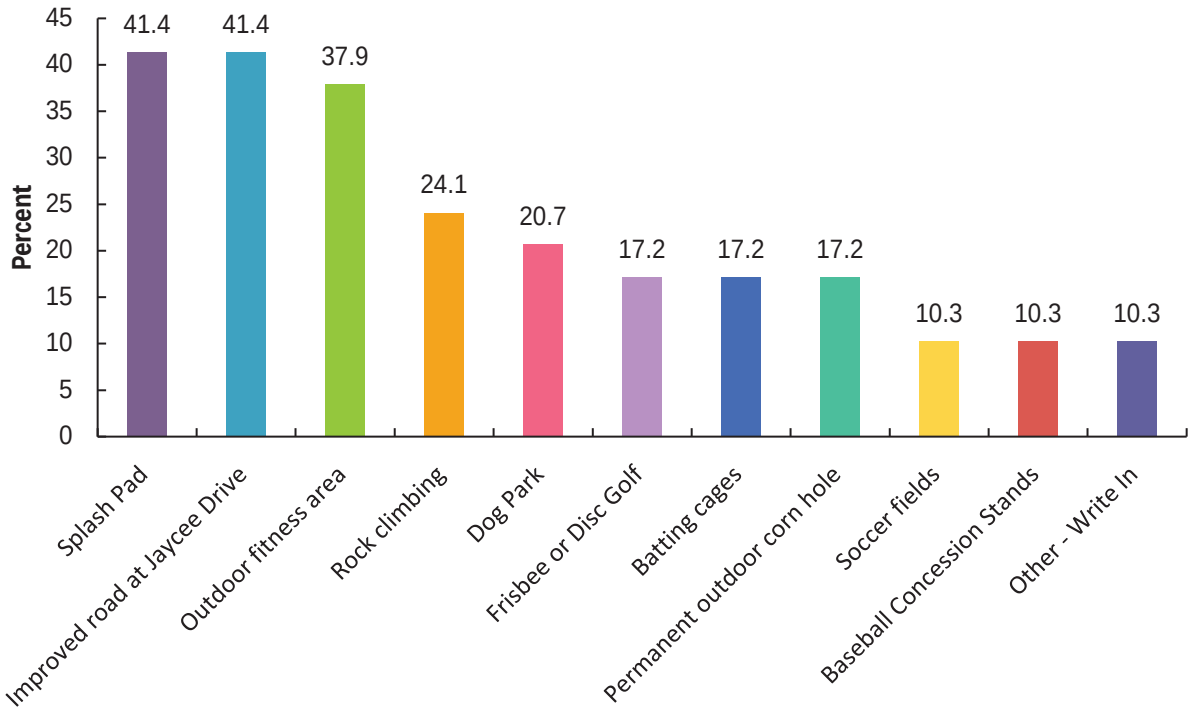
2. How do you use Auburn City Parks? Please check all that apply.



OTHER

Farmers Market

3. What amenities would you like to see added to the Auburn parks? Please check all that apply.



OTHER

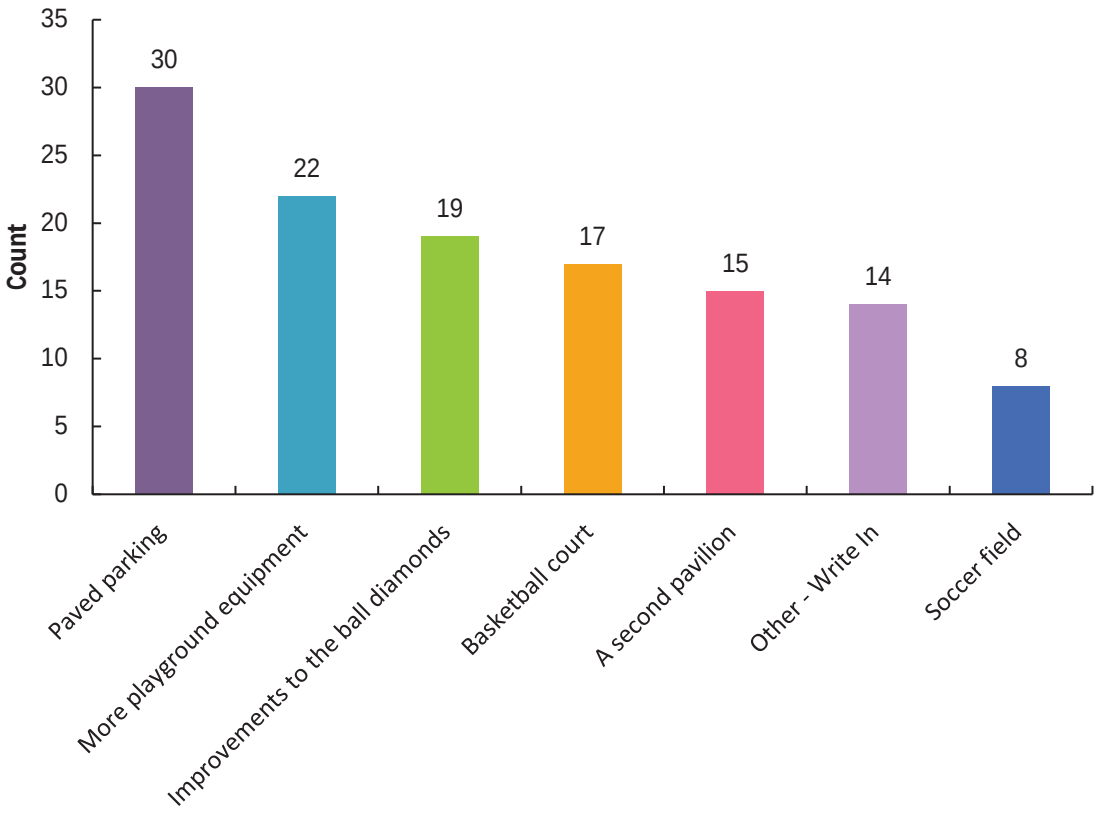
- Improvements to Dirt Drag grandstands and a permanent fence with guardrail in front of the stands like the bay county fairgrounds has. And a permanent or portable announcer's booth.
- Pave the road
- what about a bike park, bmx, or offroad mountain biking

4. How would you rate the general upkeep and maintenance of the parks owned by the City of Auburn?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Community Park (Jaycee Drive)	15.2%	60.6%	12.1%	6.1%	6.1%	33
Recreation Park (also known as the Dog Park)	3.0%	39.4%	18.2%	3.0%	36.4%	33
Shooting Range	% 0	15.2%	6.1%	% 0	78.8%	33

MONITOR TOWNSHIP

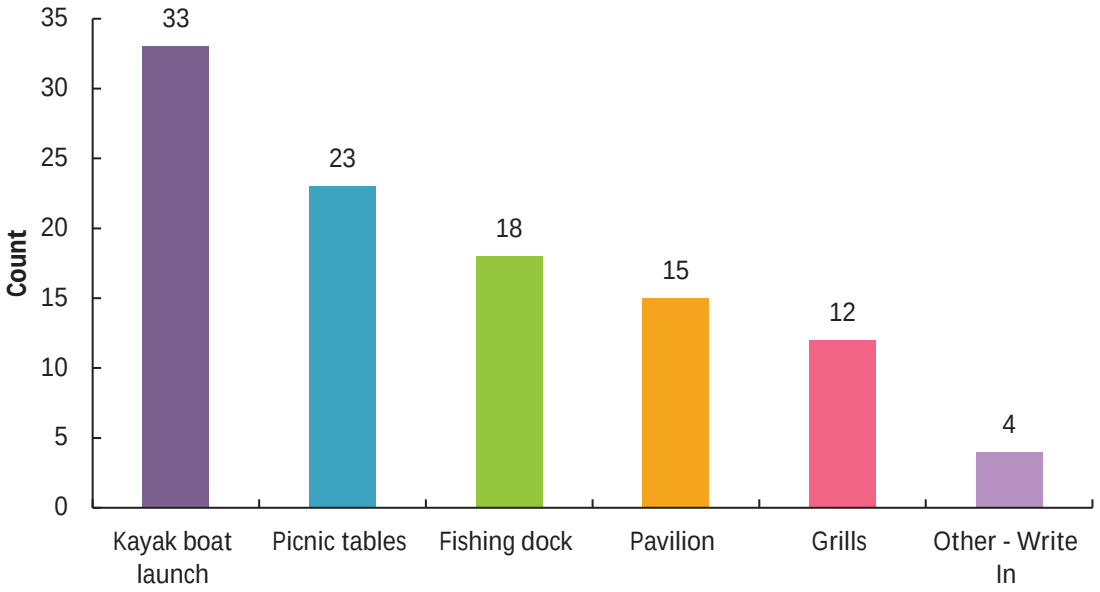
1. What improvements would you like to see added at the Monitor Township Park? Please check all that apply.



OTHER

1. All season pavilion with ice in winter.
2. Better restrooms, lacrosse field
3. Clean volley ball court, clean horse shoe pits fill in holes where children play. Second coat of paint on restroom s. Fix and clean pavilion.
4. Designed area for un-leashed dog play.
5. Disc Golf course
6. Fenced in dog run
7. Fitness stations
8. For them to finally finish whatever construction has been going on. Needs cleaning!
9. Improved maintenance of existing facilities.
10. Lighted walking paths, paved parking
11. More equipment for older kids since all of it was removed.
12. No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
13. Outdoor hockey pavillion
14. tennis

2. What improvements would you like to see added at Steih Park on the Kawkawlin River? Please check all that apply.



OTHER

- Another trash can maybe slobs will quit throwing their stuff on the ground
- No activities should be paid for by tax funds.
- Restroom
- bathroom, playground

3. Please rate the following aspects of Monitor Township Park.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and appearance	22.6%	40.3%	16.1%	6.5%	14.5%	62
Handicap accessibility	15.9%	30.2%	9.5%	1.6%	42.9%	63

4. Please rate the following aspects of Steih Park.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	Responses
Maintenance and appearance	11.3%	25.8%	8.1%	4.8%	50.0%	62
Handicap accessibility	11.1%	12.7%	7.9%	3.2%	65.1%	63

Appendix C – Sources of Funding

SOURCES OF RECREATION GRANT FUNDING IN MICHIGAN

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

- Match requirement – minimum of 25%
- Development grants
  - Minimum Grant Request $15,000
  - Maximum Grant Request $300,000
- Acquisition grants
  - No minimum or maximum
- Goals of MNRTF Board
  - Resource Protection
  - Water Access
  - Community Recreation
  - Urban Recreation
  - Economic Development
- Due annually on April 1
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- Administered by MNRTF
- 50% match required
- Minimum grant request $30,000 ($60,000 project total)
- Maximum grant request $150,000 ($300,000 project total)
- Funds a wide variety of outdoor recreation projects
- Applications due annually on April 1
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Michigan Recreation Passport Grant

- Administered by MNRTF
- Focus is on improving and renovating existing parks
- Minimum Grant Request - $7,500, Maximum $150,000
- Applications due on April 1
- For outdoor *and indoor* recreation projects
- www.michigan.gov/dnr

Michigan Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program

- For non-motorized transportation (paths) and rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (bridges, railroad depot, etc.)
- 20% minimum match required, 40% recommended
- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, and villages. Other organizations may *sponsor* applications (i.e. County Road Commission or local MDOT office sponsors a township application)
- Rolling on-line application process
- www.michigan.gov/mdot Go to “Projects and Programs”.

Great Lakes Fisheries Trust (GLFT)

- Objective – improve or create shore-based Great Lakes recreational access.
- Must be located on the Great lakes or lower portions of major tributaries
- Matching funds not required but projects with local funding will be favored.
- Relatively simple application form and requirements.
- Due dates vary.
- www.glft.org

Michigan Coastal Management Grants

Objectives

- Protect, manage and restore coastal communities and habitats
- Restore historic structures
- Revitalize urban waterfronts
- Increase recreational opportunities along Michigan's Great Lakes coast

- Applicant must be a coastal unit of government
- Maximium grant request - $100,000
- Match requirements – 50% (some flexibility in match for non-construction projects that result in changes to local master plans or zoning ordinances, regional greenways, or include conservation planning)
- Eligible projects
    - Studies, Designs and Land Use Plans – must have a direct connection to coastal planning and/or resource protection.
    - Construction – boardwalks, trails, lighthouse preservation, habitat restoration, scenic overlook, etc.
- www.michigan.gov/ogl

Other grant programs to consider:

Coastal Program – Great Lakes – US Fish and Wildlife Service

- Grants to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats and to support healthy coastal ecosystems
- Rolling application process
- www.fws.gov/midwest/greatlakes/apply.htm

Specific sports and sports foundations

- United States Tennis Association (USTA)
  - funding for tennis courts and programs
  - www.usta.com
- Major League Baseball
  - Baseball Tomorrow Fund
  - www.baseballtomorrow.com
- United States Soccer
  - www.ussoccerfoundation.org

Safe Routes to School

- For projects near elementary and middle schools:
  - Sidewalks
  - Traffic calming and speed reduction
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements
  - On-street and off-street bicycle facilities
  - Off-street pedestrian facilities
  - Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools
- Need to complete the safe routes planning process to apply
- www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Trust for Public Land (TPL)

- Conservation Transactions
  TPL helps structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks, playgrounds, and protected natural areas. TPL serves as an independent agent, buying land from willing landowners and then transferring it to public agencies, land trusts, or other groups for protection. In some instances, TPL will protect land through conservation easements, which restrict development but permit traditional uses such as farming and ranching.
- www.tpl.org

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants

- Must be part of a watershed management plan
- Projects aimed at reducing nonpoint source pollution (streambank and shoreline stabilization, rain gardens, erosion control, conservation easements)
- 25% match required
- www.michigan.gov/deq

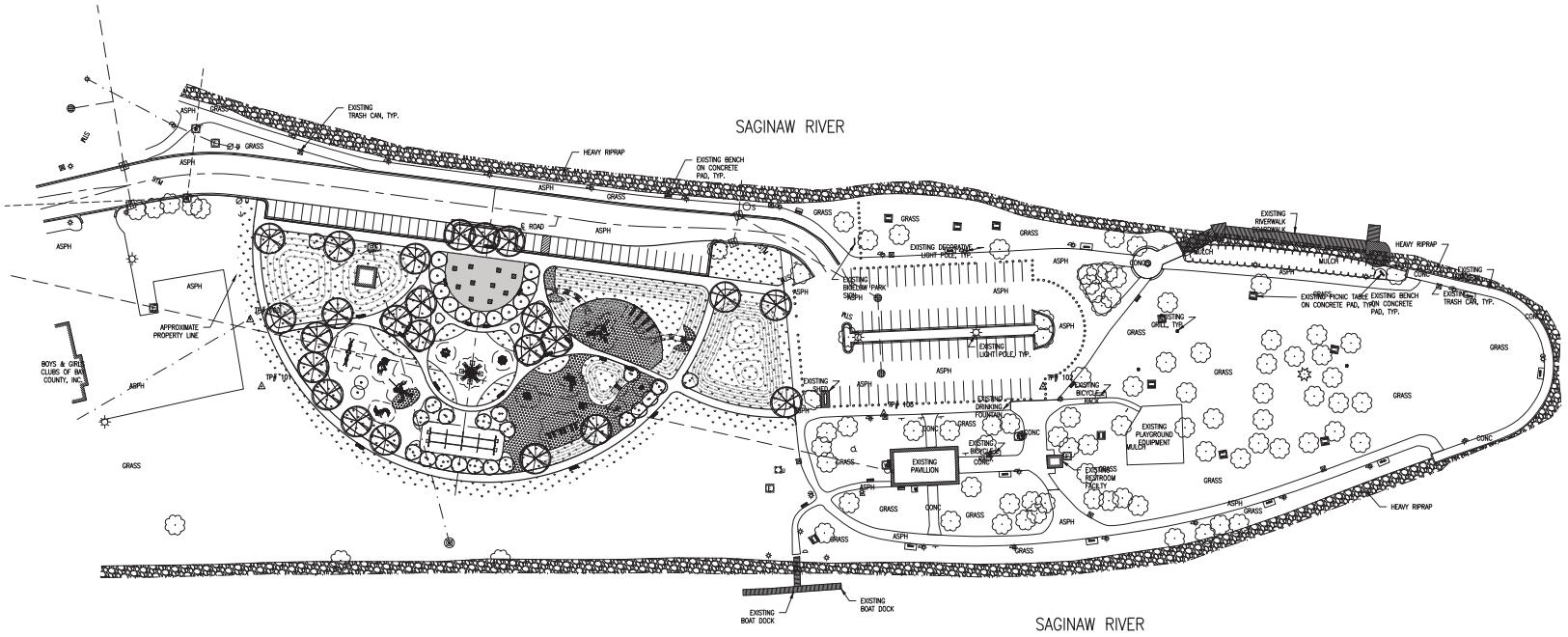
Community Foundations
Private Foundations and Endowments

Wickes Foundation
Strosacker Foundation
Gerstacker Foundations
Consumers Energy

KEEP IN MIND…

- Match requirements can usually be in-kind services, donations, or cash
- Most grants are provided on a reimbursable basis.
- Barrier free accessibility is usually required for improvement projects,
- Multiple partners, multiple jurisdictions can be viewed favorably – think "regional" projects.
- Grant applications can be complicated, detailed and competitive. Make sure your grant writer is familiar with the grant and funding source. Learn as much as possible ahead of time to know if your project has potential for funding.

Appendix D – Bay City Park Concept Plans



GRAPHIC SCALE: 1 inch = 60 feet
0 30 60 120 180

OHM
ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS PLANNERS
929 Bridgeview South
Saginaw, MI 48604
P (989) 392-4200
OHM-ADVISORS.COM

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

DATE	PROJ NUMBER	ENG	PROJ MGR	CADD	COUNTY	DETROIT LAKES TOWNSHIP		SCALE		HORIZ DATUM	VERT DATUM
	40461/00/12	VVW	SJW	KCB	BAY	CITY OF BAY CITY	H:	P=50'	V:	NA	NAVD 88

CITY OF BAY CITY
BIGELOW PARK
OVERALL - SITE PLAN

SHEET 7 OF --

REVISIONS

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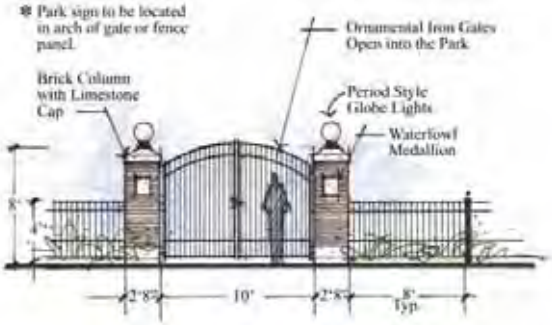
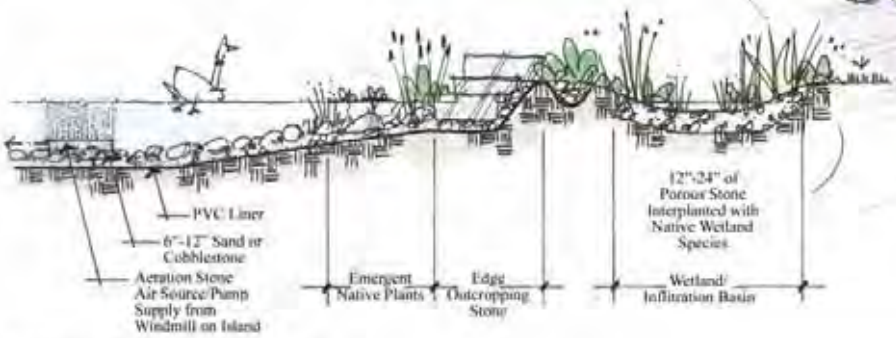
DRAWING PATH: P:\4000_\4100\40461\00012_Bay_City_-_Bigelow_Park\Drawings\Civil\Plans_Const\16010\SITE_OVERALL.dwg Jan 09, 2017 - 2:49pm



Park Gateway- Elevation



Waterfowl Pond - Section

Aerial View of Waterfowl Pond

Carroll Park

Bay City, Michigan
August 2006

Character Studies

OCBA
O'DONELL COWELL BLALOCK & Associates, Inc.

Carroll Park

Master Plan

Bay City, Michigan

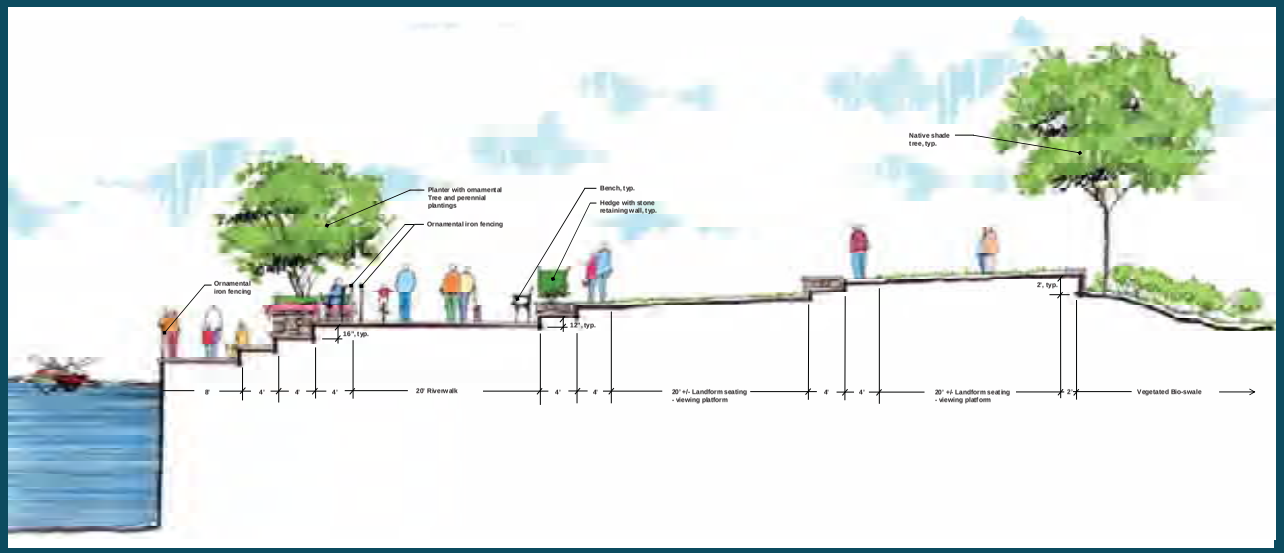
August 2006

O'BOYLE CONELL BLADON & Associates, Inc.

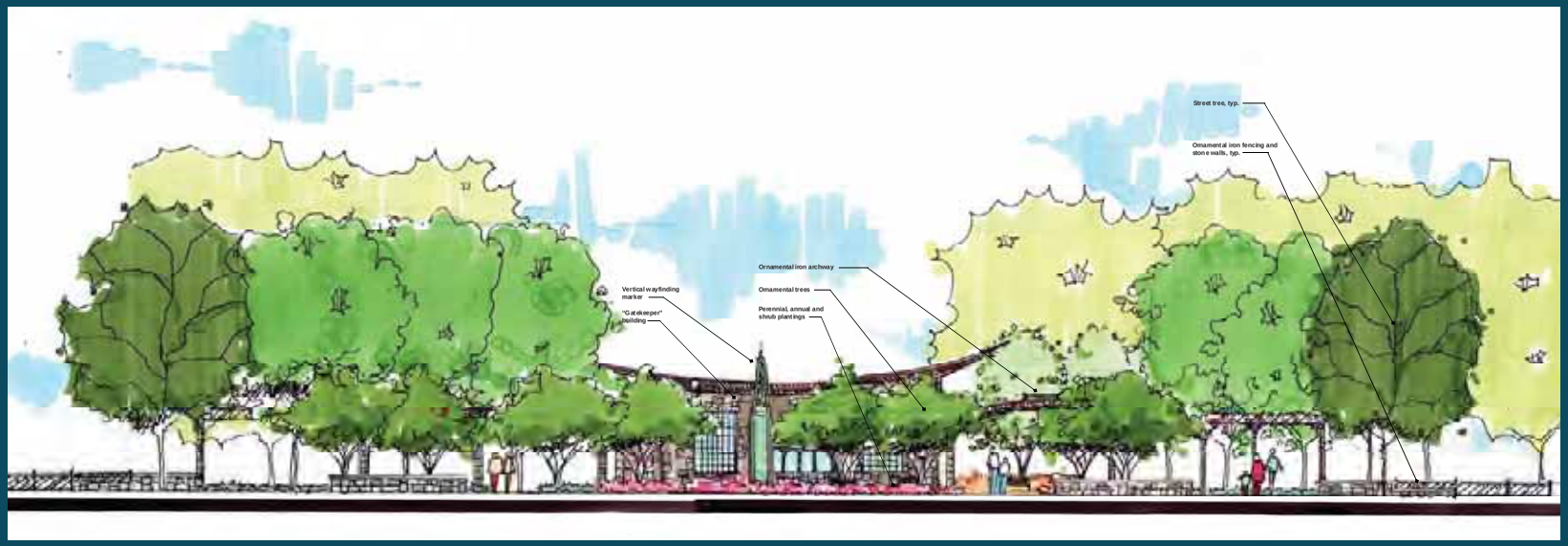
North Veteran's Memorial Park Master Plan

Prepared for Bay City November 2007

hamiltonanderson



Riverfront section



"Gatekeeper" elevation

Appendix E – Notification, Minutes, and Adoption Documentation