



**Special Meeting Notice
Plymouth City Commission
Committee of the Whole**

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2023 – 6:00 TO 6:45 P.M.

PLYMOUTH CITY HALL – 201 S. MAIN ST.

City of Plymouth

201 S. Main

Plymouth, Michigan 48170-1637

www.plymouthmi.gov

Phone 734-453-1234

Fax 734-455-1892

The Committee of the Whole will meet on Monday, April 17, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. for an informational session on Recreation and Master Plan Process Information.



**Special Meeting Agenda
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- 1) COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - CALL TO ORDER**
- 2) DISCUSSION on Recreation Master Plan Process Information**
- 3) ADJOURNMENT**

Persons with disabilities needing assistance with this should contact the City Clerk's office at 734-453-1234 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.

City of Plymouth Strategic Plan 2022-2026

| GOAL AREA ONE - SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE |
|--|
| <p>OBJECTIVES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and establish sustainable financial model(s) for major capital projects, Old Village business district, 35th District Court, recreation department, and public safety 2. Incorporate eco-friendly, sustainable practices into city assets, services, and policies; including more environmentally friendly surfaces, reduced impervious surfaces, expanded recycling and composting services, prioritizing native and pollinator-friendly plants, encouraging rain gardens, and growing a mature tree canopy 3. Partner with or become members of additional environmentally aware organizations 4. Increase technology infrastructure into city assets, services, and policies 5. Continue sustainable infrastructure improvement for utilities, facilities, and fleet 6. Address changing vehicular habits, including paid parking system /parking deck replacement plan, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, and one-way street options |

| GOAL AREA TWO – STAFF DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SUCCESSION |
|---|
| <p>OBJECTIVES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a 5-year staffing projection 2. Review current recruitment strategies and identify additional resources 3. Identify/establish flex scheduling positions and procedures 4. Develop a plan for an internship program 5. Review potential department collaborations 6. Hire an additional recreation professional 7. Review current diversity, equity, and inclusion training opportunities 8. Seek out training opportunities for serving diverse communities |

| GOAL AREA THREE - COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY |
|---|
| <p>OBJECTIVES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage in partnerships with public, private and non-profit entities 2. Increase residential/business education programs for active citizen engagement 3. Robust diversity, equity, and inclusion programs 4. Actively participate with multi-governmental lobbies (Michigan Municipal League, Conference of Western Wayne, etc.) |

| GOAL AREA FOUR - ATTRACTIVE, LIVABLE COMMUNITY |
|--|
| <p>OBJECTIVES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create vibrant commercial districts by seeking appropriate mixed-use development, marketing transitional properties, and implementing Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) practices 2. Improve existing and pursue additional recreational and public green space opportunities and facilities for all ages 3. Develop multi-modal transportation plan which prioritizes pedestrian and biker safety 4. Improve link between Hines Park, Old Village, Downtown Plymouth, Plymouth Township, and other regional destinations 5. Maintain safe, well-lit neighborhoods with diverse housing stock that maximizes resident livability and satisfaction 6. Modernize and update zoning ordinance to reflect community vision 7. Implement Kellogg Park master plan |

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

To: Mayor & City Commission
CC: S:\Manager\Sincock Files\Memorandum - Recreation Master Plan COW 04-17-23.doc
From: Paul J. Sincock -City Manager
Date: 4/13/2023
Re: Recreation Master Plan Committee of the Whole Meeting

The City Commission is aware that Plymouth Township is very anxious to get going on an updated Recreation Master Plan. We have been looking at this project for an extended period of time. The current grant application period ended on April 1st and for either the City or Township to submit for the next grant period we would need to move forward on a new plan, either individually or together or some other combined project

Plymouth Township has recommended that we use Wade Trim for a new Master Plan and their contract consultants for their part of the new Master Plan. Further, the Township has suggested that we use a Survey Monkey type tool to help gather public input to the Recreation Master Plan, in addition to a public hearing at the Township and City.

We assume that the Township would like to have a new joint Recreation Master Plan adopted in the very near future, to allow them to incorporate the Horse Racing facility and private recreational agreements into the plan. In February of this year, the Township Board approved a Planned Unit Development for the new Racetrack at Ridge Road and Five Mile Road. This was the site of the formerly planned Ridge 5 Corporate Park and site clearing was partially completed. The Ridge 5 Corporate Park project has been withdrawn. The site is also a part of the Michigan International Technology Center (MITC), which is a joint venture between Plymouth Township and Northville Township (www.mitc-usa.org).

As additional background on the MITC development. *“The Michigan International Technology Center (MITC) is a real estate development initiative strategically located in an area highly concentrated with many of the world's leading automotive research and development firms. A new generation of global innovators are*

discovering the benefits of MITC—including proximity to world-class universities and research facilities in life science, mobility and beyond.

This corridor has a proven track record as the region’s leader in attracting high-profile companies and prestigious high-tech developments. MITC extends that opportunity into new land areas, ready for development, owned and supported by the local units of government” (Northville Twp & Plymouth Twp).

The Township Board approved the Planned Unit Development for the horse racetrack, and they approved allowing the Township Supervisor and Attorney to work out a Community Benefit Agreement. We have attached their meeting minutes of those two actions.

The City Commission will also need to consider if we plan to use a survey document that will cover a broader range of topics to assist with the Planning Commission’s work on a number of issues. The City Commission may want to obtain information on parking issues, paid parking or even potential millages, as examples.

There are a number of issues related to a Recreation Master Plan and Steve Anderson has put together a Power Point presentation to help cover a number of topics related to a new plan. He has also put together a significant amount of background material for the City Commission.

Before the City Administration can move forward with the new plan, we will need some specific direction from the City Commission as to how they want us to proceed and what are their expectations related to the plan and how we incorporate public input to the plan.

We know that there is a lot of information that we are presenting here, but if you have any questions in advance of the meeting, please feel free to contact either Steve or myself.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

Approved Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2023



| | | | | |
|----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Capital | 805 | .00 | 90.05 | 90.05 |
| TOTALS: | | 995,725.99 | 117,587.41 | 1,113,313.40 |

Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Trustee Monaghan to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote.

All Ayes

- a. Contract Award for Powell Road and Township Park Drive Paving,
Resolution # 2023-02-28-12, Jeremy Schrot, Township Engineer

Moved by Trustee Curmi to split Powell Road Paving off the contract award.

There was no support.

The motion failed.

Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Treasure Doroshewitz to adopt Resolution #2012-02-28-12 authorizing the Board of Trustees to approve the award of the Powell Road and Park Drive paving project to Al's Asphalt in the amount of \$556,073.15.

Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Clerk Vorva, Trustee Stewart, Trustee Monaghan, Trustee Buckley, Supervisor Heise, Trustee Doroshewitz

Nays: Trustee Curmi

E. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to 3 Minutes)

(Howard, Salem Twp) agrees with Trustee Curmi concerning Powell Road.

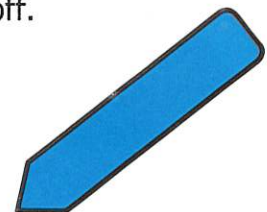
(Randy, Salem Twp) opposes the warehouse project.

(Sandy, Salem Twp) expressed environmental concerns including runoff.

(Ron, Salem Twp) opposes the Napier Road Project.

(Christine, Salem Twp) opposes the project on Napier Road.

(Michelle, Salem Twp) opposes warehouse project.



F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Approval: Northville Downs of Plymouth, Planned Unit Development (PUD) Option, **Resolution #2023-02-28-14, Laura Haw, Ms. Township Planner, Jeremy Schrot, Township Engineer**



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Approved Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2023



Ms. Haw provided the history of the site. She also cited the project scope to include the natural assets of the development as well as the benefits of the PUD. She emphasized the site plan process will not be approved in the current Board of Trustees vote.

Treasurer Doroshewitz described themes that have been communicated from the public in person, by email, and by calls as to why an action item should be approved or denied. He shared personal beliefs and opinions on gambling are not relevant in the decision-making process. He indicated decisions are not made based on a business's potential of success or the possibility of a business failure. He also advised that it is not legal to take a vote from the public on whether to approve a development or a business. He shared that the Board of Trustees are heavily invested and cares deeply about the community as they live in the community. The Board of Trustees have raised their families in the community. The decision on the Northville Downs Project will be evaluated on eight criteria and measured on facts and how those facts apply under the law. He highlighted that he is willing to discuss green land conservancies that could possibly purchase land to preserve green space.

PUBLIC COMMENT (*Limited to 3 Minutes*)

Richard opposes Northville Downs and cited traffic.

Mary Pine opposes Northville Downs.

Bill request additional planning.

Kathleen opposes the congestion and the environmental impact.

Kristy opposes the warehouse.

Joyce from St. Clair Shores wants consideration of the animals involved.

Craig does not oppose or approve of the race track. He requested the Board consider Ridge Road and the impact on both the race track and the warehouse.

Marilyn owns horses and indicates the horses love racing and anyone who owns horses take care of them. She is for the race track.

Rena of Farmington Hills loves the area. She thinks the race track is unethical.

Stacey sent an email and does not support or oppose. She requests that the traffic is reviewed.

Michael opposes Northville Downs.

Lynn opposes the project and believes it is a dying sport.

Anthony opposes race track.

Micki is extremely excited that there will be soccer fields for the kids.

Anna inquired if the Board will uphold the PUD requirements.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

Approved Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2023



Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Trustee Monaghan to approve the Planned Unit Development Option for the Northville Downs of Plymouth project, as unanimously recommended by the Planning Commission, subject to further refinement of the plans (as identified in the Planning Commission's February 15, 2023, motion).

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Clerk Vorva, Trustee Stewart, Trustee Monaghan, Trustee Buckley, Supervisor Heise, Trustee Doroshewitz

Nays: Trustee Curmi

Motion Passed

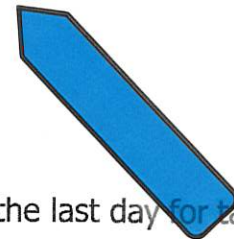
2. Discussion and Consideration of Community Benefit Agreement with Northville Downs, LLC; d/b/a 'Northville Downs of Plymouth', *Supervisor Kurt Heise*

Moved by Clerk Vorva and seconded by Trustee Monaghan that the Board of Trustees authorize the Township Attorney and Supervisor to develop and draft a Community Benefit Agreement between the Charter Township of Plymouth and Northville Downs LLC; said agreement to be formally approved by both parties at a later meeting of the Township Board.

All Ayes

PUBLIC COMMENT (*Limited to 3 Minutes*)

There were no comments



G. BOARD COMMENTS

- Treasurer Doroshewitz advised February 28th was the last day for tax collection. Tax collection went well.
- Trustee Buckley indicated she completes research and represents people in the community. She talks to community members. She shared not everyone comes in and speaks at the podium. She is excited about taking her family to Northville Downs.
- Trustee Monaghan received emails from people that are for and against the project. There are more details to be considered. She indicated her personal opinions does not determine how she votes. She considers how projects benefit the community. She also stated she cares about the community. She lives off Ridge Road.
- Clerk Vorva thanked everyone for coming out to voice their opinion. He shared that all the Wayne County clerks met to brainstorm the changes being implemented for early voting.



**Joint Plymouth Community
Parks + Recreation Master Plan
2018-2022**



Joint Plymouth Community Parks + Recreation Master Plan 2018-2022

Public Hearing:

Township Board: May 8, 2018
City Commission: May 7, 2018

Adopted by Township Board:

May 8, 2018

Adopted by City Commission:

May 7, 2018

Printed: May 2018

Plymouth Township

Kurt Heise, Supervisor
Jerry Vorva, Clerk
Mark Clinton, Treasurer
Chuck Curmi, Trustee
Jack Dempsey, Trustee
Bob Doroshewitz, Trustee
Gary Heitman, Trustee

City of Plymouth

Oliver Wolcott, Mayor
Colleen Pobur, Mayor Pro-Tem
Dan Dalton, Commissioner
Suzi Deal, Commissioner
Ed Krol, Commissioner
Nick Moroz, Commissioner
Mike Wright, Commissioner

Paul Sincock, City Manager
Steve Anderson, Recreation Director





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Plymouth Township Park



Community Description

The 2018-2022 Joint Plymouth Community Parks and Recreation Plan was adopted by the Plymouth City Commission and the Plymouth Township Board to serve as a guide and decision making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The Plan presents an inventory of existing facilities and programs within the Plymouth community as well as an evaluation of opportunities and needs. The Plan considers the existing facilities in and around the City and Township, as well as the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities and programs. The Plan also includes goals, objectives and a 5-Year Action Plan.

This 2018-2022 Plan represents the first Joint Parks and Recreation Plan cooperatively prepared and adopted by both the Township and City. While the City and Township are individual units of government, and maintain separate control of their land, facilities and budgets, collaborative planning can allow for better coordinated and more efficient systems. While the City and Township work closely with several public and private agencies that provide recreation opportunities for their residents, the jurisdiction and focus of this Master Plan is on the city- and township-owned and operated parks and recreation facilities and programs. The Plan is also intended to enable both the City and Township to continue to apply for funding assistance from various agencies and work toward implementing the documented recommendations. This Plan specifically provides for five years of grant eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Plymouth Township and the City of Plymouth are located in northwestern Wayne County, Michigan. Wayne County is the largest county in the State in terms of population, and encompasses the City of Detroit in addition to many large suburbs including the cities of Dearborn and Livonia. Although the western portion of Wayne County was once primarily an agricultural area, the communities surrounding the Plymouth area are now highly urbanized.

As documented in the Plymouth History guide (2016), Plymouth is one of Michigan's oldest townships, established by the Legislative Council of the Territory of Michigan in 1827 – 10 years before Michigan became a state. Native Americans lived in the area for centuries. The Tonquish band of Potawatomi were the last, leaving the area just before the first European settlers arrived in 1824. The first settlers of European origin arrived in the area in 1824 and by 1825 there were enough people to make up a small settlement. The Village of Plymouth was incorporated in 1867 and became a city in 1932.

According to the 2010 Census, the City of Plymouth has a population of 9,132 people (a 1.2% increase from 2000) and the Township at 27,524 (a 1.0% decrease from 2000). More recent estimates (July 2017) published by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) have the City of Plymouth at 8,992 people and the Township at 27,566.

Major state highways and freeways include M-14, I-96 and I-275. These highways effectively connect the Plymouth community with the rest of the Detroit/Ann Arbor Metropolitan Area. The City is entirely surrounded by Plymouth Township. Other communities nearby include Northville Township and the City of Northville to the north, the City of Livonia to the east and Canton Township to the south. Salem Township (in Washtenaw County) is to the west.



Planning Process

This Plan was developed utilizing the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan Guidelines. Following the MDNR Guidelines, and filing this adopted Plan with the MDNR, allows for both the City and Township to be eligible to apply for various MDNR administered parks and recreation related grant funds. The 5-Year Plan was prepared jointly by the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township over an approximately 6-month period. The previous City of Plymouth Recreation Master Plan 2012-2016 and the 2010 Plymouth Township Recreation and Open Space Plan were used as a foundation.

This section of the Plan documents the process used to develop the Plan as well as those involved with providing input.

Background Studies

The necessary data to begin the formulation of the background studies for the plan was collected from various sources including: City and Township staff, City Department of Recreation, the previous City of Plymouth Recreation Master Plan 2012-2016, the 2010 Plymouth Township Recreation and Open Space Plan, as well as field observations.

The **Community Description** includes a brief introduction to the City of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and the jurisdiction and focus of the Plan.

The **Administrative Structure** section of the Plan describes how recreation is governed and operated within the City and Township. This includes information gathered from the City and Township outlining staff responsibilities, function of the City Recreation Department, and a fiscal analysis (as it relates to recreation) of the last few years for both municipalities.

The **Recreation Inventory** chapter provides an inventory of the parks and recreation facilities within the Plymouth community. This information was collected through a field survey conducted in December 2017. The location of each recreation facility is described and mapped, as well as an overview of the various programs, activities, and events offered throughout the City and Township. The chapter also includes a brief description of public school recreational facilities, other significant recreation-related facilities in the community as well as regional recreation facilities in and around Plymouth.

Basis For Action

The Basis For Action section of the document analyzes factors inside and outside of the City and Township that may have an effect on the direction of recreation over the next five years. This portion of the plan also helps to provide the rationale for the goals, guidelines/objectives and recommended capital improvements. Several factors were analyzed including current recreation trends (on both national and state levels), comparison of City and Township acreage, staffing, budget levels to other typical parks and recreation agencies in the country, service area gaps, existing plans and reports, and results of the various input from residents, staff and elected officials.

Input

The City and Township worked to gather input in a number of ways during the development of the plan as summarized below. Additional detail is provided in the Basis For Action section and Appendix.

Joint Parks and Recreation Telephone Survey (Statistically Accurate)

The City and Township jointly funded a telephone survey of 325 adult residents of the community (225 from the Township and 100 from the City). The survey was conducted by EPIC-MRA based in Lansing and completed in the Fall of 2017. Additional detail is provided in the Basis For Action section and Appendix.

Joint Parks and Recreation Online Questionnaire

During the development of the Plan, both the City and Township posted a questionnaire to their websites in order to give opportunity for people to provide written input for consideration. The availability of the questionnaire was published in the newspaper and email blasted. The questionnaire was available from January 8 through February 18, 2018 and 580 responses were collected. Additional detail is provided in the Basis For Action section and Appendix.

Public Workshops (2)

The City and Township jointly hosted two public workshops on January 29, 2018 to brainstorm ideas and identify priorities for the next 5 years. Approximately 30 people attended the workshop held at the Plymouth Township Hall (1:00 - 3:00 pm) and approximately 11 people attended the workshop held at the Plymouth Cultural Center (6:30 - 8:30 pm). The workshops were published in the Plymouth Observer and email blasted. Additional detail is provided in the Basis For Action section and Appendix.

Commission and Board Input

The City Recreation Director met with both the City Commission and Township Board at their regular meetings in February 2018. The Director gave each a brief overview of the project and planning process and then asked each body to brainstorm ideas for parks and recreation projects and/or programs. Additional detail is provided in the Basis For Action section and Appendix.

Action Program

The Action Program section of the document outlines the direction that the City and Township would like to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve recreation opportunities within the community. The Action Program includes goals and guidelines as well as a capital improvements schedule.

Public Hearing + Adoption

The draft Recreation Master Plan was made available for public review April 5, 2018 at the Cultural Center, City Hall, Township Hall, City website and Township website. The public hearing was held in front of the City Commission on May 7, 2018 and in front of the Township Board on May 8, 2018. A brief overview of the purpose of the plan, process, and contents was presented.

The Plymouth City Commission adopted the Recreation Master Plan by resolution at their May 7, 2018 meeting.

The Plymouth Township Board adopted the Recreation Master Plan by resolution at their May 8, 2018 meeting.



Administrative Structure

This section of the Plan documents how parks and recreational activities and resources are governed and administered in the City of Plymouth and in Plymouth Township. The functions of the various departments and staff with responsibility for recreation as well as budgetary expenditures and revenues are detailed.

Public Act 156 of 1917 (Local Government, Operate System of Public Recreation) authorizes cities, villages, counties, townships, and school districts to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds. Section 1 of PA 156 of 1917 indicates that any city, village, county or township may:

1. Operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds;
2. Acquire equipment and maintain land, buildings, or other recreational facilities;
3. Employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants; and,
4. Vote to expend funds for the operation of such a system.

City of Plymouth

As is depicted in the organizational chart on the following page, the responsibility of managing, maintaining and improving recreation facilities within the City of Plymouth is primarily met by the Recreation Department. However, the ultimate authority for the provision of recreation in the City is held by the seven-member City Commission. As is described in Section 5.8 of the City Code, the Commission “shall provide for the public peace, health, and recreation, and for the safety of persons and property”. The City Commission is made up of seven residents who then elect a Mayor to lead the meetings and perform other ceremonial functions. Members of the City Commission may serve a maximum of three consecutive terms of office. City Commissioners are elected at large on a city-wide basis. The City Commission establishes the annual itemized budget for the recreation fund and generally oversees use of the budget. The Commission has the final say on large improvement projects, use of additional funds and land acquisitions. All decisions are based on recommendations from the City Manager, Recreation Department, and input from the public. Additionally, the Commission approves all grant applications and adopts the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

City Staff and Departments

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department falls under the purview of the City Manager and is responsible for a variety of tasks including:

- Program activities and organized sports offered by the City including facilitating enrollment and coordinating time and program locations
- Coordinate the use of multiple recreation facilities
- Provide referrals to volunteer sport organizations
- Recommend land, facility expansions and additional needs to the City Manager and City Commission
- Overseeing maintenance of recreational facilities with oversight from Municipal Services Department for the City Parks.
- Staffing and maintenance of the Cultural Center
- Overseeing and administering the City’s recreation fund

The Recreation Department includes two full-time staff (Recreation Director and Facility Manager) as well as a number of part time, seasonal and contractual staff.

Plymouth Township

As is illustrated on the Plymouth Township Parks and Senior Center Organizational Chart, the Township Supervisor is the Chief Elected Official and is responsible for the daily operation of all departments within the Township. The Supervisor also presides as chair at meetings of the Township Board. The Supervisor also oversees a full-time Senior Transportation Manager at the Friendship Station (and 3 part-time Senior Transportation drivers) as well as 2 part-time parks foreman and 10 seasonal staff to maintain and improve the parks. The Township Hilltop Golf Course is managed via contract by a private company.

City and Township Collaboration

In addition to developing this Joint 5-Year Plan together, the City and Township also currently collaborate on two other elements related to parks and recreation in the community including:

- Shared funding for senior citizen transportation
- Both contribute funding and/or facility usage to the Plymouth Community Council on Aging

Relationships with Other Agencies

Both the City and Township have working relationships with each other as well as a number of public and private agencies to assist in providing a variety of programming and additional outdoor space including:

- **Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC)**
The City partners with PCAC for children’s summer concert series in Kellogg Park.
- **Wayne County Parks**
Green space for soccer, baseball, t-ball; senior Olympics, special events
- **Plymouth Canton Community Schools**
Green space for soccer, baseball, and t-ball (with paid permit fee)
- **Miracle League of Plymouth**
Miracle League Field for t-ball games and practices
- **TDM (former Visteon)**
Green space for soccer
- **Plymouth Community Council on Aging (PCCA)**
A nonprofit organized to coordinate programs that promote and safeguard the independence and well-being of senior citizens of the greater Plymouth community. The PCCA is sponsored by Plymouth Township, City of Plymouth, Plymouth Department of Recreation, Plymouth Community United Way and Senior Alliance.

- **Plymouth Community United Way**
Funding for senior transportation and other senior programs.
- **Plymouth Chamber of Commerce**
Marketing and special events
- **Plymouth Downtown Development Authority**
Oversees programming and special events in downtown Plymouth and Kellogg Park including Friday night Concert's.
- **Annual Festival Organizations**
Partner with the city and use city services to run and manage events including annual Ice Festival, Fall Festival, Art in the Park, etc.
- **Plymouth Garden Club**
Annual plantings at Kiwanis Point Park, Township Hall, Garden Club Park

A number of schools, private organizations, leagues, etc. utilize City and Township park properties and facilities (with various fees/rental agreements) including:

- Plymouth Canton Little League
- Our Lady of Good Council
- Assorted Travel Baseball Programs
- Plymouth Reign Soccer Club
- Plymouth Hockey Association
- Over 60 Hockey League
- Over 60 Hockey Drop-In Program
- U of M Men's Club Team
- Michigan High School Hockey Development League
- Plymouth Figure Skating Club
- Women's Flames Hockey Team
- Kim Muir Learn to Skate Program
- Plymouth Prep Hockey
- PCC Kings Hockey (AAU)
- JC Auction
- Greater Canton Junior Baseball
- Plymouth Canton Little League

Role of Volunteers

Both the City and Township incorporate and rely on a number of volunteers to provide youth sports, some senior citizen programs, etc. By far, the majority of the volunteers are coaches, assistant coaches and team managers for the youth soccer program (80-100 adult volunteers per season). Youth t-ball has 30-40 adult volunteers per season and senior citizen programs have 20-30 adult volunteers for programs throughout the year.

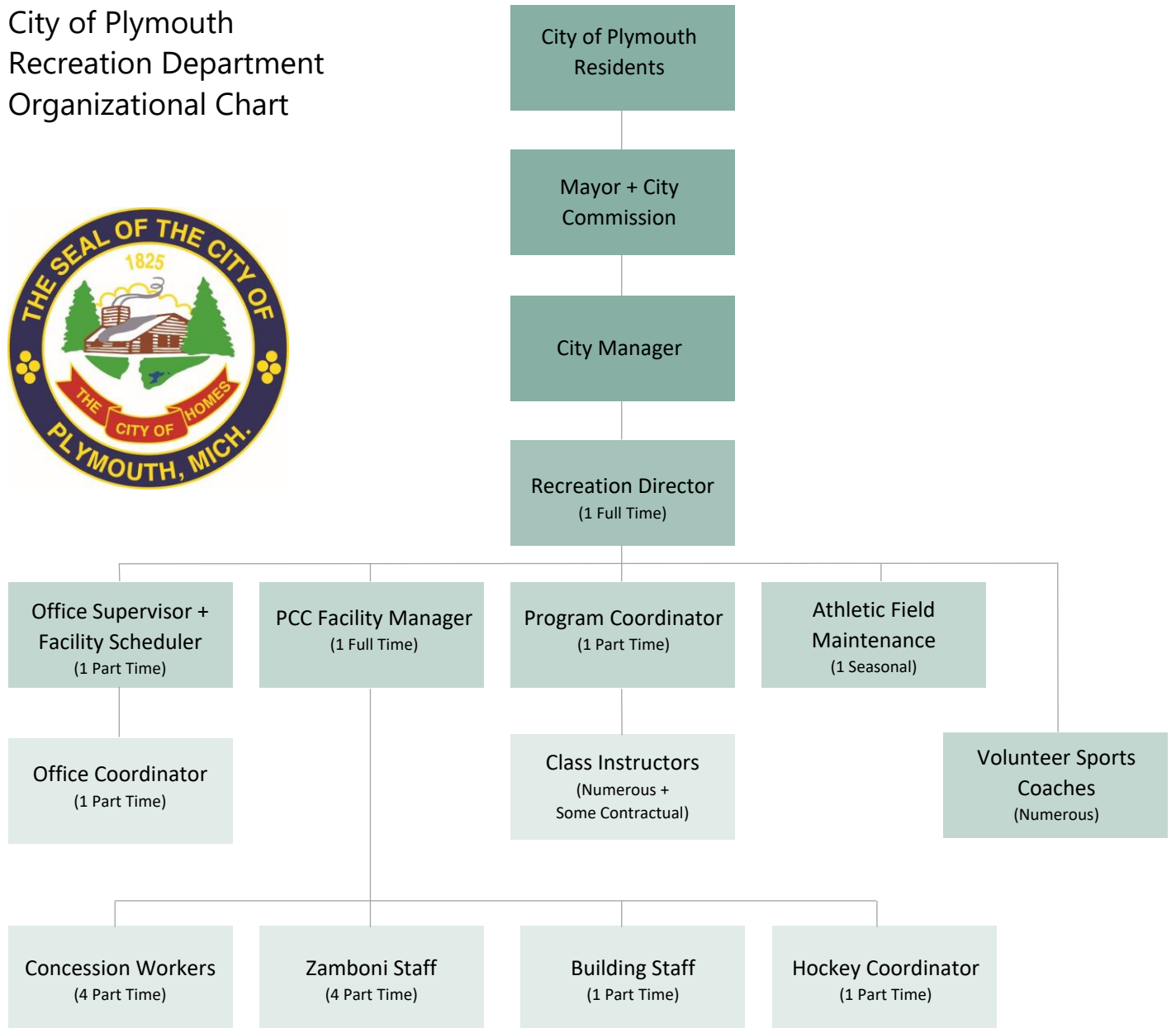
Fiscal Analysis

The provision of recreation within the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township are funded through a variety of means. Revenues and expenditures over the past 4 years are summarized on the following pages to illustrate revenue and spending patterns related to parks and recreation in the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. Historically, the revenues generated from parks and recreation facilities and programming fall below the total recreation expenditures. Both the City and Township support parks and recreation through general fund dollars, as do most municipalities. Over the past 4 years, the City has recovered between 63% - 77% of expenditures through revenue generation (not including grants, donations or transfers from the General Fund). Over the past 4 years, the Township has recovered between 7.5% - 13% of expenditures through revenue generation (not including grants/General Fund).

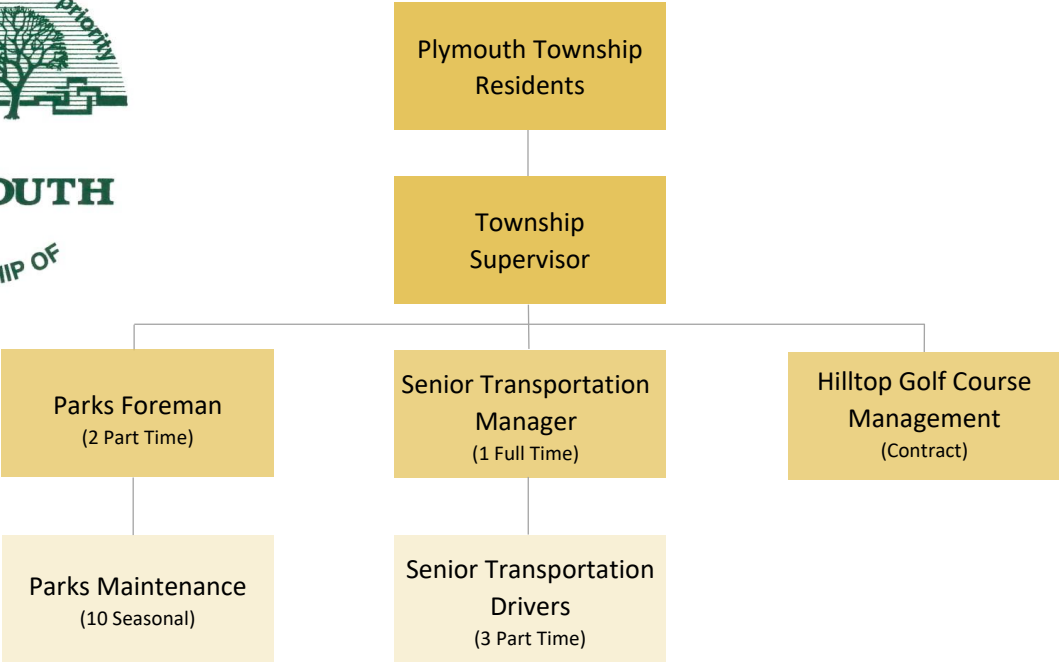
The National Recreation and Parks Association 2017 Agency Performance Review indicates that the **typical Parks and Recreation Agency with a population less than 20,000 (as does the City)** has 57% of their park and recreation operating expenditures are derived from general fund, 29% from earned revenue, 8% from dedicated levies, 1% from grants, 1% from sponsorships and 4% from other revenues.

For typical **Parks and Recreation Agencies with a population between 20,000-49,999 (as does the Township)**, 61% of their park and recreation operating expenditures are derived from general fund, 26% from earned revenue, 7% from dedicated levies, 1% from grants, 1% from sponsorships and 5% from other revenues.

City of Plymouth
Recreation Department
Organizational Chart



Plymouth Township
Parks + Senior Center
Organizational Chart



City of Plymouth

The City of Plymouth fiscal year begins July 1. From 2014-2018, both expenditures and revenues have remained fairly stable. The City funds parks and recreation primarily by the revenues generated from the various recreation facilities and programs and have been between \$1.18 - \$1.23 million per year. Revenues from hockey rentals and soccer are the two largest revenue generating programs. Contributions from the General Fund (listed under

Administrative Charges) have been \$200,000 each year since 2014. In terms of expenditures, Administration (salaries, equipment rental, repairs, maintenance, utilities, etc.) and the soccer program consume the majority of the recreation budget. Expenditures have ranged between \$1.20 to \$1.23 million per year.

| | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| EXPENDITURES 2014-2018 | actual | actual | actual | budgeted |
| Administration | \$ 855,794.46 | \$ 941,066.52 | \$ 881,533.80 | \$ 911,530.00 |
| Admin Reserve for Contingency | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 4,050.00 |
| Parks + Public Property Capital Outlay | \$ 2,239.01 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Capital Outlay | \$ 56,090.84 | \$ 199,337.96* | \$ 56,754.66* | \$ 35,000.00 |
| Recreation Vending | \$ 4,265.46 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Recreation Services | \$ 45,110.53 | \$ 39,481.34 | \$ 40,890.57 | \$ 39,850.00 |
| Adult Athletics | \$ 2,002.85 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Youth Athletics | \$ 16,860.61 | \$ 12,076.82 | \$ 11,677.62 | \$ 10,570.00 |
| Miracle League | \$ 10,974.85 | \$ 10,100.00 | \$ 10,460.00 | \$ 9,100.00 |
| PCHA | \$ 43,483.84 | \$ 81,811.20 | \$ 36,318.37 | \$ 30,710.00 |
| Mini Mites | \$ 14,643.70 | \$ 9,833.87 | \$ 14,936.37 | \$ 21,230.00 |
| MSD Services | \$ 6,578.46 | \$ 11,876.54 | \$ 12,726.15 | \$ 11,750.00 |
| Soccer | \$ 115,016.59 | \$ 98,178.19 | \$ 112,579.19 | \$ 106,850.00 |
| Liquor | \$ 3,887.17 | \$ 2,264.92 | \$ 2,191.55 | \$ 4,520.00 |
| Classes & Special Events | \$ 25,232.77 | \$ 26,388.28 | \$ 24,540.30 | \$ 38,920.00 |
| Therapeutic Program | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Senior Programs - Classes | \$ 4,844.71 | \$ 3,231.42 | \$ 4,109.64 | \$ 5,720.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,207,025.85 | \$ 1,435,647.06 | \$ 1,208,718.22 | \$ 1,230,800.00 |
| | 2014-2015 | 2015-2016 | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 |
| REVENUES 2014-2018 | actual | actual | actual | budgeted |
| General Revenues | \$ 62,798.04 | \$ 191,148.54 | \$ 46,834.60 | \$ 39,050.00 |
| Cultural Center | \$ 584,597.45 | \$ 564,194.79 | \$ 591,349.66 | \$ 598,000.00 |
| Administrative Charges | \$ 200,000.04 | \$ 200,000.00 | \$ 207,823.96 | \$ 250,050.00 |
| Program Fees & Charges | \$ 341,089.18 | \$ 346,751.97 | \$ 306,008.05 | \$ 343,700.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 1,188,484.71 | \$ 1,302,095.30 | \$ 1,152,016.27 | \$ 1,230,800.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUES (ALL FUNDS) | \$ 1,188,484.71 | \$ 1,302,095.30 | \$ 1,152,016.27 | \$ 1,230,800.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES (ALL FUNDS) | \$ 1,207,025.85 | \$ 1,435,647.06 | \$ 1,208,718.22 | \$ 1,230,800.00 |
| NET | \$ (18,541.14) | \$ (133,551.76)* | \$ (56,701.95)* | \$ - |

* Ice Arena ADA Bleacher project is included in these figures.

Plymouth Township

The Plymouth Township fiscal year begins January 1. From 2015 –2018, revenues are budgeted to increase from \$36,675 to \$202,000 per year. This is due to a budgeted Wayne County Parks distribution of \$162,000 in 2018. Revenues from rental fees have remained fairly stable. Expenditures have ranged between \$353,991 (2018) to \$544,265 (2016). While expenditures have increased for part time workers, equipment purchases, and

intergovernmental services, expenditures have decreased in most other categories including supervisory, overtime, benefits, recreation programming, contractual services, buildings/grounds maintenance, and utilities. General fund dollars have been off setting the difference between revenues and expenditures.

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| EXPENDITURES 2014-2017 | actual | actual | thru 12/31/17 | budgeted |
| Supervisory | \$ 32,076.89 | \$ 51,969.31 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Part Time | \$ 118,651.20 | \$ 135,422.24 | \$ 168,209.18 | \$ 145,000.00 |
| Overtime | \$ 4,134.83 | \$ 23,595.04 | \$ 2,476.34 | \$ - |
| Fringe Benefits | \$ 14,543.39 | \$ 14,773.00 | \$ 5,080.16 | \$ - |
| Pension Non-REP | \$ - | \$ (7,810.83) | \$ (10,121.84) | \$ - |
| Social Security | \$ 11,802.76 | \$ 16,047.97 | \$ 13,057.57 | \$ 6,120.00 |
| Workers Comp Insurance | \$ 1,714.00 | \$ 3,593.66 | \$ 2,591.53 | \$ 2,239.00 |
| Office Supplies | \$ 1,923.51 | \$ 2,467.39 | \$ 2,150.30 | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Uniforms | \$ 361.00 | \$ 1,000.00 | \$ 271.69 | \$ 500.00 |
| Recreation Program | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 115,325.50 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Contractual Services | \$ 7,277.00 | \$ 2,872.00 | \$ 10,540.14 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Telephone | \$ 2,994.88 | \$ 3,686.78 | \$ 2,798.69 | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Auto Expense/Lease | \$ 3,538.85 | \$ 4,599.08 | \$ 9,370.45 | \$ 4,500.00 |
| Utilities | \$ 52,212.20 | \$ 54,527.49 | \$ 46,669.14 | \$ 35,000.00 |
| Bldg/Grounds Maintenance | \$ 100,699.21 | \$ 94,386.62 | \$ 29,933.02 | \$ 25,000.00 |
| Intergovernmental Service | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 16,832.72 | \$ 15,132.00 |
| Capital Outlay | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,401.52 | \$ - |
| Recreation Grants | | \$ 29.91 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Forestry Grant | \$ 9,690.85 | \$ 26,425.00 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Equipment Purchases | \$ 28,974.34 | \$ 877.10 | \$ 40,470.48 | \$ 114,000.00 |
| Small Tools | \$ - | \$ 477.61 | \$ - | \$ 500.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 490,594.91 | \$ 544,264.87 | \$ 341,731.09 | \$ 353,991.00 |
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| REVENUES 2014-2017 | actual | actual | thru 12/31/17 | budgeted |
| Wayne County Parks Distribution | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 162,000.00 |
| Rentals | \$ 36,675.00 | \$ 39,225.00 | \$ 44,160.00 | \$ 40,000.00 |
| Other/Misc. (including Grants) | \$ - | \$ 17,000.00 | \$ 710.00 | \$ - |
| TOTAL | \$ 36,675.00 | \$ 56,225.00 | \$ 44,870.00 | \$ 202,000.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUES (ALL FUNDS) | \$ 36,675.00 | \$ 56,225.00 | \$ 44,870.00 | \$ 202,000.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES (ALL FUNDS) | \$ 490,594.91 | \$ 544,264.87 | \$ 341,731.09 | \$ 353,991.00 |
| NET | \$ (453,919.91) | \$ (488,039.87) | \$ (296,861.09) | \$ (151,991.00) |



Lake Pointe Park



Inventory

Developing a complete inventory of recreation facilities, programs, and events is an essential component of a Recreation Master Plan. It provides a base of information to use in developing the Action Program. Understanding what facilities, programs, and events are available to the residents of the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township will assist in future decision-making processes.

This portion of the Plan includes several components. The first component is a description of the recreation facilities and programs that the City of Plymouth and/or Plymouth Township owns and operates. Recreation, social and cultural facilities located within the Plymouth community but owned and operated by outside agencies such as the public school district were also inventoried. A description of regional recreation facilities including those found within and just outside of the Plymouth community is also provided. The recreation facilities inventory includes an assessment of the barrier-free compliance status (using the MDNR guidelines) of City-owned and Township-owned park facilities. Lastly, this chapter includes a description of the facilities that were partially or completely acquired and/or developed using MDNR recreation grant funding.

City of Plymouth Programs and Facilities

City records show that Kellogg Park was a declared public park as early as 1867. The City has slowly but effectively been adding to its supply of green spaces and public parks ever since. Plymouth's next addition to the parks was Hough Park dedicated in 1926. Plymouth continued its trend of investing in green spaces during the 1940's by purchasing the following parks: Auburn—Junction (Kiwanis Club Park); Burroughs-Coolidge (Lions Club Park); Holbrook- Caster Park; Hamilton Playground (Fairground Park); Forest-Sutherland (Garden Club Park); and Wing-Herald Park (Rotary Club Park). The Elm St. Playground (Smith Park) was added in May of 1956.

The origin of the Adopt-A-Park Program began in the early 1980's when the City Recreation Department began approaching local service groups to help in the improvement of the valuable green spaces in the City. This led to the names of the parks in the City as they are commonly known today.

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department offers a variety of programs for residents of the greater Plymouth Community. City of Plymouth residents contribute to the support of the City of Plymouth Recreation Department through property taxes, therefore, City of Plymouth residents are charged lesser rates for programs. An example of this would be that the Fall Soccer fees for WSSL age groups is \$142 for non-City residents and \$97 for City residents. All Cultural Center facility rentals are the same charge regardless of residency (per long-term property lease agreement with school district).

A sampling of the recreation programs available include:

- Arts, Crafts and Leisure Programs
- Kung Fu
- Karate
- Youth Hockey
- Over 60 Hockey
- Tai Chi
- Youth Soccer
- Yo-Yo/Juggling Camp
- T-Ball
- Cardio, Core and Fitness Classes
- Tumbling
- Pilates
- Adult Yoga
- Senior Exercise
- Senior Bridge



- Senior Woodcarving
- Bricks 4 Kidz
- Kids Fitness (Tiny Tigers, Little Ninjas)
- Coding and Stop Animation
- Civil Engineering (tweens/teens)
- Nuro Movement Class
- Daddy Daughter Dance
- Mother Son Tiger Game
- Coding
- Kickboxing
- Seminars
- Special Events

In addition to the above programs, many others are also available depending on the time of year, as the City's programs change for each of the four seasons. These programs and classes are available to all citizens in the City of Plymouth in addition to citizens living in the greater Plymouth Community. Programs, activities, and classes are provided for all ages. Most of the recreation programs and activities are held at City facilities such as the Cultural Center, but others, such as the youth soccer program, utilizes several area soccer fields in and outside of the City.

The City of Plymouth (and the Township) works closely with the *Plymouth Community Council on Aging (PCCA)* to provide social and recreation activities to seniors in the community. The PCCA offices are at Township Hall and the Township Friendship Station building is utilized by the PCCA who organizes and offers programs such as line dancing, cardio exercise, yoga, chair exercise, bingo, knitting, cards, lunches, and a variety of talks on subjects such as elder care, diabetes, etc. Day trips are also organized to a variety of restaurants and activities throughout metro Detroit.

The City also contributes funds to the *Plymouth Community Senior Transportation* program (shared funding with the Township) that operates out of the Township’s Friendship Station. The program provides rides to residents 60 years old and older within and around the Plymouth community for a nominal fee.

The City-owned and Township-owned parks were inventoried in December 2017 with findings documented on the following pages. The City of Plymouth owns 17 public park and recreation facilities that encompass approximately 22 acres of land including the Plymouth Community Cultural Center and Ice Arena. Plymouth Township owns 7 public park and recreation facilities that encompass approximately 174.5 acres of land including Plymouth Township Park and Hilltop Golf Course. In addition, residents of the Plymouth Community are served by several properties owned by the school district, Wayne County, as well as private and/or non-profit recreation providers.

An inventory table has been developed that lists the various parks and recreation facilities in the Plymouth Community and the various amenities found at each park. In addition, narrative summaries for each City-owned and Township-owned park have been developed. An Inventory Map illustrates the location of each park and facility.

City of Plymouth Grant History

When preparing a 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that information be provided concerning grants that have been received in the past for acquisition or development of recreation facilities. In the past, the City has received two grants for recreation facility development. A brief assessment of each project is noted and the most recent Post-Completion Self Certification Report PR1944

(completed by the City in 2016) are provided in the Appendix.

City of Plymouth MDNR Grant History

Grant Title: Tonquish Creek Neighborhood Park

Grant Number: 26-00087

Grant Amount: \$8,632.50

Year Awarded: 1967

Scope Items: Acquisition of four parcels of land totaling 1.72 acres for development of a neighborhood park.

Current Status: Property remains in city-ownership for public outdoor recreation. Passive park with open space and walking trail. Maintenance is completed as needed.

Grant Title: Plymouth Cultural Center Renovations

Grant Number: CM00-289

Grant Amount: \$634,983.00

Year Awarded: 2000

Scope Items: Dasher board system replacement, new emergency lighting, energy reduction system for lighting and refrigeration, exit signage, 2 hockey locker room addition, Zamboni equipment storage room addition.

Current Status: Facility remains in city-ownership for public ice arena recreation. All scope items were installed and remain active in the same state as when installed.

**Joint Plymouth Community
Park Inventory**
2018-2022

| Map ID | Name | Type | Acres | Parking Lot | Permanent Restroom | Concessions | Outdoor Lighting | Storage / Equipment Facility | Picnic Areas | Picnic Shelter/Pavilion | Picnic Tables | Gills | Gymnasium | Practice Ball Diamond | Little League Field (60' bases) | Batting Cage | Tennis Court | Hockey / Ice Skating - Indoor | Play Equipment | Multi-Purpose Facility | Football Field | Soccer Field | Basketball Hoop | Volleyball Court (Sand) | Walking/Jogging/Bike Path | Gazebo | Fishing | 18-hole Golf Course | Spray Park | Swimming Pool - Indoor | Open Space | Track | Shuffleboard | Dog Waste Station | Drinking Fountain | Skate Park | Meeting Space | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|---------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|----------|----------|---|---|
| CITY OF PLYMOUTH PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Cultural Center & Ice Arena | CP | 4.23 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| 2 | Don Massey Field | S | 2.80 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| 3 | Knights of Columbus Park | NP | 0.50 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | |
| 4 | Fairground Park | NP | 2.52 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 5 | Garden Club Park | NP | 0.66 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 6 | Kiwanis Club Park | NP | 0.77 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 7 | Smith Park | MP | 0.37 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 8 | Rotary Club Park | NP | 0.71 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 9 | Jack Wilcox Park | MP | 0.28 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 10 | Keillogg Park | CP | 1.14 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 11 | Caster Park | MP | 0.42 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 12 | Lion's Club Park | NP | 2.15 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 13 | Point Park | MP | 0.67 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 14 | Starkweather Park | MP | 0.24 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 15 | Veteran's Memorial Park | S | 0.75 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 16 | Hough Park | MP | 1.95 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| 17 | Tonquish Creek Neighborhood Park | NP | 1.72 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| | | | 21.88 | | | | | | 8 | | | | | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Plymouth Township Park | CP | 70.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 4 | X | X | X | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| 19 | Hilltop Golf Course | S | 86.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 20 | Lake Pointe Soccer Park | CP | 12.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 21 | Kiwanis Point Park | MP | 2.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 22 | Miller Family Park | NP | 3.67 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 23 | Brentwood Park | NP | 1.67 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 24 | Friendship Station / Senior Complex | S | 0.98 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 5 | X | X | X | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| | | | 176.41 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOLS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | East Middle School | CP | 21.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 26 | Smith Elementary School | NP | 9.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 27 | West Middle School | NP | 22 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 28 | Pioneer Middle School | NP | 19 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 29 | Bird Elementary School | NP | 10 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 30 | Isbister Elementary School | NP | 9 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 31 | Allen Early Learning Academy | NP | 13 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 32 | Starkweather Academy | NP | 10 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 33 | Farrand Elementary School | NP | 10 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| 34 | Miller Woods | NP | 40 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 1 | X | X | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | |
| | | | 163.00 | | | | | | | 1 | | | 9 | 17 | 10 | 37 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | |
| COUNTY PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 | Hines Park | NP | 405.00 | X | X | X | X | X | X | 2 | X | X | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | |
| | | | 405 | | | | | | | 2 | | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | |

CP = Community Park
NP = Neighborhood Park
MP = Mini Park
S = Special Use Park

**Joint Plymouth Community
Park Inventory
2018-2022**

| Map ID | Name | Type | Acres | Parking Lot | Permanent Restroom | Concessions | Outdoor Lighting | Storage / Equipment Facility | Picnic Areas | Picnic Shelter/Pavilion | Picnic Tables | Gills | Gymnasium | Practice Ball Diamond | Little League Field (60' bases) | Batting Cage | Tennis Court | Hockey / Ice Skating - Indoor | Play Equipment | Multi-Purpose Facility | Football Field | Soccer Field | Basketball Hoop | Volleyball Court (Sand) | Walking/Jogging/Bike Path | Gazebo | Fishing | 18-hole Golf Course | Spray Park | Swimming Pool - Indoor | Open Space | Track | Shuffleboard | Dog Waste Station | Drinking Fountain | Skate Park | Meeting Space | | |
|-------------------------|---|------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|---------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|----------|--|
| OTHER FACILITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 36 | St. John's Golf Course and Conference Center | | 184.00 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 37 | Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex (PARC) | | 16.80 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 | | | | X | | | 4 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 38 | Blithe Family - Miracle League Plymouth | | 1.40 | X | X | X | X | X | | 1 | X | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 39 | USA Hockey Arena | | 25.00 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 40 | Victory Ice Arena | | 3.00 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41 | Western Wayne County Conservation Association | | 80 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | X | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 42 | TDMA/Leason Soccer Fields | | 6 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 43 | Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) | | 0.6 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 44 | Township Linear Park | | 19.64 | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Total Acreage and Facilities | | 335.44 | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| TOTALS | | | 1,097.78 | | | | | | 17 | 11 | 27 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 22 | 42 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |

Barrier Free Status of Parks (MDNR Rating)

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), all areas of public service and accommodation became subject to barrier-free requirements, including parks and recreation facilities and programs. Each City and Township park summary sheet included in this chapter notes an accessibility ranking (as defined and required by the MDNR) for the park.

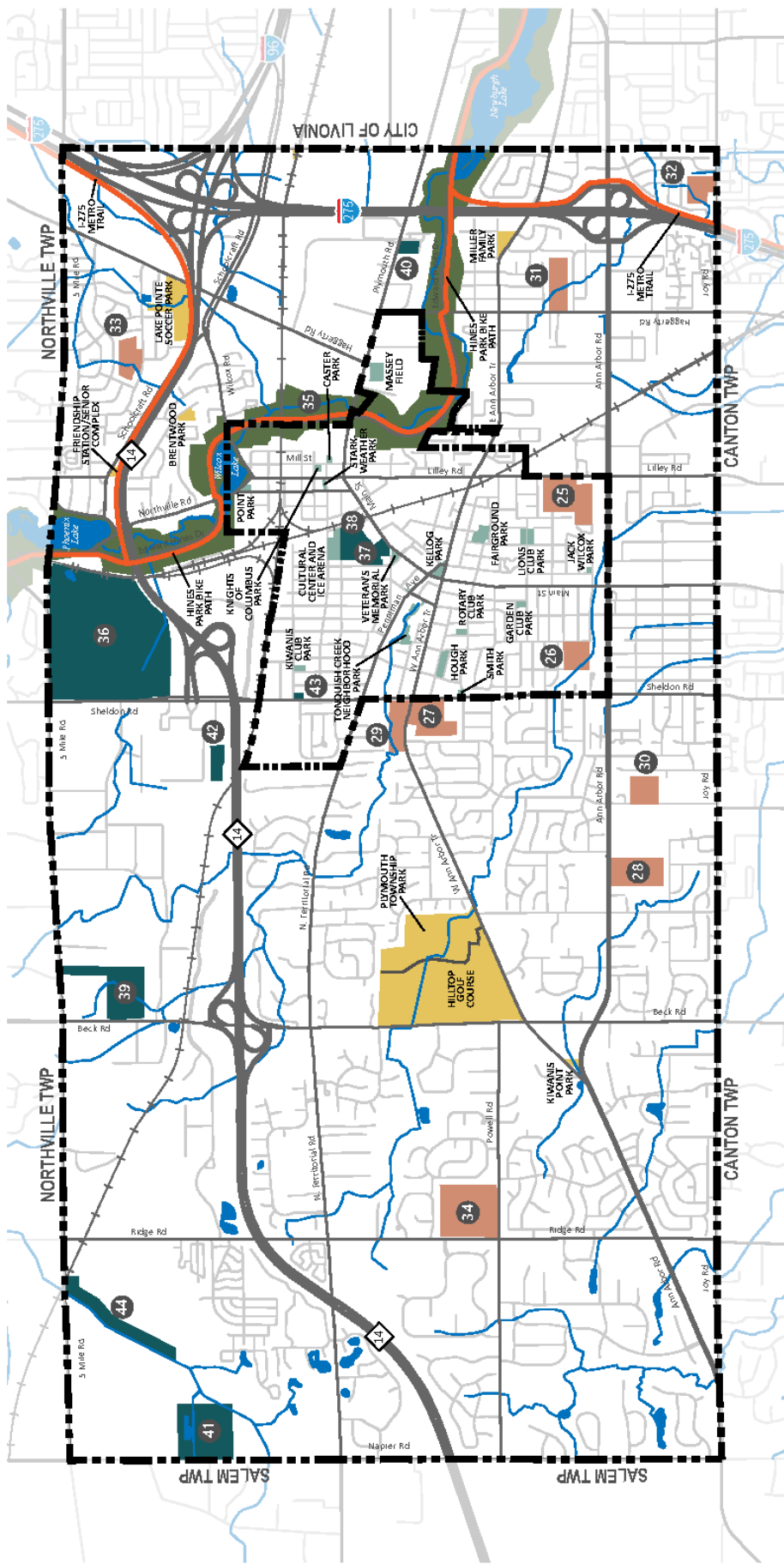
Each facility was given a rating of 1 through 5 (MDNR rating) with the following definitions:

1. None of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines
4. Entire park meets guidelines
5. Entire park was developed/renovated using principals of universal design

The barrier free status rating can change as ADA improvements are implemented over time.

In July 2004, the federal Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (known as the Access Board) issued updated guidelines, entitled the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), for new or altered facilities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336) or the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (Public Law 90-480).

The ADAAG guidelines should be referred to when designing new or renovated parks and recreation facilities.



RECREATION INVENTORY

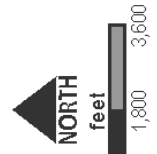
| | |
|---|--|
| City of Plymouth Parks | County Parks |
| Plymouth Township Parks | 35. Himes Park |
| Plymouth-Canton Schools | Other Facilities |
| 25. East Middle School | 36. St. John's Golf Course and Conference Center |
| 26. Smith Elementary School | 37. Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex (PARC) |
| 27. West Middle School | 38. Bilkie Family- Miracle League Plymouth |
| 28. Pioneer Middle School | 39. USA Hockey Arena |
| 29. Bird Elementary School | 40. Victory Ice Arena |
| 30. Isbister Elementary School | 41. Western Wayne County Conservation Assoc. |
| 31. Allen Early Learning Academy | 42. TDM/Vistone Soccer Fields |
| 32. Starkweather Academy | 43. Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) |
| 33. Farrand Elementary School | 44. Linear Park (Township owned) |
| 34. Miller Woods | Nonmotorized Trails |

LEGEND

| | |
|--|--|
| Major Roads | County Parks |
| Other Roads | 35. Himes Park |
| Railroad | Other Facilities |
| Rivers and Streams | 36. St. John's Golf Course and Conference Center |
| Municipal Boundary | 37. Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex (PARC) |

Recreation Inventory Source:
Inventory conducted by livingLAB,
December 2017

RECREATION INVENTORY MAP JOINT PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2018 - 2022



Plymouth Community Cultural Center + Ice Arena

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 4.23ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3
MDNR Grant: CM00-289 (2000)



The Plymouth Community Cultural Center is the City's only indoor recreation facility, located on 4.23 acres north of the privately held Plymouth Arts and Recreation Center (PARC). The Plymouth Cultural Center offers a wide variety of recreation opportunities including the NHL-sized geo-thermal Ice Arena used by organized hockey leagues and teams as well as for figure skating and open skating. Related facilities include a concession stand, 2 large locker rooms, 4 small locker rooms, zamboni storage garage, equipment rooms, and an ADA accessible viewing area of the rink.

In 2010, the City of Plymouth Commission authorized the removal of the original 1971 ice arena compressor / boiler heating system with a geothermal based ice refrigeration plant and heat reclamation system. The geo-thermal system has significantly reduced utility and maintenance costs.

In 2012, the meeting and banquet rooms were updated. The large banquet room can accommodate up to 180 people and includes a stage. Meeting rooms that accommodate up to 50 people are also available for smaller meetings and seminars. The banquet and meeting rooms are complimented by full kitchen facilities. At regular times throughout the year, the Cultural Center's meeting rooms are utilized by the Rotary Club of Plymouth, Plymouth Community Council on Aging, Plymouth Hockey Association, Plymouth Figure Skating Club, JC Auction Services, Western Suburban Soccer League, and various recreation classes.

Other features at the Cultural Center include lounge areas, indoor bathrooms, vending machines, outdoor picnic tables, outdoor benches, outdoor shuffleboard, and bike rack.

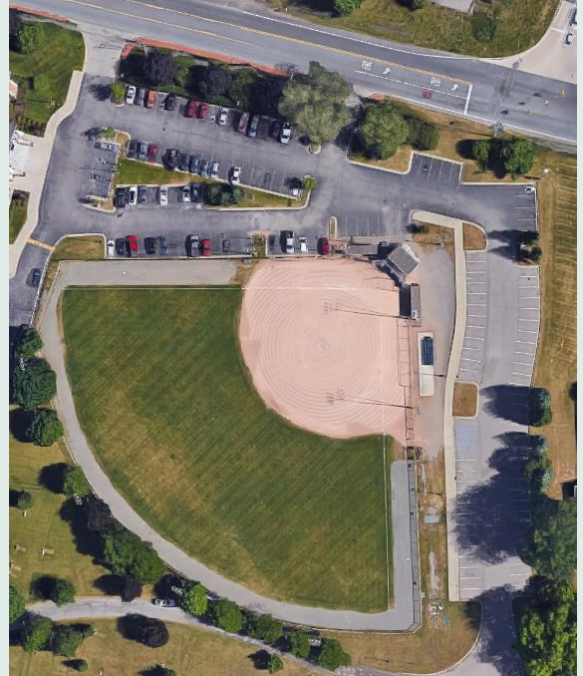


Don Massey Field

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 2.8 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



This community park is located on Plymouth Road in the eastern portion of the City. Don Massey Field is on approximately 2.8-acres on the east side of the City adjacent to the 35th District Court and Riverside Cemetery. The City's largest baseball/softball field accounts for the sole recreation facility and the majority of the property at the park. The outfield is used for U-7/U-8 soccer fields. The baseball/softball field features a two-story press box building, batting cage, bleachers, covered dugouts, electronic scoreboard, outdoor lighting and a drinking fountain. Additionally, a paved parking area serves the park.

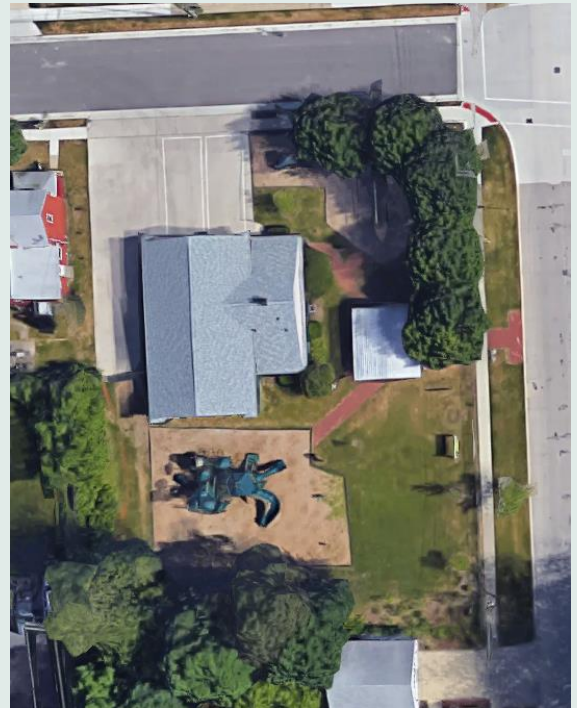


Knights of Columbus Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.5 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Knights of Columbus Park is a one-half acre neighborhood park located at the corner of Spring Street and Holbrook Avenue in the northeastern portion of the City. The primary recreation facilities at the Knights of Columbus Park include two playgrounds and a picnic shelter. The 5-12 year old play-structure and the picnic shelter are the two newest facilities at the park. The second older playground is designed for use by smaller children. The park also features two picnic tables, a bike rack, trash receptacles, and brick pathways.

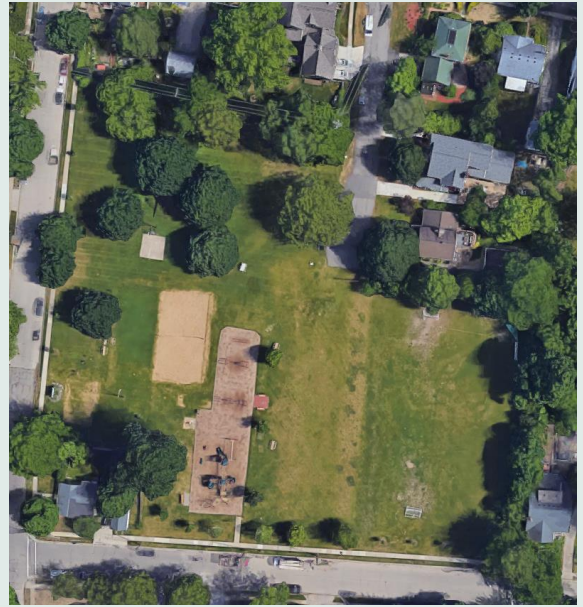


Fairground Park

Owner: City of Plymouth

Approx. Acres: 2.52 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 2



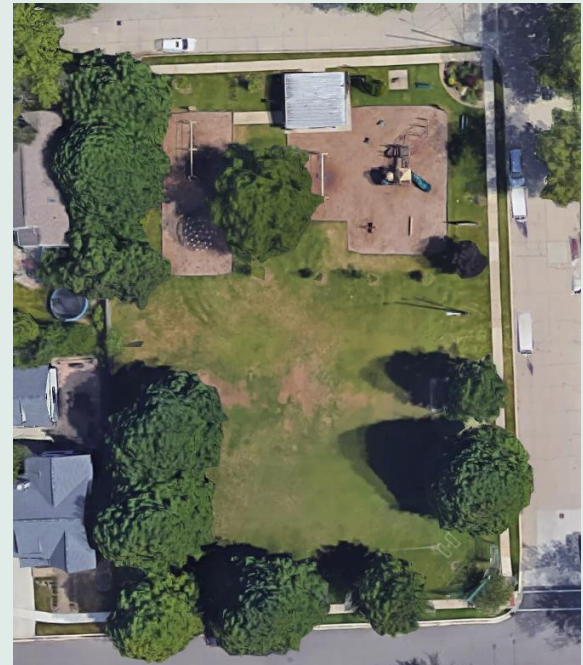
Fairground Park accommodates a variety of recreation facilities including a sand volleyball court, a basketball hoop with concrete playing area, a playground, a baseball field and a soccer field. It is important to note that the soccer field and baseball field are not regulation size and share the same undefined playing area in the eastern half of the park. A small sledding hill for use by small children is in the northern portion of the park. Additional amenities at the park include picnic tables, trash receptacles and outdoor lighting. The Fairground Park Association donates money toward improvements and assists with clean up.

Garden Club Park

Owner: City of Plymouth

Approx. Acres: 0.66 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3



Garden Club Park is located on a 0.66-acre parcel along Forest Avenue between Carol and Sutherland Avenues. This neighborhood park provides recreation opportunities for the neighborhoods located in the southwestern portion of the City of Plymouth.

Although it is a small park, several recreation facilities are found including one softball field (12 and under), a mini soccer field with two goals, a playground and a picnic shelter. In addition to the primary facilities, the park features benches, a bike rack, tire swing, swing set, picnic tables, a drinking fountain and trash receptacles. The park is also served by outdoor lighting.

Kiwanis Club Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.77 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 2

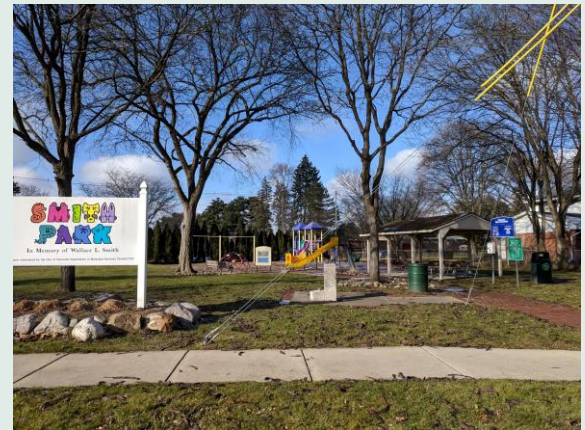


Kiwanis Club Park is a small neighborhood park found in the City's northwest corner. The 0.77-acre park is located along the east side of Auburn Avenue between Junction Avenue and Farmer Street.

Facilities at the park include a softball field for children 12 years and under and two soccer goals (not a full soccer field). With funds from Wayne County, the City and the Kiwanis Club, the pavilion was re-roofed and new play equipment and walkways were added. Additional park amenities include picnic tables, bike rack, drinking fountain, dog waste station, and trash receptacles.

Smith Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.37 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Smith Park (0.37-acres) is located at the end of Elm Avenue, near Sheldon Road along the western edge of the City. Although the main access to the park is from Elm Avenue, pedestrians can access the park from the Sheldon Road side. Smith Park features a playground area with a swing set, slide and other play pieces. A shelter with a picnic table is another main feature at the park and is extremely popular during summer months. Park benches, drinking fountain (people and dogs), dog waste station and trash receptacles are additional amenities.

Rotary Club Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.71 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Classified as a neighborhood park, Rotary Club Park occupies 0.71 acres of land at the intersection of Wing Street and Herald Street, southwest of downtown.

Rotary Club Park includes open space areas and an active recreation area including a playground and a shelter with picnic tables. Additional facilities at the park include benches, dog waste station and trash receptacles.

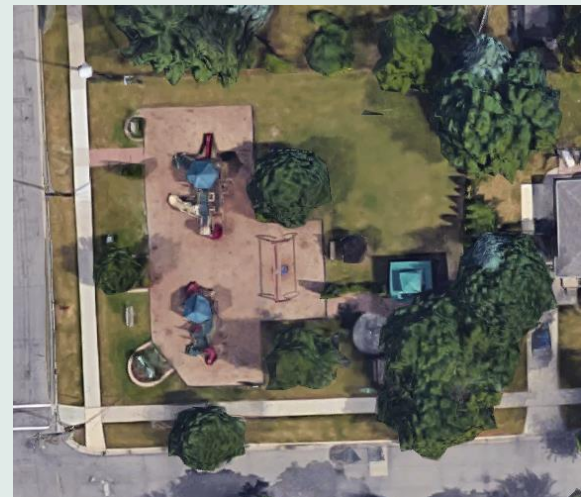


Jack Wilcox Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.28 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4

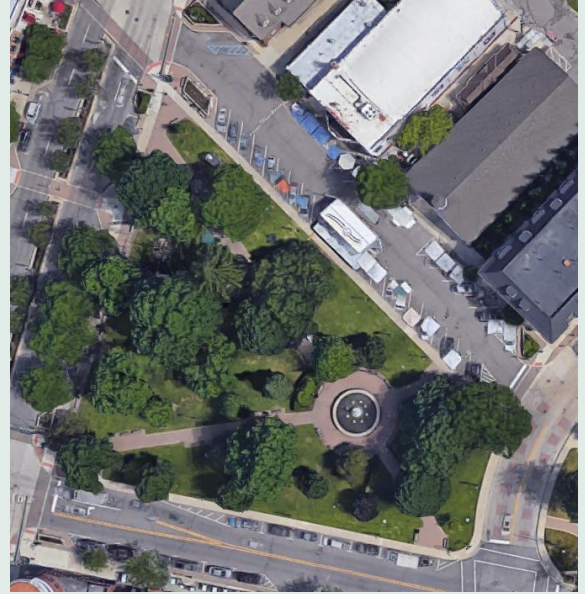


Jack Wilcox Park is a 0.28-acre park in the southern portion of the City at the corner of Dewey Avenue and Byron Avenue. This park features several recreation amenities including two playground structures and a shelter. Other features include benches, picnic tables, a grill, a drinking fountain (people and dogs), dog waste station and brick pathways.



Kellogg Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 1.14 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



With its central location in the heart of Downtown Plymouth, Kellogg Park is one of the City's most visible and busiest parks and community spaces. Kellogg Park includes a central water feature, drinking fountains, benches, trash receptacles and brick walkways. The park is most commonly utilized as a gathering, eating, people watching and resting spot for visitors and patrons of Plymouth's Central Business District. Many festivals and events are held at the park throughout the year including Art in the Park, Plymouth Fall Festival, Plymouth Ice Festival, Music in the Park Concerts, and private weddings.

Caster Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.42 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Caster Park is located near the corner of Farmer Street and Holbrook Avenue in the northeastern portion of the City. This 0.42 acre mini-park is in close proximity to two other City parks: Starkweather Park and Knights of Columbus Park. Caster Park includes a gazebo, benches and walkways connecting to Holbrook Street and the Starkweather Lofts.

Lion's Club Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 2.15 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Lions Club Park is a 2.15-acre neighborhood park located along Burroughs Avenue between Coolidge Street and Harding Avenue in the southeastern corner of Plymouth.

Lion's Club Park is comprised of two segments, divided by Burroughs Avenue. The parkland on the north side of Burroughs Avenue is undeveloped and maintained as natural open space along Tonquish Creek. The park's active recreation facilities are found on the south side of Burroughs Avenue including a large shelter with picnic tables, a playground area, grill, swing sets, benches, dog waste station, trash receptacles and outdoor lighting.



Point Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 0.67 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Point Park is a triangle shaped open space located in the northern portion of the City near Wilcox Lake at Starkweather Avenue and Mill Street. Point Park serves as an entryway to the northern portion of the City from Plymouth Township. Point Park does not include active recreation facilities. The park contains a central landscaping feature with shrubs that are shaped to spell "Plymouth," a flag pole, benches, paved walkways and outdoor lighting.



Starkweather Park

Owner: City of Plymouth

Approx. Acres: 0.24 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Starkweather Park is a small, 0.24-acre park on the north side of Caster Avenue between Starkweather Avenue and Mill Street in the northeastern corner of Plymouth. Facilities in the park include a gazebo, benches, dog waste station, landscaping beds, trash receptacles, brick walkways and outdoor lighting. The park is sometimes used as a location for private weddings.

Veteran's Memorial Park

Owner: City of Plymouth

Approx. Acres: 0.75 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Veteran's Memorial Park is located at the intersection of Main Street and Church Street, just south of the PARC facility in the center of Plymouth. The park includes open spaces, paved sidewalks and landscaping features. The park also features long-standing stone walls at its entrances and perimeter. The centerpiece of the park is the memorial plaza with a number of war memorials, flags and monuments. The park was privately funded by a conglomerate of veterans groups and multiple fundraising efforts. In addition, the local Veterans group established a park trust fund derived from the sale of a house located on Main Street in downtown Plymouth that was previously used for veteran's programs.

Hough Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 1.95 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: N/A

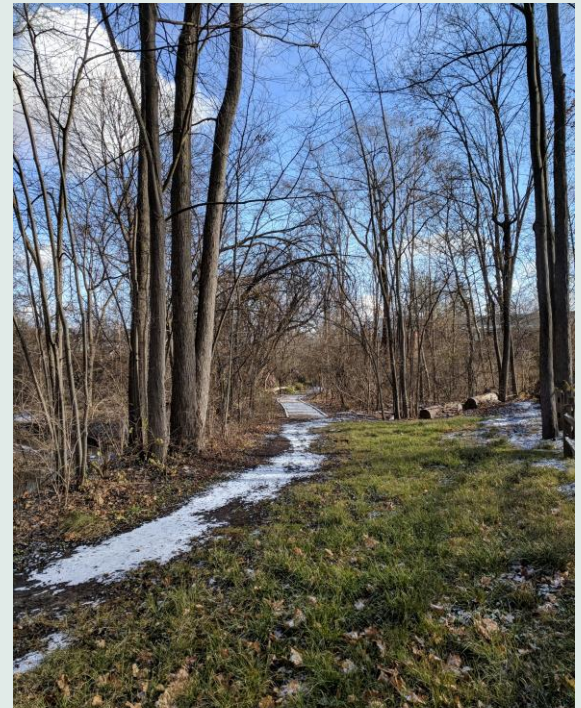


Hough Park is a 1.95 acre mini-park located between Maple Avenue and Park Place in the western portion of the City.

The park is undeveloped open space with significant trees and natural areas. The park is utilized mainly by the neighboring residents for passive recreational purposes such as dog walking.

Tonquish Creek Park

Owner: City of Plymouth
Approx. Acres: 1.72 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: N/A
MDNR Grant: 26-00087 (1967)



Tonquish Creek Neighborhood Park is a 1.72-acre neighborhood park and walking trail that is located north of Sheridan Street and connects to Harvey Street in the western portion of the City. The park is undeveloped open space with an informal walking trail, extensive trees, benches, lamp posts and natural areas. The park is utilized mainly by the neighboring residents for passive recreational purposes such as nature walks.

Plymouth Township Programs and Facilities

As is noted in the Administrative Structure section of this Plan, the Township does not have a Parks and/or Recreation Department. Recreation programming opportunities are offered by the City of Plymouth, the Plymouth-Canton School District and a number of private or non-profit agencies within and surrounding the Plymouth Community.

Plymouth Township (and the City) works closely with the *Plymouth Community Council on Aging* (PCCA) to provide social and recreation activities to seniors in the community. The PCCA offices are in Township Hall and the Township Friendship Station building is utilized by the PCCA who organizes and offers programs such as line dancing, cardio exercise, yoga, chair exercise, bingo, knitting, cards, lunches, and a variety of talks on subjects such as elder care, diabetes, etc. Day trips are also organized to a variety of restaurants and activities throughout metro Detroit.

The Township's Friendship Station is also home to the *Plymouth Community Senior Transportation* program (shared funding with the City of Plymouth). The program provides rides to residents 60 years old and older within and around the Plymouth community for a nominal fee.

Plymouth Township handles all use requests and scheduling of fields and facilities within their parks. This includes a *reservation system* for the various shelters and pavilions at Plymouth Township Park and Lake Pointe Soccer Park. Township residents and Township resident groups are able to reserve the various shelters and pavilions prior to them being available to other non-Township groups and are also provided a discounted rate. Plymouth Township residents contribute to the support of the Township facilities through property taxes, therefore, Township residents are charged lesser rates for reservations. For example, a Township resident group can reserve the shelter at Lake Pointe Soccer Park for \$225 on a weekend while a non-resident group is charged \$450.

Plymouth Township owns 7 public park and recreation facilities that encompass approximately 176.4 acres of land including Plymouth Township Park and Hilltop Golf Course. In addition, residents of the Plymouth Community are served by several properties owned by the school district, Wayne County, as well as private and/or non-profit recreation providers.

Plymouth Township Park

Owner: Plymouth Township

Approx. Acres: 70 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3

MDNR Grants: 26-00607 (1975)
and 26-01710 (2011)



The Amrhein farm property was purchased in 1969 and developed into Township Park which is located adjacent to the Township's 18-hole Hilltop Golf Course. The approximately 70-acre Township Park includes 4 shelters, walking paths, ¼ mile nature trail (2016), 2 large playgrounds (1 added in 2017 that is ADA accessible), fishing pond and accessible dock, 4 baseball diamonds (3 lighted and 1 planned), sledding hill, and spray/splash park. Other features include the Rockwell Sculptures installed in 1986 by Peter Rockwell, and Alexander's Express Train (play piece) for young children installed in 2014. Tonquish Creek traverses through the golf course and park with interpretive signs installed within the park.



The 4 shelters/pavilions are available for reservation. The 3 outdoor-covered shelters have an 80-100 person capacity with tables, electricity, restrooms attached or nearby as well as grills. The newest four-seasons pavilion is located at the top of the sled hill and adjacent to the ball diamonds and includes a covered outdoor area with seating for 120 as well as an indoor, airconditioned, 1500 square foot area with seating for 80 people, indoor snack bar and indoor restrooms.

The spray/splash area (2003) is open from Memorial Weekend through Labor Day each year (weather permitting). The walking paths (with benches) intertwine and can range in loop distances of 1/3 mile to nearly 1 mile. A park maintenance building is in the southwest corner of the park.



Hilltop Golf Course

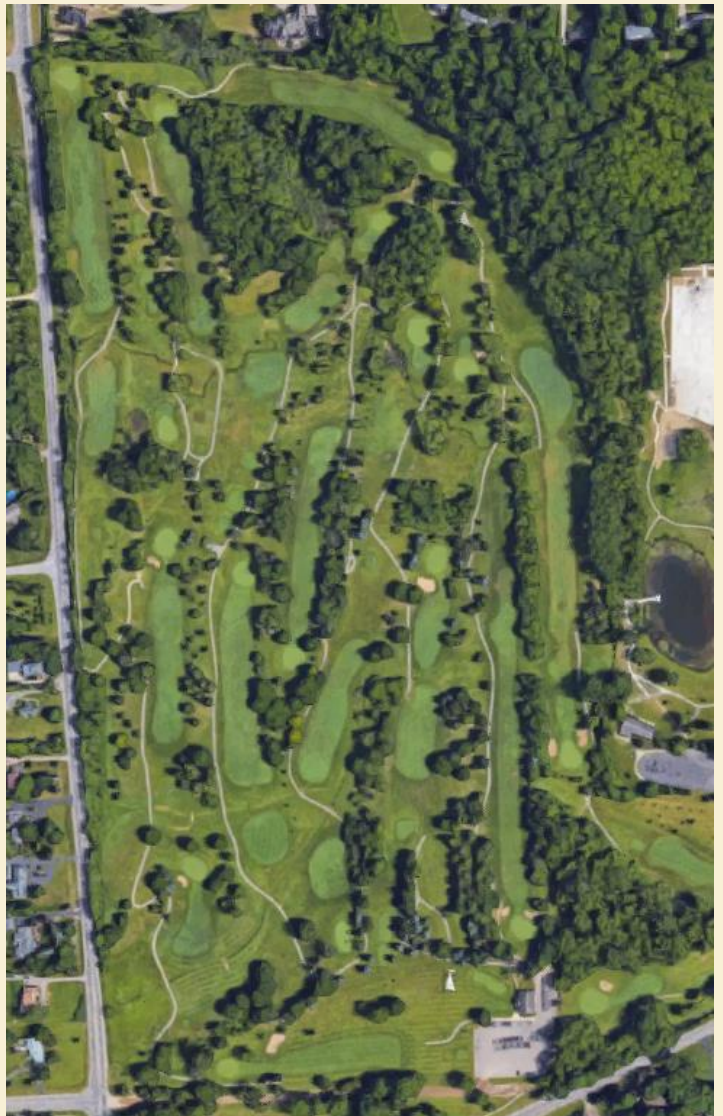
Owner: Plymouth Township

Approx. Acres: 86 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



The 18-hole Hilltop Golf Course (approximately 86-acres) and pro shop is a par 70, 6,009-yard course adjacent to Township Park. The golf-course is owned by the Township and managed by Billy Casper Golf. Lessons, memberships, leagues and footgolf are offered. The golf course includes a clubhouse, golf shop, practice chipping/putting green and parking lot. Residents receive a discount on membership prices and greens fees.



Lake Pointe Soccer Park

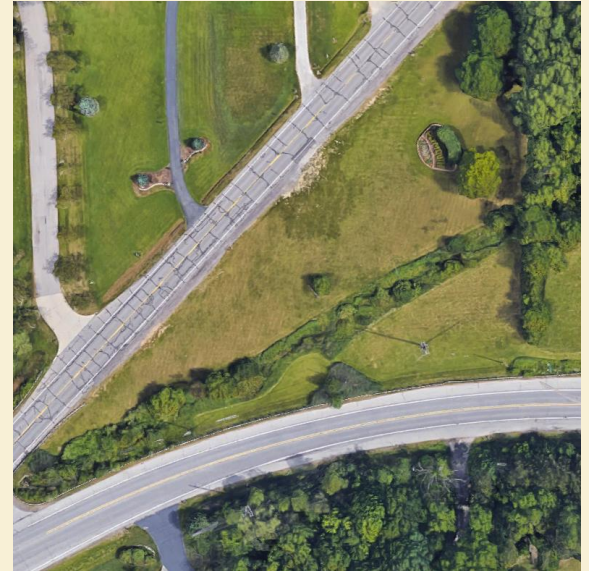
Owner: Plymouth Township
Approx. Acres: 12.09 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



The 12-acre Lake Pointe Soccer Park (opened in 2004) is in the northeast section of the Township between Schoolcraft and Haggerty Roads. It includes two irrigated soccer fields, a loop pathway with benches (approximately ½ mile) around the park, a shelter/pavilion (80-person capacity) with grill, picnic tables and restrooms, and a playground area. The 275 Metro Trail runs between the south edge of the park and M-14.

Kiwanis Point Park

Owner: Plymouth Township
Approx. Acres: 4.57 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: N/A



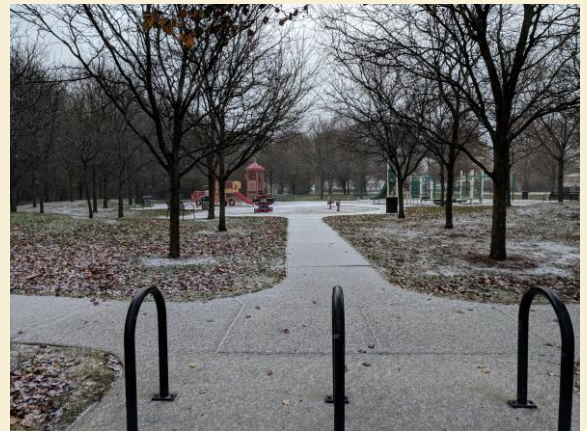
The approximately 4.5-acre Kiwanis Point Park is a triangle of open space formed at the intersection/split of Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail on the west side of the Township. It includes a landscaped area with plantings that spell out “Plymouth”.

Miller Family Park

Owner: Plymouth Township
Approx. Acres: 3.67 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4
MDNR Grant: CM99-164 (1999)



Miller Family Park is an approximately 3.67-acre neighborhood park on the east side along Ann Arbor Trail. It includes open space, a playground area, drinking fountain, benches, bike racks and picnic tables. The park property was donated by Claire Haske in memory of Pete, Adele and Keith Miller.

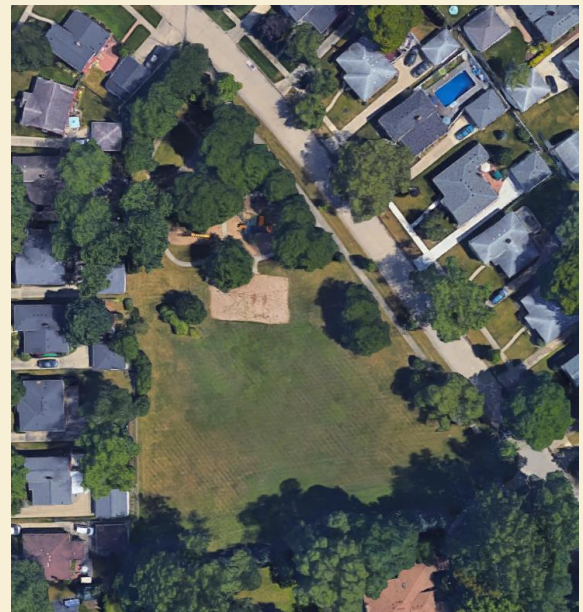


Brentwood Park

Owner: Plymouth Township
Approx. Acres: 1.67 ac
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



Brentwood Park is an approximately 1.67-acre neighborhood park within the Lake Pointe subdivision, along Brentwood Drive, in the northeast portion of the Township. The park includes general open space, playground area, benches and picnic tables.



Friendship Station/Seniors

Owner: Plymouth Township

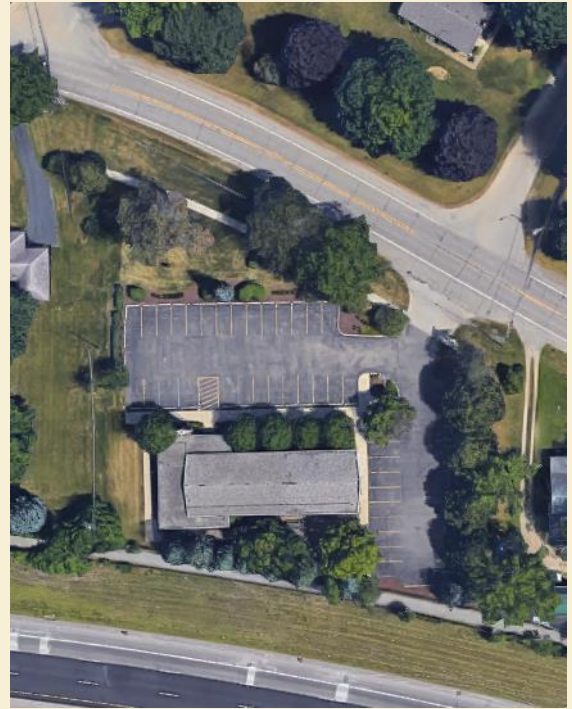
Approx. Acres: 0.98 ac

MDNR Accessibility Rating: 4



The Friendship Station Senior Complex is on approximately 1-acre of land in the northeast portion of the Township along Schoolcraft Road, just north of M-14. The building is utilized by the Plymouth Community Council on Aging (PCCA) – a nonprofit organized to coordinate programs that promote and safeguard the independence and well-being of senior citizens of the greater Plymouth community. The PCCA is sponsored by Plymouth Township, City of Plymouth, Plymouth Department of Parks and Recreation, Plymouth Community United Way and Senior Alliance. Activities at Friendship Station are varied such as line dancing, cardio exercise, yoga, chair exercise, bingo, knitting, cards, lunches, and a variety of talks on subjects such as elder care, diabetes, etc. Day trips are also organized to a variety of restaurants and activities throughout metro Detroit. The PCCA publishes a monthly “Senior Sentinel” newsletter highlighting the various activities.

The Friendship Station is also home to the Plymouth Community Senior Transportation program. The program provides rides to residents 60 years old and older within and around the Plymouth community for a nominal fee.



Plymouth Township Grant History

When preparing a 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that information be provided concerning grants that have been received in the past for acquisition or development of recreation facilities. In the past, the Township has received three grants via the MDNR for recreation facility development. A brief assessment of each project is noted and completed Post-Completion Self Certification Reports PR1944 are provided in the Appendix.

Plymouth Township MDNR Grant History

Grant Title: Plymouth Recreation Park

Grant Number: 26-00607

Grant Amount: \$16,124.80

Year Awarded: 1975

Scope Items: Develop park to include parking, road, site improvement for play area and sledding hill, picnic equipment, LWCF sign, sidewalks, creek improvements, landscaping, trails, and pond area.

Current Status: Township Park remains in Township ownership and good condition for public outdoor recreation.

Plymouth Township MDNR Grant History

Grant Title: Miller Family Park

Grant Number: CM99-164

Grant Amount: \$172,500.00

Year Awarded: 1999

Scope Items: Development of a new park including landscaping, benches, drinking fountains, play structures for children, climbing sculptures, signage, and a sidewalk.

Current Status: Property remains in Township ownership and grounds and park elements are in good condition for public outdoor recreation.

Grant Title: Township Park Multi-Purpose Pavilion Development

Grant Number: 26-01710

Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

Year Awarded: 2011

Scope Items: Development including construction of a new multi-purpose pavilion including a drinking fountain, restrooms, fireplace, and picnic tables between the baseball diamonds and sled hill.

Current Status: Property and four-season pavilion remains in Township ownership and in good condition for public outdoor recreation.

Other Township Properties

The Township owns 19.64-acres in the northwest portion of the Township, identified as Township Linear Park, on Inventory Map. The property is zoned as public land and intended for recreation and environmental protection of Johnson Creek. There are no facilities on the property.

Public School Facilities

The Plymouth-Canton Community School District owns and operates 10 properties in the Plymouth Community. This includes 3 Middle Schools, 4 Elementary Schools, the Allen Early Learning Academy, Starkweather Academy and the 40-acre Miller Woods. These 10 properties amount to approximately 163 acres within the Plymouth Community. Facilities at each school property are detailed on the Inventory Table. While the School District continues to own the former Central Middle School property, they have entered into a land contract with the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC) that rents space to facilitate cultural events, fine arts and recreational activities. Many of the public school facilities include open space areas, playgrounds and indoor gymnasiums.

The 40-acre **Miller Woods** was purchased by the School District in 1968 from the Miller family who requested it be preserved. It was designated a nature preserve in 1991. The Friends of Miller Woods was formed in 1975 with the goal of inspiring responsible stewardship of the historic high forest through education and community awareness.



Hines Park - Wayne County Facilities

In terms of total acreage, Wayne County's Hines Park (2300 acres) is the largest recreation facility comprising approximately 405 acres within the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township. The park encompasses the properties along both sides of Edward Hines Drive as it

traverses through the City of Plymouth and the eastern portion of Plymouth Township. The segment of Hines Park within Plymouth is part a larger linear park and trail system operated by Wayne County Parks that stretches 17.5 miles along Hines Drive and the Rouge River from Northville to Dearborn, connecting communities in between. The linear parkway consists of undeveloped natural open spaces along Hines Drive with developed recreation areas and parking areas at points within the parkway. Each of these recreation areas are given a separate name. Within Plymouth and Plymouth Township, four such facilities within Hines Park are found:

Wilcox Lake Recreation Area

This area within Hines Park is found on the north side of Wilcox Lake in Plymouth Township. The Wilcox Picnic Area is located on Wilcox Lake. It features a small shelter, play equipment and fishing docks. Wilcox Lake is one of four impoundments built along the middle branch of the Rouge River by settlers in the 1800's to power a mill. The old Hardenberg Gristmill was built around 1850 and powered from the dam on Wilcox Lake, fostering the growth of a settlement that became the City of Plymouth. The historic mill was purchased by Henry Ford in 1922 and converted into a Village Industry Plant that produced taps (device used to manufacture screws). This cottage industry plant became an important manufacturer of small parts for the Pratt and Whitney airplane engine during World War II. The mill was given to the Wayne County Park Trustees by Ford Motor Company for incorporation into Hines Park in 1949.

Gunsolly Mills Recreation Area

This recreation area is found along Hines Drive between Wilcox Road and Plymouth Road. Formally the home of a carding mill frequented by Henry Ford and his family to have their wool carded (carding cleans, separates, and straightens the wool fibers, producing lofty wool ready for spinning into yarn). This site now houses a picnic shelter with a children's play structure and a radio car race track that is open during daylight hours.

Plymouth Riverside Recreation Area

This area is located within the City of Plymouth along the banks of the Middle Rouge River. One of the oldest picnic areas in Hines Park, this scenic area offers a combination of facilities and settings. The historic comfort station is architecturally significant and ADA accessible. Patterned after a train station, this structure was built in 1926 and is complemented with a picnic shelter and a play structure.

Haggerty Recreation Area

This recreation area within Hines Park is found along Hines Drive southeast of the City of Plymouth. This area has two soccer fields, two ball diamonds, and a Tudor-style comfort station. This area is utilized for sport activities and is home to the First Responders Memorial.

Regional Nonmotorized Trails

Two regionally significant nonmotorized trails travel through the Plymouth community, the **275 Metro Trail** and the **Hines Drive Bike Path**. As noted on the TrailLink website, the 275 Metro Trail began back in the 1970s as the Michigan Department of Transportation's response to the then-fuel crisis. The trail was ahead of its time, but construction standards were not up to the standards of today's pedestrian and bike trails, and the path fell into disrepair.

Significant improvements have taken place over the past 5 years with the paved trail running from Novi in the north and New Boston in the south. The Friends of the 275 Metro Trail is an active group of volunteers that advocate and assist with clean up activities.



The **Hines Bike Path** is 17.5 miles long within Hines Park and traversing along Hines Drive. A portion of the Hines Drive Bike Path helps to connect the northern and southern sections of the 275 Metro Trail. The Hines Bike Path and 275 Metro Trail connect to and provide access to numerous miles of other regional trail corridors in metropolitan Detroit.

Other Recreation Facilities/Offerings

There are other private and/or non-profit entities within the Plymouth community that can assist in providing diverse and comprehensive recreation opportunities to the community. In addition to those described here there are a number of fitness studios/gyms in the Plymouth community.

Existing Residential Subdivision Open Space

A number of the neighborhoods developed in Plymouth Township include common, shared open space (not owned by Township) that was set aside when the neighborhoods were approved for construction. These include neighborhoods such as Trailwood, Walnut Creek, Colony Farms, Westbriar Village, Ridgewood Hills, Plymouth Commons, Fox Pointe, etc. These areas remain as natural areas within the neighborhoods for passive and

active recreation and gathering areas for neighborhood residents.

The Inn at St. John's Golf Course and Conference Center

The Inn at St. John's Golf Course and Conference Center is located along Sheldon Road in Plymouth Township. This 27-hole golf course located on approximately 184 acres also features a clubhouse building, pro shop, indoor golf range, hotel, restaurants, chapel and wedding and conference center.

Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex (PARC)



The non-profit PARC is located at the PARC complex (former Central Middle School) in downtown Plymouth. Their mission is to enrich lives

through quality arts, education and recreation programs for all ages. PARC signed a Purchase Agreement in 2015 to purchase the property from the Plymouth-Canton School District with private funds. PARC serves as the landlord of the facility and houses a number tenants that run a variety of programs such as theater productions, youth sports, culinary arts classes, orchestra concerts and arts education. Tenants range from the Michigan Philharmonic to the Detroit-based College for Creative Studies. The existing PARC facility also includes a swimming pool, gymnasium and outdoor athletic fields.

PARC is proposing a \$30 million public/private partnership to renovate the existing building as well as construct an 800-seat performing arts center between the existing building and the Cultural Center/Ice Arena.

Bilkie Family – Miracle Field



The Miracle League of Plymouth is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing children with physical and mental disabilities an opportunity to play organized baseball. The league is non-competitive, with all players getting to bat and circle the bases

each inning. The Miracle League is for 5 and older with a Spring and Fall season. The Plymouth T-ball league uses the Bilkie Family Miracle League field for their programs. The City manages the Miracle League registration and janitorial services in exchange for using the field for T-ball.

USA Hockey Arena

The 25-acre Compuware Sports Arena site is located on Beck Road in Plymouth Township. The multi-purpose ice sports facility is home to the USA Hockey's National Team Development Program. In addition, summer camps, open skate, and learn to skate/play programs are offered. The facility includes a restaurant/brewery and can also accommodate special events such as music concerts, trade shows and graduation commencements.

Victory Ice Arena

The Victory Ice Arena (formerly Arctic Pond) is located east of the City on Plymouth Road in Plymouth Township. The facility is home to the Victory Honda AAA Hockey Club. The Arena was rebuilt in 2017/2018 and includes a pro shop, concession stand, and locker rooms.

Western Wayne County Conservation Association

The Western Wayne County Conservation Association operates an approximately 80-acre parcel in the western portion of Plymouth Township. The association is a sportsman's club created to promote the conservation of natural resources and wildlife in Michigan. The property includes a clubhouse building and a number of outdoor shooting/archery ranges.

TDM/Visteon Soccer Fields

Two irrigated soccer fields (11v11) were built by the City in 1993 on TDM/Visteon property (just north of M-14). The fields are maintained by the City with TDM providing water and electric. TDMs adult teams utilize the fields on Thursday evenings and Sundays.

Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC)

The Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) was founded in 1969 to provide quality fine and performing arts, and cultural opportunities to the greater Western Wayne County community. Programs and activities focus on ensuring accessibility to all the arts by all ages. The PCAC's mission is to develop and to promote the appreciation and accessibility of the Arts for everyone in the greater community and in doing so, encourage and foster artistic excellence.



In 1995, PCAC acquired and renovated the current building on 774 North Sheldon and then dedicated it in January 1998 as the Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts. In 2001 PCAC also

received a donation of a second building, The Artsco House directly adjacent for artist studios, media center, additional classroom space and program offices. The PCAC complex now provides arts education classes, a theater program, concerts, lectures & seminars, recitals, workshops, artist studio space, community-based enrichment activities & private rentals, all on site.

Plymouth YMCA

The YMCA has an office in downtown Plymouth and partners with facilities, parks and other organizations to provide programs and services throughout the Plymouth/Canton area.

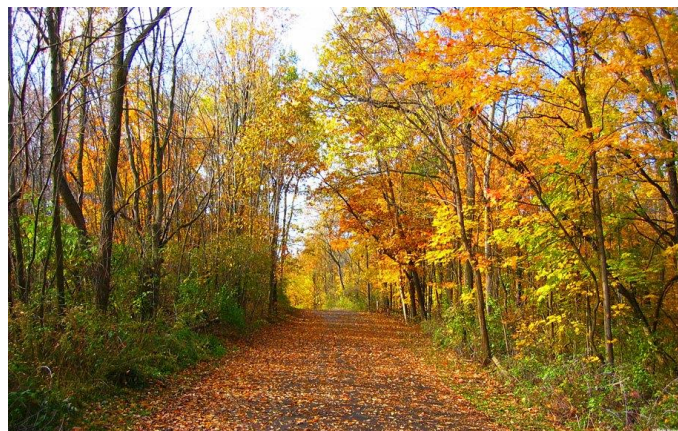
Significant Facilities Outside of Plymouth

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

Commonly known as PCEP or "The Park", the 305-acre campus is just south of Plymouth Township and includes three public secondary schools – Salem High School, Canton High School, Plymouth High School. Facilities include swimming pools, performing arts auditorium, gymnasiums, an 8,000-seat football and field events stadium, two tracks, nature trail, numerous baseball and softball fields, soccer fields and tennis courts.

Maybury State Park

The MDNR's Maybury State Park is just north of Plymouth in Northville Township and contains almost 1,000 acres of gently rolling terrain, open meadow, mature forest, and a variety of wildlife and abundant wildflowers. The park includes numerous trails for hiking, biking, mountain biking, equestrians and cross-country skiing. Maybury also includes picnic areas, shelters, playground, restrooms, riding stables, and a fishing pond.





Miracle League of Plymouth



Basis For Action

This section of the Plan is intended to further analyze a variety of factors within and outside of the Plymouth Community that may have an affect on recreation trends and/or planned improvements over the next five years. This chapter provides the rationale for the goals, objectives, and desired capital improvements. This rationale is based on analysis and consideration of many elements including: current recreation trends, comparison of parks to national benchmarks, service area gaps, demographic trends, existing plans, and results of community and staff input. It should be noted that each piece of information and analysis contained within this section must be considered as one piece of the puzzle and as one piece of the whole bigger picture. Each of the factors discussed contributes to the determination of need.

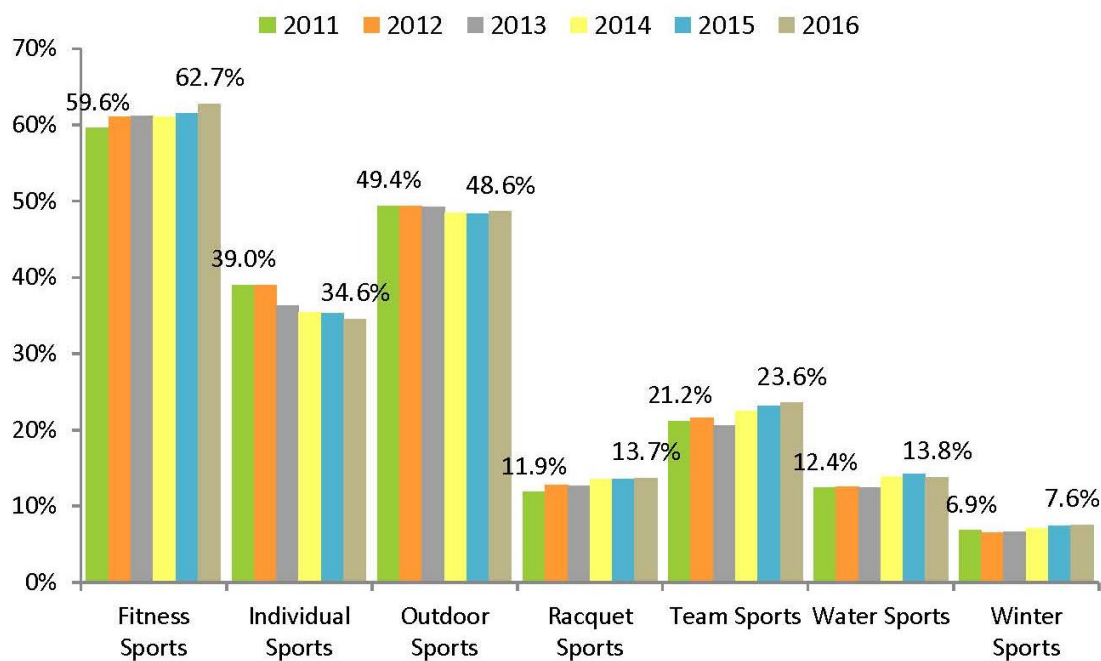
Recreation Trends

Recreation trends occurring nationally may provide insight into activities that can be expected to draw a large number of participants and activities that have shown the greatest growth in popularity. The Physical Activity Council published a 2017 Participation Report tracking sports, fitness, and recreation participation in the US. The data was collected via 24,000+ online interviews in 2016 and early 2017.

Sports and activities are grouped into 1 of 7 categories: Fitness Sports, Individual Sports, Outdoor Sports, Racquet Sports, Team Sports, Water Sports and Winter Sports. Most categories showed a moderate increase in participation from 2015 to 2016. Fitness sports/activities (such as dance, pilates, jogging, walking for fitness, aquatics, stair-climbing, weights) had the most gain, increasing 2% over the last year. Water Sports (such as canoeing, sailing, snorkeling, surfing, waterskiing) saw the greatest loss with a 3% decrease. Team Sports (such as gymnastics, baseball, cheerleading, hockey, soccer, volleyball) continued to gain momentum, adding 2% from 2015 and averaging a 5% increase over the last three years.



Participation Rates: % of Individuals Ages 6+



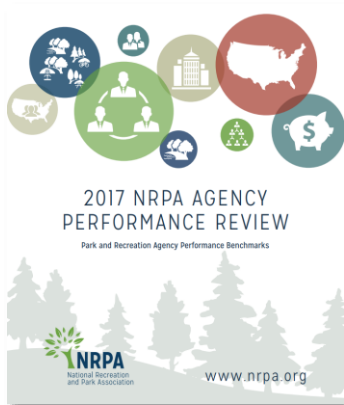
*Winter Sports are based on season

*See Appendix for breakdown of sports included in each category

National Benchmarks

An additional planning tool available for parks and recreation agencies is the *2017 National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review*. The review provides for valuable benchmarks and insights that help:

- guide professionals in the evaluation of performance of their agencies
- make informed decisions on the optimal set of service and facility offerings based on demographics while also providing comparative agency data from other communities/agencies
- show prevalence of expanded activities and offerings of agencies throughout the nation



Data is a valuable tool but not the final answer in terms of decision-making. This benchmarking data and metrics can be used as a piece of the overall conversation as the City and Township move forward. The 2017 NRPA report contains data from 925 park

and recreation agencies across the United States as reported between 2014 and 2016. Additional data (by size of jurisdiction) was pulled from interactive tables at www.nrpa.org/metrics.

The data on the following pages highlights metrics for the typical park and recreation agency with a population of less than 20,000 (as is the case for the City of Plymouth) and a second page for typical agencies with a population of 20,000 - 49,999 (as is the case for Plymouth Township). A comparison of City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township (using SEMCOG 2017 population estimates) data is provided based on the most recent inventory and latest expenditure and revenue data. *This data and comparison is intended to continue to inform the Action Plan and discussions over the next 5 years. Every agency and community needs are different.*

A table is also included to benchmark the current facility offerings in the City and Township to other jurisdictions in the United States with similar populations. Details regarding size, condition, etc. are not considered and

comparison data is available for only a limited number of facility types.

The data includes a comparison to City or Township-only owned facilities as well as a column that combines the facilities owned by the Township and the City. Certainly, indoor and outdoor facilities owned by other public, quasi-public, or private entities can assist in providing many of the compared facility types (i.e. Wayne County, School District, PARC, etc.), however, those are not under the control of the City or Township in terms of use, scheduling, maintenance and/or improvements.

Items highlighted in red are those that fall below the benchmark for typical agencies in the same population range as Plymouth and/or Plymouth Township. The Township falls below the benchmark for all compared outdoor facility types with the exception of youth softball fields. Also, the Township's population (27,566) is just less than the benchmark for facilities such as a cricket field (1 for every 29,941 residents) and Dog Park (1 for every 29,683 residents). The City also falls below the benchmark for compared outdoor facility types for communities with less than 20,000 people, with the exception of playgrounds. The City has 1 playground for every 1,124 residents as compared to the benchmark of 1 for every 2,258 people. When combining the municipally owned facilities in the Plymouth Community, the communities exceed the benchmark for playgrounds and youth softball fields.

The comparison for Indoor Facilities is a bit more challenging as the benchmark data includes individual figures for Recreation Centers, Gyms, Community Centers, Senior Centers, etc. It is difficult to fully understand exactly what size these facilities may be or what types of offerings may or may not be included in each of these category types. When looking at the combined municipally owned facilities in the Plymouth Community, there are less of these types of indoor facilities per resident than the benchmark figures.

The Typical Park + Recreation Agency

(population less than 20,000)

1 Park for every **1,331** residents

10.5 acres of parkland per
1,000 residents

\$917,000 annual operating
expenditures (median)

\$650,000 budgeted over next
5 years for capital expenditures

Recovers **29%** of operating
expenditures through revenue
generation (not including grants)

10.2 FTEs
(full-time equivalents)
(mix of full-time and part-time employees)

City of Plymouth

(population 8,992)

SEMCOG July 2017

1 Park for every **529** residents

2.43 acres of parkland per
1,000 residents

\$1.22 M annual operating
expenditures (median)

Not Available

Recovers **63% - 77%** of
operating expenditures
through revenue generation
(not including grants | past 4 years)

6.5 FTEs
(full-time equivalents)
(mix of full-time and part-time employees
does not include contractual or seasonals)

Source: 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Review

The Typical Park + Recreation Agency

(population 20,000 - 49,999)

1 Park for every 1,901 residents

9.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents

\$2.7 M annual operating expenditures (median)

\$2.77 M budgeted over next 5 years for capital expenditures

Recovers 26% of operating expenditures through revenue generation (not including grants)

26 FTEs
(full-time equivalents)
(mix of full-time and part-time employees)

Plymouth Township

(population 27,566)

SEMCOG July 2017

1 Park for every 3,938 residents

6.4* acres of parkland per 1,000 residents

\$422k annual operating expenditures (median)

Not Available

Recovers 7% - 13% of operating expenditures through revenue generation (not including grants | past 4 years)

3.5 FTEs
(full-time equivalents)
(mix of full-time and part-time employees does not include Twp Supervisor; does not include contractual or seasonals)

Source: 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Review

** In addition, Township subdivisions often have larger lots as well as common open space as part of the subdivision development.*

Plymouth Township and City of Plymouth Facilities Comparison

Bench Marked to 2017 NPRA Agency Performance Review - Facilities

Plymouth Township Population 27,566 (SEMCOG 2017)

City of Plymouth Population 8,992 (SEMCOG 2017)

Combined Population 36,558

OUTDOOR FACILITIES

| | Plymouth Township | | | City of Plymouth | | | Joint Plymouth Community | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by Plymouth Township | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by Plymouth Township | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by City of Plymouth | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by City of Plymouth | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by Township OR City | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by Township OR City |
| Playgrounds | 3,010 | 5 | 5,513 | 2,258 | 8 | 1,124 | 3,010 | 13 | 2,812 |
| Basketball Courts | 6,875 | 0 | N/A | 3,850 | 1 (a) | 8,992 | 6,875 | 1 (a) | 36,558 |
| Dog Park | 29,683 | 0 | N/A | 9,695 | 0 | N/A | 29,683 | 0 | N/A |
| Community Gardens | 26,639 | 0 | N/A | 8,500 | 0 | N/A | 26,639 | 0 | N/A |
| Diamond Fields: baseball-youth | 5,509 | 4 | 6,891 | 3,167 | 1 (b) | 8,992 | 5,509 | 5 | 7,311 |
| Diamond Fields: baseball - adult | 21,277 | 0 | N/A | 8,106 | 0 | N/A | 21,277 | 0 | N/A |
| Diamond Fields: softball fields - adult | 10,656 | 0 | N/A | 5,240 | 0 | N/A | 10,656 | 0 | N/A |
| Diamond Fields: softball fields - youth | 9,157 | 4 | 6,891 | 4,994 | 0 | N/A | 9,157 | 4 | 9,139 |
| Rectangular Fields: soccer field | 10,065 | 2 | 13,783 | 8,033 | 0 | N/A | 10,065 | 2 | 18,279 |
| Rectangular Fields: football field | 16,914 | 0 | N/A | 7,860 | 0 | N/A | 16,914 | 0 | N/A |
| Rectangular Fields: lacrosse field | 14,737 | 0 | N/A | 6,661 | 0 | N/A | 14,737 | 0 | N/A |
| Rectangular Fields: cricket field | 29,941 | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 | N/A | 29,941 | 0 | N/A |
| Rectangular Fields: field hockey | 19,250 | 0 | N/A | 12,581 | 0 | N/A | 19,250 | 0 | N/A |
| Multiuse courts - basketball, volleyball | 12,956 | 0 | N/A | 5,996 | 0 | N/A | 12,956 | 0 | N/A |
| Ice rink (outdoor) | 21,698 | 0 | N/A | 7,955 | 0 | N/A | 21,698 | 0 | N/A |
| Multipurpose synthetic field | 17,802 | 0 | N/A | 0 | 0 | N/A | 17,802 | 0 | N/A |

Does not consider condition.

(a) 1 hoop in Fairground Park.

(b) Don Massey Field plus 3 practice fields

Source: 2017 NPRA Agency Performance Review

Plymouth Township and City of Plymouth Facilities Comparison

Bench Marked to 2017 NPRPA Agency Performance Review - Facilities

Plymouth Township Population 27,566 (SEMCOG 2017)
 City of Plymouth Population 8,992 (SEMCOG 2017)
 Combined Population 36,558

INDOOR FACILITIES

| | Plymouth Township | | | City of Plymouth | | | Joint Plymouth Community | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by Plymouth Township | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by Plymouth Township | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by City of Plymouth | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by City of Plymouth | Number of Residents Per Facility Benchmark | Number of Facilities Owned by Township AND City | Number of Residents Per Facility Owned by Township OR City |
| Recreation Centers | 25,500 | 0 | N/A | 9,250 | 1 (d) | 8,992 | 25,500 | 1 (d) | 36,558 |
| Gyms | 23,000 | 0 | N/A | 9,162 | 0 | N/A | 23,000 | 0 | N/A |
| Community Centers | 27,320 | 0 | N/A | 10,500 | 0 | N/A | 27,320 | 0 | N/A |
| Senior Centers | 31,428 | 1 | 27,566 | 13,500 | 0 | N/A | 31,428 | 1 | 36,558 |
| Fitness Center | 32,224 | 0 | N/A | 9,660 | 0 | N/A | 32,224 | 0 | N/A |
| Performance Amphitheater | 31,934 | 0 | N/A | 10,795 | 0 | N/A | 31,934 | 0 | N/A |
| Nature Centers | 32,267 | 0 | N/A | 7,883 | 0 | N/A | 32,267 | 0 | N/A |
| Ice Rink (Indoor) | 24,167 | 0 | N/A | 7,500 | 1 | 8,992 | 24,167 | 1 | 36,558 |
| Teen Centers | 29,569 | 0 | N/A | 13,892 | 0 | N/A | 29,569 | 0 | N/A |
| Indoor Track | 32,279 | 0 | N/A | 17,500 | 0 | N/A | 32,279 | 0 | N/A |

(d) Cultural Center includes program, meeting and banquet space

Source: 2017 NRPA Agency Performance Review

10-Minute Walk to Park

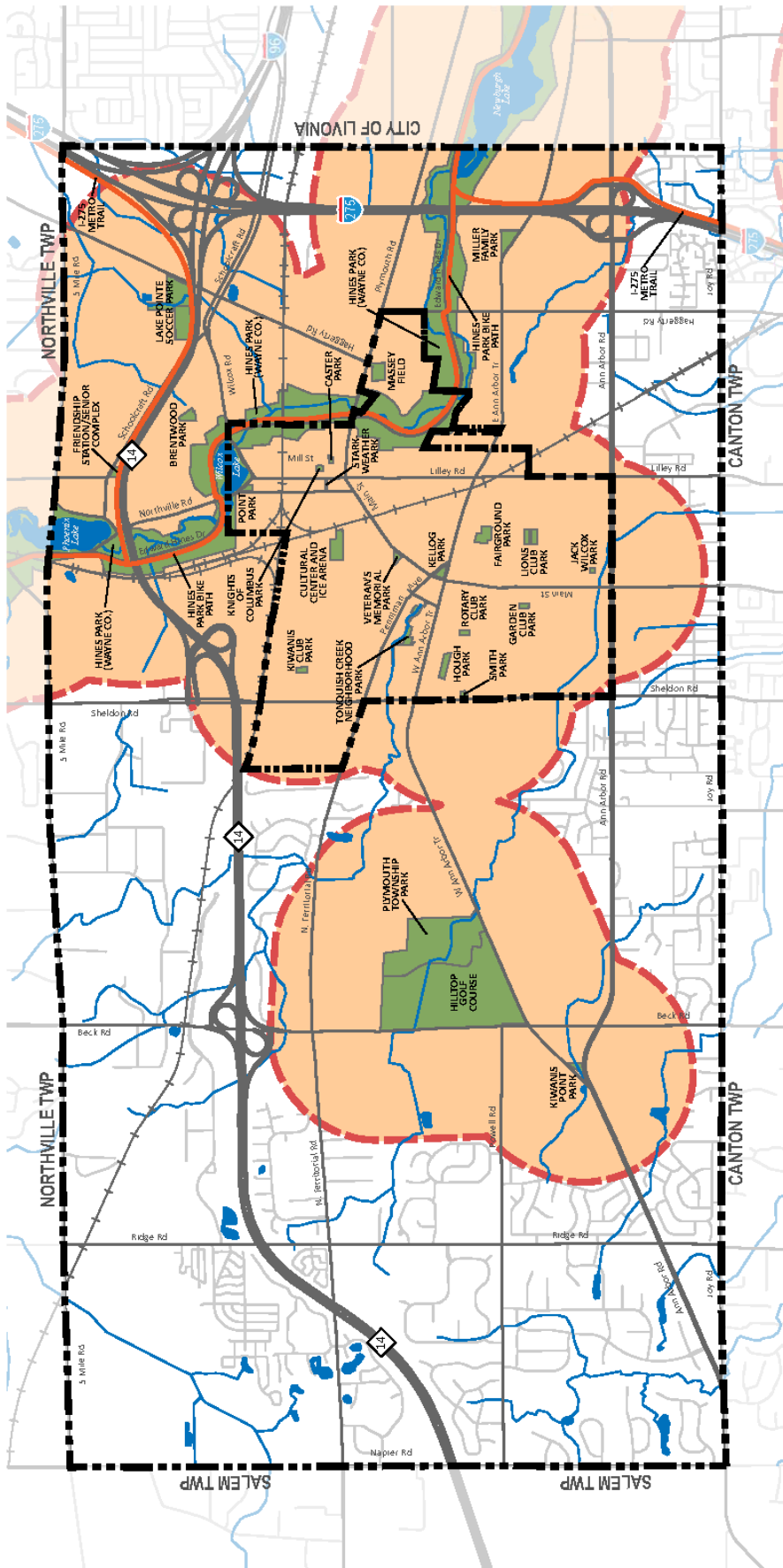
In 2017, a new parks advocacy campaign was launched by The Trust for Public Land, National Recreation and Park Association, Urban Land Institute, and supported by the US Conference of Mayors, establishing the goal that all Americans should live within a 10-minute walk (half-mile) of a high-quality park or green space. As noted in the campaign, studies show that high-quality parks provide a wide range of benefits to urban residents and cities themselves. These include:

- physical and mental health benefits, by providing opportunities to be physically active and to interact with nature
- economic benefits by boosting business and helping to revitalize neighborhoods
- community-building benefits by providing opportunities for neighbors to interact with each other and work together to improve their surroundings
- environmental benefits by cleaning and cooling the air and providing opportunities for environmental education

To illustrate the proximity of recreation areas to residents, a map has been created that shows the locations within the Plymouth Community where residents do and do not have a park within a 10-minute walk of their home. For the purposes of this analysis, the City parks, Township parks, and the County's Hines Park have been included. School and privately-owned facilities have not been included due to their lack of availability and/or control by the municipalities. Nuances of this analysis can certainly be argued – i.e. Kiwanis Point Park serves more as a gateway to the community as opposed to a park and school properties, open spaces within neighborhoods and private recreation related properties can and do provide some recreation benefits to residents of the community.

As is illustrated in the adjacent map, everyone within the City has a recreation area within 1/2 mile of their home. Many of the residents in the Township do not have a recreation area within a 10-minute walk of their home including the southern and western portions of the Township as well as residents in the northern portion of the Township that lies west of Sheldon and north of North Territorial.





LEGEND

- Major Roads
 - Other Roads
 - Railroad
 - Rivers and Streams
 - ▭ Municipal Boundary
 - ▭ Parks
 - ▭ 10-Minute Walk to Park (one-half mile)
- Recreation Inventory Source:
Inventory conducted by livingLAB,
December 2017
- 10 MINUTE WALK TO PARK MAP**
JOINT PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN
2018 - 2022
- NORTH**
feet
0 1,800 3,600

Community Demographics

The socioeconomic characteristics of a community also play a role in the demand for certain types of recreation facilities. By examining socioeconomic characteristics such as population density, age, and household size, municipalities can identify trends and opportunities that may influence future land use and recreation decisions and/or policy choices.

This section provides a brief summary of a handful of socioeconomic characteristics of Plymouth and Plymouth Township that may (along with a number of other pieces of data and information) influence parks and recreation planning decisions.

The U.S. Census Bureau serves as the primary source of data for this demographics section. Census statistics are presented for the City and Township in comparison to the County and State. In addition, a series of maps are included that illustrate a few relevant pieces of Census data by block group within the City and Township.

Population Trends and Forecast

Between 1980 and 2010, the City experienced an 8.6% decline in population. The population is forecasted to remain relatively stable with a slight decline over the next 20 years. In 2000, the population was 9,022 and in 2010, 9,132 people resided in the City. The 2017 population (SEMCOG) estimated for the City was 8,992.

Between 1980 and 2010, the Township experienced a 19.5% increase in population. The population is forecasted to remain relatively stable with a slight increase over the next 20 years. In 2000, the population was 27,798 and in 2010, 27,524 people resided in the Township. The 2017 population (SEMCOG) estimated for the Township was 27,566.

Population by Block Group

Population and population density characteristics can have a significant influence on parks and recreation planning. Where population is most dense, there is typically a greater need for park facilities. Conversely, it may not be as practical or economical to locate park facilities within sparsely populated areas.

The *Population Density by Block Group Map* illustrates the number of people living within the City and Township by block group (as defined by the US Census). The most dense portion of the City are those areas west of the

railroad tracks. In the Township, the most dense areas are to the south of Ann Arbor Road between Canton Center and Main Street as well as the area south of Ann Arbor Trail and east of Haggerty. Not surprisingly, the block groups that comprise some of the “industrial” portions of the Township contain the least number of people.

Median Age

Knowledge of a community’s age distribution can also play a role in the planning of park facilities and programs. As mentioned earlier, whether an area is comprised of older or younger citizens can influence such things as the facilities that are most desired within parks. The *Median Age by Block Group Map* shows the median age for the block groups within the City and Township.

As shown on the map, block groups with higher median ages are in the Township with the two areas with the oldest population found in the southeast corner of the Township as well as the area just west of the City and south of M-14. The block group with the lowest median age is in the northeast corner of the City.

Household Size

A household, as defined by the US Census, is all persons who occupy the same housing unit. A housing unit can be described as a house, apartment, mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room used as a separate living quarters. A trend occurring nation-wide and characteristic of today’s population is the declining size of households. There are several factors that demographers have linked to the declining size. People are marrying later, postponing having children, and having fewer children. The number of single parent households is increasing, thus contributing to the decline in average household size.

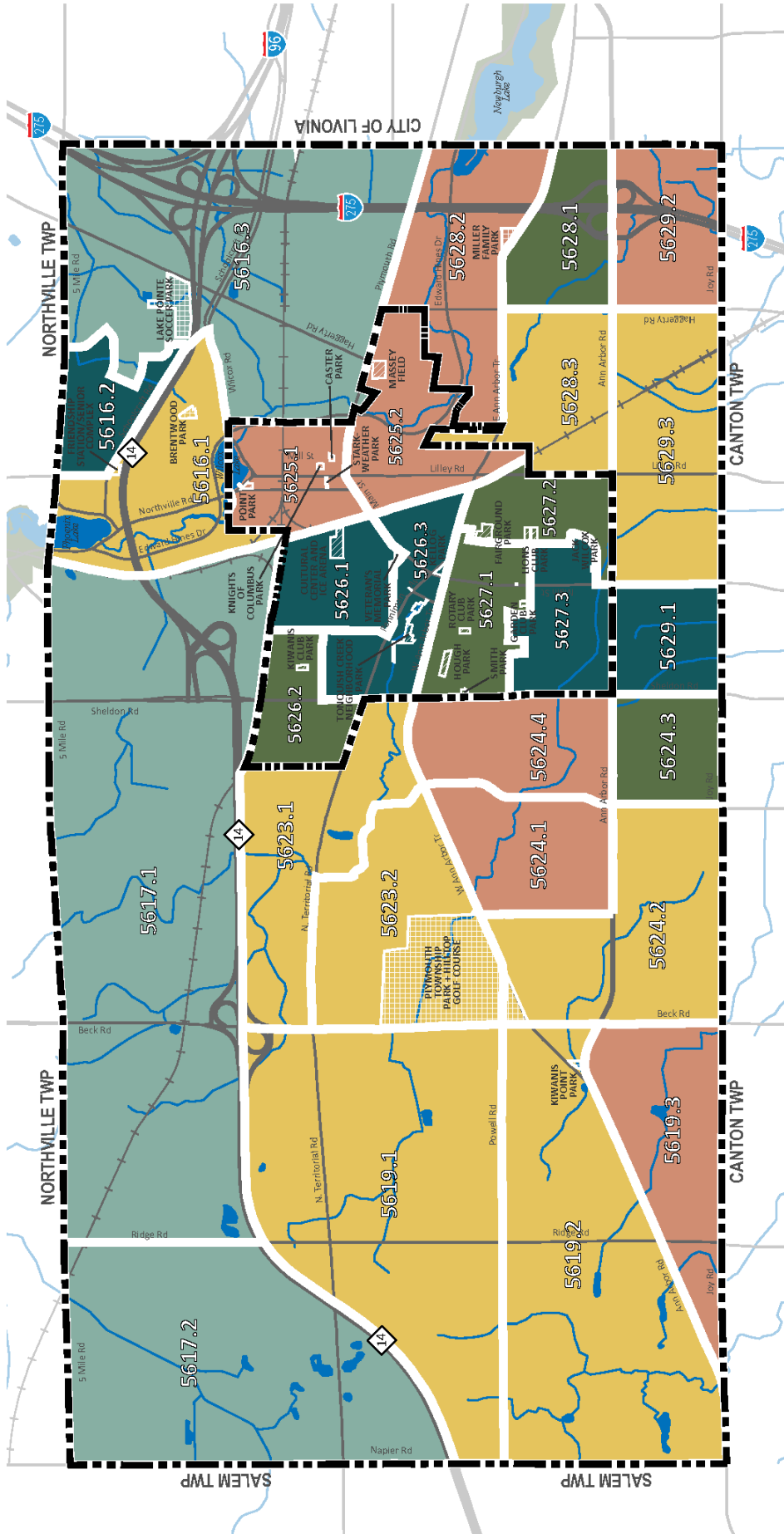
Household size is an important factor when making recreation facility and program decisions. A high person per household figure can be an indication that an area is comprised of families with children and thus could justify family or youth-oriented recreation facilities. Conversely, an area with a low person per household figure may require recreation facilities more favorable to singles, adults or the elderly.

The geographic distribution of household size in the Plymouth Community is portrayed on the *Average Household Size by Block Group Map*. Several general conclusions can be discerned from the map. The Block Groups with a high persons per household average are

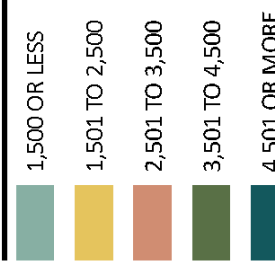
found in the south western portion of the Township. The lowest average household sizes are found in portions of the City, the northern portion of the Township as well as the Block Group in the southeast corner of the Township.

2010 Census data for the Township and City are summarized graphically and compared to Wayne County and the State of Michigan.



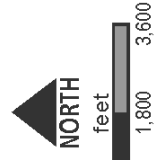
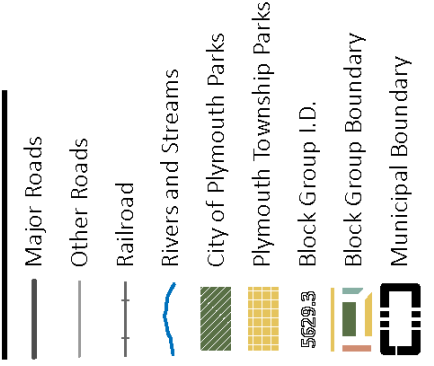


POPULATION PER SQUARE MILE

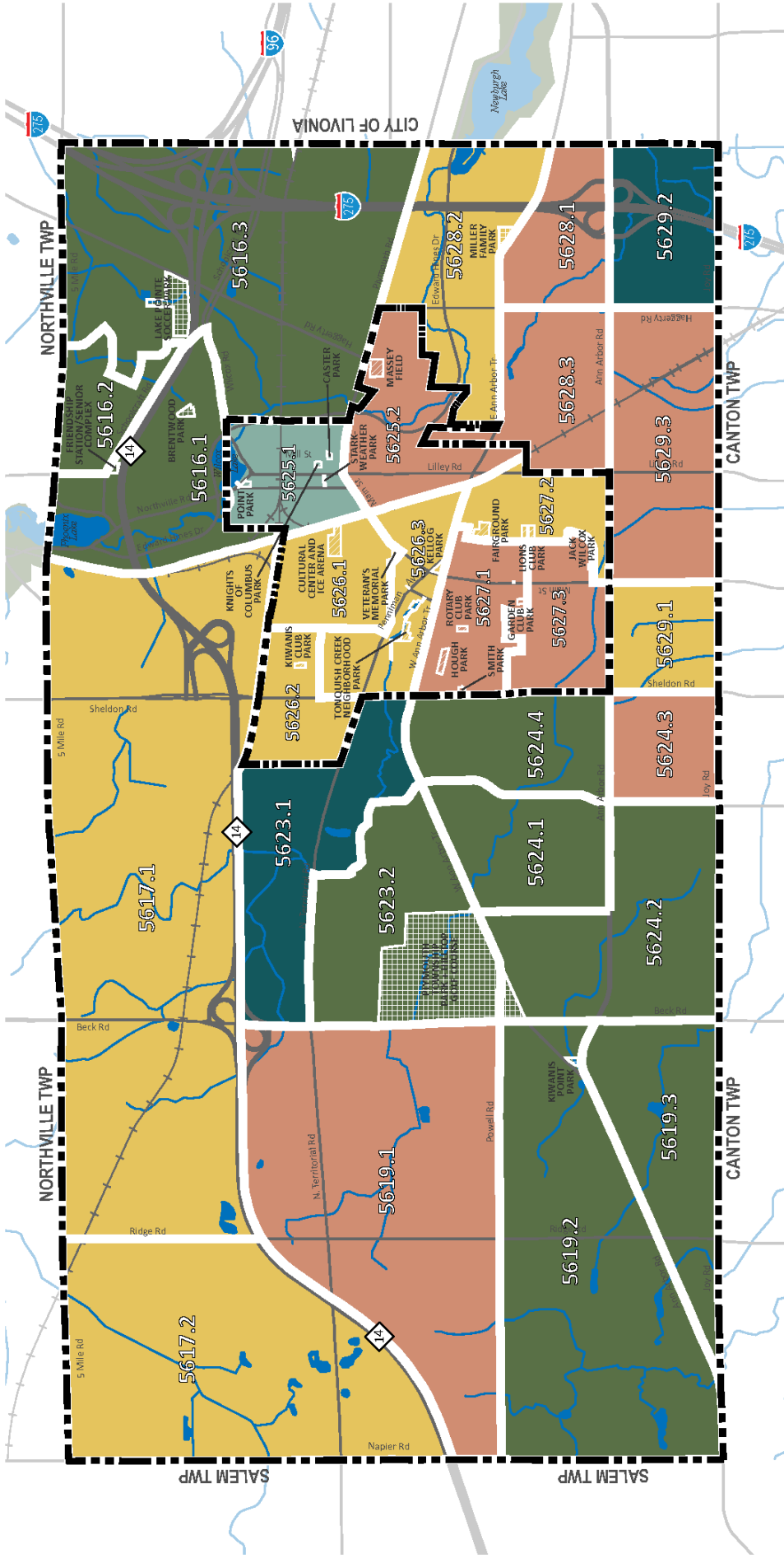


Recreation Inventory Source: livingLAB, December 2017
 Population Density Source: 2010 U.S. Census

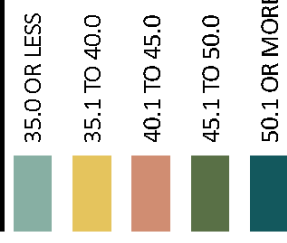
LEGEND



POPULATION DENSITY MAP
 JOINT PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN
 2018 - 2022

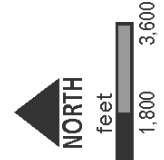
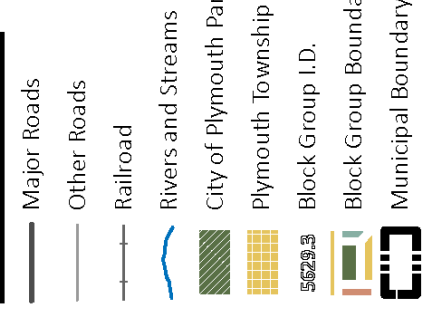


MEDIAN AGE

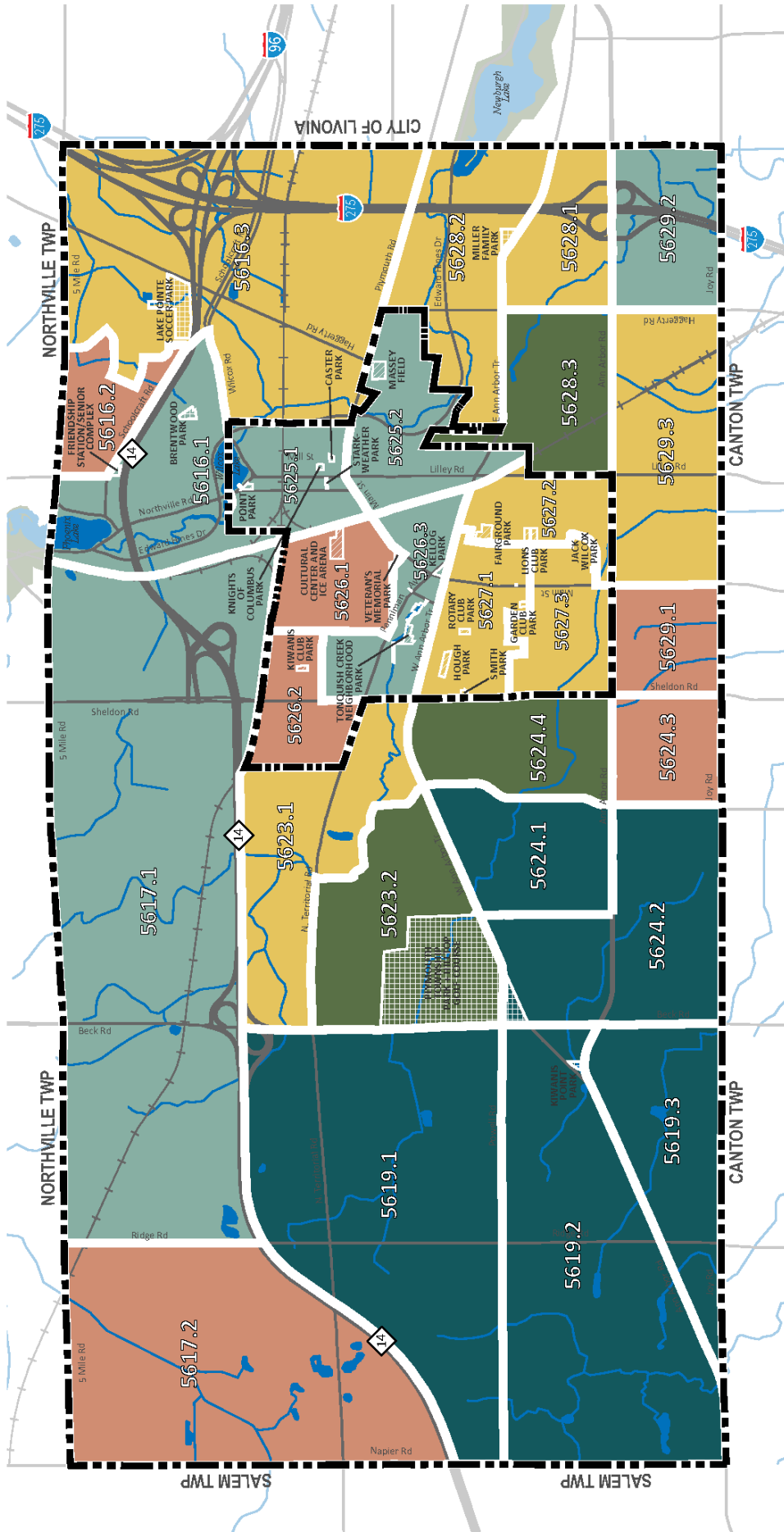


Recreation Inventory Source:
livingLAB, December 2017
Median Age Source:
2010 U.S. Census

LEGEND



MEDIAN AGE MAP
JOINT PLYMOUTH
COMMUNITY
PARKS & RECREATION
MASTER PLAN
2018 - 2022



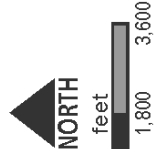
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

- 2.00 OR LESS
- 2.10 TO 2.25
- 2.26 TO 2.50
- 2.51 TO 2.75
- 2.76 OR MORE

Recreation Inventory Source:
livingLAB, December 2017
Average Household Size Source:

LEGEND

- Major Roads
- Other Roads
- Railroad
- Rivers and Streams
- City of Plymouth Parks
- Plymouth Township Parks
- 5629.3 Block Group I.D.
- Block Group Boundary



AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE MAP
JOINT PLYMOUTH
COMMUNITY
PARKS & RECREATION
MASTER PLAN

Influencing Planning Initiatives

It is important to examine plans that have been developed by the City, Township, or other agencies over the past several years that may affect and/or influence the existing or future recreation areas and facilities in the Plymouth Community. A description of these is provided on the following pages.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for Southeast Michigan (SEMCOG 2014)

In 2014, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) developed a Nonmotorized Plan that ties all of the components of the region's nonmotorized system together into an identified system and benchmarks the system that existed, identifies deficiencies, provides a vision to move forward and actions on how to get there. The 2014 Plan illustrates a regional/local gap desired to connect the 275 Metro Trail/Hines Bike Path through the Plymouth community and west to Ann Arbor Road and into Washtenaw County.

Wayne County Parks 2018 Strategic Plan

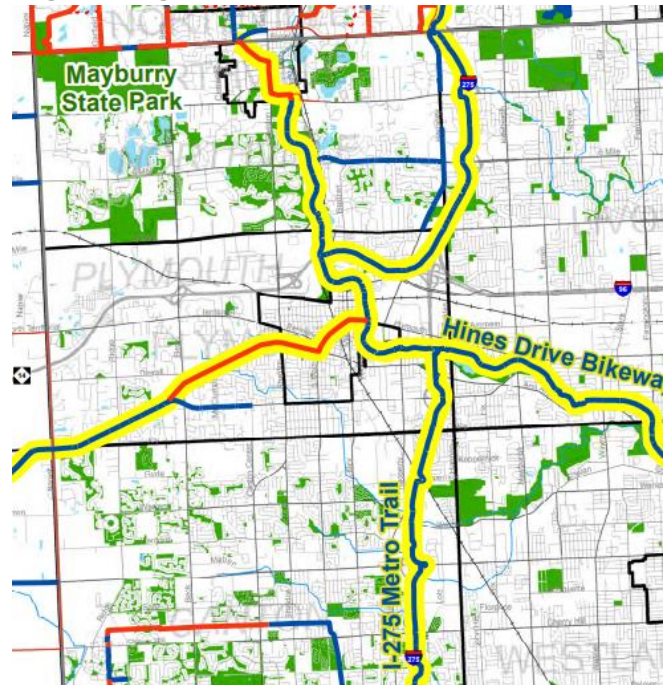
Wayne County Parks developed and adopted a 5-Year Recreation Plan in 2018 which documents 5 overarching goals, a number of objectives, as well as a variety of desired capital improvements throughout their park system. Goals include:

1. Create great county parks
2. Create great educational and recreational amenities
3. Develop program plans for each park and facility to maximize the value, use, and appreciation for the park or the recreational facility available for the community to enjoy and participate in activities that supports outdoor activities and nature appreciation
4. Empower and prepare our team
5. Model fiscal responsibility, accountability, and integrity to be a sustainable park and recreation agency

A few of the capital improvement projects approved or planned within the Plymouth community include:

- Swingset at Gunsolly Mills
- Outdoor gym at Gunsolly Mills
- Wilcox Lake Boardwalk
- Wilcox Lake Skate Park

Regional Nonmotorized Corridors & Gaps Wayne County

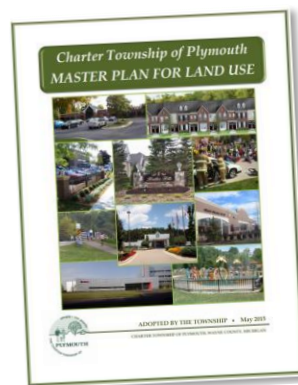


- Regional Corridor
- Existing Facility or Route
- Gaps (Regional & Local)
- - - Planned Bike Route
- Local Corridor-Preliminary Concept

Plymouth Township Master Plan

The Charter Township of Plymouth Master Plan for Land Use was adopted in May 2015. It is a broad policy document used as a guide for land use and community

development decisions. The Plan includes analysis of a number of community features as well as goals and strategies. In relation to parks and recreation, the Plan includes a number of goals and strategies including:



Goal D: Strive for a circulation system which will facilitate the smooth, safe,

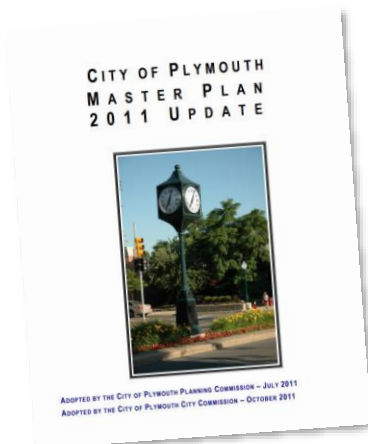
and efficient flow of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.

Goal E: Promote active living and healthy lifestyles in Plymouth Township.

City of Plymouth Master Plan (2011)

The City of Plymouth Master Plan was adopted by the City Commission in 2011. The City is currently updating their overall Master Plan with adoption planned in 2018. The Master Plan included several goals and guidelines that relate to parks and recreation in particular including:

- Actively seek to provide amenities that do not currently exist, such as a full-service recreation center and aquatic center.
- Establish public/private partnerships and/or partnerships with neighboring communities to offset costs of providing these amenities.
- Establish a citizens' advisory committee to gauge interest and financial support for community facilities and amenities.
- Continue to invest in updates and enhancements to neighborhood parks.
- Establish activities and challenging play equipment for older children within neighborhood parks.
- Provide bike lanes in appropriate locations
- Create non-motorized connections to pathways in Hines Park and adjacent communities.



City of Plymouth Strategic Plan

The City Commission updated their Strategic Plan in the Spring of 2018. The Plan includes 4 goals and associated tasks to focus on in the coming year. The 4 goals include Quality of Life, Financial Stability, Economic Vitality, and Service and Infrastructure. A number of objectives and/or tasks within the Strategic Plan relate to parks and recreation including items such as:

- Parks and recreation collaboration + partnerships
- Cleanliness
- Continue to host events
- Repair Kellogg Fountain and plan for future
- Define relationship with PARC
- Advance multi-modal interconnectivity between Township and City

Input

The Plymouth Community worked to gather input in a number of ways during the development of the Plan as is summarized below. Additional details are provided in the Appendix.

EPIC-MRA Phone Survey 2017

The City and Township both funded a joint telephone survey in the Fall 2017 that focused on parks and recreation services. Lansing-based EPIC-MRA was hired to develop and conduct the survey of 225 respondents from the Township and 100 from the City. The phone survey gathered responses with a number of questions and organized the results based on Township responses, City responses as well as both combined. Some of the results are highlighted here (as noted in the EPIC-MRA summary document):

- Both City and Township residents are *very satisfied* with, and active within, the parks and recreational programming in the Plymouth Community.
- Both City and Township residents believe that their recreational facilities and programs *enhance the economy, property values, and quality of life* in the community.
- Nearly ½ of the Plymouth Community has at least one member of the household that *pays dues or fees to a recreational or fitness facility*.
- Nearly 1/3 of the Plymouth Community has at least one member of the household that *participates* in a recreational or athletic program offered through a league or association. Participation is highest in soccer (22%), hockey (10%), baseball (8%), golf (7%), basketball (6%), and swimming (6%).
- 8 of every 10 of those surveyed are in support of combining parks and recreational services offered by both municipalities as it relates to residents of both communities *paying identical fees* for all park facilities and recreational programs within the Plymouth Community.
- The *most visited* park/facility in the Plymouth Community was Kellogg Park (87%), Hines Park (69%), and Plymouth Township Park (69%).
- 87% were aware of the *Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC)*, 45% had participated in an event or program at PARC, 56% believe PARC adds a lot of value to the Plymouth Community.
- 68% feel that *sidewalks and walkability* of the community is very important to their recreational enjoyment.

- 20% are very interested in seeing a *Community Dog Park* developed.
- 45% prefer seeing *Hilltop Golf Course* kept open as a golf course, 29% prefer to close and repurpose, 26% undecided.
- The majority prefer *receiving information* via email (33%) and via direct mail (27%)

Plymouth Township Arts, Recreation and Heritage Committee

The Plymouth Township Citizens Advisory Council on Arts, Recreation and Heritage provided input to the Township Board in Fall 2017. The Committee had met 5 times in 2017 to develop their recommendations. Ideas and recommendations included:

- Allow dogs on leash in Township Park and create a designated fenced-in off leash dog park.
- Increase walking/running options available in the Township and educate residents about options.
- Biking – provide maps, rentals, racks, educate and paint bike path markings
- Joint planning with the City of Plymouth with programs and activities varying by ages.
- Continued preservation of Miller Woods and woods just north of Township Park.
- Create Public Arts Commission for Plymouth Community
- Explore rotating art displays/fairs
- Inform Township residents about PARC collaborations with the DIA.
- Increase awareness in Plymouth Community of opportunities that exist to experience visual arts, performing arts, culinary arts and arts education.
- Incorporate history, historic homes/sites into Township calendar and website.
- Modify ordinances regarding historic preservation and demolition policies.
- Preserve/repurpose silos at 5 Mile/Ridge and Phoenix and Wilcox Mills
- Elevate Township history – collaborate with library, sponsor state historical marker, history module to potential mobile application
- Plan for Township 200th birthday in 2027.

Online Questionnaire 2018

During the development of the Plan, both the City and Township posted a questionnaire to their websites as an informal opportunity for people to provide written input for consideration. The availability of the questionnaire was published in the newspaper and email blasted. The

questionnaire was available from January 8 through February 18, 2018 and 580 responses were collected – 178 reside in the City, 386 in the Township, and 16 in other communities. Many of the questions were open ended and revolved around programming and facility priorities. Comments are extensive and difficult to summarize and can be found in the Appendix.

Public Open Houses (2) January 2018

The City and Township jointly hosted two open houses on January 29, 2018 from 1:00-3:00 at Township Hall and 6:30 – 8:30 at the Plymouth Cultural Center to brainstorm ideas and identify priorities for the next 5 years. Approximately 30 people attended the open house at Township Hall and 11 attended the session at the Cultural Center. Participants brainstormed ideas that were then documented on flip charts throughout the room. Attendees placed sticker dots (3 per person) next to the items they believed were their highest priority. Attendees also noted on a large map where they live and the 3 parks they visit the most. Ideas that received the most “sticker votes” are noted below with number of “stickers” in parenthesis. Complete results can be found in the Appendix.

Priorities from Session at Township Hall

PROGRAM RELATED COMMENTS

- Like to include/expand on PARC facility and programs (13)
- Partnerships with outside providers (don’t duplicate) (5)
- Senior programs (3)
- Programs for kids when they have a ½ day, on break, school day off, afterschool (3)
- Teen programs/facility – after school meet up (teen-led design) (3)
- Effective online communication of programs available (2)
- Veteran’s Programs (2)

FACILITY RELATED COMMENTS

- Walkability/Sidewalks/Bike lanes – particularly to connect into downtown (12)
- Senior Center/Senior Outreach Services (10)
- Dog Park (5)
- Golf course – can it be profitable? If not, keep it as green space (5)
- Expand Farmers Market and include local farmers (2)

ADDITIONAL/GENERAL COMMENTS

- Government doesn't belong with recreation (2)
- Have a strategy for funding (2)
- Why does the City and Township want to merge on this topic? Hasn't worked in past. (1)

Priorities from Session at Plymouth Cultural Center

PROGRAM RELATED COMMENTS

- Consolidate senior services (1)

FACILITY RELATED COMMENTS

- Walk and Bike Paths (7)
 - To Hines
 - To City
 - To Twp Park
- Important to maintain quality in upkeep and updating of Kellogg and Township Parks. They are heavily use. They are great! (5)
- PARC isn't funded by City/Twp but can assist with providing opportunities (4)
- Theater (pros and cons) (4)
- Pool/swimming (4)
- Repurpose golf course (baseball, soccer, bike trails) (3)
- More Soccer Fields (2)
 - Synthetic turf
 - Support facilities
 - Less reliance on school fields
 - Look to Township to provide fields
 - Multi-use fields that can be used by a number of organizations/leagues and events with fees
- Gym space needed (2)
- More Green Space (1)

Commission and Board Input

The City Recreation Director met with both the City Commission and Township Board at their regular meetings in February 2018. The Director gave each a brief overview of the project and planning process and then asked each body to brainstorm ideas for parks and recreation projects and/or programs. The following ideas and concepts were received from the City Commission in no particular order:

- Programs that promote diversity of populations
- Outdoor Ice Arena and/or Pavilion
- Bike Trails and walking connectors with Hines Park and other trails
- Programs to engage with Old Village
- Dog Parks
- Synthetic Turf Athletic Fields

- Natural Grass Athletic Fields
- Educational programs to promote fitness for residents
- Designated walking routes with distance markers
- Outdoor Pool (seasonal)
- Safe bike routes in the City

The following ideas and concepts were received from the Township Board in no particular order.

- Outdoor Public Swimming Pool
- Recreation Center
- Bike paths
- Connect to 275, M14 and Hines Park pathways
- Close the gaps in the sidewalk and bike paths thru the Township
- Sidewalks / Bike Trails on the Ann Arbor Trail Corridor
- Four seasons use of parks and facilities
- Walkability of Plymouth Community destinations
- Facilities that promote ADA accessibility
- ADA accessibility of woodchip pathway at Township Park
- Improvement to Hilltop Golf Course and Club House for better player experience
- Dynamic Senior Citizen Center / Wellness Center
- Wellness programs for Senior Citizens for health and diet education
- Promote Senior Citizen socialization

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held on May 7, 2018 in front of the City Commission and May 8, 2018 in front of the Township Board in order to gather final comments on the draft Plan. A brief overview presentation was given prior to public comments and Commission/Board discussion. Three members of the public commented at the City Public Hearing and no members of the public commented at the Township Public Hearing. Comments were supportive in nature and/or clarifying questions and did not result in any additional changes to the draft plan. Agendas and meeting minutes from both meetings are included in the Appendix.



Action Program

The Action Program outlines the direction that the City and Township (individually and jointly) would like to pursue over the next five years to maintain and improve parks and recreation opportunities within the community. The City and Township are, and remain, two separate entities that worked together in the creation of this document. The Plan has been adopted by both the City Commission and the Township Board. The findings and results summarized in the Basis for Action section of this Plan were utilized to develop the goals, objectives and capital improvement opportunities(s) detailed on the following pages.

The Plan is intended to serve as a guide and decision-making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The Action Program outlines the improvements the City and/or Township would like to focus on during the life of the Plan. The Plan is not intended to solve all of the issues, concerns and desires related to parks and recreation, rather to identify and document them so they can be addressed and focused on in the upcoming months and years.

Current funding and staffing levels at both the City and Township are not sufficient for all of the ideas and desires documented in this Action Program to be implemented – rather, this plan documents opportunities, desires and priorities for both communities to consider as they move forward.

Goals and Objectives

As has been done in past City and Township Parks and Recreation Master Plans, goals and objectives were developed to assist in providing direction to staff as well as the City Commission and Township Board.

The goals and objectives are intended to be as significant as the capital improvement opportunities and serve to provide further guidance and direction to the City and Township over the next five years. It is envisioned that this Action Program will be reviewed on a regular basis and be utilized as a tool for decision making.

The following goals and objectives were developed by reviewing language from previous plans, brainstorming with City and Township staff and leadership, as well as input from the telephone survey, workshops and online questionnaire. They are listed in no particular order of importance or priority.



CONNECTIVITY + ACCESSIBILITY GOAL

Ensure connectivity and accessibility to and within the Plymouth Community via improved pedestrian and bicyclist safety and mobility.

OBJECTIVES



Work to develop a **Community Connectivity (Nonmotorized) Plan** focused on opportunities to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and mobility. Focus on connectivity between the Township and City, downtown, Hines Park, 275 Bike Path, parks, and schools. Consider locations for sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, safe crossings, awareness and education.



Continue to focus on improving **barrier free and universal accessibility** at all City and Township facilities and parks including access to picnic tables, grills, paths, playing fields, parking areas, restrooms, play equipment, etc.



NATURAL RESOURCES GOAL

Preserve and protect the natural resources and environmentally sensitive lands within the community while maintaining appropriate public use, access, and enjoyment.

OBJECTIVES



When implementing improvements within Hilltop Golf Course, Township Park, Lion's Park and/or along Tonquish Creek, Johnson Drain or other waterbodies, do so in conjunction with the recommendations of the **Rouge River Middle One Subwatershed Management Plan**.



Strive to **protect and restore water quality**, stream channels and riparian corridors in public parks by implementing erosion control measures, soft shoreline stabilization techniques and "no mow" areas.



Utilize **environmentally-friendly design and construction standards**, including Low Impact Development (LID) techniques and stormwater best management practices when making improvements to City and Township parks and facilities.



PARTNERSHIPS GOAL

Coordinate with other recreation providers and entities in order to provide the community with diverse program and facility opportunities that are cost effective and efficient.

OBJECTIVES



The City and Township should leave open all options to pursue opportunities to **develop partnerships (public-public or public-private) that would benefit the greater good** of the community. As with all municipal projects, the final policy and project approval rests with the respective Township Board or City Commission.



Cooperate and collaborate with the Township, City, Schools, Wayne County and nearby communities to avoid duplication and **reduce redundancy**.



Work through details toward establishing an agreement, process, and/or memorandum of understanding where residents of both Plymouth communities would **pay identical fees** for all park facilities and recreational programs within the Plymouth Community.



Consider formal **partnerships to invest in green space** improvements and/or maintenance in exchange for reduced rate/free use of property by City and Township programs.



Maintain **high levels of communication** and cooperation with the various service clubs, associations and athletic organizations.



PROGRAMS GOAL

Coordinate with other parks and recreation providers and supporters to ensure quality, diverse, accessible, and affordable programs for all residents of the Plymouth Community.

OBJECTIVES



Convene a Joint Plymouth Community sub-committee, in conjunction with the Plymouth Council on Aging, to begin discussions by both the Township and City staff and leadership **to coordinate and expand senior facility and programming opportunities.**



When offering programs and/or expanding programs, seek **a diversity of options that are inclusive of all ages and abilities.** In addition to senior programming, seek opportunities for youth programs that coincide with the school calendar and are held on school ½ days and full day breaks as well as programs for Veteran's.



Strive to implement **4-season programming at Township Park** with possible ideas including fitness classes, special events, tournaments, etc.



Convene Joint Plymouth Community sub-committee to discuss ideas and methods of developing a **shared, online community resource.** The resource would serve as a central location and calendar for all recreational opportunities in Plymouth – including public, quasi-public and private program providers. This could involve stakeholders such as the Library, Schools, Township, City, YMCA, PCCA, PARC, etc. The goal of the community resource is to improve residents' ability to know what programs are offered and by whom.



FACILITIES GOAL

Where appropriate and possible, seek opportunities to improve and expand existing and potential future parks and recreation facilities.

OBJECTIVES



A Feasibility Study could be conducted and include analysis of various potential locations, designs, financing, etc. The Study could be used as a decision-making tool by leadership to determine public support for moving forward or not. These facilities may include a **multi-use facility/community center/wellness center** including consideration of elements such as indoor recreation, outdoor pool, indoor pool, indoor walking/running, gymnasium, senior facility, congregate meal space, fitness area, synthetic turf surface, tennis/pickleball courts, etc.



Continue to seek opportunities and partnerships with public and private land owners for the development of **additional turf/field sport facilities in the Plymouth Community**.



Continue to make improvements at the **Cultural Center** in order to remain as one of the premier ice facilities in the area. Potential improvements include addition of an outdoor ice arena and pavilion, LED lighting upgrade, and ADA restroom remodel.



A number of the **play structures** in City of Plymouth parks are aging. Plan for replacement of play structures at a number of City Parks as proposed in the Capital Improvement Priorities table. Consider making a variety of unique destinations with modern and challenging equipment.



Continue to work to improve the **ADA accessibility** at all parks by providing elements such as barrier free play equipment, pathways to and from facilities, bleachers, playground surfacing, etc. All new additions to parks and facilities should be designed to be universally accessible to ensure access and use by people of all abilities.



Maintain **Kellogg Park** as a focal point in downtown Plymouth and a gathering space for the community. Planned and/or potential improvements include replacement of the fountain as well as renovations based on a future park design.



Pursue options for feasibility of a **Dog Park** in the Plymouth Community.



FACILITIES GOAL (cont'd)

Where appropriate and possible, seek opportunities to improve and expand existing and potential future parks and recreation facilities.

OBJECTIVES



Be aware of **real estate, and underused public and private properties** that may become available for use and/or expansion of public recreation areas, particularly in those areas of the Plymouth Community that are currently underserved, and properties no longer utilized by the school districts, or other agencies within or adjacent to the Plymouth Community. Evaluate for use as recreation facility and/or park.



Through Township analysis of **Hilltop Golf Course**, make a determination regarding viability of golf course. If the decision is made by leadership to not keep the property as a golf course, maintain as parkland and develop a Concept Plan (with community design process). In conjunction, include concept plan for Township Park to ensure both properties are planned as one large recreation area in terms of connectivity and access.



OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE + FUNDING

Strive to ensure effective and efficient operation and maintenance of public parks and facilities within the Plymouth Community and seek alternative funding sources and partnerships to assist in implementation.

OBJECTIVES



Ensure investment into **high quality maintenance and upkeep** of public parks, particularly those that are heavily used such as Kellogg Park, Cultural Center and Township Park.



Continue the commitment to **fiscal responsibility** by exploring and seeking avenues to generate alternative revenue sources through donations, fees, foundations, grants, and partnerships.



All improvements and additions to parks should be done so with **long-term maintenance in mind** including materials and placement. Review proposed improvements with maintenance staff for input.



Current **funding and staffing levels** at both the City and Township are not sufficient for all of the desired improvements and programs to be implemented. Operationally, consider and plan for additional staffing needs if significant programming and/or facility expansion are desired.



Township Board consider **policy to allow dogs on leash** at Township Park.



Review Master Plan on an annual basis (a few months prior to annual Board/Commission budget meetings may be ideal) to ensure continued progress and focus.

Capital Improvement Opportunities

The capital improvement opportunities for this Parks and Recreation Plan have been established for two primary reasons:

- to function as a planning framework and guide for the Township Board, City Commission and municipal staff; and,
- to enable the Township or City to apply for grant funding for proposed projects.

The capital improvement opportunities table is not a fixed element and is neither all inclusive or exclusive. The table reflects the results of brainstorming, data gathering, analysis and input from a variety of sources gathered during the planning process. It is likely that the opportunities and plan may change at some point during the next five years due to unanticipated circumstances such as private donations, changing recreation trends, funding alternatives, community opinion and/or available grants. *Funding availability is a key factor in the Township's and City's ability to implement the proposed capital improvement opportunities.*

The following capital improvement opportunities table details the desired improvements for the years 2018-2022. The opportunities are listed by short-term (1-2 yrs), mid-term (3-5 yrs), long-term (greater than 5 yrs), as well as on-going opportunities for those items that should be revisited/evaluated each year. It is difficult to predict desires, funding availability, etc., in the years to come. However, it is important to note that parks and recreation capital projects undertaken by the Township and/or City should address the goals set forth in this Plan.

Abbreviations for potential funding sources are provided in the table and listed below.

TBD = To Be Determined

MNRTF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund

RPGP = Recreation Passport Grant Program

PPPE = Parks & Public Property Expenditures (City)

WCPM = Wayne County Parks Mileage

CDBG = Community Development Block Grant

GF = General Fund

Joint Plymouth Community
Capital Improvement Opportunities
2018-2022

| CITY OF PLYMOUTH GENERAL ITEMS | Magnitude of Cost | | | | Potential Funding Sources | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------|--|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| | Short-Term (1-2 yrs) | Mid-Term (3-5 yrs) | Long-Term (5+yrs) | On-Going | Short-Term (1-2 yrs) | Mid-Term (3-5 yrs) | Long-Term (5+yrs) | On-Going |
| Outdoor Ice Arena / Summer Pavillion | \$ 5,000,000 | | X | | Private Funding, MNRTF, WCPM | | | |
| PCC Building Generator | \$ 400,000 | X | | | Gen. Fund, Rec. Fund, Grant Funding | | | |
| Community Connectivity Plan (Nonmotorized) | \$25,000 - \$50,000 | X | | | General Fund, Shared with Township | | | |
| Benches, Drinking Fountain, Picnic Table Replacement @ Various Parks | \$ 20,000 | | | X | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Cultural Center & Ice Arena | | | | | | | | |
| LED Lighting Upgrade | \$ 17,000 | X | | | Rec. Cap. Imp. | | | |
| ADA Bathroom Remodel | \$ 120,000 | X | | | TBD, RPGP | | | |
| Don Massey Field | | | | | | | | |
| Top Dressing Infield (each year) | \$ 2,500 | | X | | Rec. Fund., WCPM | | | |
| Removal or Replacement of Lighting | \$ 300,000 | | X | | Private Funding, MNRTF, WCPM | | | |
| ADA Bathrooms | \$ 90,000 | | X | | Rec. Cap. Imp. WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP | | | |
| Knights of Columbus Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Tot Play Structure | \$ 25,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Fairground Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Tot and Child Play Structures | \$ 120,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Pavilion | \$ 75,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Garden Club Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Child Play Structure | \$ 75,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Kiwanis Club Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Tot Play Structure | \$ 15,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Smith Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Misc. Play Equipment | \$ 15,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM | | | |
| Rotary Club Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 7,500 | | X | | Private Donation, WCPM | | | |
| Jack Wilcox Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | Private Donation, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Kellogg Park | | | | | | | | |
| Fountain Replacement | \$ 750,000 | X | | | Private Donation | | | |
| Park Design + Renovations | \$ 1,500,000 | | X | | TBD | | | |
| Lion's Club Park | | | | | | | | |
| New Sign | \$ 2,500 | X | | | PPPE | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Child Play Structure | \$ 125,000 | | X | | Private Donation, MNRTF, WCPM, PPPE | | | |
| Starkweather Park | | | | | | | | |
| Roof Replacement on Gazebo | \$ 5,000 | | X | | PPPE | | | |
| Landscape / Hardscape | \$ 10,000 | | X | | Private Donation, PPPE, WCPM | | | |
| Tonquish Creek Neighborhood Park | | | | | | | | |
| Footbridge Replacement | \$ 25,000 | | X | | Private Donation, PPPE, WCPM, LWCF, RPGP | | | |
| Pathway Safety Lighting Replacment | \$ 20,000 | | X | | Private Donation, PPPE, WCPM, LWCF, RPGP | | | |
| TDM (Visteon) Soccer Fields | | | | | | | | |
| Storage Shed | \$ 10,000 | | X | | Rec Fund, Private Donation | | | |

Joint Plymouth Community
Capital Improvement Opportunities
2018-2022

| | Magnitude of Cost | | | | Potential Funding Sources | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|---|--------------------|--------------------|----------|
| | Short-Term (1-2 yrs) | Mid-Term (3-5 yrs) | Long-Term (5+ yrs) | On-Going | Short-Term (1-2 yrs) | Mid-Term (3-5 yrs) | Long-Term (5+ yrs) | On-Going |
| PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP GENERAL ITEMS | | | | | | | | |
| Senior Health and Wellness Center | \$ 5,000,000 | | X | | TBD | | | |
| Community Connectivity Plan (Nonmotorized) | \$25,000-\$50,000 | | X | | GF, Split with City | | | |
| Phoenix Lake - Launch Area (kayak, canoe livery) | \$ 2,000,000 | | X | | TBD | | | |
| Plymouth Township Park | | | | | | | | |
| Garbage Cans / Grills | \$ 10,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Replace Wooden Playstructure | \$ 300,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP, Private Donation | | | |
| Sand Volleyball Courts (2) | \$ 50,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP, | | | |
| Nature Trail - ADA Conversion | \$ 100,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP, CDBG | | | |
| Pavillion/Shelter Repairs | \$ 250,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Batting Cages at Ball Diamonds (4) | \$ 45,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, Private Donation | | | |
| Road & Lot Resurfacing | \$ 450,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, CDBG | | | |
| Picnic Tables (40) | \$ 20,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| LED Lighting for Ball Diamonds | \$ 400,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP, Private Donation | | | |
| Security Measures for entire Park | \$ 100,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Open Air Picnic Area Leveling | \$ 20,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, MNRTF, RPGP, CDBG | | | |
| Pre-Fab Storage Shed for North End of Park | \$ 20,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Concrete leveling by Four Seasons Pavillion | \$ 8,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Hilltop Golf Course | | | | | | | | |
| New Cart Paths (entire course) | \$ 565,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Trim / Remove Trees | \$ 40,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Club House Improvements | \$ 500,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| New Golf Carts (60) | \$ 158,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Beverage Cart | \$ 13,600 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Turf Maintenance Equipment | \$ 120,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Lake Pointe Soccer Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 4,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, Private Donation | | | |
| Volleyball Court | \$ 20,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, RPGP | | | |
| Update Security Cameras | \$ 5,000 | | X | | GF, TBD | | | |
| Strip and Sod 11v11 and 9v9 Game Fields | \$ 85,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM, RPGP, Private Donation, Split with City | | | |
| Miller Family Park | | | | | | | | |
| Grills (6) | \$ 5,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Brentwood Park | | | | | | | | |
| Safety Surfacing under Play Structures | \$ 5,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Covered Picnic Structure | \$ 60,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Tree Planting | \$ 3,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Play Structure | \$ 75,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Friendship Station / Senior Complex | | | | | | | | |
| Folding Tables | \$ 4,000 | | X | | GF, WCPM | | | |
| Office Addition | \$ 50,000 | | X | | TBD | | | |
| Security System | \$ 5,000 | | X | | TBD | | | |

Potential Funding Sources

Potential funding sources from outside entities for parks, recreation, and nonmotorized projects change and evolve on a regular basis. Understanding available funding programs, their requirements and deadlines requires continuous monitoring. A few of the more common funding sources have been detailed here as a reference and resource. These are in addition to traditional funding methods such as the general fund, millages, bonds, Community Development Block Grants, DDA's, etc.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

TAP is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Additionally, investments made through TAP support place-based economic development by offering transportation choices, promoting walkability, and improving quality of life. MDOT and SEMCOG are responsible for selecting TAP projects in southeast Michigan and has a considerable amount of information and frequently asked questions on their website for reference (www.michigan.gov/tap). The most competitive aspects for MDOT TAP funding are:

- to connect and develop documented regional or statewide bicycle and pedestrian transportation networks
- broad public engagement and strong support
- project coordinated with other infrastructure work, economic development, or community improvement initiative
- strong, detailed maintenance plan, including sources of funding
- high match (40% and higher, ability to pay is considered)
- high constructability level
Constructability on a typical trail project is measured by use of industry design standards, secured right-of-way, and ease of obtaining all necessary permits and approvals.

Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, villages, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, state and federal natural resource or public land agencies, nonprofits responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs, and tribal governments. MDOT may partner with a local agency to apply for funding and implement the project. Other

organizations, such as townships or trail groups, may work with an eligible agency to apply. Grant coordinators are available to assist you by providing more information on the program, guidance on competitive projects, and how to best develop a competitive application.

MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), provides grants to local governments and the DNR (with approved plan) to secure and develop lands for recreational purposes. Trail projects connecting communities to one another and to natural resources are a priority of the Trust Fund Board and are routinely awarded grants through the MNRTF. Additionally, since the MNRTF is a state source of funds, it can be used as match for TAP or other federal grant projects. Providing legal pedestrian access to the Great Lakes Shoreline (acquisition) and the Iron Belle Trail (among other items) were additional priorities for the Trust Fund Board in recent years. Applications are due April 1st and applicant must have a MDNR approved Recreation Plan. Development grant maximum is \$300,000 with a 25% local match.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The LWCF Federal program provides matching grants to local governments and the MDNR (with approved plan) for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Applications are due April 1st, the maximum grant request is \$300,000, and there is a 50% local match.

RECREATION PASSPORT PROGRAM

PA 32 of 2010 created the Local Public Recreation Facilities Fund to be used for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Money for this fund is derived from the sale of the Recreation Passport which replaced the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) - or window sticker - for state park entrance. All local units of government are eligible. Applications are due April 1st. Maximum grant request in 2018 was \$150,000. Renovation of existing facilities has been a focus of the program.

CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CMAQ)

The primary goal of the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) is to reduce traffic congestion and enhance air quality. These funds can be used for either the construction of bicycle transportation

facilities and pedestrian walkways (new construction), bike lanes on existing streets, or non-construction projects such as bike share equipment. Funds are available to counties designated as non-attainment areas for air quality, based on federal standards. The standard local match is 20%. Applicants are required to work with Metropolitan Planning Organizations or Regional Planning Agencies in selecting projects that are most effective in reducing congestion and transportation related emissions in a cost effective manner. Additional MDOT CMAQ program details at michigan.gov/cmaq.

DALMAC FUND

Established in 1975 to promote bicycling in Michigan, the DALMAC Fund is administered by the Tri-County Bicycle Association and supported by proceeds from DALMAC. The DALMAC Fund supports safety and education programs, bicycle trail development, state-wide bicycle organizations, and route mapping projects. Applications are due March 1. They are reviewed by the DALMAC Fund Committee and approved by the Board. Grants are made by May of the year they were submitted. Applications can be found at www.biketcba.org.

DTE ENERGY FOUNDATION TREE PLANTING

The DTE Energy Tree Planting program is conducted in partnership with the MDNR. The program began as DTE joined the US Department of Energy's voluntary Climate Challenge Program to address greenhouse gas emissions.

Cost-share funds are available to municipalities in Detroit Edison's service area on a competitive basis for tree planting projects. A total of up to \$3,000 may be granted to eligible tree planting projects on public and school property with a 50-50 local match. Applications are typically due in summer.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is an international movement to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. In Michigan, the program is funded under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and administered by The Michigan Fitness Foundation and MDOT. Developing a SRTS Plan is a process that involves schools, cities, and community groups working together to develop a plan that helps students walk or bike to school safely and in greater numbers.

The Michigan SRTS program offers communities two kinds of opportunities to receive Federal funding for a SRTS program: The Mini Grant and the Major Grant. The Mini Grant is a programming only grant to help schools build a culture of walking, biking, and rolling among students. Mini grants fund things such as a walking school bus, incentive program, remote drop site, and bike rodeos. Schools can apply once a year for up to \$5,000 each or up to \$25,000 for multiple schools. Applications open in January.

The Major Grant is to help communities build sidewalks, crosswalks, and any other infrastructure improvements that may be needed to make it possible for students to walk, bike, and roll safely to school. There is up to \$200,000/school available for infrastructure, and up to \$8,000/school for the same programmatic activities funded by mini-grants. Application deadlines are on-going and quarterly. Major Grants require an in-depth planning process prior to submitting an application. Funding details can be found at www.saferoutesmichigan.org.

RALPH C. WILSON, JR FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation was formed in 2015 and funded after the passing of Ralph Wilson, a Detroit who founded and owned the Buffalo Bills football team. The Foundation accepts grant applications in western New York and Southeast Michigan and has 4 focus areas. One area of focus is "Livable Communities" where the foundation is seeking to contribute to strong and sustainable communities and supporting access and design to public spaces that support healthy living. More information at www.ralphwilsonjrfoundation.org.

In addition to applying directly to the Foundation, the Foundation has provided funds to the **Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan for the management of Ralph Wilson Legacy Funds**. The Legacy Funds are seeking requests for funds for Design & Access (increase walkability/bikeability and outdoor recreation opportunities) as well as Youth Sports Fund (high-quality sports programs to youth). Applications were due in January in 2018. www.cfsem.org/fund/ralph-c-wilson-jr-funds/

APPENDIX

Public Input Details

Post Completion Self-Inspection Reports

Resolutions of Adoption

Letters of Transmittal

Certification Checklist



Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Michigan.gov/DNR

Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Management Section staff is available to provide additional guidance to as you prepare a five-year recreation plan.

**GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
P.O. BOX 30425
LANSING, MI 48909-7925**

Phone: 517-284-7268

DNR-Grants@Michigan.gov

Michigan.gov/DNRGrants

MiGrants online application website: MiGrants.Intelligrants.com

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Introduction

The intent of a community park and recreation plan is to create an inventory of existing facilities and resources, identify community recreation and open space needs, and set a plan of action for a five-year period. This plan is also referred to as a five-year recreation plan. This booklet describes the information that is required for a plan to be approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Management staff. Information contained in the plan will be used in scoring applications.

The DNR provides financial assistance to communities through its grant programs. A current DNR-approved community park and recreation plan is required to be eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and waterways grants. For the Recreation Passport grant program, either an approved community park and recreation plan or approved capital improvement plan may be used for eligibility.

LWCF, MNRTF and RP grants can be used for the development of public outdoor recreation facilities, including support facilities. Recreation Passport grants can be used for indoor public recreation facilities. MNRTF is the only program that can be used for the acquisition of land for public recreation and for protection of land for environmental importance or scenic beauty. Waterways grants can be used for development of marinas and recreational boating facilities.

Questions regarding the community park and recreation plan requirements can be addressed with Grants Management at 517-284-7268. Questions specific to the Waterways Program requirements can be addressed with the Waterways Program at 517-284-6122. Ultimately, approval of a community park and recreation plan will come from DNR Grants Management.

More information on grant programs is available at Michigan.gov/DNRGrants.

Establishing Eligibility to Apply for Recreation Grants

Local units of government – defined according to Part 19 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act of 1994 PA 451 – are eligible to apply for recreation grants from the DNR. The statute defines local units of government as “... a county, city, township, village, school district, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, or any authority composed of counties, cities, townships, villages, or school districts, or any combination thereof, which authority is legally constituted to provide public recreation.”

Under the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, recreation grants also are available to local units of government and other appropriate public agencies. However, only the state can apply directly to the National Park Service for these grant funds; therefore, all applications from local units of government must be sent to the DNR.

In addition to these eligibility requirements, all applicants for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund or Land and Water Conservation Fund grant must submit a recreation plan to DNR Grants Management. Upon approval of the recreation plan and in accordance with the following terms, the following entities become eligible to apply for recreation grants from the DNR.

Local units of government. Local units of government include cities, villages, townships, counties, and, for the LWCF program only, federally recognized Native American tribes.

Recreation authorities. Typically, recreation authorities include a combination of local units of government but also may include school districts. The recreation authority must be formed under Michigan enabling legislation that allows the authority to act as a local unit of government legally authorized to provide public recreation.

Grants Management staff evaluates the following to determine whether the authority is an eligible applicant:

- Enabling legislation – A list of accepted enabling legislation is included in Figure 1 below. If the authority was formed under different legislation, contact Grants Management prior to completing a five-year plan.

Figure 1: Michigan Enabling Legislation for Providing Public Recreation and Parks

| Act | Title | Government Units Covered | Governing Body Established by the Act | Allows for Joint Provision of Recreation? |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| 1905 PA 157 | Township Parks and Places of Recreation | Townships | Township Park Commission or Board of Commissioners ¹ | Yes |
| 1913 PA 90 | Parks, Zoological Gardens and Airports | Counties | County Park Trustees | Yes |
| 1917 PA 156 | Recreation and Playgrounds | Cities, villages, townships, counties and school districts | Recreation Board | Yes |
| 1929 PA 312 | Metropolitan District Act | Cities, villages, townships and parts thereof | Charter Commission | Yes |
| 1965 PA 261 | County and Regional Parks | Counties | Parks and Recreation Commission | Yes ¹ |
| 1976 PA 451 | The Revised School Code | School districts and intermediate school districts | School Board | Yes |
| 1989 PA 292 | Metropolitan Councils Act | Cities, counties, villages and townships ¹ | Metropolitan Area Council | Yes |
| Part 721 of 1994 PA 451 | Michigan Trailways | Federal government, counties, cities, villages and townships | Michigan Trailway Management Council ¹ | Yes |
| 1967 PA 7 | Urban Cooperation Act | Cities, villages, townships and counties | Recreation Board | Yes |
| 2000 PA 321 | Recreational Authorities Act | Cities, counties, villages, townships and districts ¹ | Board of Directors | Yes |

- Articles of incorporation – The articles must include language to address the perpetual encumbrance required by the grant programs. There must be language regarding the transfer of property upon dissolution of the authority and description of how parks acquired or developed under the authority will be transferred to the local government where the property is located. Contact Grants Management for sample language.

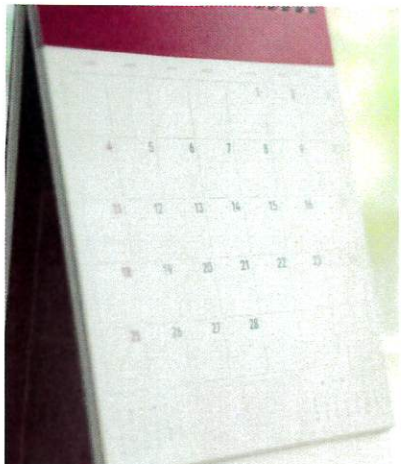
Trailway commissions. Trailway commissions are limited to owning and managing a regional trail or trail system. Legally established trailway commissions may submit recreation plans and establish eligibility to apply for recreation grants. In addition, participating communities that submit separate recreation plans addressing their recreation needs exclusive of the trail are eligible to apply for recreation grants on their own.

School districts. School districts may be eligible for DNR recreation grants if they are the sole provider of parks and recreation for a community and they have a DNR-approved recreation plan. This means there is no recreation department and no parks owned or managed by the local unit of government. In this situation, any existing parks or recreation facilities would be owned and controlled by the school district. When the school district is the only recreation provider, the school district’s plan would be the only plan for the community. For example, there is no village, city or township recreation plan. Nature centers owned and operated by a school district are the only exception to this rule, and eligibility must be reviewed by the DNR and may only be approved under limited circumstances.

Planning Deadline

Organizations may prepare and submit recreation plans at any time during the year. However, to be eligible to apply for a recreation grant or waterways grant, the applicant’s recreation plan must be submitted in MiGrants by Feb. 1 of the year the community

intends to apply for grants. If the community is not applying for a grant, the recreation plan may be submitted any time of year. All plans expire Dec. 31 of the fifth year – or earlier if approved for less than five years by the highest governing body. A sample time frame is provided in Figure 2 below.



| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 2021 | Gather public input, conduct inventory and develop draft plan. Draft plan available for 30-day review (advertise availability). Advertise public hearing (at least one week before the hearing). Public hearing. Public meeting for adoption of the plan by the highest governing body. |
| By Feb. 1, 2022 | Submit plan to DNR and county and regional planning commissions. |
| Dec. 31, 2026 | Plan expires. |

Figure 2

Coordination of Planning

Coordinated planning within a community, at a regional level, and among government agencies, private organizations, businesses and the public has many potential benefits. This includes better environmental protection, efficiency in providing park and recreation opportunities, increased funding sources, greater potential for tapping into new, creative ways of accomplishing recreation goals, enhanced public support for parks and increased potential for community buy-in for financing through millages and other taxing methods.

Regional Planning

Coordinated planning at a regional level benefits participating communities and the environment and can have practical benefits for the communities involved. For example, by planning on a regional rather than a community basis, parks and recreation staff can avoid duplicating expensive recreation facilities and give all communities involved a greater voice in planning facilities that best serve the entire region. Planning on a regional basis gives the planners a larger area in which to determine the best location for the facility based on factors such as the ability to access the site by car, public transportation and nonmotorized means, the potential effects (both positive and negative) of the facility on surrounding land uses and the environment.

Means to Accomplish Regional Planning

Regional planning is not a requirement when developing plans but is strongly recommended. There are several nonexclusive means by which regional planning may be accomplished:

1. Joint recreation plans. Collaborative planning can allow for better-coordinated and more efficient recreation systems by allowing units of government and school districts to plan together while maintaining separate control of their park lands. Joint recreation plans may include any combination of local units of government, recreation authorities, school districts or commissions.

Each unit of government included in the recreation plan is eligible, provided it meets qualifying criteria, can independently own or control park land and meets the requirements of these guidelines and the plan is adopted by the highest governing body. Once the multijurisdictional plan is approved by DNR Grants Management, individual recreation plans from any of the participating communities will not be accepted.

2. Incorporating the recreation plan into the municipal masterplan. The Michigan Planning Enabling Act, PA 33 2008,

codifies the laws for local units of government and outlines the requirement for developing a municipal master plan. The master plan must include sections on transportation (including nonmotorized), land use and recreation. A community can submit relevant sections of its master plan and – if it meets all the requirements of the recreation plan guidelines – it may be considered the community’s DNR-approved recreation plan.

The law also requires planning commissions to consult with commissions of contiguous communities when developing their master plan and to submit proposed plans to each contiguous community for review and comment prior to adoption. This may allow for coordination and avoid duplication of services with adjacent communities.

3. **Joint planning commissions.** With the passage of the Joint Municipal Planning Act (2003 Act 226), joint planning commissions may be formed by two or more communities – such as cities, villages or townships, but not counties – to carry out comprehensive planning, including planning for recreation, on a regional basis. The plan must meet the requirements outlined in this booklet and be adopted by the local units of government and the DNR to be eligible for funding.
4. **Regional review.** By contacting county and regional planning commissions during the development of the recreation plan, the community can ensure better-coordinated planning and ensure its plan does not conflict with regional or county plans. It is required that a copy of the final plan be sent to these organizations.

Preparing the Plan and Plan Content

The plan ideally forms the road map for the decisions made in the next five years regarding the provision of park and recreation lands and other open space for the community. As with all planning efforts, planners must try to determine not only current, but also future community needs. As discussed above, the coordination of recreation planning with broader community and regional planning allows organizations to better understand how the five-year recreation plan relates to other planning decisions. Coordination will improve an organization's ability to factor population growth, population demographics, planned transportation systems and land uses, among other variables, into their five-year recreation plans.

This section describes the information needed to prepare a five-year recreation plan and what the plan must contain to be approved by the DNR and to establish eligibility for applying for recreation grants during the five-year period of the recreation plan. These requirements establish minimum standards but are not intended to limit what the plan can contain. Unless noted otherwise, the following sections of the plan, outlined below, are **required**.

Community Description

Describe the jurisdiction of the five-year recreation plan. Was the plan prepared for a single township or village or does it encompass a larger region? Describe the physical and demographic characteristics of the community. This information need not be extensive, but it will provide a basic understanding of your community.

Also describe the extent of the plan's focus. For example, five-year recreation plans developed by railway commissions would address the acquisition and development of the trail only, while plans developed by municipalities probably would include all aspects of recreation. Plans developed by a school district must describe the recreation opportunities it provides in relation to those provided by the parks and recreation department or other entity serving the same area.

Any characteristics that influence planning may be discussed later in the plan, as they relate to the goals and objectives the organization develops.

Administrative Structure

Planning for and providing park and recreation services and open space for a community require staff (or volunteers) and funds to purchase recreation land and open spaces and to develop, operate and maintain them. In this section, describe how the park and recreation functions are carried out in your community, and include descriptions of the following as they apply to the organization:

Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)

- Describe the roles of the park and recreation commission, committee, board of directors or advisory board, if one exists.
- Include the enabling act under which it was established.
- For multijurisdictional plans, explain the working relationship among participating communities and school districts.

Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart

- Describe the parks and recreation department, staff or authority, including an organizational chart.
- Define who has authority to commit funds for parks and recreation, accept grants and purchase land on behalf of the community.

Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming

- Provide the current-year and projected annual budgets for parks operation and maintenance, recreation programming and capital improvements.

Current Funding Sources

- Explain which funding sources are used for the park operation, maintenance, recreation programming and capital improvements.

Role of Volunteers and Organizations

- List the volunteer groups or programs involved in parks and recreation, what activities they do and the frequency of their activities.
- Describe any partnerships with private organizations to maintain or operate any parks or recreation programs.

Relationships with School Districts and Other Public Agencies Involved in Recreation

- Describe the relationship between the community and local school districts or other public agencies.
- Recreation authorities or trailway commissions also should include:
 - Description of the relationship between the authority or commission and the recreation departments of participating communities.
 - Articles of incorporation.

Recreation Inventory

A recreation inventory describes all parks, natural areas, other public spaces and recreation facilities within or near the organization’s planning area – used by the residents of the planning area – with an emphasis on land and facilities the organization owns or operates.

For those lands and facilities that are owned privately, owned by a nonprofit organization or owned by another governmental unit, provide only the name, location and general information on the types of recreation and/or natural resource conservation provided. Businesses that provide recreation facilities to draw customers for their primary service, such as play areas in fast food restaurants, do not need to be included unless they are a major provider of recreation in the area.

Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

Describe the methods used to conduct the recreation inventory, including staff or consultants involved in creating or updating the inventory from previous years.

Inventory of all Community-Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

The inventory, which can be as detailed as you would like, must at minimum contain information for the organization’s parks and recreation facility system, including:

- Park name.
- Size in acres or length of linear parks.
- A description of the general purpose or use of each park.
- The park’s primary service area (also consider a “walkability” map with a quarter-mile walking radius around each park).
- The type and number of recreation and support facilities, including size, quality, and age or condition of each facility.

Location Maps

Include one or more maps that show the location of all recreation and natural resource conservation areas the organization owns or operates, as well as facilities owned by others that are available to the community. Green infrastructure, trail plans or other relevant land-use plans that affect the community or region also may be included in the inventory. A site development plan can be submitted for each of the parks for which a plan has been developed, but is not required.

Accessibility Assessment

Include an accessibility assessment at each park and recreational facility site the organization owns or operates. If the organization has completed an American’s with Disabilities Act transition plan, include a summary of the plan and relevant sections to meet the accessibility evaluation requirement. The New England ADA Center has developed checklists at ADAChecklist.org, which may be helpful in completing an assessment but are not required. At a minimum, the evaluation should:

- Describe references used and who conducted the evaluation.

- Compare each facility to the [2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design](#) and, at a minimum, give a ranking from 1-5. Although it is not required for Title II and III communities, the Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas may also be a helpful reference.

| DNR Accessibility Grading System for Parks and Recreation Facilities | |
|--|--|
| Accessibility Grade | Definition |
| 1 | None of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines |
| 2 | Some facilities meet accessibility guidelines |
| 3 | Most facilities meet accessibility guidelines |
| 4 | The entire park meets accessibility guidelines |
| 5 | The entire park was developed using the principles of universal design |

- Describe how the organization intends to address ADA compliance. A brief description is acceptable and may be covered in the goals and action plan.

Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

Briefly describe the status of grant-assisted sites and facilities. The community grant history can be accessed in MiGrants. Include whether the site is still open to the public, if the grant-funded facilities are still present and if any conversions of use exist at the site.

Most DNR recreation grant programs encumber the project boundary for recreation use in perpetuity, or for 20 to 40 years for Recreation Passport grants. Parks that are sold or where the use is transferred from recreation to another use are considered a conversion. If a conversion is identified, contact DNR Grants Management for instructions on conversion mitigation requirements. Address how the community will mitigate conversions in the action plan. The conversion also should be noted in the post-completion self-certification report, which is described in the supporting documentation section of this booklet.

Inventory of Existing Harbor/Marina Facilities (if Applicable)

This section is required only for communities with harbors and marinas and is required to be eligible for Michigan DNR Waterways Grants.

Recreational harbors are designed to be used by boaters for protection, overnight stays or day-use visits. These facilities may be included in the recreation inventory and location map or you may create a separate inventory and map of these facilities.

The harbor inventory can be as detailed as is useful to you, but must contain the following information at minimum.

Name and location of facility: Include the location information of your facility, how the facility fits in relation to your community, the body of water it accesses, nearby amenities, etc.

Size of facility: Include numbers of seasonal and transient slips for harbor facilities, discuss whether the facility meets the demands of boaters, whether the facility is too large or too small, and if boaters are turned away or if there are waiting lists.

ADA accessibility: Explain whether the facility meets current ADA guidelines. Please include details on all aspects that meet and do not meet ADA requirements.

Site development plan: If you have current development plans, please explain or include.

Marketing, events and partnerships: Explain any ways you currently market your facility and any future marketing plans. Include any event currently hosted at this facility or future event plans. Please describe any current partnerships or if you have any future partnering plans.

Dredging Information: In this section, detail any current dredging needs, a typical dredge cycle, approximate volume of dredged materials and dredged materials disposal location.

Maintenance and replacement: This section should include the three categories:

- Annual maintenance schedule. Please provide some detail on your typical annual maintenance and repairs, including projected costs.
- Minor or small-scale infrastructure replacement schedule. This would be for minor infrastructure and replacement of smaller items. Please include a projected year and a projected cost.
- Large-scale maintenance and replacement schedules. This section would include larger maintenance and replacement schedules for things like buildings, docks, water systems and more. Include a projected year and projected cost.

See an example in figure 4.

Figure 4: Maintenance and Replacement

Example: Annual Maintenance Schedule

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>Repairs and maintenance</u> | \$35,000 |
| Buildings | |
| Startup costs | |
| Painting | |
| Irrigation maintenance | |
| Sewer maintenance | |
| Minor electrical repairs | |
| Sidewalks | |
| Vehicles and equipment | |
| Winterization | |
| Lumber | |
| | |
| <u>Annual Supplies</u> | \$15,000.00 |
| tools | |
| hardware | |
| office supplies | |
| cleaning and paper products | |
| | |
| <u>Annual services</u> | \$60,000.00 |
| trash service | |
| utilities | |
| weed control | |

Example: Minor and small-scale infrastructure replacement schedule

| <u>Equipment replacement</u> | <u>year</u> | <u>projected cost</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| New push mower | 2018 | \$250.00 |
| New dock carts | 2020 | \$1,000.00 |
| | | |
| <u>Minor infrastructure repairs</u> | <u>year</u> | <u>projected cost</u> |
| Bathroom fixtures | 2018 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Lighting upgrades in parking lot | 2019 | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Shower door replacement | 2020 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Parking lot restriping | 2021 | \$ 5,000.00 |

Example: Large-scale maintenance and replacement schedules

| <u>Project</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>estimated cost</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Re roof harbormaster building | 2018 | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Replace water lines on docks | 2020 | \$100,000.00 |
| Re deck T dock | 2021 | \$ 60,000.00 |
| Maintenance Dredge | 2024 | \$ 50,000.00 |

Natural Resource Inventory (Optional)

Resource inventories provide a method to identify open-space land that may be desirable for future protection and/or public access through acquisition or other means due to the natural features present, as well as an accounting of land that is already protected.

It is important to develop a resource inventory, because it will assist in identifying the most desirable lands for acquisition in terms

of their ecological significance, location, proximity to other natural areas and other factors. Typically, a resource inventory would be conducted by creating a map of each type of resource or feature considered important for conservation purposes, such as wetlands, soils, surface water and forests, as well as maps of political boundaries, roads and parcel maps. These individual maps (or data layers) are usually incorporated into a geographic information system. They then can be combined with each other to determine the relative conservation value of different lands and the relationship of these lands to each other.

When conducting a resource inventory, map natural features such as wetlands, flood plains, groundwater recharge areas, woodlands, farmlands, wildlife habitat, rare species and scenic viewsheds. Land already protected, such as public parks and recreation areas, state or national forests, designated natural rivers and designated natural areas, also should be incorporated into the inventory.

Description of the Planning Process

In this section, planning methods are discussed. These methods are intended to assist with the assessment of the organization's park, recreation and open-space needs. Organizations are encouraged to choose planning methods that work best for their community.

Planning Methods

Comparison to park metrics: Comparison of existing recreation opportunities to park metrics can be used to determine deficiencies in the recreation system; however, it is important to apply knowledge of the community when determining its recreation needs. Relevant information may include age and income distribution, neighborhood structure and recreation interests of the community, and recreation opportunities in nearby communities. The National Recreation and Park Association park metrics can be viewed here: <https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/ParkMetrics/>.

System planning: This planning method will use the organization's metrics, priorities, needs, level of service and community-wide issues to guide cyclical planning efforts. As planning efforts are implemented, the system can be re-evaluated to measure success and guide future planning goals. More information on parks and recreation system planning can be found here: <https://www.nrpa.org/parks-recreation-magazine/2020/november/a-new-approach-to-parks-and-recreation-system-planning/>.

Equity-based planning: This planning method focuses on community engagement, equity and inclusion. Planning for equity will ensure all people have access to programs, facilities and public spaces in the community. Benefits of equity-based planning may include improving community health, economic impact, access and resiliency. More information on equity-based planning can be accessed here: <https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/best-practice-resources/creating-equity-based-system-master-plans/>.

Additional planning methods and resources not listed in this booklet are available for organizations to use. Contact the DNR Grants Management Section to add a resource to this list.

Description of the Public Input Process

In this section, describe the methods used to incorporate public input into the recreation planning process. Residents' opinion on recreation and open-space priorities is a key consideration in plan development.

Early Public Input

As you develop your plan, you must solicit early public input from your community before preparing your draft plan. The means of soliciting that input should take place within a year of plan adoption by the governing body.

It is important to involve the public *early* in the process before the draft plan is written. It is highly recommended that additional effort be put forth to solicit comments from residents living near future projects and from others who may be negatively affected by the projects. Special efforts may be required to involve segments of the population whose concerns are often overlooked. If your community has substantial minority, low-income, disabled or elderly populations, identify and address their needs and concerns.

Early public input increases ownership of the plan by community members, promotes democracy and equality with equal

opportunity to share in decisions, empowers residents to be more active and to participate more fully, enhances creativity, increases stability and commitment to management, and encourages support for local grassroots initiatives.

During early public input, a typical public meeting format is discouraged. Methods such as surveys, questionnaires, workshops, stakeholder meetings, focus groups, or visioning sessions are encouraged because they facilitate more public participation from all segments of the population. Describe the early public input method(s) you used. Explain whether the responses received represented the whole community, groups that do not typically attend public meetings, the potential users for special-use areas (for example, skate parks) and those who may be greatly affected by the recreation and open-space opportunities considered. This is an ideal time to include input from other recreation providers, private and public partners and regional organizations.

30-Day Public Review Period

Once the draft plan has been completed, residents must be provided with a well-publicized opportunity of adequate length, at least 30 days, to review and comment on the plan before it is officially adopted. Select convenient locations for reviewing the draft plan, such as your public library, town hall and municipal website. Document and describe the methods you used to notify people of the opportunity to review and comment on the draft plan before it was officially adopted. The notification can be accomplished by a variety of means, including methods typically used to make announcements by the governing body, such as a published notice or posting at the government office or on the municipal website, etc. The announcement must include the date of posting and must be certified by the publisher. Physical postings must be date-certified by the clerk. The notice should provide instructions to the public on how to submit comments to the plan via email or other methods. In addition, provide a summary of any comments received and how they were used to modify the plan.

Public Hearing and Resolution of Adoption

The final means of soliciting public input is an advertised public hearing, held after the 30-day public review period. The public must be given the opportunity to provide comments prior to passing a resolution to adopt the plan, according to the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976. This public hearing can be held as part of a regularly scheduled meeting, such as a planning or parks and recreation commission or a meeting of the governing body, or it can be held as a special single-topic public hearing. The public hearing must occur prior to passing a resolution for adoption by the highest governing body. If both the public hearing and resolution for adoption occur at one meeting of the highest governing body, they must be conducted as separate agenda items and the public hearing must be held prior to the resolution for adoption. Plans will not be accepted if the public hearing occurs after the plan has been adopted by the local governing body or bodies.

Advance notice for the public hearing is required in the manner typically used by the community for public hearings, such as published notice, certified posting at government offices, posting on the municipal website, etc. The announcement must include information on the time, date and location of the public hearing. The public hearing notice must be available for viewing to residents in all local units of government included in the plan. Proof of the notice location and posting date must be provided, such as an affidavit from the publisher, or full copies of the published page with the notice, including masthead. Physical postings must be date-certified by the clerk and include photo documentation. Notices for the public hearing should be publicized in the same manner as the community notices other public hearings, as for the planning commission. Care should be taken to provide a nonelectronic method, as not everyone has access to the internet. Notice for the 30-day review period and the public hearing can be combined if the title of the notice includes both items.

The final resolution to adopt the plan must come from the highest governing body. The adoption of the plan must be in the form of a resolution of adoption. The template for the resolution for adopting the recreation plan can be found in Appendix A.

Public hearing minutes must reflect that a call for comment was made to the public and whether there was public comment or not. When submitting the plan to the DNR, include a copy of the published notices for the 30-day review period and the public hearing and the approved, certified minutes of the meetings at which the public hearing was conducted and the plan was adopted by the governing body. If the plan was adopted at a separate meeting from the public hearing, provide the minutes of both meetings.

For joint recreation plans, the public hearings can be condensed to cover multiple communities at one meeting if the meetings are located so that all residents can easily attend. Otherwise, each community should host its own public hearing. Any proposed

consolidation of public hearings for joint recreation plans should be approved by the DNR prior to scheduling them. The public hearing must be advertised for all the communities contained within the plan in a method that can be viewed by members of all those communities. The plan must be adopted by resolution at a public meeting of each of the individual local governing bodies covered in the plan.

Goals and Objectives

In this section, describe the goals and objectives you developed during the preparation of your plan. Also describe the information you used to formulate the goals and objectives, including the role public input played in their formulation.

Goals should be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served and the physical and environmental characteristics of the area, such as the size of the population, age, gender and the distribution of low-income, disabled, elderly and minority residents. Recreation opportunities provided should be determined based on a consideration of the demographic subgroups that make up the population of the community, which recreation opportunities each of these subgroups wants, where the subgroups live, how they will get to the parks or other locations that provide recreation opportunities, how much they can afford to pay and many other factors.

Protection of open space will be dependent on the physical characteristics of the area. Physical characteristics include topography, water resources, soils, vegetation, fish and wildlife resources, presence and location of rare species, as well as human-created characteristics such as land-use patterns, transportation systems and zoning.

Goals should be broad enough and have one or more objectives associated with them. Objectives will be more specific actions to help accomplish the goal.

For example:

Goal: To provide recreation facilities to meet the needs of the community.

Objective: Construct additional soccer fields at Memorial Park.

There currently are 50 school-age kids participating in soccer, and the existing fields are scheduled to capacity. In the next five years, 100 children in the community will be of school age. During the community visioning session and recreation survey, the community expressed interest in programming for adult soccer leagues.

Action Program

The action program is the section of the plan where you identify how you intend to meet or work toward meeting your goals and objectives over the next five years. Describe specific projects identified during the planning process and how they will meet goals and objectives. You also may include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, operation and maintenance actions, as well as land acquisition and facility development, if applicable. A capital improvement schedule for park development projects is not required, but may be useful for planning purposes and may include the type of improvement, the estimated cost, funding sources and a schedule of construction.

Supporting Documentation

A number of supporting documents will be required to be submitted in MiGrants separate from the 5-year Recreation Plan and are described below.

Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports

Every five years, updated post-completion self-certification reports – including photographs of the park entrance sign and program acknowledgement plaque -- are required for all previous grants, regardless of the year of funding, for the following grant programs:

- Land and Water Conservation Fund

- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Recreation Passport Grant Program
- Clean Michigan Initiative Fund
- Recreation Bond Fund

Read the instructions on the post-completion self-certification report form within MiGrants to fill out the report for each past grant listed on the page. **Submitted recreation plans will not be approved by the DNR until these forms are completed and returned, including photos of required program recognition plaques.**

Maintenance and other issues identified during the inventory, including those at grant-assisted sites, should be addressed within the community plan if they cannot readily be corrected.

Early Input Before the Draft Plan is Written

Provide results of community surveys or questionnaires and/or notes from informal workshops, focus groups, stakeholder meetings or other informal public input opportunities. Read through the [early input section](#) of this booklet for more information. Provide a copy of the survey, meeting agenda, etc., and a summary of the amount of response and the information and opinions received.

Notice of the Draft Plan for 30 Days of Public Comment

The notice for the 30-day review period should include the date of posting and instructions on how the public can view the draft plan and submit comments and should be certified by the publisher. If the notice is published in a newspaper, a full-page print of the posting or an affidavit of publication may be submitted. If the notice is published online or on a social media site, a screen print or screenshot – which includes the post dates – can be submitted, or the person who posted the notice can submit a signed statement with the date of posting. If a printed copy of the notice is posted at a physical location, such as a township hall or library, submit clerk certification with the location and dates of posting and a photo of the posted notice.

Notice of the Public Hearing

The notice for the public hearing should include the date of posting and the date and location of the public hearing, should be certified by the publisher and should state that the recreation plan will be discussed at the meeting. Provide a copy of the notice for all public hearings, if more than one took place. If the notice is published in a newspaper, a full-page print of the posting or an affidavit of publication may be submitted. If the notice is published online or on a social media site, a screen print or screenshot that includes the post dates can be submitted, or the IT director can certify posting dates. If a printed copy of the notice is posted at a physical location, such as a township hall or library, the person who posted the notice should submit a clerk-certified copy of the notice with the location and dates of posting and a photo of the posted notice.

Minutes from the Public Hearing

Approved, clerk-certified meeting minutes should be submitted. Unapproved meeting minutes can be submitted to meet the submission deadline, but the approved, signed copy is required prior to DNR approval of the recreation plan. Include minutes from all public hearings, if more than one took place. Public comments should be recorded on the minutes.

Minutes from the Meeting to Pass a Resolution of Adoption

Approved, clerk-certified meeting minutes should be submitted. Unapproved meeting minutes can be submitted to meet the submission deadline, but the approved, signed copy is required prior to DNR approval of the recreation plan. If the public hearing took place at the same meeting at which a resolution was passed, the public hearing portion of the meeting must have occurred prior to the resolution to adopt the plan and minutes must be provided for both the public hearing and the meeting where the resolution was passed.

Transmittal Letters to the County and Regional Planning Agencies

A copy of the completed plan should be sent to the regional planning agency identified on the table below. A copy also should be sent to the county planning commission. If there is no county planning commission, forward to the parks department of the county commission. Submit a copy of the letter or email transmitting the plan to both agencies.

Local Adoption and DNR Approval of Five Year Recreation Plans

To be eligible for DNR recreation grant consideration, an organization's five-year recreation plan must be adopted by a resolution of the governing body that has the final authority on recreation expenditures, such as a city council, recreation authority's board of directors or township board. (See Appendix A for a resolution template with required language.) If the planning process included the adoption of the plan by a planning commission or parks and recreation commission, that is additional and optional, as those boards must seek approval for expenditures by a higher governing body. These resolutions may be included in the supporting documentation.

Plan Amendments

Prior to the expiration date of a plan, a community may want to amend portions of the plan. An approved plan may be amended at any time during the five-year period of eligibility to reflect significant changes in community conditions, action plan or goals and objectives. An amendment does not extend the five-year life of the plan. Please discuss the need for an amendment with your DNR grant coordinator prior to initiating the process. If a potential project meets the plan's stated goals and objectives, it is not required that it be specifically identified in the action plan.

Amendment deadline: Communities may prepare five-year recreation plan amendments at any time during the year; however, for amendments to be considered during a grant application preliminary evaluation period, they must be submitted in MiGrants by Feb. 1 of the year the application will be submitted.

Amended Plan Content

The amended plan will be uploaded in MiGrants and should include the following information:

- Description of the planning process.
- Description of the public input process.
- Amended goals, objectives or action plan.
- Description of any other amended plan elements.

Supporting Documentation

Notice of Draft Plan for 14 Days of Public Comment

Once the amendment has been drafted, residents must be provided with a well-publicized opportunity of adequate length – at least two weeks – to review and provide input on it before it is officially adopted. Convenient places to allow the public to view the draft amendment are at your city or township hall, public library and on your municipal website. The amendment should be accompanied by the original plan for the two-week review period.

Notice of the Public Hearing

After the two-week review period, a public hearing must take place to take comment on the proposed changes to the plan. The public hearing notice must be published in advance of the hearing, according to the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976. The public hearing notice must be available for viewing to residents in all local units of government included in the plan.

Minutes from the Public Hearing and Resolution

Approved, certified meeting minutes should be submitted for both the public hearing and the meeting where the resolution was passed to adopt the amended plan. Unapproved meeting minutes can be submitted to meet the submission deadline, but the approved, certified copy is required prior to DNR approval of the recreation plan. Include minutes from all public hearings, if more than one took place. Public comments should be recorded in the minutes. Minutes must reflect that the public hearing took place, with a call to the public, whether or not anyone actually chose to speak. The public hearing and resolution for adoption can occur at one meeting of the highest governing body if they are conducted as separate agenda items and the public hearing occurs prior to the resolution for adoption.

Certified Resolution

Plan amendments must be adopted by the same governing body that adopted the original plan. (See Appendix A for a sample resolution.) Any amendments to a multijurisdictional recreation plan must be adopted by all communities affected by the change to the plan. A letter with a copy of the amendment must be sent to all communities covered by the plan.

Transmittal Letters to the County and Regional Planning Agencies

A copy of the amended plan should be sent to the county and regional planning agencies identified on the table below. Upload a copy of the letter or email transmitting the plan to both agencies. If there is no county planning commission, transmit the plan to the parks and recreation department or county commission instead.

Submitting Documents in MiGrants

All five-year Recreation Plans and plan amendments must be submitted to DNR Grants Management through an online application system, MiGrants, found at MiGrants.Intelligrants.com.

To submit an electronic version of a five-year recreation plan or amendment, a community must register its organization in the MiGrants system and receive approval as a new applicant from DNR Grants Management. If a community is already a registered organization, log in with the proper username and password. Once logged in, a community representative can use the “My Training Tools” link on the top of the home page as a guide for how to upload documents.

Upon receipt of the adopted plan and documentation, DNR Grants Management will review the plan for completion to ensure that all required documentation is included in the submittal. You will receive notification if the recreation plan submittal package is approved or requires additional documentation. Grant eligibility expires Dec. 31 of the last year covered by the plan, but in no case can the plan cover more than five years.

General Notes for MiGrants

Register in MiGrants – Five-year recreation plans are **only** accepted in MiGrants. A representative of the local unit of government must register as the authorized official in MiGrants. This role will allow this person to submit the five-year recreation Plan and add people to the organization and to documents in MiGrants. When the community is ready to submit grant applications, the authorized official is the only person who can initiate and submit grant applications. Because of this, the authorized official should be someone with the authority to complete these tasks and who is likely to respond on the project.

MiGrants notifications – The authorized official and anyone else who is added to the five-year recreation plan document in MiGrants will receive system-generated emails when there is a status change and also may receive emails from the DNR grant coordinators. Do not reply to any email notifications from MiGrants. System messages will come from the email address NoReply-MiGrants@Michigan.gov. If you receive an email that the five-year recreation plan was not approved, this may mean additional information is required. If you receive such an email, go to the five-year recreation plan document in MiGrants to review comments in the DNR-only box.

Submitting a Five-Year Plan

1. Authorized official logs into MiGrants at MiGrants.Intelligrants.com. In the “My Opportunities” box, choose “5-year Recreation Plan” to initiate a new recreation plan. Confirm that you want to start a new five-year recreation plan. The new five-year recreation plan document has been created. From now on, any organization members can start with step 2 to open and submit the five-year recreation plan.
2. Click on “Searches” then “5-year Recreation Plan” and click “search.”
3. Click on the document name to open the recreation plan.
4. On the left navigation menu, go to “Forms” and click “Plan Info & Certification.” Complete the required fields, certify the page and click “save.”
5. On the left navigation menu, go to “Forms” and click “Plan & Supporting Documentation.” Upload all required attachments, fill out the text boxes and click “save.” You will only be allowed to upload one file in each upload area. Combine documents into one file, if needed. The maximum file upload size is 25 MB.
6. On the left navigation menu, go to “Forms” and click “Post-Completion Self-Certification.” A list of previous DNR recreation grant awards will appear on the page. If no awards appear, then the organization has not received any DNR recreation grants and you may skip this step. Click on the grant number to open the post-completion self-certification form of the grant. Fill out the form, upload current photos of the park entrance sign and program acknowledgement plaque, and save the page. Navigate back to the post-completion self-certification page of the five-year recreation plan and repeat this step for all grants listed.

7. Once all required documents have been uploaded and saved, the authorized official can change the status to submit the recreation plan for DNR review. On the left navigation menu, go to “Status Options” and click “5-Year Recreation Plan Submitted.”
8. The DNR has now received the submission and will review it. If clarifications are needed, your DNR grant coordinator will change the status of the five-year plan to “5-Year Plan Not Approved.” This will allow you to upload missing documents or clarify information. The documents must be saved and submitted following the same steps above.

Submitting a Multi-jurisdictional Plan

For multijurisdictional plans, the following applies:

- All communities included in the plan must submit a five-year recreation plan in MiGrants at MiGrants.Intelligrants.com.
- All communities must each upload the following for their own community:
 - Public hearing notifications and public hearing meeting minutes.
 - If there is a separate meeting for the public hearing and adoption, also upload the meeting minutes where the plan was adopted by the highest governing body of that community.
 - Resolution where the plan was adopted by the highest governing body of that community.
 - Post-completion self-inspection reports.

Submitting an Amendment

If the organization has an approved five-year recreation plan on file with the DNR, contact your DNR grant coordinator prior to submitting an amendment to the plan.

1. Authorized official logs in to MiGrants at MiGrants.Intelligrants.com. Click on “Searches,” then “5-year Recreation Plan” and then click “Search.” Click on the document name to open the recreation plan. On the left navigation menu, go to “Status Options” and click “Amendment in Process.” From now on, any organization members can start with step 2 to open and submit the five-year recreation plan amendment.
2. Click on “Searches,” then “5-year Recreation Plan” and then click “Search.”
3. Click on the document name to open the recreation plan.
4. On the left navigation menu, go to “Forms” and click “Plan Amendment.”
5. Complete all required items on the page, then save the page.
6. Once all required documents have been uploaded and saved, the authorized official can change the status to submit the recreation plan for DNR review. On the left-navigation menu, go to “Status Options” and click “5-Year Recreation Plan Submitted.”
7. The DNR has now received the submission and will review it. If clarifications are needed, your DNR grant coordinator will change the status of the five-year recreation plan to “5-Year Plan Not Approved.” This will allow you to upload missing documents or clarify information. The documents must be saved and submitted following the same steps above.

Appendix A: Sample Resolution for Adopting a Plan or Plan Amendment

(NAME OF PLAN / AMENDMENT)

For *(name of governing body of local unit of government OR name of recreation authority/commission), (county name)*

WHEREAS, the (local unit of government OR recreation authority/commission) has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 20__ through 20__, and

* { *WHEREAS, the (local unit of government) has entered into this planning process in collaboration with (names of other local units of government), and*

WHEREAS, the combined area of the aforementioned local units of government constitutes the planning area, and

WHEREAS, the (governing body of local unit of government) is of the understanding that the governing bodies of the aforementioned local units of government intend to pass a similar resolution of adoption of the (name of recreation and natural resource conservation plan), and }

OR

WHEREAS, the (recreation authority/commission) is made up of representatives from (names of local units of government), and

WHEREAS, the (local unit of government OR recreation authority/commission) began the process of developing a (community recreation and natural resource conservation plan / plan amendment) in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of the (local unit of government OR planning area) were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the (final draft plan / plan amendment) for a period of at least (30 days for plan / two weeks for amendments), and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on (date) at (place) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the (name of recreation and natural resource conservation plan), and

WHEREAS, the (local unit of government OR recreation authority/commission) has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the (local unit of government OR recreation authority/commission), and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the (governing body of local unit of government OR governing body of recreation authority/commission) voted to adopt said (name of recreation and natural resource conservation plan).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the (governing body of local unit of government OR governing body of recreation authority/commission) hereby adopts the (name of recreation and natural resource conservation plan).

Yeas: Nays: Absent:

I, (name), (title), do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the (name of governing body) at a Regular/Special Meeting thereof held on the (___ day of _____, 20__.)

<<Seal here, if a seal is available>> (signature)

*Joint Plan Only

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MISSION STATEMENT

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the State's natural resources for current and future generations."

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION STATEMENT

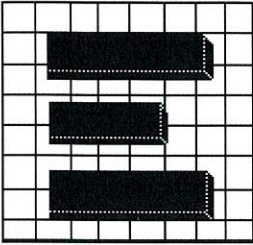
The Natural Resources Commission (NRC), as the governing body for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, provides a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage your resources. The NRC holds monthly, public meetings throughout Michigan, working closely with its constituencies in establishing and improving natural resources management policy.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight, or marital status under the U.S. Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended, 1976 MI PA 453, 1976 MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 30028, Lansing MI 48909-7528 or Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3-600, 3054 W. Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI 48202, or Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

For information or assistance on this publication, contact Grants Management, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.



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March 22, 2023

Steve Anderson, Recreation Director
City of Plymouth
525 Farmer
Plymouth, MI 48170

Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for your most recent inquiry about our company and your request for further detail in regard to our survey research services. For well over two decades, as you know, municipalities such as the City of Plymouth have been using our firm's research services to assist in charting overall policy direction, as well as to give guidance for strategic planning, budgeting priorities, and public outreach and education efforts. Our constituent contact databases have also been widely used by clients to help advance their objectives as a proven effective and efficient means to communicate information gleaned from the research to the general public, whether simply educational in nature, or to communicate directly to and target voters in the event of an election issue.

As understood at this juncture, the City of Plymouth may wish to commission a statistically valid survey to gather opinions on a Parks and Recreation Master plan - possibly in a joint venture with Plymouth Township - and/or further gather information on a potential Master plan for the City itself. Obviously, this broad understanding of the City's general interest would require further refinement in order to create a useful survey instrument. If we are fortunate enough to be selected to assist with this objective, the process would begin by conferring with designated representatives of the City in order to define more precisely the desired lines of inquiry and formulate specific questions that will address the topics of importance and generate data that would be used to guide and inform the City.

- Educational
- Political
- Industrial
- Consumer

- Market
- Research
- Analysis

Such a survey could also measure community perceptions of: the quality of services and recreational offerings provided by the authority; the level of taxes and funding earmarked for the same; the condition of facilities and grounds; views about financial management; reasons “why” respondents either support or oppose any given proposals or initiatives being tested; how respondents feel about the way prior initiatives were administered and implemented; and where respondents get the information that influences their opinions the most about the topics in question, among other things.

Further to that conversation, I write to offer an outline of the typical process for conducting a live-operator public opinion survey. First, some brief background information about our company.

COMPANY BACKGROUND

EPIC ▪ MRA is the assumed name for Michigan Researchers Associates, Inc., a for-profit corporation formed in 1991 with headquarters in Lansing, Michigan. It is the successor entity to the partnership, Michigan Research Associates, formed in 1985. The principal officers of EPIC ▪ MRA have been active in governmental, political, marketing, business, and health issues at the state and national levels for over 40 years. Since its inception, the firm has provided services to a broad range of clients, including: public school districts, intermediate school districts, school boards; community colleges and universities; state, county, township and municipal legislative bodies and planning commissions; non-profit organizations; financial institutions; transportation authorities; public libraries and library boards; political and business leaders; professional associations; the legal and judicial communities; and members of the health care industry.

EPIC ▪ MRA takes great pride in the accuracy of our survey research. Nate Silver’s 538 website has given us a B grade for the accuracy of our polling on statewide election races, which is a ranking and grading system for all polling firms that are recognized nationally. EPIC ▪ MRA ranks higher than any other Michigan-based polling firm, and we also rank higher than but a handful of much larger national polling firms. In the recent November 2022 election, EPIC ▪ MRA also held the distinction of being the most accurate polling firm in predicting the outcomes of the 2022 races for Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State - and the three ballot proposals -in Michigan, on surveys conducted for our media clients.

Prominent among the methods EPIC ▪ MRA intends to emphasize is guaranteeing a statistically valid sampling of residents, not only throughout the taxable boundaries of the municipality as a whole, but also within any desired sub-regions - such as by “jurisdiction” and/or Zip Code - as well as among several major demographic subgroups representative of the population, including race, gender, age, etc. In addition, should placement of a proposal on a future election ballot be

in question, survey participants can further be screened to include only respondents that are registered to vote within the municipality, and self-identify as being *at least* “likely” to cast a vote in a particular tested election. Consistent with the aim of providing a statistically valid result, EPIC • MRA’s *preference* is to utilize live operator telephone interviews as its exclusive methodology, in order to offer properly stratified and actionable data. ‘

We also do our best to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to keeping on top of the industry’s best practices in polling and market research. We always include a *minimum* of 50 percent cell phone only respondents in our polling samples - and often much higher percentages when the project requires - in order to make sure that all age groups, especially younger respondents, are appropriately represented in our sample frame; without the need to re-weight data once survey data collection is complete. In this way, residents that have forgone traditional land line usage in favor of the exclusive use of mobile devices are able to be reliably reached.

Because of its attention to sampling detail, its in-house capacity to generate customized telephone sample draws, and the incorporation of cell-only respondents, EPIC • MRA rarely finds it necessary to re-weight the results of its surveys. Post-data collection weighting usually involves replicating responses from a relative handful of target respondents in one or more demographic subsets in order to match those subsets’ proportion of the population tested – thus somewhat diminishing the influence of responses from the remaining subsets. While sparing use of this technique is appropriate in some circumstances, the practice carries the potential of producing findings that can be misleading, and at worst, wildly inaccurate; an outcome that becomes increasingly likely when multiple subsets are subject to even moderate post-data-collection weighting.

PROCEDURAL PROCESS

Once a project has been commissioned, we begin with close consultation with the client to develop a survey instrument. The initial draft is then presented to the client for review and comment; with the review and re-draft process continuing until a questionnaire that is satisfactory to all parties is developed. Typically, this phase consumes the lion’s share of what is normally a *six-week* timeline for completion of the research, from initial consultation through presentation of the final deliverables. However, presuming the construction and finalization of the survey instrument to be used can be expedited, a more contracted timeline can certainly be accommodated.

Presentation of the draft questionnaire would include an estimate of the average interview length. As can be seen from the price chart that follows, interview length is one primary factor in determining the overall price of the research. Sample size, or the number of interviews to be completed, is the other main variable that drives the survey's cost.

Once a survey instrument is completed and approved by all parties, we set about conducting the interviews. Typically, for example, the interview administration for a 300 sample, 15-minute survey, takes approximately five-to-seven days to complete. As each shift's production is completed, data entry is performed so that by the end of the phoning, the data is ready to apply to our aggregation and tallying software.

The results of the tabulations are known as:

- Frequency results - the percentage of all respondents saying "yes, no, undecided, don't know/refused, etc." or all other responses to the survey questions; and,
- Cross tabulation tables - the tabulation of responses to individual questions by segment (that is, demographic subgroup) such as: parks and recreation users vs. non, parent status, gender, age, education level, race, geographic location, income, etc.

The frequency results are useful in gauging overall reaction to specific questions posed, and for garnering an understanding of what the attitudes of the population are as a whole. The cross tabulations are beneficial in getting a handle on how particular segments (e.g. lower-income residents, homeowners, men under age 50, etc.) of the population react to any given question in comparison to the entire sample. The comparison of frequency results with the cross tabulations is useful in analyzing the respective attitudes of subgroups toward various issue questions. Moreover, if the survey includes detailed questions about the rationale behind pursuing or not pursuing certain specific ventures, one is able to see what information, and even which messages, most resonate with the entire population, as well as within specific subgroups.

EPIC ▪ MRA is well aware of the fact that the survey, its cost, and its results, are subject to the Freedom of Information Act when commissioned by a public entity, and thus, open to public scrutiny. However, our firm has great experience in taking on public entities as clients, and we pride ourselves on our ability to craft an unbiased survey instrument and present results in a manner that justifies the expenditure of public dollars. Moreover, our services include offering an oral presentation of results, if desired, which, more often than not, is delivered as part of a regularly scheduled board meeting; a feature that goes a long way toward calming any concerns that may arise in the community about the expenditure of tax dollars on a public opinion survey.

SAMPLE FRAME

To generate a sample, EPIC ▪ MRA maintains an in-house database of published telephone numbers, both landline and cell phone, and appends this database with Secretary of State's qualified voter file and Bureau of the Census information to generate the desired sample pool. For example, if the survey were to be conducted among registered voters only, then the telephone file is matched against the voter file to identify addresses denominated as being located within the individual geographic sub-areas chosen to be reported. From this resulting matched file, numbers are randomly pulled in a manner that ensures proper stratification (i.e., proportional to each subunit's contribution to the total) across the subject geography.

EPIC ▪ MRA frequently recommends a N=400 sample (a margin of error of 4.9 points) taxable jurisdiction-wide sampling - especially should Plymouth Township be ultimately included in the study - but a sample size of N=300 (a margin of error of 5.7 points), could also be considered, as was completed for the City in 2017.

As for interview length, from our experience with similar prior work and what is known at this time, it is our expectation that the interview will necessarily be *at least* 12-minutes in order to accurately cover the topics under consideration. It is, however, quite conceivable that the interview length could range up to 18-minutes should testing of specific components of a proposals, alternate proposals, and/or messages (pro/con arguments toward the proposal(s) under consideration - presented in a rotated fashion) be desired.

Obviously, there are many possible permutations of sampling frames that could ultimately be chosen, and the same is true for the yet-to-be-determined lines of inquiry to be pursued. Ultimately, settling on sample size and interview length is as much a balance between the realities of the available research budget as it is by informational needs.

With the foregoing given as a brief background primer, the following chart illustrates our firm's prices for live-operator, telephone survey research services:

| Survey Length <i>(In minutes)</i> | 300 Samples <i>(Margin of error 5.7 points)</i> | 400 Samples <i>(Margin of error 4.9 points)</i> | Approximate Number of Questions <i>(Including screening and demographic questions)</i> |
|---|---|---|--|
| Up to 12 Minute Interview | \$15,250.00 | \$18,000.00 | 22 to 28 |
| 13 to 15 Minute Interview | \$18,500.00 | \$21,975.00 | 27 to 35 |
| 16 to 18 Minute Interview | \$21,725.00 | \$26,000.00 | 32 to 42 |

The prices shown above reflect the fee for all survey-related services, including:

- Pre-survey client consultation
- Ongoing telephone consultation to develop the questionnaire
- Final survey instrument drafting and programming
- Telephone sample draw and stratification
- A minimum of fifty percent cell-phone-only respondents as part of the sampling
- Telephone interview administration and supervision
- Data entry of results
- Coding and grouping of any open-ended responses
- Frequency Report and Cross Tabulation tables
- Textual Executive Report
- PowerPoint Presentation of results; if desired
- Post-survey oral presentation of results; if desired

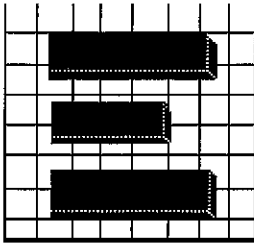
PLEASE NOTE: *The prices quoted above also include an electronic voter contact database, which includes the name and address of all registered voters within the taxable boundaries of the municipality, along with other designations, such as individual vote history and absentee-voter status, if desired.*

Voter contact databases are also available for purchase as a stand-alone product if survey research services are NOT commissioned (starting at \$500). In addition, membership files, as well as commercially available telephone numbers (both landline and cell phone), can be appended to the voter contact database for an additional fee.

It is hoped that the forgoing information is helpful, and on behalf of all of us at EPIC ▪ MRA, we appreciate the opportunity to offer our services to meet the research needs of The City of Plymouth, and your continued trust in our services. Of course, should you have any questions, the need for further detail, clarification, or require a list of prior client references, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

Kelly Sullivan, Project Director
EPIC ▪ MRA



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Plymouth Community Survey

Report on a Parks and Recreation Survey

Executive Summary

and

Demographic Analysis

- Educational
- Political
- Industrial
- Consumer

- Market
- Research
- Analysis

September 2017

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METHODOLOGY

EPIC • MRA administered live telephone interviews with 300 adult residents of Plymouth City and Plymouth Township; including 225 respondents from Plymouth Township and 75 respondents from Plymouth City, which was increased by 25 respondents to provide a subsample of a total of 100 interviews from Plymouth City. The interviews were conducted from September 7th through September 11th, 2017. Respondents were included in the sample if they confirmed that they were adult residents meeting the gender quota, and living in Plymouth Township or Plymouth City.

Respondents for the interviews were selected utilizing an interval method of randomly selecting records of households of people who are residents of the two communities. Thirty percent of the respondents contacted had cell phone only telephones. The sample was stratified so every area of the community is represented in the sample according to its contribution to the adult population of area surveyed.

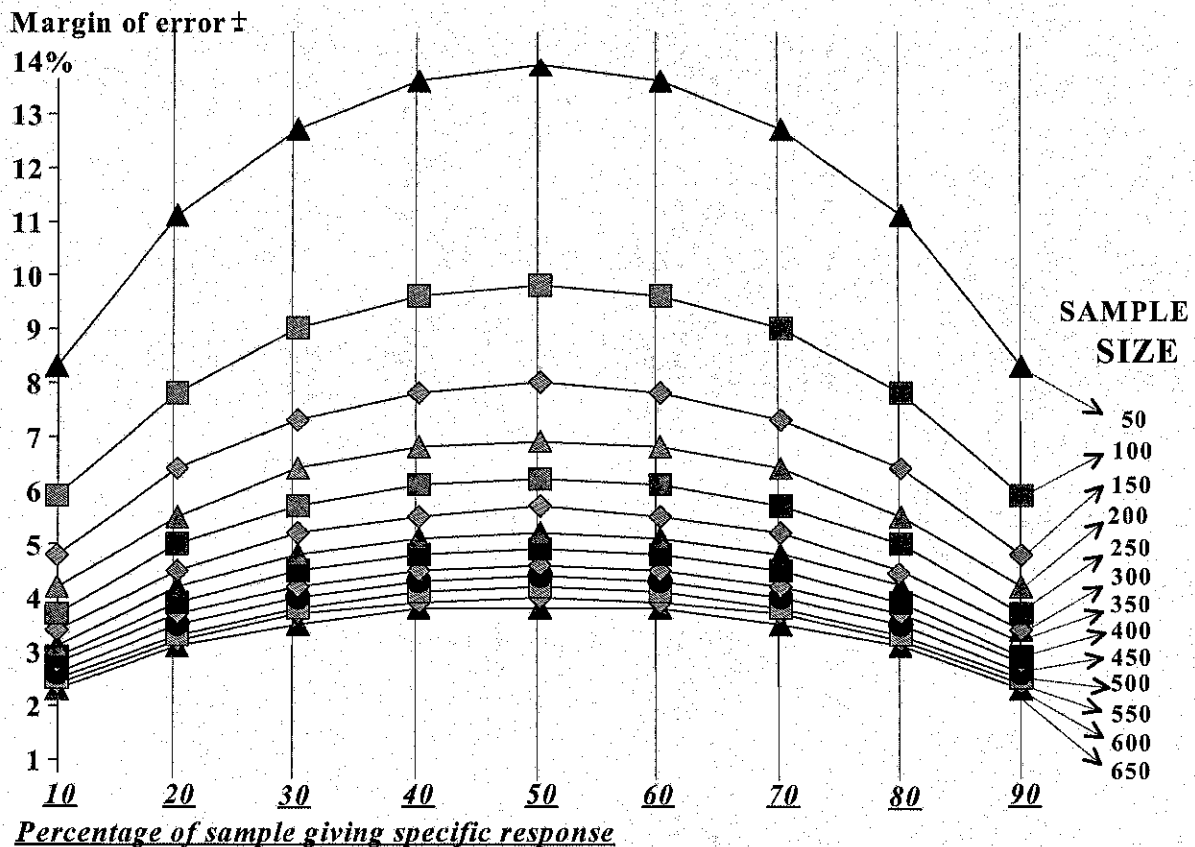
Generally, in interpreting survey results, all surveys are subject to error; that is, the results of the survey may differ from that which would have been obtained if the entire population was interviewed. The size of the sampling error depends on the total number of respondents asked a specific question. The table on the next page represents the estimated sampling error for different percentage distributions of responses based on sample size.

For example, when all respondents were asked how interested they are in seeing a community dog park developed, 49 percent of all 300 respondents said they were very interested (20%) or somewhat interested (29%), in seeing that happen (Question #30). As indicated in the chart on the next page, this percentage would have a sampling error of plus or minus 5.7 percent. That means that with repeated sampling, it is very likely (95 out of every 100 times), that the percentage for the entire population would fall between 43.3 percent and 54.7 percent, hence the margin of error ± 5.7 percent. The margin of error for the 225 respondents from Plymouth Township is $\pm 6.6\%$ and the margin of error for the 100 respondents from Plymouth City (including an oversample of 25) is ± 9.8 percent.

EPIC • MRA SAMPLING ERROR BY PERCENTAGE (AT 95 IN 100 CONFIDENCE LEVEL)

Percentage of sample giving specific response

| SAMPLE SIZE | <u>% margin of error ±</u> | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| | <u>10</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>40</u> | <u>50</u> | <u>60</u> | <u>70</u> | <u>80</u> | <u>90</u> | |
| 700 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 2.2 | |
| 650 | 2.3 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.1 | 2.3 | |
| 600 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 4 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.4 | |
| 550 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 2.5 | |
| 500 | 2.6 | 3.5 | 4 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4 | 3.5 | 2.6 | |
| 450 | 2.8 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 2.8 | |
| 400 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.5 | 3.9 | 2.9 | |
| 350 | 3.1 | 4.2 | 4.8 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 3.1 | |
| 300 | 3.4 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 4.5 | 3.4 | |
| 250 | 3.7 | 5 | 5.7 | 6.1 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 5.7 | 5 | 3.7 | |
| 200 | 4.2 | 5.5 | 6.4 | 6.8 | 6.9 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 4.2 | |
| 150 | 4.8 | 6.4 | 7.3 | 7.8 | 8 | 7.8 | 7.3 | 6.4 | 4.8 | |
| 100 | 5.9 | 7.8 | 9 | 9.6 | 9.8 | 9.6 | 9 | 7.8 | 5.9 | |
| 50 | 8.3 | 11.1 | 12.7 | 13.6 | 13.9 | 13.6 | 12.7 | 11.1 | 8.3 | |



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Clearly, both City and Township residents are very satisfied with, and active within, the parks and recreational programming in the Plymouth Community; and they believe that their recreational facilities and programs enhance the economy, property values, and quality of life in the community.

Nearly half of the Plymouth Community has at least one member of the household that pays dues or fees to a recreational or fitness facility, and nearly one third of the Plymouth Community has at least one member of the household that participates in a recreational or athletic program offered through a league of association.

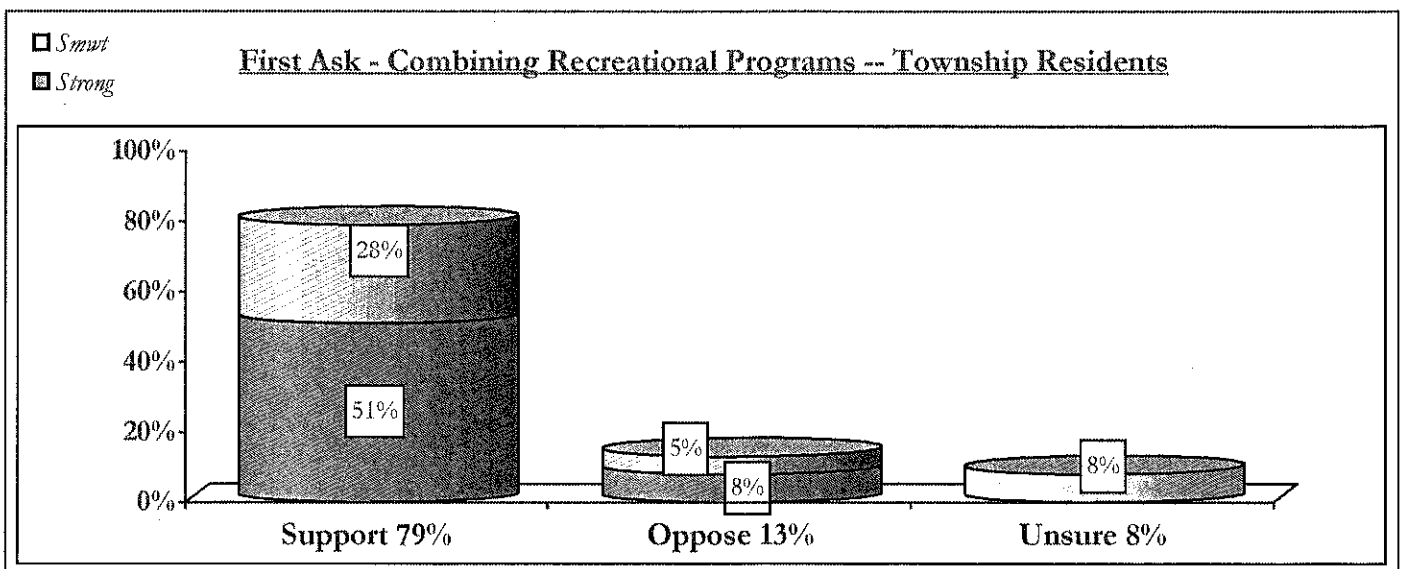
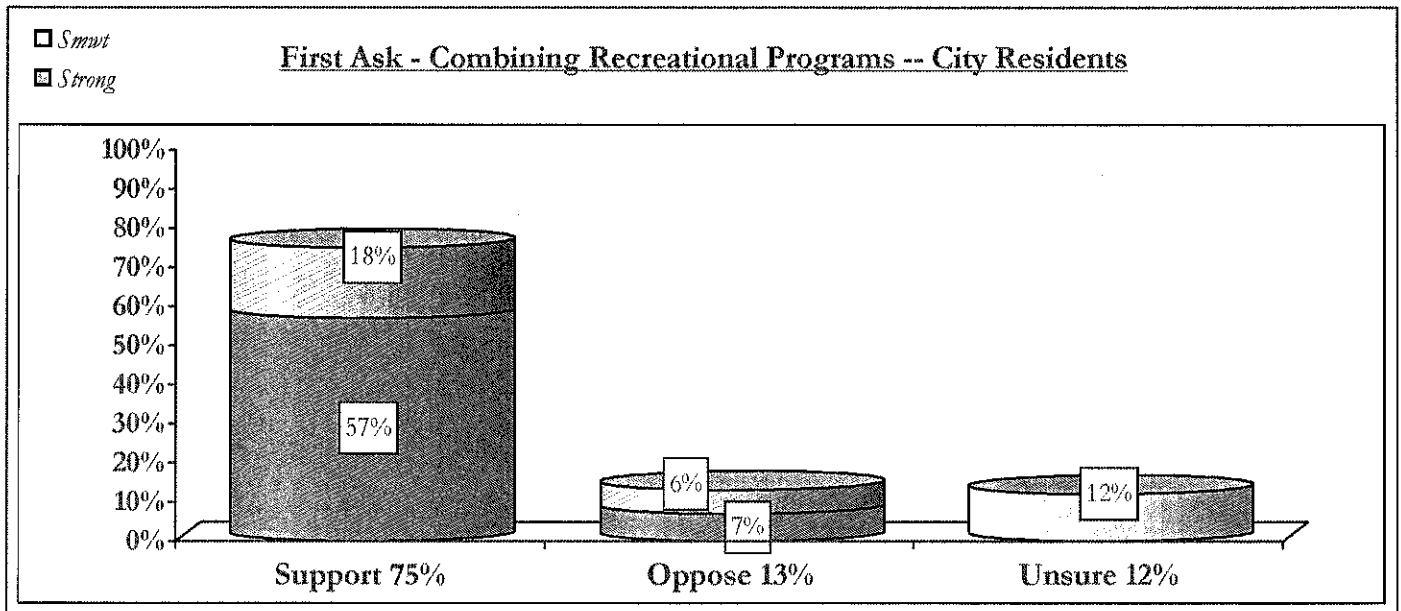
Three out of every four survey respondents said recreational facilities and programs are important to them and their family, and nine out of ten respondents said it is important to maintain parks and recreational areas for the Plymouth Community.

The most potentially divisive topic covered in this survey of the Plymouth Community was the idea of combining the Parks and Recreational facilities and offerings of both municipalities, and was described to respondents as follows:

“Currently, the City of Plymouth and Township each have their own park facilities and recreational programs that charge non-resident fees to each other's residents. There has been some discussion among community officials about the potential of combining parks and recreational services to serve both Township and City residents equally. Should these services be combined, residents of both communities would pay identical fees for all park facilities and recreational programs within the Plymouth Community.”

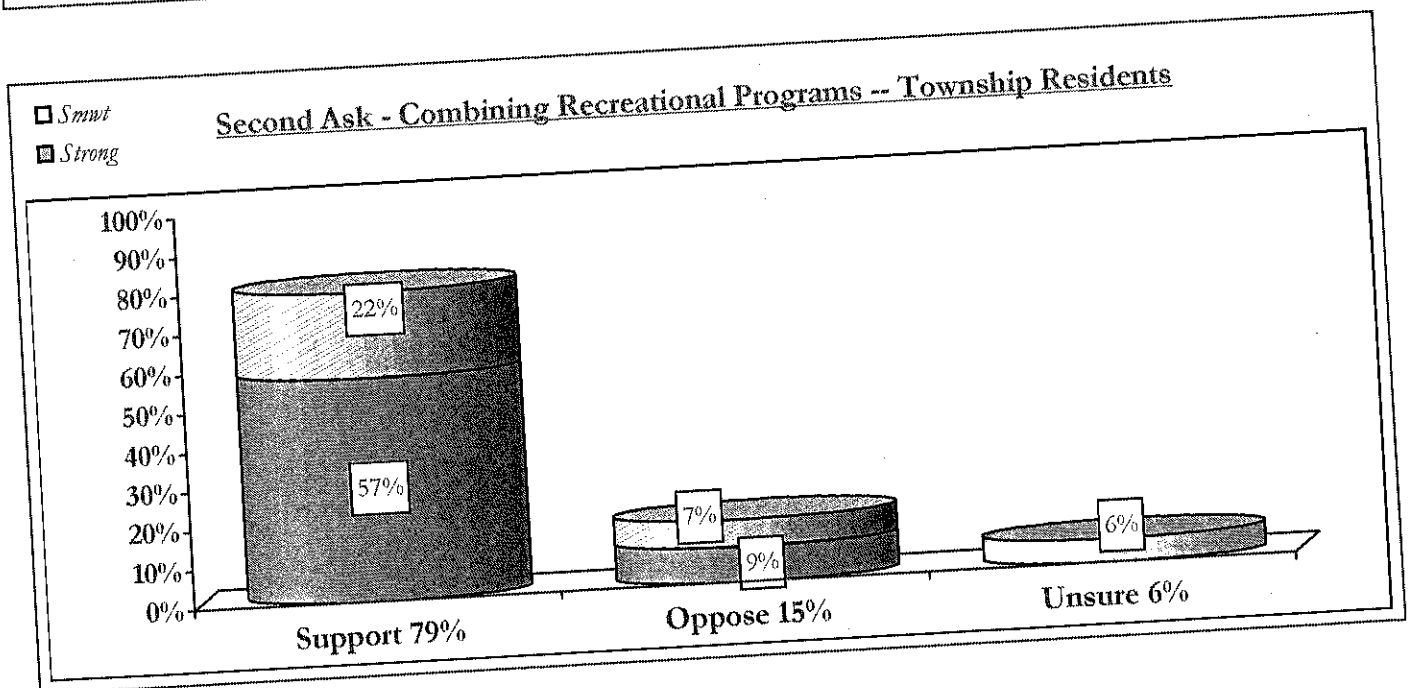
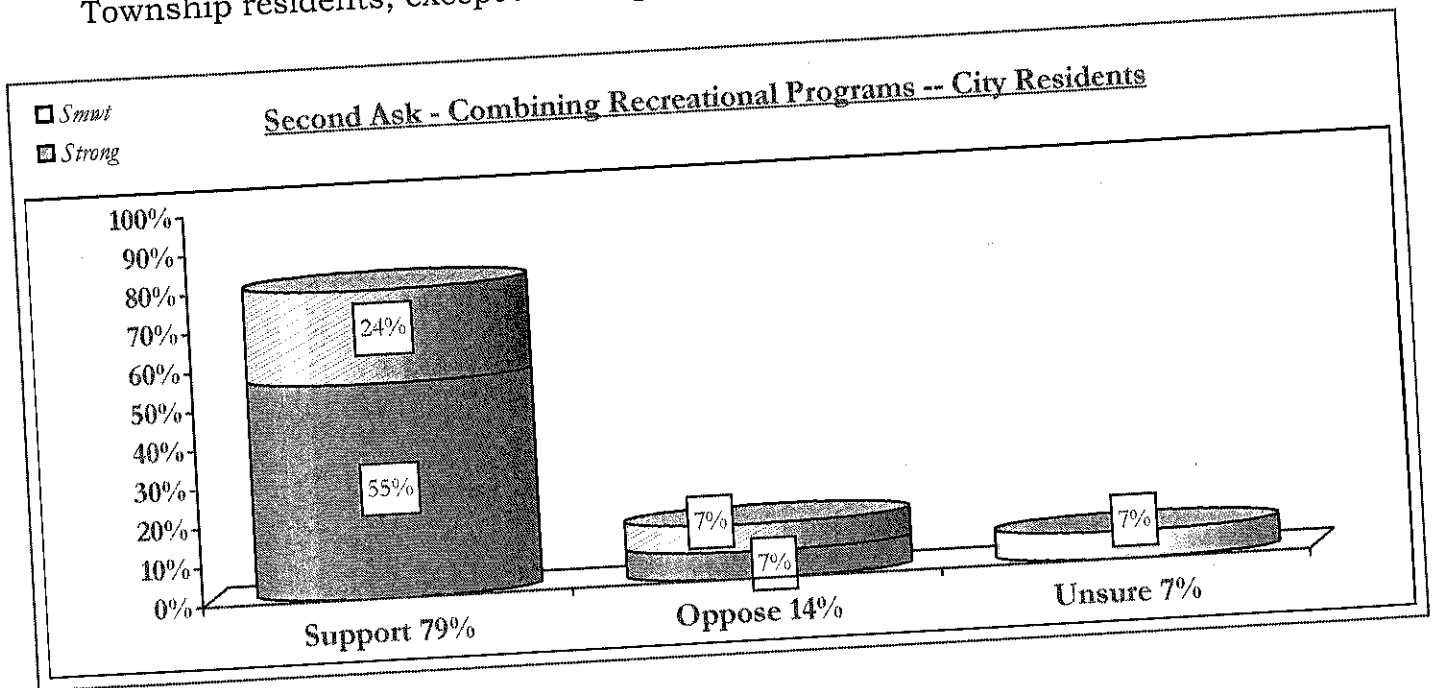
First test on the question of combining recreational facilities and programs – Q.4

On the first test on the question of combining recreational facilities and programs between Plymouth City and Township, a 75 to 13 percent majority of City residents said they support the idea (57 percent strongly), with a 79 to 13 percent majority of Township residents expressing the same opinion (51 percent strongly).



Second test on the question of combining recreational facilities and programs – Q.33

On the second test on the question of combining recreational facilities and programs, a 79 to 14 percent majority of City residents said they support the idea (55 percent strongly), with a 79 to 15 percent majority of Township residents offering the same response (57 percent strongly). That reflects a four-point increase in support among City residents, and no change among Township residents, except for a slight movement towards “strongly support”.



In short: three of every four City residents, and nearly eight in every ten Township residents, said they support combining parks and recreational services when first asked. In a final test of the question at the end of the survey- after hearing descriptions of, and responding to questions about, the parks and recreational facilities currently offered in the community - eight in ten repeated their support for the idea in both the City and the Township. These findings indicate solid and unwavering support of the concept of combining the parks and recreational services offered by both municipalities into one “regional” offering. Residents that “strongly oppose” the idea remain in the single digits in terms of the percentage of the population that they represent; and while their opinion on the matter is unlikely to change, it can easily be overcome with the resounding support of the community as a whole.

Demographic breakouts of the 1st and 2nd tests on the question of combining programs

The following table shows the total support and opposition on the question of combining recreational facilities and programs, as well as the movement toward support from the first to the second test:

| Combine programs | 1 ST TEST | | 2 ND TEST | | MOVE TO <u>SUPP</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|------------------------|
| | <u>SUPP</u> | <u>OPP</u> | <u>SUPP</u> | <u>OPP</u> | |
| Among all residents | 78% | 13% | 79% | 15% | +1% |
| Plymouth City Residents | 75% | 13% | 79% | 14% | +4% |
| Plymouth Township Residents | 79% | 13% | 79% | 15% | +0% |
| How important to family: | | | | | |
| Important | 84% | 9% | 85% | 10% | +1% |
| Smwt/Not Important | 57% | 27% | 58% | 29% | +1% |
| Parks and Rec: | | | | | |
| Need more | 84% | 11% | 87% | 11% | +3% |
| Have enough | 77% | 14% | 77% | 16% | +0% |
| Use PARC: | | | | | |
| Yes | 84% | 10% | 87% | 8% | +3% |
| No | 73% | 15% | 72% | 19% | -1% |
| Dog Park: | | | | | |
| Interested | 88% | 6% | 88% | 6% | +0% |
| Not interested | 68% | 22% | 70% | 24% | +2% |
| Hilltop Golf Course: | | | | | |
| Keep open | 82% | 10% | 83% | 12% | +1% |
| Close/repurpose | 84% | 13% | 84% | 13% | +0% |
| Unsure | 64% | 20% | 64% | 22% | +0% |
| Preferred source of information: | | | | | |
| City website | 76% | 21% | 72% | 25% | -4% |
| Township website | 72% | 28% | 68% | 28% | -4% |
| Email | 83% | 9% | 85% | 10% | +2% |
| Social media | 85% | 7% | 93% | 7% | +8% |
| Direct mail | 80% | 11% | 81% | 11% | +1% |
| Observer/Eccentric | 79% | 7% | 80% | 12% | +1% |
| Other sources | 77% | 14% | 80% | 16% | +3% |

| Combine programs | 1 ST TEST | | 2 ND TEST | | MOVE TO <u>SUPP</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|------------------------|
| | <u>SUPP</u> | <u>OPP</u> | <u>SUPP</u> | <u>OPP</u> | |
| Children in household: | | | | | |
| No children | 75% | 17% | 75% | 19% | +0% |
| One child | 80% | 10% | 80% | 16% | +0% |
| Two children | 88% | 2% | 88% | 2% | +0% |
| Three or more | 67% | 22% | 79% | 15% | +12% |
| Age groups: | | | | | |
| Age 18-34 | 81% | 6% | 87% | 10% | +6% |
| Age 35-49 | 79% | 9% | 83% | 10% | +4% |
| Age 50-64 | 83% | 12% | 80% | 12% | -3% |
| Age 65 & older | 71% | 23% | 70% | 24% | -1% |
| Years in Plymouth: | | | | | |
| 5 years or less | 85% | 7% | 90% | 7% | +5% |
| 6 to 15 years | 84% | 9% | 84% | 8% | +0% |
| 16 years or longer | 74% | 16% | 75% | 19% | +1% |
| A lifetime | 83% | 14% | 79% | 11% | -4% |
| Gender: | | | | | |
| Men | 74% | 17% | 76% | 16% | +2% |
| Women | 81% | 11% | 81% | 13% | +0% |
| Age range: | | | | | |
| Age 18-49 | 80% | 8% | 85% | 10% | +5% |
| Age 50 and over | 76% | 18% | 74% | 18% | -2% |
| Gender/age: | | | | | |
| Men age 18-49 | 83% | 3% | 91% | 2% | +8% |
| Men age 50 & over | 68% | 26% | 66% | 26% | -2% |
| Women age 18-49 | 78% | 11% | 80% | 15% | +2% |
| Women age 50 & over | 86% | 9% | 84% | 10% | -2% |

The highest percentage increase in support from the first to the second test came from:

- 12 percent: Has three or more children
- 8 percent: Prefers getting info from social media
- 8 percent: Men age 18-49
- 6 percent: Age 18-34
- 5 percent: Lived in Plymouth 5 years or less
- 5 percent: Age 18-49
- 4 percent: Plymouth City residents
- 4 percent: Age 35-49
- 3 percent: Need more parks and recreational facilities
- 3 percent: Uses PARC
- 3 percent: Prefers getting info from other sources
- 2 percent: Not interested in a dog park
- 2 percent: Prefers getting info from email
- 2 percent: Women age 18-49

The highest percentage decrease in support from the first to the second test came from:

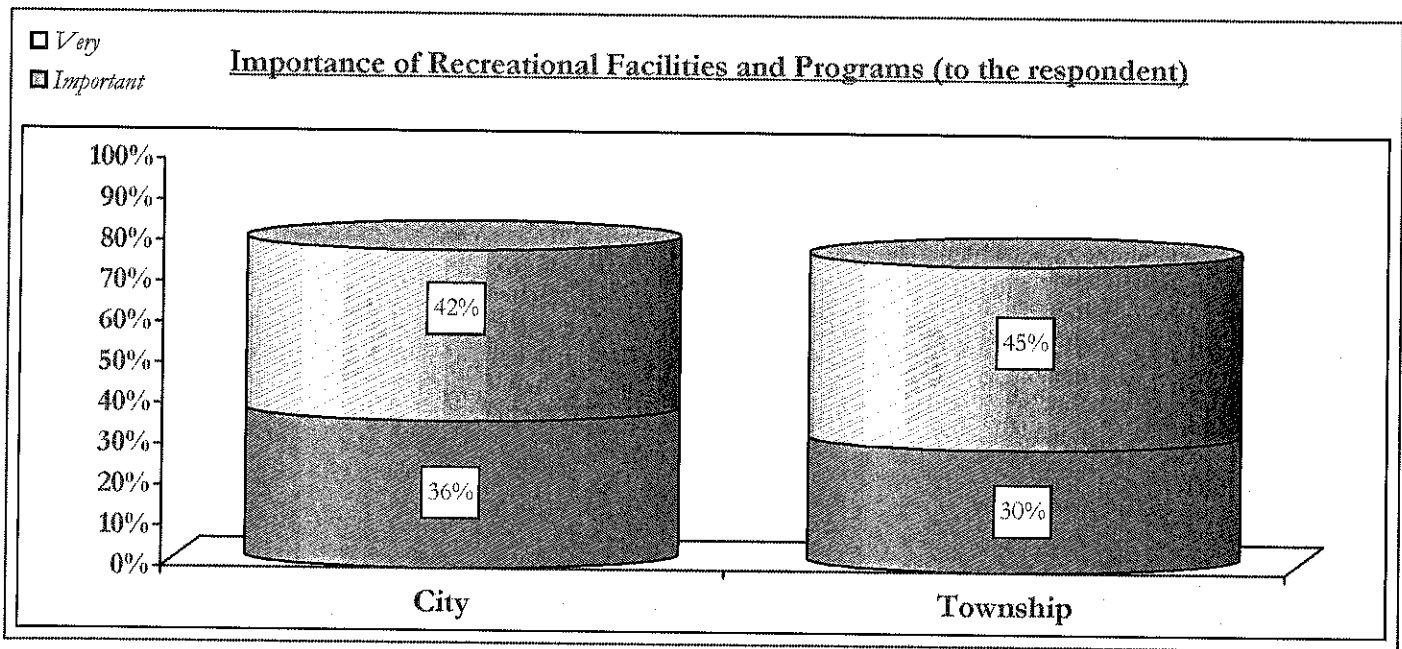
- 4 percent: Prefers getting info from city website
- 4 percent: Prefers getting info from township website
- 4 percent: Lived in Plymouth a lifetime
- 3 percent: Age 50-64
- 2 percent: Age 50 and over
- 2 percent: Men age 50 and over
- 2 percent: Women age 50 and over

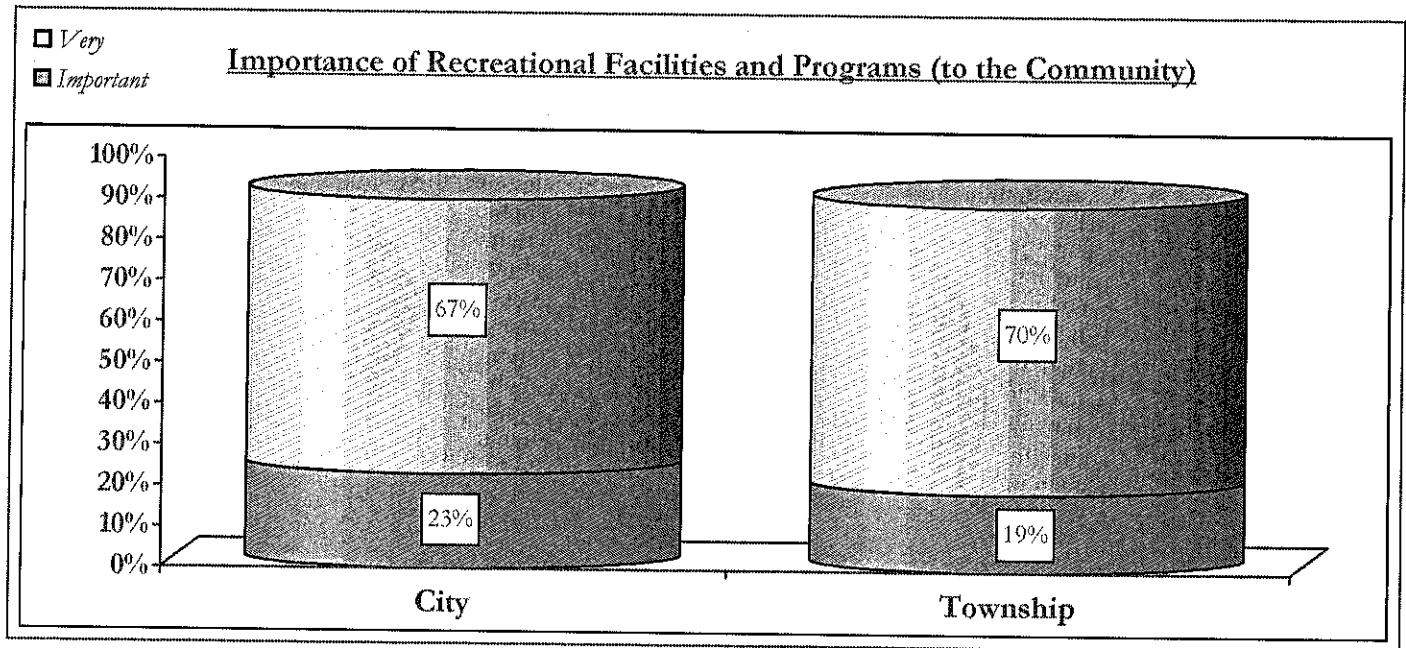
KEY FINDINGS

Importance of Parks and Recreation to the Plymouth Community – Q.2/Q.3

Respondents were asked how important recreational facilities and programs are to the respondent and their family. Seventy-eight percent of Plymouth City residents, and 75 percent of Plymouth Township residents, said it was important.

When asked how important it is that the City and Township maintain parks and recreational areas for the Plymouth Community, 90 percent of Plymouth City and 89 percent of Plymouth Township residents said it was important.





Participation in Recreation/Fitness in the Plymouth Community – Q.5 through Q.8

Respondents were asked if they or other members of their household currently pay a membership or fees to a recreational or fitness facility. Forty-eight percent of City households, and 44 percent of Township households said yes. Of those, 88 percent of City respondents and 83 percent of Township respondents said the facility where their households pay memberships are at private businesses. Ten percent of both City and Township respondents pay memberships or fees to facilities operated by municipal government; such as the city or township.

Thirty percent of City households, and 27 percent of Township households, said they participate in a recreational or athletic program organized by a League or Association. Among those households, participation in Soccer clearly tops the list, with 33 percent of City respondents and 18 percent of Township respondents saying they, or other household members, participate in Soccer.

Other top activities, cited by respondents, included:

- 8 percent of City respondents and 11 percent of Township residents participate in Hockey.
- 8 percent of City respondents and 7 percent of Township residents participate in Baseball.
- 6 percent of City respondents and 7 percent of Township residents participate in Golf.
- 6 percent of City respondents and 6 percent of Township residents participate in Basketball.
- 5 percent of City respondents and 6 percent of Township residents participate in Swimming.
- 6 percent of City respondents and 3 percent of Township residents participate in Softball.
- 2 percent of City respondents and 5 percent of Township residents participate in Volleyball.

Quantity of Parks, Fields, and Programs Available in the Plymouth Community – Q.9/Q.10

Respondents asked if there are enough parks and/or sports fields to support the current community recreational programs, if more are needed, or if there are too many. Twenty-two percent of City residents (11% “much more”) and 21 percent of Township residents (6% much more) said more are needed; with 67 percent of City residents and 62 percent of Township residents saying there are enough provided currently. Among those respondents that felt that more offerings were needed, Soccer once again topped the list, with 15 percent of City residents and 8 percent of Township residents saying more soccer fields are needed.

Other additional recreational of athletic programs “needed”, as cited by respondents, included:

- 7 percent of City residents and 9 percent of Township residents said a community pool for swimming is needed.
- 7 percent of City residents and 2 percent of Township residents said a community recreation center is needed.
- 5 percent of City residents and 4 percent of Township residents said more basketball courts are needed.
- 5 percent of City residents and 5 percent of Township residents said more green-space and nature areas are needed.
- 3 percent of City residents and 6 percent of Township residents said more walking and hiking trails are needed.
- 2 percent of City residents and 7 percent of Township residents said more biking trails are needed.
- 5 percent of City residents and 3 percent of Township residents said more baseball fields are needed.

Use of Recreational Facilities in the Plymouth Community – Q.11 through Q.23

Respondents were read a list of parks and recreational facilities available to members of the Plymouth Community, and asked if they, or any members of their household, had visited the named facility within the past six months. The names of facilities were read to each respondent, in a randomly rotated fashion, in order to eliminate any potential positional bias (the order in which the questions were presented). The most visited park/facility in the Plymouth Community was Kellogg Park, with an astonishing 92 percent of City residents and 85 percent of Township residents saying that household members had visited Kellogg Park in the past six months.

The remaining parks and recreational facilities were visited by members of the Plymouth Community, in order, as follows:

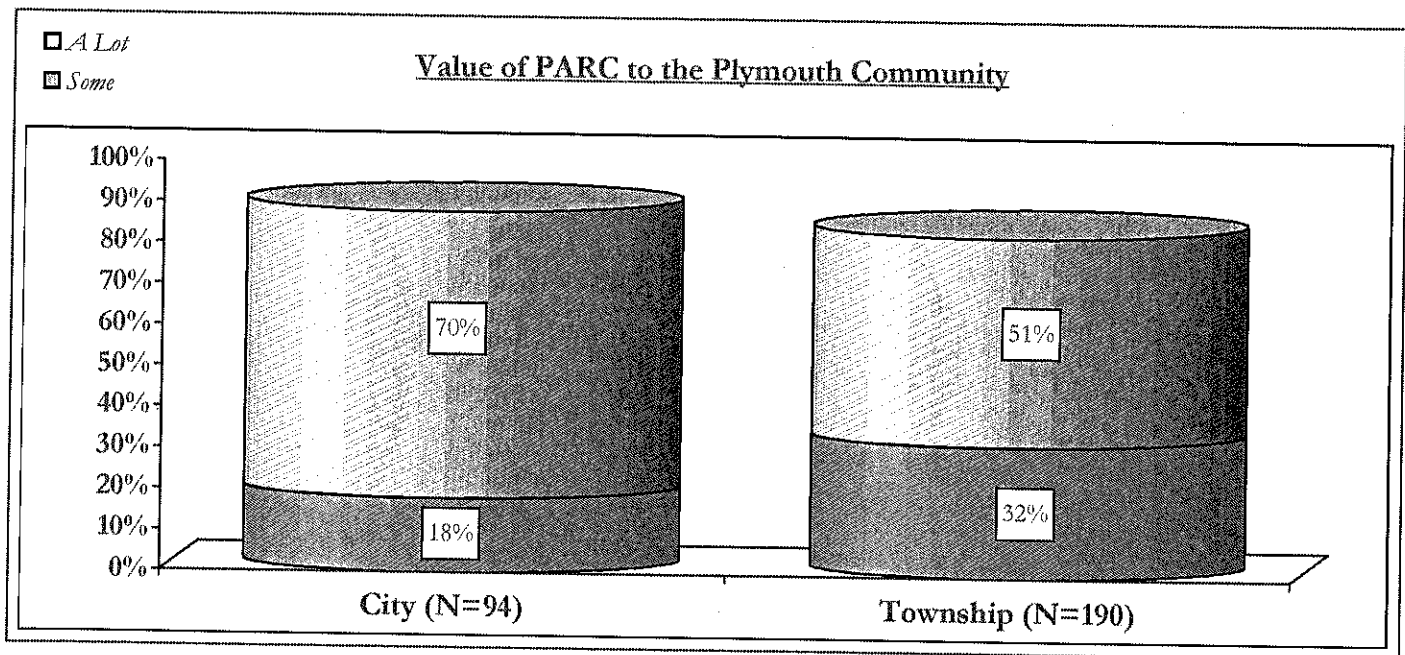
- 74 percent of City residents and 67 percent of Township residents said household members visited Hines Park.
- 52 percent of City residents and 74 percent of Township residents said household members visited Plymouth Township Park/McClumpha Park.
- 71 percent of City residents and 56 percent of Township residents said household members had visited any City or Township Neighborhood Park.
- 64 percent of City residents and 34 percent of Township residents said household members visited Plymouth Cultural Center and Ice Arena.
- 33 percent of City residents and 21 percent of Township residents said household members visited Plymouth Community Arts Council.
- 17 percent of City residents and 24 percent of Township residents said household members visited Miller Woods Nature Area.
- 21 percent of City residents and 19 percent of Township residents said household members visited Hilltop Golf Course.
- 24 percent of City residents and 18 percent of Township residents said household members visited I-275 or M-14 Bike Paths.
- 15 percent of City residents and 16 percent of Township residents said household members visited Plymouth Township Park Baseball Diamonds.
- 11 percent of City residents and 12 percent of Township residents said household members visited Don Massey Baseball/Softball Field.
- 9 percent of City residents and 12 percent of Township residents said household members visited Lake Pointe Soccer Park.
- 8 percent of City residents and 8 percent of Township residents said household members visited Senior Citizen Friendship Station.

| <u>Facility Name</u> | <u>City Users</u> | <u>Township Users</u> |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Kellogg Park | 92% | 85% |
| Hines Park | 74% | 67% |
| ANY City of Township Neighborhood Park | 71% | 56% |
| Plymouth Cultural Center and Ice Arena | 64% | 34% |
| Plymouth Township (McClumpha) Park | 52% | 74% |
| Plymouth Community Arts Council | 33% | 21% |
| I-275 or M-14 Bike Paths | 24% | 18% |
| Hilltop Golf Course | 21% | 19% |
| Miller Woods Nature Area | 17% | 24% |
| Plymouth Township Park Baseball Diamonds | 15% | 16% |
| Don Massey Baseball/Softball Field | 11% | 12% |
| Lake Pointe Soccer Park | 9% | 12% |
| Senior Citizen Friendship Station | 8% | 8% |

Awareness, Use, and Value of PARC – Q.24 through Q.26

An overwhelming majority of Plymouth Community residents are aware of the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex, also known as PARC, located in the old Central Middle School located in Downtown Plymouth (94 percent of City residents and 84 percent of Township residents).

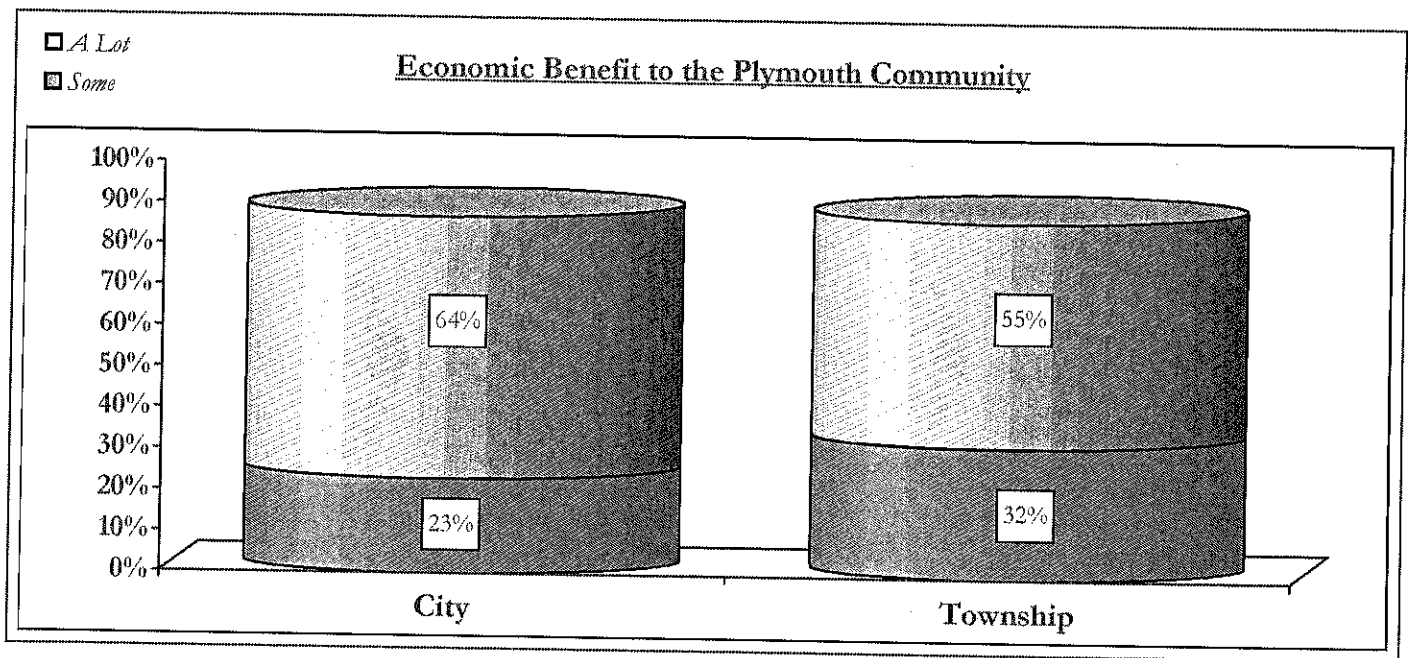
Of those, 51 percent of City residents and 43 percent of Township residents said family members had participated in an event or program located at PARC at some point. Again, of those aware, 70 percent of City residents and 51 percent of Township residents said PARC adds “a lot of value” to the Plymouth Community by offering Arts and Recreational programming; while only 1% of City residents and 6% of Township residents said it added “no value at all”.

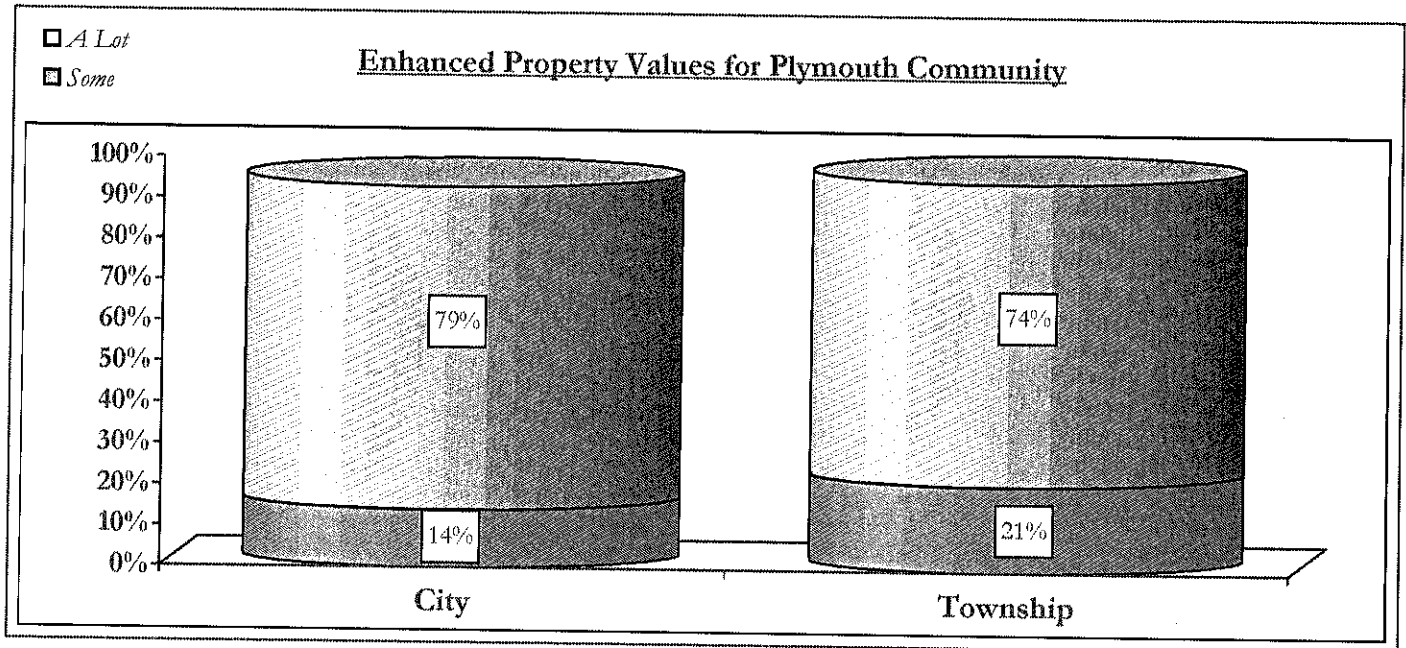


The Perceived Financial Benefit to the Plymouth Community – Q.27/Q.28

The majority of residents feel that parks, events, and recreational activities add a realized financial value to the Plymouth Community. Specifically, 64 percent of City residents and 55 percent of Township residents said they believe that recreational activities, special events and parks provide “a lot” of economic benefit to the Plymouth Community.; while only 2% of each said “no value at all”.

Similarly, 79 percent of City residents and 74 percent of Township residents said that having maintained parks and green spaces enhance the property values of the homes in the Plymouth community; while on 3% of City residents and 2% of Township residents said “no value at all”.

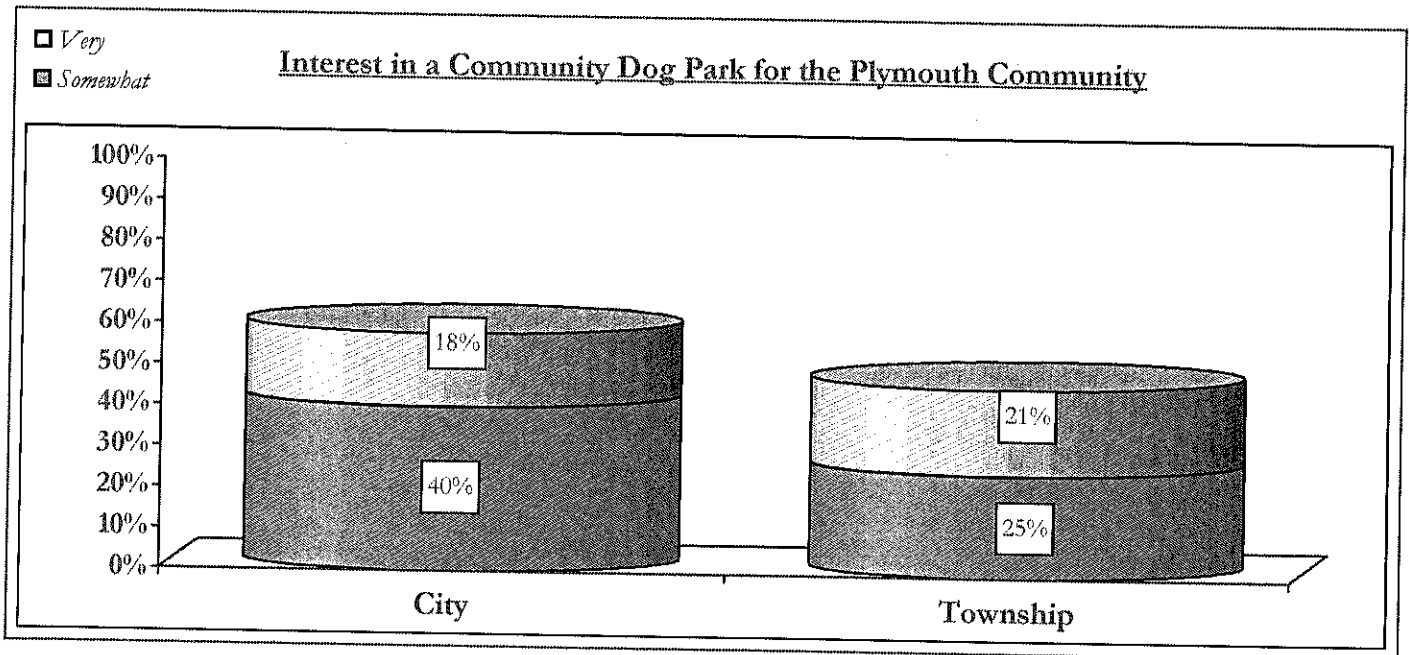
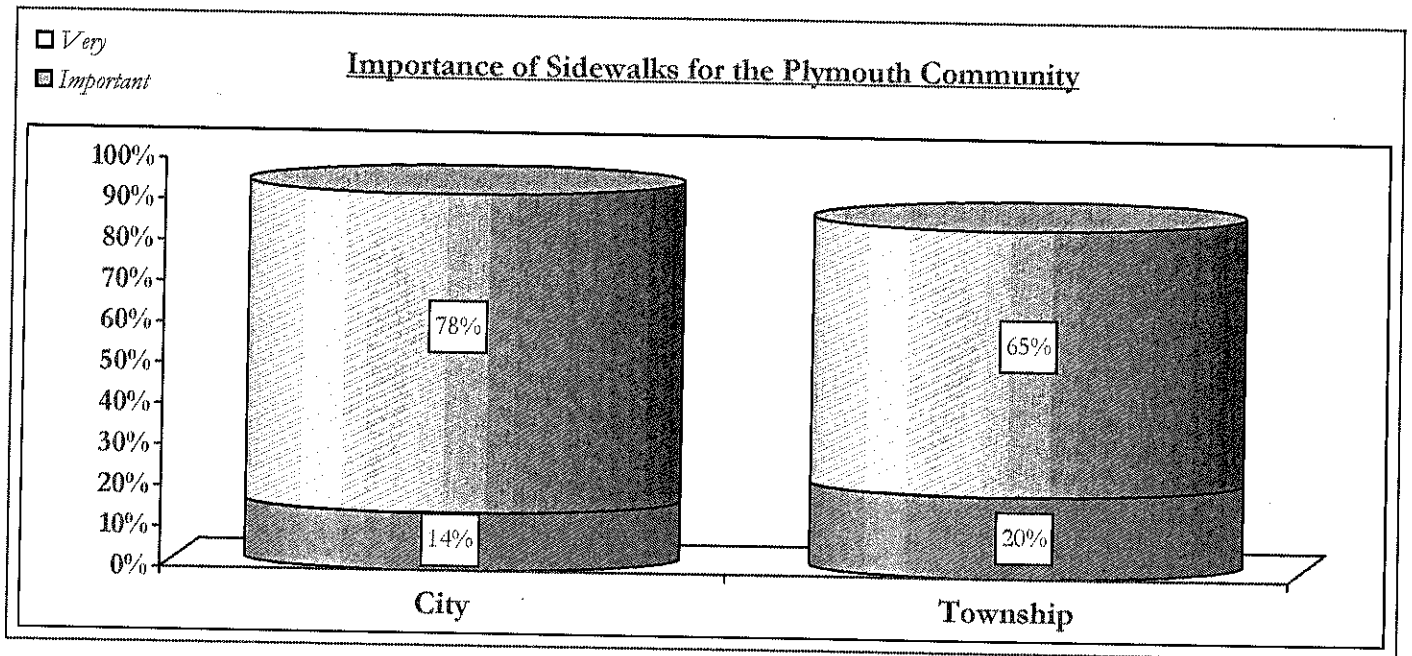




Sidewalks and Dog Parks in the Plymouth Community – Q.29/Q.30

When asked, 92 percent of City residents said that having sidewalks and the walk-ability of the community is important (78 percent very important) to their recreational enjoyment, with 85 percent of Township residents (65 percent very important) offering the same opinion. A mere 3% of both City and Township residents felt the sidewalks and the walk-ability of the community was “not at all” important.

The potential of developing a Community Dog Park generated somewhat mixed interest from respondents. A 58 percent majority of City residents were interested (18 percent very interested), and 46 percent of Township residents were interested (21 percent very interested) in seeing a dog park developed; but 31% of City residents and 40% of Township residents were “not interested at all”.



The Future of Hilltop Golf Course – Q.31/Q.32

Upon hearing of the discussion in the community about the future of Hilltop Golf Course,

39 percent of City residents and 47 percent of Township residents said they would prefer seeing Hilltop Golf Course kept open as a golf course, with 29 percent of City residents and 29 percent of Township residents saying they prefer seeing Hilltop closed and repurposed for other recreational uses. Among those that prefer the golf course to be closed and repurposed for community use, 15 percent of City residents and 10 percent of Township residents said it should be used for green space/nature, which was the most offered suggested use from respondents. Other notable suggestions included:

- 13 percent of Township residents and 3 percent of City residents said Hilltop should be used for parks.
- 12 percent of Township residents and 5 percent of City residents said Hilltop should be used for walking and hiking trails.
- 8 percent of City residents and 5 percent of Township residents saying it should be used for a community pool/swimming.
- 8 percent of City residents and 5 percent of Township residents said it should be used for Soccer fields.
- 6 percent of Township residents and 4 percent of City residents said it should be used for a dog park.
- 6 percent of Township residents and 3 percent of City residents said it should be used for a child's play area.
- 6 percent of City residents and 4 percent of Township residents said it should be used for a Community Recreation Center.
- 6 percent of City residents and 4 percent of Township residents said it should be used for multi-purpose sports fields.

Despite the relatively low N-sizes, it is worthy of note, and perhaps unsurprising, that, to a large degree, the suggested uses for a potentially repurposed Hilltop Golf Course mirrored much of what residents of the Plymouth Community cited in Q.10; which asked, in an open-ended fashion, “What additional recreational or athletic program(s) that are currently not offered in the Plymouth Community would you like to see offered?”

Communication Methods Preferred by Plymouth Community residents – Q.34

All respondents were asked what their preferred methods of receiving information regarding Recreational or Special events were. “Email” (40% for City residents vs. 31% for Township residents) and “Direct Mail” (27% for BOTH City and Township residents) were the top most cited sources by both City and Township residents. The “Observer-Eccentric Newspaper” was rated a distant third (7% for City residents vs. 8% for Township residents) and “Facebook or other social media” was the fourth-most cited source of information (5% for BOTH City and Township residents).

With the current societal movement toward electronic media over traditional paper mail and pamphlets, the Plymouth Parks and Recreation department could see potentially substantial savings by limiting, or perhaps even eliminating, the number of pamphlets and brochures printed seasonally. When taken as a whole, electronic media (including the City and Township Websites, email, Social Media, Twitter, Text, etc.) was cited as the most-preferred method of communication by the majority of City residents (55% total) as well as a near-majority of Township residents (47% total); compared to paper communications (Direct mail, flyers, newsletters, posters, leaflets, etc.) being cited by only 32% (total) of City residents and 35% (total) of Township residents.

Further analysis also suggests that the residents of the Plymouth Community that are most engaged in Parks and Recreation activities in the area (Frequent users, those with children in the household, residents under the age of 50) cited BOTH forms of communication as top-of-mind “preferred” methods, meaning that the elimination of one (print media) in favor of moving toward the other (electronic media) would still effectively reach the Parks and Recreation department’s target audience.

#####

FREQUENCY OF SURVEY RESULTS

__01. In what city or township do you reside? [DO NOT READ – CODE BEST RESPONSE – IF RESPONDENT SAYS “PLYMOUTH” PROBE TO SEPCIFY CITY/TOWNSHIP]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 25% | 100% | --- | City of Plymouth |
| 75% | --- | 100% | Plymouth Township |

READ TO ALL RESPONDENTS:

Thank you. Before we begin, for the purposes of this survey, we would like to define the following terms:

The definition of "Green Spaces" is: an area of grass, trees, or other vegetation set apart for recreational purposes.

The definition of "Recreation" is: an activity done for enjoyment when one is not working.

The definition of “The Plymouth Community” includes the residents of both the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

First of all ...

[ROTATE Q.2 AND Q.3]

__02. How important are recreation facilities and programs to you and your family? Would you say they are ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 44% | 42% | 45% | Very Important |
| 32% | 36% | 30% | Important |
| 76% | 78% | 75% | TOTAL IMPORTANT |
| 18% | 16% | 19% | Somewhat important |
| 6% | 6% | 6% | Not at all |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

__03. How important is it that the City and the Township maintain parks and recreational areas for the Plymouth Community? Would you say it is ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 69% | 67% | 70% | Very Important |
| 20% | 23% | 19% | Important |
| 89% | 90% | 89% | TOTAL IMPORTANT |
| 8% | 7% | 9% | Somewhat important |
| 3% | 3% | 2% | Not at all |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

Currently, the City of Plymouth and Township each have their own park facilities and recreational programs that charge non-resident fees to each other's residents. There has been some discussion among community officials about the potential of combining parks and recreational services to serve both Township and City residents equally. Should these services be combined, residents of both communities would pay identical fees for all park facilities and recreational programs within the Plymouth Community.

If this were to happen...

__04. Would you support or oppose the City and Township combining resources to provide recreational opportunities for the community? [IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK: "Would that be strongly or somewhat?" AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| 53% | 57% | 51% | Strongly support |
| 25% | 18% | 28% | Somewhat support |
| 78% | 75% | 79% | TOTAL SUPPORT |
| 13% | 13% | 13% | TOTAL OPPOSE |
| 5% | 6% | 5% | Somewhat oppose |
| 8% | 7% | 8% | Strongly oppose |
| 9% | 12% | 8% | Undecided/Refused |

__05. Do you, or does any member of your household, currently pay a membership or fees to a recreational or fitness facility? [PROBE FOR BEST RESPONSE]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|---|
| 14% | 16% | 14% | Yes, respondent |
| 12% | 13% | 11% | Yes, other members of the household |
| 19% | 19% | 19% | Yes, both |
| 45% | 48% | 44% | TOTAL CURRENTLY PAYS |
| 54% | 52% | 54% | No members of the household ----- GO TO Q.7 |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Undecided/Refused ----- GO TO Q.7 |

__06. Is the facility operated by a municipal government, such as a city or township, or by a private business?

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| N=134 | N=48 | N=98 | |
| 10% | 10% | 10% | Municipal Government |
| 84% | 88% | 83% | Private business |
| 4% | 2% | 5% | Both/More than one (<i>volunteered</i>) |
| 2% | --- | 2% | Undecided/Refused |

__07. Do you or any members of your household participate in a Recreational or Athletic Program organized by a League or Association? **[PROBE FOR BEST RESPONSE]**

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 5% | 5% | 6% | Yes, respondent |
| 18% | 19% | 17% | Yes, other members of the household |
| 5% | 6% | 4% | Yes, both |
| 28% | 30% | 27% | TOTAL CURRENTLY PARTICIPATES |
| 72% | 70% | 73% | No members of the household ----- GO TO Q.9 |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused ----- GO TO Q.9 |

8A-C. What Recreational or Athletic Program(s) do you or other members of your household participate in? **[WRITE RESPONSES AS STATED FOR UP TO THREE PROGRAMS – PROBE WITH: “Are there any others?” UNTIL THREE RESPONSES MENTIONED OR UNPRODUCTIVE]**

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>N=84</u> | <u>N=30</u> | <u>N=61</u> | |
| 22% | 33% | 18% | Soccer |
| 10% | 8% | 11% | Hockey |
| 8% | 8% | 7% | Baseball |
| 7% | 6% | 7% | Golf |
| 6% | 6% | 6% | Basketball |
| 6% | 5% | 6% | Swimming |
| 5% | 2% | 5% | Volleyball |
| 4% | 6% | 3% | Softball |
| 4% | | 5% | Gymnastics |
| 2% | 4% | 2% | Cross Country-Running |
| 2% | 3% | 1% | CYO Athletics (Catholic Youth Org.) |
| 2% | 3% | 2% | YMCA |
| 2% | --- | 3% | Bowling |
| 2% | --- | 2% | Lacrosse |
| 1% | 2% | 1% | Dance |
| 1% | 2% | 1% | Flag Football |
| 1% | 2% | 1% | Gym-Exercise |
| 1% | 2% | --- | Synchronized Swimming |
| 1% | 2% | --- | Yoga |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Cheerleading |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Detroit Athletic Club |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Dog Park |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Kiwanis Club |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Little League |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Paddle Ball |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Schoolcraft College Exercise Club |
| 1% | --- | 2% | SPLITZ |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Tennis |
| 1% | --- | 1% | VA Hospital |

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|--|
| --- | 2% | --- | Childs Art |
| --- | 2% | --- | Cross Country-Skiing |
| --- | 2% | --- | Martial Arts |
| --- | 2% | --- | T Ball |
| --- | --- | 1% | Adventure Guides |
| --- | --- | 1% | Computer Classes |
| --- | --- | 1% | Cross Fit |
| --- | --- | 1% | Dance |
| --- | --- | 1% | Figure Skating |
| --- | --- | 1% | Football |
| --- | --- | 1% | Music |
| --- | --- | 1% | STRIDE |
| --- | --- | 1% | Track-Field |
| --- | --- | --- | Other (<i>less than 1% each</i>)/Undecided/Refused |

Please note: totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

__09. Do you believe that the Plymouth Community has enough parks and /or sports fields to support the current community recreational programs, are more needed, or are there too many parks and /or sports fields to support the current community recreational programs? **[IF MORE NEEDED, ASK: “Would that be much more, or only somewhat more?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 7% | 11% | 6% | Much more needed |
| 14% | 11% | 15% | Somewhat more needed |
| 21% | 22% | 21% | TOTAL MORE NEEDED |
| 64% | 67% | 62% | Enough ----- GO TO INTRO TO Q.11 |
| 1% | 1% | 2% | Too many ----- GO TO INTRO TO Q.11 |
| 14% | 10% | 15% | Undecided/Refused ----- GO TO INTRO TO Q.11 |

10A-C. What additional recreational or athletic program(s) that are currently not offered in the Plymouth Community would you like to see offered? [WRITE RESPONSES AS STATED FOR UP TO THREE PROGRAMS – PROBE WITH: “Are there any others?” UNTIL THREE RESPONSES MENTIONED OR UNPRODUCTIVE]

| <u>TOT</u> <u>N=64</u> | <u>CTY</u> <u>N=22</u> | <u>TWP</u> <u>N=48</u> | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 10% | 15% | 8% | Soccer-Fields |
| 8% | 7% | 9% | Community Pool-Swimming |
| 6% | 7% | 2% | Community Recreation Center |
| 5% | 5% | 4% | Basketball-Courts |
| 5% | 5% | 5% | Green Space-Nature |
| 5% | 3% | 6% | Trails-Walking Hiking |
| 5% | 2% | 7% | Trails-Biking |
| 4% | 5% | 3% | Baseball-Fields |
| 4% | 2% | 5% | Tennis-Courts |
| 4% | --- | 5% | Adult Programs |
| 3% | 6% | 2% | Youth Programs |
| 3% | 5% | 2% | Lacrosse-Fields |
| 3% | 4% | 3% | Ice Rink |
| 3% | 3% | 2% | Parks |
| 3% | 2% | 3% | Gym-Weights |
| 3% | 2% | 4% | Multi Purpose Fields |
| 3% | 2% | 3% | Softball-Fields |
| 2% | 2% | 2% | Hockey |
| 2% | --- | 2% | Dog Park |
| 2% | --- | 2% | Pickleball |
| 1% | 5% | --- | Skate Park |
| 1% | 2% | 1% | Football-Fields |
| 1% | 2% | 1% | Senior Programs |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Art |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Dodge Ball |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Girls Programs |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Golf-Courses |
| 1% | --- | 1% | None |
| --- | 2% | --- | Archery |
| --- | 2% | --- | Climbing Wall |
| 10% | 10% | 10% | Other (<i>less than 1% each</i>)/Undecided/Refused |

Please note: totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

INTRO TO Q.11:

Now I would like to read a list of recreational facilities to you. For each, please tell me if you or any other members of your household have visited that facility within the past six months. The first one is...

[READ AND ROTATE Q.11 THROUGH Q.23]

11. Hines Park.

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 69% | 74% | 67% | Yes |
| 31% | 26% | 33% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

12. I-275 or M-14 Bike Paths

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 19% | 24% | 18% | Yes |
| 81% | 75% | 82% | No |
| --- | 1% | --- | Undecided/Refused |

13. Kellogg Park

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 87% | 92% | 85% | Yes |
| 13% | 8% | 15% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

14. Plymouth Township Park (McClumpha Park)

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 69% | 52% | 74% | Yes |
| 31% | 48% | 26% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

15. Hilltop Golf Course

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 20% | 21% | 19% | Yes |
| 80% | 79% | 81% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

16. Plymouth Cultural Center and Ice Arena

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 41% | 64% | 34% | Yes |
| 59% | 36% | 66% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

17. Lake Pointe Soccer Park

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 11% | 9% | 12% | Yes |
| 89% | 91% | 88% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

18. Plymouth Township Park Baseball Diamonds

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 16% | 15% | 16% | Yes |
| 84% | 85% | 84% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

19. Don Massey Baseball / Softball Field

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 12% | 11% | 12% | Yes |
| 88% | 89% | 88% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

20. Plymouth Community Arts Council

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 24% | 33% | 21% | Yes |
| 75% | 67% | 78% | No |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Undecided/Refused |

21. Miller Woods Nature Area

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 22% | 17% | 24% | Yes |
| 78% | 83% | 76% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

22. Senior Citizen Friendship Station

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 8% | 8% | 8% | Yes |
| 92% | 92% | 92% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

23. Any City or Township Neighborhood Park

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 60% | 71% | 56% | Yes |
| 40% | 29% | 44% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

24. Are you aware of the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex, also known as PARC, located in the old Central Middle School located in Downtown Plymouth?

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| 87% | 94% | 84% | Yes, aware |
| 13% | 6% | 16% | Not aware ----- GO TO Q.27 |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused ----- GO TO Q.27 |

25. Have you or any member of your family ever participated in an event or program located at PARC?

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <u>N=260</u> | <u>N=94</u> | <u>N=190</u> | |
| 45% | 51% | 43% | Yes |
| 55% | 49% | 57% | No |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

26. How much value do you think that PARC adds to the Plymouth Community by offering Arts and Recreational programming? Would you say ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <u>N=260</u> | <u>N=94</u> | <u>N=190</u> | |
| 56% | 70% | 51% | A lot |
| 28% | 18% | 32% | Some |
| 7% | 8% | 7% | Only a little |
| 5% | 1% | 6% | No value at all |
| 4% | 3% | 4% | Undecided/Refused |

[ROTATE Q.27 AND Q.28]

__27. How much of an economic benefit do you believe that Recreational Activities, Special Events and Parks provide to the Plymouth Community? Would you say ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 58% | 64% | 55% | A lot |
| 29% | 23% | 32% | Some |
| 6% | 5% | 6% | Only a little |
| 2% | 2% | 2% | No value at all |
| 5% | 6% | 5% | Undecided/Refused |

__28. How much do you believe that maintained parks and green spaces enhance the property values of homes in the Plymouth Community? Would you say ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| 76% | 79% | 74% | A lot |
| 19% | 14% | 21% | Some |
| 3% | 4% | 3% | Only a little |
| 2% | 3% | 2% | No value at all |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

__29. How important do you feel sidewalks and the walk-ability of the community is to your recreational enjoyment? Would you say ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------------------|
| 68% | 78% | 65% | Very Important |
| 18% | 14% | 20% | Important |
| 86% | 92% | 85% | TOTAL IMPORTANT |
| 10% | 5% | 12% | Somewhat important |
| 4% | 3% | 3% | Not at all |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

__30. How interested are you in seeing a Community Dog Park developed? Would you say you are ... [READ 1 THROUGH 4]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|
| 20% | 18% | 21% | Very interested |
| 29% | 40% | 25% | Somewhat interested |
| 49% | 58% | 46% | TOTAL INTERESTED |
| 12% | 10% | 12% | Only a little interested |
| 38% | 31% | 40% | Not interested at all |
| 1% | 1% | 2% | Undecided/Refused |

31. There has been some discussion in the community about the future of Hilltop Golf Course. Would you prefer to see Hilltop kept open as a golf course, or closed and repurposed for other recreational uses?

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 45% | 39% | 47% | Keep open as a golf course ----- GO TO Q.33 |
| 29% | 29% | 29% | Close Hilltop Golf Course and repurpose the property ---- ASK Q.32 |
| 26% | 32% | 24% | Undecided/Refused ----- GO TO Q.33 |

32A-C. If Hilltop Golf Course was closed, what would you like to see developed on that property? [WRITE RESPONSES AS STATED FOR UP TO THREE USES – PROBE WITH: “Are there any others?” UNTIL THREE RESPONSES MENTIONED OR UNPRODUCTIVE]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>N=87</u> | <u>N=29</u> | <u>N=65</u> | |
| 12% | 15% | 10% | Green Space-Nature |
| 11% | 3% | 13% | Parks |
| 10% | 5% | 12% | Trails-Walking Hiking |
| 6% | 8% | 5% | Community Pool-Swimming |
| 6% | 8% | 5% | Soccer-Fields |
| 6% | 4% | 6% | Dog Park |
| 6% | 3% | 6% | Kids Play Area |
| 5% | 6% | 4% | Community Recreation Center |
| 5% | 6% | 4% | Multi Purpose Fields |
| 5% | 3% | 6% | Trails-Biking |
| 4% | 5% | 4% | Housing Developments |
| 3% | 4% | 2% | Baseball-Fields |
| 2% | 3% | 2% | Skate Park |
| 2% | 1% | 2% | Golf-Courses |
| 2% | --- | 2% | Disc Golf |
| 2% | --- | 2% | None |
| 1% | 4% | --- | Music-Theatre Stage |
| 1% | 3% | --- | Ice Rink |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Lacrosse-Fields |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Tennis-Courts |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Business Developments |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Gym-Weights |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Pickleball |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Sledding Hill |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Splash Pad |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Volleyball Courts |
| --- | 2% | --- | Youth Programs |
| --- | 1% | --- | Basketball-Courts |
| --- | 1% | --- | Girls Programs |
| --- | --- | 1% | Dodge Ball |
| --- | --- | 1% | Running Track |

5% | 9% | 4% | Other (*less than 1% each*)/Undecided/Refused
Please note: totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

__33. Now that you have had a chance to think about some of the Parks and Recreational opportunities that are offered to the Plymouth Community, thinking about the potential of combining parks and recreational services to serve both Township and City residents equally, which would in turn allow all residents to pay identical fees for all park facilities and recreational programs within the Plymouth Community, let me ask you again: would you support or oppose the City and Township combining resources to provide recreational opportunities for the community? **[IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| 56% | 55% | 57% | Strongly support |
| 23% | 24% | 22% | Somewhat support |
| 79% | 79% | 79% | TOTAL SUPPORT |
| 15% | 14% | 15% | TOTAL OPPOSE |
| 7% | 7% | 6% | Somewhat oppose |
| 8% | 7% | 9% | Strongly oppose |
| 6% | 7% | 6% | Undecided/Refused |

__34A-C. What is your preferred method to receive information regarding Recreational or Special Events in the Plymouth Community? [DO NOT READ - CODE FOR UP TO THREE RESPONSES – PROBE WITH: “Are there any others?” UNTIL THREE RESPONSES MENTIONED OR UNPRODUCTIVE]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 33% | 40% | 31% | E-Mail |
| 27% | 27% | 27% | Direct Mail |
| 8% | 7% | 8% | Observer-Eccentric Newspaper |
| 5% | 5% | 5% | Facebook or other social media |
| 5% | 2% | 7% | Plymouth Township Website (Plymouth Township Parks and Rec. Website) |
| 4% | 6% | 3% | City of Plymouth Website (City of Plymouth Parks and Rec. Website) |
| 3% | 2% | 3% | Word of Mouth |
| 3% | 1% | 4% | Newsletter |
| 2% | 2% | 2% | Flyers |
| 2% | 1% | 2% | TV |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Phone Calls |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Plymouth Voice Newspaper |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Plymouth-Canton Patch Newspaper |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Text Message |
| 1% | --- | 1% | Radio |
| 1% | --- | 2% | Township Leaflet |
| --- | 1% | --- | Posters |
| --- | 1% | --- | The Detroit Free Press |
| --- | 1% | --- | The Detroit News |
| --- | 1% | --- | Twitter |
| 1% | 1% | 1% | Other (<i>less than 1% each</i>)/Undecided/Refused |

Please note: totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Finally I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

__35. How many school age children, 18 years old or younger, live in your household?

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 62% | 61% | 62% | None |
| 11% | 10% | 12% | One |
| 19% | 21% | 19% | Two |
| 8% | 8% | 7% | Three or More |

__36. Could you please tell me in what year you were born? [IF REFUSED, ASK: 'Would you please tell me into which of the following categories your age would fall? Please stop me when I get to a category that applies to you.' AND READ 1 TO 4]

[RECORD YEAR HERE _____ AND THEN CODE BELOW]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | | |
|------------|------------|------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 21% | 12% | 24% | 18 to 34 years ----- | (1983 to 1999) |
| 24% | 31% | 22% | 35 to 49 ----- | (1968 to 1982) |
| 25% | 30% | 24% | 50 to 64 ----- | (1953 to 1967) |
| 29% | 25% | 30% | 65 and over ----- | (1952 or before) |
| 1% | 2% | --- | Undecided/Refused | |

__37. For how many years have you lived in the City/Township? [DO NOT READ - CODE BEST RESPONSE]

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--|
| 9% | 11% | 9% | 5 years or less |
| 22% | 13% | 26% | 6 to 15 years |
| 60% | 63% | 59% | Over 16 years |
| 9% | 13% | 6% | All of their life (<i>volunteered</i>) |
| --- | --- | --- | Undecided/Refused |

__38. Sex of respondent (BY OBSERVATION ONLY)

| <u>TOT</u> | <u>CTY</u> | <u>TWP</u> | |
|------------|------------|------------|--------|
| 48% | 49% | 47% | Male |
| 52% | 51% | 53% | Female |

LEAH GROYA

— PLANNING + CONSULTATION —

To Steve Anderson
Recreation Director
City of Plymouth

April 10, 2023

Re **5 Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2024-2028)**

Per your request and our discussion earlier this week, Jason Macdonald (landscape architect) and I have developed a scope of work to update the City's 5 Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2024-2028. The scope of work outlined in this letter will meet MDNR requirements and allow for continued eligibility for MDNR grant programs.

SCOPE OF WORK

PROJECT MANAGEMENT + COORDINATION + PROGRESS MEETINGS

Leah will work closely with the City staff throughout the project including communicate regularly to discuss issues, status, schedule, coordination, and guidance. In addition to email/phone communication, we will establish a standing virtual meeting twice/month with the Recreation Director to review status, upcoming work and any outstanding issues. We will utilize the City's current 5 Year Plan as a foundation for the 2024 Plan. In addition, we would like to coordinate with the City of Plymouth Strategic Plan as well as the City-wide Master Plan that is anticipated to begin this year.

INVENTORY

As required by the MDNR, we will visit each public park within the City and complete an inventory of the City's existing parks, open space, and recreation facilities. We will also drive by each school and review aerials to confirm outdoor facilities on school properties. Inventory of school facilities is not as detailed as City parks, rather provides a general overview. The Inventory will also include a description of nearby, major state, county, or regional parks as well as any major private recreation facilities. The inventory will include:

- Updating/creating a map of the City public parks and facilities.
- A description and use of each park and the type and number of recreation facilities
- A description of any major private facilities that offer recreation opportunities to residents.
- Update on parks and recreation programs offered by the City.
- A general assessment of accessibility of each park to people with varying abilities (per DNR rating).
- Reviewing and updating status reports for all MDNR grant assisted Parks & Recreation Facilities. Including any Post-Completion Self-Inspection forms required by the MDNR as a part of all Master Plan approvals.

OUTREACH + ENGAGEMENT

Community input and support for the 5 Year Plan is essential in moving toward implementation. There are a number of ways to gather input and engage stakeholders. At a minimum, the MDNR requires TWO forms of public input during the planning process, including the official public hearing prior to adoption. The results of the outreach efforts are used to develop goals and the Action Plan.

EPIC MRA Survey

As you've done in the past, we understand the City anticipates engaging with survey firm EPIC MRA to develop and conduct a public opinion survey to gather input on a variety of topics, including parks and recreation. While this will be lead and managed by EPIC MRA, we have included a handful of hours in our proposal to review the parks and recreation related questions and provide feedback prior to the survey being deployed. We will need to have the results of the survey in hand by mid-late summer 2023 in order to incorporate the results into the 5-Year Plan.

Small Group Discussions (2) OPTIONAL

We think it's important and beneficial to have a few small group targeted discussions with key stakeholders in order to gather information and insight about plans, interests, concerns, and desires. We have included effort in this proposal (optional) to gather together the various leagues and organizations that regularly utilize the City parks to make them aware of the 5-Year planning process and to discuss priorities for the next 5 years. We also suggest facilitating a brainstorming discussion with staff/leadership about the parks and recreation system and goals for the future. In the fee section of this proposal, we have listed our effort for this task as optional if you would like us to facilitate and attend these discussions. If not, we suggest these still take place with you/your staff facilitating so that the feedback can be incorporated into the Action Plan.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT**Community Description**

Utilizing the City's existing Plan, we will update the Community Description portion of the plan as needed including the following information per DNR requirements:

- Regional Setting
- General Demographic Characteristics (needs to be updated to latest available)
- Jurisdiction of the Plan

Administrative Structure

We will update, as needed, an assessment of the current administrative structure of the City and how parks and recreation is governed and administered in Plymouth including roles of the staff, budget information for operations, maintenance and capital improvements, programming, current funding sources, role of volunteers and the relationships with public schools and athletic organizations. This will include development/updates for a graphic organizational chart highlighting the structure of the Department.

Description of Planning Process

We will summarize the Public Input process and the Planning Process as a part of the master plan documentation as required by the MDNR.

Basis For Action (Trends, Comparison to Standards, Outreach Results)

We will include updated existing national recreation trend data and also summarize the City's park and recreation resources to the most up to date national benchmarks (NRPA Agency Performance Review). This section will also include an analysis of public spaces available to residents within a 10-minute walk (half-mile) to illustrate any gaps in the community. Maps will be created to illustrate the latest available Census information related to population density, household size, and median age. Any influencing planning initiatives developed by the City, or other agencies will be summarized. This section will also include a more detailed summary of the results of the public outreach and engagement efforts.

ACTION PLAN + CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

We will work with staff to review the existing Goals, Objectives and CIP to determine what was completed and what might still be relevant for the upcoming 5+ years. This section of the plan will detail the over-arching goals and provide specific details as to the objectives necessary to reach your goals. The plan will document desired capital improvements to meet your goals and categorize them as short-, mid-, long-term, or on-going priorities

including magnitude of cost of the proposed capital improvements. We will also identify potential funding sources that might best align with the various capital projects.

The Action Plan (CIP) will be prepared as a separate section/chapter to be included in the final Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Capital Improvement Priorities will be portrayed in table form and will include the following:

- Project description
- Magnitude of cost and potential funding sources
- Short-, mid-, or long-term priority

PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARING + ADOPTION

- Present the DRAFT PLAN at a Commission meeting for final review and refinement. Provide .pdf of the DRAFT PLAN prior to the meeting for review.
- Present plan at an official public hearing in front the Commission (same night as adoption).
- Develop draft Resolution of Adoption language.

DEVELOPMENT + SUBMITTAL OF FINAL 5 YEAR PLAN

After adoption, we will provide:

- Electronic version as a .PDF file suitable for distribution and uploading to your websites.
- Final WORD file, XCEL files, TIF files, GIS files
- Final Powerpoint presentation summarizing the process and recommendations
- Assistance to staff in submittal of the plan to meet the deadlines and format as required by the DNR including notification to the County, SEMCOG and via the MDNR MiGrants website.

SCHEDULE

We anticipate the 5-Year Plan Process to take approximately 8-10 months to complete as outlined below. This schedule allows for submittal of your new Plan to the MDNR prior to the February 1, 2024 deadline (in order to remain MDNR grant eligible).

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Project Setup + Inventory | May-June |
| Outreach + Engagement | June-July |
| Plan Development | June - October |
| Draft Plan Approved by Commission | November |
| Draft Plan Available for Public Review for 30 Days | December |
| Public Hearing + Commission Adoption | January 2024 |
| Final Plan Submittal | January 2024 |
| Transmit to County + SEMCOG | |
| Upload to MiGrants (MDNR) | |

FEE

As detailed below, we can complete the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for \$13,300 plus expenses not to exceed \$300 (mileage and at cost supplies and printing), plus \$1,000 if optional outreach meetings are desired. If the City would like hard copies of the final master plan printed, those can be printed at cost.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| 5 YEAR MASTER PLAN | \$13,300 |
| Project Coordination | \$1,500 |
| Inventory (Site Visits, Map, Text) | \$2,500 |
| Outreach (input/coordination with EPIC MRA) | \$750 |
| Plan Development | \$5,500 |
| Action Plan | \$1,600 |
| Presentations + Hearing + Adoption | \$1,000 |
| Submittal (SEMCOG, County + MDNR MiGrants) | \$450 |
| EXPENSES (mileage, supplies, printing for meetings) | \$300 |
| OPTIONAL OUTREACH SMALL GROUP MEETINGS | \$1,000 |

Please reach out with any questions. We look forward to continuing to work together!

PROPOSED BY :


 Leah M Groya, Professional Planner

 Leah M Groya

Print Name

 April 10, 2023

Date

APPROVED BY :

 Client Signature

 Steve Anderson

Print Name

 Date



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: February 28, 2023

ITEM: Discussion and Consideration of Community Benefit Agreement with Northville Downs, LLC; d/b/a 'Northville Downs of Plymouth'

PRESENTERS: Supervisor Heise

BACKGROUND: As we discussed in a previous Closed Session, creation of a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) is a proper request from a developer or owner in the case of a unique and potentially socially disruptive project such as the planned Northville Downs of Plymouth. I have invited the Carlo Brothers, and their legal representative on behalf of Northville Downs, LLC, to attend tonight's meeting so we can collectively discuss and collaborate on what a CBA might contain for both parties. I would like to see us agree on several draft goals and objectives tonight, and then have our respective attorneys work out the contractual details for future Board approval.

You may recall that I have proposed several "Community Benefit" objectives in past messages to you and the public, including but not limited to:

Northville Downs to Township:

- Creation and funding for dedicated Township recreation projects
- Return of annual 4th of July Fireworks Show
- Multiple 'Community Arts & Cultural Events' each year to be mutually determined
- Use of track infield for youth soccer and similar sporting events
- 10-year, renewable agreement with Township
- New CBA if expanded equine gaming is authorized by State & Township

Township to Northville Downs:

- Own and maintain the public walkway around site and along Johnson Creek
- Work to attract onsite, year-round Regional Equine Veterinary Center
- Promote race track in Township publications, website, and social media

- Integrate race track in 2023 Joint City/Twp. Recreation Master Plan
- Naming rights for Carlo Family for funded recreational amenities
- Work to attract regional events to facility; promote fireworks show
- Free advertising on existing electronic billboards on both I-275 & M-14

Of course, these suggestions are just some examples of what we could ask for and/or provide in return in a Community Benefit Agreement. Your comments and suggestions are of course welcomed and encouraged.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move that the Board of Trustees authorize the Township Attorney and Supervisor to develop and draft a Community Benefit Agreement between the Charter Township of Plymouth and Northville Downs, LLC; said agreement to be formally approved by both parties at a later meeting of the Township Board.

Moved By _____ Seconded By _____

ROLL CALL:

__Vorva, __Buckley, __Curmi, __Monaghan, __Doroshewitz, __Heise, __Stewart



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

MEETING DATE: February 28, 2023

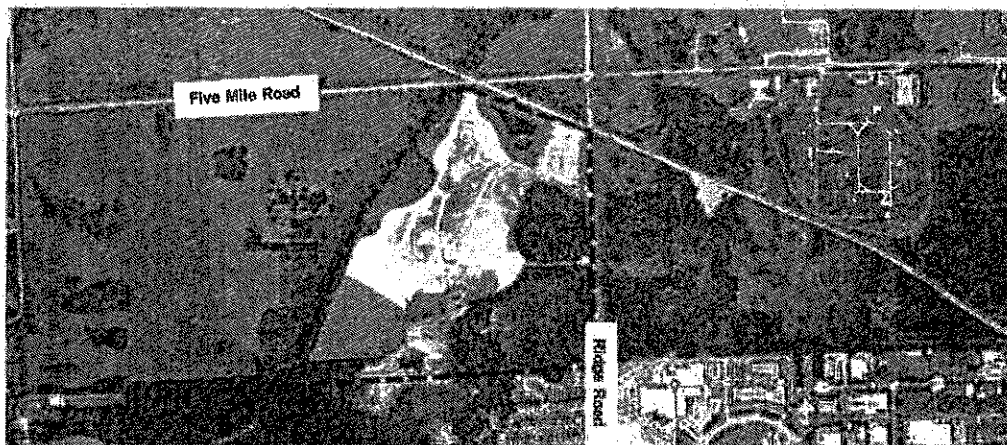
ITEM: Request for Approval: Northville Downs of Plymouth, Planned Unit Development (PUD) Option - *Resolution #2023-02-28-14*

PRESENTERS: The Development Team: PEA Group Engineering and the Carlo Family of Northville Downs
Jeremy Schrot, PE, Township Engineer, Spalding DeDecker
Laura Haw, Township Planner, McKenna

BACKGROUND:

The Development Team proposes a Planned Unit Development (PUD) located at the southwest corner of the Ridge Road and Five Mile Road intersection on approximately 125 acres (see Google aerial below). The site is also bordered to the north by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad (CSX) and to the west by the Johnson Drain. Previously, an industrial park called the Ridge 5 Corporate Park was planned for the site and the site was partially cleared, as shown below in the aerial – this project has since been withdrawn. The subject site is also part of the Michigan International Technology Center (MITC), which is a joint project between Plymouth and Northville Townships. The MITC is a cluster of large properties that the Townships advertise for redevelopment (<https://www.mitc-usa.org/>).

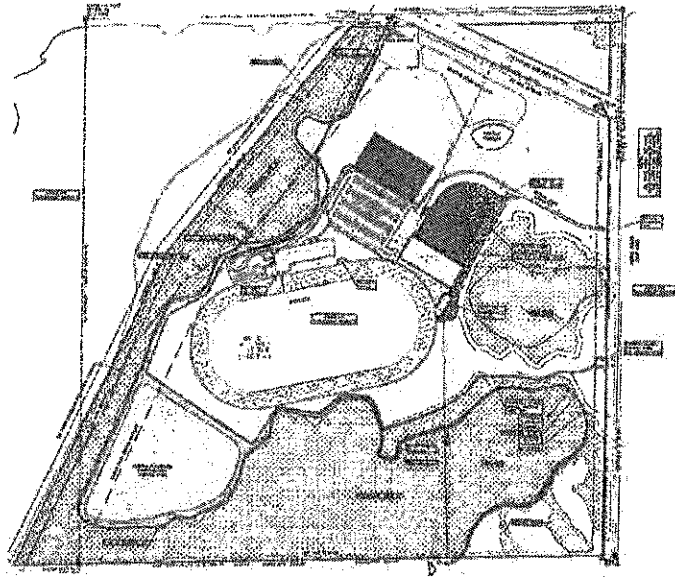
The proposed development project (the “Project”) is for a new horseracing track facility and involves the relocation of the current Northville Downs racetrack (in the City of Northville) to the Plymouth community.



PROJECT SUMMARY:

The proposed Project includes the construction of a:

- ½ mile harness racetrack
- ±4,900 sq. ft. grandstand (±480 seats)
- ±23,000 sq. ft. racing building
- ±35,500 sq. ft. horse barn
- ±3,200 sq. ft. maintenance building
- parking and loading areas
- public walking path along Johnson Creek (with access from Ridge Road)

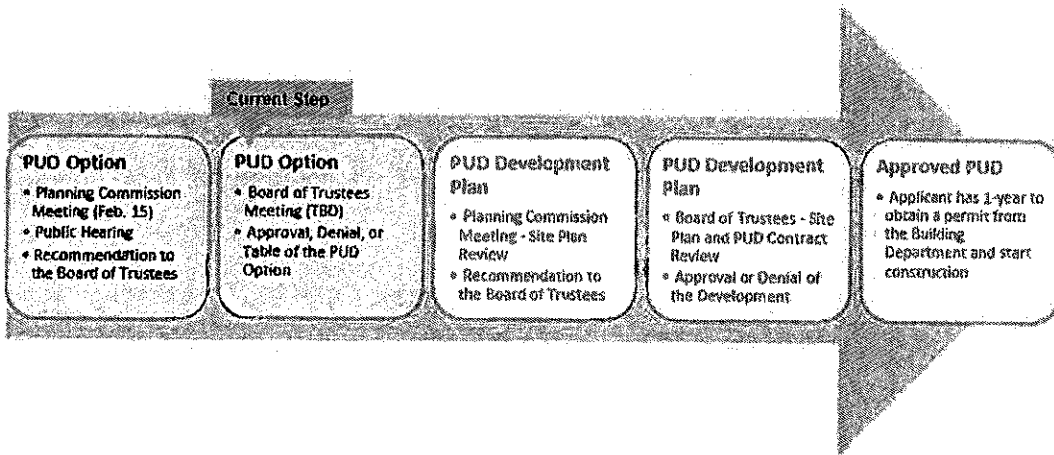


The Project plans, narrative, and all supporting documentation are available for viewing on the Township’s website at:

www.plymouthtp.org/government/departments/community_development/current_projects.php

THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) PROCESS

The flow chart below provides a summary of the key steps in the PUD process; this project is currently at the 2nd stage in the review process:



- **Step #1: Planning Commission Consideration and Public Hearing**
The first step for any proposed PUD is to apply for the PUD Option – in essence, the developer is asking the Township for the option to have a PUD on a given site. The PUD Option process precedes any formal site plan application and is an essential step in determining if a site is the appropriate location for a given PUD.

On February 15, 2023, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to discuss the proposal and to hear public comment from residents and stakeholders. Comments made at the public hearing were focused on the following:

- Concern that horse racing is a dying business.
- The Environmental Leadership Commission (ELC) finds that the property is most conducive to this proposed use and that the sustainability features and technologies are an enhancement to the Township; the ELC recommend approval of the PUD Option.
- Concern over traffic impacts, specifically that Five Mile Road and Ridge Road need improvements. Comments specific to Ridge Road were that it should be made safer with the expected increase in traffic, i.e., lower the speed limits and install sidewalks.
- Concern over the abuse and death of horses and of human gambling addictions.
- Lack of compatibility with the Master Plan (as related to attracting young families in the community) as the demographic is the elderly and doesn't reflect the long-term vision of the community.
- Trotters Association representatives: supportive to keep the last racetrack open in Michigan. Will utilize vacant land and be a tax benefit to the Township.
- Michigan Harness Horseman Association representative: the financial benefits associated with a new track are significant for the community and the 75-year history of the existing facility speaks for itself.
- Concern over the removal of environmentally sensitive lands and the outbreak of horse related diseases.
- Friends of the Rouge Board of Directors representatives: Johnson Creek is a jewel for the Rouge River System and there is concern over the decline of the creek, particularly increased stormwater runoff via impervious surfaces and the loss of sensitive habitat and requests that the Township employ a stormwater management plan that is greater than what might be required by Wayne County.
- Concern over congestion, public safety, and the railroad traffic.
- Concerns regarding safety and crime.
- Economic Development Coordinator Heitman – history of failed businesses / developments on this site, such new developments allow the Township to maintain its low tax rates in Wayne County.
- Potential for soccer fields to be available as practice fields – the hours of operation for the racetrack would be very beneficial to the soccer community.
- Concern (for those living near the racetrack) regarding light pollution and noise.
- Concern that the financial considerations are given too much of a priority – the nature, people and animals should be considered.

In addition to the above summarized comments made at the public hearing, the Township also received written (emailed) correspondence prior to the February 15 meeting, which is summarized as follows and was incorporated into the record at the meeting.

Since January 23, 2023, the Planning Department received of a total of 556 email comments: 41 of these comments were unique, while 515 were comments sent

using a People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) auto-generated form letter. The 41 unique comments can be summarized as:

Comments Opposed:

- Comments regarding noise, traffic, and lighting: 1
- Comments regarding ethics and animal treatment: 27
- Comments regarding project financing: 6
- Comments in opposition without a topic: 1

Comments in Favor:

- Comments regarding recreation options: 2
- Comments regarding local revenue and project financing: 1

Neutral / Mixed Comments:

- Comments regarding the environmental impacts of the site: 2
- Comment that had a subject line related to horse racing, but the email was blank: 1

Following the public hearing on February 15, the Commission made a unanimous recommendation to the Board of Trustees for approval of the Northville Downs of Plymouth project, with several conditions for the Board to consider (which are documented in the enclosed planning report summary).

• **Step #2: Board of Trustees Consideration**

The PUD Option must go before the Board of Trustees for review (meeting date of February 28, 2023), at which the Board may vote to table, approve (or approve with conditions), or deny the PUD Option:

- Option #1: Table of the PUD Option. The Board could table the agenda item and discuss the project at a future meeting date.
- Option #2: Denial of the PUD Option. The project application would be closed. If the Developer still wishes to develop the site, they must submit under a new application, either substantially changing the PUD proposal or submitting under the current zoning.
- Option #3: Approval of the PUD Option. The Developer has 1-year to submit for site development plan approval. The site plan (aka "Development Plan") would be reviewed by Township staff, who determine compliance with all local ordinances and engineering and safety standards. The Developer would also submit a proposed PUD Contract, which is a document that sets forth any special conditions, restrictions, and agreements regarding the property. The PUD Contract is also reviewed by Township staff, including the Township attorney.
 - *Future Review and Recommendation on the PUD Site Plan and Contract:* If approved, the Development Plan and PUD Contract would then go before the Planning Commission, which would recommend either approval, approval with conditions, or denial to the Board of Trustees.

- *Future Vote on PUD Site Plan and Contract:* The Trustees would then vote to approve, approve with conditions, or deny the Development Plan and PUD Contract as submitted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Based upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission for approval of the proposed PUD Option and compliance with the PUD eligibility criteria of section 21.3 of the Zoning Ordinance, we offer the following motion of approval for the Northville Downs of Plymouth PUD Option. Such a motion by the Board of Trustees allows the applicant to continue working with the Planning Commission on the refinement of the PUD Plan and to address concerns raised by the public and this body, such as incorporating greater environmental benefits and reducing.

Should the PUD Option be approved by the Board, the Final Development Plan and PUD Contract are required to be once again reviewed by the Township Board at a future meeting.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to adopt Resolution # 2023-02-28-14 authorizing approval of the Planned Unit Development Option for the Northville Downs of Plymouth project, as unanimously recommended by the Planning Commission, subject to further refinement of the plans (as identified in the Planning Commission's February 15, 2023, motion), and subject to any necessary modifications identified by the Township Fire Department and Township Engineer.

Moved By _____ Seconded By _____

ROLL CALL:

___ Vorva, ___ Buckley, ___ Curmi, ___ Monaghan, ___ Doroshewitz, ___ Heise, ___ Stewart

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) OPTION
FOR THE NORTHVILLE DOWNS OF PLYMOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

RESOLUTION #2023-02-28-14

At a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees (the 'Board'), held at Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan on February 28, 2023, the following resolution was offered:

WHEREAS, the Applicant Team (PEA Engineering and the Carlo Family of Northville Downs) has requested a Planned Unit Development (PUD) Option to redevelop the former Ridge 5 Corporate Park (generally located at the southwest intersection of Five Mile Road and Ridge Road, parcel ID's R-78-001-99-0001-704, R-78-001-01-0001-000, R-78-001-01-0002-000, R-78-001-01-0003-000, R-78-001-01-0004-000, R-78-001-01-0005-000, R-78-001-01-0006-000, R-78-001-01-0007-000, and R-78-001-01-0008-000) into a harness racetrack facility, and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission considered the proposed PUD Option at their February 15, 2023, meeting and held a public hearing, and,

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed PUD Option, with conditions, to the Board of Trustees on February 15, 2023, and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, per Zoning Ordinance No. 99, Article 23, has the final ability to grant approval of a PUD Option, and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees does hereby approve Resolution #2023-02-28-14 authorizing approval of the Planned Unit Development Option for the Northville Downs of Plymouth development, subject to the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission on February 15, 2023, and subject to any final modifications identified by the Township Attorney and Engineer.

Motion By: _____ **Seconded By:** _____

Roll Call:

___ Vorva, ___ Buckley, ___ Curmi, ___ Monaghan, ___ Doroshewitz, ___ Heise, ___ Stewart

MOTION CARRIED _____

MOTION DEFEATED _____

MCKENNA



Memorandum

TO: Board of Trustees, Plymouth Township
FROM: Township Planner Laura Haw (McKenna)
SUBJECT: #2464 - Northville Downs of Plymouth: Planned Unit Development (PUD) Option Review #1 (as presented to the Planning Commission on February 15, 2023)
DATE: February 22, 2023

PUD OPTION - REVIEW SUMMARY

This planning review (originally presented to the Planning Commission) has been streamlined for the Board of Trustees consideration at the February 28, 2023, meeting.

The following pages detail the PUD Option Eligibility review criteria, and the summary recommendation of approval provided by the Planning Commission on February 15, 2023, to the Board.

HEADQUARTERS
235 East Main Street
Suite 105
Northville, Michigan 48167

O 248.596.0920
F 248.596.0930
MCKA.COM

Communities for real life.



PUD Option Eligibility Review

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The PUD Option is an alternative method of development that may be permitted only after a public hearing, review and recommendation by the Planning Commission, and approval by the Board of Trustees. Per Article XXIII - Section 21.3 of the Zoning Ordinance, the proposed PUD must reflect the following 8 eligibility criteria in order to be granted the Option:

1. Conform to the spirit and intent of the PUD Option.
2. Generate a benefit to users of the development and the community that would be otherwise unlikely to achieve without the PUD Option regulations.
3. Be located on a site containing natural assets which would otherwise be substantially destroyed without the use of a PUD (if on an existing developed site with no assets, natural features or community amenities may be created to satisfy this requirement).
4. Be located on a site that contains existing natural or manmade features of significance which can be protected through incorporation into the PUD to minimize negative impacts on adjacent properties and/or the whole community.
5. Be designed in harmony with the character of the immediate area (regarding proposed uses, the location of uses, and the height, bulk, location, and character of structures on the site) and support the stability of adjacent development in the general planning area.
6. Not generate traffic that adversely impacts adjacent properties or conflict with the normal traffic flow of the general area, including the flow of pedestrians and at major intersections.
7. Include an intensity of uses that is compatible with the adjacent land uses and the external effects of which do not impact the stability of adjacent development in the general planning area.
8. Facilitate the redevelopment of a functionally obsolete site into a substantial benefit, in line with the Master Plan (applicable only if on an existing developed site).

ELIBLIGBILTY REVIEW

The following findings were prepared using the 8 PUD Option eligibility principles:

Eligibility Standard #1:

The proposal is in conformity with the spirit and intent of the PUD Option as established in the Purpose section of Article 23.

Intent of the PUD Option:

...to permit flexibility in the regulation of land development, encourage innovation in land use and variety in design, layout and type of structures constructed, achieve economy and efficiency in the use of land, natural resources and the provisions of public services and utilities, encourage useful open space and pedestrian and non-vehicular interconnectivity, and provide a more



desirable living environment with housing, employment, recreation and/or commercial opportunities particularly suited to the needs of the residents of the Township of Plymouth."

In general, the proposed Project is consistent with the intent of the PUD Option as it provides for the conservation of contiguous open space to the benefit of the entire community, include a public nature path, makes efficient use of existing utility connections and detention ponds, and provides a unique multi-use entertainment venue for the benefit of the Township.

Eligibility Standard #2:

A recognizable and material benefit to the ultimate users of the project and to the community, where such benefit would otherwise be unfeasible or unlikely to be achieved without application of the PUD Option regulations.

Note: The consideration of any tax or monetary benefits resulting from a given project is outside the scope of this evaluation. Such benefits are solely the consideration of the Board of Trustees.

Sport and Entertainment Amenity. In the most recent Plymouth Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which is developed as a joint effort with the City of Plymouth, one of the goals is to: *"Continue to seek opportunities and partnerships with public and private landowners for the development of additional turf/field sport facilities in the Plymouth Community."* The proposed Project could function not only as a horse track, but also as a multiple-use recreational facility. The Developer offers to grant the Township use of the track for events such as soccer tournaments, fireworks, outdoor movies, and more, to be determined under a PUD Contract. Specifically, the Applicant has agreed to install turf grass on the inside of the racetrack to better accommodate the other community recreation events.

Currently, the only large-scale outdoor sport facility in Plymouth is at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Commonly, also known as PCEP. However, the use of PCEP's fields and stadium is limited during the school year due to the numerous sports teams that use it for practice. As such, Plymouth does not currently have an outdoor sporting facility that can be used year-round; the proposed Project would help to fill this gap by providing a multi-use amenity.

Recreation. One of the goals of the Master Plan is to: *"install a network of non-motorized pathway systems throughout the Township to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and mobility."* The proposed Project includes a non-motorized path around the perimeter of the wetlands, which is planned to connect to future sidewalks along Ridge Road and Five Mile Road. Roughly 40% of the proposed path lies within the publicly zoned lands that surrounds the Johnson Drain.

Additionally, a Master Plan goal is to: *"Encourage the development of recreation facilities by the private sector and other partners."* The Developer proposes to fund and construct this pathway as a benefit to the Township. See Eligibility Standard #6 (below) for more details on pedestrian connectivity improvements associated with this PUD proposal.

Eligibility Standard #3:

The site contains natural assets such as large stands of trees, rolling topography, significant views, swale areas, floodplains or wetlands which would be in the best interest of the community to preserve and which would otherwise be substantially destroyed without application of the PUD Option regulations. In the case of a proposed PUD Option to an existing, developed site which is absent of said natural features, this requirement can be satisfied by the creation of natural features and areas, gateways, and community amenities.



The PUD Option gives the Developer greater flexibility in conserving open space through sound site planning and reducing impervious surface area. The Project contains numerous protected wetlands and conservation of these natural features to the highest degree possible is desired.

The proposed Project dedicates ±52 acres (41.7%) of the total site to wetlands and woodlands. This is a greater quantity than is required under the Industrial (IND) zoning district, which has no maximum lot coverage percentage. The woodland/wetland area will be open to the public via the walking trail with parking located off Ridge Road, which represents an increase to the amount of recreation land and opportunities in the Township.

Wetlands. If the subject site was developed as a conventional industrial property, the opportunity to preserve existing wetlands would be unchanged. The wetlands identified for preservation with this Project are identical to the wetlands identified for preservation under the former Ridge 5 Corporate Park development. This is because the subject wetlands are greater than 5 acres in size, which means they are regulated by the State of Michigan – any construction or reduction of these wetlands require a permit from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

Woodlands. The preliminary landscaping plan proposes to make use of the existing trees that were planted as a part of the Ridge 5 Corporate Park and includes an additional 60 trees.

The proposed "future parking areas" do not include any tree plantings and the plan does not state how these areas will be landscaped or maintained until they are developed, or in the event they are never developed. As such, all unbuilt portions of the site must be seeded and maintained as a lawn area. Additional landscaping is also necessary, above and beyond minimum ordinance requirements.

All future parking areas are proposed to be within the already-graded portions of the site. As such, no additional tree removals would occur at the time of construction.

Sustainability Considerations. The Applicant agrees to installing the following sustainability features, to be designed and located during the site development phase of the project (should the PUD Option be approved). This includes:

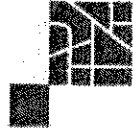
- Solar panels
- Geothermal heating
- Grasspavers for the surface of the overflow parking lot

It in addition, the existing detention ponds must be planted with a native seed mix to improve the stormwater infiltration, aesthetics, and plant diversity of the site. A rain garden must also be installed, with educational signage, in a visible location on the property.

Eligibility Standard #4:

The site contains certain existing natural or manmade features which could, with sound site planning, be incorporated into the project to minimize any negative impact the proposed project might have on adjacent properties and the community as a whole. This includes the long-term protection of historic and cultural resources and significant architecture worthy of historical / cultural preservation and/or enhancement, if applicable.

The proposed Project makes use of the existing wetlands on the site to buffer the Oak Haven MHC to the south from sound, light, smell, and airborne dust particles that may result from site operations. The



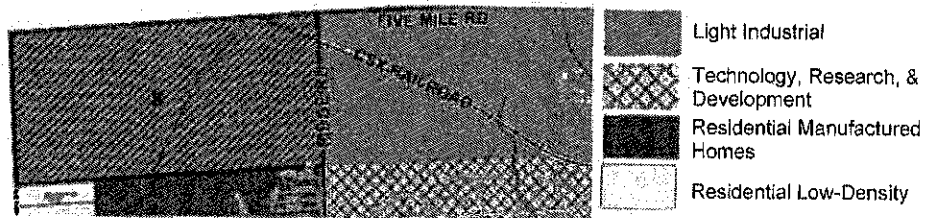
proposed buffer is at least 600-feet in depth. The Project does not contain any manmade features that are historically, culturally, or otherwise significant.

Eligibility Standard #5:

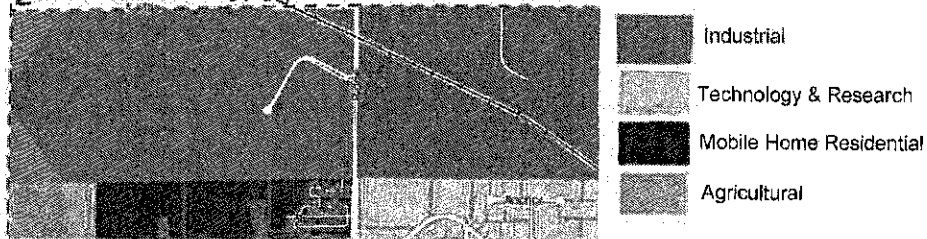
The (a) proposed uses; (b) location of said uses; and (c) height, bulk, location and character of structures shall be in harmony with the existing and proposed land patterns of adjacent properties, and the general planning area, and shall insure the stability of the orderly development of adjacent lands and the general planning area as indicated by the Future Land Use Plan and adopted Master Plan.

Use and Location. Per the Zoning Map, the subject site is zoned the Industrial (IND) District. Under the IND district regulations, sporting facilities are permitted as a Special Land Use. The Township Master Plan's Future Land Use Map specifies that subject site should be industrial and recommends a Planned Unit Development with high-technology and potential mixed uses. The Proposed project is entirely composed of recreational, sport, and entertainment uses, and does not include an industrial component.

Future Land Use Map



Zoning Map



Large-scale sporting facilities have higher traffic and noise generation potential than other sporting venues. This is partly due to the high proportion of visitors that arrive by car, as opposed to by foot, bicycle, or other types of transportation. For example, the proportion of people using a car to get to the USA Hockey Arena is much higher than the proportion using a car to get to Township Park for a sporting event. As such, it is desirable to locate large-scale sporting facilities farther from residential areas to minimize any negative impacts. The location of the Project at the corner of Ridge Road and Five Mile Road, surrounded on three sides by industrial land, is considered suitable for the proposed use.



Height, Bulk, and Character. The proposed racing building and grandstand is designed using smooth-finish metal panels, brick, and split-face block. The proposed barn and maintenance building are designed using vertical ribbed metal siding and split-face block. The Applicant proposes a modernist architectural design for the racing building and a traditional design for the barn and maintenance building.

Both the barn and maintenance building are single-story structures and no greater than 25-feet in height, which is shorter in height than a typical industrial building. The main grandstand building is proposed at 46-feet in height, which is similar to other industrial buildings and does not exceed the maximum allowable height of the PUD Option (9-stories). The design of the facility would be finalized during the site development phase of the project (should the PUD Option be approved).

Stable Development. The location, height, bulk, and character of the proposed Project are generally in line with the Master Plan are not expected to disrupt the orderly development and functioning of adjacent properties. Further, the proposed use of the property is not expected to disrupt neighboring industrial developments in the MITC.

The site is served by existing utilities from Ridge Road and already has existing underground infrastructure along Techne Drive, making the cost of development substantially lower than if it were on a never-developed site. Provided stormwater management is addressed to the satisfaction of the Township engineer, it is not anticipated that the Project would create a burden on the existing utilities. Further stormwater and drainage analysis is deferred to the Township engineer.

Eligibility Standard #6:

The proposed uses and the location of said uses on the subject property shall be such that traffic to and from the site will not be hazardous or adversely impact abutting properties or conflict with the normal traffic flow of the general area. In reviewing this particular aspect, the Township shall consider the following:

- Conflicts with convenient routes for pedestrian traffic, particularly of children.
- The relationship of the site to major thoroughfares and street intersections.

Pedestrian Network. The Project includes sidewalks along the perimeter of the racing building, maintenance building, and barn. However, a sidewalk from the main entrance on Ridge Road must be provided to the main entrance of the facility.

The proposed Project also includes a 5-foot sidewalk along Ridge Road; this non-motorized pathway must be increased to a minimum of 8-feet in width, consistent with the non-motorized system across Five Mile Road, in Northville Township.

The proposed walking path through the site's wetlands is a critical part of the pedestrian network in the northwest area of the Township. The Developer currently proposes a gravel parking lot to access this path and that the trail be surfaced with gravel. To make the path fully accessible to all users, both the parking lot and the path itself must be paved (or consists of a boardwalk, if necessary) and the path a minimum of 8-feet in width, and an ADA-accessible space added to the parking lot. A spur to a scenic area of the Johnson Drain, and community signage for the parking lot and path must be provided.

Vehicular Network. The existing Techne Drive boulevard entrance, which is adequate in width to provide truck access to the site, will be maintained as the primary access to Ridge Road and the site. Overall, the circulation proposed under the Project site plan conforms to the Master Plan objective to "Reduce the potential for vehicular conflicts by keeping the number of curb cuts along major thoroughfares and



collector roads to a minimum and encourage the use of shared access points." The Project proposes one vehicular access point to the development off Ridge Road. However, one additional access road is necessary, as specified by the Fire Department in their review. The applicant has agreed to installing a secondary entrance off Ridge Road and this is listed as a condition of approval.

Further analysis is to be provided by the Township Engineer and Fire Department.

Eligibility Standard #7:

The intensity of uses associated with the proposal and such noises, vibrations, odors, glare, reflection of light, heat, hours of operation and other external effects which would normally be a product of the proposed uses, shall be compatible with the existing land uses of the abutting properties and shall insure the stability of the orderly development of same as indicated in the Future Land Use Plan and adopted Master Plan.

The proposed Project would create noise on sporting event days and likely generate odor on live-racing days. However, due to the >100-foot wetland buffer that surrounds the racetrack, these are not expected to create a nuisance for neighboring properties. The Applicant states the following hours of operation for the facility:

- Simulcasting public hours: 7-days a week, 11:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Live harness racing events: 2-days a week, 2:00 – 6:00 PM

Should the PUD Option be approved, maximum allowable decibel levels must be incorporated into the PUD Contract.

The Project also includes a preliminary photometric plan, which demonstrates the proposed lighting in the parking areas. However, this plan does not include details on the lighting to be used on the track; lighting is subject to Sec. 28.8: Exterior Lighting.

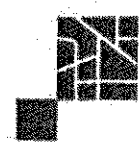
Eligibility Standard #8:

In consideration of an existing, developed site only, the PUD would facilitate redevelopment of a site which may be aging, functionally obsolete or be such that the Commission finds that redevelopment would create substantial benefit to the Township, consistent with the adopted Master Plan.

The existing site has been partially developed; roughly 50% of the site was cleared as a part of the Ridge 5 Corporate Park project. Since the withdrawal of the Ridge 5 Corporate Park project, the site has remained vacant. The site currently consists of one road (Techne Drive), two retention ponds, and 8 open dirt plots of land, which range in size from 2 acres to 13 acres. The site is not functionally obsolete, but it is also not providing any benefit to the Township and its residents.

Under the PUD Option, the already-cleared portions of the site would be put to a viable use and wetland/woodland portion of the site would be preserved as a community amenity, accessed via the proposed walking trail.

Additionally, the site does not have any notable architectural heritage or cultural significance among the community; however, in recent months, the site has been used for illegal dumping.



Recommendation

The Planning Commission recommends approval to the Board of Trustees for the PUD Option for the Northville Downs of Plymouth Planned Unit Development, provided that the following outstanding items are submitted to the Township for review, prior to final consideration by the Board of Trustees and contingent on all Engineering and Fire Department requirements:

- a) *A Traffic Impact Assessment is provided (applicant has agreed to this condition).*
- b) *A revised PUD eligibility plan which notes / details the following:*
 - i. *A secondary access road be installed, per the Fire Department's review (applicant has agreed to this condition).*
 - ii. *The existing detention ponds be planted with a native seed mix to improve the stormwater infiltration, aesthetics, and plant diversity of the site.*
 - iii. *The general location of a rain garden is identified, to be installed with educational signage.*
 - iv. *A sidewalk from the main entrance on Ridge Road is provided to the main entrance of the facility.*
 - v. *A fully accessible pedestrian nature path (minimum width of 8-feet) be installed through the publicly zoned lands with a paved surface (or a boardwalk, if necessary) and an ADA-accessible parking space added to the parking lot, which must also be paved. A spur to a scenic area of the Johnson Drain and community signage for the parking lot and path be provided.*
 - vi. *All unbuilt portions of the site be seeded and maintained as lawn areas.*
 - vii. *Additional landscaping throughout the site is installed, beyond minimum ordinance requirements, to be determined during the site development phase.*
 - viii. *A lighting and noise mitigation plan must be provided and include restrictions such as "primary lighting for the racetrack and parking lot will not be in operation when the track is not in use, controlled via a timed system".*

Further, if the PUD Option is approved by the Board of Trustees, a Solid Waste Management Plan (for the disposal of animal waste) and an Emergency Evacuation Plan (for weather events and other emergencies) must be provided as part of the PUD Development Plan and Contract.