ST. JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BERRIEN COUNTY
"A Full Service Community"

ST. JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN 2023-2027

DRAFT

ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP 3000 Washington Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Acknowledgements

St. Joseph Charter Township Board of Trustees

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Patrice Rose Clerk
Dave Vonk Treasurer
Ed Meny Trustee
Melissa Hahn Trustee
Ron Griffin Trustee
Tom Milnikel Trustee

Parks and Recreation Committee

Roger Seeley
Denise Cook
Dave Rindfield
Ron Griffin

St. Joseph Charter Township Staff

Denise Cook Manager
Dave Rindfield Public Works Supervisor
Troy Gano Ordinance Officer
Shalice Northrop Assessor
Randy Leng Chief of Police

This plan was prepared with assistance from Abonmarche Consultants, Inc.

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INTRODUCTION

St. Joseph Charter Township provides many excellent recreation opportunities to its community members. Its boundaries include river and creek frontage, wooded areas, residential and developed areas. A wide variety of uses exist within the Township boundaries and careful planning must be done to ensure public recreation can be enjoyed by all as the community develops over the years.

A Parks and Recreation Plan can assist the Township in its planning purposes in many ways. It provides a regular opportunity for the public to weigh in on what is available to them and their desires for new or modified recreation options. It helps the Township plan for future development and expenses. It can provide important coordination information for surrounding communities about anticipated development occurring near them. It is also a document the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires when a community is seeking its grant funds.

This plan provides an inventory of existing recreation, identifies community needs and sets goals, objectives and actions to target for a future five-year period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Plan Jurisdiction

St. Joseph Charter Township is a local unit of government enabled to provide recreation under the following Michigan Legislative Acts: 1905 PA 157, 1917 PA 156, 1929 PA 312, 1989 PA 292, Part 721 of 1994 PA 451, 1967 PA 7 and 2000 PA 321. The St. Joseph Charter Township Parks and Recreation Plan addresses the recreation needs within its own community, while consulting with neighboring municipalities as needed.

Physical Characteristics of Community

St. Joseph Charter Township comprises 6.97 square miles and is located in southwest lower Michigan, in Berrien County. It is 90 miles from Chicago, 30 miles from South Bend, Indiana, 50 miles from Kalamazoo and 90 miles from Grand Rapids.

Locally, St. Joseph Charter Township is part of the "Twin Cities" area. To the north and east, the Township is bordered by the cities of St. Joseph and Benton Harbor respectively. The Township lies between the major thoroughfare in the region, which is Interstate 94, and downtown St. Joseph. The Township has many natural features within its boundaries including the St. Joseph River. Its central location within the region makes it a highly desirable place to live and work.

Demographic Characteristics of Community

2021 population of St. Joseph Charter Township was 9,849, which shows a slight reduction in count from the 2010 population of 10,028. The Township has the following 2021 demographic information from census.gov:

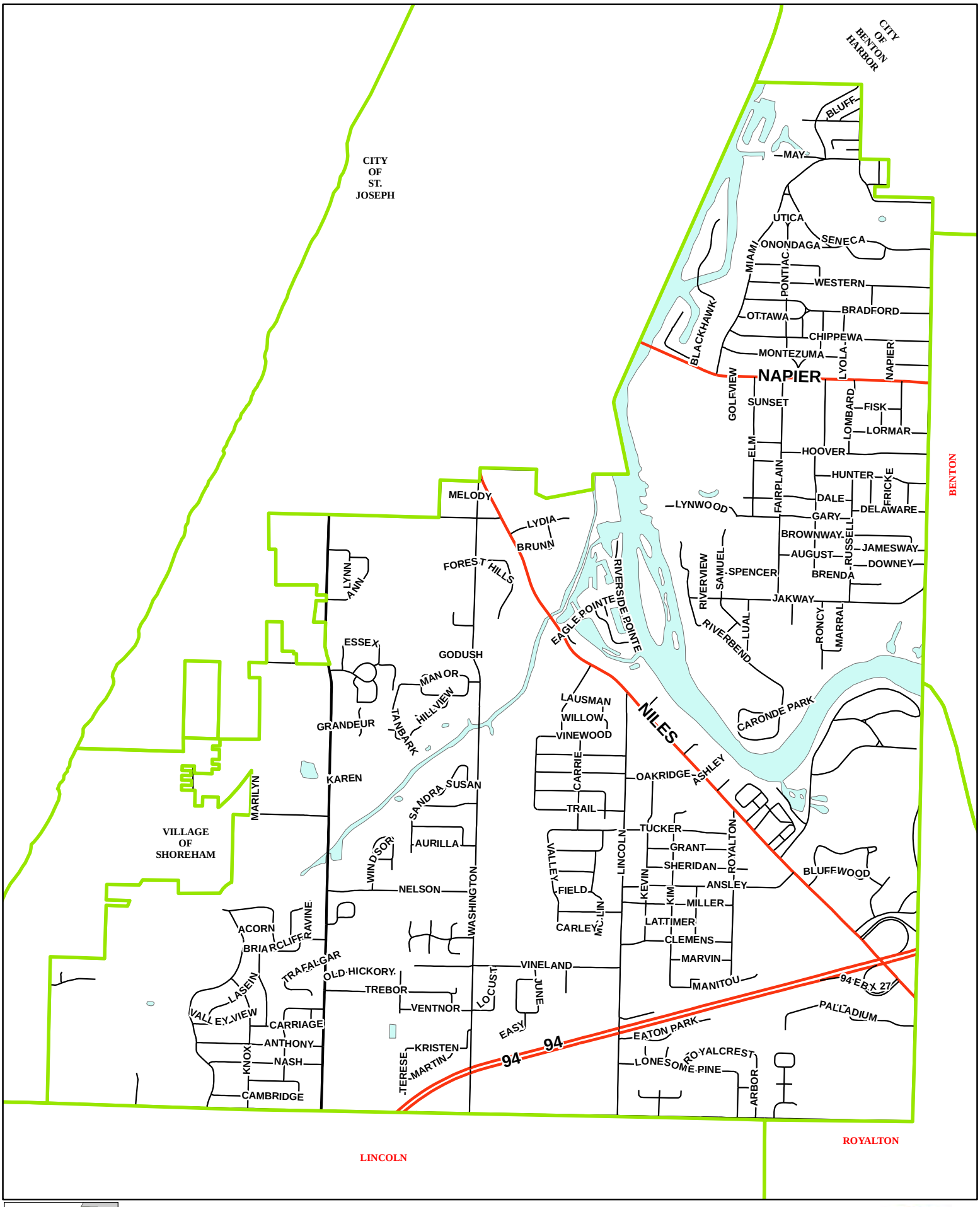
Age and Gender Breakdown	
Under 5 years	7.2 %
Under 18 years	20.3%
Persons 65 & over	23.3%
Female persons	51.4%
Race and Hispanic Origin	
White alone	80.2 %
Black alone	13.3%
American Indian	0.1%
Asian alone	3.8%
2 or more races	2.0%
Hispanic/Latino	4.4%
White alone (not Hispanic/Latino)	76.5%
Income	
Median household income (in 2020 dollars), 2016-2020	$74,044

Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2020 dollars), 2016-2020	$38,819
Persons in poverty, percent	5.6%
Housing	
Owner Occupied Housing	85.2%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units 2016-2020	$180,700

The majority of development within the Township is residential, single-family homes. Business development is mainly near the northern limits adjacent to the City of St. Joseph and along M-63/Niles Avenue. Business types include restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, pharmacies, retail and office operations, among others. Larger business centers are located near I-94 exit 27.

Plan Focus

The focus of the recreation plan is to review all public recreation opportunities the Township can provide to its community members and to plan for development of future recreation opportunities the community desires.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CITY OF ST. JOSEPH
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OTTAWA
CHIPPEWA
MONTEZUMA
BLACKHAWK
LYOLA
NAPIER
NAPIER
GOLFVIEW
SUNSET
LOMBARD
FISK
LORMAR
ELM
HOOVER
FAIRPLAIN
HUNTER
FRICKE
DALE
DELAWARE
LYNWOOD
GARY
BROWNWAY
AUGUST
JAMESWAY
RUSSELL
DOWNEY
BRENDA
SPENCER
SAMUEL
RIVERVIEW
JAKWAY
LUAL
RIVERBEND
RONCY
MARRAL
BENTON
MELODY
LYDIA
BRUNN
FOREST HILLS
LYNN ANN
ESSEX
GODUSH
MANOR
HILLVIEW
TANBARK
GRANDEUR
EAGLE POINTE
RIVERSIDE POINTE
LAUSMAN
WILLOW
VINEWOOD
NILES
CARONDE PARK
ASHLEY
OAKRIDGE
CARRIE
TRAIL
KAREN
MARILYN
SANDRA
SUSAN
AURILLA
WINDSOR
VILLAGE OF SHOREHAM
NELSON
WASHINGTON
VALLEY
FIELD
CARLEY
MC LIN
LINCOLN
TUCKER
GRANT
SHERIDAN
ROYALTON
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KIM
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MILLER
LATIMER
CLEMENS
MARVIN
MANITOU
BLUFFWOOD
ACORN
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RAVINE
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OLD HICKORY
TREBOR
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St. Joseph Charter Township
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Miles
County of Berrien
All Rights Reserved - 1997.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The St. Joseph Charter Township is organized under the Charter Township Act of 1947. As a Charter Township, it has additional local discretion and general taxing power greater than a township organized under General Law.

The Township Board adopts an annual budget for Parks and Recreation. The Parks Committee will recommend spending priorities based on the five-year recreation plan as adopted and amended, as appropriate.

Roles of Commissions/Advisory Boards

The St. Joseph Charter Township Parks Committee is a four-person committee comprised of volunteers from various interests in the Township. All committee work is done on a volunteer basis; there are no salaried positions.

Recreation members include:

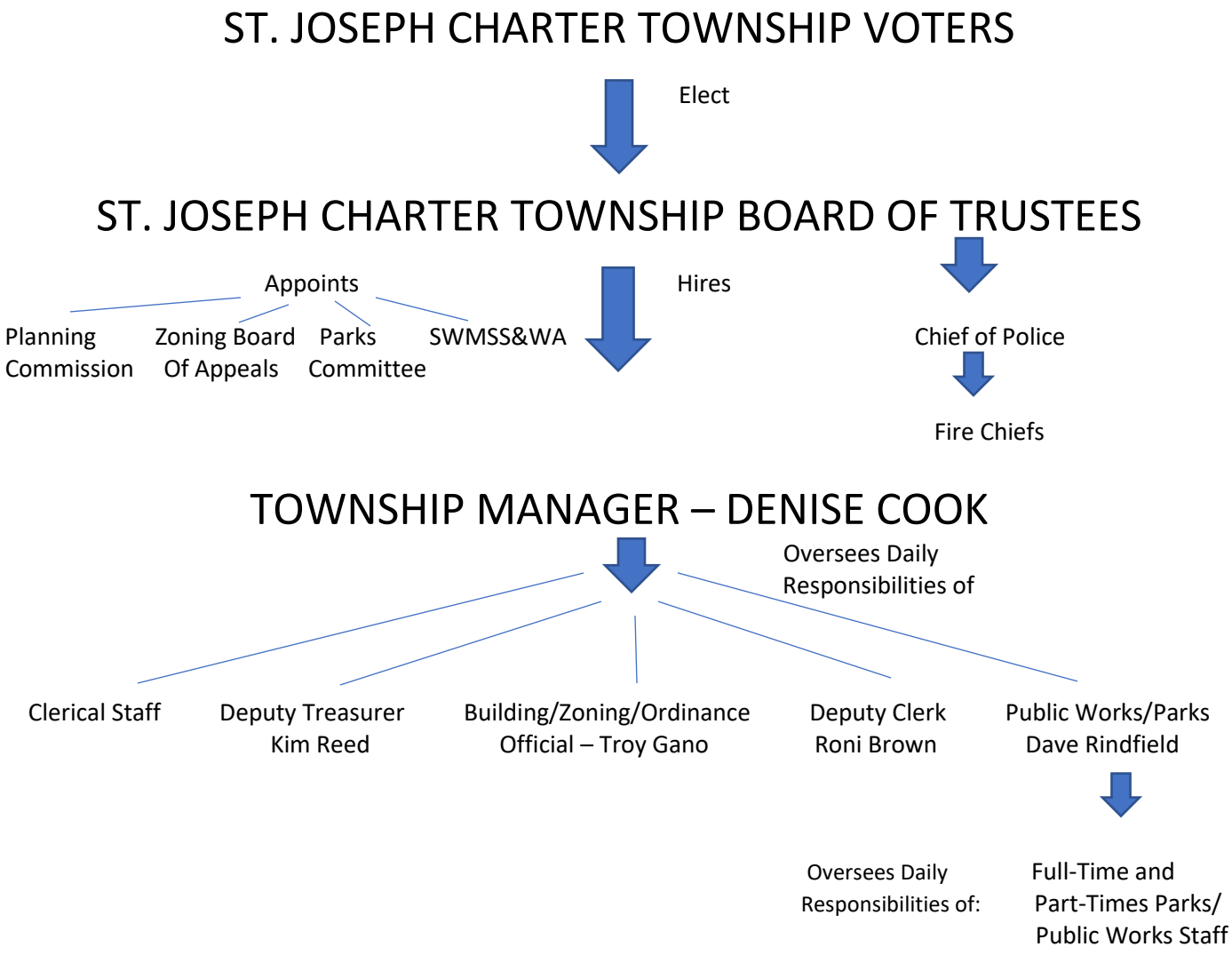
- Denise Cook
- Dave Rindfield
- Ron Griffin
- Roger Seely

The Parks Committee studies parks-related issues and makes recommendations for action to the St. Joseph Charter Township Board of Trustees. The Parks Committee does not have direct supervision or authority over the Parks and Recreation Department. The Superintendent of the Parks and Recreation Department reports to the St. Joseph Charter Township Manager. The Township Manager is a professional manager hired by the St. Joseph Charter Township Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is the official, elected governing body authorized to adopt ordinances, enter into agreements and contracts, authorize expenditures and indebtedness, hire staff and take any other appropriate actions on behalf of the citizens of St. Joseph Charter Township.

Department and Staff Description

General maintenance of public spaces is the responsibility of Township Parks Maintenance employees. The Township also employs one full time parks staff person year-round and hires six seasonal, part time parks workers that work from April through October to assist with maintenance of all parks.

Organization Chart


ST. JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP VOTERS
Elect
ST. JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Appoints
Hires
Planning Commission
Zoning Board Of Appeals
Parks Committee
SWMSS&WA
Chief of Police
Fire Chiefs
TOWNSHIP MANAGER – DENISE COOK
Oversees Daily Responsibilities of
Clerical Staff
Deputy Treasurer Kim Reed
Building/Zoning/Ordinance Official – Troy Gano
Deputy Clerk Roni Brown
Public Works/Parks Dave Rindfield
Oversees Daily Responsibilities of:
Full-Time and Part-Times Parks/ Public Works Staff

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

The annual Township budget includes park maintenance as a general operations expense category. The 2022 budget for parks and recreation was $331,961. The Township fiscal year runs January 1 to December 31. Budgets for the coming fiscal year are determined in early summer. The current annual maintenance budget for parks is approximately $34,000. Maintenance costs are anticipated to remain similar over the next five-year period, with slight increases to accommodate inflation. Capital improvement costs are identified in the Action Plan table.

Dedicated funding from state revenue sharing and property taxes serve as revenue sources for general operations. A ten-year .25 millage for the purpose of "Outdoor recreation and nature education opportunities including but not limited to park, playground, and trail development, improvement and maintenance" was passed by Township residents in 2018 and will supplement general fund revenue for park upkeep from the period of 2018 through 2027 inclusive.

The Township also seeks and has received funds from Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants, foundation grants and other forms of public finance.

Maintenance upkeep includes daily inspections of parks, unlocking and servicing restrooms, and dumping trash receptacles. Other maintenance includes mowing, seeding, tree trimming and weed control as needed. Inspections are performed and repair/replacement of amenities in parks are done as needed on play structures, benches, pavilion items, fencing, courts, etc. Sealing/crack filling of driveway is done approximately every two years, or as needed.

Along the St. Joseph River, the Township utilizes maintenance methods that follow St. Joseph River Watershed Management Plan recommendations. It does not use fertilizer or pesticides in the park. When mowing occurs, clippings are left behind to decompose and nourish the soil. No snowmelt treatments are applied. When water levels are high, the Township requests that boaters voluntarily comply with a St. Joseph River No Wake Zone, as boats can contribute to the erosion along the banks of the St. Joseph River.

Roles of Volunteers and Organizations

Volunteers contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of its public spaces. The Township advertises for volunteer help for maintenance projects in its resident newsletter. Volunteer responses have historically come from individuals, local church organizations, and Scout troops. The volunteers help the Township by planting flowers, painting yellow lines on curbs, painting fire hydrants, collecting litter along and in the river. Over the summer, approximately five day long projects are done through volunteer help, with a range of 3-5 volunteers each time.

The Township is also able to enlist supplemental resources from the Berrien County Sheriff's Office for the upkeep of its parks. By reaching out to the Berrien County Sheriff's Office, help from their inmate "work crew" program can assist with manual labor tasks. The Sheriff's department provides up to four workers per shift for an approximate 6-hour shift, which can greatly aid large tasks. The Township has used this program for tree planting at its parks and cleaning up the riverbank. This program also benefits the Sheriff's Office as it allows prisoners to contribute to the community.

Relationships with School Districts and Other Public Agencies Involved in Recreation

The Township collaborates with the neighboring townships of Royalton and Lincoln and the City of St. Joseph for development of areas adjacent to municipal boundaries and on a regional cooperative basis. The four entities recognize that the citizens within each of their respective boundaries do not differentiate when it comes to using available facilities.

The Township also collaborates with recreation foundations, sport clubs, and trail nonprofits to provide public recreation coordination.

	751 PARKS/RECREATION EXPENDITURES	2020 YEAR END AUDITED	2021 APPROVED BUDGET	2021 AMENDED BUDGET	As of 10/31/2021 YTD	Remaining Balance as of 10/31/21	2022 PROPOSED BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
702.200	Wages - FT Maintenance Support	49,327	42,345	42,345	36,771.22	5,574	58,868	86.84%
704.200	Wages - PT Maintenance Support	34,101	50,000	50,000	48,067.76	1,932	50,000	96.14%
708	Unemployment Compensation	447	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
709	FICA Expense	6,520	7,383	7,383	6,510.67	872	8,662	88.18%
713.200	Overtime - Maintenance Support	261	1,000	1,000	456.30	544	1,000	45.63%
714	Longevity Pay	3,877	3,164	3,164	-	3,164	3,364	0.00%
716	Define Contribution Retirement	6,799	5,298	5,298	5,133.37	165	5,271	96.89%
717	Defined Benefit Reitrement Plan	-	-	-	-	-	2,975	0.00%
718	Health Insurance Premiums	19,869	17,379	17,379	15,960.50	1,419	20,020	91.84%
718.2	Employer Funded Deductibles	1,252	1,500	1,500	433.48	1,067	1,500	28.90%
719	Life Insurance Premiums	548	600	600	408.09	192	1,000	68.02%
751	Supplies - Operating	7,562	8,500	8,500	4,382.24	4,118	10,000	51.56%
755	Operating Equipment/Software	2,653	5,000	5,000	1,692.64	3,307	6,000	33.85%
756	Safety Equipment & Supplies	1,182	3,000	3,000	755.00	2,245	3,000	25.17%
759	Gasoline	3,120	7,000	7,000	4,958.94	2,041	6,000	0.00%
762	Nature Trail Expenses	3,000	4,000	4,000	99.23	3,901	5,000	2.48%
765	Playground Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	3,500	0.00%
767	Clothing	-	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	-	0.00%
801	Professional & Contractual	16,442	2,000	2,000	1,702.00	298	1,500	85.10%
821	Engineering Services	694	-	-	1,466.00	(1,466)	-	0.00%
850	Communications	455	2,700	2,700	1,075.15	1,625	1,000	0.00%
862	Travel	439	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
863	Memberships	-	500	500	-	500	500	0.00%
864	Professional Development	1,020	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	0.00%
900	Printing & Publishing	267	-	-	34.45	(34)	100	0.00%
920	Electric	8,712	10,000	10,000	7,194.27	2,806	9,500	71.94%
927	Water	2,616	2,500	2,500	2,260.95	239	2,700	90.44%
930	Land & Building Repairs	1,240	6,500	6,500	786.13	5,714	13,000	12.09%
931	Equipment Repairs	7,940	9,000	9,000	6,280.46	2,720	10,000	69.78%
932	Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance	1,099	2,500	2,500	469.17	2,031	2,000	18.77%
933	Grounds Maintenance	4,023	15,000	15,000	15,182.16	(182)	15,000	101.21%
933.500	Grounds Maintenance - Playground	9,399	1,500	1,500	-	1,500	2,000	0.00%
933.540	Grounds Maintenance - Kedzie Park	-	1,500	1,500	-	1,500	1,500	0.00%
933.545	Grounds Maintenance- Napier	376	1,800	1,800	1,160.00	640	1,500	64.44%
933.550	Grounds Maintenance- Malden Ln	4,590	10,000	10,000	2,277.06	7,723	10,000	22.77%
933.555	Grounds Maintenance - Carronde	2,404	3,000	3,000	2,474.00	526	1,000	82.47%
933.560	Grounds Maintenance - Eaton Park	13,351	13,000	13,000	5,035.71	7,964	14,000	38.74%
940.100	Rental - Equipment	2,001	4,000	4,000	1,742.20	2,258	4,000	43.56%
955.000	Miscellaneous	14	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%
958	Insurance - Property & Liability	7,406	8,000	8,000	8,006.23	(6)	8,000	100.08%
971.1	Land & Site Improvements	10,665	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	30,000	0.00%
979	Equipment - Parks	30,000	0	0	-	-	0	0.00%
981	Vehicle - Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	-	17,500	0.00%
	TOTAL	265,672	281,669	281,669	182,775	98,894	331,961	64.89%

Encumbrances		
Payroll	$	89,949
FICA	$	6,881
Insurance	$	(4,704)
Retirement	$	248
Longevity	$	52
Electric	$	1,060
Sewer/Water usage	$	1,401
Total Encumbered	$	94,887
Unencumbered Balance to Spend	$	4,007

	208 Parks & Recreation Fund	2020 YEAR END Audited	2021 APPROVED BUDGET	2021 AMENDED BUDGET	As of 10/31/2021 YTD	Remaining Balance as of 10/31/21	2022 PROPOSED BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT
TAXES	401-449			-				
402	Current Real Property Taxes	108,719	109,000	109,000	112,395	(3,395)	110,000	103.11%
437	Industrial Facility Tax	1,498	1,375	1,375	1,523	(148)	1,400	110.73%
573	Community Stabilization Tax	1,960	-	-	1,908	(1,908)	-	100.00%
TOTAL	TAXES 401-573	112,177	110,375	110,375	115,826	(5,451)	111,400	104.94%
INTEREST AND RENTALS	664-670							
665	Interest	207	200	200	297	(97)	100	
TOTAL	INTEREST & RENTALS 664-670	207	200	200	297	(97)	100	
	Total Revenue & Other Sources	112,384	110,575	110,575	116,123	(5,548)	111,500	105.02%
	EXPENDITURES							
801	Professional & Contractural	-	-	6,300	6,269	31	-	0.00%
821	Engineering Services	-	-	-	-	-	17,300	0.00%
961	Reimbursement Revolving Fund	12	-	-	0.39	-	200	0.00%
974	Land/Site Improvements	22,539	-	17,100	17,020	80	2,000	0.00%
991	Grant Match	-	120,000	120,000	-	120,000	-	0.00%
	Total Expenditures	22,551	120,000	143,400	23,290	120,111	19,500	19.41%
	Change in Fund Balance	89,833	-9,425	-32,825	92,834	(125,659)	92,000	
	Beginning Fund Balance	13,831	103,664	103,664	103,664	103,664	70,839	
	Ending Fund Balance	103,664	94,239	70,839	196,498	-21,995	162,839	

RECREATION GRANT HISTORY

GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

St. Joseph Charter Township - Berrien County

Project No. **26-00836** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 1976**

Project title: Carronde Park

Project Status: Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** $14,409.66

Scope Item

Parking

Three lighted tennis courts

Project Description: Develop 1 acres for 3 lighted tennis courts, parking, LWCF sign

Project No. **26-01060 I2** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 1978**

Project title: Carronde Park Restroom

Project Status: Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** $13,073.66

Scope Item

Restroom building

Utilities

Project Description: Restroom building, utilities, LWCF sign

Project No. **TF93-014** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 1993**

Project title: MDOT Property Development

Project Status: Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** $102,000.00

Scope Item

Project Description: Acquire approximately 32 acres of Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) excess property to develop for a soccer complex.

Project No. **CM99-311** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 1999**

Project title: Maiden Lane Park Development

Project Status: Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** $191,000.00

Scope Item

Fencing

Grade, Install Drainage and Seed 5 Soccer Fields

Parking Lot

Restrooms, Concession Stand

Site Preparation

GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

St. Joseph Charter Township - Berrien County

Project Description: Park developments to include soccer fields, concession stand, restrooms, parking lot and fencing.

Project No.	**26-01669**	**Project County:**	**Berrien**	**Project Year: 2006**
Project title:	Eaton Park Playground Replacement			
	Project Status: Grant Closed			**Grant Amount:** $40,000.00

Scope Item

Access and surface

Installation

LWCF plaque

Playground equipment

Project Description: Development to include replacing aging non-conforming playground with new accessible playground equipment.

Project No.	**TF09-017**	**Project County:**	**Berrien**	**Project Year: 2009**
Project title:	Maiden Lane Community Park Improvements			
	Project Status: Grant Closed			**Grant Amount:** $70,000.00

Scope Item

Pavilion with shelter and kitchen

Project Description: Development will include renovation/expansion/improvement of existing storage facility to incorporate a pavilion.

Project No.	**26-01825**	**Project County:**	**Berrien**	**Project Year: 2019**
Project title:	Maiden Lane Park Development			
	Project Status: Grant Closed			**Grant Amount:** $110,000.00

Scope Item

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

Bench(es)

Landscaping

Play Equipment (including safety surfacing)

Recycle Bin(s)

Trash Bin(s)

GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

St. Joseph Charter Township - Berrien County

Project Description: Development of Maiden Lane Park that includes installation of a playground structure, playground surfacing, a concrete path connecting to the playground structure, and benches. Native landscaping and trees will also be installed to improve aesthetics and provide sun protection near the play structure. These additions to will provide multi-use options and provide a focus on health and fitness for the community which aligns with public feedback in St. Joseph Charter Township's 2018 recreation plan.

Project No. **26-01851** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 2020**

Project title: Carronde Park Water Trail Connection & Fishing Platform

Project Status: PA in Process **Grant Amount:** $200,000.00

Scope Item

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

Bench(es)

Canoe/Kayak Launch or Ramp

Fishing Pier or Dock

Paved ADA Parking Space(s)

Picnic Table(s)

Recycle Bin(s)

Signage

Project Description: Development of the 19 acre Carronde Park to add a water trail connection point on the St. Joseph River, an ADA compliant fishing platform, accessible kayak launch, accessible walkways, and parking. This development will provide the only ADA accessible public kayak launch along the St. Joseph River water trail in Michigan. All improvements will support existing recreation at the site and further Township goals of providing a variety of quality recreational environments and opportunities readily accessible to all of its citizens regardless of ability.

Project No. **TF21-0062** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 2021**

Project title: Kedzie Kids Park Playground Renovation

Project Status: PA Executed **Grant Amount:** $50,000.00

Scope Item

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

Landscaping

Play Equipment (including safety surfacing)

Project Description: Renovation of Kedzie Kids Park to replace 30-year-old play structure with a universally accessible play structure, swing, and surfacing, to improve play access for all ability levels. Renovation of the popular 0.3-acre neighborhood park will include a new accessible pathway from the parking area.

GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

St. Joseph Charter Township - Berrien County

Project No. **TF21-0064** **Project County:** **Berrien** **Project Year: 2021**

Project title: Carronde Park Tennis Court Renovation

Project Status: PA Executed

Grant Amount: $50,000.00

Scope Item

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

Bench(es)

Pickelball Court

Recycle Bin(s)

Tennis Court

Project Description: Development to renovate the 45-year-old tennis courts at Carronde Park. This renovation will result in improved ADA access to the courts and the addition of pickleball courts and green space.

Total number of projects: 10

Total Amount of Grant Given $840,483.32

Status Report of Grant Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

Grant	Project	Status
26-00836	Carronde Park Lighting and Tennis Courts	Site open to public. Tennis courts to be renovated by grant project TF21-0064
26-01060 I2	Carronde Park Restroom	Site open to public. Scope items present.
TF93-014	Acquisition of Maiden Lane Park property	Site open to public
CM99-311	Maiden Lane Park Development	Site open to public. Scope items present.
26-01669	Eaton Park Playground Replacement	Site open to public. Scope items present.
TF09-017	Maiden Lane Park Pavilion	Site open to public. Scope items present.
26-01825	Maiden Lane Playground	Site open to public. Scope items present.
26-01851	Carronde Park Water Trail Connection and Fishing Platform	In process of development
TF21-0062	Kedzie Kids Park Playground Renovation	In process of development
TF21-0064	Carronde Park Tennis Court Renovation	In process of development

RECREATION INVENTORY

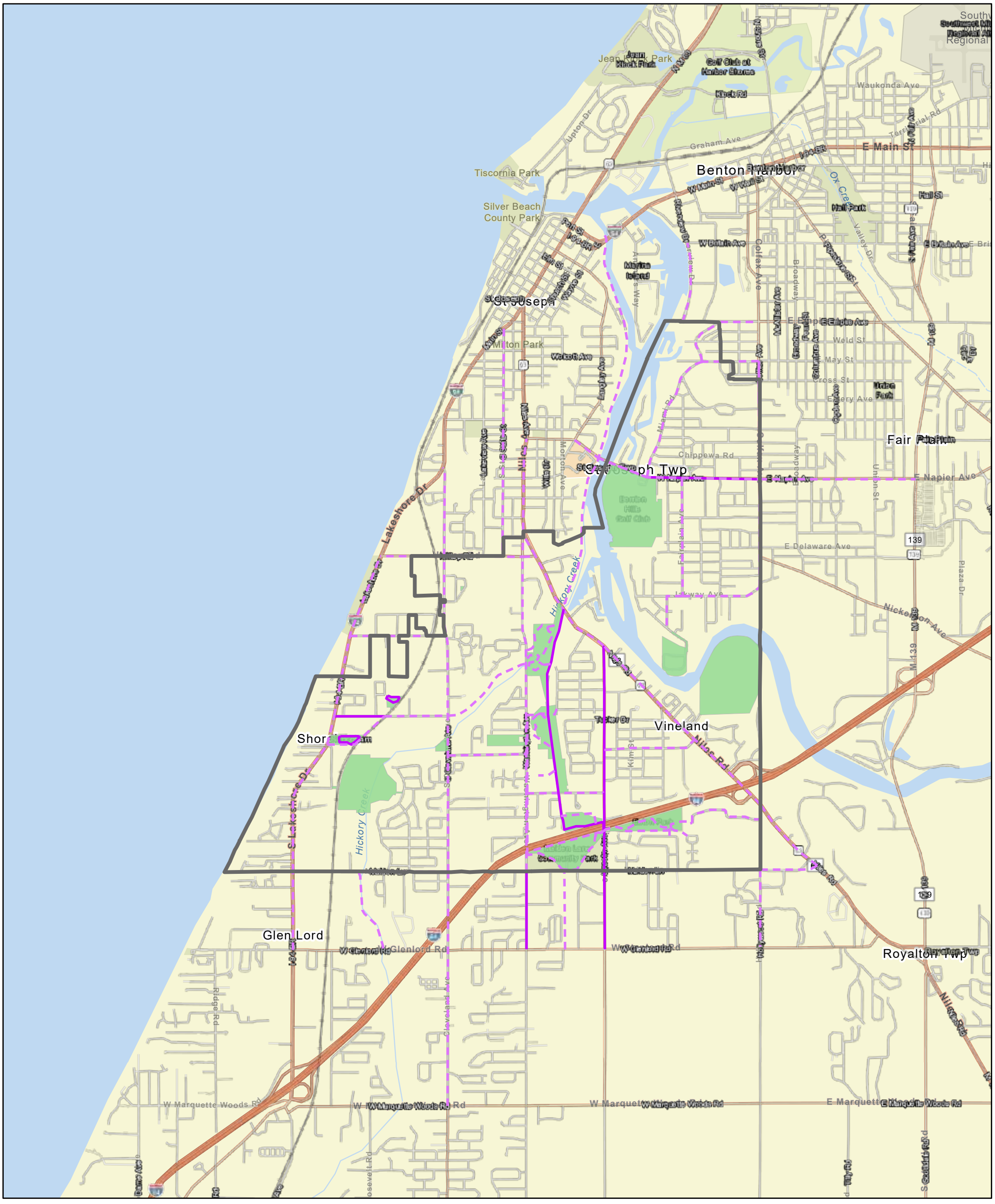
Descriptions of methods used to conduct the inventory

St. Joseph Charter Township contracted with Abonmarche Consultants, Inc. to complete its recreation inventory. Utilizing information from previous years and Township Park inventories, Kathy Burczak, professional Landscape Architect, visited each site to note park features, conditions and ADA accessibility. She provided her assessment of each park and recommendations for potential improvements.

The following accessibility rating was used in her review.

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

St. Joseph Township Parks and Trails



9/30/2022

Township Boundary

Non-Motorized Route Plan

Existing

Future

Future

Future

Parks

1:49,645

0 0.42 0.85 1.7 mi

0 0.5 1 2 km

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Park Name: Ann Park

Address: 2242 Ann Drive, St. Joseph, MI 49085

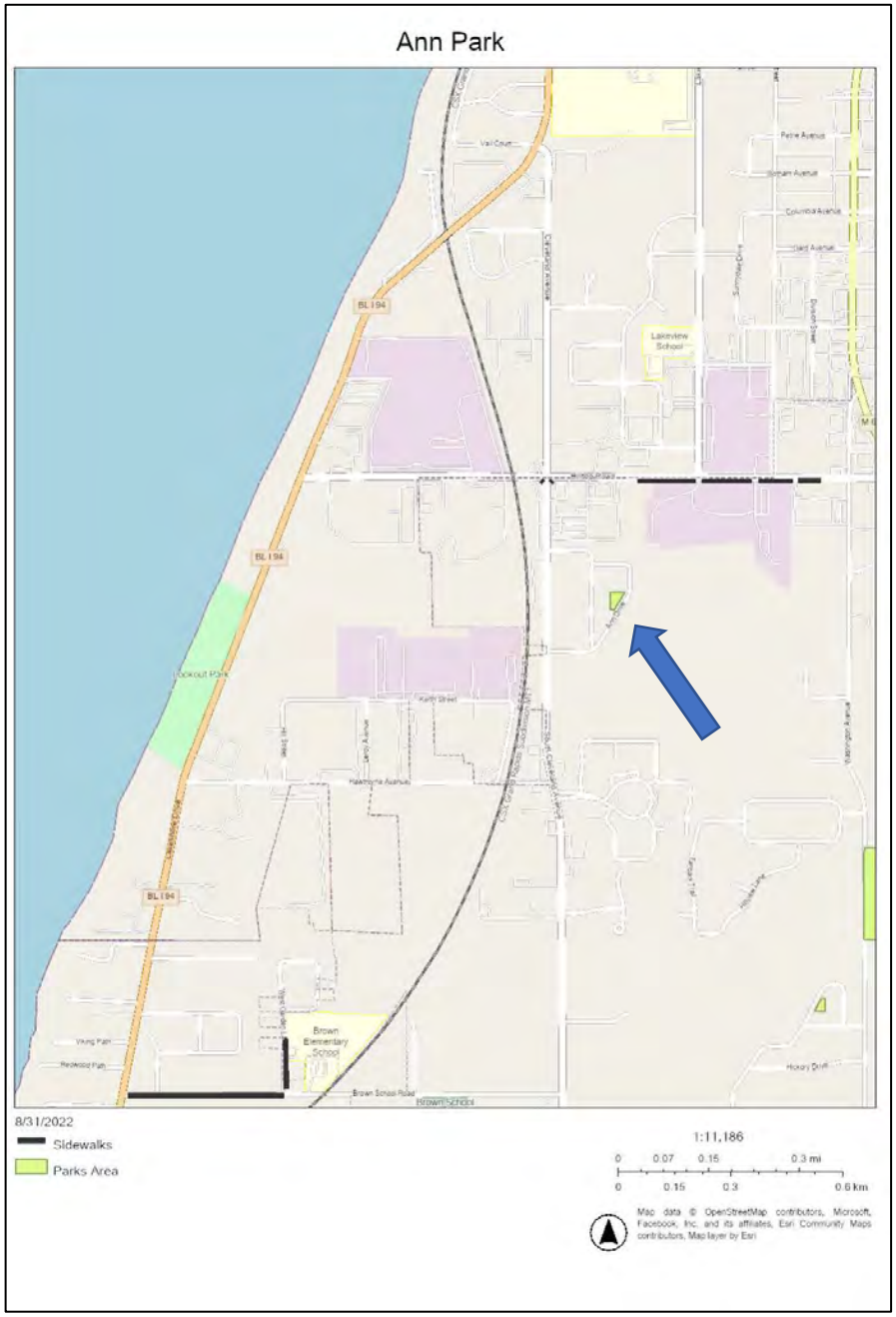
Park Description: This 0.3-acre park is located in a neighborhood setting and has one large maple tree a few evergreens along the northern boundary. The existing play equipment is very old and includes a one bay swing set with two belt swings and one baby swing located in the lawn. There is a small play structure that has a transfer platform and a merry-go-round with a timber edging border and the existing surfacing is sand. There is also an existing picnic table within this area and a trash can. At the far south end of the park there is a ladder climber located within the lawn area.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
The play equipment should be evaluated by a certified playground inspector to determine if improvements to the surfacing could improve the rating of this park or if full replacement of the equipment is needed.

DOG OWNERS
ARE REQUIRED
TO CLEAN UP
AFTER THEIR
DOGS


Ann Park
BL 194
Lakeview School
Lookout Park
Brown Elementary School
8/31/2022
Sidewalks
Parks Area
1:11,186
0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km
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Park Name: Carronde Park

Address: 2650-2698 Riverbend Dr, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Park Description: This 19.05-acre park is located along a bend in the Saint Joseph River. Amenities are accessed via a paved loop drive. The park has a softball field, tennis courts, a picnic area, restrooms, parking, play equipment, two pavilions, walking trails and boat launch. A 2020 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant will assist in the construction of new fishing platforms, accessible kayak launch, connecting sidewalks and additional ADA parking in 2023. The township intends to add two pickleball courts in the current tennis court area in FY 2024.Two pavilions are available to rent for gatherings for a current (2022) fee of $100 residents/$150 non-residents.

The park is situated in a residential neighborhood that can be easily reached on foot, by bicycle or automobile.

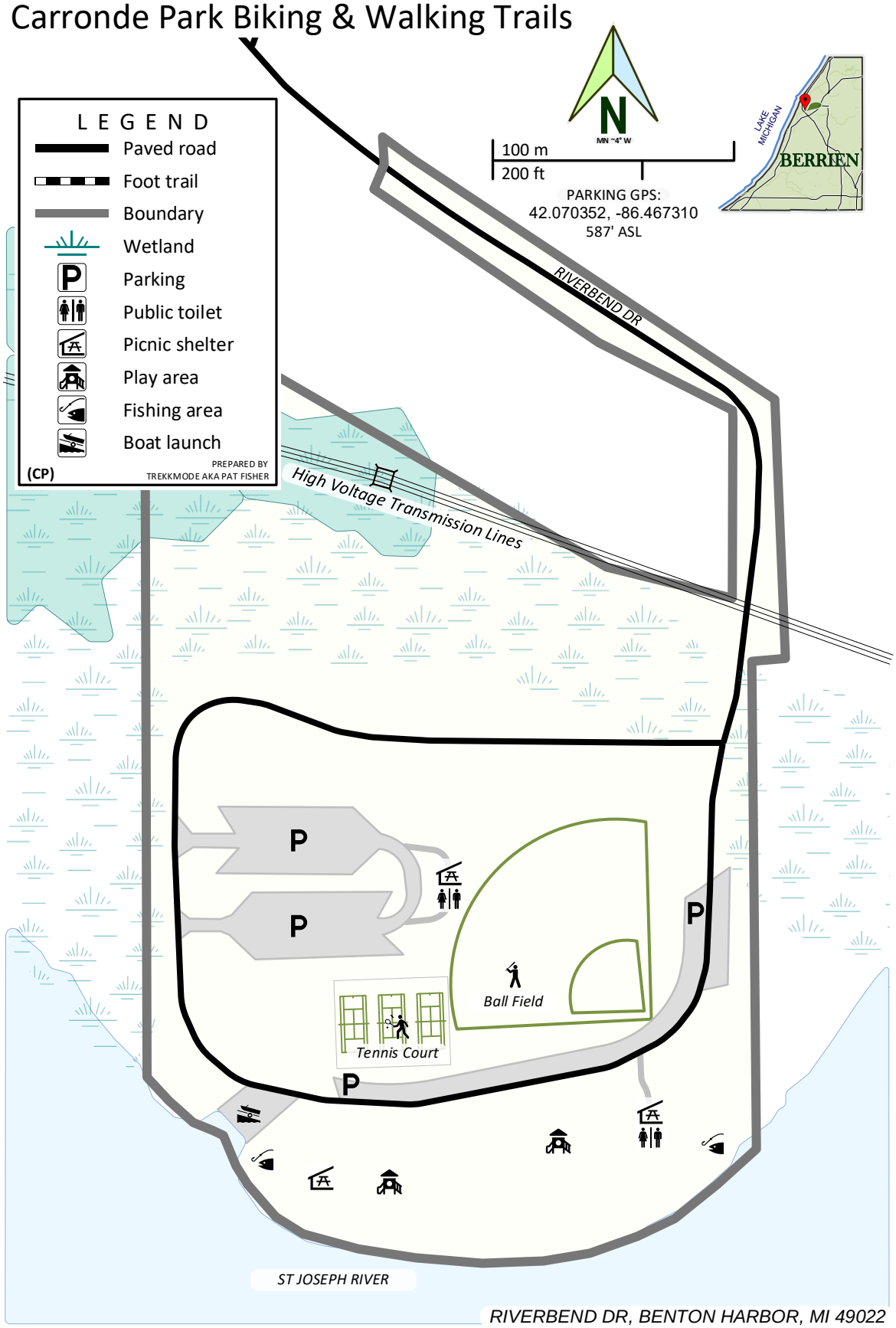
Current Accessibility Rating: 2

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
When remodeling the restrooms provide proper clearance and fixtures for ADA.
Add an accessible route to the newer playground and replace the wood chips with an accessible surface.
Construct the rebuilt shelter with an accessible route and provide at least 20% of the picnic tables as ADA and provide an accessible grill that meets ADA standards.
Add Boat trailer accessible parking with the access aisle when re-striping the boat trailer parking.
Consider adding an accessible picnic area with access route.
The existing tennis court area received 2021 MNRTF grant funding to be reworked and add additional ADA parking. A new ADA walkway along the St. Joseph River shoreline is planned for 2023.

Carronde Park
8/31/2022
1:11,186
Parking Lots and Spaces
Parks Buildings
Parks Area

CARRONDE
PARK

Carronde Park Biking & Walking Trails



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ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Carronde Walking & Bike Trails Map (CP)

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 10, 2022

Park Name: Eaton Park

Address: 3475 Lincoln Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: Eaton Park offers areas for picnicking and playing baseball, basketball or football. This Park is oriented with an entrance drive off Lincoln Avenue and runs in a linear fashion along the south side of I-94. The Park is approximately 22.5 acres with the main portion of the park being at the central and eastern end where there are numerous baseball fields.

The western portion of the site contains one basketball court that is located in a lawn area. There is a facilities maintenance garage also located within this area. Activities at the park include:

- Rocket Football
- Baseball / Softball
- Basketball
- Pavilion Reservations
- Children's Play Equipment
- Walk & Bike Trails
- Restrooms

Two pavilions are available to rent for gatherings for a current (2022) fee of $100 residents/$150 non-residents.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Current Accessibility Rating: 4

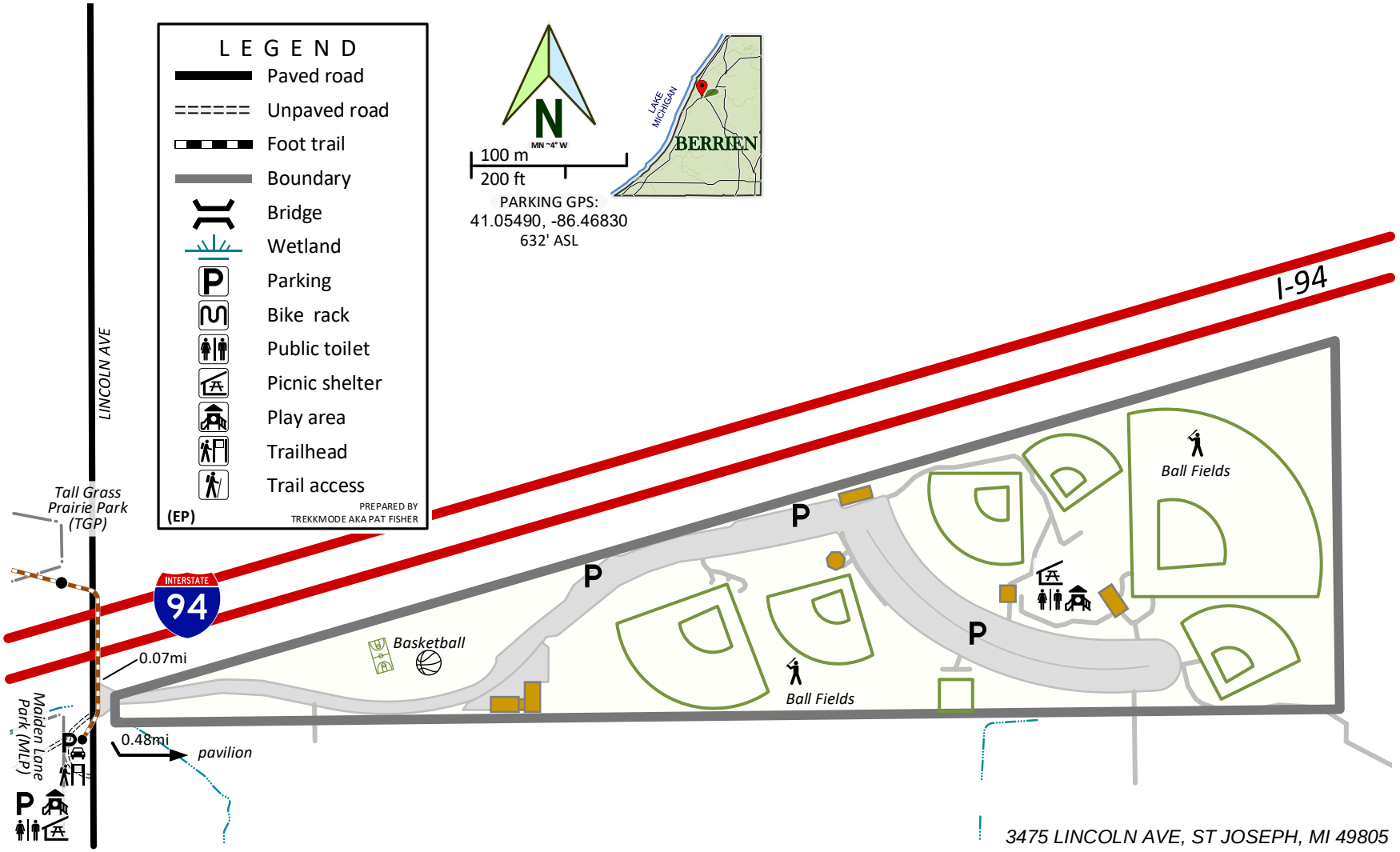
There are 6 baseball/softball fields all with bleachers and newly added accessible routes and accessible seating areas adjacent to the bleachers. A new accessible route connects all of the recreational facilities to each other and to the paved parking area. There is also a playground with an accessible route and ADA parking. This facility has done a good job of adding accessible routes throughout the park and companion seating areas adjacent to the bleachers are available.

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Replace old swings with an all-inclusive swing and new safety surfacing.
Add accessible route from ADA parking to the basketball court and repair/replace existing asphalt surface.
Replace at least 20% of the picnic tables with ADA and allow 5’ diameter clearance space for maneuvering around the tables.

Eaton Park
8/31/2022
Parking Lots and Spaces
Trails and Paths
Asphalt
Decking
Gravel
Native
Parks Area
1:11,186

Eaton Park

Eaton Park Biking & Walking Trails and Trail Connector



This map, as depicted, is for discussion purposes only...

ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Eaton Park Walking & Bike Trails Map (EP)
St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 7, 2022

Park Name: Hickory Creek Park and Open Space

Address: 3080 S. Cleveland Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

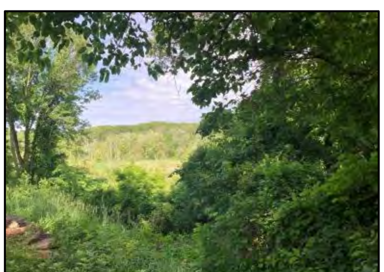
Park Description: Hickory Creek is a parking and picnic area with access to Hickory Creek. The 3.4-acre parcel along Cleveland Avenue has parking, picnic tables, benches, grills and a unimproved kayak/canoe access point.

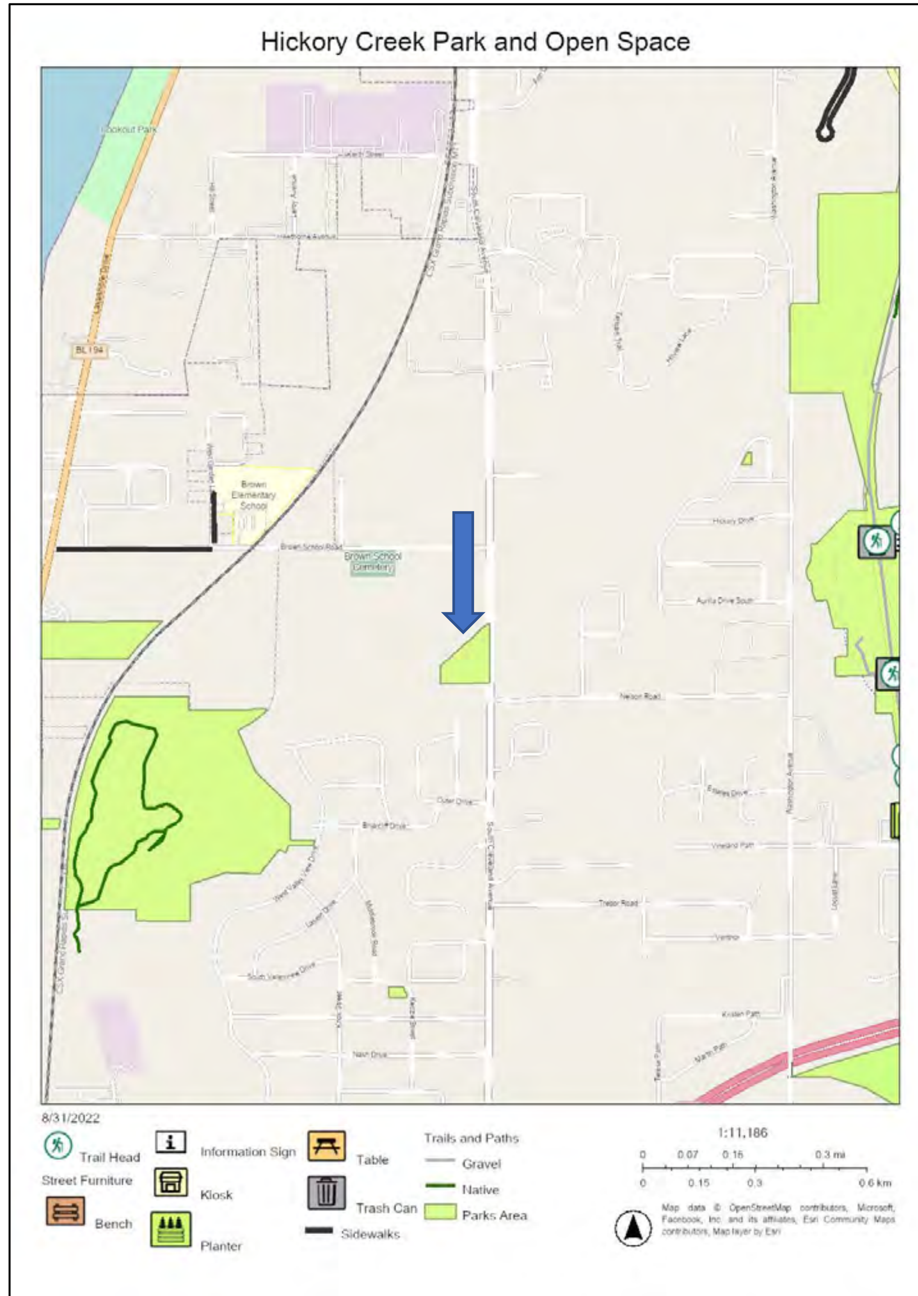
Hickory Creek Open Space is an access point for an undeveloped parcel located to the north of the residence at 3300 W. Valley View Dr. The 63.35-acre parcel is bound on the west by the railroad tracks and has Hickory Creek running through it within the low-lying area.

The Hickory Creek Park location along Cleveland Avenue is suited for car or bike access.

Accessibility Rating: 2

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Add concrete beneath the ADA picnic table and add some benches with arm rests.
Consider adding accessible parking spaces near the sidewalk and connecting the access aisle to the access route.
For Open Space: Clear some of the scrub growth and develop an accessible overlook seating area.




Hickory Creek Park and Open Space
Brown Elementary School
Brown School Cemetery
8/31/2022
Trail Head
Street Furniture
Bench
Information Sign
Kiosk
Planter
Table
Trash Can
Sidewalks
Trails and Paths
Gravel
Native
Parks Area
1:11,186
0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km
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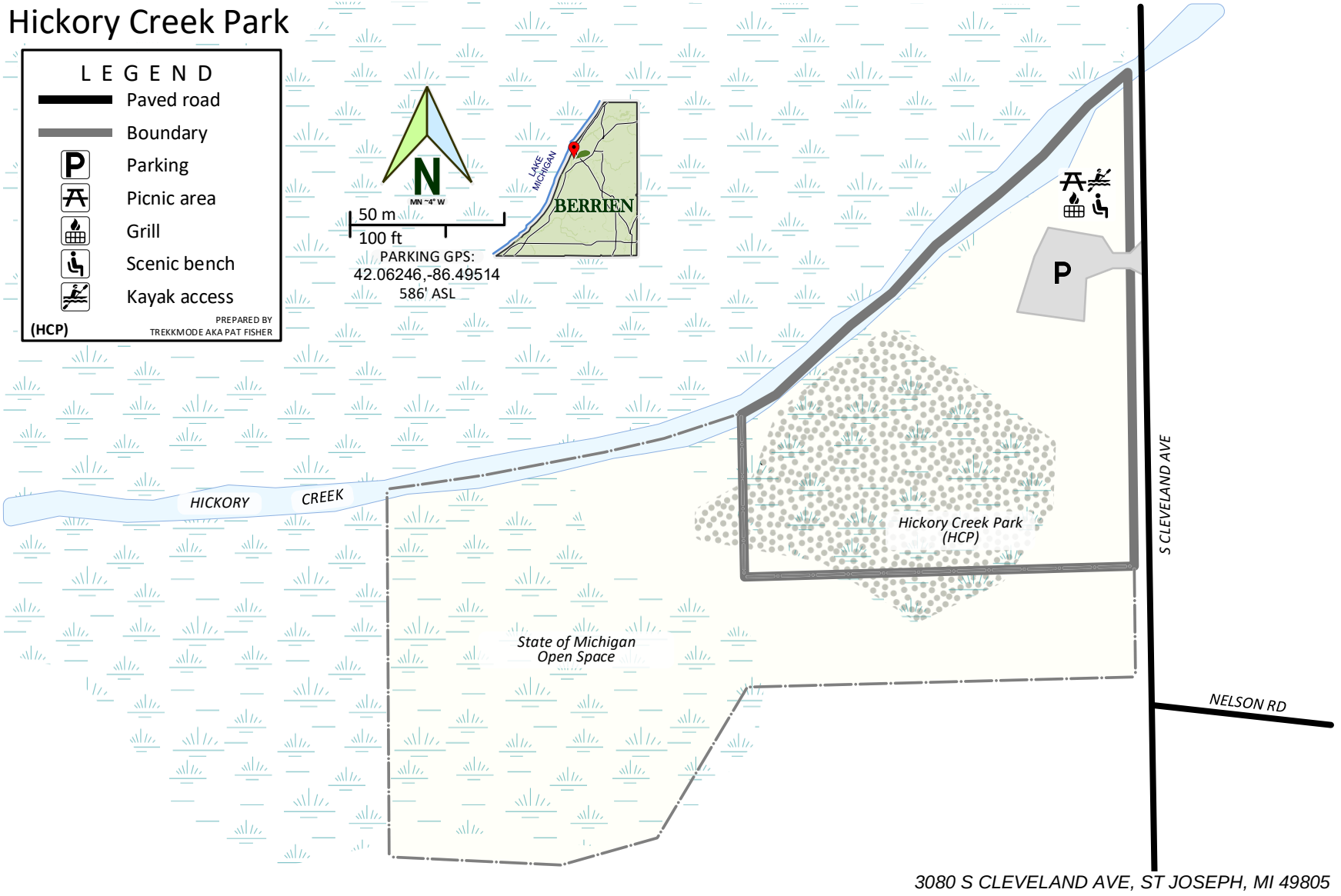
Hickory Creek Park



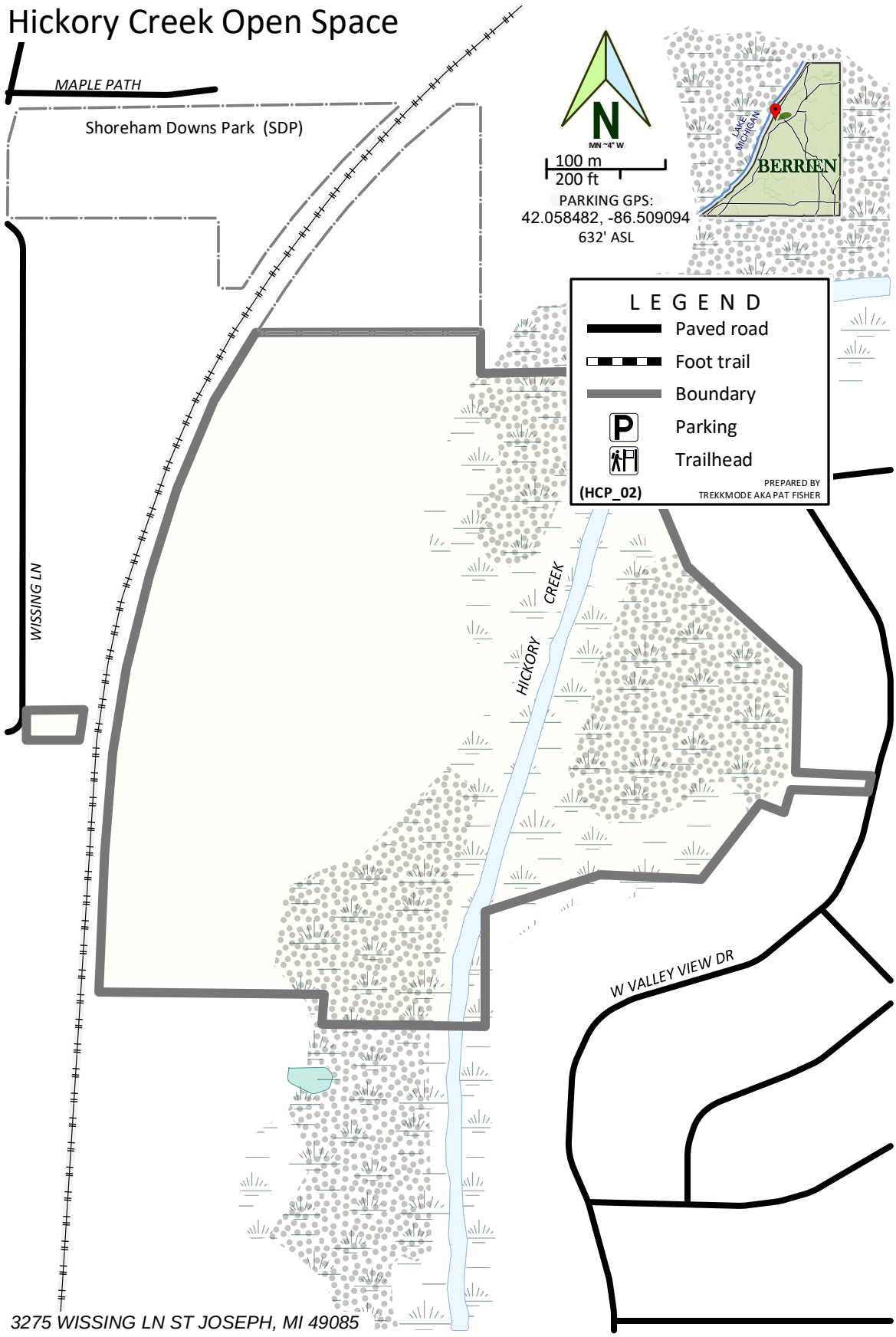
This map, as depicted, is for discussion purposes only...

ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Hickory Creek Park (HCP)

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 7, 2022

Hickory Creek Open Space



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ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Hickory Creek Open Space (HCP_02)

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – November 15, 2021

Park Name: Kedzie Park

Address: 3480 Kedzie Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: Originally built in 1991, this 0.3-acre neighborhood park received an update in 2008. The park signage is located at the front of the park facing Kedzie Street and there is a secondary entrance at the end of Cranbrook Road. The Park is located on a lot that contains beautiful large mature oak trees. The park contains play structure, swings and picnic tables, a bike rack, picnic table, and a shade structure. A 2021 MNRTF award will be used to update play equipment, access routes and surfacing.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Add sidewalks leading up to the park and accessible routes within the park.

Kedzie Kids Park
8/31/2022
Parks Area
1:5,593

Kedzie
Kids
Park

Park Name: Knauf Park

Address: 1165 Vineland Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: Knauf Park is an approximately 84-acre park/nature trail and picnic area at one of the points of access to the Nature Trail System on Vineland Avenue. It offers parking, picnic tables, park benches and information about the Nature Trail. There are future plans for a pavilion with a restroom to be located within this trail head parking area. There is an existing kiosk and landscaped entrance park signage.

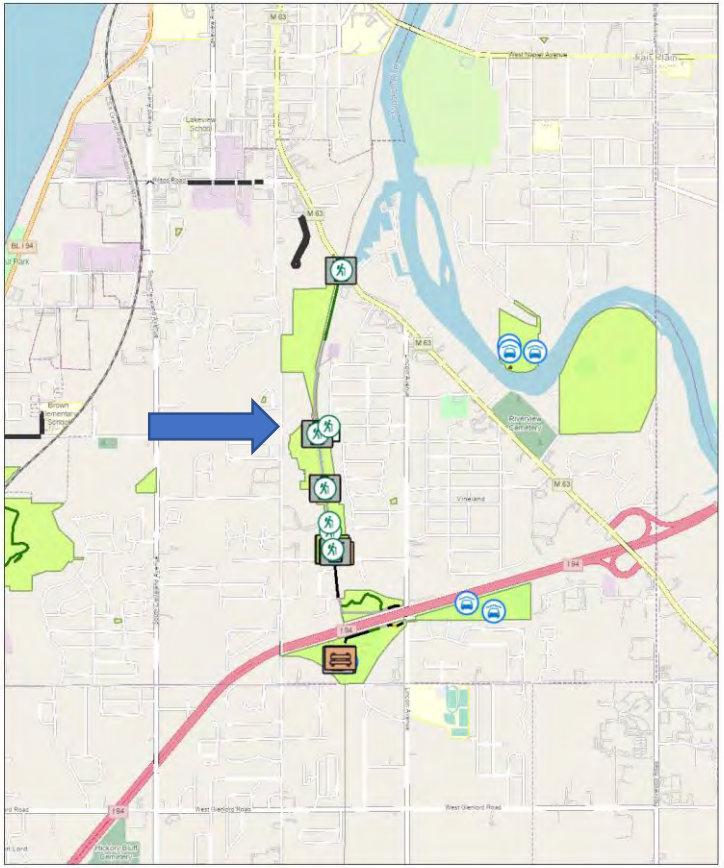
The primary loop linear trail is gravel and is at least 10 foot wide. There are loop trails that connect to the primary trail in both directions to the east and to the west. The trail to the east is primarily packed earth and mulch and is narrow and meanders through the woods. The loop trail to the west begins as gravel and changes to earth and then changes back to gravel closer to where it ties back into the primary trail. There is a bench seat overlooking a ravine along this wester loop. The primary linear trail as it proceeds to the north changes to cinders and in places is a narrow dirt path. The trail follows the powerlines and terminates at Niles Avenue across from the Eagle Point Marina.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Although there may not be a desire to pave the trail, the trailhead area can be further developed with accessible picnic facilities.
Construct the new pavilion with accessible restrooms and add accessible parking and an accessible route adjacent to the pavilion.
When selecting picnic tables provide at least 20% as ADA and provide an accessible grill that meets ADA standards.

Knauf Park



8/31/2022

Trail Head

Street Furniture

Bench

Flag Pole

Information Sign

Kiosk

Planter

Table

Trash Can

Parking Lots and Spaces

Sidewalks

Trails and Paths

Asphalt

Decking

Gravel

Native

Parks Buildings

Parks Area

1:22,371

0 0.17 0.35 0.7 mi

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 km

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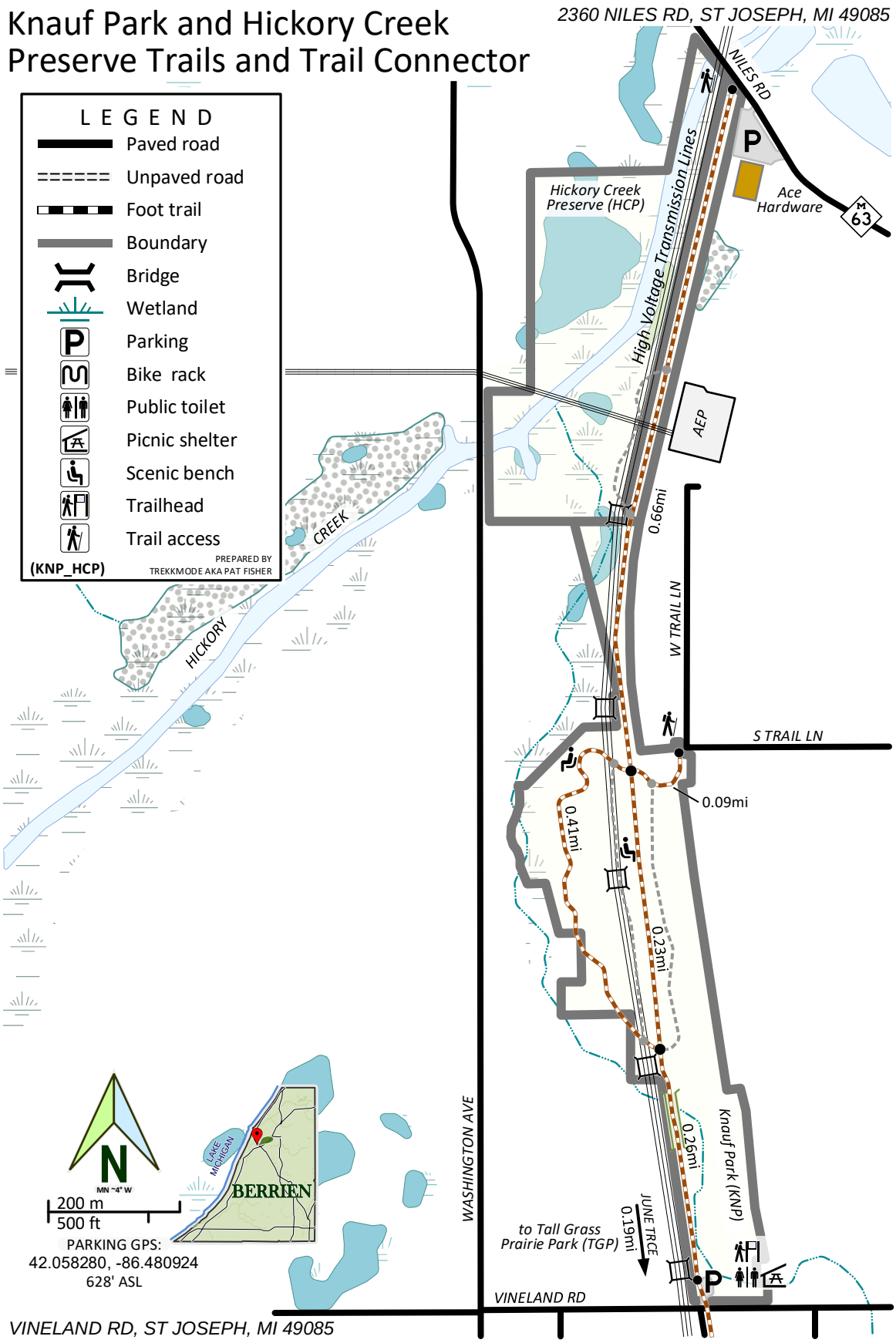
Knauf Park and Hickory Creek Preserve Trails and Trail Connector



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SWMLC Hickory Creek Preserve (HCP) and ST JOSEPH CHARTER TWP Knauf Park (KNP) Trails Map

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 7, 2022

Park Name: **Maiden Lane Park**

Address: 1051 Maiden Lane, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: This 32-acre park has a paved parking lot and a large building with a covered picnic area, concessions area, accessible restrooms, a drinking fountain and additional indoor space. This is a newer park that opened in 2002. The park includes eight soccer fields, both youth and adult regulation size, a full-service concession stand, accessible play structure and surfacing, restrooms, and parking for over 200 cars.

The American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) uses the field for its soccer seasons and Berrien Lacrosse Association for baseball. A local cricket league also utilizes the park.

Activities in the park include:

- Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Walk & Bike Trails
- Restrooms
- Pavilion for Rent

The enclosed pavilion is available for rental for a fee of $175/resident or $250/non-residents, or for the entire open and enclosed pavilion space, $225/resident or $325/non-resident.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 4

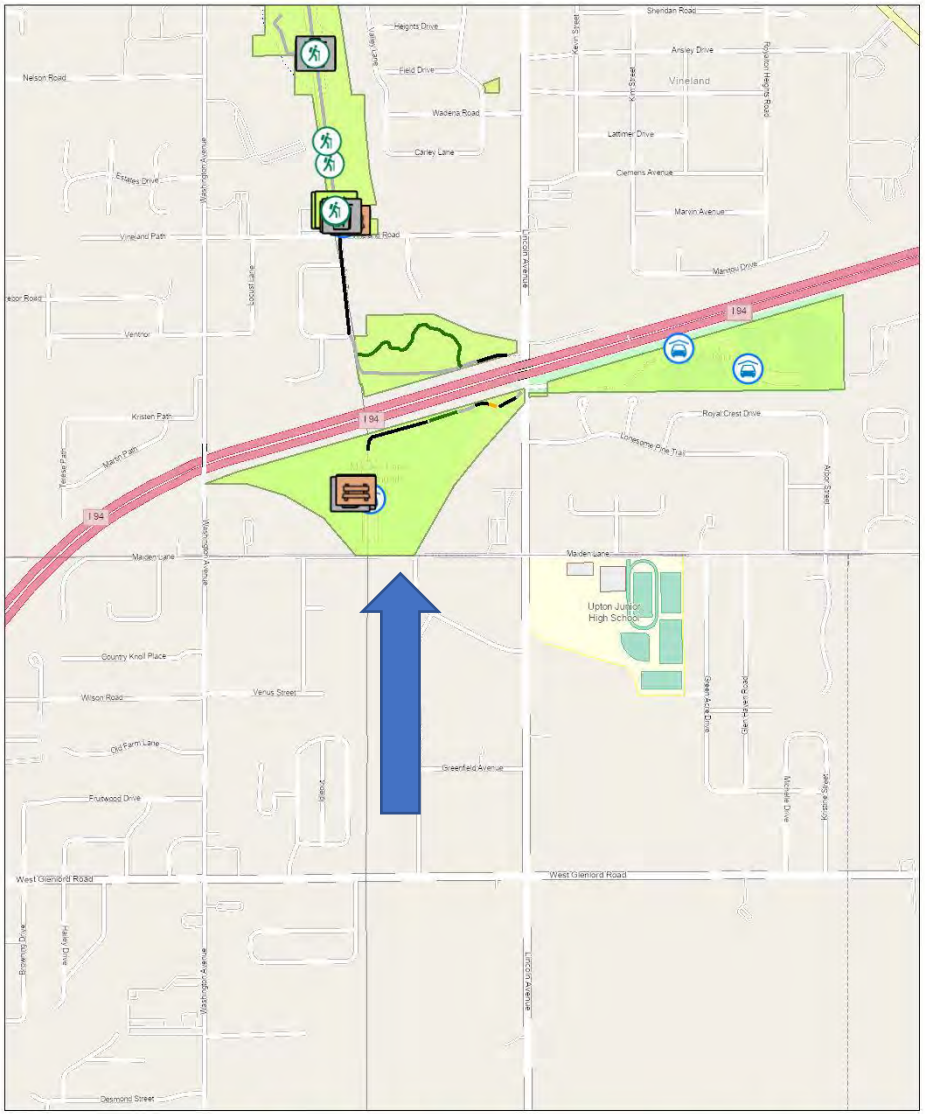
The new playground is fully accessible with artificial turf safety surfacing. A new trash and recycling station is accessible from the sidewalk leading to the play structure.

The paved parking area is located to the east of the building and has seven ADA parking spaces spaced throughout the parking lot, two of them are near the concession stand/restroom building entrance while the rest are spread out within the parking lot and overlook the soccer fields that surround the parking area and the west and east sides of the park.

There is a large grill located adjacent to the shelter with two different height grills and the grill appears to be fully accessible.

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Add ADA picnic tables with a ratio of 20% of all tables being ADA.
Add benches with arm rests and backs.
Consider accessible routes from ADA parking spaces to sidelines of some of the soccer fields closest to the parking lot and add paved areas for accessible seating.

Maiden Lane Park



8/31/2022

Trail Head

Street Furniture

Bench

Flag Pole

Information Sign

Kiosk

Planter

Table

Trash Can

Parking Lots and Spaces

Trails and Paths

Asphalt

Decking

Gravel

Native

Parks Buildings

Parks Area

1:11,186

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi

0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

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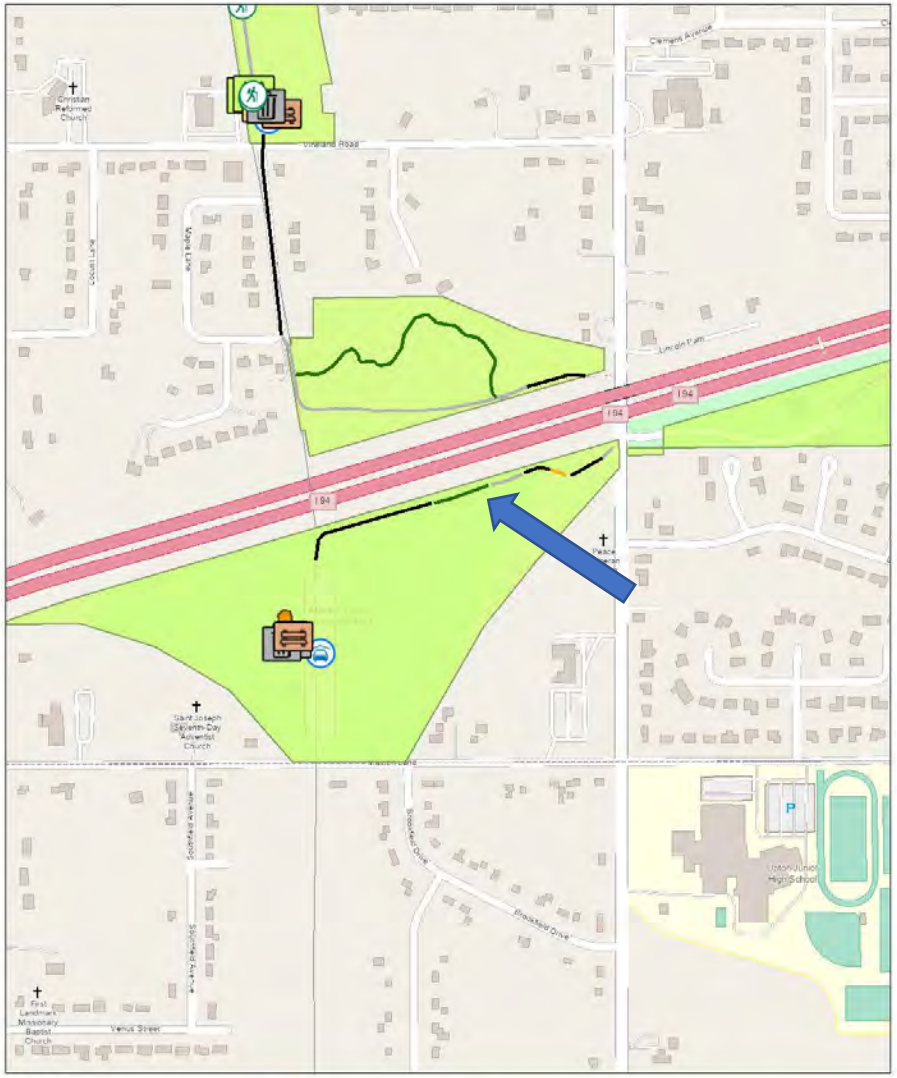
Maiden Lane Trail Connector



8/31/2022

Trail Head

Information Sign

Table

Street Furniture

Kiosk

Trash Can

Bench

Planter

Parking Lots and Spaces

Flag Pole

Trails and Paths

Asphalt

Decking

Gravel

Native

Parks Buildings

Parks Area

1:5,593

0 0.05 0.1 0.19 mi

0 0.07 0.16 0.3 km

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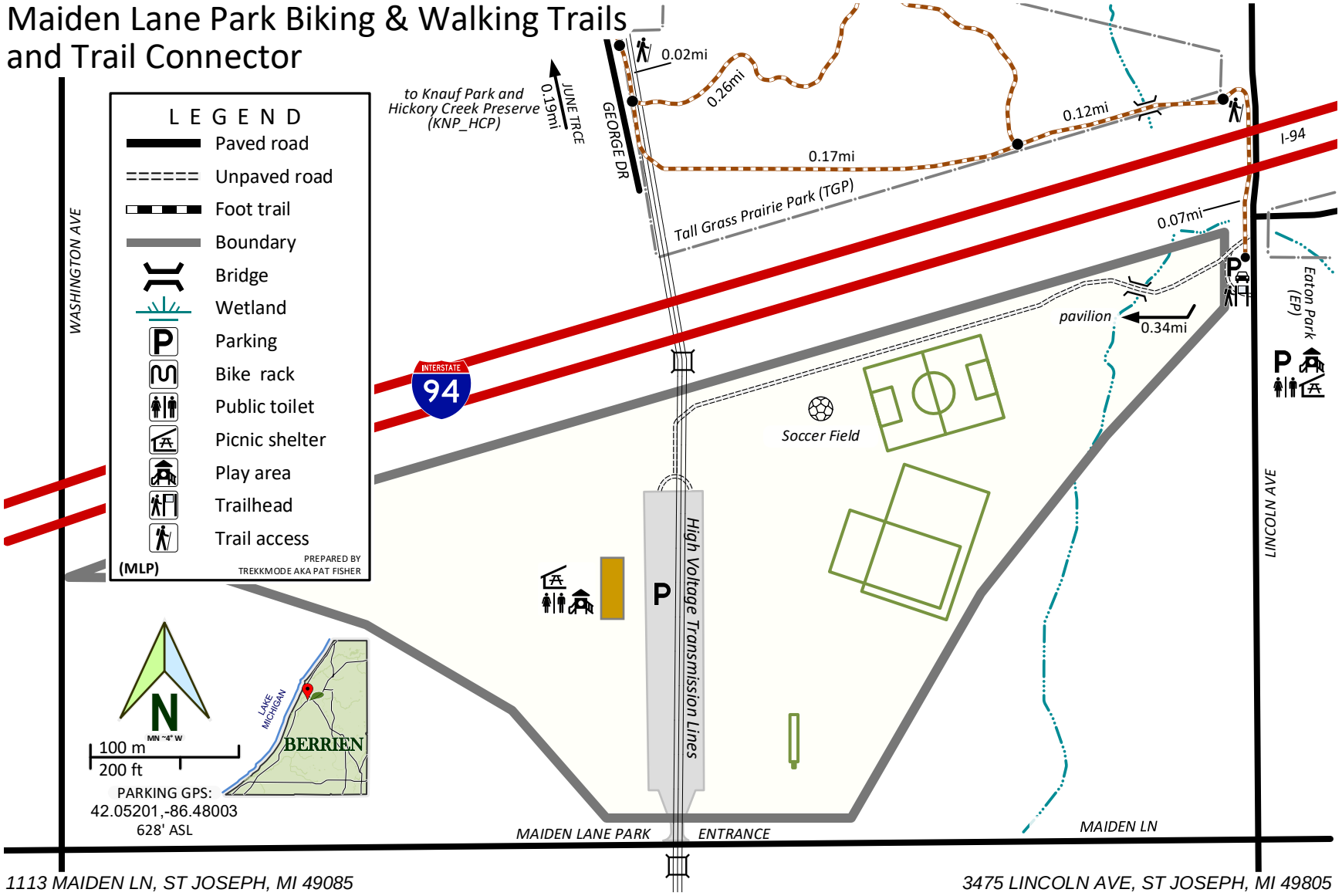
Maiden Lane Park Biking & Walking Trails and Trail Connector



This map, as depicted, is for discussion purposes only...

ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Maiden Lane Park Walking & Bike Trails Map (MLP)

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 7, 2022

Park Name: McLin Park

Address: 3111 McLin Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: This 0.3-acre park is located in a neighborhood with residences on three sides and McLin Road as the access point. This park, built in 1996, offers a play structure, swings, picnic tables and park benches.

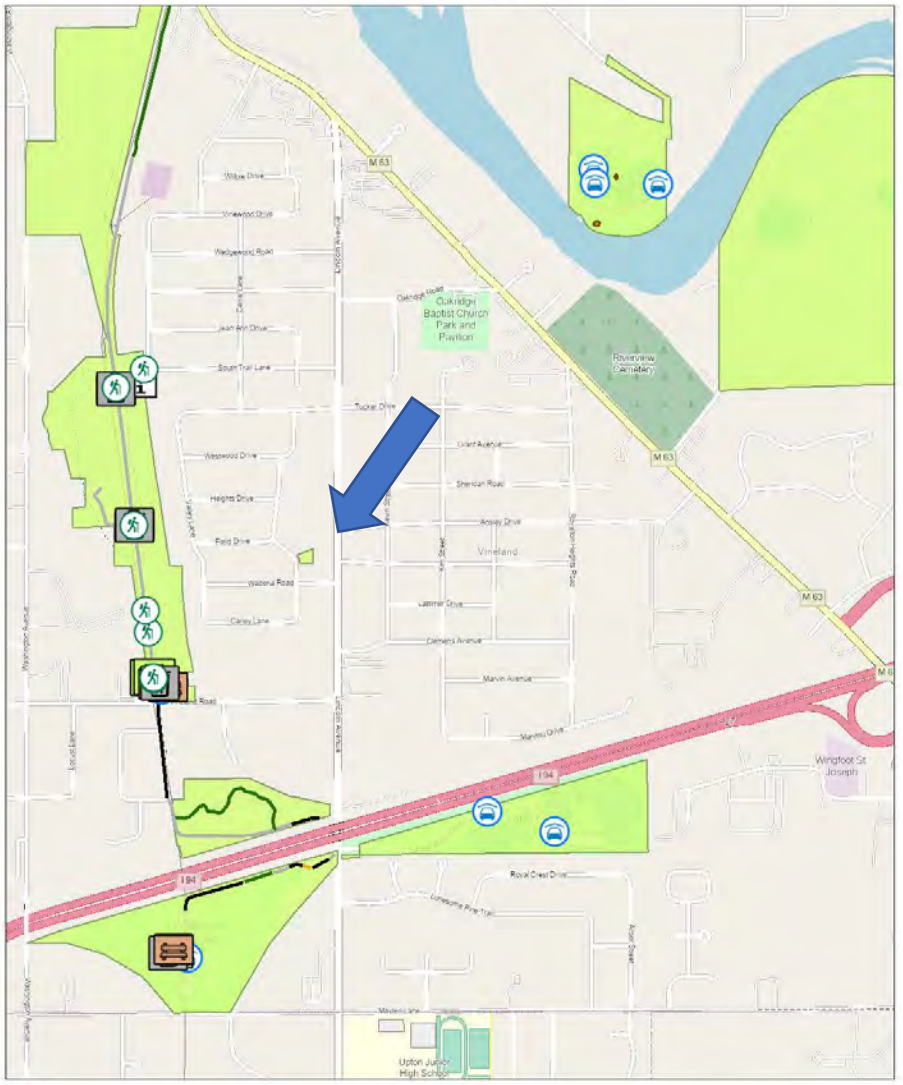
There are large maple trees within the park. The play equipment includes a two-bay swing set with one section of belt seats and the other as baby seats. There is also a play structure that includes a transfer platform. The other amenities include two benches, two picnic tables, a bike rack, a trash receptacle and a book depository for loaning out books. There are wood timbers around the base of the play equipment and the swing set has a separate timber border. The surface beneath the swing set is wood chips.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Install accessible surfacing to play equipment zone.
Add an accessible route from McLin Road to the play equipment to gain access to the equipment.

McLin Park



8/31/2022

Trail Head

Information Sign

Table

Street Furniture

Kiosk

Trash Can

Bench

Planter

Parking Lots and Spaces

Flag Pole

Trails and Paths

Asphalt

Decking

Gravel

Native

Parks Buildings

Parks Area

1:11,186

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi

0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

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Park Name: Napier Park

Address: 470 Montezuma Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022

This 0.3-acre neighborhood park is located at the center crossing of Montezuma Rd. and Pontiac Rd. The park offers a neighborhood playground with picnic tables and park benches for kids to play and adults to sit and relax. It has split rail fencing on all sides with openings for access.

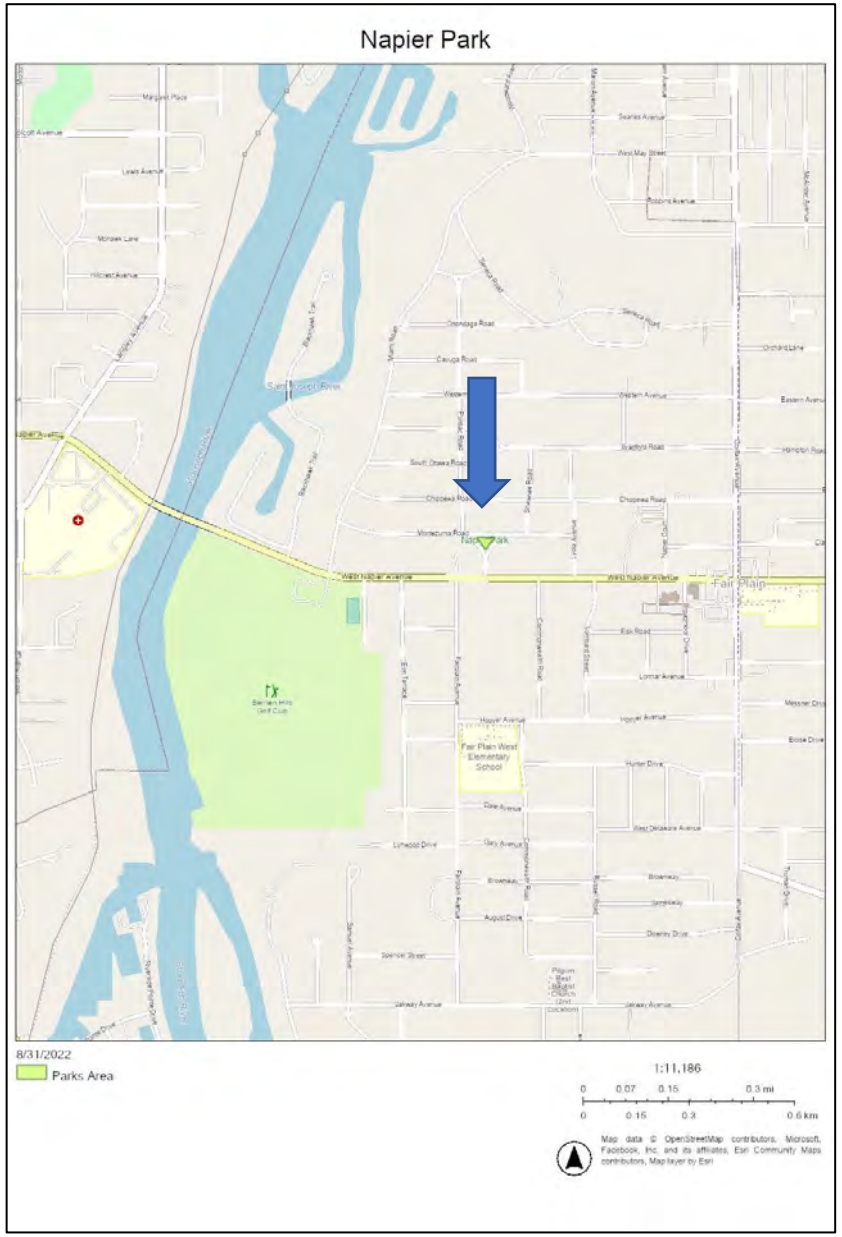
There are no accessible routes within the park and the playground equipment is dated. There are two picnic tables neither of which are ADA, and an old dome climber, rung ladder, merry go round and a small play structure.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Consider replacement of the outdated playground equipment with new accessible equipment and add an accessible route within the park that connects to the adjacent park entrance points.
Add new amenities including benches with arm rests and backs along an accessible route and include companion seating areas.
Update playground surfacing to ADA compliant materials.

NAPIER PARK
CAUTION
CHILDREN PLAYING


Napier Park
Fair Plain
Fair Plain West Elementary School
8/31/2022
Parks Area
1:11,186
0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km
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Park Name: Sandra Terrace Park

Address: 2785 Sandra Terrace, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: This 0.1-acre park is a very small lot in a neighborhood with residences on three sides and Sandra Terrace Road at the park entrance. The existing equipment is all freestanding. There is one swing set with 2 belt swings, a metal slide and a dome climber. There are large maple trees and other landscaping. The amenities include a bench, a picnic table and a trash receptacle.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
New play equipment designed to include accessibility and an accessible route could be added.
Amenities should include 20% accessible picnic tables on accessible surfaces and benches on accessible surfaces with arm rests, backs and room for companion seating.

SANDRA TERRACE
PARK

Sandra Terrace Park
Susan Drive
Hickory Drive
Aurita Drive North
Aurita Drive South
Nassa Road
8/31/2022
Trail Head
Trash Can
Parks Area
Street Furniture
Trails and Paths
Bench
Gravel
1:5,593
0 0.05 0.1 0.19 mi
0 0.07 0.15 0.3 km

Park Name: Tall Grass Prairie Park

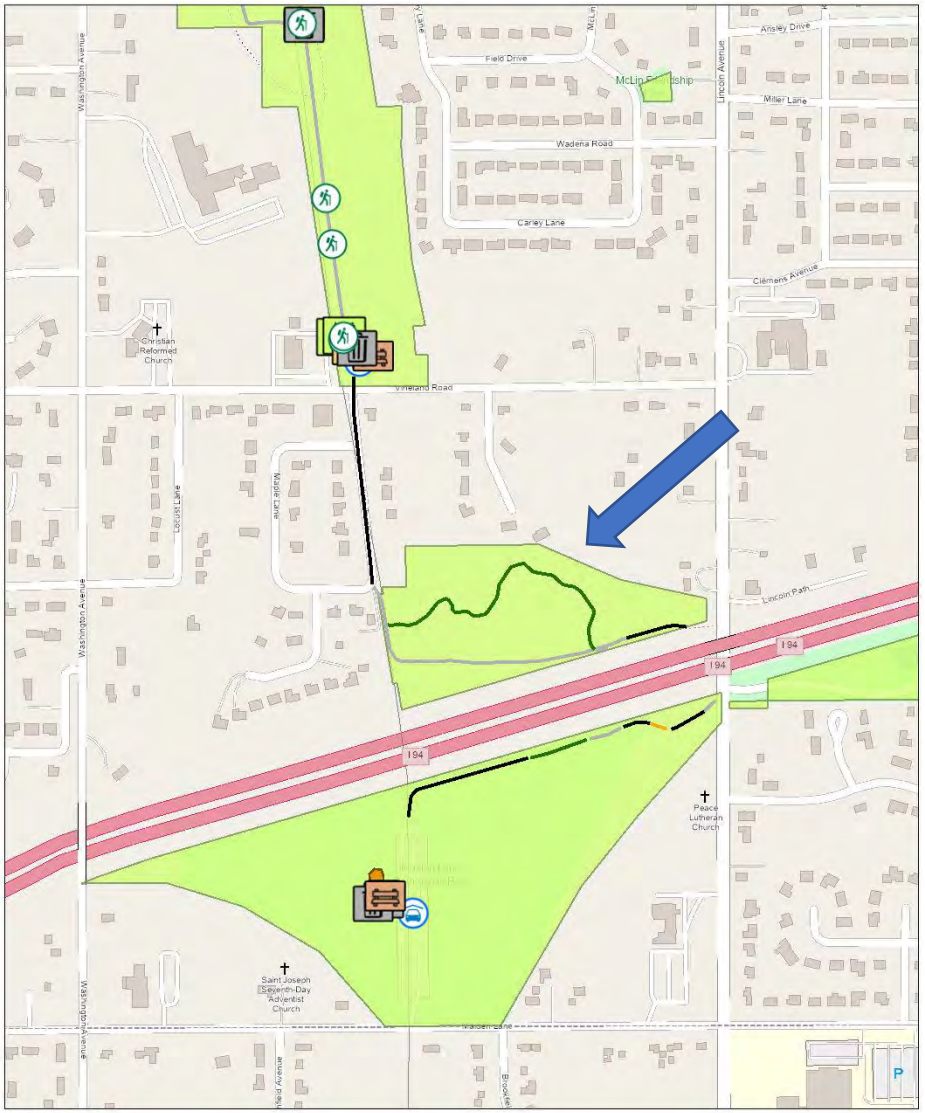
Address: 3475 Lincoln Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Park Description: This is a nature trail with two access points. The access point at the eastern end of the park on the Lincoln Avenue side is a gravel trail with a small planter on each side and a sign indicating no motorized vehicles. As you descend toward the creek, the trail changes to asphalt and at the lowest point on the trail there is a wood bridge to cross the creek. Once the trail reaches the top of the hill on the other side of the bridge, it changes to gravel and then it makes a loop that splits off with the northern segment being a mown lawn trail and the segment that parallels 94 is gravel. Another entrance is located at the west end on George Drive in a neighborhood. No dedicated public parking is currently present at either trail entrance, although Maiden Lane and Knauf Park offer parking nearby.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Add limestone screenings in place of mown lawn to provide an accessible loop section of trail.
Due to the existing terrain and slope on the portion of the trail leading to the bridge at the east end, it is difficult to meet slope requirements for ADA. If the bridge is ever in need of replacement, raising the height of the bridge could reduce the slope to meet accessibility needs.

Tall Grass Park



8/31/2022

Trail Head

Information Sign

Table

Street Furniture

Kiosk

Trash Can

Bench

Planter

Parking Lots and Spaces

Flag Pole

Trails and Paths

Asphalt

Decking

Gravel

Native

Parks Buildings

Parks Area

1:5,593

0 0.05 0.1 0.19 mi

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 km

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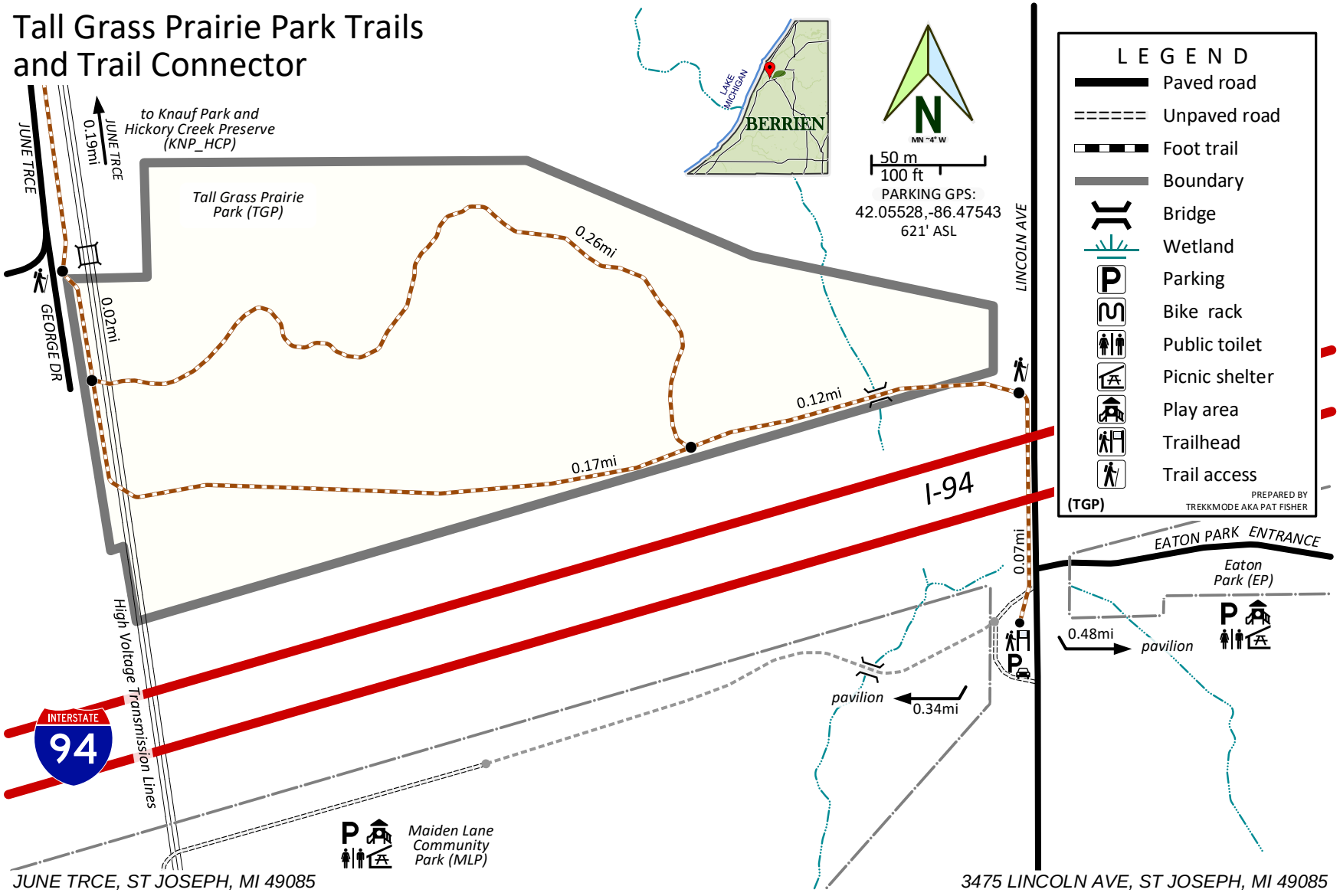
Tall Grass Prairie Park Trails and Trail Connector



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ST JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Tall Grass Prairie Park Trail Map (TGP)

St Joseph Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan – June 7, 2022

Park Name: Wissing Lane Park/Natural Area

Address: 3275 LN, St. Joseph, MI 49085

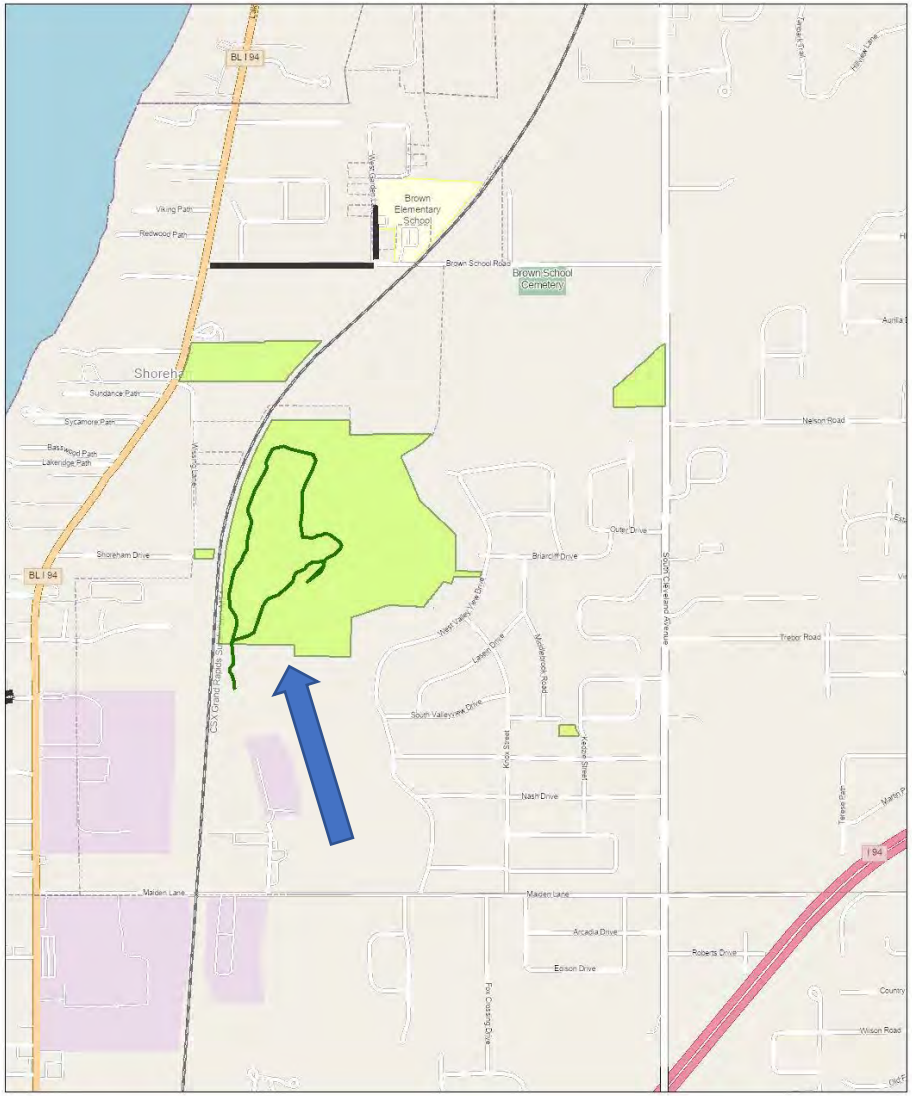
Park Description: This is an undeveloped 63.35-acre natural area between Wissing Lane and West Valley View Drive. Hickory Creek runs through the parcel and an informal walking trail was present at one time, but high-water levels have impacted their usability. Entrances are between residences and somewhat unclear.

The park is located in a highly residential area, easily reached by foot, bicycle or car.

Accessibility Rating: 1

Recommended Accessibility Improvements:
Create an accessible area for passive recreation.
Create an accessible entrance and parking near an entrance.

Wissing Lane Park



8/31/2022

- Sidewalks

Trails and Paths

- Native
- Parks Area

1:11,186

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 mi

0 0.15 0.3 0.6 km

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Non Motorized Trail Plan

9/30/2022

Township Boundary

Non-Motorized Route Plan

Existing

Future

Future

Future

1:54,093

0 0.33 0.65 1.3 mi

0 0.5 1 2 km

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Non-motorized Trails

The Township has created an overall trail plan to develop and maximize connectivity between existing trail segments within and beyond township boundaries. It uses it as a guiding tool for improvement projects and grant funding opportunities. Recent additions to the trail network have included the Maiden Lane Trail Connector, Tall Grass Prairie Park and Knauf Park extensions. Future trail plans include development along Hickory Creek and Cleveland Avenue. Development of these trails would connect to proposed Berrien County master plan goals to complete a non-motorized trail network along Red Arrow Highway/Lakeshore Drive.

Natural Resources in Township

Glaciers covered Berrien County over 10 millennia ago. Glacier impact can be seen in the slight variations in topography in St. Joseph Charter Township as well as surrounding areas. The St. Joseph River and its tributaries created valleys with steep slopes through this otherwise gently rolling region.

Along the majority of Berrien County's shoreline, a belt of sand dunes extends about a quarter of a mile from Lake Michigan. The Township does not encompass any critical dune areas, but a multiple mile stretch of critical dune begins just south of Glenlord Road, on the southern side of township boundaries. The soils in St. Joseph Charter Township reflect dunal and glacial history, creating a wide variation in soil texture, permeability, stability, composition and other characteristics throughout the community. There are five major soil types in St. Joseph Charter Township: Cohoctah Sandy Loam, Houghton-Kerston Mucks, Shoals Silt Loam, Plainfield Urban and Thetford Urban.

Development over time has removed most of the Township's native vegetation. Natural areas remain along Hickory Creek and the St. Joseph River, providing important wildlife habitat. The St. Joseph River provides excellent fishing opportunities and an upcoming project at Carronde Park will add fishing piers and a kayak launch, creating direct access to the 66.6-mile St. Joseph River Water Trail network that further connects to several hundred miles of the Lake Michigan Water Trail.

The natural resources along the St. Joseph River (river, shoreline, wetlands, and wooded areas) support recreational boating, fishing, picnicking, birding, walking trails and non-motorized boating. The shoreline areas provide habitat for small mammals, deer, birds, owls, hawks, and waterfowl. Birders can view both resident woodland species and migrant species.

Carronde Park includes 1000 feet of St. Joseph River frontage, which the DNR designates as a Type 3 Trout Stream. Many species of fish are available for shore fishing, and boaters can launch at the site to seek additional fishing in the river and Lake Michigan about 4.5 miles upstream.

Freshwater forested/shrub wetlands are present through the Township along the St. Joseph River and Hickory Creek. These wetlands are an important part of the local watershed. They contribute to hydrological utility, environmental diversity, natural flood control, improved water quality, recharge of aquifers, and flow stabilization of streams and rivers.

Since little of the Township's native vegetation remains, keeping natural areas as open land is an important part of maintaining green infrastructure goals. Green infrastructure not only preserves the natural landscape, it also provides recreation and transportation opportunities, provides habitat for wildlife viewing, contributes toward flood control, and provides people with a better connection to nature and sense of place. According to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, "Green Infrastructure is attractive to various segments of the population… 65+ are strongly attracted by quiet landscapes with water, forest and open-space amenities. 36-64s' like walkable communities, with parks and recreation opportunities (biking, hiking, etc.). 24-35's enjoy dense communities, with integrated green infrastructure, and recreation opportunities, such as biking, boating and sports."

Climate

Lake Michigan has a moderating effect on the prevailing westerly winds that influence St. Joseph Charter Township's climate. The lake is responsible for keeping the area cooler in the spring and summer and warmer in the fall and winter. This results in a growing season that is approximately 180 days.

The "cold season" lasts for approximately 3.2 months (December 3rd to March 9th) with an average daily high temperature below 42 degrees Fahrenheit. The coldest month is January, with an average low of 21° and high of 33° in the winter.

The "warm season" lasts for 3.7 months (May 29 to September 19) with an average daily high temperature above 71°F. The hottest month of the year is July, with an average high of 81°F and low of 64°F.

The annual precipitation is 37.14 inches on average with 56% falling from April through September. The average seasonal snowfall is 68.4 inches and there is an average of 82 days that have .10 inches of precipitation or more.

Other Public Spaces

Following is a list of lands and facilities that are owned privately, owned by a nonprofit organization or owned by another governmental unit that provide recreation opportunities for the community.

Private Recreation Facilities in/near Township		
Space	**Location**	**Recreation Type**
Shoreham Downs	Village of Shoreham	Tennis Courts, Basketball, Play Structure, Walking Path, Picnic Tables
Estates Park	Stevensville	Pavilion, volleyball court, play structure, walking/jogging trail
Churchill Farms	Village of Shoreham	Pavilion, play equipment
Pier 1000 Marina	City of Benton Harbor	Marina
Eagle Pointe Harbor	St. Joseph Township	Marina
South Shore Health and Racquet Club	St. Joseph Township	Indoor Tennis Courts, Racquetball Courts, Indoor swimming pool
School Facilities in Township		
School	**Location**	**Recreation Type**
Brown Elementary	St. Joseph Township	Athletic Field, Basketball Courts, Soccer, Swings
Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Elementary School	St. Joseph Township	Soccer Fields, Athletic Field, Outdoor Basketball Courts, Swings
Other Township Adjacent Recreation Opportunities		
Park/Public Space	**Location**	**Recreation Types**
YMCA	Royalton Township	Indoor swimming pool, indoor basketball courts, Indoor track, Racquetball courts, Weight room, Baseball field
Benton Harbor High School	City of Benton Harbor	Baseball and football fields, indoor basketball courts
Lake Michigan Lookout Park	City of St. Joseph	Overlook
Riverview Park	City of Benton Harbor	Boat launch, fishing, playground, picnic areas
Grand Mere State Park	Stevensville	Beach, trails
Silver Beach County Park	City of St. Joseph	Beach, playground, pavilion
Rocky Gap County Park	Benton Charter Township	Beach
Jean Klock Park	City of Benton Harbor	Beach, playground, pavilion
St. Joseph High School	City of St Joseph	Indoor pool, baseball fields, tennis courts, indoor track,

		football field, indoor basketball courts
Lions Beach	City of St Joseph	Beach, playground
Kiwanis Park	City of St Joseph	Tennis courts, skate boarding
Whittlesey Park	City of St Joseph	Ice skating pavilion
Tiscornia Park	City of St Joseph	Beach
Benton Township Boat Launch	Benton Township	Boat launch
North Lake Park	Lincoln Charter Township	Picnic area
Glenlord Beach	Lincoln Charter Township	Beach viewing and seating area
Nature Trails	Lincoln Charter Township	Trails along beach
Bicentennial Park	Royalton Township	Volleyball, picnic areas

Description of the Planning Process

St. Joseph Charter Township's planning process followed a System Planning method. This method uses the organization's metrics, priorities, needs, level of service and community-wide issues to guide cyclical planning efforts.

Items taken into consideration during the planning process included:

- Surrounding area amenities
- Social and economic demographics within township
- Age, health, and mobility levels of the community
- Upcoming plans for residential and business development within the township
- Upcoming infrastructure projects in the township
- Maintaining free public recreation options in community

The Township's recreation planning process uses the following steps:

1. Evaluation of its existing parks, including review of ADA accessibility within the park.
2. Discussion and development of public survey questions to receive feedback on community desires.
3. Discussion and review of results of public survey.
4. Formulation of goals, objectives and action plans to meet community desires.
5. Assembly and posting of draft five-year Recreation Plan for public review and comment.
6. Public hearing to receive comments.
7. Revision of plan if needed.
8. Adoption of plan.

Description of the Public Input Process

The Township provided a survey to the public to receive feedback on community interests and desires. The survey was available for three weeks between the end of August and September 2022 and was distributed in multiple ways, included the Township's website, text updates, newspaper notice and public postings in parks and Township Hall. The township received 100 responses that included many comments. People using parks fairly equally represented ages under 18, 18-50 and over 50, with a slightly higher count in the 18-50 age group. Respondents also included people who used Township parks from other communities such as St. Joseph, Benton Township, Shoreham Village or Lincoln Township.

A draft copy of the plan was posted for 30 days starting October 15, 2022. The plan was posted on the Township website and available for review at the Township Hall. Notice of posting was given through a posting in the Herald Palladium and posting at Township Hall. Comments on the plan were submitted to the Township Manager.

A public hearing for comments on the plan was held _____. Notice of the public hearing was provided on the Township website and through the Herald Palladium. Comments received were_____

The Township is located among multiple jurisdictions that each operate and maintain parks and recreation services. In order to prevent the duplication of recreation offerings the Township shared its recreation plan with the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (Berrien County, Lincoln Township, City of St. Joseph, Royalton Township, and Benton Township) before final adoption of the plan.

The plan was adopted by Township Board on _____.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Upon receipt of the survey responses, Township staff met to review and identify goals and objectives to work toward for the next five-year period.

Based on responses, the following goals and objectives were established to guide the Township for future planning efforts.

Goal 1

Continue efforts to increase connectivity between users and recreation opportunities

Objectives:

- Add and improve non-motorized trails where possible.
- Continue to develop township trail network plan and work collaboratively with regional trail network planning efforts.
- Add sidewalks when possible, on road reconstruction projects.

Goal 2

Increase access to public recreation for all mobility levels

Objectives:

- Add access pathways and amenities at parks that support a wide range of user abilities.
- Seek input from a variety of user groups on how to best serve mobility levels.
- Promote the benefits of an active lifestyle.

Goal 3

Continue to add to or improve recreation opportunities within the Township

Objectives:

- Acquire new land for public recreation when available or feasible.
- Add features and recreation opportunities that are in high demand by the community, such as pickleball and non-motorized trails.
- Add more ways to recreate or passively enjoy natural areas.
- Increase recreation opportunities along the St. Joseph River.
- Collaborate with surrounding municipalities and county to provide cost effective, non-duplicative recreation opportunities.

Goal 4

Raise awareness of recreation opportunities in the Township

Objectives:

- Reach out to user groups that reflect the needs of a diverse population representing many ages, racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds
- Share more parks and recreation information via Township channels (website, newsletters).

Goal 5

Maintain green space and natural landscape,

Objectives:

- Provide increased recreational and transportation opportunities.
- Provide habitat for wildlife viewing.
- Provide natural flood control.
- Providing people with a better connection to nature and sense of place.

Goal 6

Continue to seek additional funding to support recreation activities

Objectives:

- Apply for grant funds
- Seek donors and volunteers for improvement projects

ACTION PLAN

As a result of the recreation inventory assessment, public survey feedback, known upcoming capital improvements, and discussions with Township staff, the Township has devised the following Action Plan to work toward recreation goals.

These actions will contribute toward the Township meeting their overall goals and objectives. This is a current outlook action plan, however, and the Township recognizes that new opportunities, funding sources, and developments can affect the timing or priority of these plans. Additional projects will likely be presented that the Township will take action on, guided by the overall Goals and Objectives it has established.

The following is a list of potential projects or actions the Township has identified as part of its review process. Costs listed in the budget column are very approximate as the current climate for construction projects remains volatile and it is unknown when costs will stabilize.

Priority	Action	Target Year	Funding Source	Budget
High	Replace tennis courts at Carronde Park with new courts and pickleball	2023-24	MNRTF grant, Recreation budget funds	$100 -$200k
High	Add fishing platforms, kayak launch and connecting pathways at Carronde Park	2023	LWCF grant, Recreation CIP funds	$400 - $600k
High	Add restroom building at Knauf Park	2023	Recreation and general funds	$300k - $400k
High	Replace play equipment at Kedzie Park	2023	MNRTF grant, recreation CIP funds	$100K- $200k
Medium	Further develop connectivity between existing trails	2023-2028	Grants, recreation funds	$100k - $500k
Medium	Work in collaboration with foundation group to develop recreation park near Hollywood Road	2023-24	Grants, donations	TBD
Medium	Act on acquisition opportunities to create new public spaces	2023-2028	Grants, donations, fundraisers, recreation funds	TBD
Medium	Add more benches throughout parks	2023-2028	Grants, donations, fundraisers, recreation funds	$10k - $ 100k

Low	Improve ADA accessibility throughout parks by adding accessible paths	2023-2028	Grants, recreation funds	TBD
Low	Increase volunteer and donor opportunities for parks upkeep	2023-2028	Not applicable	Not applicable
Low	Update play equipment at Sandra Terrace Park	2027-2028	Grants, donations, fundraisers, recreation funds	$100k - $300k
Low	Update play equipment at Napier Park	2027-2028	Grants, donations, fundraisers, recreation funds	$100k - $300k

POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORTS

CARRONDE
PARK
ST JOSEPH CHARTER
TOWNSHIP

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: (Please select one)
☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-00836 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Carronde Park

PROJECT SCOPE: Parking, three lighted tennis courts

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☒Yes ☐No

Tennis courts are being refurbished through grant TF21-0064 and replacement will be one tennis court and two pickleball courts as a reflection of current recreation desires

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed. Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 to Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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GRANT TYPE: *(Please select one)*
☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01060 I2 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Carronde Park

PROJECT SCOPE: Restroom Building, utilities, LWCF sign

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed. Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

WELCOME TO
Eaton Park
ST. JOSEPH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NLBSA
St. Joseph
ROCKET FOOTBALL
Blues
ST. JOSEPH
XTREME
SOFTBALL
NutritionNow
Fast • Healthy • Convenient
EAGLE TECHNOLOGIES
eagletechnologies.com
VAN'S
PHARMACY
FARMERS
INSURANCE
Chris Thompson Agency
269-408-8872
Kalin
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.
Beaudoin
Electrical
Construction
ArtFX
HOLLYWOOD
SMALL ENGINE
269-556-1052
LeValley
CHEVROLET
BUICK
GMC
KERNERS
PRECISION AUTO KRAFTERS
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tru
by Hilton
Drier's
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Driers.com 269-756-3101
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
CAUTION

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01669 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Eaton Park Playground Replacement

PROJECT SCOPE: New accesible playground equipment

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed.Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

ST. JOSEPH CHARTER
TOWNSHIP
Maiden Lane Community Park
WELCOME ST JOSEPH
CRICKET LEAGUE
AYSO

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF93-014 **PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: MDOT Property Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Acquire 32 acres from MDOT for scccer park development

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed. Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Please print	Witness Signature	Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: CM99-311 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Maiden Lane Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: Develop scccer fields, concession, restroom, parking lot, fencing

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed. Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	*Grantee Authorized Signature*	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22

Please print	*Witness Signature*	Date
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: TF09-017 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Maiden Lane Community Park Improvements

PROJECT SCOPE: Pavilion shelter and kitchen

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed. Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: *(Please select one)*
☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

GRANTEE: St. Joseph Charter Township

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01825 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Maiden Lane Park Development

PROJECT SCOPE: New play eqipment and surfacing, trash, recycle, bench, trees, path

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
St. Joseph Charter Township	Denise Cook	Manager
Address	**Telephone**	
3000 Washington Avenue	269-429-7703	
City, State, ZIP	**Email**	
St. Joseph MI 49085	dcook@sjct.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). ☐Yes ☒No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐Yes ☒No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐Yes ☒No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No

daily inspection, trash removal, bathroom cleaning. Mowing, tree trimming, weed control as needed.Annual inspections for repair or replacement of amenities

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Hours 8am - 10pm. Park open all year but closed to parking Oct 31 - Apri 1

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Denise Cook	Denise Cook	10/12/22
MIRIAM IRVIN	Miriam Irvin	10/12/22

Send completed report to:

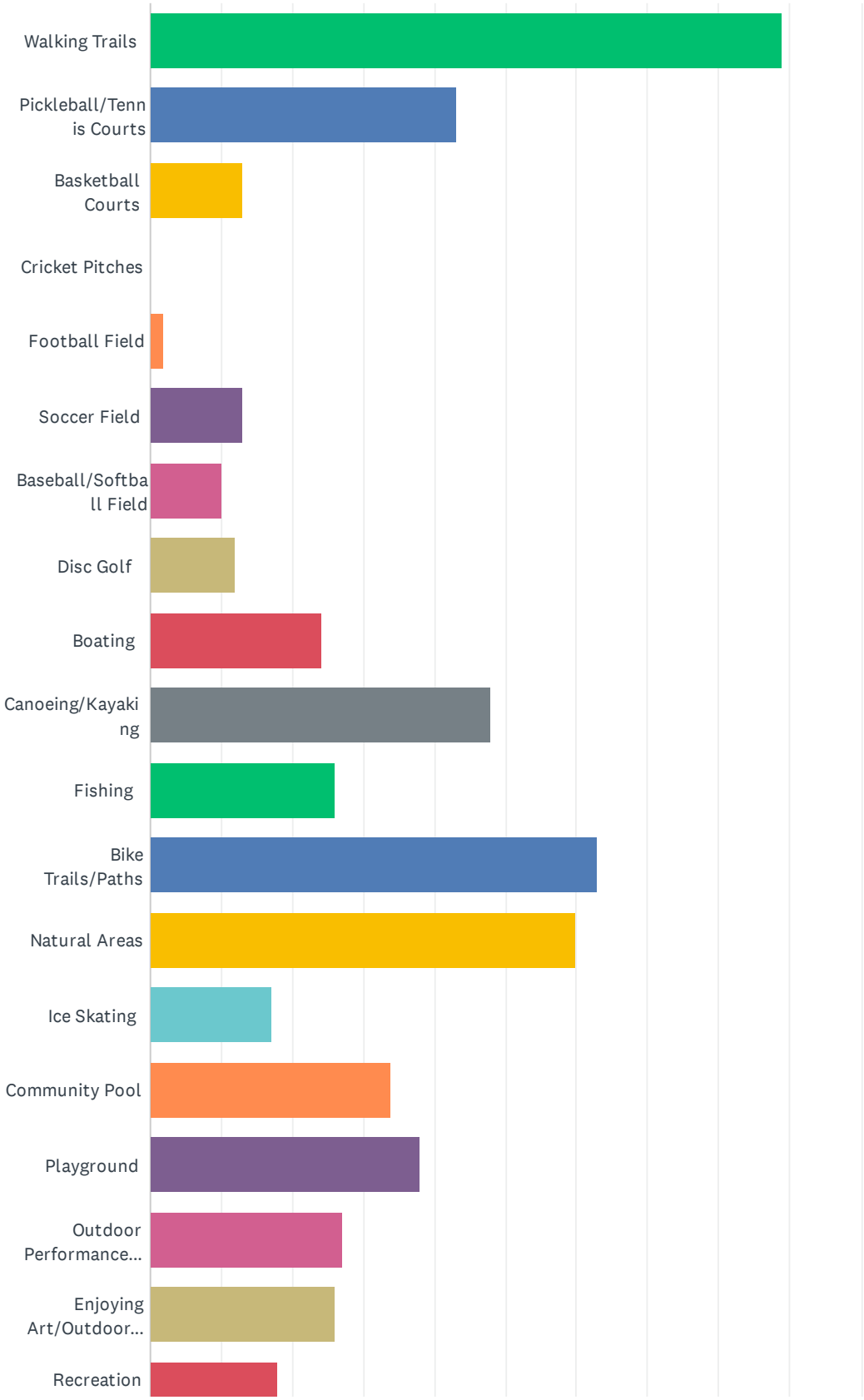
POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

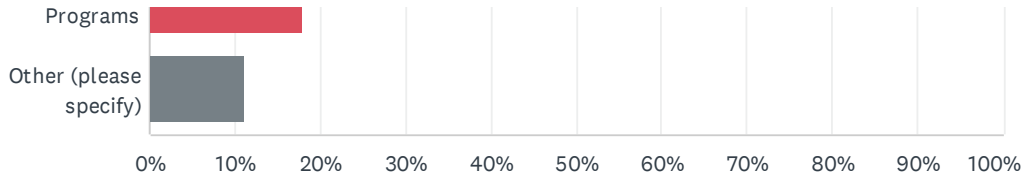
LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND
Revenue derived primarily from federal leasing of the Outer Continental shelf for oil and gas production provided funding for this public recreation site.
Funding is made possible through a grant provided by the Land and Water Conservation Fund administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
DNR

PUBLIC SURVEY

Q1 What types of recreation below do you or would you use?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 1





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking Trails	89.00%	89
Pickleball/Tennis Courts	43.00%	43
Basketball Courts	13.00%	13
Cricket Pitches	0.00%	0
Football Field	2.00%	2
Soccer Field	13.00%	13
Baseball/Softball Field	10.00%	10
Disc Golf	12.00%	12
Boating	24.00%	24
Canoeing/Kayaking	48.00%	48
Fishing	26.00%	26
Bike Trails/Paths	63.00%	63
Natural Areas	60.00%	60
Ice Skating	17.00%	17
Community Pool	34.00%	34
Playground	38.00%	38
Outdoor Performance Space	27.00%	27
Enjoying Art/Outdoor Sculptures	26.00%	26
Recreation Programs	18.00%	18
Other (please specify)	11.00%	11
Total Respondents: 100		

eation below do you or would you use?
Q1 Other (please specify)
Dog park
Rollerblading, Trail Running
outdoor fitness equipment for older teens and adults, cross country skiing

Outdoor concert venue
Indoor track/gym
Yoga

Indoor multi sport training facility
None
Cross country skiing

Horseshoe pitch

Q2 What do you primarily use parks for? (ie walking, little leagues, adult leagues, dog walking, etc.)

Answered: 91 Skipped: 10

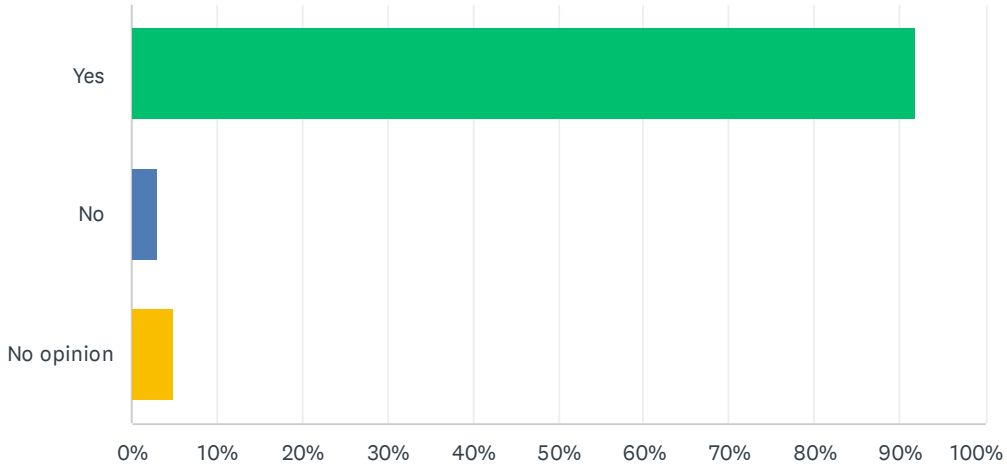
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Softball, playground	9/18/2022 5:09 PM
2	Walking, playground, little league, dog walking	9/18/2022 4:58 PM
3	running , walking dogs	9/14/2022 3:44 PM
4	walking, biking	9/13/2022 9:51 PM
5	Playground	9/13/2022 8:51 PM
6	walking and running	9/13/2022 4:52 PM
7	Walking, dog walking	9/13/2022 4:20 PM
8	Playground for kids	9/13/2022 4:15 PM
9	Running. Walking. Looking at nature and walking around and running	9/13/2022 2:41 PM
10	Walking, play space for kids	9/13/2022 12:58 PM
11	Walking, running, trails, path, playgrounds	9/13/2022 12:51 PM
12	Kids playing and picnics	9/13/2022 12:16 PM
13	See above responses	9/13/2022 10:59 AM
14	walking	9/13/2022 9:49 AM
15	walking and biking	9/13/2022 7:28 AM
16	Walking, picnics, kids playgrounds	9/8/2022 9:20 PM
17	Walking	9/7/2022 9:17 AM
18	Walking	9/7/2022 7:32 AM
19	Kids playing	9/7/2022 6:39 AM
20	New updated park would be nice for all the new younger families moving into our neighborhood	9/6/2022 11:45 PM
21	Walking	9/6/2022 11:02 PM
22	Dog walking. Biking.	9/6/2022 10:37 PM
23	Dog walking	9/6/2022 10:36 PM
24	Playgrounds for kids.	9/6/2022 10:55 AM
25	Roller blading, biking, walking,	9/5/2022 2:50 AM
26	Walking, running, dog walking, being outside	9/2/2022 4:22 PM
27	Walking, dog walking, picnics, biking.	9/2/2022 9:20 AM
28	Dog walks	9/2/2022 12:29 AM
29	Walking, picnics, enjoying quiet nature, exercise classes	9/1/2022 11:33 PM
30	Walking	9/1/2022 9:07 PM
31	Walking / running	9/1/2022 2:14 AM

32	Walking, nature appreciation	8/31/2022 9:59 PM
33	Soccer, playing and walking trails.	8/31/2022 11:02 AM
34	Walking, dog walking, kid activities	8/31/2022 9:02 AM
35	Walking, jogging dog walking	8/30/2022 7:43 PM
36	Walking, nature	8/30/2022 6:47 PM
37	Walking, nature appreciation	8/30/2022 10:17 AM
38	Walking, photography, enjoying nature	8/29/2022 5:14 PM
39	Walking dogs	8/29/2022 12:09 PM
40	Walking, dog walking, relaxation	8/28/2022 8:21 PM
41	Walking, grandkids playground	8/28/2022 4:32 PM
42	Dog walking Playground	8/28/2022 4:31 PM
43	Exercise- biking, walking, etc	8/28/2022 3:34 PM
44	Walking	8/27/2022 6:05 PM
45	Exercise, nature	8/27/2022 8:15 AM
46	Walking and hiking	8/27/2022 2:24 AM
47	For grandchildren	8/26/2022 10:50 PM
48	Dog walking, walking, Biking, Kayaking	8/26/2022 4:59 PM
49	Adult pickleball and tennis. Playground/splash pad for grand kids.	8/26/2022 4:57 PM
50	Walking	8/26/2022 4:12 PM
51	Walking, tennis	8/26/2022 3:01 PM
52	Walking	8/26/2022 2:16 PM
53	My child to run and play.	8/26/2022 2:06 PM
54	Walking and picnics	8/26/2022 2:05 PM
55	Walking, soccer, playground	8/26/2022 2:02 PM
56	Walking, little league, kayaking, biking	8/26/2022 1:57 PM
57	Walking, dog park, youth sports	8/26/2022 1:54 PM
58	Relaxation,walking, dog walking, biking.	8/26/2022 1:51 PM
59	Walking	8/26/2022 1:50 PM
60	Dog walking, picnicking	8/26/2022 1:16 PM
61	Playgrounds, skate park, basketball, and walking	8/26/2022 1:09 PM
62	Attending organized sports, flying kites, using playground equip, walking	8/26/2022 1:07 PM
63	Leisure	8/26/2022 1:06 PM
64	Walking and enjoying nature	8/26/2022 1:04 PM
65	Walking, running, dog walking, RC airplane flying, playgrounds, biking	8/26/2022 1:02 PM
66	Walking and dog walking	8/26/2022 1:02 PM
67	Walking and playing with grandchildren	8/26/2022 1:01 PM
68	Playground & soccer field with my granddaughter. Myself walking trails	8/26/2022 12:51 PM
69	Kids playing	8/26/2022 12:49 PM

70	Walking	8/26/2022 12:49 PM
71	Walking	8/26/2022 12:44 PM
72	Walking	8/26/2022 12:40 PM
73	Playground for 4 yr olf	8/26/2022 12:40 PM
74	Youth sports & walking/running	8/26/2022 12:39 PM
75	Walking and pet walking	8/26/2022 12:39 PM
76	Nothing	8/26/2022 12:38 PM
77	Hiking	8/26/2022 12:37 PM
78	Walking and watching the lake	8/26/2022 12:36 PM
79	Walking/dog. Fishing. Picnics	8/26/2022 12:36 PM
80	walking & child play	8/26/2022 12:34 PM
81	Walking	8/26/2022 12:33 PM
82	Walking , running and dog walking. Watch children sports	8/26/2022 12:33 PM
83	Walking/biking	8/26/2022 12:33 PM
84	Walking	8/26/2022 12:32 PM
85	Walking	8/26/2022 12:32 PM
86	Walking and walking our dog.	8/26/2022 12:32 PM
87	Walk	8/26/2022 12:31 PM
88	None	8/26/2022 12:30 PM
89	Walking	8/26/2022 12:30 PM
90	walking	8/26/2022 12:12 PM
91	Dog walking	8/26/2022 11:45 AM

Q3 I would like to see more ways to bike and walk safely in the community (ie sidewalks, paths, trails)

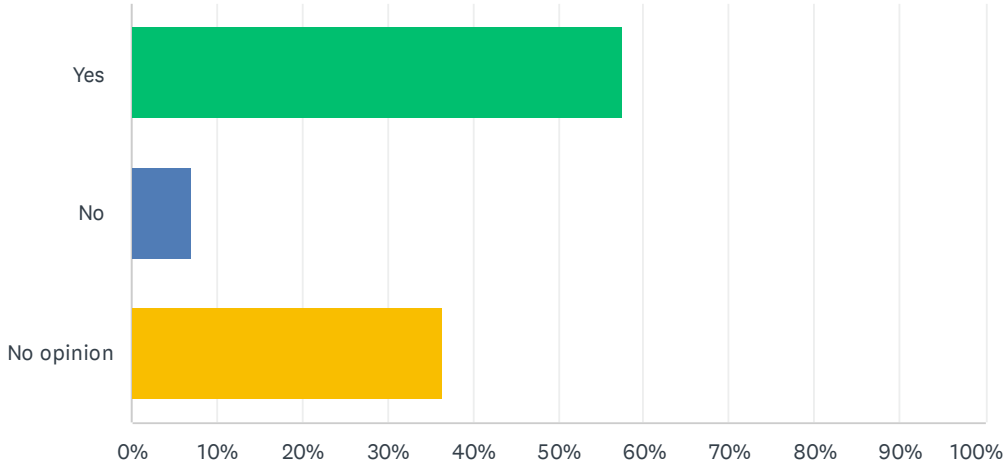
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.00%	92
No	3.00%	3
No opinion	5.00%	5
Total Respondents: 100		

Q4 I would like to see more recreation offerings on the St. Joseph River

Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.58%	57
No	7.07%	7
No opinion	36.36%	36
Total Respondents: 99		

Q4
If yes, which ones?
Kayaking, golf cart path from Eaton park to ace hardware
Biking. And running a long it.
Kayak rental
Kayak launch areas
Kayak launches. Affordable rental and shuttle service (See St Patrick Park in South Bend)

Kayak rental
we need a useable boat ramp at riverview park
Kayaks,
Boating canoeing kayaking
Bike path on lakeshore dr. We live on s. Lakeshore dr. And see a ton of bikers, walkers and runners.
Availability of rental canoes, kayaks, and standup paddleboards

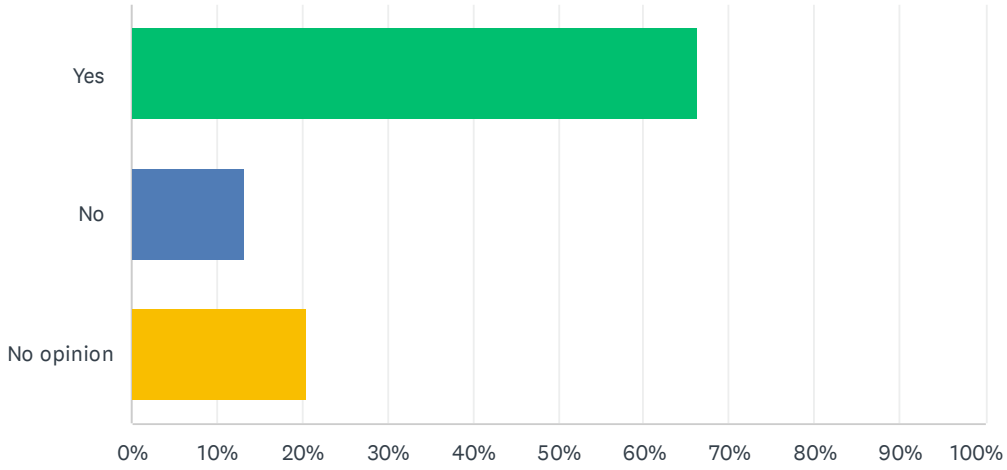
Boating canoeing kayaking
Better kayak and fishing spots and launches
Walking and biking paths
Kayaking and fishing
Access points for watercraft
Kayaking and fishing
Entertainment space
More kayak launch points and exit points.
C as Boeing or kayaking
Paddle boat type rides, for couples or groups. Small boat rentals, more water taxi options.

Picnic areas, playground, and fishing docks.
Kayak
Art, walking trails_ parks
Walking
Kayak areas
Kayak launch
Yes concern on flooding and upkeep

Kayaking
If yes, which ones?

Q5 I would like more passive recreation options where I can just sit and observe nature – birds, small animals, deer, insects, flowers

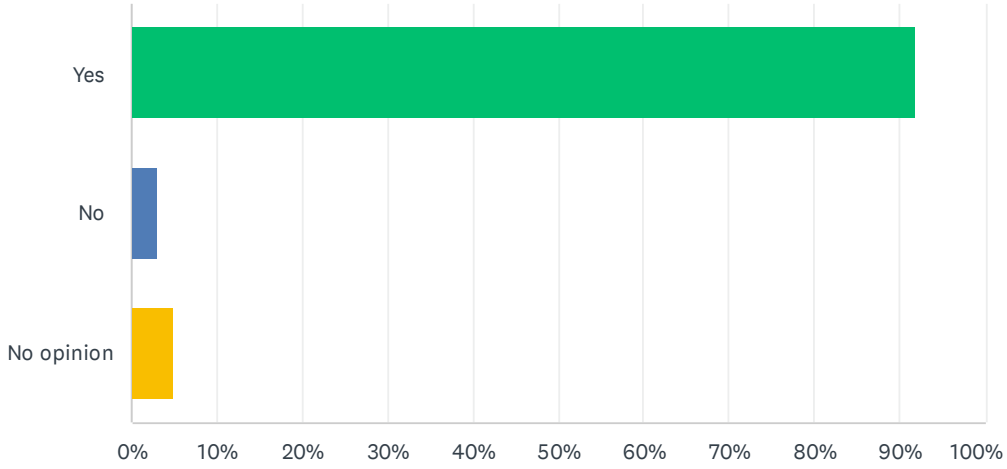
Answered: 98 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.33%	65
No	13.27%	13
No opinion	20.41%	20
Total Respondents: 98		

Q6 I would use nature walking trails by the creeks and rivers

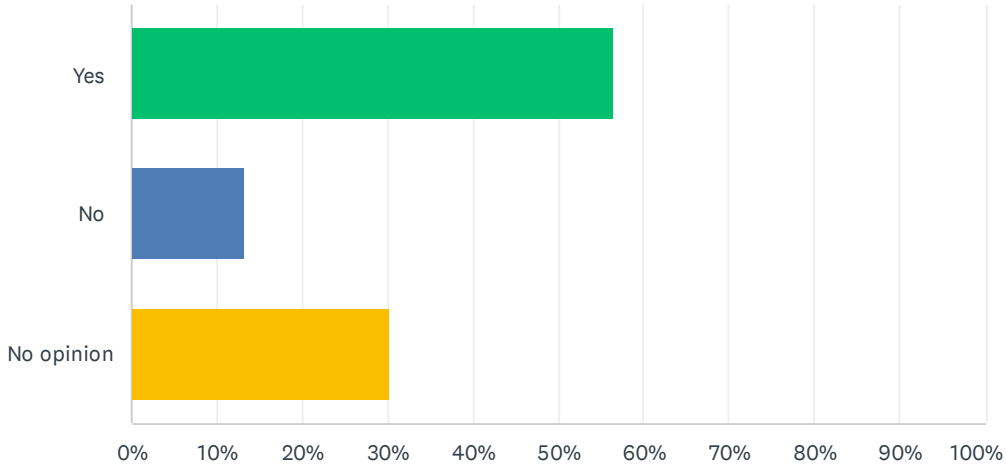
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.00%	92
No	3.00%	3
No opinion	5.00%	5
Total Respondents: 100		

Q7 I would be interested in more signage about the natural resources present at the park – wildflowers, wetlands, watershed, river, creek, animals, insects, flood plains etc.

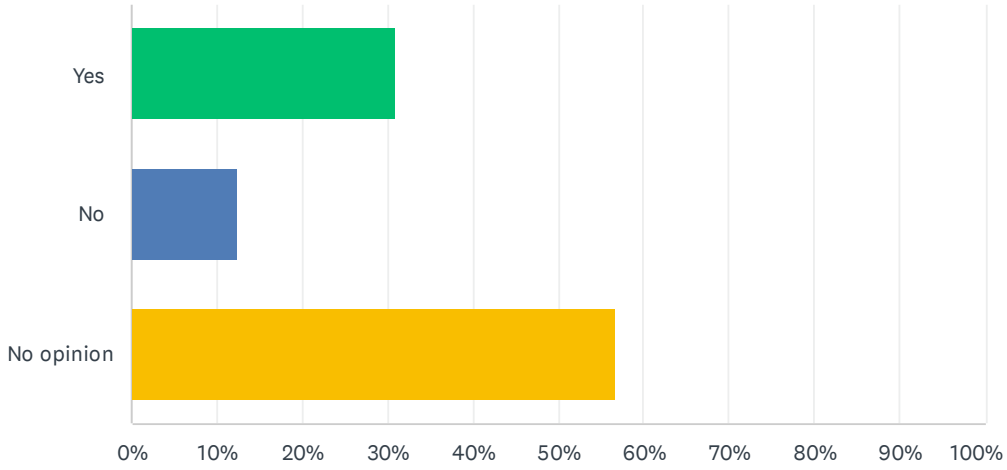
Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	56.57%	56
No	13.13%	13
No opinion	30.30%	30
Total Respondents: 99		

Q8 I would like additional play equipment added to a St. Joseph Township park.

Answered: 97 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	30.93%	30
No	12.37%	12
No opinion	56.70%	55
Total Respondents: 97		

Q8
If yes, what and where?
New park equipment at Napier Park.
equipment for climbing for older kids and teens like climbing ropes and nets, rock walls, tumbling mats. Frisbee golf.

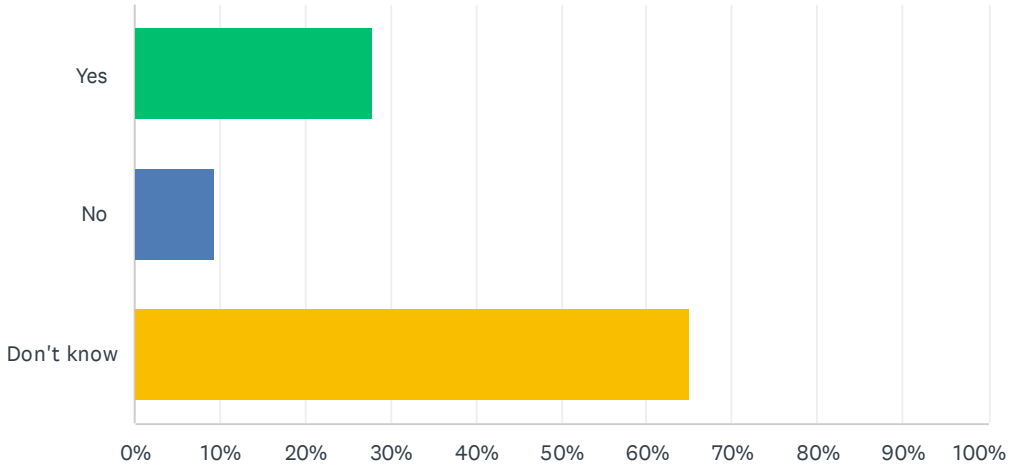
Updated equipment at Sandra terrace community park
Sandra Terrace Park. Updated equipment for the kids
Sandra Terrace neighborhood park is from the 1960s. It needs updating desperately for all the new young families that have moved into our neighborhood
Sandra terrace park
More shade around the play equipment.
WE need some updated play equipment to our neighborhood park at Sandra Terrace Park.
Too open ended

Too open ended
Maiden Lane Park: zip line, several other "age appropriate" play centers.
Possibly for people with special needs
I would like to see new & safe play equipment at each SJ Township park.
The field behind the Township Hall.

Climbing and obstacle course equipment for kids age 6- 11.
Playground Equipment needs updating at Kednzie park
Update Kedzie Park
Splash pad safe and surfaces under playground equipment like the astroturf at the maiden lane park
Neighborhood parks (Mclin and Kedzie) are desperately in need of updates
Ideas for small children

Q9 Are there any sports/recreation activities being underserved at St. Joseph Township parks?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	27.84%	27
No	9.28%	9
Don't know	64.95%	63
Total Respondents: 97		

Q9
If yes, which activities?
Pickle ball
Pickleball please!!
Biking along paths. Making paths.
Biking trails, sledding in winter
Pickleball
Most of them, i think the township currently offers underwhelming recreational facilities

Tennis courts
Kayaking
Swimming, exercise classes, paved walking paths
Pickleball, swimming

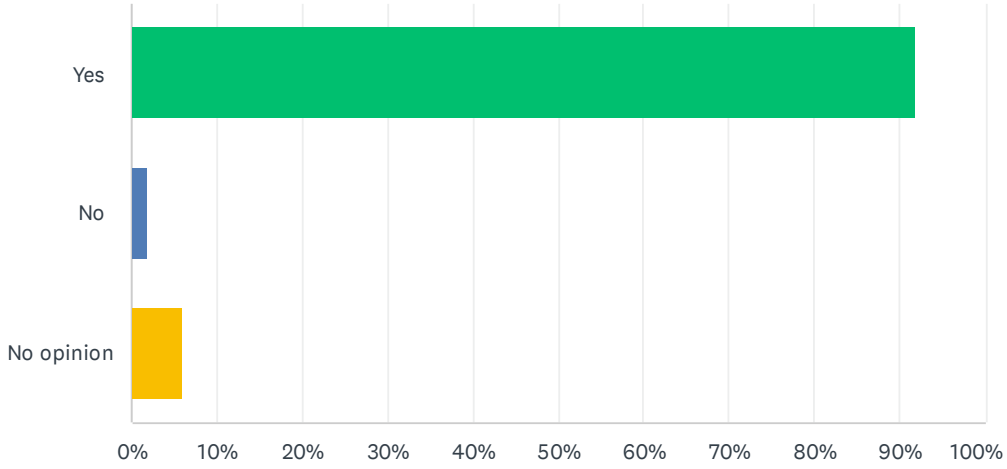
Pickleball, swimming
Handicap and autistic kids. Parks that are fenced in so parents can relax while pushing a child on the swing while another one plays nearby. For example.
Biking
Gun range/ archery area
Just side walks for safe foot transportation
Outdoor ice skating rink
Pickleball!!! All other small towns around St. Joe and Stevensville have permanent pickleball courts.
Pickleball
We need more pickleball courts!!!

Outdoor public swimming Indoor dryland facility to train for youth club sports (ice hockey) when you can't train outdoors
Swimming
A lot of seniors in this community. We don't care about Eaton Park. We need to get out more. Need more options for us with accessibility needs
Bikers need to use the sidewalks for biking and not roadways. Do they know they can use them?
More shaded areas to picnic
Pickle ball and disc golf

Biking, canoe/kayaking, tennis, pickleball

Q10 It is important to me to have free public recreation options

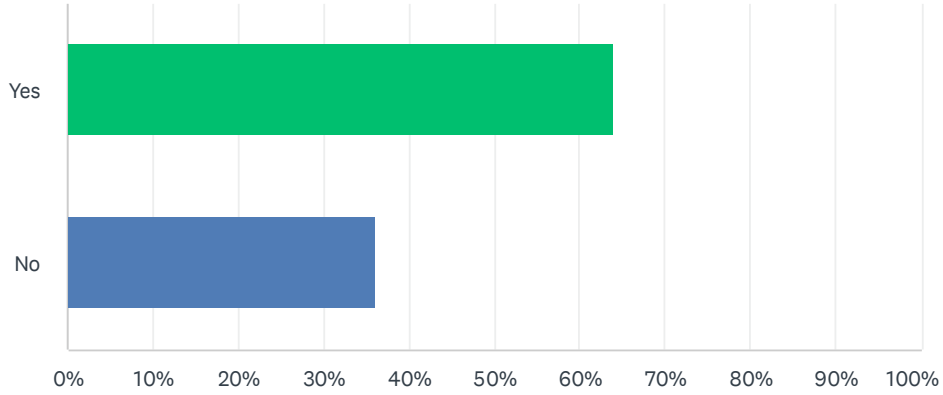
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.00%	92
No	2.00%	2
No opinion	6.00%	6
Total Respondents: 100		

Q11 I can safely walk to a park from my house

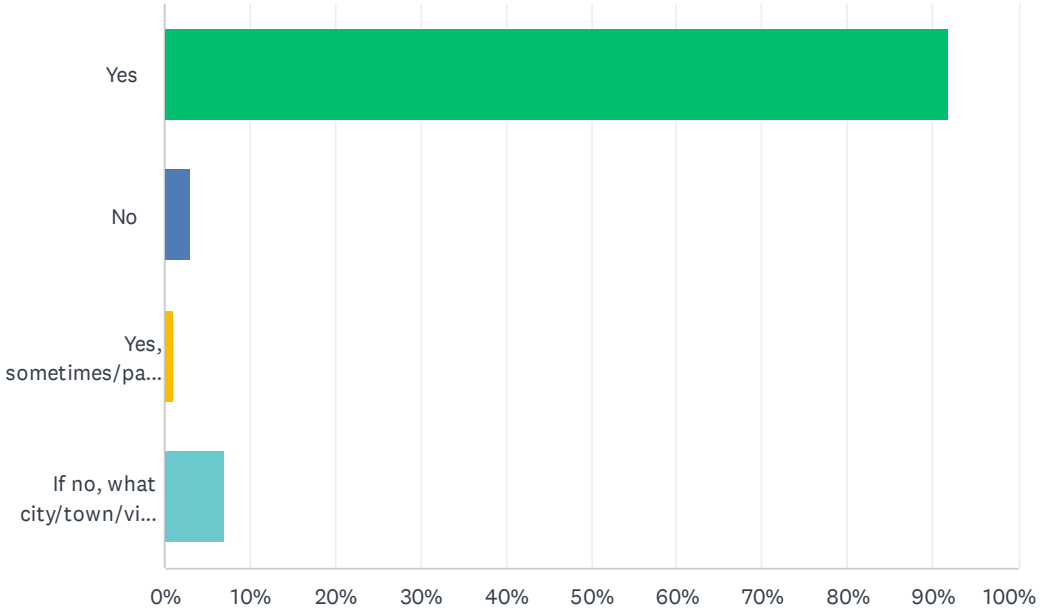
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	64.00%	64
No	36.00%	36
Total Respondents: 100		

Q12 Do you live in St. Joseph Charter Township?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



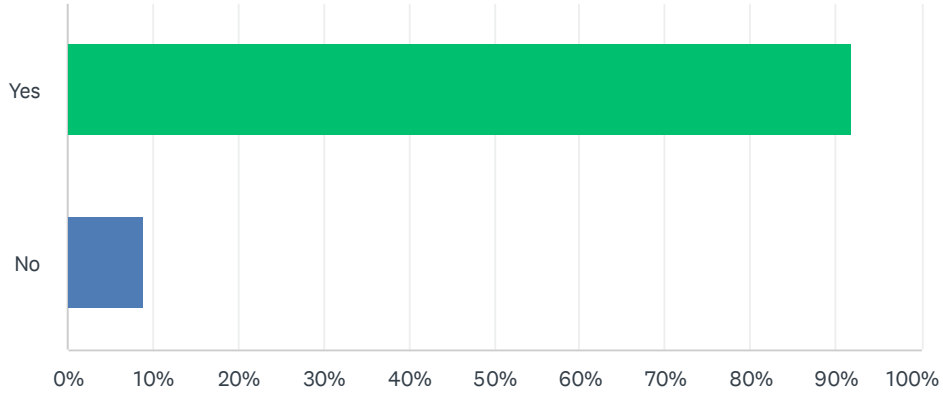
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.00%	92
No	3.00%	3
Yes, sometimes/part time	1.00%	1
If no, what city/town/village/township do you live in?	7.00%	7
Total Respondents: 100		

Q12
If no, what city/town/village/township do you live in?
I live in Lincoln Township
Coloma
Benton Harbor township
City of St Joseph, but road bike extensively throughout the township
Lincoln township, but I am right on the border of SJTwp.
Village of Shoreham

St Joseph Township

Q13 Do you or any of your family use St. Joseph Township Parks?

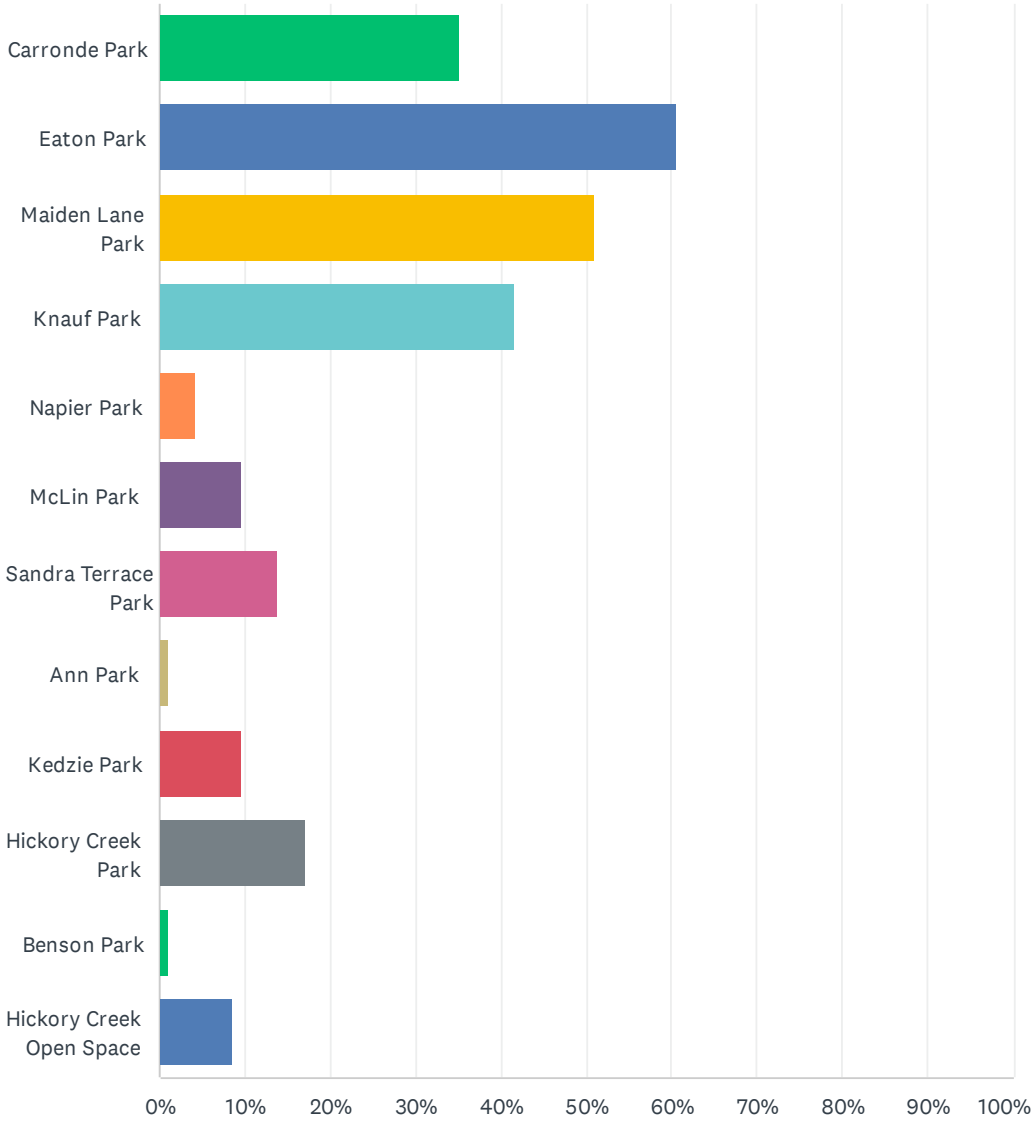
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.00%	92
No	9.00%	9
Total Respondents: 100		

Q14 If yes, which ones (select any you have ever used):

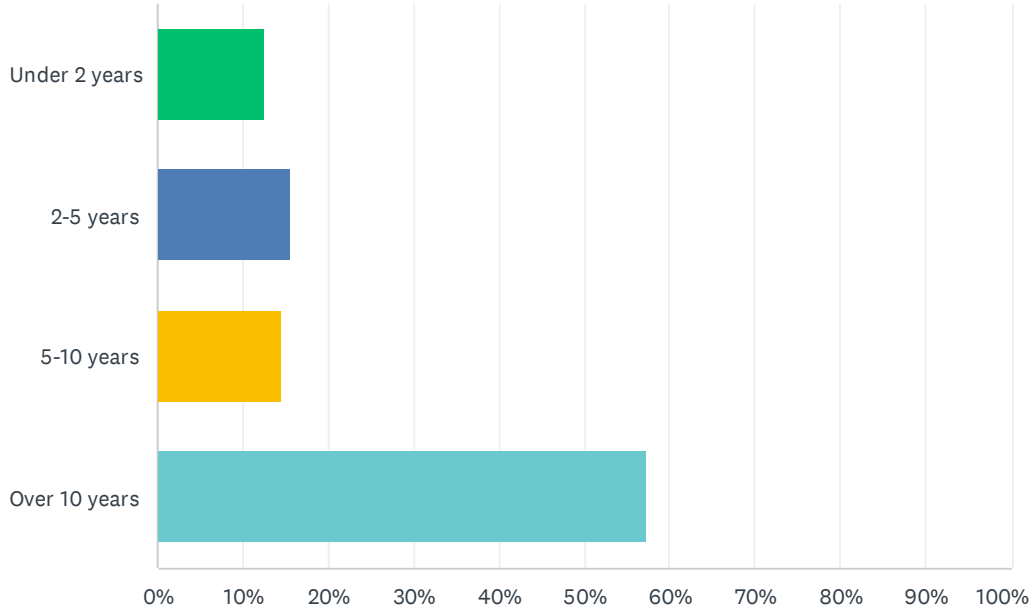
Answered: 94 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Carronde Park	35.11%	33
Eaton Park	60.64%	57
Maiden Lane Park	51.06%	48
Knauf Park	41.49%	39
Napier Park	4.26%	4
McLin Park	9.57%	9
Sandra Terrace Park	13.83%	13
Ann Park	1.06%	1
Kedzie Park	9.57%	9
Hickory Creek Park	17.02%	16
Benson Park	1.06%	1
Hickory Creek Open Space	8.51%	8
Total Respondents: 94		

Q15 How long have you been using St. Joseph Township parks?

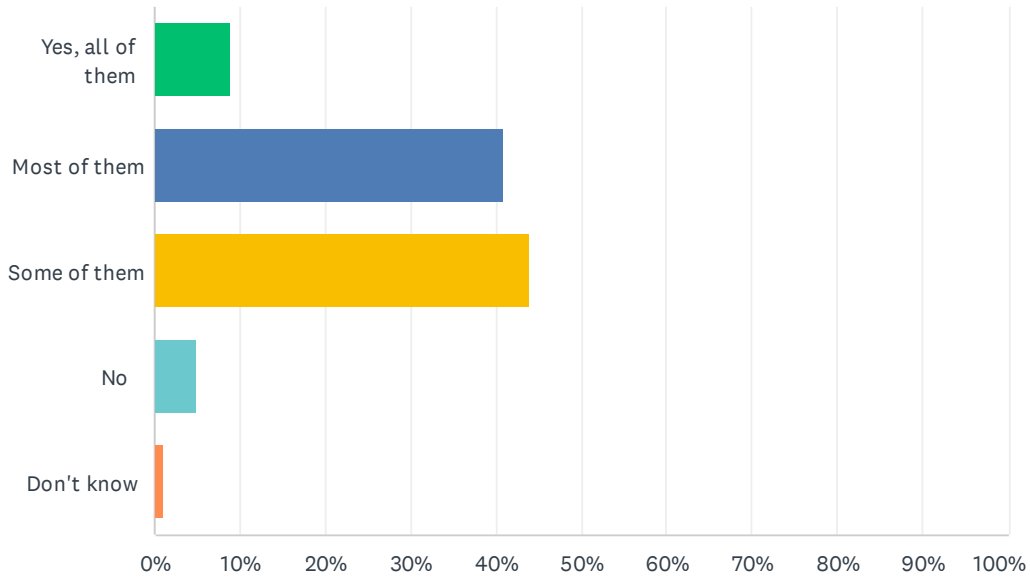
Answered: 96 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 2 years	12.50%	12
2-5 years	15.63%	15
5-10 years	14.58%	14
Over 10 years	57.29%	55
Total Respondents: 96		

Q16 I know where Township parks are

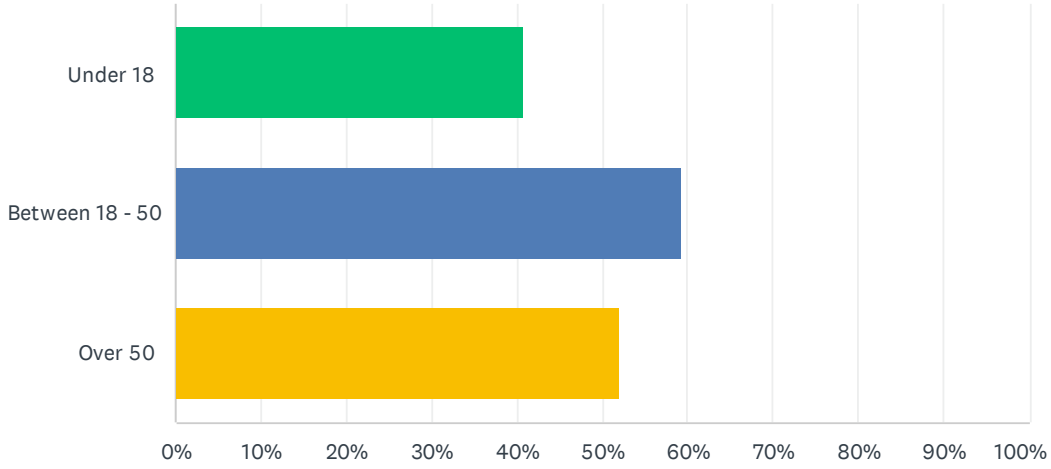
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, all of them	9.00%	9
Most of them	41.00%	41
Some of them	44.00%	44
No	5.00%	5
Don't know	1.00%	1
Total Respondents: 100		

Q17 What age ranges in your family use the parks? (Select all that apply)

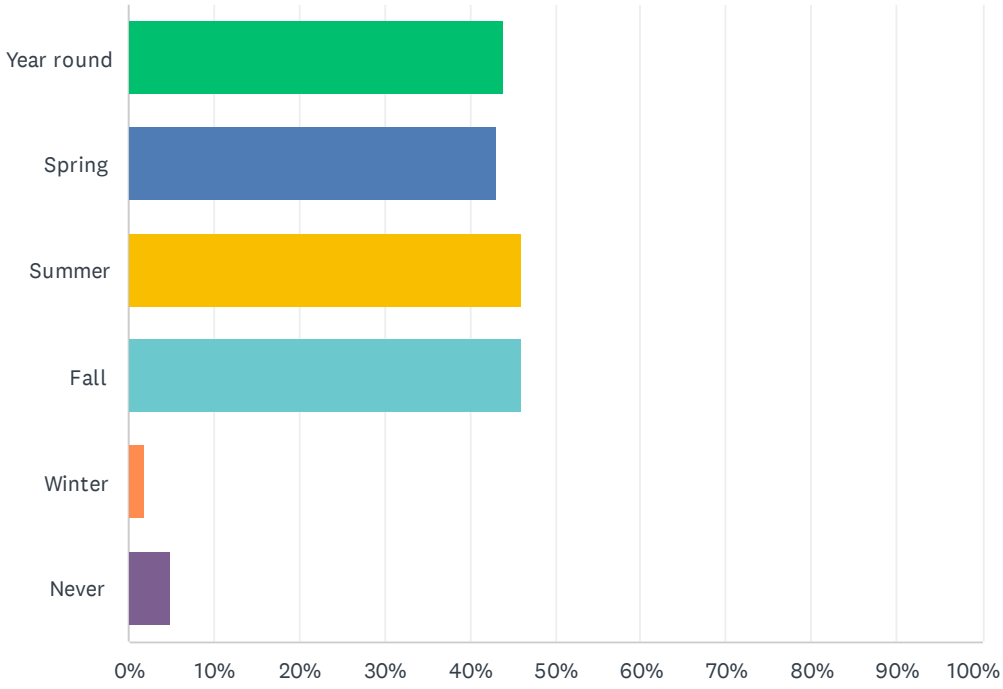
Answered: 98 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	40.82%	40
Between 18 - 50	59.18%	58
Over 50	52.04%	51
Total Respondents: 98		

Q18 When during the year do you use Township parks? (Select all that apply)

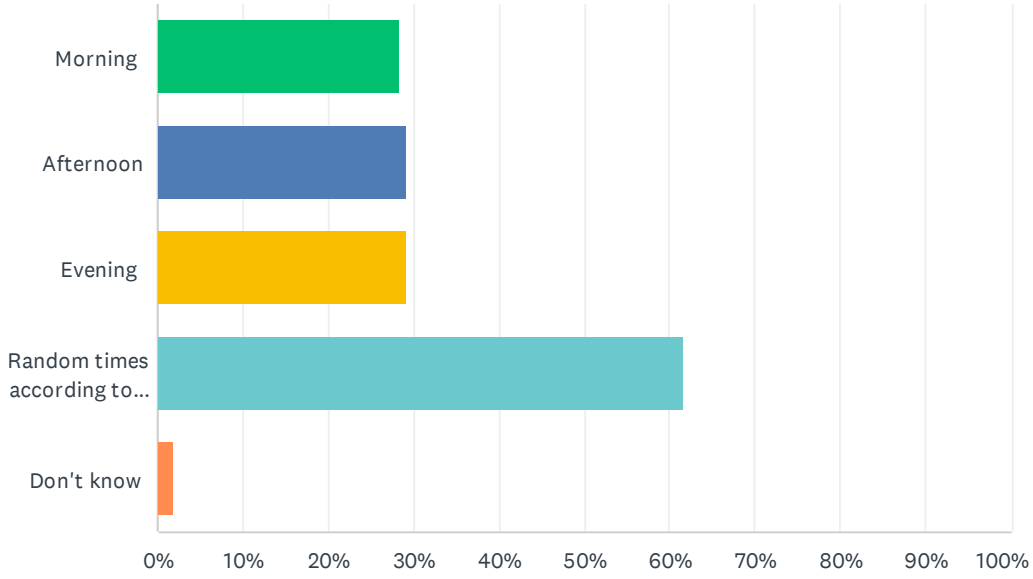
Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Year round	44.00%	44
Spring	43.00%	43
Summer	46.00%	46
Fall	46.00%	46
Winter	2.00%	2
Never	5.00%	5
Total Respondents: 100		

Q19 Generally, what times of day do you use Township parks?

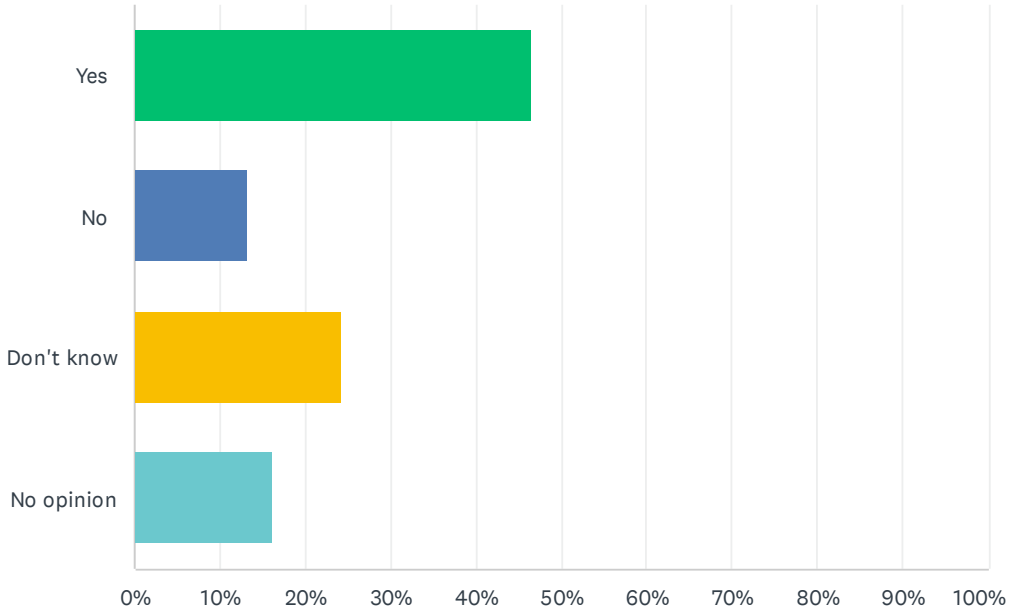
Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Morning	28.28%	28
Afternoon	29.29%	29
Evening	29.29%	29
Random times according to my schedule	61.62%	61
Don't know	2.02%	2
Total Respondents: 99		

Q20 I think the Township needs to acquire more public recreation/park areas.

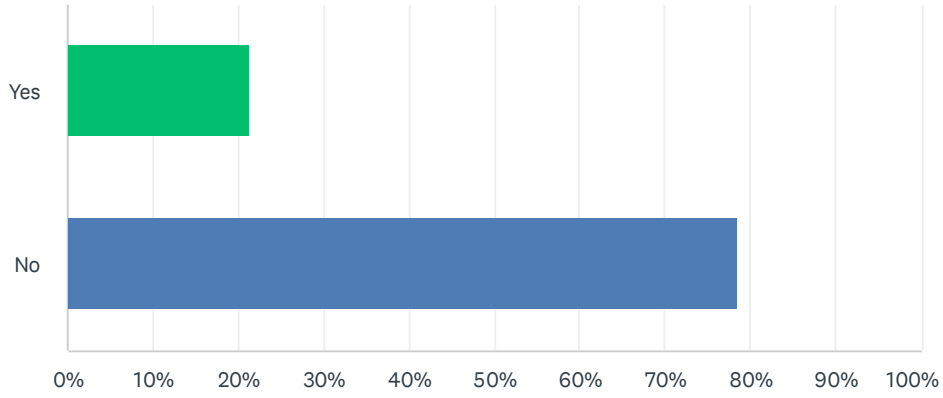
Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.46%	46
No	13.13%	13
Don't know	24.24%	24
No opinion	16.16%	16
Total Respondents: 99		

Q21 Does anyone in your household have mobility restrictions (i.e. walker, cane, wheelchair, hip/knee replacement, tire easily and need to rest often)

Answered: 98 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.43%	21
No	78.57%	77
Total Respondents: 98		

Q21
If yes to above, what supporting features would help them in a park (sidewalks, benches, flat surfaces etc)?
Sidewalk and bench
flat surfaces for wheelchairs and wider walkways so two people can walk abreast.

Sidewalks, benches, exercise stations, shade areas, safety lighting
Benches
Bathrooms sidewalks flat surfaces benches

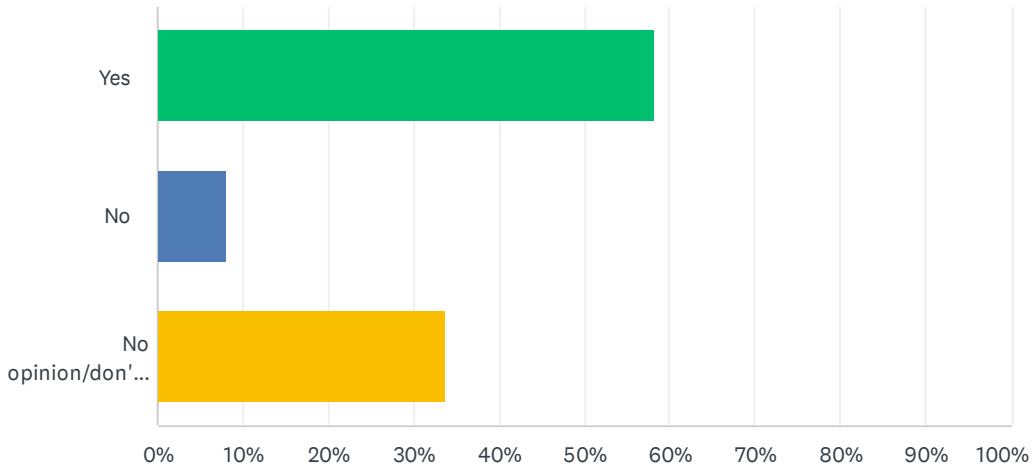
Bathrooms sidewalks flat surfaces benches
Paved walking surfaces, benches, drinking fountains.
Flat surfaces and benches
All of those
Golf cart

Wide sidewalks, ramps, and benches
All of the above listed limitations
Flat surfaces. Many more benches
Would love to see something for wheelchairs bound people. safe harness style swings for bigger children and the elderly
Flat surfaces for wheelchairs
Benches

Sidewalks

Q22 I think there is adequate parking at Township Parks

Answered: 98 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	58.16%	57
No	8.16%	8
No opinion/don't know	33.67%	33
Total Respondents: 98		

Q22
Comments
The few ive been to, i have never had an issue parking, rarely anybody there

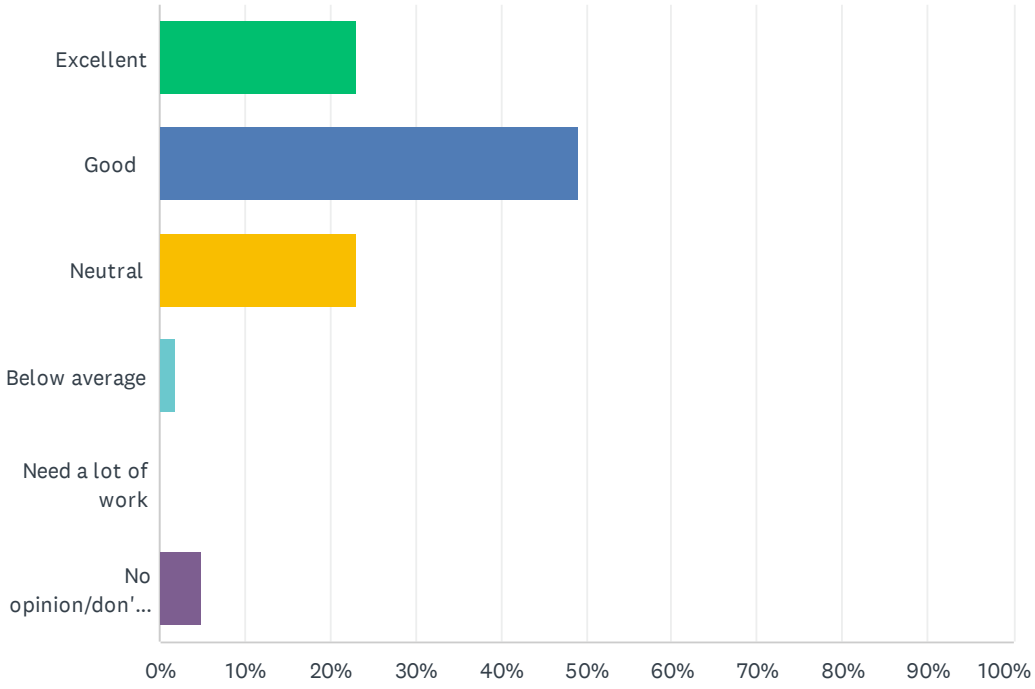
The township purchase the land on Cleveland ave at Hickory creek were that house was removed due to flooding. Nice location for park, picnic, fish, kayak etc. The area across the street is too small.
But probably because not fully used

But probably because not fully used
Yes, usually; No, for special events.
Needs sidewalks along major roadways. Need biking trails to connect to township commercial centers and other municipalities (e.g., St. Joseph downtown). Need a nature trail along Hickory Creek.

It would be great to have vacant land next to the formal parking lots for overflow parking during peak times
For the most part there is adequate parking. If we have more walking/non-motorized access, then parking will be in less demand

Q23 What is your impression of overall St Joseph Township park maintenance/conditions?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent	23.00%	23
Good	49.00%	49
Neutral	23.00%	23
Below average	2.00%	2
Need a lot of work	0.00%	0
No opinion/don't know	5.00%	5
Total Respondents: 100		

Q23
Comments
Not much to maintain at most of these locations

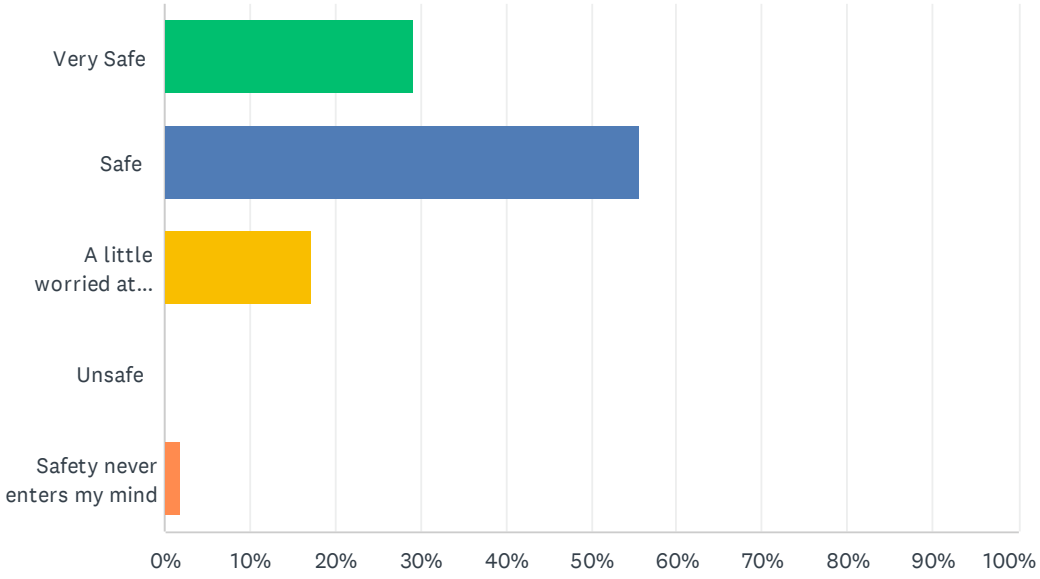
Could be better

Could be better
Parks are always clean and well maintained.

Are there volunteer clean up and maintenance days to increase community involvement and to better maintain our parks
Generally parks are very well maintained.
The people that take care of the grounds do an excellent job and you can tell they take pride in their work
Neighborhood parks need maintenance. Weeds are out of control.

Q24 How safe do you feel at Township parks?

Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Safe	29.29%	29
Safe	55.56%	55
A little worried at times	17.17%	17
Unsafe	0.00%	0
Safety never enters my mind	2.02%	2
Total Respondents: 99		

Q24
Comments

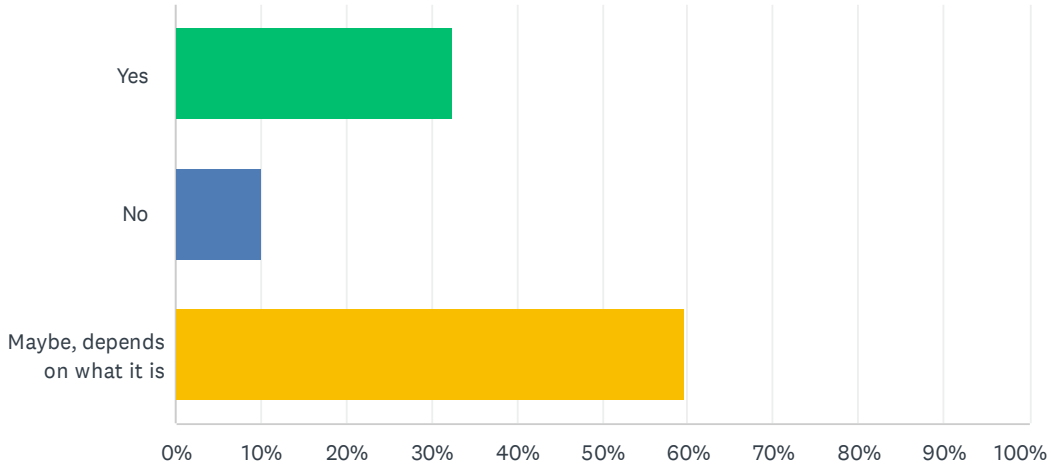
Trees need desperate Trimming in Sandra Terrace park. Growing into neighbors trees. Make terrible squeaking rubbing noises. Overgrown bushes. Unsafe play equipment
Sometimes to many unleashed dogs.
Again not fully used

Again not fully used
I feel a little worried at times when I am there by myself or walking my dogs. There should be a safely alarm in place at all township parks.

Single woman

Q25 I would contribute financially to a parks improvement project (donation/fundraiser).

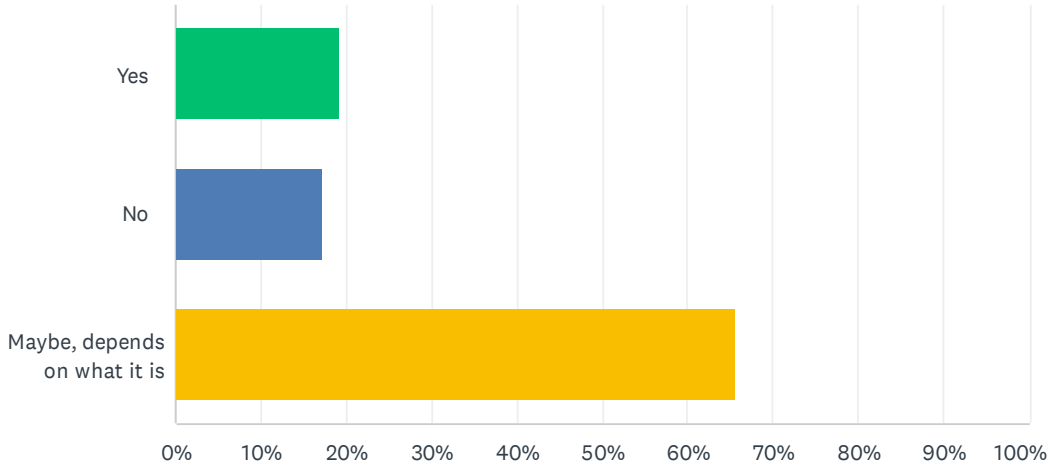
Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	32.32%	32
No	10.10%	10
Maybe, depends on what it is	59.60%	59
Total Respondents: 99		

Q26 I would contribute my time/volunteer for a parks improvement or maintenance project.

Answered: 99 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	19.19%	19
No	17.17%	17
Maybe, depends on what it is	65.66%	65
Total Respondents: 99		

Q27 What action could the Township take to increase your family's participation in outdoor recreation?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 55

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Newer bathrooms, pickle ball at Eaton park	9/18/2022 5:09 PM
2	Requests	9/18/2022 4:58 PM
3	Nothing , people just need to turn the tv off and get out. Can not do it for them.	9/14/2022 3:44 PM
4	Improving the small neighborhood parks	9/13/2022 8:51 PM
5	I don't know where many of the parks are or what they offer. If I knew more about it I could take advantage of the parks.	9/13/2022 4:52 PM
6	Bike lanes would be HUGE. The cycling community in the area is growing quick and it’s a much needed safety feature.	9/13/2022 4:15 PM
7	A well built website listing activities available, volunteering opportunities etc.	9/13/2022 12:58 PM
8	Walking and biking paths especially to the beach/bluff	9/13/2022 12:16 PM
9	Develop more extensive and interconnected facilities for off road running and cycling, ideally away from roadway corridors	9/13/2022 10:59 AM
10	Add more non motorized trails	9/13/2022 9:49 AM
11	handicap accessible restrooms at all parks a way to alert authorities quickly if there is activity or conditions of immediate concern.	9/13/2022 7:28 AM
12	Get new play equipment for the Sandra Terrace park ASAP	9/6/2022 11:45 PM
13	Make the park bigger/ Add more play equipment, basketball courts. Or build a new playground behind the township hall	9/6/2022 11:02 PM
14	More sidewalks to walk to parks.	9/6/2022 10:55 AM
15	better promoting what the township has to offer. Maiden lane has added a lot in recent years. I don't know exactly what they have over there.	9/5/2022 6:47 PM
16	Set up a parks & rec. dept. with public activities and classes for all ages.	9/1/2022 11:33 PM
17	I have no Safe way to get to Carronde park due to the townships lack of sidewalks or lower speeds! I encourage ALL township board members to walk Fair Plain Ave or Jakway at 5pm and see how safe they feel. It is absolutely matter of time until someone is killed. But keep asking for $$ to update parks that require us to drive to.	9/1/2022 2:14 AM
18	Connect trails for safe bicycling and hiking, avoiding the need to ride or walk in the road. Organize (even just set up on TeamReach app to facilitate self organizing) and provide courts and nets for Pickleball play. Maintain hiking trails, especially in winter. Finish Hickory Creek water trail. More restrooms. A water park and community pool would be nice.	8/31/2022 9:59 PM
19	More walking and biking	8/31/2022 9:02 AM
20	Connect trails for safe bicycling and hiking, avoiding the need to ride or walk in the road. Organize (even just set up on TeamReach app to facilitate self organizing) and provide courts and nets for Pickleball play. Maintain hiking trails, especially in winter. Finish Hickory Creek water trail. More restrooms. A water park and community pool would be nice.	8/30/2022 10:17 AM
21	Enjoyable walking paths, kayak launch, fishing dock.	8/29/2022 12:09 PM
22	As a bicyclist I would like to see more and safer bike lanes along township roads, and possibly trails connecting parks when possible.	8/28/2022 8:21 PM

23	Safe walking and biking pathways	8/28/2022 4:32 PM
24	Not sure	8/27/2022 6:05 PM
25	None	8/27/2022 8:15 AM
26	Advertising and availability along with education on what is offered and how to use equipment properly.	8/27/2022 2:24 AM
27	Make whatever is available should be user friendly for the older population	8/26/2022 10:50 PM
28	Keep the recreational parks open all-year long. Make it safe and accessible for everyone to enjoy.	8/26/2022 4:59 PM
29	Permanent/maintained pickleball and tennis courts.	8/26/2022 4:57 PM
30	Have more organized events especially for seniors.	8/26/2022 4:12 PM
31	More sidewalks	8/26/2022 2:56 PM
32	More benches and shade	8/26/2022 2:02 PM
33	More pickleball courts, more walking trails, safer way to walk to trails	8/26/2022 1:57 PM
34	More, activities on or near the river. Indoor walking venue in the winter.	8/26/2022 1:51 PM
35	Allow outside educational groups to utilize the parks as long as they encourage/allow free or reduced involvement from township residents.	8/26/2022 1:09 PM
36	Continue keeping them well maintained. Consistent Police drive-through's every day - especially evening and as dusk falls if park is open.	8/26/2022 1:07 PM
37	More safe hiking/biking/running trails	8/26/2022 1:02 PM
38	A pool!	8/26/2022 1:02 PM
39	Updating kednzie	8/26/2022 12:51 PM
40	Adequate, clean and safe restrooms. Quiet areas to listen to nature.	8/26/2022 12:40 PM
41	Safer flooring such as Astro turf under play ground equipment.	8/26/2022 12:40 PM
42	?	8/26/2022 12:39 PM
43	Fix tennis courts/pickle call courts in Caronde park	8/26/2022 12:36 PM
44	Bike paths to the parks	8/26/2022 12:32 PM
45	I don't like bugs, but don't get rid of the bugs. I'll just stay inside.	8/26/2022 12:30 PM
46	Expand areas for more use.	8/26/2022 12:30 PM

Q28 Please list any other thoughts/comments you have about Township parks/outdoor recreation opportunities.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 71

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Make knauf park accessible to electric vehicles	9/18/2022 5:09 PM
2	Did I mention we'd love pickleball courts?;)	9/18/2022 4:58 PM
3	Twp does a outstanding job, live 32 year and best managed in the area. over doing it does not make it better. Do a outstand job with police and fire and keeping taxes in line. you could teach the other areas a few thing.	9/14/2022 3:44 PM
4	I would like better development of the June Trace Trail and surrounding opportunities in the adjacent woodlands. Would like to see the trail paved and the system extended to provide access in areas to the south and west, namely South Shore Racquet Club. In the future, I would also like to see coordination with adjacent municipalities to provide system access to Glenlord Beach (and the nearby bike route), Downtown Stevensville, and Lincoln Township facilities. Id also like to see off road facilities constructed on M-63 north of June Trace to connect the township's facilities and bike friendly streets with the City of St Joseph (Lakeview and S. State to the West, St Joseph Drive to the east). Riding on that section on M-63 is very scary because there is very little lateral clearance from traffic with the curbs in place and very limited visibility due to the horizontal roadway curvature from the south and vertical roadway curvature from the north. Another thing id like to see is better development of resources along Hickory Creek. It would be awesome if hiking and/or mountain bike trails could be developed along the creek corridor. Additionally, having Hickory Creek cleaned up and cleared of debris could create for awesome paddling opportunities. This is especially true with proposed developments at the creek outlet near the Berrien Hills Golf Course site. Lastly, I would like to see the Berrien Hills Golf Course site integrated into the existing non-motorized plan in a way that allows for connections to the neighborhood streets in Fairplain (and by extension, Carronade Park). Additionally better biking/walking facilities on Napier Ave (including on the bridge) and Miami Rd to allow for connections to St Joseph (via the new path along Langly ave) and the Benton Harbor River Front (via Miami Rd). As far as the Berrien Hills site itself, i think that could act as a hub non-motorized trail usage in the township. Alot of people already use the abandoned golf course and cart paths for recreation.	9/13/2022 10:59 AM
5	The township has some very good parks.	9/13/2022 9:49 AM
6	We consider it a privilege to live in this community! We do winter out of state. My kids & grandkids also love SJ City facilities such as the splashpad. However, with this terrible economy, rising prices, & lower population numbers I think expensive improvements to our community would be hard to justify to taxpayers.	9/8/2022 9:20 PM
7	Please update the Sandra Terrace park	9/6/2022 11:45 PM
8	I'd like to see some tennis courts, basketball courts, maybe softball fields in the big area behind the township hall	9/6/2022 11:02 PM
9	My family is new to area and haven't yet visited all of the parks. But we have enjoyed what we have experienced so far.	9/6/2022 10:55 AM
10	Royalton township is building a lot of new things at Maiden lane next to Hanson International so we don't need to copy what they are doing by adding football and softball fields. We really don't need a pool since we have the lake. We don't need ice skating anymore.	9/5/2022 6:47 PM
11	Low speed vehicles use in the township to allow greater access to parks.	9/2/2022 12:29 AM
12	40 mph on Jakway is insane! Put your kids on their bike on that street!	9/1/2022 2:14 AM
13	Very important for community health. Need to make sure recreation is funded (ideally with grants)..don't just divert funds from other township responsibilities.	8/31/2022 9:59 PM

14	More sidewalks and bike trails!	8/31/2022 9:02 AM
15	Very important for community health. Need to make sure recreation is funded (ideally with grants)..don’t just divert funds from other township responsibilities.	8/30/2022 10:17 AM
16	Ovwrrall I think the township does a very good job with our public parks.	8/28/2022 8:21 PM
17	None	8/27/2022 6:05 PM
18	We're very lucky to have our parks. Ilike them just the way the are. Thank you	8/27/2022 8:15 AM
19	I would love to see improved walkablity from different areas of the township	8/27/2022 2:24 AM
20	Would love to see safe and accessible bike paths/walking paths that would be available in the township.	8/26/2022 4:59 PM
21	I play tennis and pickleball at Shoreham Park, Lincoln Park, and St. Joseph HS. St. Joseph HS courts are maintained the best. I have had to work on the nets at both Shoreham and Lincoln. If courts/nets were maintained through out the year, they would last longer and be in good shape for play.	8/26/2022 4:57 PM
22	We are fortunate to have a community that cares about our opinions. Thank you😊	8/26/2022 4:12 PM
23	There should be a sidewalk down the length of Maiden Ln between Hollywood Rd and Washington Ave. This is a heavily used walking and biking road that needs a sidewalk.	8/26/2022 2:56 PM
24	I have 5 very active grandkids, we greatly appreciate our township parks.	8/26/2022 1:09 PM
25	I appreciate the number and quality of outdoor resources available. Thanks	8/26/2022 1:07 PM
26	I enjoy using the parks..being I live in Lakeshore school district it us frustrating that sj Township favors st. Joseph public schools over Lakeshore	8/26/2022 12:51 PM
27	Township does a good job providing parks and outdoor areas.	8/26/2022 12:40 PM
28	Dont raise my taxes any more! Hardly cant afford to live here now. Give a break on our taxes for schools etc we havent used in 35 years when our last child graduated.	8/26/2022 12:38 PM
29	See question 9	8/26/2022 12:36 PM
30	I think the free parks are important offerings to have for people who enjoy outside activities. I am not one of them, but I still think they've important for people to have access to.	8/26/2022 12:30 PM

NOTICE OF THE DRAFT PLAN FOR 30 DAYS OF PUBLIC COMMENT

NOTICE AND MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES FROM THE MEETING TO PASS A RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

RESOLUTION ADOPTING PLAN

TRANSMITTAL LETTERS TO THE COUNTY AND REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCIES