

PARK ELEMENTS 1 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

- ① Parking Lot & Bio-Swale
- ② Primary Signage With Map
- ③ Secondary Signage With Park Rules
- ④ Wayfinding Elements:
 - Color Coded Wayfinding Markers For Trails
 - Signage With Rules For Hike & Bike Trails
- ⑤ PVC Boundary Markers With Rules
- ⑥ 8' Trail to Remain as Aggregate Path
- ⑦ Boardwalk Trails
 - From Upper Woodlands To 10' Trail
 - Grade For ADA Accessibility To 10' Trail
- ⑦a Boardwalk To Utility Easement
- ⑧ Gravel Hike & Bike Trail
- ⑨ Complete Secondary Entrance / Trail
 - Remove Concrete Driveway, Replace Curb
- ⑩ "Control Point" Roundabout
- ⑪ Bike Racks
- ⑫ Sculpture(s) On Hamlin Road

PARK ELEMENTS 2 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

- ① Major Grading For Pond Basin & "Wet" Detention Basin
- ② Stockpile Material Spoils For Landscape Forms
- ③ Land Forms
- ④ Lake Development
- ⑤ Create Water Features:
 - Water Wall
 - Cascading "Waterfall"
- ⑥ Terrace Seating Around Pond
- ⑦ Grade Pads For Senior Play Area
- ⑧ Grade Pads For Kids Play Area
- ⑨ Trail & Pad For Kayak Landing On Clinton River
- ⑩ Landscaping: Planting & Seeding

PARK ELEMENTS 3 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

- ① Senior Play Elements:
 - Exercise Stations
 - Gathering/ Observation Area/ Seating/ Shelter
- ② Kids Play Elements:
 - Natural Playscape
 - Sensory Garden
 - Tree House
 - Special Needs Play Area
 - Spiral Mound
- ③ Pavilion / Shelter
- ④ Art & Sculptures
- ⑤ "New" Park Main Entrance
- ⑥ Maintenance Structure With Restroom

PARK ELEMENTS 4 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

- ① Crescent Overlook Of River
- ② "Bird's Nest" Elevated Viewing Platform
- ③ "The Point" Observation Deck
- ④ Wetland Observation Tower
- ⑤ Shelter Structure
 - 5a Adult Area
 - 5b Kids Area
- ⑥ Living Art & Architecture

PARK ELEMENTS 5 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

- ① Community Pavilion Structure

PARK ELEMENTS 6 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

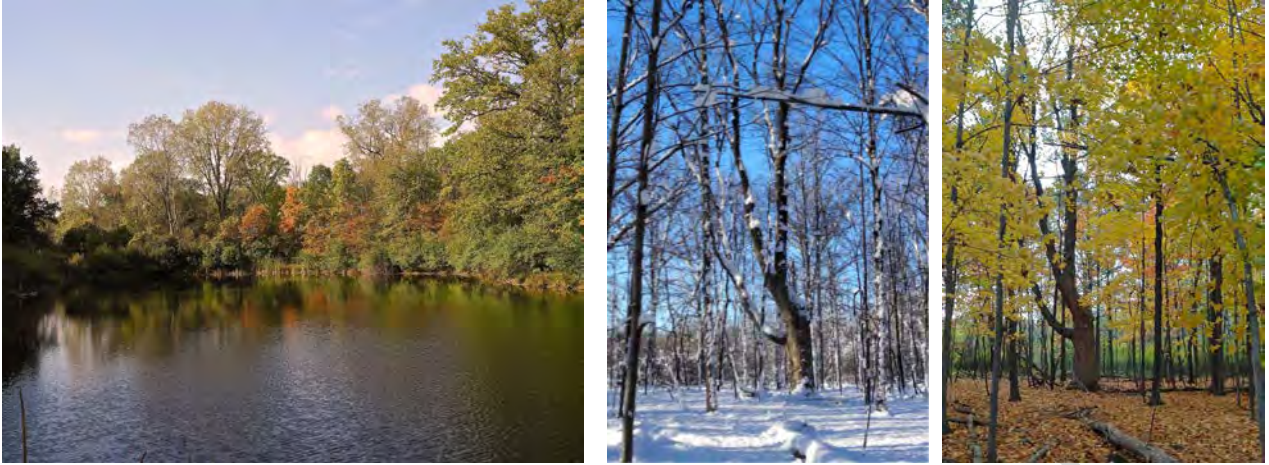
- ① Prefabricated Steel Truss Bridge From South Property To North Property
 - Requires ±600' to 800' for connection
- ② Secure Additional Greenspace to Complete Gravel Hike & Bike Trail Through Sanitary Easement
 - Continue Trail Along Hamlin Road, Connecting With The Secondary Entrance
- ③ Rope Bridge across The Clinton River



RIVERBEND PARK

EXERCISE | EXPLORE | ENGAGE | EXPERIENCE | EDUCATE | EVOLVE
 MASTER PLAN 1-25-2016





Riverbend Park

Park Classification

Major/Community Park

Size

118.4 acres (includes 48.4 acres of green space known as Riverbend North)

Location

Western central portion of the City, on the north side of Hamlin Rd., east of Adams Rd.

Description

Purchased by the City in 1991 using recreational bonds, the park consists of prairie, dense hardwood forests, and pristine wetlands with the Clinton River unobtrusively winding through the site. The 48.4 acres north of the Clinton River were purchased by the City through the green space fund in 2015.

Private donations coupled with City funds have been used to develop a parking lot and the start of a pathway system in the park along with a detailed study of the park that sets the vision and future plans for the park. This plan is included in *Appendix D Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan*.

Recommended Action Items

1. Implement concept plan for Riverbend Park as identified in *Appendix D Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan*
2. Actively seek funding for development as identified in *Appendix D Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan*

Thelma G. Spencer Park





Thelma G. Spencer Park

Park Classification

Major/Community Park

Size

113 acres

Location

Southeastern portion of the City, on the east side of John R Rd., just north of M-59

Description

Spencer Park's main attraction is the 38-acre Carter Lake which provides swimming, fishing and boating opportunities. The park contains play structures, a barrier-free fishing pier, a picnic shelter, picnic areas, boat rentals, two tennis courts, sand volleyball, soccer fields, trails, restrooms, concession stand, office, and first aid station. Wintertime offerings include ice-skating, ice fishing, and hockey.

Recommended Action Items

1. Consider the development of a "splash pad" or other aquatic recreation facilities for increased usage
2. Enclose drainage ditch to increase picnic area
3. Expand and improve parking areas
4. Construct additional picnic shelter and other picnic facilities near the southwest corner of Carter Lake
5. Improve ADA compliance

Yates Roadside Park





Yates Roadside Park

Park Classification

Major/Community Park

Size

4.3 acres

Location

Eastern central portion of the City, on the northwest side of Avon and Dequindre Rds., across from Yates Cider Mill

Description

Yates Park has direct river access and is a popular scenic spot for fishing and canoe/kayak launching on the Clinton River. Picnic areas and grills are provided. The park is adjacent to the southeastern edge of Bloomer Park and the Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal historic site and offers a multitude of passive recreational opportunities.

Recommended Action Items

1. Construct an accessible pathway and canoe/kayak launch into the Clinton River, including a portage around the existing dam
2. Incorporate recommendations of the CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report to improve stormwater runoff
3. Reconstruct and surface parking lot
4. Improve river access, stream bank protection and river experience
5. Add interpretive signage
6. Install play area equipment
7. Improve ADA compliance

Helen V. Allen Park





Helen V. Allen Park

Park Classification

Neighborhood Park

Size

9.9 acres

Location

Western central portion of the City, on the south side of School Rd. between John R and Dequindre Rds.

Description

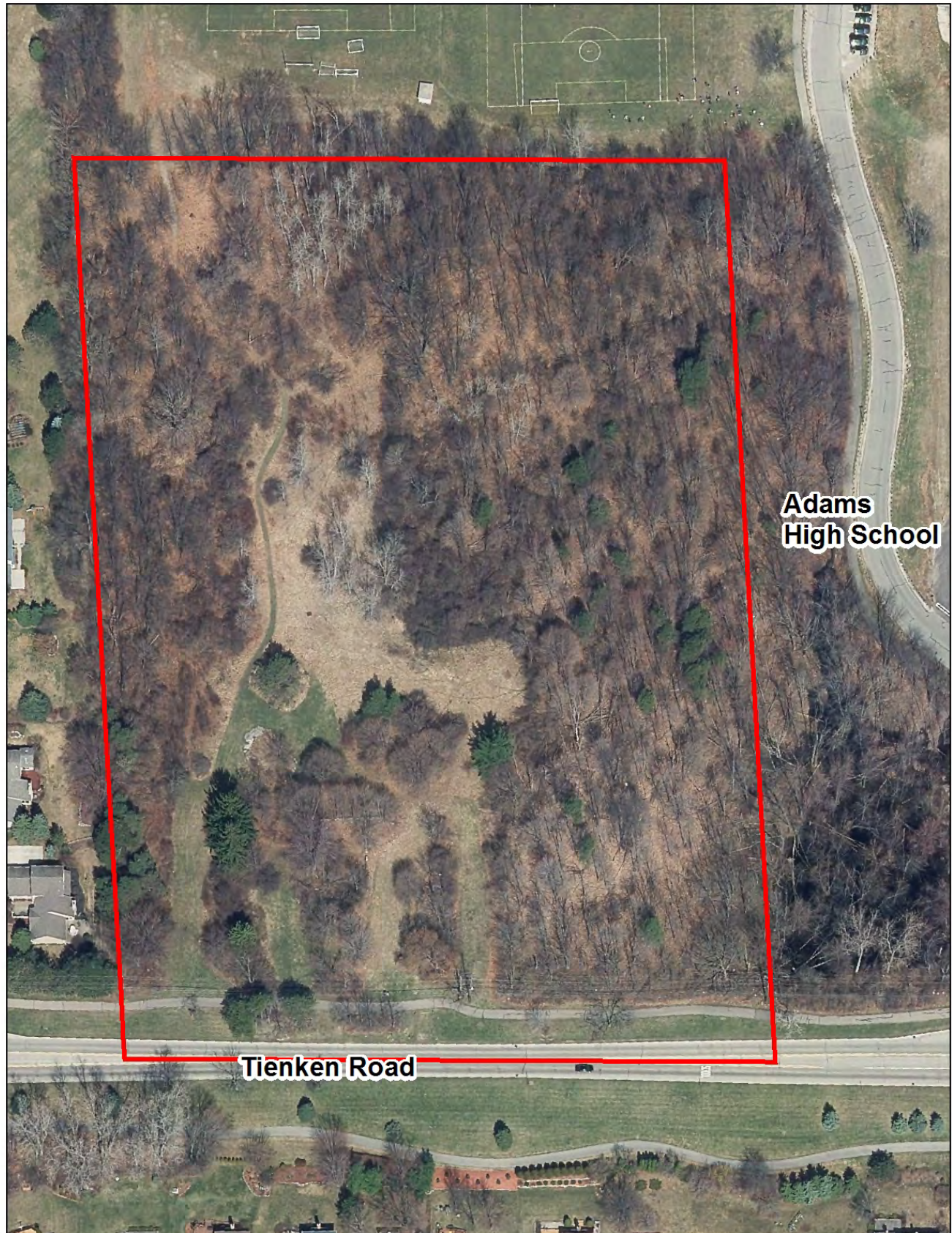
Helen V. Allen Park contains two softball fields, a gravel parking lot and portable restroom facilities.

Recommended Action Items

1. Improve ADA compliance

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

Tienken Road Park Property





Tienken Road Park Property

Park Classification

Neighborhood Park

Size

10 acres

Location

Northern central portion of the City, on the north side of Tienken Rd., west of Adams Rd.

Description

This property is heavily wooded and currently undeveloped.

Recommended Action Items

1. Prepare a concept plan for potential development that respects the natural features on-site

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT

Wabash Park





Wabash Park

Park Classification

Neighborhood Park

Size

3.7 acres

Location

Southern central portion of the City, on the north side of Wabash Rd. between Norton Lawn and Hickory Lawn Rds.

Description

Wabash Park contains a playground, community garden with 96 plots, and a small gravel parking lot.

Recommended Action Items

1. Pave parking lot
2. Add small picnic shelter/structure
3. Improve ADA compliance

Avon Nature Area





Avon Nature Area

Park Classification

Special Use or Conservancy Park

Size

97.4 acres

Location

Central portion of the City, on the southwest corner of Avon and Livernois Rds., with access off of either road

Description

Two miles of hiking trails, scenic overlooks, picnic areas and the City Hall Pond are available resources. The restoration portion identified in previous plan was nearly completed including channelizing Avon Creek and installing a bypass channel for fish passage. However, funding was depleted and the project was placed on hold.

Recommended Action Items

1. Construct an accessible pathway and canoe/kayak launch into the Clinton River
2. Incorporate recommendations of the CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report to improve stormwater runoff
3. Improve Eagle's Landing parking lot
4. Improve ADA compliance

Pine Trace Golf Course





Pine Trace Golf Course

Park Classification

Special Use or Conservancy Park

Size

193.8 acres

Location

Southwestern portion of the City, on the north side of South Blvd. between Crooks and Auburn Rds.

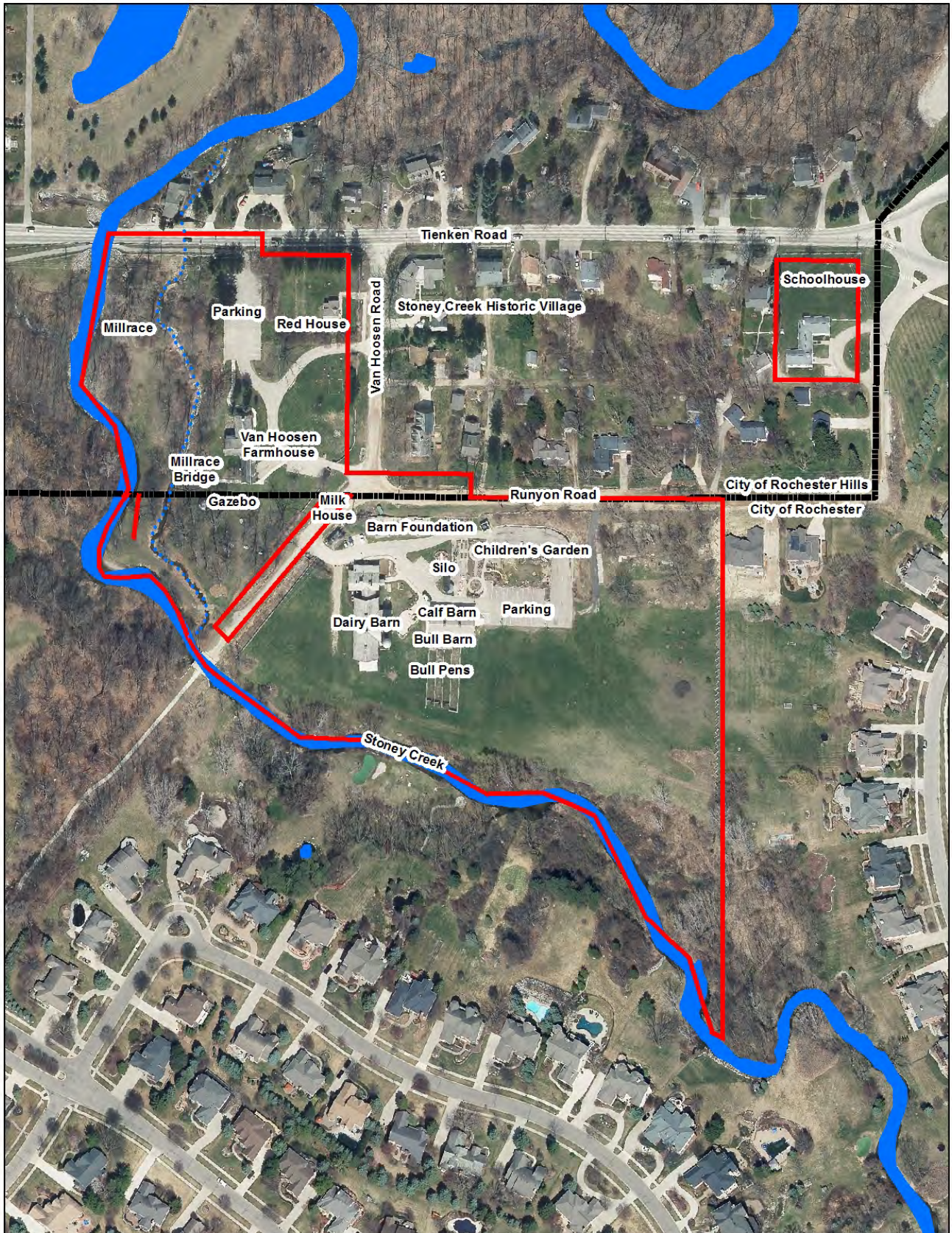
Description

Pine Trace Golf Club offers 18 of the most challenging holes in southeastern Michigan. This public golf course was designed by Arthur Hills and built in 1989. It is nestled in among 193 wooded acres, featuring pine trees bordering all its fairways, and 60 acres of natural wetlands throughout the course. An abundance of natural features helps give Pine Trace a Northern Michigan flavor. Pine Trace Golf Club is a public/private partnership with the City of Rochester Hills.

Recommended Action Items

1. Improve ADA compliance

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm





Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

Park Classification

Special Use or Conservancy Park

Size

16.1 acres

Location

Northeast portion of the City, south of Tienken Rd. on Van Hoosen Rd., west of Runyon and Washington Rds.

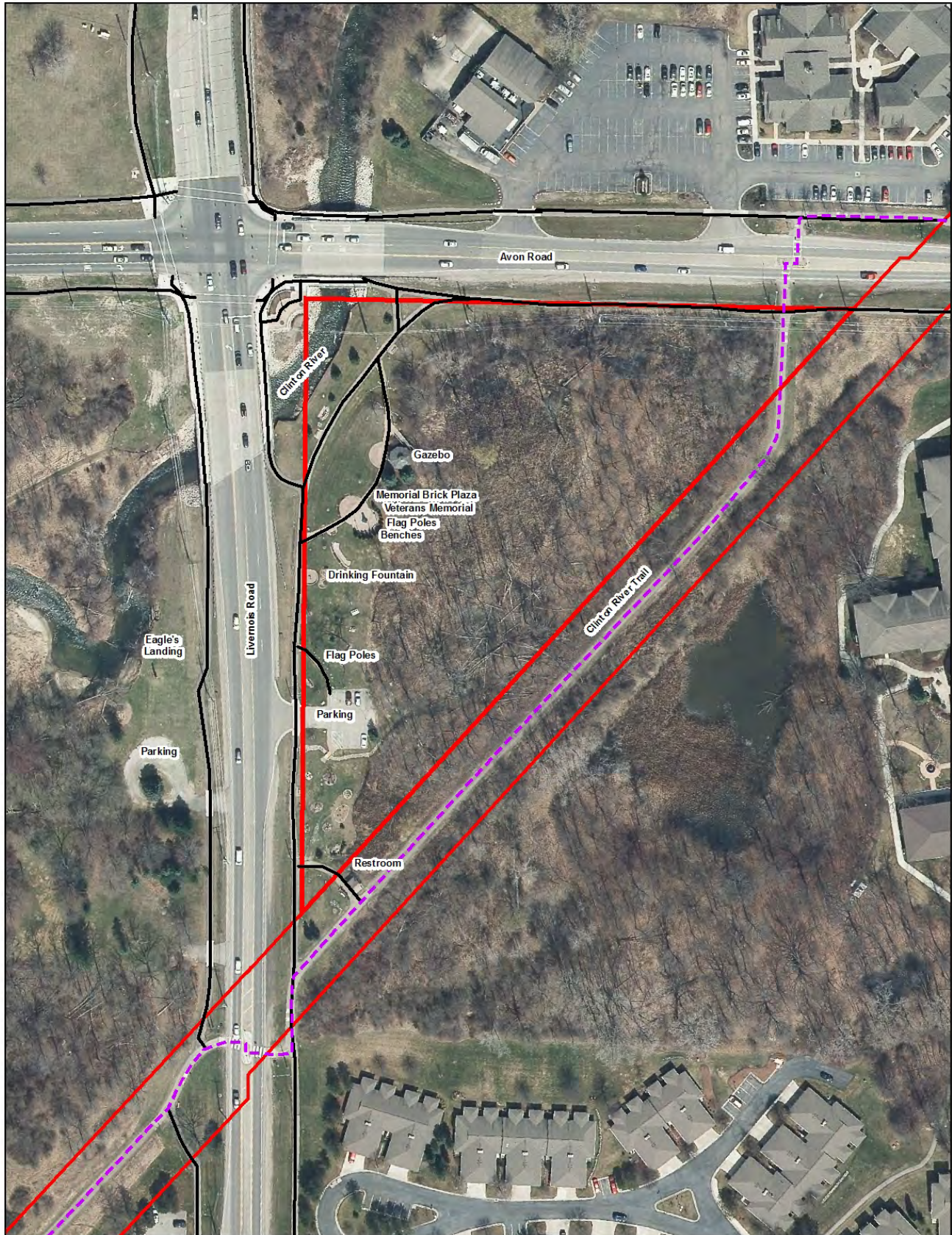
Description

Located in the Stoney Creek Historic District, the museum serves as a cultural, educational, and recreational facility that preserves and promotes the history of the Rochester Hills area. Group programs, day camps, picnic areas, gardens, schoolhouse, farmhouse and dairy barn tours, and fishing are offered attractions on this site, which borders Stoney Creek. The restoration of the Calf Barn which was identified in the previous plan is complete and the use of the building is high demand.

Recommended Action Items

1. Correct drainage problems
2. Expand parking
3. Rebuild equipment barn
4. Improve ADA compliance

Veterans Memorial Pointe





Veterans Memorial Pointe

Park Classification

Special Use or Conservancy Park

Size

5.1 acres

Location

Central portion of the City, on the southeast corner of Avon and Livernois Rds.

Description

Veterans Memorial Pointe Park is connected to the Clinton River Trail, adjacent to the Clinton River, and is located near the center of the City. This park's most significant feature is a plaza area that contains a memorial to United States veterans. Events are held at this plaza on both Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

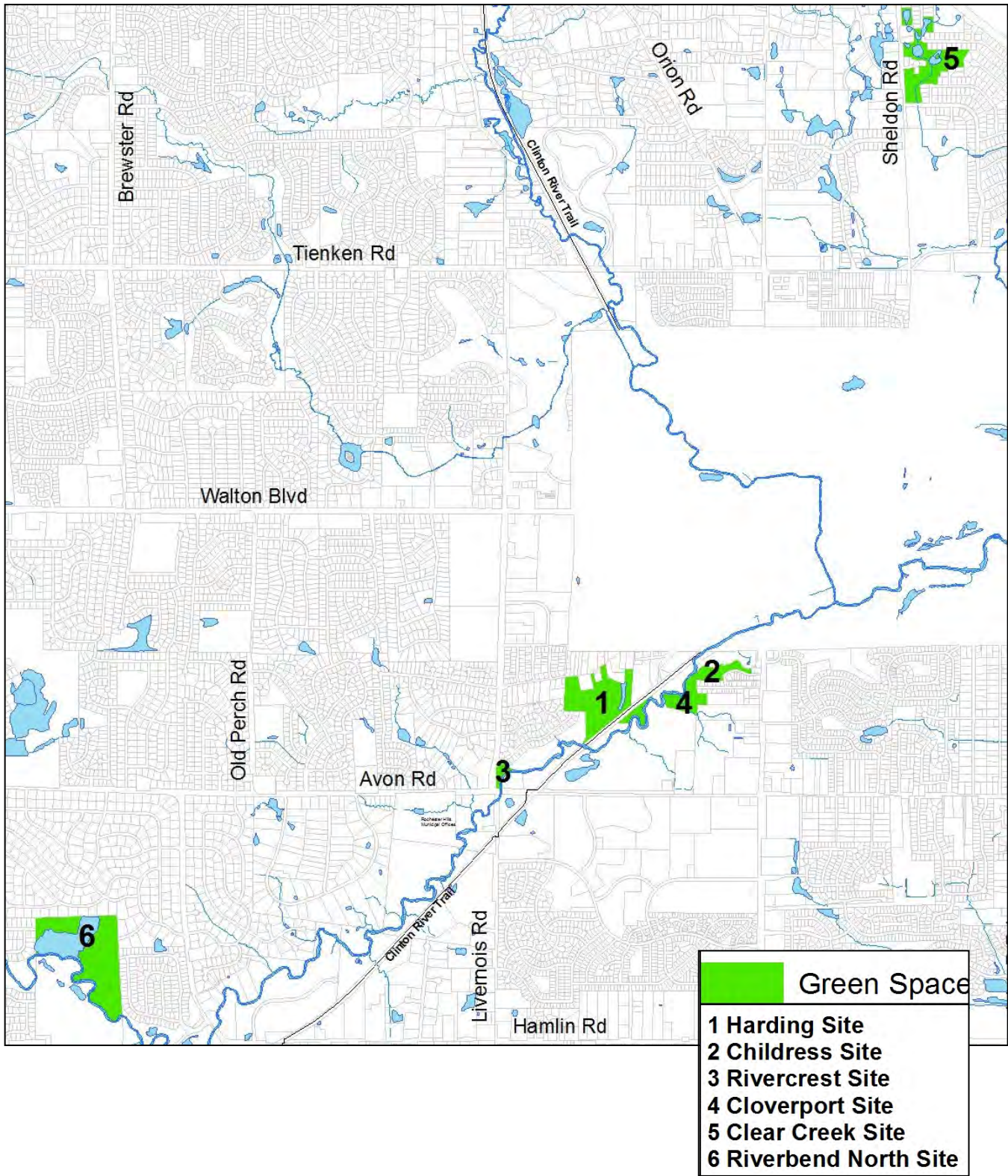
A group of active citizens who desired a civic space for reflection and recognition of area veterans fundraised for the development of this city-owned park. Personalized brick pavers were sold for additional funding, and line the path in front of the plaza and to a nearby gazebo. A vault toilet building and drinking fountain are available for park users as well as travelers on the Clinton River Trail. A small parking lot and access to the Clinton River Trail are also provided.

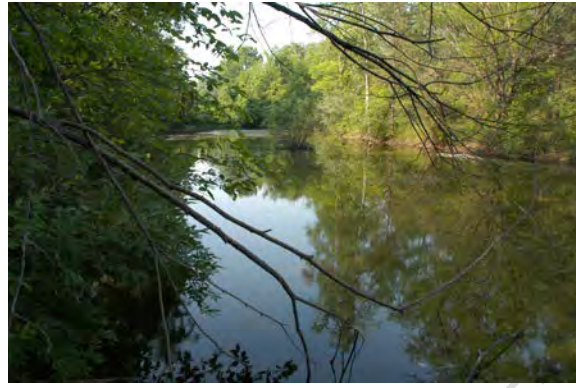
Recommended Action Items

1. Refurbish parking lot and pathways
2. Improve ADA compliance



Green Space Properties





Green Space Properties

Park Classification

Special Use or Conservancy Park

Size

64.9 acres (plus 48.4 acres of Riverbend North included in Riverbend Park acreage)

Location

6 parcels located throughout the City primarily located along the Clinton River

Description

Green space millage funds are used to “permanently preserve natural green spaces, wildlife habitats and scenic views; protect woodlands, wetlands, rivers and streams; and expand the Clinton River Greenway and other trail corridors.” When evaluating potential properties to be purchased with green space funds, the committee looks at the following criteria:

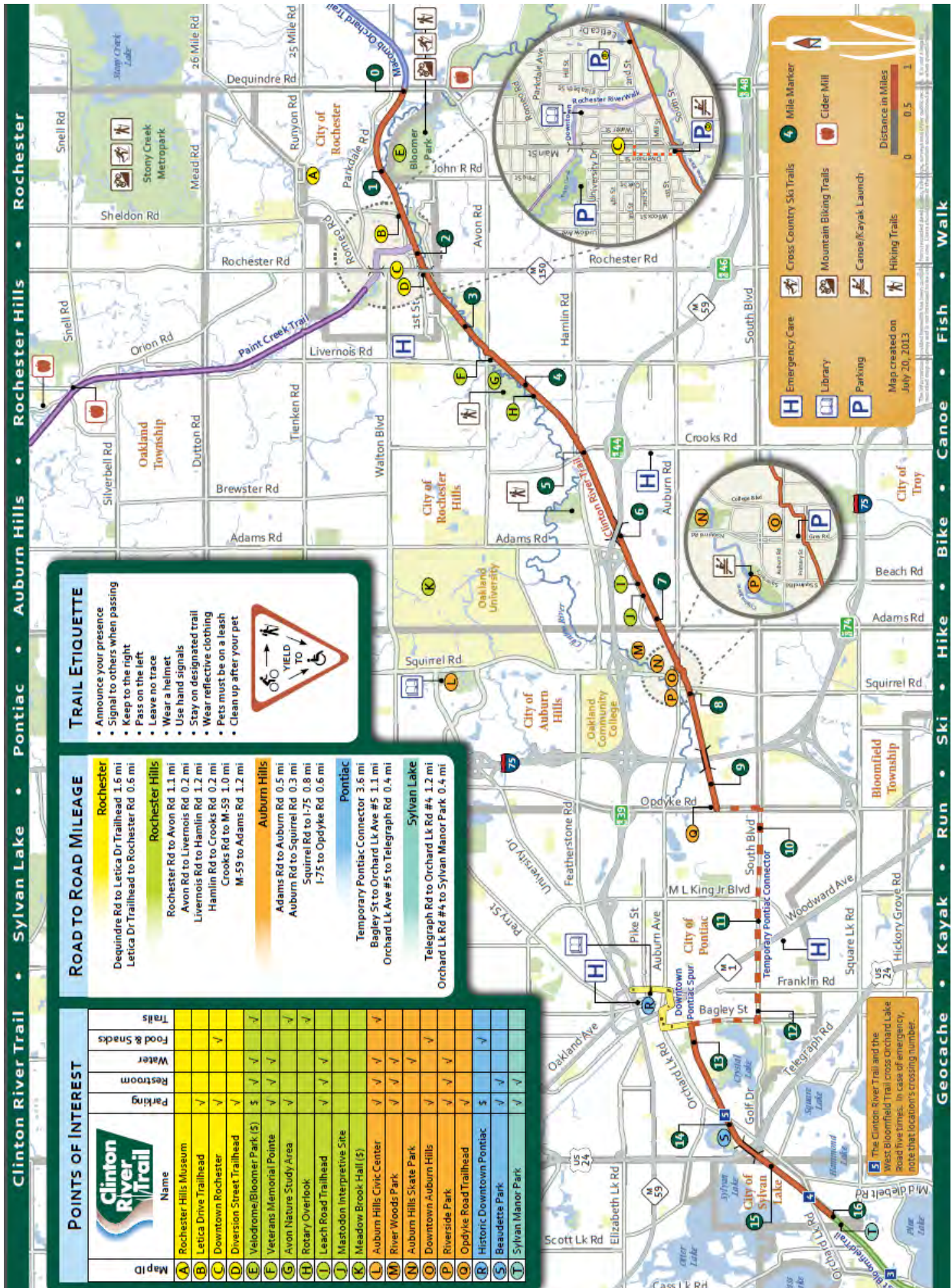
1. Water resources (rivers, streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands, floodplains)
2. Habitat protection (wildlife habitat and woodlands)
3. Recreational/historical value (Clinton River or other stream/trail corridors, adjacency/connectivity, scenic views, passive recreation, historical/cultural, community planning)
4. Other factors (unique factors, market value, development risk, steep slopes, size)
5. Adverse factors (environmental hazards, high costs, unique detractors)

The City established a stewardship and property management program to allow the restoration of stream banks, maintenance of the health and quality of rivers and streams, removal of invasive species, protection of boundaries, as well as education of the public in land and water conservation.

Recommended Action Items

1. Continue the stewardship program
2. Continue to review sites for potential purchase
3. Establish a procedure for formally naming the acquired green space properties

Clinton River Trail



Source: www.clintonrivertrail.org



Clinton River Trail

Park Classification

Linear Park

Size

54 acres (4.5 mile section)

Location

Spans across the City of Rochester Hills from Dequindre Rd. to Adams Rd.

Description

The 15.6 mile long Clinton River Trail spans five communities in Oakland County, including Sylvan Lake, Pontiac, Auburn Hills, Rochester Hills, and Rochester, and provides regional connections to the West Bloomfield Trail, Macomb Orchard Trail, Downtown Rochester River Walk and Paint Creek Trail. This non-motorized trail uses recycled, pulverized asphalt for its surface and generally follows the Clinton River on land previously owned and used by the Grand Trunk Railroad. The Rochester Hills portion of the trail was resurfaced in 2015.

Trail users can bike, jog, walk, and/or cross-country ski. The Clinton River Trail also offers additional access points to area parks and serves as a key regional wildlife corridor. In Rochester Hills, the parks along the trail include Avon Nature Area and Veterans Memorial Pointe. Rochester College is also located adjacent to the trail. Restrooms and parking are provided along the trail at Veterans Memorial Pointe and at the Leach Road crossing.

Recommended Action Items

1. Provide linkages to adjacent facilities such as bike paths, parks, businesses and schools
2. Seek funding for further development
3. Provide activities and events such as fun walks, races, clean-ups, etc.
4. Continue the signage and amenity improvements along the trail
5. Pave the Leach Rd. parking lot
6. Improve ADA compliance

Paint Creek Trail



Source: www.paintcreektrail.org



Paint Creek Trail

Park Classification

Linear Park

Size

17.8 acres (1.2 mile section)

Location

North central portion of the City, connecting the City of Rochester just south of Tienken Rd to Dutton Rd.

Description

Owned and operated by the Paint Creek Trailways Commission, this non-motorized recreational trail connects to the Downtown Rochester River Walk, which provides a direct link to the Clinton River Trail. The regional trail also connects Rochester Hills to Rochester, Lake Orion, and Oakland Township. The 8.9 mile trail follows Paint Creek through fields, prairies, woodlands, and marshes by way of the old Penn Central Railroad corridor. It accommodates walkers, runners, mountain bikers, and cross-country skiers, and is surfaced with limestone fines. Creek access and nature areas are additional attractions. The Rochester Hills portion is maintained by the City of Rochester Hills Parks and Forestry Department.

Recommended Action Items

1. Resurface the trail
2. Improve ADA compliance

Non-Motorized Pathways

An integral component of the recreational facilities within the City is the comprehensive network of off-street non-motorized pathways system. As of 2016, 95.29 miles of 8 foot wide asphalt pathways exist along major roadways in Rochester Hills as indicated on *Map 2 Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities*. The City remains committed to enhancing and expanding on this system and devotes funds each year to maintain and construct new pathways throughout the City. Future plans for pathways include:



1. Renewal of the pathways millage
2. Continue construction of 8 ft. wide non-motorized pathways along every major thoroughfare in the City
3. Rehabilitate and maintain existing City pathways

Grant History

The City of Rochester Hills has a proven track record with successful implementation of grants. *Figure 8 Grant History* on the following page lists the grants the City has received from the MDNR along with the activities that were completed with each grant. Note that the City has successfully completed all projects and looks forward to working with the state in the future to continue to bring world-class recreation to Rochester Hills.



Figure 8 Grant History			
Park	Grant Number	Activity	Status
Clinton River Trail Acquisition	TF01-068	Acquisition of 54 acres (4.5 miles) of railroad right-of-way	Completed
Van Hoosen Dairy Barn Renovation	CM99-316	Renovation of dairy barn interior, heating/cooling system, plumbing, silo repair/display area, road & parking, fire & lightning protection	Completed
Avondale Park	TF90-256	Ball field, playground, 2 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, fencing, paved parking & drives, picnic shelter, soccer field, paved walks, landscaping	Completed
Earl E. Borden Park	BF90-255	4 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, playground equipment, site furnishings, landscaping, roads, parking & walks, restroom/concession, utilities, softball fields & 5 soccer fields with irrigation, lighting (fields/parking)	Completed
Pine Trace Park & Golf Course	TF396	Acquisition of 187.8 acres of land (Ulbrich Tract)	Completed
Spencer Park	26-01347	Multi-purpose sports field, access road & parking	Completed
Spencer Park	26-01104 P1	2 tennis courts, jogging/physical fitness course, playscape	Completed
Spencer Park	26-01060 F4	Walkway, boat dock & storage building with electrical service, bathhouse/comfort station, access road a& parking, fencing for ball diamond, fishing pier, park signs	Completed
Spencer Park	26-01023 N	Acquisition of 91 acres of land	Completed
Bloomer Park	RP12-479	Velodrome track surface renovation	Completed

Source: Rochester Hills

Other Recreation Opportunities

Schools

The City of Rochester Hills and surrounding area benefit from the facilities provided by both the Rochester Community Schools and Avondale School District. They are also afforded the facilities offered by private schools and universities in the area. There are a number of privately-owned recreation facilities and conservancy areas in Rochester Hills that serve the residents.

City of Rochester

The City of Rochester contains numerous recreational facilities, including parks, schools and three distinct creek/river areas. The City maintains seven parks, totaling eighty-two acres, including Municipal Park, Scott Street Park, Halbach Field, Memorial Grove, Howlett Park, Elizabeth Park, and Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve. The creek/river areas include Paint Creek, Stoney Creek and the Clinton River.

Private Facilities

In addition to the multitude of publicly owned parks and recreation facilities in the area, Rochester Hills residents have some of the recreation needs fulfilled by privately owned open spaces and recreation facilities that have been made available as the result of development in the community. These privately-owned areas offer access to nature, and sometimes active recreation such as athletic fields or courts, playgrounds and swimming pools that are available for use by its residents.

Neighborhood Open Space or Parks

Neighborhood open spaces are areas set aside by subdivision developers to meet the requirements of the City's Open Space Development option. These areas vary in size, are owned and maintained by the subdivision's homeowners association, and are part of the Subdivision Plan or Condominium Plan. Some of these areas are wooded natural areas or wetland areas; others offer play areas or play equipment for children. The City provides technical support and best management practices for these areas as requested. As part of this requirement, a 24-acre parcel has been deeded to the Oakland Land Conservancy and designated as the Heron Rookery along the Clinton River in the City's western neighborhoods.

Regional Facilities

Regional parks offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball fields or courts. While these parks are not used for formal programming by the City of Rochester Hills, they provide active and passive recreation opportunities to Rochester Hills residents. There are several regional recreation opportunities located within a roughly a 30 mile or 1 hour driving radius of the City as depicted in *Map 3 Existing Regional Parks and Recreation Facilities* and as described below.

Oakland County Parks

The Oakland County park system consists of thirteen parks covering 6,700 acres of land as listed below. These parks offer year-round recreational activities including camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing, picnicking, cross-country skiing, ice-skating and fishing. The wide variety of parks include trails, water parks, nature centers, dog "bark" parks, golf courses, and outdoor entertainment venues,



among other things. Five of the parks located near Rochester Hills are Addison Oaks, Independence Oaks, Orion Oaks, Red Oaks and Waterford Oaks.

- Addison Oaks (Addison Twp., east of Lake Orion)
- Catalpa Oaks Park (Southfield)
- Glen Oaks Golf Course (Farmington Hills)
- Groveland Oaks (Groveland Twp., between the Villages of Holly and Ortonville)
- Highland Oaks (Highland Twp.)
- Independence Oaks (Independence Twp., northeast of Clarkston)
- Lyon Oaks (Wixom)
- Orion Oaks (Orion Twp., west of Lake Orion)
- Red Oaks (Madison Heights)
- Rose Oaks (Rose Twp.)
- Springfield Oaks (Springfield Twp., southeast of Holly Village)
- Waterford Oaks (Waterford Twp., northwest of the City of Pontiac)
- White Lake Oaks (White Lake Twp.)

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Facilities

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) operates more than a dozen regional recreation areas in southeast Michigan totaling 24,000 acres of parkland. These parks provide facilities for a wide range of recreational opportunities, which include picnicking, playgrounds, hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, golf, court games, cross-country skiing, ice-skating, and sledding, among others. Five HCMA parks are located near Rochester Hills as follows:



- Indian Springs Metropark (Springfield and White Lake Twps.)
- Kensington Metropark. (Milford Twp.)
- Metro Beach Metropark (Mt. Clemens)
- Stony Creek Metropark (Shelby Twp.)
- Wolcott Mill Metropark (Ray Twp.)



Michigan State Facilities

Seventeen State parks and recreation areas are located in southeast Michigan. These parks exceed 50,000 acres and provide a wide range of facilities. Common recreation opportunities available at these sites include hiking, swimming, fishing, boating, picnicking, camping, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling, among others. There are eight state facilities in Oakland County,



with Pontiac Lake State and Bald Mountain State Recreation Areas both located within a short distance of Rochester Hills. The majority of the other facilities are located in nearby Washtenaw and Wayne Counties and are reasonably accessible to Rochester Hills residents.

- Bald Mountain State Recreation Area (Lake Orion)
- Belle Isle Park (Detroit)
- Dodge No. 4 State Park (Waterford Twp.)
- Highland Recreation Area (White Lake Twp.)
- Holly State Recreation Area (Holly)
- Horseshoe Lake State Game Area (Oxford)
- Island Lake Recreation Area (Brighton)
- Maybury State Park (Northville Twp.)
- Metamora-Hadley State Recreation Area (Metamora)
- Ortonville State Recreation Area (Ortonville)
- Pontiac Lake Recreation Area (Waterford Twp.)
- Proud Lake Recreation Area (Commerce Twp.)
- Seven Lake State Park (Holly)
- St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area (Harsens Island)
- St. Johns Marshland Wildlife Area (Harsens Island)
- Wetzel State Recreation Area (New Haven)
- William G. Milliken State Park (Detroit)

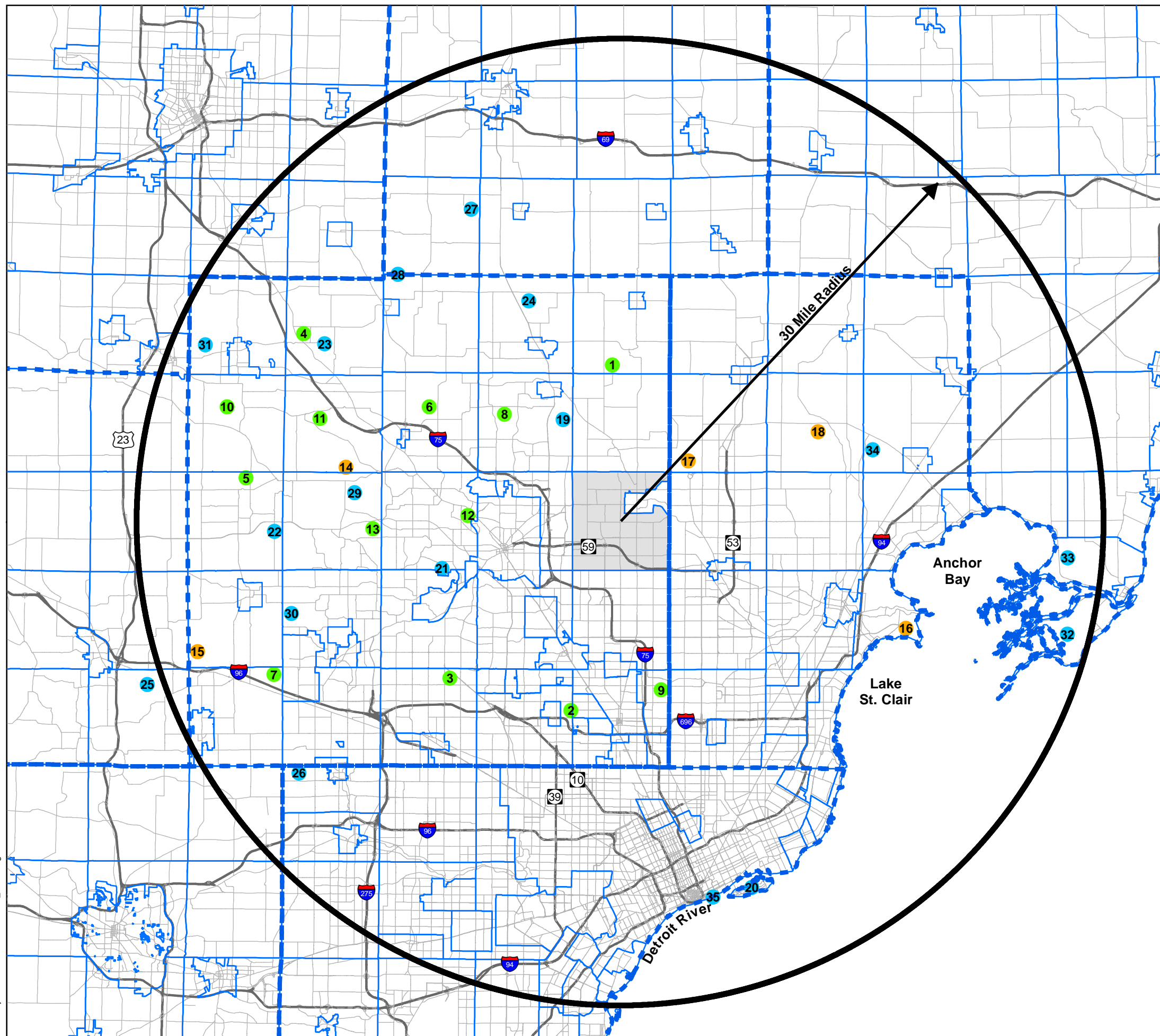
Recreation Programs

Rochester Hills

The Department of Parks and Forestry offers cultural and educational programs through the Environmental Education Program and the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. A summary of the programming offered by the City is provided in *Figure 9 Summary of Rochester Hills Programs*.

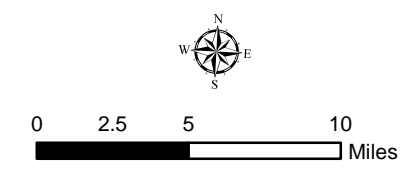


Map 4 Existing Regional Park and Recreation Facilities



- **Oakland County Parks**
 - 1 Addison Oaks County Park
 - 2 Catalpa Oaks County Park
 - 3 Glen Oaks County Park
 - 4 Groveland Oaks County Park
 - 5 Highland Oaks County Park
 - 6 Independence Oaks County Park
 - 7 Lyon Oaks County Park
 - 8 Orion Oaks County Park
 - 9 Red Oaks County Park
 - 10 Rose Oaks County Park
 - 11 Springfield Oaks County Park
 - 12 Waterford Oaks County Park
 - 13 White Lake Oaks County Park
- **Huron Clinton Metro Parks**
 - 14 Indian Springs Metropark
 - 15 Kensington Metropark
 - 16 Metro Beach Metropark
 - 17 Stony Creek Metropark
 - 18 Wolcott Mill Metropark
- **State Parks**
 - 19 Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
 - 20 Belle Isle Park
 - 21 Dodge Brothers State Park #4
 - 22 Highland State Recreation Area
 - 23 Holly State Recreation Area
 - 24 Horseshoe Lake State Game Area
 - 25 Island Lake State Recreation Area
 - 26 Maybury State Park
 - 27 Metamora-Hadley State Recreation Area
 - 28 Ortonville State Recreation Area
 - 29 Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area
 - 30 Proud Lake State Recreation Area
 - 31 Seven Lakes State Park
 - 32 St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area
 - 33 St. John's Marshland Wildlife Area
 - 34 William G. Milliken State Park
 - 35 Wetzel State Recreation Area

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In addition to traditional programming, the City hosts a number of special events throughout the year. The annual Festival of the Hills at Borden Park is the largest special event held in Rochester Hills. Pine Trace Golf Course hosts the innovative Special Olympics of Golf each year.

Antler Amble	Michigan Heritage Lecture Series
Arbor Day Commemorative Tree Planting	Night Time Neighbors
Backyard Bird Count	Old Fashioned Christmas
Bass Fishing Tournament	Outdoor Explorer Camp
Cabin Fever Lecture Series	Paddlepalooza
Clinton Kalamazoo Canal Tour	Rochester Granger Vintage Base Ball
Festival of the Hills + Fireworks	Santa and Mrs. Claus Visit the Farm
Fishing 101	Silly Salamanders & Funny Frogs
Fish-O-Ree	Spring on the Farm
Garden Walk	Starry Starry Night
Green Space Discovery Hike	Stone Wall Pumpkin Festival
Happy Hibernation	Stupendous Snow
Hike in the Hills	Terrific Tuesdays
Historic Train Stations of Michigan	Tons of Trucks
Little House by the Creek Day Camp	Veteran's Talk
Little House in the Village Writer's Camp	Wet and Wild Wednesdays
Mammal Marvels	Winter Survival 101
Maple Syrup Program and Pancake Breakfast	

Source: Rochester Hills

Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority

The Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority (RARA) offers a large range of programs from pre-school activities; numerous sports activities including basketball, golf, gymnastics, hockey, ice-skating, and volleyball; fitness classes, dance, educational activities, and community wide events. Participants’ ages range from youth to senior citizens. The programs are offered at their main headquarters, schools and municipal facilities as well as a number of facilities located within the community, such as indoor sports centers, the local ice arena, and athletic clubs.

RARA also offers a variety of other special events throughout the year. These events include daddy/daughter sweetheart dance, mother/son date night, family magic show, fun run/walk in conjunction with the annual Rochester Heritage Festival, teddy bear picnic, mother/daughter picnic, pee-wee Olympics, and special holiday events for Easter, Halloween and Christmas.



Older Persons Commission

The Older Persons Commission (OPC) also provides much needed programming for City residents aged 60+. The Health & Wellness programs at OPC provide resident members age 50+ with a welcoming and relaxed environment to achieve their fitness goals. They offer a complete line of strength and cardiovascular machines, a combination of land and aquatic classes, programming that promotes healthy aging, and personal training for persons desiring a uniquely designed fitness program. In addition, the OPC provides nutritional meals, services, social and educational activities, transportation, adult day services, and community outreach opportunities.

Other Agencies

In addition to the City, RARA and OPC, a number of organized recreation programs are made available to City residents by local organizations. Programs are offered by many not-for-profit organizations including, but not limited to: North Oakland Family YMCA, Rochester Youth Soccer League, North Oakland Baseball Federation, and Rochester Hills Little League.



5 PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Planning Process

The planning process involved gathering background information about the City of Rochester Hills. Location and history of the area, social characteristics of the community, the administrative structure of the Parks and Forestry Department, and an inventory of existing facilities helped provide the base from which future recreation decisions are made.

Based on the information gathered, an analysis of existing conditions was utilized to determine where the community may be deficient or where it was abundant in recreation facilities and programs. Public input from residents, department members, and key stakeholders provided a better picture of which recreation facilities are needed and desired by the public. The plan's Goals and Objectives and Action Program reflect which new facilities and improvements to existing facilities will best address the needs and desires of the residents of the City of Rochester Hills.

Public Input Process

The Department of Parks and Forestry values the opinions of the citizens of the City of Rochester Hills. To understand the opinions and desires of the citizens as well as other stakeholders, several opportunities were presented to the public. Building off of the ideas gathered through the various means discussed below, the City has received and processed excellent input from the public and other parties of interest.



The public input process was kicked off on January 11, 2016 with a twelve question public opinion survey that was available via a link on the City's website, promoted on social media, and provided at City Hall. The survey was available for one month and the City received over **400 (as of Jan.21)** responses to the survey which are summarized below. The full responses are located in *Appendix C*.

- *To be filled in upon completion of survey*



On January 22, 2016, one month before the public hearing, a draft of the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was posted on the City's website and provided at City Hall for public review and comment.

Insert Notice of Availability of Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

The draft plan then went before the Planning Commission on February 16, 2016 where a brief overview of the plan was given and a public hearing was held. After discussion and input from the residents in attendance, the Planning Commission adopted the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan **(anticipated)**.

The City Council also held a public hearing on February 22, 2016 following a presentation on the plan. Following discussion on the plan, the City Council adopted the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan **(anticipated)**. Notice and minutes from the two public hearings can be found in *Appendix E Public Hearing Documentation*.



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Parks News

Posted on: January 12, 2016

Rochester Hills Master Park Plan Underway

The City of Rochester Hills is currently in the process of updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2016-2020.

An online survey (link below) has been posted on the city website to allow residents to share with city employees opinions of the current park system and proposals for undeveloped park properties. The survey will be available from January 11 to February 11, 2016. Hard copies of the survey are available at the Mayor's Office.

Survey participants will be able to share their thoughts on a variety of topics including funding distribution, improvements, and the quality of the parks that they have visited. In late January, a draft of the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be posted on the city's website for public review and comment.

"Having residents share their thoughts about the future of our parks system is invaluable information for our team," stated Mayor Bryan K. Barnett. "The more people we can get involved in the planning process the better job we can do on delivering our community's collective vision."

Park enthusiasts are also invited to participate in two separate public input forums which will be held at the Planning Commission meeting on February 16 and at the City Council meeting on February 22. Both meetings are public hearings and there will be a brief presentation with discussion on the draft.

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PUBLIC REVIEW



6 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In the broadest sense, a Parks and Recreation Master Plan should offer the community a series of guidelines or recommendations for making consistent and rational public decisions regarding the delivery of recreation programs and facilities. Goals and objectives, in the context of recreation and park planning, should be the guiding influence determining the nature and extent of future park acquisition, development, administrative, and programming actions. They should be idealistic to the extent that they provide a desirable condition to strive toward. However, in order to be feasible, the goals must be tempered by the recognition of financial, social, physical and political realities. Successful policy should further recognize the evaluation of the community's recreation system and the relationship of this system to relevant demographic characteristics.

Goals should be broad and address general needs and establish the basis for setting specific programmed objectives. Objectives are measurable results that the City can work toward accomplishing. Both offer policy direction and the framework for recreation providers. The following goals and objectives reflect the City's short and long-term recreation needs identified in the previous chapter. These goals and objectives were formulated through the public input process as outlined in the previous chapter. Specific actions for achieving these goals and objectives are described in *Chapter 7 Action Program*.

Parks and Recreation Goals at a glance

1. **Maintain & enhance existing facilities**
2. **Develop innovative new park facilities**
3. **Improve pathways & connectivity**
4. **Provide diverse programming**
5. **All the while preserving significant natural features**
6. **In a fiscally responsible fashion**



Goal One

Preserve the quality of the current park system and enhance facilities to incorporate a broader array of active and passive recreational opportunities in the City to meet the needs of current and future residents.



Objectives

- a. Seek a balanced approach toward developing active and passive, indoor and outdoor recreational options within the City.
- b. Continue to regularly review and update park facilities to adhere to established ADA standards and improve universal accessibility to park facilities.
- c. Evaluate maintenance and usage of current facilities to determine need for replacement and upgrades as needed.
- d. Enhance the river experience through increased access to the Clinton River with the addition of canoe and kayak portages and launches and associated amenities including scenic overlooks, sitting and picnic areas, and parking and restroom facilities.
- e. Institute a comprehensive identification, wayfinding and interpretive signage program for all parks and trails.
- f. Encourage participation of neighborhoods and businesses in the development, operation and support of new parks and programs in their area.
- g. Continue ongoing cooperation and coordination of existing and planned recreation facilities being operated by schools, non-profit organizations, institutions, and other private entities.
- h. Refer to the Historic Preservation Policies for the optimum use of historic properties operated for public use by the City
- i. Further promote, develop and maintain edible and community gardens within the City's park system.
- j. Improve access to the internet by providing wi-fi access at city park facilities wherever feasible.

Goal Two

Continue to ensure the development of high quality parks and recreation facilities and strive for innovation in development at new park facilities.



Objectives

- a. Begin the implementation of Riverbend and Nowicki Parks in accordance with the concept plans included in this plan that were developed with extensive study and public involvement processes.
- b. Develop a concept plan for the Tienken Road Park property.
- c. Actively pursue the purchase of properties contiguous to City owned land or in areas that provide connectivity between parks or key destinations, particularly in the areas that are underserved by parks facilities.
- d. Investigate the development of new facilities to further expand the potential recreation options in the City including, but not limited to, a nature center, dog park, water park/splash pad, aerial ropes course, community center, skate park, and/or other ideas as identified by residents or staff in the future.
- e. Evaluate the need for future neighborhood parks in areas that do not have such public or private land readily available.
- f. Coordinate with surrounding communities, the Clinton River Watershed Council, Oakland County, SEMCOG, the State of Michigan, and other regional entities to best meet the regional recreational needs of residents.
- g. Design all new park facilities consistent with Universal Design Concepts to welcome the special needs community.

PUBLIC DRAFT



Goal Three

Improve the current park trail and pathway system with improved access, safety and amenities within and between the various recreation sites and other key destinations throughout the community.



Objectives

- a. Actively pursue increased cooperation and support to complete the City-wide pathway system.
- b. Continue to coordinate with local, regional and statewide trail groups to promote and enhance recreational opportunities on the Clinton River Trail and the Paint Creek Trail.
- c. Coordinate with appropriate roadway jurisdictions, school districts, institutions, and adjacent communities to improve access to, and safety of, pathway crossings, park entrances and recreation facilities.
- d. Better link parks, historic sites, schools, institutions, and other key destinations within the system of pathways.
- e. Provide surface improvements and amenities such as drinking fountains, interpretive signage, sitting and picnic areas, and parking and restroom facilities along the Clinton River Trail and the City's pathway system.
- f. Provide better access to the Clinton River Trail through enhanced linkages and trailhead development.
- g. Evaluate the current network of paths, sidewalks, and trails within existing parks to identify areas for improvement and expansion to create a more connected system.

Goal Four

Ensure the delivery of diverse, high-quality programming for Rochester Hills residents and guests.

Objectives

- a. Continue to evaluate and expand upon recreational programming at park facilities in partnership with RARA, OPC, school districts, CRWC and other similar organizations.
- b. Explore partnerships, joint ventures, and alliances with various demographic, cultural, special needs, interest or other targeted groups for providing unique or high demand recreation programs and events.
- c. Promote inclusiveness and expand opportunities for recreational programming for the special needs community.
- d. Continue to promote and celebrate the City's historical resources.
- e. Foster increased community involvement by encouraging citizens to participate in volunteer programs throughout the City.
- f. Provide greater promotion and education about existing programs and special events available to the greater Rochester community.
- g. Continue to provide high quality special event programming for the greater community including traditional events such as the Festival of the Hills Fireworks, Stone Wall Pumpkin Festival, Greater Rochester Memorial Day Parade, Brooksie Way Half Marathon, etc..
- h. Engage in joint educational programming and Green Space stewardship whenever possible.



PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



Goal Five

Ensure the preservation of significant nature features with the City of Rochester Hills including but not limited to natural view sheds, sensitive wildlife habitats, regulated wetlands, concentrations of woodlands, and natural green spaces and look for best practices to improve sustainability of and reduce impacts to the environment at existing park facilities.



Objectives

- a. Actively pursue the purchase of properties that contain significant natural areas as identified on *Map 3 Natural Features Inventory*.
- b. Integrate natural feature preservation into land use and recreation decisions by preserving natural features whenever feasible as development occurs.
- c. Restore degraded steep slope areas, particularly along the Clinton River.
- d. Assist the Green Space Advisory Board in acquiring natural spaces, wildlife habitats and scenic views; protect wetlands, rivers and streams; and expand the Clinton River Greenway and other trail corridors.
- e. Explore partnerships, joint ventures, and alliances for green space stewardship opportunities.
- f. Implement the recommendations of the *CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report* for improved stormwater management at Borden and Yates Parks and Avon Nature Area.
- g. Develop and enforce a stormwater management program to protect the natural environment from effects associated with urbanization and to improve its recreation potential, including flash flows, stream bank erosion, increased stream temperature and pollutant load, reduced bank vegetation, and degraded aquatic wildlife habitat.

Goal Six

Continue to provide top notch parks and recreation facilities and opportunities for the residents of Rochester Hills in a fiscally responsible manner.

Objectives

- a. Continue to explore funding options for development, operation and maintenance of parks including all applicable public, private, regional, and national opportunities.
- b. Evaluate user fees and charges to help support park facilities while providing affordable recreation services to the community.
- c. Continue to identify and prioritize park projects for inclusion in the annually prepared Capital Improvement Plan.



7 ACTION PROGRAM

The Action Program is the culmination of a comprehensive planning effort that began with the thorough analysis of the physical and demographic attributes of the City of Rochester Hills. Existing parks and recreation facilities and programs were inventoried and evaluated, considering each main component of the City's parks and recreation system. An assessment of need was then developed that considered both accepted recreation standards and specialized needs of persons with disabilities. These needs were analyzed and reviewed by the design team with input from the public.

As the City approaches a period of maturity and lower population growth, the challenge for recreation planning purposes is one of in-fill development and fine-tuning while continuing to serve the needs of Rochester Hills residents. Rochester Hills has an extensive parks and recreation system, reaching a broad cross-section of City residents. The City has undeveloped parks that can be developed and programmed to meet the unmet needs and desires of the citizens. Additional parkland may be necessary in areas that are under-served by current facilities.

Figure 10 Five Year Action Program provides a five-year implementation checklist for the City, which prioritizes and establishes a schedule for making improvement to facilities over the next five years. Cost estimates and potential funding sources for each project are also listed. The City recognizes that the scheduling of these improvements may need to be periodically modified to accommodate changing recreation needs or as funding opportunities arise.

Not all desired improvements to our parks can be accomplished within the next five year timeframe. Projects that are recommended but not planned for within the scope of this plan are included under each specific park Recommended Action Items section in *Chapter 4 Recreation and Resource Inventory*.



Figure 10 Five Year Action Program		
Project	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Sources
2016		
<p>Riverbend Park Development Begin Park Elements 1 Implementation as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finish parking lot & bio-swale 2. Add primary signage with map 3. Add secondary signage with park rules 4. Add wayfinding elements: color coded wayfinding markers for trails & signage w/ rules for hike & bike trails 5. Add PVC boundary markers with rules 6. 8' trail: remain as existing gravel trail or pave 8' trail 7. Complete boardwalk trail from upper woodlands to 10' trail grade for ADA accessibility to 10' trail & extend boardwalk to utility easement 8. Extend gravel hike & bike trail from 8' path through sanitary easement to boardwalk (Clinton Trail standard) 9. Complete pedestrian / bicycle secondary entrance / trail 10. Remove concrete driveway, replace curb 11. Create "control port" roundabout. Connecting secondary entrance w/ parking lot , play area, and main trail spine 12. Install bike racks 13. Create sculpture(s) on Hamlin Rd. 	\$905,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants ▪ Private Donations
<p>Riverbend Park Development Construction of sensory garden & special needs play area as identified in Park Elements 3</p>	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Avon Nature Area Stormwater Improvements Incorporate recommendations of the CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report to improve stormwater runoff at the Avon Nature Area through the addition of a bioswale, infiltration trench & native plantings as part of the City Hall parking lot resurfacing.</p>	\$25,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Borden Park Roller Hockey Rink Board & Tile Replacement The dasher boards at the two roller hockey rinks are molded plastic & the skating surface is made up of plastic tiles. Due to age and damage from use, the boards & tiles are in need of replacement.</p>	\$90,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
2016 Total	\$1,070,000+	



Figure 10 Five Year Action Program

Project	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Sources
2017		
<p>Riverbend Park Development Continue implementation of Park Elements 1 & begin Park Elements 2 Implementation as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Major grading for dry detention basin OR pond basin & wet detention basin 2. Stockpile material spoils for landscape forms 3. Create land forms 4. Lake Development (<i>if pond option is pursued</i>) 5. Create water features: water wall & cascading “waterfall” 6. Create terrace seating around dry basin 7. Grade pads for senior play area 8. Grade pads for kids play area 9. Create trail & pad for kayak landing on Clinton River 	\$585,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants ▪ Private Donations
<p>Borden Park Office Relocation Relocation of the office to a more central location in the park to provide better safety, security & customer service. While doing administrative/ reservation work at the current location it is not possible to observe &/or quickly react to the needs of activities in the park. The existing building used as an office is an old residential house at the eastern boundary of Borden Park & was converted to office use. The existing building is inefficient for office use, is poorly insulated, has ADA compliance issues, lacks adequate electrical power & requires significant improvements to the heating system, windows, doors & floors.</p>	\$295,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Borden Park Maintenance Yard Construction of a secure fenced storage yard for the park maintenance operations housed at Borden Park. Development is to include a covered storage area for materials such as fuel, infield mix, topsoil, aggregates, & mowing equipment.</p>	\$480,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Avon Nature Area Clinton River Access Construction of a small parking area, an accessible pathway, & an accessible canoe/kayak launch into the Clinton River. Cooperation with the City of Rochester and/or the City of Auburn Hills could provide for additional river access points in their cities.</p>	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Yates Park Clinton River Access Construction of an accessible pathway & canoe/kayak launch into the Clinton River, including a portage around the existing dam. Cooperation with the City of Rochester and/or the City of Auburn Hills could provide for additional river access points in their cities.</p>	To be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Auburn Road Pathway Gaps (John R Road – Dequindre Road) Construction of approximately 1,150 ft. of 8 ft. wide asphalt pathway along the north & south sides of Auburn Road to fill in the pathway gaps between John R & Dequindre Rds.</p>	\$99,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Technology Drive Pathway (Auburn Road – 2,250 ft. North) Construction of approximately 2,250 ft. of 8 ft. wide asphalt pathway along the west side of Technology Dr. between Auburn Rd. & the pathway connection to Adams Rd.</p>	\$196,250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
2017 Total	\$1,655,750+	



Figure 10 Five Year Action Program		
Project	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Sources
2018		
<p>Riverbend Park Development Continue implementation of Park Elements 1 & 2 & begin Park Elements 3 Implementation as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add senior play elements: bocce ball, exercise stations, gathering / observation area / seating / shelter 2. Add kids play elements: natural playscape, tree house & spiral mound 3. Create trail connection from adult to kids area 4. Add pavilion / shelter on north end 5. Add art & sculptures 6. Create “new” park main entrance 	\$130,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants ▪ Private Donations
<p>Van Hoosen Museum Equipment Barn Replacement Built in 1912, the equipment barn was torn down in 1999 due to its deteriorated condition. The Museum has a full set of photographs & drawings of this facility & would like to rebuild it to continue restoring the Van Hoosen Farm facility, while creating space for storage & maintenance activities. The Equipment Barn will help the Museum more accurately recreate the historic farm setting at the Van Hoosen Farm. At one time, the Van Hoosen Farm was a world class dairy operation & the equipment barn will allow us to create a broader interpretive story, create an on-site maintenance space & bring valuable items indoors during the winter to avoid deterioration from weather & vandalism.</p>	\$450,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Paint Creek Trailway Resurfacing The Paint Creek Trail is surfaced with limestone fines which require major maintenance approximately every 15 years. As a member of the Paint Creek Trailway Commission, the City is responsible for the maintenance of its portion of the trail located in the City. The project will be coordinated by the Paint Creek Trailway Commission staff.</p>	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Yates Park Stormwater Improvements Incorporate recommendations of the CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report to improve stormwater runoff at Yates Park through the addition of a stormwater forebay, bioswales, riparian buffer/native plants & stream bank restoration.</p>	\$12,300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Tienken Road Pathway (Van Hoosen Road – Washington Road) Construction of approximately 1,100 ft. of 8 ft. wide pathway along the south side of Tienken Rd. between Van Hoosen Rd. & Washington Rd., including ramps at the SE & NW corners of the roundabout.</p>	\$258,750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>East Nawakwa Pathway (Rochester Road – Joshua Drive) Construction of approximately 2,100 ft. of 8 ft. wide asphalt pathway along the north side of East Nawakwa Rd. between Rochester Rd. & Joshua Dr.</p>	\$140,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
2018 Total	\$1,041,050	



Figure 10 Five Year Action Program

Project	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Sources
2019		
<p>Riverbend Park Development Continue implementation of Park Elements 1, 2 & 3 & begin Park Elements 4 Implementation as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add crescent overlook of river 2. "The point" observation point 3. Wetland observation tower 4. "Bird's nest" elevated viewing platform 5. Shelter structure: adult area & kids area 6. Add living art & architecture 	\$475,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants ▪ Private Donations
<p>Borden Park Stormwater Improvements Incorporate recommendations of the CRWC Watertowns Green Infrastructure Community Report to improve stormwater runoff at Borden Park through the addition of parking lot swale, rain gardens, permeable pavers, & bioretention cell.</p>	\$208,600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants
<p>Avon Road Pathway (Rainier Avenue – Bembridge Drive) Construction of approximately 3,200 ft. of 8 ft. wide asphalt pathway along the south side of Avon Rd. between Rainier Ave. & Bembridge Dr.</p>	\$295,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
2019 Total		\$979,400
2020		
<p>Riverbend Park Development Continue implementation of Park Elements 1, 2 3 & 4 as previously identified.</p>	Previously identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund ▪ Grants ▪ Private Donations
<p>Avon Road Pathway (LeGrande Boulevard – Cider Mill Boulevard) Construction of approximately 1,500 ft. of 8 ft. wide asphalt pathway along the north side of Avon Rd. between Le Grande Blvd. & Cider Mill Blvd.</p>	\$120,750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Adams Road @ Clinton River Trailway: Road Crossing Construction of a mid-block pedestrian crossing at Adams Rd. near Leach Dr. & Marketplace Circle to connect the Clinton River Trailway to the nearby shopping center. The proposed crossing would incorporate the use of 8 solar powered push-button rapid flasher beacons (RFBs), 4 in each direction. The project would also include the installation of 2 steel poles & mast arms with overhead signage at the crossing. Approximately 500 ft. of asphalt & concrete pathway would be required to be extended in order to provide connection. Note: The project RCOOC county's right-of-way & will require prior approval by the RCOOC demonstrating that pedestrian/bicycle volume warrants are met.</p>	\$180,330	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update Hire consultant to prepare updated Parks & Recreation Master Plan in accordance with MDNR requirements.</p>	\$35,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Fund
2020 Total		\$336,080



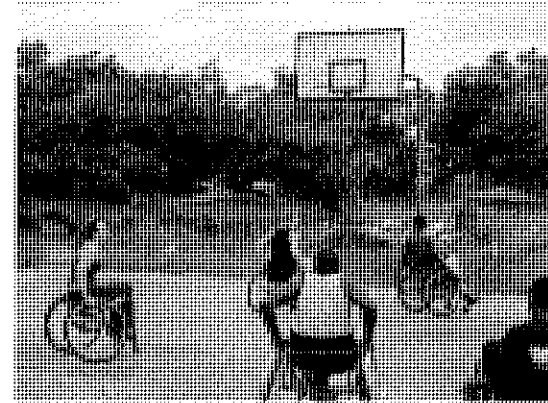
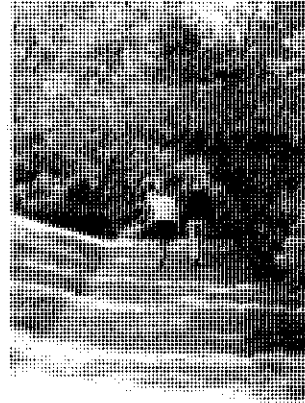
Figure 10 Five Year Action Program

Project	Cost Estimate	Potential Funding Sources
Annually		
<p>Playground Replacement/Upgrades Scheduled replacement &/or upgrades of existing playground equipment at City Parks to comply with Federal & State Laws by adding surfacing & equipment, or replacing existing equipment. Design &/or surfacing needs to meet ADA/CPSC/ASTM standards & guidelines. Playground equipment is scheduled to be replaced after 20-years. It is planned to upgrade the playground equipment at Bloomer & Yates Parks in 2017.</p>	\$10,000 annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>ADA Compliance Implementation Program In 2010, the City contracted an outside Compliance Specialist to perform ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) inspections of all City Facilities. A transition plan was completed identifying a full description of work areas needing ADA adjustments in order to comply with the State & Federal guidelines. Examples of ADA compliance improvements include: concrete replacement, inside & outside signage upgrades, handrail installation & upgrades, wrapping of plumbing fixtures, handicap push pads on doors, accessible pathways, trailways, shelters, picnic tables, grills, boat launches, beaches, shower areas, restrooms, etc...</p>	\$20,000 annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
<p>Green Space Stewardship Program Stewardship of "green spaces and natural features owned, acquired, or controlled by the City." Elements of the work will include: Invasive species removal, natural features restoration, and educational programs to promote stewardship.</p>	\$200,000 annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green Space Fund
<p>Pathway System Rehabilitation Program Rehabilitation of the existing City asphalt pathway system by performing bituminous overlays or large section repairs in order to maintain the integrity of the overall pathway system. In 2008, the City initiated a pedestrian bridge inspection program to be performed on a 4 year cycle. Every fourth year following the inspection, the City may perform pedestrian bridge rehabilitation work as identified in the consultants' bridge inspection inventory and report.</p>	\$250,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capital Improvement Fund
Annual Total	\$480,000 annually	



APPENDIX A
PARKS & RECREATION ACCESSIBILITY REPORT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

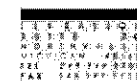
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PARKS AND RECREATION ACCESSIBILITY REPORT

Rochester Hills Parks and Forestry Department
Rochester Hills, Michigan

March 31, 2010



Acknowledgement

The team of Russell Design, Inc., Access to Recreation, and Mielock Associates, Inc. offers its sincere gratitude to the Rochester Hills Parks and Forestry Department for the opportunity to assist you in the successful implementation of policies, procedures, and improvements to your park facilities to ensure unencumbered accessibility and recreation inclusion for residents of Rochester Hills of all ages and abilities.

Executive Summary

Rochester Hills is a mature community offering many diverse recreational opportunities for its residents available through the Parks and Forestry Department.

Exceptional recreational, environmental and educational opportunities are abundant throughout the Rochester Hills parks system.

Extensive inventories, analysis, design and implementation is paramount to ensure all facilities within the park system respond fully to not only the ADA requirements, but the universal accessibility design guidelines and principles.

The Rochester Hills park system serves as a model for recreation in southeastern Michigan.

Identifying policies, programs and implementing the necessary facility upgrades to provide for recreation accessibility and inclusion will elevate the park system beyond simply addressing accessibility to a system that addresses the physical and emotional attributes of the community.

Many of the existing facilities are in good standing and are in compliance with the current ADA regulations; however, there are some that will require necessary improvements to bring the facilities into compliance. The ADA document is considered the minimum you can do by law. For this study our team referenced Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) publication as well as The US Access Board Notice of Proposed Final Rule on Outdoor Developed Areas. Many of the regulations addressed in the ADAAG document are also referenced in the Outdoor Developed Areas; however, many are proposed to be modified. This study assumes a more proactive approach employed by our design team to evaluate existing site and building facilities, recreation marketing, policies and programming utilizing the universal design criteria reference in the Outdoor Developed Areas publication.

Compliance with current state and federal regulations will accomplish several objectives:

First, it will make the Parks and Forestry Department's services available to all people of all abilities.

Second, it will improve accessibility to and recreation inclusion within current facilities.

Lastly, it will reduce the level of risk the Parks and Forestry Department have for non-compliance with the Americans Disabilities Act (ADA), its many provisions as well as taking a proactive approach to exceed the minimum allowed by law by offering universal accessibility throughout the Rochester Hills park system.

The Team of Russell Design, Inc, Access Recreation Group and Mielock Architects, Inc. worked collaboratively with the Parks and Forestry staff to evaluate existing facilities, discuss plans for future developments, and interviewed staff to better understand how the marking practices, programming, policies and procedures each contribute to provide accessibility and recreational inclusion for the residents of Rochester Hills.

Our Team used final and proposed state and federal guidelines to identify barriers to access and inclusion to guide us to our recommendations in this report.

The supporting documentation our team used to evaluate recreational policies and procedures and existing site and building facilities within the Township's twelve park sites were:

US Access Board Final Rule on Play Areas

US Access Board Final Rule on Recreation Facilities

US Access Board Notice of Proposed Final Rule on Outdoor Developed Areas, dated June 2007

Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), dated June 2004

International Code Council, (ICC) American National Standard Institute (ANSI) Accessible and Useable Building and Facilities A117.1-1998, dated February 13, 1998, second printing December 1999.

Michigan Building Code, Michigan department of Labor and Economic Growth Bureau of Construction Cods and Fire and Safety, 2003 edition, publication date, April 2004.

All Department of Justice interpretations that apply to Parks Departments.

The objective of this study was to visit each park site and evaluate all existing site and building features for non-compliance. From our evaluation we provided recommendations for improvements to achieve accessibility compliance and recreation inclusion. We have identified many of these recommendations to be implemented using Parks and Forestry Department Force Account Labor. There are some recommendations that will require a formidable level of expertise to implement. For these; to take advantage of the economy of scale, it may prove beneficial to group projects of similar scope together; such as paving or signage.

Many of the park amenities such as; picnic tables, grills and benches were installed much the same and all lacked some element of accessibility. Where applicable, we have provided graphics illustrating dimensional tolerances and suggested placement of amenities to assist staff when adjusting existing, or installing new components.

The recommendations presented in this report provide a hands-on, user-friendly method of cataloging implemented recommendations enabling staff to systematically track improvements and associated costs in a clear, concise manner.

The overarching goal of this report is to provide simple, cost effective solutions, the majority of which can be implemented by park staff. A range of costs (in 2010 dollars) have been presented to provide flexibility for the Department to address the non-compliant elements and to assist the Department in budgeting for capital improvement projects.

Each recommendation provides the most practical solution that is fiscally responsible, addresses maintenance capabilities and improves accessibility and recreational inclusion beyond mere compliance. The report will provide an improved and cognitive approach to park design that reaches out to the community responding to the physical, cultural and social attributes of the residents and visitors to the Rochester Hills park system.



APPENDIX B

RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



APPENDIX C

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

A twelve question survey was available in City Hall and on the City's website during the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update process from January 11 through February 11, 2016. Over 400 (*as of Jan.21*) responses were received, the findings of which follow.

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



APPENDIX E

PUBLIC HEARING DOCUMENTATION

Insert Notice of the Public Hearings

Insert Minutes from Public Hearings

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



APPENDIX F

RESOLUTIONS OF ADOPTION

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



Rochester Hills City Council
Resolution for Adopting the Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan
February XX, 2016

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester Hills has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2016 through 2020, and

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester Hills began the process of developing the Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Rochester Hills were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the parks and recreation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on February 16, 2016 by the Planning Commission and on February 22, 2016 by the City Council at Rochester Hills City Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of Rochester Hills has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the City of Rochester Hills.

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the City Council voted to adopt the Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council hereby adopts the Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Yeas:

Nays:

Absent:



APPENDIX G

TRANSMITTAL LETTERS

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT



APPENDIX H
COMMUNITY PARK, OPEN SPACE, AND
GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

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APPENDIX I
POST COMPLETION
SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORTS

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