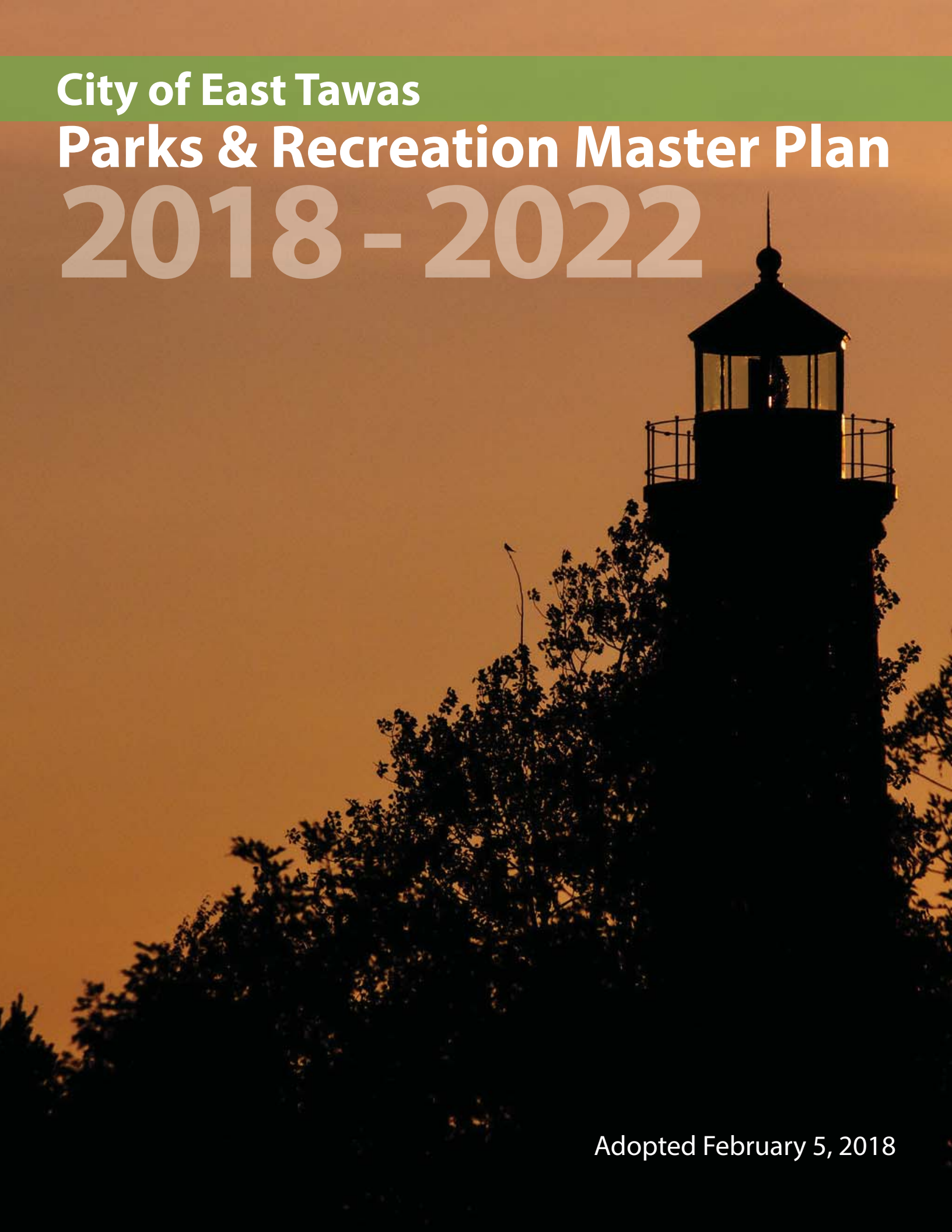
City of East Tawas

Parks & Recreation Master Plan

2018 - 2022



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INTRODUCTION

The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan articulates a vision for parks and recreation in East Tawas. The purpose of this Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department over the next five-year period. Once adopted, the Plan is the official document to be used by the community to guide decisions regarding parks and recreation. The revised and updated Plan is intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

WHAT THIS PLAN CONTAINS

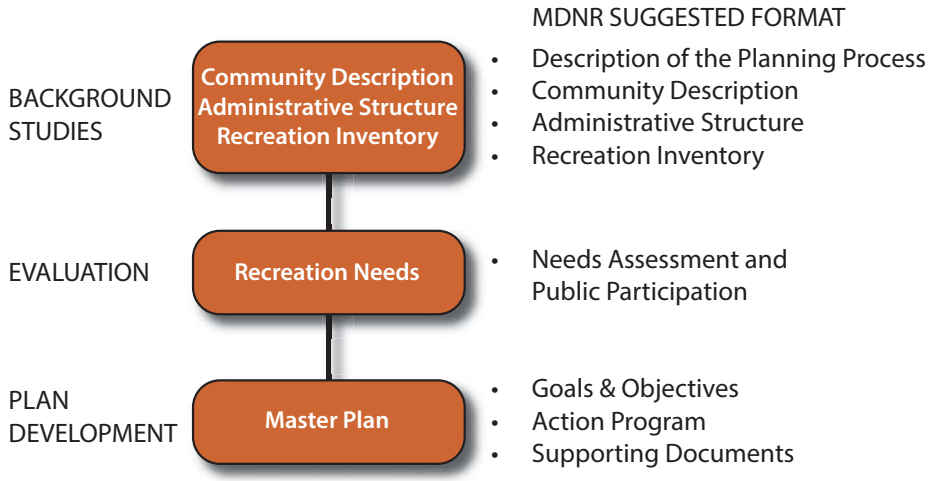
The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans (2017). The first chapter, **Community Background**, describes the community and trends for the region. The second chapter, **Administrative Structure**, provides a description of how parks and recreation services are administered in the City including budget and funding information. The next chapter, **Recreation Inventory**, describes the City parks as well as regional recreation facilities located nearby. It includes an **accessibility assessment** and a **description of previous MDNR grant-assisted park projects**. The **Public Participation and Needs Assessment** portion of the Plan presents the input received from local officials, staff, and residents, which helped in formulating the **Goals and Objectives** and **Action Program** chapters. Finally, the Appendixces contain all of the supplementary documentation including official resolutions and notices documenting the plan's adoption by City Council.

PLANNING PROCESS

The process used to generate the plan consists of three phases: background studies, evaluation, and plan development.

1. **Background Studies.** This phase involved gathering and updating data from census data, existing documents, plans, and field observations. The information is organized into three chapters: community description (Appendix A), administrative structure, and recreation inventory.
2. **Evaluation.** The second phase in the planning process includes an evaluation and analysis of the gathered data as well as community input to determine recreation facilities and program needs. A public input session was conducted to receive residents' opinions and ideas for the park and recreation system. Input from local officials and the members of the Park Board was also used.
3. **Plan Development.** The last phase in the process involves plan development and adoption. Based on the deficiencies and needs, goals and objectives were formulated and a specific action plan developed. Strategies to implement the plan are also discussed.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format described earlier.



DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA

The City of East Tawas is located in southeastern Iosco County on Tawas Bay, one of the largest harbors on the Great Lakes. It covers approximately 3.3 square miles. The City is located approximately 65 miles south of Alpena along U.S.-23, and approximately 180 miles north of Detroit. Bordered by Tawas City and Tawas Bay to the south, Baldwin Township to the north, and Lake Huron to the east, East Tawas is located on Michigan's "Sunrise Coast".

Approximately 70 percent of Iosco County is within the boundaries of state and federal forest lands. The Au Sable State Forest covers 22,200 acres, and the Huron National Forest covers 112,000 acres. Iosco County ranks 64th by population in the State of Michigan. It is located in the northeastern area of the East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG) region. EMCOG is the regional planning agency that serves the 14-county East Central Michigan region, including the three urban centers of Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw.

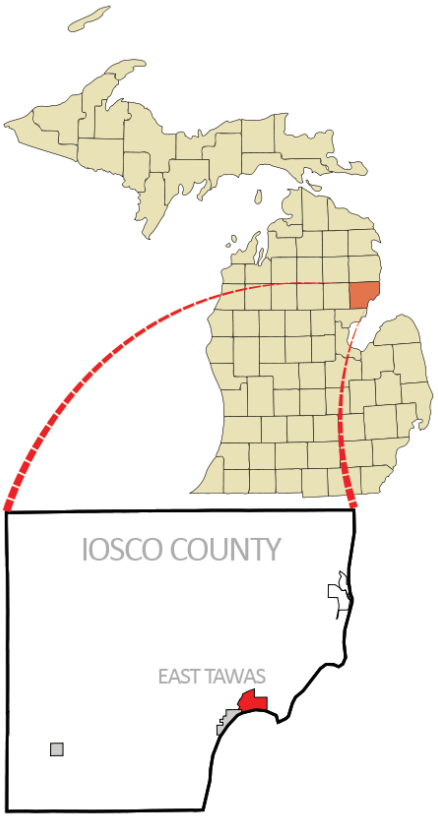


FIGURE 1: CONTEXT MAP

Source: ESRI

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

In planning for the future, it is essential to understand both the community of people to be served and the physical resources that the community has to offer. The purpose of this chapter of the Master Plan is to provide an overview of the human and physical resources of East Tawas with the goal of understanding the unique features and opportunities the community offers.

Population, Households, and Housing Units

Past, present, and future growth patterns are a driving force and strong indicator of the overall health of a city. They help to define existing problems along with socioeconomic resources and represent the current and future demands of those available resources. The sustainability of a city is dependent upon how well the city meets the future needs of its residents.

According to the US Census, the population of the City of East Tawas was:

- 2,372 people in 1970,
- 2,584 people in 1980,
- 2,887 people in 1990,
- 2,951 people in 2000, and
- 2,808 people in 2010.
- 2,761 people in 2015 (source: American Community Survey)

EMCOG estimates a continued decline in population for the region through 2040. This decline corresponds with a similar trend experienced throughout Iosco County that began in the early 1990's with the closure of Wurtsmith Air Force Base. East Tawas saw its total households drop from 1,382 households in 2000 to 1,332 in 2010.

County-level projections conducted by EMCOG indicate that population continues to decrease across the region. At the same time, the number of households and household size will also decline. The current average household size in East Tawas is 2.06 people, down from 2.23 in 1990. A drop in household size has been seen across Michigan and the United States. Decreasing household size reflects many factors, including families with fewer children, an aging population, and changes in the mix of households.

TABLE 1: East Tawas Population & Household Data, 1990 - 2045

	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census	2015 ACS Estimate	2040 Forecast
Population	2,887	2,951	2,808	2,761	2,400
Households	1,274	1,382	1,332	1,300	1,123
Household Size	2. 23	2. 14	2.06	n/a	n/a
Household Types					
Households with children	n/a	815 (59%)	756 (56.8%)	n/a	n/a
Households w/out children	n/a	567 (41%)	576 (43.2%)	n/a	n/a

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, EMCOG/MDOT Forecast

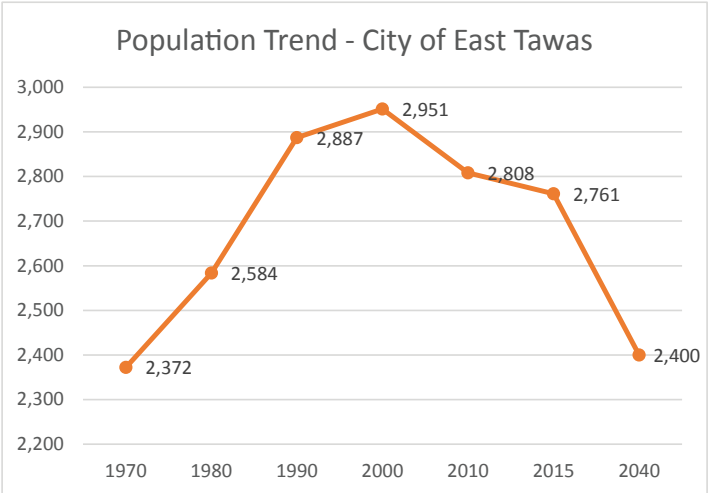
As noted in Tables 1 and 2, the City of East Tawas experienced a decrease in population between 2000 and 2010. This was consistent with population trends throughout the County, region, and State. EMCOG 2040 population projections for Iosco County and the City of East Tawas forecast a slight population decrease.

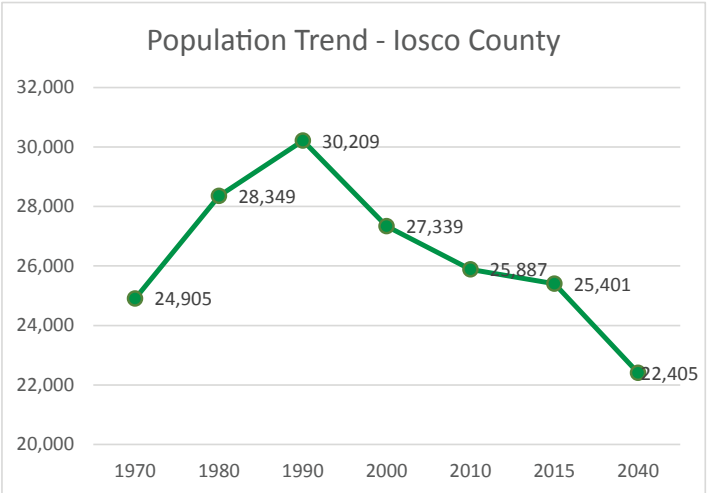
TABLE 2: Regional Populations, 1970 - 2015

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015	2040	Change 2000 - 2015	% Change 2000 - 2015
City of East Tawas	2,372	2,584	2,887	2,951	2,808	2,761	2,400	-200	-6.78%
City of Tawas City	1,666	1,967	2,009	2,005	1,827	1,788	1,548	-217	-10.82%
Alabaster Twp	280	371	394	503	487	480	436	-23	-4.57%
Au Sable Charter Twp	1,876	2,198	2,312	2,230	2,047	2,005	1,747	-225	-10.09%
Baldwin Twp	953	1,393	1,670	1,726	1,694	1,664	1,472	-62	-3.59%
Burleigh Twp	569	761	695	775	787	1153	1,033	378	48.77%
Grant Twp	607	1,043	1,154	1,560	1,546	1,518	1,340	-42	-2.69%
Oscoda Charter Twp	11,578	11,386	11,958	7,248	6,997	6,851	5,960	-397	-5.48%
Plainfield Twp	2,036	3,160	3,490	4,292	3,799	3,734	3,318	-558	-13.00%
Reno Twp	294	566	572	656	590	582	531	-74	-11.28%
Sherman Twp	422	465	502	493	448	443	408	-50	-10.14%
Tawas Twp	1,253	1,463	1,465	1,465	1,744	1,719	1,555	254	17.34%
Wilber Twp	359	554	638	740	729	720	655	-20	-2.70%
Iosco County	24,905	28,349	30,209	27,339	25,887	25,407	22,405	-1,932	-7.07%
State of Michigan	8,875,083	9,262,078	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,640	9,883,640	9,873,234	-54,804	-0.55%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey, EMCOG, MDOT

FIGURE 2: East Tawas & Iosco County Population Trends, 1970 - 2040





Source: US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey

The City peaked in population in 2000, but has seen a 6.4% decline since that time. The population segment 65 and over accounts for roughly 25% of the overall population in the City. These seniors, upon retirement, are converting their summer cottages to primary residences. This was evidenced by the increased single-family redevelopment activity occurring in the City, especially along the shores of Tawas Lake in the 1990's. Population projections from EMCOG and MDOT suggest a steady decrease in population through 2040, with total counts for the county dropping below pre-1970 levels.

The general trend for Michigan and the country as a whole is an increase in median age. The median age in the City of East Tawas is no exception, and has increased from 44.2 years in 2000 to 50.9 years in 2010. This is a 6.7 year, or a 15 percent increase in a ten year period; as opposed to a 2.6 year, or a 6.2% increase between 1990 and 2000. The US Census Bureau projects a continued nationwide increase in median age from 37.8 in 2015 to 43.0 in 2060.

FIGURE 3: Median Age Trends

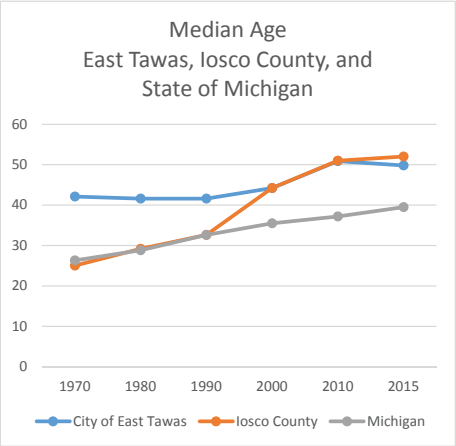


TABLE 3: Median Age

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2016
City of East Tawas	42.1	41.6	41.6	44.2	50.9	49.8
Iosco County	25.0	29.2	32.6	44.2	51.0	52
State of Michigan	26.3	28.8	32.6	35.5	37.2	39.5

Source: US Census Bureau

At the same time, household sizes are dropping. This trend is a natural result of populations aging in place. Average household sizes have dropped across the country, from 2.59 to 2.58 from 2000 to 2010. Michigan has experienced a larger drop, from 2.56 to 2.49, with local communities following suit.

The age of a population directly affects workforce availability and the types of both public and private services needed. EMCOG estimates show that the median age of the entire region is increasing. In the City of East Tawas, there was a 26.2% increase in the median age between 1980 and 2010. Figure 5 shows that in 2015, 65% of the City's population was 40 years of age or older.

FIGURE 4: East Tawas Age Comparison

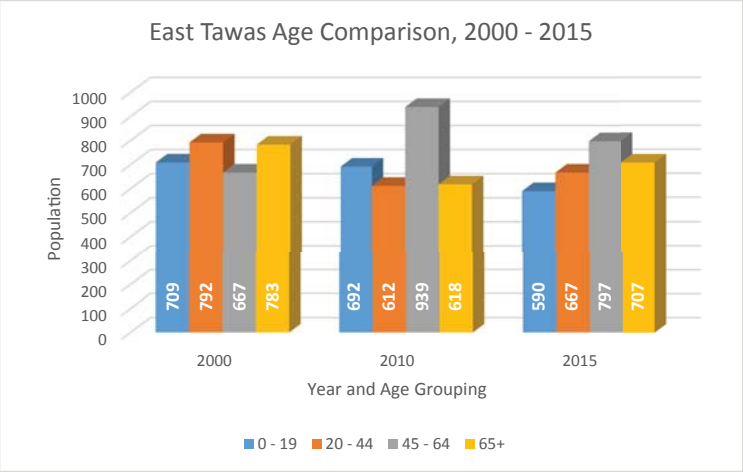
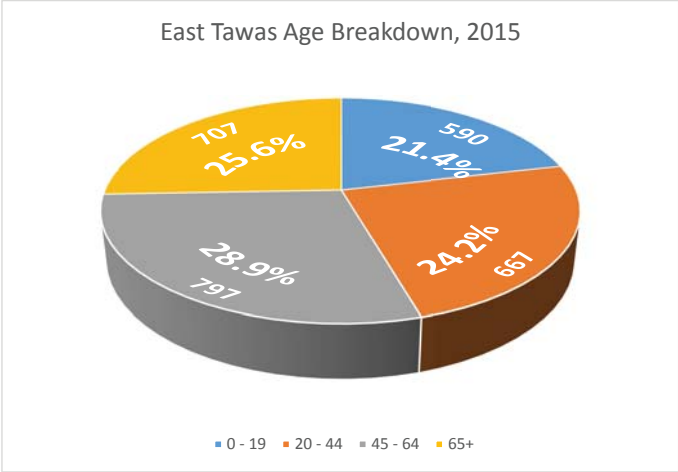


FIGURE 5: East Tawas Age Breakdown



Population loss was a contributing factor to the 4.6% increase in vacant housing units. This increase is higher than the regional level; vacancies in Iosco County actually dropped slightly during the same period. The housing stock in East Tawas is fairly new, although it is beginning to age. While 44% of the housing stock was constructed since 1970, only 4 units have been constructed since 2010. U. S. Census estimates indicate the number of housing units increased by 372 units, or 2.1%, between 2000 and 2010, while the population decreased by 4.9% during the same period.

TABLE 4: Housing Tenure, 2000 - 2015

	City of East Tawas		Iosco County	
	2000 Census	2010 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census
Occupied Units	944 (68.3%)	939 (70.6%)	11,727 (57.4%)	9,609 (81.7%)
Renter Occupied	438 (31.7%)	393 (29.5%)	2,112 (18%)	2,148 (18.3%)
Vacant Units	309 (18.3%)	396 (22.9%)	8,705 (42.6%)	8,686 (42.5%)
Total Units	1,691	1,728	20,432	20,443

Source: EMCOG

TABLE 5: Household Projections: East Tawas, Neighboring Communities, County, and State, 2010 - 2040

	2000	Avg. HH Size 2000	2010	Avg. HH Size 2010	2015	2040	Change 2000 - 2015	% Change 2000 - 2015
City of East Tawas	1,382	2.14	1,332	2.06	1,300	1,123	-82	-5.93%
City of Tawas City	760	2.29	723	2.22	705	607	-55	-7.24%
Alabaster Twp	222	2.27	240	2.02	235	207	13	5.86%
Au Sable Charter Twp	956	2.32	947	2.16	924	798	-32	-3.35%
Baldwin Twp	754	2.28	788	2.14	770	670	16	2.12%
Burleigh Twp	498	2.57	490	2.56	479	419	-19	-3.82%
Grant Twp	700	2.22	712	2.17	696	604	-4	-0.57%
Oscoda Charter Twp	3,170	2.28	3,266	2.14	3,187	2,750	17	0.54%
Plainfield Twp	1,897	2.26	1,797	2.11	1,757	1,531	-140	-7.38%
Reno Twp	248	2.65	242	2.44	237	209	-11	-4.44%
Sherman Twp	200	2.47	193	2.30	189	168	-11	-5.50%
Tawas Twp	635	2.55	702	2.38	687	604	52	8.19%
Wilber Twp	305	2.43	325	2.24	318	281	13	4.26%
Iosco County	11,727	2.30	11,757	2.17	11,486	9,970	-241	-2.06%
State of Michigan	3,685,661	2.56	3,872,508	2.49	3,872,508	n/a	186,847	5.07%

Source: US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey, EMCOG, MDOT

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Educational Achievement

One indicator of the economic viability of a city is the educational attainment level of the population living there. Between 2000 and 2015, the proportion of the City's population without a high school diploma has decreased, while the population with some form of college degree has steadily increased. This decrease is consistent with a decline experienced at the EMCOG regional, State, and National levels. EMCOG has also reported a rise in educational attainment at all levels throughout the region.

TABLE 6: Educational Achievement, East Tawas

	2000	2010	2015
Population 25 years and over	2,186	2,089	1,987
Less than 9th grade	3.80%	3.00%	2.10%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	14.60%	8.50%	6.30%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	32.20%	35.10%	34.10%
Some college, no degree	23.70%	21.10%	22.00%
Associate's degree	6.50%	7.30%	8.10%
Bachelor's degree	12.20%	16.70%	18.80%
Graduate or professional degree	7.10%	8.40%	8.60%

Source: US Census

Income

According to Census 2010, the median income for a household in the City of East Tawas was $38,042. The City experienced a downturn in median income since 2010, after seeing gains between 2000 and 2010. The 2015 median income is 24% below the State median household income ($49,576), but slightly above the County median household income (37,317).

Poverty is a strong indicator of the economic health and sustainability of the population of an area. Despite having slightly higher median incomes, the City has 2% more residents living at or below the poverty line than the surrounding County. Table 7 shows median income levels for East Tawas residents as compared to Iosco County, the State, and the Nation.

TABLE 7: Median Income & Poverty Levels, 2000 - 2015

	2000	2010	2015	% Below Poverty Level
City of East Tawas	$30,229	$40,191	$38,042	19.7%
Iosco County	$31,321	$36,861	$37,317	17.7%
Michigan	$44,667	$48,432	$49,576	16.7%
United States	$41,994	$51,914	$53,889	15.5%

Source: US Census Bureau

Natural Features

An inventory of significant natural features is important for several reasons. It can help determine which areas of the City are most suitable for development and which may be the most cost effective to develop. Further, a natural features inventory can provide an indication as to which areas of the City would provide maximum amenities without having adverse impacts on natural systems and is often useful in the review of the proposed development plans.

Since the development of land can significantly impact the natural environment, special attention must also be given to the preservation of natural and environmentally sensitive areas in long-range planning. Environmentally sensitive areas can be defined as land areas whose destruction or disturbance will immediately affect the life of the community by either:

- Creating hazards such as flooding;
- Destroying important resources such as wetlands and woodlots; and
- Wasting important productive lands and renewable resources.

Significant Site Features

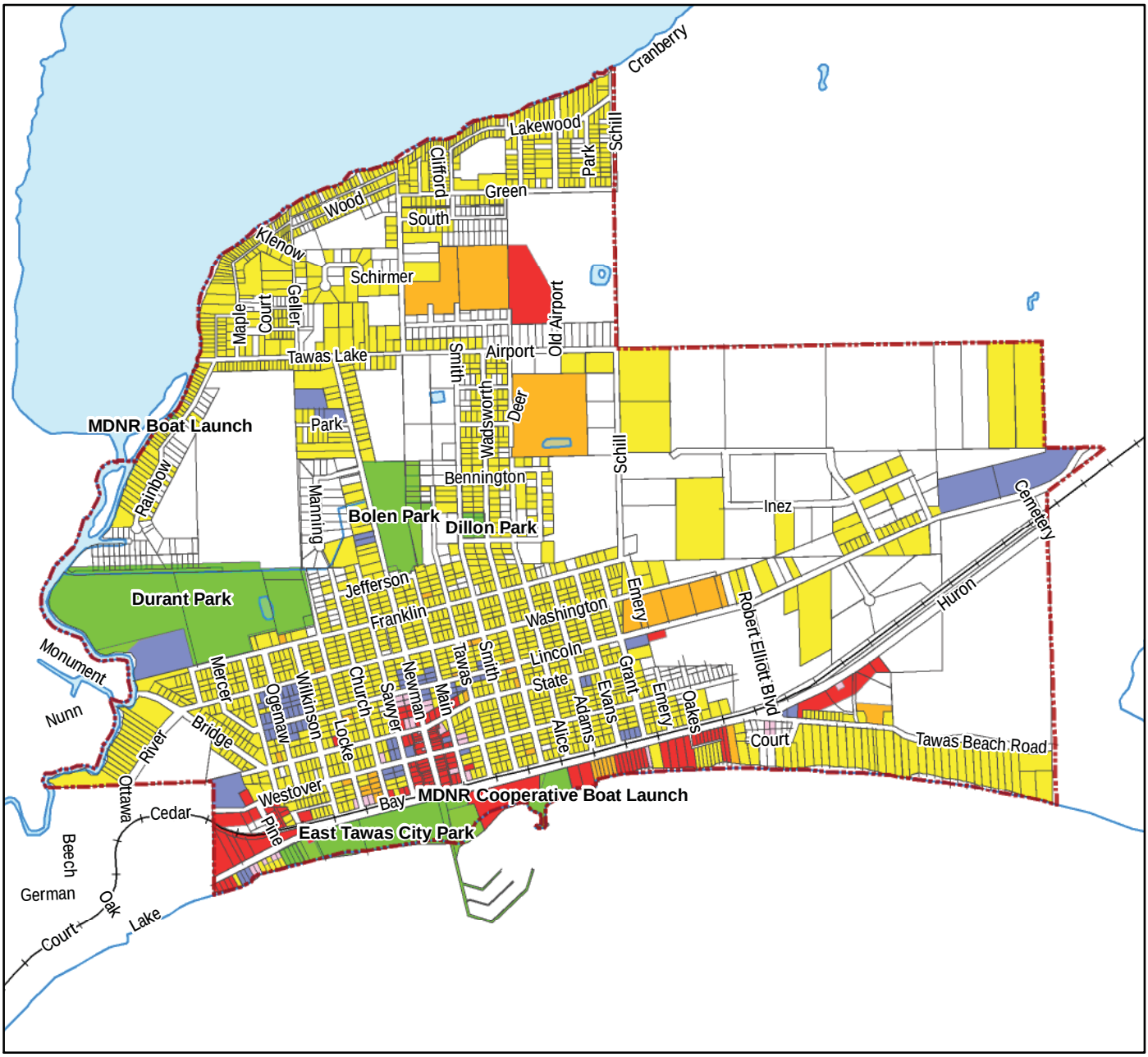
Significant site features are those surface characteristics that shape the community. For instance, poorly drained soils, steep elevations, or floodplains may discourage or preclude development, while flat, well drained lands may attract certain land use activities over others.

Climate

The climate of the City of East Tawas is moderated by Lake Huron. The lake provides a cooling effect during the summer months and a warming influence during the winter months. The mean annual temperature is 44°F. The warmest month of the year in the City of East Tawas is July, with an average maximum temperature of 80°F and an average minimum temperature of 56°F. The coldest month is January, with average maximum and minimum temperatures of 29°F and 11°F, respectively.

The average annual precipitation is 30 inches, with an average snowfall of 53 inches per year. Fifty-nine percent of the precipitation is received between April and September. There have been several instances of monthly rainfall in excess of seven inches. The average growing seasons lasts 120 days.

MAP 1: Existing Land Use



Existing Land Use

East Tawas, Iosco County

- Vacant
- Single Family Residential
- Multiple Family Residential
- Office
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public/Semi-Public
- Parks

N

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 8, 2017

MAP 2: Natural Features

Forested Wetland

Emergent Wetland

Natural Features

East Tawas, Iosco County

N

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library
Wade Trip Topographic Data
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
November 8, 2017

Topography

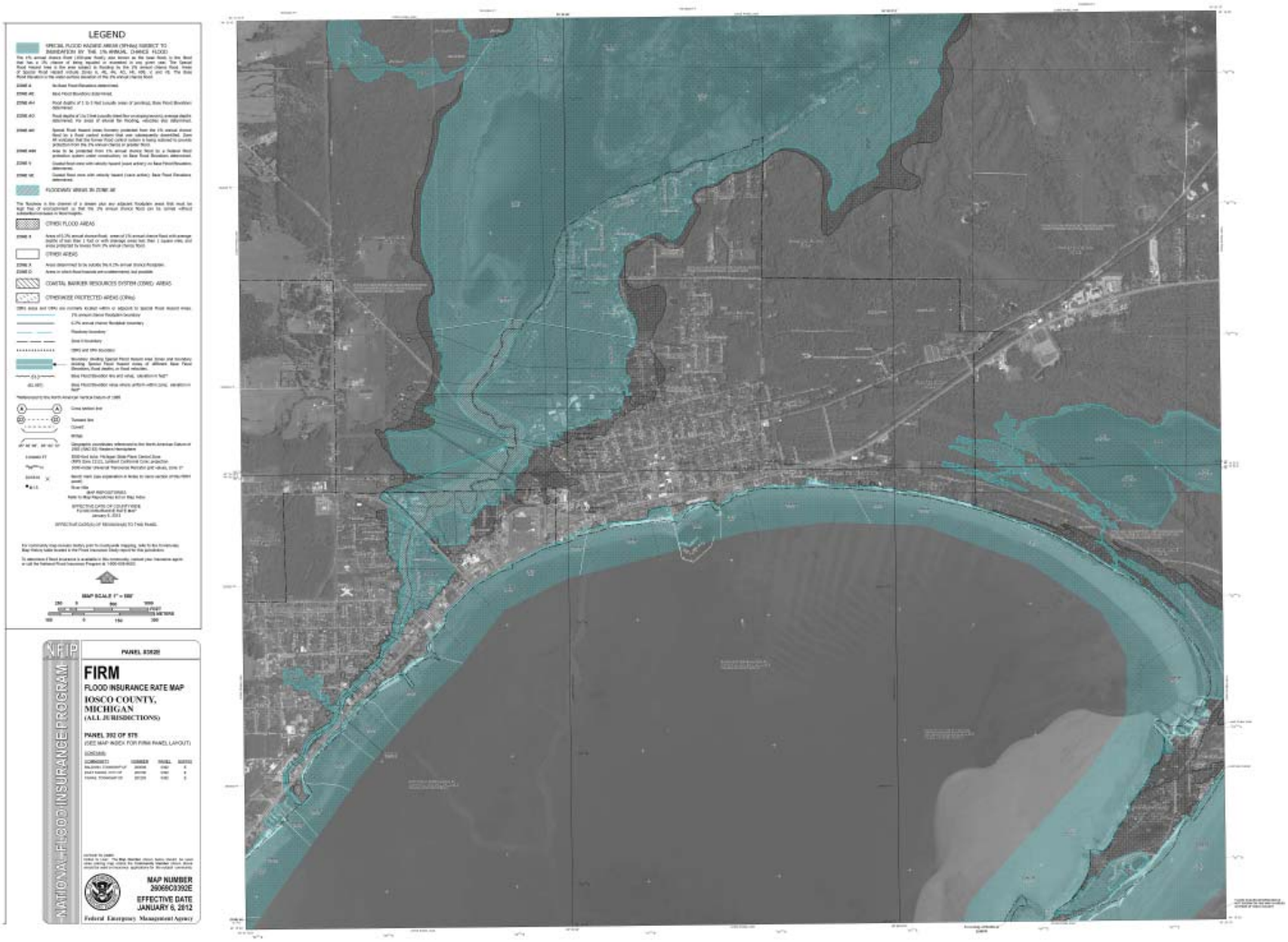
The topography of the City of East Tawas is generally flat, as the area is a former glacial lakebed. Land elevations range from 580 feet above sea level along Tawas Bay to 590 feet for most of the remaining areas of the City. Elevation contours for the City are depicted on Map 2, Natural Features.

Floodplain

FEMA characterizes the Tawas River floodplain a "Special Flood Hazard Area (SPHA) subject to inundation by the 1% annual chance flood", also known as a "100-year flood" event. This high-risk zone encompasses a significant portion of the City's north and west sides, and a narrower band along Tawas Bay. The region immediately bordering the Tawas River is described as the floodplain area and stream channel that "must be kept free of encroachment" to prevent increases in flood depth during a storm event.

Shoreline development in the floodplains of the City, especially along the river and Tawas Lake, are susceptible to flooding during periods of high lake levels. In an effort to reduce hazards to people and property as a result of flood conditions, compliance with the provisions and requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, and rules and regulations promulgated in furtherance of this program by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is required of developments in the City.

FIGURE 6: FEMA Floodplain Boundaries



Source: Adapted from FEMA Flood Plain Maps

Watercourses

Tawas Bay, Tawas Lake, and the Tawas River present natural boundaries for the City limits on the north, south and west sides. The few small lakes located within the City are all generally on private property and offer little in the way of recreation opportunities.

Woodlands

Nearly 60% of East Tawas is covered by a significant tree canopy. Dense woodland areas cover much of the northern and eastern portions of the City, while residential and business corridors enjoy more typical suburban-style street tree plantings.

Woodlands are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also provide valuable habitat for wildlife. Climatic conditions such as flooding and high winds are moderated by woodlands through their protection of watersheds from siltation and soil erosion caused by storm water runoff or wind. Woodlands also play a role in improving air quality by absorbing certain air pollutants and in buffering noise sensitive sites from noise generators.

The layout of future development should be sensitive to the preservation of woodland areas to the maximum extent feasible.

Wetlands

Wetlands are an important, though commonly overlooked, natural resource that provide both aesthetic and functional benefits. Through the years, over 70% of Michigan's wetlands have been destroyed by development and agricultural activities. Therefore, Michigan enacted the Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act (Michigan Public Act 203 of 1979) to protect the remaining wetlands.

The wetland act authorizes the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to preserve certain wetland areas. MDNR may require permits before altering regulated wetlands and may prohibit development in some locations.

IMAGE: Wooded area near East Tawas

MDNR defines wetlands as "land characterized by the presence of water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does support, wetland vegetation or aquatic life and is commonly referred to as a bog, swamp, or marsh, and which is any of the following:

- Contiguous to the Great Lakes or Lake St. Clair, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream;
- Not contiguous to the Great Lakes, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and more than five acres in size; except this subdivision shall not be of effect, except for the purpose of inventorying, in counties of less than 100,000 population until the department certifies to the Department of Natural Resources it has substantially completed its inventory of wetlands in that county;
- Not contiguous to the Great Lakes, an inland lake or pond, or a river or stream; and five acres or less in size if the department determines that the protection of the area is essential to the preservation of the natural resources of the state from pollution, impairment, or destruction and the department has so notified the owner; except this subdivision may be utilized regardless of wetland size in a county in which the above subdivision is of no effect; except for the purpose of inventorying, at the time. "

Among the criteria used by MDNR when conducting a wetland determination:

- Presence of standing water (at least one week of the year);
- Presence of hydric soil types that are saturated, flooded, or ponded sufficiently to favor wetland vegetation (usually black or dark brown);
- Predominance of wetland vegetation/plant material, or aquatic life, such as cattails, reeds, willows, dogwood, elderberries, and/or red or silver maple trees;
- Presence of important or endangered plant or wildlife habitat or a rare ecosystem;
- Area serves as an important groundwater recharge;
- Size and location – minimum size to be state regulated is five acres unless the wetland is contiguous to a lake, pond, river or stream, or is considered "essential" to the preservation of natural resources of the state.

IMAGE: Kayaking on Tawas Lake

Image Source: YouTube

The determination that a site contains a regulated wetland can have several consequences:

- MDNR may issue a permit to fill the wetland;
- MDNR may require mitigation, such as replacing the wetlands (sometimes this involves increasing the overall on-site wetland acreage two- or threefold);
- MDNR may prohibit development in the wetland area if it is determined that there is a "prudent" alternative.

The Natural Inventories map on page 10, delineates significant wetlands in the City, but not necessarily all of the wetlands regulated under the State Wetland Act. Where this map or on-site observation indicates the likelihood of a regulated wetland, sources (soil survey, MDNR maps, or U. S. Fish and Wildlife maps) should be referenced to further determine if the wetland has the physical and biological characteristics that place it under the jurisdiction of the MDNR. A formal written determination by a qualified wetland consultant and/or staff of MDNR may be required.

Local wetland protection can help preserve these important resources and can be achieved in a variety of ways. Foremost is ensuring that developers have received any necessary MDNR reviews or made permit application prior to final local action on proposed development projects.

There are several techniques that the City could use to assist in local wetland protection. Some of these could be incorporated into existing land development regulations. Other techniques, specifically a local wetland ordinance that addresses wetlands smaller than the five-acre minimum regulated by the MDNR, would not be cost effective in the City of East Tawas due to administrative demands.

Among options that the City could consider are:

- Revise pertinent provisions in the Zoning Ordinance with more specific language to preserve wetlands and other sensitive natural features;
- Amend the Zoning Ordinance to require a 25 to 100 foot building and parking lot setback from regulated wetlands;
- Add policies to this Master Plan providing for directing incompatible future land uses away from wetlands (consider such factors as land use type, intensity, density, extent, distribution, and location of allowable uses);
- Encourage preservation of natural features by directing clustered development to the most buildable portion of the site while retaining the overall density (some communities offer a density bonus as an incentive for this technique);
- Establish public education programs regarding the importance of wetlands.

Wildlife

Woodlands and water bodies in and around the City of East Tawas support a variety of wildlife including land mammal (e.g., whitetail deer, fox, beaver, rabbit, muskrat, and mink), bird and waterfowl, and fish species.

Although the U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service has determined there are presently no federally listed endangered, threatened, or proposed species in the City of East Tawas, preservation of areas for unlisted wildlife habitat should be considered when reviewing development plans.

Soils

Nine major soil types are present within the City. The majority of City acreage that remains unbuilt is generally classified as Meehan Sand, Deford Muck or AuGres Sand.

Soil characteristics can limit building site development if soil properties or site features are so unfavorable or so difficult to overcome that special design, significant increases in construction costs, or increased maintenance costs are required. Special feasibility studies may be required where the soil limitations are severe.

The USDA considers recreation development opportunities in East Tawas, including campgrounds, trails and paths, and playgrounds, to be very limited. Each of the nine soil types present challenges to development, although common factors include shallow depth to saturated zone, high organic matter content, excessively sandy soil, and ponding issues.

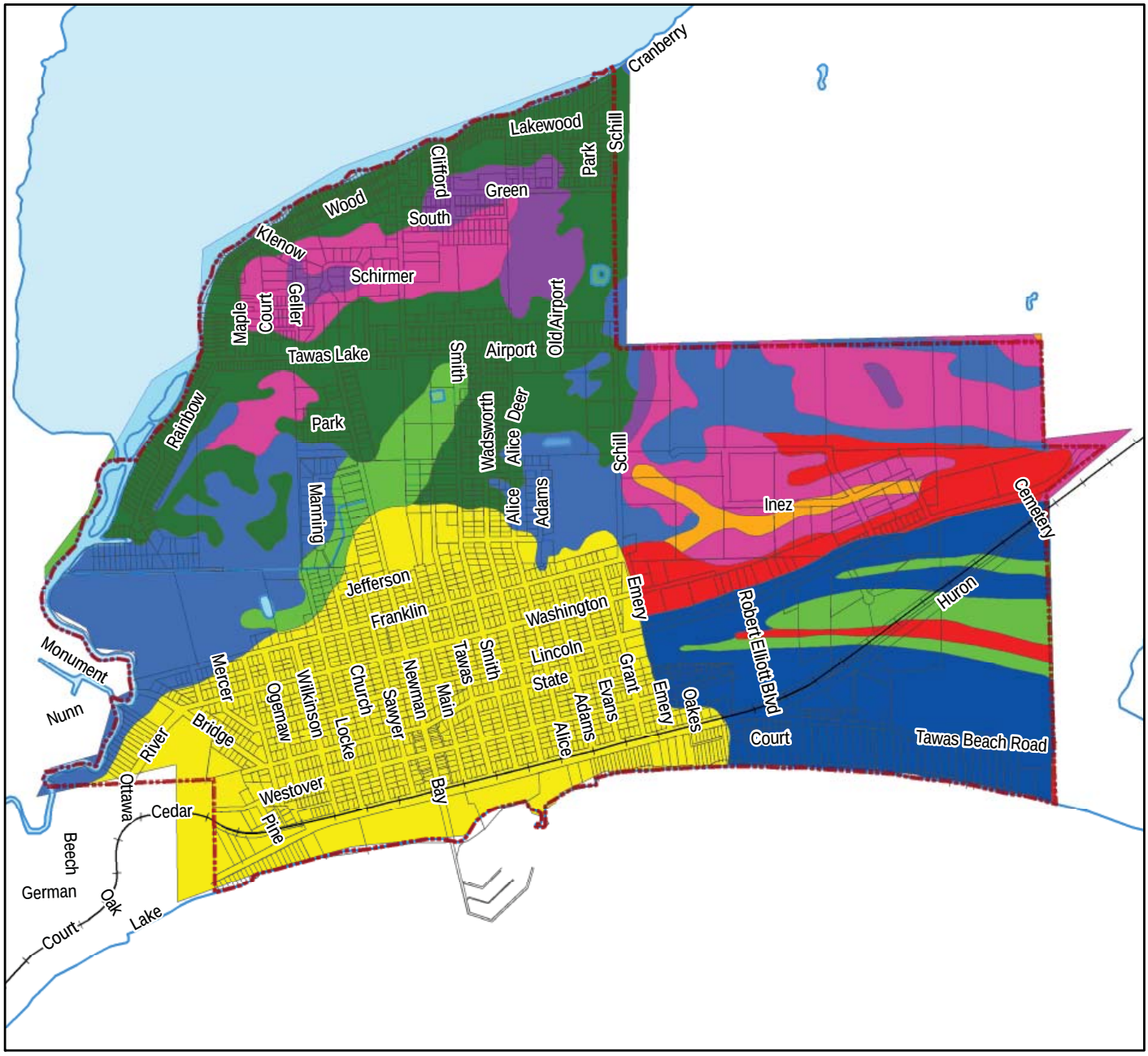
Careful inspection of any new property acquisitions and examination of site conditions will be required as the City looks to expand recreation facilities in coming years.

TABLE 8: East Tawas Soil Makeup

Soil Description	Acres	%
Tawas and Lupton mucks, 0 to 1 percent slopes	107.6	5.70%
Au Gres sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	228.8	12.10%
Deford muck	268.7	14.20%
Wurtsmith sand, 0 to 6 percent slopes	20.5	1.10%
Meehan sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	343.9	18.10%
Wurtsmith-Meehan-Deer Park sands, 0 to 18 percent slopes	95.2	5.00%
Meehan-Tawas-Wurtsmith complex, 0 to 12 percent slopes	235.7	12.40%
Wurtsmith-Meehan-Urban land complex, 0 to 6 percent slopes	478	25.20%
Croswell sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes	62.5	3.30%
Water	48.2	2.50%

Note: Acres and percentages are approximate, based on area of interest defined at time of study
Source: USDA Soil Survey

MAP 3: East Tawas Soil Map



Soil Map

East Tawas, Iosco County

- Au Gres sand, 0-3% slopes
- Croswell sand, 0-3% slopes
- Deford muck
- Meehan-Tawas-Wurtsmith complex, 0-12% slopes
- Meehand sand, 0-3% slopes
- Tawas and Lupton mucks, 0-1% slopes
- Wursmith-Meehan-Urban land complex, 0-6% slopes
- Wurtsmith sand, 0-6% slopes
- Wurtsmith-Meehan-Deer Park sands, 0-18% slopes
- Water

N

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 8, 2017

Review of State Regulations

There are several state acts and programs that regulate various aspects of development in and around natural features, which are summarized in the following:

- Goemaere-Anderson Wetland Protection Act, PA 203 of 1979, regulates filling, dredging, and construction in wetlands over five acres, contiguous to a lake or steam, or considered to be ecologically important. Activity in areas determined to be wetlands require MDNR permits or may be prohibited
- Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act, PA 347 of 1972, regulates modification to the terrain within 500 feet of a lake or stream. The MDNR reviews requests to determine if a permit is required.
- Inland Lakes and Streams Act, PA 346 of 1972, regulates dredging, culverts, dock construction, and other activities. A permit for these activities must be received from the MDNR.
- Michigan Environmental Protection Act, PA 127 of 1970, is intended to prohibit pollution and activities that endanger lakes, streams, and wetlands. The act allows individuals and organizations to take their concerns about protecting the environment to court. Michigan courts have ruled that this act should be considered when making land use and zoning decisions.
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) gives MDNR the authority to regulate the discharge of wastes from point sources, such as pipes draining into a pond. However, non-point sources, such as fertilizers, septic system leakage, etc., are not strictly regulated.

Related Planning Initiatives

City of East Tawas 2013 Master Plan

The City's Master Plan includes provisions that relate to parks, trails, open spaces, and recreation facilities and services in East Tawas. Notable items include:

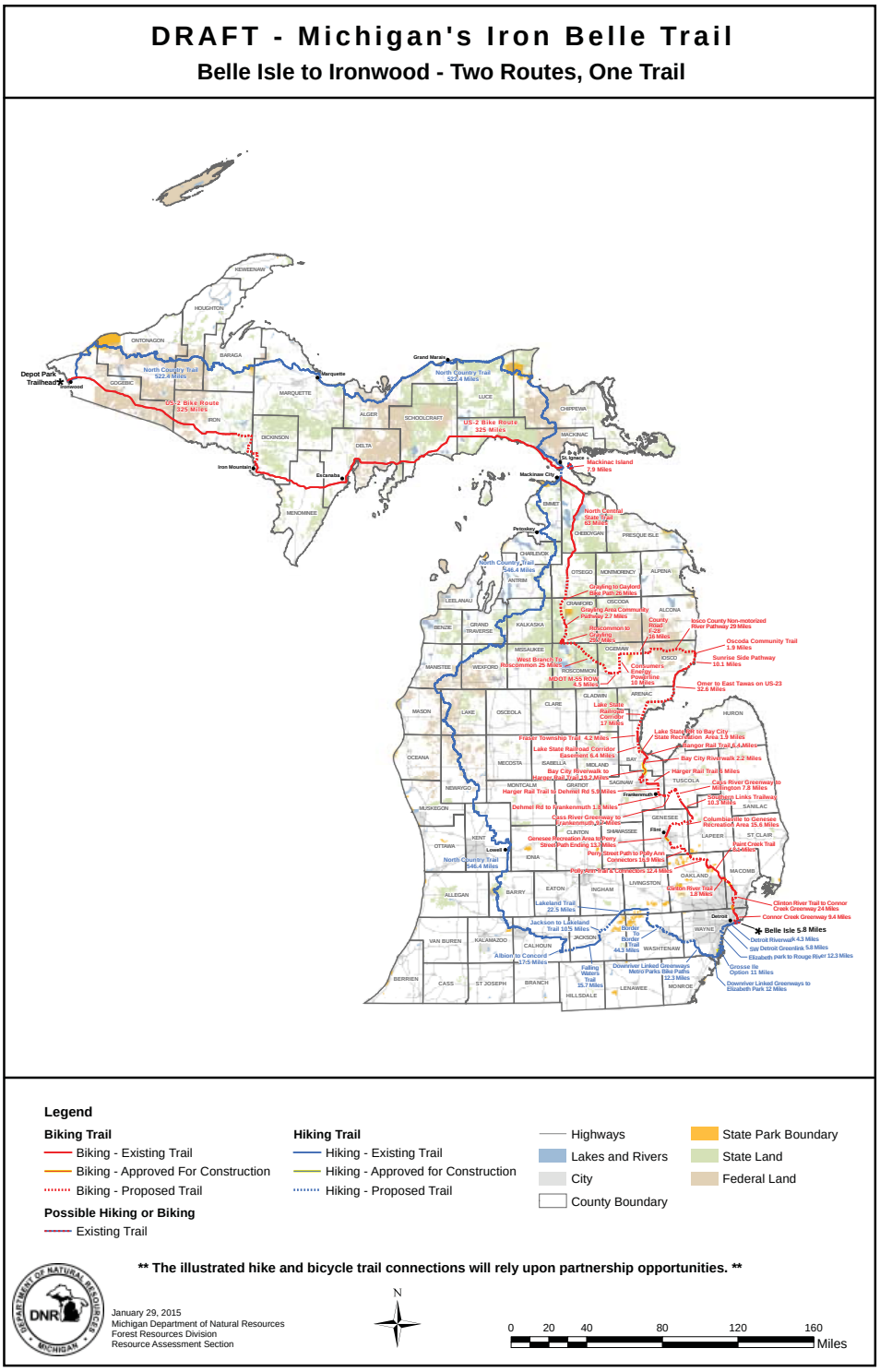
- Planning and development of a system of parks, greenways, open space and recreation facilities and encouraging the preservation of green space and the development of new parks and/or recreation assets when opportunities arise,
- Support the acquisition of land as a conservation measure to preserve or to provide access to specific natural features, such as woodlands and water bodies,
- Promote a balanced program of active and passive use recreation opportunities,
- Strive to make every City park and recreation site accessible through design of an all-season system of non-motorized pathways, trails, sidewalks and bike paths linking City neighborhoods with both City and adjacent non-City parks, greenways, pathways, recreation venues, schools and commercial retail areas
- Ensure that all parks and recreation assets are barrier-free and universally accessible,
- Advocate for the enhancement and preservation of natural features within and surrounding the City, specifically Lake Huron, Tawas Lake and Tawas River,
- Encourage the development of recreation facilities by private sources, nonprofit organizations, clubs and schools, and
- Continue to promote vitality by emphasizing the downtown area and waterfront as an entertainment and recreational center.

Iosco County 2013 Master Plan

The Plan recognizes the economic impact and quality of life importance of regional and local recreational facilities. It establishes several priorities that directly focus on recreation support and development. Goals and objectives specifically related to recreation include:

- Work with local communities, parks boards, and chambers of commerce to increase the area's tourism profile and promote recreational and environmental features,
- Promote and improve the existing network of motorized and non-motorized county-wide trails and propose connectors that would link existing systems,
- Explore the feasibility of the purchase of recreational lands for county management and development,
- Preserve and improve indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities, programs, and facilities, and
- Support the improvement of public water access sites.

FIGURE 7: Iron Belle Trail Preliminary Alignment



Source: MDNR

State of Michigan Iron Belle Trail

An ambitious project spearheaded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) would connect a series of trails from Detroit's Belle Isle to Ironwood in the far west of the Upper Peninsula. The trail includes a 1,273-mile long hiking route which winds along the west side of the Lower Peninsula and parallels Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula. A 791-mile bike trail uses existing multi-use trails and follows US-2, a designated national bicycling route running just north of Lake Michigan in the Upper Peninsula.

The bike trail is slated to pass directly through East Tawas, taking advantage of the 12.5-mile long Sunrise Side Pathway Trail running from Alabaster Township to the south and Baldwin Township to the north. Rail-trail facilities have been proposed to connect south to Fraser while right-of-way trails along US-23 have been suggested to connect north to Oscoda.

Trail segments are operated and maintained by local communities and recreation authorities. Once completed, the Iron Belle Trail will become the largest section of the even more ambitious North Country Trail system, which will run from New Hampshire to North Dakota, making it one of the largest contiguous trail systems in the country.

FIGURE 8: Michigan Shore-to-Shore Trail

Source: Wikipedia

Michigan Shore-to-Shore Trail

The Michigan Shore-to-Shore Trail is a 220-mile-long trail running between Empire and Oscoda, providing connectivity between Lakes Huron and Michigan. The trail allows horseback riders and hikers but is not open to bicycles at this time.

Iosco County Recreation Plan

Iosco County is in the process of developing a recreation plan in 2017. County trail networks serve a wider variety of users than traditional downstate systems, and must be able to accommodate the needs of equestrians, cross country skiers, snowmobilers and ATV riders, as well as the usual hikers and bikers. The County currently provides a variety of recreation maps on their website, including snowmobile routes, cross country ski maps, and plans which detail trails and roads open to off-road vehicles.

IMAGE: Snowmobile Trail in Iosco County

Source: Iosco County

Image Source: US23 Heritage Route

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The planning and management of parks and recreation in East Tawas are primarily accomplished by the East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department in coordination with the East Tawas Park Board.

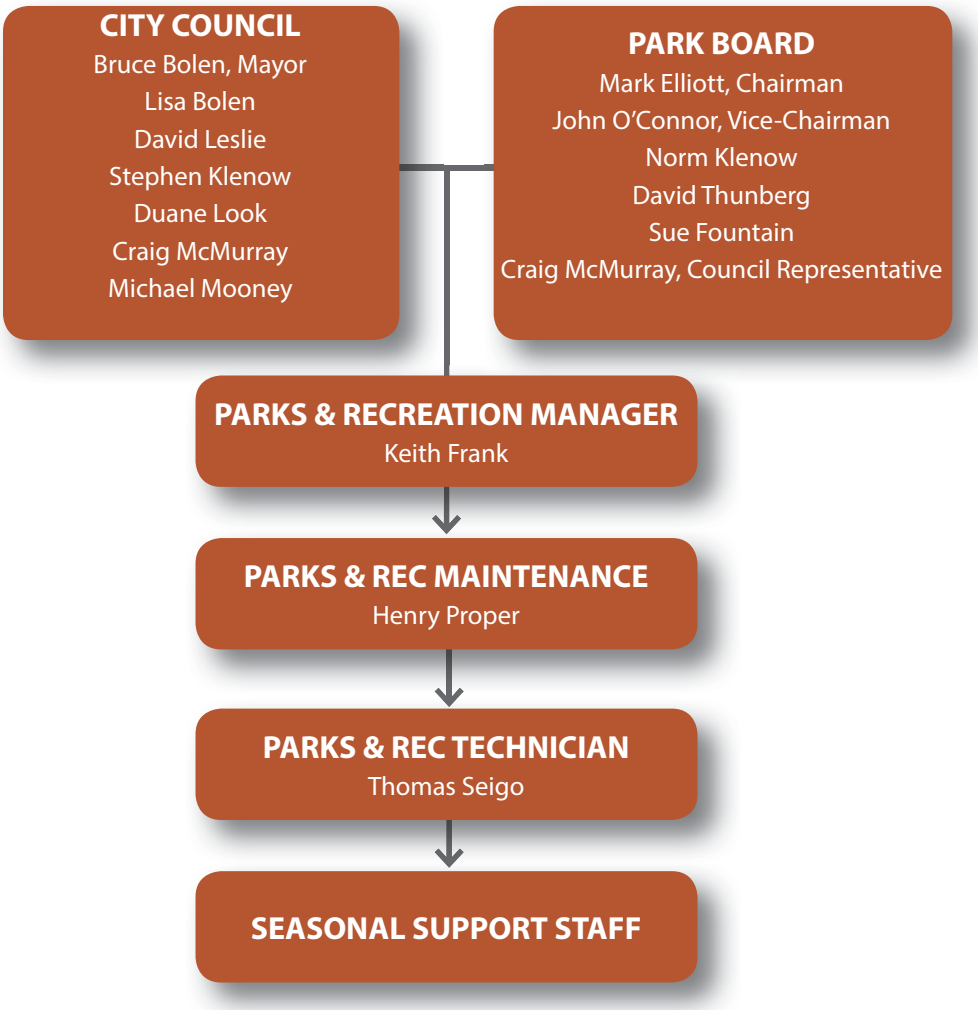
The East Tawas Park Board was established in 1965 under Public Act 156 of 1917. The Park Board is composed of five members serving five-year terms. The term of one of the members is up for re-appointment or replacement on the first Monday of May in each year.

The Board's primary responsibilities are to establish parks and recreation policies and procedures and to advise on park improvement, maintenance, and programming.

ADMINISTRATION

The administration of parks and recreation services in East Tawas is the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department and City Council. The Department is headed by a Parks Manager, and parks maintenance personnel. In addition, nine seasonal staff members provide assistance during the summer months.

FIGURE 11: Administrative Structure



FUNDING AND BUDGET

Funding for parks and recreation is supported by the East Tawas City Park campground revenues, donations, and grants. The current City budget for Parks and Recreation is detailed in Table 9.

TABLE 9: Parks and Recreation Budget Summary

INCOME / EXPENSE	ACTUAL 2015 - 16	BUDGETED 2016 - 17	BUDGETED 2017 - 18
INCOME			
CAMPING FEES	$824,040.00	$760,000.00	$850,000.00
STORAGE FEES-TRAILER STORAGE	$34,613.00	$36,000.00	$34,000.00
EXTRA CAMP FEES-CREDIT SLIPS, TRANSFERS	$413.00	$100.00	$100.00
COMMISSIONS - POP MACHINES	$239.00	$200.00	$200.00
INTEREST-INTEREST INCOME	$1,515.00	$500.00	$700.00
BUILDING RENTAL-GAZEBO, PAVILIONS	$6,625.00	$5,000.00	$6,400.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	$4,756.00	$1,000.00	$2,000.00
REFUNDS/REBATES	$(838.00)	$(200.00)	$(200.00)
GRANTS: DNR Trust Fund	$-	$-	$292,500.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	$5,000.00	$-	$-
TRANSFER OF PRIOR YEAR FUNDS	$-	$163,597.00	$141,450.00
TOTAL INCOME	$876,363.00	$802,600.00	$1,327,150.00
—			
SALARIES & WAGES-EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION	$191,671.00	$188,000.00	$201,250.00
PAYROLL TAXES & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:			
SALARIES & WAGES-F.I.C.A.	$14,545.00	$15,040.00	$16,100.00
MESC-UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	$167.00	$3,500.00	$200.00
HOSPITALIZATION-BLUE CROSS/ BLUE SHIELD	$28,462.00	$26,000.00	$24,250.00
WORKMAN'S COMP.- COMPENSATION INSURANCE	$5,027.00	$5,000.00	$5,200.00
LIFE INSURANCE	$1,107.00	$1,100.00	$1,200.00
MILEAGE ALLOWANCE-EMPLOYEE REIMBURSEMENT	$1,495.00	$1,700.00	$1,800.00
PENSION	$9,367.00	$9,300.00	$9,900.00
ADVERTISING-BROCHURES, PROGRAMS, ETC.	$1,084.00	$1,000.00	$1,200.00
CABLE T.V.	$30,076.00	$31,800.00	$34,080.00
DEPRECIATION	$130,396.00	$140,000.00	$132,000.00
INSURANCE-INSURANCE & BONDS	$13,793.00	$21,400.00	$16,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	$700.00	$1,000.00	$1,000.00
OPERATING SUPPLIES	$13,138.00	$21,000.00	$16,000.00
PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES	$3,005.00	$10,000.00	$35,000.00
RENT: PORTA-POTS	$2,526.00	$2,500.00	$2,600.00
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	$47,157.00	$50,000.00	$52,000.00
RUBBISH COLLECTION	$6,428.00	$7,000.00	$7,000.00

INCOME / EXPENSE	ACTUAL 2015 - 16	BUDGETED 2016 - 17	BUDGETED 2017 - 18
UNIFORMS	$747.00	$800.00	$850.00
UTILITIES-HEAT,LIGHT,PHONE,WATER,CABLE	$94,091.00	$71,200.00	$76,920.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY: MAJOR	$1,553.00	$150,000.00	$500,000.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY: MINOR	$13,666.00	$20,000.00	$15,000.00
OTHER:			
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS-DUES, CONTRIBUTIONS	$1,000.00	$1,400.00	$1,100.00
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	$2,392.00	$3,000.00	$2,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	$613,593.00	$781,740.00	$1,153,150.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	**$262,770.00**	**$20,860.00**	**$174,000.00**
OTHER INCOME / EXPENSE			
OTHER EXPENSE			
COMMUNITY CENTER O & M PAYMENT	$20,000.00	$30,000.00	$30,000.00
COMMUNITY CENTER BOND & INTEREST	$147,456.00	$147,457.00	$144,000.00
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSE	**$167,456.00**	**$177,457.00**	**$174,000.00**
NET INCOME	**$95,314.00**	**$(156,597.00)**	**$-**

VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERSHIPS

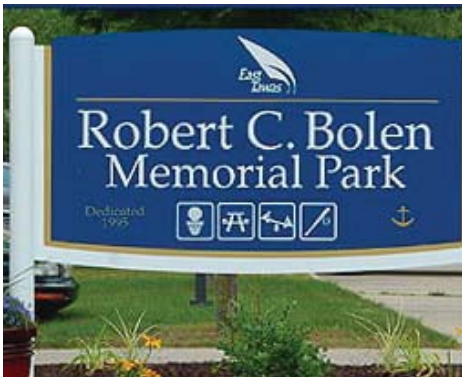
The Parks and Recreation Department maintains a relationship with the Tawas Area Schools. The schools use the baseball and softball fields available at the City parks for High School and Junior High School baseball and softball programs. The High School also utilizes the Community Center gym for some winter sports team practices. The schools and the Tawas Area Soccer Association (TASA) hold games at a soccer complex near the Tawas City Middle School. TASA organizes leagues and games for children from around the area.

Other organizations run various athletic recreation programs independently from the City. They are nonprofit organizations run by a membership elected Board of Directors. The first three organizations use the sport fields available at the City parks:

- Huron East (Tawas) Knothole Association
- Tawas Men's Softball League
- Tawas Youth Amateur Softball Association
- Tawas Bay Garden Club
- AuSable Valley Audubon Society

In addition, the former Tawas Area Lions Club and the Tawas Kiwanis Club have played a role in providing volunteer labor and financial support for park facilities. Other community groups uses the facilities provided at the parks for various events. These groups include:

- Friends of the East Tawas Library
- Tawas Bay Arts Council
- Tawas Community Concert Band
- Tawas Bay Players
- Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce



Recreation Inventory

There are a number of regional recreational resources available to residents of East Tawas. In addition, the City offers several local park facilities. Other resources, such as schools and privately owned recreational facilities, also exist in the area. This section describes these recreational resources.

LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Bolen Park:

Located four blocks north of the central business district, Robert Bolen Memorial Park includes 17 acres of land with a baseball field, Little League baseball field, a wooden "Mackinac Bridge" play structure, a picnic pavilion with restroom and kitchen facilities, two horseshoe pits, a Lions Club building containing a small kitchen and restrooms, and three full-sized basketball courts. Paved walkways provide access to the park's activity areas. They are used by area residents for walking and jogging. The park also includes 180 parking spaces within three parking areas and incorporates the Community Center, City Hall and the new East Tawas City Library. The park facilities and athletic fields are used by the Huron East Knothole Association and by the Tawas Area High School Varsity and Junior Varsity baseball programs for home games.

The East Tawas Community Center, City Hall, and new East Tawas Library:

The Community Center is located on the northern seven acres of Bolen park. The building complex includes a full-size gymnasium, an elevated three-lane walking track, fully equipped kitchen, three meeting/multi-purpose rooms, the City Hall administrative offices, and City Council Chambers. The Community Center provides an attractive venue for receptions, banquets, and other formal gatherings for residents and non-residents alike. The library was constructed by the City of East Tawas through general funds, generous local donations, and funds generated by the East Tawas Friends of the Library. The facility provides additional space for library use and other activities.

Dillon Park:

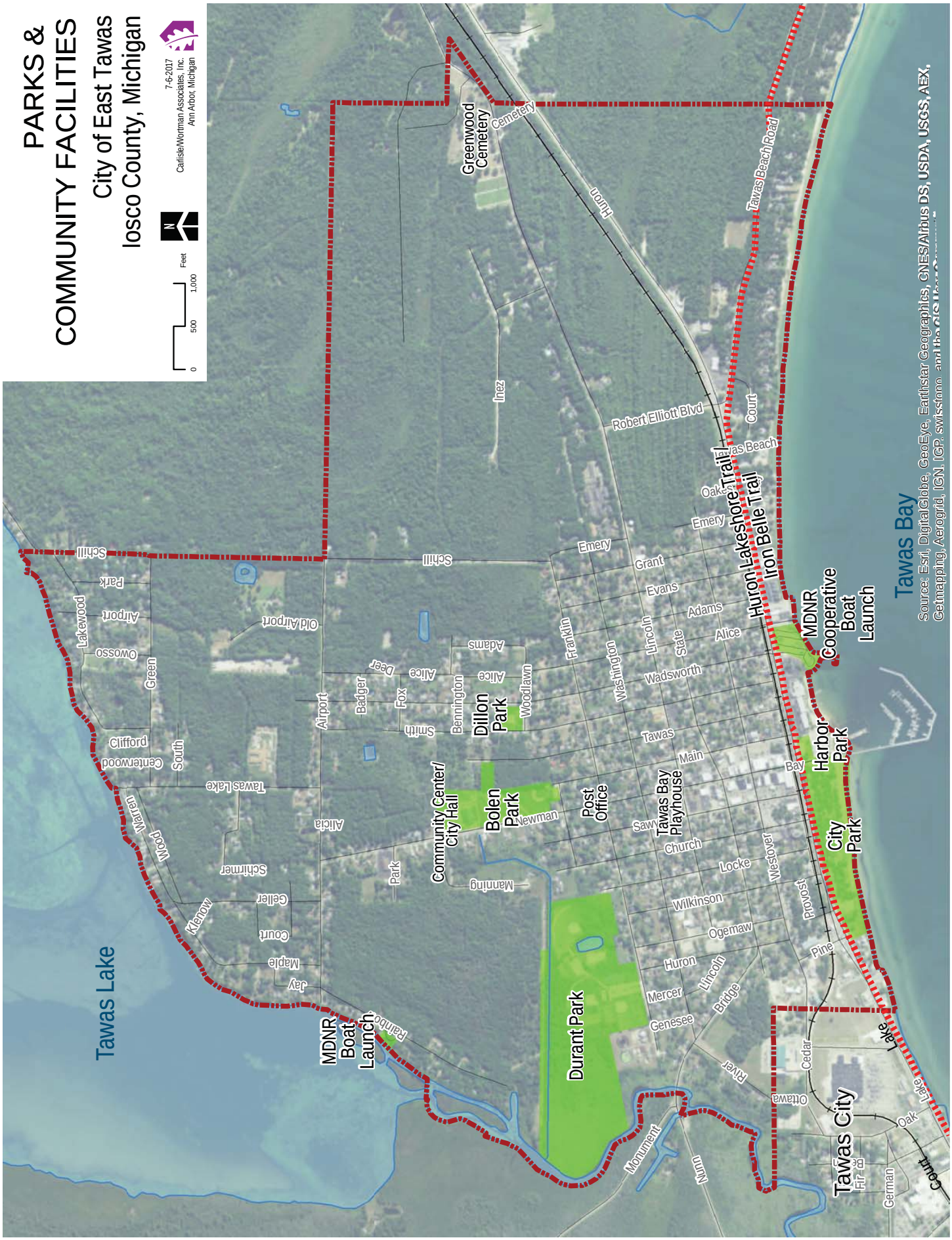
Tom Dillon Memorial Park is a 2-acre park located on Woodlawn Street, which includes a softball field used heavily by the Huron East Knothole Association and for youth softball tournaments. The park features a picnic pavilion with restrooms and kitchen, a play structure and play equipment, and horseshoe pits.

Durant Park:

Located on the west part of town on Franklin Street, Dewey Durant Park is a 24.5-acre property which features a picnic pavilion with kitchen and restrooms, three softball fields, four tennis courts, eight professional horseshoe pits, and a "Peace Train" wooden play structure. The park also includes a fishing pond, a large open space, a ¾-mile nature trail, and a wooden bridge spanning Dimmick Canal, linking the park to City-owned property on the north side of the canal, and to the Tawas Lake residential areas. The sport fields are used by the Men's, Women's, and Youth Amateur Softball Leagues for play and tournaments. The Tawas Area Junior High softball team and the High School Varsity and Junior Varsity softball programs use the sport fields for their home games.

A new storage shed has been provided by the Tawas Youth Amateur Softball Association. The park's tennis courts have recently been milled, repaved, sealed and painted. A disc golf course has also been proposed for this site.

MAP 4: East Tawas Parks & Community Facilities



East Tawas City Park:

The 7.2-acre City Park campground is a former state facility, which is maintained as a popular tourist destination campground located on the beach. The modern 178-site campground is usually filled to capacity from early June through mid August annually and features sewer, water, electric, WiFi, and cable television hook-ups on all sites. All campsites have a paved parking area. The park's winter storage program, which runs from October to May, is also very popular and helps the campground remain a very vital part of our tourist economy. The revenues generated from the campground fund the City's parks and recreation services.

In 2014, a new ADA accessible bathroom and shower was added to the campground. In addition, the City recently purchased five additional parcels. Two of the parcels, Genii's Restaurant and Verlac Real Estate, were purchased with the assistance of MNRTF grant funds, while the Schriber parcel and Different Blend Coffee Shop were purchased using City and Park funds. The commercial buildings on these sites have been demolished and are anticipated to be the future location of new restrooms and camper cottages. The camper cottages will provide additional camping options for users of the Park. Ten camper cottages are proposed for Phase I while nine more cottages are proposed for Phase II. The camper cottages will provide accommodations for sleeping. A new restroom facility is also planned for the west side of the park and will provide convenient access for the camper cottages. The restrooms are in part funded by a MNRTF grant. Construction of the restrooms will begin in 2018 and will be completed in 2019.

The City Park day-use area includes a 3-acre property located to the west of the campground and the County Museum and Park Office, which provides a gazebo, benches, picnic facilities, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, drinking fountain, and walkways.

FIGURE 9: City Park ADA Compliant Restroom Facilities

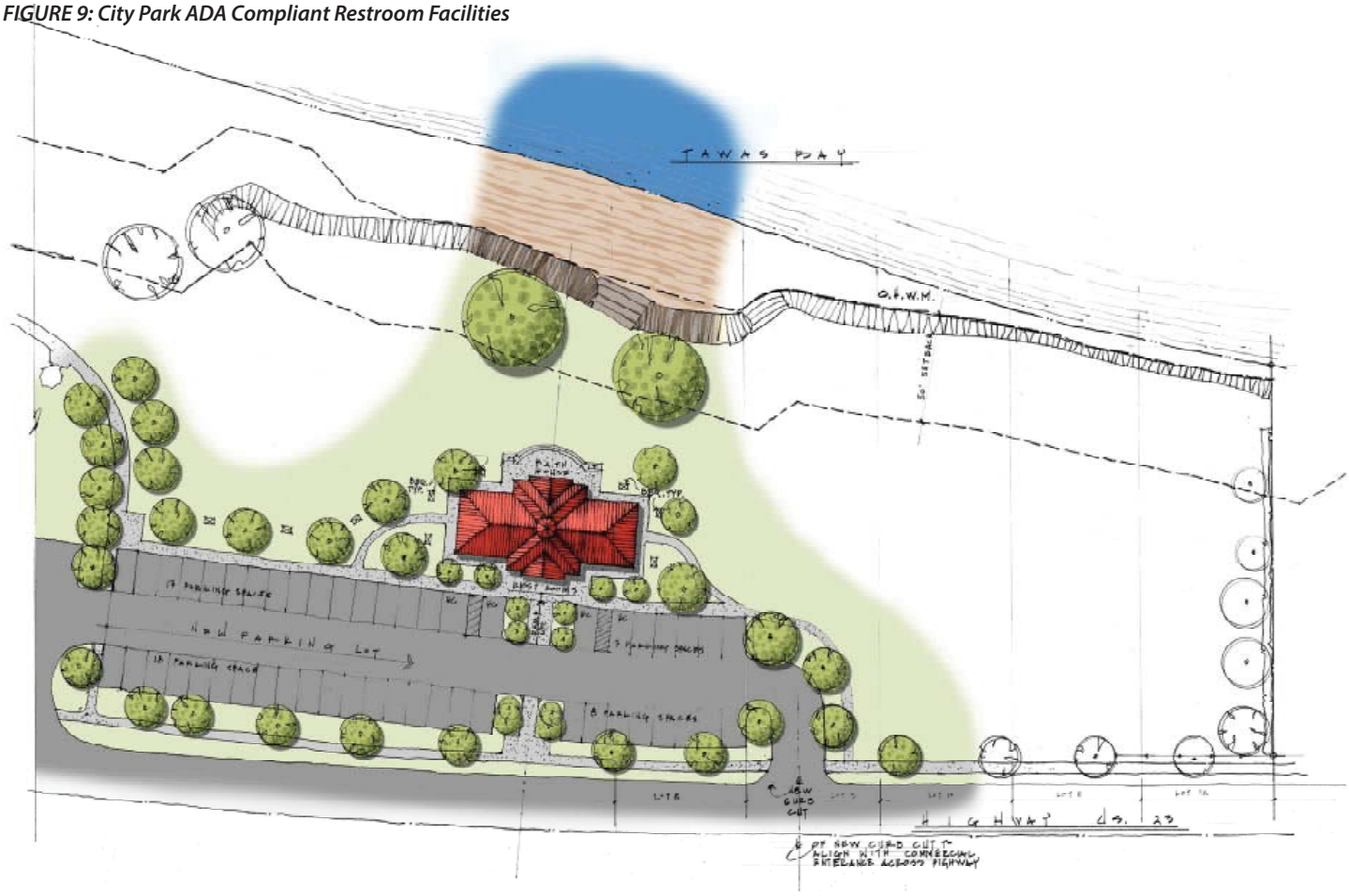
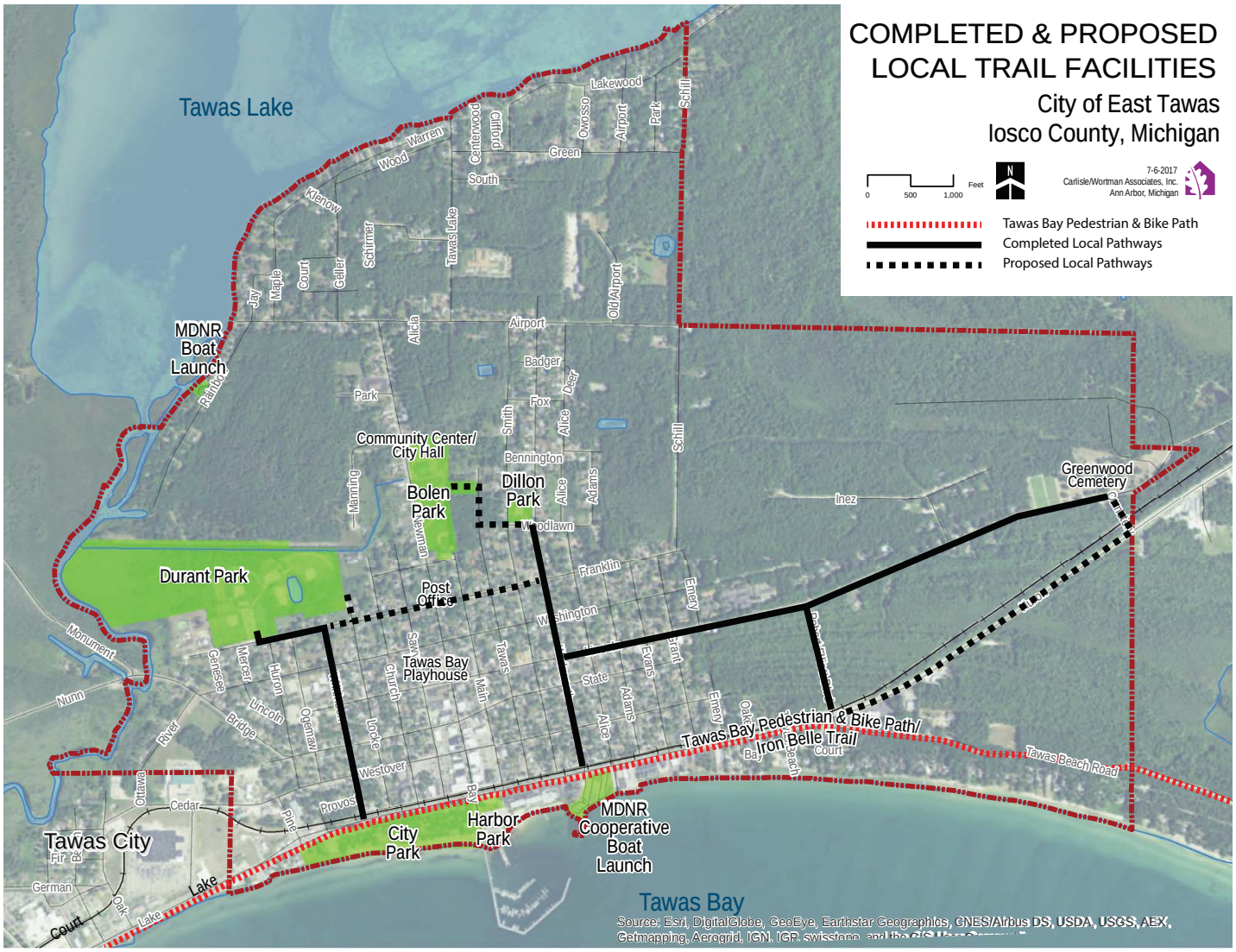


FIGURE 10: City Park Proposed Camper Cottages

Harbor Park

The 2-acre property facing Newman Street on the waterfront area includes a central plaza, which provides access to all the park facilities including the City Park campground, day-use area, a large grass festival area, and the State Dock. It features a fountain, pavilion, seating, play structure, decorative paving, flagpole, lighting, with pedestrian and vehicular access from U. S. -23.

MAP 5: East Tawas Local Trail Facilities



Tawas Bay Pedestrian and Bike Path:

A 10-mile multi-use pathway runs from Alabaster Township north through Tawas City and East Tawas along Tawas Beach Road to Tawas Point State Park in Baldwin Township. The pathway is a part of the larger Iron Belle Trail system (see page 18 for further description), and could potentially bring cyclists from locations across Michigan and the United States.

The City of East Tawas plans to link more of their park facilities with either 5-foot sidewalks or designated bike trails. A plan indicating the proposed linkage is provided in Map 5.

Tawas Bay Playhouse:

East Tawas purchased the former Oddfellows Hall on Newman Street in 1988 and leases it to the Tawas Bay Players. The building has undergone extensive renovation and includes a 150-seat theater with a permanent stage and technical room. The Tawas Bay Players are responsible for the building's maintenance and utilities.

Iosco County Historical Museum:

The Museum is located between the East Tawas City Park and the day-use area of the Park, in the former McKay house which was purchased in 1979. The back of the Museum property extending to the waterfront is owned by the City and is part of the City Park day-use area.

SCHOOLS AND OTHER RECREATION FACILITIES

The Tawas Area Schools are located outside City limits in adjacent Tawas Township. The following describes the recreational facilities they offer. The facilities are available to the public through their Community Education Programs and Summer Youth Recreation programs.

Clara Bolen Elementary: The school, located south of Tawas High School in Tawas Township, offers a gymnasium and playground.

Tawas High and Middle School: A major building project at the high school property allowed the consolidation of the Middle and High School properties. The facility, located on M-55, offers a football stadium, a renovated six-lane rubberized track with pole vault, high jump and long jump pits, two practice football fields, a soccer field, and a youth baseball/softball field. A new gymnasium was recently constructed to provide imposed facilities for sports and other activities.

The former middle school site, located on 2nd Street in Tawas City, no longer holds classes but is stil used for some recreation purposes. The site includes a gymnasium, playground equipment, and a large open play area. Three youth baseball/softball fields and the Tawas City Soccer Complex are located next to the property.

Several other facilities outside of East Tawas offer recreational opportunities to area residents. Tawas City provides a soccer complex for area youth. The Huron Hockey and Skating Association provides an enclosed and refrigerated ice rink in Tawas Township for area residents. The Oscoda Schools have a swimming pool that they make available to area residents. In addition, the townships of Oscoda and Au Sable provide recreational opportunities including public beaches, playgrounds, and ball fields.

REGIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES

In addition to the previously described recreational facilities, there are more than 140,000 acres of parkland owned by federal, state, and county authorities in and around East Tawas. Facilities within an hour drive of the City are considered regional recreational facilities. These facilities are typically large properties that provide opportunities such as camping, swimming, boating, hiking, or preserve forested areas, which are beyond the ability of a local municipality to provide. These parks and campgrounds often provide trail access as well, some of which offer access for equestrians, cross-country skiers, and snowmobilers.

Map 6 depicts the location of the regional parks, and Table 10 provides a summary of available activities. A detailed description of some of these facilities is provided in the following paragraphs.

Tawas Lake Boat Launch:

This facility with 200-feet of frontage on Tawas Lake is owned and operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It includes a parking area, rustic restroom facilities, and a dock with launch ramp for small boats, canoes, and kayaks.

Cooperative Boat Launch:

This facility, owned and operated by the MDNR Waterways Division, is located on Tawas Bay. The boat launch consists of 4 ramps and 57 car/trailer parking spaces. The MDNR and East Tawas have a long-term lease agreement to incorporate a city-owned property into the Boat Launch Facility.

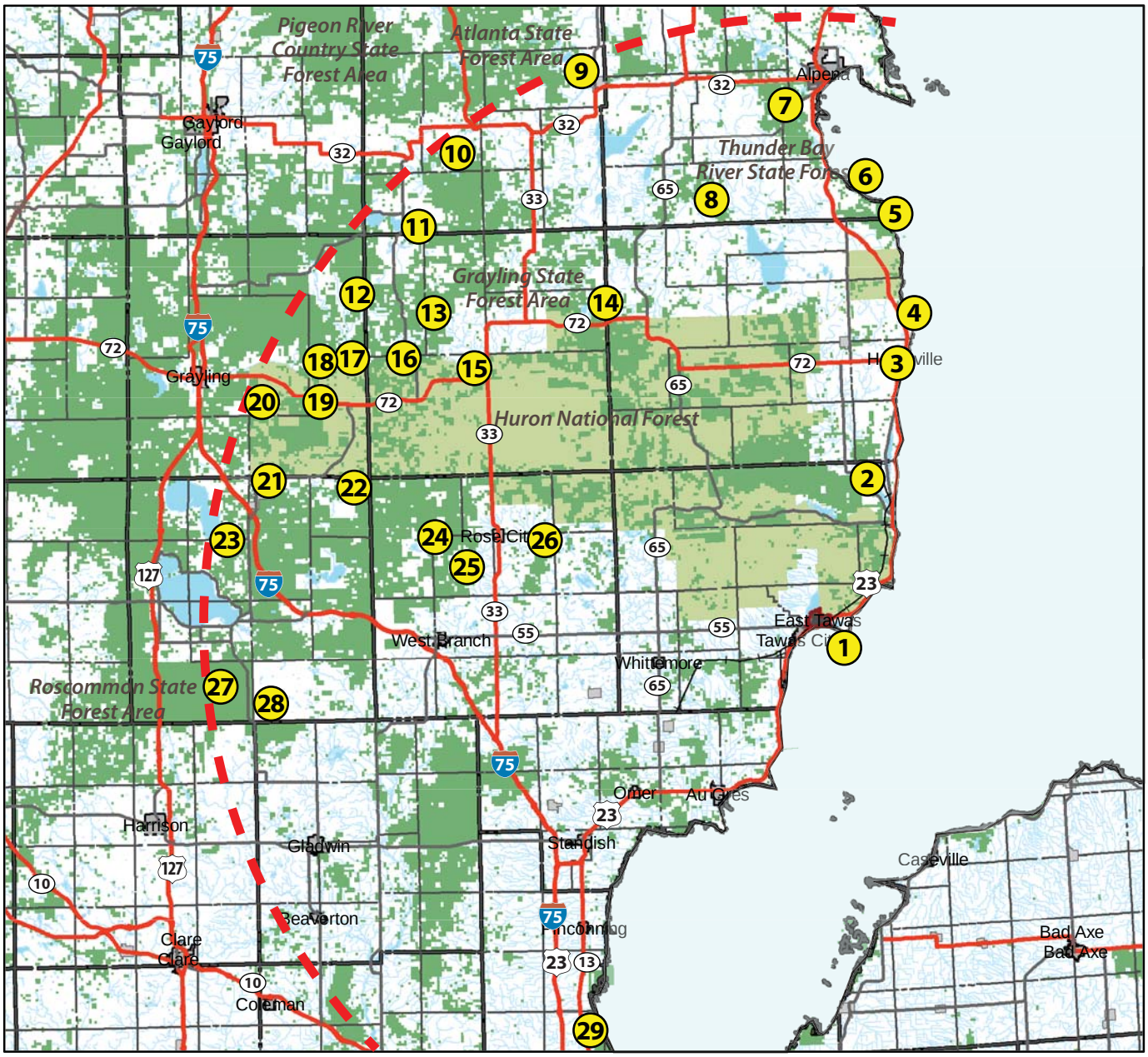
State Dock/Harbor of Refuge:

This facility was originally constructed in 1932 through the Works Progress Administration. Expansion projects over the years have brought the facility to its current capacity of more than 140 slips. The Harbor of Refuge is busy from Memorial Day through Labor Day and provides the setting for many activities throughout the summer. The MDNR Waterways Division is reconstructing a portion of the harbor and is adding a new break wall and finger piers for boating (see appendix ___). Phase I of these improvements was completed for the 2017 boating season.

Huron National Forest:

Approximately 115,000 acres of the Huron National Forest lie within the northern half of Iosco County along the Au Sable River. Recreation opportunities offered include camping, ATV trails, hiking, snowmobiling, boating/canoeing, fishing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Some of the popular recreation features within the National Forest include Eagle Run cross-country skiing and hiking trails, Highbanks Trails, Iargo Springs interpretive area, Lumberman Monument Visitor Center, Tuttle Marsh, and the Corsair Trails.

MAP 6: Regional Park and Trail Facilities



1. Tawas Point State Park / Sandy Hook Nature Trail
2. Van Etten Lake State Forest Campground
3. Harrisville State Park / Cedar Run Nature Trail
4. Sturgeon Point State Park
5. Negwegon State Park / Potawatomi, Algonquin, & Chippewa Nature Trails
6. Ossineke State Forest Campground & Trail
7. Norway Ridge Pathway
8. Chippewa Hills Pathway
9. Ess Lake State Forest Campground
10. Avery Lake State Forest Campground / Big Oaks Equestrian State Campground
11. Little Wolf Lake State Forest Campground
12. Walsh Road Equestrian State Forest Campground & Trail Camp
13. Muskrat Lake State Forest Campground
14. McCollum Lake State Forest Campground
15. Mio Pond State Forest Capground & Group Camp
16. Parmalee Bridge State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp
17. Rainbow Bend State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp
18. White Pine Canoe Camp
19. Canoe Harbor State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp / Mason Tract Pathway
20. 4-Mile Trail Camp
21. Tisdale Triangle Pathway
22. Red Pine Natural Area Pathway
23. South HIggins Lake State Park / Trails
24. Ambrose Lake State Forest Campground
25. Ogemaw Hills Pathway
26. Rifle River Recreation Area
27. Lost Twin Lakes Pathway
28. House Lake / Trout Lake State Forest Campground & Pathway
29. Bay City State Recreation Area

Regional Recreation Opportunities within a 60-mile Radius

East Tawas, Iosco County

N

0 5 10 Miles

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
June 8, 2017

TABLE 10: Regional Park and Trail Amenities

Key	Facility Name	Michigan State Park Explorer	Playground	Metal Detecting	History Programs	Pet Friendly Area	Picnic Area	Picnic Shelter	Visitors Center	Amphitheater	Hiking	Cross Country Skiing	Biking	Bike Rental
1	Tawas Point State Park / Sandy Hook Nature Trail	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	
2	Van Etten Lake State Forest Campground						X							
3	Harrisville State Park / Cedar Run Nature Trail	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X		X
4	Sturgeon Point State Park										X			
5	Negwegon State Park / Potawatomi, Algonquin, Chippewa Trails			X							X	X		
6	Ossineke State Forest Campground & Trail						X				X			
7	Norway Ridge Pathway										X	X	X	
8	Chippewa Hills Pathway										X	X	X	
9	Ess Lake State Forest Campground													
10	Avery Lake State Forest Campground / Big Oaks Equestrian State Campground						X				X			
11	Little Wolf Lake State Forest Campground							X						
12	Walsh Road Equestrian State Forest Campground & Trail Camp										X			
13	Muskrat Lake State Forest Campground						X				X			
14	McCollum Lake State Forest Campground													
15	Mio Pond State Forest Campground & Group Camp													
16	Parmalee Bridge State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp													
17	Rainbow Bend State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp													
18	White Pine Canoe Camp													
19	Canoe Harbor State Forest Campground & Canoe Camp / Mason Tract Pathway										X	X		
20	4-Mile Trail Camp										X			
21	Tisdale Triangle Pathway										X	X	X	
22	Red Pine Natural Area Pathway										X		X	
23	South Higgins Lake State Park / Red, Blue, & Green Trails	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X		
24	Ambrose Lake State Forest Campground										X			
25	Ogemaw Hills Pathway										X	X	X	
26	Rifle River Recreation Area	X	X	X			X	X			X	X		
27	Lost Twin Lakes Pathway										X		X	
28	House Lake / Trout Lake State Forest Campground / Pathway						X				X			
29	Bay City State Recreation Area	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Mountain Biking	Orv Routes	Snowmobiling	Hunting	Watchable Wildlife	Swimming	Beach House	Beach	Fishing	Fishing Pier	Paddlesports	Boat Rental	Boat Launch	Equestrian	Equestrian Camping	Electrical Service	Winter Camping	Concession Store	Cabins And Lodges	Mini Cabins	Rustic Site	Group Use Area	Walk-In Sites	Paddle-In Campsite	Tent / Teepee Rental	Yurt	Vault Toilet	Modern Restrooms	Sanitation Station
				X	X	X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X					X	X		X	X
								X				X								X								
					X		X			X		X			X	X		X	X								X	X
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	X			X				X				X								X								
X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X			X	X		X		X	X					X	X	X
X								X				X								X								
			X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X		X			X					X	X	X

Au Sable State Forest:

Approximately 9,000 acres of the Au Sable State Forest are located in Burleigh, Sherman, and Alabaster Townships in the southern portion of Iosco County.

State of Michigan Forest Reserve:

The northeast portion of Iosco County contains approximately 16,000 acres of state forest. Portions of the reserve include frontage on Van Ettan Lake with a campground. In addition, several miles of off road vehicle (ORV) trails are located within this area.

Tawas Point State Park:

This 183-acre park is located on Lake Huron and features camping, fishing, swimming, hiking, and the Tawas Point lighthouse. The multi-use trail is linked to the park.

Roscommon State Forest:

On the far western edge of the regional area, the Roscommon State Forest offers excellent hiking and skiing trails. The forest contains the headwaters of the Au Sable River, and its jack pine stands offer critical habitat for the endangered Kirtland's Warbler.

Thunder Bay River State Forest:

Located along the Thunder Bay River, this State Forest is home to Negwegon State Park. The park offers a beach on Lake Huron and rustic camping.

Grayling State Forest:

Grayling State Forest consists of 279,000 acres of State-owned land within a four county region. The forest includes several campgrounds and trails within its borders.

Image Source: Flickr/Dan Brown

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND GRANT-ASSISTED PROJECTS

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing access to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines (MDNR, 2009) was used to evaluate the accessibility of the area parks. The ranking system ranges from 1 to 5 as follows:

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

Each of the parks was evaluated using the MDNR ranking system noted. The specific elements that were evaluated include parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, the activity areas themselves, and support facilities such as restrooms and surfacing. Table 11 presents the results of this evaluation.

TABLE 11: Accessibility Assessment

Park	Rank	Description
Bolen Park & Community Center	3	Most of the park complies with ADA standards, however, an accessible route should be developed from the picnic shelter and/or pathway to the playground, and play structure surfacing should be upgraded from pea gravel to engineered wood fiber (EWF) or other accessible material.
Dillon Park	2	Accessible routes should be built to the park's activity areas. Accessible parking should be provided. Play structure surfacing should be upgraded from pea gravel to engineered wood fiber or other accessible material.
Dewey Durant Park	3	Accessible routes should be provided to the park's activity areas. Parking areas should be striped to allow adequate access from handicapped stalls. Routes must meet ADA criteria for running and cross slopes, and for abrupt transition areas.
East Tawas City Park	4	All waterfront parks comply with ADA standards. New accessible restrooms were added in 2014. Playground is located on a sand surface. Wheelchair ramps are provided along the beach for waterfront access.
Tawas Bay Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail	4	The trail complies with ADA standards.
Day Use Area	2	Additional HC parking must be provided. Abrupt transition areas should be addressed, and playground surfacing should be changed from sand to EWF or other accessible surface.
Harbor Park & Waterfront	4	Complies with ADA standards.
Tawas Bay Playhouse	4	Complies with ADA standards.

East Tawas has taken great strides to ensure that its facilities comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. All new park construction projects in East Tawas are designed to meet or exceed the most recent requirements of the ADA while existing facilities have been brought into compliance.

The City of East Tawas has been awarded eight MDNR grants since 1976. Grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and other funds has been instrumental in developing recreation facilities on park properties. Table 12 presents a description of all MDNR grants received including the current use and condition of the grant-assisted park facilities.

TABLE 12: Grant History

Grant Number	Description	Grant Amount	Current Use/condition
26-00820 1976 LWCF	Durant Park Phase I	$41,314	Development of two tennis courts, one softball field, entrance road, parking and the LWCF sign
26-01104G 1980 LWCF	McKay Property Acquisition	$20,138	Acquisition of 0.66 acres of parkland
TF 397 1980 MNRTF	Evans Property Acquisition	$50,000	Acquisition of 0.67 acres of parkland with 132 feet of frontage on Tawas Bay
TF88-245 1988 MNRTF	East Tawas City Park Day-use Area	$24,900	Development of a barrier-free walkway along the waterfront, playground, picnic area, and installation of various amenities including benches, grills, drinking fountain, picnic tables, waste receptacles, bike rack, and landscaping
BF89-534 1989 BF	Newman (Bolen) Park Phase I	$36,015	Park renovation including reconstruction of two tennis courts, construction of a basketball court, grandstand and dugout repairs, road and parking improvement, landscaping, and service building
BF91-279 1991 BF	Newman (Bolen) Park Phase II	$50,000	Development of a pedestrian pathway and parking area
TF97-199 1997 MNRTF	Newman Street Waterfront Development	$302,600	Development of the waterfront area including pedestrian walkways, picnic pavilion, fountain, landscaping, site amenities, irrigation, and street improvements
TF03-205 2003 MNRTF	Holiday Inn Property Acquisition	$96,500	Acquisition of 0. 27 acre of Tawas Bay frontage to provide beach access and outdoor recreation
TF13-020 2013 MNRTF	Genii's/Verlac Acquisition	$406,300	Acquisition of west end East Tawas City Park
TF16-0017 2016 MNRTF	Bath house Development Project	$292,500	Construction of new bath house and restrooms at East Tawas City Park

BF: Recreation Bond Fund

LWCF: Land and Water Conservation Fund

MNRTF: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

Public Participation & Needs Assessment

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs expressed by the public provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives as well as identify areas for capital improvements. To assess the public's desires, consideration was given to general recreation trends and a public meeting.

PARK ACREAGE COMPARISON

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum amount of parkland to adequately serve a given population size. The purpose of the NRPA guidelines is to provide minimum parkland standards that are applicable nationwide for recreation planning purposes. While the NRPA standards are useful benchmarks addressing minimum park acreage, a parks and recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community.

According to the NRPA, parks are categorized as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities. All the City parks are considered close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of close-to-home parkland is 6. 25 to 10. 5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks serve a broader area (about a 40-mile radius) and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique areas. For the Tawas area, regional parks include the federal and state-owned recreation areas described in the preceding chapter. The NRPA also recognizes other types of parks such as school properties, which can contribute to the local parks and recreation system.

Table 13 presents a comparison of the NRPA suggested parkland standards with existing area parks based on a population of 2,761 in 2015. According to these standards, local parks meet the acreage for total close to home parkland. In addition, the Tawas area is well served by the regional park facilities provided by the federal and state governments that are located within the community and in adjacent communities. It is worth noting, however, that East Tawas parks serve a wider area than just the local population. People from all over Iosco County and the state regularly utilize the City's park facilities, meaning that the effective user rate is much higher than the population of the City itself and therefore a more robust park system is appropriate.

TABLE 13: Comparison to NRPA Suggested Parkland Standards

Type of Park	NRPA standard acres/1000 population	Suggested acres per 2016 pop. - 2,761	Existing
Close to Home Parkland	6.25 - 10.5 Acres	17 – 29 Acres	56 Acres
Regional Parks	15 - 20 Acres	41 – 55 Acres	140,000 Acres+
Multi-Use Pathway	-	-	13 Miles+

COUNTY, STATE, AND NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS

Recreation trends on a national and regional level provide insights into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. Table 14 lists the top seven outdoor activities persons seven years and older participated in at least once in 2010.

TABLE 14: National Sports Participation, 2016

Activity	Participation (National)	Overall Rank	Participation (East North Central Region)	Overall Rank
Exercise walking	106.3 million	1	15.4 million	1
Swimming	46.3 million	3	6.3 million	7
Running / jogging	44.5 million	5	6.2 million	8
Hiking	42.0 million	6	5.3 million	12
Camping	40.1 million	7	6.4 million	5
Bicycle riding	36.0 million	9	5.8 million	9
Fishing	29.5 million	13	5.4 million	10

Source: NSGA Sports Participation in the United States 2016

Trail related sports continue to grow in popularity. The top growing outdoor activities between 2006 and 2016 were exercise walking (87.5 to 106.3 million), running/jogging (28.8 to 44.5 million), hiking (31.0 to 42.2 million) and kayaking (5.9 to 9.2 million). Team related sports, with the exception of soccer and lacrosse, showed significant declines in participation.

These trends are consistent with trends observed in Michigan. According to a survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2013-2017 Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the top ten outdoor recreation activities in Michigan were identical to those listed in the NSGA study, with hunting, boating, and visiting playgrounds added to the list.

TABLE 15: Top 10 Outdoor Recreation Activities in Michigan

Activity	% Participating	Activity	% Participating
Biking	25	Play outdoor games/ sports (soccer, basketball, etc.)	17
Camping	24	Hunting/trapping	15
Fishing	23	Swimming	13
Walking outdoors	21	Boating	11
Hiking	20	Visit playgrounds	10

Source: Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of the area can be summarized as follows:

- Recreation facilities should respond to the expected increase of seniors.
- Development of pathways to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian recreation use and to contribute to a healthy and walkable community continues to be a priority. The Tawas area has been forward thinking through the construction of the multi-use pathway along U.S.-23 and development of local paths throughout the city (see page 30).
- The Tawas Bay is the greatest natural asset for the area. Encouraging its use for recreation is a continued priority for the community.

PUBLIC INPUT

City officials strive to be responsive to residents' needs and desires for parks and recreation. Residents were invited to a public input meeting which was held on July 19, 2017 at City Hall. The event was advertised in the local paper, flyers were distributed and posted at numerous locations in the City including the community website, and invitations were mailed to residents along with their regular water bills.

Attendees were asked to provide suggestions related to park improvement and development. The following ideas were received:

- Waterfront property acquisition
- Resort cabins
- Larger RV Sites for 40'(+) RV's
- Canoe/Kayak rentals
- Elevated trail behind waste water treatment plant at Durant Park for canoe/kayak access to Tawas River
- 50 amp electric upgrade at campground
- Community pool (not a priority)
- Maintenance of existing facilities
- Increase user fees at Comm. Center
- Connecting pathways with County wide system
- Skateboard park (not a priority)
- Disc golf
- Historical signage
- Bolen park property acquisition
- Property acquisition in general

The City also offered an online survey to residents from July 6 through September 10, 2017. The survey's availability was advertised on the City's website and via flyers posted throughout the City.

PARK MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

Park maintenance and development needs were assessed by the Parks and Recreation Department Director. Table 16 details the evaluation.

TABLE 16: Park Maintenance and Development Needs

Park	Needs
Pathways	• Finish bike path on US-23 to City limits • Develop pathways around Tawas Lake area • Connect sidewalks and trails to parks
Bolen Park	• Rehab Grandstand • Skate Park • Pool - indoor or outdoor
City Park	• Acquire new land with beach frontage • Upgrade bathhouses • Upgrade electric system • General campground upgrades • Canoe/kayak launch area with access to water through swimming area • Sand volleyball courts • Splash pad / park
Dillon Park	• Dog park • Address drainage issues
Durant Park	• 9-Hole disc golf course
All existing parks	• Upgrade playground equipment • Upgrade playground surfacing • Upgrade park furnishings (benches, tables, etc.)

PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

Once a draft Parks and Recreation Plan was completed, it was made available for a 30-day public review. The availability of the draft plan for public review was advertised in the local paper (page B-1) and copies were placed at various locations in the City including City Hall, the Parks Department, and the City's website.

No comments were received. After the public review period, the Park Board approved the plan and recommended City Council's adoption of the plan (page B-2).

The public input into the plan culminated in an advertised public hearing held on _____ 2017 (pages B-3 and B-5). After the hearing, the City Council adopted the plan by resolution (page B-9).

Image Source: Aluminarium.com

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City of East Tawas Park Board has formulated goals and objectives for the next five years. They are broad enough to encompass the suggestions expressed from the public, City officials, staff, as well as to meet the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources of the area. They also consider demographic changes, current and anticipated growth and development, the area's physical resources, and recreation trends.

GOALS

The City of East Tawas should provide outdoor recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities that are clean, functional, and safe.

The City of East Tawas should consider the future needs of the community and take actions to dedicate parkland in order to meet future recreational needs as well as to enhance the character of the community.

OBJECTIVES

I. Continue to maintain and improve existing parks and community facilities

It is a priority of the Parks and Recreation Department to continue to maintain and improve existing park facilities to a high quality standard. This entails ensuring park facilities and equipment are safe, functional, and well-maintained.

More specifically, it includes replacing and upgrading aging park equipment and furnishings, ensuring safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones, removing barriers to universal access, maintaining and refurbishing parking and pavement surfaces, athletic field and equipment care, and general park upkeep and stewardship. This also includes developing new outdoor facilities in response to the changing needs of City residents.

II. Acquire new parkland

Parkland acquisition has always been a major priority for the City of East Tawas to ensure a sustainable parks and recreation system that can be enjoyed by all current users and future generations.

Potential parkland acquisition continue to focus on waterfront properties providing access to Tawas Bay and Tawas Lake, on land adjacent to existing parks, and on land presenting pathway development and linkage opportunities. Coordination with the City Council, Planning Commission, and the Tax Increment Finance Authority will be necessary to acquire land for the development of parks and pathways.

III. Improve pathways and develop a continuous community walk/bike pathway system

With the success of the multi-use pathway along the US-23 Heritage Route as well as other sidewalks/pathways along City streets and within City parks, continued pathway development is recognized as a priority for the community. East Tawas' trail system will serve a vital role in completing the State of Michigan's Iron Belle Trail.

This system is envisioned to form a continuous, interconnected system of walk/bike pathways linking the multi-use pathway with parks, community facilities, downtown businesses, and neighborhoods. Coordination with City Council, Planning Commission, and other groups will be necessary to realize a citywide system.

IV. Continue to offer outstanding parks and recreation services that enrich and engage the community

The East Tawas Parks and Recreation Department strives to provide exceptional services that respond to residents' desires and interests. Demographic and recreation trends indicate an increase in the number of active mature adults as well as an increase in the popularity of exercise and fitness-related activities. Continued partnerships with the various area public and private recreation providers including the state, county, schools, sport organizations, and others is desirable to get the most out of the area's recreation potential.

Increased awareness of the City's parks and recreation services through enhanced marketing may be important to promote the value and benefits of parks and recreation to East Tawas residents. At the same time, a quality park and recreation system is dependent on the prudent use of available funds. A means of generating revenues through grants, sponsorships, and donations where possible must continue to be a priority to accomplish park acquisition and development projects.

ACTION PROGRAM

The action program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of specific projects to be accomplished over the next five years, as well as a suggested project schedule, timing, and strategies for implementation. These actions are reflective of issues identified in the public survey and open house. They are generally grouped by park or facility and address the issues identified at the public meeting, current national and state recreation trends, park acreage and facility standards, and the maintenance needs of the City parks.

ACTION PLAN

The following outlines the specific projects and actions which are recommended to be accomplished during the planning period. Illustrations and plans showing the proposed park improvements and actions are also included to depict the proposed actions.

1. **Maintain and improve Bolen Park**

   As a key community park and the site for City Hall and the Community Center, Bolen Park is a main priority for future enhancement. Proposed improvements to Bolen Park include:

   A. Provide a "street hockey" rink on one of the outdoor basketball courts.

   B. Paint dugouts, add new gate added to the Little League outfield fence, installation of new foul poles, sign painting, and more

   C. Resurface basketball courts

   D. Refurbish horseshoe pits

   E. Establish a pathway and nature trail on the property connecting to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park

   F. Renovate the Lions building with painting, remodeling, and exterior door replacements and convert to a "storage only" facility.

   G. Remove dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance

   H. Install a generator in the Community Center as a back-up power supply system

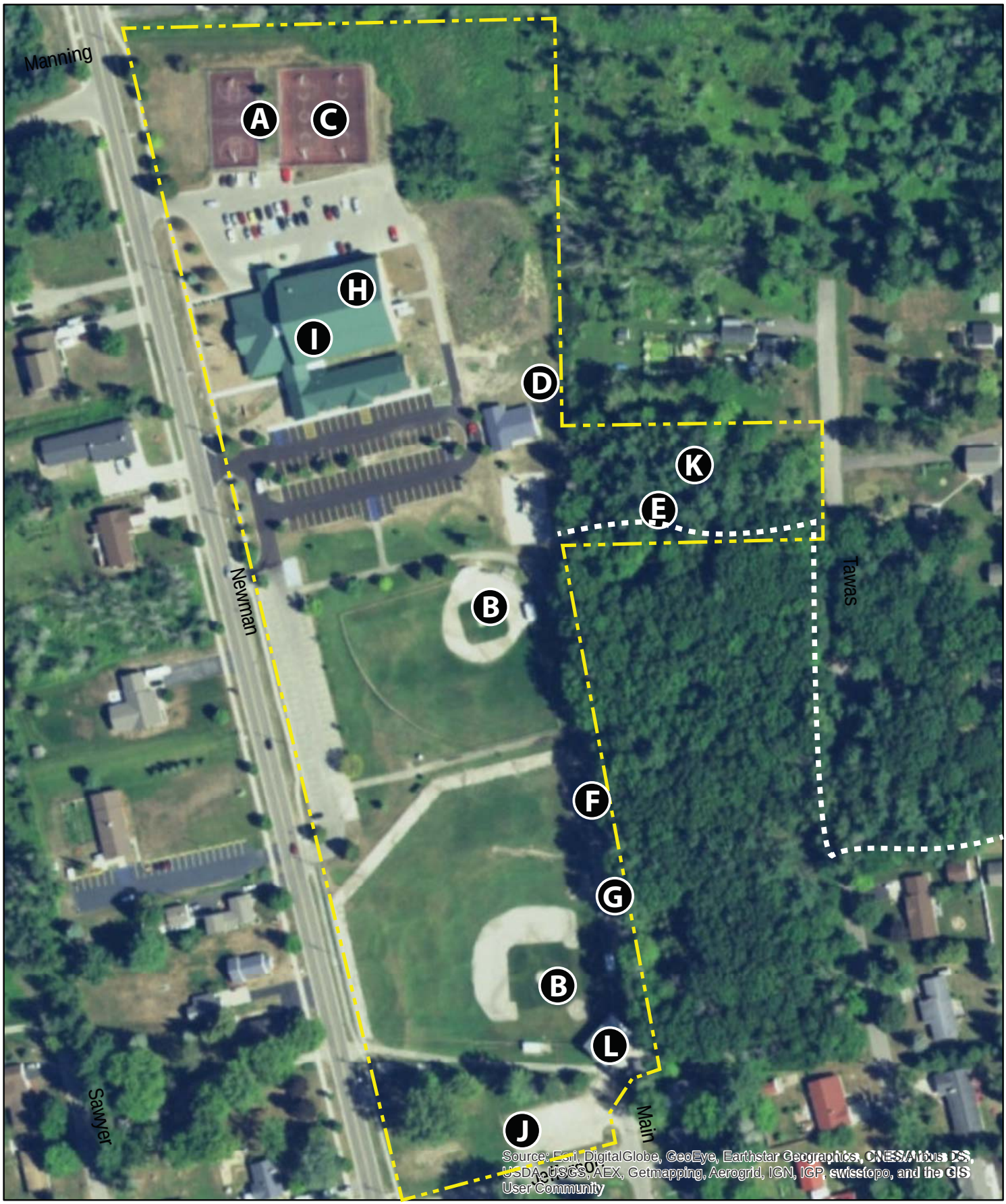
   I. Replace furnishings in Community Center's lobby and gymnasium

   J. Expand the Jefferson Street parking lot to Newman Street on newly acquired Brainard Property

   K. Develop a "fitness park" on recently acquired Wendy Parks Property

   L. Rehabilitate grandstand

MAP 7: Bolen Park Action Plan



BOLEN PARK

City of East Tawas, Iosco County

N

0 70 140 Feet

Source: ESRI Data
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 20, 2017

2. Maintain and improve Dillon Park

Dillon Park, located at the center of a residential area, is a perfect neighborhood park for baseball or softball practice, pick-up games, or for strolling and picnicking. Proposed improvements to Dillon Park consist of:

A. Repair/repaint dugouts

B. Upgrade ball field

C. Refurbish pathway connection surfaces from Smith Street and Woodlawn Street

D. Add accessible routes to connect the parking area to the park activity areas

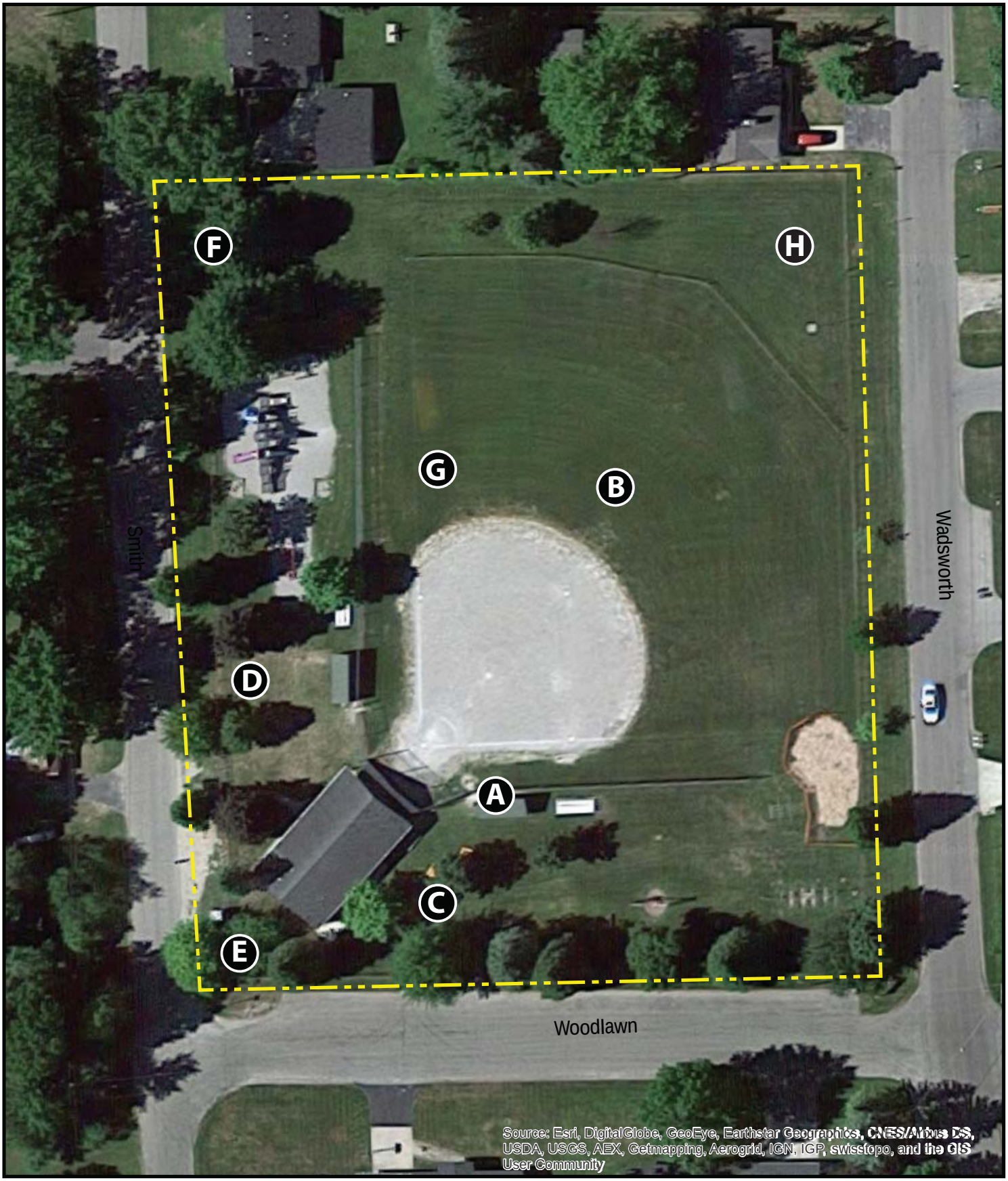
E. Repaint park sign at Woodlawn and Smith Street

F. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance

G. Address drainage issues

H. Dog Park

MAP 8: Dillon Park Action Plan



DILLON PARK

City of East Tawas, Iosco County

N

0 20 40 Feet

Source: ESRI Data
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 20, 2017

3. Maintain and improve Durant Park

Durant Park is the City's largest community park used heavily by leagues for softball tournaments. The City and numerous local organizations have made considerable investments through state grants and local donations since the park's inception 30 years ago. Proposed improvements to Durant Park include:

A. Refurbish/upgrade ball fields with infield and dugout surface replenishing, dugout painting, installation of new foul poles, fence repairs, and more

B. Refurbish pathway surface connections from pavilion and in high traffic areas

C. Establish a pathway from the end of the existing one along the Dimmick Canal to Locke Street

D. Add accessible routes to connect the parking area to the park activity areas

E. Add "clean up after your pet" signs and pet waste dispensers

F. Add nature trails

G. Develop a disc golf course

H. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance

MAP 9: Durant Park Action Plan

Source: ESRI Data
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 20, 2017

DURANT PARK
City of East Tawas, Iosco County

4. **Maintain and improve East Tawas City Park and waterfront properties (Campground, day-use, and Harbor Park areas)**

   Because of its attractive location along Tawas Bay, this former state park has been kept as a primary destination for both City residents and visitors. This premier waterfront site includes a campground, a day-use area, Harbor Park, and connections to the state dock and the City's downtown. The area is a vital element of the City and a high priority for continued improvements. Proposed improvements to the waterfront properties include:

   A. Replace safety surface under the play structure and equipment
   B. Refurbish horseshoe pits in day-use area
   C. Restripe parking areas
   D. Replace/resurface the old asphalt campsite pads
   E. Re-stain gazebos, replace wood framed with metal framed picnic tables, add grills, and replace garbage containers
   F. Provide a splash park in either the Harbor Park Waterfront or the Day Use area.
   G. Upgrade RV electric service from 30-Amp to 50-Amp
   H. Replace/repair information and directional signs at the campground and upgrade campsite markers
   I. Continue to implement shoreline protection measures with the extension of the steel break wall system
   J. Incorporate a boardwalk along the wall
   K. Clean-up garden areas and maintain general landscaping to a high standard
   L. Install a decorative fence and landscaping along U.S.-23
   M. Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance
   N. Develop camper cabins on recently acquired waterfront property west of the day-use area

MAP 10: City Park Action Plan

Source: ESRI Data
Carlisle/Wortman Associates
October 20, 2017

0 125 250 Feet

CITY PARK & HARBOR PARK
City of East Tawas, Iosco County

5. **Acquire future parkland and open space**

Parkland acquisition has always been a major goal of the City. Proposed actions regarding parkland acquisition include:

A. Consider parkland acquisition along Tawas Bay and Tawas Lake, adjacent to existing parks, and land providing linkages and opportunities for pathway development. This would include the continued acquisition of land adjacent to the day-use area

B. Work with City Council, Planning Commission, and the Tax Increment Finance Authority to ensure parkland and open space dedication is considered in future development projects

6. **Continue to develop a citywide walk/bike pathway system**

There is a strong need and desire for walking and biking pathways in East Tawas. A citywide system would connect parks, community facilities, neighborhoods, and the downtown. Actions to establish this system include:

A. Work with City departments and officials to plan and implement bike/walk ways with the following priority connections:

- Sidewalk/pathway along Franklin Street from Wilkinson to Wadsworth Streets
- Pathway from Bolen Park to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park
- Pathway along U.S.-23 from Tawas Beach Road to east City boundary

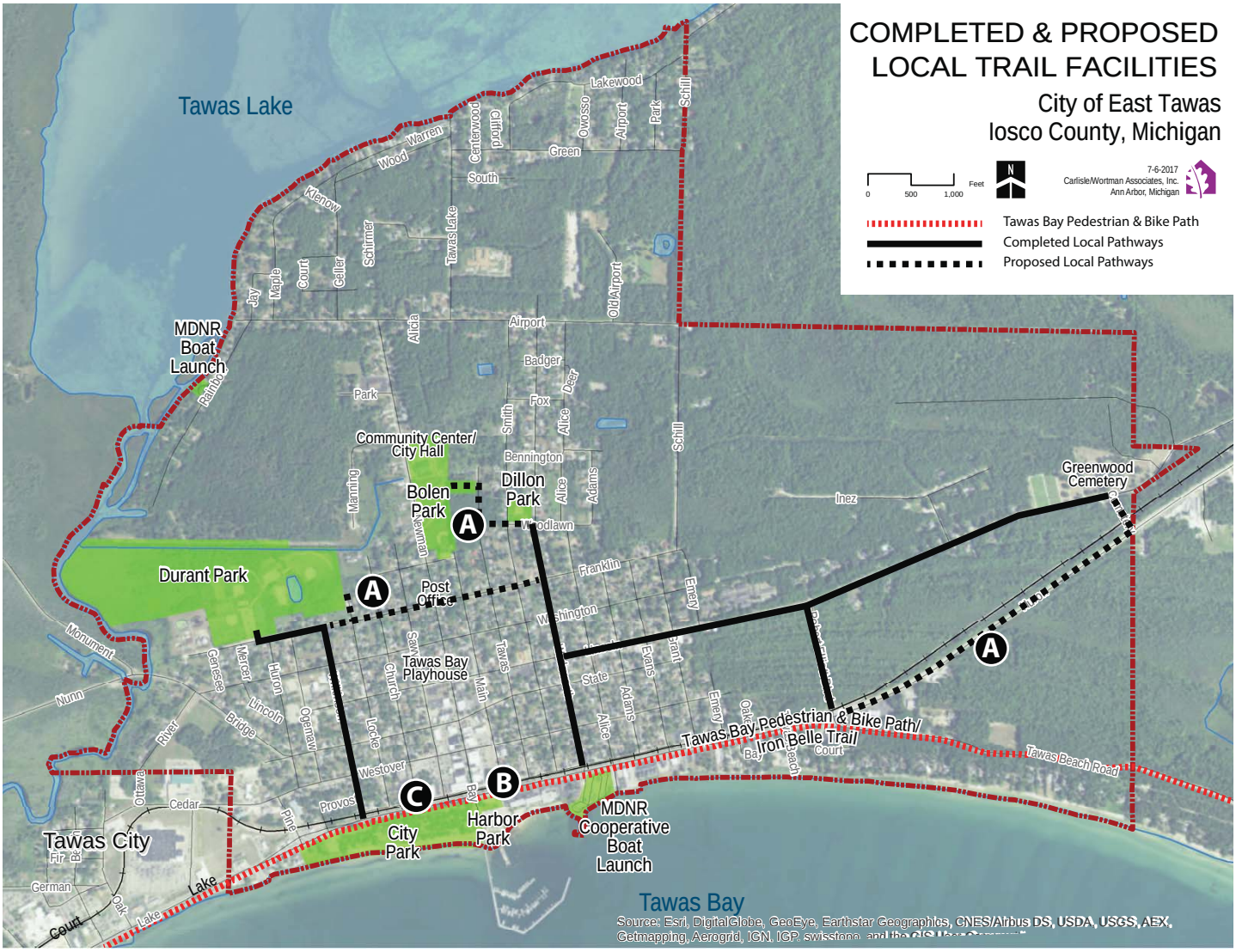
B. Provide new holiday wreaths on multi-use path

C. Install site amenities along the citywide walk/bike pathway system including benches, trash receptacles, mile markers, and signage

D. Develop a marketing strategy to attract support and sponsors including the development of a walking brochure and club

E. Replace existing pathway lights with new energy efficient poles and fixtures

MAP 11: Citywide Walk/Bike Pathway System Action Plan



7. Maintain high quality parks and recreation services

There is a desire to continue to facilitate and promote the use of City parks and recreation facilities by community groups including seniors, adults, youth groups, and area schools. Specific actions include:

A. Upgrade the "Promoting Active Communities" assessment from the State Department of Community Health, the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Sports, and Health, MSU, and the Prevention Research Center of Michigan to generate ideas, interest, and support for the East Tawas parks and recreation services

B. Continue to coordinate the shared use of facilities and develop partnerships with area sports organizations, schools, adjacent communities, Iosco County, and the state to benefit the area parks and recreation opportunities

C. Increase public awareness of East Tawas parks

D. Maintain adequate staff and invest in new technologies and quality maintenance equipment as necessary

E. Continue to aggressively pursue state and federal grants for parkland and pathway acquisition and development

F. Establish a Friends of East Tawas Parks group to provide support for park projects and funding

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Table 16 lists individual projects along with the specific tasks to be accomplished, a cost estimate, and potential funding sources. The projects are organized according to when they are intended to be completed. Short-term projects (ST) are recommended for completion within one to two years, medium-term (MT) within two to five years while long-term projects (LT) may take longer to complete, within five to six years. There are also tasks that are on-going (OG).

TABLE 16: Project Schedule

Project / Task	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
BOLEN PARK			
Remove dead trees or tree limbs at Bolen Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	$ 1,500	Parks Budget	OG
Refurbish horseshoe pits at Bolen Park	$ 500	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	ST
Bolen Park dugout painting, new gate added to Little League outfield fence, install new foul poles, sign painting, and more	$ 3500	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	ST
Resurface basketball courts at Bolen Park	$ 80,000	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	MT
Expand Jefferson St. parking lot to Newman St. on new property at Bolen Park	$ 30,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Establish a pathway and nature trail on new property at Bolen Park connecting to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park	$ 2,500	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Develop pathway from Bolen Park to Tawas Street and eventually to Dillon Park	$ 35,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT - LT
Install a generator in the Community Center as a back-up power supply system	$ 90,000	Parks Budget & City Funds	MT - LT
Replace furnishings in Community Center's lobby and gymnasium and replace windows in gymnasium	$ 37,500	Parks Budget & City Funds	LT
Renovate the Lions building at Bolen Park with painting, remodeling, and exterior door replacements	$ 15,000	Parks Budget & Donations	LT
Consider the addition of a swimming pool at the Community Center	$1 - $3,000,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop fitness park on new property at Bolen Park	$ 7,500	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Rehab grandstand	$ 10,000	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop skate park	TBD	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	LT

TABLE 16: Project Schedule (continued)

Project / Task	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
CITY PARK / HARBOR PARK			
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at City Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	$ 4,000	Parks Budget	OG
Refurbish horseshoe pits in day-use area of City Park	$ 250	Parks Budget	OG
Re-stain gazebos, add grills, and replace garbage containers at City Park	$ 3,500	Parks Budget, City Funds & Donations	OG
Clean-up garden areas at City Park and maintain general landscaping to a high standard	$ 5,000	Parks Budget	OG
Restripe parking areas at City Park	$ 500+	Parks Budget & City Funds	OG
Improve existing fence and landscaping along U.S.-23 at City Park	$ 18,000	Parks Budget	ST
Replace/repair information and directional signs at the City Park campground and upgrade campsite markers	$ 5,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST - MT
Upgrade RV electric service from 30-Amp to 50-Amp at City Park	$ 500,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Develop camper cabins on newly acquired property east of day-use area at City Park	$ 200,000+	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Provide new holiday decorations on multi-use path	$ 8,000	Parks Budget, City Funds & Donations	MT
Replace/resurface the old asphalt campsite pads at City Park	$ 30,000	Parks Budget & City Funds	MT - LT
Provide cold weather water service on some campsites at City Park to extend camping season in early spring and late fall	TBD	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Continue to implement shoreline protection measures at City Park with the extension of the steel break wall system	$400 - $600,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Incorporate a boardwalk along the wall at City Park	$500 - $600,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
DILLON PARK			
Repair/repaint dugouts at Dillon Park	$ 800	Parks Budget	OG
Refurbish pathway connection surfaces at Dillon Park and add accessible routes from Smith Street and Woodlawn Street	$ 5,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Repaint park sign at Woodlawn and Smith Street in Dillon Park	$ 800	Parks Budget	OG
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at Dillon Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	$ 500	Parks Budget	OG
Upgrade ball field at Dillon Park	$ 25,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Develop dog park	$7,500 - $15,000	Parks Budget, Grants & Donations	LT

Project / Task	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
DURANT PARK			
Stain benches, and replace garbage containers at Durant Park	$ 2,000	Parks Budget	OG
Add nature trails at Durant Park	TBD	Parks Budget	OG
Remove/prune dead trees or tree limbs at Durant Park and trim vegetation to maintain appropriate clearance	$ 4,000+	Parks Budget	OG
Add "clean up after your pet" signs and pet waste dispensers at Durant Park	$ 750	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	ST
Durant Park dugout painting, installation of new foul poles, fence repairs, and more	$ 3,000	Parks Budget	MT
Refurbish pathway surface connections at Durant Park and add accessible routes from pavilion and in high traffic areas	$ 15,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Establish a pathway at Durant Park from the end of the existing trail along the Dimmick Canal to Locke Street	$7,500 - $15,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT
Develop a disc golf course at Durant Park	$ 9,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
GENERAL ITEMS			
Consider parkland acquisition along Tawas Bay, Tawas Lake, Bolen, and Durant Parks	TBD	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	OG
Develop a marketing strategy to attract support and sponsors including the development of a walking brochure and club	$ 2,500	Parks Budget	MT
Develop sidewalk/pathway along Franklin Street from Wilkinson to Wadsworth Streets	$ 40,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	MT - LT
Develop sidewalk/pathway along Lincoln Street from Grant Street to Greenwood Cemetery	$ 40,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Develop pathway from Tawas Beach Road to east City boundary	$175 - $200,000	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT
Install site amenities along the citywide walk/bike pathway system including benches, trash receptacles, mile markers, and signage	TBD	Parks Budget, City Funds, Grants & Donations	LT

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides a limited amount of money for parks and recreation facilities. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended in order to proceed as planned.

Apply for Federal Funding

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the 12 TE activities and relate to surface transportation. A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Activities which may apply to the City of East Tawas include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles including new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges, and underpasses; and
- Provision of safety and educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling.

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) continue to be the primary funding sources for parkland acquisition and development. The new Recreation Passport grant also offers some state funding to local units of government.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of parkland for natural resource-based preservation and recreation.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request was $15,000 and the maximum was $300,000 in 2017. Applications are due April 1st.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has recently been on trailway systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields, and walking paths. Minimum grant requests were $30,000 and maximum grant requests were $100,000 in 2017. The match percentage is 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are due on April 1st.

The Recreation Passport grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests were $7,500 and maximum requests were $75,000 in 2017. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Applications are due on April 1st as well.

Other funding provided in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Aquatic Habitat Grant Program, Michigan Habitat Improvement Fund Program Grants), and the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grants).

The Inland Fisheries programs consider projects that enhance habitat and fisheries, riparian property for public fishing use, water quality, and ecology. Municipalities may use Community Forestry grants to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. Grant requests may be up to $20,000 depending on the project type and applications are usually due in the middle of the summer.

The Coastal Zone Management program provides financial and technical assistance to local units of government to address shoreline issues and improve their coastal resources. This annual funding is the result of a federal and state partnership established through the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Funding for the program is provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration through the MDNR Coastal Management Program.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/pathways or greenway-related facilities such as ***Bikes Belong Coalition***. The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: Facility, Education and Capacity Building. Requests for funding can be up to $10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Access to Recreation is a grant program available for universal access of people of all abilities to a wide variety of recreation opportunities, such as nature viewing and photography areas, hiking trails, scenic outlooks, waterfalls and water activities of all kinds, beaches, fishing and boating, playgrounds, picnic areas, campgrounds, and much more. There are two primary grant programs under this source of funding:

1. *Recreation Access Matching Grant* provides up to 50 percent matching funds (up to $10,000) for the purchase of universally accessible recreation equipment and materials such as all terrain hiking wheelchairs, pool lifts, accessible playground surface, transfer systems, beach access mats, trail surface enhancements, and accessible picnic tables that enhance recreation participation by people with disabilities; and
2. *Accessible by Design Awards* is designed to stimulate the development of creative universally designed recreation experiences that invite, welcome, and support the inclusion of people of all abilities. Winning designs demonstrate how going above and beyond the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act can create greater access and usability for people of all abilities in the community. Winning designs are awarded cash prizes to build the projects up to $250,000 with 25 percent minimum match.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

The City of East Tawas should investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events, and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should continue to be pursued aggressively to raise funding for parkland acquisition and development.

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }ss

_____County of Iosco

John Morris
being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the co-editor of the IOSCO COUNTY NEWS-HERALD newspaper published and circulating in the County of Iosco, in said State, that the annexed printed notice which was published in said paper on the following dates, to-wit:

November 29, 2017

NOTICE

The City of East Tawas is seeking public input regarding the City's 2018-2022 Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. The plan will be available for review through January 10, 2018. A formal public hearing regarding the plan will be held at City Hall on Monday, February 5, 2018, as part of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

The draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

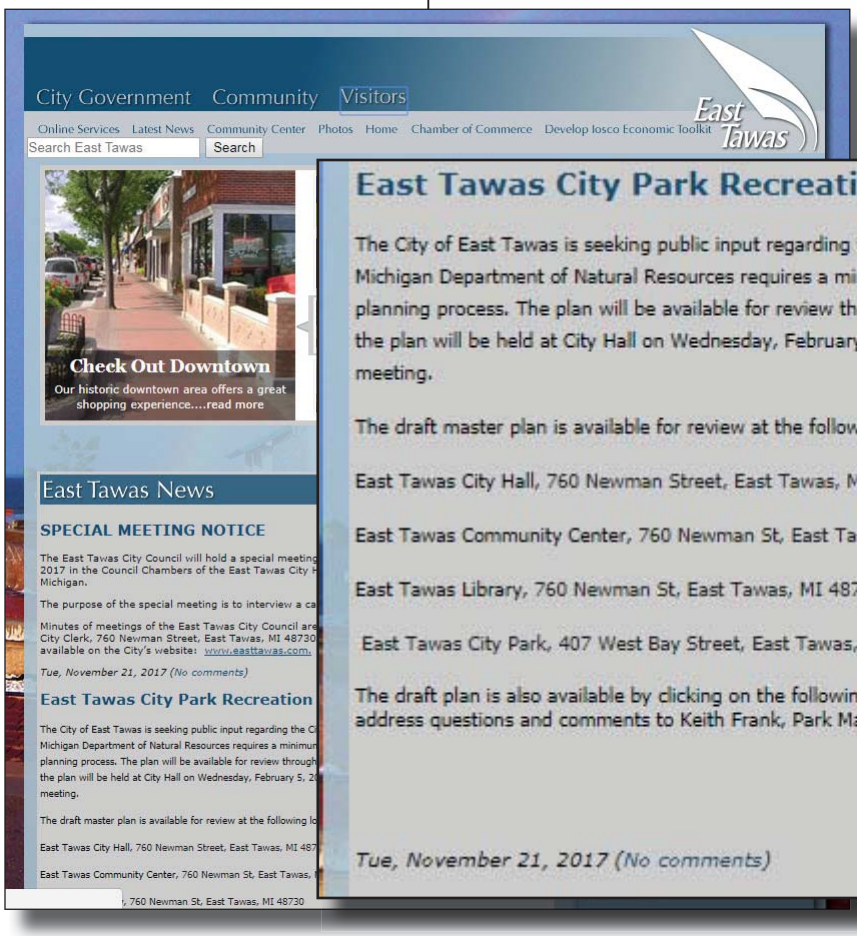
- East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman St., East Tawas, MI 48730
- East Tawas Community Center, 760 Newman St., East Tawas, MI 48730
- East Tawas Library, 760 Newman St., East Tawas, MI 48730
- East Tawas City Park, 407 West Bay St., East Tawas, MI 48730

The draft plan is also available online on the City's website at: http://www/calameo.com/read/0051076737742ab1bbad1. Please address questions and comments to Keith Frank, Park Manager at parks@easttawas.com.

John Morris, Co-Editor

Subscribed and sworn
to before me this
29th day of November
A.D. 2017.

Christine M. York, Notary Public for Iosco County, Acting in Iosco County, Michigan
My Commission expires March 6, 2023



East Tawas City Park Recreation Plan Review

The City of East Tawas is seeking public input regarding the City's 2018 – 2022 Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. The plan will be available for review through January 10, 2018. A formal public hearing regarding the plan will be held at City Hall on Wednesday, February 5, 2018, as part of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

The draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI 48730

East Tawas Community Center, 760 Newman St, East Tawas, MI 48730

East Tawas Library, 760 Newman St, East Tawas, MI 48730

East Tawas City Park, 407 West Bay Street, East Tawas, MI 48730

The draft plan is also available by clicking on the following link: East Tawas City Park Recreation Plan . Please address questions and comments to Keith Frank, Park Manager at parks@easttawas.com.

Tue, November 21, 2017 (No comments)

APPENDIX A

Notices of Draft Plan Availability & Public Hearing

The Notice of Plan Availability for Review was advertised in the Iosco County News-Herald on November 29, 2017, and on the City's website. The Plan was available for review in both hard copy and electronic formats from November 29 through January 10, 2018.

The Notice of Public Hearing was advertised in the Iosco County News-Herald on January 24, 2018, and was also on the City website. The Public Hearing took place on February 5, 2018.

Proof of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }ss

_____County of Iosco

John Morris

being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the editor of the IOSCO COUNTY NEWS-HERALD newspapers published and circulating in the County of Iosco, in said State, that the annexed printed notice which was published in said paper on the following dates, to-wit:

January 24, 2018

NOTICE

The City of East Tawas will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the East Tawas City Hall Council Chambers located at 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI. The purpose of the public hearing is to seek public comments on the final draft of the 5-year City of East Tawas Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Anyone wishing to comment on the plan is urged to attend. The City Council will consider adoption of the Master Plan following the public hearing.

Keith Frank, Park Manager

John Morris, Editor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of January A.D. 2018.

Christine M. York, Notary Public for Iosco County, Acting in Iosco County, Michigan
My Commission expires March 6, 2023

City Parks
East Tawas
Michigan

407 West Bay Street, East Tawas, Michigan 48730 • 989-362-5562 • parks@easttawas.com • easttawascitypark.com

CITY OF EAST TAWAS
RECREATION PLAN
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
PARK BOARD OF THE CITY OF EAST TAWAS

At a regular meeting of the East Tawas Park Board held on the 11th day of January 2018 the following preamble and resolution were offered by Mark Elliott and seconded by John O'Connor.

WHEREAS, the Park Board of the City of East Tawas has developed the update of its Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2018 and 2022, and

WHEREAS, the plan has been developed for the benefit of the entire community as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, a public comment session was held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, a public review period was held from November 29, 2017 thru January 10, 2018 to allow citizens to review and comment on the draft plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Board of the City of East Tawas hereby approves the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2018-2022 as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the City of East Tawas and do hereby request and encourage the East Tawas City Council to adopt said plan.

Yes: Mark Elliott, Sue Fountain and John O'Connor
No: None
Absent: Norm Klenow and Dave Thunberg

I, Julie Potts, East Tawas City Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the East Tawas Park Board at their regular meeting held on the 11th day of January, 2018 and that such meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said act.

Julie J. Potts
East Tawas City Clerk

"This Institution has received funding assistance from the National Park Service."
Regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental federally-assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age and handicap.
To file a complaint of discrimination write: Director-Equal Opportunity Programs
National Park Service, US Department of the Interior, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF EAST TAWAS CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 5, 2018
(Corrections in Bold)

Meeting called to order by Mayor Bruce Bolen at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall.

Present: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

Excused: Klenow and Look.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered.

McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to approve the agenda as presented.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:01 p.m. to hear comments on the 2018-2022 Recreational Plan prepared by the East Tawas City Park. There were no comments received and the Public Hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

L. Bolen moved, Leslie seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2018 regular meeting as corrected.

The following correspondence was noted: the minutes of the January 11th regular meeting of the Iosco-Arenac District Library Board of Trustees, a letter dated January 13th from Patrick Ruster regarding his resignation from the Tax Increment Finance Authority, and a letter dated January 26th from Karen Zeiders, Adjutant of the American ~~**Lesion**~~ **Legion** Audie Johnson Post 211, regarding their liquor license request.

Reports from Staff: City Manager Baker reported that Chuck Allen from the DNR will be attending the March 5th meeting to give an update on the state dock project. She reported that while reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), she noticed that a message board sign was included in the CIP and asked council members if they were still interested in obtaining information and costs for a message board sign. City Manager Baker stated that she felt the best place for the sign would be on US-23 ~~**were**~~ **where** the banner sign is currently located. The consensus of the council was to obtain information on the sign.

Fire Chief Deckett gave an update on the issue with Consumer's Energy's response time for downed power lines and that he had met with a couple of supervisors. He stated that Consumer's will have an additional eleven employees take company vehicles home to be able to answer emergency calls and that they are looking into establishing a service area back on the east side of the state. He also stated that they had promised to give him weekly progress reports.

DPW Superintendent Collier reported that the Ford ~~**F150**~~ **F450** flatbed truck had been listed on BidCorp.com for a couple of weeks and that the DPW had received numerous inquiries, but no

offers had been made to purchase the truck. He stated that the truck would be listed on the website for a couple more weeks.
McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to receive the minutes of the December 12, 2017 regular meeting of the East Tawas Housing Commission, the minutes of the January 8, 2018 regular meeting of the Tawas Police Authority, and the minutes of the January 23, 2018 special meeting of the Tax Increment Finance Authority.

L. Bolen moved, Leslie seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Lease Extension and Modification Agreement between the City of East Tawas and Mar's by the Bay, LLC for the waterfront building for three years beginning on October 1, 2018 with the third year extending to November 30, 2021. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

Bills and transfers having been properly presented, Leslie moved, Mooney seconded, CARRIED, that these transactions be approved. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

Doug Stevens, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering (F & V), presented a power point presentation on the East Tawas SAW Grant Asset Management Plan and deliverables for the sanitary sewer system. He reported that the sanitary sewer portion of the deliverables is mainly complete with a little more work to complete the storm sewer portion. Mr. Stevens stated that F & V has completed a comprehensive asset inventory, criticality assessment, level of service goals and a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He stated that they will make adjustments to the CIP to coincide with the city's CIP for road work. He reported that they had received confirmation from the DEQ that all the requirements for the SAW grant had been fulfilled. Mr. Stevens reported that the majority of the sewer system is in pretty good shape and they have provided a 1 to 5 year CIP consisting of high risk areas at a replacement or repair cost of $282,000 and a 6 to 20 year CIP consisting of medium to low risk areas at a replacement or repair cost of $237,800. He stated they would be providing a complete asset management plan and GIS mapping system for use with an ARC reader for both sanitary and storm sewer systems. Mr. Stevens stated that they did not find any large areas that needed to be repaired that the city's DPW didn't already know about.

McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to approve the private club liquor license as requested by American Legion Audie Johnson Post 211.

City Manager Baker opened the only bid received for the purchase of the 1993 dump truck. The bid was from Russell Carson from National City in the amount of $850. DPW Superintendent Collier felt the truck might be worth more for scrap and he would check to see how much money we might be able to get for the truck.

Leslie moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to accept the resignation from Patrick Ruster from the Tax Increment Finance Authority.

McMurray moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to adopt the Recreation Plan Resolution of Adoption as recommended by City Park Manager Frank and the Park Board. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

L. Bolen moved, Leslie seconded, CARRIED, to adopt the Resolution in Support of State of Michigan Aerial Imagery Exchange as recommended by City Manager Baker. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

City Manager Baker reported that she and Clerk/Treasurer Potts had been looking at the committed fund balance for equipment purchases since there were no funds transferred since 2014. She stated that based on the calculations from the last three years, $472,000 of unassigned fund balance should be transferred to the committed fund balance for equipment purchases. During this time, we received notification from our auditors that the City's unassigned fund balance was above the maximum allowed per our policy. City Manager Baker stated that a transfer from the unassigned fund balance to the committed fund balance would correct the problem. She also explained to the Council that they have the authority to commit funds as well as uncommit funds if necessary. L. Bolen moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to approve the transfer of $472,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance line item to the Committed to Capital Equipment Purchases line item as recommended by City Manager Baker. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney.

City Manager Baker reported that Perchville 2018 had gone very well and it seemed like there were quite a few people in town.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Julie J. Potts
Clerk/Treasurer

I hereby certify that the above is a true and complete copy of the minutes of the February 5, 2018 meeting of the East Tawas City Council and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and have been made available as required by said Act.

Julie J. Potts, Clerk

City of East Tawas

760 Newman Street ◆ PO Box 672 ◆ East Tawas, Michigan 48730-0672
989.362.6161 ◆ fax 989.362.6736 ◆ cityhall@easttawas.com
www.easttawas.com

CITY OF EAST TAWAS
RECREATION PLAN
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EAST TAWAS

At a regular meeting of the East Tawas City Council held on the 5th day of February 2018 the following preamble and resolution were offered by Council member McMurray and seconded by Council member L. Bolen.

WHEREAS, the City of East Tawas Park Board has undertaken the update of its Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2018 and 2022, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of East Tawas Park Board has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the East Tawas City Council hereby adopts the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2018-2022 as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the City of East Tawas.

Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Leslie, McMurray and Mooney
No: None
Absent: Klenow and Look

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I, Julie Potts, Clerk of the City of East Tawas, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the East Tawas City Council at a regular meeting held on February 5, 2018 and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

Julie J. Potts, Clerk

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1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD)
or (866) 377-8642 (English-Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay)

Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.

117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

February 20, 2018

James Szafran
Vice Chairman
Iosco County Planning Commission
P.O. Box 778
Tawas City, Michigan 48764

Dear Mr. Szafran:

The East Tawas City Council adopted the 2018 – 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on February 5, 2018. The plan and Certification Checklist have been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the East Tawas City Council and the Park Board.

A PDF of the plan has been transmitted to you electronically. Please feel free to contact the City of East Tawas or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA
Landscape Architect

cc. Keith Frank, Parks and Recreation Director

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Executive Vice President* John L. Enos, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal*
Laura K. Kreps, *Associate* Paul Montagno, *Associate*

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February 20, 2018

Jane Fitzpatrick
Programs Manager
East Michigan Council of Governments
3144 Davenport Avenue, Suite 200
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick:

The East Tawas City Council adopted the 2018 – 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on February 5, 2018. The plan and Certification Checklist have been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the East Tawas City Council and the Park Board.

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February 20, 2018

Lindsay Ross
Grants Coordinator
Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment
PO Box 30425
Lansing, MI 48909-7925

Dear Ms. Ross:

The East Tawas City Council adopted the 2018 – 2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on February 5, 2018. The plan and Certification Checklist have been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the East Tawas City Council and the Park Board.

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City Parks
East Tawas
Michigan

407 West Bay Street, East Tawas, Michigan 48730 989-362-5562 etcp@charterinternet.com

July 19, 2017

A public meeting was held on Wednesday, July 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the East Tawas City Hall Council Chambers. Purpose of the meeting was to seek public input for the City of East Tawas Recreation Plan 2018-2023.

PRESENT: Mark Elliott (East Tawas Park Board Chairman), Sue Fountain (East Tawas Park Board member), Dave Thunberg (East Tawas Park Board Member), Norm Klenow (East Tawas Park Board Member), Keith Frank (East Tawas City Park Manager), Blinda Baker (City of East Tawas Manager), and residents Neil F. Mochty and Joe Bailey.

The meeting was held to seek public input as to potential plans and/or projects to be included in the new East Tawas Recreation plan.

East Tawas resident Joe Bailey stated that he grew up in the area, left for employment and has since returned to East Tawas in his retirement. He complimented the East Tawas Park Department on the fine job they have done in providing and maintaining the parks and recreation facilities in the City. He commented on how nice it was to drive up U.S. 23 in East Tawas and be able to see the water.

Neil and Joe both wanted to discuss the drainage issue at Tom Dillon Park. They thought that it should be listed as one of the top priorities. The drainage at the Park has been an issue for many years and remedies have been investigated many times by the Park Board. The Board has always been led to believe that there was nowhere to drain the water as the only catch basin was believed to be on the east side of Wadsworth Street. Mr. Mochty pointed out that there was a drain along the west side of the park on the east side of Smith Street. It would require cleaning it out and attaching drain tile from the park to it. This will be an avenue that we investigate further.

Mr. Mochty also noted that he would like to see pets banned from being on the inside of Dillon Park as owners are not cleaning up after their animals. However, the Park Board recently authorized pet waste stations to be installed in all of the parks. We will see how this works out before taking the drastic measure of actually banning pets in the parks.

The following items from the September 2012 public meeting were also discussed:

- Waterfront property acquisition
- Resort cabins
- Larger RV Sites for 40'(+) RV's
- Canoe/Kayak rentals
- Elevated trail behind waste water treatment plant at Durant Park for canoe/kayak access to Tawas River
- 50A electric upgrade at campground
- Bolen park property acquisition
- Property acquisition in general
- Community pool (not a priority)
- Maintenance of existing facilities
- Increase user fees at Comm. Center
- Connecting pathways with County wide system
- Skateboard park (not a priority)
- Disc golf
- Historical signage

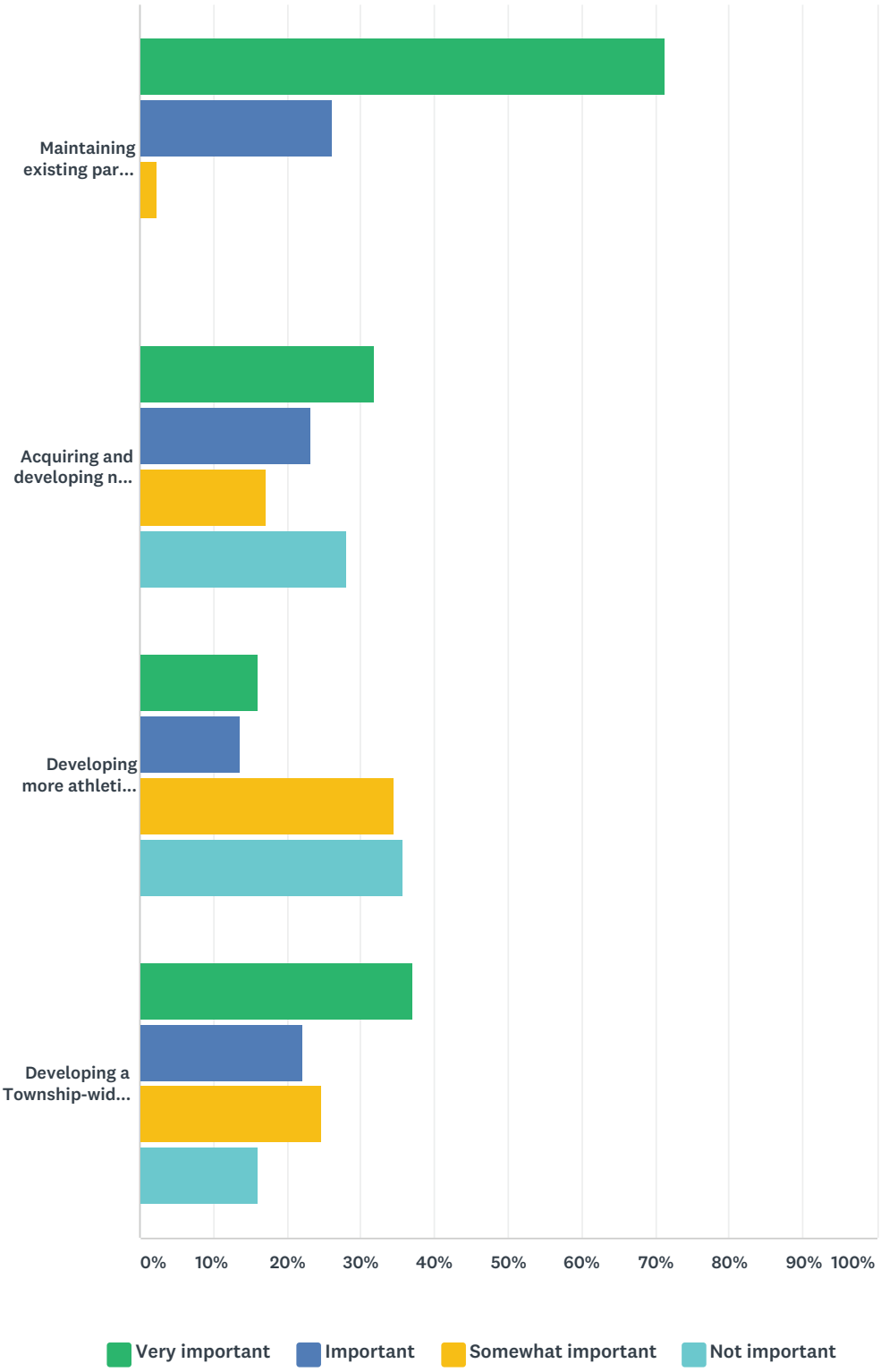
The Park Board will now review the items discussed and decide which to include in the final plan. Carlisle/Wortman Associates will then incorporate the Park Board's decisions in the final copy before putting the document out for public review.

The meeting ended at 6:50 p.m.

Keith M. Frank
Park Manager

Q1 How important are the following items to you and your family?

Answered: 84 Skipped: 0

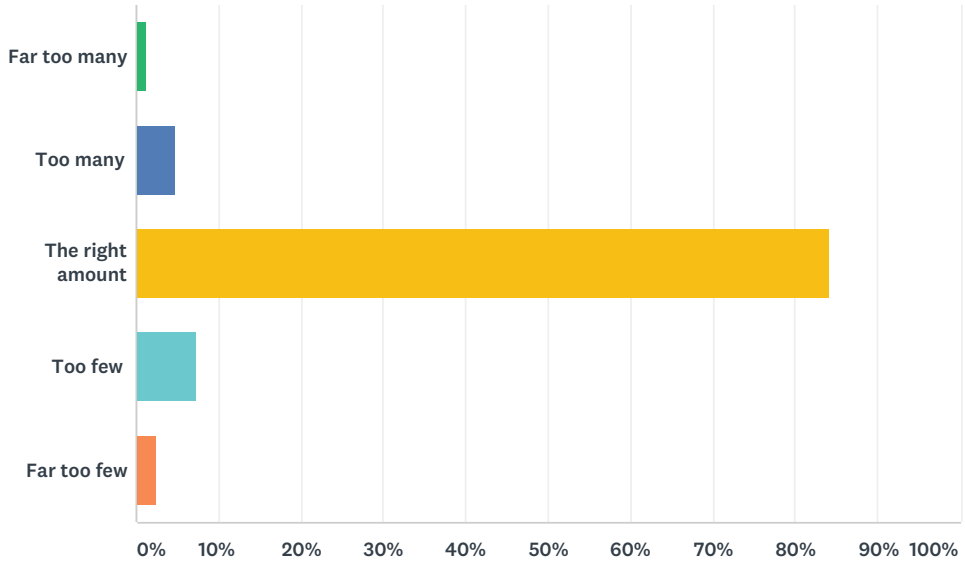


	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Maintaining existing parks and recreation facilities	71.43% 60	26.19% 22	2.38% 2	0.00% 0	84
Acquiring and developing new parks and recreation facilities	31.71% 26	23.17% 19	17.07% 14	28.05% 23	82
Developing more athletic fields or court game areas (soccer, football, baseball, tennis, etc.)	16.05% 13	13.58% 11	34.57% 28	35.80% 29	81
Developing a Township-wide system of pathways and trails	37.04% 30	22.22% 18	24.69% 20	16.05% 13	81

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Hardly any side walks my children have to walk on roads or people's yards which I know the city owns, but home owners have a problem with children walking on grass	9/2/2017 4:17 PM
2	If newman st. wants tourists to come and enjoy a water side area, where is the public to go to see a beach?	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
3	Sidewalks on busy residential streets such as Washington	8/30/2017 11:53 AM
4	Bike trails!	8/24/2017 11:39 AM
5	Would like you to continue to develop pathways along US 23 - city to city.	8/19/2017 1:49 PM
6	There is a growing need for Mountain Biking trails in our County. Looking at the Map of Michigan we do not have trails in this County to support the demand. I personally would love to be involved in building trails for our community.	8/19/2017 10:20 AM
7	Unless maximum use capacity has been reached for athletic fields, no new fields need to be developed. No new park land needs to be acquired as existing parks are not currently fully developed.	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
8	Adopt new sports games and the equipment to support it.	8/17/2017 10:17 PM
9	We spend most of the weekends in the summer with out young children at the park facilities. We do a significant amount of biking and the kids enjoy playing at the many different parks around town, however, they are starting to look uncared for more and more. They most definitely need a 'facelift' with some new equipment. Must keep tourism going in this area!	8/17/2017 3:01 PM
10	There are many people who have paddle boards kayaks canoes small sailboats and have no place to launch them in the park. The area on the end of the dog beach would be an ideal area to launch those small crafts. It would be very little expense to accomodate such activities. No dock is required none is needed. Just a place to fold sails and launch craft on beach. Maybe a way to back a small kayak or sailboat trailer to get to beach. Very simple solution.	8/17/2017 2:48 PM
11	Bike path needs to be widened to better serve bikers and walkers.	8/17/2017 1:49 PM
12	Upgrade electric availability for all campground sites to 50 amp	8/17/2017 11:38 AM
13	Band shell	8/16/2017 4:46 PM
14	New playground equipment is a must - especially in East Tawas City park directly across from Wilkinson.	8/15/2017 12:31 PM

Q2 Does East Tawas have too many, too few, or about the right number of parks?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 2



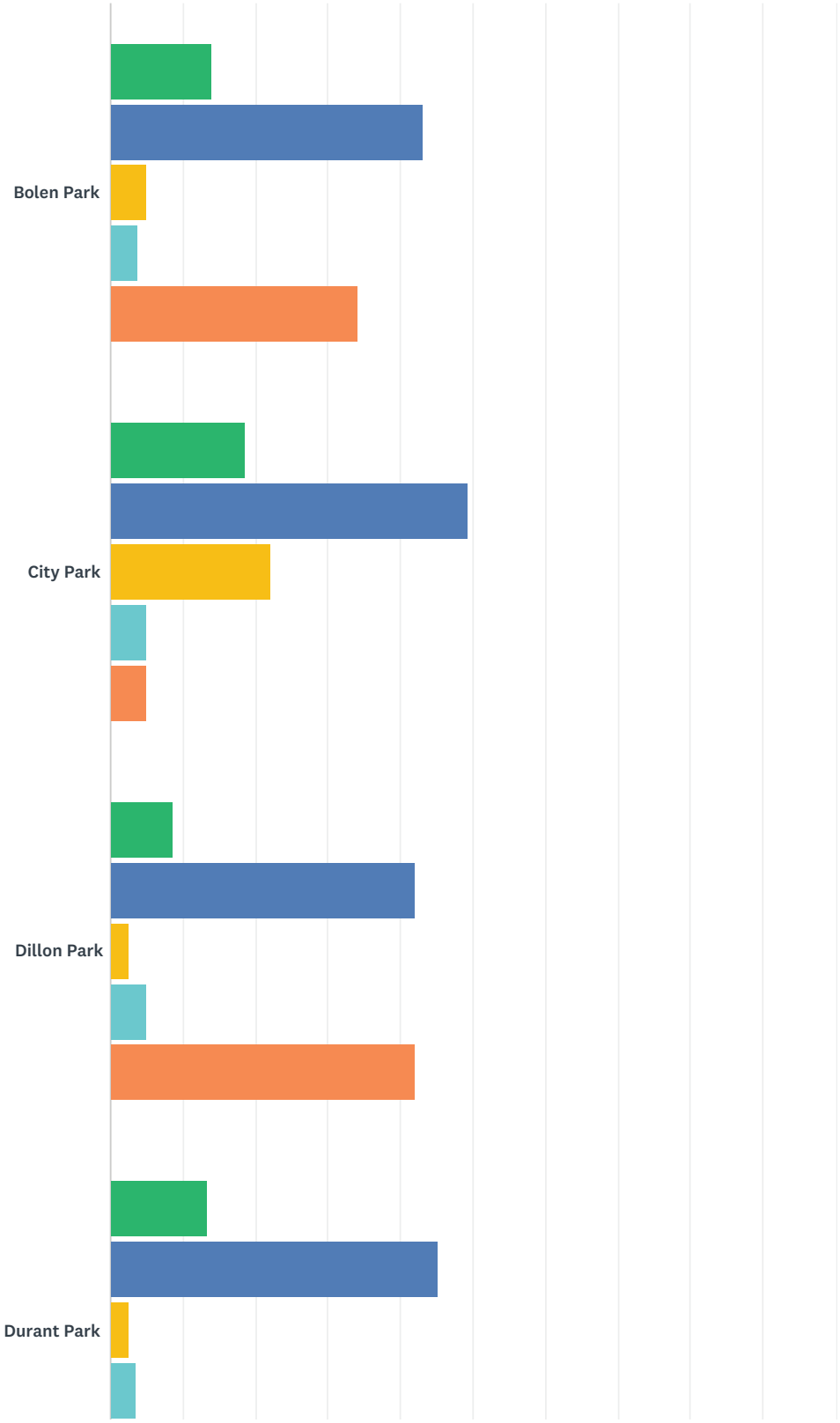
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Far too many	1.22%	1
Too many	4.88%	4
The right amount	84.15%	69
Too few	7.32%	6
Far too few	2.44%	2
TOTAL		82

#	PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY (IF NECESSARY)	DATE
1	We have a good amount of parks but they are just outdated and not very exciting for kids	9/2/2017 4:17 PM
2	Each park area does not pay taxes or contribute to our schools directly. More income generating, park area is does not benefit working people who are supporting this community by trying to raise a family here	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
3	Seems like a lot of parks for one small city. How many days a year are all of the parks actually in use?	8/23/2017 7:55 AM
4	Public beaches are too full due to smaller sand area (high water). Parking lots are too small. During summer months the water is the "draw." Make is easier with more parking and beach frontage. Also, playgrounds need to be better matained and updated. Park by boat docks and city park campground is a poorly taken care of. Sand needs to be brought in, weeds killed, bushes trimmed, more benches available. Perhaps add equipment? A larger playground at the farmers market park would be wonderful too. Draw people in. You already have pavilion and toilets. The cement statues are old and extremely unappealing to adults and kids. We have been here for 6+ years. Kids are always looking for more parks!	8/18/2017 10:11 PM
5	Most current parks are used much now	8/18/2017 11:51 AM
6	Always good to increase parks and recreation!	8/18/2017 11:05 AM

7	Acquiring more means more support and costs. Maintaining what we have and improving them is far more important	8/17/2017 10:17 PM
8	We ride our bike through the city at least 2 times weekly. Have yet to see anyone using the baseball diamonds especially during the weekend.	8/17/2017 1:45 PM

Q3 How satisfied are you with East Tawas parks and recreation facilities?

Answered: 83 Skipped: 1



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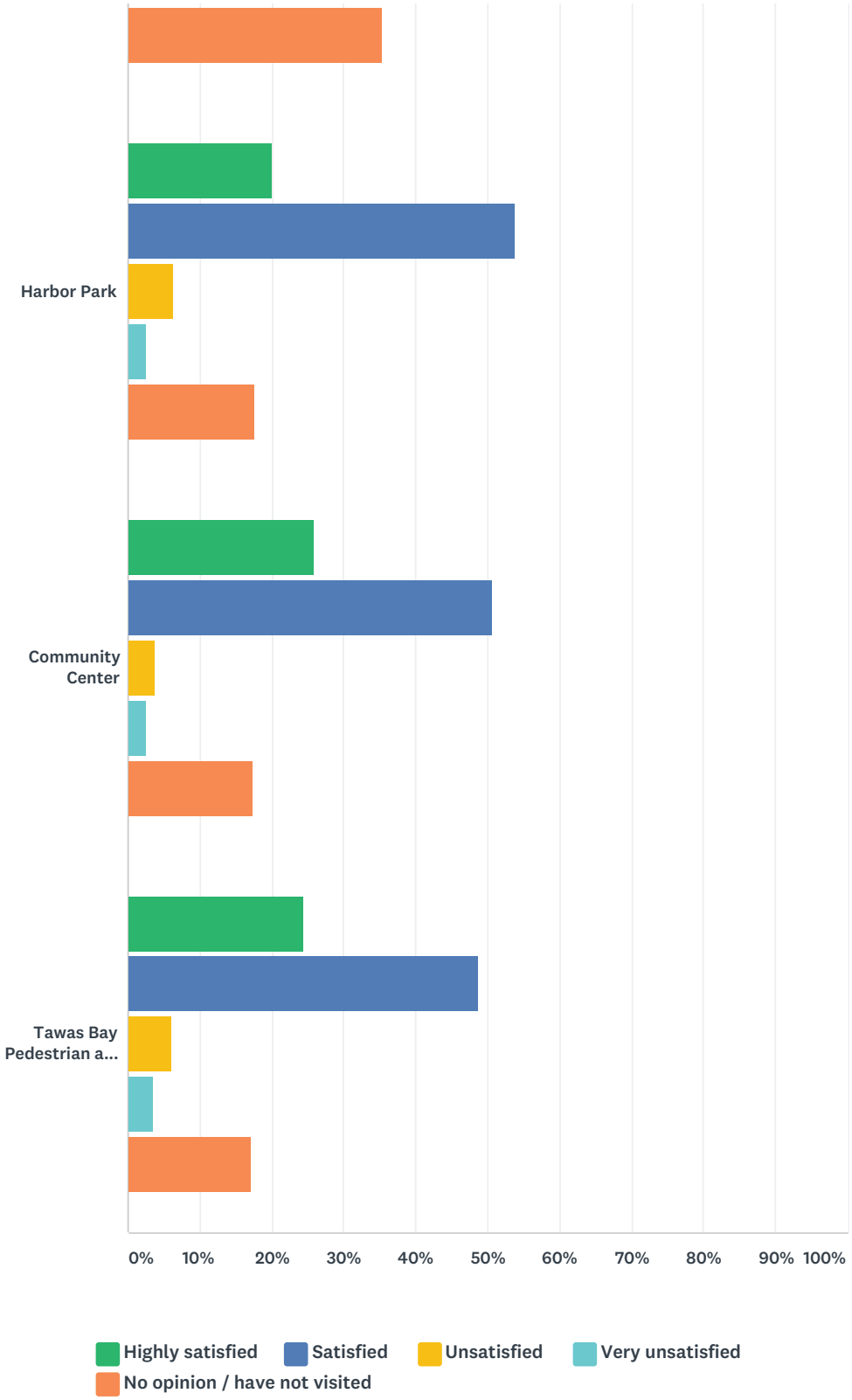


	HIGHLY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	UNSATISFIED	VERY UNSATISFIED	NO OPINION / HAVE NOT VISITED	TOTAL
Bolen Park	13.92% 11	43.04% 34	5.06% 4	3.80% 3	34.18% 27	79

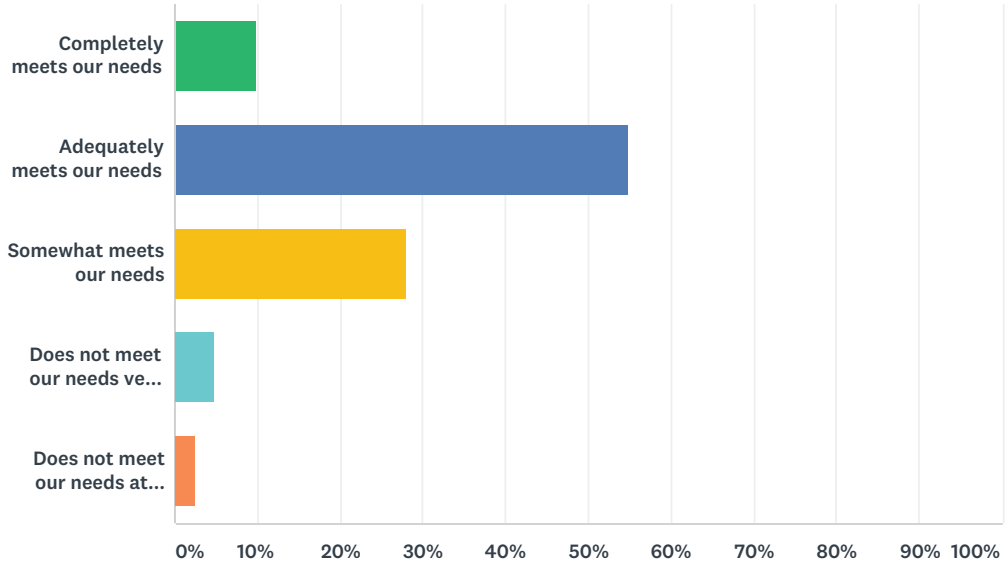
City Park	18.52% 15	49.38% 40	22.22% 18	4.94% 4	4.94% 4	81
Dillon Park	8.64% 7	41.98% 34	2.47% 2	4.94% 4	41.98% 34	81
Durant Park	13.41% 11	45.12% 37	2.44% 2	3.66% 3	35.37% 29	82
Harbor Park	20.00% 16	53.75% 43	6.25% 5	2.50% 2	17.50% 14	80
Community Center	25.93% 21	50.62% 41	3.70% 3	2.47% 2	17.28% 14	81
Tawas Bay Pedestrian and Bike Path	24.39% 20	48.78% 40	6.10% 5	3.66% 3	17.07% 14	82

#	PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY (IF NECESSARY)	DATE
1	Bolen park grand stands need some rehab. Dillon Park needs a sump pump. Love the pond at Durant park. The guard-rail (fence?) at the day use park needs to be prettier. It is absolutely ridiculous that the campground doesn't take reservations.	9/5/2017 2:44 PM
2	Playground equipment needs to be updated!	9/5/2017 12:51 PM
3	up grade the camp sites electric outlets to 50 amp service- waiting for over 10 years!!! this is your money machine wake up call again	9/1/2017 9:51 AM
4	It would not hurt to reserve a couple sites so that local residents, could have access to affordable camping in the city park.	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
5	Tawas City Park Campgrounds desperately needs upgrades. The electrical is system is way outdated. Bathhouses also need to be redone.	8/23/2017 7:55 AM
6	Wish the beach was cleaned more often at the city park	8/22/2017 12:47 PM
7	Harbor park needs picknic tables for people to enjoy the space	8/20/2017 12:03 PM
8	people in wheelchairs, the elderly etc need better access and be able to get near the water and onto beaches easier..city campground is a JOKE .....you better not be in a wheelchair	8/18/2017 2:16 PM
9	More advertising of events offered by parks needed.	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
10	City Park Campground needs electrical updates.	8/18/2017 8:29 AM
11	Brush needs trimming along Tawas Beach Road	8/18/2017 8:01 AM
12	Boat launch needs improvements. Ramp is too steep for large boats and the docks are too short. Missing out on revenue that comes with the larger vessels.	8/17/2017 10:17 PM
13	Fix electrical issues at city park	8/17/2017 9:40 PM
14	We wish there was more playground equipment in the city park for children to play on	8/17/2017 8:09 PM
15	ERCP need updating of electronic boxes and trees need to be trimmed.	8/17/2017 5:44 PM
16	Rent cost are very high!!! Please lower monthly rates.	8/17/2017 4:56 PM
17	I'm a seasonal camper in the city park. New and larger RV technologies need a 50 amp system and this needs to be addressed. Also, the over growth of trees have distracted from the park's beauty. The annual trimming is not satisfactory as many trees have large limbs, as well as low lying limbs, that need to be removed,	8/17/2017 3:23 PM
18	Bolen, City, Dillon, and Durant all need some severe updating!	8/17/2017 3:01 PM
19	Needs better maintenance of the grounds and play areas.	8/17/2017 2:37 PM
20	Bike path needs to be updated. It should be widened to better handle two way bike traffic and pedestrian traffic.	8/17/2017 1:49 PM
21	City park needs upgraded electricity.	8/17/2017 11:37 AM
22	The city needs a band shell in a park with adequate parking.	8/16/2017 4:46 PM

23	Why no handicap ramp entrance at the door of the new library?	8/16/2017 3:24 PM
24	The beach at the City Park needs to be groomed more often. (Have you seen the Tawas City beach?) Dillon Park is often flooded and not very usable. The bike path seems to be lacking any kind of maintenance, including edging the sidewalks.	8/16/2017 10:47 AM
25	Newer playground equipment is necessary	8/15/2017 12:31 PM

Q4 Do existing East Tawas recreation facilities meet your family's recreation needs?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Completely meets our needs	9.76%	8
Adequately meets our needs	54.88%	45
Somewhat meets our needs	28.05%	23
Does not meet our needs very well	4.88%	4
Does not meet our needs at all	2.44%	2
TOTAL		82

#	PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY (IF NECESSARY)	DATE
1	When the parks are available and not fenced off for , various beer tent type adult festival events. they are fine, but with only ten weekends a year it is becoming hard to fit into the area when it is continually occupied with persons intent on either profiting from consumption or consuming libations to what end?	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
2	We are very big into Road biking and Mountain Biking. The bike path is excellent. We hope to help develop mountain biking trails in the county.	8/19/2017 10:20 AM
3	city park campground NEEDS UPDATING. One small handicap restroom DOES NOT COUNT...	8/18/2017 2:16 PM
4	Could use more Pickleball	8/18/2017 11:05 AM
5	Community center does not work for people with JOBS! I enjoy Pickelball these days and they do not accommodate my family at all! It's a shame that I can walk in and see no one in the gym and yet we still cannot play even with our own equipment! This needs to be improved. Some nice workout equipment would also be a great addition.	8/17/2017 10:17 PM

6	During the past four years we have had a significant growth in people who are interested in learning and playing pickleball. Current allotted times do not meet the need of the amount of people who want to play or convenience for those who work. Kids and adults of all ages can play. From my observations, it appears to have a higher number of people interested than the limited number of kids and teens who play basketball.	8/17/2017 5:19 PM
7	Would like parks to be updated, sand combed, weeds pulled, needs a lot more maintenance!	8/17/2017 3:01 PM
8	Would like place to launch my little sailboat. State Police dock is inadequate for small sailboats kayaks etc.	8/17/2017 2:48 PM
9	We are happy campers in the city park.	8/17/2017 1:49 PM
10	Would like bike paths	8/17/2017 11:38 AM
11	Band shell is needed.	8/16/2017 4:46 PM

Q5 What can East Tawas Parks and Recreation do to better meet your recreation needs?

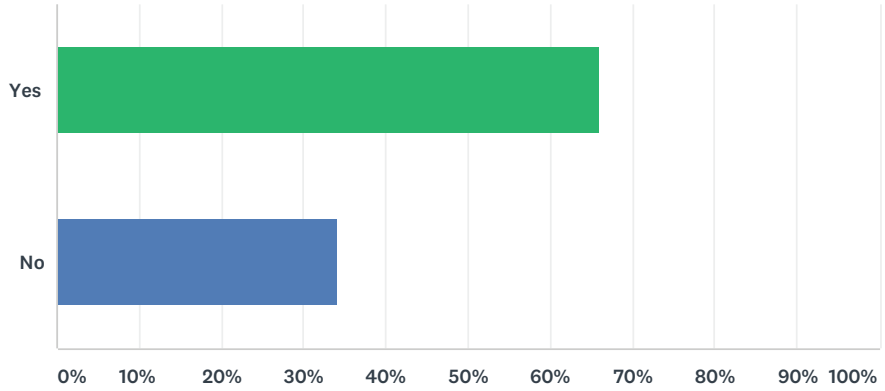
Answered: 52 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Make camping at the city park more affordable.	9/8/2017 8:47 PM
2	Soccer fields in East Tawas would be nice.	9/8/2017 9:07 AM
3	Take reservations at the campground.	9/5/2017 2:44 PM
4	Nothing	9/3/2017 9:32 AM
5	Our playground equipment is terrible for small children. It would be nice to have a facility like irons park in West Branch.	9/2/2017 4:17 PM
6	read above	9/1/2017 9:51 AM
7	The parks now are the biggest income generating "business" in town, and E.Tawas council will not allow any other camping development in town , so the republican monopoly will continue into for generations, and the ordinary person who only wants to have access to the beach or park areas will have to pay and pay , or seek out a different area nearby like the tawas city, oscoda, alabaster,beach or other local public water sides for his family	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
8	Create more walking sidewalks that connect to parks.	8/30/2017 11:53 AM
9	Bike trails would be welcomed in our community. It would be incredible to have the ability to ride into town after riding through a wooded trail system. If the city owns property, we should consider a wooded trail system for hikers and bikers. There is a strong economic benefit to catering to the cycling community.	8/24/2017 11:39 AM
10	Add 50 amp service to ETCP	8/23/2017 5:54 PM
11	Upgrade campgrounds	8/23/2017 7:55 AM
12	50 amp service in city park	8/21/2017 9:56 PM
13	Splash pad. Dog park (a fenced in one). Offer reserved parking spaces at parks to full time year round residents of East Tawas.	8/20/2017 11:59 PM
14	More campgrounds on the water with 50 AMP electrical.	8/20/2017 7:24 PM
15	The ETCP beach needs to be cleaned better as there is too much debris left after it is cleaned. It always looks dirty.	8/20/2017 5:49 PM
16	keep clean.	8/19/2017 6:24 PM
17	Make them more accessible for walking and biking - and make more of them. Make sure bike paths are clear of debris and are wide enough to keep cars away.	8/19/2017 1:49 PM
18	Mountain Biking and Fat biking trails. I speak for not only my family but for the 20-30 other riders that have to seek out trails in Alpena or Grayling.	8/19/2017 10:20 AM
19	How about a pool?	8/18/2017 10:11 PM
20	Expand activities for seniors at the Community Center. Exercise classes?	8/18/2017 8:58 PM
21	Keep them maintained better.	8/18/2017 7:27 PM
22	bike path from town to start of trail is awful, the driveways, the bridge sidewalk is rough and narrow, not safe until you get to trailer sales place	8/18/2017 2:16 PM
23	Kyacks & Float boards seem to be gaining popularity. At the E. Tawas City Park an area needs to be designated so those crafts can safely manuver from the shoreline out past the swim area. Perhaps a bouyed lane for those crafts could be created so they would not be in the swim area.	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
24	Maintain current parks.	8/18/2017 11:51 AM

25	More Pickleball	8/18/2017 11:05 AM
26	BUILD A BATHROOM ACCESSIBLE FOR THE LAKE LOTS THAT PAY DAILY RATE ALL YEAR LONG WE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO WALK ALL THE WAY UP TO THE BATHROOM IN A STORAGE AREA ESPECIALLY IN THE WINTER,FOR WHAT WE PAY SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE LONG TIME AGO!!!!	8/18/2017 8:14 AM
27	Community center needs to allow pickleball at night for working people. With more people joining to play ball 3 days a week are inadequate	8/18/2017 7:22 AM
28	Make more picklball courts and increase times and days to play, with some night times offered as well.	8/18/2017 12:21 AM
29	Indoor and out door facilities for Pickelball. Hours that work for working folks as well as those that are retired. Boat launch improvements.	8/17/2017 10:17 PM
30	Spray for mosquitoes in the summer months	8/17/2017 8:09 PM
31	They already do a great job!	8/17/2017 7:22 PM
32	upgrade power in the City Park.	8/17/2017 6:30 PM
33	they need to finish the bike path along us 23 between east tawas and baldwin resort road.	8/17/2017 6:04 PM
34	Spend money updating ETCP.	8/17/2017 5:44 PM
35	Have gym available for Pickleball on at least a four-day a week basis during the mornings or afternoons (especially during the school year) AND AT LEAST ONE EVENING DURING THE WEEK FOR ADULTS WHO WORK DURING THE DAY!!	8/17/2017 5:19 PM
36	Lower monthly rent charge!!!	8/17/2017 4:56 PM
37	Basketball court	8/17/2017 4:51 PM
38	See #3 regarding City Park Campground	8/17/2017 3:23 PM
39	The kids parks REALLY need some updating, heard from many tourists how surprised they are with at how 'unkept' the kids parks are! Need to keep tourism going in the summer time!	8/17/2017 3:01 PM
40	Provide a place to back a kayak sailboat paddle boat trailer and launch it.	8/17/2017 2:48 PM
41	Update the existing camp sites. It is pretty bad when the park has to open the doors on the main electrical boards and run squirrel cage fans on the two main electrical service boards to keep them cool during the summer! I can't imagine that the State inspectors are allowing it! And the only thing keeping children from touching the open boards and fans...is orange plastic snow fencing!	8/17/2017 2:37 PM
42	Overhaul the campground !	8/17/2017 12:14 PM
43	only used the dewey durant park and it is very nice	8/17/2017 11:59 AM
44	Upgrade all the camp sites in the City Park to 50 Amp service. It's time. You collect a bundle from the camp sites and use the money on other parks instead of the City Park	8/17/2017 11:38 AM
45	Upgrade electricity. Add a restroom in the day area.	8/17/2017 11:37 AM
46	Keep the beaches clean	8/17/2017 11:36 AM
47	Increase the water pressure and the electrical power outage.	8/17/2017 11:36 AM
48	Surface the play ares at foot of Newman. Kids get filthy there and never swim on that beach.	8/17/2017 8:22 AM
49	Band shell	8/16/2017 4:46 PM
50	Control sea gull and geese population at waterfront parks.	8/16/2017 3:24 PM
51	Tear down the play structure at the City Park and build a newer, bigger play structure. And add a waterpad.	8/15/2017 12:31 PM
52	I love all the City parks but some equipment needs to be updated. The new addition of the play place by the dock is wonderful. Would be nice to see updates at Bolen, Tom Dillon and Durant park as well.	8/8/2017 4:40 PM

Q6 Do you or your family visit neighboring community, county, state, or other regional recreation facilities?

Answered: 82 Skipped: 2



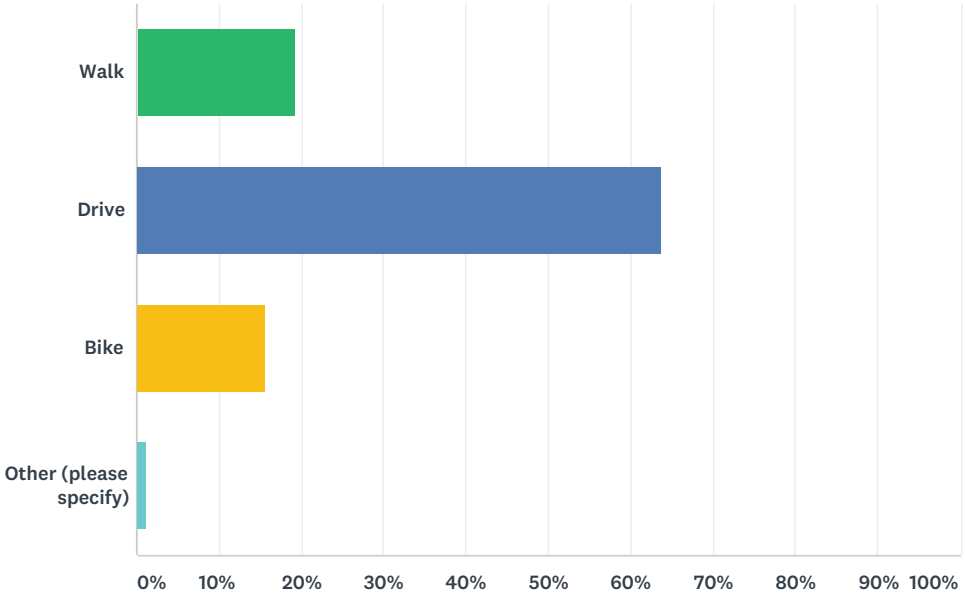
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.85%	54
No	34.15%	28
TOTAL		82

#	IF YES, WHICH FACILITIES DO YOU VISIT?	DATE
1	Tawas City facilities	9/8/2017 9:07 AM
2	Recreation Center in Ann Arbor	9/8/2017 7:30 AM
3	Campgrounds, recreation facilities.	9/5/2017 2:44 PM
4	Old orchard	9/3/2017 9:32 AM
5	Irons park West Branch	9/2/2017 4:17 PM
6	Oscoda, Harrsville, Houghton lake, Higgins Lake, National Cammpgrounds are all cheaper and just as nice as the "newman st" campground here in tawas . Ludington has one of the finest local beach areas in michigan and it is free and accessible to all . .	8/30/2017 12:27 PM
7	Alpena for their state park trail systems	8/24/2017 11:39 AM
8	Splash pads.	8/20/2017 11:59 PM
9	Oscoda parks	8/20/2017 9:28 PM
10	Tawas point state park	8/20/2017 8:18 PM
11	Whenever I have been to the Oscoda beach it is so clean.	8/20/2017 5:49 PM
12	ETCP	8/19/2017 6:24 PM
13	Rochester and Rochester Hills, Auburn Hills, Oscoda Parks,	8/19/2017 1:49 PM
14	Rockport state Park in Alpena. Hanson Hills in Grayling. Chippewa Hills in Alpena.	8/19/2017 10:20 AM
15	Midland, Bay City, Saginaw	8/18/2017 10:11 PM
16	lumberman's monument, foote dam, largo springs	8/18/2017 8:58 PM
17	Occasionally, Traverse City	8/18/2017 7:27 PM
18	mackinaw, west side, u.p.	8/18/2017 2:16 PM

19	Tawas City Park Tawas Point State Park	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
20	Community Center, Harbor Park, Tawas City Park.	8/18/2017 12:21 AM
21	State park	8/17/2017 10:28 PM
22	We travel the Michigan coast and enjoy many areas. Mackinaw City boat launch is top notch as are many others. Community centers in the south east Michigan region are much more flexible to the working class for evening events and sports opportunities.	8/17/2017 10:17 PM
23	Oscoda	8/17/2017 7:22 PM
24	Caseville, Linwood Beach, Sagatuck.	8/17/2017 5:44 PM
25	I visit Oscoda, Hale and Alpena Recreational Facilities. I have also visited recreation facilities in Flint, Hartland, Traverse City, Freeland and several facilities on a regular basis in Florida.	8/17/2017 5:19 PM
26	We spend a significant amount of time in our local parks in Midland, MI.	8/17/2017 3:01 PM
27	Lake Van Etton	8/17/2017 2:48 PM
28	Oscoda area	8/17/2017 2:37 PM
29	Oscoda beach park, Mackinaw Island, Tawas Gatway, Tawas Beach Park, Harrison Marina	8/17/2017 1:49 PM
30	Independence Park in Clarkston.Mi	8/17/2017 11:59 AM
31	Natl Forrest	8/17/2017 11:38 AM
32	Sandy Pines on west side of Michigan	8/17/2017 11:38 AM
33	State parks and boat launches.	8/17/2017 11:36 AM
34	Tawas City parks, lots of State campgrounds/parks	8/16/2017 10:47 AM
35	Oscoda - they have a waterpad	8/15/2017 12:31 PM
36	Shoreline Park in Tawas City has a wonderful new place scape, my children love playing on it.	8/8/2017 4:40 PM

Q7 How do you typically travel to East Tawas recreation facilities?

Answered: 83 Skipped: 1

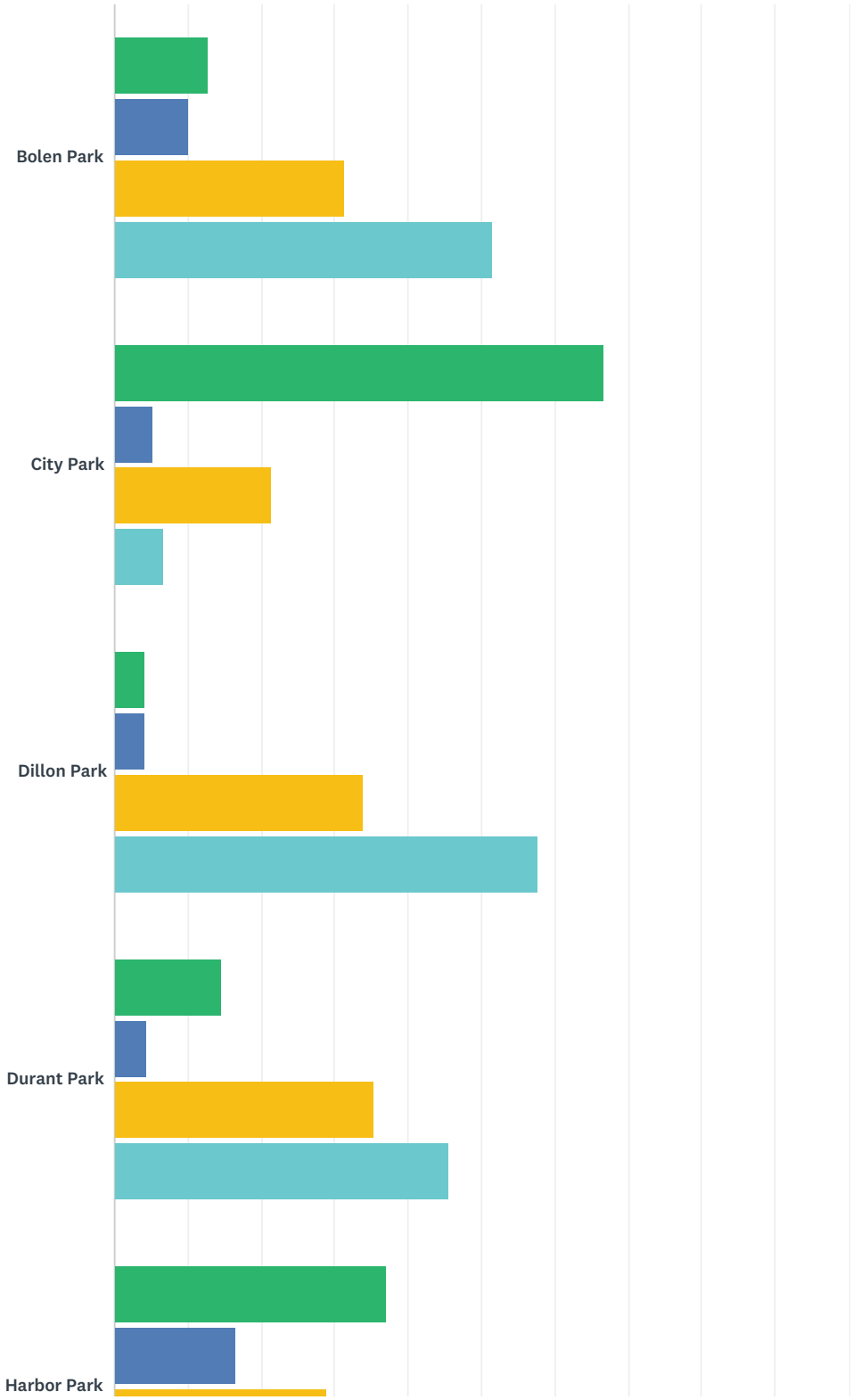


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk	19.28%	16
Drive	63.86%	53
Bike	15.66%	13
Other (please specify)	1.20%	1
TOTAL		83

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We now drive but plan on biking to them in the near future.	8/19/2017 1:49 PM

Q8 In the past 12 months, how many times have you visited East Tawas recreation facilities?

Answered: 77 Skipped: 7



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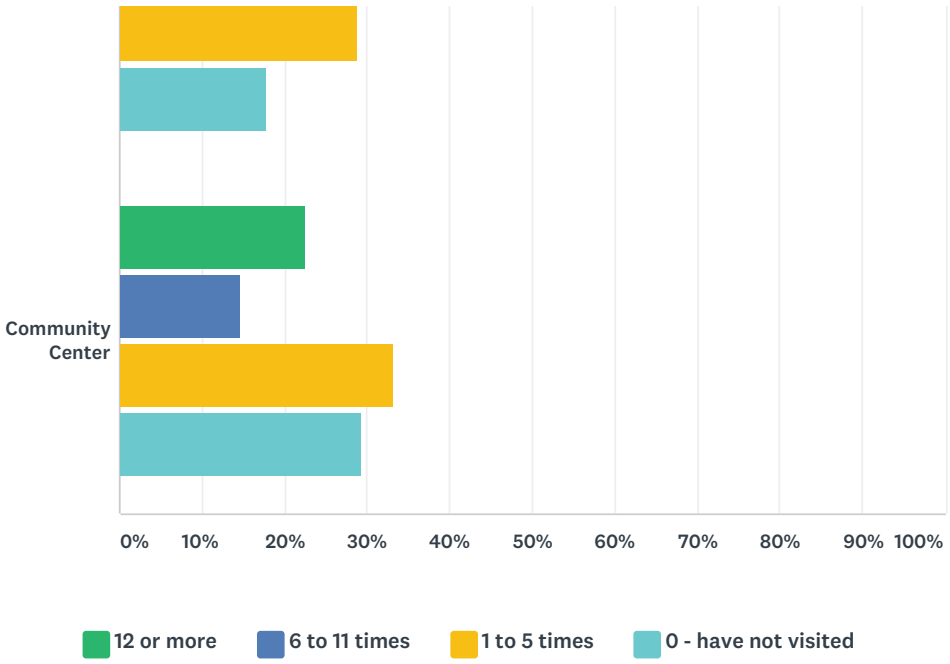
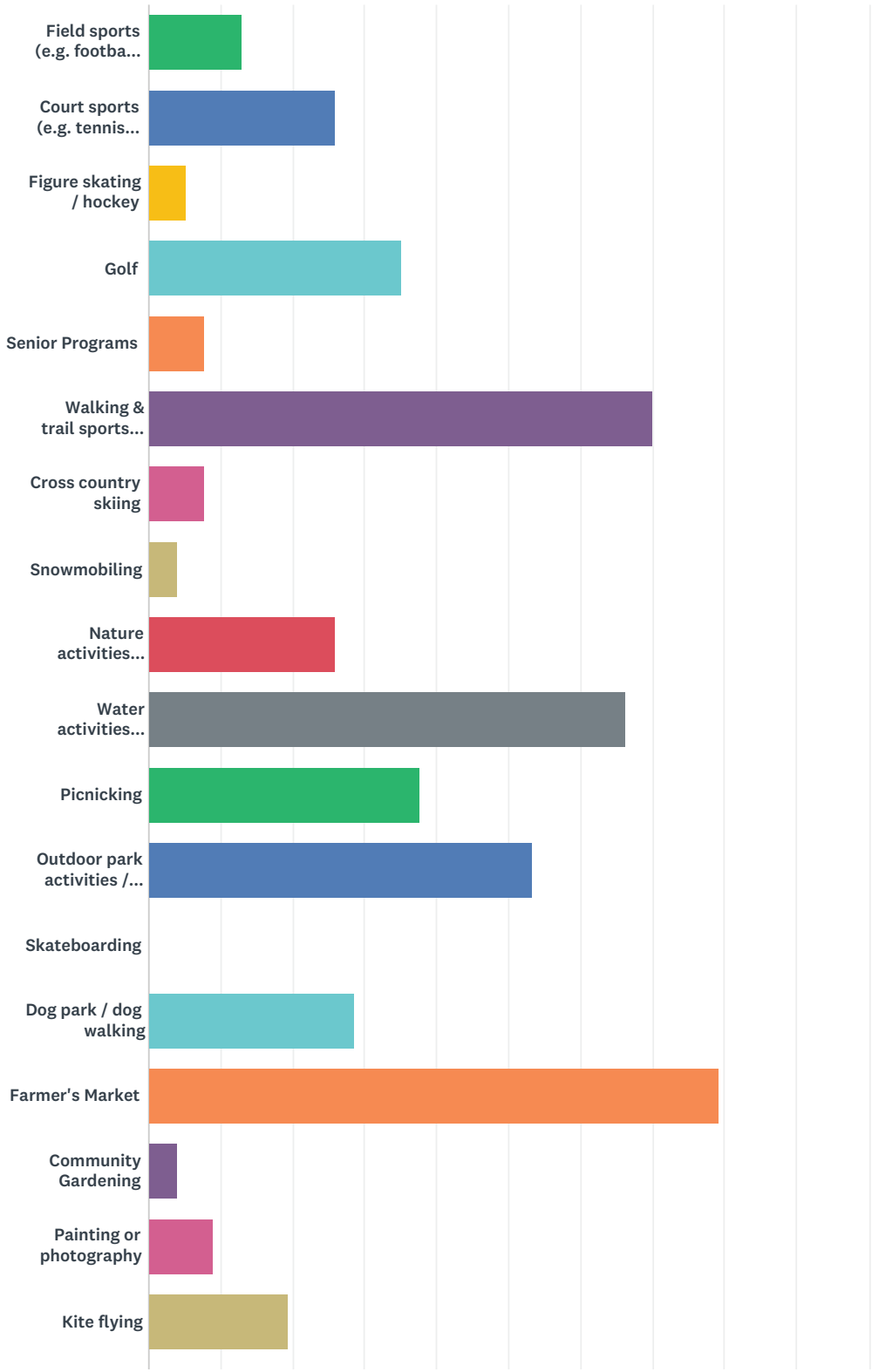


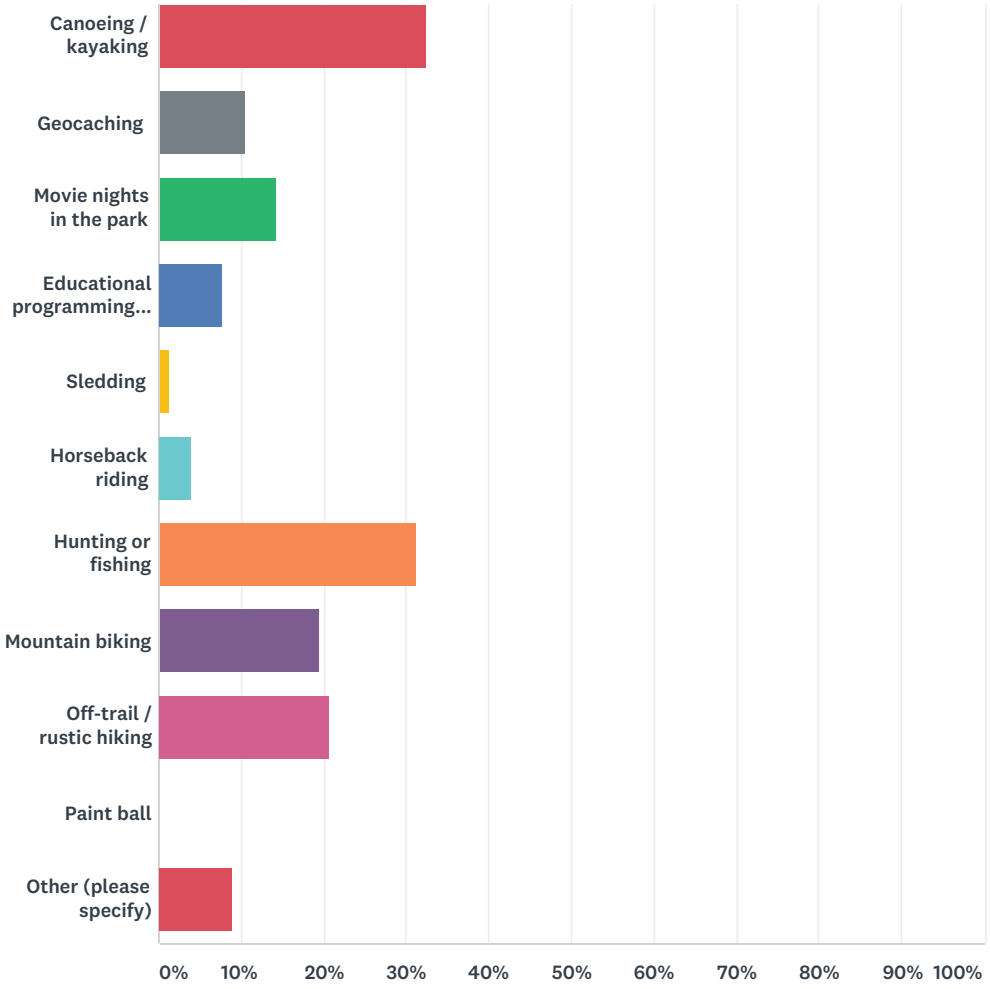
	12 OR MORE	6 TO 11 TIMES	1 TO 5 TIMES	0 - HAVE NOT VISITED	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Bolen Park	12.86% 9	10.00% 7	31.43% 22	51.43% 36	70
City Park	66.67% 50	5.33% 4	21.33% 16	6.67% 5	75
Dillon Park	4.23% 3	4.23% 3	33.80% 24	57.75% 41	71
Durant Park	14.71% 10	4.41% 3	35.29% 24	45.59% 31	68
Harbor Park	36.99% 27	16.44% 12	28.77% 21	17.81% 13	73
Community Center	22.67% 17	14.67% 11	33.33% 25	29.33% 22	75

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	ETCP	8/19/2017 6:27 PM
2	Seasonal camper at the City Park?	8/17/2017 3:28 PM

Q9 What types of activities do you or your family members regularly participate in? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 77 Skipped: 7





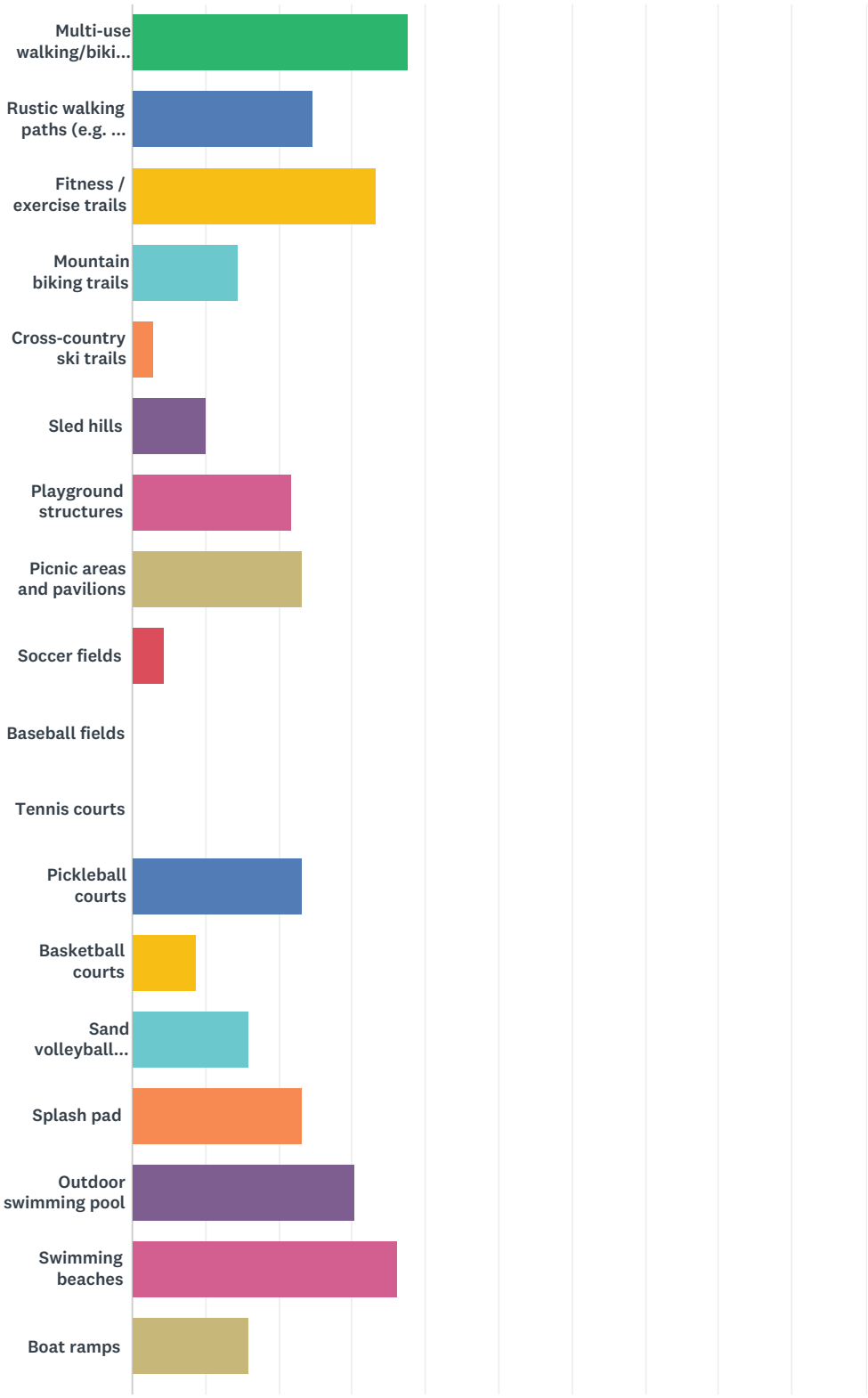
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Field sports (e.g. football, baseball, softball, soccer, etc.)	12.99%	10
Court sports (e.g. tennis, pickleball, basketball, volleyball, etc.)	25.97%	20
Figure skating / hockey	5.19%	4
Golf	35.06%	27
Senior Programs	7.79%	6
Walking & trail sports (e.g. walking, running, bicycling, rollerblading, etc.)	70.13%	54
Cross country skiing	7.79%	6
Snowmobiling	3.90%	3
Nature activities (e.g. nature walks, bird watching, stargazing etc.)	25.97%	20
Water activities (e.g. swimming, splash pad)	66.23%	51
Picnicking	37.66%	29
Outdoor park activities / playground	53.25%	41
Skateboarding	0.00%	0

Dog park / dog walking	28.57%	22
Farmer's Market	79.22%	61
Community Gardening	3.90%	3
Painting or photography	9.09%	7
Kite flying	19.48%	15
Canoeing / kayaking	32.47%	25
Geocaching	10.39%	8
Movie nights in the park	14.29%	11
Educational programming (e.g. skills workshops, nature identification, etc.)	7.79%	6
Sledding	1.30%	1
Horseback riding	3.90%	3
Hunting or fishing	31.17%	24
Mountain biking	19.48%	15
Off-trail / rustic hiking	20.78%	16
Paint ball	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	9.09%	7
Total Respondents: 77		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Dancing	8/19/2017 1:53 PM
2	Pickleball	8/18/2017 11:09 AM
3	Camping	8/17/2017 7:27 PM
4	Fishing off harbor dock .	8/17/2017 5:05 PM
5	Need separate survey for seasonal campers	8/17/2017 3:28 PM
6	Other	8/17/2017 12:19 PM
7	Concerts in the park	8/16/2017 4:51 PM

Q10 Which of the following park amenities would you like to see more of? Check all that apply.

Answered: 69 Skipped: 15



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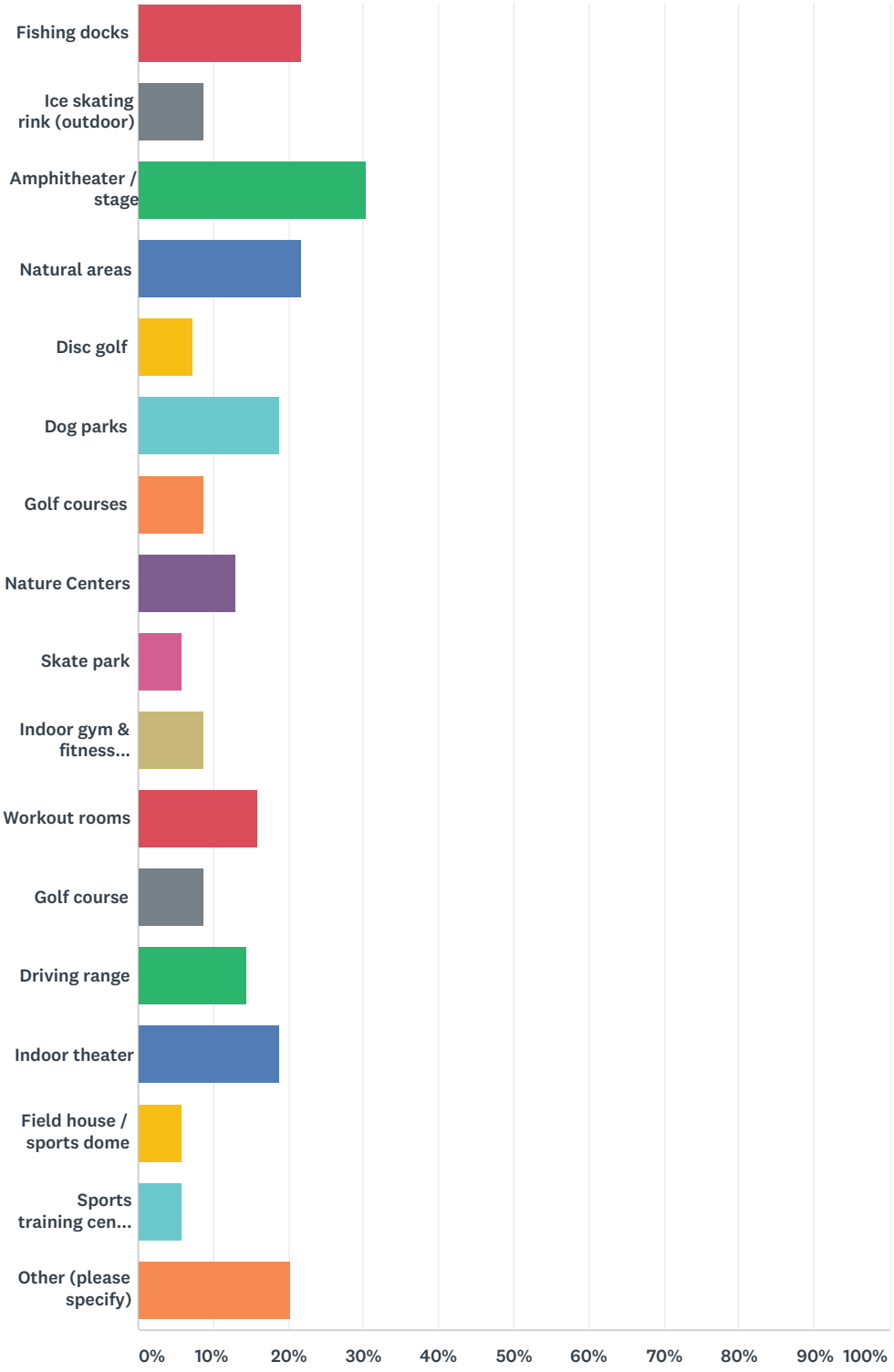


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Multi-use walking/biking paths (e.g. 10' wide paved pathways)	37.68%	26
Rustic walking paths (e.g. 8' crushed limestone or wood chip paths in nature areas)	24.64%	17
Fitness / exercise trails	33.33%	23

Mountain biking trails	14.49%	10
Cross-country ski trails	2.90%	2
Sled hills	10.14%	7
Playground structures	21.74%	15
Picnic areas and pavilions	23.19%	16
Soccer fields	4.35%	3
Baseball fields	0.00%	0
Tennis courts	0.00%	0
Pickleball courts	23.19%	16
Basketball courts	8.70%	6
Sand volleyball courts	15.94%	11
Splash pad	23.19%	16
Outdoor swimming pool	30.43%	21
Swimming beaches	36.23%	25
Boat ramps	15.94%	11
Fishing docks	21.74%	15
Ice skating rink (outdoor)	8.70%	6
Amphitheater / stage	30.43%	21
Natural areas	21.74%	15
Disc golf	7.25%	5
Dog parks	18.84%	13
Golf courses	8.70%	6
Nature Centers	13.04%	9
Skate park	5.80%	4
Indoor gym & fitness facility	8.70%	6
Workout rooms	15.94%	11
Golf course	8.70%	6
Driving range	14.49%	10
Indoor theater	18.84%	13
Field house / sports dome	5.80%	4
Sports training center (batting cages, indoor track, etc.)	5.80%	4
Other (please specify)	20.29%	14
Total Respondents: 69		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	all weather rink	9/5/2017 2:47 PM

2	Walking path	9/3/2017 9:33 AM
3	The park needs to remember the story about how the "holiday inn" was going to make a lot of jobs, and benefit the whole city, and gave away the primest piece of waterfront dirt we had on a promise. We need working class people on the various boards, commissions, and councils, there needs to be some representation of working families in these decisions . No rich water front property owners, no rich retired property owning landlords, no board members who already are receiving checks from , council, fire dept, planning commissions, county boards, why are we seeing the same names all the time ?	8/30/2017 12:33 PM
4	N/A	8/23/2017 5:57 PM
5	Walk and bike path	8/20/2017 12:06 PM
6	Dancing	8/19/2017 1:53 PM
7	Dog Parks need to be better marked as do parks that do not allow dogs. Too many dogs being walked on "NO Dog " Beaches.	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
8	There are so many parks and swimming areas.	8/18/2017 11:54 AM
9	Indoor swimming pool would be great. Hire people charge per visit or month for upkeep	8/18/2017 7:28 AM
10	Indoor Olympic pool for swimming laps.	8/17/2017 10:23 PM
11	Camp sites	8/17/2017 7:27 PM
12	none	8/17/2017 6:39 PM
13	Pool for City Park Campground	8/17/2017 3:28 PM
14	Place to launch small boats on beach	8/17/2017 2:53 PM

Q11 Of the items you checked in question 10, which three are the most important to you?

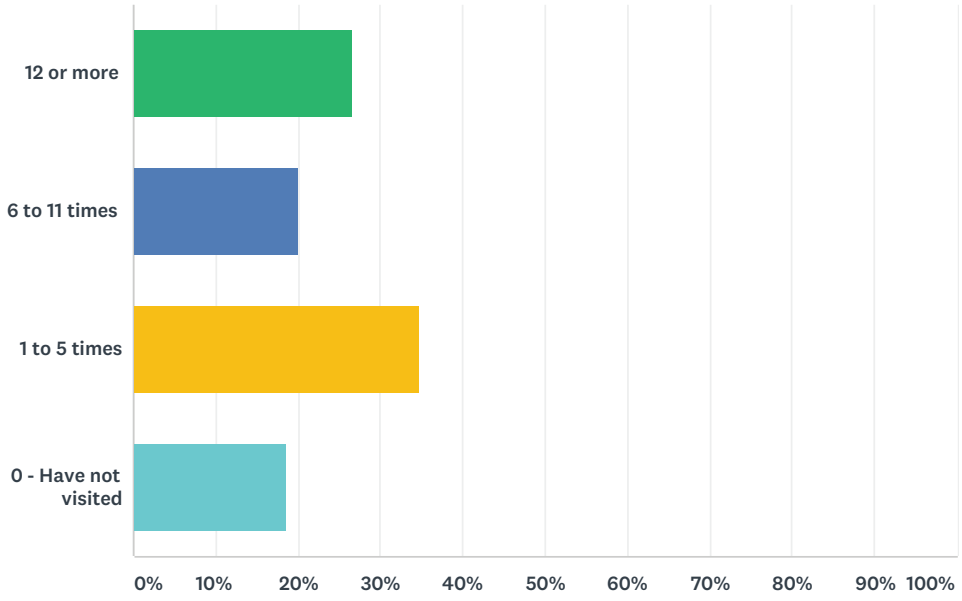
Answered: 48 Skipped: 36

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Multi use path, dog park, beaches	9/8/2017 8:49 PM
2	Amphitheater/stage	9/8/2017 9:07 AM
3	Golf, biking, swimming	9/8/2017 7:33 AM
4	Better playground structures	9/5/2017 1:00 PM
5	Playground structures, Splash pad, Walking Paths.	9/5/2017 11:46 AM
6	Workout rooms, rustic walking paths, multi-use walking /biking paths	9/5/2017 10:07 AM
7	Playground structures... walking areas...nature areas	9/2/2017 4:20 PM
8	any	9/1/2017 9:53 AM
9	Multi-use walking/biking path,rustic walking paths, amphitheater stage	8/30/2017 11:58 AM
10	Mountain biking trails	8/24/2017 11:41 AM
11	N/A	8/23/2017 5:57 PM
12	dog golf, beaches	8/21/2017 6:25 AM
13	Dog park. splash pad. Indoor gym & fitness center.	8/21/2017 12:04 AM
14	Music venue , gym, trails	8/20/2017 8:21 PM
15	Pickleball courts, swimming beaches, theatre	8/20/2017 7:27 PM
16	Picnic / ETCP	8/19/2017 6:27 PM
17	Dancing	8/19/2017 1:53 PM
18	Mountain Biking. We have a huge opportunity to develop something special for the local community as well as for our Tourism base.	8/19/2017 10:22 AM
19	Playground structures, swimming areas, splash pad	8/18/2017 10:15 PM
20	Fitness facilities	8/18/2017 9:01 PM
21	Amphitheater, beaches, outdoor pool	8/18/2017 7:30 PM
22	Biking.	8/18/2017 11:54 AM
23	Pool Pickleball Nature trails	8/18/2017 11:09 AM
24	ALL OF THEM	8/18/2017 8:19 AM
25	Pickleball courts. Swimming pool sand beaches	8/18/2017 7:28 AM
26	Pickelball, boat ramp improvements, workout room/equipment	8/17/2017 10:23 PM
27	Dog park, playground structure, pool	8/17/2017 8:13 PM
28	Beaches, campsites	8/17/2017 7:27 PM
29	Gym & Fitness, Pickleball, Fishing	8/17/2017 6:39 PM
30	Boat launch, dog area, play ground	8/17/2017 5:46 PM
31	Additional pickleball court time needs to be allocated. Additional inside (preferred) or outside courts anywhere in our Park System would be Wonderful!!!	8/17/2017 5:23 PM
32	All	8/17/2017 5:05 PM

33	Both	8/17/2017 3:28 PM
34	Swimming beaches Playground structures Splash pad	8/17/2017 3:05 PM
35	Small boat launching place on beach for small kayak sailboat paddle. Board etc.	8/17/2017 2:53 PM
36	Fishing and swimming.	8/17/2017 2:41 PM
37	Bike Trail (Extend to Oscoda), Splash Pad, Playground Structures	8/17/2017 1:56 PM
38	fishing dock, bike trails	8/17/2017 1:48 PM
39	Pickleball courts Walking paths Field house	8/17/2017 12:19 PM
40	Dog parks, picnic area, splash park	8/17/2017 11:43 AM
41	Dog park Multi-use paths Volleyball court	8/17/2017 11:42 AM
42	Fishing ramp	8/17/2017 11:41 AM
43	Biking, boating and swimming.	8/17/2017 11:40 AM
44	Outdoor swimming pool.	8/17/2017 11:39 AM
45	Band shell	8/16/2017 4:51 PM
46	rustic walking paths	8/16/2017 10:50 AM
47	Playground Structures and splash pad	8/15/2017 12:33 PM
48	Playground Structures need updating and clean beach areas with water activities.	8/8/2017 4:43 PM

Q12 In the past 12 months, how frequently have you used the Tawas Bay Pedestrian and Bike Path?

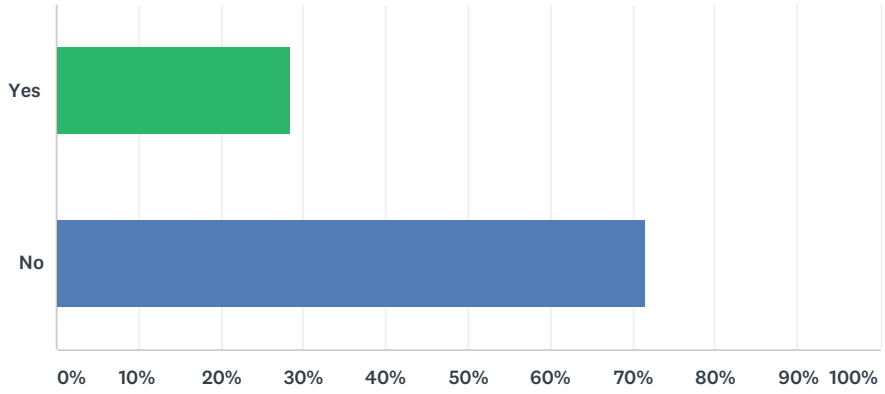
Answered: 75 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
12 or more	26.67%	20
6 to 11 times	20.00%	15
1 to 5 times	34.67%	26
0 - Have not visited	18.67%	14
TOTAL		75

Q13 Are you aware that the Tawas Bay Pedestrian and Bike Path is part of the Iron Belle Trail system?

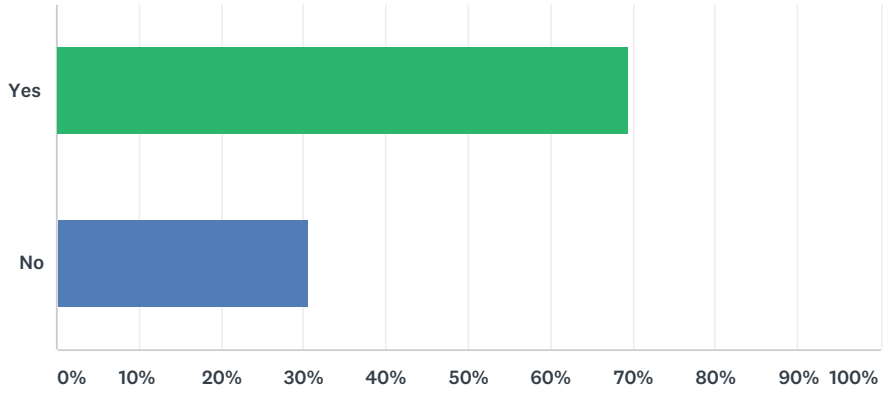
Answered: 74 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	28.38%	21
No	71.62%	53
TOTAL		74

Q14 Would you like to see a trail system further developed or expanded in East Tawas?

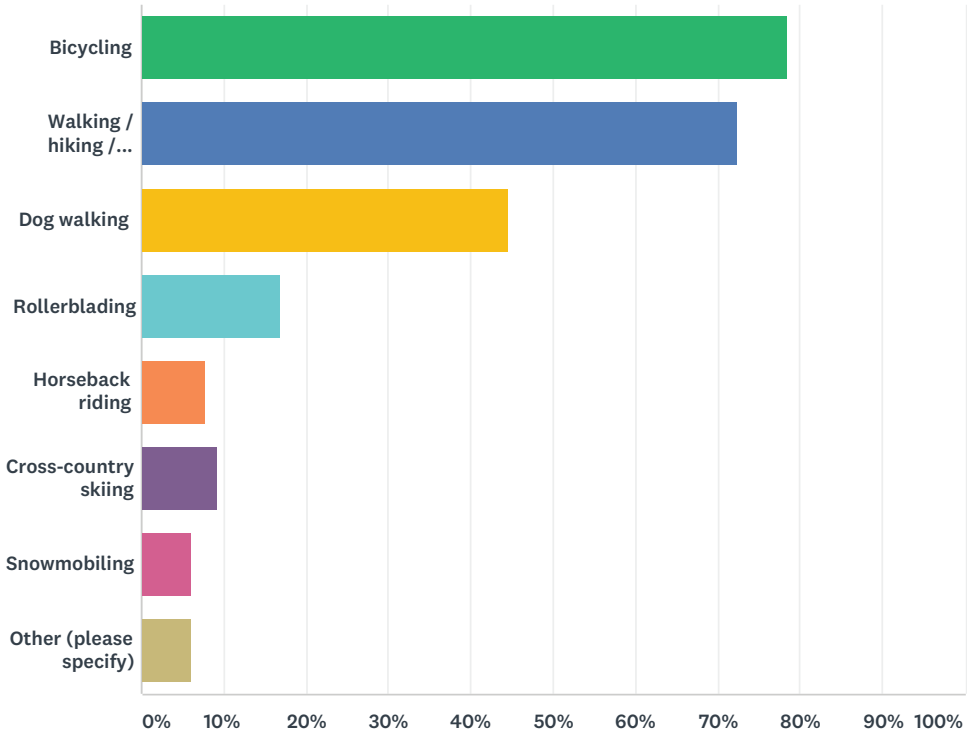
Answered: 72 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	69.44%	50
No	30.56%	22
TOTAL		72

Q15 What types of activities would you want to see accommodated on area trail networks? Please check all that apply.

Answered: 65 Skipped: 19

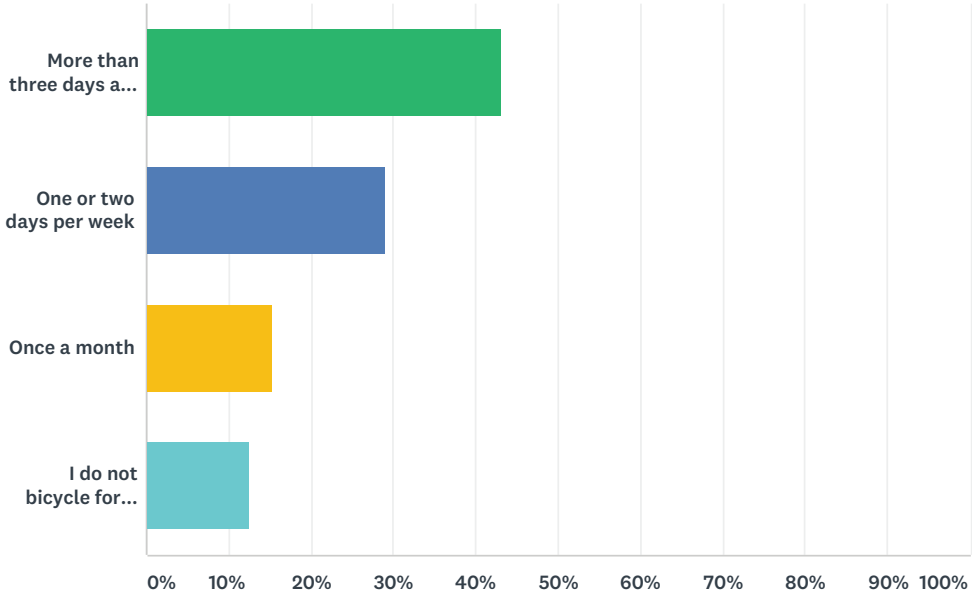


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Bicycling	78.46%	51
Walking / hiking / jogging	72.31%	47
Dog walking	44.62%	29
Rollerblading	16.92%	11
Horseback riding	7.69%	5
Cross-country skiing	9.23%	6
Snowmobiling	6.15%	4
Other (please specify)	6.15%	4
Total Respondents: 65		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Atv	9/2/2017 4:23 PM
2	Restrooms	8/23/2017 5:58 PM
3	Mountain Biking	8/19/2017 10:26 AM
4	You need snowmobile access to the town. When the weather is right, the money could flow for food, shopping, and gas. Ask the folks in the UP. They depend on it!	8/17/2017 10:27 PM

Q16 How frequently do you bicycle for exercise or recreation?

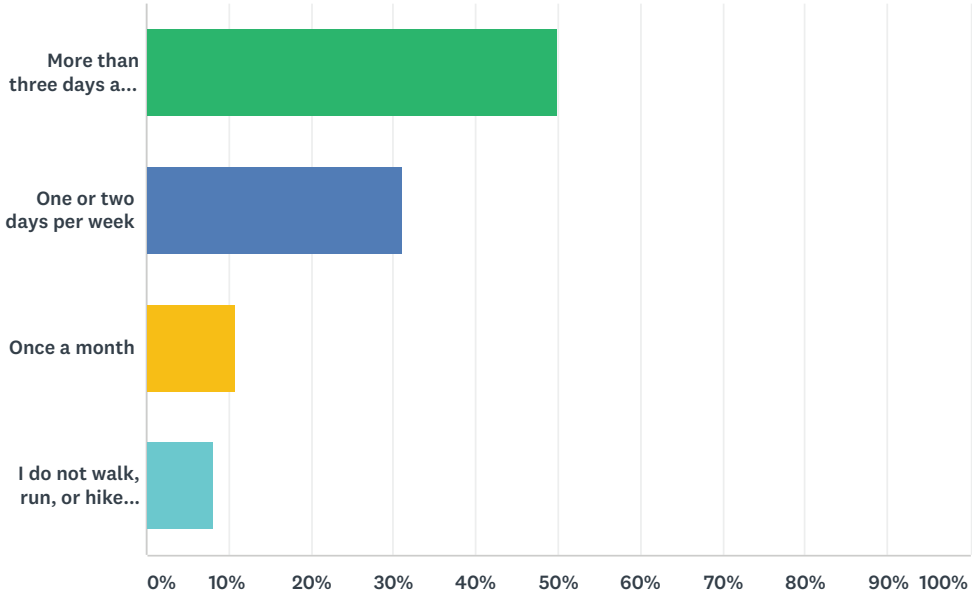
Answered: 72 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More than three days a week	43.06%	31
One or two days per week	29.17%	21
Once a month	15.28%	11
I do not bicycle for exercise or recreation	12.50%	9
TOTAL		72

Q17 How frequently do you walk, run, or hike for exercise or recreation?

Answered: 74 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More than three days a week	50.00%	37
One or two days per week	31.08%	23
Once a month	10.81%	8
I do not walk, run, or hike for exercise or recreation	8.11%	6
TOTAL		74

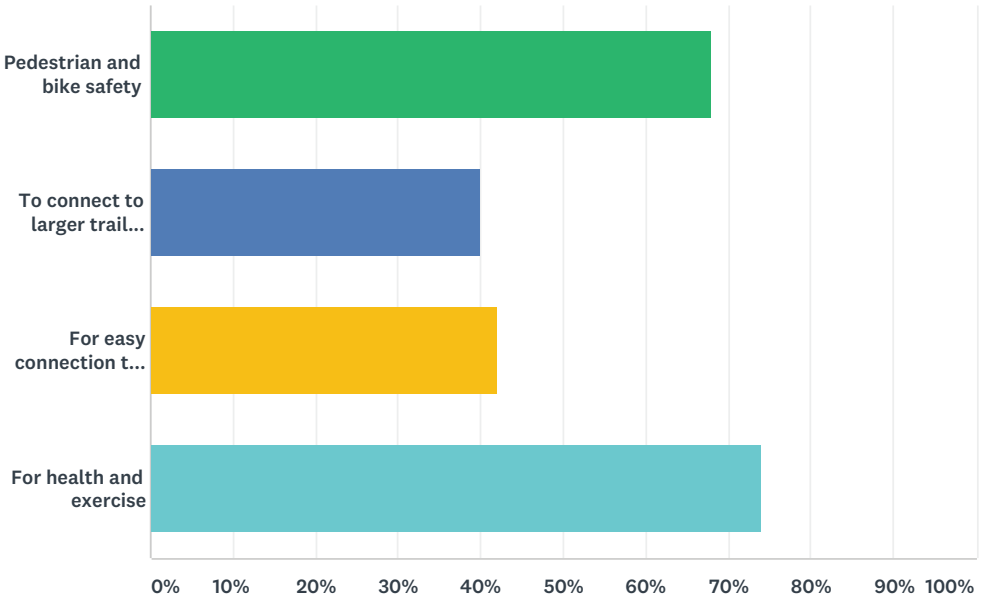
Q18 Are there any specific routes you would like to see developed? Please describe them below.

Answered: 14 Skipped: 70

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Add more sidewalks to connect city parks & facilities, as well as make pedestrian traffic safer.	9/5/2017 2:48 PM
2	A little more clearance lane added to any existing roadway will do , as long as the police are ready to enforce right of way tickets to anyone who drives without respect to walkers or bicyclers who have the right of way on most roadways anyway.	8/30/2017 12:37 PM
3	Sidewalks on busy streets	8/30/2017 11:59 AM
4	Formal trail system that allows cyclists to feel comfortable knowing they are allowed to ride in specific areas.	8/24/2017 11:42 AM
5	Walk but not on trails.	8/23/2017 8:01 AM
6	Tawas lake area.	8/21/2017 12:09 AM
7	From Baldwin Resort Road both - North and South (to connect to existing path)	8/19/2017 1:54 PM
8	It would be great to have mountain biking trails in East Tawas. I am not sure if its possible but near Lake Solitude would be great.	8/19/2017 10:26 AM
9	bike path extended to aulerich road	8/17/2017 6:13 PM
10	I would be happy with expansion of the trail network. Our family loves to ride bicycles!	8/17/2017 3:08 PM
11	Extend the bike trail to Oscoda and to AuGres.	8/17/2017 2:01 PM
12	No	8/17/2017 12:21 PM
13	Bike trail from the City park to the state park.	8/17/2017 11:40 AM
14	Connecting all City parks for walking and biking. East Franklin area from Durant to Tom Dillon.	8/8/2017 4:46 PM

Q19 If yes, why do you want a trail network in your community? Check all that apply.

Answered: 50 Skipped: 34

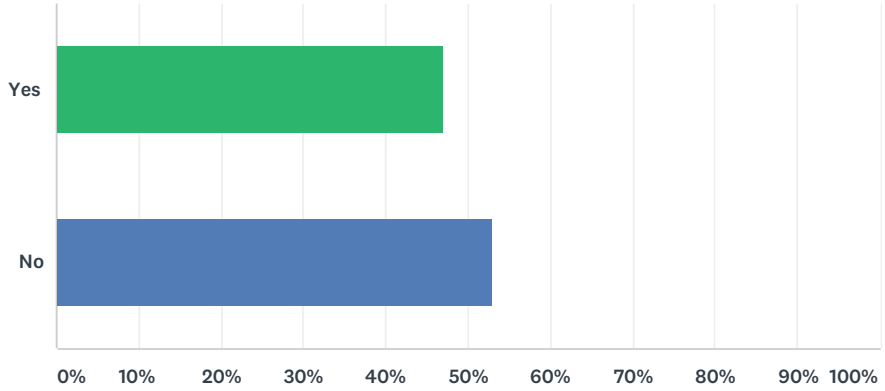


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Pedestrian and bike safety	68.00%	34
To connect to larger trail networks	40.00%	20
For easy connection to local attractions (schools, businesses, etc.)	42.00%	21
For health and exercise	74.00%	37
Total Respondents: 50		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	This need not be that expensive and the City park has plenty of money for its own uses and should be ready to return to the community some of the high rates it is chargeing the downstaters who occupy the camping sites 12 months of the year in 99% of the sites available i understand ?	8/30/2017 12:37 PM
2	More people would be out interacting with neighbors and such which would develop a stronger community	8/21/2017 12:09 AM
3	I moved to this area 3 years ago. I have a vision of having mountain bike trails in the area. My wife and I are active with the Volleyball team at the high school. If trails were developed in town. I am going to look to start up a mountain biking club through the schools to get more kids involved in outdoor sports that they can enjoy for a lifetime !	8/19/2017 10:26 AM

Q20 Do you use regional trails or trails in neighboring communities?

Answered: 70 Skipped: 14

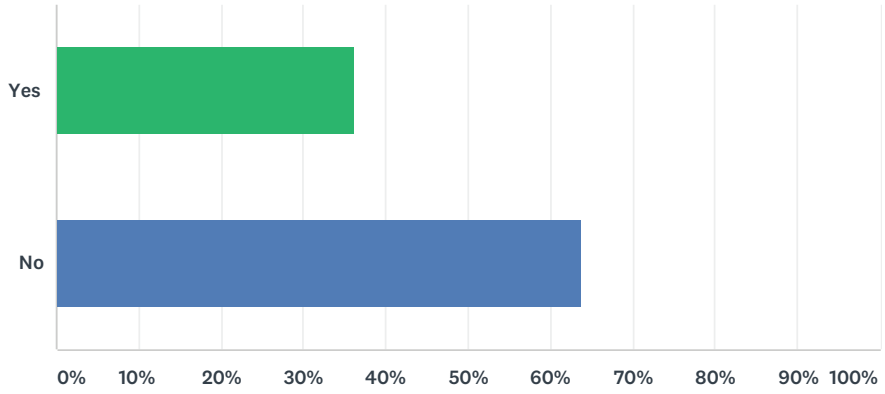


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.14%	33
No	52.86%	37
TOTAL		70

#	IF YES, PLEASE SPECIFY:	DATE
1	Midland trails	9/3/2017 9:34 AM
2	Sand lake trail spur...monument trail head...footsite pond...St Helens scramble area	9/2/2017 4:23 PM
3	West Branch, alcona, even little Augres has marked walking trails for use, Oscoda has inland trails adjoining the federal lands	8/30/2017 12:37 PM
4	Cosair trails. Lumbermans monument trails. Tawas point state park.	8/21/2017 12:09 AM
5	Chippewa Hills. Hanson Hills. Rockport State Park	8/19/2017 10:26 AM
6	Midland Railtrail	8/18/2017 10:16 PM
7	Oscoda area	8/18/2017 11:57 AM
8	Some along US 23	8/17/2017 10:27 PM
9	vienna township	8/17/2017 4:16 PM
10	We use Midland's rail trail extensively when at home.	8/17/2017 3:08 PM
11	Midland bike trail.	8/17/2017 2:01 PM
12	Davison, Mi	8/17/2017 11:43 AM
13	Saginaw township.	8/17/2017 11:43 AM
14	Alabaster	8/17/2017 8:25 AM
15	Tawas City and Alabaster bike paths	8/16/2017 10:51 AM

Q21 Do you take advantage of recreation programs provided by neighboring communities?

Answered: 69 Skipped: 15

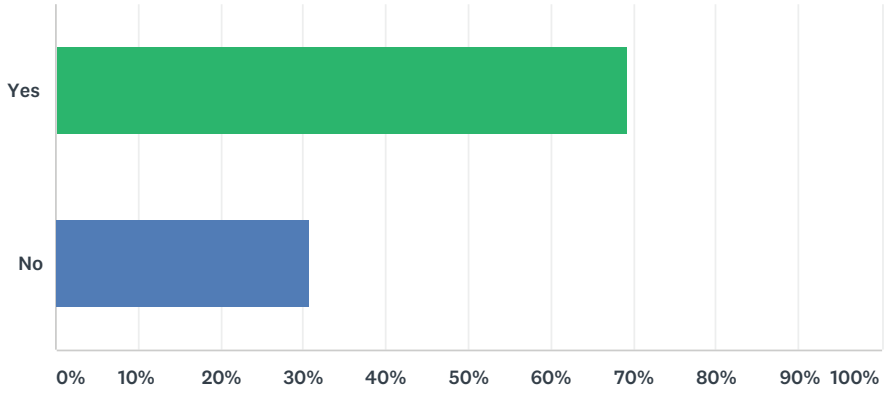


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	36.23%	25
No	63.77%	44
TOTAL		69

#	IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE.	DATE
1	Alabaster & Tawas City bike paths.	9/5/2017 2:50 PM
2	Oscoda has a open gym for use by all kinds of activity personel some governed and some open	8/30/2017 12:42 PM
3	events hosted such as 5k, triathlons, breweries!	8/24/2017 11:44 AM
4	Fishing. Kayaking	8/18/2017 7:33 AM
5	Oscoda when we can. They are not much better for community center events, but they have trails for snowmobiles.	8/17/2017 10:32 PM
6	Yes, in Midland where our permanent residence is.	8/17/2017 3:12 PM
7	Bike trails and small boat launch at Van Etton Lake.	8/17/2017 2:57 PM
8	Boating, fly fishing.	8/17/2017 11:47 AM
9	Alabaster	8/17/2017 8:28 AM

Q22 Would you like East Tawas to offer recreation programming?

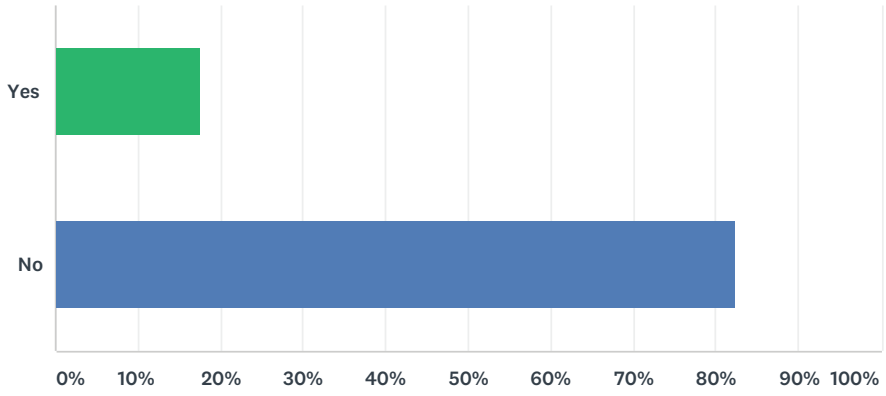
Answered: 65 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	69.23%	45
No	30.77%	20
TOTAL		65

Q23 Are there any specific programs you'd like to see offered in East Tawas?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 33

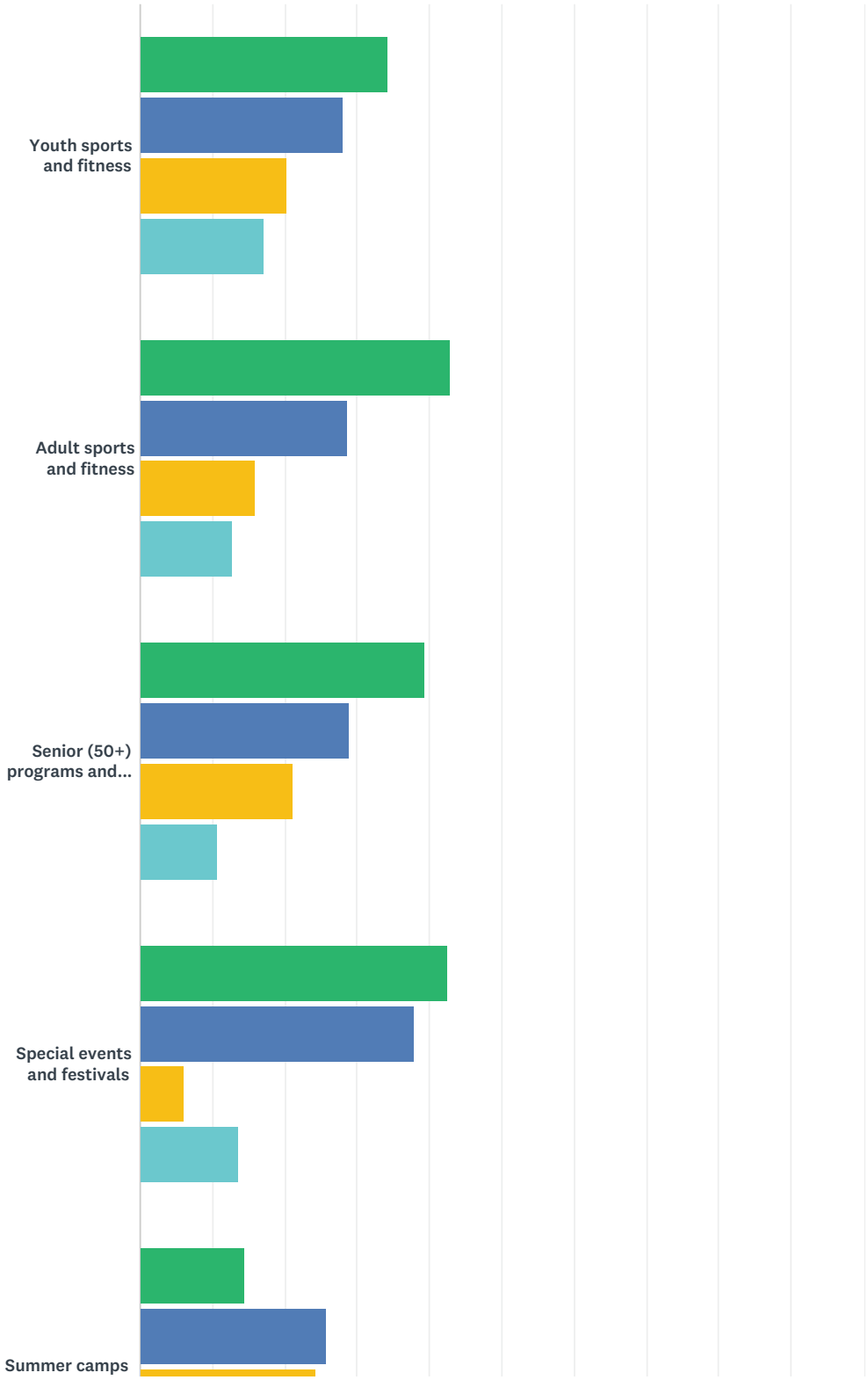


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	17.65%	9
No	82.35%	42
TOTAL		51

#	IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE.	DATE
1	shuffle boards in place of the un-used horseshoe pits , and try to restrict the use of the ball fields to the Alcohol crowds, the mens or womens softball, who roar out to places at fill tilt after consuming beers until the sun goes down. Were the fields built for adults or kids, why are the parks playground equipment so neglected , but the dugouts are not, is it a kids priority town or not ?	8/30/2017 12:42 PM
2	Horseback riding. Can't find anyone who offers riding near the ETCP.	8/20/2017 7:31 PM
3	Dancing - Geological information - Nature Hikes into back woods - Cooking naturally - Fishing (catching-cooking) - Boating (Kayak, Canoe, Big Boats)	8/19/2017 1:58 PM
4	Community biking events. Possibly slow rolls on the bike path. It would be great to have fat tire bike events in the area. Our soil is very sandy in this area which plays well with the fat bikes in the community.	8/19/2017 10:30 AM
5	Senior exercise classes	8/18/2017 9:04 PM
6	Yoga	8/18/2017 8:35 AM
7	Kayaking. Pickleball lessons Which includes providing equipment	8/18/2017 7:33 AM
8	Pickelball, tennis, workout events	8/17/2017 10:32 PM
9	Would like to see East Tawas bring back the boat races in the summer! If too costly, charge a few bucks / person to attend and watch. Drew in a significant amount of tourists when these races took place!	8/17/2017 3:12 PM
10	Learn to sail program	8/17/2017 2:57 PM
11	Pickleball	8/17/2017 12:22 PM

Q24 How important are the following recreation programs to you and your family?

Answered: 71 Skipped: 13



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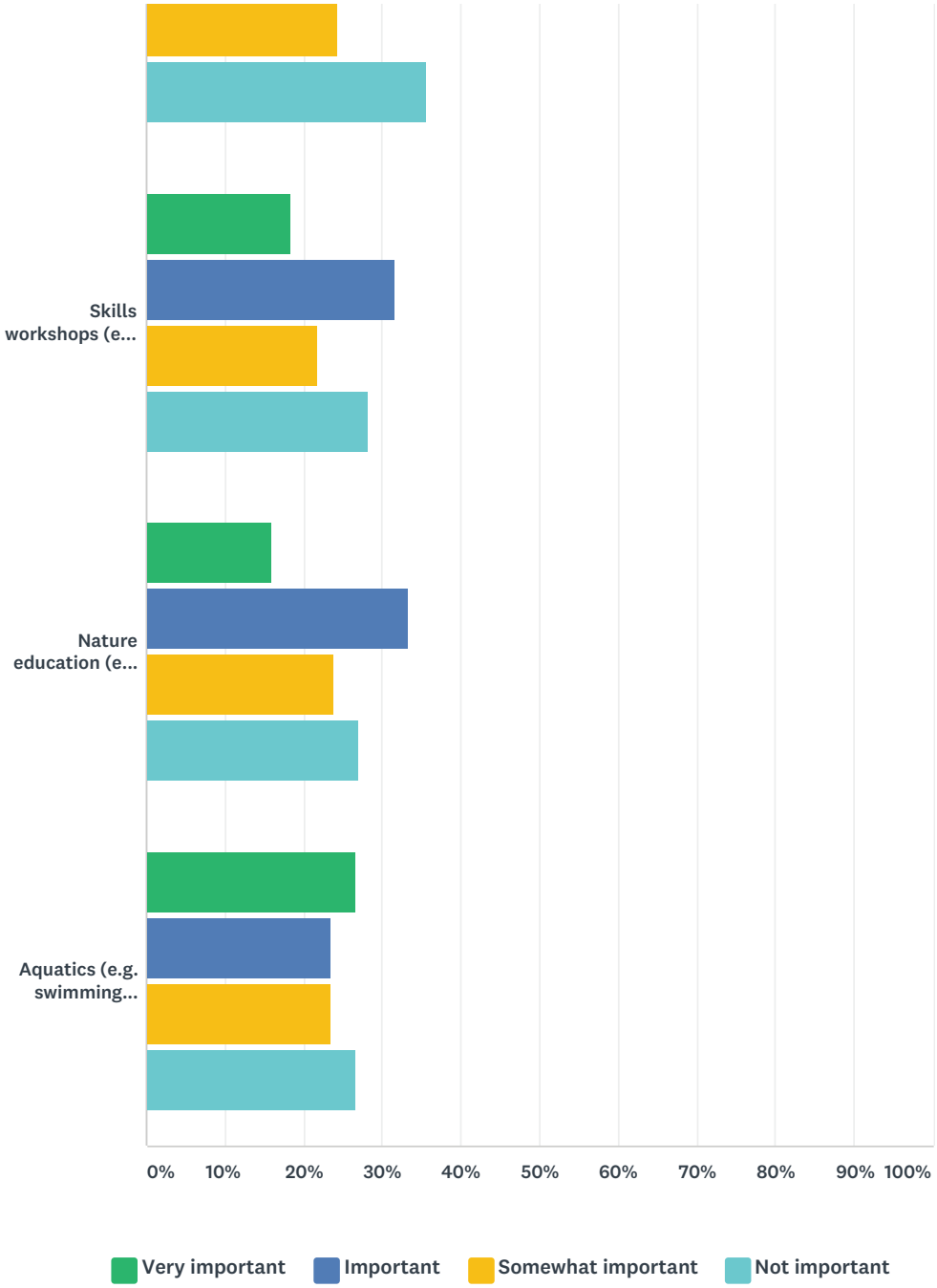


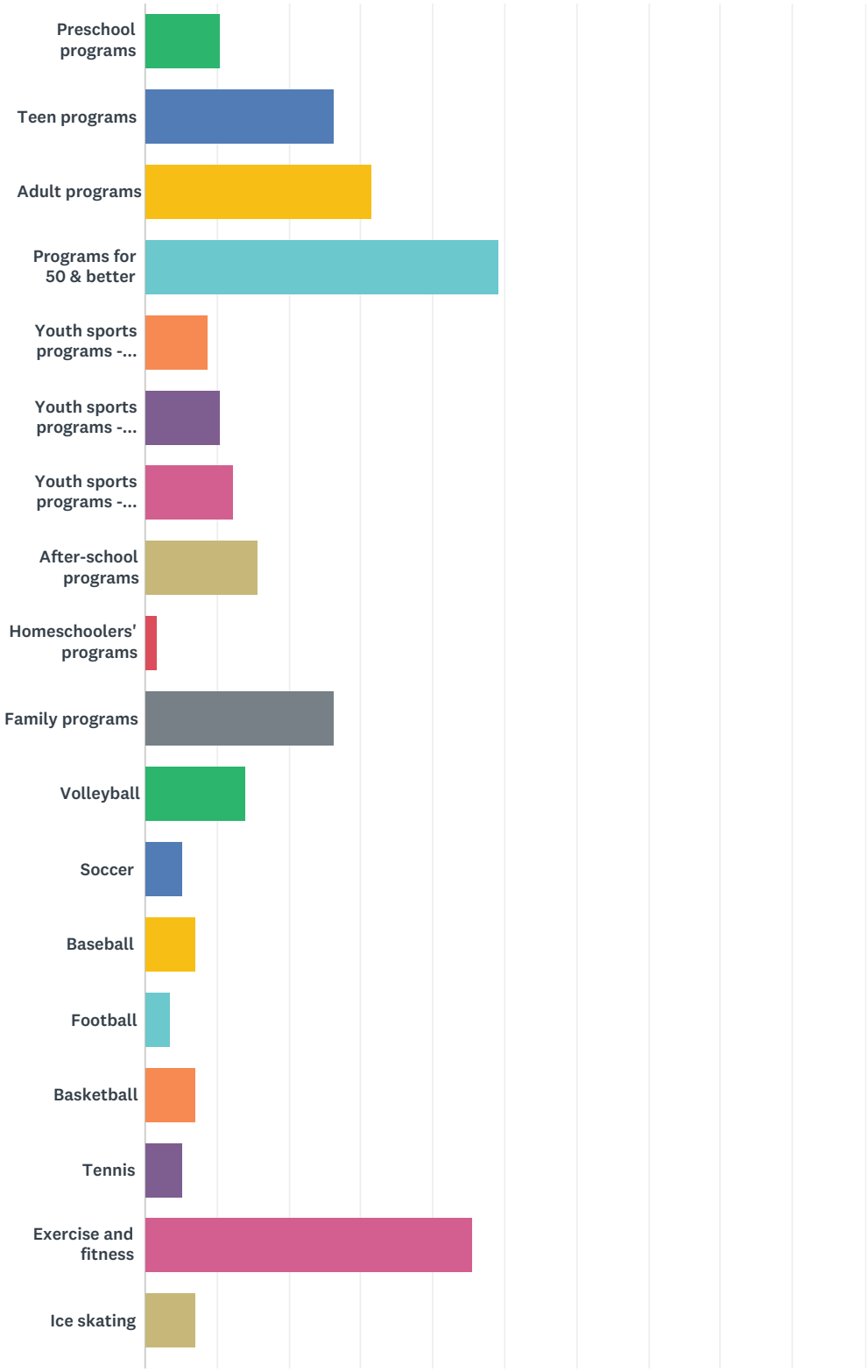
	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Youth sports and fitness	34.38% 22	28.13% 18	20.31% 13	17.19% 11	64
Adult sports and fitness	42.86% 27	28.57% 18	15.87% 10	12.70% 8	63
Senior (50+) programs and trips	39.39% 26	28.79% 19	21.21% 14	10.61% 7	66
Special events and festivals	42.42% 28	37.88% 25	6.06% 4	13.64% 9	66

Summer camps	14.52% 9	25.81% 16	24.19% 15	35.48% 22	62
Skills workshops (e.g. computer education, accounting, etc.)	18.33% 11	31.67% 19	21.67% 13	28.33% 17	60
Nature education (e.g. stargazing, bird watching, plant identification, etc.)	15.87% 10	33.33% 21	23.81% 15	26.98% 17	63
Aquatics (e.g. swimming lessons, exercise, etc.)	26.67% 16	23.33% 14	23.33% 14	26.67% 16	60

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None of these activites is that expensive and the parks have lots of money.	8/30/2017 12:42 PM
2	Pickleball instructions	8/18/2017 7:33 AM
3	City should not be involved in programming, just facilities.	8/17/2017 8:28 AM

Q25 Which of the following recreational programs would you like to see more of? Check all that apply.

Answered: 57 Skipped: 27



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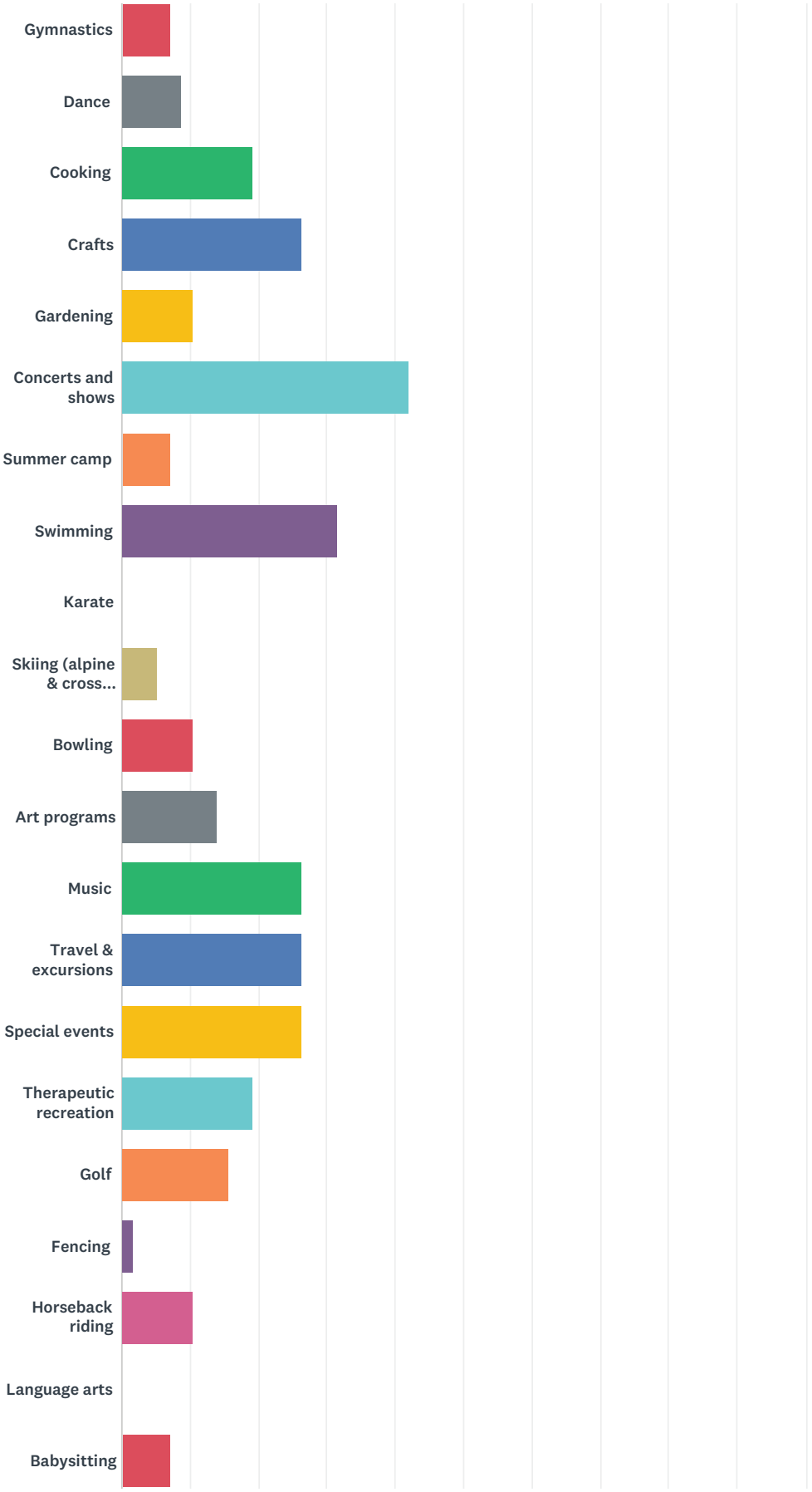
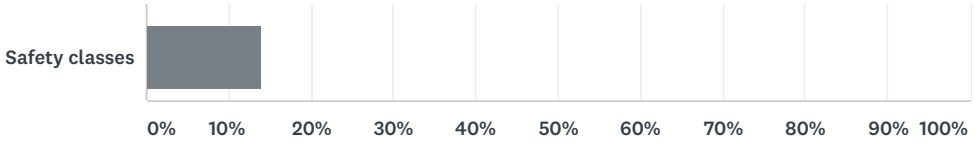

Gymnastics
Dance
Cooking
Crafts
Gardening
Concerts and shows
Summer camp
Swimming
Karate
Skiing (alpine & cross...
Bowling
Art programs
Music
Travel & excursions
Special events
Therapeutic recreation
Golf
Fencing
Horseback riding
Language arts
Babysitting



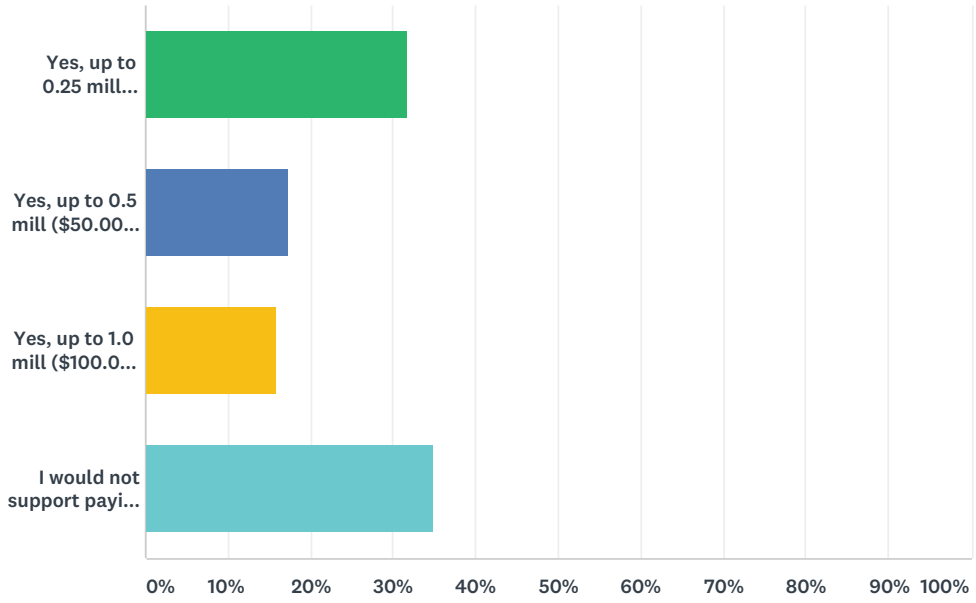
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Preschool programs	10.53%	6
Teen programs	26.32%	15
Adult programs	31.58%	18
Programs for 50 & better	49.12%	28
Youth sports programs - preschool age level	8.77%	5
Youth sports programs - elementary school level	10.53%	6
Youth sports programs - middle school level	12.28%	7
After-school programs	15.79%	9
Homeschoolers' programs	1.75%	1
Family programs	26.32%	15
Volleyball	14.04%	8
Soccer	5.26%	3
Baseball	7.02%	4
Football	3.51%	2
Basketball	7.02%	4
Tennis	5.26%	3
Exercise and fitness	45.61%	26
Ice skating	7.02%	4
Gymnastics	7.02%	4
Dance	8.77%	5
Cooking	19.30%	11
Crafts	26.32%	15
Gardening	10.53%	6
Concerts and shows	42.11%	24
Summer camp	7.02%	4
Swimming	31.58%	18
Karate	0.00%	0
Skiing (alpine & cross country)	5.26%	3
Bowling	10.53%	6
Art programs	14.04%	8

Music	26.32%	15
Travel & excursions	26.32%	15
Special events	26.32%	15
Therapeutic recreation	19.30%	11
Golf	15.79%	9
Fencing	1.75%	1
Horseback riding	10.53%	6
Language arts	0.00%	0
Babysitting	7.02%	4
Safety classes	14.04%	8
Total Respondents: 57		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Get rid of letting the various City "Parties, Banquets,Dinners, Benefits" for City personel only, and do something for the next generations	8/30/2017 12:42 PM
2	Safety Classes in Boating	8/19/2017 1:58 PM
3	Road Biking and Mountain Biking	8/19/2017 10:30 AM
4	Pickleball	8/18/2017 7:33 AM
5	Pickelball options	8/17/2017 10:32 PM
6	Pickleball	8/17/2017 5:26 PM
7	Pickleball	8/17/2017 12:22 PM
8	Boating, sailing (we live on Tawas Bay!!)	8/16/2017 4:57 PM

Q26 Would you support a community-wide millage to help develop, improve, and maintain park facilities?

Answered: 63 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, up to 0.25 mill ($25.00 annually for a $100,000 property)	31.75%	20
Yes, up to 0.5 mill ($50.00 annually for a $100,000 property)	17.46%	11
Yes, up to 1.0 mill ($100.00 annually for a $100,000 property)	15.87%	10
I would not support paying a millage	34.92%	22
TOTAL		63

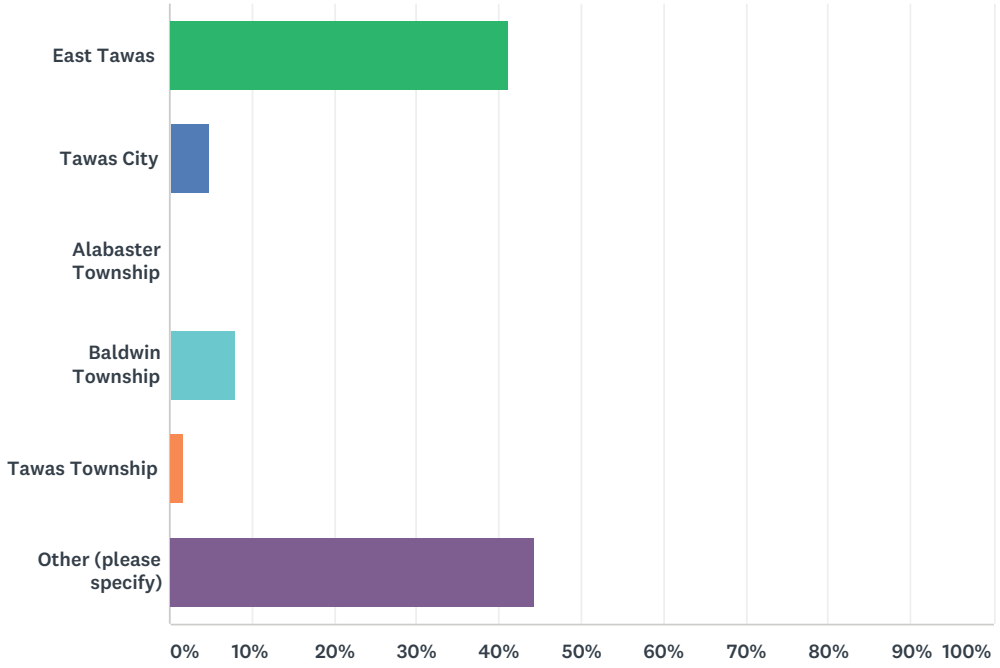
Q27 If you answered no to the previous question, please let us know why.

Answered: 18 Skipped: 66

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I think the park system (with minor improvements/tweaks) is great as is. If there were a demand for recreational programming, the private sector should capitalize on it. The parks system should develop policies that make that possible/feasible.	9/5/2017 2:52 PM
2	I don't believe funds would be used accordingly and only used on what the older demographic wants or does not want...	9/2/2017 4:28 PM
3	no response on your part over the years	9/1/2017 9:56 AM
4	The city park makes 2-3 million a year, does that answer your question ?	8/30/2017 12:43 PM
5	It is vitally important to a healthy community. Healthy communities are happier communities. Economic health and welfare is just as important as the physical health of those within the community.	8/24/2017 11:45 AM
6	E Tawas is not my residence I only camp at ETCP	8/23/2017 6:00 PM
7	Don't pay taxes in community. My financial support is from rent and supporting local stores etc during summer months. Not my place to ask residents to pay more taxes.	8/23/2017 8:08 AM
8	important to maintain parks	8/21/2017 6:27 AM
9	My husband and I are seasonal campers so are not able to vote on millages.	8/20/2017 7:32 PM
10	Seasonal resident at ETCP.	8/18/2017 7:34 PM
11	PAY ENOUGH TAXES	8/18/2017 8:26 AM
12	I would support funding if the money was used correctly and for a fixed duration. accommodations and facility improvements would need to better support the needs of my family	8/17/2017 10:38 PM
13	don't live in tawas	8/17/2017 4:18 PM
14	Not a Michigan resident	8/17/2017 3:32 PM
15	I am not a tax payer in Tawas/East Tawas	8/17/2017 1:00 PM
16	I live outside the area.	8/17/2017 11:48 AM
17	We are doing fine using what we have acquired with city taxes	8/17/2017 8:29 AM
18	There is plenty of revenue from the campground.	8/16/2017 10:58 AM

Q28 Please tell us where you live.

Answered: 63 Skipped: 21



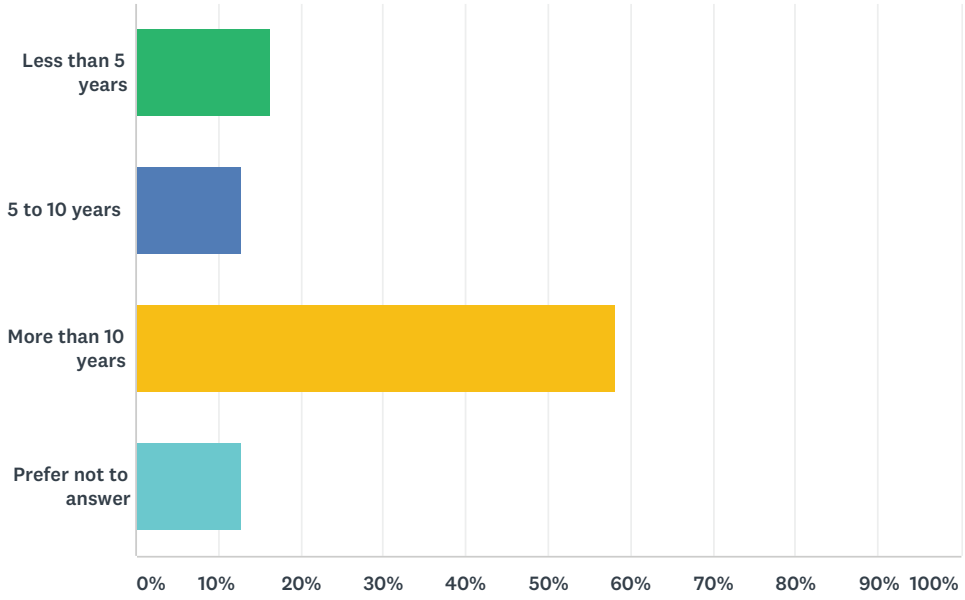
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
East Tawas	41.27%	26
Tawas City	4.76%	3
Alabaster Township	0.00%	0
Baldwin Township	7.94%	5
Tawas Township	1.59%	1
Other (please specify)	44.44%	28
TOTAL		63

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Grant Township	9/5/2017 1:06 PM
2	Bay county	9/3/2017 9:38 AM
3	Grand Blanc	8/23/2017 6:01 PM
4	Bay City	8/21/2017 8:54 PM
5	Freeland	8/21/2017 6:28 AM
6	Saginaw County	8/20/2017 7:33 PM
7	ETCP	8/19/2017 6:33 PM
8	Midland	8/18/2017 10:21 PM
9	bay city	8/18/2017 2:34 PM

10	Oakland County	8/18/2017 8:38 AM
11	WHITTEMORE	8/18/2017 8:28 AM
12	None	8/17/2017 9:49 PM
13	Rv camper 3 months, but former resident	8/17/2017 7:35 PM
14	Out of State	8/17/2017 6:49 PM
15	Davison	8/17/2017 4:23 PM
16	vienna township	8/17/2017 4:19 PM
17	Out of state	8/17/2017 3:33 PM
18	Clarkston	8/17/2017 2:59 PM
19	Standish, (spend the entire summer in East Tawas)	8/17/2017 2:52 PM
20	West Bloomfield, MI	8/17/2017 2:14 PM
21	bay city	8/17/2017 1:54 PM
22	Owosso, MI	8/17/2017 1:22 PM
23	Lapeer	8/17/2017 12:24 PM
24	bay city	8/17/2017 12:00 PM
25	Saginaw County	8/17/2017 11:51 AM
26	Linwood	8/17/2017 11:46 AM
27	Flint	8/17/2017 11:45 AM
28	Saginaw	8/17/2017 11:36 AM

Q29 How long have you lived in the community?

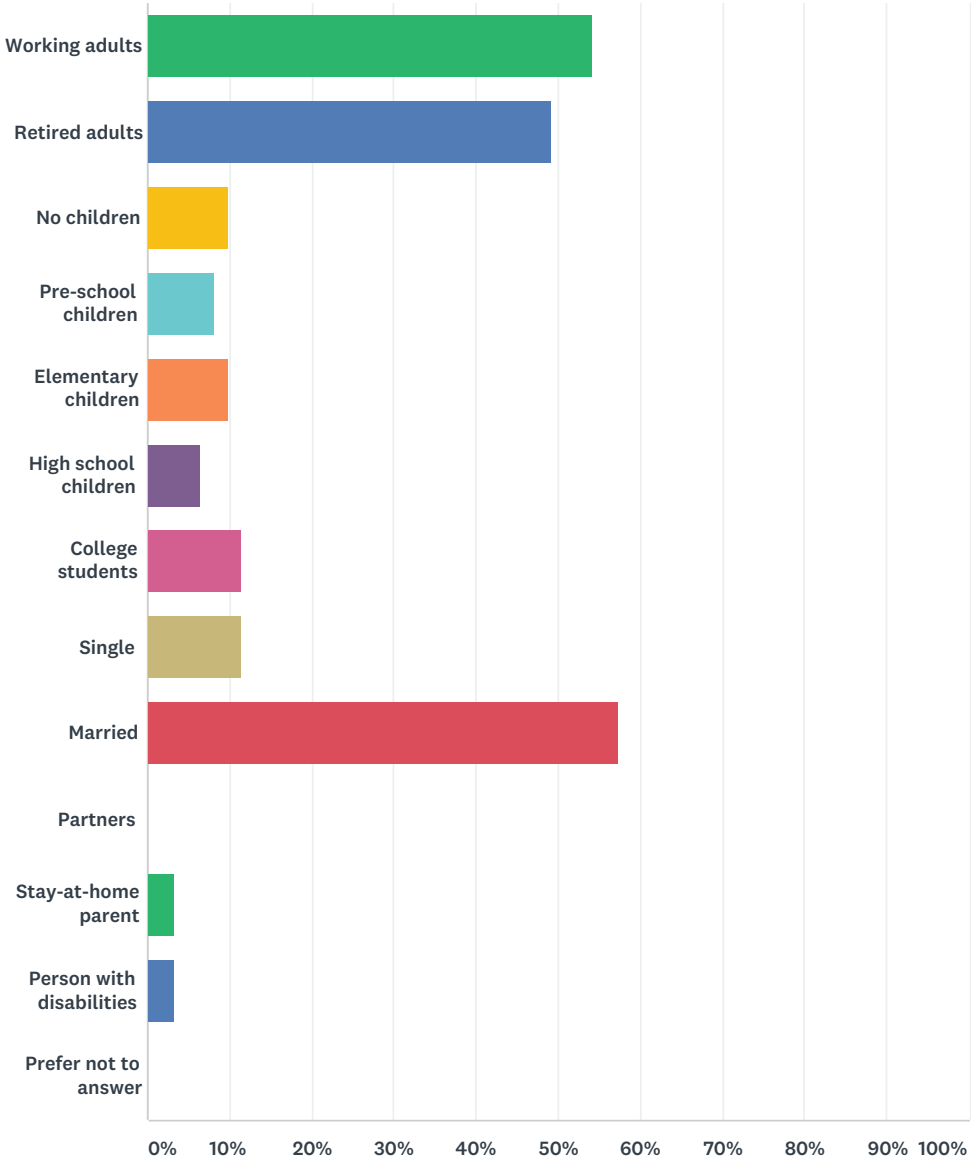
Answered: 55 Skipped: 29



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than 5 years	16.36%	9
5 to 10 years	12.73%	7
More than 10 years	58.18%	32
Prefer not to answer	12.73%	7
TOTAL		55

Q30 Please describe your household. Check all that apply.

Answered: 61 Skipped: 23

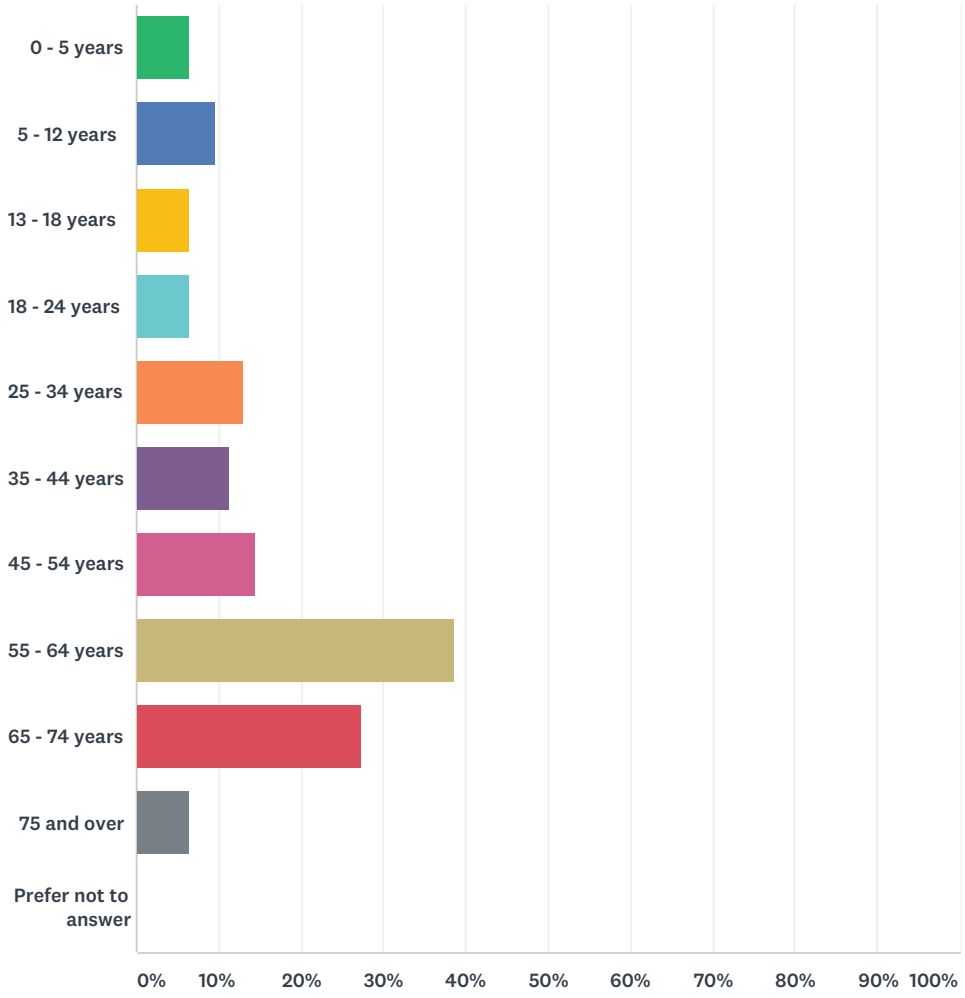


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Working adults	54.10%	33
Retired adults	49.18%	30
No children	9.84%	6
Pre-school children	8.20%	5
Elementary children	9.84%	6
High school children	6.56%	4

College students	11.48%	7
Single	11.48%	7
Married	57.38%	35
Partners	0.00%	0
Stay-at-home parent	3.28%	2
Person with disabilities	3.28%	2
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 61		

Q31 Please tell us your age. For households with multiple family members, check all that apply.

Answered: 62 Skipped: 22

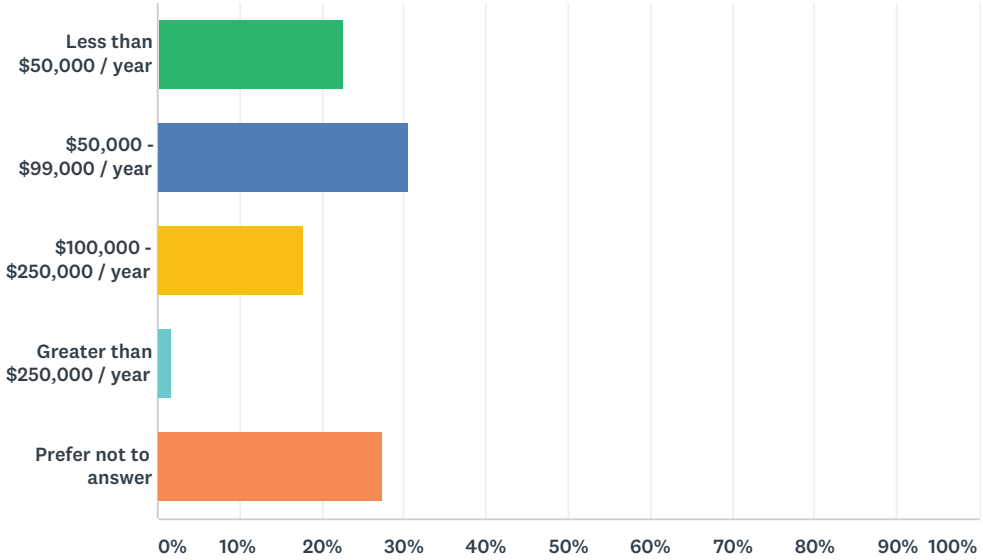


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0 - 5 years	6.45%	4
5 - 12 years	9.68%	6
13 - 18 years	6.45%	4
18 - 24 years	6.45%	4
25 - 34 years	12.90%	8
35 - 44 years	11.29%	7
45 - 54 years	14.52%	9
55 - 64 years	38.71%	24
65 - 74 years	27.42%	17

75 and over	6.45%	4
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 62		

Q32 What is your annual household income?

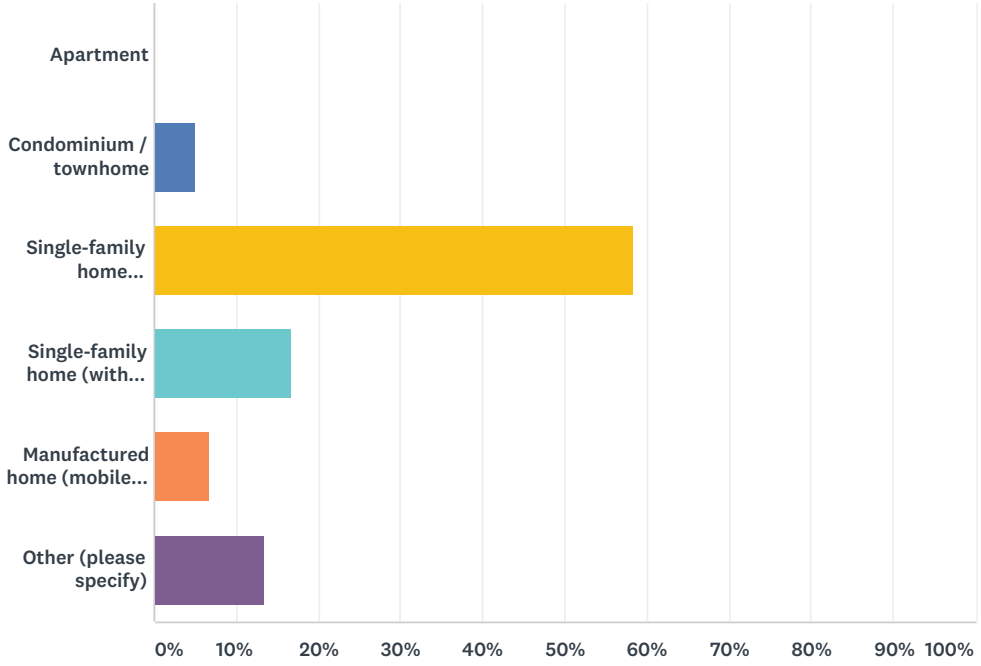
Answered: 62 Skipped: 22



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than $50,000 / year	22.58%	14
$50,000 - $99,000 / year	30.65%	19
$100,000 - $250,000 / year	17.74%	11
Greater than $250,000 / year	1.61%	1
Prefer not to answer	27.42%	17
TOTAL		62

Q33 Please describe your living situation.

Answered: 60 Skipped: 24



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Apartment	0.00%	0
Condominium / townhome	5.00%	3
Single-family home (subdivision)	58.33%	35
Single-family home (with acreage)	16.67%	10
Manufactured home (mobile home) community	6.67%	4
Other (please specify)	13.33%	8
TOTAL		60

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	5	8/23/2017 6:01 PM
2	Fifth wheel rv	8/20/2017 8:25 PM
3	Live at ETCP and work for parks in East Tawas.	8/19/2017 6:33 PM
4	rent	8/18/2017 2:14 PM
5	Rv	8/17/2017 7:35 PM
6	RV in City Park	8/17/2017 6:49 PM
7	Three domicile: Condo (MI), Single-Family Home (CA), RV (ET)	8/17/2017 2:14 PM
8	Camper	8/17/2017 12:24 PM

Q34 Please let us know about any other recreation issues that weren't covered in the survey.

Answered: 10 Skipped: 74

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	HOw does the State dock expansion to rich boat owners benefit anyone who works for a living, isn't it ironic my state taxes are helping the rich, why can't i vote against some of this foolishness ?	8/30/2017 12:44 PM
2	5th Wheel City Park	8/23/2017 6:01 PM
3	Visitors center may be a nice. Indoor play ground for long winters.	8/21/2017 12:17 AM
4	Please bring back the boat races that were held several summers back. Awesome attraction for kids and adults. Was told tawas lost money due to having to hoist the boats in and out of the eater. Charge people to make up the diffetence. Best weekend of entertainment!	8/18/2017 10:21 PM
5	Need more campsites, more parking	8/17/2017 7:35 PM
6	Please, please, please continue to bring in events in the summertime to keep the tourism alive and well. If not, property values will drift in the wrong direction. Need to continue to put on events and update playground facilities that bring in the younger generation that currently have children. Bringing in events and updating / maintaining recreational facilities will keep all businesses in the area thriving!	8/17/2017 3:17 PM
7	Small boat launch on beach for paddle boards kayaks and small sailboats	8/17/2017 2:59 PM
8	The main walking, bike riding dock has to remain! That is the whole draw for everyone that comes to the area. Visitors want to stroll the dock to fish or relax!	8/17/2017 2:52 PM
9	Cater to the baby boomers. That's where the money is !	8/17/2017 12:24 PM
10	FISH cleaning station	8/17/2017 11:36 AM