



BANGOR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Date: December 3, 2024

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: 257 W Monroe St Bangor, MI 49013

City Council meetings are conducted in accordance with Michigan's Open Meeting Act (OMA), 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 et seq. and Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Board Members
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. None
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. None
7. New Business
 - a. Purpose and Authority City Manager Weber
 - b. Board Member Introductions City Manager Weber
 - c. Appoint Chairperson City Manager Weber
 - d. Appoint Vice-Chairperson City Manager Weber
 - e. Appoint Secretary City Manager Weber
 - f. Review/Approve Bylaws City Manager Weber
 - g. City Christmas Decorations City Manager Weber
 - h. 5 Year Parks & Recreation Plan Abonmarche Representative
8. Opportunity for Public Comment* A limit of three (3) minutes per speaker is in effect.
9. Board Member Comments
10. Adjournment

*The purpose of the public comment periods are for members of the public to inform the council of their views. Traditionally, Council does not respond to comments made at the meeting; however, the Mayor or City Manager may direct staff to follow up with the speaker as appropriate. Public and council comments are not required to be recorded. "Meeting Minutes are a record of what was done, not what was said" - Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR)

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF BANGOR, MICHIGAN
BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I

Name – Purpose – Authority

1. **Name.** The name of this organization is the PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD of the City of Bangor, a Municipal Corporation.
2. **Purpose and Authority.** The purpose and authority of the organization shall be as defined and authorized by Resolution 08-04 of the City of Bangor, Van Buren County, Michigan.
3. **Mission Statement.** The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Bangor shall promote the use and enjoyment of the Parks and Green spaces of the City by the citizens, while ensuring the safety, health and welfare of all the users. The Board will preserve and protect the natural resources while keeping in mind the rights and wishes of its neighbors.

ARTICLE II

Board

1. **Board of Directors.** The Board shall consist of seven (7) members, The City Council shall appoint two (2) members, that are City Council Members and the other five (5) members from the City of Bangor, the Surrounding Townships and the Bangor Public School system. The City Manager of Bangor, or his or her designee, shall be a member of the Board but may not hold office. The Board may also have two (2) additional non voting members who are students attending Bangor Public Schools.
2. **Term.** Board Members shall have terms that do not expire. Once appointed by the City Council, Board members shall remain on the board until they a) resign b) no longer fit the criteria of a board member or c) are removed from the board.
3. **Resignation and Removal.**
 - a) Any Board member may resign by the delivery of a written resignation to the Mayor, City Manager of the City of Bangor or the Chairperson of the Board.

- b) The Board may, by the majority vote of the board members present at any regular or special meeting, recommend to the City Council of the City of Bangor the removal of any Board Member for acts of omission or commission not conducive to the best interest of the Board, or if said member fails to attend regularly (two-thirds (2/3) of the regular meetings in any fiscal year). Such recommendations, together with reasons therefore, shall be transmitted in writing to the City Council of the City of Bangor.

ARTICLE III **Officers**

1. **Number.** The officers of the Board shall be Chairperson of the Board, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary.
2. **Election, Term of Office and Qualifications.**
 - a) The officers shall be elected by a majority of the Board annually at the first meeting in July, for a one year term.
 - b) City staff members elected to officer positions may not vote on matters brought before the Board.
 - c) Officers shall not serve more than three (3) years in succession in any given office.
3. **Vacancies.** In case any office of the Board becomes vacant for any reason, a majority of the Board shall elect an officer to fill such vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term.
4. **Chairperson of the Board.** The Chairperson of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board and may cast a vote in all matters brought before the Board. The Chairperson or a Representative of the Board appointed by him or her shall be the only person to represent the Board to the City Council, press, or other public forum.
5. **Vice-Chairperson.** The Vice-Chairperson shall preside in the absence of the Chairperson.
6. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall have charge of such books, documents and papers as the Board may determine and shall attend and keep minutes of all the meetings of the members. In the absence of the Secretary, the Chairperson of the Board shall designate a member to record the minutes. Copies of all minutes shall be mailed or emailed to all members promptly after each meeting, but not less than four (4) days prior to the next regular meeting.

7. **Removal.** Officers may be removed for the same reasons as Board members may be removed and by a majority vote of the members present.

ARTICLE IV **Meetings**

1. **Regular Meetings.** The Board shall hold regular meetings at the City Hall in Bangor, Michigan, or such other places as shall be designated by the Chairperson at 4:30 p.m. on the First Tuesday of each month hereafter.
2. **Special Meetings.** A special meeting may be called by the Chairperson of the Board, or any three (3) Board members at such times and places as indicated in the call for a special meeting. Notice and an Agenda of the Special meeting shall be given to all members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting and be given in a reasonable manner under the circumstances then existing.
3. **Quorum.** A quorum shall be a simple majority of the Board members.
4. **Voting.**
 - a) All business of this Board with the exception of bylaw amendments, purchases, sales, and any legal actions taken against another persons, or entity which must be by a 2/3 majority of the entire Board and as otherwise provided by these by-laws, shall be decided by a simple majority of the members present.
 - b) In event a member abstains, the reasons shall be stated on the record.
5. **Open to Public.** All meetings of the Board shall be open to the public with the exception of business conducted in closed session under the rules of the Open Meeting Act. To go into closed session, there must be a 2/3 majority vote by roll call vote of all members serving and must meet the statutes for utilizing closed session.
6. **Business at Meetings.** The Chairperson or Secretary with consultation of the City Manager shall prepare an agenda for each meeting, and provide said agenda to members at least 72 hours prior to the meeting with the exception of special meetings.
7. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order unless these bylaws otherwise provide.

ARTICLE V
Subcommittees

1. At times it may be deemed necessary and/or appropriate for subcommittees to fall under the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Bangor's jurisdiction for direction and guidance. The City Council of Bangor, at their discretion, will determine what boards or committees fall under the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's direction.

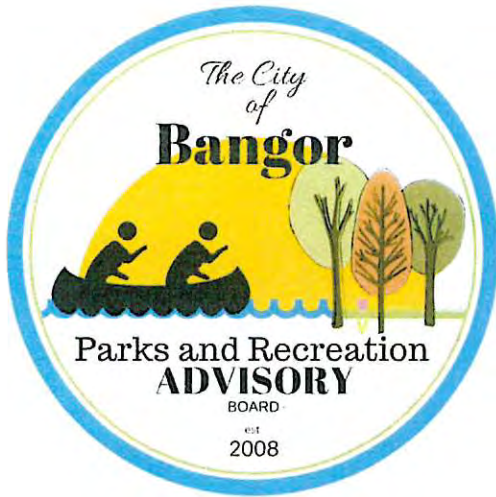
2. In such instances where a board or committee falls under the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, there will be a representative member that attends the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's meetings to report out on the activities of that group and to make recommendations and or requests but they do not have voting rights on items relative to the board they represent; however, in all other regards they are considered voting members of the Board.

ARTICLE VI
Amendments

These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by a vote of at least 2/3 of the entire Board as constituted.

All said alterations, amendments or repeals of these bylaws shall be subject to the approval of the City Council of the City of Bangor.

Amended: Regular City Council Meeting 06/03/24 by Resolution 2024-05



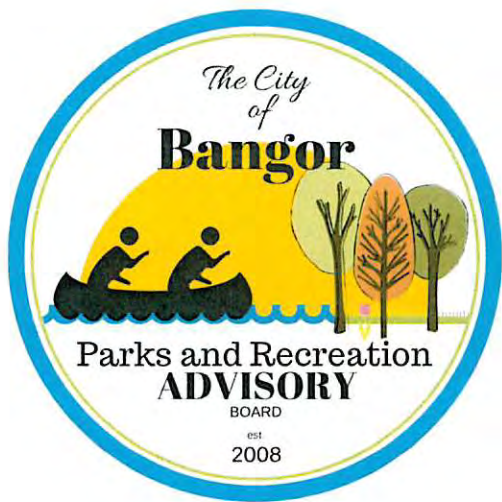
Bangor Parks and Recreation

Advisory Board

Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and



**Greenway Plan
2018 - 2023**



Bangor Parks and Recreation

Advisory Board

Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and



**Greenway Plan
2018 - 2023**

Bangor Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Two-Cam McLaren, Chair
Bangor City Hall
257 W. Monroe
Bangor, MI 49013



photo credits:
Aerial Photos and Park Maps provided by
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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	1
Purpose of Plan.....	3
Community Description.....	4
<i>Physical Characteristics</i>	4
<i>Regional Location</i>	4
<i>Topography</i>	4
<i>Soils</i>	4
<i>Water Resources</i>	5
<i>Vegetation, Wildlife and Fish</i>	5
<i>Potential Conservation Areas</i>	6
<i>Zoning/Map/Land Use</i>	6
<i>Climate</i>	8
<i>Transportation</i>	8
<i>Social Characteristics</i>	9
<i>Population</i>	9
<i>Age</i>	9
<i>Persons with Disabilities</i>	10
<i>Race and Ethnicity</i>	11
<i>Education</i>	11
<i>Economic Characteristics</i>	12
<i>Income and Poverty Status</i>	12
<i>Employment Trends</i>	12
<i>Housing</i>	13
Administrative Structure.....	14
<i>City Management</i>	14
<i>Park Support-Volunteers and Affiliates</i>	14
Recreation Inventory.....	17
<i>City Parks/Barrier Free Assessment</i>	17
<i>Open Space and Greenways</i>	32
<i>Status Report on Previous DNR Grant Assisted Projects</i>	33

Resource Inventory-Within the City & Surrounding Areas.....33
 Cultural/Historic Buildings and Property.....33
 School-Owned Facilities.....33
 Private Properties/Facilities.....34
 Regional Opportunities.....34

Description of planning process.....35
 Purpose of the Plan.....35
 Description of Meetings & Input Sessions.....35
 Goals.....36

Project List.....37

Appendix.....39

List of Tables & Maps

Table 1 Soil Types.....5
Generalized Zoning Map.....7
Table 2 Age Comparisons.....10
 Source: American Community Survey/American Fact Finder
Table 3 Disability Percentages among Michigan State Residents.....10
 Source: Cornell University 2016 U S Disability Study
Table 3 Race and Ethnicity.....11
 Source: 2016 American Community Survey/American Fact Finder
Table 5 Employment by Industry.....13
 Source:City-Data.com
Table 6 Occupancy of Housing.....13
 Source: American Fact Finder
City of Bangor Organizational Chart.....16
Aerial View of Charles Park.....18
Aerial View of Don Mora Ball Park.....20
Aerial View of Kids’ Place Park.....21
Aerial View of Kiwanis Park.....22
Aerial View of Lincoln St Overlook.....24
Aerial View of Lions Park.....25
Aerial View of Monroe Park.....26
Aerial View of Northside Park.....28
Aerial View of Veteran’s Memorial Park.....29
Roadside Park/Boat Launch/Mill Pond.....30
Aerial View of All Parks.....31

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge all the individual and group efforts that made this vision possible. Without all of their participation, cooperation and hard work, none of this would have been.

Bangor Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Two-Cam McLaren, Chair
Lisa Perry, Co-Chair
Rich Greene, Board Member
Dan Fry, City Council Representative
Steve Lowder, City Council Representative
Regina Hoover, City Manager
Helene Rivers, Board Member
Jennie Repotski, Board Member
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Dan Fry, Council Member
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PURPOSE OF PLAN

The Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan serves a number of purposes; it establishes the wants and needs of the community for public use of, and access to the open spaces, parks and greenways; it guides the local decision making regarding investments in the parks, green spaces and recreational opportunities. A committed recreational plan establishes investments in the vitality of the overall health and well-being of the Community. A completed and comprehensive Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan also establishes five-year eligibility to obtain recreational, parks and greenway grants that are administrated through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The City of Bangor Parks and Recreational Advisory Board has been privileged to re-assess, develop and write the Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan in an effort to:

- Update the City of Bangor's Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan of 2008-2013.
- Assess the recreation facilities and programs of the City and surrounding area including barrier-free compliance.
- Determine a course of action for the continuing development and re-development of the Black River and Maple Creek corridors within the City with the MDNR, MDEQ and the Black River Watershed Group.
- Work with other Community Boards and Action Groups to develop a comprehensive "Trail Town" plan to create, build upon and promote green spaces, parks, pathways and watersheds to our Community and to "in" and "out" of State Tourists.
- Establish a course of action for the City Council for the next five years in regards to the community's parks, recreation, open space and greenways that will promote civic engagement and recreational tourism.
- Explore the possibility of attracting and establishing a "Friends of the Parks" group that would become a non-profit that could work with our Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Together they could engage public interaction. The "Friends" group would work to acquire grants that could be used to enhance our Parks millage dollars.
- Solicit input from the public and Bangor Public Schools regarding the recreation in the City of Bangor and the use of our community parks, recreation, open space, and greenways and recreational tourism.
- Prioritize the community parks, recreation, open space and greenways improvements and acquisitions that will promote civic engagement and recreational tourism and identify potential funding resources.

After a year long series of public meetings, the Bangor Parks and Recreation Advisory Board completed the 2018 -2023 Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan. The result is a five-year plan that reflects the desires of the Community at large.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Physical Characteristics

Regional Location

The City of Bangor (“Train City USA”) is located in the heart of apple country in north central Van Buren County in Southwest Michigan and is surrounded by Bangor, Arlington, Geneva, and Columbia townships. Although Bangor is a rural agricultural community, it is transected by highway M-43 which provides transportation connections with South Haven (and Lake Michigan) to the west and Kalamazoo to the east. Interstate 94, a major east-west highway, can be accessed approximately eight miles south of the City. This highway provides the principle route to and from Chicago, Illinois and Detroit, Michigan with an approximate two hour drive to either metropolitan area. Other mid-size cities such as Grand Rapids, Michigan, Kalamazoo, Michigan, and South Bend, Indiana can be reached in approximately one hour or less via other easily accessible roadways.

Topography

Van Buren County is characterized by relatively flat terrain with some gently rolling hills. The City of Bangor is primarily flat with some slightly sloping areas, particularly near bodies of water.

Soils

As glaciers advanced southward from Canada and covered Van Buren County, they had a major impact on the terrain creating soil types varying widely in texture, permeability, stability, composition and other characteristics. The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service identifies the soils in Bangor as part of the Capac-Riddles-Selfridge association. This association is described as nearly level to hilly, somewhat poorly drained and well drained, loamy and sandy soils on till plains, moraines and lake plains.

The five predominant soil types found in the City are described in the following table (It should be noted that these descriptions are generalizations of the soil in Bangor to provide a broad understanding of the soil conditions; site specific soil surveys are recommended for individual project needs.)

Name	General Characteristics
Thetford Loamy Sand	Nearly level with moderately rapid permeability. Available water capacity is low. Well suited for woodlands.
Selfridge Loamy Sand	Somewhat poorly drained with a moderate water capacity. Sub layer of loamy sand is intermixed with heavy clay.
Metea Loamy Fine Sand	Moderately undulating, well-drained soil. This soil is very susceptible to drought.
Riddles Sandy Loam	Slightly undulating soil with a moderate permeability and high water capacity. Subsoil is intermixed with clay.
Brems Complex	Soil has rapid permeability with a low water capacity. Soil covered heavily by streets parking lots and buildings.

Table #1 Soil Types

Water Resources

The City of Bangor has access to a number of different water resources. Van Buren County has 133 inland lakes (43 are within ten miles of Bangor City) and approximately 256 miles of rivers and streams. These water resources are not only havens for wildlife but provide valuable recreational resources as well. Some of the water resources in or near Bangor include:

- **Maple Creek** Maple Creek, located on the western edge of the City, joins the Black River in northwest corner of the city.
- **The Black River and Mill Pond** South Branch of the Black River runs through the northern edge of the City where it was formerly impounded; resulting in the formation of a Mill Pond. As a popular fishing spot, especially when salmon and steelhead are spawning, and an area of natural beauty, this valuable water resource could be an important focal point for recreation in Bangor.
- **Van Aucken Lake** This large inland lake, approximately five miles southwest of Bangor, provides public access and is another popular spot for boating and fishing.
- **Saddle Lake** Located northeast of Bangor, this lake is a popular spot to view wildlife.
- **Wetlands** There are several wetland areas in and around Bangor playing a key role in the environmental quality and water protection by aiding flood prevention and supplying key habitat areas for wildlife.

Vegetation, Wildlife and Fish

In addition to the water resources, there are a number of beautiful natural resources in and around the city. Forested areas have a large variety of hardwood and softwood trees including Beech, Ash, Maple, Oak, Hickory, Red and White Pines. Vegetation along the stream banks of

the Black River in Lion's Park includes: Common buttonbush, Viburnum trilobum, Cardinal flower and Blue flag iris.

Wildlife and fish in the region are as equally diverse as the vegetation. White-tailed deer and wild turkeys are frequently seen near Bangor and are popular game for hunters. The area is also a major migratory route for a large variety of songbirds and waterfowl making it a popular destination for bird watchers. The Black River is a popular area for sport fisherman catching the steelhead and salmon coming up the river from Lake Michigan to spawn. Other lakes in the area are also excellent fishing spots for bass, bluegill and northern pike. The lakes and rivers are stocked by the Wolf Lake fish hatchery part of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The fish hatchery is located 18 miles east of the City.

Potential Conservation Areas

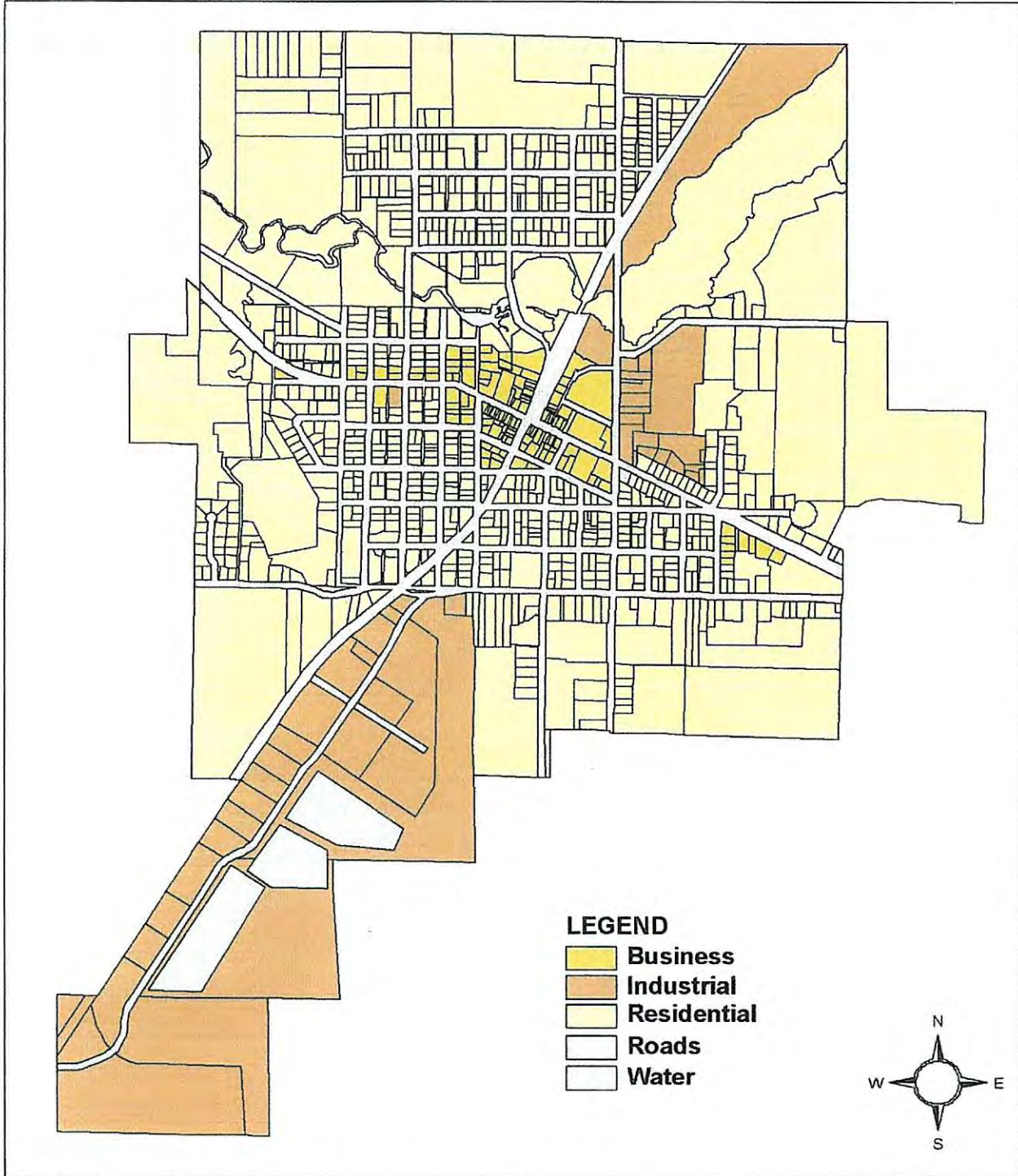
Natural resource conservation is a fundamental component of a community's long-term environmental and economic health. Natural resource areas perform important natural functions such as water filtration and they provide recreational opportunities and wildlife habitat that enhance the overall vitality of a community. Potential Conservation Areas are defined as places on the landscape dominated by native vegetation that have various levels of potential for harboring high quality natural areas and unique natural features. In addition, these areas may provide critical ecological services such as maintaining water quality and quantity, soil development and stabilization, pollination of cropland, wildlife travel corridors, stopover sites for migratory birds, sources of genetic diversity and floodwater retention. Potential Conservation Areas could provide the necessary connectivity to create a viable green infrastructure. A study completed in 2007 by Michigan Natural Features Inventory for the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (which included Van Buren County), identified Potential Conservation Areas in the City of Bangor. The South Branch of the Black River winds through the City of Bangor. The city owns significant frontage on the river which is a Conservation Area. The river is spawning grounds for several commercial fish such as lake trout and salmon.

Zoning/Land Use

The City of Bangor's location as well as its natural features have contributed greatly to the way in which it has evolved and been developed. The residential sections of town are located in areas that can take advantage of the natural beauty of rivers and streams in the area while the business districts and industrial zones are more strategically positioned on or near the major transportation routes in the City. (See map on page 7)

Generalized Zoning Map

City of Bangor



Base Map Source: Van Buren County Planning and Land Management

Map Prepared By:
Southwestern Michigan Commission
barker@swmicomm.org
January 2002

Residential

The main residential districts are located in two areas of the City; the area surrounding former Mill Pond and the area adjacent to, and South of, M-43. The homes in these neighborhoods are generally older than the homes in other parts of the City. Although there are several single-family homes, this area is zoned multi-family residential. The areas zoned single-family residential are located in many areas throughout the community and are generally positioned on the outer portions of the City to accommodate future growth.

Industrial

The industrial sections are located along the Black River to the north, near the intersection of M-43 and Center Street, and along the railroad to the south. These areas were developed because of their convenient access to the main transportation features in the City such as the railroad and M-43, and the proximity to water which is used in many industrial processes.

Business

The business district is located in the center of the City along M-43. This area is comprised of a large variety of shops and service centers to meet the needs of the Bangor community. Business owners developed this area along the main road through town for ease of both the patrons visiting the shops and delivery of goods.

Floodplains

Low-lying areas near the Black River or Maple Creek may be at the risk of flooding.

Climate

Lake Michigan (located approximately 10 miles to the west) has a moderating effect on the prevailing westerly winds that influence Bangor's climate. The average temperature is 26 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter with an average daily minimum temperature of 18 degrees Fahrenheit. In the summer, the average temperature is 69 degrees Fahrenheit and the average daily maximum temperature is 81 degrees Fahrenheit. The annual precipitation is 38 inches with 56 percent falling between April and September. The average seasonal snowfall is 91 inches, with an average of 64 days that have at least 1 inch or more of snow above ground. The growing season is approximately 180 days long.

Transportation

Understanding available transportation options is important to recreation planning as it impacts the ability of a community to attract visitors to local venues and the ability of area residents to access recreational opportunities in other areas. Bangor is within close proximity to major transportation routes providing access to large urban areas. M-43 is the primary road transecting Bangor providing a route east to Kalamazoo and west to South Haven. In 2000, M-43 had a 24-hour annual average traffic count of 7,200 vehicles (Michigan Department of Transportation).

Similar to many roads in the area, there is a noticeable increase in traffic on M-43 during the summer months. Interstate 94, which connects the major metropolitan centers, Detroit (150 east) and Chicago (125 miles southwest) can be accessed eight miles south of Bangor. Interstate 196 is accessible ten miles west of Bangor providing access north to Holland and Grand Rapids and south to St. Joseph and Benton Harbor.

Rail service is a major mode of travel for people and products to and from the Bangor area. Amtrak stops at the Bangor Depot twice daily providing passenger service either north along the Lake Michigan shoreline and then east to Grand Rapids or southwest to Chicago.

Air travel is most easily accessed at the Kalamazoo International Airport. Other options include airports in South Bend, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Chicago, and Detroit, all within 150 miles of Bangor. Benton Harbor and South Haven have airports for non-commercial use.

Social Characteristics

Population

From 1960 to 1990 the City of Bangor experienced over 30 years of steady population decline before leveling off and showing a slight increase in the 2000 census (+0.6%). In 2010 census the population of Bangor has decreased slightly again.

Although the city has seen very little growth, the areas surrounding Bangor have grown substantially. This “ex-urbanization” (meaning the primary growth has been occurring outside the city limits) has become common not only in Michigan but in the nation as well. As the City considers recreation facilities and programs, it will be important to think about the residents of the surrounding areas in terms of their interest, use and support of the parks and other recreation programs.

The 2016 American Fact Finder (U S Census Bureau) sets the population numbers at approximately 2027. If this number is accurate, the city will have experienced a slight growth in population. The 2010 census produced a population number of 1885. Results of the upcoming census will provide more accurate figures.

Age

Providing recreational opportunities for all segments of the population is an important aspect of a well-designed plan. The 35-59 year old age cohort represents the largest segment of the population in Bangor (30%) according to the 2010 census. The population of the surrounding communities is distributed similarly indicating that the area is likely to follow the national forecast of increased number of “Baby Boomers” over the next decade. It is notable that the 5-19 year old cohort is a sizable group (21%) in Bangor and comprises a similar percentage in the surrounding communities as well. Bangor has seen a larger increase (12%) in retirees that live in the City.

The population of the surrounding communities are distributed in similar manners (see chart below) indicating that the area is likely to follow National forecasts of an increased number of retired “Baby Boomers” over the next decade. These youths play an important role in demographic consideration of the use of the public park system. The youngest cohort (under 5 years of age) is only represented by a five year span and thus appears as the smallest segment of the population. This cohort however, is also important because it’s indicative of the number of families who use the public parks and who indicated, through surveys and public participation, their interest in family-oriented activities.

Age Cohort	City of Bangor	Arlington Township	Columbia Township	Geneva Township	Bangor Township
< 5 yrs	190	118	168	207	113
5-19 yrs	417	508	506	761	392
20-34 yrs	471	267	331	582	333
35-59 yrs	590	699	979	1176	891
>60 yrs	359	502	562	772	449

Table #2 Age Comparisons

Persons with Disabilities

The city of Bangor has historically shown its commitment to creating barrier-free environments in its parks and recreational facilities through previously completed projects as well as current and future plans. One of the activities the Steering Committee has done is a barrier free assessment of the City’s Parks. The majority of the parks have at least some barrier-free areas and most of the parks have current projects in the Action Plan that involve improving accessibility.

Age	Percent of Total Michigan Population
Ages 4 and Under	.9
5-15 yrs	6
16-20 yrs	7.8
21-64 yrs	13.1
65-74 yrs	24.7
> 75 yrs	49.1

Table #3 Disability Status of the Civilian Non-Institutional Population

Race and Ethnicity

A majority of the population in the City of Bangor as well as in the surrounding townships identified themselves as White alone (72.5%) or in combination with one or more races. Those that identify as Hispanic or Latino make up the second largest percentage (22.1%). The African-American Community make up the third largest segment of the population in the City and surrounding area (12.8%).

City of Bangor

(Note: American Indian and Other race alone make up less than 0.2% of the population identified in the City of Bangor).

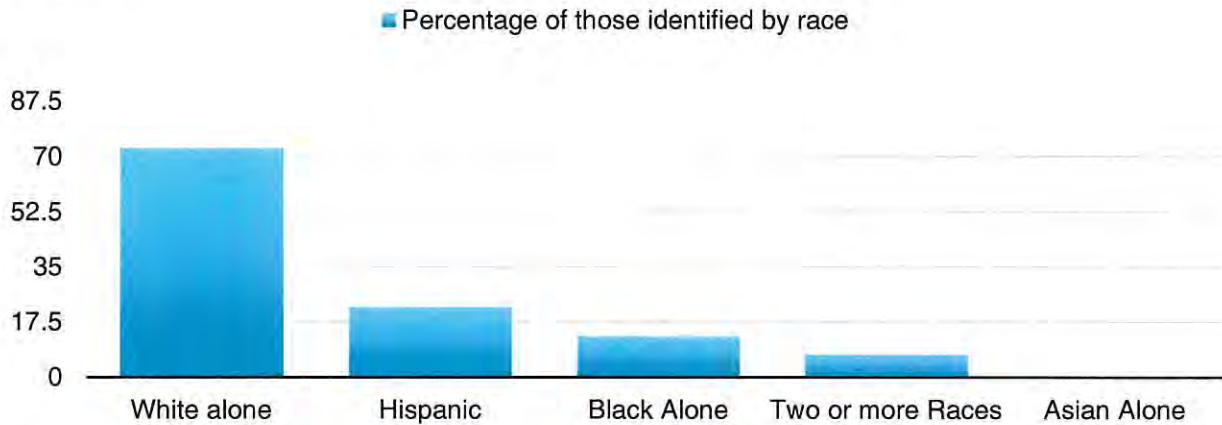


Table #4 Race and Ethnicity

Education

71.8% of the children enrolled in the Bangor Public School System are currently considered economically disadvantaged by the State of Michigan.

The population of residents age 25 or over that have identified as having an education:

- High School or Higher – 60.2%
- Associate or Bachelor’s Degree – 7.2%
- Master’s Degree – 1.8%
- Less than High School-21.5% (Michigan average is 9.6%)

(Note: 2016 Education Percentages obtained from city-data.com)

Economic Characteristics

Income and Poverty Status

Although the City of Bangor had an increase in Median Household income per capita from 1999 to 2010 (according to the 2010 census facts), The residents still have lower income levels than most residents in that area. In 2016 Van Buren had a per capita income of \$47,141 average. City of Bangor Per Capita income was \$36,302. (Source: American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates) The state average at that time was \$52,492 which provides an awareness of the economic position of the residents.

In 1990, the poverty status was determined for 1,881 people living in the City of Bangor, that 71% of this group was determined to be above the poverty level, while almost one-third of the population was determined to be poverty level. In 2016, the population of the City of Bangor is 2,027 and 71.8% of the children enrolled in the Bangor Public School System are currently considered economically disadvantaged by the State of Michigan. According to the American Survey 5 year estimates for 2012-2016 for the City of Bangor, the number below poverty level is 36.7%. The estimate for those at or above poverty level is 73.5%.

Employment

Employment in City of Bangor continues to be diverse and the dominant sector falls to Manufacturing which employs 30% of the population.

Unemployment

The City of Bangor is a unique and comfortable place to live and raise a family. However, there has not always been a large number of job opportunities nearby which is one reason that Bangor has traditionally had a slightly higher average unemployment rate than the State of Michigan unemployment median. Bangor recognizes the importance of a Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan as a tool that will assist in designing amenities that will increase the quality of life for its residents and provide resources for tourism revenue. The data provided from the 2000 Census placed the unemployment in Bangor at 5.6%. The data provided at City-Data.com places 2015 numbers at 4.6% suggesting the trend is improving. City-Data.com 2015 statistics for the State of Michigan set 4.9% as the state average unemployment. This would mean that for the first time in quite a while, we are a little more employed than the state average.

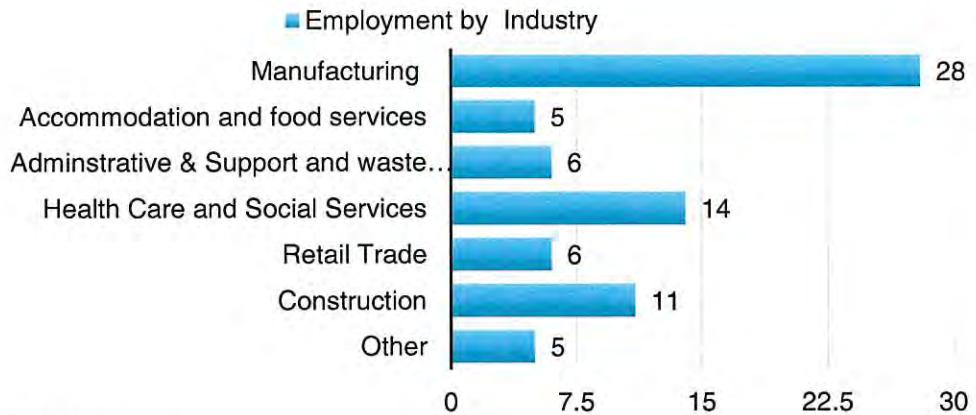


Table #5 Employment by Industry

Housing

In the 2000 census there was 804 housing units available in the City of Bangor, with an occupancy rate of 89.8 percent.

In 2016 the number of housing units has remained at 804. Of those, 722 are occupied and 82 are vacant. Of the occupied houses 465 (58%) are owner occupied and 257(32%) are rentals. These are numbers provided by the American Fact Finder)



Table #6 Occupancy of Housing

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

City Management

The City of Bangor is organized under a Council-Manager form of government and provides a full range of services including general government activities. Public safety, public works and recreation are some of the activities. The City Council sets policy and directs the staff to take action in support of those policies. The City Council consists of a Mayor, a Mayor Pro-tem, and five council members. The City Manager is the direct link between the Council and the City's operations and is responsible for the day to day administration of the City. In addition to the manager, the City employs a Clerk and Treasurer.

The City parks are maintained by the City's Department of Public Works (DPW). The DPW has three full-time and three part-time employees. Park maintenance and recreation received approximately \$30,000.00 of the City's \$1,000,000.00 general fund budget in the fiscal year of 2016-2017. Of this about \$2,000.00 was for capital improvement projects/equipment. The major expense is mowing, utilities, general maintenance and labor. The residents voted in favor of a .35 mil additional levy to fund future park improvements. The levy will bring in approximately \$9,000.00 a year. The city's first collection of this revenue was with the 2017 Winter tax bill.

Currently, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (with no power to take action on its own authority) advises the City Council on the parks portion of the budget and makes recommendation on infrastructure improvements to the parks, as well as recreational activities.

Park Support – Volunteers and Affiliates

The Bangor Downtown Development Authority (DDA), created in 1979 is a committee that exists in conjunction with the city government. The purpose of the DDA is to correct and prevent deterioration in the business districts, to encourage historic preservation, to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interest in real and personal property and to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans in the district. It is the opinion of the DDA that recreation activities have the potential to make Bangor a 'drive to' instead of a 'drive through' community. The DDA has an annual budget of about \$110,000 of which a portion may be used to support recreation in the downtown area.

The Bangor Arts Council was founded by the City Charter. The mission of the Bangor Arts Council is to promote mutual understanding and respect among all citizens for the arts. Arts Council activities are not funded by the city's general fund budget. The Bangor Arts Council's \$5,000 budget is supported entirely by fundraisers and donations. An example of a past activity funded by the Bangor Arts Council was 'Water Color in Park.' This was a basic water color class, which was open to any and all ages of the public. A general class on how to paint with watercolors was taught and a small project was accomplished. This program was held in a public park. The Bangor Arts Council also partially funded a "Movies in the Park after Dark," program. This program was collaboratively created by the Bangor Parks and Recreational Advisory Board and the Bangor Arts Council. The "Movies in the Park after Dark," program was designed to encourage the public to come out to support the arts and utilize and explore the public green

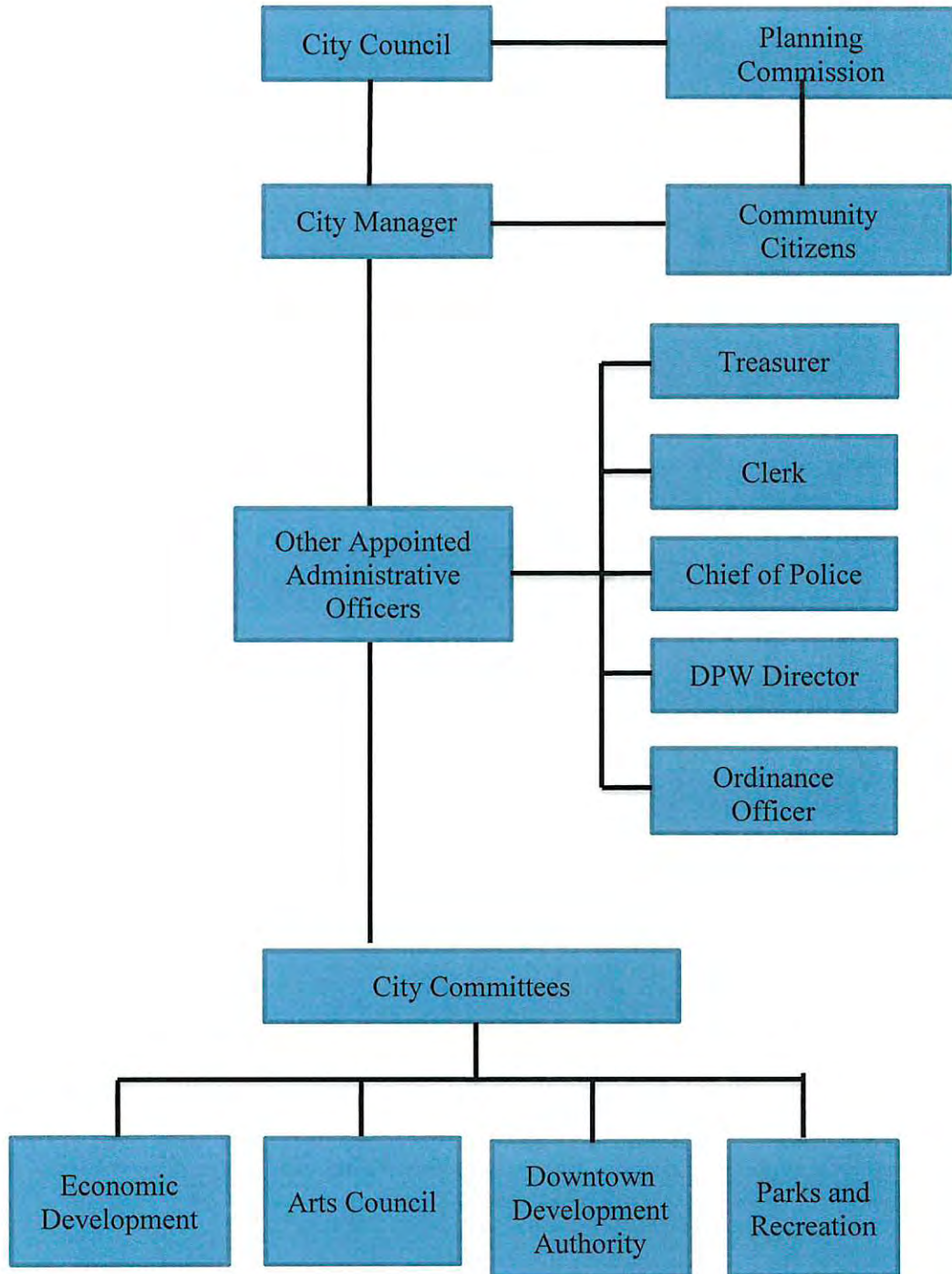
spaces by watching movies endorsed by the BAC in various public park locations around the City of Bangor. This program is designed to run all year, but is a seasonal project for promoting the Public Park system from April to October (weather permitting). The rest of the year the Community Education Center hosts the event.

The Bangor Public Schools offers various recreational opportunities in the form of organized sports, for example, Boys and Girls Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Baseball, etc. Funding for these programs in the Athletic Program is included in the school district's operational budget.

The Lions International - Lions Club of Bangor Michigan, has sponsored and provided financial support to fund cosmetic initiatives and repairs of Lions Park. Lions Park is a 5 acre park located along the banks of the Black River. This park is the trailhead for the South Haven Heritage Water Trail, a 20.9-mile paddling route to Lake Michigan. The Lions Club of Bangor assisted with the cost of repairs for the damaged Community Shelter after the tornado that occurred on August 20, 2016. Lions Club of Bangor Michigan has also provided volunteer support for festivals that take place within Lions Park.



City of Bangor Organizational Chart



RECREATION INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Members of the Parks and Recreation Committee volunteered to complete a standardized form assessing the barrier free accessibility and the overall condition of each of the parks. The assessment results show that most the park facilities meet at least some of the accessibility standards. Members also made notes regarding the current amenities and possible future improvements or additions.

The Barrier-Free status of the parks is ranked as follows:

- 1) None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2) Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3) Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4) The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5) The entire park was developed/renovated using principals of universal design

City Parks

1. Bangor/South Haven Heritage Trail

The Bangor/South Haven Heritage Trail is a canoe and kayak trail encompassing 20.9 miles of the south branch of the Black River. The Black River unites both cities in historic nature as well as commerce; the Black River is also host to trout and salmon that bring sportsman and anglers of all types into the area.

The Bangor South Haven Heritage Water Trail Association, a volunteer group, has been tasked by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to maintain a 21 mile canoe and kayak trail.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2


2. Charles Park

This mini-park, located on the corner of C.R. 681 and East Monroe (M43), is best known for its historic 1925 C&O Caboose. The City's logo is displayed on one side and a "Thank you for Visiting" message is on the other side. Painted by a local artist, this is a focal point for traffic headed east or west on M43. This location has hosted the Bangor Farmers Market, a seasonal event, in the past. Future of the market is not certain as attendance and vendors have decreased in recent years. Possible new locations for the market have been discussed. Charles Park contains a memorial to honor the Lincoln Post No. 19 Department of Michigan's Grand Army of the Republic, whose 200 members fought for the Union and to the Lincoln Woman's Relief Corp No. 89 for 40 years of dedicated service "to keep burning the fires of Patriotism and loyalty in the Community."

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2



Charles Park

 City of Bangor Park



3. Don Mora Ball Park

This 4.5 open acre neighborhood park, at the corner of Pine and Center Street, contains a Community Concession Stand with handicapped accessible bathrooms for both genders, picnic tables, stadium lighting, bleachers, soccer goals, and a baseball diamond - complete with fenced in area equipped with benches for team participants. Limited Public Parking is available with direct access to other public parking areas.

Bleachers need to be replaced and Concession Stand needs to be upgraded.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2

4. Kids' Place Park

Kids' Place Park is a mini-park located at the corner of Charles Street and Maple Street. This park has playground equipment and a wheelchair accessible swing. This park is in need of major updating for safety and accessibility. There are no public parking areas; forcing parents to park on the side of the grass to access the park with their children. There is no barrier fence to contain younger children.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 3

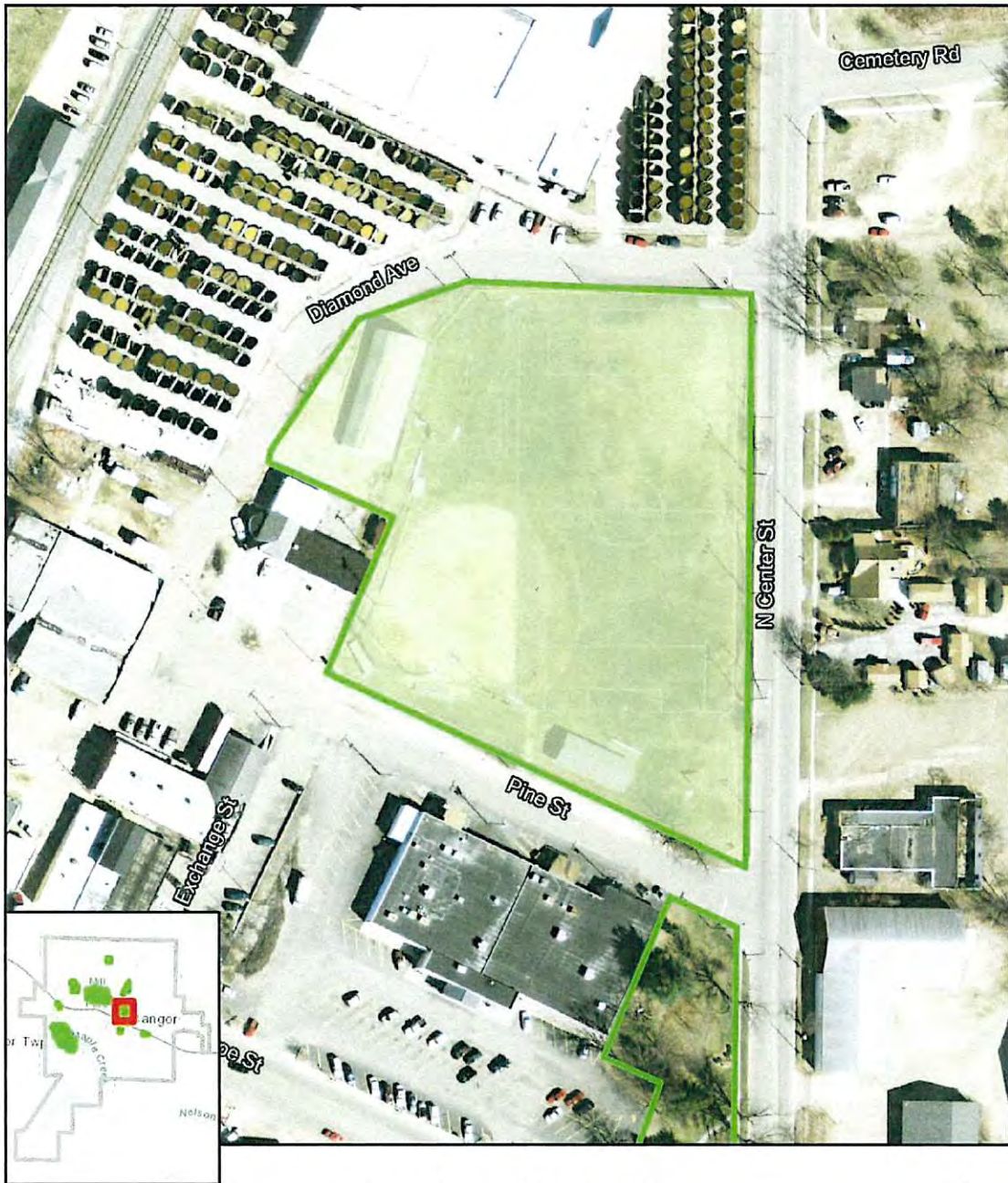
5. Kiwanis Park

A 5.5 acre neighborhood park, located in the southwest portion of the City. Maple Creek, which runs into the Black River, winds through this park. Salmon and Trout can be viewed making their spring and fall spawns. A nature trail along Maple Creek connects Kiwanis to the Veterans Park to the north along M43.


There is access to the park from the east and west side; the public has to ask to have the west side opened.

Amenities, are worn and are in need of updating or replacing, this includes; the swings, and dated toddler climbing equipment. There is a need for new picnic tables and central grill which is in disrepair. There is a sheltered picnic area that needs minor repairs to the structural supports. The east side entrance bridge for pedestrian traffic is in need of structural repair; wood rot has deteriorated the plank supports.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2




Don Mora Ball Park

 City of Bangor Park






Kids' Place

 City of Bangor Park





Kiwanis Park

 City of Bangor Park



6. Lincoln Street Overlook

This 4 acre mini-park is located on the south bank of the Black River, at the corner of Black River Road and Lincoln Avenue. A nature trail connects the park to Lions Park. This mini-park is in need of redevelopment; at one time this park offered overnight camping stations. The park currently has returned to meadows, with beautiful trees, some over 100 years old.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 1

7. Lions Park

This 5 acre neighborhood park is located along the banks of the Black River, north west of the heart of the City. This park is the trailhead for Bangor to the South Haven Heritage Water Trail, a 20.9 mile paddling route on the South Branch of the Black River. This park is a very popular fishing site, especially during the salmon and steelhead runs. A walking bridge spans the river and nature trail traverses the north bank.

Amenities include 4 basketball hoops, a picnic shelter and tables, modern restrooms that are handicapped accessible, a slide and swings.

Some amenities are worn and are in need of repair or replacement - the picnic tables are in need of repair, the “day tripper” kiosk is in need of minor repair to the public announcement and information boards. The pedestrian bridge over the Black River adjacent to the public road on the west side of the park (the Hamilton Avenue entrance), is closed to the public; the pedestrian bridge is inoperable at this time and is in need of major repair or complete reconstruction.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 3



7. Monroe Park

This mini-park is located on the eastern edge of the City, and is the formal “Gateway to the Lake” park that greets all the visitors westbound on M43. There are a couple of Public Service Announcement Boards that are in need of repair, replacing or updating; one sign “Welcomes” visitors and is weathered and dated and the other is a Smokey the Bear PSA that is also visibly weathered and damaged. The park’s landscaping could use attention as well.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2





Lincoln Street Overlook

-  City of Bangor Park
-  Black River Heritage Trail






Lions Park

-  City of Bangor Park
-  Black River Heritage Trail





Monroe Park

 City of Bangor Park



8. North Street Playground (North Side Playground)

This mini-park, is located on the corner of Second Street and North Street. This park offers a swing set and a slide for children and a Community Garden plot. The Community Garden plot is open for public use. This park could use development to encourage more Community activity.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 2

9. Veteran's Memorial Park

This tribute to our local and to our Nation's Veterans is located on Lafler Street and M43; highly visible to traffic from the east or west. There is a nature trail that connects to Kiwanis Park that follows Maple Creek. Viewing Trout and Salmon runs during the spring and fall are a highlight of this park's nature trail. There are two cement benches and a Veterans Memorial dedicated to those that served this Nation. There is an old slaughter house on this site as well that the City will seek to obtain "historic" titled for. The Slaughter house is in need of repairs if it is to be made open and accessible to the public at this time. The nature trail is also in need of grooming to cut back seasonal growth. There is a limited number of public parking sites available at this time. Development of the old Waite slaughter house area could vastly improve and create public parking and access to this beautiful park.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating: 4


10 & 11. Roadside Park/Boat Launch (Mill Pond Park & North Bud Park)

This park facilitated by a 1987 DNR grant contains a nature trail, steps, landscaping, ramps, parking lot, driveway and boat ramp. It is located on the west and east side of Center Street south of the tracks. It is used for walking, viewing nature and fishing. Thanks to a small grant from Modern Woodmen Insurance Company and labor from several volunteers, two benches were installed on the Mill Pond Park side in the fall of 2017.

Barrier Free Assessment Rating 3




Northside Playground

 City of Bangor Park







Veteran's Memorial Park

 City of Bangor Park







Roadside Park/Boat Launch

-  City of Bangor Park
-  Black River Heritage Trail





Label	Park Name
A	Kiwanis Park
B	Lions Park
C	Don Mora Ball Park
D	Monroe Park
E	Charles Park
F	Veteran's Memorial Park
G	Lincoln Street Overlook
H	Northside Playground
I	Kids' Place
J	Roadside Park/Boat Launch

 Bangor Parks
 Black River Heritage Trail



Open Space and Greenways

A green infrastructure plan provides a comprehensive method to connect open spaces, parks, waterways, neighborhoods, and business districts in ways that protect and preserve habitats and features while providing the greatest enjoyment possible for residents. Green infrastructure planning can be coordinated with other planning efforts for roads, bike trails, water, electricity and other essential community support systems. Integrated planning and design can connect the City and surrounding areas in an effective, economic and sustainable network.

There are several undeveloped and natural areas of varying sizes throughout the City. These areas can provide natural habitats for wildlife and provide enjoyable scenic views for humans. Some of these areas are owned by the City, the school district, or private residents. In addition to the parks, and other developed recreational venues, these open spaces provide valuable links to the green infrastructure. It is desirable to protect and preserve these green spaces.

The City is also adding to the attractive natural landscape features recognized as an important element of tourism by considering methods of incorporating green infrastructure and proactive green space planning and development throughout the community. The City of Bangor is developing and applying existing “Trail Town” tourist methodologies, that are being embraced by the State of Michigan, as a part of this planning.



STATUS REPORT ON PREVIOUS DNR GRANT ASSISTED PROJECTS

The City of Bangor has received several DNR Grants in the past. They are listed below. These grants came from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (26).

Project #	Park	Year	Type	Status
TF86-146	Bangor Park	1986	Acquisition	Closed
26-01465	Mill Pond	1987	Development	Closed
TF04-170	Lions	2004	Development	Closed
TF08-102	Veteran's/Kiwanis	2008	Acquisition	Closed

RESOURCE INVENTORY

Cultural/Historic Buildings and Property

The following buildings and properties are possible cultural and/or historic sites to be considered as recreational resources.

- Bangor City Hall
- Bangor Train Depot and Railroad Station
- Bangor Elevator
- Bangor Dam/Mill Pond
- Sturgis Bank & Trust (West Michigan Savings Bank)
- Bangor Library and Police Station
- Freestone Pickle Company
- Ed Cable House
- Slaughter House
- Historic and Centennial Homes

School-Owned Facilities

The Bangor schools provide approximately thirty acres of recreational space and facilities. School facilities include an athletic complex at the junior and senior high school consisting of softball diamonds, one large baseball diamond, several large playing fields, several tennis courts, a football stadium and a rubberized track. South Walnut school's facilities include play equipment and a large playing field, while Bangor Community Education (former primary school) has various pieces of playground equipment that need to be updated, replaced or repaired. All these are open to the public for community recreation when not in use by the schools.

Private Properties/Facilities

A local church in the city partners with the Senior Services of Van Buren County in order to host luncheons and activities all year long.

Alley Kats Dance Studio offers children and adults a chance to learn choreographed dance moves.

All Aboard Daycare learning facility is a new addition to the Bangor Community Education Center.

Great Mead Hall, a Mead Brewing Company is renovating a locally significant building in the downtown district.

Odd Fellows Hall, a beautiful rental hall is located on the second floor in the newly renovated Historic Society Building.

Cognito Brewing, has purchased the historic Bangor Elevator located on M43. The Bangor Elevator is on the National Historic Registry.

Railroad Depot is a Tourist attraction located in the heart of the City. Amtrak from Chicago to Grand Rapids runs twice daily, opening access to downtown Bangor and the surrounding area to tourism. The Railroad Depot is home to the Railroad Cafe and has several murals throughout the building that bring in local “art” tourists to view.

Regional Opportunities

City of South Haven – The City of South Haven is approximately 10 miles to the west of Bangor. The City possesses 3,600 lineal feet of public shoreline and 20 acres of beach on Lake Michigan as well as a four-acre park with a boat launch and public access to Lake Michigan. With more than 60 docks, 2 piers, play equipment, volleyball, and fishing access, South Haven is a destination for many people living in southwest Michigan, Illinois and Indiana, as well as other tourists.

City of St. Joseph – The City of St. Joseph is also on the coast of Lake Michigan. Tiscornia Park, Silver Beach, and Lions beach are popular beaches for swimmers, joggers, sunbathers, and boaters. Numerous festivals are held here including the Blossomtime Festival.

Kal Haven Trail- The Kal-Haven Trail links Kalamazoo and South Haven. This state park was built along an old railroad grade that runs just north of Bangor. The trail is utilized year-round by bikers, hikers, snowmobilers and cross country skiers.

Van Buren State Park – Van Buren State Park on Lake Michigan is just south of the beaches in South Haven. With more than 325 acres and 220 modern campsites this is a popular camping location.

Van Buren State Park Trail - 15-mile Van Buren Trail State Park runs from South Haven to Hartford on the former Toledo & South Haven Railroad. Biking, Equestrian and snowmobile use is permitted.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

Purpose of the Plan

The presence of parks, open spaces, greenways, recreations programs and cultural events has a strong positive impact on a community's vitality and quality of life. In addition to providing opportunities that can educate, improve health (both mental and physical) and increase social connections, there are a number of economic and environmental benefits as well. Maximizing these benefits is the primary purpose for developing a plan. This recreation plan will serve as a guide for local decision-making, outline projects with specific action steps and outcomes, and establish eligibility for funding opportunities offered through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

This plan is to reflect the City of Bangor's commitment to responsive and interactive government, a systems approach to planning was used. Interaction with the public was sought throughout. During every phase in our future planning process, Bangor residents, business leaders and municipal representatives have provided input and pledged continued support of the parks and recreation goals and action plans. This five-year plan reflects the desires of the community.

Description of Meetings and Input Sessions

The City's first two five year plans (2002-2007 & 2008-2013) both mentioned the need for a Parks and Recreation group. Since then, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has been formed. Because there is now a board that focuses on the parks, it was fitting that they should complete the next plan for the future of the parks. The panel worked on developing the Five Year Plan by reviewing previous plans and concentrating on updating the new plan for the 2018-2023 projects. The members have been instrumental in compiling, organizing and creating the text in Word format so it can be easily amended in the future. This project has been accomplished during the members' spare time. All meetings of the committee are open to the public and there has been much discussion regarding the task with the community. After designing a logo, discussing the progress and editing the results it was decided that the last hurdle to overcome was to finalize the remaining steps required to obtain DNR approval for their hard work. The group went on to release the draft plan to the public for a 30 day review period and went live with an

online survey (also crafted by the membership). The survey was posted on Bangor City's Facebook site. The site is accessible and viewed by hundreds of people. The survey has garnered response from the neighboring townships which is very satisfying to the group as we find the input of the surrounding area beneficial. We are aware that people come in from other communities to visit our city and our desire is to accommodate them. The entire process has taken the Parks and Recreation group approximately a year. The group's last workshop to review their progress and evaluate the entire document, especially the projects, was held on February 12, 2018. This was open to the public. The Committee adopted a resolution recommending the City Council approve and adopt the 2018-2022 Five Year Plan that they had labored so hard on completing. On February 15, 2018 the Planning Commission met to discuss the plan along with other regular business. They also adopted a resolution supporting adoption of the plan by the Council. The City Council held a Public Hearing at the conclusion of the 30 day comment period to garner comments from the citizens. Copies of the ad, minutes and resolutions are included in the Appendix. The Public Hearing was streamed live on YouTube and is accessible to anyone who would like to watch. The YouTube broadcast is able to be viewed by considerably more people than typically attend, which is usually minor compared to the population of the city. Every effort has been made to reach as many citizens as possible and to share the plan with them.

Goals

The following goals were developed with thoughtful consideration that was received from the varied sources of public opinion gathered from the above. These goals were then used to guide the process of measuring and evaluating projects for inclusion in this plan and provide structure for decision-making in the future.

Goal #1 Seek comprehensive recreation planning that includes parks, open space, greenways and cultural and artistic components.

Goal #2 Develop and support policies that will preserve and protect valuable water and land resources and properties with historic and/or cultural value.

Goal #3 Respond to community characteristics by seeking to provide recreational opportunities for all with consideration of age and abilities.

Goal #4 Enhance partnerships with surrounding units of government for the purpose of collaborative planning.

Goal #5 Seek and establish connections between existing and future trails and pathways including greenways and waterways.

Goal #6 Establish a revitalization plan with the Trail Town Development Board and the Bangor Arts Council, and other units of government for the purpose of collaborative planning to attract visitors to the great city of Bangor utilizing the trail town methodology.

The projects that follow are a mix of unfinished and new ventures. We will strive to complete as many as possible in the next five years.

<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Funding Source Possibilities</u>
Feasibility of an Public Ice Rink	Year 2	\$0	3	None needed
Friends of the Park recruitment	Year 1-5	\$0	1	None needed
Develop Signage Plan	Year 1-2	\$0	1	None needed
Acquire Signs for Parks	Year 1-2	\$5,000	1	DDA/Park Millage Dollars/Donations
Develop a Concert Series	Year 5	\$10,000	5	Park Millage Dollars/Donations
Security Cameras for all parks	Year 3	\$30,000	2	DNR Grant/Park Millage Dollars/Donations
Kiwanis Park				
Add ADA compliant restrooms	Year 5	\$20,000	5	DNR Grant/Park Millage/Gen Fund/Donations
Develop Winter Activities	Year 1-5	\$0	2	None needed
Covered Benches	Year 3	\$8,000	4	Donations/General Fund
Upgrade Trail to Veterans Park	Year 1-5	\$8,000	2	DNR Grant/Park Millage/Gen Fund/Donations
Improve West Entrance	Year 4	\$20,000	4	DNR Grant/Park Millage/Gen Fund/Donations
Accessible Walkway to Pavilion	Year 3	\$6,000	4	Donations/General Fund
New Playground Equipment	Year 3	\$20,000	3	DNR Grant/Millage /General Fund/Donations
Disc Golf Trail	Year 5	\$12,000	5	DNR Grant/Millage /General Fund/Donations
Short zipline	Year 5	\$9,000	5	Donations/General Fund/Millage
Don Mora Field				
New Bleachers	Year 1-3	\$25,000	1	DNR Grant/ Millage/Gen Fund/Donations/Rental
Upgrade/Repairs-Concession Stand	Year 1-3	\$10,000	1	DNR / Millage/Gen Fund/Donations/Rental
Netting to protect houses/cars	Year 1-3	\$10,000	1	DNR /Park Millage/Gen Fund/Donations/Rental
Energy Efficient lights	Year 1-3	\$15,000	1	DNR / Millage /Energy Efficiency Grant/Rental
Field Upgrade-Ball & Soccer	Year 1-3	\$8,000	1	DNR/Donations/Gen Fund/ Millage/Field Rental
Security Cameras	Year 1-2	\$5,000	1	DNR/Donations/Gen Fund/ Millage /Field Rental
Door Replacements-2 Doors	Year 1-2	\$10,000	1	DNR/ Millage/Gen Fund/Donations/Field Rental
Lions Park				
Install BBQ Grills	Year 4	\$5,000	5	Park Rental/Gen Fund/Park Millage/Donations
Improve Access Roads	Year 1-3	\$15,000	1	Road Millage/General Fund/Park Rental
Skate Park	Year 4	\$150,000	3	DNR Grant/Park Millage /Gen Fund/Donations
Upgrade/Replace Playgrnd Equipment	Year 1-3	\$10,000	3	DNR Grant/Park Millage/Gen Fund /Donations

Project Description	Time Frame	Estimated Cost	Priority	Funding Source Possibilities
Monroe Park	-	-	-	
Install a Bench or Picnic Table	Year 4	\$1,500	3	General Fund/Donations
Improve Landscaping	Year 1-4	\$2,500	3	General Fund/Donations
Remove Water Fountain	Year 1-3	\$1,000	2	General Fund/Donations
Charles Park				
Restoration of Caboose	Year 2	\$5,000	2	Park Millage Dollars/General Fund/Donations
Add Parking Spaces	Year 1-5	\$5,000	3	Road Millage/Park Millage
Enhance Walkway	Year 3-5	\$9,000	2	Park Millage/Donations
Northside Playground				
Maintenance of the park	Year 1-5	\$2,500	1	Donations/Volunteers/General Fund
New Equipment	Year 5	\$5,000	5	Donations/Volunteers/General Fund
Lincoln Street Overlook				
Camping Area	Year 1-5	\$5,000	5	Park Millage Dollars/Donations/Gen Fund/DNR Grant
Maintain Trail to Lions Park	Year 1-5	\$10,000	1	Park Millage Dollars/Donations/Gen Fund/DNR Grant
Veterans Park				
Research Slaughterhouse Possibilities	Year 1-3	\$500	1	General Fund
Demo or Restore Slaughterhouse	Year 3-5	\$15,000	2	Park Millage Dollars/Donations/Gen Fund/DNR Grant
Continue Trail to Kiwanis	Year 1-5	\$15,000	1	Park Millage Dollars/Donations/Gen Fund/DNR Grant
Kids Place				
Update/Repair Equipment & Grounds	Year 1	\$60,000	1	Patronicity-Summer 2018
Mill Pond Park				
Investigate Dam Re-installation	Year1-5	\$0	4	Volunteer Time

APPENDIX

Public Notices/Ads

Meeting Materials

Resolutions of Support

Survey Summary

Submittal Letters

Certification Checklist

AFFP
5 Year Parks and Recreation

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF MICHIGAN }
COUNTY OF BERRIEN } SS

Public Meeting Notice
5 Year Parks and
Recreation Plan
City of Bangor

Samantha Smith, being duly sworn, says:

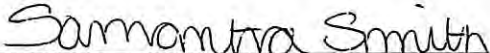
That she is Accounting Clerk of the Herald Palladium, a Daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in St Joseph, Berrien County, Michigan; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

January 26, 2018

Publisher's Fee: \$ 241.45

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Subscribed to and sworn to me this 26th day of January 2018.



Ashley Banks, Notary Public 01/23/2024

The City of Bangor will hold a public meeting on February 26, 2018. The purpose of the public meeting is to take comment on a proposed Five Year Recreation Plan for the City of Bangor. Persons interested in commenting on the proposed plan as drafted or providing other thoughts for inclusion in the plan may attend the public meeting, provide written comment in advance of the meeting or supply comments via email. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers located at 257 W Monroe St in the City of Bangor. Written comments may be dropped off or mailed to Bangor City Hall at above address (Zip 49013). Emailed comments may be sent to manager@bangormi.org. A copy of the plan is available at Bangor City Hall. The public meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. The draft plan was developed by members of the City's Parks and Recreation Committee.

The public may also comment on the plan during the next 30 days. This public comment period is between January 26 and February 24. During this 30 day comment period, persons are invited to review the proposed plan and provide written comments as they deem appropriate.

The city will provide necessary and reasonable services to individuals with disabilities upon 7 days notice by contacting the Bangor City clerk at (269) 427-5831

60000682 60922765

CITY OF BANGOR
257 W MONROE STREET
BANGOR, MI 49013



MEETING NOTICE

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be meeting **February 12, 2018 at 6:00pm**. This meeting will be utilized as a workshop and discussion time regarding the draft **2018-2023 Five Year Recreation Plan** for the City of Bangor. The plan will permit us to apply for DNR grants to improve our parks. Ideas on the project list will be studied. Survey results to date will be considered as the draft moves to its final form. Anyone from the city or surrounding areas that have an interest, is encouraged to attend. The meeting is to be held in the council chambers located in the city hall at 257 W Monroe St in the heart of the downtown area.



CITY OF BANGOR

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 12, 2017– 6:00 PM

Bangor City Hall
257 W Monroe St
Bangor, Michigan 49013

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Roll Call:** Two Cam McLaren, Lisa Perry, George Hein, Jennie Repotski, Helene Rivers, Dan Fry,
Richard Greene, Steve Lowder and Ron McCrumb
- 4) **Approval of Agenda**
- 5) **Approval of Prior Minutes:** Regular Meeting 5/8/2017
- 6) **Old Business**
 - a. By-laws
 - b. Rain Garden
 - c. Community Garden
 - d. Black River Clean Up
- 7) **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
- 8) **New Business**
 - a. Officers & Member Terms
 - b. Graffiti-Lions Park
 - c. **Projects for 5 Year Plan**
 - d. Veterans Park Donations
- 9) **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
- 10) **Board Member Comments** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
- 11) **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: July 10, 2017



BANGOR CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

January 22, 2018 – 7:00 PM

City Hall

257 W. Monroe St.

Bangor, Michigan 49013

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
5. **Approval of City Council Minutes** (Regular Meeting 1/08/18)
6. **Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll** (Reviewed by Councilmembers Hicks & Fry)
7. **Other Regular Business** (Resolutions, Proclamations, Reports and Presentations)
 - a. Student Report
 - b. Department of Public Works Report- Monthly Bacteria Sampling Results by Request (25 pages)
 - c. Bangor Police Department Report
 - d. Fire Department Report
 - e. DDA Report
 - f. Parks & Recreation Report
 - g. Manager's Report-2017 Progress Report
 - h. DPW Liaison Report
8. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
9. **Public Hearing-Proposed Amendment to Ordinance #284 City of Bangor Medical Marijuana Ordinance**
 - a. Ordinance #285 an Ordinance to Amend Ordinance #284
10. **Regular Session**
11. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. Ordinance #284 Amendment (Ordinance #285)
 - b. Millage Resolutions-SSVBC Renewal and New with Annual Report
12. **New Business**
 - a. Golf Cart-1st Reading
 - b. P&R 5 Year Plan-30 Review Period/ Questionnaire & Public Hearing
 - c. 2nd Quarter Amendments Meeting Date
 - d. Planning Commission Recommendations
13. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
14. **Board/Commission Appointments and Correspondence**
 - a.
15. **Council member Comments**
16. **Adjournment**



CITY OF BANGOR

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board 5 Year Plan & Public Survey Workshop

February 12, 2018– 6:00 PM

Bangor City Hall
257 W Monroe St
Bangor, Michigan 49013

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Roll Call:** Two Cam McLaren, Lisa Perry, Jennie Repotski, Helene Rivers, Dan Fry, Richard Greene, Steve Lowder and Ron McCrumb
- 4) **Approval of Agenda**
- 5) **Approval of Prior Minutes:** November 13, 2107
- 6) **Workshop-P&R Plan and On-line Survey Review**
- 7) **Resolution Advising Acceptance of Plan**
- 8) **Adjourn**
- 9) **Next Meeting March 12, 2018**



BANGOR CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING AGENDA

February 15, 2018 – 7:00 PM

City Hall

257 W. Monroe St.

Bangor, Michigan 49013

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
5. **Approval of Prior Minutes** (Meeting January 18, 2018)
6. **Unfinished Business**
 - a.
 - b.
7. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
8. **New Business**
 - a. **Parks & Recreation Plan Resolution**
 - b. Name Change for Medi-Can
 - c. Building Change-MJA LLC
 - d.
 - e.
9. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
10. **Adjournment**



BANGOR CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

February 26, 2018 – 7:00 PM

City Hall

257 W. Monroe St.

Bangor, Michigan 49013

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Approval of Agenda**
5. **Approval of City Council Minutes** (Regular Meeting held on 2/5/18)
6. **Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll** (Reviewed by Council members Farmer & Aleman)
7. **Other Regular Business** (Resolutions, Proclamations, Reports and Presentations)
 - a. BPS Report
 - b. Dan Hutchins-New Library Director for Van Buren District Library
 - c. Department of Public Works Report
 - d. Bangor Police Department Report
 - e. Fire Department Report- Chief Derek Babcock with Annual Report
 - f. DDA Report
 - g. Parks & Recreation Report
 - h. Manager's Report
 - i. DPW Liaison Report
8. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
9. **Public Hearing-5 Year Parks & Recreation Plan**
10. **Regular Session**
11. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. DPW Trucks-Sealed Bids
 - b. Server Replacement Update
12. **New Business**
 - a. **P&R 5 Year Plan Adoption Resolution #2018-04**
 - b. 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments
 - c. Resolution to Waive PTA Fine #2018-05
 - d. Passport Grant Proposal
13. **Opportunity for Public Comment** (Please keep comments to within 3 minutes)
14. **Board/Commission Appointments and Correspondence**
 - a. Pride Care January Times
 - b. Regional Airport
14. **Council member Comments**
15. **Adjournment**

City of Bangor
City Council Regular Meeting
Monday, February 26, 2018
Bangor City Hall
257 West Monroe
Bangor, MI 49013

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all

Roll Call: Present: Council Members Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Mayor Pro Tem Farmer, Mayor Householder. Absent: None

Approval of Agenda: Lowder made a motion, supported by Aleman, to approve the amended agenda with the addition of line 11c: Council Room Cameras. Motion approved.

Approval of City Council Minutes: Farmer made a motion, supported by Hicks, to approve the 02/15/2018 City Council minutes. Motion approved.

Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll:

Farmer made a motion, supported by Aleman, to pay accounts payable from the general checking account for \$8,328.04. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.

Farmer made a motion, supported by Aleman, to pay accounts payable from the general checking account for \$2,000.00. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Householder. Abstain: Farmer: Motion approved.

Farmer made a motion, supported by Aleman, to pay accounts payable from the roads account for \$2,426.51. Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.

Farmer made a motion, supported by Aleman, to pay accounts payable and payroll from the general checking account for \$220,863.23. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.

Other Regular Business:

- a. BPS Report: Derek Babcock reported. Several new hires: High School principal, curriculum coordinator, maintenance director, food service director, elementary school dean of students. Mission statement is being redeveloped. Getting everything put into place before a new superintendent is hired and will be done before August. The Viking Club is separate from the school now; they support all athletic programs. Discussed security concerns.
- b. Dan Hutchins-New Van Buren District Library Director: Introduced himself. Briefly discussed some of the new programs he is bringing to the library.
- c. Department of Public Works Report: In packet. Jim Taylor explained the lift station alarms were due to snow melt.
- d. Bangor Police Department Report: None
- e. Fire Department Report: Have been working on the budget. The budget meeting with the City, Bangor Township and Arlington Township will be on March 28 at 7:00 pm. The budget is going up 2% for cost of living. The City's portion will remain the same. New ice rescue equipment has been purchased and two department members received training. Lowder asked why the City did not have representation at the last meeting and why the alternate was not contacted.
- f. DDA Report: Hicks reported. Train greeter position is being handled by the police department now.
- g. Parks and Recreation Report: The 5-year plan was reviewed at the last meeting
- h. Manager's Report: Hoover reported. The Hamilton St. bridge has washed out and the road is closed. Hoover is working on getting this fixed. Our bridge inspector, Jon Moxey will come out and inspect the bridge after the water has gone down.
- i. DPW Liaison Report: Bator reported. Talked about the good communication between Regina, Randy and Jim. Discussed with Jim what needed to be done to prepare for spring; mowers need to be replaced. Lowder agreed with replacing the mowers and hoped to find money in the budget for this.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Thad Earl: Asked if there was any damage to the public works building from the flooding. Hoover stated there was not, but there was some erosion by the sidewalk on Arlington and some chunks of pavement washed out on Industrial Park Rd that will need to be patched.

Lu Robertson: Asked about fixing Walnut St. Hoover stated she has been in contact with Kyle Brenner, who has worked on other road projects in the City, and he is working on getting some bids on repaving the south end of Walnut. Hoover would like to have that project done for the next fiscal year and then North Walnut done the following year.

Public Hearing: 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan:

Lowder made a motion, supported by Farmer, to close the regular session meeting. Motion approved.

Regular session ended at 7:48 pm.

Farmer made a motion, supported by Hicks, to start the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan Public Hearing. Motion approved.

Public Hearing began at 7:49 pm.

Householder stated he would like to add a millpond dam to the plan as a potential future project. Discussion.

Hicks stated he wants the City to develop a mission statement to guide the other plans (DDA, Master, etc.). What is our focus/identity? Hoover stated that would be good to put in the Master Plan.

Farmer said that whoever put the Parks and Recreation Plan together did an excellent job.

Two-Cam McLaren asked a few questions about the disc golf and zip line projects. He also mentioned taking the skate park project out of the plan. Hicks did not want to take it out. Discussed demolition of the slaughter house and establishing where the City's property lines are.

Lowder made a motion, supported by Aleman, to end the public hearing. Motion approved.

Public Hearing ended at 8:04 pm.

Farmer made a motion, supported by Aleman, to go back into the regular session meeting. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved. **Regular**

session began at 8:05 pm.

Unfinished Business:

- a. DPW Trucks-Sealed Bids: The City Clerk opened the one sealed bid that was received. The bid was for the 2000 Chevrolet truck for \$600.00 from Dan Empson. Fry made a motion, supported by Hicks, to sell the 2000 Chevrolet truck for \$600.00 to Dan Empson. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved. City Manager Hoover suggested continuing to advertise the 2003 Dodge. The council agreed.
- b. Server Replacement Update: City Manager Hoover informed the council that the new server has been installed. She asked permission to have Van Buren County IT to destroy/dispose of the old server. The council agreed to have IT dispose of it.
- c. Camera Discussion: Fry brought up the discussion that we don't have access to the council room cameras. He also stated he felt the council should have voted as a whole to decide whether there should be cameras in the council room. He talked about the pros and cons. Fry made a motion, supported to Hicks, to NOT have cameras in the council room. Discussion continued. City Attorney Mesadieu stated there were pros and cons, but ultimately it was up to the council to decide whether they wanted them. He said there is no requirement to live stream the meetings. He also stated there may be a privacy issue with audience members and to err on the side of caution. He said it needs to be disclosed before entering the room that there are cameras. The public has the option to not be on camera. Bator wants to keep the cameras so people with physical hardships can watch and also because our council room is small. Fry amended his motion to turn off the cameras for now until proper policies and procedures have been put into place. Supported by Hicks. Roll call vote: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved. Farmer made sure everyone knew we weren't turning off the cameras forever but just until policy and procedure was in place. Wants to be transparent but public needs to be protected.

New Business:

- a. Parks and Recreation 5-Year Plan Adoption Resolution 2018-04: Hicks made a motion, supported by Farmer, to accept Resolution 2018-04: Adoption of the 2018-2023 Bangor Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.
- b. Second Quarter Budget Amendments: Discussion about Community Promotion line, Airport Authority and Apple Festival. Bator made a motion, supported by Farmer, to accept the second quarter budget amendments. Roll call vote: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.
- c. Resolution to Waive PTA Fine 2018-05: Farmer made a motion, supported by Bator, to adopt Resolution 2018-05: Waiving Penalty Fees and Interest for Failure to File a Property Transfer Affidavit. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder.
- d. Passport Grant Proposal: City Manager Hoover presented a proposal from Johnson and Anderson to assist in writing a grant in the amount of \$73,000 for upgrades to Mora Park which would include improvements to the concession stand, new bleachers, ball field repairs, energy efficient lighting, security cameras, and netting. Hoover stated the cost would not exceed \$5,500.00 and we would gain more points if we do at least a 26% match. Hicks made a motion, supported by Fry, to accept the Johnson and Anderson Proposal for Professional Consulting Engineering Services for a 2018 MDNR Recreation Passport Grant Application Submittal for Don Mora Ball Park. Roll call vote: Yeas: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Aleman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder. Motion approved.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Lu Robertson: Asked when the public hearing is for the golf cart ordinance. March 5th.

Board/Commission Appointments and Correspondence:

- a. Pride Care January Times: In packet/no questions/comments
- b. Regional Airport: In packet/no questions/comments

Council Member Comments:

Dan Fry: Suggested City Hall staff drive, rather than walk, when making deposits at the bank. Thinks the council is doing well with discussion. Has been speaking with council member Hicks about Apple Festival Improvements. Grants are a learning experience and we need to do something with Mora Park, it produces some revenue. New businesses want to be good neighbors.

Fred Hicks: Gave a South Haven Bronson Hospital update

Steve Lowder: Thanked Jim, DPW, Regina, Tommy, Derek and everyone who helped with the flooding issues. Appreciates all of them. Unified command works well. Mark Stickles retired recently and was a city employee for a number of years. Asked about our social media policy. Discussed the burned out house at 515 Hamilton.

Lynne Farmer: Went to the Cognito Brewing opening and the Mead Hall Mixer. Nice to support our businesses. Thanked Jimmy and said the hot patch from last year was holding up well. Thankful there wasn't more damage from the flooding.

Geno Aleman: Looking forward to working with the new library director

Nick Householder: The DDA survey is going on now. Parks and Recreation plan is finally done and hopefully the master plan will be next. The plans help us with grants. It's always a gamble with grants but if we don't try, then nothing will happen. Kudos to those who did the plans. Thanked the Council, City Hall staff, and DPW. New businesses and growth are happening.

Adjournment:

Lowder made a motion, supported by Farmer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

RESOLUTION FOR OF SUPPORT FOR ADOPTION OF THE 2018-2023 BANGOR PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNITY PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN

2018-01

WHEREAS, the Bangor City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2018 through 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

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

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing is to be held on February 26, 2018 at City Hall (257 W Monroe St) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the City of Bangor, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Bangor City Council will vote to adopt or reject the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee hereby recommends adoption of the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan by the Bangor City Council.

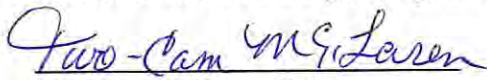
Motion by Fry, second by Perry to approve the resolution.

Ayes: McClaren, Perry, Repotski, Fry McCrumb Absent: Rivers, Greene, Lowder

Nays: None Abstain: None

Resolution declared adopted/rejected.

Date: February 12, 2018


Two-Cam McLaren, Chair

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR ADOPTION OF THE 2018-2023 BANGOR PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNITY PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN

WHEREAS, the Bangor City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2018 through 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

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

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing is to be held on February 26, 2018 at City Hall (257 W Monroe St) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the City of Bangor, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Bangor City Council will vote to adopt or reject the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Planning Commission after reviewing the proposed plan, hereby recommends adoption of the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan by the Bangor City Council.

Motion by Bator second by France to approve the resolution.

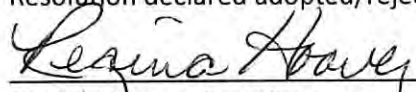
Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Beasley, Bator, Johnson, France

Absent: Watkins, Householder, Balfour

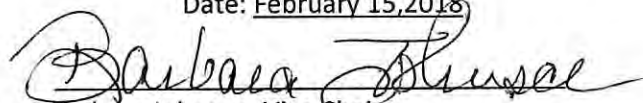
Nays: None

Abstain: None

Resolution declared adopted/~~rejected~~.


Regina Hoover, Secretary

Date: February 15, 2018


Barbara Johnson, Vice Chair

RESOLUTION ADOPTION OF THE 2018-2023 BANGOR PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
COMMUNITY PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN

Resolution #2018-04

WHEREAS, the Bangor City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2018 through 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

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

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

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on February 26, 2018 at City Hall (257 W Monroe St) to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Bangor Parks and Recreation Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the City of Bangor, and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Planning Commission have passed resolutions in support of the Five Year Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bangor City Council hereby adopts and approves the Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan.

Motion by Hicks, second by Farmer to approve the resolution.

Ayes: Bator, Hicks, Fry, Ateman, Lowder, Farmer, Householder Absent: none

Nays: none Abstain: none

Nick Householder
Nick Householder, Mayor

Laura Roe
Laura Roe, Clerk

I, Laura Roe, the duly appointed Clerk of **City of Bangor, Van Buren County**, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the city after a public hearing of said board held on February 26, 2018, at which meeting a quorum was present by a roll call vote of said council members as hereinbefore set forth; that said resolution was ordered to take immediate effect.

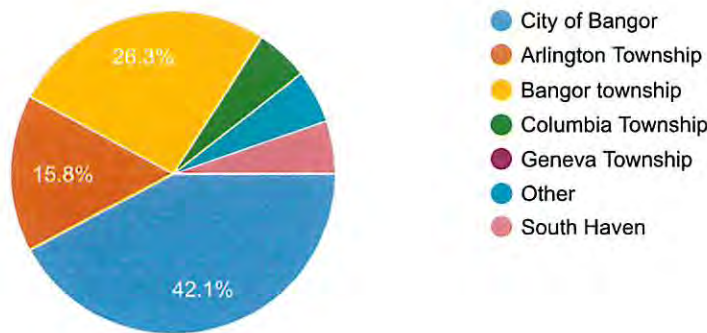
Laura Roe
Laura Roe, Clerk

City of Bangor: Parks and Recreation Survey 2018

19 responses

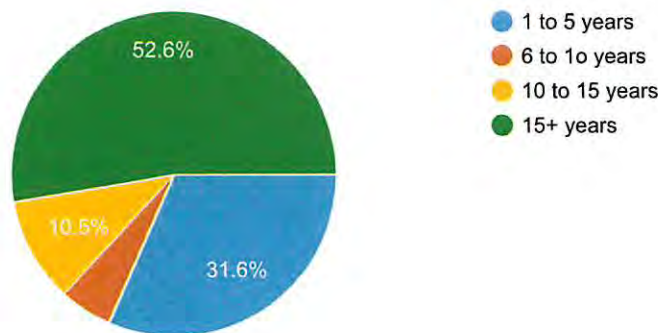
1. Please indicate your principle residence (for this purpose, principle residence, is the home you physically occupy most of the time).

19 responses



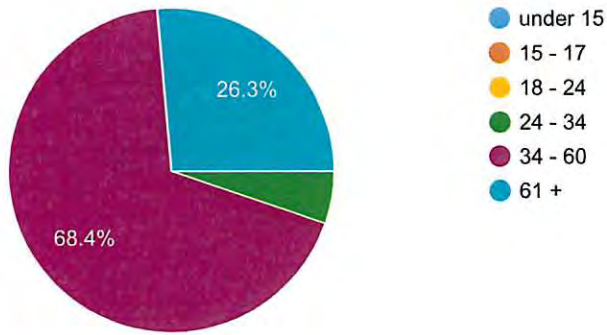
2. How long have you lived at your principle residence?

19 responses



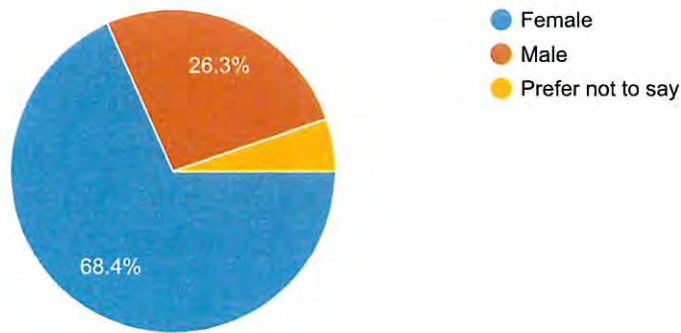
3. How old are you?

19 responses

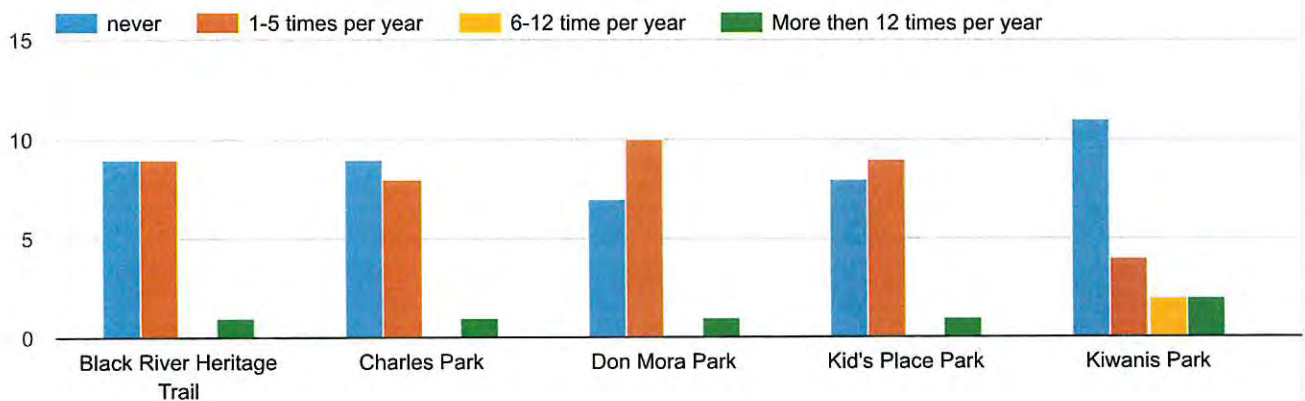


4. Are you?

19 responses

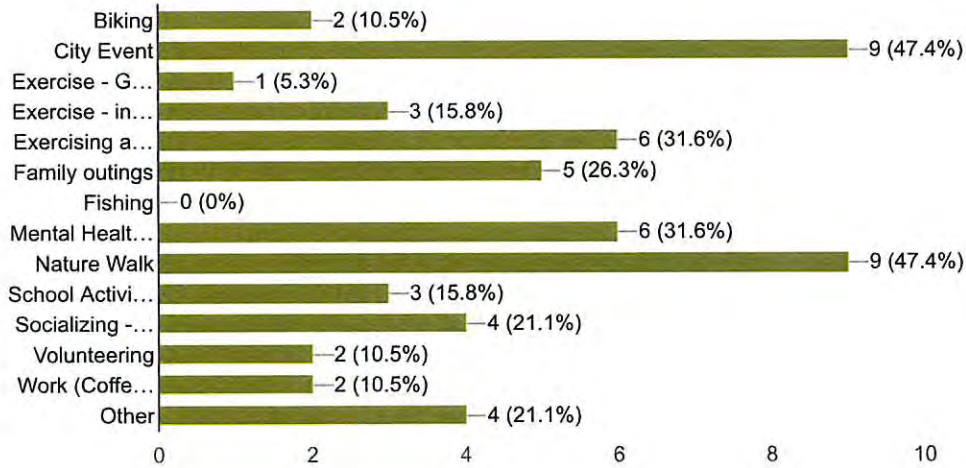


5. How often do you use the following parks:



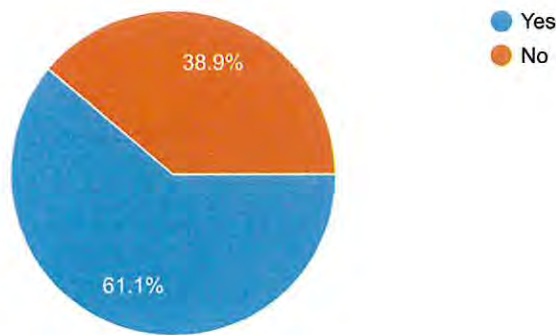
6. What is your primary activity when visiting the parks?

19 responses



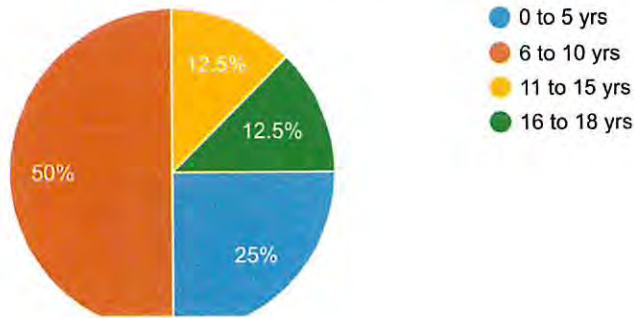
7. Do you have children?

18 responses



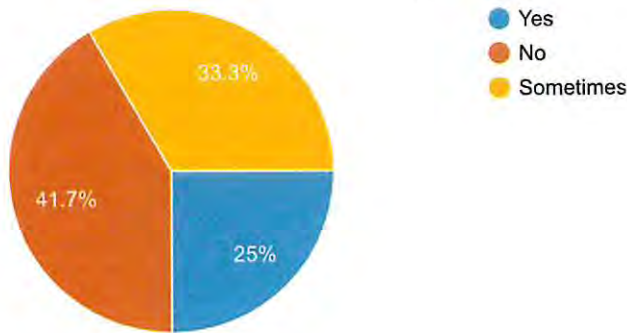
8. If so, what are their ages?

8 responses



9. Do they participate in events or organized programs in the parks?

12 responses



10. What programs or events would you like to see at the parks?

9 responses

Painting in the park

Music/art/nature/educational

Outdoor Kids Clubs, Natural Art installations and the development of more hiking trails!

hiking

Organized sports - Art and Craft Fairs

Classes and organized activities for kids

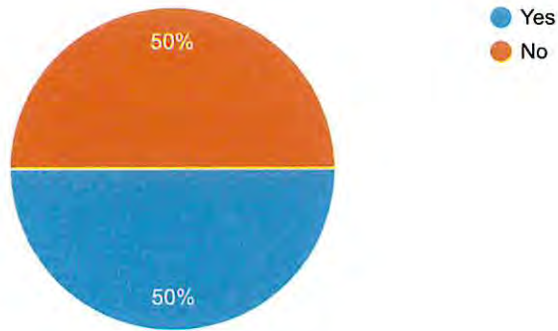
craft days, especially for those with disabilities, maybe a sporting event for those with disabilities

Mountain biking / maintained hiking trails

Concerts; movies; the painting classes (in Lions' Park) a summer or two ago were a nice idea

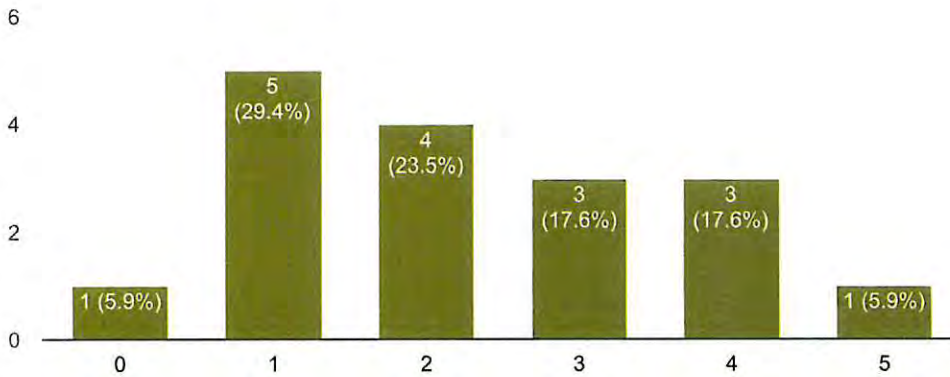
11. Do your children ever use the playground equipment or basketball court?

12 responses



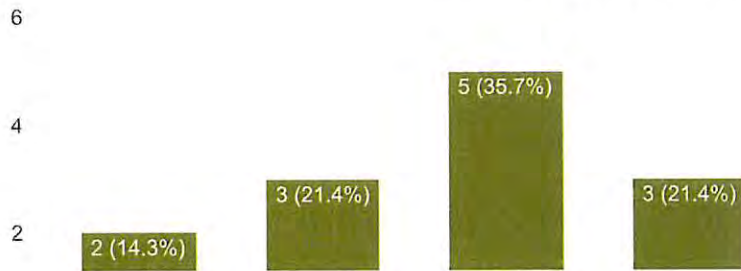
12. Please rate the condition of Kid's Place Park?

17 responses



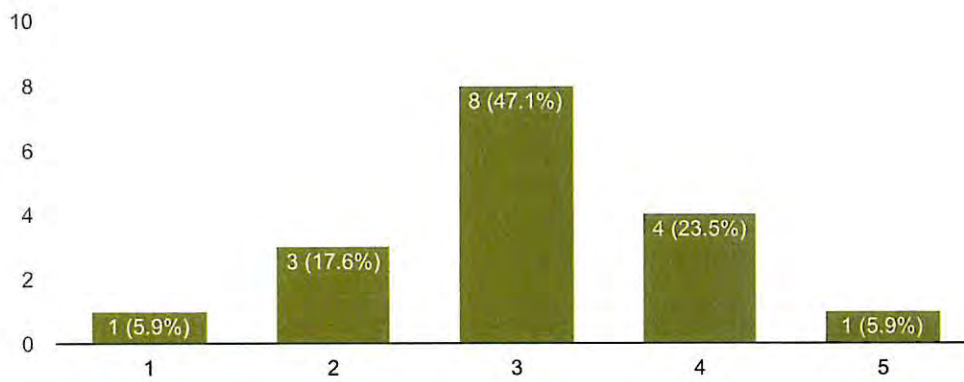
13. Please rate the condition of Kiwanis Park?

14 responses



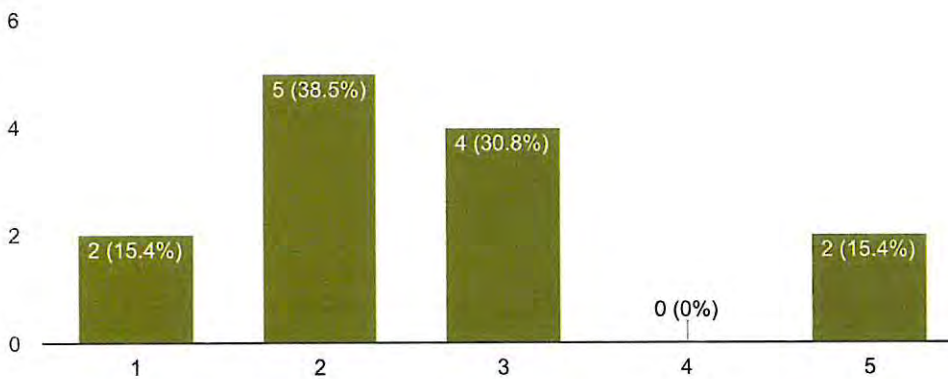
14. Please rate the condition of Lion's Park?

17 responses



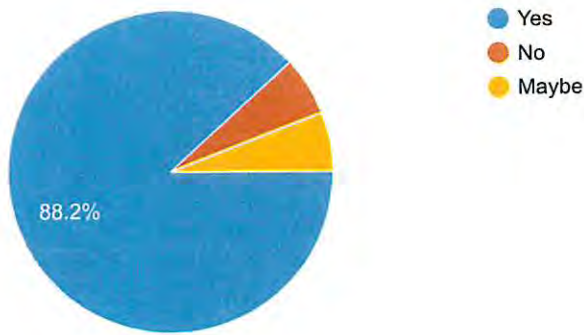
15. Please rate the condition of North Street Park?

13 responses



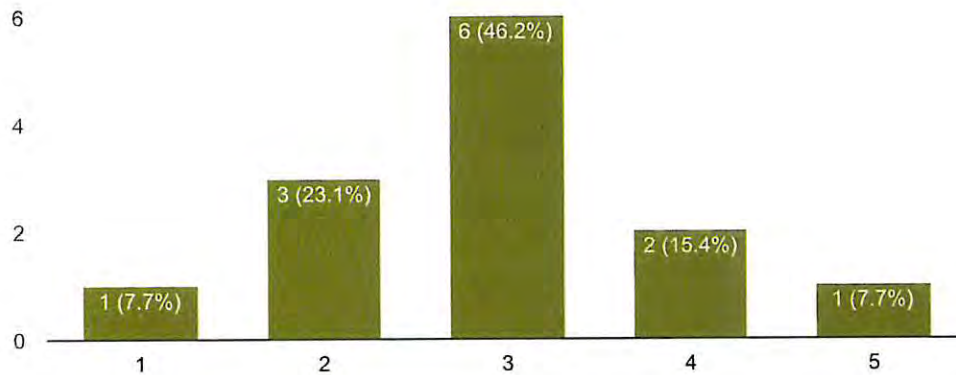
16. Is there enough space in the parks for your activities?

17 responses



17. How would you rate the condition of the Black River Heritage Trail?

13 responses



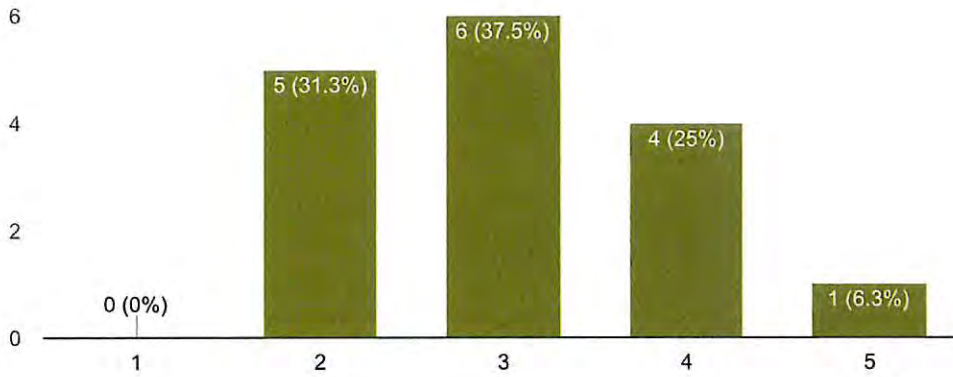
18. How would you rate the condition of Charles Park?

16 responses



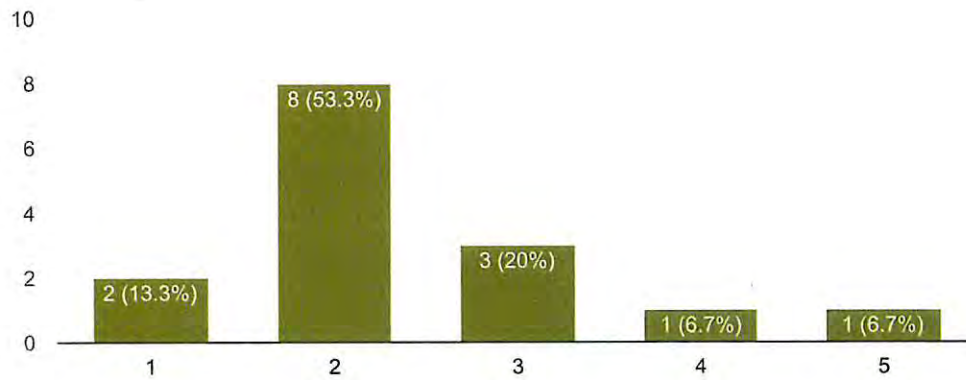
19. How would you rate the condition of Don Mora Ball Park?

16 responses



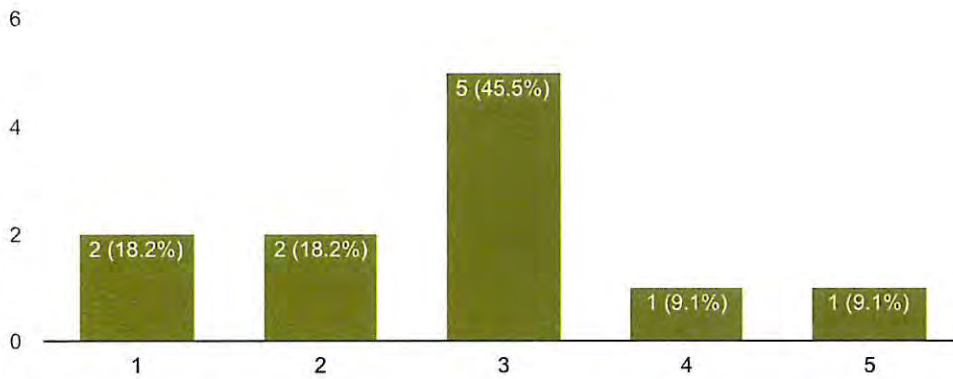
20. How would you rate the condition of Kid's Place?

15 responses



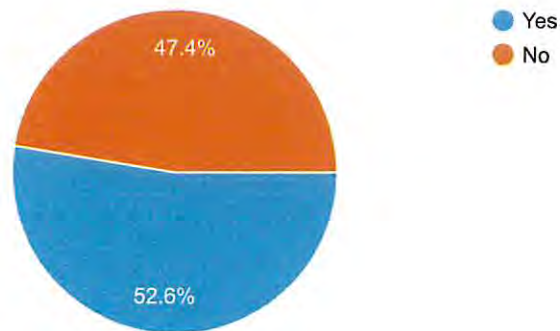
21. How would you rate the condition of Lincoln Street Overlook?

11 responses



22. Did you know there were surveillance cameras in Lion's Park?

19 responses



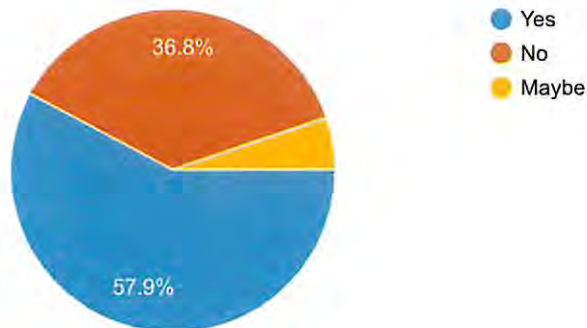
23. How would you rate the condition of Monroe Park?

14 responses

5 (35.7%)

24. Do you feel safe in our Parks?

19 responses



25. If you DO NOT feel safe in our Parks could you tell us why?

6 responses

They are not very visible from main roads. Shady looking people hanging out in them.

I guess it depends on time of day, evenings I don't feel comfortable.

Loitering of people with questionable character... they somewhat seem like "ghost towns".

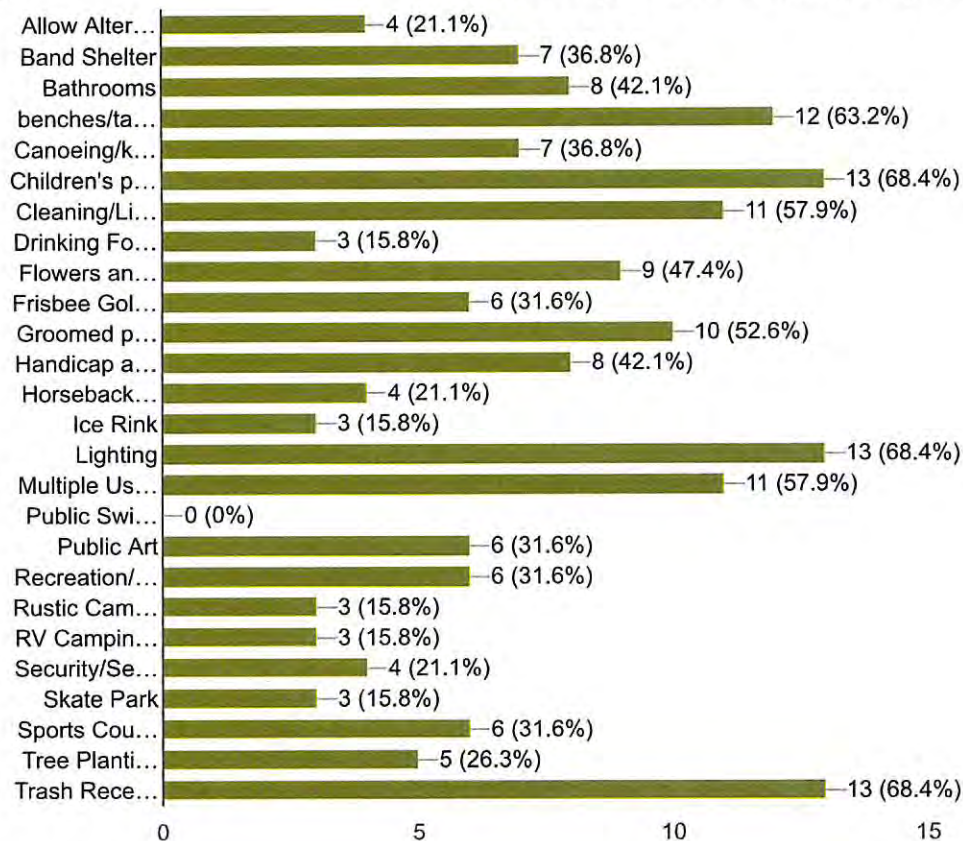
I'm aware of drug activity at several of the parks. I would not let my kids go their without myself.

Not enough patrols. Drug dealers are still utilizing the parks. Vandals are still damaging public property. Existing equipment is old and worn. Boards are missing on bridges or nonexistent; or in a state of severe decay. The bridges in Lions park are in very bad shape; one is even closed to the public. One should be.

just sometimes, not very populated

26. What are your priorities for the Public Parks?

19 responses



27. If you could only pick three areas to focus on from the list above for the next year, which three would you try to accomplish?

14 responses

Skate park, sports courts and public art

Cameras in all of the parks, better signage advertising the parks, groomed hiking trails

Trail improvement, benches, cameras

Benches/picnic tables—children's playground equipment—frisbee golf

Multiple use trails, Trash Receptacles, Public Art

New playground equipment for sure.

Hiking trails

security, bath rooms, lighting

Lightening, Security and develop multiple use trail system.

New bleachers at Mora Park

Gardens, children's playground, and boat launch

Art, handicap accesable,

Groomed trails, public art multiple use

some benches, picnic tables, trash cans in Kiwanis park, work on improving quality of other parks.

28. What three areas would you focus on to be priorities after the first list is completed?

10 responses

New picnic tables & benches in all parks, new bleachers for Mora Park, update/remodel Mora park bathroom and concession stand.

skatepark, frisbee golf, playground equipment

Cleaning/litter removal—lighting—groomed pathways

Campgrounds, Playground Equipment, NEW BLEACHERS.

Beautification

Hiking trails

recreation, sports(could include permanent corn hole, horse shoe pits, and the like, frisbee golf course) trash cans

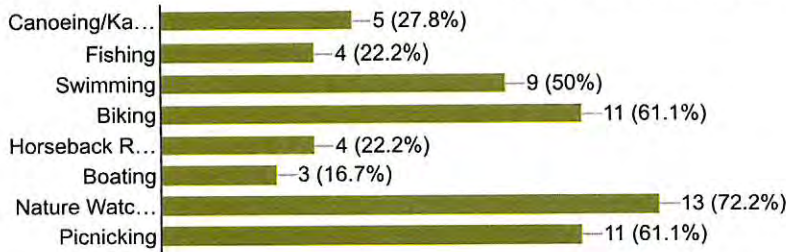
canoe launch, camp grounds, horticulture

Lighting, multiple use trails, and tree/landscaping maintenance

improve quality of all the parks in general, maybe add so playground equipment lions park

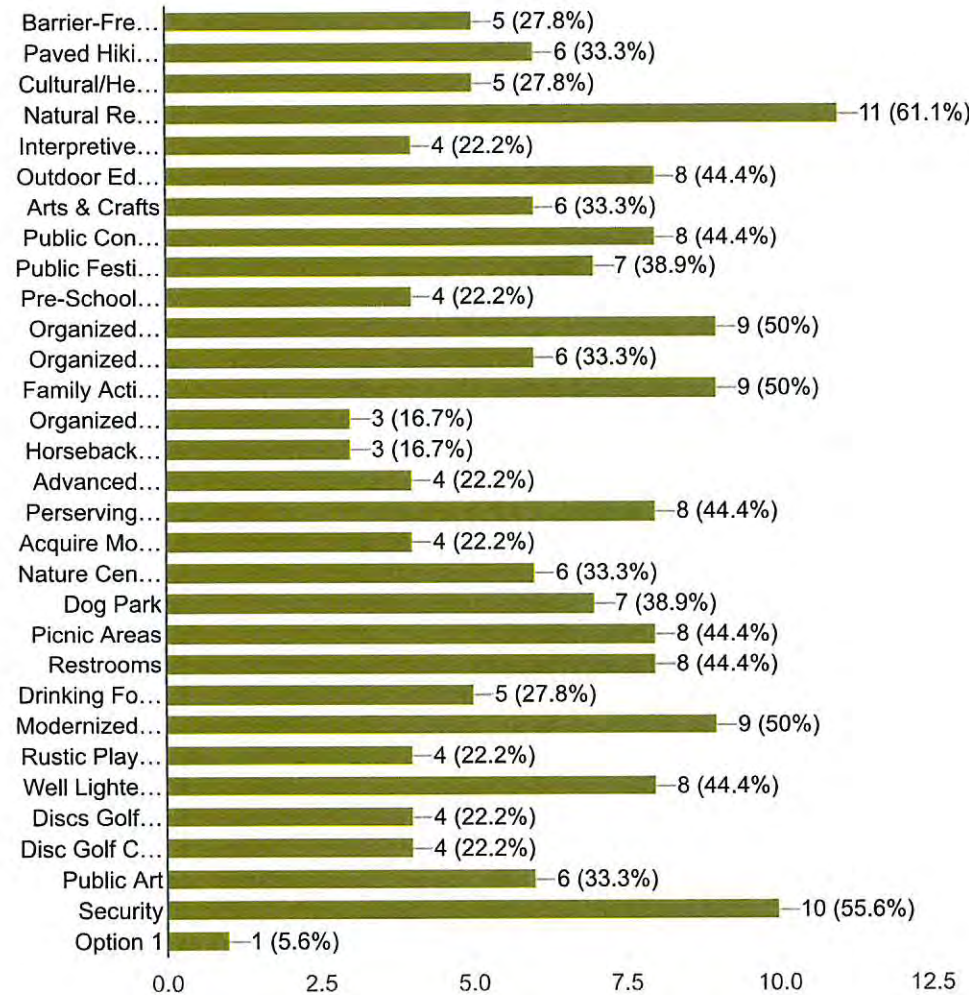
29. What are your favorite activities to do outdoors? Please check all that apply:

18 responses



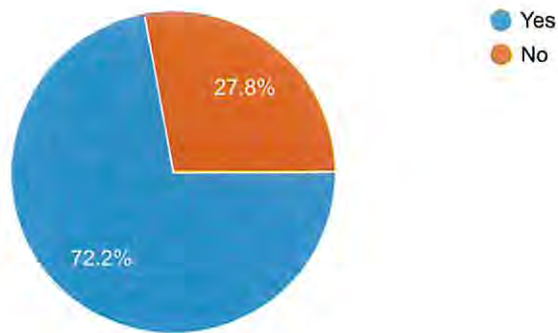
30. Which of the following amenities/activities are important to you? (check all that apply).

18 responses



31. Would you be interested in volunteering with the City of Bangor?

18 responses



32. Are there any other improvements to our parks that were not listed here that you would like the City of Bangor to consider?

6 responses

Community Gardens

Safety and a upkeep program once an investment is made. Look at the park behind hardings Prime example. A ton of money was put into the grounds and the city can't even spray the weeds. Do they turn the sprinklers on? I know for a fact that company would have donated much more to other parks however the city has shown no effort . It's sad.

Mora Park needs the softball infield weeded and bleachers fixed

Being so close to South Haven, I think camping and bike trails would bring in a lot of outside money to Bangor

having river cleaned in lions park, fix lions park driveway.

I'll note that when I was growing up in Bangor in the 1970s, there were several years when the City seemed to have a solid youth-focused summer activity program. I think there was a Recreation Department. I remember going to craft days at Kiwanis park, and I think the summer softball program was also under the same auspices. I don't remember when that changed.

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CITY OF BANGOR

Train City USA in the Heart of Apple Country

257 West Monroe Street
Bangor, Michigan 49013
Telephone: 269.427.5831
Facsimile: 269.427.7919

February 27, 2018

K. John Egelhaaf, Executive Director
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
376 W Main St, Suite 130
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Mr. Egelhaaf,

Bangor City has completed and approved a Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan. A copy of the plan is enclosed for your review. The plan was completed to establish the goals of the community in regards to the parks and to guide local decision making concerning future investments in the city's recreation system. This is a copy for your files.

Sincerely,

Regina Hoover, Manager
City of Bangor



CITY OF BANGOR

Train City USA in the Heart of Apple Country

257 West Monroe Street
Bangor, Michigan 49013
Telephone: 269.427.5831
Facsimile: 269.427.7919

February 27, 2018

Ted Thar, Director of Land Management
Van Buren County Planning Commission
219 Paw Paw St, Suite 302
Paw Paw, MI 49079

Dear Mr. Thar,

Bangor City has completed and approved a Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan. A copy of the plan is enclosed for your review. The plan was completed to establish the goals of the community in regards to the parks and to guide local decision making concerning future investments in the city's recreation system. This is a copy for your files.

Sincerely,

Regina Hoover, Manager
City of Bangor



COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this information is required for eligibility to apply for grants

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than March 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:

COMMUNITY PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND GREENWAY PLAN 2018-2023

List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
CITY OF BANGOR	VAN BUREN	FEBRUARY 2018

PLAN CONTENT

INSTRUCTIONS: Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.

1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

- Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)
- Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart
- Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming
- Current Funding Sources
- Role of Volunteers
- Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:

- Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities
- Articles of Incorporation

3. RECREATION INVENTORY

- Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory
- Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)
- Accessibility Assessment
- Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities
- Waterways Inventory (if applicable)

4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received

Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

Date of the Notice 1/26/18

Type of Notice NEWSPAPER

Plan Location CITY HALL 257 W MONROE ST BANGOR

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 30 DAYS

Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)

Date of Notice 1/26/18

Name of Newspaper HERALD PALLADIUM

Date of Meeting 2/26/18

Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

8. ACTION PROGRAM

9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S)

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For multi-jurisdictional plans, **each** local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: 2/26/18

2. Official resolution of the PARKS & REC/PLANNING COMMISSION Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: 2/12/18 1/15/18

3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: 2/27/18

4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: 2/27/18

OVERALL CERTIFICATION

NOTE: For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

City of Bangor
(Local Unit of Government)
above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated

Regina Hoyer 2/28/18
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT
Act 267 of 1976

AN ACT to require certain meetings of certain public bodies to be open to the public; to require notice and the keeping of minutes of meetings; to provide for enforcement; to provide for invalidation of governmental decisions under certain circumstances; to provide penalties; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

15.261 Short title; effect of act on certain charter provisions, ordinances, or resolutions.

Sec. 1. (1) This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Open meetings act".

(2) This act shall supersede all local charter provisions, ordinances, or resolutions which relate to requirements for meetings of local public bodies to be open to the public.

(3) After the effective date of this act, nothing in this act shall prohibit a public body from adopting an ordinance, resolution, rule, or charter provision which would require a greater degree of openness relative to meetings of public bodies than the standards provided for in this act.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.262 Definitions.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Public body" means any state or local legislative or governing body, including a board, commission, committee, subcommittee, authority, or council, that is empowered by state constitution, statute, charter, ordinance, resolution, or rule to exercise governmental or proprietary authority or perform a governmental or proprietary function; a lessee of such a body performing an essential public purpose and function pursuant to the lease agreement; or the board of a nonprofit corporation formed by a city under section 4o of the home rule city act, 1909 PA 279, MCL 117.4o.

(b) "Meeting" means the convening of a public body at which a quorum is present for the purpose of deliberating toward or rendering a decision on a public policy, or any meeting of the board of a nonprofit corporation formed by a city under section 4o of the home rule city act, 1909 PA 279, MCL 117.4o.

(c) "Closed session" means a meeting or part of a meeting of a public body that is closed to the public.

(d) "Decision" means a determination, action, vote, or disposition upon a motion, proposal, recommendation, resolution, order, ordinance, bill, or measure on which a vote by members of a public body is required and by which a public body effectuates or formulates public policy.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 2001, Act 38, Imd. Eff. July 11, 2001.

15.263 Meetings, decisions, and deliberations of public body; requirements; attending or addressing meeting of public body; COVID-19 safety measures; tape-recording, videotaping, broadcasting, and telecasting proceedings; accommodation of absent members; remote attendance; rules; exclusion from meeting; exemptions.

Sec. 3. (1) All meetings of a public body must be open to the public and must be held in a place available to the general public. All persons must be permitted to attend any meeting except as otherwise provided in this act. The right of a person to attend a meeting of a public body includes the right to tape-record, to videotape, to broadcast live on radio, and to telecast live on television the proceedings of a public body at a public meeting. The exercise of this right does not depend on the prior approval of the public body. However, a public body may establish reasonable rules and regulations in order to minimize the possibility of disrupting the meeting. For a meeting of a public body held in person before April 1, 2021, the public body shall do both of the following:

(a) To the extent feasible under the circumstances, ensure adherence to social distancing and mitigation measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for purposes of preventing the spread of COVID-19, including the measure that an individual remain at least 6 feet from anyone from outside the individual's household.

(b) Adopt heightened standards of facility cleaning and disinfection to limit participant exposure to COVID-19, as well as protocols to clean and disinfect in the event of a positive COVID-19 case in the public body's meeting place.

(2) All decisions of a public body must be made at a meeting open to the public. For purposes of any meeting subject to this section, except a meeting of any state legislative body at which a formal vote is taken, the public body shall, subject to section 3a, establish the following procedures to accommodate the absence of

any member of the public body due to military duty, a medical condition, or a statewide or local state of emergency or state of disaster declared pursuant to law or charter or local ordinance by the governor or a local official, governing body, or chief administrative officer that would risk the personal health or safety of members of the public or the public body if the meeting were held in person:

(a) Procedures by which the absent member may participate in, and vote on, business before the public body, including, but not limited to, procedures that provide for both of the following:

(i) Two-way communication.

(ii) For each member of the public body attending the meeting remotely, a public announcement at the outset of the meeting by that member, to be included in the meeting minutes, that the member is in fact attending the meeting remotely. If the member is attending the meeting remotely for a purpose other than for military duty, the member's announcement must further identify specifically the member's physical location by stating the county, city, township, or village and state from which he or she is attending the meeting remotely.

(b) Procedures by which the public is provided notice of the absence of the member and information about how to contact that member sufficiently in advance of a meeting of the public body to provide input on any business that will come before the public body.

(3) All deliberations of a public body constituting a quorum of its members must take place at a meeting open to the public except as provided in this section and sections 7 and 8.

(4) A person must not be required as a condition of attendance at a meeting of a public body to register or otherwise provide his or her name or other information or otherwise to fulfill a condition precedent to attendance.

(5) A person must be permitted to address a meeting of a public body under rules established and recorded by the public body. The legislature or a house of the legislature may provide by rule that the right to address may be limited to prescribed times at hearings and committee meetings only.

(6) A person must not be excluded from a meeting otherwise open to the public except for a breach of the peace actually committed at the meeting.

(7) This act does not apply to the following public bodies, but only when deliberating the merits of a case:

(a) The Michigan compensation appellate commission operating as described in either of the following:

(i) Section 274 of the worker's disability compensation act of 1969, 1969 PA 317, MCL 418.274.

(ii) Section 34 of the Michigan employment security act, 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1, 421.34.

(b) The state tenure commission created in section 1 of article VII of 1937 (Ex Sess) PA 4, MCL 38.131, when acting as a board of review from the decision of a controlling board.

(c) The employment relations commission or an arbitrator or arbitration panel created or appointed under 1939 PA 176, MCL 423.1 to 423.30.

(d) The Michigan public service commission created under 1939 PA 3, MCL 460.1 to 460.11.

(8) This act does not apply to an association of insurers created under the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.100 to 500.8302, or other association or facility formed under that act as a nonprofit organization of insurer members.

(9) This act does not apply to a committee of a public body that adopts a nonpolicymaking resolution of tribute or memorial, if the resolution is not adopted at a meeting.

(10) This act does not apply to a meeting that is a social or chance gathering or conference not designed to avoid this act.

(11) This act does not apply to the Michigan veterans' trust fund board of trustees or a county or district committee created under 1946 (1st Ex Sess) PA 9, MCL 35.602 to 35.610, when the board of trustees or county or district committee is deliberating the merits of an emergent need. A decision of the board of trustees or county or district committee made under this subsection must be reconsidered by the board or committee at its next regular or special meeting consistent with the requirements of this act. "Emergent need" means a situation that the board of trustees, by rules promulgated under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, determines requires immediate action.

(12) As used in subsection (2):

(a) "Formal vote" means a vote on a bill, amendment, resolution, motion, proposal, recommendation, or any other measure on which a vote by members of a state legislative body is required and by which the state legislative body effectuates or formulates public policy.

(b) "Medical condition" means an illness, injury, disability, or other health-related condition.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1981, Act 161, Imd. Eff. Nov. 30, 1981;—Am. 1986, Act 269, Imd. Eff. Dec. 19, 1986;—Am. 1988, Act 158, Imd. Eff. June 14, 1988;—Am. 1988, Act 278, Imd. Eff. July 27, 1988;—Am. 2016, Act 504, Eff. Apr. 9, 2017;—Am. 2018, Act 485, Eff. Mar. 29, 2019;—Am. 2020, Act 228, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2020;—Am. 2020, Act 254, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2020.

15.263a Electronic public meetings; telephonic or video conferencing; "agricultural commodity group" defined; permissibility under certain circumstances; 2-way communication required; advance notice of electronic meetings; availability of agenda; registration requirement prohibited; remote participation limited to military duty or medical condition.

Sec. 3a. (1) A meeting of a public body held, in whole or in part, electronically by telephonic or video conferencing in compliance with this section and, except as otherwise required in this section, all of the provisions of this act applicable to a nonelectronic meeting, is permitted by this act in the following circumstances:

(a) Before March 31, 2021 and retroactive to March 18, 2020, any circumstances, including, but not limited to, any of the circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members described in section 3(2).

(b) Subject to subdivision (d), on and after March 31, 2021 through December 31, 2021, only those circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members described in section 3(2). For the purpose of permitting an electronic meeting due to a local state of emergency or state of disaster, this subdivision applies only as follows:

(i) To permit the electronic attendance of a member of the public body who resides in the affected area.

(ii) To permit the electronic meeting of a public body that usually holds its meetings in the affected area.

(c) Subject to subdivisions (d), (e), and (f), after December 31, 2021, only in the circumstances requiring accommodation of members absent due to military duty as described in section 3(2).

(d) On and after March 31, 2021, for a public body that is an agricultural commodity group, any circumstances, including, but not limited to, any of the circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members described in section 3(2). As used in this subdivision, "agricultural commodity group" means any of the following:

(i) A committee as that term is defined in section 2 of the agricultural commodities marketing act, 1965 PA 232, MCL 290.652.

(ii) The state beef industry commission created in section 3 of the beef industry commission act, 1972 PA 291, MCL 287.603.

(iii) The potato industry commission created in section 2 of 1970 PA 29, MCL 290.422.

(iv) The Michigan bean commission created in section 3 of 1965 PA 114, MCL 290.553.

(e) On and after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subdivision, for a public body that is responsible for the investment, administration, or management of a municipal public employee retirement system, any circumstances, including, but not limited to, any of the circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members described in section 3(2). As used in this subdivision, "municipal public employee retirement system" means a retirement system as that term is defined in section 3 of the protecting local government retirement and benefits act, 2017 PA 202, MCL 38.2803. A public body that is eligible to meet remotely under this subdivision shall set and publish an attendance policy that includes the determination of a quorum with 1 or more members participating electronically.

(f) On and after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subdivision, for a public body that is a joint agency formed under article 3 of the Michigan energy employment act of 1976, 1976 PA 448, MCL 460.831 to 460.848, any circumstances, including, but not limited to, any of the circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members described in section 3(2). As used in this subdivision, "joint agency" includes a joint agency's board of commissioners and any committee of the joint agency.

(2) A meeting of a public body held electronically under this section must be conducted in a manner that permits 2-way communication so that members of the public body can hear and be heard by other members of the public body, and so that public participants can hear members of the public body and can be heard by members of the public body and other participants during a public comment period. A public body may use technology to facilitate typed public comments during the meeting submitted by members of the public participating in the meeting that may be read to or shared with members of the public body and other participants to satisfy the requirement under this subsection that members of the public be heard by others during the electronic meeting and the requirement under section 3(5) that members of the public be permitted to address the electronic meeting.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (8), a physical place is not required for an electronic meeting held under this section, and members of a public body and members of the public participating electronically in a meeting held under this section that occurs in a physical place are to be considered present and in attendance at the meeting for all purposes.

(4) If a public body directly or indirectly maintains an official internet presence that includes monthly or

more frequent updates of public meeting agendas or minutes, the public body shall, in addition to any other notices that may be required under this act, post advance notice of a meeting held electronically under this section on a portion of the public body's website that is fully accessible to the public. The public notice on the website must be included on either the homepage or on a separate webpage dedicated to public notices for nonregularly scheduled or electronic public meetings that is accessible through a prominent and conspicuous link on the website's homepage that clearly describes its purpose for public notification of nonregularly scheduled or electronic public meetings. Subject to the requirements of this section, any scheduled meeting of a public body may be held as an electronic meeting under this section if a notice consistent with this section is posted at least 18 hours before the meeting begins. Notice of a meeting of a public body held electronically must clearly explain all of the following:

- (a) Why the public body is meeting electronically.
- (b) How members of the public may participate in the meeting electronically. If a telephone number, internet address, or both are needed to participate, that information must be provided specifically.
- (c) How members of the public may contact members of the public body to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the public body at the meeting.
- (d) How persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting.
- (5) Beginning on October 16, 2020, if an agenda exists for an electronic meeting held under this section by a public body that directly or indirectly maintains an official internet presence that includes monthly or more frequent updates of public meeting agendas or minutes, the public body shall, on a portion of the website that is fully accessible to the public, make the agenda available to the public at least 2 hours before the electronic meeting begins. This publication of the agenda does not prohibit subsequent amendment of the agenda at the meeting.
- (6) A public body shall not, as a condition of participating in an electronic meeting of the public body held under this section, require a person to register or otherwise provide the person's name or other information or otherwise to fulfill a condition precedent to attendance, other than mechanisms established and required by the public body necessary to permit the person to participate in a public comment period of the meeting.
- (7) Members of the general public otherwise participating in a meeting of a public body held electronically under this section are to be excluded from participation in a closed session of the public body held electronically during that meeting if the closed session is convened and held in compliance with the requirements of this act applicable to a closed session.
- (8) At a meeting held under this section that accommodates members absent due to military duty or a medical condition, only those members absent due to military duty or a medical condition may participate remotely. Any member who is not on military duty or does not have a medical condition must be physically present at the meeting to participate. This subsection does not apply to a meeting of a public body held electronically under subsection (1)(d), (e), or (f).

History: Add. 2020, Act 228, Imd. Eff. Oct. 16, 2020;—Am. 2020, Act 254, Imd. Eff. Dec. 22, 2020;—Am. 2021, Act 54, Imd. Eff. July 13, 2021;—Am. 2023, Act 214, Eff. Feb. 13, 2024.

15.264 Public notice of meetings generally; contents; places of posting.

Sec. 4. The following provisions shall apply with respect to public notice of meetings:

- (a) A public notice shall always contain the name of the public body to which the notice applies, its telephone number if one exists, and its address.
- (b) A public notice for a public body shall always be posted at its principal office and any other locations considered appropriate by the public body. Cable television may also be utilized for purposes of posting public notice.
- (c) If a public body is a part of a state department, part of the legislative or judicial branch of state government, part of an institution of higher education, or part of a political subdivision or school district, a public notice shall also be posted in the respective principal office of the state department, the institution of higher education, clerk of the house of representatives, secretary of the state senate, clerk of the supreme court, or political subdivision or school district.
- (d) If a public body does not have a principal office, the required public notice for a local public body shall be posted in the office of the county clerk in which the public body serves and the required public notice for a state public body shall be posted in the office of the secretary of state.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1984, Act 87, Imd. Eff. Apr. 19, 1984.

15.265 Public notice of regular meetings, change in schedule of regular meetings, rescheduled regular meetings, or special meetings; posting; statement of date, time, and place; website; recess or adjournment; emergency sessions; emergency public meeting;

meeting in residential dwelling; limitation; notice; duration requirement.

Sec. 5. (1) A meeting of a public body shall not be held unless public notice is given as provided in this section by a person designated by the public body.

(2) For regular meetings of a public body, there shall be posted within 10 days after the first meeting of the public body in each calendar or fiscal year a public notice stating the dates, times, and places of its regular meetings.

(3) If there is a change in the schedule of regular meetings of a public body, there shall be posted within 3 days after the meeting at which the change is made, a public notice stating the new dates, times, and places of its regular meetings.

(4) Except as provided in this subsection or in subsection (6), for a rescheduled regular or a special meeting of a public body, a public notice stating the date, time, and place of the meeting shall be posted at least 18 hours before the meeting in a prominent and conspicuous place at both the public body's principal office and, if the public body directly or indirectly maintains an official internet presence that includes monthly or more frequent updates of public meeting agendas or minutes, on a portion of the website that is fully accessible to the public. The public notice on the website shall be included on either the homepage or on a separate webpage dedicated to public notices for nonregularly scheduled public meetings and accessible via a prominent and conspicuous link on the website's homepage that clearly describes its purpose for public notification of those nonregularly scheduled public meetings. The requirement of 18-hour notice does not apply to special meetings of subcommittees of a public body or conference committees of the state legislature. A conference committee shall give a 6-hour notice. A second conference committee shall give a 1-hour notice. Notice of a conference committee meeting shall include written notice to each member of the conference committee and the majority and minority leader of each house indicating time and place of the meeting.

(5) A meeting of a public body that is recessed for more than 36 hours shall be reconvened only after public notice that is equivalent to that required under subsection (4) has been posted. If either house of the state legislature is adjourned or recessed for less than 18 hours, the notice provisions of subsection (4) are not applicable. Nothing in this section bars a public body from meeting in emergency session in the event of a severe and imminent threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the public when 2/3 of the members serving on the body decide that delay would be detrimental to efforts to lessen or respond to the threat. However, if a public body holds an emergency public meeting that does not comply with the 18-hour posted notice requirement, it shall make paper copies of the public notice for the emergency meeting available to the public at that meeting. The notice shall include an explanation of the reasons that the public body cannot comply with the 18-hour posted notice requirement. The explanation shall be specific to the circumstances that necessitated the emergency public meeting, and the use of generalized explanations such as "an imminent threat to the health of the public" or "a danger to public welfare and safety" does not meet the explanation requirements of this subsection. If the public body directly or indirectly maintains an official internet presence that includes monthly or more frequent updates of public meeting agendas or minutes, it shall post the public notice of the emergency meeting and its explanation on its website in the manner described for an internet posting in subsection (4). Within 48 hours after the emergency public meeting, the public body shall send official correspondence to the board of county commissioners of the county in which the public body is principally located, informing the commission that an emergency public meeting with less than 18 hours' public notice has taken place. The correspondence shall also include the public notice of the meeting with explanation and shall be sent by either the United States postal service or electronic mail. Compliance with the notice requirements for emergency meetings in this subsection does not create, and shall not be construed to create, a legal basis or defense for failure to comply with other provisions of this act and does not relieve the public body from the duty to comply with any provision of this act.

(6) A meeting of a public body may only take place in a residential dwelling if a nonresidential building within the boundary of the local governmental unit or school system is not available without cost to the public body. For a meeting of a public body that is held in a residential dwelling, notice of the meeting shall be published as a display advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or township in which the meeting is to be held. The notice shall be published not less than 2 days before the day on which the meeting is held, and shall state the date, time, and place of the meeting. The notice shall be at the bottom of the display advertisement, set off in a conspicuous manner, and include the following language: "This meeting is open to all members of the public under Michigan's open meetings act".

(7) A durational requirement for posting a public notice of a meeting under this act is the time that the notice is required to be accessible to the public.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1978, Act 256, Imd. Eff. June 21, 1978;—Am. 1982, Act 134, Imd. Eff. Apr. 22,

15.266 Providing copies of public notice on written request; fee.

Sec. 6. (1) Upon the written request of an individual, organization, firm, or corporation, and upon the requesting party's payment of a yearly fee of not more than the reasonable estimated cost for printing and postage of such notices, a public body shall send to the requesting party by first class mail a copy of any notice required to be posted pursuant to section 5(2) to (5).

(2) Upon written request, a public body, at the same time a public notice of a meeting is posted pursuant to section 5, shall provide a copy of the public notice of that meeting to any newspaper published in the state and to any radio and television station located in the state, free of charge.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.267 Closed sessions; roll call vote; separate set of minutes.

Sec. 7. (1) A 2/3 roll call vote of members elected or appointed and serving is required to call a closed session, except for the closed sessions permitted under section 8(a), (b), (c), (g), (i), and (j). The roll call vote and the purpose or purposes for calling the closed session shall be entered into the minutes of the meeting at which the vote is taken.

(2) A separate set of minutes shall be taken by the clerk or the designated secretary of the public body at the closed session. These minutes shall be retained by the clerk of the public body, are not available to the public, and shall only be disclosed if required by a civil action filed under section 10, 11, or 13. These minutes may be destroyed 1 year and 1 day after approval of the minutes of the regular meeting at which the closed session was approved.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1993, Act 81, Eff. Apr. 1, 1994;—Am. 1996, Act 464, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 1996.

15.268 Closed sessions; permissible purposes; applicability to independent citizens redistricting commission.

Sec. 8. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), a public body may meet in a closed session only for the following purposes:

(a) To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, if the named individual requests a closed hearing. An individual requesting a closed hearing may rescind the request at any time, in which case the matter at issue must be considered after the rescission only in open sessions.

(b) To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student if the public body is part of the school district, intermediate school district, or institution of higher education that the student is attending, and if the student or the student's parent or guardian requests a closed hearing.

(c) For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing.

(d) To consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained.

(e) To consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body.

(f) To review and consider the contents of an application for employment or appointment to a public office if the candidate requests that the application remain confidential. However, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, all interviews by a public body for employment or appointment to a public office must be held in an open meeting pursuant to this act. This subdivision does not apply to a public office described in subdivision (j).

(g) Partisan caucuses of members of the state legislature.

(h) To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

(i) For a compliance conference conducted under section 16231 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.16231, before a complaint is issued.

(j) In the process of searching for and selecting a president of an institution of higher education established under section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963, to review the specific contents of an application, to conduct an interview with a candidate, or to discuss the specific qualifications of a candidate if the particular process of searching for and selecting a president of an institution of higher education meets all of the following requirements:

(i) The search committee in the process, appointed by the governing board, consists of at least 1 student of

the institution, 1 faculty member of the institution, 1 administrator of the institution, 1 alumnus of the institution, and 1 representative of the general public. The search committee also may include 1 or more members of the governing board of the institution, but the number does not constitute a quorum of the governing board. However, the search committee must not be constituted in such a way that any 1 of the groups described in this subparagraph constitutes a majority of the search committee.

(ii) After the search committee recommends the 5 final candidates, the governing board does not take a vote on a final selection for the president until at least 30 days after the 5 final candidates have been publicly identified by the search committee.

(iii) The deliberations and vote of the governing board of the institution on selecting the president take place in an open session of the governing board.

(k) For a school board to consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff. As used in this subdivision, "school board" means any of the following:

(i) That term as defined in section 3 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.3.

(ii) An intermediate school board as that term is defined in section 4 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.4.

(iii) A board of directors of a public school academy as described in section 502 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.502.

(iv) The local governing board of a public community or junior college as described in section 7 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

(l) For a county veteran services committee to interview a veteran or a veteran's spouse or dependent regarding that individual's application for benefits or financial assistance and discuss that individual's application for benefits or financial assistance, if the applicant requests a closed hearing. This subdivision does not apply to a county veteran services committee voting on whether to grant or deny an individual's application for benefits or financial assistance. As used in this subdivision, "county veteran services committee" means a committee created by a county board of commissioners under section 1 of 1953 PA 192, MCL 35.621, or a soldiers' relief commission created under section 2 of 1899 PA 214, MCL 35.22.

(2) This act does not permit the independent citizens redistricting commission to meet in closed session for any purpose. As used in this subsection, "independent citizens redistricting commission" means the independent citizens redistricting commission for state legislative and congressional districts created in section 6 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1984, Act 202, Imd. Eff. July 3, 1984;—Am. 1993, Act 81, Eff. Apr. 1, 1994;—Am. 1996, Act 464, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 1996;—Am. 2018, Act 467, Eff. Mar. 27, 2019;—Am. 2021, Act 31, Imd. Eff. June 24, 2021;—Am. 2021, Act 166, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2021.

Compiler's note: Enacting section 1 of Act 166 of 2021 provides:

"Enacting section 1. This amendatory act is intended to clarify that the independent citizens redistricting commission for state legislative and congressional districts, since its establishment under section 6 of article IV of the state constitution of 1963, has been required to conduct all of its business at open meetings, without exception and in a manner that invites wide public participation throughout this state, as provided in section 6(10) of article IV of the state constitution of 1963, and that the commission continues to be subject to this unqualified open meetings requirement."

15.269 Minutes.

Sec. 9. (1) Each public body shall keep minutes of each meeting showing the date, time, place, members present, members absent, any decisions made at a meeting open to the public, and the purpose or purposes for which a closed session is held. The minutes shall include all roll call votes taken at the meeting. The public body shall make any corrections in the minutes at the next meeting after the meeting to which the minutes refer. The public body shall make corrected minutes available at or before the next subsequent meeting after correction. The corrected minutes shall show both the original entry and the correction.

(2) Minutes are public records open to public inspection, and a public body shall make the minutes available at the address designated on posted public notices pursuant to section 4. The public body shall make copies of the minutes available to the public at the reasonable estimated cost for printing and copying.

(3) A public body shall make proposed minutes available for public inspection within 8 business days after the meeting to which the minutes refer. The public body shall make approved minutes available for public inspection within 5 business days after the meeting at which the minutes are approved by the public body.

(4) A public body shall not include in or with its minutes any personally identifiable information that, if released, would prevent the public body from complying with section 444 of subpart 4 of part C of the general education provisions act, 20 USC 1232g, commonly referred to as the family educational rights and privacy act of 1974.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977;—Am. 1982, Act 130, Imd. Eff. Apr. 20, 1982;—Am. 2004, Act 305, Imd. Eff. Aug. 11, 2004.

15.269a Sound recordings of public meetings.

Sec. 9a. (1) Every meeting of a public body that is a state licensing board, state commission panel, or state rule-making board, except a meeting or part of a meeting held in closed session, must be recorded in a manner that allows for the capture of sound, including, without limitation, in any of the following formats:

- (a) A sound-only recording.
- (b) A video recording with sound and picture.
- (c) A digital or analog broadcast capable of being recorded.

(2) A recording required under subsection (1) must be maintained for a minimum of 1 year from the date of the meeting in a format that can be reproduced upon a request under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

History: Add. 2022, Act 63, Eff. Mar. 29, 2023.

15.270 Decisions of public body; presumption; civil action to invalidate; jurisdiction; venue; reenactment of disputed decision.

Sec. 10. (1) Decisions of a public body shall be presumed to have been adopted in compliance with the requirements of this act. The attorney general, the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the public body serves, or any person may commence a civil action in the circuit court to challenge the validity of a decision of a public body made in violation of this act.

(2) A decision made by a public body may be invalidated if the public body has not complied with the requirements of section 3(1), (2), and (3) in making the decision or if failure to give notice in accordance with section 5 has interfered with substantial compliance with section 3(1), (2), and (3) and the court finds that the noncompliance or failure has impaired the rights of the public under this act.

(3) The circuit court shall not have jurisdiction to invalidate a decision of a public body for a violation of this act unless an action is commenced pursuant to this section within the following specified period of time:

(a) Within 60 days after the approved minutes are made available to the public by the public body except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b).

(b) If the decision involves the approval of contracts, the receipt or acceptance of bids, the making of assessments, the procedures pertaining to the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, or the submission of a borrowing proposal to the electors, within 30 days after the approved minutes are made available to the public pursuant to that decision.

(4) Venue for an action under this section shall be any county in which a local public body serves or, if the decision of a state public body is at issue, in Ingham county.

(5) In any case where an action has been initiated to invalidate a decision of a public body on the ground that it was not taken in conformity with the requirements of this act, the public body may, without being deemed to make any admission contrary to its interest, reenact the disputed decision in conformity with this act. A decision reenacted in this manner shall be effective from the date of reenactment and shall not be declared invalid by reason of a deficiency in the procedure used for its initial enactment.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.271 Civil action to compel compliance or enjoin noncompliance; commencement; venue; security not required; commencement of action for mandamus; court costs and attorney fees.

Sec. 11. (1) If a public body is not complying with this act, the attorney general, prosecuting attorney of the county in which the public body serves, or a person may commence a civil action to compel compliance or to enjoin further noncompliance with this act.

(2) An action for injunctive relief against a local public body shall be commenced in the circuit court, and venue is proper in any county in which the public body serves. An action for an injunction against a state public body shall be commenced in the circuit court and venue is proper in any county in which the public body has its principal office, or in Ingham county. If a person commences an action for injunctive relief, that person shall not be required to post security as a condition for obtaining a preliminary injunction or a temporary restraining order.

(3) An action for mandamus against a public body under this act shall be commenced in the court of appeals.

(4) If a public body is not complying with this act, and a person commences a civil action against the public body for injunctive relief to compel compliance or to enjoin further noncompliance with the act and succeeds in obtaining relief in the action, the person shall recover court costs and actual attorney fees for the action.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.272 Violation as misdemeanor; penalty.

Sec. 12. (1) A public official who intentionally violates this act is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00.

(2) A public official who is convicted of intentionally violating a provision of this act for a second time within the same term shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than \$2,000.00, or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.273 Violation; liability.

Sec. 13. (1) A public official who intentionally violates this act shall be personally liable in a civil action for actual and exemplary damages of not more than \$500.00 total, plus court costs and actual attorney fees to a person or group of persons bringing the action.

(2) Not more than 1 action under this section shall be brought against a public official for a single meeting. An action under this section shall be commenced within 180 days after the date of the violation which gives rise to the cause of action.

(3) An action for damages under this section may be joined with an action for injunctive or exemplary relief under section 11.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.273a Selection of president by governing board of higher education institution; violation; civil fine.

Sec. 13a. If the governing board of an institution of higher education established under section 4, 5, or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963 violates this act with respect to the process of selecting a president of the institution at any time after the recommendation of final candidates to the governing board, as described in section 8(j), the institution is responsible for the payment of a civil fine of not more than \$500,000.00. This civil fine is in addition to any other remedy or penalty under this act. To the extent possible, any payment of fines imposed under this section shall be paid from funds allocated by the institution of higher education to pay for the travel and expenses of the members of the governing board.

History: Add. 1996, Act 464, Imd. Eff. Dec. 26, 1996.

15.274 Repeal of MCL 15.251 to 15.253.

Sec. 14. Act No. 261 of the Public Acts of 1968, being sections 15.251 to 15.253 of the Compiled Laws of 1970, is repealed.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.

15.275 Effective date.

Sec. 15. This act shall take effect January 1, 1977.

History: 1976, Act 267, Eff. Mar. 31, 1977.