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	Areas, Recreation Facilities & Resources

Introduction

The Pennfield Township Recreation Plan is the guiding document for the development of new

recreational sites and the enhancement of existing recreational amenities within the Township. This plan spells out the types of recreation sought by the Township and its residents as well as how the Township will meet the recreation needs expressed by the citizenry. This document also outlines and catalogs the process the Pennfield Township Planning Commission undertook to create the plan for the future of recreation in the Township. This plan will remain in place for five years or until it is amended.

This plan lays out the future of recreation in Pennfield Township.

Acknowledgements

The Pennfield Planning Commission would like the thank the following organizations for their support in the development of this plan:

- · Pennfield Public Schools
- Pennfield Township Board of Trustees, and especially Rob Behnke
- Calhoun County Department of Community Development
- Calhoun County Conservation District
- Southcentral Michigan Planning Council
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Without the support of these organization, this plan would not have come together and the future of recreation in Pennfield Township would not have a clear definition.

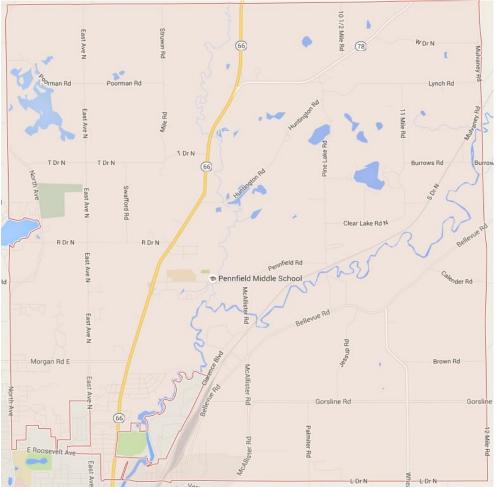
Chapter 1

extreme northeast corner.

This plan is designed to provide a roadmap for Township Officials and residents as it relates to the development and maintenance of recreational spaces in Pennfield Township. Pennfield Charter Township (Township) is located in northcentral

Calhoun County, Michigan. Calhoun County Figure 1: Map of Pennfield Township is located in Southwest Michigan; approximately midway between Detroit and Chicago, along interstate I-94. The Township lies adjacent to the City of Battle Creek to the south-southwest and is also surrounded by Bedford Township to the west, Assyria Township (Barry County) to the north, Convis Township to the east, and Emmett Township to the south. A very small portion of Bellevue Township (Eaton County) borders Pennfield Charter Township in the

The major transportation routes in the Township include M-66, also known as Capital Avenue Northeast, North Avenue, M-78, and Morgan Road. The Township and a majority of the surrounding areas are part of the Battle Creek Metropolitan Statistical Area.

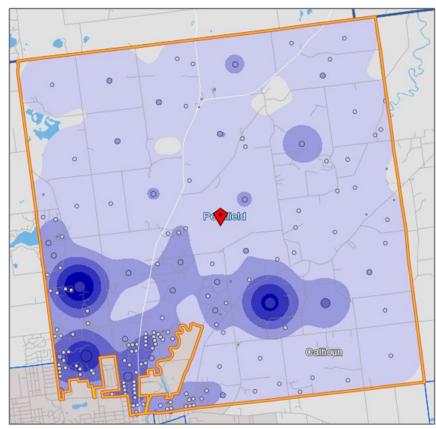


Community Description

The Township encompasses 35.1 square miles. A large portion of the land use in the Township is low density and rural residential with pockets of higher density residential, commercial, and agricultural land use in various locations. Much of the residential development is located in the Southwest portion of the Township, near the City of Battle Creek (see figure 2). Commercial development in the Township predominantly centers located along the main thoroughfares, mainly Capital Avenue. A small number of farms exist in the Township along with numerous woodlots and undeveloped open spaces. Approximately 3% of the total area is open water, including: the Battle Creek River, Wanadoga Creek, Saint Mary's Lake, Pine Lake, and Clear Lake.

The future land use map in the Pennfield Township Master Plan projects future high density residential or commercials activity to occur in the southeaster portion of the Township and along the major transportation corridors, especially M-66. Furthermore, the future land use map projects that about three-quarters of the Township will remain rural residential or agriculture.

Figure 2: Map of Population Concentrations in Pennfield Township



Source: Census on the Map, 2013

Community Description continued

Pennfield Township is home to approximately 9,000 residents. Those residents are concentrated in the Southeast portion of the Township, see figure 1. Not only is it important to understand where the residents live in Pennfield Township but also it is important to understand the ages groups who reside in the Township in order to properly plan for recreation. An understanding of the age groups represented in the Township is important so the Planning Commission can make the appropriate accommodations when recommendations for development of recreation areas. The residents of the Township are older than the population that resides in the State of Michigan; the median age for the Township is 42.4, whereas the median age for the state is 38.9. The Township also has a significantly lower portion of people aged between 20 and 39 than the state. Furthermore, 19-29 year olds comprised the smallest portion of the survey respondents; only 4.8% of the respondents were 19-29 years old.

Figure 3: Pennfield Township Age Groups

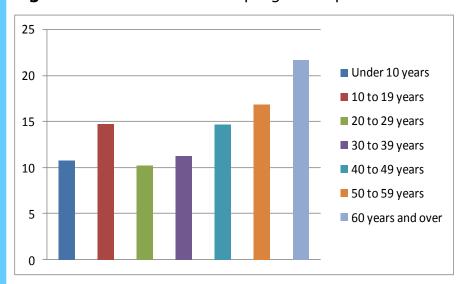


Figure 4: State of Michigan Age Groups

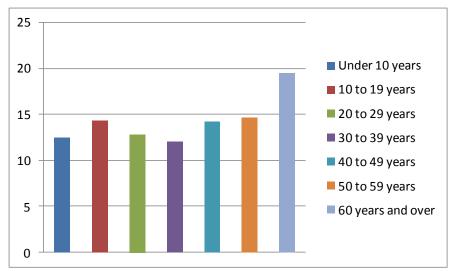
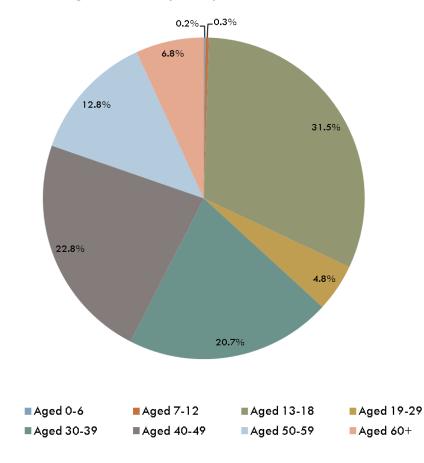


Figure 5: Age of Survey Respondents



The recommendations or preferences of the Planning Commission were not specific to particular sets of demographics except for the goal of attracting additional 19-29 year olds. The initial actions of the Township will not focus on particular groups of people, but rather on the Township as a whole. Nonetheless, the Planning Commission noticed the lack of 19-29 year olds living in the Township and determined a unique goal and set of objectives and action items were required to attract that population to the Township. Specific information regarding 19-29 year olds in the Township is found in Chapter 6.

Chapter 2

As a charter township, Pennfield Township is governed by a Board of Trustees and administered by a Supervisor and staff. The Board of Trustees is comprised of a Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk, and four general trustees. Each member of the Board of Trustees is elected by the residents of the Pennfield Township.

The Township does not have a parks and recreation commission. Therefore, the Pennfield Township Planning Commission (Commission) is overseeing the creation of the five-year recreation plan. Commission members are appointed by the Supervisor and approved by the Board of Trustees. Lists of the Pennfield Township Trustees, Planning Commission members, and administrative staff members are on the next page.

The Township is working through potential long-term strategies for providing recreational opportunities to its residents. The long-term strategies include ownership structures and funding mechanisms. If the Township determines that the best long-term structure for the recreation is an independent authority, it will create a Parks and Recreation Commission. Other ownership structures will require different forms of oversight.

Regardless of ownership structure, the Township will need to develop a sustainable funding mechanism. This may include the implementation of user fees, general fund allocations, or a dedicated millage. These strategies are discussed further in chapters 5 and 6.

Furthermore, the Township will employ a site-specific funding strategy. When developing a specific site, the Township will develop a unique funding strategy that fits the needs of the site while seeking funding from sources that support the recreational amenities associated with the site.

Administrative Structure

Pennfield Township Board of Trustees

Rob Behnke - Supervisor
Kathy Case - Clerk
Barb Phillips - Treasurer
Perry Beard - Trustee
Tammi Damerow - Trustee
Mickey Harris - Trustee
Larry Skelding - Trustee

Pennfield Township Planning Commissioners

Jon Bartlett - Chairperson
Paul Anderson - Vice Chair
Brad Messenger - Secretary
Tammi Damerow - Board Representative
Jack Pooler - Member
Curtis Whitaker - Member
JR Walter - Member



Pennfield Township Administration

Rob Behnke - Supervisor

Kathy Case - Clerk

Barb Phillips - Treasurer

Dan Brunner - Township Assessor

Barb Darlington - Code Compliance Officer/Deputy Supervisor

Sandy Cummings - Deputy Treasurer

Karen Kooi - Deputy Clerk

Cheri Ambroso - Utilities Division/Permits Clerk

Desire Ramos - Utilities Division/Permits Clerk

Tim Smith - Fire Department Chief

Chapter 3

An initial step in providing a framework for long range recreation planning is an inventory and assessment of existing park and open space facilities. Therefore, a comprehensive inventory of recreational opportunities was conducted within Pennfield Charter Township and the area within a 2 mile buffer of the township boundaries.

The two mile buffer was selected for two reasons. First, Pennfield Charter Township does not own or manage any parks. And two, the public survey indicated that almost 90% of the respondents were comfortable traveling over two miles to visit a park, leaving slightly more than 10% who would only travel up to 2 miles to visit a park. To understand which parks would be included in this area of travel, the two mile boundary was added to the perimeter of the Township and included in the inventory.

The inventory resulted in three maps with accompanying amenity inventories.

Map one (page 12) depicts land that is owned by Pennfield Charter Township. The inventory includes current land use and size. This map also includes land owned by other agencies that might be suitable for future park development. These parcels are primarily owned by Consumers Energy Company and the Grand Trunk Western Railroad Company. Among this inventory are also parcels owned by other agencies involved in resource conservation and several non-profit organizations that may be interested in patterning on future recreation projects.

Map two (page 14) shows school locations that provide valuable recreation opportunities for residents since Pennfield does not own any parkland. School grounds account for approximately 380 acres in the study area and provide various facilities such as playgrounds and athletic fields. The use of school property and facilities, however, offers limited public access which is dependent on each individual school district's policies that often prohibit use during school hours.

Inventory of Existing Parks, Natural Areas, Recreation Facilities, & Resources

Map three (page 16) includes municipally owned parks that exist within the study area described above. The majority are owned and operated by the City of Battle Creek and three by Calhoun County.

The City of Battle Creek parks within the two mile boundary vary in size and offer a wide range of passive and active recreational activities. Bailey Park (which is the closest recreational opportunity for the majority of Township residents) houses a multi-field baseball complex, multiple playground structures (including a universal play structure), access to the 40+ miles of Linear Trial, as well as outdoor volleyball and shuffle board courts that are among the amenities found at this location.

The County-owned facilities that fall within the study area include Ott Biological Preserve, Kimball Pines Park, and the Calhoun County Trailway. This accounts for over 400 acres of hiking, biking, and picnic opportunities.



This map also includes the Trailways and golf course that are within this area.

Inventories continued

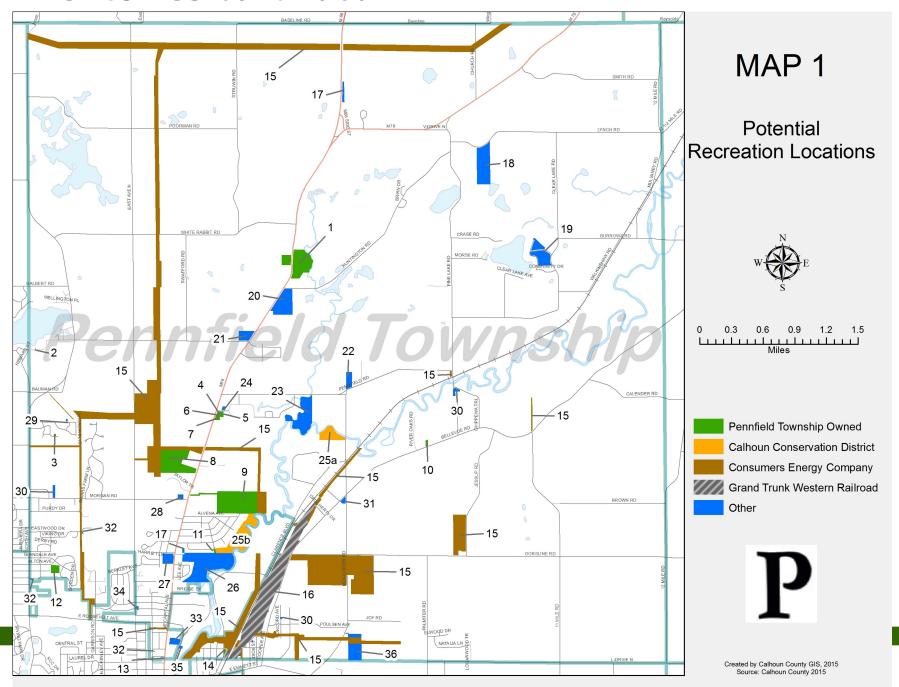


Table 1:Inventory of Potential Recreation Locations

Map ID	Property Address	Owner	Acres
1	21864 Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	31.4
2	St. Marys Lake Rd	Pennfield Charter Township	0.1
3	239 Eden Rd	Pennfield Charter Township	0.2
4	Primrose Trail	Pennfield Charter Township	0.7
5	132 Primrose Trail	Pennfield Charter Township	0.3
6	20300 Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	1.2
7	20260 Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	0.9
8	19785 Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	36.3
9	Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	53.1
10	9745 Bellevue Rd	Pennfield Charter Township	0.8
11	311 Dream Dr	Pennfield Charter Township	0.5
12	230 Alton	Pennfield Charter Township	3.9
13	881 Capital Ave NE	Pennfield Charter Township	0.1
14	Brigden (Park)	Pennfield Charter Township	0.4
15	Several properties	Consumers Energy Company	717.4
16		Grand Trunk Western Railroad Company	114.2
17	Capital Ave NE	Michigan Department of Transportation	2.8
18	Lynch Rd	Michigan Nature Association	45.9
19	Community Dr	Clear Lake Recreational Park	17.2
20	21342 Capital Ave NE	Rhema Word Outreach Center	23.5
21	7979 St. Marys Lake Rd	United Presbitarian Church	7.2
22	9037 Pennfield Rd	Grace Community Church	5.5
23	Pennfield Rd	Soutwest Michigan Land Conservation	30.2
24	115 Primrose Trail	Calhoun County Community MHA	0.8
25 A	McAllister Road	Calhoun Conservation District	13.2
25 B		Calhoun Conservation District	32.7
26		Calhoun County Water Resources/Pennfield Drain 1 & 2	56.7
27	1625 Capital Ave NE	Calvary Baptist Church	6.2
28	7615 Morgan Rd	Sancturay of Praise Church of God	1.5
29	351 Arcadia Blvd	Seventh Day Adventist Church	0.2
30	3 properties listed	Calhoun County Road Department	3.7
31	8938 Bellevue Rd	Christ Alive Church, Inc.	1.4
32	3 properties listed	Calhoun County Land Bank Authority	0.4
33	1021 Wagner Dr	River Walk Community Church	3.6
34	Bradley & East Ave North	Garrison Hills Wesleyan Church	0.3
35	Wagner Dr	City of Battle Creek	0.5
36	292 Mc Allister Dr	Harmony Missionary Baptist Church	15.4

Inventories continued

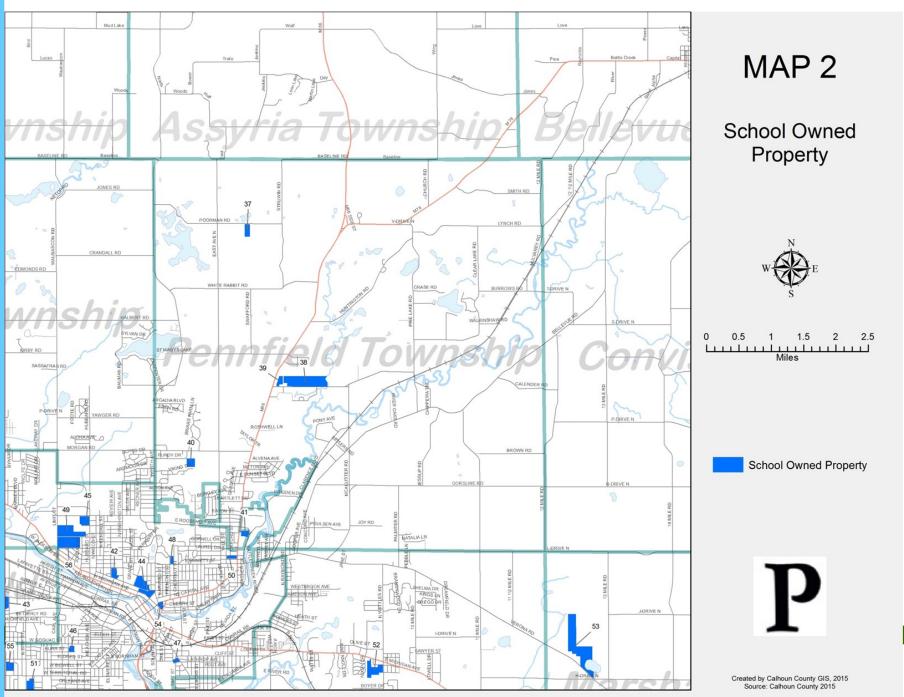


Table 2: Inventory of School Owned Properties within Two Miles of Pennfield Township

Map D# Park Name Address Ownership Pennfield North 37 Elementary School Pennfield Middle & 38 High Schools S587 Pennfield Rd Pennfield Rd	
37 Elementary School (Poorman Rd) Pennfield Public Schools 9.7 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	Other
Pennfield Middle & 38 High Schools 8587 Pennfield Rd Pennfield Public Schools 64.5 X X X X X X X X	
38 High Schools 8587 Pennfield Rd Pennfield Public Schools 64.5 X X X X X X	
Pennfield Central 8465 Pennfield Rd	
39 Elementary School (Dunlap) Pennfield Public Schools 7.2 X X X X	
Purdy Elementary	Multi purpose
40 School 6510 Purdy Dr Pennfield Public Schools 10.4 X X X	field
41 Battle Creek Christian 1035 Wagner Dr. Battle Creek Christian School 6.1 X	
Ann J. Kellogg 306 Champion St,	
42 Elementary School Battle Creek Battle Creek Public Schools 8.4	
Battle Creek Math & 171 West Michigan	
43 Science Center Ave Battle Creek Public Schools 22.5	
Battle Creek Central	Plaza area
44 High School 100 W VanBuren St. Battle Creek Public Schools 29.1 X X X	with seating
45 Dudley STEM School 308 W Roosevelt St Battle Creek Public Schools 12.8	Football
46 Coburn Elementary 39 Fairhome Ave. Battle Creek Public Schools 29.0	
47 Franklin Elementary 20 Newark Ave. Battle Creek Public Schools 3.3	
48 Fremont Elementary 115 E. Emmett St. Battle Creek Public Schools 3.7	
Northwestern Middle	
49 School 176 Limit St. Battle Creek Public Schools 35.9	
50 Verona Elementary 825 NE Capital Ave. Battle Creek Public Schools 4.6	Football
Calhoun Christian	- I GG tour
51 School 20 S. Woodrow Ave. Calhoun Christian School 13.6 X	
Wattles Park	
52 Elementary 132 S. Wattles Rd. Harper Creek Comm. Schools 25.1 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	Bike trail
Grever's Nature Verona Rd, Marshall,	DIKC (fall
53 Center MI Marshall Public Schools 90.6	x
St. Philip Catholic Roman Catholic Diocese of	Performance
54 Central High School 20 Cherry St Kalamazoo 4.1	area
St. Joseph Elem. & Kalamazoo 4.1	area
55. Middle School 47 N 23rd St St. Josephs Catholic Church 9.1 X X X X X X X X X	Sledding
Michigan Conference	
Association of Seventh-Day	
56 Battle Creek Academy 480 Parkway Dr Adventists 36.3 X X X X X	Sledding

Inventories continued

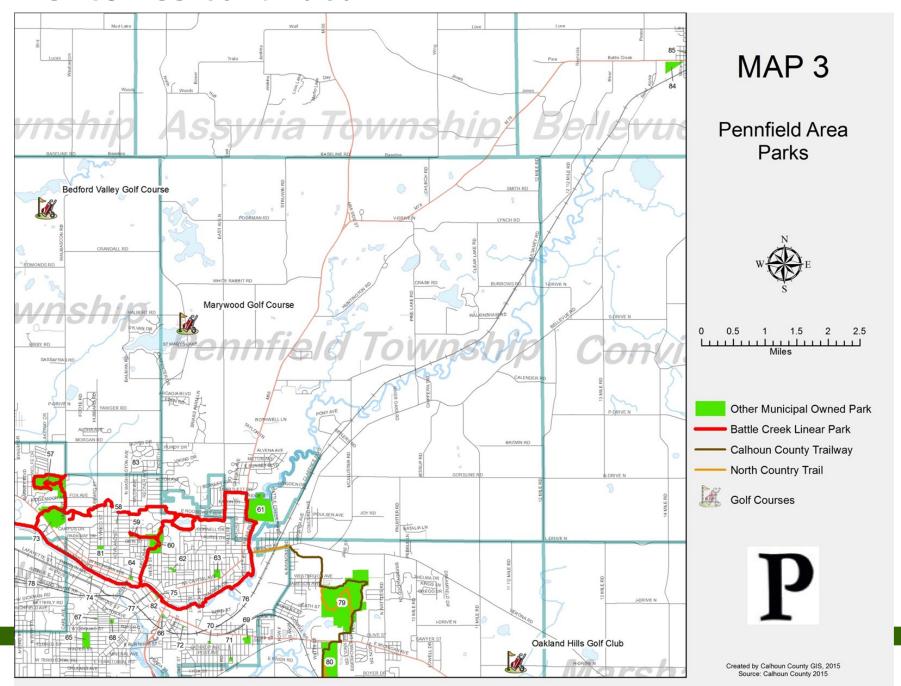


Table 3: Inventory of Park within Two Miles of Pennfield Township

60 Irwing Park North Ave City of Battle Creek 6.9 0.7 0.	Map ID#	Park Name	Address	Ownership	Acres	Accessible to water	Baseball	Basketball	Boat Launch	Community Gardens	Consession Stand	Disc Golf	Fishing	Football	Grills	Handicap Accessible	Hiking	Restrooms	Parking	Pavilion	Playground	Picnic area	Soccer	Shuffleboard	Track	Tennis	Visitor Center	Vollyball	Other
S8 Julia Milher Park	57	Fell Park	Park Ridge Drive, BC.,	City of Battle Creek	89.7		Χ																						
Second S			Corner of Roseneath &																										
Corner of Emmett and College C				City of Battle Creek													Χ		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ			Χ				
60 Irwing Park North Ave City of Battle Creek 6.9 0.7 0.	59	Claude Evans Park	N Washington Ave	City of Battle Creek	5.0		Χ	Χ																					
61 Balley Park			Corner of Emmett and																										Drinking
62 Quaker Park	60	Irving Park	North Ave	City of Battle Creek	46.9							Χ	Χ		Χ		Χ			Χ		Χ							fountain
Columber Park 135 Frement St City of Battle Creek 2.8	61	Bailey Park	7400 Division Dr.	City of Battle Creek	97.0	Χ	Χ		Χ		Χ		Χ						Χ		Χ	Χ							Benches
63 Piper Park																													Sledding, Bike
A	62	Quaker Park	135 Fremont St	City of Battle Creek												Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	_	Χ							trail
64 McCamly Park Mich Ave City of Battle Creek 1.6	63	Piper Park	Capital Ave NE	City of Battle Creek	7.2		Χ								Χ						Χ	Χ							
McCrea Park McCrea St			N Washington Ave & W																										Performance
65 McCrea Park McCrea St City of Battle Creek 17.3	64	McCamly Park	Mich Ave	City of Battle Creek	1.6											Χ			Χ										area
66 Monument Park Division & Michigan Ave City of Battle Creek City of Springfield City of																													Performance
67 Meachem Park Meachem St City of Battle Creek 0.7	65	McCrea Park	McCrea St	City of Battle Creek	17.3		Х	Χ											Χ			Χ							area
68 Prospect Park	66	Monument Park	Division & Michigan Ave	City of Battle Creek	1.1														Χ										
69 Post Park	67	Meachem Park	Meachem St	City of Battle Creek	0.7		Χ	Χ						Χ					Χ		Χ				Χ				
To Cliff Street Park Cliff St City of Battle Creek 1.2	68	Prospect Park	S Washington Ave	City of Battle Creek	2.2												Χ		Χ										
Table Tabl	69	Post Park	E Michigan Ave	City of Battle Creek	7.9			Χ									Χ		Χ			Χ							
The process of the	70	Cliff Street Park	Cliff St	City of Battle Creek	1.2					Χ																			
Leila Arboretum & 73 Kingman Museum 928 W Michigan Ave, B.C. City of Battle Creek 66.1	71	Hamilton Park	151 Academy St	City of Battle Creek	2.0														Χ		Χ		Χ						
73 Kingman Museum 928 W Michigan Ave, B.C. City of Battle Creek 66.1	72	Stellrecht Park	85 Bennett St	City of Battle Creek	0.6			Χ											Χ		Χ		Χ						
Triendship Park Capital Ave Ne & State St W City of Battle Creek 1.7	73		928 W Michigan Ave, B.C.	City of Battle Creek	66.1							Χ					Х		Х										Cross Country Skiing
Total Park Wagner Dr. City of Battle Creek 2.0			Hamblin Ave	City of Battle Creek	0.8														Χ		Χ								
Multi Field Multi Fiel	75	Friendship Park	Capital Ave Ne & State St W	City of Battle Creek	1.7									Χ					Χ				Χ		Χ	Χ			
77 Wave Park McCamly St City of Battle Creek 0.1 Image: City of Springfield Image: City of	76	Horseshoe Bend Park	Wagnrer Dr.	City of Battle Creek	2.0								Χ		Χ		Χ		Χ			Χ							
79 Ott Biological Reserve Arlington St, BC, MI Calhoun County 298.0	77	Wave Park	McCamly St	City of Battle Creek	0.1														Χ		Х								Multi purpose field
80 Kimball Pines 1150 East Michigan Ave. Calhoun County 116.9 X		•	Upton Ave	City of Springfield	5.5														Χ		Χ								
81 Greenwood Park Greenwood Ave United Methodist 9.8 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	79	Ott Biological Reserve	Arlington St, BC, MI	Calhoun County	298.0														Χ										
81 Greenwood Park Greenwood Ave United Methodist 9.8 X<	80	Kimball Pines	1150 East Michigan Ave.	Calhoun County	116.9							Χ							Χ		Χ								
82 Mill Race Park Capital Ave SW Foundation 1.8 X	81	Greenwood Park	Greenwood Ave		9.8			Х								Χ					Х	Х			Х				
83 Ardmoor Park 200 Block of Ardmoor Dr Road Department 4.4 X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	82	Mill Race Park	Capital Ave SW	Foundation	1.8	Х															х	Х				Х			
	83	Ardmoor Park	200 Block of Ardmoor Dr	-	4.4			Х											Х		х								
85 Washington Park 200 Block of Parkway City of Bellevue 1.5	84	Area	Rd.	Eaton County	17.0	Х							Х		Х		Х		х			Х							Boardwalks

Inventories continued

Table 4: Inventory of Golf Courses in, and within two miles of, Pennfield Township

				Public or	Size (9 or 18
Name	Address	City	Website	private	holes)
				Public &	
Oakland Hills Golf Club	11619 H Dr N	Pattle Crook	http://oaklandhillsgolfclub.com/	Membership	0.9.10
Oakiana Hills Golf Club	11013 U DI M	Battle Creek	Tittp://oakiandiiiisgoirciub.com/	Membership	9 & 16
Bedford Valley Golf Course, 1					
of 5 of Gull Lake View Golf					
Club & Resort	23161 Waubascon Road	Battle Creek	http://www.gulllakeview.com/	Public	18
Marywood Golf Course	21310 North Ave	Battle Creek	http://marywoodgolf.com/	Public	9 & 18

Table 5: Inventory of Trails in, and within two miles of, Pennfield Township

Trail Name	Owner	Total Length in Miles					
Battle Creek Linear Trail	City of Battle Creek	40.34					
Calhoun County Trailway Calhoun County 5.56							
North County Scenic Trail National Park Service 56.41 *							
* This trail is over 4,600 miles in length. The number reported is the length through Calhoun County.							

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Chapter 4

Planning Commission

In early 2015, the Pennfield Township Board of Trustees (Trustees) empowered the Planning Commission to develop a five-year recreation plan for the Township. The Trustees also gave the Commission the financial resources to develop the plan. The Commission focused their monthly meetings between September 2015 and January 2016 on the development of the plan. They also held a special meeting to discuss the plan. The meetings were designed to design an outreach strategy, gather data, receive public input, discuss and develop the plan, and review drafts of the plan, and, ultimately, approve the plan.

Plan Development Process

For a number of years, the Commission and Trustees both recognized the need for additional recreational resources in the Township but the Commission. Both the Commission and Trustees realized the importance

and value of receiving public input and deliberate planning in regards to recreation. The Commission was tasked with the oversight of the development of the plan. The Commission recognized the need for assistance with the development of the plan. Therefore, they solicited proposals and ultimately decided to contract with the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC) to assist the Commission with the development of the recreation plan. As one the 14 regional planning agencies in Michigan SMPC has a uniquely regional view of recreation; the Commission appreciated this perspective. Calhoun County Community Development

The Township Board of
Trustees and the Planning
Commission both
recognized the need for
additional recreational
resources in the Township

staff was also asked to assist with the development of the plan. The Commission met in September and October to set a schedule for the plan development process. The process included a general public survey and public input meeting as well as Commission meetings focused on the recreation plan.

Description of the Planning & Public Input Process

Public Notification and Input

Public Input was garnered through a survey (online and hard copy) that was widely distributed and heavily advertised to gather the greatest amount of public input as possible. Ultimately, the survey resulted in 657 unique responses. More details regarding the survey are found in the following section.

Public input and involvement was primarily garnered through a survey and dedicated public meeting. A link

to the electronic version of the survey was distributed through Pennfield Public Schools, the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Battle Creek Shopper, and social media. Hard copies of the survey were available at the Township Offices. The survey was open for a two week period. The online version of the survey collected 627 responses; the printed version of the survey received 30 responses. One widely advertised public input meeting was

The survey collected 627 unique responses

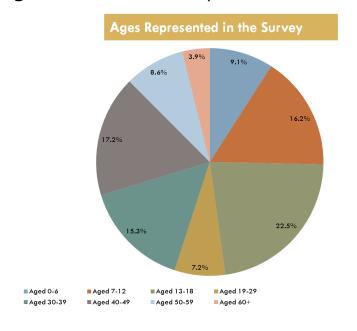
held in November. At this meeting, attendees were asked to elaborate on the results of the survey. Analysis of the data from both the survey and this meeting are located in the next section of this chapter.

The survey consisted of two main sections: recreation preferences and demographic data. The recreation preference section consisted of nine questions and the demographic section consisted of five questions. The length of the survey was intentional limited to encourage completion of the survey. The survey was designed to gather public opinions regarding the type and location of recreational activities that residents currently as well as use and the type that would like to see in the Township. Recreation preference questions were focused on likes and dislikes of amenities in parks, the location of parks, and the recreational activities available at parks. Summaries of the questions used in the survey are located on the following pages. The complete print version of the survey is included in appendix A.

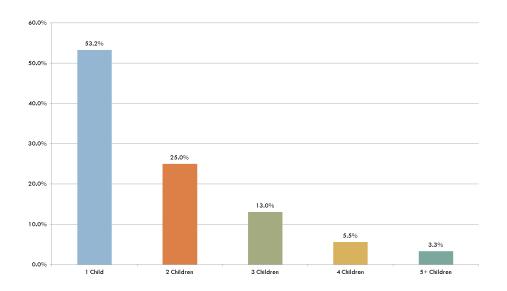
A public meeting was held to review, interpret, and dive deeper into the survey results. This meeting was held on Monday, November 2, at 7:00 pm in the Pennfield Middle School Cafeteria. A total of 14 people participated in the meeting.

Planning & Public Input Process continued

Figure 6: Selected Survey Results

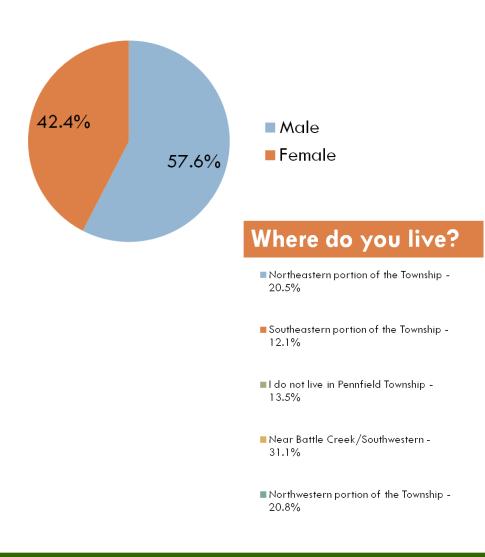


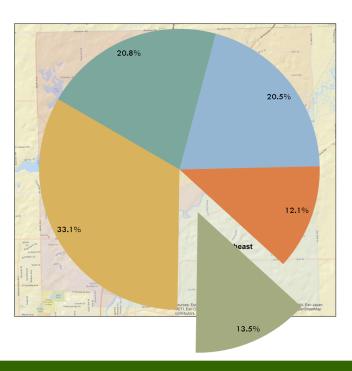
Survey Demographics – Children in Households



It is obvious that the assistance from Pennfield Schools helped to boost the survey participation rate among folks aged 13-18. Nonetheless, survey respondents lived in households with a broad range of ages. The survey results revealed broad geographic participation; each quadrant of the Township was home to least 70 survey respondents. Furthermore, 13.5% of respondents lived outside the Township. The results also demonstrated that more than 53% of households represented in the survey were home to at least one child.

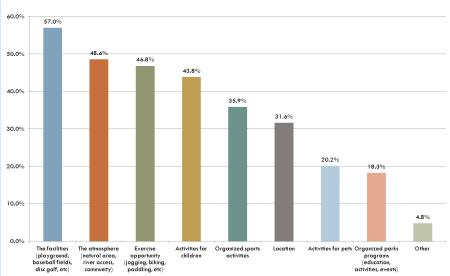
Male vs. Female





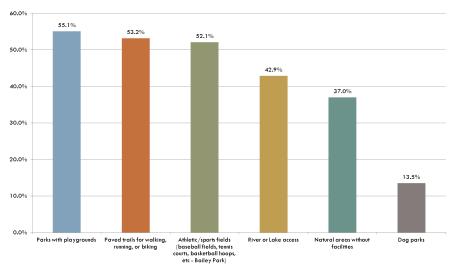
Planning & Public Input Process continued

The reason(s) you visit a park

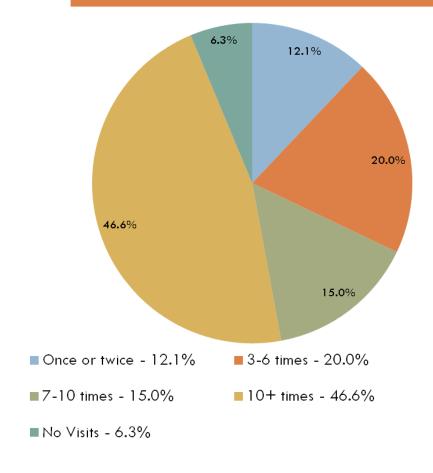


The recreation preferences section of the survey revealed a few interesting results. The respondents were fairly definitive in their preferences for facilities at recreation sites. The top reason respondents visit parks is for the facilities. Further evidence of this attitude was evident in the results of the most important park amenity question; the top result was restrooms.

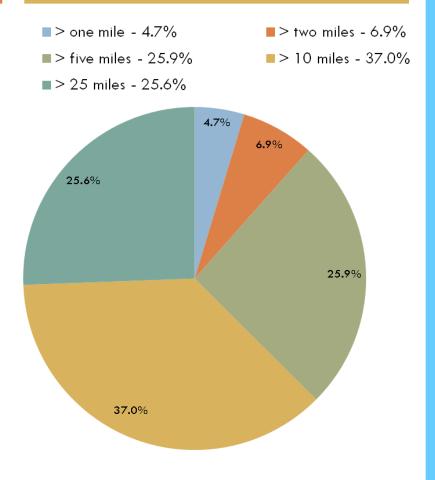
The types of parks you currently use



How often you visit parks

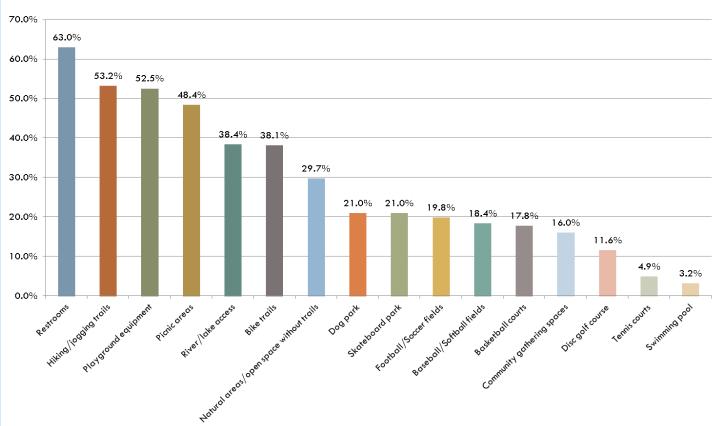


How far you travel to visit parks



Planning & Public Input Process continued

The five most important park amenities

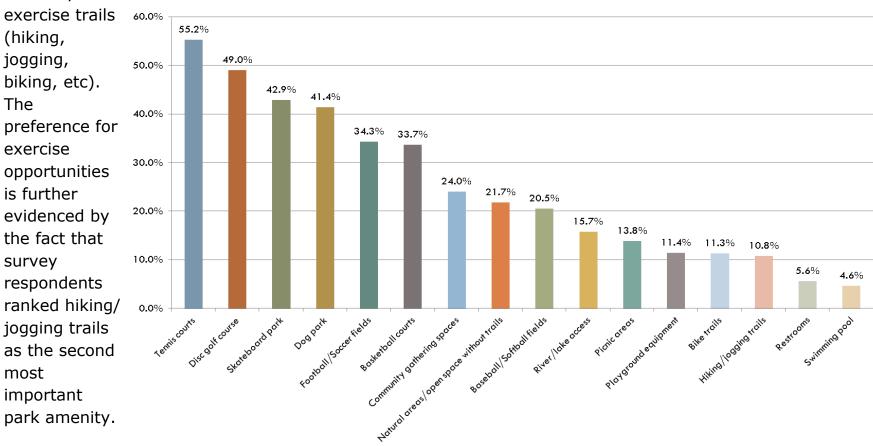


The most preferred park amenity was restrooms. Playground equipment was also a high priority for respondents. The highest number of respondents (55.1%) said that they currently visit parks with playgrounds and 43.8% of respondents said that they visit parks in order to partake in activities for children. Furthermore, the third most important park amenity revealed in the survey was playground equipment.

Exercise opportunities are also important to the folks who responded to the survey. 46.8% of respondents

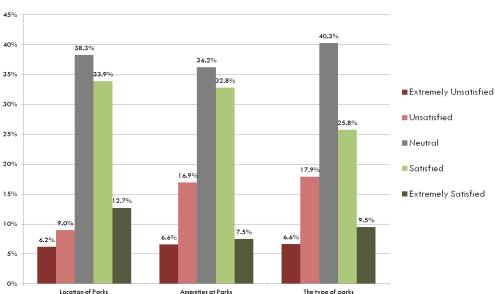
said that they visit parks for exercise opportunities, 52.1% folks currently use exercise trails (hiking, jogging, biking, etc). The

The five least important park amenities



Planning & Public Input Process continued

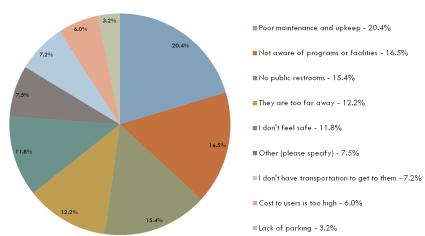
Your satisfaction with the parks in and near Pennfield Township



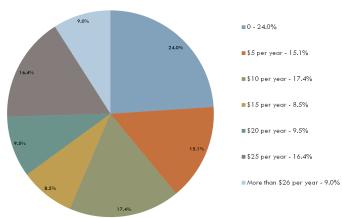
The survey respondents visit parks frequently and are willing to travel to use parks, but 12.2% of respondents said that they do not visit parks because they are too far away. A park located in Pennfield Township could help alleviate travel times for many folks who visit parks and help those who see travel time as a barrier.

Attitudes towards existing parks around the Township and park utilization were also an important part of the survey. The survey revealed that almost half the respondents (46.6%) visit parks ten or more times a year. The vast majority of respondents (88.4%) travel five miles or more to visit parks; more than one quarter (25.6%) travel 25 miles or more.

What prevents you from visiting parks



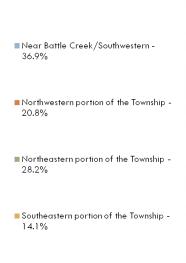
How much would you pay annually to fund parks?

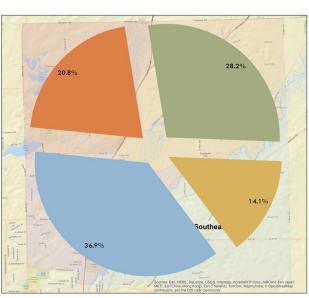


The survey asked folks how much they are willing to pay for parks in the Township and where they would like parks located. 76% of respondents were willing to pay at least \$5 per year for a park in the Township.

The preferred location for a park in the Township was the southwest section of the Township, but the results were not definitive; each section of the township was the preferred location for a park for many folks. Since the survey did not reveal a clear geographic preference for a future park, the Township may need to rely on available land resources to make a decision when locating a park.

If a park was developed, where would you like to see it?



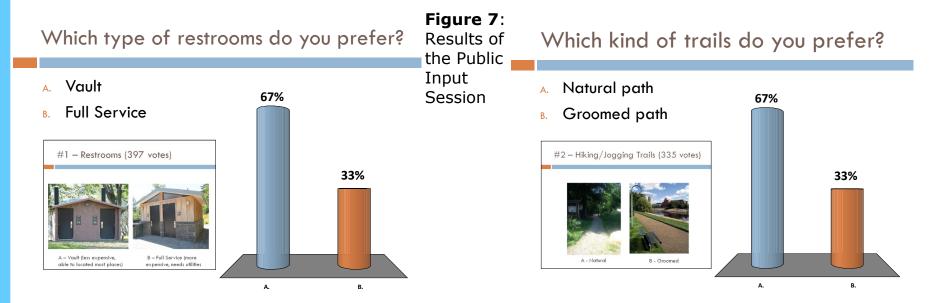


Planning & Public Input Process continued

Public Meeting Results

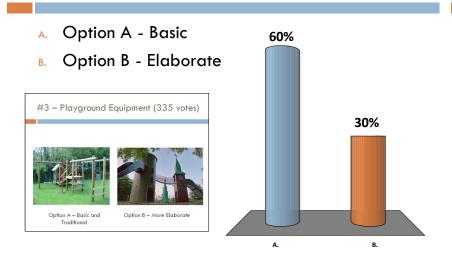
The Commission held a regularly scheduled meeting on November 2nd. The only discussion item on the agenda was input from the citizenry in attendance on the recreation plan development. The input opportunities at the meeting centered around the results of the survey; question were posed to those in attendance that would further clarify and explain the results of the survey. The questions were designed to gather further input on the most intriguing results of the survey. Each participant was given a instant polling device (clicker) that allowed for immediate display of results after each question. The results were also stored for further analysis. The question slides and results are below. Each of the following graphics show:

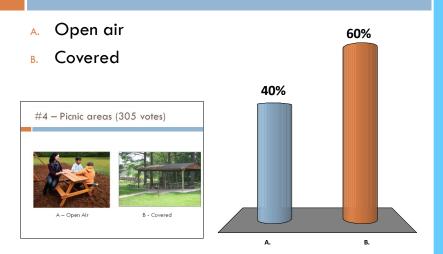
- The question asked at the meeting
- Examples of different interpretations of the identified amenity
- The results expressed at the meeting



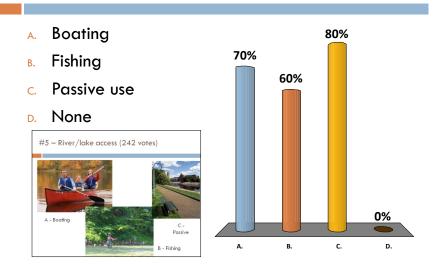
Which playground do you prefer?

Which type of seating would you prefer?

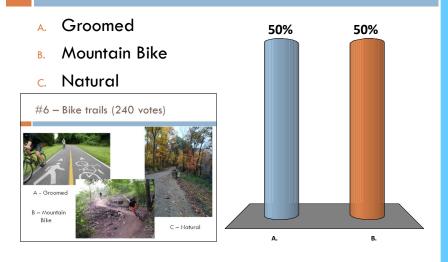




How would you use the water?



Which type of bike path do you prefer?



Planning & Public Input Process continued

Public Meeting Results continued

The bulk of the answers were mostly conclusive but a few questions yielded divided opinions. The initial question revealed an interesting opinion about restrooms. Restrooms were the most important park amenity according to the survey; it is interesting that folks preferred the lower cost/higher location flexibility option. In a similar vein, those who attended the public input meeting preferred natural hiking paths to a paved or groomed path and basic playgrounds to more elaborate playgrounds. The final interesting result was use of waterways in the Township; the respondents all said that they would use the water in some way. In fact, many folks said that they would use the waterways in multiple ways with passive enjoyment as the most preferred.

Approval Process

The Township followed guidelines for plan approval as determined by the Michigan State Legislature and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grant Management. The approval process followed the procedure established in the State of Michigan Public Act 33 of 2008. The plan's format followed the guidelines for approval by the MDNR. Following these guidelines allows the Township to legally establish this plan and potentially apply for grant funding.

The Planning Commission recommended the plan for approval at their regular January meeting, held on January 5th, 2016. A public notice was posted at the Township Administrative office and in the local newspaper on January 6th. The plan was made available on the Township's website and at the Township Administrative office. All comments received were presented at a public hearing held by the Township Board of Trustees on February 9th. The Board of Trustees reviewed the plan and comments and approved the plan.

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Chapter 5

The Township Board and Planning Commission have long recognized the need for additional recreational resources within the Township. The overarching mission of this effort was to increase the recreation opportunities in the Township. To achieve that end, the Planning Commission developed several goals. Associated with each goal is a set of objectives and action items aimed at accomplishing each objective.

The Planning Commission maintained four core principles as it developed the action plan:

Solicit public input. The Planning Commission maintained that public input was a cornerstone of a successful recreation planning process. Successful recreation investment results in amenities that meet the needs and desires of the local residents.

Keep an open mind. The Planning Commission did not want to have any predetermined recommendations for recreation amenities or recreation sites. While many sites and attributes seemed obvious before the process, the Planning Commission wanted the planning process to objectively drive the future of recreation in the Township.

Utilize existing resources. The Township has a few parcels that are suitable for recreational development. Additionally, a site was identified by private property owners as a potential recreational area. Furthermore, Pennfield Public Schools has a number of par

area. Furthermore, Pennfield Public Schools has a number of park-like amenities on their property. Utilizing existing resources will significantly reduce the cost to develop recreational amenities.

Increase connectivity. The Planning Commission prioritized the idea of using recreation as a way of establishing connections to adjacent municipalities. From the start of the planning process, the Planning Commission recognized that their residents and residents of adjacent municipalities travel to utilize recreation opportunities. They felt that creating a connected recreation system best served the general public.

Four Core Principles:

- 1. Solicit Input
- 2. Keep an Open Mind
- 3. Utilize Existing Resources
 - 4. Increase Connectivity

Goals, Objectives, and Action Items

Through the planning process, a number of goals and objectives became clear. Those goals and objectives are listed in the following pages. The goals outline high-level ideas related to recreation in Pennfield Township; whereas the objectives are methods for achieving each goal. Finally, the objectives are accompanied by action items. The action items outline specific tasks taken by the Township or local partners to achieve the objective and overarching goal.

Goal 1: To provide additional recreational opportunities to Township residents.

Local leaders and residents have expressed a desire to have more recreation options in Pennfield Township. Township residents have expressed their desires about the type of recreation areas and amenities they would like to see in the Township. The Township does not immediately possess the requisite resources to develop all of the preferred amenities; therefore, a phased approach is required.

- **Objective 1:** Acquire and build the resources and long term support to enhance the existing recreation resources or construction a new park, trail, or recreation area in the Township.
 - Action Item 1: Develop site specific plans for individual recreation areas. The Township Board and Planning Commission should develop a plan for each recreation area identified this plan. The phases developed in Action Item 1 should dictate the order in which the parks are planned. The individual park plans should include public engagement, design assistance from appropriate professionals to best incorporate the Township's preferred amenities given the sites natural features, catchment area (the area from which the park with draw visitors), and budgeting.

Goals, Objectives, and Action Items continued

Goal 1, Objective 1 continued

Action Item 2: Seek funding for the development of recreation areas. The Township assessed the willingness of the resident to financially support recreation in the Township. The survey revealed that 76% of those potentially impacted by recreational development in the Township supported the idea of paying at least \$5 per year. Nonetheless, the survey only sought a broad opinion about the amount recreational funding residents are willing to bear; before moving forward with a formal funding mechanism, the Township should gauge the opinion of the residents on a deeper level.

The Township has discussed the use of general fund allocations, user fees, and a dedicated millage as potential sustainable funding sources. The Township should review implications of each mechanism, examine community attitudes to each funding mechanism, and ultimately employ one, or multiple, of these funding options. The Township should examine all local, state, and federal funding sources to assist with the development of recreation areas once a long term funding mechanism is established.

Objective 2: Provide recreation resources tailored to the needs and desires of the Township residents.

Action Item 3: Thoroughly examine potential recreation sites to ensure that the initial site developed by the Township will garner broad public support and commitment from local partners. In order to build local support for recreation in the Township, the initial site developed or enhanced should have commitment from partners, a sustainable long-term maintenance plan, and provide visitors with amenities that are desired. Furthermore, the location of the initial site should be such that it allows access to a large percentage of the Township's residents.

Objective 3: Develop a phased approach to developing recreation areas within the Township.

Action Item 4: Use the plan, and more specifically the survey results, to develop a phased approach to building or enhancing recreation areas within the Township. The phasing should depend on the availability of land, funding, community support, and ability to provide the highest ranked recreation preferences. The phase should also outline reasonable and measurable outcomes.

Goal 2: Create a long-term ownership and maintenance plan for future recreation areas.

Currently the Township does not have a park authority. In the absence of a viable partnership, a park authority is essential for development and ownership of a recreation system. While multiple viable partners exists, the Township is statutorily able to create its own parks and recreation authority. An examination of potential partners and the ability to create and maintain an independent parks and recreation authority is essential. Furthermore, the Township needs to make a decision regarding an authority before designing and developing a park.

Regardless of ownership (partnership or independent), funding is needed develop and maintain parks. The Township needs to create a plan to supply a sustainable level of funding for parks within the Township. To help off-set the cost to maintain parks and to engender a sense of ownership over the parks, the Township needs to develop a parks focused volunteer base.

Objective 4: Explore all potential park ownership structures.

Action Item 5: Discuss the possibility of forming a parks authority internally (Township Board and Planning Commission). This discussion should seek to determine the feasibility of, and willingness to enter into, a joint parks authority.

Goals, Objectives, and Action Items continued

Goal 2, Objective 4 continued

- Action Item 6: Examine potential partnerships with the City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County for the long-term ownership and maintenance of recreation areas within Pennfield Township. It is possible for the Township to develop a park and turn over long term ownership to the County. These entities would obviously need to be willing join a partnership.
- Action Item 7: Examine the potential for a multiple township, multiple municipality (a combination of townships, cities, villages, and/or county), or regional parks authority for the long-term ownership and maintenance of recreation areas within Pennfield Township. The possibility of a new recreation area could spark a regional conversation.

Objective 5: Develop a sustainable funding mechanism for recreation within the Township.

Action Item 8: Determine a funding model that works for the Township residents. Examine the feasibility sustainability of general fund contributions, a jurisdiction-wide millage, parks passes or other user fees, or donations. The survey revealed that 76% of those potentially impacted by recreational developments in the Township supported the idea of paying at least \$5 per year. Nonetheless, the survey only sought a broad opinion about the amount recreational funding residents are willing to bear; before moving forward with a formal funding mechanism, the Township should gauge the opinion of the residents.

Objective 6: Develop a volunteer base to help maintain recreational areas.

Action Item 9: Find local residents, organizations, school groups, or clubs willing to assist with the maintenance of the future recreation areas.

Goal 3: To utilize the Township's existing land resources to provide recreational opportunities.

The Township and Pennfield Public Schools own several parcels that are available for recreational development or enhanced. These sites would make great candidates for the first parks in Pennfield Township. Chapters 3 and 4 describe the parcels owned by Pennfield Public Schools and the Township. Utilizing Township owned land will reduce the costs and procurement issues associated with developing a recreation area. Furthermore, the land already owned by the Township or

Pennfield Public Schools is highly visible and connected to other amenities that already attract residents.

Objective 7: Develop recreational opportunities on lands owned by the Township.

according to the survey.

Action Item 10: Work with parks experts, Township and school officials, and local stakeholders to determine the appropriate amenities on Township and School owned properties. The amenities examined should primarily include the most preferred

The Township and Pennfield
Public Schools have a
number of valuable assets
that are available for
recreational development or
enhancement.

Action Item 11: Examine the water tower property, the sewer transmission right-of-way, the cemetery property, the "Wal-Mart Property", and all school owned property for recreation appropriateness. Each site offers many good features for recreation use, it is important that resident have the chance to fully utilize the publically owned property.

Objective 8: Enhance the facilities owned and maintained by Pennfield Public Schools.

Action Item 12: Work with parks experts, school officials, and local stakeholders to determine the appropriate amenities on School owned properties. The amenities examined should primarily include the most preferred according to the survey as well as serve the school

Goals, Objectives, and Action Items continued

Goal 4: Partner with private or non-profit land owners to develop recreation sites.

The Calhoun County Conservation District, City of Battle Creek, a local utility provider, and a civically minded private landowner own a sizable site along the Battle Creek River in the southern portion of the Township. Each party has expressed an interest in developing the property for recreational purposes. The amenities that the Conservation District, City, and private land owner are interested in developing on the site (river access, wetland boardwalk, and dog park) mostly coincide with the results of the survey well.

Furthermore, the Calhoun County Road Department has right-of-way that intersects with the Battle Creek River. This right-of-way could potentially be used to supply public access points to the river. Additionally, if the right-of-way is large enough, the Township could develop parking facilities and watercraft access points to allow for many uses of the river.

- **Objective 9:** Work with the Calhoun County Conservation District, City of Battle Creek, and adjacent land owners to develop a cohesive plan for a targeted site along the Battle Creek River.
 - Action Item 13: Meet with local property owners and representatives from the Calhoun County
 Conservation District to determine their vision for their parcels along the Battle Creek
 River. If their vision coincides with the vision of the Township, the Township should look
 to develop a partnership with the local landowners.
- **Objective 10:** Work with the Calhoun County Road Department to understand the potential use their right-of-way for public recreational access sites to the Battle Creek River.
 - Action Item 14: Meet with officials from the Calhoun County Road Department to gauge the appropriateness of using their right-of-way as public recreational access sites to the Battle Creek River. If the right-of-way is not appropriate for access points, the Township may need to procure land adjacent to the river.

Goal 5: Create recreational connections and corridors with neighboring jurisdictions.

The Battle Creek Linear Trail passes just to the south of the Township. The Township could create a trail loop that connects to the Linear Park in two places while passing through much of the densely populated areas of the Township. This loop would create connections with statewide trails.

The Battle Creek River flows from the northeast portion of the Township to the southwest portion of the Township. The river flows through the City of Bellevue in Eaton County before entering the Township. The river flows through portions of the City of Battle Creek before joining the Kalamazoo River. Both the City of Bellevue and the City of Battle Creek could benefit from Pennfield Township developing a water trail for the Battle Creek River. Likewise, Pennfield Township would benefit from both cities developing access points to the river. Therefore, a cohesive and comprehensive plan is the best approach to developing a water trail.

Objective 11: Create a connection to the Battle Creek Linear Park that loops through the Township.

Action Item 15: Meet with officials from the City of Battle Creek, Calhoun County Parks, and other partners to develop a plan for a trail connection to the Battle Creek Linear Park from Pennfield Township.

Objective 12: Find and explore natural connections with neighboring municipalities.

Action Item 16: Work with the state-wide effort to promote
Great Lake to Lake Trail, the Iron Belle Trail, and
the North Country Trail. The Township should
explore developing linear parks that connect to
each of these

Objective 13: Utilize a water trail as a connection to Bellevue and Battle Creek (see Goal 6).

Goals, Objectives, and Action Items continued

Goal 6: Develop a water trail for the Battle Creek River.

The Battle Creek River offers amenities for many different types of users. The river offers opportunities to kayak, canoe, fish, swim, bird watch, and/or study nature. Few of the smaller rivers in Southwest Michigan are mapped or have official access point; much of the recreational development was conducted on the larger rivers in the area. Furthermore, well maintained and well documented rivers are fairly rare in the region; most municipalities do not have a navigable river to act as a low cost recreation amenity. A water trail will work to document and promote the amenities of the river while also promoting several facets of the local economy.

Objective 14: Develop a water trail that connects for the Battle Creek River.

Action Item 17: Meet with officials from Eaton County, the City of Bellevue, the City of Battle Creek, Calhoun County Parks and Recreation, the Calhoun County Conservation District, and the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council to create a plan for a Battle Creek River Water Trail.

A water trail would create a natural connection with neighboring municipalities while offering residents a number of recreational opportunities.

Action Item 18: Work with local, state, and federal stakeholders to remove impediments to watercraft from the Battle Creek River in order to establish a navigable connection with the Kalamazoo River.

Action Item 19: Create events surrounding the use of the Battle Creek River.

Action Item 20: Develop a volunteer network to maintain the Battle Creek River and its access points.

Goal 7: To attract 19-29 year olds to the Township.

Despite comprising a significant portion of the United States as a whole, 20-29 year olds are the smallest age group in Pennfield Township; 10.2% of the Pennfield Township total population versus 13.8% of the nation as a whole. Though only 4.8% of the survey respondents belonged to the 19-29 age group, their responses are important to understanding what recreational amenities are needed to attract and retain them in the Township. The survey respondents aged between 19 and 29 stated that restrooms, playground equipment, and hiking/jogging trails were the most important amenities to them. They also stated that visit parks due to the prevalence of playgrounds, recreation facilities (sports fields, disc golf, etc), paved trails, and activities for children. The Outdoor Foundation profiled the recreational preferences of 18-24 year olds and found that they tend to favor the following activities: running and jogging, biking (road, mountain, and BMX), fishing, hiking, and camping. The national preference expressed by this age group for jogging, biking, and hiking is in line with the results of the Pennfield Township survey. The Outdoor Foundation survey also found that a vast

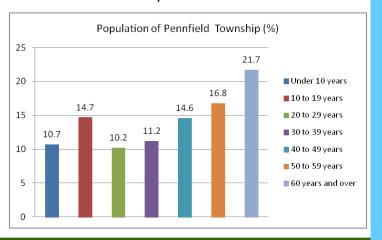
majority of people (74%) aged 18-24 utilize recreation areas in order to exercise or keep physically fit (59%).

Objective 15: Provide recreational amenities tailored to attract 19-29 year olds to the Township.

Action Item 21: Conduct further research into the recreational needs and desires of 19-29 and develop specific park amenities based on those needs and desires.

Action Item 22: Develop park amenities that appeal to 19-29 year olds near areas in which they tend to live.

Figure 8: Population of Characteristics in Pennfield Township



Goals, Objectives, and Action Items continued

Goal 8: Maintain the recreation plan as a guiding document.

The purpose of this plan is to guide the development of recreation areas in the Township, the plan has much more value than simply fulfilling a requirement. Furthermore, it is important to maintain an understanding of how well the Township is meeting the need of its residents. Likewise, maintaining a dashboard will demonstrate progress to local stakeholders.

Objective 16: Conduct annual reviews of these goals and objectives.

Action Item 23: At least once a year, review the goals and objectives in this plan to ensure that they still fit the needs of the community.

Objective 17: Maintain a dashboard of the progress towards the completion of the action plan.

Action Item 24: Create, and annually update, a dashboard that will measure the progress toward the completion of the action plan.

The value of this plan is not only found in the development of parks but as a strategic document continually guiding the development of parks into the future.

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Chapter 6

The action plan is the bridge between the goals, objectives, and action items in Chapter 6 and the organization that will carry out the action items. The action plan enumerates the phases planned for the development of recreational opportunities in the Township as well as the recreation prioritization for the Township. The crux of the action plan is an implementation matrix; the matrix is found in Table 8. The matrix outlines each goal with it corresponding objectives and action items. The matrix also defines who should complete each action and a timeline in which each action should be completed. The matrix is designed to act as a progress dashboard as well.

Action Plan Phases

The actions plan assumes a phased approach with the initial phases as follows:

- 1. Determine the initial site for recreational development or enhancement
- 2. Determine site and long-term ownership structure
- 3. Develop site plan and cost estimates for initial site
- 4. Secure funding for the development or enhancement of the initial site
- 5. Develop or enhance the initial recreation site in Pennfield Township

Recreation Prioritization

The Planning Commission reviewed the results of the survey and public input and then, at a public meeting, prioritized the type of recreation they wish to provide through their initial investment. The types of recreation are prioritized on a 1-5 scale with five as the highest priority. The priorities are found on the following pages.

Action Plan

Priorities ranked as a 5:

- Development of a water trail for the Battle Creek River
 - This was the highest priority because it creates a connection with neighboring jurisdictions, offers a wide variety of recreational experiences, appeals to all ages, and is relatively inexpensive to develop.
- Development of a riverfront park with river access, boardwalk, playground, restrooms, and other amenities
 - The Battle Creek River is a unique feature to Pennfield Township. The Planning Commission wanted to highlight this feature and utilize the natural beauty and attraction. Furthermore, several property owners, including the Township, expressed interest in developing a recreation site along the river.
- Enhancement of school facilities through the addition of public restrooms near the existing amenities
 - Pennfield Public Schools have many facilities are already serve as recreational sites for Township residents. The Planning Commission wanted to make those facilities more inviting and attractive to the general public by adding restrooms.

Priorities ranked as a 4:

- Creation of a linear connection between newly developed recreation areas and school-owned properties with public amenities
 - The Planning Commission wanted to leverage existing facilities by designing newly developed facilities around them. This connection can also encompass other higher priorities such as trails.
- Development of paved off road non-motorized trails
 - The Planning Commission favored this type of trail because it offered extensive exercise opportunities, natural connection to other areas of the Township, and is inviting to all ages.

survey or other measures.

Action Plan continued

Priorities ranked as a 4 continued:

- Creation of a disc golf course
 - The Planning Commission felt that the Township has the land resources to create a disc golf course. They also felt that the cost to develop a course is relatively small while attracting a younger demographic. Despite the lack of support in the survey, local residents expressed strong support for a disc golf course during the planning process.

Priorities ranked as a 3:

- Development of hiking and walking trails (not paved)
 - The planning Commission favored this type of recreation because it can serve as a natural connection between recreation areas. They also cited the exercise opportunities offered as a substantial positive.

The Township will pursue the development of recreation areas based on the rankings determined in this plan.

Priorities ranked as a 2:

- Development of a connection to the Battle Creek Linear Park by way of a paved on-street loop through the Township
 - The Planning Commission felt that Battle Creek Linear Park offered the Township a solid "bang for their buck". A loop through the Township that connected to the park would offer visitors and residents many more miles of paved non-motorized facilities.
- Development of picnic areas
 - This amenity was broadly supported in the survey but the Planning Commission ranked it lower since similar facilities already exist in and near the Township.

Priorities ranked as a 1:

- Development of a dog park
 - The need for a dog park was not demonstrated through the survey or other measures. Furthermore the Township did not want to experience some of the potential negative issues

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Action Plan continued

Table 7: Action Plan Matrix

Goal	Objective	Action Item	Performance Metric	Who will perform the work	Completion Timeline
	Duild Dork	A1	Number of parks constructed	Township or Partnership	2016-2021
Additional	Build Park	A2	Dollars raised for recreation	Township or Partnership	2016-2021
Recreational Resources	Tailor to Township Needs A3 Residents and Fairles inverted in the site selection To		Township or Partnership	2016-2018	
	Phased Approach	A4	Completion of a phasing plan	Township	2016-2017
Ownership Structure &	Ownership Structure	A5 A6 A7	Number of ownership structures explored	Township	2016-2017
Funding	Sustainable Funding	A8	Development of a funding plan	Township	2016-2017
	Volunteer Base	A9	Number of volunteers committed	Township	2016-2020
Utilize Existing	Focus on Township Owned Property	A10 A11	Percentage of Township owned parcels with a recreation site plan	Township	2016-2021
Resources	Facus on Cabasi Comad		Township, Pennfield Public Schools	2016-2021	
Partner with	Partner on BC River Site	A13	Development of the site	Township and Partners	2016-2021
land owners	Partner with CCRD	A14	Number of sites developed using CCRD right-of-way	Township and CCRD	2016-2021

Goal	Objective	Action Performance Metric		Who will perform the	Completion
	Connect to BC Linear Park	A15	Miles of trail connected to BC Linear Park	Township, Battle Creek	2020-2025
Create Corridors	Connect to other	A16	Miles of trail that connect to other municipalities	Township	2020-2025
	Utilize Water Trail See Below		See Below	See Below	
	I Develon Waler Irali	A17	Plan developed	Township, Bellevue, BC,	2018-2023
Develop		A18	Impediments removed	Township, BC, State,	2020-2030
Water Trail		A19	Events on and around the river	Township, Bellevue, BC,	2020-2025
		A20	Number of volunteers committed	Township, Bellevue, BC	2018-2020
Attract 19-	Provide Recreation tailored	A21	Number of 19-29 year old residents surveyed	Township	2016-2020
29 Year Olds	to 19-29 Year Olds	A22	Number of park amenities designed for 19-29 year olds	Township, partners	2020-2025
Focus on	Annual Review of the Plan	A23	Annual reviews of the plan	Township	2016-2021
Plan	Progress Dashboard	A24	Maintenance of the Dashboard	Township	2016-2021

Appendix A - Recreation Survey

Pennfield Township Recreation Survey

Thank you for taking the time to help Pennfield Township understand the wants and needs of its citizens. Your participation in this survey will help shape future priorities for parks and open space in the Township. Currently, the Township does not provide parks to residents except for public schools. Your answers will help determine what future parks might look like in Pennfield Township. This information will help craft the Pennfield Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan that is a document needed to apply for Michigan Department of Natural Resource grant dollars.

1.	What a	hat are the reason(s) you visit a park? (Choose all that apply)					
		The facilities (playground, baseball fields, disc golf, etc)					
		Organized sports activities					
		Location					
		Exercise opportunity (jogging, biking, paddling, etc)					
		Activities for children					
		The atmosphere (natural area, river access, community)					
		Activities for pets					
		Organized parks programs (education, activities, events)					
		Other:					
2.	What t	types of parks do you currently use? (Choose all that apply)					
		Parks with playgrounds					
		Natural areas without facilities (state forests, game areas, etc - Ott Biological Preserve)					
		Dog parks					
		Paved trails for walking, running, or biking					
		River or Lake access					
		Athletic/sports fields (baseball fields, tennis courts, basketball hoops, etc – Bailey Park)					
		Other:					

3.	Of the	Of the park amenities listed below, which FIVE are the MOST important to you? (Choose top five)							
		Hiking/jogging trails							
		Natural areas/open space without trails							
		Dog park							
		Playground equipment							
		Picnic areas							
		Community gathering spaces							
		Restrooms	4.	Of the	park amenities listed below, which FIVE are				
		River/Lake Access		the LEA	AST important to you? (Choose top five)				
		Bike trails			Hiking/jogging trails				
		Disc golf course			Natural areas/open space without trails				
		Tennis courts			Dog park				
		Basketball courts			Playground equipment				
		Football/Soccer fields			Picnic areas				
		Baseball/Softball fields			Community gathering spaces				
		Skateboard park			Restrooms				
		Swimming pool			River/Lake Access				
		Other:			Bike trails				
					Disc golf course				
					Tennis courts				
					Basketball courts				
					Football/Soccer fields				
					Baseball/Softball fields				
					Skateboard park				
					Swimming pool				
					Other:				

Appendix A - Recreation Survey

5.	Within	the past 12 months, how often have you
	visited	parks or recreation areas? (Choose one)
		I haven't visited a part in the past 12 months
		Once or twice
		3-6 times
		7-10 times
		Greater than 10 times
6.	How fa	r are you willing to travel to visit a park? (Choose one)
		Less than one mile
		Less than two miles
		Less than five miles
		Less than 10 miles
		Less than 25 miles
7.	What p	revents you from using parks more? (Choose all that apply)
		Cost to users is too high
		Lack of parking
		Not aware of programs or facilities
		No public restrooms
		I don't have transportation to get to them
		I don't feel safe
		Poor maintenance and upkeep
		They are too far away
		Other:

8. How satisfied are you with the parks in and near Pennfield Township?

<u>+</u>						
	Extremely				Extremely	
	Unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Satisfied	N/A
Location of parks						
Amenities at parks						
The type of parks						

Appendix A - Recreation Survey



- 9. From the map above, please indicate where you would a park located (choose one).
 - □ Near Battle Creek/Southwestern portion of the Township (West of Capital Ave and South of Pennfield Rd)
 - □ Northwestern portion of the Township (West of Capital Ave and North of Pennfield Rd)
 - □ Northeastern portion of the Township (East of Capital Ave and North of Pennfield Rd)
 - ☐ Southeastern portion of the Township (East and South of the Battle Creek River)
- 10. From the map above, please indicate where you live (choose one).
 - □ Near Battle Creek/Southwestern portion of the Township (West of the Battle Creek River and South of Pennfield Rd)
 - □ Northwestern portion of the Township (West of Capital Ave and North of Pennfield Rd)
 - □ Northeastern portion of the Township (East of Capital Ave and North of Pennfield Rd)
 - □ Southeastern portion of the Township (Zip code 49014 East and South of the Battle Creek River)
 - ☐ I do not live in Pennfield Township

11. <u>Aı</u>	Are you Male or Female (choose one)?								
	□ Male								
	☐ Female								
40 51	. 11								
12. <u>Pl</u>	12. Please tell us who lives in your household.								
	Aged 0-6	Aged 7-12	Aged 13-18	Aged 19-29	Aged 30-39	Aged 40-49	Aged 50-59	Aged 60+	
Adults									
Children									
13. <u>H</u>	ow much wo	ould you pay a	annually to fur	nd the mainter	nance and deve	elopment of pa	arks in Pennfie	ld Township	
<u>(c</u>	hoose one)?	<u> </u>							
	□ \$0								
	•	r year							
	•	er year							
		er year							
		er year							
		er year							
		than \$25 per	year						
14. <u>Aı</u>	re you a regi	istered voter	(choose one)?						
	□ Yes								
	□ No								
	□ I don'	t know							

Appendix B - Survey Results

1	What are the reason(s) you visit a park? The facilities (playground, baseball fields, disc		
	golf, etc)	359	57.0%
	The atmosphere (natural area, river access,		07.107.0
	community)	306	48.6%
	Exercise opportunity (jogging, biking, paddling,		
	etc)	295	46.8%
	Activities for children	276	43.8%
	Organized sports activities	226	35.9%
	Location	199	31.6%
	Activities for pets	127	20.2%
	Organized parks programs (education, activities,		
	events)	115	18.3%
	Other	30	4.8%
2	What types of parks do you currently use?		
	Parks with playgrounds	347	55.1%
	Paved trails for walking, running, or biking	335	53.2%
	Athletic/sports fields (baseball fields, tennis		
	courts, basketball hoops, etc - Bailey Park)	328	52.1%
	River or Lake access	270	42.9%
	Natural areas without facilities	233	37.0%
	Dog parks	85	13.5%
	Other (please specify		

Of the park amenities listed below, which FIVE are the MOST important to you? (Select the five you would most like to see in a park)

3

Restrooms	397	63.0%
Hiking/jogging trails	335	53.2%
Playground equipment	331	52.5%
Picnic areas	305	48.4%
River/lake access	242	38.4%
Bike trails	240	38.1%
Natural areas/open		
space without trails	187	29.7%
Dog park	132	21.0%
Skateboard park	132	21.0%
Football/Soccer fields	125	19.8%
Baseball/Softball fields	116	18.4%
Basketball courts	112	17.8%
Community gathering		
spaces	101	16.0%
Disc golf course	73	11.6%
Tennis courts	31	4.9%
Swimming pool	20	3.2%
Other (please specify)	0	

Of the park amenities listed below, which FIVE are the LEAST important to you? (Select the five you would most like to see in a park)

you would illost ill	ke to see iii a p	ainj
Tennis courts	348	55.2%
Disc golf course	309	49.0%
Skateboard park	270	42.9%
Dog park	261	41.4%
Football/Soccer fields	216	34.3%
Basketball courts	212	33.7%
Community gathering		
spaces	151	24.0%
Natural areas/open		
space without trails	137	21.7%
Baseball/Softball fields	129	20.5%
River/lake access	99	15.7%
Picnic areas	87	13.8%
Playground equipment	72	11.4%
Bike trails	71	11.3%
Hiking/jogging trails	68	10.8%
Restrooms	35	5.6%
Swimming pool	29	4.6%
Other	0	

Appendix B - Survey Results

	Within the past 12 months, ho	w often hav	e you
5	visited parks or recreat	ion areas?	
	Once or twice - 12.1%	73	12.1%
	3-6 times - 20.0%	121	20.0%
	7-10 times - 15.0%	91	15.0%
	10+ times - 46.6%	282	46.6%
	No Visits - 6.3%	38	6.3%
		605	
6	How far are you willing to trav	el to visit a	park?
	Less than one mile - 4.7%	28	4.7%
	Less than two miles - 6.9%	41	6.9%
	Less than five miles - 25.9%	155	25.9%
	Less than 10 miles - 37.0%	221	37.0%
	Less than 25 miles - 25.6%	153	25.6%
		598	
7	What prevents you from visit	ting parks m	ore?
	Poor maintenance and upkeep	204	20.4%
	Not aware of programs or		
	facilities	165	16.5%
	No public restrooms	154	15.4%
	They are too far away	122	12.2%
	I don't feel safe	118	11.8%
	Other (please specify)	75	7.5%
	I don't have transportation to		
	get to them	72	7.2%
	Cost to users is too high	60	6.0%
	Lack of parking	32	3.2%

8 How satisfied are you with the parks in and near Pennfield Township?

	Extremely			t	extremely	
	Unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Neutral :	Satisfied S	Satisfied	N/A
Location of Parks	35	51	217	192	72	26
Amenities at Parks	37	95	203	184	42	30
The type of parks	37	100	225	144	53	30
Location of Parks	6.2%	9.0%	38.3%	33.9%	12.7%	
Amenities at Parks	6.6%	16.9%	36.2%	32.8%	7.5%	
The type of parks	6.6%	17.9%	40.3%	25.8%	9.5%	

From the map provided, please indicate where you would like a park located.

Near Battle Creek/Southwestern 209 36.9%
Northwestern portion of the Township 118 20.8%
Northeastern portion of the Township 160 28.2%
Southeastern portion of the Township 80 14.1%

10 From the map provided, please indicate where you live.

Northeastern portion of the Township	120	20.5%
Southeastern portion of the Township	71	12.1%
I do not live in Pennfield Township	79	13.5%
Near Battle Creek/Southwestern	194	33.1%
Northwestern portion of the Township	122	20.8%

11 Are you male or female?

Male 327 57.6% Female 241 42.4%

12Please tell us who lives in your household.	You	Adult 2	Adult 3	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4	Child 5
Aged 0-6	1	3	12	73	58	38	16	11
Aged 7-12	2	1	4	161	133	54	22	1
Aged 13-18	184	4	20	151	105	40	14	6
Aged 19-29	28	28	35	48	13	10	5	1
Aged 30-39	121	174	56	2	1	1	0	1
Aged 40-49	133	199	67	0	1	0	0	1
Aged 50-59	75	81	34	3	1	3	2	1
Aged 60+	40	39	11	0	1	0	0	0

Appendix B - Survey Results

12 Please tell us who lives in your household.	You	Adult 2	Adult 3	Child 1	Child 2	Child 3	Child 4	Child 5
Aged 0-6	1	3	12	73	58	38	16	11
Aged 7-12	2	1	4	161	133	54	22	1
Aged 13-18	184	4	20	151	105	40	14	6
Aged 19-29	28	28	35	48	13	10	5	1
Aged 30-39	121	174	56	2	1	1	0	1
Aged 40-49	133	199	67	0	1	0	0	1
Aged 50-59	75	81	34	3	1	3	2	1
Aged 60+	40	39	11	0	1	0	0	0

How much would you pay annually to fund the maintenance and development of parks in Pennfield Township?

\$0	143	24.0%
\$5 per year	90	15.1%
\$10 per year	104	17.4%
\$15 per year	51	8.5%
\$20 per year	57	9.5%
\$25 per year	98	16.4%
More than \$26 per year	54	9.0%

14 Are you registered to Vote?

Yes	143	42.4%
No	90	26.7%
I don't know	104	30.9%

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Appendix C - Public Notice

Appendix D - Resolution from Planning Commission

Appendix E - Resolution from Board of Trustees

Appendix F - Minutes from the Public Hearing

Appendix G - Public Comments Received

Appendix H - Letter to County Planning Agency

Appendix I - Letter to Regional Planning Agency

Appendix J - MDNR Checklist

Appendix K - Photo Credits

Cover Photo: http://bossfight.co/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/boss-fight-free-stock-photography-images-photos-high-resolution-swings-playground.jpg

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