



# COMMERCE TOWNSHIP PARKS + RECREATION PLAN 2024-2028





## Acknowledgments

### Township Leadership

Larry Gray, Supervisor  
Molly Phillips, Treasurer  
Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Robert Berkheiser, Trustee  
Vanessa Magner, Trustee  
Rick Sovel, Trustee  
George Weber, Trustee

### Parks and Recreation Committee

Johnny Walker, Chair  
Bill Petsch, Vice Chair  
Barb Garbutt  
Ron Krueger  
Krystal Schwartz  
Laura Waterworth  
Robert Berkheiser

Emily England, Director, Parks and Recreation  
Allison Kennedy, Assistant to Parks and Recreation Director  
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director  
Leah Groya, Consultant  
Jason MacDonald, Consultant





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# COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The Charter Township of Commerce Parks + Recreation Master Plan (2024-2028) was prepared and adopted by the Township Park and Recreation Committee and Township Board to serve as a guide and decision making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The Plan presents an inventory of existing facilities and programs within the Township as well as an evaluation of opportunities and priorities. Taking into account the existing facilities, as well as anticipated demand for improvements, the Plan presents goals, guidelines and a 5-year Action Plan.

Although the Charter Township of Commerce works closely and cooperatively with several public and private agencies that provide recreation opportunities, the jurisdiction of this Master Plan includes only Township-owned and operated recreation facilities and programs.

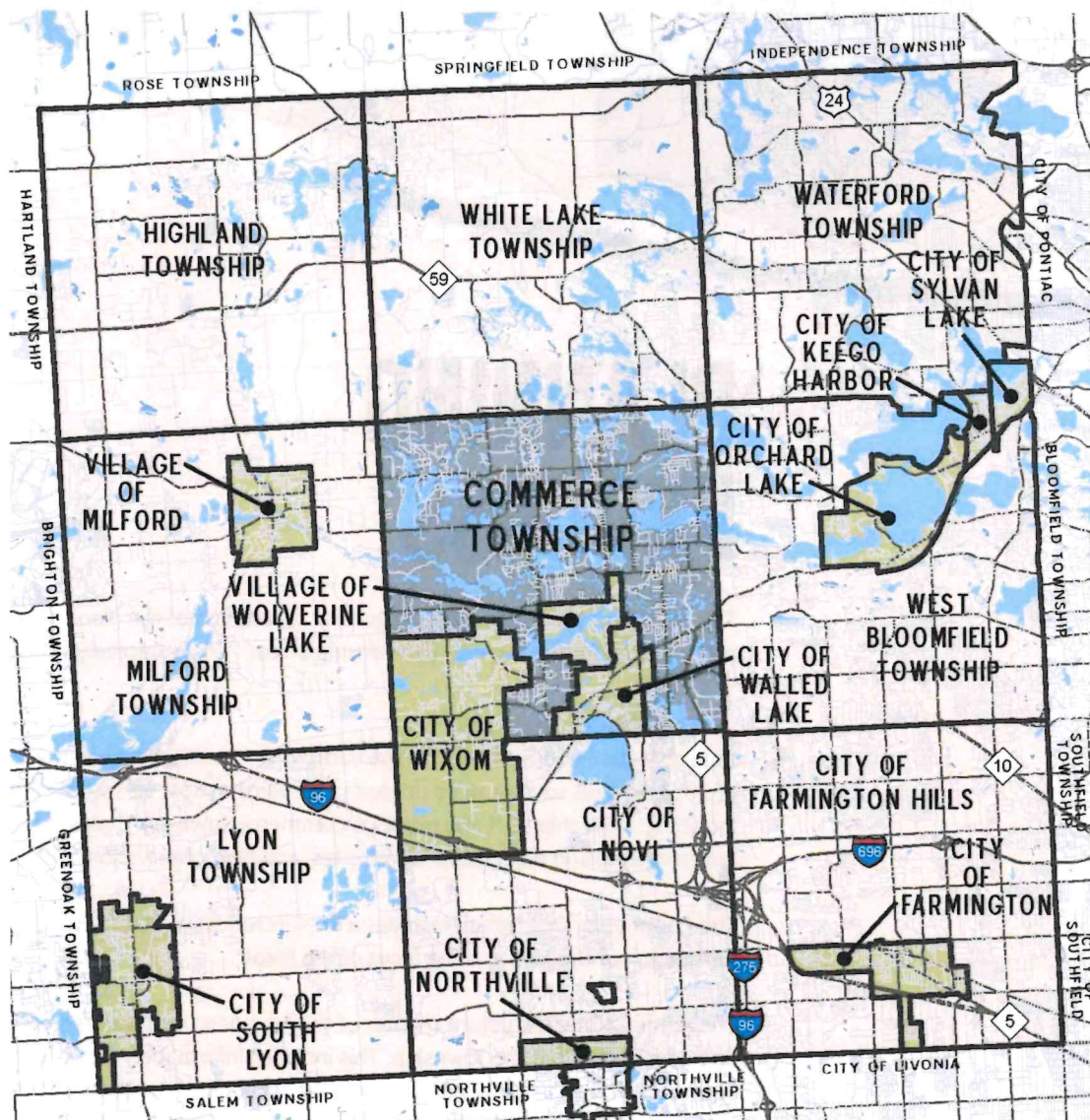
The Plan is also intended to enable the Township to continue to apply for funding assistance from various agencies and work toward implementing the documented recommendations. This Plan provides for five years of grant eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).



Commerce Township is located in the southwestern portion of Oakland County, within the greater Detroit metropolitan area. Oakland County is the second largest county in Michigan with a population of 1.27 million. As of the 2020 Census, Commerce Township had a population of 38,514 residents, an 7.4% increase (2,640 people) from 2010. Although Commerce Township was once a rural agricultural and lake resort area, the predominant character has changed over the years to more of a low-density suburban, lake setting. The majority of development has occurred in the form of residential subdivisions, but commercial, office and institutional developments also dot the landscape. In particular, non-residential land uses are concentrated in the southeastern portion of the Township along M-5 and Haggerty Road. Although much development has occurred over the years, the Township continues to be home to

a significant amount of open space in the form of parkland, golf courses, and conservation lands, the largest of which includes the Proud Lake State Recreation Area. The Township's many small to mid-sized lakes are also a significant natural amenity.

As shown in the Regional Setting Map, the Charter Township of Commerce is bordered by: White Lake Township to the north; Milford Township to the west; the Village of Wolverine Lake and Cities of Wixom, Novi and Walled Lake to the south; and West Bloomfield Township to the east. The major transportation arteries in the area include I-96, I-275, I-696 and M-5, which extends into the Township from the south. These highways effectively connect Commerce Township with the rest of the Detroit Metropolitan Area.







# PLANNING PROCESS

This section of the Plan provides a general description of the planning and public input process used for the Commerce Township 5-Year Parks + Recreation Master Plan.

## Background Studies

Data collection and fieldwork for the background studies began in the Summer of 2023. Various sources were utilized to gather the most up-to-date information including: Township staff, the previous Commerce Township Recreation Plan, governmental and organizational websites, and field observations.

The Community Description includes a brief introduction to the Township, the jurisdiction of the Plan and the focus of the Plan.

The Administrative Structure chapter of the Plan describes how recreation is governed and operated within the Township. This includes information gathered from the Township outlining staff responsibilities, the function of the Parks and Recreation Director, and a fiscal analysis (as it relates to recreation) of the last few years.



The Inventory chapter provides an inventory of the park facilities within Commerce Township. This information was collected through a field survey conducted in May and June of 2023. The location of each park was described and mapped, as well as the various programs, activities, and events offered throughout the Township. The chapter also identifies public school, regional, and private recreation facilities in and around Commerce Township.

The Community Description, Inventory, and Administrative Structure chapters were presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee at their August 2023 meeting for review and revisions.

### Basis For Action

The Basis For Action section of the Master Plan analyzes factors inside and outside of the Township that may have an affect on the direction of recreation over the next five years. This portion of the plan provides the rationale for the goals, guidelines and priority capital improvements. Several factors were analyzed including current national trends, comparison to other similar sized communities (national data), service area gaps, existing plans and reports, and results of input gathered at small group discussions and an online opinion survey. The draft “Basis For Action” was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee for their review and discussion at their September 2023 meeting.

### Online Opinion Survey

An online parks and recreation survey was developed and went live on June 22, 2023 and was open until August 13, 2023. The availability of the survey was published on the Township website, distributed via email, posted to the Township Facebook page, and yard signs with a QR code were placed in various locations in the community. Paper copies of the survey were made available at the Senior Center, Library, Byers, as well as various Township events including the summer concert series. In total, 640 people participated in the survey. A summary of the results of the online survey is provided in the Appendix.

### Small Group Brainstorming

The Township and Parks and Recreation Committee members, staff, and league/partner organizations were invited to attend small group brainstorming sessions on July 24, 2023 at Township Hall. Approximately 15 people attended and discussed things they’re proud of and don’t want changed as well as ideas of what could be done differently, what is needed to improve the parks and recreation system, and items that are holding the Township back.

### Action Plan

The Action Plan section of the Master Plan outlines the direction that the Township would like to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve park and recreation opportunities within the community. The Action Plan includes goals and guidelines as well as a capital improvements schedule. The Committee reviewed and discussed the goals, objectives and capital improvement priorities at their August, September, and October 2023 meetings. Comments were noted and edits made prior to the draft being made available for public review.

### Public Hearing

A full draft Five-Year Master Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee for their review and discussion on October 23, 2023. The draft Master Plan was then made available for public review on November 17, 2023. Hard copies of the draft Plan were available at the Township Hall and the Ralph C. Richardson Center. A digital copy was posted to the Township website. A notice was published in the Oakland Press on November 13, 2023 and posted on the Township website, Facebook page and in Township Hall and the Ralph C. Richardson Center, making people aware of the draft Plan and public hearing.

A public hearing on the draft Five-Year Master Plan was held in front of the Parks and Recreation Committee on December 18, 2023 at the Township Hall. A summary of comments and discussion at the public hearing are included in the Appendix.

### Adoption

The Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee adopted the Parks + Recreation Master Plan by Resolution at their regular meeting on December 18, 2023.

The Commerce Township Board of Trustees adopted the Parks + Recreation Master Plan by Resolution at their regular meeting on January 9, 2024.





## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

This section of the plan describes how recreational activities and resources are governed and administered within the Charter Township of Commerce. The function of the various entities with recreation responsibilities and the overall administrative hierarchy of the Township is outlined. Additionally, Township expenditure and revenue trends are summarized as it relates to parks and recreation.

Public Act 156 of 1917 authorizes cities, villages, counties, townships, and school districts to operate local recreation facilities and recreation systems. The Act states that a city, village, county or township may operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds, acquire, equip and maintain land, buildings or other recreation facilities, employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants and vote and expend funds for the operation of systems.



## Township Board

The ultimate authority for the provision of parks and recreation in the Township is held by the seven member Township Board including the Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and four Trustees. The Township Board approves the recreation budget, appoints and supervises the activities of the Parks and Recreation Committee, and oversees the activities of the Senior Services/Parks and Recreation Department. Additionally, the Township Board is responsible for the long-term recreation vision within the Township through the adoption of a 5-year Recreation Master Plan.

## Parks and Recreation Committee

The Parks and Recreation Committee consists of seven members, one of which is a Township Board member while the remainder are citizens appointed by the Township Board. The Committee has three officers, a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary. The Committee plays an important role in the long-term parks and recreation vision within the Township by overseeing the development of a 5-Year Master Plan and providing a recommendation for adoption to the Board. Working within the annual budget, the Committee provides recommendations to the Township Board for parks and recreation items including capital expenditures, athletic league programming, senior programming, maintenance activities and other projects and initiatives that are undertaken each year.

## Senior Services/Parks and Recreation Staff

To manage day-to-day recreational activities, the Township has a **Senior Services/Parks and Recreation Director** to serve under the Township Board and assist the Parks and Recreation Committee. The Director is responsible for the following activities:

- Serves as facilitator for the various sports leagues operating within the Township including coordination of league locations;
- Coordinate the use of multiple recreation facilities;
- Recommends land, facility expansions and additional needs to the Parks and Recreation Committee and Township Board;
- Works closely with maintenance personnel to ensure park maintenance;
- Develops and coordinates the various senior services offered within the Township;
- Staffs the Ralph C. Richardson Center; and,
- Monitors and administers the Township's Recreation Fund.

The Director reports to the Township Supervisor and serves as technical staff for the Parks and Recreation Committee. Other staff members include an Assistant to Director for Parks, an Assistant to Director for Seniors, Administrative Clerk (part-time), a Director of Maintenance, Maintenance Workers, and three additional seasonal maintenance staff. Although the maintenance staff work with the Senior Services/Parks and Recreation Director, they report directly to the Township Supervisor.

## Fiscal Analysis

Parks, Recreation, and Senior Services within Commerce Township are funded through two primary means: the Township's General Fund (property tax revenues); and the Park Improvement and Creation and Acquisition of Open Space Millage. To a lesser extent, the provision of recreation is also supported by donations and grants. The following Table details the parks and recreation revenues and expenditures within Commerce Township for the past 5 years ('18-'22).

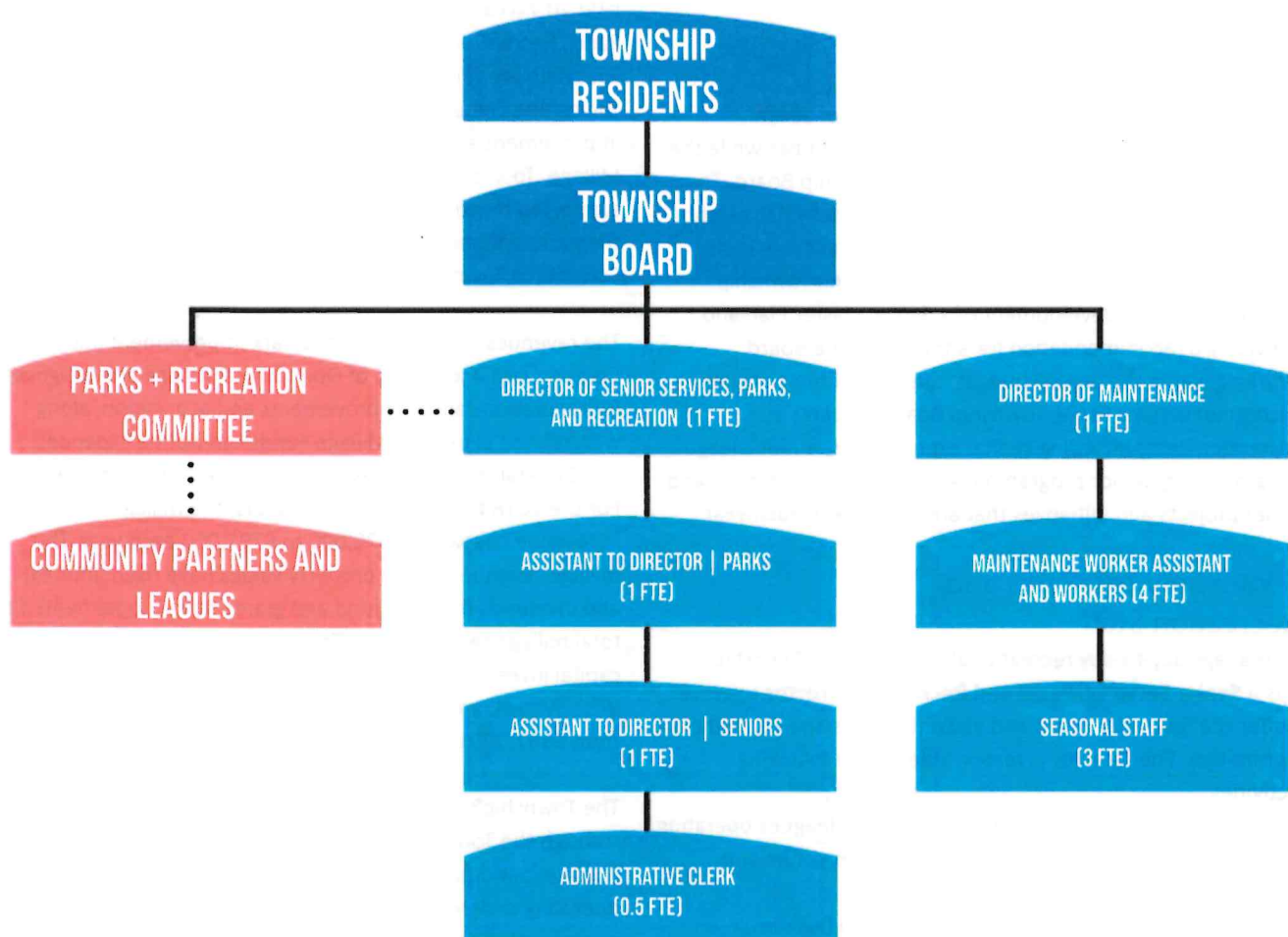
The revenues received from the Park Improvement and Creation and Acquisition of Open Space Millage are designated for recreation capital improvements and acquisition, along with related expenses. Millage Funds can not be expended on "General" expenditures such as salaries, maintenance, etc. For the 2018 through 2022 fiscal years, the millage resulted in revenues between \$678,000 to \$791,000 each year. The millage revenue rises as property values have risen. Interest and dividends from the fund and grants have supplemented the total millage revenues. The Township has made a number of capital investments over the past 5 years including Dodge Park, Wise Woods, and Richardson Park. Capital purchases ranged from \$362,000 to \$1.3M.

The Township's day-to-day recreational operations are funded through the Township's General Fund (property tax revenues). These expenditures include salaries and benefits for staff, operating expenses for the Ralph C. Richardson Center, equipment maintenance, building and grounds maintenance, Board fees and contractual services. The Township's General Recreation Expenditures have risen over the past five years by approximately \$50,000 primarily reflecting additional buildings and grounds maintenance as well as increasing programs and events. Total Expenditures (from the Millage Funds and General Fund combined) have fluctuated between \$822,000- \$1.98M per year over the past 5 years.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Commerce Township Parks and Recreation





# REVENUES & EXPENDITURES

Commerce Township Parks and Recreation (2018-2022)

REVENUES	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% CHANGE
Voted Millage	\$678,928	\$712,518	\$746,056	\$767,862	\$791,074	14.2%
MTT Changes	\$(790)	\$(503)	\$131	\$(485)	\$(58)	
Delinquent Personal Property Taxes	\$236	\$346	\$519	\$435	\$426	
Community Stabilization Share Tax	\$6,497	\$1,487	\$0	\$0	\$0	
State PPT	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,621	
Other Grants	\$0	\$0	\$142,855	\$52,145	\$200,000	100%
Interest and Dividends	\$7,696	\$25,291	\$14,998	\$9,440	\$15,229	49.5%
Misc Income	\$2,778	\$0	\$0	\$117,000	\$0	
Reimbursements	\$2,655	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Transfer In From General Fund	\$0	\$600,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$698,000</b>	<b>\$1,339,139</b>	<b>\$904,559</b>	<b>\$946,397</b>	<b>\$1,011,292</b>	<b>31.0%</b>
MILLAGE EXPENDITURES	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% CHANGE
	\$6,699	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	\$8,782	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
	\$543,023	\$398,213	\$997,208	\$362,294	\$1,342,176	59.5%
	\$36,747	\$7,786	\$12,541	\$31,643	\$135,760	72.9%
<b>SUB TOTAL MILLAGE EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$595,251</b>	<b>\$405,999</b>	<b>\$1,009,749</b>	<b>\$393,937</b>	<b>\$1,477,936</b>	<b>59.7%</b>
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% CHANGE
Salaries/Wages	\$210,785	\$127,045	\$141,385	\$148,102	\$159,602	-32.1%
Board Fees	\$3,660	\$4,500	\$5,440	\$5,780	\$6,205	41.0%
Paid Time Off Payout	\$2,818	\$628	\$1,387	\$1,428	\$5,183	45.6%
Medical/Dental/Vision Insurance	\$23,209	\$22,481	\$32,859	\$26,601	\$28,585	18.8%
Pension Contribution	\$22,264	\$15,872	\$18,605	\$19,536	\$13,484	-65.1%
	\$669	\$821	\$883	\$963	\$2,584	74.1%
Social Security Benefits	\$16,501	\$10,353	\$11,297	\$11,876	\$13,082	-26.1%
Medical Opt Out Payments	\$5,250	\$5,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	-75.0%
Supplies	\$3,902	\$2,123	\$1,823	\$4,051	\$5,647	30.9%
Contracted Services	\$23,453	\$32,629	\$7,401	\$30,940	\$45,695	48.7%
Dues, Subscriptions, Meetings	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$480	100%
Telephone Service	\$3,637	\$4,992	\$2,300	\$2,680	\$2,653	-37.1%
Mileage Allowance	\$47	\$306	\$25	\$217	\$311	84.9%
Cobra Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,093	100%
Electric, heating, water/sewer	\$29,742	\$26,326	\$28,075	\$29,901	\$47,308	37.1%
Equipment Maintenance	\$12,195	\$2,413	\$1,911	\$2,637	\$1,737	-602%
Building/Grounds Maintenance	\$35,377	\$129,137	\$95,593	\$79,314	\$84,312	58.0%
Misc	\$1,776	\$175	\$1,455	\$1,427	\$1,878	5.4%
Program and Event Funding	\$18	\$23,794	\$15,297	\$51,505	\$41,883	100%
Senior Fitness Class	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,850	100%
Senior Bus Trips	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,197	100%
Holiday Event	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,663	100%
Education	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500	100%
Capital Outlay	\$48,028	\$900	\$13,101	\$18,460	\$1,400	-3330%
Consultant	\$111	\$6,039	\$0	\$5,741	\$21,004	99.5%
<b>SUBTOTAL GF EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$443,442</b>	<b>\$416,034</b>	<b>\$381,837</b>	<b>\$444,659</b>	<b>\$503,336</b>	<b>11.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,038,693</b>	<b>\$822,033</b>	<b>\$1,391,586</b>	<b>\$838,596</b>	<b>\$1,981,272</b>	<b>47.6%</b>





# INVENTORY

Developing a complete inventory of recreation facilities, programs and events is an essential component of a Master Plan. This chapter of the plan provides a base of information that was used to develop the Action Plan. Understanding what facilities, programs, and events are available to the residents of Commerce Township is an important step in the future decision-making process.

This portion of the plan includes several components. The first component is a description of the park properties and facilities that Commerce Township owns and operates. Recreation, social and cultural facilities located within the Township, but owned and operated by outside agencies such as the public school districts, were also inventoried. A description of regional recreation facilities is also provided. The facilities inventory includes an assessment of the barrier-free compliance status of Township-owned park facilities (using MDNR ratings). The inventory also notes which properties/facilities have been partially or completely acquired and/or developed using recreation grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).



In total, Commerce Township owns and operates 12 public parks encompassing more than 1,186 acres of land (6.75% of the total land in the Township). The location of each of Commerce Townships parks is shown on the Inventory Map. In order to collect the most up-to-date facility information for each of the parks, a field survey was conducted in summer 2023. The results of the survey are compiled into a table which provides a comprehensive inventory of the parks and various facilities within each park.

## Commerce Township Grant History and Park Property Encumbrances

When preparing a Recreation Plan, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires that information be provided concerning grants that have been received in the past for acquisition or development of recreation facilities. The recreation grant history was obtained from the MDNR, Grants Management Division and noted on each park property profile sheet. Complete post-inspection completion forms for each of the parks that have received MDNR funding are included in the appendix.

## Barrier Free Status of Commerce Township Parks

With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), all areas of public service and accommodation became subject to barrier-free requirements, including parks and recreation facilities and programs. To evaluate the status of the existing public parks and recreation facilities owned by Commerce Township, each was inventoried for their accessibility status (as defined by the MDNR) during a field survey conducted in Summer 2023. Each facility was given a rating of 1 through 5 with the following MDNR definitions:

1. None of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines;
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines;
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet guidelines;
4. Entire park meets guidelines; and,
5. Entire park was developed/renovated using principals of universal design.

A profile summary of each Township-owned park is included on the following pages.

# COMMERCE TOWNSHIP PARKS 1,186.53 ACRES

Bicentennial Park	9.75 acres
Byers Homestead Park	2.32 acres
Dodge Park	112.75 acres
Hickory Glen Park	149.38 acres
Robert H Long Nature Park	117.50 acres
Maple Glen Park	103.20 acres
Mill Race Park	8.09 acres
Richardson Park/Community Center	78.35 acres
Wise Woods	266.98 acres
Victory Park	334.25 acres
Snowy Ridge Park	3.48 acres
Commerce Boat Launch - Union Lake	0.48 acres

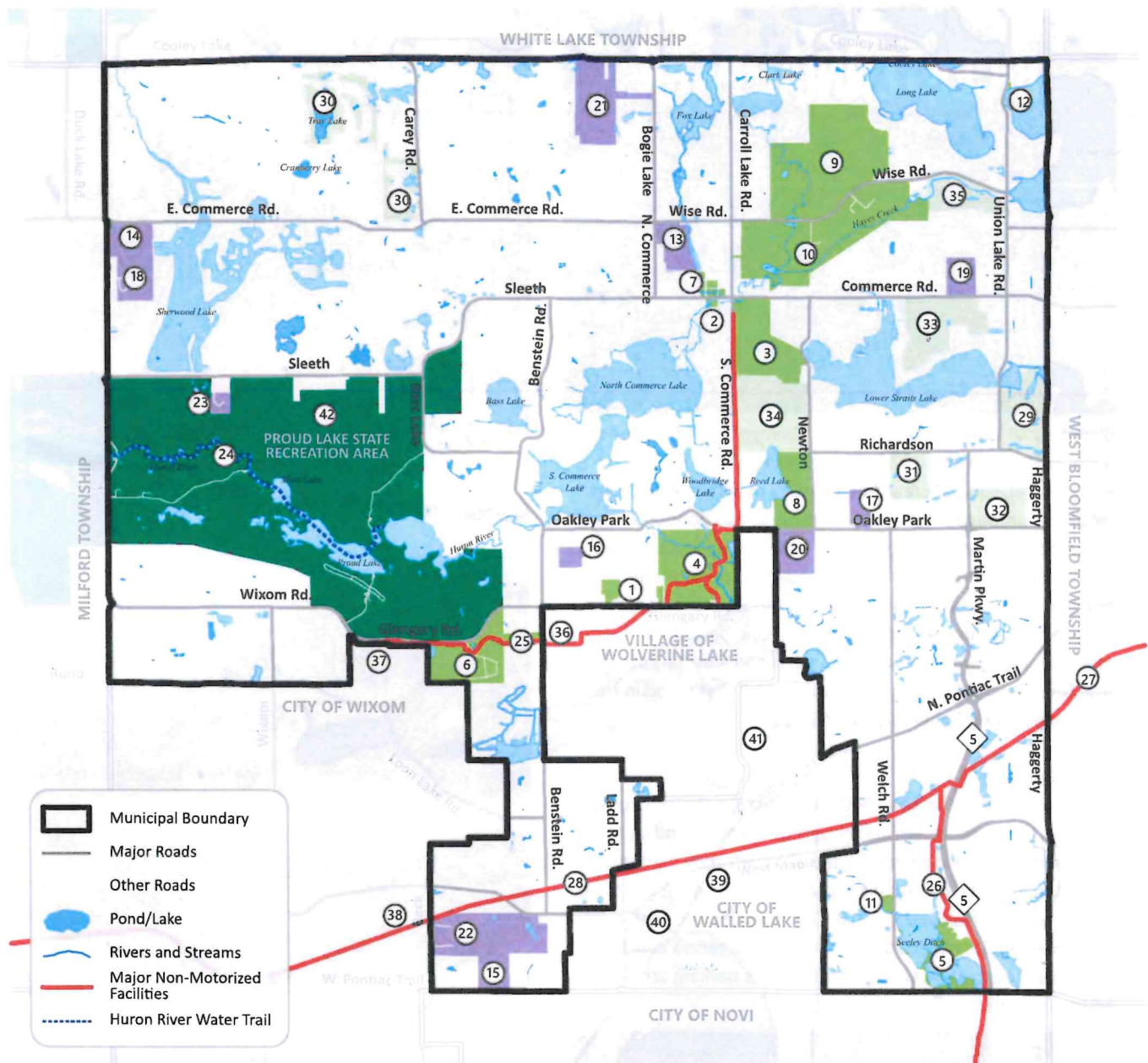


### Commerce Township Inventory

Commerce Township Inventory																													
Map ID	Name	Acres or Miles	Parking Area	Porta Johns	Restrooms	Outdoor Concessions	Storage Facility	Gymnasium	Ball Field	Soccer Field	Football Field	Sand Volleyball Court	Tennis Court	Basketball Hoop	Playscape	Swing Set	Trail / Track	Fishing	Bleachers	Picnic Tables	Pavilions / Gazebo	Grill	Park Bench	Bike Rack	Stedding Hill	Bathing Cage	Comments		
Township Parks																													
1	Bicentennial Park	9.75	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	1		2	2	2		1	1		Y	Y	1	1	Y					Tennis courts not usable; Basketball in fair condition	
2	Byers Homestead Park	2.32	Y	Y		Y													Y	Y			Y					Historic home/barn; porta john only	
3	Dodge Park 5	112.75	Y	Y	Y				3						2	2	Y		Y	Y	5	5	Y	7				UA Playground and restrooms	
4	Hickory Glen Park	149.38	Y	Y	Y	Y			7		1				1		Y		Y	Y	1	Y	1		2			2 full-size bleachers and restroom at football field	
5	Robert H. Long Nature Park	117.50	Y	Y	Y	Y											Y	Y	Y	Y	1	5	Y						
6	Maple Glen Park	103.20	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		15						2	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	1	Y			2				
7	Mill Race Park	8.09	Y														Y			Y			Y						
8	Richardson Park/Community Center	78.35	Y	Y	Y	Y				1	8				2	1	Y		Y	Y	1	3	Y					Pickleball installed 2023 and expanded parking	
9	Wise Woods	266.98	Y														Y												
10	Victory Park	334.25															Y												
11	Snowy Ridge Park	3.48	Y																										
12	Commerce Public Boat Launch - Union Lake	0.48	Y	Y																								Became owner from MDNR in 2020	
TOTALS		1186.53							22	4	1	3	2	2	8	5					8	16	8	8	4				
School Facilities																													
13	Commerce Elementary (WL)	37.43	Y				Y	Y	Y	1	1			4	1	1	2												
14	Country Oaks Elementary (HV)	40.44	Y				Y	Y	Y	1	1			6	2	2													
15	Geisler Middle (WL)	97.89	Y				Y	Y	Y	3	2			3					Y										
16	Glengary Elementary (WL)	10.94	Y				Y	Y	Y	2				3	1	3	2												
17	Oakley Park Elementary (WL)	18.41	Y				Y	Y	Y					6	1	3	3	Y											
18	Oak Valley Middle (HV)	40.01	Y				Y	Y	Y	2	1			2															
19	Smart Middle (WL)	27.59	Y				Y	Y	Y	1	2			2					Y										
20	Walled Lake Central High	45.33	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	2	1						Y	Y							2		Indoor pool, auditorium, synthetic field	
21	Walled Lake Northern High	87.74	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	1			8				Y	Y							2		Indoor pool, fine arts center, synthetic field	
22	Walled Lake Western High	51.61	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	2	1						Y	Y							2		Indoor pool, auditorium, synthetic field	
23	Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center	11.32	Y	Y	Y	Y												Y	Y	Y	Y							Adventure challenge course, yurt, dormitories, lodge	
TOTALS		468.71							19	17	3	0	24	26	3	9	9									6			
NonMotorized Trail Systems																													
24	Huron River Water Trail	12.8 mi																											
25	Lakes Community Trail	3.19 mi																											
26	M-5 Trail	2.29 mi																											
27	West Bloomfield Rail Trail	6.8 mi																											
28	Michigan Airline Trail	5.36 mi																											

MP = Mini Park; NP = Neighborhood Park; CP = Community Park; LP = Linear Park; Y = Yes





#### Commerce Township Parks

1. Bicentennial Park
2. Byers Homestead Park
3. Dodge Park
4. Hickory Glen Park
5. Long Nature Park
6. Maple Glen Park
7. Mill Race Park
8. Richardson Park/Community Center
9. Wise Woods
10. Victory Park
11. Snowy Ridge Park
12. Commerce Boat Launch

#### Public School Facilities

13. Commerce Elementary School (WL)
14. Country Oaks Elementary School (HV)
15. Geisler Middle School (WL)
16. Glengary Elementary School (WL)
17. Oakley Park Elementary School (WL)

#### Public School Facilities (cont.)

18. Oak Valley Middle School (HV)
19. Smart Middle School (WL)
20. Walled Lake Central High School
21. Walled Lake Northern High School
22. Walled Lake Western High School
23. Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center

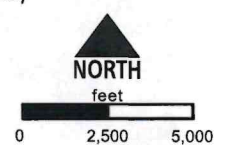
#### Other Recreational Facilities

24. Huron River Water Trail
25. Lakes Community Trail
26. M-5 Trail
27. West Bloomfield Rail Trail
28. Airline Trail
29. Bay Pointe Golf Club
30. Beacon Hill Country Club
31. Birmingham Gun Club
32. Detroit Gun Club
33. Edgewood Country Club
34. Multi-Lakes Conservation Club

#### Other Recreational Facilities (cont.)

35. Union Lake Golf Club
36. Clara Miller Park
37. Gilbert Willis Park
38. Gunnar Mettala Park
39. Marshal Taylor Mini-Park
40. Riley Park
41. Sims Park

- MDNR Facilities**
42. Proud Lake State Recreation Area



## PARKS INVENTORY MAP

COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP  
5-YEAR PARKS &  
RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN  
2024 - 2028



# BICENTENNIAL PARK

2840 Fisher Avenue

Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Acres:	9.75
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	3
MDNR Grants:	LW 26-00880 (1977) LW 26-01060 T2 (1978)
Oakland Co Grants:	Community Grant (2023)

Bicentennial Park is located north of Glengary Road on Fisher Avenue. Developed in 1976, during the year of the U.S. Bicentennial, this park features a variety of active recreational facilities- although most are currently in fair to poor condition. Amenities include one soccer field, two sand volleyball courts, two tennis courts (not currently usable due to condition), and one basketball court (in fair condition). Additional amenities include a playscape, swingset and slide. One pavilion is available, along with picnic tables, a grill and a porta-john. The Township demolished the old Township Hall that stood in front of the park along Fisher Avenue in 2023.

#### *Grant Status:*

Grants received in the late 1970's were for the shelter/storage building, tennis court fencing, playground, and boundary fence. Shelter/storage building is still used although showing signs of age. Tennis courts are no longer usable due to age. A cell tower conversion was resolved in 2016. The Township received a grant from Oakland County in 2023 to improve the tennis courts, basketball court, and pathways to/from the parking area and adjacent neighborhood.





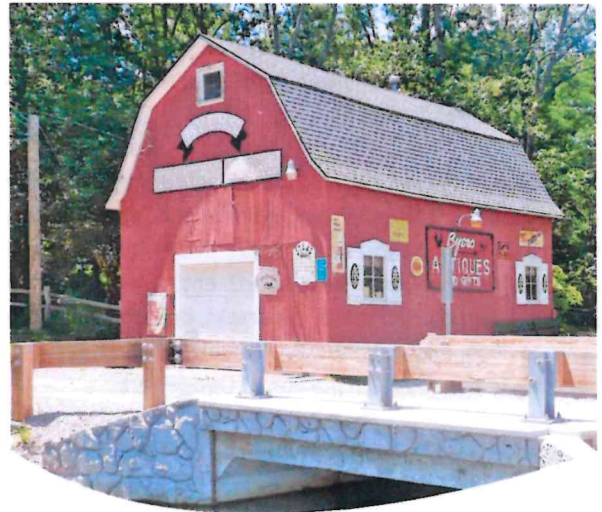
# BYERS HOMESTEAD PARK

213 Commerce Road

Classification: Community Park  
Acres: 2.32  
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 2

The historically significant Byers Homestead Park is a small park located on the south side of Commerce Road and situated along the Huron River. The property was first settled in 1825 by Abram Walrod, the first European settler in Commerce Township. Many of the historic buildings remain on the site including the primary residence that was built in 1849. The Friends of Byers formed in 1995 in recognition of the need to protect the homestead for future generations to enjoy. In 1998, Commerce Township purchased the property for preservation as a historic and recreational community amenity. The Friends group works closely with the Township to coordinate the preservation and maintenance of the grounds, conduct community events and assist with fundraising for maintenance and preservation. The main house was renovated in 2023 including stabilization of the structure, painting, new roof, and new floor in the kitchen.

Facilities at the park include the primary residence, barn, duck barn, pantry, storage barn, outhouse, picnic tables, benches, walking path, porta-john and a wooden bridge over the Huron River. The park also hosts a number of events throughout the year such as vintage market, Halloween boo bash, pictures with Santa and the Easter bunny, etc.





# DODGE PARK

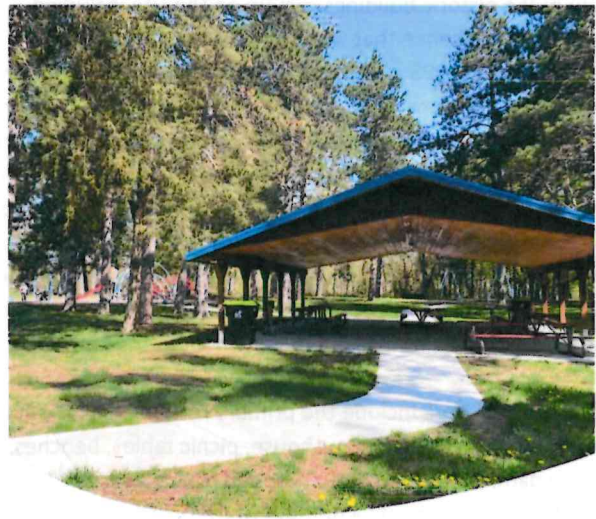
180 Commerce Rd  
4380 S Commerce Rd

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	112.75
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	4
MDNR Grants:	26-01807 (2018) TF18-0136 (2018)

Dodge Park is a community park at the southeast corner of Commerce Road and South Commerce Road. The park was donated by the Dodge family to the State and became part of the State Park system. During the 1930's, workers from the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) participated in a tree planting program at the park, portions of which are still present today. In the 1990's, Commerce Township purchased the park from the State for preservation as a park site.

In 2009, an access road, parking area, 2 soccer fields, pavilions, play equipment, picnic tables and grills were added to the park. CW3 soccer maintains the soccer fields. In 2017, the Commerce Township Library was built on the north end of the park. Near the library there is open space, bike racks, dog waste stations, a picnic pavilion, play equipment, a footbridge and trails connecting to the southern portion of Dodge Park.

In 2020, several additional amenities and facilities at Dodge Park were added including a third soccer field (built and maintained by CW3), a universally accessible playground (built by the Scarlet's Smile Foundation), as well as a restroom/changing room building.





# HICKORY GLEN PARK

610 Glengary Road

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	149.38
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	3
MDNR Grants:	26-01807 (2018) TF18-0136 (2018)

Hickory Glen Park is located on the north side of Glengary Road in the central portion of the Township. The community park is both an active and passive park with seven mid- to full-sized ball diamonds and one full size football stadium. Bleachers and dugouts are found at each ball field with a grandstand, concession stand, restrooms, and scoreboard at the football stadium. Working in conjunction with the Township, the Lakes Athletic Association maintains the ball diamonds while the Hawks Youth Football League maintains the football stadium. Other facilities at the park include play equipment, picnic tables, grills, benches and a concession building.

The Motor City Mountain Bike Association has built and maintains numerous mountain bike trails within the park. The Lakes Community Trail extends through the park, providing opportunities for walking, jogging and biking. The trail also provides a link between Hickory Glen Park and other recreation facilities within the area. In 2022, the Township added a second ingress/egress onto Glengary Road, planted a number of trees, and improved delineation and organization of parking including the addition of 8 barrier free spaces.





# ROBERT H LONG PARK

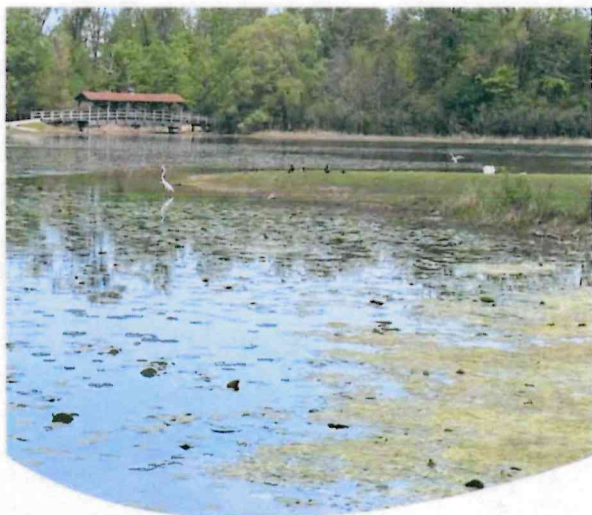
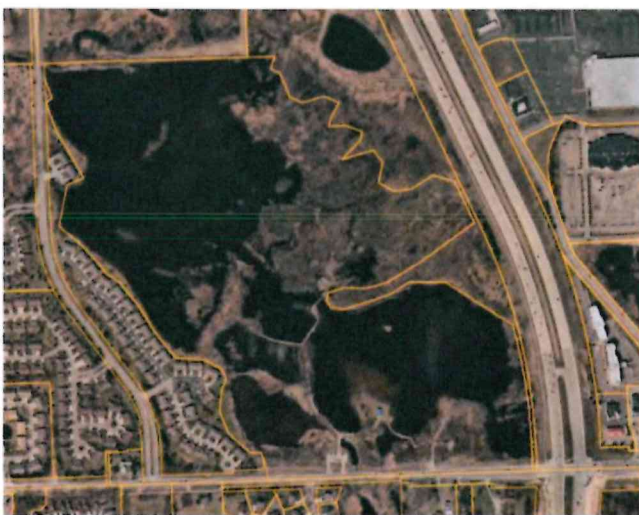
40900 14 Mile Road

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	117.50
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	3
MDNR Grants:	TF91-045 (1991) TF91-196 (1991)

The Robert H. Long Nature Park is located on the northeast corner of 14 Mile Road and M-5 in the southeast corner of the Township. This nature park affords citizens access to a wetland habitat and offers opportunity for the enjoyment of nature and wildlife. Dedicated in 1995, the park was a cooperative project between Commerce Township, the Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and a private developer donation. A major feature of this park is a handicapped accessible crushed limestone trail that goes out to Berry Lake including a covered bridge and fishing decks. Other amenities include a picnic pavilion, picnic tables, grills and benches. The M-5 Trail traverses along the east side of the park. A new sidewalk was built along the north side of 14 Mile in 2023 (with grant assistance from Oakland County) to connect the park to the M-5 Trail.

## *Grant Status:*

Grants received in the early 1990s were for acquisition of 7 acres and development of trails, dam, parking, picnic area, etc. All facilities remain usable and open to the public.





# MAPLE GLEN PARK

360 Commerce Road

Classification: Community Park  
Acres: 103.20  
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3



Located on the south side of Glengary Road, in the south central portion of Commerce Township, Maple Glen Park was purchased in the 1960s and has since been developed primarily for baseball and softball purposes. Currently, two leagues call the park home: Interlakes Girls Softball League and Commerce Little League. The two leagues have constructed a total of 15 ball fields of various sizes and provide field maintenance. Related amenities include outdoor bathrooms, concessions, maintenance building, play equipment, bleachers, picnic tables, grills, benches and a batting cage. The Lakes Community Trail travels through the park from east to west. In 2016, a second ingress/egress, parking lot and trail connections were built in the northeast portion of the park.





# MILL RACE PARK

360 Commerce Road

Classification:	Mini Park
Acres:	8.09
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	1
MDNR Grants:	TF878 (1984)

Mill Race Park is located on the north side of Commerce Road across from Byers Homestead Park. Mill Race Park is a State Registered Historical Site, formerly occupied by the Commerce Roller Mill. The property was in the original platted village in 1825. The Commerce Roller Mill was built in 1837 and operated for 90 years, serving the farming communities within the area. Processing flour and ground feed for livestock, the mill served as the center of commercial activity in the Township for many years. The site was purchased by the Township for recreational purposes in 1984.

Used primarily as a passive open space area and interpretive site, with a picnic table and an internal trail network with two bridges crossing the Huron River headwaters. Parking exists behind the Mill Race Shopping Center, on Carroll Lake Road as well as informal parking along Commerce Road.

#### *Grant Status:*

Grant was received in 1984 to purchase 4 acres. All facilities remain usable and open to the public.





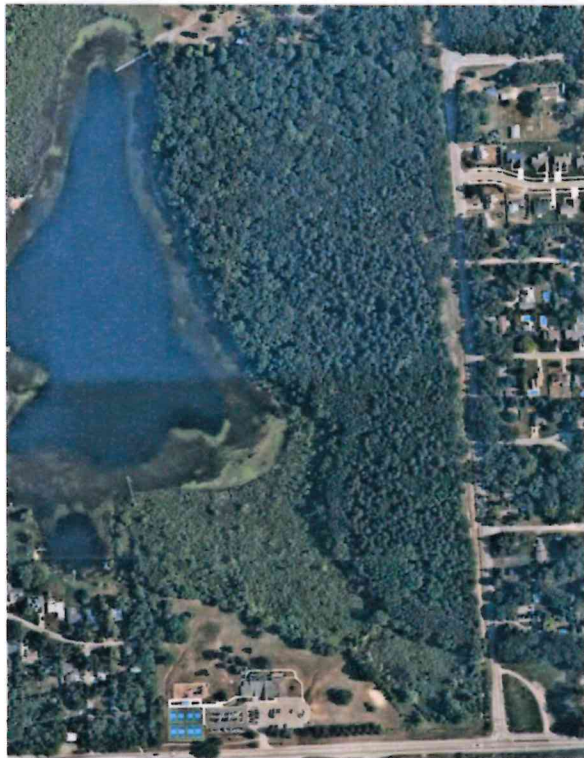
# RALPH C RICHARDSON PARK

1485 E Oakley Park Rd

Classification: Community Park  
Acres: 78.35  
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3

The Ralph C. Richardson Community Center and Park is located on the northwest corner of Oakley Park and Newton Roads. The majority of the park site is wooded open space and unique prairie, accessed by nature trails. In 2023, the parking lot was expanded and 8 pickleball courts were constructed with a pavilion and drinking fountain. Other outdoor facilities include a sand volleyball court, playscape, swings, picnic tables, grills and benches.

The Community Center building was significantly renovated in 2018. The multi-purpose facility is used as a senior center and for special events on a rental basis for weddings, gatherings, etc.. Senior activities and programs are held at the center throughout the year, such as cards and lunches. A large, outdoor patio overlooks the rear portion of the park. The park hosts the Township's Summer Concert Series.





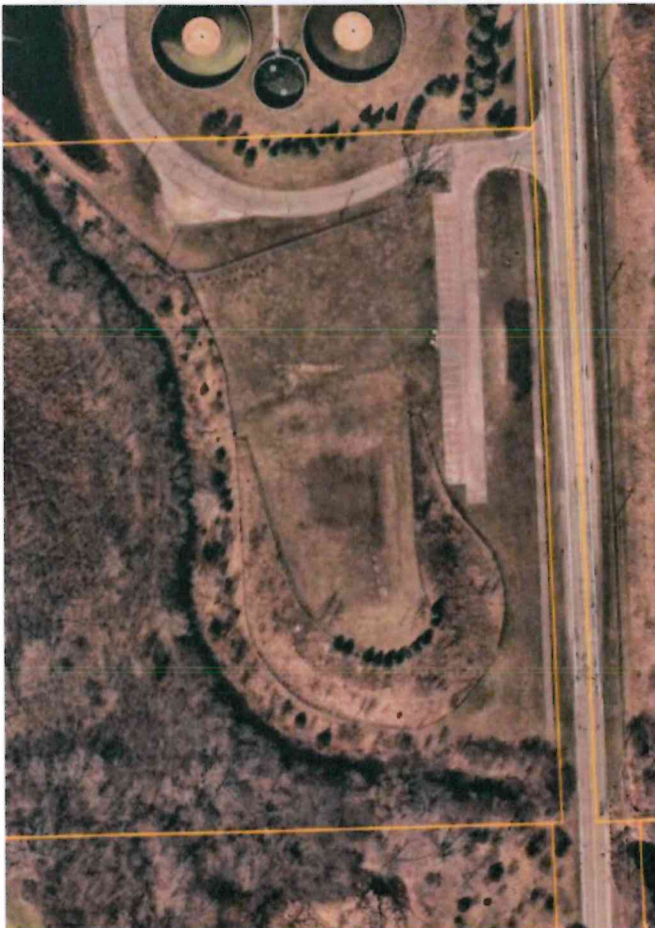
# SNOWY RIDGE PARK

Welch Road

Classification: Community Park  
Acres: 3.48  
MDNR Accessibility Rating: 3



Snowy Ridge Park is located on the west side of Welch Road just south of the Township Wastewater Treatment Plant. The park was opened in 2013 and includes the area's only sled hill and an associated parking area.





# VICTORY PARK

9061 Wise Road

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	334.25
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	N/A

The Township acquired Wise Woods and Victory Park from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in 2012. The Township purchased the property from the State to be used for public outdoor recreation. The southern portion of the property, previously known as the Proud Lake Recreation Area-East Unit, was partially used in the 1950s as a Nike missile base by the U.S. Department of Defense. The Township subsequently named the portion of the property south of Wise Road, Victory Park. The southern portion includes woods, the former Nike missile site, open fields, streams, wetlands and informal trails.

Deed restrictions focus on conservation and wildlife habitat protection with active, outdoor recreation facilities permitted in and around the former Nike missile area on the south parcel. Parks millage money was instrumental in obtaining ownership of the property. A concept plan for access and amenities at Victory Park was refined in 2022 with a focus on establishing an access drive, parking area, dog park, and walkways with space also envisioned for a pavilion, restroom and playground.



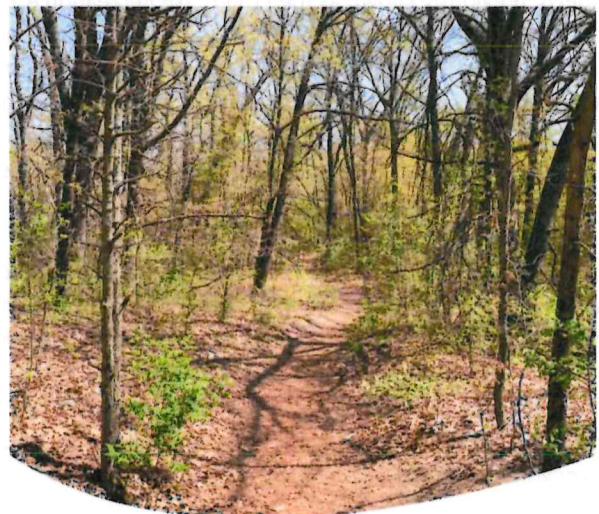


# WISE WOODS PARK

9061 Wise Road

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	266.98
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	N/A

The Township acquired Wise Woods and Victory Park from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in 2012. The Township purchased the property from the State to be used for public outdoor recreation. Parks millage money was instrumental in obtaining ownership of the property. The Township subsequently named the portion of property north of Wise Road, Wise Woods. Deed restrictions focus on conservation, wildlife habitat protection, and passive recreation. A small 19-space parking lot was built off of Wise Road as well as a Park sign and kiosk. Wise Woods is intended to remain as passive recreation with woods, streams, wetlands and trails.





# COMMERCE BOAT LAUNCH

1485 E Oakley Park Rd

Classification:	Community Park
Acres:	0.48
MDNR Accessibility Rating:	N/A



Commerce Township purchased the approximately 0.48-acre site from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in 2020. It is located on the east side of Union Lake, on the northwest corner of Union Lake. The intention is to develop a small kayak/canoe launch at the site with associated parking.





## Township Recreation Programs and Partners

The Charter Township of Commerce, in conjunction with several recreational leagues, offers a variety of programs and services for the citizens of the Township and region. A description of these programs and the various recreational leagues is provided on the following pages.

### Senior Programs

Senior citizen activities are offered throughout the year, primarily at the Ralph C. Richardson Center. Some of the senior activities include:

- Walking Group
- Card games
- Fitness classes (total body, tai chi, yoga, zumba, etc)
- Art Classes
- Pickleball Classes
- Computer lab
- Bingo
- Yoga
- Knit, crochet and sewing
- Health classes, clinics, evaluations
- Woodcarving
- Soup, sandwich and movie day
- Daytime music

Senior luncheons are held Monday- Friday at the Richardson Center. Each month, a free theme luncheon, such as western or baseball, is offered to seniors. The Township organizes day trips and extended trips for seniors throughout the year. Transportation services are offered to seniors and those with disabilities to/from the Richardson Center, doctors, malls, grocery, banks, etc. via People's Express for between \$2-\$4 each way.

### Township Special Events + Programs for All

The Township has increased the number of Special Events and programs it hosts in the last few years including:

- Trail or Treat (October at Dodge Park)
- Summer Concerts in the Park (July/August)
- Pickleball Clinics and Classes (Summer/Fall)
- M5k Run/Walk (May)
- Tree Lighting (December)

### Commerce Little League

Active for more than 67 years, the Commerce Little League uses and maintains baseball fields at Maple Glen Park. The league offers both a fall and spring baseball and tee-ball season to youth between the ages of 5 and 14. The league is headed by a Board of Directors which meets monthly.





### **Lakes Athletic Association**

The Lakes Athletic Association (1964) is a regional baseball association that is open to Commerce Township youth and utilizes several of the Township's ball fields, primarily those at Hickory Glen Park and school district ballfields. Various leagues have been set up based on the age of the participant, ranging from 4-6 year old tee ball to 17-18 years old. The primary season is spring, however, a fall ball season is also offered. The Legends teams are the travel baseball division with teams from 8U-18U.

### **Inter-Lakes Girls Softball**

Established in 1972, ILGSL is one of the largest recreational softball leagues for girls ages 5-14. The organization offers slowpitch and fastpitch softball for girls within Commerce Township and the surrounding areas. The league utilizes 7 ball fields and operates a concession stand at Maple Glen Park. ILGSL has been nationally recognized by USSSA. The Interlakes Pride is the travel softball team from 8U-16U.

### **CW3 Soccer Association**

The CW3 Soccer Association is a youth soccer association serving the Walled Lake School District and surrounding areas. Soccer is offered from U4 through U18. CW3 is a fully-registered Michigan non-profit organization managed by a Board of Directors. CW3 built and maintains the soccer fields at Dodge Park. The Michigan Jaguars FC CW3 is the premier and select level teams from U7-U19.

### **Lakes Area Hawks Youth Football and Cheerleading League**

The football field (Lesner Field) at Hickory Glen Park is the home of the Lakes Area Hawks Youth Football and Cheerleading League. The Hawks field three football teams based on age from 7-14 years old. The cheerleading squads are divided into three groups: Freshman, JV and Varsity. During the fall, the Hawks football teams and cheerleading squads face off against other teams in southeast Michigan.

### **Motor City Mountain Bike Association**

The Motor City Mountain Biking Association chapter of the International Mountain Biking Association is a section 501c3 advocacy organization focused on preserving, protecting, and promoting mountain bike access and diverse riding opportunities on Metropolitan Detroit's public lands through education, communication, and unified action. Working with partner organizations, the MCMBA chapter maintains approximately 100 miles of singletrack mountain bike trails in Oakland and Wayne counties. The MCMBA built and maintains the mountain bike trails at Hickory Glen Park.

### **Friends of Byers**

The Friends of Byers was formed in 1995, in recognition of the need to protect the historic Byers homestead for future generations to enjoy. This group of volunteers began the effort that resulted in the purchase by Commerce Township on September 30th, 1998. The Friends of Byers are responsible for coordinating the preservation and maintenance of the grounds. They also host and hold a number of community events throughout the year such as Boo Bash, Vintage Market, Storytime, Art on the River, etc.

### **Scarlet's Smile Foundation**

The Scarlet's Smile Foundation is a non-profit organization named after a little girl in Commerce Township who is fighting a battle with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). The Foundation is dedicated to making children's lives and their families lives better. Scarlet's Smile Foundation built the all-inclusive playground at Dodge Park in 2019.

### **Silo Ranch**

The Silo Ranch property on Wixom Road is owned by Commerce Township but operated by a private vendor. The property includes a barn, trail rides, horse leasing, boarding, riding lessons and summer camps.

### **Golf Courses**

A total of 4 golf courses are located in Commerce Township as listed below. The location of the courses are shown on the Inventory Map.

- Bay Pointe Golf Club
- Beacon Hill Country Club
- Edgewood Country Club
- Union Lake Golf Club

In addition to the course itself, some of the golf clubs feature indoor recreational facilities such as banquet halls and fitness centers and outdoor facilities such as pools.

### **Fitness Centers/Gyms/Bowling/Activity Centers**

A number of private gyms, fitness centers, activity centers, and bowling alleys are in Commerce Township or nearby including (among others):

- **Lifetime Fitness**, which includes an indoor and outdoor pool, spa, cafe, fitness classes, weight training, racquetball, basketball courts, squash, etc.
- **Anytime Fitness**
- **Orangetheory Fitness**
- **Powerhouse Gym**
- **Planet Fitness**
- **Barre Reaction**
- **Wonderland Lanes Bowling**
- **All Star Lanes**
- **Sky Zone Trampoline Park**



### Sporting Clubs

Three outdoor sporting clubs are located in Commerce Township. The **Birmingham Gun Club** and **Detroit Gun Club** are located in close proximity to each other in the eastern portion of the Township. The clubs feature outdoor ranges, competitive skeet, clay course, and related facilities. The Detroit Gun Club includes a full service bar, restaurant, and clubhouse.

The **Multi-Lakes Conservation Club** encompasses 151.97 acres on the west side of Newton Road, just south of Dodge Park, and north of Richardson Park. Outdoor facilities include a ballfield, rifle ranges, archery ranges, picnic area and horseshoe pits. A clubhouse/banquet hall as well as an indoor shooting range are also located on the property. The Club hosts Glenlore Trails, an immersive Haunted Forest, as well as car shows, outdoor concerts, etc.

### Neighboring Municipal Parks

The cities of Wixom and Walled Lake and Village of Wolverine Lake extend into the southern portions of the geographic township limits. Given their proximity to the Township, the recreational facilities within these municipalities are likely used by Township residents. The locations of neighboring municipal parks are shown on the Inventory Map and include:

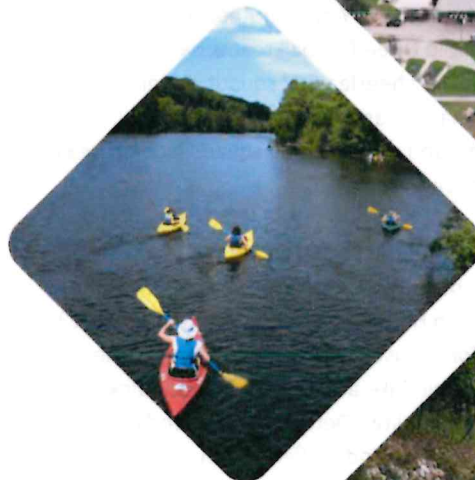
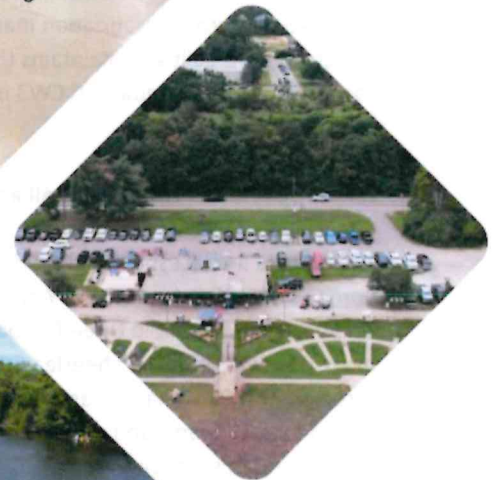
- Clara Miller Park
- Gilbert Willis Park
- Gunnar Mettala Park
- Marshall Taylor Mini-Park
- Mercer Beach
- Pratt Park
- Riley Park
- Sibley Square Park
- Sims Park
- Wixom Habitat Park

### Major Nonmotorized Systems

A widespread effort has taken place across the country and state, particularly over the past 20 years, to identify opportunities and develop nonmotorized trail networks that connect communities to one another. A number of agencies in and adjacent to Commerce Township have supported such efforts including SEMCOG, MDOT, MDNR, Huron River Watershed Council, Oakland County, as well as adjacent communities.

### Huron River Water Trail

The Huron River Water Trail is a 104-mile inland paddling trail connecting people to the river's natural environment, its history and the communities it touches in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. In several parts of the Huron River watershed, communities are improving recreational access to the river,





adding interpretive, wayfinding, and historical signage, creating linkages from township to city to village, and seeking creative economic development opportunities. These ideas are at the heart of a “Water Trail”. To coordinate these efforts and extend the idea to the entire navigable portion of the river, the Huron River Watershed Council is facilitating an effort to develop the Huron River Water Trail (HRWT). The goal of the water trail is to reconnect communities in Oakland, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties to the Huron River and its recreational, economic, historic, and cultural values. A portion of the water trail is located within Commerce Township and the Proud Lake State Recreation Area.

### **Lakes Community Trail**

The Lakes Community Trail begins at the corner of South Commerce Road and Oakley Park Road in the center of the Township. The trail then runs south and west through Hickory Glen Park, Clara Miller Park, Maple Glen Park and ends at Gilbert Willis Park. The total trail length is approximately 3.2 miles. The asphalt trail was constructed in the early 2000’s and varies between 6 and 8 feet wide. Each community maintains the portion of the trail within their jurisdiction. Several local safety/side paths connect into the Lakes Community Trail, including direct connections to Richardson Park, Dodge Park and Byers Homestead Park. Several sections are showing their age and will need resurfaced and/or rebuilt in the coming years.

### **M-5 Metro Trail**

The M-5 Metro Trail is an extension of the I-275 Metro Trail and traverses alongside M-5 from 13 Mile Road north to the newly constructed pedestrian bridge over M-5 that’s part of the Michigan Airline Trail in the southeast section of the Township. The M-5 Metro Trail is 10-foot wide asphalt and built and maintained by MDOT. Commerce Township, with funding assistance from Oakland County, constructed a path connecting the M-5 Metro Trail to Long Nature Park in 2023.

### **Michigan Airline Trail**

The Michigan Airline Trail is a planned cross state trail from Port Huron to South Haven. The trail includes a number of local nonmotorized trails that will all link together and generally follow the old Michigan Airline Railroad corridor. Many sections of the trail have been built including the West Bloomfield Trail and the Huron Valley Trail on either side of Commerce Township. The former rail corridor within Commerce Township, Walled Lake, and Wixom was a key section of the Michigan Airline Trail and was built in 2019. The communities created a trailways alliance called the Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom Trailway Management Council. Each municipality appointed one voting member to act in its best interests. The Trailway Council’s powers are limited to the acquisition, development and maintenance of the rail corridor land (approximately 5.4 miles).







## BASIS FOR ACTION

This section of the Plan is intended to further analyze a variety of factors within and outside of Commerce Township that may have an effect on recreation trends and/or planned improvements over the next five years. This chapter provides the rationale for the goals, objectives, and desired capital improvements. This rationale is based on analysis and consideration of many elements including: current recreation trends, comparison to national benchmarks, demographic trends, existing plans, and results of community, Board, and staff input. It should be noted that each piece of information and analysis contained within this section must be considered as one piece of the puzzle and as one piece of the bigger picture. Each of the factors discussed contributes to the determination of need.

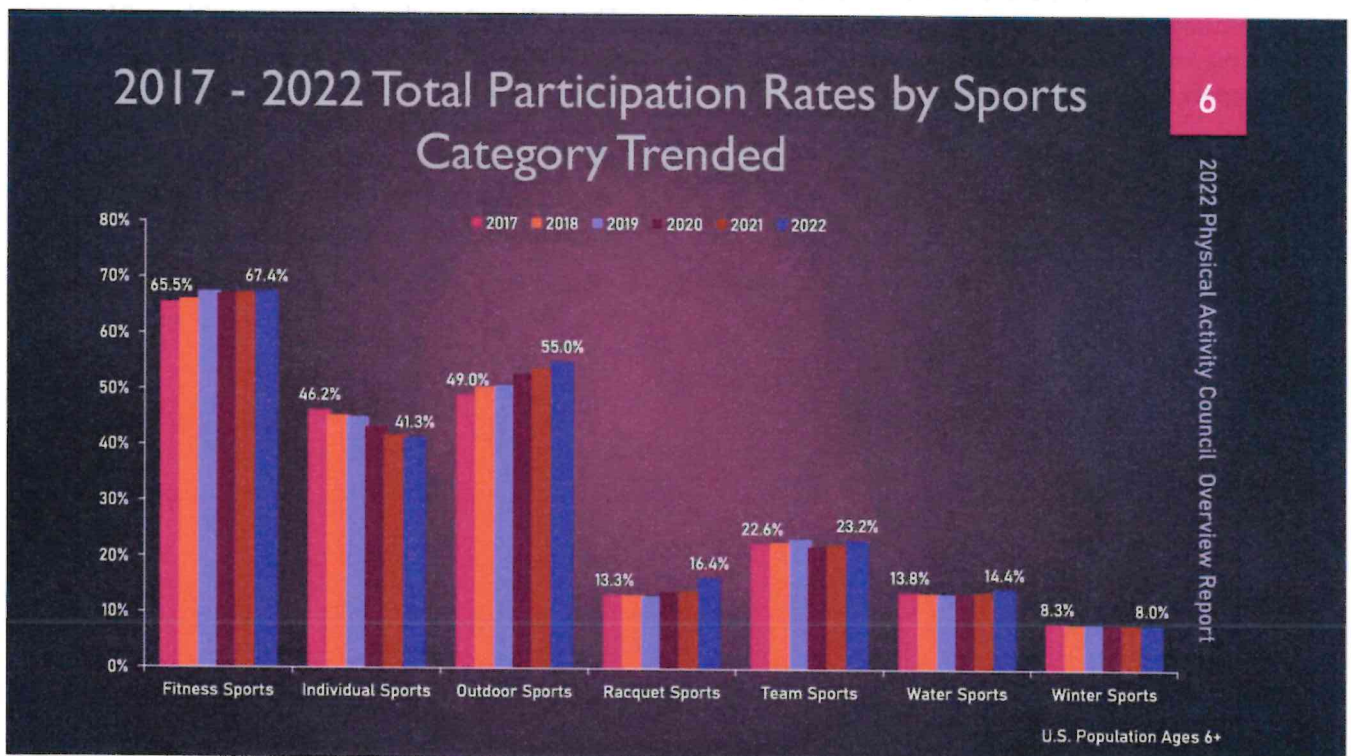
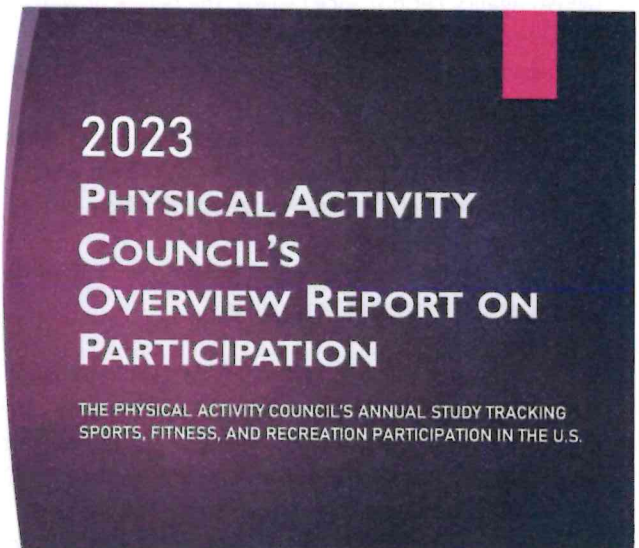


## Recreation Trends

Recreation trends occurring nationally may provide insight into activities that can be expected to draw a large number of participants and activities that have shown the greatest growth in popularity. The Physical Activity Council published a 2023 Participation Report tracking sports, fitness, and recreation participation in the US. The data was collected via 18,000 online interviews in 2022.

Sports and activities are grouped into 1 of 7 categories: Fitness Sports, Individual Sports, Outdoor Sports, Racquet Sports, Team Sports, Water Sports and Winter Sports. Most categories showed a moderate increase in participation from 2017 to 2022.

Outdoor Sports (such as bicycling, hiking, fishing, running, skiing) had the most gain, increasing 6% over the six-year period. Individual Sports (such as bowling, hunting, roller skating, golf) saw the greatest loss with a nearly 5% decrease over the same 6-year period. Racquet Sports (such as tennis, pickleball, table tennis) gained popularity with a 3.1% increase in participation. Fitness sports/activities (such as dance, pilates, jogging, walking for fitness, aquatics, stair-climbing, weights) increased by 1.9%.





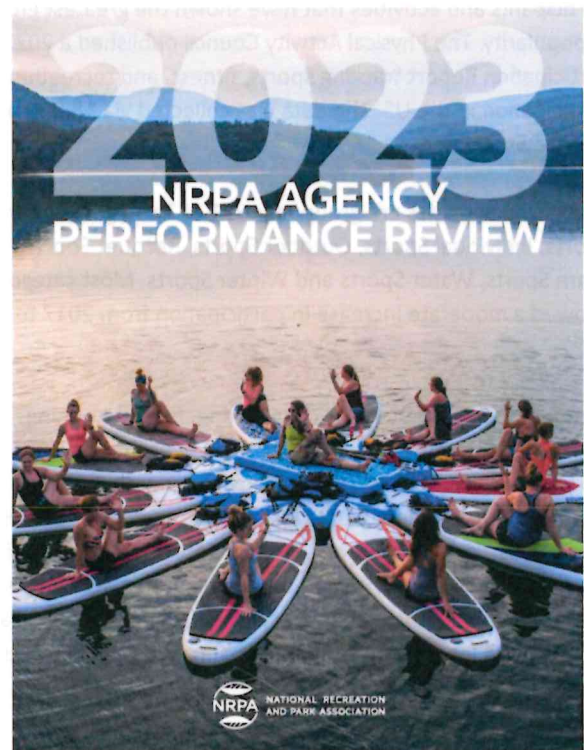
## National Benchmarks

An additional planning tool available for parks and recreation agencies is the 2023 National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review. The review provides for valuable benchmarks and insights that help:

- guide professionals in the evaluation of performance of their agencies
- make informed decisions on the optimal set of service and facility offerings based on demographics while also providing comparative agency data from other communities/agencies
- show prevalence of expanded activities and offerings of agencies throughout the nation

Data is a valuable tool but not the final answer in terms of decision-making. This benchmarking data and metrics can be used as a piece of the overall conversation as the Township moves forward. The 2023 NRPA report contains data 1,000+ park and recreation agencies across the United States as reported between 2020 and 2022. Additional data (by size of jurisdiction) was pulled from interactive tables at [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) website.

The data on the following pages highlights metrics for the typical park and recreation agency with a population between 20,000- 49,999 (as is the case for the Commerce Township). A comparison of Commerce Township data is provided based on the most recent inventory and latest expenditure and revenue data. This data and comparison is intended to continue to inform the Action Plan and discussions over the next 5 years. Every agency and community needs are different.



*The national median for communities with a population between 20,000-49,999 is 11.3 park acres per 1,000 people. The Southeast Michigan region median is approximately 17.3 park acres per 1,000 people. Commerce Township has approximately 30.8 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents (township-owned properties only)*



**The Typical  
Park + Recreation Agency**  
(population 20,000 - 49,999)

**Commerce  
Township**  
(population 38,514)

**Residents  
per Park**  
(median)

2,014

3,209

**Acres of Parkland  
per 1,000 Residents**  
(median)

11.3

30.8

**Annual Operating  
Expenditures**  
(median)

**\$3.2M**  
not including capital project  
expenditures

**\$443K**  
2018-2022 Median \$1.04M with  
capital projects

**Percent Recovered  
Via Revenue Generation**  
(median) (non-tax revenue)

26%

Millage recovers  
approximately \$739k/yr  
spent primarily on capital  
expenditures  
(generate little revenue outside of millage)  
(past 3 yrs received \$395k via grants)

**5 Year Budget  
for Capital Projects**  
(median)

**\$5M**

Not Available

**Staff | Full-Time  
Equivalents**  
(may include full-, part-time,  
and seasonal/contract employees)

32.3 FTEs

**3.5 FTEs**  
(plus 8 FTEs shared maintenance  
including seasonal staff)

Source: 2023 NRPA Agency Performance Review



## 10-Minute Walk to Park

The 10-Minute Walk is a parks advocacy campaign by The Trust for Public Land, National Recreation and Park Association, Urban Land Institute, and supported by the US Conference of Mayors, establishing the goal that all Americans should live within a 10-minute walk (half-mile) of a high-quality park or green space. As noted in the campaign, studies show that high-quality parks provide a wide range of benefits to urban residents and cities themselves. These include:

- physical and mental health benefits, by providing opportunities to be physically active and to interact with nature
- economic benefits by boosting business and helping to revitalize neighborhoods
- community-building benefits by providing opportunities for neighbors to interact with each other and work together to improve their surroundings
- environmental benefits by cleaning and cooling the air and providing opportunities for environmental education

The Park Service Area Map on the following page illustrates those areas of the Township where residents live within a 10-minute walk (half mile) to a Township-owned park. Nuances of this analysis can certainly be argued – i.e. the boat launch and sled hill are single, targeted activities; open spaces within neighborhoods and private recreation related properties can and do provide some recreation benefits to residents of the community, etc. Much of the central and northeast portion of the Township are within these areas as is the southeast corner of the Township.

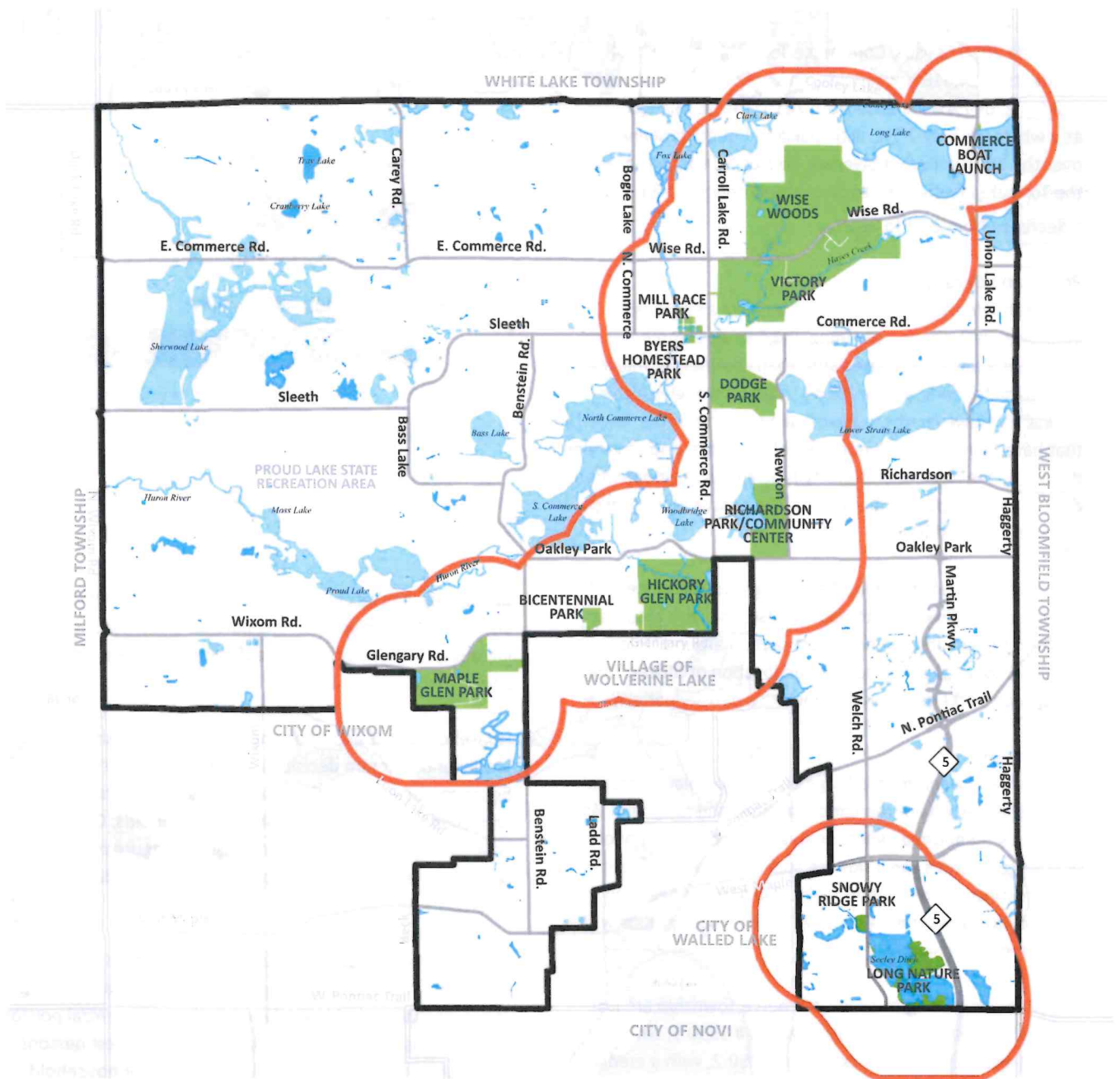
## Community Demographics

The socioeconomic characteristics of a community also play a role in the demand for certain types of recreation facilities and programs. By examining socioeconomic characteristics such as population, density, age, and household size, municipalities can identify trends and opportunities that may influence future land use and recreation decisions and/or policy choices. This section provides a brief summary of the socioeconomic characteristics of Commerce Township that may (along with a number of other pieces of data and information) influence parks and recreation planning decisions.

The US Census Bureau serves as the primary source of data for this demographic section. Census statistics are presented for Commerce Township as a whole, but are also presented for the Township. As a supplement to this analysis, a series of maps have been prepared to illustrate a few relevant and available pieces of census data by block group within Commerce Township.



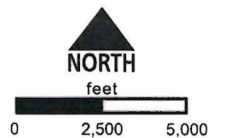




#### PARK SERVICE AREA LEGEND

- 1/2 Mile Service Radius
- Commerce Township Park

- Municipal Boundary
- Major Roads
- Other Roads
- Pond/Lake
- Rivers and Streams



#### PARK SERVICE AREA MAP

COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP

5-YEAR PARKS &  
RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN  
2024 - 2028



As of the 2020 Census, Commerce Township had 38,514 residents in 14,616 households. This is an increase of 2,640 residents, or 7.4% increase from 2010. The SE Michigan region as a whole grew by 2.7%, with Oakland County growing by 6% over the 10-year period. Average household size was greater in the Township (compared to county and region) at 2.63 in 2020, a decrease from 2.71 in 2010.

### Population Density

Population density characteristics can have a significant influence on recreation planning. In general, Commerce Township is a well populated suburban community, making it practical for park facilities to be located throughout the Township. However, there are certain portions of the Township that have larger or fewer numbers of residents, and at varying densities. The Population Density Map shows the population density (people per square mile) of the census block groups within the Township.

As is illustrated on the map, the block groups in the central portion of the Township are fairly dense, as is the area just north of Wixom and the northeast section around Union Lake and Long Lake. The centralized location of most of the Township's parks generally supports this density pattern.

### Median Age

Knowledge of a community's age distribution plays a crucial role in the planning of recreation facilities and programs. As previously mentioned, whether an area is comprised of older or younger citizens can influence such things as the facilities that are most desired within parks. The Median Age Map (2020 data) shows the median age for the block groups within Commerce Township.

The youngest block groups in Commerce Township are just north of the City of Wixom, block group # 1350.1, with a median age of 32.8 and block group #1350.2, with a median age of 34.3. Comparatively older populations are found in the western portion of the Township. The block group with the highest median age (57) is 1351.1, just north of Proud Lake State Park.

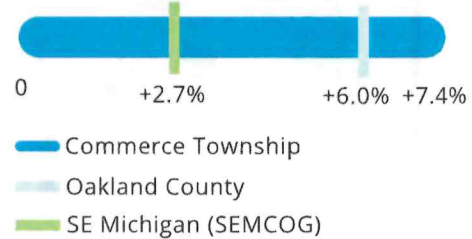
### Household Size

A household, as defined by the US Census, is all persons who occupy the same housing unit. A housing unit can be described as a house, apartment, mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room used as a separate living quarters. A trend that has been occurring nationwide for sometime now is the declining size of households. There are several factors that demographers have linked to the declining size. People are marrying later,

**Average Household Size 2020**



**% Population Change 2010 - 2020**

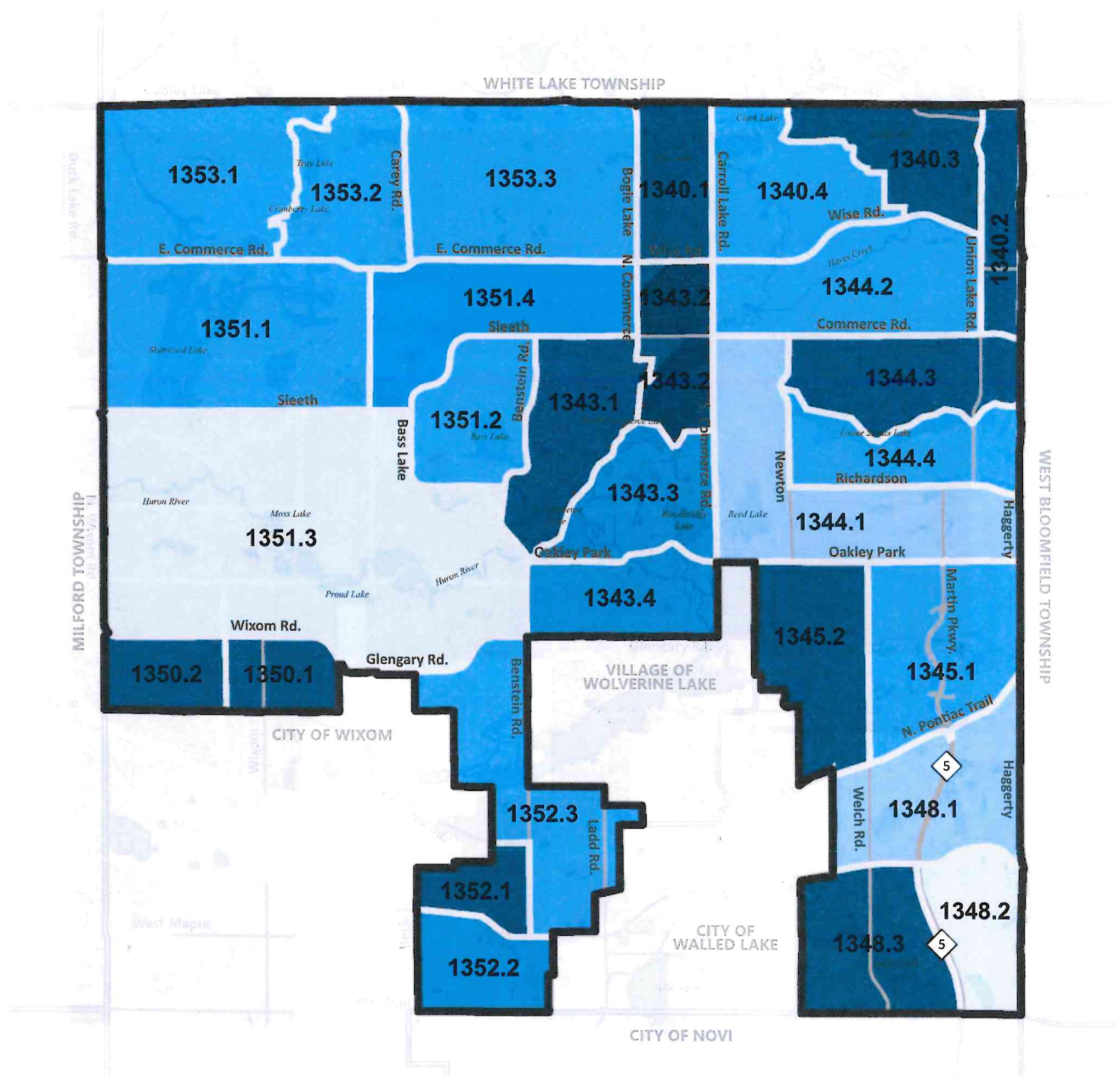


postponing having children, and having fewer children. In addition, the number of single parent households continues to increase, further adding to the decline in average household size.

Household size is an important factor when making recreation facility and program decisions. A high person per household figure can be an indication that an area is comprised of families with children or multi-generational households. Conversely, an area with a low person per household figure may require recreation facilities more favorable to singles, adults or the elderly.

The Household Size Map (2020 data) illustrates the average household size by block group within Commerce Township. The largest households are found in the northcentral portion of the Township. The block group with the highest persons per household is 1351.4, with 3.22 people per household. Conversely, block group 1348.3, in the southeastern portion of the Township has the lowest persons per household rate at 1.98. This directly relates to the fact that this section of the Township also has a higher median age. The higher median age and lower household size indicate that this block group features a higher concentration of elderly citizens, households without children, and/or single persons.





## CENSUS DATA LEGEND

POPULATION DENSITY BY BLOCK GROUP (PEOPLE/SQ. MI.)

**1352.2** Block Group I.D. Number

Block Group Boundary

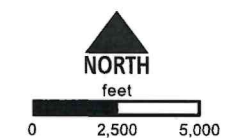
Less than 500

500-999

1000-1499

1500-1999

2000 and Higher

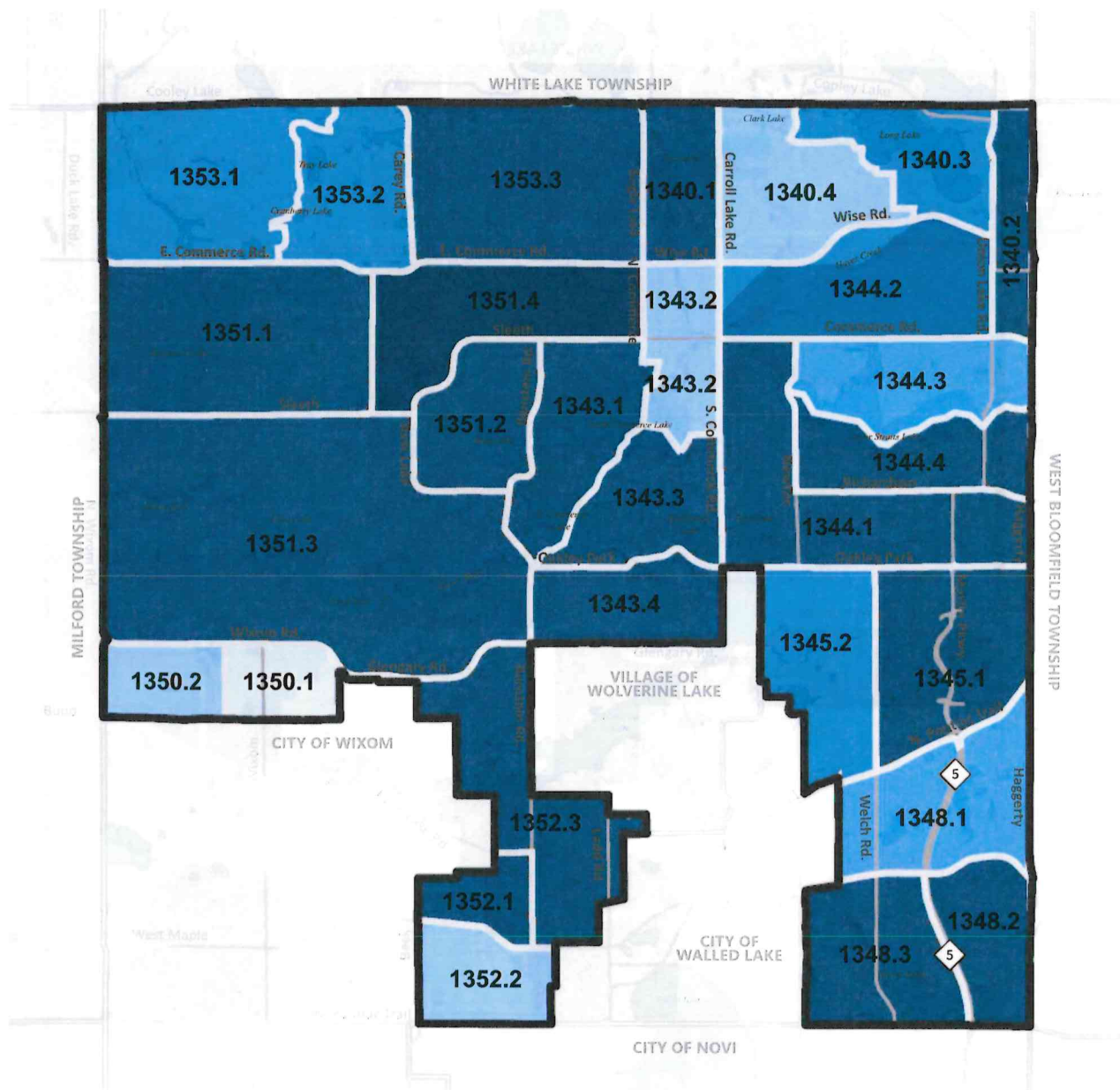


## POPULATION DENSITY MAP

COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP

5-YEAR PARKS &  
RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN  
2024 - 2028





## CENSUS DATA LEGEND

### MEDIAN AGE BY BLOCK GROUP

**1352.2** Block Group I.D. Number

Block Group Boundary

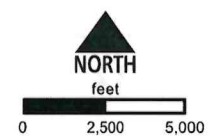
33.9 or Lower

34.0 - 35.9

36.0 - 37.9

38.0 - 39.9

40.0 and Higher



## MEDIAN AGE MAP

COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP

5-YEAR PARKS &  
RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN  
2024 - 2028







## Influencing Planning Initiatives

There are several related planning initiatives that are significant in terms of their relevance to the provision of recreation within Commerce Township. Each initiative is described in further detail on the following pages.

### *Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan for Southeast Michigan (SEMCOG 2020)*

SEMCOG and MDOT worked together to develop a Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Plan for the SE Michigan Region to establish a common vision for bicycling and walking in the region, and provide guidance on how to increase the connectivity, use, and safety of the system for all residents. To continue enhancing the system and meet the needs of the region, the plan recommends the following regional policies:

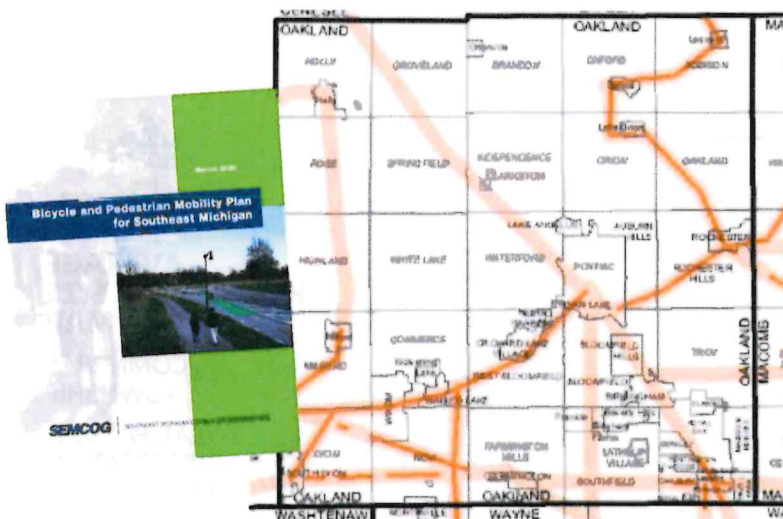
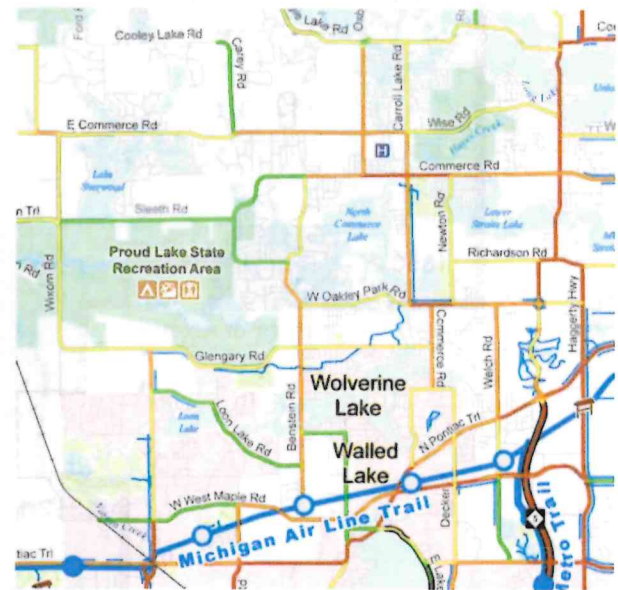
- Connect and expand the network
- Ensure equitable access
- Increase safety
- Promote healthy lifestyles and vibrant communities
- Provide education
- Ensure sustainability

The Airline Trail and M5 Trail is highlighted as a major regional bicycle and pedestrian corridor in the region.

### *MDOT Metro Region North Bike Map (2018)*

The Michigan Department of Transportation publishes a road and trail bicycling guide map for each MDOT region. The Metro Region map was updated in 2018. In addition to existing trail networks, the maps illustrate roads with heavier (oranges and reds) and lighter (greens and yellows) traffic volumes to assist in route planning.

### **MDOT Metro Region North Bike Map (2018)**





### Great Lake-to-Lake Trail

The Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Route #1 is a 275-mile shared use trail across Michigan's southern Lower Peninsula that links Lakes Michigan and Huron while featuring pastoral farms and woodlots mingled with small towns and major cities. The Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance began the GLTL Project in 2009 to accelerate the development of a connected cross-state trail. The completion of the GLTL is being funded by Mike Levine as well as generous grants from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation. The Airline Trail that traverses through Commerce Township is part of the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail.

### Michigan Airline Trail Master Plan (2015-2020)

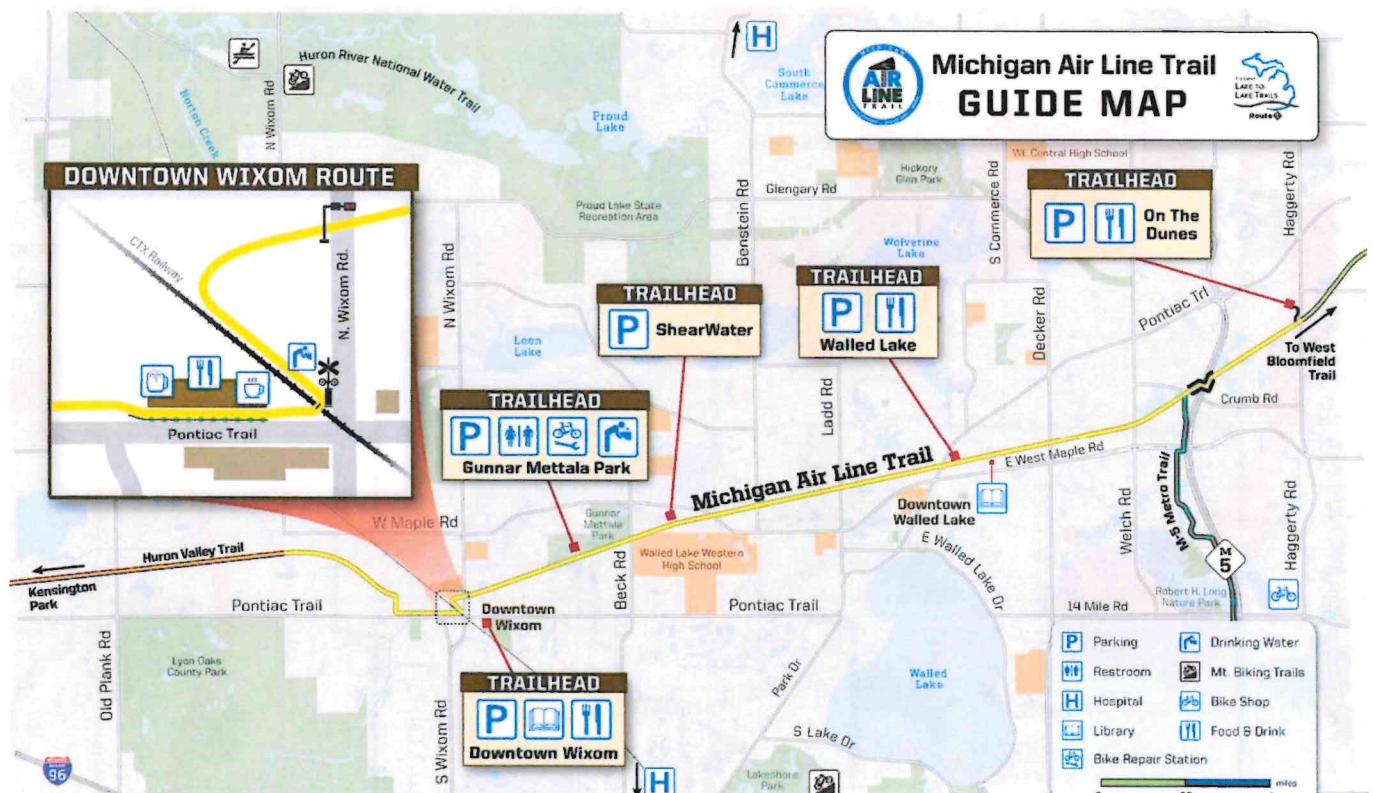
Adopted by the Commerce, Walled Lake, Wixom Trailway Management Council in 2015, the Master Plan serves as a guide for the acquisition and development of the former rail corridor into a non-motorized trail. Each community is responsible for operating and maintaining the trailway in each jurisdiction's portion of the trail. The Master Plan outlines preferred locations for Trailheads/Gateways at where the trail intersects with Welch Road and Haggerty Road in Commerce Township.

### Oakland County Parks 5- Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2018-2022)

The Oakland County Plan is a guide for staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission to use over the 5-year period. It outlines 6 major goals:

- Be fiscally sustainable
- Communicate effectively
- Enhance communities
- Improve access
- Manage assets and infrastructure
- Protect natural resources

There are no County Parks within Commerce Township.

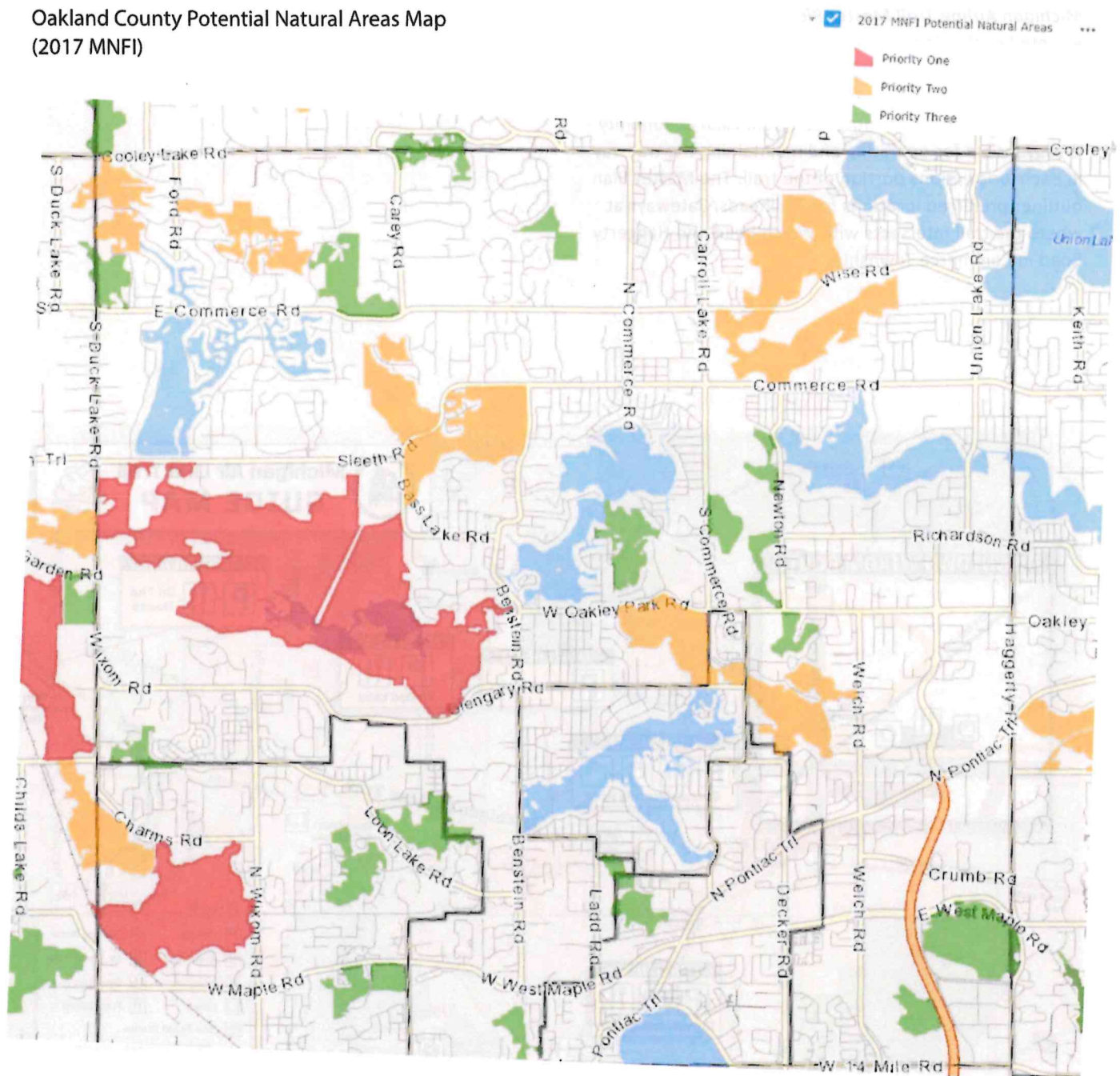




### *Oakland County Potential Natural Areas*

In 2017, Oakland County worked with the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) staff at MSU Extension to update the County's Potential Natural Areas Map. Potential Natural Areas are defined as places dominated by vegetation that have various levels of potential for harboring high-quality natural areas and unique natural features. The map below highlights areas in Commerce Township that have the highest probability of having high ecological health and value.

**Oakland County Potential Natural Areas Map  
(2017 MNFI)**

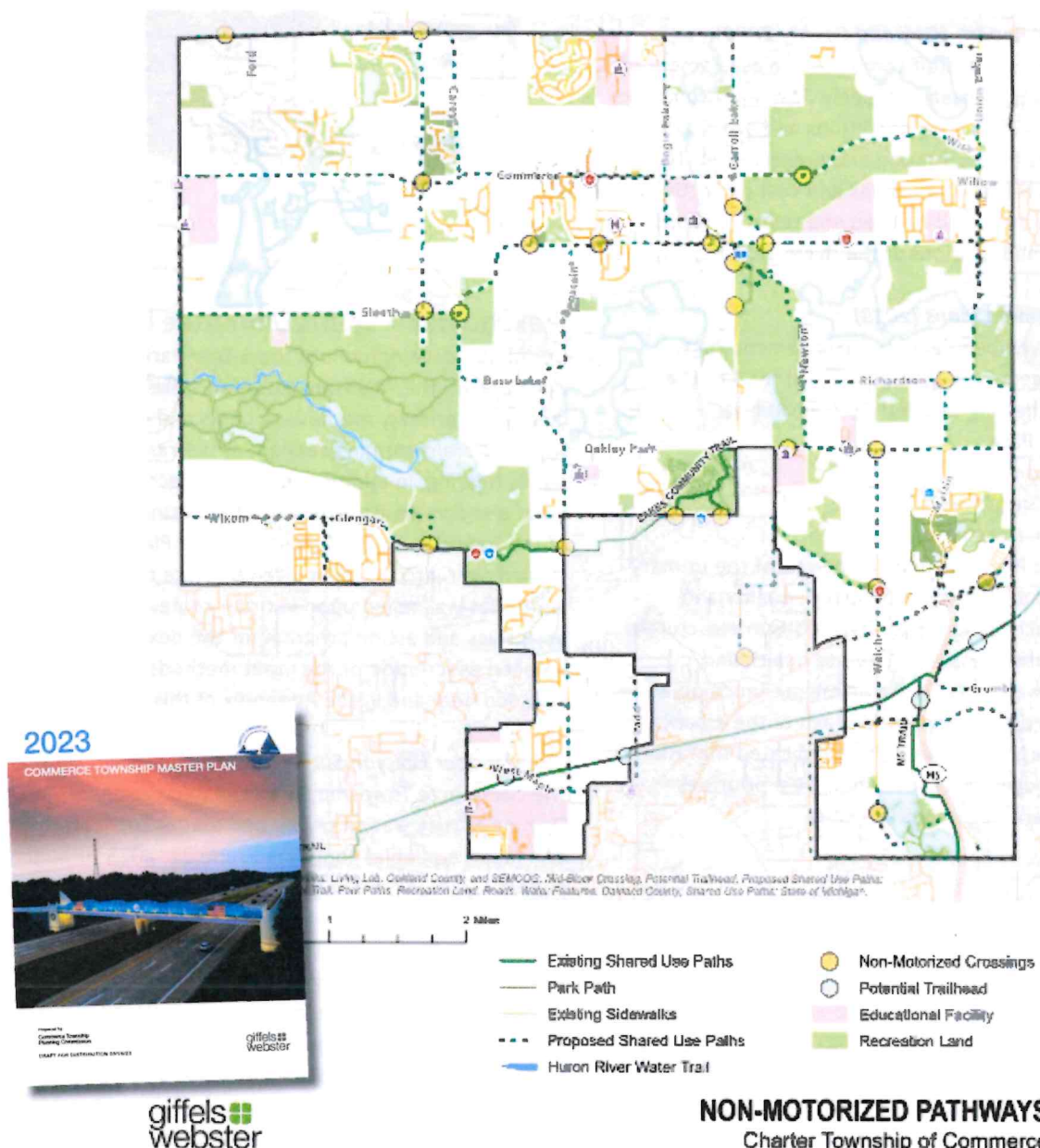




### Commerce Township Master Plan

Commerce developed a Township-wide Master Plan in 2023 to guide growth and development to ensure a thriving, sustainable, and resilient community. Several goals and objectives relate to parks and recreation including “provide nonmotorized access and connections”, “identifying, protecting, preserving, and enhancing the unique and desirable natural features”, and creating a “sustainable community that provides a wide variety of recreational, civic, public safety...”. The importance of parks, open space, nonmotorized pathways, lakes, and natural amenities were noted as cornerstones of the community during staff and public engagement opportunities. The Master Plan also

includes a Nonmotorized Transportation Plan highlighted desired locations for additional side paths, trails, and crossings.





### *Wise Rd Ecological Assessment Study*

In December 2006, Insight Environmental Services and Klatt Environmental Associates completed an Ecological Assessment for the Wise Road Property. The report was a thorough analysis of site history, existing conditions, floristic quality assessment, plant communities, preliminary wildlife assessment, resources and opportunities and recommendations. The report goes into great detail about the environmental conditions of the property, including marsh areas, floodplain, scrub-shrub areas, pine plantings, etc. The findings of this study assisted in the decision-making and agreements related to Commerce Township purchasing the property from the MDNR. This report should be referenced when considering any improvements.

### *Byers Homestead Report (Oakland County 2009)*

In 2009, Oakland County staff completed an assessment of the historic Byers Homestead property. The report includes a detailed analysis of existing conditions and extensive recommendations for restoration and preservation. The report includes a list of 20 priorities and cost projections for each. The report should be used and referred to when considering any modifications at the Byers property.

### *Forestry Management Plans (2013)*

The Township developed Forestry Management Plans (Mike's Tree Surgeon's, Inc.: August 2013) for 4 of the Township's most heavily wooded parks including:

- Dodge V Park
- Richardson Park
- Hickory Glen Park
- Robert H. Long Park

The Management Plans include an analysis of the primary overstory species diversity, forest health, quality and appearance of each stand, major hazardous or structurally defective trees, observations related to health and preservation, as well as general tree maintenance objectives and recommended plantings list for each of the 4 parks.

The results of the Management Plans indicated that Hickory Glen Park and Dodge V Park are the highest priorities relative to tree care needs of the 4 sites.

### **ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT MDNR PROPERTY - WISE ROAD CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE OAKLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN**

Prepared for:

Charter Township of  
Commerce  
2840 Fisher Avenue  
Commerce, Michigan 48390

Prepared by:

Insight Environmental Services, Inc.  
5892 Sterling Drive  
Howell, Michigan 48843  
(517) 545-2825  
www.insights.com

and

Klatt Environmental Associates LLC  
10868 Cartier  
Brighton, Michigan 48114  
(517) 304-5876  
www.klatterenvironmental.com

December 4, 2006



### **Stakeholder + Staff/Committee Input**

During the development of the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Township gathered stakeholder and staff input via 3 primary methods: a parks and recreation opinion survey, a brainstorming session, as well as the DNR required public hearing. In addition, parks and recreation related input and comments were gathered during the development of the Township-wide Master Land Use Plan (2023) and carried over into this plan. Each of these resulted in input that was relied upon in order to develop the goals, objectives and action program for the next 5 years. A more detailed description of the input methods and results is included here and in the Appendix of this report.

#### **Online/Paper Opinion Survey**

The Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Community Opinion Survey was an online poll (paper copies were also made available) conducted June 22, 2023 through August 13, 2023. The purpose of the survey was to obtain input related to the current use, potential future needs, and support for the parks and recreation system in the Township. The availability of the survey was published on the Township website, distributed via email, posted to the Township Facebook page, and yard signs with a scanable QR code were placed at parks and along the trails. The Township also set up a table/tent during several of the summer concerts as well as the parks to encourage participation. Paper copies were made available at the

Senior Center, various events, and the Township Library. Paper copy responses (97) were then manually entered into the online database. In total, 640 participated in the survey (approximately double the number of people from 2018). A summary of the results is presented here. A detailed summary of the results of the online survey is provided in Appendix A.

- 55% of the 640 respondents are frequent users of the parks and trails and visit several times a month or several times a week. 36 respondents don't use the Township parks and trails.
- Nearly 43% visit the parks as often as they like. The two most frequent reasons for not using the parks and facilities more often is because they don't know what's offered/going on (26.89%) and/or they're too busy (24.68%).
- Of those that responded to the survey, the most visited parks/facilities in the community are Dodge Park, Richardson Community Center, Richardson Park and Proud Lake State Park.
- The top 5 most important amenities for respondents are walking/running/biking trails (67%), restrooms (57%), open space/natural areas (47%), playgrounds (39%), and splash pad (30%).

Commerce Township Parks And Recreation · Follow  
July 13 · 📍  
Click here to complete survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FK385HK>





- The majority of respondents (85.7%) are interested in attending special events.
- If the Township were to begin offering more programs or classes in the future, respondents were most interested in Farmer's Market (77%), exercise/strength/yoga (54%), and nature walks/classes (46%).
- 68.8% of respondents indicated they would support an additional millage to construct more sidewalks and pathways. 18% were undecided and 13% said no, they would not support it.
- Most respondents find out about things going on in the Township via social media (72%), friends/family (50%), and the Township website (26%). Several others noted the Library and Richardson Center.

### Written Public Input

An oversize sheet of paper was at several events in July and August for adults and children to write or draw on to comment on what facilities or programs they would love to see. Summary notes include:

#### Dogs

- Dog park (3)
- Combine dog park memberships with other nearby dog parks.
- Dog park with volunteers to train- therapy dogs
- Dog splash pad
- Dog swim area

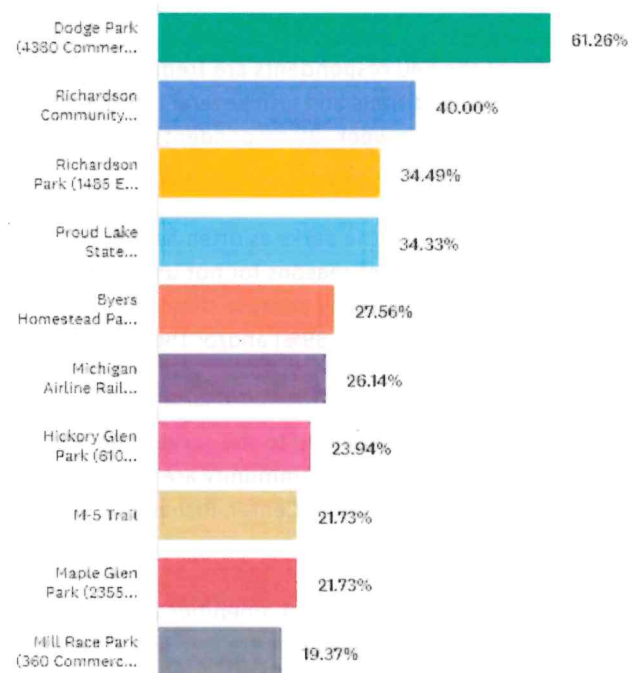
#### Byers

- Byers needs more investment! 2025 is year 200 for Byers. Need to have a party for it! (I second this!)
- Support Byers
- Refresh history signs at Byers
- Byers Park – update everything – more funding

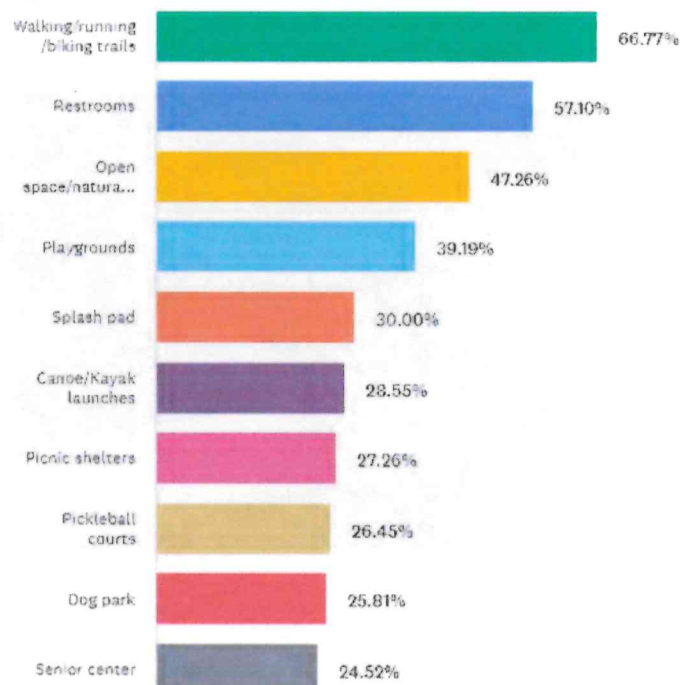
#### Water

- Pool and slides (3)
- Splash pad (3)
- Swimming pool
- Need public access on lakes
- Water park
- Water park with pool and slides

### Top 10 Most Visited Parks/Facilities in the Township



### Top 10 Most Important Amenities



## Concerts

- Free food
- Ice cream trucks
- Free food and gluten free options
- Need a square for a dance floor in front of band. It can be temporary. (2)
- Grass area by stage, dance floor
- Wider dance floor
- Not just old music at concerts
- Advertise concerts on nextdoor.com
- More concerts!
- Old music – Puttn’ on the Ritz – Taco
- Awesome music

## Trails/Sidewalks/Paths

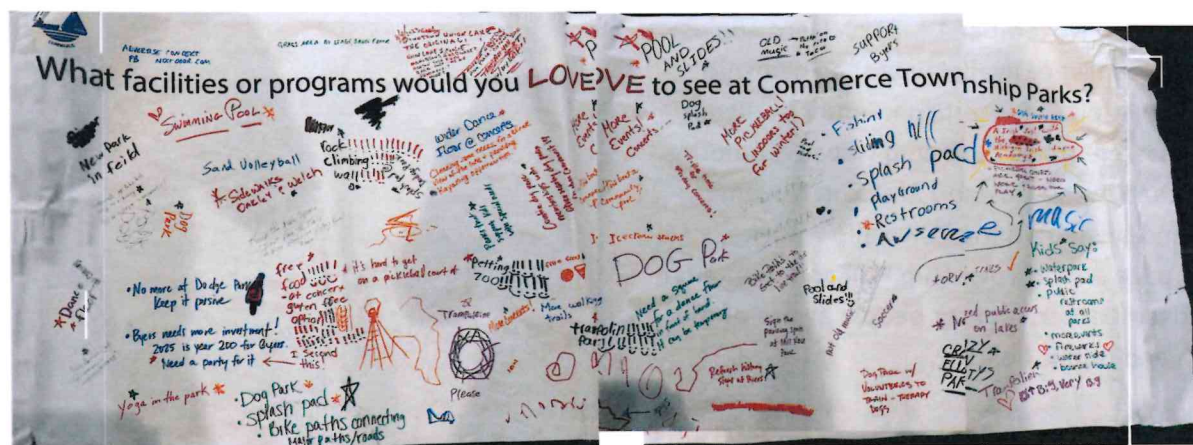
- More walking trails (2)
- Sidewalk or bike path Cooley to Library – Yes on millage to support it!
- Push button light for Commerce/Library crossing
- Sidewalks on Oakley and Welch
- Bike paths to get to the airline trail
- Pathways Please – On Commerce, Union Lake Road to S. Commerce and Union Lake Rd to Cooley. Thank you for all the goods we already have.
- Bike paths connecting major paths/roads
- ORV trails

## Other Comments/Ideas

- No more at Dodge Park- keep it passive
- Trampoline (3)
- It’s hard to get on a pickleball court
- More pickleball (indoors too for winter)
- Pickleball courts are great – need more and rules for play
- Pickleball courts are great- need more and rules for play
- Fishing

- Sled hill
- Playground
- Restrooms
- An Irish Fest with the Michigan Irish Dance Academy
- Crazy fun party’s
- Kids say:
  - o Waterpark
  - o Splash pad
  - o Public restrooms at all parks
  - o More events
  - o Fireworks
  - o Water slide
  - o Bounce house

- Parks that support kids with special needs
- Sign the parking spots at Mill Race Park
- Soccer
- New park in field
- Rock climbing wall
- Sand volleyball
- Clearing some trees for a clear view of the lake and providing kayaking opportunities
- Petting zoo
- Yoga in the park
- Downtown Union Lake the original! Union Lake & Cooley Makibbons Hardware? Ashton Lock and Key, Pharmacy, More?





### **Staff and Committee Input**

Multiple small group discussions were held in July 2023 with members of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Township staff, as well as leadership from the various leagues and partner groups.

Participants were asked to brainstorm things that are the “Wind in Our Sails” as well as things that are our “Anchors/Holding Us Back”. Notes of all comments are in the Appendix with a few of the most heard comments listed here.

#### *Things We Love, We’re Proud Of, Don’t Change*

- Pickleball
- Concerts/Music in the Park
- Scarlet’s Smile Playground
- Trails/Paved Paths
- Variety of senior center programming

#### *Things We Need, Need Improved, Done Better*

- General lack of money and staff
- Dog park
- Marketing and getting the word out
- Maintenance challenges due to lack of staffing
- Online registration and payment

### **Public Hearing**

A full draft Five-Year Master Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee for their review and discussion at their October 2023 meeting.

The draft Master Plan was then made available for public review on November 17, 2023. Hard copies of the draft Plan were available at the Township Hall and the Ralph C. Richardson Center. A digital copy was posted to the Township website. A notice was published in the Oakland Press on November 13, 2023 and posted on the Township website, Facebook page and in Township Hall and the Ralph C. Richardson Center, making people aware of the draft Plan and public hearing.

A public hearing on the draft Five-Year Master Plan was held in front of the Parks and Recreation Committee on December 18, 2023 at the Township Hall.

Minutes from the public hearing are included in the Appendix.

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## ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan outlines the direction that the Township would like to pursue over the next five plus years to maintain and improve parks and recreation opportunities within the community. The findings and results summarized in the Basis for Action section of this Plan were utilized to develop the goals, objectives and capital improvement opportunities detailed on the following pages. The Plan is intended to serve as a guide and decision-making document for future parks and recreation facilities and programs. The Action Plan outlines the improvements the Parks and Recreation Committee and Township would like to focus on during the life of the Plan.

The Plan is not intended to solve all of the issues, concerns and desires related to parks and recreation, rather to identify and document them so they can be addressed and focused on in the upcoming months and years. Current funding and staffing levels are not sufficient for all of the ideas and desires documented in this Action Plan to be implemented – rather, this plan documents opportunities, desires and priorities to consider as the Township moves forward.

# AREAS OF FOCUS

for the next 5 years (2024-2028)



Implement improvements at **Victory Park and Bicentennial Park**



Resolve **storage** issues related to supplies, events, etc.



Elevate **marketing**, raise awareness of offerings, and **deploy software** to enable online registrations and payments



Elevate **Forestry** Management and **Invasive Species** control at all properties



Add 2-4 new classes/**programs** and 1-2 additional **Special Events**



Develop agreement for **restroom use** during park hours at Hickory Glen and Maple Glen Parks



Renew parks and recreation **millage** and support additional millage for trails and side paths



Support construction of **additional trails and side paths** that improve connectivity to parks



Grow the Department with **additional staff** in order to meet the goals set forth in this Plan



Develop a **maintenance manual** and guidelines for park properties and amenities



**ORGANIZATION, OPERATION  
AND MAINTENANCE GOAL**

Strive to ensure efficient, high-quality operation and maintenance of public park facilities and properties within the Township.

#### GUIDELINE

1	Continue discussions related to growth of the Department.
2	Include long-term maintenance funding considerations when implementing new or expanded facilities and programs.
3	Actively manage invasive species in order to protect Township properties.
4	Utilize low-maintenance, vandal-proof, durable, sustainable, environmentally friendly materials and native landscaping where ever possible.
5	Continue efforts to increase security and visibility.
6	Engage volunteers, organizations and athletic organizations to assist with park cleanup and maintenance activities.
7	Utilize the Forestry Management Plans to continue to address the health of the tree canopy and safety of park users and develop Plans for other parks.
8	Improve communication and awareness of Commerce Township parks, facilities, programs, leagues and community partners.

#### TASK

1.1	Develop plan to determine needs, feasibility and cost and recommendations for organizational structure and staffing levels (i.e. seasonal staff? Contracted staff? Special events/volunteer coordinator?)
1.2	Include research on structure, budgets, staff levels of other nearby Recreation Departments.
2.1	Develop a cost analysis template to use in order to understand the long-term costs of programs, events, and facilities.
2.2	Develop a maintenance manual to establish consistent guidelines, frequency, methods, etc.
3.1	Educate, train and equip Township staff to identify and manage invasive species.
3.2	Continue to contract invasive species management to a qualified firm(s).
4.1	Consider implementing poured rubber surfacing at playgrounds.
4.2	Continue to install cement pads under bleachers, benches and porta johns.
5.1	Continue to work on clearing low level brush along major road rights-of-way to provide more open vistas to and from the park properties.
5.2	Continue to coordinate with police/sheriff regarding an increased presence in and around the parks.
5.3	Consider security-level lighting and cameras in appropriate locations to increase visibility and deter vandalism.
6.1	Continue to support Spring/Fall Clean Up Days and enlist groups such as leagues, Multi Lakes, Huron Valley Hospital, Scouting Organizations, Home Depot, local businesses, etc.
6.2	Improve record keeping, requests for records and finances, and tracking of volunteer hours.
7.1	Continue annual budget item for tree maintenance activities and professional oversight as well as a manner to measure success and progress.
7.2	Complete additional Forestry Management Plans for other park properties with emphasis on Mill Race Park, Byers, Maple Glen, Wise Woods and Victory Park.
7.3	Establish an annual budget item to focus on Reforestation of Parks.
8.1	Provide regular updates and information about parks and recreation in the Township e-newsletter.
8.2	Continue to improve website to include inventory map showing location of parks, trail network map, photos, list of facilities and park rules
8.3	Provide regular contributions to the Commerce Township Facebook pages
8.4	Continue to utilize M-5 electronic sign for announcements
8.5	Install signs about projects, improvements and acquisitions that are utilizing millage funds
8.6	Increase email distribution list
8.7	Coordinate with school district, chamber of commerce, realtors, athletic leagues, community partners, DDA, voter registration packets, etc. to distribute parks and recreation information and 'cross advertise' services and offerings.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION GOAL

Partner and collaborate with other entities, agencies and organizations in order to provide residents with comprehensive, high-quality programs and facilities in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

GUIDELINE	TASK
Continue to coordinate with organizations that are interested in improving Township parks such as the athletic organizations, Scouting Organizations, Motor City Mountain Bike Association, Scarlet's Smile, Silo Ranch, Multi-Lakes Conservation Assoc., Home Depot, local businesses, etc.	1.1 Continue practice of assigning a Parks Committee member as a liaison to each league/group/vendor.
1	1.2 Continue to review and update partnership and concessionaire agreements as needed.
	1.3 Develop policies and procedures for volunteers and organizations related to process, maintenance activities, use of equipment, safety policies, scheduling, etc.
	1.4 Review current organizations schedules for practices, games, and use of facilities to better understand and manage field usage.
	1.5 Engage partner organizations and vendors in volunteer opportunities at Township Parks.
Engage the school districts, surrounding local governments, the MDNR, HRWC and Oakland County Parks to seek opportunities to share resources and information and partner on projects.	2.1 Coordinate with the Huron River Watershed Council, MDNR and Friends of Byers to seek opportunities to extend the Huron River Water Trail to Byers Park.
2	2.2 Engage the school districts regarding desired walk/bike and connectivity improvements in and around their properties including shared parking agreements and improved crossings.
	2.3 Continue conversations with MDNR related to trail connectivity at Proud Lake.
	2.4 Partner with leagues to develop an agreement/MOU to provide restroom use during park hours at Hickory Glen and Maple Glen Parks.
Reach out to the Huron Valley Hospital and medical providers to develop partnerships/programs related to health, the outdoors, staying active, etc.	3.1 Specifically engage regarding desired walk/bike and connectivity improvements.
3	3.2 Continue partnerships related to health education seminars/classes.
Stay engaged with the Township, Township Library, DDA, Police/Sheriff and Trailways Council in order to seek opportunities for partnerships, cross advertising, and sharing resources and information.	4.1 Hold 1 Joint Meeting/Year to discuss projects, priorities and issues.
4	
Utilize the passion, knowledge and resources in the community to ensure protection and restoration of Historic Sites.	5.1 Reference the report completed by Oakland County in 2009 when moving forward with any improvements and/or restoration activities at Byers Park.
5	5.2 Commit resources for improvements at Mill Race including preservation and interpretation of the historic elements of the property.



<b>FACILITY DEVELOPMENT, IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION GOAL</b>	
Provide residents with high quality, diverse recreation opportunities by renovating and/or improving existing facilities, and where possible and appropriate, expanding parks and recreation offerings.	

GUIDELINE	TASK
1 Focus efforts on implementing improvements at Bicentennial and Victory Parks as well as other Township properties as funding allows.	<p>Proceed with improvements at Bicentennial Park in coordination with the plan developed as part of the Oakland County parks grant application.</p> <p>1.1 County parks grant application.</p> <p>1.2 Proceed with recommendations outlined in Oakland County 2009 Report on Byers Park.</p> <p>1.3 Proceed with improvements at Victory Park as outlined in LWCF grant application package.</p>
2 Implement aesthetic, safety and wayfinding improvements at the parks and other township-owned recreational property.	<p>2.1 Continue to install coordinated wayfinding signage within the larger parks.</p> <p>2.2 Continue to remove low brush at parks along major thoroughfares to increase site lines.</p> <p>2.3 Consider security lighting and camera installations where appropriate.</p> <p>2.4 Continue to coordinate with School Districts to share parking and safety improvements to/from nearby parks.</p> <p>2.5 Address safety and security concerns at Township-owned properties as needed.</p>
3 Update, replace and provide improved amenities at the Township Parks.	<p>3.1 Provide accessible, permanent restroom facilities at heavily used and programmed parks.</p> <p>3.2 Provide fresh water for drinking and irrigation at all Parks.</p>
4 Strive for Universal Accessibility at all Township Parks.	<p>4.1 All improvements designed on Township properties should consider universal accessibility principles and practices.</p>
5 Seek opportunities to incorporate green space and amenities in addition to Township Parks.	<p>5.1 Stay engaged with the Township Planner, Township Board and DDA in discussions to incorporate green space, trails and public gathering space into developments.</p> <p>5.2 Incorporate park/rec amenities into private developments to provide conservation areas, mini parks, trail heads, connections to the existing and planned trail network, etc.</p>
6 Promote and protect the environmental and historical resources within the community.	<p>6.1 Incorporate nature trails in appropriate Township Parks and include wayfinding and interpretive signage.</p> <p>6.2 Incorporate signage that interprets the history of the park (i.e. Nike site, CCC plantings, Mill Race, Byers, etc.)</p> <p>6.3 Utilize environmentally-friendly, "green" design and construction standards, including Low Impact Development (LID) techniques and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) practices, and stormwater best management practices when making improvements to Township Parks.</p> <p>6.4 Make ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch at Union Lake.</p>
7 Seek opportunities to acquire land that: protects environmental features, provides public waterfront access, conserves open space, is adjacent to or near existing parks, provides linkages between destinations, provides locations for parks in currently underserved areas.	<p>7.1 Remain engaged with the Township Supervisor, Township Board and Assessor in order to articulate this goal and be aware of any pending opportunities and/or needs.</p>

## PROGRAMS GOAL

In conjunction with other parks and recreation providers, make available high quality, comprehensive, and diverse recreation programs and events that meet the needs of the residents.

GUIDELINE	TASK
1 Increase opportunities for outdoor education.	1.1 Further develop nature trails within the parks and include trail maps, wayfinding and interpretive signage. 1.2 Determine interest for running nature education programs on Township property such as astronomy, nature walks, etc.
2 Increase the number of events at Township Parks.	2.1 Continue concerts in the park summer series. 2.2 Add 1-2 additional events at a Township Park (i.e. craft show, antique show, food/music festival, Pioneer Days, Farmers Market, Encampment event, etc) 2.3 Add 2-4 new classes/programs to be offered to residents (i.e. fitness, education, safety, etc.)
3 Increase programs and activities focused on the history of Commerce Township.	3.1 Engage community groups to assist in offering additional programs and events. 3.2 Incorporate signage at Township property that interprets the history of the parks. 3.3 Pursue historical signs for Historic Sites in the Township.
4 Continue discussions to support an Arts Program in Commerce Township.	4.1 Continue to partner with the Huron Valley Arts Council and ALEx (Art Lovers Exhibit) for partnership opportunities and assistance with incorporating more arts programs/events/activities in the community and parks. 4.2 Continue to bring art displays to Township facilities.
5 Increase the number of seniors served by the senior lunch program.	5.1 Seek additional funds to increase the numbers of homebound residents served.
6 Support awareness and marketing campaigns of the various athletic leagues and recreation-based programs organized and offered within the Township.	6.1 Seek articles, art and photos from leagues, vendors, friends groups, etc. for newsletters, Facebook and website. 6.2 Encourage groups and community partners to submit information for the electronic M-5 sign.



ACCESSIBILITY AND CONNECTIVITY GOAL		Support and encourage accessibility to and within Township parks, as well as development of the local and regional nonmotorized systems.	
GUIDELINE		TASK	
1	Continue to implement connectivity improvements along and between major corridors within the Township and to adjacent communities.	1.1	Utilize the Township Nonmotorized System Map to delineate priorities with a focus on those that connect users to civic centers, parks, schools, neighborhoods, retail areas and the Michigan Airline Trail.
		1.2	Support a special millage for design, construction and maintenance of nonmotorized connections per the Township Nonmotorized System Map.
2	Increase connectivity to Proud Lake State Park.	2.1	Work with Oakland County, Milford Township, and the MDNR to provide improved and additional nonmotorized access to and from Proud Lake, the adjacent neighborhoods and the Lakes Community Trail system per recommendations on the Nonmotorized System Map.
		3.1	Continue to support the Trailway Councils effort related to the Michigan Airline Trail and associated amenities within the former rail corridor.
3	Support and encourage the development of the regional nonmotorized trail network within the Township and surrounding communities.	3.2	The Lakes Community Trail and connections to it are aging and will require continued maintenance and replacement of sections over the next several years.
		3.3	Add benches with emergency markers as well as wayfinding signage along the Lakes Community Trail and all Township Trails to indicate with maps and signage the distance to destinations, length of network, etc.
4	Improve nonmotorized conditions in the Township.	3.4	Include wayfinding map at each Township Park that includes map of trails within the park as well as overall trail/path connections within the community.
		4.1	Utilize the Nonmotorized System Map and Plan to address pedestrian and non-motorized needs, connections, priorities, and potential design solutions.
5	Continue to focus on improving barrier-free and universal accessibility at all Township facilities and parks including access to picnic tables, grills, paths, playing fields, parking areas, restrooms, play equipment, etc.	4.2	Coordinate with the Road Commission for Oakland County to improve nonmotorized access and use along County roads (i.e. widen paved shoulders, improved pedestrian crossings, etc.)
		5.1	All improvements designed on Township properties should consider universal accessibility principles and practices.
		5.2	Encourage and support staff to keep apprised of current state and federal recreation guidelines and standards.

# FUNDING GOAL

Continue the commitment to fiscal responsibility and the efficient management and operation of parks, recreation and senior services through a diversified funding stream.

GUIDELINE	TASK
1 Develop an annual budget that balances needs with the fiscal constraints of the Township.	1.1 Continue having a Parks Committee budget planning meeting in July/August to discuss and document priorities, reference Master Plan as foundation.
2 Seek alternative and creative funding sources to assist in implementing goals, guidelines, tasks and capital improvements.	1.2 Submit results of budget planning meeting to Township Board.
3 Ensure adequate funding to support the current parks and recreation system, including maintenance and staffing prior to expansion of facilities or offerings.	2.1 Research and stay aware of grant opportunities.
4 Consider improvements, offerings, programs and events that will generate revenue for the community to invest back into parks, recreation and senior services.	2.2 Consistently seek partnerships and collaborative efforts related to operations, maintenance and improvements.
5 Plan for renewal of the parks, recreation and senior services millage that will expire in 2024.	2.3 Develop appropriate sponsorship, fundraising, and donation opportunities and guidelines.
	2.4 Develop a defined donations program and brochure that includes items, cost, and type of amenity to use to communicate and coordinate with the public.
	3.1 During annual budgeting process, include line items in budgeting tools that will trigger the need to identify any anticipated impacts to maintenance and/or staffing.
	4.1 Budget for reservable, outdoor areas for rent for group events, reunions, birthdays, etc. (i.e. pavilions near play equipment and restrooms, etc.)
	5.1 Coordinate committee members to educate user groups on the millage language.
	5.2 Engage user groups and partners to assist in educating their constituents about the millage renewal.



### Capital Improvement Priorities (2024-2028)

	Magnitude of Cost	On-Going			Potential Funding Sources
		Short Term (1-2 yrs)	Mid-Term (3-5 yrs)	Long-Term (5+ yrs)	
<b>Dodge Park</b>					
Internal park wayfinding signs	\$5,000 - \$10,000	X			Park Millage
Evaluate Need for Expansion of Parking + Implement if Necessary	\$800,000 - \$1M			X	Park Millage
<b>Hickory Glen Park</b>					
Pavilions and picnic areas	\$200,000 - \$300,000		X		Park Millage
Internal park wayfinding signs	\$5,000 - \$10,000	X			Park Millage
Restroom accessibility and security improvements	TBD	X			Park Millage
<b>Maple Glen Park</b>					
Pavilions and picnic areas	\$200,000 - \$300,000		X		Park Millage
Internal park wayfinding signs	\$15,000 - \$20,000	X			Park Millage
Expand trails in wooded areas	TBD		X		Park Millage
Organize parking and access drives	TBD	X			Park Millage
Storage facility/DPW for supplies, equipment	TBD		X		Park Millage
Restroom accessibility and security improvements	TBD	X			Park Millage
<b>Bicentennial Park</b>					
Renovate tennis courts, add pathways and connections	\$450,000 - \$500,000	X			County Grant, Park Millage
<b>Byers Homestead Park</b>					
Continue accessibility improvement's		X			Park Millage
Tree Management		X			Park Millage
Continue with implementation of County recommendations with focus on ensuring sound buildings, improved parking and circulation, connectivity to Mill Race, improved entry, screened outhouses, ADA compliance and drinking water.	TBD			X	Park Millage
<b>Mill Race Park</b>					
Improve trails + connectivity to school, Byers + Library		X			General Fund, Grants
Shoreline Stabilization			X		Park Millage
Forestry Management Plan		X			Park Millage
Improve entrance, signage, parking and awareness		X			Park Millage
Replace bridge (1)	\$100,000 - \$150,000		X		Park Millage
Interpretive signage regarding property and structures	\$5,000		X		Park Millage
<b>Ralph C. Richardson Park/Center</b>					
Outdoor Restrooms	\$300,000 - \$500,000	X			Park Millage
Extend trail along Oakley Park Road and connections into park	\$100,000 - \$150,000		X		Park Millage
Signage for trail system	\$5,000	X			Park Millage
Parking expansion (if needed)	TBD			X	Park Millage, General Fund
Update play equipment and surfacing	\$300,000 - \$400,000		X		Park Millage, County Grant
Kayak/Canoe Launch/Boardwalk to Reeds Lake	\$400,000 - \$500,000		X		MNRTF, Park Millage, Ralph Wilson

### Capital Improvement Priorities (2024-2028)

Capital Improvement Priorities (2024-2028)					
	Magnitude of Cost	Short Term (1-2 yrs)	Mid-Term (3-5 yrs)	Long-Term (5+ yrs)	Potential Funding Sources
Robert H. Long Nature Park					
Vegetation Management and Open Views between parking and pavilion	\$20,000 - \$30,000	X			Park Millage, General Fund
Improve Pathways	\$10,000 - \$15,000		X		Park Millage
Kayak/Canoe Launch	\$100,000-\$150,000		X		Park Millage, MNRTF, Ralph Wilson Grant
Aquatic and Invasive Species Vegetation Management	\$30,000 - \$50,000	X			Park Millage, Grant
Internal park wayfinding signs	\$5,000	X			Park Millage
Wise Woods					
Interpretive and wayfinding signage	\$5,000 - \$10,000	X			Park Millage
Victory Park					
Construct main drive, parking area, pavilion, dog park, pathways, restroom, play ground	\$1M - \$2M	X			Park Millage
Signage for trail system	\$10,000		X		Park Millage
Connectivity/accessibility improvements to/between Dodge, Victory, and Wise Woods	TBD			X	Park Millage, MNRTF, TAP Grant
Snowy Ridge Park					
Lighting	TBD			X	Park Millage
Warming Hut	TBD			X	LWCF, Park Millage
Commerce Boat Launch (Union Lake)					
Kayak/Canoe Launch	\$150,000 - \$250,000	X			Park Millage, MNRTF
Nonmotorized Priorities					
Construct Airline Trail Trailheads/Parking	TBD			X	Trailways Council
Reconstruction/Maintenance of Lakes Community Trail	TBD	X	X		Safety Path/Trails Millage
Install wayfinding and nature interpretive signs along trails	\$50,000 - \$100,000		X		Safety Path/Trails Millage
See Township Nonmotorized Plan	TBD			X	Safety Path/Trails Millage
Other					
Parks and Recreation Department Organizational Structure Feasibility Study	Staff Time	X			General Fund
Install security level lighting and cameras at parks	TBD			X	Park Millage, General Fund
Tree Maintenance + Reforestation per Forestry Management Plans	\$100,000/yr			X	Park Millage, General Fund
Develop Forestry Management Plan for Mill Race, Byers, Maple Glen, Victory Park + Wise Woods	\$30,000 - \$50,000	X			Park Millage, General Fund
Provide accessible, permanent restroom facilities at heavily used and programmed parks	TBD	X	X		Park Millage, General Fund
Provide water for drinking and irrigation at all Parks	TBD			X	Park Millage, General Fund
Design and install signs that interpret nature and history within the parks	\$20,000 - \$40,000		X		Park Millage, General Fund
Scheduling software for Department use	\$20,000 - \$30,000	X			General Fund
Seek Opportunities to Acquire Land That:	To Be Determined			X	Park Millage, MNRTF Grant
-- Protects Environmental Features					
-- Provides Public Waterfront Access					
-- Conserves Open Space					
-- Is Adjacent to or near Existing Parks					
-- Provides Linkages Between Destinations					
-- Could Provide Increased and Enhanced Recreation Opportunities					
-- Provides Locations for Parks in Currently Underserved Areas					
Prepare New 5-Year Master Plan	\$20,000 - \$25,000		X		Park Millage, General Fund





# APPENDIX

Public Engagement Survey Results

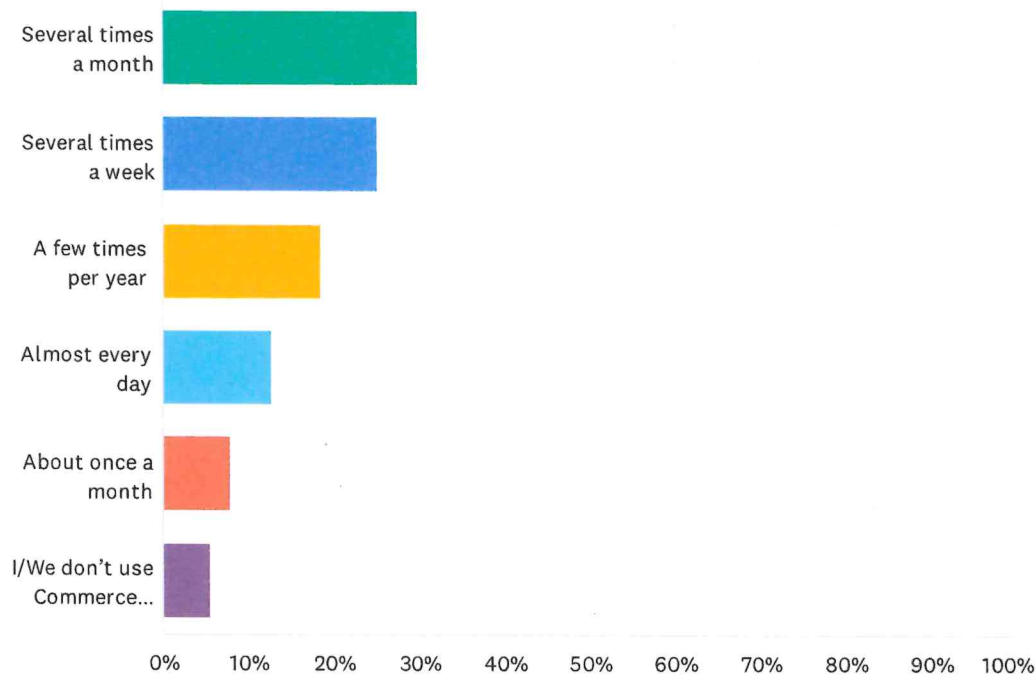
Public Notice

Public Hearing Agenda and Minutes

Resolutions of Adoption

# Q1 Within the past year, how many times have you or a member of your household visited a Commerce Township park or trail?

Answered: 640 Skipped: 0



## ANSWER CHOICES

Several times a month

Several times a week

A few times per year

Almost every day

About once a month

I/We don't use Commerce Township parks or trails

TOTAL

## RESPONSES

29.84% 191

25.16% 161

18.59% 119

12.81% 82

7.97% 51

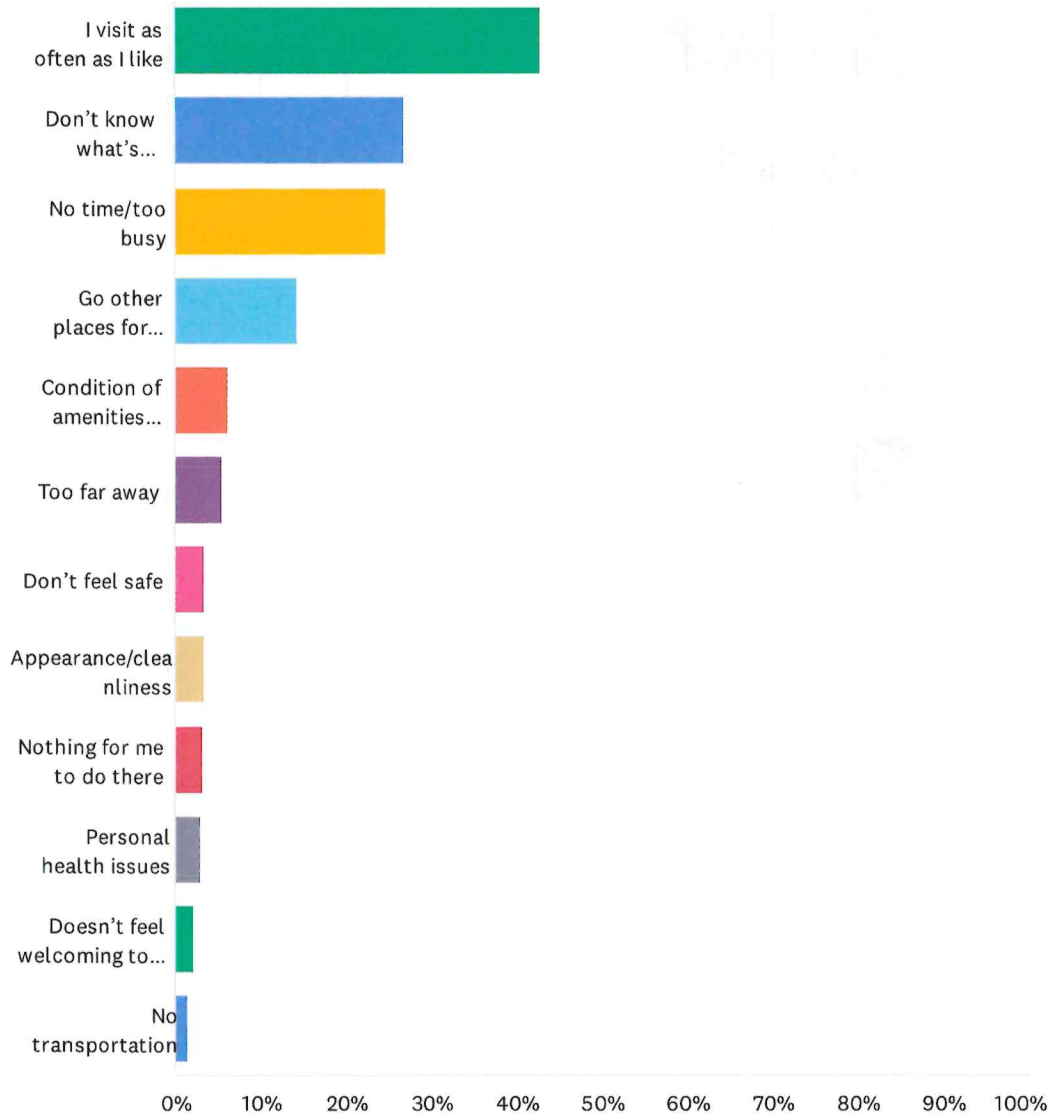
5.63% 36

640



## Q2 Are there reasons why you/your household do not use Commerce Township parks and facilities more often? Check all that apply.

Answered: 543 Skipped: 97



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I visit as often as I like	42.91%	233
Don't know what's offered/what's going on	26.89%	146
No time/too busy	24.68%	134
Go other places for recreation	14.18%	77
Condition of amenities (fields, playgrounds, paths, grass, etc)	6.26%	34
Too far away	5.52%	30
Don't feel safe	3.50%	19
Appearance/cleanliness	3.31%	18
Nothing for me to do there	3.13%	17
Personal health issues	2.95%	16
Doesn't feel welcoming to me	2.21%	12
No transportation	1.47%	8
Total Respondents: 543		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	no sidewalks on Oakley	9/28/2023 2:10 PM
2	There are things that could make better	9/28/2023 2:05 PM
3	Not enough shade	9/28/2023 1:50 PM
4	Ticks	9/28/2023 1:49 PM
5	Grand kids ball games	9/10/2023 9:34 PM
6	N/A	9/8/2023 7:50 PM
7	You keep it up nice	9/8/2023 7:16 PM
8	No food or beverage locations close by	8/13/2023 8:47 PM
9	I can't ride my bike there from my house. No path.	8/13/2023 1:44 PM
10	I don't live close but come as often as I can.	8/13/2023 11:51 AM
11	The park we like is often full from CW3 soccer activities	8/12/2023 1:33 PM
12	Also visit state & metro parks	8/11/2023 7:38 AM
13	We would love sidewalks/pathways near us but we don't have any along Union Lake Road	8/7/2023 9:25 AM
14	Can't get there by bike	8/5/2023 3:02 PM
15	I live very close to Dodge 5 Park but because of the soccer activities there I do not use the park as much.	8/5/2023 12:22 PM
16	State Parks to walk- Proud Lake and Highland Lakes mostly	8/4/2023 7:27 PM
17	We are living here part time	8/4/2023 7:04 PM
18	Area not bicycle friendly	8/3/2023 10:35 AM
19	Having to drive to the trails due to lack of sidewalks leading to the trails.	8/2/2023 6:39 AM
20	we're to advanced in age for trails	8/1/2023 1:16 PM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

21	Enjoy them!	8/1/2023 1:11 PM
22	not bike accessible to get to	8/1/2023 1:09 PM
23	Conside Port a joins at parks for walkers/runners/bikers	8/1/2023 12:14 PM
24	too old	8/1/2023 12:10 PM
25	Would go more with easier access	7/31/2023 3:59 PM
26	na	7/31/2023 9:16 AM
27	Would visit more if there was a good accessible bike/running paths on Commerce roads!	7/30/2023 12:58 PM
28	no skate park	7/29/2023 3:55 PM
29	We have an abundance of walking trails but no outdoor pools or activities.	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
30	No path from sub to the parks to take a bike or walk.	7/27/2023 4:26 PM
31	None	7/27/2023 8:32 AM
32	I only use the park to play pickleball.	7/26/2023 7:30 PM
33	Unsafe to walk or ride bikes to them	7/26/2023 6:31 PM
34	too old	7/26/2023 1:55 PM
35	Afraid of ticks.	7/26/2023 1:52 PM
36	not around for winter months	7/26/2023 1:45 PM
37	Crossing Benstein Road near Glengary on trail is dangerous and no sidewalks to light - need ability to stop traffic	7/26/2023 1:40 PM
38	Need sidewalks to get to the trail	7/26/2023 12:15 PM
39	There are no sidewalks to get to them safely. We have to walk down the side of the road with cars going 50 mph by us while we are on the shoulder.	7/26/2023 8:56 AM
40	Wouldn't walk in wooded trails by myself I will only stay on park trails	7/25/2023 4:17 PM
41	Too many kids and the sidewalk is not convenient to get to	7/25/2023 11:35 AM
42	No teason	7/25/2023 7:49 AM
43	Not familiar with all locations	7/25/2023 7:19 AM
44	Busy	7/25/2023 6:48 AM
45	No trails in my area to connect me to the parks.	7/25/2023 6:23 AM
46	Rules restrict my constitutional right to carry a firearm. And depending on the park I'm inundated on dogs off leash rushing, barking, jumping and the police won't enforce the leash law most commonly the Richardson center woods, and dodge 5	7/24/2023 11:14 PM
47	Would love sidewalks to connect the neighborhoods to the parks and schools in the area to safely walk or bike with my kids to	7/24/2023 11:10 PM
48	I don't want to drive there. Please make bike paths or walking trails to get to the park system.	7/24/2023 11:06 PM
49	No bike or walking trails to connect the People to the Parks... it needs walk- a- bility"... easy accessiblilty and ease of use.	7/24/2023 9:38 PM
50	I'm at Maple Glenn Park almost every day from the start of April till July because of baseball.	7/24/2023 5:38 PM
51	Not enough awareness. Need to amplify parks and rec to the library level, it does just as much for community	7/20/2023 7:32 PM
52	No sidewalks to get there from my neighborhood. Cooley and Carol lk	7/20/2023 9:57 AM
53	Just moved to area	7/20/2023 7:59 AM
54	None of the above. Just found this place. Amazing. It just need water jet's during hot summer days	7/19/2023 2:21 PM

## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

55	Bathrooms not porta pottys	7/18/2023 5:13 PM
56	Sometimes just way too busy/crowded at the park (number of people)	7/18/2023 12:05 PM
57	Mill Race Park is okay but I seem a little nervous there with my kids.	7/18/2023 12:02 PM
58	Lack of maintenance	7/17/2023 10:52 PM
59	I love our parks!	7/16/2023 5:43 PM
60	Like how they are cared for!	7/16/2023 5:34 PM
61	Would like more concerts	7/16/2023 5:14 PM
62	Would like a centralized Downtown (Plymouth /Rochester) for large community gatherings and events	7/16/2023 8:34 AM
63	We are waiting for the dog park!	7/16/2023 8:21 AM
64	Lack of sidewalks to safely walk or bike to the parks/trails.	7/16/2023 7:18 AM
65	Often out of town. Retired.	7/15/2023 12:35 PM
66	No easy way to get to them without trails or sidewalks	7/14/2023 9:03 PM
67	Maps of the various trails would be helpful.	7/14/2023 2:16 AM
68	Paths not usable during the winter	7/13/2023 3:44 PM
69	I live on a lake	7/12/2023 5:29 PM
70	I'd love paths so I could ride my bike or walk there (Carroll Lk. Rd.)	7/12/2023 5:09 PM
71	Need dog park so we can walk the dogs	7/12/2023 4:12 PM
72	Time away during the winter & vacation	7/11/2023 7:05 PM
73	No township sidewalks/bike paths to make more accessible	7/11/2023 11:09 AM
74	Calendar on township website does not list events, only meetings. There should be a toggle to view summer concerts, events at Byers, races, and other items. It is difficult to find info and it is not well publicized.	7/10/2023 11:32 PM
75	Restroom availability in winter months	7/10/2023 8:43 PM
76	Lack of restrooms	7/10/2023 8:28 PM
77	No easily walkable north of the library no sidewalks connecting near wise road and commerce	7/10/2023 8:01 PM
78	Difficult to get there no sidewalks have to drive from the walled lake northern/wise road area no safe crossing areas and sidewalks	7/10/2023 6:03 PM
79	Keep walking trails maintained. Love them. Hickory glen walking trail needs to be kept nice	7/7/2023 7:04 PM
80	We're new to the area and would love info	7/7/2023 6:57 PM
81	Weather	7/6/2023 5:58 PM
82	I'd go more often if there was a Rec center with a pool	7/6/2023 3:33 PM
83	We just moved to Commerce recently	7/6/2023 12:49 AM
84	We do not have a paved path on Commerce road, to the library	7/4/2023 1:49 PM
85	Trails are not well defined in Victory Park.	7/4/2023 12:44 PM
86	overgrown plants in the paths, it's not being taken care of	7/2/2023 2:40 PM
87	No connection paths by WLNHS to get to park/path by library	7/2/2023 12:52 PM
88	Needs more sidewalks/trails connecting to downtown commerce	7/2/2023 12:44 PM
89	There are comments of high population of ticks	7/2/2023 9:00 AM
90	Goose Poop	6/26/2023 3:45 PM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

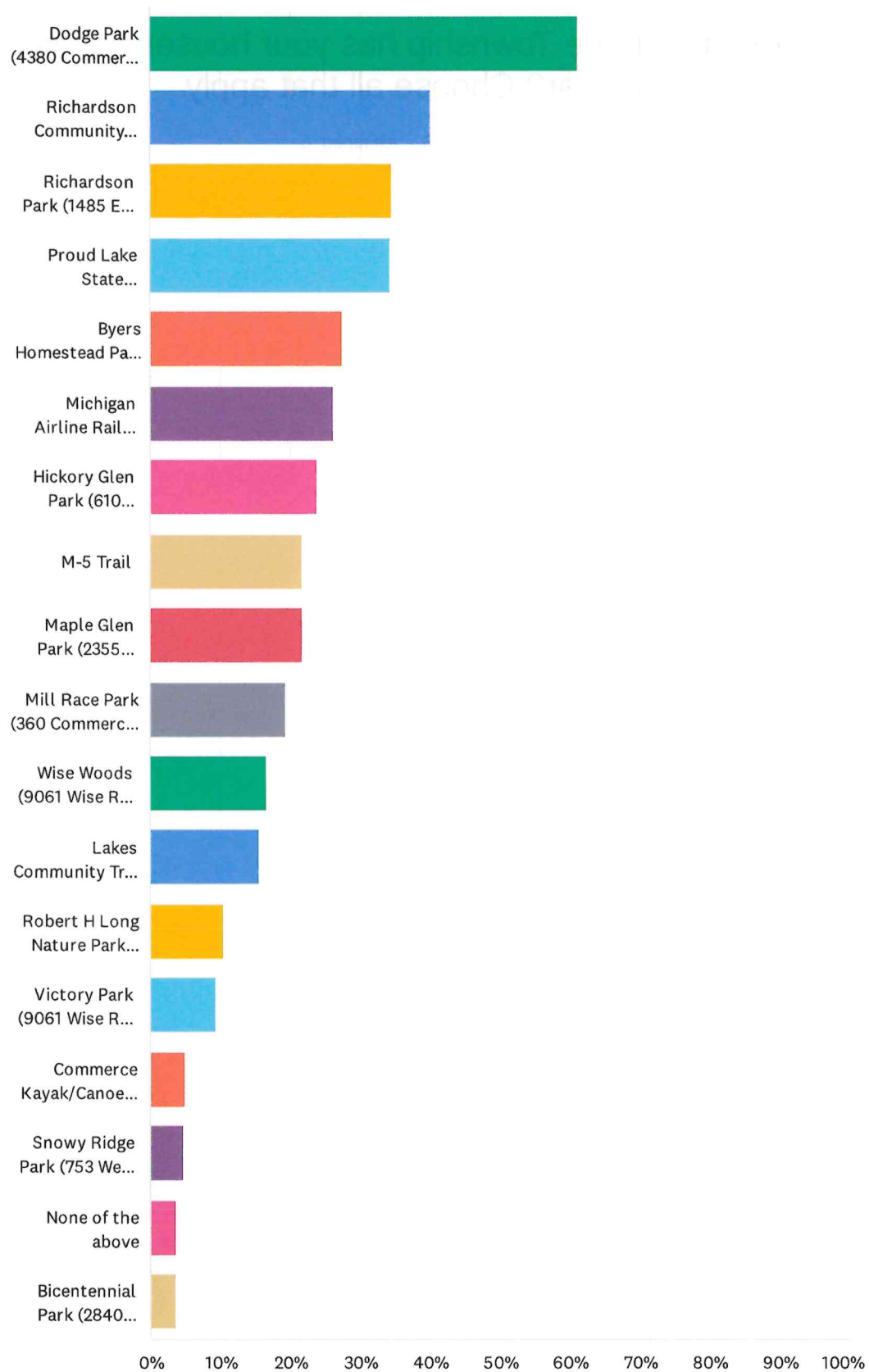
91	No sidewalks from my house at decker and South Commerce until glengary and South commerce	6/25/2023 8:17 AM
92	It's hard to watch multiple young grandchildren when the playground is not fenced in. Scarlet's Park we need 2 adults for sure!	6/24/2023 6:47 PM
93	No bathroom close by	6/23/2023 10:20 PM
94	Walking trails are not marked.	6/22/2023 1:11 PM
95	During peak times Pickleball courts tend to be used primarily by groups of advanced players that come in groups of 4 not allowing for resident to have much if any court time.	6/17/2023 4:27 PM

**Q3 Which park/facility in the Township has your household used over the past year? Choose all that apply.**

Answered: 635   Skipped: 5



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023



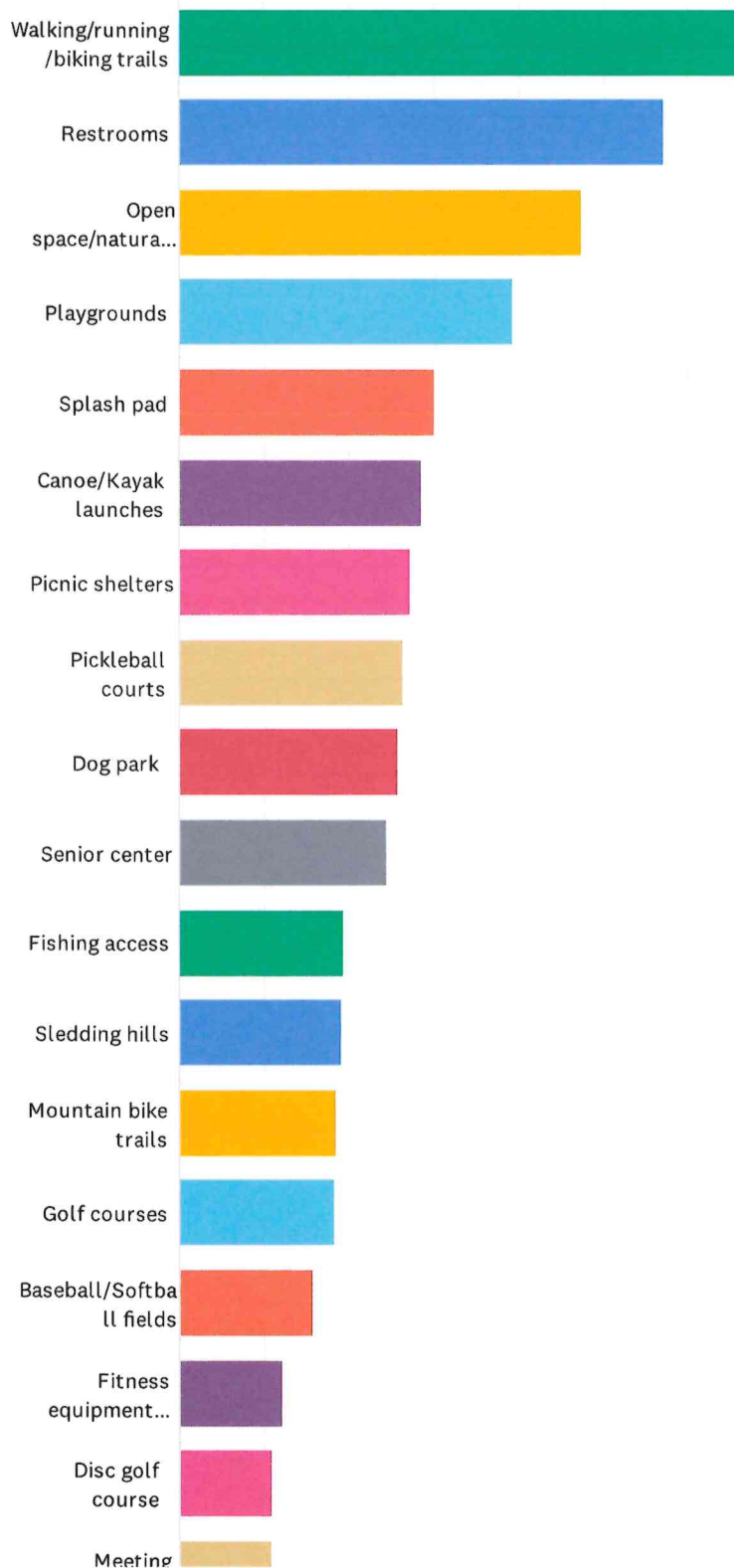
# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Dodge Park (4380 Commerce Rd and 180 Commerce Rd)	61.26%	389
Richardson Community Center (1485 E Oakley Park)	40.00%	254
Richardson Park (1485 E Oakley Park)	34.49%	219
Proud Lake State Recreation Area (state owned)	34.33%	218
Byers Homestead Park (213 Commerce Rd)	27.56%	175
Michigan Airline Rail Trail	26.14%	166
Hickory Glen Park (610 Glengary Rd)	23.94%	152
M-5 Trail	21.73%	138
Maple Glen Park (2355 Glengary)	21.73%	138
Mill Race Park (360 Commerce Rd)	19.37%	123
Wise Woods (9061 Wise Rd (north side))	16.69%	106
Lakes Community Trail (Dodge Park to Maple Glen Park)	15.59%	99
Robert H Long Nature Park (40900 14 Mile Rd)	10.55%	67
Victory Park (9061 Wise Rd (south side))	9.45%	60
Commerce Kayak/Canoe Launch (1825 Union Lake Rd)	4.88%	31
Snowy Ridge Park (753 Welch Rd)	4.72%	30
None of the above	3.62%	23
Bicentennial Park (2840 Fisher)	3.62%	23
Total Respondents: 635		

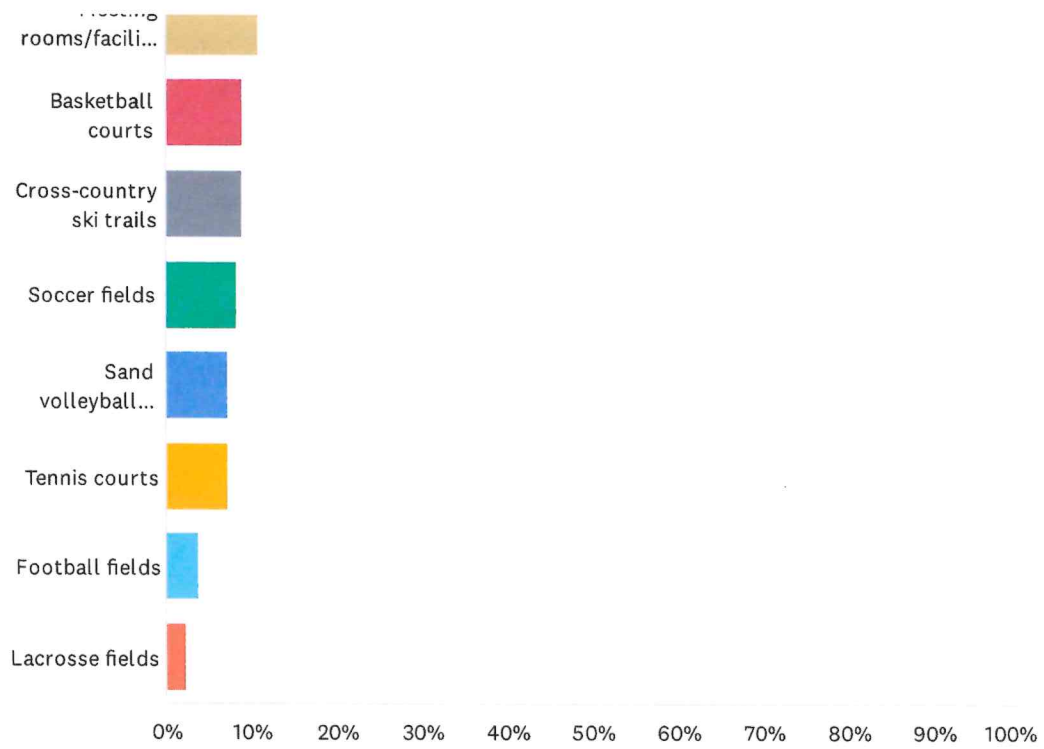


# Q4 Which amenities from the list below (some of which we offer and some of which we don't currently offer) are MOST important to you/your household?

Answered: 620 Skipped: 20



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023





# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking/running/biking trails	66.77%	414
Restrooms	57.10%	354
Open space/natural areas	47.26%	293
Playgrounds	39.19%	243
Splash pad	30.00%	186
Canoe/Kayak launches	28.55%	177
Picnic shelters	27.26%	169
Pickleball courts	26.45%	164
Dog park	25.81%	160
Senior center	24.52%	152
Fishing access	19.35%	120
Sledding hills	19.19%	119
Mountain bike trails	18.55%	115
Golf courses	18.39%	114
Baseball/Softball fields	15.81%	98
Fitness equipment (outdoor)	12.10%	75
Disc golf course	10.97%	68
Meeting rooms/facilities	10.97%	68
Basketball courts	8.87%	55
Cross-country ski trails	8.87%	55
Soccer fields	8.39%	52
Sand volleyball courts	7.26%	45
Tennis courts	7.26%	45
Football fields	3.87%	24
Lacrosse fields	2.42%	15
Total Respondents: 620		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Library	9/28/2023 2:11 PM
2	The volleyball courts at Richardson need to be redone, move away from bushes, add sand. The ones at Wolverine Lake are not deep enough with sand, adults hit concrete.	9/28/2023 1:45 PM
3	Bocce Ball and Shuffleboard	9/28/2023 1:41 PM
4	Public pools	8/12/2023 1:02 PM
5	We want safety paths/sidewalks along Union Lake Road in order to safely walk from the new boat launch to the old boat launch.	8/7/2023 9:25 AM

## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

6	Mountain bikes have killed much of the forest at Hickory Glen I have been walking it for years. I see the difference it is bad. Will be gone if we don't protect. I don't get why we gave away the rest to private baseball and football groups. I would enjoy the park trails but now you get attacked by bikes. No walking trails in the woods since bikes took over. The rails are killing the roots from the bikes the cross too often. The woods look and feel sad.	8/5/2023 11:47 AM
7	Music	8/4/2023 7:04 PM
8	Walkable trails/ safety paths	7/31/2023 9:16 AM
9	skate parks	7/29/2023 3:55 PM
10	horseback riding (Windmill)	7/29/2023 12:57 PM
11	We need an outdoor pool!!!!	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
12	Floor hockey / roller hockey rink	7/26/2023 6:31 PM
13	Outdoor roller hockey rink	7/26/2023 6:02 PM
14	Pickle ball courts (need more around)	7/26/2023 2:15 PM
15	shuffleboard courts, indoor walking track, swimming pools, and mini golf	7/26/2023 1:54 PM
16	Sidewalks	7/26/2023 1:40 PM
17	Need to build walking trails near Commerce road and Duck Lake R	7/26/2023 1:27 PM
18	Indoor walking track when weather is poor	7/26/2023 1:09 PM
19	Splash park for dogs	7/26/2023 12:15 PM
20	We need an RC Car Park/Track like Novi has. (R/C Raceway at Novi Water Tower Park) The hobby is exploding and we have no where to drive our RC cars and trucks.	7/26/2023 10:19 AM
21	A Farm! ( similar to Hess-Hathaway Farm in Waterford)	7/26/2023 7:43 AM
22	Snow shoe trails	7/25/2023 7:23 PM
23	Beautiful green space!	7/25/2023 3:37 PM
24	Horse trails	7/25/2023 11:53 AM
25	Community pool, historic sites/museum, public beach	7/25/2023 8:57 AM
26	Again no trails extend in the NW area.	7/25/2023 6:23 AM
27	Archery range	7/24/2023 11:14 PM
28	Emphasis on splash pad! Thank you	7/24/2023 10:41 PM
29	Walking and bike trails that are accessible to walk into town or library 🏡 or playgrounds connected and made safe to cross busy streets	7/24/2023 9:38 PM
30	The baseball fields at Maple Glenn Park and Commerce Little League are very important to me.	7/24/2023 5:38 PM
31	Pool would be wonderful!	7/21/2023 8:29 PM
32	Swimming	7/20/2023 12:56 PM
33	Access from our sub.. on main roads	7/20/2023 9:57 AM
34	better dining options - such as Thai	7/19/2023 4:29 PM
35	All of them	7/19/2023 2:21 PM
36	Paved parking lots	7/18/2023 12:30 PM
37	Smooth running pathed.	7/17/2023 10:52 PM
38	Prefer paved trails for walking/running/biking as opposed to dirt trails	7/15/2023 3:10 PM
39	Mountain bike Trails	7/14/2023 8:41 PM

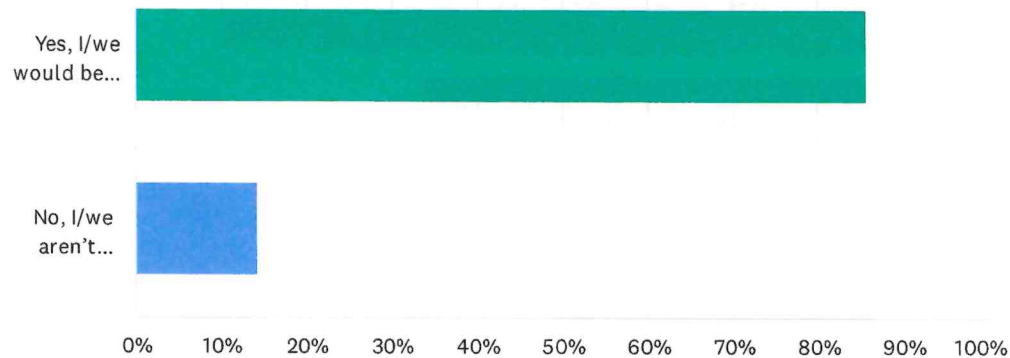


## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

40	Shuffleboard, mini golf	7/14/2023 2:16 AM
41	Making places accessable by bike or walk	7/12/2023 11:43 AM
42	Pokémon Go	7/11/2023 5:48 PM
43	Parking area	7/10/2023 11:32 PM
44	Nature education offerings (kids nature activities and classes, scout merit badges)	7/10/2023 9:47 PM
45	Recreation center! Like Livonia or Canton has for its residents	7/9/2023 8:35 PM
46	Raw trails like Wise Woods & Victory Park	7/9/2023 1:38 PM
47	I prefer a paved trail due to poison ivy allergy and my husband needs shade due to skin cancer	7/7/2023 6:57 PM
48	We need a Rec center with a pool and a splash pad!	7/6/2023 3:33 PM
49	Community Outdior Pool	7/5/2023 5:33 PM
50	Trails for e bikes	7/3/2023 4:16 PM
51	Please keep as much forest and open and natural land as possible. It is disappearing fast all around us due to building and construction. Please keep as much for our community to use as you possibly can. Thank you.	6/30/2023 3:41 PM
52	Natural areas and walking trails	6/26/2023 3:45 PM
53	Swimming	6/25/2023 4:18 PM
54	Horse lessons	6/24/2023 5:22 PM
55	TREES!!! paths in the woods	6/19/2023 6:29 AM

Q5 Commerce Township has held a few Special Events every year such as Concerts-In-The-Park, 5K Run, Annual Tree Lighting, etc. Are these types of events of interest to you/your household?

Answered: 630 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES

Yes, I/we would be interested in attending Special Events

No, I/we aren't interested in attending Special Events

TOTAL

RESPONSES

85.71% 540

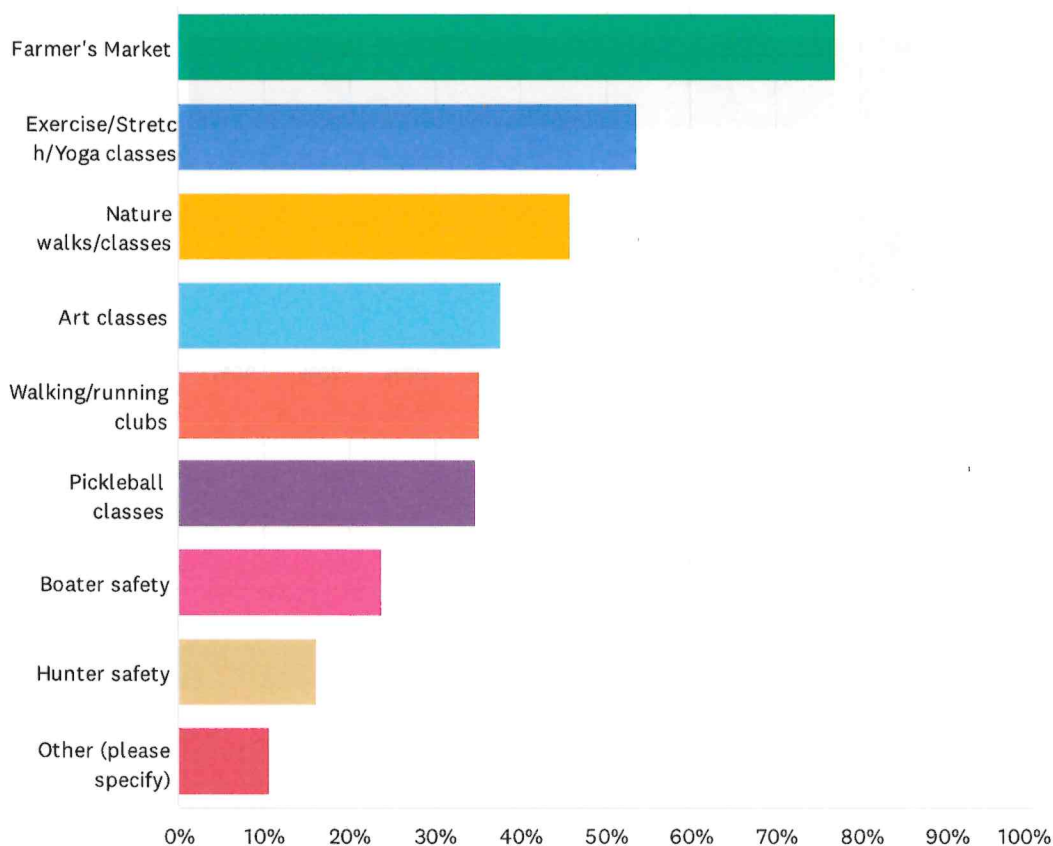
14.29% 90

630



**Q6 The Township has not historically offered/hosted a large number of programs or classes. If we were to begin offering some in the future, what would you/your household be most interested in?**

Answered: 601 Skipped: 39



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Farmer's Market	77.04%	463
Exercise/Stretch/Yoga classes	53.74%	323
Nature walks/classes	45.76%	275
Art classes	37.77%	227
Walking/running clubs	35.27%	212
Pickleball classes	34.78%	209
Boater safety	23.96%	144
Hunter safety	16.31%	98
Other (please specify)	10.65%	64
Total Respondents: 601		

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

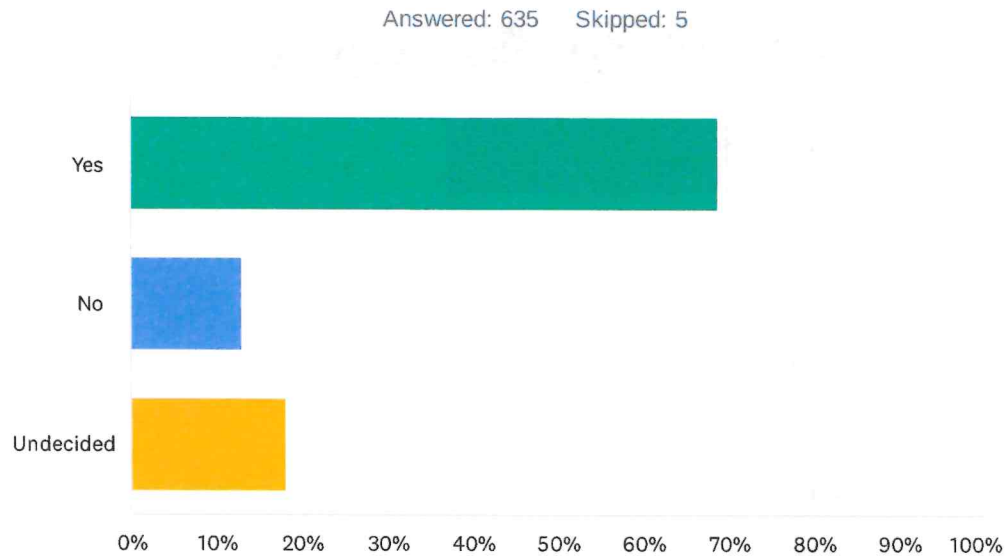
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Activities for kids - swim classes, safety town, etc.	9/28/2023 1:47 PM
2	horse farm/agricultural programming	9/8/2023 8:03 PM
3	foraging classes, first aid	9/8/2023 7:50 PM
4	tennis	9/8/2023 7:47 PM
5	Self Defense	9/8/2023 7:16 PM
6	Education on new technology (phones, computers, cars, ETC)	9/8/2023 7:07 PM
7	Garden Related - Photography	8/16/2023 8:33 PM
8	Fly fishing classes	8/13/2023 10:03 AM
9	Please have things for kids to attend as well as family events	8/12/2023 1:33 PM
10	Tennis programs for adults, Zumba,community gardens, running teams, walking groups, bicycle groups, socialize, community gardens to grow vegetables, native plant gardens, cleanups of beach and parks,more community gardens and flowers. There's a lot to do.	8/12/2023 1:23 PM
11	Bicycling Club/Group	8/7/2023 6:37 PM
12	Please make classes that are open for families and kids to attend.	8/5/2023 12:22 PM
13	But since I work, most things I attend need to be in the evening or on Saturday	8/4/2023 7:29 PM
14	Womens/teen self defense	7/31/2023 6:24 PM
15	skateboard classes	7/29/2023 3:55 PM
16	horseback riding	7/29/2023 12:57 PM
17	Language classes and travel courses. Wine tasting classes. Cooking classes. Computer classes. Cultural and art lectures.	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
18	Jam/music nights	7/27/2023 9:00 PM
19	Gardening Club	7/26/2023 6:31 PM
20	CPR classes	7/26/2023 1:54 PM
21	dance	7/26/2023 1:45 PM
22	Weekend Farmers Market.	7/26/2023 12:15 PM
23	Programs for young kids and families	7/26/2023 11:35 AM
24	Craft shows	7/25/2023 10:04 PM
25	Self defense, hand gun safety	7/25/2023 7:49 PM
26	Walking club	7/25/2023 3:37 PM
27	Kids or family programs	7/25/2023 10:31 AM
28	Youth sports and enrichment, adult enrichment (like Huron Valley)	7/25/2023 8:57 AM
29	Na	7/25/2023 7:45 AM
30	Cpl classes, women's self defense	7/25/2023 7:19 AM
31	Local symphonic band/orchestra	7/25/2023 2:40 AM
32	Uhm-horseback riding!	7/25/2023 12:16 AM
33	Pool	7/24/2023 10:35 PM
34	Organized kids activity	7/24/2023 9:21 PM
35	Astronomy	7/24/2023 11:04 AM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

36	Crafts	7/22/2023 12:32 PM
37	Host Scouting units - Be the chartered organization	7/20/2023 9:55 AM
38	Classes for young children	7/19/2023 8:07 PM
39	Tennis	7/19/2023 9:57 AM
40	Adult Men's Basketball Leagues	7/18/2023 12:14 PM
41	You already offer so much wonderful programing!	7/16/2023 5:36 PM
42	Ranger walks	7/16/2023 5:28 PM
43	CPR Certification, Babysitting 101	7/16/2023 5:05 PM
44	Dog parks - free range no leash laws	7/16/2023 4:55 PM
45	Mushroom hunting	7/15/2023 4:39 PM
46	Tool safety and know how, hoke remodel how to,	7/15/2023 7:57 AM
47	Kayak/paddle board classes, fishing clinics, special needs recreation, golf lessons, cooking classes, gardening classes	7/14/2023 7:06 AM
48	indoor walking track, senior swimming	7/14/2023 2:16 AM
49	Animal Related Events	7/13/2023 4:36 PM
50	Open swim!	7/13/2023 4:02 PM
51	Prayer groups	7/13/2023 12:22 PM
52	Tennis classes, sewing classes, cooking classes	7/12/2023 11:43 AM
53	Adult sport leagues	7/12/2023 4:40 AM
54	A vibrant Farmers/Artesian market would be #1!	7/10/2023 11:32 PM
55	Kids programs, free/inexpensive (under \$10)	7/10/2023 9:47 PM
56	Youth group sports	7/8/2023 8:19 PM
57	Mountain biking club / races	7/7/2023 1:58 PM
58	Art for children	7/6/2023 5:52 PM
59	Basic music	7/4/2023 12:44 PM
60	Gardening classes	6/25/2023 8:17 AM
61	Book club	6/24/2023 9:56 PM
62	Horse lessons	6/24/2023 5:22 PM
63	Dance classes, classes for kids	6/22/2023 1:40 PM
64	Pickleball events for residents of township	6/17/2023 4:27 PM

Q7 We have heard a lot of requests for sidewalks and pathways along our major roads in order to connect people to existing trails, schools, parks, and businesses. Would you support an additional millage in the future in order to construct more sidewalks and pathways?

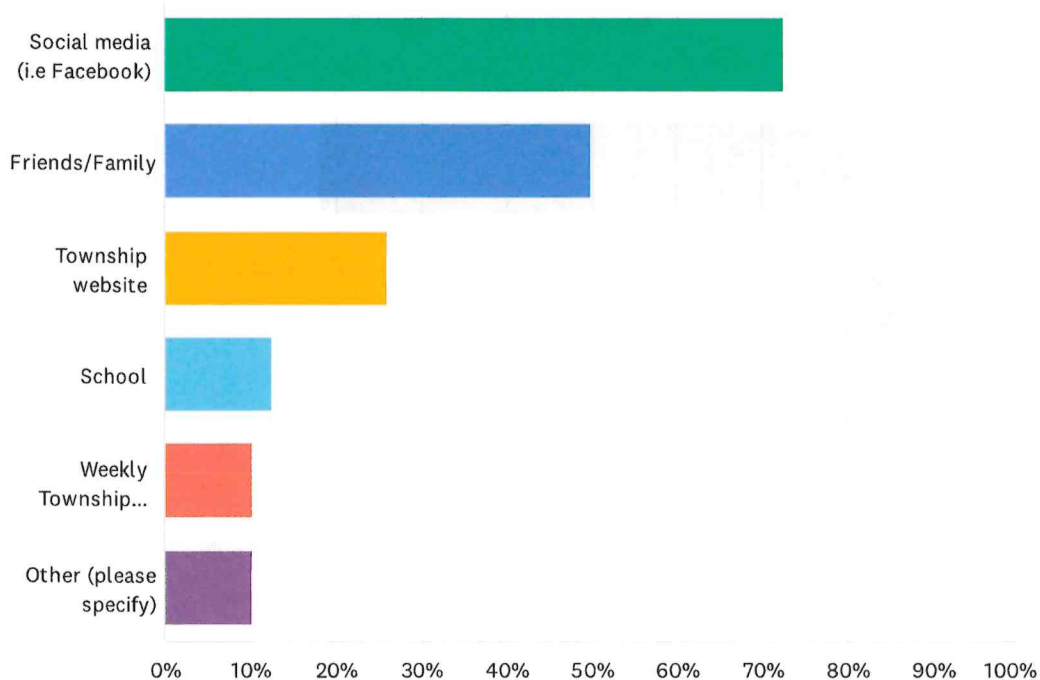


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	68.82%	437
No	13.07%	83
Undecided	18.11%	115
TOTAL		635



## Q8 Where does your household find out about things going on in the Township? Check all that apply

Answered: 629 Skipped: 11



### ANSWER CHOICES

### RESPONSES

Social media (i.e Facebook)	72.50%	456
Friends/Family	49.92%	314
Township website	25.91%	163
School	12.56%	79
Weekly Township E-Newsletter	10.33%	65
Other (please specify)	10.33%	65
Total Respondents: 629		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Richardson Center	9/28/2023 2:11 PM
2	Library	9/28/2023 2:05 PM
3	Library	9/28/2023 1:50 PM
4	Temporary signs	9/28/2023 1:45 PM
5	Richardson Center	9/28/2023 1:41 PM
6	Newsletter-Richardson Center	9/10/2023 9:34 PM
7	newsletter by mail	9/8/2023 7:58 PM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

8	signs posters	9/8/2023 7:50 PM
9	senior center	9/8/2023 7:47 PM
10	Actually I am signed up but I don't get much info	8/16/2023 8:33 PM
11	Township offices	8/15/2023 4:23 PM
12	Nowwhere, there's not a lot of communication.	8/12/2023 1:23 PM
13	Internet	8/12/2023 1:02 PM
14	Posters	8/7/2023 6:37 PM
15	Richardson Center	8/5/2023 6:32 PM
16	We don't find out. No advertising.	8/4/2023 8:11 PM
17	Word of mouth	8/4/2023 7:32 PM
18	Google search	8/4/2023 7:21 PM
19	I have no idea where to find that info	8/3/2023 10:35 AM
20	do not find out	8/1/2023 1:18 PM
21	Richardson senior	8/1/2023 1:14 PM
22	Richardson SK. senior	8/1/2023 12:27 PM
23	monthly bulletin at senior center	8/1/2023 12:25 PM
24	monthly letter	8/1/2023 12:08 PM
25	Signs- concert In park	7/29/2023 11:57 AM
26	We have no access to what is going on. A newsletter would be nice or a calendar of events on the commerce twp website.	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
27	Library	7/26/2023 6:31 PM
28	senior center	7/26/2023 1:54 PM
29	left blank	7/26/2023 1:33 PM
30	senior center	7/26/2023 1:27 PM
31	Probably if we knew what was going on we would use the parks more often.	7/26/2023 1:23 PM
32	by mail	7/26/2023 1:15 PM
33	Would like a monthly paper through mail	7/26/2023 9:10 AM
34	Senior center newsletter	7/25/2023 4:17 PM
35	Checking the commerce web page	7/25/2023 3:37 PM
36	Social media, the meeting minutes are incomplete	7/24/2023 11:14 PM
37	Commerce library	7/24/2023 10:16 PM
38	Text notice	7/24/2023 3:15 PM
39	Government access channel slides	7/24/2023 2:43 PM
40	Library	7/21/2023 10:12 AM
41	Commerce township FB page. They'll also let you know when trees are done, powers out and how much the road commission stinks.lol	7/20/2023 7:32 PM
42	Self exploration	7/17/2023 8:58 AM
43	Next door	7/16/2023 5:51 PM
44	Newsletter-Richardson Center	7/16/2023 5:49 PM

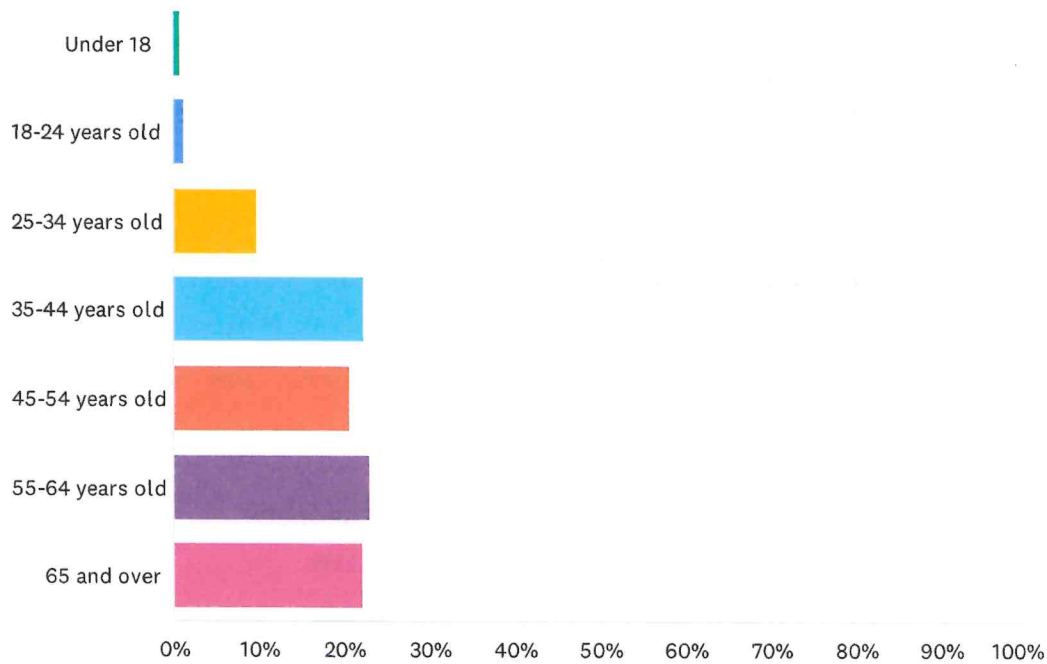


# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

45	senior center	7/16/2023 5:43 PM
46	senior center	7/16/2023 5:34 PM
47	Newsletter-Richardson Center	7/16/2023 5:02 PM
48	Spinal Column	7/16/2023 8:34 AM
49	We didn't know where to find resources.	7/16/2023 8:21 AM
50	Don't know where to look to find out	7/15/2023 7:57 AM
51	Senior news letter	7/14/2023 9:46 PM
52	I don't find out	7/14/2023 8:53 PM
53	Signage	7/14/2023 12:36 PM
54	Spinal Column	7/13/2023 4:02 PM
55	Signs around the city	7/9/2023 8:29 PM
56	Signs	7/9/2023 1:38 PM
57	Street signs	7/8/2023 8:19 PM
58	Township office	7/7/2023 7:04 PM
59	I found out about this survey from a sign along the trail. Then because of that I found out about other things going on. Otherwise I just never checked or cared to be honest.	7/4/2023 3:52 PM
60	Paper	7/3/2023 4:16 PM
61	Nextdoor	7/3/2023 11:02 AM
62	Didn't know you had a Weekly Township eNewsletter	6/30/2023 3:41 PM
63	Byers Homestead	6/29/2023 11:59 AM
64	Library	6/25/2023 8:17 AM
65	There's a newsletter???	6/19/2023 6:29 AM

## Q9 What is your age?

Answered: 634 Skipped: 6



## ANSWER CHOICES

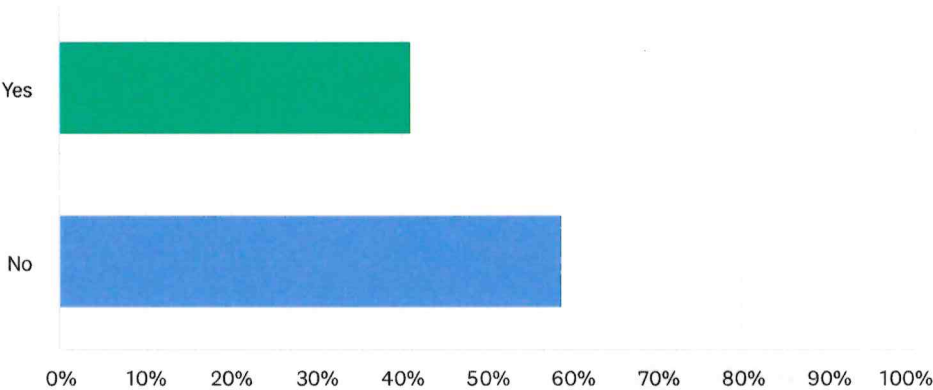
## RESPONSES

Under 18	0.79%	5
18-24 years old	1.26%	8
25-34 years old	9.78%	62
35-44 years old	22.40%	142
45-54 years old	20.66%	131
55-64 years old	23.03%	146
65 and over	22.08%	140
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>634</b>



Q10 Do you have children under 18 years old in your household?

Answered: 630    Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES				RESPONSES			
Yes				41.11%			259
No				58.89%			371
TOTAL							630

**Q11 Please include your email address if you're interested in being added to our email list for parks and recreation related announcements, activities, events, and projects.**

Answered: 386 Skipped: 254

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	amicominars@comcast.net	9/28/2023 2:10 PM
2	tamrealtor804@hotmail.com	9/28/2023 2:08 PM
3	eodaniels@yahoo.com	9/28/2023 2:05 PM
4	lovemor3@gmail.com	9/28/2023 1:52 PM
5	kbranstn@gmail.com	9/28/2023 1:47 PM
6	jobusenhart@msn.com	9/28/2023 1:40 PM
7	maryeh92157@gmail.com	9/10/2023 9:27 PM
8	joekotzan@gmail	9/8/2023 8:08 PM
9	gweber@commercetwp.com	9/8/2023 8:03 PM
10	mdelores942!gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:58 PM
11	nandrz@sbcglobal.net	9/8/2023 7:54 PM
12	michelle.layle@yahoo.com	9/8/2023 7:50 PM
13	denise.lindahl@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:47 PM
14	b.a.aulait@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:43 PM
15	carol.ott777@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:41 PM
16	funlesley@comcast.net	9/8/2023 7:36 PM
17	oldjedi1944@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:32 PM
18	tapodkul.cbpd@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:26 PM
19	josephpfatt@sbc.global.net	9/8/2023 7:16 PM
20	Garyredders54@gmail.com	9/8/2023 7:07 PM
21	lbean13@ameritech.net	9/6/2023 12:03 PM
22	Jcbyrne2@sbcglobal.net	8/21/2023 10:51 AM
23	reink@att.net	8/16/2023 8:33 PM
24	Tator_salad@comcast.net	8/13/2023 9:09 PM
25	ddrury2@gmail.com	8/13/2023 8:47 PM
26	Toni.norman@freseniusmedicalcare.com	8/13/2023 12:44 PM
27	Sally.campbell@aol.com	8/13/2023 10:03 AM
28	wholely@gmail.com	8/12/2023 5:25 PM
29	chimmelspach@gmail.com	8/12/2023 5:11 PM
30	timsawmiller@yahoo.com	8/12/2023 3:54 PM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

31	kellyohur@gmail.com	8/12/2023 3:51 PM
32	regina.cachan@gmail.com	8/12/2023 1:23 PM
33	kimskyle@gmail.com	8/12/2023 1:02 PM
34	Tonidean1@aol.com	8/12/2023 12:32 PM
35	jonath@sbcglobal.net	8/12/2023 12:18 PM
36	waterski1995@gmail.com	8/11/2023 7:38 AM
37	pjcymbal@gmail.com	8/10/2023 4:24 PM
38	gerrychampoux@gmail.com	8/10/2023 1:58 PM
39	dawnreneeabbott@gmail.com	8/9/2023 7:32 PM
40	Loudermilkfamilymi@gmail.com	8/8/2023 4:22 PM
41	sdetherage@sbcglobal.net	8/7/2023 6:37 PM
42	BEMichaels@aol.com	8/6/2023 7:50 PM
43	Tccovert@comcast.net	8/5/2023 11:41 PM
44	mnb22055@gmail.com	8/5/2023 8:16 PM
45	lyndia.oudeh@gmail.com	8/5/2023 6:32 PM
46	maugustine61@yahoo.com	8/5/2023 6:05 PM
47	Resmacher@gmail.com	8/5/2023 5:31 PM
48	David_t_hill@yahoo.com	8/5/2023 3:02 PM
49	Pamelaiverson@gmail.com	8/5/2023 12:33 PM
50	rjoelw@flash.net	8/4/2023 10:40 PM
51	EClancy3@aol.com	8/4/2023 8:11 PM
52	Margelaruffa@sbcglobal.net	8/4/2023 8:11 PM
53	guslaruffa@sbcglobal.net	8/4/2023 8:08 PM
54	jlange1379@comcast.net	8/4/2023 7:50 PM
55	Briann@chasenedrow.com	8/4/2023 7:32 PM
56	dlbank16@gmail.com	8/4/2023 7:29 PM
57	Sibyrs68@yahoo.com	8/4/2023 7:28 PM
58	Pkwhite@flash.net	8/4/2023 7:27 PM
59	Kirklwirth@aol.com	8/4/2023 7:07 PM
60	demos128@yahoo.com	8/4/2023 7:05 PM
61	Brucea99@gmail.com	8/4/2023 7:04 PM
62	Maxiford@aol.com	8/4/2023 7:02 PM
63	commerce@azer.dev	8/4/2023 12:15 AM
64	Lucysailor@comcast.net	8/3/2023 7:21 PM
65	Christine.utter@yahoo.com	8/3/2023 10:35 AM
66	cedarww01@yahoo.com	8/2/2023 9:14 PM
67	two_parrotheads@yahoo.com	8/2/2023 6:39 AM
68	Besmil10830@gmail.com	8/1/2023 1:19 PM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

69	bffleming115@yahoo.com	8/1/2023 1:18 PM
70	marymitchell536@outlook.com	8/1/2023 1:14 PM
71	bnastali@comcast.net	8/1/2023 1:11 PM
72	arnajer@comcast.net	8/1/2023 1:09 PM
73	mrwalton4069@gmail.com	8/1/2023 1:06 PM
74	webber480@gmail.com	8/1/2023 1:01 PM
75	acschwiz@gmail.com	8/1/2023 12:58 PM
76	jjmorley19@gmail.com	8/1/2023 12:20 PM
77	bpojason@gmail.com	8/1/2023 12:20 PM
78	Dartag1829@hotmail.com	8/1/2023 12:17 PM
79	moore575@msn.com	8/1/2023 12:14 PM
80	Jenprieskorn@yahoo.com	7/31/2023 6:24 PM
81	Kimi.Stassi@gmail.com	7/31/2023 3:59 PM
82	S.a.stassi1811@gmail.com	7/30/2023 12:58 PM
83	bendellmichele@gmail.com	7/30/2023 11:44 AM
84	khdamians@gmail.com	7/29/2023 2:42 PM
85	Panicka@msn.com	7/29/2023 2:08 PM
86	garyfish@sbcglobal.net	7/29/2023 12:57 PM
87	Dfsc114@gmail.com	7/29/2023 11:57 AM
88	Jeffyan74@outlook.com	7/28/2023 8:17 PM
89	jrarus@outlook.com	7/28/2023 7:01 PM
90	elevatorog123@hotmail.com	7/28/2023 6:36 PM
91	Nwild.1@sbcglobal.net	7/28/2023 6:31 PM
92	ericaginter@sbcglobal.net	7/28/2023 6:28 PM
93	michellefitz1975@hotmail.com	7/28/2023 5:19 PM
94	Tearza@gmail.com	7/28/2023 5:00 PM
95	Opall90@gmail.com	7/28/2023 3:06 PM
96	Phil@milbrandts.com	7/28/2023 9:20 AM
97	Atkinsons2009@yahoo.com	7/27/2023 11:54 PM
98	Kim.Sage3880@yahoo.com	7/27/2023 11:37 PM
99	jdelizabeth@gmail.com	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
100	Coxjaso3@gmail.com	7/27/2023 9:16 PM
101	Zettingk@gmail.com	7/27/2023 9:00 PM
102	Kprzekop@yahoo.com	7/27/2023 3:45 PM
103	littlebri@gmail.com	7/27/2023 12:51 PM
104	Morgan.heikkuri@gmail.com	7/27/2023 12:37 PM
105	mcmurray.travis82@gmail.com	7/27/2023 7:53 AM
106	Magen.atisha@gmail.com	7/27/2023 7:19 AM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

107	jenortner2480@gmail.com	7/26/2023 9:03 PM
108	labargone@gmail.com	7/26/2023 7:30 PM
109	sklupacs@yahoo.com	7/26/2023 6:31 PM
110	Jdimi34@me.com	7/26/2023 5:49 PM
111	landmlehman@gmail.com	7/26/2023 4:11 PM
112	donnakotzan@gmail.com	7/26/2023 2:20 PM
113	pj2miller@aol.com	7/26/2023 2:15 PM
114	jaclynilene@yahoo.com	7/26/2023 2:13 PM
115	unansky1@sbcglobal.net	7/26/2023 1:54 PM
116	lheicher@gmail.com	7/26/2023 1:52 PM
117	13angels07@gmail.com	7/26/2023 1:36 PM
118	gailamay@icloud.com	7/26/2023 1:35 PM
119	jkingram3@msn.com	7/26/2023 1:31 PM
120	rutdur2@ghcglobal.net	7/26/2023 1:29 PM
121	Zarb426@aoc.com	7/26/2023 1:27 PM
122	jcking777@att.net	7/26/2023 1:25 PM
123	linda.berarducci@gmail.com	7/26/2023 1:23 PM
124	mackwsot@gmail.com	7/26/2023 1:20 PM
125	ammoore@ameritech.net	7/26/2023 1:16 PM
126	LRW3322@AOL.com	7/26/2023 1:15 PM
127	Marygold53@live.com	7/26/2023 1:09 PM
128	Janie35744@yahoo.com	7/26/2023 1:08 PM
129	Maryleimbach5@gmail.com	7/26/2023 12:15 PM
130	lhtackel@gmail.com	7/26/2023 11:35 AM
131	Terrirausch@yahoo.com	7/26/2023 10:09 AM
132	Postb01 @gmail.com	7/26/2023 10:06 AM
133	Husakrd@sbcglobal.net	7/26/2023 9:53 AM
134	Lz622@ameritech.net	7/26/2023 9:10 AM
135	Melissathewarden@gmail.com	7/26/2023 8:56 AM
136	Travelamy2@ail.com	7/26/2023 8:43 AM
137	sarah@lakes-speech.com	7/26/2023 8:19 AM
138	Brettmc@bfmsoft.com	7/26/2023 8:04 AM
139	meghangouine@gmail.com	7/26/2023 7:43 AM
140	Kgriers1@hfhs.org	7/26/2023 3:48 AM
141	Mholmes629@aol.com	7/26/2023 12:06 AM
142	andersonmariah@aol.com	7/25/2023 11:15 PM
143	kristentesauro@gmail.com	7/25/2023 10:04 PM
144	Schanent@gmail.com	7/25/2023 9:30 PM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

145	philrup19@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 8:42 PM
146	Botsburn@comcast.net	7/25/2023 7:53 PM
147	Dalegrace@aol.com	7/25/2023 7:49 PM
148	cindyanolick@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 7:23 PM
149	kristin_willis@att.net	7/25/2023 7:21 PM
150	mayankbatra_uiet@yahoo.co.in	7/25/2023 6:31 PM
151	Jweisbrod919@gmail.com	7/25/2023 4:56 PM
152	Mjs618@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 4:50 PM
153	Smale2017@gmail.com	7/25/2023 4:29 PM
154	Nmannix105@aol.com	7/25/2023 4:17 PM
155	toryaustin@sbcglobal.net	7/25/2023 3:37 PM
156	Kchonko@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 3:29 PM
157	Davey1294@gmail.com	7/25/2023 2:04 PM
158	Jodeebuynak@gmail.com	7/25/2023 1:52 PM
159	LoriKB@comcast.net	7/25/2023 1:18 PM
160	Shineshanc@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 11:48 AM
161	Michellecrammer@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 11:42 AM
162	Zatsick@sbcglobal.net	7/25/2023 11:35 AM
163	Edward.glomb@gmail.com	7/25/2023 11:31 AM
164	Ktarkowski@hotmail.com	7/25/2023 11:09 AM
165	Mcdevittb@gmail.com	7/25/2023 9:56 AM
166	Barbvarcie@aol.com	7/25/2023 9:52 AM
167	Kharris@3dimensional.com	7/25/2023 9:42 AM
168	carrinoland@gmail.com	7/25/2023 9:21 AM
169	dbarrettart@gmail.com	7/25/2023 9:10 AM
170	adrian.pankratz@gmail.com	7/25/2023 8:57 AM
171	Smcghhee50@gmail.com	7/25/2023 8:54 AM
172	Ter248@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 8:45 AM
173	Aalvis0710@comcast.net	7/25/2023 8:39 AM
174	cdb655@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 8:22 AM
175	Cjones040287@comcast.net	7/25/2023 7:58 AM
176	Seventh_of_hearts@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 7:19 AM
177	Kristin.seltzer@gmail.com	7/25/2023 7:07 AM
178	lauraelizabeth.baldwin@gmail.com	7/25/2023 6:59 AM
179	Jesstrud@gmail.com	7/25/2023 6:56 AM
180	Designx80@hotmail.com	7/25/2023 6:50 AM
181	Joshua.foote@gmail.com	7/25/2023 6:43 AM
182	nutfreemom3@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 6:42 AM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

183	Eringeelhood@outlook.com	7/25/2023 6:40 AM
184	Dshemenski@gmail.com	7/25/2023 6:21 AM
185	Mthompson1711@gmail.com	7/25/2023 6:06 AM
186	Garyjen1@comcast.net	7/25/2023 5:57 AM
187	Szvz88@hotmail.com	7/25/2023 5:36 AM
188	Gweak22@comcast.net	7/25/2023 5:10 AM
189	pjandaway@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 2:40 AM
190	Dmococ@yahoo.com	7/25/2023 2:37 AM
191	Briannal20099@gmail.com	7/25/2023 1:14 AM
192	Carcheyne427@gmail.com	7/25/2023 1:12 AM
193	Kimberleycamerella@aim.com	7/25/2023 12:37 AM
194	jens4yoga@gmail.com	7/25/2023 12:37 AM
195	kimmundy2015@gmail.com	7/25/2023 12:30 AM
196	Dmfederico30@hotmail.com	7/24/2023 11:58 PM
197	Ami80878@gmail.com	7/24/2023 11:55 PM
198	Trishalranger@gmail.com	7/24/2023 11:26 PM
199	Traceemae@gmail.com	7/24/2023 11:24 PM
200	ericajeanzo@aol.com	7/24/2023 11:10 PM
201	Wakepro900@icloud.com	7/24/2023 10:51 PM
202	Margievercellino@gmail.com	7/24/2023 10:41 PM
203	Suelud1005@aol.com	7/24/2023 10:27 PM
204	Shellb2191@yahoo.com	7/24/2023 10:22 PM
205	Lornolan85@me.com	7/24/2023 10:15 PM
206	marciadreimer@gmail.com	7/24/2023 10:14 PM
207	Harris.lauren8918@gmail.com	7/24/2023 10:11 PM
208	Lizcroxford@icloud.com	7/24/2023 9:49 PM
209	Angelabardysh@gmail.com	7/24/2023 9:48 PM
210	Rashidcpa@aol.com	7/24/2023 9:41 PM
211	Vinman111@earthlink.net	7/24/2023 9:38 PM
212	Pycr27@aol.com	7/24/2023 9:22 PM
213	Schwartzint1@hotmail.com	7/24/2023 9:21 PM
214	dunhamd01@gmail.com	7/24/2023 5:38 PM
215	Copalko@gmail.Com	7/24/2023 3:15 PM
216	chrislad101@gmail.com	7/24/2023 2:43 PM
217	jerry1052@yahoo.com	7/24/2023 11:04 AM
218	morelli.matt@gmail.com	7/24/2023 10:52 AM
219	julestrauben@gmail.com	7/23/2023 9:11 PM
220	martin9617@att.net	7/23/2023 2:08 PM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

221	emcmunn@hotmail.com	7/22/2023 3:10 PM
222	Jdowbenko@comcast.net	7/22/2023 12:58 PM
223	maugustine61@yahoo.com	7/22/2023 12:32 PM
224	mrwalton4069@gmail.com	7/22/2023 9:52 AM
225	Hollykroesing@icloud.com	7/21/2023 8:51 PM
226	Mvestlund@outlook.com	7/21/2023 7:43 PM
227	Rsrp9308@att.net	7/21/2023 7:34 PM
228	pawoodla1@outlook.com	7/21/2023 2:47 PM
229	rjriesterer@aol.com	7/21/2023 1:56 PM
230	Kieran.c.dolin@gmail.com	7/21/2023 10:36 AM
231	hiscoxbarry@gmail.com	7/21/2023 10:12 AM
232	timeyette@yahoo.com	7/20/2023 3:27 PM
233	camerellam@hotmail.com	7/20/2023 10:56 AM
234	Mikemccoy2942@gmail.com	7/20/2023 9:55 AM
235	sierra082000@hotmail.com	7/20/2023 9:20 AM
236	macy.m.bell@gmail.com	7/20/2023 8:33 AM
237	Rpontello84@yahoo.com	7/20/2023 7:59 AM
238	Lta2012@yahoo.com	7/20/2023 6:49 AM
239	tmercieca@comcast.net	7/19/2023 9:37 PM
240	Cjabiro@yahoo.com	7/19/2023 9:17 PM
241	Aprilmcgrath@gmail.com	7/19/2023 7:39 PM
242	Blanchardb@sbcglobal.net	7/19/2023 6:04 PM
243	bethhabbel@gmail.com	7/19/2023 4:29 PM
244	vo_coruja@hotmail.com	7/19/2023 2:21 PM
245	Becky.riesterer@gmail.com	7/19/2023 11:32 AM
246	meredith.tyack@gmail.com	7/19/2023 9:57 AM
247	donasiero@gmail.com	7/19/2023 8:38 AM
248	maureen@sheridan-net.us	7/19/2023 7:46 AM
249	refalo.chris@gmail.com	7/18/2023 7:00 PM
250	hartsears@gmail.com	7/18/2023 5:13 PM
251	Coachspn@gmail.com	7/18/2023 4:55 PM
252	Atondreau227@gmail.com	7/18/2023 1:11 PM
253	jrwatch@gmail.com	7/18/2023 12:30 PM
254	Vangelsd@gmail.com	7/18/2023 12:24 PM
255	dtimms55@yahoo.com	7/18/2023 12:23 PM
256	Ryangolem@gmail.com	7/18/2023 12:15 PM
257	mmg0511@hotmail.com	7/18/2023 12:11 PM
258	emy07@aol.com	7/18/2023 12:05 PM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

259	hollykress16@yahoo.com	7/18/2023 12:02 PM
260	ccrawford@meaa.meaa.com	7/18/2023 12:02 PM
261	maki.benjamin@gmail.com	7/18/2023 11:48 AM
262	sarah.bartalotta@gmail.com	7/18/2023 11:42 AM
263	Cwkurowski@gmail.com	7/17/2023 10:52 PM
264	donpeterse@gmail.com	7/17/2023 4:48 PM
265	rainahpetersen@icloud.com	7/17/2023 12:44 PM
266	rkgrimes@yahoo.com	7/17/2023 11:21 AM
267	lyakowich@gmail.com	7/17/2023 8:58 AM
268	Thiridlomi@sbcglobal.net	7/17/2023 7:48 AM
269	Smd1033@yahoo.com	7/16/2023 6:15 PM
270	ellen_smith2148@yahoo.com	7/16/2023 5:51 PM
271	rezbo12@yahoo.com	7/16/2023 5:47 PM
272	cambelldebbey@gmail	7/16/2023 5:46 PM
273	svaerten@gmail.com	7/16/2023 5:43 PM
274	mmarks20@aoh.com	7/16/2023 5:28 PM
275	Lreynhout@yahoo.com	7/16/2023 5:14 PM
276	hrosinsk@comcast.net	7/16/2023 5:09 PM
277	Lisa@answerlab.com	7/16/2023 5:05 PM
278	vmovermyer@gmail.com	7/16/2023 4:55 PM
279	Huntoonleah@gmail.com	7/16/2023 4:46 PM
280	Globe_trotter@live.com	7/16/2023 8:34 AM
281	cell_health@live.com	7/16/2023 8:21 AM
282	agostinifamily@sbcglobal.net	7/16/2023 7:18 AM
283	kerryrzeznik@gmail.com	7/15/2023 7:24 PM
284	zip45@aol.com	7/15/2023 4:39 PM
285	tonidean1@aol.com	7/15/2023 12:35 PM
286	Julie.brouillard@yahoo.com	7/15/2023 12:12 PM
287	Ryansammut@yahoo.com	7/15/2023 7:57 AM
288	danmilnamow@yahoo.com	7/14/2023 10:51 PM
289	Wilsba01@gmail.com	7/14/2023 8:30 PM
290	Bluefin11@hotmail.com	7/14/2023 7:23 PM
291	Rtrombley@comcast.net	7/14/2023 6:50 PM
292	Bridget.mcguiggan@yahoo.com	7/14/2023 12:36 PM
293	Stwhite3@comcast.net	7/14/2023 10:57 AM
294	iamjulia91@gmail.com	7/14/2023 10:11 AM
295	torileone14@gmail.com	7/14/2023 7:20 AM
296	Wiersmafamily2017@gmail.com	7/14/2023 7:06 AM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

297	umansky1@sbcglobal.net	7/14/2023 2:16 AM
298	dbldis4me@gmail.com	7/13/2023 4:02 PM
299	aq6275@gmail.com	7/13/2023 1:23 PM
300	Michelle@bairdfamilyusa.com	7/13/2023 12:22 PM
301	hosanna.volute-0k@icloud.com	7/13/2023 10:56 AM
302	ecutsinger@comcast.net	7/13/2023 7:56 AM
303	CrazyMomAmy5@gmail.com	7/12/2023 5:48 PM
304	3sparksys@gmail.com	7/12/2023 5:09 PM
305	Strombley@comcast.net	7/12/2023 5:06 PM
306	Rfbncgb@sbcglobal.net	7/12/2023 4:12 PM
307	Wanderingl42@gmail.com	7/12/2023 2:07 PM
308	sarie2of4@hotmail.com	7/12/2023 11:43 AM
309	sdvanderpool@gmail.com	7/12/2023 4:40 AM
310	Vdepotter@att.net	7/11/2023 10:52 PM
311	kroserd@hotmail.com	7/11/2023 7:05 PM
312	hhrgal@gmail.com	7/11/2023 5:48 PM
313	Lesliesabo68@gmail.com	7/11/2023 4:52 PM
314	svano17@gmail.com	7/11/2023 3:57 PM
315	davidkmcw@gmail.com	7/11/2023 3:21 PM
316	Sara.merrill@gmail.com	7/10/2023 9:47 PM
317	Sillernnr@comcast.net	7/10/2023 9:36 PM
318	thejudgehoss@hotmail.com	7/10/2023 8:43 PM
319	depotte5@gmail.com	7/10/2023 8:28 PM
320	jaynede@comcast.net	7/10/2023 8:28 PM
321	Narhanbruce@wlcsc.org	7/10/2023 8:17 PM
322	Kitti217@hotmail.com	7/10/2023 6:03 PM
323	bhogan24@comcast.net	7/10/2023 4:36 PM
324	jliberatore92@gmail.com	7/9/2023 8:23 PM
325	blach687@gmail.com	7/9/2023 8:14 PM
326	Peaceandserenity425@yahoo.com	7/9/2023 5:18 PM
327	Mariogibbns@yahoo.com	7/9/2023 5:15 PM
328	mmschwartz84@gmail.com	7/9/2023 4:47 PM
329	Stephen.freund@comcast.net	7/9/2023 1:38 PM
330	Summerabduqadir@gmail.com	7/8/2023 8:19 PM
331	jasonschu@gmail.com	7/8/2023 5:47 PM
332	Ramsaylinda@hotmail.com	7/8/2023 10:02 AM
333	danielle.n.miceli@gmail.com	7/8/2023 9:03 AM
334	Lauren_rosinski@hotmail.com	7/7/2023 7:20 PM



# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

335	williamrobertmclean@aol.com	7/7/2023 7:04 PM
336	bkcjmclean@aol.com	7/7/2023 6:57 PM
337	Craigschwaegerl@yahoo.com	7/7/2023 5:55 PM
338	Sophiajcs@yahoo.com	7/7/2023 1:58 PM
339	jackiesmax03@yahoo.com	7/6/2023 6:44 PM
340	Deliajadan@gmail.com	7/6/2023 5:52 PM
341	Charliesmom7@gmail.com	7/6/2023 3:33 PM
342	Emma_tryson@yahoo.com	7/6/2023 12:49 AM
343	gmachado76@yahoo.de	7/5/2023 6:19 PM
344	huck11462@gmail.com	7/5/2023 5:33 PM
345	Annmagee79@gmail.com	7/5/2023 10:49 AM
346	gcwernette@ameritech.net	7/4/2023 3:55 PM
347	wcortevi@gmail.com	7/4/2023 1:49 PM
348	o4boys@comcast.net	7/4/2023 12:44 PM
349	Bscorteville@gmail.com	7/4/2023 12:13 PM
350	philandlisamea@gmail.com	7/4/2023 7:50 AM
351	Dontujaka@gmail.com	7/3/2023 4:16 PM
352	gasawaye@yahoo.com	7/3/2023 11:02 AM
353	christian.smit@gmail.com	7/3/2023 9:00 AM
354	awalker112211@gmail.com	7/2/2023 2:40 PM
355	Courtneyhemond@gmail.com	7/2/2023 12:44 PM
356	Claus.martinf@gmail.com	7/2/2023 9:00 AM
357	joseLucio.85@outlook.com	7/1/2023 12:50 PM
358	jbraziun@gmail.com	7/1/2023 11:14 AM
359	r.mulrooney@sbcglobal.net	7/1/2023 9:45 AM
360	alannasouri@gmail.com	6/30/2023 8:35 PM
361	jehart1470@aol.com	6/30/2023 3:41 PM
362	inline4us@yahoo.com	6/30/2023 11:51 AM
363	bbcsseals1@hotmail.com	6/30/2023 9:09 AM
364	anthonymcmauri@gmail.com	6/30/2023 8:46 AM
365	jcpredd@yahoo.com	6/29/2023 6:54 PM
366	KimRaboin@yahoo.com	6/29/2023 11:59 AM
367	pleunetowne@gmail.com	6/25/2023 4:18 PM
368	Alyssaannedean@gmail.com	6/25/2023 8:17 AM
369	acgregory77@gmail.com	6/24/2023 9:56 PM
370	jfriend9966@aol.com	6/24/2023 6:47 PM
371	Monica.c.denis@gmail.com	6/24/2023 5:22 PM
372	drongowskifamily@gmail.com	6/23/2023 12:56 PM

# Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

373	Hooverv@slcs.us	6/22/2023 11:12 PM
374	Tammyreo@yahoo.com	6/22/2023 10:25 PM
375	michelesner07@gmail.com	6/22/2023 10:13 PM
376	jaclynfreeman08@gmail.com	6/22/2023 9:20 PM
377	Debkondek@gmail.com	6/22/2023 4:33 PM
378	Donnasawmiller@yahoo.com	6/22/2023 3:50 PM
379	Ashlei@umich.edu	6/22/2023 1:50 PM
380	Pkenrick1@yahoo.com	6/22/2023 1:12 PM
381	sarahlynnedodds@gmail.com	6/22/2023 1:05 PM
382	destineedm@outlook.com	6/22/2023 12:45 PM
383	jdavisheitzmann@gmail.com	6/22/2023 11:30 AM
384	Vaillencourts@sbcglobal.net	6/19/2023 6:29 AM
385	chuckveres@gmail.com	6/17/2023 4:27 PM
386	Brndhartman312@gmail.com	6/17/2023 10:30 AM



## Q12 Please make any additional comments that you think would be helpful related to Parks and Recreation in Commerce Township.

Answered: 197 Skipped: 443

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	love the music events	9/28/2023 2:08 PM
2	1) at Dodge Park (near library trail little bridge from library parking lot to Dodge) there is a great need to trim overhead branches and clear pavement of branches and broken twigs from bridge area - turn right on paved trail that leads to Commerce Rd. This area is so overgrown. 2) The land around the Library is great so much more could be done to use it. Why not add pickleball courts or a few tennis courts? The best part is no homes to get upset about ball noise. 3) Basketball courts would be amazing too. 4) I wish we had a community garden like Milford. Brings all ages together. 5) What about outdoor movies in summer, near library? 6) Why not utilize the library meeting rooms more often? mental health is a big thing. why not partner with a mental health specialist and yoga instructor to offer more "quiet" and "meditative space" for residents, where people can go in and stretch out? A place for people to chill out. To manage, there could be designated times for this. It could be for "reading and stretching" or "just stretch". Padded mats and a few durable pillows could be brought out for people to get on floor or a "mat table" which is about 12-18" off floor. If interested in more, please call me. 7) more art classes for exploring for adults in library meeting rooms. Free. Offer regular art times to drop in and explore. Can use old magazines to collage, watercolor, cost is very low. Need tables, glue, some paints, brushes, paper.	9/28/2023 2:05 PM
3	Please don't pave over all the green spaces or make them chemically controlled fields - soccer, etc. More natural - more better!	9/28/2023 1:53 PM
4	More shade at Scarlett's playground	9/28/2023 1:50 PM
5	Sidewalks on Carroll Lake Road	9/28/2023 1:48 PM
6	I am and many of my neighbors are disappointed with the amount of land provided to CW3 at Dodge Park. Enough! Do they even pay the Township for the use?	9/28/2023 1:45 PM
7	Great Senior Facility and Concerts	9/28/2023 1:40 PM
8	-- have more than 1 extremely overpriced food truck at concerts in the park. I normally have to wait about 30 minutes in line which is unacceptable. Absolutely NO on millage. I would actively campaign against it. I pay almost \$9000 in taxes for pretty much nothing. Not willing to spend more. We don't even have anywhere decent to buy fruit and vegetables. Also I live here because I don't want to be connected to other areas and more important I don't want other cities connected to me. I would really appreciate if the M5 shopping and dining area would be built. No more apartments - people in apartments have no vested interest in where they live.	9/28/2023 1:38 PM
9	more oldies music at the concerts.	9/10/2023 9:34 PM
10	Groups/teams that work so hard for our community, Thank you!	9/8/2023 7:47 PM
11	I could spend an entire day here and the library here is wonderful.	9/8/2023 7:35 PM
12	Extend concerts to more than 5	9/8/2023 7:26 PM
13	To build the Dept. of the Historical Society of Original Downtown Union Lake! See me for more!!	9/8/2023 7:07 PM
14	I just have to do more	8/16/2023 8:33 PM
15	I really enjoyed the Christmas Tree Lighting. More benches along the walking paths.	8/15/2023 4:23 PM
16	Please improve Byers !	8/13/2023 9:09 PM
17	Maintenance of Byers Farm House, Store and grounds	8/13/2023 7:28 PM

## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

18	We live near Northern, and would love to see a path along Bogie Lake Road, to connect to the path on S. Commerce. There are always high schoolers walking there, and it would be safer for them.	8/13/2023 10:03 AM
19	Keep the green space! No more multi-family developments in the township.	8/12/2023 1:37 PM
20	While we appreciate the partnership the township has with cw3 the use of fields at dodge 5 keeps us away from the park. Please get some new people on the township boards and committees.	8/12/2023 1:33 PM
21	There's a lot that can be done. More native trees planting and flowers also.	8/12/2023 1:23 PM
22	Parks offer communities a place to unwind and have fun,Commerce does a good job and should increase the availability of parks (especially trails and nature parks)for all residents	8/12/2023 12:18 PM
23	Keep caring and keep up the good work!	8/10/2023 4:24 PM
24	Connecting paths/sidewalks please!	8/7/2023 6:37 PM
25	We love the Commerce Township and all that it offers. We enjoy their presentations, movies, craft classes, and concerts. The library offers a great sense of community.	8/6/2023 7:50 PM
26	Just reiterating the need for sidewalks and paths. There are so many areas and neighborhoods for walking but in many cases there are gaps in the walks or paths that then require you to put yourself in harms way walking along the street.	8/5/2023 8:16 PM
27	I'd like to see my kids get from arlis to Clifford smart and Keith by foot or bike. Can we merely add more crosswalks on union and commerce?	8/5/2023 3:02 PM
28	The over use at Dodge 5 by CW3 is really becoming a problem. There's no place to park on the weekends. The bathroom becomes untidy. Please post a schedule for all the parks so we know when fields are being uses.	8/5/2023 12:22 PM
29	Would like a path/sidewalk from Union Lake and Commerce Rd intersection to the library along Commerce Rd	8/4/2023 10:40 PM
30	The parks are going in the right direction. Thanks	8/4/2023 8:08 PM
31	I am glad that we are part of Commerce Township and I think that it does a great job as a whole of making it a great place to live	8/4/2023 7:32 PM
32	Need better bands at concerts	8/4/2023 7:02 PM
33	the township needs more soccer fields and increased parking at Dodge park. In addition, some of the main roads need sidewalks so that people do not have to walk on the road. For example, Commerce Rd, Benstein etc	8/3/2023 1:43 PM
34	Bike lanes and or sidewalks are desperately needed. I am able to volunteer to help!	8/3/2023 10:35 AM
35	Keep up the good work!	8/1/2023 1:11 PM
36	Thank you!	8/1/2023 1:09 PM
37	Trail from commerce and bogie to Milford along commerce rd	8/1/2023 12:20 PM
38	Thank you for the pickleball courts	8/1/2023 12:17 PM
39	I love attending local events and activities!!	7/31/2023 6:24 PM
40	Use bike to get to/ from work every day. Not a safe way to navigate Welch- have found it easier to cross Welch, go into apartment complex, use M5 trail, Cross Pontiac Trail (No Safe way to do so) and then go through neighborhood to connect to M5 bridge area of Air Line Trail. Please, Please help make this safer & better!	7/31/2023 9:16 AM
41	Definitely would love and support bike/running paths on our major roads to connect us to parks, etc!	7/30/2023 12:58 PM
42	Restrooms are needed and lighting for the pickleball courts to play in the evening when its cooler. It would ne nice to have a Commerce pickleball tournament to raise funds for the senior center.	7/30/2023 11:44 AM
43	It would be very helpful to the Pickleball players if they unlock the side gate, on the furthest	7/30/2023 10:53 AM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

west end. It doesn't make sense to lock it when the other side door is opened. It's a horrible inconvenience to the players in the court in front of it. People are constantly cutting through to get to those back courts nearest the street..

44	turn a soccer field into a skate park	7/29/2023 3:55 PM
45	I live in the northwest corner of the township (Lake Sherwood). Would appreciate walking/bike trail access to Proud Lake Rec Area & existing township facilities and trails to the east. Don't want have to chose between driving to these places and risking my life walking or biking on the road shoulders.	7/29/2023 2:42 PM
46	Clean up the park behind leos, it is being used for drug use and homeless	7/29/2023 2:08 PM
47	Clean up garbage and trash sized filthy cans in Victory Park and also in the water that runs thru it	7/29/2023 12:57 PM
48	We have an over abundance of parks and Batur trails but nothing else except for a pickle ball court and children's play area. We need an outdoor pool. Swimming lessons could be offered. There is no where to swum. We have to drive to Ann Arbor to have access to an outdoor pool in the summer. Ann Arbor has 4 outdoor pools. It's wonderful! They also have a large activities calendar where you can easily find daily community activities. Arborwen calendar is fabulous. It works be great if we could get a calendar that posts community events, story telling, bicycle rides to milford, a running club, art classes, singing lessons, language lessons, games nights, Dance lessons, etc.	7/27/2023 9:20 PM
49	Would love to see a disc golf course in Commerce! Wixom put in a course on the boarder with commerce at a park and it gets a lot of use!	7/27/2023 9:16 PM
50	Nothing at this time	7/27/2023 12:51 PM
51	The fields at Maple Glen are great and I love the way they are set up. The parking there needs to be more organized and possibly paved to cut down on the dust being bad. The bathrooms need to be updated as well.	7/27/2023 8:32 AM
52	Great community and I love this outreach!	7/26/2023 5:49 PM
53	we are new to the area and LOVE it so far.	7/26/2023 2:20 PM
54	Different locations for pickleball courts way to crowded for the ones by Richardson. Nature trails for dog walking.	7/26/2023 2:15 PM
55	The Richardson center facility and staff are amazing!	7/26/2023 1:54 PM
56	Whatever happened to our downtown?	7/26/2023 1:52 PM
57	Would love another pickleball facility.	7/26/2023 1:49 PM
58	need a sidewalk to the southeast pickleball court at Richardson center. Permanent restrooms at the pickleball courts would also be nice.	7/26/2023 1:45 PM
59	Thank you! :)	7/26/2023 1:40 PM
60	Please preserve the character of the area - save the trees	7/26/2023 1:16 PM
61	Put some trash containers on trails for dogs poop disposal & benches to rest on &	7/26/2023 12:15 PM
62	We live off Richardson road near Newton and there is no direct bike to the AirLine trail. We need more sidewalks.	7/26/2023 10:19 AM
63	Please keep Commerce Twp green. No more taking away the natural areas. The roads are to crowded as it is and love the nature we have here.	7/26/2023 9:53 AM
64	Better communication to the community	7/26/2023 9:10 AM
65	Security cameras	7/26/2023 8:45 AM
66	Would like a more active social media for Commerce twp never know until after what's going on in the city , Like the horse farm , lives down the road for 18 years , i would have taken family there had I known they didn't make it public until they where getting kicked out .. more walking trails even at Doge park walking side walk , i went and was disappointed no side walk	7/26/2023 8:43 AM
67	Trails in Wise woods are not cleaned up after large trees fall across the path but at the same	7/26/2023 8:18 AM


## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

time people who illegally use dirt bikes and atv's are illegally cutting smaller trees to give themselves better access. Scary to be walking with your kids and have a car coming racing towards you at a trail intersection.

68	Commerce Currently doesn't have any Farms. I think that they would benefit from having one. They can use it as an educational experience for kids and people to visit and learn hands on about animals. Also it's a way for the township to generate extra revenue through programs and special events they could host at the farm as well. A good location for a farm in Commerce Twp would be at the old Windmill Farms Location. Some farms to look into and see how they are successfully owned by other townships are Bowers Farm in (Bloomfield Hills), Hess-Hathaway Park in (Waterford) and Fisk Farm in (White Lake) for ideas and to see how they provide more value for their residences.	7/26/2023 7:43 AM
69	Less development please! Disappointed in the horse farm situation	7/26/2023 3:48 AM
70	Sidewalks on busy roads would be amazing. From where I live you can't go anywhere unless you drive. It's too dangerous to walk or ride a bike on Carroll Lake road. I would also love if we had a farmers market.	7/26/2023 12:06 AM
71	I think less parks to diver I to quality is a good step. Mill park and Byers are the close as I'm in the NW corner of the Twp. These have sketchy parking and are not useful spaces. Canoe/kayak launch on Union's edge is also not user friendly. Quantity is not quality. While I don't use the Richardson center I do appreciate the upgrades and offerings. Quality spaces are better for the community and bring families into the Community.	7/25/2023 9:30 PM
72	More bike trails to safely cross the Huron river bridges.	7/25/2023 9:06 PM
73	Wise park needs signs/ markers showing direction of trail.	7/25/2023 8:01 PM
74	We desperately need a pedestrian/bike path down Union Lake Rd. From Dairy Queen to Kroger!	7/25/2023 7:53 PM
75	The grandkids love Scarlet's Park. We really enjoy the wood chip groomed trails and concert in the parks. On the trails, We do notice a lot of trees that are leaning against others and are about to fall across the trails. A potential hazard. Trail cameras to monitor parks to hopefully minimize vandalism.	7/25/2023 7:49 PM
76	Hopefully we will keep some natural areas and not develop every inch!	7/25/2023 3:37 PM
77	Leave open spaces like Wise Woods ALONE! If we wanted to be like West Bloomfield we would have moved there.	7/25/2023 11:31 AM
78	Would like to see more Pickleball Courts	7/25/2023 11:09 AM
79	Activities for family's with young children in the park besides playground	7/25/2023 10:31 AM
80	I moved here for the open spaces and greenery, and have been disappointed in the amount of trees and open space being taken down to build more housing, we've already discussed moving north to get back to more green spaces, but are giving it a few more years to see what direction Commerce township grows.	7/25/2023 9:10 AM
81	I would love to see the township put more money in to Byers homestead it is history why are we not pressuring it such great property it could be such a nice park I live right behind it so I know it really needs more love	7/25/2023 8:45 AM
82	Keep fostering a spirit of community by connecting the trails and locations as much as possible. I'm new to Commerce and my former location had none of the wonderful things offered here. It's wonderful!	7/25/2023 8:22 AM
83	Maple Glen is a diamond that needs some polish. The bathrooms at the girls softball park are in desperate need of an update.	7/25/2023 7:45 AM
84	Thanks	7/25/2023 7:19 AM
85	These 2 lane roads do not work with the amount of traffic.	7/25/2023 6:42 AM
86	More walking and biking trails in northwest corner of township to connect to rest of township trails	7/25/2023 5:57 AM
87	Splash pad!! And nature center! Similar to what Indian Spring's has! We need that in Commerce!!! We also should bring back the Commerce drive in ☺	7/25/2023 1:14 AM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

88	I think you guys do a great job. Keep up the great work!	7/25/2023 12:37 AM
89	Making it easier and safer for residents to bike to locations. More sidewalks would be awesome. The roads are so narrow there's no room for bike lanes.	7/25/2023 12:24 AM
90	Many people go out of town on fridays in the summer. It would be great if the concerts were during the week instead of the start of the weekend.	7/24/2023 11:31 PM
91	I would hate to see more of the natural wooded areas and wetlands developed into more housing especially with the current infrastructure. Would love more sidewalks to more safely enjoy all that the township has to offer it's current residents!	7/24/2023 11:10 PM
92	We need to stop building houses. We need a grocery store! Restaurants on bike paths do we can keep our money in the community. We lack restaurant options. If Commerce Road had sidewalks it'd be great to go from the ice cream store to union lake road. Union lake road needs sidewalks to to eat at kickstand, lakes area and matter of taste. Yep that's pretty much our restaurant choices.	7/24/2023 11:06 PM
93	Fix Commerce. Build shops, sidewalks, nice restaurants, anything besides more house and 7-11s. Can we get anything nice in Commerce? Horrible traffic.	7/24/2023 10:44 PM
94	We moved here from Chicago in late 2022 and feel extremely uncomfortable riding our bikes on public streets. Cars are not used to sharing the road and there are no designated bike lanes to ride in with our children until you get to trails.	7/24/2023 10:35 PM
95	Please put in side walls on Welch! Any major road within a mile of a school should have sidewalks	7/24/2023 10:31 PM
96	I wish Commerce had more community events like the concert in the park. Wixom has them all of June, July and August.	7/24/2023 9:41 PM
97	Downtown Commerce needs a city planner... look how just the improvements to the gas station  made the little area so much nicer! It can be done..it just takes ingenuity and planning!	7/24/2023 9:38 PM
98	Keep up the good work!	7/24/2023 9:21 PM
99	I'd like to find out ways to make Maple Glen Park the premier little League Baseball park in District 4 Little League being that Commerce Little League one all of the district tournaments and all teams went to the state finals.	7/24/2023 5:38 PM
100	Please use one of three soccer fields in Dodge park as a dog park	7/24/2023 3:15 PM
101	Somehow Prevent citizens from using ball fields as dog parks	7/24/2023 10:52 AM
102	For me question 7 is a big yes. Would love to ride my bike around like you can in west bloomfield.	7/22/2023 12:58 PM
103	Open up and remove over grovn parts of Huron River for kayaking. Distance from Northen Commerce lake to Foxe lake is covered with overgrown parts and all rod passes are to low to pass under. From Fox lake to Brendle is a relay enjoyable part for kayaking.	7/21/2023 7:43 PM
104	We need steer lights with sidewalks	7/21/2023 1:56 PM
105	More publicity, perhaps through Library	7/21/2023 10:12 AM
106	I would like to see more programming offeed similar to the Walled Lake School district but through parks and rec. I'd like to age through my parks and rec and then end my rec in the senior center one day. Parks has it all going on the create an amazing age in place opportunity. I'm thinking on this and im only 33. Trails, trees, green and community happen through parks and rec. Civic engagement happens here too. Would love volunteer opportunities family and singular.	7/20/2023 7:32 PM
107	Don't take away anymore green space. No more soccer fields, etc. Let's have parks & nature trails that are untouched!! Keep the small town lifestyle.	7/20/2023 6:27 PM
108	There is a need for a swimming facility with a 50m pool in the area. Local swim teams could rent for practices and swim meets. There are a limited number of 50m pools available and are 45 minutes to 2 hours from Commerce.	7/20/2023 12:56 PM

## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

109	I think there are too many parts of the community that lack transparency and communication from all areas should be on one document. I believe the Beyer park and historic street there should be looking at grants from federal govt for historic areas .. Sidewalks lighting road improvement as Nville, Plymouth, milford has done . It's there for the using. That area is a hot ugly mess. Also we need an intersection work by 7 /11 to blend that area to union rd.	7/20/2023 9:57 AM
110	I appreciate the survey! Glad someone posted it on Facebook, so I knew about it.	7/20/2023 8:33 AM
111	Stop destroying natural space	7/20/2023 12:35 AM
112	Trails along Welch would be incredible!	7/19/2023 7:39 PM
113	Safe place. Amazing park. Just need splash water on hot summer days	7/19/2023 2:21 PM
114	There really needs to be a whole-hearted effort to preserve the integrity of the historical district around Byers Farm. Unlike other areas of improvement, if there is not a deliberate effort to protect these buildings, once they are gone...they are gone. We have such an interesting history, we need to protect it. Also...some street lighting and sidewalks in that area would help IMMENSELY. Thanks!	7/19/2023 11:32 AM
115	Update Maple Glen Ball Park	7/19/2023 9:57 AM
116	We would love to see some upgrades to Maple Glen, so much dust from the dirt roads/parking. Also we would love a local splash pad.	7/19/2023 7:46 AM
117	Upgrades to maple Glen park. Hundreds of people throughout the park daily. Pave the parking lots and upgrade the facilities	7/18/2023 9:29 PM
118	We use Maple Glenn very frequently as our kids play baseball. A great improvement would be adding a couple of pavilions for shade and shelter. I have noticed a lot of the ball fields we play at outside of commerce have utilized pavilions very nicely	7/18/2023 2:58 PM
119	A pavillion at Maple Glen would be nice.	7/18/2023 1:17 PM
120	Personally would like to see the parking lot at Maple Glen better maintained. It gets so dusty and the ruts get very large	7/18/2023 1:11 PM
121	Paved parking lots at the parks are very important to me	7/18/2023 12:30 PM
122	Would love to have more paved parking areas at Maple Glen. The area gets so muddy and dusty and we spend almost every day there for baseball.	7/18/2023 12:11 PM
123	Paved roads on the Softball side for the girls so it's not just the boys who have paved access to the fields on the baseball side.	7/18/2023 12:05 PM
124	Commerce Twp	7/18/2023 12:02 PM
125	If possible in the budget, please pave the Maple Glen park or at least see that it can be graded during the baseball season. There are a number of large holes that can cause distress on the car. Thx	7/18/2023 12:01 PM
126	We would love to see the road & parking lots within Maple Glen updated. With being dirt roads/parking, the weather takes a toll on them.	7/18/2023 11:42 AM
127	Maintenance , maintenance, maintenance	7/17/2023 10:52 PM
128	Available Nature and the parks in commerce have been the reason to stay living in commerce	7/17/2023 8:58 AM
129	We need more bathrooms and trails	7/16/2023 6:15 PM
130	A farmers market would be nice.	7/16/2023 5:49 PM
131	More rules on courts	7/16/2023 5:46 PM
132	I live here because I love nature. Keep our parks!	7/16/2023 5:43 PM
133	Thanks for the senior center and it's staff!	7/16/2023 5:34 PM
134	I always like/appreciate how good/clean the bathroom facilities are.	7/16/2023 5:09 PM
135	A nicely developed downtown with entertainment, restaurants, outdoor concerts and events, music in the park, etc. Plymouth and Rochester are great examples! Lyon Oaks Dog Park is	7/16/2023 8:34 AM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

	also a nice example of a place to take your pooch	
136	When can we get our downtown commerce? What about dog park? Sorely needed. have to go to South Lyon or Waterford to run my dog!	7/16/2023 8:21 AM
137	Please consider a golf course !!!	7/15/2023 7:24 PM
138	Leave Victory park as is. For future generations to decide what to do with it.	7/15/2023 4:39 PM
139	Sidewalks and lighting in the evenings would be most helpful.	7/15/2023 3:10 PM
140	We enjoy the trails in the Wise Woods and like them natural. They also provide a place for deer and other wildlife. Is there a way to discourage nearby residents from dumping yard waste into the area?	7/15/2023 12:35 PM
141	Stop developing homes in the area and develop more parks	7/15/2023 7:57 AM
142	Would like a splash pad, dog park, and bike/walking trails along e main roads to connect us to activities and facilities better.	7/14/2023 10:51 PM
143	I would like to have more pickleball courts in commerce. You can see how popular the current ones are and it can be hard to get to play as much as I want with the current very popular courts. BTW you did a great job with the new Richardson center courts.	7/14/2023 9:46 PM
144	Consider building a dirt jump or a pump trail for bicycles	7/14/2023 8:41 PM
145	I would love more sidewalks. We live by Huron Valley hospital Allen's would love sidewalks to connect to the bike path on South Commerce.	7/14/2023 8:30 PM
146	We moved here 5 years ago and are immensely proud of Richardson Center and the township support and dedication of the staff in providing a variety of programs. We are also so proud of the library and the amazing staff who provide such amazing opportunities for people of all ages.	7/14/2023 2:16 AM
147	We need more parks and less deforestation. No more apartments and housing.	7/13/2023 4:36 PM
148	Please try to get City of Walled Lake to repave Ladd Rd.! MI Airline Trail is an A class trail but this road to access it is abysmal!	7/13/2023 4:02 PM
149	I am thankful for our parks and activities and concerts for the commerce communities that promote fun and community	7/13/2023 12:22 PM
150	Thank you for the pickleball courts at Richardson Center!	7/12/2023 5:31 PM
151	Disc golf course with an optional donation box! Adult sports! Please!!!	7/12/2023 4:40 AM
152	We moved to Commerce 9 years ago from Bloomfield Twp. There we had voted a tax to build & support safety paths. You can now walk or bike safely almost anywhere in the twp. It was my biggest disappointment to come here & find few trails or paths. I would highly recommend a plan for paths & trails. With so much distracted driving it is not safe to ride on the edge of busy roads.	7/11/2023 7:05 PM
153	Need to fix the roads at Hickory Glen Park. The pot holes are terrible. All the other dates are great. It's horrible driving to the back of the park	7/11/2023 5:48 PM
154	I'd love to see a safe path to ride on to get to the Airline trail. love to see more side walks	7/11/2023 4:52 PM
155	Support millage for pathway as long as it doesn't affect school busing, had heard that WLCSD would eliminate some bus routes if additional non-motorized linkages are added (for example, between Hills of Bogie Lk and Northern HS). Expansion to path and park/rec should leverage funding sources like SRTS, TAP grants, etc.	7/10/2023 9:47 PM
156	Love that the township is branching out recreationally. The more we can do... the better. Also, with the access to more paths/ sidewalks to connect these events and places would be amazing.	7/10/2023 8:17 PM
157	One of the reasons we moved here are the nice parks and trails, however very hard to access unless via car around the wise/bogie lake, Carroll lake road areas. Not safe to cross or walk along the sides of the road, very disappointing with how many young families are in this area and cannot have access to the nice trails, library and playground	7/10/2023 6:03 PM
158	Walking/running trails up to Cooley Lake road on Carroll Lake would be welcomed	7/10/2023 4:36 PM

## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

159	I would like to see Bicentennial Park on Fisher road fixed up and cleaned up.	7/9/2023 5:18 PM
160	I would like to see more tracks for walking and running.	7/9/2023 5:15 PM
161	We desperately NEED sidewalks connecting Benstein to the walking/biking trails in Commerce Twp. It is impossible to bike or walk safely from my home off of Benstein to any local parks or trails. Sidewalks would greatly improve my and other people's quality of life and property values.	7/9/2023 4:47 PM
162	Safe crossing needed at library South Commerce Rd and to 7/11.	7/9/2023 1:38 PM
163	Not only would I enjoy more parks and recreation activities for and my young children, I also think a strong offering of parks and recreation opportunities is vital for attracting and retaining younger residents and families who place a high value on recreation and leisure activities. I have trust in the Township to be good stewards of taxpayer money any sorry additional money being allocated or raised (e.g., via millage) to expand parks and rec. I would also support public/private partnerships to raise funding for expanded opportunities and facilities.	7/8/2023 5:47 PM
164	I love the parks! Thanks for all you do :)	7/8/2023 4:34 PM
165	Trails up Newton and Commerce roads!	7/8/2023 10:02 AM
166	More toddler friendly parks	7/8/2023 9:03 AM
167	Would LOVE a splash pad!	7/7/2023 7:20 PM
168	Add side walk access out of Woodbridge lake estates at the north west corner of commerce rd and Oakley rd. We need safe walking access out of the neighborhood. Thank you!	7/7/2023 7:04 PM
169	Scarlett's park needs a bigger parking lot especially with the soccer field on soccer days it's impossible to get a spot cars are parked all up and down the road. We tried finding a spot for 15 mins and left.	7/7/2023 5:29 PM
170	I like our parks - more will be great!	7/7/2023 1:58 PM
171	Splash pad or weekly events we attend Wixom a music in park with kid activities but rather in commerce. Also side walks connecting trail on Benstein can't take kids for bike ride on main road to get to trail	7/6/2023 5:52 PM
172	I would pay a lot of money yearly to have a membership to a rec center like Livonia has! It is one major downfall to living in Commerce. No indoor pools, no splash pads. Why don't we have one?	7/6/2023 3:33 PM
173	Sidewalks to access the parks from the subdivisions are very necessary!	7/5/2023 6:19 PM
174	Ensure good lighting and bike walking trails in areas that don't have them	7/5/2023 5:33 PM
175	Is a mileage really necessary to do sidewalks? Connecting small sections would help a ton-bike/walk path west of Gilbert Willis along Glengary to new subs that already have sidewalks, north and south Along Benstein to air trail from Glengary, from Chisana to Benstein please!	7/5/2023 10:49 AM
176	With such a huge tax base the Township should not have to increase our taxes in order to maintain these resources .	7/4/2023 3:55 PM
177	Thank you for asking! And for keeping in touch.	7/4/2023 12:44 PM
178	Please do not develop Wise Woods/Victory Park. Keep both sides of the road in the current natural state!	7/3/2023 6:49 PM
179	Love the bike trails, wish they were more interconnected	7/3/2023 4:16 PM
180	On question 7, would love a path connecting walled lake northern, down bogie lake road, to Byers/Mill Race, and then to the library and dodge park. Would help all the businesses in that area, including Long's and the Ice Cream shop	7/2/2023 12:52 PM
181	Would love sidewalks on Benstein which connect to trail system.	7/1/2023 11:14 AM
182	Would love a dog park and outdoor volleyball courts. More paths and sidewalks all around the city.	6/30/2023 8:35 PM
183	Please keep all the natural land that you possibly can for Commerce Township resident use!	6/30/2023 3:41 PM



## Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Survey 2023

So much of our green space out here in the township is disappearing with all of the construction. It is critical to keep the natural environment close to us here in Commerce Township. Thank you for asking and I appreciate your help in maintaining the quality of life I've come to love here.

184	Need sidewalks to airline trail along Benstein Road, road is extremely dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians. Nothing done in last 20 years concerning sidewalks along Benstein by Commerce township.	6/30/2023 11:51 AM
185	Some kind of a rules visually posted at the trailheads, explaining the very basic rules of keeping the woods clean . People are under the impression that there's a personnel whose job it is to clean up after them!	6/30/2023 9:09 AM
186	A bulletin board would be great! To remind people some general rules to keep the place clean and walkable. :)	6/30/2023 9:06 AM
187	Love the parks. Must protect our nature areas at all costs!	6/29/2023 6:54 PM
188	Public access swimming would be a huge value add for the township, especially given the number of lakes in the township	6/25/2023 4:18 PM
189	Sidewalks along commerce road from decker to glengary. Please! Would seriously be amazing	6/25/2023 8:17 AM
190	We have lived in Commerce Twp for more than 20 years and we love it here!	6/24/2023 6:47 PM
191	While maybe not related, it was mentioned in the survey seeing kids walking to school (WLC), it is so scary that there is no sidewalk for them on Commerce Road.	6/23/2023 12:56 PM
192	Would love sidewalks on union lake road. I feel trapped and when I do go off my street have to battle the cars	6/22/2023 10:25 PM
193	Keeping the open space/natural areas is VITAL to our wildlife. I hate to see unnecessary clearing or development of these areas.	6/22/2023 10:13 PM
194	I would really like to see at least a paved shoulder on commerce road to Milford. We live only a few miles from Milford but do not feel safe riding our bikes here. Paved shoulders would add access for riding bikes to places.	6/22/2023 4:33 PM
195	Paved walking trails are always appreciated so we can take our little ones with us. We also would love a splash pad and great playground parks (I.e. innovation park in Rochester is great, for example. It also helps when there are items for the big kids and the toddlers. Thanks!	6/22/2023 1:50 PM
196	We moved to commerce because of the recreational activities. Connecting the pathways is very important to us.	6/22/2023 11:30 AM
197	I am keenly interested in a dog park in the area. Currently I use Lyon Oaks but would love one closer. I have heard rumors about one being considered and would love more information on that effort.	6/17/2023 10:30 AM



MICHIGAN GROUP

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

2125 Butterfield Dr, Suite 102N • Troy MI 48064

**CHARTER TWP OF COMMERCE**

2009 Township Dr

Walled Lake, MI 48390

Attention: Emily England

STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

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in the County of \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn to the subscribed before me this 14 Nov, 2023

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**COMMERCE TOWNSHIP PARKS AND  
RECREATION COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC NOTICE****DRAFT PLAN AVAILABLE AND  
PUBLIC HEARING  
5 YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN (2024-2028)**

Notice is hereby given to any and all interested parties that a public hearing will be held by the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the Commerce Township Board Room, located at 2009 Township Drive. The public hearing is being held to receive comments on a draft 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2024-2028). The draft plan reflects the Committee's priorities for the next five years and, once adopted, will serve as a guide for the Parks and Recreation Committee, staff and the Township Board. The draft Master Plan will be available for public review beginning November 16, 2023 on the Township website at [www.commercetwp.com](http://www.commercetwp.com), at Township Hall (2009 Township Drive), and at the Richardson Senior Center (1485 E Oakley Park Rd) during regular business hours.

All interested persons attending the hearing will be given an opportunity to be heard in respect to this matter. If you cannot attend this meeting, you may submit comments to the attention of Emily England at [england@commercetwp.com](mailto:england@commercetwp.com) or 248.926.0063.

Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Charter Township of Commerce





**FINAL**  
**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE**  
**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

*Monday, December 18, 2023*

2009 Township Drive  
Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairperson Petsch called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

**ROLL CALL:** **Present:** William Petsch, Vice Chairperson  
Bob Berkheiser  
Krystal Schwartz  
Ron Krueger  
Laura Waterworth  
Denise Vecellio  
**Absent:** Johnny Walker, Chairperson (excused)  
**Also Present:** Emily England, Director of Senior Services/Parks & Recreation  
Allison Kennedy, Asst. to Parks & Recreation Director  
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director  
Leah Groya, Consultant

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Director England – The only communication I have is we have a new Parks member, Denise.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Welcome.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Schwartz, seconded by Krueger, to approve the October 23, 2023, Parks and Recreation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes as written.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Vice Chairperson Petsch opened to Public Comments.**

No comments.

**Vice Chairperson Petsch closed to Public Comments.**

**ITEM 1A: PUBLIC HEARING: PARKS AND RECREATION 5-YEAR MASTER PLAN**

Leah Groya delivered a presentation on the overhead.

Leah Groya – We have been talking about the update to the 5-year Plan for a number of months now, and culminating here at the public hearing. Just a reminder, the purpose of the 5-year Plan; there are a few reasons that the Township puts this information together every 5 years. First, it assists in documenting the needs and priorities in the community and starts you thinking about long-term improvements and what you want to accomplish.



Once approved, the Plan is a tool during the annual budgeting process. So, once adopted, it doesn't mean that every project is approved or that funding is set aside for it to happen, but it is a tool to be used during the budgeting process and to continue to seek funds to implement the projects. It will serve as a guide for the year for both Emily and her staff, and Township leadership.

We did follow the DNR guidelines in putting the 5-year Plan together and in doing so, once it's approved and adopted by the Township, it will make you eligible to apply for grants through the DNR. Should anything significant change, the Plan can be amended and the DNR has a process to follow to do that within the 5-year time frame.

The Plan certainly doesn't resolve everything that is brought up, it doesn't solve all of the issues, but it does help to identify and document them so that you can be thinking about how to address them in the upcoming months and years.

As I said, the DNR does issue guidance for us to follow, a process, contents and things that we have to include and look at. Your 5-year Plan includes a description of the community and a description of the process that you took to develop the document. It describes the structure of how Parks & Recreation is managed in the community.

There's an inventory of your facilities in the Plan, a basis for action, and then finally, an action plan. We put a couple slides in here from the action plan summary.

The process the Township took to put together the 5-year plan included an online and paper survey where you received 640 responses. That was done over last summer.

There was also input gathered at a few events in the community. A small group brainstorming session was held here in July. All of your Parks & Recreation Committee meetings are obviously open, public meetings, and you discussed the draft of the Plan and developing the draft over the summer and fall months. Emily and I did some additional meetings over the past several months to review the draft and talk through the Plan. The draft was made available for public review November 17<sup>th</sup> and posted to your website so that folks had ample time to take a look at it before tonight.

Tonight is the public hearing and we're also asking the Committee to consider adoption by resolution tonight. If you do adopt the Plan tonight, then it will go to the Township Board for their consideration of adoption at their January meeting.

The action program in the 5-year Plan outlines the direction that you're looking to go over the next 5 years. As Emily has indicated a number of times, it's a really nice tool for her and staff to use during the annual budgeting process to remind ourselves of the priorities and what funding we want to seek to implement those. It includes goals, objectives and tasks in quite a bit of detail and also includes some capital improvement priorities by park. I won't go through all of these, but there are goals for a lot of different topics; organization, operation and maintenance goal, partnerships and collaboration, facility development improvement/expansion goal, a goal related to programming and the desire to expand some programs, accessibility and connectivity, and finally funding. It's important to note that if you do apply for a grant through the DNR, it doesn't necessarily need to be a project that's listed in your Capital Improvement Priority Table, but it does need to be something that meets one or more of your goals in your Plan. So, we intentionally keep those fairly broad when we write them. There are projects that maybe we are not even imagining right now that might come up and hopefully they will fall within one of your goals.

The action plan also includes the Capital Improvement Priority Table, listed by park. These are just things that we've talked about that are goals of yours to try to implement. Again, there isn't funding in place to implement all of these projects currently, but



certainly with some of your millage funds, some of them can be accomplished, and then also seeking outside funding sources, grants, partnerships, things like that. That was an overview summary of the 5-year Plan. We look to have you get comments from the public tonight if there are any, and have any discussion amongst yourselves, and then consider adoption by resolution which I believe is in your packet. That can be adopted with edits if in your discussion or in public comment, you want to change something, you can do that tonight as well. Then we will move onto the Township Board, and then file the 5-year Plan with the DNR. They have a filing process that we have to follow and an online system that we have to upload things to. That has to be done by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Vice Chairperson Petsch opened the public hearing.**

No comments.

**Vice Chairperson Petsch closed the public hearing.**

**ITEM 1B: CONSIDER RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION OF 5-YEAR MASTER PLAN**

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, seconded by Schwartz, to adopt the Parks & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan and to recommend approval to the Township Board.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**AYES:** Berkheiser, Schwartz, Krueger, Petsch, Waterworth, Vecellio

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Walker

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 2: LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION REPORT**

**Lakes Area Hawks Football – Pete Lesner**

- After 30 years of being with the Hawks and 15 years at Hickory Glen Park, I'm retiring this year.
- I'd like to introduce my new President, Andy Grant. Andy will be taking over for me from here on out. He's a construction guy so he was specially chosen. He has helped immensely and he has been with us for 10 years, and with me during the off-season, 365 days a year, just making the improvements that we always have to do.
- We will have a meeting with Emily next week to handle the changeover.
- The Hawks are fine and everything is good. We had a great season. Our cheer won everything that they could win, and our football program was very successful also this year.
- We're moving forward and it's going great.
- I have two grandkids and I have to attend their events, so that's what I'm doing from here on out.

Vice Chairperson Petsch thanked Pete Lesner and reminisced about the history of the Lakes Area Hawks. He expressed the Committee's appreciation for all of Pete's hard work and dedication. Hickory Glen is a wonderful park and facility because of the Hawks. The Committee looks forward to the continued relationship.



**Friends of Byers – Dean & Karen Schantz**

Dean Schantz shared the following with the Committee.

- A month and a half ago, we had our open house at the Byers Farmhouse. It went really well. We ushered in 12 groups. We had a total of 45 people that day. We didn't really even advertise it, so it could have been a lot more.
- More recently, we had our Photos with Santa. We were fully booked. We had approximately 230 residents and they all appreciated how we staged the house. We gave them a little history tour also. They loved the place.
- As far as improvements go, I replaced the LED accent lighting on the house yesterday.
- We're feeding the ducks and waiting until springtime in the New Year.

Mr. Berkheiser – As you get ready for spring cleanup or fall cleanup, I know the Boy Scout troop that I'm associated with has a new person to reach out to. I'll get you that information.

Discussion continued regarding changes in leadership with the scoutmasters.

**CW3 Soccer – Chris Haney**

- We are indoors for the remainder of the winter.
- We plan to open in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April.
- We will provide dates to Emily as we get closer.
- Mr. Lesner, you've done a fine job. You will be missed, sir.

**Motor City Mountain Bike Association – Mike Kearney**

- Really nothing to add.
- The trail is in good shape.
- We have a few small projects that we will try to knock out in the spring. I will get that list to Emily and Allison.

**Commerce Little League – Nikki Shaffer**

- I'm Nikki Shaffer and I'm the new President of Commerce Little League.
- Registration opened up for the Spring 2024 season. We are expecting between 550-600 kids this season.

Mr. Berkheiser – Is that more, less or the same?

Nikki Shaffer – For 2023, we were at 525, so about the same.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – How far did the kids go in different tournaments?

Nikki Shaffer – Commerce Little League swept Districts, and we had 3 teams make it to States, so a great season for us.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Very good. I'm glad that program is going so well. It's wonderful.

**Silo Ranch – Dawn Ray**

- We had our first open house. It went pretty well. I think we had 350-400 people.
- Now we're just getting ready.
- The electrical has all been updated.
- I think the roof is coming soon.
- We are waiting on our water to be done.
- Hopefully in the next two weeks, we will be able to open and have more events coming up in the spring.

Director England – She has boarders currently lined up to go in there and then they're planning the community garden. She will get information out soon and we will share it with the Committee.

Mr. Berkheiser – The Township Board over the last couple of months authorized money to get things done on the building; basic things that are appropriate, including water lines, electric and addressing safety issues. Those are moving along as Dawn said. We're excited to hopefully see something going this spring.

Director England – They have done a lot of work over there, so if any of the Committee members ever want to stop over there, get a hold of me and we can set up a time with Dawn. That way, you can see the property.

Mr. Krueger – I did go to the open house and it looked fantastic. I was there before helping on some electrical work, and it wasn't anywhere near looking as nice as it did for the open house.

Dawn Ray – Thank you.

**Lakes Athletics Association – Jerry Stoddard**

A report was submitted in the packet dated December 9, 2023:

- *League Update – LAA and LCB have invested considerable funds into landscape overhaul of 4 out of the 7 fields; including material, grade, balance, crown of the infields at Hickory Glen Park. We hope these improvements promote the beauty and safety of our players and families of this great township. Please let us know if you have detailed questions about this process. We are also excited at the LAA House growth for our 14U division, typically 1 team in past, we now expect 4-6 or more 14U teams; and possibly older rec divisions. Thank you!*
- *Upcoming Dates & Information*
  - *Season Dates – Spring April after Easter; Clean-Up and Field open for practice may be earlier in Spring 2024 weather dependent*
  - *Monthly Meeting – Next scheduled meet Jan 15 2024 for the Board Meeting at Richardson*
  - *2023 Capital Improvements –*
    - 1) *Sprinkler work is completed; LAA will work with Parks to schedule meetings for review and support of repair work invoices. We need to schedule a separate meeting for this discussion. TBD*
    - 2) *Infield landscape overhaul for 4 of the 7 fields at HG.*



- **Needs From Township**
  - **Picnic Tables:** Can the township provide 5 new picnic tables for the park? We have limited, and the current are old. We have increased volume at the concessions, and would like to provide families a place to enjoy.
  - **Cement Bleacher Pads F1:** The poured cement bleacher pads and ADA accessible seating area on Field #1; Township to provide updates.
  - **Sprinklers:** Repaired and renovated after many years of service. Map of the completed system is now in existence for future construction reference. LAA can schedule meeting with P&R to review and discuss next steps, and reimbursement for approved portion share. Lakes board member will reach out to schedule meeting for further discussion in early 2024.

Mr. Berkheiser – On the Lakes report, Emily, one of the questions had to do with picnic tables.

Director England – We have the picnic tables ordered. They have not been distributed yet. We will be ordering our second round of picnic tables the first of the year, and all the parks will get nice picnic tables.

Mr. Berkheiser – We talked at one time about putting a pavilion and a pad up front. Is that on our project list to do this year?

Director England – Yes, that's correct.

Mr. Berkheiser – Then I have sprinklers circled and a question as to their indication that they want to meet with us to discuss ...

Director England – We have had discussions in the past with them. It has been determined that it's an old system. They have not taken it off their report, so I will make that request again.

Mr. Berkheiser – Yes, ask them pull the sprinkler stuff because that is not our issue.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – We could request that Lakes Athletics have somebody show up to the meeting so we can question them and talk with them.

No representatives were present at the meeting for the following leagues:

- *Interlakes Girls Softball*

### **ITEM 3: TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT**

Mr. Berkheiser provided the following:

- Our December meeting was mostly budget oriented.
- We approved the salaries and wages for boards and commissions. You all get a pay increase starting in January.
- All of the 2024 meeting schedules were approved.
- The AFSCME contract was approved. That's for the folks who are in the union for the Township Hall. I think we're good on the union contracts for 5 years.

- In January, the LysteGro Agreement process will start. At the treatment plant, waste will be turned into fertilizer. This has cut our transportation fees from about \$150 per ton; I think GFL took it down to \$50, and now with this system it will be about \$15 per ton, saving money on the sewer system.
- We also approved the Open Space Millage; the wording, and for it to be on the ballot for the August election. Just so you know, there were 6 Board members and it was 4-2 to put it on August. One of the members that did vote for it said that if it does not pass in August, they would not vote for it to go on in November. The Board had a discussion as to which election it should be on. I encourage you to tell your neighbors and friends to make sure they vote in August. If it does not pass in August, it may not make it onto the November election.

#### **ITEM 4: PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Ms. England discussed the following:

- The majority of everything is in my written report.
- Since we last met, we did have a meeting with the County, People's Express, and the 7 communities that utilize People's Express to see how we were standing with that.
  - I think it was good with all communities.
  - I've seen our ridership increase, and they have seen that continuously throughout the communities.
  - We will continue to meet quarterly to let them know of any issues and how that service will continue to benefit our residents. Hopefully we will see more expansion in services over the next year or so.
- We are finishing up the construction documents with the design phase for Bicentennial Park and Victory Park. We're going to try to bid those together so maybe one contractor will pick up both projects and get us a better price. These will go out to bid for a spring project.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Emily, I don't know if I'm just more observant, but I've noticed a lot more People's Express buses moving around the community than in the past.

Director England – Before the County took over the contract with them, I didn't have any coming to the Senior Center. We had other buses, but I never saw People's Express, and now they're there several times a day.

#### **ITEM 5: PARK LIAISON REPORTS**

##### **Berkheiser – Wise Woods & Victory Park**

- You heard information on Victory.
- I do still see a lot of usage at Wise Woods, at least in the parking lot.
- I do see vehicles parking on the other side of the road. Hopefully we will put in a parking lot over there in the next year or so.

##### **Schwartz – Byers and Mill Race**

- Between the last meeting and now, there was some graffiti.
- Mark and his team cleaned it up and it looks really nice. Thank you for that.



**Petsch – Bicentennial Park**

- Looking forward to having our plan take place to improve that park.
- Nothing else to report.

**Vecellio – Long Park & Snowy Ridge Park**

- I have been to both parks a couple times.
- There's not a lot of usage right now. Maybe Snowy Ridge will pick up after tonight.
- I've asked Emily to connect me with Barb Garbutt to have continuation of things that she may have seen before.

**Krueger – Dodge Park**

- I've driven through the park again. I was actually under the weather for 3 weeks so I didn't walk around.
- I did have a meeting with Chris Haney and he mentioned that there was a tree down on one of the paths.

Chris Haney – I checked both of them out. It's not just one tree. It brought half the forest down with it.

Mr. Krueger – Maybe Mark can get with you.

Chris Haney and Mark Schoder discussed the issue.

Mr. Krueger – Chris and I also talked about a potential phragmites problem around soccer Field #3. Phragmites is an invasive grass that gets about 10-12 feet tall. I have information from Michigan on how to possibly control it. I'll continue to do some research and put a report together.

Director England – I can tell you, Ron, we have a contract with a company that treats the phragmites at Long Park, and they were treating them along S. Commerce Road. We will make sure we add that as a treatment area.

Mr. Berkheiser – Which field is it?

Chris Haney – Field #3; it's on the southeast corner, the drainage swale. It's just starting a couple plants.

Director England – It will be September of next year, but we will add it to our treatment area.

Discussion of phragmites continued.

**Waterworth – Hickory Glen Park**

- Hickory Glen looks good.
- It has been busy with lots of dog walkers, including myself.
- This summer, I reported two trees that had spray paint on them. I found them again and took pictures for Mark so he can find the mystery trees.

**Walker – Maple Glen**

No report in Chairperson Walker's absence.

**ITEM 6: VILLAGE OF WOLVERINE UPDATE**

Ms. Waterworth discussed the following with the Committee:

- I have forwarded the list of competitor's addresses for the Christmas light contest so it can be shared with all of you. Judging for the Christmas light competition will be held tonight.
- They don't really have anything else going on for the remainder of the year.

**ITEM 7: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mark Schoder discussed the following with the Committee:

- We replaced the fencing at the sledding hill, and we put up parking blocks and rocks to stop the lawn jobs over there.
- At the Airline Trail, we lost 22 rails and 2 posts. We scrapped about 10 of them, but we are trying to find a place that sells them. We can't find anything that matches up with it. We are searching.
- The pickleball courts are shut down. We cleaned them and locked up.
- We continue to clean the pathways and the parks.

Mr. Berkheiser – The pickleball courts; since we've invested quite a bit of money and it gets high usage, is there recommended maintenance? Winterizing, sealing, et cetera?

Director England – They will come back in the spring because we did experience some cracking. We will ask about a maintenance plan at that time. It is still covered under warranty at this point. The reason we locked the gates is because salt or ice melt will ruin the paint on that, so we have prevented people from going in. We had one of our nets broken and when they came out to fix that, Mark met with them. They went ahead and removed the nets and the posts for us. They explained to Mark how to winterize those holes so that we don't experience any more cracking.

Mr. Schoder – That, and they said keep all leaves and debris off of the courts or they will stain them. We cleaned that all up and we're going to keep an eye on it.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Why did we take the netting off the fence?

Director England – To prolong the life of it. Once the play stopped, we took the nets or screens down. Those were actually put up as requested by the players as a windscreen. They served two purposes because drivers were distracted as they drove by trying to watch people play. They will go back up in the spring.

Ms. Waterworth – Wolverine Village asked if it was possible to keep the nets up longer.

Director England – It's weather dependent. As soon as the first snow flies, I have to take them down because I don't want people in the courts who may use ice melt as it will cause damage to the courts. It's a protection factor. We have had several people bring their own nets, and we did purchase a net that we keep at the Richardson Center. We're trying to work out rental of that through the Library. They can check it out. People



already rent out pickleball paddles, and we don't have a way at the Richardson Center to loan things out, so we could utilize the Library.

Mr. Berkheiser – So they would check it out at the Library and drive over to the Richardson Center.

Director England – Yes, we can keep it at the Richardson Center.

Discussion continued regarding preventing salt damage on the courts and winterizing the postholes to prevent cracking of the concrete.

**ITEM 8: COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**MOTION** by Petsch, supported by Berkheiser, to nominate Krystal Schwartz as Secretary of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Krueger, supported by Waterworth, to retain Johnny Walker as Chairperson, and William Petsch as Vice Chairperson of the Parks & Recreation Committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 9: OPEN SPACE MILLAGE**

Vice Chairperson Petsch – Bob mentioned our Open Space Millage. Again, reach out to your organizations and groups to make sure they vote in August. If we get that passed, we can continue doing what we're doing to make our parks better. That will reflect on our 5-year plan tremendously. Emily, I hope we get that out on our web page to let everybody know. Anybody involved with kids at school, let their parents know what we need their support.

Mr. Berkheiser – We have the Presidential primary, but I don't know if we have a firm date for it.

Director England – It is in February.

Mr. Berkheiser – So we will have the February, August and November elections. The millage comes up in August.

Mr. Krueger – Can we do flyers?

Director England – I will get you all of the rules and regulations for Township employees and Committee members as to what you can, and cannot do for the millage. I will send that out to everybody.

Mr. Berkheiser – Basically, you can't spend Township dollars to promote, either way, of whatever is going on in an election. You can do whatever you want. You can get a group of people to donate money and you can do what you want, but you can't put anything on there that says "Parks Committee" or something like that.

Director England – And you can't be out campaigning for it during the time that the Parks would be meeting. We can't use the Parks meeting to get the word out. It has to be done on your own time.

Chris Haney – On that note, any of us that are 501c3 nonprofits, we can't directly advertise one way or the other to our members, by IRS rule. This is on my best recollection. But, what we can do is remind the members that there is a millage, it's about the Parks and direct them to go vote one way or the other; to let them know that there is an election and when it is.

Mr. Berkheiser – Correct, you can encourage people to vote.

Director England – This millage has been in place for 20 years, so this will be the second renewal.

Mike Kearney – Is there information about the millage that we can share?

Director England – Yes, we will get that out to everybody.

Mike Kearney – Thank you.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – The more we spread the word, the better off we are. I'm not anticipating hiccups. We have done tremendous things and I think our citizens have realized that. We are getting great participation in everything we've done. Even if you look at Wise Woods and that little parking spot that we got so much heat about. It turned out great and it's used. Every day there's cars there. People realize and they see what we've done, and what we are continuing to do with our new 5-year Plan, and what we've got planned in the spring, and the grants that we have acquired because we have matching funds so our dollars go farther. We really need the support of the community, and as long as people know, it's no more money out of their pockets. We're not asking for an increase; it's status quo, continuing to do the same things. Thank you.

Ms. Vecellio – Are we able to do direct mailing using emails from the survey?

Director England – I'll have to ask.

Ms. Vecellio – Maybe it is just to say that there is a vote coming up.

Director England – Those were given to the Township and there's only certain things the Township can do.

#### **ITEM 10: PARK EVENT UPDATES**

Director England – We had our Christmas Tree lighting. It was not as congested as last year, but it was a great turnout. We've geared up and got plans for next year.

Mr. Berkheiser – Do you have a rough headcount?

Director England – I'd say 250.



Vice Chairperson Petsch – Well that's a good turnout.

Ms. Kennedy – We changed it up this year. We didn't have glow golf. It was only kids crafts in the other room, and I think it really helped with the flow. Kids crafts and face painters were in one room, and the other room was cookies and cocoa, and pictures with Santa.

Director England – The whole building was opened up so people could move around.

Vice Chairperson Petsch inquired about soliciting Home Depot to sponsor the event.

Director England – They used to come to our concerts, but then they didn't have staffing to do that anymore. We can reach out to them again.

Ms. Kennedy – In the Parks Department report submitted, our dates are listed for 2024 events. We are looking at adding additional pickleball tournaments.

- Concerts will be July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 2<sup>nd</sup>, with 5 concerts.
- The M-5K, we're looking at the Saturday before Memorial weekend again.
- We're looking to do the Trail-or-Treat.
- We're doing the Tree Lighting.
- We're looking at adding other events. We will provide updates as those come up.

Ms. Vecellio – Do you add the Airline Trail onto any communications?

Director England – They are on the M-5K communication.

Ms. Kennedy – I usually go to their committee meeting the first of the year to get approval from them.

Ms. Vecellio – There's a Table to Table Ride in June. I'm on that friends committee.

Director England – We can do that.

Ms. Schwartz – I thought we were not going to do a concert around July 4<sup>th</sup> this year.

Director England – But then we would be changing the consistency of what we've always done. We had a discussion about it. We understand that will be a smaller concert and we will invest accordingly, but I feel like if we don't have it, we will send the wrong message to the community. It has always been for 5 consecutive Fridays, and there will be a time where it will fall differently again. It's just the way the cards fell.

#### **ITEM 11: OTHER MATTERS**

Mr. Berkheiser – I have one. It was supposed to be when we did the lights on the tree. We requested two bids to put white lights up on the Richardson Center to light up the building, the outline of it, and also Byers Farmhouse. Those would be left up from December to end of February.

One guy did not send a quote back. He sent an email with a rough price range, but that is what most projects cost. The other contractor came out and he is local. He said he

graduated from Walled Lake Central. He gave us a price. I'm looking for us to support putting lights up on the two buildings. I think the total is under \$3500. They lease the lights. They put them up and they'll maintain them. If the lights go out, they will take care of them, and they will take them down. We don't have to worry about anything.

Director England – It's \$3480 to do both.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – That would be seasonally?

Mr. Berkheiser – They would not put up permanently. It was in our budget for this year, we just didn't do anything with it. I would still like to try to get them up because we still have a lot of winter left. The idea is to put them up in December, and they would come down in the February/March time frame.

Vice Chairperson Petsch – My daughter owns an ebay company and they are fanatics on seasonal decorating. For Christmas, they acquired LED permanent lighting. They're very small and non-invasive so you don't notice them, but you leave them up all year long. You just turn them off and on. They're programmable. We might want to look into something like that. They're very small, but bright lights, like a tape almost, and they're permanently installed on your ridgelines. We might want to look into something like that. She said if you shop, you can get them at a reasonable price. It may be something we want to look into. The LED is programmable so we can turn them on for Parks events in different colors. That's just a suggestion.

Ms. Vecellio – My neighbors have those and they're very cool.

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Schwartz, to authorize the Parks Director to move forward on lighting as quoted for the Richardson Center and the Byers Farmhouse, not to exceed \$3500.

Discussion –

Schwartz – They will go up this year?

Berkheiser – They will go up this week if we move fast enough.

Petsch – The only discussion I have is that we do look into permanent lighting for the future.

Berkheiser – In the summertime, by the time it's dark enough to put lights on, it's 10:00pm.

Petsch – But we still have the concert and other events going on after dark.

Berkheiser – And we try to do stuff with the bridge and light that up certain colors.

You're talking about purchasing them and Maintenance would put them up and maintain them.

Petsch – Right.

Berkheiser – There's plusses and minuses to that. With this, someone else is taking care of it.

Petsch – Right, but they are a warranted, LED product. You shouldn't have a lot of maintenance.

England – I will look into it.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



Vice Chairperson Petsch – Pete is gone, but I wanted to thank him again for all of the hard work that he has done. That was one of our first projects. I think I'm the only board member that has been around that long. And it's accolades to all of our groups. Karen, you guys with Byers; look how far we have come there in the last few years. And our Lakes Athletics, and Commerce Little League, and all the hard work all of these groups have put in. Look at the fields over there, Chris. That's another thing. Remember they day they started clearing and grading it out.

Discussion continued and Vice Chairperson Petsch recommended that something go to the Board to recognize Pete Lesner.

**The next Parks and Recreation Meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2024, at 6:00PM at the Township Hall.**

**ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Krueger, supported by Waterworth, to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



William Petsch, Vice Chairperson

STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I, the undersigned, duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of the Charter Township of Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Charter Township of Commerce Board of Trustees Meeting held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall located at 2009 Township Drive, Commerce Township, Michigan, 48390. In witness whereof, I have affixed my official signature this 22nd day of February 2024.

  
Melissa Creech, MiPMC  
Clerk, Charter Township of Commerce



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMMERCE  
TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**January 9, 2024**

2009 Township Drive

Commerce Township, Michigan 48390

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Gray called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Larry Gray, Supervisor  
Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Molly Phillips, Treasurer  
Robert Berkheiser, Trustee  
Vanessa Magner, Trustee  
George Weber, Trustee

Absent: Rick Sovel, Trustee (excused)

Also Present: John Kummer, Township Attorney  
David Campbell, Planning Director  
Jim Dundas, Fire Chief  
Emily England, Senior/Parks and Recreation Director  
Jay James, Building Official  
Jason Mayer, Giffels Webster Engineers  
Mark Schoder, Maintenance Director

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Magner, supported by Phillips, to approve the December 12, 2023 Regular Township Board Meeting minutes, as submitted.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Fire Department EMS**

Jim Dundas, Fire Chief, introduced Stacy Gross, Commerce Township EMS Coordinator, and Emergency Medical Service personnel (EMS), who gave a presentation and a demonstration of CPR and the use of the upgraded resuscitation equipment (AED).

**ITEM 1:1-9 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Creech, supported by Phillips, to approve the January 9, 2024 agenda with the following change: move **ITEM 8:1-9 NEW BUSINESS A. Application for a Class C**

**ITEM 1:1-9 APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Motion continued)**

**Redevelopment Liquor License at 2215 Haggerty Road before ITEM 4:1-9 BOARD APPOINTMENTS.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 2:1-9 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Supervisor Gray opened Public Comments and advised the public that speaking time is limited to 3 minutes. This is for public comments only.

State Representative, Noah Arbit, introduced himself and updated the Board on his priorities for 2024 such as: public safety issues, addressing Michigan's mental health crisis, preserving our lakes and climate, a bill to criminalize Artificial Intelligence (AI) involvement in elections, ongoing funding to implement changes in the election law, road funding, and, revenue sharing trust fund. He said there is an appropriation of \$1 million dollars in the 2024 Budget to build non-motorized paths for the public to safely access the Commerce Township Community Library.

Supervisor Gray closed Public Comments.

**ITEM 3:1-9 PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. Establishment Resolution for Amended Boyer Street Paving SAD**

Jason Mayer, Giffels Webster, explained the resolution is to make improvements to the storm sewer system and Boyer Street. The Township Board approved the Establishment Resolution for the SAD in April 2022. However, prior to passage of a Roll Resolution, it was determined that this project would benefit from further design work and rebids. Unfortunately, after extensive efforts to obtain financially reasonable bids, which included obtaining an alternate bid for a more limited scope of work, the costs still remain too high for the majority of property owners within the SAD. He said 10 out of the 12 residents are opposed to the SAD. Based upon a shift in public support, he recommends that the Township Board make a motion not to proceed with the public improvements.

Supervisor Gray opened the Public Hearing.

Supervisor Gray said the Township received a letter, emails, and phone calls from 11 of the 12 residents opposing the SAD.

Nichole Bourasaw, 3413 Boyer Street, Commerce Township, MI, is in support of the SAD. She said her 5-year-old daughter had a medical emergency in January 2020 and emergency responders could not get their vehicles to her house because of the poor condition of the road. They had to park up the road and walk to her house. She also said other vehicles using the road have sustained damage.

Supervisor Gray closed the Public Hearing.

Trustee Berkheiser said he drove down the road today and it is in poor condition, but Boyer Street is a private road and he does not feel comfortable approving this



**ITEM 3:1-9 PUBLIC HEARINGS (Establishment Resolution for Amended Boyer Street Paving SAD continued)**

SAD due to the high cost to residents.

John Kummer, Township Attorney, said a SAD petition must have over 50% of resident's approval and this did not. He recommends denial of the SAD Resolution.

Trustee Weber said the road is in poor condition but the Board cannot impose a \$50,000 cost to each resident in the SAD when only 1 resident voted in favor of the SAD.

**MOTION** by Weber, supported by Berkheiser, to Deny the Resolution of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Commerce Determining to Undertake an Improvement Project and to Establish and Maintain a Special Assessment District to Pay Costs Associated Therewith and Approving the Plans and Estimates of Costs Therefore Amended Boyer Street Paving Special Assessment District.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B. Establishment Resolution for Special Projects No. 51 SAD**

John Kummer, Township Attorney, recommends approval.

Supervisor Gray opened the Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

Supervisor Gray closed the Public Hearing.

**MOTION** by Magner, supported by Berkheiser, to approve the Resolution of Resolution of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Commerce Determining to Undertake an Improvement Project and to Establish and Maintain a Special Assessment District to Pay Costs Associated Therewith and Approving the Plans and Estimates of Costs Therefore Special Projects No. 51, post and publish according to law.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved from ITEM 8:1-9 NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Application for a Class C Redevelopment Liquor License at 2215 Haggerty Road**

Clerk Creech received an application for a new liquor license from Enver Jusufi and Muharem Cazimi, (Skydrini, LLC) for 2215 Haggerty Road, Commerce Township.

Enver Jusufi, Applicant, explained the layout of the facility and the services offered at the restaurant.

Clerk Creech said the Health Department has not signed off on the application yet because they cannot inspect anything at this point.

**ITEM 8:1-9 NEW BUSINESS (Application for a Class C Redevelopment Liquor License at 2215 Haggerty Road continued)**

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Magner, to approve the Application for a Class C Redevelopment Liquor License by Skydrini, LLC for 2215 Haggerty Road, Commerce, Michigan 48390.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 4:1-9 BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

- A. Krystal Schwartz - Reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a 4-Year Term ending February 29, 2028.**

**MOTION** by Gray, supported by Berkheiser, to Reappoint Krystal Schwartz to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a 4-Year Term ending February 29, 2028.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 5:1-9 INTRODUCTIONS**

- A. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances to be Known as Code Amendment Ordinance No. 1.068 – International Property Maintenance Code**

John Kummer, Township Attorney, explained the Code Amendment Ordinance.

**MOTION** by Weber, supported by Berkheiser, to Introduce an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan to be Known as Code Amendment Ordinance No. 1.068, 2024 International Property Maintenance Code, post and publish according to law.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Weber, supported by Berkheiser, to Amend the Motion to include Introduction of the International Fire Code of 2024.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- B. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances to be Known as Code Amendment Ordinance No. 1.069 – Hardship Tax Exemptions**

John Kummer, Township Attorney, explained the Code Amendment Ordinance.

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Weber, to Introduce an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances, Charter Township of Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan to be Known as Code Amendment Ordinance No. 1.069, to offer the 50% and 100% reduction options and include a one year look back, post and publish according to law.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- C. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances to be Known as The Charter Township of Commerce Fee Ordinance No. 2.027**

John Kummer, Township Attorney, explained the Fee Ordinance.



**ITEM 5:1-9 INTRODUCTIONS (An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances to be Known as The Charter Township of Commerce Fee Ordinance No. 2.027 continued)**

**MOTION** by Weber, supported by Magner, to Introduce an Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 2.026 to be Known as The Charter Township of Commerce Fee Ordinance No. 2.027, post and publish according to law.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 6:1-9 PURCHASES**

**A. Fire Department Cardiac Monitor Equipment**

Jim Dundas, Fire Chief, is asking for approval to purchase two Lifepack 15 monitors (demo units) from Stryker.

**MOTION** by Creech, supported by Phillips, to approve the purchase of two (2) Lifepack 15 monitors (demo units) from Stryker (quote 10819009 dated 11-14-2023) at a cost not to exceed \$72,000. Funds to come from the Fire Department's 2024 Budget.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 7:1-9 OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Rental Inspection Program**

Jay James, KER Engineering, Inc., provided the Board with recommendations from the Rental Inspection Work Group consisting of two Board members, a Township resident that has rental properties in other communities, a Commerce Township renter and himself.

No action taken. This will be discussed during the next Township Board Quarterly meeting.

**ITEM 8:1-9 NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Application for a Class C Redevelopment Liquor License at 2215 Haggerty Road**

Moved before **ITEM 4:1-9 BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

**B. Intent Resolution for Island Club Sanitary Sewer Repair & Improvement  
SAD**

Jay James, Building Official, and Jason Mayer, Giffels Webster, said this will allow for repairs to the sanitary sewer system. The estimated construction cost by Giffels Webster is \$648,246.

**MOTION** by Gray, supported by Magner, to approve the Intent Resolution of The Township Board of The Charter Township of Commerce Tentatively Declaring Its Intention to Establish a Special Assessment District to be Known as Island Club Sanitary Sewer Repair & Improvement Special Assessment District.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 8:1-9 NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

**C. Resolution Adopting the Parks and Recreation Five Year Master Plan 2024-2028**

Emily England, Senior/Parks and Recreation Director, said the Parks and Recreation Committee recommends approval of the Master Plan. Leah Royer, livingLAB, gave a Powerpoint presentation of the Master Plan.

**MOTION** by Berkheiser, supported by Creech, to Adopt the Resolution of Adoption Commerce Township Board of Trustees Parks + Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. EV Study**

Supervisor Gray presented the 2023 EV Study results to the Board for their review.

No action taken

**ITEM 9:1-9 ORDERS**

**MOTION** by Weber, supported by Magner, to approve the Orders and Add Ons.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEM 10:1-9 OTHER MATTERS**

Treasurer Phillips –

- A check from Mr. Ferrebee, 5030 Winewood Ln, Commerce Township, MI, was sent to the Township, but never received, for partial restitution of money the Township spent on cleaning the exterior of his house. It was sent to the water tank which does not have a mail collection box and no one physically works there. It was returned to sender but there was no return address on the envelope. No one knows where the check is now. A motion to show cause was filed with the court.

Trustee Berkheiser –

- Would like to tour the Sheriff's Department new facility prior to the next Township Board meeting.

Trustee Weber –

- He said there is momentum behind a petition to repeal the legislation that gives the State power to approve wind and solar projects over local objection. Can the Township legally support this? John Kummer, Township Attorney, will research this and report his findings to the Board.
- He would like Ben Sebrowski, IT Director, to include all Township Board and Commission members in the testing for phishing because they all have Township email addresses.



**ITEM 10:1-9 OTHER MATTERS (continued)**

Supervisor Gray –

- He received more complaints about the potholes on Welch Rd. A representative from The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) called him today asking about using tri-party funds to repave Welch Rd. Trustees Magner and Berkheiser said Supervisor Gray was going to ask RCOC to repave Welch Rd instead of using tri-party funding because it is a county road.
- He previously sent all the intersections for study back to the RCOC. He also sent a follow up email to the contractor that will do the study. The contractor will provide him with cost for each intersection. RCOC will do the study for the intersection at South Commerce and Sleeth Rds.
- David Campbell, Planning Director, reached out to Danielle Deneau at the RCOC to discuss updating our traffic signals to the SCATS system. We will bid out the following: Oakley Park and Welch Rds,(bid 2024 for 2025 construction), Oakley Park and Newton Rds (bid 2024 for 2025 construction), Oakley Park and South Commerce Rds northbound and southbound (bid 2024 for 2025 construction), Carroll Lake and Wise Rds (bid 2025 for 2026 construction), and, Martin and Richardson Rds (bid 2024 for 2025 construction)
- He will meet with a representative from Walled Lake Schools on January 16, 2024 to discuss contract language for Oakland County Sheriff's Department Liason.

**ITEM 11:1-9 ADJOURNMENT**

As there were no other matters to come before the Board.

**MOTION** by Phillips, supported by Creech, to adjourn at 9:06 a.m.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Charter Township of Commerce

**Resolution of Adoption**  
**Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee**  
**Parks + Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028**

WHEREAS, the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee is responsible for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities and activities in Commerce Township, Oakland County, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the Committee has made investigations and surveys of the existing recreation resources and probable future need for recreation facilities and services through the development of a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the period 2024-2028; and,

WHEREAS, the Master Plan was developed with citizen input via an Opinion Survey in June/August 2023 of 640 individuals, input gathered at events in July 2023, discussions at Committee Meetings in August, September, and October 2023, and a Public Hearing on December 18, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, once approved by the Township Board and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Commerce Township will be eligible for state and federal grant funding administered by the MDNR; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee, hereby adopts the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028 to serve as a guide for future parks and recreation development and activities in Commerce Township.

Ayes: Berkheiser, Schwartz, Krueger, Petsch, Waterworth, Vecellio

Nays: none

Absent: Walker

Adopted: December 18, 2023

I, William Petsch, Vice- Chair of the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee, Commerce Township, Oakland County, Michigan do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Committee at its Regular Meeting held on December 18, 2023.



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William Petsch, Vice- Chair  
Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee  
Commerce Township





**Resolution of Adoption  
Commerce Township Board of Trustees  
Parks + Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028**

WHEREAS, the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Committee is responsible for the development and maintenance of recreational facilities and activities in Commerce Township, Oakland County, Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the Committee has made investigations and surveys of the existing recreation resources and probable future need for recreation facilities and services through the development of a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the period 2024-2028; and,

WHEREAS, the Master Plan was developed with citizen input via an Opinion Survey in June/August 2023 of 640 individuals, input gathered at events in July 2023, discussions at Committee Meetings in August, September, and October 2023, and a Public Hearing on December 18, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, once approved by the Township Board and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Commerce Township will be eligible for state and federal grant funding administered by the MDNR; and,

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Committee adopted the Parks and Recreation Master Plan by Resolution on December 18, 2023; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commerce Township Board of Trustees, hereby adopts the Commerce Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028 to serve as a guide for future parks and recreation development and activities in Commerce Township.

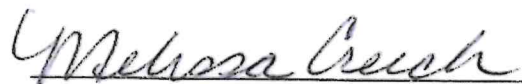
Ayes: Creech, Phillips, Gray, Berkheiser, Magner, Weber

Nays: None

Absent: Sovel

Adopted: January 9, 2024

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk, Charter Township of Commerce, Oakland County, Michigan do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Board at its Regular Meeting held on January 9, 2024.



Melissa Creech, Clerk  
Charter Township of Commerce









