

FRENCHTOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

2023 - 2027



Draft for Public Review
October 2022

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Frenchtown Township Board of Trustees

Alan VanWashenova, Supervisor

Kyle Bryant, Clerk

Julie Ellison, Treasurer

Christiaan Carlton, Trustee

Chris Collins, Trustee

Gary Klemz, Trustee

Matt Rimel, Trustee

Frenchtown Township Planning Commission

Paul Thoma, Chair

Dennis Staelgraeve, Vice-Chair

Hillary Venier, Secretary

Don Abrams

Brian Dotson

Fred Calkins, Zoning Board of Appeals Representative

Chris Collins, Board Representative

Frenchtown Township Recreation Commission

Mary Kittle

Theresa Sonoras

Tom Friar

Cassandra Booms

Julie Ellison, Board Representative

Township Staff

Phil Coyle, Recreation Director



Assisted by The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
INTRODUCTION	
Planning Process	1
Plan Organization	2
COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION	
Regional Setting	3
Population, Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics.....	4
Population Growth.....	4
Population Distribution.....	4
Age	5
Housing	5
Economic Characteristics	6
Environmental and Physical Conditions	7
Existing Land Use.....	8
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE	11
PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY	
Regional Parks	13
Non-Motorized Plans for the Region	16
Parks Located in Frenchtown	21
Frenchtown Township Parks	21
Monroe County Parks	28
State Park	28
Public Schools.....	28
Subdivision Neighborhood Parks	28
Private Parks and Recreation Facilities	28
Recreation Programs.....	29
Accessibility Assessment and Grant Assisted Projects.....	31
NEEDS ASSESSMENT	
Park Acreage Comparison	33
National and State Recreation Trends	34
2022 City of Monroe Parks and Trails Survey.....	36
2022 Township Parks and Recreation Survey	38
Community Park Visitation	38
Suggested Park Improvements	38
New Parks Facilities and Recreation Amenity Preference	39
New Recreation Program Preference	39
Community Park and Recreation System Improvements	40
Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Improvements.....	40
Respondents Demographics	40
Community Park Suggested Improvements.....	41
Key Findings and Conclusions	44
Existing Park Upkeep.....	44
New Park Development	44

Table of Contents

Path and Trail Development	44
Recreation Programming	44
Administration and Operation	44
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	
1. Park Upkeep.....	45
2. Park Development.....	45
3. Bicycle and Pedestrian Network	46
4. Recreation Programming	46
5. Administration and Operational	46
ACTION PROGRAM	
Desired Improvements.....	47
1. Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities (all parks)	47
2. Maintain and improve Kiwanis Park	48
3. Maintain and improve Township Hall Park.....	49
4. Maintain and improve Township Park #3	50
5. Develop Township Municipal Complex.....	51
6. Promote the development of a Township-wide bike and pedestrian network.....	52
7. Continue to assess opportunities for future park land acquisition.....	55
8. Maintain and enhance high quality programs and services	55
9. Provide for the efficient administration of parks.....	55
Implementation Strategies.....	56
Apply for Federal Funding.....	56
Apply for State Funding.....	56
Apply for Other Grant Funding	56
Increase Support for Parks.....	57
Seek Other Sources of Funding	57
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION	
Community Survey	61
Plan Adoption Documentation.....	73
Notice of Draft Plan Availability for Public Review and Public Hearings.....	75
Minutes of Public Hearings	76
Recreation Commission Resolution	77
Township Board of Trustees Resolution	78
Letters of Transmittal.....	79



LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1. Planning Process	1
Figure 2. Regional Setting	3
Figure 3. Population Trends and Projections, 1950 - 2045.....	4
Figure 4. 2020 Population Distribution by Block Groups.....	4
Figure 5. Older Adults Population Age 65 and Over	5
Figure 6. Youth Population Under 18	5
Figure 7. Natural Features	7
Figure 8. Existing Land Use	9
Figure 9. Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation - Organizational Chart.....	11
Figure 10. Regional Parks.....	15
Figure 11. Monroe County Trail and Bicycle Network	16
Figure 12. Parks within Frenchtown Township.....	17
Figure 13. Community Park Service Area	34
Figure 14. Neighborhood Park Service Area.....	34
Figure 15. Kiwanis Park Suggested Improvements.....	48
Figure 16. Township Hall Park Suggested Improvements	49
Figure 17. Township Park #3 Suggested Improvements.....	50
Figure 18. Township Municipal Park Suggested Improvements.....	51
Figure 19. Frenchtown Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan	53
Table 1. Housing Value (in 2019 dollars)	6
Table 2. 2020 Existing Land Use	8
Table 3. 2010 Land Cover	8
Table 4. Frenchtown Township 2022 Parks and Recreation Budget	12
Table 5. Regional Parks.....	13
Table 6. Parks Within Frenchtown Township	19
Table 7. Recreation Programs in Frenchtown	29
Table 8. Accessibility Assessment.....	31
Table 9. Grant History.....	32
Table 10. Comparison to Suggested Park Land Acreage Standards	33
Table 11. National Sports Participation, 2020	35
Table 12. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities by Percent Participation in Michigan, 2017	35
Table 13. Top Trails, Walkways, or Roads Used by Frenchtown Township Residents around Monroe	36
Table 14. Preferences for Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements.....	37
Table 15. Park Improvement Suggestions	42

INTRODUCTION

Recreation and parks are important to the residents of Frenchtown Charter Township and the Township's Recreation Commission. Since 1970, when the Frenchtown Recreation Commission was first formed, concerted efforts have been made to assure that the recreational needs of the community are being met. The first recreation plan for Frenchtown Township was prepared in 1971 and included both long range and short-range goals, many of which were accomplished in the following years. Updated plans were subsequently prepared approximately every five years.

The current Parks and Recreation Master Plan builds on the ideas set forth in the previous plans and articulates a vision for the Township's parks and recreation system. It provides the Township with a roadmap and a guide to develop the parks through 2027 and beyond. The Plan is also intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to remain eligible for grant programs.

PLANNING PROCESS

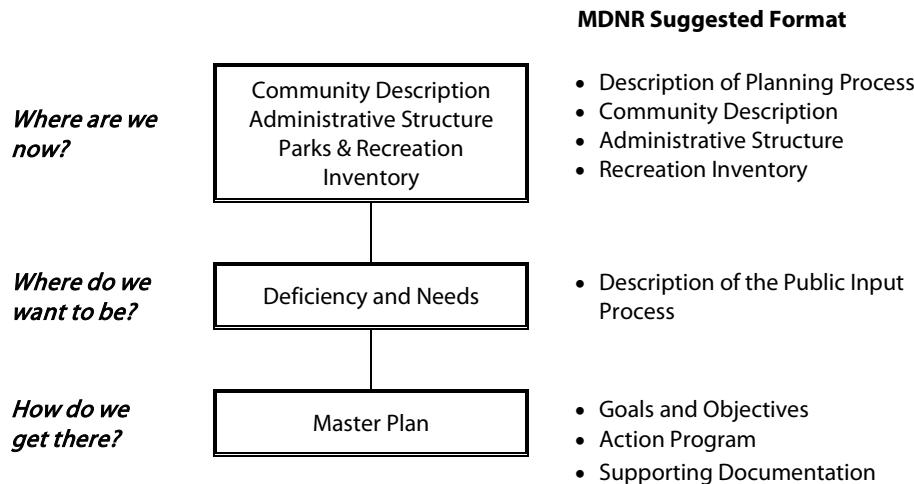
The process used to generate the Plan consists of three major phases, which are described below.

1. **Where are we now?** This phase involves a review of demographics and the community to provide a basis for the planning process. In this phase, Township parks and facilities are inventoried and mapped to document existing resources and begin to assess their conditions. The information is organized into three main categories: community description, administrative structure, and parks and recreation inventory.
2. **Where do we want to be?** The second phase in the planning process consists of an analysis of the Township's parks and recreation system to determine deficiencies and needs. A public engagement effort was initiated to solicit ideas and suggestions from the community about their parks and recreation preferences. Public participation was sought through an online questionnaire and public meetings. Input was also solicited from Township officials and staff.
3. **How do we get there?** Once needs are identified, the final phase involves developing an action plan to support the community's vision for the parks and recreation system and provide for park planning and development projects. Recommended projects are summarized in a capital improvement plan, including strategies for implementation. This phase also includes preparation of a full draft of the Plan, which is presented to the Recreation Commission as well as the public for review and comment prior to adoption by the Frenchtown Township Board of Trustees.

Figure 1. Planning Process



The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) suggested format.



PLAN ORGANIZATION

The Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the MDNR *Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans* (2021). It begins with a **Description of the Planning Process**, which was used to develop the plan. The plan then presents a **Community Description**, providing information on both the social and physical characteristics of the community. The Township **Administrative Structure** is next described, including information on budget and funding. A detailed **Inventory of Parks and Recreation** follows this section and describes the existing recreational facilities located in and around Frenchtown as well as the recreation programs offered to Township residents. The **Needs Assessment and Public Input Process** section presents the basis for an action program including park land comparison, park condition, recreation trends and input received from Township officials, staff and residents, which helped in formulating the plan's **Goals and Objectives**. The **Action Program** then provides an action plan and strategies for implementation. Finally, the **Supporting Documentation** section includes the resolutions and notices documenting the plan's adoption by the Frenchtown Charter Township Board of Trustees.

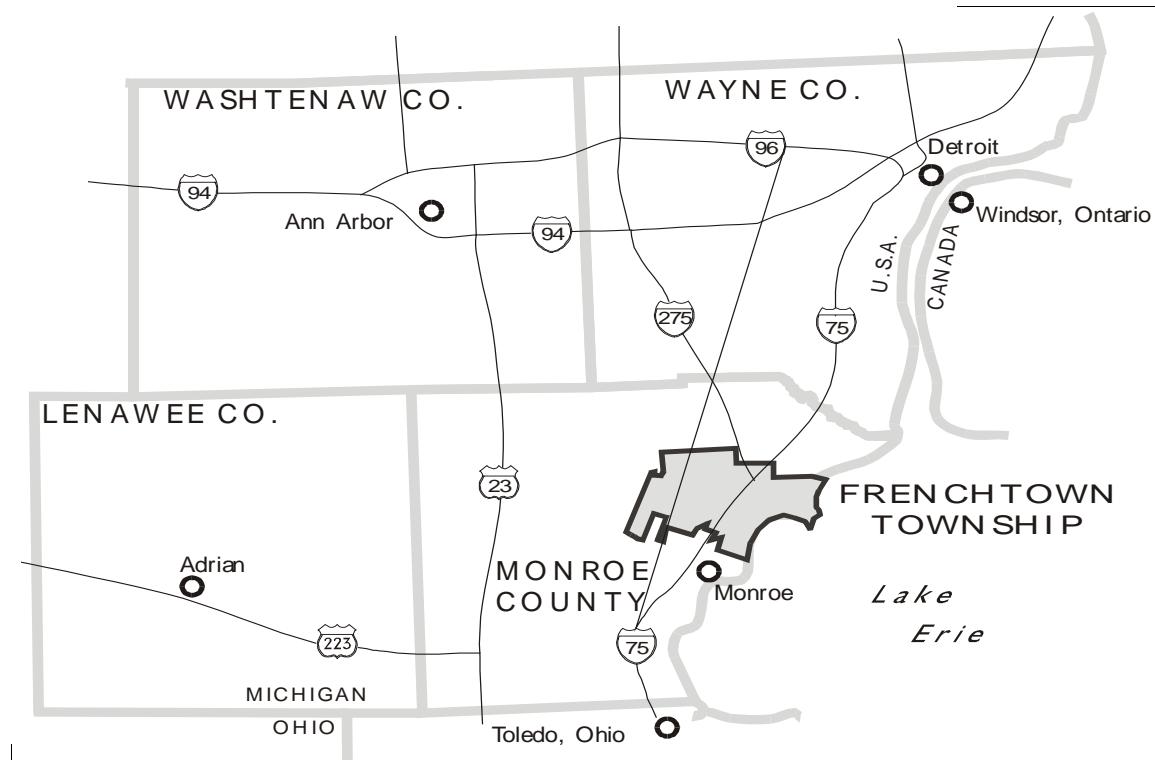
COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Frenchtown Township is a community located in eastern Monroe County, Michigan, on the shores of Lake Erie. It is bordered on the south by the City of Monroe, on the west by Raisinville Township, and on the north by Berlin and Ash Townships.

REGIONAL SETTING

Frenchtown's location provides its residents with the advantages of living in a rural environment with easy access of major metropolitan areas. Within a 30-minute drive of Frenchtown are the City of Monroe, the downriver communities of Wayne County, the Huron River, and the cities of Detroit and Toledo, as well as the Detroit Metropolitan Airport. Easy access to major transportation corridors (US-24, I-75, and I-275) gives area residents a variety of choices in terms of employment, shopping, and recreation. Figure 2 illustrates the geographic location of Frenchtown Township in relation to surrounding areas.

Figure 2. Regional Setting



The 5-year estimates of the American Community Survey (ACS) identified the mean travel time to work for Township residents at approximately 23 minutes, with over 21 percent of residents commuting within the Township, 21 percent to the City of Monroe, and 7 percent to Monroe Township. The others are going to other areas including Ann Arbor, Detroit, and Toledo.

POPULATION, DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

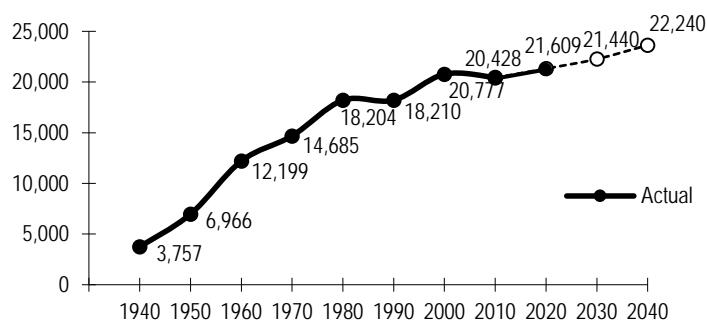
According to the most recent US Census, the population of Frenchtown Charter Township was 21,609 in 2020. This represents a slight increase from the 2010 Census population of 20,428 (5.8% change). The number of households increased at a higher rate (11%) from 7,958 in 2010 to 8,836 in 2020.

The following figures provide a snapshot of Frenchtown's demographics, with information from the most recent available Census survey for general population data, social and economic profiles, and housing characteristics. Understanding the current demographics of the community being planned for and the resources it has to offer is the foundation of a well-devised Master Plan.

Population Growth

Frenchtown has experienced steady growth from 3,757 in 1950 to today's population of 21,609. This trend continues to maintain Frenchtown as the third-most populated municipality in Monroe County after Bedford Township and the City of Monroe. By 2045, the Township with an estimated population of 22,240 is projected to be the second largest community in Monroe County.

Figure 3. Population Trends and Projections, 1950 - 2045



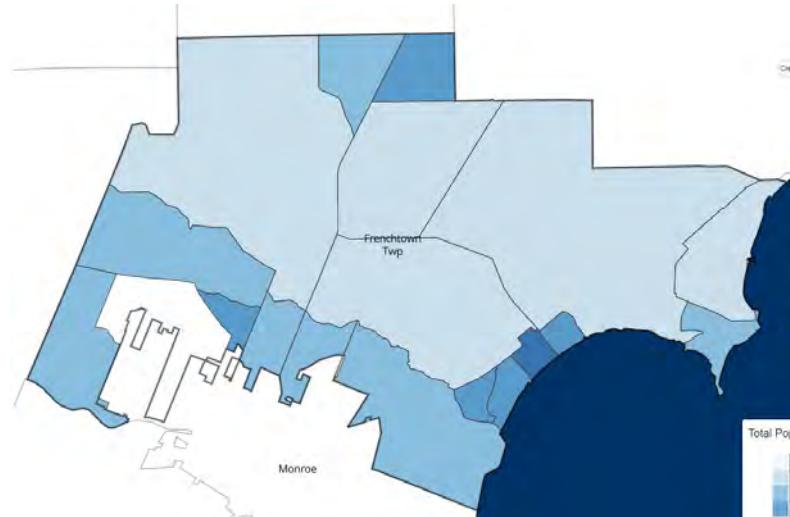
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020, and SEMCOG Community Profiles.

Population Distribution

Based on Census 2020 data, the largest number of residents are located along Lake Erie and in areas bordering the City of Monroe. The northern area of the Township is still primarily rural and contains less residents. Two noteworthy observations on the population distribution:

- Approximately 1/3 of the population lives on the Lake Erie side of a line connecting Dixie Highway and Pointe Aux Peaux Road.
- Approximately 1/3 of the population also lives in areas adjacent to the City of Monroe on the south side of a line connecting Bluebush Road and Sandy Creek.

Figure 4. 2020 Population Distribution by Block Groups



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020, and SEMCOG Community Profiles.

Age

One of the most significant demographic trend in Frenchtown Township as well as in Monroe County and the southeast Michigan region as a whole is the change in age composition with the aging of the population.

In 2010, 2,104 persons or 14.4 percent of Township residents were age 65 or better. By 2019, this number had increased to 2,673 persons, or 18.8 percent of Township residents. By 2045, it is expected that 29 percent (4,300 persons) of the population will be in this age category.

In contrast, the percentage of Township residents under the age of 18 saw a decrease from 4,737 to 4,167 between 2010 and 2019, a decline of 570 residents or 12 percent of residents. This number, however, is expected to stay relatively stable to 2045.

Monroe County and the southeast Michigan region also saw decreases in the number of residents under 18 during the same time. Since 2000, Monroe County has seen a total decrease of 6.9 percent of residents age 19 and below while the southeast Michigan region saw a 3.7 percent decrease.

The fastest growing segment of the population is and will continue to be seniors. This is likely to have an impact on housing, employment, education, public services, health care, transportation and many other lifestyle aspects, which affect parks and recreation services.

Housing

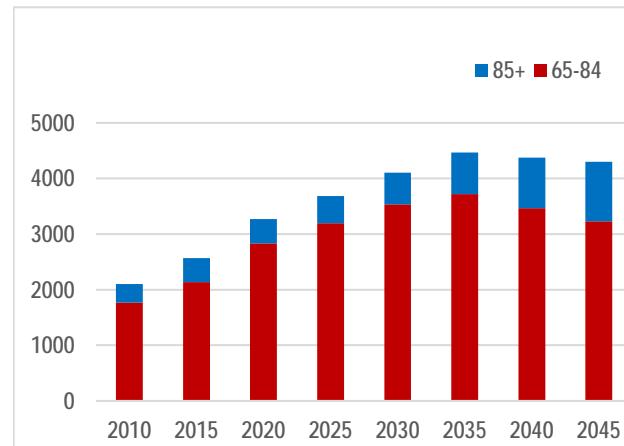
Frenchtown Township existing residential land uses consist mostly of single-family homes. According to the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the estimated percentage for residential land use included 69 percent of single-family homes in 2019 (6,143 units), while multi-family units made up 18 percent (1,568 units) and manufactured homes included 13 percent (1,154 units).

Residential growth in Monroe County has been generally experiencing steady growth since 2010. Similarly, Frenchtown Township also exhibited growth with an increase of 320 single-family units between 2010 and 2019.

Most residents of Frenchtown Township live in the units that they own. The American Community Survey indicated that in 2019, 67 percent of Frenchtown Township residents owned their residences while 26 percent of residents rented. The remainder, approximately 6 percent, included seasonal/migrant or vacant units.

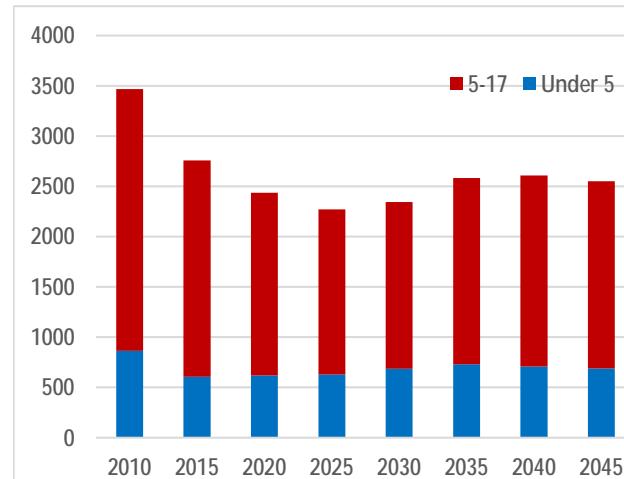
In 2010, the median housing value in Frenchtown (in 2010 dollars) was \$175,739. By 2019, the median housing value fell to \$136,700 – a decrease of 22 percent. Meanwhile, the median gross rent decreased 14 percent from

Figure 5. Older Adults Population Age 65 and Over



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020, and SEMCOG Community Profiles.

Figure 6. Youth Population Under 18



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020, and SEMCOG Community Profiles.

Community Description

\$979 in 2010 to \$846 in 2019. Table 1 below, depicts the decline of housing value from 2010 to 2019. The decrease in Frenchtown's median housing value was more substantial than that of Monroe County or the southeast Michigan region as a whole. A decline in median gross rent was also experienced in Frenchtown Township, which was more than that of Monroe County and southeast Michigan.

Table 1. Housing Value (in 2019 dollars)

	Median Housing Value		Change	Median Gross Rent		Change
	2010	2019		2010	2020	
Frenchtown Township	\$175,739	\$136,700	-\$39,039	\$979	\$846	-\$133
Monroe County	\$198,982	\$161,700	-\$37,282	\$901	\$834	-\$67
Southeast Michigan	\$200,003	\$174,000	-\$26,003	\$975	\$955	-\$20

Source: US Census Bureau, Census 2000, and American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Economic Characteristics

Frenchtown Township has a wide variety of employment opportunities. According to SEMCOG's Community Profile, there were 11,021 jobs in Frenchtown in 2020, an increase from previous years. Frenchtown Township is experiencing growth in its employment base, especially about jobs in the Healthcare Services sector. According to SEMCOG 2045 Regional Development Forecast, the Healthcare Services sector will continue to see the largest increase in its share of the job market from 2020 to 2045.

According to the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the 2019 median household income for Frenchtown Township residents was \$53,103, approximately 13 percent lower than the 2010 figure.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

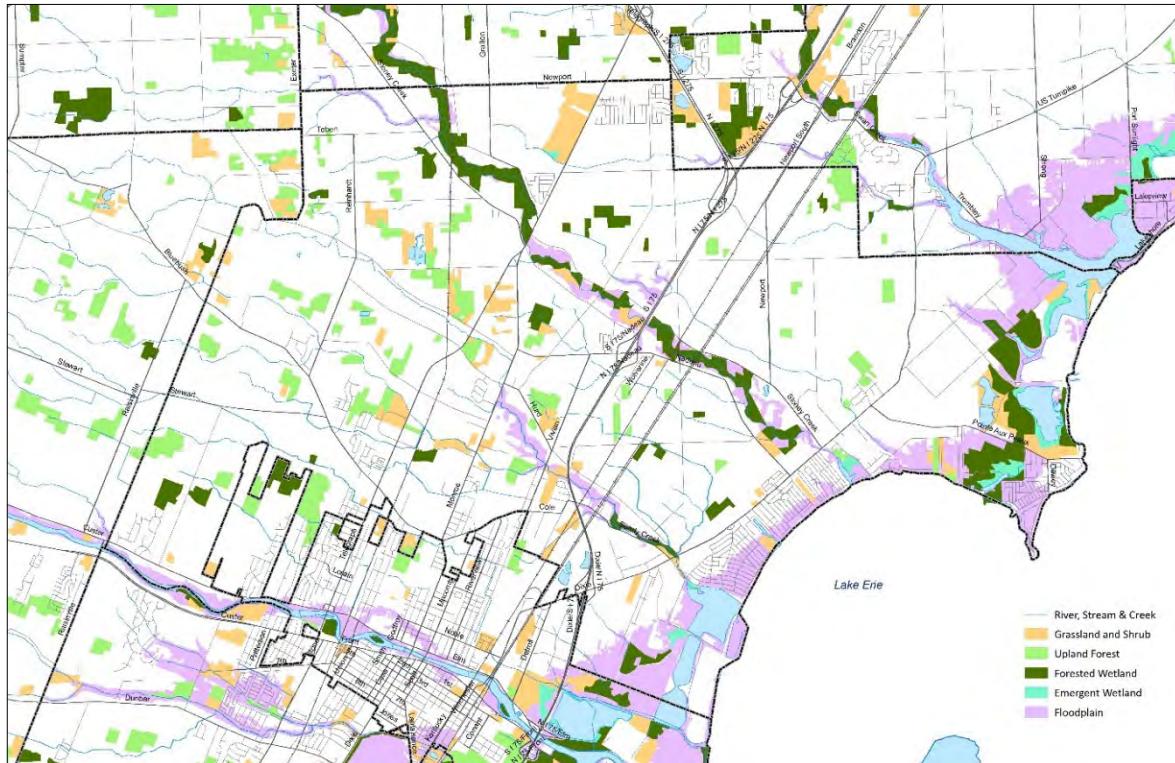
The natural features of Frenchtown Township have played a major role in influencing growth and development. As much of Michigan's southern Lower Peninsula, the Township's landscape was formed through glacial action. The movement of the glaciers shaped the topography and created many different types of soils. Plant communities, in turn, developed in response to soil conditions.

Frenchtown Township is located in an area which is characterized by flat topography, fertile soils, and numerous small rivers, creeks, and drains. The most significant natural feature in Frenchtown is Lake Erie. With approximately 10 miles of shoreline, Lake Erie offers residents a variety of water-based recreational opportunities, including fishing, boating, and swimming. The Township also has almost two miles of shoreline on the River Raisin. Other major water bodies include Sandy Creek and Stony Creek, both of which drain into Lake Erie. Both of these creeks are associated with forested floodplains, which, because these areas are not well suited for either farming, or housing, have resulted in long, narrow natural areas in the Township. These stream corridors have the potential to serve as wildlife habitat and corridor, natural areas, linear parks, or recreational trails.

As mentioned, forested areas in the Township consist primarily of lowland hardwood forests (elm-ash-maple) located in floodplains and along streams. Upland hardwood forests (oak-hickory) are present in higher elevations and on better-drained soils. Forested areas can be attractive settings for parks, picnic areas, or nature preserves. About 20 percent of Frenchtown's land cover is made up of trees and forested land.

Frenchtown Township's position on the shores of Lake Erie has a moderating effect on the local climate, which may result in a slightly longer season than most other Michigan communities.

Figure 7. Natural Features



Source: MIRIS and updated FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map data

EXISTING LAND USE

According to the existing land use/land cover data and map, about half of the Township is classified as rural residential or agricultural land (52%), with single/multi-family/manufactured home residential at approximately 10 percent, industrial/utility uses at 8 percent, retail/office/mixed uses at 3 percent, institutional/medical/hospitality at 2 percent, and recreation/open space/golf course making up 7 percent. Approximately 15 percent of the land is classified as vacant or not parceled and 2 percent as water.

Overall, based on 2010 aerial photographs, 66 percent of the Township's land cover is open space and 20 percent woodlands, with the remainder (14%) primarily impervious (i.e., buildings, roads, and parking lots) or including small bare areas and water bodies.

Table 2. 2020 Existing Land Use

Land Use	Acres	Percent	Land Use	Acres	Percent
Agricultural/Rural Residential	14,428.4	52.4%	Institutional	322.7	1.3%
Single-family Residential	2,410.3	8.8%	Industrial	279.5	1.2%
Attached Condominium	18.0	0.0%	Recreation & Open Space	1,275.4	4.6%
Multiple-family Residential	113.7	0.4%	Golf Course	555.1	2.0%
Mobile Home	298.2	1.1%	Parking	3.4	0%
Mixed Use	158.3	0.6%	Transportation, Communication & Utility	1993	7.2%
Retail & Office	647.1	2.4%	Vacant	3,183.5	11.6%
Hospitality	62.9	0.2%	Water	651.9	2.4%
Medical	218.6	0.8%	Not Parceled	903.2	3.3%
Total				27,523.2	100%

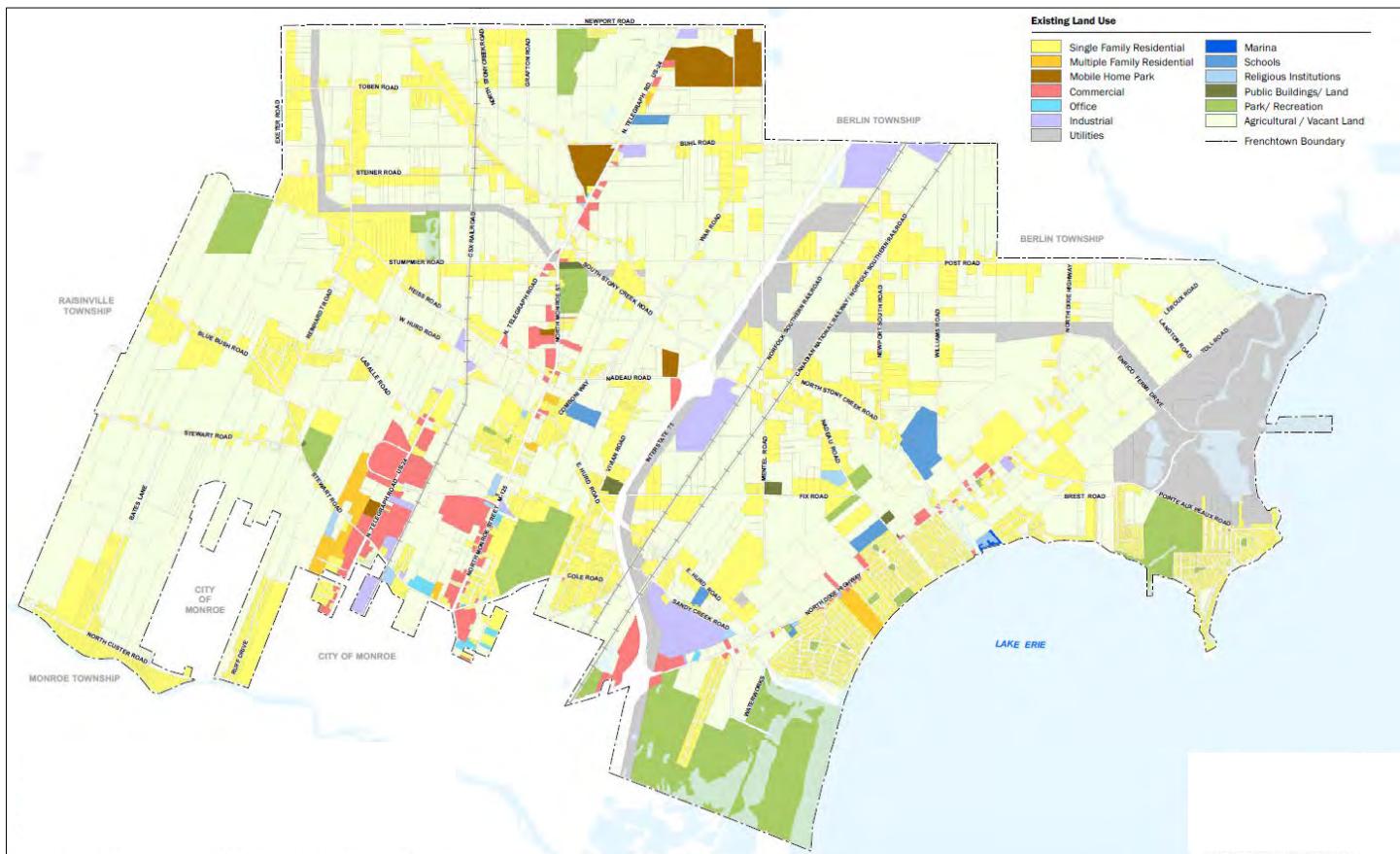
Source: 2020 SEMCOG Land Use/Cover data.

Table 3. 2010 Land Cover

Type	Description	Acres	Percent
Impervious	Buildings, roads, driveways & parking lots	2,657.8	9.6%
Trees	Woody vegetation & trees	5,501	19.9%
Open Space	Agricultural fields, grasslands & turf grass	18,308.5	66.3%
Bare	Soil, aggregate piles & unplanted fields	319.7	1.2%
Water	Rivers, lakes, drains & ponds	847.3	3.1%
Total		27,523.2	100%

Source: SEMCOG Land Use/Cover data. (Derived from 2010 imagery)

Note: Acreages are approximate and for planning purposes only.

Figure 8. Existing Land Use

Source: 2017 Frenchtown Township Master Plan.

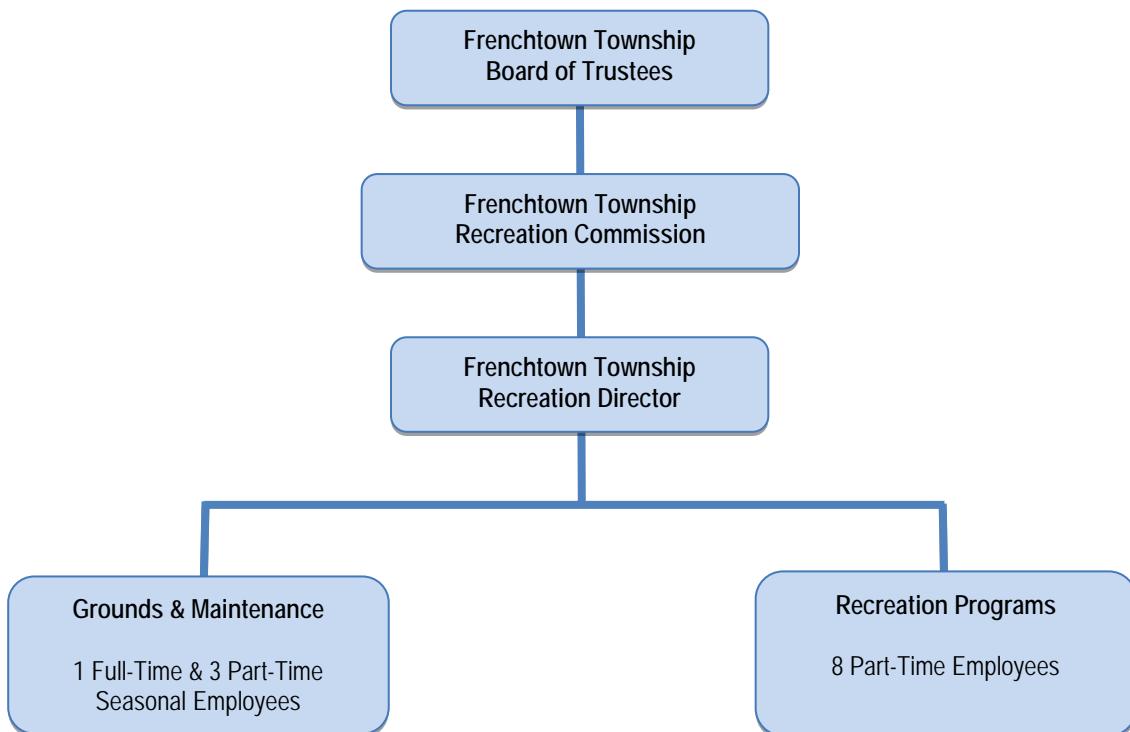
Community Description

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The Frenchtown Township Board of Trustees established the Frenchtown Township Recreation Commission on September 22, 1970 in accordance with Public Act 156 of 1917. The Commission consists of five members: four are appointed from Township residents and one is a Township Board representative. Traditionally one member represents the Jefferson School Board because the school district and the township have a history of close cooperation on recreational facilities and programming.

The Township Board's role is to allocate funding and resources to the Recreation Commission. The Commission is responsible for establishing park rules and policies, for maintaining the Township's parks and recreation facilities and for planning for future recreational needs. The Recreation Commission meets once every two months.

Figure 9. Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation - Organizational Chart



The Township Board appoints a Recreation Director following a recommendation from the Township Hiring Committee and the Recreation Commission. The Director hires personnel as necessary, with Township approval, to operate the programs and maintain the park facilities. The number of staff varies from four to six part-time employees and approximately eight part-time people hired for maintenance and for a variety of programs. Volunteer park workers have occasionally provided enhancements and maintenance of the Township parks.

Parks and Recreation is funded entirely through the Township's general fund in addition to grants and donations. The adopted budget for 2022 totaled \$471,050.00. The parks and recreation budget is listed in Table 4 on the next page.

Table 4. Frenchtown Township 2022 Parks and Recreation Budget

General Fund Number	Description	Amount
Dept. 751	GENERAL PARKS & RECREATION	
101-751-703.009	Recreation Director	\$ 25,000
101-751-704.009	Grounds Supervisor	\$ 40,000
101-751-707.009	Recreation Temporary Help	\$ 85,000
101-751-709.000	Overtime	\$ 3,000
101-751-725.009	Recreation Commission Board	\$ 1,000
101-751-740.000	Supplies	\$ 15,000
101-751-740.001	Gas	\$ 7,000
101-751-740.004	Youth Ball	\$ 14,000
101-751-740.005	Designated Donations/Expenditures	\$ 400
101-751-740.009	Adult Recreation	\$ 7,000
101-751-826.000	Legal	\$ 750
101-751-850.000	Telephone	\$ 1,000
101-751-860.000	Travel	\$ 400
101-751-920.000	Utilities	\$ 5,000
101-751-928.000	Park Lighting	\$ 2,000
101-751-931.000	Maint/Project Costs	\$ 50,000
101-751-933.000	Equipment Maintenance	\$ 4,000
101-751-959.000	Cont. To Other Communities	\$ 500
101-751-971.000	Land	\$ 100,000
101-751-976.009	Park Development	\$ 50,000
101-751-977.000	Capital Outlay/Equipment	\$ 60,000
Total		\$ 471,050

The Recreation Commission maintains a close relationship with the Jefferson School District, which has a recreation center. Township residents participate in recreational programs offered by the three school districts, which are (in part) located within the Township (Airport, Jefferson, and Monroe). Members of the Frenchtown Center for Active Adults are eligible for membership in the Jefferson Recreation Center, which is normally open only to residents of the district. Residents may also participate in organized leagues, sports programs, and other recreational activities through a variety of local organizations and private facilities, including the Monroe Area Soccer Association, the Monroe Family YMCA, Catholic Youth Organization, and the Monroe Golf and Country Club.

PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY

The residents of Frenchtown Township have access to a wide variety of parks, recreational facilities, and programs. This chapter provides a description of these parks and recreation programs. Table 5 and 6 present the inventory of all the regional and local recreational facilities within a reasonable driving distance from Frenchtown Township and Figures 10 and 12 depict their location.

REGIONAL PARKS

A variety of regional recreational facilities and opportunities are available to residents of Frenchtown Township. These parks generally are large facilities with a large service area and provide opportunities for camping, swimming, boating, hiking, golf and other activities, which are generally beyond the ability of a local community to provide.

Monroe County manages five county parks totaling more than 221 acres of land including natural habitat, river access, trails, walkways, picnic areas, playgrounds, and other amenities. The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority operates 13 Metroparks totaling 23,630 acres just north of the Township. Facilities and activities provided by the Metroparks include nature trails, interpretive centers, picnic areas, swimming beaches, boating, golf, cross-country skiing, and other activities aimed primarily at serving a regional population base. The Toledo area also runs a Metropolitan Park District consisting of seven regional parks and two greenspace parks in the northwest Ohio area.

The United States government owns and operates two important outdoor recreation facilities in proximity to Frenchtown Township: the River Raisin National Battlefield Park and the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. The refuge encompasses a large area including islands, coastal wetlands, marshes, shoals, and waterfront lands, which extends along 48 miles of Lake Erie shoreline that includes all of Monroe County's Lake Erie coastal areas. The River Raisin National Battlefield Park site is being developed and currently includes a Visitor Center, reenactment zone, and the beginning of a recreated French Town settlement. The Heritage Trail connects this site to the City of Monroe and to Frenchtown Township via Sterling State Park.

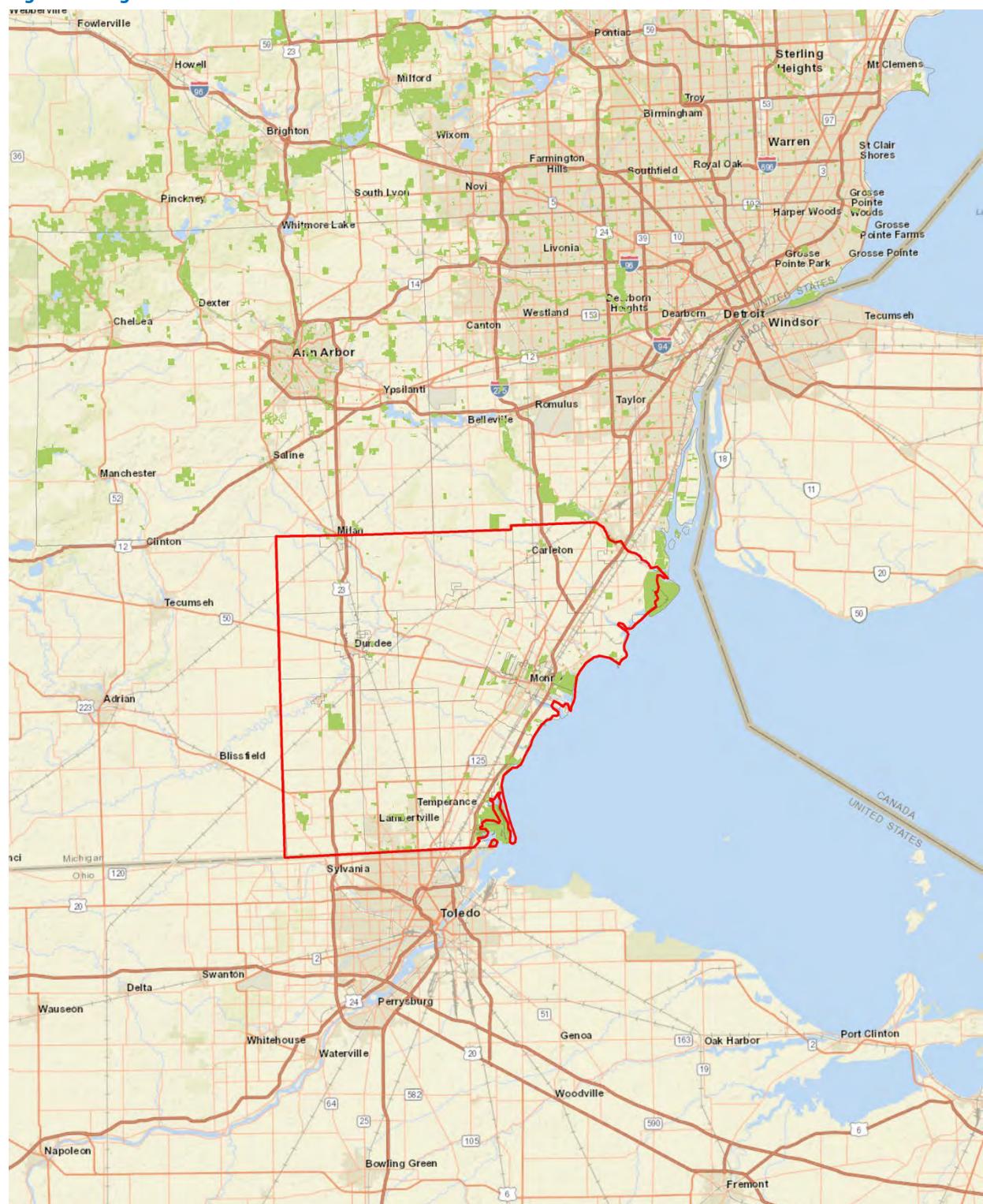
The State of Michigan facilities around Frenchtown Township includes Sterling State Park and the State game areas of Erie, Petersburg, and Pointe Mouillée, as well as many lake and river public access sites. The three State Game Areas offer hunting and fishing, as well as opportunities for hiking and nature study.

Additional recreational facilities in the area which serve a regional and national market include: Cedar Point amusement park, Greenfield Village, the Detroit and Toledo zoos, and Belle Isle.

Table 5. Regional Parks

Park	Location	Acres
Federal Land		
Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge	Erie, Berlin & Frenchtown Twp., Monroe County	6,000
River Raisin National Battlefield Park	City of Monroe, Monroe County	40
Michigan State Parks & State Game Areas		
Sterling State Park	City of Monroe & Frenchtown Twp, Monroe County	1,300
W.J. Hayes State Park	Washtenaw, Lenawee, Jackson Counties	654
Cambridge State Historic Park	Lenawee County	183
Lake Hudson Recreation Area	Lenawee County	2,650
Crystal Water State Game Area	London Township, Monroe County	
Erie State Game Area	Erie Township, Monroe County	1,000+

Park	Location	Acres
Petersburg State Game Area	Summerfield Township, Monroe County	935
Pointe Mouillee State Game Area	Berlin Township, Monroe County	1,000+
Huron-Clinton Metroparks		
Lake Erie Metropark	Brownstown Township, Wayne County	1,571
Oakwoods Metropark	Huron Township, Wayne County	1,756
Willow Metropark	Huron Township, Wayne County	1,531
Lower Huron Metropark	City of Belleville, Wayne County	1,256
Monroe County Parks		
Waterloo Park	Monroe Township, Monroe County	9
Heck Park	Frenchtown Township, Monroe County	15
Nike Park	Frenchtown Township, Monroe County	80
Territorial Park	Raisinville Township, Monroe County	5.6
Vienna Park	Bedford Township, Monroe County	57
West County Park	Dundee Township, Monroe County	57
Toledo Metropolitan Parks		
Bend View	Lucas County, Ohio	50
Farnsworth	Lucas County, Ohio	65
Oak Openings	Lucas County, Ohio	3,700
Pearson	Lucas County, Ohio	320
Providence	Lucas County, Ohio	300
Secor	Lucas County, Ohio	500
Side Cut	Lucas County, Ohio	210
Swan Creek	Lucas County, Ohio	412
Wildwood Preserve	Lucas County, Ohio	460
Toledo-Lucas County Recreational Facilities		
Lucas County Recreational Center	Lucas County, Ohio	88
Toledo Zoological Park	City of Toledo, Ohio	33
Walbridge Park	City of Toledo, Ohio	72
Ottawa Park	City of Toledo, Ohio	312
Nona France Whitehouse	Lucas County, Ohio	200
Ohio State Parks		
Maumee Bay State Park	Lucas County, Ohio	1,200

Figure 10. Regional Parks

NON-MOTORIZED PLANS FOR THE REGION

The Monroe County Trail and Bicycle Plan sets a vision for providing a safe network of trails and bicycle routes linking Monroe County communities and regional destinations. The County Trail and Bicycle Plan provides a framework for a countywide trail and bike system and a direction for the implementation of countywide trail and bicycle accommodations throughout the County, including Frenchtown Township.

The Trail and Bicycle Plan focuses on a countywide network to connect to other, regional and local corridors or systems. Considering national, state, and regional existing and planned systems traversing Monroe County along with the County's important regional destinations together and within the context of the current and proposed initiatives taking place in Monroe County, the following key connections and segments having relevance to Frenchtown Township can be distinguished.

1. The River Raisin Heritage Trail continued extension known as the Monroe Loop Trail along N. Custer Road in Frenchtown Township circling back to the City of Monroe south of the River Raisin by way of Raisinville Road and South Seventh Street;
2. The Sterling State Park levee stabilization and trail repair;
3. The Cornerstone bicycle route connecting the County's villages and small towns going through Frenchtown; and
4. North Dixie Highway closing the north-south regional gap to the Downriver Greenways in Wayne County and to the Michigan Iron-Belle Trail.

Figure 11. Monroe County Trail and Bicycle Network

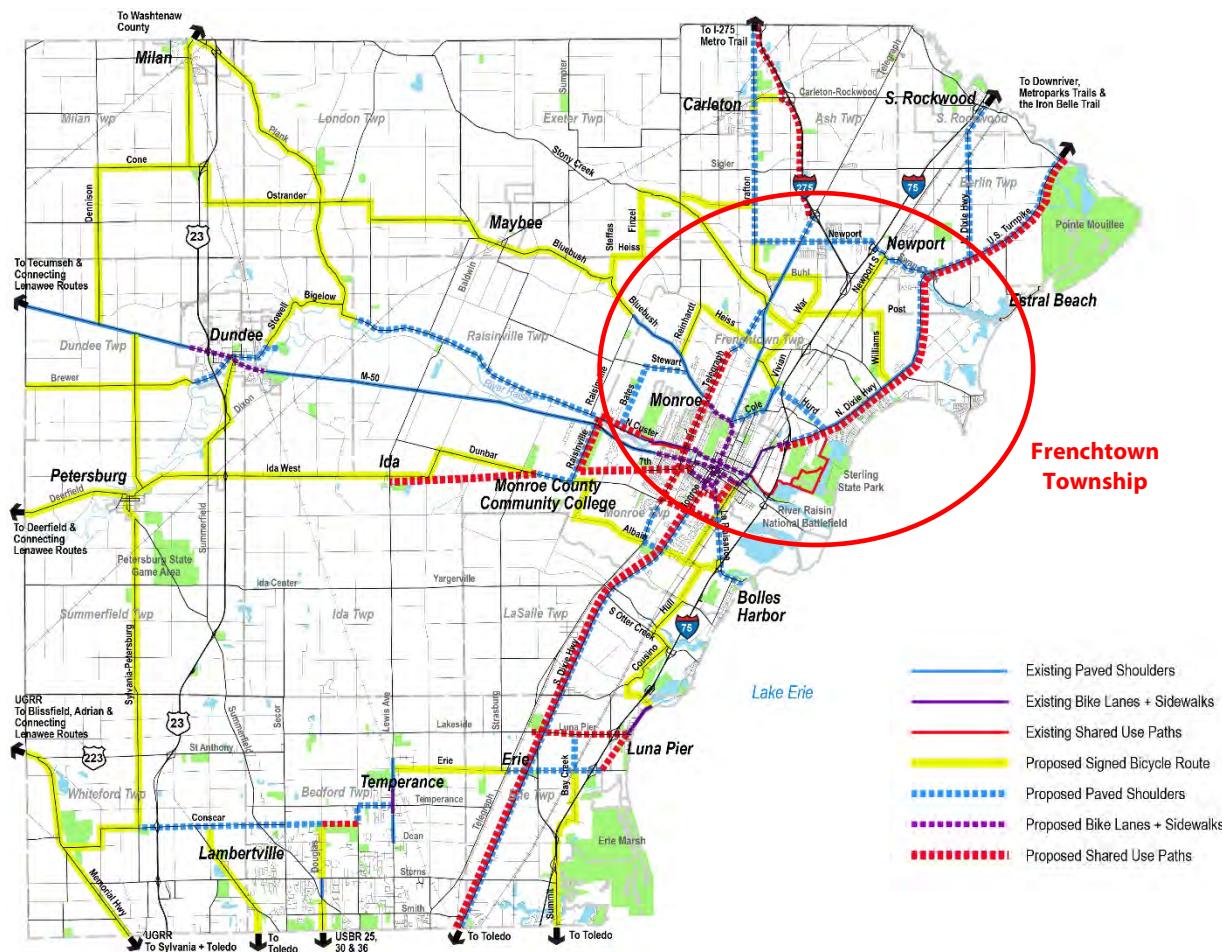


Figure 12. Parks within Frenchtown Township

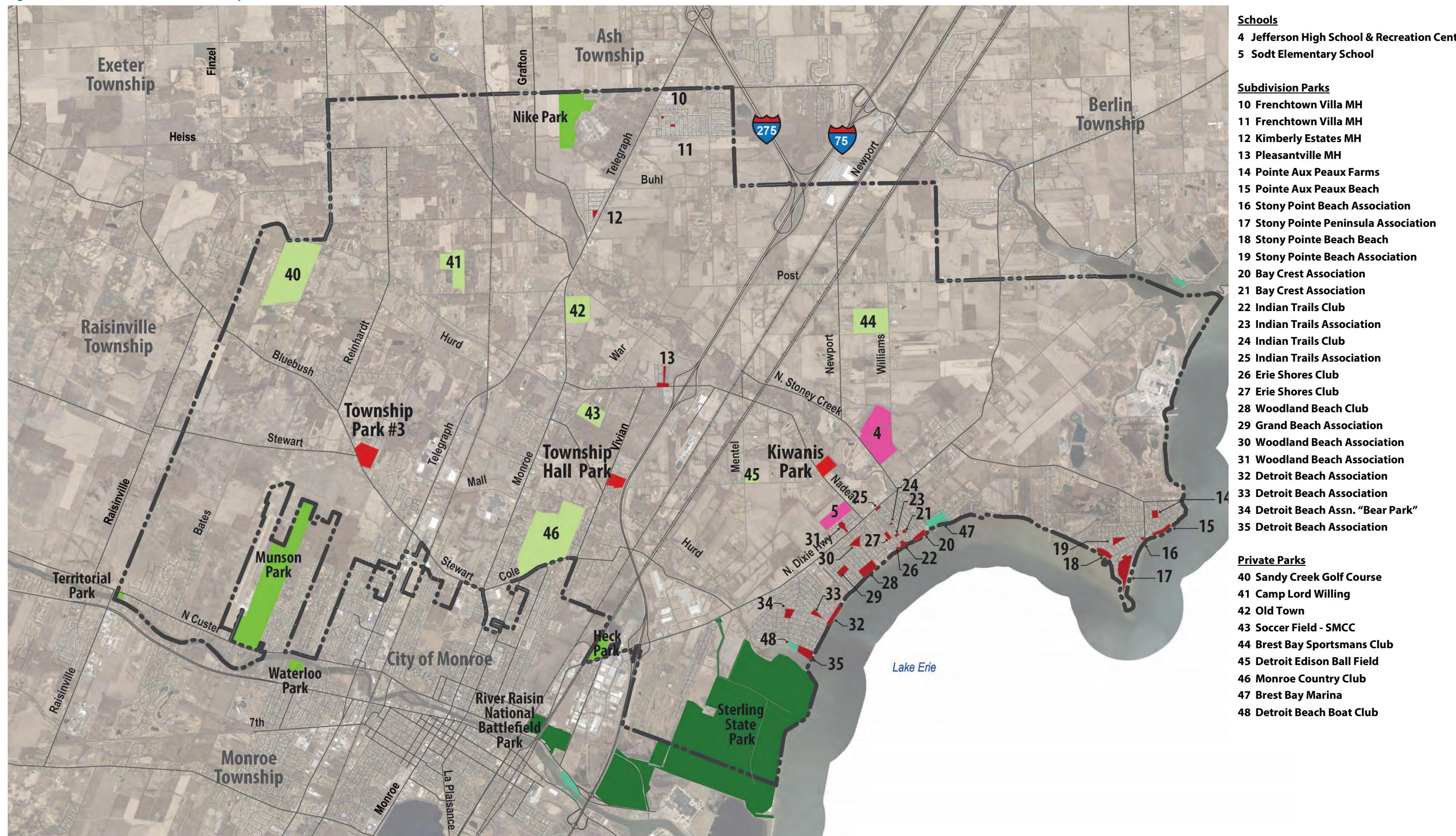


Table 6. Parks Within Frenchtown Township

Parks	Recreation Facilities	Acre	Key
Frenchtown Township Community Parks			
Kiwanis Park	Recreation hall, storage building, picnic shelter, 2 ball diamonds (lighted), playground (3 climbers, 2 slides, swings, spring rider), picnic tables, grills, volleyball court, horseshoe pit, corn hole boards, natural area/flood plain, funnel ball, tether ball, teeter totter, sand boxes, bike paved shoulders connecting to Dixie Hwy.	15.4	-
Township Hall Park	Multi-purpose recreation building, 2 picnic shelters, ball diamond (lighted), 2 tennis courts (lighted), 2 pickleball courts, sledding hill, slide, swing, 2 horseshoe pits, 2 sand volleyball courts, 1 basketball court (lighted), bocce ball court, 4 grills	8.8	-
Township Park #3	Picnic shelter, walking path, play equipment, sledding hill, soccer fields, 2 basketball courts, picnic grounds, parking, ball diamond, tennis courts, and portable restrooms	16.2	-
Library & Fire Hall	Picnic table	0.4	-
Jefferson Schools			
Jefferson Recreation Center High School / Junior High	1 Olympic size indoor pool, 2 basketball courts, 1 wrestling area gym, 4 racquetball courts, 1 weight room, 3 lane indoor track, locker facilities, 2 practice football fields, 7 ball diamonds, 6 tennis courts., 400-meter track, football field, soccer field	86.7	4
Sodt Elementary	2 indoor gyms, play structure, 7 climbers, 5 swings, slide, 2 ball diamonds	18.5	5
Monroe County Park			
Heck Park	Sled hill, war memorial, museum, playground, picnic shelter, walking path, exercise area	15	-
Nike Park	Soccer fields, playground, picnic shelter, grills, model plane area	80	-
Territorial Park	Navarre-Anderson Trading Post, historic buildings, displays, walking path, river access	5.6	-
Sterling State Park			
	Swimming beach, boat launches, campground, nature trails, picnic areas, fishing access, playground, and trails	1,300	-
Subdivision & Manufactured Home Parks			
Frenchtown Villa MH	Pool, club house	0.4	10
Frenchtown Villa MH	Play equipment	0.6	11
Kimberly Estates MH	Tennis court, pool, club house	1.5	12
Pleasantville MH	Basketball, swings, ball diamond, play area	5.1	13
Pointe Aux Peaux Farms	Play equipment, shelter, basketball, ball diamond	3	14
Pointe Aux Peaux Beach	Beach access	3.2	15
Stony Point Beach Association	Undeveloped	0.5	16
Stony Pointe Peninsula Association	Play area, swings	5	17
Stony Pointe Beach	Beach access	1	18
Stony Pointe Beach Association	Basketball, ball diamond, play equipment	3	19

Parks	Recreation Facilities	Acre	Key
Bay Crest Association	Beach access, club house	4.0	20
Bay Crest Association	Play equipment, shelter, ballfield	1.0	21
Indian Trails Club	Beach access, clubhouse	1.0	22
Indian Trails Association	Play equipment, tennis court, basketball	1.0	23
Indian Trails Club	Play equipment, basketball	1.5	24
Indian Trails Association	Landscape open space Ball diamond	0.6	25
Erie Shores Club	Beach access, picnic tables	0.7	26
Erie Shores Club	Play equipment, picnic table, basketball, ball diamond, shelter	2.1	27
Woodland Beach Club	Play equipment, beach access	10.5	28
Grand Beach Association	Play equipment, tennis court, ball diamond, basketball, picnic table, storage shed	4.7	29
Woodland Beach Association	Ball diamond	3	30
Woodland Beach Association	Play equipment, ball diamond	3	31
Detroit Beach Association	beach access	2.3	32
Detroit Beach Association	Climbing tires	4.2	33
Detroit Beach Assn. "Bear Park"	Play structures, basketball, shelter	5.4	34
Detroit Beach Association	Playground, shelter, picnic tables, fishing access	7.3	35
Private Parks and Recreation Facilities			
Sandy Creek Golf Course	Golf course (18 holes)	120	40
Camp Lord Willing	Campground, swimming beach	28	41
Old Town	Driving range, batting cages, 9-hole par 3 golf course, miniature golf	10	42
Soccer Field - SMCC	Soccer field	2.7	43
Brest Bay Sportsman's Club	Outdoor shooting range	14	44
Detroit Edison Ball Field	Ball diamond, horseshoes, volleyball, playground, banquet hall	8	45
Monroe Country Club	Golf course (18 holes), tennis, clubhouse	186	46
Brest Bay Marina	Marina	18	47
Detroit Beach Boat Club	Marina	4	48

PARKS LOCATED IN FRENCHTOWN

Frenchtown Township Parks

Frenchtown Township owns and operates three community parks: Kiwanis Park, Township Hall Park, and Township Park #3. The community parks offer a variety of recreational opportunities including active sport fields, picnic areas, and playgrounds. The parks range in size from eight to 16 acres and are described as follows.

1. **Kiwanis Park**, located on Nadeau Road, provides two lighted ball diamonds, picnic shelter, a playground, a volleyball court, horseshoe pits and concrete corn hole boards, and a recreation hall available for private rental and for organizations, picnic shelter, play equipment, and a storage building. There is also an additional open space and a natural area with potential for future development.



Kiwanis Park on Nadeau Road





Kiwanis Park on Nadeau Road





Kiwanis Park on Nadeau Road



2. The **Township Hall Park** on Vivian Road is also the site for the Frenchtown Township Hall and the Frenchtown Center for Active Adults. Outdoor facilities include a lighted ball diamond, lighted tennis courts, a sledding hill, a basketball court, two sand volleyball courts, two pickleball courts, two picnic shelters with grills, horseshoe pits, bocce courts, and a playground.



Township Hall Park





Township Hall Park



3. **Township Park #3** on Bluebush Road contains a ball diamond, soccer fields, two basketball courts, a picnic shelter, play structure and equipment, portable restrooms, and a peripheral walking path connected to the adjacent Bluebush Library.



Township Park #3 on Bluebush Road





Township Park #3 on Bluebush Road



In addition to the community parks, there are county parks, a state park, school facilities, and a number of private parks, including subdivision and mobile home park facilities, golf courses, and marinas within Frenchtown Township.

Monroe County Parks

There are three Monroe County Parks within Frenchtown Township: Nike, Heck, and Territorial Parks. They offer a range of recreational opportunities, including walking, picnicking, playgrounds, sports fields, and game courts. Territorial Park located at the west border of the Township, includes the Navarre-Anderson Trading Post, historic buildings, walking path, and River Raisin access.

State Park

Sterling State Park is partially located in Frenchtown Township. It is large (1,300 acres) and offers a wide range of recreational opportunities including a beach, boat access, fishing, campground, nature trails, paved bike trail, picnicking, and play structure.

Public Schools

Frenchtown Township is located in an area, which is served by three different school districts - Jefferson, Monroe, and Airport, with the majority of residents located in the Jefferson School District. Although most school district programs are open to anyone, regardless of residency, some programs and facilities serve only those who reside in the school district. Outdoor school facilities in the Township are located at Sodt Elementary School, and the Jefferson Junior and Senior High Schools on Nadeau and Stoney Creek roads, all of which are in the Jefferson District.

The Jefferson Recreation Center, located on the High School grounds, contains extensive facilities including an indoor pool, running track, basketball courts, racquetball courts, weight room, and locker facilities. In the past, this facility was available for public use by Jefferson district residents who paid a membership fee.

Subdivision Neighborhood Parks

Many of the subdivisions and mobile home parks contain small neighborhood parks for the benefit of local residents. In the older subdivisions in the beach areas of the Township are numerous neighborhood parks and open spaces, many of which have play equipment, beach access, and ball fields.

Private Parks and Recreation Facilities

Privately owned facilities include golf courses, driving ranges, marinas, a campground, private ball fields, and a shooting range. Detroit Edison maintains ball fields for the use of its employees, many of which reside in the Township.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

A variety of recreation programs is available to the residents of Frenchtown Township. Many of these programs are offered by Frenchtown Township while others are provided by other recreation providers such as the Frenchtown Center for Active Adults and Jefferson Schools.

The Frenchtown Center for Active Adults operates as a private, non-profit organization, structured to operate facilities and provide programs for Senior citizens. Table 7 presents the list of programs available to residents of Frenchtown Township.

Table 7. Recreation Programs in Frenchtown

Programs	2022			Location
	Youth	Age Group	Participation	
Adults	55+			
Frenchtown Township Recreation Department				
Tee Ball (5-6 years old)	X			Kiwanis
Youth Softball/Baseball (7 to 12 years old)	X			All parks
Adult Softball		X	N/A	Kiwanis
Men's Softball		X	N/A	Kiwanis
Co-Ed Softball		X	N/A	Kiwanis
Adult Sand Volleyball		X	N/A	Kiwanis
Adult Co-Ed Sand Volleyball		X	N/A	Twp. Hall
Day Camp (5 to 12 years old)				Twp. Hall
Tennis (7 years old and over)	X	X		Twp. Hall
Golf (7 years old and over)	X	X		Varies
Martial Arts/Self Defense		X		Kiwanis
Bowling (7 years old and over)	X	X		Monroe Sports Center
Cardio Drumming Class		X		Kiwanis
Easter Egg Hunt	X	X	X	Twp. Hall
Halloween Trunk or Treat	X	X	X	Twp. Hall
Christmas / Santa Meet and Greet	X	X	X	Twp. Hall
Frenchtown Center for Active Adults				
Acrylic Painting Classes		X		FCAD
Adult Day Services		X		FCAD
Bingo		X		FCAD
Bocce Ball		X		FCAD
Brain Boosters		X		FCAD
Bunco		X		FCAD
Card Parties		X		FCAD
Caregivers Support Group		X		FCAD
Craft Classes		X		FCAD
Dancing Classes		X		FCAD

Programs	2022		
	Youth	Age Group	Participation
		55+	
Dinner Dances		X	FCAD
Exercise		X	FCAD
Frenchtown Milers		X	FCAD
Fund Raising		X	FCAD
Golf Outings		X	FCAD
Health Screening		X	FCAD
Karaoke		X	FCAD
Knitting & Crocheting Classes		X	FCAD
Legal Services		X	FCAD
Line Dancing		X	FCAD
Men's Pool League		X	FCAD
Monthly Newsletter		X	FCAD
Noon Lunches		X	FCAD
Notary Public		X	FCAD
Pickleball		X	FCAD
Quilting		X	FCAD
Swedish Weaving		X	FCAD
Travel (Frenchtown Voyagers)		X	FCAD
Walk Path		X	FCAD
Watercolor Painting		X	FCAD
Wii Fitness (Bowling, Golf, Tennis, Baseball)		X	FCAD
Workshops		X	FCAD
Jefferson Recreation Center			
Aquatic	X		School
JR. Bears Basketball	X		School
Indoor Soccer	X		School
Adult Leagues		X	School

FCAD: Frenchtown Center for Active Adults

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND GRANT ASSISTED PROJECTS

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing access to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the MDNR Guidelines was used to evaluate the accessibility of the Township's community parks. The ranking system ranges from one to five as follows:

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

Each of the Township parks was evaluated using the ranking system noted above. The specific elements that were evaluated include parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, the activity areas themselves and support facilities such as restrooms and surfacing. Table 8 presents the results of this evaluation.

Table 8. Accessibility Assessment

Parks	Rating	
Kiwanis Park	3	Play area not connected with an accessible route to parking lot: both ends of the wooden walkway exceed change in level standards; playground surfacing level has decreased due to deterioration, creating additional change in level issues
		Picnic area not well connected by accessible routes to other park facilities: access to picnic area is blocked by a parking lot paving stop; picnic area not connected directly to play ground.
		Creek access lacks accessible route.
		Picnic tables lack wheelchair access.
		Swing set lacks different types of swing seats
		Park benches located on inaccessible surfaces
Township Hall Park	3	Play area presents barriers to persons in wheelchairs due to deterioration of surfacing material.
		Swing set lacks different types of swing seats
		Park benches located on inaccessible surfaces
		Grills not connected to accessible surface
Township Park #3	4	This park meets accessibility guidelines

It is the intent of Frenchtown Township that current and future park projects comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. Deficiencies will be corrected with park renovation and improvements.

With regard to recreation programs, it is the Township's policy to provide reasonable accommodations for any person making such a request.

Frenchtown Township has been awarded five MDNR grants since 1977. Grant funding from the state has been instrumental in developing recreation facilities on Township park properties. Table 9 presents a description of the MDNR grants received including the current use and condition of the grant-assisted park facilities. Post-Completion Forms have been filled out for each grant project and are submitted as required.

Table 9. Grant History

Parks	Date + Grant #	Type of Grant	Amount	Project Features	Condition
Township Hall Park	1977 26-00943	LWCF Development	\$18,500	Tennis courts, ball diamond w/backstop, landscaping, site drainage	All elements are in place and actively used
Township Hall Park	1991 BF91-325	BF Development	\$82,500	Lighting, court development, walking trail	All elements are in place and actively used
Township Park #3	2005 26-01650	LWCF Development	\$135,000	Restoration/grading, walking trail, restrooms, parking, sidewalk, utilities, shelter, picnic tables, basketball court, landscaping	All elements are in place and actively used
Township Park #3	2006 26-01676	LWCF Development	\$75,000	Soccer fields, additional paved trail, playground equipment, irrigation/drainage, picnic tables, landscaping	All elements are in place and actively used
Township Park #3	2009 26-01694	LWCF Development	\$75,000	Softball field, backstop, trail from park to library, pavilion, and tennis courts	All elements are in place and actively used

BF: Recreation Bond Program

LWCF: Land and Water Conservation Fund

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A critical component in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs and desires of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs and preferences provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives that lead to an action plan. To assess needs and desires, consideration was given to current recreation trends and input from community stakeholders, public officials, staff, and residents of Frenchtown Township.

PARK ACREAGE COMPARISON

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

According to the NRPA, parks are categorized as mini, neighborhood, community, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to meet the recreational needs of community residents. In Frenchtown, all Township parks may be considered close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of close-to-home parkland is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks serve a broader area. For Frenchtown Township residents, regional parks include the county, state, and federally owned recreation facilities described in the preceding pages of this section. According to the NRPA standards, the suggested amount of regional parkland is 15 to 20 acres for every 1,000 residents.

When comparing the NRPA suggested parkland standards based on Frenchtown's 2020 population (21,609), the Township currently does not meet the minimum standards for *close-to-home* parkland. However, when considering the regional parks, and adding the school grounds, subdivision parks and other private parks and recreation facilities, there is a fair amount of recreational opportunities included within the Township.

NRPA Close-to-home Park Land Classification
Mini-Park: Addresses limited recreational needs; serves an area less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile distance.
Neighborhood Park: Is the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreation and social focus of a neighborhood; focus is on informal active and passive recreation; serves an area $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance and is uninterrupted by non-residential roads or other physical barriers.
Community Park: Serves a broader purpose than neighborhood parks; focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs and preserving unique landscapes and open spaces; usually serves two or more neighborhoods at $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3-mile distance.

Table 10. Comparison to Suggested Park Land Acreage Standards

Type of Parks	NRPA Standard Acres/1,000 Population	NRPA Standard for 2020 Population Acres/21,609 Pop.	Approximate Existing Acres
Close-to-Home Park Land	6.25 - 10.5	135 – 227	40
Regional Parks	15 - 20	324 – 432	1,400
Schools			105
Subdivision & Manufactured Home Park Open Spaces			76
Private Parks & Recreation Facilities			391

Figure 13 and 14 illustrate the service areas associated with the neighborhood and community parks within the Township based on the distances stated in the previously discussed NRPA standards. The Township is generally well served by the community parks with the exception of the north end. Neighborhood parks are centered on the older residential subdivisions. Many areas of the Township could benefit from additional dedicated parkland within walking distance of nearby residents.

Figure 13. Community Park Service Area

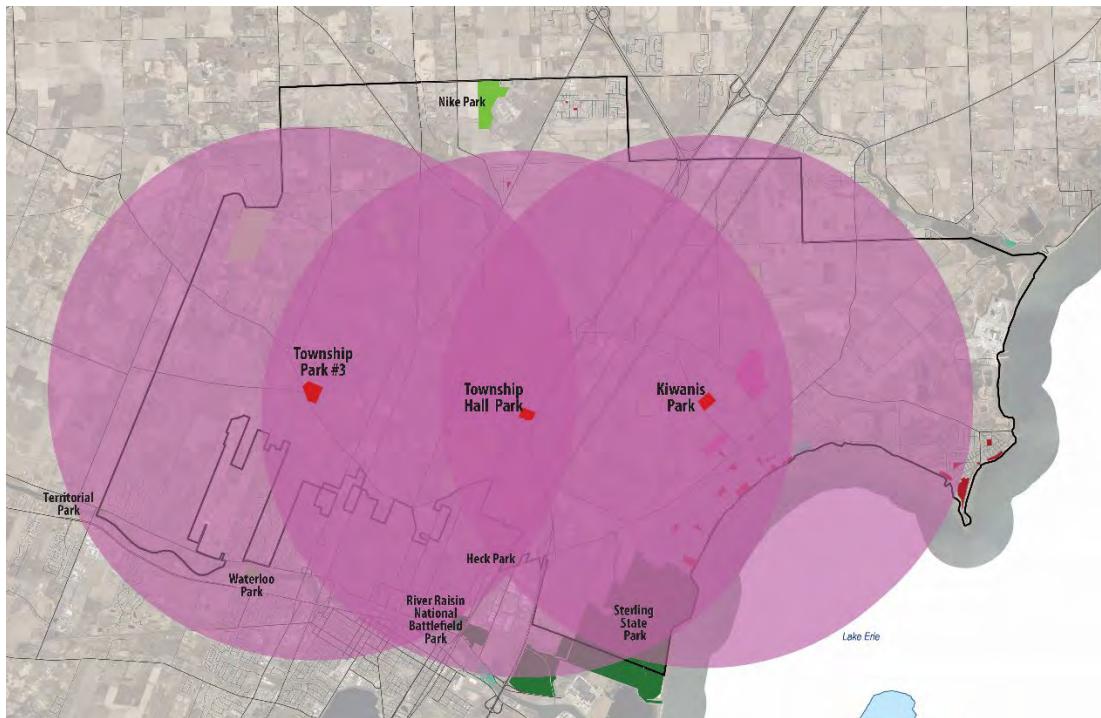
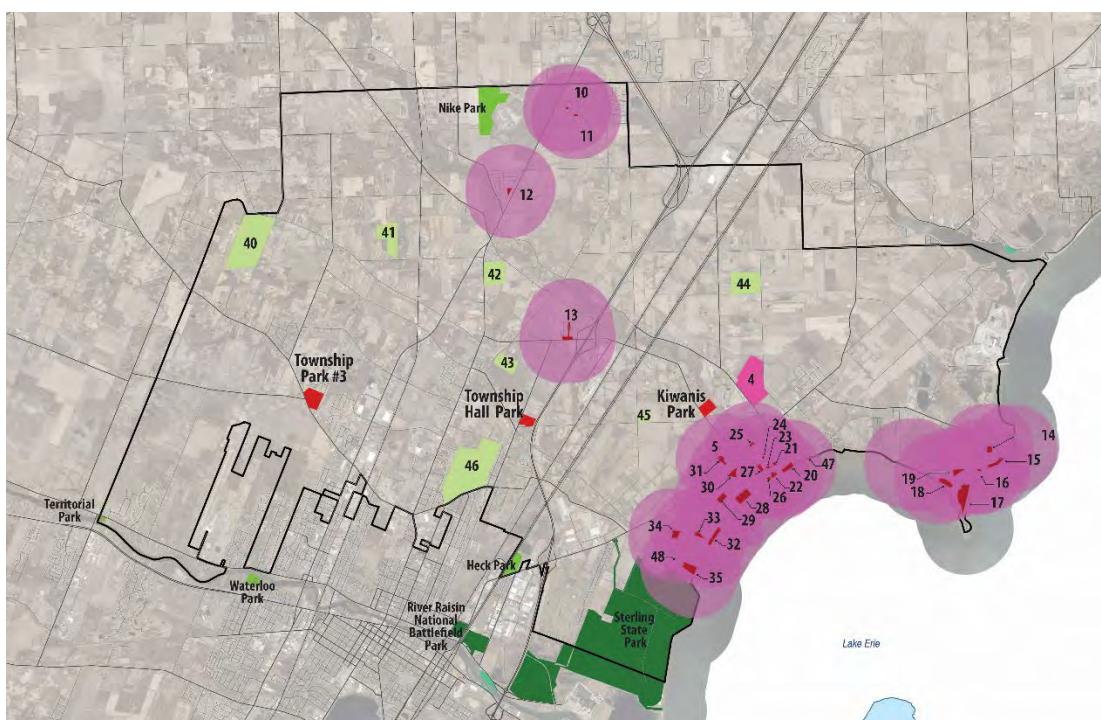


Figure 14. Neighborhood Park Service Area



NATIONAL AND STATE RECREATION TRENDS

Recreation trends on a national level and in Michigan provide insight into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and therefore may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The Outdoor Foundation regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. According to the Outdoor Foundation, nearly 53 percent of Americans (160.7 million) ages six and older participated in outdoor recreation in 2020. This was an increase of 7.1 million from 2019 and the largest jump on record, undoubtedly driven by COVID impacts. Table 11 lists the top five outdoor activities in 2020 compared with 2015.

Table 11. National Sports Participation, 2020

Activity	2015 Participation Percent	2015 Participation Number	2020 Participation Percent	2020 Participation Number
1. Running, Jogging & Trail Running	18%	51.5 million	21.0%	63.8 million
2. Hiking	13%	37.2 million	19.0%	57.8 million
3. Freshwater, Saltwater & Fly Fishing	16%	45.7 million	18.0%	54.7 million
4. Road Biking, Mountain Biking & BMX	15%	43.1 million	17.3%	52.7 million
5. Car, Backyard & RV Camping	14%	40.0 million	15.8%	47.9 million

Source: Outdoor Participation Report, 2021, the Outdoor Foundation.

According to a telephone survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2018-2022 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the top outdoor recreation activities for Michigan residents are listed in Table 12. For this survey, direct questions were asked about total days of participation within the last year, or 2017, for 34 specific activities. This, in combination with the statewide participation rate, allowed for the estimation of total participant days.

Table 12. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities by Percent Participation in Michigan, 2017

Activity	Total Participant Days	Participation Rate
Relaxing outdoors	436,642,901	75%
Walking outdoors, including dog walking	576,132,624	74%
Visiting parks or playgrounds	150,420,905	67%
Sightseeing and/or driving for pleasure	200,974,504	64%
Visiting nature centers or historic sites	36,465,987	56%
Swimming outdoors	99,130,632	54%
Picnicking	58,330,039	53%
Fishing	77,266,345	41%
Biking of any kind (road or off road)	N/A	40%
Team or individual sports outdoors	84,751,341	37%
Wildlife viewing and/or photography (including birding)	108,373,278	36%
Hiking/backpacking	48,025,953	34%
Jogging/running	137,149,463	34%
Canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding, or wind surfing	26,960,187	32%
Road biking	68,469,091	31%

Source: Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2018-2022.

Monitoring parks and recreation trends and how people are spending time outdoors provide an indication of the preferences and potential future direction of parks and recreation services and outdoor activities. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of Frenchtown Township can be summarized as follows:

- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the expected increase of seniors.
- There is a trend towards establishing community-wide non-motorized transportation systems to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian recreation use and to contribute to a healthy and walkable community. Frenchtown Township is recognizing the importance of providing trails and non-motorized opportunities to residents.
- Frenchtown Township contains several activity areas, which include parks, schools, libraries, Township Hall, shopping areas, and residential neighborhoods. Connections to these areas is desirable to maximize the community's recreation potential.

2022 CITY OF MONROE PARKS AND TRAILS SURVEY

During the spring of 2022, the City of Monroe conducted a survey to receive input for parks and trail improvements. Of the 896 total responses received, 135 were from Frenchtown Township residents. The following offers some insights regarding preferences for pedestrian and bicycle improvements in and around the Monroe area.

Table 13. Top Trails, Walkways, or Roads Used by Frenchtown Township Residents around Monroe

	Response %	Response #
Sterling State Park Trails	83.08%	108
Elm Ave/N Custer Path	74.62%	97
Munson Park Limestone Paths	60.00%	78
Sidewalks on Elm Ave	57.69%	75
Downtown Riverwalk	57.69%	75

Respondents are able to get to the trails or walkways as follows:

- 42% walk, run or ride their bike from their home; and
- 76% drive and park their car.
 - Top parking places:
 - St. Mary's Park,
 - Sterling State Park,
 - Munson Park,
 - Veteran's Park,
 - RR National Battlefield Park,
 - the YMCA, and
 - Downtown and other city lots.

The primary reasons respondents walk, run, or ride their bike around the area:

- 121% for fitness, recreation, and pleasure;
- 63% to get to a park; and
- 41% to walk their dog.

The top barriers to bicycling on roadways are:

- 78% car traffic speed;
- 62% lack for clearly marked designated bicycle route; and
- 54% pavement condition.

Table 14. Preferences for Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize pathways along River.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need a pedestrian/bridge across the river between the N. Custer trail and Waterloo Park. The community needs a safe pedestrian North/South corridor to encourage recreation and non-motorized commuting. In addition, Telegraph Road is terribly unsafe and uninviting for pedestrian use to get to the river trails. Maybe the County, State, or adjoining townships would agree to help fund.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trails in Munson park would be amazing if something was done that would help Year around activity. Once winter is over & spring is here, those trails remain flooded & muddy for months & are unusable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mall is not being utilized as if it could be for something like this to be measure out and repurposed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where there is a bathroom and drinking fountains available. I run mostly downtown near my parent's house.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside city limits. Rural area connected to city walkways. Most (almost all) rural roads do not even have a side to walk or ride on. It is the road or nothing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community College to Munson to Downtown to Sterling State Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would love to ride to the State Park safely.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be better sidewalk access on M50 as well as both sides of Telegraph Rd.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newport Rd. from Telegraph to N. Dixie. Kentucky from first toward Luna Pier.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anywhere there is a paved pathway wider than a sidewalk that connects us to things we can do w/ kids.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sterling State park to Munson with stops downtown for lunch. Need more bike stands.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better paths along Telegraph Rd.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not about a specific area necessarily; just being able to bike safely from the outskirts of town into town would be AMAZING! (Home to work/parks/restaurants in town).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike lanes downtown. Like how Ann Arbor has.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need sidewalks all along both sides of Telegraph Rd. All businesses should be required to put a sidewalk. From Friendly Ford all the way to Dunbar Rd. So many people walk and ride bikes if there is a trail along the road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down Monroe street.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be awesome if we had more wooded trails for hiking/ biking like there are behind Munson Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River walk, more bike lanes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be nice if there were paths for Telegraph or Monroe Street from Stewart rd. north.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the state park to the fairgrounds/community college or stoneco field.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would like to bike to Promedica Regional Hospital for work instead of driving from Frenchtown Township. However, with inconsistent bike lanes it makes it difficult to do so.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down Stewart road. There needs to be a sidewalk.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the way, down Macomb St. Silly that sidewalks stop at Frenchtown Township.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I love the sidewalks downtown.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monroe St, Elm St., Downtown Area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library, River walk.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More trails by the river.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I-275 bike path.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would love to be able to bike along a sidewalk all the way to Walmart, Aldi, Meijer, etc. (common places to run errands in town). I believe the bike path stops in front of Tim Hortons on telegraph.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park bike paths.

2022 TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION SURVEY

As part of the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the planning process included a residents' survey and public meetings, which took place at the Recreation Commission meetings.

During the spring of 2022, Frenchtown Township residents were invited to provide ideas and suggestions for the Township's parks and recreation system through an online survey available from the Township's website. The survey was advertised in the Township newsletter, through flyers, at community events and in the Monroe News. The online questionnaire was designed to solicit feedback on a broad spectrum of issues. More than 72 surveys and comments were received and compiled. Key findings from the surveys are outlined below. A complete tally of the responses gathered is attached in the appendix to this report.

Community Park Visitation

While all three community parks are popular, Kiwanis Park appears to be the most popular among survey respondents followed closely with Township Hall Park and Township Park #3. The most visited parks are Kiwanis and Township Hall Parks with more than a third of respondents having visited the parks more than five times during the past year.

Suggested Park Improvements

A summary of specific suggestions for park improvements are noted below for each of the three community parks:

Kiwanis Park

- Connect the park with nearby neighborhoods, library, school through a paved shoulder/non-motorized routes
- Add a peripheral walking trail/path
- Add seating near creek's edge and in shaded areas
- Add kayak/canoe access
- Add fishing area
- Add more playground equipment
- Add water activities such as splash pad
- Add a big rock climbing wall
- Bring back the archery shooting
- Expand the basketball area/court
- Add sand volleyball court
- Add a tennis court
- Add flowers
- Improve lighting
- Improve/expand the parking area with parking lot striping
- Improve restroom

Township Hall Park

- Improve/expand walking trails
- Improve/expand playground
- Improve parking
- Improve park drainage
- Add a vegetative buffer as a sound barrier along expressway
- Improve maintenance of sand volleyball court
- Add benches along the trail
- Add a pond with a fountain
- Add a splash pad
- Add a court for inline/skateboard activities
- Add a dog park

- Add steps in the hill for climbing
- Remove the trees around the sledding hill for safety
- Add restrooms

Township Park #3

- Name the park (Bluebush Park or another significant name)
- Improve access to park pathway
- Improve drainage along pathway
- Add more trees and shading
- Add a fence around ballfield with more seating and better dugouts
- Provide pickleball lines on tennis court or a separate pickleball court
- Install more benches
- Add another picnic pavilion
- Add a splash pad
- Add softball fields
- Add a disc golf course
- Add a bike park
- Add restrooms

New Parks Facilities and Recreation Amenity Preference

In general, respondents top choices for preferred recreation amenities in order of importance are:

1. Bicycle trails;
2. Hiking paths;
3. Playgrounds; and
4. Picnic areas.

These choices are consistent with previous parks and recreation surveys conducted for the recreation plan updates in 2016, 2006, and 2000. Bicycle trails and hiking paths have ranked highest in preferred parks and recreation amenities for Frenchtown Township residents in these surveys as well. Other preferred park amenities are also consistent with previous surveys and include playgrounds, picnic areas, a fishing pier, and an outdoor swimming pool.

Respondents preferred top park facilities/types are:

1. Multi-purpose park with nature area, sports fields, and playgrounds; and
2. Bicycle trails and walking paths.

Again, these top choices are consistent with earlier surveys. Multi-purpose parks and bicycle trails/ walking paths also ranked high in 2016, 2006, and 2000.

New Recreation Program Preference

Respondents' top choices for preferred recreation programs, in order of importance are:

1. Playground programs;
2. Children programs;
3. Family programs; and
4. Nature programs.

In previous years, the most desired program was exercise and fitness classes, which also ranked high in previous surveys in addition to family programs and playground/children programs.

Community Park and Recreation System Improvements

The top priorities for possible improvements are:

1. Develop new facilities at existing parks;
2. Maintain/renovate existing parks;
3. Develop more bicycle/pedestrian paths within the parks;
4. Develop more bicycle/pedestrian connections throughout the Township; and
5. Acquire new parks and open spaces.

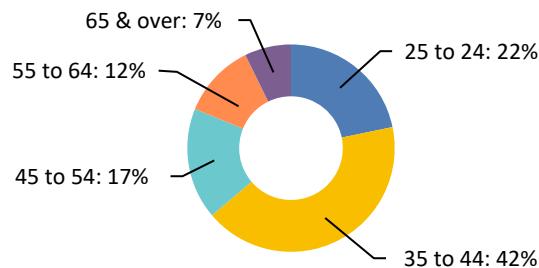
Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Improvements

The top priorities for possible connections are:

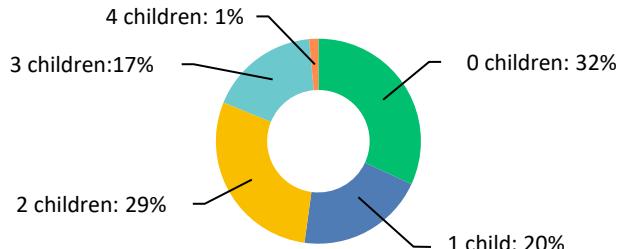
1. From Township Park #3 south to Munson Park;
2. Between Kiwanis Park and the Frenchtown Dixie (Nadeau Road) Library;
3. A separate shared use path along Stewart Road from Vivian to Township Park #3;
4. A separate shared use path along N. Dixie Highway from City Limits north to Berlin Township and beyond;
5. Between Jefferson School and Sodt Elementary to N. Dixie Highway via Stony Creek and Nadeau roads; and
6. A separate shared use path along Mall Road from M-125 to Telegraph Road.

Respondents Demographics

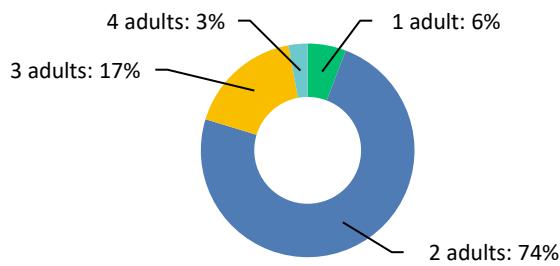
Age



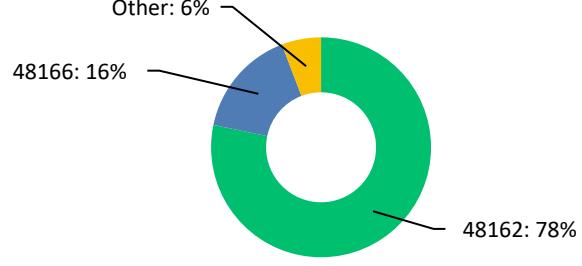
Number of children under 18 living in Household



Number of adults 18 and over living in household



Zip Code



COMMUNITY PARK SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

Following all the suggestions received from the survey, a workshop took place at a meeting with the Recreation Commission to receive additional input and suggestions for park improvements. Five stations were set up to include each of the community parks along with the new Township Municipal Complex and a station pertaining to a Township wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Each stations included a summary of the suggested improvements along with the other observations garnered from existing conditions. Recreation Commissioners voted for their top preferences.

Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Kiwanis Park

Park Improvement Suggestions

Existing	Proposed	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts • Basketball and volleyball courts, soccer fields, etc. • Picnic areas • Softball fields located in different areas other than one specific area provide more variety for tournaments • Improve lighting with new fixtures, etc., and better 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and relocate bocce • Improve lighting • Improve soccer fields • Improve basketball court • Add new amenities • Add more playground equipment • Add more trees • Add landscaping and maintenance, including water, etc. • Improve accessibility for people with disabilities • Add more paved areas • Add more paved paths • Bring back a children's play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the perimeter trees in the grassy areas, draw in the triangle paved structures and remove them
Your Suggestion: _____		

Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Township Hall Park

Park Improvement Suggestions

Existing	Proposed	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts • Basketball and volleyball courts, soccer fields, etc. • Picnic areas • Softball fields located in different areas other than one specific area provide more variety for tournaments • Improve lighting with new fixtures, etc., and better 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and relocate bocce • Improve lighting • Improve soccer fields • Improve basketball court • Add new amenities • Add more playground equipment • Add more trees • Add landscaping and maintenance, including water, etc. • Improve accessibility for people with disabilities • Add more paved areas • Add more paved paths • Bring back a children's play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the perimeter trees in the grassy areas, draw in the triangle paved structures and remove them
Your Suggestion: _____		

Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Township Park #3

Park Improvement Suggestions

Existing	Proposed	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts • Basketball and volleyball courts, soccer fields, etc. • Picnic areas • Softball fields located in different areas other than one specific area provide more variety for tournaments • Improve lighting with new fixtures, etc., and better 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and relocate bocce • Improve lighting • Improve soccer fields • Improve basketball court • Add new amenities • Add more playground equipment • Add more trees • Add landscaping and maintenance, including water, etc. • Improve accessibility for people with disabilities • Add more paved areas • Add more paved paths • Bring back a children's play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the perimeter trees in the grassy areas, draw in the triangle paved structures and remove them
Your Suggestion: _____		

Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan

New Municipal Complex

Park Improvement Suggestions

Existing	Proposed	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add parking for employees, visitors, and community members. There are currently no parking spaces available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add parking for employees, visitors, and community members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add parking for employees, visitors, and community members.
Your Suggestion: _____		

Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Bike + Pedestrian Plan

Bike + Pedestrian Suggestions

Legend: Bike lanes for both directions, bike lanes for one direction, shared bike/pedestrian paths, walking paths, bus stops, trailheads, and crosswalks.

Existing	Proposed	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads. • Bikes are not allowed on sidewalks, trails, or roads.
Your Suggestion: _____		

Table 15. Park Improvement Suggestions

Suggested Improvements	Recreation Commission Preference
Kiwanis Park	
Existing Facilities	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve lighting • Improve/expand parking area and add pavement markings • Improve restrooms • Add/improve accessible routes to playground and other activity areas, add accessible park furnishings such as picnic tables, benches, and play equipment • Improve landscaping with the addition of trees and flowers 	2
New Facilities	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a peripheral walking path • Add seating near creek's edge and in shaded areas • Add kayak/canoe access • Add fishing area • Add more playground equipment (rock climbing wall or other) • Expand the basketball area/court • Add sand volleyball court • Add a tennis court • Add water activities such as splash pad • Bring back the archery shooting 	4
Other	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect the park with nearby neighborhoods, library, school through a safe non-motorized route • Add bike Fixit station 	2
Township Hall Park	
Existing Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and expand walking paths • Improve parking • Improve park drainage • Improve and expand playground • Add a vegetative buffer as a sound barrier along expressway • Improve maintenance of sand volleyball court • Improve accessible route to playground and add more accessible play equipment 	2
New Facilities	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add benches along the path • Add a pond with a fountain • Add a splash pad • Add a court for inline/skateboard activities • Add a dog park • Add steps in the hill for climbing • Remove the trees around the sledding hill for safety • Add restrooms 	1

Suggested Improvements	Recreation Commission Preference
Other	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect the park with nearby neighborhoods, library, school through a safe non-motorized route • Add bike Fixit station 	
Township Park #3	
Existing Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name the park (Bluebush Park or another significant name) • Improve access to park pathway • Improve drainage along pathway • Add more trees for shading • Add a fence around ballfield with more seating and better dugouts • Add pickleball lines on tennis court or a separate pickleball court • Add more accessible park furnishings such as benches, tables, etc. 	2
New Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install more benches • Add another picnic pavilion • Add softball fields • Add a disc golf course • Add a bike park with a Fixit station • Add a splash pad • Add permanent restrooms 	1
Other	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect the park with nearby neighborhoods and Munson Park through a safe non-motorized route 	2
New Municipal Complex	
New Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add peripheral path linked to activity areas and front pathway and include a Fixit Station • Add support park facilities including playground and picnic area • Provide landscaping and passive recreation areas such as garden gazebo, small outdoor amphitheater, gardening plots for the public, and landscaped open space areas • Add active recreation amenities including skate park, dog park, soccer fields, basketball courts and ball fields 	3
Bicycle & Pedestrian Paths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Township Park #3 south to Munson Park • Between Kiwanis Park and the Nadeau Road Library • A separate shared use path along Stewart Road from Vivian to Township Park #3 • A separate shared use path along N. Dixie Highway from City Limits north to Berlin Township and beyond • Between Jefferson Schools and Sodt Elementary to N. Dixie Highway via Stony Creek and Nadeau Roads • A separate shared use path along Mall Road from M-125 to Telegraph Road 	1

KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Based on public input, recreation trends, and an examination of the park facilities and recreation programs, Frenchtown Township's parks and recreation issues can be summarized as follows:

Existing Park Upkeep

The maintenance and upgrade of the existing community parks is recognized as a priority for Frenchtown Township to retain its high quality parks. This entails ensuring that existing park facilities and equipment are safe, functional, and well-maintained. It includes upgrading and improving park equipment and furnishings, ensuring safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones, removing barriers to universal access, maintaining and refurbishing parking and trail surfaces, athletic field care and general park upkeep and stewardship.

New Park Development

There is also a desire to develop new park facilities that respond to the needs of Township residents at both the existing parks and the new township property. Desired facilities include walking/bicycling paths or trails, splash pads, fishing area, and more support facilities such as picnic shelters and restrooms at various locations.

As the Township continues to grow, so will the need for park, open space, and recreational opportunities. Purchase of land, purchase of easements or acceptance of land donations should all be given consideration. Priority should be given to potential park sites, which contain one or more of the following: water access; significant natural features such as woodlands, wetlands or habitat for rare species; connections or corridors for trail development; suitable areas for active recreation; and sites, which provide opportunities for underserved populations. Lands adjacent to existing parks should be given high priority for acquisition. In particular, the expansion of Kiwanis Park onto adjacent land should be explored, as should the expansion of Township Park #3.

Path and Trail Development

There is a strong desire for walking and bicycle paths in Frenchtown Township. The development of connections and pathways to form an interconnected system linking parks as well as community facilities, schools, and neighborhoods is recognized as a priority for the Township. Coordination with the Township Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, the Monroe County Bike and Pedestrian Panel as well as the County Road Commission and other stakeholders will be necessary to realize a Township-wide system.

Recreation Programming

The Recreation Commission is dedicated to expanding existing programs to accommodate all who want to participate. The results of the resident survey showed that there is a strong desire for programs, which are aimed at specific ages and profiles: teen programs, family programs, senior programs, and children programs all scored very high. As it has always been the Township's policy to accommodate the public's interests, the Township should constantly try to develop new programs to meet these needs.

Administration and Operation

A quality parks and recreation system is dependent on the prudent use of available funds. While Frenchtown Charter Township currently subsidizes most parks and recreation capital improvements, future improvements should be carefully considered. Park projects that have the potential of generating revenues to offset the cost of capital investment and on-going operation and maintenance should be given a higher priority.

Parks and recreation resources in Frenchtown Township are operated and provided by a variety of public and private entities. Collaborations and partnerships with the various public and private recreation providers (County, schools, and other private recreation providers) will yield parks that are more effective and recreation services that maximize the area's recreation potential.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives were formulated to provide direction and a long-term vision for the Frenchtown Township parks system. The goals and objectives are broad enough to encompass the needs expressed by the public, Township officials, and staff, as well as to address the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources. In addition, they consider demographics, current and anticipated growth and development, the area's physical resources, and recreation trends.

The Frenchtown Charter Township Recreation Commission has two overarching goals:

- ***To provide safe and healthy recreational opportunities to meet the diverse interests and needs of Township residents.***
- ***To develop and provide recreational programs and facilities for Frenchtown Township residents based on desire.***

1. PARK UPKEEP

Maintain and renovate existing facilities to provide clean, safe, attractive and functional parks.

Objectives:

- A. Replace/upgrade aging park equipment as needed;
- B. Ensure safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones;
- C. Remove barriers to universal access;
- D. Continue to add and upgrade benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, and park signs;
- E. Refurbish athletic fields as needed;
- F. Refurbish parking and trail pavement surfaces;
- G. Plant trees and shrubs to create shade and supplement wooded areas; and
- H. Maintain park maintenance equipment and keep storage areas in good condition.

2. PARK DEVELOPMENT

Continue to develop park facilities that respond to residents' recreational needs and are financially sustainable.

Objectives:

- A. Develop support facilities such as picnic shelters, playgrounds, restrooms and more as needed;
- B. Develop new park amenities such as a dog park, walking paths, and other;
- C. Consider park land acquisition and donation that:
 - are adjacent to existing parks,
 - provide linkages and pathway development opportunities,
 - are of a sufficient size to provide a variety of active and passive recreation,
 - are easily accessible to most Township residents,
 - have historic significance or appeal, and
 - offer unique natural areas and provide wildlife areas.

3. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN NETWORK

Work to develop and maintain a Township-wide bicycle and pedestrian network.

Objectives:

- A. Work with the Township Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission to further refine a Township-wide bicycle and pedestrian network and plan for its implementation;
- B. Continue to coordinate with Monroe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Panel, Monroe County Community Planning and Engagement, Monroe County Road Commission, adjacent communities, and other stakeholders for bicycle and pedestrian connectivity; and
- C. Consider requiring developers to dedicate and construct pathways and sidewalks in new developments in cooperation with the Planning Commission and the Township Board of Trustees.

4. RECREATION PROGRAMMING

Maintain and enhance the quality of recreation programming and services.

Objectives:

- A. Encourage healthy and active lifestyles;
- B. Continue to provide programs and events that build community;
- C. Continue to broaden the variety of activities offered while ensuring that programs are financially self-sustaining;
- D. Expand the use of web-based communication tools such as e-mail blasts, Facebook, etc.; and
- E. Provide opportunities for volunteers and community stewardship projects.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

Provide for parks and recreation services with fiscally sound administrative and operational strategies.

Objectives:

- A. Increase maintenance equipment as needed to support additional services;
- B. Develop a maintenance plan and schedule for each park to include routine and preventive maintenance tasks, scheduled improvements, and emergency repairs;
- C. Nurture existing partnerships with the Schools and other recreation providers to support efficient and effective service and program delivery;
- D. Increase public awareness of Frenchtown Township parks and recreation services through additional communication;
- E. Establish a “Friends of the Parks” group which could be active in providing additional support for park project and funding; and
- F. Continue to pursue grants for parkland and pathway acquisition and development.

ACTION PROGRAM

The action program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of desired improvements, which can be considered as long-term projects to be accomplished for each park or activity. It also provides a reasonable capital improvement schedule focusing on projects to be accomplished within the next five years.

DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS

The following outlines the desired improvements, which represent the long-term preferred vision for each park or activity. The improvements are grouped by park or activity and address the goals and objectives. Illustrations showing the suggested park improvements are also included.

1. Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities (all parks)

These activities include replacing or repairing existing equipment and facilities, which are in a state of disrepair, are outdated or dangerous. They also include improving the appearance of the Township parks through appropriate landscaping and maintenance. All upgrades must meet safety and accessibility standards. Proposed activities include:

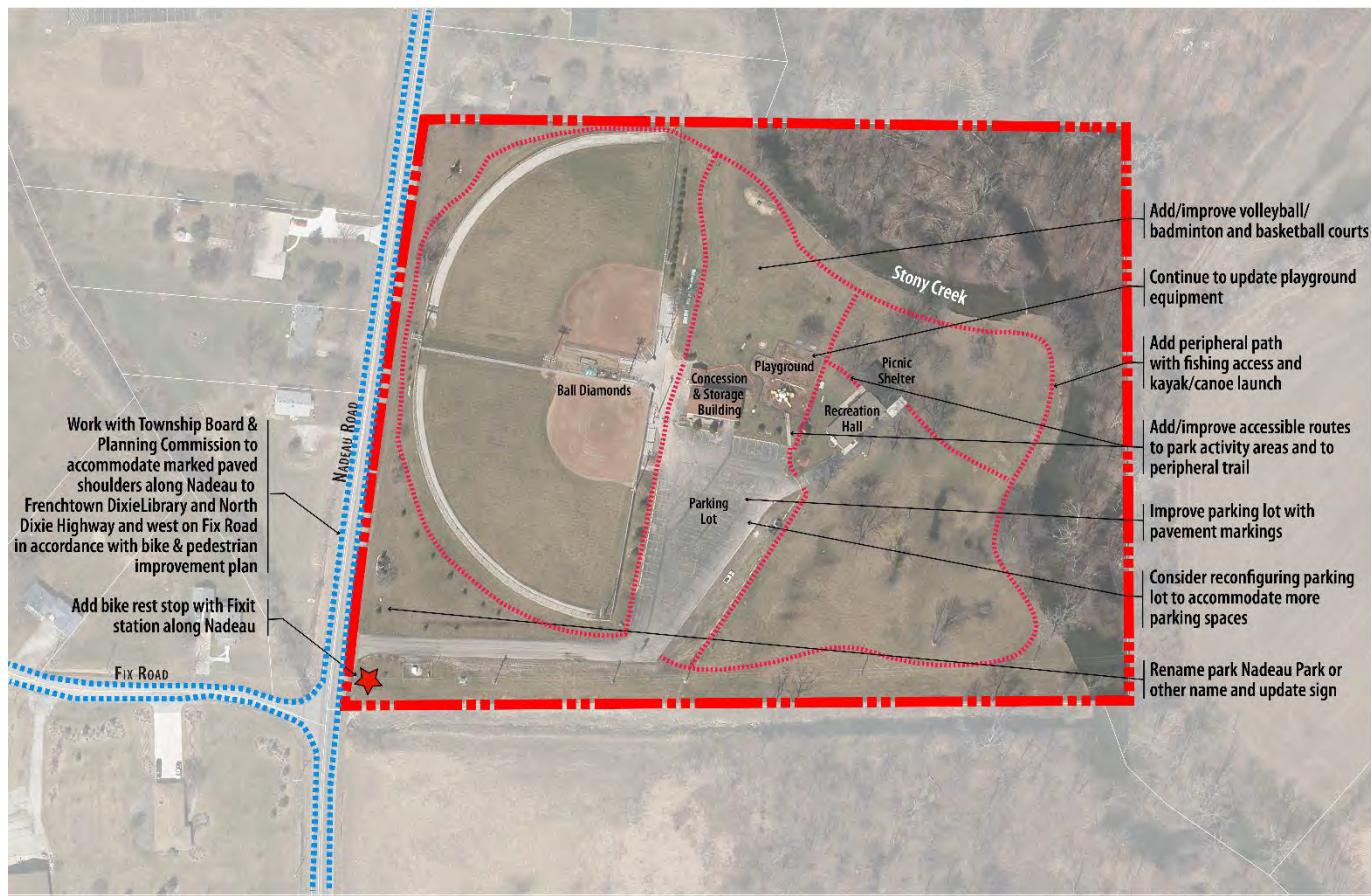
- Rename parks (potentially as Bluebush Park, Vivian Park, and Nadeau-Kiwanis Park) and update park signs as parks get renamed/named;
- Add/replace park furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles, pet waste dispensers, etc.;
- Remove/replace outdated play equipment;
- Maintain safety surfaces under play structures to regulated depth and fall zone;
- Refurbish athletic field surfaces as needed;
- Refurbish parking areas, walkways, and court game pavement surfaces as needed;
- Maintain buildings, structures, and picnic shelters in good condition with roof repair, exterior painting and other upgrades;
- Manage existing vegetation with removal of dead trees and supplement with new tree/shrub plantings; and
- Continue general park upkeep and stewardship.

2. Maintain and improve Kiwanis Park

Because of its prime location within a short distance from a majority of residents, Kiwanis or Nadeau Park is a high priority for future park improvements. Suggested actions to maintain and improve the park include:

- Add peripheral walking path with fishing access and kayak/canoe launch on Stony Creek;
- Add/improve accessible routes to park activity areas and to the peripheral path;
- Improve parking area with pavement striping and consider reconfiguring parking lot to accommodate more spaces;
- Add new playground equipment;
- Add/improve volleyball/badminton and basketball courts;
- Add bike rest stop with Fixit station along the Nadeau Road paved shoulders; and
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to accommodate marked paved shoulders for bicycle/walking use along Nadeau Road south to Frenchtown-Dixie Library and North Dixie Highway, and west on Fix Road in accordance with the proposed Township wide bike and pedestrian improvement plan.

Figure 15. Kiwanis Park Suggested Improvements



3. Maintain and improve Township Hall Park

Suggested actions to maintain and improve Township Hall Park include:

- Complete pathway along the west side of the park for connectivity;
- Add/improve accessible routes to park activity areas and to peripheral path;
- Add a landscape buffer along the east park boundary to dampen highway noises;
- Add permanent restrooms;
- Consider demarcating the sledding hill during the winter for safe use away from existing trees;
- Improve drainage of playground area and update/expand play equipment;
- Add bike rest stop with Fixit station along Vivian Road; and
- Work with Township Board and Planning Commission to add paved shoulders along Vivian Road to the Township Hall property and Recreation Building, and along Hurd Road west to Reinhardt Road and east to North Dixie Highway in accordance with the proposed Township wide bike and pedestrian improvement plan.

Figure 16. Township Hall Park Suggested Improvements

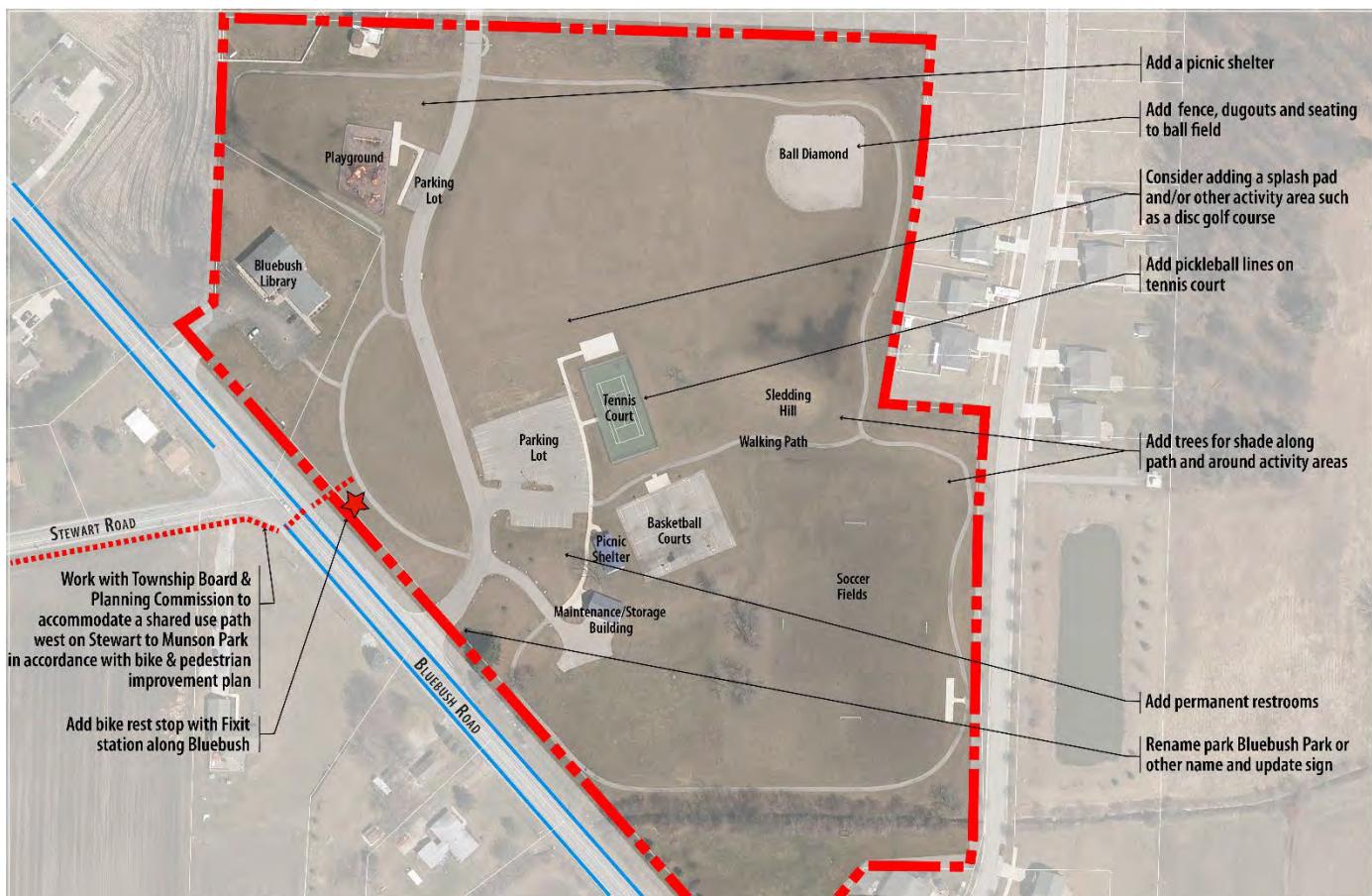


4. Maintain and improve Township Park #3

Suggested actions to maintain and improve Township Park #3 include:

- Add a picnic shelter on the west side of the park;
- Improve ballfield with fence, dugouts, and seating;
- Consider adding a splash pad and/or other activity area such as a disc golf course;
- Add pickleball lines on the tennis court;
- Plant additional shade trees in the park particularly along the pathway;
- Add permanent restrooms;
- Add bike rest stop with Fixit station along Bluebush Road; and
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to add a separate off-the-road shared use path along Stewart Road to potentially connect to Munson Park in accordance with the proposed Township wide bike and pedestrian improvement plan.

Figure 17. Township Park #3 Suggested Improvements



5. Develop Township Municipal Complex

Suggested actions to maintain and improve the Township Municipal Complex located on North Dixie Highway, which is planned to incorporate a Sheriff Substation and an Events Pavilion:

- Provide a peripheral path for both walking and bicycling linked to park activity areas and a proposed shared use path along North Dixie Highway;
- Add support park facilities including a playground, picnic areas, and restrooms;
- Provide passive recreation areas such as garden gazebo, outdoor seating, and landscaped open spaces;
- Consider adding active areas such as soccer fields, community gardens, dog park, court games, etc.;
- Add bike rest stop with Fixit station along North Dixie Highway; and
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to add a separate off-the-road trail along North Dixie Highway connecting from the City of Monroe north to Berlin Township in accordance with the proposed Township wide bike and pedestrian improvement plan. This would eventually connect to the Downriver Linked Greenways and to the Michigan Iron-Belle Trail.

Figure 18. Township Municipal Park Suggested Improvements

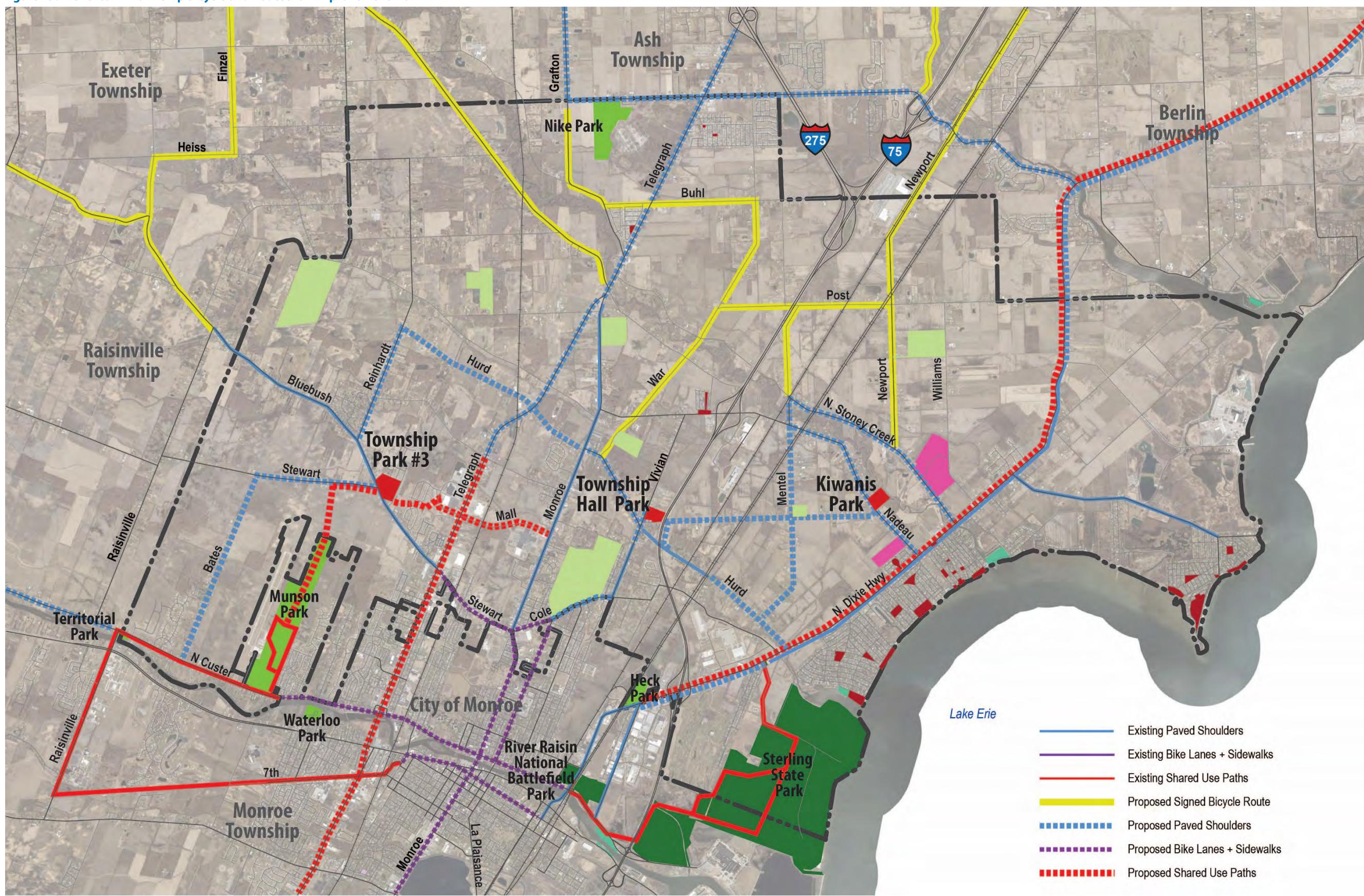


6. Promote the development of a Township-wide bike and pedestrian network

There is a strong desire for walking and biking paths in Frenchtown Township. A Township-wide system could connect parks, community facilities, schools, neighborhoods, and other destinations. The first step would be the development of a Township wide bicycle and pedestrian plan, which could provide detailed descriptions of potential projects and implementation strategies. The Township should continue to participate in any county or regional trail projects, which would link the Township to larger trail networks including water trails. Some specific actions, which are recommended, include:

- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to develop a Township-wide plan in cooperation with the Monroe County Road Commission, Monroe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Panel, SEMCOG, and adjacent communities;
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to set priorities for the establishment of the Township-wide system;
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to require developers to dedicate and construct pathways in new developments and along section road frontages;
- Provide access points along the path system with parking area and site amenities such as map, benches, bike racks, mile markers, and directional signs; and
- Develop a marketing strategy for the path system to attract support and sponsors including the development of a pathway brochure and a walking club.
- As illustrated in Figure 17, specific corridors are recommended for improvements, in particular:
 - North Dixie Highway for both the completion of the paved shoulders south of Sandy Creek to the City of Monroe and north from Enrico Fermi Drive to Berlin Township;
 - North Dixie Highway for the development of an off-the-road shared use path along the entire corridor;
 - Development of a Township community park non-motorized connection from Township Park #3 to Kiwanis Park along Stewart, Cole, Vivian, Hurd (including bridge non-motorized improvements over I-75), and Fix roads with on-road paved shoulders for bicycle use combined with sidewalks along the urbanized area;
 - Development of paved shoulders along the designated Monroe County Cornerstone Route following the following road corridors: Bates, Stewart, Bluebush, Reinhardt, Hurd, and North Stony Creek;
 - Development of an off-the-road shared use path along Telegraph Road north to connect to the commercial node of Walmart, Lowes, and other stores; and
 - Development of an off-the-road shared use path connecting Frenchtown Park #3 south to the existing trail system within the City of Monroe's Munson Park, which would provide a link to a larger trail network.

Figure 19. Frenchtown Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan



7. Continue to assess opportunities for future park land acquisition

Consider acquisition and dedication of new parkland as follows:

- Land that preserves natural features which would provide a setting for passive activities;
- Land that is easily accessible from most Township residents;
- Land that provides linkages; and
- Work with the Township Board and Planning Commission to ensure parkland needs are considered in the review of new developments and to encourage developers to set aside land appropriate for community parkland and pathways.

8. Maintain and enhance high quality programs and services

The Recreation Department is dedicated to expanding existing programs to accommodate all who want to participate. The results of the residents' survey showed that there is a strong desire for programs, which are aimed at playground/children, families, and nature.

- Evaluate and monitor programs to assess their value to the overall system and work to broaden the participant base;
- Continue to broaden the variety of activities offered;
- Continue to develop the partnership with the Jefferson School District and other recreation providers to provide recreational opportunities for Township residents; and
- Continue to nurture relationships with the Berlin Senior Citizens group and the Frenchtown Charter Township Center for Active Adults.

9. Provide for the efficient administration of parks

A means of increasing revenues where possible should be continually explored to support the desired capital improvement projects and to maintain the existing and future park facilities to a high quality standard. Actions include:

- Add staff and maintenance equipment as needed;
- Increase public awareness of the Frenchtown Township Community Parks and Recreation Commission through continued presence on social media, possible signs and other means;
- Participate in Michigan Recreation and Park Association for continued professional development opportunities, networking, and resources such as participation in the mentorship programs;
- Coordinate public-private partnerships with area businesses to benefit recreation opportunities for Township residents;
- Continue to pursue state and federal grants for park land and pathway acquisition and development;
- Build a *Friends of Frenchtown Township Parks* group to provide support for park project and funding; and
- Explore and submit proposals to private foundations for parkland and trail acquisition and development.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

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

Apply for Federal Funding

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in conjunction with SEMCOG funds the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Activities, which may apply to Frenchtown Township, include:

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

Apply for State Funding

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

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of parkland for natural resource-based preservation and recreation. Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request was \$15,000 and the maximum was \$300,000 in 2022. Applications are typically due April 1.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the MDNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has recently been on trail way systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. Minimum grant requests were \$30,000 and maximum grant requests were \$300,000 in 2022. The match percentage is 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are typically due on April 1.

The Recreation Passport grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests were \$7,500 and maximum requests were \$150,000 in 2022. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Applications are usually due on April 1 as well.

Other funding conducted in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grants). Municipalities may use Community Forestry grants for projects that address urban forestry needs such as tree inventories, management plans, tree planting, educational workshops, training materials, and Arbor Day activities. Grant requests may be up to \$20,000 depending on the project type and applications are usually due in September.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There is also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways, walk/bike ways, or greenway-related facilities such as PeopleForBikes. PeopleForBikes is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people riding bikes more often and to make riding better for everyone. The program funds projects in three categories: facility, education and capacity building. Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking and safe routes to school. Applications were due on October 31 in 2022.

DTE also offers tree planting grants for up to \$3,000 to local municipalities in its coverage area.

Increase Support for Parks

Public support for parks and recreation will be crucial in determining the level of services the Township will be able to provide in the future. A specific park or project millage could be considered in the future for general or specific projects such as park development, pathway development, or maintenance.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

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

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The planning process for the Frenchtown Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan included community input into the plan, which was received through an online survey and public meetings. The survey took place during the spring of 2022 and received 72 responses. Township residents were invited to provide opinions and ideas for the Township Community Park's future development. The survey was advertised through a flyer and postings at both Township Hall and on the Township's website, as well as a formal notice published in the Monroe News. A complete tally of the responses gathered follows.

1. How many times have you or a member of your household visited our community parks in the past year?			
	Never	5 times or less	More than 5 times
Kiwanis Park - Nadeau Rd	9	21	19
Twp Hall Park - Vivian Rd	9	22	18
Twp Park 3 - Bluebush Rd	30	13	17

2. How would you rank the parks? Please mark each of the parks on a scale of 1 to 3 where 1 is your most favorite and 3, your least favorite.			
	1-Most Favorite	2	3-Least Favorite
Kiwanis Park - Nadeau Rd	24	22	14
Twp Hall Park - Vivian Rd	17	27	19
Twp Park 3 - Bluebush Rd	23	14	28

3. Considering the Township parks and facilities you have visited, what were the primary reasons you visited them, what did you most enjoy during your visit and are there improvements you might suggest?		
Kiwanis Park		
Reason for Visit	Most Enjoyable Feature	Suggested Improvements
Playground and i coach kids baseball and softball there meet up with friends for kids to play	Great ballfields ball fields, open space	Stripe the parking lot since people don't know how to park More stuff for kids playground, bike trails, fishing area, flowers, soccer nets, more seating in shaded areas
Baseball	Watching my kid play	Add water activities
Softball league	Kids can play on the playground	Splash pad
TBall	Space for baseball	Playground equipment or add more
Kids t-ball and baseball	Kids park	would like to fix the parking line in the parking lot, bring back the archery shooting, add a BIG rock climbing wall
Nice play structure, walking by the water		
Softball	Playground for the kids	Splash pad
Family time	The playground and corn hole boards and basketball hoop	A bigger basketball area/court. Also a nice walking trail/path around the whole area.

Walking	The stream	Walking trail around the perimeter.
meeting	stony creek/tree cover	kayak/canoe access, improved restroom, paved shoulder or non-motorized route to nearby neighborhoods, library, school
Close to home, playground for all ages, bathroom available, picnic area available, Ball diamonds for dinner rec.	Playground and Ball diamonds	Some sort of step on the bottom of the steps to the playground for shorter children. I saw a corn hole set ready for install and I love that idea.
Picnic and playground with Grandkids	Shade	Real bathrooms
Softball	None	Better lights
Family Fun day	outdoor surroundings	
Youth baseball	Nicely groomed ball fields	More amenities for activities
Great place for get together	Clean and it has something for everyone	None
Location	Stoney Creek	More parking
To let the kids play and walk by the creek	Playscape	More benches, benches by the creek
Close to home	Creek nearby	
Playground, baseball, leaves	Playground, creek	
Baseball and the playscape.	The playscape location.	Another playscape or other features.
Grad party	Ball fields	
Ball games	Beautiful hall	Maybe seating near water. Sand volleyball court
Nice green space		Tennis and Basketball
Summer ball	Fields	Concession
Graduations		
Event		
Playground and hall rental		
Ball game	Ball field	
Softball, graduation party	Creek	Utilize space near creek
Grad party	Creek	
Fished the creek	Ball diamonds	Better access to the creek and a kayak launch
cardio-drumming and meeting	New flooring and new interior paint	Paint outside of building and get new doors
Kids softball game	Nature	Put in a bigger parking lot
family reunion	air conditioning	
Grad party's and softball	The play set for the kids	More things for young kids to play on and having a nice sand volleyball court.
Right down the road	Hall is nice with pavilion,	More activities like splash pad
Baseball games	Big playground	
Playground	Playground	Bathroom, new volleyball CT, splash pad

Easter egg hunt, softball	Playground equipment	Walking paths
Baseball games	Fun playground	
Graduation party and baseball games	Playground area is very nice.	I am happy with the way it is.
Took my child to the park	Stony Creek. We enjoy having a picnic by the water & really enjoy the natural features	Walking trails, natural play area & nature programming, parking lot improvements
Kids to play at park	Glad there is a pavilion and tables	Walking paths
Ball Fields (Watched someone play ball)	Ball Fields	More trails
Softball	Softball	None comes to mind.
Close by	Playscape	Walk path
Kids to play	It's away from the road so safe from cars	More for the kids to do.
Baseball/event	Ball fields, park, event building	Possibly add beach volleyball
Playground visits with my kids	Playground	
It's nearby	Nice playground, lots of open space	A walking/running trail along the perimeter of the park

Township Hall Park		
Reason for Visit	Most Enjoyable Feature	Suggested Improvements
Baseball field and hill for sledding	All is good and lots of shade	Steps in the hill for climbing it
Pickleball!	Pickleball courts	
Baseball games	Kids can play on the playground	Walking trail, splash pad
TBall photos	NA	NA
Kids pictures, kids to play	Shade, kids area	More benches, seating
it's very close to my house, I'm there 3+ times a week	The walking path	Fence off or remove the trees around the sledding hill, my son got hurt very bad on them 2 years ago (3 night hospital stay),
Playground		
Sledding		
walking trail	natural features/landscaping at south end of park	restrooms, improved/more pavement and structures for inline /skateboard activities skate/
Church picnic, sledding	Ball diamonds/ courts to play on	Clean up the volley Ball pit so there aren't any burrs and grasses
Walking path	Walking path	Real bathrooms
Walk, sledding	Sled hill	Better playscape
Tennis courts, walk track, hill	Tennis courts	Fix walking path
Youth baseball	Accommodates youth activities other than baseball	
Baseball games		Better parking

Parties or gatherings	Rec building	Walking trails along the creek. Extended parking.
To let the kids play, take a walk	Walking path	Covered structure for picnics near playscape
Pickleball		
Walk the trail	Kids liked the playset and hill	Benches along the trail
Sledding, playground, hill, tennis	Hill	
To enjoy nice weather and trail	Sports courts and fields	Better walking trail
No one is ever there. My kids love going there. The 2 playscapes are perfect.	The playscapes and the walking path.	Better water management. Sometimes the playscape and pavilion is under water.
Picnic		
Ball game	Kids play ground	
Trail	Trail	
Summer ball		Concession
walking path	the walking path	removing parents from watch baseball while sitting on walking path
Running		
Play at playground, and walk	The walking path	A bigger playground
Never knew it was there		
family reunion under pavilions		
Kids playground	Playground	Maybe something more than portable potty
Party, basketball, sledding	Hill for sledding	
n/a	n/a	Maybe shuffle board and other games?
Walk path	Walk path	Add some trees
Walked the trail	Very nice sized trail	Dog park
Santa, trunk or treat etc.	See above	Better playground
Walking trail		Bigger playground, floods with a lot of rain
Don't really go there	The hill	New Playground Walking paths
Baseball	Pavilion	
Baseball games	Parking is close	More things to do like bigger playground area and more seating.
Bring Children to Playground, Walk Dog	Walking Path, Playground, Hill (Hiking, Sledding)	I think a pond with a fountain would be a nice scenic addition to the walking path, more trees.
Took my child to the park	I think the walking trails are a great asset to have by the senior center & really enjoy having a tennis court in the township	I think it would be great to have more programming there, especially for kids < age 5
Walking path	Clean	
Great when my kids were small	The park is great for smaller kids	Playground equipment for bigger kids

Walking track	Openness and country atmosphere.	A row of Arbor Vitae or other sound-deadening shrubbery along East flank to shield noise of I-75.
Close by and cross-country practice for my son.	Hill for sledding and running.	Splash pad for the kids to play in for summer.
Closeness to home/kids play	Lots of room to run and walk	Benches
Walking trail, snow hill		
Playground visits with kids and to walk fitness trail	Play areas and fitness trail	Play structure
To use the trail or tennis courts	The tennis courts and the path you can run on that goes around the park	

Township Park #3		
Reason for Visit	Most Enjoyable Feature	Suggested Improvements
Girls softball games	Not sure	Field needs a fence around it, more seating and better dugouts
walking the path, playing Pickleball, playing baseball, playground	path	Pickleball lines on the tennis court
Never been	Never been	Never been
Playground	Playground	Bathrooms
Did not visit		
playground and walking path	playground	fix the drainage issue on the path
N/A haven't been there		
Playground	Playscape	Improve access to connect to bike trail. improved restrooms, non-motorized pathway access to neighborhoods, Munson park
We visited a few years ago to see it and fly kites	Right behind the library	Unknown
Tennis	Tennis courts	Real bathrooms
None	None	None
Playscape walking trail	Playscape	More trees
Soccer	Walking path	Level out walk path to eliminate unevenness and flooding
Outdoor physical activities	Has multiple activities available	Addition of inline/ice skating area
Baseball and walking	Nice walking path	Better security and preventing Marijuana use in the park.
N/a	N/a	N/a
Walking	Tennis	Separate Pickleball court and tennis backboard
Picnic lunch and playset	Nice playset	
Playground	Playground	
Equipment is nice and updated with plenty of options along with the walking path.	Nice area, kept up, clean, newer equipment and walking path!	
Walking path		

Walking	Paths	
	Very open layout to be able to watch my kids.	
Running		
Play at the playground and walking path	All of it is enjoyable	None
Playground		Softball fields
Library and playground	Kids love the playground	Restrooms would be nice
Playground	Playground for kids	Maybe add a disc golf course with all the space available
To play tennis	Tennis courts	A splash pad or fountain for kids to play in
I have never visited.	I heard there was a walk path	Add some trees
NA	NA	NA
Newer playground	Rock climb	Another pavilion, bike park
Playground	Playground	Bathroom, splash pad
Walking while kids play	Walking paths around playground	Bathroom facilities
To hang out at the playground	Playground	No shade
Never go to this one	N/A	N/A
Bring Children to Playground, Walk Dog	Playground, Walking Path	Shade!
Close to my home and I like the walking path on it.	Walking path	Add another garbage can near the hill. There is not one near there and my dog always leaves a gift on that side and I have to carry it a long way around the path.
Close to home/ walking paths	Walking path	
To play at park	That it is right next to the library	More shade and benches near the playground
Walking Trail	Walking Trail	Give it a formal name. Township Park 3 sounds like a dystopian place to go. Name it after someone who has dedicated great service to the Township. Or call it Bluebush Park. But Township Park 3? You can do better.
Lots to do	Good running path	

6. Please indicate to what extent each of the following recreation facilities/amenities are important to you. Mark each of the following amenities on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not important at all and 5 is extremely important

	1-Not Important at all	2-Slightly important	3-Somewhat important	4- Very important	5- Extremely important
Playgrounds	5	1	6	23	33
Soccer Fields	20	12	19	12	5
Basketball Courts	12	11	23	18	3
Outdoor Skating Rinks	22	12	19	8	7
Baseball/Softball Fields	8	7	10	24	18
Bicycle Trails	1	3	8	17	38
Fishing Pier	15	7	17	14	14
Rifle/Archery Range	34	9	11	7	6
Hiking Paths	1	4	5	20	37
Picnic Areas	1	5	8	24	28
Outdoor Swimming Pools	14	11	9	8	26
Tennis courts	15	11	23	14	4
Pickleball Courts	19	16	16	6	9
Horseshoes	19	16	23	6	3
Bocce Ball Courts	25	11	20	8	3
Bandstand	21	13	18	10	4

Your Suggestions (please specify)

It is nice to be able to walk or bike TO the parks, not just at the parks. I wish there were sidewalks or bike lanes connecting neighborhoods to the parks.

Please consider an outdoor pool somewhere for our children. A lot of people travel to surrounding areas to use there's. They have splash pads, pools, outdoor movies etc. Whole we really do not have much for our kids to do here.

Connect all parks with walking and biking paths.

Think of parks as a neighborhood amenity, as an end-point/midway point in a neighborhood walk or run. It should feel like a safe spot for a lone female runner to use a restroom, refill a water bottle, before turning around back to home. It should be accessible by bicycle or by walking without being on the roadway. It should have toilets and water for handwashing/drinking during daylight hours. It should have a bicycle maintenance station for simple adjustments.

2 sets of corn hole boards at each park or by each picnic area

Would love a place to go to in the township that we can do Music in the Park in the Summer.

Disc golf course

Research modern activities to build the more popular amenities that appeal to people these days. Parks are outdated.

Bigger place to rollerblade

Disc Golf

We need a big indoor rec center for youth events instead of paying for more sheriff deputies and a building.

Disc golf course and fishing piers

Splash pad

Acceptable bathroom facilities are important

More bathrooms at parks

splash pad

Even though my family and I may not use all these amenities, I believe they are important for having a well-rounded park system.

I wish all the parks had a running/walking path. It would be great if all the parks were connected with a bike path

or bike routes. So you would be able to ride from the township hall to Blue Bush.

7. Which type of facilities or park would you be most likely to visit? Choose one only.

	Response %	Response #
Parks with athletic fields & courts	0.00%	0
Nature preserves with nature areas & hiking trails	11.43%	8
Indoor Recreation Center with Gym & Classrooms	4.29%	3
Bicycle trails & walking paths	22.86%	16
Neighborhood parks with playgrounds & benches	8.57%	6
Multi-purpose park with nature area, sports fields, & playgrounds	42.86%	30
Other (please specify)		
Indoor/outdoor recreational center, like Trenton		
Outdoor pool		
Outdoor pool		
Disc golf course		
Disc golf course		
Accessible play grounds and equipment. Not every kid has the same abilities. Wheelchairs, walking aids, all need to have open free access in Monroe.		
Parks with pools or splash pads.		

8. Please indicate to what extent each of the following recreation programs are important to you. Mark each of the following amenities on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not important at all and 5 is extremely important

	1-Not Important at all	2-Slightly important	3-Somewhat important	4- Very important	5- Extremely important
Baseball/softball	13	2	13	15	23
Soccer	15	9	17	15	10
Basketball	12	13	15	19	7
Exercise and Fitness Classes	6	10	12	22	16
Golf	25	7	15	11	10
Dance	22	8	20	12	5
Tennis	16	12	22	12	4
Playground Program	8	3	8	16	31
Pre-school Programs	19	3	10	14	21
Children Programs	7	3	10	17	30
Adult Programs	7	7	23	13	17
Senior Programs	11	9	15	17	15
Teen Programs	12	7	13	18	17
Family Programs	4	5	13	17	28
Concerts and Shows	10	4	25	14	13
Volleyball	15	10	26	12	4
Nature Programs	0	9	14	21	23
Your Suggestion:					
Pickleball league or open tournament or drop-in matches					
Morning and evening yoga, movement classes, group bicycle rides-possibly with sag wagon support for help with traffic, more nature/conservation programs highlighting Stony Creek greenbelt/wetland/riparian ecosystem					

Disc golf course
Add one or two disc golf courses.
Frisbee golf
Cycling and walking are very important to me.
3-5 tee-ball so my 2 kids can play here local compared to going out to Monroe Stoneco
These are all great programs and my family will not utilize all of them, but they are all beneficial.
It is hard to gage what other people think, as I have no children. However, the thought of "concerts and shows" is intriguing. The addition of a Band shell and live entertainment is evident as the City of Monroe packs 5000 people into St. Mary's Park for their Summer Concert Series. A thought.

9. How would you rank the following possible improvements to the overall Frenchtown Township parks system? Please mark each of the suggested improvements on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is least priority and 5 is top priority					
	1-Least Priority	2-Low Priority	3- Medium Priority	4-High Priority	5-Top Priority
Maintain/renovate existing parks	1	1	13	29	22
Develop new facilities at existing parks	3	2	5	22	34
Develop more bicycle/pedestrian paths within the parks	0	5	11	19	31
Develop more bicycle/pedestrian connections throughout the Township	3	8	13	10	32
Acquire new parks & open spaces	7	7	19	11	22
Your Suggestion					
Sidewalks! We need sidewalks to connect neighborhoods to the parks - would love a sidewalk down Vivian road to connect to the twp. park.					
Acquire and Develop more assets with mature tree cover and undeveloped landscape along Stony Creek basin from west border to Lake Erie, develop water trail, hiking/bike trails, develop safe non-motorized routes across I-75, Telegraph Rd, and N. Dixie Hwy					
Disc golf course					
Disc golf course					
Bike connections throughout and new playground items for kids					
The Maintenance and Upkeep of the existing parks should be paramount. Current inflation and soaring property costs should cool all thoughts of acquisition.					

10. How would you rank the following possible bicycle/pedestrian path and connection? Please mark each of the suggested improvements on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is least priority and 5 is top priority					
	1-Least Priority	2-Low Priority	3- Medium Priority	4-High Priority	5-Top Priority
A separate shared use path along N Dixie Hwy from City limits north to Berlin Township and beyond	13	13	11	9	15
A connection between Kiwanis Park and the Nadeau Rd Library	9	14	11	14	14
Connections between Jefferson Schools & Sodt Elementary to Dixie Hwy via Stony Creek & Nadeau	6	10	22	14	10

A separate shared use path along Mall Rd from M-125 to Telegraph Rd	13	14	16	9	9
A separate shared use path along Stewart Rd from Vivian to Township Park 3	7	11	18	14	13
A connection from Township Park 3 south to Munson Park	9	9	13	17	17
Your Suggestion					
Connecting Park #3 is very important! It is a great park but hard to get to because of the fast busy traffic on Stewart Rd.					
An East-West non-motorized route parallel to Stony Creek, with a safe route across Telegraph, I-75					
Disc golf course					
Connection with Jefferson schools would be great due to kids' sports and the rec center. Plus gas prices are so high and this will keep kids active.					
Anything to connect communities and parks					
You would be adding bicycle traffic on already heavily trafficked roads such as Stewart, Bates and North Custer. Plan with caution and PLEASE consider lowering speed limits in such bicycle traffic areas.					

11. Is there anything else you would like us to consider?

Dog poop is a problem sometimes at the parks, as well as people letting dogs run off leash. Even with signage and bags and trash cans, people are very inconsiderate. But it has gotten better with the signs and bags. Maybe a fenced in dog run would encourage people to go there? Is there a way to educate people about the mess they make and the impact loose dogs have? I don't know how many people have said to me, "it's ok, my dog's friendly" but I shouldn't have to take their word for it. They should leash their dog. Being bitten once is more than enough and I should not have to fear that in places that are clearly marked that dogs are supposed to be leashed!

Question # 2 will not let me mark more than park for the same visit frequency. I have also been to Kiwanis but it will not let me mark that.

We need a soccer program and more things directed towards all of our youth (K-12)

A splash pad would be fun to have somewhere in the twp.!

Safety should always be considered, with that, lighting should be included.

Telegraph Road (old bridge) is frequently used by kayakers and canoeists to paddle down to Kiwanis Park and Lake Erie. This should be developed more as a water trail, and maybe a wooded park.

2 or more toilets at each park

Focus on updating and improving current parks and not on acquiring new land for new parks.

Disc golf course

No

Make our State Park more enjoyable. Maybe take some tips from state parks in West Michigan

Would like a wider shoulder or bike lane on Sandy Creek to the State Park. People go very fast and there is no room on the shoulder for biking to the park.

Disc golf course. Swimming area

Frisbee golf

A municipal par 3 golf course could be a nice thing since river raisin has closed down and nothing was done yet with the space

Planting more trees at the parks

Railroad crossings at Hurd and Cole rd. are terrible when the train is stopped for hours!!!

Bathroom facilities

Splash pad

I would love to see more pedestrian pathways OFF the road. I personally will never use bike lanes, since I don't feel safe using them and would not trust drivers.

If you connected Township Park 3 to Munson, which would merge on North Custer, which is the County, trail. That may be a good opportunity to play nice in the sandbox with the County. Further, I would await further

redevelopment of the Mall of Monroe before even thinking of anything "shared use" on Mall Road. Future development and repurposing of the Mall may render such a "path" to be a dangerous place for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Splash pad for children to use in summer.

Your parks suck

Providing a youth soccer program.

12. How old are you?

	Response %	Response #
Under 25	0.00%	0
25 to 34	21.74%	15
35 to 44	42.03%	29
45 to 54	17.39%	12
55 to 64	11.59%	8
65 and over	7.25%	5

13. Including yourself, how many adults 18 and over live in your household?

	Response %	Response #
1	5.80%	4
2	73.91%	51
3	17.39%	12
4	2.90%	2

14. Including yourself, how many children under 18 live in your household?

	Response %	Response #
0	31.88%	22
1	20.29%	14
2	28.99%	20
3	17.39%	12
4	1.45%	1
5 or more	0.00%	0

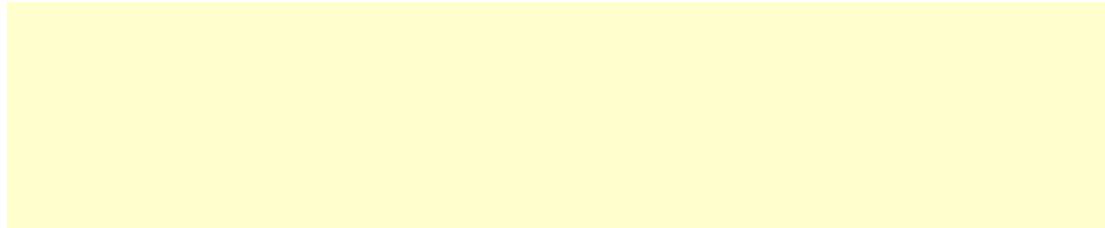
15. In what zip code area do you live?

	Response #
48117	0
48162	54
48166	11
Other	4

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

NOTICE OF DRAFT PLAN AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS



RECREATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION

LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL

