



CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

**5-YEAR PARKS
AND RECREATION
MASTER PLAN**

2021 – 2026

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

This Recreation Plan describes the parks system and recreation opportunities in the City of Traverse City and establishes goals, objectives and an overall vision for the community's parks and recreation future.

The City Parks and Recreation staff takes the lead in the direction of the planning process with guidance from the City Parks and Recreation Commission and other City staff members.

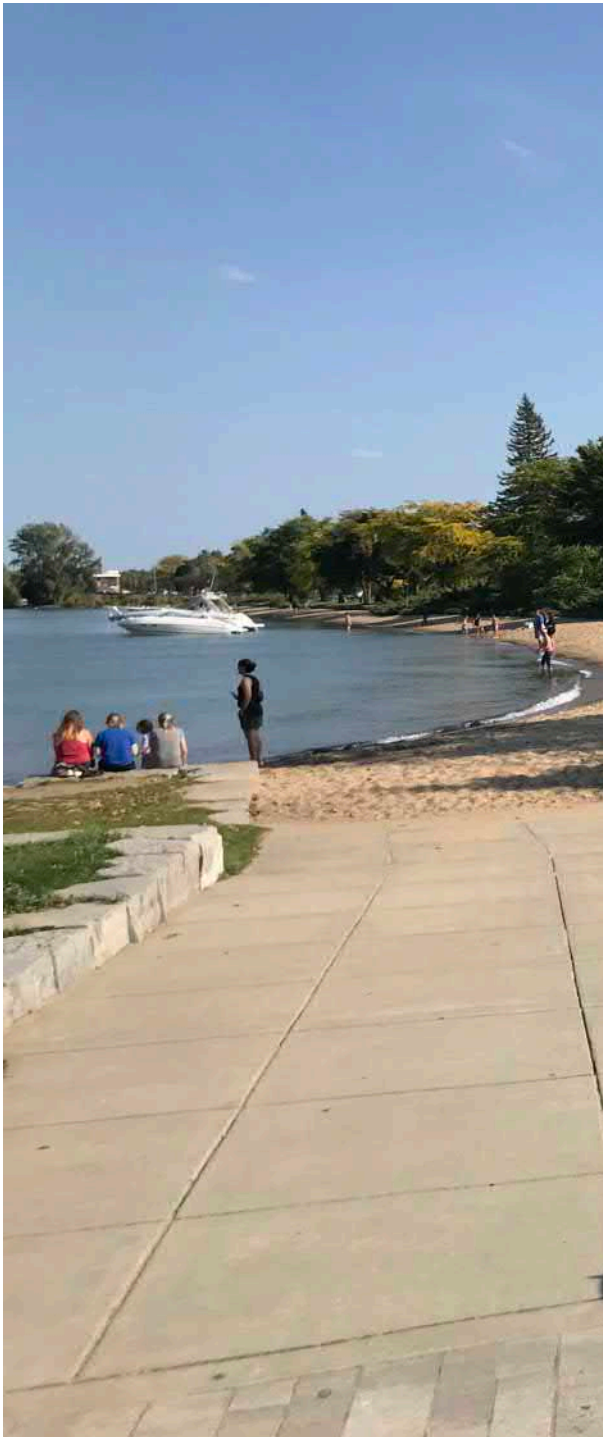
This Parks and Recreation Plan is the result of a collaborative effort undertaken by the City of Traverse City's Parks and Recreation Commission and various City departments. The intent of this plan is to identify the current status of parks and recreation, the recreational needs of the community, and to develop priorities for Traverse City by evaluating the current available resources such as planning documents and public input.

The citizens of Traverse City have continually demonstrated their support for the maintenance and development of quality City parks, natural areas, and recreation facilities. Past surveys revealed strong local support in favor of continued development and maintenance of the existing facilities. Perceived as an essential component of the community, these facilities function both in meeting the needs of local residents and by providing a major attraction for tourism, which is



Traverse City's most important industry.

For purposes of this plan, recreation can be defined as any activity that promotes the physical and/or mental well being of the person who is participating, and that provides relief from the routine and stress of everyday life. Recreational activities are often classified into two broad categories of "active" and "passive" involvement. Open space is defined simply as space that is not used for buildings or man-made structures. It can be air, land or water and is an area that is often used for recreational activities.



01

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

This recreation plan has been developed for the City of Traverse City, located in Grand Traverse County 253 miles northwest of Detroit and 316 miles north of Chicago. The City's northern boundary is Lake Michigan's Grand Traverse Bay, a large bay divided by the Old Mission Peninsula. The southern tip of West Grand Traverse Bay is fully within the City of Traverse City. The western portion of the southern tip of East Grand Traverse Bay is also in the City limits. Situated in the Boardman River Valley, the City is surrounded by forested hills, cherry and apple orchards, vineyards, and numerous inland lakes along with a rapidly growing community that expands out into the surrounding townships. The area's beauty has historically attracted sportsmen and outdoor enthusiasts from southern Michigan as well as throughout the U.S.A. Prior to developing a reputation as a recreation and tourist area, this part of the state, as well as all of northern Michigan, based its economy on lumbering and to a lesser extent, agriculture. In the 1850's, the City bustled with the activity of several sawmills and related industries along with a great number of diversified businesses of the era until the lumbering industry waned at the turn of the 20th century.

Today, several downtown buildings and businesses are reminders of that era dating back a century or more. Among them are the City-owned Opera



House, the Hannah - Lay Building, and the old State Bank building (now Fifth-Third Bank). Both have maintained the 19th century flavor while adding modern conveniences of the 21st century.

Preservation of Traverse City's historic buildings and homes is important to residents. Within walking distance of downtown, one may tour the well maintained historic neighborhoods and view some of the finest "lumbering era" architecture in Michigan.

A number of major events are held in the area reflecting the region's tie to its natural resource and



agriculture base. Some of the best known events are the National Cherry Festival, the Bayshore Marathon, "The Iceman Cometh" mountain bike race, the M-22 Challenge, the North American Vasa Cross Country Ski Race and the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival. In addition, the area hosts a variety of sporting events including sail boat races, boat and car shows, golf championships, disc golf tournaments, skiing events, foot races, off road bicycle racing, and all variety of sports tournaments.

Unlike many communities the size of Traverse City, the area is not lacking in cultural and educational

activities. World famous artists perform throughout the year and outdoor summer concerts are a highlight at the Interlochen National Music Camp and Arts Academy. Since 2009, the National Writers Series has hosted public conversations with nationally recognized authors and offered writing workshops for students and adults. The Traverse City Film Festival continues to gain in prominence and is becoming well known internationally. In addition, the Northwestern Michigan College Dennon Museum permanently houses an extensive collection of artwork and a children's discovery area, along with works by masters and regional artists. The school ship, Inland Seas, provides classes on West Grand Traverse Bay for school aged children. The Traverse Area District Library is a virtual treasure trove of print, audio and visual literature.

Each year, many additional concerts, plays and special events such as art, antique, car and boat shows take place in the Traverse City area. Traverse City features the Traverse Symphony Orchestra, the Old Town Playhouse, and many other music and theater groups providing varied entertainment. The restored, historic State Theatre on Front St. and the Bijou By The Bay theatre, housed in the former Con Foster Museum Building in the City's Clinch Park, allow for both live theater and motion picture venues. Both of these are operated by the Traverse City Film Festival organization.

The 2019 population estimate for Traverse City proper was 15,738. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the City of Traverse City population as of the 2010 census was 14,674. This was up slightly from the 2000 census figure of 14,532 and down from the 1990 figure of 15,155. The surrounding townships however, continue to grow at a rapid rate. Grand Traverse County has grown from the 1970 population of 31,975 to the 2019 estimate of 93,088. The 2010 census figure was 86,986, in 2000 it was 77,654 and the 1990 population was 64,273. This figure indicates an over 44% increase during this 29 year period. The City of Traverse City has provided parks and recreation facilities that have been under increasing pressure from use by the growing area population along with the tourist influx, especially in the summer months.

NATURAL RESOURCES

INTRODUCTION

Enjoyment of recreation in the Traverse City area is due in large part to the abundance of natural and physical resources in the region. Certainly, this is true for boaters, swimmers, bikers, campers, bird-watchers, fishing enthusiasts, scuba divers, hikers, and both cross country and downhill skiers.

EAST AND WEST GRAND TRAVERSE BAYS (LAKE MICHIGAN)

The bays are the most important natural



resource. Its shoreline is an area of great concern, particularly in light of development pressures it is exposed to daily. While much of the bay shore is privately owned, the bay itself is a public resource. It is used for fishing, sailing, boating, swimming, wind-surfing, diving, and simply viewing from the shore. There is a desire to link all the City bay front parks together, featuring trails, walkways, etc., with interpretive educational centers as part of the trail. Several historical and watershed educational stations have been added in the past few years. There also is a push to enhance shore-based fishing, with an emphasis on more public



fishing without need for a boat. Opportunities for shore based fishing continue to be investigated for implementation in current and future waterfront improvement projects.

Management of the City's shorelines and riparian areas must include protection and enhancement of fish habitat to improve this fishery. Another aspect that needs improving along the shoreline is the placement of storm water drains. There continues to be enormous thought going into planning for these positive steps to lessen impact on the bays. Stormwater treatment devices have been installed in four parks to help reduce the amount of pollutants and sediments reaching the Boardman

River and the Bays. Removing or controlling several invasive species of plants and animals is also at the forefront of environmental efforts. The re-establishment of native vegetation in some disturbed habitat areas is the best defense against the growth of invasive plants.

About half of Traverse City's shoreline is sandy beach. Other parts of the shoreline have been altered with protective shoreline measures from rock revetments to hard steel sheet piling systems. Lake Michigan water level fluctuations continue to provide challenging conditions that often times need to be readdressed in extreme high or extreme low water events.

BOARDMAN RIVER SYSTEM

The Boardman River passes through the City of Traverse City including Boardman Lake. This lake level is enhanced approximately nine feet by the Union Street Dam right in the center of the City. The lake and river both offer many recreational opportunities both land based and water based. With the bays so close at hand, Boardman Lake and River do not see the level of use that they would have if located in a community away from the Great Lakes. Kid's Creek is a valuable tributary that flows through Garfield Township to its confluence at the Boardman River in Downtown Traverse City. The creek and it's wetland systems provide many natural resource benefits, recreation opportunities and is another highlighted water resource for the area.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

HIGHWAYS

Traverse City is served by US-31, M-37, M-72 and M-22 allowing highway access to the community from any direction. US-131, a limited access highway from Grand Rapids, does not directly tie into Traverse City but comes within 39 miles of servicing the community. Located at the head of Grand Traverse Bay, several highways converge in the City. This phenomenon results in considerable traffic along the City's waterfront, especially during the peak travel months.

The traffic along Traverse City's waterfront brings many people in close proximity to the City's fine recreation opportunities along the bay. With most parking located away from the bay, the roads bearing that heavy traffic also tend to create physical and physiological barriers to safely reaching recreation facilities and also create environmental concerns with storm water runoff and pollutants. The City has attempted to reduce the barriers with a pedestrian tunnel under Grandview Parkway (US-31, M-72, M-22) at Cass Street, an underpass at the Murchie Bridge near Grandview and Front Street, at grade crossings at Hull Street, Oak Street and Elmwood Avenue (Hull and Elmwood with pedestrian activated signals), and signalized crossings of Grandview Parkway at Division, Union and Park Streets. The

City continues to explore options for carrying pedestrian traffic safely across Grandview Parkway to bayside destinations.

LOCAL STREETS

Most City parks are accessed via Traverse City's local streets. These streets are continuously targeted for improvements through the City's Public Improvements Program. The City has nearly 29 miles of major streets and 49 miles of local streets as defined by the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Hickory Hills Ski Area and Brown Bridge Quiet Area lie outside the City limits and are accessed by County roads. The County road servicing Hickory Hills is maintained in the winter by the City.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAVEL

There are areas within the community that were designed years ago primarily for the automobile; where pedestrian travel has inadvertently been discouraged. In some areas, pedestrian and bicycle travel is challenging because streets were designed to move many vehicles as quickly as possible. The City is taking steps to correct these conditions by steadily enhancing the sidewalk network, encouraging implementation of Complete Streets design standards, adding trails and by marking bicycle lanes along many City streets.

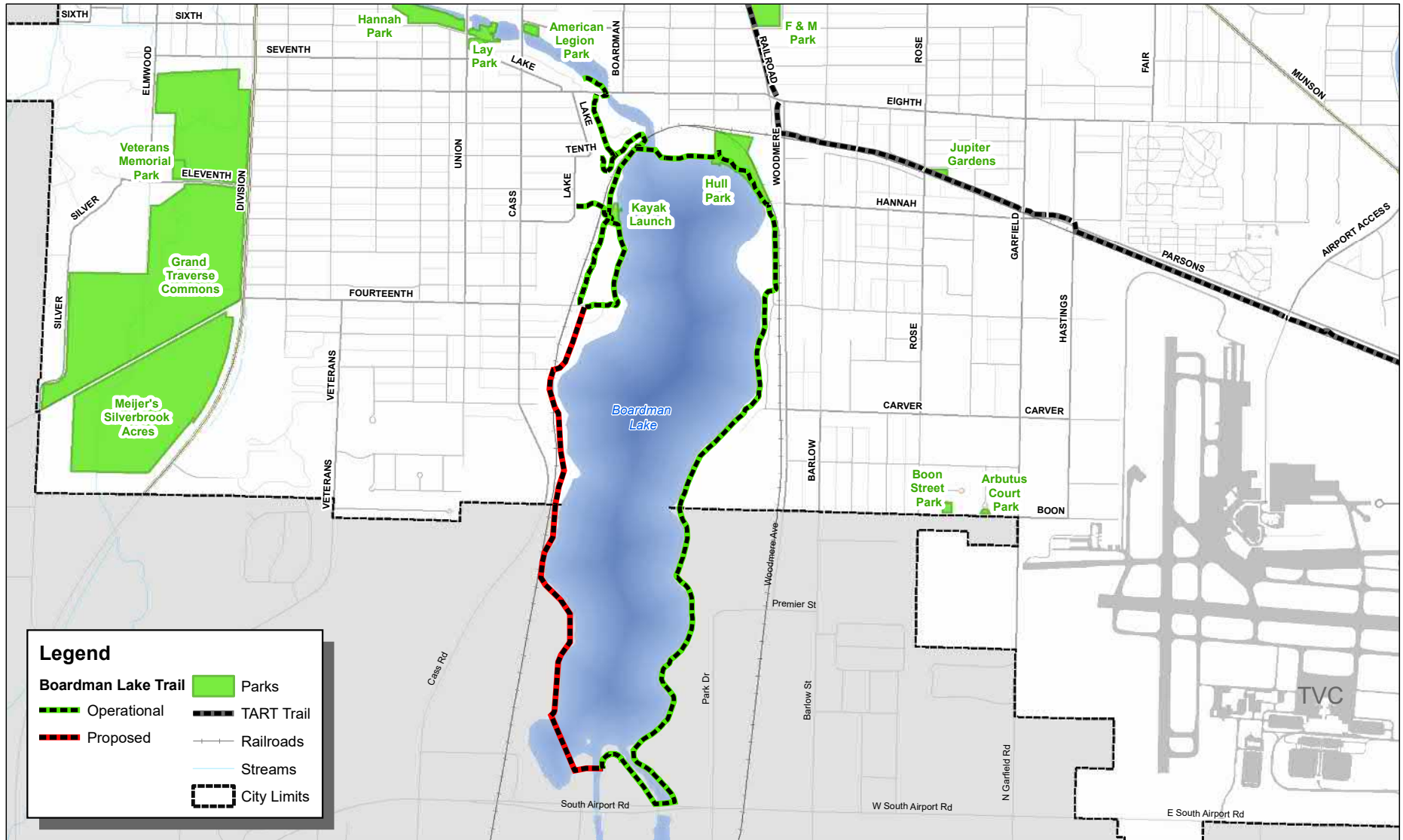


The City Master Plan calls for community streets to be designed for a wide range of users, not just the motor vehicle driver. Roadway improvement designs must also consider the needs of the pedestrian and bicyclist, by incorporating sidewalks and bike lanes. Sidewalks need adequate separation from the roadway to provide comfort and clear demarcation between the road edge and the sidewalk. Driveways must be designed and limited in number so that they do not impair the safety of the pedestrian or bicyclist. Designs should also include consideration for mitigation of increased impervious surfaces or alternate surfaces.

To further encourage pedestrian and bicycle travel, a system of trails and connecting walks are being implemented to make these forms of travel through and around the community inviting. The eleven mile long TART trail is a paved urban transportation corridor that currently runs between Bunker Hill Road in Acme Township and Carter Road in Elmwood Township which is past the M22/M-72 intersection in Traverse City. The trail runs along Grand Traverse Bay, through downtown Traverse City neighborhoods and the Mitchell Creek watershed and is a favorite of families, visitors, bicyclists and in-line skaters.

The Leelanau Trail stretches 17 miles through the last of the Leelanau County railway corridors. The Leelanau Trail connects Traverse City and Suttons Bay. The entire distance is now paved. These two trails combine for 28 contiguous miles of hiking, biking and roller blading possibilities. Capital funds and grant monies have been used and more will be needed to construct additional new trails and to maintain existing trails and pathways.

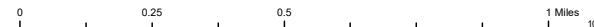
The Boardman Lake Trail is moving forward toward completion. The Boardman Lake East and North Trails connect Hull Park and the Traverse Area District Library at the north end, Medalie Park in Garfield Township at the south end, and Old Town and other neighborhoods west of Boardman Lake. This trail includes a major pedestrian bridge that crosses the Boardman River. The current West



This map is based on digital databases from the City of Traverse City. Traverse City cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. There are no warranties expressed or implied.

Boardman Lake Trail Existing & Proposed

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN



10/30/2020 GWS

Boardman Lake Trail section spans from 10th Street to 14th Street, and construction plans are underway to complete the West trail around the entirety of Boardman Lake. The Boardman Lake Trail now connects to the TART Trail and eventually will connect to trails in the Boardman Valley and beyond.

The Vasa Trail pathway which is managed under agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Grand Traverse County, and TART Trails, is located amid the pristine beauty of the Pere Marquette State Forest. The Vasa Pathway, utilized by cross country skiers, mountain and fat tire bikers, walkers and naturalists, features a series of loops and trails that offer both challenging and easier routes for every level of user.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The Traverse City area, including Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties, is served by the Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA). BATA provides scheduled routes with the City loops, various local area loops, and regional connections.

Two services that BATA provides that serves the recreation community are the popular Bike-n-Ride and Ski-n-Ride programs.

Bike-n-Ride offers transportation for riders and up to 11 bicycles that don't want to pedal all the way both ways to enjoy two popular rides. One route

serves Traverse City to Suttons Bay and Northport and the other from Traverse City to Glen Arbor and Empire.

Ski-n-Ride offers transportation from Traverse City, including stops at local middle schools, to Hickory Hills and Mt. Holiday during the week and to The Homestead and Crystal Mountain on the weekends. Skiers can take their equipment with them on the bus and for the middle school students, the schools have set up areas where the skis can be kept during the school day.



02

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE



ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

The Parks and Recreation Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Commission on matters relating to the operation, development, and planning of parks, recreation and cemetery services and activities. Six of the seven commissioners are appointed by the City Commission and serve staggered terms of three years. The seventh member is the City Manager's appointee. This body is an important liaison between the citizens of Traverse City and the

City Commission, along with other groups and governmental units. The Commission was formed under the authority of Section 30 of the Charter of the City of Traverse City.

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF

The Parks and Recreation staff directs the operation and maintenance of parks, cemetery, and special facilities and develops and organizes recreation programs. The Parks and Recreation Division is under the direction of the Parks and Recreation Superintendent who reports to the Director of Public Services who reports directly to the City Manager. The City Manager is responsible to the City Commission which consists of six citizens elected for staggered four year terms and an elected Mayor that serves a two year term. The Mayor and the City Commission are, in turn, ultimately responsible to the citizens which they serve. The Brown Bridge Advisory Group makes recommendations to the City Manager on issues related to the Brown Bridge Quiet Area.

The Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for recreation programming and facilities, Hickory Hills Ski Area, Oakwood Cemetery, the urban forestry program, public park operations and maintenance, three outdoor ice skating rinks and snow removal from several City parking lots.

The Duncan L. Clinch Marina is under the direction of the Department of Public Services Director.

STAFFING LEVELS

In the Parks and Recreation Division there are currently nine full-time maintenance employees including:

- » Parks and Recreation Superintendent
- » Marina Dockmaster / Hickory Hills Manager (vacant)
- » Parks and Recreation Supervisor
- » Departmental Secretary (shared among several divisions)
- » Parks Laborer (shared seasonally between parks and Oakwood Cemetery)
- » Recreation Specialist
- » Waterscape / Hickory Hills Recreation Specialist
- » Recreation Specialist / Parks Maintenance Worker
- » General Maintenance and Repair Specialist
- » Five (5) Parks Maintenance Workers
- » City Forester (vacant)
- » Approximately fifty seasonal workers

The Oakwood Cemetery staff consists of one full-time Sexton, one part-time Office Clerk, one

seasonal Laborer and 4 seasonal maintenance staff.

The Senior Center Network is under the umbrella of the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Department. The Senior Center Network is supported by 5 FTE and over 100 volunteers.

Many other City divisions offer assistance to the Parks and Recreation Division, Marina, Oakwood Cemetery and Senior Center. These include the Streets, Water Treatment, and Sewer and Water Maintenance Divisions in the Department of Public Services. The Planning, Zoning and Engineering Departments lend assistance in the planning and designing of facilities, putting together grant proposals and long-range planning.

From time to time for community service projects or special programs, the City gets the help of volunteers for various maintenance activities. Some examples are painting of buildings, litter pick-up, tree and flower planting, and beach clean-up.

PARKS OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for the operation, maintenance, and repair of the public park lands, fixtures, and buildings. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for the maintenance and operation of Oakwood Cemetery, garbage pick up in both the downtown and Old Town areas, the urban forestry



program which cares for over 12,000 street trees plus parks and cemetery trees, numerous perennial and shrub beds, and planting and maintaining approximately 10,000 annual flowers each year. The Division also builds and maintains three outdoor ice skating rinks, operates Hickory Hills Ski area, plows some public parking lots, maintains and cleans the Union Street Dam and spillway of debris, plus other activities too numerous to mention.

During the National Cherry Festival in July, the Parks and Recreation and Streets Divisions spend considerable time setting up and taking down fencing and cleaning up during and after many events.

RECREATION PROGRAMS

Traverse City prides itself on a well maintained and diversified parks system. Using these areas, along with school and county facilities, the Parks and Recreation Division has developed a variety of programs for youth and adults. The City recreation programs are coordinated with other area agencies so as not to compete or conflict with their activities and programs. The programs run throughout the year and are available to residents and non-residents alike. Below is a summary of offerings available through the City to residents in the area.

Day Camp

Children 7-12 years of age may attend this summer program held at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center, Twin Lakes Park and Hickory Hills Recreation Area. The program emphasizes outdoor recreation, arts and crafts, nature education, and beach activities. The program is a cooperative effort between the City of Traverse City and Grand Traverse County. The City provides the registration, administration and staffing and the County makes the space available at a low rental rate and provides some logistical support. The ten-week program has a maximum of 50 children per week and is full many weeks

Adult Volleyball Leagues

The City uses Traverse City Area Public Schools' elementary school gyms for this program which currently features women's, and co-ed leagues that play from October through March.

Several other recreation programs are held on City property and operated by local non-profit organizations. The main programs are:

- 1) The Traverse Area Community Sailing (T.A.C.S.) Program. This summer program gives children an opportunity to learn to sail and is located at the north end of Boardman Lake at Hull Park. Donations to the group funded the construction of docks and a large boat storage building.

2) The Grand Traverse Area Ski Club. The GTSC offers children the opportunity to learn how to ski and snowboard in a non-competitive format at the City’s Hickory Hills Ski Area and then they can become involved in the Club’s ski racing program. The Club has also been active in raising money for capital improvement projects and equipment for Hickory Hills.

3) Traverse Area Community Rowing is a group that offers regular instructional programs in various types of rowing shells and opportunities for those that already have the skills to use the group’s boats to row on Boardman Lake.

PARK AND RECREATION FUNDING

INTRODUCTION

Historically, the City of Traverse City has led the area in providing quality recreation. The community investment not only has improved the quality of life for the residents of the County, it has also helped to generate a strong tourist industry for the City. Maintaining a high-quality park system is seen, from an economic perspective, as an important element to be considered during the budget process. Finding a balance between resident and tourist, however, requires sensitivity since interests between the groups may be divergent.

METHOD OF FINANCE

Parks and Recreation facilities and programs in the City of Traverse City are funded primarily by property tax revenues. Each fiscal year, approximately 90% of the operating budget for Parks and Recreation (excluding marina) is generated from property taxes with the remainder from grants and user fees. Parks and Recreation financial resources from the City are dependent upon fluctuations in the municipal budget. However, other forms of revenue options are available to the City to ensure financial stability of a viable Parks and Recreation Program. Alternative sources used or proposed are: permits, metered parking, concession sales, adopt-a-park programs, user fees, intergovernmental cooperation, work release programs, park usage fees, gifts, and donations.

Another major funding source for the Parks and Recreation system has been the Brown Bridge Trust Fund. The City’s Brown Bridge Trust was established to hold revenue from oil and gas exploration rights and royalties located on the 1,300-acre Brown Bridge Quiet Area property 11 miles south of Traverse City. The fund was created by the voters through an amendment to the City Charter in 1978 and the principal balance may only be used when specifically authorized by the city’s electorate. The fund has been used four times for specific projects: a property purchase on

The City’s Brown Bridge Trust Fund, created in 1978, was established to hold revenue from oil and gas exploration rights and royalties located on the 1,300-acre Brown Bridge Quiet Area property. In 2014 and 2019, voters authorized the use of principal in excess of 12 million dollars to be placed in a separate fund to be used for capital improvements to city parks.



West Bay in 1987, to acquire additional property adjacent to the Brown Bridge Quiet Area in 1994; in 2014, the voters authorized the use of principal in excess of 12 million dollars to be placed in a separate fund to be used for capital improvements to city parks. This ballot initiative was in effect for a 5-year period and was again presented to the public in 2019 with a successful vote to extend the use of these funds through 2024. This initiative may be presented again to the public in the future, though this opportunity and associated parks and recreation funding is not guaranteed.

Major capital improvement projects for Parks

and Recreation, including property acquisition and development projects, are funded by the Capital Improvement Budget. The decisions to fund larger projects or to accept grants for those projects lies with the City Commission. A number of capital improvements have been funded in part by organizations or grant programs such as: Coastal Management Program, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan Recreation Bond Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Oleson Foundation, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails, Inc. (TART), Rotary Charities, Grand Traverse Whitetails, Ruffed Grouse Society, Ducks Unlimited, Grand Traverse Ski Club, VASA Ski Club, Preserve Hickory, Friendly Garden Club, Cherryland Garden Club, and the Kiwanis Club. These programs have provided not only matching funds but incentives to improve the City's recreational assets.

FUNDING LEVEL

Parks and Recreation funding has been a substantial portion of the City of Traverse City budget. For fiscal year 2020/2021 the City has allocated \$2,046,900 for Parks and Recreation. The Duncan L. Clinch Marina budget is listed as \$443,900. Of these total expenditures, approximately \$708,000 is returned by revenue producing facilities or programs. Specifically,

the marina is slated to generate \$634,000 for the 2020/2021 budget. All of the parks and recreational programs combined will produce approximately \$74,000 for the same period. Hickory Hills, the City Ski and Recreation Area, is now a standalone enterprise fund, with annual expenses projected to be approximately \$550,000, with revenue levels budgeted at \$229,000. The total operating budget allocated for Parks and Recreation constitutes just over 14 % of the City General Fund budget.

PUBLIC AGENCY COORDINATION

City of Traverse City/Charter Township of Garfield Recreational Authority

The Recreational Authority was formed in 2003 as a partnership between the citizens of Traverse City and Garfield Township for the purpose of the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance or improvement of public recreation centers, public parks, and public conference centers as may be acquired by the Authority or as may be transferred to it by a participating municipality. In 2004, voters in both jurisdictions approved ballot measures for the Authority to purchase and operate three properties as public parks which are the Historic Barns Park, Hickory Meadows, and part of the Open Space on West Grand Traverse Bay.

The Recreational Authority is governed by a

volunteer Board of Directors consisting of seven members and is funded by and operating millage set to expire in 2024. The operating millage does not cover all the expenses associated with the parks, so the Authority also relies on partnerships, grants, rental revenues and donations to help it take care of the parks. In 2020, Traverse City and Garfield Township residents voted in support of a ballot proposal to levy up to 0.3 mill which will provide for Recreational Authority operations for 20 more years (through 2039) and help leverage the purchase of the former Kroupa property next to Hickory Hills for preservation as parkland.

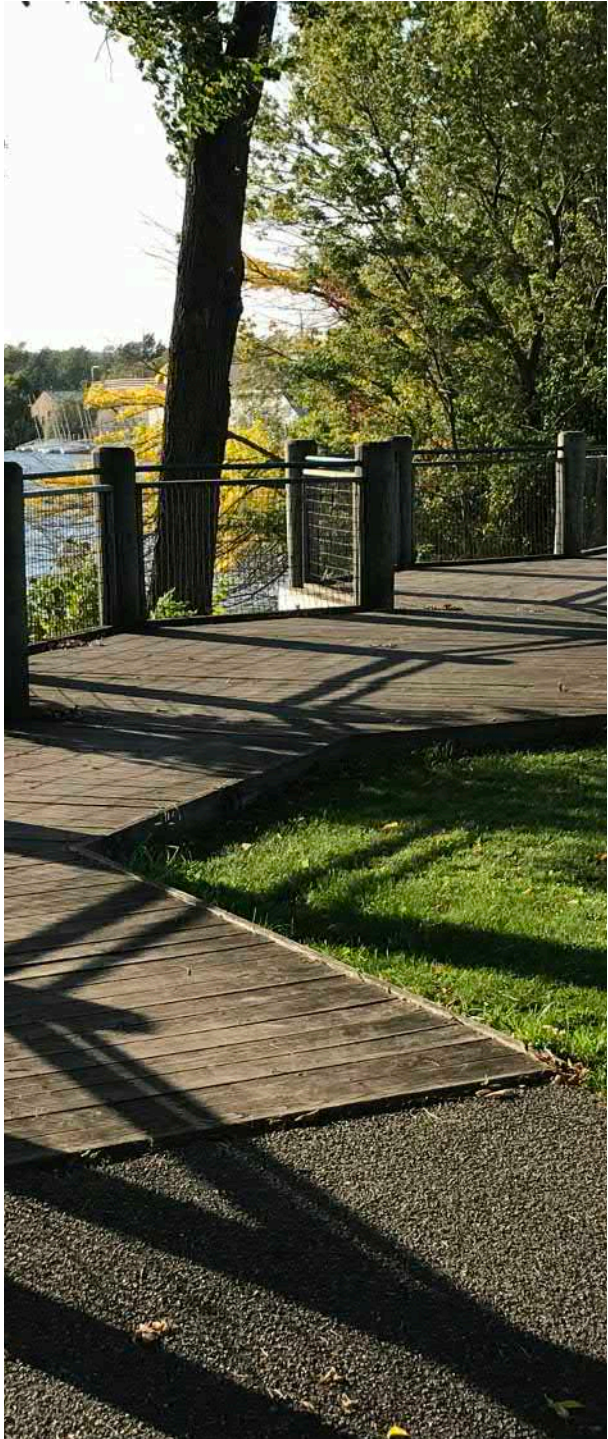
OTHER COORDINATED VENTURES

To make efficient use of limited fiscal resources and maximize usage of existing recreation facilities, the City coordinates a number of activities with the public schools and Grand Traverse County. For instance, the winter volleyball leagues are conducted within school gyms. Two outdoor City skating rinks are on school property, and one on City park land. Several school athletic programs use City parks for practice locations. The summer Day Camp is located at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center.

The Traverse City Senior Center, located on the west arm of Grand Traverse Bay, serves adults 50 years of age and older with a wide range of programs. The Senior Center is part of the Senior



Center Network managed by Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Department with the programming provided by the County. The City owns and maintains the Senior Center building and grounds, which will continue to be assessed for future improvements on an as-needed basis. Currently over 3,000 people enjoy choosing among over 100 programs and activities such as; daily lunches, card games, computer lab with internet access and classes, exercise and dance classes, local and out-of-state trips, painting classes, ping pong and pool tables, tennis, pickleball, golf and shuffleboard leagues, wellness clinics for blood pressure, hearing, vision, reflexology and support groups. The Senior Center also serves as a meeting place for many senior related clubs and organizations.



03

RECREATION INVENTORY

RECREATION INVENTORY

REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Probably the greatest attraction of the Traverse City area is its abundance of recreational opportunities in a varied, interesting landscape. Within a one-half hour driving distance from the City are a National Lakeshore, three State parks, two regional ski resorts (Mt. Holiday and Hickory Hills), a large expanse of State forest lands, a State game area, many public swimming areas, inland lakes, biking trails, and within an hour to hour and a half drive you have seven major ski resorts (Crystal Mountain, Nub's Nob, Shanty Creek, Boyne Mountain, and Boyne Highlands, The Homestead and Caberfae Peaks). In addition, numerous historic sites, as well as the beauty of the peninsulas, bays, and various orchards and vineyards, attract people from all over the State of Michigan and the country to the Traverse City region. These areas provide an unlimited array of recreational opportunities to the residents of Traverse City as well as to the outside visitor.

FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

Many State and several Federal recreation areas exist within the region for the enjoyment and use of City residents and visitors. Although available, some State and Federal recreational

areas are not geared toward serving a day-use population. Day-use can occur, but the primary focus for many of these parks is more passive long-term recreation. For example, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, after many years of development, is a major recreation area. The Dunes once serviced a localized population but they now attract a wider range and larger number of outside visitors because they are now better publicized and better known. Day-use of these areas by local residents of Traverse City is possible since it is located relatively close to the community.

The facilities on the county and township levels serve both day-use and overnight users. It has been pointed out that the Sand Lakes Quiet Area, among others, and the open space area surrounding the City provide many opportunities for day-use activities. The recreational focus of some of the County-wide facilities is more toward longer term recreation. As to the nature of the long-term facilities, camping opportunities are available along the Boardman River and are concentrated in the State forests, Interlochen and Traverse City State Parks and Whitewater Township Park. Two major trails pass through the County along the Boardman River. The Michigan Shore to Shore Trail is a developed trail that runs throughout the northern part of Lower Peninsula. A trail for snowmobiling has been developed and runs parallel to the riding and hiking trail. During the summer months it unofficially doubles as a

motorcycle/ATV trail.

Public access to many nearby lakes and streams is available, ranging from those for non-motorized craft to power boat launching. In the City, the only public park on West Grand Traverse Bay that can handle larger motorized boats is a two lane launch site at Clinch Park Marina. Small to medium sized motorized boats can be launched at the river launch site near the Boardman River mouth on West Bay. East Bay Park has a small ramp that can be used by small boats in times of higher water levels such as are occurring now. During low water levels it is usable only for watercraft that can be carried in. Other sites exist around the Bay as shown on the County-wide recreation facilities chart. The City has a launch ramp at Hull Park at the north end of Boardman Lake that will accommodate up to medium size power boats. Official public access sites are available on many inland lakes throughout the area, but more areas are needed to meet the growing demands of this recreational pursuit. Picnic sites exist throughout the County; however, many of these sites often tend to be little more than roadside rest areas with a scenic focus. These sites are somewhat buffered from traffic and are geared toward day-use.

Grand Traverse County itself owns nine recreational facilities with special restricted uses and are described below.

Power Island (formerly named Marion Island) and Bassett Island

The 202 acre wooded Power Island has hiking trails, picnic grounds, and there is a small, four site primitive campground on the attached 2 acre Bassett Island. The islands are in the West Arm of Grand Traverse Bay and are accessible only by boat.

Twin Lakes Park

This facility is located on a 175 acre parcel of land bordering North Twin Lake. It has Gilbert Lodge which is a dining and meeting facility for up to 200 people, and a large dormitory building that can sleep up to 142 people. Hiking trails run throughout the property and a beach is located on the lake. The facility can be rented out by various organizations or groups for meetings, retreats, weddings, etc. for a day or up to a week.

The Nature Education Reserve

The Natural Education Reserve was set aside as a “natural environmental classroom for area youth” and is comprised of 505 acres. The property, which includes over seven miles of improved trails, runs along the Boardman River south of Boardman Lake and is used by naturalists, students, hikers, fishermen, kayakers and canoeists. The Boardman River Nature Center that opened in August of 2008 on the Reserve, is operated by the Grand Traverse Conservation District.



Civic Center

The Civic Center is located within the city limits of Traverse City and is situated on 45 acres of land. The facility has an indoor ice skating rink, indoor swimming pool, skate park, several softball/baseball fields, a paved one mile walking/biking trail, basketball courts, an amphitheater, and a picnic shelter that is available for reservations. Current conceptual plans have been developed for improvements to the Civic Center that address additions and renovations of parking, playgrounds, skate park, play courts, exercise equipment and grounds.

Medalie Park

A 15 acre park at the south end of Boardman Lake that has picnic facilities including a picnic shelter with restrooms, paved hiking/biking trail, a canoe launch and fishing platforms. The East Boardman Lake Trail connects Medalie Park to the City's Hull Park at the north end of the lake.

Beitner Park

This 5 acre park is a canoe/kayak launch site on the Boardman River just south of the Nature Reserve.

Bartlett Park, Vasa Pathway Trailhead

A 40 acre parcel located at the beginning of 34 kilometers of non-motorized trails, which features parking, restrooms and a warming hut.

Keystone Soccer Complex

In a cooperative venture with Traverse Bay Area Youth Soccer (TBAYS), 16 soccer fields have been developed just south of Traverse City on 40 acres of the 77 acre parcel.

Maple Bay Park

A recently acquired 400 acre farm on East Grand Traverse Bay is in the early development stages including parking and a two mile trail. The Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy helps with some programming and stewardship at the park.

Bunker Hill Property

This includes the TART trail between Bunker Hill and Five Mile Roads.

Many of the townships in the area have their own park facilities for the enjoyment of their residents and guests. Some of the most active townships are Acme, Blair, East Bay, Garfield, Green Lake, Long Lake and Whitewater Township in Grand Traverse County and Elmwood Township in Leelanau County.

Taking into consideration the amount of recreational opportunities available throughout the region and the County, the average Traverse City resident is fortunate to have a number of facilities available that address a wide variety of recreational activities.

CITY FACILITIES

At the present time, Traverse City owns 34 parks and recreational properties, ranging from a small downtown parcel to the larger Hickory Hills Ski Area, Grand Traverse Commons and Brown Bridge Quiet Area. The City enjoys a broad range of recreational opportunities. Much of the park land is heavily concentrated along the Boardman River and along the shoreline of the West Grand Traverse Bay. The City park locations are shown on the accompanying map. In total, over 1,600 City-owned acres are currently dedicated to recreational pursuits including Hickory Hills Ski Area and Grand Traverse Commons that are each approximately 125 acres and Brown Bridge Quiet Area, located 10 miles southeast of the City, has nearly two square miles (1,310 acres) of natural area along the Boardman River.

Clinch Park Marina is operated by the City and is located on West Grand Traverse Bay at the north end of Union Street at the intersection with the Grandview Parkway. The marina, a State Grant-In-Aid harbor operated under policies of the Michigan State Waterways Commission, was rebuilt in 2002 - 2003. It offers 65 seasonal and 54 transient slips. Amenities include water, electricity (50 and 30 amp), restrooms, showers, gasoline, diesel, pump out, ice, boat launch, playground/park (Clinch Park), grills/picnic tables, cable TV hookups, and laundry.



CITY PARK INVENTORY

AMERICAN LEGION PARK

Washington Street at Cass Street (.47 acres)

This small neighborhood park has frontage on the Boardman River and serves those entering or leaving downtown as a place to stop and rest. There is a memorial to area Veterans, and park benches. Only the sidewalk passing adjacent to the park meets accessibility guidelines.

ARBUTUS PARK

At the east end of Arbutus Court at Boon Street (.13 acres)

A small, neighborhood park with quarter court basketball court, a donated child's recycled plastic picnic table and a park bench. Used primarily by those living close by, for a place to relax or to shoot a few free throws. Planned improvements include new basketball hoops and pad. Only the sidewalk passing adjacent to the park meets accessibility guidelines.

ASHTON PARK

Between Wayne and Hill Streets at Madison Street (4.7 acres)

A neighborhood park adjacent to Willow Hill Elementary School that features an old growth

forest of beech, hemlock, oak and maple trees. This park is used as a shortcut route to school and as a nature study area by the neighborhood and school. There is a short self-guided nature trail located in the wooded area. Along the east side of the park near Wayne Street, there is a small, older Jack and Jill play structure and a climber. Planned improvements include new playground equipment. Only the sidewalks passing adjacent to both sides of the park meet accessibility guidelines.

BOARDMAN LAKE TRAIL PAVILION & KAYAK LAUNCH

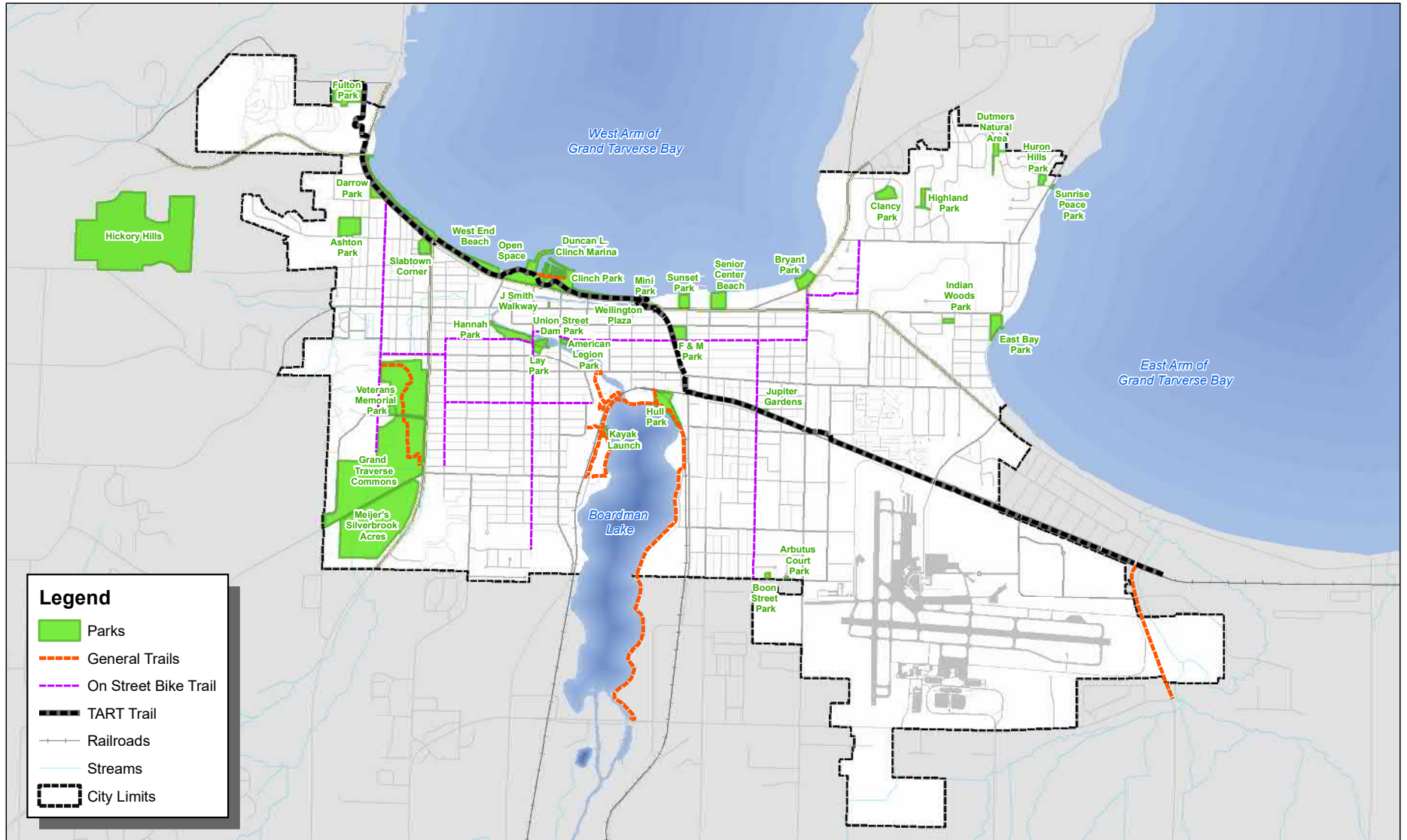
West Boardman Lake Trail (.7 acres)

This Boardman Lake Trail Pavilion and Kayak Launch is accessed primarily by the West Boardman Lake and Trail and includes picnic shelter, benches and accessible kayak launch. The launch provides paddlers on Boardman Lake a stop-off point to rest and relax with the park also being utilized by trail users. Some of the park areas meet accessibility guidelines. This is not a dedicated park, but is used as a recreational space.

BOON STREET PARK

On Boon Street, west of Rose Street (.34 acres)

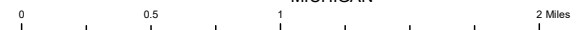
This neighborhood park services a several block area along the south central boundary of the



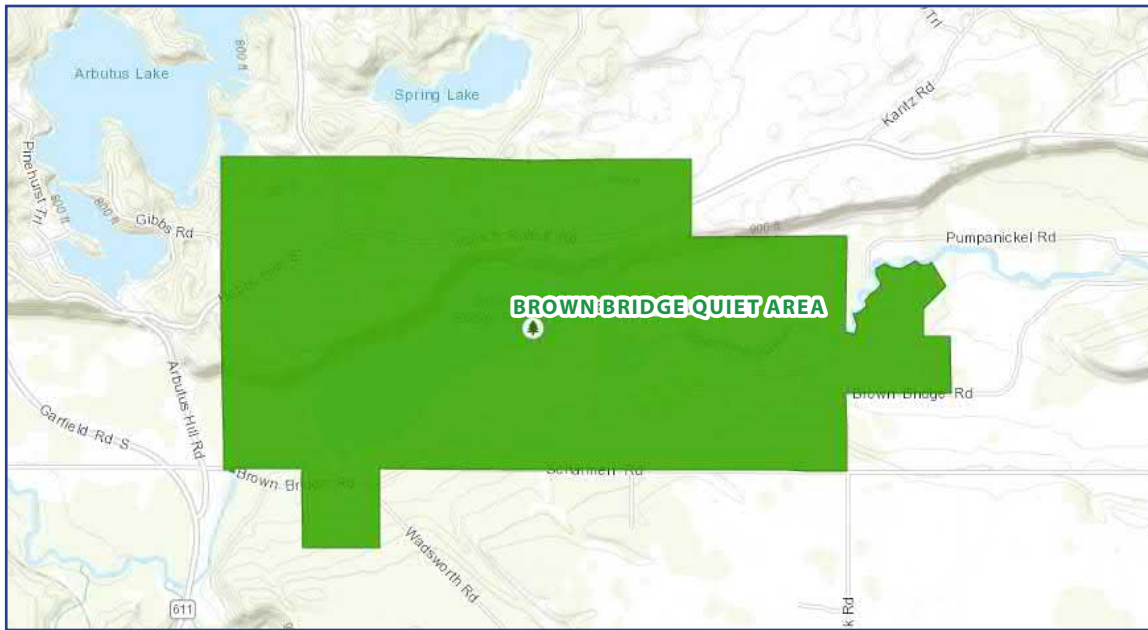
This map is based on digital databases from the City of Traverse City. Traverse City cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions or positional accuracy. There are no warranties expressed or implied.

City Parks and Trails

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN



10/30/2020 GWS



City. Amenities include: half court basketball court, slide, swing set and climber. Planned improvements include new playground equipment, picnic area, defined entrance and trail into park. None of the park areas meet accessibility guidelines.

BROWN BRIDGE QUIET AREA

Southeast of the City off Garfield Road (1,310 acres)

A regional parcel that is park-like and offers hiking trails, including some accessible trails, water access on the Boardman River and a vault-type

toilet. This rustic area is popular with nature enthusiasts. The dam that formed Brown Bridge Pond was removed in 2012 and the river channel re-established and the lake bottom planted with native species for restoration. The easterly end of the property contains the 70-acre Grasshopper Creek Permit Hunting Area. There are currently numerous hiking trails and scenic look-out areas available to the public. The trails are limited to hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, depending on the season and conditions. A simple canoe launch exists for access to paddling the Boardman River. Planned improvements include fish and wildlife habitat improvements, additional interpretive and navigational signage, as well as a Boardman River Recreation Plan. Some of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

BRYANT PARK

Peninsula Drive at North Garfield Avenue (3.32 acres)

A community park that serves residents, non-residents and tourists alike. Bryant is located at the south-east corner of West Grand Traverse Bay and has a great swimming beach, boat-themed play structure, swing set, picnic grills, park benches and a restroom building. Most of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

CLANCY PARK

Sheridan Road at West Orchard Drive (3.0 acres)

This larger neighborhood park features a large open grass field area for informal sports and games along with some wooded areas. The service area is the large Orchard Heights neighborhood. Recent upgrades include accessible walkways, benches, a small picnic shelter, half-court basketball, open space and new play equipment. Most of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

CLINCH PARK

Grandview Parkway at Cass Street (6.72 acres)

Clinch Park features the longest, wide beach in Traverse City and a portion is the former home of the Clinch Park Zoo that showcased Michigan wildlife for 50 years. This redeveloped park includes waterscape spray park and small playground, improved beach access, restrooms and new walkways. The Con Foster Building that formerly housed the local history museum is now the “Bijou By The Bay” movie theater operated by the local non-profit, Traverse City Film Festival. The Traverse Area Recreational Trail (TART) runs through the park. The Duncan L. Clinch Marina is adjacent to the park and features a boat launch and boat slips. Almost of the facilities in the park meet accessibility guidelines.

DARROW PARK

Bay Street at Monroe Street (1.11 acres)

Darrow Park has the size and appearance of a neighborhood park but with its location across from West Grand Traverse Bay, gets a lot of summer use from tourists and non-residents. The park features a play structure and swing set. There are ten plastic recycled benches in the park and a spring rocking toy in the playground donated in memory of local residents. Most of the features of this park meet accessibility guidelines.

DUTMERS NATURAL AREA

Between Arrowhead Drive and East Timberlane Drive (1.2 acres)

This neighborhood park is a wooded parcel that is surrounded by homes in one of the newer developments on the east side of the City. It is strictly a natural area used by park neighbors. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

EAST BAY PARK

East Bay Boulevard at East Front Street (3.23 acres)

East Bay Park is a community park used by many people in the City and surrounding area, along with tourists. The park has bathroom facilities, a





play structure and swing set, a small boat launch and a swimming beach on East Grand Traverse Bay. Most of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

F & M PARK

Surrounded by State, Hope, and Washington Streets and Railroad Avenue (3.5 acres)

F & M Park, so named due to the Florida and Michigan fruit packing company that used to be on the site, is a great neighborhood park that often takes on the role of a community park. During the National Cherry Festival, large numbers of people attend Cherry Kid's events held at F & M. Many school groups from the region stop at the park for end of year parties and as a stop on field trips. Amenities include a gazebo, a train-themed play structure, slide and merry-go-round. An ice-skating rink is installed here annually as weather permits. Planned improvements include new basketball hoops and pad. Most features of this park meet accessibility guidelines.

FULTON PARK

Carter Road off of M-22 (9.19 acres)

This natural area park features a four tenths of a mile self-guided nature trail. There is access to the trail from a small parking lot and from the Traverse Area Recreational Trail (TART). The parking area meets accessibility guidelines.

GRAND TRAVERSE COMMONS

Centers around Division and 11th Streets (129.8 acres)

The Grand Traverse Commons is a community park. A portion of the former Traverse City State Hospital has become dedicated City park land with two trails that were used by patients at the hospital. These were called the Women's Walk and the Men's Walk and have kept the same names. A significant portion of this entire property is dedicated wetlands and nature study is a major activity at this park. The local Veteran's Coalition has relocated the War Memorials that were previously located at the former Veteran's Memorial Park to a site on the Commons' Parkland near the corner of 11th Street and Elmwood Avenue. Walkways, a picnic shelter, and benches have been added to this area. The sidewalks passing along Eleventh Street and Division Street along the park and the Veteran's Monuments area meet accessibility guidelines. Kid's Creek also flows through this park and along with its valuable wetland, provides many recreational and natural resource opportunities for users to enjoy.

HANNAH PARK

Sixth Street at Union Street (2.29 acres)

Hannah Park features a large change in elevation from its southern border along Sixth Street

downhill to the Boardman River. A compacted gravel walking path traverses the upper portion of the park linking Sixth Street to Wadsworth Street. The park hosts many weddings and “Shakespeare in the Park”, along with fishing on the platforms on the Boardman River. The sidewalks passing along Sixth Street and Union Street meet accessibility guidelines as does the Perry Hannah statue plaza at the intersection corner of the two streets.

HICKORY HILLS RECREATION AREA

At the west end of Randolph Street, 1 ¾ miles west of Division Street (122.5 acres)

Hickory Hills is a multi-season recreation provider and regional park. In the spring, summer and fall, the two 18 hole disc golf courses (36 total holes) receive heavy use. In 2018, Hickory Hills underwent significant infrastructure improvements with the help of \$2 million in funding being raised by the non-profit Preserve Hickory, and another \$1.5 million from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund. With the expansion, Hickory Hills now has a brand-new lodge, a new maintenance building, and much more ski terrain. Hickory Hills features 13 runs with 1 beginner, 7 intermediate, and 5 advanced runs and a dedicated terrain park and rail park. On the beginner slope there is a magic carpet lift. Night skiing is available on most of the runs. Cross country skiers will find more than 5k of trails with a 1k trail lighted for night skiing. Volunteer Ski Patrol assists by promoting safe



skiing and offering first aid services. The cross country ski trails attract many hikers during eight months of the year. Future improvements consider a developed mountain bike trail system as well as additional summertime recreation opportunities such as an aerial challenge course. Some of the features meet accessibility guidelines

HIGHLAND PARK

Between Highland Park Drive and Bloomfield Road (1.35 acres)

Highland Park is a neighborhood park that is primarily an open field for informal play and



sports. There is a slide available and there is pedestrian access from three easements provided when the neighborhood was created. Planned improvements include new playground equipment and improved entrance/exit areas to the park. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

HULL PARK

Hannah Avenue west of Woodmere Avenue (6.4 acres)

Hull Park is an attractive community park with a multi-use building with restrooms and a picnic/

meeting area. Other facilities include a small wooden gazebo overlooking the lake, four seating platforms, boardwalks and docks with fishing opportunities and an improved boat launch. The Traverse Area Community Sailing (TACS) group operates a large boathouse to store their sailing fleet for summer classes taught to area young people and some also offers some adult classes. TACS has a long-term management agreement for the boathouse and they also use the multi-use recreation building for teaching sailing lessons. TACS has an accessible lift to get people into boats on the lake. The non-profit Traverse Area Community Rowing (TACR) provides a community rowing program dedicated to the promotion of rowing and offers instructional programs and rowing opportunities for all ages, abilities and experience levels. TACR utilizes Hull Park launch and provides on-water sessions in spring, summer, and early fall on Boardman Lake. Almost all features of this park meet accessibility guidelines.

HURON HILLS PARK

Between Kewaunee and East Timberlane Drives just west of Birchwood Avenue (1.71 acres)

This is a small neighborhood park with no amenities except for a small open field and a small hill that is sometimes used as a sledding hill. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

INDIAN WOODS PARK

Between Indian Woods Drive and Huron Street, just south of East Front Street (.62 acres)

This two-tiered neighborhood park has frontage on two streets and offers a Jack and Jill play structure, swing set, merry-go-round, climber and benches. Planned improvements include new playground equipment, hill slide, walkway/path connector to both sides of the park, and other park amenities. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

JUPITER GARDENS

Boyd Avenue at Rose Street (.14 acres)

This small neighborhood park borders the TART trail and has a bench and peace pole donated by the local Rotary Club. The planet Jupiter model is depicted on a pole mounted adjacent to the park as part of the scaled solar system installed along the TART trail from Hull Park to a point about 5 miles east. Planned improvements include a covered seating area, new walking paths, edible gardens, water filling station and flowered landscape areas. The TART trail and Boyd Ave. sidewalk meets accessibility guidelines.

LAY PARK

Union Street near 6th Street (.79 acres)

This downtown neighborhood park offers a shaded

sitting area and park benches. Recent improvements include the addition of a large art sculpture, accessible drinking fountain, accessible sidewalk routes and benches. Interior sidewalks and sidewalk passing along Union Street along the park meets accessibility guidelines.

MEIJER'S SILVERBROOK ACRES

Division Street at West Silver Lake Road (58.89 acres)

This undeveloped parcel along US-31/M-37, is a natural area with Kid's Creek running through the length of the property. This property is deed-restricted for use as a nature study area and only viewing platforms or boardwalks for that purpose, could be constructed. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

MINI-PARK

East Front Street at Grandview Parkway (.30 acres)

This small neighborhood-sized park straddles the Grandview Parkway, with a walkway along the Boardman River offering fishing opportunities. This path also serves as the TART trail as it passes under the Murchie (US 31/M37, Grandview Parkway) Bridge. The park also features the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and a small plaza, sculpture and benches to commemorate Traverse City as "Coast Guard



City". Most of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

OPEN SPACE PARK

Grandview Parkway at Marina Drive (7.19 acres)

This is a park that fulfills both the community and regional labels depending on the time of year. Several major and minor festivals held on this space, draw crowds from all over the region. The Cherry Festival and Film Festival draw people from all over the United States, along with several other countries. The park features a promenade along the West Grand Traverse Bay which doubles as the TART trail. There are few other amenities, as this area is kept as the name implies, open space. Most of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

SENIOR CENTER PARK

East Front Street at Barlow Street (3.7 acres)

The Senior Center Park houses the Senior Center building that serves the entire Grand Traverse area community with programs for mature adults age 50 and over. The park, that fronts on West Grand Traverse Bay, offers tennis courts that are also marked for pickleball, shuffleboard courts, and picnic facilities. A swimming beach and public restrooms are also available. Most of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

SLABTOWN CORNER (FORMERLY VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK)

Division Street between Bay and Cypress Streets (2.24 acres)

This community park offers four lighted tennis courts, pickleball courts, a restroom building, a small swing set and slide. The park is also home to Wags West, the first off-leash Dog Park in the City. The park was previously home to a grouping of memorials commemorating the ultimate sacrifice of Veterans from conflicts dating from the Civil War to present day. These memorials have been relocated to the new Veteran's Memorial on City Parkland at the Grand Traverse Commons. Most of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

J. SMITH WALKWAY

100 Block of East Front Street between Union and Cass Streets (.06 acres)

This tiny downtown pocket park offers an attractive path from Front Street to a pedestrian bridge across the Boardman River to the Farmer's Market area. The park features benches, tables, wall seating and a fountain. All of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

SUNRISE PEACE PARK**Birchwood Avenue at Kewaunee Drive (.10 acres)**

This small neighborhood park offers access to East Grand Traverse Bay down a set of wooden steps. A bench is also provided along the steps and on-street unpaved parking is provided for several cars. None of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

SUNSET PARK**East Front Street at Hope Street (2.22 acres)**

Sunset Park is a small community park that has a beach on West Grand Traverse Bay. A swing set and merry-go-round are also found at the park. This park is a priority for improvement in efforts to increase quality, accessible parks along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Only the sidewalk passing along Front Street along the park meets accessibility guidelines.

UNION STREET DAM PARK**Union Street at 6th Street (.93 acres)**

Union Street Dam Park offers fishing opportunities for trout, salmon and other species along the toe of the dam or on the fishing deck along the river. There is also a fish-ladder for passage of (primarily) steelhead trout to reach upstream

spawning grounds. This park is currently planned for redevelopment as part of the Traverse City Fish Pass project which will begin construction in late-2020. Additions to the park as part of the redevelopment include canoe/kayak portage, accessible launch, boardwalks and interpretive overlook, pedestrian bridge, outdoor classroom and Amphitheater, fishing area and low-impact stormwater management. Some of the current park features meet accessibility guidelines.

VOLLEYBALL COURT AREA**Grandview Parkway east of Oak Street (2.79 acres)**

The community park includes two parcels separated by a parcel owned by the City of Traverse City – Garfield Township Recreational Authority. The eastern parcel has a parking lot and access to the beach on West Grand Traverse Bay. The western parcel has six sand volleyball courts. The TART trail also passes along the southern boundary of this park. Proposed improvements have been discussed to add additional courts and replace sand playing surface. Some of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

WELLINGTON STREET PLAZA**East Front Street at Wellington Street (.07 acres)**

Wellington Street Plaza is a small downtown



pocket park nestled between two businesses. It offers Boardman River fishing, some seating areas and a place to tie up a boat for short-term day use access to downtown. It connects to the Mini Park and TART trail. Some of the park features meet accessibility guidelines when entered through the Mini Park.

WEST END BEACH

Grandview Parkway from Oak Street to Division Street (4.06 acres)

This long narrow community park stretches along the Grandview Parkway (US 31/M-37/M-72) and

is fronted on West Grand Traverse Bay. A marked swimming area is present at the west end of the volleyball courts and the TART trail follows the entire park to the second marked beach at the intersection of Division Street. There is a bathroom facility and parking at this second beach location. Some of the park features meet accessibility guidelines.

PARK NAME	PRIMARY SERVICE AREA
American Legion Park	Downtown employees and residents
Arbutus Court Park	Traverse Heights neighborhood
Ashton Park	Slabtown neighborhood and Willow Hill School
Boardman Lake Trail Pavilion & Kayak Launch	Boardman Lake and Trail Users
Boon Street Park	Traverse Heights neighborhood
Brown Bridge Quiet Area	Entire region and tourists
Bryant Park	Entire City, community and tourists
Clancy Park	Orchard Heights neighborhood
Clinch Park	Entire City, community and tourists
Darrow Park	Slabtown neighborhood and tourists
Dutmers Natural Area	Local neighborhood
East Bay Park	Entire City, community and tourists
F & M Park	Boardman and Oak Park neighborhoods and community
Fulton Park	Entire community and TART trail users
Grand Traverse Commons	Entire region and tourists
Hannah Park	Central neighborhood and community

PARK NAME	PRIMARY SERVICE AREA
Hickory Hills	Entire region and tourists
Highland Park	Local neighborhood
Hull Park	Entire community
Huron Hills Park	Local neighborhood
Indian Woods Park	Indian Woods neighborhood
Jupiter Gardens	North Traverse Heights neighborhood and TART trail users
Lay Park	Downtown employees, residents and tourists
Meijer's Silverbrook Acres	Entire community
Mini Park	Downtown and Boardman neighborhoods and tourists
Open Space	Entire region and tourists
Senior Center Park	Entire community and tourists
Slabtown Corner	Entire community and tourists
J. Smith Walkway	Downtown employees, shoppers and tourists
Sunrise Peace Park	Local neighborhood
Sunset Park	Entire community and tourists
Union Street Dam Park	Entire community
Volleyball Courts (West End)	Entire region and tourists
Wellington Street Plaza	Downtown employees, shoppers and tourists
West End Beach	Entire region and tourists



DUNCAN L. CLINCH MARINA RECREATION PLAN

FACILITY INFORMATION

Traverse City's Duncan L. Clinch Marina is owned and operated by the City of Traverse City and governed by the policies of the Michigan State Waterways Commission, a division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The marina guidelines follow the grant-in-aid agreement with the Michigan State Waterways Commission and City regulations.

SIZE OF THE FACILITY

Clinch Park Marina is located on West Grand Traverse Bay at the north end of Union Street at the intersection with the Grandview Parkway. The marina was rebuilt in 2002 - 2003. It offers 65 seasonal and 54 transient slips. Amenities include water, electricity (50 and 30 amp), restrooms, showers, gasoline, diesel, pump out, ice, boat launch, playground/park (Clinch Park), grills/picnic tables, cable TV hookups, and laundry.

The current number of slips and slip mix fills the existing marina basin very well. The available space is maximized to provide the greatest number of seasonal and transient slips as possible. Even with this maximized basin layout, there is a significant waiting list for seasonal slips. Similarly, the transient slips are very popular and are

reserved for the majority of the regular boating season. While the marina could accommodate more boaters with an expanded slip layout, physical marina expansion is limited due to the heavily used public waterfront spaces on each side of the marina.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY

The marina was designed per the most recent ADA guidelines and standards for marinas. The floating dock system and accessible gangways allow for easy access to all areas of the docks. The restrooms available are also ADA compliant. There are dedicated ADA accessible slips in the marina that are used to accommodate specific users upon their request.

SITE DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The marina currently does not have any existing plans for future development. The marina was rebuilt in 2002-2003 to maximize the use of the basin and allowed for the integration into adjacent Clinch Park activities.

DREDGING

The existing breakwater and marina basin were constructed during the 2002-2003 facility rebuild. The basin depths were designed to accommodate vessels in low Lake Michigan water level conditions. Since then, the marina basin has not

needed to be dredged. In addition, the breakwater and basin were designed to prevent infiltration of littoral drift and the facility's location on the south shore of West Bay minimizes deposition of silt and sand. The frequency and quantity of dredging of this newer facility is expected to be minimal and can only be determined over time. If needed, there are numerous nearby locations available for dredge spoil disposal that would be determined at the time of dredging.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Facility maintenance and Operation Costs: \$18,000

Supply, Tools and Equipment Costs: \$8,100

Utilities, Taxes: \$15,000

Minor and Small-Scale Infrastructure Replacement and Maintenance

YEAR	ACTION	EST. COST
2022	Marina Building Foundation Maintenance	\$ 10,000

Large-Scale Maintenance and Replacement Schedule

There are currently no large-scale maintenance or replacement projects expected.



OTHER FACILITIES

Many other properties used for recreational purposes are located in the City limits and surrounding areas. School facilities provide playgrounds, sports fields and indoor facilities used by the community. Seven public, three parochial, and two charter school sites are located in the City Limits plus Northwestern Michigan College. One of the six public elementary schools has been closed to their former use to cut costs to the school district but the grounds are still available for recreational use. The Traverse City Country Club offers a nice green space along the southern boundary of the City. Here is a list of schools and a chart of other non-county public and private recreational lands and facilities within five miles of the City.

Traverse City Area Public Schools that offer a combination of playgrounds, court and field sport facilities, and indoor gymnasiums:

Central Grade School - 301 W. 7th St., TC

Courtade Elementary - 1111 Rasha Rd., TC

Eastern Elementary - 1600 Eastern Ave., TC

Glenn Loomis Montessori - 1009 Oak St., TC

Silver Lake Elementary - 5858 Culver Rd., TC

Traverse Heights Elementary – 933 Rose St., TC

Willow Hill Elementary – 1250 Hill St., TC

TC Central High School – 1150 Milliken Dr., TC

TC West High School – 5376 N. Long Lake Rd., TC

Traverse City High School – 3962 Three Mile Rd., TC

International School at Bertha Vos – 3723 Shore Dr., Williamsburg

East Middle School – 1776 Three Mile Rd., TC

West Middle School – 3950 Silver Lake Rd., TC

Other local schools:

Trinity Lutheran School – 1003 S. Maple St., TC

Immaculate Conception Elementary – 720 Second St., TC

St. Francis High School – 130 E. Tenth St., TC

St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton Middle School -

The Children’s House Montessori – 5363 N. Long Lake Rd., TC

Traverse City Christian School – 753 Emerson Rd., TC

Grand Traverse Academy – 1245 Hammond Rd. East., TC

The Greenspire School – 1026 Red Dr., TC

New Campus School TBAISD – 1100 Silver Dr., TC

Oak Park School TBAISD – 301 S. Garfield St., TC

RECREATION FACILITY	OWNER	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
East Bay Public Access (4 Mile Rd)	East Bay Township	Four Mile Rd at US-31	Small public boat launch
Dock Road Access Site	GT County Road Comm.	Dock Road, Acme	East Bay public boat launch
Tibbets Lake Access Site	East Bay Township	Badger St off Poplar St	Public boat launch
High Lake Access Site	East Bay Township	Badger St off High Lake Rd	Public boat launch
Deepwater Point Natural Area	Acme Township	Shore Rd at Deepwater Point Rd	Natural area – hiking, nature study
Bayside Park	Acme Township	Shores Beach Ln at US-31	Beach, playground, picnic facilities, sports
East Bay Public Access	State of Michigan	Bunker Hill Rd at US-31, Acme	Small public boat launch
East Bay Shore (Tony Gilroy Roadside Park)	State of Michigan	US- 31 south of M-72, Acme	Picnic area, shore access
Everflowing Waters Campground	Private	5481 Brackett Rd, Acme	Private campground
East Bay Harbor Marina	Private	US 31 North, Acme	Private Marina on East Bay
Grand Traverse Resort and Spa	GT Band	US 31 North, Acme	3 Golf courses, pool
Lochenheath Golf Course	Private	Lochenheath Dr. off US-31 N, Acme	Golf course
Traverse Bay RV Park Inc.	Private	6500 Traverse Bay Dr., Acme	Private campground
Boardman River Access	State of Michigan	Shumsky Rd, Blair Township	River access site
Holiday Park Campground	Private	4860 US-31 South – Grawn	Private Campground
Incredible Mo's	Private	1355 Silver Lake Crossings Blvd, Grawn	Bowling, indoor miniature golf, arcade
Killingsworth Park	East Bay Township	2807 Chandler Rd	Boat launch, picnicking, playground

RECREATION FACILITY	OWNER	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
Mt. Holiday	Mt. Holiday, Inc. (non-profit)	3100 Holiday Road	Public ski hill, zip-line, trails and lounge/event center
Grace McDonald Park	East Bay Township	133 E. Arbutus Lake Rd	Court and field sports, sledging, picnicking, playground
Pine Grove Park	East Bay Township	920 Hemlock St	Picnicking, basketball, playground
Arbutus Lake #5 Public Access Site	East Bay Township	East Arbutus Lake Rd	Picnicking, fishing pier, playground
Pines Park	East Bay Township	1750 Eikey Rd	80 Acre parcel to be developed
Gen's Park	East Bay Township	2263 US-31 North	Picnicking and East Bay beach access
Kelly Park	East Bay Township	2817 Point View Rd	Chandler Lake boat launch
Spider Lake Access Site	East Bay Township	587 Peninsula Trail	Spider Lake boat launch
Keith Charters Traverse City State Park	State of Michigan	1132 US-31 North - TC	Campground, beach playground, picnicking
Arbutus Lake #4 Public Access Site & Campground	State of Michigan	2720 Arbutus Lake Rd - TC	Primitive campground, boat launch
VASA Trail	State of Michigan	Supply Rd - TC	Hiking, biking, cross country skiing
Spider Lake South Public Access Site	State of Michigan	Grace Rd off E. Arbutus Lake Rd - TC	Public boat launch
Elmbrook Golf Course	Private	420 Hammond Rd East, TC	Golf Course
Pirate's Cove	Private	1710 N. US-31 North, TC	Miniature golf, water slide, go-carts, arcade
Pebble Brook	Private	2072 US-31 North, TC	Miniature golf

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The City of Traverse City is moving forward in providing facilities that are barrier-free to better serve all segments of the population. As an example, the Streets Division has installed ramps at all intersections throughout the City. Four playgrounds have been installed that meet current accessibility guidelines. As old picnic tables need replacing, they are replaced with tables designed for accessibility. Accessible walkways on the beach are now available at Bryant, Clinch and East Bay parks. Older restrooms have been retro-fitted with new faucets, grab bars, etc. to bring them up to current standards and new restrooms have been built at Clinch Park. The Hickory Hills facility improvements meet current accessibility standards. The City will continue to work with local access advisory groups and make improvements until all possible facilities and public spaces will be accessible.

The following list indicates for each park what the current barrier-free status is, as determined by Parks and Recreation staff, and current plans for improvements.

AMERICAN LEGION PARK

ADA Ranking 2

No facilities except for sidewalks on two sides of park, a Veteran’s monument and a drinking

fountain that are barrier-free.

ARBUTUS COURT

ADA Ranking 2

Accessible from neighborhood sidewalk.

ASHTON

ADA Ranking 1

Wooded lot featuring old growth beech and hemlock trees. Small playground and trails not accessible.

BOARDMAN LAKE TRAIL PAVILION & KAYAK LAUNCH

ADA Ranking 2

Accessible sidewalks inside park and accessible kayak launch.

BOON STREET PARK

ADA Ranking 1

Small neighborhood park with 3 pieces of playground equipment and 2 court basketball. Currently has grass with no hard surface path to any of these items.

Facility Assessment Rankings as defined by the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design

ADA Ranking 1

None of the site elements meet ADA Standards

ADA Ranking 2

Some of the site elements meet ADA Standards

ADA Ranking 3

Most of the site elements meet ADA Standards

ADA Ranking 4

All of the site elements meet ADA Standards

ADA Ranking 5

The facility meets the Principles of Universal Design



BROWN BRIDGE QUIET AREA

ADA Ranking 2

Wild and scenic area with some barrier free nature trails and MDNR-type primitive toilet.

BRYANT PARK

ADA Ranking 3

Has barrier free flush toilet facility, designated parking and a playground meeting ADA standards. A hard surface path connects parking to the play structure along with a picnic table and barbeque

grill pad. A portable ADA path to beach is seasonally installed and there are ADA parking spaces available.

CLANCY PARK

ADA Ranking 4

Hard surface paths to accessible picnic tables and shelter. There is also rubberized accessible playground surface to accessible playground equipment. There is also an accessible drinking fountain.

CLINCH MARINA

ADA Ranking 4

The entire marina is designed to provide access to all parts of the marina by all.

CLINCH PARK

ADA Ranking 3

Barrier-free restrooms and paths were opened thanks to donations and a MNRTF grant. A portable ADA beach access system is seasonally installed.

DARROW PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Existing playground installed per ADA accessibility

guidelines along with accessible drinking fountain. Sidewalks surround park and lead to playground.

DUTMERS NATURAL AREA

ADA Ranking 1

No development, no access. Small wooded parcel.

EAST BAY PARK

ADA Ranking 3

Playground installed per ADA accessibility guidelines. Parking lot also installed with designated parking and sidewalks to restroom, playground and toward the beach. Also includes an accessible walkway to the beach.

F & M PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Play structure was constructed per ADA accessibility guidelines. A gazebo is connected to the accessible sidewalk system surrounding the park.

FULTON PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Natural area that has parking lot that is ADA accessible.

GRAND TRAVERSE COMMONS

ADA Ranking 2

Sidewalks exist on the edges of portions of the property. Current nature trails are not ADA accessible. The Veteran's Memorial area is ADA accessible.

HANNAH PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Statue plaza in the south east corner of the park is accessible. A connector path through the park is compacted accessible aggregate and there are accessible sidewalks along Sixth and Unions Streets.

HICKORY HILLS SKI AREA

ADA Ranking 2

The Lodge and parking area have barrier free accommodations per current ADA standards.

HIGHLAND PARK

ADA Ranking 1

No development to this small neighborhood park. Only a slide is currently present. Only access is across grassy areas.



HULL PARK

ADA Ranking 3

ADA access to boardwalk, boat launch facilities, restrooms and amphitheater. An accessible boathouse is used for sailing classes and the East, North, and first leg of the West Boardman Lake Trails connect at Hull Park and are accessible.

HURON HILLS PARK

ADA Ranking 1

Small grassy neighborhood park, no facilities, no access.

INDIAN WOODS PARK

ADA Ranking 1

Four pieces of play equipment accessible only by grass lawn areas.

JUPITER GARDENS

ADA Ranking 2

Park that has the TART trail passing adjacent to it. Includes accessible walkway through and adjacent to Boyd Ave.

LAY PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Exterior and interior sidewalks are accessible along with accessible drinking fountain.

MEIJER'S SILVERBROOK ACRES

ADA Ranking 1

No development, no access at this natural area park.

MINI PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Walkways to river are accessible for fishing and sight-seeing. Interior plaza area has accessible hard surfacing.

OPEN SPACE PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Has accessible walkways to observe West Bay. Includes ADA parking spaces at each end of the park.

SENIOR CENTER PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Shuffleboard Courts and Tennis Courts are accessible along with the main part of the building.

ADA parking spots are available.

J SMITH WALKWAY

ADA Ranking 3

Small park with accessible walkway to downtown. Hard surfacing throughout allows for accessible use along with accessible drinking fountain.

SUNRISE PEACE PARK

ADA Ranking 1

Small set of steps leading to East Bay frontage. Not currently accessible.

SUNSET PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Only facilities are swings and a merry-go-round. They are not reachable by hard surface paths, nor is beach. There is an accessible sidewalk on one side and accessible parking.

UNION STREET DAM PARK

ADA Ranking 2

Long sloping ramp to fishing dock is present. Accessible walk across dam

SLABTOWN CORNER

ADA Ranking 3

Sidewalks exist from accessible parking to restroom building and tennis courts. Restrooms have accessibility improvements to meet ADA standards. Sidewalks lead to the gate of the dog area for Wags West dog park.

VOLLEYBALL COURT AREA

ADA Ranking 2

The TART trail passes along the edge of this property and a parking lot with designated spaces is a short distance from the courts. Includes accessible drinking fountain.

WELLINGTON STREET PLAZA

ADA Ranking 2

River access for fishing is accessible from the South Mini-Park.

WEST END BEACH

ADA Ranking 2

TART trail runs the length of this park area and pathway that allows access to the beach level at Elmwood Avenue. Restrooms have accessibility improvements.



GRANT INVENTORY

GRANT NUMBER: 26-00333 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Veteran's Memorial Park Development (1972)

Grant Amount: \$37,518.10

Development items included two lighted tennis courts, shelter and restroom building, tot lot play equipment, fencing, walks, benches, parking, landscaping and utilities.

Tennis courts have been removed and replaced with new courts. Benches were deteriorating and were replaced, some of landscaping has died or become unsightly and was replaced. The original fencing along Division Street has been replaced as part of the Wags West dog park project. This park was renamed Slabtown Corner in 2014 after the Veteran's monuments were moved to another location.

GRANT NUMBER: 26-10247 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Boardman River Access (1981)

Grant Amount: \$30,207.00

Development items included boat landing, retaining wall planter, steps and barrier free ramp, boardwalk, lighting and landscaping.

Some decking has been replaced on boardwalk, steps and ramp. Some of the retaining wall was redone with construction of the new Chamber of Commerce Building. Landscaping has been updated in many locations.

GRANT NUMBER – TF704 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

West Grand Traverse Bay Acquisition (1983)

Grant Amount: \$300,000.00

This 3.83 acre parcel is along West Grand Traverse Bay from the area that is now the volleyball courts to near West End Beach. This area is used as a beach, volleyball courts, general park green space/sitting area along the Grandview Parkway (U.S. 31/M – 37/M – 72).

GRANT NUMBER TF88-184 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

West Bay Beach (1988)

Grant Amount: \$280,950.00

Named West End Beach, development items included created beach, topsoil and seed, irrigation, landscaping, plaza with sidewalks, parking lot, lighting, bike trail, wooden steps and decking.

Most items in good shape. Parking lot has damage

due to high water, with repairs planned. Some aging to wooden deck and steps. The bike trail has been resurfaced.

GRANT NUMBER TF92-199 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Riverfront Acquisition (1992)

Grant Amount: \$228,500.00

This project added 70 acres to the Brown Bridge Quiet Area with 2,500 feet of Boardman River frontage protecting it from further development and adding to the natural area.

GRANT NUMBER TF99-160 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Hull Park Waterfront (1999)

Grant Amount: \$365,730.00

Development items included multi-use recreation pavilion, boardwalks and accessible docks, parking for boat trailers, bituminous pathway, shade pavilion / overlook, move access road, landscaping and irrigation.

All development items are in good condition and used heavily. Has turned field and small dock into a vibrant community park.

GRANT NUMBER TF02-151 MICHIGAN

NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Boardman Lake Trail – East (2002)

Grant Amount: \$500,000.00

Development items included construction of 2.3 miles of 10-wide non-motorized multi-use trail along the east Boardman Lake waterfront. Trail consists of asphalt, gravel and boardwalk sections.

Trail is in good shape with the exception of some minor root damage to asphalt surface in a few locations. Trail is well used and a great community asset.

GRANT NUMBER TF05-104 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Boardman Lake Trail – West (North) (2005)

Grant Amount: \$500,000.00

This trail connects the East Boardman Lake Trail through Hull Park, across the Boardman River to the north end of the west side of the lake. Included bridge and site amenities.

Trail is in good shape with the exception of some minimal root damage to bituminous surface in a few locations. Trail is well used and a great community asset.

GRANT NUMBER TF10-062 MICHIGAN

Past MDNR Waterways Grants received by Traverse City include:

2000 – Clinch Marina Expanded Preliminary Engineering Study Grant Amount: \$135,750

2000 – Clinch Marina Preliminary Engineering Study Grant Amount: \$49,000

2001 - Clinch Marina Phase I Basin Upgrade and New Breakwater Improvements Grant Amount: \$5.0 MM

2003 – Clinch Marina Phase II Basin Upgrade and New Breakwater Improvements Grant Amount: \$2.5MM

2003 – Clinch Marina Electrical System Upgrades Grant Amount: \$66,359

2012 – Clinch Marina Electrical System Upgrades Grant Amount: \$40,539

2013 – Clinch Marina Breakwater Repairs Grant Amount: \$24,485

NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**Clinch Park Bayfront Revitalization (2010)****Grant Amount: \$450,800.00**

Development items included universal beach and water access, kayak/small boat launch, trails/promenades, splash pad, natural playground, shaded picnic area, site furniture, landscaping and lighting.

This is a highly visible and highly used facility, especially in the summer month and is a major downtown beach access park. The park and its amenities are in good condition and well maintained on a regular basis.

GRANT NUMBER 26-01712 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**Clinch Park Beach Bathhouse/Restroom Development (2011)****Grant Amount: \$210,000.00**

Development of a new bathhouse/restroom facility that includes changing facilities, toilets, drinking fountains, outdoor shower and footwashing station.

This facility is a valuable asset to the larger waterfront parks network and is critical in providing the necessary amenities for the high use generated at this multi-functional park space.

GRANT NUMBER TF11-060 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**Boardman Lake Trail - West (South) (2011)****Grant Amount: \$210,000.00**

Includes trail, picnic shelter and accessible fishing dock / kayak launch. The trail and other amenities are in good condition. Trail is great addition to the local trail system and is this first part of the west trail that will eventually connect the East and North trails to surround Boardman Lake.

GRANT NUMBER TF15-0196 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**Clancy Park Improvements (2015)****Grant Amount: \$124,400.00**

Includes renovation of this popular neighborhood park.

GRANT NUMBER – 26-01786 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND**Hickory Hills Cross Country Ski Trailhead (2017)****Grant Amount: \$150,000.00**

As one component of the larger Hickory Hills Improvements, this grant helped with the renovation of the existing facility entrance and parking area, and to construct a new trailhead for the existing cross-country ski trails and proposed

paved loop, restroom building, landscaping, signage, lighting, bike racks, benches, trash and recycling containers.

GRANT NUMBER – RP17-0042 RECREATION PASSPORT FUND

Hickory Hills Renovation (2017)

Grant Amount: \$75,000.00

As one component of the larger Hickory Hills Improvements, this grant helped with the renovation of the ski area and parking by reconfiguring the area for improved parking, new ski runs, a learner’s area with a surface lift and sledding hill.

GRANT NUMBER TF17-0072 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Hickory Hills Renovations (2017)

Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

As one component of the larger Hickory Hills Improvements, this grant helped with the renovation of 3 miles of cross-country ski trails, 9-hole disc golf course and parking and the addition of an accessible nature trail loop.

GRANT NUMBER TF19-0075 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Improvements to Indian Woods Park (2019)

Grant Amount: \$50,000.00

Includes further development of existing Indian Woods park for improvements that will include added accessible parking, walking trails, playground equipment, bike racks and picnic tables.

GRANT NUMBER TF19-0078 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Hickory Hills Snowmaking (2019)

Grant Amount: \$50,000.00

Includes new snow making equipment to expand the snow making capabilities for cross country skiing at Hickory Hills Recreation Area.

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04

RECREATION INVENTORY

PLANNING METHODS

INTRODUCTION

Park and Recreation planning for the City of Traverse City is a participatory process involving the public, City Staff, the Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the City Commission and consultants. Principal City staff involved in the process is the Parks and Recreation administration and office team.

LAND USE

The City's Master Plan (2009, Amended 2017) incorporates a "Natural Resources Element" and a "Parks and Recreation Element" both of which have provided a basis for this plan. The "Natural Resources Element" deals specifically with environmentally sensitive lands such as steep slopes, wetlands, shoreline zones, and wildlife habitat. Management guidelines are provided to minimize negative impacts when developing in or near these sensitive areas. Generally, the guidelines limit or discourage development in the environmentally sensitive areas.

The "Parks and Recreation Element" provides policies and guidelines for developing and regulating the use of the municipal park system, and its facilities. The plan discusses the various types of parks the City has and guidelines for their development.

Generally, the plan indicates the areas within the City that should be committed to permanent open space usage. A sizable percentage is proposed to be preserved as open space providing protection for flood plain, stream basin, shoreline, steep slope, and wetland areas.

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN

Another element of the City Master Plan is the provision of "linkages" that tie groups of parks along the bay and Boardman River together. These linkages strengthen the relationship between recreational areas and enhance usability.

Perhaps the most noted portion of the plan concerns the "Bayfront Plan", a generalized name given to the property lying between Senior Center Park on the east and the intersection of M-72 and Grandview Parkway on the west. The "Bayfront Plan" area is intended to be a balanced active and passive facility designed to serve residents and tourists alike. The overall park is really a succession of specialized smaller parks interconnected by green space linkages.

ZONING

The City Zoning Ordinance allows for the development of parks, playgrounds, and community recreational buildings owned or operated by the City, and country clubs or golf courses (public or private), in most zoning districts.

OVERVIEW

The Traverse City Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission and Gosling Czubak Engineering Sciences, Inc. for review by the public and City Planning Commission. After advertised public meetings, the City Commission adopts this document by formal resolution as the Traverse City Parks and Recreation Plan and authorizes submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval.

In addition, the Traverse City Planning Commission must prepare a Public Capital Improvements Plan annually for submittal to the City Commission. The plan describes all major proposed physical improvements and equipment purchases for the next six years, including improvements for City parks and recreation facilities. The plan complements the Traverse City Parks and Recreation Plan's Public Improvement Schedule and is prepared annually rather than once every five years, as is the case with the Recreation Plan.

The Public Capital Improvements Plan and subsequent reviews are held at public meetings both at the Planning Commission and City Commission levels. Finally, the plans are carried into action via the Traverse City Annual Budget as prepared by staff for City Commission implementation





05

PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

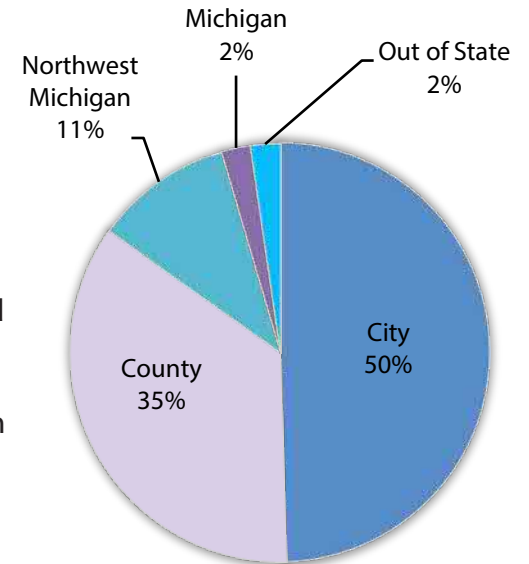
ONLINE SURVEY

During the process of updating the parks and recreation plan, an online survey was developed and made available to the public in efforts to garner valuable information on what a portion of the citizens and area residents feel about the facilities and programs offered by the City. This online survey was an important first step in determining the desires of the public which in turn helped determine focus areas and action items for the next 5 years. Multiple media outlets were used to advertise the survey including social media platforms, website postings and local radio. Local groups that were contacted and asked to advertise the survey include Traverse City DDA, Traverse Area District Library, Traverse City Tourism, Traverse Connect, Traverse City Young Professionals, Northern Michigan College, Norte Youth Cycling Program, TART Trail Group, TC Track Club, Grand Traverse Ski Club, VASA Ski Club, Traverse Area Community Rowing, Traverse Area Community Sailing and the Senior Center Network. Additionally local news outlets were contacted to advertised the survey including Traverse City Ticker, The Record Eagle News, WNMC Radio and 9&10 News. The survey was also advertised on the City's Parks and Recreation website and social media pages.

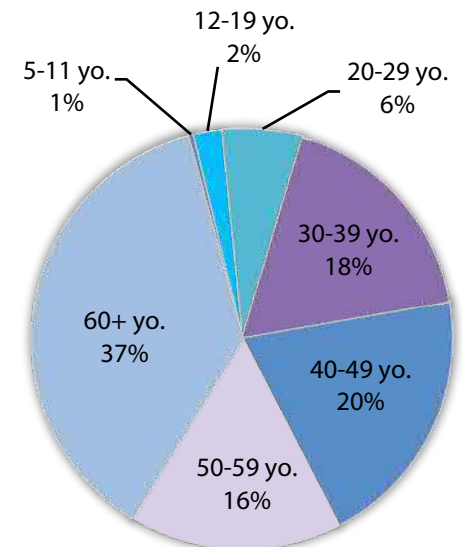
Available for a 7-week period and open to all who liked to participate, the survey garnered 536 respondents to the 22-25 questions. Questions were asked about respondent demographics, specific park usage and need for improvements, specific activity involvement, desires for activity accommodations, thoughts on recently completed projects, importance of non-motorized transportation, parks awareness and general input on the parks and recreations system as a whole. The information received was invaluable in developing future goals and objectives that focus on addressing the public's wants and needs.

A broad range of respondents, mostly 30+ years old, contributed to the survey. The majority were local, full time residents that have access to all parks during every season of the year. It was found that over 89% of the respondents thought that the City owned and operated less than the actual 34 parks currently existing in the system.

Strong support was shown for improvements to existing park and recreation facilities. Improvements to facilities for overall accesibility and accomodating users of all ages was a common theme in survey responses. Creatiing and maintaining park facilities to provide a diversified array of year round activities, especially activities for winter months, was repeatedly noted by the public.



SURVEY RESPONDENT LOCATION
*97% OF CITY AND COUNTY RESPONDENTS ARE FULL-TIME RESIDENTS



SURVEY RESPONDENT AGE

Attention Park Users!
THE CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY NEEDS YOU

THE CITY IS UPDATING ITS 5-YEAR PARKS & RECREATION PLAN.
 WHAT DO **YOU** WANT TO SEE?

More Trees?
 More Trails?
 Playgrounds? Skate Parks? Dog Parks?

**TAKE THE SHORT SURVEY
 AND
 LET YOUR
 VOICE BE
 HEARD!**

The survey can also be accessed by visiting:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GVVFGSK>

CITY of TRAVERSE CITY MICHIGAN

Safe non-motorized transportation routes continues to be a desire for the public. Both implementation of new and improvement of existing routes were mentioned as a priority for many respondents. Suggested improvements to existing facilities, such as a updating playground equipment and restroom, were repeated across several survey questions.

A desire for thorough and cohesive signage, and possibly new park signage standards were mentioned as respondents believed this could be a good way to increase the visibility and increase the user experience of the parks system and its facilities. A complete list of all survey questions and responses can be found in the appendix of this plan.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

In addition to the survey, a virtual public input session was held to further involve the public in the planning process. This live session was performed using an online meeting format and the meeting was publicized using multiple outreach platforms to all groups and media outlets that

were contacted for the online survey. A link to the input session was posted on the City’s Parks and Recreation website for the public’s access to the event. The input session comprised of a short presentation describing the planning process, purpose of a 5-year recreation plan, Parks and Recreation System overview, and presented the draft goals and objectives for the plan. At the end of the presentation, a question and answer session occurred that allowed participants to ask questions of the Traverse City Parks Superintendent and Planning Consultants. A short follow up poll allowed participants to provide input on the draft Goals and Objectives. Despite being widely advertised, the online live event was not heavily attended. Though a recording of the event and follow up poll were posted on the City’s Park and Recreation Website for viewing by the public at their convenience.

The public was also provided a draft of this parks and recreation plan for a 30-day period. Comments on this plan were encouraged and welcomed. These comments were received and reviewed to be incorporated as best as possible in the final plan text. A public hearing was also held prior to the plan adoption, allowing the public to comment on the plan and express their thoughts on the overall parks and recreation system as a whole. All of the public input was invaluable in developing the future goals and objectives for the parks and recreation system.



06

GOALS & OBJECTIVES



COMMUNITY GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Recreation surveys, citizen comments, and the recreation facility planning process provide a wide variety of ideas and priorities to guide staff and City efforts. The goals stated below provide a basis in the development of the objectives. The objectives in turn provide guidance in the development of an action plan to improve recreation for the citizens of Traverse City. Understanding that values and priorities are ever changing in the community, this set of goals will be continually refined and expanded to reflect new attitudes and ideas.

GOAL 1: MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE EXISTING PARKS

Strengthen communications and relationships with neighborhood associations, community groups and individuals, to enhance existing recreational amenities for a variety of user types and activities.

Objectives for all parks:

- » Work together with neighborhood associations and community groups to facilitate discussion and planning for park improvements including safe access to all parks.
- » Encourage the public to use the Park Planning Process to present and develop ideas for park improvement.

- » Work together with foundations and organizations for building or replacing aging playground structures and facility amenities.
- » Provide facilities for parks that encourage multi-generational recreation and use by users of all accessibility levels.
- » Continue to develop diversified recreation opportunities for year-round activities and consider incorporating additional winter activities into existing and future parks.

Objectives for specific parks in various stages of planning and implementation:

Indian Woods

- » Develop a plan for upgrading playground equipment, walkways/connectivity throughout the park, and improve available amenities such as benches, tables, trash cans, etc.
- » Work to utilize multiple funding sources and implement planned improvements

Jupiter Gardens

- » Work with neighborhood group and other interested citizens to develop a site plan that will lead toward improvements including perennial gardens, walkways and a small trailside shelter.
- » Work to utilize multiple funding sources and

implement planned improvements.

Sunset Park

- » Work with community to develop a plan for Sunset Park to encourage its use as a multi-generational, accessible park.
- » Work to utilize multiple funding sources and implement planned improvements.

Boon Street Park

- » Develop a plan for needed improvements including new playground equipment, picnic area, connectivity trails and newly defined entrance.
- » Work to utilize multiple funding sources and implement planned improvements

Hickory Hills Recreation Area

- » Work with various user groups and professionals to develop a plan for a network of mountain biking trails that will integrate into the property.
- » Continue working to connect recreation and Nordic trails between Hickory Hills, Hickory Meadows, and the Historic Barns property at the Grand Traverse Commons. Accommodate four seasons of uses including cross country skiing, snowshoeing, biking, hiking, and running.

- » Continue to explore funding sources for further phases of the Master Plan implementation including additions to summer use activities.

Traverse City Bayfront

- » Upgrade and expand upon support facilities/ amenities and specific parks including West End Beach, Volleyball Courts, Open Space and Clinch Park.
- » Consider improvements to the waterfront parks (West and East Bays) to create resilient waterfront recreation spaces and protect infrastructure and investment from fluctuating Lake Michigan level conditions.

Brown Bridge Quiet Area

- » Continue to support stakeholder groups with the implementation of Brown Bridge Quiet Area Master Plan and overall management of the Area.
- » Determine any additional opportunities for universal access to the Area.

Grand Traverse Commons and Meijer Silverbrook Acres

- » Make plans for removing invasive vegetation.
- » Enhance trail systems to showcase the scenic and unique areas of the parks.

2019 Brown Bridge Trust Fund initiative projects include:

Brown Bridge Quiet Area Improvements

- Boardman River Recreation Plan
- Interpretive and navigational signage
- Additional fish and wildlife habitat improvements

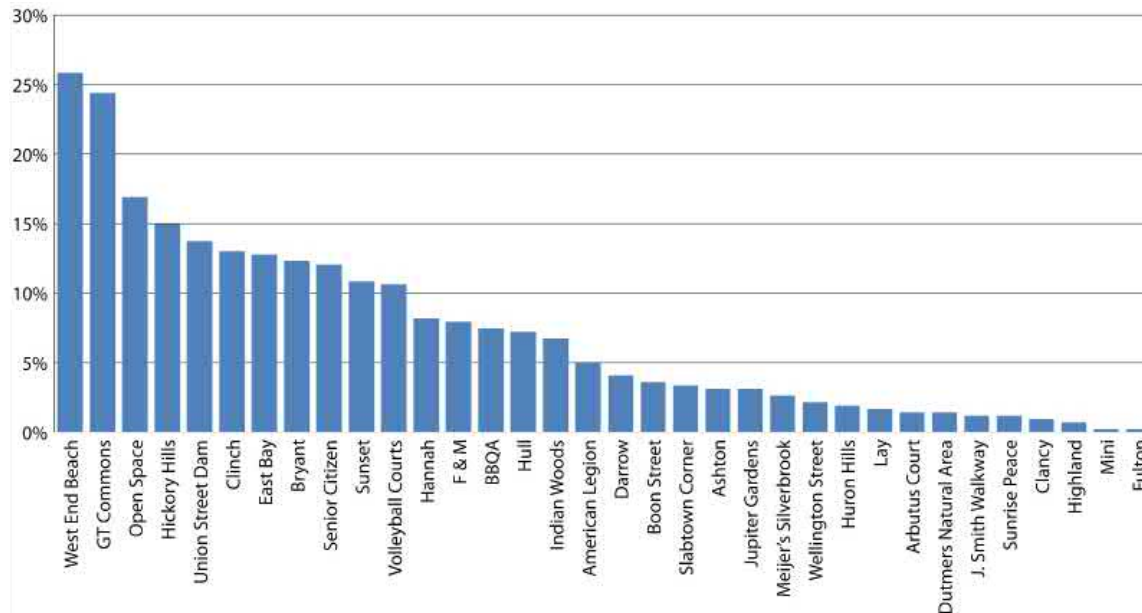
Improvements to Specific City Parks Including

- Indian Woods Park
- Jupiter Gardens Park
- Boon St. Park
- Ashton Park
- F&M Park
- Arbutus Court Park
- Highland Park

- » Develop appropriate use areas for low impact recreation opportunities at the Commons.
- » Maintain the unique character of habitat types in certain designated areas.

GOAL 2: INCREASE AWARENESS OF CITY PARKS AND RECREATION

Utilize multiple media platforms, associations with other community groups, and various other outlets to inform the public and visitors of park and recreation opportunities within the City.



**SURVEY RESPONSE TO
"WHICH PARKS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVEMENTS TO?"**

RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO CHOOSE 3 PARKS

Objectives:

- » Advertise and promote use of the current City of Traverse City Parks and Recreation Interactive Map for both PC and mobile applications.
- » Develop a marketing plan that focuses on increasing awareness of City parks and recreation programs
- » Leverage connections with local community and organized sport groups; encourage them to promote City recreation facilities and parks missions throughout their user groups and outreach venues.
- » Provide unique and interactive opportunities for people to experience all park facilities such as a "Parks Passport".
- » Utilize local community events to distribute promotional material including Park Guide and Map and recreational program information.
- » Recognize July as National Park and Recreation Month and celebrate by holding special events in the month of July.
- » Promote awareness of health, education, social, and environmental benefits of recreation.
- » Encourage family participation programs.

GOAL 3: DEVELOP PARKS AND RECREATION

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Develop a capital improvement fund for City parks and recreation facilities and overall park system improvements.

Objectives:

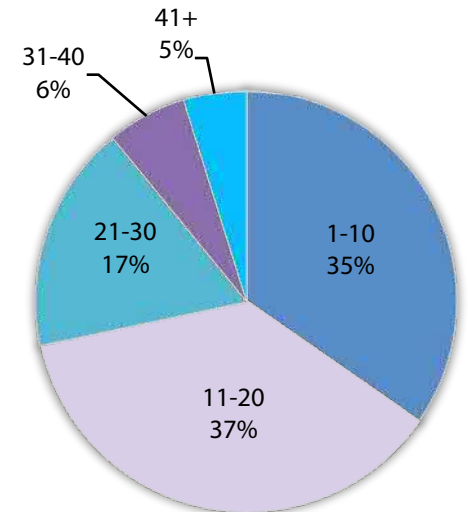
- » Survey the community to gauge interest and support for funding parks and recreational programming.
- » Consider a recreational millage for parks improvement projects.
- » Seek to direct revenue from park usage fees, donations and fundraisers to a dedicated capital improvement fund.
- » Earmark specified donations and apply them to capital improvements for the specific park facility.

GOAL 4: ENHANCE ACTIVE NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION & TRANSPORTATION

Work with the City, agencies and other organizations to promote an active transportation plan that would support future trails, pathways and non-motorized transportation improvements in and around the community to increase and encourage recreational opportunities.

Objectives:

- » Advocate for implementation of a complete streets and multi-modal design features for City roadway and corridor projects
- » Consider developing standards and locations for the development of bicycle facilities and pedestrian walkways within City parks.
- » Evaluate existing and future transportation corridors in the City for improved multi-modal options in conjunction with ongoing trail and streetscape planning efforts.
- » Build sidewalks adjacent to, and where appropriate, within all parks located within a neighborhood setting to make them safer and more accessible.
- » Improve overall transportation choices that would also improve recreational opportunities by connecting recreational facilities together.
- » Utilize existing and past trail planning efforts that have been completed by TART, City Planning and neighboring townships.
- » Work with local non-governmental organizations (NGO's) such as the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and trail advocacy groups including Networks Northwest, Northern Michigan Mountain Bike Association and TART.



SURVEY RESPONSE TO "HOW MANY PARKS ARE THERE?"
 89%+ OF RESPONDENTS THINK THERE ARE LESS THAN THE ACTUAL 34 PARKS



- » Implement universal accessibility design principles as a design standard for all new facilities.
- » Support Safe Routes to Schools Program
- » Work together with the Downtown Development Authority to increase active transportation in the DDA District.
- » Continue to partner with user groups, local schools, Bay Area Transportation Authority, and non-profit groups to provide after school transportation to Hickory Hills to increase student utilization of the park and programs.

GOAL 5: ENHANCE BOARDMAN LAKE & RIVER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Promote active, passive and water related recreational activities by working with other groups and adjoining properties to further develop Boardman Lake and River as a natural resource opportunity.

Objectives:

- » Continue to provide a mixed-use recreation environment that promotes active and passive water related activities in the downtown core area, along the river and around Boardman Lake.
- » Work with the appropriate agencies and local

non-profits (TART) to implement the final phases (west side) of non-motorized trail around Boardman Lake.

- » Continue to support Traverse Area Community Sailing (TACS), Traverse Area Community Rowing (TACR), TC Whitewater and other non-profit organizations that encourage water-related recreational use of Boardman Lake and River.
- » Continue involvement with multiple stakeholder and project groups to help guide the implementation of the Boardman River Fish Pass in efforts to maximize waterfront and river recreational opportunities in conjunction with the natural resource benefits of the project.
- » Continue the development of a riverwalk that will provide connection from downtown to Boardman Lake and pursue recreation development along this corridor.

GOAL 6: SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENTS

Continue to support the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Commission to provide recreation programs, education and assistance for mature adults, age 50 and over.

Objectives:

- » Work cooperatively with the Grand Traverse

Senior Center Network to maintain and improve the park surrounding the Senior Center.

- » Continue to support development of innovative programming.
- » Continue to enhance the relationship with the Senior Center and provide continued support in future Senior Center planning efforts.

GOAL 7: IMPROVE SIGNAGE, WAYFINDING AND BRANDING FOR PARKS

Develop consistent wayfinding signage system and brand standards to improve overall identity and name recognition of the City parks as well as improve access and increase use of the parks.

Objectives:

- » Develop park system branding and design standards for a cohesive recognition of all park system facilities.
- » Develop wayfinding analysis and recommendations including sign concepts and sign array for park entrance signs, internal circulation and directional signs, interpretive signs that include educational and historical components, administrative and policy signs, and wayfinding signs.
- » Review City ordinance for signage requirements and restrictions.

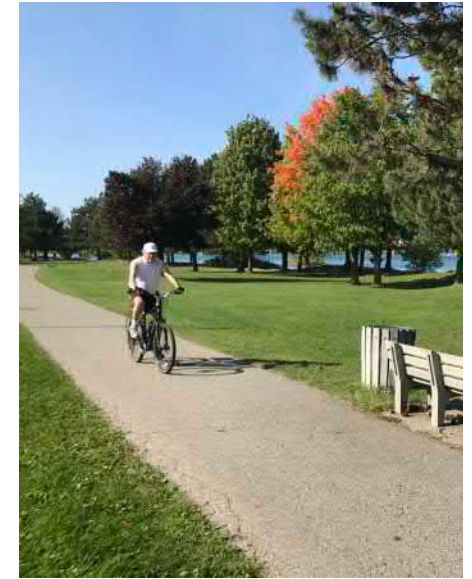
- » Consider permit requirements for sign construction and placement within the MDOT and Grand Traverse County Road Commission rights-of-way.
- » Consider funding and phasing plan for implementation of signs and execute implementation.
- » Develop signage program and design intent drawings (construction details and specifications) for bidding.
- » Place signs to identify each park, regardless of size or location.

GOAL 8: LAND ACQUISITION FOR PARKS

Purchase additional property on an as-needed basis that will help grow and diversify the City’s recreational facilities.

Objectives:

- » Consider purchase or lease of property in areas of the City that are deficient in parks.
- » Consider feasibility of acquiring property near parks to provide future land for expansion of recreational activities.
- » Consider feasibility of acquiring easements or full purchase of property with Boardman River Property Owners for the future extension of a riverwalk.





GOAL 9: DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS

Work with schools to make recreation facilities and programs part of the education system.

Objectives:

- » Develop educational programs for recreational skills and environmental understanding, along with providing City parks facilities as a venue for outdoor classrooms.
- » Investigate summer neighborhood programs using school playgrounds and gyms.
- » Develop programs with area schools to promote the year-round utilization of Hickory Hills for recreation and educational opportunities.
- » Investigate with Traverse City Area Public Schools, the possibility of developing a City park on a lease or use agreement, in the wooded area adjacent to Traverse Heights Elementary School.

Objectives:

- » Conduct annual analysis and efficiency review of programs.
- » Partner with local non-profits, schools, and community organizations that are providing recreation programs.
- » Survey community to ascertain their opinion on ways to continually improve the recreation programs.
- » Recreation programs need to be affordable and fulfill a community value.
- » Adjust user fees for programs, season passes and entrance fees on an as needed basis.

GOAL 10: CONSIDER RECREATION PROGRAMS

Develop strong and dynamic recreation programming affording a variety of recreational activities and experiences for a wide range of users.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT SUMMARY

The following Capital Improvement Schedule is provided for planning purposes and is subject

to change depending on many factors. These include; budget restrictions, the availability or lack thereof for private or grant funding, and changes in thought of citizens or City officials on the priority of projects.

FISCAL YEAR	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST ESTIMATE	POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES
2021 - 2022				
1	Indian Woods Park Improvements	New Playground equipment, hill slide, walkway/path connector to both sides of park and amenities	\$112,000	Donations Brown Bridge Trust Grants
2	Jupiter Gardens Park Improvements	Covered seating along TART Trail, defined walking path through park with edible gardens and flowered spaces, water filling station	\$23,000	Donations Brown Bridge Trust Grants
3	Boardman Lake Trail (West) Expansion	In support with other project partners, this would complete the trail around the entire Boardman Lake for community enjoyment.	\$2,800,000	Brownfield Funds Grants Other Jurisdictions
4	Boardman River Recreation Plan	Recreation plan for the Boardman River including through Brown Bridge Quiet Area and other City Owned waterfront parcels	\$63,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grants Donations
5	Brown Bridge – Fish & Wildlife Habitat Improvements	River fish habitat improvements and Native species plantings to improve wildlife benefits and bank stabilization.	\$55,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
6	Hickory Hills Snowmaking	Expand pump house, add infrastructure for Nordic snowmaking	\$100,000	Grant Donations





FISCAL YEAR	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST ESTIMATE	POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES
2022 - 2023				
1	Park Sign Study, Redesign and Replacement	Current park signs (entry, wayfinding, etc.) are becoming unsightly. New sign array will improve overall aesthetics and usability of parks.	\$70,000	City Funds TIF Funds
2	Brown Bridge – Interpretive and Navigational Signage	Design and install new signs to improve way-finding and educational opportunities on the trails.	\$10,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
3	Boon Street Park Improvements	New Playground equipment, picnic area, defined entrance and trail into park	\$58,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
4	Ashton Park Improvements	Replace playground equipment	\$30,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
5	American Legion Park Improvements	Regrade Park, add seating and picnic areas, access to river	\$150,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
2023 – 2024				
1	ADA Accessible Watercraft Landing	Replace existing landing with ADA accessible watercraft landing	\$100,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
2	F&M Park Improvements	New basketball hoops and pad	\$30,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations

FISCAL YEAR	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST ESTIMATE	POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES
2023 – 2024				
3	Sunset Park Improvements	Would include new fitness and playground equipment, picnic shelter, restrooms, irrigation and retaining wall.	\$245,000	Donations Grants City Funds
4	Hickory Hills Mountain Bike Trail System	Design and establish a dedicated mountain bike/single track system	\$ TBD	Donations Grants City Funds
5	Brown Bridge Overlook and Access Steps	Provide viewing opportunities in various locations	\$65,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
2024 -2025				
1	Arbutus Court Park Improvements	New basketball hoops and pad	\$10,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
2	Highland Park Improvements	New playground equipment and improved entrance/exit	\$30,000	Brown Bridge Trust Grant Donations
3	West End Beach Improvements	New bath house, ADA accessible access to beach, multiple grill/picnic areas	\$385,000	Donations Grants City Funds
4	Volleyball Courts Improvements	Retaining wall, bathrooms, additional courts, sand replacement, grills and seating area	\$375,000	Donations Grants City Funds





FISCAL YEAR	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST ESTIMATE	POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES
2025 - 2026				
1	Bryant Park Improvements	Outdoor shower space, footwash, retaining wall, bathhouse improvements, pavilions, grills, updated parking	\$275,000	Donations Grants City Funds
2	Mini Park Improvements	Reconfigure trails around "The Guardian" Coast Guard City monument, additional seating areas and bike parking	\$30,000	Donations Grants City Funds
3	Land Acquisition	Southwest part of City	\$TBD	Donations Grants City Funds
4	East Bay Park	Outdoor shower/footwash, retaining wall, upgraded bathhouse, new tables, grills, water filling station and pavilions	\$175,000	Donations Grants City Funds



07

ACTION PROGRAM



ACTION PROGRAM

The City of Traverse City is committed to continue making improvements to the Parks and Recreation facilities and programs. The citizens have spoken freely about the importance they place in Parks and Recreation. Enhancing and maintaining existing parks is a priority, with efforts to expand four-season activities and access for users of all ability levels being an overarching goal in future park system developments.

In the fall of 2019, the residents of Traverse City approved a ballot proposal to use a portion of the Brown Bridge Trust Fund balance and revenues for the next five years to fund park improvements. Royalties from oil wells on the Brown Bridge property have been placed in this trust fund to enhance park facilities for public use. These funds will contribute to specific capital projects in City parks and at the Brown Bridge Quiet Area. Brown Bridge Quiet Area priority projects include a Boardman River Recreation Plan, interpretive and navigational signage, and additional fish and wildlife habitat improvements. Specific City parks to receive these funds include Indian Woods, Jupiter Gardens, Boon St., Ashton, F&M, Arbutus Court and Highland parks. For the planning of these and other park improvements, it will be essential to work with neighborhood groups and the general public throughout the process. Working with these groups, the Parks and

Recreation Commission and staff can create vibrant hubs for these mini-communities where neighbors can meet, interact and strengthen friendships and cooperation.

Another area of emphasis in Traverse City, is making parks and other features in the City easier to reach by non-motorized means. This includes constructing new trails or re-marking and designating portions of streets for non-motorized traffic. Developing a plan to follow will take a good deal of study and thought, to provide a system that works for all modes of transportation. Most of this will be out of the jurisdiction of Parks and Recreation, but when possible, it will be embraced in new construction and in updating of existing facilities. A project with an extremely strong community desire to be completed is the West Boardman Lake Trail, which will complete a recreational trail around the entire lake and implementation is currently underway. This trail will connect to the TART network that will travel east and west from the north end of the trail at Hull Park and to the south with other planned trails through the Boardman Valley.

One of the most important tasks for the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff is to let people know about what they have to offer for the public. Some of the traditional methods including newspaper features and advertising, brochures and word of mouth are not reaching the masses.

A more active, diverse website and social media are being used to attract many new users along with the newly developed interactive parks system online map. Even though literature has been available for years, many people who live here, some as long as their entire lives, are not familiar with some of the parks and programs. Utilizing these other avenues will make the information available in various ways that will hopefully reach much of the community.

Recent Hickory Hills Recreation Area improvements have been an excellent example of planning, community involvement, and implementation, with cooperation between several public entities and private stakeholder groups. The result is an improved regional destination for year-round recreational activities and a valuable community asset for users of all ages. Continued implementation of Hickory Hills Master plan elements, including a dedicated mountain biking system of trails, will be a focus for future improvements. Working with these groups, the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff can create vibrant hubs for these mini-communities where neighbors can meet, interact and strengthen friendships and cooperation.

Collaboration with other recreation and education providers will be essential going forward. All of these entities are enduring the same cash challenges, and working together to share



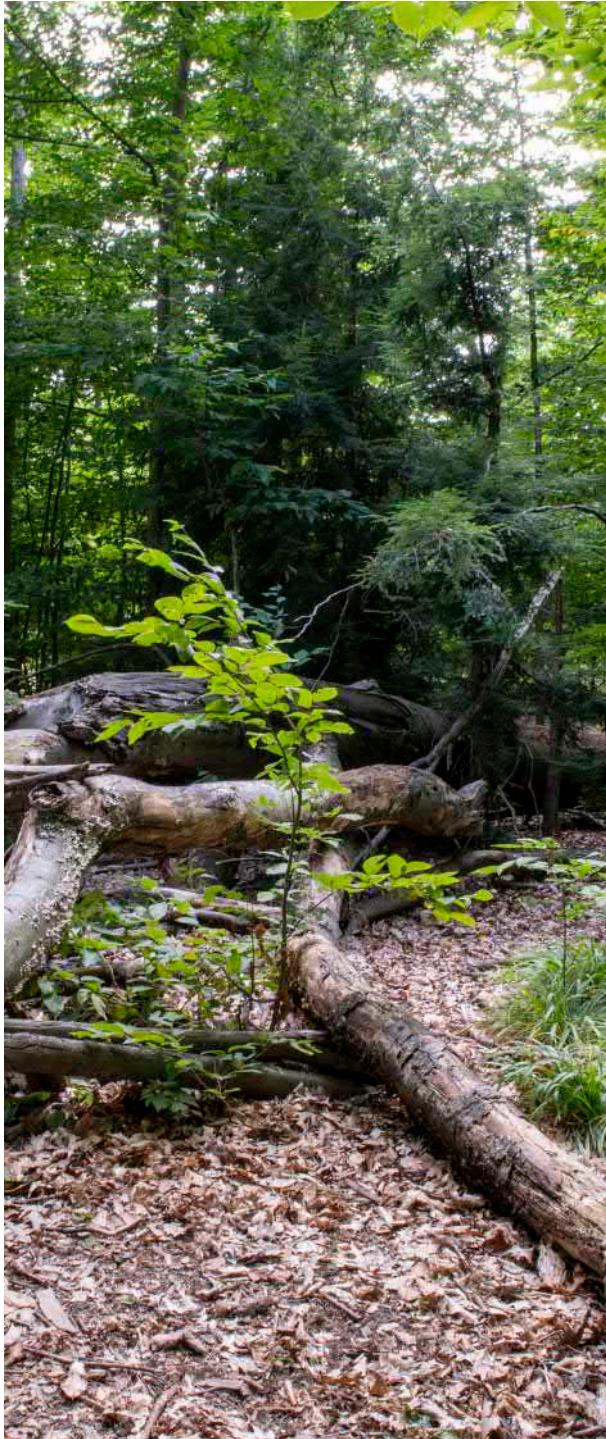
facilities, staff, and ideas, can work to benefit all of these pieces of the community. Recreation programming will continually need to be reviewed to make sure that it is serving a need for an evolving community and to investigate new programs as trends change. Local jurisdictions and organizations that provide recreation need not compete by duplicating programs and facilities that do not have the participation numbers to warrant multiple entities offering the same programs.

It is true that some parts of Traverse City are deficient in easily accessible parks and recreation



facilities. Traverse City must continue to look at property as it becomes available and seek funding so that when such a piece in a park-deficient neighborhood becomes available, it can be purchased. A fund dedicated for this purpose would be a great start in conjunction with donations and grants to make these purchases. The funding could be from a special millage, an earmarked user fee, or other imaginative funding sources for land acquisition.

The City of Traverse City is excited about the potential in the next five years and beyond. There are a great number of challenges, but also a large number of opportunities that should be embraced, to continue to make Traverse City a model for other communities to emulate as they provide programs and facilities for their citizens.



APPENDIX A PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

City of Traverse City

Office of the City Clerk

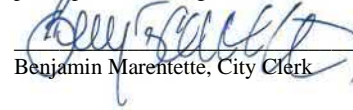
GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 922-4480
tcclerk@traversecitymi.gov



**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE
CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2021-2025**

- Because, The City of Traverse City has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2021-2025, and
- Because, The City of Traverse City began the process of developing a community recreation plan in accordance with most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and
- Because, the City of Traverse City has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation of the City of Traverse City, and
- Because, residents of the Traverse City area were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and
- Because, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the (final draft plan / plan amendment) for a period of at least (30 days for plan / 14 days for amendments), and,
- Because, an opportunity for public comment on the Parks and Recreation Plan was also held on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at the Parks and Recreation virtual monthly meeting, and
- Because, after the opportunity for public input, the City of Traverse City Parks and Recreation Commission voted to recommend adoption by the City Commission of said Parks and Recreation Plan, now, therefore be it
- Resolved,** that the City of Traverse City, City Commission, hereby adopts the City of Traverse City Parks and Recreation Plan as a guideline for improving parks facilities and recreation opportunities for the residents of the City of Traverse City.

I certify that this Resolution was adopted by the City Commission at its Regular Meeting held on December 21, 2020, conducted as a remote participation meeting.


Benjamin Marentette, City Clerk



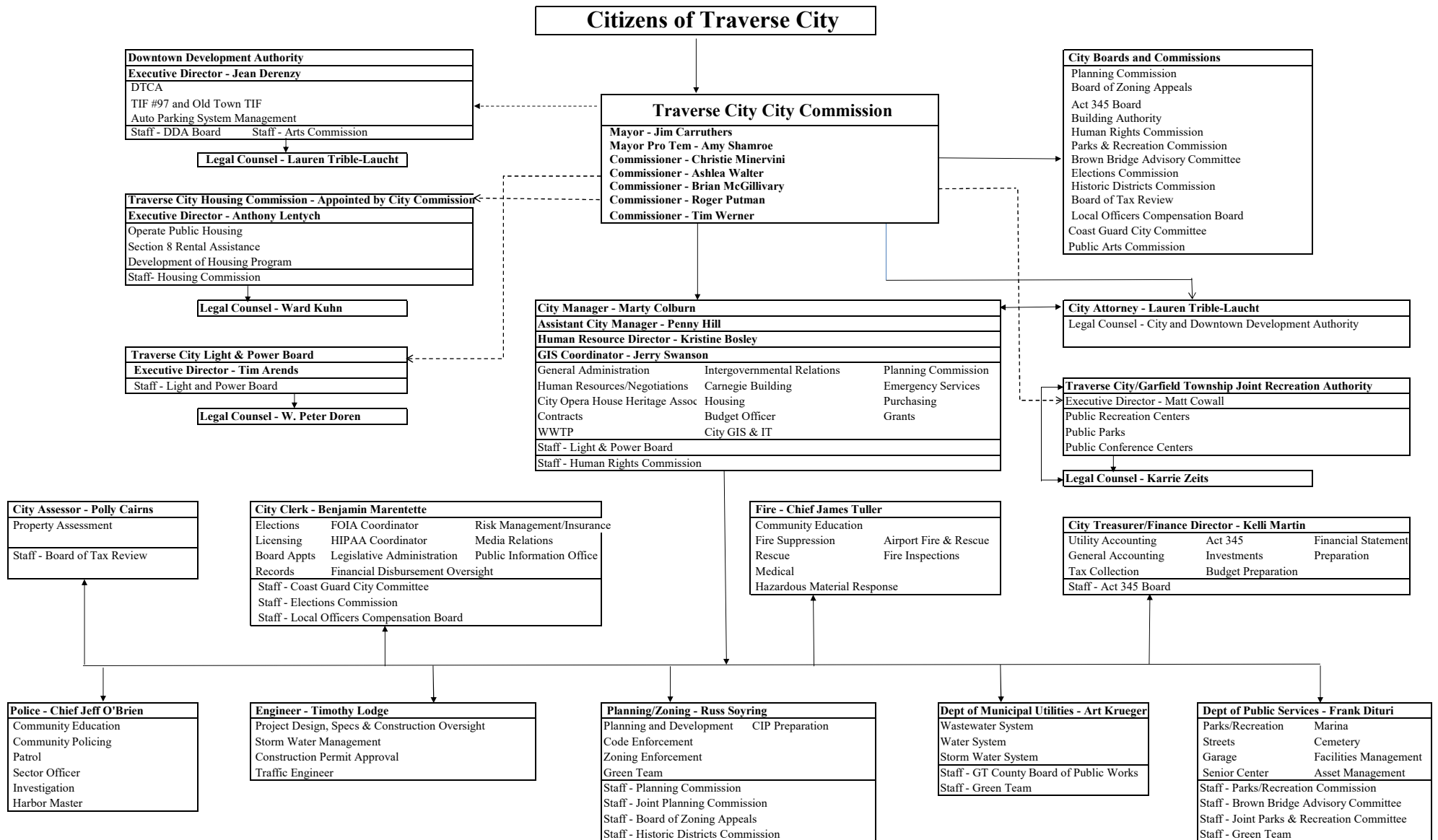
APPENDIX B

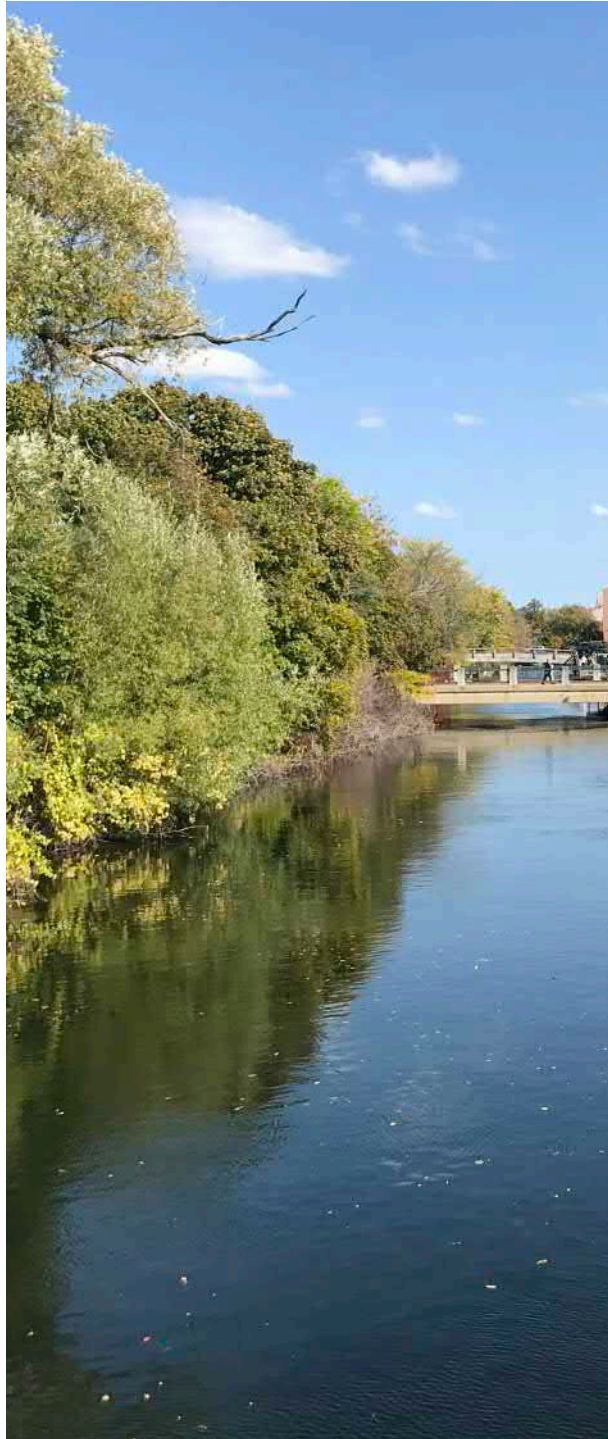
CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

City of Traverse City, Michigan Organizational Chart

August 27, 2020

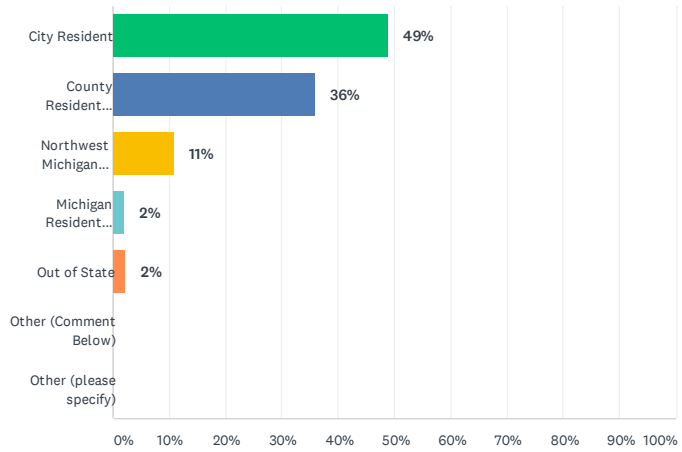




APPENDIX C PUBLIC SURVEY RESPONSE DATA

Q1 What area do you live in?

Answered: 583 Skipped: 0

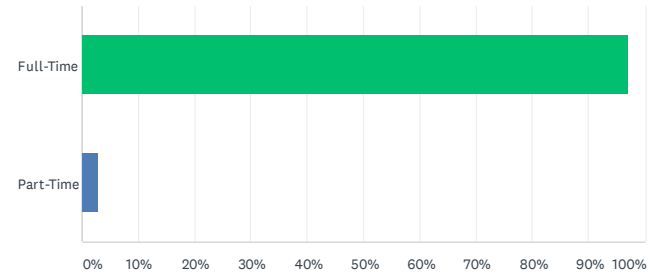


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
City Resident	49% 285
County Resident (outside of city limits)	36% 210
Northwest Michigan (outside of Grand Traverse County – Includes Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Wexford, Manistee, Benzie, Leelanau Counties.)	11% 63
Michigan Resident (outside of Northwest Michigan)	2% 12
Out of State	2% 13
Other (Comment Below)	0% 0
Other (please specify)	0% 0
TOTAL	583

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q2 Are you a full-time resident in your current location? Or Part-time?

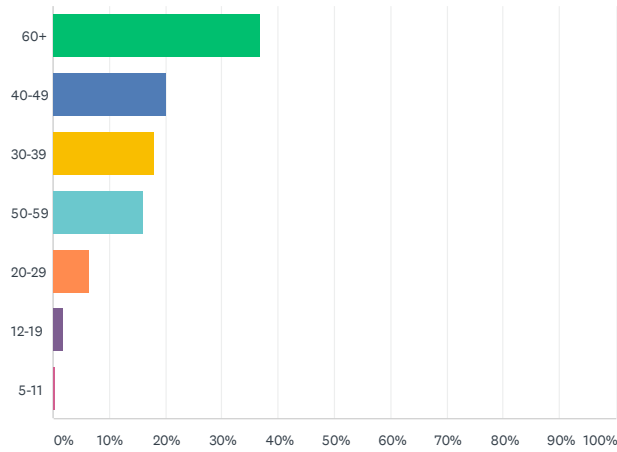
Answered: 433 Skipped: 150



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Full-Time	97.00% 420
Part-Time	3.00% 13
TOTAL	433

Q3 What is your age?

Answered: 504 Skipped: 79



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
60+	36.90%	186
40-49	20.04%	101
30-39	18.06%	91
50-59	16.07%	81
20-29	6.55%	33
12-19	1.98%	10
5-11	0.40%	2
TOTAL		504

Q4 How many parks and recreation facilities do you think are owned and operated by the City? (Does not include the County-owned Civic Center and grounds. Please input number below – No Googling! Please provide an honest answer for our best understanding and information)

Answered: 504 Skipped: 79

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	30	11/21/2020 7:32 AM
2	20	11/13/2020 10:16 AM
3	20	11/12/2020 8:39 AM
4	15	11/10/2020 11:19 AM
5	20	11/9/2020 9:27 PM
6	15	11/9/2020 3:54 PM
7	35? Oh man I wish I knew!	11/9/2020 12:51 PM
8	6	11/9/2020 10:17 AM
9	30	11/9/2020 8:47 AM
10	50	11/9/2020 8:36 AM
11	20	11/9/2020 8:01 AM
12	12	11/9/2020 5:59 AM
13	10	11/8/2020 9:48 PM
14	50	11/8/2020 11:36 AM
15	20	11/8/2020 6:15 AM
16	15	11/8/2020 3:52 AM
17	20	11/7/2020 1:12 PM
18	12	11/7/2020 10:38 AM
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28	12	11/7/2020 7:12 AM
29	20	11/7/2020 7:06 AM
30	20	11/7/2020 6:46 AM
31	50	11/7/2020 5:48 AM
32	15	11/7/2020 5:41 AM
33	4	11/7/2020 5:26 AM
34	25	11/7/2020 5:08 AM
35	15	11/7/2020 5:02 AM
36	25	11/7/2020 4:47 AM
37	20	11/6/2020 10:44 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

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57	15	10/11/2020 9:47 AM
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62	5	10/8/2020 9:41 AM
63	20	10/8/2020 8:23 AM
64	25	10/8/2020 7:02 AM
65	12	10/7/2020 11:36 PM
66	10	10/7/2020 10:58 PM
67	25	10/7/2020 8:45 PM
68	20	10/7/2020 8:25 PM
69	25	10/7/2020 7:21 PM
70	5	10/7/2020 6:58 PM
71	2	10/7/2020 6:47 PM
72	8	10/7/2020 6:29 PM
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74	Hickory hills	10/7/2020 5:55 PM
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Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
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78	20	10/5/2020 10:46 PM
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82	10	10/4/2020 7:01 PM
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88	20	10/1/2020 4:41 PM
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101	15	10/1/2020 10:13 AM
102	15?	10/1/2020 10:12 AM
103	40	10/1/2020 10:12 AM
104	20	10/1/2020 10:05 AM
105	25	10/1/2020 10:02 AM
106	10	10/1/2020 9:57 AM
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110	1	10/1/2020 8:47 AM
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Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
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Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
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172	13	9/23/2020 9:13 AM
173	No idea	9/23/2020 7:59 AM
174	10	9/23/2020 7:42 AM
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187	20	9/22/2020 3:46 PM
188	20	9/22/2020 2:12 PM
189	15	9/22/2020 1:53 PM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
190	A handful. Hard to decipher who owns what. But I would say 15?	9/22/2020 1:33 PM
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209	12	9/22/2020 8:10 AM
210	12	9/22/2020 8:10 AM
211	6	9/22/2020 8:07 AM
212	10	9/22/2020 8:05 AM
213	10	9/22/2020 7:53 AM
214	5	9/22/2020 7:45 AM
215	75	9/22/2020 6:46 AM
216	14	9/21/2020 9:43 PM
217	8	9/21/2020 9:01 PM
218	18	9/21/2020 8:52 PM
219	10	9/21/2020 8:51 PM
220	25	9/21/2020 8:36 PM
221	12	9/21/2020 8:35 PM
222	40	9/21/2020 8:33 PM
223	98	9/21/2020 8:31 PM
224	15	9/21/2020 8:30 PM
225	5	9/21/2020 8:16 PM
226	3	9/21/2020 8:06 PM
227	30	9/21/2020 7:02 PM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
228	15	9/21/2020 6:47 PM
229	30	9/21/2020 6:24 PM
230	25	9/21/2020 6:10 PM
231	12	9/21/2020 6:05 PM
232	12	9/21/2020 5:07 PM
233	10	9/21/2020 4:53 PM
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235	7	9/21/2020 4:03 PM
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240	8	9/21/2020 2:08 PM
241	20	9/21/2020 1:25 PM
242	10	9/21/2020 12:50 PM
243	10	9/21/2020 12:42 PM
244	25	9/21/2020 12:33 PM
245	40	9/21/2020 12:32 PM
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247	5	9/21/2020 12:00 PM
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249	25	9/21/2020 11:53 AM
250	5	9/21/2020 11:38 AM
251	15	9/21/2020 11:37 AM
252	15	9/21/2020 11:35 AM
253	5	9/21/2020 11:27 AM
254	20	9/21/2020 11:16 AM
255	12	9/21/2020 11:11 AM
256	12	9/21/2020 11:04 AM
257	4	9/21/2020 10:55 AM
258	50	9/21/2020 10:40 AM
259	25	9/21/2020 10:37 AM
260	20	9/21/2020 10:33 AM
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262	1	9/21/2020 10:07 AM
263	5	9/21/2020 10:03 AM
264	10	9/21/2020 9:44 AM
265	20	9/21/2020 9:39 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
266	20	9/21/2020 9:30 AM
267	15	9/21/2020 9:25 AM
268	30	9/21/2020 9:15 AM
269	10	9/21/2020 9:06 AM
270	5	9/21/2020 9:04 AM
271	20-25	9/21/2020 8:58 AM
272	37	9/21/2020 8:50 AM
273	13	9/21/2020 8:30 AM
274	25	9/21/2020 8:23 AM
275	I dont know	9/21/2020 8:21 AM
276	20	9/21/2020 8:06 AM
277	15	9/21/2020 7:41 AM
278	14	9/21/2020 7:34 AM
279	20	9/21/2020 7:31 AM
280	17	9/21/2020 6:56 AM
281	6	9/21/2020 4:54 AM
282	20	9/20/2020 11:57 PM
283	10	9/20/2020 10:23 PM
284	12	9/20/2020 10:22 PM
285	24	9/20/2020 10:22 PM
286	7	9/20/2020 9:44 PM
287	10	9/20/2020 9:28 PM
288	1	9/20/2020 9:20 PM
289	10	9/20/2020 9:16 PM
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291	18	9/20/2020 8:49 PM
292	30	9/20/2020 8:38 PM
293	7	9/20/2020 8:25 PM
294	15	9/20/2020 6:50 PM
295	15	9/20/2020 6:43 PM
296	25	9/20/2020 6:38 PM
297	8	9/20/2020 6:24 PM
298	26	9/20/2020 6:00 PM
299	10	9/20/2020 5:56 PM
300	3	9/20/2020 5:35 PM
301	8	9/20/2020 5:29 PM
302	6	9/20/2020 5:19 PM
303	25	9/20/2020 5:08 PM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
304	12	9/20/2020 4:34 PM
305	12	9/20/2020 4:29 PM
306	25	9/20/2020 4:07 PM
307	10	9/20/2020 3:55 PM
308	3	9/20/2020 3:51 PM
309	5	9/20/2020 3:49 PM
310	22	9/20/2020 3:39 PM
311	20	9/20/2020 3:25 PM
312	16	9/20/2020 2:46 PM
313	10	9/20/2020 1:37 PM
314	2	9/20/2020 1:30 PM
315	12	9/20/2020 1:19 PM
316	11	9/20/2020 1:04 PM
317	30	9/20/2020 12:43 PM
318	12	9/20/2020 11:59 AM
319	20	9/20/2020 11:49 AM
320	8	9/20/2020 11:40 AM
321	20	9/20/2020 11:07 AM
322	4	9/20/2020 10:57 AM
323	15	9/20/2020 10:40 AM
324	25-30	9/20/2020 10:27 AM
325	100	9/20/2020 10:12 AM
326	26	9/20/2020 9:48 AM
327	25	9/20/2020 9:43 AM
328	5	9/20/2020 9:39 AM
329	10	9/20/2020 9:13 AM
330	25	9/20/2020 9:11 AM
331	20	9/20/2020 9:05 AM
332	30	9/20/2020 8:48 AM
333	All of them, duh. 34	9/20/2020 8:46 AM
334	8	9/20/2020 8:40 AM
335	12	9/20/2020 8:35 AM
336	8	9/20/2020 8:30 AM
337	13	9/20/2020 8:12 AM
338	20	9/20/2020 8:07 AM
339	35	9/20/2020 7:59 AM
340	20	9/20/2020 7:50 AM
341	15	9/20/2020 7:47 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
342	15	9/20/2020 7:44 AM
343	14	9/20/2020 7:38 AM
344	6	9/20/2020 7:36 AM
345	15	9/20/2020 7:34 AM
346	5	9/20/2020 7:21 AM
347	10	9/20/2020 7:01 AM
348	18	9/20/2020 6:23 AM
349	10	9/20/2020 6:01 AM
350	15	9/20/2020 5:24 AM
351	10	9/20/2020 5:03 AM
352	35	9/20/2020 4:22 AM
353	25	9/20/2020 1:29 AM
354	20	9/20/2020 12:16 AM
355	12	9/19/2020 11:32 PM
356	5	9/19/2020 10:01 PM
357	3	9/19/2020 9:54 PM
358	26	9/19/2020 8:53 PM
359	2-3	9/19/2020 8:41 PM
360	16	9/19/2020 8:38 PM
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362	18	9/19/2020 8:21 PM
363	20	9/19/2020 8:12 PM
364	4	9/19/2020 7:59 PM
365	6	9/19/2020 7:59 PM
366	6	9/19/2020 7:59 PM
367	25	9/19/2020 7:46 PM
368	15	9/19/2020 7:39 PM
369	12	9/19/2020 7:16 PM
370	15	9/19/2020 7:12 PM
371	10	9/19/2020 7:05 PM
372	2	9/19/2020 5:18 PM
373	12	9/19/2020 3:45 PM
374	don't know	9/19/2020 3:35 PM
375	15	9/19/2020 3:14 PM
376	12	9/19/2020 2:59 PM
377	25	9/19/2020 2:23 PM
378	10	9/19/2020 2:22 PM
379	3	9/19/2020 2:22 PM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
380	25	9/19/2020 2:13 PM
381	20	9/19/2020 1:37 PM
382	20	9/19/2020 1:23 PM
383	25	9/19/2020 1:18 PM
384	10	9/19/2020 1:07 PM
385	20	9/19/2020 1:07 PM
386	35	9/19/2020 12:56 PM
387	5	9/19/2020 12:39 PM
388	15-20	9/19/2020 12:39 PM
389	8	9/19/2020 12:39 PM
390	10	9/19/2020 12:39 PM
391	>10	9/19/2020 12:16 PM
392	40	9/19/2020 12:09 PM
393	15	9/19/2020 11:59 AM
394	15	9/19/2020 11:55 AM
395	8	9/19/2020 11:54 AM
396	20	9/19/2020 11:36 AM
397	22	9/19/2020 11:17 AM
398	15	9/19/2020 11:13 AM
399	25	9/19/2020 11:08 AM
400	10	9/19/2020 10:49 AM
401	30	9/19/2020 10:48 AM
402	21	9/19/2020 10:45 AM
403	15	9/19/2020 10:41 AM
404	15	9/19/2020 10:34 AM
405	12	9/19/2020 10:29 AM
406	10	9/19/2020 10:26 AM
407	14	9/19/2020 10:09 AM
408	Twenty	9/19/2020 9:57 AM
409	12	9/19/2020 9:51 AM
410	50	9/19/2020 9:47 AM
411	20	9/19/2020 9:47 AM
412	Twenty	9/19/2020 9:38 AM
413	15	9/19/2020 9:31 AM
414	22	9/19/2020 9:30 AM
415	15	9/19/2020 9:29 AM
416	10	9/19/2020 9:28 AM
417	22	9/19/2020 9:23 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
418	7	9/19/2020 9:16 AM
419	9	9/19/2020 9:15 AM
420	5	9/19/2020 9:05 AM
421	23	9/19/2020 9:03 AM
422	10	9/19/2020 9:01 AM
423	7	9/19/2020 8:56 AM
424	50	9/19/2020 8:54 AM
425	20	9/19/2020 8:53 AM
426	6	9/19/2020 8:50 AM
427	12	9/19/2020 8:46 AM
428	10	9/19/2020 8:45 AM
429	12	9/19/2020 8:45 AM
430	17	9/19/2020 8:44 AM
431	10	9/19/2020 8:42 AM
432	31	9/19/2020 8:38 AM
433	20	9/19/2020 8:36 AM
434	10	9/19/2020 8:34 AM
435	10	9/19/2020 8:31 AM
436	35	9/19/2020 8:30 AM
437	7	9/19/2020 8:28 AM
438	8	9/19/2020 8:27 AM
439	6	9/19/2020 8:27 AM
440	15	9/19/2020 8:22 AM
441	55	9/19/2020 8:12 AM
442	70	9/19/2020 8:10 AM
443	7	9/19/2020 8:10 AM
444	18	9/19/2020 8:09 AM
445	6	9/19/2020 7:59 AM
446	30	9/19/2020 7:59 AM
447	5	9/19/2020 7:53 AM
448	20	9/19/2020 7:52 AM
449	25	9/19/2020 7:51 AM
450	75	9/19/2020 7:51 AM
451	20	9/19/2020 7:49 AM
452	25	9/19/2020 7:48 AM
453	20	9/19/2020 7:44 AM
454	20	9/19/2020 7:42 AM
455	35	9/19/2020 7:41 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

456	8	9/19/2020 7:35 AM
457	10	9/19/2020 7:29 AM
458	10	9/19/2020 7:28 AM
459	25	9/19/2020 7:24 AM
460	Fifteen	9/19/2020 7:10 AM
461	14	9/19/2020 7:09 AM
462	40	9/19/2020 7:03 AM
463	20	9/19/2020 7:01 AM
464	15	9/19/2020 6:52 AM
465	20	9/19/2020 6:47 AM
466	60	9/19/2020 6:28 AM
467	14	9/19/2020 6:27 AM
468	25	9/19/2020 6:27 AM
469	6	9/19/2020 6:17 AM
470	30	9/19/2020 6:07 AM
471	15	9/19/2020 6:03 AM
472	5	9/19/2020 5:48 AM
473	5	9/19/2020 5:25 AM
474	23	9/18/2020 6:19 PM
475	36	9/18/2020 12:40 PM
476	18	9/18/2020 12:02 PM
477	20	9/18/2020 9:58 AM
478	12+	9/18/2020 8:35 AM
479	28+	9/18/2020 8:22 AM
480	19	9/17/2020 10:03 PM
481	6	9/17/2020 8:09 PM
482	20	9/17/2020 7:23 PM
483	9	9/17/2020 5:41 PM
484	20	9/17/2020 4:48 PM
485	5	9/17/2020 4:31 PM
486	15	9/17/2020 3:59 PM
487	15	9/17/2020 3:52 PM
488	30	9/17/2020 3:43 PM
489	34	9/17/2020 3:39 PM
490	25	9/17/2020 3:36 PM
491	20	9/17/2020 3:33 PM
492	28	9/17/2020 3:30 PM
493	10	9/17/2020 3:23 PM

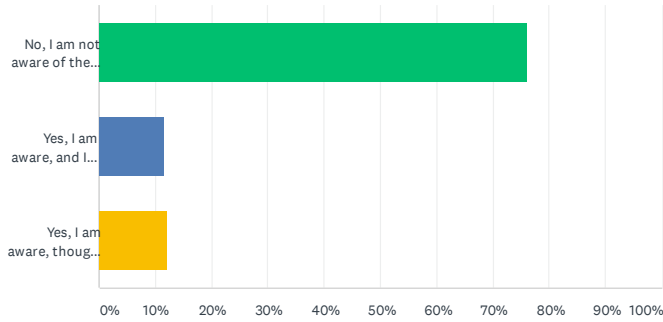
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

494	34	9/17/2020 3:20 PM
495	8	9/17/2020 3:13 PM
496	20	9/17/2020 3:11 PM
497	10	9/17/2020 3:09 PM
498	25	9/17/2020 3:06 PM
499	40	9/17/2020 3:06 PM
500	34	9/15/2020 10:47 AM
501	30	9/14/2020 5:01 PM
502	34	9/14/2020 4:38 PM
503	50	9/14/2020 4:19 PM
504	42	9/14/2020 4:02 PM

Q5 Are you aware of the online Traverse City Parks and Recreation Interactive Facilities Map? If so, have you used this application?

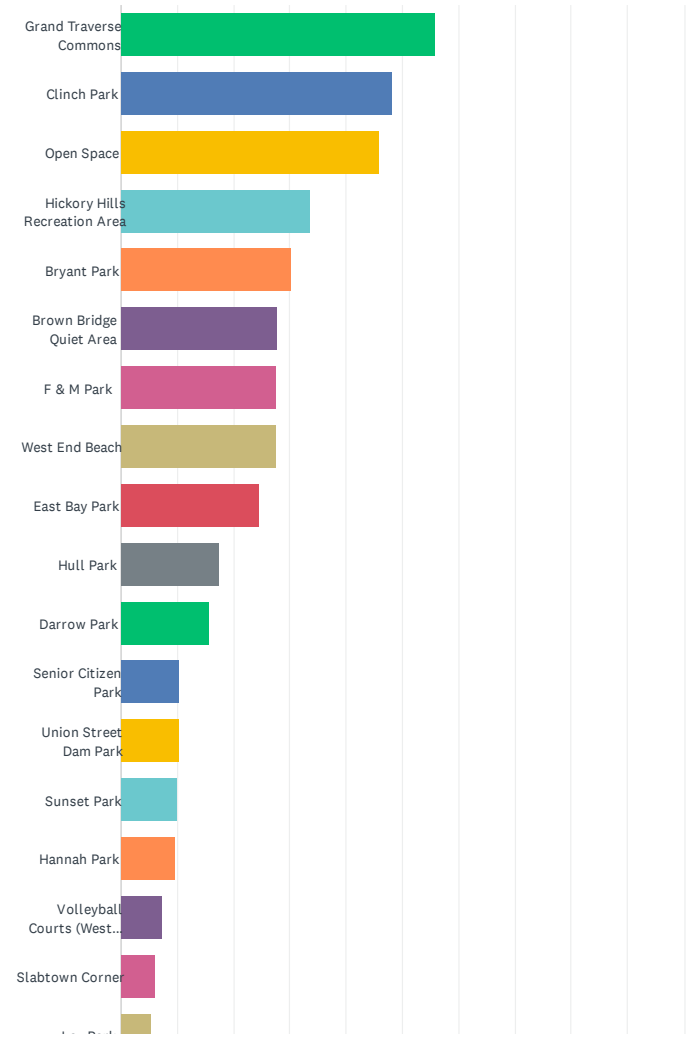
Answered: 504 Skipped: 79



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
No, I am not aware of the resource	76.19% 384
Yes, I am aware, and I have used it	11.71% 59
Yes, I am aware, though I have not used it	12.10% 61
TOTAL	504

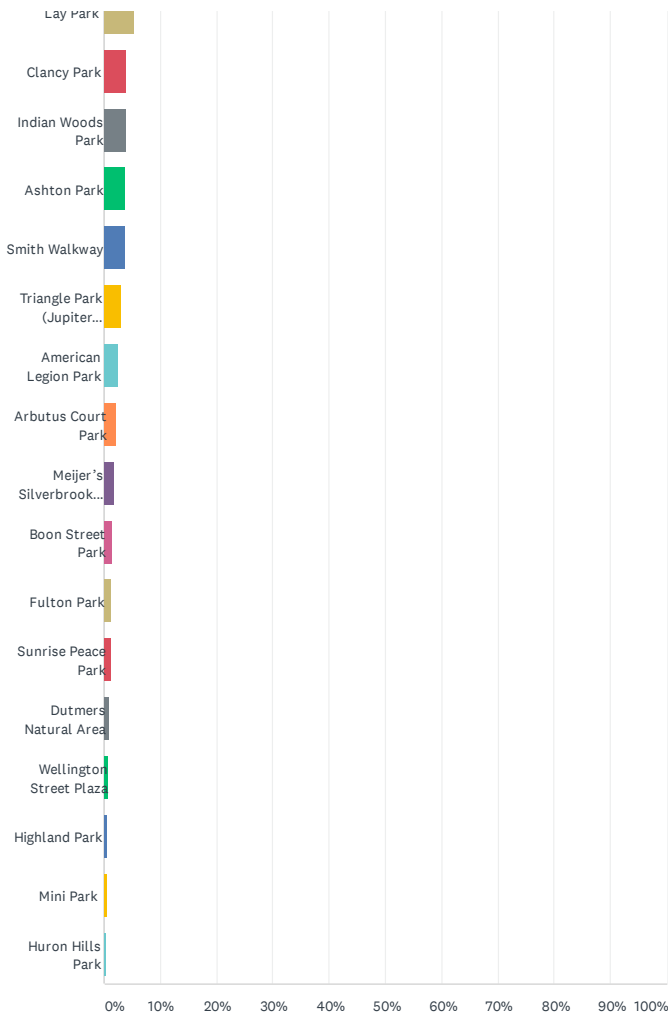
Q6 Which Traverse City parks do you visit and use the most? (choose up to 3) Need to locate a park? Click here for Traverse City Parks and Recreation Interactive Map

Answered: 498 Skipped: 85



Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey



Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

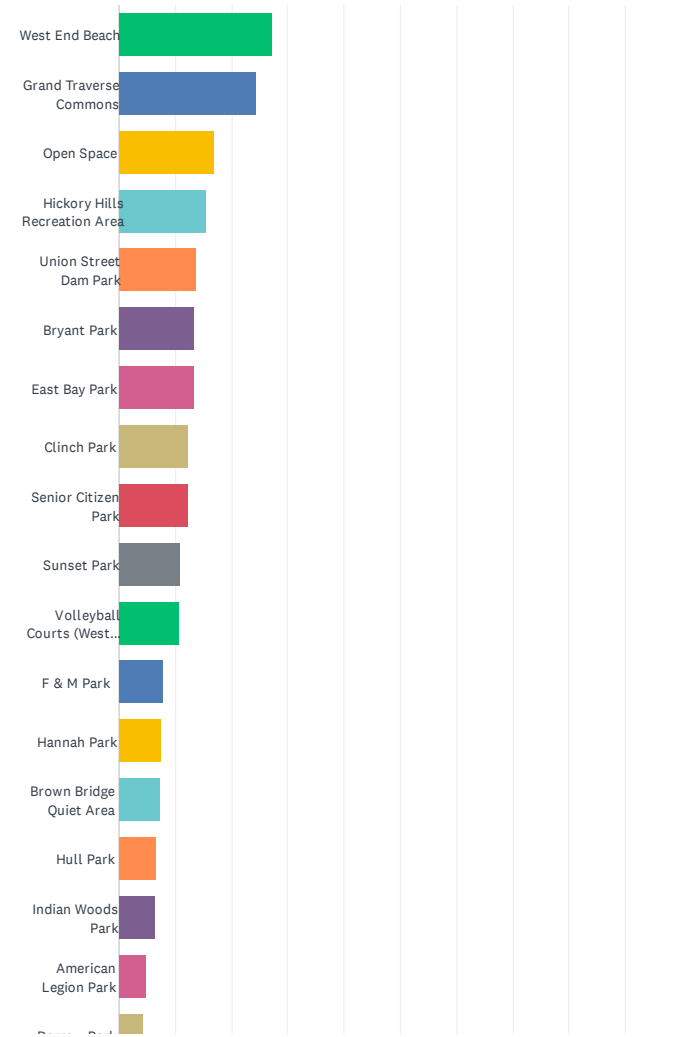
SurveyMonkey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Grand Traverse Commons	55.82%	278
Clinch Park	48.39%	241
Open Space	45.98%	229
Hickory Hills Recreation Area	33.73%	168
Bryant Park	30.32%	151
Brown Bridge Quiet Area	27.91%	139
F & M Park	27.71%	138
West End Beach	27.71%	138
East Bay Park	24.70%	123
Hull Park	17.67%	88
Darrow Park	15.66%	78
Senior Citizen Park	10.44%	52
Union Street Dam Park	10.44%	52
Sunset Park	10.04%	50
Hannah Park	9.64%	48
Volleyball Courts (West End)	7.23%	36
Slabtown Corner	6.02%	30
Lay Park	5.42%	27
Clancy Park	4.02%	20
Indian Woods Park	4.02%	20
Ashton Park	3.82%	19
Smith Walkway	3.82%	19
Triangle Park (Jupiter Gardens)	3.21%	16
American Legion Park	2.61%	13
Arbutus Court Park	2.21%	11
Meijer's Silverbrook Acres	1.81%	9
Boon Street Park	1.41%	7
Fulton Park	1.20%	6
Sunrise Peace Park	1.20%	6
Dutmers Natural Area	1.00%	5
Wellington Street Plaza	0.80%	4
Highland Park	0.60%	3

Mini Park	0.60%	3
Huron Hills Park	0.40%	2
Total Respondents: 498		

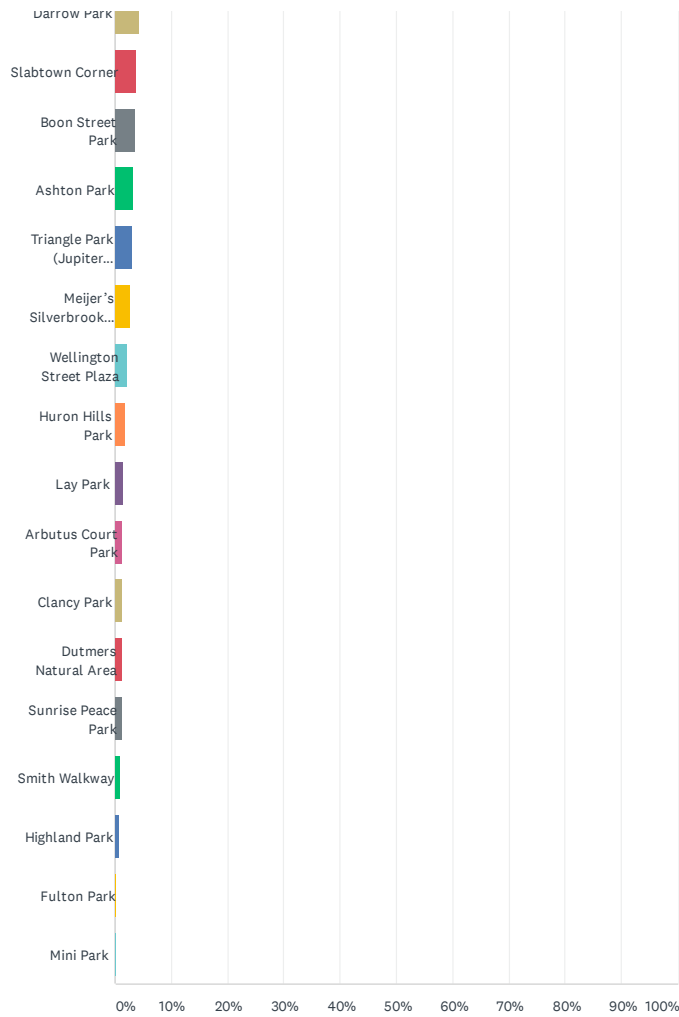
Q7 To which Traverse City parks would you like to see improvements to? (choose up to 3) Need to locate a park? Click here for Traverse City Parks and Recreation Interactive Map

Answered: 448 Skipped: 135



Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey



Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

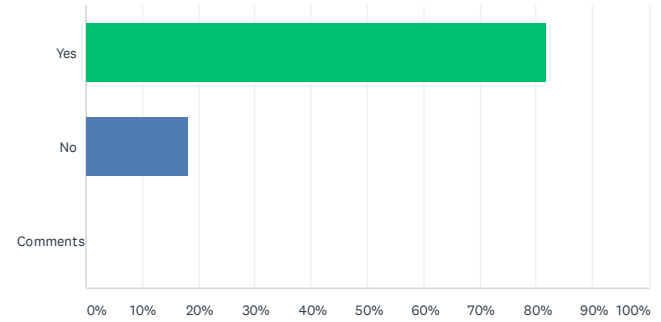
SurveyMonkey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
West End Beach	27.23%	122
Grand Traverse Commons	24.55%	110
Open Space	16.96%	76
Hickory Hills Recreation Area	15.40%	69
Union Street Dam Park	13.84%	62
Bryant Park	13.39%	60
East Bay Park	13.39%	60
Clinch Park	12.28%	55
Senior Citizen Park	12.28%	55
Sunset Park	10.94%	49
Volleyball Courts (West End)	10.71%	48
F & M Park	8.04%	36
Hannah Park	7.59%	34
Brown Bridge Quiet Area	7.37%	33
Hull Park	6.70%	30
Indian Woods Park	6.47%	29
American Legion Park	4.91%	22
Darrow Park	4.46%	20
Slabtown Corner	3.79%	17
Boon Street Park	3.57%	16
Ashton Park	3.35%	15
Triangle Park (Jupiter Gardens)	3.13%	14
Meijer's Silverbrook Acres	2.68%	12
Wellington Street Plaza	2.23%	10
Huron Hills Park	1.79%	8
Lay Park	1.56%	7
Arbutus Court Park	1.34%	6
Clancy Park	1.34%	6
Dutmers Natural Area	1.34%	6
Sunrise Peace Park	1.34%	6
Smith Walkway	1.12%	5
Highland Park	0.89%	4

Fulton Park	0.22%	1
Mini Park	0.22%	1
Total Respondents: 448		

Q8 Do you think there are an adequate number of parks and recreation facilities within the City of Traverse City limits?

Answered: 504 Skipped: 79

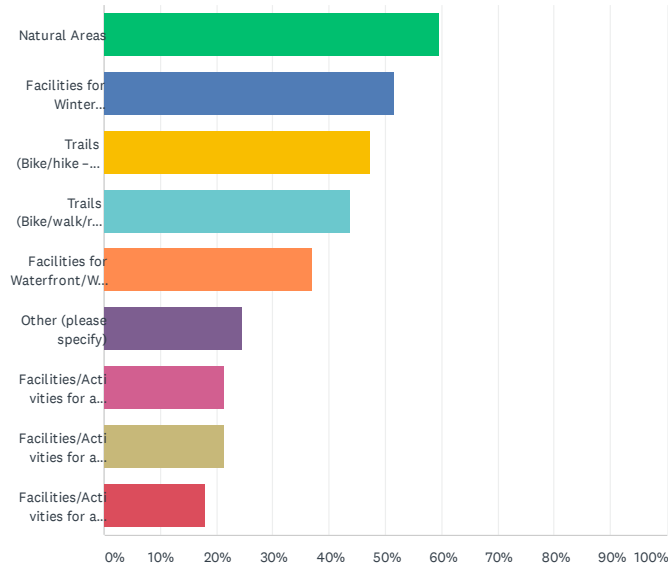


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	81.75%	412
No	18.25%	92
Comments	0.00%	0
TOTAL		504

#	COMMENTS	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q9 What type of general facilities do you think the City could have more of? (Choose all that apply)

Answered: 89 Skipped: 494

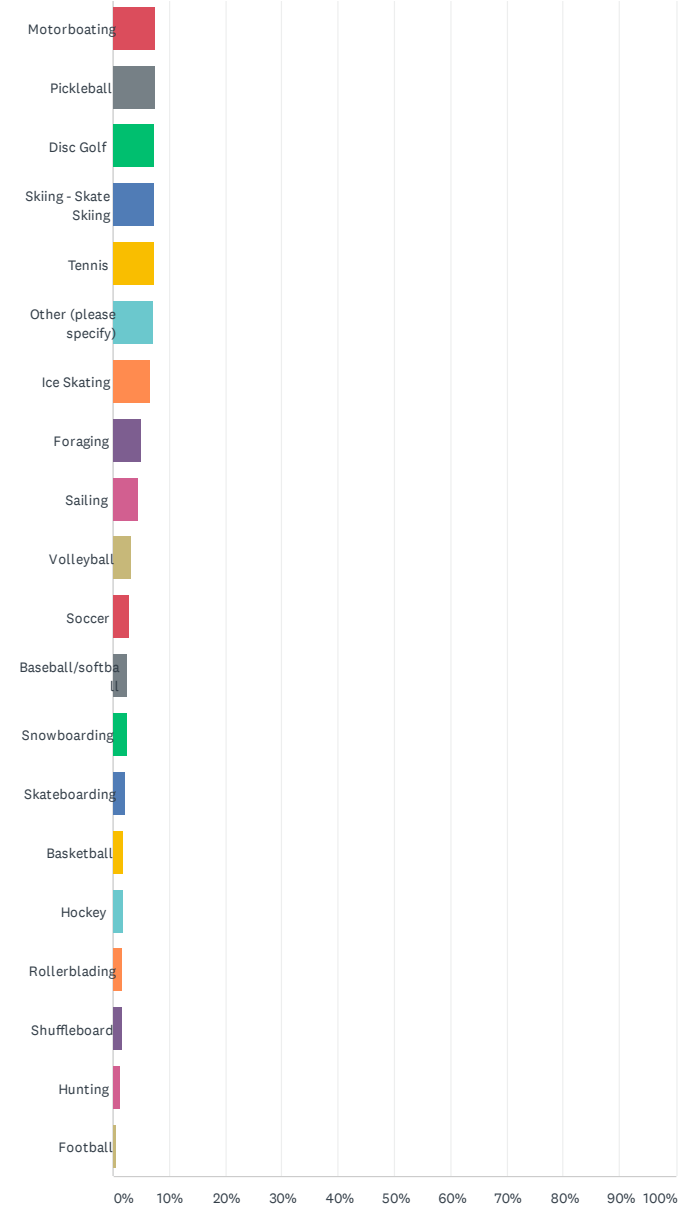
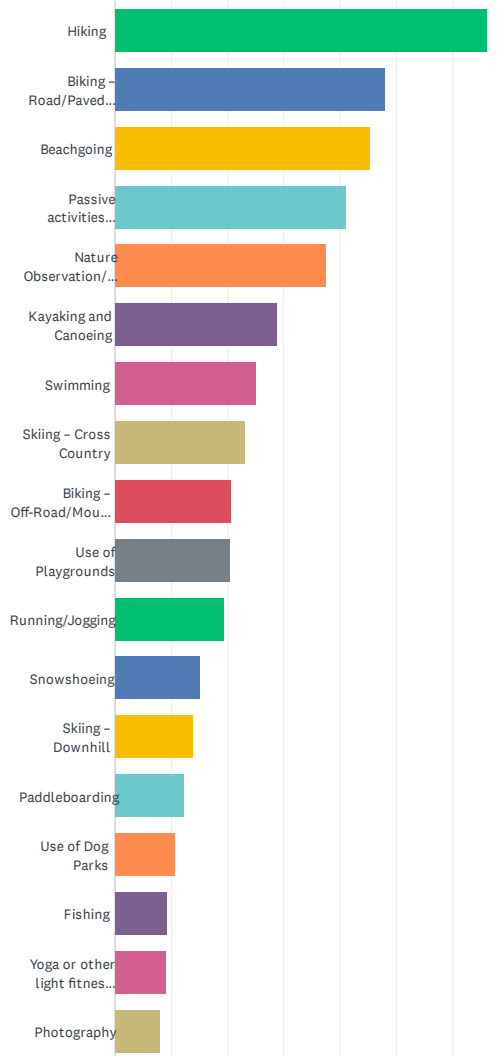


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Natural Areas	59.55% 53
Facilities for Winter Activities	51.69% 46
Trails (Bike/hike – off-road/unimproved)	47.19% 42
Trails (Bike/walk/run – hard surface)	43.82% 39
Facilities for Waterfront/Water Access	37.08% 33
Other (please specify)	24.72% 22
Facilities/Activities for ages 12-19 yo.	21.35% 19
Facilities/Activities for ages 50+ yo.	21.35% 19
Facilities/Activities for ages 5-12 yo.	17.98% 16
Total Respondents: 89	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	3 wall handball courts outside	11/10/2020 11:22 AM
2	Pump track for kids biking, community ice rink like Rosa Parks in GR	11/8/2020 6:18 AM
3	Climbing wall for teens and adults	10/12/2020 8:15 PM
4	Pump tracks	10/8/2020 7:26 PM
5	smooth surfaces for skating activities	10/1/2020 10:14 AM
6	more dog parks	9/29/2020 12:25 AM
7	I would like to see a park somewhere in Old Towne Neighborhood	9/22/2020 11:10 AM
8	We need a City Park for all the residents that live south of 14th street	9/22/2020 8:22 AM
9	Old Towne needs a recreation area. St Francis School has provided that, but that will be going away. City needs to find a place and work with the neighborhood to make it happen.	9/21/2020 6:51 PM
10	Picnic areas, preferably with pavilions	9/21/2020 8:52 AM
11	Please look at THE Glen arbor City Park. It's perfect. Picnic area, tennis, pickle ball, basketball bathroom and water.	9/21/2020 8:26 AM
12	Easy access kayak docks	9/20/2020 6:46 PM
13	A community plaza of size to hold people in groups and alone to gather year round. We are getting more apartments and condos and outdoor space to sit and gather and watch the young children ride bikes etc. is important.	9/20/2020 8:23 AM
14	Playgrounds ages 1-12	9/20/2020 7:48 AM
15	Better bathrooms. Many parks lack adequate restrooms	9/19/2020 1:41 PM
16	Community Gardens	9/19/2020 12:12 PM
17	Resident only beach areas!!!!	9/19/2020 10:53 AM
18	Skate park on west side of town	9/19/2020 8:38 AM
19	Pickleball courts	9/19/2020 7:43 AM
20	Less alcohol, more perks for locals, please get tourism under control	9/19/2020 6:10 AM
21	More play areas within neighborhoods. Boon, Jupiter, Lay, Am Legion	9/17/2020 10:07 PM
22	Facilities for ages 20-49	9/17/2020 3:34 PM

Q10 What activities do you most participate in at facilities within Traverse City Parks system? (choose up to 5)

Answered: 473 Skipped: 110



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Hiking	66.17%	313
Biking – Road/Paved Trail	48.20%	228
Beachgoing	45.45%	215
Passive activities (rest/relaxation, picnicking, group meetings, etc.)	41.23%	195
Nature Observation/Viewing/Identification	37.63%	178
Kayaking and Canoeing	28.96%	137
Swimming	25.16%	119
Skiing – Cross Country	23.26%	110
Biking – Off-Road/Mountain	20.72%	98
Use of Playgrounds	20.51%	97
Running/Jogging	19.45%	92
Snowshoeing	15.22%	72
Skiing – Downhill	13.95%	66
Paddleboarding	12.26%	58
Use of Dog Parks	10.57%	50
Fishing	9.51%	45
Yoga or other light fitness activities	9.30%	44
Photography	8.25%	39
Motorboating	7.61%	36
Pickleball	7.61%	36
Disc Golf	7.40%	35
Skiing - Skate Skiing	7.40%	35
Tennis	7.40%	35
Other (please specify)	7.19%	34
Ice Skating	6.77%	32
Foraging	5.07%	24
Sailing	4.65%	22
Volleyball	3.38%	16
Soccer	2.96%	14
Baseball/softball	2.54%	12
Snowboarding	2.54%	12
Skateboarding	2.33%	11
Basketball	1.90%	9

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SurveyMonkey

Hockey	1.90%	9
Rollerblading	1.69%	8
Shuffleboard	1.69%	8
Hunting	1.27%	6
Football	0.63%	3
Total Respondents: 473		

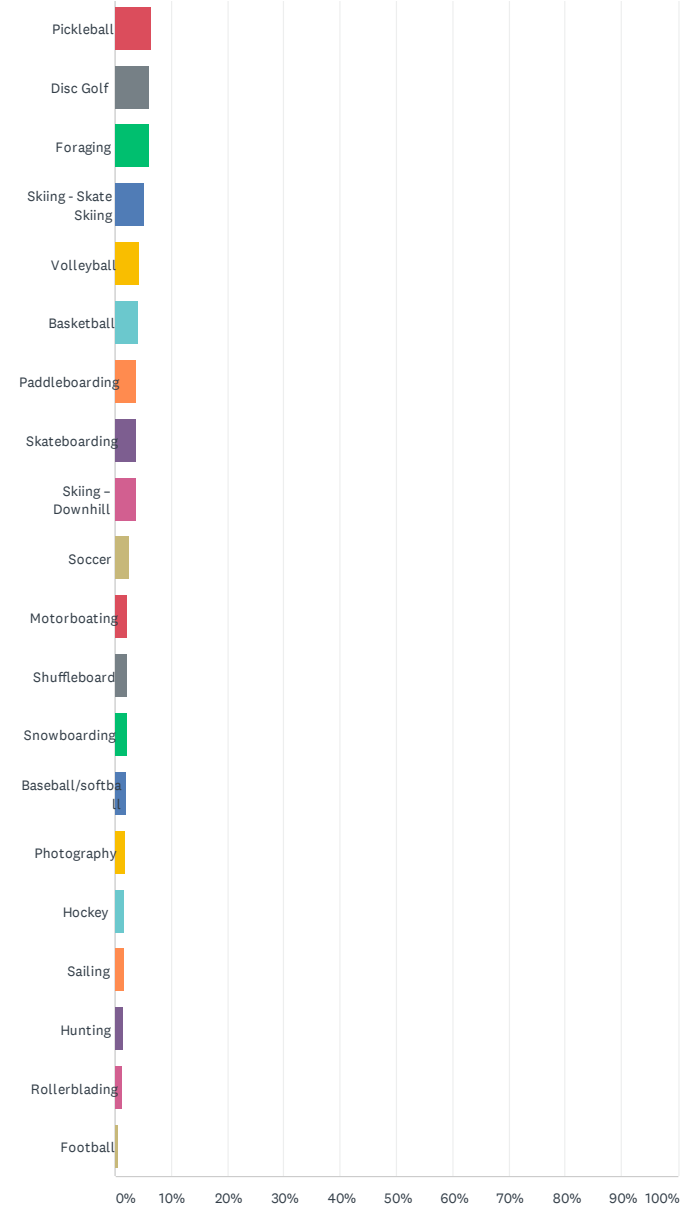
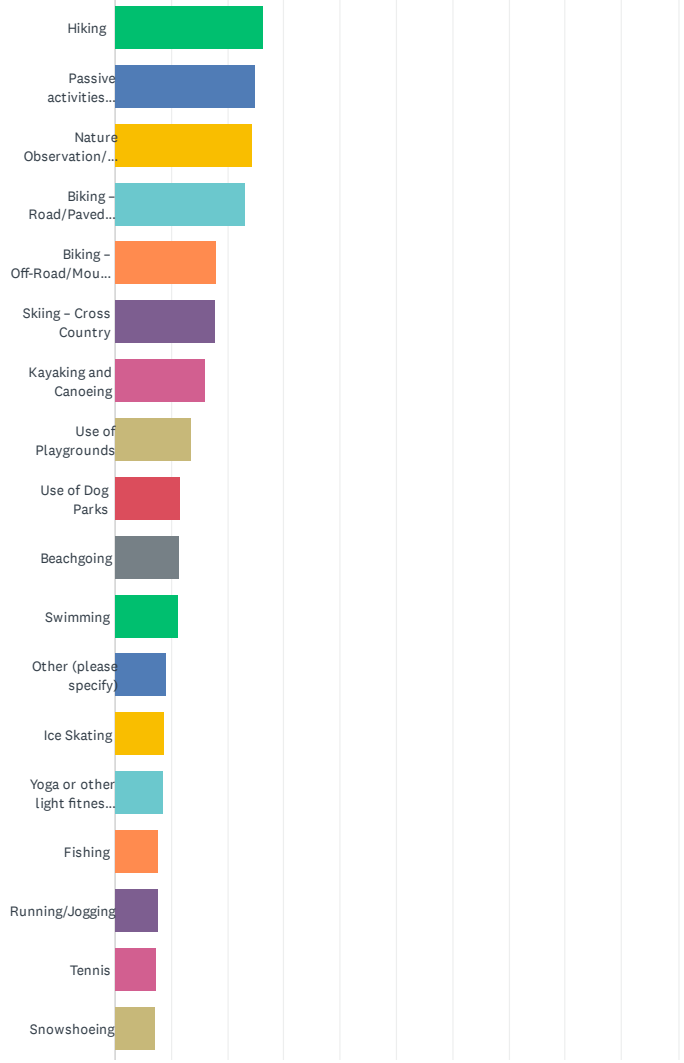
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	4 wall handball at south ymca	11/10/2020 11:22 AM
2	Outdoor 3 wall handball	11/9/2020 8:38 AM
3	Children's Outdoor recreation	10/21/2020 6:23 AM
4	Complete trail around Boardman south side	10/14/2020 3:00 PM
5	Rowing	10/14/2020 8:23 AM
6	walking my dog	9/29/2020 12:25 AM
7	Dog friendly areas, but not dog parks	9/24/2020 9:49 PM
8	Birding	9/23/2020 10:37 PM
9	Walking	9/23/2020 6:46 PM
10	walking tart trail	9/23/2020 6:24 PM
11	I need to do more things	9/23/2020 8:00 AM
12	walking, reading and at at times stopping at parks to have lunch and watch the bay(s) & people enjoying their time at the park. Have observed that many people go to the bay parks and park at Logan's Landing to stay in their cars to enjoy their lunch or to read in their cars	9/22/2020 8:54 PM
13	concerts	9/22/2020 9:28 AM
14	Walking	9/22/2020 8:17 AM
15	Waking	9/21/2020 8:54 PM
16	Need more parks inTraverse Heights area	9/21/2020 8:35 PM
17	Watching sports	9/21/2020 5:10 PM
18	Accompanying my child who plays on playground equipment	9/21/2020 9:32 AM
19	Panel is great for the winter. We need more activities for outdoors.	9/21/2020 8:26 AM
20	fishing	9/20/2020 5:21 PM
21	Kayaking	9/20/2020 5:10 PM
22	To meet friends (especially when social distancing is a concern)	9/20/2020 12:34 PM
23	WALKING!!!!	9/20/2020 8:51 AM
24	Rock climbing	9/19/2020 2:27 PM
25	Exercise Walking	9/19/2020 1:27 PM
26	Walking my dogs	9/19/2020 12:40 PM
27	Working remotely or reading	9/19/2020 12:19 PM
28	Dog-scootering	9/19/2020 11:11 AM
29	Walking	9/19/2020 9:59 AM
30	SOFTBALL	9/19/2020 8:47 AM
31	running	9/19/2020 6:28 AM
32	Walking	9/17/2020 4:33 PM
33	Don't use the parks and don't care if they are updated.	9/17/2020 3:12 PM
34	Community Events (TCFF, Pride, etc.)	9/17/2020 3:09 PM

Q11 What activities would you like to see better accommodated within the Traverse City Parks and Recreation system? (choose up to 5)

Answered: 473 Skipped: 110



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Hiking	26.43%	125
Passive activities (rest/relaxation, picnicking, group meetings, etc.)	24.95%	118
Nature Observation/Viewing/Identification	24.52%	116
Biking – Road/Paved Trail	23.26%	110
Biking – Off-Road/Mountain	17.97%	85
Skiing – Cross Country	17.76%	84
Kayaking and Canoeing	16.07%	76
Use of Playgrounds	13.53%	64
Use of Dog Parks	11.63%	55
Beachgoing	11.42%	54
Swimming	11.21%	53
Other (please specify)	9.30%	44
Ice Skating	8.88%	42
Yoga or other light fitness activities	8.67%	41
Fishing	7.82%	37
Running/Jogging	7.82%	37
Tennis	7.40%	35
Snowshoeing	7.19%	34
Pickleball	6.55%	31
Disc Golf	6.13%	29
Foraging	6.13%	29
Skiing - Skate Skiing	5.29%	25
Volleyball	4.44%	21
Basketball	4.23%	20
Paddleboarding	3.81%	18
Skateboarding	3.81%	18
Skiing – Downhill	3.81%	18
Soccer	2.54%	12
Motorboating	2.33%	11
Shuffleboard	2.33%	11
Snowboarding	2.33%	11
Baseball/softball	2.11%	10
Photography	1.90%	9

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

Hockey	1.69%	8
Sailing	1.69%	8
Hunting	1.48%	7
Rollerblading	1.27%	6
Football	0.63%	3
Total Respondents: 473		

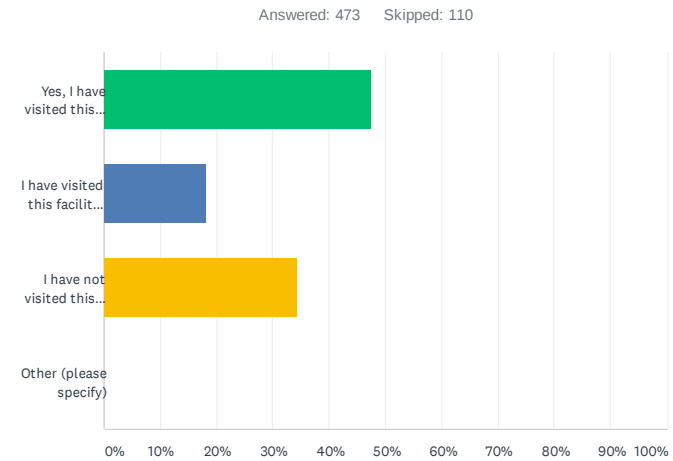
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	out door 3 wall handball	11/10/2020 11:22 AM
2	outdoor court 3 wall handball	11/9/2020 8:38 AM
3	Climbing wall	11/9/2020 6:02 AM
4	Clean water for full body contact, clean up bacteria that causes Ecoli outbreaks	11/8/2020 6:18 AM
5	Dark sky astronomy	11/7/2020 6:49 AM
6	Wheelchair accessible	10/21/2020 6:04 PM
7	Children's outdoor recreation	10/21/2020 6:23 AM
8	Complete trail around boardman lake	10/14/2020 3:00 PM
9	N/A- don't go to parks enough to know	10/13/2020 11:46 AM
10	Climbing wall for adults	10/12/2020 8:15 PM
11	Bocce	10/11/2020 1:15 PM
12	I don't mountain bike but please do something if possible about the renegade trails at the State Hospital, they are scarring the hillslopes horribly.	9/29/2020 5:49 PM
13	more off leash dog friendly parks	9/29/2020 12:25 AM
14	Conservation of natural shorelines and riparian zones	9/28/2020 6:33 PM
15	Birding	9/23/2020 10:37 PM
16	think where I have been are great	9/23/2020 6:24 PM
17	Adult-oriented adventure/obstacle courses, play or fitness equipment, and climbing structures.	9/22/2020 9:00 PM
18	Walking	9/22/2020 8:54 PM
19	Flycasting (a casting pond for teaching/practicing flycasting)	9/22/2020 9:48 AM
20	General landscaping to invite people to use parks. They are pretty plain.	9/22/2020 8:17 AM
21	More designed public space on the waterfront	9/22/2020 6:48 AM
22	Workout park with exercise stations.	9/21/2020 8:35 PM
23	All good	9/21/2020 7:04 PM
24	Please improve some of the very old playground equipment!	9/21/2020 9:32 AM
25	Padel. Look it up. Great outdoor sport for the winter. Many enjoy tennis and pickle ball. This would accommodate both.	9/21/2020 8:26 AM
26	I beleive we have enough	9/21/2020 8:22 AM
27	fishing	9/20/2020 5:21 PM
28	None	9/20/2020 3:57 PM
29	Proper seating and adequate seating for baseball/softball games with shaded areas.	9/20/2020 8:51 AM
30	More playgrounds	9/20/2020 4:25 AM
31	None	9/19/2020 3:37 PM
32	Indoor rock climbing	9/19/2020 2:27 PM
33	Exercise Walking	9/19/2020 1:27 PM
34	Definitely not hunting	9/19/2020 12:40 PM
35	Gardening	9/19/2020 12:12 PM
36	Roller skating rink	9/19/2020 11:11 AM

37	Stop kayak large noisy groups and drunken cycle pub	9/19/2020 9:03 AM
38	BETTER SOFTBALL FIELDS	9/19/2020 8:47 AM
39	Pandemic friendly, year round meeting spots	9/19/2020 7:42 AM
40	Less alcohol, more perks for locals, please get tourism under control	9/19/2020 6:10 AM
41	wider trails	9/18/2020 12:41 PM
42	Walking	9/17/2020 4:33 PM
43	Don't use and don't want to pay increased taxes to support.	9/17/2020 3:12 PM
44	Community Events (TCFF, Pride, etc.)	9/17/2020 3:09 PM

Q12 Have you visited Hickory Hills Recreation Area (City Owned) since improvements have been made over the last 2 years?

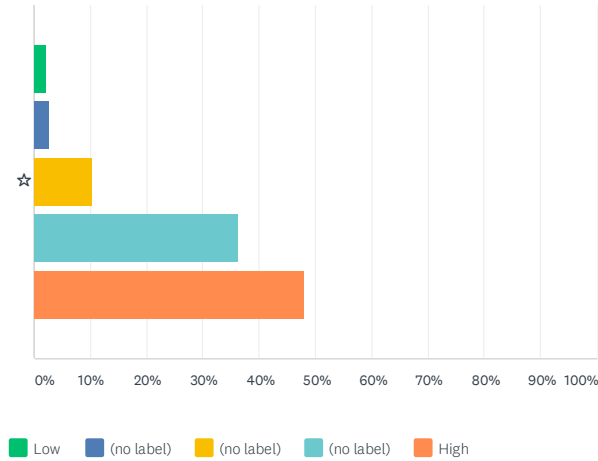


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I have visited this facility and am aware of the improvements	47.57%	225
I have visited this facility, but not enough times to gauge any of the recent improvements	18.18%	86
I have not visited this facility at all	34.25%	162
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		473

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q13 How would you rate the recent improvements to Hickory Hills Recreation Area and the facility amenities?

Answered: 222 Skipped: 361



	LOW	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	2.25%	2.70%	10.36%	36.49%	48.20%	222	4.26
	5	6	23	81	107		

#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	Tow ropes are for kids so the new addition does not accommodate adult use	10/28/2020 9:41 PM
2	Awesome work! The hidden gem of the park system for most people.	10/14/2020 11:06 AM
3	The new building is amazing!!!	10/11/2020 1:16 PM
4	You need to add proper mountain bike trails there.	10/9/2020 7:30 PM
5	Absolutely beautiful!!!	10/8/2020 9:42 AM
6	I had hoped environmentally friendly lighting would get installed, and the food service is too slow. Otherwise, very well done.	10/7/2020 11:41 PM
7	They need more staff to operate the facility. They also need to work at making the terrain park attractive for skiers that don't want to be a part of the grand traverse ski club or race.	10/7/2020 8:49 PM
8	Although I am not happy with the layout of the new ski hills (need to cross over a tow rope exit, takes two rows to get to the backside, difficult to get to birch when watching ski races, etc) I do like the new lodge (now that floor is fixed!) And food enhancements, magic carpet, etc. Very much looking forward to new fire pits.	10/7/2020 7:27 PM
9	The old lodge shud b re-opened after remodel	10/7/2020 5:52 PM
10	What wonderful improvements! It's so close to downtown and great for families all year round. The toe ropes are almost too difficult to use and woule love to see them turned into chair lifts.	10/4/2020 7:05 PM
11	The trails and disc golf course were way overdeveloped and too many trees cut down.	10/1/2020 10:48 AM
12	I loved the old facility and how remote it felt from too much civilization. I understand the need, just isn't my jam. I hope the area can be expanded by purchasing the Kukla and Kroupa tracts, their development would be an additional mar on that beautiful backdrop and a lost opportunity for passive nature appreciation.	9/29/2020 5:53 PM
13	please allow wine /beer sales in lodge	9/29/2020 12:26 AM
14	The improved disc golf course is fantastic. The ski hills are door. Keep it up!	9/24/2020 12:35 PM
15	Connecting to Downtown and the TART trail through planned urban trails are invaluable.	9/22/2020 3:51 PM
16	I would really love to see built mountain bike trails with jumps and drops. I think it would be huge for traverse city, the youth and tourism. Connecting the commons and hickory to be two destination type trails systems!	9/22/2020 1:36 PM
17	Building is nice from the outside, but I have never skied there, so I am not a good judge. however, LOVE the parking lot!!! HUGE improvement! Now, please pave Randolph street....	9/22/2020 8:24 AM
18	The new lodge is not in a good location - it's located at the lowest elevation which lowers the quality of views, and I've noticed that there has been storm water issues with water flooding up against the building.	9/22/2020 6:54 AM
19	Is there a long range plan to add snow making to the cross country ski trails? Is there a plan to address the de-vegetation and erosion caused by disc golfers?	9/21/2020 9:47 PM
20	Love the improvements that have been made there.	9/21/2020 8:55 PM
21	Great start! Terrain park is poor... often feels like the ski area caters too much to the ski club at the expense of our area kids who like to ski/ride in a park	9/21/2020 8:55 PM
22	Needs to do more to accommodate families with lesser incomes.	9/21/2020 8:37 PM
23	I would like to see better drainage/erosion control, no more trees removal, less pavement, to have the best acumen concerning the environment	9/21/2020 11:20 AM
24	The City and partners have done an amazing job. We all should be proud of that facility.	9/21/2020 8:53 AM
25	I use it daily with my dogs. I use the meadow area. My husband, kids and I all use it.	9/21/2020 8:27 AM
26	Would like to see some snow making activities at this park for cross country skiing and grooming for cross country skiing	9/21/2020 8:09 AM
27	too much bulldozing, forced cross-country trail design on severe topography, drainage/erosion	9/21/2020 7:56 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

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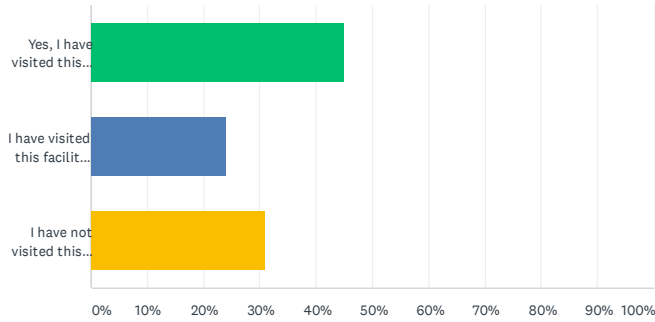
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

	issues	
28	I would like to see snow making for the Nordic Trails (The Baic) to provide reliable Skiing early in the season.	9/20/2020 10:30 PM
29	This was a mush needed and much appreciated upgrade.	9/20/2020 10:29 AM
30	Erosion and ground water control efforts have not been positive with significant erosion into the Meadows.	9/20/2020 8:24 AM
31	Awesome changes to the hills and main structure. I would have chosen a different floor surface for the lodge that was less slippery and designed the building with aesthetic elements reminiscent of typical ski lodges and less like a utilitarian, multi-purpose room. I feel like someone dropped the ball on erosion midigation too. Finally, I feel more people would visit Hickory if there were T-bars or at least one chair lift. Heavier individuals struggle to pull their body weight up the hills. Many younger kids would appreciate a terrian park with some semi-permanent features.	9/20/2020 8:15 AM
32	Backwoods hiking trails were ruined with the new development	9/20/2020 8:02 AM
33	Pleasant physical facilities but trails need attention	9/20/2020 7:40 AM
34	Great trails.	9/19/2020 7:51 PM
35	The build is beautiful. And love that you partnered with Child and Family Services for the food	9/19/2020 3:17 PM
36	The new lodge is beautiful, and the cross country ski trails are great for all skill levels!	9/19/2020 12:42 PM
37	Trail grooming could be more consistent. The wooded cross country ski trail could be a little wider for safety!	9/19/2020 11:17 AM
38	It looks and functions great	9/19/2020 10:37 AM
39	Chairlifts (I know, expensive)	9/19/2020 9:29 AM
40	The skate trail is too short and consists mostly of climbs	9/19/2020 9:08 AM
41	HH is an amazing 5 season community resource	9/19/2020 8:38 AM
42	I was not at all please with the terra forming of hills (lodge area) and clear cutting many of the once wooded areas. Many small trails have turned into, what appears to be roads. Some of the efforts have been overly aggressive. Also, the parking area it would have been better to use a more permeable material than asphalt. Having said that, improvements were needed that were not addressed in decades. Hickory is a hidden gem for the area	9/19/2020 8:09 AM
43	Layout of new DH trails is convoluted and not user friendly.	9/19/2020 7:43 AM
44	Watershed plan seems to have failed. The meadow next door is forever changed for the worse	9/19/2020 7:27 AM
45	Thanks for supporting Hickory - our family is so grateful to have that beautiful city resource	9/19/2020 7:05 AM
46	The new lodge is great, parking lot seems to have adversely affected water runoff in adjacent Hickory Meadows. XC ski trails great, downhill great too - wish there was one lift chair. I don't think disc golf is very lucrative, not excited about more extensive mountain bike trails	9/19/2020 6:22 AM
47	Need snowmaking on cross country trails.	9/18/2020 12:04 PM
48	More user friendly. Parking area improvement is a big plus. The new buildings were needed for many years.	9/18/2020 8:25 AM
49	Creation of some XC trails and some new downhill runs took out too many trees and have led to erosion and topsoil depletion. The soil is too sandy for this development.	9/17/2020 8:15 PM
50	Hickory Hills is an incredible asset for the people of Traverse City and beyond.	9/17/2020 7:25 PM
51	Too much earth movement. Considerable soil erosion now.	9/17/2020 4:51 PM
52	Great investment.	9/17/2020 3:43 PM
53	The parking lot is too large.	9/17/2020 3:35 PM
54	All of the improvements will just take time to fill in. The trail is not as engaging as Brown Bridge and doesn't offer much for sights. The paths seem less maintained and desirable.	9/17/2020 3:11 PM

Q14 Have you visited the Brown Bridge Quiet Area (City Owned) since improvements have been made over the last 5 years?

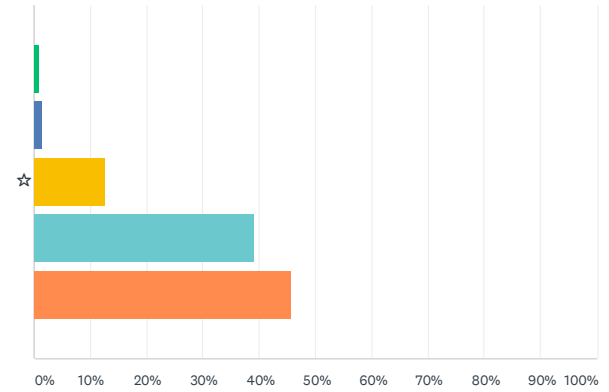
Answered: 471 Skipped: 112



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes, I have visited this facility and am aware of the improvements	45.01% 212
I have visited this facility, but not enough times to gauge any of the recent improvements	23.99% 113
I have not visited this facility at all	31.00% 146
TOTAL	471

Q15 How would you rate the recent improvements to Brown Bridge Quiet Area and the facility amenities?

Answered: 210 Skipped: 373



Low (no label) (no label) (no label) High

	LOW	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.95% 2	1.43% 3	12.86% 27	39.05% 82	45.71% 96	210	4.27

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	The new bridges have greatly expanded the hiking and trail running options here. Excellent additions!	11/21/2020 7:34 AM
2	Nice bridges and trails!	10/15/2020 3:31 PM
3	...but too many folks w/ dogs (most off leash)..and too much dog waste in trails	10/10/2020 12:02 PM
4	Brown Bridge is a jewel in TC's crown!	10/5/2020 10:48 PM
5	I like the connecting bridges	10/1/2020 3:30 PM
6	I love the new bridge on the east end.	10/1/2020 10:49 AM
7	The launch site has too much demand. It's a great place, but need more like it.	10/1/2020 10:22 AM
8	Putting in both foot bridges across the river was a terrific idea!	10/1/2020 10:16 AM
9	Great signage and bridge -> much improved!	10/1/2020 9:46 AM
10	The dam removal was a real coup in enhancing that tract. The saddest thing is the loss of the adjacent State land to a developer in a land swap. Please acquire more land as a buffer to encroaching development coming from all sides. It's a shame the State did not approach TC on that deal. Thank you!	9/29/2020 5:57 PM
11	The new bridges and trails have really helped make this a destination area for hiking and trail running	9/28/2020 10:43 AM
12	Crowded though	9/24/2020 9:52 PM
13	I frequent the area and other than the two bridges, I do not know of any improvements	9/24/2020 3:22 PM
14	I kayak from sheeks to brown bridge twice a month. Love this area, keep showing it love!	9/24/2020 2:05 PM
15	This seems like a perfect place for a whitewater park	9/22/2020 3:54 PM
16	I feel like a devoted singletrack for mountain biking would be a huge improvement. Lots of property, very good hiking, why not bring in a company to build trailor, better yet, invite Tom White at the crew at NMBA to help develop a trail system!!	9/21/2020 8:57 PM
17	My favorite happy place!	9/21/2020 10:43 AM
18	The restoration of this beautiful area is an amazing success story.	9/21/2020 8:54 AM
19	need more waste cobtaibers for dog droppings	9/20/2020 1:32 PM
20	I love the bridge with the nearby seating upstream from the old pond. We hiked along the north edge of the old pond under the bluffs. Very nice.	9/20/2020 1:12 PM
21	Well designed and marked trails	9/20/2020 8:02 AM
22	Wonderful hiking area. Some additional gravel to parking areas would be useful	9/20/2020 7:40 AM
23	Great hiking!	9/19/2020 7:51 PM
24	We need to look at "quality" fishing regulations to enhance the trout fishing!	9/19/2020 11:21 AM
25	We kayaked it this summer and it's beautiful	9/19/2020 10:38 AM
26	Public restrooms would be nice	9/19/2020 9:30 AM
27	The bridge is great; put another one in at the opposite end	9/19/2020 9:10 AM
28	It's a great place to launch or disembark from kayaking on the Boardman.	9/19/2020 8:50 AM
29	more public restrooms please	9/19/2020 8:39 AM
30	The canoe launch, bathrooms, and new trails are a huge upgrade.	9/19/2020 8:39 AM
31	Love the new bridge and being able to hike it as a loop. River restoration project is fantastic.	9/19/2020 7:44 AM
32	Wish the dam was still there	9/19/2020 7:39 AM

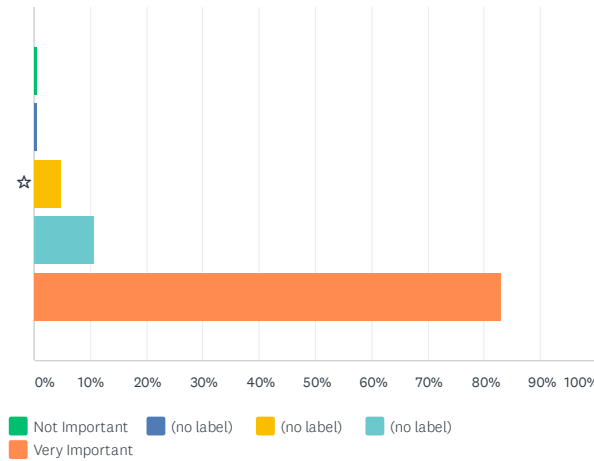
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

33	Please don't overpromote it so it becomes crowded...	9/19/2020 7:03 AM
34	I never saw it before the improvements	9/19/2020 6:54 AM
35	Have only been there since improved, cannot compare to prior. It was hard to find	9/19/2020 6:26 AM
36	Very nice! Love the new bridge that spans the river by the kayak launch. My only worry is that if it's too nice, it will start to get too crowded. There's just nowhere to get away in nature anymore.	9/19/2020 6:14 AM
37	Vast improvement for wildlife habitat. Invasive species mitigation is paying off. Improving water habitat is on-going but worth it. Accessibility/trail improvements are appreciated.	9/18/2020 8:27 AM
38	High impacts with individual improvements. Keep the BBQA passive.	9/17/2020 3:44 PM
39	A few small signs saying this is a quiet area, please talk softly and enjoy the sounds of nature.	9/17/2020 3:38 PM
40	Favorite park to hike, by far. It has been a Godsend during quarantine. Thank you for all that you've done to make this park so enjoyable. I have kayaked, hiked, and run through this park more time than I can count this summer.	9/17/2020 3:15 PM

Q16 The City Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for urban forestry management within the City including park and street trees (tree planting, inventory, watering, pruning and removal). In your opinion, how important are healthy and quality trees to the overall enjoyment of spaces within the City?

Answered: 469 Skipped: 114



	NOT IMPORTANT	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	0.64%	0.64%	4.90%	10.66%	83.16%	469	4.75
	3	3	23	50	390		

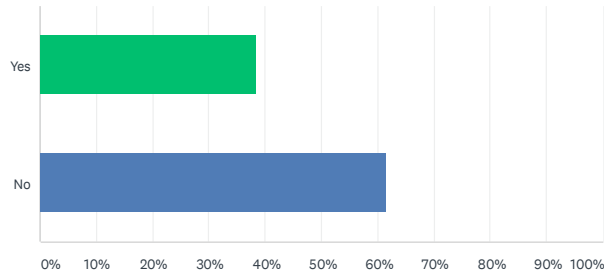
#	COMMENT	DATE
1	I bought my house in Central Neighborhood because I love the trees and sidewalks	11/21/2020 7:34 AM
2	Not just trees, but a diversity of trees to avoid a mono-tree city vulnerable to wipe outs from diseases/fungi.	11/9/2020 12:54 PM
3	I live in Slabtown and am in need of tree attention	11/8/2020 9:51 PM
4	We have to consider how everything affects the groundwater if we want clean water to drink!	11/8/2020 6:19 AM
5	TC trees are diseased & ugly. We need an arborist & we need workers who put pride into their jobs.	11/7/2020 8:07 AM
6	Trees make the neighborhoods	11/7/2020 7:09 AM
7	Residents need to be educated and proactively rewarded for keeping their trees.	11/7/2020 4:49 AM
8	Very, very!	10/21/2020 6:24 AM
9	Remove and replace dying/dead trees more quickly	10/15/2020 3:31 PM
10	Can not imagine having no trees!	10/14/2020 3:01 PM
11	If you had an adopt a tree program, I would buy one every year! I don't even need an actual tree to visit, just to know I'm supporting urban forestry.	10/11/2020 1:16 PM
12	Need to consult tree experts prior to planting to avoid planting too close to cars (8th st) and fir exoert tree care and Maintenaince	10/10/2020 12:02 PM
13	And to everyone's property values in the city.	10/7/2020 11:42 PM
14	I feel that not a lot of attention has been paid to the trees in town and is an area for improvement.	10/4/2020 7:06 PM
15	I hate to see trees cut down.	10/3/2020 11:43 PM
16	Tree City U.S.A. is an important designation.	10/1/2020 3:18 PM
17	pruning and removal are just as important as planting	10/1/2020 1:35 PM
18	I worry that mature trees that die off are often not replaced. It takes decades to replace the splendor of these trees and they contribute immeasurably to the area.	10/1/2020 12:42 PM
19	The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago; the next best time is today. Make sure new trees plantings are native species that will be able to handle predicted climate change for their lifespan (20-60 years)	10/1/2020 10:22 AM
20	When my old street maple came down, the city planted a cool swamp white oak in front of my house--good for plant diversity.	10/1/2020 10:08 AM
21	I would like to see more attention paid to the the street side trees in particular	10/1/2020 10:06 AM
22	I appreciate the sounds from all the critters that live in trees.	9/29/2020 8:51 PM
23	Trees are essential to a high quality of life in any city. The planting of native trees, not hybrids is preferred as the hybrids seem not to be as healthy.	9/29/2020 5:57 PM
24	HIRE a forester!	9/29/2020 12:27 AM
25	We need to be proactive in replanting efforts given the pests and pathogens that are hurting native tree species (beech, ash, oak)	9/28/2020 6:35 PM
26	Trees and green space are very important even if I never visit a park or do activities there.	9/28/2020 10:43 AM
27	TREMENDOUSLY IMPORTANT	9/25/2020 10:31 PM
28	Must be an proactive replacement plan due to slow growth; think ahead to what species will tolerate climate change best 20+ years from now	9/24/2020 9:52 PM
29	Stop all timber harvesting!!!!	9/24/2020 3:22 PM
30	This needs attention. Attractive downtown leads to happy tourist along with happy residents.	9/23/2020 9:11 PM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
31	TC needs to do a better job of mowing the whole are along the beaches and they need to weed wack the whole plus prune the bushes ..like the do in ft lauderdale..honestly every time I drive through down town I want to call somebody and complain..go loud st Elmwood township baseball area..offices..fire station and see how it is done....	9/23/2020 6:54 PM
32	Green areas are shown to improve mental and physical health.	9/23/2020 9:27 AM
33	I think it is extremely important, and I am grateful for what P&R has been able to do with their resources	9/22/2020 10:17 PM
34	Trees are Earth's aveoli. Planting trees is least expensive way to stave of air pollution.	9/22/2020 3:54 PM
35	Native trees are best. Maple, Oak, Beech, etc.	9/22/2020 10:18 AM
36	spare more trees/nix FishPass	9/22/2020 9:50 AM
37	Tree lined neighborhood streets should be a must!	9/22/2020 8:47 AM
38	Very Important! Thank you SO much for your investment into planting/replacing trees!!!	9/22/2020 8:25 AM
39	We should be planting 2000 a year to replace our old trees	9/22/2020 8:18 AM
40	Aging trees on neighborhood streets. Have never seen an urban forester visit my street or neighborhood association in 25 years of living in TC.	9/21/2020 9:50 PM
41	No brainer	9/21/2020 8:57 PM
42	imperative to environment, aesthetic improvement, etc	9/21/2020 8:40 PM
43	I think citizens need a resources where they can get questions answered about older trees on the city. HoMeowners need help removing old trees but too expensive and some are very dangerous.	9/21/2020 8:40 PM
44	I appreciate the beauty of the healthy trees as well as the habitat they provide for wild birds	9/21/2020 4:05 PM
45	The trees are a big part of the cities culture	9/21/2020 2:12 PM
46	green space, shady streets, water retention etc. all very important	9/21/2020 12:04 PM
47	More trees, please. Nothing is more depressing than watching someone clear-cut their yard on an otherwise-beautiful tree-lined street.	9/21/2020 12:03 PM
48	I feel we should bring back a city arborist. We once had the title Tree City USA , lets bring back our title!	9/21/2020 11:23 AM
49	I would very much like to see the trees in the city be trimmed more regularly to encourage healthy growth. Removing trees should be done more regularly when a tree it dying and diseased.	9/21/2020 9:02 AM
50	I think this is important enough to warrant a full-time urban forester.	9/21/2020 8:54 AM
51	Trees are beautiful. Trees are paramountly important.	9/21/2020 8:27 AM
52	For shade, for aesthetics, for clean air, and so much more	9/20/2020 6:47 PM
53	very important	9/20/2020 5:24 PM
54	Of course! Stop cutting them down!	9/20/2020 3:42 PM
55	TC needs an arborist to ensure the health of our trees, increasingly affected by climate change.	9/20/2020 1:12 PM
56	Trees are part of nature. The city should co habitat with nature.	9/20/2020 11:10 AM
57	Great job on this	9/20/2020 10:29 AM
58	More dead limb trimming needed without having to call and request it.	9/20/2020 8:52 AM
59	Trees are essential for our and wildlife health. The presence along roads helps to slow traffic. Development has been too much, too large, and at the expense of our tree population!!!	9/20/2020 8:26 AM
60	We should always seek to care for the resources under our control before considering adding more. I feel most would agree that the natural environment, including the trees, are one of the	9/20/2020 8:18 AM

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey		SurveyMonkey
	reasons that people choose to live in and visit the region.	
61	Disgusting city plan allows buildings with practically no setback on major streets and no trees! It's an abomination and a huge eyesore!!!! A total lack of responsibility and foresight and a great disservice to the community! Please please change the rules before our roads are walled corridors!!!	9/20/2020 7:53 AM
62	Encourage native planting	9/20/2020 6:05 AM
63	Planting/managing trees is one of THE BEST things we can do	9/20/2020 5:27 AM
64	Beauty and health	9/19/2020 7:51 PM
65	Yes, and we need to do a much better job of planting new trees as old ones are dying	9/19/2020 7:14 PM
66	The aesthetic appeal is great, but the trees are earth's lungs and should be managed with great thought and care involved.	9/19/2020 1:30 PM
67	Reclaim more parking spaces for green space. Encourage robotaxi adoption.	9/19/2020 12:23 PM
68	Please only select NATIVE trees, plants and flowers	9/19/2020 8:45 AM
69	VERY important!!! So how could could a project such as the one behind Toms West Bay Market be allowed. That is abigger eye sore than the old gravel pit on Old Mission. Look how long that took to restore. Shameful.	9/19/2020 8:15 AM
70	Trees make an outdoor space. Please install posts for hammocks and issue large tickets for using trees.	9/19/2020 7:39 AM
71	Remove black locusts trees	9/19/2020 7:28 AM
72	We live on Lake Ave which is missing a significant amount of trees — and only has weed trees	9/19/2020 7:06 AM
73	Can the black locust trees be eradicated? They are spreading profusely at Hickory Meadows.	9/19/2020 6:26 AM
74	Might the city consider planting trees with edible fruits and nuts so that the homeless can forage for food?	9/19/2020 6:14 AM
75	Should not have cut trees at civic center.	9/18/2020 12:05 PM
76	Trees within urban areas need constant monitoring and some care along the way. Weak or dying trees are hazards to people and structures	9/18/2020 8:27 AM
77	needs more work on this	9/17/2020 3:46 PM
78	Place more gator bags at the base of newly planted trees.	9/17/2020 3:38 PM
79	Street trees need to be watered. I have several dead ones on my street that have been planted recently.	9/17/2020 3:25 PM

Q17 Do you have children or care for children under the age of 18?

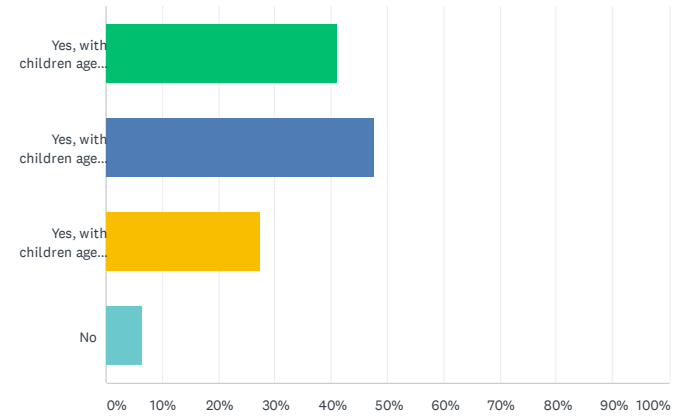
Answered: 469 Skipped: 114



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	38.59% 181
No	61.41% 288
TOTAL	469

Q18 Do you regularly visit City parks with your children or children under your supervision?

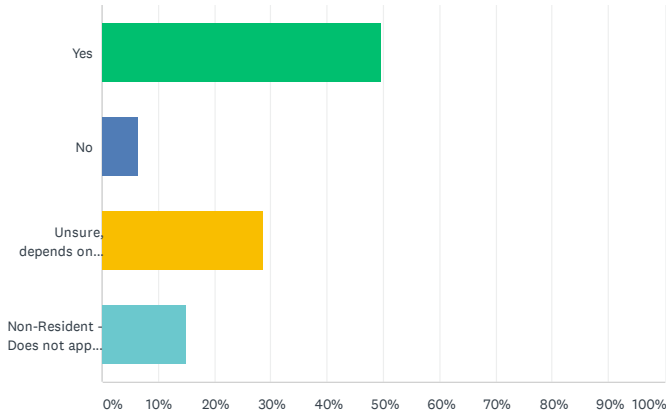
Answered: 172 Skipped: 411



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes, with children ages 0-5	41.28% 71
Yes, with children ages 6-12	47.67% 82
Yes, with children ages 13-18	27.33% 47
No	6.40% 11
Total Respondents: 172	

Q19 Would you support an annual Parks and Recreation millage to allocate money specifically for City Parks and Recreation facility improvements, development, matching dollars for outside grant funding, and/or new property acquisition?

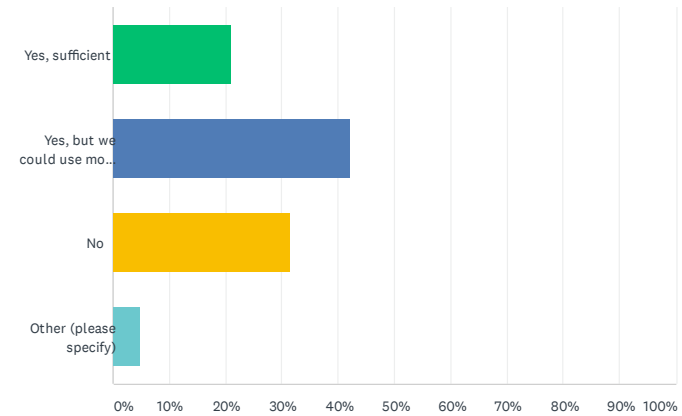
Answered: 457 Skipped: 126



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	49.67%	227
No	6.56%	30
Unsure, depends on specific conditions of the millage	28.67%	131
Non-Resident - Does not apply to me	15.10%	69
TOTAL		457

Q20 Do you think there are sufficient safe routes for non-motorized transportation within the City of Traverse City limits (biking, walking, running, etc.)?

Answered: 458 Skipped: 125

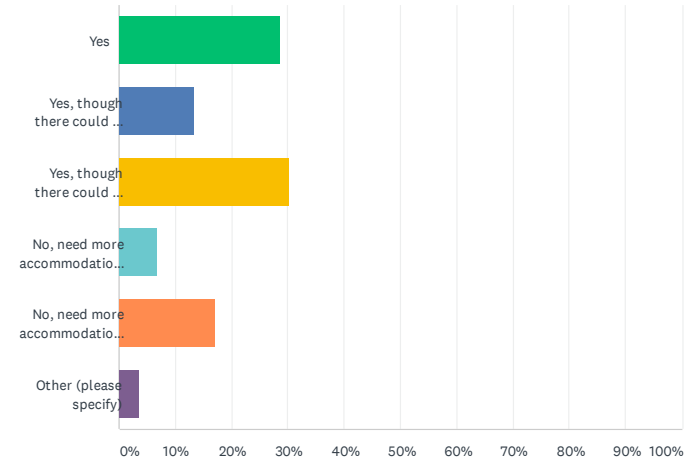


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, sufficient	21.18%	97
Yes, but we could use more designated non-motorized routes	42.36%	194
No	31.66%	145
Other (please specify)	4.80%	22
TOTAL		458

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	In most areas it is sufficient. The new Safe Routes to Schools goes overboard in adding sidewalks in some areas where they are unnecessary.	11/7/2020 4:54 AM
2	Not sure	10/14/2020 3:04 PM
3	Have sidewalks on one side of certain streets Hastings st. ,Fair st etc.	9/23/2020 7:30 PM
4	They need more police presence..we have lived in the area since 1990 and driving through tc..never see police NEVER..they need to stop bike riders running through lites..stop signs. What a mess	9/23/2020 7:01 PM
5	Not sure, some of the designated biking spaces do not seem safe	9/23/2020 9:31 AM
6	even before the Murchie bridge was flooded, it's too hard to out of towners to get from Holiday Inn to the downtown. No one can find that path under the bridge.	9/21/2020 9:54 PM
7	We have bike trails and Commons but within core of the city dangerous.	9/21/2020 8:47 PM
8	Yes, I believe there are sufficient safe routes. I would appreciate if cyclers would be more aware of their responsibilities towards others they are sharing the trails with, more specifically - walkers and walkers with dogs.	9/21/2020 4:19 PM
9	There are decent routes but it would be nice to see them improved with more amenities like lighting, water fountains and trees	9/21/2020 1:34 PM
10	Yes, but the rule that you can't bike on the sidewalks downtown is ridiculous. I am a lawyer and I got pulled over by a police officer and threatened with a citation. I told him I'm afraid I'll get hit by a car if I ride in the road and he said he understood. That rule simply should not exist.	9/21/2020 11:31 AM
11	Definitely not. I walk/jog every day and constantly run into a dilemma where the sidewalk vanishes for a while. Walking on the side of the road, cars tend to swerve towards me in a cruel attempt to scare me. It makes me fear for my safety and has me considering owning a weapon.	9/20/2020 3:55 PM
12	No, Many sidewalks either are non existent or very unsafe along Munson Ave and East Front St. Newer developments are built way too close to the curb and sidewalks. There is not room for safe pedestrian and bicycle use!!!	9/20/2020 8:33 AM
13	No bikeways and electric mobility pathways should be encouraged throughout and between high-density shopping zones, and cars should increasingly be routed around. Crossing Eighth on a bike is hazardous.	9/19/2020 12:36 PM
14	improvements needed (repaving) on parts of intown TART and some crossing issues (safety) , eg Woodmere, Hastings.	9/19/2020 12:04 PM
15	Unfortunately most bicyclists are inconsiderate of pedestrians. No courtesy at all.	9/19/2020 9:11 AM
16	Bikes should not be on sidewalks except where there are bike lanes no consideration for pedestrians from most bikers.	9/19/2020 9:07 AM
17	The answer is NON-motorized use. With speed limits for biking and for use of electric scooters or bikes	9/19/2020 8:22 AM
18	A bridge or tunnel across Division should be in the long range plans	9/19/2020 7:33 AM
19	No, the streets are too congested with cyclists, and I fear for their safety (and blood circulation in that tight spandex)	9/19/2020 6:19 AM
20	Tart Trails	9/18/2020 8:41 AM
21	No. And some of the existing ones are unsafe, Cass Street bike lanes are too narrow near Eighth	9/17/2020 10:18 PM
22	Eighth Street needs more improvements for safe walking/ biking, including better lighting and a safe crossing where the TART trail comes out to Eighth Street, since the bridge underpass is permanently submerged.	9/17/2020 3:52 PM

Q21 Do you think there are adequate facilities for year-round recreation within the city of Traverse City limits?

Answered: 458 Skipped: 125

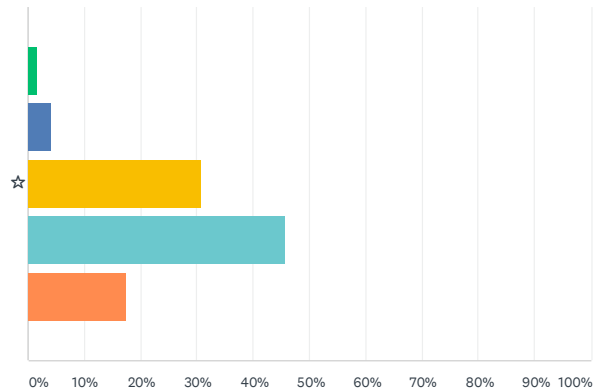


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	28.60% 131
Yes, though there could be more accommodations for more spring/summer/fall activities	13.32% 61
Yes, though there could be more accommodations for winter activities	30.35% 139
No, need more accommodations for spring/summer/fall activities	6.99% 32
No, need more accommodations for winter activities	17.25% 79
Other (please specify)	3.49% 16
TOTAL	458

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Especially now we need low contact outdoor venues for Nordic activities	11/8/2020 6:22 AM
2	Or sure	10/14/2020 3:04 PM
3	Yes, but there could always be more	10/11/2020 10:35 AM
4	The more the better, it's an investment in the quality of life of TC residents and is attractive to folks who are thinking of moving here, of which there are many.	9/29/2020 6:07 PM
5	Enough	9/23/2020 7:01 PM
6	Wish we had an outdoor swimming pool.	9/21/2020 9:54 PM
7	Old Towne needs a recreation area. St Francis School has provided that, but that will be going away. City needs to find a place and work with the neighborhood to make it happen.	9/21/2020 6:56 PM
8	Indoor pool. Indoor courts. After school Youth area	9/20/2020 8:35 PM
9	Not sure as have not visited all parks	9/20/2020 8:40 AM
10	More playgrounds for children!!!	9/20/2020 7:58 AM
11	I don't know yet...I only got here in March.	9/19/2020 12:36 PM
12	City residents pay for non-resident enjoyment. Would be nice to have city resident benefits	9/19/2020 11:05 AM
13	Yes but parks should be for residents not rented out to large functions that charge entrance fees like cherry fest concerts or large race events. The community paid to create them they should always be open for the community to use and enjoy	9/19/2020 7:44 AM
14	There are except for when tourists overcrowd everything	9/19/2020 7:04 AM
15	No, and the emphasis is on the wrong places. Need more playgrounds and half courts and volleyball WITHIN neighborhoods WHERE the people live	9/17/2020 10:18 PM
16	better clearing of sidewalks in city	9/17/2020 4:55 PM

Q22 How would you rate the overall condition and quality of Traverse City Parks and Recreation Facilities (For example: facility upkeep, cleanliness, materials, etc.)?

Answered: 455 Skipped: 128



Low (no label) (no label) (no label) High

	LOW	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	1.76%	4.18%	30.77%	45.71%	17.58%	455	3.73
	8	19	140	208	80		

Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

SurveyMonkey

#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	Bathrooms seems to be a weak point	11/13/2020 10:25 AM
2	Always kept up but IMO needing funding for modern facility upgrades.	11/9/2020 1:05 PM
3	west end bathhouse needs attention	11/8/2020 9:55 PM
4	We see city people standing around & sitting in trucks all the time. Then we go to the park & trash cans are overflowing (outside of July also)	11/7/2020 8:12 AM
5	Would like to see the beaches be better maintained.	11/7/2020 6:55 AM
6	More trash cans and trash pick-ups would be nice in the high-traffic parks.	11/7/2020 4:54 AM
7	More regular trash collection at waterfront parks, and/or larger trash bins.	10/15/2020 3:37 PM
8	non resident	10/14/2020 8:26 AM
9	We've had Tetanus Park (Indian Woods) around the corner for several years.	10/7/2020 11:47 PM
10	Public Restrooms continue to be a problem.	10/1/2020 3:21 PM
11	Some of the smaller parks like Hannah park seem neglected	10/1/2020 10:21 AM
12	I recently visited the Civic Center and was surprised at the poor bathroom conditions there (smelled terribly of smoke)	9/28/2020 6:42 PM
13	It cant be helped too much because of the tourist influx, but it always seems like there's a lot of litter in the parks and most of the trash cans are usually overflowing on any given day. Also the parking lot at Bryant Park is a joke and will swallow your car whole if you're not careful.	9/24/2020 10:24 AM
14	Homeless population becoming a big problem in the past 4 years. Something needs to be done.	9/23/2020 9:18 PM
15	Some of the parks get more attention than others. Benches & tables should be consistent quality	9/23/2020 6:15 PM
16	Great work	9/22/2020 10:20 PM
17	With the exception of the fudgies trashing the place during festivals the parks remain clean.	9/22/2020 3:59 PM
18	Indian Woods Park was due to be upgraded in 2017. Please put this on your priority list.	9/22/2020 1:58 PM
19	There could be a much better job of cleaning up of debris in the Clinch Park Marina area!	9/22/2020 9:07 AM
20	Clinch Park bathroom, though new, is NASTY. Most bathrooms are gross. Please work on that.	9/22/2020 8:30 AM
21	Again, many parks are uninspiring. Landscaping and design could go a long way. See Clancy park improvements.	9/22/2020 8:22 AM
22	Parks management really could use improvement,	9/22/2020 6:58 AM
23	Need help from regional residents who use facilities but don't have to pay for them.	9/21/2020 9:54 PM
24	I think the city needs to make keeping parks cleaner but I know staffing g and budgets an issue.	9/21/2020 8:47 PM
25	Why don't the people that use our parks clean up after themselves? Dog poop, cigarettes and butts, beverage cans - clean up after yourselves people! I don't think the city or county can afford to pay enough people to clean up after careless park guests.	9/21/2020 4:19 PM
26	Can always be improved. Would like to see nearly planted trees better watered, litter pick up more frequent and more moveable chairs and tables instead of cumbersome picnic tables and immovable benches.	9/21/2020 1:34 PM
27	depends on the park	9/21/2020 12:07 PM
28	Lots of trash with tourists this year, and in past years after Cherry Fest.	9/21/2020 10:55 AM
29	Senior Center needs improvements - beautiful location enjoyed by many, building is in poor condition.	9/21/2020 10:06 AM
30	The beaches need more attention, and I think more should be done to make sure that people	9/21/2020 9:38 AM

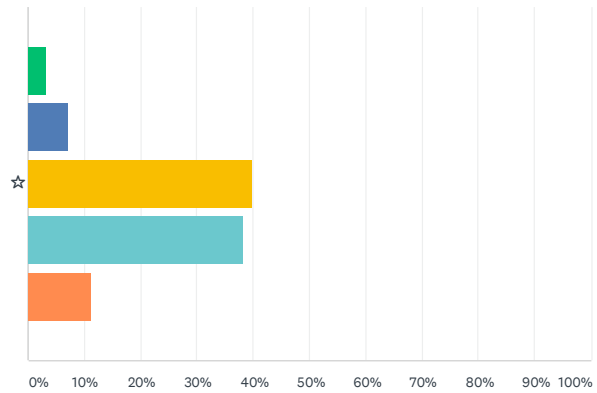
Traverse City 5-Year Parks & Recreation Plan Survey

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	(homeless and otherwise) are not sleeping/leaving trash on beaches	
31	More aggressive efforts to empty overflowing trash cans is definitely needed, otherwise the parks are pretty good.	9/21/2020 9:06 AM
32	I'd like to see more cohesion in design aesthetics (e.g. similar benches, trash cans, etc.)	9/21/2020 9:01 AM
33	The restrooms could be serviced more often	9/21/2020 7:40 AM
34	Need bathrooms at sunset Park and updated bathrooms at Bryant Park	9/20/2020 9:21 PM
35	Need retaining walls in Bryant, sunset and senior cntr	9/20/2020 6:07 PM
36	Some of these parks are wild, overgrown and unmarked, impossible to access or use.	9/20/2020 3:47 PM
37	Trash removal has been an issue, especially this year.	9/20/2020 11:12 AM
38	With the budget we have, fantastic work. Super proud of our park system, one of the best things about TC!	9/20/2020 10:33 AM
39	There seems to be less staff taking care of more.	9/20/2020 10:02 AM
40	More trash cans and clean up	9/20/2020 8:40 AM
41	Smaller neighborhood parks seem to be forgotten. (example: Indian Woods)	9/20/2020 8:35 AM
42	Additional public restrooms that are well maintained are needed.	9/20/2020 8:33 AM
43	Too many dead and downed trees too many mountain bikes on designated hiking trails.	9/20/2020 8:08 AM
44	Depends on tourist season and festivals- they are the worst times	9/20/2020 7:58 AM
45	Hire more help. They do a great job they just need some help	9/20/2020 6:27 AM
46	Well maintained except for West end beach the single time we went there. Very littered.	9/19/2020 7:10 PM
47	Never been to any of the parks. No opinion	9/19/2020 3:41 PM
48	Depends on the park.	9/19/2020 2:32 PM
49	The parks and facilities are well maintained, but there is always room for growth.	9/19/2020 12:49 PM
50	Trash and the availability (and upkeep of) trashcans is the primary challenge I've noticed.	9/19/2020 12:36 PM
51	Some are better than others, of course.	9/19/2020 12:16 PM
52	Some are great. Others have outdated playground equipment and need beautification.	9/19/2020 9:22 AM
53	The few times I've used restroom facilities at East Bay Park or Bryant Park, they have been filthy and lack paper products	9/19/2020 8:56 AM
54	I haven't visited most, but the Commons could use improvement. Trails are worn, rooty.	9/19/2020 8:53 AM
55	Maintenance is adequate, but could be more frequent	9/19/2020 8:18 AM
56	Volleyball courts need to be expanded and better maintained	9/19/2020 8:04 AM
57	Pickleball courts have cracks; windscreens missing	9/19/2020 7:48 AM
58	Garbage collection needs to be increased in the summer and more cans need to be put out.	9/19/2020 7:46 AM
59	Ashton Park is pretty sad....."playground" equipment is minimal and antique, no real upkeep-trails are well maintained . We can't really use willow hill playground as it is school property	9/19/2020 6:38 AM
60	Can get a little messy during peak tourism season. Perhaps instead of proposing a millage, we could institute a city/county/or region-wide tourism tax on visitors to the area to help pay for the messes they leave us with	9/19/2020 6:19 AM
61	West end bathrooms need updating	9/18/2020 12:42 PM
62	I believe the staff are doing the best they can within the constraints of available budget and staffing levels.	9/18/2020 8:35 AM
63	Depends on the park: bathrooms at senior center are clean; West End Beach are in poor sanitary condition	9/17/2020 3:42 PM

Q23 How would you rate the City's park facility signage (For example: visibility of main park signage, interior park wayfinding signage, quality and number of signs, etc.)?

Answered: 450 Skipped: 133



Low (no label) (no label) (no label) High

	LOW	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	3.33%	7.11%	40.00%	38.22%	11.33%	450	3.47
	15	32	180	172	51		

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#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Just right - too many signs can interfere with the enjoyment of the park	11/12/2020 8:42 AM
2	Park signs exist but are subtle. Would be cool to see artwork representing the soul of each park on every sign.	11/9/2020 1:05 PM
3	,	11/7/2020 8:49 AM
4	More wayfinding and info kiosks are needed.	11/7/2020 6:55 AM
5	non resident	10/14/2020 8:26 AM
6	They're dated-looking and unattractive for such a beautiful town. And yes, more wayfinding and informational signage is needed - Hickory Hills, Hickory Meadows. I'd also appreciate clearer signage as to when it's illegal for teenagers to congregate in cars at East Bay parking lot. Midnight-2:00 a.m. is not uncommon.	10/7/2020 11:47 PM
7	I didn't know 3/4 of the city parks existed, also, I didn't realize Brown Bridge Quiet area was a city park	10/1/2020 10:21 AM
8	In town signage for cycling could be better. I see a lot of lost tourists on bikes.	10/1/2020 6:15 AM
9	Need better trail markings at Brown Bridges on the East end.	10/1/2020 6:03 AM
10	The commons signage could be improved	9/28/2020 6:42 PM
11	I would love to see hours of operations posted on buildings such as bathrooms that are locked overnight or closed seasonally	9/28/2020 10:49 AM
12	Blue and white signs I tend to look past them. Would like to see a new TC Logo and bright color or bold lettering	9/23/2020 9:18 PM
13	Not sure	9/23/2020 7:02 AM
14	I dont have much to compare to and I have lived here my whole life so maybe signage blindness, but I dont feel signage is all that great.	9/22/2020 8:30 AM
15	I prefer minimal signage. Takes away from the natural beauty of the surround.	9/21/2020 9:09 PM
16	parks vary	9/21/2020 12:07 PM
17	Main signs are great, more wayfinding signs would be nice. Especially directing you from one park to others in the park system.	9/21/2020 9:01 AM
18	You have signs?	9/21/2020 7:40 AM
19	Some of them are great, others are non existent. There are no markers what so ever at Park A, for example. Highland park is not marked either and some people have placed personal items (trailers, construction materials) in the easement	9/20/2020 3:47 PM
20	grand traverse commobs lacking	9/20/2020 1:34 PM
21	Overall I think it is good. But I think we need better signs indicating no alcohol or no dogs rather than the dinky signs currently used.	9/20/2020 10:02 AM
22	Universal graphic design standards should be created (if they dont exist) or updated and park wayfinding signage replaced/added. County Parks and Recreation has identified this as a top priority too. This low-hanging fruit that could have a direct impact on users.	9/20/2020 8:35 AM
23	Better signage on Hickory Hills trails needed	9/20/2020 7:42 AM
24	Many of the signs are pretty old and look neglected -- could use some updates around town for sure	9/20/2020 5:30 AM
25	No need to answer as I do not use any park.	9/19/2020 3:41 PM
26	Signage is a waste of money. Invest in the park.	9/19/2020 12:16 PM
27	More no smoking signs, dog poop bags	9/19/2020 9:07 AM
28	Definitely properties I was not aware of until I saw the list. And many of them are easy biking or walking distance from my home.	9/19/2020 8:56 AM

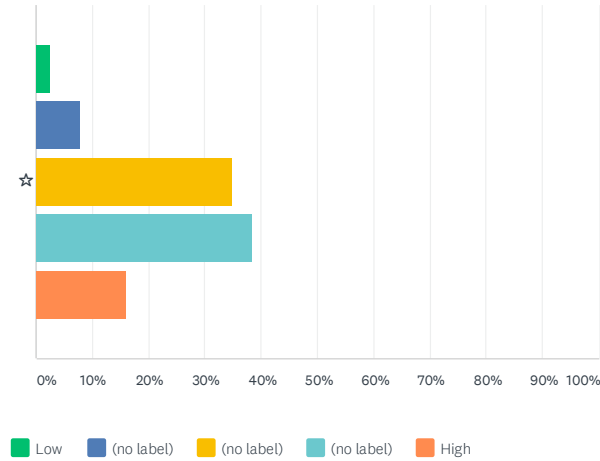
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SurveyMonkey

29	Hiking at commons need to mark colors of trails better. Lost many times	9/19/2020 8:14 AM
30	Less signage needed.	9/19/2020 7:04 AM
31	Less signage. Making people work to find something creates a more rewarding experience and will help cut down on foot traffic and overcrowding	9/19/2020 6:19 AM
32	Consideration for noting address of park location on signs for response of emergency services.	9/18/2020 8:35 AM
33	Needs some updating.	9/17/2020 3:23 PM

Q24 How would you rate the overall City parks system for accommodating users of every ability and accessibility level?

Answered: 440 Skipped: 143



	LOW	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	2.50%	7.95%	35.00%	38.41%	16.14%	440	3.58
	11	35	154	169	71		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I know strides have been made in this area, and some areas have room for improvement. Not bad! But there's always more to be done.	11/9/2020 1:05 PM
2	Need more stroller-friendly, or universally assessable parks for kids	10/21/2020 6:26 AM
3	non resident	10/14/2020 8:26 AM
4	I think there are decent options given all the possibilities	9/28/2020 6:42 PM
5	Cannot comment because I do not have accessibility issues	9/28/2020 10:49 AM
6	Not sure	9/23/2020 7:02 AM
7	Need trails for advanced users	9/22/2020 1:41 PM
8	unsure	9/22/2020 8:51 AM
9	No comment. I really dont have experience with this (yet).	9/22/2020 8:30 AM
10	I feel like our trail systems are skewed toward a recreational audience. In particular, I am frustrated by the negative attention that has been directed toward kids using/building trails at the old State Hospital. This area has been a sanctuary for kids riding bikes and pushing the limits for many years. With the encroachment of casual trail users, it feels like the basic notion of the trail system being a place for kids and adults alike who enjoy exhilarating trail conditions is under threat.	9/21/2020 9:09 PM
11	not sure	9/21/2020 12:07 PM
12	Could definitely be more improvements. https://curbfreewithcorylee.com/2014/11/20/most-wheelchair-accessible-beaches-in-the-world/	9/21/2020 10:55 AM
13	the only cleared space for wheelchairs in winter is civic center	9/21/2020 9:09 AM
14	I live in New Jersey on the shore we do not have any of the wheelchair accessible beach paths that Traverse City has. I always thought of that as very accommodating for Traverse City's population	9/20/2020 6:09 PM
15	commons area needs safer side walks connecting areas	9/20/2020 5:33 PM
16	I haven't observed the parks from this perspective	9/20/2020 10:45 AM
17	Not something I think about all of the time.	9/20/2020 10:33 AM
18	I don't believe every park and park feature needs to be univerally assessible as long as new features meet ADA requirements, as they must do by law.	9/20/2020 8:35 AM
19	Getting better.	9/20/2020 8:33 AM
20	Very underdeveloped for those with physical limitations	9/20/2020 8:08 AM
21	Don't know	9/19/2020 7:47 PM
22	Don't know and don't care	9/19/2020 3:41 PM
23	no opinion	9/19/2020 12:04 PM
24	?	9/19/2020 11:05 AM
25	No easy access for handicapped for bay beaches	9/19/2020 9:07 AM
26	I know the well used and larger parks have been made accessible for handicap uses. I would imagine it would be difficult to do in smaller parks	9/19/2020 8:56 AM
27	I don't know	9/19/2020 8:25 AM
28	Unable to rate	9/19/2020 8:13 AM
29	Cannot comment as it is not something I am personally in need of. Please defer to comments from that community.	9/17/2020 3:23 PM
30	no clue	9/17/2020 3:14 PM

Q25 Please provide general comments below on the City of Traverse City Parks and Recreation system, specific facilities, or your ideas on how to improve recreation opportunities within the City.

Answered: 218 Skipped: 365

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	A lighted winter/holiday hike would be so neat at the commons on the front lawn or a drive though a park somewhere else. It could be sooo pretty though and a Covid safe family friendly event. Parking could be problematic if at the commons.	11/13/2020 10:25 AM
2	we need at least 1 3 wall handball court area it only take a slab of concrete and 3 mason block walls to make a court very simple, I can even supply plans and spec, for construction free to the city from the Michigan handball assoc.	11/10/2020 11:28 AM
3	Extend swimming area at West End Beach west to M72. I also like the idea of a coin operated batting cage	11/9/2020 9:38 PM
4	Two thoughts: 1. Walkability is becoming increasingly important as we tackle covid and continually move towards a denser population and increased year round job market in the city area. Walking from any area of the city to a park allows increased access and, in my experience, a desire to visit the parks. Sidewalks (for accessibility), signage, and general appeal are all areas that could be continually improved upon. My time in Tours, France, showed me a city that is similar to our area in many ways, but features several parks with easy to access picnic seating areas, walking paths, and sheltered spots. Many business people took their lunches at these parks, and school kids visited them for fresh air learning. 2. Additionally, a focus on the identity of each park to help highlight their differences and qualities. An example of an iconic park for me comes to mind--Archie Park on OMP. This park carries the namesake of a ghost town for the peninsula, and becomes immediately more interesting when you learn this fact. Otherwise, it appears as a roadside stop with a swing set. Small stories about the land, founders, or inspirations for these parks could increase stewardship and highlight areas/historical aspects of TC otherwise overlooked. Overall, I think the TC park depot does a great job with the allotted resources, and helps to foster nature within and around our city--something I find vital to a city's health.	11/9/2020 1:05 PM
5	I hope the expansion of park and rec. facilities could include an outdoor handball court. The P & R Board was informed by the local handball community of a need for an outdoor court and the hope is they will consider it in the near future.	11/9/2020 8:42 AM
6	Better and more parking at Brown Bridge with additional bathroom facilities added at one or two parking areas. Better signage. Darrow & Sunset park additional picnic facility, perhaps a pavilion	11/9/2020 8:05 AM
7	It would be nice to have some indoor recreation for the cold months somewhere that doesn't require a membership fee. Indoor playground, indoor climbing wall, etc. There's lots to do outside, but on the really rough weather days I'd prefer to go to somewhere and let my kids run around, rather than the bowling alley/arcade/bouncy house place or the y which are the on real options. It could be a good use of empty mall space too, to have something indoor available for residents. I was surprised that was missing from the civic center plans.	11/9/2020 6:10 AM
8	I would like to know more about the plans and progress. When I wanted to report a dangerous tree situation over a road. It was difficult to find who to call.	11/8/2020 9:55 PM
9	Outdoor pool Maintain the trail around BOARDMAN lake for year round use - it get slippery and icy in the winter. Heated trails in future?	11/8/2020 6:22 AM
10	Need a larger swim area at West End Beach - should extend it westward. Too many boats park all summer near the beach in Slabtown. One of those trails with outdoor fitness stations (pull up bars, etc.) would be great. A coin-operated batting cage would also be an awesome addition.	11/7/2020 9:35 AM
11	So much attention has been focused on Hickory. We need an ice rink on the east side. Clancy has a TON of room. Bryant needs updated bathrooms & parking lot improvement. Peninsula dr from the Blue Goat is a dangerous street to bike down & a pedestrian/bike trail desperately needs to be installed.	11/7/2020 8:12 AM
12	Indian Woods Park has dilapidated and old equipment that needs to be replaced. More young families are using this park.	11/7/2020 8:10 AM
13	More flowers, color, plant material	11/7/2020 7:26 AM
14	We need a community park in the southern end of the city - vicinity of 14th Street between Veterans and Cass.	11/7/2020 6:55 AM

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15	More boat ramps for one more parking at the boat ramps I think the city waste too much money	11/7/2020 5:44 AM
16	City and County Parks should cooperatively be funded with a parks millage	10/28/2020 9:46 PM
17	Focus more on Year-round families with children, and less on part-time retiree-residents.	10/21/2020 6:26 AM
18	On the City's parks map, include locations of natural areas that are open for public enjoyment, like along Kid's Creek (both City-owned and otherwise), as well as playgrounds at schools that can be used by neighborhood children outside of school hours.	10/15/2020 3:37 PM
19	Education and facilitation for recreational opportunities needed for lower socio-economic families living just outside the city limits. Also, more swim instruction for youth is needed as well as greater access to pools for seniors.	10/14/2020 11:12 AM
20	More lighted cross country trails; climbing wall for adults	10/12/2020 8:17 PM
21	It would be nice to get email communications with updates and volunteer options.	10/11/2020 1:18 PM
22	Need to require vendors to make sure guests (know how to &) USE life jackets for (paddling/tubing), and bells for bikes. It would be nice to see rangers in trails at Brownbridge and enforce leash laws and waste disposal at parks where that is required to protect guests, dogs, wildlife and the environment.	10/10/2020 12:11 PM
23	Mountain bike trails. Traverse City could be at the frontline of mountain bike tourism which is growing rapidly throughout the entire country.	10/9/2020 7:32 PM
24	I think they are good right now	10/8/2020 7:08 AM
25	Thank you for designing a good survey and getting input!	10/7/2020 11:47 PM
26	Keep Hickory Hills.	10/7/2020 8:29 PM
27	Please work with the county to take the civic center to the next level - a city of our caliber should have a quality ice rink and community pool. Invest in sidewalks for Randolph St so that it is more accommodating for salttown residents now that there is increased traffic. Invest in volleyball courts to encourage more events and athletes.	10/7/2020 7:32 PM
28	Traverse City needs to continue to support our parks and their upkeep. If that means a millage, let's get it done.	10/5/2020 10:51 PM
29	We frequent the city of TC parks every week and appreciate them so much. I think it is important to continue to invest in these areas as they service thousands of people in the community.	10/4/2020 7:09 PM
30	More trash cans	10/4/2020 2:43 PM
31	It would be nice if there was a city pool that did not require membership fees and was accessible to all. More cross country ski facilities would be good since we have a nice long winter to enjoy.	10/1/2020 4:00 PM
32	Overall, I think the City Parks and Rec Dept. does a fairly good job managing and maintaining parks. Better parking, restrooms and waste/recycling containers in some park locations would be my recommendation.	10/1/2020 3:21 PM
33	Hickory Hills is outstanding!	10/1/2020 10:43 AM
34	Thank you. From the bottom of my heart, just thank you. One of the main reasons we chose to raise our family here was because of the availability to all the free green parks to run, bike, hike and breathe in. It is a pleasure to live where people value green space.	10/1/2020 10:40 AM
35	As visitor numbers increase, there is more concentration in smaller "neighborhood" parks, that are not meant to be that crowded. Cyclists and runners park for hours in small park parking lots without ever utilizing the park (not even swimming or paddling when they return). With increased use, seasonal residents seem more entitled and are delineating their properties and trying to discourage public access at various road ends by piling brush next to the public access sites and blocking trails leading to these sites, as well as trying to make these sites look like part of their residential property. It's no one's fault, it's just too much pressure in small areas. We need more, bigger areas that specifically target visitors or those without residential parks, so the nature of the smaller "neighborhood" parks, especially on the water, remains congenial. That is getting lost.	10/1/2020 10:32 AM

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36	I love the improvements to Hickory, I would like to see more X-Country ski trails there in the Meadows (the one's by the downhill ski area are very challenging). Cross town biking is a problem particularly trying to cross Division. The 7th street light is only green for 15 seconds now since the upgrades and there is a long time period before it turns green again, I usually have to cross without the light which is dangerous. We need sidewalks to bike on along Garfield by the airport. West End beach is a gem but the parking lot needs serious attention before it is all in the Bay. Clinch Park beach and facilities are wonderful.	10/1/2020 10:21 AM
37	Create swimming area from West End beach to M72 intersection to prohibit boats from speeding through the area and from parking on the beach	10/1/2020 7:21 AM
38	I have seen many wonderful improvements but the increased usage is a concern. Safe bike riding Routes in town is a concern. It's very inconsistent.	10/1/2020 6:28 AM
39	I am very proud of our town's commitment to providing outdoor recreation opportunities that are far above those of similar size towns.	10/1/2020 6:15 AM
40	Playground at Hull Park and upgrade to playground at Ashton Park.	9/30/2020 5:09 PM
41	There used to be a trash receptacle in Jupiter Park. I wish it would be returned. I didn't realize there were so many parks within TC!	9/29/2020 8:55 PM
42	Landscaping and hardscapes are not maintained. Don't add more parks if you are unable to maintain what is already in place.	9/29/2020 8:26 PM
43	I believe TC does an exceptional job and also believe the City can and should do more which is why I support a millage to fund this. Unfunded mandates are not good for anyone so I hope that we can get funding for you guys to support the effort. I live on the same street (12th) that my dad grew up on, just a couple blocks east of the house my grandparents built in the 1940's. They were State Hospital employees and my dad has many fond memories of fishing Asylum Creek and messing around in the hills above. While I understand why homeless folks need to live somewhere, I'm not inclined to take my wife and kids to certain parts of the grounds as a result of the camps and garbage. Maybe part of the solution to enhancing this area is to fund and support homeless folks. Thanks for all you do for my hometown!	9/29/2020 6:07 PM
44	need more natural areas. Stop trying to manicure all parks. New trail at Hannah Park is AWFUL. Took away a beautiful natural trail & enlarged it for no reason as it is handicap accessible thru east entry.	9/29/2020 12:32 AM
45	I am in favor of conservation and restoration wherever possible, especially on shorelines and riparian zones. I hope that "improvements" aren't only centered around building more infrastructure. I like that there are so many different options in the parks and rec system!	9/28/2020 6:42 PM
46	I would love to see some parks remain as natural as possible. Not everything needs to be developed for human use. There are some parks best suited for that but a mix would be nice. Art (and the human footprint it implies) does not always enhance a park or open space. For example, the sculptures along the Boardman Lake trail just look like abandoned rusty refuse, especially when the weeds around them get overgrown. The murals in the Clinch Park tunnel are fantastic and have made me use the tunnel more than before!	9/28/2020 10:49 AM
47	Please consider accessibility with regard to parking in town. We prefer less formal and more natural parks with a mix of sunny and shady areas to walk. Shade at playgrounds is also very important.	9/26/2020 9:58 PM
48	Develop watering procedure for newly planted trees to prevent attrition due to drought. This would include non-park City property as well. Engage citizens to participate in "adopt a tree" program.	9/26/2020 9:53 AM
49	We need more park areas, especially more evenly spaced geographically	9/25/2020 10:18 PM
50	The parks are wonderful but there are always room for improvements. I think the pandemic has increased the awareness of how important our need for outdoor activities are.	9/25/2020 5:07 AM
51	Need more parking	9/24/2020 10:55 PM
52	Neighborhood parks on water are getting over-crowded in past 5 years. Also nearby private property owners trying to discourage public use. Additional access/facilities to alleviate tensions of increased demand. Also, bikers could be parking at high school or side streets, not	9/24/2020 9:59 PM

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	taking up spaces for hours when not in park. Maybe some designated overflow parking, but neighborhood parks should retain feel of neighborhood parks.	
53	Buy the entire county and make it a park. Y'all are doing great. Please close and paint Front Street every summer, it was my favorite part of quarantine.	9/24/2020 2:08 PM
54	Hickory is an awesome start! I see all the rain destruction was fixed which is so good to see. Just add some well thought out mtb trails (professionally laid out) and upkeep them and you have a real gem. I really don't think you need food trucks and an carnival going on, just outdoor self-enjoyed quiet recreation. Commons, same, add some designated marked mtb trails. It can be done safely with walkers. That is what people want so somehow that barrier needs to be mended.	9/24/2020 7:48 AM
55	More trails of all kinds to connect parks and provide non motorized recreation	9/23/2020 11:34 PM
56	I'd like to see light/signal crossings along the bay at every cross currently. I still see a lot of near miss or sometimes cars not stopping at all for people crossing near West Volley Ball Courts.	9/23/2020 9:18 PM
57	I wish Hannah Park had more to do. I was disappointed when a vocal minority got the amphitheatre idea nixed.	9/23/2020 7:48 PM
58	More sidewalks and landscaping would create a more inviting setting and enhance the beauty of current parks.	9/23/2020 7:12 PM
59	If no one else can see how bad weeds..mowing trim bushes are .you all are blind.	9/23/2020 7:01 PM
60	think our town is fantastic with the parks	9/23/2020 6:27 PM
61	Please concerned on existing parks vs adding more responsibility- Botanic Garden is an example	9/23/2020 6:15 PM
62	Please add an area in the civic center for the youth bike group Norte.	9/23/2020 5:27 PM
63	Invest in activities that are a natural fit for our region, such as mountain and road biking, hiking, xc skiing. Having trails right in town is a huge quality of life factor and also promotes tourism in a way that hasn't already been over saturated by the marketers for the area.	9/23/2020 4:13 PM
64	Would like to see more trails connected for walking/hiking	9/23/2020 9:31 AM
65	I would love to see something similar to the Midland Dow Gardens Whiting forest in Traverse City. The canopy walk and natural playground are wonderful and i feel that something similar would work well here in Traverse City. https://dowgardens.org/whitingforest/	9/23/2020 9:21 AM
66	More marketing	9/23/2020 8:02 AM
67	I really think that P&R does amazing with what your resources. I would always like to see more means for pedestrian walkways and cycling paths, and means to connect through and out of town for folks without vehicles.	9/22/2020 10:20 PM
68	Traverse City Parks are so relevant to quality life in our community for families, seniors, etc. We are fortunate to have the system of parks we do. Perhaps placing more picnic tables at some of the parks where there are primarily benches (Logan's Landing). The park near Garfield and the south part of West Bay could use improvement to its parking lot and the number of parking spaces, if that's possible.	9/22/2020 8:57 PM
69	Keep them clean	9/22/2020 7:09 PM
70	Outdated, need vast improvement to attract younger families and promote healthy lifestyles	9/22/2020 4:15 PM
71	Please explore how Bentonville, Arkansas has embraced outdoor recreation and the huge benefits that has made for the community's health.	9/22/2020 3:59 PM
72	Develop mountain bike trails at Commons and Hickory. Better trail signage for Commons as it is currently very confusing for hiker and bikers alike.	9/22/2020 2:17 PM
73	Keep the trees. Consult or hire arborist. Plant native.	9/22/2020 1:58 PM
74	I think traverse city can be a mountain bike destination...we have the largest youth team in the state(Norte), bike shops having record years, the largest point to point race in the country(iceman). Sure we have vasa and the singletrack with a few small trail systems spread	9/22/2020 1:41 PM

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	out. But we need to take advantage of the terrain of the commons and hickory! We need built trails, with jumps and drops, features etc. we need to look at Marquette and understand the economic benefit that has brought that area while creating healthy opportunity for youth and adults!!	
75	.	9/22/2020 1:21 PM
76	#18 was confusing but otherwise a well thought out survey. We'd all like to see easier access to safe walking and biking for children. Especially going to school and after school activities.	9/22/2020 11:19 AM
77	Not sure if this is covered by Parks & Rec, but biking improvements that would get riders off of roads would be great.	9/22/2020 11:18 AM
78	I would love to see a park in the Old Towne Neighborhood.	9/22/2020 11:12 AM
79	Most people need a place to park a car when visiting parks. Vehicles need to travel through the city, not just bikes and pedestrians. Efficient flow of all traffic keeps everyone happy and safe. Sensors at traffic lights are preferred over roundabouts.	9/22/2020 10:22 AM
80	create a dog friendly beach	9/22/2020 10:13 AM
81	A balance seems to be tipping away from fishing toward kayaking and canoeing. I would like to see a renewed focus on fishing in the city. If kayakers can have their landings, anglers should have casting platforms.	9/22/2020 9:57 AM
82	Again, what gets washed up around the low sea walls in the Clinch Park / Marina area could be much better! Signage for Bikers to warn walkers or others of coming up on them.	9/22/2020 9:07 AM
83	I believe our city has done a great job in offering the residents and visitors of the city many outdoor recreational options. Thank you!	9/22/2020 8:51 AM
84	A place to smoke pot outside would be cool	9/22/2020 8:40 AM
85	a locals only beach were anyone from out of town that tries to enter gets zapped or something would be cool	9/22/2020 8:38 AM
86	Traverse City needs a SAFE, PLOWED, LIGHTED, path that is maintained TWICE OR THREE TIMES DAILY for SAFE walking during the winter. If the City is not going to take responsibility for the Civic Center, then it needs to find another 1 mile path, and not along the bay, that gets very cold in the winter.	9/22/2020 8:30 AM
87	In terms of funding, I see parks as vital to the City and should be funded regardless of how one millage vote goes or not. When there are specific items, a millage could be useful, but we should also be investing in our parks regardless. I'm for taking more money from the Brown Bridge Trust Fund to invest in parks. It's a fund that serves little purpose if not spent.	9/22/2020 8:22 AM
88	Overall the parks in the city are really good, are well maintained and offer good outdoor experiences. One thing I would add is some kind of destination resource. Visitors and residents alike would enjoy a venue that offered an activity like a full service water park near the bay, or a velodrome, or outdoor roller skating, or a roller coaster, or a drive in movie, or an outdoor live action theater; just a few ideas. In general people live in/visit this city for the food, wine and beach, and trails. Once that is fully explored, having more to keep people here and provide employment would be smart. ALSO, medium income housing-I know this is OT, but it's all part of the same focus, drawing and keeping people here.	9/22/2020 8:11 AM
89	I would just like to see it improved for cross country skiing	9/22/2020 8:09 AM
90	Focus on finishing / implementing the waterfront master plan and also modernizing the smaller neighborhood parks	9/22/2020 6:58 AM
91	I appreciate our community's investment in outdoor activity. I consider it a central tenet of our community's character and look forward to continued investment, improvement, and expansion. As the age profile of our community continues to skew older/retiree, please help ensure we don't forget to make room for young thrill seekers!!	9/21/2020 9:09 PM
92	I quite often see areas that could be cleaner and better maintained, would be nice if you had a place on your website, easy to find,for quick comments, this area is great, was atdefinitely needs some attention etc.	9/21/2020 8:47 PM
93	i Live in the city and would like to see more safe routes for bicycles in town. Tourism brings a	9/21/2020 8:43 PM

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	whole Nother ball game and it feels very unsafe I told my kids to ride on the sidewalk.	
94	Nice work.	9/21/2020 8:34 PM
95	I am appreciative of all that has been done and continues to be done.	9/21/2020 7:06 PM
96	I don't have young children, but I love to hear the voices of young ones, and I love to picnic and watch and listen. Old Towne is deficient - NO park within our neighborhood boundaries. Not a good way to attract young families. Please consider a neighborhood park for Old Towne.	9/21/2020 6:56 PM
97	I walk for exercise. I share the trails with others and keep coming away amazed that there is little to no enforcement of smoking, alcohol or leash laws. Cycling trail safety is almost non-existent. Only rarely does a cyclist let you know they are behind you and/or passing. Their sudden appearance is startling, and especially unsafe if you have a dog at the end of a leash. As a result of such surprise and often rude encounters, I've severely curtailed my own curtailed my bike riding.	9/21/2020 4:19 PM
98	Keep up the good work	9/21/2020 4:05 PM
99	More placemaking would be great, simple things like moveable chairs and tables can go a long way. The removing of trash and graffiti in a timely manner would be nice as well.	9/21/2020 1:34 PM
100	Improve Outdoor Skating - Most families cant afford to Ski, but skating is free once you buy the skates. Gives kids something to do outdoors in wintertime. Focus on 1 GOOD outdoor rink. Look at how Suttons Bay does their outdoor rink. Look at the Petoskey outdoor rinks. Focus on weekend maintenance of outdoor rinks (solicit volunteers if needed to help)	9/21/2020 12:40 PM
101	We love the the improvements at Clancy Park, which is our neighborhood park. I think neighborhood parks should be emphasized because it attracts younger families and is a great asset for people who cant/dont want to drive to a park.	9/21/2020 12:07 PM
102	Perhaps we need signs educate people to stay on trails and the importance of "why" we don't want to erode soil and break down plant systems. I love Traverse City and want us all to maintain and never lose the beauty of nature we have. I get so upset when developers chisel way the waterfront and leave no buffer on the Boardman River and cut down trees. Our decisions need to address Environment first over MONEY. Let's think sensibly about our water, land, and air. I didn't answer the question but shared my thoughts about the environment first.	9/21/2020 12:03 PM
103	Keep up the good work and continue to make improvements.	9/21/2020 11:38 AM
104	I'd like to see more rest room facilities and better signage on hiking/ biking paths. I would also like to see more trash receptacles. We've done a good job in some areas, but in others, trash bins are tough to find.	9/21/2020 11:21 AM
105	We are trying to ride our bikes as much as possible but it is scary in town. You can be in a bike lane that literally disappears. Bikes should be allowed on sidewalks for safety! The risk to a walker by a bike is significantly lower than that of a bike to a car. Eighth St is awesome!!	9/21/2020 10:48 AM
106	Foster "ownership" of TC's beloved parks by the residents of TC. Such ownership will help people value and protect their parks.	9/21/2020 10:43 AM
107	We need another skatepark	9/21/2020 10:09 AM
108	Traverse City is beautiful because of the hard work of your staff and elected officials. Thank you!	9/21/2020 10:06 AM
109	Monitor GHG sequestered. Utilize parklands for nature based stormwater management. Monitor ecosystem diversity metrics. Monitor heat island effects/preventions	9/21/2020 9:44 AM
110	Ashton Park gets a lot of use by Slabtown families, and the playground equipment is dangerous. I hope you'll repair or replace it. As of this summer, I no longer feel safe swimming at West End Beach in the morning; many mornings there are people sleeping (or waking up) on the beach and in the bushes, and trash and alcohol bottles litter the beach and the grassy area. It appears that the City is turning a blind eye to that issue and that area.	9/21/2020 9:38 AM
111	Why are there no dedicated walking and biking trails to the schools in and around Traverse City	9/21/2020 9:27 AM
112	real bathrooms at volleyball courts. Handicapped access at same amd all other parks	9/21/2020 9:09 AM
113	Playgrounds for children are the most heavily utilized resources in the city parks and efforts	9/21/2020 9:06 AM

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	should be focused to increase and develop these resources as much as possible.	
114	The city really could use a park with a playground in the southwest quadrant of the city. The only options right now are schools, which are often in use by the students during the day or in the case of this summer closed completely. I'd like to see more active programming in our parks. There's a strong mentality in this city that parks need serve as passive green space. I think a park system should accommodate and facilitate healthy, active life styles and activities. I wish there was more support for events in our parks. They are amazing assets and we should allow people to use them as locations to bring people together outside. This goes hand in hand with needing more picnic/pavilion spaces throughout the park system for congregating. I'd also like to see better connections between parks in the system, especially non-motorized connections. In all, the city does an amazing job with the parks and I hope it stays that way as future commissions may have different priorities. But these parks are community assets and should be taken care of at all times to ensure future use and facilitate a healthy community.	9/21/2020 9:01 AM
115	Please look at the Glen Arbor City Park. I really think TC needs something like this. I would add Padel too.	9/21/2020 8:29 AM
116	As with most activities now days the people that visit are more apt to use the parks which is OK for DDAs but not necessarily good for locals. They dont care.	9/21/2020 8:26 AM
117	Would like to see snow making facilities at Hickory Hills and continue to groom the trails for Nordic and skate skiing and expand trails if possible	9/21/2020 8:11 AM
118	Keep up the good work. Respect and protect trees and natural vegetation/habitat when making improvements or expanding park areas.	9/21/2020 8:03 AM
119	I excited to hear the plan developed with this Recreation Plan Update	9/21/2020 7:40 AM
120	Would be grateful for an eastside off-leash dog park.	9/21/2020 12:03 AM
121	Install snow making on the new Nordic Trails at Hickory Hills	9/20/2020 10:33 PM
122	Thank you very much for maintaining East Bay Park. We would appreciate additional trash pickup from the East Bay park grounds. We pick up trash from the grounds and the parking lot ourselves as well.	9/20/2020 10:33 PM
123	Have City sponsored sports league Indoor pool (more affordable than ymca) More campground areas	9/20/2020 8:35 PM
124	Bike lanes, designated bike shoulders on city streets, bike routes (on the peninsula) where there is a designated bike trail and paved shoulder. Almost hit a bike rider on Smokey Hollow rd and another on old mission rd. B cause biker ran out of paved shoulder and cut into traffic lane without signal/warning driver coming up behind him going 45mph	9/20/2020 6:54 PM
125	.	9/20/2020 6:42 PM
126	Great parks overall. In NJ and VA, we have a lot more of fenced in playground areas (especially the toddler areas) to let the young ones roam without chasing them into the fields/woods or the nearby street. I think F&M and other parks that are near streets could benefit from fenced in playground areas with self closing limited ways in/out to let the little ones roam without the parents chasing them constantly. More benches around these playground areas would be beneficial to let grandparents sit and watch the kids play. Sincerely, A Coastie that was stationed in TVC and hopes to retire there.	9/20/2020 6:09 PM
127	Bryant park used to be a premier location but w drain overflow every time it rains and lack of retaining walls it has become a eyesore and a place to dump your garbage.. it should be closed down until drain issue on beach is resolved... 20 year parks and Rec employee!....	9/20/2020 6:07 PM
128	Would love MORE areas where no dogs are allowed!	9/20/2020 3:55 PM
129	I mean it's nice to have some parks that are more on the wildemess side, but maybe we could get some foot paths into and through them. I don't think the cost would be too high to do something simple like that. Jupiter Gardens is in need of a trash bin too.	9/20/2020 3:47 PM
130	More trees everywhere please.	9/20/2020 3:27 PM
131	I would like there to be more picnic tables at Hannah Park. It's a great park to meet outside with other people.	9/20/2020 2:26 PM

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132	More green downtown. Less parking lot views and more green.	9/20/2020 1:44 PM
133	Parks and natural features within the City are critical to the health of the people and alleviating the effects of the heavy rains we have recently experienced. We must keep more areas downtown in pervious surfaces, and lessen the runoff from parking lots, roads into our old, inadequate storm sewers infrastructure.	9/20/2020 1:20 PM
134	Thank you for your service!	9/20/2020 11:12 AM
135	Slabtown beach area needs a new rescue ring. The current one is falling apart, please n thanks. Other than that Slabtown neighborhood association will take care of our beach.	9/20/2020 10:33 AM
136	It would be nice to see the retention wall at Clinch replaced. That thing is in poor condition and people skip the steps because they suck. Change the bushes out to something less conducive to the homeless sleeping or going to the bathroom in them.	9/20/2020 10:02 AM
137	Some how come up with a way to Bill none residents for use of our parks and beaches. We can't keep taxing the residents for up keep of these parks without charging the actual users.	9/20/2020 9:00 AM
138	Need to repair streets and sidewalks within TC Central Neighborhood area for better walking and biking areas. And I don't mean adding more bike lanes Russ. I mean taking some money and fixing our streets and not wasting enormous amounts of money like you did with 8th Street. Fix our streets first and not only in elite areas like 5th and 6th Streets area. No more milages from me til you learn to spend more wisely and repair what you have already.	9/20/2020 8:59 AM
139	1. Take exceptional care of the facilities and natural resources that are already part of the parks system. 2. Have a clear maintenance plan that ensures that financial and labor resources are available to do things like care for trees, replace worn play structures, etc. (It's much cheaper to be proactive.) 3. If you don't already, decide on the metrics you'll measure your success in achieving your commission's goals. Review your progress regularly. 4. Be open to partnerships with other government agencies and community organizations in order to expand recreational opportunities for area residents.	9/20/2020 8:35 AM
140	I love the parks and think they are kept in great condition as a rule, but I would whole heartedly support a millage of whatever amount in order to keep improving!	9/20/2020 8:34 AM
141	Many of the city parks are very small and almost hidden. Maps or signage indicating all parks would be helpful. I am not aware of certain parks in the city and I am a long time resident. I vote for more parkland and less new development as our roads and infrastructure is not handling this increase in use.	9/20/2020 8:33 AM
142	More lights on streets for walkers /bikers. Side walks end in certain areas. Walking on roads after no where to walk. Bathroom station by volleyball courts on Westend.	9/20/2020 8:12 AM
143	We need more designated trails for walkers/hikers!!!! I'm not against biking but so many road and mountain bike riders are reckless on the trails and are often a danger to walkers/hikers.	9/20/2020 8:08 AM
144	More children's playgrounds including for disabled at every playground More boardwalks for disabled at beaches and nature areas	9/20/2020 7:58 AM
145	Park beautification and seating	9/20/2020 7:44 AM
146	Would like to see more improvements in east bay area	9/20/2020 6:07 AM
147	Me bathroom facilities at West End and Darrow Park Playground at Clinch near splash pad Better cleaning of Bryant Park New bathrooms at Bryant F&M needs bathroom facilities Fulton Park bathroom neededand small playground Fulton Park new playground	9/20/2020 4:32 AM
148	More playground, play, and movement opportunities for elementary aged kids through teens.	9/20/2020 1:33 AM
149	maybe make sure people are taking care of the parks and trails	9/20/2020 12:19 AM
150	More dog parks	9/19/2020 10:04 PM
151	I would like to see a protected beach/swim area from West End beach to M-72. No boats allowed	9/19/2020 9:00 PM
152	Keep up the good work!	9/19/2020 8:15 PM
153	Basketball courts at the open space, outdoor rink in winter specifically for hockey (location doesn't matter)	9/19/2020 8:03 PM

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154	Needs more basketball courts	9/19/2020 8:03 PM
155	Please put basketball courts at/near the open space center.	9/19/2020 7:47 PM
156	I think urban forestry and improving walkability/bikability should be the very top priorities. Also, the beach at the Senior Center needs to be better managed, cleaned, groomed. There are other improvements that could be made there too - and I don't think a fancy new building is necessary.	9/19/2020 7:20 PM
157	There needs to be more awareness given to the public of all the parks and such within the city and what activities can be done there.	9/19/2020 3:10 PM
158	Need indoor rock climbing and more indoor facilities for little kids to play at in the winter	9/19/2020 2:32 PM
159	Things seem really dated, especially the playgrounds	9/19/2020 2:31 PM
160	The City should focus on maintaining/improving the EXISTING facilities. Adding parking/open space in the downtown, especially when it reduces parking, is an utter waste of money and only suits to create a legacy for the DDA staff.	9/19/2020 2:19 PM
161	The beaches need better bathrooms. Only clinch park offers sufficient and updated facilities.	9/19/2020 1:51 PM
162	To me, one of the biggest issues I see is rest rooms & changing facilities. West end beach, bryant park, and east bay park all have rest rooms...and they're sub-par. Theres no privacy for changing into swimsuits and they're just generally run down and poorly lit.	9/19/2020 1:23 PM
163	Need a community center where meetings and gatherings could be held. Suggest the downstairs of Horizon Book. Would also like to see more benches, picnic tables, places to gather at the Open Space and the area that used to be a zoo.	9/19/2020 1:21 PM
164	As someone who frequents city parks and trails (even pre-pandemic), I do not think we have enough space to safely accommodate the growing number of people who call Traverse City home. Over the last 6 months, I have seen a huge increase in traffic at most parks and trails heads within the city, which leads me to believe that we should be doing more in terms of expanding options and space for people to recreate outdoors.	9/19/2020 12:49 PM
165	Study Chicago park system. They not only have the physical infrastructure Of parks but offer classes, activities and meeting spaces.	9/19/2020 12:48 PM
166	The trail system connecting parks and rec to shopping and dinning will allow electromobility to reclaim space from cars, for safer, quieter, cleaner and greener cityscape. TC should be a national leader on this issue, because the opportunity is so ripe, and we citizens will get actively behind it.	9/19/2020 12:36 PM
167	More gardens promoting biodiversity like the Children's Garden by the library. More community gardens-give people direct access to the land.	9/19/2020 12:16 PM
168	Put disc golf baskets at every park :)	9/19/2020 11:56 AM
169	Keep up the good work, but let's do all we can to make Traverse City a pedestrian and bike friendly city. Also PLEASE LIMIT COMMERCIAL USES OF OUR RECREATION FACILITIES- such as launching flotillas of kayaks or bikes from our parks for the benefit of commercial entities.	9/19/2020 11:26 AM
170	Resident only beaches! Resident discount at Hickory Hills. Honesty didn't know we had half of the parks listed. Easier access To bike to them.	9/19/2020 11:05 AM
171	Improve the west end beach bathrooms!	9/19/2020 10:49 AM
172	We moved out of the city due to overbuilding of our favorite downtown areas and overcrowding at beaches and restaurants and stores because of overpromotion of tourism. Always catering to the rich. The town has become all about money. Really sad situation. I doubt any local who doesn't own a business is happy with what it has become.	9/19/2020 10:37 AM
173	Thank you	9/19/2020 10:32 AM
174	Need winter pickleball courts	9/19/2020 9:31 AM
175	More mountain biking; it's a destination tourist attraction; can anyone say Bellaire and Glacier hills?	9/19/2020 9:15 AM

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176	Involve bicycle groups to make signs regarding bicycle courtesy and prominently display them!! They need to learn how to use bells and respect the presence of "others" on "their" trails, WALKways and sideWALKS. ☹	9/19/2020 9:11 AM
177	More bathrooms and bathroom upgrades	9/19/2020 9:09 AM
178	Need dog friendly beach and legal off season dog access	9/19/2020 9:07 AM
179	I think they are doing a very good Job Thanks	9/19/2020 8:57 AM
180	Somewhere in our area, we need a beach or two that allows dogs. Even if it were at only certain times; for instance after 7pm on nights Sun-Thursday. That would allow for city residents to avoid crowds yet let their pooch swim	9/19/2020 8:56 AM
181	Need to maintain the Pickleball Courts at Slabtown Park. Fix the cracks before they become worse.	9/19/2020 8:50 AM
182	Birdwatching options	9/19/2020 8:47 AM
183	Improve maintenance and cleanliness.	9/19/2020 8:46 AM
184	More native plantings along the parkway would be nice. Versus a manicured lawn in the median.	9/19/2020 8:40 AM
185	Overall a pretty good job, would love to see more bike lanes and paths	9/19/2020 8:39 AM
186	Need more facilities for people of all ages	9/19/2020 8:38 AM
187	Think about how to reduce vehicles to access and encourage transit or better bike access.	9/19/2020 8:33 AM
188	I have made my comments	9/19/2020 8:22 AM
189	Generally very good. There seems to be good awareness of resources and needs (this survey is evidence of that). It is expensive, but it is worth it	9/19/2020 8:18 AM
190	The park system seems well run. I see families and individuals using the parks regularly.	9/19/2020 8:14 AM
191	You are doing a great job as far as I am concerned.	9/19/2020 8:04 AM
192	Would love to see the beac courts expanded for volleyball and better quality of sand for those that do play. Very rough on the knees with stones in good size as well as hot because of that as well. Also could use a sports complex that supports indoor sports like volleyball, soccer, hockey/skating, with concessions. Many down state city/county locations have these. Be great to be able to bring more recreational tournaments to the TC area instead of the residents leaving every weekend in the winter spending \$ in other towns, we could bring some of that revenue to TC businesses.	9/19/2020 8:04 AM
193	I fondly remember when each neighborhood had an ice skating rink with a warming house. This brought alot of joy, exercise and friendships to all the children in that neighborhood, and did not require a car ride from Mom or Dad.	9/19/2020 8:03 AM
194	NA	9/19/2020 7:55 AM
195	Compared to most activities, pickleball is way under-served, the demand for the use of the courts is extremely high but this sport seems to be a very low priority for the system despite its ever increasing popularity.	9/19/2020 7:48 AM
196	I a m worried about the tree canopy. Trees are aging and rotted and not being removed and replaced with a wide variety species as they should.	9/19/2020 7:46 AM
197	When cherry fest concerts were all included with a 5\$ pin it was a community event when they started charging tickets it is not. Please make those go somewhere else like the horse park or the fair grounds and not fill up our valuable park space.	9/19/2020 7:44 AM
198	Traverse City's park system is a fantastic resource for our community and its visitors. It should be maintained and enhanced as a continuous resource for the community.	9/19/2020 7:34 AM
199	Ways to encourage less vehicles and more walk and ride options for parks citywide. Keep working on a network of safe routes connecting parks throughout the city.	9/19/2020 7:33 AM
200	Linking recreational areas with bike hiking trails. Making the region even more walkable bikable. Keep expanding green areas.	9/19/2020 7:20 AM

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201	We live in Old Town, on Lake Ave. the closest park that is not a school is 1 mile away! I think there are opportunities for a park around the Boardman Lake off the TART Trail behind Cone Drive. Specifically a patch that is owned by MDE and is currently a large slab. Additionally, our neighborhood could really use trees!	9/19/2020 7:10 AM
202	Focus on locals. Not tourists!	9/19/2020 7:04 AM
203	I don't actually think there are enough playgrounds or interactive features for young children. I would also like to see more spaces with better seating options, such as benches, picnic tables, gazebos, etc. I also think we should reach out to more people experiencing homelessness and ask their needs And what might be helpful for them(fewer of them will take an online survey).	9/19/2020 6:53 AM
204	Thanks for all the trail work at Hickory Meadows, water management is an ongoing issue. We use that park daily. Would prefer it be kept low key for walking etc- I don't think a "world class mountain bike course" is needed. The xc ski course was FABULOUSLY groomed in winter 2019-2020, thanks to Hickory Hills staff for that! Ashton Park is kind of forgotten bit Darrow is close by and great for us to take grandkids. Slabtown corner needs better turf in large dog park (difficult I know), it's muddy. Thanks for keeping some tennis courts, we don't all play pickle ball! The Hawkeye(?) crossing light at Grandview and Elmwood to get to slabtown beach is GREAT, THANK YOU! Overall TC parks and rec does a wonderful job- I wish there were ways to generate revenue from visitors (hotel tax? City sales tax?)and not just those of us paying city taxes because we share our beautiful parks with many non-residents.	9/19/2020 6:38 AM
205	We loved the improvements to Clancy Park. We are hoping to see similar improvements at Indian Woods Park. And also general improvements to the ability to reach more parks by sidewalk or other safe pedestrian trails.	9/19/2020 6:33 AM
206	Need snow making on cross country ski trails at Hickory	9/18/2020 12:07 PM
207	I support a millage specifically for parks. Once the commitment of secured funding is made, long-range planning can be accomplished. Increase in staffing levels, equipment purchases, continuance of maintenance programs, etc. Money can be set aside over a period of a few budget cycles for major/capital type projects. Appreciate the invite to take the survey. Will be monitoring the overall parks project. I'm proud of our Parks Department and the Parks themselves, but I know we cannot sit back. We need to keep moving forward to keep our parks in good condition and available for all.	9/18/2020 8:35 AM
208	More small ice rinks throughout neighborhoods, which means more parks where residents live - Close enough and safe enough that kids can play	9/17/2020 10:18 PM
209	Leave trees standing!!! Cutting trees in all Park areas in this soil will always lead to erosion and soil depletion, which very rarely can be fixed once the holding power of tree roots has been removed. I really don't think the "improvements" to Hickory Hills were necessary, especially in light of the negative environmental impact it caused. Leave what is working alone!	9/17/2020 8:22 PM
210	My two favorite parks of all time were the Jardin de Luxembourg of Paris and the Tiergarten of Berlin. Both parks had cafes and or beer gardens. Luxembourg had several cafes, where you could stop and have a coffee or a full meal, ice cream, etc. Tiergarten had the Cafe am Neuen See with beer, pizza, etc. It seems that Hickory Hills could operate a nice beer garden in the summer for all the hikers. The Hannah Park along the river and Sixth St. , F&M Park or the Open Space could have a great cafe.	9/17/2020 7:32 PM
211	Improve on-street bike routes to make them feel safer, slow cars, and encourage cyclists to ride in the street, not on the sidewalk.	9/17/2020 4:55 PM
212	I'd like to see a few more benches.	9/17/2020 4:37 PM
213	need better communication about what parks, where and services/programming/facilities available. Also need a community ice rink downtown!	9/17/2020 4:02 PM
214	Looking forward to the north disc golf course at Hickory!	9/17/2020 3:58 PM
215	Improve bathroom facilities at West Bay and BBQA.	9/17/2020 3:45 PM
216	Most parks are beautiful and safe; others I hesitate to linger too long after dusk and use the bathrooms; is there an opportunity to establish cross country trails? Areas for yoga practice by the beach would be a great addition; playgrounds for toddlers at F/M park and not all metal. Thank you	9/17/2020 3:42 PM

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SurveyMonkey

217	We need to support the Parks Department with more employees to care for our trees and better maintain our parks.	9/17/2020 3:40 PM
218	Great Parks System	9/14/2020 4:20 PM