

2024 CITY OF BURTON FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Draft: Dec 15, 2023



PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan has been developed under the Michigan Department of Natural Resources-Grants Management "GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION PLANS" dated April 26, 2021. There were several other documents, data, and resources used to develop the plan content.

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CITY OF BURTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

Jeremy Scharrer, Chairman

James Craig, Co Chairman

Deborah Walton, Voting Commission

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Kevin Burge, Bentley Rep, ZBA, and Planning Commissioner

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This plan was created with assistance from:



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INTRODUCTION

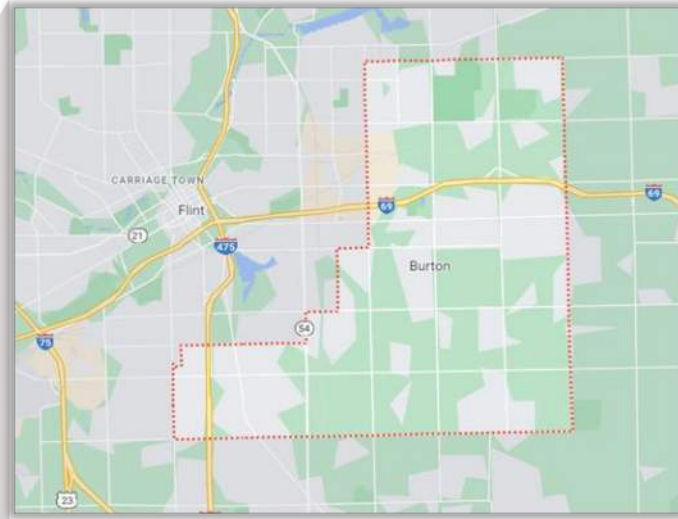
The City of Burton Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council have recognized a need for improving the community's parks and recreation options and promoting the City as a quality sustainable place to live and play. This stems from the growing trends in recreation and the desire to be active, healthy, and conscious of the environment regardless of age, abilities, or disabilities. A comprehensive and sustainable parks and recreation system is vital to a community's physical and mental health, social interaction, protection of natural resources, and economic growth.

As part of this ongoing effort, they have chosen to update their Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan. This document is intended to serve as a planning tool over the next 5 years for the Commission and City Officials to make decisions related to future park and recreation amenities and improvements. It identifies attainable goals and objectives as well as an action plan that can then be used to focus on key areas for more specific design and budgetary purposes. It has been created under the guidelines established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Management.

To best represent the community, the Parks and Recreation Commission is made up of local residents, representing various sub areas of the community, school representatives, a zoning board and planning commission member, and one city council member who serves as council liaison.

This plan begins with a **community description** to better understand the landscape and demographics of the City of Burton. The **administrative structure** is then outlined which describes the governmental and jurisdictional methods by which future decisions will be made. This is followed by the existing **recreation inventory** which describes all existing City owned parks as well as other local and regional recreation opportunities. This section is followed by a description of the **planning and public input process**, public notifications, survey, and work shop which were used in determining where improvements are needed. This is followed with a series of **goals and objectives** that were established using recommended planning methods. The goals and objectives are followed by an **action program** describing recommended improvements and proposed projects in the form of narratives, charts, and maps. And lastly, the **local adoption** includes minutes and resolutions by the approving bodies.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION



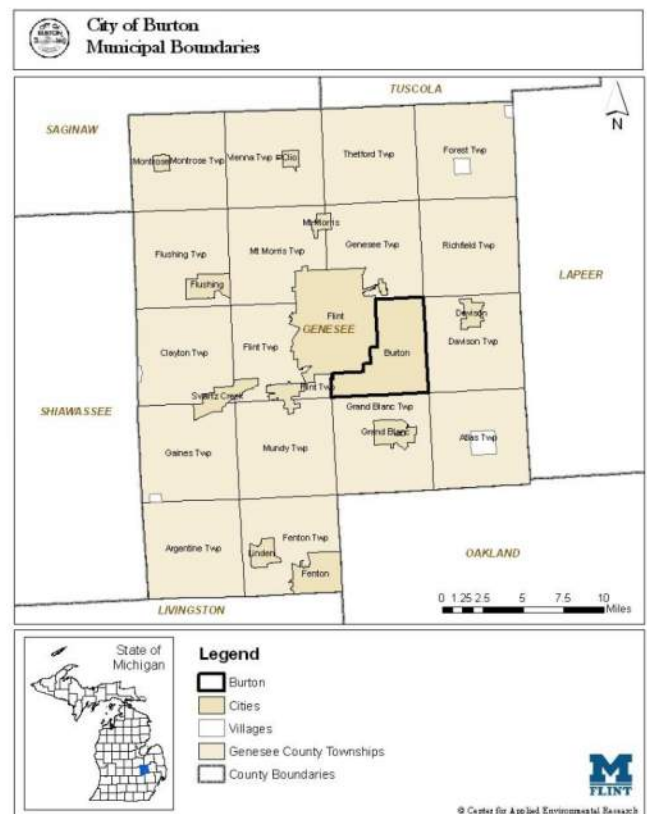
Location

The City of Burton was incorporated in 1972 and is located in central Genesee County adjoining the east boundary of the City of Flint. It is also surrounded by Genesee Township to the north, Davison Township to the east, Grand Blanc Township to the south, and a small portion of the southwest corner adjoins Flint Township.

History

The first permanent white settler in the Burton area is considered to be Levi Gilkey, who purchased land on May 11, 1831, and settled near the mouth of the Gilkey Creek (in what is now part of the City of Flint). For many years the place was known as the Atherton settlement, after brothers Shubael and Perus Atherton (and later joined by another brother, Adonijah), who settled on the Thread Creek in 1835.

The City of Burton was originally organized as Burton Township, named after John Burton, a prominent local farmer. Prior to that, Burton Township had first been a part of Grand Blanc,

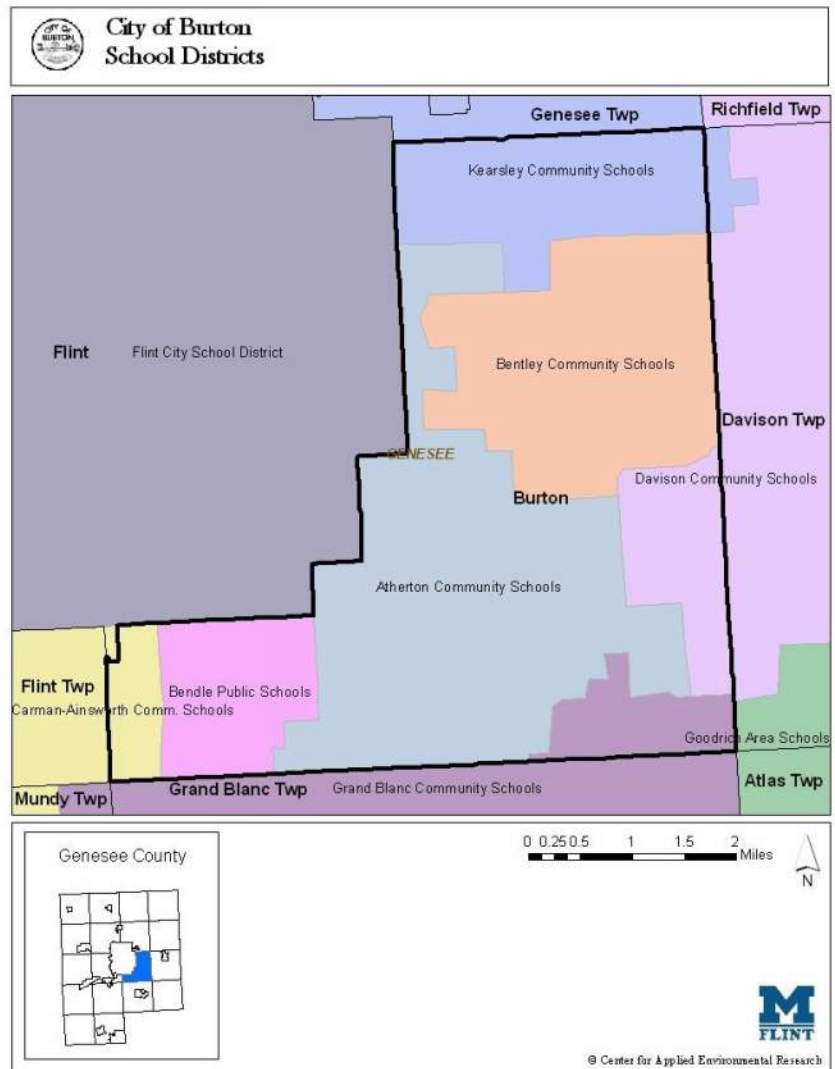


Flint, Kearsley, and Genesee Townships and the City of Flint. When the City of Flint became incorporated, Burton Township was separated from Flint Township by the Genesee County Board of Supervisors on October 12, 1855. However, the first township meeting did not take place until April 7, 1856, which is sometimes taken as the actual date of organization. Over the years, large portions of the northern and western sides of the township were annexed by the City of Flint. On May 16, 1972, township residents voted to incorporate and the City of Burton was officially formed July 1 of that year.

Information source: Wikipedia

School Districts

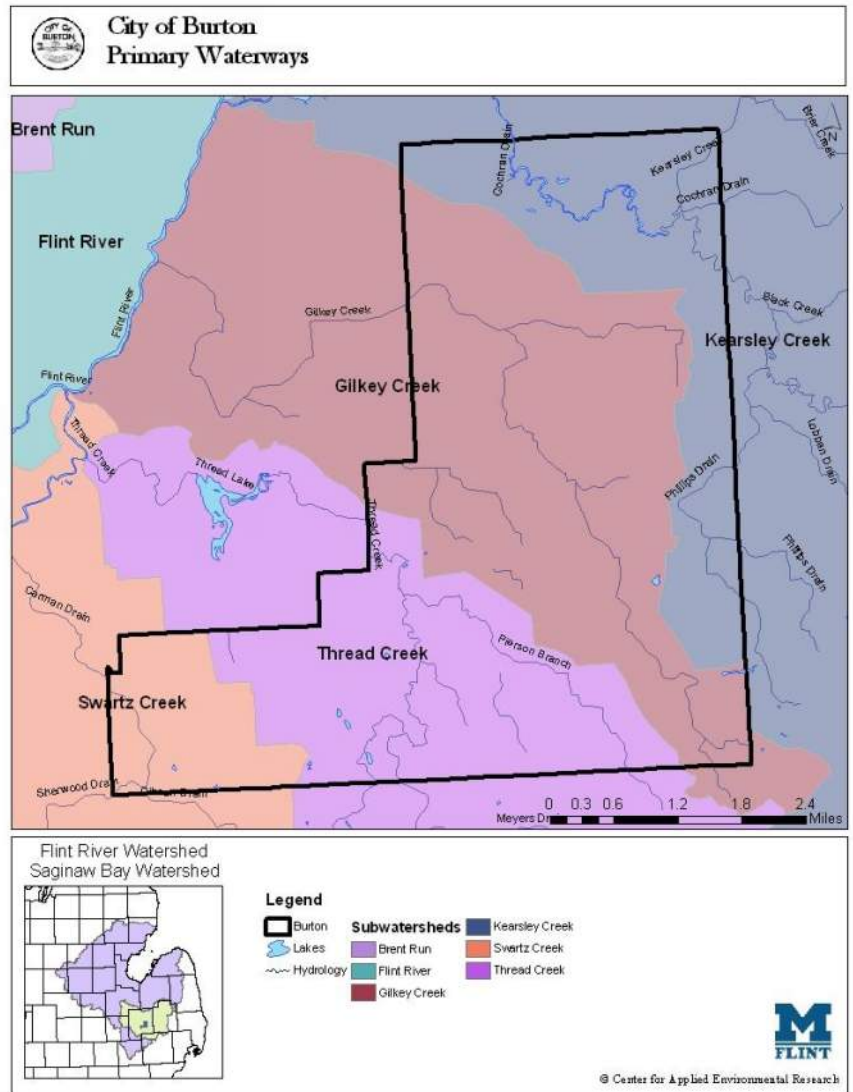
Established in 1836 by Betsy Atherton, Atherton Community School was the first school to the area. The Burton Memorial Library presently sits in the school's original location. Atherton Community School is considered the third oldest school in the State of Michigan and still serves the community today as physically the largest school district in the City. There are six other public school districts located in the City of Burton: Kearsley Community Schools, Bentley Community Schools, Grand Blanc Community Schools, Bendle Schools, Davison Community Schools, and Carman Ainsworth Community Schools. Of the seven districts, Bendle, Bentley, and Atherton school properties and service areas are located entirely within the City's limits and primarily serve Burton residents. These districts each include a high school, junior high and/or Middle schools, and several elementary level schools. There are several private schools available to the community as well. These schools include Genesee Christian School, Burton Glen Charter Academy, and Madison Academy as the three highest enrolled private schools. Presently, representatives from Bentley and Bendle school districts serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission.



Water Resources

The City of Burton lies within the Flint River Watershed which is part of the larger Saginaw Bay Watershed that flows into Lake Huron. Four of the eighteen sub-watersheds that make up the Flint River Watershed are located, in part, in the City of Burton. These are the Gilkey Creek, Thread Creek, Kearsley Creek, and Swartz Creek. There are two reasonably sized lakes within the City's boundary; Kelly Lake is a man-made water resource of about 5 acres and is located in Section 14. This lake is a major amenity of the popular and well used Kelly Lake Park. A small 2.8 acre lake is located in Section 33 at the south end of the City within the Thread Creek watershed.

Watershed management plans, approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality have been developed for the Kearsley Creek, Gilkey Creek, and Swartz Creek watersheds. Efforts have been made to incorporate the recommendations from these plans into this parks and recreation plan where appropriate.

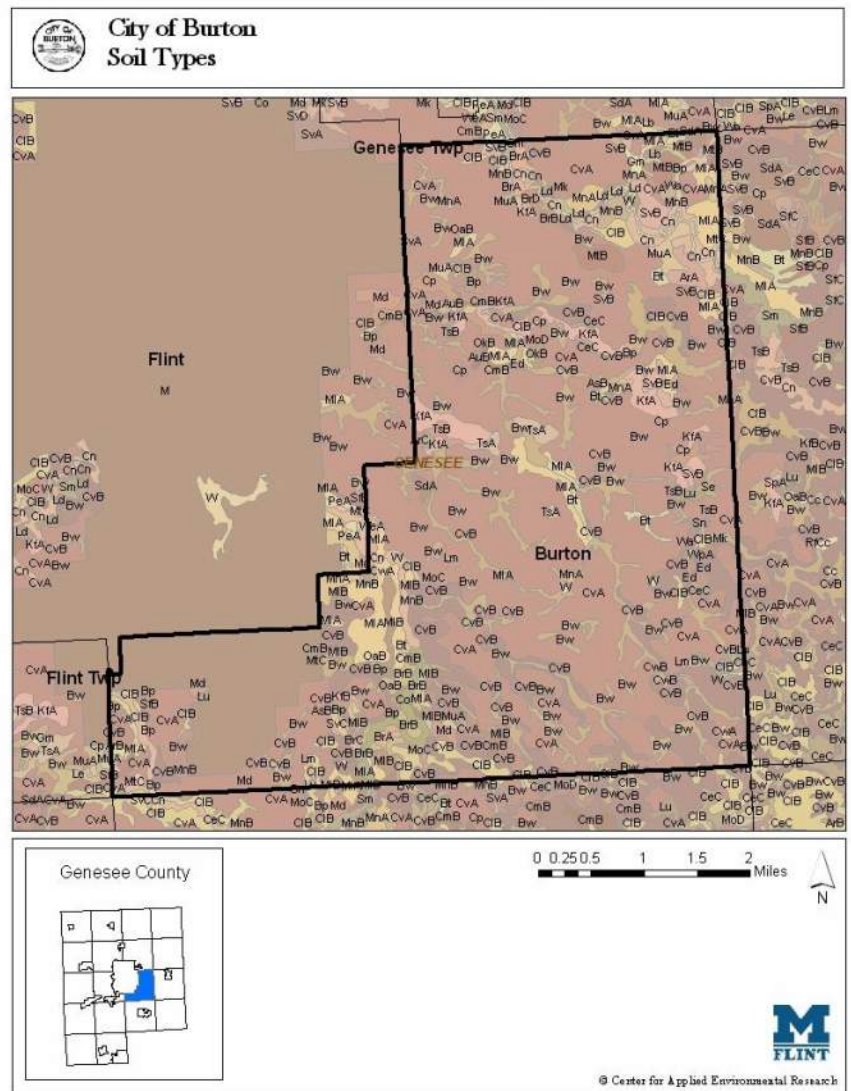


Soils

A generalized soil survey was completed for Genesee County by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service in April 1972. The soils of the City of Burton are characterized into three broad associations, as shown on the following map. There are three small pockets of area in Section 31, Section 36, and in Section 33 along Thread Creek that are made up of soils in the Celina–Conover–Miami association. Another small pocket in Sections 1 and 2 in the northern part of the City is comprised of soils in the Boyer–Spinks–Ceresco–Cohoctah association. The remaining land in the City is made up of soils in the Conover–Brookston association.

The three soil associations in the City can be characterized as follows:

- Celina–Conover–Miami association: Level to sloping, somewhat poorly drained to well–drained loams that have a clay loam subsoil; on uplands.
- Boyer–Spinks–Ceresco–Cohoctah association: Nearly level to gently sloping, well–drained loamy sands that have a dominantly sand to sandy loam subsoil, on out–wash plains and terraces; and level, somewhat poorly drained, poorly drained, and very poorly drained fine sandy loams underlain by fine sandy loams to sand; on bottom lands.
- Conover–Brookston association: Level to gently sloping, somewhat poorly drained, and poorly drained loams that have a clay loam subsoil; on till plains.



Information Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service.

The soil survey can be used to evaluate the development potential of soils and will be a contributing factor in determining an area’s recreational use. The City of Burton Parks and Recreation Commission, Department of Public Works, City officials, and others involved in the development of recreational facilities can use this survey to help them understand, enhance, and protect the recreational sites referenced in this plan.

Climate

The City of Burton receives a total yearly precipitation of about 31.5 inches per year compared to the US average of 37 inches. The annual snowfall is 46 inches, compared to the US average of 25 inches. On average, there are 171 sunny days with a July high temperature of about 82° and January low of about 15°. This demonstrates a wide range of weather patterns to consider for recreational planning purposes.

Transportation

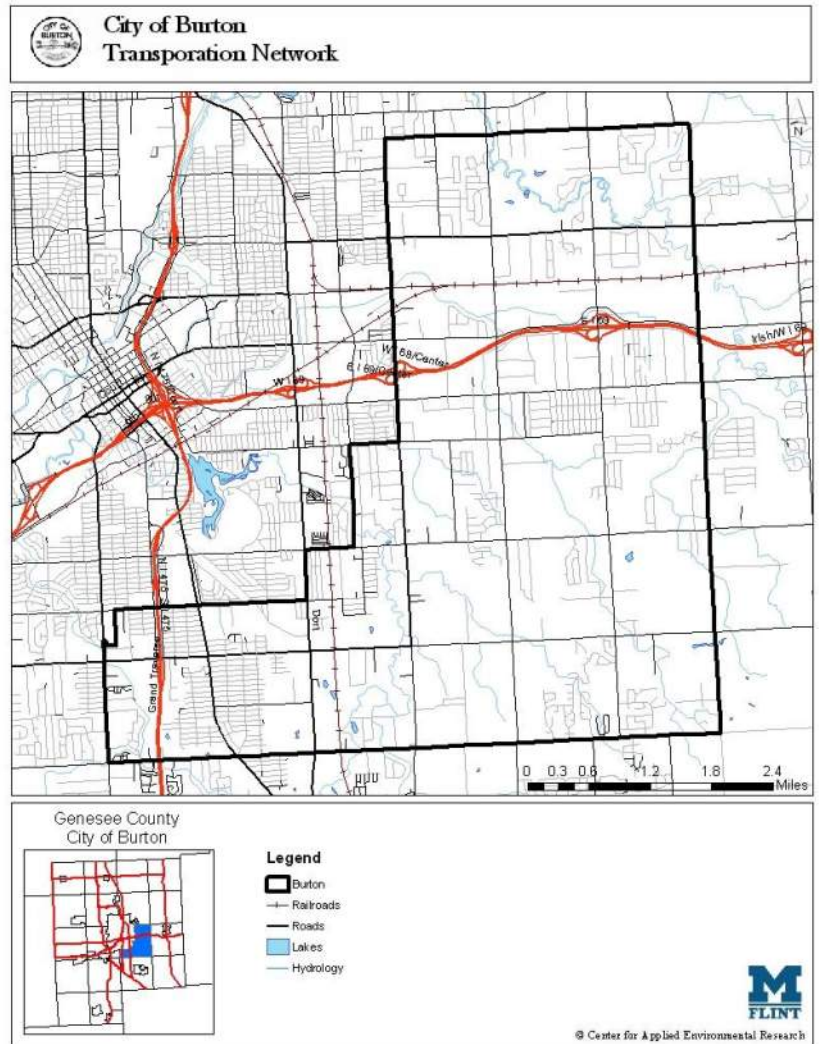
The Chevrolet Buick Freeway (MDOT I-69) runs east-west through the northern portion of the City of Burton. This freeway is one of the major east-west traffic corridors in the State. The U.A.W. Freeway (MDOT I-475) runs north-south through the southwest portion of the City. State Highway 21 (Davison Road) runs east-west through the northern portion of the City, while State Highway 54 (Dort Highway) runs north-south through the southwest portion of the City.

All other roads are primarily under the jurisdiction and maintained by the City. They range from curbed 5 arterial lane roads to 2 lane open ditch local roadways.

The Canadian National- Grand Trunk Western and Chesapeake-Ohio railroads are active rails that currently serve the City of Burton. Bishop International Airport is situated at the south end of the City of Flint, about two miles west of Burton.

The Mass Transit Authority plays a major role in public transportation in Genesee County. This program actively serves Burton residents with bus transportation throughout the City and surrounding communities.

Most primary and secondary roads within the City are public with the exception of a few privately owned streets. Currently the City provides approximately 0.2 miles of sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails per 1 mile of local roads. However, aware of the stresses of current economic conditions, increase interest in healthy living, and demands for non-motorized transportation options, the City is highly interested in improving on the current sidewalks and non-motorized trail systems. Although the City currently requires all new private development to place sidewalks along their road frontage, this policy tends to create gaps and doesn't address the needs of the community in a timely and effective manner. Therefore, the City has shown a strong interest to incorporate complete streets policies into their infrastructure programming.



The City is investigating the process and procedure to understand how this concept will best fit into their road improvement projects and hopes to obtain a complete streets resolution in the near future.

Trails and Pathways

The City is also a strong supporter of non-motorized pathway development and complying with the goals and objectives identified in the 2014 Genesee County Regional Trail Plan. This county-wide plan identifies potential non-motorized pathway networks throughout the county and state that connect local neighborhoods with adjoining communities, recreational amenities, and commercial venues. The City of Burton potential pathway network map is shown to the right and taken from the County's 2023 Non-motorized trails priorities maps for each community in the county.

The City of Burton is also fortunate to be located along the biking route of the Iron Belle Trail, which is the states showcase trail crossing through 48 counties from Belle Isle in Detroit to the western tip of the Upper Peninsula. The City will play a key role in seeing this trail come to fruition through Genesee County.

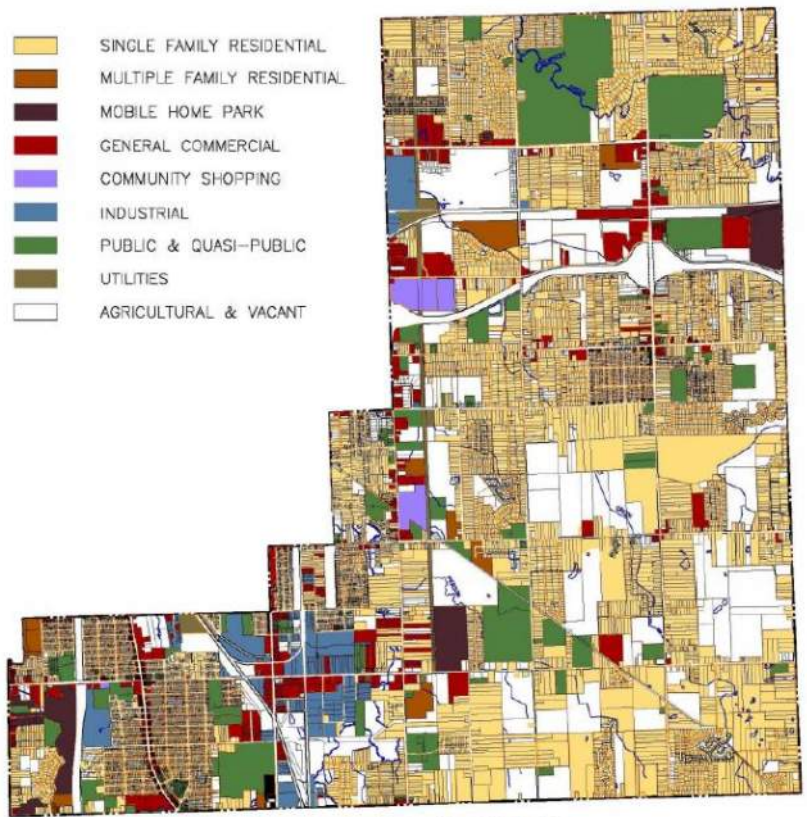


Map Source: Genesee County metropolitan planning Commission website

Land Use

A wide range of land uses characterize the City of Burton. Industrial and Commercial uses are generally located in three areas: in the southwest portion of the City (west of Dort Highway), along Center Road (between Atherton Road and I-69), and north of I-69 (along Court Street, Belsay and Davison Roads). Commercial development includes a variety of larger national chains and franchise establishments with some smaller local business owners as well. Some of the major commercial centers include the Courtland Center retail mall, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Lowes, Staples, and Meijer. Industrial development tends to be located along railway corridors.

There is a mix of residential housing types in the City but the primary type is single family detached homes. The southwest part of the City is characterized by urban type residential development with smaller lots in grid street layouts. Four of the seven mobile home parks in the City are also located in this southwest corner, all being west of I-475. The remaining mobile home parks are located on: Bristol Road (east of Center Road), Court Street (west of Vassar road), and Davison Road (north of I-69). Of the seven mobile home parks, there are a total of about 1,300 lots. There are 3 apartment complexes located within the City with a total of 818 units. In addition, there are 2 housing facilities with approximately 326 units that accommodate seniors and handicap persons. The remaining residential development in the City is comprised of subdivisions or lot splits along the major section line roads.



Source: Burton Master Plan 2018-2038

Burton’s designated “Downtown Area” is located along Saginaw Road from Maple Road to Hemphill Road and includes the areas at the intersections of Bristol Road and Maple Road running west to I-475. The Downtown Development Authority is the voice for local businesses in this district and liaison between City’s government officials and administrative staff. The Parks and Recreation Commission often collaborate with the DDA regarding events within the district. The DDA district consists primarily of private commercial and retail business, churches, a fire station and one city park.

Population Growth

The historic population growth of the City of Burton for the years 1960-2020 are summarized in Table 1. While the City experienced growth from 1960 to 1970, the following two decades experienced a slight decline of about 7.9% due to a state wide recession and decline in the automotive industry. This is followed by a slight increase in 2000, most likely due to the jump in the housing market in the early 2000’s. This jump was short lived and a contributing factor in the economic down turn and recession of the mid to late 2000’s. The City has experienced a slight decline from 2010 to 2020, slightly better than its neighboring community, the City of Flint. Genesee County as a whole decreased by 4.4%.

Year	Population	% Change
1960	29,700	
1970	32,540	9.6
1980	29,973	-7.9
1990	27,617	-7.9
2000	30,308	9.7
2010	29,999	-1
2020*	29,715	-0.9

*Source: 2020 U.S. Decennial Census

Population Projections

The Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission prepared population projections for all of the communities in Genesee County as part of their 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan. Table 2 shows the 2020 and 2040 population projections (from the county’s plan) as well as the 2010 census population for the City of Burton, adjoining City of Flint, and overall county. The percent of change between 2020 and 2040 shows an increase in the City of Burton but significant decline in the adjoining City of Flint. This is most likely due to the slow recovering economy and the recent water crisis driving residents out of Flint. However, the City of Burton and overall county project sizable increases. The City should plan for these increases by offering an attractive and well maintained park system that will help maintain current residents and appeal to those moving to the area as the overall county population increases.

	2010	2020 Actual*	% Change 2010-2020	2040 Projected	Projected % Change 2020-2040
City of Burton	29,999	29,715	-0.9%	31,821	+7.1%
City of Flint	102,486	81,252	-20.7%	67,133	-17.4%
Genesee County	451,954	406,211	-10.1%	473,883	+16.7%

Source: U.S. Census and Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Dec 2007 and * 2020 Decennial Census.

Median Household Income

Table 3 shows that 2021 median household income in Burton (\$51,300) was slightly lower than Genesee County as a whole (\$52,025), but much higher than the city of Flint (\$22,209). This can be explained by the fact that only 16.2% of persons in Burton were below the poverty level in 2021, and 27.3% of Flint was below, compared to 13.1% in the State of Michigan. A comparison to the State shows the City at 19% lower than the overall state. This may place the City in a better position in terms of state and federal funding opportunities as preferences are often given to those communities with lower MHI to the overall state MHI.

	City of Burton	City of Flint	Genesee County	State of MI
Median Household Income (\$)	\$51,300	\$22,209	\$52,025	\$63,498
Poverty	16.2%	27.3%	16.2%	13.1%

Information Source: 2021 ACS 5-Yr Estimates

Disabilities

The American Community Survey produces various disability demographic estimates based on the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates program. This annual data is shown for 2016 to 2021 and provides the overall disability and breakdowns by gender, age, race and ethnicity, type of disability, family income, employment status, etc... The table below represents populations in total and by age group in 2021 that are physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled but able to “go-outside” the home with assistance. Because it is a household survey, people living in institutions such as nursing homes are not included. The column to the far right shows the percent of increase (or decrease) from the 2016 populations.

TABLE 4 2021 Disability Data Of Non-Institutionalized Persons In The City Of Burton				
	Total population	With disability	% (1)	% change from 2016 (+ increase , -decrease)
Noninstitutionalized Population	29,514	5,385	18.2%	-1.2%
Persons 0 to 17 years	6,257	393	6.3%	-0.4%
Person 18 to 64 years	18,079	2,807	15.5%	-2.4%
Persons 65 and older	5,178	2,185	42.2%	-2.6%

Source: 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates

(1) Percentage is based on the total 2021 population estimate of for each category

It appears, based on the comparison to 2016 shown above, that all ages groups have slightly decreased in the numbers with disabilities. This may be due to better treatment and physical therapy options as well as advanced medical treatment for those with significant injuries, illnesses, and fewer birth defects. Although these populations appear to have decreased since 2016 its still critical to keep in mind that Michigan’s building code requirements and the requirements of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, require all development, including recreational and park improvements, must provide reasonable access for those with disabilities. To take that one step further, the most effective approach is to reach an overall community demographic through “universal design.” Universal Design is a fairly new concept that emerged from “barrier free” or “accessible design.” It can be defined as the design of products and environments to be usable by *all* people, to the greatest extent possible regardless of ability or disability. The principals of Universal Design are encouraged in new projects whenever feasible.



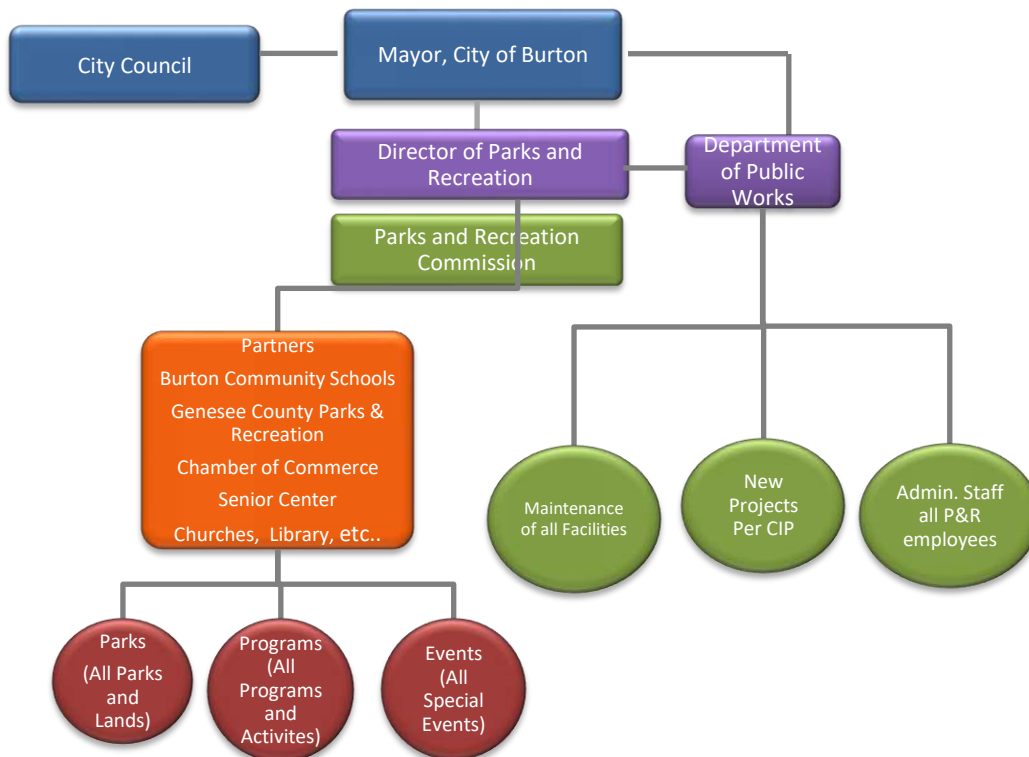
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE & PARTNERSHIPS

City Administration

The City of Burton Parks and Recreation Commission was established on July 21, 1997, under the Metropolitan Districts Act PA 312 of 1929. The Commission is comprised of 7 (seven) members; all residents of the City, appointed by the mayor. Of the 7 members, there is one representative from Bendle Community Schools and one from Bentley Community Schools, who is also a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission. Additionally, one member of the City Council is appointed to this commission.

A Director of Parks and Recreation is appointed by the mayor who coordinates and oversees park events, programming, projects, administrative duties, etc. The City Parks are maintained by the Department of Public Works under the supervision of the Director with seasonal staff for programs and summer maintenance. The Parks and Recreation Commission oversees, coordinates with the director, and votes on various objectives of the Parks and Recreation Plan. However, The City Council has final authority related to development and maintenance expenses for City-owned parks and recreation facilities. Facilities on school grounds are financed and administered by the respective school boards.

Below is a graphical representation of the City's administrative structure related to Parks and Recreation.



Funding and Budgets

Currently, 2% of the City's general fund is allocated towards Arts, Culture, and Parks and Recreation. The City's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. The Mayor presents the yearly annual budget for allocation of funds to the council for approval. This provides the main source, within the City's budget, for funding recreational projects and can be used for local matches and to fund smaller projects. For the fiscal year 2023-2024, the City has budgeted \$195,082 for parks and recreation projects and hopes to keep next year's budget at the current level. Information regarding other sources of funding is described under the Action Program section of this plan.

Volunteers and Partnerships

Community partners provide support, insight, technical, and "hands on" assistance for future planning and implementation. The Parks and Recreation Commission recognizes the valuable resources these groups are to the community. They are committed to building on existing relationships and cultivating new ones so that a sustainable parks system can be developed. This is also an important component toward building positive social interactions and economic growth within the community and on a regional scale as well.

Present Partnerships include:

- Burton Community Schools (Atherton, Bendle, Bentley)
- Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission/ For-Mar Nature Preserve
- Burton Senior Center
- Burton Downtown Development Authority
- Burton Chamber of Commerce
- Burton Kiwanis
- Burton Historical Society
- Rotary Club of Burton
- Burton Memorial Library
- Area Churches
- Walker Farms and Greenhouse

Other Potential Partnerships include:

- Genesee Regional Trail Council (Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission)
- Grand Blanc Township (inc. Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation)
- City of Flint
- The Disability Network
- Disabled American Veterans Chapter 3
- VFW Post 2777
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance
- Genesee County Humane Society
- League of Michigan Bicyclists
- The Crim Fitness Foundation
- Keep Genesee County Beautiful
- Ruth Mott Foundation
- Genesee County Conservation District
- Regents of University of Michigan Ann Arbor
- Local Boy Scout Clubs
- MSU Master Gardeners – Genesee County
- Burton Jaycee's

RECREATION INVENTORY

City of Burton Facilities

The following Recreational Inventory is a comprehensive list of public and private recreation areas and facilities in the City of Burton. The inventory has been used as a basis for determining the need for specific recreational facilities in the City.

As in many communities in Michigan, the local school districts provide a valuable resource of facilities and programs for local community recreation. For this reason, facilities provided by school districts have been included in the Recreation Inventory.

Private recreation developments are important because they can relieve the demand and use pressures on public facilities. These facilities can address a wide range of interests, including golf courses, sports fields, bowling centers, rifle ranges, batting cages, etc. The most recognized private facilities are included in the Recreation Inventory. Private recreational amenities located within apartment complexes and/or condominiums have not been included.

Each location is referenced on the following Existing Recreation Facilities Map.

DNR Grant History

- 1) In 2012 the City received a MDNR -Trust Fund Grant (TF-12-060) in the amount of \$171,000 for the construction of approximately 350 linear foot of ADA accessible boardwalk with fishing pier/overlook between the water's edge and wetland at Kelly Lake Park. The project was constructed in 2015 and is being enjoyed by numerous park visitors for the increase access it provides for fishing, nature viewing, walking, and special RC boat race events.



- 2) In 2017 the City received a MDNR Iron Belle Trail mini-grant (2017-IBT 17-16) in the amount of \$7,282 for trail scoping that portion of trail that runs from Maple Avenue north, approximate 1.5 miles, to Hemphill Road. Due to numerous challenges of this trail route and with a shift in focus on completing the Park and Rec plan, the City requested two extensions of this grant for a final project completion in 2019. Recently, the City has secured funding through MDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program and is coordinating any additional funds needed for engineering to see that this trail is constructed by the end of 2025.

Facility: Kelly Lake Park

Map No.: 1

Location: Near southwest corner of I-69 and Genesee Rd

Type: Community Park / Passive Recreation

Size: 41± acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: Northern City of Burton Community, and adjoining neighbors of City of Flint and Davison Townships

Accessibility rating: 3 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Walking/Bike path (paved)
- Lake
- Fishing pier at south end of lake
- Boardwalk and fishing pier between lake and wetland
- Beach
- Sledding hill
- Natural wetland area (wildlife viewing)

Support Amenities:

- 2 Pavilions with picnic tables
- Bathrooms (pit)
- Water pump
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Grill

DNR Grants Received: MNRTF (TF-12-060)

- Year: 2012-2015
- Grant Amount: \$171,000

Description: boardwalk with fishing pier/overlook between wetland and lake.

Needed improvements:

1. Install new bathrooms
2. Repair boardwalk boards and reseal
3. Fix parking area & install barrier free parking signs and pavement markings
4. ADA Accessible picnic table(s)
5. Trim vegetation from DNR sign
6. Clear path for boat launch
7. Improve park signage

Potential Amenities:

1. Improve trails around lake (see plan)
2. Exercise Stations (see plan)



Facility: Settlement Park

Map No.: 1a

Location: South of Atherton Road, West of Center Road. Along Thread Creek

Type: Neighborhood Park (currently undeveloped)

Size: 1.5± acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: Neighborhoods in the west/southwest City of Burton Community and adjoining neighbors of City of Flint

Accessibility rating: 1 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Fishing
- Wildlife viewing/education
- Open play area
- Proposed recreation activities include:
 - Picnicking
 - Play equipment
 - Canoeing/Kayaking



Support Amenities:

- Benches (currently)

Needed improvements:

1. Acquire additional land and develop a new Park Plan with expanded area
2. Parking Lot (see plan) with barrier free parking signs and pavement markings
3. Park signage
4. Restrooms
5. Drinking Fountain



Potential Amenities: (see Concept Plan*)

1. Playscape*
2. Splash Pad
3. Picnic area/Pavilion*
4. Canoe/Kayak Launch*
5. Pathway*
6. Creek overlook*

*Concept plan to be updated based on current needs and land expansion opportunities

DNR Grants Received: none

Facility: Fire Station #1 Park (aka: Water Tower Park)

Map No.: 2

Location: Near northeast corner of Saginaw St and Bristol Rd

Type: Mini Park

Size: 0.5 acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: Neighborhoods in the southwest portion of the City

Accessibility rating: 3 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Enclosure fence (gated)
- Playground equipment
- Geared for toddlers/preschool aged children

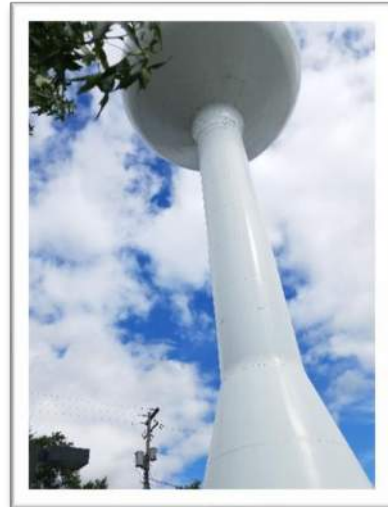
Support Amenities:

- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Informational sign about water towers

Needed improvements:

1. Add shade structure
2. New playscape
3. Replace picnic tables, benches and trash cans
4. New landscaping/planters

DNR Grants Received: none



Facility: Fire Station #2 Park

Map No.: 3

Location: Near southwest corner of Lapeer and Belsay Roads

Type: Mini Park

Size: 0.5 acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: City of Burton Community

Accessibility rating: 3 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Enclosure fence
- Playground equipment with swings

Support Amenities:

- Pavilion
- Picnic tables
- Benches

Needed improvements:

1. New mulch/playground mat
2. Landscape/Maintenance needed (overgrown)
3. ADA accessible picnic table(s)
4. Replace benches and picnic tables
5. Better access to bike rack

Potential Amenities:

1. Add drinking fountain
2. New play structure, perhaps with a fire truck theme

DNR Grants Received: none



Facility: Veterans' Memorial Park

Map No.: 4

Location: Off Center Rd across from Post Office

Type: Mini Park

Size: 0.5 acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: Neighborhoods in southern City region

Accessibility rating: 4 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Historical / Cultural memorial site
- Picnicking

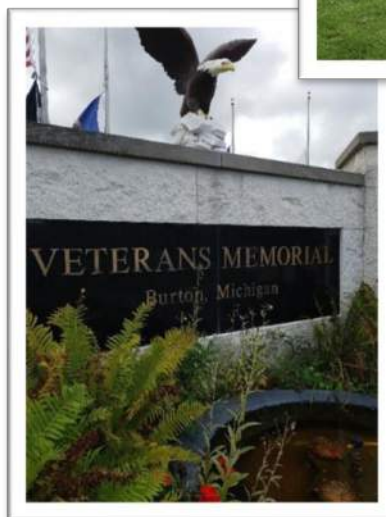
Support Amenities:

- Pavilion
- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Water fountain

Needed improvements:

1. Expand walls for additional veteran markers
2. Install barrier free parking signs and pavement markings
3. ADA picnic table(s)
4. Maintain weeds within landscape beds
5. Restrooms
6. Pergola/Expand pavilion
7. Improve lighting

DNR Grants Received: none



Facility: Burton Senior Center

Map No.: 5

Location: South Bound Grand Traverse, north of Bristol Road

Type: Special Use

Size: 0.5 acres

Ownership: City of Burton

Maintenance Responsibilities: City of Burton

Service Area: Neighborhoods in southern City of Burton and City of Flint region

Accessibility rating: 3 (see the following for description of rating)

Recreational Facilities:

- Activity room
- Class room/Computer lab
- Lounge
- Outdoor Patio space

Support Amenities:

- Dancing
- Exercise programs
- Bingo/Card games
- Classes
- Community Health Expert

Needed improvements:

1. Expansion of existing building due to growth
2. Area for outdoor recreational sports (I.E. Pickle Ball Court)
3. Better ADA accessibility
4. Add pickleball courts
5. Add pavilion



DNR Grants Received: none

Accessibility Assessment

Many communities are becoming more aware of the greater number of persons with disabilities and the challenges they face on a daily basis. This growing population of people with disabilities is due to increased life expectancy, and advancement of modern medicine contributes to the increased survival rate of those with significant injuries, illnesses, and birth defects. It is essential for social structure, awareness, and economic growth, that communities recognize this growing population and make a commitment to provide safe and accessible recreation to residents of all ages and abilities.

Generally, disabilities include mobility impairments, cognitive impairments, hearing impairments, and visual impairments. But recreation should not be limited to a certain group. The most effective approach to reach an overall community demographic is through Universal Design. Universal Design is a fairly new concept that emerged from “barrier free” or “accessible design”. It can be defined as the design of products and environments to be useable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of ability or disability.

The MDNR has established a ranking system to determine the accessibility status of each existing recreation facility. This ranking system uses points 1 through 5 to rate a facility based on the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). A visual inspection was conducted of each City of Burton site to determine compliance with ADAAG standards in regard to routes of travel, ramps and stairs, parking and drop off areas, entrances, doorways, vertical relationships, signage, and restrooms. The MDNR rating system (below) was then applied to each site as shown in the facilities inventory chart.

Accessibility Rating	Definition
1	None of the facilities/ park areas meet accessibility guidelines
2	Some of the facilities/ park areas meet accessibility guidelines
3	Most of the facilities/ park areas meet accessibility guidelines
4	The entire facility/ park area meets accessibility guidelines
5	The entire facility/park was developed/renovated using the principle of Universal Design

As sites are improved, the City will continue its effort towards improving accessibility and will strongly consider the concepts of Universal Design whenever feasible.

City of Burton Parks and Recreation Current Programs & Events

	Event	Location	Comments
1	Burton Race Series: Hot Fudge Run Race 2 Grace Memorial Day Run Veterans Honor Run Burton Mile	Bentley High School Faithway Christian School Atherton High School Blessed Sacrament Church Center Rd. (between Atherton and Bristol)	1. Increase sponsorship 2. Improve public awareness 3. Continue to improve on race events based on public feedback
2	Easter Egg Hunt	Atherton Elementary	
3	Memorial Day Activities	City Hall	
4	Burton Youth League	Atherton School Fields	
5	Trick or Treat Trail	Bentley High School	Investigate opportunities to expand the event with possible food trucks, crafts, and music
6	Veterans Day Ceremony	Veterans Memorial Park	
7	Pizza with Santa	Bendle High School	
8	Halloween and Christmas Decorating Contests	Throughout City	Consider improving public awareness
9	Christmas Tree Lighting	Fire Station #1 AKA: Water Tower Park	

Other Local Facilities: Public Schools

Map. No.	Name	Acres	Facilities
6	Weston Elementary	14	Picnic tables (5) Playground equipment Sandbox Baseball field (poor condition)
7	Barhitte Elementary	20	Basketball backboards (6) Soccer fields (2) Tire climbs (2) Playground equipment Multipurpose room Ball field Natural walking trails
8	Atherton Vern Van Y Educational Center (Temporarily closed)	23	Slide (1) Teeter totters (2) Monkey bars (3) Multipurpose room
9	South Bendle Elementary	6	Multipurpose room Playground equipment Basketball court Walking path
10	Friel Early Childhood Center	5	Playground equipment
11	West Bendle Elementary	12	Playground equipment (2) Ballfields (2)
12	Bentley Middle School and High School	62	Softball field Baseball field Football field Track and field Indoor gymnasium

**Other Local Facilities:
Public Schools (Continued)**

Map. No.	Name	Acres	Facilities
13	Atherton Elementary School Atherton Middle/High Schools	114	Tennis courts (4) Regulation baseball field Track and field (poor condition) Football field Practice football fields (3) Gymnasiums (2) Ball Fields (3) Playground Equipment Nature Preserve and Trail
14	Bendle Middle School and High School	25	Track and field Football field Gymnasium

Other Local Facilities: Privately Owned

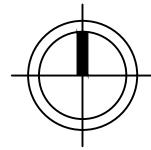
Map. No.	Name	Acres	Facilities
15	South Flint Church of The Nazarene (Permanently closed)	N/A	Softball field Slide Swing
16	Judson Baptist Church	N/A	Swings (2) Slide Monkey bars
17	Blessed Sacrament Church	N/A	Picnic table Sandboxes (2) Swings (2) Teeter totters (2) Monkey bars Misc. equipment
18	Holy Redeemer Church	N/A	Soccer field Football field (lighted w/bleachers)
19	V.F.W. Hall	N/A	Horseshoe pit
20	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	N/A	Basketball hoops (4) Swings Jungle gym
21	United Baptist Church (NTC Church)	N/A	Soccer field Bleachers
22	Atherton United Methodist Church	N/A	Basketball hoop
23	Advanced Ranges (Permanently closed)		Indoor gun & archery ranges
24	Crystal Fieldhouse Ice Arena		Indoor ice arena (3 ice rinks)
25	Bull Pen Sports (Permanently closed)		Indoor batting cages
26	All American Grappling Club		Martial arts
27	B's Bowling Center		Bowling center
28	Genesee Christian (Private School)	9	Soccer fields (2) Baseball fields (2) (poor condition) Basketball hoop
29	Children's Castle (Day Care) (Permanently closed)	6	Playground equipment

Other Local Facilities: Privately Owned (Continued)

Map. No.	Name	Acres	Facilities
30	Tropical Falls Miniature Golf / Southmoor Golf Course (Permanently closed)		18-hole golf course (par 3) Miniature golf course Outdoor golf driving range
31	Brookwood Golf Course		18-hole golf course (full par) Outdoor golf driving range
32	Kuk Sool Won Martial Arts		Martial arts
33	Double Dragon Tang Soo Do		Kick boxing
34	Grand Blanc Tang Soo Do (Permanently closed)		Martial arts
35	Kalison, Inc. (Permanently closed)		Martial arts
36	Team Force Martial Arts (Permanently closed)		Martial arts
37	Butchers Health & Fitness (Permanently closed)		Fitness center
38	American Fitness Center		Fitness center
39	Planet Fitness		Fitness center
40	Golfers Express (Permanently closed)		Golf driving range & supplies



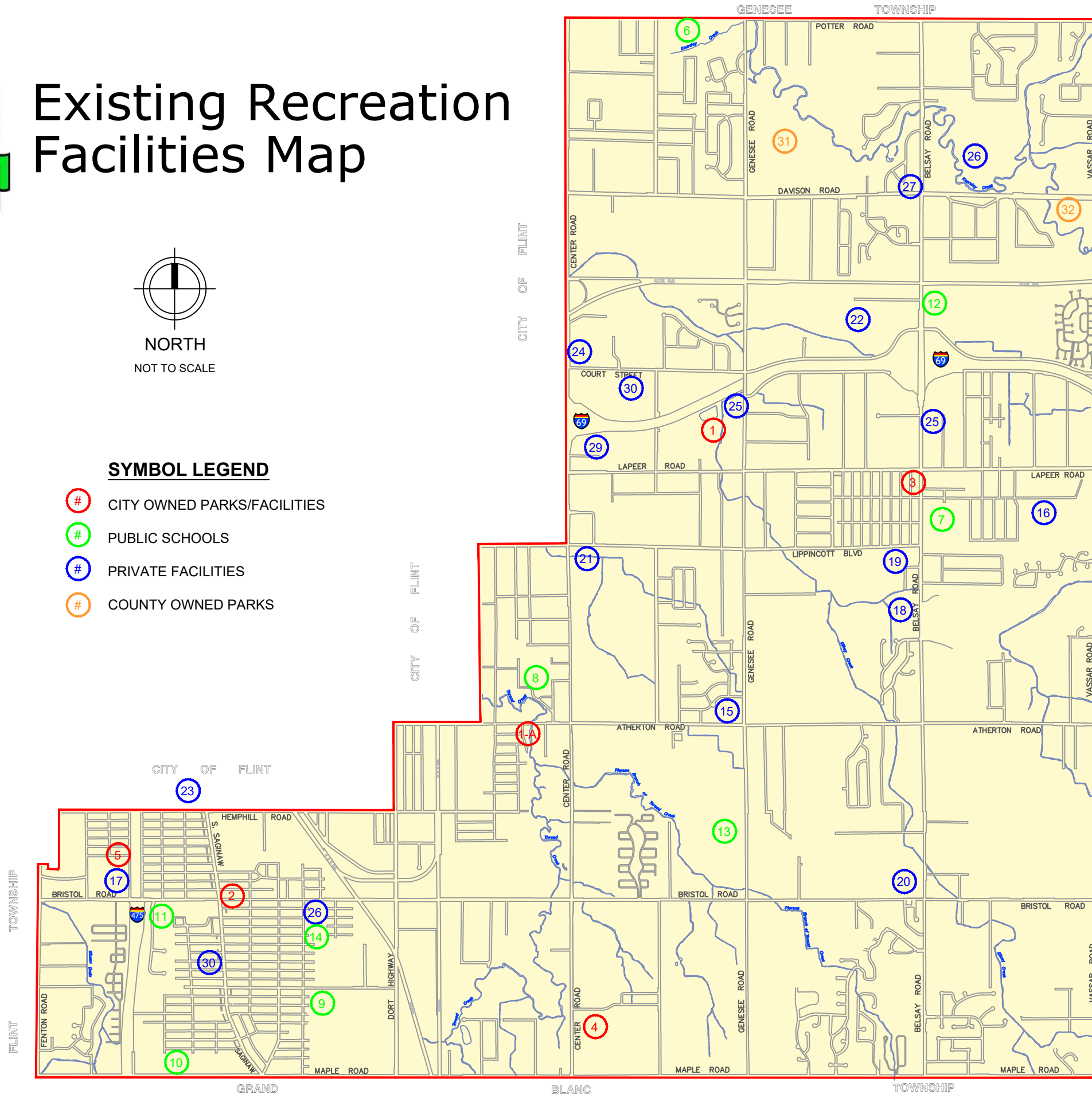
Existing Recreation Facilities Map



NORTH
NOT TO SCALE

SYMBOL LEGEND

- # CITY OWNED PARKS/FACILITIES
- # PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- # PRIVATE FACILITIES
- # COUNTY OWNED PARKS



FACILITIES LEGEND

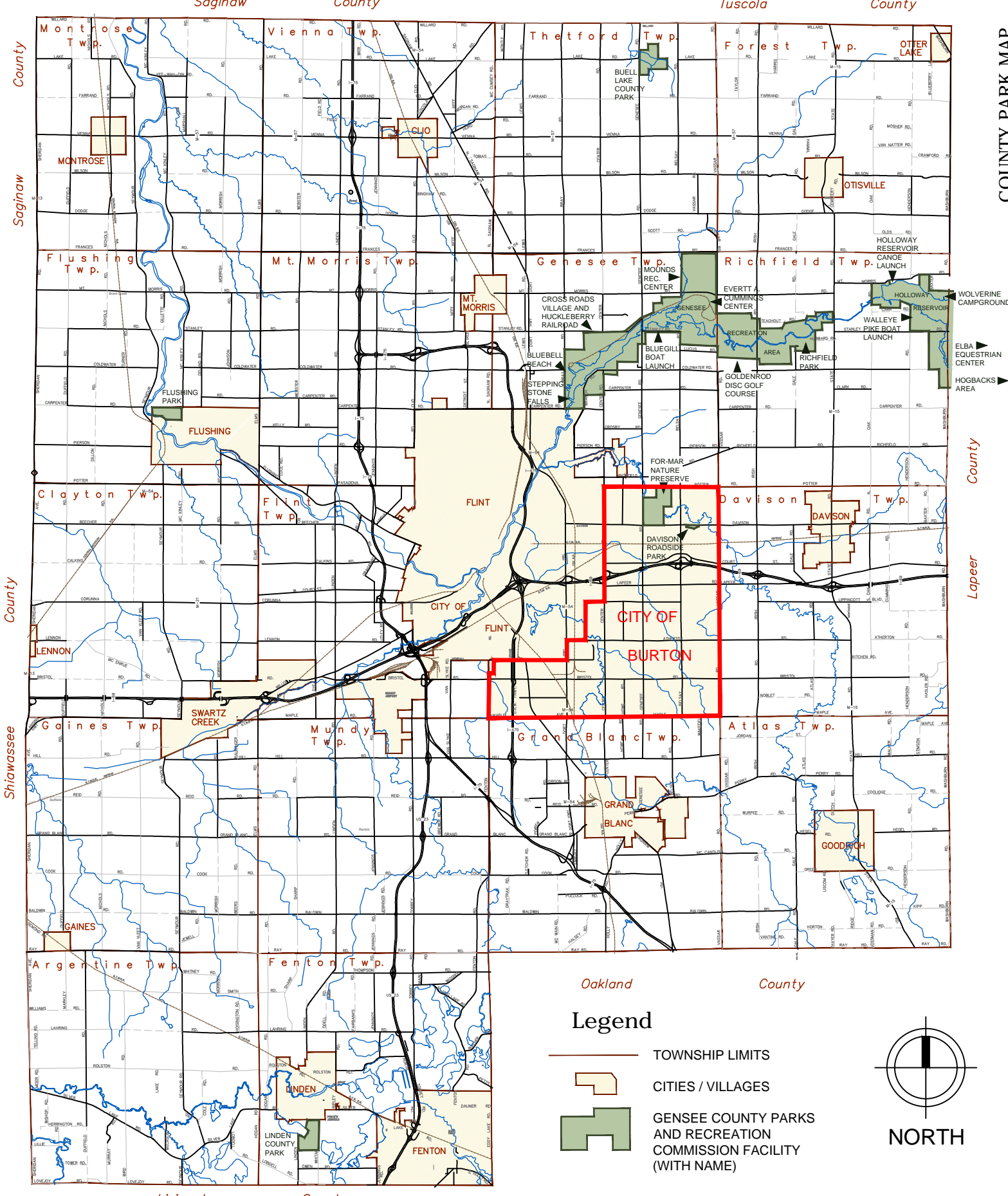
- 1) Kelly Lake Park
- 1-A) Settlement Park
- 2) Fire Station #1 Park
- 3) Fire Station #2 Park
- 4) Veteran's Memorial Park
- 5) Burton Senior Center
- 6) Weston Elementary
- 7) Barhitte Elementary
- 8) Atherton VernVan Y Educational Center
- 9) South Bendle Elementary
- 10) Friel Early Childhood Center
- 11) West Bendle Elementary
- 12) Bentley Middle and High School
- 13) Atherton Elementary, Middle & High School
- 14) Bendle Middle and High School
- 15) Judson Baptist Church
- 16) Blessed Sacrament Church
- 17) Holy Redeemer Church
- 18) V.F.W. Hall
- 19) Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
- 20) NTC Church
- 21) Atherton United Methodist Church
- 22) Crystal Fieldhouse Ice Arena
- 23) All American Grappling Club
- 24) B's Bowling Center
- 25) Genesee Christian (Private Elem. and Middle Schools)
- 26) Brookwood Golf Course
- 27) Pivot Point Martial Arts
- 28) Double Dragon Tang Soo Do
- 29) American Fitness Center
- 30) Planet Fitness
- 31) For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum
- 32) Davison Roadside Park

Regional Facilities

On a regional level, the City of Burton is located within a 30-mile radius of a number of state recreation areas and game areas. The entire Genesee County Parks System contains over 10,000 acres of recreational area. Two of these county parks, the Genesee Recreation Area and the Holloway Reservoir Regional Park, provide over 9,500 acres of recreational area that includes activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, hiking, camping, biking, and cross country skiing. The remaining five major Genesee County parks contain over 800 acres, which offer similar kinds of facilities to county residents.




Two parks owned and operated by the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission are located entirely within the City of Burton boundaries. These parks are ForMar Nature Preserve and Arboretum, and Davison Roadside Park (see Genesee County Park Map).

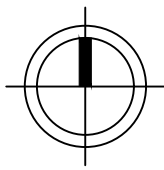
Other Local Facilities: Regional / County Serviced			
Map. No.	Name	Acres	Facilities
41	For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum	354.5	7 miles of hiking trails Cross country skiing/snow shoeing Nature preserve Arboretum DeWaters Education Center Corydon E. Foote Bird Collection
42	Davison Roadside Park	8.7	Pavilion, Playground equipment Picnic area / grills sledding area



Oakland County

Legend

-  TOWNSHIP LIMITS
-  CITIES / VILLAGES
-  GENESSEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FACILITY (WITH NAME)



NORTH

Genesee County Parks Map

PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Planning Methods and Public Input

Community recreational facilities cannot be effectively provided without some basis from which the type, quantity, location, need, and priority for that facility has been determined. Several methods for determining a community's recreation needs and priorities have been identified. These include observed use levels for existing facilities, comparisons of recreational facilities between similar communities, unique opportunities for certain types of facilities, guidelines or standards based on quantity per population, and projected population growth, to identify a few methods.

Comparison of existing recreation opportunities to recreation standards can be used to determine deficiencies. However, great care must be taken to apply common sense and knowledge of the community. A comparison of the City of Burton to these standards is shown on page 32 and will be used only in conjunction with other methods to determine recreation deficiencies and priorities.

Citizen opinion on recreation priorities is a key consideration in plan development. It is important to involve the public early in the process, through public meetings, surveys, or other means. Early citizen involvement not only helps in defining needs and priorities, it also keeps the public informed about what is going on. This in turn helps to build support and to avoid unnecessary controversy as well as eliminating unnecessary or poorly planned expenditures.

For this recreation plan the Commission offered five opportunities for public participation prior to adoption of this plan. **First**, a public **survey** was developed that consisted of 14 questions related to current parks, improvements, and new facilities. **Second**, a **public workshop** was held to inform the public and gather their comments by way of planning activities. **Third**, two **planning presentations** were held at regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Commission meetings to report the plan's progress and gain additional public comment. **Fourth**, the draft plan was presented in at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission The draft plan was posted on the City's website and in the local newspaper as well as mentioned at the City Council meeting to notify the public of the 30 day review period in which they could review the plan and make comments prior to adoption. A paper copy of the draft plan was also available for viewing at City Hall. **Lastly**, the final plan was presented to the City Council, by way of a **public hearing**, for final adoption.

Survey Questionnaire:

A survey questionnaire was developed to gain the public's thoughts related to current recreation facilities and improvements they would like to see. The survey also included questions related to where they live in the community, what type of activities they participate in, and what type of new facilities they would like to see. The commission reviewed and commented on the questionnaire before making it available to the public. The survey was created in electronic format for ease of tabulation and distributed by way of social media. A link to the survey was posted on the City's website and in the local paper. It was available to the public from August 14 2023 to September 30, 2023. Paper copies of the survey were also available at City Hall and during the public workshop. Full results of the survey are shown in the Appendix.

Some key points of the survey results can be summarized as follows:

- Kelly Lake is by far the most visited City park
- Walking is the activity most residents participate in.
- Top reasons people don't participate in recreational activities were no sidewalks or pathways and lack of recreation options.
- General improvements at each park scored at follows:
 - Trash receptacles & drinking fountains rated highest need at both Fireman's Parks
 - Better maintenance and improved lighting rated highest need at Kelly Lake Park
 - Picnic tables and trash receptacles rated highest need at Settlement Park
- Most survey participants did not know about the City's Race Series
- The Memorial Day Activities are rated as the most attended of all City events
- Pathways and a Sports Complex rated highest recreation facility needed overall
- Adult programs and Youth Sports rating highest for expanded programming
- Topics brought up most under general comments:
 - Kelly Lake Park improvements/security/restrooms
 - Implement Iron Belle or trails and sidewalks in general
 - New sports complex

Public Workshop:

An announcement of the workshop (and survey) was printed in the local paper by way of public notice and news articles. It was also posted on the City's website and on their public announcement board. See page 30 for public notice announcements.

On Sept 28, 2023 a public workshop took place at City Hall. Informational displays were setup and a presentation was made to inform the attendees of the purpose for this project, the process involved, and of other related planning efforts taking place in adjoining communities. The workshop was attended by 15 participants and consisted of three planning activities to engage public participation:



•Activity 1) Current Recreational Facilities:

Display boards of each existing park were placed around the room. Participants broke into small groups at each park and were asked to discuss the park amongst their peers and complete a worksheet. The worksheet allowed each group to document what they thought were the strengths and weaknesses of their selected park. And then discuss and document a wish list of improvements they would like to see at that park. Lastly, they were asked to select the top 3 improvements from their wish list. In interest of time, participants completed this exercise for 3 different parks. The complete results of this workshop exercise can be found in the appendix.

Some of the highest rated improvements included but not in any particular order:

- New restroom and expand walking trails at Kelly Lake Park
 - New Playscape at Fire Station #1 / Water Tower Park and Fire Station #2 Park
 - Parking lot, kayak launch, and restrooms at Settlement Park
 - Expand walls for veteran's markers, restroom, and expand pavilion at Veterans Park
 - Pickleball courts, Pavilion and ADA accessibility at the Senior Center
- **Activity 2) Programming and Events:**
Each participant was given a worksheet that listed the City's current annual events. And were asked

to answer which events they typically attend. The work sheet then asked questions about what they loved most of the events and what they liked least. The last question asked what recreational and enrichment programs they would like to see added in the City. As each participant completed the worksheet they engaged in interactive discussions amongst their peers. The full results of this exercise can be found in the appendix.

Some of the highlights of this exercise are as follows:

- The Trick or Treat Trail and Christmas Tree Lighting were most attended events by participants.
- The Halloween and Christmas decorating contest were least selected.
- A few comments participants liked most about the events:
 - Brings community together.
 - Great for young families/kids
 - Well run and fun
- A few comments participants liked least about the events:
 - Not much for adults
 - Location of easter egg hunt and trick of treat trail
- Additional program requests included more sports options, programs for adults, nature lessons, and senior walking programs.

- **Activity 3) Potential New Park Land:**

Knowing the importance of having a strong and viable parks system for the health and welfare of the community, the City is continually seeking opportunities to improvement and/or expand on recreational services to its residents. Currently there are three key land acquisition opportunities public known that would allow Burton to expand its parks system and offer a wider range of recreational amenities. For this exercise participants were provided basic information about two properties currently for sale in the City and one property currently owned by the City. These properties are all vacant land of varying sizes and in various locations throughout the City. Given basic information about these properties, participants were asked to rank them in order of which ones they felt the City should pursue most for recreational purposes.

Of the three sites, the former Southmoor Golf Course property on Dort Hwy rated the highest priority. This isn't to say that other opportunities may develop that change the direction the City chooses to take but this exercise provides some initial public consensus that helps the City determine where to focus their efforts.

Lastly, participants were given the survey to complete and the opportunity to speak publicly about parks and recreation in general at this workshop. Additionally public comment was available at each Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held throughout this process as well as at the public hearing prior to adoption.

Comparison to Recommended Standards

The MDNR recommended park classification system identifies 6 types of parks that apply to the City of Burton. **Mini Parks** are generally 2500 square feet to 1 acre in size and serve a quarter mile radius in residential settings. **Community Parks** serve a broader purpose. They are usually 30 to 50 acres and serve multiple neighborhoods in a ½ mile to 3 mile radius. **Special Use** facilities vary in size and type and are oriented toward a single purpose (i.e.: Burton Senior Center). **School Parks** vary in size and can fulfill the space requirement for other classes of parks. **Natural Resource Areas** are lands set aside for preservation and natural open space. And lastly, the **Private Park/Recreation Facility** class consists of facilities that are privately owned yet contribute in some form to the public recreation system.

Typically, the recommended standard ratio of park land to population is 10.8 acres per 1,000 population (derived from the 2023 NRPA Agency Performance Review) this equates to roughly 318 acres of designated park land that is required for the City for Burton to meet this standard. Currently, the City of

Burton owns 43.5 physical acres of land specifically designated as parks, which includes one community park and three mini parks and a special use facility. Fortunately, over the years the community has been able to rely on other resources (i.e.: county land, semi private and private ownerships) to make up for the lack of facilities under the City’s control. However, there is increasing desire by City officials to encourage healthy lifestyles, physical and mental fitness, education and protection of natural resources, and economic growth and they understand they are better positioned to accomplish this by expanding on and developing more facilities under their control. Until the City can expand their park facilities, it is imperative that the Parks Director and Commission work in a cooperative effort with the schools and other recreation providers to see that the needs of the community are being met.

Level of Service Comparisons to Nation Standards

As part of the planning process, a comparison of existing recreation amenities to the nation standard was analyzed. This comparison is shown below but is only a guide to be used with other planning tools. It is by no means an inclusive list of recreational types. For a more inclusive list and additional information visit www.nrpa.org. It should be noted that many amenities are currently being offered on public school property. Additionally county parks were not factored in this chart as their general service area is much broader than the City of Burton residents, however, this should be considered when reviewing this chart. As a general reference, deficiencies are highlighted below in yellow.

Facility/ Activity	City Parks ^[2]	Public Schools ^[2]	Recommended Standard (in units per population) ^[3]	Standard for City ^[1]	Surplus (+) Deficiency (-)
Football	0	3	1 field/ 20,000	2	+1
Soccer	0	4	1 field per 4,947	6	-2
Softball	0	4	1 field per 9,060 if also used for youth baseball	3	+1
Baseball Youth	0	4	1 field per 5,033	6	-2
Pickelball	0	0	1 court per 9,257	3	-3
Tennis	0	4	1 court per 5,815	5	-1
Basketball	0	14	1 court per 7,117	4	+10
Playground	2	7	1 per 3,028	10	-1
Dog Parks	0	0	1 per 28,000	1	-1
Ice Skating Rink	0	1	1 per 13,247	2	-1
Trails (in miles)	.5±	1.5±	10± miles based on population	10±	-8±

^[1] Based on a 2020 census population of 29,715.

^[2] Private facilities were not included in this comparison as they typically do not allow unauthorized public access. However, in the City of Burton, these type of facilities do slightly affect the comparison particularly related to playgrounds (mostly on church property making a surplus of 4) and the ice skating rinks at Ice Mountain Arena (making a surplus of 2).

^[3] Taken from the 2023 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Performance Review- Recommended park facilities matrix based on population.

Note: This is not an inclusive amenities list. It is only a guide to be used with other planning data. It is based on the NRPA

Standards list and lists existing amenities or those that have been requested by the public.

Public Notices

[Posting on City's Website starting August 11, 2024](#)



CITY OF
BURTON
MICHIGAN

HOME » MORE NEWS » PARKS & RECREATION- 5 YEAR PLAN

Parks & Recreation- 5 Year Plan

The City of Burton Parks & Recreation would like to gather your input on the City's recreational facilities.

Please join us for an interactive workshop on
Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 6:00pm at City Hall (4303 S . Center Rd. Burton, MI 48519)

Unable to make it? Take the survey online by October 1, 2023

Please click on the link below to take the survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Burton2023Parks>

[Work shop and survey flyers posted at City Hall starting August 14, 2024 and Senior Center August 15, 2024](#)



CITY OF BURTON
MICHIGAN

PARKS & REC PUBLIC INPUT WORKSHOP

Calling all City of Burton Residents -
As a part of the City's 5 Year Park & Recreation Master Plan, we would like to gather your input on the City's recreational facilities. Please join us for this interactive workshop.

WHEN:
Thursday, September 28, 2023
6:00pm

WHERE:
City Hall
4303 S Center Rd
Burton, MI 48519

Unable to make it?
Take the online survey by
October 1st, 2023 by scanning
the QR code below:



FLEISVANDENBRINK
DESIGN, BUILD, OPERATE



CITY OF BURTON
MICHIGAN

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

Calling all City of Burton Residents -
As a part of the City's 5 Year Park & Recreation Master Plan, we would like to gather your input on the City's recreational facilities with the following survey. Your cooperation in completing this survey by October 1, 2023 will be greatly appreciated and will aid us in this planning effort.

**SCAN THE CODE TO
TAKE THE SURVEY:**



FLEISVANDENBRINK
DESIGN, BUILD, OPERATE

[Below article posted in the Burton View on August 24, 2023](#)



Burton parks and recreation working on 5-year plan *Survey available online for residents to sound off*

BY GARY GOULD
810-452-2650 • GGOULD@MIHOMEPAPER.COM

BURTON — A community survey is available on the city's website seeking public input on the Burton Parks and Recreation Commission's upcoming 5-year master plan.

Lisa Easterwood of Fleis & Vanderbrink, a civil engineering and architecture firm, gave a presentation Aug. 10 at the parks and recreation commission meeting in which she outlined the timeline for the master plan process.

She was involved with the previous 5-year plan and was instrumental in helping the parks commission with the Department of Natural Resources grant for the boardwalk at Kelly Lake several years ago. Easterwood said the online survey was posted Monday, Aug. 14 on the city's website. It is also available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Burton2023Parks.

All Burton residents are encouraged to take the survey and give their input. "The survey is going to run, basically, all through the month of September," she said. "In October, we're going to be assembling all that data and putting the plan in draft form." Easterwood said on Nov. 6 the city council will announce at its meeting the draft plan is available for review. She added the city must allow at least a 30-day public review period before approving the plan allowing the public to see it on the website and to make comments or suggestions. The parks and recreation commission could follow up with its own announcement at its meeting Nov. 9.

"On Oct. 11 I'll be here to go over all the data we collected and at that meeting the commission is expected to talk about goals and objectives," Easterwood said. "The draft plan will be finished in October, with the review process open from through November until Dec. 13."

On Dec. 13, she said the parks and recreation commission would make its recommendation to the city council to approve the 5-year plan.

A public hearing will need to be held at the Dec. 13 meeting to allow public comment on the plan before it is approved by the council.

"At the public hearing, the public comment needs to take place before the governing body takes action," Easterwood said. "The reason I moved that public hearing up to have it at your meeting is in case anybody does have a public comment that affects the plan we have the ability to revise it before it goes to city council."

Revisions can also be made by the city council if they make the changes as part of the motion to approve.

The council would adopt the plan, officially, at its Dec. 18 meeting. Dec. 19-22 it will be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources, she said.

The deadline to have it submitted to the DNR is Feb. 1.

The Burton Parks and Recreation will hold an interactive workshop Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. at city hall, 4303 S. Center Rd., to discuss the 5-year parks and recreation master plan.

A survey regarding the Burton Parks and Recreation 5-year master plan is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Burton2023Parks. The public is encouraged to take the survey and give its input regarding the future of Burton's parks and recreation program.

[Below article posted in the Burton View on September 21, 2023](#)

Public invited to attend Burton parks and recreation workshop *Commission to discuss 5-year plan including events and activities*

BY GARY GOULD
810-452-2650 • GGOULD@MIHOMEPAPER.COM

BURTON — The Burton Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a public workshop to discuss the community's wants and needs for the city's park system, Sept. 28.

The workshop is open to the public to attend and take part in discussion about the city's parks and recreation offerings — from parks facilities to programs and events.

The meeting will be next Thursday from 6-7:30 p.m. in the community room at the Burton Police Department, 4090 Manor Dr.

Lisa Easterwood of Fleis & Vanderbrink, a civil engineering and architecture firm, discussed the upcoming meeting with the parks and recreation commission at its Sept. 13 regular meeting. She said 48 residents have already responded to the city's survey about parks and recreation which is still available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Burton2023Parks.

There is still time for people to complete online and it will be available at the workshop to fill out.

Easterwood said there are numerous ways to conduct the workshop, adding it's not going to be formal. There will be tables to sit at so attendees can interact more and they will be provided with an outline of topics. "The outcome of this workshop is going to be information to help you make decisions going forward," said Easterwood. "If you guys feel this isn't going to give you good data then let me know and we can come up with something else." She said she's broken the workshop out into exercises, one being programs and events, and depends largely on how many people attend the workshop if they'll be able to break out into groups. The groups will be given a list of the events the city currently has and will ask what of those events the groups attend. They will also be asked if they have any thoughts on improving those events; strengths and weaknesses; as well as an opportunity for new events or additions to existing events. The committee will ask questions on events and programming and receive feedback from the public.

"We can always use comments and feedback," said Commission Chairman Jeremy Scharrer. "If we know there's a want out there then we can move forward with doing that."

Easterwood said if there's a want and the parks board can look into making it happen or leave things as they are if the suggestion is not feasible.

"Maybe it's something we'd someday like to have," said Commissioner Deb Walton. "But right now we don't have enough volunteers."

Commissioner Jim Craig called the plan "aspirational" adding there might be some programs parks and recreation could add by partnering with another entity, one of the schools perhaps. Referring to some of the 48 responses to the questionnaire already received, Easterwood said there are concerns about a lack of recreational activities in Burton, as well as about many not having transportation — even pathways and sidewalks in some cases — to get to them. Easterwood said the committee needs to share the information it gathers from the workshop with the city council and administration where decisions about such things are made. "A lot of these issues or concerns about the lack of recreation and pathways and sidewalks is infrastructure," she said. "That's why it's important that the mayor, the DPW director and the council be involved in this process and attend this workshop." Easterwood said Mayor Duane Haskins and anyone else who makes decisions about parks and recreation should have access to the findings of the survey and workshop and the issues with infrastructure should be communicated to them. "You, as a commission, are kind of the lifeline to these types of comments," she said. "You should make sure the council is aware of them." The city council will ultimately see and approve the plan when it is completed, so they will likely review it before making their decision, Easterwood said. Easterwood said on Nov. 6 the city council will announce at its meeting the draft plan is available for review.

She added the city must allow at least a 30-day public review period before approving the plan allowing the public to see it on the website and to make comments or suggestions. The parks and recreation commission could follow up with its own announcement at its meeting Nov. 9.

Below posted in the Burton View on September 21, 2023 and October 4, 2023

BURTON — A survey regarding the Burton Parks and Recreation 5-year master plan is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Burton2023Parks. The public is encouraged to take the survey and give its input regarding the future of Burton’s parks and recreation program. The Burton Parks and Recreation will hold an interactive workshop Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. at city hall, 4303 S. Center Rd., to discuss the 5-year parks and recreation master plan. — G.G.

30 Day review public hearing notice on City website and burton view

Insert here.

Public Hearing Notice notice

Insert here.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives represent the purpose for a community's role in providing recreation to its residents as well as outlining the direction that the community's effort should take in the long term. The following goals and objectives were developed by the Parks and Recreation Commission through careful review and analysis of various sources of data. These sources of data included **community characteristics, future land use and demographics**, results of the **community survey and public workshop activities**, a comparison of the City to **national standards for parks and recreation**, the **county's regional trail plan**, and **local group initiatives**. The goals and objectives outlined below were largely, yet not entirely, based on comments from the public. Other factors such as available funding for projects, particularly those most desired by the community, and projects already set into motion in adjoining communities were also highly considered. There was also discussion of how the Commission and Parks Director can collaborate with schools, local groups, and private providers to meet the recreation demands of the community. These goals and objectives are not listed in any particular order of hierarchy or importance.

GOAL NO. 1) Continue to improve upon existing parks to better serve the recreational needs of the community for safe, economical, accessible, fun, and educational opportunities to residents of all ages and abilities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Pursue opportunities to develop and expand on Settlement Park for recreational uses and serve as a safe, accessible neighborhood park to those residents in the southern portion of the community.
- Kelly Lake Park: Develop more nature trails, accessible walkways and observation areas in and around the wetlands that connect to the existing boardwalk and pathway, improve park signage, new sustainable restrooms, improve security, add way finding and interpretive signage, benches, water fountain, and work out stations. Improve general maintenance.
- Veteran's Memorial Park: General maintenance to include repair and expansion of walls for more name markers. Add shade structure.
- Fire Station #1 - Water Tower Park – replace play structure.
- Continued maintenance at all parks. Establish a procedure/policy for monitoring and implementing maintenance at each park as needed.

GOAL NO. 2)

Develop a system of non-motorized recreational trail and transportation networks that will safely link the City's residential areas with schools, parks, commercial areas, and adjacent communities.

OBJECTIVES:

- Continue supporting the Burton Trail Committee which focuses strictly on development and advocacy of non-motorized trails and pathways, and waterways within the City and adjoining communities. This Committee reports current activities to the Commission at monthly meetings.
- Seek out funding for acquisition and/or development of the priority pathway routes identified in this plan. The number one priority route identified is the Iron Belle Trail (aka: extension of the Grand Traverse Greenway) connecting the City of Flint and Grand Blanc Township, through the City of Burton.
- Consider ways to increase walkability and ADA accessibility throughout the City. Perhaps by increased enforcement of sidewalk placement, and implementing a complete streets policy for new infrastructure projects.
- Develop a detailed non-motorized pathway plan to identify potential sub connector routes off the primary pathway routes (more specifically the Iron Belle Trail Route and Pathway No. 2) that connect neighborhoods, recreation, commercial venues, and adjoining communities by way of pathways, sidewalks, and bike lanes incorporating complete streets policies and universal access methods.
- Consider collaboration with schools to participate in the safe routes to school (SR2S) program. (See references in Appendix for SR2S contacts.)
- The City will continue to actively pursue acquisition and/or use easements on privately owned property, whenever practical, particularly in areas currently sited for pathway development.

GOAL NO. 3)

Enhance quality of life by expanding on the City's current park system through preservation of open space and development of new facilities in a cost effective manner that are safe, accessible, responsive to the needs of the community, and geographically serve a broader range of residents.

OBJECTIVES:

- Consider land acquisition opportunities to create additional park land and pathway routes, appropriate to City resources, that address the recreational deficiencies and demands as identified in this plan and future studies.

- Investigate opportunities to expand, both geographically and recreationally, on Settlement Park as a linear greenway park along the Thread Creek corridor connecting and partnering with Grand Blanc and City of Flint Communities.
- When land opportunities become available, obtain public feedback to gauge community support and amenity needs specific to the land being considered and prior to developing concepts, cost opinions, and seeking funding.

GOAL NO. 4)

Expand on current programming by coordinating with schools and with other public agencies, private recreational providers, citizens groups, and other organizations to offer a wide range of recreational, educational, and enrichment programs to its residents.

OBJECTIVES:

- Partner with local groups (ie: library, senior center, For-Mar, private organizations, and adjacent communities) by including them in monthly meetings and continued communication with the Park Director.
- Assess programs and events currently offered throughout the region and coordinate and expand on youth and senior programming through the City, schools, and senior center to fill in the gaps based on the needs of residents.
- Research other community plans for ideas related to programs and structure.
- Consider the Commission sponsoring more programs such as the youth league program.

GOALS NO. 5)

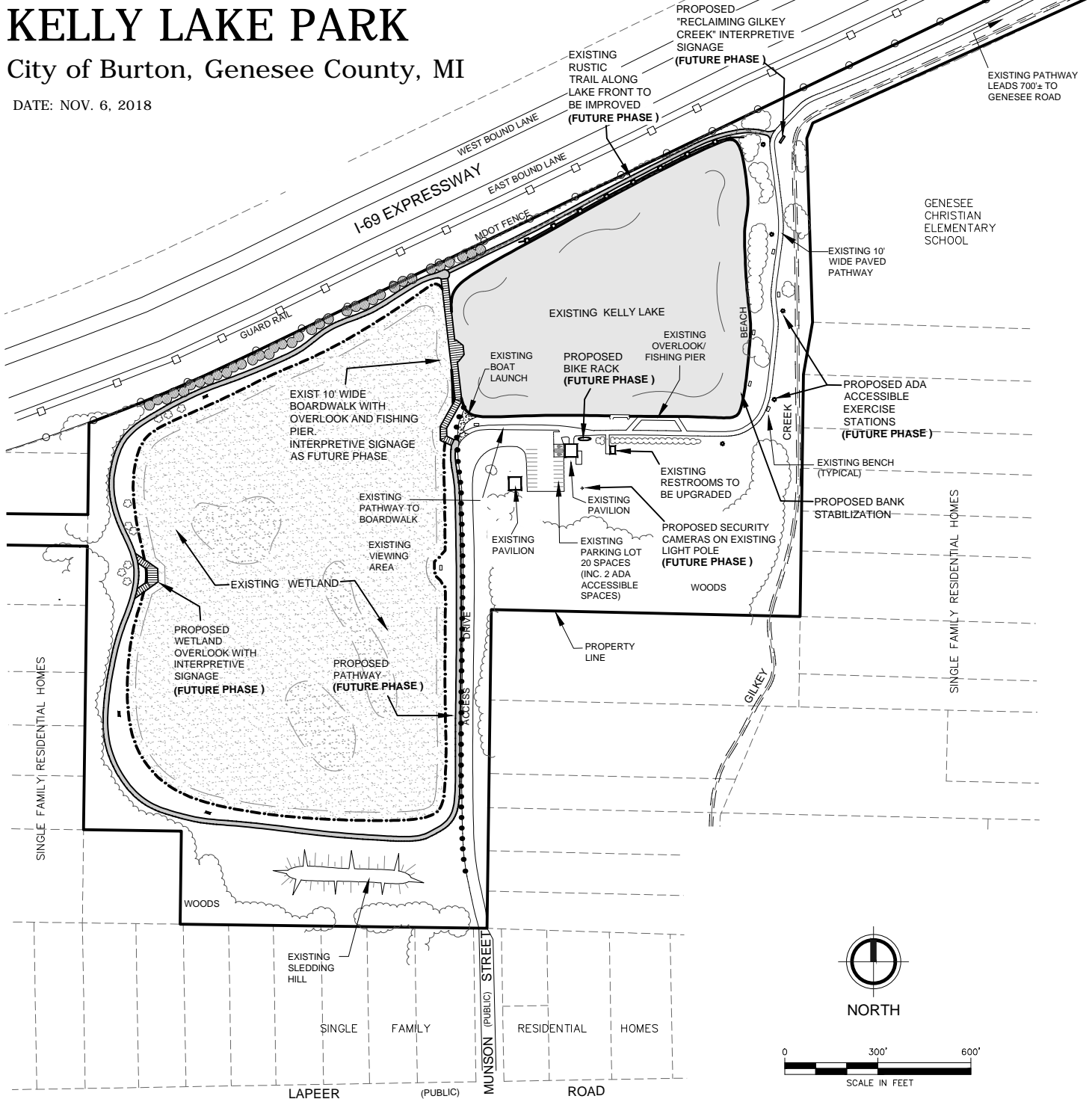
Increase public awareness of the City's park system and programs through marketing that effectively informs residents of opportunities to all ages and lifestyles.

OBJECTIVES:









- The Parks Director shall coordinate with the Public Access Committee to continually update the City's website with current park information including programs and events.
- The Commission shall maintain a presence on social media to inform the community of upcoming events, programs, and projects, as well as obtaining community feedback on these topics.
- Reach out to the chamber of commerce, schools, senior center, library, Kiwanis and rotary groups, and local newspapers and TV stations to post park information through their media venues.
- Establish a protocol for donations making sure they are appropriately recognized.

Conceptual plan of:
KELLY LAKE PARK
 City of Burton, Genesee County, MI

DATE: NOV. 6, 2018



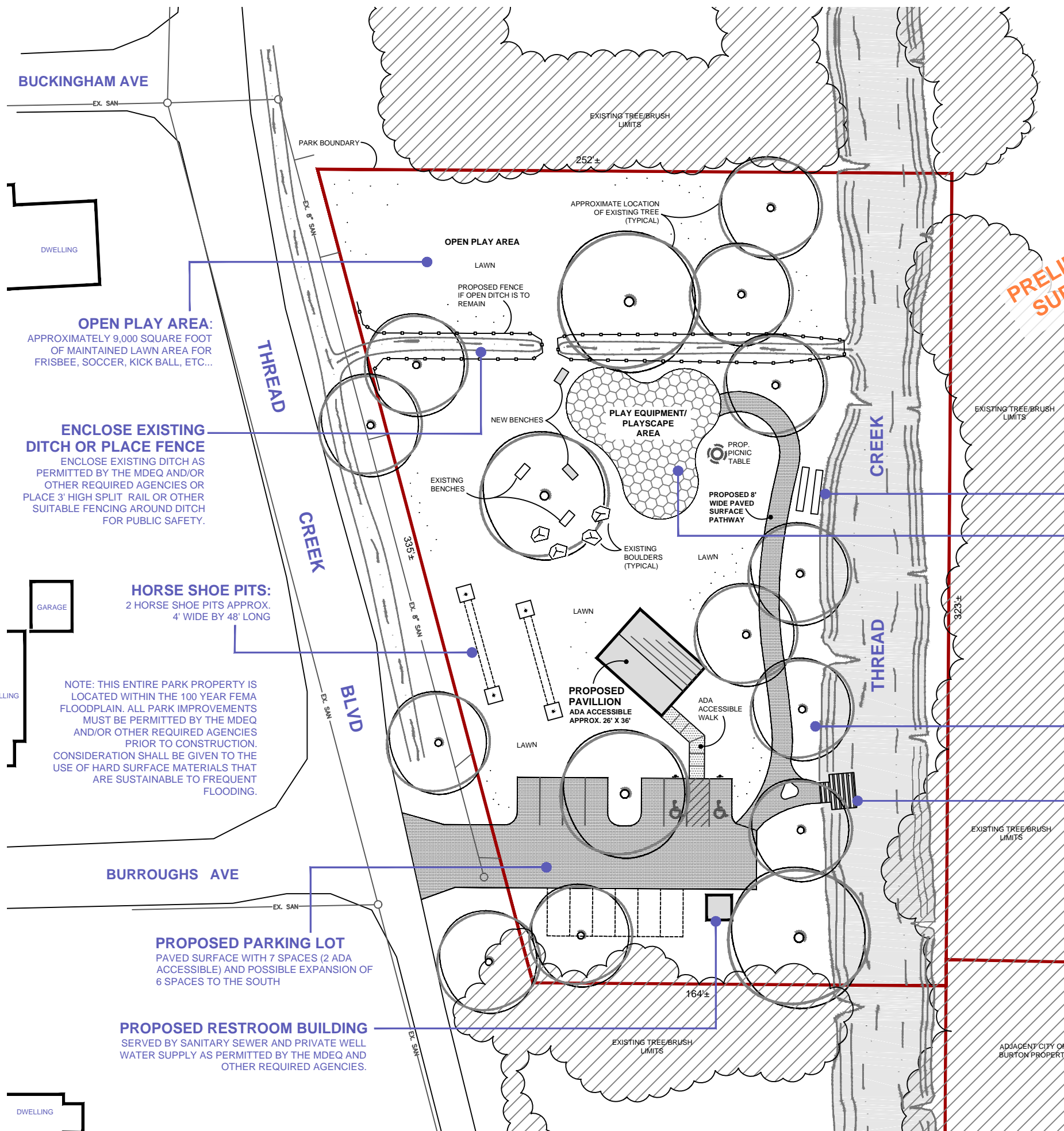
LEGEND

-  PROPOSED NATURE PATHWAY (FUTURE PHASE)
-  EXISTING 10' WIDE BOARD WALK SURFACE
-  PROPOSED BENCH (FUTURE PHASE)
-  PROPOSED ADA ACCESSIBLE EXERCISE STATIONS (FUTURE PHASE)
-  PROPOSED SAFETY RAILING (FUTURE PHASE)
-  PROPOSED WOOD POST BOLLARDS
-  PROPOSED EVERGREEN BARRIER (FUTURE PHASE)
-  EXISTING TREES AND BRUSH LINE

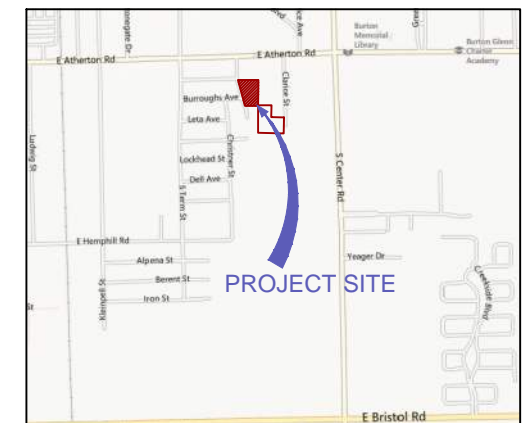
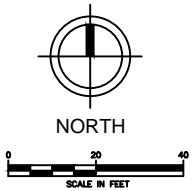
NOTE:
 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS LABELED AS "FUTURE PHASE" ARE SCOPE ITEMS THAT MAY BE PART OF A FUTURE MDNRTF GRANT REQUEST AND/OR LOCAL FUNDING SOURCES AS THESE OPPORTUNITIES BECOME AVAILABLE.

Conceptual plan of: Settlement Park

1.5± ACRES IN SECTION 28, T7N-R7E
DATE: SEPT. 12, 2013



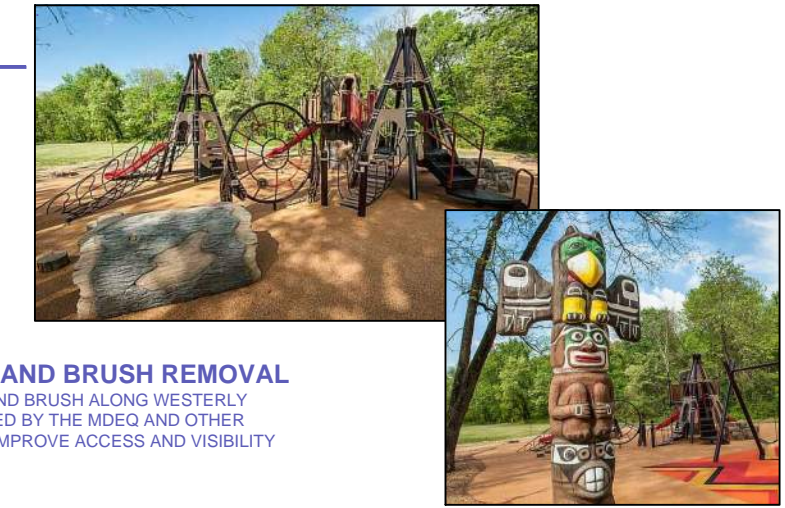
**PRELIMINARY CONCEPT.
SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**



LOCATION MAP
NOT TO SCALE

HAND CARRY CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH
PLACE HARD SURFACE STEPS OR RAMP TO ACCESS CREEK.

PLAYGROUND/PLAYSCAPE AREA
APPROXIMATELY 2,400 SQUARE FOOT AREA FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT OR PLAYSCAPE STRUCTURE. THE EXAMPLES SHOWN BELOW ARE NATIVE AMERICAN INSPIRED PLAY STRUCTURES IN KEEPING WITH HISTORIC THEME.



SELECTIVE TREE AND BRUSH REMOVAL
CLEAR EXISTING TREES AND BRUSH ALONG WESTERLY CREEK BANK AS PERMITTED BY THE MDEQ AND OTHER REQUIRED AGENCIES TO IMPROVE ACCESS AND VISIBILITY OF CREEK.

CREEK OVERLOOK WITH INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
WOODEN CANTILEVERED OVERLOOK, APPROXIMATELY 8' X 10' WITH 3' RAILINGS AND INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE OF POSSIBLE SUBJECTS RELATED TO CREEK HISTORY, PIONEER SETTLERS, NATIVE AMERICANS, FISH SPECIES, WATER SHED PROTECTION, ETC....



NOTES:
1) FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC. HAS NOT REVIEWED THIS PROJECT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, SOIL CONTENT, OR WETLAND LOCATIONS AT THE TIME THIS CONCEPTUAL PLAN WAS DEVELOPED. FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC. CAN PROVIDE THESE TYPES OF SERVICES WHICH WE SUGGEST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO FINAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.
2) THE LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES AND FEATURES DEPICTED ON THIS DRAWING WERE TAKEN FROM INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF BURTON AND OTHER AVAILABLE RECORDS. FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC. IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED.
3) THE PHOTOS SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING REPRESENT VARIOUS TYPES OF AMENITIES THAT COULD BE PLACED FOR THIS PARK. THEY ARE NOT CONSIDERED FINAL DESIGN OR SELECTION AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



Proposed Pathway Map

SYMBOL LEGEND

- EXISTING PATHWAY ROUTES
- - - - - EXISTING BIKE LANE ROUTES
- PROPOSED PRIORITY PATHWAY ROUTES
- POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PATHWAY ROUTES
- PROPOSED PATHWAYS IN ADJACENT COMMUNITIES
- CITY BOUNDARY
- CITY PARKS
- ✱ SCHOOLS
- ▲ OTHER KEY SITES

PATHWAY ROUTE #1 (AKA: IRON BELLE TRAIL)

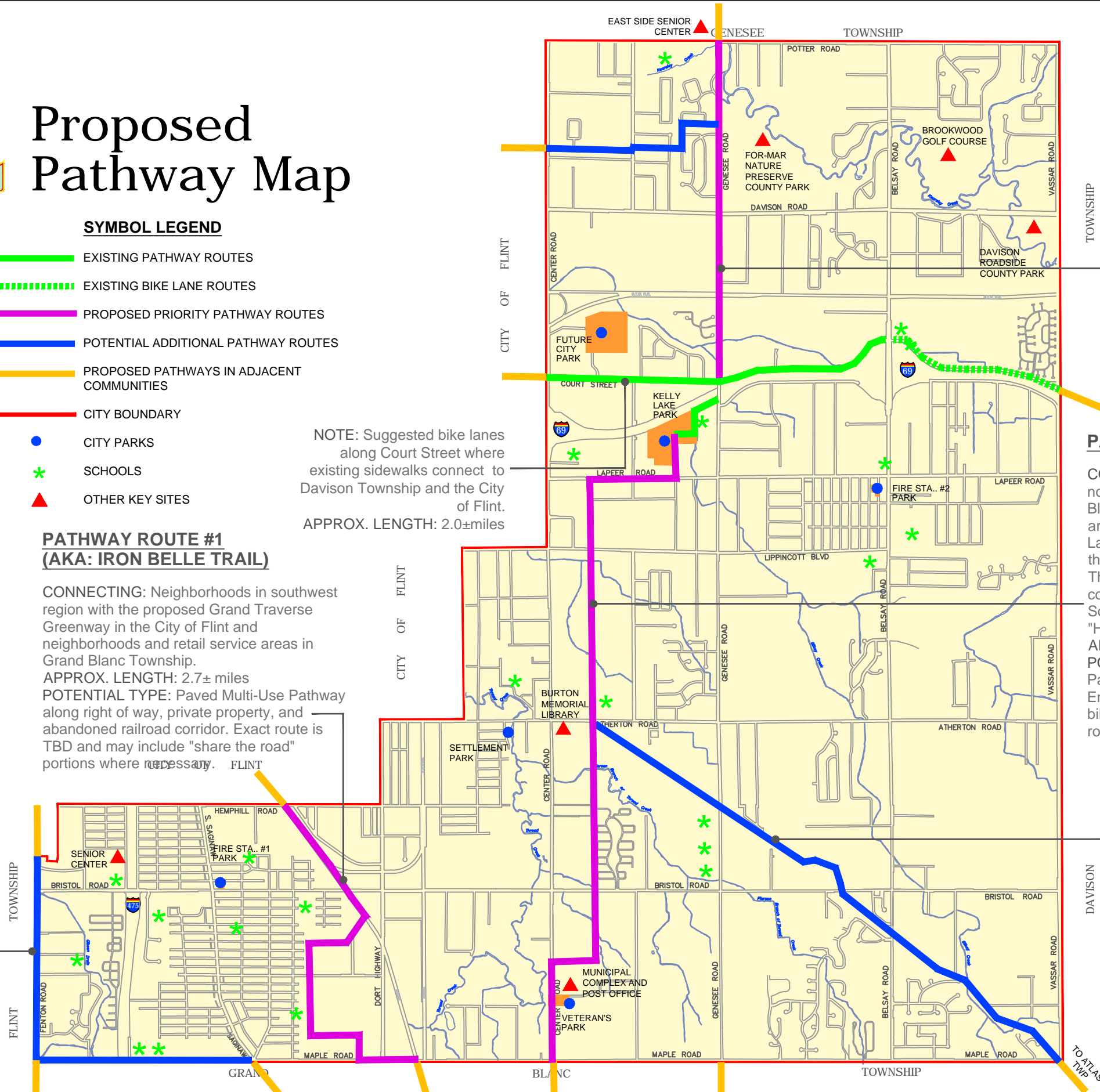
CONNECTING: Neighborhoods in southwest region with the proposed Grand Traverse Greenway in the City of Flint and neighborhoods and retail service areas in Grand Blanc Township.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 2.7± miles
 POTENTIAL TYPE: Paved Multi-Use Pathway along right of way, private property, and abandoned railroad corridor. Exact route is TBD and may include "share the road" portions where necessary.

PATHWAY ROUTE #4

CONNECTING: Neighborhoods in the City of Flint to several Burton schools, senior center, and retail service areas along Fenton Road.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 2.5± miles
 POTENTIAL TYPE: Complete Streets Road Diet with combination of sidewalks and bike lanes.

NOTE: Suggested bike lanes along Court Street where existing sidewalks connect to Davison Township and the City of Flint.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 2.0±miles

PRELIMINARY CONCEPT.
SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



PATHWAY ROUTE #2

CONNECTING: Neighborhoods at the north end of the City and Genesee Township with Kelly Lake Park, major retail service areas along Court Street, and the future 40 acre community park.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 2.0± miles
 POTENTIAL TYPE: Paved Multi-Use Pathway or combination of sidewalks and bike lanes.

PATHWAY ROUTE #3

CONNECTING: Neighborhoods in the north and south regions, including Grand Blanc Township to major retail service areas along Center Road, as well as Kelly Lake Park, Veterans Memorial Park and the municipal center and post office. The northerly portion of this route is considered part of the "Trolley Line Trail - South" that will ultimately lead to the "Heritage Trail" in Clarkston.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 4.3±miles
 POTENTIAL TYPE: Paved Multi-use Pathway, mostly located within Consumers Energy right-of-way. Some sidewalks and bike lanes may be warranted along this route.

PATHWAY ROUTE #5

CONNECTING: Neighborhoods of the the southeast region and Atlas Township/Goodrich with Atherton High School/Middle School Complex and major retail areas on Center Road. This route is considered part of the "Trolley Line Trail - South" that will ultimately lead to the "Heritage Trail" in Clarkston.
 APPROX. LENGTH: 3.5± miles
 POTENTIAL TYPE: Paved Multi-use Pathway along Consumers Energy Corridor.

BASE MAP PROVIDED BY CITY OF BURTON. PROPOSED ROUTES ARE DERIVED FROM THE 2007 GENESSEE REGIONAL TRAIL PLAN AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP.

PROPOSED PATHWAY MAP

OVERLOOK / OBSERVATION DECKS
 ALSO SERVE AS OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS. EACH LOCATION
 TO INCLUDE INTERPRETIVE / EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE
 RELATED TO WILDLIFE, PLANT LIFE, GILKEY CREEK, ETC...



SPLASH PAD WATER FEATURE
 WITH SOFT PLAY SURFACE. BENCHES, AND UMBRELLA
 TABLES AROUND PERIMETER



JEFFERSON RD
 PRIVATE

SYMBOL LEGEND

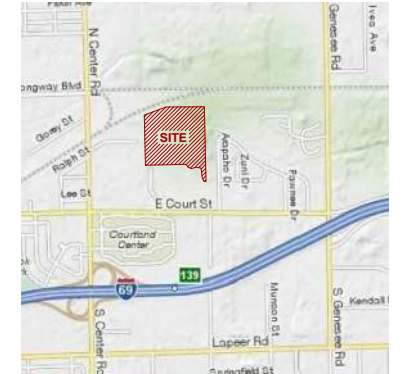
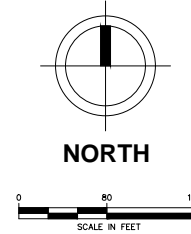
- 10' WIDE PAVED MULTI-USE PATHWAY
- NATURE PATH
- PAVILION / PICNIC AREAS
- FITNESS/EXERCISE STATIONS
- OBSERVATION AREAS
- DRAINAGE DITCH OR CREEK
- 100' YEAR FLOODPLAIN
- TOP OF STEEP BANK

OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER
 CONSTRUCTED WITHIN EXISTING SLOPE. PRESERVE
 RANDOM TREES WITHOUT COMPROMISING VIEWS



Conceptual plan of proposed Burton City Park

37± ACRES IN SECTION 10, T7N-R7E



LOCATION MAP
 NOT TO SCALE

NATURE POND / WETLAND BOG
 0.75± ACRE WATER FEATURE. COULD SERVE AS
 ICE SKATING RINK IN WINTER MONTHS. INCLUDE A
 NATURE PATH AROUND PERIMETER

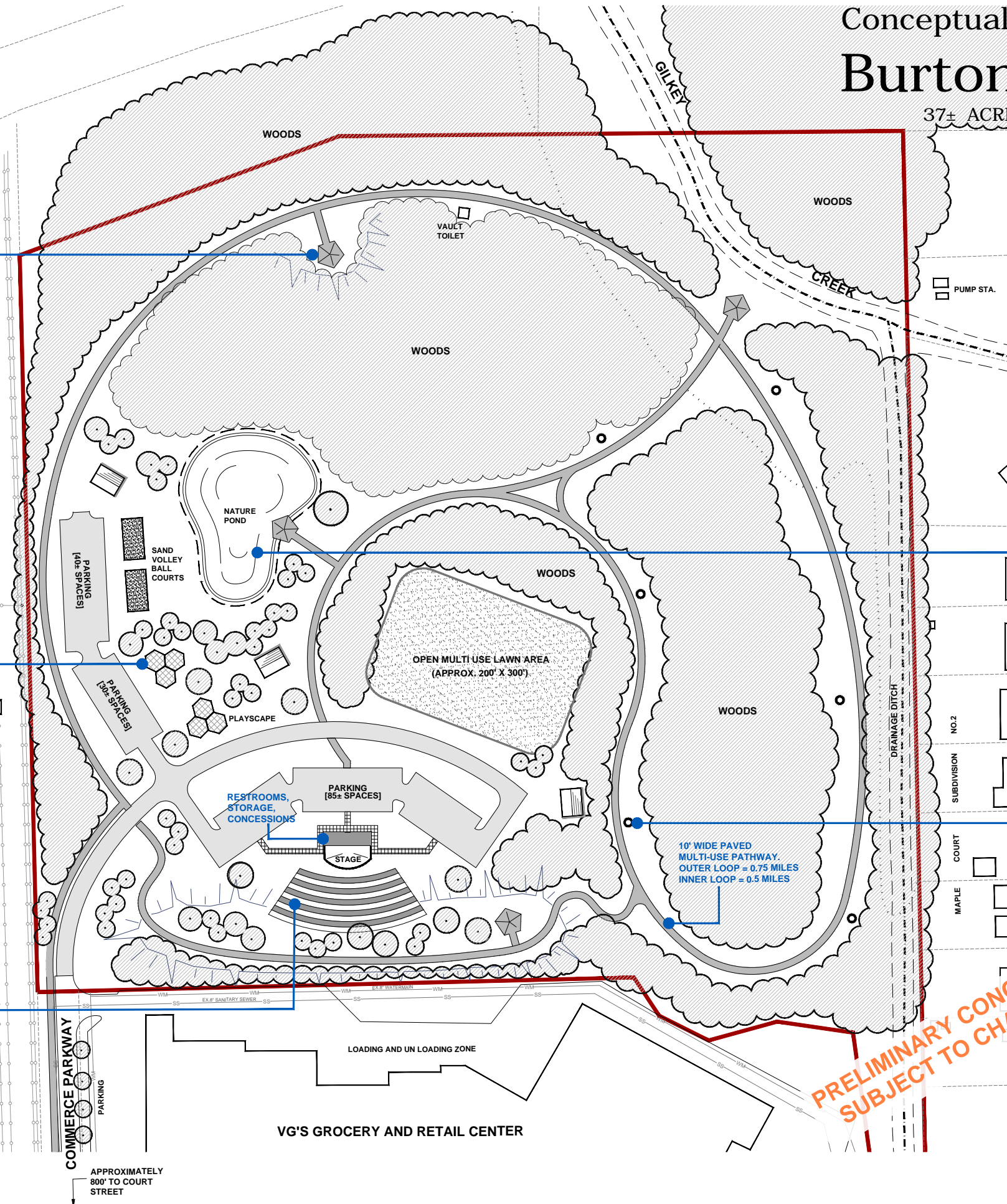


LIFE TRAIL FITNESS STATIONS
 PLACED ALONG PATHWAY LOOP



**PRELIMINARY CONCEPT.
 SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

- NOTES:
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Action Program Rational

A variety of factors, including community characteristics, population trends, existing recreation facilities, and identified recreation needs contribute to the formulation of specific recommendations for plan implementation. These specific recommendations represent the actions that can be undertaken to achieve the objectives that have been directed towards a community's recreation goals. These recommended actions also represent the substance and purpose of a recreation plan - the development of a strategy for effectively closing the gap between existing recreation opportunities and recreation needs. Three general statements can be made related to the City of Burton. 1) All City owned parks are in need of some form of improvements, Kelly Lake being rated the highest used 2) Developing pathway networks was rated highest amongst its residents, with a strong focus toward the Iron belle Trail, nature trails and sidewalk development and 3) Address the rising demand for recreation by developing new parks that serve broader areas of the City.

The following recommendations and capital improvement schedule outlines and assigns relative priorities to activities and projects that can be implemented in both the short-term and long-range future to improve recreational opportunities in the City of Burton. Those activities and projects that can be undertaken during the five-year planning period (2024-2029) have been summarized in the following Capital Improvement Program Schedule. This schedule may include projected costs as well as possible funding sources for each suggested project.

While these projects are recommended for implementation during the planning period, they are highly dependent upon financial and administrative feasibility. It is also suggested that the City take advantage of any unscheduled opportunities that may arise (i.e. unexpected funding or acquisition, neighboring community projects, etc...). Such opportunities can be evaluated and included in this plan as an amendment to the schedule.

Five Year Capital Improvement Schedule

The following schedule is a 5 year guide of various projects and tasks that coincide with the identified goals and objectives. These items are not listed in any particular order but are broken into years. There are any number of reasons these projects and tasks might need adjustment. For example, as funding programs become available. This is a living document that needs to be flexible and fluid with the City's changing needs. All cost projections are approximate and must be re-evaluated as projects progress into design and development stages.

Year 2024					
Project or Task	Champion of Project or Task	Approx. Projected Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Comments	Applicable Goal
Establish a Non-Motorized Transportation Sub Committee Representatives of various City Departments, commissions, and boards	Dept Public Works P&R Director P&R Commission	None	N/A	Established to assist with implementation of new policies, ordinances, and planning related to trails and sidewalks and complete streets in general, as well as assisting with non-motorized trail development, as needed	2
Apply for Funding for Iron Bell Trail Construction	Dept Public Works P & R Director NMT Sub Committee (see above)	\$5,000±	General Fund	This application would likely be for an MDNR Trust Fund grant to help fund construction of the IBT. The Maximum funding request is \$350,000 with a required min. 25% local match. A LWCF grant is another option at \$500,000 max. with a 50% local match .	2,3
Iron Belle Trail Design	Dept Public Works NMT Sub Committee	Approx. \$300,000± to \$350,000	General Fund GCMPC	Construction already ear marked through MDOT Transportation Alternatives Program which will likely fund most of construction. Design fees to be determined and being funded by local match dollars and/or other sources	2,3
Implement a Park Maintenance Strategy (for park features as they currently exist. Not new projects)	P&R Director P&R Commission Dept Public Works	TBD	N/A	identify a strategy to ensure parks are safe and well maintained and current problems identified in this plan are taken care in a timely manner. Identify maintenance -vs- improvement projects	1
General Park Maintenance On-going	P&R Director Dept Public Works	Based on need	General Fund	General park maintenance from strategy identified above. Does not include major park improvement projects.	1

<p>Park Improvement Project #1 Concept with cost estimate</p>	<p>P&R Director P&R Commission</p>	<p>\$3,000 to \$10,000 depending on location</p>	<p>P&R Fund General Fund</p>	<p>This task should include a public input component. There are several park improvement projects and new opportunities that will require an updated or new park concept. The Director and Commission shall determine which location is most appropriate for Park Project #1</p>	<p>1,3,5</p>
<p>Assessment of Current Programming & Events (on-going)</p>	<p>P&R Director P&R Commission</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Invite partners and organizations identified in this plan to participate in a discussion specifically about programming and events. Asses what programs and events require additional marketing to gain more attendance and ensure greater success. Collaborate with appropriate organizations so that P&R isn't bearing the full burden of expanded programming and events</p>	<p>4,5</p>
<p>Public Awareness Initiative (on-going)</p>	<p>P&R Director Public Access Committee</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>DDA Veterans Rotary Kiwanis</p>	<p>Reach out to community partners that have a vested interest in park project #1 and may assist with funding, volunteering, and/or donations through a public campaign.</p>	<p>5</p>

Year 2025

Project or Task	Champion of Project or Task	Approx. Projected Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Comments	Applicable Goal
Iron Belle Trail Construction	Dept Public Works NMT Sub Committee	\$1.5 million	MDOT TAP Local Match	Construction already ear marked through MDOT Transportation Alternatives Program for 2025 construction. Design fees to be determined and being funded by local match dollars or other sources	2,3
Apply for Funding for Park Project #1	P&R Director P&R Commission	\$5,000± Depending on grant	General Fund P&R fund	Potential grants to apply for include: MDNR Trust Fund, Recreation Passport Land Water Conservation Fund, Community Foundation of Greater Flint	1
Implementation of a Complete streets policy	Dept Public Works NMT Committee	None	N/A	The NMT Committee to review current policies related to sidewalks and be the champion for changes that will enforce improved walkability though out the City. Refer to the Michigan Complete Street Advisory Council for assistance.	2
General Park Maintenance On-going	P&R Director Dept Public Works	Based on need	General Fund	General park maintenance from strategy identified above. Does not include major park improvement projects.	1
Assessment of Current Programming & Events (on-going)	P&R Director P&R Commission	None	N/A	Research programs offered in nearby communities and identify what ones might be a good addition to Burton residents. Continue to collaborate with appropriate organizations so that P&R isn't bearing the full burden of expanded programming	4,5
Public Awareness Initiative (on-going)	P&R Director w/ assistance of P&R Commission	None	N/A	Continue to post events and program announcements on social media and city website including progress of the IBT project. Look at other outlets to post on their social media and websites, such as schools and senior center and adjoining communities	5

Year 2026

Project or Task	Champion of Project or Task	Approx. Projected Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Comments	Applicable Goal
Design of Park Project #1	P&R Director P&R Commission	TBD	General Fund MDNR TF Rec Passport LWCF CFGF	Once grant funds are awarded - complete design and bidding for 2027 construction	1
Planning for Non-Motorized transportation project - Phase 2	Dept Public Works NMT Sub Committee P&R Director P&R Commission	TBD	General Fund P&R Fund	Trail scoping for new trail project (phase 2) which may be: Connectors to the IBT or Pathway route #2 as shown on plan. This project should include a public input component	1,2,5
General Park Maintenance On-going	P&R Director Dept Public Works	Based on need	General Fund	General park maintenance from strategy identified above. Does not include major park improvement projects.	1
Assessment of Current Programming & Events (on-going)	P&R Director P&R Commission	None	N/A	Assess programs and events for any changes. Continue to collaborate with appropriate organizations so that P&R isn't bearing the full burden of expanded programming and events	4,5
Public Awareness Initiative (on-going)	P&R Director w/ assistance of P&R Commission	None	N/A	Develop new IBT promotion campaign: Ribbon cutting, programming and events related to the trail.	5

Year 2027

Project or Task	Champion of Project or Task	Approx. Projected Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Comments	Applicable Goal
Construction of Park Project #1	P&R Director P&R Commission	TBD	General Fund MDNR TF Rec Passport LWCF CFGF	Typically park projects are constructed in one year. Most grantors allow a project cycle of 2 years from award to design to completion but will allow extensions if necessary.	1
Planning for Non-Motorized transportation project - Phase 2	Dept Public Works NMT Sub Committee P&R Director P&R Commission	TBD	General Fund P&R Fund	Trail scoping for new trail project (phase 2) which may be: Connectors to the IBT or Pathway route #2 as shown on plan. This project should include a public input component	1,2,5
Park Project #2 Concept with cost estimate	P&R Director P&R Commission	\$3,000 to \$10,000 depending on location	P&R Fund General Fund	This task should include a public input component. There are several parks and opportunities that will require an updated or new park concept. The Director and Commission shall determine which location is most appropriate	1,3,5
General Park Maintenance On-going	P&R Director Dept Public Works	Based on need	General Fund	General park maintenance from strategy identified above. Does not include major park projects.	1
Assessment of Current Programming & Events (on-going)	P&R Director P&R Commission	None	N/A	Assess programs and events for any changes. Continue to collaborate with appropriate organizations so that P&R isn't bearing the full burden of expanded programming and events	4,5
Public Awareness Initiative (on-going)	P&R Director w/ assistance of P&R Commission	None	N/A	Park project #1 promotion campaign: Ribbon cutting, programming and events related to the park project .	5

Year 2028

Project or Task	Champion of Project or Task	Approx. Projected Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Comments	Applicable Goal
Seek Funding options for Non-Motorized transportation project - Phase 2	Dept Public Works NMT Sub Committee P&R Director P&R Commission	TBD	General Fund P&R Fund	Trail scoping for new trail project (phase 2) which may be: Connectors to the IBT or Pathway route #2 as shown on plan. This project should include a public input component	1,2,5
Apply for Funding for Park Project #2	P&R Director P&R Commission	\$5,000± Depending on grant	General Fund P&R fund	Potential grants to apply for include: MDNR Trust Fund, Recreation Passport Land Water Conservation Fund, Community Foundation of Greater Flint	1
General Park Maintenance On-going	P&R Director Dept Public Works	Based on need	General Fund	General park maintenance from strategy identified above. Does not include major park improvement projects.	1
Assessment of Current Programming & Events (on-going)	P&R Director P&R Commission	None	N/A	Assess programs and events for any changes. Continue to collaborate with appropriate organizations so that P&R isn't bearing the full burden of expanded programming and events	4,5
5 Year Park and Rec plan update	P&R Director P&R Commission	Approx. \$15,000	P&R Fund	Must includes public input and follow the MDNR plan format to be eligible for grants. Plan deadline February 2029	1,2,3,4,5

Financing Mechanisms

The following paragraphs briefly outline existing sources of funds for financing future recreational improvements in the City of Burton.

1. General Funds

The City's general fund has been the primary source of funds for operating and maintaining its current facilities. Future site improvements, acquisition, and development will remain dependent on these tax-supported funds, as will the continued operation and maintenance of these facilities. Consequently, recreation planning has to be coordinated with the yearly budgeting process for the City's general funds.

2. Donations and Gifts

The availability of donated land, labor, equipment, and funds from individuals and organizations is an attractive and effective way to improve recreational opportunities. Over the past few years, several groups and individuals have contributed significantly. Such support should be encouraged to continue.

3. Millage

In an effort to raise matching funds or fund projects with local money, many community leaders have placed ballot proposals before their residents for a dedicated increase in their existing mill property tax to fund park maintenance and repair, including care for new parks and newly acquired parks, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as safety and security improvements. Establishment of a Park Improvement/Development, Maintenance and Repair Millage will assure that parks and facilities will be maintained at the level of quality expected by park users and that new parkland will have adequate amenities.

4. Multi-jurisdictional Funding

One of the primary goals of establishing a trail authority that would include representatives from adjacent communities would be to establish a joint source of funding for acquisition, development and maintenance of multi-jurisdictional trail projects. It is too premature to discuss levels or formulas for financial participation/contribution, but by forming such a coalition, the individual communities will collectively be in a stronger position in seeking future matching grants than if pursuing projects individually.

5. Non-local Financial Assistance

Many communities seek outside sources of funds to supplement their local sources when providing recreational improvements. There are several programs administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) that can provide some financial assistance to local recreation projects. Funding amounts available to communities vary from year to year depending on Federal support and State legislative agendas.

In July of 2012 MDOT's Enhancement Program and the Safe Routes to School Programs, that historically funded non-motorized transportation projects (pedestrian and bicycle), were combined into MDOT's **Transportation Alternatives Programs (TAP)**. This is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options.

Approximately \$23 million is available annually. Of that approximately \$16.5 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by MDOT and \$6.5 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by MPO's in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000. Activities eligible for TAP funding include:

- Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists, including non-motorized paths.
- Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails
- Turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas
- Safe routes for non-drivers
- Environmental mitigation activities/water quality projects
- Historic preservation and rehabilitation of transportation facilities
- Non-motorized amenities that increase usability of non-motorized facilities
- Streetscape improvements in traditional downtowns or historic districts

Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, villages, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, state and federal natural resource or public land agencies, and tribal governments. MDOT may partner with a local agency to apply for funding and implement the project. Other organizations such as townships or trail groups, may work with an eligible agency to apply. Currently, TAP funding requires matching funds of at least 20% of the project cost with higher consideration to projects whose match exceeds the minimum.

The **Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)** is administered by the MDNR. The MNRTF program utilizes the royalties from oil, gas, and other mineral developments on state-owned lands to help finance the acquisition and the development of outdoor recreation facilities. The CMI program is the result of the passage of Proposal C of 1998.

At the time of this plan any unit of government, including school districts, may apply for grants to develop or acquire land(s) for public recreation or resource protection purposes. Application forms are available on February 1 of each year. The application deadlines are April 1 and September 1, of each year. The MDNR submits a list of recommended projects to the legislature the following January and funds are available after legislative appropriation, usually the following fall.

All local units of government must provide a local match of at least 25 percent of total project costs. For **MNRTF development projects**, the minimum funding request is \$15,000, and the maximum is \$300,000. Proposals must be for outdoor recreation or resource protection purposes. Outdoor recreation support buildings and other facilities are eligible for development funding, as is the renovation of existing recreation facilities.

All applicants must have a current DNR-approved community recreation plan, documenting the need for project proposal.

In addition, any private individual may nominate land for **public acquisition** under this program. All nominations are reviewed by the MDNR for possible acquisition and the landowner is not required to be the person nominating a parcel of land for public acquisition. Nomination forms are available at any time from the DNR Recreation Division and may be submitted to the Department year round.

The **Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** program makes money available to the States for land acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities. The objective is to provide grants to local units of government and to the State to acquire and develop land for outdoor recreation.

Applications, which are due no later than April 1 of each year, are evaluated on established criteria including project need, capability of applicant, and site and project quality. At least 50 percent match on either acquisition or development projects is required from local government applicants with a \$30,000 minimum and \$300,000 maximum funding limit. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) makes recommendations to the National Park Service (NPS), which grants final approval. Criteria are spelled out in the "Recreation Grants Selection Process" booklet given to all applicants.

PA 32 of 2010 created the Local Public Recreation Facilities Fund to be used for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Money for this fund is derived from the sale of the **Recreation Passport** which replaces the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) — or window sticker — for state park entrance. The passport will be required for entry to state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites. Ten percent of remaining revenue will

be used to fund the Recreation Passport local grant program. A 25% minimum local match is required for the Passport grant program with a maximum grant amount of \$150,000 as of 2019 (may increase in the future).

The grant program may only be used for local development projects. The program is focused on renovating and improving existing parks, but the development of new parks is eligible. Grant applications are due no later than April 1st of each year.

Organizations with an interest in developing fishing conditions in their areas may be able to get financial assistance from a program established through the **State Game and Fish Protection Fund**.

This fishing development grant is offered through the MDNR and can be as much as \$200,000 annually, in cash or in-kind services. Projects eligible for funding include: culvert modifications for improved stream flow; livestock or sheet erosion control projects; the development of spawning riffles, fish cover structures, or spawning reefs; and the construction of fishing piers and rough fish barriers.

The MDNR accepts grant proposals from organized fishing groups and local units of government. In all cases, projects can approach other sources such as the federal government for additional matching funds.

The **Inland Fisheries Grant Program** offers grants up to \$30,000 for projects that enhance the state's aquatic resources. This program may be applicable to the scenic overlook fishing platforms and educational kiosks.

Waterways Program Grants are funded through the Michigan State Waterways Fund from state marine fuel tax and water craft registrations. By law, administration of the Waterways Program is through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and overseen by the Department's Parks and Recreation Division.

Grants provide funding assistance for design/engineering and construction of public recreational harbor/marina and boating access site/launch facilities throughout the State. Only local units of government (city, village, township, or county) and public universities are eligible. Applicants may collaborate with community/sports organizations in the implementation of projects. On-site investigation by DNR, Parks and Recreation Division staff may be required to determine suitability of proposed work. Applicant may also be required to document area boating demand. Greater priority may be given to projects for which a local applicant documents match capabilities equal to or greater than the percentage of project cost they are required to provide. The local match can include in-kind expenses as long as they are well-documented.

Applications, and all required information, must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., April 1st of each year. If April 1st falls on a weekend, the deadline would be the last State working day prior to April 1st. The application review and funding process for projects is from April 1st until an appropriation is approved by the Legislature. This can take up to 18 to 24 months. Notification of approval for engineering and smaller sized construction projects may occur within six months after completed application form and proper documentation are received. Funding for construction is not released until permits are secured.

The **Historic Preservation Grant Program** is administered by the Department of State with funds made available through the National Park Service of the Department of Interior. The intent of the program is to conduct surveys of architectural, engineering, archaeological, and historic resources, to identify and nominate eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and to plan for the protection of those cultural/recreational resources.

The funds for this program are apportioned by the National Park Service directly to the State, which, in turn, allocates funds on a project-by-project basis to certified local governments, organizations, and individuals.

The City of Burton is committed to review all available funding sources and prepare the necessary plans, reports, cost estimates, and funding applications, to achieve the goals of this recreation plan.

LOCAL ADOPTION

Parks and Recreation Commission Resolution and Meeting Minutes

City Council Resolution and Meeting Minutes

Correspondence

Insert Park & Rec Commission Resolution here

Insert Park & Rec Commission Meeting Minutes here

Insert City Council Resolution here

Insert City Council Meeting Minutes here

December 15, 2023

Derek Bradshaw, Director, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission AND
Executive Director, GLS Region 5 Planning and Development Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502

RE: Draft 2024 City of Burton Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan

Dear Derek:

On behalf of the City of Burton Parks and Recreation Commission, we are pleased to provide you with a draft copy of the 2024 Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan for your review and comment.

This plan will be reviewed at the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on January 10, 2024 at 5:30 pm and at the regular City Council meeting on January 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm, in which you are welcome to attend. Comments may be made directly to the office of Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, Inc., under the attention of Lisa M. Easterwood, Project Manager, at (810) 743-9120 or leasterwood@fveng.com.

Please note all comments must be received by January 15, 2024. Once officially adopted a copy of the final plan will be provided to you for your files.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC.



Lisa M. Easterwood, ASLA, CST
Project Manager

Enclosure (1) Draft 2024 City of Burton Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan on disc

pc: Amy Clous, City of Burton Parks and Recreation Director (via email)
Duane Haskins, Mayor, City of Burton (via email)
File

Appendix

DNR Post Completion Self-Certification Report – Kelly Lake Park

Community Survey Questionnaire and Results

Public Workshop Results

Additional Resources



PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
Post-Completion Self-Certification Report

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: [] MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND [] CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) [] LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND [] RECREATION PASSPORT [] BOND FUND

GRANTEE: _____

PROJECT NUMBER: _____ PROJECT TYPE: _____

PROJECT TITLE: _____

PROJECT SCOPE: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). [] Yes [] No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) [] Yes [] No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [] Yes [] No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. [] Yes [] No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [] Yes [] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [] Yes [] No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

Yes No

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)



POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Please print

Grantee Authorized Signature

Date

Please print

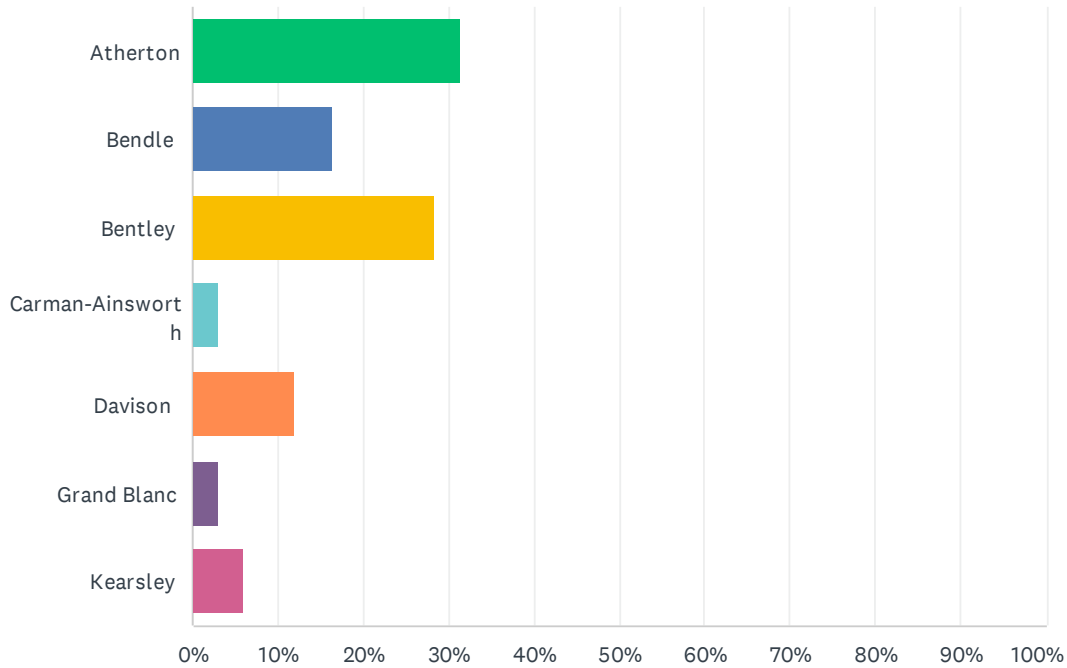
Witness Signature

Date

Please be sure to upload the completed Post Completion Report and plaque photographs to the 5-Year Recreation Plan in MiGrants.

Q1 In what City of Burton School District do you live in?

Answered: 67 Skipped: 1

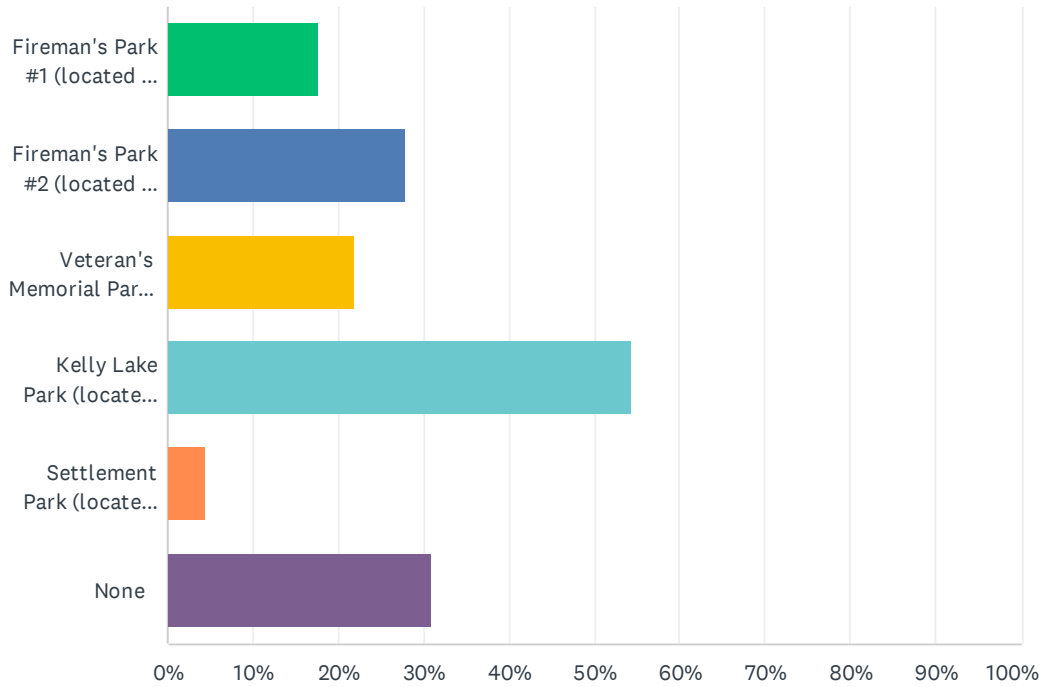


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Atherton	31.34%	21
Bendle	16.42%	11
Bentley	28.36%	19
Carman-Ainsworth	2.99%	2
Davison	11.94%	8
Grand Blanc	2.99%	2
Kearsley	5.97%	4
TOTAL		67

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I do not live in the City but I have worked here for 15 years and spend about 48 hours per week here.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
2	Bendle	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

Q2 Which City of Burton parks does your family visit (please check all that apply)?

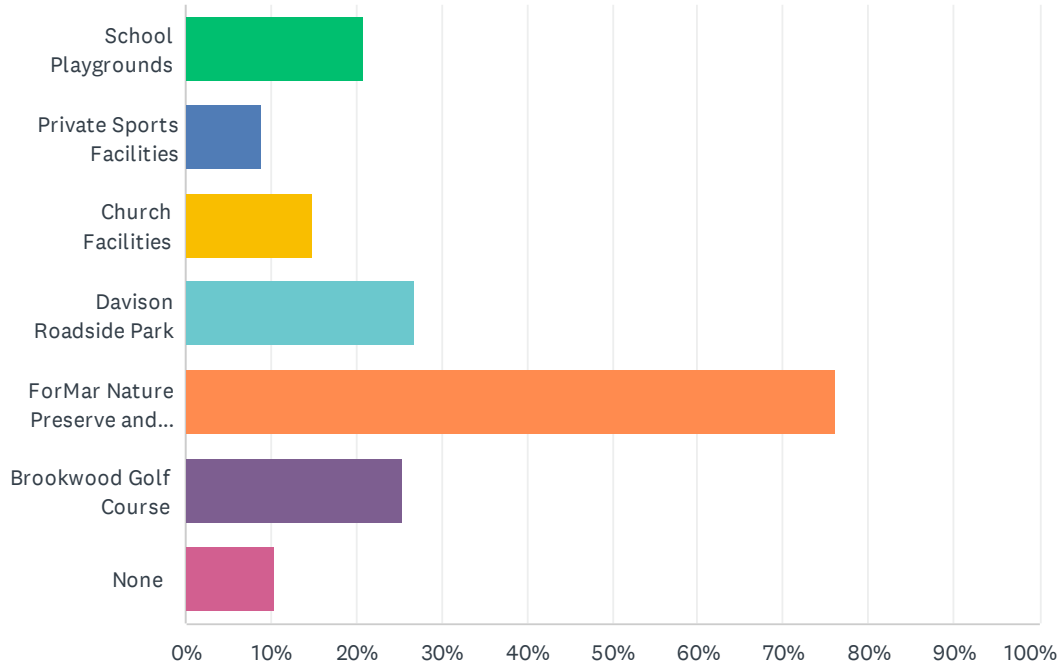
Answered: 68 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fireman's Park #1 (located at Saginaw St. and Bristol Rd.)	17.65%	12
Fireman's Park #2 (located at Lapeer Rd. and Belsay Rd.)	27.94%	19
Veteran's Memorial Park (located across from City Hall)	22.06%	15
Kelly Lake Park (located at Genesee Rd. and I-69)	54.41%	37
Settlement Park (located on Thread Creek Blvd., south of Atherton Rd.)	4.41%	3
None	30.88%	21
Total Respondents: 68		

Q3 What other recreational facilities in Burton does your family visit (please check all that apply)?

Answered: 67 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
School Playgrounds	20.90% 14
Private Sports Facilities	8.96% 6
Church Facilities	14.93% 10
Davison Roadside Park	26.87% 18
ForMar Nature Preserve and Arboretum	76.12% 51
Brookwood Golf Course	25.37% 17
None	10.45% 7
Total Respondents: 67	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Senior Center	9/3/2023 11:06 PM
2	kelly lake park	8/18/2023 8:50 PM
3	None of these but I do occasionally come walk my dogs Downtown (Saginaw St.) on Saturday or Sunday.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
4	Burton Dog Park	8/14/2023 7:19 PM
5	Davison Dog Park	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

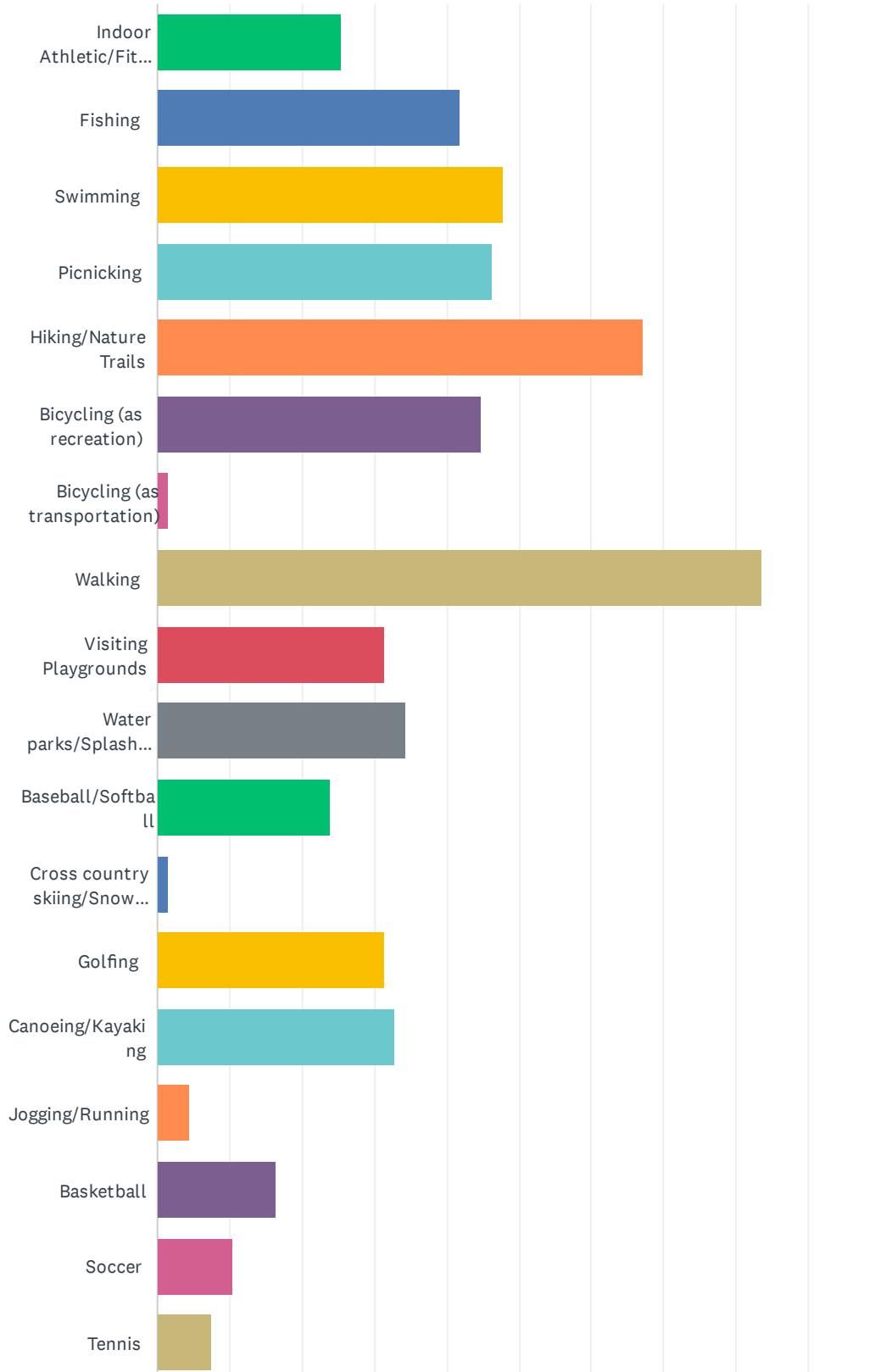
Q4 If you answered "none" to questions 2 and 3, please explain why

Answered: 21 Skipped: 47

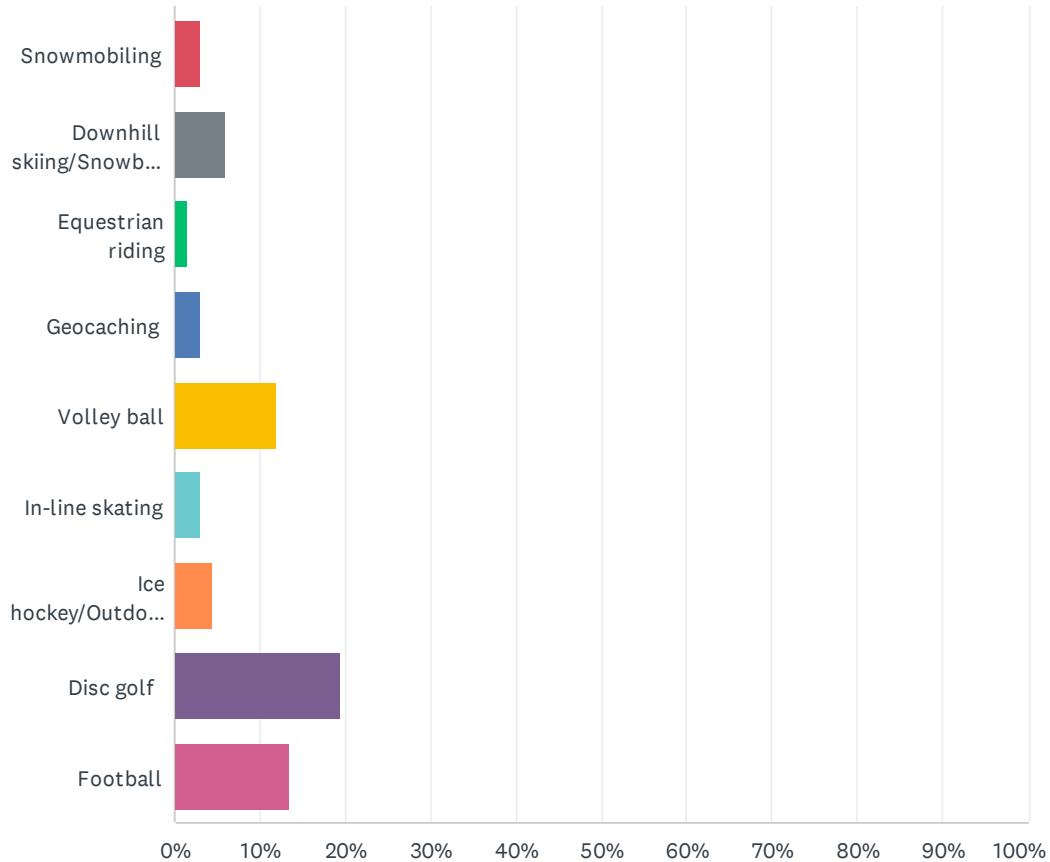
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Na	9/28/2023 2:13 PM
2	No kids acre lot.	9/21/2023 6:51 PM
3	N/A	9/18/2023 3:26 PM
4	Recently moved to area and still not familiar with regional parks.	9/15/2023 6:17 PM
5	Often go to Davison Parks	8/25/2023 7:09 PM
6	There's better places close by	8/24/2023 10:35 PM
7	There is nothing to draw us there.	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
8	kelly lake park needs new restrooms	8/18/2023 8:50 PM
9	They don't provide amenities that appeal to me.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
10	Just no time,	8/14/2023 9:14 AM
11	Not intentionally	8/14/2023 7:55 AM
12	No kids. Not interested in what is offered.	8/13/2023 10:08 PM
13	Have not gone to any others yet .	8/13/2023 9:38 PM
14	N/A	8/13/2023 9:25 PM
15	None	8/13/2023 4:58 PM
16	We are a dog family. It would be great if we could have a little extra small/ small and medium/Large dog park accessible for everyone. A dog community is a good way to get local families and children involved in community activities to others their pets. Communities that are favorable for dogs the children grow up having less anxiety and are kinder people. Stop encouraging bad behavior and drugs in the community. Place a cap on the marijuana production and sales. Thank you for your time.	8/13/2023 4:57 PM
17	No reason to visit them	8/13/2023 4:40 PM
18	Children are older now and there's nothing to do at the parks	8/13/2023 4:17 PM
19	Na	8/13/2023 4:08 PM
20	.	8/13/2023 3:43 PM
21	none	8/11/2023 3:28 PM

Q5 What types of recreational activities does your family participate in (please check all that apply)?

Answered: 67 Skipped: 1



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



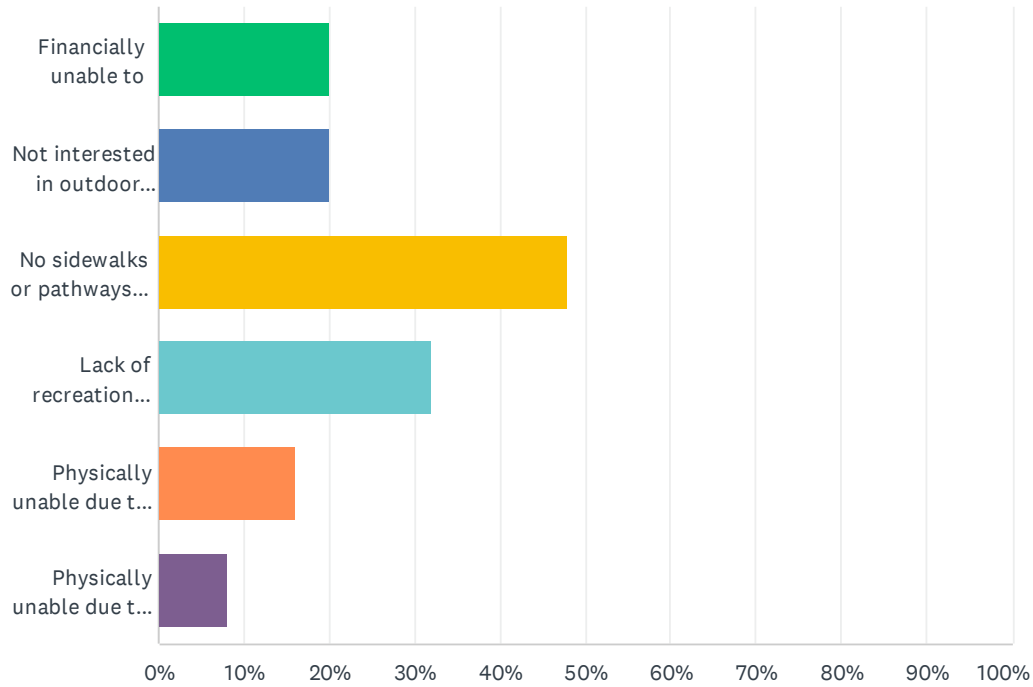
City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Indoor Athletic/Fitness Club	25.37% 17
Fishing	41.79% 28
Swimming	47.76% 32
Picnicking	46.27% 31
Hiking/Nature Trails	67.16% 45
Bicycling (as recreation)	44.78% 30
Bicycling (as transportation)	1.49% 1
Walking	83.58% 56
Visiting Playgrounds	31.34% 21
Water parks/Splash pads	34.33% 23
Baseball/Softball	23.88% 16
Cross country skiing/Snow shoeing	1.49% 1
Golfing	31.34% 21
Canoeing/Kayaking	32.84% 22
Jogging/Running	4.48% 3
Basketball	16.42% 11
Soccer	10.45% 7
Tennis	7.46% 5
Snowmobiling	2.99% 2
Downhill skiing/Snowboarding	5.97% 4
Equestrian riding	1.49% 1
Geocaching	2.99% 2
Volley ball	11.94% 8
In-line skating	2.99% 2
Ice hockey/Outdoor skating	4.48% 3
Disc golf	19.40% 13
Football	13.43% 9
Total Respondents: 67	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Bird watching/train fanning	9/29/2023 11:58 AM
2	Pickleball	8/24/2023 10:35 PM
3	Activities that other dogs. Equestrian would be a fantastic idea as well!!!	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

Q6 For those who do not participate in recreational activities, what prohibits you from doing so?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 43

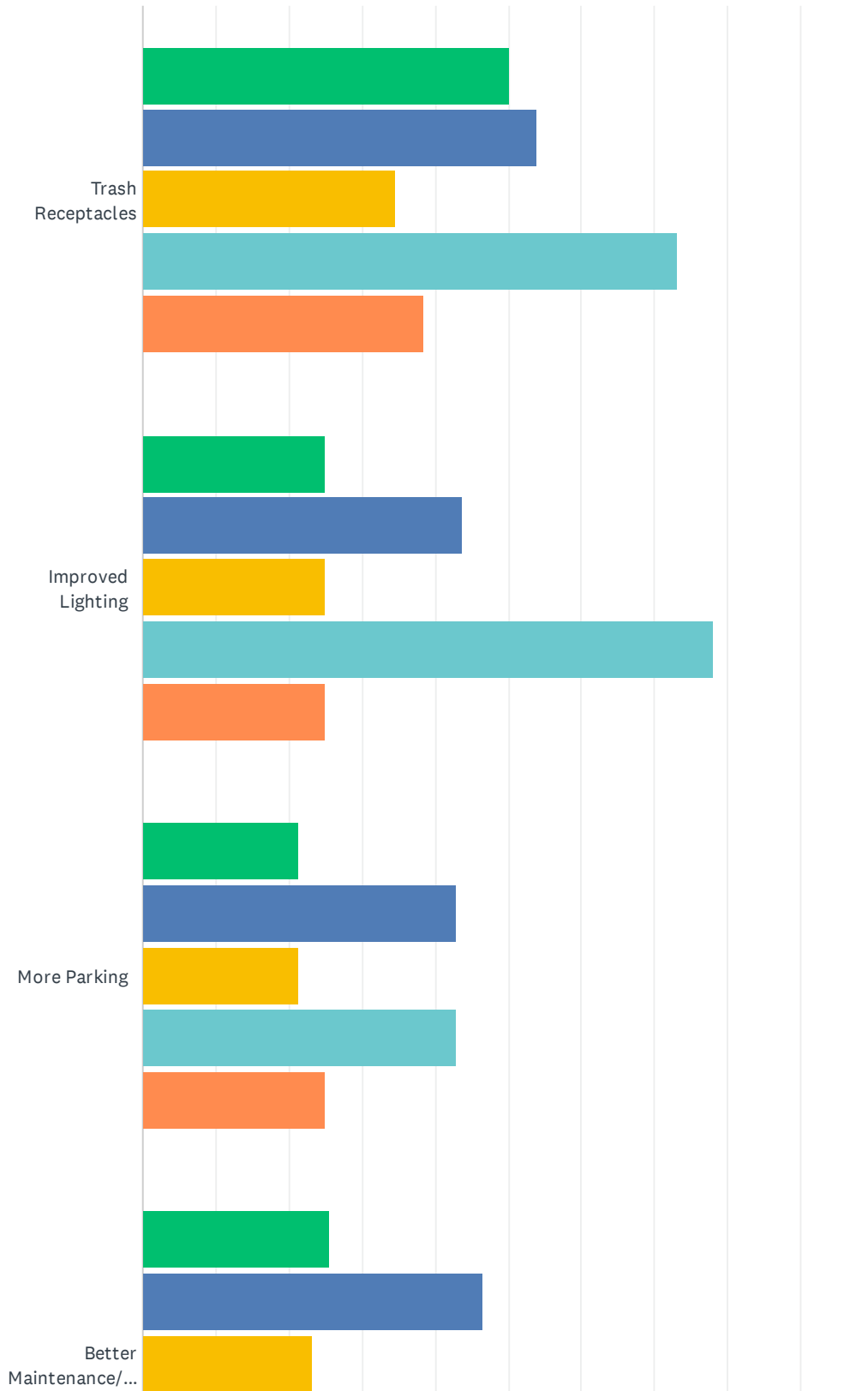


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Financially unable to	20.00% 5
Not interested in outdoor activity	20.00% 5
No sidewalks or pathways near my home	48.00% 12
Lack of recreation options near my home	32.00% 8
Physically unable due to health problems	16.00% 4
Physically unable due to mobility restrictions	8.00% 2
Total Respondents: 25	

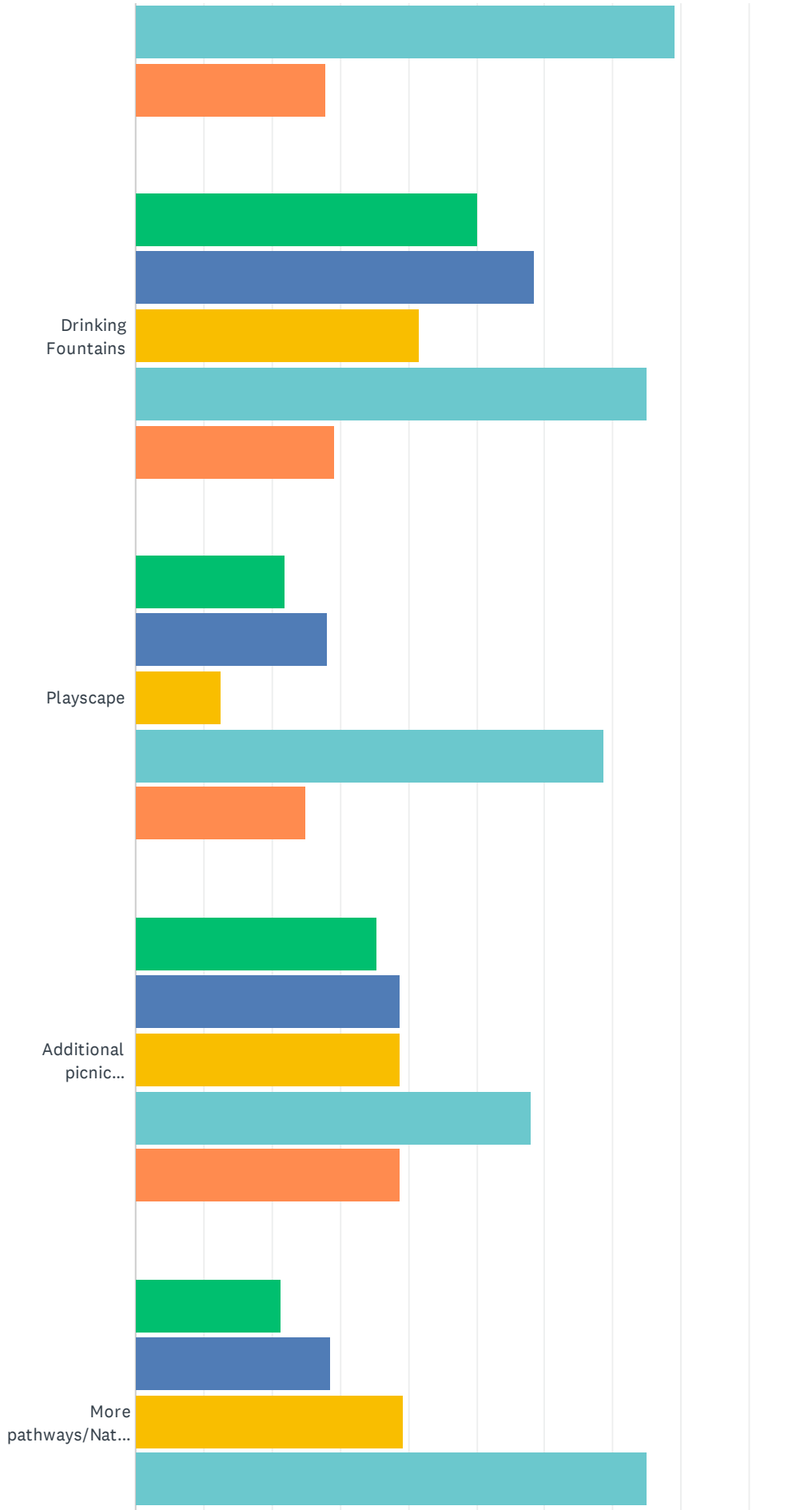
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Nothing keeps us from participation	9/29/2023 12:13 PM
2	NA	9/28/2023 2:13 PM
3	None of the above. Why are you forcing an answer here?	9/21/2023 6:51 PM
4	Na	8/13/2023 9:38 PM
5	N/A	8/13/2023 9:25 PM
6	Working parent schedules are not considered in the community	8/13/2023 4:57 PM
7	We are able	8/13/2023 4:08 PM

Q7 What types of improvements would you like to see at each of the existing City of Burton Parks?

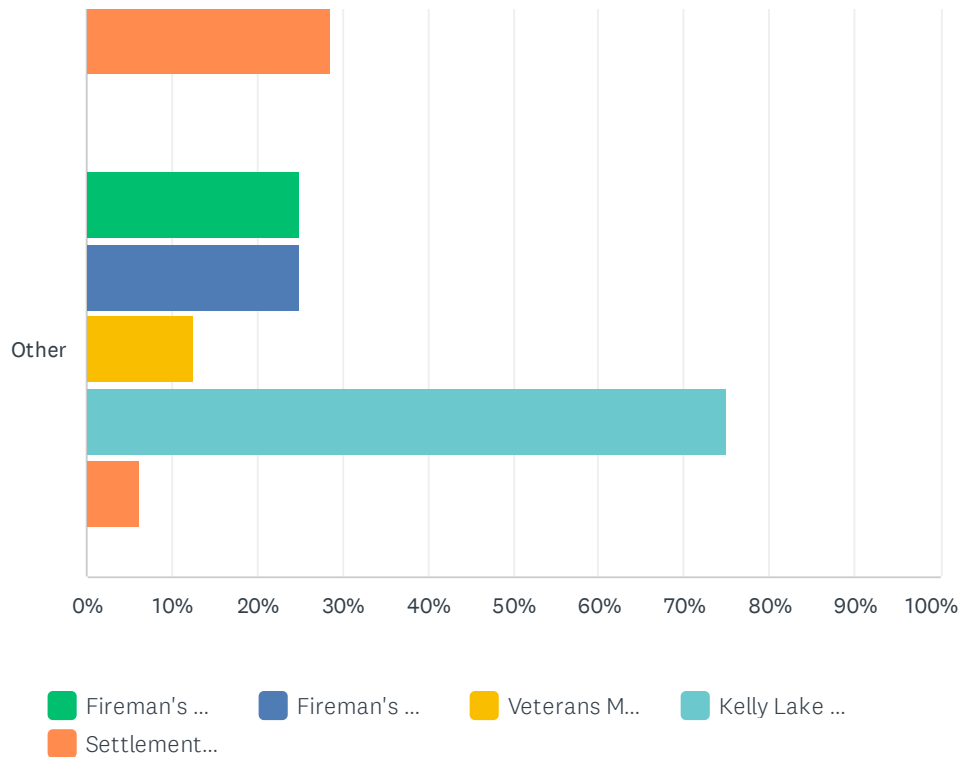
Answered: 51 Skipped: 17



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



	FIREMAN'S PARK #1 (LOCATED AT SAGINAW ST. AND BRISTOL RD.)	FIREMAN'S PARK #2 (LOCATED AT LAPEER RD. AND BELSAY RD.)	VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK (LOCATED OFF CENTER RD. NEXT TO THE POLICE STATION)	KELLY LAKE PARK (LOCATED AT GENESEE RD. AND I-69)	SETTLEMENT PARK (LOCATED ON THREAD CREEK BLVD., SOUTH OF ATHERTON RD.)	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Trash Receptacles	50.00% 13	53.85% 14	34.62% 9	73.08% 19	38.46% 10	26
Improved Lighting	25.00% 8	43.75% 14	25.00% 8	78.13% 25	25.00% 8	32
More Parking	21.43% 6	42.86% 12	21.43% 6	42.86% 12	25.00% 7	28
Better Maintenance/Beautification	25.58% 11	46.51% 20	23.26% 10	79.07% 34	27.91% 12	43
Drinking Fountains	50.00% 12	58.33% 14	41.67% 10	75.00% 18	29.17% 7	24
Playscape	21.88% 7	28.13% 9	12.50% 4	68.75% 22	25.00% 8	32
Additional picnic tables/Pavilion	35.48% 11	38.71% 12	38.71% 12	58.06% 18	38.71% 12	31
More pathways/Nature trails	21.43% 6	28.57% 8	39.29% 11	75.00% 21	28.57% 8	28
Other	25.00% 4	25.00% 4	12.50% 2	75.00% 12	6.25% 1	16

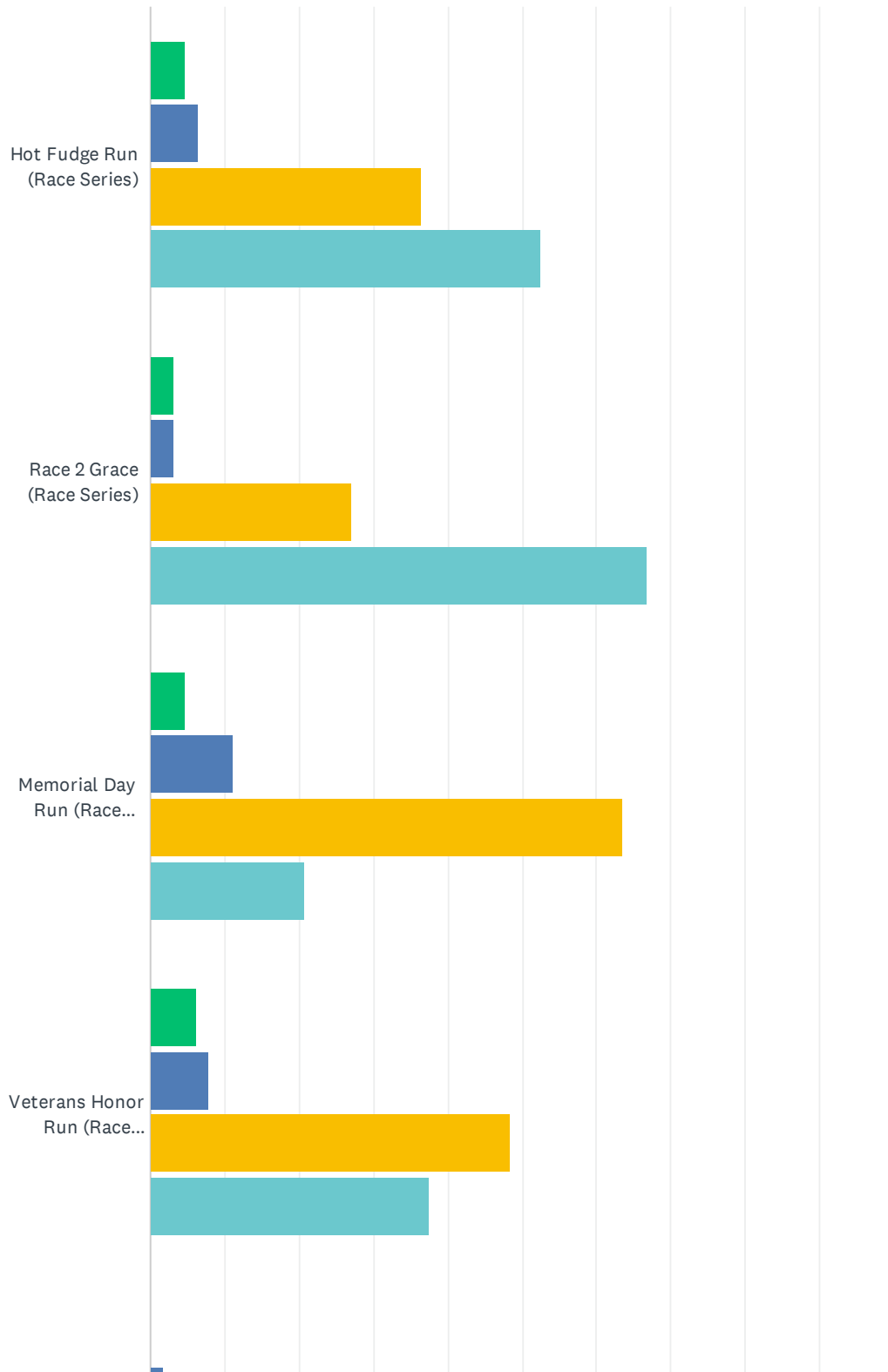
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	ok	10/2/2023 8:47 AM

City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

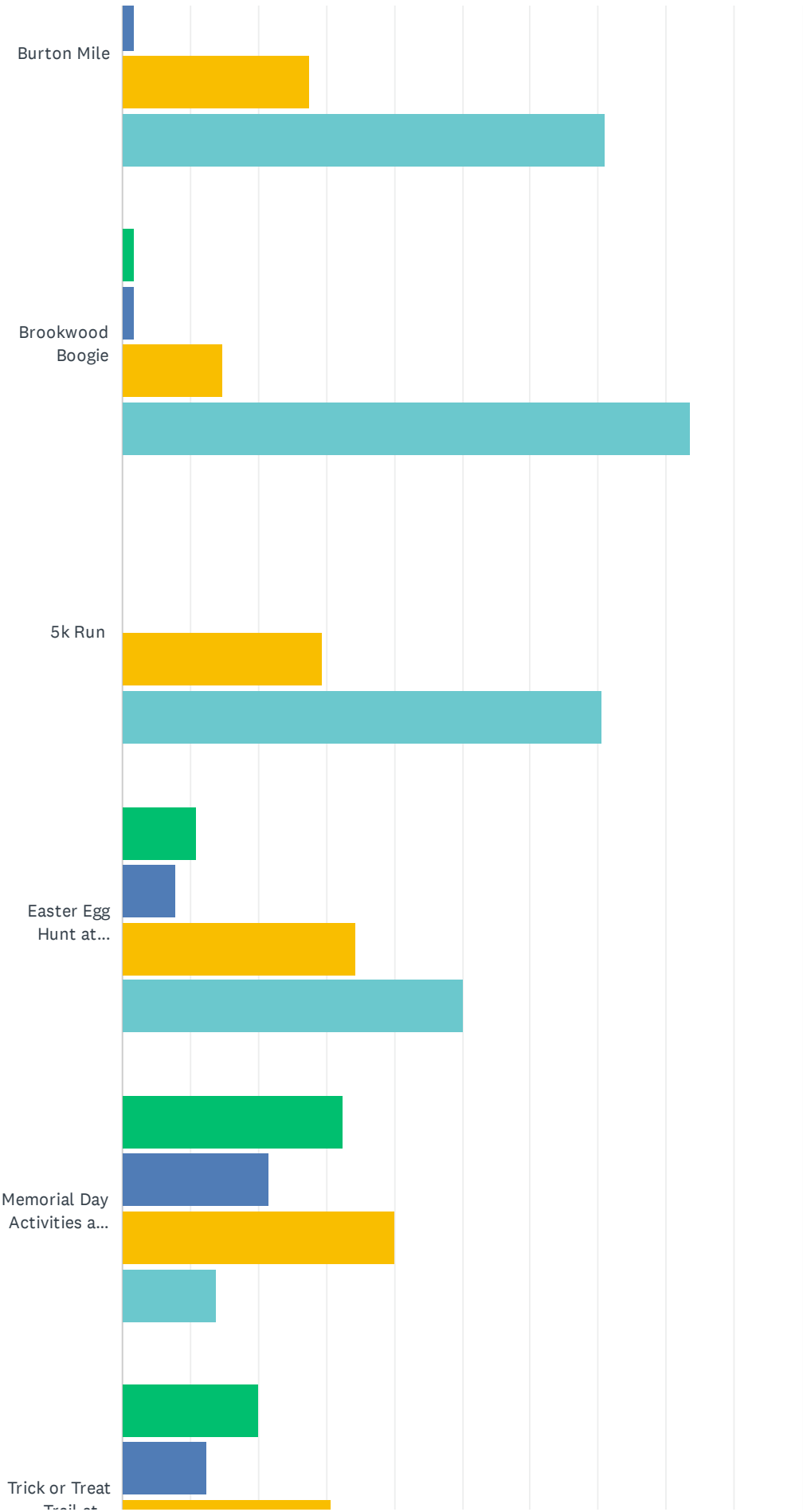
2	Don't use	9/29/2023 12:20 PM
3	mulch for playground - cut weeds restrooms!!! Kelly Lake	9/29/2023 12:18 PM
4	more parkway trees in industrial zones	9/29/2023 11:58 AM
5	Maintenance as far as new mulch, paint, grass. Looking a little shabby for such a cute, small place to stop sometimes.	9/25/2023 6:21 AM
6	None	9/21/2023 6:51 PM
7	Things for adults and bathrooms	9/18/2023 3:26 PM
8	Bathrooms opened at Kelly Park!	9/3/2023 11:06 PM
9	A splash pad in Burton or a public pool would be amazing!	8/25/2023 1:52 PM
10	Some pickleball courts would be nice	8/24/2023 10:35 PM
11	Pickle ball courts	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
12	Closing and locking the gate at dusk to help prevent vandalism.	8/18/2023 11:13 AM
13	More rules and locking gate at dusk for Kelly Lake. Too many after dark making a mess and up to no good	8/17/2023 9:30 AM
14	I think the south side would benefit from a larger park with room for pavilions and recreation.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
15	Better beach area to relax and sunbathe	8/14/2023 9:13 AM
16	Not familiar with these parks	8/14/2023 7:55 AM
17	Need to try to get rid of geese so lake is cleaner .Can't hardly walk there the geese poop is everywhere	8/13/2023 9:55 PM
18	Bathroom	8/13/2023 7:19 PM
19	Universal park activities involving all family members. Those have pets as well as those that do not.	8/13/2023 4:57 PM
20	Bike trails/walking paths that lead from one park to another, or just in general. We have nowhere to walk/bike around here	8/13/2023 4:17 PM

Q8 There are several races and events held in the City of Burton. Please answer below if you've participated, attended, knew about it but didn't attend, or were not aware of them.

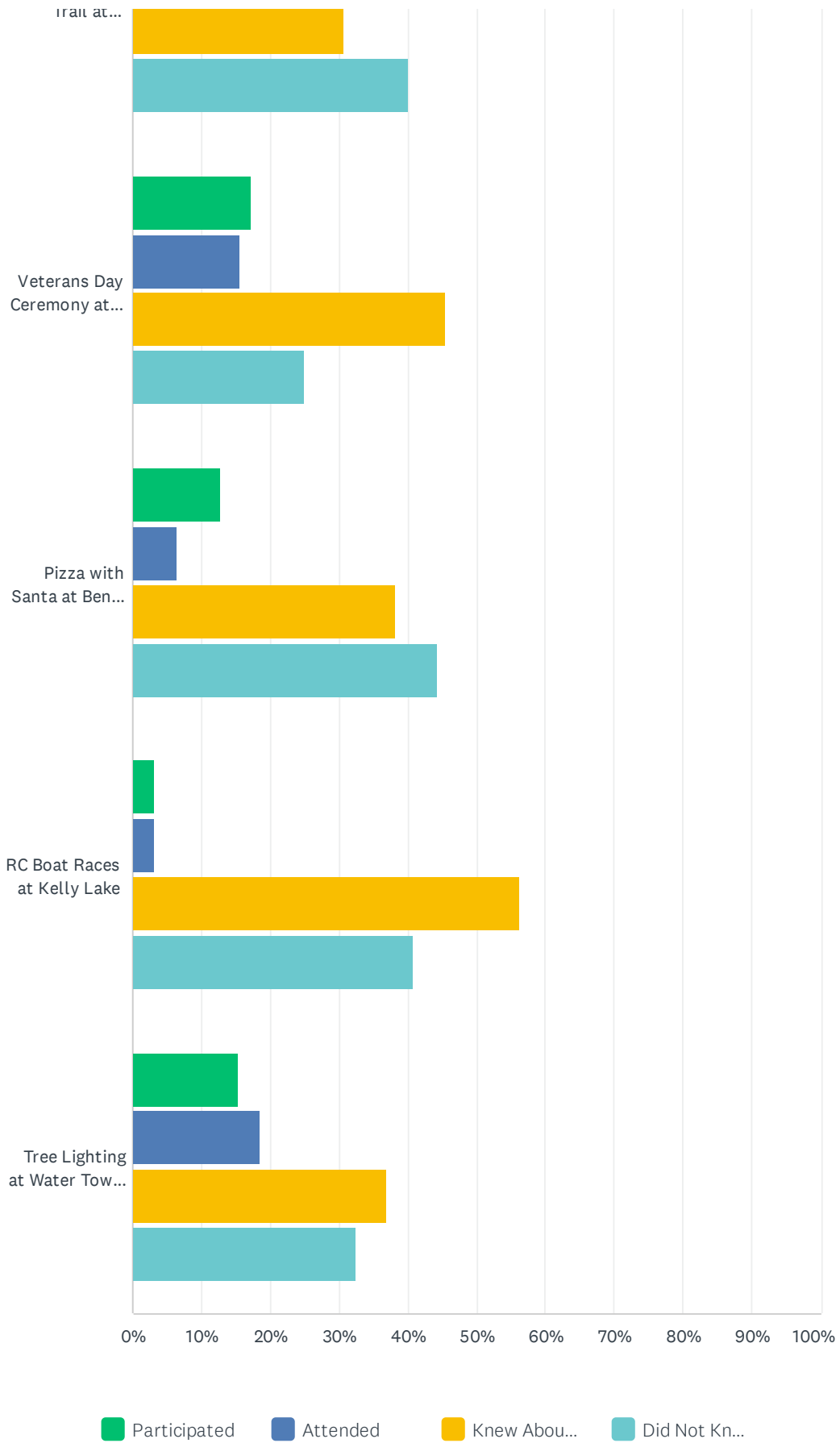
Answered: 66 Skipped: 2



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

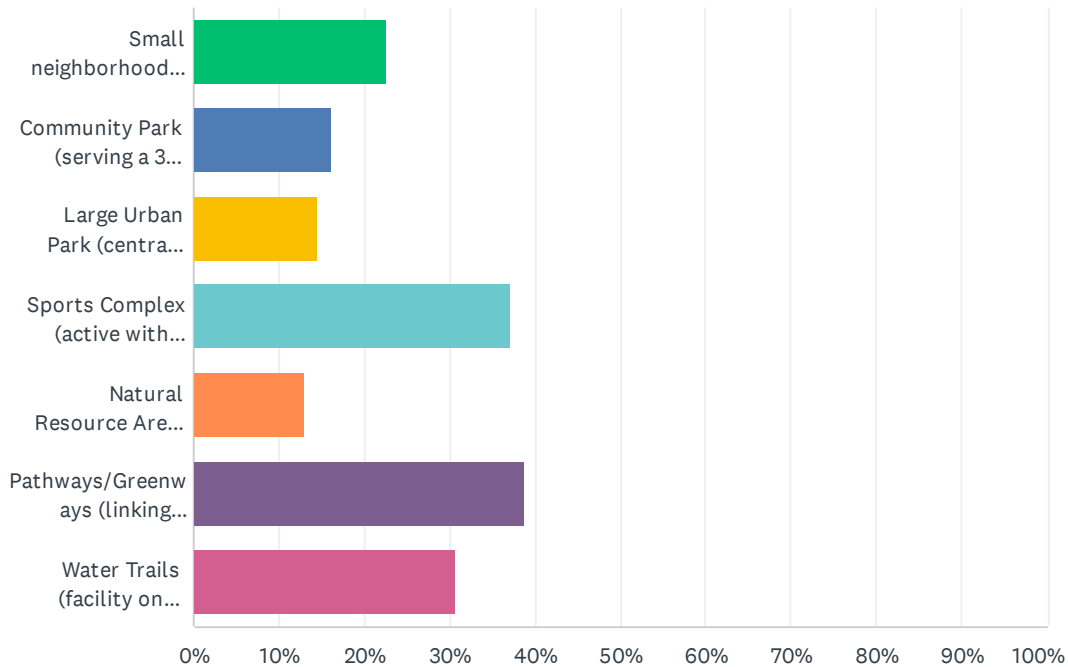


City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

	PARTICIPATED	ATTENDED	KNEW ABOUT IT, BUT DIDN'T ATTEND	DID NOT KNOW ABOUT IT	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Hot Fudge Run (Race Series)	4.76% 3	6.35% 4	36.51% 23	52.38% 33	63
Race 2 Grace (Race Series)	3.17% 2	3.17% 2	26.98% 17	66.67% 42	63
Memorial Day Run (Race Series)	4.76% 3	11.11% 7	63.49% 40	20.63% 13	63
Veterans Honor Run (Race Series)	6.25% 4	7.81% 5	48.44% 31	37.50% 24	64
Burton Mile	0.00% 0	1.61% 1	27.42% 17	70.97% 44	62
Brookwood Boogie	1.64% 1	1.64% 1	14.75% 9	83.61% 51	61
5k Run	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	29.51% 18	70.49% 43	61
Easter Egg Hunt at Atherton High School	10.94% 7	7.81% 5	34.38% 22	50.00% 32	64
Memorial Day Activities at City Hall	32.31% 21	21.54% 14	40.00% 26	13.85% 9	65
Trick or Treat Trail at Bentley High School	20.00% 13	12.31% 8	30.77% 20	40.00% 26	65
Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park	17.19% 11	15.63% 10	45.31% 29	25.00% 16	64
Pizza with Santa at Bendle High School	12.70% 8	6.35% 4	38.10% 24	44.44% 28	63
RC Boat Races at Kelly Lake	3.13% 2	3.13% 2	56.25% 36	40.63% 26	64
Tree Lighting at Water Tower Park (Fire station #1)	15.38% 10	18.46% 12	36.92% 24	32.31% 21	65

Q9 If the City were to establish a new park/recreational facility, what type of facility would you like to see developed (please select the 2 most important to you)?

Answered: 62 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Small neighborhood parks (in residential settings)	22.58%	14
Community Park (serving a 3 mile radius)	16.13%	10
Large Urban Park (centrally located and serving the entire community)	14.52%	9
Sports Complex (active with various athletic fields and programs)	37.10%	23
Natural Resource Area (passive with low impact and focus on preservation)	12.90%	8
Pathways/Greenways (linking neighborhoods, parks, resources, and commerce)	38.71%	24
Water Trails (facility on Thread Creek for canoeing/kayaking)	30.65%	19
Total Respondents: 62		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	need porta potys at parks	9/29/2023 12:18 PM
2	splash pad	9/29/2023 12:02 PM
3	develop old DUR right of way for walkin riding paths	9/29/2023 11:58 AM
4	Put the money towards police, fire and local rods	9/25/2023 3:23 AM
5	None of the above.	9/21/2023 6:51 PM

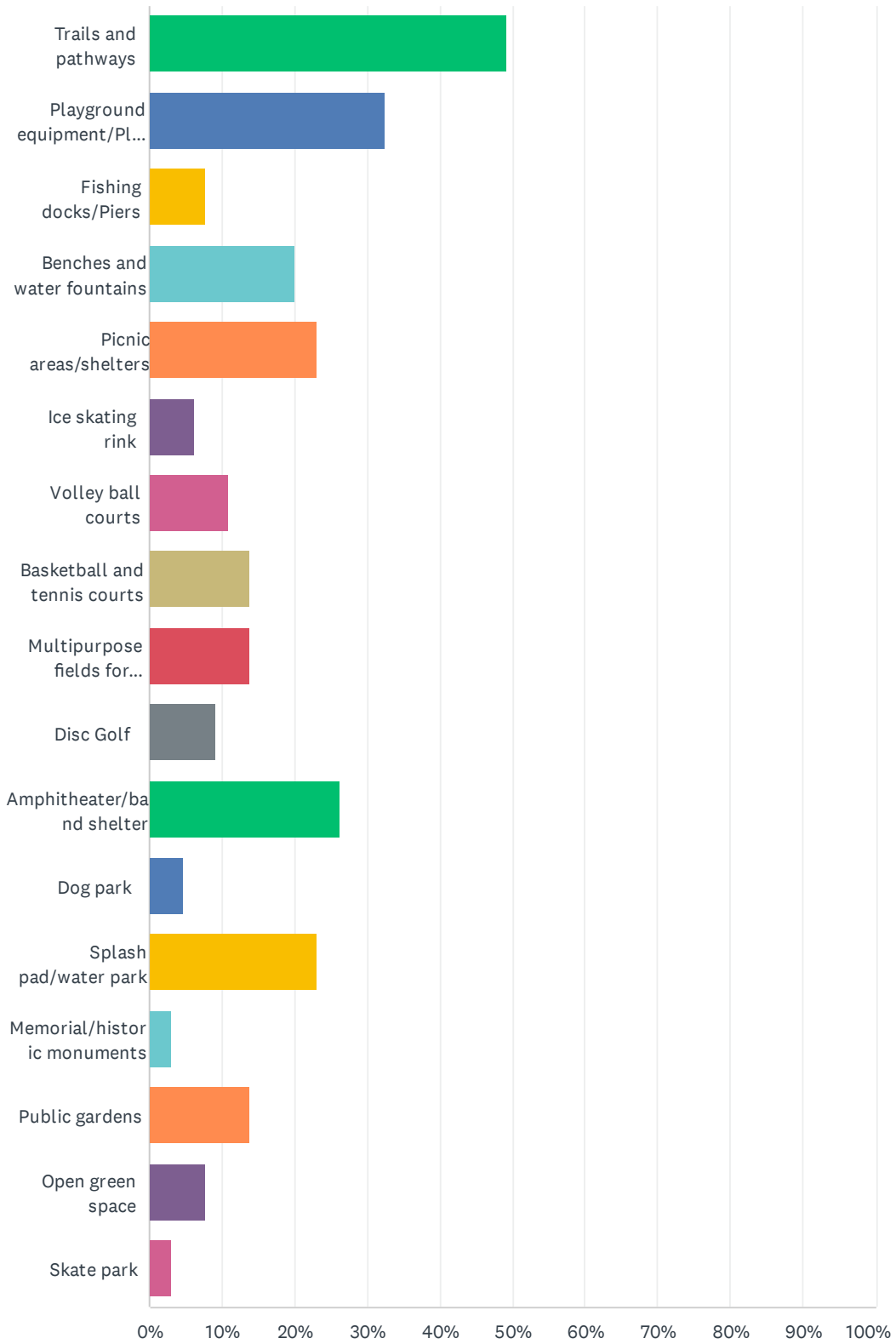
City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

6	A splash pad!	8/25/2023 1:52 PM
7	Something like lapeer rec! I have been saying this for years we have nothing for older kids to do. Overtime it would pay for itself as well	8/14/2023 12:45 AM
8	Would like a farmers market open in burton	8/13/2023 9:55 PM
9	All of these things plus dog parks	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

Q10 What types of amenities would you like to see at a new City Park facility (please select your top 3 choices)?

Answered: 65 Skipped: 3

City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



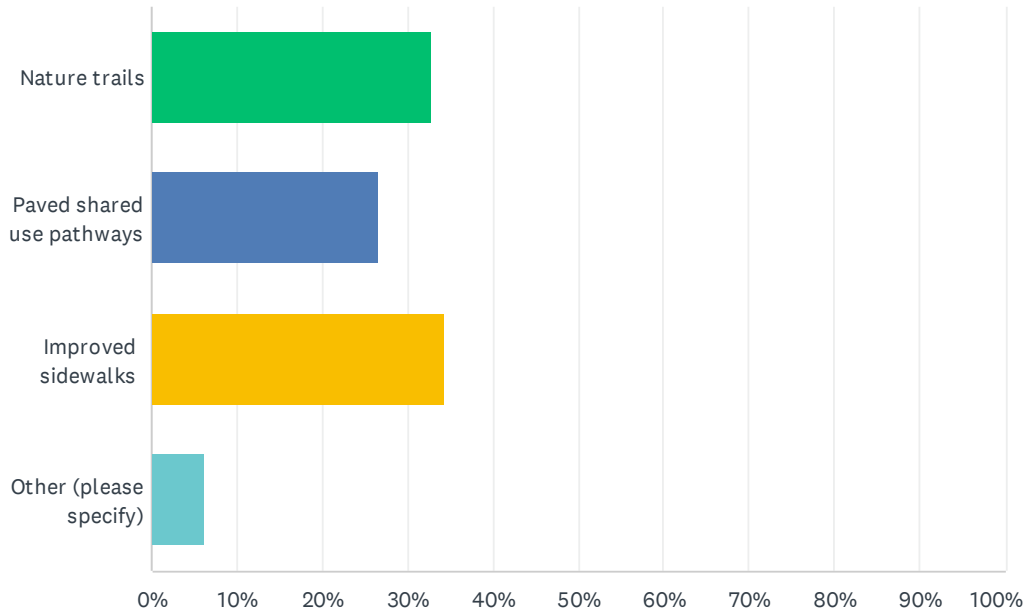
City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Trails and pathways	49.23%	32
Playground equipment/Playscape	32.31%	21
Fishing docks/Piers	7.69%	5
Benches and water fountains	20.00%	13
Picnic areas/shelters	23.08%	15
Ice skating rink	6.15%	4
Volley ball courts	10.77%	7
Basketball and tennis courts	13.85%	9
Multipurpose fields for soccer, football, etc.	13.85%	9
Disc Golf	9.23%	6
Amphitheater/band shelter	26.15%	17
Dog park	4.62%	3
Splash pad/water park	23.08%	15
Memorial/historic monuments	3.08%	2
Public gardens	13.85%	9
Open green space	7.69%	5
Skate park	3.08%	2
Total Respondents: 65		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	music in the park in summer like other cities do	9/29/2023 12:18 PM
2	arbor assoc tree city usa	9/29/2023 11:58 AM
3	Put the money towards police, fire and local roads	9/25/2023 3:23 AM
4	If I do not want a new park. Why do I have to respond to this question?	9/21/2023 6:51 PM
5	Pickleball	8/24/2023 10:35 PM
6	Pickle ball court	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
7	All of these things and dog parks	8/13/2023 4:57 PM
8	Baseball/softball complex	8/13/2023 4:40 PM

Q11 Of the following non-motorized transportation options, which would you like the City to focus on the most?

Answered: 64 Skipped: 4

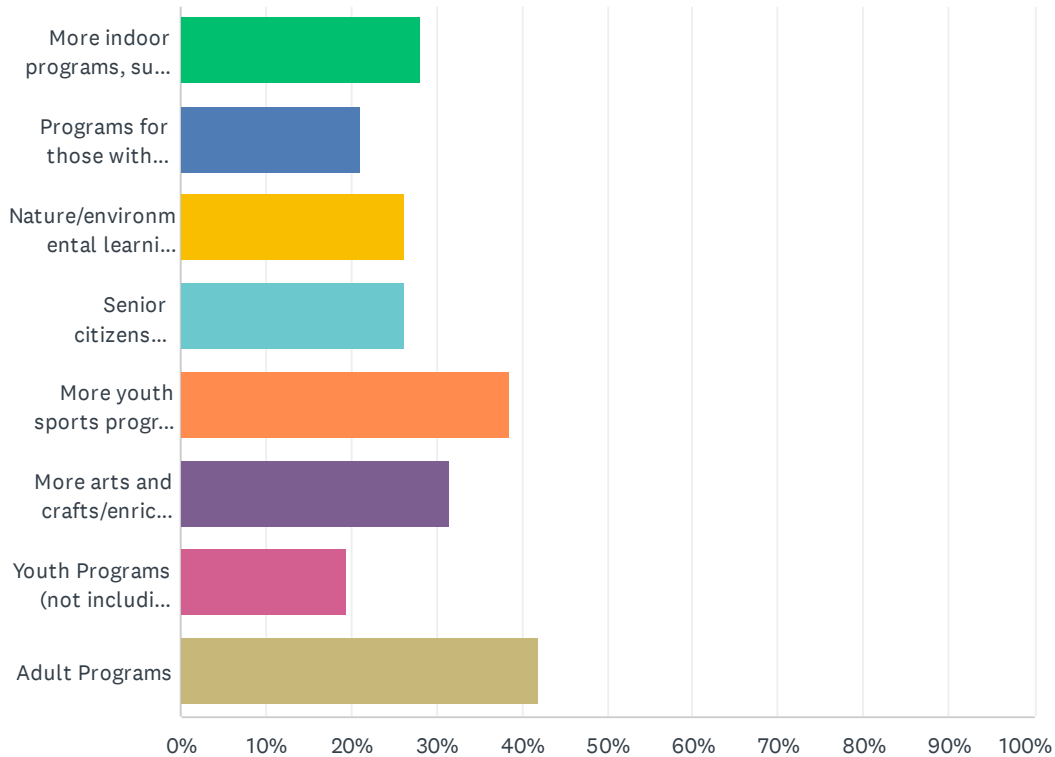


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Nature trails	32.81%	21
Paved shared use pathways	26.56%	17
Improved sidewalks	34.38%	22
Other (please specify)	6.25%	4
TOTAL		64

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Multi modal paths	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
2	I'd like to see Parks and Rec. focus on paved shared use pathways and the city as a whole work on improving sidewalks.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
3	Sidewalks on all main roads	8/14/2023 12:45 AM
4	Side walks cleans and edged so you can actually use them too many of them are over grown.	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

Q12 If programming is important to you, what types of recreational programming would you like to see developed in the City?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
More indoor programs, such as racquetball, swimming, etc.	28.07%	16
Programs for those with disabilities	21.05%	12
Nature/environmental learning programs	26.32%	15
Senior citizens programs	26.32%	15
More youth sports program leagues, such as baseball, soccer, hockey, etc.	38.60%	22
More arts and crafts/enrichment programs	31.58%	18
Youth Programs (not including Sports programs)	19.30%	11
Adult Programs	42.11%	24
Total Respondents: 57		

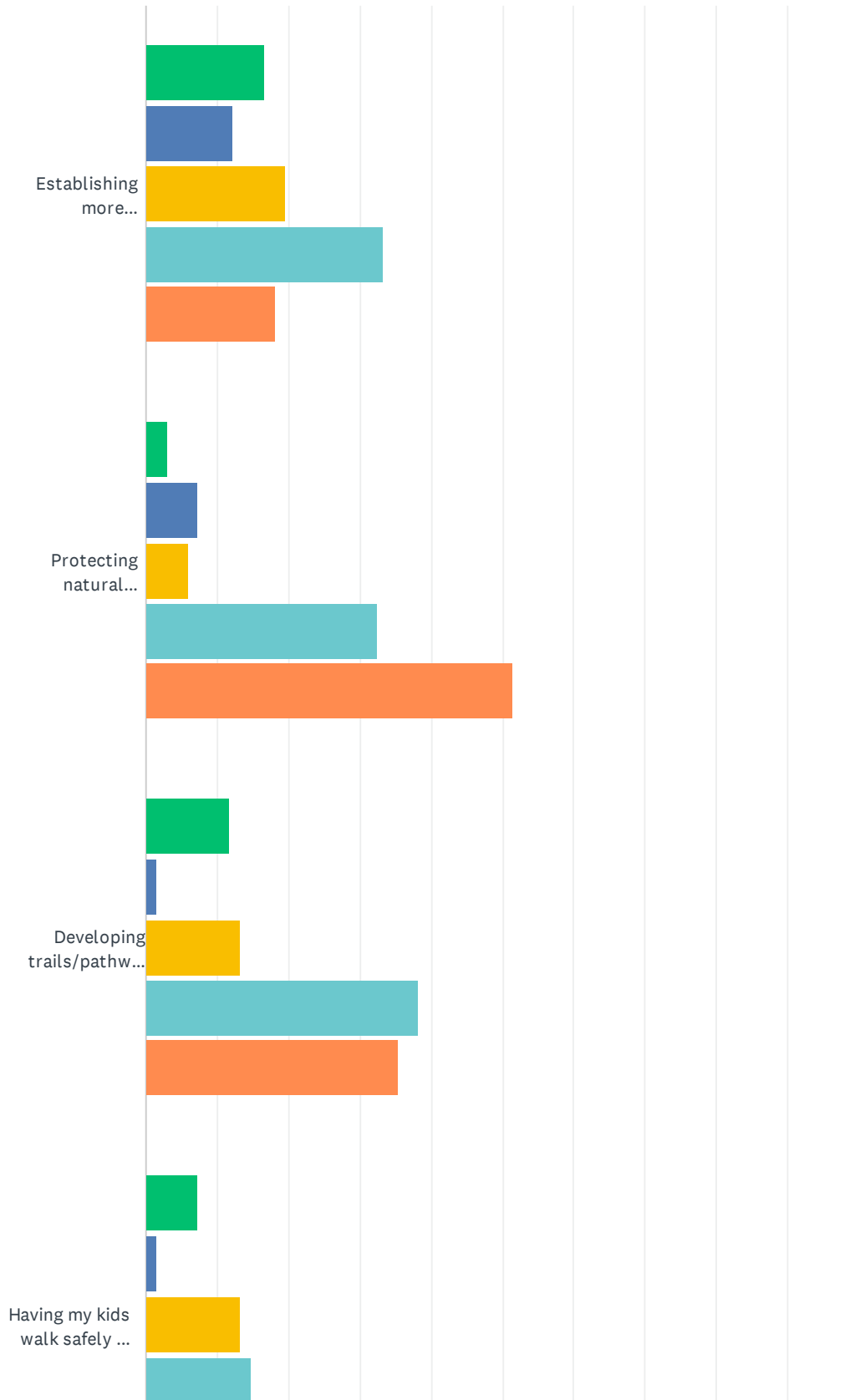
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	None of the above	9/25/2023 10:10 AM
2	Put the money towards police, fire and local roads	9/25/2023 3:23 AM
3	None needed.	9/21/2023 6:51 PM

City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

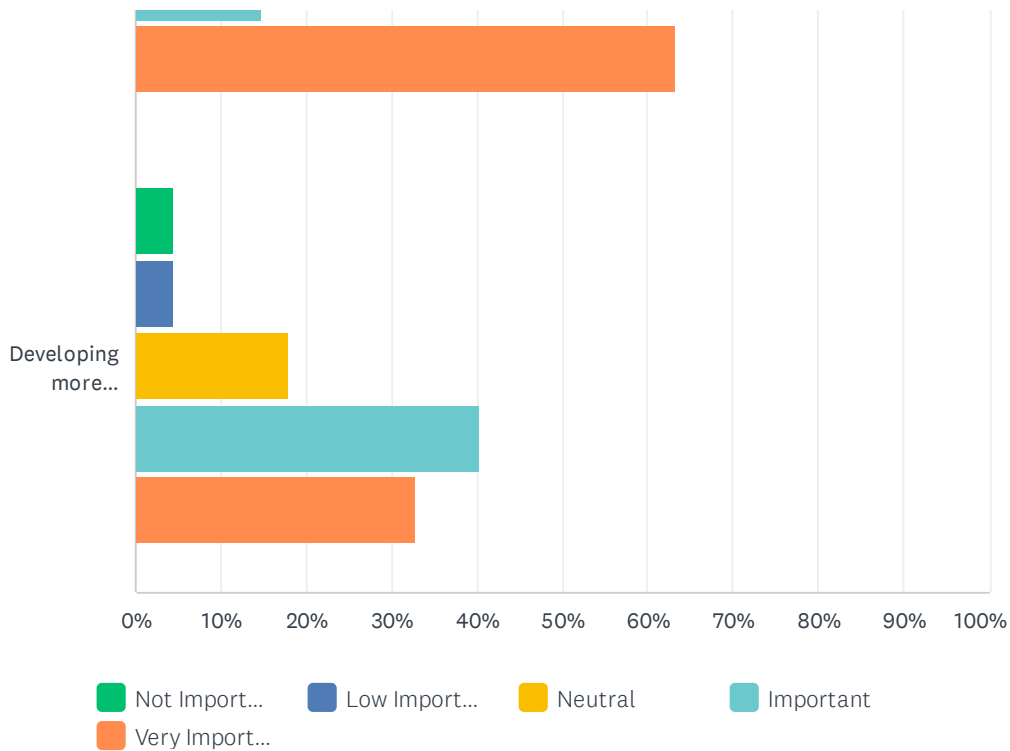
4	Pickle ball courts	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
5	All of these programs need to be looked into especially for the youth. Keep them off the streets!!! We have nothing for any of us in this City. If you don't fit in the click your not notified of anything. Charge a park fee on property taxes and increase it slightly for those that own rental property and earn income from it!!! As well as the local businesses. Dog parks as well!!!!	8/13/2023 4:57 PM

Q13 Please rate the importance of the following:

Answered: 68 Skipped: 0



City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023



	NOT IMPORTANT	LOW IMPORTANCE	NEUTRAL	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Establishing more neighborhood/pocket parks	16.67% 11	12.12% 8	19.70% 13	33.33% 22	18.18% 12	66
Protecting natural resources (water quality, wildlife, plant environments)	2.94% 2	7.35% 5	5.88% 4	32.35% 22	51.47% 35	68
Developing trails/pathways that connect to adjoining communities	11.76% 8	1.47% 1	13.24% 9	38.24% 26	35.29% 24	68
Having my kids walk safely to school	7.35% 5	1.47% 1	13.24% 9	14.71% 10	63.24% 43	68
Developing more enrichment/educational programs	4.48% 3	4.48% 3	17.91% 12	40.30% 27	32.84% 22	67

Q14 Please state any other comments, suggestions, or ideas you have for parks and recreation in the City of Burton

Answered: 32 Skipped: 36

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Work With Local and County Park Organizations	10/2/2023 8:47 AM
2	parks & recreation commttee should NOT get paid! Use money to put a porta potty at Kelly Lake!!!	9/29/2023 12:18 PM
3	Take care of the parks we have. Improve + modernize, station 2 park use to be so nice. My kids played there all the time. Now its just sad.	9/29/2023 12:02 PM
4	MORE TREES	9/29/2023 11:58 AM
5	The county does a fine job with the parks leave it to them. If Kelly Lake is the best we can do; don't waste our money. Maybe small neighborhood playscapes.	9/25/2023 10:10 AM
6	Put money towards police, fire and local roads. Do not raise my taxes for parks and recreation. We have lots of choices currently and the facilities we have are underutilized.	9/25/2023 3:23 AM
7	Finish the Iron-Belle trail!	9/18/2023 3:26 PM
8	N/a	9/15/2023 6:17 PM
9	Community gardens and maybe plant fruit trees.	9/3/2023 11:06 PM
10	If you could get the word out about all that the city offers..maybe through social media or signs by city hall. That would be great!	8/25/2023 1:52 PM
11	There should be multi model paths like in The Villages, Florida, so you can, run, walk, ride bike, golf cart anywhere in the city! Not just a bike path like the Iron bell that no one uses in Grand Blanc! Or put sidewalks in in all neighborhoods, heavens our taxes are so high I am sure you can do that. However Do not raise my taxes anymore! I moved here from Wayne County and smaller house and I pay almost double the taxes here in Hurton!!!!	8/24/2023 3:06 PM
12	Connecting a Burton bike trail/walking trail to Davion's bike trail would be awesome!	8/22/2023 10:36 AM
13	Kelly lake park could use a new restroom facility	8/18/2023 8:50 PM
14	Kelly Lake needs better security measures taken. Lots of loitering after dark. I have suggested to the major that the police come through at dusk and lock the gate. People are driving on the lawn and flags have been stolen. My fear is that if we don't take precautionary measures that something bad will eventually happen. Better to be proactive then reactive.	8/18/2023 11:13 AM
15	Please make Kelly Lake safe at night. Get a gate, with a lock.	8/17/2023 9:30 AM
16	I think a larger recreational area in the Bristol/Saginaw area would be widely used. The existing playground is very nice but it only appeals to a narrow age group and is very limited in size.	8/15/2023 11:42 AM
17	Focus on trails/paths that connect to Davison and the Iron Belle Trail. Pave one side of major roads to encourage biking. Burton roads (Belsay, Bristol, Lapeer) are way too dangerous to encourage walkers/bikers. Make it easy to ride bikes to Grand Blanc or Davison. Don't spend money on infrastructure. Utilize churches / schools / community spaces for programming. Number of kids is declining so don't focus on programming for them. Kids will go to Davison or GB for major sports.	8/14/2023 7:19 PM
18	Have adult softball leagues, if you do I'm not aware. More kids sports programs to get them ready high school	8/14/2023 9:14 AM
19	Rehab properties such as Southmoor and the old Burton Auto parts space for the purpose of a sport complex, amphitheater, splash pad, welcome center, parks, picnic area, etc.	8/14/2023 8:11 AM
20	We must have stuff for the older kids to enjoy. My kids are grown but I spent a lot of money in	8/14/2023 12:45 AM

City of Burton 5 Year Parks & Rec Plan 2023

	other communities while they were growing up. Movies, bowling, sports, roller skating.	
21	Grants are offered through the County they need to apply. Help non-profit apply for grants that will benefit the city.	8/13/2023 10:18 PM
22	Better marking of events and items, not everyone can hunt them down. More papers sent out in mail monthly of events occurring the community.	8/13/2023 9:59 PM
23	Definitely feel like a farmers market would be beneficial. Would like to see Kelly lake a cleaner place to go and enjoy	8/13/2023 9:55 PM
24	N/A	8/13/2023 8:35 PM
25	Would like to see community gardens in neighborhoods	8/13/2023 6:45 PM
26	None	8/13/2023 4:58 PM
27	Don't just take a survey take action. Help people accountable for not keeping the easement parts of their property (areas between side walks and curbing mowed) and main rain side walks all year around as well as curbs and gutters!!!!!!	8/13/2023 4:57 PM
28	I would like to see a large sports complex including baseball/softball, soccer volleyball, etc.	8/13/2023 4:40 PM
29	Make Burton a great "walking" city	8/13/2023 4:24 PM
30	We need to keep the people living here in the city, and not moving out. Therefore, we need to invest in building more outdoor recreation things for the people to keep them here. Bring in more businesses, walking/biking paths, sports complex, etc	8/13/2023 4:17 PM
31	.	8/13/2023 3:43 PM
32	I would love to see walking paths along Lapeer rd. I live on the road and see lots of adults and children walking up and down it. I think it would be used even more and much more safer if there was a dedicated walking path along the road.	8/13/2023 3:41 PM



City of Burton Parks and Recreation
Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023

Workshop Results

Kelly Lake Park

Strengths	Weaknesses
Close to home	Tables need updating
Walking Paths	Sign dated (OCD)
Water	Sponsor Signage is tacky
Trail	Beach not maintained
Location	Sledding hill into weeds

Ranked	Improvement list
1	Improve Bathrooms / Porta Potties
1	Parking lot (not pavement)
2	Expand/ Improve nature walking trails (around the lake)
3	Exercise stations
	Better use of open land
	More lighting for sledding hill

Water Tower Park

Strengths	Weaknesses
Good playground for kids	Too small
	Nothing for teens

Ranked	Improvement
	Too small
	Nothing for teens
	New playscape





City of Burton Parks and Recreation Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023

Settlement Park

Strengths	Weaknesses
Open Land	Parking
Benches	Not identified as a park

Ranked	Improvement
1	Parking lot
2	Canoe / Kayak Launch
2	Restrooms
3	Playground Equipment / Playscape
3	Signage to identify the park as City of Burton
3	Basketball court
	Walking paths
	Dog bag dispenser
	Separation of private vs public property

Burton Senior Center

Strengths	Weaknesses
Location	Not Handicap accessible
Popular	No outdoor area

Priority	Improvement
1	Pickleball court
1	Pavilion
2	Handi cap accessible (ADA)
2	Cornhole
3	Square dancing



**City of Burton Parks and Recreation
Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023**

Fire Station #2 Park

Ranked	Improvement
1	Update Mulch / get rid of weed Barrier
2	Elimination of Ghraffiti
3	New equipment
	Replace bench next to Pavilion
	Touch up outdoor picnic tables
	Run Electric to the pavilion
	Bathrooms

Strengths	Weaknesses
Location	Not maintained (bathroom)
Bathroom	Not signed correctly
Pavilion	No fall protection
Great for little kids	Trash Cans

Veterans Memorial Park

Strengths	Weaknesses
Good parking	Parking
Safe	
Updated pavers	
Close to city hall	
Pavilion	
Drink fountain	
Updated	

Ranked	Improvement
	Pergola
	More walls
	Tall narrow hedge on F+M of bricks
	Get help from master gardeners
	Restrooms – Porta potty
	Advertise that park is always open
	Lighting
	Expand Pavilion



City of Burton Parks and Recreation Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023

Current Annual Events

# of the 15 workshop participants have attended	Event Name
3	Hot Fudge Run
3	Easter Egg Hunt – Atherton Schools
1	Race 2 Grace
3	Memorial Day Festivities – City Hall
2	Memorial Day 5k run/Walk
1	Burton Youth League – Atherton Schools Fields
	Halloween Decorating Contest
4	Trick or Treat Trail – Bentley High School
	Christmas Decorating Contest
2	Veterans Day Ceremony
1	Veterans Honor Run
4	Christmas Tree Lighting
2	Pizza with Santa – Bendle High School

What do you love the most about these Events?

- Gets communities together
- Brings people from outside of Burton
- Great for young families
- Well run
- Fun
- Great for kids
- Races go to charity groups
- Promoting the Burton community
- Health fitness
- Christmas tree lighting up the south end
- Look for ways to get events organized by private/non-profit groups

What do you least like about these Events? (ie: suggested improvements)

- Not much for adults
- Sometimes the weather can be terrible, but the show goes on
- Sometimes the timing of the holidays events can be to close together
- To wet Easter Egg Hunt should be moved to Bentley
- Trick or Treat trail moved to Atherton



City of Burton Parks and Recreation Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023

Are there any recreational or enrichment programs you like to see added in the City of Burton

- More sport options
- Nature lessons
- Trails
- Program for adults
- IRON BELLE!
- Senior Walking and fitness club
- The senior center does its best but during the spring, summer and fall and outdoor club could be formed people informally walk in Former Nature Preserve



City of Burton Parks and Recreation
Public Workshop Sept 28, 2023

Workshop Results

New Park Land Opportunities

Ranking	#1	#2	#3	Total score
Weighted Score	100	50	25	
Vacant Land Behind VG's	4	2	4	600
Settlement Park Expansion Property	1	6	4	500
Former Southmoor Golf Course	7	1	2	800

Additional Resources

Safe Routes to School "SR2S" www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Safe Routes to School (SR2S) is a federal program to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. A federal Safe Routes to School program was authorized as part of the surface transportation bill signed into law in August 2005. As a result, every state now has dedicated dollars to help with infrastructure improvements (e.g. new sidewalks and traffic calming projects) and non-infrastructure activities to encourage and enable students to walk and bicycle to school. Michigan's Safe Routes to School program is managed by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), with training, logistical, administrative, and technical support from the Michigan Fitness Foundation.



Michigan Recreation and Parks Association www.mrpaonline.org

Founded in 1935, the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) is a statewide non-profit association representing the parks and recreation industry. MRPA represents the interest of recreation professionals and citizen advocates throughout Michigan, providing advocacy, knowledge, and programs to enhance the parks and recreation field, as well as the skills of our individual members.

Transportation Improvement Program www.michigan.gov/mdot

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), administered by Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission is funding mechanism on a three-year schedule and budget for proposed federally funded and regionally significant transportation improvements within Genesee County. The TIP is typically updated as needed through a multi-step process in association with the Transportation System Management (TSM) Committee, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and final approval by the Metropolitan Alliance. The TIP addresses transportation projects and programs to include: federal, state and local highways, transit, ride sharing, bike paths, and pedestrian facilities.

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) www.michigan.gov/mdot

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options.



MDOT - Bicycle and Pedestrian Program www.michigan.gov/mdot

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Program of the Michigan Department of Transportation provides assistance with various grant programs, as well as resources and maps related to non-motorized transportation. Contact: Joshua DeBruyn, AICP, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Bureau of Transportation Planning at (517) 335-2918 or DeBruynJ@michigan.gov to learn more.

American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 3rd Edition, 1999 www.bookstore.transportation.org/home.aspx

This is the primary design manual used for project funded through federal, state, and many local agencies. It provides specifications related to the development of facilities to enhance and encourage safe bicycle travel.

Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance www.michigantrails.org

MTGA is a non-profit organization that fosters and facilitates the creation of an interconnected statewide system of trails and greenways for recreation, health, transportation, economic development, and environmental/cultural preservation purposes. MTGA works at both the state and local levels by assisting public and private interest in trail and greenway planning, funding, development, and maintenance. MTGA builds public support for trail and greenway development through events, membership, education, information, and advocacy activities.



Michigan Complete Streets www.michigancompletestreets.wordpress.com

Michigan Complete Streets is a coalition of individuals and organizations working toward the development of complete streets policies throughout Michigan. Local communities such as Lansing and Flint are actively working to make our roadways safer for *all users that move people not just automobiles*. Instituting a complete streets policy ensures that transportation planners and engineers design *entire* roadways with *all users* in mind – including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and riders, and pedestrians of *all* ages and *abilities*. In addition to local policies making efforts, twenty jurisdictions nationwide adopted policies in 2008 and 12 have done so in 2009.

United States Access Board: A Federal Agency Committed to Accessible Design
<http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/index.htm>

Sidewalks, street crossings, and other elements of the public rights-of-ways present unique challenges to accessibility for which specific guidance is considered essential. The Board is developing new guidelines for public rights-of-way that will address various issues, including access for blind pedestrians at street crossings, wheelchair access to on-street parking, and various constraints posed by space limitations, roadway design practices, slope, and terrain. The draft guidelines are being revised based on the input received from the public and will be available for public comment once published.