

City of South Haven, Michigan
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South Haven Charter Township
—
South Haven Area Recreation Authority

Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2023-2027



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Executive Summary

The City of South Haven is a lakefront community and designated 'Pure Michigan Trail Town' with over 75 acres of designated park and beach property and multi-use trails connecting to an additional network of Township and State Parks, all available for public enjoyment. This Parks & Recreation Master Plan includes South Haven Chapter Township and the area's Recreation Authority in the planning process. The Master Plan builds on past planning efforts while incorporating public input and stakeholder insight to assess current parks and address needs into the future. Because connectivity and ease of access have shown to increase park use, this Plan addresses parks as part of an overall green infrastructure network that includes trails, sidewalks, open spaces, and waterways.

This Plan aims to reflect the values expressed in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) of 2018-2022, to preserve and protect our state's natural resources while providing fun and healthy outdoor opportunities for all residents.

Universal and equitable distribution and access, regardless of age, income level, or physical limitations, is a guiding principle of this Plan.

The outline of the Plan is as follows: introduction to the South Haven area and the governing entities that affect park planning; park and recreation facility inventory; description of the public input process; determination of needs and deficiencies based on collected data; establishment of goals, objectives, and actions that would meet those needs; and finally, an Implementation Plan to move toward accomplishing the established goals.



Introduction

Parks and recreation facilities are important elements of all healthy communities. The South Haven area values its diverse and well-maintained park system, and also the waterfront environment and cultural history that help to make the area so unique.

01

In this Chapter:

- Plan Purpose and Scope
- South Haven: Character, History, and People
- Land Use and Zoning Maps

Plan Purpose

The South Haven Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update for 2023-2027 has been prepared as a guide to help guide park are recreation-related improvements over the next five years. The Plan will also help to anticipate and address community needs for many years to come. This Plan presents an evaluation of the City and Township's current recreation needs and then explores opportunities for enhanced park and recreation facilities. It considers the existing facilities in and around the area, the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities, and the means for construction and maintenance of those facilities over the upcoming five-year period and beyond. In addition, the Plan helps prioritize funding for both capital improvement and potential donor and grant-assisted projects to best utilize South Haven's existing resources.

This Plan Update was developed just a year after the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, which continues to affect communities in multiple ways. If a silver lining could be found in such a situation, it would be the renewed appreciation for outdoor public spaces such as parks and trails. All indicators show that park use and outdoor recreation participation has surged in recent years. The clear message is that outdoor spaces are critical to both the physical and emotional well-being of a population.

This plan has been realized through a comprehensive planning process that addresses the parks and recreation needs of the City of South Haven, SHARA, South Haven Township, and the greater community. The South Haven Parks Commission is proud of the work they have accomplished alongside the community with regards to facility improvements and programs. Since the previous Plan, the following planning efforts have been completed:

- Friends Goodwill Splash Pad Addition
- Acquisition of Baer Park
- Small Universally Accessible Playground added at Kids' Corner
- Michigan Maritime Museum Renovation and Site Development
- Northside Marina Improvements
- Kids' Corner Playground Renovation (in progress)
- South Beach Restroom Master Plan
- Dyckman Park Restroom Improvements (in progress)
- Outdoor Fireplace at Dyckman Park Fundraising



Plan Scope

The scope of this Plan includes the City and Township's active parks and playgrounds, beaches and waterfront access corridors, facilities such as marinas and museums, and trail networks. The primary study area for this Plan is limited to City and Township boundaries; however, consideration is also given to regional parks and natural areas, and private recreational facilities that are commonly used by South Haven residents. Recreational programming is also an important consideration. As the City does not have an internal Recreation Department, other providers are evaluated to determine if health and wellness needs of residents are being met. The Plan aims to balance quality with quantity, analyzing distribution of resources for ease of access and while also considering capital expenditure and improvement budgets to ensure existing parks are able to be adequately maintained. The inventory and data gathering for this Plan sets a benchmark of the current status of Parks and Recreation in the South Haven area, while the Goals and Objectives are meant to guide planning decisions that will continue to be relevant for many years to come.



The Plan will also serve as a tool for broader community-based planning decisions. Coordinated planning will lead to improved landscape stewardship, more efficient use of available funding, and enhanced public support through increased standard of living. Recent related planning efforts include the following:

The City of South Haven - Master Plan 2018

This is a strategic plan that considers a long-term vision for the City as a whole. The Plan proposes policies, goals, objectives, and implementation strategies to reach those visions. The planning process for this document included neighborhood workshops with public input that helped to inform the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Van Buren County, Michigan - Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan. 2021-2026

This document focuses on parks and recreation resources at the county level. The County is in the process of forming an official Parks Department, and this Plan will guide their planning efforts to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations.

South Haven Charter Township Master Plan for Land Use. 2009

This Plan will provide the officials and citizens of South Haven Township with an efficient and reasonable guide to the orderly growth and development of the community. The Plan aims to support the Zoning Ordinance and promote community-wide harmony.

City of South Haven, MI - Pedestrian, Bicycle & Paddle Plan. 2009

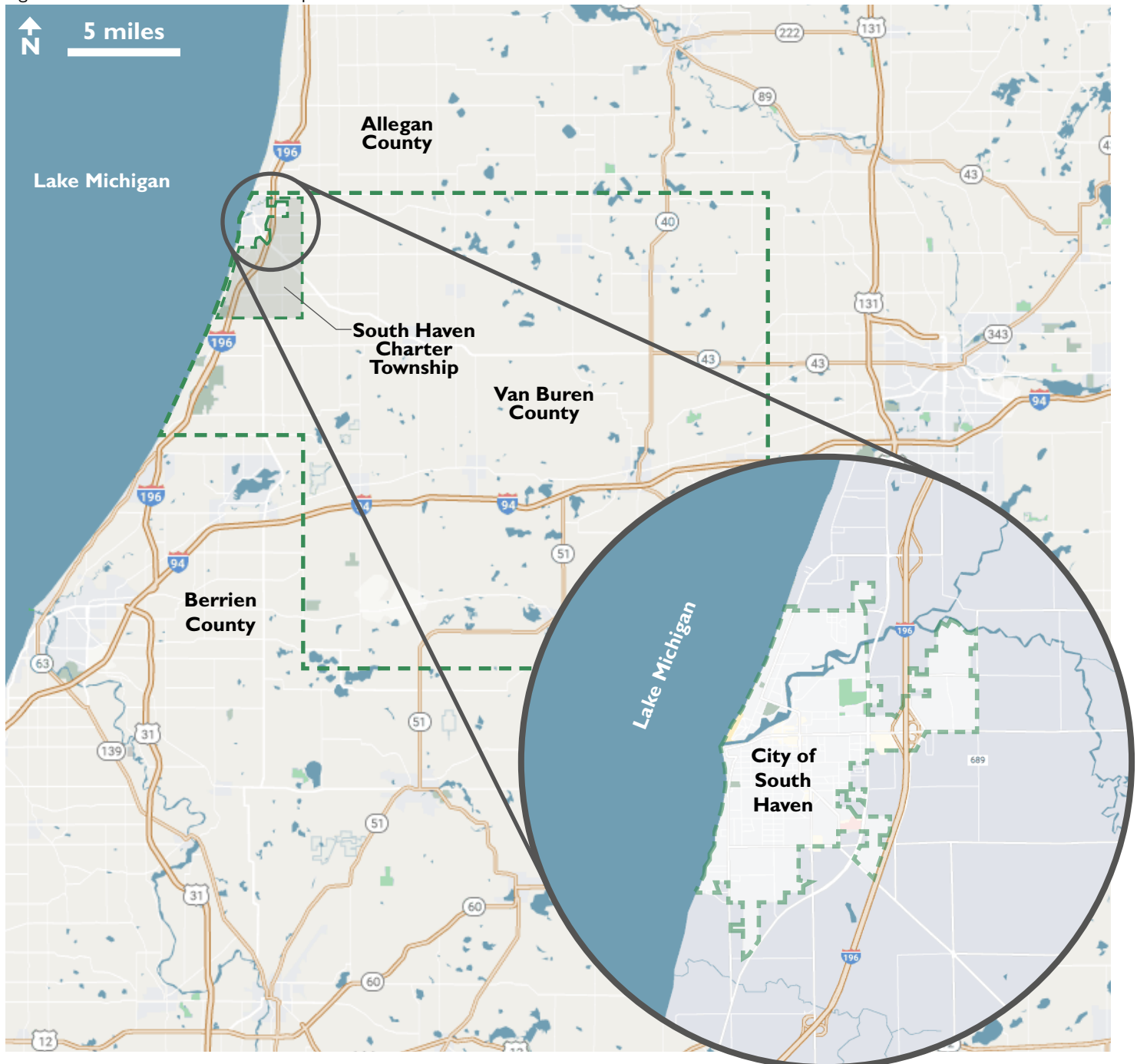
This Plan was written to address gaps in pedestrian pathways and enhance access and safety for non-motorized transportation in South Haven, with the goal of reducing need for use of motor vehicles.

Location Map

The City of South Haven encompasses approximately 3.5 square miles in the northwest corner of Van Buren County, Michigan, with a small portion on the north overlapping into Allegan County. The City straddles the Black River, and is bordered on the east and south by South Haven Charter Township and on the west by Lake Michigan. South Haven is located in Michigan's coastal southwest region, approximately 45 miles north of the Indiana border, 38 miles west of Kalamazoo, 30 miles south of Holland, and 20 miles north of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor. The City is conveniently located with three exits off I-196.

South Haven Charter Township encompasses approximately 17.5 square miles of land in the northwest corner of Van Buren County. The Township is bordered by Casco Township in Allegan County on the north, Geneva Township in Van Buren County on the east, Covert Township on the south, and Lake Michigan to the west. The Black River runs east to west through the northern mile of the Township.

Figure 1.1 South Haven Location Map



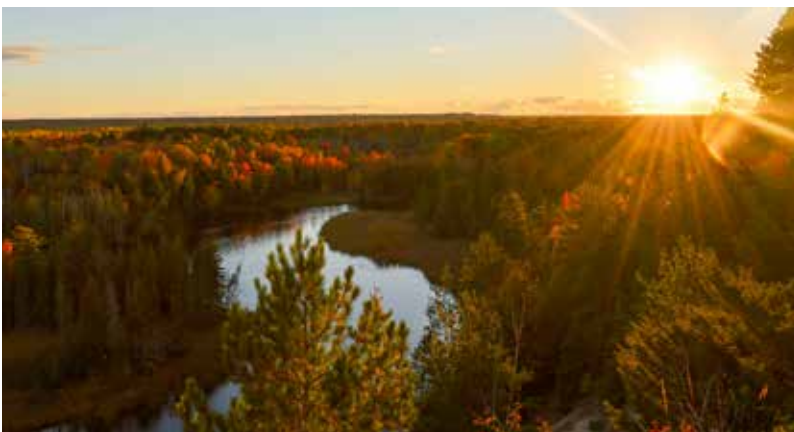
Community Description

The City of South Haven, with an estimated population of 4,340¹, is the largest city in Van Buren County, and is one of many lake shore communities along Lake Michigan. Due to its abundant recreational assets, South Haven is a major vacation resort destination which significantly increases the City's population in the summer months. South Haven's location on the lake and its position at the mouth of the Black River have been the dominant factors influencing the City's residential, economic, and recreational environments. South Haven's nearly three miles of lake and river waterfront property, of which much is accessible to the public, is considered one of the City's greatest assets. South Haven Chapter Township has an additional population of 3,970¹, and many of these residents share the same parks and recreation resources as City residents.

The South Haven area offers an abundance of recreational activities year-round. Popular activities include hiking, cycling, beach-combing, sailing, golfing, fishing, skateboarding, kayaking and canoeing, wine tasting, visiting you-pick farms, horseback riding, ice skating, cross-country skiing, camping at private or state-run campgrounds, and simply playing at the local park. The area offers abundant activities for families, seniors, rural residents, and city dwellers. Also, due to its location on the Great Lakes, the city is a major attraction to visitors and second-home owners, especially during the summer months.

The Harborwalk is a two-mile walking tour around the harbor serving people of all abilities. Historical signs tell of the rich history along the harbor. The Kal-Haven Trail, stretching from Kalamazoo to South Haven, is used by hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, cross-county skiers, and snowmobilers. There is an extension of the trail from the trailhead to downtown. Bike routes further connect this trail to the Van Buren Trail which runs to Van Buren State Park and Hartford. Several campgrounds have been developed along the trail due to its popularity. Nearby is the Van Buren State Park offering camping, hiking trails, and a beautiful beach. Adjoining the State Park is North Point, a County-owned 17 acre park, which also offers hiking, bird-watching, and Lake Michigan frontage. The Bangor-to-South Haven Heritage Water Trail follows the Black River from Bangor downstream to South Haven. Winter brings ice skating activities to the downtown South Haven Ice Rink.

Summer is the most popular season bringing with it a flurry of activities, and resulting surge in the seasonal population. Estimates show that the summer population of South Haven can reach close to 20,000 residents, which should be considered when determining recreation facility need. Beach fun, fishing, golfing, boating, paddling, and shopping are highlights of the season. South Haven is a shallow draft/recreational harbor and is blessed with a variety of natural resources, historic background, and an abundance of publicly-owned property. South Haven provides a variety of recreational resources not only to its local residents, but to the residents of the immediate surrounding area and acts as a regional base for recreation for people throughout the state and the Midwest. In addition to over two miles of frontage on Lake Michigan, South Haven has the Black River running through the city limits which, during the summer months, acts as a port with over 1,150 boat slips.



¹U.S. Census Bureau (2020). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter

History

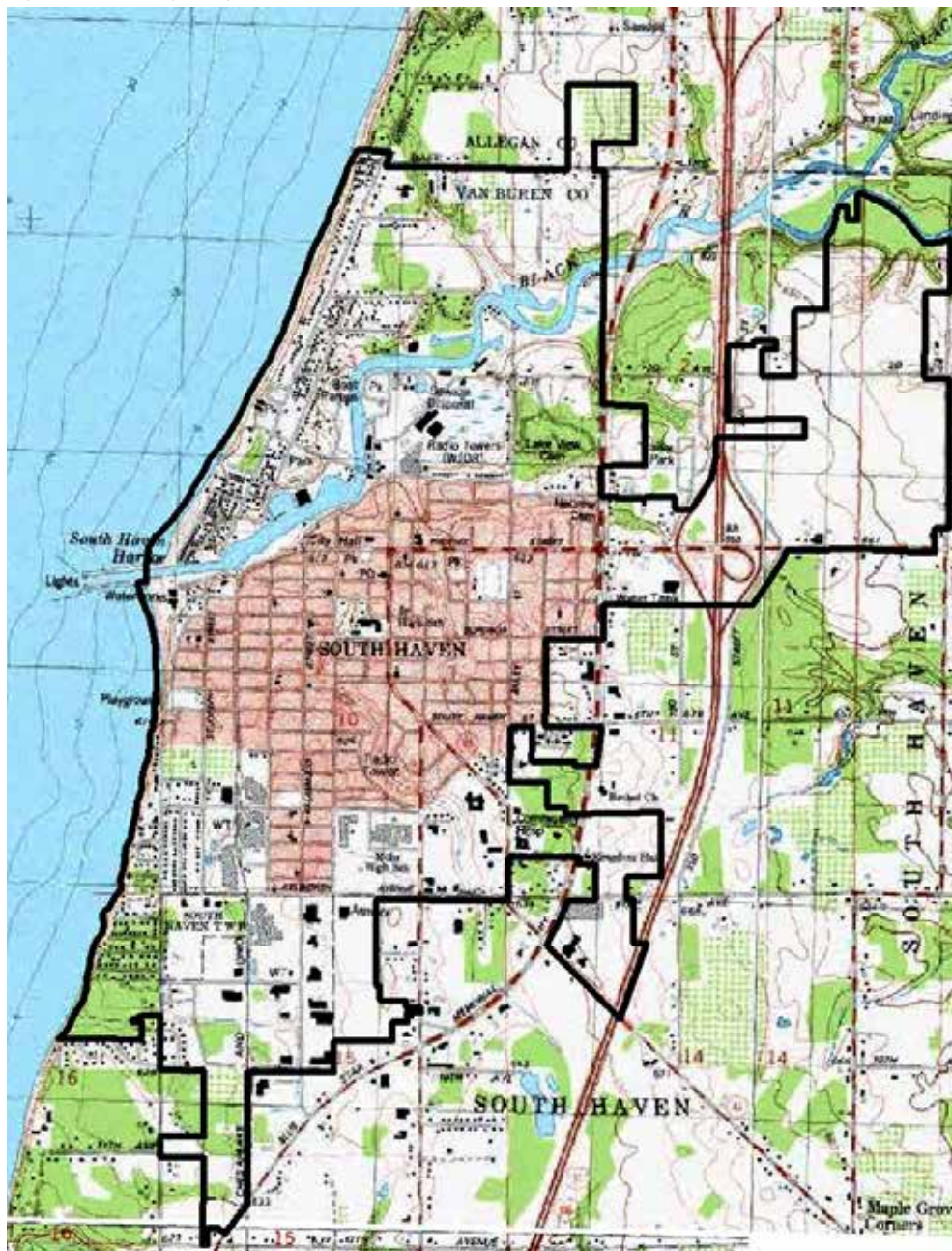
South Haven was incorporated as a village in 1869, then as a city in 1902, and got its start as a timber supplier for Chicago and Milwaukee. The Black River was ideal for saw mills, and Lake Michigan made it easy to ship timber across the lake. The cleared forests were then used for agriculture, primarily fruit. The agricultural industry is still an important part of Southwest Michigan's economy, and South Haven continues to celebrate this history with the Blueberry Festival since 1970. By the early 1900s, South Haven was also known as a tourist destination with regular passenger ships from Chicago.

Physical Characteristics

Topography

The topography of South Haven beginning with its west side starts as sandy beaches leading to clay bluffs up to 50 feet high. There are many ravines through the City, most of which are wooded. The Black River valley makes up the center of the City with downtown established on a bluff overlooking the river.

Figure 1.2 Topography of South Haven



Climate²

The following information was taken from the Soil Survey of Van Buren County, Michigan. Prepared by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Climatology Division, East Lansing, Michigan.

Winter in Van Buren County

In winter, the average temperature is 25.5 degrees Fahrenheit and the average daily minimum temperature is 17.8 degrees. The lowest temperature on record occurred in Bloomingdale on three occasions - February 10, 1912, February 5, 1918 and February 7, 1978, and was -22 degrees. The average seasonal snowfall is 91.4 inches. The greatest snow depth at any one time during the period of record was 45 inches, on December 12, 1962. On the average, 64 days of the year have at least 1 inch of snow on the ground. The number of such days varies greatly from year to year. The highest seasonal snowfall was 158.8 inches, during the winter of 1962-1963. The lowest seasonal snowfall was 21.2 inches, during the winter of 1905-1906. The heaviest 1-day snowfall on record was 20 inches, on December 10, 1962.

Summer in Van Buren County

In summer, the average temperature is 69.1 degrees Fahrenheit and the average daily maximum temperature is 81.1 degrees. The highest recorded temperature, which occurred in Bloomingdale on July 5, 1911, was 105 degrees. The total annual precipitation is 38.28 inches. Of this, 21.31 inches, or about 56%, usually falls in April through September. The growing season of most crops falls within this period. Two years out of ten, the rainfall in April through September is less than 17.3 inches. The heaviest single day rainfall on record was 9.78 inches in Bloomingdale on September 1, 1914. This is the greatest single day precipitation total ever recorded in the history of Michigan climatological observations. The 9.78 inches fell in only 6 hours. Thunderstorms occur on about 36 days each year.

Humidity, Sunshine and Wind

The average relative humidity in mid-afternoon is about 62%. Humidity is higher at night and the average at dawn is about 82%. The sun shines 62% of the time in summer and 32% in winter. The prevailing wind is from the west.



²Michigan Department of Agriculture, Climatology Division, East Lansing, Michigan, 2003

Water Resources

The South Haven area is blessed with access to both Lake Michigan and the Black River, which provide the bulk of natural resource recreational opportunities within the planning area. Swimming, fishing, boating, jet skiing, kite boarding, surfing, wind surfing, and visiting the beach are just a few of the recreational opportunities that the area's water-based facilities provide for not only the local residents, but for much of Southwest Michigan and the City's growing tourist trade.

South Haven City has approximately 2.8 miles of Lake Michigan frontage, and South Haven Township claims an additional 3.8 miles. Of this frontage, the City owns over seven tenths of a mile. While North and South Beach provide the majority of public frontage on the lake, the City has twelve public access points to the lake dispersed throughout the City within the right-of-ways of public streets. Of those twelve access points, seven are currently improved to provide access to Lake Michigan. Continual efforts are needed to protect these access sites.

The Black River meanders through the City providing a port for over 1,150 boat slips, three full service marinas with boat sales, and charter-fishing opportunities for the general public. In addition, the river provides launching facilities for trailerable boats and kayaks. There is approximately 1.66 miles of river frontage that is public, most of which is downstream of the Dyckman Avenue Bridge over the Black River.

The public can enjoy a walk from the North Beach pier to South Beach pier along the Harborwalk. This walk is approximately two miles, and is provided through publicly-owned lands, easements through private property, and access next to privately-owned river frontage. It provides excellent views of the river and its activities for the land-based public. The Black River is an extremely valuable natural and economic resource for the City.

Vegetation and Soils³

According to the Soil Survey of Van Buren County, Michigan as compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture/Soil Conservation Service, the soils and topographic conditions of South Haven are primarily, "Nearly level to hilly, somewhat poorly-drained and well-drained, loamy and sandy soils on till plains, moraines, and lake plains."

More specifically, along the Lake Michigan coastline on the north side of the Black River, the City's soils and topographic makeup is of sandy loam with a one to twelve (1-12%) slope running toward Lake Michigan. On the south side of the Black River along the Lake Michigan coastline, the soils are once again of sandy loam with a minimum of 12% inclining slope from the coastline. The area is within the high erosion area of the Shorelines Protection and Management Act.

Off the coastline in the southern sections of the City, the soil conditions are primarily Selfridge loamy sand with a very low slope of Urban land-berms coupled with no or very small slope. There are several ravines that run through the southern section of South Haven that provide much of the drainage for the area. In the northern section of the town, the soil conditions are comprised mostly of Selfridge loamy sand with little slope. All of these conditions describe moderate or severe soil conditions for Recreational Development. Moderate conditions mean "that the limitations for development can be overcome or alleviated by planning, design or special maintenance." Severe means "that soil properties are unfavorable and that limitations can be offset only by costly soil reclamation, special design, intensive maintenance, limited use, or by a combination of these measures."

Environmental Issues⁴

The Black River Watershed encompasses approximately 183,490 acres, or 287 square miles in Allegan and Van Buren Counties in southwestern Michigan. 43.8% of the watershed lies in Allegan County, and 56.2% lies in Van Buren County.

The Black River Watershed contains a variety of land use. The Black River is intensively used for recreation, especially near South Haven with its new harbor facilities. Primary recreational uses are boating and fishing. The high sediment and nutrient loading from the Black River are adversely impacting the fishery in the lower portion of the river. Sediment and turbidity reduce the quality of the fish habitat. Turbidity also reduces the aesthetic appeal of the river. Opportunities for fishing are reduced when sediment deposition causes a decline in the number of sport fish, such as trout, salmon, walleye pike and perch.

Sedimentation in the Black River Watershed is likely primarily a result of bank erosion. While there are certainly other sources of sedimentation, the banks appear to be eroding in many locations. This can be a result of the land use along the stream bank or changes in hydrology. Non-point source water quality problems existing in the watershed are caused from, but not limited to, the following three main sources:

1. Soil loss, erosion and sedimentation from agricultural land, stream bank, county drain, urban construction and roadside erosion.
2. Nutrient loading is suspected from animal waste runoff, poor fertilizer management on cropland, urban lawn treatment and inadequate on-site septic systems.
3. Potential chemical contaminants, including pesticides from both residential and agricultural sources are suspected in surface waters.



³ SOIL SURVEY OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN – United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. September 1986. Page 50.

⁴Black River Watershed Management Plan, April 2005, updated September 2009.

Transportation

The City of South Haven is easily accessed by interstate expressways and state highways. South Haven is only two hours from Chicago, within 45 minutes of the cities of Kalamazoo, Holland, and St. Joseph, and is at the intersection of I-196 (US 31), M-43, and M-140.

Since 1979, the Van Buren County Public Transit has been providing public transit service to the South Haven area. Currently, the service provides demand response, which allows door-to-door service to anyone within the South Haven area. They also offer a twenty-four hour call-ahead reservation service for those who need to be at a particular place at a scheduled time. In addition they have a fixed route (loop) that they provide to the South Haven area.

South Haven Regional Airport is four miles south of the City in South Haven Charter Township. It is a private airport that offers two year-round runways and fuel service. Commercial air service is available through the Southwest Michigan Regional, Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International or Kent County International Airports, all within an hour drive.

The closest Amtrak train station to South Haven is 10 minutes east of South Haven in Bangor, which then connects south to Chicago aboard the Pierre Marquette. Indian Trails bus service once operated near the Phoenix Street/I-196 interchange, but has currently suspended service to South Haven.

MovePortz Transportation & Car Service is a locally operated business with several cars and small buses. A ride can be arranged for airport runs, wedding shuttles, and similar trips.

Land Use

Known as the “Blueberry Capital” of Michigan, South Haven is essentially a small urban area that is surrounded by a large rural-based farming community. The majority of land within the City is dedicated to single-family housing, surrounding a central business district, and is supported by parks and conservation areas. These three land-uses are part of a crucial relationship for South Haven, where the close proximity of the beaches to restaurants and retail form a key part of the cities economy, supporting the people who live there. There is also a large amount of government owned public land, industrial, and mixed-use/retail.

Trails

In May of 2019, South Haven was one of the first four communities to be awarded the designation as a Pure Michigan Trail Town. The City of South Haven, the South Haven/Van Buren County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Van Buren County, the State Department of Natural Resources, the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy and many other community groups, various trail-friends’ groups and organizations have developed and promoted a vast network of trails in and surrounding the City of South Haven. In fact, South Haven serves as the confluence for fourteen formal trails, including the Kal-Haven Trail Sesquicentennial State Park, the Van Buren Trail State Park, the Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail, the Maritime District Harborwalk Trail, U.S. Bicycle Route 35, Lake Michigan Water Trail Southwest, the Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Trail, and several others. In addition to this Trail Town designation, the Kal-Haven Trail was awarded the designation of Pure Michigan Trail in February, 2020.

Many projects including trail development, signage and wayfinding, collateral material development and trail events have been executed over the past several years. The South Haven community has committed to a long-term plan to continue to grow these trail assets, and to develop a cohesive marketing strategy to promote their trails. Their plan also involved coordination with the community school system to develop educational components for local area children on trail appreciation and stewardship.

Community Demographics

The City of South Haven and South Haven Charter Township have both experienced gradual declines in population since 2000. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates a 2020 population of 4,340 for the City of South Haven and 3,970 for South Haven Township. Van Buren County's population remained steady from 2000 to 2010 at around 76,250 but decreased to 75,658 by 2020. While Michigan's population is growing as a whole, the trend of slight decreases in overall population is happening in many places in the region.

The South Haven area is unique in that it is a waterfront community with many summer residents who are not included in Census estimates. In summer months, the population soars to approximately 20,000 residents, with many additional short-term visitors, especially on summer weekends. Many of these summer residents use and appreciate the area's many recreational resources, both parks and facilities.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, 40% of the population is age 65 and over. 12% of South Haven's population is under the age of 18. South Haven's median age is 59.4 years, higher than Van Buren County's median age of 40.9 and higher still than the State of Michigan's median of 40.2 years. This indicates that South Haven residents have a need for park and recreation amenities that appeal to active adults and seniors. Facilities that meet this need should be prioritized.

South Haven's population is predominantly white (80%) according to 2020 U.S. Census. Other significant demographic groups include Black or African American (15%), and Hispanic (3%). Data from the 2020 Census estimates 1.9% of the population to be foreign born.

The distribution of income for South Haven's residents shows a well-balanced percentage of households in income categories that compares closely with the State of Michigan. The median household income according to the 2020 U.S. Census was \$54,771, slightly lower than Michigan's \$59,234.

Figure 1.3 Demographic Statistics Compared to State of Michigan

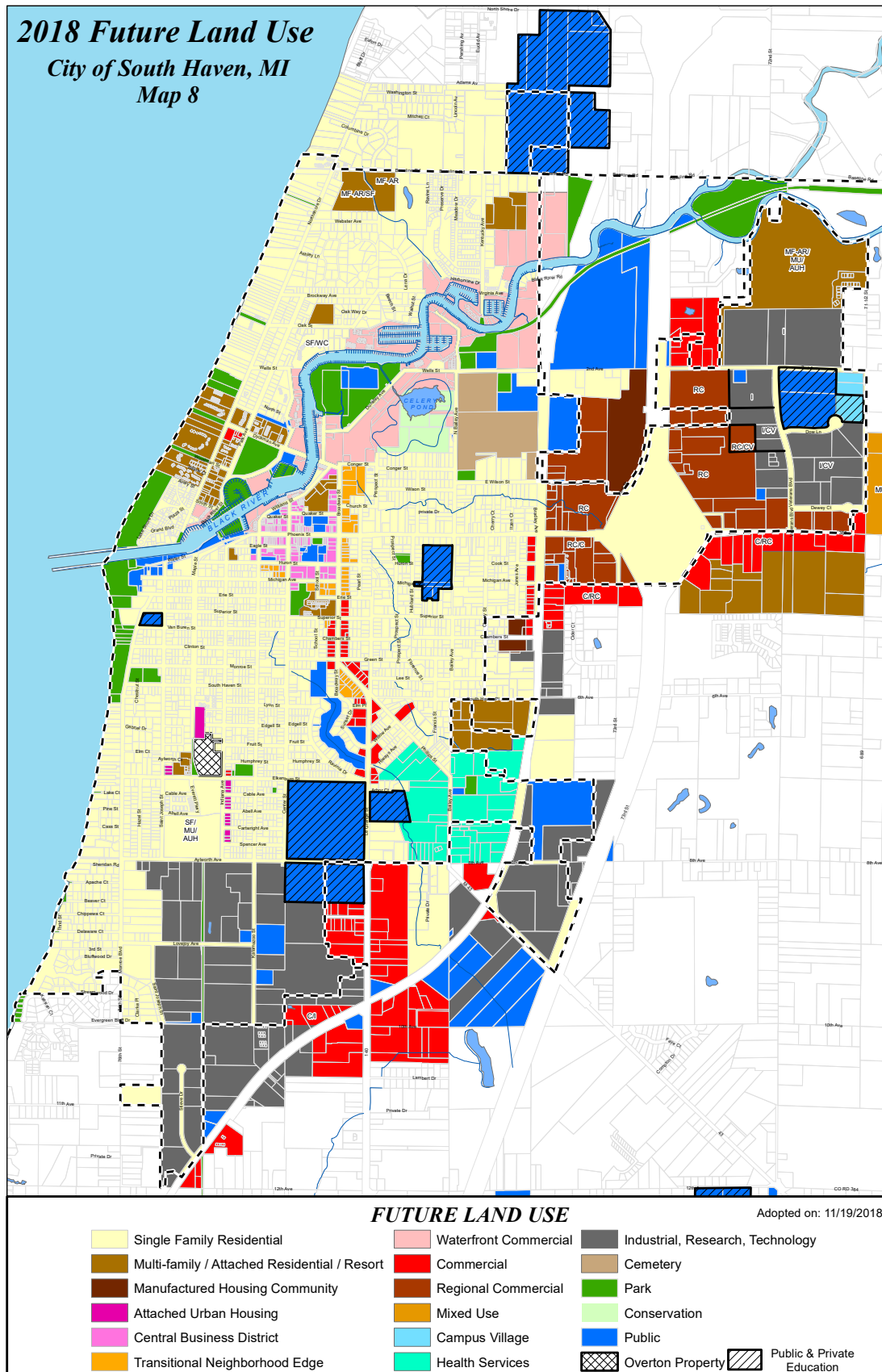
Category	South Haven	Michigan
Population - 2010 Census	4,403	9,883,635
Population - 2020 Census	4,340	10,077,331
% of Population 65 and Older	40.0%	18.1%
% of Population under 18	12%	21.4%
Median Age	59.4	40.2
% Bachelor's Degree or Higher	37.2%	30.0%
Median Household Income	\$ 54,771.00	\$ 59,234.00
Per Capita Income	\$ 44,066.00	\$ 32,854.00
Average Household Size	1.9	2.45
Median Housing Value	\$ 274,000	\$ 162,600
Home Ownership Rate	65.0%	71.7%
Persons Below Poverty Level	14.0%	13.1%

Figure 1.4 Population Trends

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	Growth 2010-2020
City of South Haven	6,471	5,943	5,563	5,021	4,403	4,340	-1.4%
South Haven Charter Township	3,416	4,174	4,185	4,046	3,983	3,970	-0.3%
Van Buren County	56,173	66,814	70,060	76,263	76,258	75,658	-0.8%

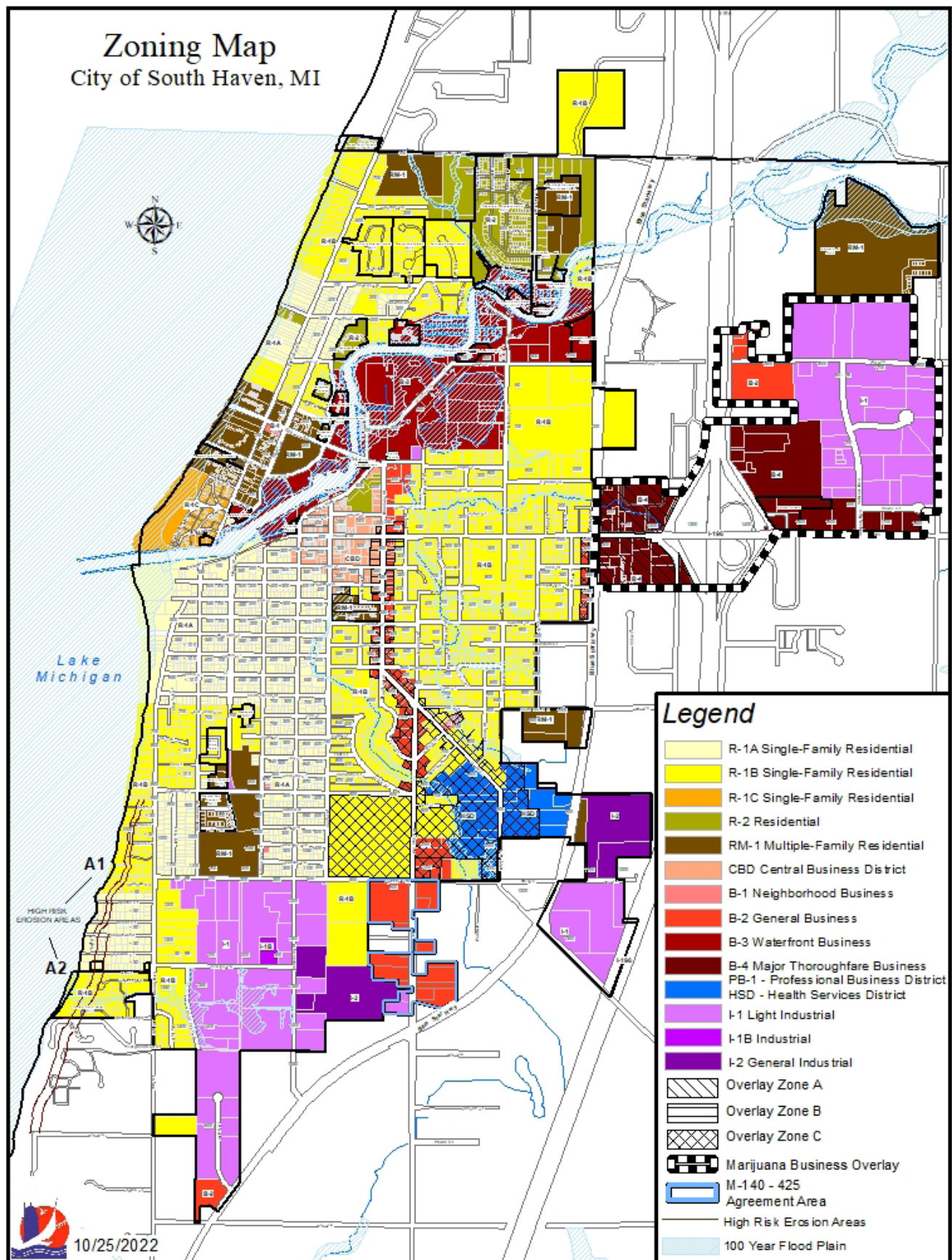
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter

Figure 1.5 Land Use Map



Zoning Map

Figure I.6 Zoning Map



Chapter 01 Key Points

Beyond outlining the purpose and scope of this Master Plan, this chapter contains an overview of historic background and demographic data for the City of South Haven and South Haven Township. Data includes population statistics, age, and income level. This data provides background with the potential to impact park planning.

As 40% of the City of South Haven's population is over age 65, use of outdoor spaces will be greatly increased with provision of easily accessible and walkable park networks and open space systems. South Haven's seniors are some of the most involved and active members of the community in terms of both volunteer efforts and physical activity in general.

South Haven is a very inclusive community, and handles a dramatic increase in population every year in summer months. It remains critical to make parks and recreation programs accessible to all, regardless of age, income, or ability level. This Master Plan Update, if well planned and thoughtfully executed, has the potential to improve the health and quality of life for residents and visitors of all backgrounds.



Administrative Structure

The Parks Department plays an important role within the City of South Haven and the Township, both maintaining current park properties and their amenities, and providing a sustainable vision to allow these properties to function for future residents.

02

In this Chapter:

- South Haven Government Structure
- Partnerships and Role of Volunteers
- Current and Projected Budget

The City of South Haven, South Haven Charter Township, and the South Haven Area Recreation Authority each have their own structure for parks and recreation functions while still working cooperatively in many areas. A broad overview of each are provided below, and more in-depth descriptions are provided later on in this section.

City of South Haven

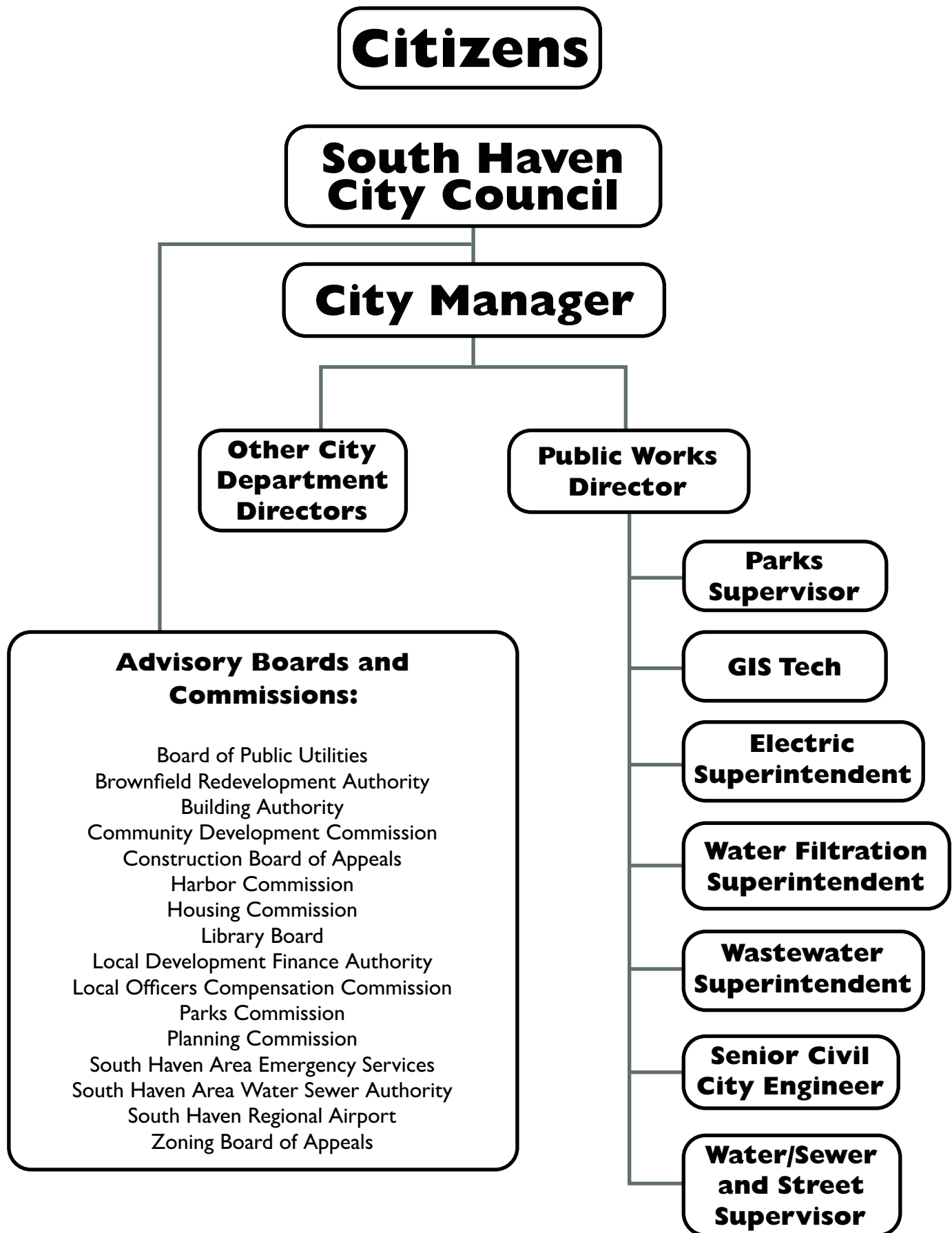
The City of South Haven oversees the operation, maintenance, rehabilitation, and expansion of city park facilities through the establishment of a Parks Commission. The Parks commission is made up of seven people appointed by the City Council, one of which is a City Council Member.

South Haven Charter Township

The South Haven Charter Township Planning Commission performs long range planning for the township. It has a subcommittee in charge of parks and recreation planning. The South Haven Charter Township Board is in charge of property acquisition and hires maintenance staff on a contractual basis.

South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA)

The SHARA is an agency that has been operating for approximately ten years in partnership with the City, the Township, the Visitors Bureau, and South Haven public schools to receive and manage grant funds for acquisition of public property and management of recreation facilities such as athletic fields. The vision statement for the agency is “Community Wide is Key”.



Mayor/City Council/City Manager

A City Manager/Council form of government governs the City of South Haven. The City Manager administers the day-to-day operations of the City. The mayor is elected to a two-year term and is a voting member of the seven person Council, of which the other six consist of two members from each of the three City wards. Council members serve a four-year term. The Council has policymaking and legislative authority, and appoints the City Manager, who is charged with the administration of City business in accordance with Council decisions. The manager has the authority to appoint and supervise all employees and is responsible for the development of the annual budget. In addition to a City Manager and City Clerk, the City employs a staff of approximately 79 full-time employees, 14 part-time employees, and 25 seasonal employees. The City Council appoints a seven person Parks Commission, one of which is a council representative and a seven person Harbor Commission, one of which is a council representative, to serve as an advisory group.

Parks Commission

The Parks Commission was created in accordance with the provisions of State Legislation (Act 156 of 1917). The seven person board conducts monthly meetings for the purpose of making recommendations to the City Manager and or/parks superintendent and public officials of the City regarding the operation, maintenance, caretaking, rehabilitation, and capital expenditures for the city park facilities and property, including playgrounds, beaches and other recreational facilities. The Parks Commission also acts as the cemetery board of trustees. The Parks Department Supervisor serves as a staff representative for the Parks Commission.

Any capital improvement involving the parks and beaches first goes through the Parks Commission, with the Parks Commission serving as an advisory board. They in turn make recommendations to City Council and parks staff regarding the operation, maintenance, caretaking, rehabilitation, and capital expenditures for the city park facilities and property, including playgrounds, beaches, and other recreational facilities. The Parks Commission also acts as the Cemetery Board of Trustees.

Parks Department

With the exception of the Parks Superintendent, the Parks Department has no full-time employees. The Department is overseen by the Parks Superintendent and has eight additional seasonal employees.

The Riverfront concert series is another Parks Department responsibility. This is a weekly summer event held on Thursdays and consists of fifteen different performers and locally sponsored.

All special event applications are processed through the Parks Department so that the dates, locations and anticipated crowds can be entered onto a calendar. Each department head is given an opportunity to provide comments on every special event application so they will be prepared for the event.

The Parks Department is responsible for the maintenance of fourteen public park spaces (including one ROW used as a park), two special-use facilities, one public museum, three public beaches, and nine public beach access sites. Currently, the City maintains these parks but does not offer any programmed activities. The Parks Department works closely with the Public Works Department who clean sand from the parking lots and operate the beach cleaner. The Van Buren County Health Department conducts the water sampling test each Monday. In the event that the bacteria are elevated, the County Health Department would advise the City, and the City would take necessary steps to close the beach and prepare the news release.

Harbor Commission

The Harbor Commission was created in accordance with City Ordinance Section 38-27. The duty of the Harbor Commission is to review and make recommendations regarding all development of waterfront properties in the City, to make recommendations regarding the management, operation, and maintenance of city owned and operated waterfront properties, to make recommendations regarding ordinances governing traffic and safety on waters within the city, and other duties as required by the City Code and Zoning Ordinance.

Marina Department

The municipal marinas are under the purview of the Harbormaster with the day-to-day operations overseen by the marina manager. Seasonal staff are hired by the city for the boating season.

Volunteers

The City has several local organizations that volunteer on a regular basis. The Garden Club has worked at the VanBuren outlook (brown stairs). SHOUT, a volunteer group of local residents tasked with initiating and fundraising public projects, is responsible for public sculpture projects, flowers on the Dyckman Avenue bridge, and Christmas lighting. HASH, the Historical Association of South Haven, maintains the lighthouse. A few volunteer groups reach out to the City each year, most are business or corporations with community volunteer programs. They have cleaned the beaches. Volunteers help with American flags on Veteran's graves for Memorial Day. A small group helps with planting flowers along the downtown streetscape, and nearby residents volunteer their time to help maintain Ellen Avery Park.

Relationships with other Agencies

The City works very closely with several different agencies. Below is a list of many of the agencies with which that the City has regular contact.

Local Agencies

- a. Michigan Maritime Museum
- b. South Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- c. Chamber of Commerce
- d. South Haven Center for the Arts
- e. South Haven Public Schools
- f. PALS/Youth and Company
- g. Historical Association of South Haven
- h. Housing Commission
- i. Celery Pond Advocates
- j. The non-profit Organizations that sponsor special events such as Harborfest Committee, National Blueberry Committee, Fourth of July Committee, Steelheaders Association.

State and County Agencies

- a. Van Buren State Park
- b. Van Buren Marine Control Patrol
- c. Van Buren County Health Department
- d. Van Buren County Commission Board
- e. Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- f. Michigan Soils, Erosion and Sediment Control
- g. Michigan Waterways Commission
- h. Michigan Department of State
- i. Michigan State Police
- j. Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

Federal Agencies

- a. United States Army Corp of Engineers
- b. United States Coast Guard
- c. United States Environmental Protection Agency

South Haven Charter Township

The Township Board makes all property acquisitions and maintenance decisions. The Township Planning Commission acting under authority of the Township Planning Act performs long-range planning. Parks and recreation planning is a function of a committee of the Planning Commission. The Township Board hires maintenance staff on a contractual basis.

Any park or recreation facility established within South Haven Charter Township would have to meet the requirements of the Township's Zoning Ordinance. Public and non-profit facilities are special uses with conditions in the residential, agricultural, and resource development districts. Any facility, such as a ball field, would be required to submit a site plan to the planning commission for review to ensure adequate parking, screening, drainage and safe ingress/egress.

The Planning commission meets on a monthly basis. Special use site plans require a public hearing and generally require two to four months for approval. All plans are transmitted to:

- Van Buren County Drain Commission
- Van Buren County Road Commission
- South Haven Area Emergency Services
- A Civil Engineer hired by the Township to review plans
- If appropriated, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for impacts on floodplains, wetlands, sand dunes and high risk erosion areas

The Township relies heavily on volunteers for different projects with their parks.

Volunteers

- Garden Club
- All special events are run by volunteers
- Friends of Kal-Haven Trail
- Friends of Bangor-to-South Haven Heritage Water Trail
- Friends of North Point
- Friends of Deerlick Park



Relationships with other Agencies

The Township works very closely with several different agencies. Below is a list of many of those agencies that the Township has daily contact with or maintains an ongoing relationship with.

Local Agencies

- a. South Haven Convention and Visitors Bureau
- b. South Haven Public Schools
- c. Youth and Company
- d. COSY-Local Radio Station
- e. Housing Commission
- f. The non-profit organizations that sponsor special events such as Harborfest Committee, National Blueberry Committee, Fourth of July Committee, Steelheaders Association.
- g. Senior Services

State and County Agencies

- a. Van Buren State Park
- b. Van Buren Marine Control Patrol
- c. Van Buren County Health Department
- d. Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- e. Michigan Soils, Erosion and Sediment Control
- f. Michigan Waterways Commission
- g. Michigan Department of State
- h. Michigan State Police
- i. Michigan State University Extension
- j. Van Buren County Drain Commissioner
- k. Van Buren County Road Commission
- l. Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
- m. Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy
- n. Van Buren County Commission Board
- o. Van Buren County Sheriff Department

Federal Agencies

- a. United States Army Corp of Engineers
- b. United States Coast Guard
- c. United States Environmental Protection Agency

South Haven Recreational Authority (SHARA)

The SHARA was established to provide to the acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of the land and facilities that may now or subsequently comprise the South Haven Area Recreational Park (SHARP). The SHARA is also established to acquire, construct, operate, maintain and improve public parks and other purposes as may from time to time be authorized by Act 321 all within a specified jurisdictional limits of the cities, townships and villages that may be part of the SHARA. However, if the SHARA wishes to acquire, construct, operate, maintain or improve a public park or public recreational facility other than the SHARP, it shall first obtain the approval of the SHARA board, the approval of the municipality in which the land comprising that park or recreational facility is located, and the approval of the owner(s) of the park or recreational facility.

SHARA board consists of 2 members representing the City of South Haven, 2 members representing the South Haven Charter Township, 1 member representing the South Haven Public Schools, and 1 member representing the South Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Current Budget

City Budget: General Park operation and maintenance funding is provided through the City's General Fund. Although some revenues are received from parking fees, the great majority of parks and recreation funding is supplied through the City's general tax levy. In the 2021-2022 City Fiscal year, the following amounts have been appropriated to the City's Parks Budget. The Ice Rink Budget is also included, as the ice rink provides an important winter recreation activity for South Haven residents and visitors.

	2021-22 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 10/04/22	% BUDGET USED
PARKS DEPARTMENT			
DESCRIPTION			
Salaries & Wages - Full-Time	\$ 32,752.00	\$ 7,363.94	% 22.48
Salaries & Wages - Part-Time	\$ 112,693.00	\$ 17,645.49	% 15.66
Holiday Pay	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Overtime - Full-Time	\$ 1,081.00	\$ 0.00	% 249.77
Overtime - Part-Time	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,946.10	% 100.00
Health/Dental Insurance	\$ 2,554.00	\$ 1,386.54	% 54.29
Payment In Lieu Of Insurance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 1,300.00	% 21.67
Workers Compensation	\$ 1,848.00	\$ 1,713.02	% 92.70
Payroll Taxes	\$ 11,523.00	\$ 2,360.55	% 20.49
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 414.00	\$ 109.52	% 26.45
Life & Disability Insurance	\$ 324.00	\$ 111.22	% 34.33
Car Allowance	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Employer Mers Contributions	\$ 4,845.00	\$ 1,949.39	% 40.24
Office Supplies	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Other Clothing & Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Operating Supplies	\$ 53,000.00	\$ 15,181.80	% 28.64
Small Tools	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Motor Fuel	\$ 9,300.00	\$ 4,181.46	% 44.96
Professional/Consulting Fees	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Other Contractual Services	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 72,091.00	% 45.06
Farmers Market Related Costs	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 1,348.19	% 4.99
Travel/Conferences/Training	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Printing/Publishing	\$ 800.00	\$ 7.62	% 0.95
Utilities - Electric	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 1,120.46	% 23.34
Utilities - Water & Sewer	\$ 33,700.00	\$ 19,351.47	% 57.42
Utilities - Gas	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 116.90	% 0.78
Repairs/Maint-Builds & Structr	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Repairs/Maintenance - Other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Repairs/Maintenance - Equip	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Motor Pool Fees	\$ 50,195.00	\$ 50,195.00	% 100.00
Information Services Fees	\$ 2,842.00	\$ 2,842.00	% 100.00
Subscriptions/Memberships	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Buildings/Additions/Improve	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Equipment - Shop	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Office Equipment & Furniture	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
ICE RINK			
Salaries & Wages - Full-Time	\$ 10,521.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Salaries & Wages - Part-Time	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Overtime - Full-Time	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Overtime - Part-Time	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Health/Dental Insurance	\$ 3,503.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 69.00	\$ 161.70	% 234.35
Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,101.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 12.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Life & Disability Insurance	\$ 81.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Employer Mers Contributions	\$ 2,283.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Ice Rink Supplies	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Chemicals	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Other Contractual Services	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Contractual Services-Lighting	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Utilities - Electric	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 161.46	% 0.95
Utilities - Water & Sewer	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 246.00	% 16.40
Repairs/Maint-Builds & Structr	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Repairs/Maintenance - Other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Repairs/Maintenance - Equip	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	% 0.00
Motor Pool Fees	\$ 15,086.00	\$ 15,086.00	% 100.00

TOTAL BUDGET: PARKS DEPARTMENT AND ICE RINK	\$ 1,082,171.00	\$ 205,021.64	% 18.95
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South Haven Township Budget: The following lists the Township income report for the years 2022-2023.

<u>Income</u>	2023	2022
Property Taxes		
Fire, Police, Operating	\$ 758,071.00	\$ 671,162.00
Adm. Fees	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
Library (2)	\$ 219,790.00	\$ 213,692.00
Seniors	\$ 181,196.00	\$ 85,338.00
Trailer Park Fees	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,100.00
 Metro Act	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,000.00
Liquor License	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,700.00
W/S Authority Repay	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 2,660.00	\$ 775.00
Licenses and Permits		
Franchise Fees - Comcast	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 36,000.00
Building Permit	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Electric Permit	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Uniform Traffic Code Fee	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 900.00
Zoning Fees	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Rental	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 300.00
State Revenue Sharing	\$ 395,406.00	\$ 375,527.00
Del. Elec/S/W - not prev. budgeted	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Special Assessments	\$ 22,495.73	\$ 5,448.00
Special Assessments Interest	\$ 4,536.63	\$ 2,342.00
	<u>\$ 1,838,355.36</u>	<u>\$ 1,556,284.00</u>
 Road Millage	\$ 262,735.00	\$ 247,630.00
Streets & Highways	\$ 262,735.00	\$ 247,630.00
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
 Recreation Millage	\$ 44,175.00	\$ 42,947.00
Parks & Recreation Expenses	\$ 44,175.00	\$ 42,947.00
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
 Special Assessment-Evergreen Bluff - Prin	\$ 17,047.94	\$ 17,048.00
Special Assessment-Evergreen Bluff - Int	\$ 2,194.14	\$ 2,926.00
Evergreen Bluff Bond Payment	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,000.00
Evergreen Bluff Bond Interest	\$ 1,431.00	\$ 4,000.00
	<u>\$ (3,188.92)</u>	<u>\$ (5,026.00)</u>

South Haven Township Budget: The following lists the Township expenses budget for the years 2022-2023.

	2023	2022
<u>Expenses</u>		
Other General Government	\$ 84,365.00	\$ 84,900.00
Township Board	\$ 6,625.00	\$ 6,367.00
Supervisor's Office	\$ 58,112.00	\$ 51,367.00
Election	\$ 700.00	\$ 7,050.00
Assessor	\$ 31,052.00	\$ 30,117.00
Assessor Additional (AMAR Review)	\$ 11,340.00	\$ 11,340.00
Clerk's Office	\$ 32,868.00	\$ 27,724.00
GIS Mapping & Prop Tax Desc	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 3,700.00
Board of Review	\$ 2,174.00	\$ 2,016.00
Treasurer's Office	\$ 35,372.00	\$ 27,675.00
Township Hall	\$ 51,650.00	\$ 65,600.00
Police Protection	\$ 249,228.00	\$ 237,360.00
Fire & Ambulance Services (inc.Hydrants)	\$ 525,470.00	\$ 447,451.00
Deerlick Creek Loan	\$ 23,967.00	\$ 26,146.00
Building Inspector	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
Electrical Inspector	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Planning Commission	\$ 9,038.00	\$ 5,918.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 2,024.00	\$ 1,410.00
Drains at Large	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Street Lighting	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,600.00
Transfer Station & Refuse Removal	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Zoning Administration	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 28,000.00
Airport Authority	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
Property Tax Evergreen Bluff Property	\$ 3,444.00	
Library	\$ 219,790.00	\$ 213,692.00
Seniors	\$ 181,196.00	\$ 85,338.00
	<u>\$ 1,689,815.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,463,771.00</u>
Tables/Laptops	\$ 10,000.00	
	<u>\$ 1,699,815.00</u>	
Budget Surplus	\$ 138,540.36	\$ 92,513.00

SHARA Budget: The following is a governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance/statement of net activities for the year ended December 31, 2021.

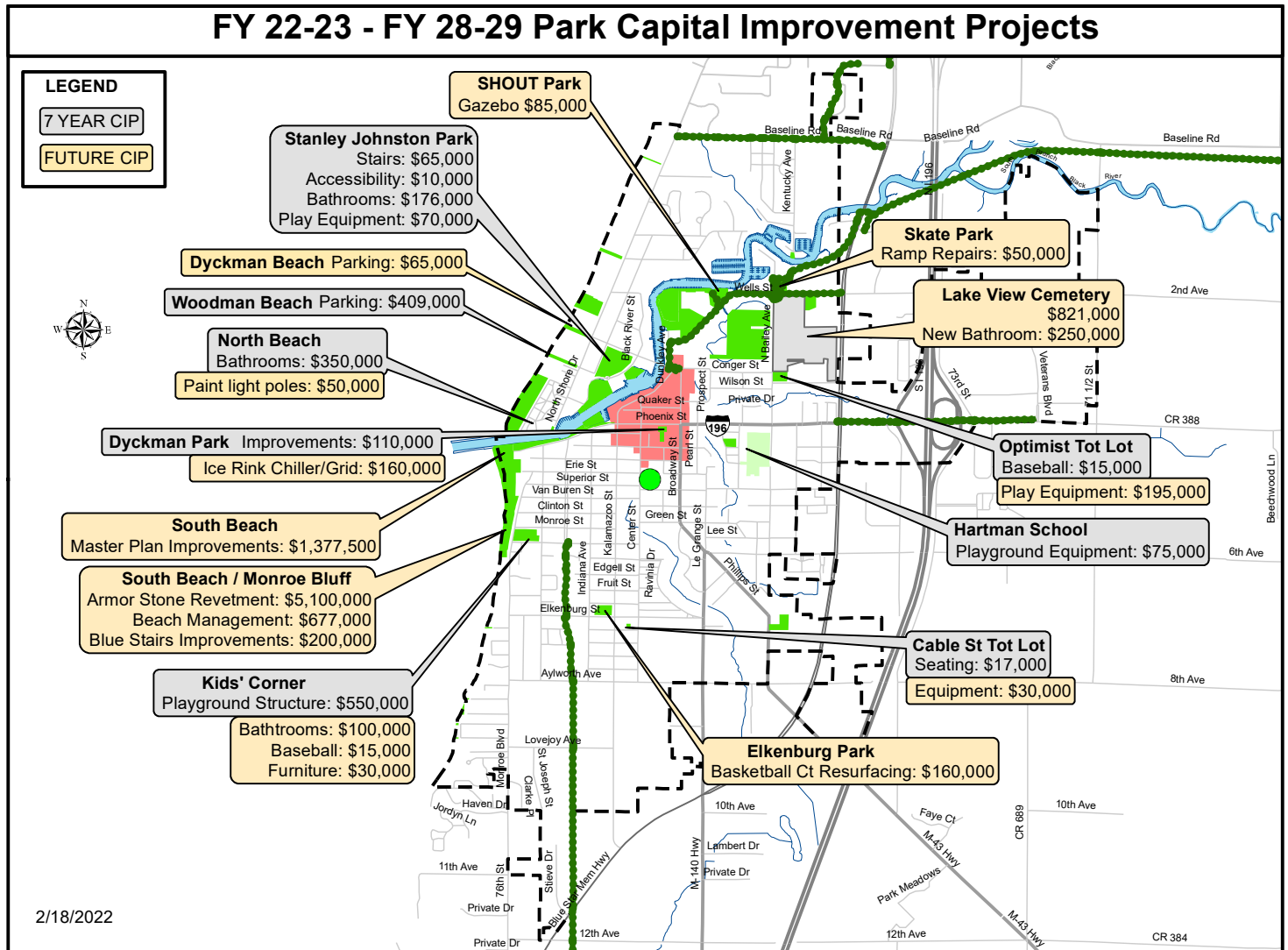
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Statement of Activities</u>
Revenues			
Contributions from local units			
City of South Haven	\$ 7,928	\$ -	\$ 7,928
South Haven Charter Township	30,832	-	30,832
Capital	15,000		15,000
Contributions			
Convention and Visitors Bureau	5,000	-	5,000
Capital	-	95,297	95,297
Interest and other	5,576	-	5,576
Total revenues	<u>64,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>159,633</u>
Expenditures			
Current			
Recreation and culture			
Administrative	897	10,552	11,449
Contractual	2,575	-	2,575
Professional fees	1,713	-	1,713
Insurance	9,633	-	9,633
Pilgrim Haven operating	8,552	-	8,552
Capital outlay	15,000	(15,000)	-
Total expenditures	<u>38,370</u>	<u>(4,448)</u>	<u>33,922</u>
Net changes in fund balance/net position	25,966	99,745	125,711
Fund balance, beginning of year	<u>309,498</u>		
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$ 335,464</u>		
Net position, beginning of year			<u>4,167,946</u>
Net position, end of year			<u>\$ 4,293,657</u>

Capital Improvement Plan

The following chart shows planned Park Capital Improvement Projects for the next seven years. Projected “future” projects (for the year 2020 and beyond) are also shown.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: PARKS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	FISCAL YEAR TOTALS
	Kids' Corner Playground Structure	\$ 550,000	2022-23
	Parks Master Plan	\$ 50,000	\$ 1,600,000
	Beach Nourishment-South Beach	\$ 1,000,000	
	Stanley Johnston Stairs	\$ 65,000	2023-24
			\$ 65,000
	North Beach Bathrooms	\$ 350,000	2024-25
			\$ 350,000
	Dyckman Park Improvements	\$ 110,000	2025-26
			\$ 110,000
	Stanley Johnston Accessibility	\$ 10,000	2026-27
	Stanley Johnston Bathrooms	\$ 176,000	\$ 256,000
	Stanley Johnston Play Equipment	\$ 70,000	
	Cable Street Tot Lot Seating	\$ 17,000	2027-28
			\$ 17,000
	Woodman Beach Parking	\$ 409,000	2028-29
	Optimist Baseball	\$ 15,000	\$ 424,000
	Monroe Bluff-Armor Stone Revetment	\$ 5,100,000	FUTURE
	South Beach Improvements-Master Plan	\$ 1,377,500	\$ 9,440,500
	Hartman School Playground Equipment	\$ 75,000	
	Kids' Corner Bathrooms	\$ 100,000	
	Cable St Tot Lot Equipment	\$ 30,000	
	Dyckman Beach Parking	\$ 65,000	
	Kids' Corner Baseball	\$ 15,000	
	Kids' Corner Furniture	\$ 30,000	
	Lake View Cemetery	\$ 821,000	
	Shout Gazebo	\$ 85,000	
	Ice Rink Chiller/Grid	\$ 160,000	
	Optimist Tot Lot Play Equipment	\$ 195,000	
	Monroe Bluff Beach Management	\$ 677,000	
	Lake View Cemetery New Bathroom	\$ 250,000	
	Elkenburg Park Court Resurfacing	\$ 160,000	
	North Beach-Paint Light Poles	\$ 50,000	
	Skate Park Ramp-Repairs	\$ 50,000	
	Blue Stairs Beach Access Improvements	\$ 200,000	

Figure 2.1 Capital Improvement Project Map



Chapter 02 Key Points

The South Haven Parks Department currently relies on a network of collaborations and partnerships with outside providers and education facilities to provide expanded opportunities to City residents. Based on input from these providers and from the City, these relationships are currently successful and should be continued.

Prioritizing available funding to make best use of available resources and to maintain flexibility to adapt to recreation trends is critical to best serve the community.



Inventory of Parks, Natural Areas, and Recreational Facilities

This chapter evaluates each individual park and recreation facility within the area's network of green infrastructure. While the Plan considers the park system comprehensively, the details from this chapter will help to inform park-wide decisions later in the document.

03

In this Chapter:

- Parks and Recreation Facilities Map
- School and Educational Facility Index
- Individual Park Inventory Pages
- Park Amenity Matrix
- Recreation Program Matrix
- Other Recreation Providers
- Related Maps

Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to document the current content and distribution of South Haven parks and recreation facilities. This information will be used in later chapters to analyze how effectively those parks serve their neighborhoods. The intent of the analysis is to provide a clear evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses within the existing recreational options the City of South Haven has to offer its citizens. The inventory is based on information provided by City staff and site inspections carried out by Edgewater Resources as part of the planning process. Site inspections took place in-person over multiple site visits in July-September of 2022.

Within the City limits, there are three (3) mini-parks, seven (7) neighborhood parks, six (6) community-wide parks, three (3) linear parks, two (2) City-run special use facilities, four (4) marinas, multiple City-owned Rights-of-Way for public use, one museum with public grounds, and three (3) public school buildings currently in operation. Maple Grove and Northshore Elementary Schools are outside City limits. Along with the public schools, there are private schools, exercise clubs, the Bronson Wellness Center, the Senior Center, churches, the South Haven Center for the Arts, and day care programs that provide recreational activities, such as playground equipment, ballfields, scheduled outings and supervised activities. A list of the various public, quasi-public and private recreation facilities follows later in this chapter.

The site inventory for each park includes an accessibility rating to determine the current status of the park's pathways, structures, and amenities. The planning team worked with the Disability Network of Southwest Michigan to help provide accurate and meaningful assessment of parks and facilities from the viewpoint of a person with limited mobility, or from the viewpoint of their caretaker. This resulting ranking will help prioritize which parks should receive accessibility improvements in terms of new paving, modified furniture, or replacement of structures. The Accessibility Assessment of each park uses the following ranking system:

- 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 park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

Each park inventory page contains symbols for key amenities provided at that facility. The legend of symbols is as shown below:



Note that the 'restroom' symbol means that the park has a restroom building within the park boundary. This does not include porta-potties or bathrooms on adjacent properties. The 'parking' symbol means that parking is provided specifically for this park, either in a lot, or directly adjacent on-street parking. The 'trail' symbol does not include standard City sidewalks. Dogs are currently only allowed off-leash at the private dog park by the Humane Society on 8th Avenue.

Parks and Recreation Facilities Map

Figure 3.1



Other Non-Park Facilities

Marinas

South Haven is recognized as a major recreational port accommodating boating enthusiasts from the region and surrounding states. There are four (4) municipal marinas with 229 boating slips available for either seasonal or transient boaters. Each marina is tailored to a different experience. The slips are from 30 feet to 60 feet with broadside dockage. 30 amp electric is available on all slips with 50-amp & 100-amp electric available in some slips.

Overlooks and Beach Access Points

Within City limits, there are nine (9) access points and lake overlooks to provide waterfront viewing and in some cases, a public pathway to the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Cemetery

The Lake View Cemetery within the City of South Haven is governed by the Parks Commission appointed by the City Council of the City of South Haven. It is the desire of the Commission of South Haven to make Lake View Cemetery a quiet, beautiful resting place for departed loved ones. In forming the rules to govern Lake View Cemetery, it has been the desire of the Commission to extend as far as possible freedom for individual wishes and tastes while maintaining a high standard of beauty for the cemetery as a whole.

School and Educational Facilities

South Haven High School

The high school houses the City's swimming pool facilities. The gym, when not used by the school, is utilized by the community. The school's athletic fields are centrally located and provide the primary programmed recreation area for the City and surrounding townships. The approximate 20 acres of land provide four baseball diamonds and associated bleachers, dugouts, bathrooms and concession stand. The remaining areas provide for two football practice fields, five tennis courts and 1 soccer field. The entire area is heavily used for high school athletics and band practices, youth football practices, youth and community soccer practices and games and youth and community softball and baseball games.

Baseline Middle School

Located on 20 acres of property in the north end of the City, the Middle School offers a combination football/soccer field, one small softball diamond, and two outdoor basketball courts. The school building provides a full size gym with full-length basketball court, locker rooms, and seating for 800 people. The cafeteria offers a small stage and an excellent location for community meetings. The lack of additional facilities to support the school community places a tremendous demand on the existing courts and fields. Use of these facilities by external groups is by fee and community soccer and football programs, which at times means not open to the community. Recently the four tennis courts were closed due to surface conditions that caused safety concerns.

Ratcliffe Field

The public school's football stadium, an area of six acres of land located in the southeast section of town is used for competitive high school football, soccer, and Rocket football. A track is here, along with bleachers, a press box, concession stand, and restrooms. The track is used for competitive high school and middle school track and field programs.

Elementary Schools

There are three elementary schools in South Haven. All have playground facilities open to the public. All elementary schools have gyms that may be scheduled by the community at the end of the school day. The three elementary schools are either new or substantially remodeled. These buildings provide real potential for the South Haven area as all three gyms are spacious. North Shore elementary offers a soccer field that is used by school and community soccer programs.

Armory

The playgrounds and walking path are open to the public for use after school hours. The armory and adjacent property offers almost 20 acres of open space and wooded area. 10 acres is used for AYSO soccer fields and associated parking. Tri County Head Start operates a school readiness program on site. The Armory building is being utilized as a grounds, maintenance, and School District storage facility. SHPS will be renovating this space as the future home of the administrative offices and the bus garage in the next several years.

Listiak Auditorium

This facility is located in the High School building and seats approximately 575 people for various community performances. Our Town Players, a local theater group uses this facility throughout the year. The new auditorium was opened in September of 2006. It is an up-to-date facility that can accommodate plays and concerts.

Non-Park and Educational Facilities Map

Figure 3.2



Baer Park

Description: This is South Haven's most newly acquired park. Restrictions on use include no organized activities such as sports programming. The park is used as a sledding hill and as open space. The park is named after Davis Baer who was a teacher in the 1930s-1940s at the adjacent school.

Assessment: A sign is needed to designate this as a public park.

Location: 451 Center St

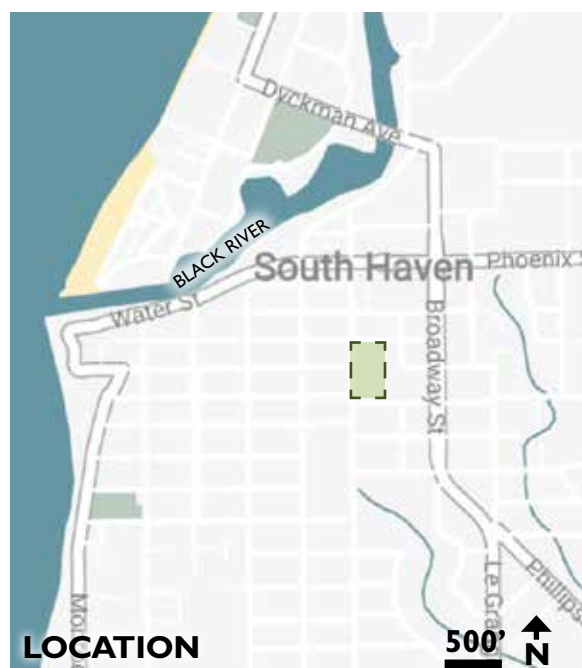
Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Size: 2.12 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming: None currently allowed (restricted in use-agreement)

Amenities: Open lawn, slope for sledding



Black River Park

Description: This park is home to the City boat launch and Black River Marina. The park was originally created with dredge spoils. The Kal-Haven Trail Extension travels through the park. The park has a universally accessible kayak launch and recently upgraded restrooms with showers. The restrooms are open to the public in summer months. The majority of the park is dedicated to parking for the park's six boat launches, but does have a small area for passive use with picnic tables, a pavilion, and lawn. Geese tend to gather in this park. There is a popular fishing spot at the east end of the park. The Steelheaders fishing seawall is located at the northeast corner of this park.

Assessment: The park and its entry sign and bike racks are in good condition. The park would benefit from improved way-finding. Parking lots are busy in summer but often not fully utilized. Improved trail and landscaping maintenance was suggested in public input.

Location: 123 Black River St

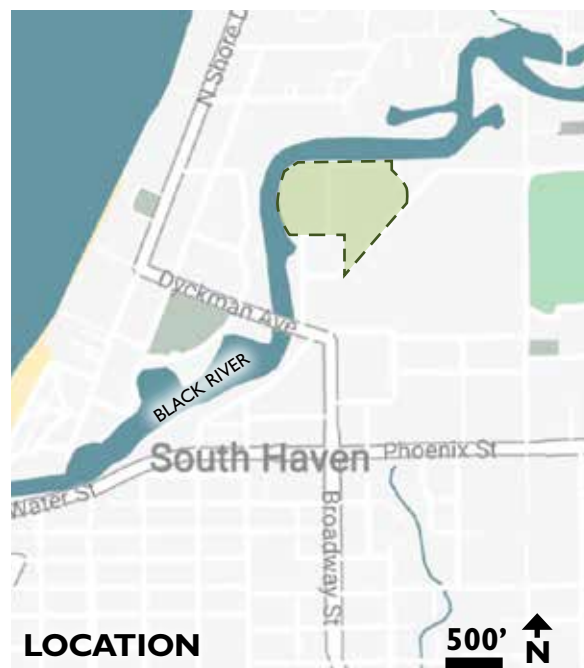
Park Type: Community Park / Marina / Boat Launch

Size: 14.22 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming: Boat Launch, ADA kayak launch

Amenities: Parking, pavilion, boat launch



Cable Street Tot Lot

Description: This park has play equipment including one standard swing set, one tot swing set, and a play structure. There are two metal benches, one wooden picnic table with steel base, and one trash receptacle. There is one young shade tree and existing trees along the perimeter. The existing concrete sidewalk leads from the street sidewalk to the bench seating area. There is free on-street parking.

Assessment: This park would benefit from a portable restroom with enclosure. An entry sign is needed. Play equipment is outdated and would benefit from updates.

Location: 421 Cable St

Park Type: Mini Park

Size: 0.17 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming: Kid's play

Amenities: Playground, benches



Dyckman Park

Description: This park is located directly across the street from City Hall and immediately to the north of the Huron Street Pavilion. The pavilion hosts the farmers market in the summer and an ice rink in the winter so this park is heavily used during all seasons. The focal point of the park is a decorative clock located in a raised planter bed centrally located toward the north end of the park. This is a popular gathering place for residents and visitors with multiple picnic tables and benches for shaded seating. A new outdoor fireplace is in the planning stages on the west side of this park.

Assessment: Site amenities should be updated to include accessible picnic tables. The mature trees are in good condition and the landscape beds are well maintained. New public bathrooms and an outdoor fireplace are planned within the next year adjacent to this park.

Location: 536 Phoenix St

Park Type: Community Park

Size: 0.55 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming: Farmer's Market, Ice Rink in winter

Amenities: Seating, shade, picnic tables, outdoor fireplace (in planning stage)



Elkenburg Park

Description: This park was recently renovated with a new play structure, swings, accessible concrete sidewalks, 3 new basketball courts, 2 bike racks, benches, 9 sets of bleachers, and 2 player benches. The existing restrooms/pavilion were also renovated. This park hosts basketball tournaments in the summer. The park is well maintained and fairly accessible.

Assessment: Park is recently updated and not in need of improvements.

Location: 309 Elkenburg St

Park Type: Community Park

Size: 1.49 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming: basketball tournaments, ice cream social, Bobby Walker Tournament

Amenities: Basketball courts, pavilion, restroom, playground



Ellen Avery Park

Description: Amenities at this small park include one trash receptacle, retaining walls with landscaping, benches, exposed aggregate walk surfaces, brick donor insets, and an ornamental clock. Ellen Avery Park also provides complete accessibility for people using the Harborwalk. Neighbors maintain this park themselves to a high standard of quality.

Assessment: The park is in very good condition, with good signage and is well integrated into the Harborwalk, with no level changes

Location: I North Shore Dr

Park Type: Mini Park

Size: 0.29 acres

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming: N/A

Amenities: seat wall, decorative plantings



Hartman Park

Description: This park has mature trees and a few younger trees. The park has one memorial bench, two picnic tables, one grill, and one trash receptacle. None of the items are accessible as there are no sidewalks within the park. All items are in good condition. The park offers no programming or amenities, but the neighbors enjoy having quiet green space with seating.

Assessment: The park needs an entry sign. A tot lot here would serve this entire neighborhood which is from other parks by high-traffic roads. There are no dog bag dispensers, but dog clean up signs. Dog bag dispensers are needed.

Location: 347 Prospect St

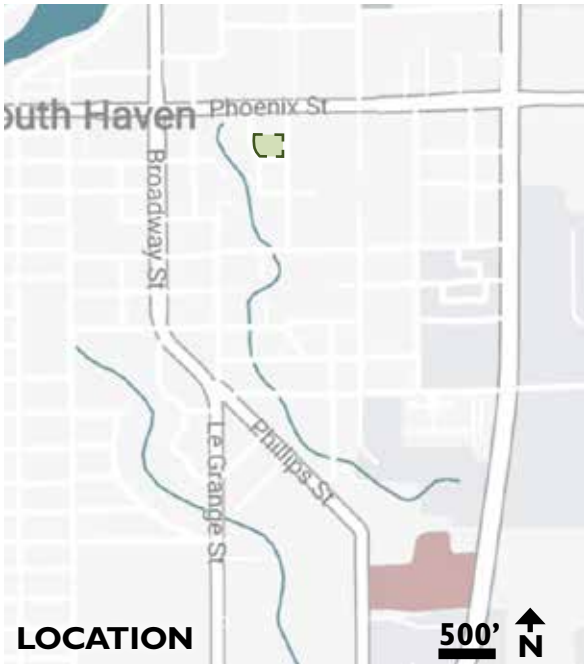
Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Size: 0.89 acres

Accessibility Rating: I

Programming: N/A

Amenities: bench, grill



Historic Monroe (Right-of-Way) Park

Description: Not technically a park, this City-owned Right-of-Way is a green space used primarily by locals as a seating and dog walking area. Located in the Historic Monroe Park neighborhood near North Beach, the traffic circle is a small open green area. There is a small sculpture placed there by residents in memory of a loved one. The City empties litter here. The park has no active use, just green space with planting. Signage and ornaments in this small park are a bit cluttered and do not follow City standards.

Assessment: The retaining wall may need repair; the park needs a dog bag dispenser and possibly benches. The park would benefit from an update to City standards with removal of non-standard furniture and addition of standard bench and/or picnic table.

Location: Intersection of Esplanade Pl. & Kalamazoo Ave

Park Type: Right-of-Way

Size: 0.08 acres

Accessibility Rating: I

Programming: N/A

Amenities: N/A



Kids' Corner at Monroe Park

Description: This park is located on the bluff above South Beach. Best known as “Kids’ Corner”, the actual park is called Monroe Park and the popular play structure within the park is called Kids’ Corner. The large wooden play structure is near the end of its useful life and is planned for replacement in 2023. A smaller universally accessible playground was recently built near the restroom. Other facilities include a baseball diamond with bleachers, play equipment, picnic shelter, grills, picnic tables, restrooms, and abundant views of Lake Michigan. Access to the beach is provided across Monroe Boulevard at the well-known “Blue Stairs”. This park hosts youth group field trips on occasion and some baseball programming.

Assessment: The park has many amenities and good overall accessibility. Only street parking is available, besides ADA spots, but many visitors will walk to this park. Definitely a popular park and close proximity to beach. The bathroom would benefit from updates and the picnic pavilion. The park would benefit from pavilion rental for events.

Location: 563 Monroe Blvd

Park Type: Community Park

Size: 2.7 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming: Peelers and Peaches vintage baseball games, youth field trips

Amenities: baseball field, large open lawn, picnic tables, playground



P



Monroe Bluff

Description: Monroe Bluff spans the Lake Michigan shoreline on Monroe Boulevard from Van Buren Street north to just south of Chestnut Street. The park is well-known for its expansive views of Lake Michigan. There is street parking only, and no path throughout the park. The majority of space along Monroe Bluff is a fragile dune ecosystem, and is not meant to sustain foot traffic. Pedestrians are allowed to walk and rest along Monroe Boulevard at the top of the bluff, or to access the beach at designated stairways only. Dogs are not allowed on the beach.

Assessment: The bluff has some visible erosion. Designated walkways from steps to beach with signs are needed. The deck needs renovation. Brush blocks views, needs vegetation and invasive management. The Monroe Bluff Master Plan outlines proposed improvements.

Location: Monroe Blvd between Van Buren St and just south of Chestnut St

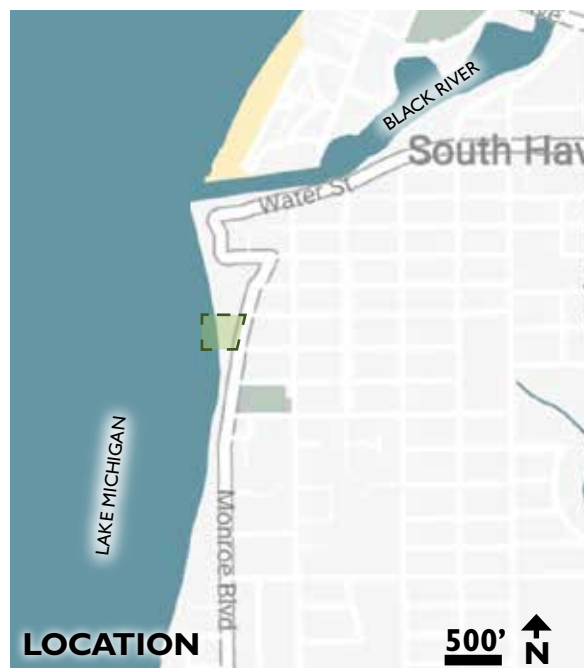
Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Size: 2.6 acres

Accessibility Rating: I

Programming:

Amenities: benches, beach access, native plantings



North Beach

Description: North Beach is located on the north side of the Black River channel and has over 1,600 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline. In 2017, this park was reconstructed with new parking, widened concrete sidewalks, new seating areas, light fixture upgrades, and bike racks. An accessible concrete route to the pier, a life jacket stand for free public use, and an emergency call box were installed. Improvements near the existing concession stand included a new drop off area, additional picnic tables, an accessible drinking fountain, outdoor showers, kayak parking and a new dumpster enclosure. A new entrance sign was added at both the north and south ends of the park near the street. A new accessible play structure with a ship theme was installed with accessible mats to the play structure and beach. The park has nearly 100 Pay-to-Park parking spaces, excellent accessibility with an ADA mat out into beach, concession stands, and a connection to the Harborwalk.

Assessment: The park would benefit from updated restrooms with changing rooms and a footwash station.

Location: 45 Lakeshore Dr

Park Type: Beach

Size: 15.1 acres

Accessibility Rating: 5

Programming:

Amenities: playgrounds, volleyball nets, concession stand, restroom



P



Optimist Tot Lot

Description: This park has playground equipment including a play structure, a tot swing set (3 seats), a standard swing set (4 seats) and an older slide. The half-court basketball court is concrete and the park has a baseball diamond. The restrooms are in good condition and are connected by a staircase to the street sidewalk. The staircase, per code, needs to have a handrail installed. There is an older concrete sidewalk on the southern end of the park area that should be connected to the basketball court and also extended to the restroom to provide an accessible route. There is an old baseball backstop with a sand infield at the southeast corner of the park. The park also contains mature trees, grills, and picnic tables.

Assessment: The park has good amenities but is difficult to access. The bathroom could use minor updates. Baseball would benefit from updates. The basketball court needs the end section of concrete replaced.

Location: 191 Bailey Ave

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Size: 1.49 acres

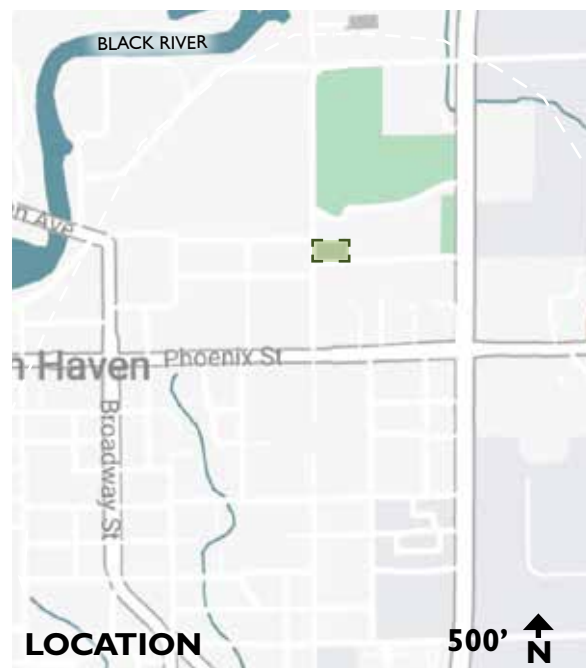
Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming: 1/2 court basketball, baseball/softball, playground

Amenities: Bathrooms, picnic tables, playground



P



Packard Park Beach

Description: This is a beach-front park located along North Shore Drive with access to Lake Michigan. The park has a concrete walk leading from the street sidewalk to the restroom building. The restroom building and sidewalk are in good condition. There is a worn path to the south of the restroom that leads to concrete steps leading to the parking lot. There is a wood observation deck with wood picnic tables. North Shore Drive was re-built in 2017 and new walkways, a new park entrance sign, bike racks and landscaping were added along the eastern edge of the park. The concrete 'sculptures' in this park double as play features but they are outdated, under-used, and offer no shade. The park has grills, picnic tables, Pay-to-Park parking.

Assessment: The park needs more shade, as young trees are small. Bathrooms and play equipment needs updates. City should continue to manage tree pruning to preserve views. The worn path should be replaced with a concrete sidewalk and the concrete stairs and old timber retaining walls are in poor condition and should be replaced with new stairs with handrails and a new retaining wall. The decking may need weather-proofing or replacement within the next 5 years. The picnic tables may need replacement as well within the next 5 years.

Location: 231 North Shore Dr

Park Type: Neighborhood

Size: 4.14 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

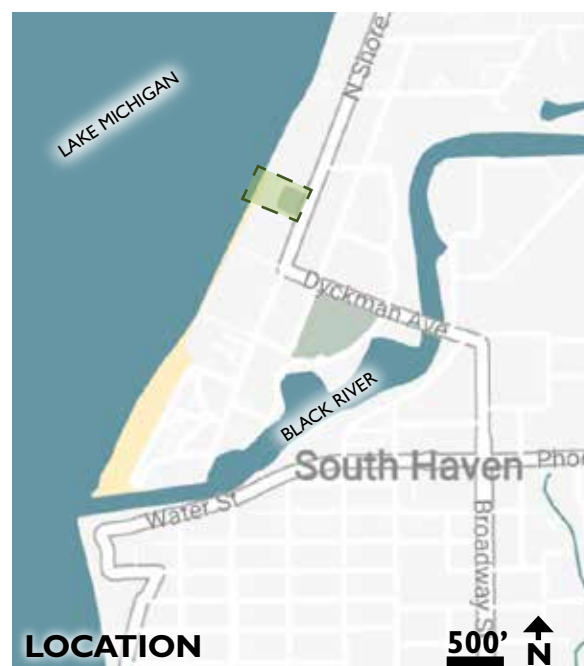
Amenities:



P



(in park only)



Pump Track

Description: This park was developed in 2017 across from the Skate Park. It is a continuous loop of berms and mounds for bicycle riders. The site includes a parking area, fencing, benches, and signage.

Assessment: The entry point is very accessible with parking and a walkway to a bench, but park is otherwise focused on BMX biking. The park would benefit from improved signage, timer, benches. Many City residents don't know this park is here or how it is meant to be used.

Location: 1068 E Wells St

Park Type: Special Use

Size: 1.28 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming: None

Amenities: BMX bike track



Riverfront Park

Description: This park contains 1,400 linear feet of river frontage along the Black River directly contiguous to the City's downtown. The park provides the public with pedestrian access from downtown to South Beach and offers scenic views of Lake Michigan. The park includes picnic areas, grills, fishing areas, public restrooms, and an excellent view of the harbor. This park is also the location of the summer Riverfront Concert Series and the primary location for Harborfest and the National Blueberry Festival. The Friends Goodwill splash pad was completed in 2019 to replace a parking lot. Summer concerts, festivals, and marinas are all programmed elements here. There is some free parking adjacent to this park and some metered parking.

Assessment: Very popular park with high foot traffic, excellent seating and signage (Harborwalk passes through the park area).

Location: 101 Water St

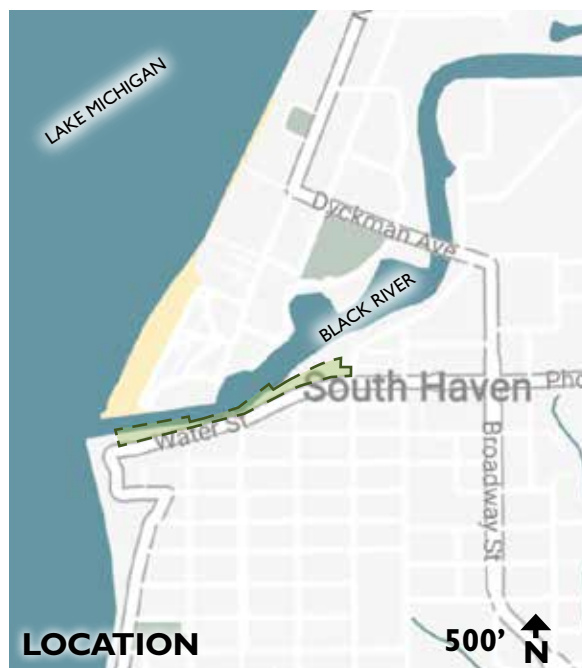
Park Type: Community Park

Size: 3.77 acres

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming: Summer concerts, festivals, marina

Amenities: Friends Goodwill Splash Pad, seating, open lawn, river views



SHOUT Park

Description: This park was created in 2017. It included the development of a pedestrian bridge connecting it to the neighboring Black River Park. There is a universally accessible fishing platform, parking and sidewalks. Environmental remediation work was also completed. The Kal-Haven Trail Extension travels through the park. Future plans include: a new gazebo, additional walkways, and additional landscaping on land and in and around Celery Creek. There is a parking lot and small trees. The wooden deck area has a good view of river.

Assessment: Park amenities are in excellent condition, with no level changes and are very accessible. The park could use more seating and native plantings. This area has lots of geese, which can cause a mess. The park could use more shade in open areas. This park was the most mentioned for a future dog park.

Location: Dunkley Ave

Park Type: Neighborhood Park

Size: 1.6 acres

Accessibility Rating: 5

Programming:

Amenities:

P T 



South Haven Skate Park

Description: This park is a single-use facility with skateboard ramps, lighting, bleachers, 2 trash receptacles, a bike rack, and fencing. The park is in good condition overall. The existing concrete slab that the equipment sits on is in excellent condition and the lighting and fencing is new. The park has adequate parking and is close to the Kal-Haven Trail.

Assessment: The skate features themselves may need updates in next 5 years, as they undergo frequent and punishing use (as designed).

Location: 51 N. Bailey Ave

Park Type: Special Use

Size: 1.59 acres

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming: Skateboarding

Amenities:



South Beach

Description: This park is one of the City's most popular destinations. It has a pavilion and an adjacent restroom facility with new roofs. Both facilities are scheduled for additional improvements. There is a new concession building and a small retail facility located near the concession building. In 2012, playground equipment, sidewalks, parking and amenities including lighting, picnic tables and concrete seat walls were added along the Lake Michigan side of the park. These facilities are in good condition. A restroom/concession area Master Plan was completed in 2020 to completely renovate the existing restrooms and concessions and add changing areas. There is Pay-to-Park parking, good accessibility with an ADA mat to beach, and an adjacent splash pad. Two triathlon events and a volleyball tournament are held on the beach annually.

Assessment: Restroom upgrades needed. The existing older wood picnic tables throughout the site should be replaced within the next 5-7 years with new tables and accessible seating options.

Location: 60 Water St

Park Type: Beach

Size: 14.46 acres

Accessibility Rating: 5

Programming: Swim beach

Amenities: Restrooms, concessions

P



Stanley Johnston Park

Description: Located on a bluff above the Black River, this park has extremely dense areas of mature trees, yet it also provides excellent views of the City's harbor, downtown South Haven and even Lake Michigan. In 2007, a portion of the Harbor Walk was completed along the south side of the park lending beautiful views of the moored vessels and the river traffic. The park contains a picnic structure with bathroom facilities, a gazebo, picnic tables, grills, swing sets, basketball courts, and tree-lined walks that meander throughout. The retaining walls and boardwalk along Black River Street are in good condition. The pavilion is in moderate condition with some accessible walkways. There are very steep stairs from the marina access, paths are mostly paved, there is plenty of shade, and the park has educational signage. This is a very popular park with locals, as it is relaxing and peaceful.

Assessment: The bathrooms and pavilion need updates. The community would benefit from allowing pavilion rental for events. Flooring in bathrooms needs to be replaced. Some of the picnic tables within the pavilion need repair or replacement.

Location: 202 Dyckman Ave

Park Type: Community Park

Size: 6.45 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming:

Amenities: picnic tables, pavilions, basketball court, playground, bathrooms



Harborwalk

Description: In 2001, the city initiated the Harborwalk project to serve as a public walkway along the Black River for pedestrian use. The Harborwalk connects the north pier to the south pier, crossing over the Dyckman Bridge. The Harborwalk serves as the focus for all waterfront activities found in the city. Interpretive markers line the Harborwalk, giving information about the diverse history of the community as well as the dynamic vision of the people of South Haven today. The Harborwalk is designed to be safe, accessible, well-maintained and self-guided. It provides a wide variety of waterfront activities and also accesses five city parks.

Assessment: This park has excellent signage and adds a cohesiveness to this part of the City. The walk is highly accessible.

Location: Along the Black River

Park Type: Trail

Size: 2 miles

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming:

Amenities:



T



Kal-Haven Trail Extension

Description: The Kal-Haven Trail Extension was completed in spring 2012. The project consists of 1.2 miles of non-motorized trail from the Kal-Haven State Linear Park to the corner of Huron and Kalamazoo Streets in downtown South Haven. Highlights include a 10' non-motorized pathway with bike lanes going in both directions, addition of parallel parking; repaved and widened roads and sidewalks; updated curbs to ADA requirements; buried electrical utilities; and redesigned applicable landscapes to include public-use street amenities. Additional improvements include wayfinding signage, non-motorized improvements at the Dunkley/Dyckman Avenue intersection, advanced warning signalization, high-visibility crosswalks, improved overlook, and installation of decorative fencing. The City maintains the ROW, mows and clears brush. This is a very popular trail that connects all the way to Kalamazoo, 33.5 miles east. The trail is accessible and is groomed in the winter months for cross-country skiing. Portions are open in winter for snowmobiling.

Assessment: Some public input suggests additional way-finding would benefit users of this trail. Portions of the trail are showing wear and would benefit from resurfacing.

Location: From Black River Park north and east, primarily along Black River

Park Type: Trail

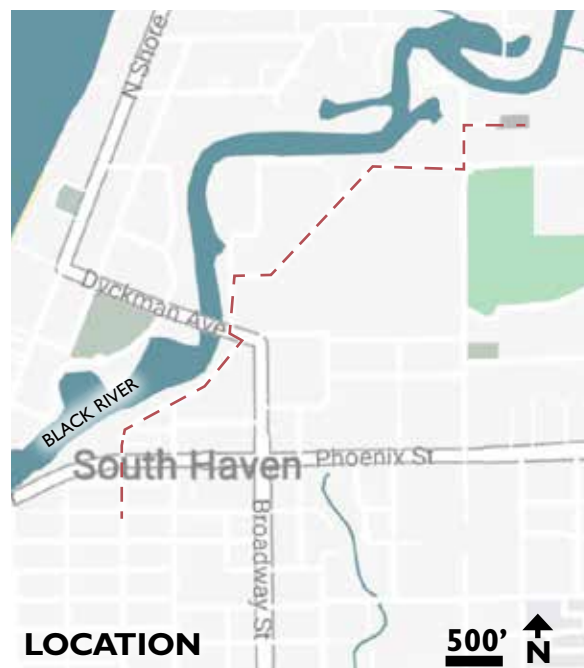
Size: 1.2 miles

Accessibility Rating: 5

Programming:

Amenities:

P T 



Van Buren Trail Extension

Description: The Van Buren Trail is a 13-mile stretch of former railroad that connects the City of Hartford to the City of South Haven. The Van Buren Trail South Haven Trailhead entrance is located on Lovejoy Street southwest of the water tower. From this point, a 1.1 mile trail extension connects south to the intersection of Aylworth and Kalamzao. Then an existing trail continues south to Van Buren State Park. The City maintains the extension ROW, mows and clears brush. There is adequate parking near access points with clear signage. The trail is accessible. Portions of the trail are available for horseback riding. Revenue generated from horse pass sales is necessary for trail operation, and is used for maintenance work like resurfacing, brush and trash clearing, new equipment, signs, paint, and restroom servicing. Pass revenue also funds the staff that works on the trail.

Assessment: Users suggest more signage would be helpful near street crossings.

Location:

Park Type: Trail

Size: 1.4 miles (14 total)

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming:

Amenities:

P T 



Beach Access Points

Description:

Blue Stairs- 1.39 acres ,accessibility rating: 1
Dyckman Street- 1.29 acres ,parking,swimming,accessibility rating 3
Kentucky Ave River access- 0.26 acres ,accessibility rating: 2
Newcome- 0.41 acres ,swimming,accessibility rating: 2
Oak Street- 0.7 acres ,parking,swimming,accessibility rating: 1
Van Buren Stairs- 0.63 acres ,accessibility rating: 2
Woodman- 1.82 acres ,parking,swimming,accessibility rating: 2
14th Ave- 1.5 acres ,accessibility rating: 1
18th Ave- 0.3 acres ,accessibility rating: 1

Dogs are not allowed on any beaches.

Assessment: There is good consistency between access points, clear signage, many have potential to be accessible (slope would allow for ramps at some points). Consider adding water trail stops at key points.

Location:

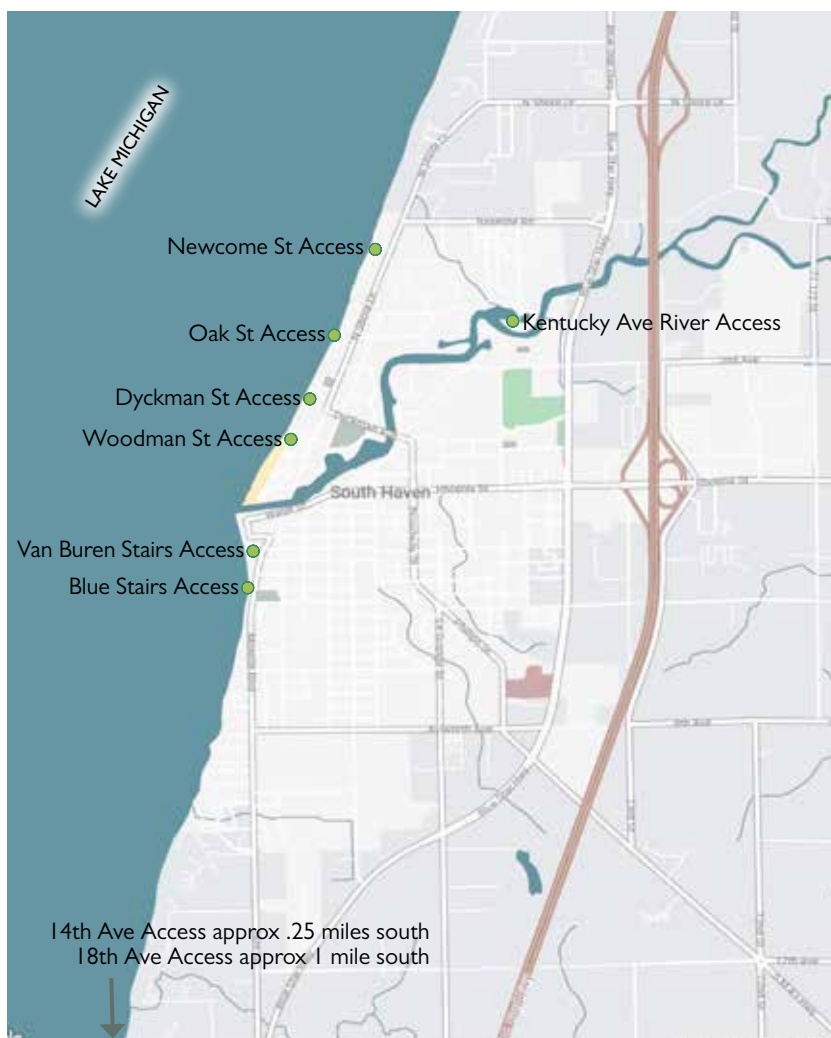
Park Type: Beach access

Size: Under 2 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

Amenities:



Black River Park Marina

Description: This seasonal marina follows the shores of the Black River. The marina is adjacent to Black River Park and boat ramps, and staff oversees park operations. There are 60 seasonal or transient docks with ten boat launch ramps. Showers, restrooms, parking, and picnic tables are available.

Assessment:

Location: 123 Dunkley Ave

Park Type: Marina

Size: 0.65 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

Amenities:



LOCATION



Maritime Docks at Michigan Maritime Museum

Description: This seasonal marina has a total of 26 slips with 200 feet of head dock for broadside dockage. All slips at this marina are 40' in length and have 30-amp service and water hookups. The facility was built in what used to be the turning basin. In 1990, Congress de-authorized this basin and turned ownership over to the city for construction of the marina. There are restrooms and shower facilities for boater use only. There is parking, a picnic shelter, grills, benches, and trash receptacles.

Assessment: The new area is very accessible, many other areas have stairs to access.

Location: 260 Dyckman Ave

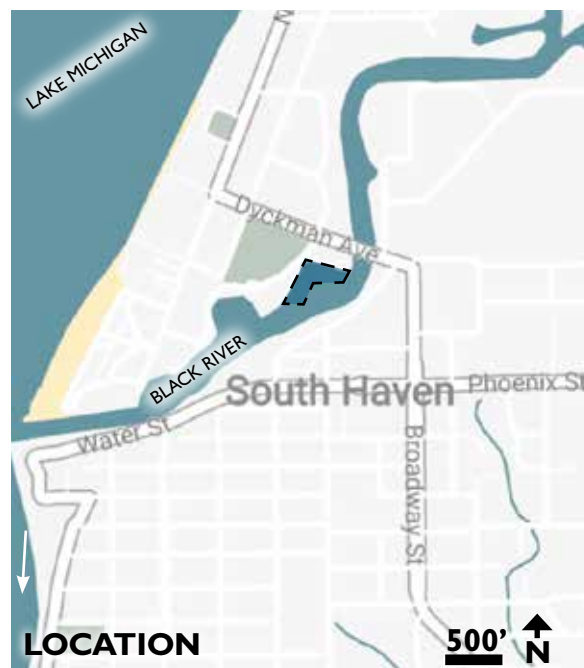
Park Type: Marina

Size: 1.56 acres

Accessibility Rating: 3

Programming:

Amenities:



Northside Marina

Description: The Northside marina is a seasonal, Grant-In-Aid facility with 97 slips. The marina was built in 1969 with a new building built in 2013 and a major renovation of utilities in 2020-2021. The new building has enlarged clubhouse that includes an office for the marina manager, new showers and restrooms, laundry facilities, and boater lounge and kitchenette.

Assessment:

Location: 158 Black River St

Park Type: Marina

Size: 5.63 acres

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming:

Amenities:



Southside Marina

Description: This marina is a transient marina with 330 feet of broadside dockage and 40 slips which vary in size. This marina is adjacent to the Central Business District. Construction was completed in 1991 and facilities include an office, lounge, restrooms, shower and laundry facilities, picnic shelter with grill, public restrooms and a deck for viewing vessels in the harbor. The pedestals along the headwall were upgraded to provide 50 amp services to the larger vessels.

Assessment:

Location: 345 Water St

Park Type: Marina

Size: 2.62 acres

Accessibility Rating: 4

Programming:

Amenities:



P T



Black River-CR 388 Launch (Geneva Township)

Description: This is the site for a planned ADA kayak launch, which will be a water trail stop on the Heritage Water Trail. The project is led by SHARA.

Assessment:

Location: CR 388 and Black River

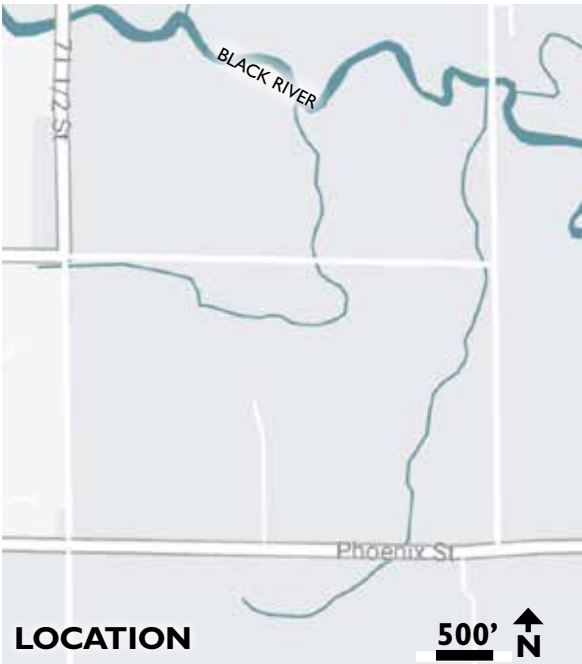
Park Type: Kayak/Canoe Launch

Size: 0.8 acres

Accessibility Rating:

Programming:

Amenities:



LOCATION

Deerlick Creek Park (SHARA)

Description: Located on the end of a residential street, this park has been used for generations as a public beach. In 2007, after four years of input/help from the community, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, and various State agencies/officials, the Township was able to secure the needed funds, via grants and grassroots fundraisers, to ensure that this property would remain a public beach for all future generations. Deerlick Creek Park has 172 feet of Lake Michigan frontage. On the north edge of the property is a rock jetty. About 0.82 acres of wetland are on the site along with a large stand of deciduous trees and a sandy/rocky beach. Deerlick Creek Park is within one mile of the Van Buren Trail and the bike path along Blue Star Highway. At this time, Deerlick Creek Park is rustic and has a porta-potty. It offers beautiful views of the Lake from the parking area. The gentle slope allows for those with physical challenges or small children to access the beach and Lake. Dogs are allowed on-leash at this beach.

Assessment: The entrance is currently under construction. The park has limited parking, with potential for ADA ramp access.

Location: 76773 13th Ave

Park Type: Beach

Size: 2.1 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

Amenities:



Pilgrim Haven Natural Area (SHARA)

Description: This is a natural area managed by SW Michigan Land Conservancy, Township, and SHARA. There is great rock hunting at this beach. The site is a former church camp. This is a popular park with high use and pit toilets. The City collects litter and mows grass.

Recent renovations include paving of the parking lot with ADA parking, universally accessible walkway connecting parking lot to shoreline area of park, and pit toilets.

Assessment: A maintenance plan/agreement would be beneficial to clarify duties within this park.

Location: 77000 block of 18th Ave (approximately)

Park Type: Community Park

Size: 25.84 acres

Accessibility Rating: 5

Programming:

Amenities:



P T (in park only)



South Haven Area Recreation Park (SHARA)

Description: This property has direct access from the Van Buren Trail and is currently home to a disc golf course. The parking lot is gravel and there is a porta-potty on site. Soccer fields with new driveway are planned for spring of 2023.

Assessment: This site would be a potential location for additional family-friendly amenities such as playgrounds at the new soccer fields.

Location: I 4th Ave

Park Type: Community Park, Natural Area

Size: 39.5 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

Amenities:



Porter Legacy Dunes (SHARA)

Description: This property is adjacent to Pilgrim Haven, but will not be available for public use until trail connections are completed. It is owned by the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy with the intent of preserving the natural character of the site.

Assessment:

Location:

Park Type: Natural Area, Beach

Size: 48 acres

Accessibility Rating:

Programming:

Amenities:



M-I 40 Nature Sanctuary & Van Buren Trail Parking

Description: This is an 8-acre site that is located on M-I 40. The front part of the property is mainly grass and the remainder of the property is thick, wooded and marshy. The Township acquired this property in September of 2008, and no improvements or changes have yet been made. The west perimeter of this property borders the Van Buren Trail. The rich, untouched state of this property could lend itself to an educational/environmental outdoor classroom with signage and nature paths.

Assessment:

Location:

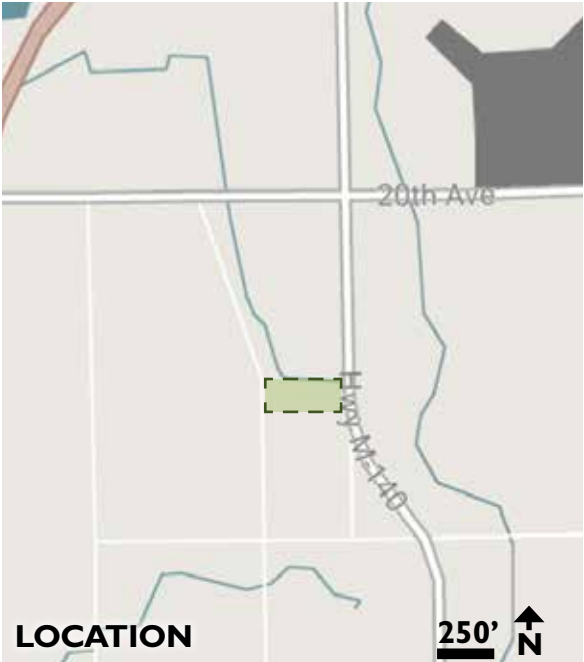
Park Type: Natural Area, Trailhead

Size: 8 acres

Accessibility Rating: I

Programming:

Amenities:



Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum and Park

Description: Constructed in 1857, the museum, named after noted botanist Liberty Hyde Bailey, is one of the oldest standing homes in South Haven and was the principal building of the 80-acre Bailey farm that pioneered peach and apple farming along Michigan's Fruit Belt. The site has beautifully landscaped public gardens and a nature trail (the surface of which is not accessible by current ADA standards) that leads through a wooded area with native plantings and custom wood seating. The accessible walkways surrounding the residence are concrete and are in good condition. The wood benches are in moderate condition. There are 4 picnic tables with steel supports and wood seats and table tops. The City handles some maintenance, youth classes, invasive removal and tree ID workshops, career days, nature based outings.

Assessment: The gardens and paths are well-maintained and moderately accessible.

Location: 903 S Bailey Ave

Park Type: Public Museum

Size: 1.88 acres

Accessibility Rating: 2

Programming:

Amenities:

T P



Celery Park Preserve (undeveloped)

Description: This is not a developed park, but is included in this inventory as it is City-owned open space and the land has a conservation easement. If developed, would be the largest park within City limits.

Location: Southwest Corner of East Wells Street and Bailey Avenue

Park Type:

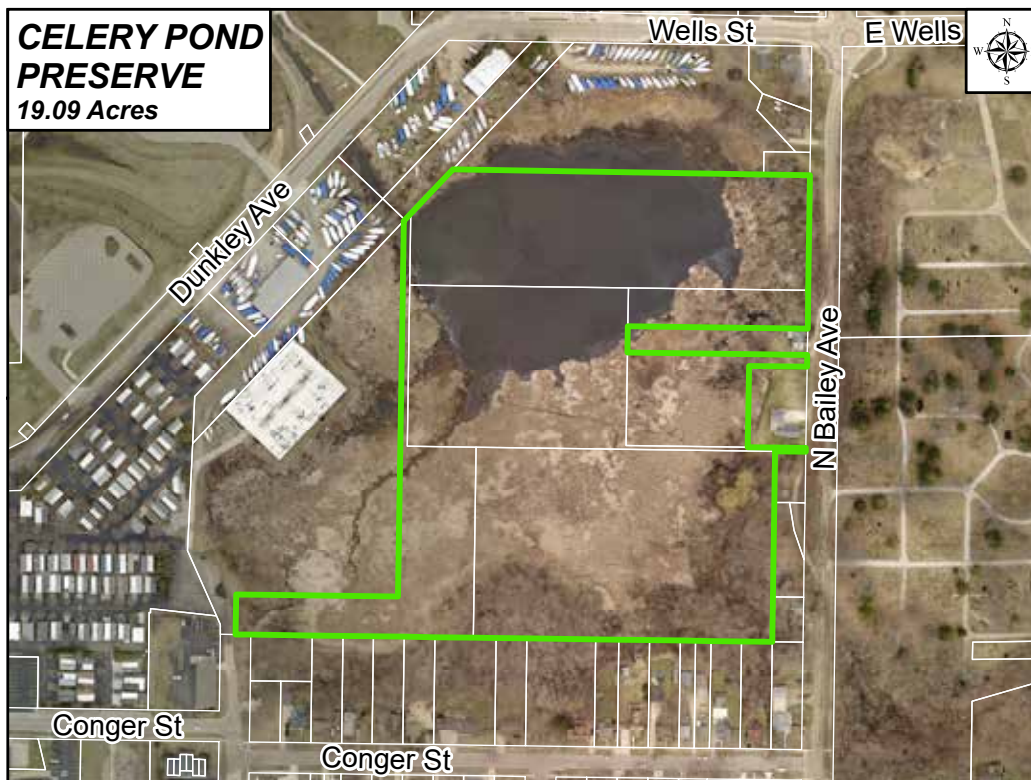
Size: 19.09 acres

Accessibility Rating: I

Programming:

Amenities:

Assessment:



Ravinia Park (undeveloped)

Description: This site is also City-owned open space that could be developed in the future.

Location: Northwest Corner of LeGrange Street and Elkenburg Street

Park Type:

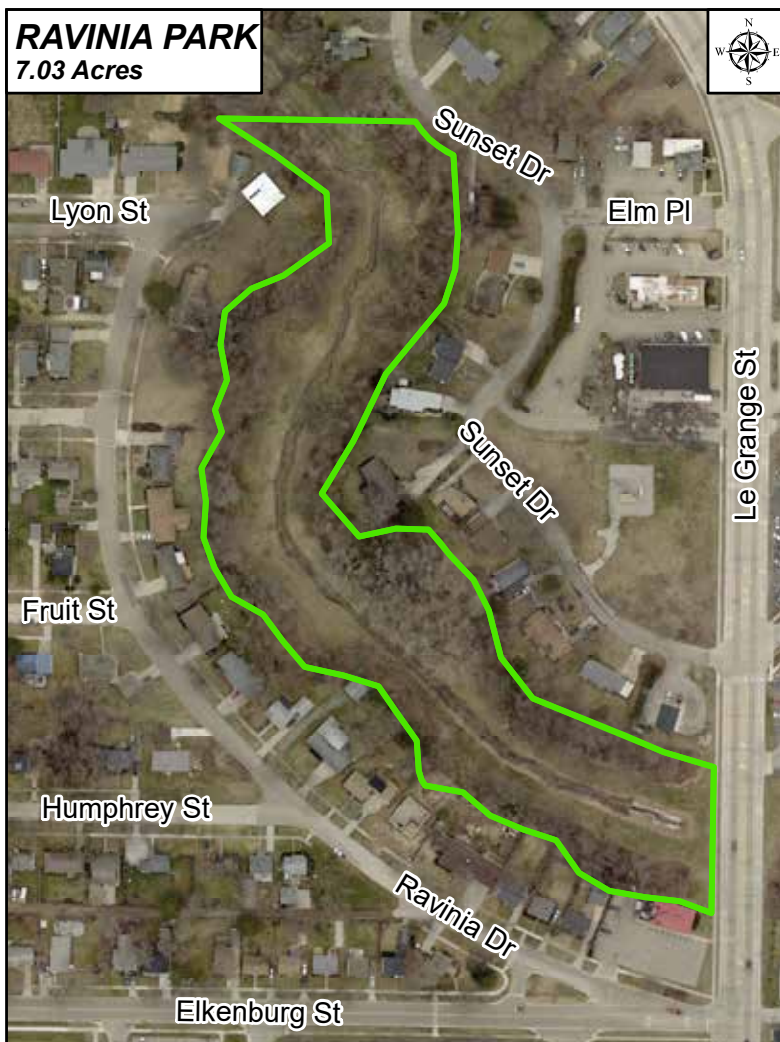
Size: 7.03 acres

Accessibility Rating:

Programming:

Amenities:

Assessment:



Park and Facility Inventory Matrix

This matrix lists currently available park amenities, both City-owned and regional resources. The matrix is meant to be used as working document available for City and Parks staff to use for planning and communication purposes.

Figure 3.3

Baseball/Softball	Historic or Cultural Interest
Basketball Court	
Beach (not all swim)	
Bike Trail	
Boat Launch	
Classes: Arts or Fitness	
Concessions	
Cross-Country Ski Trails	
Disc Golf	
Dogs Allowed Off-Leash	
Drinking Fountain	Historic or Cultural Interest
Farmers Market	
Football/Track	
Fishing	
Grills	
Ice Skating	
Kayak Launch	
Marina	
Pavilion	
Pickleball Courts	
Picnic Tables	Planting: Ornamental Beds
Planting: Ornamental Beds	
Playground	
Restroom/Toilet	
Skateboard Park	
Sledding Hill	
Soccer Field	
Splash Pad/Fountain	
Swimming	
Tennis Courts	
Viewing Platform	Views of Lake or River
Views of Lake or River	
Volleyball	
Walking Path	Views of Lake or River

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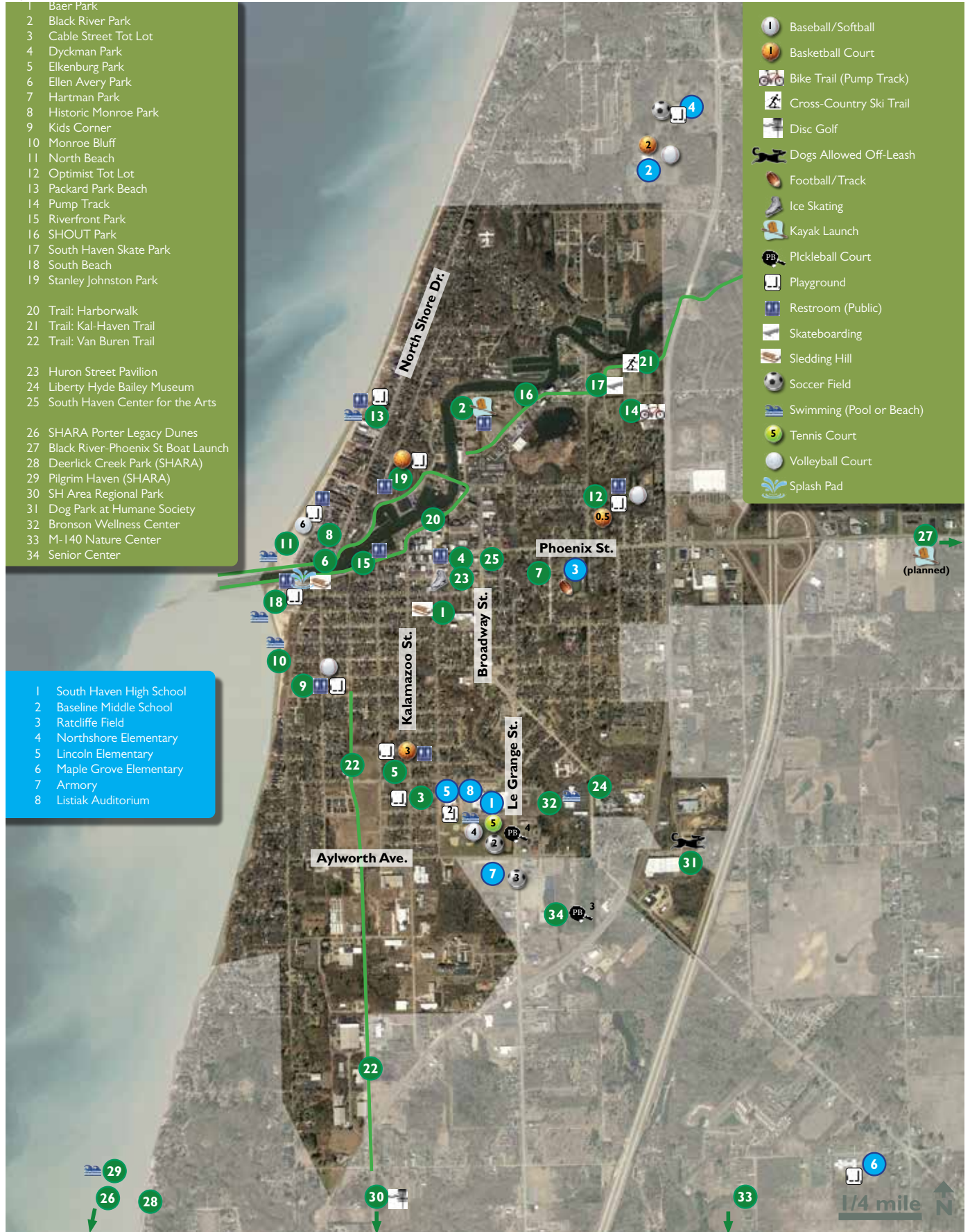
Non-City Parks/Facilities																		
Black River-Phoenix Street Boat Launch													X					
Deerlick Creek Park, SH Township	N	2.1	2	X							X			X		X	X	
Pilgrim Haven	C	29.28	5	X										X		X	X	
SHARA Disc Golf Park							X											
SHARA Legacy Dunes				X													X	X
Dog Park at Humane Society								X										
M-140 Nature Sanctuary		8																X
Bronson Wellness Center						X										X		
Senior Center					X	X		X					3					X

[illegible][illegible]

Recreation Inventory Map

The map on this page shows existing recreation distribution in the City of South Haven.

Figure 3.4



Other Recreation Program Providers

Public Schools

South Haven has historically relied on the South Haven Public Schools to provide for athletic recreational space and facilities. While this approach was sufficient in the past, the community's utilization of these facilities far exceeds their ability to support programs and allow for even minimal maintenance. Additionally, the use of school facilities requires the operation and maintenance to be supported from the limited operating budget of the school system with some revenues obtained on a fee basis.

Soccer

South Haven Schools provide the only facilities in this area for soccer programs. At separate locations, there is one fully developed soccer field and one fully developed combination soccer and football field. These fields are used for High School Varsity and Junior Varsity practice in the fall for boys and in the spring for girls. The Schools utilize the football stadium for regulation High School Varsity and Junior Varsity soccer games. The facility is not available for community soccer programs during the fall and spring soccer seasons. The school allows local soccer programs to use an undeveloped area adjacent to the high school for additional field space. This area is equivalent to two full-size and two half-size fields. The area is poorly drained, not irrigated, and has no service facilities such as bathrooms or concessions. Parking is limited and traffic flow is uncontrolled. Youth soccer is provided by two distinct organizations to the City of South Haven, adjacent townships and other nearby communities such as Bangor and Coloma. The AYSO program provides open soccer for multiple age groups with a current enrollment of about 300 youth participants. The MYSA program provides a more dedicated and limited selection program with a current enrollment of 60 youth participants. Both provide fall and spring programs. The community does not provide organized adult soccer programs. There is a very active use of the facilities by the area Hispanic community on most evenings starting in the early spring and continuing through the fall. This usage is difficult to document, but is typically from 20 to 40 players, with families and other spectators and is found to be very active on all days of the week. One local adult Hispanic team is sponsored privately and competes in the Battle Creek area and regionally in interstate competition. South Haven has no facilities for indoor soccer. The nearest facilities are in Holland and in Kalamazoo. South Haven does participate in these winter leagues at both the youth and adult level.

Baseball/Softball

South Haven schools provide the majority of facilities for baseball and softball. There are four developed fields at the High School to support the Varsity and Junior Varsity baseball and softball seasons. The facility is used for community programs in the spring and early summer months. Other fields are located at city facilities and at other school locations, but have very limited applications due to size or adjacent park facilities. The High School facility does provide for concessions and restrooms. However, these facilities are not adequate to support the number of persons that are at the site during the normal season. The structure is dated and the upper announcing/scorekeeping area is not accessible for physically challenged individuals. Youth baseball and softball is provided primarily from the local South Haven Junior Youth League organization and by the American Legion baseball program. These organizations support almost 600 youth during the spring season. Generally, all available fields are utilized to implement scheduled games with no available sites for practice. Junior leagues play on the adjacent football/soccer practice field space. Adult organizations are not strongly active in softball or baseball. Generally, some churches do provide opportunities. Most adults play in other communities due to the lack of open facilities or supporting organizations.

Basketball/Volleyball

South Haven Schools provides the facilities for indoor basketball and indoor volleyball for community recreation. The facilities are available on a fee basis. Beach volleyball is available in the waterfront parks (North Beach). Outdoor basketball courts are provided at a variety of locations on school and City property.

Swimming

The high school pool facility is open on a fee basis for community programs. The school provides maintenance and supporting facilities. Youth programs are run through the South Haven Rams Aquatic Club (RAC).

Football

South Haven Schools provide the only facilities for football programs. The practice fields are utilized concurrently for Varsity and Junior Varsity football and soccer practice as well as High School Marching Band practice. The Rocket Football program provides community youth football for the South Haven area. Current enrollment in this program is at 100 players and cheerleaders. Games may be played at the High School Stadium or at the combination football/soccer field at the Middle School. The Middle School facility does not provide concessions or restroom facilities. Practices occur at the High School facilities in an area that is concurrently used by youth soccer, High School football programs, and the High School marching band.

Tennis

South Haven Schools provides the only available tennis facilities in the community. There are six courts at the High School. At this time the four courts at Baseline Middle School are closed due to surface conditions. It is unlikely that the school will replace these courts in the near future. The High School tennis facility was recently rebuilt with its six tennis courts, two are striped for pickleball. The Middle School facility does not provide services such as restrooms, water or lights. It was open for recreational use during after-school periods. South Haven does not currently provide an adult recreational tennis program.

Youth Services

Youth Development Company/PAL provides a safe place for youth to come and grow. The City on 76th has become 'the' place to be after school. Statistics show that the most dangerous times for crimes to be committed by and upon young people are between the hours of 3pm and 6pm. They have educational tutorial programs along with dance, improv/drama, arts & crafts and all of our programs center around one common theme - mentoring. They offer a fun and enriching atmosphere where we reach the 'whole' child. Partnered with PAL (Police Activities League), Bangor Public Schools, Covert Public Schools, South Haven Public Schools, South Haven Center for the Arts, Van Buren Transit, First Baptist Church, Hope Reformed Church, St. Basil's School, and a host of other local organizations we provide much needed programs for area youth. Their staff mainly consists of high school and college students who receive extensive training to facilitate programs and enabling them to become marketable employees. Through YDC/PAL, students learn that their career and their future are guided by ethics and integrity. Since opening, they have reported over 200 registered students and a daily attendance of over 60, 4th through 8th grade, students from South Haven, Bangor and Covert school districts. In addition to their after school programs, they also run a summer park program. Summer Fun in the Park runs 5 days a week for 6 weeks each summer and features a variety of high- to low-energy activities for children, including team building games, arts and crafts, music, skits, dance, community walks, and weekly field trips, and swimming at the high school. All children ages 4 to 13 are welcome to attend (mature 3 year-olds who are toilet trained are also welcome).

Pickleball

South Haven has a pickleball club with 127 current paying members. The club has a governing Board of volunteer members from the community. The SHPC was formed in 2022 with the goals of promoting an active and healthy lifestyle directly associated with the game of pickleball

Van Buren State Park

Approximately three miles south of South Haven on the Lake Michigan shoreline, Van Buren State Park has one mile of sandy beach and high dune formations. The park is popular for its sandy beach, woodland trails, and campground. The day-use area has picnic tables and grills, a picnic shelter and two modern restroom buildings. Lake Michigan provides a great area for swimming and a beautiful beach for sunbathing. The campground has 220 camp sites for public use, some with 50 amp services. Pets are allowed in specified areas (not on the beach), and are required to be on leash.

Bronson Wellness Center

Bronson Wellness Center's fitness department features a variety of fitness equipment, land- and water-based classes and personal training with many options to meet user needs. There is a membership fee, but scholarship programs are available. Some of the amenities offered at Bronson Wellness Center include:

- Cardio and strength training equipment
- Over 40 group fitness classes
- Small group fitness programs
- Two indoor pools
- Gym floor/basketball court
- Indoor track
- Childcare
- Nutrition education classes and cooking demonstrations
- Test kitchen used for cooking demonstrations and nutrition education classes
- Weight management programs and assistance

Senior Center of Van Buren County

The Senior Center helps people access multiple services and programs, and provides a place to gather, learn, eat, play, and exercise. Together with the community, the Center helps build a strong local network of supports, resources and services for older adults in the Van Buren County region. The Center offers over 55 fitness programs, small group fitness programs, a walking path, three pickleball courts, and arts and dance classes.

The Boys and Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Club currently operates out of the High School and Middle School buildings and facilitates many recreational and physical wellness programs. The Club operates on three main pillars: academic success, character and leadership development, and living a healthy lifestyle.

The most loved and popular program by staff and members is called Triple Play. It incorporates wellness with the mind, body, and soul. Every day, they host a "daily challenge" related to physical wellness which helps youth build movement skills and positive attitudes toward physical activity. The Club is currently looking to incorporate yoga and self defense programs for both middle school and high school members. The Club could use more space for programs and more gym time, as they are outgrowing the available school facilities.

Golf Courses

Currently there are two golf courses within an approximate three-mile radius of South Haven. One is Hawkshead Links: this course ranges from a 4,960 yard game marked out at the gold tees to a 7,003 yard, 72 par layout at the championship tees. The other is Beeches Golf Club with play from just over 5,000 yards up to just over 7,100 yards. Both courses are open to the public.

Lake Arvesta Farms and Arvesta Sports Complex

Located approximately 3 miles east of South Haven on Phoenix Street, this recently completed complex of 188 acres has 3 indoor and 9 outdoor pickleball courts, an 18-hole disc golf course, 1 indoor volleyball court and 4 outdoor volleyball courts, a 4-lake Aqua Park, a swimming area, and a small lake for kayaking and paddle boarding. All activities have associated fees.

South Haven Dog Park at Humane Society

This park has a yearly membership of \$25 and is considered temporary, as it is privately owned and managed. It has been in operation for over five years. The park is just over an acre in size and is split into a large fenced area and a smaller fenced area for small dogs.

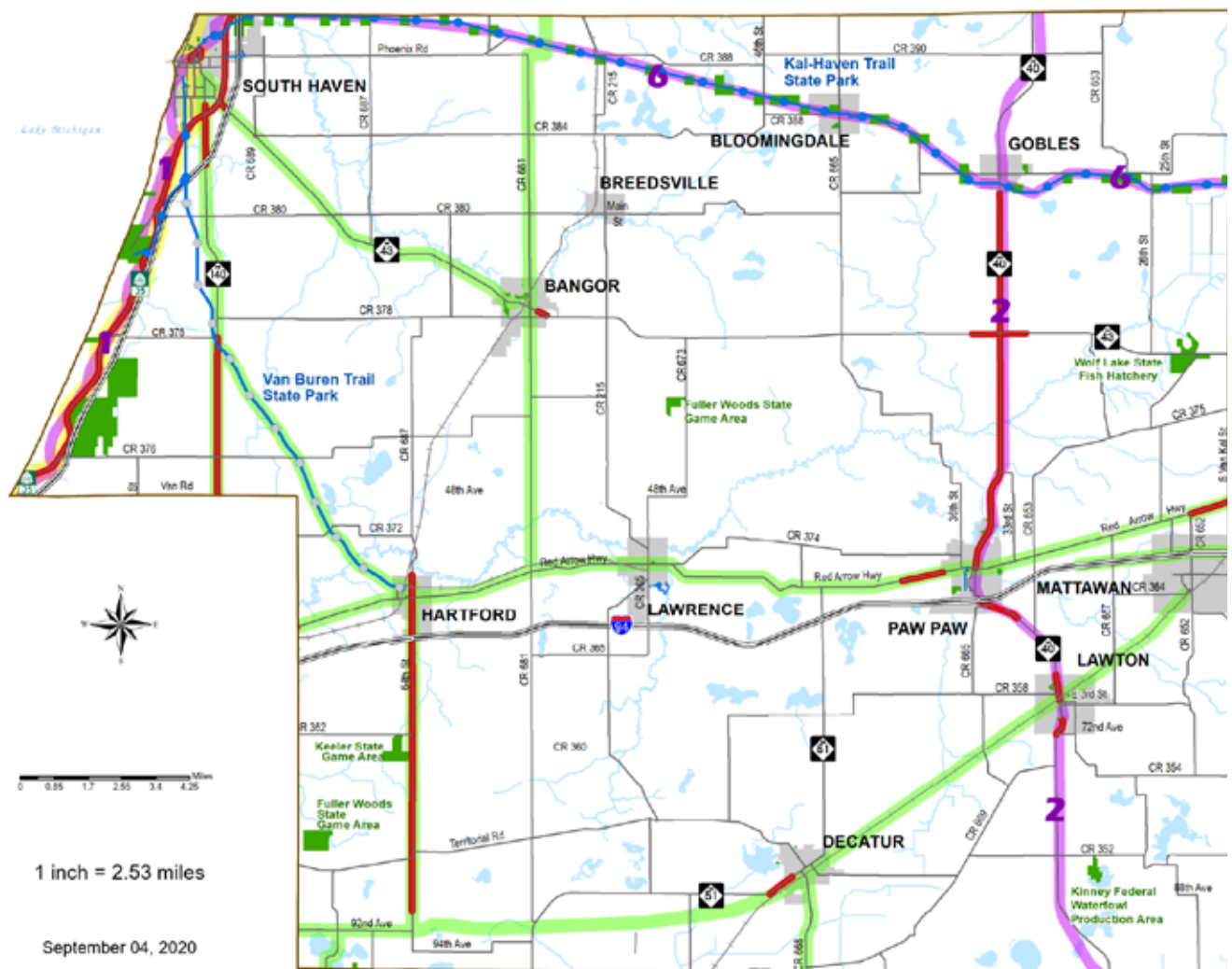
South Haven Center for the Arts

This facility provides a number of arts classes for both youth and adults.

Non-Motorized Plan

This map, published in the Van Buren County Master Plan, identifies current and proposed multi-use pathways and bicycle routes. Providing non-motorized pathway connections between parks and green spaces encourages use.

Figure 3.5



VAN BUREN COUNTY

PROPOSED NON-MOTORIZED NETWORK

REGIONAL CORRIDORS

- 1 LAKESHORE/USBR 35
- 2 M-40
- 6 GREAT LAKE TO LAKE TRAILS

LOCAL CORRIDORS



EXISTING NON-MOTORIZED NETWORK

- >= 4FT SHOULDER OR BIKE LANE

- U.S. BICYCLE ROUTE 35

BICYCLE AND SHARED USE PATHS

- Improved Shared Use Regional Path (Paved or Crushed Fines)
- Unimproved Shared Use Regional Path (Gravel or Dirt)
- Local Shared Use Path

BASE LAYERS

- MAIN ROAD
- LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY
- RAILROAD
- COUNTY
- CITY AND VILLAGE
- PARK
- WATER

Bicycle Routes and Trail Map

This map, published in the City of South Haven Master Plan, provides an overview of all bicycle routes and multi-use trail networks in the City, including existing roadway bike lanes and trailhead locations. U.S. Bicycle Route 35 is a 500-mile route that runs from Indiana through Michigan to Sault Ste. Marie, Canada, generally following the Lake Michigan shoreline and through the eastern Upper Peninsula. The Michigan portion of US Bike Route 35 extends from New Buffalo to Sault Ste. Marie.

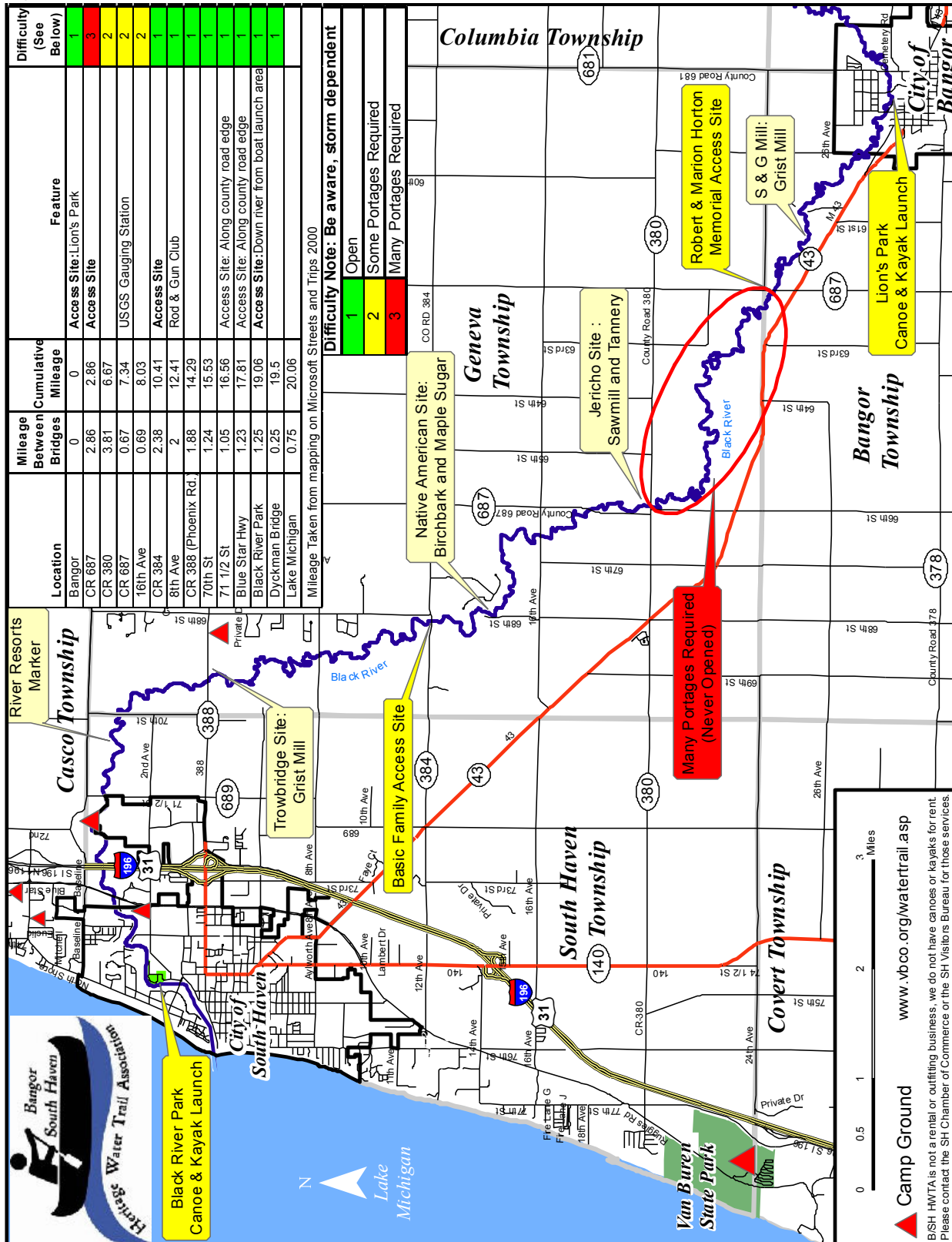
Figure 3.6



Water Trail Map

The Bangor-to-South Haven Heritage Water Trail map, produced by the City of South Haven with information provided by the Heritage Water Trail Association, shows the broader reach of the water trail that follows the Black River through the City of South Haven. The South Haven/Van Buren County Convention and Visitors Bureau currently oversees this water trail.

Figure 3.7



Chapter 03 Key Points

This chapter contains an inventory and preliminary assessment of all parks and recreation facilities owned by the City of South Haven and South Haven Township and SHARA, and also outlines other recreation providers that serve local residents, including schools and regional parks.

Walking paths, pedestrian trails, and water trails are also included in this inventory, as these linear connections often help to make all parks more accessible to users.



Planning & Public Input

Providing multiple outlets for public input is an important part of the planning process in order for the community to feel ownership of their parks and green spaces. By listening to those who use parks most often, final recommendations will better meet user need.

04

In this Chapter:

- Plan Process and Development
- Public Input Methods
- Community Survey

Plan Process and Development

A comprehensive planning process that incorporates other current planning efforts helps to outline goals and objectives that will later impact recommendations for park planning, helps in developing realistic action items, and helps in gaining public support through the planning, design, and decision process.

The process used to generate this Master Plan consisted of preparing, collecting, and analyzing an online parks and recreation use survey, reviewing and updating the recreation inventory to reflect changes since the previous Plan adoption, conducting a public open house in conjunction with the Parks Commission, publishing a draft Plan for a thirty-day public comment period, and development of a final Plan. This process concludes with a public hearing and recommendation for plan adoption to City Council.

Park improvements since the publication of the previous 2018 Master Plan Update include:

- Friends Goodwill Splash Pad Addition
- Acquisition of Baer Park
- Small Universally Accessible Playground Added at Kids' Corner and Complete Playground Renovation of Wooden Structure (in progress)
- Michigan Maritime Museum Reconstruction and Site Renovation
- Northside Marina Improvements
- South Beach Restroom Area Master Plan
- Dyckman Park Restroom Improvements (in progress)
- Outdoor Fireplace at Dyckman Park Fundraising (in progress)
- North Beach Improvements
- Black River Park Addition of Accessible Kayak Launch
- Southside Marina Improvements

Public Input

Parks and Recreation planning plays an important role in maintaining the quality of life in a community. The purpose of the Plan is to serve as a guiding document for directing the City and Township in the future planning, development and operations of their park systems.

Parks Plan Steering Committee

The 2023-2027 South Haven Parks and Recreation Plan was developed by Edgewater Resources and City Staff with input from South Haven Township and SHARA, the public, focused stakeholder groups, and the Parks Commission.

Parks and Recreation Survey

An online survey was available to the public from mid-September to mid-October, 2022. Respondents were asked to complete the survey about the South Haven area's Parks and Recreation offerings. The survey received 206 responses. The City also invited residents to attend an open house on September 14, 2022 to share their ideas on the current state of the parks, facilities, and their programming. Input gathered at the meeting was used to prioritize improvements identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update. They were asked what they liked and what could be improved about the parks, trails, and recreation programming as well as what programming they would like to see prioritized in the future. They wrote their answers on a sticky note and place it on a board with the questions to collect their input.

Join Us!

Parks and Recreation Open House

The community is invited to share ideas and thoughts with the City of South Haven on current parks, facilities, and recreational programs.

Wednesday, September 14th, 2022
6:00-7:30 PM @ City Hall

Join any time throughout the meeting to share your comments and questions. Input gathered at this meeting will help prioritize improvements for the Parks & Recreation Master Plan update. A link to an online survey will be shared at this meeting and available from September 15th through mid-October. For a survey link, contact us at the email below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Suzanne Fromson, sfromson@edgewaterresources.com



SOUTH HAVEN CITY HALL:
539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, MI 49090

Stakeholder Input

To gain targeted feedback for planning purposes, key stakeholder groups were identified early in the planning process. These groups included community organizations, neighborhood groups, public schools, and any group that was determined to have a unique and valuable point of view that might provide insight on park management and opportunities. An extensive review of park condition and proposed improvement was held with the Director of Public Works, Bill Hunter, and Parks Superintendent, Aaron Priebe. Other groups interviewed include:

- Public Works and Parks Department Staff
- South Haven Township
- South Haven Area Recreation Authority (SHARA)
- Van Buren County
- Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau
- South Haven Public Schools
- South Haven Pickleball Club
- Maritime Museum, Historical Society, South Haven Memorial Library
- Bronson Hospital Wellness Center
- Senior Services of Van Buren County
- Southwest Michigan Disability Network

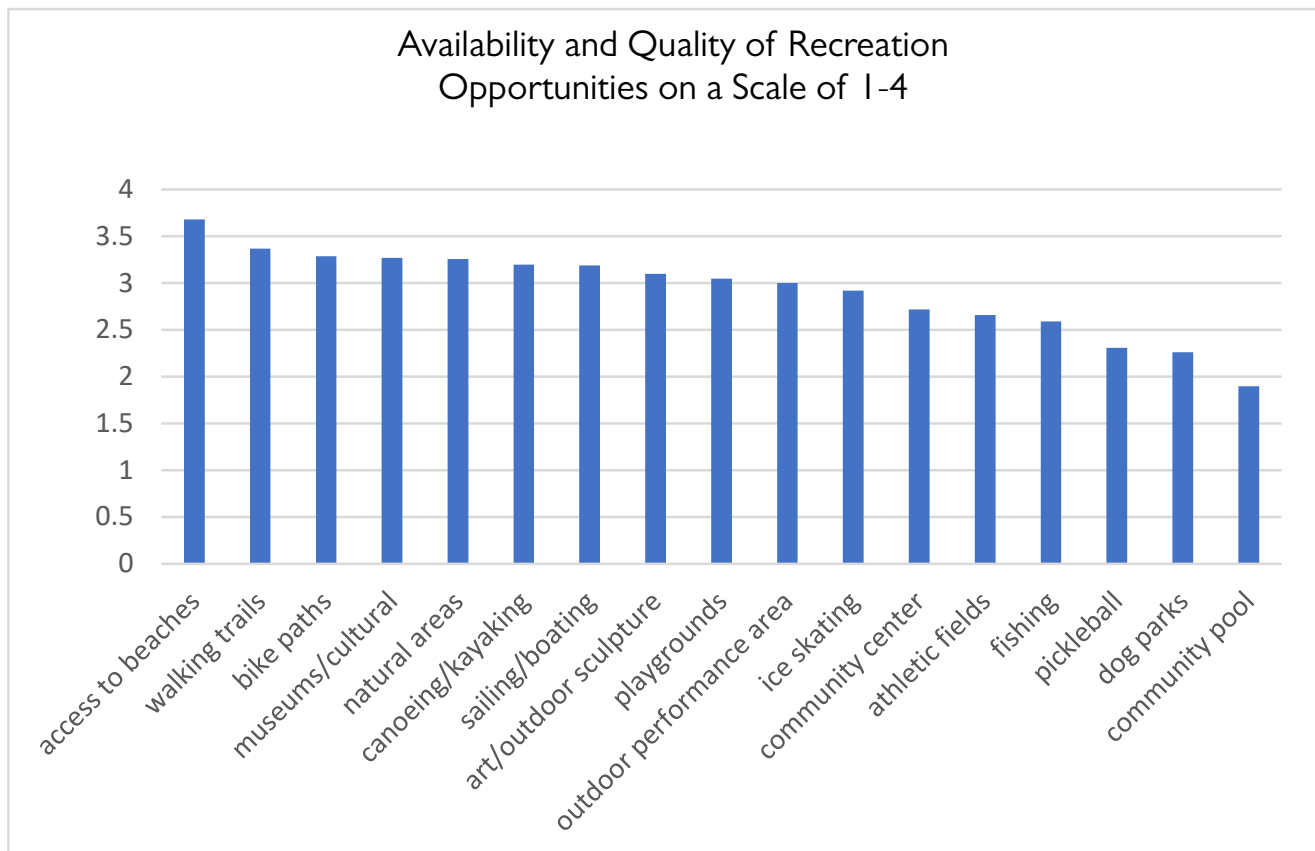
The community survey was created specifically for this Plan and included twenty-three questions. Data collected from the survey includes general demographic information, along with questions to measure level of satisfaction with existing City parks, facilities, open space, trails, and recreation programming offered. A number of opportunities were available for open-ended comments, and respondents were encouraged to consider what deficiencies and needs exist in the current system, while suggesting ideas for improvements. A summary of survey response is included on the following pages, with complete survey results included in the Appendix.

Survey Responses

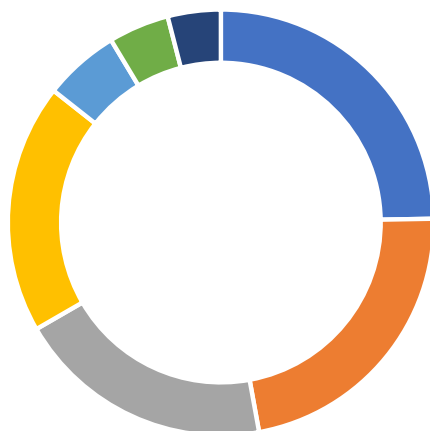
It should be noted that there were a total of 206 survey responses, of which 87% are City of South Haven residents and 52% are aged 65 and up. The survey results helped gauge community opinion on various topics, but were considered just one tool of many to provide an informed view of the needs and views of the entire population. The survey results alone were not used to form a comprehensive view of community need.

Of responses received, 60% reported that they rely on word-of-mouth for information about parks and recreation in the South Haven area. Relaxation and exercise were the two main drivers for why people visit their local parks, and 76% of those surveyed visit parks a few times per month or more. Respondents were split on how they access their parks and facilities, with roughly half relying on cars to visit parks and facilities and half walking and/or cycling. When asked which topics should receive priority for funding, the top answers were maintenance and protection of beaches and the area's water resources. The highest satisfaction ratings were for the number and size of parks in the South Haven area, and their condition. The lowest satisfaction rating was for the quality of sports fields and courts and the lack of recreation program variety offered in the area.

Other key information is provided below, followed by a summary of the open-ended survey questions.



76% of respondents are frequent park users.
If not a frequent park user, why not?



- I use other recreation facilities, not City owned
- Parks don't meet my needs
- No relevant recreation programming for me
- Other
- Parks are not close to where I live
- Cost of recreation programming is too high
- Access to parks is difficult

If available parks and programs don't meet your needs, what would you like to see added?

Top responses: centrally located public pickleball courts, a new dog park, bathroom upgrades in all parks, City-operated recreation programs

In which programs/activities have you participated in the last year?

Top responses: Lap swim and fitness classes at Bronson Wellness Center, programs at the Senior Center, pickleball, trail walking and cycling, sailing, activities at the Liberty Hyde Bailey and Maritime Museums, fitness classes on the beach, 5k events, programs at Lake Arvesta, AYSO and MHSAA soccer, ice skating.

Top Five Favorite and Most-Visited Parks and Facilities, in Order:

South Beach
Kal-Haven and Van Buren Trails
Kids' Corner at Monroe Park
North Beach
Stanley Johnston Park

Why are these your favorite?

Top responses: Ease of access and natural character, entertainment provided by the playground (Kids' Corner)

PARKS SURVEY RESULTS

95% BELIEVE LOCAL
PARKS ARE A
BIG DEAL

#1



FAVORITE PARK
SOUTH BEACH

50%

USE THE
TRAIL
NETWORK

75%

USE PARKS ON A
MONTHLY BASIS

55%

VISIT
KAL-HAVEN
OR
VAN BUREN
TRAILS
REGULARLY



PICKLEBALL

IS THE MOST
WANTED
NEW PARK
AMENITY



40%

WALK TO THEIR
NEIGHBORHOOD
PARKS

PARTICIPANTS
WOULD LIKE
A FENCED



**DOG
PARK**

72%

GO TO
PARKS TO
RELAX

70%

GO TO
PARKS TO
EXERCISE

52%

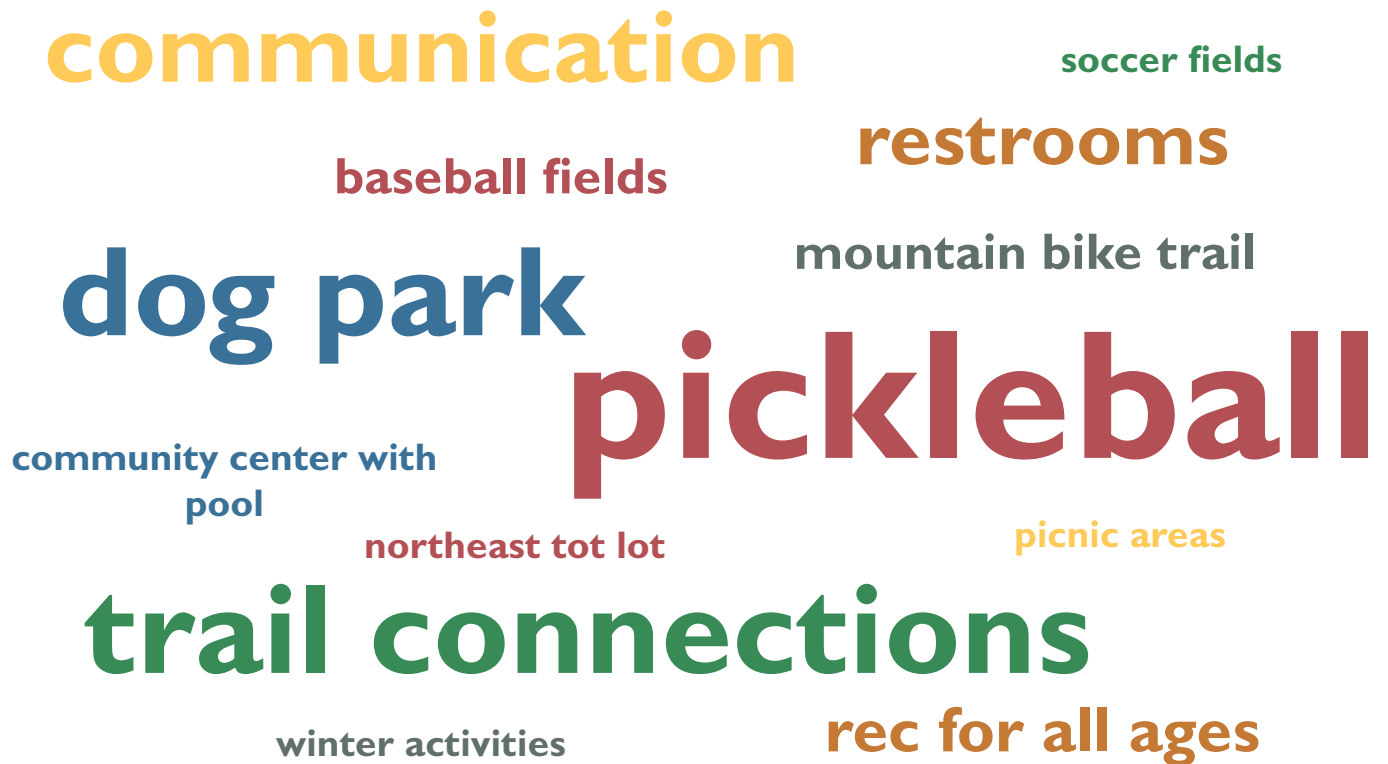
RESPONDENTS
WERE 65+



Edgewater
resources

Public Input Summary

Throughout the public input process, many parks and recreation needs were expressed. The graphic below is a summary of feedback gained from the open-ended comments in the community survey, stakeholder interviews, multiple public meetings, and individual calls and emails throughout the planning process. Many comments fit into similar themes. When a topic was mentioned multiple times, the comment was grouped into a general theme and expressed in the word cloud, where the size of the word corresponds to the number of times it was mentioned in comments. This graphic helps to distill a great deal of input into a quick summary of responses.



Review and Adoption

A draft Plan was prepared by Edgewater Resources and reviewed by the Parks Plan Steering Committee for comment. This draft Plan was available for public review for one month beginning early December, 2022. Copies were placed at City Hall and the Plan was posted on City and Township websites. The Plan's availability for public review was posted in the local newspaper and online. Following the month long public review, the South Haven Parks Commission held a public hearing on the Plan at its January 10, 2023 meeting, where it was recommended for Council adoption. The Plan was also presented and recommended for adoption at the Township and SHARA Board meetings in December, 2023. Following the public hearings and Board recommendations for Council adoption, the Plan is scheduled for adoption by City Council at the January 16, 2023 meeting.

Chapter 04 Key Points

A variety of methods were employed to gain input on the successes, needs, and deficiencies of the South Haven area park system. Complete survey results, including open-ended comments, will be documented in the Appendix of this document. The needs that emerged as most prevalent through the public input process are discussed in the following chapter.



Needs & Deficiencies

This chapter addresses park size and distribution in relation to national standards, and how that distribution affects park use and access. This analysis, along with data compiled through the site inventory process, will determine if neighborhoods are adequately served by parks and recreation opportunities.

05

In this Chapter:

- Accessibility Guidelines and NRPA Recreation Standards
- Comparison to National Standards
- Recreation needs mapped based on inventory data collected

Introduction

This section of the Plan identifies recreation needs as determined through a variety of means. Throughout this chapter, it will be demonstrated that the City of South Haven, when considered as a member of an overall partnership with Township, County, School, and private recreation providers, is currently on target when measured against National Standards. These standards indicate that park acreage is adequate and that parks and facilities are generally well distributed to serve the community, with some minor exceptions that will be addressed. The City of South Haven appears to have a park system that is sized appropriately for its current population, and future improvements can focus not on expansion but enhancement and maintenance of existing resources, to ensure continued high quality of existing parks and facilities.

Study methods used to determine community needs include comparison to accessibility and recreational standards, geographic distribution of existing facilities, direct input from City staff and representatives, direct site observation, and public input. While each of these methods has its limitations, using a combination of methods yields a more accurate assessment of recreational needs and deficiencies. The following is a brief description of each of the methods used.

Accessibility Guidelines

Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Public Accommodations and Commercial Facilities, recommends four main priorities for accessibility of public spaces. These include: 1) Access approach and entrance, 2) Access to goods and services, such as signage and seating, 3) Access to restrooms, and 4) Any other measures necessary, including features such as drinking fountains. Through the public input process and collaboration with the Southwest Michigan Disability Network, it was determined that it would be useful for all parks moving forward to address each of these priorities and provide information to park users so they can determine which parks provide accessible amenities, and where they are lacking. This approach was also recently used in the City of St. Joseph, Michigan in their Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update.

A member of the SW Michigan Disability Network collaborated with the planning team and reviewed the accessibility ratings of each of South Haven's parks. This partner provided extremely valuable input and guidance to help identify which parks are most accessible and which parks, with minor improvements, could better meet user needs. An "Accessibility Menu" of parks was then created as a resource for future use. This Menu would be a list of parks and would highlight those that offer accessible facilities and accessible parking to access them. This matrix could be posted for public use on the City Parks web page. This matrix of information is included in the data on page xx of this document.

An important accessibility improvement noted by this group is careful consideration of playground fall surface. In terms of ease of access, the following surfaces are listed in order of preference: poured-in-place rubber, engineered wood fiber, recycled loose rubber fiber, gravel, sand. Gravel and sand are the least accessible surfaces and can actually be a tipping hazard for wheelchair users. Considering cost and maintenance concerns, engineered wood fiber was mentioned as a material with the best balance of accessibility and affordability. It should be noted, however, that this surface requires proper installation by experienced contractors and regular raking to maintain its accessible properties.

NRPA Recreation Standards

Recreation standards provide a benchmark for evaluating the relative adequacy or inadequacy of a City's recreation system. This Plan has used, as a guide, the 1983 Recreation, Park, and Open Space, Standards and Guidelines and 1995 Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

Typical recreation standards establish a certain number of activity-specific recreational facilities per 1,000 of population (e.g., 1 tennis court per 2,000 persons). Other standards establish a certain number of acres per 1,000 of population for different types of park facilities: neighborhood, community, and regional parks. These standards are adapted to reflect the City's character and then compared to the City's existing population and projected population for the upcoming 10 years. This Plan will combine both approaches to identify deficiencies in recreational facilities and acreage. There are two basic types of recreational experiences: "active" and "passive." Active recreation requires space and facilities capable of accommodating exertive activities. Such facilities include: sports fields, play apparatus areas, open areas, special facilities, such as pools and court areas, and areas for organized activities. On the other hand, passive recreation requires little more than space and furniture for quiet, non-exertive activities for limited numbers of users. Recreation areas must provide for both types of use and preferably include a variety of opportunities for each to respond adequately to a wide range of interests and age groups.

Parks are generally classified by purpose and area per population served. They range in type from mini-playlots and green areas to large regional and national parks. The categories used for this plan will be: Mini-Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Natural Resource Areas, Linear Parks and Pathways, and Special Use Facilities.

Mini-Park Address needs of neighborhoods with limited recreation	Neighborhood Park Basic unit of park system: Focus of neighborhood	Community Park Serves community-wide recreation needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.25-0.5 acre per 1000 population suggested • Serves ¼-mile radius • Typically between 2,500 s.f. and one acre in size 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2 acres per 1000 population suggested • Serves ½-mile radius • 5-10 acres in size is optimal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-8 acres per 1000 population suggested • Serves up to 3-mile radius, 2 or more neighborhoods • Usually between 30-50 acres in size
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to neighborhood trails and walks • No parking or restroom facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to neighborhood trails and walks • No permanent restrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked to regional trails • Permanent restroom facilities and concessions where appropriate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area served should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads or physical barriers, easily walkable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area served should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads or physical barriers as much as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area served may be interrupted by arterial or collector streets • Served by arterials and collectors

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group, such as families with very young children or senior citizens, as determined by the distance that can be easily traveled by the local user. The facilities that are provided in these types of parks are generally specialized, such as play equipment or green space with benches for passive activities.

South Haven currently has three (3) parks that fall into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. As many of the functions of mini-parks are also served by neighborhood parks, these should be looked at together rather than individually.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living within the service area. Neighborhood parks are generally not suited for heavily programmed activities that result in overuse, noise or parking problems.

Accommodating a wide variety of age user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, is important. Creating a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood is valuable to successful design. Suitable activities for neighborhood parks include: play structures, court games, “informal” (i.e. non-programmed) play field or open space, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe area, ice skating area, internal trails (that could connect to the greenway system), picnic/sitting areas and general open space. Elkenburg Park with its three basketball courts and restroom structure, does provide some of the same opportunities as a community park, but for purposes of this Plan, the park is classified as a neighborhood park based on its size and use patterns for the majority of the year.

South Haven currently has seven (7) neighborhood parks that fall into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. For analysis purposes, mini-parks and neighborhood park acreage shall be combined, as they serve a similar purpose.

Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks	Acreage	Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks	Acreage
Baer Park	2.50	Hartman Park	0.89
Cable Street Tot Lot	0.17	Monroe Bluff	2.60
Dyckman Park	0.55	Optimist Tot Lot	1.49
Elkenburg Park	1.49	Packard Park Beach	4.14
Ellen Avery Park	0.15	SHOUT Park	1.60
		TOTAL	15.58

South Haven has three public elementary schools, Lincoln, North Shore, and Maple Grove, that have playgrounds that do not restrict public use outside of school hours, but the acreage of these school playgrounds was not included in the City total.

By comparing the estimated 2021 City population with the recreation standard of two acres per 1,000 persons, it appears that the City’s current neighborhood recreation acreage is more than adequate.

Population	Acreage Required	Acreage Available	Acreage Deficiency
4,340	8.68	15.58	NONE

Population Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter

Other factors that need to be considered include: individual site size, distribution of the parks within the City, and the range and quality of facilities offered. Currently, all of the neighborhood park sites are smaller than the recommended minimum size of 5 acres. These site acreages provide limitations on potential site uses and the ability to support a diversity of recreation opportunities. However, it should be noted that the facilities provided by a number of the Community Parks also serve the local neighborhoods. Park distribution is analyzed in Figure 5.3 on page 98 and Figure 5.4 on page 99.

Community Parks

Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible, nor perhaps desirable, at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, development should include both active and passive recreation activities.

Potential active facilities include large play structures and/or creative play attractions, game courts, ballfields, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating areas, swimming pools, and swimming beaches. Passive activity facilities include extensive internal trails (that connect to a community trail system), individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, and ornamental gardens. Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park, are also appropriate. Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate user access. Permanent restroom structures, such as park-appropriate pit toilets, should be provided. These structures can remain open year-round and are more sanitary than portable toilets. Park lighting should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities, as appropriate, to expand use.

South Haven currently has six (6) community parks. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific names and sizes.

Community Parks	Acreage	Community Parks	Acreage
Black River Park	16.42	Riverfront Park	3.77
Kids' Corner	2.70	South Beach	14.46
North Beach	15.10	Stanley Johnston Park	6.45
		TOTAL	60.39

In some cases, high school or middle school properties contain athletic fields and courts that provide recreational facilities community-wide. Baseline Middle School (and adjacent Northshore Elementary School) is on the northern limit of the City, but does offer two soccer fields and a baseball diamond for community recreation use outside of school activities. The Middle School once had two basketball courts and four tennis courts, but these are in poor condition and are not used. South Haven High School has four baseball/softball diamonds, two soccer fields, and five tennis courts that allow public use outside of school activities. Technically, these fields fit the community park criteria and will be considered in the Recreation Deficiencies Table on Page 95, but the acreage of these school facilities is not included in the City total.

By comparing the estimated 2021 City population with the recreation standard of 8 acres per 1,000 persons, it appears that the City's current neighborhood recreation acreage is more than adequate. It should also be noted that the population quadruples in number in summer months.

Population	Acreage Required	Acreage Available	Acreage Deficiency
4,340	34.72	60.39	NONE

Population Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter

Especially considering that Township and SHARA parks are included in acreage calculations for natural areas and not community/neighborhood parks, the existing community-wide park acreage meets the needs for the present and the estimated future population. It is important to note, however, that South Haven's population is closer to 20,000 residents starting in early June each year until autumn, and many thousands of summer visitors also use these facilities.

When considered collectively, the City caters to a wide range of user groups and activities, including beaches, walking trails, programmed sports facilities, fishing, picnicking and playgrounds. It should be noted that many of the community parks, and smaller parks as well, were developed over 20 years ago and are in need of further renovation to maintain quality and recreational/safety/sanitation standards.

Special Use Facilities

The Special Use classification covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. Special uses generally fall into three categories:

- **Historic/Cultural/Social Sites:** Unique local resources offering historical, educational, and cultural opportunities. Examples include historic downtown areas, performing arts facilities, arboretums, ornamental gardens, museums, and amphitheaters.
- **Recreation Facilities:** Specialized or single-purpose facilities. Examples include community centers, senior centers, skate parks, ice arenas, marinas, golf courses, and aquatic parks.

Recreation needs, community interests, the type of facility, and land availability are the primary factors influencing quantity and location of special-use facilities. Special use facilities should be viewed as strategically located community-wide facilities rather than as serving well-defined neighborhoods or areas. Where feasible, a geographically central site is optimal. The site should be easily accessible from arterial and collector streets, where feasible.

Facility space requirements are the primary determinants of site size. As an example, a golf course may require 150 acres, whereas a community center with parking may fit on 10 or 15 acres.

The City of South Haven has nine (9) facilities that fit into this classification. These include Dyckman Park and Huron Street Pavilion (Farmers Market and Ice Rink), the Skate Park, the Bicycle PumpTrack, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum, the Maritime Museum, and the City's four marinas: Black River Park, Maritime Museum, Northside, and Southside. The Maritime Museum is not operated by the City directly, but serves a historical and/or educational purpose so it is considered here as a community resource.

No deficiencies in cultural or education facilities were expressed during the public and stakeholder input sessions. The only special use recreation facilities that were mentioned as potential future need would be a community center with pool. The Bronson Wellness Center and High School both have indoor pools that are available for community use and adequate need for an additional facility was not demonstrated to determine this project as a high priority addition at this time.

Cultural Facilities

Significant cultural facilities are located within the City; several are described as follows:

The Michigan Maritime Museum is located at the riverfront facility at the foot of the Dyckman bridge. Museum exhibits detail the history of maritime activities locally and in Michigan including Native American traditions, commercial fishing, commercial shipping, passenger steamship travel, boat building, the U.S. Life Saving Service, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum, located on Bailey Street, is a National Historical Site commemorating the life and work of Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey considered the Father of Modern Horticulture. The museum offers exhibits and programs linking botany, horticulture, environment and everyday life. The Historical Association of South Haven (HASH) promotes understanding and appreciation of South Haven's history through

programs and publications. The South Haven Center for the Arts is dedicated to community enrichment through the Arts. It is housed in the old Carnegie library building at 600 Phoenix Street. The center houses many exhibits and shows in their building and a variety of art fairs in the community. The Scott Club is located in a Victorian structure at 652 Phoenix Street. The club's purpose is to provide a place for literary advancement and support for local charities. The club sponsors many programs of community interest throughout the year. The Listiak Auditorium is located adjacent to the South Haven High School on Elkenburg Street and is used for school and community theatrical activities.

Natural Resource Areas

Natural Resource Areas are lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space and visual/aesthetic buffering. These sites are typically unsuitable for development but offer natural resource potential and can support recreational activities at a level that preserves the integrity of the natural resource. The location and size of these parks are largely governed by availability.

South Haven does not currently have formal natural resource areas within City limits, but does collaborate with the Township and County to manage multiple parks and open space areas within a two-mile radius of City limits. These parks include Deerlick Creek, Pilgrim Haven, the SHARA Disc Golf Park, and the Black River-Phoenix Street Boat Launch. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes.

There are no set requirements for Natural Resource Area acreage, as area varies depending on resource availability and opportunity. South Haven's principal natural resources are the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Black River. Existing parks help to provide access to these resources and in some case provide a buffer between urban areas and the waterfront. South Haven already offers multiple opportunities to access the lake and riverfront with either trails or simple easement access with signage. Some smaller lake access points would benefit from consistent and clearly marked entry points, similar to those at larger beaches such as Packard Park Beach and access points at Woodman and Oak Street beaches.

It should be noted that the City does have a network of County drains within its limits. These seasonal creeks are buffered from adjacent development by woodland in most cases, and locals are known to use the informal footpaths in these "ravines". Some sections of these informal footpaths may benefit from connection to other regional trails or facilities such as playgrounds or the Bronson Wellness Center. Inclusion of and connection to the Ravinia Park property would provide a natural trail loop of almost a mile in length.

Development of a coastal management plan for South Haven's Lake Michigan shoreline could follow the model provided by other similar waterfront communities in Michigan. Regional partnerships will be key: a coastal management plan would include properties owned by Van Buren County, the City of South Haven, and several smaller residential parcels. Existing shoreline conditions range from sandy beaches to hard rock and shoreline armoring structures. A coastal management plan would help address sand management, erosion issues, and a balance of natural preservation and recreation access.



Linear Parks and Pathways

There are a number of different types of trails that can provide both transportation and recreation opportunities. Trails may be located within parks, within an independent right-of-way, or within the road right-of-way.

Connector Trails are defined as “multi-purpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the Community” (J.D. Mertes and J.R. Hall, Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, 1995). These trails are generally located within the road right-of-way and can be divided into two types. Type I has separate paths for different user types, such as pedestrians and bicyclists. Type II has mixed uses and is suited to lighter use patterns.

South Haven is officially a “Trail Town”. In the spring of 2019, South Haven received the designation of Pure Michigan Trail Town by the Michigan DNR and Travel Michigan. The South Haven area boasts over 48 miles of hiking and biking trails, 91 miles of kayaking and canoeing trails, 770 acres of nature preserves and 11 miles of horseback riding trails. Trails meet many user needs including: hiking, biking, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and simply exploring.

Currently, off-road linear trails in South Haven are provided by the Kal-Haven Trail Extension and the Van Buren Trail. For both of these trails, the City currently maintains the trail within the right-of-way. Other trails are located within community parks, such as the Harborwalk and Riverfront Park along the Black River channel, which connect primary beaches through a sidewalk network to downtown South Haven. The City of South Haven also has extensive walking/bicycle path connections located on City Streets. These pathways link to neighboring communities and regional trails.

There are no set requirements for Natural Resource Area and Linear Park acreage. However, linear parks and trail development was identified as a priority during the planning process, especially where linkages are needed to improve popular existing trails. Future consideration should be given both to need for additional marked bike lanes in existing roadways and to providing off-road bike paths or non-motorized trails primarily for pedestrian use, to link residential areas to school/park developments and to City and neighboring community recreation facilities.

For the purposes of this Plan, Natural Resource Areas and Linear Parks and Pathways have been grouped together. South Haven currently has four (4) parks that fit into this category. Refer to the Recreation Inventory for specific park names and sizes. NRPA does not have requirements for this acreage, but totals have been compiled for informational purposes.

Natural Resource Area/Linear Park	Existing Acreage
Deerlick Creek Park	2.10
Pilgrim Haven	29.28
SHARP Disc Golf Park	39.50
Black River-Phoenix Street Boat Launch	0.80
Kal-Haven Trail Extension	--
Van Buren Trail	--
TOTAL	71.68

South Haven currently has abundant natural resource areas that are well-connected by trails. Potential additions to the park system to complement existing amenities might include additional east/west trail connections from the Van Buren Trail to Township/County parks on Lake Michigan, and enhanced crosswalks at key intersections for ease of movement across major roadways near trails.

Recreation Facility Standards

The existing and future recreation needs of South Haven area residents were examined in comparison to state and national standards for key activities. The following table compares the recommended number of facilities per population for the City of South Haven (estimated at 4,340) and the population of South Haven Township (estimated at 3,970) with the existing facilities available and illustrates any current or projected deficiencies. It is important to note that South Haven's summer population can soar to approximately 20,000 residents, demonstrating a need for key summer recreation facilities beyond that shown on this chart.

RECREATION STANDARDS AND DEFICIENCIES

CITY and TOWNSHIP POPULATION: 8,310

Figure 5.1

FACILITY	FACILITY STANDARDS	RECOMMENDED FACILITIES	EXISTING FACILITIES	NON-CITY FACILITIES	FACILITY DEFICIENCIES
BASKETBALL COURT	1 Per 5,000	2	4.5	2 ¹	
TENNIS COURT	1 Per 2,000	4	0	6 ²	4
PICKLEBALL COURT	1 Per 2,000*	4	0	19 ³	4
VOLLEYBALL COURT	1 Per 5,000	2	6 ⁴	5 ⁴	
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD	1 Per 5,000	2	2	5 ⁵	
FOOTBALL FIELD	1 Per 20,000	--	0	1 ⁶	
TRACK	1 Per 20,000	--	0	1 ⁶	
SOCCER FIELD	1 Per 10,000	1	0	7 ⁷	1
SLEDDING AREA	As Available	--	2 ⁸	0	
PLAY EQUIPMENT	1 Per 3,000	3	8	4 ⁹	
ICE RINK (OUTDOOR)	1 Per 20,000	--	1	0	
SWIMMING POOL (INDOOR)	1 Per 20,000	--	0	2 ¹⁰	
SWIMMING POOL (OUTDOOR)	1 Per 40,000	--	0	0	
SWIMMING BEACH	As Available	--	7	3 ¹¹	
ADA KAYAK LAUNCH	As Available	--	1	1 ¹²	

¹Additional courts at Middle School

²Courts at High School

³Courts are striped for tennis and pickleball at High School (4), indoor courts at Senior Center (3), courts at Arvesta Sports Complex (12)

⁴Sand courts at North Beach. Indoor and outdoor courts at Arvesta Sports Complex (5)

⁵Field at Kids' Corner and one at Optimist, additional fields at High School (4) and Middle School (1)

⁶Track and football field at Ratcliffe Field

⁷Additional fields at Northshore (1), Middle School (1), High School (2), and Armory (3)

⁸Sledding at Coast Guard Hill and Baer Park

⁹Additional playgrounds at Elementary Schools

¹⁰Indoor pool at Bronson Wellness Center and High School

¹¹Deerlick Creek, Pilgrim Haven, Porter Legacy Dunes

¹²Black River-Phoenix St Launch (planned)

Adapted From:

Lancaster, R. A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1983.

Mertes, J. D. and J. R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1995.

When non-City recreation facilities are considered, the table shows that facilities for key activities are adequate, with the exception of soccer fields and pickleball courts. While standards for comparison address the quantity of facilities desirable for a particular number of persons, they do not address quality, location or availability concerns. Programming currently relies on school facilities to meet some of these needs.

Population Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020). American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Retrieved from Census Reporter

Facility Needs Matrix

The Needs Matrix is meant to serve as a working document for the Public Works Department to quickly assess and prioritize needed park and facility improvements.

Figure 5.2

ADA Improvements	Sign Improvements	Wayfinding Improvements	Amenity/Equipment Repair	Amenity/Equipment Replacement	Play Structure and Fall Surface Updates	Site Furniture Addition	Site Furniture Updates	Graffiti/Vandalism Removal	Addition of Security Cameras	Utility Improvements	Lighting Improvements	Drainage Improvements	Athletic Court Resurfacing	Athletic Field Improvements	Asphalt Resurfacing/Striping	Concrete Repair/Replacement	Brick Paving Repair	Landscaping: Gen. Maintenance	Fencing Repair or Replacement	Sidewalk/Trail Connections	Restroom Improvements (1-3 Scale)
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City Parks																					
Baer Park		X				X					X										
Black River Park		X	X																		
Cable Street Tot Lot		X			X																
Dyckman Park							X												2		
Elkenburg Park																					
Ellen Avery Park																					
Hartman Park																					
Historic Monroe Park		X					X										X				
Kids' Corner	X	X			X		X												X	1	
Monroe Bluff						X													X		
North Beach																				2	
Optimist Tot Lot		X			X															3	
Packard Park Beach	X						X													2	
Pump Track		X																			
Riverfront Park																					
SHOUT Park																					
South Haven Skate Park				X	X																
South Beach	X						X													1	
Stanley Johnson Park	X			X			X										X			2	

Linear Parks																					
Harborwalk			X												X						
Kal-Haven Trail Extension			X												X						
Van Buren Trail			X																		

Beach Access Points																					
Blue Stairs																					
Dyckman Beach																					
Kentucky Ave River Access																					
Newcome Beach																					
Oak Street Beach																					
Van Buren Stairs																					
Woodman Beach																					
14th Ave																					
18th Ave																					

Recreation Programming Needs

The City of South Haven does not currently run any recreation programs, as these needs are met by the Public Schools, club sports teams, and other private providers. However, residents have expressed additional needs for athletic recreation that are not currently being met. These include need for facilities such as pickleball courts and soccer fields that are lit at night to provide more flexibility of scheduling.

As there is currently no separate Recreation Department with a Program Director with the City, consideration should be given to the addition of an online resource that provides athletic and cultural programming information, City-wide, in one place. Residents have consistently expressed a desire for easier and more frequent communication about recreation opportunities and events. The school once had the role of Community Recreation Coordinator, but that role has been missing for many years and it may be time to consider the renewed need for this position.

Another option for consideration would be to levy a recreation millage to pay for the cost of establishing a City Recreation branch of the Parks Department under the Public Works Department. While the City may partner with the SHARA and the schools to expand facilities, this millage would cover maintenance costs for any additional sports fields that the City may need moving into the future. A Recreation Director could schedule fields to optimize use and allow access to more user groups.

Park Walkability Map

The following graphic uses NRPA service radii to determine which South Haven neighborhoods are within walking distance of a park, and which are lacking park access. The service radius for a mini-park is 1/4 mile. For any larger park, a radius of 1/2 mile (10-minute walk) was used for this assessment. Distances are noted from **park entrance**. Although community parks serve a larger radius, this map depicts walking distances only, and 1/2 mile was used as a likely maximum distance that park users would be expected to walk to visit a park for any purpose. Mini-parks are shown with a smaller radius because they do not generally have the same level of recreation options, so people will not walk as far to visit. Schools are not shown because property is not publicly available during school hours. Not all of the shaded spaces have access to equal resources, but gaps in coverage help to determine need for additional park space or amenities in under-served neighborhoods.

Figure 5.3



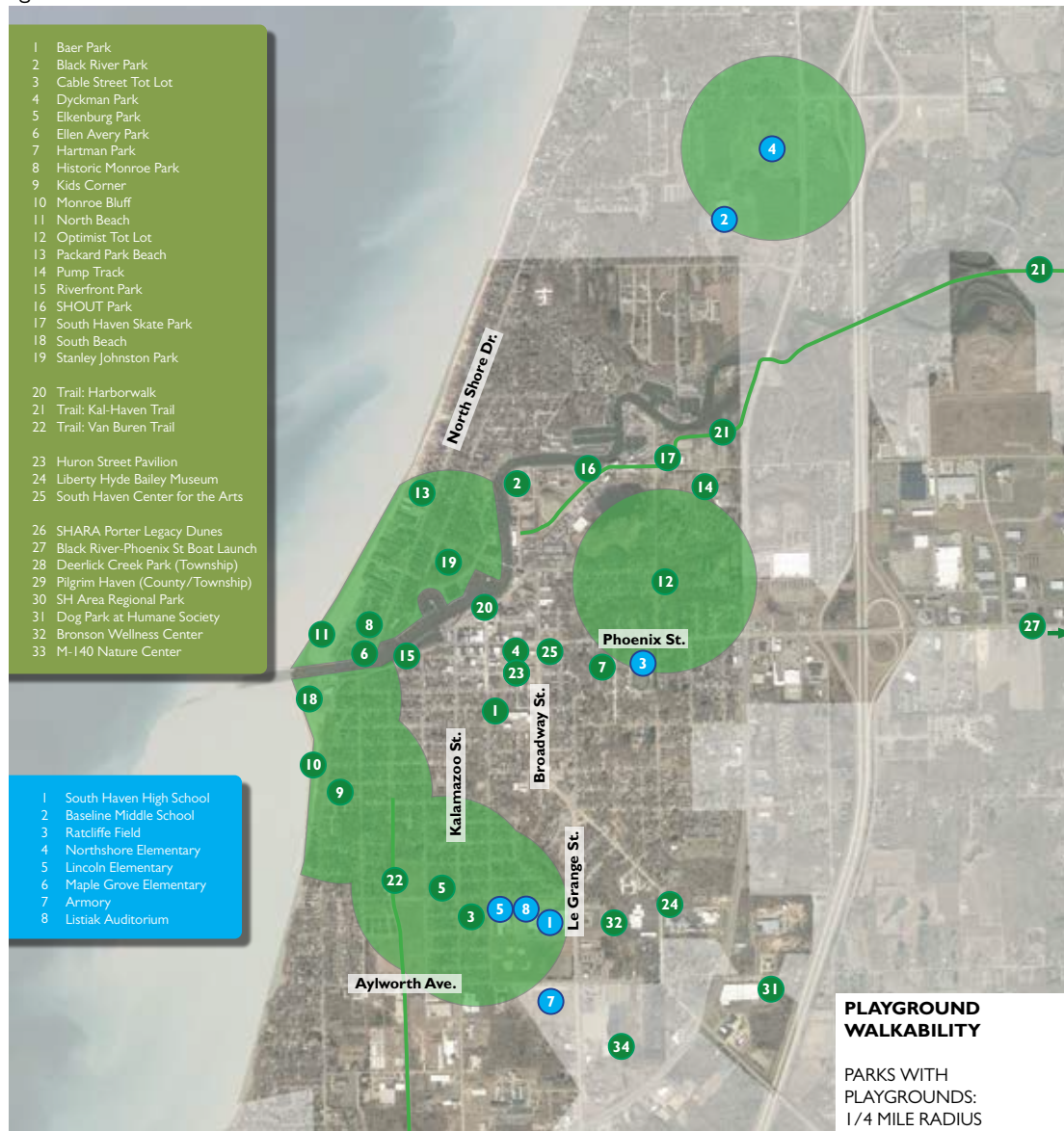
The Walkability Map shows that the majority of residential neighborhoods within South Haven are within walking distance of at least one park. Neighborhoods lacking easy access to parks include the southern neighborhoods. It should be noted that many of these neighborhoods are within one mile of multiple parks, but this map determines that the majority of people only walk to parks if they are an easy 10-minute (or less) walk.

Playground Access Map

The following graphic illustrates 1/4-mile (5-minute walk) distance from all playground structures. Families with young children are most likely to use these parks if they are located within easy walking distance of residential neighborhoods. For this study, xx was considered a playground as it serves a similar recreation function for children. The larger, light green circles illustrate a 1/2-mile radius. When safe and easily accessible pathways exist, families are often willing to walk or bike a bit farther to reach these playgrounds.

Similar to overall park access, this graphic demonstrates that even when school playgrounds are included, the southern neighborhoods within City limits lack easy access to play activities for young children. Additionally, neighborhoods along the Broadway/Phillips corridor lack the direct access to playgrounds that other neighborhoods enjoy, demonstrating the importance of safe and convenient road crossing and pedestrian pathways across this corridor. A playground at Hartman Park could help to fill this gap.

Figure 5.4

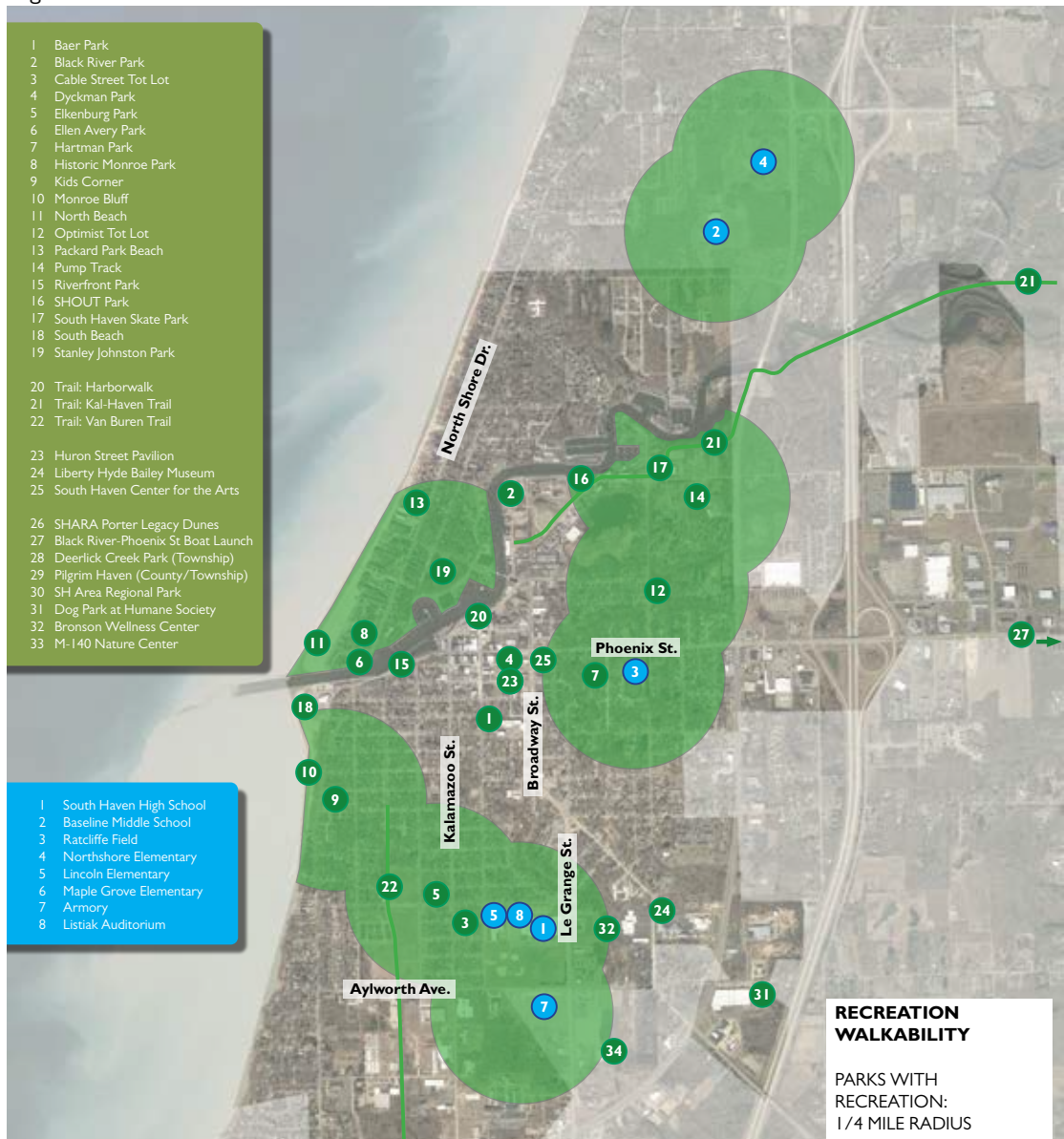


Athletic Facility Access Map

The following graphic illustrates 1/4-mile (5-minute walk) distance from all athletic facilities such as basketball courts, soccer fields, or tennis and pickleball courts, which are facilities more likely to be used by teens or young adults for recreation and exercise. This study shows if this age group has adequate recreation opportunities. The larger, light green circles illustrate a 1/2-mile radius.

Similar to overall park access, this graphic demonstrates that even when schools are included, the southern neighborhoods and Broadway/Phillips Street corridor within City limits lack easy access to sports activities for teens and young adults. Neighborhoods north of the river lack sports facility access, which may not be an issue on the west closer to Lake Michigan beaches, but demonstrate a need in the neighborhoods farther inland.

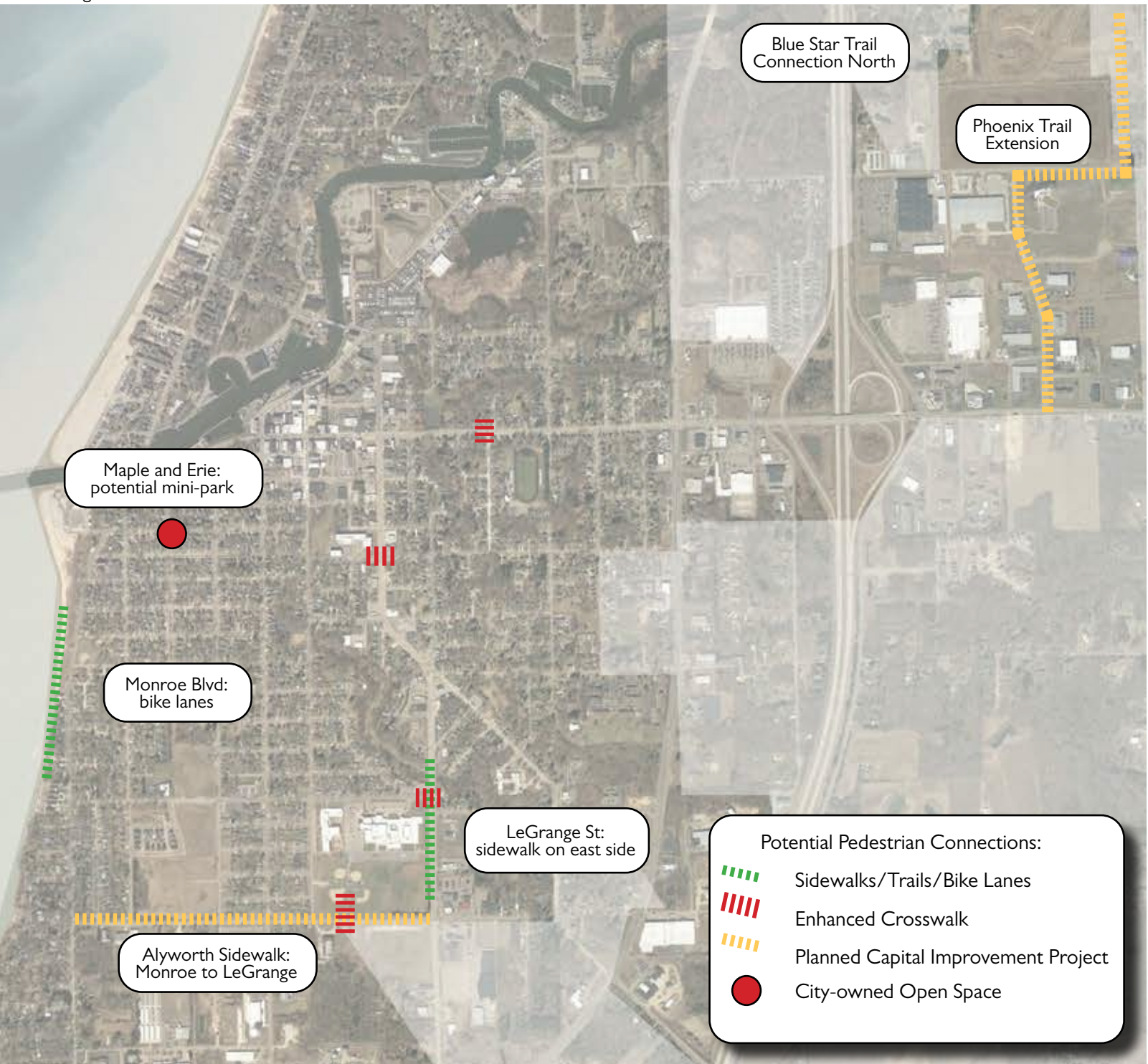
Figure 5.5



Potential Connections Map

Most residential areas of the City are served by sidewalks with accessible curb ramps. In February of 2009, the City adopted the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Paddle Plan, which identified gaps in the sidewalk system and established criteria to prioritize filling the identified gaps. To supplement that Plan, the following graphic shows specific pedestrian connections that were suggested through the public input process, and highlights gaps in pedestrian access. This map shows which connections were highest priority based on the public input for the current Parks Plan. Providing key pedestrian connections will also help meet the City Master Plan goal of providing for the safe and efficient movement of pedestrians and bicyclists in the City of South Haven.

Figure 5.6



Chapter 05 Key Points

Through public input and comparison to national standards, the following needs have been determined. These are the needs that will be addressed in the goals and objectives of the next chapter.

General Needs, Area-Wide

Maintain parks to current high standards. Need for general updates to maintain ease of access to all parks and facilities. Need for consistency in use of City standard site furniture, lighting, signage, and other amenities.

Facility-Based Needs

Updates and added amenities at key locations based on user need. Updates needed at all public restroom facilities. Potential for additional pickleball courts, soccer fields with family programming, and a dog park. Some existing parks would benefit from a play structure.

Lifestyle Needs

Trail connections to encourage park use and walking and biking safely to the parks. Clearly marked water trail stops to encourage use of South Haven's many waterfront resources.

Environmental Needs

Shoreline protection and erosion control.

Economic Needs

Sharing resources with partners to provide wide range of services while making best use of funding.



Goals & Objectives

This chapter incorporates stakeholder and public input, park inventory and assessment, and community needs developed from the previous chapter to establish goals for the South Haven area's park system for the next five years and beyond.

06

In this Chapter:

- Update
- Connect
- Adapt

Introduction

The South Haven Parks and Recreation Plan identifies goals and objectives for the next five years. These goals are based upon input from the citizens, elected and appointed officials, and City staff. These goals are long-range in nature and intended to be broad in scope and flexible enough to handle future change in recreational needs and funding resource availability. Goals also incorporate data from the previous Parks Plan and the Van Buren County Parks Master Plan. This plan is not intended to be all inclusive, but used rather as a guide for recreation development. This recreation plan should remain somewhat flexible to account for changing lifestyles, increased leisure time and new ideas so that it will always be consistent with contemporary needs and strive to provide the best overall recreation opportunities available for South Haven residents and visitors.

This chapter establishes key objectives to help meet the needs as determined earlier in this Plan. The objectives are categorized by the broad Plan goals, and Action Items that would be required to accomplish the objectives are then listed. Implementation of these Action Items are explored in the following chapter.

Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1: UPDATE

Beyond a typical maintenance program, the City/Township/SHARA aim to maximize budgets to allow for a continuous cycle of upgrades for parks and facilities to meet the high standards the community has come to expect. While basic maintenance, such as landscaping and litter removal, is key to a successful parks system, the Parks Department has a vision to systematically improve park spaces and amenities.

Objective 1 - Maintain parks and facilities to expected high standards.

Action 1: Update Needs Matrix using regular input from Grounds/Maintenance Staff.

Action 2: Install highest-quality equipment whenever possible to decrease waste in repair and replacement costs.

Action 3: Establish three levels of needed improvements for public restrooms: minor touch-ups, fixture upgrades, complete renovation. Update/renovate restrooms based on established priority and available funding.
Goal of one restroom per year.

Action 4: Implement South Beach Restroom Area Master Plan.

Action 5: Update playgrounds to modern safety and accessibility standards, one every five years, or as funds available. Highest priority is Kids' Corner Playground, with both tot lots as second priority.

Action 6: Update the Stanley Johnston Pavilion and ornamental planting within park.

Action 7: Update Packard Park amenities. Play sculpture is dated and in need of upgrades and shade.

Action 8: Update skate park.

Objective 2 - Implement the established South Haven City Parks “branding” palette of signage, wayfinding, site furniture, lighting, and other amenities to clearly designate public park space.

Action 1: Remove unnecessary signage or outdated fixtures that do not meet current standards.

Action 2: Upgrade site furniture and fixtures to current City standards.

Action 3: Identify hierarchy of park entry signage and update parks to current standards. Example: beach park sign, open space park sign, historic park sign.

Action 4: Increase trail wayfinding signage, especially at intersections.

Action 5: Renovate Historic Monroe ROW Park to remove non-standard furniture and amenities, and add ornamental planting.

Action 6: Add sign at Bike Pump Track that better communicates the park's intended use.

Action 7: Consider sign ordinance at all public beaches to reduce clutter and improve communication and safety.

Objective 3 - Prioritize funding to meet projected user needs.

- Action 1: Continue to seek outside funding sources whenever possible for park improvements and renovations.
- Action 2: Consider option to levy Park millage by 2025.
- Action 3: Implement a plan to create a full-time Park Director position by 2026.
- Action 4: Consider collaboration with Schools, County, and other local groups to offer some rec programming, such as ice skating lessons, parent/child activities, and use of school facilities for City-sponsored open gym activity in winter months.
- Action 5: Utilize partnerships to maximize available funding, such as Van Buren County, service clubs.
- Action 6: Prioritize projects with the best chance of receiving grant funding.
- Action 7: Consider partnership with County and Townships to expand multi-use trail connections.

Objective 4 - Continue to assess all parks for needed accessibility improvements.

- Action 1: Complete an accessibility matrix and share online for park users, to clearly communicate which parks have needed accommodations.
- Action 2: Replace all playground surfacing with engineered wood fiber.

GOAL 2: CONNECT

South Haven has a well-distributed system of paved sidewalks and trails through most of the City. Most parks and waterfront open spaces are connected to at least one pathway system. However, a need that was expressed repeatedly through stakeholder meetings and the public survey was to enhance key crosswalks to make it easier to walk and bike between parks. This goal would aim to provide linkages between residential neighborhoods, downtown, parks, beaches, and the riverfront. As a guideline, the Complete Streets Initiative from the City's Master Plan should be referenced.

Objective 1 - Identify existing gaps in pedestrian/cycling pathways, determine land swap opportunities, land acquisition, or rights of way to maintain continuity. Project priorities to include those that link existing parks/facilities and make access easier or safer (such as greenway trails, bike lanes, etc) to make best use of existing parks.

- Action 1: Consider east/west trail connections from Van Buren trail to Deerlick Park and Pilgrim Haven.
- Action 2: Include adequate clearance for multi-use trail on all bridges across the Black River.
- Action 3: Extend the Blue Star trail north.
- Action 4: Connect to Lakeshore Critical Dune Trail.
- Action 5: Connect Baseline Middle School south to Kal Haven Trail.
- Action 6: Add sidewalks on north and south side of Alyworth Avenue between High School and Armory.
- Action 7: Study potential crosswalk between High School ball fields and Head Start, across Aylworth Avenue.
- Action 8: Update the City of South Haven Sidewalk Gap Map (from 2009 Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Paddle Plan).

Objective 2 - Reduce need to drive to and between parks.

- Action 1: Identify unsafe crosswalks near parks and schools that could be improved to connect to neighborhoods.
- Action 2: Consider traffic-calming measures at key locations.
- Action 3: Identify roads with “road diet” opportunity to narrow driving lanes and add a bike lane.
- Action 4: Implement Monroe Bluff Master Plan improvements, including bike lane.
- Action 5: Add additional bike racks to all parks and at key locations downtown.
- Action 6: Study existing crosswalks at Superior and Broadway Street to determine if intersection would benefit from enhanced crosswalk (on-demand traffic light) for pedestrian and cyclist safety. Study same thing at Phoenix and Hubbard, to connect neighborhoods on both sides of Phoenix Street.
- Action 7: Study potential for sidewalk on east side of Le Grange across from High School, with enhanced crosswalk at key intersection to encourage more students to walk or bike to school safely.
- Action 8: Add bike racks at all parks.

Objective 3 - Enhance existing trails between parks, natural areas, and facilities.

- Action 1: Provide bicycle trailheads at key locations with system maps, restrooms, and bike fix-it stations.
- Action 2: Increase wayfinding signage for all trails and include distance markers.
- Action 3: Create a City Blueway Trail map, identify linkage between existing kayak launch at Black River Park to future Black River-Phoenix Street Launch.
- Action 4: Support development of ADA kayak launch at Black River-Phoenix Street.
- Action 5: Kal-Haven trail resurfacing.

GOAL 3: ADAPT

South Haven boasts abundant parks, beautiful beaches, and popular trails. However, the Parks Department continues to maintain a vision of smart growth to meet both the needs of residents and the thousands of visitors who are drawn to the area every year. Park development should not take the place of managing the existing system to high standards, but only through wise planning for growth can the City continue to provide a high quality of life for all park users. Many objectives within this category overlap with goals established by VanBuren County and South Haven Township, so partnerships with these entities will be key to successful implementation.

Objective 1 - Identify additional or new park and recreation amenities that are in high demand. Identify upcoming recreation trends.

- Action 1: Pickleball courts were the #1 most-requested amenity in the public input survey, yet there are no public pickleball courts in South Haven that are regularly available and free of charge. Consideration should be given to either renovation of old tennis courts at the middle school to new pickleball courts, or addition of new pickleball courts at a park with adequate space and parking and potential for lighting, such as Black River Park.
- Action 2: Dog parks and dog-friendly facilities were requested multiple times in the public survey and in public meetings. Consider off-leash hours in key parks from 5-8AM. Add dog bag dispensers at regular intervals at all trails. One of the public beaches could have a “dog day” at the end of the regular summer season where dogs are allowed. Consider allowing dogs on beaches in winter months. Consider location for fenced dog park at SHOUT Park. Ideally, park should be split into large area for larger dogs and smaller area for small dogs.
- Action 3: Consider location for additional basketball courts.
- Action 4: Add lighting to soccer fields at the Armory to allow evening use.
- Action 5: Partner with County to add a single-track mountain bike trail, could be fat-tire biking in winter.

Objective 2 - Identify opportunities for winter-time recreation.

- Action 1: Groom cross-country ski trails along Van Buren trail for ease of winter access.
- Action 2: Construct an outdoor fireplace near the ice rink in Dyckman Park.
- Action 3: Consider use of school facilities for open gym in winter months.

Objective 3 - Increase communication and advertising of recreation programming.

- Action 1: Provide online resource for all available sports and recreation programming in the South Haven area, regardless of provider.
- Action 2: Consider issuing a regular newsletter to inform the community about Parks activities and developments.

Objective 4 - Identify potential new opportunities for recreation or public use of existing spaces.

- Action 1: Potential partnerships for new amenities, such as a soccer complex with playground and picnic, grill facilities for all-ages family use. This could be developed at the SHARA disc golf property.
- Action 2: Consider addition of tot-lot in Hartman Park to serve a neighborhood that is bound on all sides by collector roadways.
- Action 3: Consider outdoor exercise equipment for seniors, possibly adjacent to the Senior Center or Bronson Wellness Center.
- Action 4: Add a walking loop around the Monroe Park block (around Kids' Corner).
- Action 5: Add misters for pedestrian comfort at key points that are most popular in hottest summer months.. Riverfront Park, North Beach and South Beach would be ideal locations.
- Action 6: Allow rental of park pavilions.

Objective 5 - Lead the charge of environmental and climate resilience, protect the South Haven shoreline and all natural resources.

- Action 1: Complete a Coastal Management study to address sand management and erosion concerns along the Lake Michigan shoreline and to protect critical dunes.
- Action 2: Enforce appropriate regulations to ensure there is no improper construction along the shoreline as identified by FEMA.
- Action 3: Explore innovative alternative strategies to traditional steel and rock shoreline armoring that reduce long-term maintenance costs while improving water quality and expanding habitat.
- Action 4: Work with EGLE to develop protocols for approval of alternative strategies, such as reclamation of offshore sand deposited past the depth of closure for beach nourishment, and offshore structures to reduce wave energy and direct natural littoral drift patterns to restore (rather than erode) shorelines.
- Action 5: Incorporate bioswales and rain gardens with native plants into park landscaping to help manage stormwater, reduce maintenance input, and discourage geese, which tend to gather on open lawn where they have open views and feel protected from predators.
- Action 6: Team with South Haven Township on guidelines to protect wetlands.
- Action 7: Prioritize dark-sky light fixtures for all new development.

Chapter 06 Key Points

This chapter includes the following over-arching goals that take a comprehensive view of the entire park system and are developed in detail in this chapter:

- **Update:** Goals in this category aim to maximize available funding to prioritize improvements that are financially feasible into the future.
- **Connect:** Goals in this category relate to improving connections between existing parks and facilities.
- **Adapt:** Goals in this category involve many new park and facility ideas as suggested by stakeholders and the general public, and also includes ideas for preserving and enhancing South Haven's precious natural resources.



Implementation

07

This chapter combines the objectives and actions from the previous chapter with an overlay of financial feasibility. Projects that meet user needs, address established goals, and have the best chance of receiving grant funding should be prioritized.

In this Chapter:

- Priorities
- Funding Alternatives
- Action Plan

Priorities

This chapter aims to develop an implementable action plan for the development and maintenance of parks and public spaces by considering funding sources for each proposed Action Item. All of the action items are a result of the three broad goals: update, connect, and adapt.

A summary of the highest priority Action Items for the next five years (2023-2027) include the following projects, with responsible entity, potential project partners, and potential funding sources:

Complete Kids' Corner Playground Renovation and Other Improvements at Monroe Park

City of South Haven.

To complete full build-out of proposed ADA structures at playground, supplement LWCF grant funding with local fundraising, philanthropy, and corporate sponsorship opportunities.

Implement South Beach Restroom Area Master Plan

City of South Haven.

Explore MDNR Trust Fund and Land and Water Conservation grants.

Complete a Coastal Management Study

City of South Haven/
Township/ Van Buren
County.
Explore MDNR Coastal
Management Grants.

Add a Dog Park

City of South Haven/
SHARA/Township.
Explore MDNR passport
grants.

Add Pickleball Courts

City of South Haven/SHARA/
Township/Van Buren County/
South Haven Public Schools.
Explore MDNR Trust Fund
and Passport grants. Consider
recreation millage.

Renovate North Beach Restrooms

City of South Haven.
Explore MDNR Trust Fund and
Land and Water Conservation
grants.

Add Mountain Bike/Fat-Tire Bike Trail

City of South Haven/SHARA/Township/
Van Buren County.
Explore MDNR Trust Fund and Passport
grants. Consider recreation millage.

Add Community Soccer Fields with Family-Friendly amenities

City of South Haven/SHARA/Township.
Explore MDNR Trust Fund and Passport
grants. Consider recreation millage.

Funding Alternatives

Park development will occur as funds and opportunities evolve. Assistance will be solicited from all available sources and will include both physical and financial support. Local business, industry, service organizations, governmental agencies, and the school district will be solicited for monetary and material support. Associations, such as scouts, church groups, school groups and service organizations, can provide physical construction assistance, along with construction contractors retained for various projects. The City will be encouraged to take maximum advantage of job training and related work programs to assist in clean-up, miscellaneous construction, and general maintenance projects. The City will also seek grant-in-aid funding assistance from all available sources, such as trusts, foundations and federal and state funding programs.

The following list compiles available funding sources explored.

Grant and Philanthropy Programs (GP)

1. Michigan Department of Natural Resources funding:
 - A. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund: Projects shall protect resources, provide recreation opportunities, demonstrate need. (No dollar limits for acquisition, \$15-300k for development, 25% match minimum.)
 - B. Land and Water Conservation Fund: Projects shall preserve land for public outdoor recreation. (\$30-500k for development, 50% match.)
 - C. Recreation Passport Grant Program: Intended for public recreation facilities, renovation of existing facilities and projects that fulfill unmet recreation needs. (\$7.5-150k for development, 25% match minimum.)
 - D. Waterways Program Grant: Intended for recreational boating facilities. (50% of total cost.)
 - E. Boating Infrastructure Grant Program: Intended for large recreational boating facilities providing transient slips, increased access to resources, and public access to water. (75% of total cost.)
 - F. Community Forestry Grants: Intended for programs, such as tree planting and inventories that address the urban forestry needs of municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and volunteer groups. (Up to \$20k.)
 - G. Recreational Trails Program Grants: Projects shall demonstrate need, balance of trail uses, adequate distribution. (No dollar limit.)
2. Other State and Federal Grants.
3. Special gifts, contributions, or scholarships from local citizens or organizations supportive of recreational programs.
4. Park Endowment Fund: Interest to be used for dedicated park expenses after ten years, or other established time period. An example in another nearby County is the Agency Endowment Fund for Berrien County Parks through the Berrien Community Foundation.

Generate Revenue (GR)

6. Improve/update facilities, such as the waterfront TIF (Tax Increment Financing) District, to attract more use, increase efficiency, increase taxable values. TIF funding can be effective for sidewalk projects.
7. Create revenue-generating amenities/programming at existing facilities, such as boat rentals, public activities (i.e., performing arts events with entry fees), additional recreation classes/camps with entry fees.
8. Charge program/facility fees for more popular activities.
9. Increase Taxes:
 - A. General Obligation bond issues, supported by the community for special projects.
 - B. Special millage, also subject to voter approval, for major programs such as waterfront development.
10. Consider strategic private development opportunities to increase tax base.
11. Support State-level legislation for local hotel tax that could be levied for recreation. Currently, there is a local (Van Buren County and Casco Township) hotel tax that the Convention and Visitors Bureau collects and of which a portion funds destination development efforts.

Reallocate Existing Funds (RF)

12. Community Development Block Grant funds eligible for capital expenditure, or other federal funds that may become available.
13. General fund appropriations for projects that can be phased in predictable increments.

Partner to Share Costs (PS)

14. Partner with non-profit groups, schools, South Haven Township and other neighboring Townships, Van Buren County, and other area municipalities.
15. Private and non-profit park sponsorships (Adopt-a-Park programs).

Reduce Services (RS)

16. Green infrastructure programs to reduce maintenance (native grasses vs. turf), reduce energy costs, etc.

Operations / Policy Change (OP)

This category covers action items that do not require direct funding, but instead would involve a change a

Action Plan

The following pages group Objectives in broad categories by established Goals, then list all proposed Action Items with funding source recommendations for implementation.

I. UPDATE		
OBJECTIVE 1: Maintain parks and facilities to expected high standards.		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Update Needs Matrix using regular input from Grounds/Maintenance Staff.	OP
2	Install highest-quality equipment whenever possible to decrease waste in repair and replacement costs.	RF: 13
3	Establish three levels of needed improvements for public restrooms: minor touch-ups, fixture upgrades, complete renovation. Update/renovate restrooms based on established priority and available funding. Goal of one restroom per year.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C RF: 13
4	Implement South Beach Restroom Area Master Plan.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C RF: 13
5	Update playgrounds to modern safety and accessibility standards, one every five years, or as funds available. Highest priority is Kids' Corner Playground, with both tot lots as second priority.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D
6	Update the Stanley Johnson Pavilion and ornamental planting within park.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C RF: 13
7	Update Packard Park amenities. Play sculpture is dated and in need of upgrades and shade.	GP: 1A, 1B, 1C RF: 13
8	Update skate park.	GP: 1A, 1B, 3 PS
OBJECTIVE 2: Implement the established South Haven City Parks "branding" palette of signage, wayfinding, site furniture, lighting, and other amenities to clearly designate public park space.		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Remove unnecessary signage or outdated fixtures that do not meet current standards.	OP
2	Upgrade site furniture and fixtures to current City standards.	GP: 3 RF
3	Identify hierarchy of park entry signage and update parks to current standards. Example: beach park sign, open space park sign, historic park sign.	OP
4	Increase trail wayfinding signage, especially at intersections.	GP: 3 RF
5	Renovate Historic Monroe Park to remove non-standard furniture and amenities, and add ornamental planting.	GP: 3 RF
6	Add sign at Bike Pump Track that better communicates the park's intended use.	GP: 3 RF
7	Consider sign ordinance at all public beaches to reduce clutter and improve communication and safety.	OP
OBJECTIVE 3: Prioritize funding to meet projected user needs.		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Continue to seek outside funding sources whenever possible for park improvements and renovations.	GP: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Consider option to levy Park millage by 2025.	OP
3	Implement a plan to create a full-time Park Director position by 2026.	OP
4	Consider collaboration with Schools, County, and other local groups to offer some rec programming, such as ice skating lessons, parent/child activities, and use of school facilities for City-sponsored open gym activity in winter months.	PS: 14, 15
5	Utilize partnerships to maximize available funding, such as Van Buren County, service clubs.	PS: 14, 15
6	Prioritize projects with the best chance of receiving grant funding.	OP
7	Consider partnership with County and Townships to expand multi-use trail connections.	PS: 14, 15
OBJECTIVE 4: Continue to assess all parks for needed accessibility improvements.		
ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES		
1	Complete an accessibility matrix and share online for park users, to clearly communicate which parks have needed accommodations.	OP
2	Replace all playground surfacing with engineered wood fiber.	GP: 1C RF: 13

II. CONNECT

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify existing gaps in pedestrian/cycling pathways, determine land swap opportunities, land acquisition, or rights of way to maintain continuity. Project priorities to include those that link existing parks/facilities and make access easier or safer (such as greenway trails, bike lanes, etc) to make best use of existing parks.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Consider east/west trail connections from Van Buren trail to Deerlick Park and Pilgrim Haven.	GP: I G
2	Include adequate clearance for multi-use trail on all bridges across the Black River.	GP: I G GR: 6
3	Extend the Blue Star trail north.	GP: I G
4	Connect to Lakeshore Critical Dune Trail.	GP: I G
5	Connect Baseline Middle School south to Kal Haven Trail.	GP: I G GR: 6
6	Add sidewalks on north and south side of Alyworth Avenue between High School and Armory.	GR: 6
7	Study potential crosswalk between High School ball fields and Head Start, across Aylworth Avenue.	RF GR: 6
8	Update the City of South Haven Sidewalk Gap Map (from 2009 Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Paddle Plan).	RF GR: 6

OBJECTIVE 2: Reduce need to drive to and between parks.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Identify unsafe crosswalks near parks and schools that could be improved to connect to neighborhoods.	RF
2	Consider traffic-calming measures at key locations.	RF
3	Identify roads with "road diet" opportunity to narrow driving lanes and add a bike lane.	GP: I G
4	Implement Monroe Bluff Master Plan improvements, including bike lane.	GP: I G
5	Add additional bike racks to all parks and at key locations downtown.	RF
6	Study existing crosswalks at Superior and Broadway Street to determine if intersection would benefit from enhanced crosswalk (on-demand traffic light) for pedestrian and cyclist safety. Study same thing at Phoenix and Hubbard, to connect neighborhoods on both sides of Phoenix Street.	RF
7	Study potential for sidewalk on east side of Le Grange across from High School, with enhanced crosswalk at key intersection to encourage more students to walk or bike to school safely.	RF
8	Add bike racks at all parks.	RF

OBJECTIVE 3: Enhance existing trails between parks, natural areas, and facilities.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Provide bicycle trailheads at key locations with system maps, restrooms, and bike fix-it stations.	GP: I G
2	Increase wayfinding signage for all trails and include distance markers.	GP: I G
3	Create a City Blueway Trail map, identify linkage between existing kayak launch at Black River Park to future Black River-Phoenix Street Launch.	PS
4	Support development of ADA kayak launch at Black River-Phoenix Street.	PS
5	Kal-Haven trail resurfacing.	RF

III. ADAPT

OBJECTIVE 1: Identify additional or new park and recreation amenities that are in high demand. Identify upcoming recreation trends.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Pickleball courts were the #1 most-requested amenity in the public input survey, yet there are no public pickleball courts in South Haven that are regularly available and free of charge. Consideration should be given to either renovation of old tennis courts at the middle school to new pickleball courts, or addition of new pickleball courts at a park with adequate space and parking and potential for lighting, such as Black River Park.	GP: 1A, 1C PS
2	Dog parks and dog-friendly facilities were requested multiple times in the public survey and in public meetings. Consider off-leash hours in key parks from 5-8AM. Add dog bag dispensers at regular intervals at all trails. One of the public beaches could have a “dog day” at the end of the regular summer season where dogs are allowed. Consider allowing dogs on beaches in winter months. Consider location for fenced dog park at SHOUT Park. Ideally, park should be split into large area for larger dogs and smaller area for small dogs.	GR, PS, OP
3	Consider location for additional basketball courts.	RF, PS
4	Add lighting to soccer fields at the Armory to allow evening use.	RF, PS
5	Partner with County to add a single-track mountain bike trail, could be fat-tire biking in winter.	RF, PS

OBJECTIVE 2: Identify opportunities for winter-time recreation.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Groom cross-country ski trails along Van Buren trail for ease of winter access.	OP
2	Construct an outdoor fireplace near the ice rink in Dyckman Park.	GP: 2, 3
3	Consider use of school facilities for open gym in winter months.	PS

OBJECTIVE 3: Increase communication and advertising of recreation programming.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Provide online resource for all available sports and recreation programming in the South Haven area, regardless of provider.	OP
2	Consider issuing a regular newsletter to inform the community about Parks activities and developments.	OP

OBJECTIVE 4: Identify potential new opportunities for recreation or public use of existing spaces.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Potential partnerships for new amenities, such as a soccer complex with playground and picnic, grill facilities for all-ages family use. This could be developed at the SHARA disc golf property.	GP: 1A, 1B PS
2	Consider addition of tot-lot in Hartman Park to serve a neighborhood that is bound on all sides by collector roadways.	GP: 1A, 1C RF
3	Consider outdoor exercise equipment for seniors, possibly adjacent to the Senior Center or Bronson Wellness Center.	GP: 1A, 1C RF PS
4	Add a walking loop around the Monroe Park block (around Kids' Corner).	GP: 1G
5	Add misters for pedestrian comfort at key points that are most popular in hottest summer months. Riverfront Park, North Beach and South Beach would be ideal locations.	RF
6	Allow rental of park pavilions.	OP

OBJECTIVE 5: Lead the charge of environmental and climate resilience, protect the South Haven shoreline and all natural resources.

ACTION & POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

1	Complete a Coastal Management study to address sand management and erosion concerns along the Lake Michigan shoreline and to protect critical dunes.	GP
2	Enforce appropriate regulations to ensure there is no improper construction along the shoreline as identified by FEMA.	OP
3	Explore innovative alternative strategies to traditional steel and rock shoreline armoring that reduce long-term maintenance costs while improving water quality and expanding habitat.	OP
4	Work with EGLE to develop protocols for approval of alternative strategies, such as reclamation of offshore sand deposited past the depth of closure for beach nourishment, and offshore structures to reduce wave energy and direct natural littoral drift patterns to restore (rather than erode) shorelines.	OP

Chapter 07 Key Points

This chapter addresses the broad needs identified earlier in this document by assigning specific action items as organized in by general goal categories of update, connect, and adapt.

These are the categories that have potential to meet the recreation needs of the most people within South Haven. From these broad categories, specific actions have been developed as applied to individual parks and recreation facilities, and proposed implementation strategies are then assigned to those actions.



Appendices

08

Included:

- MDNR Recreation Grant History
- Community Survey Results

Under Separate Cover:

- Certification Checklist
- Draft Plan Availability Notice
- Public Hearing Notice
- Public Hearing Minutes and Parks Commission Recommendation of Adoption
- City Commission Resolution of Adoption
- Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports
- County Planning Agency Transmittal Letter
- Regional Planning Agency Transmittal Letter

DNR Recreation Grant Inventory

A. City of South Haven

The City of South Haven has previously received several DNR recreational grants for park development, listed in Table 5-1, below. These grants came from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (26), Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF), Recreation Passport (RP) and the 1988 Recreation Bond Fund (BF). In Table 5-2 is a list of the Waterway Grants the City has received.

Table 5-1

Grant	Park Name	Type	Status	Scope
26-00420	Black River Park	Development	Closed	Boat launch area, picnic Area, Playground equipment, Comfort station, four tennis courts, lighting, parking, landscaping, road, sewer system, water system, and site improvements
BF93-158	South Beach/Riverfront Park	Development	Closed	Picnic Shelter, Lighting, Landscaping, Handicap Accessible Restroom Facilities, and Park Furniture
TF887	South Shore Recreational Area	Acquisition	Closed	To acquire 4 acres along south bank of Black River where mouth joins Lake Michigan
TF95-093	Dyckman & Packard Park	Development	Closed	Asphalt Parking Lot, Handicap Ramp constructed, Recreation Deck, Landscaping
TF10 -097	South Beach Improvements	Development	Closed	Beach amenities, Playground Equipment, Accessible timber overlook, channel view parking area, Parking lot safety improvements/ expansion

TF11 -144	Elkenburg Park Improvements	Development	Closed	Restrooms/picnic shelter renovations, basketball courts, landscaping , parks amenities
TF12-114	Van Buren Trail Connection	Development	Completed	Trail connecting Van Buren State Park with the DT SH trail head
TF12-096	South Beach Park Extension	Acquisition	Completed	Improved parking, new ADA play area, new seating and picnic table area
LW14-0035	SHOUT Park	Development	Completed	Fishing platform, parking lot, landscaping, bank stabilization, sidewalks, and parking lot. Entire area universally accessible
TF15-0072	North Beach Park Improvements	Development	Active	New accessible parking area, wider pedestrian walking area, play area, new benches and trash, picnic table seating area, emergency access walkway to pier head, emergency call box, security video monitoring, kayak lane and landing area connecting the park to lake MI water trail, developed universally accessible walkways connecting parking area to lake Michigan
TF15-0058	Black River Park	Development	Completed	Skid pier replacement, 3 out of 4 are completed, 4 th in 2018

RP15-0015	Black River Park	Development	Active	Upgrades to the Black River Restroom facility with improved accessibility.
RP15-0057	Bicycle Pump Track	Development	Active	Development of a bicycle pump track for a variety of ages and abilities
RP16-0062	Kids Corner	Development	Active	Improvements to the play structure by renovation of existing play elements that will meet current safety standards and are ADA accessible.
TF17-0034	Riverfront Park	Development	Awarded, awaiting grant documentation	Splash pad recreation amenity
TF17-0032	Black River Park	Development	Awarded, awaiting grant documentation	Skid Pier

B. South Haven Charter Township

Below is a listing of the grants received by the township. Table 5-3 is a list of the grants the Township has received.

Table 5-3

Grant	Park Name	Type	Status	Scope
06-210	Deerlick	Acquisition	closed	To acquire 2.1 acres for a township park

C. SHARA

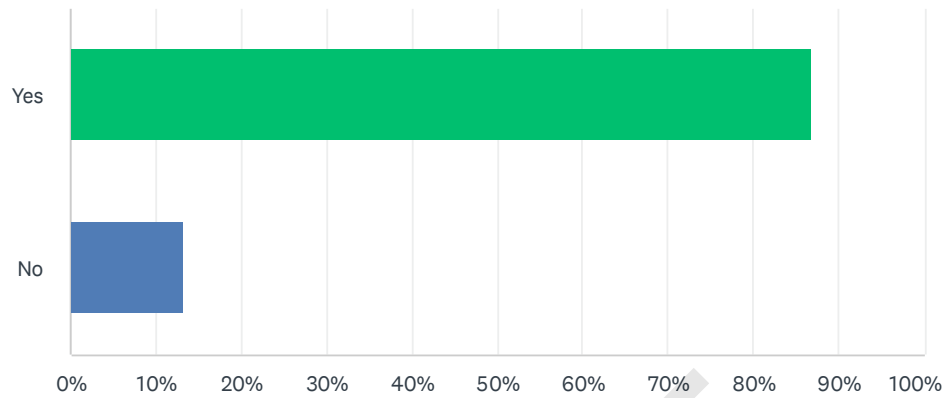
Below is a listing of the grants received by SHARA. Table 5-4 is a list of the grants SHARA has received.

Table 5-4

Grant	Park Name	Type	Status	Scope
TF14-0211	Pilgrim Haven	Development	Active	Parking area, universally accessible walkway
TF16-0140	14 th Avenue	Acquisition	Active	To acquire the land
TF16-0204	Pilgrim Haven	Development	Active	Pave parking lot, pit toilets, landscaping, benches, fencing and gate

Q1 Are you a resident of South Haven?

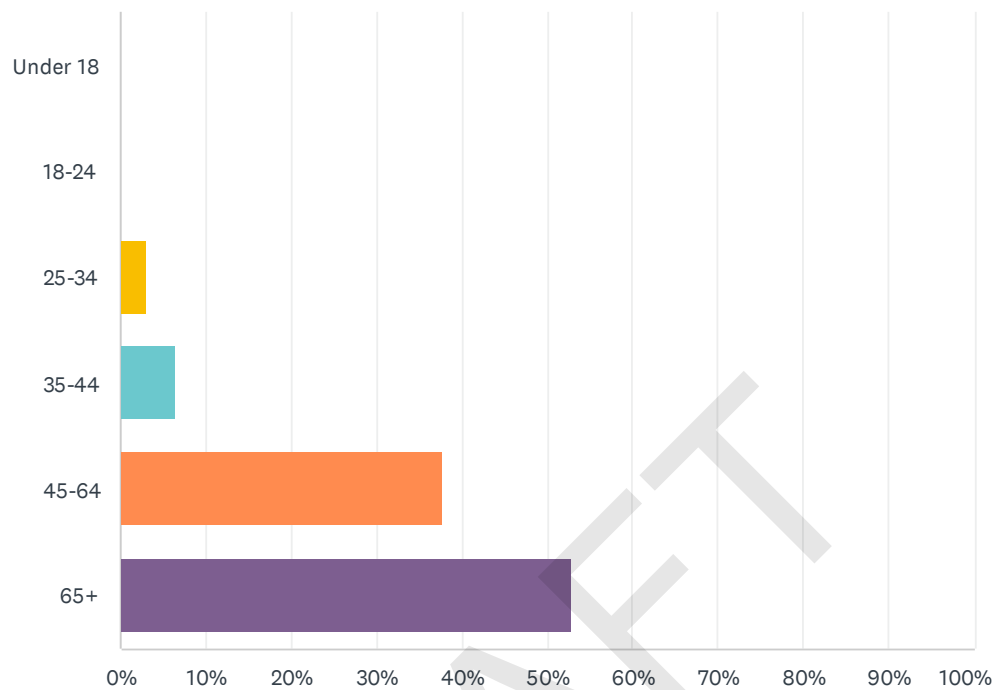
Answered: 205 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	86.83%	178
No	13.17%	27
TOTAL		205

Q2 What is your age?

Answered: 204 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.00%	0
25-34	2.94%	6
35-44	6.37%	13
45-64	37.75%	77
65+	52.94%	108
TOTAL		204

Q3 How many people are in your household?

Answered: 203 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	1	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	2	10/15/2022 3:10 PM
3	1	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
4	2	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
5	2	10/14/2022 4:54 PM
6	2	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
7	2	10/14/2022 11:23 AM
8	2	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
9	2	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
10	2	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
11	2	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
12	2	10/14/2022 7:54 AM
13	2	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
14	2	10/14/2022 7:29 AM
15	2	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
16	2	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
17	Two	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
18	2	10/14/2022 1:19 AM
19	2	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
20	2	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
21	1	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
22	2	10/13/2022 10:05 PM
23	2	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
24	2	10/13/2022 9:04 PM
25	2	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
26	2	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
27	5	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
28	3	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
29	2	10/13/2022 7:46 PM
30	1	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
31	2	10/10/2022 11:53 AM
32	2	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
33	2	10/4/2022 8:07 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

34	2	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
35	2	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
36	4	10/3/2022 10:12 AM
37	2	10/1/2022 10:07 PM
38	2	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
39	5	9/29/2022 4:18 PM
40	2	9/29/2022 10:56 AM
41	one	9/28/2022 11:33 AM
42	3	9/27/2022 2:01 PM
43	2	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
44	Two	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
45	2	9/24/2022 6:05 PM
46	4	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
47	2	9/23/2022 7:48 AM
48	2	9/22/2022 9:38 PM
49	2	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
50	2	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
51	2	9/22/2022 7:46 PM
52	2	9/22/2022 7:14 PM
53	2	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
54	2	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
55	2	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
56	2	9/20/2022 8:31 AM
57	1	9/19/2022 6:44 PM
58	2	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
59	two	9/19/2022 1:28 PM
60	2	9/19/2022 10:27 AM
61	4	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
62	2	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
63	1	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
64	2	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
65	2	9/18/2022 8:30 PM
66	2	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
67	2	9/18/2022 2:01 PM
68	2	9/18/2022 10:48 AM
69	2	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
70	1	9/18/2022 10:18 AM
71	One	9/17/2022 7:58 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

72	2	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
73	2	9/17/2022 5:35 PM
74	Two	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
75	2	9/17/2022 4:34 PM
76	2	9/17/2022 3:53 PM
77	2	9/17/2022 3:12 PM
78	2	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
79	2	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
80	3	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
81	One	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
82	2	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
83	2	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
84	3	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
85	3	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
86	1	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
87	2	9/16/2022 6:22 PM
88	2	9/16/2022 5:53 PM
89	2	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
90	Two	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
91	2	9/16/2022 4:26 PM
92	2	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
93	2	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
94	2	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
95	2	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
96	4	9/16/2022 2:09 PM
97	2	9/16/2022 12:25 PM
98	4	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
99	5	9/16/2022 10:46 AM
100	2	9/16/2022 10:42 AM
101	2	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
102	2	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
103	2	9/16/2022 10:06 AM
104	2	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
105	3	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
106	2	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
107	2	9/16/2022 9:39 AM
108	2	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
109	2	9/16/2022 9:20 AM

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110	2	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
111	6	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
112	2	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
113	2	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
114	1	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
115	2	9/16/2022 8:46 AM
116	2	9/16/2022 8:41 AM
117	1	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
118	2	9/16/2022 8:34 AM
119	2	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
120	2	9/16/2022 8:15 AM
121	Two	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
122	2	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
123	2	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
124	2	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
125	2	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
126	1	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
127	3	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
128	3	9/16/2022 6:51 AM
129	2	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
130	2	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
131	2	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
132	2	9/16/2022 4:56 AM
133	1	9/16/2022 1:26 AM
134	1	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
135	2	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
136	2	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
137	2	9/15/2022 11:36 PM
138	2	9/15/2022 11:27 PM
139	1	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
140	2	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
141	1	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
142	2	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
143	2	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
144	2	9/15/2022 9:44 PM
145	1	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
146	2	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
147	2	9/15/2022 9:19 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

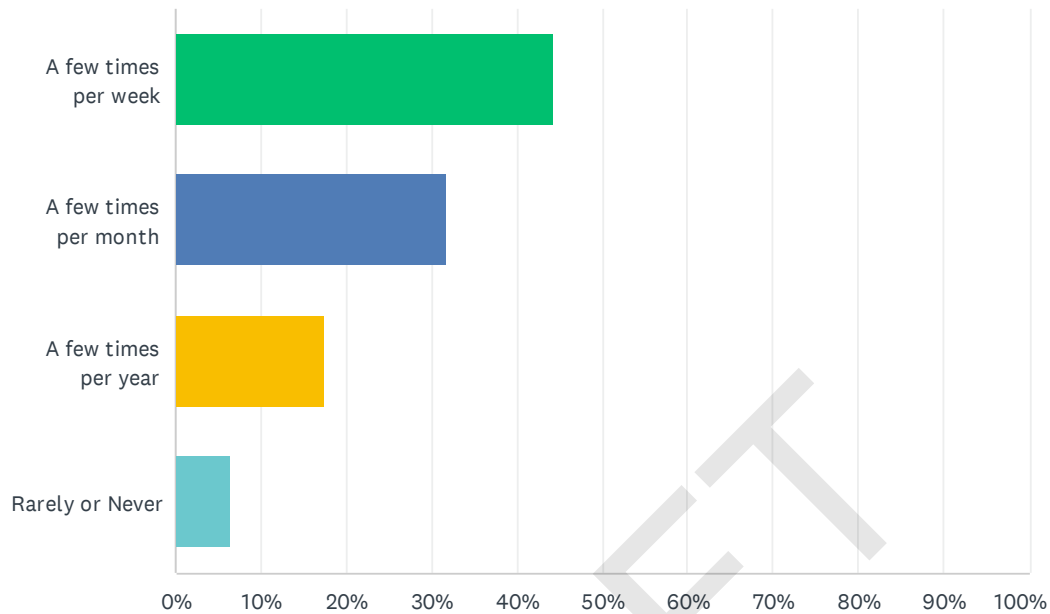
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152	2	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
153	2	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
154	2	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
155	2	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
156	2	9/15/2022 7:40 PM
157	3	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
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159	4	9/15/2022 7:29 PM
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166	2	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
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168	2	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
169	2	9/15/2022 6:18 PM
170	2	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
171	2	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
172	2	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
173	2	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
174	2	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
175	2	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
176	Three	9/15/2022 6:00 PM
177	2	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
178	2	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
179	1	9/15/2022 5:55 PM
180	2	9/15/2022 5:54 PM
181	2	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
182	2	9/15/2022 5:43 PM
183	4	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
184	1	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
185	4	9/15/2022 4:42 PM

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186	2	9/15/2022 4:41 PM
187	4	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
188	3	9/15/2022 4:11 PM
189	Two	9/15/2022 3:52 PM
190	3	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
191	2	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
192	2	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
193	1	9/15/2022 2:16 PM
194	2	9/15/2022 2:12 PM
195	2	9/15/2022 1:54 PM
196	1	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
197	5	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
198	2	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
199	2	9/13/2022 6:00 PM
200	Two	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
201	1	9/12/2022 9:49 AM
202	1	9/12/2022 9:47 AM
203	2	9/9/2022 3:30 PM

Q4 How often do you visit South Haven City Parks?

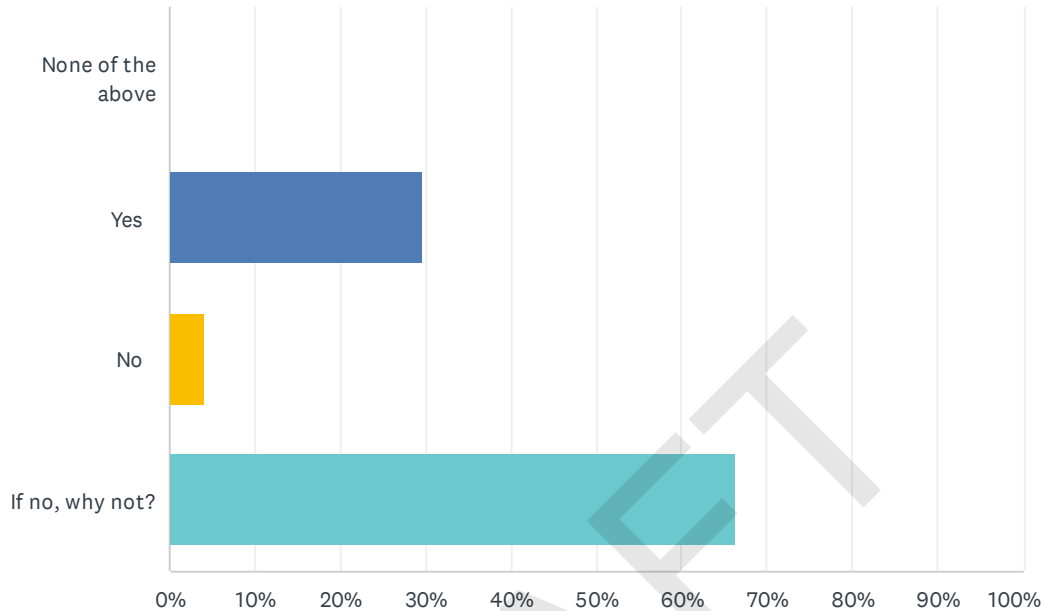
Answered: 205 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A few times per week	44.39%	91
A few times per month	31.71%	65
A few times per year	17.56%	36
Rarely or Never	6.34%	13
TOTAL		205

Q5 Do existing facilities and recreation programs meet your needs? (either City or other providers)

Answered: 199 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
None of the above	0.00% 0
Yes	29.65% 59
No	4.02% 8
If no, why not?	66.33% 132
TOTAL	199

#	IF NO, WHY NOT?	DATE
1	Bathrooms changing room	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	No pickleball courts	10/15/2022 3:10 PM
3	Need pickleball courts	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
4	Need outdoor pickleball	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
5	I don't know what they offer.	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
6	wanting pickle ball courts!	10/14/2022 11:23 AM
7	I would like some outdoor Pickleball courts if possible	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
8	There are too few indoor pickle ball courts. This is a growing sport activity among all ages and there is not enough indoor and outdoor courts to meet the needs of the community.	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
9	want pickleball	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
10	It's be nice to have more activities available. Pickleball courts would be great.	10/14/2022 7:54 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

11	There are no Pickle ball outdoor courts	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
12	Would love to have pickleball courts available.	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
13	Need dedicated pickleball courts	10/14/2022 1:19 AM
14	Would like pickle-ball courts for residents.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
15	Need dedicated pickleball courts in the city.	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
16	Pickleball courts needed	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
17	The city should partner with the schools to maintain and expand recreational facilities in the city. The recent investment in tennis courts, fields needs to be maintained and it should be a partnership. The facilities are used by students, residents and tourists. There could be expansion of additional ball fields by the armory, additional tennis/pickleball at Baseline. There is a lot of property near existing schools/infrastructure that could be used to expand what the city has to offer. In addition, the city should look at programming for youth, adult and senior recreation.	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
18	Would like more recreational programs. Especially pickleball events	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
19	I play pickleball.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
20	No pickle all/ update playgrounds	10/3/2022 10:12 AM
21	No pickle ball or not enough. (Think Packard Park)	10/1/2022 10:07 PM
22	More seating, especially in shaded areas for the summer. More functional bike lock stations. The decorative bikes are beautiful and I hate to lock a bike to any and damage the artists' work	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
23	Parks, facilities and recreation opportunities and interests are always evolving and so, park facilities and rec programs can always use improvements and changes.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
24	Need more Pickleball	9/24/2022 6:05 PM
25	Would love to have outdoor pickleball courts available for residents and guests. It's an amazing sport that becomes more popular every year.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
26	No outdoor pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
27	We need Pickleball courts. I own property & pay taxes	9/22/2022 7:14 PM
28	For the most part, yes. But more outdoor pickleball courts and one more indoor pickleball court would be well-used.	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
29	There are no pickleball courts available	9/20/2022 8:31 AM
30	city needs a full time dog park	9/19/2022 6:44 PM
31	Need a dog park	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
32	I would like to see pickelball courts added	9/19/2022 1:28 PM
33	No playground equipment in south east area of city	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
34	Would like dedicated pickle ball courts (similar to Douglas courts)	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
35	No pickleball courts	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
36	Need pickleball courts	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
37	Sidewalks need to be repaired badly throughout city.	9/18/2022 8:30 PM
38	Would like an area that we can walk the dog to the water so she could touch it and look at the lake.	9/18/2022 2:01 PM
39	No open pickle ball courts	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
40	Would like city pickle ball courts	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
41	There is not a lack of parks, but there is a lack of recreation at our parks. We need access to pickleball courts for all ages in our community, not just seniors, as is the case currently. The	9/17/2022 4:35 PM

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high school has just added brand new tennis courts with a promise to add pickleball lining, but as of now no lining is available. We use to have six outdoor pickleball courts available but as of now none. Many communities our size have community pickleball courts available in park settings, not relying on the schools.

42	Too many festivals, too much commercial on beaches and parks	9/17/2022 3:53 PM
43	Would like a dog park	9/17/2022 3:12 PM
44	We need more outdoor pickleball courts	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
45	No Pickleball courts	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
46	No pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
47	Community pool	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
48	We need a public dog park.	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
49	Just a few more options would be nice	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
50	Narrowing of Broadway St makes biking difficult to cross during heavy season basically cutting off KalHaven trail	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
51	Need facilities for adults, not just kids. AARP FitLot looks like a great idea	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
52	Need public Dog Park.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
53	There are no public tennis courts or pickle ball courts in south haven. The playground equipment is lacking at Stanley Johnson park .	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
54	Existing facilities need improvement	9/16/2022 4:26 PM
55	Pickleball is only indoors at the senior center. I would like to play outdoors in nice weather.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
56	There is a need for pickleball courts for the many who are trying to get on courts and have to wait for long periods of time.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
57	Would love outdoor pickleball courts	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
58	We would like to see pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
59	We need tennis courts and pickleball courts	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
60	Wish there were more family activities and bathrooms are not always clean. Would like to have a community pool or more community options	9/16/2022 10:46 AM
61	We're missing pickleball courts!	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
62	I would like to see Pickleball Courts at some of the parks	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
63	No purposefully built pickleball courts	9/16/2022 10:06 AM
64	we need a municipal dog park with water access and shady areas. The current dog park is on leased land that could at any moment become unavailable to dog owners.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
65	Would really like to see more sports-related venues like pickle ball, tennis, basketball courts, bocce, volleyball, badminton, etc.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
66	Restrooms either aren't open, supplied, not kept up, or the public can't use them and must use port-a-potties	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
67	Pickleball has become extremely popular nationwide. Many out-of-state visitors look for places to play pickleball. We have over 350 pickleball players on our South Haven Pickleball app; my best guess is about 30% of which are from out-of-state, but visit South Haven quite often. Pickleball is taught in South Haven Public Schools starting in middle school. If they like the sport, there is nowhere for them to play. Lake Arvesta has pickleball courts, but they charge \$10.00 per person to reserve a pickleball court for 2 hours; that's \$40.00 total for 4 people to play for 2 hours. Pickleball is an extremely fast growing sport. CBS now televises pickleball. We need pickleball courts - now!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
68	No pickleball courts	9/16/2022 9:03 AM

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69	Would like more amenities to attract people to the parks: pickle ball/tennis courts, picnic tables, art installations	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
70	Would like to see dedicated pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
71	no place to play pickleball outside. Having to drive to other communities like Saugatuck	9/16/2022 8:41 AM
72	I'd like to see some cardio challenges such as workout stations and public Pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
73	More Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:15 AM
74	We play pickleball and the city does not provide courts.	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
75	Looking for pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
76	there are no rec sport programs for adults that I am aware of. there are no dedicated pickleball courts. It is the most popular and fastest growing sport and draws tourism.	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
77	No pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
78	No Pickleball outside in main part of town.	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
79	Need pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
80	Free workout equipment	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
81	Wish there were ice skating lessons for children and more swim lesson opportunities	9/16/2022 6:51 AM
82	Bronson was once "owned" by the community so they required community members to be full-time members (no drop ins or shorter memberships). Now that the community has no ownership their membership or usage fees are still unfair.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
83	Need more recreation as in pickleball courts	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
84	No activities of interest to me or unaware of activities being offered	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
85	Lack of areas to let dogs (or cats) roam/run "off leash."	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
86	Need outdoor pickleball courts for summer play.	9/15/2022 11:27 PM
87	City needs a large rec center with pool, open to all.	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
88	I live near south beach, and I'm waiting for improvements to be done to Kids' Corner and the area near the top of the blue stairs. Also, I'd love to see some new pickle ball courts! In general, more and improved seating throughout the city would be nice	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
89	No pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
90	Would like to see more picnic area and pickleball courts	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
91	Would like to be able to play pickleball.	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
92	pickle ball	9/15/2022 9:44 PM
93	there are no city pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
94	Playground at Kids Corner outdated	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
95	need Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
96	No dog park	9/15/2022 9:12 PM
97	Need pickle ball courts please...we have many players in the community, and it is great sport for our aging population.	9/15/2022 9:08 PM
98	Need Pickleball courts like Saugatuck/Douglas	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
99	There could be more park activities, and some parks need improvements.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
100	City has no Pickleball courts at the outside parks.	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
101	I have a dog that needs a safe place to run off leash.	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
102	A dog park is needed	9/15/2022 7:57 PM

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103	Parks not geared to over 65. I'd like to see more walking paths, benches and pickleball courts	9/15/2022 7:40 PM
104	No Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
105	A public tennis court besides the high school tennis courts as well as A large park that could host soccer tournaments and baseball tournaments with ample parking.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
106	We do not have anything for young kids like a park district that would organize things for kids year round or even during the summer.	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
107	Some recreational opportunities missing	9/15/2022 7:10 PM
108	There are not enough play areas for children and young adults	9/15/2022 6:50 PM
109	I have 2 year old grandson and find some of the play areas such as swings need updated. Also other than walking through, it would be nice to have something for seniors to do to be more active like a PB court.	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
110	Not enough pickleball courts, restrooms poorly maintained	9/15/2022 6:32 PM
111	We don't have any Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
112	They do not provide pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
113	need more dedicated pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
114	Not enough choices	9/15/2022 6:18 PM
115	No pickleball	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
116	No pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
117	Restrooms could and should be updated.	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
118	more pickleball courts are needed	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
119	No pickleball or tennis courts	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
120	need more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
121	Need pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:00 PM
122	Need Pickleball Courts	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
123	Need more pickleball	9/15/2022 5:55 PM
124	Need more access to athletic fields	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
125	Would like a dog park please.	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
126	Not enough sports facilities	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
127	We would love to see a designated dog park/beach!	9/15/2022 4:11 PM
128	Need a Dog Park	9/15/2022 3:52 PM
129	Need a municipal dog park!	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
130	Need a municipal dog park in town	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
131	They need more stuff	9/12/2022 9:49 AM
132	Bathrooms need updating	9/9/2022 3:30 PM

Q6 In which recreation programs have you or your family participated over the past 5 years? Examples would be AYSO soccer, fitness class at Bronson, RAC swim club, etc.

Answered: 153 Skipped: 53

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Fitness classes at Wellness center , use walk path and swim pool	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
2	None	10/14/2022 4:54 PM
3	Swim / therapy pool at Bronson Physical therapy	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
4	tennis pickle ball	10/14/2022 11:23 AM
5	I use the Bronson Athletic club daily.	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
6	Senior center activities that include pickle ball.	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
7	pickleball	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
8	Bronson fitness	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
9	RAC swim club, pickleball, gym at Bronson	10/14/2022 7:54 AM
10	Swimming and classes at Bronson	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
11	Member at Bronson Wellness Center	10/14/2022 7:29 AM
12	Pickleball mainly	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
13	fitness at Bronson Pickle ball at Senior Center and when available HS outdoor tennis courts Kal Haven Trail for hike and biking	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
14	Member of Wellness Centerfor three years, but dropped membership due to cost,	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
15	Pickleball at the high school and Lake a Arvesta.	10/14/2022 1:19 AM
16	High school courts and senior center for pickle-ball.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
17	Pickleball & Tennis	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
18	No formal programs	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
19	None	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
20	Bronson Wellness Center Skate rink Walk on the various trails utilize beaches Black River park: kayak launch Harbor walk JYL High Schools sports including tennis, baseball, ski	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
21	AYSO, RAC, fitness class at the wellness center,	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
22	RAC, jr sailing at the yacht club, summer camps at the Bailey museum, activities at the Maritime museum	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
23	Fitness Beaches Fitness class	10/13/2022 7:46 PM
24	I don't use any recreation programs.	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
25	wellness center, senior services, beaches	10/10/2022 11:53 AM
26	Fitness classes Waking Path Lakeshore Bike	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
27	None	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
28	Bronson Wellness Center, Roots yoga at the beach, Blueberry 5K	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
29	I play pickleball with a number of groups, including those in Douglas, St. Joe, Coloma and	10/3/2022 11:29 PM

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Kalamazoo. The sooner, and more completely South Haven builds some courts, the better.

30	Bronson fitness	10/3/2022 10:12 AM
31	None. Enjoy the peaceful outdoor trails and walking quiet neighborhoods, and along the Lake Michigan shoreline	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
32	None	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
33	Fitness classes at both Bronson and Senior Center.	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
34	Pickle ball	9/24/2022 6:05 PM
35	Running races BWC fitness classes local pickleball group	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
36	pickleball-at H.S. and Sr. Center and Lake Artvista	9/22/2022 9:38 PM
37	Fitness class at Bronson	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
38	Pickleball at Sr center	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
39	Classes at Bronson	9/22/2022 7:46 PM
40	Walking & biking trails	9/22/2022 7:14 PM
41	Fitness classes at the Bronson Wellness Center (BWC), educational/cooking classes at the BWC, self-organized group snowshoeing in Stanley Johnston Park and along the shoreline Elkenburg Park community picnic, Dyckman Park Farmers' Market and live music, KalHaven and Van Buren Trails.	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
42	Bronson fitness	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
43	Sohawsc	9/20/2022 12:07 PM
44	Attend classes at the Senior Center as well as pickleball	9/20/2022 8:31 AM
45	dog park as provided by volunteers... pickleball at senior center/high school tennis courts...other parks for various events	9/19/2022 6:44 PM
46	Fitness at Bronson	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
47	Bronson fitness, all city parks (we have grandchildren), Mitten Museum, pickleball when the high school tennis courts were available, pickelball at Senior Center, we do use the bike racks available around town quite frequently	9/19/2022 1:28 PM
48	BAC classes	9/19/2022 10:27 AM
49	AYSO soccer, South Haven softball	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
50	Kal-Haven trail (excellent), Bronson Health Club fitness classes, walk public beaches. Concerts in summer. Participate in pickle ball at senior center. Visit senior center (excellent). Bike path between Vanburren and South Haven (thank you for the recent repaying of the path!).	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
51	Bronson fitness classes Yoga Pickleball Biking	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
52	Fitness Class at Bronson Kayak launch Dragonboats from boat launch Kal-Haven Van Buren Trail	9/18/2022 8:30 PM
53	Senior center, pickleball, etc.	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
54	The parks allow for my hiking needs (especially North Point). I use the VanBuren trail to bicycle weekly. I visit Deerlick approximately 3x/week (very grounding) Love the river walk.	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
55	Pickle ball Bronson wellness rehabilitation center Wellness center gym Rock hunting Art shows Farmers market Shopping Deer lick park Bike rental Coffee meets	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
56	Yoga at Epiphany Wellness Center Ice skating Kayak launch Kids corner Ward one ice cream social/Elkenburg park South Beach Stanley Johnson park	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
57	Fitness classes at Bronson, pickleball at the high school and senior center, golf at local courses.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
58	None	9/17/2022 3:12 PM

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59	Senior center classes Bronson classes	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
60	Senior center pickleball, yoga, peleton spinning and other classes, fitness classes at West Hills athletic club and pickleball.	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
61	Soccer and swim (water waaay too cold in shops pool so went to Grandville)	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
62	Pickle ball	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
63	Riding or walking on the bike trail.	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
64	AYDO soccer, classes & programs at Bronson Wellness Center, RAC swimming, tennis lessons when South shore did them here, golf lessons, shoreline dance academy classes	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
65	Fitness at Bronson. South Beach	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
66	Bronson membership /classes Community walking tours	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
67	Bronson, the beaches, and the private dog park.	9/16/2022 6:22 PM
68	Using Kal Haven trail several times per week.	9/16/2022 5:53 PM
69	What is etc.? The three programs you have listed are run and developed not by your parks and rec department. They would exist without your parks and rec department. What programs have the parks and rec department run or established on its own?	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
70	Fitness class at Bronson and pickleball at senior center	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
71	AYSO soccer, Bronson fitness class, Little League	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
72	festivals in/at the local parks.	9/16/2022 12:25 PM
73	AYSO soccer, fitness classes, softball and baseball programs,	9/16/2022 10:46 AM
74	Fitness classes at the Wellness Center, Senior Services activities, pickleball, etc. Kids Korner and Splash pad for grandchildren.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
75	Fitness classes at Bronson, Pickleball at the Sr Center, biking, walking.....	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
76	Bronson Wellness	9/16/2022 10:06 AM
77	None. Not many geared for age, and the times and costs aren't practical.	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
78	Bronson Wellness Center, Senior Services pickleball and corn hole, bike riding on KalHaven trail and Van Buren State Park trail.	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
79	Fitness classes at Bronson and I take my dog to the dog park we now have.	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
80	none	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
81	Lots of after school sports, dance classes, etc.	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
82	Arts, historical information, festivals and fairs	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
83	Fitness at Bronson Wellness Center (weights, walking), Pickle Ball and walking at the Senior Center	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
84	MHSAA soccer referee daily pickleball player	9/16/2022 8:41 AM
85	Pickelball and power walking.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
86	none	9/16/2022 8:34 AM
87	Pickleball at the high school and senior center	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
88	Bronson	9/16/2022 8:15 AM
89	Senior Center. Can't afford wellness center	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
90	Fitness class, senior center pickleball	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
91	Fitness at Bronson. South Haven Pickleball Club - I play pickleball 6/7 times a day.	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
92	Biking, hiking, pickleball, swimming	9/16/2022 7:54 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

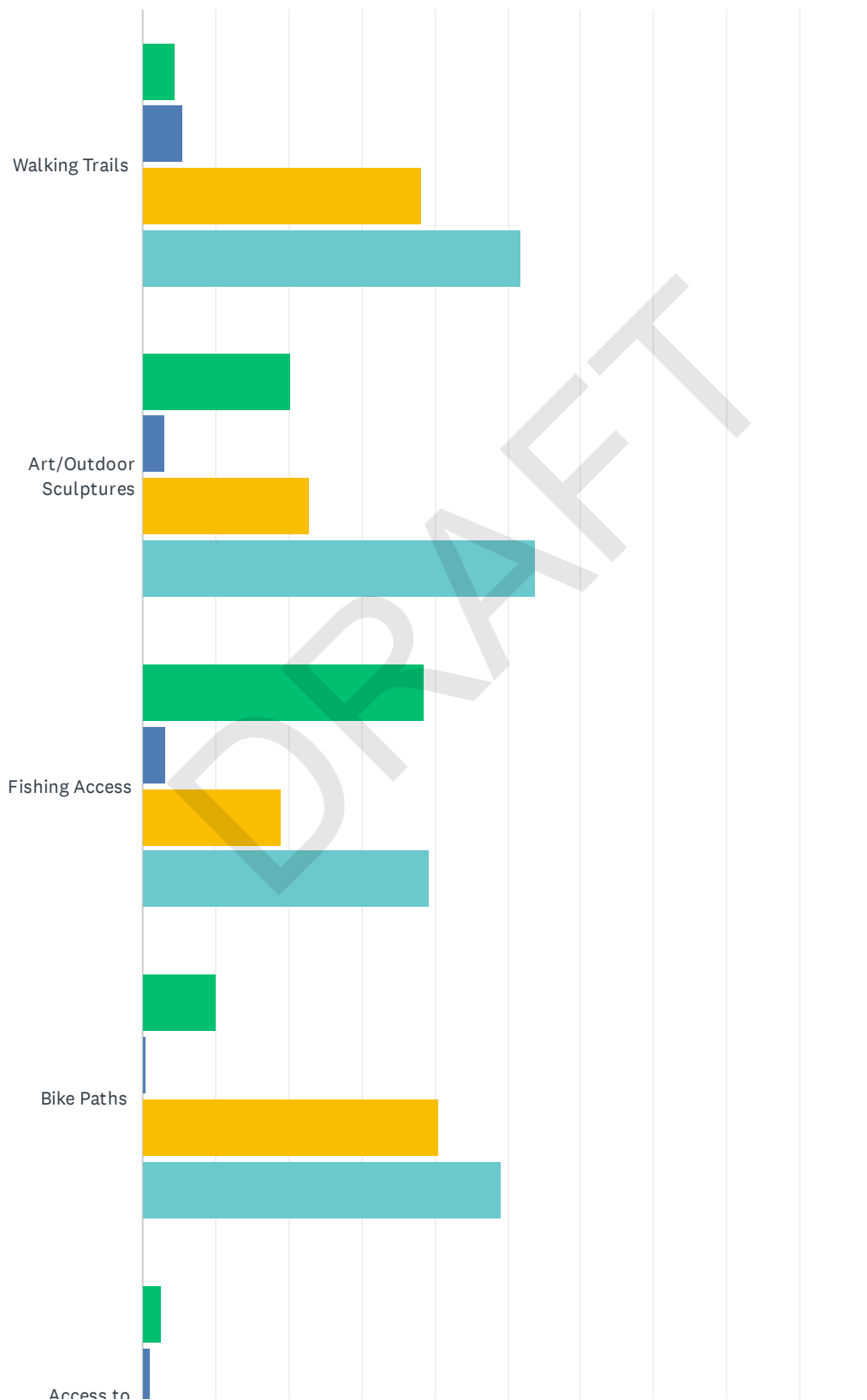
93	Bronson wellness	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
94	Senior center picklball	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
95	Ayso.	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
96	In last 5 years children are grown and not members of Bronson. All of our recreation is using the local trails and parks.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
97	Walking the parks and the playgrounds ice skating	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
98	Pickleball at the senior center, walking on Kal-Haven Trail	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
99	Pickleball at Senior Center	9/16/2022 1:26 AM
100	Fitness and swimming at Bronson Wellness Center	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
101	Senior Center activities with several seniors, many activities at the Wellness center, daily walking at the beaches, frequent visits to Kids Corner.	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
102	Pickleball	9/15/2022 11:27 PM
103	Bronson fitness center	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
104	We're members of the Wellness Center, take fitness classes there We play pickle ball at the senior center and used to play at the high school	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
105	.Fitness classes at Bronson .golf .kayaking	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
106	Biking Van Buren trail	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
107	Grandchildren have participated in Ayso soccer. Have rode bikes on trails.	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
108	pickle ball	9/15/2022 9:44 PM
109	fitness class at Bronson	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
110	BWC Zumba, cardio lite, exercise equipment, track Senior Center Pickleball	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
111	Bronson Fitness Pickleball at Senior Center	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
112	None	9/15/2022 9:12 PM
113	We just moved here last summer. My husband and I are year around, full-time South Haven people and we play pickle ball at the Senior Center,	9/15/2022 9:08 PM
114	Bronson Wellness	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
115	Bronson, dog park, and bend yoga on beach. Also go to pier park for the sand dune.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
116	Use Bronson facility 4 times a week. They only have a an indoor basketball court. Weight training, spin, and swimming pool.	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
117	Fitness club	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
118	Fitness classes at Wellness Center, using the wellness center, Kalamazoo- haven trail,	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
119	Senior Services Pickleball	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
120	We're at Bronson's wellness center 6 days a week - swimming, exercise class, etc. Also play pickleball at the senior center at least twice a week. We also walk the river walk and in Lakeview Cemetary.	9/15/2022 7:40 PM
121	Bronson and senior center	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
122	Ayos, Bronson fitness facility, swim lessons at the high school basketball and baseball and flag football and dance.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
123	AYSO Fitness at Bronson Liberty Hyde Bailey Kids Corner Stanley Johnson South Beach YDC programs JYL baseball South Haven Art Center classes	9/15/2022 7:29 PM
124	RAC swim, fitness at bronson, football, tball, cheer	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
125	Senior services	9/15/2022 7:12 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

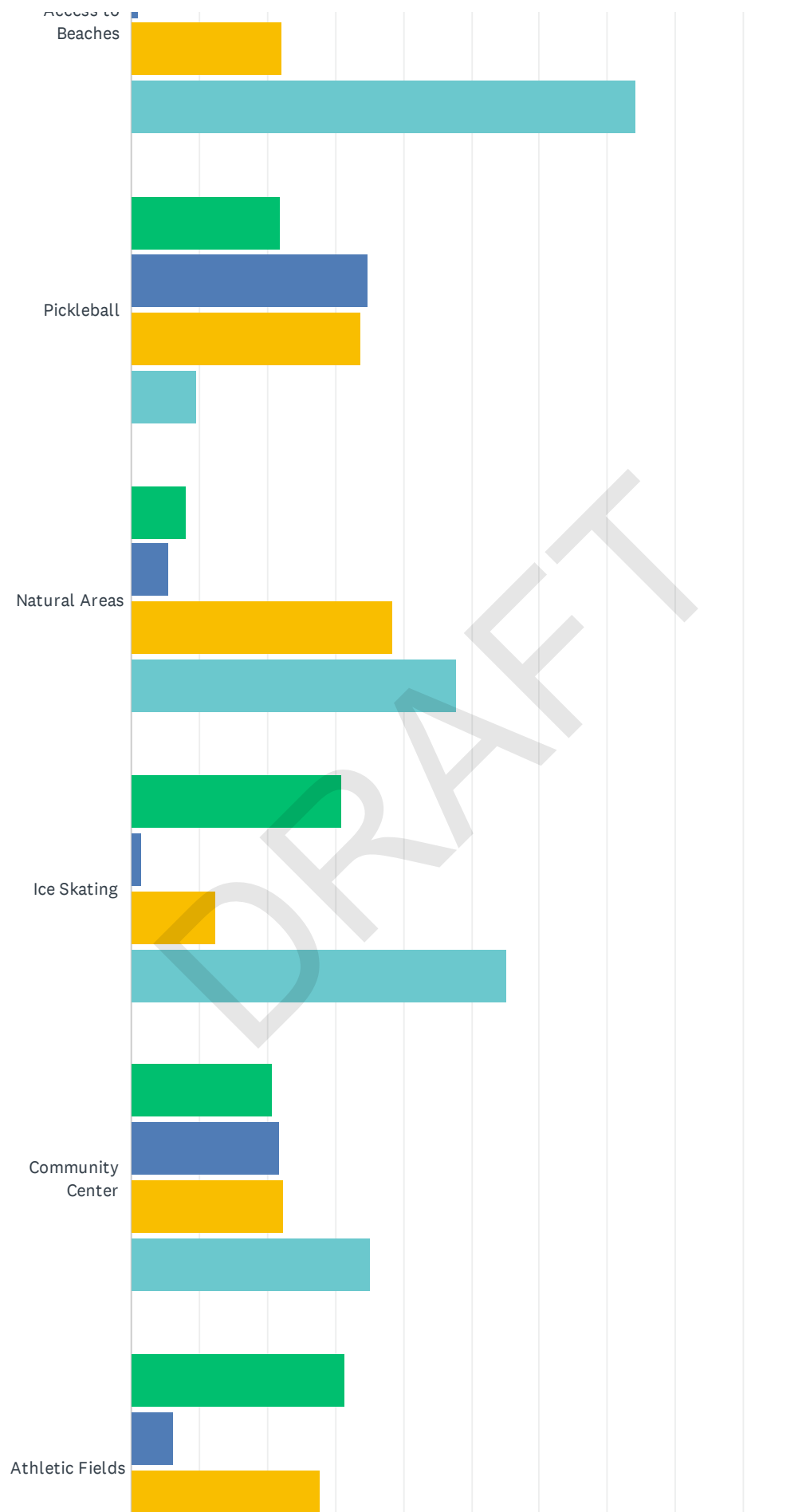
126	Volleyball ,softball ,pickleball ,swimming wellness center,biking, walking, hiking	9/15/2022 6:50 PM
127	During the 4 years of living full time here, i participate in classes at Bronson Wellness. The park I enjoy the most for walking is Pilgrim haven so I can walk with my dog.	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
128	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:32 PM
129	Fitness classes at Bronson and classes at the senior center.	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
130	Pickleball Douglas Parks Member of Bronson Fitness Play Pickleball at senior center sometimes but too busy	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
131	Bronson Wellness yoga, Senior Center pickle ball, Van Buren State Park Bike Trail, Kal-Haven Bike Trail	9/15/2022 6:18 PM
132	Fitness class at Wellness center Pickleball at senior center	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
133	Fitness clas at bronson.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
134	Mainly pickleball.	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
135	Wellness Center swimming and machines	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
136	Senior Services, Bronson Health club	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
137	N/A	9/15/2022 6:00 PM
138	Senior Center	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
139	1. Fitness class at Bronson. 2. Swimming at Wellness Center at Bronson 3. Pickleball at Senior Center 4. Pickleball at High School	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
140	Fitness at Bronson, exercise and grandkids at the parks	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
141	Bronson Wellness Center Beach Yoga Senior Center Pickleball Bike rides on Van Buren Trail Boat Slip in Black River Marina	9/15/2022 5:43 PM
142	RAC, JYL, Bronson classes, little rams football, wrestling, track, basketball, travel baseball, golfing, beaches, sailing, cycling along trails, ice skating.	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
143	Fitness classes, volunteer at festivals	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
144	Travel softball, volleyball, basketball, Iceskating, Bronson gym, Bronson pool	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
145	Bronson and disc golf, kalhaven trail, Van Buren bike trail	9/15/2022 4:41 PM
146	AYSO Bronson gym Volleyball camp Ice skating	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
147	Fitness at Bronson Wellness	9/15/2022 3:52 PM
148	AYSO soccer, Bronson programs	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
149	Senior center activities	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
150	Fitness at Bronson and grankids using Kids Corner	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
151	Bronson Wellness Center Blueberry Festival 5k Senior Center	9/15/2022 2:16 PM
152	All of the above	9/15/2022 2:12 PM
153	Sailing, Power-boating, Kayaking, Disc Golf, Hiking, Swimming, Walking my dog, Bike Trails	9/15/2022 1:42 PM

Q7 How available and adequate are these opportunities in and near South Haven? Please choose one response for each item.

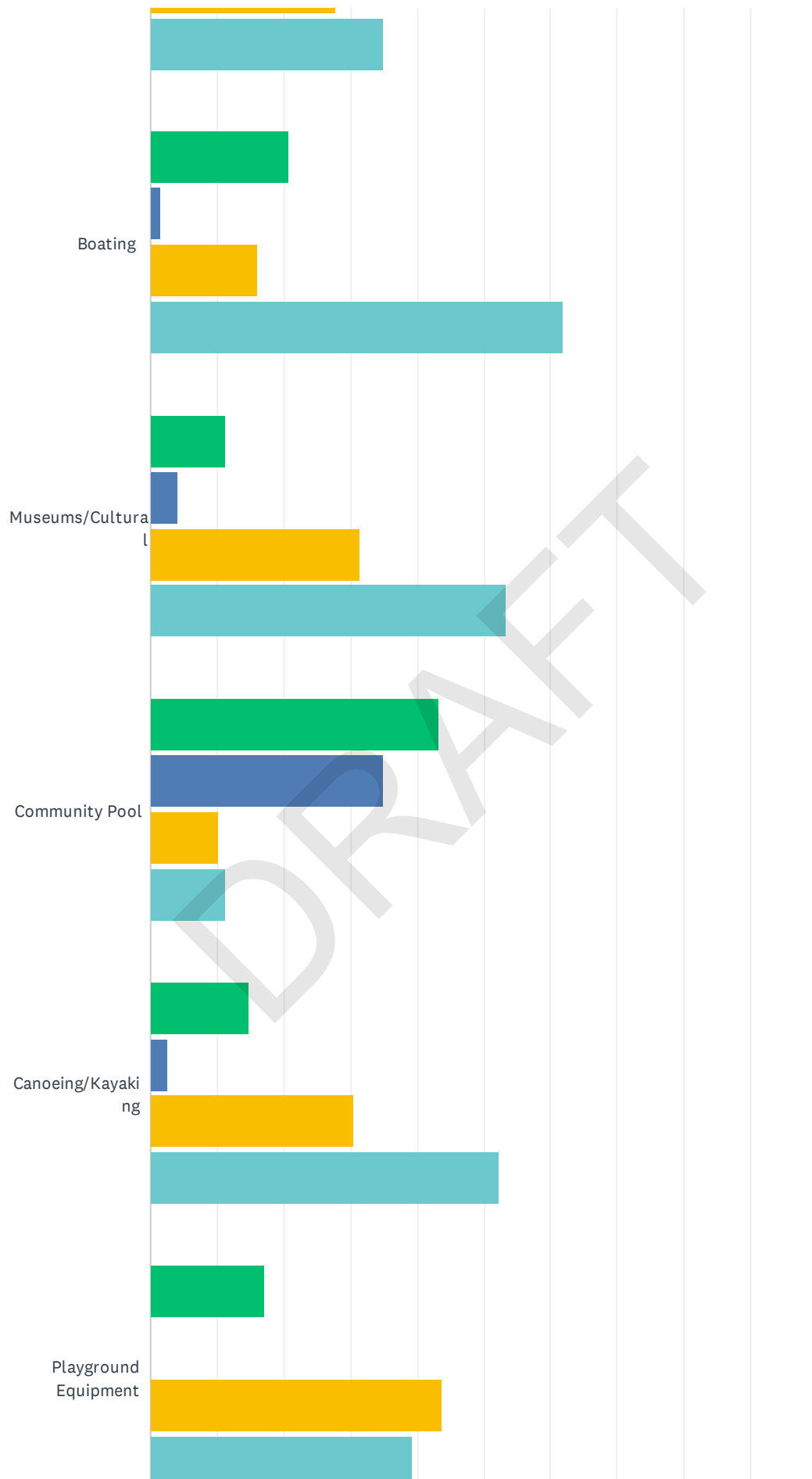
Answered: 205 Skipped: 1



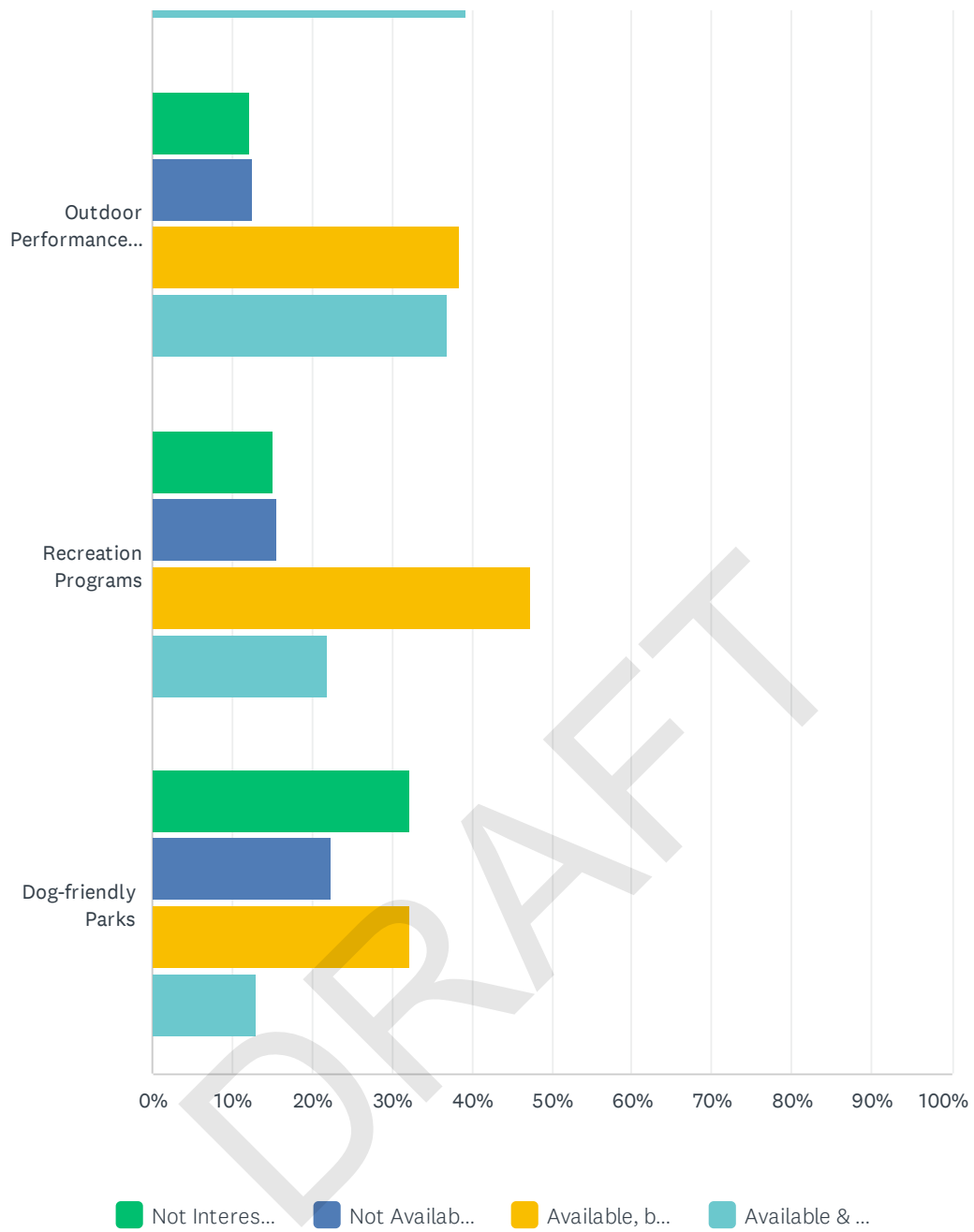
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COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update



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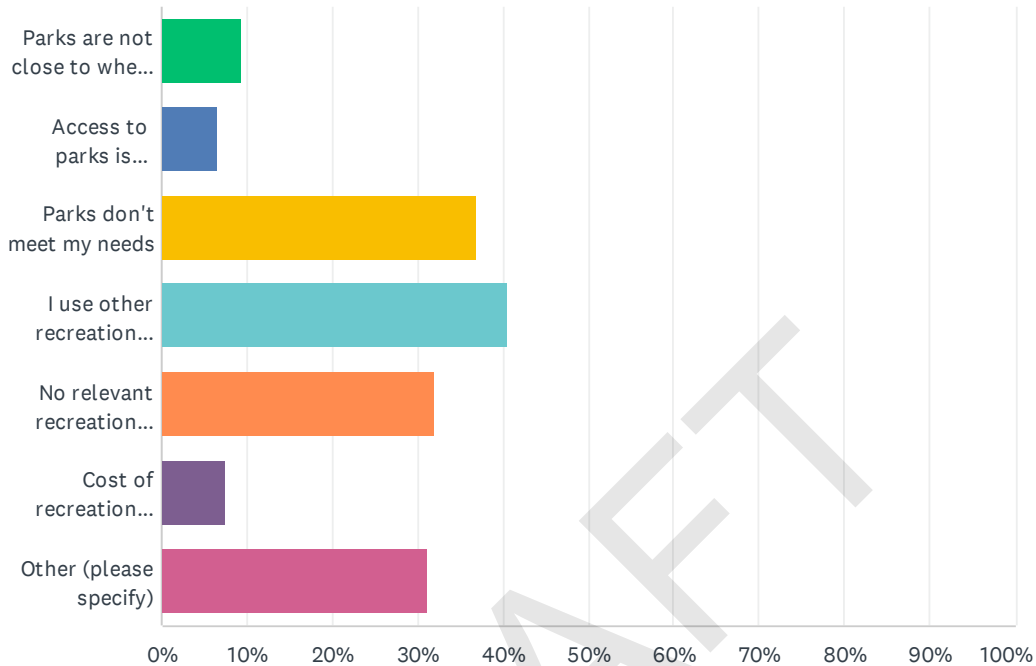


COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

	NOT INTERESTED	NOT AVAILABLE (WANTED)	AVAILABLE, BUT NEEDS MORE OR IMPROVED OPPORTUNITIES	AVAILABLE & ADEQUATE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Walking Trails	4.57% 9	5.58% 11	38.07% 75	51.78% 102	197	3.37
Art/Outdoor Sculptures	20.30% 40	3.05% 6	22.84% 45	53.81% 106	197	3.10
Fishing Access	38.66% 75	3.09% 6	19.07% 37	39.18% 76	194	2.59
Bike Paths	10.00% 20	0.50% 1	40.50% 81	49.00% 98	200	3.29
Access to Beaches	2.48% 5	0.99% 2	22.28% 45	74.26% 150	202	3.68
Pickleball	21.94% 43	34.69% 68	33.67% 66	9.69% 19	196	2.31
Natural Areas	8.21% 16	5.64% 11	38.46% 75	47.69% 93	195	3.26
Ice Skating	30.85% 62	1.49% 3	12.44% 25	55.22% 111	201	2.92
Community Center	20.74% 39	21.81% 41	22.34% 42	35.11% 66	188	2.72
Athletic Fields	31.28% 61	6.15% 12	27.69% 54	34.87% 68	195	2.66
Boating	20.62% 40	1.55% 3	15.98% 31	61.86% 120	194	3.19
Museums/Cultural	11.28% 22	4.10% 8	31.28% 61	53.33% 104	195	3.27
Community Pool	43.30% 84	35.05% 68	10.31% 20	11.34% 22	194	1.90
Canoeing/Kayaking	14.72% 29	2.54% 5	30.46% 60	52.28% 103	197	3.20
Playground Equipment	17.09% 34	0.00% 0	43.72% 87	39.20% 78	199	3.05
Outdoor Performance Area	12.12% 24	12.63% 25	38.38% 76	36.87% 73	198	3.00
Recreation Programs	15.10% 29	15.63% 30	47.40% 91	21.88% 42	192	2.76
Dog-friendly Parks	32.29% 62	22.40% 43	32.29% 62	13.02% 25	192	2.26

Q8 If you are not a frequent park user and recreation participant, why not? (can choose more than one)

Answered: 106 Skipped: 100



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Parks are not close to where I live	9.43%	10
Access to parks is difficult	6.60%	7
Parks don't meet my needs	36.79%	39
I use other recreation facilities, not City owned	40.57%	43
No relevant recreation programming for me	32.08%	34
Cost of recreation programming is too high	7.55%	8
Other (please specify)	31.13%	33
Total Respondents: 106		

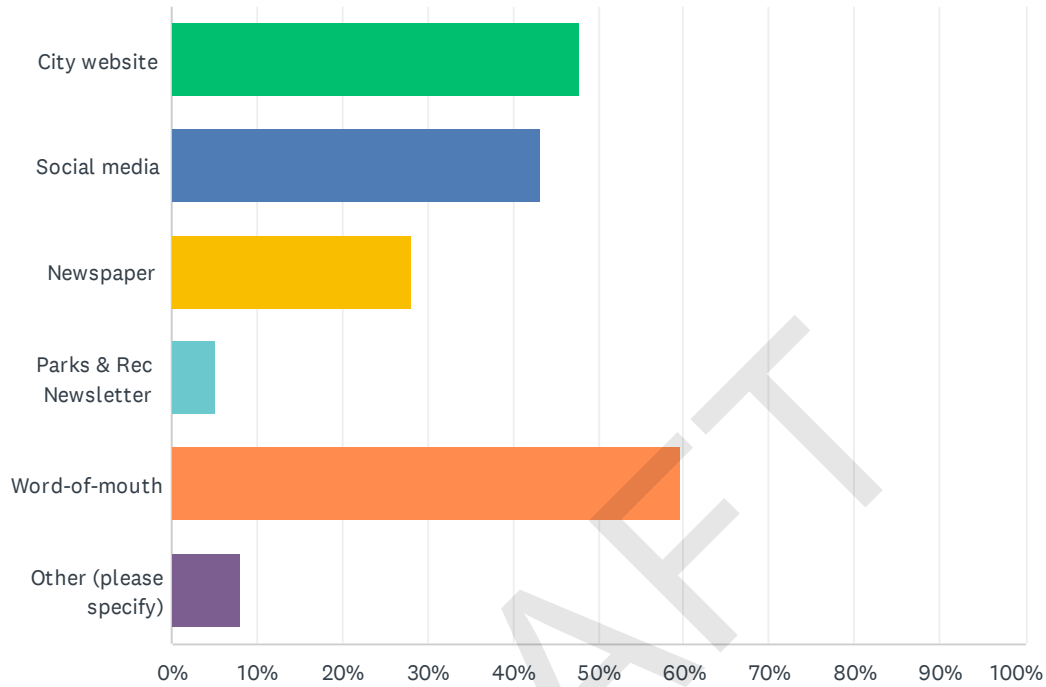
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Afraid to walk alone on them	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
2	no pickleball	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
3	Pickleball	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
4	Too crowded in summer months	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
5	This question doesn't apply	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
6	work/life balance	9/29/2022 10:56 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

7	Need outdoor pickleball courts. The Senior Center is not enough; Lake Arvest is too costly.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
8	Lack of outdoor pickleball	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
9	Need a dedicated city dog park	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
10	Live on beach, own 60 wooded acres	9/19/2022 10:27 AM
11	Please keep Deerlick rustic. Pilgrim Haven & North/South beach are handicap accessible	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
12	No where to meet and play pickle ball. Three courts at senior center high school has four ? Six ? But not striped for pickle ball. The fastest growing sport in America and here in the jewel of the mid west five Total I saw a players list with 367 folks my age wanting to return in the summer to play that's a lot of tourist dollars not being gathered Thanks	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
13	Limited public pickleball courts available per number of players in the community and visitors who want to play. Especially for players who are not seniors.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
14	Too many festivals	9/17/2022 3:53 PM
15	Add in Mainly weather	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
16	Handicapped	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
17	There are lovely parks and beaches and the river is a great asset, Improvements can always be made.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
18	Frequent user however lacking pickleball courts in parks for all ages.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
19	Currently frequent non municipal dog park	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
20	Pickleball courts needed!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
21	My age and physical condition hinders me	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
22	no pickleball opportunities other than the senior center	9/16/2022 8:41 AM
23	Would like to see public Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
24	Want pickleball courts please	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
25	Use our local trails nearly daily	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
26	Need more off-leash dog areas.	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
27	Roller scatting ring please	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
28	I am a frequent park user	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
29	Many of these programs are quite costly. It would be nice to see an opportunity that makes it more affordable, especially for large families like myself.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
30	I use only for walking . It would be fun to have outdoor workout area & PB court	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
31	No pickleball	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
32	utilize senior center	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
33	Part time visitor to SH, once per month	9/15/2022 6:00 PM

Q9 How do you obtain information about the City Parks & Recreation Department? (can choose more than one)

Answered: 199 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
City website	47.74%	95
Social media	43.22%	86
Newspaper	28.14%	56
Parks & Rec Newsletter	5.03%	10
Word-of-mouth	59.80%	119
Other (please specify)	8.04%	16
Total Respondents: 199		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	A brochure mailed to all residents would be helpful	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
2	Frequent user	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
3	My husband lol (aaron priebe)	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
4	Did not know Parks and Rec has a newsletter.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
5	I know very little about the opportunities. We live 7 miles outside of town.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
6	Farmers market info table	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
7	I've never seen a parks and recreation newsletter. I've just asked 4 of my neighbors and none	9/16/2022 5:51 PM

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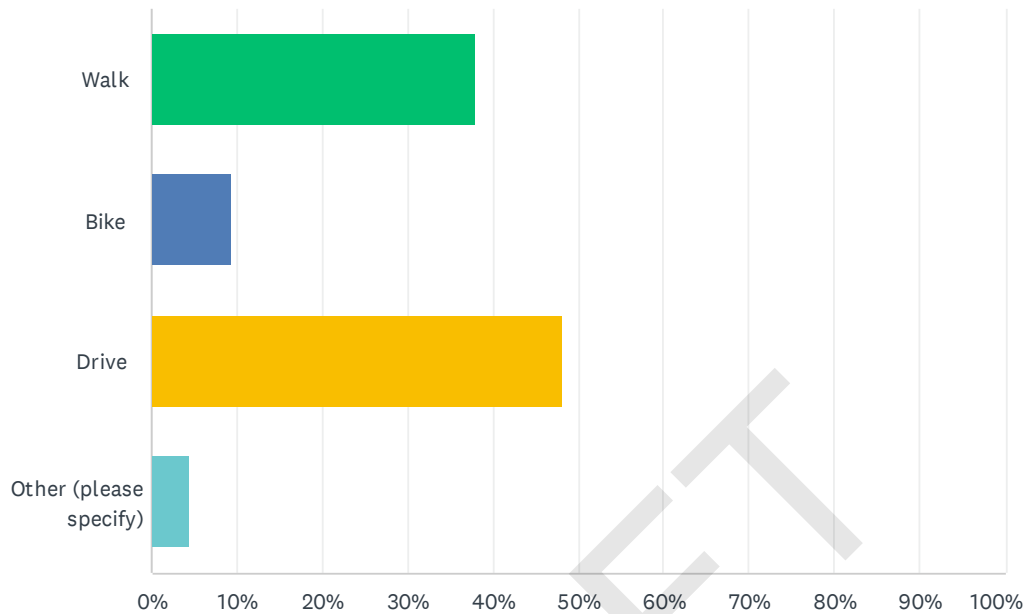
of them have ever seen your newsletter.

8	I've never seen any information about parks and recreation	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
9	Look around when in town	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
10	I would like more access to information about activities±	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
11	I've never noticed info about parks and rec...is this just for kids?	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
12	I don't get any information.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
13	don't receive info	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
14	Chamber of Commerce	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
15	Member of the Parks and Recreation Commission	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
16	Work	9/12/2022 9:47 AM

DRAFT

Q10 How do you get to the parks most often?

Answered: 203 Skipped: 3

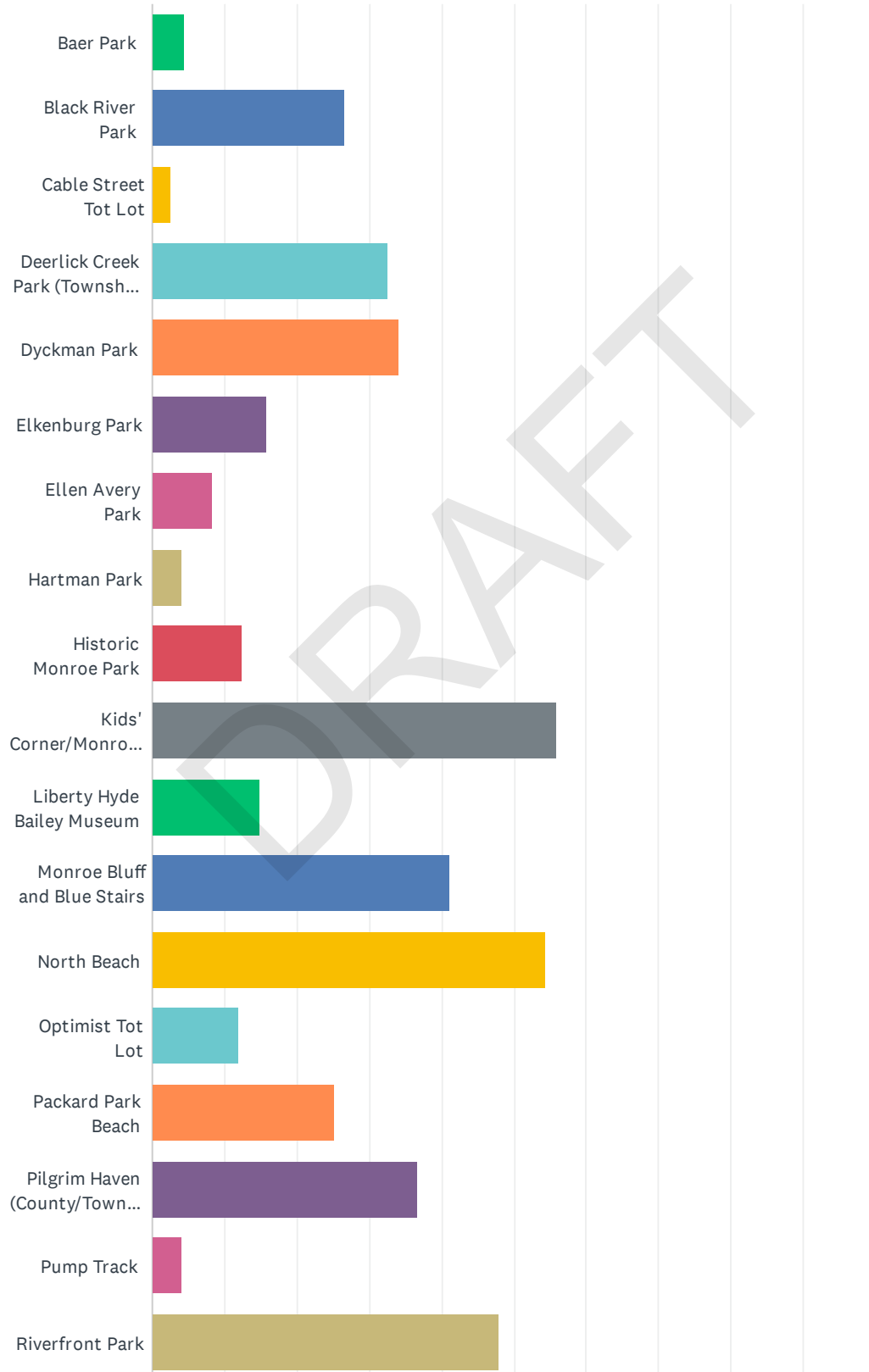


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Walk	37.93% 77
Bike	9.36% 19
Drive	48.28% 98
Other (please specify)	4.43% 9
TOTAL	203

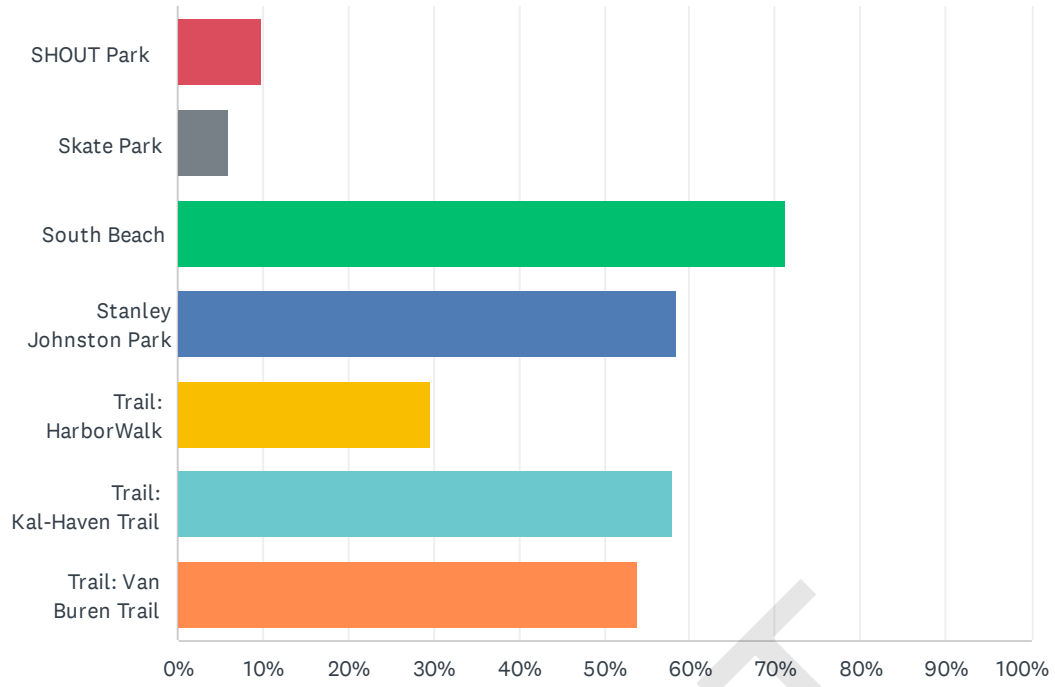
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Walk and Bike equally as often	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
2	Walk and bike most often.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
3	I would have to say that	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
4	Golf cart	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
5	Drive to Senior Services and Bronson Wellness center, walk to (or on) beach, bike to bike paths. beach	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
6	Bike & drive	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
7	boat	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
8	Golf cart	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
9	All of the above, plus golf cart	9/15/2022 5:43 PM

Q11 Which South Haven City Parks do you visit regularly (a few times a year or more)

Answered: 202 Skipped: 4



COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

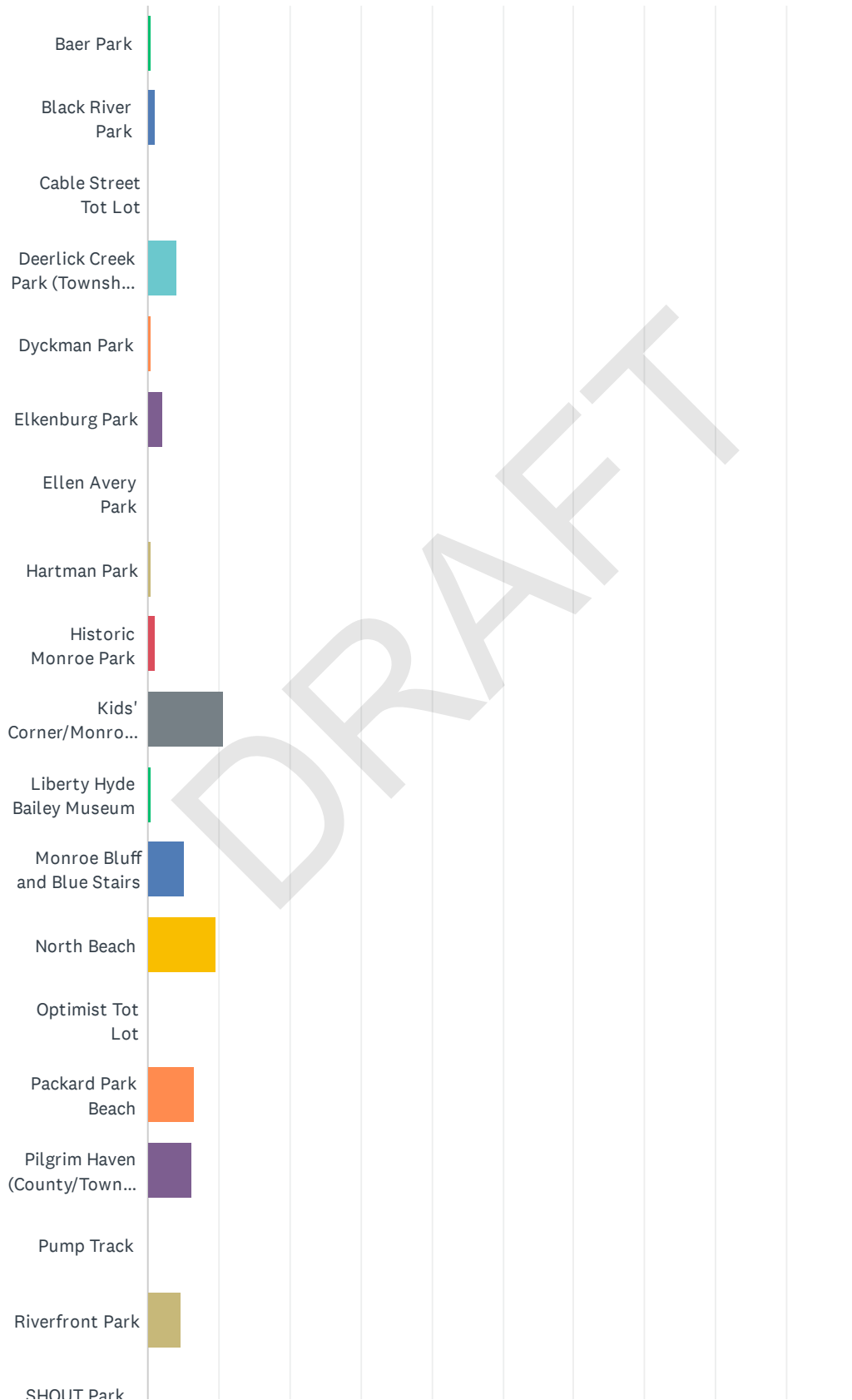


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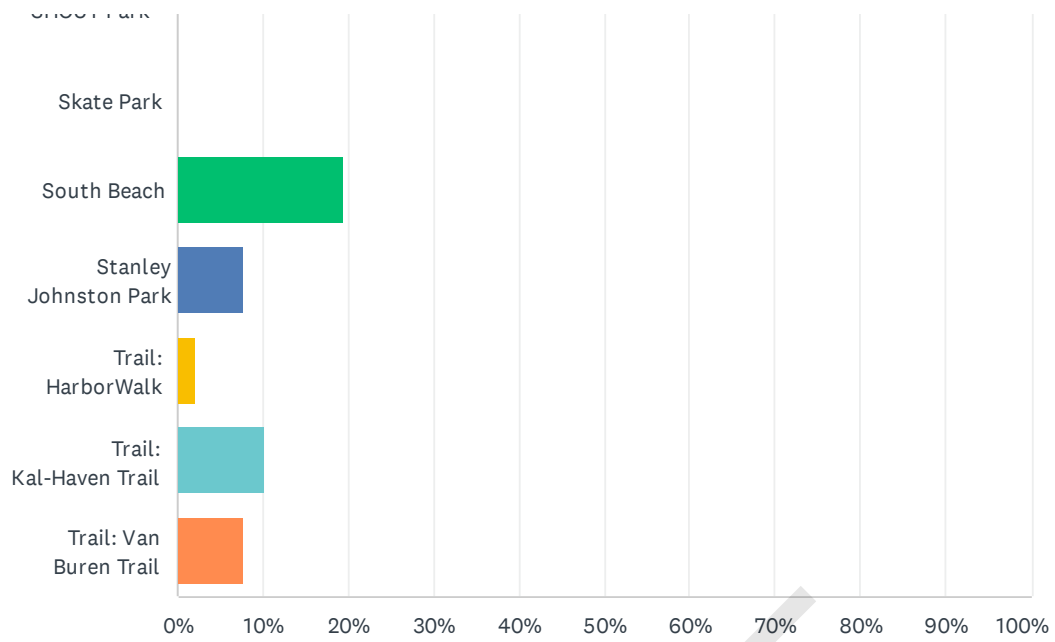
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Baer Park	4.46%	9
Black River Park	26.73%	54
Cable Street Tot Lot	2.48%	5
Deerlick Creek Park (Township Park)	32.67%	66
Dyckman Park	34.16%	69
Elkenburg Park	15.84%	32
Ellen Avery Park	8.42%	17
Hartman Park	3.96%	8
Historic Monroe Park	12.38%	25
Kids' Corner/Monroe Park	55.94%	113
Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum	14.85%	30
Monroe Bluff and Blue Stairs	41.09%	83
North Beach	54.46%	110
Optimist Tot Lot	11.88%	24
Packard Park Beach	25.25%	51
Pilgrim Haven (County/Township Park)	36.63%	74
Pump Track	3.96%	8
Riverfront Park	48.02%	97
SHOUT Park	9.90%	20
Skate Park	5.94%	12
South Beach	71.29%	144
Stanley Johnston Park	58.42%	118
Trail: HarborWalk	29.70%	60
Trail: Kal-Haven Trail	57.92%	117
Trail: Van Buren Trail	53.96%	109
Total Respondents: 202		

Q12 Which park is your favorite?

Answered: 196 Skipped: 10



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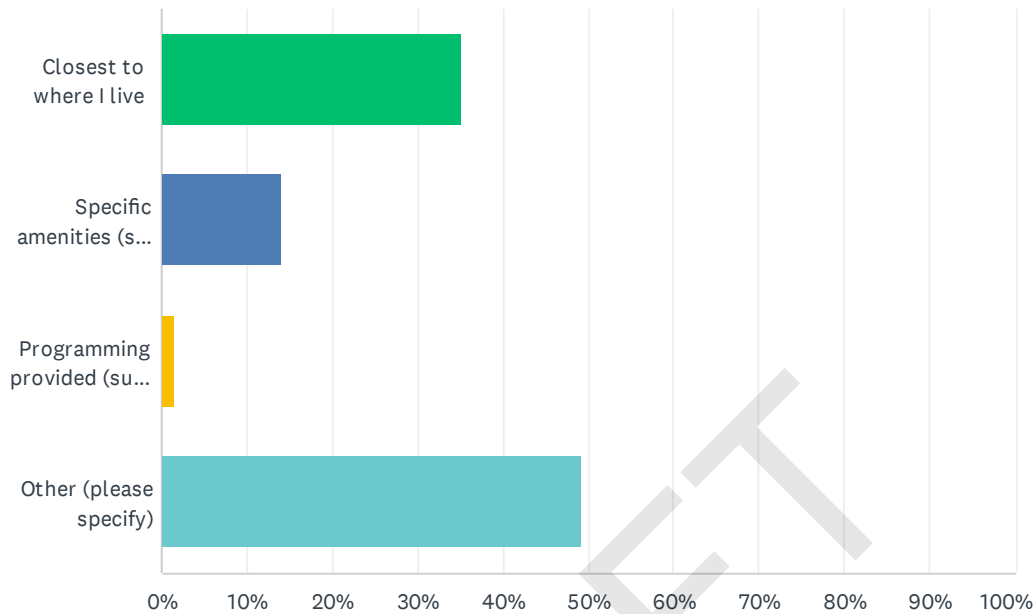


COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Baer Park	0.51%	1
Black River Park	1.02%	2
Cable Street Tot Lot	0.00%	0
Deerlick Creek Park (Township Park)	4.08%	8
Dyckman Park	0.51%	1
Elkenburg Park	2.04%	4
Ellen Avery Park	0.00%	0
Hartman Park	0.51%	1
Historic Monroe Park	1.02%	2
Kids' Corner/Monroe Park	10.71%	21
Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum	0.51%	1
Monroe Bluff and Blue Stairs	5.10%	10
North Beach	9.69%	19
Optimist Tot Lot	0.00%	0
Packard Park Beach	6.63%	13
Pilgrim Haven (County/Township Park)	6.12%	12
Pump Track	0.00%	0
Riverfront Park	4.59%	9
SHOUT Park	0.00%	0
Skate Park	0.00%	0
South Beach	19.39%	38
Stanley Johnston Park	7.65%	15
Trail: HarborWalk	2.04%	4
Trail: Kal-Haven Trail	10.20%	20
Trail: Van Buren Trail	7.65%	15
TOTAL		196

Q13 Why is that park your favorite?

Answered: 193 Skipped: 13



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Closest to where I live	35.23%	68
Specific amenities (such as playground, basketball court, etc)	13.99%	27
Programming provided (such as sporting events or camps)	1.55%	3
Other (please specify)	49.22%	95
TOTAL		193

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	More natural Setting with bathroom & less crowded	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	Great hiking trails/ but hate the constant shooting from the gun club	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
3	Paved	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
4	Great for biking	10/14/2022 7:54 AM
5	Do volunteer work there	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
6	Scenery and location.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
7	It's the best place to walk	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
8	Great riding and walking trail	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
9	My kids love this structure!	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
10	Beachcombing	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
11	it's beautiful and i love the trees	10/13/2022 11:00 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

12	Lakeshore access, hiking, well-kept	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
13	Packard Park and Beach	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
14	True, it is close to where I live, but historically, and as a youth, the North Beach was...everything!	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
15	Walk from Downtown to Beach is relaxing and interesting.	10/1/2022 10:07 PM
16	Each has a special appeal. No favorite over another.	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
17	1 & 2 closest to home, Kids Corner playground... nothing like it across the country.	9/29/2022 4:18 PM
18	dog friendly, interesting	9/29/2022 10:56 AM
19	Lake Michigan	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
20	Most suited to my run and bike workouts	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
21	Excellent and diverse trails, not crowded -- a hidden gem. Kal-Haven Trail is also a favorite.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
22	Love the biking intermingled with nature	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
23	Residential park well used by families visitors local teams.	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
24	Volleyball	9/20/2022 12:07 PM
25	Sunsets	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
26	Beach access	9/18/2022 8:30 PM
27	Good bike path	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
28	Rustic I love that it does not scream modern day equipment	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
29	Bench in the shade	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
30	The pier and the lighthouse	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
31	Easy access and large space for many activities.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
32	Trees, swings, pavilion	9/17/2022 3:53 PM
33	Biking	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
34	Community events	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
35	Lake / kayak put in	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
36	biking	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
37	Location to town and west of the bridge.	9/16/2022 6:22 PM
38	Trails through woods and water access for dog	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
39	the view	9/16/2022 4:26 PM
40	Beach	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
41	Walkable pier and riverfront area, and access to downtown.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
42	Location in the city, pretty green space	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
43	concerts	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
44	Concerts, walking is easy and beautiful views	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
45	Enjoy beach, pier, and lighthouse. Also enjoy Newcome Beach.	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
46	provides physical activity	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
47	"hidden gem"	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
48	Our dog enjoys walking along the trail	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
49	great place to jog and avoid traffic	9/16/2022 8:41 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

50	The beach	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
51	Scenery	9/16/2022 8:15 AM
52	The view	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
53	I am a runner	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
54	shaded walking path	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
55	Easy access	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
56	Scenery	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
57	Easy parking for beach	9/16/2022 6:51 AM
58	It creates my living room view. And listening to the families sledding after a snow fall is amazing.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
59	For beach access	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
60	Best beach and Lake	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
61	Kid climbing fort	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
62	We love to walk and ride on the VB trail mostly because it's protected and has plenty of shade. We would like to see better signage, maybe lighted crosswalks where the trail crosses roads, especially Blue Star. We also love kids' corner park (Please fix the apostrophe on the sign though), but that wooden structure has to go. AND, non-handicap cars are parked in the new handicap spots all the time.	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
63	Park I frequent most often.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
64	Nice for walking and watch boats	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
65	special	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
66	view	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
67	All season enjoyment	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
68	Awesome for biking and running.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
69	I enjoy biking on a paved trail to the State Park.	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
70	The view & Safety when walking alone.	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
71	Beach and areas to walk and enjoy	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
72	Most historic	9/15/2022 7:10 PM
73	Walking trail to take dog, beach, look for stones, see lots of nature & plants. Enjoy wooded area.	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
74	Large beach area	9/15/2022 6:32 PM
75	beach	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
76	Beautiful area.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
77	beach	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
78	Beautiful trail, wonderful for walking and biking. Can ride for hours.	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
79	Best for grandkids	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
80	Use it the most- like to walk for the views	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
81	Able to take dogs swimming here.	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
82	Quaintness	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
83	Great for smallkids	9/15/2022 4:41 PM
84	Adequate parking and not crawling with obnoxious tourists	9/15/2022 4:31 PM

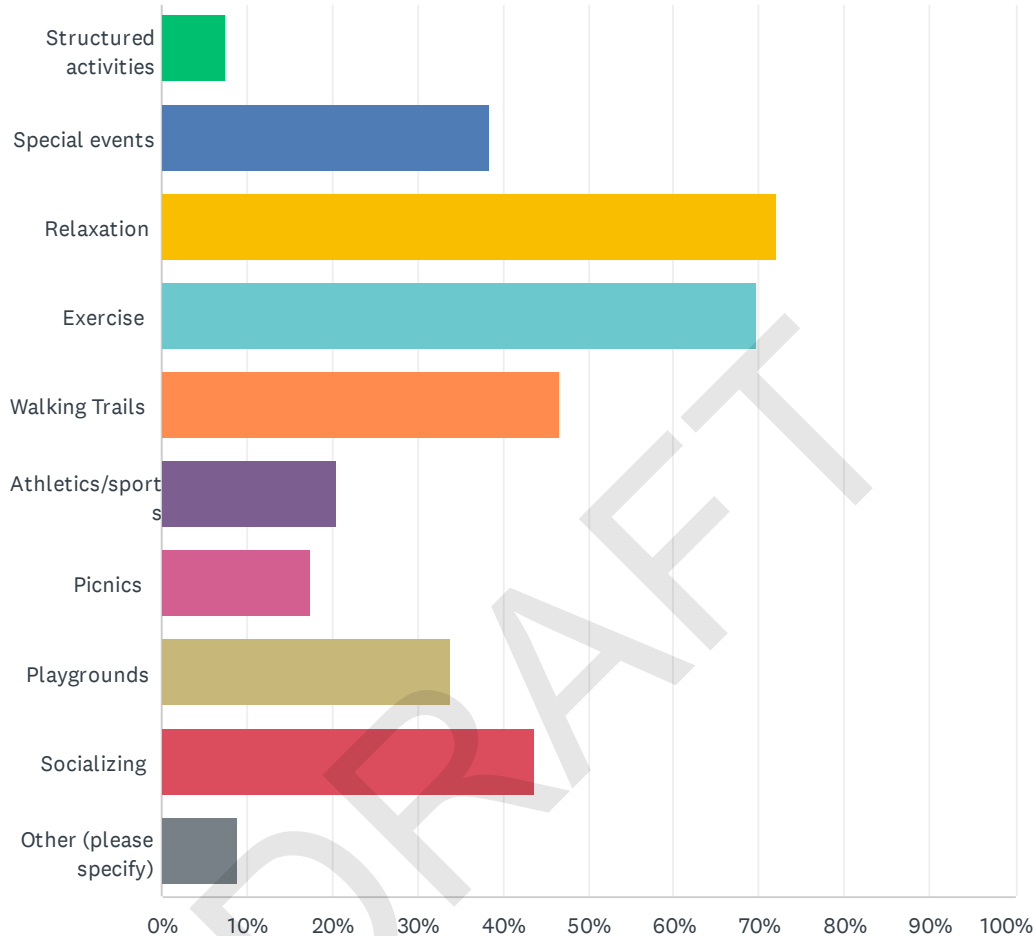
COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

85	Beauty, use and parking	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
86	I like the grounds	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
87	Place to take dogs and search for rocks	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
88	enjoy watching boats on the river	9/15/2022 2:16 PM
89	Beach and trails, a bit calmer than main beaches in town.	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
90	visit beach with kids, also close to Kid' Corner Park	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
91	beautifully wooden park near beaches, boating, museum, etc.	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
92	riverfront & channel access	9/13/2022 6:00 PM
93	Collect beach glass and rocks. Also do volunteer work there for the Southwest MI Land Conservation	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
94	View	9/9/2022 3:30 PM
95	Peaceful	9/9/2022 3:11 PM

DRAFT

Q14 Why do you visit South Haven City Parks? (can choose more than one)

Answered: 201 Skipped: 5



COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Structured activities	7.46%	15
Special events	38.31%	77
Relaxation	72.14%	145
Exercise	69.65%	140
Walking Trails	46.77%	94
Athletics/sports	20.40%	41
Picnics	17.41%	35
Playgrounds	33.83%	68
Socializing	43.78%	88
Other (please specify)	8.96%	18
Total Respondents: 201		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	biking	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
2	Pickle-ball	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
3	dog walking	9/29/2022 10:56 AM
4	Being in nature.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
5	Grandkids playground	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
6	Kayak put in for Lake Michigan	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
7	Family get togethers	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
8	Dog park (privately run) to socialize my dog	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
9	Beach	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
10	Beach access	9/16/2022 9:39 AM
11	Use the local trails year round for exercise and training.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
12	Pickleball	9/16/2022 1:26 AM
13	sunset	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
14	Rock/glass hunting	9/15/2022 7:12 PM
15	Bike trails	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
16	The Lake	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
17	My son loves the skate park	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
18	Biking opportunities	9/12/2022 9:58 PM

Q15 What additional types of amenities or rec programs would you like to see offered, either by City or other providers? Example would be play structures, courts for specific sports, fitness classes, more trails, etc.

Answered: 156 Skipped: 50

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Add pickleball courts	10/15/2022 3:10 PM
2	Pickleball courts or lines on existing tennis courts	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
3	Pickleball outdoor courts	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
4	Fitness programs offered at the beach during the summer	10/14/2022 4:54 PM
5	Walking historic & art sculpture tour. Painted bicycle are wonderful More Artwork	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
6	Pickleball courts	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
7	Pickle ball	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
8	Pickleball	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
9	Community center	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
10	Pickleball courts, more trails	10/14/2022 7:54 AM
11	Pickle ball outdoor courts	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
12	Pickleball courts	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
13	It would be nice to have multi purpose courts. Can be used for pickle ball or tennis also a small soccer court	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
14	Pickleball courts	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
15	Walking, biking trails and pickle-ball. Pavilion areas and restrooms.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
16	Pickleball is growing across the country. Why not have courts available to use??	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
17	More pickleball courts free outdoors	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
18	Expand ball fields at the high school (not new areas). Fund raise to create one multipurpose baseball/softball field and one soccer field by the armory that could b lit for night time programming. Create youth, adult and senior recreation program options to increase activity/help attract young adults and families (we are already attracting seniors/retirees).	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
19	Paved trails	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
20	A pool at cheap or no cost for residents. More affordable beach parking for residents who live just outside city limits.	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
21	i'd like to see recreational programming offered similar to the CREC classes, such as beach volleyball	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
22	More green space throughout downtown and city	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
23	I would like to see better playground equipment at Stanley Johnson Park.	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
24	Would love to see a well thought out, properly planed and constructed 8 pickleball courts.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
25	Pickelball	10/3/2022 10:12 AM
26	New restrooms in Stanley Johnston Park	10/1/2022 10:07 PM
27	Trails better marked. Kal-Haven Trail marking on pavement. Community involvement in what is	9/30/2022 2:54 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

placed at every park, especially if the City is paying for any aspect. In deciding what to place at a park, how will that affect other uses of the park?

28	Fitness classes at a reasonable price	9/28/2022 11:33 AM
29	Widen the Blue Stairs. They are very congested on the weekends with people bumping into each other while lugging beach gear. Add another stair - one for up and one for down. Or remove and add a single stair three times as wide as existing. Add rinsing shower pad at the top of the Blue Stairs. This could be located in the Kids Corner Park just as you cross Monroe Boulevard using the existing cross walk at the top of the Blue Stairs.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
30	Pickleball	9/24/2022 6:05 PM
31	None...sufficient for me	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
32	Outdoor pickleball courts (not just tennis courts striped for the sport). There is a huge audience for this.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
33	Outdoor pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
34	Pickle ball courts, more softball fields	9/22/2022 7:46 PM
35	Pickleball courts	9/22/2022 7:14 PM
36	Pickleball courts outdoor adjacent to Stanley Johnston Park, indoor pickleball courts (perhaps a structural renovation/add on to the new school board armory building?), more trails	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
37	Tennis courts	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
38	More nature trails. Courts for species sports or access to school courts at specific times by residents	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
39	Fitness Course, sohawsc	9/20/2022 12:07 PM
40	We need many more pickleball courts - inside and outside. This is a growing sport among older and younger adults.	9/20/2022 8:31 AM
41	dog park	9/19/2022 6:44 PM
42	Dedicated dog park	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
43	PICKLEBALL----its the fastest growing sport---	9/19/2022 1:28 PM
44	Playground south east side of city. Improved walking biking access to park system across Broadway/Superior, and Phoenix/Hubbard, additional kayak/canoe launch sites along black river, possibly 71 1/2, 70th, Phoenix, or 8th Ave.	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
45	Dedicated pickle ball courts (similar to the ones nearby in Douglas).	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
46	Pickleball courts inside and outside. All new high school tennis courts should be lined for pickleball immediately	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
47	Bike trail from South Haven to Saugatuck Pickleball courts, outdoor and indoor	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
48	We need more indoor pickleball courts. The senior center courts are very crowded and it is hard to get any playing time unless you wait for extended time	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
49	Courts for specific sports such as pickle ball	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
50	Pickle ball courts/lessons	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
51	Indoor pool cooperation with the school- use same facility to economize on resources. Use high school tennis courts for pickleball in conjunction with new city ones.	9/17/2022 5:35 PM
52	Pickleball courts with access to all age groups, skill levels.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
53	Pickle Ball Courts Dog park	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
54	Pickleball courts	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
55	Pickleball courts	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
56	Pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 11:10 PM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

57	Community pool	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
58	A public dog park would be appreciated.	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
59	Family Tennis or kid lessons, kids programs, indoor play structure, more walking options (safer to cross Phoenix)	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
60	Additional tennis and or pickleball courts	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
61	Tennis & pickleball courts, adult fitness equipment, more trails	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
62	Public Dog Park with water, seating and shade.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
63	If you are really interested in drawing full time people to this city an active recreation department is necessary. Programs for all ages (the senior center does a good job for seniors so younger programs are very much needed. A good recreation department can offer many programs at minimal costs. This community also needs a pickleball facility. This is the fastest growing sport in the world. We have a nice indoor facility for seniors primarily, but we need an outdoor facility available to all ages.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
64	More playground equipment, tennis courts, pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
65	Outdoor pickleball courts are needed.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
66	Pickleball outdoor courts and a food truck park	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
67	Pickleball	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
68	Sport courts, dog-friendly parks and more off-season activities in fall/winter and spring	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
69	More playgrounds, basketball courts, pickleball courts	9/16/2022 10:42 AM
70	Pickleball courts with adequate parking available for all ages.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
71	Pickleball Courts	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
72	New Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 10:06 AM
73	Municipal dog park with water access and shade	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
74	More sports courts, especially basketball, tennis, pickle ball, volleyball. I would also like to see more public beach access, especially around Oak Street.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
75	Fitness /sports classes that are affordable and available for year round residents	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
76	Pickleball courts!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
77	A public dog park	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
78	fitness equipment, maintained walking trails	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
79	More artwork...everywhere! Would also love a downtown street to be closed IMMENSELY.	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
80	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
81	Pickle Ball Courts, Community Potlucks (or other ways to meet people),	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
82	Dedicated pickleball courts. Lifeguards at North and South Beaches.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
83	outdoor pickleball facility	9/16/2022 8:41 AM
84	Public Pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
85	pickleball	9/16/2022 8:34 AM
86	More outdoor Pickleball courts. SO many people of all ages love this game. Most communities have far more courts.	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
87	Dedicated pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:15 AM
88	Pickleball courts, affordable fitness center.	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
89	Courts for pickleball	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
90	Dedicated pickleball courts/leagues/tournaments.	9/16/2022 7:59 AM

COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

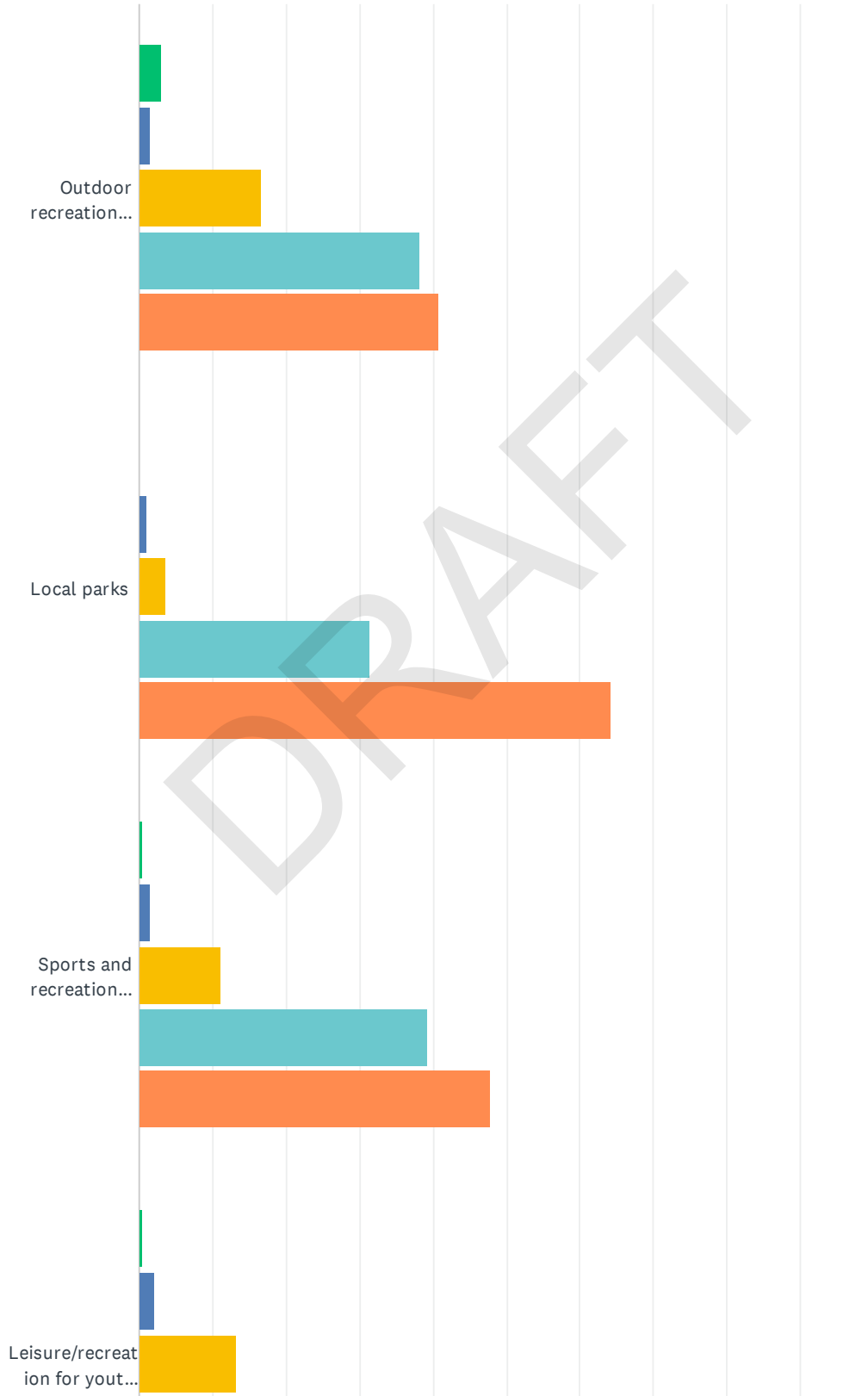
91	Rec activities, adult softball, pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
92	New play structures at Kids Korner, more walking trails, ? Amphitheater, Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
93	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
94	Fitness equipment, rec sports	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
95	More swim lesson for toddlers, ice skating lessons	9/16/2022 6:51 AM
96	Bronson change they fee schedule to be more flexible for the needs of locals. Pickle ball is very popular (not my sport but...).	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
97	South Haven needs dedicated pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
98	Pickleball courts with round robin tournaments or ladder leagues. No or little cost fitness classes	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
99	Pickleball	9/16/2022 1:26 AM
100	Increase the number of areas for dogs to be allowed "off leash."	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
101	Food trucks would be nice near. Parks	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
102	Swimming lessons for all elementary students until they can actually swim	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
103	Kayak launch should be at north and south beach so people don't have to launch in the river	9/15/2022 11:36 PM
104	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 11:27 PM
105	Squirt pad at Kid's corner	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
106	Pickle Ball! Also, improvements to the stairs across from Kids' Corner. They are so narrow and the vegetation and sand are encroaching on the stairs.	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
107	Pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
108	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
109	Pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
110	pickle ball courts	9/15/2022 9:44 PM
111	pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
112	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
113	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
114	Free outdoor Pickleball courts. We drive from South Haven to use the public outdoor courts in Douglas	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
115	Dog spaces!!!	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
116	Pickleball courts. There is a large group of people play all summer long. The court needs to be more than painted line on a broken up surface.	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
117	I would like a dog park that is free and opened to the public. I would also like to see more paved biking trails (perhaps Kal-Haven trail could be paved or at least improved).	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
118	The 3 indoor pickleball courts at the Senior Center are great but hours are limited and the number of players exceeds the capacity. Additional courts and lighting for night play would be great.	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
119	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 7:40 PM
120	Pickleball courts Horse shoes Training for sprint triathlon Adult Softball leagues	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
121	It would be great to have a community center that had a hockey rink or pool that could also be rented out for birthday parties.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
122	****More fenced in kids play structures with benches for parents ***dog friendly fenced in parks ***pickleball courts	9/15/2022 7:29 PM

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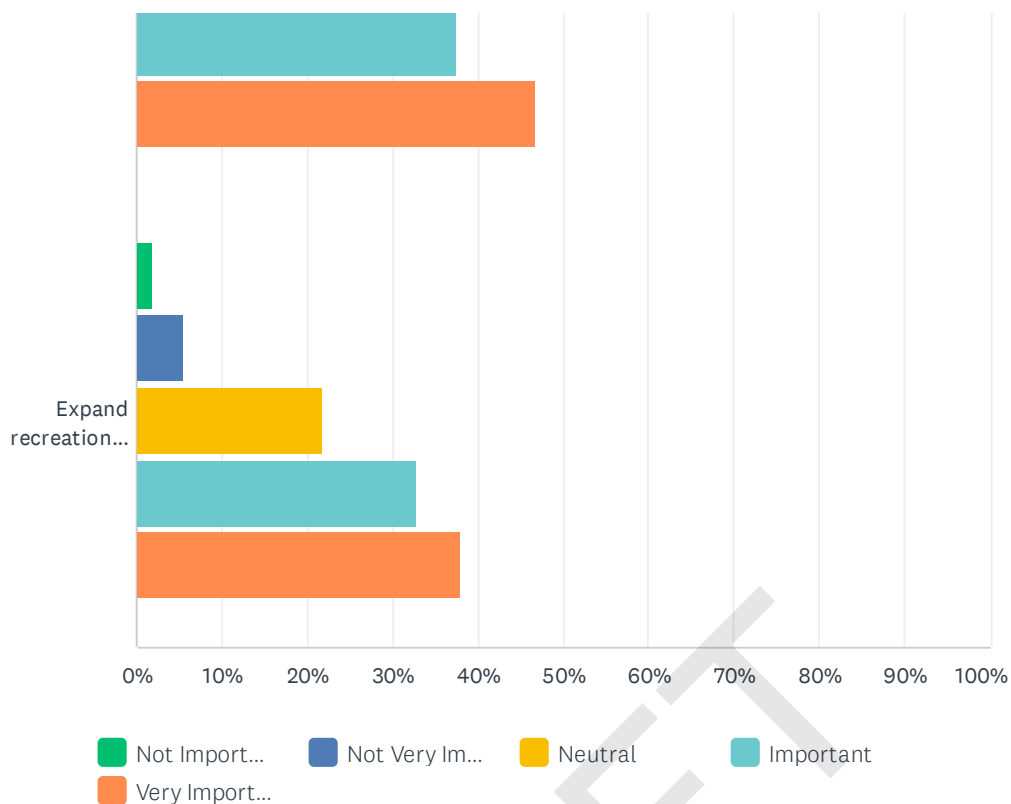
123	Better play ground with more updated equipment. Classes for kids to do things during the week in the summer. More options and structure for kids.	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
124	Mountain biking, outdoor pickle ball, more recreational fields	9/15/2022 7:10 PM
125	Off street Biking trails, walking trails, pickleball	9/15/2022 6:50 PM
126	Fitness classes, PB courts, new updated play structures & swings.	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
127	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:32 PM
128	Pickleball Pickleball Pickleball!	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
129	Pickleball courts!!!	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
130	more restrooms for public use	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
131	Outdoor Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:18 PM
132	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
133	Pickleball friendly	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
134	A Dog Park	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
135	more pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
136	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
137	pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
138	I would like to see more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:00 PM
139	Pickleball Courts	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
140	Pickleball on new high school tennis courts	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
141	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 5:54 PM
142	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
143	Would LOVE to see South Haven offer Pickleball Courts!!	9/15/2022 5:43 PM
144	Fitness classes, baseball fields, fishing spots	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
145	Dog park with water and shade.	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
146	Winter sports	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
147	More parking and less crowded beaches would be great	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
148	N/A	9/15/2022 4:11 PM
149	Remodel Kids Corner Provide a Dog Park	9/15/2022 3:52 PM
150	Dog friendly park. Improvements in skate park.	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
151	fitness classes, dog park and dog friendly parks	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
152	I would like to see some "pocket parks" in neighborhoods. For example, the city owned property at the corner of Erie/Maple would be a great place for a few benches and landscaping	9/15/2022 2:16 PM
153	I feel we are pretty well covered, but would really love to see the bike trail completed between Saugatuck and South Haven - Blue Star Trail. I know there are already plans for the playground equipment at Kid's Corner, and additional sports fields being prepared.	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
154	kayak access with storage for owners of kayaks on south beach, tennis, pickle ball, shuffleboard, bocce	9/13/2022 6:00 PM
155	Assist the County in extending the bike trail to Hartford. Develop more options for pickleball courts and a dog park.	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
156	update the existing facilities (bathrooms).	9/9/2022 3:30 PM

Q16 How would you rate the importance of the following community services, facilities, and activities?

Answered: 201 Skipped: 5



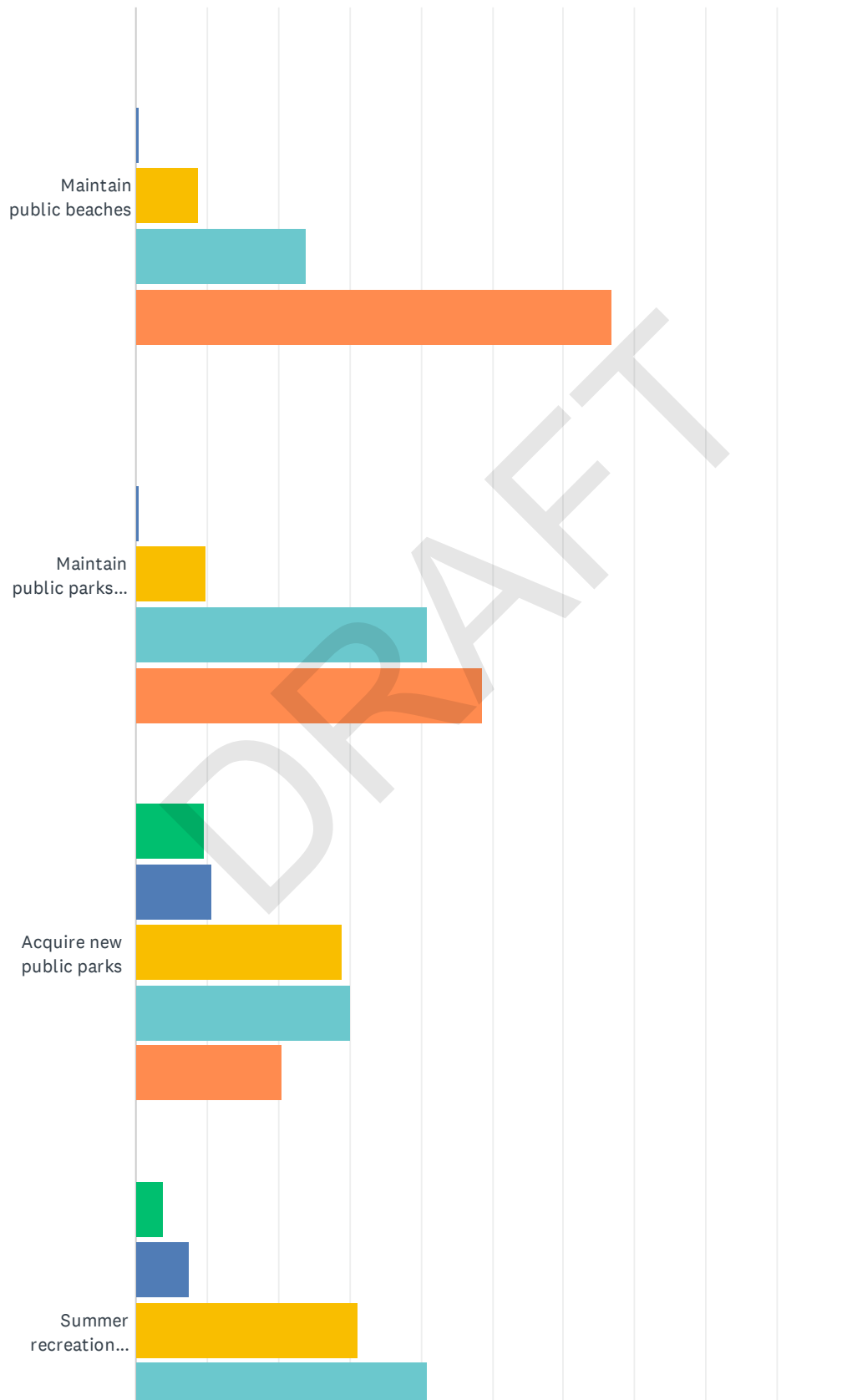
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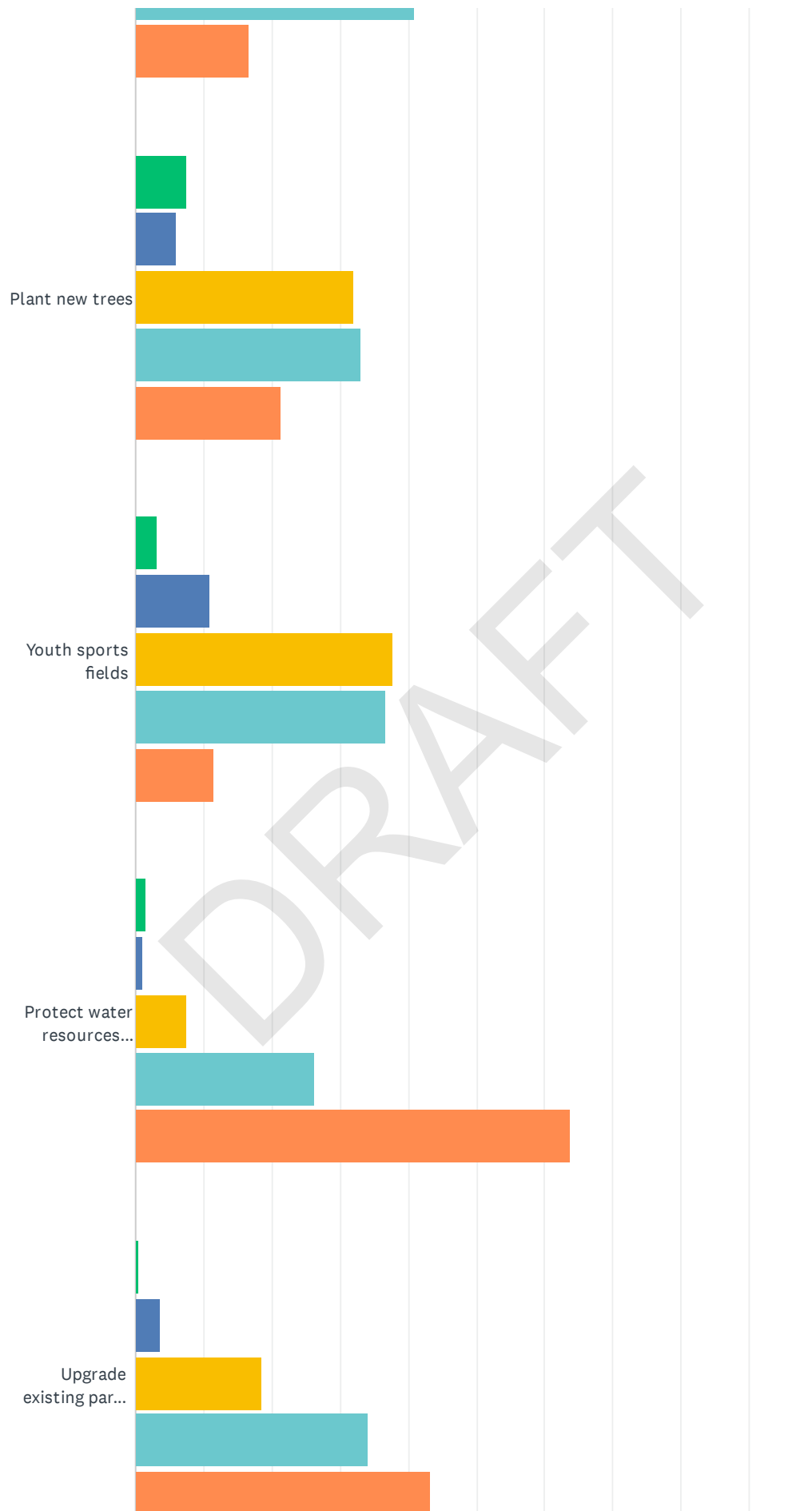


	NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL	NOT VERY IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Outdoor recreation activities and/or sports leagues	3.02% 6	1.51% 3	16.58% 33	38.19% 76	40.70% 81	199	4.12
Local parks	0.00% 0	1.01% 2	3.54% 7	31.31% 62	64.14% 127	198	4.59
Sports and recreation facilities	0.50% 1	1.51% 3	11.06% 22	39.20% 78	47.74% 95	199	4.32
Leisure/recreation for youth and teens	0.51% 1	2.03% 4	13.20% 26	37.56% 74	46.70% 92	197	4.28
Expand recreation trail system	2.02% 4	5.56% 11	21.72% 43	32.83% 65	37.88% 75	198	3.99

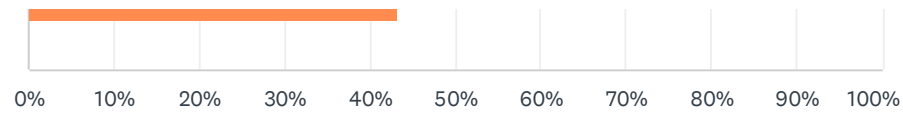
Q17 What would be your priority for funding various community services?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 6





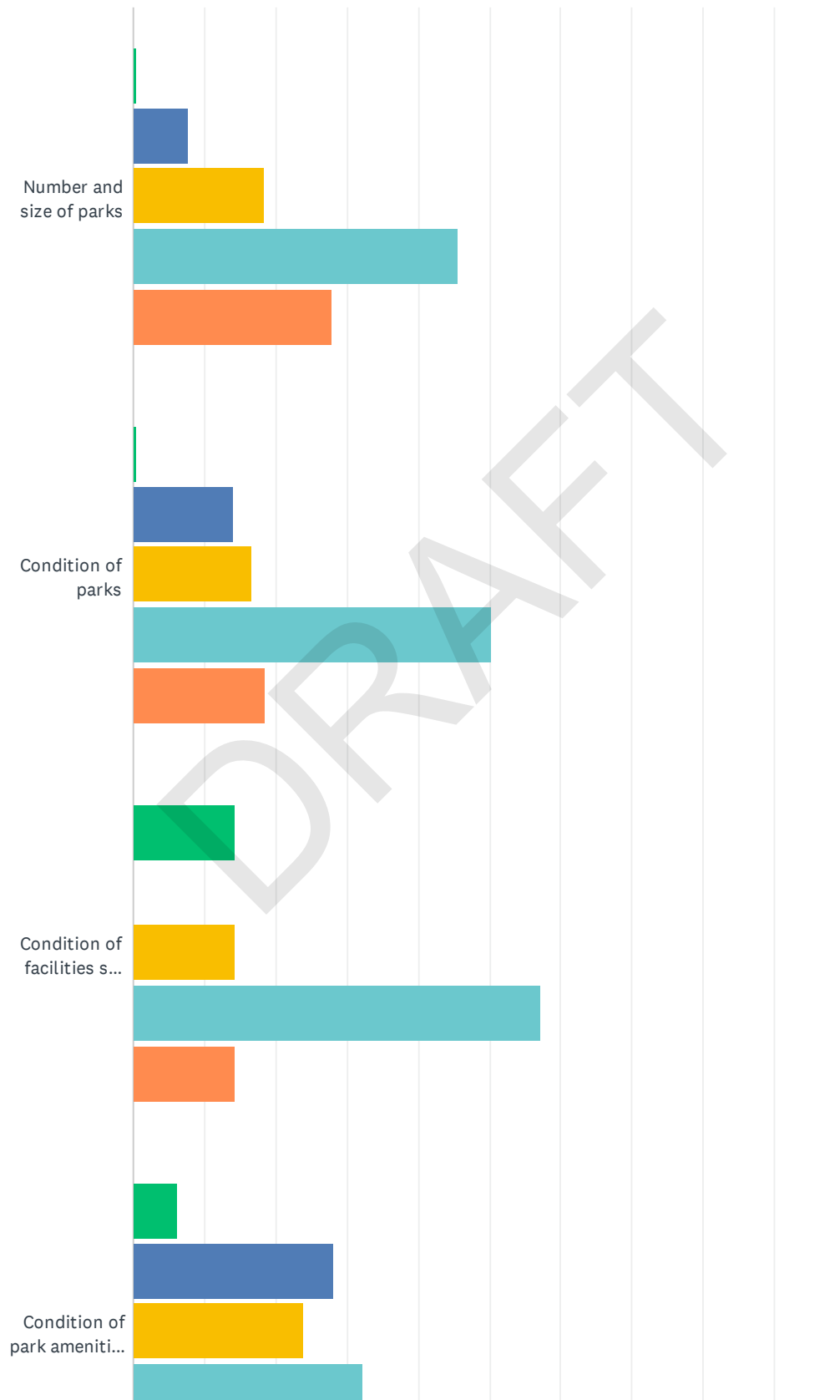
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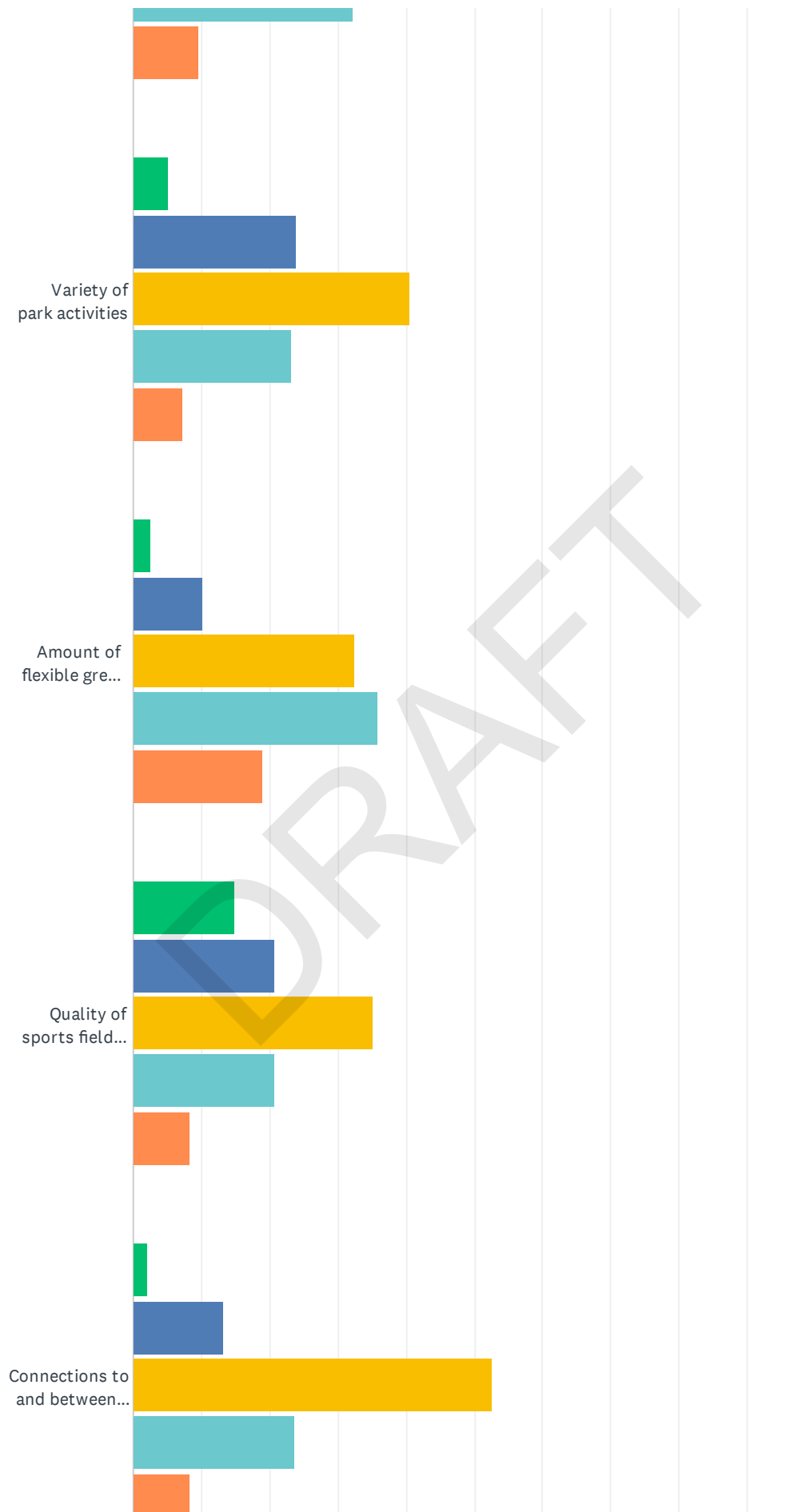


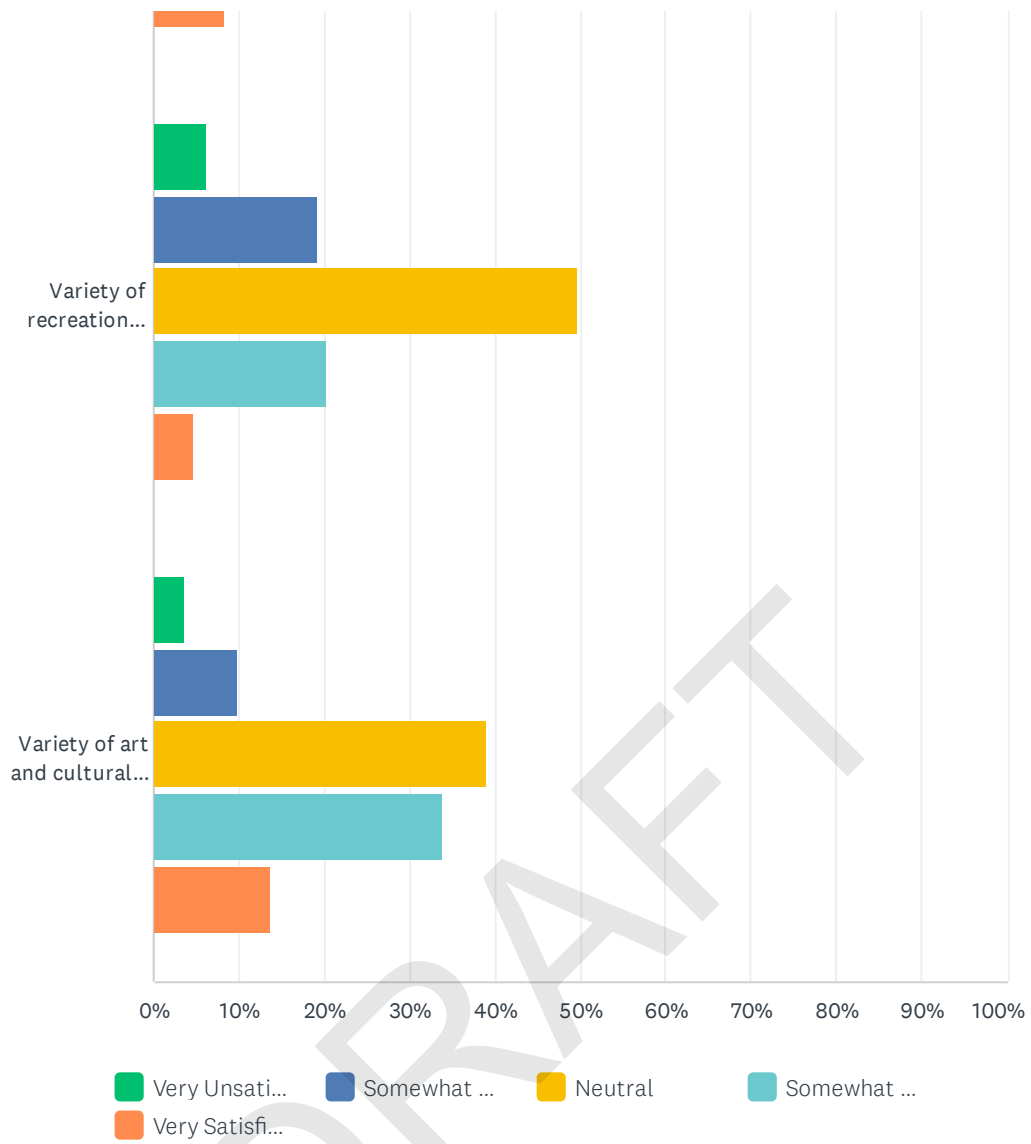
	VERY LOW PRIORITY	SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	VERY HIGH PRIORITY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Maintain public beaches	0.00% 0	0.52% 1	8.81% 17	23.83% 46	66.84% 129	193	4.57
Maintain public parks (other than beaches)	0.00% 0	0.51% 1	9.74% 19	41.03% 80	48.72% 95	195	4.38
Acquire new public parks	9.68% 18	10.75% 20	29.03% 54	30.11% 56	20.43% 38	186	3.41
Summer recreation programs	3.76% 7	7.53% 14	31.18% 58	40.86% 76	16.67% 31	186	3.59
Plant new trees	7.49% 14	5.88% 11	32.09% 60	33.16% 62	21.39% 40	187	3.55
Youth sports fields	3.28% 6	10.93% 20	37.70% 69	36.61% 67	11.48% 21	183	3.42
Protect water resources (streams, rivers, lakes)	1.58% 3	1.05% 2	7.37% 14	26.32% 50	63.68% 121	190	4.49
Upgrade existing park amenities	0.52% 1	3.61% 7	18.56% 36	34.02% 66	43.30% 84	194	4.16

Q18 Please rate your satisfaction with the following:

Answered: 198 Skipped: 8







COMMUNITY SURVEY South Haven Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update

	VERY UNSATISFIED	SOMEWHAT UNSATISFIED	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	VERY SATISFIED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Number and size of parks	0.51% 1	7.61% 15	18.27% 36	45.69% 90	27.92% 55	197	3.93
Condition of parks	0.52% 1	13.99% 27	16.58% 32	50.26% 97	18.65% 36	193	3.73
Condition of facilities such as restrooms	14.29% 1	0.00% 0	14.29% 1	57.14% 4	14.29% 1	7	3.57
Condition of park amenities such as restrooms	6.12% 12	28.06% 55	23.98% 47	32.14% 63	9.69% 19	196	3.11
Variety of park activities	5.18% 10	23.83% 46	40.41% 78	23.32% 45	7.25% 14	193	3.04
Amount of flexible green space	2.56% 5	10.26% 20	32.31% 63	35.90% 70	18.97% 37	195	3.58
Quality of sports fields and courts	15.03% 29	20.73% 40	35.23% 68	20.73% 40	8.29% 16	193	2.87
Connections to and between parks	2.11% 4	13.16% 25	52.63% 100	23.68% 45	8.42% 16	190	3.23
Variety of recreation programs	6.22% 12	19.17% 37	49.74% 96	20.21% 39	4.66% 9	193	2.98
Variety of art and cultural events	3.65% 7	9.90% 19	39.06% 75	33.85% 65	13.54% 26	192	3.44

Q19 What is the single most important thing the City of South Haven could do to make the parks more useful and valuable to you?

Answered: 168 Skipped: 38

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Update bathrooms	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	Just maintaining them and clear the garbage more often	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
3	Outdoor pickleball courts	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
4	Maintain and upgrade existing facilities	10/14/2022 4:54 PM
5	More flowering bushes, shrubs bulbs etc Seasonal planters etc The South Haven plant wall was beautiful More murals, sculpture & decorative water fountains. Thank-You	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
6	More pickle ball courts	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
7	pickleball	10/14/2022 8:47 AM
8	Advertise events and programs	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
9	make outdoor Pickle courts	10/14/2022 7:52 AM
10	Provide outdoor pickleball courts	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
11	Add multipurpose outdoor courts for pickle ball tennis and soccer	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
12	Develop pickleball courts	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
13	Pickleball courts	10/14/2022 1:19 AM
14	Location of existing parks.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
15	More pickleball as it is a new and growing sport.	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
16	Add pickleball courts outdoors	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
17	Trails	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
18	Stanley Johnson park has lots of space but is underutilized. Add a playground and have more events,	10/13/2022 9:04 PM
19	Maintain what we already have	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
20	More parks, more lake access	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
21	More seating for picnics	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
22	Affordable activities more frequently.	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
23	Maintain the facilities and add recreational programming	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
24	shuttle service for out of town parking	10/10/2022 11:53 AM
25	More green space, trees, walking paths	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
26	The upkeep of current parks and increasing the recreational programs.	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
27	Improvements to Stanley Johnson Park.	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
28	Add courts.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
29	Pickellball	10/3/2022 10:12 AM
30	Maintain and upgrade restrooms.	10/1/2022 10:07 PM

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31	Protect natural features: trees and natural plantings for wildlife and protect from erosion.	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
32	brochures	9/29/2022 10:56 AM
33	Utilize the city's green sites better with benches, sun cover structures, etc.	9/28/2022 11:33 AM
34	More handicap accessible	9/27/2022 2:01 PM
35	Renovate antiquated restrooms. KEEP RESTROOMS CLEAN!	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
36	Promotion. The map used in this survey could be a valuable tool in promoting our parks. Have the Visitors Bureau create a map for distribution. Promote our parks in the monthly city newsletter (many have an interesting history to their name, for example.)	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
37	Safer bike connector between Baseline bike path and Kal-Haven Trail	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
38	Upkeep and maintenance, especially the beaches.	9/23/2022 7:48 AM
39	better parking and then from there-access	9/22/2022 9:38 PM
40	As a senior, outdoor pickleball courts would be a great addition to the inside courts at the senior center.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
41	Outdoor pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
42	More bike lanes throughout the city	9/22/2022 7:46 PM
43	Upgrade restrooms at Kids corner	9/22/2022 7:14 PM
44	MAINTENANCE (shovel sand off the steps, repair decks) and Construction (add more bathrooms, swimsuit changing areas, outdoor showers)	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
45	Egged parking and more enforcement of parking	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
46	Neighborhood parks should be designed and function with the residents surrounding as a first priority.	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
47	make pickleball courts	9/20/2022 8:31 AM
48	Improve park access for South East side of city	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
49	Dedicated pickle ball courts (sorry for the repeat), but this activity is very popular and growing extremely fast in the country (and just about anyone can play). Popular with mature individuals, but I saw Douglas had a summer pickle ball program for youths that was very well received.	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
50	Build a pickleball center because we have a large number of people who would use it	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
51	Bike trail to Saugatuck Outdoor pickleball courts	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
52	Better restrooms	9/18/2022 8:30 PM
53	We have a large percentage of year round senior citizen people that stay in South Haven and therefore need to focus more on physical activities for these people.	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
54	Reduce the number of festivals. Festivals ruin the condition of the parks.	9/18/2022 10:48 AM
55	Continue to make them safe for all to use (not just the loudest complainers).... ticketing those who do not comply with the flag system ... & ticketing those who park where not allowed (need to keep traffic flowing, especially for police / ambulances to quickly access rescues).	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
56	Allow the 347 listed snowbird and residents Puke ball players to use the high school courts until more can be built	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
57	Pickle ball courts	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
58	More beach access. Keep dogs to a specified area.	9/17/2022 5:35 PM
59	Add pickleball courts with access to all ages and skill levels.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
60	Stop having craft fairs	9/17/2022 3:53 PM
61	Add a dog park	9/17/2022 3:12 PM

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62	Continue to keep them clean.	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
63	Pickleball courts	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
64	Pickleball courts, clean bathrooms	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
65	Installation of pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
66	Community pool	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
67	Make a public dog park. A dog beach would be great too!	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
68	Better parking	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
69	Upgrade, clean and maintain buildings, particularly restrooms	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
70	Provide public Dog Park. I am handicapped and a dog park is the only way I can exercise my dog.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
71	Outdoor pickleball courts are badly needed. Recreation programs are also badly need. If you want to draw more full time residents both would be very useful.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
72	Enhance playground equipment for children, provide more basketball courts, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, fountains.	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
73	update the restrooms	9/16/2022 4:26 PM
74	Build a designated outdoor pickleball facility.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
75	Add an are of designated pickleball courts. I've visited different areas of the country with as many as 20 courts. Eight to ten courts would easily be used most mornings during the summer in South Haven.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
76	Pickleball	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
77	add pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
78	Easier and safer access to the beaches	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
79	Upkeep on all the parks	9/16/2022 10:42 AM
80	Create outdoor and at some point indoor pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
81	Provide Pickleball Courts for the public to use.	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
82	Build new pickleball courts	9/16/2022 10:06 AM
83	Create a municipal dog park with water access & shade that could be available to tourists (in season) and locals year round.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
84	More public beach access and ensuring safety by implementing life guards	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
85	Actually enforce ordinances like no drinking alcohol, no smoking, no pets on beaches would go a long way to improving parks.	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
86	Upgrade restrooms and install changing rooms/showers at the beaches!	9/16/2022 9:39 AM
87	Pickleball courts!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
88	Create a beach area where I could walk my dog	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
89	walking trails	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
90	Bathrooms, weekly events, simple food such as hot dogs, burgers (allow private enterprise), and designated areas for wine/beer.	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
91	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
92	Maintain existing facilities and add art installations to parks. Add Pickle Ball Courts and seating areas (picnic tables) to one or two centrally located parks.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
93	Add lifeguards at North and South Beaches.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
94	build pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:41 AM

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95	Adding public Pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
96	Add Pickleball courts, at least six-twelve.	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
97	Provide water fountains. Clean bathrooms.	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
98	Add pickleball courts. It is the fastest growing activity and great for all ages and abilities.	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
99	Dedicated pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
100	Building pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
101	Outdoor Pickleball courts in town. Update parks.	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
102	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
103	Adult equipment for exercise.	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
104	Keep up the great work.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
105	Provide dedicated pickleball courts	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
106	Add picklball courts with local tournaments or ladder league opportunities. More publicity of activities that are currently available	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
107	Senor programs	9/16/2022 4:56 AM
108	As stated before, provide more areas for dogs to run "off leash." The cemetery, maybe?	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
109	All year around rest rooms and sport equipment for outdoors	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
110	Don't allow businesses to rent the space or food trucks to take over.	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
111	Beach access- houses built too close to Lake Michigan - boulders blocking walking access to beach and lakeshore	9/15/2022 11:36 PM
112	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 11:27 PM
113	Update equipment and a permanent dog park anyone can use	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
114	I don't use that many of the parks, so I'm unfamiliar with the majority of them. My suggestion would be to update the existing parks, and also think about the year-round population here, the taxpayers: the majority are probably older and would love pickle ball courts!	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
115	Pickleball courts with bathrooms.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
116	Pickleball courts Opportunity to secure shelter at Stanley Johnston park	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
117	Add pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
118	pickle ball courts	9/15/2022 9:44 PM
119	build pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
120	Install outdoor Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
121	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
122	Dog park	9/15/2022 9:12 PM
123	Construct some outdoor pickleball courts.	9/15/2022 9:08 PM
124	Add Pickleball courts. The park off Hubbard St has unused space that might be a good option	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
125	Packard needs brought into this century! Awesome location, could b so much more!	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
126	Increase and or repair courts along with make them multiple use.	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
127	More dog friendly areas.	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
128	A nice dog park	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
129	Additional pickkeball courts	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
130	Make them more accessible.	9/15/2022 7:40 PM

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131	Athletics and water center	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
132	Offer more youth programs.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
133	Fenced in kid areas and UPDATED! More nature based and fun!	9/15/2022 7:29 PM
134	Make them safer and more updated for kids including bathrooms that are clean!!	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
135	More Pickleball access	9/15/2022 7:12 PM
136	We need a recreational millage to be able to invest in long term assets	9/15/2022 7:10 PM
137	Create a welcome living space activities	9/15/2022 6:50 PM
138	Have more to do for all ages. Would love to see a miniature golf course, once again PB courts	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
139	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
140	Add pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
141	make restrooms more available to public	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
142	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:18 PM
143	Provide outdoor dedicated pickleball courts for use by anyone.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
144	Upgrade the restrooms, they are an embarrassment to the city. The one at the pavilion, South and North beach restrooms are outdated and inadequate.	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
145	more pickleball venues. c	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
146	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
147	more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
148	Safety in and around parks	9/15/2022 6:00 PM
149	Pickleball Courts	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
150	More indoor pickleball courts for winter months	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
151	Install Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 5:54 PM
152	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
153	Create a youth sports facility for use in all weather conditions. (As ex:Trinity athletics center in LITH, IL)	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
154	Dog park Allowing dogs on city beaches after Oct 1, though Memorial Day	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
155	Modern amenities	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
156	Parking is impossible in the summer. Local people don't want to enjoy our beautiful beaches because they are just too crowded.	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
157	Make them dog friendly.	9/15/2022 4:11 PM
158	Create a Dog Park	9/15/2022 3:52 PM
159	Dog park	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
160	Keep them- don't let them be developed. Need some more trees at Riverfront park. Keep the existing green spaces	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
161	I like them all mostly the way they are. Some of the bench need some maintenance.	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
162	Better communication about what is available	9/15/2022 2:16 PM
163	Be watchful for any unlawful activity, keep a sense of security, etc.	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
164	Bathroom improvements	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
165	keep parks easy to access	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
166	this is a tough question to answer...perhaps ask us to name a specific park and what to do to	9/13/2022 6:00 PM

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make it more useful and valuable. For instance...Elkenburg...why is the location for small kiddies and their play equipment back in a corner away from high visibility?...feels odd, I want a feeling of safety for the little ones. Some of the kids come by themselves to park and then are playing out of site of people walking or driving by.

167	Keep them in good shape to attract more residents and visitors.	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
168	update and expand facilities with the most use (south beach).	9/9/2022 3:30 PM

DRAFT

Q20 What do you like about the City's Parks & Recreation Opportunities?

Answered: 113 Skipped: 93

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	? Not sure what this is asking	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
2	Hiking trails	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
3	Open space for recreation Close to downtown pavilion River walk to South Beach	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
4	We have great green space available to work with in both Stanley Johnson Park as well as Kids corner	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
5	What we have is nice and well kept	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
6	The organized sports for youth	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
7	Provides a range of park settings	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
8	Location	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
9	Lots of open space.	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
10	Variety of parks, dog-friendly parks.	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
11	Nothing	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
12	Lots of open space for families to utilize without scheduling	10/13/2022 9:04 PM
13	Nice variety of trails (land and water)	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
14	Good start	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
15	There's quite a variety	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
16	The people	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
17	there are a lot of parks and they are beautiful	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
18	Committed to diversity of plants and commitment to beautifying space	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
19	The opportunities are many and enjoyable.	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
20	The number and location of the parks.	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
21	The city has a done a very good job making South Haven and enjoyable destination. It is important to continue continue to improve and increase recreational opportunities.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
22	Like the uses and opportunities of the Canopy.	10/1/2022 10:07 PM
23	Variety	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
24	Variety of activities at different parks, like basketball, play structures, skate park, etc.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
25	The variety. New Sesquicentennial Trail very unique, but needs promotion.	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
26	many parks geographically distributed	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
27	The variety	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
28	Variety and volume	9/22/2022 7:46 PM
29	They're expanding and this survey reaching out to citizens supports that effort.	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
30	Focus on kids	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
31	Varied interest and activities.	9/20/2022 3:13 PM

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32	Great beaches, kids corner playground, splash pad, green spaces	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
33	With so much city activity from tourism, it would be nice to somehow fund/supplement Parks and Recreation with a tax on rentals or even restaurant food purchases during the "season" (I realize this is hard to do, but locals should not have to pay for all tourist activities).	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
34	Lots of great parks for kids; Variety of parks, trails, beaches	9/18/2022 10:04 PM
35	What we have is very good.	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
36	Love the new historical signs at Stanley Johnson park. Am grateful that one can communicate or find out about the parks online.	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
37	Already listed that	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
38	Festivals	9/17/2022 6:42 PM
39	Variety and the number of parks available given the size of the community.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
40	Beautiful city.	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
41	A variety	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
42	Green space to hosts events	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
43	I reserve my opinion	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
44	Variety, and ability to walk/bike/run	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
45	They are a good place to meet up with other residents. Good places to spend time by the lake.	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
46	Programs for kids & adults	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
47	Nothing comes to mind	9/16/2022 9:18 PM
48	Ease of access	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
49	Abundance and access.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
50	I like many of the physical facilities, beaches trails but these didn't come about because of a parks and rec department. It is time to have a real recreation department led by professionals in this business.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
51	?	9/16/2022 3:04 PM
52	there is a wide variety	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
53	A good variety of parks and beaches	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
54	playgrounds,kids corner,activities	9/16/2022 10:42 AM
55	Available for walking, visiting with friends and visitors. Beaches are beautiful!! Many parks host festivals, art fairs, etc.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
56	The number and variety of the Parks in the area	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
57	Close proximity	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
58	Beach access and they're cleaned frequently!	9/16/2022 9:39 AM
59	Beaches, Wellness Center, trails are great!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
60	I like having a multitude of parks with a variety of purposes. I like having lots of the parks utilizing the beaches, even if the beach space is small.	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
61	proximity to the lake	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
62	Good variety	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
63	Accessibility, locations, art fairs and concerts, children's play areas, walking trails.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
64	Variety	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
65	running trails	9/16/2022 8:41 AM

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66	Locations	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
67	The beaches and areas along the river are really beautiful and well maintained. The senior center is a wonderful addition to the community and very forward thinking.	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
68	The events at Stanley Johnston are well communicated	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
69	We'll maintained	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
70	They are close by.	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
71	Many parks	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
72	Free opportunity to have my kids burn off energy.	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
73	Running and biking paths - South Haven's pedestrian and bike friendly layout.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
74	Beautiful beaches	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
75	Availability of beach and boating activities	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
76	The city is great regarding such opportunities. It still could expand in ways.	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
77	Neutral	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
78	Allowing for opportunities for everyone	9/16/2022 12:04 AM
79	I love the free access to beaches and the fact that the lake is visible to all , for free. We use to live in Holland and Saugatuck, and except for Douglas Beach in Saugatuck, which is tiny and has about 10 parking spaces, there is no free, open access to beaches. We love kids' corner, too. Such a valuable piece of property, yet it's a park! thank-you for that.	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
80	??	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
81	We'll maintained, Kids Corner can be an issue with after hours, obnoxious visitors	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
82	easy beach access	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
83	Great beaches	9/15/2022 9:08 PM
84	The trails	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
85	The scenery is beautiful across the board.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
86	I like the bike trails and the beaches.	9/15/2022 8:39 PM
87	Use of them in the off season	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
88	The variety and overall good condition of the parks and amenities.	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
89	Clean	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
90	Are there any parks and recreation opportunities? Since moving to South Haven 3 years ago, I have not heard of any sponsored events in any of the parks by the city of South Haven. If they are sponsored by the city, I wasn't aware of it. Most the posts I see are made by friends. I don't get anything in the mail or receive any notifications about events going on in the city except through social media.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
91	There are endless opportunities to improve and make it better for year round residents.	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
92	Parks/beaches	9/15/2022 7:12 PM
93	Beauty of trails and surroundings	9/15/2022 7:10 PM
94	I love having the ice skating and accesses open to the beach.	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
95	Well maintained	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
96	Available for all	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
97	They are always clean and neat.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
98	The Lake	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
99	could use more work.	9/15/2022 6:06 PM

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100	we love to listen to music at the park. The Kal-haven trail is fantastic and is well kept. They are very good at clearing off branches from the trail. I hope it stays that way.	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
101	Relaxation, exercise	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
102	The new Senior center is great	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
103	Enough parks for everyone	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
104	Lots of opportunities for fairs and events on a large scale	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
105	Parks are well kept, available with good lake access from downtown.	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
106	Diverse options	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
107	The city does a great job of keeping our parks clean and looking good.	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
108	Lots of trails. Public beaches	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
109	There's a good variety.	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
110	I appreciate the hard work the city puts into them, keeping trash picked up, flowers planted, trees cared for, and yet allowing local events to use them. I always appreciate that South Haven has acquired and protected land that offers views of the river and lake!	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
111	There are a variety of parks, all of them offer a different feel, different used, depending on what you are going to be doing that day.	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
112	NA	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
113	Variety of parks that can meet the needs of residents and visitors.	9/12/2022 9:58 PM

Q21 What needs to be improved about the City's Parks & Recreation Opportunities?

Answered: 117 Skipped: 89

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Bathrooms	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	Outdoor pickleball courts	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
3	Children's play ground equipment More available & updated	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
4	Bathrooms	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
5	Quantity	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
6	We need a community center!	10/14/2022 8:20 AM
7	place to play pickleball	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
8	We have the parks but they offer activities for youth and teens. It would be nice to have amenities for adults and seniors.	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
9	Maintain and improve existing parks.	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
10	More Pickleball.	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
11	More outdoor free pickleball	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
12	We need opportunities of interest	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
13	Leave Kids corner structure as it is... does not need to be modernized	10/13/2022 9:04 PM
14	Create opportunities for youth, adult and senior programming (adult leagues for softball, etc).	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
15	Restrooms and picnic shelters	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
16	More activities AT the playgrounds maybe?	10/13/2022 7:54 PM
17	More affordable summer programs for kids and families.	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
18	improved recreational programming and public art	10/13/2022 11:00 AM
19	More communication	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
20	More organized programs for all ages.	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
21	Nothing	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
22	Always keep parking in mind. Access by bicycle is important, too.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
23	Ensure fair and open discussion and fiscal responsibility for all changes to them. I hear a firepit is proposed at Dyckman Park. City has paid a consultant to work on it. It's not in the current Master Plan. I don't believe it was in the drawings for people to comment on it at the Open House. Regardless of any donation(s), what happens at our Community Parks should be a community decision.	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
24	Widen or rebuild Blue Stairs. Install rinse shower at top of the Blue Stairs.	9/25/2022 3:15 PM
25	The city's southeast corner lacks a public park (review your map). Perhaps coordinate with Briar Hills the development of a park? The church in that area appears to have sufficient vacant land that could be used for a park? The pump track and skate park do not appear to be maintained to the same standards as other parks. The SHOUT park is under utilized. The fishing deck along the river is unique, but hardly known.	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
26	For visitors, I would like to see improved signage for the connector trail from downtown to Kal-Haven Trail. Use the KHT logo painted on the road or use the logo colors to lead bikers to trail.	9/24/2022 5:48 PM

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Also, the "Great Lake to Lake Trail" technically starts at the Lake and could be a tourist draw. (The connector trail should match the GLTL trail.) <http://greatlaketolaketrailes.org/>

27	Activities/space for seniors, specifically pickleball.	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
28	More outdoor pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:13 PM
29	Recognize that there is a growing population of retirees, living in South Haven year round, who value and support our city. Additionally, area youth would benefit from structured, organized year round programs.	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
30	More information in one place about the opportunities in all the parks and facilities.	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
31	Improve park access for South East side of city including addition of a playground there. Continue to improve ability to bike and walk around the city.	9/19/2022 10:11 AM
32	N/A	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
33	Landscaping and cleaning	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
34	Need more indoor pickle ball courts!	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
35	Noise and speed of cars	9/18/2022 2:01 PM
36	Cleaning is always a struggle. Maybe have plastic bag dispensary so that others can help.	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
37	Guess	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
38	More advertising	9/17/2022 5:35 PM
39	Consider more variety in recreational options. Bocci ball, coed softball and soccer, evening leagues in a various sports, family events (game nights).	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
40	Fix Kids Corner	9/17/2022 3:12 PM
41	Growth of Pickle ball nation wide and in the area - the city needs to expand access to courts beyond the Senior Center.	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
42	More Pickleball	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
43	Our weather is such that an indoor complex would put us on the map year round! Pickleball courts especially as the fastest growing sport in the country..... I would recommend seriously considering an indoor complex and pulling in from all surrounding areas with various indoor sports opportunities (soccer, tennis, Pickleball, basketball, golf platforms softball/batting cages.....etc) opening the city of South Haven up for YEAR ROUND visitors from nearby and further out..... our youth travel to St joe, Holland and Kalamazoo and GR.... Still not enough courts..... people would definitely come here for a sports complex community center.... Near the Senior center would be ideal.... Young and old on neighboring campuses.... A true community center with year round endless advantages...	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
44	Pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
45	Dog leash optional	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
46	More publicity about events	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
47	Please try to create a fenced in dog park.	9/16/2022 6:22 PM
48	Need a public Dog Park.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
49	We need pickleball courts and the recreation department must be reimaged.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
50	Several parks are gathering places for smoking pot. Packard park in dunes and picnic tables. Stanley Johnson park in covered picnic area, pilgram haven in the bluffs above lake. There needs to be more police presence patrolling the parks.	9/16/2022 4:41 PM
51	Restrooms at the parks (beaches) need to be tended to more. Embarrassing to have all the summer visitors come to South Haven and find the bathrooms in poor condition. Dirty.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
52	pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
53	More available courts for sports like tennis and pickleball	9/16/2022 11:18 AM

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54	Upkeep,playgrounds	9/16/2022 10:42 AM
55	Expand the mindset to include pickleball activities in a number of places for availability for many and ways in which to benefit Parks and Rec funds for creating tournament, etc.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
56	Better communication about the parks and the activities and the addition of Pickleball Courts to the park system.	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
57	Need a municipal dog park available to all.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
58	More courts are needed	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
59	More stuff for our youth!	9/16/2022 9:39 AM
60	Pickleball courts!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
61	We need a public dog park. We need an area where our dogs can run free and socialize. Right now we have the private area, but when friends come with a dog, I'd like to be able to take them to a public park where our dogs could exercise and I could visit with my friend.	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
62	play equipment that is age appropriate for very young children; removing the structure at Kids' Corner (so difficult to keep an eye on children playing on it)	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
63	ARTWORK	9/16/2022 9:06 AM
64	Beach patrols	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
65	Bathroom facilities and regular cleaning, variety of sports fields other than baseball/softball. For example, there's room at Kids Corner for a few Pickle Ball courts, add flowers/bushes.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
66	Lifeguards at North and South Beaches.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
67	Create senior citizen cardio outlets.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
68	The only criticism I have is the absence of pickle ball courts. It's actually pretty surprising to me that this has not happened here.	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
69	Communication of events/ advertisement of the smaller events. Maybe a happenings app for mobile phones.	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
70	Pickleball	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
71	Perhaps some updating of the facilities.	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
72	Pads pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
73	Free fitness. Cleaner bathrooms	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
74	Bronson fee schedule.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
75	Get the word out more on what is available.	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
76	Add pickleball opportunities	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
77	Again, expanding opportunities for dogs to run off leash.	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
78	More benches, picnic areas with grills	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
79	Need a municipal dog park	9/15/2022 11:36 PM
80	new pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
81	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
82	Dog park Better restrooms	9/15/2022 9:12 PM
83	More variety of outdoor athletic activities	9/15/2022 9:08 PM
84	Add Pickleball & dog park	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
85	Not aware of what is offer today.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
86	Multiple uses	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
87	An off leash dog friendly park and an off leash beach.	9/15/2022 8:39 PM

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88	Handicap accessibility (paved walking areas for possible wheelchairs)	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
89	See above comments	9/15/2022 7:54 PM
90	More physical activities for adults	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
91	A fenced in dog park	9/15/2022 7:29 PM
92	More classes, more structure, more ideas for kids.	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
93	Indoor pickleball / outdoor pickleball	9/15/2022 7:12 PM
94	Better areas to walk. A dog area would be nice somewhere in a beach area so dogs can swim. Some clinics to learn how to do some water sports like kayaking or fishing:	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
95	Greater variety and Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
96	Already committed	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
97	more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
98	More opportunities.	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
99	The restrooms	9/15/2022 6:09 PM
100	again more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
101	?	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
102	Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country and we are behind..	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
103	New Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 5:54 PM
104	More courts	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
105	Be focused on the residents first- what are our needs for the kids here.	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
106	See 19	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
107	More winter focused	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
108	Parking. Also enforcing the no smoking (cigarettes and pot) and alcohol policies.	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
109	Make them dog friendly	9/15/2022 4:11 PM
110	Beach access is compromised when the city lets HUGE houses to be developed too near the lake- the amount of boulders and large rocks on South Beach has cut off access to walk the beach. Amend the zoning ordinance to not allow pools to be built in a sand dune. Amend the zoning ordinance to stop the development and compromise of the beaches DON'T CUT DOWN THE VEGETATION /DUNE GRASS ON THE BEACH AND DUNES.	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
111	Some of the bench need some maintenance.	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
112	Perhaps restrooms.	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
113	no comment	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
114	bathrooms could be nicer	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
115	put a halt to accepting every piece of "art" or signage offered...I'm hearing comments from locals that it's getting cluttered...we want to see green space uninterrupted!	9/13/2022 6:00 PM
116	I believe I addressed this question in an earlier response.	9/12/2022 9:58 PM
117	Upgrade/maintain existing facilities.	9/9/2022 3:30 PM

Q22 What would you like to see in the future for Parks or Recreation Programs?

Answered: 123 Skipped: 83

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Bathrooms , food options, drinking water	10/16/2022 5:14 PM
2	Not familiar	10/15/2022 11:10 AM
3	Pickleball courts	10/14/2022 4:58 PM
4	Programs geared towards older adults	10/14/2022 4:54 PM
5	Larger water park like st. Joe Community outdoor pool especially for rough lake Mi water days Indoor community pool	10/14/2022 3:49 PM
6	Fitness station area's Pickleball courts where possible.	10/14/2022 10:57 AM
7	Promote pickle ball more	10/14/2022 10:37 AM
8	pickleball courts	10/14/2022 5:28 AM
9	Pickle ball courts	10/14/2022 5:21 AM
10	More access o pickleball courts	10/14/2022 2:44 AM
11	Pickleball	10/13/2022 10:20 PM
12	Pickleball	10/13/2022 10:18 PM
13	Dog beaches	10/13/2022 10:08 PM
14	Trails and nature	10/13/2022 9:39 PM
15	Ice rink is important	10/13/2022 9:04 PM
16	Adult leagues for softball as well a few lighted community fields for night time baseball/softball and soccer	10/13/2022 9:03 PM
17	More funding	10/13/2022 7:57 PM
18	More affordable programs for kids and families.	10/13/2022 7:50 PM
19	Using best practices from similar communities who seem to have it all figured out	10/8/2022 1:14 PM
20	Start workshops with the community for input and help from volunteers.	10/4/2022 8:07 PM
21	Maybe some collaboration with senior services.	10/4/2022 10:06 AM
22	Splash pad would be a nice addition. I think that the city is planning one, but reinforcing the idea.	10/3/2022 11:29 PM
23	Community involvement in all changes/additions. More natural green space and plantings for relaxed gathering areas and shade in the summer.	9/30/2022 2:54 PM
24	Years ago there was excellent cooperation between the city and schools when it came to recreation opportunities. The development of school outdoor athletics properties and future area recreation areas (14th Avenue) seems to be inviting the opportunity for better coordination.	9/25/2022 8:44 AM
25	Keep up the good work	9/24/2022 5:48 PM
26	Dedicated outdoor Pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:17 PM
27	Outdoor pickleball courts	9/22/2022 8:13 PM

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28	More outdoor pickleball courts and three indoor courts. Year round activities for area youth.	9/22/2022 1:04 PM
29	More balance - spread out activities between kids corner and Stanley Johnston park.	9/21/2022 7:33 PM
30	Year around outdoor programs	9/20/2022 3:13 PM
31	Partnership with sports clubs ie sohawsc	9/20/2022 12:07 PM
32	dog park	9/19/2022 6:44 PM
33	Everything is very good and we love SH, as fairly recent full-time residents. we just wish you had a city dog park. The current dog park is privately owned and rules are not enforced.	9/19/2022 3:40 PM
34	Pickleball courts added----	9/19/2022 1:28 PM
35	More trees planted. Be a Tree City USA	9/19/2022 10:27 AM
36	Pickle ball for youth.	9/19/2022 9:58 AM
37	Pickleball facility	9/19/2022 12:10 AM
38	More organized pickle ball programs	9/18/2022 8:03 PM
39	Dog friendly places to walk	9/18/2022 2:01 PM
40	Possibly a shuttle program as parking is a premium & difficult if working (spaces are already taken by the time some get out of work).	9/18/2022 10:26 AM
41	Pickle ball tournaments drawing hundred of folks from all over to wAtch and have lunch	9/17/2022 7:58 PM
42	More pickleball and swimming opportunities year round.	9/17/2022 5:35 PM
43	The addition of more pickleball courts in town for all ages and skill levels.	9/17/2022 4:35 PM
44	Dog park and dedicated Pickle Ball courts.	9/17/2022 11:05 AM
45	Pickleball	9/17/2022 10:51 AM
46	What I stated above..... look at the Senior center and how impressed visitors are by this.... This is just the beginning..... indoor opportunities is where it's at	9/17/2022 9:28 AM
47	Pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 11:10 PM
48	Sports fields for tournaments	9/16/2022 10:17 PM
49	a public dog park	9/16/2022 9:59 PM
50	Tennis. Lessons for other sports. Some outdoor exercise equipment & classes	9/16/2022 9:47 PM
51	more activities for all ages--walks, easy group exercise-tai chi or yoga. Holiday bonfires or outdoor activities that don't center on alcohol	9/16/2022 7:28 PM
52	Provision of public Dog Park. I am handicapped and a Dog Park is the only way I can exercise my dog.	9/16/2022 5:52 PM
53	I would like to see a complete and well rounded recreation program that will help draw new young people to our community.	9/16/2022 5:51 PM
54	focus on existing facilities i.e. restrooms	9/16/2022 4:26 PM
55	Pickleball...	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
56	You could add in a beginner's pickleball program and would almost certainly get many signups. It's a very fast growing sport.	9/16/2022 3:15 PM
57	pickle ball courts	9/16/2022 2:25 PM
58	More off-season activities in fall/winter and spring and more art and cultural opportunities	9/16/2022 11:18 AM
59	Availability of pickleball courts. These can be very beneficial and add to financial gains during Festivals and other events adding tournament play. People will come from around the country.	9/16/2022 10:14 AM
60	Public Pickleball Courts	9/16/2022 10:12 AM
61	A municipal dog park with water access & shade and restrooms if possible.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM

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62	More cultural events, art fairs, tours, etc.	9/16/2022 10:01 AM
63	More activities and areas for older residents	9/16/2022 9:55 AM
64	Pickleball courts!	9/16/2022 9:25 AM
65	Perhaps utilizing a dog park for dog training classes. (People training on how to best handle a dog.)	9/16/2022 9:20 AM
66	walking trails/ programs	9/16/2022 9:09 AM
67	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 9:03 AM
68	Pickle Ball Courts, walking tracks, games like shuffleboard, corn hole, etc.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
69	Dedicated pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:50 AM
70	Public Pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 8:35 AM
71	Pickleball.	9/16/2022 8:22 AM
72	Evening activities.	9/16/2022 8:08 AM
73	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 8:04 AM
74	Pickleball tournaments/ leagues	9/16/2022 7:59 AM
75	Adult softball, pickleball	9/16/2022 7:54 AM
76	New kids korner, eliminate baseball field on it.	9/16/2022 7:46 AM
77	Pickleball courts	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
78	Free fitness	9/16/2022 7:07 AM
79	Continue to expand and grow by listening to community input.	9/16/2022 6:11 AM
80	Dedicated pickleball courts.	9/16/2022 6:06 AM
81	Add pickleball opportunities	9/16/2022 5:50 AM
82	Again, expanding areas for dogs to run "off leash".	9/16/2022 12:50 AM
83	More activity	9/16/2022 12:22 AM
84	Dog park	9/15/2022 11:36 PM
85	pickle ball courts and maybe more concerts	9/15/2022 10:33 PM
86	Pickleball courts with bathrooms.	9/15/2022 10:26 PM
87	Adequate pickleball courts, growing sport more opportunity to draw visitors possible tournaments to start before season and after labor day to boost economy EG lodging, shopping , restaurants etc.	9/15/2022 10:21 PM
88	Better communication. Lessons for new facility sports like pickleball, disc golf, nature walks, etc.	9/15/2022 10:17 PM
89	pickleball courts and instruction	9/15/2022 9:38 PM
90	Outdoor Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:26 PM
91	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 9:19 PM
92	Pickleball courts, dog park	9/15/2022 8:59 PM
93	Continued improvement and amenities at the park. Additional opportunities for dogs.	9/15/2022 8:56 PM
94	More activities for seniors.	9/15/2022 8:44 PM
95	Physical fitness course	9/15/2022 7:57 PM
96	Decide priorities; communicate to the public and follow through but be flexible if priorities change.	9/15/2022 7:54 PM

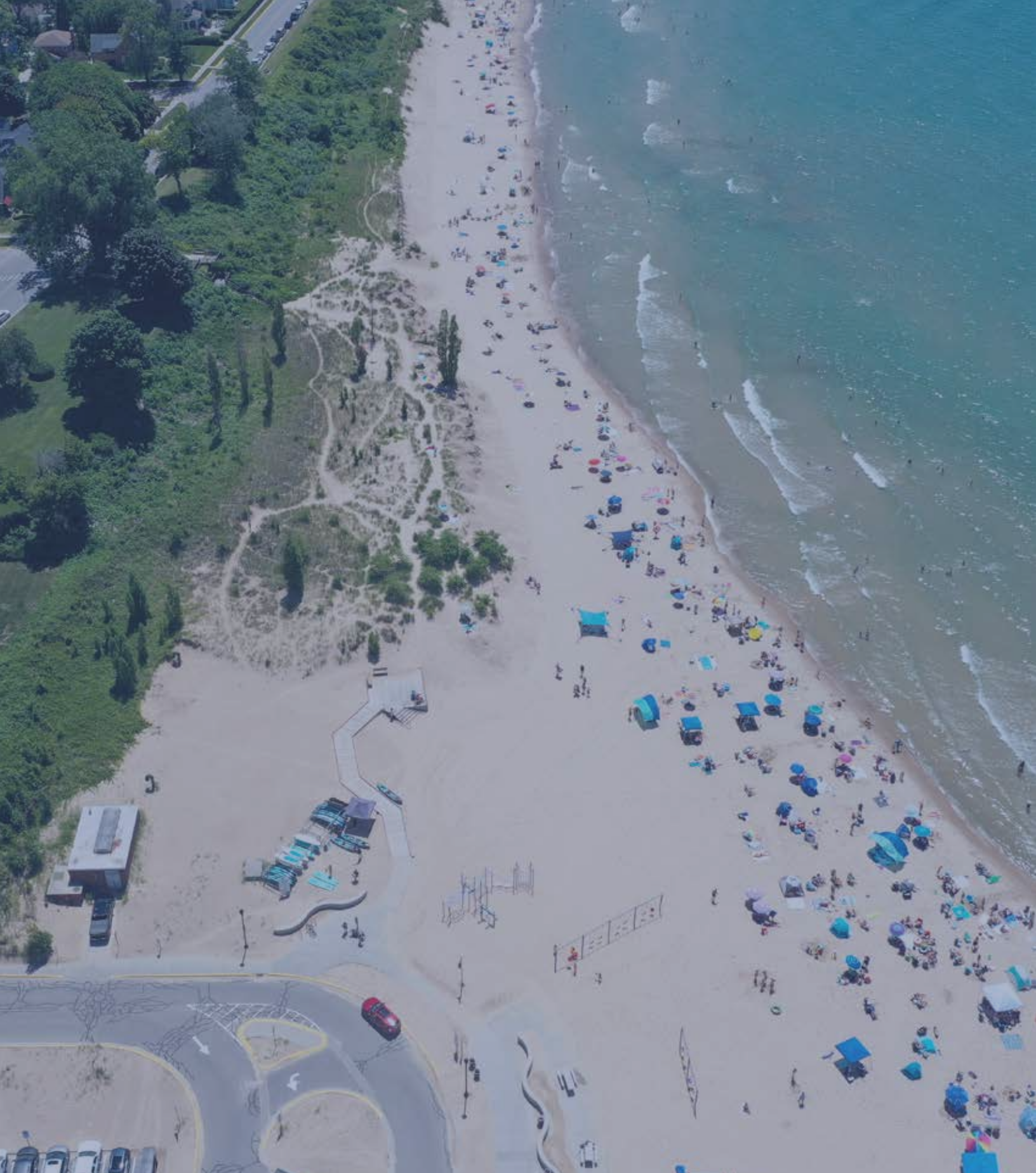
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97	Public pool Doggy beach area	9/15/2022 7:32 PM
98	I'd love to see one central location where I could go to find out about activities going on per quarter as well as upcoming activities on a yearly calendar so that I could plan weekends with friends and family coming into town to attend them.	9/15/2022 7:30 PM
99	Kids programs	9/15/2022 7:14 PM
100	Pickleball access	9/15/2022 7:12 PM
101	Outside programmed such as pickle ball	9/15/2022 6:50 PM
102	PB, and possibly learn to fish opportunities. More updated play structures . Some parks look rundown	9/15/2022 6:33 PM
103	Pickleball and more youth organized sports leagues.	9/15/2022 6:28 PM
104	Answered	9/15/2022 6:21 PM
105	pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:19 PM
106	Pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
107	Pickleball	9/15/2022 6:15 PM
108	more pickleball courts	9/15/2022 6:06 PM
109	I love the music and feel that attracts a number of individuals. Hopefully that will continue and expand.	9/15/2022 6:02 PM
110	Pickleball	9/15/2022 5:58 PM
111	Pickleball leagues	9/15/2022 5:54 PM
112	Pickleball league	9/15/2022 5:52 PM
113	More teen programming. Seems to be a lot of programming for the youngsters but once they hit the teen years there's nothing.	9/15/2022 5:33 PM
114	See 19	9/15/2022 5:30 PM
115	More activities in parks	9/15/2022 4:42 PM
116	A way to control the volume of people (like St. Joe) to keep beaches safer.	9/15/2022 4:31 PM
117	Dog park	9/15/2022 3:51 PM
118	Dog park. places for residents - and tourists to go with their dogs. Too many dogs on public beaches now because there is no where for dog owners and dogs to go in town	9/15/2022 3:24 PM
119	Complete Kids Corner	9/15/2022 2:47 PM
120	Not sure. There is a lot now.	9/15/2022 1:42 PM
121	improved facilities (bathrooms)	9/14/2022 4:15 PM
122	very happy with the parks	9/13/2022 9:46 PM
123	finest collected from people violating the beach & pier safety rules need to go into the Parks' budget for improvements that otherwise would not be budgeted or attainable.	9/13/2022 6:00 PM

Appendices II

Included:

- Certification Checklist
- Draft Plan Availability Notice
- Public Hearing Notice
- Public Hearing Minutes and Parks Advisory Board Recommendation of Adoption
- City Commission Resolution of Adoption
- Current Development Plans
- Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports
- County Planning Agency Transmittal Letter
- Regional Planning Agency Transmittal Letter



Adopted January 2023 (pending)