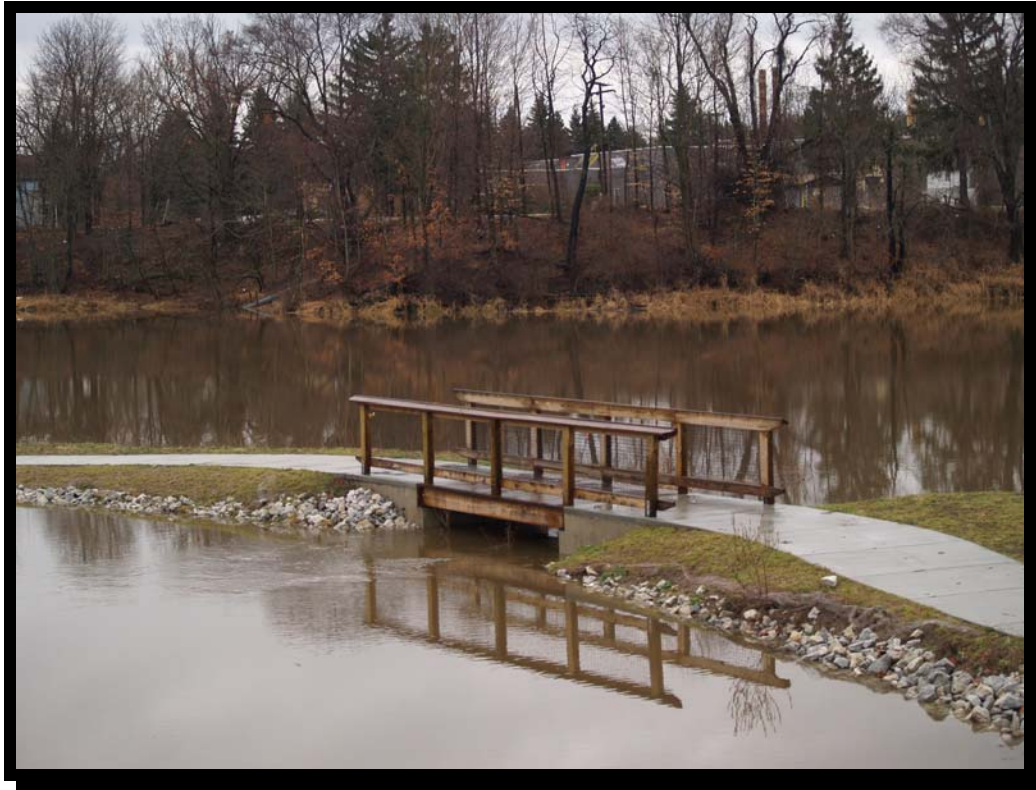


THE CITY OF BANGOR



DRAFT
COMMUNITY PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE,
AND GREENWAY PLAN
2008 - 2013

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
185 E. Main Street, Suite 701
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
February 2008

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Bangor has a wonderful reputation for community pride and spirit. This reputation has been earned through the collaborative efforts and accomplishments of residents and leaders. It takes time to attend meetings, prepare assessments, do research, and participate in discussions with friends and neighbors to fully understand the needs and desires of a community. When these tasks are done with enthusiasm and care, the result is obvious. It took the participation and cooperation of numerous community leaders and residents to prepare this five-year Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plan and those efforts are greatly appreciated. In particular, we would like to acknowledge the following individuals:

Recreation Plan Steering Committee

Jennifer Carpio
Charles French
Rosemary Insidioso
Gregory Moench
Ken Ratzlaff
Michael Selden
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City Government

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Mr. Michael Selden, City Manager
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Teresa Wiles, Council Member
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Jennifer Carpio, Council Member
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Bangor Downtown Development Authority

Ms. Lu Robertson, President

Bangor Arts Council

Mr. Ken Ratzlaff

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

One of the most rewarding experiences of preparing a five-year recreation plan is reviewing the previous plan and discovering that almost every one of the projects proposed in that plan has been completed. Knowing that the dreams of a community can indeed become reality provides the impetus to explore new ideas believing that, with continued community support, these new projects will also be completed and become a source of pride and delight for the City of Bangor.

As the steering committee reviewed the capital improvement plan in the 2002-2007 Recreation Plan to discuss the viability of remaining projects, it was noted that there were very few projects left to move forward into the 2008-2012 plan. The committee is pleased to build on these previous successes and believes that the new projects presented in the Action Plan reflect the vision and hopes of the community and will receive the support needed to bring them to reality.

A small community in a rural, agricultural landscape is often challenged by limited access to recreational opportunities and funding sources. The City of Bangor recognizes these challenges and has responded with keen interest and great effort to understand and meet the needs of every age group. To gather information to help understand these needs, the City distributed a citizen survey which revealed interesting results to two questions in particular: “Which of the following are your favorite activities?” and “Which of the following are your favorite amenities?” The results showed that both high school students (under age 19 years) and the community-at-large shared a great many answers in common. Although the survey was conducted in November and December, swimming, walking/jogging, fishing, and relaxing were in the top five favorite activities for both groups. Among the favorite amenities for both groups were restrooms, concerts, and family activities. These common interests across all ages provided a solid framework for the steering committee to work with knowing that the projects and plans they developed would meet the desires of Bangor’s residents.

It is with great pride that this Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan is presented to the members of the community. Every effort has been made to protect the natural resources treasured by all, to provide opportunities for relaxation and recreation for every age group, and to enhance existing features that will be used and appreciated by residents as well as attract visitors to the area.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Physical Characteristics

Location

The City of Bangor (“Train City USA”) is located in the heart of apple country in north central Van Buren County in Southwest Michigan and is surrounded by Bangor, Arlington, Geneva, and Columbia townships. Although Bangor is a rural agricultural community, it is transected by highway M-43 which provides transportation connections with South Haven (and Lake Michigan) to the west and Kalamazoo to the east. Interstate 94, a major east-west highway, can be accessed approximately eight miles south of the City. This highway provides the principle route to and from Chicago, Illinois, and Detroit, Michigan with an approximate two hour drive to either metropolitan area. Other mid-size cities such as Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo Michigan, and South Bend, Indiana can be reached in approximately one hour or less via other easily accessible roadways.

Insert Locator Map Here

Topography

Van Buren County is characterized by relatively flat terrain with some gently rolling hills. The City of Bangor is primarily flat with some slightly sloping areas, particularly near bodies of water.

Soils

As glaciers advanced southward from Canada and covered Van Buren County, they had a major impact on the terrain creating soil types varying widely in texture, permeability, stability, composition and other characteristics. The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service¹ identifies the soils in Bangor as part of the Capac-Riddles-Selfridge association. This association is described as nearly level to hilly, somewhat poorly drained and well drained, loamy and sandy soils on till plains, moraines, and lake plains.

The five predominant soil types found in the City are described in the following table. (It should be noted that these descriptions are generalizations of the soil in Bangor to provide a

¹ Soil Survey of Van Buren County, Michigan 1984

broad understanding of the soil conditions; site specific soil surveys are recommended for individual project needs.)

Table 1 - Soil Types²

| Name | General Characteristics |
|-----------------------|--|
| Thetford Loamy Sand | Nearly level with moderately rapid permeability. Available water capacity is low. Well suited for woodlands. |
| Selfridge Loamy Sand | Somewhat poorly drained with a moderate water capacity. Sub layer of loamy sand is intermixed with heavy clay. |
| Metea Loamy Fine Sand | Moderately undulating, well-drained soil. This soil is very susceptible to drought. |
| Riddles Sandy Loam | Slightly undulating soil with moderate permeability and a high water capacity. Subsoil is intermixed with clay. |
| Brems Complex | Soil has rapid permeability with a low water capacity. Soil covered heavily by streets parking lots and buildings. |

Water Resources

The City of Bangor has access to a number of different water resources. Van Buren County has 133 inland lakes (43 are within ten miles of the City) and approximately 256 miles of rivers and streams. These water resources are not only havens for wildlife but provide valuable recreational resources as well. Some of the water resources in or near Bangor include:

- **Maple Creek:** *Maple Creek, located on the western edge of the City, joins the Black River in the northwest corner of the City.*
- **The Black River and Mill Pond:** *The South Branch of the Black River runs through the northern edge of the City where it was formerly impounded; resulting in the formation of the Mill Pond. As a popular fishing spot, especially when salmon and steelhead are spawning, and an area of natural beauty, this valuable water resource could be an important focal point for recreation in Bangor.*
- **Van Auken Lake:** *This large inland lake, approximately five miles southwest of Bangor, provides public access and is another popular spot for boating and fishing.*
- **Saddle Lake:** *Located northeast of Bangor, this lake is a popular spot to view wildlife.*
- **Wetlands:** *There are several wetland areas in and around Bangor playing a key role in environmental quality and water protection by aiding flood prevention and supplying key habitat areas for wildlife.*



Black River Viewing Platform

² U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, *Soil Survey of Van Buren County, Michigan, 1980.*

Vegetation, Wildlife, and Fish

In addition to the water resources, there are a number of beautiful natural resources in and around the City. Forested areas have a large variety of hardwood and softwood trees including Beech, Ash, Maple, Oak, Hickory, Red and White Pines. Vegetation along the stream banks of the Black River in Lion's Park includes Common buttonbush, *Viburnum trilobum*, Cardinal flower and Blue flag iris. A complete list of plants found on the stream banks and raingarden is available in the Appendix.

Wildlife and fish in the region are equally as diverse as the vegetation. White-tailed deer and wild turkeys are frequently seen near Bangor and are popular game for hunters. The area is also a major migratory route for a large variety of songbirds and waterfowl making it a popular destination for bird watchers. The Black River is a popular area for sport fishermen catching the steelhead and salmon coming up the river from Lake Michigan to spawn. Other lakes in the area are also excellent fishing spots for bass, bluegill and northern pike.

Zoning/Land Use

The City of Bangor's location as well as its natural features have contributed greatly to the way in which it has evolved and been developed. The residential sections of town are located in areas that can take advantage of the natural beauty of rivers and streams in the area while the business districts and industrial zones are more strategically positioned on or near the major transportation routes in the City. (See Map 1 for current zoning.)

Residential: The main residential districts are located in two areas of the City; the area surrounding the former Mill Pond and the area adjacent to, and south of, M-43. The homes in these neighborhoods are generally older than the homes in other parts of the City. Although there are several single-family homes, this area is zoned multi-family residential. The areas zoned single-family residential are located in many areas throughout the community and are generally positioned on the outer portions of the City to accommodate future growth. The mobile home district is located in the northern part of the City.

Industrial: The industrial sections are located along the Black River to the north, near the intersection of M-43 and Center Street, and along the railroad to the south. These areas were developed because of their convenient access to the main transportation features in the City such as the railroad and M-43, and the proximity to water which is used in many industrial processes.

Business: The business district is located in the center of the City along M-43. This area is comprised of a large variety of shops and service centers to meet the needs of the Bangor community. Business owners developed this area along the main road through town for ease of both the patrons visiting the shops and delivery of goods.

Floodplains: Low-lying areas near the Black River or Maple Creek are at risk for flooding.

Climate

Lake Michigan, (located approximately ten miles to the west) has a moderating effect on the prevailing westerly winds that influence Bangor's climate. The average temperature is 26° Fahrenheit in the winter with an average daily minimum temperature of 18° F. In the summer, the average temperature is 69° F and the average daily maximum temperature is 81° F. The annual precipitation is 38 inches with 56 percent falling between April and September. The average seasonal snowfall is 91 inches, with an average of 64 days that have at least 1 inch or more of snow on the ground. The growing season is approximately 180 days long.

Transportation

Understanding available transportation options is important to recreation planning as it impacts the ability of a community to attract visitors to local venues and the ability of area residents to access recreational opportunities in other areas. Bangor is within close proximity to major transportation routes providing access to large urban areas. M-43 is the primary road transecting Bangor providing a route east to Kalamazoo and west to South Haven. In 2000, M-43 had a 24-hour annual average traffic count of 7,200.³ Similar to many roads in the area, there is a noticeable increase in traffic on M-43 during the summer months. Interstate 94, which connects the major metropolitan centers, Detroit (150 miles east) and Chicago (125 miles southwest) can be accessed eight miles south of Bangor. Interstate 196 is accessible ten miles west of Bangor providing access north to Holland and Grand Rapids and south to St. Joseph and Benton Harbor.

Rail service is a major mode of travel for people and products to and from the Bangor area. Amtrak stops at the Bangor Depot twice daily providing passenger service either north along the Lake Michigan shoreline and then east to Grand Rapids or southwest to Chicago.

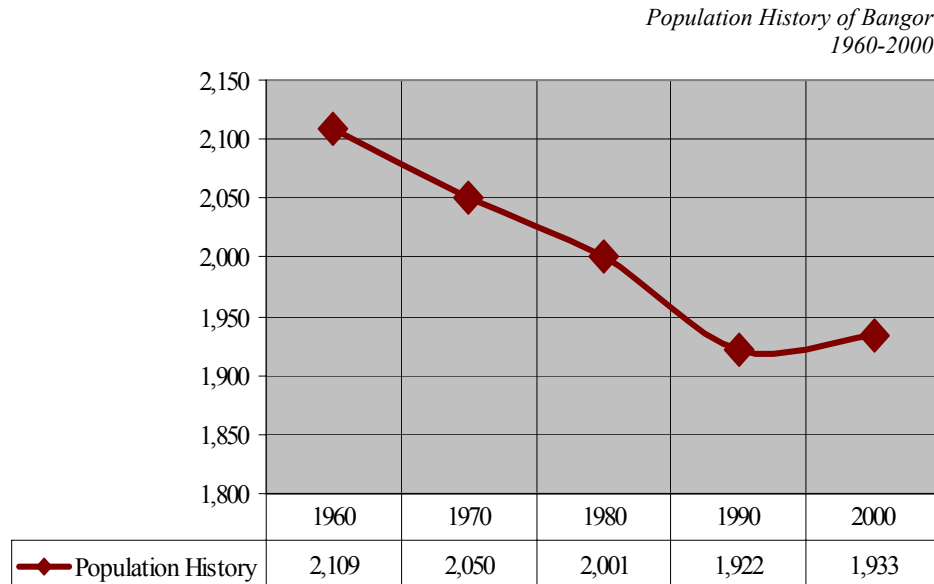
Air travel is most easily accessed at the Kalamazoo International Airport. Other options include airports in South Bend, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Chicago and Detroit, all within 150 miles of Bangor. Benton Harbor and South Haven have airports available for non-commercial use.

³ Michigan Department of Transportation

Social Characteristics

Population

From 1960 to 1990, the City of Bangor experienced over 30 years of steady population decline before leveling off and showing a slight increase in the 2000 Census (+0.6%).



Although the City has seen very little growth, the areas surrounding Bangor have grown substantially. (See Table 2 below) This “ex-urbanization” (meaning the primary growth has been occurring outside of the city limits) has become very common not only in Michigan but in the nation as well. As the City considers recreation facilities and programs, it will be important to think about the residents of the surrounding areas in terms of their interest, use, and support of the parks and other recreation programs.

Table 2: Population of Bangor and Surrounding Areas⁴

| Municipality | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 | % Change 1980-2000 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------|
| City of Bangor | 2,001 | 1,922 | 1,933 | - 3.4% |
| Bangor Township | 1,993 | 1,948 | 2,121 | 6.4% |
| Arlington Township | 1,884 | 1,929 | 2,075 | 10.1% |
| Geneva Township | 2,984 | 3,162 | 3,975 | 33.2% |
| Columbia Township | 2,248 | 2,552 | 2,714 | 6.3 |
| Van Buren County | 66,814 | 70,060 | 76,263 | 8.9 |

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Age

Providing recreational opportunities for all segments of the population is an important aspect of a well-designed plan. As seen in the table below, the 35-59 year old age cohort represents the largest segment of the population (30%) in Bangor.

Table 3 - Age Distribution of Population in City of Bangor⁵

| Age Cohort | Male | Female | Total | % of Total |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| < 5 years | 79 | 77 | 156 | 8% |
| 5-19 years | 260 | 237 | 497 | 26% |
| 20-34 years | 178 | 191 | 369 | 19% |
| 35-59 years | 264 | 319 | 583 | 30% |
| >60 years | 134 | 194 | 328 | 17% |

Total Population City of Bangor – 1,933

The population of the surrounding communities is distributed similarly (see Table 4 below) indicating that the area is likely to follow the national forecasts of an increased number of “Baby Boomers” over the next two decades. It is notable that the 5-19 year old cohort is the second largest group (26%) in Bangor and comprises a similar percentage in the surrounding communities as well. These youth are an important demographic to be considered when developing a recreation projects and programs. The youngest cohort (under five years old) is only represented by a five-year span and thus appears to be the smallest segment. This cohort however, is also very important because it is indicative of the number of families who use the park and who have indicated, through surveys and public participation, their interest in family-oriented activities.

Table 4 – Age Distribution of Population by Percentage⁶
(Compares Bangor to Surrounding Areas)

| Age Cohort | City of Bangor | Arlington Township | Bangor Township | Columbia Township | Geneva Township | Van Buren County |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| < 5 years | 8% | 6% | 8% | 8% | 6% | 7% |
| 5-19 years | 26% | 24% | 23% | 23% | 26% | 24% |
| 20-34 years | 19% | 15% | 19% | 17% | 17% | 17% |
| 35-59 years | 30% | 39% | 32% | 35% | 34% | 36% |
| >60 years | 17% | 16% | 17% | 18% | 16% | 16% |

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Persons with Disabilities

The City of Bangor has historically shown its commitment to creating barrier-free environments in its parks and recreational facilities through previously completed projects as well as current and future plans. One of the activities undertaken by the Steering Committee was a barrier-free assessment of the City’s parks. The majority of the parks have at least some barrier-free areas and most the parks have current projects in the Action Plan that involve improving accessibility. (Synopsis included in the Recreation Inventory and Assessment)

Table 5 – Disability Status of the Civilian Non-Institutionalized Population⁷

| | Total | Percent of Total |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Population 5 to 20 years | 529 | |
| With a disability | 55 | 10% |
| Population 21 to 64 years | 981 | |
| With a disability | 310 | 32% |
| Population 65 years and over | 266 | |
| With a disability | 143 | 54% |

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Economic Characteristics

Income

Although the City of Bangor had a greater increase in Median Household Income and Per Capita Income from 1989 to 1999 than Van Buren County and many of the surrounding communities, residents still have lower income levels than most residents in the area.

Table 6 – Income Levels⁸

| Median Household Income 1989-1999 | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | 1989 | 1999 | % Change |
| Bangor City | \$16,441 | \$28,165 | 24% |
| Arlington Township | \$25,694 | \$36,847 | 10% |
| Bangor Township | \$33,608 | \$35,375 | 28% |
| Geneva Township | \$22,750 | \$34,900 | 15% |
| Columbia Township | \$23,389 | \$34,389 | 12% |
| Van Buren County | \$25,491 | \$39,365 | 16% |
| Per Capita Income 1989-1999 | | | |
| | 1989 | 1999 | % Change |
| Bangor City | \$8,693 | \$14,925 | 24% |
| Arlington Township | \$10,527 | \$16,349 | 16% |
| Bangor Township | \$9,556 | \$16,759 | 26% |
| Geneva Township | \$9,101 | \$16,499 | 28% |
| Columbia Township | \$9,637 | \$15,015 | 17% |
| Van Buren County | \$11,233 | \$17,878 | 19% |

Employment

The residents of Bangor continue to be employed in a relatively diverse market but there were a number of changes in the distribution of employment between the 1990 and the 2000 Census. Several categories, “Agriculture”, “Construction”, “Retail”, and “Other” constituted a smaller percentage of employees in 2000 than in 1990. Manufacturing (includes durable and non-durable goods) which was the dominant employment category in 1990, grew from 25 percent to 28 percent but is now equal with the “Professional” (includes finance, health and education) category which grew from 19 percent in 1990 to 28 percent in 2000.

City of Bangor Employment⁹

| Major Categories | 1990 | 2000 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Agriculture | 9% | 4% |
| Construction | 7% | 6% |
| Manufacturing | 25% | 28% |
| Retail | 18% | 15% |
| Finance, Professional, Education | 19% | 28% |
| Other (<i>Transportation, arts, and public administration</i>) | 22% | 13% |

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

Unemployment

The City of Bangor is a unique and comfortable place to live and raise a family. However, there has not always been a large number of job opportunities nearby which is one reason that Bangor has a slightly higher average unemployment rate than surrounding areas. With recent growth and expected new developments the prospect of new jobs and economic growth in the area is beginning to appear more promising. Bangor recognizes the importance of community parks, recreation, open space and greenways as amenities that will increase the quality of life for its residents and provide resources for tourism revenue.

Table 8: Average Annual Unemployment Rates¹⁰

| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bangor City | 8.8% | 8.9% | 11.4% |
| Bangor Township | 6.4% | 6.4% | 8.3% |
| Arlington Township | 4.4% | 4.4% | 5.7% |
| Geneva Township | 4.3% | 4.3% | 5.6% |
| Columbia Township | 7.0% | 7.1% | 9.2% |
| Michigan | 3.8% | 3.6% | 5.0% |
| United States | 4.2% | 4.0% | 4.6% |

Poverty Status

The poverty status of the City of Bangor and surrounding communities has improved since 1989 although the level of poverty is still considerably higher than desired.

Table 7 - Individuals Below Poverty Level¹¹

| | 1989 | 1999 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
| City of Bangor | 29% | 16% |
| Arlington Township | 17% | 11% |
| Bangor Township | 21% | 12% |
| Geneva Township | 15% | 10% |
| Columbia Township | 20% | 18% |
| Van Buren County | 15% | 11% |

Housing

At the time of the 2000 Census, there were 804 housing units in the City of Bangor with an occupancy rate of 89.8 percent. A percentage of the vacancy is due to the presence of homes used only occasionally for recreational and seasonal purposes. Owner-occupied units represent 63.7 percent of the housing units in the City and approximately 34 percent are occupied by renters.

¹⁰ Source: Michigan Department of Career Development—Labor Market Information www.michlimi.com

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

City Management

The City of Bangor is organized under a Council-Manager form of government, and provides a full range of services including general government activities, public safety, public works, and recreation. The City Council sets policy and directs the staff to take action in support of those policies. The City Manager is the direct link between the Council and the City's operations, and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the City. In addition to the manager, the City employs a clerk, a treasurer, and a receiving clerk. The City Council consists of a mayor, a mayor pro-tem, and five council members. (See organizational structure chart on following page)

The City parks are maintained by the City's Department of Public Works (DPW). The DPW has seven full-time employees. Park maintenance and recreation activities received approximately \$135,000 of the City's \$901,000 general fund budget in fiscal year 2006-2007. Of this, about \$105,000 was for capital improvement projects. Park maintenance and recreation are funded entirely from general tax levies.

Currently, a formal parks council does not exist within the City of Bangor government. It is suggested that the City establish such a council in the future in order to more efficiently manage recreation opportunities within the City. Options for the City Council include establishing either an Advisory Board (with no power to take action on its own authority) or a Parks Council that will actually oversee the parks portion of the budget and have sole discretion over parks and recreation activities. Further, it is recommended that the Parks Council be established in cooperation with Bangor Public Schools.

Park Support - Volunteers and Affiliates

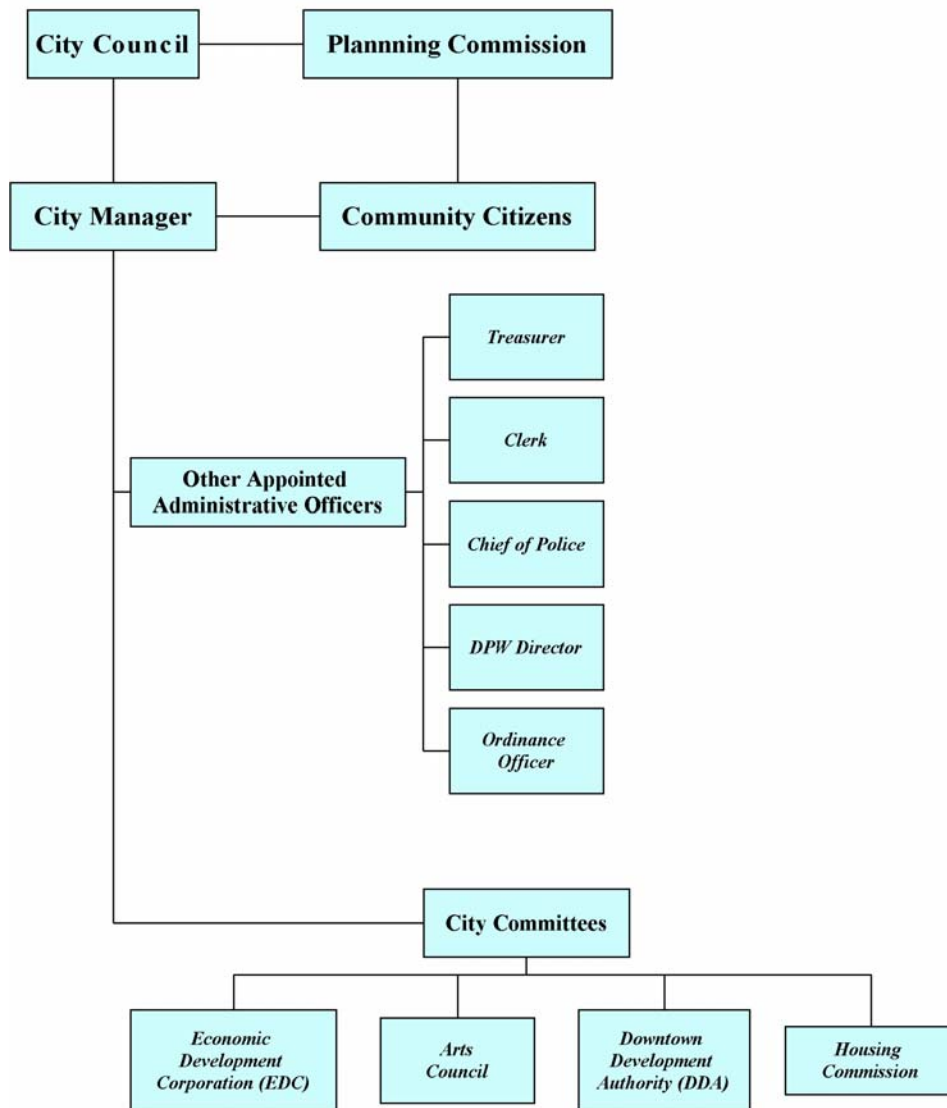
The Bangor Downtown Development Authority (DDA), created in 1971, is a committee that exists in conjunction with the city government. The purpose of the DDA is to correct and prevent deterioration in the business districts; to encourage historic preservation; to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interest in real and personal property; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans in the districts; and to promote the economic growth of the districts. It is the opinion of the DDA that recreation activities have the potential to make Bangor a "drive to" rather than a "drive through" community. The DDA has an annual budget of about \$90,000 of which a portion may be used to support recreation in the downtown area.

The Bangor Arts Council was founded by the City Charter. The mission of the Arts Council is to promote mutual understanding and respect among all citizens for the arts. Arts Council activities are not funded by the City's general fund budget. The Arts Council's \$12,000 budget

is funded entirely by fundraisers and donations. Activities funded by the Arts Council include a craft show at the Bangor Apple/Harvest Festival each October, which is attended by approximately 4,000-6,000 people.

The Bangor Public Schools also house various recreation and arts opportunities. Adult and student recreation programs, special activities, and the Bangor Arts and Communications Academy are all sponsored by the Bangor Public Schools. Funding for the Athletic Program is included in the school district's operational budget.

City of Bangor Organizational Chart



RECREATION INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Members of the steering committee volunteered to complete a standardized form assessing the barrier-free accessibility and the overall condition of each of the parks. The assessment results show that most of the park facilities meet at least some of the accessibility standards. Members also made notes regarding the current amenities and possible future improvements or additions. The barrier-free status of the parks is ranked as follows:

- 1=none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2=some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3=all of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

City Parks

Kiwanis Park

This 5.5 acre neighborhood park is located in the southwest portion of the City along Maple Creek. Kiwanis Park can be accessed from the east or the west side. A nature trail through the park connects it with Veteran's Park to the north. Amenities include swings, a slide, a jungle gym, toddler playground equipment, a baseball diamond, and a picnic shelter with 10 tables and 4 fireplaces.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Lion's Park

Lion's Park is a 5 acre neighborhood park located along the banks of the Black River, west of the impoundment. This park is the trailhead for Bangor to the South Haven Heritage Water Trail, a 20.9 mile paddling route on the South Branch of the Black River. This park is a very popular fishing site, especially during the salmon and steelhead runs. A walking bridge spans the river and a nature trail traverses the north bank. Amenities include 4 basketball hoops, a picnic shelter and tables, modern restrooms, a slide, and swings are all amenities found here.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2



Don Mora Ball Park

Located at the corner of Pine and Center Streets, Don Mora is a 4.5 acre open neighborhood park with bleachers, modern restrooms, 2 picnic tables and a lunch stand making it well-suited for baseball, softball, and other team sports. The area is also lighted for night activities.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Monroe Park

This landscaped mini-park is near the eastern edge of Bangor's city limits and welcomes westbound travelers on M-43 to the city with a lighted "Welcome to Bangor" sign. There are currently two picnic tables and a water fountain. Parking?

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Charles Park

This mini-park is best known for its historic 1925 C&O caboose. This focal point is located at the corner of C.R. 681 and East Monroe Street (M-43). This location makes it the first park visitors will notice when coming to Bangor from I-94 via C.R. 681. The park has four picnic tables.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Veteran's Memorial Park

Located on Lafler Street, Veteran's Park is a mini-park with a memorial plaque, monument, and flags commemorating veterans of several wars. There are two picnic tables and two cement benches available for use. The park is located near the highway and is not suitable for children without supervision. This scenic area is not intended to provide physical recreation other than the nature trail that connects with Kiwanis Park to the south; however the wooded ravine provides a lovely view of wildlife and the park overall is a pleasant place to rest and reflect.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2



Lincoln Street Overlook

Also known as “Mosquito Park”, this 4-acre mini-park is located on the south bank of the Black River at the corner of Black River Road and Lincoln Avenue. Amenities include 4 picnic tables and 4 fire rings, and a dump station. (This park used to offer overnight camping) A nature trail connects this park to Lion’s Park and then traverses further east along the bank of the old mill pond.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Northside Playground

This mini-park, located at the corner of Second Street and North Street, offers swings and a slide for children. This is also the location of a city-owned well.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Black River Heritage Trail

The Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail is a canoe and kayak trail encompassing 20.9 miles of the South Branch of the Black River between the cities of Bangor and South Haven.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2

Kid’s Place

Kids’ Place is a fenced-in mini-park located at the corner of Charles Street and Maple Street. This park has modern playground equipment with some handicap-accessible structures. The only seating available to encourage adult supervision is a wood picnic table. Lack of parking adjacent to the park could lead to dangerous situations. The wood chip base is an unstable surface to walk on. The park is fenced with one entrance/exit – not gated.

Barrier Free Assessment: 2



Open Space and Greenways

A green infrastructure plan provides a comprehensive method to connect open spaces, parks, waterways, neighborhoods, and business districts in ways that protect and preserve habitats and features while providing the greatest enjoyment possible for residents. Green infrastructure planning can be coordinated with other planning efforts for roads, bike trails, water, electric, telecommunication, and other essential community support systems. Integrated planning and design can connect the City and surrounding areas in an effective, economic, and sustainable network.

There are several undeveloped and natural areas of varying sizes throughout the City. These areas can provide natural habitats for wildlife and provide enjoyable scenic views for humans. Some of these areas are owned by the City, the school district, or private residents. In addition to the parks, and other developed recreational venues, these open spaces provide valuable links to the green infrastructure. It is possible, and desirable, to develop policies that will protect and preserve these green spaces. By considering methods of incorporating green infrastructure throughout the community, the City is also adding to the attractive natural landscape features recognized as an important element of tourism.

Cultural/Historic Buildings and Property

The following buildings and properties are possible cultural and/or historic sites to be considered as recreational resources.¹²

- Ed Cable House Museum
- Bangor Train Depot/Railroad/Station
- Bangor Elevator
- Bangor Dam and Mill Pond
- Old Mill Foundation?
- Harvey Block/Great Lakes Café
- Sherrod Store/Bangor Antique Mall
- Ely's Hardware Building
- West Michigan Savings Bank
- Bangor Library and Police Station
- Michigan Summer Blueberries
- Freestone Pickle Company
- First Congregational Church and Church of Christ
- Historic and Centennial Homes

School-Owned Facilities

The Bangor schools provide approximately thirty acres of recreational space and facilities. School facilities include an athletic complex at the junior and senior high school consisting of

¹² Taken from *Walking Tour Booklet, 2005*

softball diamonds, one large baseball diamond, several large playing fields, several tennis courts, a football stadium, and a rubberized track. South Walnut Elementary School's facilities include play equipment and a large playing field, while Bangor Primary School consists of various pieces of play equipment. All of these facilities are open to the public for community recreation when not in use by the schools. Additionally, a Wellness Center now functions in the Bangor Public Schools with memberships available to both residents and nonresidents. Bangor Community Education classes are offered frequently. Many types of sporting events are offered, as well as classes in various arts, crafts, computer programs, and methods of personal enrichment.

Private Properties/Facilities

A senior center in town includes a recreation room and kitchenette. This area serves as the local Senior Citizens Center and provides activities all year long. Additionally, Bangor Okinawan Karate offers Bangor residents the chance to learn martial arts. A new addition to Bangor is Alley Kats Dance Studio.

Regional Opportunities

City of South Haven - The City of South Haven is approximately 10 miles to the west of Bangor. The City possesses 3,600 lineal feet of public shoreline and 20 acres of beach on Lake Michigan as well as a four-acre park with a boat launch and public access to Lake Michigan. With more than 60 docks, 2 piers, play equipment, volleyball, and fishing access, South Haven is a destination for many people living in southwest Michigan as well as tourists.

City of St. Joseph - Similar to the city of South Haven, St. Joseph also lies on the coast of Lake Michigan. Tiscornia Park, Silver Beach, and Lion's Beach are the bathing beaches in this city. Additionally, numerous festivals are held here including the Venetian Festival and Blossomtime.

Kal-Haven Trail - The Kal-Haven trail links Kalamazoo and South Haven. This state park was built along an old railroad grade that runs just north of Bangor. The trail is utilized year round by bikers, hikers, snowmobilers, and cross country skiers.

Van Buren State Park - Van Buren State Park on Lake Michigan is just south of the beaches in South Haven. With more than 325 acres and 220 modern campsites, this is a popular camping location.

Status Report of Previous Grant-Assisted Projects

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Project Title: | Bangor Park |
| Project Year: | 1986 |
| Project Description: | Acquisition of 44 acres |
| Status | Closed |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Project Title: | Mill Pond Park |
| Project Year: | 1987 |
| Project Description: | Nature trail (including steps, ramps, and signs; relocation of overhead wires in Lincoln Park; 3 parking lots and driveways; boat ramp; guard posts; fountain; and landscaping |
| Status | Closed |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Project Title: | Black River Heritage Trail and Boardwalk Project |
| Project Year: | 2004 |
| Project Description: | Boardwalk with overlooks and bridge; gravel trail; native plantings; kiosk/signs/markers; skate park; upgrade of existing bathrooms and other site amenities. |
| Status | Pending |

DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING PROCESS

Purpose of the Plan

The presence of parks, open spaces, greenways, recreational programs and cultural events has a strong positive impact on a community's vitality and quality of life. In addition to providing opportunities that can educate, improve health (both mental and physical), and increase social connections, there are a number of economic and environmental benefits as well. Maximizing these benefits is the primary purpose for developing a plan. This recreation plan will serve as a guide for local decision-making, outline projects with specific action steps and outcomes, and establish eligibility for funding opportunities offered through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC), the regional planning agency serving Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties, was contracted to guide the City through the planning process. Reflecting the City's commitment to responsive and interactive government, a systems approach to planning was used. Interaction with the public was sought through a public visioning session, a citizen survey distributed to every resident, a youth-focused survey distributed to high school students, regular meetings with a community steering committee, and a public review and comment period was held culminating with a public hearing. Long-term, overarching goals were established with an accompanying Action Plan detailing the steps necessary to bring the plan's projects to completion. Throughout every phase of the planning process, Bangor residents, business leaders, and municipal representatives have provided input and pledged continued support of the parks and recreation goals and action plan. This five-year plan truly reflects the desires of the community.

Calendar of Meetings and Input Opportunities

October 18, 2007

Steering Committee Meeting #1
City of Bangor Train Depot

November, 2007

Survey distributed to every resident

November 28, 2007

Public Visioning Session
Bangor High School Cafeteria

December, 2007

Survey distributed to High School

December 13, 2007

Steering Committee Meeting #2
City of Bangor Train Depot

January 17, 2008

Steering Committee Meeting #3
City of Bangor Train Depot

February 7, 2008

Steering Committee Meeting#4
City of Bangor Train Depot

February 11 – March 16, 2008

Public Review and Comment Period

March 17, 2008

Public Hearing
Adoption by City Commission

Public Input and Participation

Public Visioning Session Agenda – November 28, 2007

City of Bangor
Public Visioning Session
November 28, 2007 ~ 7:00 p.m.
Bangor High School Cafeteria

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Welcome and Introductions | Shelley Klug |
| Quiz and Survey | Participants |
| Reasons for Visioning and Recreation Forecasts | Suzann Flowers |
| Progress Report | Michael Selden, City Manager |
| Participation Exercise | Suzann Flowers and Shelley Klug |
| Quiz Answers and Prize Giveaways | Shelley Klug |

Visioning Session Results
What I Like About the Parks in Bangor

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| River enhancement along trail | 10 |
| Paved trails | 4 |
| Facilities are well-maintained | 4 |
| Black River Heritage Trail | 4 |
| Sledding at Kiwanis | 4 |
| Depot Renovation | 3 |
| Concession stand at Don Mora | 2 |
| Access to trails | 1 |
| Lion's Park is for kids | 1 |
| Non-paved trails | |
| Lunch/picnics at Monroe | |

What I Don't Like About the Parks in Bangor

| | |
|--|----|
| Not enough benches | 10 |
| Lion's does not have good equipment for children | 9 |
| Not enough bathrooms | 8 |
| Dirt road at Lion's | 6 |
| The horseflies at Kiwanis | 3 |

What I Want for Bangor

| | |
|---|---|
| Music/movies in the park | 8 |
| Canoe Livery | 6 |
| Overnight camping | 5 |
| Circuit training/Exercise Stations | 4 |
| Paved Bike Trails | 3 |
| Lion's Park to be more family oriented | 2 |
| Frisbee golf in Kiwanis | 2 |
| Horseshoes | 2 |
| Better surfaced road at Lion's Park | 2 |
| Use kiosks to advertise parks | 2 |
| Lodging/amenities signs | 1 |
| Groups to sell concessions (i.e. fundraisers) | 1 |
| Softball diamonds | |
| Picnic area signs at Monroe Park | |
| Bleachers at Don Mora | |
| Garbage receptacle at Mill Pond | |
| Bleachers at the skate park | |
| Year round pool | |
| Upgrades to Kiwanis Park | |

CITY OF BANGOR
Parks and Recreation Survey Summary
 Conducted November 2007
Summary of Results Presented January 2008

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey. Your answers will help develop the future of the parks and recreation in the City of Bangor. All of the questions apply to the person filling out the survey only.

Question 1. Where is your primary residence?

| | City of Bangor | Bangor Township | Arlington Township | Columbia Township | Geneva Township | No Response | Other | Total |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|------------|
| Community | 20 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 27 |
| High School | 21 | 25 | 6 | 17 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 92 |
| Total | 41 | 26 | 9 | 18 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 119 |

**Question 2. How often do you use the following parks and recreational facilities?
 Please indicate your primary activity at these locations.**

Public Parks within the City - Check 1 box per location.

| | Never | | 1-5 times per year | | 6-12 times per year | | More than 12 times per year | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| | Community | High School | Community | High School | Community | High School | Community | High School |
| Kiwanis Park | 12 | 51 | 5 | 29 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 6 |
| Don Mora Ball Park | 14 | 71 | 10 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Lion's Park | 8 | 47 | 5 | 24 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 14 |
| Monroe Park | 14 | 78 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Charles Park | 14 | 80 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Northside Playground | 14 | 81 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Lincoln Street Overlook | 12 | 81 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Veteran's Park | 14 | 84 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Kids' Place | 8 | 79 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Black River Heritage Trail | 10 | 70 | 5 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |

School Property – (Students, please indicate only time spent *AFTER* school – do not include time during school hours.) Check 1 box per location.

| | Never | | 1-5 times per year | | 6-12 times per year | | More than 12 times per year | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| | Community | High School | Community | High School | Community | High School | Community | High School |
| South Walnut Elementary | 5 | 62 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Bangor Primary School | 6 | 59 | 3 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 9 |
| Bangor Middle School | 6 | 53 | 2 | 14 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 10 |
| Bangor High School | 4 | 21 | 5 | 11 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 42 |

Question 3. Other than the places listed in Question 2, where do you go (in southwest Michigan) for recreation or leisure activities? Why? (Please list your top 3)

| Activity | Community | Activity | High School |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Outdoor Venues | 27 | 1. Outdoor Venues | 57 |
| 2. South Haven | 11 | 2. South Haven | 50 |
| 3. Beach | 11 | 3. Beach | 26 |
| 4. Plays/Theater/Concerts | 5 | 4. Kalamazoo | 18 |
| 5. Kalamazoo | 4 | 5. Mall | 15 |
| 6. St. Joseph | 3 | 6. Movies | 14 |
| | | 7. Bowling | 5 |
| | | | |

Question 4. Which of the following are your favorite activities? *Please select only 6 activities.*

| Activity | Community | | Activity | High School |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Relaxing | 15 | | 1. Swimming | 53 |
| 2. Walking/Jogging | 13 | | 2. Relaxing | 46 |
| 3. Fishing | 11 | | 3. Walking/Jogging | 37 |
| 4. Picnicking | 11 | | 4. Camping | 31 |
| 5. Swimming | 10 | | 5. Fishing | 28 |
| 6. Nature Watching | 10 | | 6. Snowmobiling | 28 |
| 7. Bike Riding | 8 | | 7. Bike Riding | 22 |
| 8. Camping | 8 | | 8. Canoeing/Kayaking | 17 |
| 9. Dog Walking | 6 | | 9. Skateboarding/Rollerblading | 17 |
| 10. Hiking | 4 | | 10. Horseback Riding | 14 |
| 11. Canoeing/Kayaking | 4 | | 11. Boating | 13 |
| 12. Boating | 3 | | 12. Dog Walking | 11 |
| 13. Horseback Riding | 2 | | 13. Picnicking | 8 |
| 14. Snowmobiling | 2 | | 14. Hiking | 7 |
| 15. Skateboarding/Rollerblading | 2 | | 15. Nature Watching | 7 |
| 16. Cross-Country Skiing | 1 | | 16. Frisbee Golf | 5 |
| 17. Frisbee Golf | 0 | | 17. Cross-Country Skiing | 3 |
| 18. Other | 0 | | 18. Other | 0 |
| 19. No Response | 0 | | 19. No Response | 6 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

In response to “Other” the following were mentioned: basketball (10), places to play computer games in public (4), snowboarding (4), hunting (4), sledding (2), hockey (2), football (2), beach (2), sports (2), ice skating (2), volleyball (2), shopping, clubbing, driving lawn tractor, hanging out with friends, paintball, music concerts, playing cards, baseball, driving, soccer, reading on benches, skating, and playing at home.

**Question 5. Which of the following amenities/activities are important to you?
Please select only 6.**

| Amenity/Activity | Community | | Amenity/Activity | High School |
|---|-----------|--|--|-------------|
| 1. Restrooms | 16 | | 1. Organized Sports | 40 |
| 2. Picnic Areas | 13 | | 2. Concerts | 36 |
| 3. Natural Resource Preservation | 12 | | 3. Restrooms | 36 |
| 4. Family Activities | 12 | | 4. Festivals | 34 |
| 5. Concerts | 8 | | 5. Drinking fountains | 31 |
| 6. Cultural/Heritage | 7 | | 6. Family Activities | 19 |
| 7. Playground equipment | 7 | | 7. Open Space | 18 |
| 8. Drinking fountains | 6 | | 8. Arts & Crafts | 17 |
| 9. Organized Youth Activities | 5 | | 9. Paved hiking/biking trails | 15 |
| 10. Nature Center | 5 | | 10. Natural Resource Preservation | 15 |
| 11. Paved hiking/biking trails | 4 | | 11. Playground equipment | 15 |
| 12. Arts & Crafts | 4 | | 12. Outdoor Education | 14 |
| 13. Open Space | 4 | | 13. Picnic Areas | 13 |
| 14. Outdoor Education | 3 | | 14. Barrier free facilities | 10 |
| 15. Organized Sports | 3 | | 15. Organized Youth Activities | 10 |
| 16. Dog Park | 3 | | 16. Nature Center | 10 |
| 17. Barrier free facilities | 2 | | 17. Pre-school age programs | 9 |
| 18. Pre-school age programs | 2 | | 18. Dog Park | 9 |
| 19. Advanced Bike Trails | 2 | | 19. Cultural/Heritage | 8 |
| 20. Interpretive Programs | 1 | | 20. Horseback riding trails | 8 |
| 21. Festivals | 1 | | 21. Advanced Bike Trails | 6 |
| 22. Horseback riding trails | 1 | | 22. Interpretive Programs | 3 |
| 23. Other | 0 | | 23. Other | 0 |
| 24. No Response | 0 | | 24. No Response | 10 |

In response to “Other” the following were mentioned: Benches in sun and shade (3), camping/canoe livery, a place to drive fast, basketball courts, Paw Paw River Watershed Projects, exercise, place to meet to play video games, stair sets, street ball, Taco Bell, quad riding.

| Question 6. Please indicate your age group. | | | Question 7. Please indicate your gender. | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| | Community | High School | | Community | High School |
| <19 years | 1 | 92 | Male | 11 | 44 |
| 20-40 years | 3 | | Female | 9 | 37 |
| 41-60 years | 13 | | No Response | 7 | 11 |
| >61 years | 10 | | | | |
| No Response | 0 | 0 | | | |

Question 8. What specific park or recreation project would you like the City of Bangor to complete in the next 5 years?

Question 9. Please share any additional suggestions or comments regarding parks and recreation in the City of Bangor.

****Answers to Survey Questions 8 and 9 Combined Below****

Specific Park Suggestions

Charles Park - replace tables

Kid’s Place – need more playground equipment & bathrooms, put tables in the shade

Kiwanis, improve maintenance of parks and playground equipment

Lion's Park lights at night, open restrooms, water fountains (3)

General Suggestions/Comments

Amenities - Form City Parks and Recreation Department, volunteer Friends of the Parks group, Continue to upgrade/renovate parks (2), add BBQ pits, Lights for Parks (Night use), Add stuff to parks (3), Add family activities (2), Add trees downtown, better policing so kids can enjoy parks (2), Not all facilities need to be barrier-free, summer non-competitive activities, Finish the elevator (Mill), Enclosed park/restaurant

Advertise - Make Bangor a destination, advertise Black River Canoe/Kayak trail

Basketball courts at Lions or Kiwanis, away from skaters (9)

Bathrooms –Open more, improve, more maintenance (6)

Campground, camping areas (3)

Compliments - Parks are awesome, Parks are starting to look better, Parks are very nice (2), Mural is good addition,

Cultural Events (2), Concerts (3), Arts and Crafts shows, festivals

Ice Rink for Hockey Team (7)

Maintenance -Increase maintenance, replace wood chips, spray for bees, keep garbage cans empty, clean Park Street, brush is overgrown, Mow weeds, clean river, keep park neat (5)

Nature Trails, walking, exercise, marked walking tour, Dry paved walk areas, extend river walk, Trail connecting Breedsville/Bangor, Connect trails to outlying trails for bikers and snowmobiles (10)

Playgrounds – as community project (2)

Public Pool (5)

Skate park (is nice, enlarge, finish), Skating area in park (6), Roller skating rink for teens, Snowboard park, ski resort

Sporting Fields - Soccer field (2), Football field, softball diamonds, indoor sports complex, BMX Park, Lawn tractor racing track, Open field with jumps and tracks for quadding (4-wheeling),

Sports Center (2), bowling alley

Video games - tournament venue (2)

Youth-Focused - YMCA, Boys/Girls Club, Rec Center (2), Teen activities/ Teen club(4), Supervised activities, dance (2), music, theater, cool place to hang out, safe place to hang out in town, Amusement Park (3), Arcade (4), Movie theater/fast food (5)

GOALS AND PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Goals

The following goals were developed with thoughtful consideration of public opinion as expressed in the visioning session, surveys, and steering committee meetings. These goals were then used to guide the process of measuring and evaluating projects for inclusion in this plan and to provide structure for decision-making in the future.

- Goal #1** Establish consistent park organization through the creation of a Parks Advisory Board
- Goal #2** Seek comprehensive recreation planning that includes parks, open space, greenways, and cultural and artistic components.
- Goal #3** Develop and support policies that will preserve and protect valuable water and land resources, and properties with historic and/or cultural value.
- Goal #4** Respond to community characteristics by seeking to provide recreational opportunities for all with consideration of age and abilities.
- Goal #5** Enhance partnerships with surrounding units of government for the purpose of collaborative planning.
- Goal #6** Seek and establish connections between existing and future trails and pathways including greenways and waterways.

Objectives and Project Descriptions

The following narrative provides insight to the thoughts and rationale of the steering committee as they worked to create objectives and select projects that are necessary, desirable, and viable. (The Action Plan with priority levels, time frames, and estimated costs follows this *Project Description* section.)

Park Organization and General Park Projects

Develop a Recreation Advisory Board: Coordination and communication with City government, surrounding townships' officials, the school district, and citizens of the Bangor area is fundamental to the success of this parks and recreation plan. The creation of a Recreation Advisory Board will facilitate coordination and communication by introducing a formal structure that will more efficiently manage recreation opportunities and duties. The Advisory Board will not have power to take action; however, it will make formal recommendations to the City Council and Downtown Development Authority. The Recreation

Advisory Board will also act as a liaison between the community and the schools to coordinate recreational events and facilities (it is recommended that at least one seat on this board be reserved for a member of the school community).

Some of the projects and objectives the Advisory Board could oversee and accomplish include:

- **Developing a community calendar** – *it has been considered difficult for residents to be informed about all of the events occurring in and around Bangor. A reliable, accessible, and up-to-date calendar would contribute to the attendance and support of community events.*
- **Conduct feasibility study to determine site for ice rink** – *some of the possible sites for a seasonal ice rink include Don Mora Field, Kiwanis Park, or Lion’s Park.*
- **Develop signage plan (including site identification and wayfinding signs)** – *there are currently very few signs indicating the names and/or locations of parks in Bangor. Proper signage not only indicates locations of parks within a community, it also exhibits a community’s sense of pride in its open space. Compared with the relatively low cost of creating and installing signs, the rate of return is high. In an effort to make Bangor a “drive to” rather than a “drive through” community, and to encourage the citizens of Bangor to enjoy their community, the installation of well-designed signs will be a significant benefit for Bangor.*
- **Assist with the establishment of a “Friends of the Park” volunteer group** – *there are a number of tasks necessary to maintain a high quality recreational area. It is beyond the City’s ability to tend to every detail other than routine park maintenance. A “Friends” group could raise funds, care for plantings, sponsor clean-up days, and lend support in many other ways to the Park Advisory Board.*
- **Assist with the establishment of stable and secure funding sources** – *realistic expectations of improvements or additional park amenities depend on reliable funding sources. Many grants require matching funds of some percentage, some projects may not qualify for grants, and some may exceed grant limitations. In any case, projects need not be abandoned if adequate funding sources are established and nurtured.*
- **Guide development and plans to ensure projects are aligned with goals to protect/preserve/enhance natural and historic resources** – *as new ideas or projects develop, it is important to have a framework or criteria established to guide decision-making. This five-year plan has established overarching goals to be used as a reference to determine the viability and fit of current and future projects. The Recreation Advisory Board would review and make recommendations based on these criteria.*

Acquire property at the corner of M-43 and Maple Creek (west side of the City) – the acquisition of this property would benefit the park system because it provides a link between parks and creates an uninterrupted greenway. (See Goal #2)

Acquire property known as “Krystal Palace” – the acquisition of this property would provide additional access to the Lincoln Street Overlook and to potential camping sites.

Specific Park Projects

Kiwanis Park Improvements – this park has the potential to be developed into a hub for winter activities. The addition of restrooms and benches (possibly covered) would enhance the existing sledding hill and stairs. Installing a webcam to monitor and advertise snow and ice (especially if this site is chosen for an ice rink) conditions would be a fun and inexpensive way to create interest in outdoor activities for residents and visitors. A maintained walking trail connecting Kiwanis with Veteran’s Park could be an all-season amenity increasing usage of both parks (and provide access over to Lincoln Street Overlook). A paved pathway to the picnic pavilion and eventually to the new restrooms would enhance the barrier-free access of this park.

Don Mora Ball Park Improvements – the existing conditions of this park are amenable to being used as a concert venue. Upgrades and additional bleachers would help facilitate larger crowds. This park also has possibilities as an ice-rink.

Lion’s Park Improvements – this popular park has an existing bathroom that will be retro-fitted to meet barrier-free compliance standards which includes the installation of a paved walkway to a paved parking space. Because there are basketball courts (updates needed), the Skatepark and other playground equipment nearby, water fountains would be an appreciated amenity. Installing BBQ grills would also increase the enjoyment of park users. The current access road gets dusty and is difficult to navigate. Options are being explored to improve the surface of this road without compromising the nearby river with excessive runoff.

Bangor Skatepark Improvements – located in Lion’s Park, this relatively new venue is used frequently and as stated in the survey, users would appreciate water fountains and restrooms nearby.

Monroe Park Improvements – although small, this park is a popular picnic location that will be improved with the addition of BBQ grills, another picnic table, and a working water fountain. Because of its location on a major access road to the City, this site could also be considered for a kiosk or display board to put a community calendar or announcements.

Charles Park Improvements – this small park is located near the intersection of two major access roads into the City – a possible desirable place for a kiosk or display board to put a community calendar or announcements. This park would be safer if there was additional space

allocated to allow for off-road parking. Removing the plywood and completing restoration work would add beauty and historic authenticity to the 1925 C & O Caboose.

Northside Playground Improvements – the existing playground equipment is adequate to meet the needs of this park.

Lincoln Street Overlook (aka Mosquito Park) Improvements – additional trails connecting this park with Veteran’s Park and Kiwanis Park make it an ideal location to install exercise stations along the trail and Disc Golf stations throughout the park. This park has been used for camping in the past and a great deal of interest is being expressed to make camping sites available again.

Veteran’s Park Improvements – maintaining the trail that currently connects Veteran’s Park with Kiwanis, and adding trails to connect with Lincoln Street Overlook would enhance the recognition of this memorial park. The parking area will benefit from upgrades to paint and possibly providing barrier-free access to the flag and monument area.

Kids Place Park Improvements – while still being relatively new, this park does not need major repair but will be improved with the addition of a water fountain and covered benches. Other projects under consideration that would enhance the park include installing plantings along the chain link fence and defining the parking area with signs.

Black River Heritage Trail – one of the most interesting attractions in Bangor, with a great deal of tourism potential, this area will benefit from completing the signage project with a kiosk providing maps of the trail showing put-in points. To facilitate further use of the river trail, a canoe/kayak livery with launch is very desirable. The walking path along the river would be enhanced by connecting under the railroad crossing bridge.

Historic/Cultural Sites

This section under construction

Ed Cable House

ACTION PLAN

The following is the five-year Action Plan (capital improvement plan) for the community parks, recreation, open spaces, greenways, and historic/cultural sites in the City of Bangor. This Action Plan focuses primarily on projects that will maintain or improve the usability of existing parks in the system and establish a framework for sustainability and further development in the future. It is the intention of the City Council to seek funding opportunities from State and federal sources whenever possible to maximize private and local government funds.

Time Frame: Year 1=2008-2009 Year 2=2009-2010 Year 3=2010-2011 Year 4=2011-2012 Year 5=2012-2013
Estimated Cost: *Costs are general estimates taken from previous plans*
Priority Level: 1 = Highest Priority 2 = Middle Priority 3 = Least Priority

Park Organization and General Park Projects

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|--|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Establish a Recreation Advisory Board | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| ▪ Develop Community Calendar | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| ▪ Conduct feasibility study to determine site for ice rink* | Years 1-2 | -0- | 2 |
| ▪ Develop Signage Plan | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| ▪ Recruit “Friends of the Park” volunteer group | Years 1-2 | -0- | 2 |
| ▪ Establish stable and secure funding sources | Years 1-5+ | -0- | 1 |
| ▪ Develop Concert Series | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| Acquire property at the corner of M-43 and Maple Creek (west side of City) | Year 1 | \$49,000 | 1 |
| Acquire property known as “Krystal Palace” | Years 1-2 | \$39,999 | 2 |

*Possible sites include Don Mora, Kiwanis, or Lion’s

Name of Park: *Kiwanis Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Add restrooms (ADA) | Year 2 | \$15,000-\$20,000 | 2 |
| Develop winter activities | Years 1-5+ | -0- | 2 |
| Add benches (covered) | Years 2-3 | \$1500 | 2 |
| Install webcam to monitor and advertise snow and ice conditions | Year 2 | \$500 | 2 |
| Develop/maintain walking trail to Veteran's Park | Years 1-5+ | \$500 per year | 2 |
| Develop plans to improve west side entrance | Year 2 | -0- | 2 |
| Accessible walkway (paved) to pavilion | Year 3 | \$5,000 | 2 |

Name of Park: *Don Mora Ball Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Upgrade and add bleachers | Years 2-3 | \$5,000-\$10,000 | 1 |
| Develop as concert venue (Stage?) | Year 2 | <\$5,000 | 1 |

Name of Park: *Lion's Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Install BBQ Grills (Already owned) | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| Complete ADA bathroom project (paved walkway from paved parking space) | Year 1 | \$5,000 | 1 |
| Add water fountains near playground and basketball courts | Years 1-2 | \$2,500 | 2 |
| Finish basketball courts | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| Improve access road (Explore options such as permeable pavement) | Years 3-5 | N/A | 3 |

Name of Park: *Skatepark*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Recruit volunteers to paint jumps | Years 1-2 | -0- | 2 |

Name of Park: *Monroe Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Fix water fountain | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| Add Bench | Years 1-2 | \$800 | 2 |
| Install decorative fountain | Years 2-3 | \$2,000 | 3 |

Name of Park: *Charles Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Study possibility of restoring the Caboose (Remove plywood) | Years 1-2 | -0- | 2 |
| Consider adding parking space (2-3 spaces) | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |

Name of Park: *Northside Playground*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Continue maintenance as is – no changes | N/A | N/A | N/A |

Name of Park: *Lincoln Street Overlook (Mosquito Park)*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Install Disc golf (aka Frisbee golf) | Years 3-5 | \$5,000 | 2 |
| Consider feasibility of adding exercise stations | Years 3-5 | -0- | 2 |
| Develop camping area (or on future acquired property) | Years 3-5+ | N/A | 3 |
| Connect and maintain trail to Lion’s Parks | Year 2 | <\$500 | 2 |

Name of Park: *Veteran's Park*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maintain Trail to Kiwanis | Years 1-5 | <\$500 | 1 |

Name of Park: *Kids' Place*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Add water fountain | Years 1-2 | \$2,500 | 1 |
| Add covered benches | Years 2-3 | \$1,600 | 2 |
| Define parking area with signs | Year 1 | \$250 | 1 |
| Install plantings along chain link fence (Volunteers) | Years 2-3 | -0- | 2 |

Name of Park: *Black River Heritage Trail*

| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Connect points under RR Crossing Bridge | Years 1-2 | N/A | 2 |
| Provide signs and maps in Kiosk | Year 1 | -0- | 1 |
| Install signs for Canoe/Kayak launch | Years 1-2 | -0- | 1 |

Historic/Cultural Sites

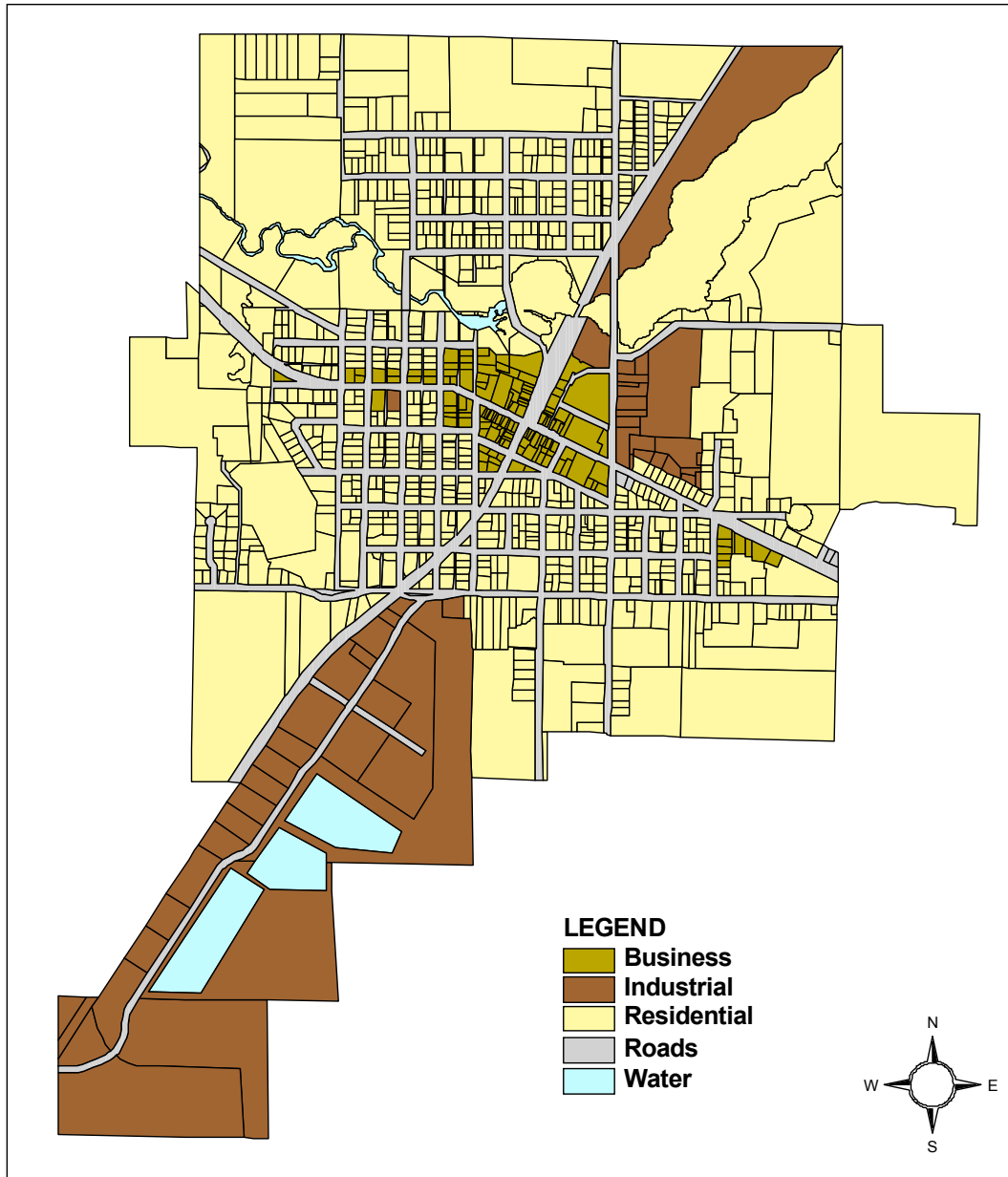
| Project Description | Time Frame | Estimated Cost | Priority Level |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Develop plan to preserve and promote use of the Cable House | Years 1-2 | -0- | 1 |

MAPS

New maps are under construction

Generalized Zoning Map

City of Bangor

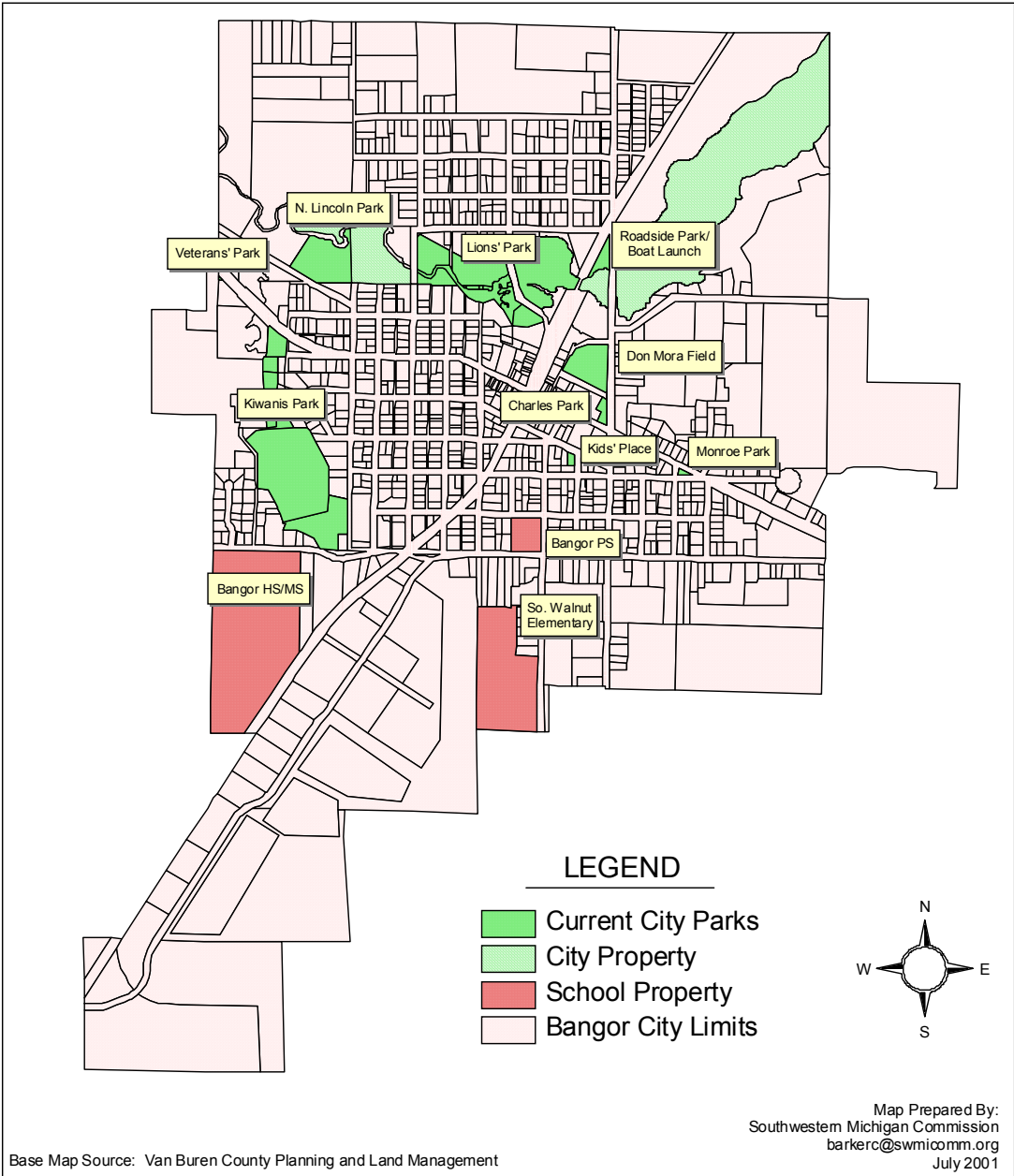


Base Map Source: Van Buren County Planning and Land Management

Map Prepared By:
Southwestern Michigan Commission
barker@swmicomm.org
January 2002

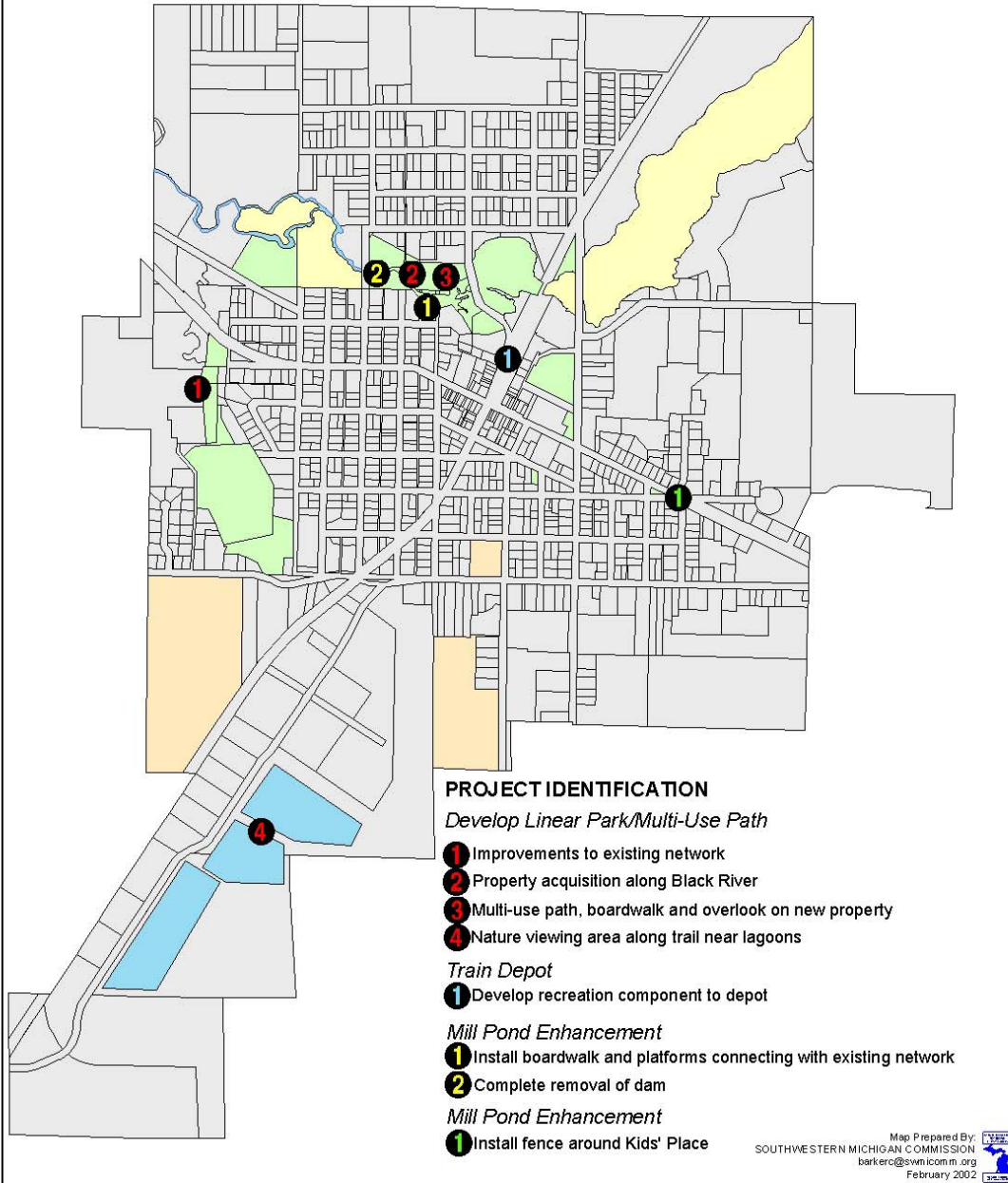
Recreation Opportunities

City of Bangor



Recreation Project Locations

City of Bangor



APPENDIX

Public Notices

Classification and Description of Parks Owned by the City of Bangor

Facility Development Standards

Recreation Classification System

Full List of Vegetation in Lion's Park

Public Notices

The Public Visioning Session was very well advertised in a variety of media as demonstrated by Exhibits 1-4 following.

Exhibit 1: E-Newsletter sent by the City Manager to over 200 recipients.

From: City of Bangor-Michael Selden [bangormi@btc-bci.com]
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2007 1:49 PM
To: Undisclosed-Recipient;
Subject: E-News Reminder

I hope everybody had a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Weekend!!

I would just like to remind everybody of our upcoming visioning session for our Parks and Recreation Plan. This visioning session is open to anyone and everyone who may have an interest in the City of Bangor Parks and Recreation. This visioning session is Wednesday night, November 28 at the Bangor High School Cafeteria from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.

I look forward to seeing everyone there,

Michael Selden, Manager, City of Bangor
Phone: 269.427.5831 // Fax: 269.427.7919
Settled 1835, organized as a Township, 10-9-1853
Organized as a Village 3-21-1877
Organized as a City 2-5-1968

Exhibit 2: The Sunday edition of the South Haven Tribune on November 11, 2007.

2B -- SUNDAY, Nov. 11, 2007

By **KIM INGALLS**
Tribune staff writer

BANGOR — The recent controversy over the city cutting down trees in the downtown area continued Monday night

during the Bangor City Council meeting as council members and the audience had their say on the issue.

The removal of the trees several weeks ago generated a lot of comments, both positive and negative, and resulted in the council looking at how the matter could have been handled better.

Some of the suggestions included publishing agendas on the city's Web site so that the public will know what issues will be under discussion at upcoming meetings. Other suggestions included seeking public comment in the form of

City wants input on the future

Bangor area residents are invited to participate in an interactive public visioning session to share ideas about the City's Parks and Recreation Plan.

This is an opportunity for residents to utilize a variety of methods designed to inspire creative discussions and ideas for the development of parks, recreation, and open spaces in the City of Bangor. There will be discussion groups, a short survey, and other opportunities to work coopera-

tively and create a vision and plan for recreation in Bangor.

The public visioning session will be held Nov. 28, 2007 at 7 p.m. in the Bangor High School Cafeteria located at 801 W. Arlington St., in Bangor. If you are unable to attend, you are encouraged to fill out the printable survey available on the following websites: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (www.swmpc.org) or the City of Bangor (<http://ci.bangor.mi.us/>).

South Haven Tribune, South Haven, Michigan



Photo by Kristin Hay

Dox and A. J. Distefano opened Maria's at Oct. 27.

Restaurant spices up

that communication was a problem. I also think the and falling. The trees were planted

Exhibit 3: The Reminder Shopping Guide is a weekly paper distributed to every mailbox in the City of Bangor. This announcement is dated November 26, 2007.

PAGE 01/01

Page 12

REMINDER SHOPPING GUIDE (reminder@lodisnet.com)... MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2007

COMMUNITY BULLETINS

Call, Mail, E-Mail, or fax your Not For Profit announcements two weeks in advance of publication. The Reminder reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any copy not appropriate for publication.

P.O. Box 218, Bangor, MI 49013 • E-Mail: reminder@lodisnet.com
Fax: (269) 427-5286 • Phone (269) 427-7474

REMINDER

2694275286

13:07

01/09/2008

BANGOR RECREATION SURVEY & VISIONING SESSION

Bangor area residents are invited to complete a short survey and participate in an interesting and interactive public visioning session to share ideas for the City's Parks and Recreation Plan. The survey and the visioning session are two great opportunities for residents of the City of Bangor, Bangor Township, Arlington Township, Geneva Township, and Columbia Township to work cooperatively creating a vision and five-year plan for recreation in Bangor.

The public visioning session will be held November 28, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bangor High School Cafeteria located at 801 W. Arlington Street in Bangor. If you are unable to attend, you are encouraged to fill out the printable survey available on the following websites: Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (www.swmpc.org) and the City of Bangor (<http://ci.bangor.mi.us/>). Please return the completed survey to City Hall at 257 West Monroe Street in Bangor.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW FOR THE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION "DECK THE HALLS" GALA AND SILENT AUCTION

Start the holiday season with a great party and give back to your community at the same time! The Gala will be held at the Point O Woods Country Club on

Help Us Help Them!



This is LadyBug! She is adorable Shnauzer mix. She has wiry hair, and is black with a cream colored face and paws. She is approx. 6 months old. LadyBug is a very sweet girl and loves to be on your lap. She is looking for a loving family!

Al-Van Humane Society
637-5062

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SEEKING APPLICANTS

Harbor Habitat for Humanity is currently seeking applicants and looking for families for the 2008-2009 Build Seasons. Interested families must attend an Orientation Session in order to obtain an application. Habitat is seeking Partner Families who currently live in sub-standard housing conditions, fall within the pre-

Exhibit 4: The Herald-Palladium November 26, 2007

IN BRIEF

Public can comment on rec plan Wed.

BANGOR — The city of Bangor is inviting residents of Bangor , Bangor Township, Arlington Township, Geneva Township and Columbia Township to comment on the five-year recreation plan. A public “visioning” session will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Bangor High School cafeteria. Anyone unable to attend is encouraged to fill out the printable survey available at Web sites of the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (www.swmpc.org) and the city of Bangor (<http://ci.bangor.mis.us/>). People are asked to return the completed survey to City Hall in Bangor , 257 W. Monroe St. Bangor

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City of Bangor Notice of Public Review and Comment Period and Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Bangor will hold a Public Hearing regarding the approval and adoption of the City's Draft 2007-2013 Community Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan on Date of Hearing at Time of Hearing at Bangor City Hall at 257 W. Monroe Street, Bangor, Michigan

The Draft Recreation Plan will be available for the public's review and comment from February 11, 2008-March 14, 2008 during regular business hours at the following locations in Bangor: City Hall (257 W. Monroe Street) and the Public Library (420 Division Street). The plan is also available on the City of Bangor's website (<http://ci.bangor.mi.us/>) and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission's website – (http://www.swmpc.org/recplanning_2.asp).

Classification and Description of Parks Owned by the City of Bangor

| Map # | Name | Classification | Size | Primary Activities and Equipment |
|-------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---|
| 1 | Kiwanis Park | Neighborhood Park | 5.5 acres | Located in the southwest portion of the City along Maple Creek, Kiwanis Park can be accessed from the east or the west side. A nature trail through the park connects it with Veteran's Park to the north. Amenities include swings, a slide, a jungle gym, toddler playground equipment, a baseball diamond, and a picnic shelter with 10 tables and 4 fireplaces. |
| 2 | Don Mora Ball Park | Neighborhood Park | 4.5 acres | Located at the corner of Pine and Center Streets, Don Mora is an open park with bleachers, modern restrooms, 2 picnic tables and a lunch stand making it well-suited for baseball, softball, and other team sports. The area is also lighted for night activities. |
| 3 | Lion's Park | Neighborhood Park | 5 acres | Located along the banks of the Black River, west of the impoundment, Lion's Park is a very popular fishing site, especially during the salmon and steelhead runs. A walking bridge spans the river and a nature trail traverses the north bank. Amenities include 4 basketball hoops, a picnic shelter and tables, modern restrooms, a slide, and swings are all amenities found here. |
| 4 | Monroe Park | Mini-Park | 0.1 acre | Monroe Park is along the eastern edge of Bangor's city limits. This landscaped park displays a lighted "Welcome to Bangor" sign, has 2 picnic tables, and is popular for walking visitors. |
| 5 | Charles Park | Mini-Park | 0.2 acre | As the site of Bangor's historic 1925 C&O Caboose, Charles Park is a tourist focal point located on East Monroe Street. There are 4 picnic tables for visitors which often includes workers taking a lunch break from nearby businesses. |
| 6 | Northside Playground | Mini-Park | 0.5 acre | Located at the corner of Second Street and North Street, this playground provides swings, a slide, and other equipment for children. |
| 7 | Lincoln Street Overlook | Mini-Park | 4 acres | Known locally as "Mosquito Park," the Lincoln Street Overlook is located on the south bank of the Black River at the corner of Black River Road and Lincoln Avenue. Amenities include 4 picnic tables and 4 fire rings, and a dump station. (This park used to offer overnight camping) A nature trail connects this park to Lion's Park and then traverses further east along the bank of the old mill pond. |
| 8 | Veteran's Park | Mini-Park | 0.25 acre | Located on Lafler Street, Veteran's Park has a memorial plaque, monument, and flags commemorating veterans of wars. There are 2 picnic tables and a nature trail connecting this park to Kiwanis Park to the south. |
| 9 | Kids' Place | Mini-Park | 0.1 acre | Kids' Place includes toddler playground equipment and is handicapped accessible. (Where is it located?) |
| | Black River Heritage Trail | | | |

Recreation Classification System

Mini-Park

| | |
|---|---|
| Use | Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. |
| Service Area | Less than ¼ mile radius |
| Desirable Size | 1 acre or less |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | 0.25 to 0.5 acres per 1,000 population |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development or housing for the elderly. |
| Serving City of Bangor (In Bangor) | Monroe Park, Charles Park, Northside Playground, Lincoln Street Overlook, Veteran's Park, Kids' Place |

Neighborhood Park/Playground

| | |
|---|---|
| Use | Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, skating, picnicking, wading pools, etc. |
| Service Area | ¼ to ½-mile radius to serve a population up to 5,000 (a neighborhood). |
| Desirable Size | 15+ acres |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | 1 to 2 acres per 1,000 population |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood population geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a school park facility. |
| Serving City of Bangor (In Bangor) | Kiwanis Park, Don Mora Ball Park, Lion's Park |

School Park *School Properties/Facilities*

| | |
|--|---|
| Use | Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, or special use. |
| Service Area | Determined by location of property |
| Desirable Size | Variable – depends on function |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | Variable |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Variable – usually amenable to team sports such as baseball, football, soccer, etc. |
| Serving City of Bangor? (In Bangor) | |

Community Park

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Use | Area of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational facilities, such as athletic complexes, large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending upon site suitability and community need. |
| Service Area | Several neighborhoods. 1 to 2 mile radius. |
| Desirable Size | 25+ acres |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 population |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | May include natural features such as water bodies and areas suited for intense development. Easily accessible to neighborhood served. |
| Serving City of Bangor | No City Parks meet the size criteria for this classification |

Regional/Metropolitan Park

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Use | Area of natural or ornamental quality for outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses; may include play areas. |
| Service Area | Several communities. 1 hour driving time. |
| Desirable Size | 200+ acres |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | 5 to 10 acres |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Contiguous to or encompassing natural resources. |
| Serving City of Bangor | Silver Beach, St. Joseph; North Beach, South Haven; South Beach, South Haven; Van Buren State Park (VB County) |

Regional Park Reserve

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Use | Area of natural quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation such as viewing and studying nature, wildlife habitat, conservation, swimming, picnicking, hiking, fishing, boating, camping, and trail uses. May include active play areas. Generally, 80% of the land is reserved for conservation and natural resource management with less than 20% used for recreation development. |
| Service Area | Several communities. 1 hour driving time. |
| Desirable Size | 1,000+ acres; sufficient area to encompass the resource to be preserved and managed. |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | Variable |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Diverse or unique natural resources such as lakes, streams, marshes, flora, fauna, and topography. |
| Serving City of Bangor | Sarrett Nature Center, Kalamazoo Nature Center |

Linear Park

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Use | Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, canoeing and pleasure driving. May include active play areas. |
| Service Area | No applicable standard. |
| Desirable Size | Sufficient width to protect the resource and provide maximum use. |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | Variable |
| Desirable Site Characteristics | Built or natural corridors such as utility rights-of-way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns, and roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities such as school, libraries, commercial areas and other park areas. |
| Serving City of Bangor | Kal-Haven Trail |

Special Use

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Use | Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservatories, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, or downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve, maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archeological significance. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, parkways. |
| Service Area | No applicable standard. |
| Desirable Size | Variable depending on desired size. |
| Acres per 1,000 Population | Variable |
| Serving City of Bangor | Bangor Public Library, Bangor; The Cable House, Bangor; Paintball Ranch, Bangor Township; Timber Ridge (ski resort), Gobles; YMCA, South Haven; Deer Forest, Coloma; Binder Park Zoo, Battle Creek; Kalamazoo Public Museum, Kalamazoo; Maritime Museum, South Haven; Van Buren County Historical Museum, Hartford; South Haven Skate Park, South Haven |

Facility Development Standards

An evaluation of the City of Bangor (Done in 2002) using facility development standards would indicate no deficiencies since there are fewer than 2,000 people living within the City. However, since it is important to the City to serve as the center of recreation for the surrounding townships, coupled with the fact that the public schools are located in the City, the population figure for the entire area (12,818) will be used to determine the needs of the area. During the development of any recreation plan, it is crucial to take a close look at recreational facilities and opportunities already in place, both public and private, as well as those facilities located within the community and in greater region. Establishing such an inventory will keep duplication to a minimum while potentially identifying gaps in the provision and delivery of leisure services. Using facility development standards as a basis for comparison, the City of Bangor and the surrounding communities are very well equipped for the relative size and rural nature of the area. Bangor is deficient in only two areas: badminton courts (2) and tennis courts (2). In fact, the Bangor area possesses extra youth basketball courts (2), football fields (1), ¼ mile running tracks (1), multiple recreation courts (1), and skeet and trap fields (1).

It should be noted that Van Buren County does not provide any county owned or operated park facilities except for the fairgrounds located near Hartford. Consequently, a greater responsibility is placed on the individual local units of government to deliver the appropriate leisure services for its residents.

Facility Development Standards and Analysis

| Activity/Facility | Standard | Need | Existing | Deficiency |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Badminton | 1/5,000 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Basketball (Youth) | 1/5,000 | 2 | 4 | (2) |
| Basketball (High School) | 1/5,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Handball | 1/20,000 | - | - | - |
| Ice Hockey | 1/100,000 | - | - | - |
| Tennis | 1/2,000 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Volleyball | 1/5,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Baseball (Official) | 1/5,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Baseball (Little League) | 1/5,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Field Hockey | 1/20,000 | - | - | - |
| Football | 1/20,000 | - | 1 | (1) |
| Soccer | 1/10,000 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Golf-Driving Range | 1/50,000 | - | - | - |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---|---|-----|
| ¼ Mile Running Track | 1/20,000 | - | 1 | (1) |
| Softball | 1/5,000 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Multiple Recreation Court | 1/10,000 | 1 | 2 | (1) |
| Trails | 1 system | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Archery Range | 1/50,000 | - | - | - |
| Skeet and Trap Field | 1/50,000 | - | 1 | (1) |
| Golf | 1/25,000 | - | - | - |
| Swimming Pools | 1/20,000 | - | - | - |

Full List of Vegetation in Lion's Park

| Streambank | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Brilliantissima chokeberry | Aronia arbutifolia 'brilliantissima' |
| Common buttonbush | Cephalanthus occidentalis |
| Eastern redbud | Cercis canadensis |
| Red osier dogwood | Cornus sericea |
| American cranberrybush | Viburnum trilobum |
| Biologs and bank within 12" of upper biolog | |
| Cardinal flower | Boneset |
| Blue flag iris | Joe pye weed |
| Woolgrass | Ironweed |
| Turtlehead | Marsh blazing star |
| Monkeyflower | Swamp rose mallow |
| Fox sedge | Culver's root |
| Brown fox sedge | Tussock sedge |
| Swamp milkweed | |
| River bullrush | |
| Sweet flag | |
| Blue vervain | |
| Raingarden | |
| Swamp Milkweed | Eupatorium maculatum |
| Porcupine sedge | Iris versicolor |
| Joe-pye weed | Monarda fistulosa |
| Blue flag iris | Physostegia virginiana |
| Bergamot | Verbena hastata |
| Obedient plant | Viburnum trilobum |
| Blue vervain | |
| American cranberrybush | |
| Asclepias incarnata | |
| Carex hystericina | |