Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Mount Pleasant, Michigan

2010-2015
Acknowledgments

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Introduction

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this plan is to provide a framework for decision making regarding parks and recreation development in Mount Pleasant through March 2015. In addition, the plan will meet the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans, published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Management office. This plan will provide a rationale and priorities for capital budgeting by the city as well as for external funding opportunities.

This plan represents a five year update to the parks and recreation master plan. The City of Mount Pleasant conducts its comprehensive master planning process every ten years. Revision of the parks and recreation master plan is included as a portion of the overall comprehensive plan for the city. The city’s comprehensive master plan was last updated in 2005. The city will, again, conduct a comprehensive master planning process including parks and recreation, in 2014.

Planning Process

The process used to develop the Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans. Information gathered at each stage of input was synthesized into an action plan. This triangulated approach to planning takes advantage of the perspectives held by various stakeholder groups to arrive at a plan that recognizes the diversity of opinion as well as identifies areas of shared interest and need. For a chronology of the planning process see Appendix A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Description</th>
<th>Facility Inventory</th>
<th>Public Input</th>
<th>Action Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Location</td>
<td>• Location</td>
<td>• Parks and Recreation Commission</td>
<td>• Goals and Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Community Characteristics</td>
<td>• Community Characteristics</td>
<td>• Public meetings</td>
<td>• Capital Improvement Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Administrative Structure</td>
<td>• Recreation areas and facilities</td>
<td>• Standards</td>
<td>• Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Budget</td>
<td>• Recreation programs and services</td>
<td>• Accessibility</td>
<td>• Goals and Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Capital Improvement Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 1: The Community

The City of Mount Pleasant

The City of Mount Pleasant is located in the center of the lower peninsula of Michigan along the Chippewa River. The City is located at the intersection of highways US-127 and M-20. Mount Pleasant serves as the county seat for Isabella County, and is the home of Central Michigan University. The Saginaw-Chippewa Indian Tribal Center is located just two miles east of Mount Pleasant on M-20.

The City of Mount Pleasant was incorporated as a city in 1889 on land that had been cleared of timber by David Ward a land and timber speculator. Recognizing the location along the Chippewa River as a good town site, Mr. Ward surveyed the site into lots and named the place the village of Mount Pleasant.

Other events continued to shape the Mount Pleasant community. In 1855, following a treaty between the U.S. government and Indian tribes, the Isabella Indian Reservation was created becoming home to the Saginaw-Chippewa tribe. The passage of the Homestead Act of 1862 brought new residents to the fertile agricultural area around Mount Pleasant further increasing the demand for merchants in the new village. Central Michigan Normal School and Business Institute began operation in Mount Pleasant as a private school in 1892; to become a State College in 1895, ultimately renamed Central Michigan University. Oil was discovered in Isabella County in 1928, quickly transforming Mount Pleasant into a “boom” town.

The history and spirit of the Mt. Pleasant community are embodied in the four emblems comprising the city seal: Native American heritage and culture; agriculture; education; and the discovery and production of oil. Their profound effect in shaping our community is evident yet today.¹

¹ http://www.mt-pleasant.org/Info/history.htm
Social Characteristics

Population Trends and Projections

The 2006 census estimate for the city of Mount Pleasant is 26,203, representing an increase of 1% since the 2000 census. Mount Pleasant is projected to grow by only 4% between 2000 and 2030. On the other hand, Union Township, which surrounds the City of Mount Pleasant, is projected to see the greatest population growth in the county. Between 2000 and 2030, Union Township is expected to grow at a rate of 98%2. Other townships adjacent to Union Township are projected to grow up to 37% during the same time period. While Mount Pleasants population will remain relatively stable, growth in surrounding townships will place greater pressure on city parks and recreation resources.

Figure 2: Population Change - Mount Pleasant and Isabella County

3 “Present” for the city is based on 2006 data, for the county and state on 2008 data. Source www.census.gov
Education

Residents of Mount Pleasant are significantly more likely to have a Bachelors degree than the average Michigan resident (Table 1). City residents are also over twice as likely to hold graduate or professional degrees that the average state resident. This disparity in level of education is, of course, largely a function of the presence of Central Michigan University in the community.

Table 1: Educational Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population 25 and older</th>
<th>High School Grad or Higher</th>
<th>Bachelors Degree or Higher</th>
<th>Graduate or Professional Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>87.6%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella County</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>91.6%</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Distribution of Population

Population is distributed unevenly in the county with the majority of the population concentrated in the south-east section around Mount Pleasant. According to the 2000⁴ Census, the City of Mount pleasant accounts for 41% of the county population. Union Township and the city account for over half (53%) of the county population. Mount Pleasant and the eight contiguous townships account for over 83% of the county population.

Age of Population

Children make up one-third (32.9%) of the total population of the City of Mount Pleasant (Table 2). This number is four percent higher than the county (29%), and over five percent (5.3%) higher than the state.

Young adults between 18 and 24 years of age make up almost half (49.7%) of the city population. Young adults also make up 30% of the county population and 27.8% of Union Township population, but only 9.7% of the state population. The median age in Mount Pleasant is 22.1 years, 25.8 in the county, and 25.3 in Union Township. The median age in Michigan is 37.7 years.

Adults 65 and older make up only 7.9% of the city population and 9.7% of the county population while making up 12.8% of the state population.

Mount Pleasant is a relatively “young” community, having a larger percentage of children (and families with children) and young adults as well as a smaller percentage of older residents than Michigan as a whole. The presence of Central Michigan University within the city of Mount

⁴ Census updates not available below the city or county level at this time.
Pleasant and the number of rental housing located in Union Township that accommodate students skews the population of the city, township, and county.

Again, because of the high percentage of young adults in Mount Pleasant, the percentage of households classified as non-family households accounts for 63% of all households in the city while families with individuals under 18 account for 20% of the city population.

Children, youth, and young adults create demand for active recreation. The University, through University Recreation (URec) and other student services, attempts to provide leisure and fitness facilities and programs to meet the demand by students. In addition, a number of apartment complexes have pools, fitness centers, and club houses to serve their residents.

### Table 2: Population by Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Under 19</th>
<th>18-24</th>
<th>65+</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
<td>49.7%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella County</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>25.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>27.3%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>37.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income and Poverty

Over forty percent of Mount Pleasant residents fall below the poverty level according to the U.S. Census Bureau (Table 3). This compares to 27% in Union Township, 14% in Isabella County, and 13.2% in the state. Household and family incomes are reflective of the level of poverty in the area. The median household income in Mount Pleasant is $27,427; over $10,000 lower than the county, over $20,000 lower than Michigan, and almost $25,000 lower than the nation. Median family income in the city is slightly higher than the county, and less than the state or nation, but not as markedly so as with household incomes. The high level of poverty in the city can be largely accounted for by the presence of a large population of young adults attending college in Mount Pleasant.

### Table 3: Income and Poverty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Poverty</th>
<th>Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% Families</td>
<td>% Individuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Pleasant</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>41.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella County</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Occupation and Employment**

In November 2009 the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth announced that Isabella County had the lowest rate of unemployment in the state at 8.5% compared to the state average of 14.1% at the same time\(^6\).

Over 25% of Mount Pleasant's workforce is employed in the education sector (Table 4). Education, along with accommodations and food services, health and social services, retail trade, and arts, entertainment and recreation make up almost three-quarters (74.4%) of all jobs in Mount Pleasant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Employed</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Civilian employed population 16 years and over</td>
<td>11,689</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational services</td>
<td>2,933</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and food services</td>
<td>2,117</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care and social assistance</td>
<td>1,451</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>1,277</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, and recreation</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services:</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing:</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services, except public administration</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing, and utilities:</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter 2: Administration of Parks and Recreation

The Mount Pleasant City Commission first approved a parks ordinance in 1958. Parks and Recreation is authorized under MCL 1917 PA 165: An Act authorizing cities, villages, counties, townships and school districts to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds. In 1971 the Parks and Recreation Department was created by action of Mt. Pleasant City Commission.

The Commission consists of seven citizens elected at large for staggered three-year terms. The City Commission receives input and recommendations concerning parks and recreation from the Parks & Recreation Commission.

The Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Commission is a citizen advisory board made up of seven city residents who advise the City Commission on leisure time needs of the community, as well as plan for development of park facilities and recreation programs. Board members are appointed by the City Commission and serve a three-year term.

The Parks & Recreation Department is served by eight full-time staff members and a number of part-time employees who are responsible for managing Mount Pleasants parks and providing a range of recreation programs and services (Table 5).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christopher Bundy</th>
<th>Director of Parks &amp; Public Spaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Currently Vacant -</td>
<td>Director of Recreation &amp; Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Brune</td>
<td>Parks, Grounds &amp; Public Spaces II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nate Lockwood</td>
<td>PEAK Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Moody</td>
<td>Recreation &amp; Special Events Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric VanHevel</td>
<td>Recreation &amp; Athletic Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason VanLiew</td>
<td>Parks, Grounds &amp; Public Spaces I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Way</td>
<td>Office Professional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 3: Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart

TABLE OF ORGANIZATION
January 2010

Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart

CITY RESIDENTS

MT. PLEASANT
CITY COMMISSION

CITY MANAGER

Appointees:
Parks & Recreation Commission

Director of Community Services

Recreation & Sports Function

Director of Recreation & Sports

Recreation Intern

Rec. Coordinator Programs/Sp. Events
Access Rec. Staff
Recreation Assistants
Program Volunteers

Rec. Coordinator Sports & Athletics
Sports Assistant
Athletic Contract Staff
Sports/Coach Volunteers

PEAK Program Director

PEAK Office Assistant
Part-Time Office Assistant

P&G I
Parks & Grounds
P&G II
Parks & Grounds

P&G seasonal Staff
Volunteer & Service Groups
Parks and Recreation Budget

Funds for parks and recreation come from two primary sources; the general fund and the special revenue fund (Table 6). The general fund supports the administration of the parks and recreation functions including professional staff positions, park operations and maintenance of park structures, land improvements, capital acquisitions, and cemeteries. The special revenue fund consists of revenues from programs that are expected to recover their direct expenses. Surplus revenue in the special revenue funds have been used to fund capital expenditures.

Table 6: Parks and Recreation Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Donations</td>
<td>$369,584</td>
<td>$427,952</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
<td>$245,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEAK Fees</td>
<td>$191,504</td>
<td>$229,575</td>
<td>$218,000</td>
<td>$218,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fees</td>
<td>$182,925</td>
<td>$191,515</td>
<td>$169,500</td>
<td>$175,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility Rentals</td>
<td>$15,608</td>
<td>$15,081</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$12,051</td>
<td>$7,436</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PARKS &amp; REC REVENUE</td>
<td>$771,672</td>
<td>$871,559</td>
<td>$857,500</td>
<td>$658,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks and grounds administration</td>
<td>$116,525</td>
<td>$123,204</td>
<td>$107,920</td>
<td>$108,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and grounds maintenance</td>
<td>$212,758</td>
<td>$213,560</td>
<td>$195,930</td>
<td>$211,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park building maintenance</td>
<td>$46,412</td>
<td>$55,370</td>
<td>$72,820</td>
<td>$75,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports areas and playgrounds</td>
<td>$43,873</td>
<td>$51,841</td>
<td>$46,090</td>
<td>$62,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemeteries</td>
<td>$46,499</td>
<td>$45,990</td>
<td>$61,100</td>
<td>$62,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements</td>
<td>$5,583</td>
<td>$57,901</td>
<td>$841,000</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation administration</td>
<td>$309,966</td>
<td>$323,407</td>
<td>$346,750</td>
<td>$350,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEAK Program</td>
<td>$558,716</td>
<td>$640,204</td>
<td>$618,820</td>
<td>$617,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Activities/Programs</td>
<td>$171,271</td>
<td>$192,584</td>
<td>$191,345</td>
<td>$230,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PARKS &amp; REC EXPENDITURES</td>
<td>$1,511,603</td>
<td>$1,704,061</td>
<td>$2,481,775</td>
<td>$2,168,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grants

The City of Mount Pleasant has received funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) for a number of projects since 1972 (Table 7).

Table 7: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grants Received

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Number</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Grant</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26-00259</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Indian Pines</td>
<td>$28,447</td>
<td>Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-00303</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Leonard Woods (Mission Creek Park)</td>
<td>$65,380</td>
<td>Acquisition &amp; Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TF607</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Mill Pond Park</td>
<td>$337,500</td>
<td>Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-01441</td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Mill Pond Park</td>
<td>$101,780</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TF88-059</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Mill Pond Park</td>
<td>$168,000</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM99-428</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Riverwalk Trail</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TF01-187</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Chippewa River Restoration Project</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Access to Recreation: In 2007 cooperating with the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation the city also shared in a $760,000 grant from Kellogg Foundations “Access to Recreation Initiative” to develop an accessible adventure trail at Chipp-A-Waters Park. The trail links to the existing 4 mile Riverwalk Trail and features a uniquely designed pedestrian bridge crossing the Chippewa River, interpretive signage highlighting the area's natural resources and history, and navigational aids along the trail.

PEAK After School Program: In 2001, the City of Mt. Pleasant and Mt. Pleasant Public Schools partnered in a grant funded program called Partners Empowering All Kids which provides after school and summer programs for youth in the Mt. Pleasant area. The United States Department of Education Community Learning Centers funded a $5.1 million grant which paid for the program until the spring of 2005. Once the funding expired, the City of Mt. Pleasant took over operations of the PEAK Program. PEAK is now funded through a combination of user fees and contributions from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Of the $650,000 annual elementary and secondary operating budgets, approximately 50% comes from user fees, while the remainder comes from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe’s 2% grant funds.
Chapter 3: Inventory of Recreation Areas and Facilities

Recreation Inventory Process

The recreation inventory was completed utilizing a variety of methods and resources. The Isabella County 2006 master plan\(^7\) and the City of Mount Pleasant 2006 community master plan\(^8\) provided helpful information for compiling the recreation inventory. Like public parks, public schools sites provide many outdoor areas and facilities that support local recreation activities. In addition to reviewing existing planning documents, site visits were conducted to verify and update printed inventory information.

Regional Recreation Areas

The Department of Natural Resources & Environment operates a number of recreational areas in and around the Mount Pleasant area that are available to all residents (See Figure 4). DNRE property located in the counties immediately surrounding Isabella County includes two state parks, seven state forest campgrounds, and four state pathways\(^9\).

County Recreation Areas

Within Isabella County numerous opportunities exist for outdoor recreation (See Figure 5). The Isabella County Parks Department operates seven county parks. In addition, Isabella County Parks is also responsible for maintaining an eight mile section of the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail in the northeast corner of the county. There is also access to portions of the AuSable State Forest and the Edmore State Game Area within the county. DNRE also maintains boat ramps on Stephenson Lake in Vernon Township, Six Lakes in Sherman Township, and Littlefield Lake in Gilmore Township.

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\(^7\) Isabella County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan: 2006.
\(^8\) City of Mount Pleasant Master Land Use Plan: 2006.
Figure 4: Regional Recreation Facilities
Figure 5: Isabella County Parks

10 Used with permission of Isabella County GIS
Trails

The Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department manages the Riverwalk Trail; a four mile paved trail linking five city parks and following the Chippewa River. The Riverwalk Trail provides opportunities for biking, jogging and walking, and river and nature access. The location of the Riverwalk Trail in the center of the community provides ready access to a large proportion of the community.

Figure 6: Mount Pleasant Riverwalk Trail
The CMU trail system includes a combination of paved trails, bicycle lanes, and marked sidewalk trails through the CMU campus.

Figure 7: CMU Trails
Pere Marquette Rail Trail

In addition to local trails, Mount Pleasant residents can access the Pere Marquette Rail Trail fifteen miles north in Clare, and the Fred Meijer Heartland Trail fifteen miles south in Gratiot County. The Pere Marquette Rail Trail is a 30 mile paved trail linking Midland and Clare, Michigan. The Fred Meijer Heartland Trail is a forty-one mile trail, partially paved, that runs from Elwell in Gratiot County ending just north of Greenville.

Natural Features

The Chippewa River represents the most significant natural feature in the City of Mount Pleasant. Public access to the Chippewa River is ensured by the preservation of public space along the river. Five developed city parks are located adjacent to the river.

City parks provide a number of river access opportunities including:

- A white water course at Mill Pond Park
- In addition, the Chippewa River flows past two undeveloped pieces of city property. The Canal Street Park and the Indian Pines properties, provide additional river access points.

Several canoe, kayak, and tube liveries in the Mount Pleasant community provide rental equipment and transportation to those wishing to use the river.
City of Mount Pleasant Parks

The City of Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department operates eleven properties totaling nearly 400 acres of land (Table 8).

Chipp-A-Waters Park is now a 60-acre park located on the Chippewa River with the addition of a 30 acre parcel annexed in 2005 via a donation to the city with an accompanying conservation easement. The Park has recently undergone major universal access improvements including addition the of The Access Recreation Trail Grant Project which added additional trails and a uniquely designed 8’ wide x 125’ long bridge with handrails and viewing platforms spanning the Chippewa River. This park addition now serves as the city’s southern trailhead for the Riverwalk trail. These improvements join existing park amenities including an updated restroom and pavilion, playground structure, access road with canoe launch and adjoining parking area, as well as an observation deck, at the river’s edge. This park is also home to the Heart of Michigan Girl Scout Cabin.

Island Park is a 35-acre park completely surrounded by the Chippewa River and it is the most active park in the Mt. Pleasant inventory. The park is connected via foot bridges and the Riverwalk Pathway with two adjacent City parks; Pickens field to the north and Nelson Park to the west. Recent improvements include expansion and paving of South Island Park drive and parking areas which serve several recreation venues including shuffle and tennis courts, Skate Park and the newly added Spray Park. Island Park is also the home of the Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Isabella County Iraqi Freedom memorial, The Character Counts Gazebo, the Mt. Pleasant Skate Park, and the community playscape. The park also includes premier sand volleyball courts as well as picnic shelters improved restrooms, softball diamonds and full access to the river.

Mill Pond Park is a 90-acre park located on the river and offers several trails, pedestrian bridges and various amenities. Recent additions to the park include an addition to the Riverwalk trail on the south side of the park. A significant river restoration project took place in 2003. The project included dam removal and construction of five stone weirs to control existing water elevations and create a small whitewater course for canoes and kayaks. Riverbed reconstruction and bank restoration were major aspects of the project. The park also includes the Cities largest wetland areas with numerous viewing opportunities, a pavilion, restroom and play structure.

Pickens Field is a 15-acre park along the Chippewa River. Recent improvements include an upgrade to entrance road and parking, addition of a restroom and storage facilities, renovation to the existing
concession area and upgrade of ball diamonds including new fencing, scoreboards and bleachers. This park also serves as the existing North trailhead for the nearly 5 miles of paved Riverwalk Trail.

**Nelson Park** is a 5-acre park and is the fifth park located on the Riverwalk system. Recent improvements include a Bronze Bear centennial fountain and garden, restroom facility as well as fishing and observation deck, canoe launch, and improved access roads and parking.

**Mission Creek Woodland Park** is located on the north end of town. It is a 60 acre wooded, natural area devoted to mostly passive uses during the summer. Winter activities include sledding and winter trail use.

**Canal Street Park**, is a 1-acre undeveloped mini-park located on the river.

**Sunnyside Park**, is a 16 acre active recreation park featuring six soccer fields, pavilion, restrooms, and basketball court.

**Horizon Park** is a 23 acre active recreation park located on the east side of Mount Pleasant that shares space with the High School soccer field. Park facilities include a softball diamond, playground, ¼ mile track, tennis court, and basketball court.

**Yost Field** is a an 8 acre park that includes active play areas such as ball fields, soccer fields, court game areas, playgrounds, picnic shelters, and restroom facilities.

Finally, **Indian Pines** is a 80-acre partially wooded natural area located outside the city limits just north of the airport.

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Creating Community Through People, Parks, and Programs

Figure 8: Mount Pleasant City Parks

Bridge at Mill Pond Park
Mount Pleasant Public Schools

Mount Pleasant Public Schools operates seven elementary, one middle school, and one high school. All public schools are within the city boundaries with the exception of Mary McGuire Elementary which is located just outside the eastern boundary of the city in Union Charter Township.

Elementary and Middle schools properties have activity areas for outdoor recreation including multi-purpose field space, hard surfaced sport courts, and playground equipment. School sites are classified as neighborhood parks.

The Mount Pleasant High School site provides outdoor recreation facilities often used by the public for recreation and sports including tennis courts, baseball and softball diamonds, soccer and football fields, and running tracks. The high school also has soccer fields located adjacent to Horizon Park.

Figure 9: Mount Pleasant Public Schools

11 Map used with permission of Union Charter Township GIS

**Figure 10: Park Type Legend**

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<th>Classification</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Service Area</th>
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<td>Neighborhood Park 1 to 15 Acres</td>
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NA: Park Type not applicable to Mount Pleasant

**Table 9: Inventory of Recreation Areas**

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<th>Playground</th>
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<th>Water access (Fishing/Boating)</th>
<th>Disc Golf Course</th>
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<th>Picnic Shelters/Pavilions</th>
<th>Pool/spray park</th>
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<td>Softball</td>
<td>Football/Soccer</td>
<td>1 Multi-use field space</td>
<td>Basketball (Outdoor Courts)</td>
<td>Basketball (Indoor Courts)</td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Tennis Courts</td>
<td>Playground</td>
<td>Restrooms</td>
<td>Horseshoes</td>
<td>Water access (Fishing/Boating)</td>
<td>Trails/access</td>
<td>Disc Golf Course</td>
<td>1/4 Mile Track</td>
<td>Beach</td>
<td>Picnic Tables</td>
<td>Picnic Shelters/Pavilions</td>
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**SUMMARY OF PARK AREAS AND FEATURES BY OWNERSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Isabella County Parks</th>
<th>Mount Pleasant Parks</th>
<th>Mount Pleasant Public Schools</th>
<th>State of Michigan Land</th>
<th>Union Township Park</th>
<th>1006</th>
<th>414</th>
<th>386</th>
<th>201</th>
<th>20.5</th>
<th>2028</th>
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<td>1 4 5</td>
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</table>

*Open field areas not maintained for a particular sport activity*
Accessibility of City Parks

In receiving a $760,000 Kellogg Foundation Access to Recreation grant, the Mount Pleasant City Commission, in partnership with the Mount Pleasant Area Community Foundation, declared its commitment to the principles of universal design in all park facilities and programs.\(^{12}\)

Overall, park structures such as restrooms, pavilions, the fishing deck and canoe landing meet ADA guidelines. Other park features such as playgrounds also meet ADA guidelines, however, they lack an accessible route of travel to the equipment. Grills (and, by association, picnic sites) are generally not located along an accessible route of travel. Access to some active recreation areas is limited including access to sport courts and ball fields. Table 10 provides an overview of the accessibility characteristics of the developed parks.

**Accessibility Scale**

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Park</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>Routes</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paved parking, designated parking, curb cuts, and sidewalk access to restroom building and to playground area. Lacks an accessible route of travel to playground equipment, softball field, tennis court, basketball court, or walking track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paved parking, designated parking, curb cuts, and sidewalk access to restroom building and pavilions. Accessible recreational features include the canoe landing, Timbertown playground, an accessible fishing deck, and the new spray park. There is also access to Riverwalk Trail. Lacks accessible route of travel to some playground equipment, fixed picnic tables, tennis courts, basketball courts, ball fields, horseshoe pits. More barrier free picnic tables needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill Pond Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Paved parking, designated parking, curb cuts, and sidewalks to restroom building, pavilion, and playground area. Access to Riverwalk trail. Lacks accessible route of travel to playground equipment, some picnic tables/grills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Creek Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lacks designated accessible parking, accessible restroom facility, an accessible route to pavilion or sled hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverwalk Trail</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Numerous access points to the trail include accessible parking, trail access to parks and restroom buildings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Paved parking, designated parking, curb cuts, and sidewalks to restroom building. Accessible recreation features include a fishing deck and canoe landing. Access to Riverwalk trail. Some picnic tables/grills not accessible. More barrier free picnic tables needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickens Field</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paved parking and sidewalks to restroom building. Access to Riverwalk trail. No accessible route of travel to playground equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell Yost Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Park is accessible by sidewalk. Street parking only. No restroom building. No accessible route of travel to ball fields or spectator seating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunnyside Park</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paved parking, designated parking, curb cuts, and sidewalks to restroom building. Grills not accessible, inadequate number of barrier free picnic tables. No accessible route of travel to playground equipment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recreation Standards

Standards applied in this section are based on the Suggested Facility Development Standards that are part of the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Plans, published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Table 11: Recreation Activity Area Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>City Operated</th>
<th>City, Schools, CMU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor Basketball courts</td>
<td>1 per 5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis courts</td>
<td>1 per 2,000</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball – Official</td>
<td>1 per 5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball – Little League</td>
<td>1 per 30,000</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>1 per 10,000</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>1 per 20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running Track</td>
<td>1 per 20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Pool</td>
<td>1 per 20,000 or 15-30 min travel time</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball fields</td>
<td>1 per 5,000</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>1 system per region</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Courses</td>
<td>1 per 25,000 or 30 min travel.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Hockey – Indoor</td>
<td>1 per 100,000 or ½ to 1 hour travel.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#numerous multipurpose fields in the community
Although the above table demonstrates that there are a sufficient number of some facilities to meet a standard, caution should be exercised in interpreting the information. For instance, although there may be 13 soccer fields in the community, 5 are controlled by CMU and must be rented for public use, and 3 belong to the schools leaving only six operated by the city which operates the largest soccer program serving a population area greater than just the city.

**Park Land Standards**

The Park Land Standard is a recommend basic level of developed space for parks and recreation in a community (Table 12). Regardless of the purpose for which it is developed, the Park Land Standard measures only the gross acreage of space that has been developed for recreational use. Mount Pleasant currently meets the standard for developed park land for the city population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Maintained Acres</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Acres of Developed Park Land</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 City Population</td>
<td>26,203</td>
<td>26,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acre/Person</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Exceeded</td>
<td>Met</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*National Recreation and Park Association, 1995

Although the City meets the recommended standard for developed (maintained) park land, the central location of Mount Pleasant within Union Township makes access to city parks convenient for nonresidents. Mount Pleasant parks do not just serve city residents. Increasing population growth outside the city will place greater demand on city parks and may result in crowding and resource deterioration.
Other Local Recreation Resources

*Isabella County Commission on Aging*

The Commission on Aging Activity Center, located at 2200 S. Lincoln Rd. adjacent to McDonald Township Park is the “Community Focal Point” for Older Adult programs and services for Isabella County. The center provides a friendly social atmosphere, in which participants can enjoy a wide variety of recreational, social, cultural, nutritional and educational opportunities. Some of the leisure opportunities for seniors include:

- Exercise programs (tai chi)
- Yoga classes
- Several weekly types of card playing
- Informational seminars on medical issues
- Travel shows
- A craft bazaar
- Legal aid assistance
- Caregiver, ostomy and Parkinson support groups
- Tax assistance
- Delicious nutritional dining
- Quilting
- Clown training
- Line dancing
- Square dancing
- Health screenings
- Retiree group meetings
- Needle crafters
- Singers
- Art classes
- Bingo
- Special events
- Movies

In addition, the Commission on Aging operates a travel program providing the opportunities for individuals to take trips all over the country. There are day trips as well as extended excursions. Most trips are provided by motor coach.

*Isabella County Events (ICE) Arena*

The Ice Arena operates a daily schedule of ice events throughout the year from late May through mid-April. Adult hockey Leagues, Adult Drop-in Hockey and daily Public Skating have long
been a mainstay of the ICE Arena's operations. Popular "hockey hour" (stick-and-puck) and figure skating "freestyle" sessions frequent the calendar. The ICE Arena is home to the CMU Club Hockey team, the Mt. Pleasant High School Hockey Team and the Mt. Pleasant Figure Skating Club. In addition to operating one sheet of ice, the ICE arena also offers meeting space for community organizations. The ICE arena also is home to the Amateur Hockey Association of Mount Pleasant which operates competitive hockey programs in the community.

The partnership with between Mount Pleasant parks and recreation, the Amateur Hockey Association, the Figure Skating Club, and the ICE arena was formed in 2004. The Parks and Recreation Department uses the ICE Arena for its Learn to Play Hockey program.

Morey Courts

Morey Courts, opened in 2008, is a not-for-profit, membership-based recreation center. Morey Courts offers a wide range of facilities that appeal to many recreation and fitness interests. Morey Courts offers eight indoor basketball/volleyball courts, two indoor tennis courts, three racquetball courts, a fitness center, an Exergame room featuring interactive fitness and exercise games, aerobics room, and walking track.

Programs and services offered at Morey Courts include:

- Basketball – youth and adult, leagues, camps and tournaments.
- Volleyball – youth and adult, leagues, camps and tournaments.
- Fitness classes and personal training.
- Sport skills training for golf, tennis, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball and football.
- Martial Arts and self defense classes

The Parks and Recreation Department has regularly partnered with Morey Courts since it opened. Morey Courts has provided space for the parks and recreation department to initiate a number of new programs in the community including school break day camps, a Princess and Super Hero Party, Turkey Shoot Out, and Teen Lock-in. Youth volleyball, dodge ball, and open gym times for teens also use Morey Courts. City sponsored youth basketball leagues have moved from local schools to Morey Courts due to better accessibility. Morey Courts provides an excellent venue for players and participants alike. In addition, the PEAK After School program has made use of Morey Courts on a number of occasions.
Tribal Recreation Facilities

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is a separate entity from all other governmental units in Isabella County. Nonetheless, their influence and, in particular, that of the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort merit discussion.

Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort:
The Soaring Eagle is the largest casino between Atlantic City and Las Vegas. The addition of a world-class hotel adds to the prominence of the resort with its many eateries, health spa and quality atmosphere. The casino offers gambling 24 hours a day, with more than 4,900 Slots. More than a dozen golf courses are located in close proximity, including the Pohlcat Golf Course which is less than a mile from the Soaring Eagle. In addition, entertainers perform frequently at the Soaring Eagle. Undoubtedly the casino and resort serve as strong contributors to tourism in mid-Michigan.

Tribal Recreational Facilities:
The recreational facilities of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe primarily serve the Tribal population of approximately 2,400 people. Recreational facilities operated by the Tribe include:

- Nimkee Fitness Center
- Gymnasium with various workout equipment and programs.
- Hill Campground
- Ogemaw Park contains a basketball court, playground equipment, a pavilion, and a grill.
- The HUD Ball Diamond/Play Area includes a play area, volleyball, and basketball courts.
- The Zibiwing Center is a cultural center.
New Tribal Developments:
In 2009, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe announced plans to construct a new resort hotel property with an indoor water park. This development is slated to be built on the site of the Soaring Eagle Inn and Conference Center (formerly the Holiday Inn) on East Pickard Rd.

In addition, in 2009, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe announced plans to build a new RV park near Grewes Lake south of the airport in eastern Union Township.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has also been engaged in a planning process to develop a community recreation facility. A feasibility study has been conducted. Based on the feasibility study, recommended features for the proposed facility should include a swimming pool with emphasis on recreational swimming, gymnasium, weight room/cardiovascular equipment area, multi-purpose rooms, youth area, golf simulator, indoor walk/jog track, indoor playground, drop-in child care area, and a roller skating rink.\(^\text{13}\)

Planned tribal developments along the east M-20 corridor will greatly enhance Mount Pleasant as a destination for tourism in the state. Although Tribal amenities will provide recreational opportunities for the local community, Tribal operations are commercial in nature and will only be available to those able to pay. Those Tribal recreation developments that are not commercial in nature are primarily developed to serve Tribal members and not the community at large.

Central Michigan University

Central Michigan University, located in Mount Pleasant offers numerous recreation and leisure opportunities to student body, faculty and staff.

University Recreation, or U-REC, provides a wide range sports, health, and recreation opportunities for students, faculty/staff, and community members. U-REC manages the Student Activity Center (SAC) as well as the intramural sports fields.

\(^\text{13}\) Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Reservation Activity Center Feasibility Study. Phase One Draft Report. 2007.
Student Activity Center (SAC)
A recreational, intramural and fitness complex, CMU’s URec provides space for numerous recreational activities including:

- 25 meter competitive pool
- Courts for basketball/volleyball
- Saunas and spa
- Aerobic dance studio
- Spinning studio
- Free weight room
- Machine weigh room
- Indoor running track
- Racquetball courts
- Bowling center
- Cardiovascular fitness equipment room

Outdoor Sports Complex
The U-REC Outdoor Sports Complex consists of four lighted softball fields and five lighted football/soccer fields, club sport fields, and a modern restroom facility. The Outdoor Sport Complex is primarily used for intramural sports programs. URec is also responsible for managing the tennis courts located at the Rose Arena and an 18-hole Frisbee golf course.

Intramural Sports
University Recreation offers a year round program of team and individual, men’s, women’s and co-recreational competitive sports programs to meet the needs of students for sport participation.

Club Sports
Currently there are over thirty student-lead club sport groups on campus.

Community events and programs
In addition to membership opportunities, URec offers a number of recreation and sport programs that serve the non-university community including Summer Activity Camp, a swimming instructional program, a wide variety of fitness classes, and personal trainers.

Limitations to use of CMU facilities:
Although CMU makes a significant contribution to the recreation facility inventory in the community, use these facilities by the public for recreation is limited. There are membership plans available for use of the SAC facilities, however there are limitations on the hours the public can use the SAC. In addition, the SAC facilities are available for outside groups on a rental basis which sometimes reduces availability for community membership holders. The outdoor recreational sports facilities are available for non-university use on a fee basis only. The only truly “walk on” recreation facilities the community may use without fee is the disc golf course and outdoor tennis courts.

Collegiate Athletics
Central Michigan University is a NCAA Division I athletic program offering a wide range of intercollegiate sport to suit almost any competitive interest. CMU sponsors six men’s and eight women’s sports teams that compete in the Mid American Conference. During any week of the year several opportunities exist to view collegiate sports at CMU.

In addition to intercollegiate sports, the Athletics Department offers numerous youth sport camps during the summer months.
CMU Cultural Arts
Central Michigan University offers a wide range of graphic and performing arts, cultural arts and events, libraries and collections. Many of these opportunities are open to the public at no charge.

- University Speaker Series
- Brooks Astronomical Observatory
- Museum of Cultural & Natural History
- University Art Gallery
- North Art Studio
- University Theater
- Clarke Historical Library
- Concerts & Entertainment
Private (open to the public) Recreation Facilities in the Community

The Mount Pleasant area offers a variety of private, commercial leisure service businesses to meet a variety of needs and interests. These leisure businesses operate for profit and, therefore, charge fees for their services which may limit access to some residents.

Basketball, Volleyball, Racquetball
Morey Courts
University Recreation

Bowling
University Recreation Center
Chippewa Lanes
Riverwood Lanes

Campgrounds
Shardi’s Hide Away
Saginaw Chippewa Tribe

Dance
Rochelle Bertsch School of Ballet
Toni Dance Studio
Vision Studio of Performing Arts

Fitness
Central Michigan Community Hospital – Wellness Central Fitness
Morey Courts
Curves
Contours Express
MyGym LLC

Gambling
Soaring Eagle Casino

Golf courses - public
Bucks Run

Pohlcats
Pleasant Hills
Riverwood Resort
Holiday Greens
The Golf Center

Gymnastics
TumblTrak
Mt. Pleasant Gymnastics Center

Kayak, Canoe and Tube rental
Buckley’s Canoe Livery
Chippewa River Outfitters
Floaters Tubing
Cracker Barrel
Chippewa River Outfitters

Racing
Mount Pleasant Speedway – motorsport racing
Mount Pleasant Meadows – Horse racing, county fairground.

Skating
Ice - Isabella County Event Center (ICE Arena)
Roller Skating - Spinning Wheels.

Sky Diving
Central Michigan Skydivers

Sport Camps
Central Michigan University
Inventory of Recreation Programs and Services

Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Programs and Services

The City of Mt. Pleasant is the largest provider of recreation programs in the County. The Department offers outstanding youth and adult team and individual sports opportunities and special events to City residents and to non-residents. See Tables 13 & 14 for a list of sponsored recreation programs and services.

Recognizing that other organizations in the community provide opportunities for higher level sports play and competition, the Parks and Recreation Department sports programs focus on introductory sports programs in the community. Introductory programs are primarily designed to introduce children and adults to new sport skills, provide basic instruction in sport skills, create opportunities for recreational participation, learn sportsmanship, and develop an interest in sports.

Table 13: Mount Pleasant Sports Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Sports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis leagues and tournaments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Volleyball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Sports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start Smart Parent and Youth Programs (3-7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• T-Ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Soccer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Flag Football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf (5-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-Ball (4-7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer (5-13)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to recreational sports programs, the department operates or participates in a number of other programs and services designed to meet specific needs in the community. The PEAK After School and Summer Program, teen programs, and Schools Out day camps are designed to provide supervised recreation and educational enrichment for school aged youth. The department sponsors a number of community events annually; the most popular of which is the Daddy-Daughter Date Night program. The Farmers Market, which takes place in Island Park and Downtown is one of the most popular attractions during the summer and fall.

Table 14: Mount Recreation Recreation Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEAK After School and Summer Program (K-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools Out day camps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Special Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daddy-Daughter Date Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother-Son Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Egg Scramble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn Maze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candy Cane Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princess and Superhero Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey Shoot Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tour de Mount Pleasant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farmers Market</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday and Saturday in season</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sledding Hill at Mission Creek Woodland Park
Other Recreation Programs, Services, and Providers

In addition to running many of its own programs, the city also partners with a variety of community organizations and agencies to further recreational opportunities for residents (Table 15).

Table 15: Other Community Recreation Organizations and Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Partner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rocket Football Program</td>
<td>Amateur Hockey Association of Mt. Pleasant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Youth Softball Program</td>
<td>AAU Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Little and Farm League</td>
<td>Central Michigan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Township Little and Farm League</td>
<td>Mount Pleasant Public Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Baseball Association</td>
<td>Morey Courts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Pacers Swim Program</td>
<td>Riverwood Golf Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Striders Running Club</td>
<td>Community Ice Arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Soccer Club</td>
<td>Spinning Wheels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Figure Skating Club</td>
<td>Veterans Memorial Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H</td>
<td>Midland Tennis Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts</td>
<td>Central Michigan Healthcare’s Wellness Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girl Scouts</td>
<td>Isabella County Commission on Aging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadway Theatre</td>
<td>Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Partnerships and Collaborations

The Parks and Recreation Department works in partnership with numerous local organizations and businesses to provide recreation and leisure services. Examples of current partnerships include:

- Midland Tennis Center
- Morey Courts
- The PEAK After School program
- Riverwood Golf Course
- The Tour de Mount Pleasant
- Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival
- Mt. Pleasant Pacers Swim Program for swim lessons and clinics
- The Isabella County Commission on Aging for senior picnics in the parks
- Mt. Pleasant Shuffle Boarders for improving facilities and programs
- The Amateur Hockey Association of Mt. Pleasant
- Mt. Pleasant Figure Skating Club
- Community Ice Arena
- Girls Youth Softball
- Mt. Pleasant Little and Farm League
- Mt. Pleasant Baseball Association
Chapter 4: Public Input

Public Meetings

Two public meetings were held in January, 2010 to provide opportunity for citizen input on the master plan. Each meeting was used to solicit input into park improvements and recreation programs and services desired by the public. In each meeting participants were asked to respond to the following focus question at the right. Ideas were written on flip charts and discussed followed by two rounds of voting to determine the ideas with the most support. See Appendix D for a copy of the meeting agenda.

Focus Statement:

In order to meet the future leisure needs of Mount Pleasant residents, what improvements and/or additions should be made to city parks and recreation areas?

The first meeting was held on January 19, 2010 at City Hall and was attended by a dozen participants. The first meeting was by written invitation to individuals in the community who were actively involved in providing recreation programs and services (See Appendix B for a copy of the invitation letter). Included in the invitation were all youth sport organizations in the community, senior citizen organizations, organizations representing persons with disabilities, public schools, youth serving organizations, community service groups, and organized recreation interest groups. The ideas that were most supported in this meeting include: connecting & extending all city parks with trails & improve access to Mission Creek Park, construct a community swimming pool, develop a dog park, and develop winter activities at Mission Creek Park. For a full list of park improvement ideas and the associated votes see Appendix F.

The second public meeting was held on January 21, 2010 and was open to anyone in the community who wished to attend (Appendix C). Eight participants attended the meetings. The most supported ideas generated at the second meeting include: construct a swimming pool, plant bird attracting vegetation, develop a dog park, and develop an outdoor ice rink. For a full list of park improvement ideas and the associated votes see Appendix F.

Recommendations for New Facilities

The desire for a community swimming pool and dog park were at the top of the list at both public meetings. There were a number of items related to trails (biking, walking, fitness, improve lighting, linkages) that received votes. Items that were addressed at both meetings include adding trees/shade at Horizon Park, an outdoor ice rink, improve trail lighting, more
“mutt mitt” stations in parks and town, better management of the river corridor, interpretive signage or guides for parks, and cross country ski trails.

**Recommendations for Recreation Programs and Services**

Participants at the public meetings were given the opportunity to submit ideas for recreation programs and services they would like to see offered by the city. Many of those attending the public meetings were strongly supportive of a community swimming pool. This is reflected in the types of program ideas that were received. See Appendix F for a full list of ideas for recreation programs and services that were generated at the two public meetings.

**Online Input**

Several opportunities have been offered for residents to have input in the master planning process via the Internet. A link was placed on the city home page allowing input into the parks and recreation master planning process. Like the public meetings, the availability of the web link was advertised in the local paper. Ten responses were initially received from the online link.

Most comments related to the addition of a dog park (5 positive, 1 negative). Other park improvements included expansion and improvements to trails (2), and the addition of a community swimming pool. For full text of online input see Appendix E.

A draft of the master plan document was also linked to the city web page with an invitation to residents to review and comment on the draft plan. The announcement also included dates and times for the public meetings at which the plan would be considered for approval. Residents were invited to attend the public meetings of the parks and recreation commission, the planning commission, and the city commission to offer input on the draft plan. Four additional responses were received via the online link (Appendix E).

**Parks and Recreation Commission Needs Identification**

As part of the master planning and capital improvement planning, the Parks and Recreation Commission toured city parks and compiled a list of projects and improvements for consideration. Because of their intimate association with the parks, the commission members input in the planning is also relevant to the planning process. Commission priorities are generally more global in scope and represent less visible aspects of park operations and management, but necessary just the same.

- Continue to pursue the concepts of universal access in all park and recreation development projects.
- Develop an aggressive program to address the infestation of emerald ash borer on park property.
- Continue to upgrade park infrastructure.
Regional Priorities and Opportunities for Intergovernmental Cooperation

In 2010, Union Charter Township also developed a Master Plan for Parks and Recreation, joining Mount Pleasant and Isabella County in undertaking this planning process. In addition, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has been engaged in a planning process that addresses recreation features and facilities. Although undertaken independently, and at different times, there is a remarkable similarity between the three governmental agencies and the Tribe as to specific priorities. These commonalities provide a basis for intergovernmental cooperation and cooperative planning toward these goals.

Table 16: Regional Recreation Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Priorities</th>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>River</th>
<th>Cooperative Planning</th>
<th>Community Center/Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Mount Pleasant (2005 Master Plan)</td>
<td>Develop a Community-wide Bike/Hike Path System; linking parks, community facilities, schools, businesses, employment centers, and neighborhoods as well as provision of connections in and outside the county (p. 52).</td>
<td>Expand and develop the following recreation facilities: Bandstand/amphitheatre along the river for outdoor music festival (p. 55).</td>
<td>Development of Partnerships with County, Townships, CMU, Schools, and Tribe (p. 53).</td>
<td>In 2003 the city and county conducted a feasibility study for a community center that included a pool. Development of a community recreation facility including was the #1 priority in the 2005 master plan (p. 52).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella County (2006 Master Plan)</td>
<td>This park (Meridian) was identified as having the best potential for the development of a trail system connecting this park with other parks; specifically to the City of Mt. Pleasant River Trail (p. 67). (Pere Marquette trail) Eventual connection to the City of Mt. Pleasant should be a goal (p. 67).</td>
<td>…to protect areas of outstanding scenic, natural/ecological or historical significance, such as the Chippewa River corridor (p. 68).</td>
<td>Assist other units of government with the planning, acquisition, and development of municipal level parks, recreational opportunities and facilities (p. 68).</td>
<td>In 2003 the city and county conducted a feasibility study for a community center that included a pool. Development of a community recreation facility including was the #1 priority in the 2005 master plan (p. 52).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Priorities</td>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>Cooperative Planning</td>
<td>Community Center/Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Union Township (2010 Master Plan)</strong></td>
<td>Seek opportunities to improve non-motorized transportation including bicycle lanes on roads, sidewalks, and connections to existing trail systems (2010 draft).</td>
<td>Seek opportunities to improve River access and use for township residents including creation of access for canoeing, fishing, and swimming (2010 draft).</td>
<td>Pursue opportunities for inter-governmental coordination with the City of Mount Pleasant, Isabella County, the Tribe, and other organizations to further parks and recreation goals (2010 draft).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saginaw Chippewa Tribe</strong></td>
<td>Currently working with Union Township and M-DOT on a non motorized path way throughout the entire community.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007, Conducted feasibility study for a Reservation Activity Center to include gyms, swimming pool, exercise areas, meeting space, and other indoor recreation facilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Spray Park at Island Park:** Opened summer 2009
Implications for Park and Recreation Planning

The Community

- The City of Mount Pleasant provides a disproportionate percentage of the area-wide recreational programs.
- Projected population growth surrounding Mount Pleasant will place increased pressure on city parks resulting in increased crowding and user impact on existing facilities.
- The relative “youth” of Mount Pleasant will continue to drive demand for “active” recreation areas for families and young adults.
- A highly educated and transient population has more diverse leisure interests fueling demand for more diverse leisure opportunities found in other communities.
- Parks and recreation facilities and programs in Mount Pleasant should respond to the needs of special populations.

Inventory of Recreation Areas and Facilities

- The city of Mount Pleasant has a unique recreation resource in the Chippewa River. The location of city parks along the river make parks an attractive destination to area park users.
- The City of Mount Pleasant has a wide range of recreation areas, facilities and services to meet a wide array of leisure interests.
- Numerous private and non-profit organizations in the community provide a range of leisure services and opportunities.
- Although contributing significantly to the local recreation inventory, CMU facilities are available at limited times for use by the public and community members or must be rented for organized use.
- Coordinated planning of recreation programs and services will result in cost efficiencies and partnership building. This could include a consolidated information source for all recreation programs and services offered in the community.
- The addition of a community swimming pool would be the next logical major recreation facility.

Public Input

- The addition of a community swimming pool and a dog park are the most prominent themes to be suggested during the public input process. Need for a swimming pool and dog park were identified at both public meetings, in the online input, as well as in the recreation programs and services ideas.
- New or redeveloped park features, such as the replacement of Timbertown, should meet Universal Design guidelines for accessibility.
- Improve signage and lighting in parks and on trails.
Chapter 5: Action Plan

Goals and Objectives

The following goals and objectives have been identified for the 2010-2015 planning cycle.

**Partnerships**

Goal 1: Develop Partnerships with County, Township(s), Tribe, CMU, and Other Community Organization.

- **Clearly,** the key to accomplishing many of the recommendation contained in this master plan is to partner with other organizations that share common goals and objectives. The County, Township(s), and Tribe share several areas of interest upon which a partnership for facility development could be based. Areas of interest may include:
  - Community aquatic facility.
  - Trails and pathways.
  - River use management.
- **Support the development of a community-wide calendar of events for all area organizations.**
- **Have a visible presence in events sponsored by community groups and organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and business groups.**
- **Work with other units of government and the Tribe to develop a management plan for the Chippewa River and users.**
- **Work with other units of government and the Tribe to develop a trails, pathways and blueways plan for the area.**
- **Work with other units of government and the Tribe to develop a community aquatic facility.**
- **Develop a Friends of the Parks Foundation to support park maintenance and the development through fundraising.**

**Maintenance**

Goal 2: Continue Park Development, Improvements, and Maintenance.

- **Continue to maintain and update park equipment and facilities as needed with particular attention to playground equipment and surfacing, hard paved areas, buildings and pavilions.**
- **Replace update the Timber Town play structure in Island Park.**
- **Identify property for acquisition for future park development.**
- **Work with area officials to insure that recreation needs are considered in the planning process and to encourage developers to set aside space for development of pathways parks and play areas.**
- **Work to protect parks from emerald ash borer infestation.**
Trails & Pathways
Goal 3: Continue Expansion of Area-Wide Bike/Hike Path System.
- Expand the pathway system linking parks, community facilities, school property, business areas, and neighborhoods.
- Connect the Riverwalk Trail System linking Pickens Field to Mission Creek Woodland Park.
- Replace wooden footbridges in Nelson and Mill Pond Parks with updated metal bridges to assure future access of trials.
- Connect the Riverwalk Trail System to Horizon Park.
- Connect the Riverwalk Trail System to the Community Ice Arena and Morey Courts.
- Connect parks to school sites.
- Work closely with the Tribe, Union Township, and M-DOT to coordinate trail/bike path planning.
- Support the efforts of trails groups to connect Mount Pleasant to other communities.

Facility Development
Goal 4: Develop Recreation Facilities in Response to Public Demand.
- All facility development should be done with an eye toward achieving the goals of universal design for accessibility.
- Develop an off-leash dog park.
- Construct a community aquatic facility.
- Develop an outdoor performing arts venue in the downtown area.
- Install playground equipment at Mission Creek Woodland Park.
- Add trees/shade at Horizon Park.
- Develop Mission Creek Woodland Park into a winter fun park.

Recreation Programs and Services
Goal 5: Maintain and Improve Recreation Programs.
- Conduct a community-wide needs assessment for recreation programs and services to identify un-served and under-served groups in the community.
- Partner with other recreation service providers including units of government and private recreation providers.
- Continue to support the PEAK after school program in conjunction with the public schools.

Enjoying the Spray Park
# 2010-2015 Capital Improvements Schedule

The following table presents the actions recommended for the 2010-2015 planning cycle. Individual projects are listed along with the specific task to be accomplished, the time frame for implementation, cost estimates, potential funding sources, and priority if a capital improvement expenditure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Project / Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Potential Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipp-A-Waters</td>
<td>Complete final phase of Access Adventure Trail Project</td>
<td>$83,400</td>
<td>GF, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Update Entry Road and Parking and Universal access</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park</td>
<td>Universal Access to park venues</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infrastructure ball field improvements and universal access.</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>208 Fund, DO</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete Tennis Court Reconstruction and universal access</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Park</td>
<td>Add shade trees</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | **$353,400**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 Project / Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Potential Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Creek Park</td>
<td>Construct Universally Accessible Restroom Facility</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>CF</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrade Entrance Road, Parking and facility infrastructure.</td>
<td>$175,000</td>
<td>CF</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverwalk Trail</td>
<td>Interpretive signage, brochures and trail mapping</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>3,4,5</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | **$360,000**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Potential Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park Infrastructure</td>
<td>Ball field fencing rehab, area signage and universally accessible walkway</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CI, DO, Grant</td>
<td>2,4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Farmers Market Universally accessible patio area</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>CI, DO, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Be Determined</td>
<td>Develop Dog Park</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millpond Park</td>
<td>Renovation of North Parking Lot</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Creek Park</td>
<td>Develop universally accessible play structure</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>GF, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yost Field</td>
<td>Initiate Field Improvements and install small park style restroom.</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>CI, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$315,000</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project / Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Potential Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Universal Access to Park venues</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park</td>
<td>Slide Land completion</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Park</td>
<td>Construct Park Shelter</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chipp-A-Waters Park</td>
<td>Phase I – Riverwalk Trail Riverbank erosion protection Program</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CF, Grant</td>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
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<td>GF</td>
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<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$150,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project / Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickens Field</td>
<td>Develop Picnic Shelter</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park</td>
<td>Playscape redevelopment Project preliminary re-design</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown area</td>
<td>Develop outdoor recreational Ice Rink</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>TIFA, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside Cemetery</td>
<td>Phase I – Road Paving</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cemetery Lot Layout</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td></td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>305,000</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Proposed Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Park Partnership Program</td>
<td>To be determined with Partner</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunny Side Park</td>
<td>Develop Gazebo</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>CI, DO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park</td>
<td>Playscape redevelopment Project</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>CI, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Pines</td>
<td>Improved Access Road and Parking</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>CI, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park City Hall</td>
<td>Riverwalk Trail Extension</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CI, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Park Areas</td>
<td>Emerald Ash Borer reclamation program</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>GF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>400,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project / Location</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Cost Estimates</td>
<td>Proposed Funding Sources</td>
<td>Goal</td>
<td>Priority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson Park</td>
<td>Replace deteriorating Wooden trail Bridge with long lasting metal</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Add Street Lighting</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millpond Park</td>
<td>Replace deteriorating wooden trail bridge with long lasting metal</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Add East Trail Connector Loop</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizon Park</td>
<td>Add permanent Ball diamond fencing</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North DPW property or Mt. Pleasant Center area</td>
<td>Develop Softball/Baseball diamond Complex</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yost</td>
<td>Look at overall redevelopment of park area with dog park, soccer fields, Parking</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Creek</td>
<td>Develop overall winter fun park master development plan.</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Pines</td>
<td>Develop overall master plan for park site.</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locations to be determined</td>
<td>Community Pool Development</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical Signage to Parks</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop Concert/performing pavilion with seating</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4,5</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Develop mountain biking trails</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Add solar lighting to park trails</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>GF, DO, Grant</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Land Acquisition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project / Location</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Cost Estimates</th>
<th>Proposed Funding Sources</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chipp-A-Waters</td>
<td>Wetland Acquisition</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
<td>CI, Grant, Donation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island Park southeast perimeter</td>
<td>Pathway Acquisition for park main entrance connection to existing pathway</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>CI, Grant, Donation</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Pleasant Center</td>
<td>Acquire for additional trail development connected to Mission Creek Park</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>CI, Grant, Donations</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliot Property</td>
<td>Acquire to expand Nelson Park</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>CI, Grant, Donations</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquire property north of the Cemetery and East of Harris St.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>CI, Grant, Donations</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Implementation Strategies

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. Current funding falls well short of the projected expenses involved in the proposed project implementation. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended in order to proceed as planned:

**Increase Revenues and Parks and Recreation Budget**
By taking a close look at the expenses involved in providing programs and facilities to the park users, the fee schedule could be revised in order to more accurately reflect actual costs.

**Apply for State Funding or Other Grant Moneys**
There are a variety of funding sources available to local governments for park land acquisition and development. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Recreation Division administers the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF – requires 50% local match) and the Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF – requires 25% local match).

Other funding may be available through other programs at the State and Federal levels, such as the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, the Inland Fisheries Grant Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Detroit Edison Tree Planting. Federal funding through the National Parks Service is available under the Rivers & Trails Program and includes the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery.

In addition, transportation funding, TEA-21 has been re-authorized and is available for the development of non-motorized pathways within MDOT right-of-ways.

There are a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways or greenway related facilities such as Bikes Belong Coalition, Dalmac Fund Grant by the Tri County Bicycle Association, Michigander Grant Program by the Rails to Trail Conservancy, and the Conservation Fund by Kodak American Greenways Awards Program.

**Investigate Other Local Financial Opportunities**
Support for a parks millage may be crucial in determining the level of services the City Parks and Recreation will be able to maintain in the future. A specific project millage could also be sought over a limited period of time for particular projects such as the development of a community pool facility.

**Create a Friends Organization**
A friends group could take on a role in fundraising for specific projects and developing an endowment to provide support park projects.
Pursue Partnerships with Area Organizations
Building on areas of shared need, collaborate with other governmental units, and the Tribe, to address common recreation priorities.

Work with community organizations to support specific recreation development projects whenever the opportunity arises.

Seek Other Sources of Funding
The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund raising events, and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that have worked in other communities to raise funding for parks and park improvements.
Appendices
## Appendix A: Master Planning Schedule

2010 – 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Dates and Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 27, 2009</td>
<td>Park and Recreation Commission Park Tour</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>ALL Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 19, 2010</td>
<td>Stake Holders Meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18, 2010</td>
<td>Web Input Begins</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 21, 2010</td>
<td>Public Open House</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 26, 2010</td>
<td>P&amp;R Commission Set public Hearing on Draft Plan For March 2, 2010 Parks &amp; Recreation Commission meeting.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 4, 2010</td>
<td>Planning Commission Set public hearing on Draft Plan for March 4, 2010 Planning Commission meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5, 2010</td>
<td>Draft Plan complete &amp; posted on City website for public review w/ hard copies available also.</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Hard Copies also for review City Hall &amp; Public Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 17, 2010</td>
<td>Send out Public Hearing notices to news outlets for Park &amp; Recreation Commission and Planning Commission public hearings.</td>
<td>AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 22, 2010</td>
<td>City Commission Set Public hearing on Draft Plan for March 8, 2010 City Commission meeting.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24, 2010</td>
<td>Send out Public Hearing notices to news outlets for City Commission public hearings.</td>
<td>AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2, 2010</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Commission Public Hearing on Draft plan</td>
<td>Scheduled Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Staff will recommend approval after Public hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4, 2010</td>
<td>Planning Commission Public Hearing on Draft plan</td>
<td>Scheduled Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Staff will recommend approval after Public hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 8, 2010</td>
<td>City Commission Public Hearing on Draft plan</td>
<td>Scheduled Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Staff will recommend adoption @ next regular meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22, 2010</td>
<td>City Commission Final approval and adoption</td>
<td>Scheduled Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Commission Adoption of Completed Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26, 2010</td>
<td>Adopted plan Submitted to DNRE</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B: Invitation to Public Meeting

Draft of letter for Jan 13 meeting

January 11, 2010

Dear Fellow Citizen:

During the first three months of 2010 the City of Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department will be updating the Master Plan for Parks and Recreation for the City of Mount Pleasant. The Master Plan for Parks and Recreation serves as a planning and decision-making framework that will guide decisions about the development and improvement of parks and recreation amenities for the next five years. In addition, updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan will make the City eligible for a number of grant opportunities that can be used to enhance the parks and recreational opportunities available to the citizens of Mount Pleasant.

We are asking you to attend a public meeting on Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Pleasant City Council Chambers.

You are being personally invited because you are a key member of the Mount Pleasant community whose input we are seeking in this planning process. We have tried to identify the many individuals, organizations, and groups in the community whose interests may intersect with the provision of quality parks and recreation services. By inviting a wide ranging group of community members we are seeking to assure that the interests of all citizen groups are considered in this planning process.

If you cannot attend the meeting, feel free to provide us with your input on parks and recreation planning for the city through the Blog at http://masterplanupdate.blogspot.com.

Thank you for your leadership in our community and we look forward to hearing from you on January 19.

Sincerely,

Chris Bundy, Director
Parks and Public Spaces
Appendix C: Newspaper Announcement of Public Meetings

The Morning Sun (themorningsun.com), Serving Northern Michigan

News
Mt. Pleasant seeks input on five-year parks master plan

Tuesday, January 19, 2010 9:45 AM EST

The city of Mt. Pleasant is in the process of updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and residents are invited to participate.

A public meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 7 p.m. at city hall.

"This is an opportunity for city residents to express their opinions and have input in the future of the city's parks and recreation programs and facilities," said Chris Bundy, director of parks and public spaces.

The city is receiving assistance in updating the master plan from Dr. Al Ellard, professor of Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services administration at Central Michigan University.

"It is important that a wide variety of people participate in the planning process and that all leisure interests be heard," Ellard said. "Whatever your leisure interests may be, your input is wanted."

Other opportunities for input will be available over the next three months, Bundy said.

Information can be found on the city's Web site, www.mt-pleasant.org and click on parks and recreation five-year Master Plan link for updated information.

Once the city Parks and Recreation Master Plan is updated, it will provide the framework for city officials to make decisions on parks and recreation improvements for the next five years, Bundy said.

Once completed the master plan will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources which will increase opportunities for the city to apply for a number of grant programs.

URL: http://www.themorningsun.com/articles/2010/01/19/news/srv0000007364355.prt

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Appendix D: Public Meeting Agenda

Mount Pleasant Public Meeting
January 19 & 21, 2010

Agenda

6:30 Arrival and set up room
7:00 Call meeting to order
   Welcome Participants
   Discuss 2 purpose of the meeting
   1. Input of programs and services & process for giving input.
   2. Input on park & recreation improvements in the City.
Rules for conducting the group process.
Present focus question

Focus Statement:
In order to meet the future leisure needs of Mount Pleasant residents, what improvements and/or additions should be made to city parks and recreation areas?

7:10 Individual silent listing of ideas
7:20 Round-Robin sharing ideas – write ideas on flip chart pages.
7:45 Clarification of ideas – allow participants to ask for clarification of ideas posted.
8:00 First Round Voting – secret ballot
8:05 Break (tally first round ballots)
8:15 Final round voting – each participants is given 5 sticky dots to use to vote for preferred ideas.
8:25 Summary and Wrap-Up
Appendix E: Online Public Comments (Unedited)

**input: City Resident**
The Parks and Recreation Department is to be commended for all the programs and parks available for the Mt. Pleasant community. My family over the years has used many of the programs and especially now uses the Mill Pond trails and new wooded area across from Chipp-A-Waters park. To our chagrin, however, we have noted the gradual degradation of the area due to misuse of the trail system. Increasingly, areas are being eroded by bikers who ride off the trail system into fragile wetland areas and hillsides. As the new, paved, equal-access trail becomes a reality, we fear that the same degradation will also occur; and the new area is even more fragile than the Mill Pond area.

Perhaps this activity could be addressed by the use of positive signage like that seen in national and state parks which explains the damage that occurs and requests citizen help in maintaining the areas by staying on designated trails. Signs also explain the uses of the areas in positive ways and yet are firm in the notification of prohibited activities such as fires, litter, bicycles, motorized vehicles, etc.

Map signs might also be helpful. If people don't know the rules, there is often less regard for the area. (In my experience as an educator, people are more often apt to exceed or at least live up to expectations than if there are no expectations!)

Hopefully, too, in perhaps smaller, more unique areas, there could be signage explaining particular features or plants which might increase sensitivity to the use of the environment.

I would be glad to help in any way to work on signage language or ideas.

**input: City Resident**
I believe there is a need for a designated dog park, where there is a area for dogs and their owners to let loose and play catch, run through obstacles, socialize with others. There is a great example in Midland. I know there is some open area in Island Park, and I am sure in one of our many other parks. I looked up some information on the subject of getting started:

**Positives:**
- Dogs can socialize and exercise in a safe environment.
- Helps to promote responsible pet ownership.
- Provides a meeting place for dog owners to socialize.
- Provides access for people with disabilities to exercise their pets.
- Provides a space for those living in an apartment to exercise their pets.

**Dog Park should include:**
- At least 1/2 acre or more of ground and be surrounded with a 4' to 6' fence.
- The entry should be gated, two separate gates to ensure no loose dogs.
- Regular maintenance should be performed (cut grass, waste clean up, etc.)
- Wheelchair access
- Plenty of shade and water, having water access would be helpful or have a volunteer schedule to provide water
- A separate parking area
- Station to dispose of waste along with plastic bags
- Benches, tables, trash cans, etc.

Complete set of rules for using the Dog Park

I am willing to help with research, fundraising, planning, surveys for interest, please let me know how I can assist.

I am very invested, I live in an apt with my dog and I know she would love a space just her in the city.

**input: City Resident**
I'd like to see a continuation of the Yost field improvements as this provides another field for area youth to play baseball on & had become an eyesore over the years. Much appreciate the work that was done last year!

**input: City Resident**
Dear Editor:
The Mt. Pleasant-Union Township area needs to create public swimming facilities for persons of all ages. There has been a need for public swimming pools here for decades. It was shocking to me when we first moved here in 1964 that there were no adequate outdoor and indoor public pools. The small pool in the flood plain in Island Park, the pool in Finch Fieldhouse, private and club pools near homes, and at the Country Club and Chippwood were the only ones available and, except for the Island Park pool, were not regularly available to the public at large. Families and youth commonly swam in the summer in the river as they do at present. Alma and Shepherd developed school and public pools and efforts in those communities continue to support that activity. It seems strange to me that neither the Mt. Pleasant City Commission, Union Township, nor the Mt. Pleasant School Board became interested in the creation of adequate facilities to serve the public here.

As a community we need to get on with this. The needs of persons of all ages and conditions should be addressed. This would require both indoor and outdoor pools, as I see it. A competitive pool might be linked to the indoor one. As was planned with the Family Recreation Center discussions, the incorporation of other recreational and therapeutic programs might also be considered, if financially feasible.

The construction and management of such a system would obviously financed by taxes and public bonds, although grants and donations also might be utilized. For adequate system to be created and function, I think that a cooperative effort involving both the City and Union Township would be necessary. Both units of government need to get together, at last, on a project that would serve both populations well, and would be much more limited if created independent of each other. A competitive pool might be attached to the indoor facility. As it would relate to intermediate and high school students, it might be more reasonably financed by the Mt. Pleasant School District. I am not sure how the Tribe might relate to such an overall project or aspect of it, but discussions might include them, if they were interested in it.

Can this be developed in our community? On many days this summer, I have witnessed children, youth and adults walking to Chip-A-Waters Park to swim as well as in the water at Millpond Park. An enjoyable sight. However, isn’t it about time to create public swimming facilities accessible to Mt. Pleasant and Union Township families? In hope,
Creating Community Through People, Parks, and Programs

**input:** City Resident
No Dog Parks Please

**input:**
Mpl. Pleasant needs an indoor community pool, climbing wall and indoor skate park. Needs more for kids to do. Something like a chuck e cheese would be nice to have birthday parties at. Maby even a drive in theater (again).

**input:** City Resident
Off-Leash Dog Area
As a progressive organization in tune with the needs of Mt. Pleasant families, the Parks & Recreation Office has a unique opportunity to best serve our community by including in the city's Vision 2020 master plan document the goal to establish at least one off-leash dog area in the city. We write on behalf of a motivated and dedicated group of city and county residents to express the existing demand for a safe and legal off-leash dog area in Mt. Pleasant, as well as to offer our time and services to help in the planning, fundraising, and other tasks related to this much-needed project.

To begin, we ask that your office consider reallocating a section of Mission Creek Woodland Park, 1458 N. Harris Street, as an off-leash dog woods. This park is conveniently accessed from M-20, comprises both wooded and open areas, is partially fenced-in already, and is isolated enough that any noise reaching neighboring homes and businesses would be extremely minimal. Long-term personal observation has revealed that Mission Creek currently is one of the least utilized parks in the city, which is especially disappointing considering the beautiful and well-maintained woods and open areas therein.

Reallocating Mission Creek Park provides many benefits while addressing several existing problems:
* Increase usage to deter the current illegal and undesirable activity taking place in this park that keeps residents away
* Decrease the incidence of dogs running off-leash in other city parks
* Address a longstanding local interest: many Mt. Pleasant residents now drive to Midland and Lansing to use their dog parks and dog woods
* Draw guests to Mt. Pleasant and its businesses, especially during peak usage months
* Provide a safe space for HATS adoption events and fundraisers, Spay Day USA events, etc.

We hope to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss organizing a core group of volunteers to help plan this project, contribute to its maintenance, and enforce the rules among fellow users.

We also look forward to discussing our specific funding ideas for the fence, gates, and amenities (agility course, water fountain, etc.), including selling ad space on the roadside fence to pet-related businesses.

Thank you for seriously considering the thoughtful and far-reaching ideas proposed here.

Please feel free to contact any or all of us through the means listed below. We very much look forward to working with you to take the steps needed to make this exciting park transformation a reality for the residents and guests of Mt. Pleasant.

Sincerely,

**input:** City Resident
I would really like to see the addition of a dog park.

**input:**
Body: I was wondering if there are any plans for an off-leash dog park in Mount Pleasant? I drive to Midland or Grand Rapids at least once a week (or more often when the weather is nice) to take my dogs to an enclosed dog park. I know of may other Mount Pleasant residents I have met who also make the drive, just to give our dogs some off-leash play time and socialization.

It would be really great if Mount Pleasant had a place for dog owners to bring their well-behaved dogs to safely play and enjoy the company of other dogs, without being on a leash.

Spending time at the park is also a social event for the owners to get to know each other, and ask questions, and even host dog related events at the park. If there was a nice dog park in Mount Pleasant, I would be willing to pay a fee to use it!

If there are any future plans for a Dog Park, I would like to volunteer to help in any way that I can! Please let me know if there is anything in the works already, or what I can do to help get things started! Thank you for your time!

**input:** City resident
I would like to see more trails. Mt. Bike trails (single track) perhaps some of the land beyond chipp-a-waters park. With the new bridge providing access to the other side of the river, the old river bank provides some topography and by building a trail that goes along the contour, up and down it could be fun. The all access trail is nice but is not too exciting for those seeking more of a challenge. As you know there are many bootleg trails throughout your parks legitimize these and manage them. A trails that connects island park to Mission creek would be nice too, a dirt path, not a big paved one, we have plenty of those. A trail that connects the west side to island park, does there have to be a chainlink fence around the cemetery? Community gardens and school gardens, PEAK should be growing food with kids, afterschool and summers are an ideal time and there is plenty of space, gardens don't need to take up much space.

Education, I would love to see the park system take the lead in environmental stewardship, caring for the river and land. Keep up your good work! Our parks are wonderful and can only get better. Thanks.

**Input Received After Public Comment Period**

**input:**
We would love to see a dog park. It would be great to connect the sidewalks with CMU for biking.

**input:**
Mt. Pleasant has a great trail system I use often that connects the parks. I was looking at the area on Google Earth and I’d like to see a walking trail that continues North from Island Park along the Chip River to Mission Creek Park. This trail would go along the river from Island Park and follow the river across the current bridge that leads to the little league field but it would head west and follow the river until you leave across Pickard Road. Walkers would go to Main and Pickard intersection and cross Pickard and then go behind the Chip Beverage and head north on the east side of the river then cross the river via a bridge and then cross the RR tracks into Mission Creek Park. This could also link back to Pickard via a trail on (N-Harris/S.Crawford) and lead back to the sidewalk system. I think this would be a great trail.
Creating Community Through People, Parks, and Programs

with a lot of wood area and river experience. I think this would be part of the master plan that includes connecting all the parks.

input:
Several people have expressed interest in establishing a dog park within an existing city park. One of the suggestions would be to establish this area at Mission Creek Woodland Park. In my opinion, this would be a horrible mistake. Mission Creek WOODLAND Park is one of the lesser utilized parks in the city. This is what makes it such an important habitat for native flora and fauna. A few of the wildlife species that live and breed in Mission Creek WOODLAND Park include Wild Turkeys, Pileated Woodpeckers, Great Horned Owls, Wood Ducks, Red-Backed Salamanders, Wood Frogs, Milk Snakes, Brown Snakes, etc. All of these species require some amount of undisturbed habitat. Establishing a dog park at Mission Creek would have a negative effect on these and many other small vertebrates both through habitat destruction and harassment.

In addition to the native fauna, there are large numbers of native flora that grow in Mt. Pleasant's park systems. Over the past 8 years I have documented over 170 species of native and non-native wildflowers in properties owned by the City of Mt Pleasant. A number of these species are found at Mission Creek Woodland Park and at no other public property within the city limits of Mt. Pleasant. Some of these species unique to Mission Creek include Wild Blue Phlox, Indian Pipe, Nodding Trillium, Swamp Loosewort, Virginia Waterleaf, Foamflower, Wild Columbine, and Large-flowered Bellwort. Mission Creek also houses the largest population of Bloodroot plants (a Spring ephemeral wildflower) in the city as well as large populations of plants such as Marsh Marigolds, Skunk Cabbage, and Wild Bergamot. The repeated activities of even a moderate number of free running dogs would damage both these species and their habitats.

Mission Creek Woodland Park is a PASSIVE use facility. That is its charm. The wooded setting, with its unique collection of flora and fauna, makes this the premier location for wildlife watching and nature appreciation in the City of Mt. Pleasant. Fencing off a section of the woodlands for use as a dog park would destroy this habitat and its unique ambiance. Even well behaved dogs, if allowed to run free will degrade habitat through digging, urination, and defecation. They will also kill and harass small vertebrates. Even those areas outside a designated “dog park” would be negatively affected by its presence through leaching of waste material into the Mission Creek wetlands areas and through noise pollution that would further diminish both the suitability for wildlife and the natural experience sought by visitors. In time, Mission Creek Woodland Park would become a woodland only in name, with a severely degraded habitat and a limited set of species.

It would be a decided shame if a small but vocal group of citizens were to bully the City Commission into creating a dog park at Mission Creek.

input:
The Chippewa Watershed Conservancy (CWC) (www.ChippewaWatershedConservancy.org) is a nonprofit conservation group working in five central Michigan counties, including Isabella County, with the mission to protect open space and natural habitat for the public benefit. While the majority of the land currently protected by the CWC is in the form of conservation easements not open to the public, the CWC owns 212 acres in 12 preserves in Isabella County. Three of these have parking and developed trails. They are: Sylvan Solace Preserve in Deerfield Township, 78 acres, including 1,700 feet of Chippewa River frontage and 1 1/2 miles of foot trails, located on the south side of Pickard Road, between Gilmore and Littlefield Roads; Neely Preserve in Broomfield Township, 22 acres, including 1,400 feet of Hall's Lake shoreline and adjoining woods, with a 1/4 mile trail, located at the south end of Hall's Lake, off Old State Road; Florence Maxwell Audubon Woods Preserve in Deerfield Township, 40 acres, including 1,300 feet of Chippewa River frontage and 3/4 mile trail, located at the NW intersection of Wing and Gilmore Roads. These properties get a fair amount of non-motorized recreational use, though they are not as well known as the county and city parks.

The draft Master Plan indicates that Indian Pines is a 100-acre undeveloped city-owned property, but as it is depicted in Figure 8, Page 19, it appears to be an 80.33-acre parcel shown in the Isabella County GIS parcel layer as Tax ID #14-001-40-001-00. The City of Mt. Pleasant is also shown to own two adjoining parcels according to the GIS parcel layer, Tax ID #14-001-30-010-00 (138.4 acres) and Tax ID#14-001-40-002-00 (.42 acres). If all three of these parcels are considered, the total acreage for Indian Pines should be 218 acres. Figure 8 should be redrawn and language in the plan revised to reflect the correct acreage, which appears to be either 218 acres or 80 acres, not 100.

The CWC is interested in collaborating with both the county and city parks departments on future projects that protect the natural and scenic values of the area while allowing for the quiet enjoyment of nature by the public. We would suggest the master plan include city parks participation in a possible future “blueway” trail on the Chippewa River that would develop signage and maps linking scenic, historic and recreational features, including county and city parks, NGO preserves, canoe liveries, etc. We believe a collaborative project to develop such a blueway trail could result in a very low-cost way to support recreation and tourism. We have had some discussions about this project with John Barker, the Union Township Supervisor. We have also discussed it with members of an ad hoc stakeholder group including county, tribal and university interests that are meeting quarterly to talk about watershed issues of mutual interest. Both Mr. Barker and the informal group have expressed interest in a future project.
Appendix F: Public Input

January 19 Public Meeting – Facility Improvements

- Connecting/extending all city parks with trail connectors/coordinate bike paths with city streets, improve access to Mission Creek Park (13)
- Community Pool (indoor) (12)
- Dog park (9)
- Additional winter activities, CC ski, ice rink etc. at Mission Creek park (8)
- Concert/performing pavilion with seating (6)
- Fitness trail (6)
- Replace or update Timbertown (5)
- Walking / path guide w/ distance measurements (3)
- Developing Indian pines (3)
- Softball complex (2)
- Self guided trail guide
- Public multi use facility
- Improve universal access to parks
- Trail improvement at Mission Creek
- Added parkland / High St. area / Mt. Pleasant Center property
- Shelter / trees at Horizon Park.
- Passive development at Mission Creek
- Climbing Wall
- Suggested trail markings for organized runs / walks etc.
- River use mgt. plan related to water activities
- Disc golf exercise
- Look at parking in parks / parking lot review
- Dog dropping issue
- Historical signage in parks
- Park Rangers
- Additional lighting in parks trail areas
- Signage needs / appropriate use of parks

January 21 Public Meeting

- Swimming Pools (5)
  - Covered
  - Uncovered
- Bird attracting vegetation (4)
- Dog Park (3)
- Outdoor Ice Rink with warming house (3)
- Trail lighting between Island and Nelson Parks (2)
- Cross country ski trails (2)
- Lighted Tennis Court (2)
- Identification signs for amenities, signs for park features, directional signs (2)
- Tree/nature signage, nature guide (2)
- Safe sport skate spot (2)
- Trees at Horizon Park (1)
- Dog Bag dispensers more @ existing parks (1)
- Bike route/ network (1)
- Improved maintenance at Chip-a-waters (1)
- River corridor grooming/nature buffer/river management planning(1)
- Adopt a River Projects (1)
- Benches w/backs-downtown
- Longer hours
- Additional park access- Mill Pond (1) Railroad crossing Oak St.
January 19 & 21 Public Meeting - Recreation Programs and Service

Recreation programs and services for Youth & Teens
- Free square dance lessons
- Seasonal Jam sessions for musicians
  - Not limited to the best
  - All being accepted
- Maybe free lessons at the swimming pool
- Summer concert / dance outside
- Sport clinics
- Developing the nature, directional, historical signs

Recreation programs and services for Families
- Outdoor ice rink-no charge to public
- Swimming pool- lessons
- Free square dance lessons
- An umbrella information center for all MP activities

Recreation programs and services for School-aged Children
- Swimming Pool
- Field trip guide through parks to point out natures offerings.
- Swim lessons
- Age group swim club
- Masters swim club
- Scuba classes
- Water aerobics
- High School swim teams

Recreation programs and services for Groups with special needs

Recreation Special Events
- Longboard race through downtown and the bike path
- Schedule singles recreation programs
  - Tennis
- Tubing runs Swimming pool
- Sporting events other than Special Olympics

Recreation programs and services for Senior Adults
- Summer monthly events
- Scheduled events under the pavilion
  - Cards
  - Dominos
  - Bingo
- Simple games Swimming pool
- Blancco regular walking events
- Water aerobics
Appendix G: Notices of Public Hearings on Plan

CITY OF MT. PLEASANT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Commission will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the City’s proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A copy of the plan will be available for inspection beginning February 5th on the City’s website, www.mt-pleasant.org and at the Parks & Recreation Office in City Hall, 320 W. Broadway. This Master Plan is designed to guide recreation planning and development efforts of the Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Department over the next 5-year period, through 2014.

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall, 320 W. Broadway Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

All interested persons may attend and participate. Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate may call the Human Resources office at (989) 779-5314. Persons requiring speech or hearing assistance may contact the City through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777. A 48-hour advance notice is necessary for accommodation.

February 1, 2010

Chris Bundy
Director of Parks & Public Spaces

CITY OF MT. PLEASANT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Mt. Pleasant City Commission will conduct a public hearing on the Parks and Recreation Division’s proposed Master Plan. The public hearing will be held on March 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 320 W. Broadway Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Copies of the proposed Plan are available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., in the Parks & Recreation office, 320 W. Broadway Street, on the City’s web page at www.mt-pleasant.org, and at Veterans Memorial Library, 301 S. University, Mt. Pleasant.

All interested persons may attend and participate. Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate may call the Human Resources office at (989) 779-5314. Persons requiring speech or hearing assistance may contact the City through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777. A 48-hour advance notice is necessary for accommodation.

February 26, 2010

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk
Appendix H: Record of Board Actions

AGENDA
Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission
Tuesday, March 2, 2010
7:00 p.m., City Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ATTENDANCE AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM
   A. Commission Members: Alsager, Carlson, Daniels, Moreno, C. Roberts, R. Roberts, Sych
   B. Parks and Recreation Staff: Bundy, Way
   C. Guests:
   D. Public Attendance:

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES & COMMISSION BUSINESS
   A. Changes/Approval of Agenda
   B. Approval of Minutes – Meeting held Tuesday, January 26, 2010

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

V. PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN
   A. Public Hearing regarding proposed Parks & Recreation Master Plan
   B. Recommend adoption of proposed 2010-2015 Parks & Rec. Master Plan

VI. DEPARTMENT REPORTS
   A. Parks
   B. Recreation

VII. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS
   A. 2010 Census

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

IX. ADJOURNMENT
IV. CALL TO ORDER - Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. by Chair R. Roberts.

V. ATTENDANCE AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM
   A. Commission Members: Alsager, Carlson, Daniels, Moreno, C. Roberts, R. Roberts, Sych
   B. Parks and Recreation Staff: Bundy, Way,
   C. Guests: Dr. Al Ellard, Recreation, Parks & Leisure Services, CMU
   D. Public Attendance: 3 students

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES & COMMISSION BUSINESS
   A. Changes/Approval of Agenda – No changes made and the agenda was approved as presented.
   C. Approval of Minutes — A motion was made by Comm. C. Roberts, second by Comm. Alsager to approve the minutes of Tuesday, January 26, 2010. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

V. PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN
   A. Public Hearing regarding proposed Parks & Recreation Master Plan
      Mr. Bundy gave an overview of the plan, followed by a question/discussion session from commissioners. Chair Roberts opened the public hearing at 7:44 pm. After receiving no comments, the public hearing was closed.
   B. Recommend adoption of proposed 2010-2015 Parks & Recreation Master Plan.
      A motion was made by Comm. Carlson, second by Comm. C. Roberts to recommend adoption of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the City Commission. **MOTION CARRIED.**
Meeting Announcement and Agenda  
Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission  

Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
City Hall Commission Chamber  

I. Roll Call: Brockman, English, Holtgreive, Kostrzewa, Lux, Orlik (Chair), Rautanen, Robinette, Smith (Vice Chair).  

II. Approval of Agenda:  

III. Approval of Minutes:  

IV. Zoning Board of Appeals report – Monthly report for February  

V. Public Hearings:  
   A. Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update.  

VI. Public Comments:  

VII. Site Plan Reviews:  
   A. Case SPR-10-01 – 2150 JBS Trail – Jim Kremsreiter, JBS Contracting – Site Plan Review for a 2,500 square foot addition to the existing building, along with minor site work.  
   B. Case SPR-10-02 – 2151 JBS Trail – JBS Contracting – Site Plan Review for a 3,000 square foot addition to the existing warehouse/distribution site for the Frito Lay Company, along with a new 30’ x 60’ gravel area.  

VIII. New Business:  
   A. Set Special meeting with City Commission to discuss 2009 Annual Report and 2010 Goals for Monday, March 8, at 6:00 p.m.  
   B. Ethics Policy.  

IX. Other:  
   A. Staff Reports.  
      1. April Planning Commission meeting – Anticipated agenda items.  
      2. Census Update  
      3. Downtown to Campus Connection Update  

X. Adjournment  

Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission  
Excerpt from Minutes of Regular Meeting  
March 4, 2010  

I. Vice-Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  

Present: Brockman, English, Holtgreive, Lux, Kostrzewa, Rautanen, Robinette, Smith (Vice-Chair)
Absent: Orlik (Chair) – excused.

Staff: Gray, Murphy.

V. Public Hearings:

Chairman Smith asked staff to introduce the first case.

A. Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update – Staff introduced Chris Bundy, Director of Parks and Public Spaces.

Mr. Bundy provided a PowerPoint presentation and overview of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Mr. Bundy provided highlights of the past five year’s accomplishments, along with the Goals and Objectives. Mr. Bundy reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee held a public hearing March 2, at which time they voted to adopt the plan. Prior to this, an open house was held, along with stakeholder meetings to gather public opinion. In addition, the draft plan is posted on the City’s website and offers opportunity for input. Mr. Bundy explained that they are seeking additional input from tonight’s public hearing along with comments from the Planning Commission. The City Commission will hold a final public hearing on March 22nd, at which time staff will recommend final approval from the City Commission.

Vice-chairman Smith opened the Public Hearing. There being no one who wished to address the Board, the Public Hearing was closed.

Board Discussion:

Vice-Chairman Smith stated that the Board’s mission is to determine if the Parks & Rec Master Plan fits in with the City’s Master plan.

Commissioner Holtgrieve voiced his approval of the plan, stating he believes it fits the City’s Master Plan. Vice-Chairman Smith stated the plan is very well written.

Commissioner English voiced approval of the connecting pathways, stating this would be a tremendous asset to the community.

Commissioner Robinette commended staff on the report and asked if there was any possibility of moving the Pavilion project for Horizon Park up on the list. Mr. Bundy stated that they are always looking for opportunities and if funding becomes available, projects could be completed ahead of schedule.

Commissioner English commented on the Community Pool being on the list year after year and wondered if this was economically realistic for the near future. Mr. Bundy responded that at some point, developing partnerships may be the best bet for success of this project. Due to community input, this will be kept in the plan and they will continue to look for funding opportunities. The creation of the Spray Park offers some aquatic opportunities for the community.

Commissioner Smith commented on the revenues and expenditures portion of the document, and the discrepancy between the two. Discussion took place on how this section may be confusing. Mr. Bundy concurred that this could be made clearer.

Motion by Rautanen/support by English to recommend the City Commission approve the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Motion passed unanimously.
Excerpt from Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, March 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room.

Mayor Holton called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Director Chris Bundy gave a brief presentation on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

A public hearing was held on the 2010-2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Tim Nam, 1422 Meadow Street spoke on the need to build a larger skate park to increase the ability of skateboarders to skate in Mt. Pleasant. Mark Smith, business owner, spoke on behalf of Vision 20/20 and their desire to see continued expansion of the trail system.

There being no additional comments or communications the Mayor closed the public hearing. Discuss ensued between the City Commission and staff.

At a regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, March 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room the following action was taken:

Moved by Vice Mayor Kilmer and supported by Commissioner Ling to approve the 2010-2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

AYES: Commissioners Holton, Joslin, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire and Tilmann
NAYS: Commissioner Palmer
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

I, Jeremy Howard, Clerk for the City of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of action taken by the City Commission at a regular meeting held March 22, 2010.

Dated: March 23, 2010

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk
March 25, 2010

Sue Fortune
East Central Michigan Planning & Development Regional Commission
3144 Davenport Avenue, Suite 200
Saginaw, MI 48602

Re: 2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Dear Ms. Fortune:

Enclosed please find a copy of the 2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan that we are submitting to the Department of Natural Resources.

The planning process included many meetings with the Parks & Recreation Commission and staff. Input from the residents was also sought throughout the process. In addition, the plan was adopted by the City Commission on March 22, 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Bundy, Director
Parks and Public Spaces
cbundy@mt-pleasant.org
(989) 779-5328

CB/lmw

Encl.
March 25, 2010

Sue Ann Kopmeyer  
Isabella County Parks & Recreation  
200 N. Main  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Re: 2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Dear Ms. Fortune:

Enclosed please find a copy of the 2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan that we are submitting to the Department of Natural Resources.

The planning process included many meetings with the Parks & Recreation Commission and staff. Input from the residents was also sought throughout the process. In addition, the plan was adopted by the City Commission on March 22, 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Bundy, Director  
Parks and Public Spaces  
cbundy@mt-pleasant.org  
(989) 779-5328

CB/lmw

Encl.
March 25, 2010

John Barker, Supervisor
Charter Township of Union
2010 S. Lincoln
Mt. Pleasant, MI  48858

Re:  2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Dear Mr. Barker:

Enclosed please find a copy of the 2010-2015 City of Mt. Pleasant Parks & Recreation Master Plan that we are submitting to the Department of Natural Resources.

The planning process included many meetings with the Parks & Recreation Commission and staff. Input from the residents was also sought throughout the process. In addition, the plan was adopted by the City Commission on March 22, 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Bundy, Director
Parks and Public Spaces
cbundy@mt-pleasant.org
(989) 779-5328

CB/lmw

Encl.
Michigan Department of Natural Resources-Grants Management

COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND
GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this
information is required for eligibility to apply for grants.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). To be eligible for grant consideration, plans must be submitted to the DNR prior to the grant application deadline with a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAN INFORMATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Plan:</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Mt. Pleasant Parks &amp; Recreation Master Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>List the community names (including school districts) covered by the plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Mt. Pleasant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAN CONTENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INSTRUCTIONS: Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ☑ 1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION
- ☑ 2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE
  - ☑ Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)
  - ☑ Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart
  - ☑ Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation
  - ☑ Programming
  - ☑ Current Funding Sources
  - ☑ Role of Volunteers
  - ☑ Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations
    - Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only
      - Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities
      - Articles of Incorporation
- ☑ 3. RECREATION INVENTORY
  - ☑ Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory
  - ☑ Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities
  - ☑ Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)
  - ☑ Accessibility Assessment
  - ☑ Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities
- ☑ 4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)
- ☑ 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS
6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

☑ Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received

☑ Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of the Notice</th>
<th>2/5/2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of Notice</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan Location</td>
<td>Web, Public Library, City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days)</td>
<td>35 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☑ Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan’s Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Notice</th>
<th>2/26/2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Newspaper</td>
<td>Morning Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Meeting</td>
<td>3/8/2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☑ Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

8. ACTION PROGRAM

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

Plans must be adopted by the highest level governing body (i.e., city council, county commission, township board). If planning is the responsibility of a Planning Commission, Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Advisory Board or other local Board or Commission, the plan should also include a resolution from the Board or Commission recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body.

The local unit of government must submit the final plan to both the County and Regional Planning Agency for their information. Documentation that this was done must be submitted with the plan to the DNR.

Items 1, 3 and 4 below are required and must be included in the plan.

APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For multi-jurisdictional plans, each local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

☐ 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: 3/22/2010

☐ 2. Official resolution of the Parks & Recreation & Planning Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: 3/2/2010, & 3/4/2010


OVERALL CERTIFICATION

NOTE: For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

The City of Mt. Pleasant
(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated

Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

Date

This completed checklist must be signed and submitted with a locally adopted recreation plan to:

GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING, MI 48909-7925

DNR USE ONLY - APPROVAL

The recreation plan is approved by the DNR and the community (ies) covered by the plan, as listed on page 1 of this checklist is/are eligible to apply for recreation grants through

By: ___________________________ Date: 3/25/2010

Grants Management

Date

Page 2 of 2

PR1924-1 (Rev. 01/11/2006)