

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

City of Huntington Woods



2015



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PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

CITY OF HUNTINGTON WOODS
2015



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INTRODUCTION

The City of Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation Master Plan builds on the ideas set forth in previous plans, makes recommendations for meeting the community's future recreation needs, and presents an implementation strategy for the parks and recreation system improvement.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan articulates a vision for the City parks and recreation. It provides the City with a guide for the improvement of the parks and recreation system through 2019 and beyond. The Plan is intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to remain eligible for grant programs.

PLANNING PROCESS

The process used to generate the plan consisted of three major phases which are described below.

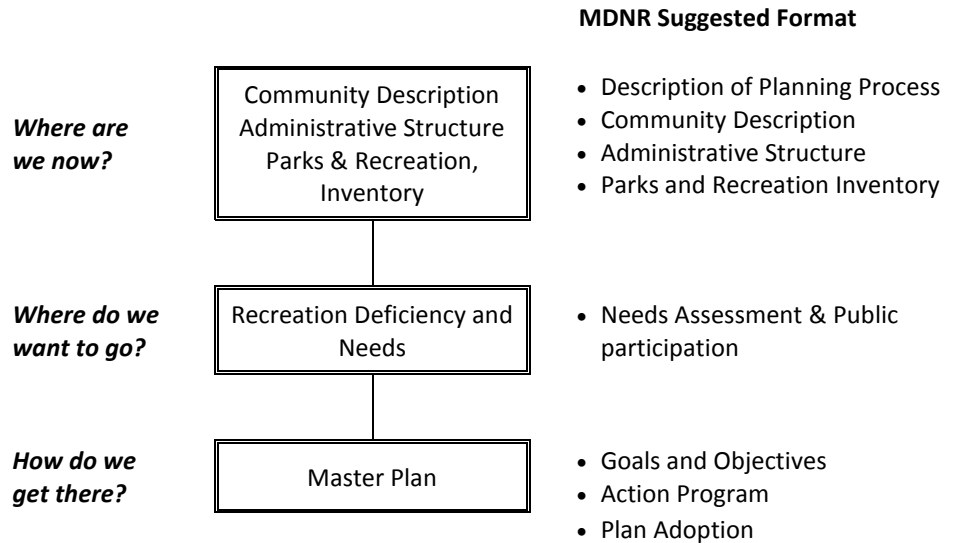
1. **Where are we now?** This phase involved a review of demographics and current conditions to provide a foundation for the planning effort. In this phase, the City's recreation resources were inventoried and mapped to begin to assess their conditions. The information is organized into three main categories: community description, administrative structure, and parks and recreation resources.
2. **Where do we want to be?** The second phase in the planning process consisted of an analysis of the City parks and recreation resources to determine recreation deficiencies and needs. A public engagement effort was initiated to solicit ideas and suggestions from the community about their recreation preferences. Public participation was sought through an online questionnaire and an open house. Input was also solicited from City officials, staff, and board representatives.
3. **How do we get there?** Once needs were identified, the final phase involved developing plan elements to support the community's vision for parks and recreation and provide for park planning and development. Recommended projects were summarized in an improvement schedule, accompanied by a financing strategy for implementation. This phase also included preparation of a full draft of the Plan, which was presented to City staff and officials as well as the public for review and comment prior to adoption and submittal to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.



WHAT THIS PLAN CONTAINS

The City of Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* (2012). It begins with a description of the **Planning Process** which was used to develop the plan. The plan then presents a **Community Description**, providing information on both the social and physical characteristics of the community. The City **Administrative Structure** is next described, including information on budget and funding. A description of the **Parks and Recreation Resources** follows this section and details the existing recreational resources located in and around Huntington Woods. The **Needs Assessment** section presents the basis for the action program including park land comparison, recreation trends, recreation program analysis, and input received from City officials, staff, Board representatives, and residents, which helped in formulating the plan's **Goals and Objectives**. The **Action Program** then provides an action plan and strategies for implementation. Finally, the **Supporting Documents** include the resolutions and notices documenting the plan's adoption by the Huntington Woods City Commission.

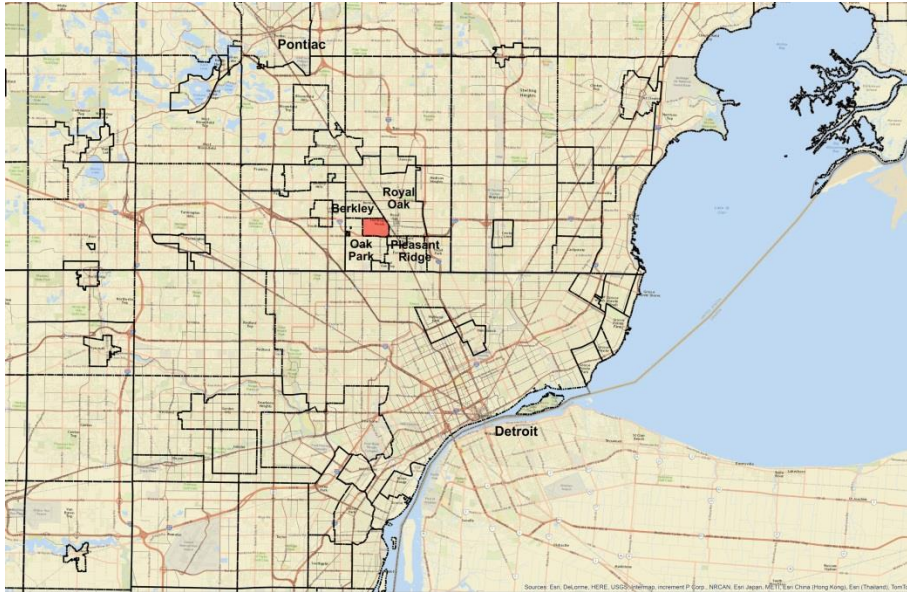
The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format.



COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The City of Huntington Woods is located approximately 15 miles northwest of downtown Detroit. Woodward Avenue extends from Detroit into the suburbs and runs along Huntington Woods' eastern border. Woodward Avenue also connects Huntington Woods to Pontiac, the Oakland County seat, less than 15 miles to the northwest. Huntington Woods is within a few miles of some of the most vibrant downtowns in the State of Michigan including Birmingham, Ferndale, and Royal Oak.

Figure 1. Regional Context



Oakland County is the second largest county in population in the State of Michigan. It is located in the north area of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) region.

SEMCOG is the regional planning agency that conducts planning studies and maintains a comprehensive database of information about the following seven counties: St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, Oakland, Wayne and Monroe.

According to SEMCOG, the area which includes the City of Huntington Woods is located in one of the fastest growing and more affluent areas of the region.

Major roads afford Huntington Woods a ready connection with the entire southeast Michigan region. The I-696 freeway defines the City's southern boundary, and provides a link with other highways including I-75, I-94, I-275, I-96, and US-24 (Telegraph Road). Eleven Mile Road along Huntington Woods' northern border and Coolidge Highway along the City's western edge connect Huntington Woods to neighboring communities.

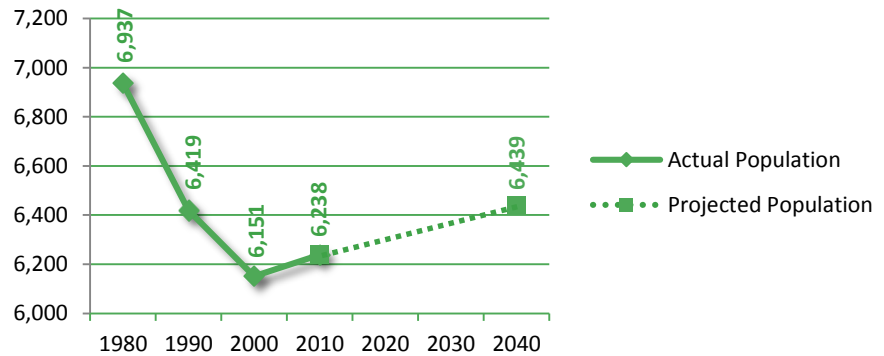
The 2007-2011 American Community Survey identified the mean travel time to work for a Huntington Woods commuter as 21 minutes, compared with 26 minutes for commuters in the southeast Michigan region as a whole. The shorter commuting time to work relative to residents of the wider southeast Michigan region attests to the City's proximity to numerous employment centers and central location in the Detroit metropolitan area.

Huntington Woods is adjacent to Royal Oak to the east, Pleasant Ridge to the southeast, Oak Park to the south and west, and Berkley to the north.

POPULATION GROWTH AND CHARACTERISTICS

According to U.S. Census data, the City of Huntington Woods had a population of 6,238 in 2010. While this represents a modest increase since 2000 when the City's population was 6,151, the overall trend has been a slow decline that began approximately 50 years ago. Despite this, SEMCOG estimates the City's July 2014 population to be 6,332 and projects a population increase to 6,439, representing an increase of 3 percent between 2010 and 2040.

Figure 2. Population, 1980-2040



The City of Huntington Woods had 2,381 households (occupied housing units) in 2000 and 2,354 in 2010. SEMCOG estimates the City of Huntington Woods had 2,364 households in July 2014 and projects an increase of households to 2,409 in 2040. The number of households with children decreased slightly from 910 in 2000 to 895 in 2010, reflecting a 1.6 percent decrease, while the number of households with seniors increased significantly from 543 in 2000 to 608 in 2010, reflecting a 12 percent increase during the same period.

In summary, there has been a slow decline in population and households in the City prior to 2000. Recent trends since 2000 indicate a modest increase of population and a leveling of the number of households, consistent with growth observed in Oakland County and in Southeast Michigan. Projections to 2040 show a continued modest increasing trend for population and households, while household size remains constant.

Table 1. Population and Households, 2000-2040

	2000 Census	2010 Census	SEMCOG July 2014	SEMCOG 2040 Forecast
Population	6,151	6,238	6,332	6,439
Households	2,381	2,354	2,364	2,409
Household Size	2.58	2.65	2.68	2.67
Households with Children	910	895	n/a	n/a
Households with Seniors	543	608	n/a	n/a

n/a: not available

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile and U.S. Census Bureau

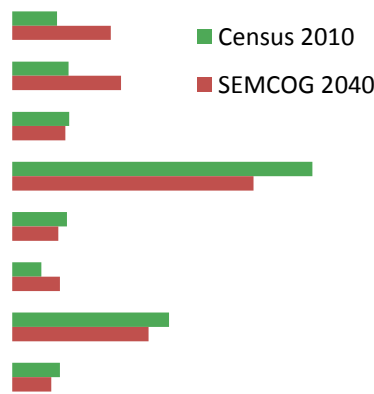
Age

There have been several shifts in the composition of Huntington Woods' population in the past 30 years. The number of residents in the 18-34 years age group decreased by 14 percent between 1980 and 2010, while those in the 35-64 years age group increased by 12 percent. During the same period, the under-18 and over 64 age groups have both increased by 1 percent.

However, according to SEMCOG estimates, by the year 2040 the City can expect to see a decline in its population under 18 which is expected to represent 22.7 percent of the City's total population- down from 27.4 percent of the 2010 population. In contrast, the SEMCOG projection forecasts that the over 65 population will comprise almost 27 percent of the City's total population in 2040- up from 13.6 percent in the 2010 Census. This aging of the City's population is likely due to the same factors as its overall decline in population. It will present the City with challenges in the future related to housing, transportation, public health, and other City services such as parks and recreation.

Table 2. Age, 2010-2040

Age Groups	2010 Census	SEMCOG 2040 Forecast	Change 2010-2040
75+	375	823	448
65 - 74	471	908	437
60 - 64	475	444	-31
35 - 59	2,508	2,016	-492
25 - 34	458	386	-72
18 - 24	243	399	156
5 - 17	1,309	1,138	-171
0 - 4	399	325	-74



Source: SEMCOG Community Profile and U.S. Census Bureau

Diversity

Census 2010 reported that almost 95 percent of Huntington Woods residents were white. Of the five percent who were members of minority groups, 1.6 percent were Hispanic, 1.2 percent were Asian, 1.0 percent were black, and 1.3 percent were either Native American, multi-racial, or another race.

Education

Huntington Woods' population is highly educated. The City has 72.9 percent of its population age 25 years or older holding a bachelor's degree, a graduate, or a professional degree. This fact contrasts with 42.2 percent of the total Oakland County population holding a bachelor's degree or higher. In addition, the number of Huntington Woods' residents with a graduate or professional degree exceeds the population having only a bachelor's degree.

Income

Huntington Woods' median household income of \$104,879 (in 2010 dollars) was considerably higher than that of Oakland County (\$66,390) and the Southeast Michigan region as a whole (\$53,242). Over 70 percent of the City's households had an annual income of \$75,000 or more, and nearly 32 percent had an annual income of \$150,000 or more.

According to the Five-Year American Community Survey, 2 percent of the City's population was living below the poverty level in 2010, down from 2.6 percent in 2000. This compares to 8.7 percent for Oakland County's population and 14.3 percent for the Southeast Michigan region's population living below the poverty level in 2010.

Employment

According to Census 2010, the strongest employment sectors in the City in 2010 were the *services to households and firms* employment sector followed by *private education and healthcare* as well as *knowledge-based services*. While a loss of employment in *leisure and hospitality* is projected, the sectors showing the most gain in the future include *natural resources, mining and construction* as well as *knowledge-based services* and *private education and healthcare*.

Table 3. Employment by Industry, 2010-2040

Employment Sector	2010 Census	2040 Forecast	Change 2010-2040
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	155	214	59
Manufacturing	C	C	C
Wholesale Trade, Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	45	57	12
Retail Trade	C	C	C
Knowledge-based Services	288	322	34
Services to Households & Firms	404	408	4
Private Education and Healthcare	311	343	32
Leisure and Hospitality	47	40	-7
Government	C	C	C
Total Employment	1,442	1,587	

Note: "C" indicates data blocked due to confidentiality concerns of ES-202 files

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Referred as “the City of Homes,” Huntington Woods enjoys a well maintained housing stock of detached single-family homes. According to Census 2010, 95.9 percent of all housing units were single-family homes, while 1.6 percent duplex, and 2.5 percent townhouses or attached condominiums. Moreover, 92.7 percent of all housing units were owner-occupied, and 4.2 percent were renter-occupied. Only 3.1 percent of the City’s housing units were vacant in 2010. This compares to 8.3 percent for Oakland County’s vacancy rate for housing and 10.5 percent for the Southeast Michigan region.

While 12 new residential building permits were issued from 2010 to 2014 (Table 4), five homes were demolished. The result is a net change of only seven housing units in the City since 2010. New home construction in Huntington Woods often requires the demolition of existing homes since land availability is limited in the City.

Table 4. Housing, 2010

Housing Type	5-Yr ACS 2010	Change 2000-2010	New Units Permitted 2010-2014
Single-Family Detached	2,274	-116	12
Duplex	37	37	0
Townhouse/Attached Condo	60	41	0
Multi-Unit Apartments	0	-7	0
Total Housing Units	2,371	-45	12
Units Demolished			-5
Net Total			7

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile and Five-Year American Community Survey

The median housing value in Huntington Woods was \$310,500 in 2010, which is considerably higher than in Oakland County (\$204,300), and the Southeast Michigan region (\$160,544).

Table 5. Housing Value, 2010

Housing Value	5-Yr ACS 2010	2010 Census	5-Yr ACS 2010
\$500,000 to \$999,999	334	\$125,000 to \$149,999	16
\$300,000 to \$499,999	792	\$100,000 to \$124,999	15
\$250,000 to \$299,999	319	\$80,000 to \$99,999	7
\$200,000 to \$249,999	450	\$60,000 to \$79,999	0
\$175,000 to \$199,999	101	\$40,000 to \$59,999	15
\$150,000 to \$174,999	97		

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile and Five-Year American Community Survey

LAND USE PATTERNS AND DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Detached single family homes are the City's predominant land use. With the exception of public and recreational uses in the heart of the City, scattered pocket parks within residential neighborhoods, and a few vacant lots, the interior of Huntington Woods is comprised entirely of homes (Figure 3).

Excluding parks and public uses, all of Huntington Woods' nonresidential uses are located on the perimeter of the City along Woodward, 11 Mile, and Coolidge. Uses along Woodward Avenue primarily consist of medical or dental offices, businesses, and other professional offices. A florist is located at the intersection of 11 Mile and Woodward, banks are located at Salem and Woodward and Lincoln and Coolidge, and a drug store is also located at Lincoln and Coolidge.

A mix of uses are located along 11 Mile Road, including a number of blocks of detached single family homes fronting 11 Mile Road, four parks, City Hall and other public uses, a place of worship, and a few businesses.

Single family homes are most prevalent along Coolidge Highway. A two-family home is located at Ludlow and Coolidge. A cluster of nonresidential uses, including a drugstore and a bank, is located at the intersection of Lincoln and Coolidge. Two parks are also located along Huntington Woods' Coolidge Highway frontage.

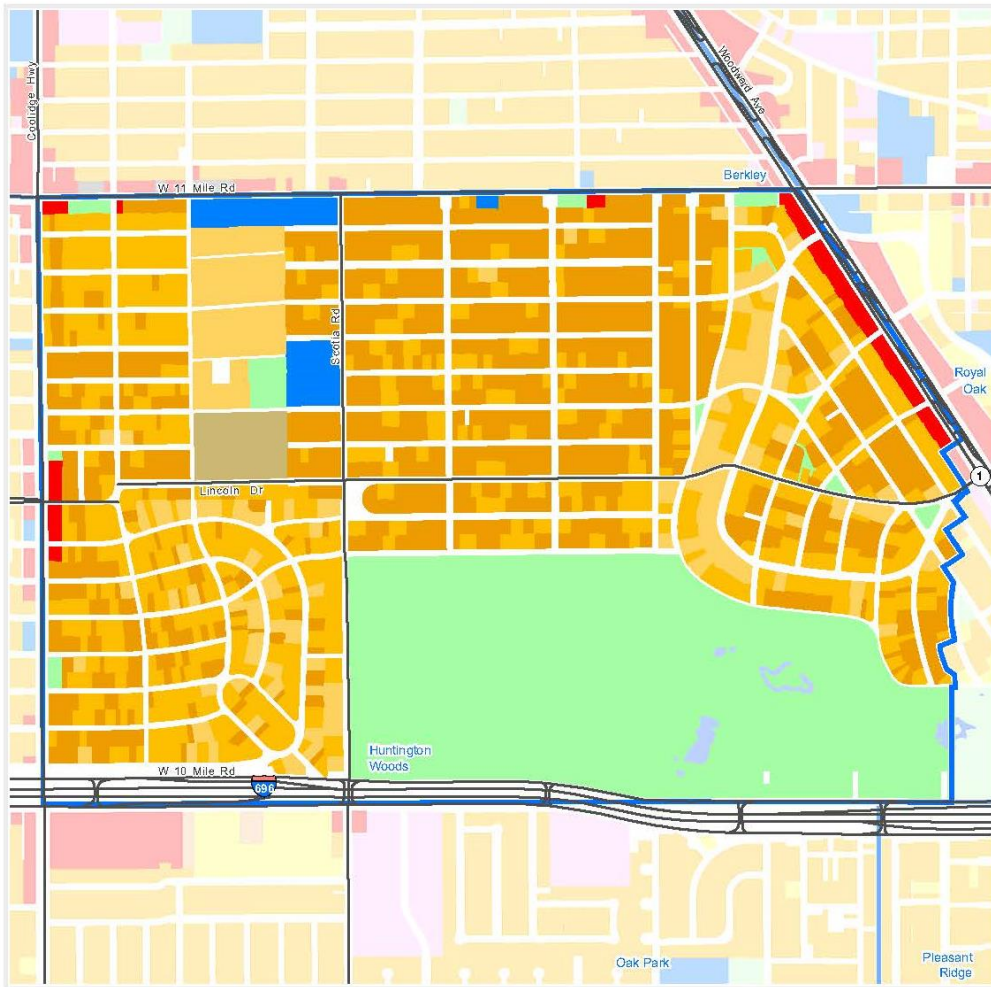
"Recreation and open space" is the second-most common land use in Huntington Woods, largely due to Rackham Golf Course and the Detroit Zoo, two regional recreational uses which dominate the southeastern corner of Huntington Woods. The presence of these uses is particularly evident in the existing land use map on the next page (Figure 3).

Table 6. 2013 Land Use

Land Use	Acres	Percent
Vacant	3.0	0.3%
Single-family Residential	478.7	51.2%
Commercial/office	10.1	1.1%
Public/Institutional	13.4	1.4%
Recreation/Conservation	216.8	23.2%
Road Right-of-Way	209.8	22.4%
Water	2.9	0.3%
Road & Railroad ROW	1,530	6.94%
Total Acres	934.8	100%

Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

Figure 3. Existing Land Use



The information provided herewith has been compiled from recorded deeds, plats, tax maps, surveys and other public records. This is not a legally recorded map or survey and is not intended to be used as one. Users should consult the information sources mentioned above when questions arise.

OAKLAND
 COUNTY MICHIGAN
 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Executive Office Building
 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Bldg. 41W
 Waterford, MI 48328-0412
 248.858.0720
 www.oakgov.com/ez

2014 Land Use
 City of Huntington Woods

Legend

- Agricultural
- Single Family, 10 acres or greater
- Single Family, 5 to 9.9 acres
- Single Family, 2.5 to 4.9 acres
- Single Family, 1 to 2.4 acres
- Single Family, 14,000 to 43,569 sq. ft.
- Single Family, 8,000 to 13,999 sq. ft.
- Single Family, Less than 8,000 sq. ft.
- Single Family, More than one unit per parcel
- Multiple Family
- Mobile Home Park
- Commercial/Office
- Industrial
- Public/Institutional
- Recreation/Conservation
- Transportation/Utility/Communication
- Vacant
- Extractive

1 inch = 1,154 feet

Map created on January 1, 2015

Source: Oakland County

NATURAL FEATURES

Although Huntington Woods is fully developed, the City's main natural features include its topography and tree-lined streets.

While most of Huntington Woods is relatively flat, a ridge running from the City's northeastern corner to the eastern end of Rackham Golf Course and western end of the Detroit Zoo is readily visible on the map. The City's topography also reflects the City's streets, the berm buffering homes on Wales Road from I-696, exhibit areas at the Detroit Zoo, as well as bunkers, mounds, hollows, and sand traps on the Rackham Golf Course.

This corner of Oakland County consists of a nearly level glacial lake plain. Soils are predominantly composed of urban land of the Blount Lenawee complex; a somewhat level and poorly drained soil series.

There are no significant wetlands; however, mature oak trees line Huntington Woods' streets and sidewalks. Because Huntington Woods does not have significant woodlands or wetlands, parks and open space areas such as the City's pocket parks, perimeter parks, Rackham Golf Course, and the Detroit Zoo afford residents their primary access to green space and nature.



CULTURAL FEATURES

The City has a wealth of historic resources including much of its housing stock, Rackham Golf Course, and the Detroit Zoo. Local historic districts and designated historic sites are illustrated on Figure 5.

The Fred A. Baker house, on LaSalle Boulevard, is listed on the State Register of Historic Sites. The Colonial Revival-style home was built in 1896 by prominent attorney and state legislator Fred A. Baker. In 1916, Baker and several associates founded the Baker Land Company, which developed one of Huntington Woods' oldest neighborhoods, the Bronx Subdivision.

The Hill Historic District (figure 4), a local historic district, consists of two parks and 108 detached single family homes in the Huntington Woods Subdivision, in northeastern Huntington Woods. Most homes in the district were built in the 1920s and 1930s. Homes were designed by some of the most renowned architects in the Detroit metropolitan area, included Albert Kahn, Minoru Yamasaki, and Eero Saarinen. Tudor is the most prevalent architectural style, but a wide range of styles are represented. "The collection of architecture contained within the Hill Historic District is some of the finest in the State of Michigan," according to the 2004 Historic District Study Committee.



Rackham Golf Course (figure 5) is a local historic district including a 123-acre, 18-hole public golf course located in south central Huntington Woods. It consists of the golf course, a clubhouse, greens keepers building, and other outbuildings. The course was given to the City of Detroit by financier Horace H. Rackham in 1924, for use as a public golf course. The course has historical significance because it was reportedly the first 18-hole public golf course in the State of Michigan, it was among the nation's first integrated courses, and was designed by Donald Ross, the most preeminent golf course designer at the time. In addition, Rackham Golf Course's buildings exhibit a quality of design that "speaks to a bygone era," according to the Historic District Study Committee. Rackham Golf Course accounts for 13% of the City's land area.



The Detroit Zoo is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a Michigan Historic Site. The zoo is located in both Royal Oak and Huntington Woods, occupying approximately 93 acres in the southeast side of Huntington Woods and a total area of 125 acres, which is 10% of the City's land area. The zoo officially opened in 1928, and has a number of historic structures, such as the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery near the zoo's entrance. The zoo was one of the first in the United States to use a master plan prepared by a landscape architect; it is the nation's only zoo with exhibits designed by the Hagenbeck family, world-renowned zoo designers; and it was the first zoo in the country with entirely bar less (naturalistic) exhibits. Today, the Detroit Zoo is "committed to celebrating and saving wildlife," with numerous programs that further its mission of education and conservation. The zoo is owned by the City of Detroit and operated by the non-profit Detroit Zoological Society.

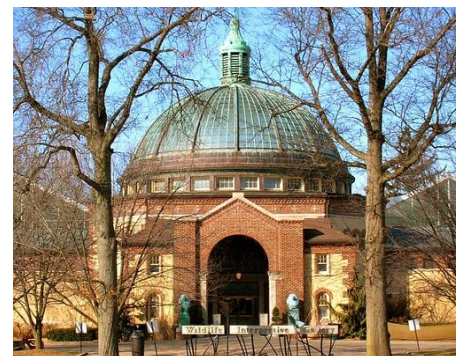
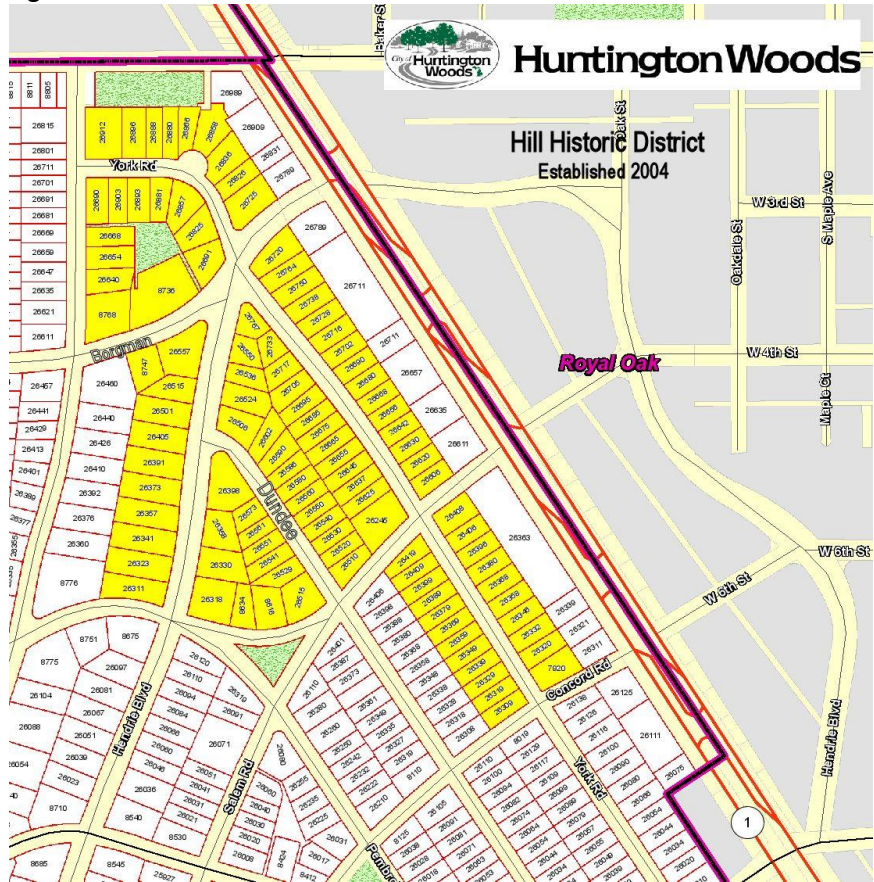
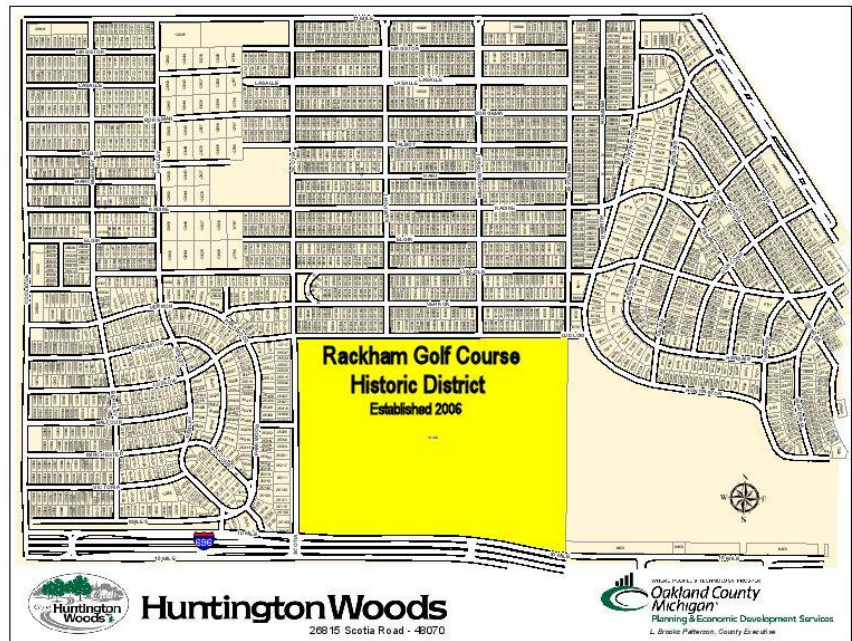


Figure 4. Hill Historic District



Source: City of Huntington Woods

Figure 5. Rackham Golf Course Historic District



Source: City of Huntington Woods

PLANNING INITIATIVES

While change is inevitable and growth will occur, the City of Huntington Woods is committed to managing that growth to enhance recreational activities and overall quality of life for all residents. The City has recently updated its master plan which articulates a vision for the City's future. The vision is as follows.

According to the City's Master Plan, "the people living in it" will continue to be one of the best things about the City. Huntington Woods will be characterized by:

- An outstanding sense of community, a close-knit neighborhood feel, and an active, engaged, and informed citizenry;
- City services that are second to none;
- Selected services shared with adjacent communities, provided that residents receive the same high level of service they currently receive;
- A housing stock which continues to exhibit quality, uniqueness, variety, charm, historic character, and pride of ownership;
- New homes and additions to existing homes exhibiting a high quality of design and materials;
- Starter homes and homes for move-up or second-time homebuyers available;
- The transformation of the Woodward Avenue frontage into a mixed-use area with townhomes/condominiums, green space, offices, and small-scale retail uses;
- New neighborhood commercial nodes located in planned locations on Coolidge Highway and 11 Mile Road;
- High quality architecture and site design of future nonresidential development;
- Ready access to well-maintained pocket parks in close proximity to homes;
- Continued high quality recreational programming enhancing residents' quality-of-life;
- Protection of the Rackham Golf Course and the Detroit Zoo remaining as a golf course and a zoological park and retaining their historic character;
- Preservation of the City's mature street trees and new trees planted; and
- Continued walkability and strengthened pedestrian connections to neighboring communities.



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ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The City Commission is the primary group which plans and approves parks and recreation development in the City. The City Commission establishes the budget for parks and recreation and appoints a Recreation Advisory Board of nine members to advise them on policy matters related to the operation of the parks and recreation services.

The City Manager implements the policy decisions of the City Commission and assigns the responsibility for the administration of parks and recreation services to the Parks and Recreation Director.

ADMINISTRATION

The Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation Department was originally established in 1942. The Recreation Advisory Board was established in 1970 for the immediate purpose of devising the first Parks and Recreation Master Plan (1971-1976), which put emphasis on the development of the City's parks.

The Parks and Recreation Department is headed by a Director, who is assisted by seven full-time professional staff members and countless part-time staff.

The Recreation Supervisor oversees the sports programs, the City newsletter, and special events.

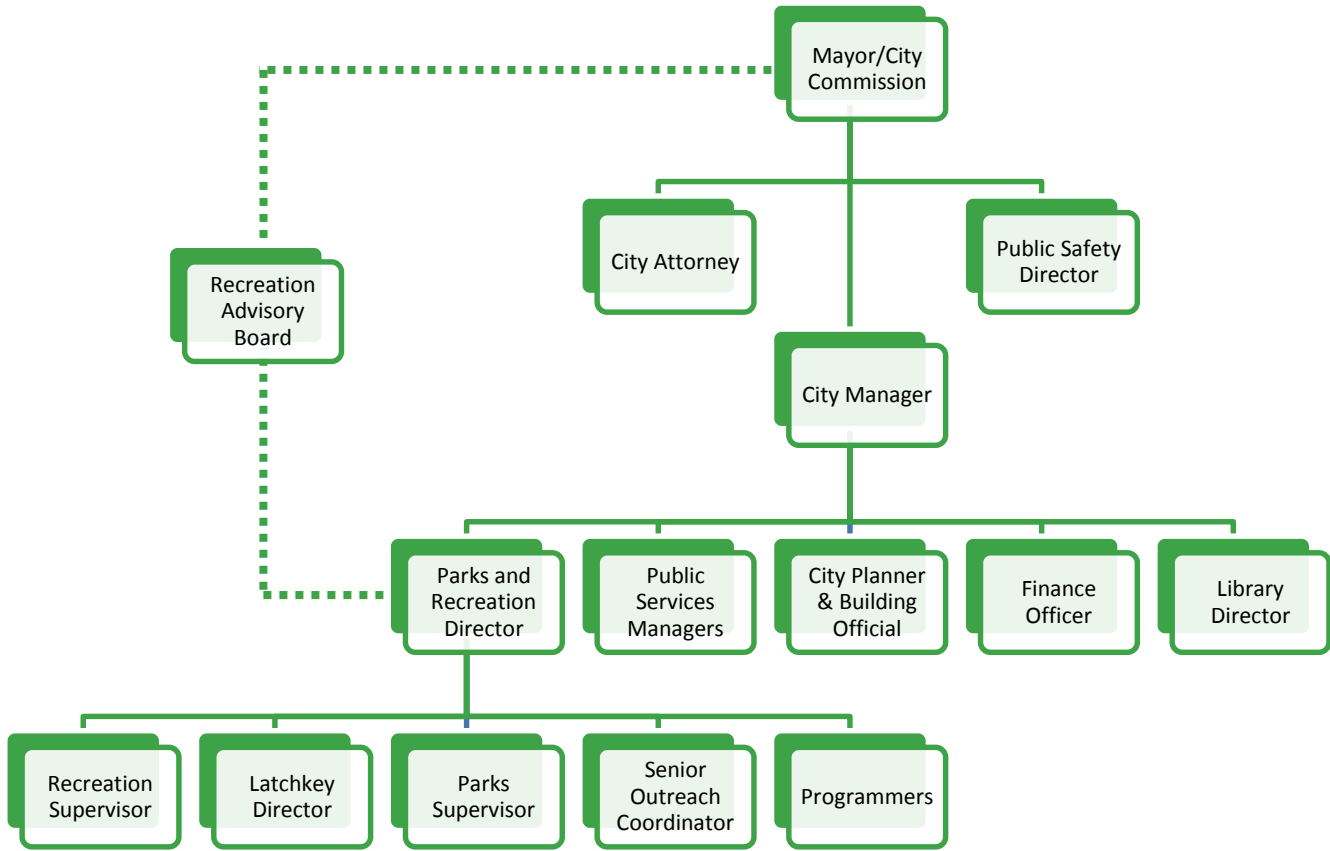
The Latchkey Director is responsible for the latchkey program. Two full-time employees constitute the Parks Department and are responsible for maintaining the parks, ball fields, and City buildings. The Office Manager handles payroll and general office operation.

The Senior Outreach Coordinator organizes a variety of programs for seniors such as the senior transportation program and a weekly lunch and speaker program. Finally, two Programmers organize classes, special events, camp programs, and oversee the aquatics facility.

Numerous part-time employees are an essential part of the Parks and Recreation Department. They include a senior program coordinator, facility managers, building supervisors, instructors, latchkey staff, pool staff, camp counselors, game officials, and referees.

The City of Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation Department is committed to developing and providing programs and activities to enhance the lives of residents.

Figure 6. City of Huntington Woods Organizational Chart



FUNDING AND BUDGET

Funding for parks and recreation activities in the City of Huntington Woods is generally supported by a tax levy of 0.2118 mill for the purpose of maintaining facilities, the City’s General Fund, user fees, and grants. A budget summary is presented in Table 7.

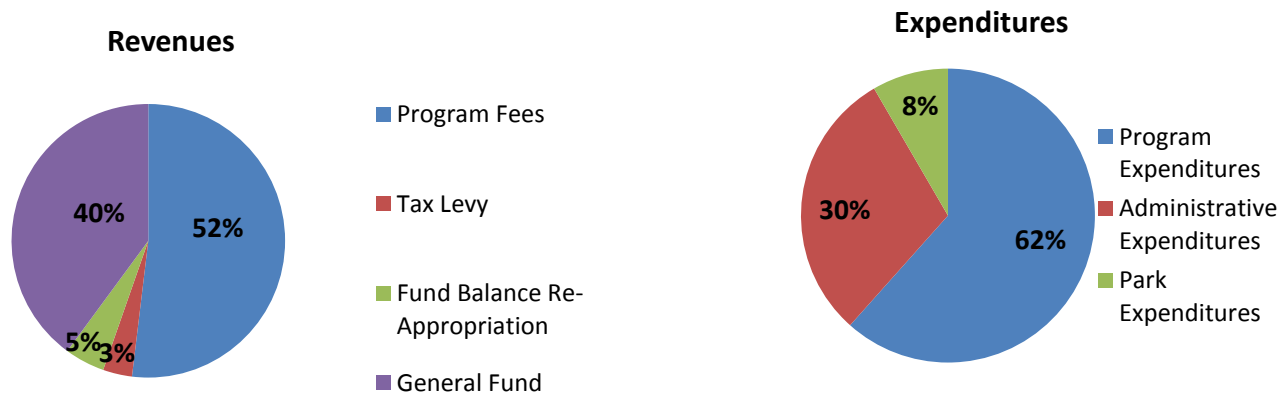
Table 7. City of Huntington Woods Current Budget Summary

	2014-15 Amended	2015-16 Proposed
Expenses		
City Bus	56,065	56,073
Administration	593,969	564,235
Programs	831,619	848,195
Parks	178,429	157,480
Swimming Pool	254,683	253,377
Total	1,914,765	1,879,360

	2014-15 Amended	2015-16 Proposed
Revenues		
Tax Revenue (generated by 0.2118 mills of tax levy for purpose of maintenance of facilities)	63,308	64,689
Recreation Fees/Rentals	10,000	10,000
Recreation Sales	1,600	1,600
Café Sales	500	500
Pool Revenue	190,000	190,000
League Fees	36,000	36,000
Classes/Trip Fees	125,000	125,000
Senior Program Fees	25,000	25,000
Latchkey Fees	185,000	195,000
Camp Fees – Fruit	330,000	320,000
Special Programs	12,500	12,500
July 4 th Activities	20,500	30,500
Interest Income	6,500	6,500
Bus Revenue	22,500	22,500
Transfer General Fund	800,000	750,000
Miscellaneous Income	500	500
Fund Balance Appropriation	85,857	89,071
Total	1,914,765	1,879,360

Program expenditures account for the majority of the departmental expenditures (62%), followed by administrative expenditures consisting primarily of personnel salaries and benefits (30%), and park expenditures (8%). Revenues are generated primarily from program fees and the City’s General Fund. A snapshot of the City’s recreation fund is illustrated in Figure 7 below.

Figure 7. Recreation Fund Snapshot



VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Volunteers, service clubs, and community groups play an active role in supporting the high quality facilities and services provided by the City of Huntington Woods.

There are about 20 clubs and organizations that contribute to parks and recreation in Huntington Woods. The following are just a few of the many groups that actively support the Parks and Recreation Department:

- The Huntington Woods Men's Club, a civic organization with over 100 members dedicated to serving the City;
- Friends of the Huntington Woods Library;
- Burton PTA, a volunteer organization whose activities primarily support and enhance Burton School;
- The Resident's Association, a non-profit volunteer organization that supports community social activities and educational projects;
- Huntington Woods Swim Team;
- Teen Council;
- The Adopt-A-Garden program;
- Boy Scouts; and
- Several babysitting co-ops: Baby-sitting Co-op, and Tots About Town.

PARKS & RECREATION RESOURCES

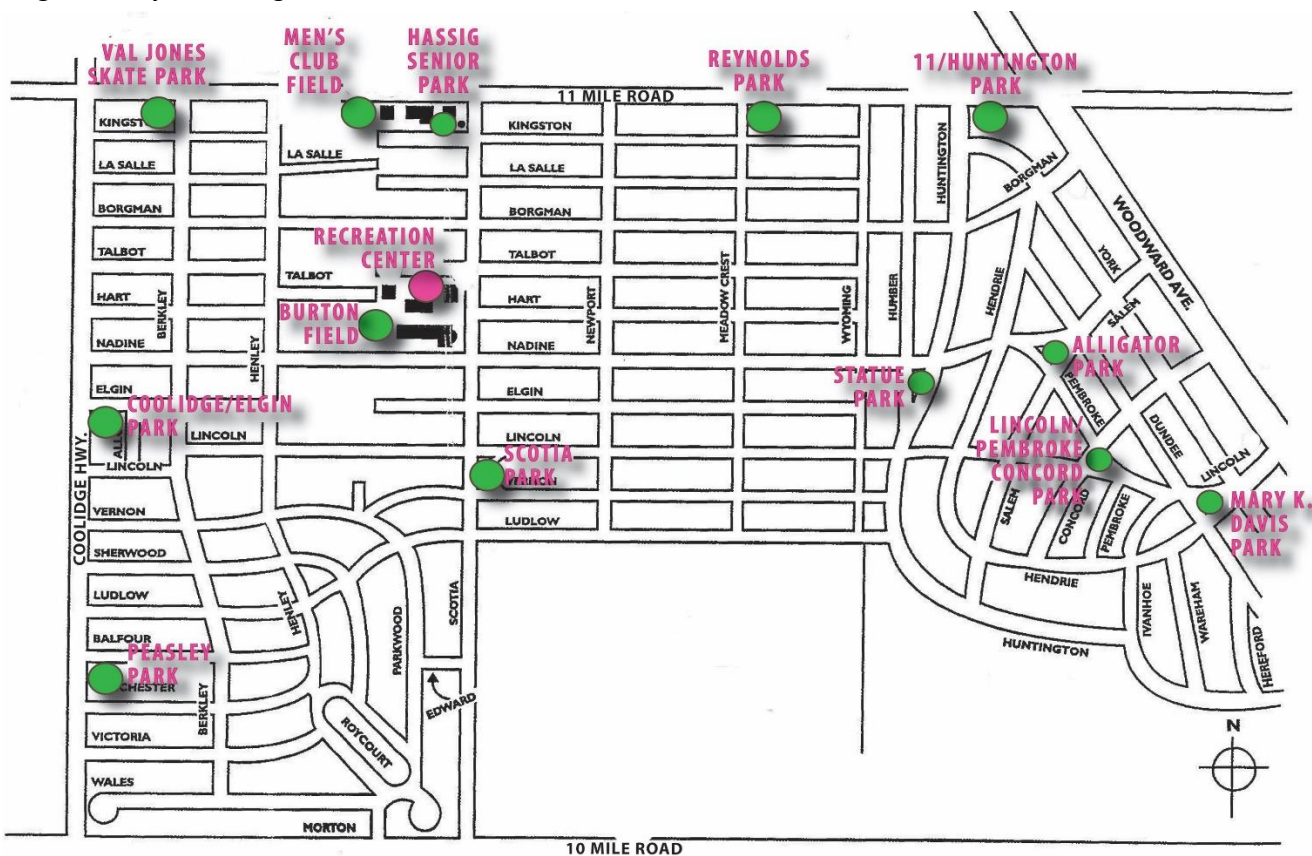
The residents and visitors of Huntington Woods are able to engage in various recreational pursuits, such as walking or biking, playing or watching sports, attending community events, and enjoying the outdoors. This section describes the recreational resources that provide these recreation experiences. The information was derived from a variety of sources including field observations.

The City of Huntington Woods provides community parks that focus on meeting the recreation needs of the community. In addition to the City park facilities and properties, there are school, private, and regional facilities offering recreation opportunities to Huntington Woods's residents.

PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The City owns and operates 13 municipal parks and properties that total about 14 acres of City-owned parks. Figure 8, below, depicts the location of the City of Huntington Woods parks. They include the central parks with the central plaza area and Scotia Park, fence-in peripheral parks along 11 Mile Road and Coolidge Highway, and small pocket parks primarily located on the east side of the City.

Figure 8. City of Huntington Woods Parks



Central Parks

Recreation Center Area

The recreation center area contains about 6.13 acres of land and contains the Recreation Center, Burton School, and the Library. It is the heart of the City and is heavily used by City residents. It incorporates the indoor facilities at the recreation center, the pool, and Burton School and outdoor facilities including the tennis courts and Burton playground.

The Recreation Center:

- Gym/activity center
- Teen room
- Senior room
- Warming room
- Multi-purpose room
- Kindergarten latchkey rooms
- Pottery/art room
- Preschool room
- Kitchen
- Game area.



Programs and activities taking place at the Recreation Center include: pre-school-adult classes, workshops, sports leagues, special events, day camps, latchkey program, meals-on-wheels, fun runs, and senior outreach.



The Pool

- Competitive pool
- Leisure pool with zero depth entry
- Diving board
- Slides
- Play structure
- Spray/water features including bubblers, rain wall, etc.
- Café/snack bar

Programs and activities taking place at the pool include: swim team, swim lessons, masters swim class, lap swim, family swim, water exercise, general swim, and special events.



Burton Field (0.57 acre) and Outdoor Facilities (field is owned by the School District)

- 4 lighted tennis courts
- Parking
- Paved outdoor plaza
- 2 ball fields with covered dugouts/players benches and bleachers
- 1/4 mile walking/jogging track.

Programs and activities taking place in these areas include: sports leagues, open play for camps and school, special events, latchkey program, summer camps, and tennis lessons.



Library

- 3 meeting rooms
- Internet access
- Woods Gallery
- Collection of 54,000 books, CDs, books on tape, and DVDs.

Programs and activities taking place at the Library include music appreciation, arts programming, adult enrichment programs, children and adult summer reading program, children's activities, and meetings for two book clubs.



Scotia Park

Containing 0.38 acres of land, Scotia Park contains landscaped areas with picnic tables, benches, and a park sign.

Programs and activities taking place at the park include the summer concert series, Fourth of July hot-dog roast, speeches and movies.



Peripheral Parks

11 Mile/Huntington Park

With 0.83 acres of land, the 11 Mile/Huntington Park is fenced-in and contains:

- 3 tennis courts
- A small sledding hill
- A paved, in-line hockey area
- A play structure
- Picnic tables and benches
- Parking along Huntington Road with park entrances from Huntington Road and 11 Mile Road.

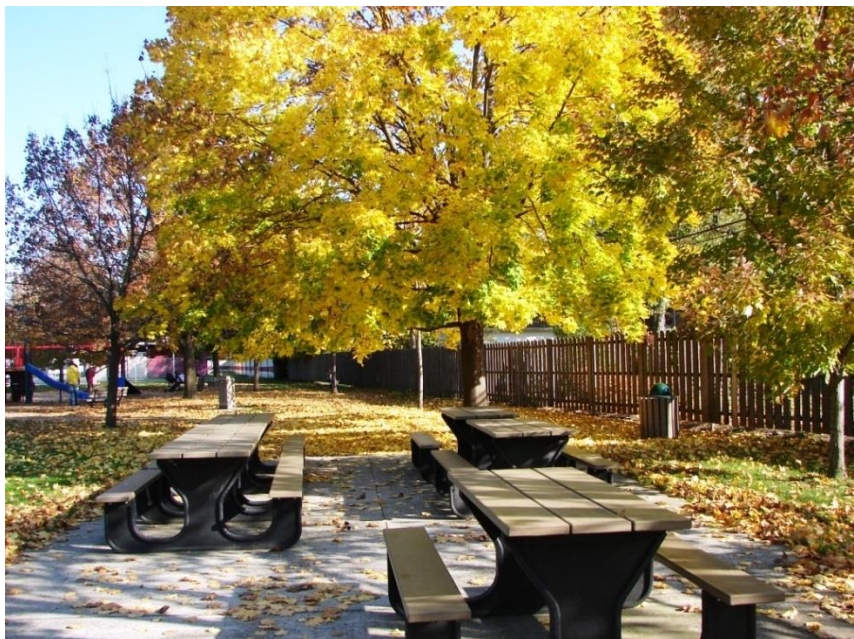
Programs taking place at the park include tennis lessons.



Reynolds Park

With 0.64 acre of land, the fenced-in property includes:

- A large play structure
- A small play structure
- Swings and climbing wall
- Paved picnic area with tables
- Woodchip pathway
- Benches, drinking fountain and a bike rack
- Parking along Meadowcrest Boulevard with park entrances from both ends



Men's Club Field

With 1.70 acres of land, the fenced-in area includes:

- 2 small soccer fields (in the outfield)
- Portable restroom/seasonal only
- Seasonal ice rink
- Parking offered at the Lutheran Church and behind the Department of Public Works with park entrances from both ends

The park is used for baseball and soccer practices.



Val Jones Skate Park

With 0.91 acre of land, the fenced-in park includes:

- A poured-in-place concrete skate park featuring an in-ground bowl and grinding bars
- An in-line hockey rink
- Portable restroom
- Woodchip pathway
- Picnic tables, benches, a drinking fountain and a bike rack
- Parking along Berkley Avenue with park entrances from 11 Mile and Berkley.



Coolidge/Elgin Park

The park contains 0.24 acre of land fenced-in with a decorative metal picket fence and include:

- A play structure
- Swings
- Picnic tables and benches
- Park entrance from Elgin.



Peasley Park

With 0.66 acre of land, the fenced-in park includes:

- A play structure
- Grass area for soccer
- Covered picnic table
- Benches
- Park entrances from Balfour and Winchester.

The park is used for soccer practices.



Pocket Parks

Gordon Hassig Senior Park

Totaling 0.11 acre of land, the space includes a gazebo, picnic tables, two shuffleboard courts, and benches. Parking is available in the City Hall Parking Lot.



Statue Park

With 0.34 acre of land, the park includes a landscaped area with a statue, benches, picnic tables, and a drinking fountain. The triangular shape open space is bordered by City sidewalks.



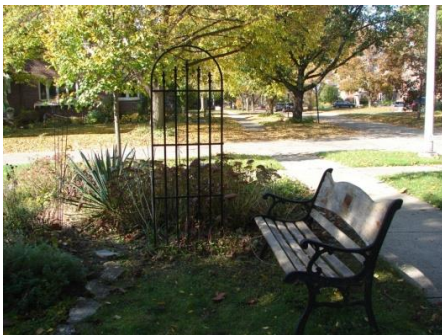
Alligator Park

With 0.25 acre of land, the park includes park sign, a garden area known as Peggy's Garden which includes a walkway with benches, a playground structure, picnic tables, and a water source. The triangular shape property includes landscaped beds and is not bordered by City sidewalks.



Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park

With 0.32 acre of land, the park includes landscaped beds, benches, and a water source. The triangular piece of property is bordered by City sidewalks.



Mary K. Davis Park

With 0.57 acre of land, the park includes a park sign, landscaped beds, picnic tables, benches (stone and wood), a flagpole, and a water source. This park contains a memorial garden, bench and dedication sign.



Intersecting Street Islands/Wales Berm

Two small undeveloped open spaces are located at the intersection of Salem, Lincoln, and Pembroke as well as Borgman and York. The City also owns a property along I-696 which includes a paved pathway, berm, and landscaping.

Other Facilities (not City-owned)

In addition to the City facilities, there are school, public, or parks and recreation facilities located in City of Huntington Woods where some of the recreation programs take place. These facilities include:

Burton Elementary School

Centrally located, Burton school includes recreation facilities including an indoor gymnasium and classrooms as well as a new outdoor playground area. The School is used for basketball practice and miscellaneous classes.

Norup Middle School

While the school is located in adjacent Oak Park, it includes a full-size indoor gymnasium that is used for 30+ years basketball.

Rackham Golf Course

With 123 acres of land, the 18-hole golf course consists of the golf course, clubhouse, greens keeper buildings, and other outbuildings. It is a Historic District. The golf course is used for golf leagues and fireworks site.



Detroit Zoo

The Detroit Zoo is listed on the national Register of Historic Places and is a designated Michigan Historic Site. It totals 125 acres, 93 acres of which are located in the City of Huntington Woods.

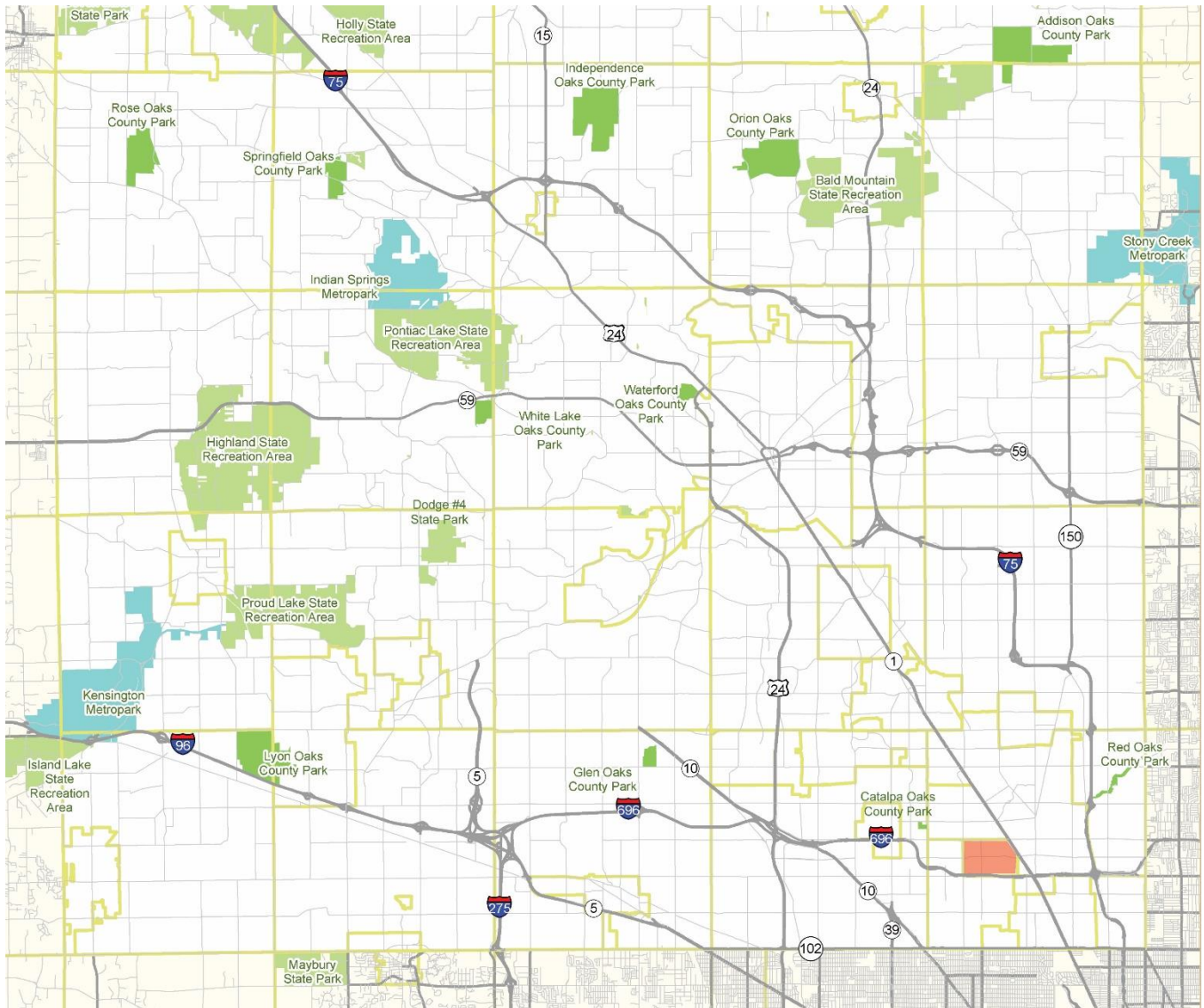


Regional Recreational Facilities

In addition, there are over 35,000 acres of state-owned parks and recreation areas, Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) metroparks, and county-owned parks and recreation areas in nearby communities. These parks and natural areas are considered regional recreational facilities.

They incorporate large areas and provide recreation opportunities such as swimming, boating, hiking, hunting, camping, and golfing, which are typically beyond the ability of a local municipality to provide. Figure 9 depicts the location of the regional parks around the City of Huntington Woods and Table 8 lists the recreational activities they offer.

Figure 9. Regional Recreation Facilities around Huntington Woods



Source: Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services

Table 8. Regional Parks

		State of Michigan				HCMA				Oakland County											
		Bald Mountain Rec Area - 4,637 Ac.	Dodge #4 State Park - 139 Acres	Highland Rec Area - 5,903 Acres	Pontiac Lake Rec Area - 3,745 Acres	Proud Lake Rec Area - 4,700 Acres	Indian Springs Metropark - 2,215 Ac	Kensington Metropark - 4,481 Acres	Lake St. Clair Metropark- 770 Ac	Stony Creek Metropark - 4,461 Ac.	Addison Oaks - 1,140 Acres	Catalpa Oaks - 24 Acres	Glen Oaks - 185 Acres	Independence Oaks - 1,276 Acres	Lyon Oaks - 1,041 Acres	Orion Oaks - 916 Acres	Red Oaks - 163 Acres	Springfield Oaks - 332 Acres	Waterford Oaks - 185 Acres	White Lake Oaks - 197 Acres	
Passive	Picnicking	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Playground	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Trails	Nature/Hiking Trail	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Paved Trail	●					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Mountain Biking Trail	●		●	●	●				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Equestrian Trail			●	●	●		●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Cross-country skiing	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Snowmobiling	●		●	●	●															
Water Activities	Swimming Beach	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Swimming Pool								●								●		●		
	Water Park/Splash						●	●	●	●		●				●		●		●	
	Boat Launch	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●				●		●					
	Boat Rental					●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Canoeing/Kayaking	●	●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Shore/Boat Fishing	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Fishing Pier	●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Winter & Seasonal Activities	Ice Fishing	●		●	●					●			●			●					
	Ice Skating							●	●	●			●							●	
	Sledding						●	●		●										●	
	Tobogganing							●		●										●	
	Hunting	●		●	●	●					●					●					
Interpretive Facilities	Nature Center						●	●	●	●			●			●					
	Farm/Learning Center							●										●			
	Garden												●					●	●		
Court & Turf Games	Ball Field									●			●	●							
	Soccer Field										●						●				
	Volleyball/Basketball			●			●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Adventure Golf																			●	
	Disk Golf							●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Golf Course						●	●	●	●			●		●		●	●	●	●	●
Misc.	Banquet/Event Facility						●		●	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Dog Park								●					●	●	●	●				
	Skate Park/Motorcross																		●		
	Disk Golf							●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Marina								●												
	Shooting Range	●			●																
Camping	Rustic Campsite	●		●	●																
	Modern Campsite			●	●					●	●										
	Cabin/Lodge	●		●		●				●	●										
	Group Camping	●		●	●		●			●	●		●								

RECREATION PROGRAMS

The outstanding recreation programming offered by the City of Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation has been one of the major City assets and the reason why so many young families are attracted to the City. Table 9 lists the programs that are available to residents of Huntington Woods along with the age group targeted by each program. Recreation program schedule and age groups are subject to change and vary every year. The programs offered by the City of Huntington Woods focus on pre-school/youth-age children and starter sports activities, youth classes and sports, latchkey, summer camps, aquatics, specialized camps, adult fitness classes and sports, adult enrichment classes, senior health and wellness, senior trips, senior classes, and community-wide events.

Table 9. Recreation Programs

Recreation Programs*	Age Group						Location
	Preschool 0 to 5 years	Youth 5 to 10 years	Junior High 11 to 13 years	High School 14 to 18 Years	Adult 18 to 55 Years	Senior 55 and Over	
Infant/Preschool Programs							
Big Builders K'Nex Program	●	●					Recreation Center
Gymnastics	●						Recreation Center
Jump-A-Rama/Tumble Tots	●						Recreation Center
Kindermusik Village	●						Recreation Center
Kindermusik Our Time	●						Recreation Center
Piano - Play-A-Story	●	●					Recreation Center
Toddler and Me Yoga	●						Recreation Center
Lots for Tots - Drop-in	●						Recreation Center
Classes							
Art of the Famous		●					Recreation Center
Babysitter Training			●	●			Recreation Center
Broadway Bound		●	●				Recreation Center
Cartooning Workshop		●					Recreation Center
Cheer, Dance, Pom		●					Recreation Center
Cooking with Deb		●					Recreation Center
CPR for Kids		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Creative Drama & Movement		●					Recreation Center
Dance in the Woods	●	●	●	●			Recreation Center
Gymnastics		●					Recreation Center
Karate & Self-Defense		●	●				Recreation Center
Kidzart for Kindergarten	●						Recreation Center
Kite Building Workshop		●					Recreation Center
Knitting Club for Kids			●	●			Recreation Center
Lego Challenge: Fundamentals		●					Recreation Center
Lego Challenge: Continuing		●					Recreation Center
Mad Science Classes		●					Recreation Center
Minecraft		●	●				Recreation Center
Play Piano Now!		●	●	●	●	●	Recreation Center

Recreation Programs*	Age Group						Location
	Preschool 0 to 5 years	Youth 5 to 10 years	Junior High 11 to 13 years	High School 14 to 18 Years	Adult 18 to 55 Years	Senior 55 and Over	
Pottery		●					Recreation Center
Video Game Design	●	●	●				Recreation Center
Yoga Kids		●					Recreation Center
Yoga for Tweens			●				Recreation Center
Young Engineers: Lego Enrichment Program		●					Recreation Center
Gingerbread House Building	●	●	●	●			Recreation Center
Knitting Club for Kids		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Friends & Family CPR				●	●	●	Recreation Center
Piano - Simply Music			●	●	●	●	Recreation Center
Fitness Classes							
Rebecca's Energizing Yoga				●	●	●	Recreation Center
Karate				●	●	●	Recreation Center
Tai-Chi				●	●	●	Recreation Center
Yoga & Drop-in Yoga							Recreation Center
Sports & Athletics							
Girls on the Run		●					Recreation Center
Soccer School for Lil Folks	●						Recreation Center
Start Smart Baseball	●						Recreation Center
Pillo Polo League		●					Recreation Center
Floor Hockey League		●					Recreation Center
Tee Ball to Coach Pitch League		●					Burton Field & Men's Club Field
Tennis	●	●	●	●	●	●	Recreation Center & 11 Mile/Huntington Park
HWP&R Boys Basketball League - 4 - 6th Grade		●	●				Recreation Center
Basketball: Organized Drop-In				●	●		Recreation Center
Co-Ed Adult Volleyball					●	●	Recreation Center
Co-Ed Kickball League					●	●	Recreation Center
Drop-in Athletic Conditioning					●		Recreation Center
Drop-in Softball for Adults					●		Recreation Center
Golf League					●		Recreation Center
SOCS - Youth Soccer		●					Recreation Center
DAD's Club Baseball		●	●				Recreation Center
HOOPS Basketball		●	●	●			Recreation Center
MOM's Blub Softball		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Steelers Football and Cheerleading		●	●				Recreation Center
Fall Youth Flag Football Leagues		●	●	●			Keller Elementary & Campbell
Teens							
Pre-L.E.A.D. Mini-Workshop			●	●			Recreation Center
Youth Symposium				●			Recreation Center
Teen Council				●			Recreation Center
Teen Holiday Dinner & Dodgeball				●			Recreation Center
Teen Movie Night				●			Recreation Center

Recreation Programs*	Age Group						Location
	Preschool 0 to 5 years	Youth 5 to 10 years	Junior High 11 to 13 years	High School 14 to 18 Years	Adult 18 to 55 Years	Senior 55 and Over	
Bingo Bango Bowling				●			Recreation Center
Middle School Laser Tag			●				Recreation Center
Executive Board Dinner Out				●			Recreation Center
Neon, Nibbles, and Nonsense				●			Recreation Center
HWTC/HWDPS VS HWMC Softball Game				●			Recreation Center
L.E.A.D. - Leadership, Education & Development			●	●			Recreation Center
Leaders in Training			●	●			Recreation Center
Teen Council Concert in the Park				●			Recreation Center
Goodbye Twins				●			Recreation Center
We totally Rock				●			Recreation Center
Halloween Costume Sale				●			Recreation Center
Latchkey							
Pre-Kindergarten Program & Young 5's Enrichment	●						Recreation Center
Kindergarten	●						Recreation Center
All Day Young 5's	●						Recreation Center
After-School Latchkey	●	●	●				Recreation Center
Early Morning Latchkey	●	●	●				Recreation Center
Fruit Camp							
Camp Apples - Half Day	●						Recreation Center
Camp Bananas - Half Day	●	●					Recreation Center
Camp Bananas - Full Day		●					Recreation Center
Camp Watermelon		●					Recreation Center
Camp Honeydew		●					Recreation Center
Camp Pineapple		●					Recreation Center
Camp Kiwi		●					Recreation Center
Before & After Camp Care	●	●					Recreation Center
Aquatics							
Hurricane Swim Team		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Masters Level Swim Program					●	●	Recreation Center
Water Babies	●						Recreation Center
Tadpoles	●						Recreation Center
Starfish	●						Recreation Center
Tropical Storm: Pre-Swim Team		●					Recreation Center
Water Exercise						●	Recreation Center
Learn-To-Swim Classes		●	●				Recreation Center
Specialty Camp							
Basketball: Pistons Academy Skills Clinic		●					Recreation Center
Alphawolf Basketball PUP Clinic		●					Recreation Center
3-on-3 Basketball Tourney		●	●				Recreation Center
Basketball Skills Clinic		●					Recreation Center
"Monday Night Lights" Girls Basketball Clinic		●	●				Recreation Center

Recreation Programs*	Age Group						Location
	Preschool 0 to 5 years	Youth 5 to 10 years	Junior High 11 to 13 years	High School 14 to 18 Years	Adult 18 to 55 Years	Senior 55 and Over	
Look at Your World	●						Recreation Center
Kindermusik Peekaboo! I Love You!	●						Recreation Center
Creatures in my Backyard	●						Recreation Center
Adventure Squad			●				Recreation Center
Soccer Academy Camp - Co-Ed		●					Recreation Center
Speed & Fitness Camp			●	●			Recreation Center
Pistons Academy Camp		●					Recreation Center
All About Art Camp		●					Recreation Center
Around the World with Miss Mary		●					Recreation Center
Baseball Academy Camp		●					Recreation Center
SK8 Camp: Skateboards & Rollerblades		●	●				Recreation Center
Track Camp		●					Recreation Center
Horseback Riding Camp		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Survivor Camp		●	●				Recreation Center
Kids Empowered: Yoga Girls		●	●				Recreation Center
Cheer-gymnastics camp		●	●	●			Recreation Center
Mad Science Flight Academy		●	●				Recreation Center
Sports Starters	●						Recreation Center
Kiddie Sports		●					Recreation Center
Mega-Sport Camp		●					Recreation Center
Science Extravaganza		●	●				Recreation Center
Eureka! Ingenious Inventions Camp		●	●				Recreation Center
Broadway Bound: Teen Beach Movie		●	●				Recreation Center
Kids Empowered: Little Girls Empowered-Shoot for the Stars	●	●					Recreation Center
Fruit Salad		●					Recreation Center
Kids Empowered: Boys Empowered - How to Train Your Dragon		●					Recreation Center
Boys Lacrosse Camp		●	●				Recreation Center
Lego Challenge Week		●					Recreation Center
K'nex Big Builders	●	●					Recreation Center
Skyhawk's Roller Hockey Camp		●	●				Recreation Center
Special Events/Trips							
Parent' Night Out: "Frozen"	●	●					
Handel's Messiah				●	●	●	
Daytime Holiday Sing-A-Long at Dakota Inn				●	●	●	
Reindeer Romp	●	●					
Farina's Holiday Party						●	
DSO Coffee Concert					●	●	
3-on-3 Basketball Tourney		●	●				
Euchre Tournament					●	●	
Daddy Daughter Dance: White Out		●					
DIA Transportation				●	●	●	
Adult Wild Ride: Fowling				●	●	●	

Recreation Programs*	Age Group						Location
	Preschool 0 to 5 years	Youth 5 to 10 years	Junior High 11 to 13 years	High School 14 to 18 Years	Adult 18 to 55 Years	Senior 55 and Over	
Friday Night at the Movies	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Winter Dinner Out: Giovanni's Ristorante					●	●	
New Residents Reception					●	●	
Eastern Market Tour					●	●	
London Chop House/Shinola					●	●	
Brundibar Rehearsal at the Detroit Opera House					●	●	
Baker's Keyboard Lounge Lunch & Live Jazz					●	●	
HWMC Auction					●	●	
A view from the Bridge Rehearsal at the DOH					●	●	
Shopping/Lunch I Northville & Tipping Point					●	●	
Wish upon a Butterfly & good Girls Go To Paris					●	●	
Beethoven Violin concerto					●	●	
Andrews Brothers at Meadowbrook/Lunch at the Victorian Rose Tea Room					●	●	
Bronfman Plays Beethoven					●	●	
BHS Prom Party in Prom Park					●	●	
Go Comedy/Lunch at Dino's					●	●	
Great Lakes Culinary Center					●	●	
Case of the Dead Paparazzi					●	●	
Fourth of July Celebration	●	●	●	●	●	●	Various Locations in City
Mother/Son Tiger Game	●	●	●	●	●		
WSU Artwalk					●	●	
Best of Fenton					●	●	
Lunch at Root & the Oakland Co Fair					●	●	
Cantaro's Italian Market					●	●	
Wednesday Wild Ride			●	●			
Ann Arbor Kerrytown, Zingerman's & Farmer's Market					●	●	
Historic Marshall: Turkeyville: SUDS					●	●	
Concerts in the Park	●	●	●	●	●	●	Scotia Park
Movie Under the Stars at Scotia Park	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Adult Detroit Kayaking Trip					●	●	
Bike Night in HW: Wednesdays	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Slow Roll: Mondays					●	●	
Palmer Park Bike Rides					●	●	
Critical Mass					●	●	
Senior Outreach							
Blood Pressure						●	Recreation Center
Curb-To-Curb Transportation						●	Recreation Center
Movie Matinees						●	Recreation Center
Monday Lunch Bunch						●	Recreation Center
Walk the Gym						●	Recreation Center

* Recreation program schedule and age groups are subject to change and vary every year.

Sources: City of Huntington Woods Hometown Herald

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT & GRANT ASSISTED PROJECTS

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing access to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with mobility challenges. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines was used to evaluate the accessibility of the City parks. The specific elements that were evaluated include parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, and the activity areas themselves. Table 10 presents the results of this evaluation.

Table 10. Accessibility Assessment

The MDNR suggested ranking system to evaluate the accessibility of the parks ranges from 1 to 5 as follows:

1. *None of the facilities 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, and*
5. *The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.*

Park	Rank	Description
Recreation Center	5	The Recreation Center was developed using the principles of universal design.
Pool	5	The pool was developed using the principles of universal design.
Burton Field	4	All the park's facilities are ADA compliant.
Scotia Park	2	There is an accessible picnic table and area.
11 Mile/ Huntington Park	3	There is an accessible parking area and a ramp to access the tennis courts.
Reynolds Park	3	There is an accessible parking area, picnic area, and the play structures/apparatus include accessible components, however the route to these activity areas is not ADA compliant.
Men's Club Field	3	The ball field, dugout, and bleachers are accessible from the Lutheran Church.
Val Jones Skate Park	4	All the park's facilities comply with ADA standards.
Coolidge/Elgin Park	4	All the park's facilities comply with ADA standards.
Peasley Park	3	The play structure includes accessible components; however the route to these areas is not ADA compliant.
Hassig Senior Park	2	The park includes some concrete walkways.
Statue Park	2	The park is bordered by concrete sidewalks.
Alligator Park	1	The park is not accessible.
Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park	2	The park is bordered by concrete sidewalks.
Mary K. Davis Park	2	The park is bordered by concrete sidewalks.

The City of Huntington Woods has taken great strides to ensure that its active recreation facilities comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. All new park construction projects in Huntington Woods are designed to meet or exceed the most recent requirements of the ADA while existing facilities are being brought into compliance with renovation and upgrade projects.

The City has been awarded five Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants since 1973. Grant funding from the state has been instrumental in developing recreation facilities for residents. Table 11 presents a description of all MDNR grants received including the current use and condition of the grant-assisted park facilities.

Table 11. MDNR Grant Assisted Projects

Grant Number	Description	Grant Amount	Current Use/condition
26-00452 1973 LWCF	11 Mile/Huntington Park 3 lighted tennis courts, inline skating rink, play equipment, and landscaping	\$18,800	The tennis courts have been upgraded (see 1989 grant) and maintained in good condition, the play equipment and in-line skating area are outdated and in need of renovation.
26-01023 C3 1977 LWCF	Val Jones Park Multi-purpose court, horseshoe courts, playground equipment, picnic equipment, drinking fountain, water service, landscaping	\$10,577	The items installed in 1977 have served their useful life and have been removed.
BF89-514 1989 RBF	11 Mile/Huntington Park: recoating of tennis courts Reynolds Park: new play structure Coolidge/Elgin Park: new play structure	\$16,750	The tennis courts have been maintained in good condition, however, the play structures at Reynolds has served its useful life and has been replaced, while the Coolidge/Elgin play structure has been maintained.
BF93-203 1993 RBF	Burton Community Park New play structure, tables, benches, athletic field drainage, jogging path, landscaping, and lighting	\$100,000	A new play structure is being built at the school while improvements to the jogging path surface and fields are being planned.
CM00-152 2000 CMI	Val Jones Skate Park In-line skating rink, new play equipment, free-form skateboard area	\$196,000	The park is maintained in good condition and well used. The play equipment was moved to Peasley Park to replace outdated play equipment.

RBF: Recreation Bond Fund

LWCF: Land and Water Conservation Fund

CMI: Clean Michigan Initiative



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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A critical component in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs and desires of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs and preferences provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives that lead to an action plan. To assess needs and desires, consideration was given to current recreation trends and input from community stakeholders, public officials, staff, and residents of the City of Huntington Woods.

PARK ACREAGE COMPARISON

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum amount of park land to adequately serve a given population. The NRPA guidelines provide minimum park land standards that are applicable nationwide for recreation planning purposes. While the NRPA standards are useful benchmarks addressing minimum park acreage, it is recognized that Huntington Woods is fully developed with little or no opportunities to increase park land.

According to NRPA, parks are categorized as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities. In Huntington Woods, all City parks may be considered as close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of close-to-home park land is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents. For Huntington Woods residents, regional parks include the Rackham Golf Course and the Detroit Zoo, as well as the county, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and state-owned recreation facilities described in the preceding chapter. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of regional park land is 15 to 20 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Table 12 presents a comparison of the NRPA suggested park land standards with existing parks based on the 2010 population (6,238). While the City does not meet the minimum standards for *close-to-home* park land, it has regional parks which offer additional recreation opportunities within the City limits and in nearby communities.

Table 12. Comparison to Suggested Park Land Acreage Standards

Type of Park	NRPA Standard Acres/ 1000 Population	NRPA Standard Applied 6,238 Population	Existing
Close-to-Home Parks	6.25 - 10.5 Acres	39 - 65 Acres	13.7 Acres
Regional Parks - within City	15 - 20 Acres	94 - 125 Acres	231 Acres
Regional Parks - out of City	15 - 20 Acres	94 - 125 Acres	35,000 Acres+

NATIONAL AND STATE RECREATION TRENDS

Recreation trends on a national level and in Michigan provide insight into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and therefore may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The Outdoor Foundation regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. According to the Outdoor Foundation, nearly 50 percent of Americans (141.9 million) ages six and older participated in outdoor recreation in 2012. Table 13 lists the top five outdoor activities.

Table 13. National Sports Participation, 2012

Activity	Participation
1. Running, Jogging, and Trail Running	53.2 million
2. Freshwater, Saltwater, and Fly Fishing	46.0 million
3. Road Biking, Mountain Biking, and BMX	42.3 million
4. Car, Backyard, and RV Camping	38.0 million
5. Hiking	34.5 million

Source: Outdoor Participation Report, 2013, the Outdoor Foundation

These trends are consistent with trends observed in Michigan. According to a telephone survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2013-2017 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the top ten outdoor recreation activities are: biking (all types), camping, fishing, walking outdoor (including dog walking), hiking (all types), playing outdoor games/sports, hunting, swimming (all types), boating, and visiting playgrounds.

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of Huntington Woods can be summarized as follows:

- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the expected increase of seniors.
- There is a trend towards implementing community-wide non-motorized transportation and complete streets systems to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian recreation use and to contribute to healthy and walkable communities. The City of Huntington Woods should establish such as system and facilitate connections to a regional system with complete streets infrastructure improvements.
- The City of Huntington Woods contains a vast amount of Detroit-owned land within its boundaries. Partnerships with the Detroit Zoological Society, the City of Detroit, and other area recreation providers are desirable to maximize the community's recreation potential.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The planning process included multiple forums for community outreach. Public input was received through an online survey and an open house, regular public meetings with the recreation Advisory Board were held to discuss the master plan, the draft Master Plan was available for review for 30 days, and a public hearing took place to provide an opportunity for the public to voice any concerns and opinions about the Plan. A total of more than 450 people participated in the recreation planning effort. This level of involvement is outstanding for a community of Huntington Woods' size.

2014 Master Plan Update Survey

As part of the 2014 update of the City of Huntington Woods Master Plan, City residents were asked several questions, some of which pertained to parks and recreation. The three top-most nonresidential uses respondents felt are needed for Huntington Woods in the future are parks and open spaces followed by a coffee shop and a grocery store/bakery. Respondents indicated they mostly walk to parks, the pool, the Recreation Center, and the Library. Biking was also the second more important way people get to parks. Respondents felt that dedicated bike lanes and paths are one of the most important unmet needs in the City.

Residents Survey

During the month of September and October 2014, the City of Huntington Woods residents were invited to provide ideas and suggestions for the City's parks and recreation system through an online survey available from the City's website. City staff worked diligently in soliciting input from residents and the survey was advertised on the Department's Face book page, through eBlasts, in the Hometown Herald newsletter, and in the Daily Tribune.

The online questionnaire was designed to solicit feedback on a broad range of issues for the community. Four hundred and forty nine surveys were received and tabulated. Key findings from the surveys are outlined below and a detailed account of the responses is included in Appendix to this report.

Table 14. Resident Survey Top Responses

Findings
<i>Recreation Programs and Services</i>
Top programs and activities respondents participated in the last year
1. Fourth of July
2. Concerts in the Park
3. Pool
4. Family Special Events
5. Fruit Camp
Most important programs and services

Findings
1. Pool
2. Fourth of July
3. School-Age Programs
4. Fruit Camp
5. Youth Sports
Programs and services with greatest level of satisfaction
1. Fourth of July
2. Concerts in the Park
3. Pool
4. Family Special Events
5. Fruit Camp
Additional programming or activities desired include:
Recreation center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness and weight training area • Indoor coffeehouse with concerts/performances
Pool
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-meter springboard diving • Extended occasional nighttime hours at the pool
Seniors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickle Ball courts indoor/outdoor • More programming for active seniors/empty nesters • Meditation, Relaxation techniques, Senior safety classes, balance techniques, Senior Fitness classes, Drama for adults, Reflexology techniques
Adults
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More adult fitness classes • Adult softball, adult volleyball, building floats for 4th of July, more daddy daughter/mother son. Family oriented activities; Tiger's games, family kick ball. New baseball fields, more movie nights at pool. More "hay day" type activities.
Youth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign language for kids • Latchkey for pre-k • More preschool programs
Camps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-K fruit camp that includes a longer day with child care option • Apple and banana camps that align with the older camps.
General/Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor ice skating rink

Findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More week night physical activities, like bike ride around City with someone to teach how to manage bikes • More for special needs children & adults - perhaps using peer mentoring or community service teens to assist • Outdoor classes in nice weather (e.g., Yoga or Tai Chi)
Pool
Over 60% of respondents would like to see additional shade to the pool deck.
Over 58% of respondents would be in favor of removing the grassy area of the pool deck in order to offer more shade.
Additional suggested improvements to the pool include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better offerings/expanded/healthier options menu at the cafe • More seating/chairs • Cleaner bathrooms and showers • Shade over the play structure • Pool hours should start earlier in the morning • Rethink adult only swim each hour • Pool temperature is often uncomfortably cold
Parks
Priority parks for improvement
1. Burton School/Field
2. Scotia Park
3. Peasley Park
4. 11 Mile/Huntington
5. Alligator Park
Specific Improvements
11 Mile/Huntington
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove/replace outdated play equipment • Improve maintenance and landscaping • Restrict overnight parking
Reynolds Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add cover over picnic area • Add restrooms • Add fitness equipment for adults
Men's Club Field
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve field surfaces • Add score board for games • Improve drainage (2)
Val Jones Skate Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add outdoor ice skating rink

Findings
Coolidge/Elgin Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs painting
Peasley Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add small kid-friendly play structure • Add swings • Add picnic pavilion/area
Burton Field
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete playground renovation at the School • Repair/resurface track • Improve ball fields • Smooth out grass, redo ball diamonds, replace dugout covers • Make soccer nets available and to be checked out from Recreation Center
Scotia Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add concert structure • Add seating • More picnic tables, more "permanent" infrastructure for summer concerts and programs, including bathrooms. • A plan for winter usage - maybe an ice rink. A concessions building or shelter for that could be used for the summer concert concessions and in the winter for hot chocolate.
Alligator Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove/improve play structure
Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add play equipment, sculptures of animals, people, or trees, a vine arbor, a small stone courtyard
Statue Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair drinking fountain • Improve landscaping and garden areas
Mary K. Davis Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up and update landscaping
General
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor skating rink • Better maintenance and landscaping • More benches/seating • Add a shelter at one or two parks that would be available for rental • Allow dogs on a leash • Newer/better play structures • Add drinking water fountain at all parks

Findings
Online Registration
Over 53% of respondents would not use online registration for programs and services for an additional fee.
Other Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you for all you do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online registration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open gym for sports other than basketball
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our family appreciated all parks and rec do to help make this a great community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More programs for tweens and teens on Friday and Saturday nights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of us occasionally bring older neighbors to the recreation center - would like to see hand railing leading to the entrance - for when we drop them off then go park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maybe collaborating with neighboring cities to bring more variety of programs and activities to the parks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be nice to have a coffee shop in the Rec Center

Open House

Following the resident survey, the public was invited to attend an open house held at the Recreation Center on November 18, 2014. Notices were published or posted on the Department's Facebook page, through eBlasts, and in the Hometown Herald newsletter and the Daily Tribune. Those who attended the open house provided valuable suggestions for improvements.

The open house included six stations: 1-**Peripheral Parks**, 2- **Larger Parks and Parks with Athletic Fields**, 3- **Small Interior Parks**, 4- **Pool & Pool Programming**, 5- **Recreation Center Facilities**, and 6- **Recreation Programs & Services**. Participants were asked to indicate their preferences on the ideas and suggestions garnered from the online surveys. Some of the top suggestions from the Open House are outlined below with a complete listing in Appendix.

Table 15. Open House Top Suggestions

Station/Park	Top Suggestions
Station 1 - Peripheral Parks	
11 Mile/Huntington Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update/replace play structure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the park an attractive entrance to the City
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict overnight parking
Reynolds Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer additional play equipment (e.g., sandbox)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide cover/shelter over picnic area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add adult fitness equipment
Val Jones Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use



Station/Park	Top Suggestions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply new goals for in-line hockey rink
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address user problems and monitor activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update in-line hockey rink surface and fencing
Coolidge/Elgin Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update swings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add drinking water fountain
Peasley Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer additional play equipment for young children (e.g., swings)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate and update fencing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add picnic pavilion available for rental and/or picnic area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply soccer nets for practice
Station 2 - Larger Parks and Parks with Athletic Fields	
Scotia Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add open air gazebo and plaza
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install a small permanent band shell
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove/replace old picnic tables
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add restrooms
Burton Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurface/improve track
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide additional spectator seating
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair drinking water fountain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renovate ball fields (level outfield & replace dugout awnings)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve drainage of the ball fields
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply soccer nets for practice
Men's Club Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve ball fields including drainage and surface leveling
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add field amenities (e.g., awnings over dugouts, scoreboard, etc.)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supply additional spectator seating
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair/replace lighting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade portable restrooms
Mary K. Davis Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide "natural" landscaped pathway around the park
Station 3 - Small Interior Parks	
Statue Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair drinking water fountain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add play structure/equipment
Alligator Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair/replace play structure
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide open air gazebo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add garden features such as decorative fountain, birdbath
Lincoln/Pembroke /Concord Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add garden features (e.g., sculpture, vine arbor, stone courtyard, etc)
Hassig Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace/update benches

Station/Park	Top Suggestions
Station 4 – Pool & Pool Programming	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide scoreboard for swim meet 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update bathrooms and showers 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install shade cover over play structure 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more shade to the pool deck 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the grassy area of the pool to offer more shade 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend nighttime hours 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend pool opening season (for lap & afterschool swims) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional seating 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a hot tub 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revamp cafe/snack bar with more healthy options 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rethink adult only swim reserved times 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend early morning hours 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make pool available for rent/special events 	
Station 5 – Recreation Center Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide online registration 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a coffee shop 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a fitness room/facility 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide indoor/outdoor pickle ball courts 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer additional indoor toddler play equipment (e.g., small slide) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide healthier food options 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide infant daycare 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide recreation center e-mail blast 	
Station 6 – Recreation Programs & Services	
General Classes & Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robotic classes for tweens/teens
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More adult programs for 50-65 age group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer programming classes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking club
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Classes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult fitness classes (Zumba, yoga, jazzercise, & Pilates)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher level art classes for tweens/teens
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult soccer, softball, basketball, & football
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice skating class
Latchkey & Pre-kindergarten Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate use of electronics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit television or cartoon program viewing

Station/Park	Top Suggestions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add latchkey for pre-kindergarten kids
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide homework help & resource for latchkey kids
Camps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer full-day Camp Apple option
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align Apple and Banana camps with the older camps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand activities for fruit camps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer before and after care for pre-k camps
Senior Outreach & Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more programs for active seniors/empty nesters
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more programs for disabled seniors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand efforts to reach out to more seniors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more senior programs (senior safety, balance techniques, senior fitness, strength training, water aerobics, & yoga)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more senior programs (senior safety, balance techniques, senior fitness, strength training, water aerobics, & yoga)
Special Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never eliminate the 4th of July fireworks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add more concerts-in-the-park
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer more community-wide events reaching out to all ages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add more floats to the 4th of July parade

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives were formulated to provide direction and a long-term vision for the City of Huntington Woods parks and recreation services. The goals and objectives are broad enough to encompass the needs expressed from the public, City officials, and staff. In addition, they consider demographics, current and anticipated growth and development, the area's physical and cultural resources, and national and state recreation trends.

The mission of the City of Huntington Woods Parks and Recreation Department is to:

"Commit to developing and providing programs and activities to enhance the lives of residents."

While the recreation goals for the City of Huntington Woods parks and recreation express intent and purpose, the objectives that follow are more specific and address the manner in which the goals may be achieved.

GOAL 1. PARK MAINTENANCE GOAL

Maintain parks to provide clean, safe, attractive, and functional environments.

Objectives:

1. Replace/upgrade aging park facilities and equipment;
2. Ensure safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones;
3. Remove barriers to universal access;
4. Refurbish athletic fields and parking/pavement surfaces;
5. Enhance park maintenance through increased weeding, tree pruning, and general park upkeep; and
6. Plant trees and shrubs to create shade and supplement landscaped areas.



In the words of one resident:

"As a senior citizen and 45 year resident of Huntington Woods, my involvement in community Parks and Rec have changed from what they were four decades ago. However, I still feel very strongly, as I did then, that the programs enhancing a solid community identity, providing for a healthy foundation for our children, and addressing the needs of compromised senior citizens should always be supported priorities of all Huntington Woods residents."

GOAL 2. PARK RENOVATION/DEVELOPMENT GOAL

Renovate/develop park facilities to respond to residents' recreational needs and that are financially sustainable.

Objectives:

1. Add play structures/apparatus as well as other park amenities such as a temporary ice rink as feasible;
2. Install support facilities such as shade structures, picnic pavilion, and restrooms;
3. Add park furnishings as needed including picnic tables, benches, and drinking water fountain; and
4. Design and implement a uniform park signage.



GOAL 3. RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

GOAL

Continue to enhance the quality of recreation programming and services.

Objectives:

1. Encourage healthy and active lifestyles;
2. Continue to broaden the variety of activities offered while ensuring that programs are financially self-sustaining;
3. Monitor and evaluate recreation programs to assess gaps in the provision of services;
4. Continue to expand and provide programs and events that build community;
5. Continue to expand the use of web-based communication tools; and
6. Provide opportunities for volunteers and community stewardship projects.



GOAL 4. COMPLETE STREETS GOAL

Improve and establish complete streets infrastructures to make it safe and convenient for more people to walk and bike.



Objectives:

1. Work with the City Commission and Planning Commission to prepare a City-wide Complete Streets plan for Huntington Woods;
2. Add pedestrian amenities around the City to include, for example, way finding signs, benches, trash receptacles, and mile markers.

GOAL 5. ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONAL GOAL

Provide for the administration and operation of parks and recreation services in a sustainable and fiscally sound way.

Objectives:

1. Increase staffing and maintenance equipment as needed to support services;
2. Continue monitoring fees and costs for recreation programs and services;
3. Work to increase revenues;
4. Maintain existing and forge new partnerships with public and private recreation providers to support efficient and effective service and program delivery;
5. Increase volunteer opportunities for recreation programs and park stewardship;
6. Build a “Friends of the Parks” group which could be active in providing additional support for park project and funding; and
7. Continue to pursue grants for park land acquisition and development.



ACTION PROGRAM

The action program further details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of desired improvements which can be considered as long-term projects to be accomplished for each park or activity. It also provides a project improvement schedule focusing on projects to be accomplished within the next five years. Strategies for implementation are also suggested.

DESIRED IMPROVEMENTS

The following outlines the desired improvements which represent the long-term preferred vision for each park or activity. The improvements are grouped by park or activity and address the goals and objectives.

1. Maintain and upgrade existing parks and recreation facilities (all parks)

These activities include replacing or repairing old equipment and facilities which are in a state of disrepair, are outdated, or dangerous. They also include improving the appearance of the City parks through appropriate landscaping and maintenance. All upgrades must meet safety and accessibility standards. Proposed activities include:

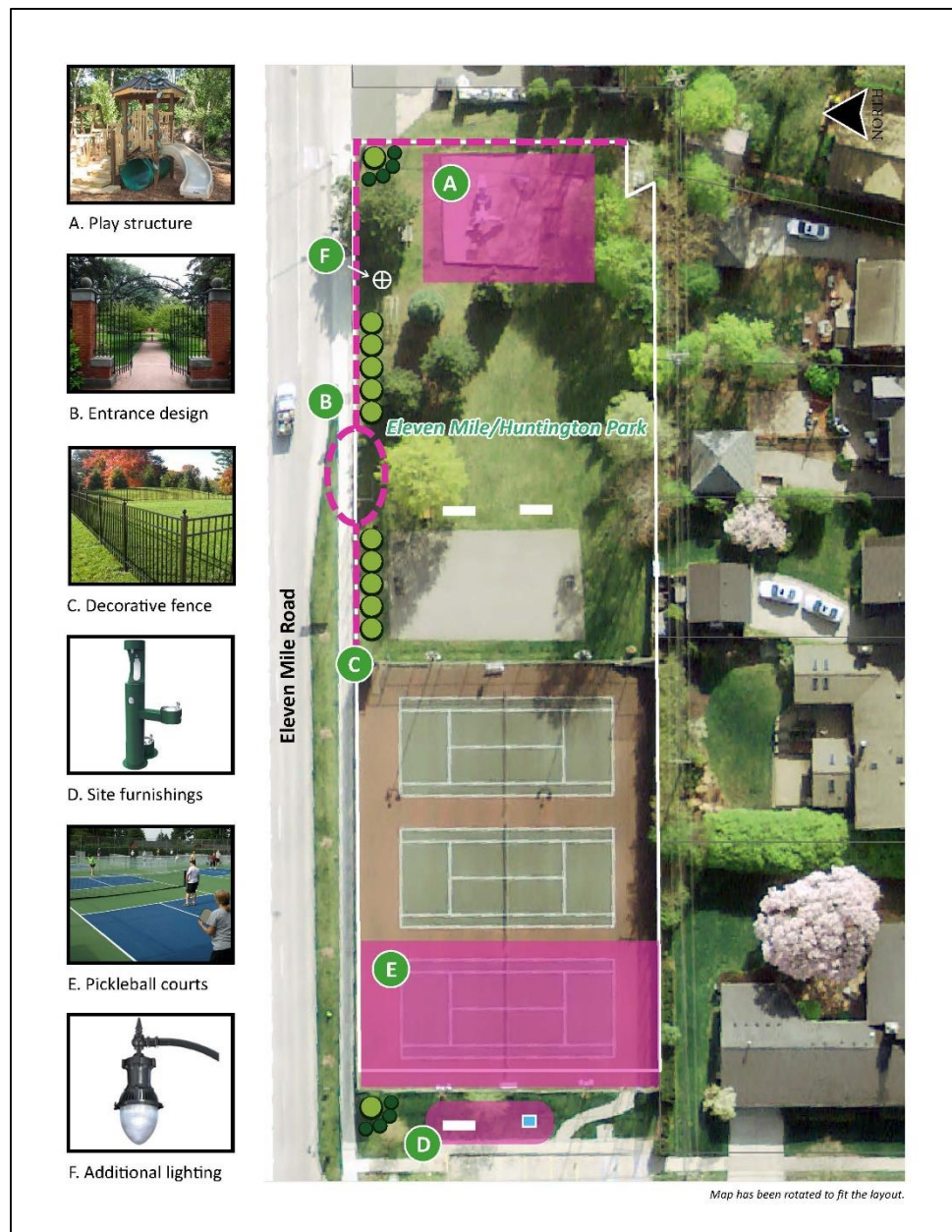
- A. Remove/replace outdated play equipment;
- B. Maintain safety surfaces under play structures to regulated depth and fall zone;
- C. Refurbish athletic field, parking areas, and court game pavement surfaces as needed;
- D. Repair/replace/add park furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles, drinking water fountain, and secondary, warning/rule signs;
- E. Maintain structures and buildings in good condition with roof repair, exterior painting, and other needed renovations;
- F. Repair and improve existing, main park entry signs; consider designing a uniform park signage system for both park entry signs and secondary, warning/rule signs;
- G. Restrict and enforce overnight parking at applicable parks;
- H. Manage existing vegetation with weeding, removal of dead/disease limbs and plant materials, and addition of perennial, shrub, and tree plantings; and
- I. Continue general park upkeep and stewardship.

2. Improve peripheral parks

11 Mile/Huntington Park

This park is slated for renovation. A development plan should be prepared which would involve a complete overhaul of some of the existing park facilities. Proposed suggested improvements include:

- A. Remove and replace play structures and equipment;
- B. Make the park an attractive, welcoming, entrance to the City by adding a park sign and landscaping;
- C. Replace the existing chain-link fence with a more decorative fence;
- D. Add drinking water fountain and benches;
- E. Consider providing pickle ball courts separate or within the tennis court area; and
- F. Improve circulation, visibility, and safety.



Reynolds Park

Proposed improvements include:

- A. Provide a shade cover or shelter over the picnic area;
- B. Offer additional play equipment (e.g., sandbox, etc.);
- C. Add adult fitness equipment;
- D. Add a main park entry sign; and
- E. Renovate and update fence by replacing existing chain-link fence with a decorative fence and improve park entrances.

Men's Club Field

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Improve ball field surface (grading and drainage);
- B. Add field amenities (e.g., awnings over dugouts, scoreboard, etc.);
- C. Supply additional spectator seating;
- D. Consider providing outdoor ice rink for winter use;
- E. Repair/replace lighting; and
- F. Upgrade portable restrooms.

Val Jones Park

Potential improvements include:

- A. Supply new goals for the in-line hockey rink;
- B. Update the in-line hockey rink surface and protective fence;
- C. Consider providing an outdoor ice rink for winter use; and
- D. Continue to manage user problems and monitor activities.

Coolidge/Elgin Park

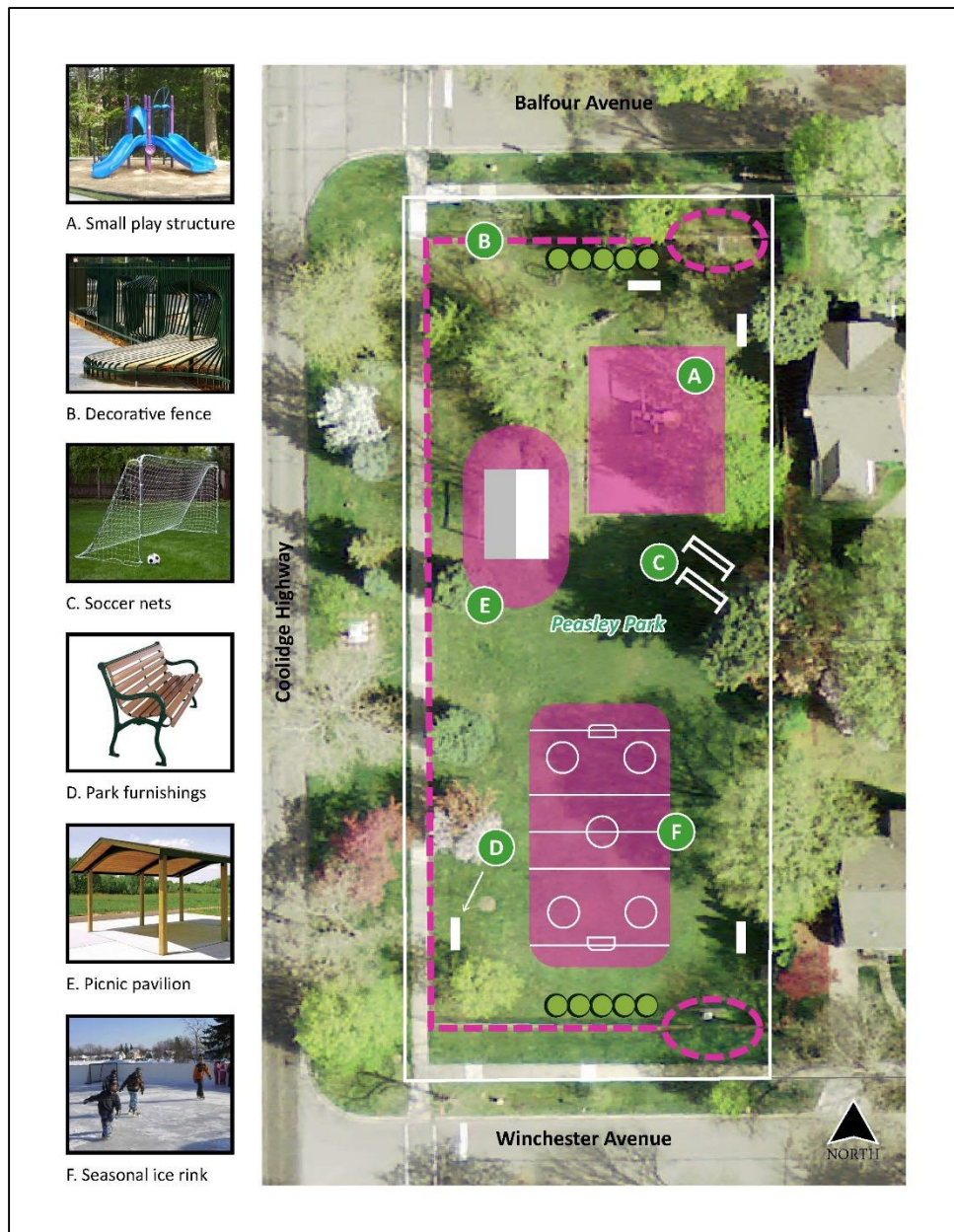
Suggested improvements include:

- A. Update swings; and
- B. Add drinking water fountain.

Peasley Park

Proposed improvements include:

- A. Add new play equipment for young children (e.g., swings, small play structure, etc.);
- B. Renovate and update fence by replacing existing chain link fence with a decorative fence and improve entrances ;
- C. Supply soccer nets for practice;
- D. Add more seating and park furnishings;
- E. Consider adding a picnic pavilion available for rental and/or a picnic area; and
- F. Consider providing an outdoor ice rink for winter use.



3. Improve central parks

Scotia Park

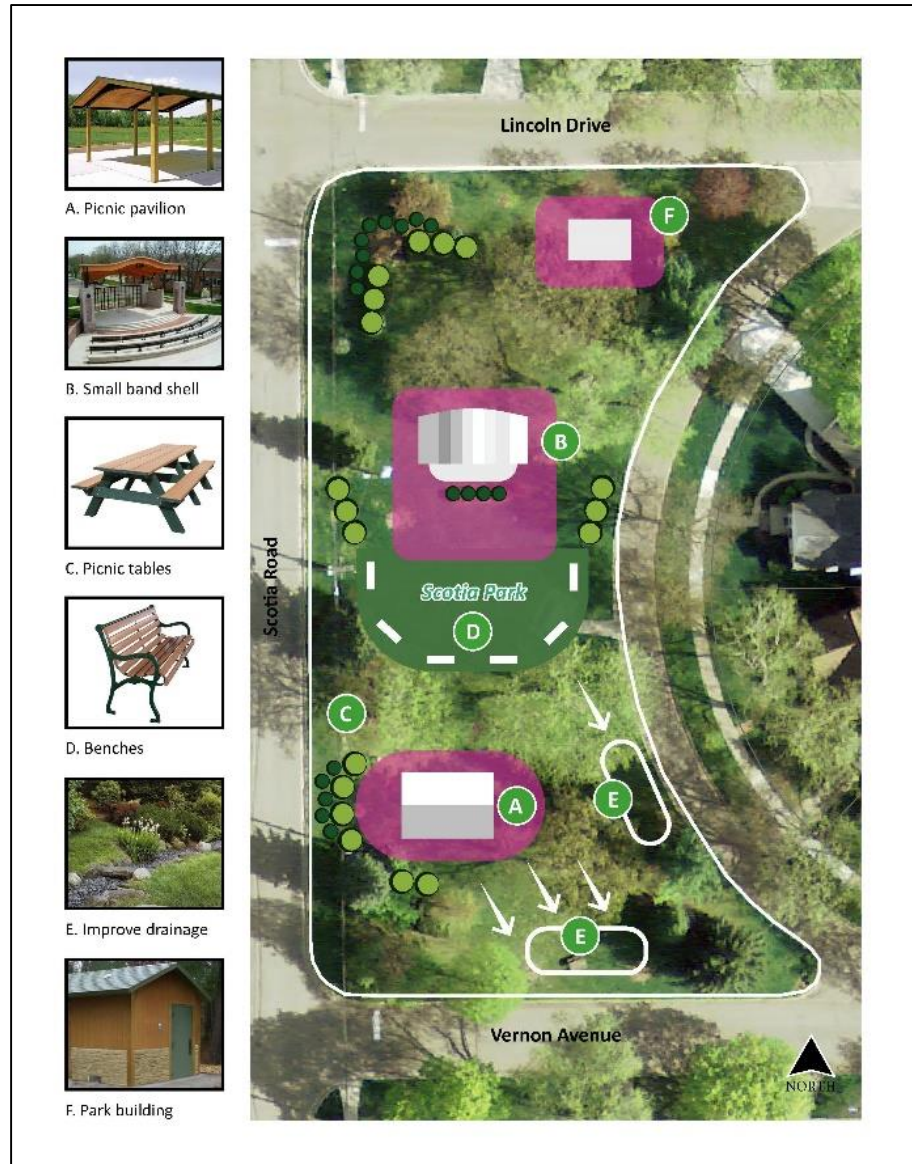
Proposed improvements to Scotia Park include:

- A. Add open air gazebo and a gathering space (i.e., plaza);
- B. Install a small permanent band shell;
- C. Remove/replace old picnic tables;
- D. Add benches;
- E. Improve drainage; and
- F. Consider adding permanent concession building and restrooms.

Burton Field

Proposed improvements to Burton Field include:

- A. Resurface/improve track;
- B. Provide additional spectator seating;
- C. Improve field surface (grading and drainage);
- D. Replace/improve dugout awnings;
- E. Provide additional seating area; and
- F. Supply soccer nets for practice.



4. Improve pocket parks

The City's pocket parks provide welcome green, open spaces within residential areas. Suggested improvements include:

- Generally improve all pocket parks maintenance and landscaping;
 - Add garden features such as decorative fountain, birdbath, sculpture, vine arbor, stone courtyards, etc.;
 - Remove and consider adding/replacing play structure at Alligator Park and Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park;
 - Provide "natural" walkway pathway around Mary K. Davis Park;
 - Add/replace park furnishings particularly benches, drinking water fountain, and park signs; and
 - Improve park maintenance & landscaping.



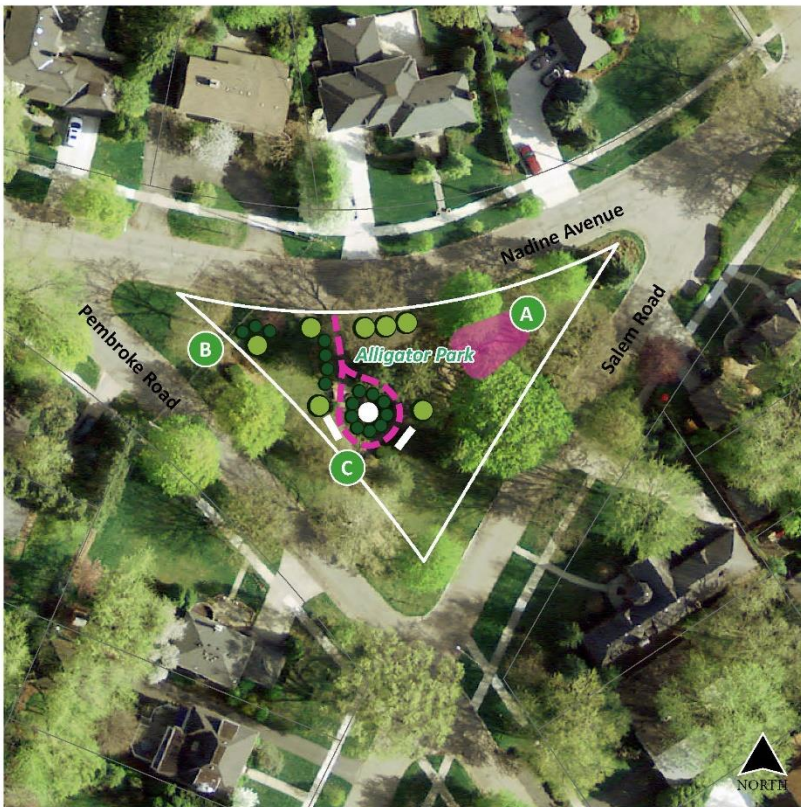
A. Play structure



B. Landscaping



C. Water feature



5. Improve the Recreation Center

The Recreation Center is the center of community life and activities and is vital to maintaining the high quality of life in the community. Suggested facility/building improvements include:

- Consider adding a fitness room/facility;
- Provide indoor/outdoor pickle ball courts;
- Offer additional indoor toddler play equipment (e.g., small slide); and
- Add a coffee shop and provide healthier food options.

6. Improve the pool

The pool is another main community asset which is loved and well-used by City residents. Suggested facility improvements include:

- Continue to update bathrooms and showers;
- Install shade cover over play structure;
- Offer more shade to the pool deck and remove grassy area;
- Provide additional seating;
- Consider adding a hot tub; and
- Renovate cafe/snack bar area and offer more healthy options.

7. *Improve the City's walkability*

There is a clear need for making it easier and safer to walk and bike within the City of Huntington Woods and to adjacent communities. Suggested improvements include:

- Complete a “Promoting Active Communities” assessment from the State Department of Community Health, the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Sports, and Health, MSU and the Prevention Research Center of Michigan to generate ideas, interest and support for City of Huntington Woods parks, recreation and senior services;
- Work with the City Commission and Planning Commission to develop a city-wide complete streets plan;
- Provide designated bike lanes as feasible and appropriate for certain streets;
- Improve crosswalks at 11 Mile Road/Woodward Avenue, Lincoln/Woodward Avenue, and other problem intersections;
- Install amenities including drinking water fountains, benches, trash cans, bike racks, and pet waste dispensers; and
- Install way finding and warning signs.

8. *Continue to enhance high quality recreation programs and services*

Continue to enhance the life of City residents by providing high quality recreation experiences that respond to community needs and by facilitating the use of City parks and recreation facilities by City residents and community groups. More specific actions include:

- Continue to evaluate and monitor programs to assess their value to the overall system and work to broaden the participant base;
- Continue to broaden the variety of activities offered; class suggestions include more adult fitness programs and programs for active seniors, as well as more specifically, a robotic class and higher level art for tweens/teens, a full day Camp Apple option, computer programming, dog walking club, music classes, more concerts in the park, etc.
- Strive to maintain core recreation programs including pre-school/youth-age children and starter sports activities, youth classes and sports, latchkey, summer and specialized camps, aquatics, adult fitness classes and sports, adult enrichment classes, senior health and wellness, senior trips, and community-wide events;
- Carefully consider pool usage and schedule and possibly extend nighttime hours, early morning hours, overall season, and find a better balance for adult lap swim users;
- Consider providing infant daycare services;
- Provide online registration for recreation programming; and
- Expand the use of web-based communication tools such as Facebook and eBlasts.

9. *Provide for the efficient administration of parks and recreation*

A means of balancing expenses and revenues should be continually explored to support the desired improvement projects and to maintain park facilities and recreation programs to a high quality standard. The City Commissioners must advocate and promote the social, economic, and environmental values and benefits of parks and recreation by reaching out to the community and the region. Proposed actions include:

- Increase staff and maintenance equipment as needed;
- Increase volunteer opportunities for recreation programs, park enhancements, and stewardship such as the “Adopt a Garden” program;
- Evaluate fees and charges for programs and services to increase cost recovery;
- Maintain existing and forge new partnerships with public and private recreation providers that support efficient and effective service and program delivery;
- Continue to pursue state and federal grants for park improvements and development;
- Build a *Friends of the Huntington Woods Parks* group to provide support for park project and funding; and
- Explore and submit proposals to private foundations for recreation program funding and for park improvements and development.

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Table 16 lists the individual improvement projects along with the specific tasks to be accomplished, the project goal (refer to pages 55-58), a cost estimate, and potential funding sources. In addition, priorities were assigned to each project. Top priority projects highlighted are recommended for completion within the next two to five years, important projects, within five to ten years, while desirable, are long-term projects. As funding become available, projects may be moved ahead of this schedule. Costs are for budgetary purposes only. Further investigations may be necessary to determine the engineers' probable cost opinions.

Table 16. Project Improvement Schedule

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Priority
General – All City Parks				
Design uniform park signage system	1	Tbd	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Develop a maintenance plan and schedule for each park to include routine and preventive maintenance tasks, scheduled improvement and emergency repairs	1	Tbd	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Develop a vegetation management plan outlining tasks for mowing, weeding, pruning/ removal of dead or disease limbs and plant materials, and tree/shrub replacement	1	Tdb	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Develop policy regarding parking along by 11 Mile Road parks	1	Tbd	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
11 Mile/Huntington Park				
Prepare a development plan to renovate the park including but not limited to: New play structures/equipment New park fence and signs Improved circulation, visibility, and safety New park furnishings	2	\$ 5,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Initiate engineering and implementation of the plan	2	\$ 50,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Reynolds Park				
Add a shade canopy over picnic area	2	\$ 12,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Add adult fitness equipment	2	\$ 10,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Add other play equipment	2	\$ 10,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Replace fencing and improve park entries and circulation	2	\$ 15,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Install park sign	2	\$ 3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Priority
Men's Club Field				
Install underdrains, grade, and reseed outfield	2	\$30,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Refurbish infield mix	2	\$2,500	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Install new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Install canopy/awning over dugouts	2	\$10,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Add bleachers	2	\$12,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Upgrade portable restrooms	2	\$5,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Val Jones Park				
Purchase and install new in-line hockey goals	2	\$1,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Refurbish in-line hockey surface, protective fence and dasher boards	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Install new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Coolidge/Elgin Park				
Install park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Repair/replace swing set	2	\$3,500	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Install drinking water fountain	2	\$6,500	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Peasley Park				
Install new play structure and/or equipment	2	\$12,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Install picnic area with shade canopy	2	\$18,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Replace fencing, improve park entries	2	\$15,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Add more park furnishings	2	\$20,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Purchase and make soccer nets available for play/practices	2	\$1,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Install park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Scotia Park				
Install a small permanent stage for summer concert series	2	\$50,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Install a picnic area with a shade canopy	2	\$18,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Replace and add park furnishings	2	\$20,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Priority
Develop ADA compliant sidewalks around the park providing access to the park activity areas	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Insert new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Burton Field				
Resurface jogging path	2	\$35,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Install underdrains, grade, and reseed outfield	2	\$30,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Refurbish infield mix	2	\$2,500	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Repair canopy/awning over dugouts	2	\$10,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Purchase and make soccer nets available for play/practices	2	\$1,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Install new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Alligator Park				
Remove play structure	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Add garden features	2	\$5,500	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Replace and add park furnishings	2	\$20,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Top
Develop ADA compliant sidewalks around the park providing access to the park activity areas	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Install new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Mary K Davis Park				
Replace and add park furnishings	2	\$20,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Install new park sign	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Add "natural" walking paths around park	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Statue Park & Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park				
Replace and add park furnishings	2	\$20,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Install new park signs	2	\$3,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Add "natural" walking paths around parks	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Recreation Center				
Convert existing space or add a fitness room	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding source	Priority
Provide indoor/outdoor pickle ball courts	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Improve preschool and Latchkey rooms	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Purchase additional indoor toddler play equipment	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Pool				
Install shade canopy over grassy area and café seating area	2	\$11,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Install shade canopy over play structure	2	\$13,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Provide additional seating area	2	\$10,000	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Update bathrooms and showers	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Des
Walkability				
Participate in the “promoting Active Communities” assessment program	3	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Participate in developing a Complete Streets Plan for Huntington Woods which would outline future improvements such as crosswalk enhancement, bike lane striping, pathway establishment	4	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Imp
Initiate engineering and implementation of the proposed improvements	5	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Tbd
Install amenities such as drinking fountains, benches, bike racks, etc.	2	-	Local Funds, Grants & Donations	Tbd
Install way finding and warning signs	2, 4	-	Local Funds, Grants & Millage	Tbd

*: Cost estimates are preliminary and based on 2015 prices. Additional analysis and further engineering will be required to determine more exact prices.

Top: Top Priority Project;
 Imp: Important Project;
 Des: Desirable Project;
 Tbd: To be determined.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides a limited amount of money for parks and recreation facilities. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended in order to proceed as planned.

Apply for Federal Funding

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in conjunction with SEMCOG funds the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Activities which may apply to City of Huntington Woods include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles including new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses; and
- Provision of safety and educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling.

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) continue to be the primary funding sources for park land acquisition and development. The new Recreation Passport grant also offers some state funding to local units of government.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of park land for natural resource-based preservation and recreation.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request was \$15,000 and the maximum was \$300,000 in 2014. Applications are typically due April 1st.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has recently been on trail way systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. Minimum grant requests were \$30,000 and maximum grant requests were \$100,000 in 2014. The match percentage is 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are typically due on April 1st.

The Recreation Passport grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests were \$7,500 and maximum requests were \$45,000 in 2014. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Applications are usually due on April 1st as well.

Other funding conducted in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Inland Fisheries Grants) and the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grants).

Municipalities may use Community Forestry grants to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. Grant requests may be up to \$20,000 depending on the project type and applications are usually due in the middle of the summer. Detroit Edison also offers tree planting grants for up to \$3,000 to local municipalities in its coverage area.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways, walk/bike ways, or greenway-related facilities such as Bikes Belong Coalition. The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: facility, education and capacity building. Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Increase Support for Parks

Public support for parks and recreation will be crucial in determining the level of services the City will be able to provide in the future. A specific park or project millage could be considered in the future for particular projects such as park development, walk/bike way development, or maintenance.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

The City of Huntington Woods should investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should continue to be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park land acquisition and development.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

SURVEY AND OPEN HOUSE FINDINGS

Online Survey

1. Recreation Programs and Services

The top 10 programs and activities participated in the last year are:

1. Fourth of July
2. Concerts in the Park
3. Pool
4. Family Special Events
5. Fruit Camp
6. School-Age Programs
7. Youth Sports
8. Latchkey
9. Preschool Programs
10. Specialty Camps

The top 10 programs and services which are most important are:

1. Pool
2. Fourth of July
3. School-Age Programs
4. Fruit Camp
5. Youth Sports
6. Latchkey
7. Preschool Programs
8. Teen Programs
9. Concerts in the Park
10. Senior Outreach

The top 10 programs and services with the greatest level of satisfaction:

1. Fourth of July
2. Concerts in the Park
3. Pool
4. Family Special Events
5. Fruit Camp
6. Latchkey
7. Preschool Programs
8. School-Age Programs
9. Specialty Camps
10. Youth Sports

Additional programming or activities desired include:

Recreation Center

- Fitness and weight training area
- Indoor coffeehouse with concerts/performances
- More movies in the gym
- More publicity and notice for the programs
- Private party rentals and birthday parties resumed
- Infant daycare

Pool

- 1-meter springboard diving
- Extended occasional nighttime hours
- Indoor pool

-
- Lifeguard training class
 - More fun events at the pool
 - Lap swimming at the pool before work in early morning

Seniors

- Oil painting classes
- Pickle Ball courts indoor/outdoor
- Arts/crafts classes
- More Senior programming: Meditation, Safety, Fitness, Drama & Bridge classes
- Fitness classes, drama classes, bridge classes
- Sports activities
- Strength / personal training lessons at BHS to show how to use machines
- Water aerobics early or late in the day
- More activities and pool pass options for grandparents and grandchildren
- Expanded senior outreach
- More programs to accommodate disabled seniors

Adults

- More fitness classes
- More art & dance classes
- More special events
- More summer sports leagues for 18-24 yrs.
- Early morning & Saturday evening exercise classes
- Float building for 4th of July
- Intramural sports: softball, basketball, kickball, volleyball, soccer
- More learn-to classes: crafts, games, swing dance, food and wine pairing
- More classes designed for couple
- Travel programs for adults
- Friendly match tennis
- Pinochle/Euchre
- Fitness clubs: biking, walking, running

Youth

- Foreign language classes
- Music classes
- More art classes
- Weekend or evening preschool/parent-toddler classes
- Robotics classes for preteens/teens
- More organized sports activities & fitness classes for teens
- More teen classes: fashion class & cooking
- More after school fitness classes
- Higher level art classes
- Latchkey for pre-k
- More preschool programming
- New & improved programming
- Stranger Danger program
- Improved afterschool programming during latchkey
- Playgroups and support groups for mothers of small children. More mommy & me classes

Camps

- Before & after camp care for specialty camps
- Safety Camp
- Pre-K fruit camp with child care option
- Apple & Banana camps with same schedule as older camps
- More fruit camp
- Expanded activities
- After camp care more structured

General/Other

- Outdoor ice skating rink
- Another walking/running track
- Chess
- Reading programs
- Football
- Organized workout clubs
- More organized activities at city parks and playgrounds
- Programming: Cooking & nutrition, computer programming
- Home remodel/planning workshop
- Tennis tournament
- More bike events
- Community wide events which reach out to all ages
- Additional concerts
- Musical performing groups: vocal; hand bell; musical theater/acting; drumming
- More for special needs children & adults
- Outdoor classes in nice weather
- More daddy daughter/mother son. Family oriented activities
- Technology safety class for parents/kids

2. Pool

Over 60% of respondents would like to see additional shade to the pool deck. Over 58% of respondents would be in favor of removing the grassy area of the pool deck in order to offer more shade.

Additional suggested improvements to the pool include:

Pool Amenities

- Café menu offer Healthier options
- Café open during preschool swim
- More shade in the eating area
- More seating/chairs
- Reserve deck chairs for adults
- 3-meter diving board
- Tent on tennis courts during swim meets
- Improve sound system
- Diving lessons
- Retractable dome
- Maintain cleanliness: deck/gutters; locker rooms
- Handheld shower heads & chairs available in all family shower stalls
- Dedicated area for water exercise class with shade
- Equipment storage area
- More shade near shallow end
- Mist machine/outdoor rinse shower
- Vending machines
- Party area for kids
- More space for upper elementary and middle school kids to play

Play Equipment and Water Toys

- Shade over the play structure
- Change surface of play area
- Remove play structure
- Play area available to kids over 5 (up to 10 years)
- Bigger play area
- More times to bring noodles/float toys
- New slide & large dump bucket

-
- Water features are loud. Turn them off occasionally
 - No tennis balls in the pool

Shade/Grassy Area

- Canopy or umbrella over part of grassy area
- More shade
- Get rid of grassy area
- Needs more grass
- Keep some grass
- Add trees in grassy area
- Snack tables in the grassy area
- Umbrellas would be simpler
- Add shade but don't remove the grass

Fees

- Lower fees for residents
- Lower fees for small children
- More flexible passes for the season
- More flexible pricing options for residents who only use the pool on occasion
- Price for residents should be less and much more for non-residents
- Less expensive guest pass
- More affordable for adults to swim for exercise
- Offer an option that allows grandparents to take grandchild

Scheduling

- Hours should start earlier in the morning
- Private lessons conducted during morning lesson times
- More lanes for adult swim throughout the day
- Adult swim limited to the deep end/lap zone
- Morning lap swimming for non-masters swimmers
- Adjust general swim hours to 11 am-9 pm
- Reduce adult swim times to every 2 hours or 5 minutes long
- Eliminate adult swim
- Get rid of family time
- Limit swim lessons to a designated time
- Designated area for swim lessons
- Pool rentals available for private parties
- Keep pool open after Labor Day for a few weeks (weather permitting)
- Allow adults to use noodles any time after 3 pm during the week and any time on weekends
- Allow supervised child/toddler swimming during adult only swim

Other

- Install better umbrellas over eating area
- Pool temperature uncomfortably cold
- Allow pass holders to bring in guests for free a couple days during the season and/or allow residents to use the pool free on occasion
- Sunscreen for purchase
- Self check-in cards
- Eliminate swimmers from throwing balls and other toys to each other in the water
- Adult pool party
- More music playing during open swim
- Snorkel equipment allowed regularly or during designated times

3. Parks

Priority parks for improvement (from most in need to least):

1. Burton School/Field

-
2. Scotia Park
 3. Peasley Park
 4. 11 Mile/Huntington
 5. Alligator Park
 6. Coolidge/Elgin Park
 7. Reynolds Park
 8. Men's Club Field
 9. Val Jones Skate Park
 10. Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park
 11. Statue Park
 12. Mary K. Davis Park
 13. Hassig Senior Park

Specific improvements suggested:

Burton Field

- Remove rubber track surface and replace with regular surface
- Improve ball fields
- Smooth out grass
- Have soccer nets available to be checked out from Recreation Center
- Repair drinking fountain and seating areas
- Upgrade portable restrooms
- Improve drainage

Scotia Park

- Add drinking fountain
- Add play structure
- Update landscaping
- Improve drainage
- Update bleachers
- Add concert structure
- Make it useful for soccer practices
- Add speakers in the trees
- Add seating
- Remove/replace picnic tables
- Add pavilion that serves seasonal beverages/food. Fire pit for colder weather
- Level the park and add new landscaping
- Ice rink in the winter

Peasley Park

- Add swings (5)
- Add small kid-friendly play structure (11)
- Add picnic pavilion/area (2)
- Add soccer nets
- Renovate/rebuild park
- Better maintenance
- Replace/add benches
- Improve entry from Balfour

11 Mile/Huntington

- Remove/replace outdated play equipment (6)
- Create pickle ball area
- Expand and make play area for older kids
- Improve maintenance and landscaping (3)
- Restrict overnight parking (2)

Alligator Park

- Remove/improve play structure (10) and railroad ties
- Remove the play structure and replace with gazebo
- Clean/add sand (3)
- More benches and tables
- Add a fountain, pretty gardens
- Add park feature
- Improve maintenance and landscaping

Coolidge/Elgin Park

- Needs painting (2)
- Improve maintenance and landscaping (2)

Reynolds Park

- Add cover over picnic area (2)
- Add shade area
- Add restrooms
- Add sandbox
- Enclose openings in upper level of play structure
- Safer and updated play structure
- Replace metal slides for material that is not heat sensitive
- Add play equipment
- Add fitness equipment for adults
- Add tennis wall

Men's Club Field

- Upgrade portable restrooms
- Improve drainage (2)
- Improve field surfaces (3)
- Add score board for games (2)
- Add awnings over dugouts
- Add lights

Val Jones Skate Park

- Add outdoor ice skating rink
- Improve monitoring of skate park

Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park

- Clean up and update landscaping
- Add play equipment, sculptures of animals, people, or trees, a vine arbor, a small stone courtyard

Statue Park

- Repair drinking fountain
- Improve landscaping and garden areas
- Do not add playground equipment
- Add playground equipment

Mary K. Davis Park

- Clean up and update landscaping
- Add playground equipment

General

- More benches/seating
- Outdoor skating rink
- Better maintenance and landscaping
- Incorporate more native and textured plantings
- Add a shelter at one or two parks that would be available for rental

-
- Allow dogs on a leash
 - Newer/better play structures
 - Add drinking fountains at all parks
 - Update the parks
 - Remove/replace outdated playground equipment
 - More climbing apparatus
 - Adult play equipment
 - Add swings at all parks
 - Add handicap accessible play equipment options
 - Open grass areas for kids to run
 - Play structure in the front of the Woods
 - Lower the swings. More baby swings
 - Gates at park entrances
 - Walking paths along the perimeter of some parks
 - Dog poop bag stations
 - Specific seating for seniors and disabled adults
 - Community gardens
 - Add bird baths and small fountains to parks
 - Entry paths where there is a gate
 - Pickleball courts
 - Add another walking track
 - Add restrooms at all playgrounds
 - Cover picnic areas
 - Park activities for older kids: Frisbee golf
 - Splash Pad
 - Need to promote our parks better
 - More soccer fields
 - Better placement of picnic tables, recycling containers, and bench
 - Grills for cooking
 - More art in our parks

1. *Online Registration*

Over 53% of respondents would not use online registration for programs and services for an additional fee.

2. *Other Comments*

Additional comments received include:

- Online registration shouldn't cost extra
- Online registration is overdue and will increase participation
- Online for sure, but minimal charge if any
- Online service would be great, but I don't think I should have to pay to use it...it should be part of the city's service
- It is vitally important for P & R to get online registration. Need to keep up with the technology and allow the customers/residents access to register online at any time. I think our programs would have bigger numbers as well
- I would use online registration for free
- Need to do a better job of identifying seniors and reaching those isolated
- The recreation center is underutilized for rentals and can generate revenue
- More diverse camp field trips
- Better Wi-Fi in the rec center
- Less or no music at the pool
- Open gym for sports other than basketball
- Work out room for people 18 and over. It would need to be fully stocked to be useful
- Use of recreation center for residents at affordable price
- Need to redo the shuffleboard courts and have shuffleboard equipment available nearby
- Would welcome more full-week summer camps for middle school aged children
- Latchkey should have a way to be automatically charged each month for every day of service offered
- Easier access online to the Hometown Herald
- I wish the golf course were open for walking, skiing, etc. in the winter

-
- Our family appreciated all parks and rec do to help make this a great community
 - More programs for tweens and teens on Friday and Saturday nights
 - Would like to see hand railing leading to the entrance of the recreation center to be used when older persons are dropped off and they need some assistance to walk into the building
 - The staff does a great job – parks are well maintained and there are options for kids of all ages
 - Maybe collaborating with neighboring cities to bring more variety of programs and activities to the parks
 - Keep making this a family friendly city
 - As a senior citizen and 45 year resident of Huntington Woods, my involvement in community Parks and Rec have changed from what they were four decades ago. However, I still feel very strongly, as I did then, that the programs enhancing a solid community identity, providing for a healthy foundation for our children, and addressing the needs of compromised senior citizens should always be supported priorities of all Huntington Woods residents
 - I'd like to see better/more use of the teen room and senior room
 - The quality of the Parks and rec offerings is a BIG reason we just moved here

Open House

Station 1 - Peripheral Parks

11 Mile/Huntington Park

- | | Vote |
|--|------|
| • Restrict overnight parking | 8 |
| • Update/replace play structure | 3 |
| • Provide pickle ball courts | 1 |
| • Make the park an attractive entrance to the City | 1 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | |
| • Add a tennis wall | |

Reynolds Park

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Offer additional play equipment (e.g., sandbox) | 4 |
| • Provide cover/shelter over picnic area | 3 |
| • Replace steel slide for plastic | 1 |
| • Add adult fitness equipment | 1 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | 1 |
| • Restrict overnight parking | |

Val Jones Park

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use | 5 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | 4 |
| • Supply new goals for in-line hockey rink | 2 |
| • Address user problems and monitor activities | 2 |
| • Update in-line hockey rink surface and fencing | 1 |

Coolidge/Elgin Park

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Update swings | 4 |
| • Add drinking water fountain | 4 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | 2 |
| • Provide seating for seniors | 1 |
| • Add a chalkboard | 1 |

Peasley Park

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Offer additional play equipment for young children (e.g., swings) | 7 |
| • Renovate and update fencing | 4 |
| • Add a picnic pavilion available for rental and/or a picnic area | 2 |
| • Supply soccer nets for practice | 2 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | 1 |
| • Add senior seating near swings | 1 |
| • Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use | |
| • Furnish paved/woodchip entry at gate | |
| • Provide additional benches | |

Station 2 - Larger Parks and Parks with Athletic Fields

Scotia Park

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Add open air gazebo and plaza | 5 |
| • Improve park maintenance & landscaping | 5 |
| • Install a small permanent band shell | 2 |

- Remove/replace old picnic tables 2
- Add benches 1
- Improve drainage 1
- Add small play structure
- Add fire pit
- Provide concession
- Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use
- Supply soccer nets for practice
- Add restrooms

Burton Field

- Resurface/improve track 6
- Provide additional spectator seating 2
- Repair drinking fountain 1
- Remove track
- Renovate ball fields (level outfield & replace dugout awnings)
- Improve drainage of the ball fields
- Supply soccer nets for practice
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping
- Provide seating for seniors

Men's Club Field

- Improve ball fields including drainage and surface leveling 1
- Add field amenities (e.g., awnings over dugouts, scoreboard, etc.) 1
- Supply additional spectator seating 1
- Provide outdoor ice rink for winter use 1
- Repair/replace lighting
- Dedicate fields exclusively for baseball/softball use
- Dedicate fields exclusively for soccer use
- Upgrade portable restrooms
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping

Mary K. Davis Park

- Provide “natural” landscaped pathway around the park 8
- Replace/update benches 2
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping

Station 3 - Small Interior Parks

Statue Park

- Repair drinking water fountain 7
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping 3
- Add play structure/equipment 2
- Add seating if play structure added 1

Alligator Park

- Repair/replace play structure 7
- Provide open air gazebo 6
- Add garden features such as decorative fountain, birdbath, etc. 4

- Remove play structure 2
- Add seating for seniors 2
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping 1

Lincoln/Pembroke/Concord Park

- Add garden features (e.g., sculpture, vine arbor, stone courtyard, etc) 4
- Supply soccer nets for recreational use 3
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping 3
- Provide play structure/equipment

Hassig Park

- Replace/update benches 3
- Improve park maintenance & landscaping 1

Station 4 – Pool & Pool Programming

- Provide scoreboard for swim meet 7
- Update bathrooms and showers 6
- Install shade cover over play structure 5
- Offer more shade to the pool deck 5
- Remove the grassy area of the pool to offer more shade 4
- Extend nighttime hours 3
- Extend pool opening season (for lap & afterschool swims) 3
- Provide additional seating 3
- Add a hot tub 3
- Revamp cafe/snack bar with more healthy options 2
- Rethink adult only swim reserved times 2
- Extend early morning hours 1
- Make pool available for rent/special events 1
- Offer lifeguard training classes
- Remove/replace play structure
- Add a play area for older children
- Provide additional water features (e.g., water toys)
- Add adult lap swim hours

Station 5 – Recreation Center Facilities

- Provide online registration 9
- Add a coffee shop 7
- Add a fitness room/facility 5
- Provide indoor/outdoor pickle ball courts 5
- Offer additional indoor toddler play equipment (e.g., small slide) 3
- Provide healthier food options 3
- Provide infant daycare 1
- Provide recreation center e-mail blast 1

Station 6 – Recreation Programs & Services

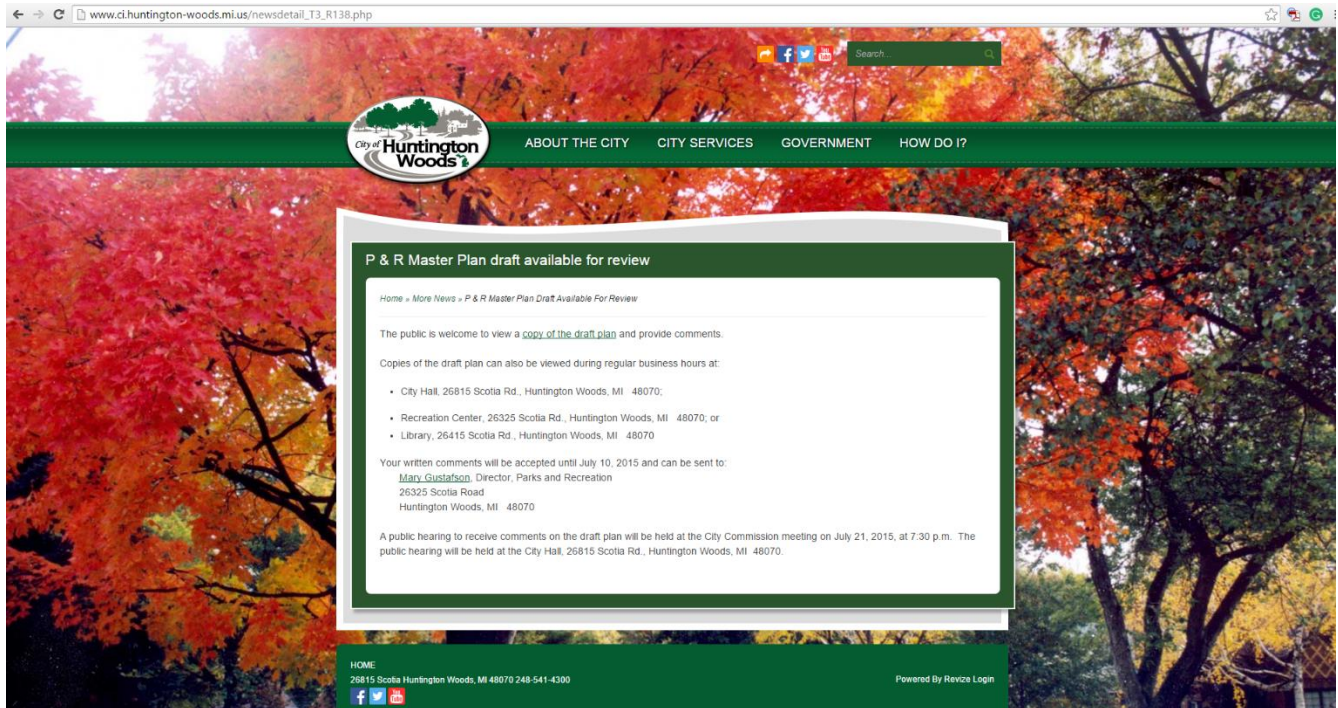
General Classes & Programs

- Robotic classes for tweens/teens 5
- More adult programs for 50-65 age group 4

• Computer programming classes	4
• Dog walking club	3
• Music Classes	3
• Adult fitness classes (Zumba, yoga, jazzercise, & Pilates)	3
• Higher level art classes for tweens/teens	3
• Adult soccer, softball, basketball, & football	2
• Ice skating class	2
• More fitness classes for tweens/teens	1
• Adult art classes (oil painting, watercolor, & pottery)	1
• Adult dance lessons (ballroom, barn, swing, & line dances)	1
• Foreign language classes for kids	1
• Junior Golf	1
• Facilitate playgroups and new mom support groups	1
• Offer more preschool/toddler/baby programs evenings & weekends	1
• More adult <i>learn to</i> type & educational classes	1
• Cooking/nutrition classes	1
• Home vendor/contractor fair	1
• Home remodeling classes	
• Meditation, relaxation class	
• Walking class/club	
Latchkey & Pre-kindergarten Programs	
• Eliminate use of electronics	3
• Prohibit television or cartoon program viewing	3
• Add latchkey for pre-kindergarten kids	1
• Provide homework help & resource for latchkey kids	1
Camps	
• Offer full-day Camp Apple option	2
• Align Apple and Banana camps with the older camps	1
• Expand activities for fruit camps	
• Offer before and after care for pre-k camps	
Senior Outreach & Programs	
• Offer more programs for active seniors/empty nesters	3
• Offer more programs for disabled seniors	3
• Expand efforts to reach out to more seniors	2
• Offer more senior programs (senior safety, balance techniques, senior fitness, strength training, water aerobics, & yoga)	1
Special Events	
• Never eliminate the 4th of July fireworks	11
• Add more concerts-in-the-park	6
• Offer more community-wide events reaching out to all ages	4
• Add more floats to the 4th of July parade	3
• Scale back concerts-in-the-park	1
• Vary bands for concerts-in-the-park	
• Schedule concerts-in-the-park on a different night	

NOTICE OF DRAFT PLAN AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

The notice of the Draft Plan Availability for review and comment was posted on the City website, City Facebook page, and the local neighborhood online outlet.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www.ci.huntington-woods.mi.us/newsdetail_T3_R138.php. The page features a green navigation bar with the City of Huntington Woods logo and menu items: ABOUT THE CITY, CITY SERVICES, GOVERNMENT, and HOW DO I?. The main content area is a white box with a green border containing the following text:

P & R Master Plan draft available for review

Home » More News » P & R Master Plan Draft Available For Review

The public is welcome to view a [copy of the draft plan](#) and provide comments.

Copies of the draft plan can also be viewed during regular business hours at:

- City Hall, 26815 Scotia Rd., Huntington Woods, MI 48070;
- Recreation Center, 26325 Scotia Rd., Huntington Woods, MI 48070; or
- Library, 26415 Scotia Rd., Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Your written comments will be accepted until July 10, 2015 and can be sent to:

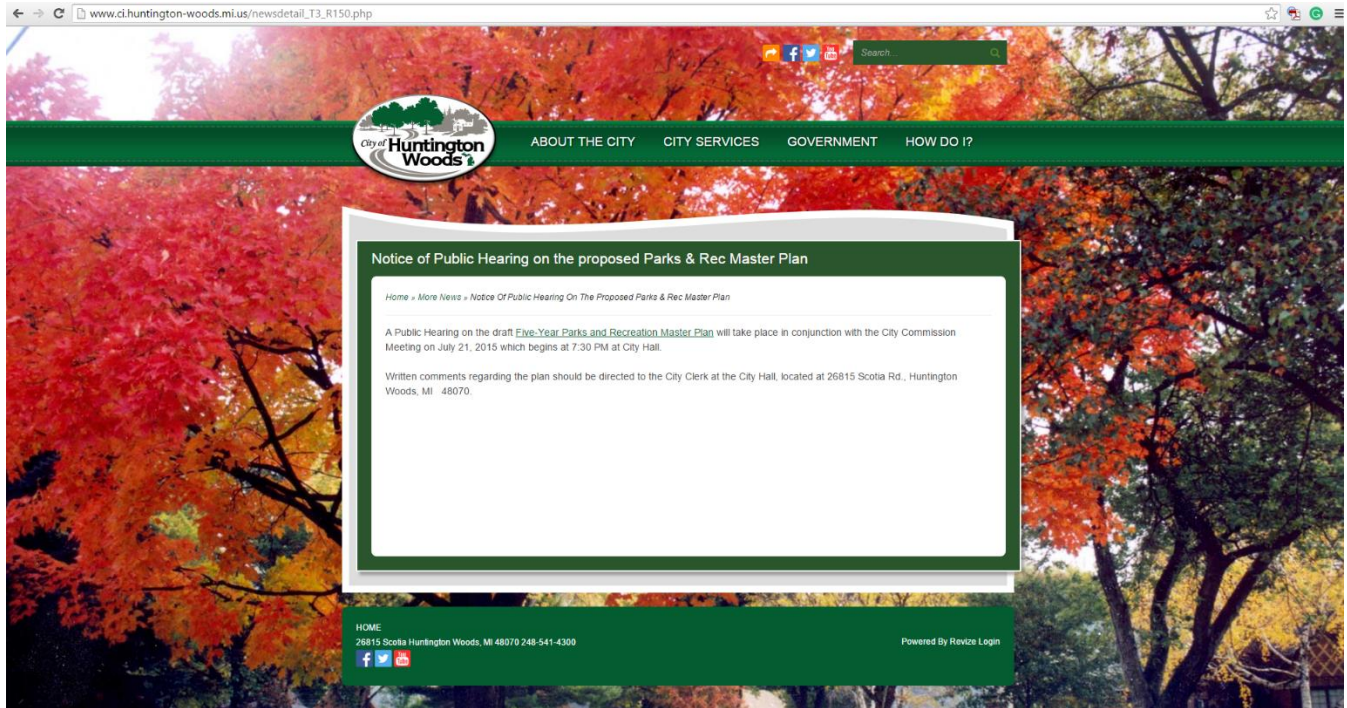
[Mary Gustafson](#), Director, Parks and Recreation
26325 Scotia Road
Huntington Woods, MI 48070

A public hearing to receive comments on the draft plan will be held at the City Commission meeting on July 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. The public hearing will be held at the City Hall, 26815 Scotia Rd., Huntington Woods, MI 48070.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text: HOME, 26815 Scotia Huntington Woods, MI 48070 248-541-4300, and Powered By Revize Login.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The notice of the Public Hearing was posted on the City website, Recreation Facebook page, local online neighborhood outlet as well as The Daily Tribune.



PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

HUNTINGTON WOODS PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

7:30 p.m.

- I. Participants: Mary Gustafson, Mike Tripp, Mike ~~Caaser~~, Carolyn Weed, Eric ~~Gurwitz~~, Kristi Conti, Melanie Myers, Mary Austin
 - a. Guest: Leah ~~Einhaus~~
 - II. Call to order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 7:31pm
 - III. Approval of Agenda for May 26, 2015
 - a. Agenda was approved
 - IV. Approval of minutes from April 28, 2015
 - a. Minutes from April 28, 2015 were approved
 - V. New Business
 - a. Fourth of July
 - i. Confirm hot dog roast attendees – Carolyn, Mike C, Eric, Kristy, Mary
 - ii. Mike Tripp on for Run Walk Boom emcee again!
 - b. Pool Scoreboard
 - i. Plan is to have the scoreboard up and running for 2016 summer
 - ii. Key items
 - 1. Decision made to purchase a year-round scoreboard
 - 2. Initial proposal was made that the scoreboard would be available for community use, not just the HWAC swim team
 - 3. HWAC is responsible for repairs
 - 4. Challenge is to place the scoreboard in a location that is useful for swim meets and for community use
 - VI. Old Business
 - a. Master Plan Update
 - i. Updated Master Plan was approved
 - b. Men's Club Auction
 - i. August 8 – Amy ~~Sharfoos~~ is the auction winner
 - VII. Department Updates
 - i. ~~Swings~~ set being set up in Balfour park – re-purposed from Burton playground
 - ii. The in-line rink at 11 mile and Berkley has some small holes/pits – needs to be fixed
 - iii. Track around the Burton fields also needs to be re-surfaced following the playground update
 - 1. Drainage near Nadine portion of the track could be addressed to minimize pools forming after rain
 - iv. Pool is open!
 - 1. New heater installed
 - v. Camp update
 - 1. Fruit camp enrollment mostly full
 - 2. Specialty camps still filling up
 - vi. Bike pump stand – located Rec Center, Library, May Kay Davis
 - VIII. Plan of action for Sept 2015 meeting
 - a. TBD
 - IX. Board Member Comments
 - a. Happy ~~Summer!~~
 - b. Congrats on a smooth pool opening!
 - X. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm
-

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING

City Commission Meeting
July 21, 2015
Page 2 of 15

Communication from Government Finance Officers Association notifying City Manager Sullivan that the City of Huntington Woods comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 qualified for the Certificate of Award of Financial Reporting Achievement. Commissioner Paul congratulated the Finance Director and Finance Department.

Communication from the Huntington Woods Men's Club notifying the City the Board has voted to cover the \$9,700 cost of resurfacing the in-line hockey roller rink.

Resolution from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners in support of measures to protect companion animals from inhumane tethering practices.

Communication from the Tri-Community Coalition thanking the City for supporting the 17th Annual Golf Classic.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Janice Erdstein of 8572 Huntington Road thanked DPW Mechanic Doug Wozniak for showing her 3-year grandson the DPW trucks.

Ken Zino of 8634 Huntington Road questioned if the Historic District Commission is in violation of the open meeting act. He also stated that the Berkley School District is in violation of state law by not having enough cash in reserves. He also asked who approves a private communication from a City Commissioner.

PRESENTATION

Huntington Woods Public Safety Director Pazuchowski awarded Public Safety Officer Todd Tyler with the 2014 Police Officer of the Year Award for his loyalty, dedication and tenacious work ethic.

Huntington Woods Public Safety Director Pazuchowski recognized Public Safety Officers John DiJanni and Dan Steeby for lifesaving efforts on August 5, 2014 resulting in the saving of a human life.

PUBLIC HEARING

Matter of receiving public input on the proposed Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem White opened the Public Hearing at 7:47 pm. Parks and Recreation Director Mary Gustafson commented briefly on the updating of the Master Plan. Surveys were available for the public to express priorities to the Recreation Department. The Recreation Department also held an open house for public comment.

Hearing no public comment, Mayor Pro Tem White closed the Public Hearing at 7:50 pm.

RESOLUTION R-41-2015

Adoption of the Recreation Master Plan

Moved by Commissioner Paul and supported by Commissioner Jenks to adopt the Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Upon said Resolution being put to a vote, the City Commission voted thereon as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem White, Commissioner Jenks,
Commissioner Olsman and Commissioner Paul

CITY COMMISSION RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION R-41-2015
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF THE
CITY OF HUNTINGTON WOODS
ADOPTING THE 2015-2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

Whereas, the City of Huntington Woods has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2015 and 2019; and

Whereas, an online survey was provided and a public comment session was held on November 18, 2014 at the Recreation Center, 26325 Scotia, Huntington Woods, MI to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, as questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan; and

Whereas, the City of Huntington Woods Recreation Department has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community; and

Whereas: the Recreation Advisory Board voted to adopt said Recreation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the City of Huntington Woods City Commission hereby adopts the Huntington Woods Recreation Master Plan as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of Huntington Woods.

Resolved this 21st day of July, 2015.

Yeas: Mayor Pro Tem White, Commissioner Jenks, Commissioner Olsman and Commissioner Paul

Nays: None

Absent: Mayor Gillham

I, Joy Solanskey, duly appointed and qualified City Clerk for the City of Huntington Woods, Oakland County, Michigan do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Commission at a Regular Meeting held on July 21, 2015 and that public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.



Joy Solanskey, City Clerk

LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL

Mary-

I took some time to review the HW Parks & Recreation Master Plan - great work! I think you've created a useful document to guide HW over the next five years.

There is an accurate assessment of City parks with a realistic project improvement schedule (pending funding). As a resident, it pleases me to see the commitment to maintain and upgrade existing parks and recreation facilities.

One thing I thought when I read *Goal 3. Recreation Programs and Services Goal* was about the use of surveys from program participants. My family has participated in a variety of programs like summer camp, sports clinics, special events, sports leagues, swim team, and Latchkey but I don't ever recall completing any sort of program evaluation. Perhaps the regular use of such participant evaluations would assist you in reaching the objectives you list.

Overall, I am very pleased the parks, programs and services HW provides. Keep it up!
Thank you!

Ellen Schnackel
13308 Ludlow Ave

Ellen S. Schnackel, CPRP
Director

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Farmington Hills, MI 48336
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248 473. 1801 fax
eschnackel@fhgov.com