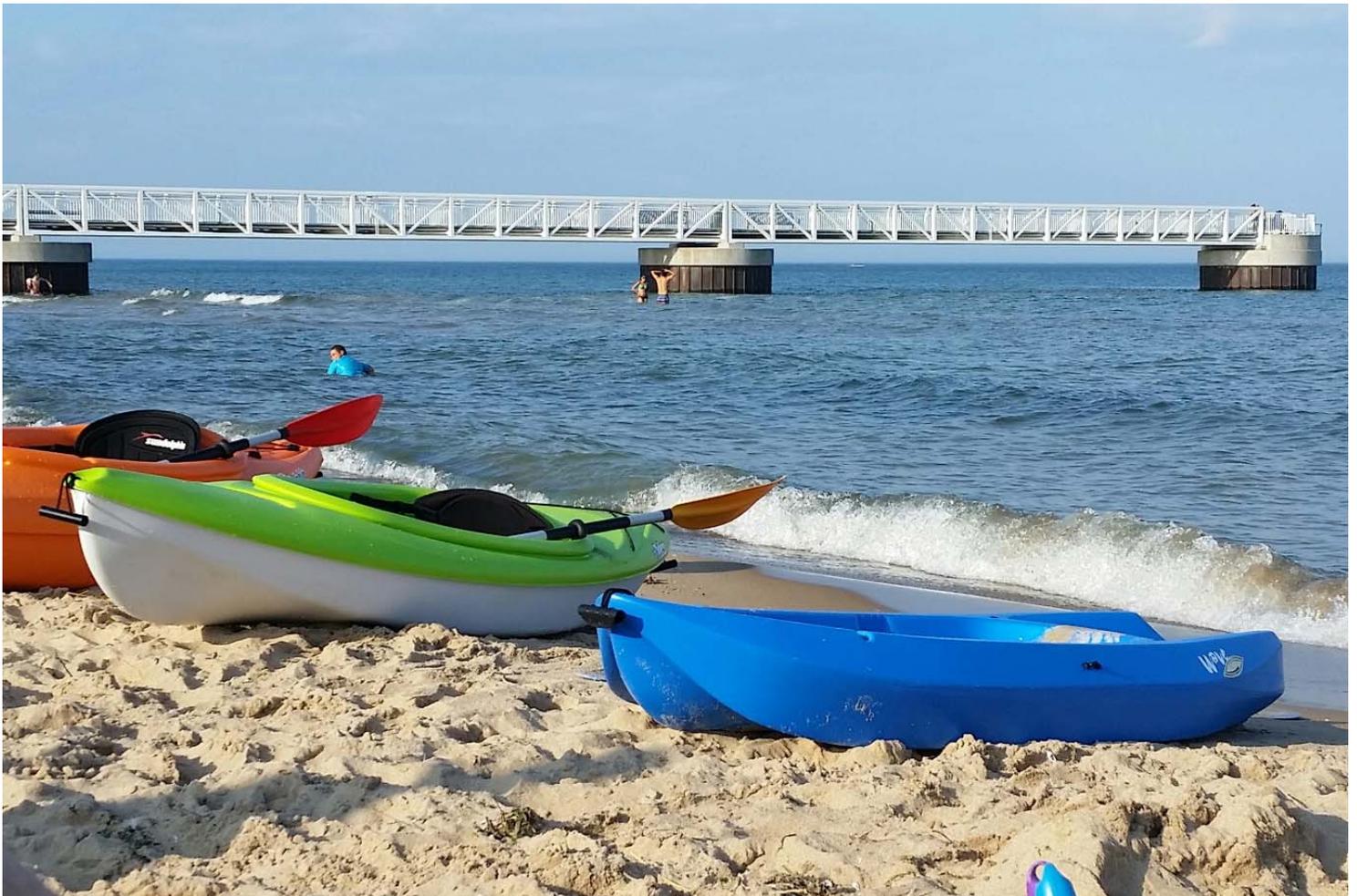


# Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017 – 2021



*Adopted February 13, 2017, by the Oscoda Charter Township Board of Trustees*

## Acknowledgments

The participation and cooperation of community leaders, residents and members of civic organizations in the preparation of the *Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017 – 2021* is greatly appreciated. In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of the following individuals:

### Oscoda Township Board of Trustees

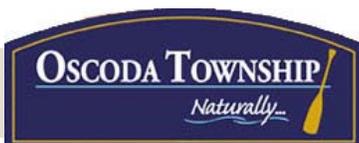
Aaron Weed, Supervisor  
Jaimie McGuire, Treasurer  
John Nordeen, Clerk  
Timothy Cummings, Trustee  
Martin Gayeski, Trustee  
Jim Baier, Trustee  
William Palmer, Trustee

### Township Superintendent

Robert F. Stalker, II

### Adoption

The *Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017 – 2021* was adopted on February 13, 2017 by the Oscoda Charter Township Board of Trustees.



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## Introduction

Oscoda Township has developed this Parks and Recreation Master Plan to serve as a guide to future decision making regarding recreation facilities improvements, and development of new recreation opportunities. Therefore, this document is the basis for policy implementation of improvements and new initiatives that will meet the recreational goals and interests for Oscoda Township and its constituents. The Oscoda Township Board of Trustees has been fundamental in providing information about the community and guidance for the direction of the recreation plan throughout the planning process.

Before any Recreation Plan is adopted and enacted it is critical to have an understanding of the needs of the residents, the recreation opportunities that are already available, the demographic characteristics of an area, and the programs, projects, and facilities that are best suited to the community. This information is all based on public input and careful consideration of the input and suggestions from Township residents, Township officials, and other community stakeholders. Community input was a critical component to this plan, and all of the voices in the Township have united to develop a Recreation Plan with the overall goal of enhancing the quality of life for the community members and visitors of Oscoda Township.

The foundation for the development of the Oscoda Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan was based on the following goals:

- Involve the community throughout the process of updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- Identify and map existing Township owned/operated recreation facilities.
- Build common ground among the Oscoda Township residents and stakeholders in addressing the future recreational needs, increased safety at parks, and priorities of the Township.
- Enable the Township to be eligible for financial assistance based on the Recreation Plan.
- Facilitate interagency collaboration in establishing parks and recreation goals, objectives, and actions.
- Support the implementation of improvements for barrier-free, Universal Access to Township parks and recreational sites.



Overall, the Township officials intend to use this plan to guide their work on all future recreational and parks projects within the Township. It is also a strategic document that articulates specific goals in consideration to parks and recreation acquisition and improvement projects. This plan is developed in accordance with the guidelines for *Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans* published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). A five-year, MDNR-approved Recreation Plan is necessary for Oscoda Township to pursue MDNR-administered grants. This Recreation Plan is written for Oscoda Township and covers all aspects of recreation within the community over a five-year period from January 2017 – December 2021.

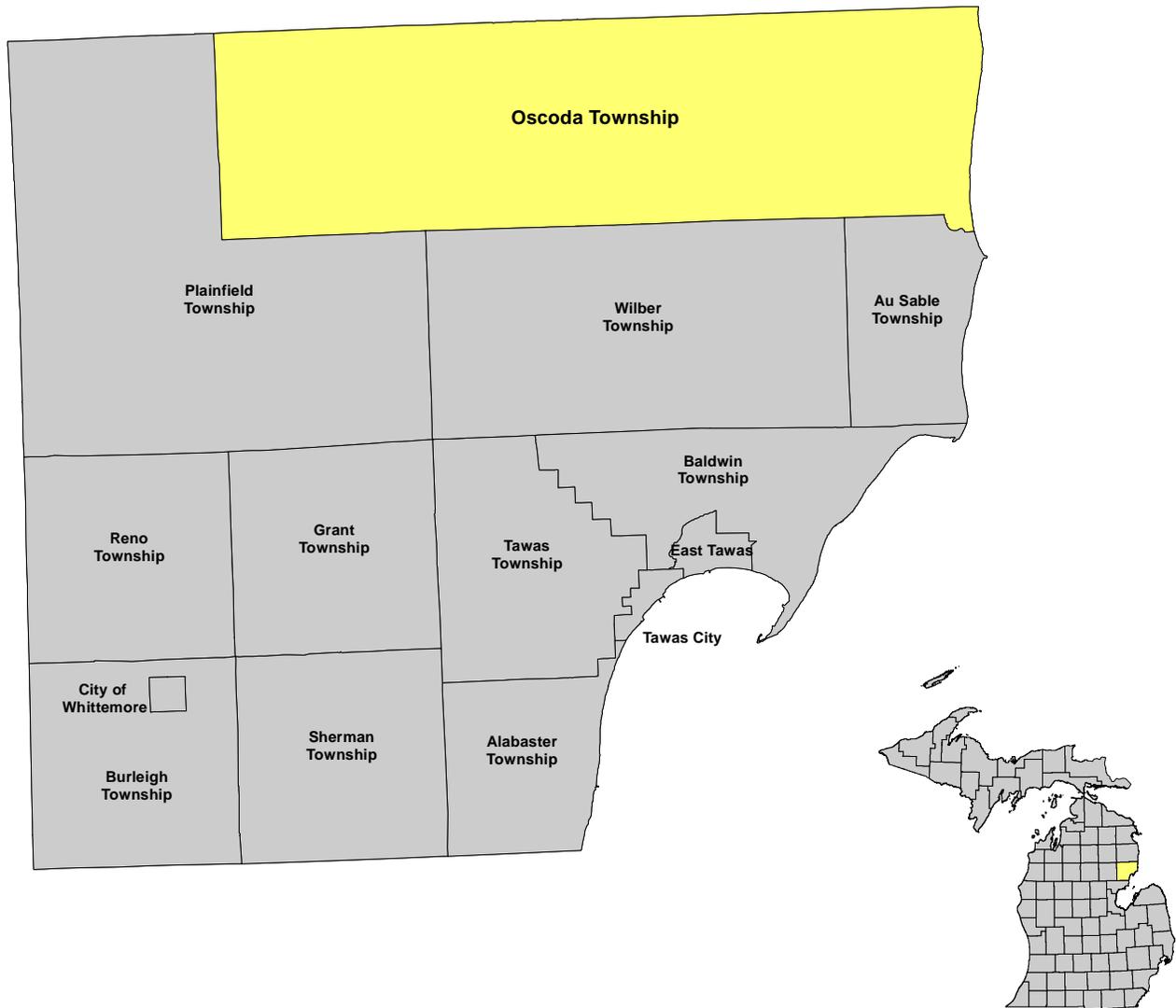
## Community Description

The jurisdiction of this plan is solely for Oscoda Township located in Iosco County, Michigan. The Township boundaries are depicted in Map 1 below. This plan will serve as the Township's Recreation Plan for the next five years and encompasses all aspects of recreation and programming for the Township.

### Regional Location

Oscoda Township is located in northeast Michigan's Iosco County. It is one of eleven townships in the County; the other townships are Alabaster, Au Sable, Baldwin, Burleigh, Grant, Plainfield, Reno, Sherman, Tawas and Wilber. It is bordered by Alcona County to the north, Plainfield Township to the west and southwest, and by Wilber and Au Sable Townships to the south; Lake Huron forms its eastern border.

Map 1 – Location



With a land area of 121.8 square miles, Oscoda Township covers more than 22% of the County's total land area. US 23 is the major north-south highway; it follows the shoreline and links to I-75 (50 miles south of the Township) for access to downstate areas. In the western-most section of the Township, M-65 enters the Township's northern border and proceeds south until it crosses the Au Sable River at the Five Channels Dam area; then it travels west to the Township's western border. Highway F-41 proceeds southeast from the northern border of the Township until it intersects with US 23 south of Van Etten Lake. River Road and Bissonette Road provide local east-west travel routes.

Besides Lake Huron, the major waterway is the Au Sable River, which crosses the Township from east to west. The Huron National Forest covers large portions of the Township; a significant amount of Township land area is in the Au Sable State Forest. Consumers Energy Company operates four dams on the Au Sable River and holds a considerable amount of land along the riverbanks. Oscoda Township was the home of the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base; this Base closed in 1993. The major population concentration is the unincorporated community of Oscoda.



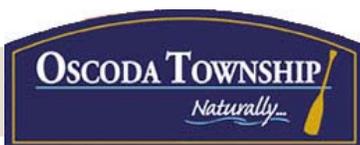
## Demographics

Table 1 – Demographics

Select Census Data for Oscoda Township, Iosco Township, and Michigan			
	Oscoda Township	Iosco County	Michigan
Population- 2010 Census	6,997	30,209	9,883,640
Population- 2014 estimate	-	-	9,922,576
% of Population 65 & older	26.4%	26.1%	13.8%
% of Population under 19	19.6%	19.6%	26.8%
% of Civilian non-institutionalized population with a disability	23.5%	22.2%	13.9%
Median Age	50.9	51	38.9
% with a Bachelor's Degree or higher	16.3%	14%	25.7%
Median Household Income	\$33,869	\$36,236	\$47,175
Per Capita Income	\$22,775	\$22,047	\$24,997
Average Household Size	2.14	2.17	2.49
Median Housing Value	\$79,600	\$102,300	\$119,200
Renter-occupied housing as % of total Occupied Units	22.8%	18.3%	27.3%
Seasonal Housing as % of total vacant housing units	76%	82.7%	39.9%

Based upon the analysis of demographic and social characteristics above, there are 5 specific population groups who have distinct needs for recreational facilities and programs. However, before each specific population is explained, it is important to consider the median household income in Oscoda Township. Of the three jurisdictions, the Township has the smallest median income. Individuals and families with smaller incomes have less discretionary and disposable spending money, meaning they have an even smaller percent of money to spend on recreation. Therefore, it is important that the residents have good quality public recreation options close to home, because there is a smaller chance that these individuals will be able to seek out more expensive options further from home.

The five populations to consider are as follows:



**Youth** – The younger population makes up just under 20% of the population in Oscoda Township. However, this number is not representative of the youth population in the summer. Many of the seasonal residents are families who bring their children. This will create a more intense need for youth recreation activities in the high season. It is also important to note that these two populations have somewhat different recreation needs. While the seasonal residents need recreation amenities in the summertime, permanent youths will need year-round activities, amenities, and programs. Youth populations benefit from recreational options and organized or unorganized athletic activities, providing them with opportunities for exercise, community engagement, and education.

**Senior Citizens** – The senior citizen population in Oscoda Township represents over a quarter of the population. This is only representative of the permanent residents; this group of individuals is another that will exponentially increase in the high season. Seniors have different needs in recreation facilities than other age groups (for example, pathways vs playgrounds), and those on fixed incomes may need low-cost recreational opportunities.

**Population with a disability** – The population with a disability makes up 23.5% of the population in the Township. Disabled populations are often the most unheard voice, and are also most reliant upon government to advocate for their needs. These individuals need park facilities that are accessible to their needs and the Township will need to work to provide equal access recreation opportunities.

**Residents in multi-family housing, apartments, and renters in general** - Residents in high-density housing or multi-family housing have a greater need for open space and recreational facilities compared to those in single-family households because they often do not have large yards or open areas of their own. Twenty-three percent of the population in Oscoda Township rents property, therefore they will need access to high quality recreation.

**Seasonal population** – Of all of the vacant housing units in the Township, 76% are categorized as seasonal housing. This means that over three-quarters of vacant housing in the Township, are second homes. Often seasonal visitors are families and bring in three or more individuals to the Township. Additionally, the majority of individuals have second homes in Oscoda Township because of the beauty of the area and the existing recreation options. Because these people are such a strong economic driver for both the Township and the region, it is important that the recreation facilities remain up to the standards they have come to expect.

Parks have the ability to create a multigenerational link between individuals in these four groups, and across all demographic groups. They provide gathering places, make exercise opportunities available, promote civic participation, and improve the quality of life in an area.



## Administrative Structure

The Charter Township of Oscoda is governed by a Board of Trustees whose members are as follows:

Aaron Weed, Supervisor  
Jaimie McGuire, Treasurer  
John Nordeen, Clerk  
Timothy Cummings, Trustee  
Martin Gayeski, Trustee  
Jim Baier, Trustee  
William Palmer, Trustee

The Supervisor serves as the Chairperson of the Board. All members, except for the Superintendent, are elected officials. The Superintendent, presently Robert F. Stalker II, is appointed by the Board; in that capacity he carries out functions and duties prescribed by the Board necessary for the governing of the Township. Recreation implementation efforts concerning land acquisitions, recreation planning and financial accommodations are also the direct responsibility of the Superintendent.

The Charter Township of Oscoda Parks and Recreation Department falls under the Parks and Recreation Director, however other Township employees and officials may also give direction to any type of specific project that the Township may wish to pursue or investigate the feasibility of any particular need or desire of the public.

If there is a particular recreation need the job may be bid out to an available contractor(s) to perform said installation of the project parameters, The Building and grounds department may also be called upon to perform certain project installations or site preparations if needed.

### Volunteers and Programming

Volunteer labor is not a regular or ongoing part of the Parks and Recreation Department. However, we will utilize such labor if it is available and or desired. However, the Township provides site direction and programming assistance with the following:

- Little league Baseball – which have Minor and Major league teams divided into age appropriate teams
- AYSO Soccer – Leagues are mixed (boys and girls) participation divided into age appropriate teams
- Youth girls softball, which are divided into age appropriate teams

## Collaboration

The Township has ongoing relationships with the following local organizations utilizing Township owned parks and open spaces. This is of course a sampling and not intended to be all inclusive:

- Huron East Knothole League – Utilizes Township Baseball fields for Youth Baseball and Girls softball.
- The Chamber of Commerce- Utilizes Old Orchard Park for the Snow-Box derby, Furtaw field for the Paul Bunyan Festival and the Oscoda Beach Park for Art on the Beach.
- American youth soccer Organization (A.Y.S.O.) – Utilizes Township soccer fields for youth Soccer
- The Rotary club – Use The Oscoda Beach Park band shell for their Thursday Night music concert series.
- The Lions Club- Partners in various special projects
- Spirit Line Woodcarving and Truly Yours – Utilize the Oscoda Community Center for their wood carvers and local artist show.
- The Downtown Development Authority (D.D.A) and the Oscoda/AuSable convention and visitors Bureau (C.V.B) utilize the Oscoda Beach Park for their weekly Movies under the stars.
- Special Olympics – Utilize Old Orchard Park for their 5K run.
- Oscoda School District swim and dive team– Utilize Riverbank Park for their Fun/Run walk
- Relay for life- Utilize Furtaw field for their Bark for life for the American cancer society
- Shelter Inc. - Utilize Furtaw field for the awareness walk for domestic violence.
- Compassionate Friends Inc - Utilize Furtaw field for the memory walk
- The AuSable Valley Audubon (AVA) - collaborates with Township by enhancing and supporting birding habitats, provides public outreach at township properties, or letters of support, etc. (example: newly purchased property adjacent to Oscoda Beach).



## Funding and Budgets

Sources of funding would be the General fund, Property O&M Operations fund, any available grant funding, Old Orchard Park Capital improvement funds and donations if needed and or applicable. Parks and Recreation expenditure budgets for the current Fiscal Year 2016 and upcoming Fiscal Year 2017 for the Charter Township of Oscoda are listed in the chart below. The numbers are estimated by category and include all municipal parks, Foote Site Park, Ratliff Park, Old Orchard Park campground and the Oscoda Community Center.

2016 - 2017 Oscoda Township Parks and Recreation Budget		
	2016	2017
<b>Operation and Maintenance</b>	\$972,500	\$977,730
<b>Capital Improvements</b>	\$191,500	\$112,000
<b>Programming</b>	\$6,100	\$5,600
<b>Total</b>	\$1,170,100	\$1,095,330



## Recreation Inventory

Oscoda Township felt it imperative to go beyond the required inventory of natural resources and recreational opportunities to allow the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to get a full understanding of the numerous natural resources and activities in its approximate area that it must work with and expand upon to offer its residents and tourists the most complete recreational experience.

Over 80% of all land in the Township is held as Federal or State land designated for multi-purpose use, including recreation. Of the 77,952 acres (121.8 square miles) in the Township, approximately 46,542 acres are held as part of the Huron-Manistee National Forest; this represents 76.8% of all Township land. Another 14,000 acres (4.7%) are held in the AuSable State Forest and as other State-owned land. In addition, 3,565 acres of property belonging to Consumers Energy are open to public recreation use. Not only do these lands provide abundant recreation opportunities, they also bring tourist dollars to the region and contribute to the region's image as an attractive and enjoyable place to live and recreate.

Van Etten and Cedar Lakes and the many streams expand the Township's theme of "fun with water" to many more areas within the Township. The opportunity to enjoy fishing, boating, swimming and relaxing with water is extended to those in the interior regions of the Township.

This inventory of property was edited by the Planning Consultant and reviewed by the staff at Oscoda Township. Appendix F has a list of awarded past grants.

### Township-Owned Property

**OSCODA TOWNSHIP BEACH PARK** - Located on River Road on Lake Huron in Oscoda. This 9.6-acre park has approximately 1,000 feet of Lake Huron frontage. Because of its popularity as a public beach, it serves the entire region and beyond.

This park has a basketball court, skate ramps on a concrete slab, a wooden band shelter, a shuffleboard court, an accessible pavilion, boardwalk, sunbathing deck, children's play equipment, splash pad, picnic tables, grills, and benches. The site has accessible restrooms; there is also a blacktopped parking area. This park is home to the "Dock Reserve" (site of a dock prior to the Fire of 1911) that is now an historic area.

The Township received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant to develop a 465' combined boardwalk/fishing pier in this park.

The site is well-used. This Park also serves as the site of the Oscoda Art-on-the-Beach Arts and Crafts Show every summer and the free Rotary Concert Series.



**PIETY HILL** - located on 1.2 acres along Dwight Street where the water tower used to be. This site has approximately 225 feet of frontage on the Au Sable River. It has a stairway and a handicap access to a fishing pier, which was funded through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Inland Fisheries Grant. This is a small special use park. Its service area is the greater Oscoda area.



**OSCODA HURON SUNRISE PARK** - Located approximately three miles north of Oscoda adjacent to Three Mile Park. This 14-acre beach park offers gravel parking along the side of the road, and offers accessible trails for bicycling along the Lake Huron Shore. These trails directly feed into Three Mile Park, which is owned and operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation. Accessible and additional parking can be obtained through this roadside park. Service area is region wide.



**OSCODA RIVERBANK PARK** - Located on the Au Sable River near the River Road Bridge near the downtown Oscoda area. This 5.2-acre park offers accessible paved trails for bicycling and walking, vault restrooms, picnic tables and direct river access for swimming, fishing and canoe launching/take out purpose, and gravel parking. Service area is region wide.

These improvements were funded through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Waterfront Redevelopment Grant.

**FURTAW FIELD** - Located in downtown Oscoda on US 23 this 3.3 acre property was recently transferred to Oscoda Township by the Oscoda Area School District. It functions as a town gathering spot that boasts a famous Paul Bunyan statue and is currently being utilized for community events. Service area is region wide.

**OSCODA-WURTSMITH AIRPORT** - When Wurtsmith Air Force Base closed in 1993, 700 civilian jobs were eliminated and thousands of military personnel were transferred from the area. Iosco and Alcona counties were faced with the monumental challenge of completely redefining their economic futures. The community responded to this challenge with an aggressive strategy to maximize its assets, which now includes the vacated air base and other available industrial sites and organize all the resources available to regenerate quality jobs.



The 50,000 square-foot former commissary building is now used by private industries. The base library facilities are now a public library. Military aircraft runways are now being utilized as a public airport. Alcona Health Center is operating an outpatient clinic in the former military hospital.

Township-owned properties as listed below are a direct result of the land and recreational facilities acquired from the base closure.

**OSCODA COMMUNITY CENTER** - This building has 1,200 sq.ft. of lease/rental space available. It is fully accessible and it is host to trade shows which can bring visitors from across the state. The service area for the facility is the greater Oscoda region. This facility offers numerous amenities:

- Two full service Gymsnasiums - Includes bleachers, insulated wall covering, scoreboards, and all-purpose athletic floors, that were improved within the last three years before base closure. It is used for basketball, volleyball, and pickleball. There is a roll-out floor covering for other uses (boxing, wrestling, etc.). Full locker room with showers are also available.
- Racquetball courts (3)
- Exercise/Equipment Room - Full Nautilus capability. There are approximately 15 machines of various types in this room, including elliptical machines, stationary bikes, and treadmills.
- Banquet/meeting room
- Activity Room - Center with pool tables, foosball, bumper pool table, air hockey table, ping pong table and big screen television with viewing area

**SPORTS COMPLEX** –This 49.4 acre sports complex park has existing sports facilities and the Township has recently completed a Development Plan for adding more features to the existing complex. The Development Plan is shown in Appendix A. The service area is the greater Oscoda area. This complex features:

- 5 Little League fields – each with two small sets of portable bleachers
- 1 Softball Diamond
- 5 Youth Soccer fields – each with two small sets of portable bleachers
- BMX Track
- Concession stand
- Restrooms
- Open air pavilion
- Maintenance garage

**KEN RATLIFF MEMORIAL PARK** – located on County Road F-41 on Van Etten Lake this park has approximately 3,000 feet of Lake frontage and comprises of approximately 11 acres of land. This park has an enclosed pavilion known as the Warrior Pavilion, two accessible open air pavilions, two accessible boat ramps, groomed swim beach, children’s play equipment, picnic tables, grills, and benches. A snowmobile trailhead accessing miles of trails is also located at this park. The site has an accessible restroom facility; there is also a blacktopped parking area.

**WARRIOR PAVILION** - With an outdoor deck on three sides, it sits close to the beach. This facility has been used for wedding receptions and other large parties. There is a full service kitchen as well as restrooms. Although the beach in this area appears to be shallower than it is, the safe swimming area is well-marked and buoyed. Service area is region wide.

### Accessibility for Township-owned Properties

Appendix B contains the accessibility survey of each of these Township-owned properties. This survey was done by Township staff. The Township Hall is fully accessible and was not included within this survey.

### Oscoda Township Leased Properties

**OLD ORCHARD PARK** - located on River Road in Oscoda Township. This campground/park is owned by Consumers Energy, but maintained by Oscoda Township. Located on 193 acres which follow the National River Road Scenic Byway for over two miles, the park offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities. The Park contains 525 licensed camp sites; 300 are primitive; 225 are modern. Part of this park is used as a rustic horse camp for riders using the Michigan Shore-to-Shore trail. Picnic tables are located, in generous supply, throughout the park. There are pavilions, trails, two hard surfaced boat launches, and boat docks. Water, showers, and restrooms - both flush and vault type - are available. There is also a children’s playground, fully accessible fishing pier, designated beach and swimming area, boat rentals, and a grocery store. This park is in good condition and receives high usage.

A Winter Fun Park is being developed just west of this site. Presently, two sledding hills are in place. The annual Snowbox Derby (a unique winter event in which businesses, organizations and individuals compete on sleds made from cardboard boxes) is held at this site. Service area is region wide.

**FOOTE SITE PARK** - located above the Foot Site Dam on the Au Sable River, along River Road National Scenic Byway. The three-acre site itself is owned by Consumers Energy; it is maintained and operated by the Township. This is adjacent to the area where the Au Sable River Queen (privately owned) docks. There is also a privately owned concession / gift shop located adjacent to this site. This park has four privy toilets, paved parking, two boat launches and a children's play area. Service area is region wide.

Township staff evaluated Old Orchard Park and Foote Site Park and ranked them both as "2 - some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines". As improvements and upgrades are made to these facilities, the Township plans to work to make the parks fully accessible.

### Other Public Property in Oscoda Township

#### U.S. Property

##### **HURON-MANISTEE NATIONAL FOREST -**

Approximately 59,884 acres of Huron-Manistee National Forest (HMNF) are located within Oscoda Township. This land represents almost 80% of all land in the Township. The renewable resources in the National Forest, such as timber and oil are used in an environmentally sound way to provide resources for the surrounding areas and create jobs and a stable economy. At the same time, these resources are managed in such a way as to improve the wildlife habitat of species, such as the endangered Kirtland's Warbler. The forest's resources also provide a mecca of recreation opportunities. Among these opportunities are hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, hiking, swimming, canoeing, bird watching, and other kinds of nature observation. The majority of these activities are free except for required hunting and fishing licenses or a small camping fee. Some of the opportunities are detailed below.

**RIVER ROAD: NATIONAL FOREST SCENIC BYWAY** - Perhaps the main attractions in the Township are along the river corridor. Designated a "National Forest Scenic Byway" in 2005, this beautiful highway is doing much to enhance tourism in the Township. This road is not U.S. owned. It is a certified county road and is under the control of the Iosco County Road Commission. It is placed in this section of the inventory because such a large number of U.S. properties are located along this route. Between 125,000 and 130,000 people travel this road yearly, and the numbers of visitors seem to be increasing. To reveal the advantages of the area, three short wave radio transmitters are installed along this road with information about the Scenic Byway, the surrounding area, and local information. One of the transmitters is at the East Gate; one at



West Gate; and one at Lumberman's Monument. The 22-mile road from Oscoda to M-65 follows the beautiful and historic Au Sable River. It provides some spectacular views from high sand bluffs overlooking the river and is an excellent showcase for the natural flora and fauna of the area. The monuments and interpretive sites along this road pay tribute to the early uses of the Au Sable River by Indians and French explorers and the importance of lumbering and logging in the area's earlier days. Some of the recreational opportunities along this road are listed below.



**LUMBERMAN'S MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER** - located at the intersection of River Road and Monument Road. This 7.2-acre site is owned and operated by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). The grounds contain a monument and lumbering displays, and information center, picnic grounds, and views of Cooke Pond. The monument features a nine-foot bronze statue by Robert Ingersoll Aitkin of three lumbermen with lumbering tools; there are other displays describing the early history of the area. The information center provides details on the nature and history of the area. It is the only visitor information center in the Huron-Manistee National Forest. There are steps down the steep bank to the Au Sable River. Modern restrooms are available. The site is handicapped accessible. Parking space for more than 50 cars is available. A handicapped accessible trail leads from this monument to the High Banks area (an area with large sand dunes). The High Banks area has a wooden observation tower. A campground is also located at this site.

**CANOE MEMORIAL SCENIC OVERLOOK** (Also known as Eagles' Nest Overlook) - located a mile and a half west of Lumbermen's Monument on the River Road National Scenic Byway. Oscoda Township maintains only the stone monument site. The white stone monument for which the site is named is about 200 feet above the Au Sable River; it features a lone paddler surveying the scene. It was erected in memory of a young man who lost his life while participating in a canoe race. In the past, bald eagles built a nest at this site and were visible from this vantage point.



**KIWANIS MONUMENT** - Located about one-quarter of a mile south of Lumbermen's Monument on Monument Road. The stone monument of approximately 15 feet sits amidst great stands of Norway Pines. It was constructed in 1931 in honor of Kiwanis Clubs of Michigan who donated 7,000,000 seedlings planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The pyramid is composed of stones from all over the State carved with the names of clubs and individuals who contributed to the reforestation project. Today the forest they planted covers nearly 10,000 acres. The site is maintained by the Kiwanis Clubs.

**IARGO SPRINGS INTERPRETATIVE SITE** - Located on River Road National Scenic Byway. The five-acre site, which is owned and maintained by the U.S. Forest Service, identifies an area which has been recognized for more than 400 years as a natural spring with pure water. The 30 foot high observation deck with a breathtaking view of the Au Sable River is handicapped accessible. Handicapped accessible toilets are also available. Approximately 265 steps lead down to the area where springs seep from the ground.

**FOOTE POND OVERLOOK** - Located on River Road National Scenic Byway, between Lumbermen's Monument and Oscoda. A parking lot and an observation deck has been constructed which is handicapped accessible. This is an excellent vantage point to observe the annual Au Sable River Canoe Marathon in July.

**HMNF HOPPY CREEK CANOE LANDING** – This is a primitive access site near the midpoint of the Alcona Dam to Loud Pond segment of the Au Sable River. It is primarily used as a take-out access for canoes put in at Bamfield Road. It is located on top of a bank about 15-foot-high and requires canoers to carry their canoes up a steep wooden stairway. Access to the site is by a narrow unsurfaced road, and aside from the stairway the site is undeveloped and unimproved. It is not handicap accessible. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF ROLLWAYS CAMPGROUND AND PICNIC AREA** - This is a HMNF recreation area that is located on top of a high bluff overlooking Loud Impoundment. It contains a small picnic area and shelter, 19 rustic campsites with no hook-ups, vault toilets and hand pumps for water. It meets standards of accessibility, but because it sits so high above the pond it does not provide access to the pond. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF WEST GATE SCENIC BYWAY ENTRANCE STATION** - This is a HMNF site located on a high bluff overlooking Loud Impoundment. The site provides visitors coming into the area from the south and west with an introduction to the River Road National Scenic By-Way and scenic views of Loud Impoundment. The site contains a paved parking area, vault toilets, interpretive signing and two viewing decks. There are user developed pathways to the waters edge that are causing erosion problems. The site meets the standards for accessibility. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF PINE ACRES BOAT LAUNCH** - This is a small, gravel surfaced, boat launching and docking site, located on the north side and at the upper end of Cooke impoundment. Prior to 1986, when it was purchased by the USFS, this site was operated as a Consumers Energy leased facility called Vince's Landing. It is now commonly referred to as Pine Acres. The USFS is responsible for O&M. It is used as an upper impoundment launch, and the USFS also provides some permitted boat docking for area residents. Access to the site is via a narrow, unsurfaced road, and unorganized parking is available for 15-20 vehicle/trailer units. The site does not meet the standards for accessibility. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF IARGO SPRINGS INTERPRETIVE SITE** - This is a HMNF site located on top of a high bluff overlooking the south side of Cooke Impoundment, and one of several scenic attractions located on the River Road National Scenic By-Way. The site contains interpretive signing, a paved parking area, vault toilets, portable water, a deck that allows visitors to look out over Cooke Impoundment, a long stairway down to the pond and a series of wooden walkways and decks for viewing the springs that are along the shoreline at the base of the bluff. The facilities on the bluff are accessible, but due to the height and steepness of the bluff, disabled access is not provided to springs at the bottom.



This site was reconstructed in 1991 and no new capital improvements are needed. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF CANOER'S MEMORIAL** - This is a HMNF site located on top of a high bluff that overlooks Cooke Impoundment, and one of several scenic attractions located on the River Road National Scenic Byway. The site provides visitors with a scenic view of Cooke Impoundment. The site contains a paved parking area and a monument to the sport of canoeing, which has the names of several deceased canoeing enthusiasts. This site meets accessibility standards. This site was reconstructed in 1993 and no new capital improvements needed. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF LUMBERMAN'S MONUMENT VISITOR CENTER** - This is a HMNF Recreation Area and a major tourist attraction. The recreation area sits on top of a high bluff overlooking Cooke Impoundment and is one of several scenic attractions located on the River Road National Scenic Byway. The area contains interpretive displays of early logging activity, a statue commemorating the lumber barons of the late 1800's, a visitor information center with modern bathroom facilities, a mini-theater pavilion, a gift shop, large paved parking areas and sidewalks, picnic grounds, scenic overlooks, foot trails along the top of the bluff and a long stairway down to the pond. The facilities on the bluff meet the standards for accessibility. Due to the height and steepness of the bank, access for the disabled is not provided down to the impoundment. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF LUMBERMAN'S MONUMENT CAMPGROUND** - Located adjacent to the Lumberman's Monument Visitor Center, this is a 20 unit, rustic campground with gravel interior roads and camping spurs, vault toilets and water pumps. This site does not meet the standards for accessibility. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF SAWMILL POINT CAMPING AREA** - This is an area, located in the upper half along the shoreline of Cooke impoundment, that has been heavily used for unfacilitated camping for many years. In 1991, because this portion of the Cooke impoundment is being managed to provide users with a semi-primitive recreational experience, the USFS established a permit system to control where people camped and the level of use the area received. Specific sites were designated where camping could occur, and persons wishing to camp at one of these sites have to obtain a permit. The designated sites at Sawmill Point are still unfacilitated, and access is provided by an unsurfaced, poor quality sand road. This site does not meet the standards for accessibility. In addition to the Sawmill Point area, there are also designated camping locations on Loud, Five Channels and the lower Cooke impoundments where use is controlled under the same permit system. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

**HMNF FOOTE POND OVERLOOK** - This is a HMNF site located on top of a high bluff overlooking Foote impoundment, and is one of several scenic attractions located on the River Road National Scenic Byway. The site provides visitors with scenic views of Foote impoundment, and contains a paved parking area and paved walking for viewing the pond. The site meets accessibility standards. This site was constructed in 1993 and no new capital improvements are needed. Funding for annual operations and maintenance is provided by Consumers Energy.

### Trails

**IRON BELLE TRAIL** - Oscoda Township is currently working with Iosco County, Au Sable Township, Consumers Energy, and the U.S. Forest Service on the development of the first phase of the Iosco Exploration Trail which will run from the Au Sable River westward to the Oscoda Schools Complex. The Iosco Exploration Trail is planned to run from Oscoda to Hale and it is part of the statewide Iron-Belle Trail.

**MICHIGAN'S SHORE TO SHORE RIDING/HIKING TRAIL** - Stretches from the Lake Michigan shore on the west to the Lake Huron shore on the east. Its route across the Michigan peninsula traverses through stately pines and hardwoods and along forest trails and scenic highways. Parts of the trail parallel two of the country's most beautiful rivers: the Boardman in the western part of the State and the Au Sable in the eastern part. The section of approximately 30 miles which diagonally bisects Iosco County enters Oscoda Township at its southwestern border and passes through the Huron-Manistee National Forest before crossing down into Plainfield Township, and eventually Oscoda. The Forest Service maintains trail camps along the trail and provides signage. The trail itself is jointly maintained, by the U.S. Forest Service and the Trail Riders Association. It is for use by hikers and horseback riders; mountain bikes are also permitted. Public trail camps and private facilities are available for trail users. Special sites are prepared for the horses. In Oscoda



Township, the back part of Old Orchard Park is designated as the trail camp. It is a primitive group camping site; group rates are available.

**EAGLE RUN CROSS-COUNTRY SKI AND NATURE TRAIL** - Located on River Road on Huron-Manistee National Forest land. This cross-country ski area offers 11 miles of trails. They were developed through the cooperation of many local governmental agencies, local businesses and the Michigan Youth Corps. Located in marsh and meadow along the Au Sable River, this area offers opportunities to observe birds, beaver, and various types of wildlife. The main parking area and starting point is at East Gate, located at the east entrance of the Scenic Byway (in the southeast corner of Section 32, T24 R9E). Handicapped accessible toilets are available at this east entrance.

**HIGH BANKS TRAIL** - Located 14 miles west of Oscoda. This marked, but ungroomed cross-country trail system begins at Largo Springs and traverses through Lumbermen's Monument and Canoe Memorial and ends at Sidtown. Though not heavily used, this trail system offers spectacular views of the Au Sable River from a bank 200 feet above the water.

**ORV TRAILS** - Officials from the Huron-Manistee National Forest indicate that there are about 200 miles of ORV trails throughout the Huron-Manistee National Forest. In Oscoda Township, the Old State House ORV Trail listed under "State Owned properties" contains approximately 36 miles of trails for ORV usage. The Federal ORV trails are seasonal and cannot be used in the winter.

**SNOWMOBILE TRAILS** - There are 25 miles of snowmobile trails located on National Forest Service land in Oscoda Township, named the Huron Snowmobile Trail. One section of these trails is located to the south of River Road and runs mostly parallel to it. Another section begins at the Ken Ratliff Park traveling through the former WAFB north to the Au Sable River and stretches through the central portion of the Township to M-65. Sections of this trail are located on Consumers' Energy property through a license with the County Parks and Recreation. The trails are marked; they are groomed by the Michigan DNR Snowmobile Grant sponsors, with the current sponsor being Iosco County Parks and Recreation Board. (This trail is part of the 91 mile Iosco County Snowmobile Trail system. Please note, ORV's are not allowed in certain areas of environmental sensitivity, such as near nesting areas of the Kirtland's Warblers.

### Other Trails in Oscoda Township

**SUNRISE COAST BIRDING TRAIL** - Explore bird habitats along Michigan's Sunrise Coast from the Au Sable River Mouth all the way to the Mackinac Bridge.

The Sunrise Coast Birding Trail (SBCT) incorporates 145 miles along Lake Huron shoreline, U.S. 23 and short excursions along the Au Sable River. The trail begins at the mouth of the Au Sable River in Oscoda Township and heads north along the Lake Huron coast to Mackinaw City. Birders might observe common, threatened, or endangered birds of the area's coastal and inland locations. In Oscoda Township, these are the key birding locations:

**Shoreline Park- Au Sable River Mouth** - At this southern start of the Trail, the shoreline boardwalk or observation platform offer you views of Green Herons, many other wetland bird species and possibly the federally endangered Great Lakes Piping Plovers nesting along the Lake Huron Shore.

**Piety Hill Riverwalk** - A handicap-style boardwalk leads down to the Au Sable River where numerous waterfowl can be seen along the river. Many warblers and thrushes also visit.

**Riverbank Park** - This small park contains short paved trails and easy viewing access along the river. Conifers, hardwoods, vines and shrubs attract birds with food, shelter, and nesting habitat like warblers, woodpeckers, and thrushes. Blue Herons, Belted Kingfishers and several species of waterfowl are seen at the river bayou and pier.

**Eagle Run** - This U.S. Forest Service managed area contains seven miles of trails in a quiet remote setting. Numerous woodland species reside here. Waterfowl can be viewed along the Au Sable River where paths meander along the river's banks.

**Foote Site Park & Foote Tailwater Site** - The backwaters of Consumers Energy's Foote Dam form this 1,800-acre pond. Caspian Terns, Bald Eagles, Common Loons, Blue Herons, a variety of gulls, and numerous duck species inhabit the pond during the spring, summer and fall seasons. Trumpeter Swans were endangered over 30 years ago, but now significantly nest on the Au Sable River and its large ponds.

**Clark's Marsh** - Adjacent to the Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport and Au Sable River, this wetland's serene setting offers many species including Marsh Wrens, Virginia Rails, herons, numerous warblers, Bald eagles, Trumpeter Swans and many kinds of waterfowl.

**Airport Grasslands** - Just a short distance from Clark's Marsh, this vast open area provides habitat for grassland species including Eastern Meadowlarks, American Kestrel, Upland Sandpiper, Northern Harries, Savannah and Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows, Horned Larks, and occasionally a Snowy Owl during irruption years.



## Camping

Camping is permitted in the National Forest. In most areas, unless the area is specifically posted against the activity, camping is permitted without fees or regulations. In 1987, the National Forest acquired a large amount of riverbank acreage which had previously been owned by Consumers Energy. In order to control usage in this area and protect the environment by reducing impact on the shoreline, reducing litter, etc., the Forest Service began a system of camping by permit only at designated sites.

**80 DESIGNATED SITES** - At present in the area between River Road and Bissonette Road, from Foote Pond to Loud Pond, there are about 80 designated and numbered campsites at which camping is permitted and regulated. Beginning in 1992 a small fee has been charged for each permit; each permit allows a maximum stay of seven days. These sites have no facilities, but some of the more heavily used drive-in sites have wilderness-type latrines. This system appears to be working well. In these “camping-by-permit-only” sites and at “designated site only” areas on the entire River corridor, there are no restrictions on day use activities, such as sightseeing, berry picking, hunting, hiking, and similar activities. Firewood gathering is permanently prohibited between River Road and the Au Sable River.

In addition to the primitive camping sites, some sites are partially developed.

**LUMBERMAN’S MONUMENT CAMPING SITE** - This Huron-Manistee National Forest recreation site contains 20 developed camping units. Facilities include a pressure water system and four pit toilets. Each site has a picnic table and steel fire ring. The access road is graveled. The campground is located adjacent to Lumbermen’s Monument Visitor Center on the River Road National Scenic Byway. There is no access to Cooke Pond, but a handicapped accessible trail leads from the Visitor Center to a spectacular overlook on Cooke Pond.

## Boat Launches

**WHIRLPOOL BOAT ACCESS** - This site, owned and maintained by the U.S. Forest Service, is located off River Road National Scenic Byway, three miles west of Oscoda. Access is by a gravel road. Facilities include a double-wide concrete boat launch, a canoe unloading area, gravel parking lot for 60 cars/trailers, and handicapped accessible restrooms. Use is light to moderate.

**SAWMILL POINT BOAT ACCESS** - Located on Sawmill Point, on Cooke Pond. Access is off River Road National Scenic Byway, north one and a half miles on Cooke Dam Road. This primitive boat access is owned and maintained by the U.S. Forest Service. The site will accommodate 7-10 cars/trailers. The



parking lot and boat ramp are not surfaced; no other facilities are present. This is a popular site for local residents and those using the adjacent National Forest primitive campsites.

**M-65 COOKE POND BOAT ACCESS (PREVIOUSLY VINCE'S LANDING)** - This site was acquired by the USFS from Consumers Energy in 1987 and was previously licensed to a local resort for operation. It is now open to the public. Neither the boat ramp nor the parking area, which will accommodate approximately 30 cars/trailers, is surfaced. No facilities are present; the site is considered a primitive access site by National Forest standards. Since it has been opened to the public, the site has received consistently high usage because of the shallow gradient of the site in relation to the water level and the lack of a strong current at the launch site.

### State of Michigan Property

**AU SABLE STATE FOREST** - 3,906 acres of Township land are held in the Au Sable State Forest and as other State-owned land. This state forest, as all state forests in Michigan, is managed under a multiple-use philosophy: it provides timber, wildlife, minerals, watershed protection, and aesthetic benefits, as well as recreation. Hunting, fishing, camping, berry and mushroom picking, hiking, and various forms of nature observation are some of the opportunities afforded on these lands.

**LOWER HIGH BANKS FISHING ACCESS SITE** - Located in T24N, R8E, Section 35, on the Au Sable River - on the River Road Scenic Byway (about one-half mile east of Foote Site). At this site there are stairways and overlooks available for public use. Off-road parking spaces are available.



**CEDAR LAKE BOAT LAUNCH** - Located on Cedar Lake Drive. The site is managed by the Recreation Division, Department of Natural Resources. The boat launch features a hard-surfaced ramp for launching small and medium-sized boats. The site features parking for 25 cars.

**VAN ETEN LAKE BOAT LAUNCH** - Located at Van Etten State Campground; maintained by the Forestry Division of the MDNR. The gravel-surfaced ramp accommodates small and medium-sized boats. There is parking for about six cars.

**VAN ETEN LAKE STATE CAMPGROUND** - Access site to the lake. The site contains 62 primitive camping sites, pit toilets, and a boat launch facility on Van Etten Lake.

**THREE MILE PARK** - located on U.S. 23, three miles north of Oscoda. This park is operated by the State of Michigan, and has .2 mile of Lake Huron frontage and is currently a rest area park. The four-acre park features 17 picnic tables, seven pedestal grills, wooden boardwalk and litter barrels. There is a pump for drinking water and pit toilets.

**THE OLD STATE HOUSE TRAIL** - Located in the eastern section of the Township, above the Au Sable. This is a 16 mile marked ORV trail, with an additional 20 miles of marked trail roads for ORV use. This trail is administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

**SEVEN MILE HILL TRAIL** - A 20-mile section of snowmobile trail located in the Au Sable State Forest. Located on a hill known as “Old Orchard Hill” and also as “Wilber Resort Hill,” this trail is part of the “Iosco County Parks and Recreation Commission” Trail.

### Iosco County Property

**HURON SNOWMOBILE TRAIL** - This 91-mile snowmobile trail is spread throughout the County, with sections of it being located on National and State Forest land and Consumers Energy property in Oscoda Township. The trail is groomed and well- marked. Parking areas are located at various places along the trail route. The parking areas are signed, plowed and have toilet facilities.

### Consumers Energy Property

Consumers Energy owns 3,514 acres of land in Oscoda Township fronting the Au Sable River.

This property listing includes the four dams that are owned and operated by Consumers Energy in the Township. The dams are Loud Dam, Five Channels Dam, Cooke Dam, and Foote Dam. Canoe portages are provided at each dam.

- Foote Dam is 39 feet high; the accompanying impoundment has 1,702 surface acres.
- Cooke Dam is 39 feet high; Cooke pond has 1,613 surface acres.
- Five Channels Dam is 35 feet high; Five Channels Pond has 212 acres.
- Loud Dam is 27 feet high; Loud Pond has 743 acres.

The properties belonging to Consumers Energy include the following recreational properties, which are owned, developed or maintained by Consumers Energy.



### Loud Project Existing Facilities

**LOUD IMPOUNDMENT BOAT LAUNCH** - Access is off M-65, and two miles down Loud Dam Road. This is an undeveloped, unimproved site that provides access for small watercraft to Loud Impoundment. The site is a relatively large flat sandy area located at the south end of the dike. It does not meet accessibility standards.

In order to protect the semi-primitive recreational experience and eagle habitat found within the Loud Project, no improvements are proposed for this site. Consumers Energy is responsible for O&M of this site.

**LOUD DAM CANOE PORTAGE** - The canoe portage is located near the north end of the dike and consists of a wooden platform attached to the corewall and a grassy path about 220 feet long leading down to the dam's tailrace area. It does not meet accessibility standards. Due to the low use the portage receives, the area's semi-primitive ROS designation, and concerns about protecting eagle habitat, no improvements are proposed for this facility. Consumers Energy Company is responsible for Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of this site.

### Five Channels Project Existing Facilities

**FIVE CHANNELS IMPOUNDMENT BOAT LAUNCH** - Access is west of M-65, immediately after the Au Sable River when traveling north. It consists of a small gravel parking area with a narrow (12') and rather steep concrete launch ramp. It is suitable for launching only small watercraft and does not meet accessibility standards. To preserve the semi-primitive recreational experience and eagle habitat in the Five Channels project area, no improvements will be made to this facility. Consumers Energy is responsible for O&M of this site.

**FIVE CHANNELS DAM CANOE PORTAGE** - The Five Channels Canoe Portage is located south of the powerhouse, and consists of a vault toilet, paved driveway, and parking area, a wooden portage staircase, and a hard plastic take-out platform. It runs down to a dirt road that provides unfacilitated access to the tailwater. This facility does not meet the standards for accessibility. Due to the low use this site receives and the area's management objectives, no improvements are proposed for this facility. Consumers Energy is responsible for O&M of this site.

### Cooke Project Existing Facilities

**COOKE IMPOUNDMENT BOAT LAUNCHES** - This is a Consumers Energy boat access located near the south end of the dike for Cooke Dam. It consists of a small graveled surface parking area with a narrow concrete ramp suitable for launching small watercraft. It contains no other improvements and does not meet the standards for accessibility. Consumers Energy is responsible for the O&M at his site.



**COOKE DAM CANOE PORTAGE** - This portage is located on the east side of the dam and consists of a wooden platform attached to the corewall and an elevated wooden stairway, about 100 feet long leading down to the tailrace area of the dam. This site does not meet the standards for accessibility. No plans are proposed for improving this portage. Consumers Energy is responsible for O&M at this site to ensure user safety and adequate sanitation.

**CANOE TAILWATER ACCESS SITE** – The site consists of a downstream gravel boat launch, fishing shelter, vault toilet, and paved parking.

### Foote Project Existing Facilities

**FOOTE POND FISHING ACCESS SITE** - Located downstream of Foote Dam. The 245 acre day use site is owned by Consumers Energy and is leased and maintained by the State of Michigan. The area includes Foote Tailwater Access Site and Rea Road site. At the Tailwater Access Site facilities include a recently remodeled, ADA accessible, fishing pier, with a gravel parking lot, and vault toilet. The Rea Road area facilities include a hard surfaced boat launch, a vault toilet, and a gravel parking area for approximately 50 cars. Parking and trails are located about one-half mile downstream of the dam. Facility use is very high during the spring and fall salmon/steelhead seasons; use at other times is lighter.

**FOOTE DAM CANOE PORTAGE** - This portage is located on the west side of the dam. This site does not meet the standards for accessibility. No plans are proposed for improving this portage. Consumers Energy is responsible for O&M at this site to ensure user safety and adequate sanitation.

**THE RIVER QUEEN AND BLUE HORIZON SCHOOL CAMP** – Both sites are located near Foote Site Park and the Foote Pond Access Sites. The land is owned by Consumers Energy.

### Privately Owned / Maintained Recreational Property

#### Unique Areas

**GOODWIN GERSHAM SITE (ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE 20 IS 8, IOSCO COUNTY)** - Located north of Oscoda in Section 34 of T24N, R9E off Hughes Street. This is also known as the Pine River Bluff Site. Although this site is privately owned and not presently available to the public, it is listed as a site of historic value. The site is a Native American burial site dating from approximately 1150 B.C. For about 3,000 years (1150 B.C. to 1860) the site was occupied by Native Americans. For part of this time it was a spit of land between the Au Sable River and Lake Huron. Various artifacts have been found on the site, including projectile points, bone, debit age from various quality flint materials, an abundance of pottery pieces, and an archaic, red ochre burial from 1150 B.C. Although most major artifacts have likely been recovered from this area, its preservation and protection as a site commemorative of the area's Native American heritage would be valuable.

## Golf

**LAKEWOOD SHORES GOLF COURSE** - Located on Cedar Lake Road, north of Oscoda. This recreational site contains three golf courses. The first, an 18 hole golf course 6,806 yards in length, features nicely contoured greens, areas of mature hardwoods, pines and new plantings and plenty of open water. The second, known as “The Gailes,” is a Scottish links-style course with deep pot bunkers and long fescue rough. The third is known as “Blackshire”, located north of County Line Road in Greenbush Township.



## Campgrounds

**YMCA CAMP NISSOKONE** - Located on the shores of Van Etten Lake, off F-41; 50 cottages and a dining hall are available.

**CAMP CHERITH** - Located at 1154 W. River Road in the Huron-Manistee National Forest near Lumberman’s Monument. This privately owned summer camp allows for tent camping on pallets. There is also a pool, dining hall, nature center (museum), and stables. This camp is usually used as an all-girls’ facility; occasionally, other groups use it.

## Marinas and Boat Launches

**THE LANDING** - Located at 680 W. River Road. This facility has served the area over the years as a boat launch, and a convenience store.

### Water Excursions

**AUSABLE RIVER QUEEN** - Located six miles west of Oscoda on the River Road National Scenic Byway on property leased from Consumers Energy. Excursions on the Au Sable are provided by the Au Sable River Queen. With a capacity of 130 people, this boat showcases the scenic and natural intrigue of the Au Sable and the surrounding area in a nostalgic river journey. Fall color tours, conducted twice a day, attract full-capacity crowds. During the rest of the season, the tours average about 50 passengers and run once a day.

### Boat Charter Services

Many private boat owners offer fishing and specialty charter service both on Lake Huron and on the Au Sable River. Sailing charter service is also available.

### Farm Markets

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** – The chamber sponsors a Farmer's Market periodically during the growing season.



## Cultural/Programmed Events

In addition to these properties, Oscoda Township features many cultural and program activities. A local group called the Shoreline Players perform several times a year. Over 50 different clubs and organizations offer something for every age and interest. The Township is also host to or shares sponsorship of many events which stretch from the beginning of the year to its end.

### Township/Community Sponsored Offerings

Klondike Canoe Race	Concerts on the Beach
Au Sable River Days	Business Expo
Harry Curley Canoe Race	Starry Nights at the Pier
Art on the Beach	Paul Bunyan Days
Northern Lights Christmas Parade	Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks
Fishing Tournament	Au Sable River International Canoe Marathon
Woodcarvers Show	Veterans' Day Parade and Celebration

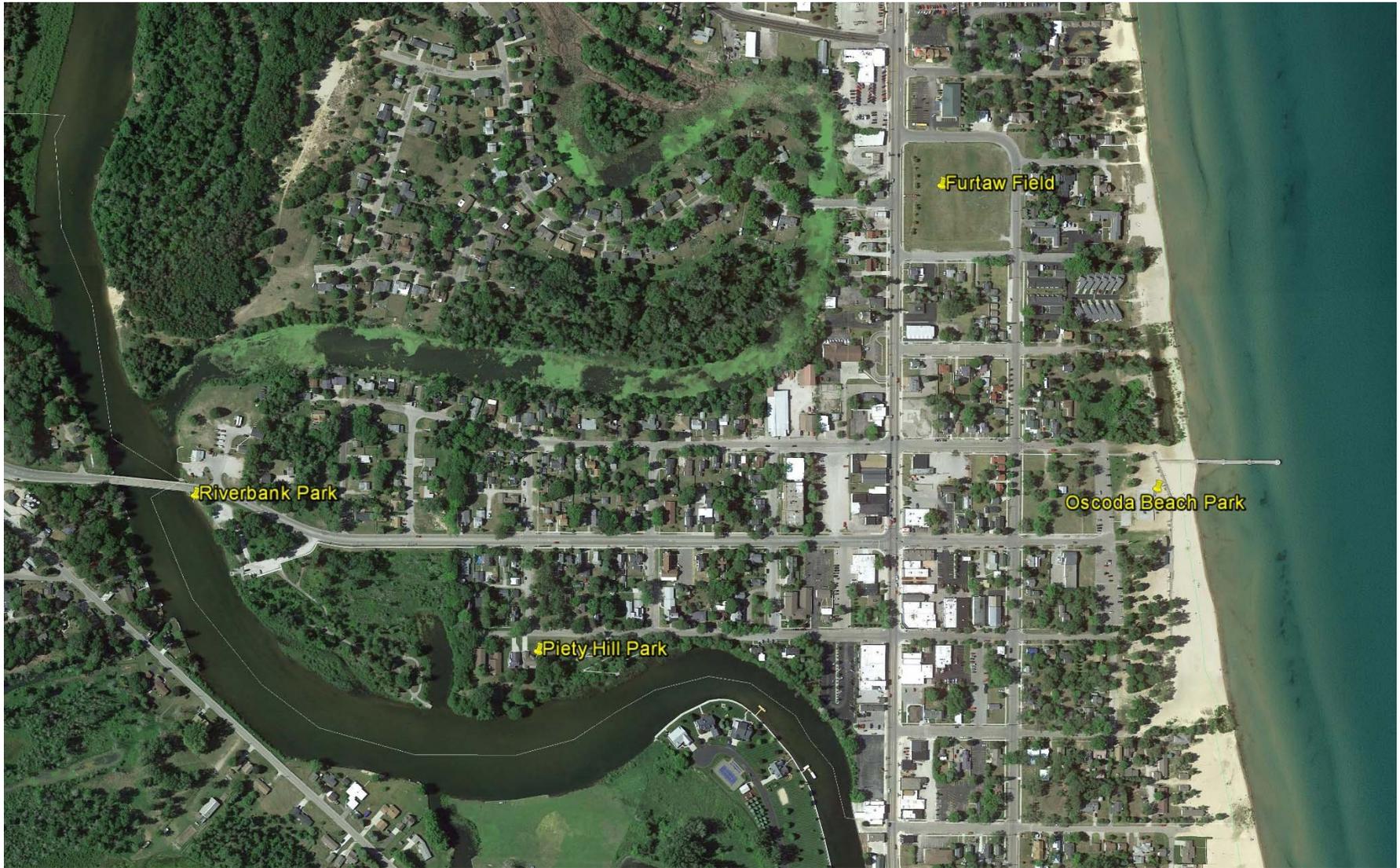
### Oscoda Community Center

Step Aerobics	Volleyball
Pickleball	Wallyball
Spinning	Roller Skating
Community Mini-Seminars	Stretching and Abs
Yoga	

### Old Orchard Campground

Weekend Hayrides	Snow Box Derby
Arts and Craft Show	Renaissance Festival
Bike Parade	Sand Volleyball
Music at Pavilion	Cardboard Box Race
Jamborees	Group Events Area
Camping Groups	

Map 2 – Oscoda Township Parks



Map 3 – Oscoda Township Parks



## Accessibility

Creating a park system that is safe, accessible and usable to all individuals, including those with disabilities, is essential. A grading system, outlined in the table below, has been developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to easily identify those parks and facilities which are most and least handicap accessible and usable, based on the ADA guidelines. The accessibility grading system uses a five-point system ranging from one (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines), to five (the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design).

As noted in the inventory listing, some of the parks do not meet all criteria for handicap accessibility. Oscoda Township is dedicated to continuing its efforts towards improving accessibility at each of its parks when improvements are made. This includes accessible parking, paths, restrooms, activity areas, amenities and signage. Appendix B has the accessibility assessment for all Township owned parks.

Table 2 - MDNR Accessibility Ratings

Accessibility Grade	Definition
1	None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
2	Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
3	Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines.
4	The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.
5	The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design.

## Public Input Process

One of the most important aspects of a community's Parks and Recreation Master Plan is the inclusion of the resident's opinions about how they view the future of their parks and recreation system. Oscoda Township created a community survey that pertained to both, the update of the Master Plan and the Update of the Recreation Plan. The survey was in place to gather the information which would guide the Township master plan policies and parks and recreation program. A complete tabulation of the results is available for review in Appendix C. The text below provides a description of the significant results for the questions pertaining to recreation.

Overall, the survey had 29 questions, and there were a total of 930 responses. Of those 29 questions, 9 questions were specific to parks and recreation. The Township advertised the community input survey on the Township website and put out a targeted advertisement on Facebook. The online survey was available from 6/2/2016 to 7/24/2016, at [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com).

A second means of input was provided during the required public review period from January 13<sup>th</sup> to February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and the public hearing February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### Survey Respondents

The following questions explain the demographics of the survey respondents. These questions are included in this explanation to have a better understanding of the participation in the survey. The questions specific to recreation will follow in the next sections of this chapter.

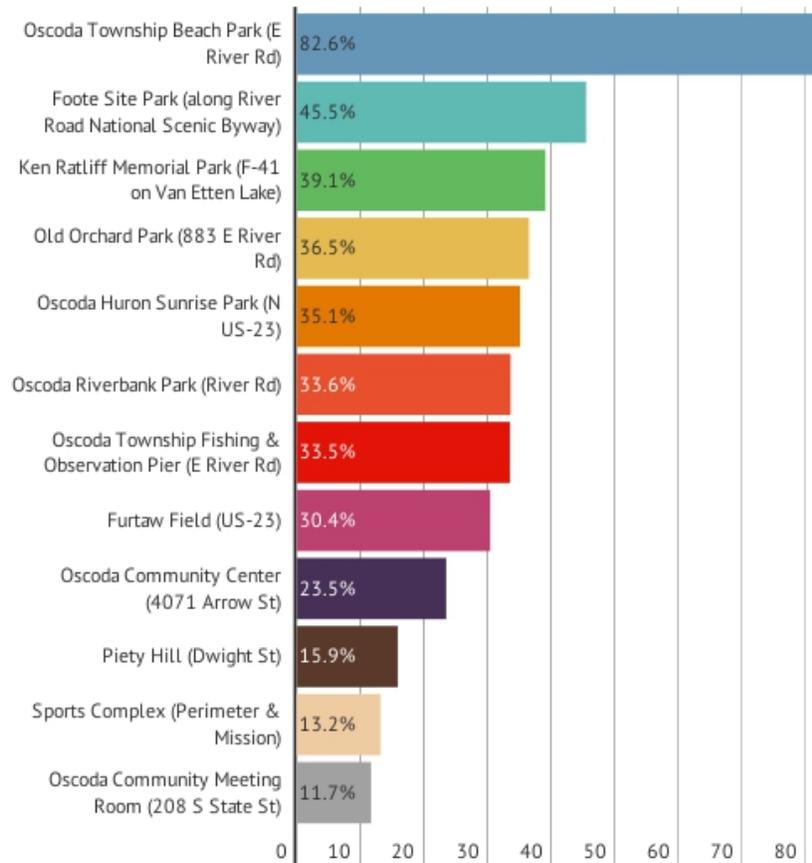
Of the 930 responses to the survey, 66% of respondents were a resident of the Township, of the 34% of respondents who indicated they were not residents, 38% stated they were a seasonal resident. Of all the respondents the top three age groups who participated in the survey were 55 - 64 years old (25%), 25 - 34 years old (17%), and 65 – 74 years old (15%).

### Recreation Survey Results

Respondents were asked which of the Oscoda Township properties they had visited recently, and were encouraged to choose more than one answer. Figure 1 on the following page, represents the responses to this question. The top three most visited parks were Oscoda Township Beach Park, Foote Site Park, and Ken Ratliff Memorial Park.

Figure 1 - Recently visited parks

**19) Which of the following Oscoda Township properties have you visited recently? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

(690 responses)

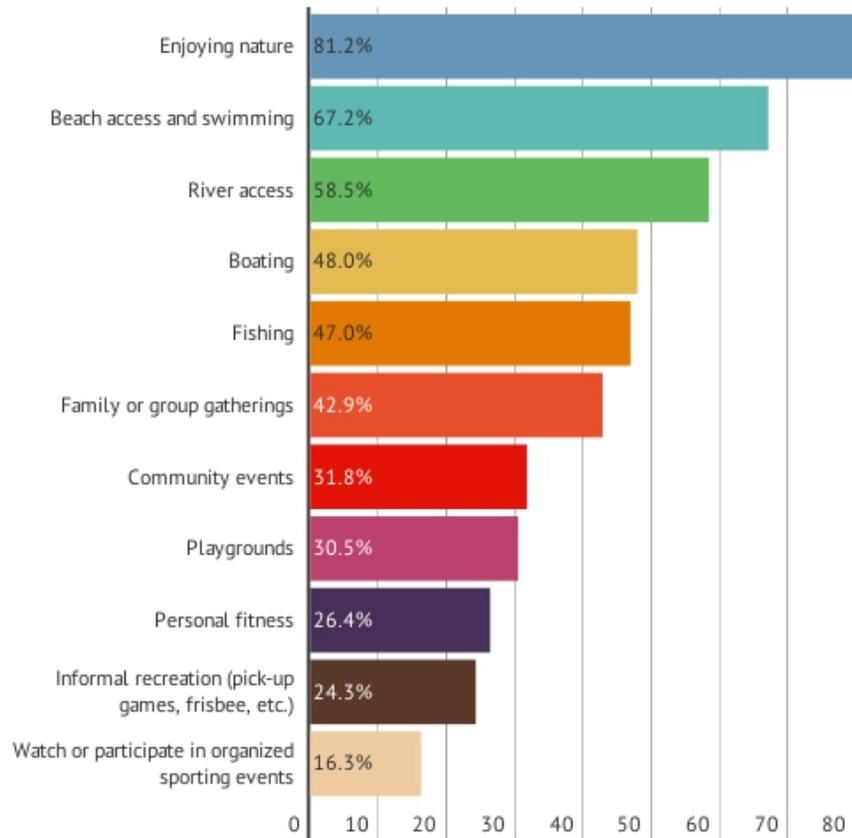
Next respondents were asked why they visited public parks and recreation facilities in the Township? The top 5 responses included:

1. Enjoying Nature
2. Beach access and swimming
3. River Access
4. Boating
5. Fishing

Figure 2 on the following page, represents all of the responses to this question.

Figure 2 - Reasons you visit parks and recreation facilities

**20) Why do you visit public parks or recreational facilities in the Township? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(711 responses)

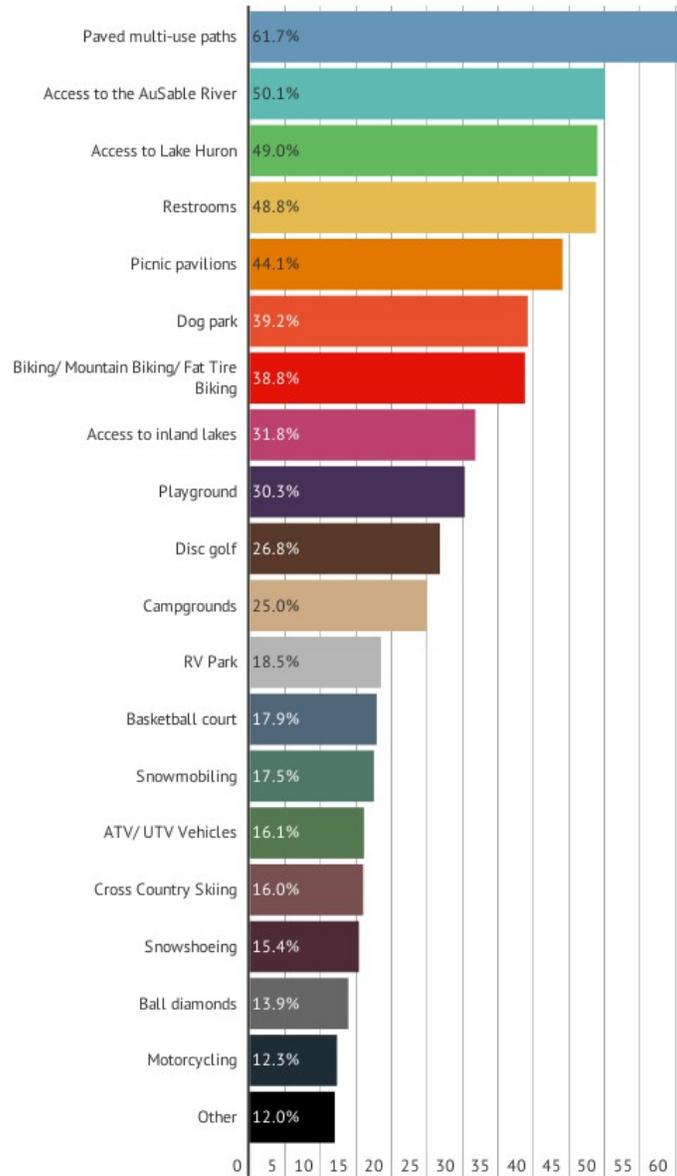
Finally, respondents were asked what kind of additional recreation and support facilities are needed in Oscoda Township. The top ten answers for this question included:

1. Paved multi-use paths
2. Access to AuSable River
3. Access to Lake Huron
4. Restrooms
5. Picnic Pavilions
6. Dog Park
7. Biking (Biking/Mountain biking/Fat Tire Biking)
8. Access to inland lakes
9. Playgrounds
10. Disc Golf

Figure 3 below, represents a complete list of the responses for this question.

Figure 3 - Additional Recreation Options and Facilities

**23) What kind of additional recreation and support facilities are needed in Oscoda Township? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

(676 responses)

Finally, respondents were also able to type in an “other” answer to this question. There were 81 additional responses and Table 3 below illustrates those answers.

Responses	Number
Year Round Community Center	11
Fitness Training Equipment	4
Indoor activities/recreation options	4
Pickle Ball Courts	4
Recreation programs	4
Year round sports complex	4
Theme Park	3
Basketball Courts	2
Concession stand at the beach	2
Dog sledding trails	2
Farmers Market	2
Horseback trails/riding	2
Ice skating rink	2
Improve access at Lake Huron	2
Improved skate park	2
More access to Foote Pond	2
Multi-use trail along Cedar Lake Rd	2
Tennis Courts	2
Accessible access at beaches	1
Birding and Wildlife viewing	1
Community Garden	1
Concerts	1
Develop Furtaw with courts, playground, and walking path	1
Disc golf	1
Free access to all waterways	1
Free boat launches for Township residents	1
Handicapped accessible beach access	1
Harbor	1
Improve Old Orchard	1
Kayaking/Canoeing/Paddle boarding	1
Maintain facilities	1
Maintain Township parking	1
Maintenance on beach	1
More activities at Lake Huron Park	1
More and improved fishing access	1
More handicapped accessible fishing options	1
Multi-use pavilions	1
Multi-use trail along F41 to downtown	1
Multi-used trail along the river and lake	1
Non-paved nature trails	1
ORV Off Road Park	1
Outdoor meeting center	1
Parks for young kids and teens	1
Seasonal lake activities (rentals, slides, climbing activities)	1
Snowboarding/Skiing	1
Snowmobiles allowed in downtown	1
Splash pad	1
Sporting Clays and Trap Facilities	1
Street hockey	1
Swimming pool	1
Volleyball Nets	1

## Goals and Objectives

The Goals and Objectives listed on the following pages were developed by Oscoda Township after considering the public input, demographic factors, other related plans, and determination of need by Township staff and officials. The goals are broad and address general needs, and establish the basis for expanding its programs, and facility objectives. The objectives are measurable results that the community works toward accomplishing.

### Goal 1: Continue to provide and improve recreational and support facilities that inspire community pride.

- Objective: Continue to provide a high level of cleanliness and upkeep/maintenance of existing facilities.
- Objective: Improve existing facilities that need improvements or become outdated.
- Objective: Focus on improving access to water at relevant Township Parks.

### Goal 2: Continue to preserve, protect, and enhance the variety of water and natural forest resources in Oscoda Township and the recreational opportunities that they provide.

- Objective: Develop strategies for controlling invasive species in the parks.
- Objective: Work with state, and federal agencies to maintain and improve water and shoreline quality.
- Objective: Work with other public recreation providers to coordinate and collaborate woodland and water opportunities and avoid duplication of effort.



**Goal 3: Promote and provide diverse recreational opportunities that are functional for a variety of uses and are able to satisfy all age groups and levels of ability.**

- Objective: Provide recreational opportunities for people with disabilities. Remove existing barriers to recreation facilities.
- Objective: Add new amenities to Oscoda Township park facilities based upon community input and need.
- Objective: Examine opportunities for increased recreational programming in Oscoda Township. Work with local municipalities, arts and culture organizations, schools, private property owners and service clubs where possible.
- Objective: Create new programs to enhance physical fitness and health.
- Objective: Create programs that provide inter-generational interaction between seniors and youth/preschoolers.
- Objective: Plan for development and construction of expansion of the Oscoda Sports Complex in the Wurtsmith District as outlined in the Outdoor Sports Complex Master Plan with consideration for future updates in the overall plan.
- Objective: Investigate ways to increase motorized pathways and trail development in the Township.

**Goal 4: Create community awareness of Oscoda Township recreational opportunities and promote them to citizens and visitors.**

- Objective: Work on website, social media, and develop other online opportunities to communicate with the public about Oscoda Township park facilities and events.
- Objective: Consider other opportunities for advertising and promotion.
- Objective: Utilize Beach Park Kiosk to announce organized activities.
- Objective: Work with Chamber of Commerce and other organizations to help promote recreation opportunities in the Township.

### Goal 5: Focus on developing pathway and trail opportunities.

- Objective: Utilize the Non-Motorized Pathway Plan and plan for the projects outlined therein.
- Objective: Continue to pursue the development of the Iosco Exploration Trail/Iron Belle Trail
- Objective: Link with other organizations to develop Blueways.
- Objective: Plan for future water trails.

### Goal 6: Investigate innovative ways to fund implement this plan.

- Objective: Seek grants from the DNR.
- Objective: Seek grants form other entities.

### Goal 7: Create mechanisms to maintain positive public relations.

- Objective: Provide regular opportunities for public input.
- Objective: Continue working with and developing partnerships with organizations involved in recreational opportunities.
- Objective: Continue and improve coordination with schools.



## Action Items

This Chapter of the plan is the culmination of a comprehensive planning effort that began with the thorough analysis of the needs and desires of the community. With goals and objectives in place, Oscoda Township was able to develop a 5-year action program to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives. The Action Program details the direction the community wishes to take over the next five years in order to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of area park and recreation opportunities.

Potential projects were assigned a priority of 1 through 5 with 1 being most important and 5 being least important. Each action item relates to one or more of the numbered goals from the previous section. Potential capital improvements described in this Plan have been established not only to provide a framework for decision makers but also to enable the Township to apply for grant funding for these proposed projects.

The project list is not a fixed element and it is neither all-inclusive or exclusive. Future circumstances, especially availability of funding, may change priorities or require reprioritization of items.

The Action Items are listed to correspond to each of the sections in the Goals and Objectives section: Facilities, Programming, Access to Facilities, and Administration and Organization.

The Action Plan for Oscoda Township Parks is shown on the following page.

## Financing Potential Improvements

Funding for parks and recreation capital improvements can come from a myriad of local, state, and federal programs. Grant funding is available for parks and recreation projects. However, applicants need to target potential funding agencies and programs very carefully so as to meet the specific criteria required. Appendix D contains a current listing of programs and agencies that can provide funding for parks and recreation projects.



Table 4 – Action Items

Oscoda Charter Township Recreation Plan Action Plan		
Project	Relates to Goals	Priority
<b>Oscoda Beach Park</b>		
Resurface basketball courts and update hoops.	1, 3	2
Additions to fishing pier.	1, 3	3
Fixture improvements: trash cans, playground, grills, horseshoe, volleyball, install pet waste receptacles, bike racks.	1, 3	1
Install outdoor shower/foot rinse stations.	1, 3	5
Bath house improvements/concession stand development/opportunities.	1, 3	2
Improve entrance with landscaping, possible water feature, gateway to the Beach Park, use landscaping to better define use areas, and parking lot improvements.	1, 2, 3	1
Pursue grant opportunities for the development of vacant beach front land to the north of existing Township property.	1, 2, 3	1
Pursue grant opportunities for the development of possible RV campground opportunity.	1	3
Parking lot lighting improvements.	1, 5	3
Develop bird-watching opportunities.	2, 3	3
New/replace playground equipment.	1, 3	3
Explore feasibility of dog park.		
<b>Old Orchard Campground</b>		
Improve and update recreation equipment.	1, 3	5
Store improvements, including modernizing, point of sale and technology; registration process. Improve IT infrastructure.	1, 3	4
Replace Old Orchard Park house with cabin structure for rentals.	1, 3	3
Upgrade bathhouse facilities.	1, 3	1
Improve and update campsites: (water, electrical, etc.)	1, 3	2
Add additional shelter facilities (yurt, shelter, warming facility etc.)	1, 2, 3	2
<b>Furtaw Field</b>		
Develop a plan for future use of the field.	1, 3	1
Improve sledding hill area/winter sports activities.	1, 3	3
<b>Ken Ratliff Memorial Park</b>		
Develop Master Plan for park.	1, 3	2
Pave entrance/parking area.	1	4
Better define parking areas for trailers.	1	3
Replace existing playground equipment.	1, 3	4
Replace decking around pavilions.	1, 3	4
Improve boat launch dock facilities.	1	1

<b>Oscoda Charter Township Recreation Plan Action Plan</b>		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Relates to Goals</b>	<b>Priority</b>
<b>Foote Site Park</b>		
Construct Pavilion.	1, 3	4
New playground equipment.	1,3	3
Support bird-watching opportunities.	1, 2, 3	4
Research additional boat launch and parking amenities.		
<b>Riverbank Park</b>		
Improve boat launch dock facilities at both facilities.	1, 3	2
Investigate parking areas.	1	2
Pave Parking Area.	1	5
Improve restroom facilities.	1, 3	3
Work with Road Commission to improve pedestrian safety in the area.	1, 3, 5	1
<b>Oscoda Sports Complex</b>		
Develop elements in the Complex in cooperation with sponsoring groups.	1, 3	1
<b>Community Center</b>		
Investigate year-round need opportunity.	1, 3	4
Investigate revenue opportunities.	6	3
Improvements to building facilities.	1, 3	2
Investigate additional programs.	1, 3	2
Research improved advertising.	4	1
<b>Unspecified</b>		
Continue to investigate the river boardwalk concept	1, 3, 5	2
Work on bike paths and non-motorized transportation throughout the community as described in the Non-Motorized Pathway Plan.	1, 3, 5	2
Develop an on-line reservation and registration system for park facilities	4, 6	3
Investigate ice skating park	4, 7	4

## Planning Process

In an effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, Oscoda Township has developed this Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a tool to guide the development of recreation facilities over the next five years. This plan represents an ongoing commitment by the Township to establish recreational goals for the community. The plan will also provide Oscoda eligibility for grants from the Department of Natural Resources to assist the Township in reaching its recreational goals.

Oscoda Township contracted with Spicer Group of Saginaw to assist the Board of Trustees with the completion of this plan. Spicer Group consultants met with staff and Township officials two times during 2016 while working on the plan.

Data was collected about Oscoda Township, including demographics, natural features inventory, and an inventory of the parks and facilities owned and operated by Oscoda Township. This data was gathered from a number of resources including Township officials, the 2011 Oscoda Township Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Board of Trustees, and research of aerial images.

Two opportunities for input and participation were provided during the development of this plan, the results of which were described in an earlier section of this plan. Based upon the existing information and the public input, Township staff and the Board of Trustees developed goals for parks and recreation in Oscoda Township. The Board of Trustees also created an action program to accomplish the goals of the plan.

Spicer Group completed a draft recreation plan which was subsequently available for review at the Robert J. Parks Library located at 6010 N Skeel Avenue, Oscoda Township Hall at 110 S. State Street, and online at [www.oscodatownshipmi.gov](http://www.oscodatownshipmi.gov). The 30-day Notice of Review was posted on Friday, January 13, 2017, at the library, at the Township Hall, and on the Township's website. The final opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public hearing held prior to adoption of the plan, which was held on February 13, 2017. After this public hearing, the Board of Trustees approved a resolution to adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan at the Township Board meeting on February 13, 2017. Copies of the recreation plan were transmitted to Iosco County, Eastern Michigan Council of Governments, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Copies of the notification advertisements, the public hearing minutes, and the resolution, are included in Appendix E.



## Appendix A

### Outdoor Sports Complex Development Plan



## Appendix B

### Accessibility Assessment

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center NE	Community Center SW	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park	
<b>Sidewalks &amp; Paths</b>										
1	What is the surface material?	Wood (Boardwalk)	Asphalt	Wood (Boardwalk)	Gravel & Grass	Concrete	Concrete	Gravel & Grass	Concrete & Wood	Asphalt & Cement
2	Does the surface quality affect barrier-free accessibility (potholes, sunken slabs, etc)?	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
3	What is the width?	83"	118"	86"	N/A	46 "	46"	N/A	66"	98"
4	Does it connect to the parking lot?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Does it connect to an existing system outside of the park boundaries?	Yes**	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes*	Yes**
6	Does it connect barrier-free to existing park facilities?	Yes***	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
7	Is the grade greater than 5%?	No	No	N/A	No	No	No	No	No	No
8	Is the cross slope greater than 2%?	No	No	N/A	No	No	No	No	No	No
9	Are there any stairs/steps?	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
10	Do the stairs possess railings on both sides?	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Are there ramps?	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
12	Do the ramps possess railings on both sides?	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	Yes	N/A
13	Are the ramps less than 12%?	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Unknown	N/A
14	Are the ramps wide enough to be recognized as barrier-free, minimum of 32" clear, unobstructed opening?	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Unknown	N/A
15	Are landings present at both top and bottom of ramp?	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A

\* Snowmobile Trail

\*\* Downtown

\*\*\* State Roadside Park

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center NE	Community Center SW	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park	
<b>Parking Lot</b>										
1	What is the surface material	Asphalt	N/A	Gravel	Gravel	Paved	Paved	Gravel & Grass	Paved & Gravel	Gravel
2	Are there handicap parking stalls?	Yes	N/A	No	No	No	Yes	Yes*	No	Yes
3	Is the cross slope greater than 2% within the handicap stalls?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	N/A	No
4	Is the cross slope greater than 2% from the handicap stalls to the pathway?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	N/A	No
5	Are there stairs/steps?	No	N/A	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
6	Do the stairs possess railings on both sides?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7	Are there ramps?	No	N/A	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
8	Do the ramps possess railings on both sides?	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	Yes	N/A
9	Are the ramps less than 12%?	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	Yes	N/A
10	Are the ramps wide enough to be recognized as barrier-free, minimum of 32" clear, unobstructed opening?	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
11	Are landings present at both top and bottom of ramp?	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*1 on soccer field side only

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center NE	Community Center SW	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park
<b>Playground Equipment</b>									
1	Is the playground equipment accessible via a sidewalk or path?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A
2	What is the playground safety surface material?	Sand & Wood Chips	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Sand	N/A
3	Is the surface material contained within a concrete curb or border, and does the edge create step?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A
4	Is the playground compliant with the most recent barrier-free codes?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Unknown	N/A
* 1 on soccer field side only									

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park
<b>Other Facilities (ballfields, rinks, fields, etc.)</b>								
1 Are they accessible from the parking lot?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
2 Are they accessible from other areas of the park?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
3 Is the facility itself of barrier-free design?	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
<b>Picnic Tables/Benches</b>								
1 Do they have barrier-free accessibility from existing paths?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Yes
2 Are the picnic benches at a minimum height of 46"	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
3 Do the picnic benches allow for wheelchair accessibility and opportunities to sit at the table?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 Are the benches mounted on a hard surface that would allow wheel chairs to sit adjacent?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	*	*	Yes
* Not mounted but on cement								

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park
<b>Water Fountains</b>								
1 Are they accessible in height and placement?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes**	No	N/A	N/A
2 Is there a barrier-free button?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
<b>Park Buildings</b>								
1 Is the building connected to the park facilities via a sidewalk or path?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	N/A
2 Is the building multi-level? If so, is there a barrier-free elevator?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes/No	No	No	N/A
3 Are there steps entering the building?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	N/A
4 Are there steps within the building?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No	N/A
5 Are there ramps entering the building?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	N/A
6 Are there ramps within the building?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	N/A
7 Are the doors wide enough throughout the building to be recognized as barrier-free, minimum of 32" clear, unobstructed opening?	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
<p>* Not mounted but on cement</p> <p>** Inside only</p>								

## Oscoda Charter Township Parks Barrier Free Accessibility Assessment

	Township Beach Park	Huron Sunrise Park	Piety Hill Fishing Pier	Furtaw Field	Community Center	Wurtsmith Sports Complex	Ken Ratliff Memorial Park	River Bank Park
<b>Bathroom Facilities</b>								
1	Are the bathroom facilities connected to the park facilities via a sidewalk or path?							
	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
2	Are there steps entering the facilities?							
	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	No
3	Are there ramps entering the facilities?							
	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No	No
4	Are the ramps less than 12%?							
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
5	Are railings on both sides present?							
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	No	N/A	N/A
6	Are the ramps wide enough to be recognized as barrier-free, minimum of 32" clear, unobstructed opening?							
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
7	Are landings present at both top and bottom of ramp?							
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
8	Are the doors wide enough throughout the facility to be recognized as barrier-free, minimum 32" clear, unobstructed opening?							
	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
9	Are there handicap accessible stalls?							
	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	No	Yes
10	Are the sinks barrier-free?							
	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	N/A

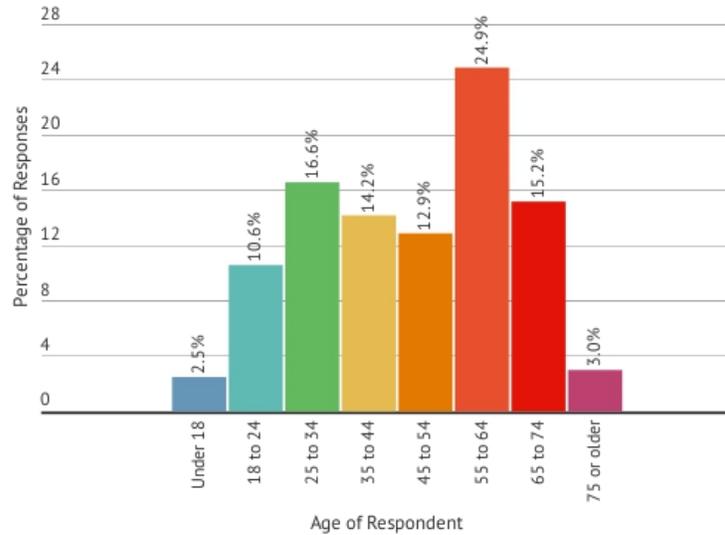
## Appendix C

### Complete Results of Community Survey

# Oscoda Township Community Survey 2016

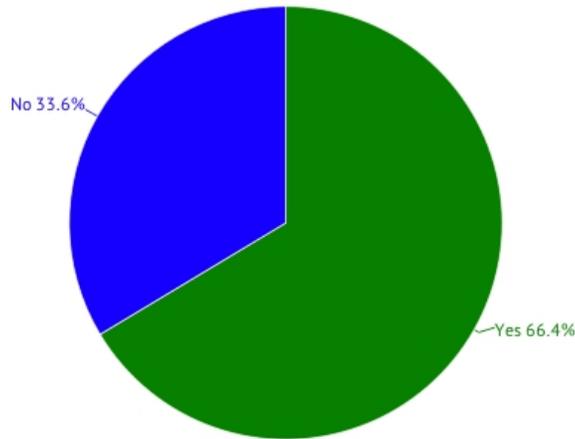
Total Responses: 930 | Completed Responses: 692 (74%)

## 1) What is your age?



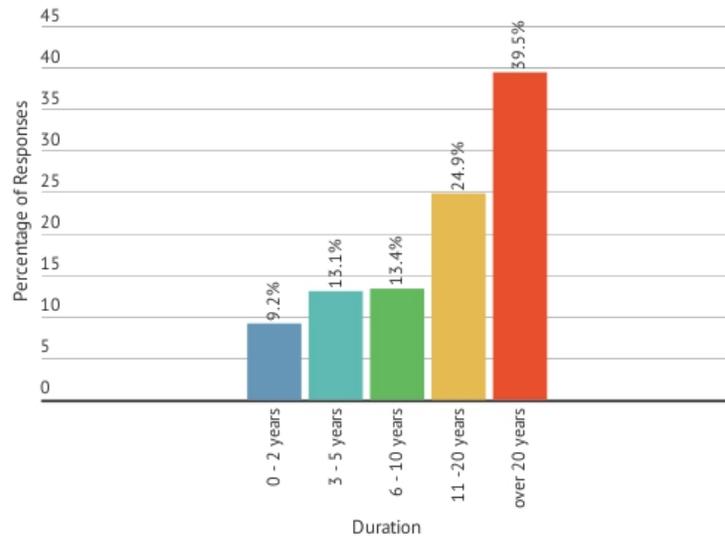
Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(869 responses)

## 2) Are you a permanent resident of Oscoda Township?



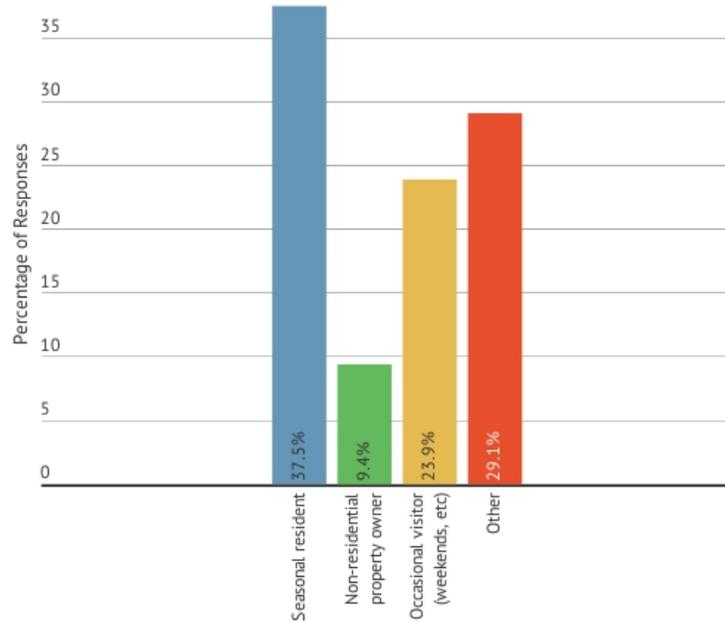
Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(860 responses)

**3) Because you are a permanent resident, how long have you been a year-round permanent resident of Oscoda Township?**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(567 responses)

**4) Since you said in #2 that you are not a permanent resident, can you please tell us your role in the Township community?**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(309 responses)

**4) Other (90 responses):** Since you said in #2 that you are not a permanent resident, can you please tell us your role in the Township community?

Word Cloud Summary

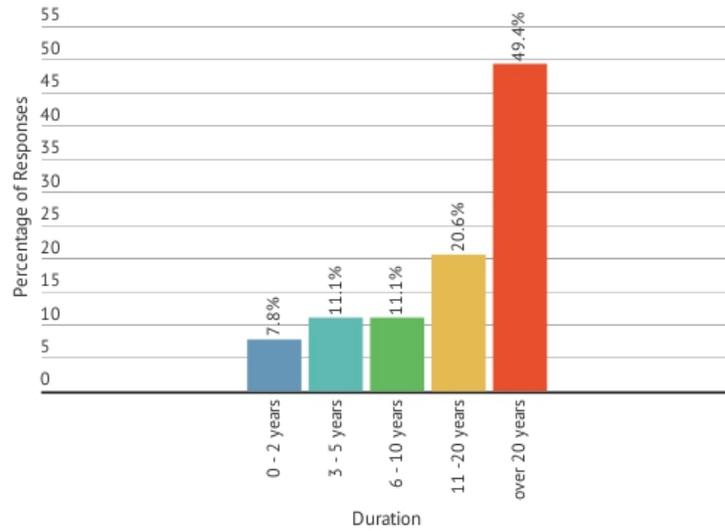


Responses

1. Live in tawas
2. Some of my family still owns and uses my childhood home. I visit every few years.
3. Grew up there and come home often
4. Business owner
5. Cottage. Visit approx. once each month year round.
6. Lived here in the 70's
7. renter
8. I grew up in Oscoda, as most of my family. Only in the recent 4 years I remarried and moved to another state, but my husband and I are now retired and are for now seasonal residents.
9. Work in Oscoda Township
10. Temporary work in Oscoda
11. Former permanent resident , frequent visitor
12. Live in Greenbush
13. work here
14. Work in Oscoda
15. Use to live here back in 2000 few yrs then move back down state
16. Greenbush resident and previous oscoda bus owner
17. Raised in Oscoda, Occasional visitor now.
18. Grew up there and still have family there. Go up and visit quite often.
19. Grew up in Oscoda, living in Harrisville, Mom still lives in Oscoda
20. Live in Glennie spend a lot of time in oscoda
21. Rent
22. Ausable township
23. Live in Alcona but in Oscoda everyday
24. Lived in Oscoda for 25 years. Kids grew up here. Moved to Harrisville. Work in Oscoda
25. Alcona resident
26. Lived in is oscoda for 4 yrs now just a occasional visitor
27. Employed
28. Parents lived there year round. 1979-2008. Spent summers with my kids there.
29. Home owner. Here 6-8 months a year
30. I grew up here and go home often
31. Visitor
32. Lived there for 18 years then moved to Colorado but family still is there and I go home once or twice a year.

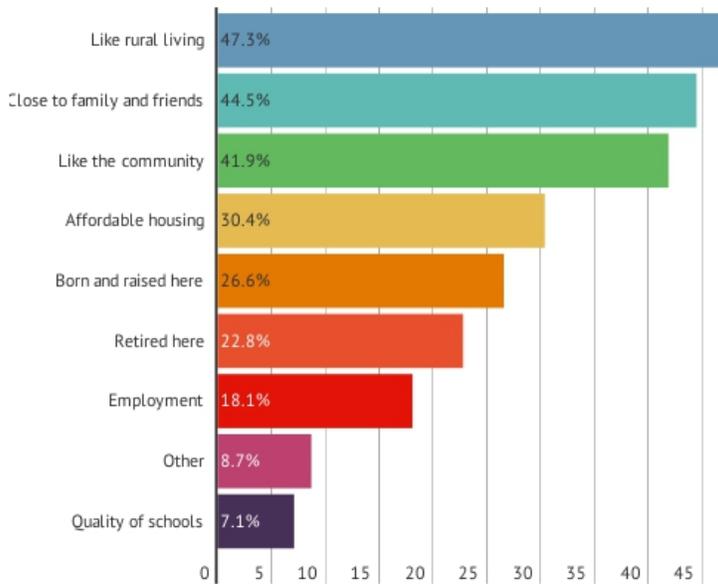
33. Born and raised in Oscoda. Now living in Wilber, but work in Oscoda.
34. Employed in, children attend school (choice)
35. Live in AuSable
36. Family to an owner of non-residential property
37. Rent
38. Family is here
39. Grew up there visit on occasion
40. work in oscoda
41. We reside in Tawas but work, play, family, church in Oscoda.
42. Grew up in Oscoda, moved out two years ago. My Hometown
43. former resident
44. recently moved away, but lived in that area all my life previously.
45. lived in oscoda for 5 years, have visited 2-3 times a year since moving away in 2004
46. Grew up in Oscoda
47. Have family in the area and grew up there.
48. I live year round in AuSable Township.
49. Ausable township resident
50. Work, Friends, Lake Huron
51. Grew up in Oscoda, moved away after high school, come home to visit on holidays and in the summer
52. i lived there for the first 23 years of my life
53. I moved away after 27 years there
54. Hunting property in the area.
55. Live in East Tawas
56. We have two separate properties in Oscoda Township. We own a senior condo on Sleep Avenue, and also own a home on Tennessee Street in Oscoda Township.
57. My parents own a house
58. family in Oscoda
59. Resident of AuSable.
60. Live in Ausable Twp.
61. resident of greenbush
62. Alcona county
63. live in hotel, haven't found permanent home we can afford yet.
64. Work in the township
65. have lived and worked inn oscoda for 34 years
66. Grew up there, occasional visitor
67. Wknds, holidays, as much as we can in the summer, but also come year round.
68. I work there.
69. I grew up in Oscoda and my parents are permanent residents of Oscoda. We visit Oscoda at least once a month.
70. Work in Oscoda
71. moved to oscoda in late 90's been here ever since
72. Lived there 8 years now work in township.
73. Live nearby
74. Own boat slip at Main Pier Marina
75. house used year around. just not every week.
76. own cabin on Van Ettan Lake
77. own cabin on Van Ettan Lake
78. Use cottage all year around.
79. Owner of 1 rental and additional home for my children when they visit. Moving here permanantly VERY soon.

**5) If you are a seasonal resident, how long have you been a seasonal resident in Oscoda Township?**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(180 responses)

**6) Check all of the following that are reasons that you live in Oscoda Township.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(751 responses)

**6) Other (65 responses):** Check all of the following that are reasons that you live in Oscoda Township.

**Word Cloud Summary**



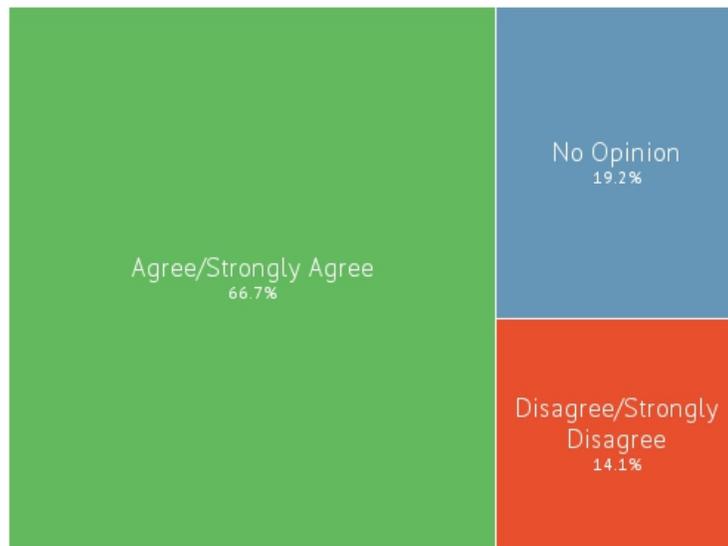
**Responses**

1. Love the Community Center, wish it was open year around.
2. Grew up here as seasonal resident
3. Safer to raise my children here than in a city downstate.
4. The friendly people
- 5.
6. what recreation?,housing is costly,school rank?,not enough jobs
7. My parents have a seasonal place here my entire life.
8. Oscoda has been my home for all 21 years of my life and I take pride in where we live, the people are great and it's such a peaceful and beautiful environment.
- 9.
10. Family cottage
11. Raised here-came back home to be with family
12. Not Born Just raised here .
13. not born here, but raised here and raised my kids here
14. Actually, would like to move from here.
- 15.
16. Place is a sand pit, hard to escape
17. Love the lakes a recreational opportunities and the community has always been nice to me as a visitor
18. Family has vacationed here for over 50 years
19. family moved here
20. own a house here
21. I sports activities like pickle ball all year round.
22. i left because oscoda went to shit after the base left, and the personal politics in that town are absurd . the board cares more about their own agenda than what is good for a community
23. father moved here for work
24. My fiance was born and raised here
25. It's beautiful here in all seasons
- 26.
27. Home of my heart!
28. Business Owner
- 29.
30. Parents moved me here.
31. Taking care of an elderly parent that retired here
32. Like the quiet, relaxed atmosphere.
33. I moved here with my husband in 1957. We both worked and retired here Raised our family here.
34. Like the recreational engagement of whole community
35. Too broke to move elsewhere

36. Inherited a house from Father-in-law
37. Started a business
38. The people
39. House wouldn't sell here so had to sell the house in the city
40. spent the summers in the area
41. Fresh air
- 42.
43. Had a seasonal home here for 20 years
44. Oscoda has a lot to offer retirees
45. Family was stationed here when base was open and never moved
46. like that the area is rustic and pristine. A great place to get back to basics and rejuvenate.
- 47.
48. grew up during vacations and summer on Lake Van Etnan
49. Beautiful beaches
50. hunting, weather
51. Grew up here in the summer. Retired here.
52. family has been in Oscoda 100+ years
53. small business owner, 3 stores
54. Like the rural inland lakefront living!
55. Beats the hell out of living in detroit by a million miles
56. Lake front
57. will probably retire here
58. Family Cabin
59. brought here at age 3 by parents
60. Surrounded by nature
61. Custom homes, community swimming pool and auditorium, generous spirit of community
62. Like to hunt and fish- state/national forests.
63. LOVE the Heart Church, free concerts in Harrisville, Oscoda, Tawas and card groups everywhere.
64. self-employed
65. Family cottage is here and has been since I was born

7) In your opinion, Oscoda Township should grow in population in the coming years.

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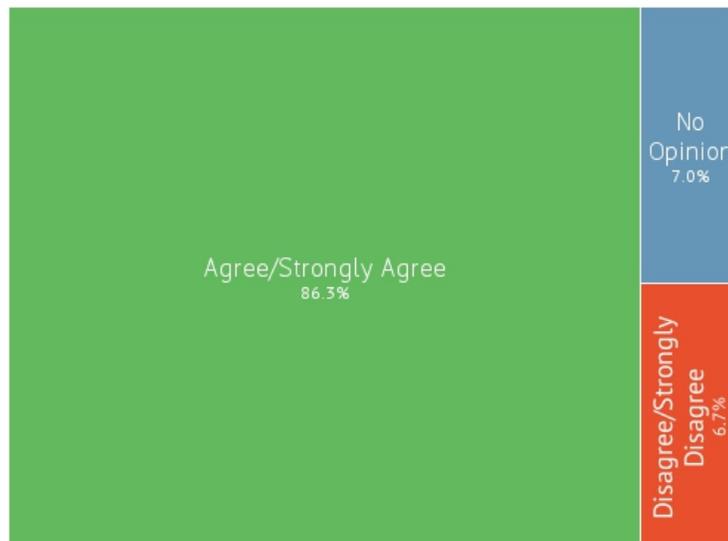


Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(781 responses)

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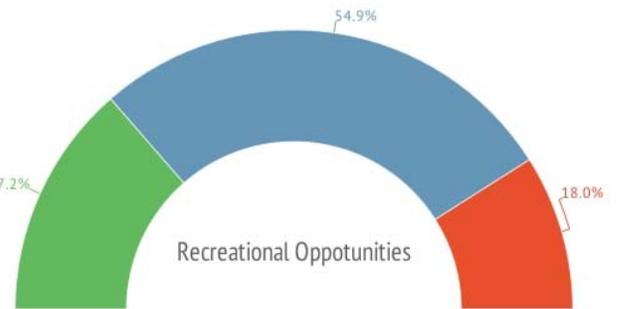
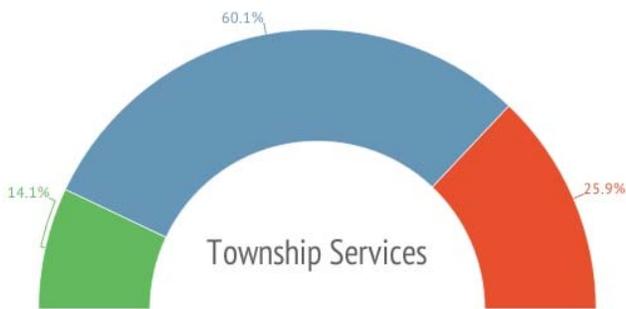
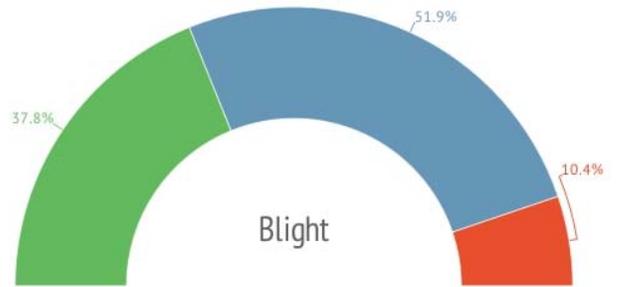
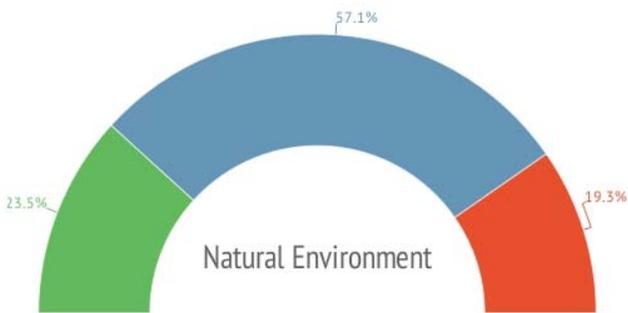
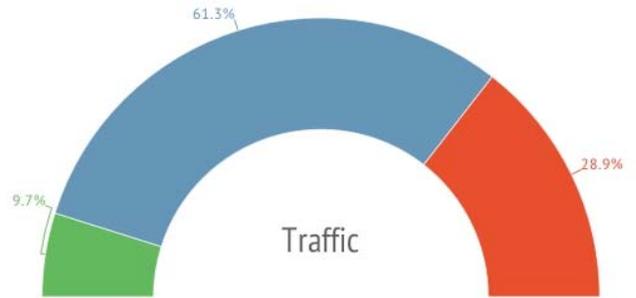
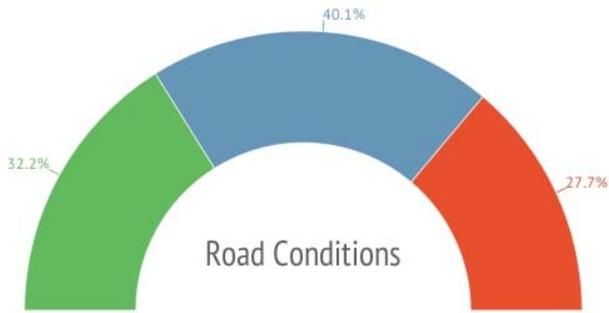
8) In your opinion, Oscoda Township should have more development in the coming years.

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Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(781 responses)

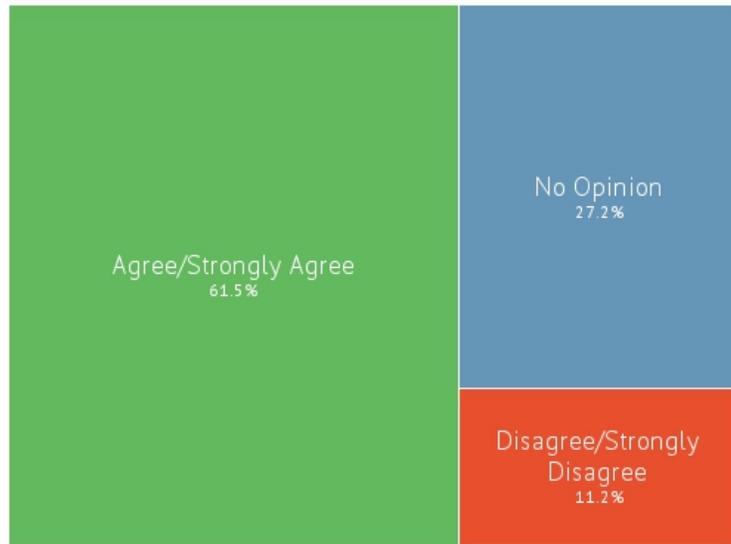
9) How do you feel the following categories have changed in Oscoda Township in the past 5 years?



● Better/Much Better ● Same ● Worse/Much Worse

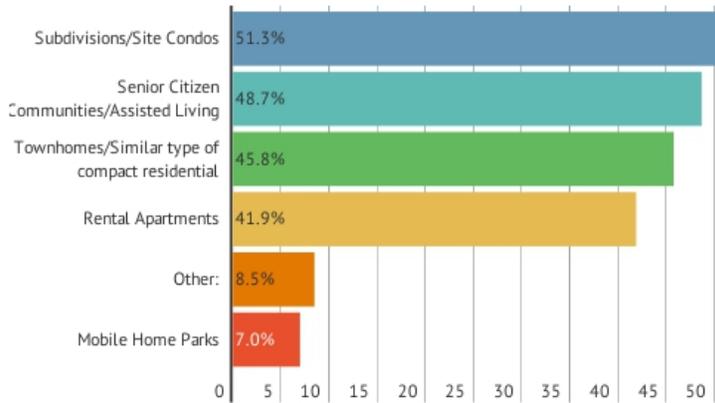
Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(773 responses)

**10) In your opinion, should Oscoda Township plan for more single-family homes?**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(756 responses)

**11) The Township should plan for the following housing choices (check all that apply).**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(714 responses)

11) Other (61 responses): The Township should plan for the following housing choices (check all that apply).

Word Cloud Summary

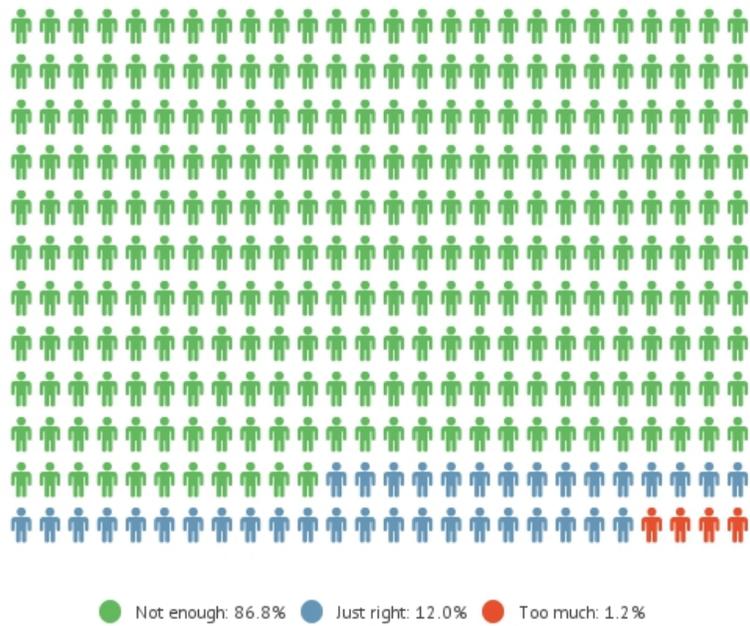


Responses

1. Not site condos!
2. Fix what's already here. Make it more appealing!
3. as long as we have Kalitta, we will need affordable housing ASAP
4. Motor Home/ RV Camping
5. greedy landlords like double z properties llc need to be removed from oscoda
6. Custom homes help distinguish our town
7. There are houses empty, plan on filling them first
8. no more condos
9. N/A
10. way to many properties for sale, no need to build more housing
11. Should get rid of the old trailer homes that are not up to code , fire hazards and blight and do code enforcement and enforce keeping homes and yRds nice even if rented
12. None, there are enough empty houses
- 13.
14. Allow zonig changes to build small homes
15. Enough with this being a old folks town fuck!
16. houses with decent size lots
17. combination
18. None
19. The township should stay out of the housing business
20. None...there are plenty of empty homes, focus on filling them
21. Dog parks.
22. rental housing
23. SNF
24. Oscoda needs more high paying jobs, better schools to drive more families to the area who have money to help stimulate local businesses. We also need new younger board members who understand business development to help grow a community who have a fresher outlook on up-to-date ideas to implement proper growth and stimulation in our local economy.
- 25.
- 26.
27. Regular homes, no subdivisions.
28. All of these would be nice...if they are affirdable and kept up.....we dont need crime or more rundown areas
29. Downtown campground or hotel
30. Homes for the homeless
31. Single Family homes
32. Mixed use downtown
33. I don't know what the township base to do with it.

- 34. rental properties for temp workers
- 35. none, just look at the number of houses for rent or for sale
- 36. Income-based housing and homeless shelters
- 37. very hard to find a 3/bedroom...that will allow pets!!!!
- 38. More camping areas
- 39. ActiveAffordable Senior Housing with recreational access to Lakes, Rivers, Pools and maintenance free. Many wish to remain living independantly but the out of door upkeep gets more difficult with age and disabilities.
- 40. Residential home to house those who need good quality housing for new jobs
- 41. Sell the existing inventory of homes already on the market for 2+ years
- 42. No mobile home parks, just look at how the township has allowed Jordanville to become so trashy
- 43. Less government funded housing for the poor
- 44. Tiny Homes or Off Grid Homes allowed
- 45. no mobile home parks, small scale multiple family rental properties
- 46. Single family homes only
- 47. None of the above
- 48. renovate existing opportunities
- 49. None
- 50. none
- 51. Condos
- 52. Improve existing homes
- 53. Single Family Housing
- 54. definetly no mobile home parks the ones we have are nothing but junk holes
- 55. no opinion
- 56. homes for the homeless
- 57. mobile home camping park on beach like Tawas
- 58. demolition of vacant/blighted properties.
- 59. expand trailer-seasonal camp grounds
- 60. RV Park on the beach
- 61. help sell the homes that are for sale now

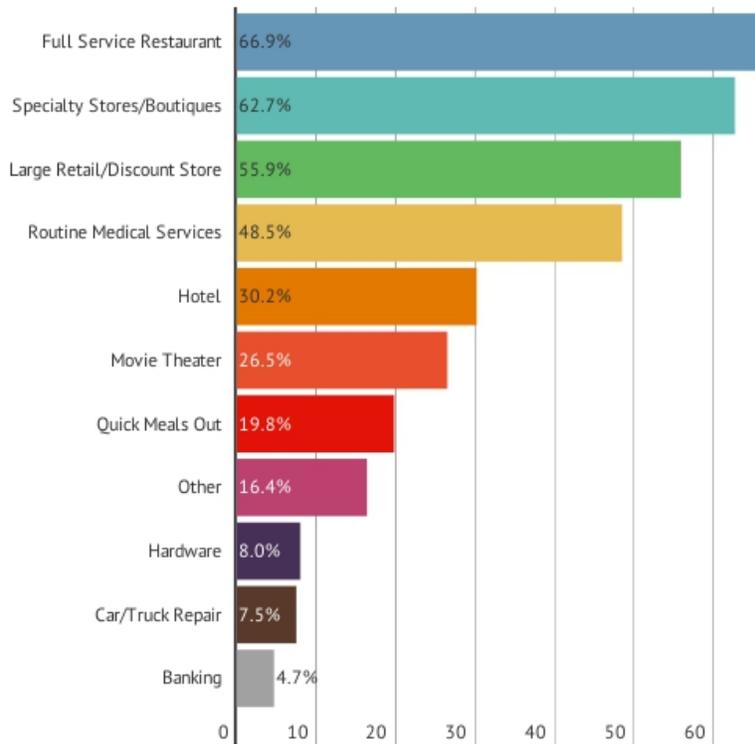
**12) Which describes how you view the amount of commercial businesses (retail and services) in Oscoda Township?**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

(749 responses)

13) Oscoda Township needs more of the following commercial services (check all that apply).



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(724 responses)

13) Other (119 responses): Oscoda Township needs more of the following commercial services (check all that apply).

Word Cloud Summary



## Responses

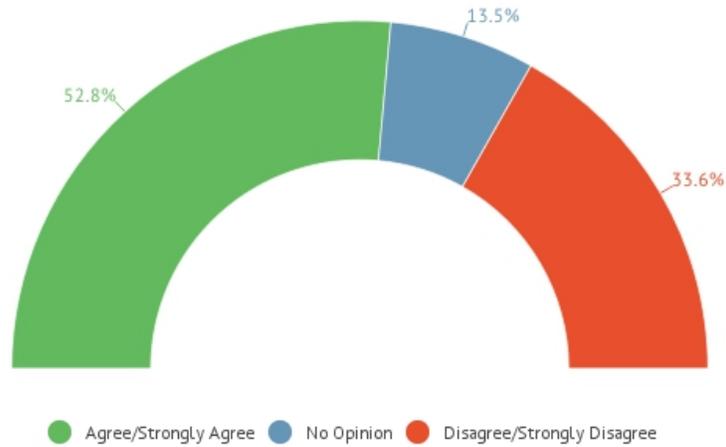
1. Lumber yard
2. Sporting goods and clothing stores
3. Sporting goods shop
4. ER Medical
5. Bring Arby's back for God sake
6. Mijer, Walmart or something like that.
7. Bigger Dairy Queen steak house
8. any decent business that would employ residents or bring in tourists
9. clothing stores, craft/hobby supply store
10. look at tawas and then make it like a tri city
11. All of these services would grow to serve the area if township officials would be more open to seeing more growth, and progressive thinking.
12. Urgent Care center
13. You need all of the above to give residents a constant income and stop depending on the airbase
14. Need to be like Tawas
15. Drag strip
16. Family recreational indoor/outdoor
17. dollar tree, home depot, game rooms, rolling skating, more recreational opportunities
18. Indoor recreational facilities
19. Clothing
- 20.
21. Business services - copy, printing
22. Resturaunt if can hire a qualified chief
23. Grocery store
24. Our
25. A mall, casino, anything this community is full if drugs and hooligans because the town consil doesnt do shit but make this town more and more boring
26. Ponderosa
27. lumber yard
28. Lacks in entertainment, late night food, quality dining (see tawas), and general service places not found here but in alpena
29. anthing to foster employeement for current and future generations. Playing to seasonal employment lends to rural poverty and economic instability.
30. Any thing for entertainment (Drag strip)
31. Something more than a K-mart.
32. Big Retail
33. Amenties that attract young people aged 20-35
34. grocery; bakery
35. New and existing businesses need to be self supporting, not propped up with government help
36. lumber yard, casino, Costco
37. Allergy friendly eating establishments. Gluten free
38. Farmers market building and a banquet hall
39. A target or meijer
40. Entertainment for younger generations
41. More things for kids. Indoor roller skating, arcade, go carts
42. A mall or something to attract people aside from the beach
43. Another Pharmacy
44. clothing stores
45. College campuses, casino, brewery, festivals to attract large crowds to the area which will help stimulate local business.
46. clothing and shoe store
47. Coffee shops
48. Outdoor stores and home improvement stores
- 49.
50. Agricultural tourism
51. Just fill all of the empty buildings to attract tourists
52. casino's these are the type of business that will draw new residents and increase our population which will increase our housing demand.

53. Things for people age 0-30 to do other than go to the river or bar. We have young children, every weekend we go down state. Nothing to do here for them. The beach park play equipment is in awful shape to the point that I won't let my children play on it. Look at Tawas they have new play equipment that is similar to Saginaw. Clean, safe and respectable looking. Try to bring in new business with new ideas other than for the senior citizens. The summer people on a rainy day have nothing to do but go to Kmart or Tawas. Tawas' Newman Street should be a model for you very inviting and not full of insurance companies and hardware stores. On our main stretch on the weekend most everything is closed. Not very walkable or inviting.
54. Casino
55. ER Medical
56. hunting fishing supply stores
57. recreational
58. entertainment
- 59.
60. Shops need to stay open later during tourist season. People want something to do after spending the day on the water or touring.
61. Game store (GameStop)
62. Casino/hotel
63. Campground
64. Strip mall/small shops in one larger building
65. There is no pet stores or any stores for any type of electronics
66. activity centers (ie. paintball, archery tag, airsoft, go karts...etc) as well as more touristy shops
67. no more hardware stores.... or bars
68. Adult Store
69. Resort hotels as a draw to vacationers
70. ER
71. Homeless shelters
72. In my opinion, this small town is overrun by chain stores. We get a decent amount of tourists in the summer especially around the holidays. When I go somewhere, I like going places that I wouldn't see or be able to go to at home.
73. Doctors, Dentists
74. We definitely need a big brand store such as a Meijers or Target that carries all personal and household items to be competitive with pricing with the few choices we have currently. This would bring many jobs to the area also they are needed.
75. Lounges/clubs
76. Large Box Retail Store (Target, Best Buy, Home Depot, Meijers)
77. Small/medium retail shops
78. Pet stores
79. Wish there was a Trader Joes or a Costco closer...an organic food store would be great too
80. Groceries like Kroger
81. Places to shop with competitive prices so residents can shop local!
82. Casino on the Lake Huron shore
83. Child/family entertainment, Dog park
84. too many vacant properties, get them filled up first!
85. A real sports and recreation complex.
86. Electronics, Pets, Gaming stores
87. ER medical
88. Oscoda needs more large employers such as factories, manufacturing plants, or corporate headquarters
89. A grocery store that doesn't price gouge the residents and sell outdated food
90. A Target or any other big store
91. Something for the young kids to do besides go to fire in the woods and drinking, that's what this town has to offer our youth. This town broadly needs to think what this has for our kids, you keep sending all big company out to other towns we need jobs here to learn this town we the people need to teach our young to work and get them ready for the world.
92. Better shopping choices for home, apparel, shoes. We currently have very little options for home goods of quality, women's clothing and shoes, trendy shops and nice restaurants.
- 93.
94. Family wage jobs
95. We need stores that have reasonable prices and aren't price gouging the residents. This goes for groceries, gasoline, restaurants, etc
96. Community Center to be open year around like other communities
97. Shoe store, bike shop, wild birds unlimited, women's clothing boutique, art gallery for local artists
98. Landscape services, grocery store not as expensive as Family Fare, discount retail that is fully stocked
99. Quality Clothing Store
100. Activities that will draw people to the area.

101. Meijer store
102. improved hospital capabilities
103. None.
104. Need large resort on Ausable or Huron to bring in regular crowd
105. We need an Oscoda version of Tawas's Ben Franklin. Something that has a bit of everything and is a destination in itself.
106. urgent care
107. Oscoda is getting boring! Need development! Need things to do! There is nothing to do in Oscoda! There is no shopping and no competition to keep prices competitive! Give people a reason to come to Oscoda! I go to Tawas for restaurants and shopping! I love Neimans grocery store! Put one in Oscoda! Family Fare is awful!
108. casino or race track on base sight some thing to bring people in from out of town or how about drag boat races on Van Etten Lake
109. none
110. art gallery
- 111.
112. We need something stable (a year round business) that will bring professionals in like a hospital or medical center of some sort
113. Retail; clothing, shoes, housewares, etc.
114. Would be nice to support movie theater, we have stores close because no younger people come in. Keep them going- Great Northern Books-latest example!
115. Dry Cleaners
116. Modern, clean, updated motels. We only have one.
117. Availability to medical doctors NOT physician assistants.
118. Donut/Coffee shop
119. bakery/coffee shop downtown

**14) In your opinion, should future commercial development in the Township be focused on the seasonal and tourist industry?**

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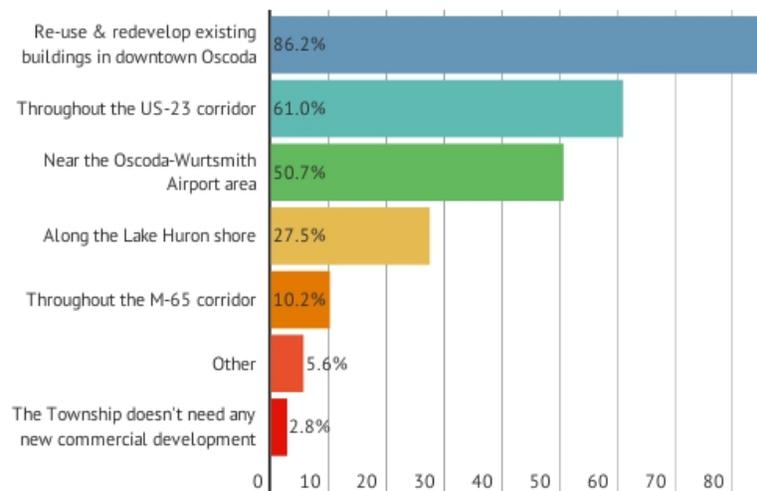


Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(746 responses)

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**15) Future commercial development should be located: (check all that apply).**

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Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(746 responses)

**15) Other (42 responses):** Future commercial development should be located: (check all that apply).

**Word Cloud Summary**



**Responses**

1. Very nice beach, should either extend existing or develop new with shops near the area for tourists, focusing on pristine beaches, restaurants with beach side dining. fix bottleneck on 23 @ river
2. On the wurtsmith property.
3. Property owners downtown need to put more effort in their property appearance and stop thinking the township needs to do it for them.
4. NO development on the beach!!
5. redevelopment south of bridge and north of River Rd (23 corridor)
6. develop the entire town
7. Older building should be removed, so new building / opportunities may be built. Many new codes have changed the construction industry.
8. Up F41 towards the base
9. down river road, similar to the Tawas area
10. Need to tear down old building build new... drive through town all ready 50 building empty... and up 41 pretty sad..
11. Need to be seen from US 23 traffic
12. Need to focus around beach development. More middle class summer rentals for tourists. More volleyball nets at the beach, remove skate park and add nice basketball courts and more volleyball nets. Or move volleyball nets to the actual beach where people can have easier access to other people for pick up games.
13. Keep commercial development away from the lake shore, it just takes away from the natural beauty. Look at Tawas with a McDonalds and Walmart over looking the lake, it looks cheap and tacky- a huge waste of a direct visual of the lake.
14. put the farmers market in empty lot by Oscoda city beach.
15. Just make it proper commercial development. Stores, children museums, coffee shops, play parks, not car repair, hair salons, and hardwares.
16. Use the base
- 17.
18. The AuSable River should be utilized also
19. We need a year round rec center.
20. why waste money when buildings are there....some just need a facelift
21. We have a lot of empty buildings. Let's pretty them up and use them!
22. Reuse would require plans that have buildings meeting design codes that have similar architect.
23. Checkout redevelopment efforts of Port Huron, St. Clair, Marine City, Algonac, all on waterfronts.
24. Nicest beach around and used to 5 % of potential
25. so many abandon buildings..... let's do something with them!!!!
26. F41
27. Fill the empty storefronts that we have but consider a nice strip mall near or on the base.
28. You can't use the Lake Huron shore are as there is housing there now

- 29. The many empty buildings in Iscoda are a true eye sore. They should be torn down if no one interested in utilizing them for business purpose
- 30. Need some more tree lined streets downtown and parks like rotary park. Why not put a sidewalk around Burshaw Park and light it for walkers to use. Add some benches and flowers. Not everyone walks the beach.
- 31. On the old WAFB. Maybe the township should have a new convention facility there. Industrial development on the old WAFB
- 32. Oscoda is beginning to look like a Ghost Town with all of their old and empty buildings! Reuse, fix them up, and make them look nice!
- 33. Along Ausable riverv
- 34.
- 35. should restore downtown parking on US23 for downtown business (min one side north or south side parking) a Iso US23 should be divided for north /south traffic using Lake st for north traffic
- 36. Too many empty buildings downtown--looks very bad
- 37. A nice restaurant with a lake view
- 38. Some of our downtown needs to be leveled! But, would it be rebuilt?
- 39. Pack House-redevelop and open
- 40. Open some type of "quick stop" shop in/on Village of Oscoda.
- 41. Oscoda needs a harbor.
- 42. At the airport. A large department store to here easy access on US-41.

**16) Looking to the future, industrial development in Oscoda**

**Township should be:**

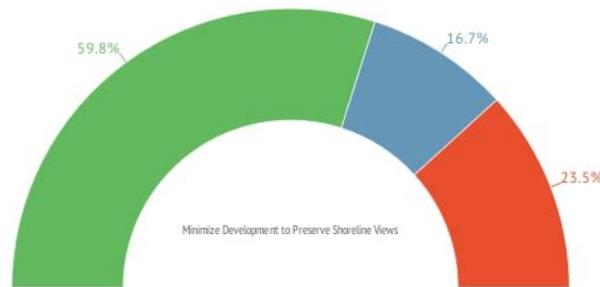
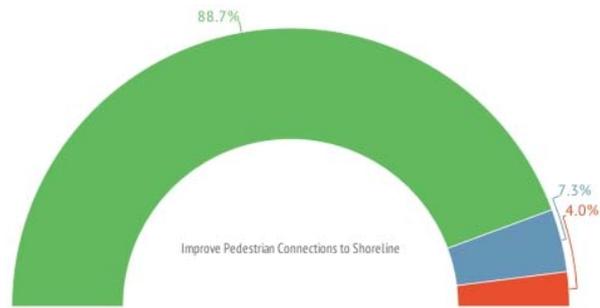
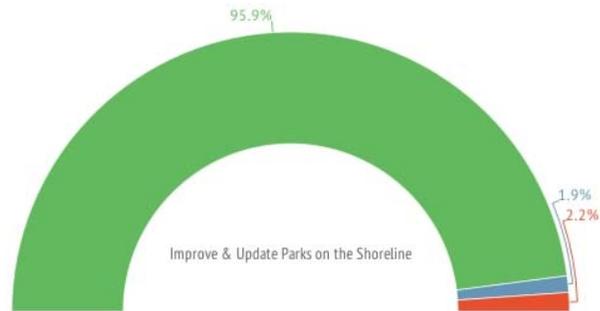
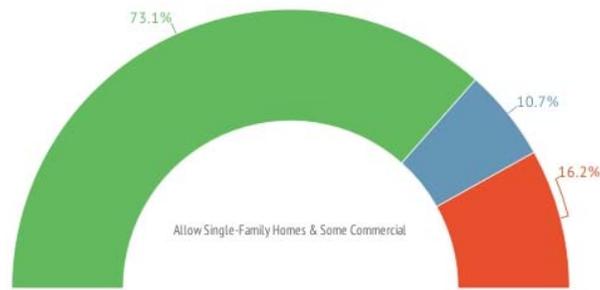
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Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

(746 responses)

17) Currently, the Lake Huron shoreline in Oscoda Township contains a mix of single-family residences, parks, and some commercial. Please indicate your opinion about the following statements regarding shoreline land use.

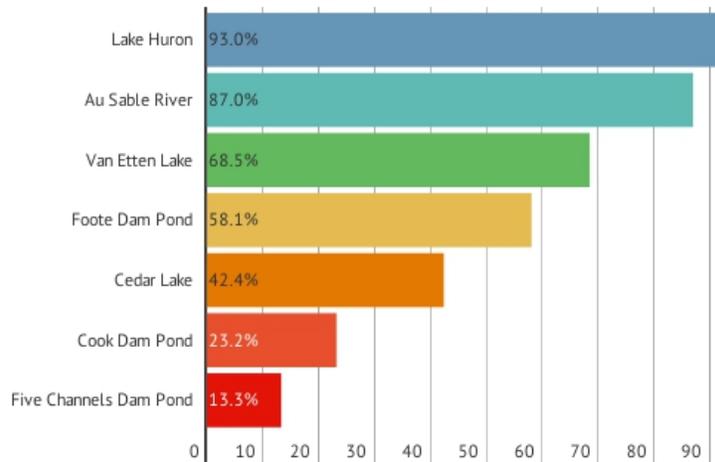


● Agree/Strongly Agree ● No Opinion ● Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

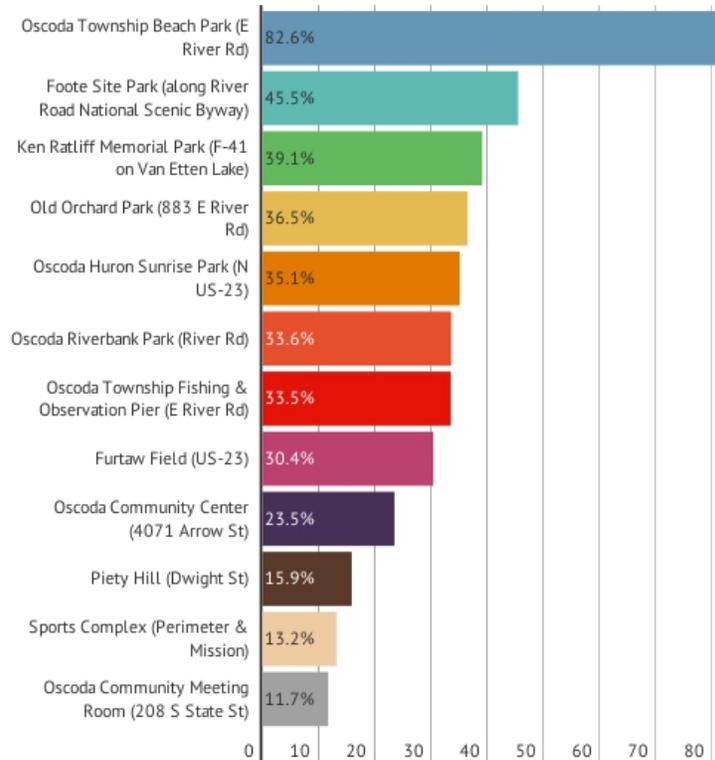
(725 responses)

**18) Which of the following bodies of water have you visited recently? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16. (724 responses)

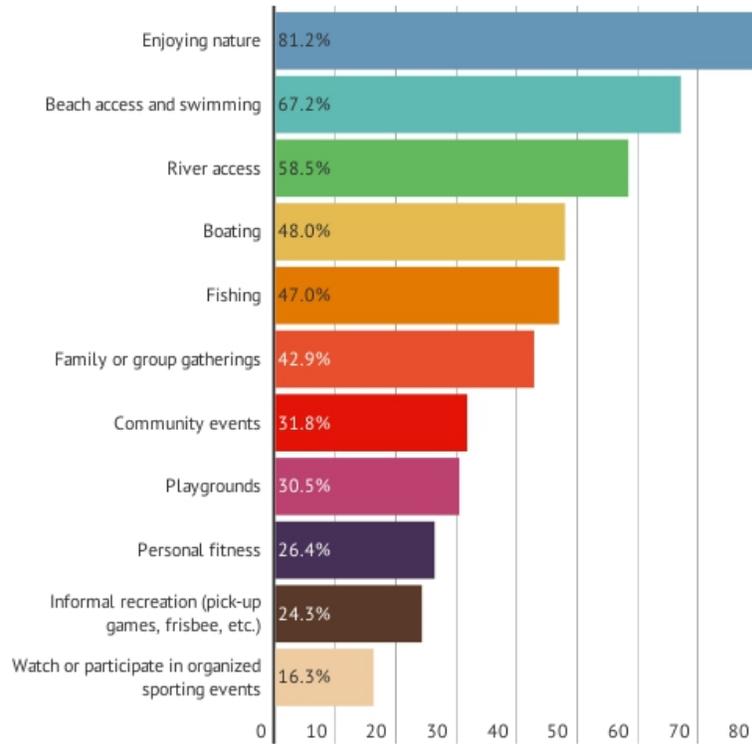
**19) Which of the following Oscoda Township properties have you visited recently? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16. (690 responses)

**20) Why do you visit public parks or recreational facilities in the Township? Please check all that apply.**

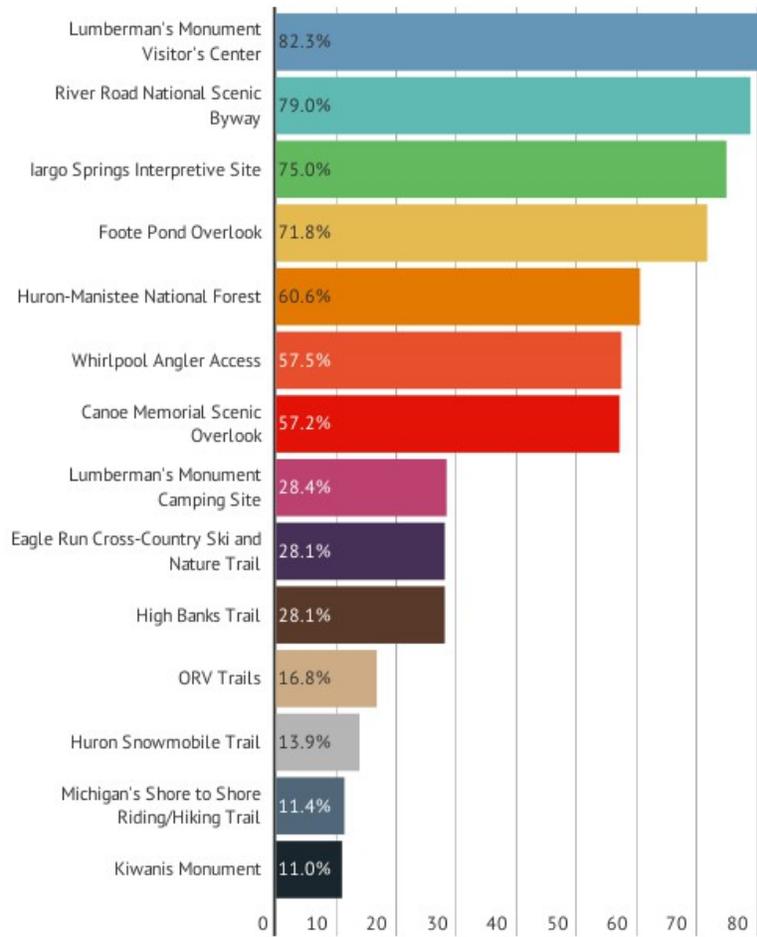
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**Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.**

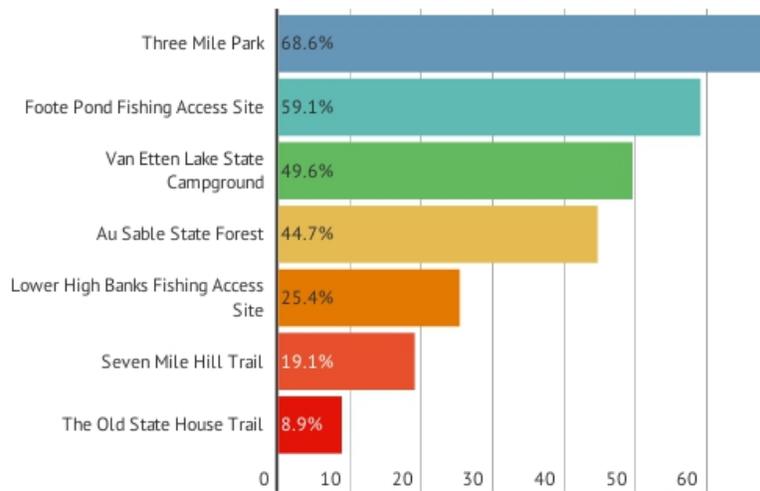
**(711 responses)**

**21) Which National parks have you visited? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(691 responses)

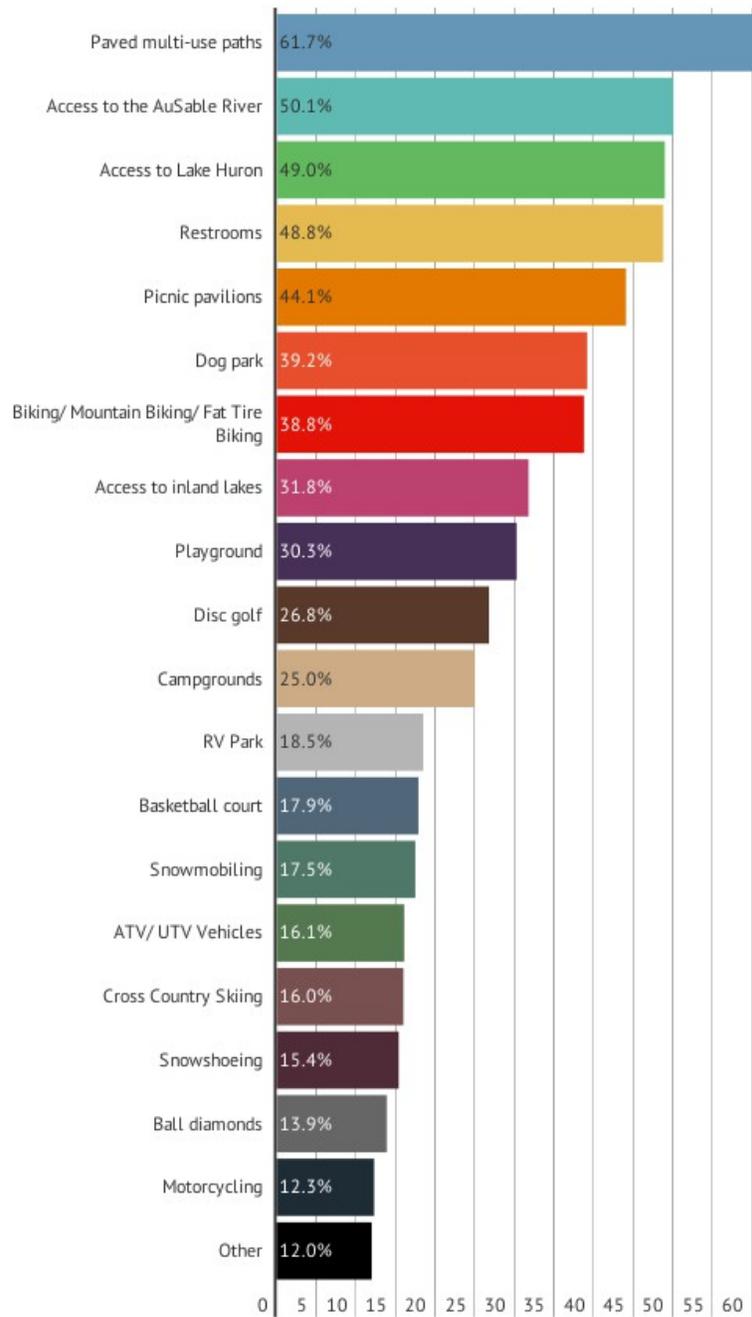
**22) Which State parks have you visited? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

(570 responses)

**23) What kind of additional recreation and support facilities are needed in Oscoda Township? Please check all that apply.**



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(676 responses)

**23) Other (81 responses):** What kind of additional recreation and support facilities are needed in Oscoda Township? Please check all that apply.

**Word Cloud Summary**



**Responses**

1. Keep the Community Center open year around. Limited hours in the summer.
2. Open OCC all year round
3. Indoor and Outdoor Pickleball Courts, Basketball and Fitness Training Equipment. Year round community center access is a must!
4. Need recreation park for our young kids and teens
5. activities that can be done indoors in case of bad weather
6. wheelchair access to township beach and other points
7. If you develop an Off road park similar to a Bundy Hill Jerome Mi or Rocks and Valley in Harrison mi you would encourage tourism also
8. We need to think tourist! This brings money in. Whatever happened to allowing snowmobiles up town? When tourists come to the north to ride their snowmobiles they don't want to walk the town - they want to ride. I also think everything in Oscoda is to far spread out. Start with one area and expand outwards. Like the center of town from Lake Huron access down River Rd.
9. Year round indoor recreation facilities
10. N/A
11. Horseback trails
12. disc golf is a MUST!!!!!!
13. Need more access to Foote pond
- 14.
15. Activities at Lake Huron park... Kayak, paddle boards, etc
16. Outdoor meeting center. By that I mean a nice open space with the items used for a meeting such as: tables, chairs, trash cans etc.
17. Volleyball nets and year round sports complex
18. Snowboarding/skiing
19. Building a skatepark worth coming too. This beach continues to be an eyesore.
20. Tennis courts!!
21. Public tennis courts, free boat launches/discontinue twp fees
22. Theme parks. Stores. Mall.
23. FREE ACCESS TO ALL WATERWAYS .
24. Nothing additional is needed.

25. More boat launches at the Footsite launch
26. Fitness events like tough mudders, color run, etc
27. Dog sledding trails
28. Community Garden
29. year round upgraded community center w/classes, swimming pool
30. Any new ideas
31. non paved nature paths
- 32.
33. more handicap fishing sites
34. Year round rec center for basketball pickle ball exercise classes.
35. how about you take some of the land on the old base and make a amusement park . the one major thing that town is missing is stuff to do for the younger generations. not to mention it will create jobs and bring in more tourist. but then again you all had the chance back years ago but decided to keep it a retirement town. your loss. which is why people cant wait to move out of oscoda.
36. a better skatepark for a-dults
37. I have no time to visit crap in this town
38. A place where amusement rides could run at least through the late Spring, Summer and early Falll would do well, a water park with a slide and splash pad for children, roller and ice skating rink, mini race car track for families such as the park they have in Alpena, a nicer movie theater.
39. Year round community center
40. Utilize Furtaw for a playground area, basketball courts , pickleball/tennis courts, paved walking path around the perimeter etc. There is plenty of space and it is wasted at this point.
41. Horse back riding
42. Seasonal lake activities like sun chair rentals, water slide and climbing activities on the water and a small outdoor food shake with good and spirit's!
43. Ice skating park and groomed sled hill
44. New exercise equipment at the community center
45. Beachfront RV overnight, developed, sights. Lakefront bar/dining, refreshment facilities at the pier.
46. better marked township parking that is maintained
47. have more than enough facilities, just maintain what you have!
48. More indoor and outdoor Pickleball courts
49. Year round access to indoor recreational center (OCC)
50. Year-round community center and places for more community-based commerce (farmer's market)
51. Dog sledding trails
52. Improve old orchard
53. A multi-use paved path/trail along the river or lake would be ideal
54. Three mile park need away for the local to get down and people in wheel chair can't even get down to see and feel the water.
55. Fitness Parks
56. Birding and wildlife viewing access
57. street hockey
58. community center should be open in summer when the populations quadruples. make no sense that it isn't
59. Health/Recreation center programs and promotion!
60. Pickle ball courts
61. Your pavillions should be multi-use. Large enough for gatherings...family or class reunions....with surfaces that encourage recreation that is protected from weather.
62. Outdoor Yoga, Private Yoga Studios, Concerts, Farm Markets
63. Indoor recreation area in the summer
64. Community Center to be open year around like Hale and Tawas
65. To have the receipt center on the Base open all year round.
66. Summer indoor recreational opportunities
67. Indoor basketball
68. None
69. Fishing and fishing sites need to be improved. Fishing brought my family up here 60 years ago.
70. sporting clays, trap facilities
71. Bike/Foot Path along F41 from county line to downtown
- 72.
73. Make people want to come to Oscoda! By improving Oscoda, people will want to visit Oscoda! There will be more businesses which will generate more TAX dollars for Oscoda! We have very little in Oscoda! There is not much of a reason to come to Oscoda! Not much to do!
74. winter sports complex

75. community center open year round
76. Would greatly like a bike/hike trail on Cedar Lake Road--cars whizz by at 55 mph and we take our life in our hands!!
77. Extended access to OCC!
78. Safer access to lake huron.
79. Improve Lake Huron access. Build a harbor. Enlarge historical museum.
- 80.
81. Pickleball

24) I support the development of the Iron Belle/losco Exploration Trail which will extend from River Bank Park and generally follow the River Road Scenic Byway and M-65 to Hale.

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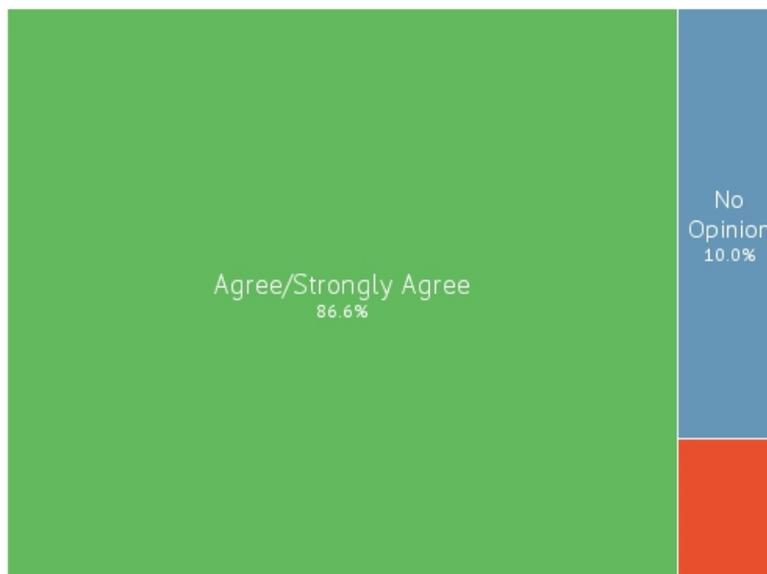


Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(702 responses)

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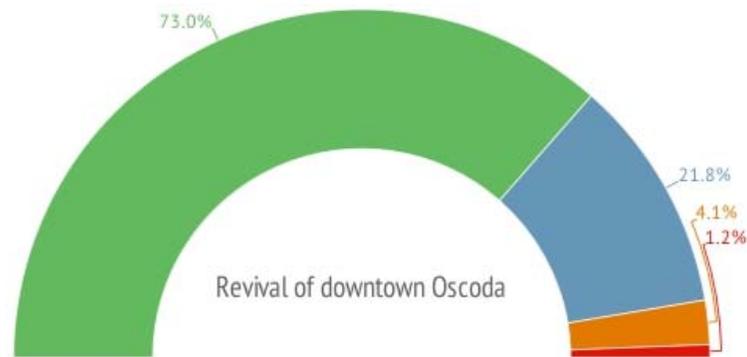
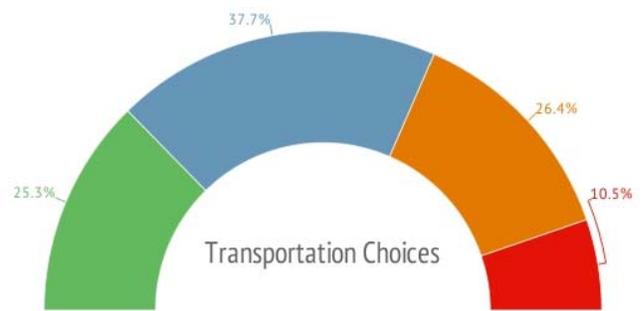
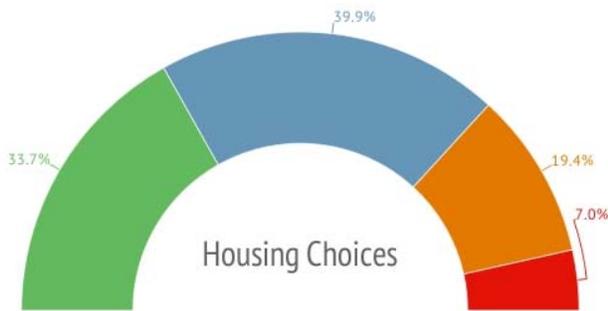
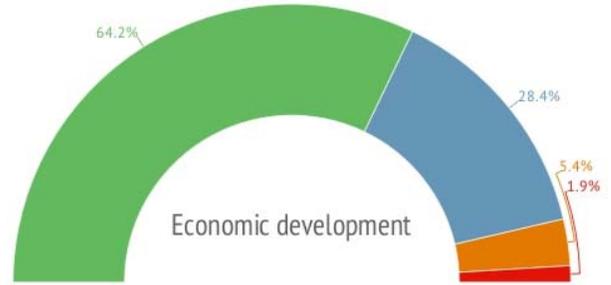
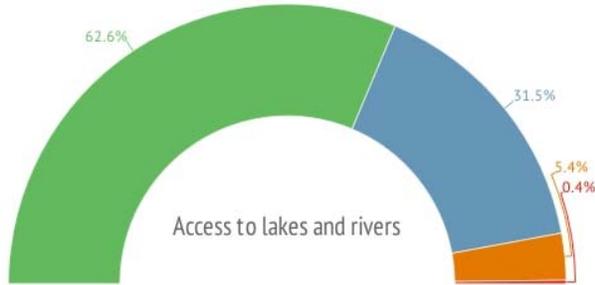
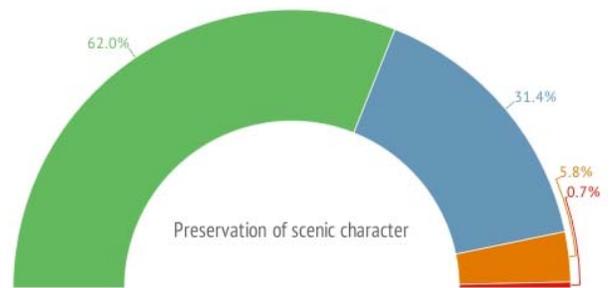
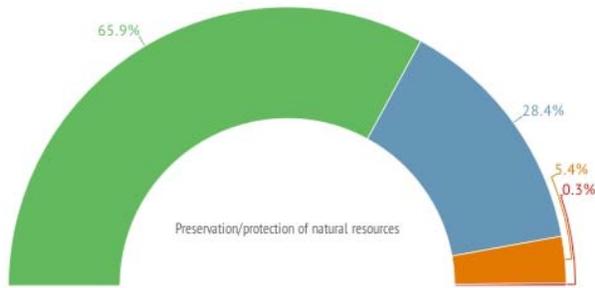
25) I support the development of a year-round Community Center.

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Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(691 responses)

**26) How important are the following issues to you?**

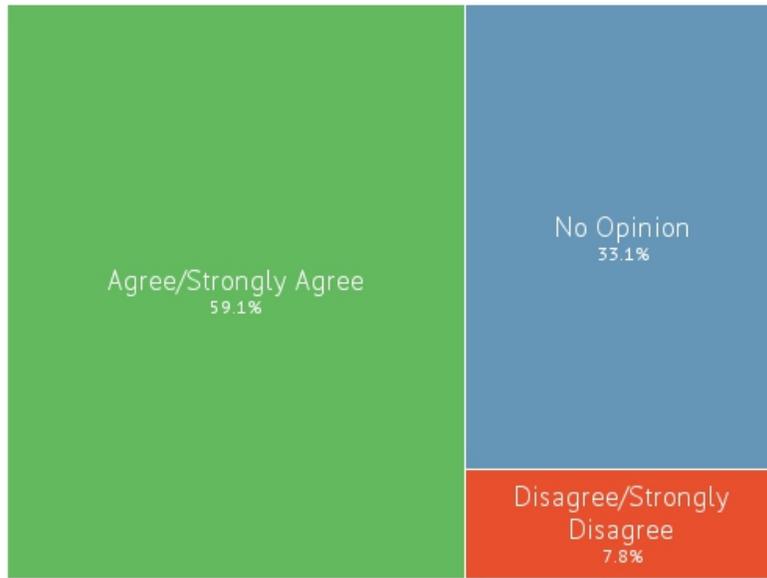


● Extremely Important ● Important ● Somewhat Important ● Not Important

**Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(674 responses)**

**27) In your opinion, is blight an issue in Oscoda Township?**

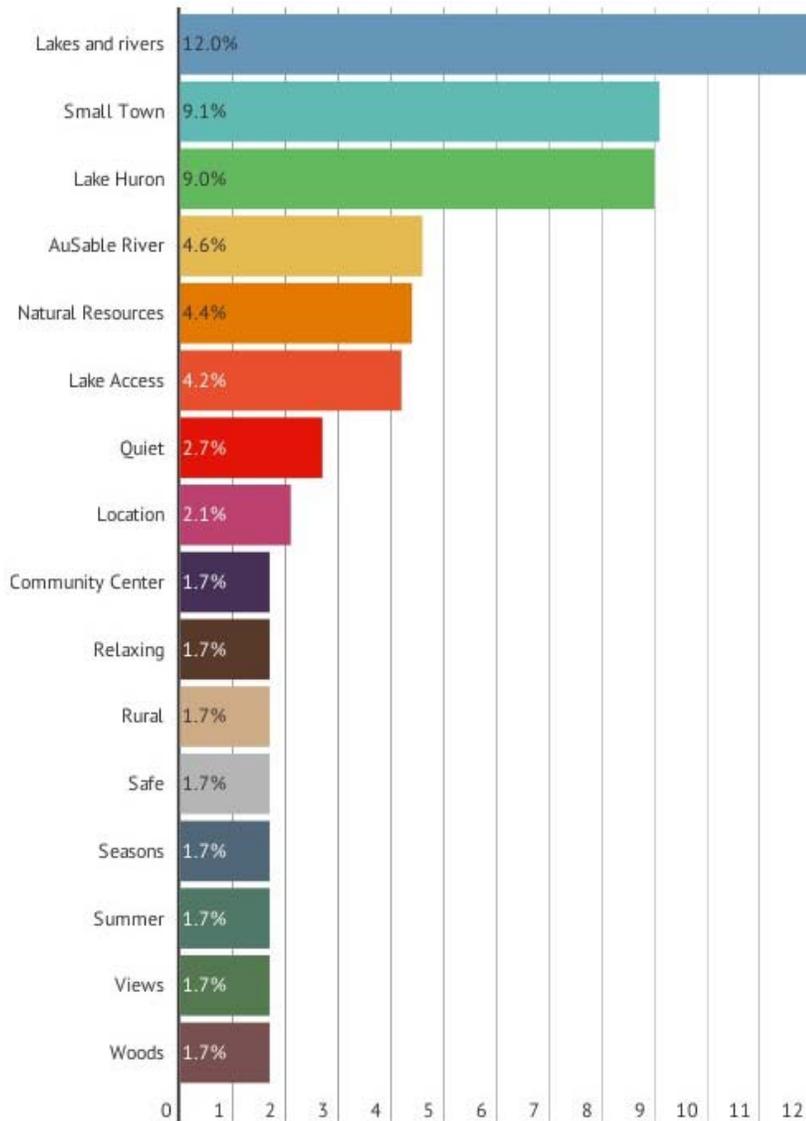
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Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.  
(685 responses)

## 28) What do you like best about Oscoda Township? (509 Responses)

### Summary of Top Ideas



Community input survey results from [www.oscodasurvey.com](http://www.oscodasurvey.com) between 6/2/16 - 7/24/16.

### Responses

1. I live on Lake Huron and love it. I am retired and have met many great people at the Community Center. I could not live here in the winter without the Community Center. It is a great asset to the township but the township does very little to promote it.
2. We love living on Lake Huron, where I grew up as a child in the summers. Like the slow pace and the friendly people here. Love walking the beach and swimming.  
  
The Community Center and the Library are very important to me. I cannot imagine living here without them, especially in the winter. We get much needed exercise at the community center and meet and share time with friends there. It helps us stay healthy, physically and mentally.  
  
The library is a welcoming place for readers as well as housing several groups I belong to. The staff is excellent.
3. Fire protection, First Responders, Police protection are all top notch. Natural resources and access to them are great.
4. Scenery & lakes.

5.	Lakes & scenery.
6.	The National Forrest and scenic over looks. The beach and Thursday night concerts.
7.	Friendly community, special events like the light parade, Lake Huron shoreline.
8.	Scenic views and the water.
9.	The abundance of natural beauty with good friends and neighbors.
10.	The people, the service clubs, the beauty of the natural resources the friendly giving people
11.	Nature, Canoeing, the Lakes-Huron, Van Etten, The AuSable River, fishing. The beauty is astounding!
12.	Lakes and river. Still small town atmosphere.
13.	River Rd beach is the best around, ausable river always has been amazing, lots of aquatic beauty
14.	The access to woods and water.
15.	sunrises at the beach.
16.	It's home
17.	It's not too big, but need to grow a little more. In the survey you missed having an option of having visited Loud Pond. I have been there recently also.
18.	Small town feel
19.	Lakes & River
20.	The water access:)
21.	The natural resources...river, inland lakes and beautiful, sandy Lake Huron beaches. Also the being near the senic rolling countryside just to our north.
22.	I think we have done a nice job improving the 23 downtown area.
23.	Water
24.	The natural beauty of the Ausable River and the lakes.
25.	The natural beauty, friendliness, access to parks, river, forest.; visibility of lake Huron along U.S.23  There are many activities, various interest groups that are welcoming-; SSLL has been a big asset to the community and area..
26.	The small town, community feel. The hard work put into the community by different organizations to keep the town looking nice.
27.	Lake Huron: relaxed atmosphere and access to clean beaches! Ease of finding dining and shopping.
28.	Great place to raise a family, however, drugs are rampant in our community and the police seem to turn a blind eye to what they KNOW is happening. Get this CRAP out of our homes and community.
29.	I like the small town feel.
30.	born and raised here its in my blood.....family
31.	This is home... My roots are in this area, and I will always have this connection here, but over the past decade I have been discouraged at how little the township has progressed. There seems to be an ongoing problem with making Oscoda a community where people want to settle, start a business, and thrive. The downtown development is a sad site of empty store fronts, and inconsistent look and upkeep of business store fronts. When I see other towns to the north and south of Oscoda and the renewal and development going on it makes me wonder why there isn't more that our township officials are doing to make this area and our amazing natural resources a place where people want to visit and live.
32.	The feel of community from people in town. The foliage improvements to the central town area. The drive for more improvement from local business owners.
33.	Being so close to nature
34.	The overall beauty of Oscoda Township is grand. The beautification teams around Oscoda bring a pride to the US 24 corridor to enhance its beauty.
35.	Lake Huron
36.	We have access to a river, a great lake, and inland lakes. Down town beach is beautiful please don't put any kind of camping there
37.	Access to Lake Huron & the AuSable River
38.	I have been coming up here since I was a child. Have lived her 3 separate times. Just love the community.
39.	I loved living there thru high school in the late 90's. But the reliance on the airbase is to heavy. Not enough other economic advantages for the average person to raise a family and stay in the area,
40.	Great place to live.
41.	Old Orchard Park Campground.
42.	The small community! atmosphere! Great fire and Police protection! My family has always felt safe in this town of Oscoda!
43.	I love the community and abundance of lakes, rivers, woods, etc.
44.	The peaceful life here.
45.	It's location and beauty.
46.	Friendliness of people.
47.	I like the people, the beautiful natural environment, lakes, rivers, the community center, feeling of community, the schools.
48.	Lake Huron with the beautiful sandy beaches
49.	The Lakes and AuSable River
50.	Small town feel but you need places to bring people back.
51.	It's up north and less busier or chaotic than E Tawas and Alpena
52.	Beach, river, people
53.	Small town community.. Beaches
54.	Huron shoreline

55.	Oscoda is a beautiful place. I think we are behind the times. We have beautiful Rivers and a great Lake. So much potential. What good is a lovely sign if we have nothing to offer that the town people and tourist want? What is there for young ones to do? We have a skate park which is a step in the right direction. Add to it.
56.	I love the water! The river, the lakes. I love to go and be able to go to a park and be able to be by the water with little trouble to do so.
57.	I love the lakes, river, access to outdoor venues. I wish I didn't have to run to Tawas for shopping.
58.	The natural sites
59.	The quiet life
60.	Small town atmosphere. Lake Huron beaches. Ausable River. Concerts at the beach. Outdoor recreation
61.	It's a quaint community. LOVE the rivers and lakes. Lots of nature to experience.
62.	It is a family orientated community.
63.	Lake Huron and the Au Sable River are by far our best attributes and need to be treasured and used even more than they are now.
64.	nature, water access
65.	The area is awesome in the summertime! So much to do and it's a great place for families to live and visit!
66.	I love Oscoda. I raised my children here and it will always be home. The natural beauty and outdoor opportunity it offers is amazing
67.	I love the Beaches and all the Bike trails and the Campsites.The People who Live here.Its a great place to live.But there needs to be more careers to keep people up here.
68.	Beach rivers
69.	The hometown feel and the water
70.	Small rural town, surrounded by natural beauty.
71.	It is a peaceful town. I have been here over 30 years, love Oscoda.
72.	scenic rivers
73.	Location
74.	River lakes
75.	Oscoda is a wonderful place to raise a family. We have so many assets - the AuSable River, Lake Huron, extensive trail systems, a great location; these are just a few examples. My family loves it here!
76.	Environment, lakes
77.	Desi's
78.	The nature and citizens ..... Need to grow for employment si we can keep families here .
79.	I like the small town feel, I grew up going to Oscoda schools. I like how people are down to earth and willing to help each other.
80.	Very quite and friendly peoplem
81.	Up north small town atmosphere.
82.	The water
83.	The small town feel and the people.
84.	I like the year round fishing and wish some issues on the AuSable river would be addressed.
85.	Close to family, access to fishing, boating and Orv activities.
86.	The beach
87.	It's home
88.	Lake Huron...being the sunrise side !
89.	Lakes and rivers
90.	Oscoda township brings a sense of peace, harmony, and all around a great day everyday. As I have previously stated I've lived here my entire 21 years of life and I plan to always have a home In This town.
91.	The nature and access to the shoreline.
92.	The small town atmosphere. The people, for the most part are friendly to one another.
93.	Lakes, river, and beach. I love taking my boat out and floating down the river.
94.	I love that it is my escape away from home, and a nice place to visit family. We love that there are many things to do and all are family friendly.
95.	It's a beautiful place for all outdoor activities.
96.	Natural surroundings
97.	The woods and water. Small town living filled with great people.
98.	I like the access to Lake Huron and the Ausable River.
99.	The nature
100.	Quiet & low traffic(most of the time!
101.	The river and lake view. Wild life. The fishing is good here.
102.	Natural resources and sense of community
103.	Small town life. 2 street lights!
104.	Fresh water
105.	I love the beach.
106.	The nature, the small-town feel.
107.	River
108.	We love living here because of the friendly atmosphere. As we continue to grow here in this lovely town, we notice the younger generation is vastly decreasing. Which means population and development is limited. Township needs to add variety to our little Nook we call home. Let people be proud to come from Oscoda, Mi!
109.	The beautiful beaches and rivers!
110.	Nature
111.	The small town feel,four seasons,family,work

112.	Concerts in the park. The streets decorations flowers and side walks look great.
113.	Scenic overlooks, close knit community
114.	I like the area and how everything natural is preserved and how many options of bodies of water there are.
115.	Everyone is connected in some way and I always feel like home. Even when I'm gone for 6 months.
116.	Small town feel
117.	Location - access to woods, Lake Huron, and the Ausable River
118.	There are a lot of beautiful things here.
119.	The beauty of our forests, the AuSable River, inland lakes, and Lake Huron are Michigan's best kept secret. The majority of citizens are caring and friendly.
120.	Where I live is nice right on the lake Huron
121.	Small town feeling. Laid back and relaxing.
122.	Friendly residents, ease of getting around town, forward thinking township officials.
123.	The community but it is slowly turning into just a retirement home. Elder people don't want to see the town turn into anything bigger they want it to be a calm place they can Retire in. This is cool but for the future and anyone else that plans to live here you're setting them up for failure. there are few jobs you can get here that require a college degree. Prep yourself to work in a shop or talking on the phone all day.
124.	I love our beach
125.	I have grown up here and have chosen to raise my family here. When you look to the tawas area and Alpena they just seem to have something that we don't. Our family travels to both of these communities just to hang out for a day. I think that Oscoda has more to offer than both of these communities as far as outdoor and tourism but we just can't seem how to use it.
126.	The nature and serenity found throughout
127.	Downtown beach, Three Mile, Community Center,
128.	The natural resources of the area
129.	Small town aspect.
130.	Community & Beauty
131.	Small community, safety, family friendly
132.	My friends here
133.	not much
134.	downtown area is inviting even w it so many empty storefronts
135.	The community
136.	Small town feeling..friendly people
137.	The beauty that I get to call home, the wonderful people.
138.	The water, fishing and beaches.
139.	The beach.
140.	It was an excellent place to grow up as a kid with access to many different venues for outdoor recreation. Now it is a great place to vacation, for outdoor activites.
141.	The fact that I will probably not live long enough to see this community be further ruined by the politicians .
142.	Small town, rural, mostly safe place to live, raise a family and/or visit. Friendly people. Nature and wildlife.
143.	Everything you need is in a fare distance and you have a good safe area for a family and children.
144.	The relaxed beauty, access to many natural attractions, not as uppity feeling as Tawas.
145.	Nature
146.	I love the peaceful, community feeling. The river and lake are major assets to our community and need to be protected.
147.	Everything about Oscoda in the summer is great, winters can be very boring.
148.	It's a calm, quiet community that you can feel comfortable living in, and is a beautiful place to live.
149.	opportunity for improvement
150.	the accessibility to Lake Huron and the AuSable River
151.	Nature,nothing much else.
152.	River, Lakes, beach park, camping, low crime, and natural scenic beauty.
153.	The Beach
154.	I like the nature to be able to go out enjoy the beach and playgrounds with my kids on warm days.. I love to be able to take a short walk in the woods and teach my kids the good and the bad..
155.	Located on the shores of Lake Huron.
156.	Surrounded by beautiful scenery and friendly, helpful people
157.	It's Home
158.	It's charm, Great schools , close community.
159.	The large amounts of nature that can be accessed in Oscoda is its best characteristic.
160.	I love the lake and downtown park, but feel the park has not been kept up. The table, play equipment, etc., aren't in good shape. The park usually looks dirty and neglected. The beach is a very strong asset for Oscoda, yet at any given time you can find far too many dogs w/o leashes running and pooping near very small children. The grass should be watered and maintained. The downtown area also is shabby. When you drive into town everything is either beige (ugh), and a pukey green shade. The little plants way high on the poles are really not attractive. Incentives ( money & supplies) should be given the merchants to try to maintain and spruce up their buildings. I especially like the community (people), but NOT the elected officials who keep their heads in the sand.

161.	The natural beauty of the area. Having the tourist season allows for many of the seasonal businesses to thrive and yet we still have the off season for the peace, solitude and serenity that comes with living in northern Michigan.
162.	The lake and the opportunities that we can make Oscoda out to be
163.	Beautiful lake Huron beaches...AuSable river overlooks...
164.	The nature
165.	The scenery and nature.
166.	Four Seasons, woods and lakes
167.	I love the small town feel.
168.	camp nissokone
169.	Home to me but think we need some change.
170.	Nothing
171.	Close knit people, the beauty it has to offer.
172.	The lakes, we need more stores.
173.	The ausable access for fishing tubing and kayaking.
174.	Access to water and nature
175.	the lakes
176.	The beauty, the beach, the sun rises
177.	Down town and school
178.	Nature
179.	I like that people can easily get to places when needed. Everyone knows each other and helps others. It's a family oriented town.
180.	All the nature around us.
181.	I enjoy the outdoor activities.
182.	I like that so many people come up here to visit during the summer because we have one of the greatest lakes; and we get to call this place home. Unfortunately some people take it for granted because there's not a whole lot to do but one day they'll realize there wasn't anything to complain about.
183.	I like the natural beauty and access to river, beach, and lakes.
184.	The people!
185.	I like the endless amount of water access. Me being a huge fisher, I love the bodies of water we are near.
186.	Oscoda is beautiful, I love coming up here to relax. The fish is fantastic and the beaches are amazing.
187.	The river, lakes and beach.
188.	Where old friends and family meet and play on the water or in the beautiful woods
189.	People Atmosphere
190.	The outdoors
191.	Nature is outside your door
192.	Love watching sunrises and sunsets at our scenic and beach areas The beauty in our area is amazing. We need some unique shops so visitors have places to visit. See small town Harbor Spings. Beauty combined with small town town atmosphere
193.	Natural resources in close proximity
194.	The beautiful park/outdoor theater on Lake Huron and all of the beauty of the lakes and rivers.
195.	Location. Familiarity. The people.
196.	the friendly people. rural living but need more city type business's to improve growth of our community.
197.	This is my home, my family and friends are here and I have a good job I love. We have recreation for every season. The best Fire Department in the state.
198.	The community I grew up here.
199.	Friendly atmosphere,
200.	The beauty and my employment is here for now. The town has potential, if the community and its leaders are willing to break the mold.
201.	Natural resources
202.	It has everything you need, beautiful little town, amazing views, amazing people, lakes, rivers, great fishing and hunting, food, bars, beaches. It's perfect
203.	The people and lake huron.
204.	That I can go boating and fishing
205.	It's home. My family has been her for 65+ years
206.	The people are the greatest, the natural resources are the best in the state, the township services (police and fire) are great. The service clubs are well organized and community involvement is great.
207.	Beaches and parks
208.	Nature. Downtown Oscoda. It's such a beautiful place that deserves some more recognition and improvement.
209.	Lake Huron
210.	Sunrises and being close to nature
211.	The natural environment.
212.	Nature.
213.	lakes & rivers
214.	Our beautiful scenery and the wonderful people who live here.Clean up the downtown and bring in new businesses, create jobs, and keep our youth engaged so they will want to stay in the area.
215.	Nothing....it's ugly and a shit hole!! Tawas Rocks!! Always things going on, music shops, always looks eye appealing and clean.

216.	Lake Huron Canoeing Tait's Bill of Fare Bike Night in Dwight Upgrades of in town park and pier
217.	the rural feel of the area
218.	I like the water and all of the scenic trails and access we have.
219.	People
220.	community, safety, and the water.
221.	the beautiful nature and lakes.
222.	Small town easy to get anywhere.
223.	Small town living
224.	The people of Oscoda Township are full of life and ideals. The nature is very beautiful yet subtle at the same time.
225.	Nature
226.	I like the climate here and the access to the area's natural amenities.
227.	Small town, with great natural resources
228.	That it was where I grew up and is a good memory of what it use to be!
229.	Lakes and rivers.
230.	I love that you can walk 15-20min from anywhere and hit water or forest. The natural beauty of this land is something you rarely find these days (and I've lived all over the world)
231.	Friendliness of people Affordability of housing Proximity to the Tawas Places to bike and walk on base Library Volunteer first responders 911 service & fire department
232.	I love the fact that Oscoda is a community where everyone knows everyone. Small and personal is what I loved most about it. The town has beautiful scenery as well as a great area for tubing get togethers.
233.	The cheap housing for everyone on welfare.
234.	It is a wonderful rural community.
235.	I can relax
236.	We have lived here full time for 6 years, but have been seasonal visitors for over 40 years. As residents we love the people in our community. We love the small town feel, the gorgeous beaches and waterways. As seasonal visitors, we camped at Old Orchard park and now all of our 4 children and grandchildren camp also. There is no other place on earth that touches our hearts like the AuSable and the Pond.
237.	The water choices, the natural enviroment.
238.	People are friendly
239.	Natural resources, especially the AuSable River, and the beautiful sandy beaches on Lake Huron.
240.	We are a community! It is peaceful. Great scenery.
241.	The easy access to Lake Huron and the Ausable River.
242.	Being able to raise my kids in the same town I was raised in we love the beach by far we have one of the best beaches in this state
243.	low crime
244.	People in the community are great I like all the outdoor year round I would like the rec center year round with pickle ball indoors And paved bike trail on river road Sports activities will bring people in money to the town
245.	Being "up north"
246.	The fact that I don't live there anymore. Before the base closed it was a very nice thriving town. But since then it has because a hole in the map.
247.	Old orchard park
248.	I love the beaches and being able to go swimming anytime during the summer, or being able to tube down the river whenever.
249.	The surrounding areas of forestry.the fishing and camping ,need more areas of those,the friendly people and bunnies and owner's.
250.	The views.
251.	Beach...pier...small town.
252.	The beach. Great Emergency services. Nice community.
253.	It's my home
254.	I love that I am so close to nature and that there isn't blight. We don't have alot here but that is okay with me. We have what God put here.
255.	The ausable river
256.	There is a lot of focus on summer recreational options in the community.
257.	Beach, community center
258.	I love that it's not a huge city.
259.	The scenery
260.	Everything is local and easy to get to and it's a beautiful community.

261.	It's beautiful year round natural recreational area. Friendliness of the people and helpfulness of the community as a whole.
262.	The people
263.	River access lake access
264.	Lake Huron access, a ausable mouth access, foote and Cooke ponds
265.	Van Etten Lake, The pier and beach park,concerts in the park the splash pad for kids
266.	Slow paced , easy going town.
267.	Small quant town. A breakaway from the down state hustle bustle.
268.	I like living in a rural area.
269.	The small town vibe
270.	The beach.
271.	I don't like anything about oscoda
272.	River and lakes
273.	1. Beaches, although this year I felt Huron beaches had a lot of weeds and looked unkept on Memorial Day.  2. Fresh air.  3. Large trees and our history with the lumbering industry.
274.	We love the low key not fancy lifestyle. Very relaxing and an easy drive from downstate.
275.	Available natural resources.
276.	Nothing theres nothing here that is good all it has is nothing
277.	We are a beautiful town, and everybody knows everybody. We're kind of like one big family.
278.	The vast opportunity to do and see so many different things.
279.	The Beach
280.	The Environment (Woods & Water) & the People (sense of community).
281.	I like that Oscoda is a friendly place where everybody knows you.
282.	The natural surroundings, lakes, rivers, beauty of the land.
283.	Splash pad
284.	Lake huron access
285.	Oscoda is beautiful in the summertime and I was able to get a very inexpensive summer home due to the poor economic conditions in Oscoda. There has been no development to speak of since the Base closed and the businesses that have come on the base have been too few. What a waste for that base to be this dilapidated. It makes me sad. I go to Tawas and Harrisville and they are thriving on summer tourism and Oscoda has not done anything to promote Tourism. It makes me sad to see the lack of progress and the lack of motivation and vision with the township. Oscoda has so much potential to thrive and be an actual destination town, rather than the place you go because you couldn't get a room in Tawas or Harrisville.
286.	The nature in all seasons, the slower pace of life.
287.	Four seasons - however the trail system for both ATV/Snowmobiles are limited access unless it trailered. I believe that there huge growth potential for Oscoda but until the township determines that Retail Box Stores are the next big step. We will continue to have poverty that destroying the next generation opportunity to excel and grow. Generation believes that welfare, food stamp and low income housing is a paycheck. Our Township Leaders are part of the blame by not expanding the area with new job opportunities and growth of our community.
288.	I have lived here all my life and still hope it will be a nice place again
289.	It's quaintness and natural resources.
290.	The trails along the river and Cedar Lake
291.	Lake Huron and the AuSable River are two great natural resources for our public enjoyment.
292.	The lake.
293.	Friendly people.and can find help when needed.
294.	Love access to the natural beauty of the area.
295.	The water and beaches
296.	I love the opportunities to be involved in nature at it's finest within minutes of our home.
297.	I love the access to water
298.	the proximity to the lakes and the river.
299.	Know everyone. Friendly town.
300.	The scenery
301.	The lakes, forest, and people
302.	Certain businesses that make you feel welcome, especially when they know you live here full time. They know you are their bread and butter during the off season.
303.	River and lake accessible
304.	Relaxing atmosphere
305.	The beautiful lake and beach views on lake Huron.
306.	The lifestyle that you can live here.
307.	The people & the parks, rivers & lakes
308.	The lakes & rivers,the slower pace of life and the rural feel of the area.
309.	I love how I can spend time with my family and enjoy the area and it's clean
310.	The chamber director is hot !

	The DDA directed is hot too!
311.	We have sugar sand beaches and access to the ausable river. Can be created into a great destination location.
312.	Outdoors recreation
313.	Small community
314.	Beautiful area lots of areas for growth. Nicest river system and beach in Northern MI.
315.	The people
316.	Very nice place to live, quiet and nice for retirees.
317.	People and nature
318.	It's where I was born and raised, the beauty is amazing, I love bringing my children to experience all the natural beauty. I plan to someday retire there. It will always be my home.
319.	It's a peaceful area and a great place to raise children.
320.	Its laid back
321.	Natural features - lakes, river, forests
322.	It's not highly commercialized and has a naturistic feel. A place to retreat from the city and unwind.
323.	This township is blessed with natural beauty and everyone, from township board members to elderly retirees and everyone in between, expresses their love of this beauty. Quality of Living is what you get as a "reward" for moving into this area, and we cannot expect to keep this "a secret". When they come (and they will), let's welcome them the way my wife and I have been welcomed!
324.	I like that my way of life is a bit slower here. It's a beautiful town with so much to offer.
325.	I like that it's a town that hasn't really changed over 30yrs but that is a detriment in today's world. Small town, light traffic and our people are friendly. I like being next to the big lake and all of the recreational activities.
326.	quiet and safe living.
327.	There is a lot of nature. And most commercial and recreation is focused around downtown, and easily accessible by foot (as long as you live in the area)
328.	Nature....people
329.	It's a small town feel, but we don't have any real draws (bring money to area) and sometimes people want a few more conveniences. So we also feel like we are slowly fizzing out.
330.	beach AuSable river
331.	Nature
332.	The friendliness.
333.	Small relaxed environment. I'm from a small town so this a great place.
334.	Peaceful, good amount of police for safety. Scenic areas are great as well. The dollar stores.
335.	Lakes and river access
336.	The natural beauty.
337.	Small town feel.
338.	It's home. The small town atmosphere with a short drive to tens of thousands of acres of forests and streams
339.	Natural resources
340.	Water near by
341.	I love all of the outdoor activities Oscoda has to offer! It's an outdoorsmen's dream!
342.	The lake, the people, the seasons!
343.	The lake
344.	Great beach and parks.
345.	I like the community and the schools and the lake access.
346.	The beaches and the wilderness
347.	Should need more to do for the visited,my guess go alpena/ tapas they don't spend money here what wrong if other town has more to offer than this town.
348.	The fact that our Wilderness has been preserved and valued. The few quaint shops that we do have and the friendliness of many of the shop owners.
349.	It is safe. In often am called out in the middle of the night for work and you rarely see any sort of loitering. I feel safe walking my dogs. This is very important.
350.	The natural beauty and the people are the best part of our town. Economic development is a must to keep our town growing and with that comes the necessary housing and services contingent on the type of business/industry that will be forthcoming. Preservation of our shore line and it's beauty is imperative - it is our one outstanding feature and must be carefully guarded. A balance of industry and tourist based business should be considered in everything that is put forward for OScoda
351.	all the lakes
352.	Small township, everybody's friendly
353.	The people, the attitudes of people, the quality of life and of course all the natural resources
354.	The way of life and access to water. Safety is also huge having kids.
355.	We enjoy living downtown and full access to Lake Huron. I enjoy the small town feel - however would love nothing more then to see us grow and thrive.
356.	Beauty
357.	Basic safe living
358.	The overall feeling of being safe
359.	the people
360.	Location near lake
361.	Van Ettan Lake

362.	I like that we have an amazing river and several lakes in the area.
363.	I like small town living and the closeness of the lakes and rivers. I like the beautiful natural setting that surrounds the township. I like being close to Lake Huron and I like that I feel relatively safe living here as opposed to a larger area. I like the doctor we have found here and also the dentist, eye doctor etc.
364.	lower temperatures than downstate safe
365.	small population
366.	Close access to so many and diverse natural resources.
367.	Not much river and lakes
368.	Love the string and the people.
369.	nice people woods and water
370.	Van Ettan Lake
371.	Sun rises & Lake Huron
372.	Friendly businesses like Louie's. Everyone says hello when you walk in. They are always friendly and helpful, plus their prices are reasonable. The township office staff are always friendly and helpful, even when you see them out and about.
373.	We keep trying...
374.	Nothing. Make it better please.
375.	It doesn't change fast. Some is good. Constant and immediate changes going on elsewhere in our world is not always better.
376.	The lakes and community.
377.	Quiet, Historic, Nature,
378.	So many beautiful places to visit within an hours drive. Friendly helpful people.
379.	Natural resources
380.	I love the Occ community center !!! It gets me out to bed , Monday We'd. Fri . I wish we had it open year found. Most of all health reasons!!! Please!
381.	I like that it is a quiet not overly touristy place. I am an occasional visitor to a cabin and I always feel like I am going home, not on a trip. I love all the options, it has a little bit of everything
382.	Beautiful Lake Huron, the nature and the level of safety we feel there.
383.	the recreational opportunities in nature. Conversely, I'm used to being able to go to a community center whenever I wanted and can't understand why the community center here is only open for 6 mos. a year.
384.	Recreational activities, tranquility, fishing, boating not a lot of traffic
385.	Cute resorts, historic character, beautiful Lake Huron, small shops
386.	ORV trails, Oscoda beach and the lakes.
387.	Getaway from everyday life and a chance to experience the beauty of the surrounding area.
388.	The beauty and affordability.
389.	The family atmosphere. Scenic view. Slower pace from the big city in Phoenix AZ.
390.	Access to lakes, rivers, beaches.
391.	Lake Huron
392.	Local feel. Closeness to lakes.
393.	The overall atmosphere, the quaint feeling of the town and Lake Huron and the Au Sable River.
394.	In the fall the Community Center, the friends we have here, the lakes and river and our community
395.	Lakewood Shores development. This should be promoted it is a great community for the money. The concerts downtown in the summer the flowers and signs in town. Fourth of July community spirit. The beach park is always kept beautiful and so clean!! It is a wonderful place to live!
396.	The quiet, the lakes, the views, the people,
397.	I like being able to get to nature and enjoy it.
398.	Lake Huron
399.	The natural beauty.
400.	Family Beaches
401.	Location is a naturalistic, beautiful area. The beach is beautiful and well kept. The park and activities at the park are nice and well maintained.
402.	has an "up north" feel to it . Also, services are available for those in need - these programs are primarily church based, but to some extent, the community does lend support - like FISH and St Vincent dePaul Emergency Food Pantry, Baby Pantry, Food Giveaways.  The people are very friendly and willing to help out - for example, charity events to raise funds for a good cause.  And, of course, our three great water resources - Lake Huron, VanEtten Lake, and Ausable River
403.	The friendly people and the quiet environment,
404.	IAKES , RIVER ACESS, SMALL TOWN ATMOSPHERE
405.	The people are warm and friendly.
406.	THE PEOPLE ARE FRIENDLY; THE AREA IS BEAUTIFUL; THE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE GREAT, SOMETHING FOR EVERY AGE GROUP.
407.	We enjoy Lake Van Etten, and have been coming due to family having an cottages here for 60 years. It is much shorter travel time than going to northwest lower Michigan. However, it doesn't seem that the elected officials have had a plan in

	place to upgrade the area. Having been involved in economic development in the northern suburbs of Macomb County for many years, it takes a devoted, compromising, and caring core group to enhance and beautify the area. It's a lot of work that can be made very satisfying.
408.	Small town feel. The lakes and beaches. Some of the restaurants. People living here.
409.	The lifestyle, living on the lake, the beaches and parks. We do have to keep the town updated so it can thrive.
410.	The people are wonderful
411.	I love the rural setting of Oscoda Township and all the natural resources that are here.
412.	Small town feel, friendly, and nature.
413.	Low cost of living (low taxes),
414.	The small town atmosphere.
415.	Quiet and the closeness of the lakes, recreational opportunities.
416.	Waters
417.	It is like a second home to me, been coming here for 67 years. People are friendly.
418.	Environment, close proximity to lakes and rivers
419.	Friends & family have places here. Same business owners for decades- Lamrock, Wellmans, Red Barn love it.
420.	The Huron Forest, Lakes, fishing and trails
421.	I like the small town atmosphere and slower pace of year round residence, along with all of our natural beauty and resources.
422.	The easy going atmosphere. The friendliness of the area. The diverse outdoor activities.
423.	I enjoy what is left of the natural environment.
424.	The forest land, Oscoda beach, Van Etten, Lake Huron, AuSable River attractions
425.	the variety of water experiences available and the fact that it is not overrun with tourists.
426.	Love the lakes and water ways for boating fishing and swimming. Also like the available hiking trails. Available golfing and other recreational opportunities.
427.	It is relaxing, quiet and beautiful. People wave to each other.....I enjoy that. I further appreciate the affordability of the "sunrise side".
428.	I have been a summer resident for 66 years and in the last month moved here permanently. I have always loved Oscoda but I am sorry to say it has changed.
429.	Lakes, rivers, and forests
430.	Up north feeling
431.	The lakes and park facilities.
432.	It has every thing you want . Live on a lake and have the rivers and Huron all in 5 miles of you.
433.	Its slower pace, I can get almost anything i need there or close by. Peaceful. Scenic
434.	All the things that you can do in the area,hunting,fishing,boating
435.	VanEtten lake
436.	scenic
437.	Natural environment, inland lakes and Lake Huron access. The people of the area are regular down-to-earth people as opposed to some other areas in Michigan!
438.	Overall all a great place to live. The pier and township beach area is outstanding! Overall all we think the township leadership board should be given more credit. Hat is especially off to Bob Stalker!! I would hate to see the beach area add camping areas even near the current beach. It is our real treasure in our community! I lived here when we had a park there before. It took the MOB to properly deal with the problem. Keep on course. Keep improving what you are doing. I hope gathering and acting on this survey will prove helpful.
439.	Van Etten Lake
440.	Peaceful small town living.
441.	The beauty and access to the lakes.
442.	Up north feel with good amenities. Mature trees. Have a cottage on Van Etten for over 22 years and have had good times up here. Good restaurants. Like that they are trying to get the weeds out of the lake
443.	The many lakes and the AuSable River as well as the nature trails available to enjoy God's creation are very important to me. The friendly community and staff at the Township level is also a plus.
444.	Thinking
445.	been going there since I was a little kid 52 years.
446.	Outdoors mans paradise
447.	small community by lakes
448.	close to lakes and national forests
449.	People, close to hunting, fishing recreation., need to expand more to bring in more people from downstate, out of state, tourism is a huge, huge revenue for our area
450.	The festivals and Van Etten Lake.
451.	Scenic views
452.	Seems to be experiencing some economic growth.
453.	We enjoy part-time summer living on an inland lake, Van Etten.
454.	Van Etten Lake.
455.	Northern beauty.
456.	hunting fishing boating rural peace quiet
457.	Family memories.
458.	Location

459.	Access to so many bodies of water and natural areas
460.	Great place to live.
461.	I love the lakes and forest
462.	Small town w/ quiet atmosphere
463.	Access to recreational facilities. The people.
464.	Amount of access to outdoor recreation
465.	Location between Lake Huron and the Ausable River and the State and National Forests.
466.	The lakes and lake shore
467.	people are nice - helpful in stores and friendly  close to Lake Huron for swimming and walking  lots of restaurants  good fishing stores
468.	potential
469.	The beautiful surroundings and the great people
470.	Some of the serene areas, VanEtten Lake. Most ppl are friendly and helpful. Availability of the Huron Forest.
471.	We like it mostly just like it is.
472.	I love the small town feel and all of the lovely places to enjoy nature.
473.	Access to sandy beaches and Ausable river.
474.	natural resources, easy access to shopping via US23
475.	The natural beauty of the area and access to lakes and rivers.
476.	Access to beautiful Lake Huron - the GREAT lake- as well as the smaller lakes and rivers, particularly Van Ettan.
477.	Like the small town feel.
478.	I appreciate the smallness and quaint feeling in Oscoda. I love the lakes and protection of our natural resources and conservation. It promotes a more personal and friendly experience.
479.	Overall access to varied outdoor activities. Boating, kayaking, hiking, nature viewing, fishing, motorcycling, beach concerts and events.
480.	The "up north" feel
481.	The natural resources, the beaches, the pier.
482.	quiet... fair priced... lots of opportunities to do outdoor activities...
483.	Attached to Oscoda as coming here since 3 ,years old and love big lake. Have cottage on Loud drive . however its not what is used to be. Have option of inland .lake river and Lake Huron
484.	feeling of privacy
485.	Love the Up North feeling and not being in Metro Detroit
486.	The scenic nature atmosphere and the fact it is a small town.
487.	I enjoy the natural beauty, peace and tranquility of Oscoda Township. I enjoy visiting the scenic over looks several times a year. I am very grateful that we have such a nice community center that is affordable, clean, and convenient.
488.	I like the area with all the lakes and the AuSable River for fishing, swimming and boating. I hope to retire to Oscoda.
489.	Living near Lake Huron, Community organizations and individuals who do so much for the community, and support system. Movie theater and shoreline, concerts, restaurants.
490.	I particularly like the scenery, the access to nature and the recreational opportunities.
491.	Rural Living but still some city trappings, access to Lake Huron, smaller lakes and a great river. Close community relationships.
492.	The natural beauty (we have some of the best beaches on Lake Huron, and the Au Sable River is a gem!)
493.	Comfort, safety, county fresh air, and fresh drinking waters, access to nature and convenience to services needed.
494.	The access to water on all fronts. Ausable River, Van Ellen and Cedar Lakes, and Lake Huron.
495.	Beautiful beaches.
496.	Smart enough to know your neighbors and township personnel. Hunting and fishing access. Open beaches.
497.	Lack of traffic and the potential for good fishing and hunting.
498.	Recreation on the lakes, rivers, woods. Living rural, yet close to town.
499.	It's quiet, safe, has beautiful scenery, but needs more activities and jobs to keep younger people here.
500.	Slower way of living and the quiet, peaceful living!
501.	Relaxed atmosphere and access to lake Huron.
502.	Convenient place to live and enjoy retirement. If Oscoda doesn't have it, 16 miles to Tawas and 50 to Alpena and their mall.
503.	The community atmosphere
504.	The people and the outdoor lifestyle
505.	Quiet small town atmosphere, recreational opportunities.
506.	It's peaceful and quiet most of the time. Friendly
507.	A place to live. Keep it the way it is. Just fix it up! Don't try to make it something it isn't. You have to realize that it's never going to be what it was. Young people just don't come up every weekend to use the rental cabins and resorts, you have to entertain them - Oscoda is like been that once, don't need to do it again - what other things can we do. When the Township tries to be like the Tawas's they just waste money.
508.	Definitely the city beach. My family and I spend most of recreational time there even though our cottage has a private access to both Lake Van Ettan and Lake Huron. We also love Kayaking on the Ausable, but not on the weekends - to wild. Week days are very peaceful on the river.
509.	NOTHING ANY MORE

## 29) What would you recommend to improve Oscoda Township? (531 Responses)

### Word Cloud Summary



### Responses

1.	I feel that changes need to be made in the township leadership. Also, changes need to be made in the running of the Community Center.
2.	A more progressive governing body who do not cater to tourists to the detriment of residents.  I would like to see the Oscoda Community Center promoted and offer much more to people of all ages. It is a hub of the community and a priceless resource. The township does not do enough to make it all it could be.  I feel the Community Center should be just as important as the parks and not be treated as a burden. With more offerings and activities and motivated management, it could draw in many more people.
3.	Have more places to go and fun things to do.
4.	Welcome the establishment of new "industry" ideas. Think a little more up to date. We cannot be the Oscoda of 1965 anymore.
5.	More businesses, more restaurants, community activities, blight removal on Cedar Lake Rd. Concerning mobile homes & neglected houses. More medical facilities. Promote Oscoda as the best place to be on Lake Huron & our town.
6.	Businesses, businesses, restaurants, theater, community activities, more medical facilities, removing blight, especially on Cedar Lake Rd. , mobile homes & abandoned homes. Bring in a sporting goods store. Promote beautiful Oscoda along Lake Huron.
7.	The OCC needs to be open all year round for the kids and tourists. The kids in Oscoda would have something to do under supervision during the summer months and keep them off the streets. On a rainy day the tourists would have a place to go too and enjoy family activities for a fee.
8.	The township board needs to be open to ideas presented by the community. They need to be fiscally responsible. The community center needs to be open year round. More activities should take place at the center. Better maintenance of roads.
9.	Hire a new Township Superintendent that values recreation and serves the township board in a transparent manner with integrity. Seek a qualified community advocate to pursue recreational Grants that are based on what the whole community would value instead of a select few making major decisions in this regard. Make a sincere effort at promoting our Community Center that should be open year round with competent management and vision.
10.	The blight, the downtown, the poor areas of the community need to be cleaned up more focus on grants for housing for seniors and poor. Year round community center and senior center relocated to serve all the community not tucked away in one corner.

11.	Take the natural amenities of the area and build on them. Get employment opportunities to keep your citizens here. Expand your medical facilities. We really need a "med express" type facility!!!
12.	Lived, worked and raised our children here for 23 years. Now we are looking to move outside the township due to over reaching and archaic ordinances. You on the planning commission keep saying you are working on them and you are aware they need improving, yet continue to enforce them? Starting petty wars among neighbors. shame. There is some blight in Oscoda. It's like porn, we know it when we see it. Making ordinances based on what might, someday, possibly, could...turn into blight is just over reaching and ridiculous.Out buildings have to all be "matchy matchy" with the main residence??? This is not Lakewood Shores or an housing association. No carports or steel buildings? It's almost like you don't know where you live. People move here to enjoy the woods and water and they have toys which need to be stored. Wake up and stop victimizing your own residents. We're moving to Tawas or Harrisville, because you've ruined the peace and tranquility of our neighborhood.
13.	Food booth at beach. Dances for young people like those once held in the old auditorium. Sidewalks cleared of snow in winter by township. I lived in Reed City and the sidewalks were cleared by a ride on mower type vehicle with a large snow shoot. Certainly helped the elderly.
14.	Downtown at River in 23, the traffic situation is retarded with the bottle neck that backs everything up everyday, and lot of urban blight along 23 is spreading, tear that crap down and plant grass or something. Another epic, well groomed beach on the north end of town or wherever would set up the scene for even more tourist dollars and more much needed Ling of sight to the lake
15.	We have a gold mine out on the old base. We need to develop that area with things like a college campus, Casino, other medical options, large stores/shopping center and more manufacturing companies to bring jobs and wealth to the area. Just look at what tawas has done and you'll know what Oscoda is no longer on the map.
16.	fix US 23 going thru town. If your going to have a left hand turn at the stop light at river road then you need to add a green arrow for left turns. The traffic back up at the light at river road is COMPLETELY unnecessary. us 23 should go back to being a 4 lane road.
17.	Grow like every other community around us. Oscoda is stuck as a retirement community and does not have enough for kids and families to do. For a family fun night out or shopping our money goes to other community's when it should stay in our hometown.
18.	For the DDA to develop a long range plan for the downtown.
19.	Don't be afraid to grow. Let more business in.
20.	Better shopping choices more entertainment and thing for our youth to do all I hear from kids. Is its boring here
21.	Do more to bring development/jobs/reuse of downtown businesses.
22.	Disc golf and dog park
23.	More stores and more attractive stores downtown. Activities for locals and tourists for inclement weather such as craft store with activities, indoor water park, more shopping, possibly arcade.
24.	Too much blight. Cheap rentals and north and south of the main upgrades on 23 look rough and uninviting. Pulling into town from river Rd and n &s on 23 all could look more attractive. Few shopping opportunities make me travel to alpena, west branch or the tri cities more often than not.
25.	More lively downtown
26.	Turn F41 campground into an RV park with electric and water AND advertise! We don't travel to places and hope to find an RV park. We search it out ahead of time. Our days of rustic / primitive camping are behind us, we enjoy the conveniences but still enjoy getting out in the forests and lakes. We spend money everywhere we travel and folks would do the same here in Oscoda.
27.	Year round community center, better communication of activities (including locations), clearing of downtown sidewalks in winter, downtown development ( it is hard for shop owners to make a profit, given small and seasonal population--even Tawas has difficulty-, but it would nice not to have empty store fronts.).  Do not cut the trees around the township building to build a parking lot or other building!! Get the parking lot agreement. (Seems absurd!)  Cutting trees and eliminating lawn area around township hall would destroy the the friendly, open small town feeling of Oscoda,
28.	To be more welcoming. Shopping in downtown is a must. Nice clothing store,(like the old Williams) would be a great asset. Nice gift shop (similar to Windjammer). Work on having more than just the water to draw people into town. Maybe something to focus on would be being the home of Paul Bunyan. A fun thing would be to use the large Adirondack chairs like the Chamber and Lake Trail have, around different parts of the community. They could be Paul Bunyan chairs that everyone could have fun going to and taking pictures with. Think along the lines of the Quilt trails that different communities have.
29.	More access for the disabled to enjoy our offerings. More frequent events at Furtaw.
30.	Do more to expand our economic growth, offer tax incentives for local businesses to grow and thrive. Offer incentives for businesses to move here. In our town. It will take only ONE large business to move in and completely change our landscape for the better. FIND one and do everything you can to help make our home their headquarters.
31.	Fill empty buildings with new businesses.
32.	more business more development and less police.
33.	more sustainable employment opportunity
34.	Progressive thinking on the part of our local township officials !!
35.	I would recommend electing township officials that have pride in Oscoda Township and want to make it better, not keep it the same. This town has potential, it just needs the right people to put it in place.
36.	Old buildings that haven't supported businesses well in the past, need to go. Give new / young entrepreneurs the chance to build their dream, not renovate a lost one.
37.	More affordable housing for veterans, disabled, and low income individuals. Continue to bring more commercial stores to the area.

38.	Keep attracting SMALL businesses  Develop things to attract visitors off season.
39.	Developing a much better way to move traffic through downtown and on into town. The backup at the stoplight at River Road and US-23 is ridiculous and very frustrating.
40.	Get the old board out get new blood in with new ideas. Stop no computation because they own a business.
41.	Economic options for residents that does not rely on Wurtsmith. They have to be jobs that low skill worker can expand there skills and support their family or the continued lose of the next generation will continue to leave and be like me and only be occasionally tourists visiting family on the way thru.
42.	Get new politions with new attitudes and ideas.
43.	Stop taking money from Old Orchard Park to the general fund and start invested back into the park a little more. Shame on Consumers Energy for changing the rule that all profits go back into the park, as it was for decades.
44.	Need to re-use all the empty business buildings downtown! If possible tear down the bulding that was dynamite Deals and build something more appealing to that part of town!
45.	I would recommend putting our money into better things and bringing in businesses.
46.	Keeping the community center open year round.
47.	More caring officials who care about the township and it's welfare for the long term not just their own agendas.
48.	Younger people involved in governmental organizations.
49.	Our township board needs to get behind and support innovative change and a new direction for improving our infrastructure, our downtown business corridor and creating a destination where there is a vital, thriving atmosphere that brings families and visitors to reside, shop, and invest in this awesome community. We need a new vision and an encouraging, supportive atmosphere from our leadership that encourages every individual and creative ideas. We need to invest in our community through the community center by revitalization and creative development. It is a community treasure that we need to invest in every aspect. People need to feel valued at every level and we need to encourage and involve our youth through volunteerism and partnerships with businesses and organizations. They are the future of Oscoda.
50.	Develop the downtown area to get more foot traffic and draw attention to the area as a great place to vacation or move to.
51.	A downtown like Tawas so you enjoy walking to the shops and along Lake Huron. Been coming up there for many many years. It needs improvements
52.	Clean up and improve the commercial corridor on 23. Start at finish line and go north just past Mcdonald. No further commercial development on f-41. By enhancing this area you will have growth .
53.	We need something special. Something like an orv park similar to Bundy hill or The Mounds. So many auto fans, and mechanics live in Oscoda who work at Kalitta and Cooper Standard. Why not build a drag strip or something auto related?
54.	Quit squashing peoples desire to make the town better, get your head out of your ass, look how good Tawas is doing at capitalizing and growing their community is such a shame how far Oscoda lags and our community leaders are so incredibly short sighted and simpletons
55.	Bike path, walking path along the shore line like they have in tawas.. More specialty shops in the downtown area, as well as restaurants.
56.	Bike trail
57.	Well, let's see. Allow snowmobiles through town. You want business in the winter? Let people, town folk and tourist alike to snowmobile the roads. You say too much danger? Okay, then we should eliminate motorcycles, bicycles and maybe cars and trucks. Everything has danger. Just take a tour to some out of the way little towns in the winter and notice the fifty - sixty snowmobiles outside the restaurants and businesses. Expand our town in another direction. Try to get businesses to open the closed stores up town at whatever cost, like no taxation for 2 years. This would allow the business to get a good foot hold. Why dress a window up with a front if it's closed? How deceitful! Start with the center of town and expand in all four directions. Our town is like a blink of the eye, 5 minutes and they think they seen it all. Yes we have quite a few places to visit but the stretch between them is miles. We should be expanding from town outward toward these places. When I first moved up here, this town seemed like it was going to boom. But, they have taken all the recreational fun away from here. No longer do I see huge boats upon boats being towed behind luxury cars and trucks. Or, snowmobiles going from business to business. No more huge condos until the ones that are built are almost full. No more motels and hotels until we can fill them all, on a daily basis, at least in the summer months. No more signs unless we have something to advertise. How about a business or two for the kids? A pin ball arcade, a skating rink, a place to play some pool and/or a place for chat time and refreshments (of course with internet connection). Now I've heard tell that the last couple times a business like this opened, it drew drugs. I am totally against drugs, but it is not the business that attracts the drugs. If a person is into drugs and alcohol, they will get it whether it is at the lake, in a park or even in the woods. You won't stop this by shutting down the business. I have many ideas, maybe they are not feasible but, we need to do something in this town to build it up. I see several businesses cleaning up and looking good, but some are run down and shabby looking. I want to once again see an energetic, exciting, booming, robust town. BY THE WAY - WHERE DO YOU GO TO VACATION? And, WHAT DRAWS YOU THERE?
e	
58.	I would like to see some growth. I think that if we don't continue to try to grow and improve that Oscoda Township will deteriorate. I think that bringing some money in by tourists will help keep the community going. There are a lot of families out there that need jobs. It may help them to help their families. I also like the idea of bringing more activities to

	the area that would give the families free or low cost activities to do. It may help keep some of the minor crimes down among the youth and young adults if they have something better to do with their time. I think it would be a win-win situation for everyone.
59.	Downtown development, year round indoor recreation especially for adults, nicer full service restaurants. It's hard to take visitors to a nice dinner in town. We used to go to Au Sable Inn but the quality has declined in the past 1-2 years. Unless you want burgers or pizza, there is no place nice to go. Though considered part time residents, we spend a lot of time there and over the 25 years we have sadly seen the decline of downtown shopping. The streets and pocket parks look nice but there is no reason to "hang out" there. As we look at retirement, a year round indoor use community and recreation center would be ideal!
60.	Build an indoor recreational field for winter use
61.	Have the businesses keep longer hours...need a 24 hr restaurant
62.	Find more use for airbase
63.	The education system needs much improvement. Bring more businesses into the downtown area.
64.	N/A
65.	Replace the DDA director with someone who works more with the community instead who is too much of a bull in a china shop to get real positive outcomes.  We need to use the lake and river more, we need more campsites and hotels that utilize those locations.
66.	more draw to the downtown area, open past 6pm
67.	Year-round community center access, please!!
68.	We need the community center to be open year-round! That is one of the best places for families to keep their routine in their fitness together! We need more kid friendly activities. Stop focusing on just downtown! There are so many more areas in Oscoda that could use attention, like 3-Mile park! It's a great beach area but because it is not maintained no one wants to use it. Trim the trails back, put signage up in town directing people there, add a playground, clean the beach from all the reeds, apply mosquito control because it is bad! Oscoda is such a great little town! The community year-round residents is what keeps this place running, not just the tourists. If you focus on keeping the year-round residents happy, it will get around how awesome of a place this is which will in turn bring their long lost relatives in for a visit. Word of mouth keeps the tourists coming back. All in all, this is such a great community and I don't ever want to leave...as long as there are jobs of course! Thank you for putting the survey together and I hope you take some of the suggestions and do something with them!
69.	get rid of the dirt roads in the residential areas. I would never buy or rent a home on a dirt road
70.	Having more Jobs. Motels. Shops. Hospital. senior housing. bed and breakfast places would be great to have here. Place up Town for kids and teens to hang out after school or on weekends to stay busy doing activities such as exercises, playing games(video- or board games doing homework on computer if they need to ect) Basket ball/football practice so good size property to have for these sports-nice gym for anyone who wants to work out as well. Another fire Department on river road by the Forest -should be 2 other fire departments since this area is so big, and more Police departments also. Just my thoughts.
71.	More businesses/more community activities
72.	Again get rid of blight in the downtown AND the surrounding subdivisions, ENFORCE codes for blight!
73.	Preserve our natural resources. More tourist type events
74.	Change the zoning, so people across US-23, do not have beach access. My road has HUGE problems with people that come across. These people are rude, they do not pick up after themselves when they are at the beach, they leave their children unsupervised at times.
75.	Addition of a disc golf course.
76.	better movie theater
77.	More family dining maybe a nice buffet style. More affordable shopping .stop only catering to tourists. Remember there are plenty of year-round people!
78.	I would recommend that our leadership in Oscoda learn to no more open to change. Most leadership in this community has been in their positions for several years and don't seem to be open to change within our small community. Although it would be nice to keep our little town just like it is, if we don't learn to adapt and accept change their community will continue to see a decline in everything. There are so many opportunities and ideas that could bring businesses and individuals alike into our community. At this time, we can't help but wonder why our youth all leave. The only young individual who seem to be staying in this community seem to be the ones that cause problems. We should be doing anything and everything possible to promote the growth of this town into something that will be sustainable in the long term.
79.	Since the closure of the base, our area has struggled to develop any kind of sustainable business growth. We need to attract some kind of company, a hospital or university, or some kind of manufacturing company, or SOMETHING to bring employment opportunities to Oscoda. More affordable housing should be developed as well. There really isn't any type of resort along the Lake Huron shoreline in Oscoda, and I think encouraging that kind of opportunity would boost the local economy. More people in the area, whether they're here to work or vacation, bring more money. I know the Oscoda area has so much to offer, but I think we are poorly marketed and the land we have available is under utilized. Poor management of community development is a huge hurdle for our area as well.
80.	Bigger stores like a Target or some other big stores to enhance the job market. Maybe even a Big Lots! Also there are too many pizza places get rid of G's
81.	find ways to encourage businesses and decrease empty buildings
82.	GROW business, tourism draws
83.	I believe if we updated the current buildings and houses that are not being used that their would be more thing for families to do, keep kids out of trouble and create homes for people moving to the area.
84.	more public transportation

85.	More downtown businesses. Lake and or river front restaurants. Bicycle trails.
86.	Bike racks at the Oscoda beach park and various places around Oscoda
87.	Stop discouraging new businesses by delaying processing of approvals by questioning every little detail in their request. Over requirement of permits and cost of permits. I think our township officials could take some lessons from East Tawas.
88.	Allow for smaller business to open and allow smaller shops to be the base of business here. like downtown Alpena..
89.	Restaurants, coffee shop, shopping and downtown parking.
90.	Something for people to do!
91.	3 mile park on 23 be updated and get rid of all the weeds and make a better beach
92.	Refurbing what we already have
93.	Take better care of the lawns ...weed and feed ..keep things trimmed. If Township Hall can't be kept weed free and watered it makes our town look bad! We have a beautiful fountain surrounded by weeds! It would be money WELL spent! Do we have sprinkling system ? PLUS Memorial Day is past where are our flower baskets ?
94.	Do more to make Oscoda a destination. More shopping, restaurants, beach activities. Give people a reason to bring their family here for a week and be able to walk around, spend their money, and enjoy!!
95.	there are many outdoor recreational things to do in oscoda but there arnt really enough recreational things indoors to keep a good balance. For example when it rains or snows or there's bad weather there arnt very many options you have for recreational use.
96.	More public access to the shoreline and shoreline camping.
97.	We need economic improvement. People have a difficult time getting jobs here. ;
98.	Bloody good clean up of all of the empty stores/commercial buildings. Need more than 1 path down to lake for people with disabilities...get rid of drug houses...there are many and have been for years?
99.	I would add more sporting complexes so that there are more active young adults. Adding volleyball nets to the beach would draw tourists to the beach as well as help get this town more active. Making the rec center year round would help with the basketball that goes on all year. The youth leave this town as soon as they can because it gets dull. The ones that remain are not the motivated type and usually cause trouble. If this town keeps on focusing on retirees amd not the youth, all there will be is retirees and drug addicts while the good people leave. Development is important for any beautiful city. Just look at Grand Rapids, Portland Oregon, or Ann Arbor and see what they have done.
100.	The township is too focused and determined on turning this area into a vacation and tourist spot. However, this only forces the younger generation to leave because there are very few employment opportunities. How can a community survive when an entire generation moves away? The consequences of this is becoming more and more apparent, as the number of commercial and residential buildings are becoming vacant.
101.	Abandoned buildings everywhere!
102.	Help preserve the woods, and water. Lake huron is a huge tourist attraction.
103.	Better business atmosphere, including food trucks, craft shops, coffee shops, without interference from existing businesses.
104.	Bigger business to help the city grow and thrive
105.	always room for improvement! clean parks, street signs,& festivals and art fairs!
106.	Cater more to the working class and businesses instead of only the retired citizens So we can revive our terrible economy and attract more fiscal opportunities. Also, expand the recreational opportunities for the children and adolescents in the area and perhaps they will find other pathways in life outside of crime and drug addiction.
107.	More jobs for our youth to keep them in the area. This town needs more stores that people can afford to shop at.
108.	Allocate financial resources to improve the lives of year round residents. For example, a lot of money has been put into the beautification and road ways of down town, yet other roads, such as colbath, are neglected. Also, the base gym is severely outdated. I would like to see a community sports complex built with an indoor pool, tennis court, track, weight room, basketball court, and so on.
109.	A downtown shopping district. Good restraurant.
110.	More jobs
111.	I feel as though we as a community should deny anyone or anything to bring more life to our little town, to let it expand and become the best up north vacation spot possible. People who go on vacation love shopping and that's what we lack here, not department store, but little small businesses should be brought in. Also an idea for the river is to somehow make a swimming area that's nice.
112.	Honestly, the worst part about it is knowing that drug use is so prevalent in such a nice town. Fix the schools. Fix the attitudes and the corruption. Please don't ruin one of the most beautiful areas in this country with over-development.
113.	Housing that is affordable for anyone, not just for Kalitta workers. More business in town to fill up the empty buildings
114.	Drag strip
115.	We love living here because of the friendly atmosphere. As we continue to grow here in this lovely town, we notice the younger generation is vastly decreasing. Which means population and development is limited. Township needs to add variety to our little Nook we call home. Let people be proud to come from Oscoda, Mi!
116.	Anything that would prevent traffic from blowing thru town. Removal of " on street " parking was a big mistake.
117.	I am definitely in support of the rail trail and other opportunities such as the community center open year round. The rail trail would be so important around the school towards town. I also feel it is important to provide more housing options for families. We have people continuously moving to the area for Kalitta who have no housing options. Most housing is income based and this ultimately sends good families to other communities and their kids to other schools.
118.	More to do. Better movie theater, restaurants, nightlife, etc
119.	Bring small business to the down town
120.	More business opportunity
121.	Softball Tournaments, support and build the bike paths. Nice dining and cocktails along the shoreline. Marina Rejuvenation. More businesses. Jazz/Blues Festival more lodging.

122.	More department/clothing/shoe stores, small stores like dollar tree...etc., sit down restaurants
123.	More varieties of businesses in downtown.
124.	The access to the river and access to sidewalks.
125.	More businesses downtown or on base
126.	Amenities, activities, Family-friendly fitness places (I.e. YMCA) that attract people aged 20-35. We need to take advantage of our location and natural resources to support the economy.
127.	Developed downtown area, better food options (more "real" food, healthy options, less fast food). Improved retail options, especially in the foot traffic areas downtown. Buildings that are empty should be maintained and not look abandoned.
128.	New parking lot at Oscoda Beach Park.
129.	Fill the empty buildings in town with some shops and/or restaurants. We travel north to find places to eat.
130.	Repair of roads and sidewalks must be a priority. Focus on infrastructure and public safety. Recruit self-funded businesses of quality to the area. Eliminate the office of economic development and let the private sector, free-market economy work to our benefit.
131.	Get rid of the drugs even the ones that I know for a fact that opd is letting run around because the snitch on other people I have a drug dealer that lives by me uses my road to sell and buy drugs caught them on camera and opd never did anything so when my daughter finds or picks up a needle or pills ops will be picking up his body I'm sick of it do your job oscoda police please and thank u
132.	Stores and restaurants down at the beach- and also more tourist stores
133.	Another named brand hotel.
134.	Would like to see trash bins in state forest, river and lake areas. Memorial weekend, my friends and I picked up 3 trash bags worth of garbage from the 3 pipes area.  Restaurants sh be remain open a little later. Restaurants need to improve menus and update décor. Try sitting in the Chinese restaurant and look out the front window. Not appealing.  Store fronts need to be unified, look inviting, get rid of sandwich signs
135.	We need a better economy. Bigger stores and ways to get more traffic coming through.
136.	More businesses, coffee shops, parks, trails, advertisement
137.	So much, my goodness. I've lived in Oscoda most of my 26 years being alive and and have heard the opinions of every generation of people living in Oscoda. The biggest changes that need to occur... Re-do the Oscoda Beach Park. It has literally been the same since the nineties. Oh you added a pavilion that never gets used and a useless Pier. I lived at the beach park, not in a literal sense, but it was my go to destination during the summer throughout my adolescent years. We need to rip up the old Boardwalk, due to splintering boards and bee hives developing underneath. We need to renew the park in general, by replacing much of the dated play equipment. Put in a decent skate park. Not only is this a great tourist attraction but also there is a great community of skaters here in Oscoda that aren't able to enjoy it to their fullest. Attract more vendors for Art on the Beach. This annual event has gone so down hill from when I was younger, it hardly feels like an attraction to begin with. Open a skate rink. When I was younger and we had open skating at the Community Center, it was the best. Utilize the base. There is so much under used space here that could be office businesses or sports complexes. Invest in the Library. Seriously, the library remains unchanged since the early nineties. Whether that means building onto it or building a completely new one, you're responsible for the under wealth of the children and adults in the area. Families continue to move away from Oscoda due to many reasons. Not enough employment opportunity, bad schooling (see you have to invest in the library since OHS doesn't have one), terrible choices on what to die with tax payers dollars. Invest in your people. We like that.
138.	Get businesses downtown (tax breaks for small businesses?), please build a bridge at Three Mile so we don't have to wade in the swamp to get to the lake, encourage bigger businesses and employment opportunities to move into the area. We are a tourist destination with little to offer, more entertainment and events would encourage more to the area...
139.	Total change in leadership. So many narrow minded people who live by can't and won't. Sad.
140.	I live the bike path idea. It's safe for families without having to worry about all the driveways and crossing with young kids.  Improving the school district ethics. I don't appreciate the affairs by those in administration and staff relationships that are affecting the rest of the district. When there are low moral standards we shouldn't be surprised at the over all amount of staff currently seeking alternative employment. So sad!!
141.	Fill empty stores downtown!!!!!!
142.	Allowing more small business, furtaw field install a large wooden playground with surrounding paved path, notify (in writing) upcoming road work to houses on that road, recycling center
143.	Need more things for the young to do...
144.	More full service restaurants. More activities for the young people.
145.	Encourage business to open downtown.
146.	Get rid of the skate park!!!! A lot of bad things happen down there! Yes there are some good but a lot more bad kids doing drugs are right next to families and little kids at the splash pad!
147.	More businesses..some more fast food restaurants..e.g. Jimmy johns..chick filet...family type like dennys..ihop..get some competition in this town..reuse of the base bowling alley..save a lot..tawas is more busier than this town with more to do..more businesses..more summer activities..
148.	More things to do. I always find it hard to do things in the winter especially with my family & kids.
149.	Need to get more businesses in the area to attract more people! This town has so much potential but the own towns people are holding it back. Look at everything Tawaa has to offer, Oscoda has the same potential!
150.	Bring more stores/shopping. Like malls, grocery stores. Recreational activities, theme parks. Target, Meijer.  The housing. Very cheap and the housing is awful.  The quality of the schools. Very awful and too much favoritism.

151.	Oscoda needs more entertainment venues for teens/young adults to draw in a younger crowd who would have the potential to improve and revitalize the economy.
152.	Let more business open. Like casinos Wal-Mart or a target. Something for this community.
153.	STOP Paying for surveys and listen to the permanent residents!!!!
154.	Better training for service-tourism-hospitality careers. Better access to better health care services. Better educational opportunities in general. Better sense of community pride, especially from our youth...and better assimilation of new citizens (e.g. Kalitta's transient employees).
155.	Make unoccupied buildings look attractive and not dissapointing.
156.	Make the downtown store more visually appealing.
157.	Need more jobs, not just seasonal. People need to be able to make a decent living, that will improve things such as blight, the residents would be able to afford to make improvements on their properties and downtown shops and restaurants would thrive because not only tourists but residents could afford to shop there. Don't bring in too many corporate businesses and keep their locations away from the main streets/hubs/lake shores, etc as to not sully the natural beauty and local culture which will attract tourism.
158.	More to do for young or college aged kids
159.	We need to be willing to take some chances to optimize our community. Sometimes we play it too safe. Tawas has made some great changes and made the most of their natural resources. Empty buildings fronts and the failure to maintain property detracts from everyone's property values and how others perceive Oscoda.
160.	I think our biggest issue is drugs, they are becoming more and more prominent in our community which will lead to big problems down the road.
161.	Development
162.	Whatever it takes to provide jobs so people can support themselves here, so our young people don't have to move away to earn a living
163.	Better choice in cops who truly stay professional & care about the meaning of their jobs, Clothing stores! Like a mini outlet & a star bucks because I guarantee they'd stay in business or a fro-yo shop also maybe a few buildings that only consist of gaming things as in go cart racing, lasar tag, zip lining etc.
164.	I recommend development of more shops, department stores, and recreational activities for family's and people of all ages. Less focus on tourists and more on the year round residents.
165.	There needs to be a LOT more opportunities for younger generations looking to begin their careers. We need a better school system; ***get rid of the homeless shelter***; quit making Oscoda a haven for low income families who do not want to work and contribute to society; vacant buildings need to be fixed up or demoed; more festivals to attract larger crowds that will help stimulate our local businesses; Oscoda should strongly consider a college campus in order to attract high paying jobs, bring more educated people to support local businesses and develop Oscoda into a more opportunistic area: this will be the biggest driving factor in bringing back a community plagued by dollar stores, thrift shops, and car repair shops. Oscoda needs to make some serious changes before we become small town Detroit.
166.	I think there needs to be more for the teenagers to do to keep them from the life of crime.. somewhere they can go and just hang out... I also think there needs to be more for the young generation to do... for example indoor water thing for the winter... or a inside bounce place... we are also in need of a good and proper pet store... bigger named places to eat in or dine... a place for seafood would be great.. we are based on bars gas stations and fast food... we need more jobs.. and the place that do hire need to be more open..and give people the chance.. I am only speaking because I was on of them kids... and I do my best to make it day to day because of my past choices... but it's hard to get a foot in when no one will let you.. we need more opportunities here... and also stop slapping these druggies on there hands it needs to be controlled... I have lost 5 people this year because of the addiction...
167.	Be more open to change and competition. Consider people who live here year round not just tourist.
168.	More rental housing, restaurants, stores
169.	Revitalize downtown Oscoda.
170.	The lack of things to do in the winter is the worst. The emty buildings in the middle of town are an eyesore. We need more cute little shops to make our down town more attractive.
171.	Stop spending money on Development planners. Nothing changes when all is said and done, and it has become a waste of money. The paper reported that the last representative of such company praised all the work that had been done. Really? Almost 15-20 empty buildings in the downtown area alone. We need something to draw people in. Something like a waterpark, or sports complex with year round events. Something to draw people in. NOT a trailer park on the beach downtown. How ridiculous to put that on our one great asset. I've heard that there is a rainy day fund. Well, it is pouring poverty. Our poor town is sad looking. Even township hall looks shabby around the windows, etc. Maybe develop the Van Etten beach area. Furtaw Field looks shabby also. Yellow/brown grass looks terrible. A color theme could be implemented downtown and bring back the murals. They were beautiful. Close off a block of downtown from the bookstore to Hallmark so people could cross the streets. Switch the highway over to Lake St. Maybe bring back downtown parking. If a bldg. is empty, at least have a code where the windows need to be covered up with clean white paper. Sadly, our town just looks dumpy. Look at all the things going on in East Tawas. They always have grants, etc. Their town looks so inviting. Maybe develop the AuSable river to accomodate more boats and docks.
172.	Revamp much more of the old base to bring more businesses. Market the area for more tourism and improve the downtown area so the tourists have something to do in the evening after enjoying our wilderness all day. There are few choices of resteraunts and almost no evening activities. Most importantly, put much more emphasis on improving the schools. There are many people who pay more to live in Tawas than Oscoda because of the education.
173.	Revive Oscoda's downtown! Do what Tawas did and bring in a lot of tourism!
174.	Need more business...township officials need to actively pursue new businesses in downtown and other area; All new business seems to go to Tawas area. Study what they are doing to create a thriving downtown business area. Oscoda has such potential but seems to be slowly dying when it could be a destination for tourists and locals. I think twp.officials fear competition to local businesses but there aren't many left/competition can be healthy.
175.	I believe we need something for kids to do!!! Roller rink, place to do lock ins, arcade, something! A safe and fun place to hang out!!!!

176.	Bring more resources for the people that stay here year round. Including new stores and updated equipment for the kids at parks and more access for fisherman at the piers.
177.	Oscoda is a vacation destination. The city needs to capitalize on this, improving opportunities for those who visit, and providing more activities of that kind.
178.	Find profitable businesses to occupy and improve the empty store fronts. These should be businesses that would encourage travelers on US23 to stop and develop a favorable opinion of Oscoda.  Spruce up the visual appeal of the town
179.	Reuse old buildings
180.	We need more activities for the children in the winter.
181.	big lots store
182.	Turn lake st into a walkable business district. More events to bring in people here
183.	Reductions in both the corruption of the law enforcement departments and the ongoing drug issues in the community should be our first priority.
184.	more stores. Better cleanliness. More housing. More restaurants.
185.	Keep the town cleaner, and keep it interesting for year round residents along with seasonal
186.	Jobs, intertainment for tourist.
187.	Encourage and profit from tourism
188.	Be more open minded to new business. I believe that if you build it they will come. If they come, they will open their wallets, and very possibly stay. Even for a night. Maybe a summer. And if they love the township as much as I do, a life time. It will boost our economy. I say grow, grow, grow. Say yea, not nay!
189.	year round community center and better downtown
190.	Using all the abandoned buildings on base to bring something useful to this town. It provides jobs, ways for kids to stay out of trouble, provides more options, and brings more people.
191.	In the summer, tourists bombard the town. There needs to be development of attractions for people and find a way where the town isn't so congested. Oscoda needs to improve the schools. Is the water on base an issue still?...talking about improvement...Don't sweep issues under a rug! If there's an issue, take care of it! (Improving means not wasting money on another "fishing" pier)
192.	Less drugs
193.	The town needs to be allowed to grow and expand.
194.	I would like to see the empty stores fronts on 23 being occupied.
195.	I definitely think that we need more commercial businesses and maybe new places for kids to hang out because I think they get bored with the few things that are around.
196.	Encourage businesses to start up in the vacant buildings and empty lots.
197.	Fill the existing vacant buildings before building more.
198.	There's not much to do for the younger crowd. Maybe add in some fun things to do other than bowling like lazer tag, or something else. Also, if you are going to open a business, make sure it will last.. Like the building by McDonald's. Having that made into a Wendy's or a different food place would be smart because it wouldn't go out of business. Also having vacant buildings all over makes Oscoda look very poor and tacky.
199.	Clean up the blight and redo the Fit strip.
200.	To much drugs not enough police officers to cover the shifts. There used to be 2 part time officers in the summer to help during the busiest season, what happened to them? We need them back. Oscoda has cheap housing and drags in the welfare folk. Let's have higher standards like in Tawas.
201.	Development!!! Cater to tourists, that's how Oscoda will grow!
202.	More jobs.
203.	Promotion of Agricultural Tourism
204.	More job opportunities
205.	Connecting the bike path to Main towns such as Tawas. Development of downtown area with no privatized parking. Enhance, beautification of parking areas. Encourage industry or possibly a casino to provide local jobs.
206.	Shopping and entertainment
207.	Help bring small business to the empty buildings on State St to attract tourists. Fun events like Tawas does on Newman Street. Also, unemployment & poverty in Oscoda is terrible!!!
208.	Businesses. More restaurants(better). More jobs.
209.	better development of the old wurtsmith air base. this place should have been a booming opportunity when the township inherited it. seems that some of the old farts just don't like new opportunities that will affect their business's that they own. also better control on the cost of gas in the town, it is out of control and has been for several year, 15 to 25 cents hiring that surrounding communities is totally unacceptable, they do it cause they can. Need better medical facilities, we need to find was to keep our younger adults this can be done by more job opportunities, need huge business growth without bias oppinions from our elected government leaders, they need to start listening to the people who put them in office to better our community as a whole not what is good for their own personal agenda.
210.	I feel the township has moved in reverse on updating the infrastructure by returning roads to dirt. I love my dirt road.
211.	It wouldn't hurt to add more business to oscodabring in more jobs for local residents. I live right behind the old Oscoda elementary that building just sits there it should be used for something.
212.	The play equipment at the township park, make happenings in the township be well rounded not just old music at the park, not just old car shows. Give our educated youth a reason to come here/stay here. Give me a reaason to not load my family in a car and go to Saginaw every weekend for shopping, food and fun at parks and children museums. Give tax breaks to new businesses that are going to bring something new to us not another car repair shop. We have thought of moving due to lack of outdoor safe play areas, we would like gymnastics for our children. Rent a space at the community center for this to a qualified person. Make our weekends come alive here. Tawas has an air of being alive, we do not. Do something with the area after the ausable bridge by charter communications to the down town area on the right side of

	the road. Looks a mess, dates and depressing. When crossing the bridge it should be inviting ":-) we are in Oscoda" We are looking to buy a larger home, we are currently undecided if it will be in Oscoda or East Tawas.
213.	Allow attractions such as casino and big industry. We will never be a big town so don't be afraid of losing the small town feel.
214.	Downtown area, transportation, bring in jobs, more housing opportunity.
215.	More retail stores,like big name stores. And different types of fast good places
216.	Blight. have people clean their houses up.
217.	Blight in all communities but Jordanville and surrounding areas is bad. The downtown business district is real bad. Empty store fronts that are neglected next to a business that is trying to survive. Slum landlords are tearing this community apart, drugs unemployment run hand in hand we must break the cycle.
218.	Another splash pad....water activities for toddlers ....shady beaches for parents with older kids and babies
219.	Unable to properly answer this.
220.	More development in town
221.	More scenic turnouts along the river and lakes
222.	Less low income housing (i.e. Old Air Force base) Preservation of our beautiful natural sites Improvement of old orchard park (i.e. Bathrooms, less tolerance for noise and unruly campers, more handicapped friendly, level sites) Year round community center with programs for kids after school
223.	Continued development without any detriment to nature or minimal environmental impact.
224.	more shopping options, better quality in restaurants (NOT fast food), handicap-conscious access to scenic areas, and especially more housing options for low-income families
225.	Involve young people in the planning process.
226.	More shopping. Centers salvation army store
227.	CLEAN it up.....I have lived here my whole life and it embarrassing.
228.	Keep it friendly to visitors and residents.
229.	I think we could add some more stuff to do, because a lot of kids in this town are bored most of the time. We just need more places to go. I would suggest more food choices, maybe little shops on the beach, and just more businesses. Tawas has all of the little stores on Newman street which is a huge thing and if we could be like that I think a lot more people would come visit.
230.	Get rid of the drug dealers
231.	more resteraunts, more activities for kids in the winter.
232.	we need more businesses and fun activities to bring people here. more jobs for a bigger and better community.
233.	More traffic lights.
234.	More economic development
235.	Improve area economy options.
236.	Economic development, especially in downtown Oscoda. Population increase is a must, but could be done by economic means, such as providing more jobs.
237.	Better cellphone reception More economic growth Get a regional airline into the base (delta, American Airlines, United) to promote travel. Allow new development Build new homes/ apartments Add more "name brand" shopping centers  Housing would be foremost the most important at the moment. Many people at my work have no where to permantly stay. And are forced to stay in hotels. Many people only last a month until they leave because of the housing issue
238.	I know a lot of people would disagree, but I strongly feel that the area needs industrial and larger-size retail development. Travelers that come here expect to have access to many of the same type of businesses that they enjoy in the city, and the local residents shouldn't be taking their dollars out of town to purchase elsewhere because prices/selection are so limited here.  We need more affordable, family friendly, pet friendly rental housing in the area. I know that low-income housing is a touchy subject for many because of the effect on property values, but if we want people to pump money into this town year-round then we need to expand industry and those workers and their families will need a place to live.  The idea that the town can survive just on snow-birds and the seasonal tourists is ludicrous. Who would clean the resorts? Who would cook or serve at the restaurants? Who would cashier the gas station. We need to focus this town's development around permanent, year-round residents while doing what we can to preserve the town's natural beauty and amenities for the tourism dollars. Growth has been a taboo word around here for too long.
239.	Change the US23 lanes back to the way they were 10 years ago. Ann Richards ruined the economy and the natural flow of our town. Now some survey is supposed to help. Good one clowns. Put the road way back. Also, it'd be nice if we got rid of the trailer park at the mouth of the river. One of THEE single greatest economic growth locations is covered with a trailer park. Eminent domain that eye sore and let's start over.
240.	Anything! It's a ghost town and is dying! Allow a college or an amusement park or a raceway be on the base! You are sitting on a gold mine that could change oscoda amazingly! If we let change happen!
241.	Bring in more businesses and make use of vacant buildings.
242.	Revitalize the downtown by bringing in a few diverse buisnesses like a coffie/ sandwich shop (starbucksish), gamestore, art/pottery do it yourself studio (like wine and canvas type place), a full time restraurant like texas roadhouse or buffalo wild wings, and update the movie theater. Create more jobs for the year round population in doing so. Do something with the rotting school closed on river road like converting it to apartments or demolish it to make way for a children's park. Create a dog park at the lake that people can take their dogs to cool off and play. Develop more access to the river like Lansings

	river walk project. Host a few events during the summer such as a car show or large scale trail run for a good cause. Bring a Mijers up here and get rid of that horrible kmart.
243.	Pay first responders Warning system for tornadoes
244.	More rental homes for low income people. More community get togethers. More charity options. Oscoda does have a lot to offer. I recently just moved away after living there my whole life. Their just isn't enough to do in town. More activities needs to come into play so we can have more fun on the town after dark. A lot of businesses close at 6pm. We need more to want to live on the area rather than just to visit.
245.	Finding more ways to waste money.
246.	Blight is awful. We also need to develop the tourist industry.
247.	Hotel and casino could lower taxes and create over 4000 job from casino and provide jobs for local businesses
248.	Employment opportunities for blue collar workers.
249.	Small businesses downtown, of course. Industry and commercial business on the base. Honestly, if we are speaking about tourist dollars, Old Orchard Park must have updates to accommodate the owners of the new, larger trailers that want to stay in our community and spend their money. 40 years ago, when electricity was put on the west side of the park, the majority of campers had tents and pop ups. Now rigs that come in are in the \$75,000 to \$200,000 range. The electrical supply in the park is woefully inadequate! The families who camp spend money in our town. Yurts are great, but for the past few years there have been many electrical problems, more frequent outages, and some boxes can only run three plugs when four rigs need power. Newer rigs have 50 amp needs, the park only has 30 amps. If we do not upgrade, people with money to spend will not come here. The park beings tremendous revenue to our town. Do not let a great opportunity pass by.
250.	A few more store choices, some type of evening entertainment.
251.	Get rid of old buildings and build new!! To get there act together, like tawas!!!
252.	Better parking for those exiting the AuSable at the River Park. In the summer it is crazy and sometimes you get pinned in, by people with trailers and trucks just leaving them illegally parked in the lot for hours. Maybe off site parking by the former Ace Lumber for all leaving a vehicle and/or trailer, while they go down the river. It is a short drive and or walk to pickup kayaks, tubes, or canoes.
253.	Business owners need to improve their exteriors. Some roads need redone even if they are in a coldasac! I don't live down them and I get agravated!
254.	Re-opening the base
255.	Roads need improved and they need to clean up the town of riff raff push more law enforcement
256.	More business and more jobs.
257.	need more buisnesses and jobs
258.	To be more open to ideas to make the town better
259.	Develop the downtown area, more stores!
260.	DO MORE FOR THE KIDS IN THAT TOWN !!!!! quit worrying about your own pleasantville dreams of that town and focus on doing more for the youth of oscoda . maybe if you decided to think of the kids , most of them wouldn't be hooked on drugs or grow up to just set at the corner bar. Bring in more jobs so the town can start to rebuild. The only way to move up in that town for almost any business is to either be related to someone or be life long friends of a family that has pull in that town. Oscoda used to be such a wonderful town . I remember growing up having the arcade and the roller rink, lake theater . the parents knew where their kids was. It is nothing but a empty shell of a once great town. Good luck with trying to rebuild, but in all honesty oscoda is nothing more then a lost cause . best advice I can give any kid there is to move out as soon as possible.
261.	More things for young people or families to do. Yes there is a lot of outdoor nature things, but what about when the weather is bad? There needs to be more options.
262.	Maintain the old or chat park a lot better!!!!!!
263.	I would recommend more things to do for Teens in the winter.
264.	More areas for kids to fish from shore lines,more up to date business like lows , Sam's club or something on that line,mof of that the people have to drive down state to get the stuff they need wich takes the money out of town in stead of in town where it would help the community.
265.	More store options including restaurants, fast food, gift shops, book stores, etc.
266.	Improve roads....empty buildings
267.	Stronger drug task force with emphasis on teaching community about drugs and effects.
268.	Kid friendly areas
269.	Keep community center open for recreation 12 months a year.
270.	I would like to see a horse shoe area. I think it could bring residence together. We could have a league.
271.	Business.
272.	Organized youth and adult activities. Such as yoga, martial arts, camping/scouts.
273.	Year round community center
274.	I'm an active duty Navy sailor, Stationed in Norfolk Virginia. I lived in oscoda my whole life. I can't wait to come home every year on leave because it's home. It's small but it is beautiful and we shouldn't ruin the natural beauty with more random stuff that will eventually go out of business unless it's properly targeted to the majority of the public. I plan on retiring and moving back here one day and hopefully my kids and grand kids one day will love growing up here the same as I did.
	V/R

	Jason Kear
275.	It's beauty from the Great Lake, to surrounding lakes and wildlife. The rivers are beautiful. There is a great need for employment and increased importance on tourism. We have the most beautiful beach in the State, but can't be seen from 23.
276.	More economic development
277.	I recommend improvements down at the old Air Base in Oscoda.
278.	I love Oscoda as it is.
279.	More things to do. Laser tag, turn furtaw field into a baseball diamond, better places to eat that're open 24/7, better basketball courts, maybe even an ice rink.
280.	Downtown...too much blight
281.	revise downtown. Invest in good restaurants hotels and access to water activity
282.	blight in community and downtown, roads are deteriorating, fix the downtown lack of stores.
283.	More activities for the younger crowds
284.	More business's,restaurants, and retail shopping.
285.	Restore some RV camping in the down town area to get people walking around town like they do in East Tawas. I believe it would revitalize our down town area. People camping at Old Orchard and Van Etten campgrounds do not visit our downtown area unless the weather is bad. Camping within walking distance of the downtown area would bring shoppers and then additional shopkeepers and eliminate empty buildings. I also feel that the current meeting building should not be sold for a medical facility. There are other empty buildings that could be utilized for that purpose ie: old ace hardware building or building next to Dairy Queen.
286.	Oscoda township desperately needs to be revitalized and allow some big businesses in the area. We need a better quality of people living in the area. Big businesses and employment opportunities would help with that.
287.	More large companies putting jobs here to encourage residents. Open airport for public airliner use.
288.	More organized activities for young children.
289.	The people
290.	We need shopping downtown, to many vacant buildings. Other communities have hundreds of people downtown, we have next to none. Very embarrassing!
291.	More business, shops, restaurants downtown.
292.	Redevelopment of downtown area to encourage new business and to create a pedestrian friendly environment.
293.	The skate park needs bigger ramps a better play ground a better basketball hoop roads need to be better that is what they can improve.
294.	More shops that you can only find in Oscoda. We need to start a volunteer service that picks up trash on the side of the road. I'm going to let you in on a secret, I love this town but I don't know what it is (maybe because we have barely anything to do here) all of these kids are turning to drugs & partying instead of focusing on their future. Because of how many drug problems we have here (I know these issues are everywhere, but it also seems every time I turn around someone I know is thinking they're cool because they smoke) and also half of this town is full of people who don't try in life. This is the main reason I don't want to come back on my future with my children. This is a small town surrounded by small towns (the nearest city that teens like to go to is two hours away). There are people who can't even hold jobs at McDonald's that live here, and although you can find those people anywhere Oscoda seems like there are quite a bit. We need to get these people motivated and proud of the town we live in.
295.	Snow removal in winter. First year I was up here in 2013 they did a great job. It's been downhill since then.
296.	More shops, boutiques, restaurants in downtown area. Places to attract people to walk from store to store and shop. Perhaps clothing, shoe stores.
297.	Whether it's tourist income or industrial revenues we need economic improvement more than anything. Also more/better medical related locations & professionals so locals can be treated locally.
298.	There should be more community events. Music festivals etc
299.	Shopping...know where to shop...everyone goes to Tawas for the "Newman" street shopping. More businesses, there are some dumpy areas in which blight needs to be enforced. Do more things with the base; change perspectives of the township board in keeping Oscoda a "small town" you can still have a small town feel with more things to do. The chamber needs to have more activities...what ever happened to the red, white, and blue festival. The chamber needs to be more involved in planning activities...we have the same old ones.
300.	Showers at beach for rinse
301.	More shopping and restaurants
302.	I would recommend getting some folks with fresh insight to come in and consult the Township. There is potential for so much more ... walking paths and events to name 2. During the canoe marathon there are literally hundreds of people in Oscoda who would not normally be there, why is the township not coordinating events to coincide with this timeframe and show off the potential of this lovely town? Maybe partner with local businesses and set up booths have some, have some of the local restaurants come down and sell there food at the finish line for some much needed revenue. I can think of all kinds of things to promote this beautiful town. have a carnival at the same time of the marathon, there will already be hundreds of people that would not normally be there, tap into some of the revenue. Overall this township needs a makeover in leadership as it is lacking, at best.
303.	We do need more businesses most especially would like to see a big brand store like a Super Meijers or Super Target to have better priced products and provide many jobs to thus area. Heck, at 60 years old I may even like to work there. Been hoping for this for years as there is no place to buy clothing here other than Kmart or the expensive gift shogs. Usually I will travel to Tawas or downstate for shopping.
304.	First is to fix the blight of our downtown. Landmark, Gilbert, Ausable River Trading Post, Ausable Inn have committed to improve the looks of downtown. The other business must be forced to meet architectural guidelines to upgrade their store fronts or rebuild. 2nd the economic development needs to get off their rear ends and start marketing to Large/Medium Box Retail Stores and Developers (Strip Malls) and create an area that attract these these companies instead of letting Tawas and Alpena beat us to the punch. 3rd - Fire who ever is dumping the large amount of fund into Old Orchard Park, letting our back roads become a mess which leads to more blight because the residence don't think they care so why should they and bring in someone that has real life experience in developing businesses and communities!

305.	I believe the currant superintendent guides board in wrong direction. the township seems to do nothing for tax-payers ie roads garbage, the currant water and sewer employees still do not know system and need help from ex employees but they get a 5 year contract
306.	Better walkways at 3 mile park to access the lake without having to hike through swampy weeds and muddy water. It is disgusting.
307.	I would like to see the community center open all year long.  I like the downtown area...I don't want a busy place like Tawas, but I'd like to see the empty stores and resterants filled--- not empty
308.	Utilize Furtaw. It is an ideal location for a playground, paved walking around the perimeter, tennis/pickleball courts, basketball courts, picnic area all that could be seen from 23 and feel inviting. The skate park is not a place for activity. It is a place to hang out and quite unbecoming to the 'family crowd'. We want families to feel comfortable in town because they spend money. It is my belief that many many drug deals take place and have taken place at the skate park, which is tucked away from normal police patrol pathways. A nice family park in the middle of town that is thoroughly planned out and well designed would greatly enhance the feel of a welcoming community, which would bring families back.
309.	Attract more businesses. Enforce ordinances meant to oblige homeowners to keep up their properties (cut grass, remove unlicensed vehicles, etc). Oscoda needs to have more summer events to attract visitors and bring in revenue.
310.	Less hardware, and auto repair shops. Repurpose old buildings into businesses that'll help the citizens, not the tourists.
311.	Crime has been a problem...especially theft associated with drug use.
312.	bring in shops and boutiques to bring in tourists
313.	We need to be a forward thinking community. Able to share our great natural resources easily and quickly with visitors.
314.	Continue to improve access to our great natural resources.
315.	Need outside waterfront dining. Always have been amazed in Michigan the lack of.
316.	Clean up blight. Freshen up the down town area. Make it look a little more inviting. Looks like a bunch of mushrooms mash now. Not attractive at all.
317.	More housing and doctors offices
318.	Let's start by getting a quality food store like a Kroger, Rogers has been a fine addition but we still need competition. Let's figure out a way to get the stores in downtown up and running with parking, buy em, doze em but get going, a boardwalk on the river would be nice
319.	Not turning streets back to gravel. Improve the look of 23, clean windows of buildings whether it's a current business or a closed one. Have the auto repair shops park the vehicles in a manner that does not look like a bunch of junk cars strewn about.  Housing blight in the downtown area should be addressed, in fact, blight throughout the township should be addressed. The one thing the township can't do is have "some" of the local businesses change their pricing ways. More residents would shop local then. Some businesses need to be friendlier and more helpful to their customers. But, the township has no control over that, so people won't shop local.
320.	Tennis courts at beach...dislocate that mess at the north side of river mouth,return that to the community!!
321.	Encourage businesses to locate here and utilize the base for more development
322.	And "at your own risk" outdoor workout space.  A restaurant on lake Huron right next to the pier.
323.	Easier routes of traffic
324.	Better use of tax money. Rather than purchase of new beach property money would be better spent maintaining what we have. New business and new residents are not attracted to a town that does not maintain roads but rather turns them back to dusty/muddy rutted gravel. This is not progressive thinking.  We don't have money for police/fire or sewage project but we have money to purchase swampy beach property and remove it from the tax rolls. This property doesn't seem too desirable to other buyers as it has been on the market for some time.
325.	More shopping & businesses in the downtown area and some nice apartments in or near downtown. And more activities for the winter months.
326.	I would like to see the job economy get better so that families will stay and can make a living bring more business and population to the community
327.	A winter sports park .would be an asscet.
328.	I don't necessarily think that big commercial hotels are the solution. However, investing in our quant cottage community and building up the lake Huron side of downtown with shops and restaurants will help make oscoda more of a destination. People leave here, even tourists, to go to tawas and enjoy their downtown. Let's create a space that they don't want to leave. Also, take advantage of what we do have, like the canoe marathon.grayling pulls Ten thousand plus visitors at the start. We should do something to get that business here and make people want to stay for a visit after the marathon. Deals at restaurants, deals at the cottages. Group deals.... whatever. That is an untapped existing resource.
329.	Allow improvement which will increase visitors and provide more enjoyable experiences to locals and those visiting our town.
330.	Hold township meetings in the library or community center -- no need to build or add on to present buildings.
331.	Improved downtown parking, signs showing and better lighting. Possible tax credit or break for new business or existing business. Better event planning and better development ideas for downtown. Better usage of former runway on base. Better usage of beach area and or empty lot in front of beach, would be nice to see a hotel or maybe RV park to draw more people to area. A ORV/ snowmobile trail from footsite to oscoda for food, gas, lodging options. More docks at township boat launches.
332.	Less blight, more jobs
333.	Have the trustees that run the township quite trying to make it into something it's not. There is no way it can compete with Tawas, no parking. Quit trying to bring in new business, support the ones that are here. Someone might ask the current businesses what they need, rather just doing what the trustees think they need. Have the economic development person actually try

	to get some of the vacant buildings filled. Start to give business a break rather than making more rules and regulations. This is a small township, actually try to help, rather than hinder, the people that already live here. Have the trustees and supervisors get off their dead asses and take a good look around - the place is dying and they're sure not doing anything to help.
334.	Term limits with all political offices. Federal investigations with possible misappropriated funds from governments closing of Wurthsmith Air Force Base, and lack of community input. Immediately hire a new Township Superintendent that serves the Township board and community instead of self serving.
335.	I think keeping the natural beauty of the many amazing visitor locations. Keeping all those places clean and inviting.
336.	A year-round civic center where in can walk comfortably.
337.	More little shops/businesses
338.	Full-service restaurants and varied shopping opportunities
339.	More leisure activities. Better restaurants. Cheaper groceries. Basketball courts/ tennis courts
340.	A year-round Oscoda Community Center access makes so much sense now, and will only be of more value in the future, as more people come to this township to enjoy the "Quality of Living".
341.	We need growth and are at a point we can't be too picky about that growth. We have so much to offer but make it so hard for new business to come and get established. If we are encouraging growth we also need places for people to live and there appears to be a rental shortage.  Perhaps the Township should encourage economic growth through tax abatement or other incentives. We have the DDA and it has done a few nice things but is truly meant for a larger governmental body and isn't very effective for our small town.
342.	More social activities for people of all types. Show that Oscoda is inclusive of people if all walks of life even the LGBT members. I moved up here because I loved the area but didn't think of the complete lack of social activities for me up here. We need a chain restaurant or two because there are only 3 local ones that I'd suggest to people. Build a Disc Golf Park for the kids. We have hardly any activities for kids. I saw the small update to the skate park but that it's an outdated design and basically looks very cheap. Get the buildings leading into town rented and businesses in them even the historical building by the Finish Line that's priced way out if market. Take care of the water issue from the base, don't fight your residents when they say the water is not safe and productive persistent with the Air Force to get them to help make things right. Finally, get along with the Tawas so we can work together and build this area up. Oscoda is beginning to look like Detroit and that's not very appealing to people coming up here to get away from Detroit.
343.	More Drug enforcement,
344.	There needs to be more recreation and less commercial, especially for the rather large population of teens and young adults here: there are too many things catering towards the elder generations, and not enough to satisfy younger people, tourists and residents alike; utilize existing, unoccupied buildings and modify as necessary before constructing new; more living and home opportunities for lower-income people; open up a adequately-sized homeless shelter with accompanying employment or community service opportunities (the brick schoolhouse on w. michigan-river road could be a good place); food and ice cream trucks that periodically circle the beach or residencies during the tourist season could be fun; our school needs to adjust its priorities: allocate less spending toward sports, more towards improving classroom conditions, peer support communities, and TRUE sex education (abstinence-only courses and scaring teens with STD stories aren't working; teach them about birth control and protection, about body autonomy and consent, pleasure, teach them comprehensive information about their bodies and parts, and have boys and girls learn that information about each others'. and stop shaming people who've done it, especially girls.); more public transportation options should be implemented, like bus stops for the transit throughout locations in and around town, and have the transit run 24/7;
345.	We need business!!! Put something..anything in those empty buildings!
346.	Bring something that may bring more tourism or visitors to our area.
347.	more shops, no empty buildings, tear down bad downtown buildings  But what I would like to see is a walking path on the beach so us elderly who cannot walk in the sand can get to the water like the one in Au sable township beach I would really like to go to Oscoda beach but is to hard to walk down the sand I am 63 years old carrying a chair and everything else I really have to give Au Sable township credit for what they have done on there beach
348.	More trails for dog owners
349.	GET RID OF THE DRUGS!
350.	More bigger shopping stores to give more choices. And to make prices more competitive.
351.	Need a few more fast food choices, less pizza places. Arbys, Wendys. Red Robin or something of that nature would be great too. Need more traffic lights like by Admiral and the Hull Island only exit. Hull Island area needs paved where it does not cost the residents out of their pocket. It is still in city limits. Need more jobs for the younger people and basically for everyone. Many have a hard time finding jobs in the area. There are a limited number of apartments and rentals. If you are elderly or very low income, then you get help.
352.	Improve downtown Oscoda making it comparable to Tawas..
353.	A more vibrant downtown.
354.	Improve downtown. Do something with vacant buildings. Occupy them and improve them, or condemn them and tear them down.
355.	clean up the derelict buildings. Cash in on" Paul Bunyan" lore and use it to townships favor. Other towns in other states do, but Oscoda is the official birthplace of the legend. Why do we pass up the opportunity? Theme the downtown as such. Gaylord is known for their Alpine inspired storefronts.Oscoda could be themed for the logging industry that built this town, and use Paul Bunyan lore as the inspiration
356.	Downtown and blight.
357.	Impeovements i. The EMS and First response system
358.	Improve down town area shopping dining and old orchard
359.	I was born and raised in Oscoda, but after graduating college, chose to live downstate. I would love to move back to Oscoda and raise my family, but Oscoda lacks medium to high-paying jobs. My husband and I don't feel like we could find

	jobs in the Oscoda area to earn enough money to live comfortably. We love the area and truly hope it makes a come back!
360.	I think development of the downtown.
361.	New businesses, new restaurants, activities for kids,young adults
362.	Instead of letting new businesses build new buildings make them use the ones already there that are sitting there empty and unused.
363.	This town hasn't been the same since I was a kid it needs a spark back in it. When I was a kid Kmart was a big store but now it's just dead. We need a bigger store in this town just look a tawas it got a Wal-Mart and now the town is thriving. We just need a target, or a meijers.
364.	Put a arcade in for the teens
365.	Yes ?
366.	We need better shopping options and not strictly low end merchandise. Downtown shopping looks cheap, uninviting and too many of the same types of businesses. It would be nice to have an entire section of various types of shops to stroll through by either tourists or residents with quaint little restaurants peppered in between....outdoor cafe's....make it a great place for it's residents even when tourists leave but a town to be proud of when company comes. Also, better management of the River, especially on Holidays and weekends. Too many high powered boats, jet skis, etc., with no respect for other boaters or the damages they cause due to their wakes, especially on Foote Pond.
367.	New face lift downtown. Bring in more stores or opportunities- make it cozy- make me want to keep my money on this community. We don't even have a coffee shop to visit with anyone.
368.	Steady can cautious growth. Let's not succumb to the almighty dollar.
369.	fill or get rid of the empty buildings
370.	Improved shopping district. More housing, if we want to grow we need more rental choices.
371.	Bringing in business to existing empty buildings and promoting out downtown similar to how Tawas does with Newman St.
372.	We need to revitalize our downtown area! Bring back business & restaurants (with outdoor seating). More community events to bring people to town. We really need to punch up the town and get our tourists back.
373.	Growth
374.	Listen more to your public. Think outside the box more on activities
375.	Clean up blight and renew downtown
376.	Build and encourage any businesses to the area and housing / apartments for the average family not low income
377.	Better use of river frontage,with walkways and small business stores. Oscoda should work on getting so called Main St. (Off) of US 23 People now whiz through Oscoda heading North or South,they are not going to look for parking behind buildings .
378.	More specialty shops, more good paying job opportunity for year round residents
379.	Oscoda is stagnant. I would like to see the bike path come in, more fairs and festivals, perhaps a renaissance festival? 5k's are very popular also. These things bring people by the thousands. They are seasonal events, but perhaps could lead to something bigger.  As far as the community is concerned we need to at least keep the people we already have here. Is there anything we can do to compete with bigger cities to get companies that do come to MI to even just look at our area? Good jobs and decent wages are a reason for people to stay. At this time, I don't feel we have enough reason.....
380.	I think more small businesses would be nice of a variety. Would like to see either a Kroger or another major store to help bring down costs. I'm a junk shop shopper, so more thrift and bargain stores would be nice, however not so much as to lose the small town feel. That's what I like most about living here.
381.	replace township superintendent and staff w/ people who are interested in attracting high paying jobs w/ healthcare and benefits low income part time jobs do not build a community disappointed in lack of leadership since Wurtsmith closed in 1993 next time have someone who understands questionnaires design it improve the quality of the schools a bronze award does not mean anything encourage businesses to develop the airport business park fix up downtown, it looks like a cheap strip mall
382.	Develop strong development, economic and recreational goals with significant and proactive, diverse citizen and business inputs. Think outside the box. Get expert assistance from several consultants and other community leaders similar to Oscoda.
383.	Not much for a beautiful area. You would think there would be more economical growth an a blooming place like traverse city, Alpena or even tawas.
384.	As stated change things up you can'take keep doing things as you have because it isn't the working See west side of the state.
385.	Oscoda township seems to be committed to gasoline powered recreation activities. My family would like to have a functional bike path and cross country trails and more and easier accessible hiking trails.
386.	Clean up the weeks in Van Ettan Lake
387.	Better educated residence, reduce poverty by industrial incentives for companies to move into airbase
388.	More consumer friendly shops that don't price gouge. Oscoda could have more locals shopping local if the local merchants didn't charge almost two to three times as much as other places. Example: Family Fare always has prices higher than say Neiman's and look how big a chain Family Fare is than Neiman's! Some restaurants are gouging, Wiltse's with their new menu. \$10.95 for a BLT! You can shop in Tawas and run into a lot of Oscoda residents who don't want to be taken advantage of by shopping local, including members of the DDA! There needs to be more for the kids, young and teens, to do. Kids need more than the beach, hunting and fishing. Our local movie theater needs work. The bathroom is horrible and the place needs to be refurbished. 23 should be street cleaned more often to make things attractive and empty stores and businesses should at least clean their windows. Take

	a good look at the empty store showcasing the photographer in Oscoda! More should be done to make the township look inviting. The zoning person should do much more to get rid of the blight, old cars, tires in the yard, junk, wood stacked every which way, etc.... We do have ordinances!
389.	Need more local shopping options for clothing items. If Kmart goes, we will not even be able to find shoes in Oscoda! Enough "Dollar" Stores though!
390.	Nice restraunts with good healthy food, not bar food. No dollar stores. High end retail shops. Less fast food. Less auto body shops. Update old buildings & make them usable. Get over the fact that the base is gone. Stop talking about the good old days. Improve schools.
391.	Hire an active program planner/promoter of existing community elements and services. Make their pay/bonus based on performance, but give them a rolling 3 year contract to give them a chance to succeed
392.	Encourage business growth in the area that could provide services to the community plus create jobs.
393.	Fill the empty buildings.
394.	Adequate affordable housing. Tourist destinations- sops and restaurants.
395.	More stores, and bring in the year round activities the area has provided with us.
396.	I would like to see the empty shops filled and revitalized.
397.	I recommend making the downtown more attractive for tourist, like Tawas. Also using the buildings that are already in place for businesses. The empty builds are an eye sore. A big negative we are noticing over the last decade is the influx of very poor Americans. It truly looks like Oscoda is a destination place for the poor. I think we need to make Oscoda more appealing to individuals who will spend money and help businesses survive.
398.	I think a good start would be to really apply yourselves to using the survey results.
399.	More shopping facilities. (Aldis) Downtown improvements more signs to advertise Oscodas beautiful public beach. A fresh produce market.
400.	Clean contamination at Wurtsmith!!!! Clean the environment, get Federal Funds. The pollution is why we are afraid to buy property or spend more time there. Don't just do a PR campaign. Clean the mess! At the very least, plant things that can clean the mess naturally.  <a href="http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-08-11/using-plants-to-clean-contaminated-soil">http://www.resilience.org/stories/2014-08-11/using-plants-to-clean-contaminated-soil</a>  <a href="http://www.environmentalcouncil.org/priorities/topic.php?x=142">http://www.environmentalcouncil.org/priorities/topic.php?x=142</a>
401.	I have bee coming up to Oscoda for over 30 years. The down town area is in need of some more updating to compete with Tawas. Oscoda beach is has been updated a lot over the years and is one of the most important locations to keep maintained and beautiful in Oscoda. I was up the weekend of 6/18/16 and the splash zone was not working and the beach was not groomed to remove branches and garbage.I was up memorial weekend and the grass wasn't cut. Please maintain this gem better. Maybe even put some sort of food and drink unit there like Tonys tacos at Tawas beach.
402.	Keep Oscoda community center open year round
403.	Revitalize the downtown shopping area!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It looks like a ghost town. Compared to East Tawas during the Memorial Day weekend you couldn't tell it was a holiday here. There are no longer the shops and stores for residents to shop at, The town is dying and something needs to be done sooner rather than later. If we loose more stores we loose revenue. The biggest store is Gilbert's and I rarely shop there. We need to add more parking so businesses will come back in. Board members that are open and want change. I have been coming here as a young child and now my grandchildren come here. Sad to say if something isn't done tourists will bypass Oscoda all together. Yes we are 6 mos residents but I am a taxpayer and want my opinon to be heard and considered like full timers.
404.	Allow the development of things that would grow the economy (ie. Walmart, casinos) There is plenty of space out on the base that is going to waste.
405.	Oscoda community center should be open year round!!!!
406.	Year round community center. An upscale resort.
407.	Just to limit the amount of commercial Lake Huron frontage. Would rather see parks or private homes than commercial buildings.
408.	Take the money from the sale of the building downtown and use it to keep the community center open and if possible use the community center for your meetings. Do not build more buildings for gov't purposes since there are too many empty buildings now which are a negative to the community. Is there anyway to support snowmobiling in the winter or an ice fishing contest? I always thought there should be an eatery on the lake. Maybe one run by the local restaurant owners together might be encouraged. Thank you for asking.
409.	We need the roads redone on Lakewood Dr. It is like riding a roller coaster!!! They just throw asphalt into holes and is so bumpy now. Take down the old hardware abandoned and get rid of old buildings not used. Pocket parks would look better where they are.We have good assortment of restaurants now so don't feel we need more. Would be nice to turn school into senior housing or condos but heard it has asbestos so don't know if possible. We need more doctors and specialists in the area too.
410.	To fill thw vacant buildings when possible, to encourage the youth to work and advance their education,
411.	We need more companies here to keep everyone working and keep our community growing. We need to get out of the retirement mind set and get back to making money.
412.	Year round fitness center
413.	Addition of East/West Development off US 23 to eliminate the "One Horse Town" appearance...such as Newman St. in East Tawas.  Additional retail, entertainment facilities @ Wurtsmith instead of it being just an industrial park.  Why not develop 41 from US 23 to THe Base? Micro Breweries w/Food, Gift Shops, Boutiques, Specialty Restaurants. That's what tourist on vacation want. Not fast food and same old same old.

414.	The local government does not seem progressive. Maybe new leadership is necessary.
415.	I really like to play basketball and I would like to be able to play inside especially when it rains.
416.	<p>The bathrooms at the beach park needs to be improved and more stalls. During high peak use, such as the 4th of July, you should add porta-potties. When you have big crowds on the beach you need to have visible security present.</p> <p>I don't think blight is a big problem in Oscoda, but getting empty buildings occupied should be a priority. Limiting high density rental properties and not adding mobile home parks should be a priority.</p> <p>Encouraging business development to provide jobs and encouraging home ownership is needed.</p> <p>We own a townhome at the Villages of Oscoda and the increase in renters is a real concern. I love the area and plan to spend summers here. I think the VOO is at a tipping point with "blight " happening if more renters who do not maintain their home move in which will turn it into an undesirable neighborhood. Property values have stabilized but will not continue to improve if homeowner occupied units continue to decrease.</p>
417.	<p>Develop a strong township development team (solicit help from other communities if needed) to brainstorm how to 1) fill the empty buildings we have with viable business ventures. Work with the building owners to ensure that they are not overcharging for building rent, which is stopping any further tenants from considering the site. And 2) bring business into the town - those businesses that can survive and fit the community. You can't wait for people to come to you, you have to be aggressive in pursuing them - offer incentives</p> <p>For example: 1). a discount shoe outlet  2) a beach shop located near Lake Huron (perhaps offer spots to vendors to sell during summer months if no land is available for permanent business or an existing empty building) which would offer all kinds of summer fun toys, equipment, clothing, beach towels, etc  3) a "day old" bread outlet for bakery items at cheap prices  4) canoe/kayak supply store  5) fresh fish market  6) year round indoor farmer's market - sell fresh in summer, other things in winter (like firewood, canned goods, Thanksgiving and Christmas Items, quilts, etc)</p> <p>Concerning the community center, if you cannot justify keeping it open in winter, maybe buy risers or a portable stage to use for guest performers or speakers - need a place to present such entertainment besides the high school. Offset costs by charging admission and/or charge to rent the space</p> <p>Also would like to see some improvement at Ken Ratliff Park on VanEtten Lake as far as providing a handicap access ramp that would "jut out" into the lake to allow fishing by those who cannot access the lake any other way due to physical limitations.</p>
418.	Large shopping center .
419.	mORE SMALL SPECIALTY SHOPS AND YOGA AND HEALTH STORES
420.	Improved septic system regulations. Encourage young families to live in the area with economic development.
421.	<p>BETTER ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING RULES FOR "BLIGHT" PROBLEMS - NO ONE WANTS TO LIVE NEXT TO TRASH.</p> <p>DO SOMETHING IN THE WINDOWS OF THE EMPTY STORE FRONTS - PERHAPS 'BUDDING ARTISTS' FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY THEATER COULD DO WINDOW PAINTING TO DRESS THE BUILDINGS UP.</p> <p>SO SOMETHING WITH THE CORNER WHERE THE DAIRY QUEEN IS - THAT AREA IS FAR TO DANGEROUS FOR THE LITTLE KIDS TO STANDING AND WALKING NEAR THE CURB WHILE WAITING, SOMEONE IS GOING TO GET HIT BY A CAR.</p> <p>CLEAN UP THE FRONT WINDOW IN THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING THAT CAN BE SEEN FROM THE STREET - IT SHOULD BE A GOOD LOOKING DISPLAY FOR PEOPLE TO LOOK AT WHILE DRIVING DOWN US 23, AND ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE STOPPED DUE TO THE TRAFFIC LIGHT.</p>
422.	Develop an industrial area with tax abetments and economic incentives. The downtown area needs to utilize a core organization,ie, Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Assoc. DDA to submit grant applications etc. These organizations should all come together if they haven't to this point. The stronger the restrictions for housing, business and industrial concerning zoning, site plans and development, will increase taxable value and provide the additional funds necessary to implement your future plans. We have the nucleus for a very upscale, dynamic, beautiful community.
423.	Stop wasting money maintain what you have
424.	<p>Improve Ratcliff Beach. It is very outdated for children. It needs to be maintained better. Sand is full of weeds. Cooperation in keeping lakes in best shape possible. Septic at point of sale needs to be address. Work better with organizations and associations that are helping to maintain the lakes and beaches. Some facilities are need to rinse off sand when leaving the main beach on Lake Huron. Blight and people not maintaining their properties need to be address. Township officials who address this needs to be available. Too many abandon houses that are deteriorating. Embrace the seasonal people. They want to send their monies in the area but not always welcomed. The merchants need to work together to help development a true walking downtown area. Some ordinance are out dated. Allow properties to have garages/pole barns without needing to be movable or requiring water, living facilities within it. More and better medical facilities. People do not move up permanently from seasonal status because emergencies require a run to Tawas or Alpena. The population increases during summer months and especially on weekends and there needs to be medical facilities available 24/7 during this time. Thanks for allow my input.</p>
425.	With the water quality in Oscoda being on the top of many peoples minds lately and the need to secure safe water to drink and available for recreation, it seems that we should not only look at WAFB pollution of wells, lakes and streams; but at what countless outdated septic systems are doing to wells, lakes and streams in Oscoda Township. This could potentially be a larger issue than the WAFB pollution.

	All septic systems should be checked on a rotating basis or at a MINIMUM, when a home or business changes hands, the septic system should be inspected and REQUIRED to be brought up to current code. Oscoda can and should take the lead in this critical state wide water quality issue!
426.	We need industry that will bring economy to our town and rebuild downtown so people have a reason to go downtown shopping and bring people to Oscoda.
427.	Bring in business. Not more dollar stores....bakeries, boutiques..more upscale stores. More Restaurants.....not bars...variety of foods... Good Italian, seafood etc...
428.	I think blight should be looked at. There are many trailer parks that were set up when the base was active and have not been kept up. Bad housing and low rent will just bring trouble. We have natural resources here that really are not really being used to the their fullest. Get the DNR to stock native fish and try to get them away from Salmon who eat our native fish. Also get the federal government to clean up the mess at the old air base. Until that is done nothing you do in this Township will matter.
429.	Need improvement in variety of restaurants and shopping facilities.
430.	Improve housing options, and encourage retail options.
431.	Treat weeds in Lake Van Ettan, improve well water quality, pave Colbath Rd.
432.	undo many useless regulations
433.	do something to control / reduce the weed problem in Van Etten lake.
434.	1. North end of Van Etten lake desperate for weed control, very bad. 2. Alexander Road off of F-41 needs to be fixed not patched, tear it up or put down a new road. 3. Trash containers/ collection needs to be mandatory for all residents, even seasonal. Trash is being dumped in public parks, hunting areas. 4. Water contamination from Wurtsmith Air Base, all homes need to be checked, water tested.
435.	Improve the members on the board. They do not support new people that move to the area. Just a bunch of "good ole boys"
436.	Install municipal water and sewers on Loud Drive. Our water well is contaminated from the base.
437.	Quality restaurants and progressive healthcare facilities and hospitals
438.	Bring in more activities like Traverse- upgrade sewer system down loud dr. No one on Van Ettan or Cedar should have septic- makes all connect to Sewer! Save the lakes!
439.	The downtown needs boutiques and restaurants that overlook Huron and maybe some along the inland lakes.
440.	New businesses to fill empty buildings and offer decent jobs for more residence.
441.	We need water & sewers to all of the township area. Being able to have & offer these utilities would be the fastest & most effective way to develop Oscoda in many ways. The contamination of the water within in our township is having adverse affects. We are a tourist destination. Our lakes & water ways is central. We must install municipal water & sewers to prevent the pfc's. and other contaminants from getting into our drinking water. Safety of all our citizens including safe drinking & cooking water should be addressed immediately. We are already hearing about our property values going down. This includes residential and commercial. To turn this around we need to work hard and upfront on bring these utilities to the community.
442.	Cut out Bike Night.
443.	Tear down any empty buildings in town. Need more businesses and restaurants, groceries store. Now I do most of my shopping in the Tawas area. Tear down blight structures in the area. Make the area more inviting for businesses and visitors. Advertise down state what the area has to offer, events, beaches, year round recreation, lakes, rivers. Some people do not know that Oscoda has a beach area. Improve traffic flow around town. Provide safe drinking water. Require all septic systems be up to code. Twp needs to work with the lake associations to improve the lakes. The twp owns property on Van Etten Lake but does little to help the VELA association with problems on the lake. Example the stumps flowing down from the Pine river. This is a safely hazard plus a law suit issue. Drugs, under age drinking and people climbing on the Van Etten dam. The Twp expect the association to take care of most of the problems while the twp gets all the benefits ( profits from boat launch fee, park rental). Van Etten Lake propety owners should not have to pay boat launch fees. The taxes they pay should be enough. Twp does not take enough interests in the waterways in the area. These waterways are why people come to the area. Twp needs to stop wasting tax payers money (pier, buying land for rv park). Twp should just improve the existing recreational areas. Get rid of Bob Stalker and try to get new board members. New people equal new ideas. Stop trying to be like East Tawas.
444.	Move the primary retail off of US23. Not many people enjoy shopping and dining with a major freeway running by.
445.	Downtown Oscoda needs to be redeveloped to become more of a destination for shopping and night life. Existing restaurants are okay but more is needed to draw visitors. Business spread out to the north are in a non walkable area and accessible only by car. This is a tough thing to accomplish but to drive more tourism the downtown core needs to be improved. Too many vacant store fronts.
446.	Eurasian milfoil is slowly ruining the southwest end of Lake Van Ettan.
447.	I'd like to see the drug problems taken care of and less welfare recipients living here. There is nothing for young people to do here and I think something should be done to help them. It's sad to see people drive right through Oscoda on their way to somewhere else. Why can't we be developed like Tawas?? WHO is holding back the development in this town and why are so many businesses leaving?? Too many empty stores. No one wants to come here and it makes me sad.
448.	Need resort on ausable or Huron, large new and year round. Redevelop downtown, the place looks deserted. Need campground walking distance to downtown. Get someone to sell full line lumber. YMCA camp on vanettan is vastly under used, help them get on track. Thanks
449.	Take better care and give better assistance to Van Etten Lake home owners!!
450.	Bike/Walking path from county line to downtown along F41. Improve township roads at West end of lake VanEtten, (Colbath Road) and not just Loud Drive. Unimproved roads set an image of select road care. Continue with Blight efforts.
451.	Clean up the blight. Create rule for moble home park and how there used. Try to get fundin so bussines can clean up there property. Establish codes.
452.	More small buz in the downtown area, even if it means financial support from the twp. If theres no downtown oscoda dies. We also need to make a bigger deal of the canoe marathon. Make it a festival, a big deal not just. ....and the racers are done, everyone can go home now. More also needs to be done to keep the Inland lakes weed free. Its getting more and more weedy. Ick!

453.	Open up more industry for people to find better jobs so the quality of life would go up
454.	reinforce the business community
455.	Roller skating rink...drive in theater...swimming pool
456.	Encourage development but maintain access to all the Natural attributes Oscoda Township offers and change only for the betterment of that access.
457.	Passes or free launch access for Van Etten lake front owners, at Ratliff beach
458.	Refer to above remarks. Pete and Sally Hervey
459.	Make the Township more exciting and inviting. Develop more upscale restaurants and shops.
460.	More consideration for residents that shoulder the burden of special assessments for public properties. More affordable grocery, clothing, and variety stores. There is nothing to 'buy local' anymore except gasoline from stations that flip flop pricing outrageously.
461.	Improvement and encouragement for businesses in our community.
462.	So sad to see the vacant store fronts. Also find that the Oscoda Press does not advertise the events around town very well. Didn't know that the LZ operation was going on until we heard it from our cottage even through I bought a paper that week. Just need more things going on to compete with Tawas.
463.	Availability of weekly recycling pickup.
464.	Fix the water issues on BOTH sides of Van Etten!!!!
465.	Repave Alexander road or turn it back to dirt it was better when it was dirt than it is now.. Don't let the water in Van Etten lake down so far cannot get a boat out to go hunting during duck season from my property on Van Etten lake. I own water front that turns into all mud and cannot use the waterfront during the duck season and the property was bought for duck hunting and fishing.
466.	More dining choices
467.	I think the people who live on lake Van Etten should not have to pay for the boat launch when they pay for the lake weed control. Give all property owners a special card to place in window.
468.	more winter activities, more fish planted in ponds (i.e. Foote pond, get a fishery) so the steelhead draws we had years ago remain,,,from the shore to the water, more advertisements where we are at, if you mention Oscoda people are like where? make sure the local tv news people acknowledge us....we have the natural facilities, time to make them work
469.	Get rid of blight in the downtown area.
470.	Development of job opportunities for residents in the community. Oscoda needs more retail stores for groceries, and clothing.
471.	Beach front Hotel
472.	Business development! More attractions, restaurants, and better shopping! Fix up the old buildings before building new ones! Give people a reason to want to come to Oscoda! There is very little entertainment in Oscoda! We need more! I do not like Family Fare Grocery Store! It is not clean and their fruit and vegetables are not fresh! Their prices are too high! Would like to see a Neiman's Grocery Store in Oscoda! I bring most of my food from down below because it is much cheaper to buy it their. If I need to shop in Oscoda in the summer, I go to Tawas for my meat and groceries. I buy very few groceries in Oscoda! I would like to see fewer boaters visiting our lake, Van Etten! They are putting their boats in and bringing Zebra Mussels and weeds into our lake! We need to continue the funding on a yearly basis to remove the weeds out of our lake and NOT stop our weed treatment! If our lakes are too weedy, property values will go down and the township will not have sufficient revenue from tax dollars due to lower lakefront assessments! No one wants a home on a weedy lake that you can not swim, fish, or boat on without getting caught in weed beds! Boating fisherman will extend one of their legs onto my 70 foot dock in order to cast underneath when fishing! I am tired of my boat and dock being hit and this is also a safety issue! This needs to stop!
473.	I would like the township board to be more supportive of weed control and watershed pollution interventions in Van Etten Lake and work much more closely with VELA. We should not have to go back to square one any time our SAD for weed control needs to be re-established. VELA has a large membership and represents homeowners and cottagers on Van Etten very well. The township board needs to have higher regard for VELA.  The township board needs to establish a citizens' advisory board immediately to see that homes affected by ground water pollution from the former air base get hooked up to municipal water immediately, paid for by the federal government. The township board and citizens' advisory board need to work together to hold the federal government responsible to provide remediation efforts to reduce and eliminate the groundwater pollution before it impacts our people and environment in additional ways. We are very willing and able to support the township board in these critical endeavors.  I have reason to believe that some of the downtown buildings are assessed way too high. It will be very difficult to sell or improve downtown buildings if they are assessed for more than they are worth. Our assessment department is not particularly responsive to our citizens with concerns. I know personally that Boards of Review trust our assessor more than our citizens, even when the Board of Review's decisions have been overturned by the Michigan Tax Tribunal. I have had that experience three times.  I appreciate the opportunity to reply to this survey very much. In the past it has seemed to me that the township board invites a crisis mode mentality, rather than working with citizens to anticipate needs before they become critical.
474.	Improve economy and preserve natural beauty.
475.	reduce taxes, new faces in government
476.	Do whatever possible to enhance the area as a tourist hot spot.Purchase more park areas, build township owned marinas.Make Oscoda more like East Tawas
477.	Clean up pfc/pfos and contamination from Wurtsmith and provide municipal water to all affected property owners as soon as possible.
478.	Cater to the seasonal clientele, that's where the money is. Take a few lessons from Tawas instead of being stagnant with the same old way of thinking. Oscoda needs new blood in the supervisor's office to generate new ideas and cash flow. Quit trying to screw the part-time residents and strengthen the blight concerns to improve the look of this great tourist area.

479.	Revitalizing the downtown area, it is sad to see so many vacant buildings. More opportunities for entertainment.
480.	Downtown
481.	Reduce taxes ,get rid of the blight clean up the base. Its a bad mark on the area, test all of the wells make air force pay for it every body should be able to get there well tested.
482.	Revitalize the downtown area. Tired of seeing close up businesses. Why is the Tawas area so much better looking?
483.	Sewers for all riparian sites on the lakes, rivers, and streams. Safe drinking water.
484.	Downtown is unappealing, needs to be revitalized using the river and lake as attractions, attract retailers, hoteliers and tourists, create river walk and make the businesses destinations
485.	Clean up down town
486.	get people to update their septic systems - I bet there are lots of old ones especially at older cabins that have been here a long time - people should upgrade their places  take care of old trailers and trailer parks by making land owners stick to some code so they don't get all run down and attract animals - looks bad too - especially when people come up here to enjoy the up north and see that mess!  bring in new business to fill in the empty buildings - need new blood to re-vitalize the community
487.	winter sports complex involving the community center.
488.	year round community center
489.	Pressure the government for a good plan on clearing up the groundwater contamination. More affordable property taxes based on an appraised value, current market conditions, and not some fictious number the assessor's office pulls out of their hat. Township is at times difficult to get answers from. Publicize information on elected officials. More of an open door policy with officials.
490.	We need to change rules to allow temporarily allow canvas shelters . Many of us use these to protect our boats and vehicles during the summer months. The shelters allow us to keep them handy for use but provide shelter from the trees that rain down a variety of sap and pollen. These are not buildings and building codes should not apply.
491.	Sprucing up some of the trailer park areas that we see.
492.	Keep Van Ettan Lake clean and plant more fish.
493.	Enhancing areas on Ausable river (walking trail from river road park to downtown), support and dev. of Bike path, growth incentives for new and existing businesses. More detailed landscape maintenance of Downtown beach (weeds and poison ivy in general areas), encourage food truck use at downtown beach along with water sports rentals. Develop Furtaw Field for it's intended use of education and fitness opportunities including a well paved track for those unable to walk on streets or sidewalks including well marked parking around park (remove posts around field-maintenance is time consuming). Education regarding history of Paul Bunyan and logging industry in Oscoda.
494.	stronger downtown commercial district, more options for tourists with children
495.	Improve downtown area to make it more touristy. (think Traverse City or Tawas. Garbage pick up would help cut down on dumping in the woods
496.	When visiting other areas where water is a major attraction, they always have a variety of hospitality services (restaurants, cafes, bars) with views of the water. I know of only the Au Sable Inn with this nicety, and because it faces west it's usually too hot and blindingly bright to be enjoyable.
497.	Reduce taxes and lower the assessments on lake properties. Assessments for the lake properties for the most part are ridiculous. From the day I bought a lake property I would gladly sell it the township for what you say it's worth!. Increase the Police presence around the lake properties. Not enough patrols along Loud Dr. the speed limit is 35 mph but I have routinely been passed on this street. Lots and Lots of foot traffic on this road especially Kids and Seniors. I'm suprized no one has been hit yet.
498.	Three Mile Park used to be beautiful until the weeds, including invasive and poison ivy took over, etc There is a beautiful sandy beach underneath all that mess. Let us get our beach back.  There is a lot of land on the base that could be used to build something that would draw people to this area. Maybe, a discount shopping area, a big store like a hone depot, etc. a Casino?  The downtown area will never be a draw for visitors. Too many things like a bank, title company, etc. People like to shop and walk around. Our beach in town is a draw for visitors, but off the beaten path (US-2
499.	Assessments for Lake properties reduced.
500.	We do need more retail so that we don't have to go to Tawas or Hale, Harrisville, etc. People in our community need more year round employment and access to the things every family needs. If that can thrive, then more families will be able to call Oscoda Township their home. More community activities and centers year round as well as College education centers.
501.	Being a part time resident I believe the twp should focus more on providing services to it's residents and less on finding new ways to raise money. This seems to be more prevalent in Oscoda twp than in other twp I have lived in.
502.	I think Oscoda should try to copy some of what Tawas has going on as far as activities, retail, etc.
503.	More developed downtown, better access too the downtown. When events happen people are all over the town we need more events to draw people in. Better communication within the township.
504.	get businesses here... get people to move here... develop the shoreline to get more tourist industry... bed and breakfasts in town... beautiful beach, no one knows about it...
505.	Install Lantern/lights on bridge coming into town as most downstate cities with any kind of bridge /overpass have (Huge asset). Make US23 North and South traffic in town as denoted above, restore downtown parking on US23 and build a restricted R/V park just North of existing city park. Make better use of Lake Huron and bridge assets. You need to better utilize Lake Huron assets by moving town closer to it (North /South 23 with business development between).Presently, everyone wants to go to Tawas as they can walk the Town, go to the beach,,RV park, see boats etc. Presently. family and grand children always want to go to Tawas never Oscoda as they can walk the town. Van Etten lake is terrible, kids won't GET IN. Blight controls not good . Often many people receive warnings with minor infractions while others very close look like junk yards i.e., piles tires and just junk .that continue. IN some ways restrictions are appalling e.g., shed

	materials must match house materials. I live downstate in a multi million dollar neighborhood and we do not have crazy restrictions like that. Sheds are allowed with few restrictions on materials. They concentrate on the junk aspect. I realize you need regulations but that article in the paper this past year regarding a shed not matching the materials of the house was over regulation. Concentrate on the actual junk, and apply to everyone. Don't pick and choose as it seems your presently doing. In a vacation neighborhood everyone has boats, motors, firewood etc., in their yard. However, stacks of old tires and just plain junk, should not be allowed.
506.	some type of recreation place for all ages and also a good home town restaurant, like the old Pack House used to be
507.	Again--bike/hike trail on Cedar Lake Road.
508.	Move the skate park and basketball courts to the sports complex on the base. Keep all that stuff together so our youth have a place to go and do multiple activities. Add tennis courts and a snack bar. Many families with smaller children do not go to the beach park because of the "teen scene hangout" (language, cars circling the parking lot, smoking, skimpy attire). They interfere with concerts on the beach and misuse the band shell when it's not populated for functions. Have shops and small businesses leading down to the beach bring foot traffic to the waterfront.
509.	Progressive planners that highlight the natural beauty and active lifestyles many families look for. Promote active events, (5K run/ walk, biking events, more river activities) to encourage Oscoda as a destination. Keep public parks clean and free of graffiti.
510.	What I would like to see is a bike trail from Oscoda down Cedar Lake road to Kings Corner Road. The speed limit is 55 along most of it and it is unsafe to ride your bike along there.
511.	First, bring back walking passes for Community Center. I was on original "Cool Cities" committee-Hyatt/Palmer said then "Take care of you own residents first" do not feel our leaders have that idea! Who said the Community Center should make money? It is supposed to be here for us at the lowest cost possible- we are a low income area! Where are the "Cool City" signs? Forgot to put the back on road after US-23 development! Worked pretty hard to get there- why not important now? Improve attitudes of Township officials toward residents. After all, who works for who? Being on "Cool Cities" committee, we did a lot of work getting opinions at interviews, meetings, surveys. etc. as if our own opinions matter. Don't feel that there has been much "follow through." Also on committee for find location for Township offices back in the day. Final recommendation was building on base-guess what! Now a new Addition! Not enough parking for current building use! Use Warrior Pavilion more! Develop what we have!
512.	We need to bring new businesses into the vacant buildings in our downtown area.
513.	Senior Citizens
514.	Boost population, both permanent residents and tourism- Need a Meijers or similar draw for shoppers- Maybe a casino on old base.
515.	1. Attack the blight- demolish the decayed places that are beyond repair ("addition by subtraction!") 2. Revitalize downtown (The 2010 State Street project certainly helped)
516.	the township should have more development in regards to Alpena Community College North Shores Campus. Tremendous potential for community culture development. Re-open Pack House ASAP. Provide incentive if needed- what is their problem? Redo and open Charboreau's (Au Sable) in cooperation with Au Sable Township. Add Industrial park, assuming Master Plan indicates such. If now, please provide. Blue Bus schedule unknown. Information needed to be forthcoming for public- accountability & utilization, effectiveness and efficiency. Routing A: need announcement recommended & budget revealed to public, when and where are stops? For aesthetics: one's view stops at one's property line. So consider feasibility of uniting with Au Sable Township. Blight of these 2 entities converge. Consider more cooperative and or unification of greater blight elimination.
517.	Improve parking on Lake Huron Beach in town. Remove building that are so bad that they can not be used- cornered River Road and US 23. Improve roads and residential areas.
518.	Fill up the empty buildings.
519.	Expand seasonal RV park. Clean up blight- enforce the laws. Get rid of 40 plus year old run down trailers.
520.	Build a harbor. Tear down empty buildings. Boaters and fishing have funded development of many port towns in Michigan and will too in Oscoda.
521.	Build a harbor. It would bring more tourists and businesses to Oscoda. We are sitting on the largest river this side of the state (excluding Detroit River). Capitalize on that fact!
522.	Some interesting retail stores in the downtown area to get tourists to come to visit, shop and eat! I would like to see people walking around downtown.
523.	We really need more doctors and medical care available so you don't wait for appointments 'til it's too late.
524.	More restaurants like Applebees, Olive Garden, etc.. Well Known.
525.	Something new and different.
526.	A government more responsive to the citizens.
527.	No low income housing, do something with the empty store fronts- the window signs in the old ACE building windows are a good example.
528.	All that I marked, code enforcer do a better job on uncut weeds, grass trashcans, etc. Give more responsibility to our supervisor, raise his pay and get rid of the high cost of a manager (stalker).
529.	If Oscoda does try to improve the downtown area, they MUST have parking and MUST HAVE something that will draw people. A new farmers market if just a waste of money, the one in AuSable is established and easier to get to. Don't try to improve it, just maintain it.
530.	I am 52 and plan to retire soon. I do not think I want to keep our family's cottage, but want to always come to Oscoda and stay for the summer. An RV park by the city beach would be ideal for me and my family. It would be a way to enjoy (and spend money in) Oscoda without the upkeep of another home. I'm sure I speak for many other retirees.
531.	Develop the area with big business and casinos.

## Appendix D

### Potential Funding Sources

## Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

- Match requirement – minimum of 25%
- Development grants
  - Minimum Grant Request \$15,000
  - Maximum Grant Request \$300,000
- Acquisition grants
  - No minimum or maximum
- Goals of MNRTF Board
  - Resource Protection – very important
  - Water Access
  - Community Recreation
  - Urban Recreation
  - Economic Development
- Due annually on April 1
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

## Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- Administered by MNRTF
- 50% match required
- Minimum grant request \$30,000 (\$60,000 project total)
- Maximum grant request \$100,000 (\$200,000 project total)
- Funds a wide variety of outdoor recreation projects
- Applications due annually on April 1
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

## Michigan Recreation Passport Grant

- Administered by MNRTF
- Minimum 25% match
- Focus is on improving and renovating existing parks
- Minimum Grant Request - \$7,500, Maximum \$45,000
- Applications due on April 1
- For outdoor *and indoor* recreation projects
- [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

## Michigan Department of Transportation - Transportation Alternatives Program

- For non-motorized transportation (paths) and rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (bridges, railroad depot, etc.)
- 20% minimum match required, 40% recommended
- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, and villages. Other organizations may *sponsor* applications (i.e. County Road Commission or local MDOT office sponsors a township application)
- Rolling on-line application process
- [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot) Go to “Projects and Programs”.

## Great Lakes Fisheries Trust (GLFT)

- Objective – improve or create shore-based Great Lakes recreational access.
- Must be located on the Great lakes or lower portions of major tributaries
- Matching funds not required but projects with local funding will be favored.
- Due in August/September
- [www.glft.org](http://www.glft.org)

## Michigan Coastal Management Grants

### Objectives

- Protect, manage and restore coastal communities and habitats
- Restore historic structures
- Revitalize urban waterfronts
- Increase recreational opportunities along Michigan's Great Lakes coast
- Applicant must be a coastal unit of government
- Maximum grant request - \$50,000
- Match requirements – 50% (some flexibility in match for non-construction projects that result in changes to local master plans or zoning ordinances, regional greenways, or include conservation planning)
- Eligible projects
  - Studies, Designs and Land Use Plans – must have a direct connection to coastal planning and/or resource protection.
  - Construction – boardwalks, trails, lighthouse preservation, habitat restoration, scenic overlook, etc.
- Due annually on May 1
- [www.michigan.gov/deqcoastal](http://www.michigan.gov/deqcoastal)

## Other grant programs to consider:

### Coastal Program – Great Lakes – US Fish and Wildlife Service

- Grants to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats and to support healthy coastal ecosystems
- Rolling application process
- [www.fws.gov/coastal/coastalgrants/index.html](http://www.fws.gov/coastal/coastalgrants/index.html)

### Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network

- For projects that improve the watershed and help build sustainable communities
- Good for use as seed and match money
- Have helped fund canoe launches, trails, and other park projects
- Applications taken on a rolling basis, awarded semi-annually
- See [www.saginawbaywin.org/grants/](http://www.saginawbaywin.org/grants/) for more info

### Specific sports and sports foundations

- United States Tennis Association (USTA)
  - funding for tennis courts and programs
  - [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com)
- Major League Baseball
  - Baseball Tomorrow Fund
  - [www.baseballtomorrow.com](http://www.baseballtomorrow.com)
- United States Soccer
  - [www.ussoccerfoundation.org](http://www.ussoccerfoundation.org)

### Safe Routes to School

- For projects near elementary and middle schools:
  - Sidewalks
  - Traffic calming and speed reduction
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements
  - On-street and off-street bicycle facilities
  - Off-street pedestrian facilities
  - Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools
- Need to complete the safe routes planning process to apply
- [www.saferoutesmichigan.org](http://www.saferoutesmichigan.org)

### *Trust for Public Land (TPL)*

- Conservation Transactions  
TPL helps structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks, playgrounds, and protected natural areas. TPL serves as an independent agent, buying land from willing landowners and then transferring it to public agencies, land trusts, or other groups for protection. In some instances, TPL will protect land through conservation easements, which restrict development but permit traditional uses such as farming and ranching.
- [www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

### Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants

- Must be part of a watershed management plan
- Projects aimed at reducing nonpoint source pollution (streambank and shoreline stabilization, rain gardens, erosion control, conservation easements)
- 25% match required
- [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq) - Go to "Water", then "Surface Water" and then to "Non-point Source Pollution".

## Community Foundations

### Private Foundations and Endowments

#### KEEP IN MIND...

- Match requirements can usually be in-kind services, donations, or cash,
- Most grants are provided on a reimbursable basis.
- Barrier free accessibility is usually required for improvement projects,
- Multiple partners, multiple jurisdictions can be viewed favorably – think “regional” projects.

Appendix E  
Adoption Information



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

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

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

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than March 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

### PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:

Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017-2021

List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.

County

Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body

Oscoda Charter Township

Iosco County

February 2017

### PLAN CONTENT

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.

**1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION**

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)

Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart

Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming

Current Funding Sources

Role of Volunteers

Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

**Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:**

Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities

Articles of Incorporation

**3. RECREATION INVENTORY**

Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)

Accessibility Assessment

Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

Waterways Inventory (if applicable)

**4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)**

**5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS**

**6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

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

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

Date of the Notice January 13, 2017

Type of Notice Public posting at Township Hall

Plan Location Library, Township Hall, online

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 31

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

Date of Notice February 1, 2017

Name of Newspaper Oscoda Press

Date of Meeting February 13, 2017

Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

**7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**8. ACTION PROGRAM**

**9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S)**

**PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION**

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

1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: February 13, 2017

2. Official resolution of the \_\_\_\_\_ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: February 20, 2017

4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: February 20, 2017

**OVERALL CERTIFICATION**

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

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

Charter Township of Oscoda

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated



Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

2-21-17

Date

**This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.**

**Notice of Public Hearing and Review Opportunity**  
**Charter Township of Oscoda**  
**Draft of Recreation Master Plan**

Oscoda Charter Township has developed a draft Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan is based on the *Guidelines for Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans* as published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. It evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, sets goals and objectives, and proposes a five-year action plan for the Township. Copies of the draft Recreation Master Plan are available for review until February 13, 2017, at the following locations:

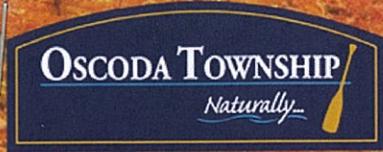
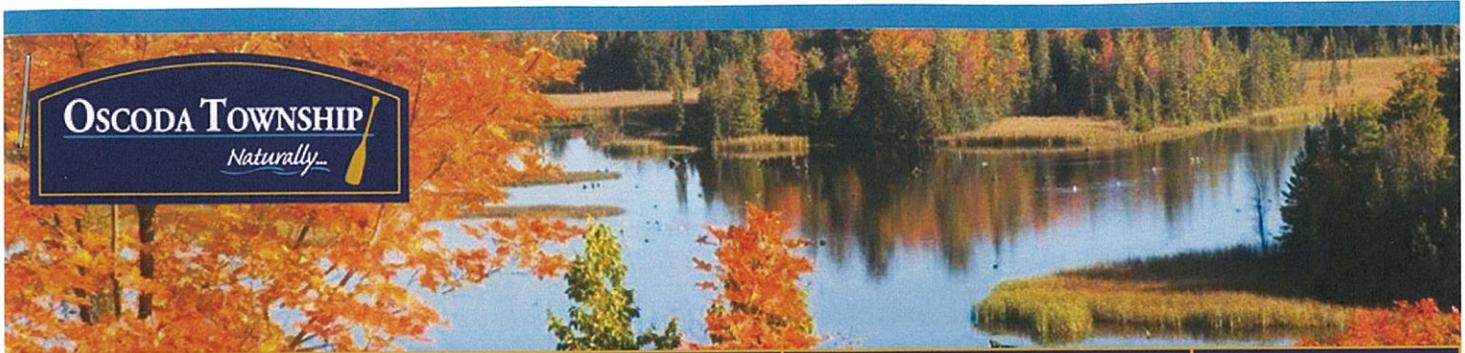
- Robert J. Parks Library, 6010 N Skeel Avenue, Oscoda, MI, 48750
- Oscoda Township Hall, 110 S. State Street, Oscoda, MI 48750
- Online at [www.oscodatownshipmi.gov](http://www.oscodatownshipmi.gov)

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the plan, please send written comments to the Township Clerk at 110 S. State Street, Oscoda, MI 48750 or via email to [clerk@OscodaTownshipMI.gov](mailto:clerk@OscodaTownshipMI.gov). Comments must be submitted by February 13, 2017. For more information, please contact: John Nordeen, Clerk, (989) 739-4971, [clerk@OscodaTownshipMi.gov](mailto:clerk@OscodaTownshipMi.gov), 110 S. State Street, Oscoda, MI, 48750.

A public meeting to take input on the draft plan will be held February 13, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Robert J. Parks Library, 6010 N Skeel Avenue, Oscoda, MI, 48750. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services who are planning to attend the meeting should notify the Township at (989) 739-4971 at least two days in advance of the meeting.

John Nordeen  
Township Clerk

January 13, 2017



<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">Parks &amp; Recreation</a>	<a href="#">Community Services</a>	<a href="#">Government Departments</a>	<a href="#">Doing Business</a>
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- [News & Updates](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

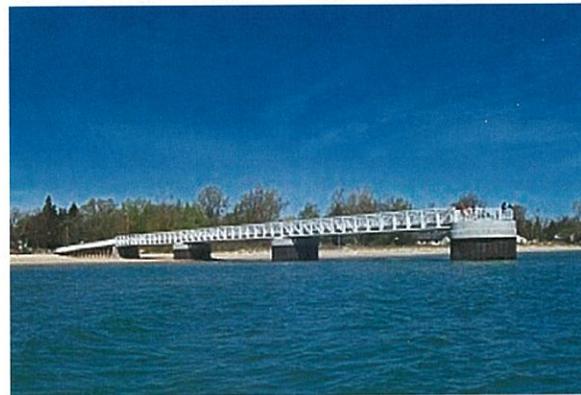
[Printer Friendly](#) [Bookmark & Share](#)

## Oscoda Township, Naturally

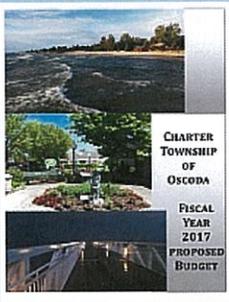
### Oscoda Township Draft Recreation Master Plan

Oscoda Township has developed a draft Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan!

The plan is based on the Guidelines for Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans as published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Hard copies are available for review at the Robert J. Parks Library and Oscoda Township Hall. [Click HERE](#) to view now!



### FY 2017 Proposed Budget



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSCODA FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET**

### Winter Newsletter



### Sign Up for Enews

Subscribe to our mailing list

[Subscribe](#)

### Quick Links

[Fiscal Year 2014 Township Audit](#)

[Freedom of Information Act Request Forms](#)

### Welcome to a Place Where the Opportunities for Recreation and Relaxation Naturally Abound

Set peacefully along the shores of beautiful Lake Huron and the mighty AuSable River, Oscoda offers more than 120 square miles of pure Michigan.

From canoeing to sunbathing, the natural destinations of our community provide activities for water enthusiasts of all varieties. For visitors whose interests are more land-oriented, Oscoda's downtown district includes an assortment of eclectic shopping and renown restaurants. And lovers of history and the outdoors alike know Oscoda as the home of the famous [Lumberman's Monument](#) located in the Lake Huron National Forest.

Oscoda's natural resources have always played an important role in the community, even as local industry has changed over the years. The area was first settled in the late 1860s. Originally named, AuSable, the town was renamed based on the writings of Henry Schoolcraft, who named it after the American Indian words "Ossim" and "Muscodia," meaning "Pebbly Prairie." Oscoda played a major role in the distribution of lumber on the Great Lakes during the lumbering era. Today, our primary industry is tourism thanks to the abundance of year-round [recreational activities](#) available to residents and visitors, such as [camping](#), fishing, hunting, cross country skiing, [snowmobiling](#) and more.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the beauty, the amenities and the fun of Oscoda Township. We welcome you to enjoy all our community has to offer...naturally.

health and wellness coach, nutritionist, RYT200 yoga instructor, reiki master and reflexologist, she says she is looking forward

or by emailing [info@healthquest4you.com](mailto:info@healthquest4you.com).

## **Notice of Public Hearing and Review Opportunity Charter Township of Oscoda Draft of Recreation Master Plan**

Oscoda Charter Township has developed a draft Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan is based on the *Guidelines for Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans* as published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. It evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, sets goals and objectives, and proposes a five-year action plan for the Township. Copies of the draft Recreation Master Plan are available for review until February 13, 2017, at the following locations:

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- Online at [www.oscodatownshipmi.gov](http://www.oscodatownshipmi.gov)

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John Nordeen  
Township Clerk

# Notice of Public Hearing and Review Opportunity Charter Township of Oscoda Draft of Recreation Master Plan

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John Nordeen  
Township Clerk

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110 S. State Street, Oscoda, MI, 48750

# Charter Township of Oscoda Regular Board Meeting Minutes

**February 13, 2017**

**Call to Order** – Mr. Weed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at 6010 N Skeel Avenue, Oscoda MI 48750.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – All said the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call** – Present: Mr. Baier, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Gayeski, Ms. McGuire, Mr. Nordeen, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Weed.  
Absent: None

**Agenda Additions** – Consent Agenda: Approval of Minutes 2. Closed Session Meeting Minutes January 23, 2017; Other: 4. Strategic Planning Work Session 5. RAB Update

**Enter Public Hearing for Draft Recreation Master Plan (2017-2021)** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Weed to enter the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Public Comment** – Arnold Leriche re: Birding, the Audubon Society, and the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail

**Exit Public Hearing for Draft Recreation Master Plan (2017-2021)** – Mr. Palmer supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to exit the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Public Comment** – Daniel Wimmer re: Furtaw Field property use request; Steve Droope re: Oscoda Zoning Board of Appeals and code enforcement

**Consent Agenda** – Approval of Minutes, Finance in the amount of \$408,470.78, and Reports. Mr. Palmer supported a motion by Mr. Baier to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Sub Committee Reports** – Public Property Use Committee meeting postponed at Mr. Weed's request, based on his need for further research. Road and Sidewalk Advisory Committee's next big project appears to be Alexander Road pending some extenuating circumstances. The first Community Center Advisory Group/Millage Committee was cancelled due to two members being unable to attend.

February 13, 2017

## **Superintendent's Report**

**Refuse Disposal Contract Agreement** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Palmer to have the Township Supervisor and Clerk execute the contract with Waste Management with the understanding that the signature page will be modified to reflect the new officeholders. .

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Gayeski asked if the Township would still be owed a credit after signing the contract. Mr. Stalker indicated that he believed that to be the case. Mr. Palmer voiced his support for signing the contract. Mr. Nordeen inquired about the potential for continued misunderstanding in the relationship.

**Bed-Mounted Salt Spreader Purchase** – Mr. Baier supported a motion by Mr. Gayeski to purchase an eight-foot Western Striker salt spreader from Hyde Services, LLC of Petoskey in the amount of \$4,770.50, including installation, with the understanding that said equipment will also handle the spreading of sand.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Baier inquired about the geographic location of all the bidders as well as the logistics of installation and delivery. Mr. Gayeski asked whether or not the equipment could spread sand in addition to salt.

**Fire Department Tanker Truck Disposal** – Mr. Baier supported a motion by Mr. Cummings to accept the request for authorization and to give permission set the minimum bid amount at \$5,000.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Palmer indicated that he thought the proposed price range of \$6,000 to \$8,000 was fairly low relative to comparable trucks. Mr. Weed cited some maintenance issues with the truck and recommended a \$5,000 minimum bid. Mr. Baier suggested that the local newspaper might run a story about the old and new Tanker Trucks.

**Public Property Use Committee Composition** – Mr. Weed supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to continue to have the Township Clerk serve on the committee, that currently being Mr. Nordeen.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Furtaw Field Property Use Request** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to consider the proposed differences in liability insurances and to authorize the concept and direct Mr. Stalker to finalize the details with the requestors before bringing a final agreement back to the Board.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Weed voiced concerns regarding the timeframe of the event running until 2 a.m. as well as insurance amount obscurities. Ms. McGuire questioned the impact of possible insurance requirement changes on the insurance premiums. Mr. Palmer expressed his interest in the opportunity for Furtaw Field to be used more frequently. Mr. Palmer also raised the suggestion of the Township adding a rider to its insurance regarding such situations. Ms. McGuire voiced her support for this specific event. Mr. Cummings questioned whether any precedent existed in addition to his interest in Furtaw Field being utilized more.

## **Community Development Coordinator's Report**

**6121 Perimeter Road/Preliminary Offer to Lease** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to accept the terms as presented and to have the Township's attorney draft the necessary documents.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Gayeski asked whether or not the building would still be marketed for sale during the lease. Ms. Richards indicated that it would not. Mr. Baier asked if the whole building would be used. The answer was yes. Mr. Gayeski inquired about the company's long-term interest in the building and was answered with possible long-term interest. Mr. Weed asked about the number of potential employees. With the answer being that the projection is 52 job positions.

**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant #TF15-0144/Property Acquisition** – No action required.

Mr. Baier asked for clarification on the amount of Township funds used to purchase the property as well as the property size and dimensions.

## **Resolutions and Ordinances**

**Resolution No. 2017-03 RE: Adoption of Recreation Master Plan (2017-2021)** – Mr. Gayeski supported a motion by Mr. Weed to Approve Resolution No. 2017-03 with making the changes pointed out by Mr. Bean.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Resolution No. 2017-04 RE: Authorization for the Signing of Conveyance Documents Concerning the Purchase of Property** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Baier to approve Resolution No 2017-04.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Ordinance No. 2017-259 RE: Restricting Hunting and Erection of Deer Blinds (Introduction and Publication Authorization)** – Mr. Palmer supported a motion by Mr. Gayeski to approve Ordinance No. 2017-259.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Gayeski questioned the penalties relating to the ordinance. Mr. Stalker indicated that further research and consideration would be given that matter in the future.

### **Other**

**Board of Review Alternate Appointment Consideration** – Mr. Cummings supported a motion by Mr. Palmer to accept Cathy Wusterbarth as the alternate to the Board of Review.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Rezoning Request and Recommendation (Parcel #066-028-300-006-00)** – No action required.

**Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments (Sections 6.2.4 and 6.2.1(3))** – No action required.

Ms. McGuire raised the question about what would happen to any current structures that may potentially violate the amendments to the ordinance.

**Strategic Planning Work Session** – Mr. Weed supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to schedule the next Strategic Planning Work Session on February 24, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the Robert J. Park Library.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Update** – No action required.

Mr. Cummings notified the board that the Restoration Advisory Board selection committee is moving forward. Mr. Cummings also noted that the Robert J. Parks Library has been reestablished as the repository for the documents regarding the Restoration Advisory Board.

**Public Comment** – Steve Droope re: Rezoning Request and Recommendation; Arnold Leriche re: Restoration Advisory Board and document repository; Robert Taisor re: Rezoning Request and Recommendation; Daniel Wimmer re: Furtaw Field property use request

**Board and Staff Comments** – Ms. McGuire re: Winter Taxes due; Mr. Gayeski re: Fire Department Tanker Truck; Mr. Baier re: F-41 and Skeel Avenue street lights; Mr. Weed re: Oscoda Township's status as a zone community

**Enter Closed Session** – Mr. Palmer supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to enter into closed session at 8:44 p.m. to consider a privileged and confidential attorney-client communication.

ALL YEAS

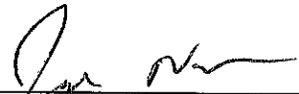
MOTION CARRIED

**Exit Closed Session** – Mr. Palmer supported a motion by Ms. McGuire to exit closed session at 9:32 p.m.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

**Adjourn** – Ms. McGuire made a motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.



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John Nordeen  
Township Clerk

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Aaron Weed  
Township Supervisor

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSCODA  
RESOLUTION REGARDING:  
Charter Township of Oscoda Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
2017-03**

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**Whereas**, the Charter Township of Oscoda has developed 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 five-year period that begins in 2017 and ends on December 31, 2021; and

**Whereas**, the plan has been developed in accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requirements for a Community Recreation Plan; and

**Whereas**, an online input survey was made available to the public from June 2 to July 24, 2016, to provide an opportunity for citizens to share ideas and express opinions regarding the future of parks and recreation in Oscoda; and

**Whereas**, the draft Recreation Master Plan was made available for review and public comment from January 13 to February 13, 2017, at the Robert J. Parks Library and online at [www.oscodatownshipmi.gov](http://www.oscodatownshipmi.gov); and

**Whereas**, a public meeting with the Board of Trustees was held on February 13, 2017, 7:00 pm, at the Robert J. Parks Library located at 6010 N Skeel Avenue in Oscoda to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and

**Whereas**, the Charter Township of Oscoda has developed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the benefit of the entire community and wishes to use the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community;

**Now, therefore be it resolved** on this day that the Charter Township of Oscoda Board of Trustees hereby adopts said Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guideline for recreation improvements for the Charter Township of Oscoda.

MOVED BY: Mr. Gayeski SUPPORTED BY: Mr. Palmer

YEAS: Mr. Baier, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Gayeski, Ms. McGuire, Mr. Nordeen, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Weed

NAYS: None

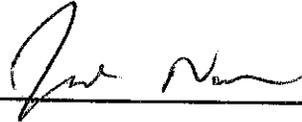
ABSENT: None

Adopted this 13th day of February, 2017.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Charter Township of Oscoda at a meeting held February 13, 2017, the original of which is on file in my office and available to the public. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1976, including in the case of a special or rescheduled meeting, notice by posting at least eighteen (18) hours prior to the time set for said meeting.

Dated: February 13, 2017



John Nordeen, Deputy Clerk

February 20, 2017

Iosco County Planning Commission  
422 W. Lake St.  
P.O. Box 538  
Tawas City, MI 48764

RE: Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017-2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find enclosed a copy of the recently adopted five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Oscoda Charter Township.

If you have any questions regarding the plan feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,



**Alan Bean, AICP**  
Project Planner II

**SPICER GROUP, INC**  
230 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 921-5522  
Fax: (989) 754-4440  
alanb@spicergroup.com

February 20, 2017

East Michigan Council of Governments  
3144 Davenport Ave.  
Suite 200  
Saginaw, MI 48602

RE: Oscoda Charter Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2017-2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find enclosed a copy of the recently adopted five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan for Oscoda Charter Township.

If you have any questions regarding the plan feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Bean".

**Alan Bean, AICP**  
Project Planner II

**SPICER GROUP, INC**  
230 S. Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 921-5522  
Fax: (989) 754-4440  
alanb@spicergroup.com

Appendix F  
Past Grant History



## Grant History

**Grantee**

**Oscoda Charter Township - Iosco County**

**Project No. 26-00381** **Project County: Iosco** **Project Year: 1972**  
**Project Title:** Oscoda Park (Billy McQuaid Park - Au Sable Township)  
**Project Status:** Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** \$31,175.00  
**Project Description:** 2 ball diamonds, 1 toilet/concession building, water system, electrical system and parking. TRANSFERRED TO AU SABLE TOWNSHIP IN 2012

**Project No. 26-00798** **Project County: Iosco** **Project Year: 1975**  
**Project Title:** Billy McQuaig Park (Au Sable Township)  
**Project Status:** Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** \$22,170.64  
**Project Description:** 3 tennis/basketball courts and LWCF sign--TRANSFERRED TO AUSABLE TOWNSHIP IN 2012

**Project No. 26-01538** **Project County: Iosco** **Project Year: 1993**  
**Project Title:** Beach Playground Expansion  
**Project Status:** Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** \$15,519.14

**Scope Item:**

- 2-Way Spring Saw
- 2-Way Spring Saw
- 4-Way Spring Saw
- 4-Way Spring Saw
- Climber Assembly
- Large Climber
- Large Play Structure
- Site Preparation
- Spring Saw Assembly
- Structure Assembly

**Project Description:** Purchase and installation of 4 to 6 pieces of children's playground equipment to significantly improve and expand the Oscoda Beach Park facility.

**Project No. TF93-144** **Project County: Iosco** **Project Year: 1993**  
**Project Title:** Riverbank Park  
**Project Status:** Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** \$300,000.00  
**Project Description:** Acquisition of a 6.8-acre parcel of land located on the AuSable River which will be developed to provide water based recreation. Parcel includes 1,650 feet of water frontage.

**Project No. TF94-162** **Project County: Iosco** **Project Year: 1994**  
**Project Title:** Oscoda Beach Park Expansion  
**Project Status:** Grant Closed **Grant Amount:** \$29,300.00  
**Project Description:** Proposed acquisition includes two vacant parcels, 66 feet wide by 148 feet long each, adjoining the west side of the beach park and having 1,000 feet of frontage on Lake Huron.



## Grant History

**Grantee**

**Oscoda Charter Township - Iosco County**

<b>Project No.</b> TF95-219	<b>Project County:</b> Iosco	<b>Project Year:</b> 1995
<b>Project Title:</b> Oscoda Huron Sunrise Park		
<b>Project Status:</b> Grant Closed		<b>Grant Amount:</b> \$750,000.00

**Project Description:** Acquisition of approximately 25 acres of land three miles north of downtown Oscoda, including 2,688 feet of Lake Huron shoreline for municipal park development.

<b>Project No.</b> CM99-130	<b>Project County:</b> Iosco	<b>Project Year:</b> 1999
<b>Project Title:</b> Old Orchard Park Bathhouse		
<b>Project Status:</b> Grant Closed		<b>Grant Amount:</b> \$99,000.00

**Scope Item:**

- Access Road/Parking Area
- Drainfield/Septic System
- Landscaping
- Sanitary Sewage Disposal/Bathhouse Construction
- Well Installation

**Project Description:** Development of a restroom/shower facility and a sanitary dump station to accommodate a 525-unit township campground located on Foote Pond.

<b>Project No.</b> TF99-129	<b>Project County:</b> Iosco	<b>Project Year:</b> 1999
<b>Project Title:</b> Oscoda Riverwalk Park		
<b>Project Status:</b> Withdrawn		<b>Grant Amount:</b> \$160,800.00

**Project Description:** Acquisition of about one acre of waterfront property for park development and a future riverside walkway. The site includes 289' of frontage along the lower AuSable River.

<b>Project No.</b> TF06-090	<b>Project County:</b> Iosco	<b>Project Year:</b> 2006
<b>Project Title:</b> Oscoda Beach Park Boardwalk Development		
<b>Project Status:</b> Grant Closed		<b>Grant Amount:</b> \$44,800.00

**Scope Item:**

- lighting
- site work
- Access ramps/stairway
- Boardwalk
- seating areas

**Project Description:** Development of an additional 535 feet of lighted barrier-free boardwalk along the Lake Huron shoreline to include seating areas and access ramps to the beach and parking lot.

