



**Regular Planning Commission Meeting
7:00 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2016
City Council Chambers
23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, MI 48335**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

I. ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. May 9, 2016 Minutes

1. May 9, 2016 Minutes

**IV. REVIEW OF 2016 RECREATION MASTER PLAN FINAL DRAFT
AND SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**1. Review of 2016 Recreation Master Plan Final Draft and Schedule
of Public Hearing**

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENT

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**Farmington City Council
Staff Report**

Council Meeting Date:
June 13, 2016

**Reference
Number
(ID # 2198)**

Submitted by: Kevin Christiansen, Economic Community Development Director

Description: May 9, 2016 Minutes

Requested Action:

Approve

Background:

Agenda Review

Review:

Kevin Christiansen Pending

City Manager Pending

Planning Commission Pending

06/13/2016 7:00 PM

FARMINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
City Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street
Farmington, Michigan
May 9, 2016

Chairperson Crutcher called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan, on Monday, May 9, 2016.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chiara, Crutcher, Gronbach, Kmetzo, Waun

Absent: Buyers, Majoros

A quorum of the Commission was present.

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Director Christiansen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Gronbach, seconded by Kmetzo, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried, all ayes.

APPROVAL OF ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 14 , 2016

Motion by Kmetzo, seconded by Waun, to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.
Motion carried, all ayes.

Christiansen stated the order of Agenda Items 4 and 5 would be switched for tonight's meeting.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT 2016 RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Crutcher introduced this agenda item and turned it over to staff.

Director Christiansen stated this agenda item is a review of a preliminary draft of the 2016 Recreation Master Plan. He stated the City has been working with LSL Planning for the last six months to move forward with updating the City of Farmington Recreation Master Plan. He indicated the last update was in 2005. He said the City entered into an agreement last November with LSL with a goal to complete the Recreation Master Plan by June. He stated the draft requires review and approval by the Planning Commission and a Public Hearing must be held. He indicated a Parks and Recreation Committee was formed existing of five members, one being Commissioner Buyers, a representative from the DDA, one from City Council, Annette Knowles and the President of South Farmington Baseball, Inc., John Barber.

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He stated it was quite a process evaluating existing conditions, that a survey was sent out to the community and was kept open and remains open on the City website. He said an open house was held at Farmington High School regarding City parks and residents were given an opportunity to share ideas on what they would like to see changed, enhanced or modified at any of the City's parks. He indicated the culmination of the gathering of all of this information has resulted in a preliminary draft of the 2016 Recreation Master Plan.

He introduced the representatives from LSL, Josh Penn and Chris Gruba, and invited them to the podium.

Gruba introduced himself and stated that he is new with LSL but has been a planner for some time and is excited to work with the City as he takes over the job duties of Michelle Foster and will be the lead contact for LSL, but indicated that Josh Penn had done most of the work on the project.

Penn stated that he would be taking the Commissioners through the presentation of the Preliminary Draft Plan which they had been provided a copy of. He encouraged them to interrupt and ask questions if they had any during the course of the presentation.

He stated the purpose of the plan was to inventory and provide strategies for park & recreation projects incorporating the feedback from the open house and set goals for the next five years and set an action plan moving forward. He indicated one of the criteria for eligibility for grant funding opportunities from the MDNR is to have a five year plan in place.

He indicated a city inventory of parks was done and stated there are six parks consisting of roughly 37 acres, that classifications of parks were based on size and proximity to people with each of the parks falling into different categories that cover a variety of uses. He said that the changes in Flanders Park will be brought up to date before the final draft.

He then went on to the school inventory, citing there are five public schools consisting of roughly 93 acres that provide athletic facilities, playgrounds and open space. He stated that the regional inventory was included to get a sense of where Farmington fit within the Southeastern Michigan region with respect to other Michigan State Parks with the Huron Clinton Metro Park System and other county parks, many of which are located within a short distance or drive from Farmington.

Crutcher asked to define "short distance" and Penn responded that the shortest is ten minutes and could go up to a half hour in distance.

Kmetzo asked Penn if the definition of "school parks" was a park near a school and he responded that it is a park owned by the public school system be it sports fields, playground areas that are owned and operated by the Farmington Public Schools.

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Crutcher asked if it included private schools and Penn responded in the negative but noted that their analysis will document and inventory the private facilities as well but for the purposes of this inventory those were not considered semi-public but will be accounted for in their final document.

Kmetzo asked if in addition to the six parks identified there are 93 acres of school parks and Penn confirmed that number.

Gronbach stated that Farmington has a joint agreement with Farmington Hills where parks and recreation are operated together somewhat, and asked if their park system was included in the inventory and Penn responded no, not for the presentation tonight but is included in the community wide recreation inventory and will be reflected in the final plan.

Crutcher asked if they would then be included in the regional parks count since they are not in the City and Penn answered that it will under a category that will include private park facilities and other local parks, which again may shift depending on feedback from the stakeholder committee. He stated they created this inventory as a preliminary draft for presentation at tonight's meeting and on Thursday, May 12th, he will be attending a stakeholder committee meeting and will put flesh on the bones of this structure, specifically to action plan goals and a draft will then be sent to the committee for review for accuracy of inventory, providing feedback on the order of things and if any concerns arise, they will be addressed then.

He stated the overall park analysis reflected a surplus in park acreage, two slight deficits in mini parks and community parks but indicated that because the neighborhood and regional park categories made up for the deficit, no recommendation will be made to the City to seek land acquisition or take any action based on the deficits.

He then went on to the facilities analysis and stated there were several small deficiencies, but mostly surpluses, citing there is a deficiency of one basketball court, two volleyball courts and nine-hole and eighteen-hole golf courses, reminding the Commission these figures are public facilities and does not include any private ones in the reflection.

Gronbach asked if the Farmington Hills Public Course was included in the count and Penn responded in the negative even though Farmington residents are allowed use of the facility.

Chiara stated that Farmington residents no longer get the same rates as Farmington Hills residents.

Gronbach indicated that knowing that the City has a joint agreement with Farmington Hills, he would hope that is being recognized and acknowledged in the analysis where appropriate and how it would fit into the plan seeing as it was the intent of Farmington to

be a part of that in order to provide that facility to residents and that it be taken into consideration in any recommendations made.

Penn thanked Gronbach for the feedback and indicated that is something that is worth discussing with the stakeholder committee.

Gronbach asked if that topic had been discussed and Penn indicated it is in the plan and he is aware of the intergovernmental agreement and Gronbach stated he would think that it should be discussed and they should be aware of the details to see how it coincides with the City's plan.

Penn stated that it is something that would be added in and a footnote created to indicate it is a Farmington Hills facility so that those reading the plan down the road are aware of that and there is no confusion and a distinction is made between the two.

He then presented the goals reflected in the 2005 Recreation Plan and asked the Commissioners if they were still useful, accurate and relevant for the current planning process.

He stated the 2005 goals as follows:

Retain the existing recreational land.

Continue to develop recreational land, facilities, programs, and services to meet the evolving needs of the residents of the City and the neighboring communities.

Expand green spaces areas within the downtown.

Kmetzo stated it would be good to know if the 2005 goals were reached, where we are now, where do we want to be and do we want to continue with those in place and/or make new goals for 2017.

Gronbach indicated that one of the points mentioned was to make sure things are integrated and stated there have been other studies and other visions done and in the last year or so there was a vision plan done that involved Shiawassee Park and the connection between downtown and some of the future development and he would want to make sure that LSL and the committee are both aware of that plan and that that be integrated into or at least referenced in this plan to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Penn thanked them for the feedback.

The next item discussed was the Action Plan and he stated the reasoning behind the inventory and analysis is so that it can be put in a year by year listing of prioritized projects, goals and actions for the parks. He then went over the findings compiled from the open house in March for the various parks and asked the Commissioners to provide feedback when he was finished.

Chiara stated he would like to see the underutilized tennis courts be turned into outdoor pickle ball courts, as that is the fastest growing sport and he is unaware of any outdoor pickle ball courts in or around the community, only indoor ones.

Kmetzo stated it is very difficult to come up with ideas on what should be done with the parks but commented if the recreation goals were determined and then prioritized based on the needs of the community, that that process would determine what the end result would be with Flanders and other parks.

Penn indicated he had heard mention of dog parks, playscapes, and picnic areas being discussed possibly for Flanders.

He then went into the Action Plan and asked the Commissioners what they would like to add, remove or change in the goals for the various parks. He stated outdoor pickle ball courts could be one, accessibility ramp to Shiawassee Park could be another.

Gronbach stated the whole visioning process done for Shiawassee Park and the connection in the downtown presented a lot of good ideas, including water features, pathways, disc golf, and rather than reiterate the findings of that visioning study, they should be included in the Recreation Master Plan.

Christiansen stated the vision plan for Shiawassee has been studied by the committee and indicated the purpose of the agenda item for the Planning Commission tonight is to bring the Commission up to speed as to where things are at and find out where the Commission stands as far as the City's park system and provide feedback, if any, where they feel necessary and provide an opportunity to share opinions.

He also described the process of having specialized subgroups look at each park individually and come up with recommendations for same.

He stated LSL is looking for any comments to bring to the stakeholder meeting on Thursday and indicated once the preliminary draft is done, the public hearing will then be scheduled that is required by State statute and then move forward with the draft being acted on and approved by the Planning Commission so it can be current and allow the City to be eligible for funding from the State for the park upgrades.

Kmetzo asked for clarification on the purpose of the individual groups looking at the parks and if they are working towards the same vision for the City of Farmington and their parks plan and expressed concern about it becoming disjointed as to which direction to follow.

Christiansen explained that there are various groups but they are all working under the same umbrella of the Recreation Master Plan, with the staff facilitating the process, the consultant who is providing services to help the City prepare the plan, the Recreation Master Plan Committee, a cross section of leaders from the City's Boards and Commissions and stakeholders in the community, and then the individual park

subgroups looking at the various parks and bringing ideas back to the committee and now to the Planning Commission.

Kmetzo asked if there were guidelines that the Recreation Master Plan would follow to provide consistency and current standards in their process such as wireless connections, ecofriendly, technical savvy and the like for them to follow and Christiansen responded there are State guidelines by Statute for what is mandated to be in the Recreation Master Plan and that it can contain anything the City wants as long as it meets requirements to make the City eligible for funding.

Waun recommended that some type of public art component be included in the plan that is interesting and not just functional.

Chiara reiterated his request for outdoor pickle ball courts.

Christiansen stated if there were any comments the Commissioners wanted to make post meeting that he would relay them to LSL. He invited everyone to attend the stakeholder meeting on Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Penn explained the next steps in the process being presenting the preliminary draft to the committee on Thursday for direction, making an action plan and present that to the stakeholder committee for review which will be turned back to LSL for edits and initiate a 30-day public review on the City website, at the end of which a public hearing will be scheduled and recommendation for adoption and sent to the MDNR.

Crutcher thanked them for their presentation.

OUTDOOR SEATING SITE PLAN REVIEW – CHIVE KITCHEN, 33043 GRAND RIVER AVENUE, The Groves Retail Center

Crutcher introduced this agenda item and turned it over to staff.

Christiansen indicated that a representative from S3 Architecture, Alex Steinke, is present at the meeting to present the request for Chive Kitchen.

Steinke introduced herself and stated she is a student at Lawrence Tech University and is serving as the representative of S3 Architecture and their client Chive Kitchen.

She stated they are proposing a site plan and design review for the outdoor seating area in front of the Chive Kitchen in downtown Farmington. The floor plan of the outdoor seating was presented on the screen which demonstrated the plan with the walkway around with the area situated in front of the building located at 33043 Grand River in the Groves Retail Center.

Renderings were shown from the straight on view showing that the seating would be located more towards TJMaxx. Specs of furniture were shown that consisted of basic chairs and tables and planter boxes in addition to create greenery in the space as well.

Christiansen indicated there is a staff report in the meeting packets which states that the owner of Chive Kitchen, Susie Sylvestri, has submitted a site plan application for proposed outdoor seating for her existing restaurant located 33043 Grand River Avenue at the Groves Retail Center, in the Central Business District in downtown. Outdoor seating in the CBD requires approval by the Downtown Development Authority and the Planning Commission. No changes regarding building dimensions or other site improvements are proposed. He stated at their April 14, 2016 meeting the DDA Design Committee recommended approval of the proposed outdoor seating for Chive Kitchen to the Planning Commission. The plans they reviewed were in the packets which include a layout of the proposed outdoor seating area as well as samples of the proposed seating tables and chairs and planter boxes. Additional site plan information for Groves Retail Center was attached.

Christiansen stated the outdoor seating area for the Groves Retail Center was designed and reviewed and approved as part of the redevelopment of Grove Street and Groves Retail Center which includes all of the uses from Dress Barn to the TJMaxx and part of the redevelopment was the City acquiring the parking in front of the Center and combining that with Groves Street to create a new Groves Street which is a two-way boulevard, one in each direction, with angle parking and then on the Groves Retail side a new promenade, outdoor seating area and all approved as part of the PUD for the entire Groves Retail Center. He indicated on a case by case basis new tenants if they desire outdoor seating are required to appear before the DDA Design Committee with their plans and the Planning Commission. Christiansen stated they are very excited to have a restaurant use using the outdoor seating area. He noted adjacent uses that aren't restaurants like The Cheese Lady have some tables and chairs outside and use the area but not for the serving of food.

He also noted that in the elevation plans the series of awnings that are attached to the building and come down and are anchored by poles are now installed.

He indicated there is a State statute regarding outdoor seating, serving of alcohol, and the owner has gone through that process with the Liquor Control Commission to be able to serve outside. He also stated the former requirement was that the area be entirely enclosed and that that has changed and now requires just a defined area which the use of planter boxes meets that requirement.

The floor was opened for questions from the Commissioners.

Chiara commented out of all the outdoor seating plans that have come before the Commission, this is the best plan they've seen.

Crutcher asked if there was trash receptacles in the area and Christiansen stated they are required to by the Health Department because they are serving food. He also indicated the tables and chairs are portable and able to be moved and stored on a nightly basis.

Kmetzo inquired of Christiansen if the initial plan for Groves was to accommodate outdoor seating what is the purpose for the need to present the plans for outdoor seating and have approval by the Planning Commission again.

Christiansen responded that on a case by case basis the uses have to come before the Planning Commission to make sure they comply with the requirements.

Crutcher asked how the barrier free seating is addressed with the seating arrangements and Christiansen responded there are drop down curbs directly adjacent from the street and there are barrier free parking spaces adjacent with barrier free access.

Kmetzo asked how far the seating extends beyond Chives and it was pointed out on the screen as being from pillar to post. She further inquired if there is enough space on the walkway if people want to come from TJMaxx all the way to Dress Barn and Christiansen responded in the affirmative.

Gronbach stated that there were comments by the Design Committee about the wood tables being scissor shaped and the materials and asked if there should be something more durable and Christiansen stated that was reported to the Economic and Community Development by the DDA and that was followed up with the owner and S3 and additional review was done on the tables and their stability and it was reported back by S3 that they were satisfied with the proposed tables.

MOTION by Chiara, supported by Waun, to approve the site plan for outdoor seating for Chive Kitchen, 33043 Grand River Avenue, The Groves Retail Center.
 Motion carried, all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None heard.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chiara stated he would like the contact list of commissioners updated with email addresses and phone numbers.

STAFF COMMENTS

Christiansen gave a preview of upcoming items for the Planning Commission as well as the status of various projects ongoing in the City.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Kmetzo, seconded by Chiara, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried, all ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Attachment: 5-9-16 Planning Minutes (2198 : May 9, 2016 Minutes)

**Farmington City Council
Staff Report**
Council Meeting Date:
June 13, 2016

**Reference
Number
(ID # 2199)**
Submitted by: Kevin Christiansen, Economic Community Development Director

Description: Review of 2016 Recreation Master Plan Final Draft and Schedule of Public Hearing

Requested Action:

Schedule Public Hearing

Background:

This discussion item is a review of the 2016 Recreation Master Plan final draft. The City Administration, City Consultants, and Recreation Master Plan Update Committee have been working diligently on the update and are moving it forward to the Planning Commission for their discussion and review, and to schedule for public hearing at the July meeting.

The following additional information is attached:

- 2016 Recreation Master Plan Final Draft

Michelle Foster with LSL will be at the June 13, 2016 meeting to review this item with the Planning Commission.

Attachment

Agenda Review
Review:

Kevin Christiansen	Pending	
City Manager	Pending	
Planning Commission	Pending	06/13/2016 7:00 PM

DRAFT

CITY OF FARMINGTON

2016 RECREATION MASTER PLAN



The City of Founded 1824

FARMINGTON



Acknowledgements

City Council Adoption:

City Council

William E. Galvin, Mayor
Steven G. Schneemann, Mayor Pro Tem
Sara Bowman
Grep P. Cowley
Jeffrey Scott

Recreation Master Plan Committee

Councilman Jeff Scott
Commissioner Paul Buyers
Annette Knowles
Micki
John Barber

City Staff

Kevin P. Christiansen, Director ECD
David Murphy, City Manager
Lisa McGill

Planning Consultants



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RECREATION MASTER PLAN

1.0

OVERVIEW

The Recreation Master Plan provides guidance for decision-makers for future improvements and development of parks, recreational facilities, and programming which serve Farmington's residents and visitors. In accordance with the State of Michigan's five-year cycle for recreation planning, this 2016 update provides an evaluation of the overall Farmington parks and recreation system to determine where improvements can be made as envisioned by the City. The plan is written in accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources standards and planning principles to:

- Create a plan that guides development that is coordinated, adjusted, harmonious, efficient, and economical and that best promotes public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare;
- At least every five years, review the plan to determine whether to amend or adopt a new master plan;
- Make careful and comprehensive surveys of present conditions and future growth;
- Consult with representatives of adjacent local units of government to avoid planning conflicts;
- Cooperate with all departments of state and federal governments, and public agencies to seek the maximum coordination of local programs with appropriate agencies.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides financial assistance through its recreation grants program to communities within the State of Michigan that want to acquire land for parks and open spaces or that want to develop recreation facilities. To be eligible to apply for grants through the MDNR, a community must have an approved, five-year recreation plan on file with Grants Management of the DNR that meets the eligibility requirements of the Natural Resources Trust Fund Act (Part 19 of 1994 PA 451).

RECREATION PLAN

The last update of the Farmington Recreation Master Plan occurred in 2005. The 2016 update includes an evaluation of parks, facilities and programming to update the City's action plan and determine where future improvements should be made.

Preparation of this recreation master plan (RMP) involved the following parties:

- **Elected officials:** The Farmington City Council provided policy direction and final approval.
- **Appointed officials:**
 - The Farmington Planning Commission provided review of land use plans and capital spending.
 - An ad hoc Recreation Master Plan Update Committee was appointed by City Council.
- **The RCM Committee,** includes representatives from the following organizations/groups:
 - Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, City of Farmington Hills recreation administration, Farmington Public Schools, Mayor's Youth Council, and two members from the Farmington residential community (one representative and one alternate). A resident of the City of Farmington also participated as an ex-officio member. Members of all of the City's Boards, Commissions and Committees serve on a volunteer basis.
- **City staff:** The City Manager, Assistant City Manager and Director of Public Services were the primary staff members involved in updating the Master Plan.
- **Public:** The general public was informed by newspaper advertisement and cable television announcement of a public hearing to consider the draft Recreation Master Plan.

2.0

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

2.1 Planning Process

The planning process followed the State guidelines and was highly participatory. It resulted in a Plan that reflects the needs and ideas of those who make use of the area's parks and recreation facilities. The planning process is discussed below.

Task One COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The process began with an update to the city's physical and social characteristics. These features include location, land use, natural features, and a description of the transportation network as well as population features including age distribution, people with physical disabilities, employment and income.

Task Two RECREATION INVENTORY

The recreation inventory included site visits and written descriptions of recreation facilities in the township including public parks, schools, and private facilities. The information includes acreage, barrier-free accessibility, types of equipment and other descriptions of the physical attributes. A list of other parks that are available to city residents through Oakland County, State of Michigan and neighboring municipalities is also included. Non-public recreation facilities in the township and county are listed as well.

Task Three PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A public open house was held on March 31st, 2016, to gain input from the general public. In addition, a public hearing was held by the City Council before adoption on May 9th, 2016. See *Appendix B: Public Involvement* for a summary of public comments received.

Upon completion of the analysis, goals and objectives were determined to provide guidance for the development of the Action Program. This created the five-year plan and offers a checklist of what action is to be accomplished, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it will cost, and potential funding sources

Task Four ANALYSIS

Based on the data collected from the first three tasks, information was analyzed in accordance with national and state standards and guidelines, local needs, the experience of staff and consultants, the desires of the residents, and potential funding sources.

Task Five ACTION PROGRAM

Upon completion of the analysis, goals and objectives were determined to provide guidance for the development of the Action Program. This created the five-year plan and offers a checklist of what action is to be accomplished, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it will cost, and potential funding sources.

Task Six PLAN COMPLETION AND ADOPTION

Once consensus was reached among city officials, a public hearing was held to present the plan and to solicit public input prior to adoption. The Plan was available for public review for one month prior to adoption. Based on public comments, the Plan was revised and the document was adopted by the City Council. See *Appendix D: Adoption and Transmittal Information* for adoption documentation.

2.2 Administrative Structure and Funding

The City of Farmington's Charter does not require a park or a recreation department, nor has the City Council established such departments, preferring to retain the policy making function and leave the administration to the City Manager. Various service delivery alternatives have been employed as the community moved through different phases of development. During the fifties and sixties, the City operated an independent program. After the City of Farmington Hills was chartered in 1973, the two cities operated a combined program under the guidance of a joint recreation commission. Since 1977, the City has purchased program services from the City of Farmington Hills. Residents of Farmington and Farmington Hills are eligible to participate in these jointly funded programs.

As a result of the joint funding of recreation programs and administration by Farmington and Farmington Hills, there is extensive and ongoing consultation between the cities regarding recreation programs, activities and facilities. However, park and facility development and maintenance has continued as a direct responsibility of the City under the direction of the City Manager and the oversight of the City Council.

Other citizen boards are also concerned with policies relating to the parks and recreation department. They are the Arts Commission and the Commission on Aging, both jointly responsible to cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, and the Historical Commission. The latter is directly responsible for the physical maintenance and program development of the City's historical museum, the Governor Warner Mansion.

The jointly funded recreation program is regularly reviewed by the city administration and annually reviewed by the City's Planning Commission and City Council. These reviews are conducted in addition to the ongoing assessment and utilization reviews performed by the City of Farmington Hills Department of Special Services staff, which administers the recreational programs of both communities.

The budgets of the last several years indicate that the city has maintained an active concern for recreation. Table 1 below shows the budget history for the past three fiscal years. The figures include both capital and operating expenses, which accounts for the fluctuation from year to year. The recreation services column consists of the service fee paid to Farmington Hills, plus operating supplies and utility fees. The park column includes capital expenses for equipment and facilities plus the personnel costs for ongoing maintenance and supervision.

Description	2013-14 Actual	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Amended Budget	2015-16 Projected Activity	2016-17 Manager Proposed
Parks	166,519	287,464	372,701	318,928	349,424
Recreation Services	239,991	245,683	261,891	261,356	259,122
Farmer's Market	27,901	44,668	47,569	56,584	52,600
Historical Commission	578	20	2,400	2,900	2,905
Governor Warner Mansion	61,556	48,197	140,939	100,297	137,575
Total Budgeted	496,545	626,032	825,500	740,065	801,626

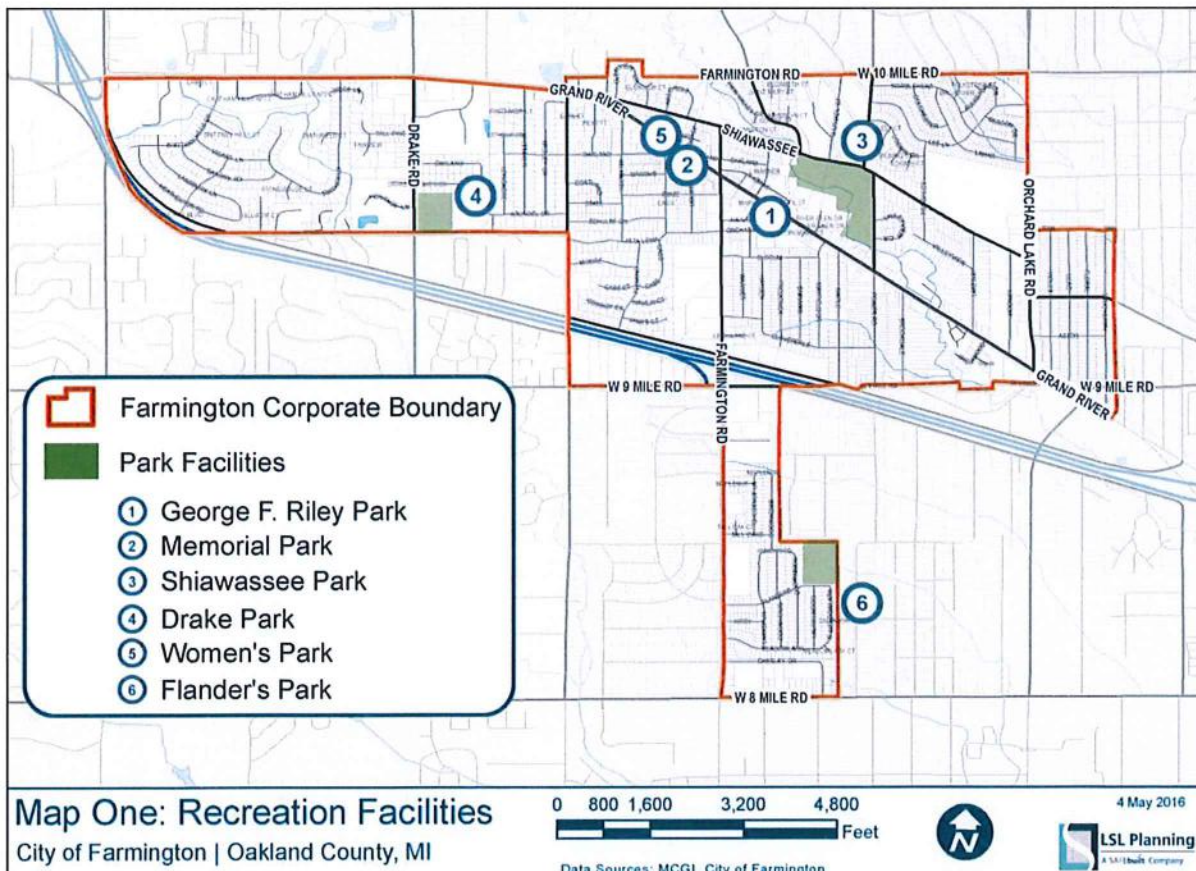
3.0 INVENTORY

A complete inventory of recreation facilities, programs, and events is an essential component of a five year Parks and Recreation Master Plan as it provides a base of information to use in developing the Plan's Action Program. Understanding what facilities, programs, and events are available to Farmington residents will assist decision-making in the future. The inventory covers the following listed components:

- Public Parks and Facilities
- School Parks and Facilities
- Regional Parks and Facilities
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Public Recreation Programs
- Volunteer Organizations and Service Clubs

There are 5 county parks and 3 state parks within ten miles of Farmington City Hall. Ten miles is an arbitrary figure; another five miles, usually about ten minutes, would include 8 more major parks including some of the City of Detroit and Huron-Clinton Metro Authority.

Within the City of Farmington, all known facilities are listed. Not all the facilities of other municipalities, jurisdictions or organizations are listed. *Map One: Recreation Facilities* displayed below shows the location of the City's six public parks.



3.1 Inventory Process

The following inventory and subsequent analysis were developed using the recommended park classifications and facility guidelines of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA). These guidelines were developed in 1983 and are used to help identify needed recreational facilities in the community. While they provide a baseline for measuring whether existing parks meet community needs, the city should balance these guidelines with other needs evident in the community. Information was gathered based on existing spatial data, field visits, previous plans and public and committee input.

3.2 Public Parks Inventory & Analysis

The following is a barrier free rating and amenities summary of publicly-owned parks in the City, followed by more detailed descriptions of each park by park classification (see Table 3-1 below), recreation amenities, facilities condition, public input and proposed actions for each park's maintenance and condition moving forward.

Table 3-1 NRPA Recommended Classification System for Local Recreation Open Space				
Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria	Acres / 1,000 Population
Mini-Park	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Less than ¼ mile distance in residential setting.	Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size.	0.25 to 0.5 A
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	¼- to ½-mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal.	1.0 to 2.0 A
School-Park	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex and special use.	Determined by location of school district property.	Variable-depends on function.	Variable
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.	5.0 to 8.0 A

3.3 Barrier Free Accessibility

The passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) required all areas of public service to have barrier-free accessibility, including parks and recreation facilities. The evaluation of the parks and facilities in Farmington includes an assessment of their barrier-free access. In accordance with the MDNRE standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if persons with limited sight, hearing, mobility and comprehension can safely and independently access and use the park or facility. The evaluation uses a ranking system from 0-5, with lower scores indicating lower levels of accessibility and vice versa.

Accessibility Level

0

The park is completely undeveloped and left in a natural state with no paved surfaces.

1

The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. This site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

2

The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

3

The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking and pathways are paved, some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may not be completely barrier-free.

4

The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways are paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.

5

The entire park was designed using the principles of universal design, enabling all environments to be usable by everyone, regardless of age, ability, or situation.

BARRIER FREE RATING BY FACILITY

4

DOWNTOWN RILEY PARK – The pavilion and park nested downtown accessible by ADA compliant sidewalks and surrounded by parking lots with only 2 barrier-free spaces in close proximity.

3

SHIAWASSEE PARK – With six barrier-free parking spaces, path access, accessible restrooms and accessible amenities, Shiawassee Park is mostly accessible. With two stair case access points, two bridges, and many facilities not accessible, there is some room for improvement in barrier-free access.

3

WOMEN'S PARK – A pocket park located on the west side of downtown, Women's Park is accessible by sidewalk only. On-street parking is available on Oakland St without barrier-free access. Pathways wind through the park.

2

MEMORIAL PARK – With poor crosswalk access and a prime location across from City Hall, this park could be more connected to the rest of downtown. Sidewalks connect the park along Oakland St and Grand River Ave to Farmington Road, where crosswalks are in place.

2

DRAKE PARK – A paved parking lot with two barrier-free spaces and a pathway that leads to restrooms, tennis courts and ball fields makes this park fairly accessible. However, the condition of the pavement is not great and not all facilities are accessible.

Further Barrier-Free Evaluation:

“The City is committed to establishing an ad-hoc Barrier-Free Evaluation Committee that would include mobility-limited persons to review and assess all new park and recreation development and renovation projects, as well as existing parks and recreation facilities and programs for barrier-free access. The Committee will be assigned a specific staff liaison to assist with administrative matters. Committee members will be appointment by the City Manager”

2005 Recreation Master Plan

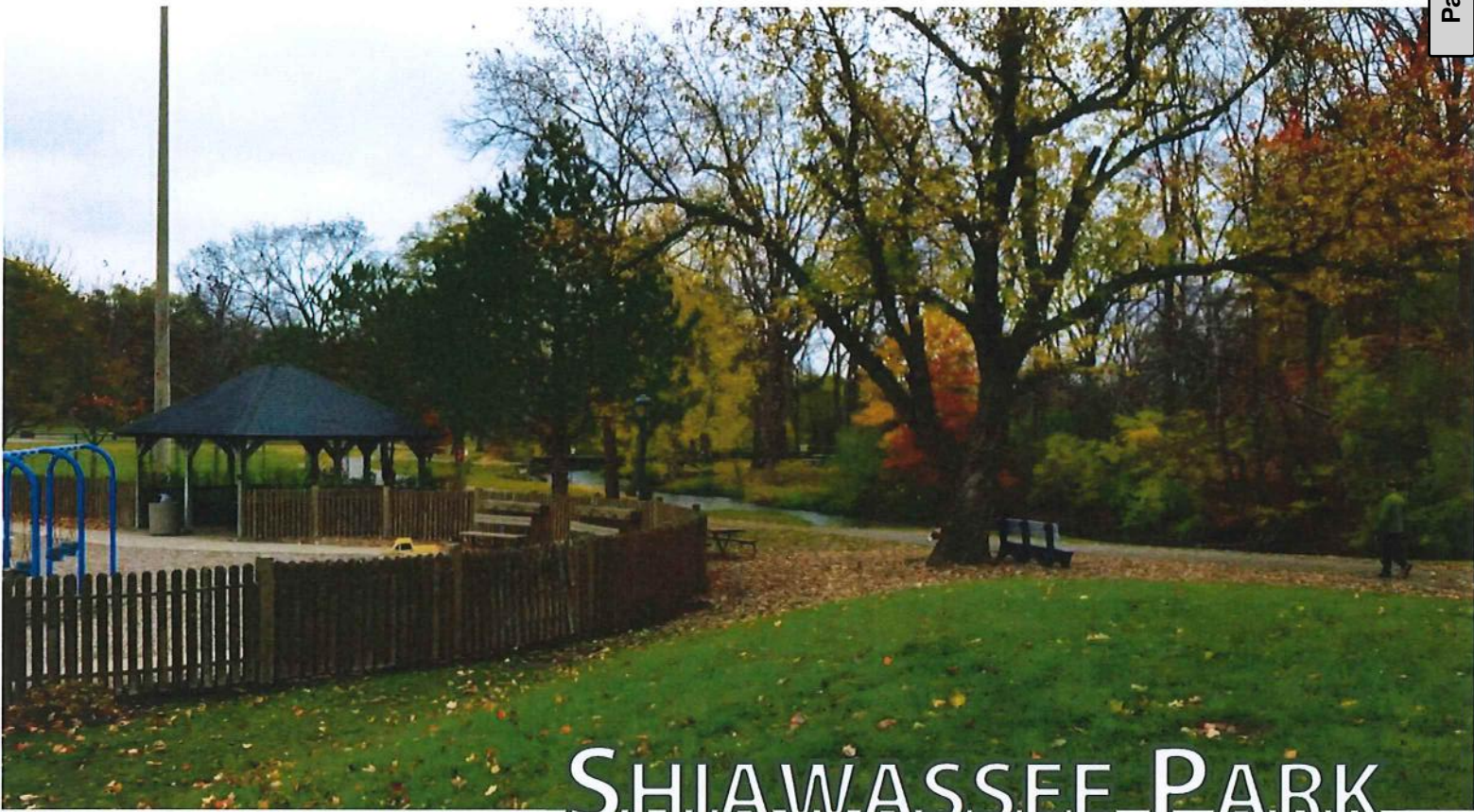
Resources:

www.ADA.gov

Michigan DNR Accessible Advisory Council

www.DOWNTOWNFARMINGTON.org





SHIAWASSEE PARK

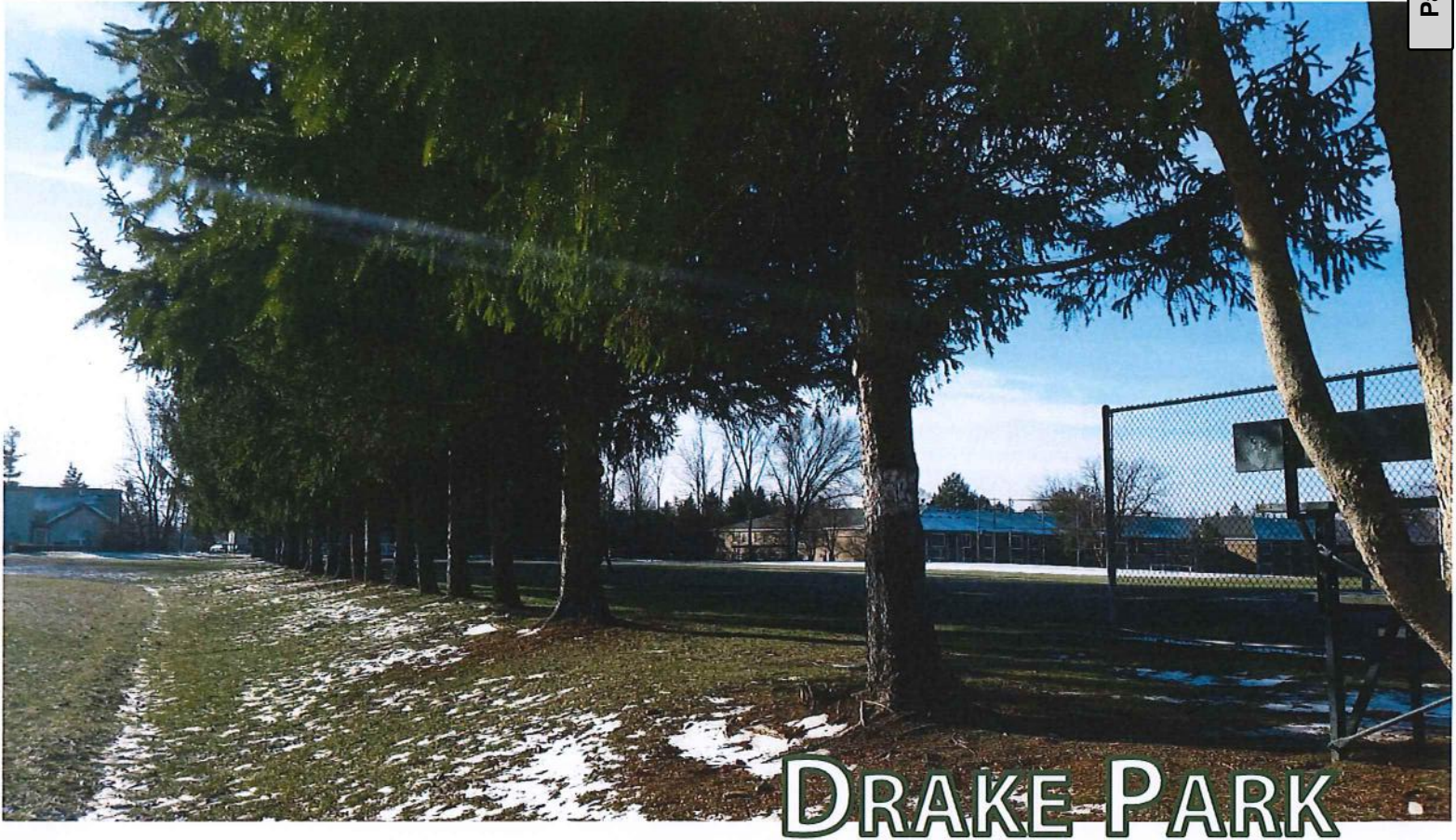
Located east of City Hall between Shiawassee Street and Grand River, Shiawassee Park is the City’s largest park. This community park is approximately 23.94 acres in size and offers a variety of public amenities. The Farmington Baseball League uses the ball fields for many of its regular season games, and reservations at the picnic pavilion can be tricky as the venue is regularly booked up for local community gatherings.

This park remains an integral public resource, however there are several enhancements scheduled. Short-term improvements to the park include a new pedestrian connection between the park and Downtown, new playground equipment, and upgrades to the ball fields. Long term improvements to the park, likely beyond the five year scope of this plan are outlined in the *2015 Downtown Master Plan*. See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.

At A Glance: Drake Park	
Classification	Community Park
Acres	23.94
Recreation Amenities	Ball fields (4 total, 1 lighted), Tennis courts (2), Soccer field, Playscape, Restrooms, Picnic area with shelter, Pavilion, Fitness court and walking course

<p>Facilities Conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage looks worn and outdated. • Bathrooms are in need of major upgrades or replacement • Parking areas are insufficient for size and number of spaces • Dirt in ball fields needs replacement • Lighting equipment is not energy efficient, is in bad need of upgrade • Playground structure looks worn and needs updating • Walking path is in good condition • Current pavilion is in good condition but does not meet current demand • Tennis courts are in poor shape and should be replaced or removed • Landscaping near south ball field is overgrown • No sidewalk access by ball field 1 • Sitting area for ball games along north side of the park have no barrier-protection between spectators and vehicular traffic • Stormwater retention is an issue on fields
<p>Public Input</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect/extend path to Heritage park • Connect to downtown (NW corner) • More parking (NE corner) • Obtain SF home (NW corner) • More tennis courts • More activities • Connect/extend path along rouge river corridor. • Increase parking to encourage visits • Expand the plan to include the sled hill access- preserve • Splash pad in park • Keep as natural and simple as possible





Drake Park is located in the western portion of the City, along Drake Road. Abutting Longacre Elementary School to the east, one of the ball fields at this 9-acre neighborhood park is used regularly by the Farmington Cricket Club.

This park offers important amenities to the community, but facilities are substandard and in need of upgrades. There has been discussion of replacing the ball fields at Drake Park in a clover-leaf pattern to better utilize the space, as illustrated in the example aerial below.

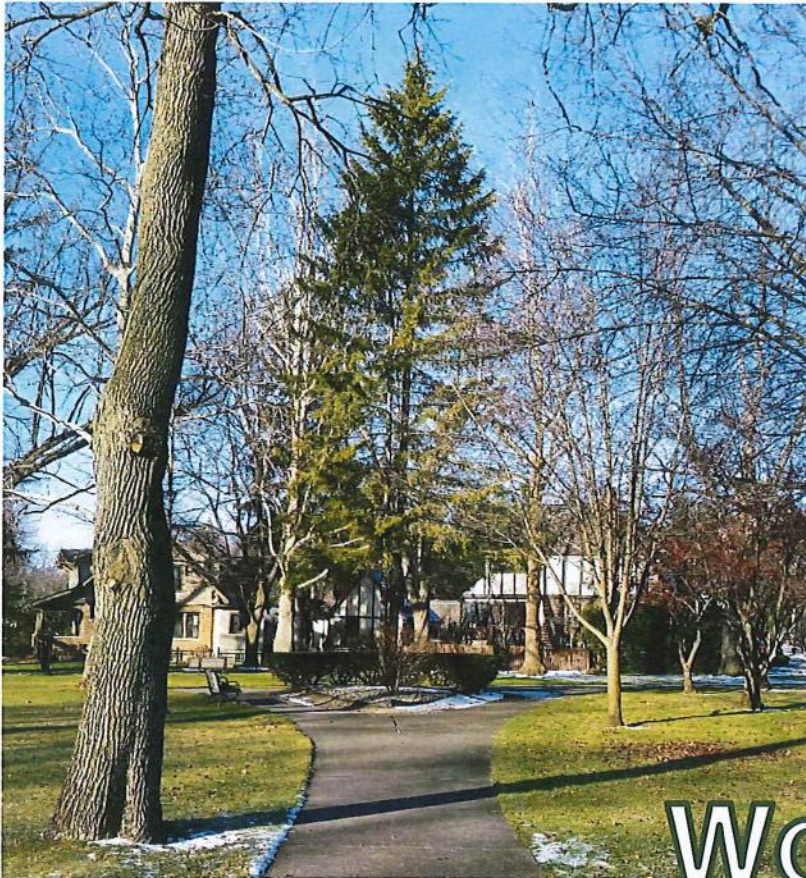
As the facilities at Longacre Elementary provide activities for children, improvements at Drake should be focused on the ballfields and parking area. A shared-use facility which could serve as both a storage facility and concessions booth would complement the facilities and potentially provide updated restroom facilities. Lighting and signage are longer-term priorities for improvement. See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.

At A Glance: Drake Park

Classification	Neighborhood Park
Acres	9.07
Recreation Amenities	Tennis Courts, Softball fields (2), Baseball field, Public Restrooms

<p>Facilities Conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage looks worn and outdated • Restrooms are in need of major upgrades or replacement • Dirt in ball fields is in need of replacement • Picnic area is underutilized and inefficient • Swingset is old and deteriorated • Tennis courts are in poor shape and should be replaced or removed • Parking area is in very poor condition and needs major upgrade or replacement • Basketball hoops and netting need replacement • Dumpster on-site needs an enclosure
<p>Public Input (*indicates multiple mentions)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider sharing the adjacent space with the school* • Remove the tennis courts* • Please fix the parking lot • We should maintain the ball fields for cricket • This parks needs complimentary activities- not just baseball fields, should also have a small children’s playscape for families • Install a soccer field • The bathroom facilities are in bad need of an upgrade • We like the park ‘as is’





WOMEN'S PARK

This mini or “pocket” park is located at the southwest corner of Grand River and Oakland Street, just west of Thayer-Rock Funeral Home. Established in 1899 at the suggestion of the Ladies’ Literary Club, this half-acre passive green space offers a peaceful place for gathering and contemplation in the heart of the city’s Historic Downtown District.

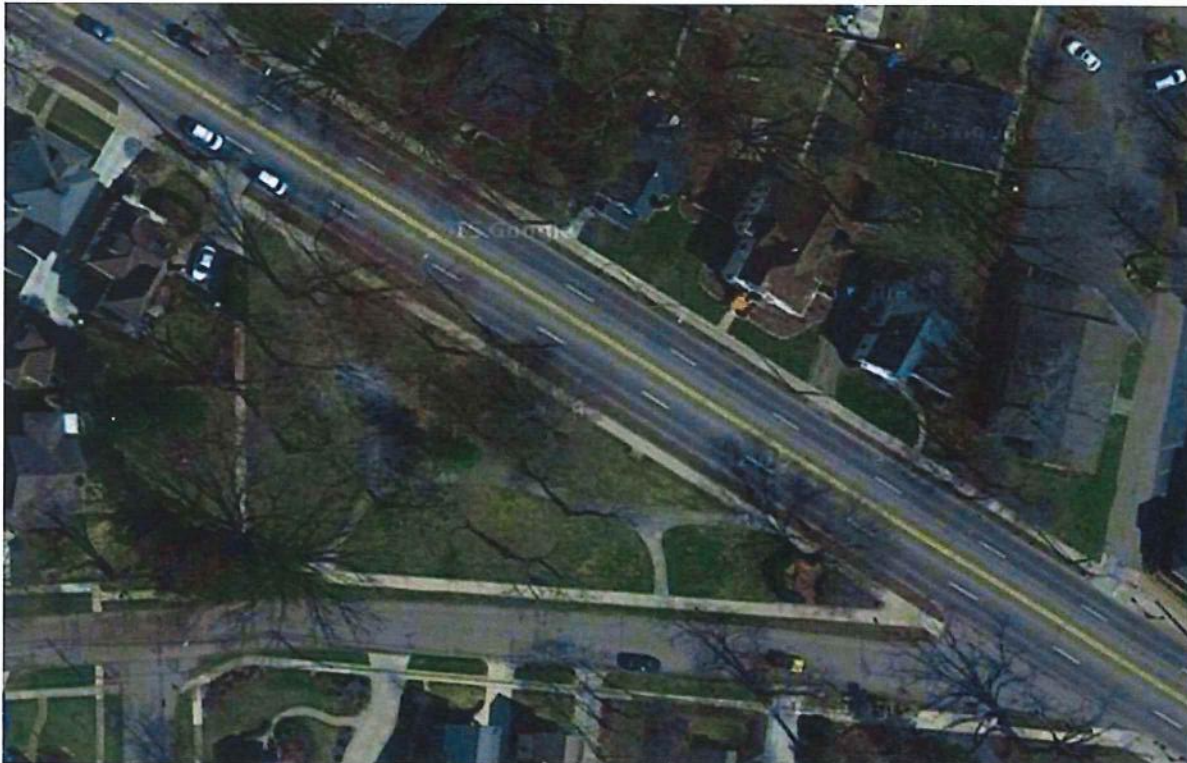
During the development of this plan, the Women’s Park Subcommittee used data gathered on current conditions to conduct a community survey, which received over 170 responses and synthesized community input regarding potential improvements to the park. A report with a list of recommendations was subsequently submitted to the Parks & Recreation Master Plan Committee for consideration. Recommendations in the report include the development of a low-maintenance landscaping plan, upgrading and changing the orientation of park benches so they face each other and create “conversation centers”, improved lighting for security, and upgrading park signage to include a sign or marker explaining the park’s historic significance. See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.



At A Glance: Women’s Park	
Classification	Mini Park
Acres	0.45
Recreation Amenities	Walking path and benches

Facilities Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal pathways are dated• Park benches are functional but poorly laid out and in several different styles• Space is not laid out in a welcoming way
Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remain as a reflective and peaceful place• Remain passive, quiet, reflective• Plant and label native flowers species

[insert current condition pictures here]





Located across from City Hall at the intersection of Grand River and Oakland, Memorial Park features a war memorial on site that honors veterans from the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and World War I. This mini park was dedicated in 1928, and there has been discussion of including mentions of veterans of more recent wars to the memorial.

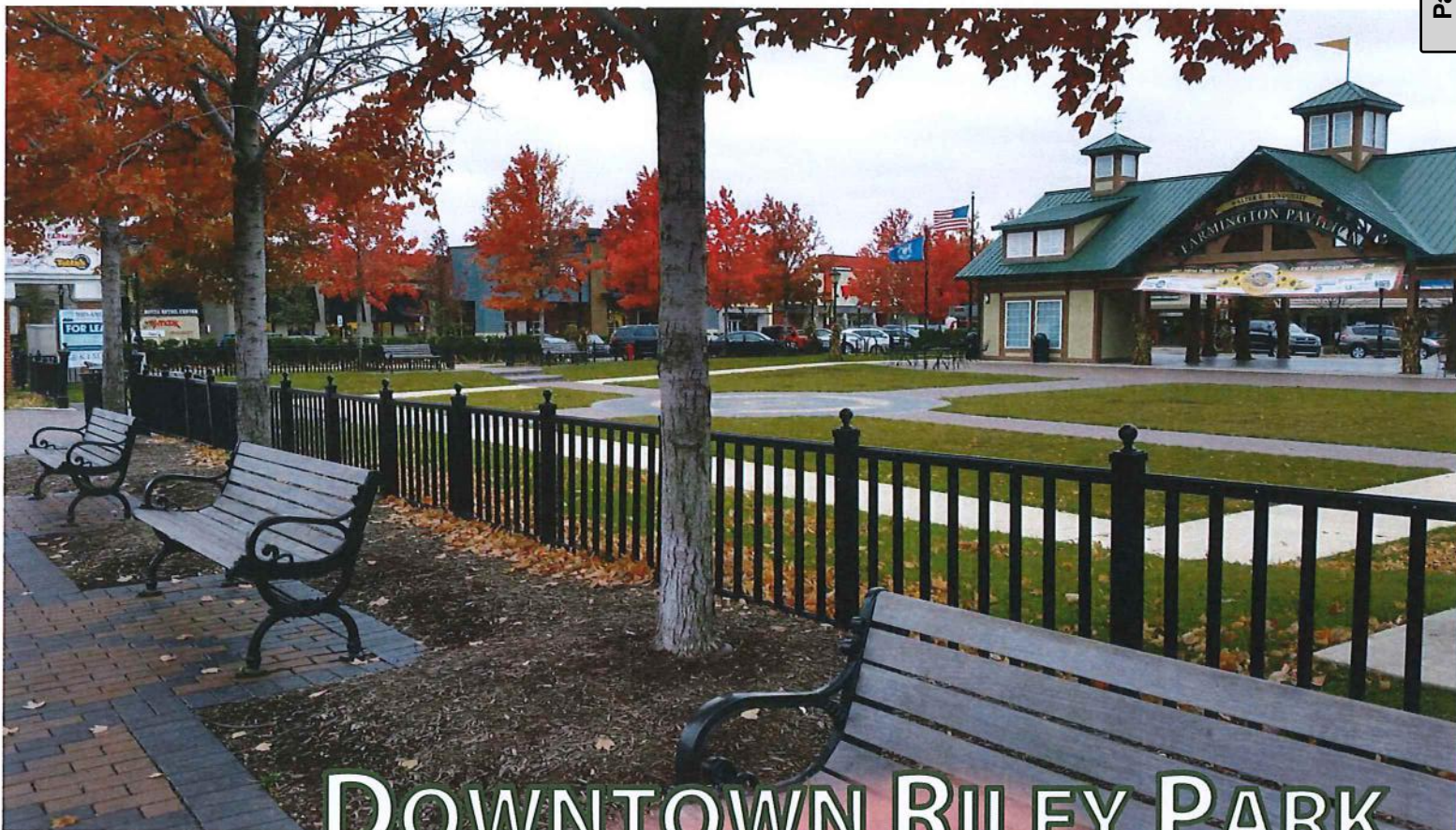
The priority improvement for Memorial Park is to provide a crosswalk across Grand River to connect to the City’s adjacent green space. See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.

At A Glance: Memorial Park	
Classification	Mini Park
Acres	0.39
Recreation Amenities	Sidewalk and benches Dog waste bag station

Facilities Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plaques are in good condition but do not reflect recent military service efforts.• Signage, internal pathways are in need of an upgrade• Landscaping is outdated and does not utilize the space well.
Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No attractions here- this is dead space• Shrink Memorial Park• Honor all veterans for all U.S. wars, not just the ones currently listed• Improve the crosswalk across Grand River Ave to increase pedestrian safety• Connect the 9/11 memorial to Memorial Park

[insert current condition pictures here]





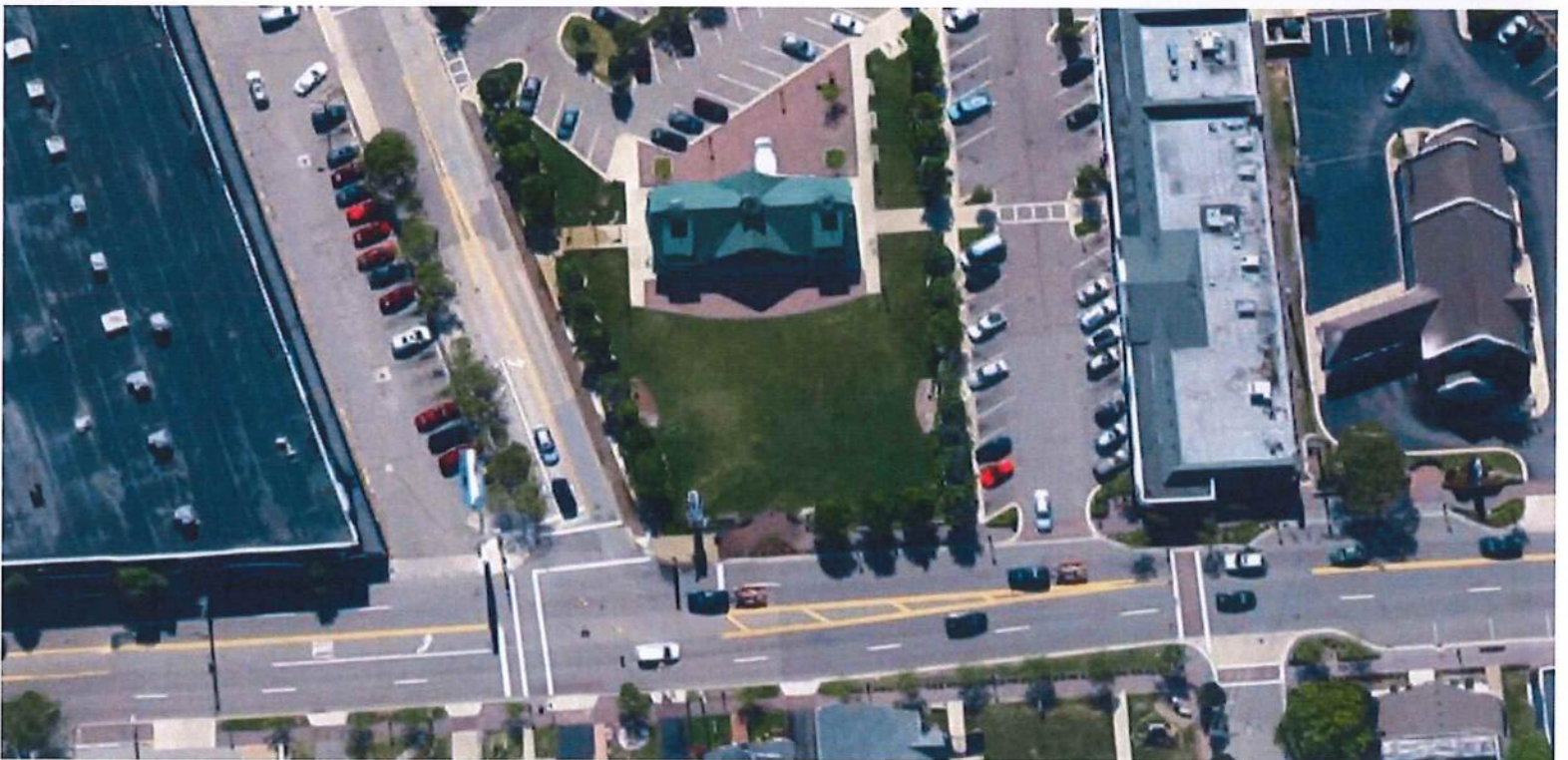
DOWNTOWN RILEY PARK

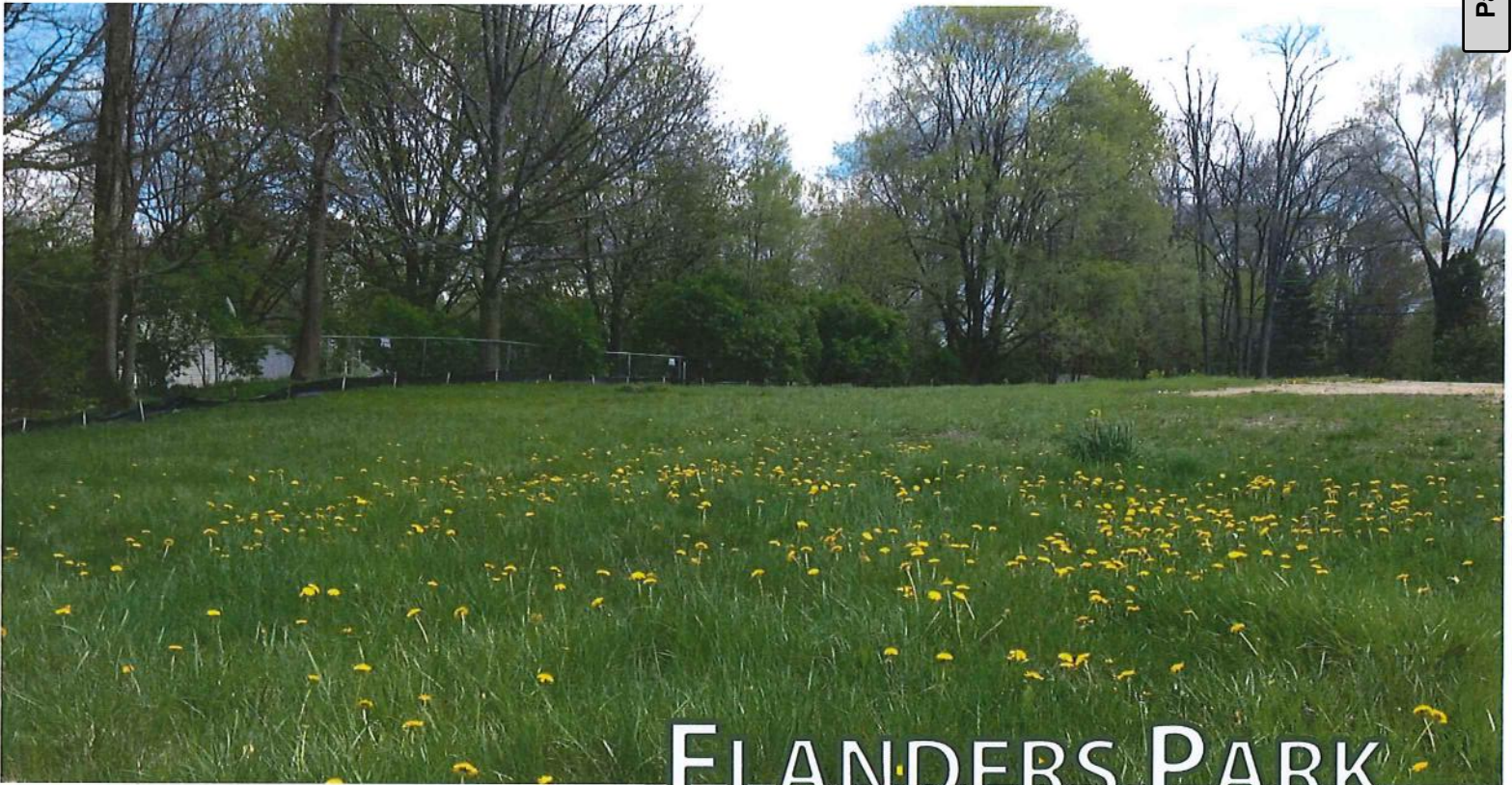
Riley Park and the Walter E. Sundquist Pavilion are centered in the heart of downtown Farmington. The 0.85-acre mini park and pavilion, which opened in 2005, are a year-round gathering place for the Farmington community. More than a decade ago, Walter E. Sundquist, owner of Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, stepped forward with a large donation to ensure success of the pavilion. The park was named after George F. Riley who, through The Riley Foundation, donated the funds for its construction. Today, Riley Park and the Sundquist Pavilion is home to the Farmington Farmers & Artisans Market, Rhythms in Riley Park, Swing Farmington, the Harvest Moon Celebration and, in the winter months, the Riley Park Ice Rink.

See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.

At A Glance: Riley Park	
Classification	Mini Park
Acres	0.85
Recreational Amenities	Winter ice rink Pavilion Public restrooms Walking paths and benches

<p>Facilities Conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities are relatively new, but maintenance has not kept up with rate of use • Sidewalks are in good condition • Bathrooms have little privacy during evening hours and are not insulated/year-round
<p>Public Input</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move the ice rink to Shiawassee Park and open it up to regulation size • Improve crosswalk safety across Grand River Ave





FLANDERS PARK

Located in the southernmost portion of the City, Flander’s Park is being created through a public-private partnership. The developer that bought the former site of Flanders Elementary School agreed to integrate this 2.26-acre public park into their residential development. This neighborhood park will serve both new and existing homes, and has a variety of amenities including a fitness path, natural area, landscaping, and a playscape preserved from the former school site. Parking is not provided, as it is intended that neighborhood residents will be the main users.

See *Table 5-1* in the Action Program for a detailed list of both shorter and longer term implementation priorities for this park.

At A Glance: Flander’s Park	
Classification	Neighborhood Park
Acres	2.5
Recreational Amenities	Fitness path, Playscape, Open space area
Facilities Conditions	n/a
Public Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This park should retain a blend of trees and open space



River Valley North
3 acre natural area

Orchard Street Park
Approximately 5 acre paved park. Three covered picnic tables and benches.

SCHOOL PARKS AND FACILITIES

The Farmington Schools District provides services for students in Farmington, Farmington Hills and a portion of West Bloomfield. There are five school-owned recreation facilities located in the City of Farmington, which are listed by classification and acreage in *Table 3-2 School Recreation Facilities*:

Longacre Elementary
8 acres. Ball field, soccer field, tennis courts, basketball hoops, playground and gymnasium.

Farmington High
43.5 acres. 4 ball fields, soccer field, football stadium, tennis courts, track, gymnasium, and swimming.

Cloverdale Training Center
6.5 acres. Soccer field, tennis courts, playground, multipurpose area.

Sled Hill Area
5 acres. Sled hill, multipurpose area.

Farmington Training Center

Table 3-2 School Recreation Facilities	
Park Classification	Acreage
Neighborhood Parks	
Sled Hill Area	5
Longacre School	8
Cloverdale Training Center	6.5
Community Parks	
Farmington High	43.5
Farmington Training Center	20
School Parks Total	83

REGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES

Regional parks offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, wildlife habitats, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball fields or courts. While these parks are not used for formal programming by the Brownstown Township, they provide opportunities for relaxed family activities.

There are several recreational opportunities located in relatively close proximity to Brownstown in addition to the three regional parks located within the Township. Additional facilities are provided by Wayne County, the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and the State of Michigan.

WAYNE COUNTY PARKS

The Wayne County Park System is a regional system with a number of facilities located within a short distance from Brownstown which provide athletic fields, golf courses, swimming pools, trails, playgrounds, and picnic shelters. In addition to the parks listed below, the County recently acquired Riverfront Park, previously owned by the Township. This site provides opportunities for boating, fishing, and picnicking.



- Bell Creek (Redford Township)
- Elizabeth Park and Marina (Trenton)
- Lola Valley (Redford Township)
- William P. Holliday Forest and Wildlife Preserve (Westland)
- Cass Benton Parkway Park
- Hines Park
- Warren Valley Golf Course
Glen Oaks (Oakland County)

MICHIGAN STATE PARKS

There are several Michigan State Parks that provide recreational opportunities to residents of Farmington and the region. These state facilities provide a variety of activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding.



- Maybury State Park (Northville)
- Dodge #4 State Park (Waterford)

FARMINGTON HILLS

Heritage Park is located on the west side of Farmington between Ten and Eleven Mile Roads. Currently available at this 211-acre park are 4.5 miles of trails for hiking and nature study. In the winter these trails are used for cross-country skiing, and ski rental is available on weekends. A large picnic area is located at the north end of the park. It includes a group picnic shelter, youth playground, in-ground grills, two volleyball courts, an in-line hockey rink and six horseshoe pits. During the winter, the department maintains the pond near Farmington Road for ice skating. Also located in Heritage Park are the Visitor Center, Day Camp, Nature Center and Studio-stables.

Founders Sports Park is located on the north side of Eight Mile Road, one-quarter mile east of Halsted. It is a 101-acre park with a variety of active recreation facilities including 6 soccer fields, 8 ball fields, 4 volleyball courts, 2 half-court basketball courts, 1 bocce ball court, and 1 shuffle board court.

Olde Town Park is located on the corner of Independence and Waldron Streets. This 3.7 acre neighborhood park features a shelter, two tennis courts, picnic tables, grills and a youth playground.

- Gill Elementary School
- Power Middle School
- Costick Center
- Community Center
- San Marino Golf Course

PRIVATE FACILITIES

- Farmington Tennis Club
- Racquet Ball Courts of Farmington
- Chatham Hills
- Drakeshire Apartments
- Jamestown Apartments
- Chatham Hills Apartments
- Valley View Condominium
- Brookdale Condominium
- Independence Green
- Fairways of Copper Creek
- Drakeshire Lanes
- Country Lanes
- Beechview Tennis Club
- Farmington Gymnastics Center

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

[insert list of volunteer organizations]

4.0 BASIS FOR ACTION PROGRAM

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the City. The previous sections of the plan provide valuable insight into all aspects of parks and recreation system in Farmington. This section of the Plan evaluates the information gathered from previous sections to best understand the needs and priorities for parkland, recreation facilities and programs in the community.

There were several resources incorporated into the analysis. To begin, public input was important in order to understand what residents and those actively involved in recreation considered important priorities and preferences. Next, existing parkland was evaluated in terms its size, location and function. This was followed by an analysis of recreation facilities such as athletic fields, playgrounds and trails. Current recreation programs were then evaluated to best understand future programming needs and opportunities. Finally, to ensure that all perspectives were considered, a number of existing planning documents were reviewed to ensure that the Recreation Action Plan corresponded with the current vision and goals of other related community development efforts.

4.1 Farmington Vision

Farmington recently completed a visioning process that was summarized in the 2013 City of Farmington Vision Plan. The six-month process helped guide the city to create a shared vision.

The City of Farmington fits into its region rather comfortably. It is significantly older and has more people per square mile, but fewer per household, than the regional norms. It is somewhat more affluent, but not with respect to Farmington Hills, the city's partner in recreation program delivery. Because of the public's tendency to cross municipal borders in seeking recreation, there is no strong indication that Farmington's recreation program should be significantly different than those of its neighbors. Farmington should ensure that recreational facilities and transportation are available and suitable to people of all ages and incomes.

GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

The Grand River Corridor Study was a joint planning project involving the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, whose intent was to improve the appearance, connectivity, and economic competitiveness of the Grand River Corridor. The process incorporated widespread public input in developing a plan for the future of the Grand River Corridor. The plan's goal was to make the area a great place for people to live, work, gather, and navigate easily whether they are walking, biking or driving. This document defines a clear vision of the corridor which communicates the overall development intent for the area to both the public and private sectors. An electronic version of the plan can be found on the City's webpage.



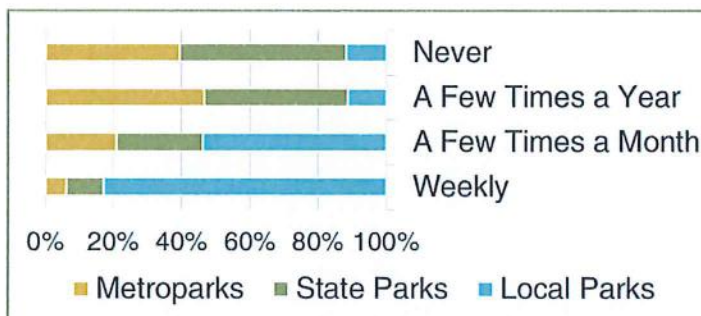
4.2 Public Input

Each plan is unique to reflect a community’s resources, needs, and goals. A community’s goals or vision is perhaps the most important component of a master plan. Those goals should be based upon public surveys, public participation, and/or community consensus. For the purpose of this update, the City of Farmington utilized survey results, a public engagement event, and a stakeholder committee in addition to the state required public hearing process for plan adoption.

The public were informed by a newspaper blurb, social media and the city’s website about an open house which was held on March 31st, 2016, at Farmington High School. Many common ideas were discussed and input for each park was presented by park in *Section 3- Inventory*. Comments were listed with no particular preference or prioritization.

Community Survey Results

The public opinion survey was provided online and on hard copy, distributed attached to resident’s water bills in December 2015, email blasts, posted on the City’s website, and by word of mouth. A total of 192 responses provided input into which types of park facilities visitors frequented most often. The two charts provided summarize usage statistics.



	Response Count	Response Percent
Metroparks		
Weekly	4	3%
A Few Times a Month	24	17%
A Few Times a Year	107	74%
Never	10	7%
Subtotal	145	100%
State Parks		
Weekly	7	5%
A Few Times a Month	28	20%
A Few Times a Year	94	67%
Never	12	9%
Subtotal	141	100%
Local Parks		
Weekly	55	38%
A Few Times a Month	62	42%
A Few Times a Year	26	18%
Never	3	2%
Subtotal	146	100%

Local parks are used frequently by those that responded to the survey, much more frequently than state and metro parks. Nearly 40% said that they use local parks weekly and another 40% use the local parks at least a few times per month. Though not visited as frequently, most participants visit state parks and Metroparks a few times per year showing that they are still a valuable amenity and destination.

Three participants stated that they never use local parks, while ten and twelve each responded that they never use Metroparks and State Parks, respectively.

The survey and more detailed results are provided in *Appendix B- Public Involvement*.

4.3 Parkland and Service Area Analysis

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) provides a recommended park classification system (Appendix C). Each category has its own set of size requirements, service area, and function as follows:

Table 4-2 Public Parkland Acreage Analysis

Park Classification	NRPA Guidelines* (acre/ 1,000 residents)	Existing Acres in Farmington				Recommended Acreage***	Acreage Surplus (Deficit)
		Public	Semi-Public	School	TOTAL		
Mini	0.375	2.48	.61	-	3.09	3.93	(0.84)
Neighborhood	1.75	11.57	11.5	18.00	41.07	18.33	22.74
Community	6.50	23.94	-	43.50	67.44	68.07	(0.63)
Regional	7.50	-	124.97**	-	124.97	78.54	46.43
TOTAL	-	37.99	137.08	61.50	236.57	168.87	67.7

*Source: Lancaster, Roger A., Ed. 1983. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA:NRPA

**Glen Oaks, Oakland County Parks, Farmington Hills

***Based on 10,472 resident 2014 American Community Survey population estimate

Farmington meets or exceeds the guidelines for park acreage and facilities for each category except Mini Park acreage, basketball and volleyball courts. While deficient in acreage for Mini Parks, Farmington has access to ample parkland in other categories. Basketball and volleyball facilities are provided in Farmington Hills and Livonia.

Table 4-3 Public Park Facility Analysis

Farmington & School Park Facility	NRPA Guideline for Facilities*	Existing Facilities for Farmington			Recommended Facilities for Farmington**	Surplus (Deficiency) Farmington
		Public Park	School	Total		
Tennis	1/ 2,000	4	8	12	5	7
Playground	1/ 3,000	1	3	4	4	0
Baseball/Softball	1/ 5,000	6	5	11	2	9
Basketball	1/ 5,000	-	1	1	2	(1)
Volleyball	1/ 5,000	-	-	0	2	(2)
Soccer	1/ 10,000	-	3	3	1	2
Football	1/ 20,000	-	2	2	.5	1.5
Running Track	1/ 20,000	-	1	1	.5	0.5
Swimming Pool	1/ 20,000	-	1	1	.5	0.5
Golf Course- 9 hole	1/ 25,000	-	-	0	.4	(0.4)
Golf Course- 18 hole	1/ 50,000	-	-	0	.2	(0.2)
Ice rink (seasonal)	1/ 50,000	1	-	1	.2	0.8

*Source: Lancaster, Roger A., Ed. 1983. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA:NRPA
Based on 10,472 resident 2014 American Community Survey population estimate

Mini Parks. With three parks classified as mini parks in the City, Farmington has a deficiency of roughly less than one acre based on population standards. The primary purpose of these parks is to provide local playground and open space for residential neighborhoods and are generally under one acre in size. Because of the proximity to neighborhood, community, or regional parks, the need for mini parks could be met by these larger parks. Because this deficiency is so minimal, land acquisition for additional mini park space is not recommended for the City. For purposes of this Plan, the following parks were considered mini parks:

- Women’s Park
- Memorial Park
- Downtown Riley Park

Neighborhood Parks. Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood are generally less than ten acres in size. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities. Farmington’s two neighborhood parks and numerous school facilities provide more than the recommended acreage of neighborhood-scale parks. For purposes of this Plan, the following parks were considered neighborhood parks:

- Drake Park
- Flander’s Park

Community Parks. With almost 70 acres recommended for Farmington, the City has a deficiency of a half-acre of community parkland. Community parks, which are typically over thirty acres in size, contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of Township residents and may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in neighborhood parks. Many of these parks serve the immediate neighborhoods around them, serving as both a neighborhood park in addition to a community-wide park. For purposes of this Plan, the following parks and schools were considered community parks:

- Shiawassee Park



5.0 ACTION PROGRAM

The 2016 Farmington Recreation Plan has been prepared consistent with and in furtherance of the City's master and downtown plans. Both plans state the pervasive consensus of the Farmington community for open space, green space and enhancement of the City's parks and recreation areas. They also specifically address the desirability of community facilities such as recreational, park and civic uses that create an integrated network strongly linked to neighborhoods and the downtown.

This portion of the Plan is the result of a comprehensive effort that began in *Sections 3-Inventory* and *4-Analysis*. The result of the review process begins with the goals and objectives which serve as the foundation for specific recommendations for each of the City's parks, which can be found in *Section 3-Inventory*. These statements assist in prioritizing action strategies for the City.

5.1 Overall Goals

To provide a guideline for decision making, the plan includes a list of goals and objectives based on the previous *2005-2009 Parks & Recreation Master Plan*, *2015 Downtown Area Plan* and *2009 City of Farmington Master Plan*, and the results of analysis and public input. The following goals and objectives are intended to provide an operational framework for future decisions related to the provision of parks and recreation for the Farmington. These goals and objectives should be reviewed annually and modified as necessary.

1

GOAL 1 – Retain the existing recreational land.

2

GOAL 2 – Continue to maintain and enhance recreational land, facilities, programs, and services to meet the evolving needs of the residents of the City and its neighboring communities.

3

GOAL 3 – Create nodes in the Downtown to provide better connected public gathering spaces, as well as opportunities for enhanced social interaction.

4

GOAL 4 – Maintain and enhance existing relationships that promotes recreational land, programs and services for all park and recreational facility users.

Downtown Green Spaces

A major development concept calls for expanding the green space areas within the downtown. Green space areas invite pedestrians and give them a feeling of openness and cleanliness, a sense of closeness to nature. The green space areas should also serve as an attraction for suburban residents to venture into downtown via the Plan's pedestrian walkways or links to shop and enjoy the ambiance of the park setting. Greater ease of entry to the downtown and further integration of the subdivisions with the downtown is a priority.

Downtown Master Plan



5.2 Specific Goals and Objectives

1

Retain existing recreational land.

- Coordinate the Action Program with the City's Capital Improvement Program.
- Work with the Planning Commission and City Council to consider parks and recreation in development proposals and City plans and maintain existing park land through zoning requirements.
- Review the Recreation Master Plan annually to establish priorities and responsibilities with the Community Recreation Committee.

2

Continue to maintain and enhance recreational land, facilities, programs, and services to meet the diverse and evolving needs of the residents of the City and its neighboring communities.

- Improve barrier-free accessibility of the City's park and recreation facilities through accessible pathways and upgrading equipment to meet accessibility standards.
- Pursue the paving of walking trails to improve accessibility.
- Develop a program of signage, lighting, benches, and waste receptacles at all City parks, unique to each park but compatible with other City facilities.
- Maintain and update park equipment and facilities as needed, including playground equipment, hard pavement surfaces, and landscaping.
- Provide additional seating areas at City parks.
- Continue to aggressively explore grants and alternative funding opportunities for improvement projects.

3

Create nodes in the Downtown to provide better connected public gathering spaces, as well as opportunities for enhanced social interaction

- Evaluate potential new park development opportunities for needed and desired active and passive recreation facilities such as athletic fields, dog parks, skate parks, playground equipment, and seating areas.
- Require new development projects to include and develop minimum areas for active and passive recreation to serve future populations.
- Continue to study the feasibility of a new multi-purpose community center and library within Town Center.
- Create recreation opportunities that go beyond the traditional team sports such as educational components, individual sporting pursuits, and training/self-improvement courses.
- Maintain open communication with other recreation providers for opportunities to joint venture on larger improvement projects and regional recreation demands.
- Support the acquisition and development of recreation land as a conservation measure to preserve specific natural resources.

4

Maintain and enhance existing relationships that promotes recreational land, programs and services for all park and recreational facility users.

- Coordinate with other recreation providers to prevent duplication of services and avoid competition.
- Monitor recreation programs to ensure they meet the desires of residents and accommodate enrollment figures.
- Monitor the use of athletic fields and park facilities to determine additional needs.
- Evaluate programming fees to create a balance between covering costs while maintaining affordability for area residents.
- Expand senior programs to meet their unique social and recreation interests.

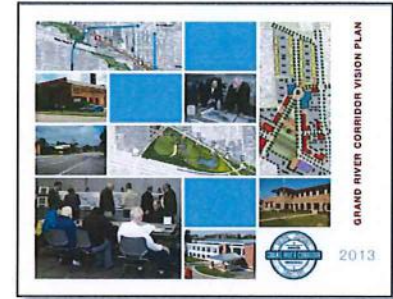
5.3 Specific Recommendations

PARK SPECIFIC

See *Section 3- Inventory* for specific recommendations per park.

UPPER ROUGE RIVER & GRAND RIVER CORRIDOR

The Rouge River winds 127 miles through metro Detroit. Parts of Historic Downtown Farmington, including Shiawassee Park are within the Rouge River watershed. Many visiting the area would not be aware of this resource, as it is quietly hidden. However, several recent planning efforts underscore the potential for enhancing the Grand River Avenue corridor through projects along the Rouge River, including the acquisition of public land for recreational, open space and a non-motorized trail network called the Riverwalk.



The concept of a Riverwalk originated with the 2015 Grand River Corridor Vision Plan, which envisioned a non-motorized trail along the Upper Rouge River extending from Shiawassee Park at the corridor's northern end to the corridor's intersection with 8 Mile Road. Due to certain constraints, this project will proceed first where land, access easements and financial resources are available. The project will be implemented in phases as additional resources are attained.



The City has utilized planning firms and student groups to facilitate several design concepts for how a series of pathways along the river would interact with and enhance the community.

SYSTEM-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upgrades and improvements to current parks and recreation facilities and services are high priorities to ensure their long-term viability and to meet the goals and guidelines of this Plan. The following items describe system-wide suggestions that should be coordinated each year based on the goals and objectives of the Plan.

DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS

As the park system evolves and each park undergoes its own degree of improvements, it is important to clearly identify park entrances and visually unify the parks so residents are aware the facilities they use are part of Farmington's park system. This includes updates to the current park signage to reflect the City's official logo and can also be accomplished by a set of uniform design themes to be used in the design of lighting, benches, waste receptacles, bike racks, and other amenities that represent Farmington parks.

PROGRAMMING

The City, along with other supporting groups, should continue to offer high-quality recreation programs and events for its residents and should be looking for ways to improve programming. Continued partnership with Farmington Hills remains a priority for residents to maintain the efficient provision of recreation programming to community residents.

STAFFING

The Office of Economic and Community Development needs to annually monitor staffing levels and office facility needs for efficient administration, operation, programming and maintenance of the parks and recreation system.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & FUNDRAISING

Community involvement is an essential element of recreation planning, including neighborhood support through adopt-a-park beautification programs and neighborhood watch associations to facilitate a feeling of ownership among adjacent residents. Outreach to the business community and service organizations is encouraged for park sponsorships and assistance

LAND ACQUISITION

Although it is a priority to maximize the use of existing facilities, the City should explore opportunities for land acquisition to meet future demands for parkland. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways. The City can develop a public/private partnership with landowners to share use of a facility or promote the re-use of buildings no longer operating. Cooperation with schools, faith-based institutions and other civic groups may present opportunities for land donation, provided favorable arrangements are made such as the City completing certain improvements or maintaining the facilities. The City should target land for acquisition that contains sensitive natural features to ensure their preservation, and areas that are part of larger regional efforts, such as along the Rouge River as per the Grand River Avenue Corridor Plan.

5.4 Five Year Action Program

In the near future, the five-year period of this plan, the city expects to continue conducting its recreational programs through services purchased from the City of Farmington Hills. The experience of the past several years has met expectations and the City Council continues to believe that a joint program is the best available method for providing the highest quality and most varied recreational program for its residents. The city remains responsible for the maintenance of those facilities within its municipal boundaries. Farmington's Recreation Master Plan capital improvement schedule is included here as the following table (cost estimates are subject to project revision, final design and inflation).

Table 5-1 Five Year Action Program on the following pages identifies recommendations in a useable list for the City. This not only keeps the City on track with projects but it also helps to identify funding priorities. There are a number of action items identified during the five year planning period. Some actions are on-going strategies that should be considered on an annual basis to help ensure consistent, quality service of recreation facilities and programs. The key improvement recommendations are centered on the following important components of the park system:

- Expand the City's pathway system
- Upgrade existing park facilities
- Increase the variety of recreational facilities
- Preserve ample open space

Through this planning process, the City identified these elements as the most important priorities because of their ability to address all of the established goals and objectives. In summary, completion of these projects:

- Expand the diversity of recreation facilities offered in the City
- Expand programming opportunities for residents
- Increase access to parks and recreation for all residents
- Ensure high quality park and recreation services and facilities for the residents

Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are in 2008 dollars, are based on general assumptions and the cost of constructing similar facilities in the Midwest, and are strictly preliminary. Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements and engineering plans are developed. If funding levels are lower than required to implement the Plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years.

Table 5-1 Five Year Action Program		
Timeline & Projects	Estimated Cost & Primary Funding Source	Comments
2016-2018		
Shiawassee Park Improvements: Initiate access improvements between park and downtown, including switchback and pedestrian bridge.	\$1-2 mi General Fund, DDA	
Drake Park Improvements: Upgrade ball field with new layout, add lighting to large field, upgrade parking area, add dumpster enclosure	\$1 mi General Fund	
Women's Park Improvements:		
Flander's Park Improvements: Implement approved plan for park, including relocation of elementary school playground equipment, landscaping, installation of fitness path and park signage	\$75,000 Private Funds	
Memorial Park Improvements:		
Downtown Riley Park Improvements: Ongoing maintenance,	Variable DDA	
Other activities: Begin Rouge River Trail plan phase 1?		
2018-2020		
Shiawassee Park Improvements: Initiate ballpark redesign improvements, add new playground equipment, ongoing maintenance to pavilion, new signage		
Drake Park Improvements: Upgrade public restrooms, add shared-use facility for ball fields		
Longer Term Projects- 2021 and beyond		

A

APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Regional Setting

The City of Farmington is located in southeastern Michigan in the southern part of Oakland County. The City is bordered on three sides by the City of Farmington Hills and on the south by the City of Livonia, which is in Wayne County.



The City of Farmington is located in metropolitan Detroit. Being a heavily urbanized region is taken into consideration for all planning, including community planning. As a result of community traditions and significant jointly-operated programs between Farmington and Farmington Hills, many area residents are unaware of geopolitical boundaries.

Socioeconomic Characteristics

The following demographic report provides an understanding of the unique characteristics and qualities of the local population. The following includes an analysis of age, disability, income and employment characteristics together with household trends among city residents. These factors help the City identify current and future needs, allowing the City to assess whether existing facilities are adequate or need additional amenities and improvements for underserved residents.

POPULATION AND HOUSING TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS

Like many Michigan communities, Farmington began as a small community but experienced steady growth until the early 2000's, where populations began a slight decline, in part due to a downturn in the economy. Population and housing trends are summarized in *Table A-1 Population and Housing Trends*.

	2000	2010	% Change 2000-2010	July 2015 Estimate	2040
Population	10,423	10,372	-0.5%	10,900	10,979
Housing Units	4,991	4,959	-1%	4,959	n/a
Household Size	2.13	2.22	4%	2.26	2.34

Source: Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) 2040 Forecast, 2000 and 2010 US Census

The most current population estimate is provided by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), which estimates that as of July 2015 there were 10,900 people living in the City of Farmington. This is a slight increase from 2010 figures, while the population is projected to increase slightly over the next 20+ years.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Our recreational requirements change with age, which results in different facility and programming requirements. Table A-2 Age Distribution shows the age distribution of the City in 2010 and projected for 2040.

It should be noted the most significant change will be the number of residents 65 years of age and older, which is projected to more than double by 2040. This indicates a strong need to plan recreation for seniors, as the baby boomer generation matures and improvements in medical technology help people live longer.

Table A-2 Age Distribution			
Age Group	2010	2040	% Change 2010-2040
Under 5	674	647	-4%
5 to 17	1608	1,607	0%
18 to 34	2210	2224	1%
35 to 64	4,269	3,801	-11%
65+	1611	2700	68%

Source: Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) 2040 Forecast, 2010 US Census

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

The estimated 2014 unemployment rate was lower in Farmington (7.3%) in Ferndale (10.5%), a comparable city of size and character, and Oakland County (9.1%), but higher than in Farmington Hills (5.9%) .

The Median Household Income in Farmington is \$58,908 per the 2010-2014 American Community Survey Estimates. This is lower than Farmington Hills (\$71,061) and Oakland County (\$66,436), but higher than Ferndale (\$50,590).

Individuals below the poverty level within the City makeup 6.1% of the population (2010-2014 ACS Estimates). This is lower than Farmington Hills (7.9%) and Oakland County (10.4%) and much lower than Ferndale (17.0%).

Physical Characteristics

LAND USE

The land use distribution and development pattern of a community is important when considering the geographic distribution of parks and recreational facilities because they should be placed where there are concentrations of residents and the related places of public gathering. Existing Land Use and Future Land Use maps can be found in the City's planning documents.

Farmington offers a healthy mix of land uses, although single-family residential is the primary developed use in the City. Nearly 5% of land use is categorized as recreation or conservation. Development is compact and diverse and generally offers more land to commercial and institutional uses than comparative communities. The more compact development pattern of Farmington provides an advantage in terms of sustainability and walkability. Downtown

Farmington serves as a distinguishable mixed-use center with retail, entertainment, office and residential uses within a compact walkable area.

TRANSPORTATION

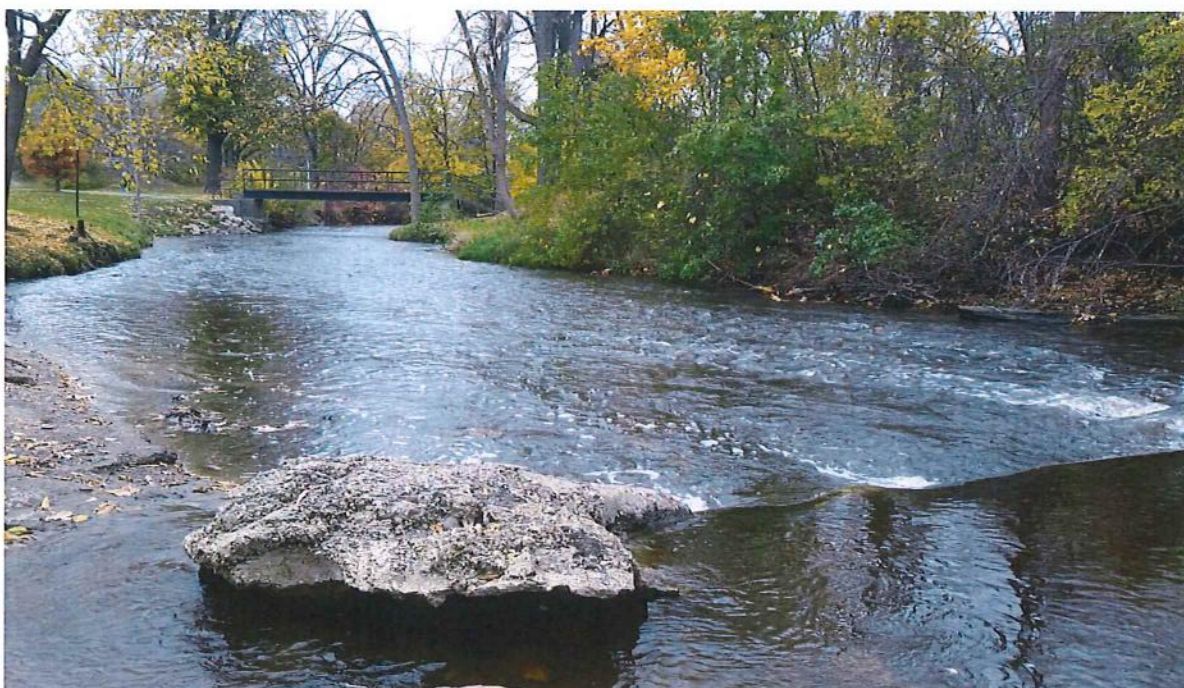
Several major roads service the City. Grand River Avenue is a major east-west corridor through downtown Farmington. Farmington City Hall, which is centrally located in the City, is about five miles from Telegraph Road on the east and I-96 on the south. I-696 is about three miles north and I-275 about three miles west. The M-5 Freeway runs through the City and Eight Mile Road is on the southern border.

Because of the excellent highway system, most sections of the metropolitan area are readily available to Farmington's residents. Since the opening of the Walter Reuther Freeway, I-696, even the far east side is less than an hour's drive. A number of specialized facilities provide professional sports, popular music and various other events year round. Similarly, people from other communities utilize Farmington's parks and patronize commercial recreational facilities in the City. Compact, walkable development allows for residents and visitors to frequent parks by walking and biking.

NATURAL FEATURES

The Great Lakes are the dominant physical resource in the region and a number of inland lakes reinforce the popularity of water sports and water-based activities. Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and Lake Erie are all within an hour's drive and attract boaters, swimmers and fishermen. Farmington is about 25 miles from Lakes St. Clair and Erie, and most of the Detroit River is somewhat closer. The area to the west, from southwest to northwest, offers a variety of environments: hilly, wooded, agricultural, suburban, small towns, lakes and rivers.

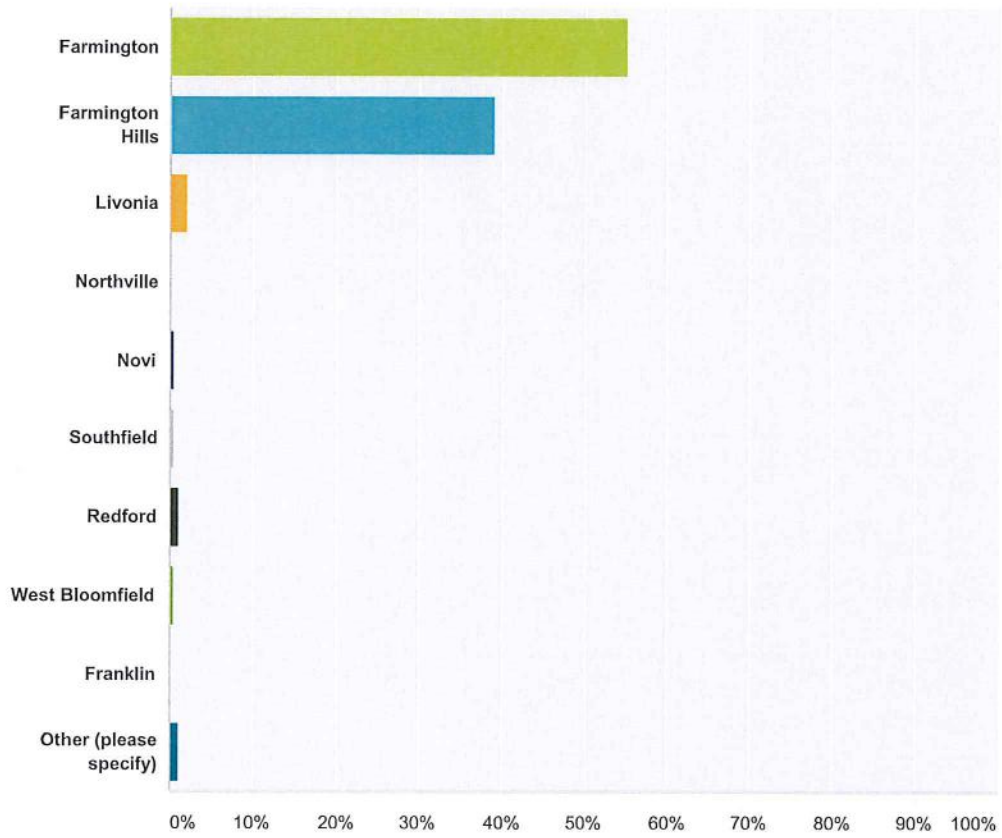
The Upper Rouge River flows from Farmington Hills southward through the north and eastern portions of the City. The River valley is a distinct topographic feature that contributes to Farmington's unique character. The northern segment of the River's floodplain is occupied by parkland (Shiawassee Park). In addition, Farmington has several contiguous wooded areas, which combined, provide a continuous natural habitat that forms a natural wildlife link throughout the City.



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

Q1 Where do you live?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Farmington	55.21%	106
Farmington Hills	39.06%	75
Livonia	2.08%	4
Northville	0.00%	0
Novi	0.52%	1
Southfield	0.52%	1
Redford	1.04%	2
West Bloomfield	0.52%	1
Franklin	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	1.04%	2
Total		192

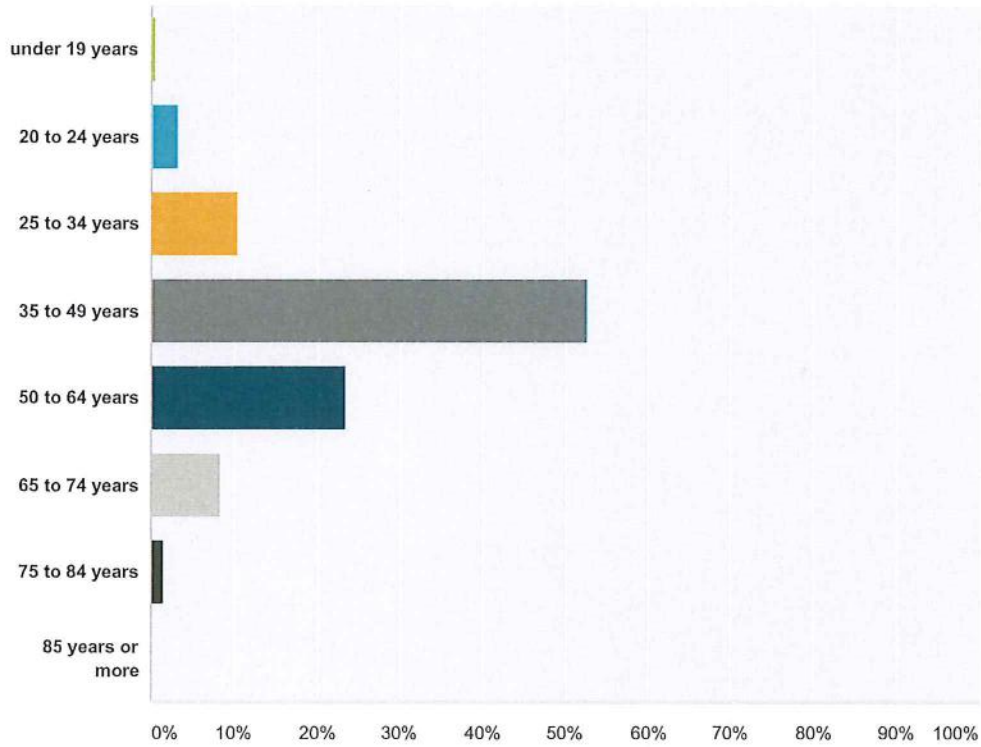
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Battle Creek, Michigan	3/3/2016 8:07 PM

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

2	walled lake	12/17/2015 12:36 PM
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Q2 What is your age?

Answered: 192 Skipped: 0

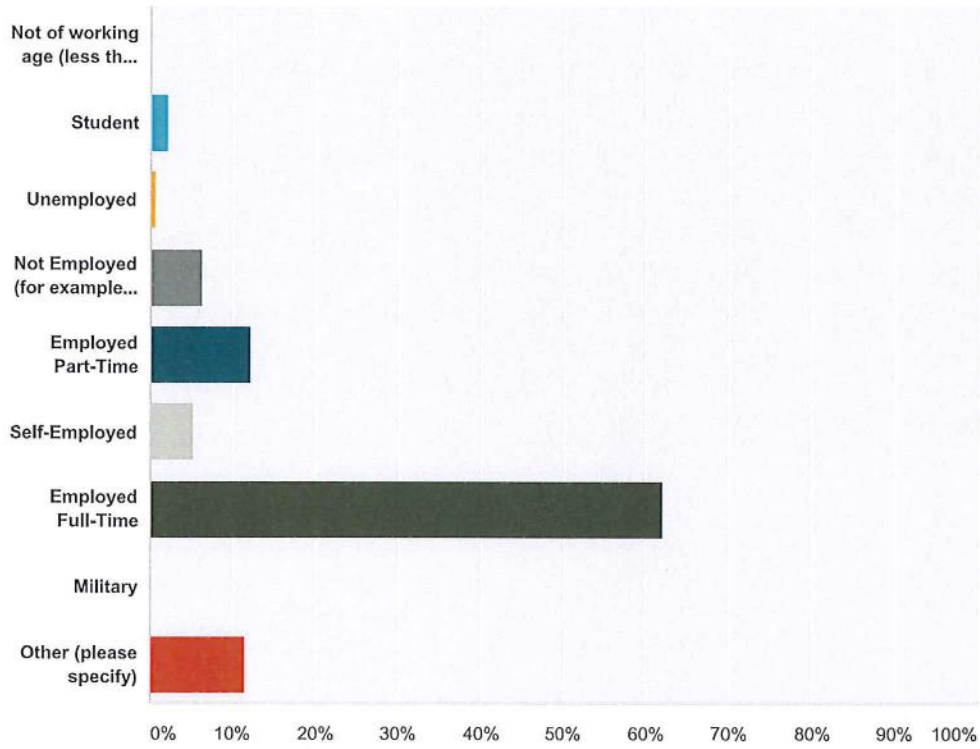


Answer Choices	Responses
under 19 years	0.52% 1
20 to 24 years	3.13% 6
25 to 34 years	10.42% 20
35 to 49 years	52.60% 101
50 to 64 years	23.44% 45
65 to 74 years	8.33% 16
75 to 84 years	1.56% 3
85 years or more	0.00% 0
Total	192

Q3 What is your occupational status?

Answered: 190 Skipped: 2

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Answer Choices	Responses
Not of working age (less than 16 years old)	0.00% 0
Student	2.11% 4
Unemployed	0.53% 1
Not Employed (for example: stay-at-home parent, disabled, etc.)	6.32% 12
Employed Part-Time	12.11% 23
Self-Employed	5.26% 10
Employed Full-Time	62.11% 118
Military	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	11.58% 22
Total	190

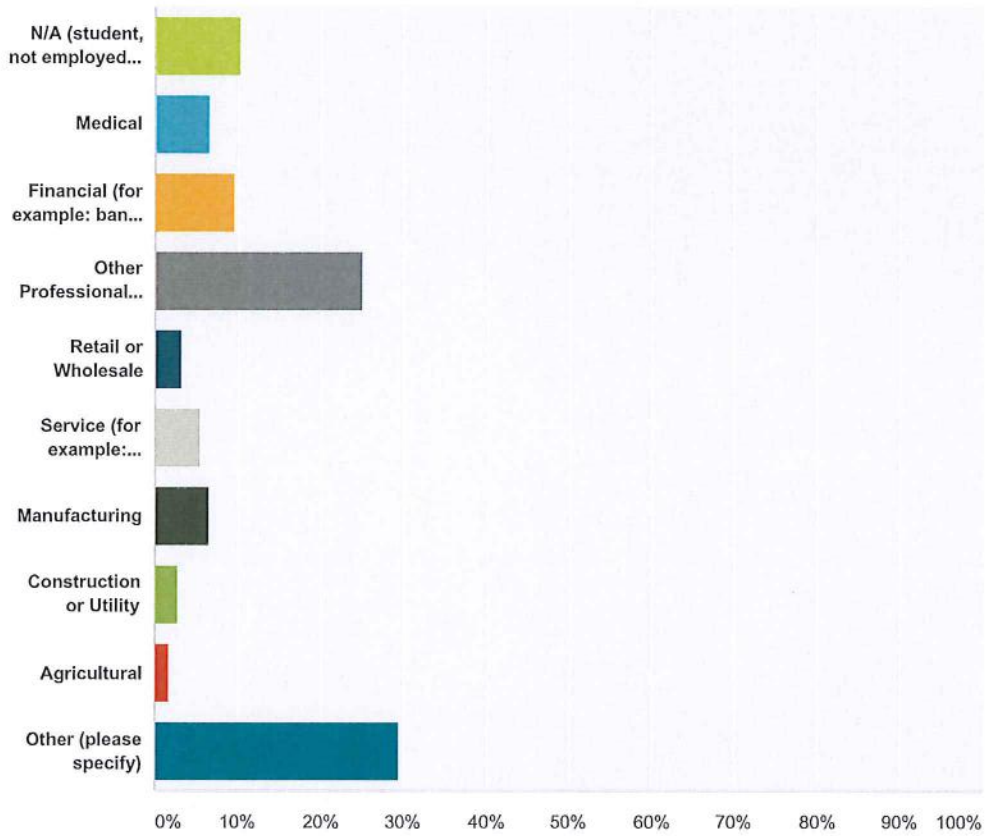
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Retired	4/3/2016 10:45 AM
2	homemaker	3/31/2016 12:56 PM
3	Stay-at-home mom	3/29/2016 7:50 PM
4	retired	3/28/2016 9:17 AM
5	Retired	3/21/2016 5:23 PM
6	retired nurse	3/19/2016 8:10 AM
7	retired	3/6/2016 7:06 AM
8	retired	2/25/2016 10:05 AM

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

9	retired	2/18/2016 4:01 PM
10	retired	2/14/2016 11:05 AM
11	Retired	1/28/2016 4:44 PM
12	part time two jobs plus self employed	1/27/2016 8:00 AM
13	retired	1/2/2016 2:39 PM
14	Retired	12/22/2015 8:05 PM
15	retired	12/19/2015 1:24 PM
16	retired	12/18/2015 4:25 PM
17	retired	12/18/2015 1:47 PM
18	retired	12/18/2015 11:04 AM
19	retired	12/18/2015 9:39 AM
20	Retired	12/10/2015 6:54 PM
21	Retired	12/10/2015 5:41 PM
22	Consultant	12/10/2015 4:32 PM

Q4 In what type of business or industry do you work?

Answered: 187 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
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Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

N/A (student, not employed, unemployed, or other)	10.18%	19
Medical	6.42%	12
Financial (for example: bank, insurance agency, etc.)	9.63%	18
Other Professional Office (for example: attorney, realtor, etc.)	25.13%	47
Retail or Wholesale	3.21%	6
Service (for example: restaurant, dry cleaners, lawn care, auto service, etc.)	5.35%	10
Manufacturing	6.42%	12
Construction or Utility	2.67%	5
Agricultural	1.60%	3
Other (please specify)	29.41%	55
Total		187

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Municipal Gov	3/31/2016 3:19 PM
2	retired--Farmington Schools	3/28/2016 9:17 AM
3	Engineering	3/20/2016 4:50 PM
4	Publishing company	3/7/2016 1:07 PM
5	Teacher	3/6/2016 4:09 PM
6	retired	3/6/2016 7:06 AM
7	Home Health Care	3/3/2016 8:07 PM
8	Educator	3/3/2016 4:44 AM
9	retired teacher	2/25/2016 10:05 AM
10	performing arts	2/24/2016 5:35 PM
11	publishing	2/24/2016 2:14 PM
12	Educator	2/21/2016 5:14 PM
13	retired	2/14/2016 11:05 AM
14	Law enforcement	2/12/2016 7:21 AM
15	Education	2/11/2016 7:34 PM
16	Non-profit	2/4/2016 12:35 PM
17	Landscaping	2/3/2016 6:48 PM
18	Education	1/31/2016 7:27 AM
19	Distribution	1/29/2016 4:50 PM
20	Education/Engineer	1/28/2016 10:14 PM
21	Retired	1/28/2016 4:44 PM
22	Consulting	1/27/2016 4:50 PM
23	Ministry	1/27/2016 1:52 PM
24	Education	1/27/2016 11:43 AM
25	Education	1/27/2016 10:04 AM
26	teaching	1/27/2016 9:32 AM

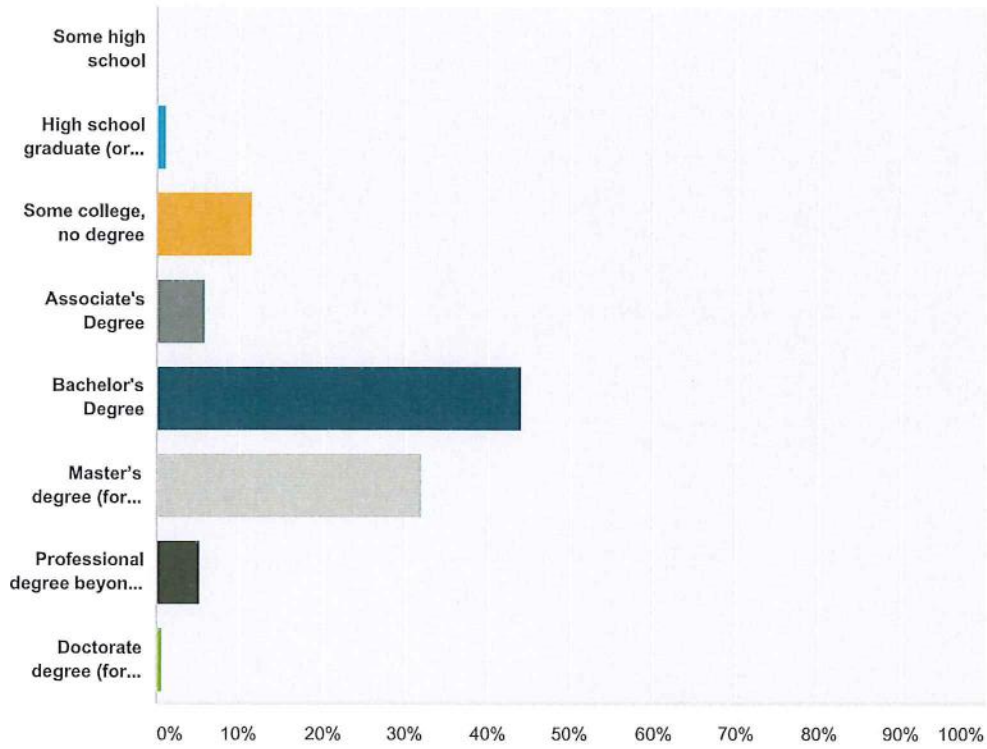
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

27	Educagion	1/27/2016 9:20 AM
28	Education	1/27/2016 8:24 AM
29	Architecture	1/27/2016 7:50 AM
30	Education and Automotive	1/27/2016 6:50 AM
31	Education-teacher	1/27/2016 5:59 AM
32	Automotive professional	1/27/2016 3:03 AM
33	education	1/27/2016 1:57 AM
34	Distribution	1/26/2016 10:59 PM
35	Information Technology - Software	1/17/2016 3:01 PM
36	Engineering (automotive)	1/8/2016 12:13 PM
37	Government	1/8/2016 10:32 AM
38	education	1/5/2016 11:38 AM
39	Media	1/3/2016 1:44 PM
40	education	1/3/2016 11:37 AM
41	broadcasting	12/28/2015 5:51 AM
42	Part time property manager	12/22/2015 8:05 PM
43	Public Safety	12/19/2015 9:08 AM
44	retired	12/18/2015 4:25 PM
45	info tech	12/18/2015 1:47 PM
46	retired	12/18/2015 9:39 AM
47	Education	12/17/2015 9:43 PM
48	Social Services	12/17/2015 4:25 PM
49	Municipal	12/16/2015 11:40 AM
50	Information Technology	12/11/2015 4:14 PM
51	Library	12/10/2015 9:27 PM
52	Marketing & Communications	12/10/2015 4:32 PM
53	Cultural (Detroit Institute of Arts)	12/10/2015 10:58 AM
54	education	12/8/2015 2:09 PM
55	Government	12/7/2015 3:49 PM

Q5 What is the highest degree or level of education you have attained?

Answered: 191 Skipped: 1

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



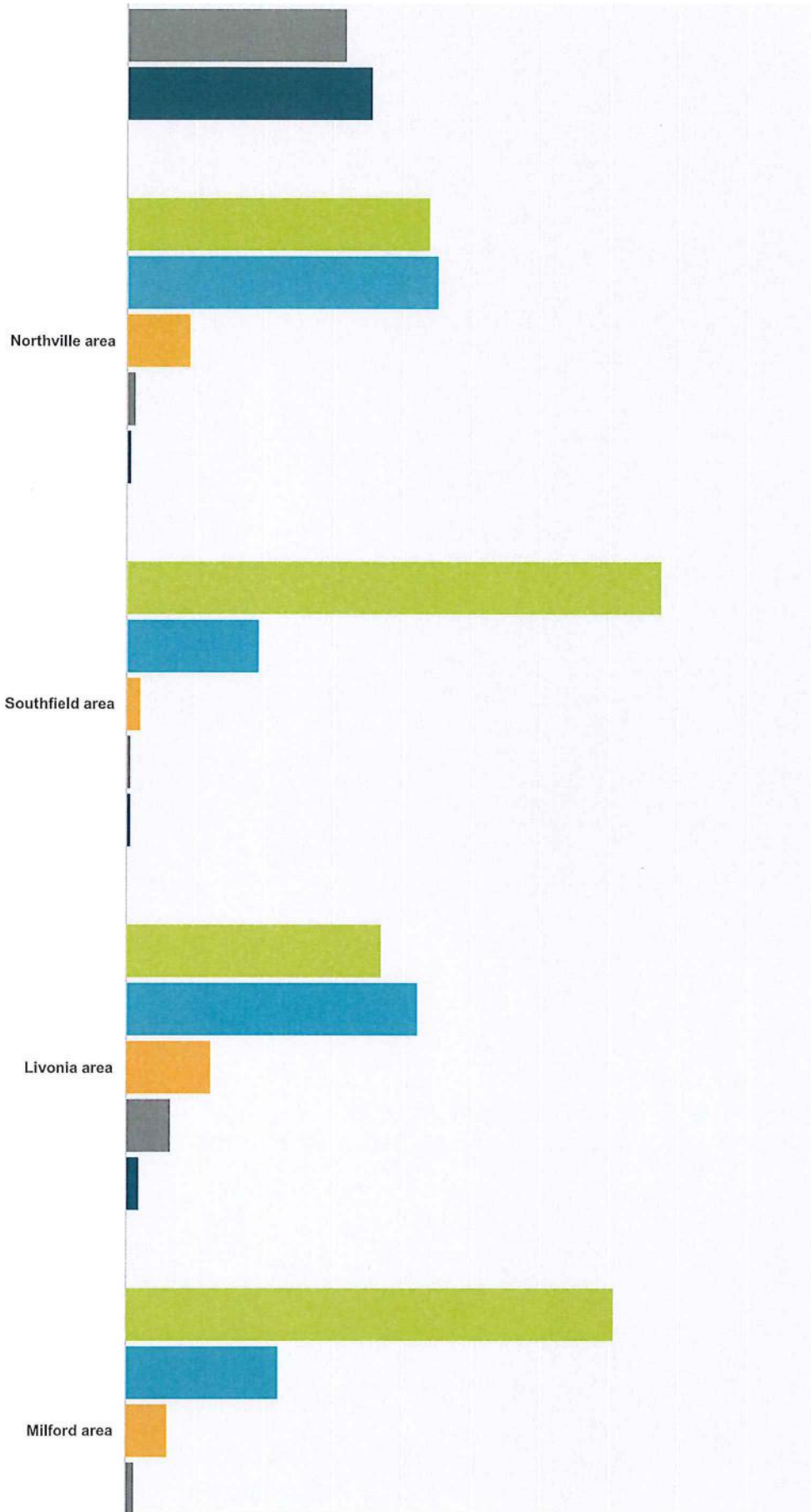
Answer Choices	Responses
Some high school	0.00% 0
High school graduate (or GED equivalent)	1.05% 2
Some college, no degree	11.52% 22
Associate's Degree	5.76% 11
Bachelor's Degree	43.98% 84
Master's degree (for example: MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)	31.94% 61
Professional degree beyond a bachelor's degree (for example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)	5.24% 10
Doctorate degree (for example: PhD, EdD)	0.52% 1
Total	191

Q6 In the past year, how often have you visited the following areas for recreational purposes?

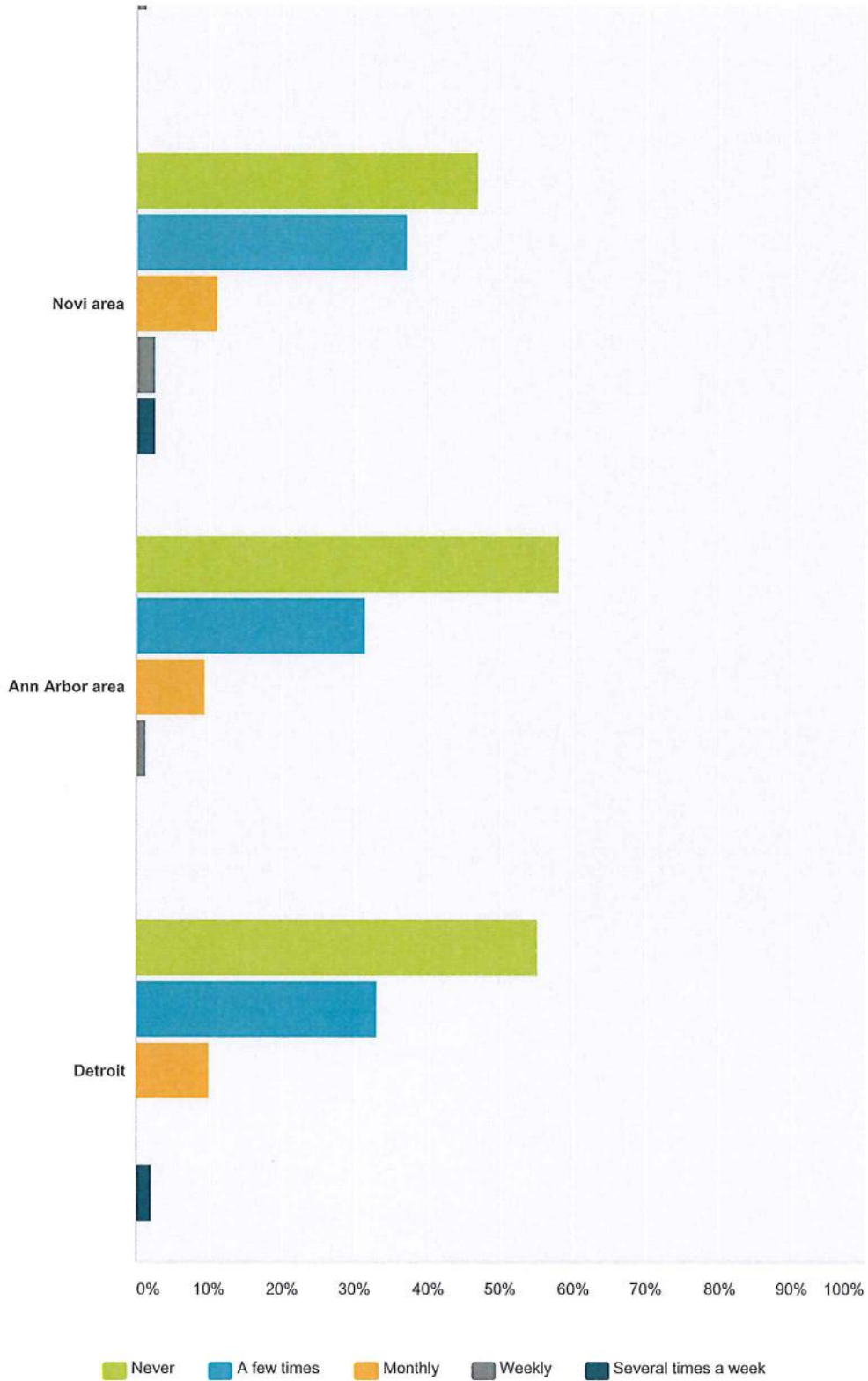
Answered: 177 Skipped: 15



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



	Never	A few times	Monthly	Weekly	Several times a week	Total
Farmington area	1.69%	14.69%	16.38%	31.64%	35.59%	177
	3	26	29	56	63	

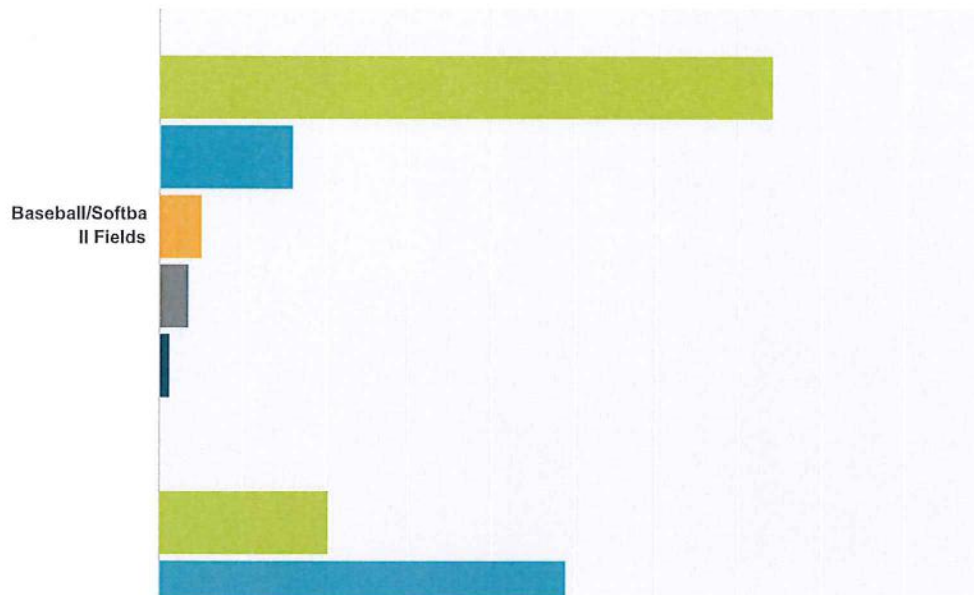
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

Northville area	43.79% 67	45.10% 69	9.15% 14	1.31% 2	0.65% 1	153
Southfield area	77.40% 113	19.18% 28	2.05% 3	0.68% 1	0.68% 1	146
Livonia area	37.01% 57	42.21% 65	12.34% 19	6.49% 10	1.95% 3	154
Milford area	70.47% 105	22.15% 33	6.04% 9	1.34% 2	0.00% 0	149
Novi area	46.75% 72	37.01% 57	11.04% 17	2.60% 4	2.60% 4	154
Ann Arbor area	58.00% 87	31.33% 47	9.33% 14	1.33% 2	0.00% 0	150
Detroit	55.03% 82	32.89% 49	10.07% 15	0.00% 0	2.01% 3	149

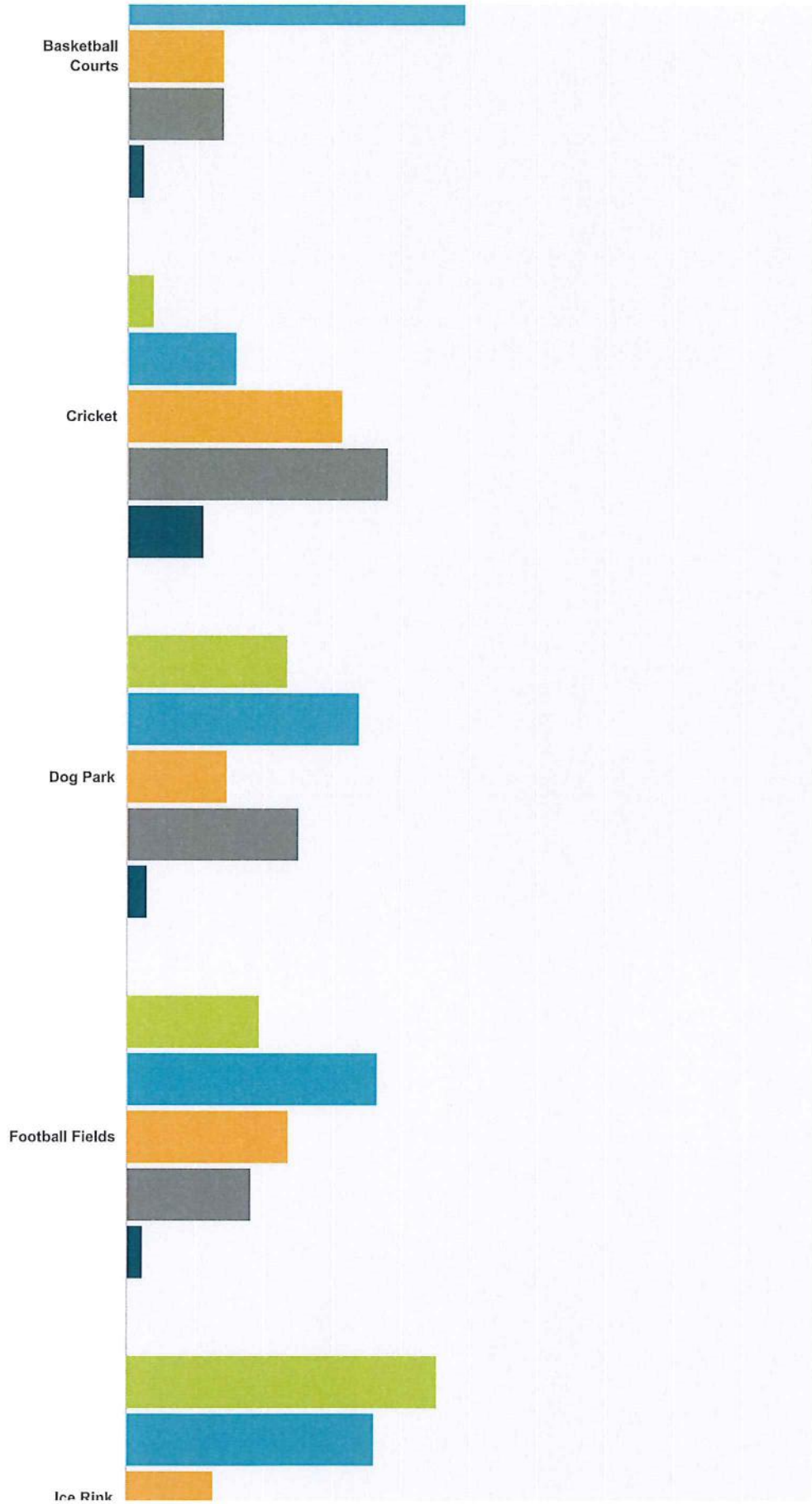
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Farmers Market on Sat. and during the week	3/7/2016 1:14 PM
2	Port Huron area a few times	1/31/2016 5:33 PM
3	Windsor	1/27/2016 8:02 AM
4	Redford	1/27/2016 5:56 AM
5	State parks	1/25/2016 8:07 PM
6	Plymouth	1/3/2016 12:53 PM
7	Metro Parks / State Parks	1/3/2016 11:43 AM
8	Michigan State Parks 1-2x / month	1/3/2016 11:34 AM
9	Lyon Oaks Dog Park and hiking trails in past year	12/19/2015 9:11 PM
10	Lexington	12/17/2015 9:47 PM

Q7 How important are the following outdoor recreation facilities in Farmington?

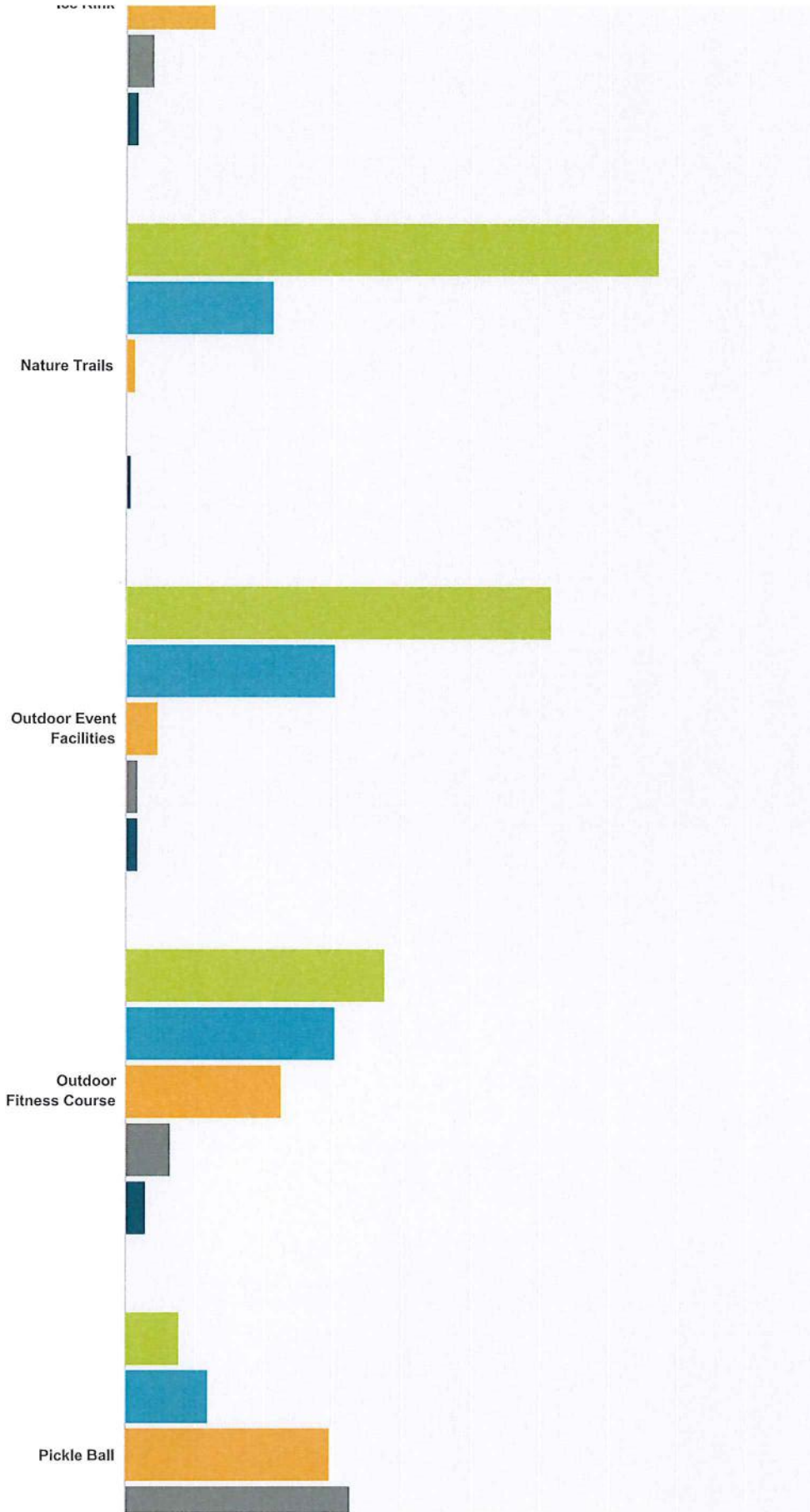
Answered: 177 Skipped: 15



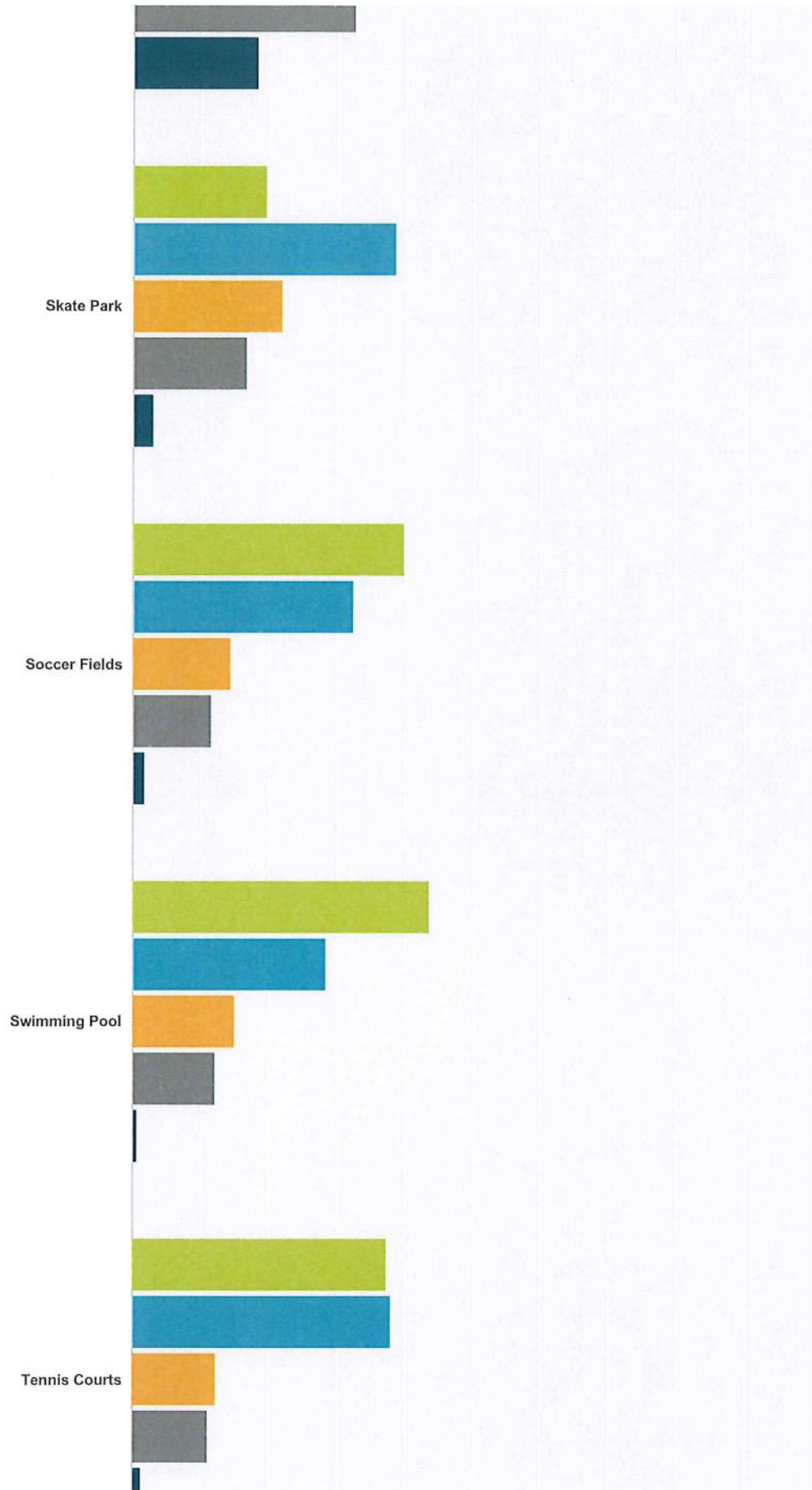
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



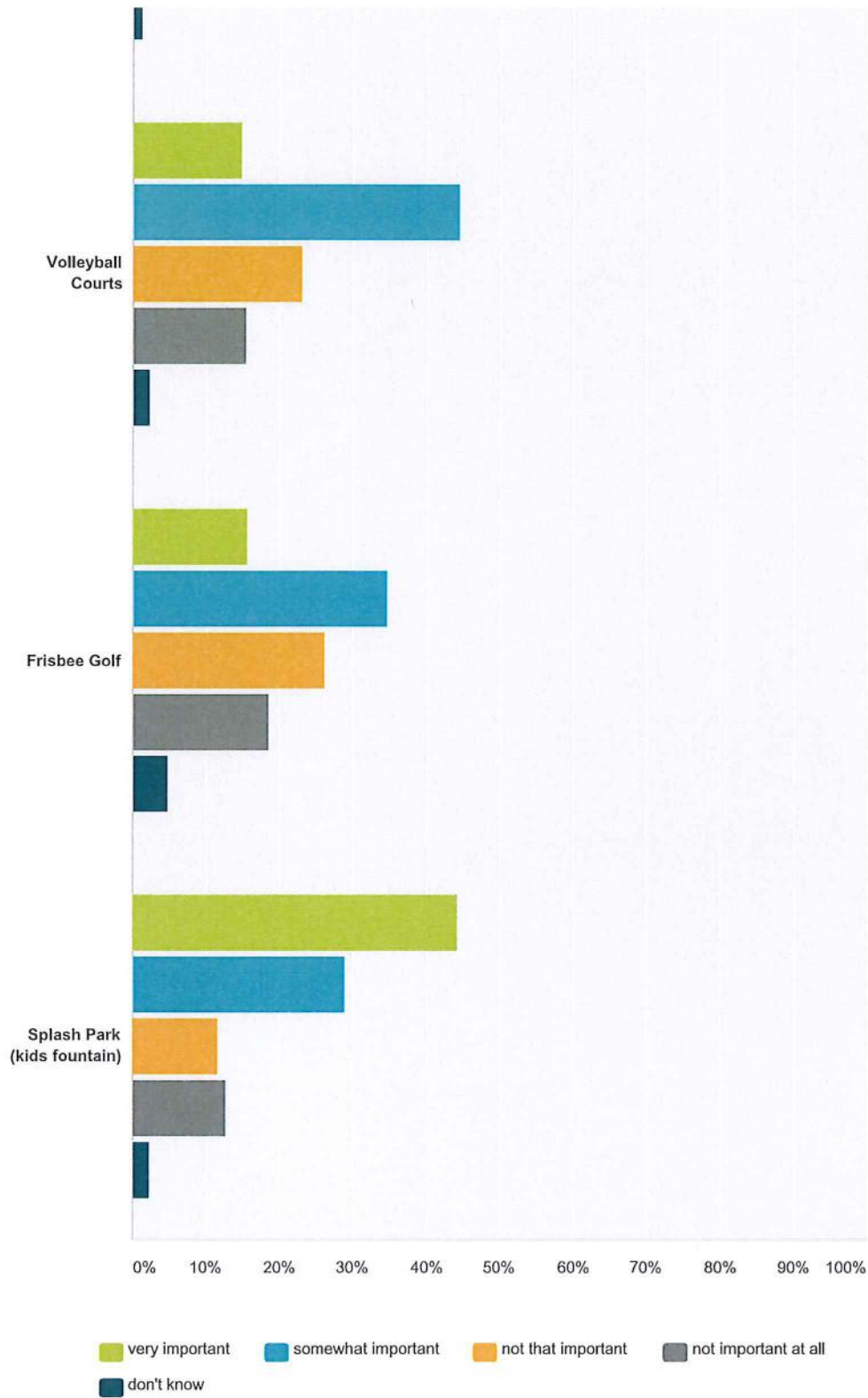
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



	very important	somewhat important	not that important	not important at all	don't know	Total
Baseball/Softball Fields	74.14% 129	16.09% 28	5.17% 9	3.45% 6	1.15% 2	174

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

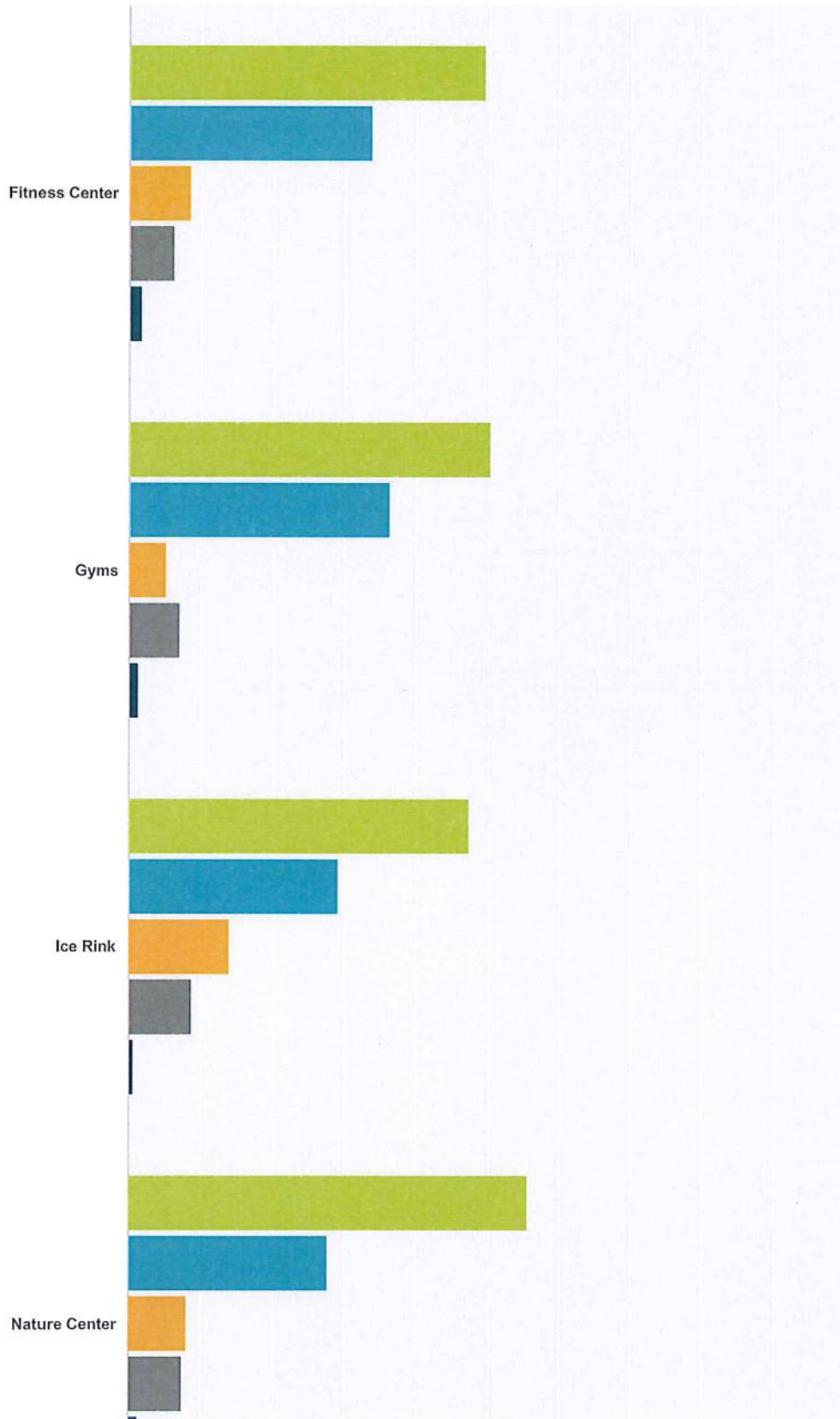
Facility	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Count
Basketball Courts	20.47%	49.12%	14.04%	14.04%	2.34%	171
	35	84	24	24	4	
Cricket	3.68%	15.95%	31.29%	38.04%	11.04%	163
	6	26	51	62	18	
Dog Park	23.39%	33.92%	14.62%	25.15%	2.92%	171
	40	58	25	43	5	
Football Fields	19.41%	36.47%	23.53%	18.24%	2.35%	170
	33	62	40	31	4	
Ice Rink	45.40%	36.21%	12.64%	4.02%	1.72%	174
	79	63	22	7	3	
Nature Trails	77.01%	21.26%	1.15%	0.00%	0.57%	174
	134	37	2	0	1	
Outdoor Event Facilities	61.63%	30.23%	4.65%	1.74%	1.74%	172
	106	52	8	3	3	
Outdoor Fitness Course	37.50%	30.36%	22.62%	6.55%	2.98%	168
	63	51	38	11	5	
Pickle Ball	7.69%	11.83%	29.59%	32.54%	18.34%	169
	13	20	50	55	31	
Skate Park	19.64%	38.69%	22.02%	16.67%	2.98%	168
	33	65	37	28	5	
Soccer Fields	39.88%	32.37%	14.45%	11.56%	1.73%	173
	69	56	25	20	3	
Swimming Pool	43.60%	28.49%	15.12%	12.21%	0.58%	172
	75	49	26	21	1	
Tennis Courts	37.43%	38.01%	12.28%	11.11%	1.17%	171
	64	65	21	19	2	
Volleyball Courts	14.79%	44.38%	23.08%	15.38%	2.37%	169
	25	75	39	26	4	
Frisbee Golf	15.57%	34.73%	26.35%	18.56%	4.79%	167
	26	58	44	31	8	
Splash Park (kids fountain)	44.19%	29.07%	11.63%	12.79%	2.33%	172
	76	50	20	22	4	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Lawn Bowling for Seniors at Warner Mansion	3/28/2016 9:19 AM
2	Biking trails	3/24/2016 1:06 PM
3	Concerts for all ages	3/3/2016 8:20 PM
4	Places to take a walk!	2/12/2016 10:14 AM
5	sled hill - very important	1/11/2016 6:26 PM
6	Bike trail	1/8/2016 12:20 PM
7	We need bike paths in parks! Kensington / Island lake bikes trails.	1/3/2016 11:43 AM
8	bicycle trails	1/2/2016 2:43 PM
9	I'm tired of the cricket players taking over baseball/softball diamonds without going through Farmington rec. to rent the fields out.	12/30/2015 10:44 AM
10	We like pickle ball	12/22/2015 8:10 PM
11	cross country skiing very important	12/18/2015 1:50 PM
12	Pickleball & Tennis Please!	12/10/2015 4:39 PM

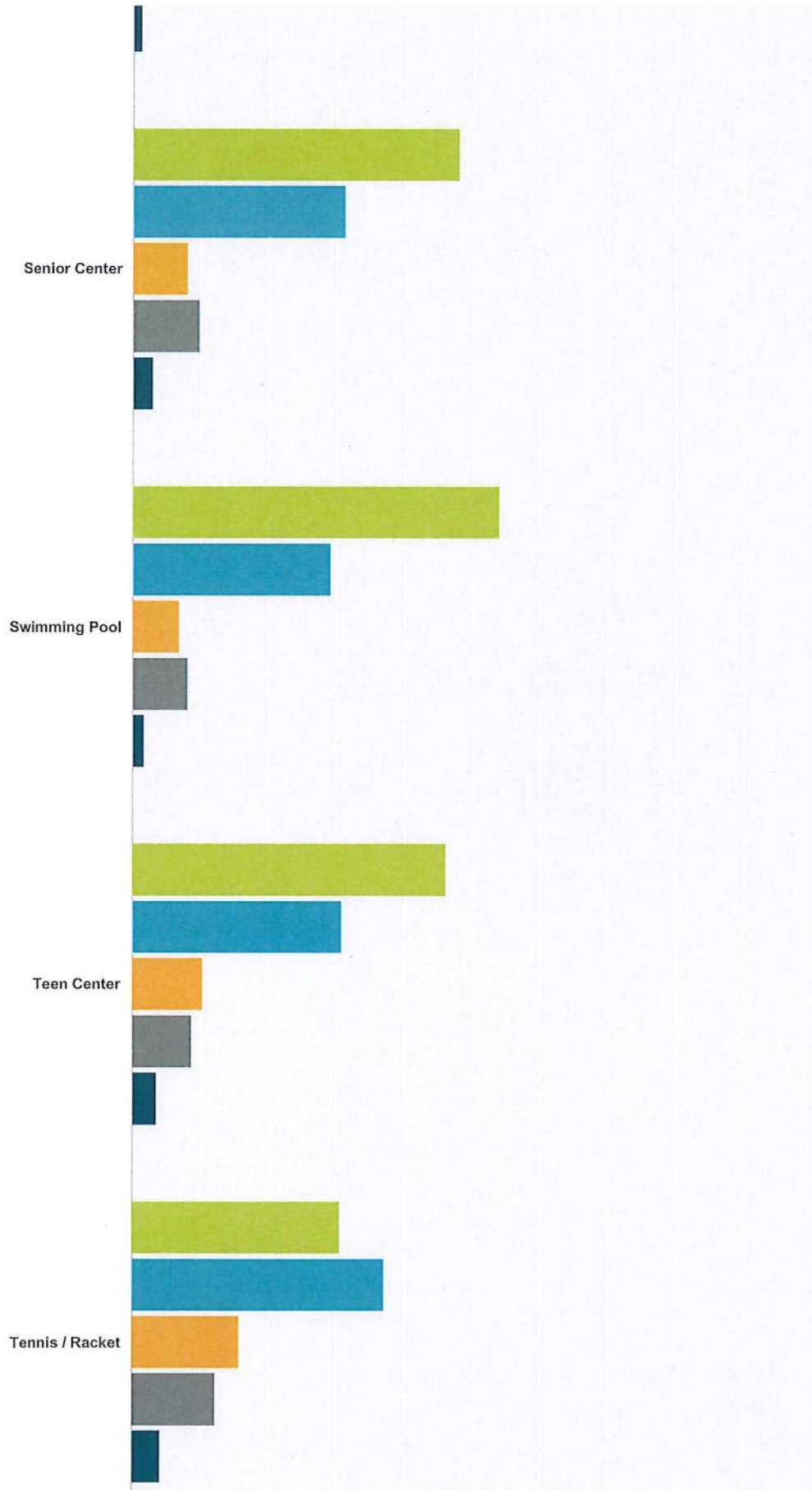
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

Q8 How important are the following indoor recreation facilities in Farmington?

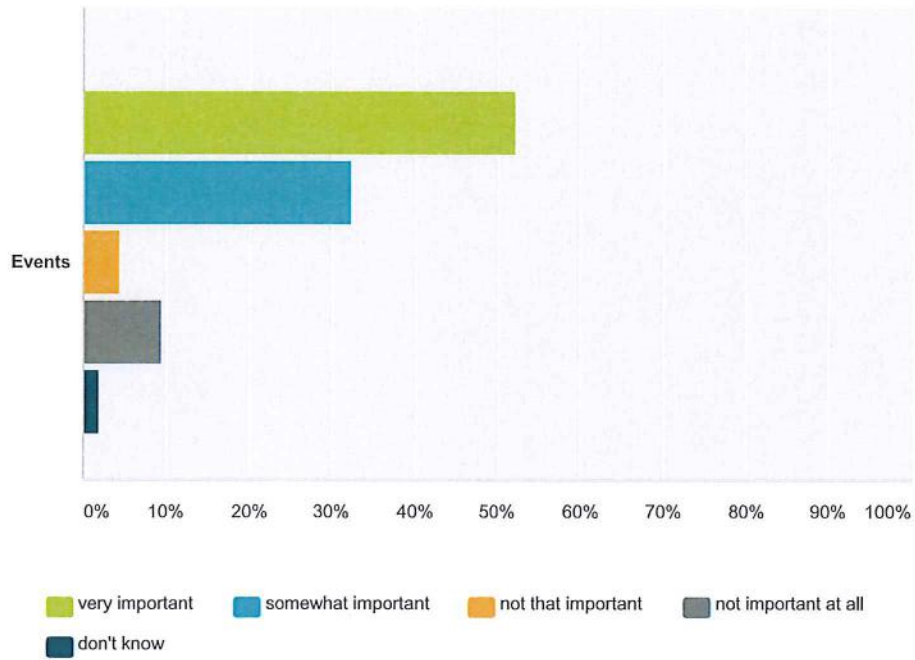
Answered: 176 Skipped: 16



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



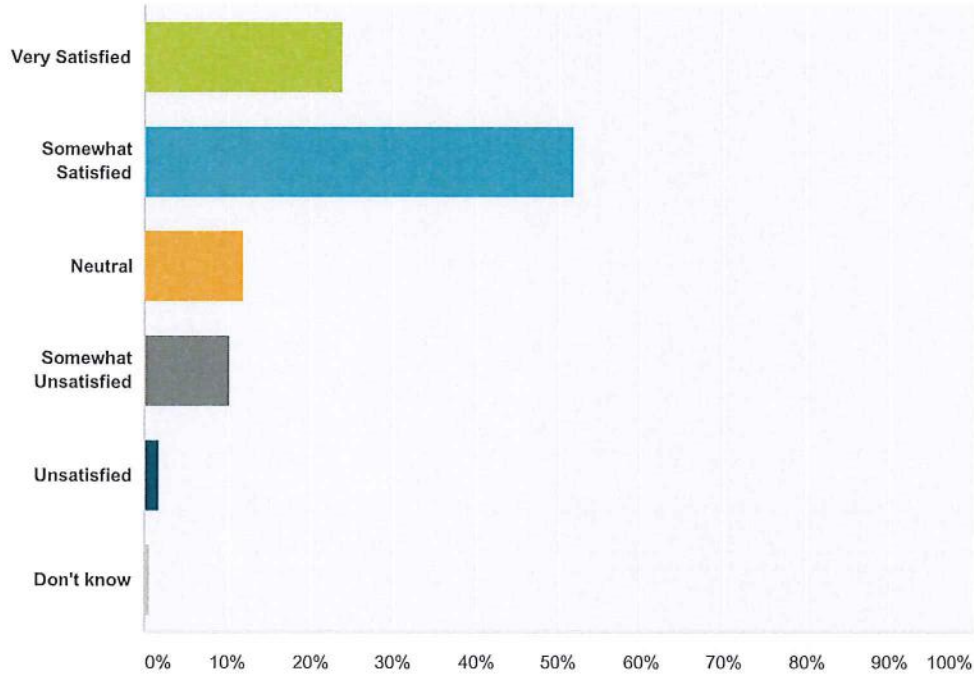
	very important	somewhat important	not that important	not important at all	don't know	Total
Fitness Center	49.43% 86	33.91% 59	8.62% 15	6.32% 11	1.72% 3	174
Gyms	50.29% 86	36.26% 62	5.26% 9	7.02% 12	1.17% 2	171
Ice Rink	47.37% 81	29.24% 50	14.04% 24	8.77% 15	0.58% 1	171
Nature Center	55.49% 96	27.75% 48	8.09% 14	7.51% 13	1.16% 2	173
Senior Center	47.98% 83	31.21% 54	8.09% 14	9.83% 17	2.89% 5	173
Swimming Pool	54.02% 94	29.31% 51	6.90% 12	8.05% 14	1.72% 3	174
Teen Center	46.20% 79	30.99% 53	10.53% 18	8.77% 15	3.51% 6	171
Tennis / Racket	30.59% 52	37.06% 63	15.88% 27	12.35% 21	4.12% 7	170
Events	52.17% 84	32.30% 52	4.35% 7	9.32% 15	1.86% 3	161

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Concerts inside and outside for all ages	3/3/2016 8:20 PM
2	Don't know of an indoor fitness center	1/27/2016 9:51 AM
3	Curling facility	12/17/2015 5:04 PM
4	there is no ice rink in Farmington. Do you mean FH?	12/11/2015 4:07 PM
5	Pickle Ball	12/10/2015 9:30 PM
6	Pickleball	12/10/2015 4:39 PM

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

Q9 How satisfied are you with the existing parks and recreation facilities in Farmington?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 16



Answer Choices	Responses
Very Satisfied	23.86% 42
Somewhat Satisfied	51.70% 91
Neutral	11.93% 21
Somewhat Unsatisfied	10.23% 18
Unsatisfied	1.70% 3
Don't know	0.57% 1
Total	176

#	Comments	Date
1	The baseball / softball fields need new surfaces. The bathrooms are horrible.	3/28/2016 8:31 AM
2	Would like to see more GREEN projects throughout the city	3/24/2016 1:06 PM
3	would like to see a rec. center closer than costick.	3/19/2016 8:13 AM
4	Baseball fields need some help. City park is an overall awesome place.	3/18/2016 1:06 PM
5	The youth baseball fields at Shiawassee should be grass. Especially in a great community like Farmington.	3/6/2016 4:13 PM
6	baseball fields should be groomed more regularly, especially in April	2/16/2016 3:39 PM

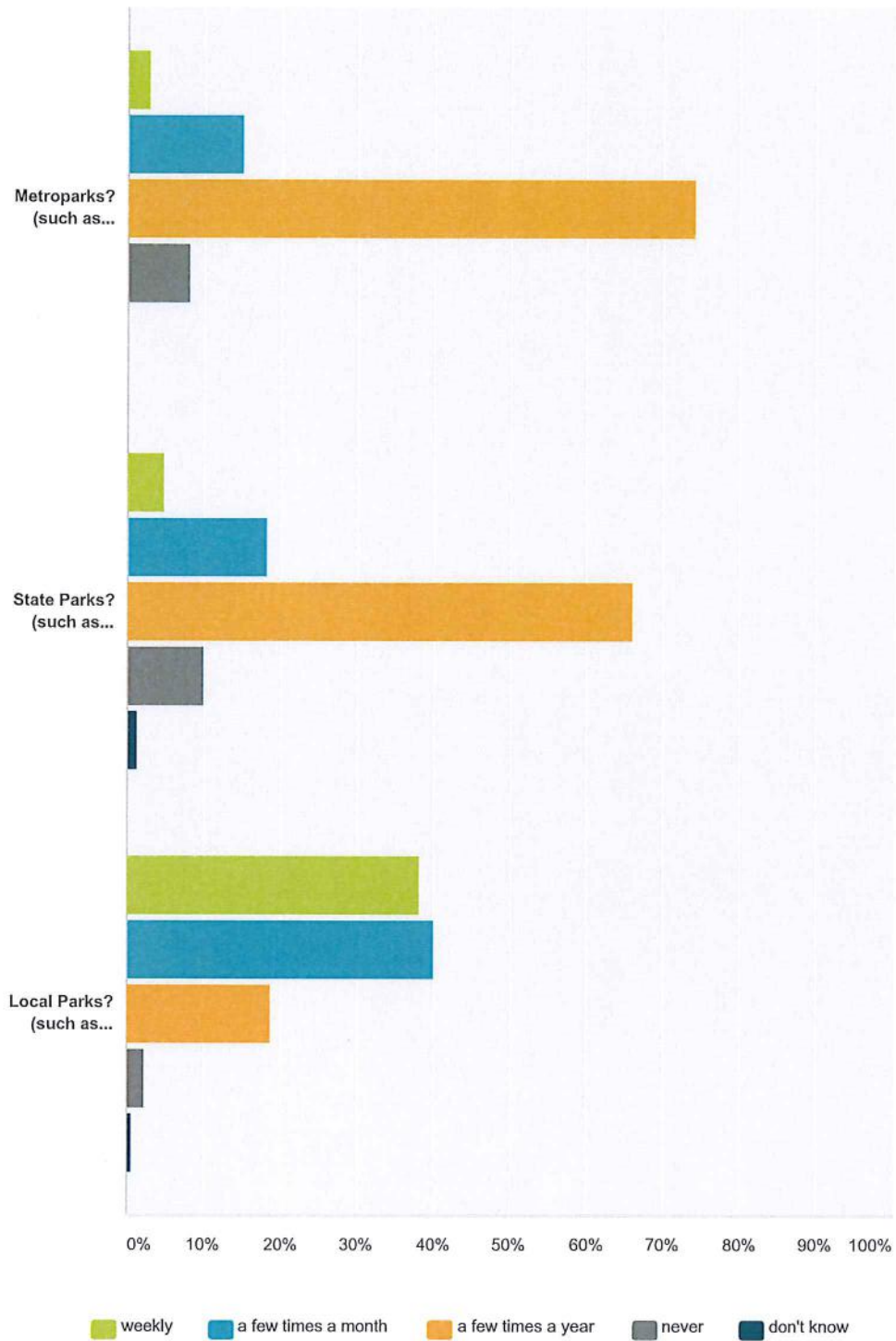
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

7	more attention needs to be paid to the baseball fields due to the number of participants in South Farmington baseball	2/14/2016 11:08 AM
8	Put in lights at Founders Park	2/3/2016 6:51 PM
9	Fields too controlled by South Farmington baseball and not the city	1/31/2016 8:11 PM
10	Would like basketball courts	1/30/2016 12:11 PM
11	Some of the fields need updating and seeing as founders is the premiere park there should be lights for night games	1/29/2016 4:54 PM
12	Ice rink is almost never open for free skate; gym is never open for pickup basketball	1/27/2016 9:51 AM
13	The bathrooms at shiawassee park are gross. Costick should be turned into a cool rec center like Troy or Livonia . Outdoor pool for the community	1/27/2016 9:35 AM
14	Bathrooms need updating, soap, more availability	1/27/2016 9:29 AM
15	Wish our baseball fields had covered dugouts, 1-2 with grass infields, 2-4 more with lights, and better parking facilities.	1/27/2016 8:37 AM
16	Would LOVE to see a better YMCA	1/27/2016 6:00 AM
17	Our parks/facilities are very old and in need of repair	1/27/2016 5:32 AM
18	Softball fields need to be upgraded	1/26/2016 11:02 PM
19	Would love something closer to Farmington than the Costick Center. Love the Livonia Rec Center, but it is expensive for us since we are not residents.	1/12/2016 1:36 PM
20	Parks are nice however not enough in them to do nature wise also not enough parks period..	1/12/2016 6:26 AM
21	Want to try the new archery range	1/8/2016 12:20 PM
22	Bathrooms are atrocious	1/8/2016 10:34 AM
23	Parks are good, but could always be improved. I think Shiawassee park is a great location and is good, but could be greatly improved and used for more activities and connection to downtown Farmington.	1/3/2016 9:29 PM
24	Our parks have no appeal to my 'millennial' generation.	1/3/2016 11:43 AM
25	Tennis is not an interest for young people anymore. ball fields under used	1/3/2016 11:34 AM
26	Some softball/baseball fields needs to be re-done.	12/30/2015 10:44 AM
27	Farmington dog park needs shade,	12/19/2015 1:28 PM
28	Dog park too expensive	12/19/2015 9:13 AM
29	I understand Farmington is limited due to space and tax payer \$\$\$ contributions	12/18/2015 4:28 PM
30	Tennis court is in terrible shape. Both at Shiawassee and Drake Park. Someone will be hurt.	12/11/2015 4:07 PM
31	I think a dedicated recreation center similar to that of Livonia would be a great addition to the Farmington/Farmington hills area	12/11/2015 7:44 AM
32	After moving from Livonia and being a member of the Livonia rec center, I've seen what a facility like that can do for the recreation department. I would love to see something similar in Farmington.	12/10/2015 7:20 PM
33	Shiawassee is a nice park- potential for much more	12/10/2015 5:37 PM
34	Missing other facilities like the Rotary & Bicentennial Parks in Livonia offer.	12/10/2015 4:39 PM

Q10 How often do you use the following types of facilities?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 16

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



	weekly	a few times a month	a few times a year	never	don't know	Total
Metroparks? (such as Kensington or Huron Meadows, etc.)	2.87% 5	14.94% 26	74.14% 129	8.05% 14	0.00% 0	174
State Parks? (such as Maybury State Park, Island Lake Recreation Area, etc.)	4.71% 8	18.24% 31	65.88% 112	10.00% 17	1.18% 2	170
Local Parks? (such as Shiawassee Park, Riley Skate Park or Farmington Hills Nature Center)	38.29% 67	40.00% 70	18.86% 33	2.29% 4	0.57% 1	175

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

Q11 Please list any other park facilities you use not listed above including school facilities, county facilities, other communities' facilities, or privately owned facilities such as golf courses and bowling alleys.

Answered: 50 Skipped: 142

#	Responses	Date
1	Not the Riely Skate Park at all - can us the hills indoor rink that has rental if necessary	4/3/2016 10:53 AM
2	FH Golf Club	3/31/2016 3:21 PM
3	farmers market	3/19/2016 8:13 AM
4	My kids are in a lot of activities, from scouts to sports. We use them a lot. Too bad farmington did work w/ farm hills on the ice area. Too late for my kids now, but it would have been nice	3/18/2016 1:08 PM
5	FH golf, Bowling Alleys, beechview and HighMeadow	3/10/2016 9:22 PM
6	Golf courses. Whispering Willows and FHGC, Drakeshire lanes.	3/6/2016 4:13 PM
7	I like Bowling and Miniture golf. Also Binder Park Zoo.	3/3/2016 8:20 PM
8	bowling alleys	2/25/2016 10:21 AM
9	Country Lanes	2/5/2016 9:48 AM
10	Routinely used Flanders school playground until development began. We fear the amount of green space allocated by the builder per the site sale agreement will be significantly less than desirable. South Farmington has been left with little green space.	2/4/2016 12:48 PM
11	Herritage Park, Woodland Hills nature preserve	2/3/2016 6:51 PM
12	Shiawassee Dog Park & Play ground, Costick Center, Commerce Area, Port Huron Area, Drakeshire, Country Lanes	1/31/2016 5:33 PM
13	Bowling alleys, school fields	1/30/2016 2:18 PM
14	Use golf courses outside Farmington. Those in Farmington are not as good as other areas.	1/30/2016 12:11 PM
15	Livonia pool Power middle school baseball field Drakeshire	1/29/2016 4:54 PM
16	Glen Aquatic Club Blke Trails Indoor baseball/softball fields Archery Range	1/28/2016 7:23 PM
17	Golf courses. Farmington Hills and Glen Oaks. I play both weekly during the season.	1/28/2016 4:47 PM
18	School facilities for kids sports, Drakeshire Bowling Alley	1/27/2016 9:51 AM
19	We use the playground area at Beechview and Lanigan	1/27/2016 9:35 AM
20	Longacre facilities	1/27/2016 8:58 AM
21	School gyms, county & city golf courses, both bowling alleys (for private, school events and SFBI events)	1/27/2016 8:37 AM
22	Several golf courses, Drakeshire/Country Lanes Bowling	1/27/2016 7:50 AM
23	High School ballpark, Drakeshire Lanes, Riley Archery	1/27/2016 6:00 AM
24	We routinely go to softball baseball at school fields to practice. They are also in need of repair and upkeep.	1/27/2016 5:32 AM
25	We use the school playgrounds and ball fields.	1/27/2016 3:08 AM
26	The Glen Fitness 19 Farmington Bowl Bonaventure The Bullpen Total Sports	1/26/2016 11:57 PM
27	I want to be able to safely ride my bike on roads around Farmington and Farmington Hills	1/25/2016 8:24 PM
28	Bike paths	1/25/2016 8:17 PM
29	We have used other city facilities that have indoor water park for the kids.	1/22/2016 3:07 PM

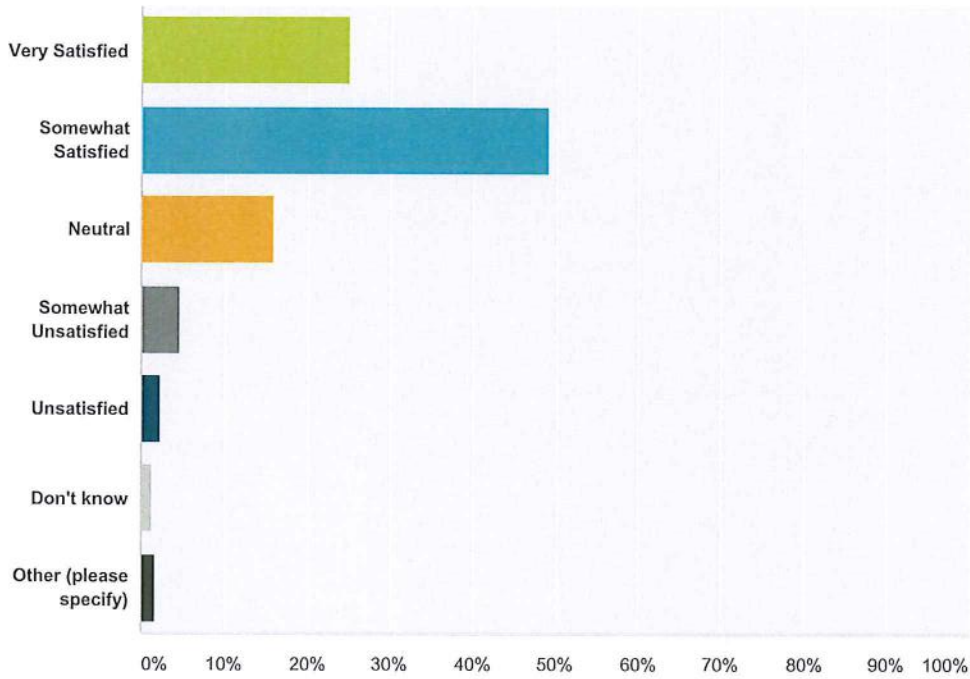
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey

30	Western Golf, Farmington Hills Golf, Ann Arbor Parks, Matthei Botanical Center	1/17/2016 3:06 PM
31	We have been members at the Livonia YMCA for quite a while, but are looking for a place close by in Farmington to replace it. We also go to Bicentennial and Southfield to utilize their pickle ball courts	1/12/2016 1:36 PM
32	Oakland County water parks	1/11/2016 6:26 PM
33	Farmington high track. Total sports. Fitness19. Drakeshire lanes. Country lanes. Bikram yoga. OCC pool prior to closure. Piemontesse pool/club.	1/8/2016 12:20 PM
34	Elementary school playgrounds, such as Longacre.	1/3/2016 9:29 PM
35	Bike paths / trails!	1/3/2016 11:43 AM
36	I use lake access and beaches at State Parks a lot.	1/3/2016 11:34 AM
37	Running tracks at Farmington H.S. & Shiawassee Park	1/2/2016 2:43 PM
38	Golf: Fox Hills, Links of Novi, Whispering Willows, Fox Creek Soccer: Church of the Nazarene in Plymouth Lifetime Fitness for swimming and working out We used to go to Flanders to use the playground but not anymore since it is being redeveloped.	12/26/2015 1:42 PM
39	Island Lake	12/22/2015 8:10 PM
40	Canoelng at Point Pelee in Ontario. Drakeshire Lanes on Grand River.	12/17/2015 9:47 PM
41	5-pin bowling, Windsor, ON	12/17/2015 5:04 PM
42	Bonaventure, Drakeshire Lanes, YMCA, Farmington Gymnastics, Goldfish Swim School	12/17/2015 4:29 PM
43	The play areas and athletic fields at the schools get regular use.	12/11/2015 4:07 PM
44	Gill Elementary playground, Farmington Hills Golf Course	12/11/2015 7:44 AM
45	Heritage Park, Riley Park.	12/10/2015 11:04 PM
46	County parks...the various Oaks. Golf courses.	12/10/2015 6:15 PM
47	Outdoor Tennis & pickleball courts; walking trails	12/10/2015 4:39 PM
48	my kids would love more playparks...it seems that we have to drive to all of them and that most Farmington subs lack play parks you can easily walk to with small kids.	12/10/2015 4:21 PM
49	Pontiac Country Club, Lyon Oaks Golf Course, Farmington Hills Golf Course, Whispering Willows Golf Course	12/10/2015 1:07 PM
50	golf courses, hiking trails	12/7/2015 3:55 PM

Q12 How satisfied are you with the existing recreation programs in Farmington?

Answered: 171 Skipped: 21

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Satisfied	25.15%	43
Somewhat Satisfied	49.12%	84
Neutral	15.79%	27
Somewhat Unsatisfied	4.68%	8
Unsatisfied	2.34%	4
Don't know	1.17%	2
Other (please specify)	1.75%	3
Total		171

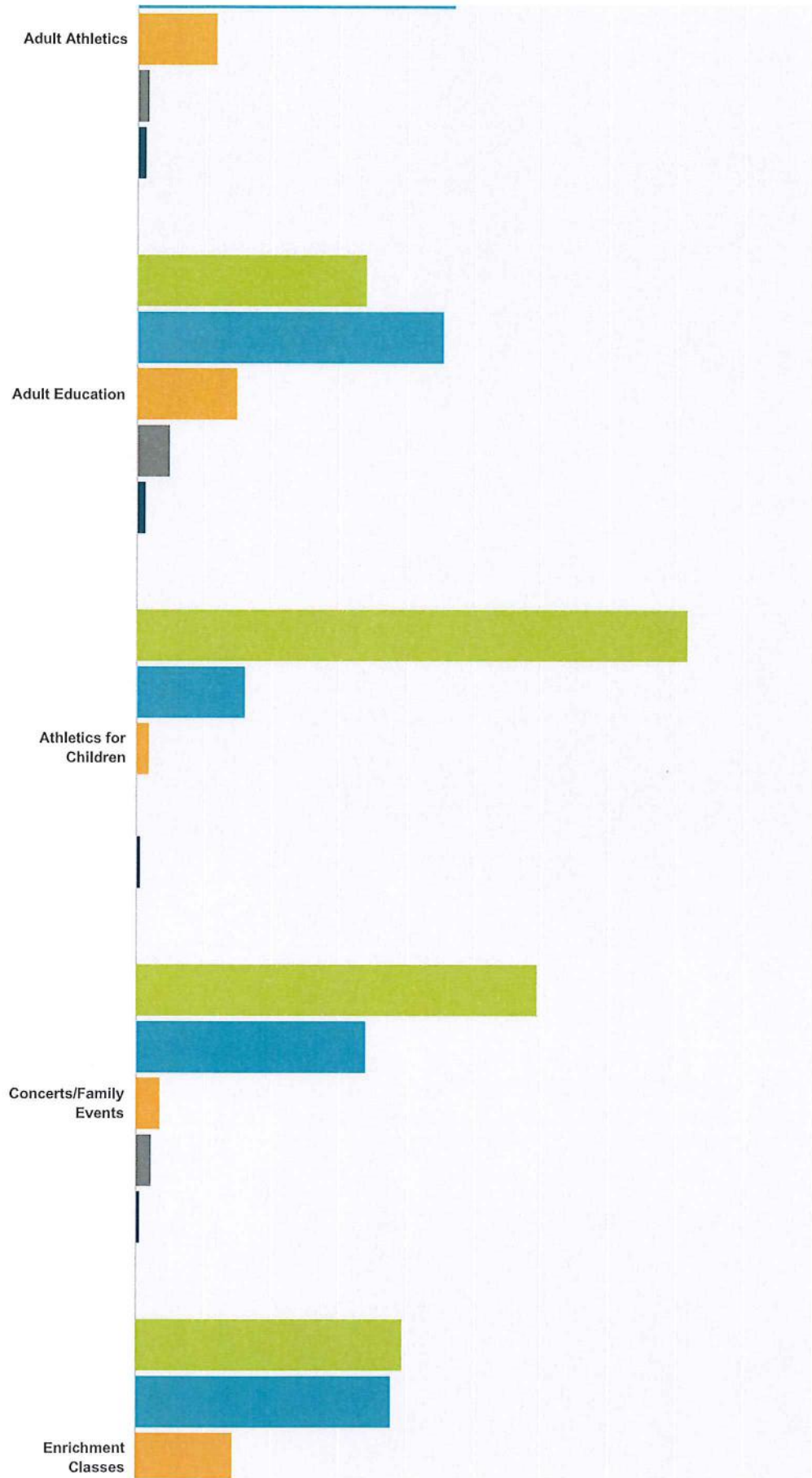
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	would like to see wellness programs closer to river pines.	3/19/2016 8:15 AM
2	Pool is outdated. Backstops are too low. Parking at Shiawasee is inadequate. No bike lanes anywhere. Brush not trimmed next to walking paths.	1/27/2016 8:04 AM
3	South Farmington baseball league is well run.	1/8/2016 12:21 PM

Q13 How important are the following recreation programs in Farmington?

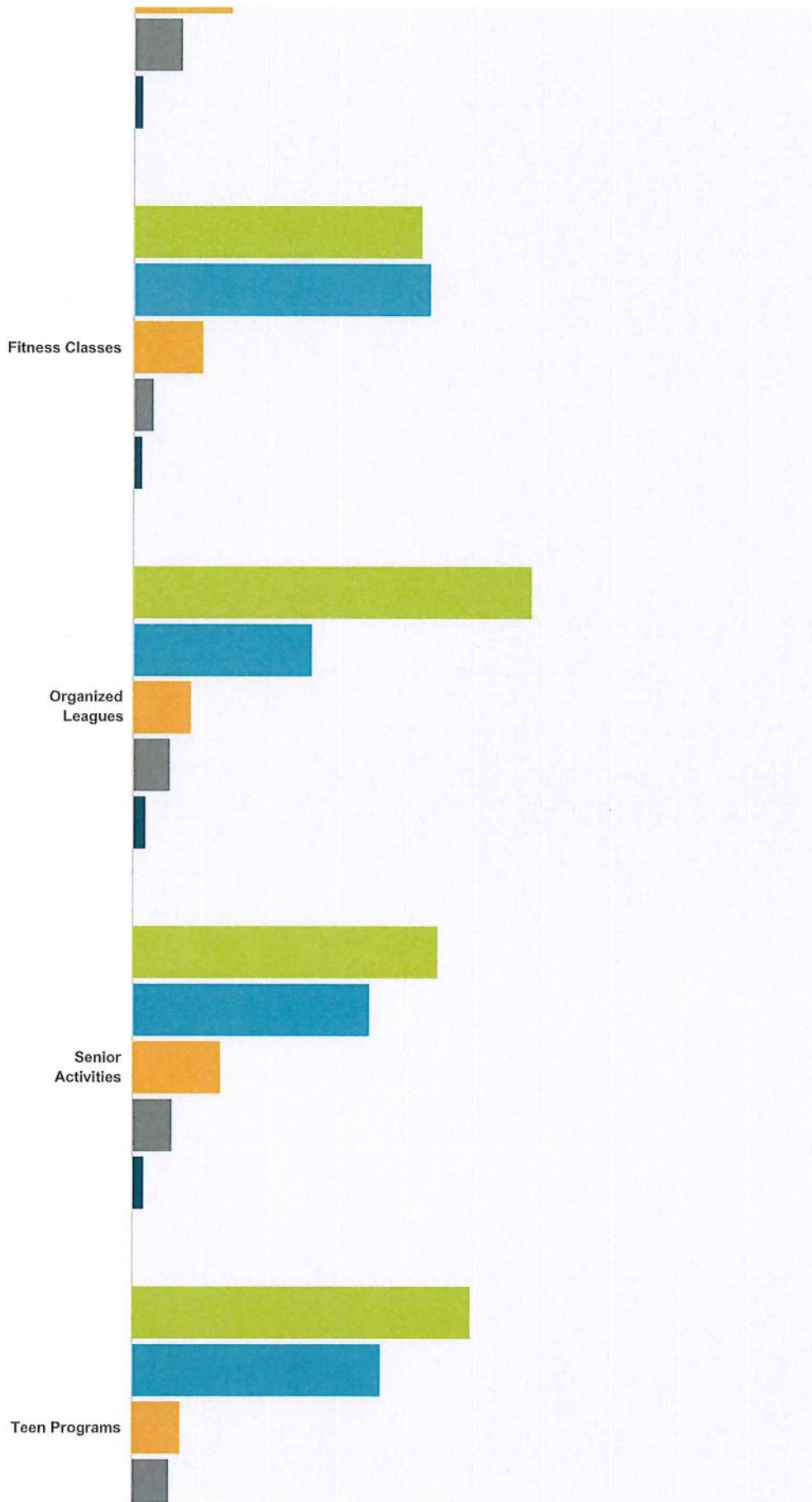
Answered: 171 Skipped: 21



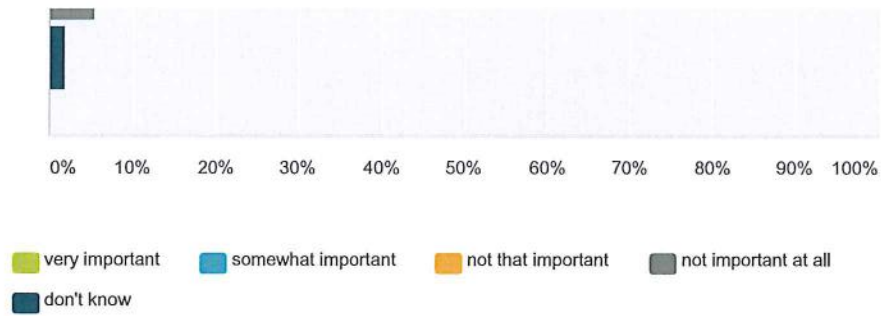
Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



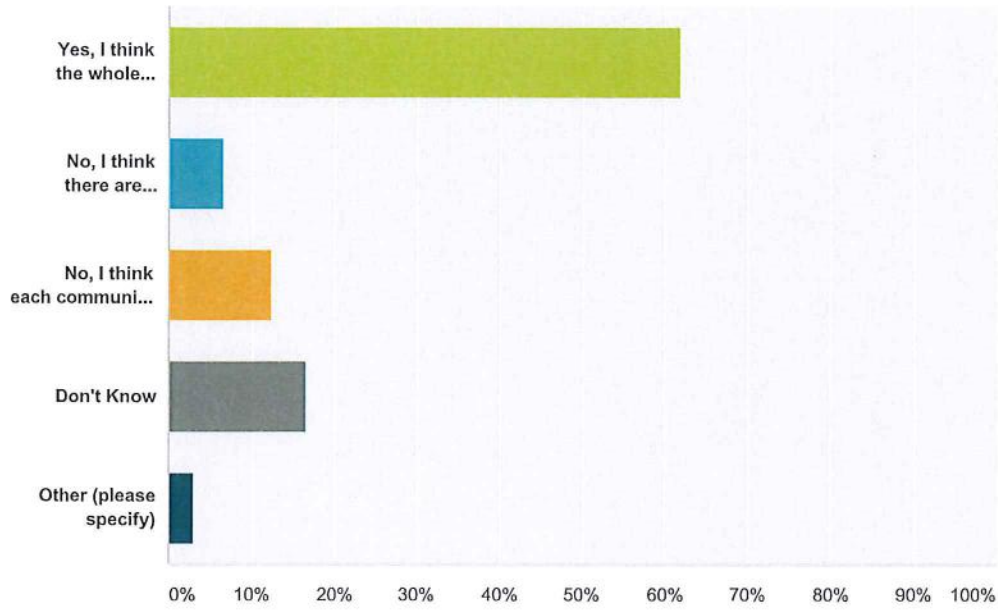
	very important	somewhat important	not that important	not important at all	don't know	Total
Adult Athletics	38.24% 65	47.06% 80	11.76% 20	1.76% 3	1.18% 2	170
Adult Education	33.93% 57	45.24% 76	14.88% 25	4.76% 8	1.19% 2	168
Athletics for Children	81.66% 138	15.98% 27	1.78% 3	0.00% 0	0.59% 1	169
Concerts/Family Events	59.52% 100	33.93% 57	3.57% 6	2.38% 4	0.60% 1	168
Enrichment Classes	39.52% 66	37.72% 63	14.37% 24	7.19% 12	1.20% 2	167
Fitness Classes	42.17% 70	43.37% 72	10.24% 17	3.01% 5	1.20% 2	166
Organized Leagues	58.18% 96	26.06% 43	8.48% 14	5.45% 9	1.82% 3	165
Senior Activities	44.71% 76	34.71% 59	12.94% 22	5.88% 10	1.76% 3	170
Teen Programs	49.40% 83	36.31% 61	7.14% 12	5.36% 9	1.79% 3	168

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Programs for those with special needs	3/31/2016 3:21 PM
2	More classes aimed to educate about protecting local environment and habitats	3/24/2016 1:09 PM
3	would like to see a rec volleyball for youth	1/27/2016 9:36 AM
4	No questions about young adults who want outdoor activities.	1/3/2016 11:45 AM
5	Yoga Classes	12/10/2015 9:32 PM

Q14 Do you support intergovernmental cooperation that collectively maintains the parks and organizes recreation programs?

Answered: 170 Skipped: 22

Farmington Parks and Rec Survey



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, I think the whole region should cooperate to provide parks and recreation	61.76% 105
No, I think there are enough parks and recreation programs now	6.47% 11
No, I think each community should provide for their own parks and recreation	12.35% 21
Don't Know	16.47% 28
Other (please specify)	2.94% 5
Total	170

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Yes as long as it's cost effective and provides equal or better services.	4/3/2016 8:17 PM
2	We should team up with FH.	3/6/2016 4:14 PM
3	I think each community should have facilities available. If intergovernmental cooperation is cost effective and does not take away from a community that which they already have, then I would support a WELL thought out program.	1/31/2016 5:38 PM
4	connected bike paths through Farmington / Farmington Hills roads and parks..	1/3/2016 11:45 AM
5	Not sure what "region" means. But, cooperation within adjacent cities makes sense.	12/10/2015 11:06 PM

C

APPENDIX C: FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Sources

The proposed recreation improvements proposed in the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan can be financed with a combination of resources. There are several potential funding sources currently being utilized and many that are available for parks and recreation projects such as parkland improvements and facility upgrades as described below.

FUNDING SOURCES

General Fund.

The General Fund is the basic operating fund for the City of Farmington. The General Fund contains the budgetary and financial controls for all the City's activities and functions which are not accounted for in other specialized funds. A wide variety of revenues, including recreation user charges, provide the resources for the operation of this fund.

Recreation Bond

A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities. General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects, such as park improvements and park land acquisition, and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid for with property tax revenues. Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project.

Special Millage

A property tax millage can be used to finance specific park and recreation projects such as park development, pathway improvements and facility upgrades. A millage is an effective method to divide costs over time amongst all the taxpayers in the community to provide matching grant funds or finance projects out-right. A millage allows more flexibility in how the money is used than a bond.

User Fees.

The City currently charges reasonable fees to the users of specific recreation facilities and for enrollment in recreation programs such as senior services, sports, cultural arts, camps, events and clinics, and rental fees for facilities. User fees provide substantial support for park and recreation facilities and programs and contribute to the City's General Fund.

Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project.

This project was created in 1992/1993 to administer \$300,000 million dollars from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and additional state and local funding to demonstrate storm water remediation techniques in an urban watershed. The state funding included an \$822,000 319 Grant from the State of Michigan, and managed by Wayne County, for Best Management Practices (BMP) demonstration projects. The City of Farmington is located in the Rouge River Watershed.

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AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCES

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).

MNRTF provides funding assistance for the purchase of land (or interests in land) for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, and the development of recreation facilities. This assistance is directed at creating and improving outdoor recreational opportunities and providing protection to valuable natural resources. The improvement grants are between \$15,000 and \$500,000 with a required minimum local match of 25%. Acquisition grants vary depending upon the value of property and local match amount; therefore there is not a minimum or maximum amount. This grant is ideal for implementing park plans and for land acquisition. Applications are due in April and September of each year for acquisition projects and April of each year for development projects. For more information, visit their website.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

LWCF provides funding assistance for communities to acquire and develop land for outdoor recreation. The minimum award is \$15,000 and the maximum of \$500,000 with a 50% local match. The eligibility criterion emphasizes preservation of natural resources such as waterways. This grant is ideal for land acquisition that is intended for passive recreation and open space in the future. Applications are due in April. For more information, visit their website at www.nps.gov/lwcf

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

TAP is the successor to the SAFETEA-LU authorizing highway safety, transit and other surface transportation programs, including regional pathways and trailway systems. This is a reimbursement program that originally comes from the Federal Highway Administration and is administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). Communities are eligible for funds to develop, construct, maintain, and rehabilitate trails and trail facilities for both non-motorized and motorized trail uses.

Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA).

MRPA provides mini grants for communities to aid in community programming and development.

Cooperative Resources Management Initiative.

This program supports tree planting programs that improve tree species diversity, age/class diversity, reduce current and long-term maintenance costs, increase awareness, education and technical knowledge of trees and natural resource, provide wildlife habitat, improve aesthetics, encourage community/volunteer participation, increase water and air quality, and expand/improve tree cover throughout communities. Eligible projects are separated into three types: Community tree planting projects (\$10,000 maximum), projects organized by a non-profit or non-governmental agency on public land (\$5,000 maximum), and outdoor classroom/education sites (\$5,000 maximum). Applications are due in November of each year (with a possible second round in March).

Urban and Community Forestry Program – Community Forestry Grants.

This program provides funds for projects that address the urban forestry needs municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and volunteer groups throughout Michigan. These projects may include tree inventories, management plans, tree planting educational workshops and trailing materials, and other maintenance activities. Projects that develop or enhance urban and community forestry resources, such as management and planning, education and training, tree planting, and library resources, are looked upon highly. Applications are due each summer with maximum grant requests of \$20,000.

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Community Forestry Program – Arbor Day Mini-Grants.

This mini-grant program is designed to provide information and technical assistance to municipal governments and volunteer groups for urban and community forestry activities related to Arbor Day. Projects that develop or enhance urban and community forestry resources, including tree planting on public land, Arbor Day celebrations, and natural resource library reference material acquisition, are looked upon highly. Applications are due each fall with maximum grant requests of \$200.

Community Forestry Program – DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grants.

The DTE Energy Tree Planting program is conducted through a partnership with the MDNR to increase the number of properly planted, established, and maintained trees within the service territory of DTE Energy. Tree planting projects such as parks, right-of-way, public streets, nature study areas, schools grounds planting, and neighborhood revitalization projects all qualify. All trees must be planted on public land or land open to the public. Applications are due each fall with maximum grant requests of \$3,000.

Conservation Easements.

A conservation easement is a method of preserving open space that is guaranteed through formal documentation. This technique can also be used to preserve open space if it is not feasible or practical for the City to acquire the land. Rather than obtaining fee simple, or complete ownership, an organization or community can purchase or acquire by gift an easement to the property.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

TIF is authorized by the Downtown Development Authority Act and Local Development Finance Authority Act. When a TIF district is established, the stated equalized assessment value of all properties within the district is recorded. Every year thereafter, the property tax revenue generated by any increase in the total stated equalized value is "captured" by the responsible organization to finance improvements established in the overall development plan. The development plan is a required document illustrating all proposed improvements within the district. Often, revenue bonds are used to finance the improvements and the tax increment revenues are used to repay the bonds.

Public-Private or Public-Public Partnerships.

Reduced funding for the public and private sector has created a need for various partnerships between public and private entities as well as between two or more public entities to accommodate specialized largescale recreation demands. The City could consider creating a different fee structure for the use of facilities by recreation providers and non-residents. The fees could be utilized for facility development, maintenance and upgrades, and/or programming. The fees from the various users would ensure continued high quality parks and facilities for City of Farmington residents.

Donations.

Businesses, corporations, private clubs, community organizations, and individuals will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities.

Foundations.

A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are disbursed by the foundation Board of Directors according to a predetermined plan.