



City Hall
 208 North First Avenue
 Alpena, Michigan 49707
www.alpena.mi.us

Planning, Development, & Zoning

City of Alpena Planning Commission

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 12th, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held in Council Chambers as well as virtually.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/CityofAlpena/planning-commission>

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AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER;

ROLL CALL;

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular meeting August 8, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION ACTION: none

BUSINESS

a) **UNFINISHED:**

b) **NEW:**

City of Alpena Recreation Plan

a. 2023 Survey Results Review

b. Links to Current Plans:

Recreation Plan (2021-2025)

https://cms3.revize.com/revize/alpenami/document_center/Transparency/2021-2025%20City%20of%20Alpena%20Recreation%20Plan%20FIN.pdf

Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan

https://cms3.revize.com/revize/alpenami/document_center/Transparency/Mich-e-ke-wis%20Park%20Plan%20-%20adopted%208-17-20.pdf

Marina Master Plan (2022-2026)

[https://cms3.revize.com/revize/alpenami/document_center/marina/City%20of%20Alpena%20Marina%20Master%20Plan%20Draft%20\(All%20Chapters\)%20City%20Final.pdf](https://cms3.revize.com/revize/alpenami/document_center/marina/City%20of%20Alpena%20Marina%20Master%20Plan%20Draft%20(All%20Chapters)%20City%20Final.pdf)

c. Next Steps

c) **COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS:** Bingham School Project Update

d) **CONTINUING EDUCATION:** MSU Exchange Article: Zoning Moratoriums

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEMBER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES
City of Alpena Planning Commission
Regular Meeting (Council Chambers and Virtual)
August 8, 2023 Alpena, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Randy Boboltz, Planning Commission Chairman.

ROLL CALL: PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESENT: Wojda, Sundin, Boboltz, VanWagoner, Gilmore, Moses, Kostelic

ABSENT: Peterson

STAFF: Montiel Birmingham (Planning, Development, and Zoning Director), Kathleen Sauve (Recording Secretary)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was approved as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting July 9, 2023, minutes were approved as printed.

Boboltz explained the order of procedures for the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION ACTION: **Case # SU23-03** – Brett Mutter, applicant, and Sherman Hubbard, property owner, request to allow outdoor trailers sales in the parking lot of 307 South Third Avenue. Applicant was made aware of the special land use requirement on 6/12/2023 by City staff and an enforcement was entered on the property. Applicant requested to apply for a SLU permit.

Birmingham presented the Finding of Fact and Approval Standards as provided in the meeting packet (see Appendix A). She explained that some of the pictures may look a little different because the property is in the process of being cleaned up. She also explained that the Special Land Use variance issued in 2018 is not subject to discussion as it is not under the PC's review at this time, however, it does have an impact on the consideration for this Special Land Use request; they are not here to resolve the concerns related to the recent fire. Wojda asked if they could treat it like a blight situation and put conditions on the approval. Birmingham said

yes. Gilmore asked what it is zoned currently, after the change in 2018. Birmingham said that it is Central Business District in the Downtown Overlay District; property is within the DDA. She also explained that a Use Variance is not used very often, but they are reviewed by the Zoning Board of Appeals; this meeting could give a Special Use Variance to allow this one activity in this location. [The City] uses Conditional rezoning as a better tool now but it was not available in 2018. Gilmore asked if the Special Use request would cover both businesses, or just the trailer business. Birmingham said it would not have anything to do with the Use Variance that was granted in 2018. Gilmore asked if it was all the same property. Birmingham said yes, it is three separate parcels, but from a zoning standpoint, it is treated as one zoning lot. Moses asked who would be responsible for the maintenance of the proposed trailer lot. Birmingham said that the property owner would be, and whatever his agreement is with Mutter.

FAVOR: Brett Mutter, trailer sales owner, said that Hubbard is his neighbor and offered to allow him to use it for his trailer sales to help him get started. He said that he bought the trailers and put them on the lot without knowing if they could or could not do it.

Kostelic asked if he had a business name or if it was solely in his name. He said it was only in his name. She also asked Mutter if they had a signed or verbal lease. Hubbard said there is not a signed lease, and he is just trying to help [Mutter out].

Sherman Hubbard, property owner and owner of Speedy Blaze, said that up until last Thursday, the [Speedy Blaze] business was growing and having a cool thing going on and then they had a little disaster which was contained, and they have addressed some things with Montiel, the Fire Marshal and Building Official and they have some code enforcement things that they want brought forward which they intend to do. He said he is waiting to hear from his insurance company. The exterior stuff was due to their growth; finding a way in and out and getting this stuff handled, they got overwhelmed. He stated that he did agree to have everything outside taken care of by [August] 31st. He said his intention is to continue to operate there and he currently has 17 employees who are mostly at-risk individuals that now have better jobs and better pay to help them become productive citizens. He said that they try to be good neighbors and they fully intend to bring everything up to compliance since the fire and he hoped that it would not affect Brett [Mutter] at all. He said that Mutter has taken better care of the property than he has and cleaned up a lot around there.

OPPOSITION: Alicia Manning, neighboring property owner, said that there haven't been that many issues other than quite a bit of blight like crates and totes and a lot of ugly things. She said her main issue is the trailers blocking the traffic. She said that because of some of the trailers raised at the corner of Tawas and Third, there have been a lot of really close calls with people not stopping at the corner thinking it is still a yield sign and not a stop sign. She requested that the trailers be moved back from the sidewalk and that the raised trailers not be on the corner.

Public hearing closed at 6:25 pm for deliberations.

Moses said a concern of his is that there has been a lot of money put into the Downtown District and there is not a lot of room in the district now, and Section 6.12 of the Special Land Use approval standards, Item B is compatibility and then Item H is Consistency with the Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan. He asked if they all felt that it is consistent with what they are trying to do with the downtown development. He said he walks that path 4 or 5 times per week, and he feels that it kills the buzz when you see all the beautiful streetlights and then around the corner, there's a big lot with trailers in it. He said he would not have the same concerns if it were located outside of the Central Business District. Boboltz said that the requested Special Use is permitted under the current zoning laws, so whether or not he has an opinion that selling trailers on that site may not be the best use, it is still a permitted use. Birmingham said that it is permitted but subject to interpretation because a Special Land Use has discretionary standards; they could put as many conditions on the use as they want if they chose to approve it.

Hubbard said he feels that his business downtown will draw more people from different areas although it may not be in the perfect place, but it is the perfect place for his employees to be able to get to work by bike.

Wojda suggested adding a small green strip around the perimeter of the lot. He said the reason he brought that up is because he also sits on the DDA board and he does believe that that area is the front door to the DDA from one direction; driving by it every day it does not look terrible, but it could look better. An additional green strip could make it look more welcoming and palatable.

Moses said just for the record, his concerns were about the [trailer] lot, not Speedy Blaze.

Kostelic said that it makes sense to not have the raised trailers blocking the traffic view and sights around. She said that she would like to find some common ground to make it look better and move some things around so we can have a business and bring people into the community.

Mutter said he tried to make it look nice and uniform along the sidewalk and that there is a lot more work to be done, but he was waiting for the Planning Commission decision. He said that he will move the dump trailers or have them not raised in the air. He thought it looked good around the corner and would catch people's eye but did not take into consideration that it would be a sight issue coming around the corner; he has no problem moving them as he only has two of them there. Mutter went on to say that he has had people from Gaylord, West Branch, and all over and they tell him that he has a great setup. He said that he is just trying to clean it up so that it looks good and he will have a gentleman who will come every week to mow the grass and edge along the sidewalks and was open to any other suggestions the Planning Commission may have to make it look better.

Gilmore asked Mutter how many units he planned to have in the parking lot. Mutter said that this past spring, he had 37 total, that was a good variety of steel and aluminum, but primarily utility trailers, and the maximum would be 40. He said currently he only has 17 trailers sitting there because he did not know which way this was going to go.

VanWagoner asked Birmingham what the setback requirement is for field of view for Commercial properties. Birmingham said that the minimum setback is zero but the maximum is 15 feet or consistent with what is around the area.

Sundin said that although they are not dealing with the previously granted Use Variance, there were violations, in which they have been given a deadline of August 31st to make corrections. They could, in essence, have this one not go into effect until those violations have been corrected. Birmingham said that the zoning violations were specific to exterior effects. Sundin said that in his many years of planning, too often people will get a property or business that have certain requirements, and as time goes on the business changes and the requirements get ignored. In this case, he should have come to the City and asked for permission, but instead it simply wasn't done. He said that it seems to be a pattern with them. What any good business should do if you own a property, is find out what you can do or not do; do your due diligence. He said he did not have a problem with the use and the way Birmingham has interpreted it as being grouped under Outdoor Car Sales since trailer sales are not specifically listed in the use matrix. Sundin said he did not feel that their banners were considered permanent signage and in the Downtown, you want a certain type of look; a permanent sign should be required within a certain period of time. Hubbard said that the previous application [for Use Variance] was filled out by the previous property owner, Jack McCoy and he was unaware of what was in the application. He said that he will take care of the current violations. He said he does not want anything stored outside because he loses product; there is no excuse, but he will deal with it and get it taken care of. Sundin said that even though [the trailers] meet the setback technically, they should have a condition that the trailers be pulled back further for visibility. One other concern Sundin had was regarding access to the site for trucks and deliveries. He asked if the trailers would be in the way. Hubbard said that there is a clear space behind the building and the alleyway, and they will not block the alleyway.

Moses said that it is their duty to try to approve these whenever they can and he knows that the special land use is allowed in the CBD; given that there is no written and signed lease between the owner and leasee, he wondered if there becomes a problem with the lot, who would ultimately be responsible for the property. Sundin said that the owner would be responsible. Hubbard said that he is comfortable assuming full responsibility for his good conduct or negligent conduct.

Birmingham had one more comment to make sure she is being very clear with the Use Variance, if something was approved and there was a timeline, by the end of August, only certain things would be able to be addressed, meaning the external things. She said she wanted to be sure that the motion made is not all encompassing of everything going on inside

the building. Moses asked if the Special Land Use permit is indefinite and runs with the property. Birmingham said yes it is, unless they rescinded the use or it was abandoned for a certain amount of time.

Sundin ***motioned*** to approve the Special Land Use request for trailer sales at 307 South Third Avenue with the following conditions:

1. All exterior violations be completely resolved by August 31, 2023, or the special land use will become null and void.
2. The temporary signage will be allowed for a period not longer than 90 days, at which time a permanent sign will need to be installed in accordance with our Zoning Ordinance, or no sign at all.
3. Must work with City staff to work out access to the building as it relates to the placement of trailers.

Boboltz restated the motion made by Sundin.

Wojda ***seconded*** the motion.

VanWagoner asked if they were going to make a provision for the placement of the trailers in relation to the right-of-way.

Sundin suggested that they extend the setback along Third Avenue around to Washington Avenue for a more visible setback. Kostelic and Wojda both agreed.

Wojda ***motioned*** to amend the previous motion to include a condition that the setback that occurs along Third Avenue could be extended to Washington Avenue.

Kostelic ***seconded*** the motion to amend the original motion.

Motion ***approved*** by vote of 7-1.

Yea – Wojda, Boboltz, VanWagoner, Gilmore, Sundin, Kostelic

Nay - Moses

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Zoning Ordinance Articles 8 (Zoning Board of Appeals) and 10 (Adoptions and Amendments) Updates – Birmingham presented some updates on proposed changes to the Ordinance and answered any questions about clarification. Members had some interpretive issues with Item number 2 on page 10-3 and gave some input and suggestions on wording that was confusing to them.

In Article 6, Birmingham explained that the table on page 6-2 is new. She said the process does not change, they just put it in a grid format.

Birmingham explained that on page 6-12 B, Public Welfare and Adjoining Properties, in the Site Plan Review Standards section, was eliminated because generally these are non-discretionary, but they felt this was a very hard non-discretionary standard because it *is* more discretionary. Boboltz said that people's perceptions of their welfare do not necessarily match up with the specific criteria that they are dealing with. He said it would be difficult to make iron-clad language to make it clearer. Birmingham suggested that Public Welfare specifically, should be in the Special Land Use application section. Sundin said that public health, safety, and welfare is what the Zoning Enabling and Planning Acts are all about. Boboltz agreed and said that the art of it is to find things, as well you can, to make the decision, based on objective criteria and not too much subjectivity. He said that it is interesting because they are trying, to some extent, make things relatively close to being more black and white to the best of their ability. Sundin asked why they eliminated the word 'Air' in the following paragraph. Birmingham said that they questioned 'what would block air?' Sundin said that buildings can affect air flow.

Birmingham said that the Emergency Vehicle Access paragraph on page 6-13 was moved to a different place in the Ordinance. She explained that in the following paragraph, Vehicular and Pedestrian Circulation was reorganized a little differently and clarified the language and then Fire and Safety on page 6-14 was changed to Public Safety and Infrastructure.

On page 6-20, Birmingham explained that the first paragraph was rewritten. Sundin questioned why the Site Plan approval period was changed to three years. Birmingham explained that is how long the Site Plan would last before having to be rereviewed again. Boboltz also said that confused him as well.

In Section 6.12, Birmingham explained that there are some repetitive items like public services and traffic; the reason for that is because not all Special Land Uses require a Site Plan review, so it is added to the Special Land Use standards. This is where more of the discretionary standards come into play so there were quite a few changes and areas reorganized. She asked for some input and said that this is a tough one because they are discretionary items, but we can make changes to whatever they feel is more appropriate. Boboltz said that when he read through it, nothing really jumped out at him. He asked if they could think about this section more before the next meeting and Birmingham agreed to that.

Page 6-26, Kostelic asked if the word Abandoned is defined [in the Zoning Ordinance]. Birmingham said that it is defined in a couple areas of the Ordinance.

Page 6-27, Birmingham stated that the whole section on Condominiums will be moved to Article 7.

Birmingham stated that in Article 9, Administration, Section 9-1 on page 9-2 was changed to include all the different staff that could be responsible. She said Section 9.1 was clarified to better explain the order of things. Next, she said Section 9.2 and 9.3, Permits and Inspections, were pulled out and replaced entirely due to how many changes were needed. It was a lot of reorganization because they found some things that were confusing and needed clarification.

Then in Section 9.6, Public Communication, language was cleaned up, including how things are mailed; nothing changed in terms of the process, they just ordered it more efficiently. Birmingham said that the same thing went for page 9-14, Section 9.8, Planning Commission and City Council.

On page 9-16, Section 9.10, Rehearing Process, Birmingham said that the City's attorney will be reviewing this section; also, will be having discussion with the attorney about whether this section needs to even be included because ultimately, they go back to Robert's Rules of Order. She said that they then added the table on page 9-19 to be used as a quick reference.

Sundin asked for clarification on page 9-11, regarding the requirement for mailings when it pertains to 11 or more properties – when 11 individual properties are being rezoned, or that is within the 300 feet. Birmingham said that when there are 11 or more properties that are impacted by being rezoned, you don't have to notice them all by sending out letters, but you do have to notice it in the newspaper. Wojda mentioned the DDA expansion as an example. Boboltz mentioned that Wojda is also on the DDA board and Kostelic is the member of the Planning Commission who is also on the Zoning Board of Appeals which is required by the Ordinances.

Gilmore asked Birmingham to ask the City Attorney to review Section 9.10, Rehearing Process. Birmingham agreed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COMMUNICATIONS OR REPORTS: None.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m., by Boboltz, Planning Commission Chairman.

Clayton C. VanWagoner, Secretary

RECREATION PLAN – NEXT STEPS

Timeline	Action
Currently Ongoing	NEMCOG working on past grant funded project Post Completion Forms; visiting, documenting, and photographing all public parks (including barrier-free rating); reviewing current plans, CIP, and Budget documents
September 12	Planning Commission Survey Results Review
October 5 th @ 6 PM	Intergovernmental Council Meeting at Alpena Township office 4385 US 23 North
October – Date TBD	Joint meeting with Planning Commission and Recreation Advisory Board Compare current goals in plan to CIP Target for weeks of October 9 th or October 16 th (exclude Mon 10/16)
November 10	Deadline to notice Public Hearing and Begin 30-day public review period
December 12	Public Hearing at Regular Planning Commission meeting *30 day notice required in November



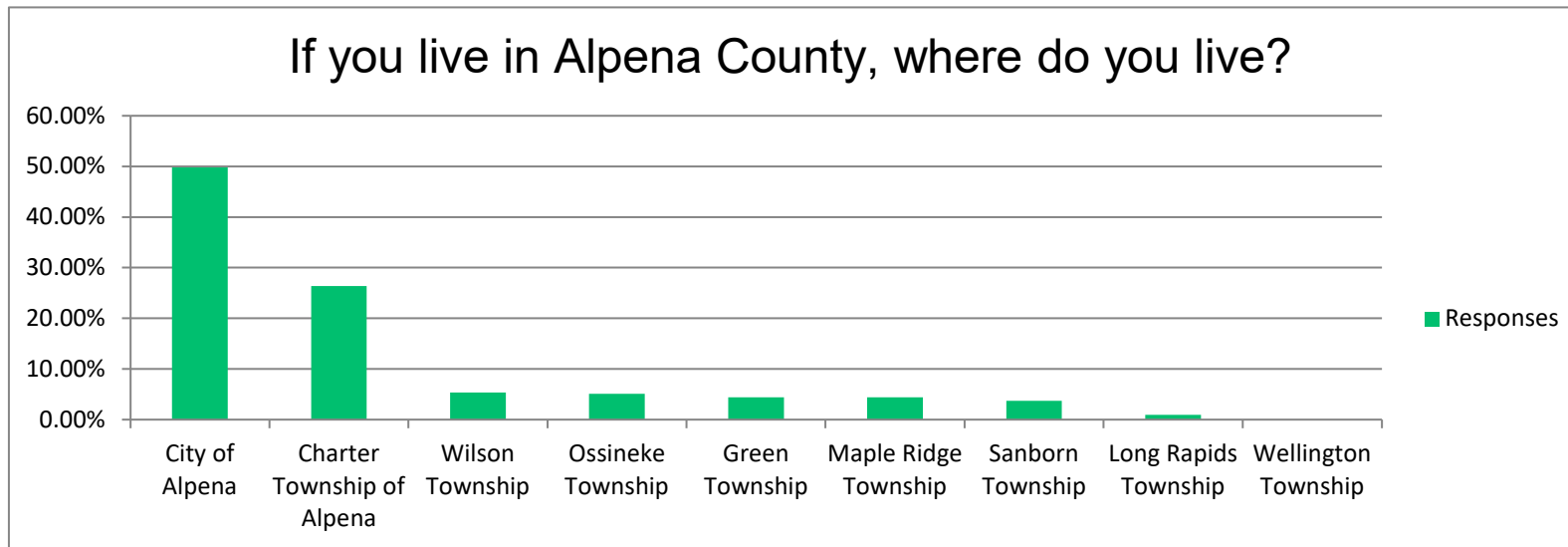
Alpena County Recreation Plan Survey Results

2023

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 1

If you live in Alpena County, where do you live?

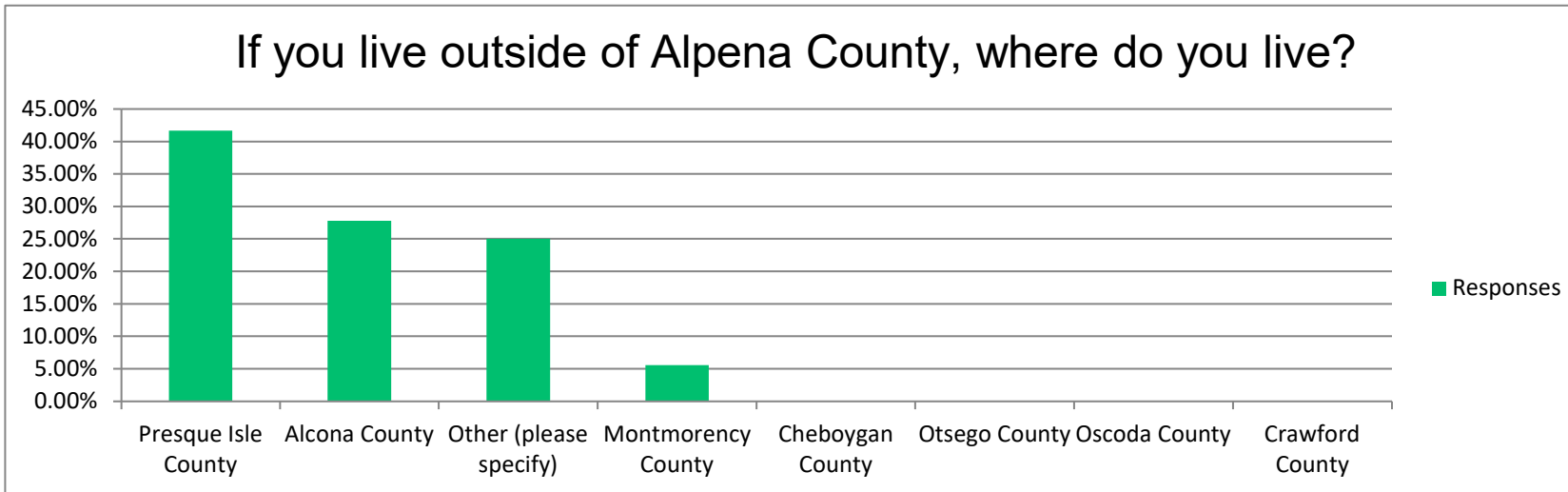
Answer Choices	Responses	
City of Alpena	49.77%	215
Charter Township of Alpena	26.39%	114
Wilson Township	5.32%	23
Ossineke Township	5.09%	22
Green Township	4.40%	19
Maple Ridge Township	4.40%	19
Sanborn Township	3.70%	16
Long Rapids Township	0.93%	4
Wellington Township	0.00%	0
	Answered	432
	Skipped	29



Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 2

If you live outside of Alpena County, where do you live?

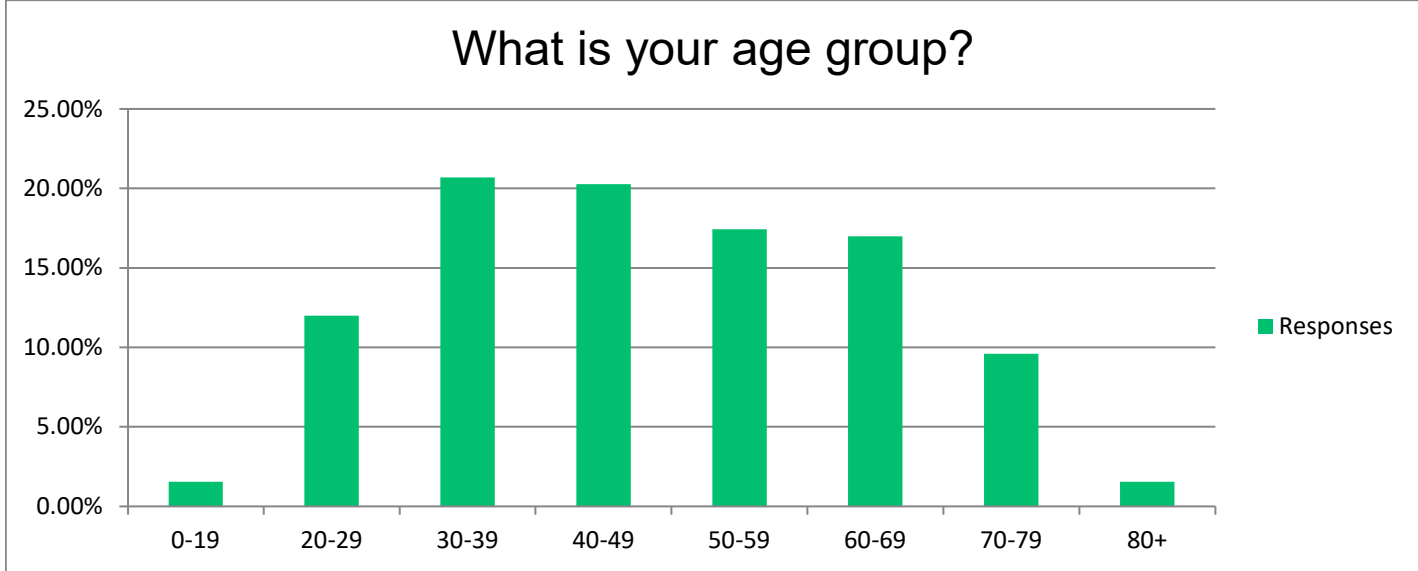
Answer Choices	Responses	
Presque Isle County	41.67%	15
Alcona County	27.78%	10
Other (please specify)	25.00%	9
Montmorency County	5.56%	2
Cheboygan County	0.00%	0
Otsego County	0.00%	0
Oscoda County	0.00%	0
Crawford County	0.00%	0
	Answered	36
	Skipped	425



Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 3

What is your age group?

Answer Choices	Responses	
0-19	1.53%	7
20-29	11.98%	55
30-39	20.70%	95
40-49	20.26%	93
50-59	17.43%	80
60-69	16.99%	78
70-79	9.59%	44
80+	1.53%	7
Answered		459
Skipped		2



Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 4

Which of the following Recreational Facilities do you use and how often?

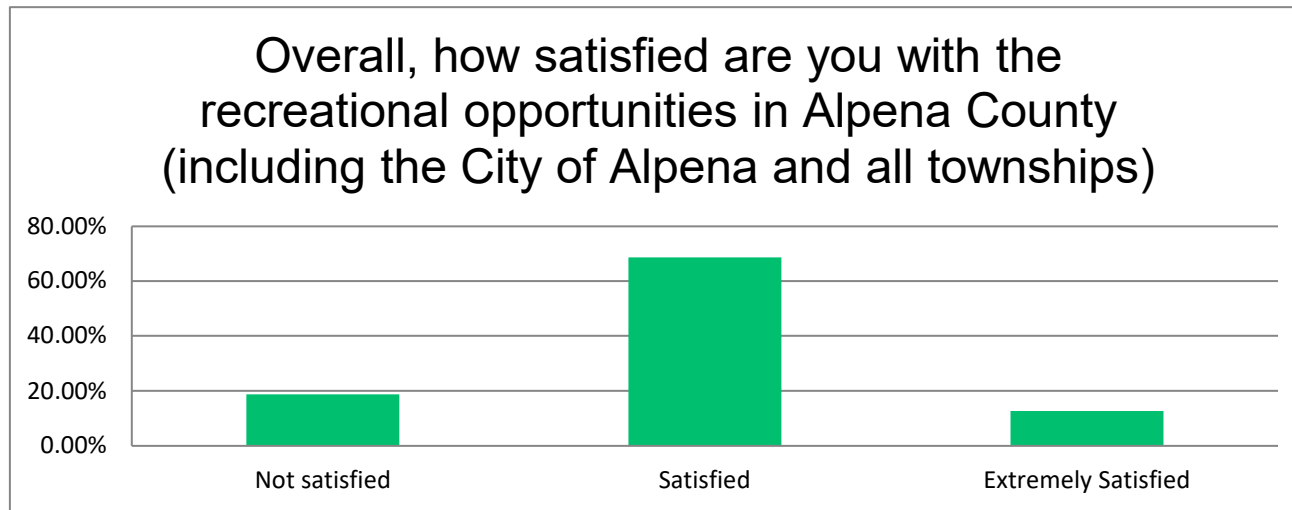
Park Use Frequency Ranked by Location AND More than Once Per Month

Location	Facility Name	1-2 Times per Year or Less	1-2 Times per Year or Less	More than Once Per Month	More than Once Per Month	Total Responses
Alpena County	10. Northern Lights Arena (Woodward Ave)	253	56%	197	44%	450
Alpena County	4. Alpena Plaza Pool (at the High School)	329	73%	121	27%	450
Alpena County	1. Alpena County Fairgrounds (11th Ave)	388	86%	63	14%	451
Alpena County	2. Alpena County Fairgrounds Boat Launches (11th Ave)	395	88%	55	12%	450
Alpena County	3. Alpena County Fairgrounds Playground (11th Ave)	402	90%	47	10%	449
Alpena County	6. Long Lake Park/Campground (US 23)	406	90%	45	10%	451
Alpena County	9. Manning Hill Park (M-32)	403	90%	44	10%	447
Alpena County	5. Tennis Courts (at the High School)	411	92%	35	8%	446
Alpena County	7. Sunken Lake Park/Campground (Leer Rd)	426	95%	21	5%	447
Alpena County	8. Beaver Lake Park/Campground (M-65)	433	96%	16	4%	449
Alpena Twp	11. Alpena Huron Shore Babe Ruth League Fields (US 23)	382	85%	66	15%	448
Alpena Twp	12. Alpena Charter Township Nature Preserve (Misery Bay Rd)	381	85%	68	15%	449
Green Twp	13. Green Township Recreational Facility & Township Hall (M-32)	435	98%	11	2%	446
Ossineke Twp	14. Hubbard Lake Lion's Park (Hubbard Lake Rd)	427	96%	20	4%	447
Wilson Twp	15. Wolf Creek Park (Wolf Creek Rd)	418	94%	27	6%	445
Sanborn Twp	18. Shin-ga-ba Shores & Ball Fields (US 23)	371	83%	74	17%	445
Sanborn Twp	16. Sanborn Park (Lake Huron)	399	89%	47	11%	446
Sanborn Twp	19. Paul Bunyan & Babe Statues (US 23)	420	95%	24	5%	444
Sanborn Twp	17. Boat Launch on Devils River (Sanborn Township)	435	97%	13	3%	448
City of Alpena	20. Alpena Bi-Path	139	31%	310	69%	449
City of Alpena	22. Bay View Park (includes bandshell, tennis courts and basketball courts) - 19. State Ave	181	40%	271	60%	452
City of Alpena	27. Duck Park (Long Rapids Rd)	185	41%	265	59%	450
City of Alpena	33. Starlite Beach (State Ave)	186	41%	265	59%	451
City of Alpena	32. Mich-e-ki-wis Park (State Ave)	186	41%	263	59%	449
City of Alpena	25. Culligan Plaza (downtown)	201	45%	247	55%	448
City of Alpena	29. Island Park (Long Rapids Rd)	261	59%	185	41%	446
City of Alpena	24. City of Alpena Marina	267	59%	185	41%	452
City of Alpena	26. Downtown Parks (Chisholm Street Park or Waterfront Park on Carter St)	267	59%	183	41%	450
City of Alpena	37. Sytek Park (off Bagley St)	267	60%	179	40%	446
City of Alpena	34. Splash Pad (State Ave)	272	60%	179	40%	451
City of Alpena	23. Blair Street Park (State Ave)	276	62%	170	38%	446
City of Alpena	43. Rotary Island Mill Park (in Thunder Bay River)	299	67%	144	33%	443
City of Alpena	42. Washington Avenue Park	333	75%	110	25%	443
City of Alpena	41. Veteran's Memorial Park (Washington Ave)	336	76%	109	24%	445
City of Alpena	31. McRae Park (2nd Ave & Hueber St)	339	76%	109	24%	448
City of Alpena	35. North Riverfront Park (Fletcher St)	341	76%	105	24%	446
City of Alpena	40. Thomson Park (State Ave)	343	77%	103	23%	446
City of Alpena	36. South Riverfront Park (Water St)	367	82%	79	18%	446
City of Alpena	30. LaMarre Park (River St)	370	83%	75	17%	445
City of Alpena	39. Dog Park (Fletcher St)	384	86%	60	14%	444
City of Alpena	38. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park (9th Ave & Oldfield)	392	88%	53	12%	445
City of Alpena	21. Avery Park (2nd Ave)	387	88%	52	12%	439
City of Alpena	28. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch	412	92%	34	8%	446
Other	47. A-Plex (Woodward Ave)	213	48%	233	52%	446
Other	46. Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary	277	63%	165	37%	442
Other	44. Trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (off Woodward Ave)	384	87%	58	13%	442
Other	45. Thunder Bay Island	418	95%	23	5%	441
Other	48. Mystery Valley Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)	425	96%	20	4%	445
Other	49. Thunder Bay Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)	424	96%	17	4%	441

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 5

Overall, how satisfied are you with the recreational opportunities in Alpena County (including the City

Answer Choices	Responses	
Not satisfied	18.71%	84
Satisfied	68.60%	308
Extremely Satisfied	12.69%	57
Answered	449	
Skipped	12	



Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your **three favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Summary

Facility Name	Location	Count of Facility Name
Not On List	Not On List	81
20. Alpena Bi-Path	City of Alpena	65
47. A-Plex (Woodward Ave)	Other	63
33. Starlite Beach (State Ave)	City of Alpena	61
22. Bay View Park (includes bandshell, tennis courts and basketball courts) - 19. State Ave	City of Alpena	58
27. Duck Park (Long Rapids Rd)	City of Alpena	50
32. Mich-e-ki-wis Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	47
4. Alpena Plaza Pool (at the High School)	Alpena County	44
34. Splash Pad (State Ave)	City of Alpena	35
37. Sytek Park (off Bagley St)	City of Alpena	29
24. City of Alpena Marina	City of Alpena	27
10. Northern Lights Arena (Woodward Ave)	Alpena County	25
29. Island Park (Long Rapids Rd)	City of Alpena	24
40. Thomson Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	20
25. Culligan Plaza (downtown)	City of Alpena	16
31. McRae Park (2nd Ave & Hueber St)	City of Alpena	12
18. Shin-ga-ba Shores & Ball Fields (US 23)	Sanborn Twp	11
16. Sanborn Park (Lake Huron)	Sanborn Twp	11
43. Rotary Island Mill Park (in Thunder Bay River)	City of Alpena	10
23. Blair Street Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	10
39. Dog Park (Fletcher St)	City of Alpena	9
46. Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary	Other	8
42. Washington Avenue Park	City of Alpena	8
8. Beaver Lake Park/Campground (M-65)	Alpena County	7
15. Wolf Creek Park (Wolf Creek Rd)	Wilson Twp	6
12. Alpena Charter Township Nature Preserve (Misery Bay Rd)	Alpena Twp	6
14. Hubbard Lake Lion's Park (Hubbard Lake Rd)	Ossineke Twp	5
48. Mystery Valley Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)	Other	5
1. Alpena County Fairgrounds (11th Ave)	Alpena County	5
44. Trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (off Woodward Ave)	Other	5
9. Manning Hill Park (M-32)	Alpena County	4
7. Sunken Lake Park/Campground (Leer Rd)	Alpena County	4

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your **three favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Summary

Facility Name	Location	Count of Facility Name
6. Long Lake Park/Campground (US 23)	Alpena County	4
3. Alpena County Fairgrounds Playground (11th Ave)	Alpena County	4
11. Alpena Huron Shore Babe Ruth League Fields (US 23)	Alpena Twp	4
2. Alpena County Fairgrounds Boat Launches (11th Ave)	Alpena County	4
26. Downtown Parks (Chisholm Street Park or Waterfront Park on Carter St)	City of Alpena	4
13. Green Township Recreational Facility & Township Hall (M-32)	Green Twp	4
38. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park (9th Ave & Oldfield)	City of Alpena	4
28. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch	City of Alpena	3
30. LaMarre Park (River St)	City of Alpena	3
45. Thunder Bay Island	Other	1
5. Tennis Courts (at the High School)	Alpena County	1
36. South Riverfront Park (Water St)	City of Alpena	1
Grand Total		808

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Alpena County
1. Alpena County Fairgrounds (11th Ave)
Alpena County Fairgrounds - fewer geese
Alpena Fair Grounds- great place to have events and hold the annual fair - updated lights and repair buildings on grounds
Alpena fairgrounds
Fair Grounds
Fairgrounds
10. Northern Lights Arena (Woodward Ave)
Ice arena (so important for youth and community growth)
NLA- Hockey
NLA- skating and hockey and the gym and walking path
NLA- son played hockey
Northern lights
NORTHERN LIGHTS AREA, PARKING LOT NEEDS STRIPED
Northern lights arena
Northern Lights Arena - handy for walking
Northern Lights Arena - hockey family so we spend A LOT of time there. Very nice rink compared to many in Northern MI. The puddle rink needs seating. The store has so much opportunity but is very underutilized. Families can be there for hours during tournaments and game weekends...would be nice to have some better seating options in the lobby.
Northern LightS Arena - They not only teach kids the sport of hickey, but host the skate club and also bring in various family entertainment like the circus. More parking. More restrooms.
Northern Lights Arena , girls locker rooms and 2 sheets of year round ice
Northern lights arena because we love attending hockey games there
Northern lights arena, continued funding and upgrades. Great arena
Northern lights arena, spend so much time here during the winter. Could easily be expanded in size as the 2nd rink is small not a lot of people can fit in there to watch games.
Northern lights arena. Improve the ice maintenance to support curling.
Northern Lights Arena. Center of activities for sports
Northern Lights arena. Needs more open skate and adult recreational hockey opportunites, for women and 50+ low impact type games.
Northern Lights/Curling
Northern Lights: Hockey

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
2. Alpena County Fairgrounds Boat Launches (11th Ave)
Boats and kayak launches at the fairgrounds. They should get the docks in sooner for launching boats, & unlock the gate at the one launch sooner so we can launch kayaks, if happen to have some nice weather early on.
Fairgrounds boat launch
Fairgrounds boat launch, kayak launch
Fairgrounds/kayaking
3. Alpena County Fairgrounds Playground (11th Ave)
Alpena county fairgrounds playground. I love this playground but it needs updated. Benches, picnic table are in rough shape. Baby swing needs replaced. The playhouse could be repainted.
Fairground playground needs some upgrades and a smaller slide for young kids
Fairgrounds park- updated playground equipment, more seating for parents
Optimist playground at fairgrounds is awesome because it has shade!
4. Alpena Plaza Pool (at the High School)
Alpena Plaza Pool
Alpena plaza pool
Alpena Plaza Pool - so good for our community for all ages! For health and social!
Alpena plaza pool- needs improvements- so important for our elderly and children
Alpena Plaza Pool needs to be updated and locker rooms renovated
Alpena Plaza Pool, exercise classes.
Alpena Plaza Pool. It's an oldie but goodie. It serves all ages in the community. Updates to the locker room and more hours for swimming laps would be appreciated.
Alpena Plaza Pool: need updated pool with more usability
Alpena Plaza Pool--need a new pool because this one is 49 yrs old
Better hours for the Pool. More qater aerobics.
Plaza pool
Plaza pool - exercise
Plaza pool we need a new pool
Plaza pool we need a new pool. I am amazed at the number of people using the facility. It is getting old. If we were to lose it and not have a replacement, all ages in this region would be impacted.
Plaza Pool - Would love to have a Master's Swim Team! Hope a new pool is approved as the Plaza pool is shut down often for repairs.
Plaza Pool- exercise & fun for all ages

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Plaza pool- great place for exercise year round
Plaza Pool has been great for swimming lessons for our children but could use a face lift
Plaza pool missing the old director, open swim not times in morning not good for working people!! 530 start was so much better!!!
Plaza Pool- used daily, needs replacent updating
Plaza Pool- vital to our community for swim lessons and senior activity opportunities. Needs to be replaced because it is currently 49 years old.
Plaza Pool was my only option for exercise when I injured my foot. I started with lap swimming and after my foot healed and my son was born, I started joining a class and I love it! I also take my infant son there frequently for exercise for me and fun for him. A water extractor for bathing suits in the locker rooms would be wonderful as well as more changing tables. There are only 2 changing tables and it gets chaotic before and after swim lessons.
Plaza pool, would love to see a new pool for our county.
Plaza pool, can use year round. We need to be able to run more programming without shutting down.
Plaza pool, exercise
Plaza pool. Great exercise and fun. Would like new pool.
Plaza Pool. Would love to see a facility large enough to host multi team meets. Needs to be at least 50 meters ti meet todays competition standards. This would bring people to the county because there are no facilities like this nearby.
Plaza Pool; use often & affordable
Pool
THE PLAZA POOL- LIKE TO USE MORE BUT VERY EXPENSIVE
5. Tennis Courts (at the High School)
High school tennis courts - benches around perimeter.
6. Long Lake Park/Campground (US 23)
Long lake campground. More parking for those launching their boat for the day. More waterfront campsites
Long Lake County Park, improve day use recreation opportunities, develop trails, add new bathroom building
Long lake park
7. Sunken Lake Park/Campground (Leer Rd)
Sunken Lake. Beautiful campground. Seasonal campers took over the campground. Hard to get a camping spot for the weekend. County Park should be for people from the county.
Sunken lake
Sunken Lake County Park, improve day use rec opportunities, expand improved camping, develop trails
Sunken lake park, best park, family friendly, like to see bridge area fixed up
8. Beaver Lake Park/Campground (M-65)
Beaver Lake - Water testing for swimmers itch and updated signage reflecting when it's a problem!! Updated playground.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Beaver Lake Campground
Beaver Lake Campground, same reasons as above.
Beaver Lake Campground. This should honestly be first. We have a seasonal here. My family has camped there for over 40 years..it is full of memories, it's clean. It needs full hook up though.
Beaver Lake County Campground, it's always clean and welcoming. Many wonderful memories made there.
Beaver Lake County Park, improve day use recreation opportunities
Beaver Lake Park
9. Manning Hill Park (M-32)
Manning Hill Park
Manning Hill Park - close to home, nice in all seasons
Manning Hill Park- BEST VIEW IN ALPENNA COUNTY. Park Road needs to get re-paved, horrible road. I would like to see an activity placed up there for children like a swingset/slide
Manning hill park, view is incredible, peaceful , would like to see tower rebuilt
Alpena Twp
11. Alpena Huron Shore Babe Ruth League Fields (US 23)
Alpena Huron Shore US23 ballfields - lights installed
Baseball Complex behind Township Offices - so much good comes from our youth in sports developing them with lessons for life and fun things to do without screens. Also a big feeling of community develops between the players, families and volunteers
Huron shores ball field —more parking
Huron shores complex (baseball) - light the fields!
12. Alpena Charter Township Nature Preserve (Misery Bay Rd)
Alpena Charter Township Nature Preserve
Alpena Nature Preserve - Better parking and add the Karst owned on Stateland across the Bay
Alpena Township Natural Area - no improvements
Alpena Township Nature Preserve -
Misery bay reserve
North Point preserve (in Alpena Twp)
City of Alpena
20. Alpena Bi-Path
All Alpena Bi-Paths that are accessible for all. I would like to see more accessible paths created at Island Park.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Alpena Bi Path. There are some spots on the sidewalks that are really bumpy and should be redone for safety. People are constantly walking, and biking and it should be a safe space away from the road
Alpena bike path- fantastic to have a way to ride such a large area!
Alpena bike path is my favorite because I walk it frequently to enjoy the water & nice walk way. It could use a face lift. Oftentimes when I walk on it, I think about when it was first redone. When they added the black bridge and the side walks closest to Fletcher Paper it was so well kept. When the cruise ship was coming to town, I felt embarrassed that they would see the conditions of that area directly after getting off of the boat. Well kept towns make people want to come back. That area seems neglected. It's one of the best spots in town.
Alpena Bi-Path
Alpena Bi-Path - Better signs
Alpena bi-path - better cross walk plans, longer path! More path!
Alpena Bi-Path - smooth out places where roots have pushed up through the pavement.
Alpena Bi-Path is a gem but there are parts of it that are in serious need of improvement. The portion on Bagley St is DANGEROUS and glaring problem for our community. I walk and ride my bike daily but I would NEVER go along Bagley St. It's so dangerous and a HUGE gaping weak spot on the bi-path.
Bi path
Bi path for bicycling
Bi path- love that it's everywhere. Could be improved with maintenance such as cleaning. And perhaps art, interactive sculptures.
Bi path: the bypass connects everything, any improvement in this will dramatically improve the community. I would recommend branching out this area to other areas in the community and improving the protection for biking, running, walking, etc
Bi path-see above
Bike path
Bike Path - keep it maintained
Bike path by the river
Bike path easy to utilize
Bike path- improvements can be made to some of the areas— especially around the river - some tree trunks have over taken the path making it a hazard for those running or biking
Bike path through city- it's good the way it is! Crossing over us 23 by duck park is challenging. Busy area. Be awesome if there was a over the street bridge to cross the road.
Bike Path,
bike path, except for the bumps and potholes all over
Bike Path, but there needs to be a better path along Bagley from the bridge to the neighborhood. 55 mph is way, way to fast along there
Bike path. Remove the lights that look like headlights at night

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Bike path. Updated Asphalt/Concrete
Bike path.. we do lots of walking and bike riding
Bike path... links the community and allows safe transportation non motorized... keeps the commu n itybhealthy and moving
Bike paths
Bike paths on South side of town
Bike Paths. Plentiful and fun
Bikepath for walking
Biking paths
Bipath
Bi-path
Bi-Path - I would like to see better signage
bi-path - make sidewalk along bagley st north of the river
Bi-path - Nice to use between home and businesses, need more bike paths to get between places in town
Bi-path - repaving where roots have broken the pavement
Bi-Path - smooth trails, can get you almost all over town. Really need to safely connect the loop on Bagley with a path, not a road I want to be riding on the shoulder of.
Bipath - unique feature. Terrible signage to follow and nearly died hitting a curb crossing a road (improve path). Connect path to other sidewalks and generally extend Township sidewalks for access.
Bipath- Fix Root Bumps by Sytek park. A barrier from the Bridge to the entrance of Island View. The highway is dangerous and you cannot safely do the loop without being on the road.
Bi-Path More lights through out the bi-path and expand it into the twp more.
BiPath. It would be nice to have safe BiPath usage on Bagley Street. With heavy equipment and large trucks, it can be unsafe.
BiPath. Would like to see more bike trails
BiPath..just a great biking and walking path with many beautiful views.
Bi-Path/Sytek/Washington Park
Bi-path: update map boards
Bi-path; easily accessible
Boardwalk bi path
By path....perfect route for walking & biking
Riverside walk
The bike path in town, wish there were more paved trails to bike on! Love them, use them every day the weather is decent.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
The paths along the river by the marine sanctuary
The riverside trails behind NOAA and the other side of the river. Wish that area could be spruced up more. Fletcher building is not very attractive with the broken windows and such for the tourists that come and go from that area.
Walk along the river on Washington Avenue. Please put benches between the start and end on Bagley Street.
Walking path around the river
22. Bay View Park (includes bandshell, tennis courts and basketball courts) - 19. State Ave
Band shell - entertainment
band shell - it smells like urine and needs more benches facing bandshell
Band Shell - like city band
Band shell area: hub of the action, add permanent bathrooms.
Bandshell
Bandshell concerts
Bandshell. Love free concerts.
Bandshell. True North Radio Network does an excellent job getting community members together to enjoy a night of music and fun!
Bay view
Bay View - add more shade trees along the walkway
Bay view and the marina and bandshell. Beautiful except for the factories noise and smell and the goose poop. Restrooms please!!!!
Bay View- develop the open area next to Basketball courts
Bay View- love walking and biking there
Bay View- my whole family uses the tennis courts. Would love to see the courts resurfaced and nets replaced.
Bay View Park
Bay View Park - need new bathrooms (as planned)
Bay View park The play ground, walking on rocks and the band shell are all great.
Bay View Park - add trees, toilet facilities and benches
Bay View Park - I like that it is easy for me to walk to. I'd like to see more picnic tables, bathrooms, updated playground
Bay View Park - need a pavillion (as planned)?
Bay View Park - please reduce the light pollution!!
Bay View Park - resurface tennis courts.
Bay view park : Bayview Park has an aging but serviceable tennis court. I think upgrading this cord would be a huge advantage to the community. As we can see with McCray Park when they upgraded the old tennis courts to pickleball. Bayview Park itself is an excellent place to walk, meet friends, or just look out out at the water

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Bay View Park, Close to House
Bay view park, needs an updated park for kids and more updated recreational activities. Would be a phenomenal addition
Bay view park, some updated playground equipment
Bay View Park. A gem for our city. I would LOVE to see all of the courts resurfaced. And pickle ball courts added.
Bay view park. Bathroom facility especially for when there are bands in the summer
Bay View Park. The tennis courts are very damaged and need to be replaced. There is a lot of room for an addition of a pickleball area and the park is used daily by tennis,pickleball, and basketball.
Bay View Park-great entertainment-tiered seating
Bay view tennis courts, above reason
Bay view, basketball courts could use a revamp (new hoops)
Bay view, parking in this area when busy can be challenging.
Bay view. Provides for different venues and a wonderful area on the water. The sidewalks need edging and more weed control.
Bay View....beginning with the area in your picture with this post. I wouldn't add or change much in this area. It's beautiful and peaceful!
Bay View—improve tennis courts and add pickleball courts without reducing the number of tennis courts
Bayview Tennis courts and they need to be repaired - first thing people see coming into Alpena and draws a lot of people into area.
bayview bathrooms
Bayview park
Bayview park - beautiful and open with a lot to do. Would like a pavilion picnic area and volleyball court area and public restrooms
Bayview park- great for bandshell, needs bathrooms that is our biggest concern out of all parks
bayview park- I like the wid open space for viewing the water. I just wish we could clean up the shore line, remove some of the rocks for swimming.
Bayview park- I walk this daily along with the break wall. I feel safe walking there on my own. It's always clean and maintained. I also take my nephews to the park all summer. The monkey bars in the front need to be looked at. There is too long of a gap between the last bar and the landing post. I mentioned it casually in conversation and other mom's said they thought the same thing over the years.
Bayview/ Scenic
Bayview-restrooms
Kiddie park
Kiddie park by boat harbor
Kiddie Park needs upgraded to safer and more activities for younger kids (safer slides), safer climbing structures, clean up weeds, picnic table area
Kitty Park - updated equipment it's so old
Playground near Bandshell

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
The courts at Bay View, AHS and TBJH need attention. We're lucky to have so many courts but unfortunately they are in such poor condition, it's limiting. Bay View Park courts are the most in need of re-surfacing.
23. Blair Street Park (State Ave)
Blair St Park
Blair St Pier, a bathroom or pavilion
Blair st pier: new bridge is awesome
Blair street
blair street Love to swim there, but I feel like the pier needs more love after it got destroyed by the ice in 2020
Blair street park
Blair Street Park - build a wall to keep the sand on the beach
Blair street pier
Blare park swimming
24. City of Alpena Marina
Alpena boat harbor
Alpena boat harbor public restrooms would be nice instead of portapottys
Alpena Marina
Alpena Marina. There are so many improvements lately that are noticeable! We use it for sailing and walking the dog. Would like to see the trees replaced that were removed, it adds so much to the comfort and beauty of the area.
Boat Harbor
Breakwall
City Marina - remove the walkway on the breakwater to improve the view of the bay - more trees & green space on BOTH sides
City of Alpena Marina
Fishing, better facilities at the Alpena Harbor
Freighter watching... would be great if there were more viewing platforms or if the breakwall was finished to the Green and white marker
harbor area, except some butthead cut all the trees down...wth?
Marina
Marina - Great place for ship watching on Lake Huron. Would love to see a public restroom building nearby, shared with bandshell area
Marina - New bathrooms
marina love to walk by the water
Marina needs a new and bigger fish cleaning station
Marina. Needs more boat parking spaces for ramp use

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Marina/bandshell; bathrooms downtown
Marina/Bayview, needs shade trees
Marina/Breakwall
Marine, new bathroom
Pier at marina
Update Alpena marina And harbor for water flow to clean the marina
25. Culligan Plaza (downtown)
Culligan plaza
Culligan Plaza - Central to downtown businesses
Culligan Plaza - centrally located many things to do - more parking for downtown
Culligan plaza - easy community gathering design and layout
Culligan Plaza - leave a central fountain in place rather than a waterfall/river feature
Culligan plaza music
Culligan Plaza/central location, needs shade trees and redesign
Culligan plaza-always clean & love the fountain & tree/decor for Christmas
Culligan- some barrier between the road and the plaza
Cullighan plaza
Downtown culligan plaza - walking and longboarding through downtown is always pleasant
Downtown plaza
Fountain peaceful for all
26. Downtown Parks (Chisholm Street Park or Waterfront Park on Carter St)
DDA pocket park - also central to food and businesses
Downtown Parks
Downtown parks - I would like to see public restrooms
Pocket park near red brick; more food options/food trucks in that park
27. Duck Park (Long Rapids Rd)
Alpena duck park/sportsman island - I enjoy longboarding up and down the paved path, and walking through the trails.
Duck Island - it is not safe at a certain time it is where drug users go.
Duck park
Duck park and island. Love the trails and peacefulness and wildlife you see.
duck park beautiful and love to walk it. love kayak launch

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Duck Park - Beautiful scenery, good walking, needs more lookouts, maybe some on island bathrooms
Duck Park - good for dog walks. Increase signage about community or native plants and add bathroom.
Duck park - happy to hear bathrooms will be built. It definitely needs some.
Duck park - paddle boarding
Duck park and island
Duck park because it's easy to get to and walk and you see new things every visit
Duck Park- clean, pretty
Duck Park for walking the island
Duck park island
Duck park kayak launch
duck park -more picnic tables
Duck park quiet, many smaller trails, not much for anything left of a boat dock.
Duck Park- we'll groom trails
Duck park,
Duck park, enjoy this park but could use more activities
Duck Park, the kayak launch
Duck Park. More fishing docks around the edge of the island
Duck park. My family and I love walking the duck park, having lunch, parking so we can bike. It needs a better bathroom situation though & maybe some no maintenance way to have a yard game up on the island on the open part or picnic tables there..
Duck park. parking lot needs repaving
Duck park. Peaceful and beautiful. No changes needed
Duck park/ Island- better fishing platforms and allow bikes on the island would be better.
Duck Park/ Island park area - great walking, picnicing and use the kayak launch
Duck Park/Island Park
Duck Park/Island Park - add the Thunder Bay River Center
Duck Park/Island.
Duck Park: I love the kayaks, the wildlife, and the informational signs. I'd love to see some repairs to the signs.
Duck Park: permanent bathroom facilities, covered seatong/Pavillion area, small wildlife themed kiddie park
Duck park: pros: kayak access, wheelchair friendly. Cons: sometimes not enough parking.
Duck Park-easy to launch the kayaks and close for walking.
Island park/duck park. The kayak launch is nice and it's great to have a nature area right in town.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
More places to sit at duck park to eat
28. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch
11th Ave boat launch-convenience,
11th boat launch, island PARK. ALL BOAT LAUNCHES Kayaking. Could have more accessibility to beach for people in wheelchairs
11th boat launch needs better parking
29. Island Park (Long Rapids Rd)
Island Park- small slice of wilderness in the city - more lights near bridge and cameras for security
Duck Park and Isand Park. Island Park should have a couple of areas where sledding in the winter should be permitted. I know it's the environment that is being protected but sometimes the health of people should take precedent. Kids need a place for outdoors in the winter.
Island Park
Island Park - maybe picnic tables on the island, in the middle?
Island Park - speed hiking, educational nature signage
Island Park on Long Rapids Rd. - New bathroom facility and pavillion
Island park, because there is a lot of nature for our kids to explore
Island park. It's a natural area that visitors appear to respect nature. It is convenient to get to and offers a great place for adventure from hiking to sledding in the winter.
Island Park: more educational information around the island
Island Park-Monitoring needed or signs needed about having dogs on leashes
Island-duck park trails
Sportsman island. Nice trail walk
Sportsman Island. It is beautiful there! However, I was there a short time and got a tick. I'm wondering if there is a way to eradicate the tick population.
Sportsman's island
The Island-Paved around the whole island for ADA.
30. LaMarre Park (River St)
LaMarr Park/Rotary Park - pretty walk
LaMarre park
Lamarre park. Nice watching water
31. McRae Park (2nd Ave & Hueber St)
McRae park
Mcrae Park - I heavily enjoy getting together with my friends and playing baseball/basketball
McRae Park ballfields - less vandalism.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
McRae Park— pickleball Courts are awesome.
McRae park this needs a new park desperately
McRae Park, the Pickleball courts are fanistic. Hope to see more courts in Alpena. Lighting around the court would be nice.
McRae Park. love the new pickle ball courts. They get tons of use!
McRae Park-pickleball
McRae Pickleball courts
Mcray
McRea Pickle ball courts
Pickleball courts at McRae.. good quality courts. please add lights to this area
32. Mich-e-ki-wis Park (State Ave)
Develop michikewis
Far end of Michekewas swimming
Mich a kee wis park: I am a kiteboarder, I foil, and E foil , and this park is world class. It has an excellent setup for beginners all the way up to the intermediate. It is a safe place to launch, and a safe place to leave your car unattended for long periods of time. That make it safe for controlling your kite and preventing injury when you come on and off the water.
Mich e ke was needs its roads to be fully paved fix up the playground and skate park too
Mich e ke wis - relaxing , swimming- needs improved parking and beach area , as well as new playground equipment
Mich ekiwis - update playground
Michakewi
Michaqus park
Mich-e ke-wis Park - New playground equipment and paving of parking lot
Mich-e-kee-wis
Mich-e-kewas
Michekewis - I would love to see more native coastal planting in that area and the section that extends from the main parking area be minimized, perhaps a small trail instead.
Michekewis - needs a pavillion
Michekewis road needs fixing
Michekewis Beach
Michekewis beach- see above
Michekewis for kite flying. No improvements please.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
michekewis- I would like to see some more attraction to the park maybe some fire pits or a nice board walk. also pave the parking area by the volleyball courts please. so many pot holes!!
Michekewis is great because it is seen when driving through town. It's a good place to stop for bathroom, park, beach, to eat lunch, etc. The driveway has been neglected since I can remember. So many people drive through there a day and there are massive and dangerous potholes. The roads need to be fixed up and the playground or bike park could use improvement. More could be added to the area because the community loves to gather there for recreational activities
Michekewis park
Michekewis Park- less parking + drive through areas. People driving through and just watching you swim/ cook/ walk is uncomfortable; there is plenty parking near the Farmers Market to watch the lake. Other than that, I love the park for SUPping, walking the dog, grilling with friends. Removing the roundabout drive would be such an improvement! Also, more trees in the grassy area for shade.
Michekewis swimming
michekewis to be PAAD developed in their honor
Michekewis, dog swim area
Michekewis. Just better maintenance, fix the RR ties that line the border, rake the sand out of the grass back to the beach, add a few benches, provide a level pad for the Porta pots. Otherwise, don't change the natural beauty because it's a great place to bird watch, especially in the spring with migration and nesting.
Michekewis. The volleyball area needs to be redone! That is such a great league and great area for kids and the community and the lake has really done a number on it.
Michekis
Mich-e-ki-Was- lots to do for all ages. Love the farmers market, beaches and picnic shelter. The roads at the far end with the circle really need resurfaced. We eat lunch out the a lot.
Michekiwis
Mich-e-ki-wis Alpena
Mich-e-ki-wis Park - How about a regular summer vintage / antique flea market along with the Farmer's Market? Need a local venue to sell my stuff! :) (Not the Southend Emporium)
Mich-e-ki-wis Park because we play at the beach daily in the summer. I would love for someone to research the reasons why our bay gets such nasty black stuff washing up on our shores. Not great for locals or tourists.
Mich-e-ki-wis Park update the restrooms, added amenities for food, update or tear down surrounding parks
Mich-e-ki-wis Park-a quieter park to swim with our dog.
Mich-e-ki-wis, love the beach and lake, close proximity to food choices
Mich-e-ki-wis, quiet place by the water

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Mich-e-ki-wis. Love beach volleyball courts, wish there were indoor ones!
Michequeis
Mich-i-kee-wis - no improvements
Michikewas
Michikewis - splash park and beach
Michikewis- glad there's sand and a view, go there to eat lunch the most.
Michikiwa
Mich-i-ki-was
Michikiwis
PAAD donated michekewis...nice if placque were there
Starlite volleyball courts. Fun to watch
33. Starlite Beach (State Ave)
Pavilion at Starlite Beach and splash pad. I tutor students over the summer and utilize the pavilion and playground. I'm VERY thankful for this space. A pavilion at michakewis would be nice!
Splash pad and Starlight beach - this has been a blessing to the children in our area and their families. A fun destination that costs nothing for families to enjoy.
Splash pad/starlight park
Splash Park/Starlight/Thompson
Star light
Star lite - fix the shower on the lake side, more play structures!
Star lite Beach
Star lite beach playground -clean & lots of nice playground equipment
Star lite Park- great family area- bring more sand in!
Starlight
Starlight - handicap accessible ramp to water
Starlight - update playground and facilities, add splash pad for babies/toddlers
Starlight beach
Starlight Beach - playground, splash pad and beach all together.
Starlight Beach- Awesome to have a beach so close to us. Improvements: more parking, better grooming/cleaning of beach, more police presence to control people smoking on the beach and to deter crime. Bigger bathroom facilities.
Starlight beach- beautiful, clean, large beach. Would like more picnic tables

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Starlight beach expand parking more tables
Starlight beach- many improvements have been made.
Starlight Beach/splash pad.. like the water and playgrounds
Starlight beach; I would like to see a handicap beach friendly wheelchair (they have one in Tawas.)
Starlight beach-great beach and splash pad
Starlight beach-upgrade playground
Starlight park
Starlight- relaxing- new picnic tables ⁸
Starlight Splash Park. Makes me smile to see all of the families enjoying this!
Starlight. Such a nice beach. Would ne nice to have a bench to sit on in the water for us older people who don't swim but want to "get into" the water.
Starlite
Starlite and surrounding parks-lots of choices, bathrooms
Starlite beach
Starlite beach - beach, pavillion
Starlite Beach - more shade by the beach - maybe some trees planted near the sidewalk?
Starlite beach - nice wwaterfront
Starlite Beach - updated playground equipment
Starlite Beach - well maintained and great for both townies and tourists
Starlite Beach playground and Splash Pad
Starlite beach,park, splash pad could use an expansion
starlite beach. more parking
Starlite Beach: I love that there are bathrooms, a shower, and the playground. I'd love to see closer parking to the playground.
Starlite beach-I like spending time at the beach with my leashed dog, however my biggest complaint overall is that the city does not enforce dog leash laws. Nearly every day whether I'm at our beaches or walking the bi path,I run into people with their dogs off leash. The people sometimes don't have a leash, or times they are carrying the leash but refuse to use it when I ask. I have an 85lb 10 year old dog that I keep harnessed and leashed as its for her safety and the safety of others. She is friendly, bit she does not like when a loose dog runs up on her aggressively. She feels threatened as do I. SOMETHING NEEDS to be done about this!
Starlite because it has the beach, playground and splash park
Starlite great playground and Splash pad
Starlite it would be nice for benches
starlite more seating

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Starlite, maybe some shades near the beach
Starlite....we enjoy picnics there often and freighter viewing.
34. Splash Pad (State Ave)
Fenced in playground at splash pad park
Splash pad
Splash pad - could be bigger though
Splash pad - free activity for Townies and tourists
Splash pad - more options for younger kids
Splash pad - something for everyone
Splash pad expand it. My grandkids love this
Splash pad expansion
Splash Pad for the kids
Splash pad fun for all ages
Splash pad- great place for kids to burn off some energy- I would love to see the size increase, even double.
Splash pad is great
Splash pad. For the kids
Splash pad. We just had our 4 year olds birthday there this past weekend. It was very nice. The only thing was that the pavilion was rented by someone else. It would be helpful to know if it is rented or advertised more on where to find if it is or how to rent it. Maybe build a second pavilion that is always open to the public while the original can be rented.
Splash Park
Splash Park - I don't use this myself, but tons of people do and clearly enjoy it. Maintain + expand this.
Splash Park- bathroom facilities, plenty of seating, shade, and beautifully landscaped. Could be improved by more frequent cleaning.
Splash park for children. Needs to be enlarged
Splash park is nice to take grandkids.
Splash park- my children love the pad but it could have bigger parking and maybe a addition to make bigger
Splash Park-it is a fun way to engage our youngest family members.
Water Park needs additional older kids equipment
36. South Riverfront Park (Water St)
Riverfront Park, needs shade trees
37. Sytek Park (off Bagley St)
bagley st park more picnic area

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Syteck park
Syteck park is my all time favorite. its close to home and an easy access to the water with my kayak. I wish there was a kayak launch like the one at the duck park.
sytek
Sytek - continue to keep dog waste bags & garbage bins
Sytek because it has beautiful views
Sytek- gorgeous views, wildlife and easily to stroll. I think newly painted with some flowers would be nice. Please keep a port a john there.
Sytek Park
sytek park beautiful and love to walk the bi path starting there
Sytek Park - Maybe add a more substantial small boat/kayak launch ramp.
Sytek Park - near home
Sytek park fishing
Sytek Park is also lovely. Nice to see service groups adopting and tending to it!
Sytek park is such a nice place to walk, It would be nice a have a bathroom.
Sytek Park, centrally located, updated facilities and clean
Sytek Park, great for walking
Sytek park. A kayak launch or even just a bigger area to launch into the water would be nice here.
Sytek Park. Love the pavillion
Sytek Park; convenient & pleasant (but needs a restroom)
Sytek Park-boat launch with dock
Sytek to Washington park. Not much needed here, except the goose poop.
Sytek-easy to walk with dogs
Sytek-kayak launch
38. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park (9th Ave & Oldfield)
Both Skate parks are ok to skate, but they need a revamp new ramps, new cement for ground and everything, maybe just make it a full concrete skate park with drop in bowls and all
Skate park
Skate park so the kids have something to do
Skatepark
39. Dog Park (Fletcher St)
Dog park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Dog Park - more trees
Dog Park - would love to see another dog park in town!
DOG PARK MORE GRASS
Dog park. Great area to have for the dogs and also meeting a lot of very friendly people there. There needs to be more maintenance of the ground cover.
Dog park. Awesome place!
Dog park. Have the guys who mow it walk around and pick up the dog toys first. So many donated toys obviously run over and shredded with the mower blades. Provide a bench under a tree or provide an awning over the existing bench for some sun protection.
Dog park. More shade availability would be nice
Dog Park-add a water feature(s) like the splash park
40. Thomson Park (State Ave)
Thompson - easily accessible
Thompson beach
Thompson beach water and beach clean
Thompson beach. Wonderful!
Thompson Harbor
Thompson Harbor State Park- Zero improvements needed
Thompson park
thompson park tables
Thompson starlight michekewus bay view... water access beach access so important an asset that should not be overlooked
Thomson park - clearing rocks in the water
Thomson and Blair st park - add shower
Thomson Beach - maybe more seating?
Thomson Beach close by
Thomson Park
Thomson Park: I love that it is small, clean, and there are tables. I'd love to see the sand cleaner, I guess.
42. Washington Avenue Park
Washington
Washington Ave Park
Washington Ave Park - kayak launch & biking
Washington Ave Park- it is very peaceful and beautiful- I would love to see a little bit bigger covered pavilion and bathrooms there.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Washington Park
Washington park close to house and nice bike trail
WashingtonAvenue/Sytek Parks - no suggestions
43. Rotary Island Mill Park (in Thunder Bay River)
Rotary- benches on deck
Rotary Island
Rotary Island would like to see more fishing platforms
Rotary island- ADA accessible. always nice people walking the loop. Very well kept area always clean and beautiful with many options of where to go. Port a john on the island would be helpful. A mom had to figure out where to the her kiddos to a bathroom last summer while fishing.
Rotary Island full of life
Rotary Island- great place to take a small walk with no vehicles. Can't think of any improvements off the top of my head.
Rotary Island/ scenic
Rotary park
Green Twp
13. Green Township Recreational Facility & Township Hall (M-32)
Green township hall and facilities, convenient and accessible, would like more recreation items there
Green Township Hall playground is close to take grandkids.
Green Township Hall—porta potty or restroom open for park users
Green Twp hall. It needs a park revamp & something to draw locals in. We love going & using the ball field regularly & always use for events.
Not On List
Not On List
4, 7 mile dam. Wood platform at 4mi is pretty worn, mud bog parking area. Poor fencing at top of hill by dam house. 7 mile unclear if parking allowed in low side or not.
All beaches For the kids
Any hiking trails
Any park getting more kayak/boat launches would be wonderful
Basketball
beach
Beach combing...
Beaches
Bell bay

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Biking
Camping
Cemetery Walk walking
Chippewa pathway nicely groomed and has different terrain
Community events
Devil Lake ATV and ORV Trails
Devil river boat launch mouth needs dredging sand moves in closing it off at times
Devils lake
Devils River Boat Launch. Live in Ossineke and much prefer launching our boat there than driving into town. Unfortunately, it is barely maintained. It needs to be dredged at the mouth and new break walls put in so it stays running. Sometimes it's not passable at the opening due to lower levels and the storms that push in so much sand. This summer it's only a 1.5' deep. It is a DNR boat launch - I should think the river opening is just as important as the launch itself. What good is the launch if you can't get out, right?
Disc Golf Courses. All three are great but could use additional baskets and tee pads.
disc golf parks are okay, I believe they could be maintained advertised and even more created
Downtown, I'd love to see a bigger downtown!
Eagle Hills Disc Golf - better signage and better tees for the back nine
Emerick park
exercise equipment or benches or reading area
Fishing
Hiking
Hiking/biking
Hubbard Lake boat launch, has restrooms, relaxing
Hunting
lake side parks
Maple ridge park - quieter, wish there were more trails
MAPLE RIDGE PARK- tucked away, perfect spot to get away from everyday life. Needs more advertising, playground equipment updated bad. This park needs lots of love and has great potential!
More toddler friendly toys at parks
N/a
Nature viewing
Norway Ridge

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
norway ridge - better parking lot no some deserted
Norway ridge - lighted loops in winter months
Norway ridge - make connection to tamarack road
Norway Ridge (in Alpena Twp)
Norway Ridge because the trails are well kept and beautiful. I would like to see some trash cans added, possibly improved signage
Norway ridge close to town but wooded
Norway Ridge- hiking, biking, skiing
Norway ridge pathway
Parks on the River
Paul Bunyan is a gem. Don't change!
Playground equipment
Playgrounds
Pwc
ROCK PORT HIKING TRAILS- TRAIL ROUTE SIGNS NEED TO BE FIXED, HAVE ALMOST GOTTEN LOST
Rockport
Rockport - beautiful and grounded
Rockport - hiking and lots of room to roam, wish there were more signs to know where your at
Rockport - tons of activities; fishing, kayaking, rockhunting. There are bathrooms and plenty of parking. Pretty clean without a lot trash.
Rockport (in Alpena Twp)
Rockport- wonderful trails, wildlife, viewers. The bathroom is always clean and I find barely any trash blowing around here. Better signage would be helpful. So many visitors get turned around or unsure where to go from certain spots.
Rockport- Zero improvements needed
Skiing -- could improve trail grooming
Snowmobiling
SOCCER FEILDS BY BOOSTER CLUB, NEEDS PARKING LOT PAVED AND STRIPPED
Soccer fields
Swimming/fishing
SxS riding
The flood between the 4 and 7 mile dam-boat launch with dock
Thunderbowl lanes: because bowling
trails through the cemetary - some parts need to be repaired and more lighting

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Utilize all parks for additional activities: begin a park district that has activities, classes, all rec sport sign-ups, art classes, senior trips, self defense classes, etc. in one catalog.
UTV/ATV trails off of Piper Road in Alpena, & in other areas. Would like to see access from the city of Alpena so we don't have to drive 1/4 mile to get to Grant Street to be legal on our side-by-side. Other towns offer options for side by sides to access parts of their city, as is done with snowmobiles in some areas. Alpena needs to get with it!
Walking
Walking as a family
Walking trails
Walks
Water and beach Lake Huron Access alll city beaches .unable to access lake Huron shore safely as no crosswalks or traffic control devices. Must have a car. Discrimination of people who use mobility devices
Ossineke Twp
14. Hubbard Lake Lion's Park (Hubbard Lake Rd)
H.I.lions
Hubbard Lake Lions Park - updated playground equipment
Hubbard Lake Lions Park-playground proximity to home, would like to see equipment updated and basketball courts are in rough shape
Lions park
Lions park- go here twice a week and it could use a few new pieces of playground equipment maybe for younger kids like toddlers
Other
44. Trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (off Woodward Ave)
#44 Trailhead Something to block wind, has restrooms and cameras
Bike and walking path Woodward Ave
NEST Trail and Alpena to Hillman Trail - better maintenance
Rail trails- biking, hiking, skiing
Snowmobile trail head
45. Thunder Bay Island
Thunder Bay Island - add a permanent dock, toilet facility & shelter
46. Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Noaa
NOAA - community involvement
TB National Marine Sanctuary

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary-we love this place and my kids enjoyed the free summer program. It would be nice if there were more children's programs there.
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Thunder Bay national marine sanctuary could use new or more exhibits or play areas for children
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary: opportunities for paddling and snorkeling. Underwater sculpture garden could be cool
Thunder Bay Natl. Sanct.
47. A-Plex (Woodward Ave)
A plex- Proper Gym
Apex
Aplex
A-plex
APlex - A pool would be phenomenal!
APlex - add new pool, DoJo for martial arts, more parking, outdoor ice rink, sledding hills
Aplex - for events mostly
APlex - good ice rink. Increase community programs and advertise them better, increase public gym (weight circuit)
Aplex - indoor tennis
APlex - more space for indoor activities.
Aplex - So many activities for the entire family to enjoy it. Plus the availability to hold concerts, weddings, craft shows etc. Makes this an all around family venue. The needs here is part of the building is older and could use being updated. Some of the areas for their specific classes could be bigger to allow more kids to be involved. More parking is a must! Would be great to bring a pool over here.
Aplex - Tennis and volleyball, could use some beautification/better lawn care near sand pits
Aplex - variety
Aplex - variety of uses, well maintained facility. Would love to see the public pool moved there.
Aplex- activities for my kids. Would like more adult activites to do.
Aplex because we attend gymnastics there and it's a fantastic venue for events. One improvement would be a community pool.
Aplex- gymnastics is a huge part of our family- tennis courts there are important
APlex- houses many sports and activities and is great for indoor use in the winter or rain.
Aplex- improve the front doors to be more accessible, add a pool, update the gym, add childcare
A-plex lots of different activities for everyone
Aplex- love tennis and pickle ball! Update the window coverings on the tennis courts
Aplex pickleball courts

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Aplex— right now two tennis courts are being used as Pickleball courts. That makes it very difficult to get a tennis court when needed.
Aplex- tennis and the gymnastics area. Would love a pool
Aplex Tennis Courts, I'm a big time tennis player and would love to see more focus there
Aplex- very versatile. Could be improved with a lower price on activities/ some sort of membership program that allows you access to activities without paying at the door/ desk. Also a pool with privacy in the locker room.
Aplex walking Track and Volleyballfor walking
Aplex, lots of variety and use, better management, needs to be cleaner
Aplex, pool and more sporting activities located here.
Aplex. For the kids
Aplex. Love the activities offered.
Aplex/northern lights so many events and things to do there
Aplex: because curling
Aplex: great events center
Aplex: source of activities, add an aquatic center/pool
Aplex-entertainment
Aplex-Pickleball
Aplex-swimming pool
48. Mystery Valley Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)
Bucket list is Mystery Valley Karst
Mystery Valley
Mystery Valley- great walk, quiet
Mystery valley just a neat experience you never know what you're going to find
Sink holes
Sanborn Twp
16. Sanborn Park (Lake Huron)
Ossineke Beach. Make a concrete path to the pavilion so it's wheelchair accessible.
OSSINEKE BEACH-NEEDS TO BE GROOMED
Sanborn Boat Launch
Sanborn Handicap Fishing Pier
Sanborn Park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 6

Please list your three **favorite** recreational facilities and let us know why they are your favorite and what improvements you would like to see there.

Favorite
Sanborn Park - fantastic local beach. Clean, well maintained sand, trash bins, and pavilion. Would like to see bathrooms upgraded; they've been the same since I was a child and have zero privacy.
Sanborn Park Beach Needs new bathrooms!
Sanborn park Ossineke. Beautiful beach and clean swimming but often littered. Restrooms would be a huge improvement.
Sanborn Park: great beach
Sanborn park-close proximity and the lake. Needs equipment for older kids and cleaner bathroom changing room
Sanborn Park-Local-security cameras
18. Shin-ga-ba Shores & Ball Fields (US 23)
Shin ga ba shores is a beautiful playground a bathroom facility would be nice , instead of an outhouse, epecially for those who rent the hall.
Shin ga ba shores park-clean nice play ground for kids
Shin ga ba shores-local-add a pickleball court.
Shing shores close to home
Shingaba shores
Shingaba shores -close proximity. Needs better equipment fixing and shaded seating
Shingaba shores park-great playground, safe, would like to see more maintenance since there seems to be vandalism lately
Shingabah: because kids enjoy it
Shingabashores
Shin-ga-ba-shores
Wilson Twp
15. Wolf Creek Park (Wolf Creek Rd)
Wilson park
Wolf Creek Park
Wolf Creek Park - quiet park and fun to take the kids fishing; pavilion is nice. Deck railings need repair...some have fallen off and make the structure unsafe.
Wolf creek park beautiful park place to visit
Wolf Creek Park-Proximity and always well maintained
Wolf Creek private and beautiful

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Summary

Facility Name	Location	Count of Facility Name
Not On List	Not On List	218
1. Alpena County Fairgrounds (11th Ave)	Alpena County	29
31. McRae Park (2nd Ave & Hueber St)	City of Alpena	20
32. Mich-e-ki-wis Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	18
38. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park (9th Ave & Oldfield)	City of Alpena	18
4. Alpena Plaza Pool (at the High School)	Alpena County	17
22. Bay View Park (includes bandshell, tennis courts and basketball courts) - 19. State Ave	City of Alpena	10
39. Dog Park (Fletcher St)	City of Alpena	10
47. A-Plex (Woodward Ave)	Other	9
42. Washington Avenue Park	City of Alpena	9
6. Long Lake Park/Campground (US 23)	Alpena County	8
24. City of Alpena Marina	City of Alpena	8
20. Alpena Bi-Path	City of Alpena	6
40. Thomson Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	6
33. Starlite Beach (State Ave)	City of Alpena	6
30. LaMarre Park (River St)	City of Alpena	5
25. Culligan Plaza (downtown)	City of Alpena	4
8. Beaver Lake Park/Campground (M-65)	Alpena County	3
44. Trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (off Woodward Ave)	Other	3
48. Mystery Valley Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)	Other	3
2. Alpena County Fairgrounds Boat Launches (11th Ave)	Alpena County	3
34. Splash Pad (State Ave)	City of Alpena	3
3. Alpena County Fairgrounds Playground (11th Ave)	Alpena County	3
37. Sytek Park (off Bagley St)	City of Alpena	2
36. South Riverfront Park (Water St)	City of Alpena	2
27. Duck Park (Long Rapids Rd)	City of Alpena	2
13. Green Township Recreational Facility & Township Hall (M-32)	Green Twp	2
23. Blair Street Park (State Ave)	City of Alpena	2
43. Rotary Island Mill Park (in Thunder Bay River)	City of Alpena	2
41. Veteran's Memorial Park (Washington Ave)	City of Alpena	1
28. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch	City of Alpena	1
26. Downtown Parks (Chisholm Street Park or Waterfront Park on Carter St)	City of Alpena	1
29. Island Park (Long Rapids Rd)	City of Alpena	1
7. Sunken Lake Park/Campground (Leer Rd)	Alpena County	1
10. Northern Lights Arena (Woodward Ave)	Alpena County	1
9. Manning Hill Park (M-32)	Alpena County	1
21. Avery Park (2nd Ave)	City of Alpena	1

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Summary

Facility Name	Location	Count of Facility Name
35. North Riverfront Park (Fletcher St)	City of Alpena	1
14. Hubbard Lake Lion's Park (Hubbard Lake Rd)	Ossineke Twp	1
Grand Total		441

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
Alpena County
1. Alpena County Fairgrounds (11th Ave)
Alpena County Fairgrounds - takes up a lot of space but is not often used for public events - buildings are looking old and in need of repair - eye sore - consider how the space could be used for public gathering that meets more needs of today
Alpena county fairgrounds water park frisbe golf
Alpena County Fairgrounds. Lovely spot on the river but it just seems run down. It isn't a relaxing place to spend time or even bike through, despite its views of the river.
Alpena Fairgrounds - upkeep & upgrades
Alpena Fairgrounds seem older and dirty
Alpena Fairgrounds, improved modern camping, new bathroom facility
Alpena Fairgrounds.....it's old & unkept and doesn't seem like the best solution to the homeless crisis. Fences need repairing/paint, the driveways are awful, there's no landscaping, yet the campsites by the river have an incredible view. It would nice, instead of considering campgrounds on Lake Huron, as we've heard in the past, expand camping at the fair grounds, get rid of the unused ball fields, make camping safer and more inviting
City campground at the Fairgrounds. Locate a City campground on Lake Huron.
Fair ground not much happens there
Fair Grounds. Add viewing/fishing docks for lake besser
Fairgrounds
Fairgrounds - falling apart - sell it
Fairgrounds - just poorly maintained and sketchy
Fairgrounds - They are sad and unkempt
Fairgrounds - ugly as sin and look like a blight. Improve appearance eg fencing.
Fairgrounds - way too many geese/geese droppings
Fairgrounds more regular activity for kids
Fairgrounds use to be good to many Homeless people
Fairgrounds. It has become run down and fewer events have been scheduled there compared to when I was growing up.
Fairgrounds. Nice river front but not really any park. Tables, grill, restrooms.
Fairgrounds. Nothing there except fair which is bad
Fairgrounds. Looks extremely run down and is not very appealing to camp right next to a busy street. Does not feel like a campground it needs more seclusion from town maybe more trees lining the road or something
Fairgrounds. More to do with the state of the fair, but also could use better groundskeeping.
Fairgrounds. Would like to see better kayak launch's in several sites on grounds
Fairgrounds... eyesore in city on beautiful river... not kept up, bad design
Fairgrounds; dirty and rundown; doesn't offer any activities I'm interested in
Fairgrounds-dirty
The Fairgrounds- the bi-path is in poor condition, the entire park is a beautiful but neglected spot. I don't feel safe walking along the path alone. I would love to see more lighting and an overhaul of the fairgrounds to make it more appealing to all ages.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
10. Northern Lights Arena (Woodward Ave)
Northern lights arena is rarely open to public use
2. Alpena County Fairgrounds Boat Launches (11th Ave)
Fairground boatlaunch- maybe a few tables
Fairgrounds boat dock
Fairgrounds boat launch - add a kayak launch
3. Alpena County Fairgrounds Playground (11th Ave)
Fairgrounds playground - equipment needs updating
Fairgrounds playground because of the location, equipment is old
Fairgrounds Playground. Needs an update
4. Alpena Plaza Pool (at the High School)
Alpena plaza pool - small, dark, expensive. Would like more opportunity for family swims, toddler pool
Alpena Plaza Pool - water is always too cold for kids to swim
Alpena Plaza Pool- an outdoor public pool with a separate kiddie pool would be a HUGE attraction for Alpena
Alpena Plaza Pool-the times are not conducive to our schedule and what times are available there is too much chaos for a leisurely swim.
Plaza Pool
Plaza pool - they need to re-do the locker rooms they are like prison showers
Plaza pool - falling apart - attached to the high school
Plaza Pool - outdated
Plaza pool because it is cold and seems gross. I want a place fo swim in the community but the pool is not welcoming. I have not went in years because every time I used to go the water was too cold so they would improve by heating the pool and being more transparent about cleaning protocol and how the pool is kept clean and safe
Plaza pool, I guess only because I don't use it ever.
Plaza pool. Needs improvements and possibly a new location. Have more community events there!
Plaza pool. The facilities are outdated, small, dingy and sad. Also awkward to go to because it is attached to the HS. Terrible parking
Plaze Pool
Pool at Aplex
Pool- old and needs updated
Pool. Too cold for kids. Would love it to work better.
we need a huge outdoor swimming pool
6. Long Lake Park/Campground (US 23)
Long Lake Campground. Sites way to close together. Very loud, a lot of thefts, not a relaxing campground.
Long lake park
Long Lake park. Dirty water and property. No one cleans up
Long lake park. The beach sucks. The boat launch area is a joke. The docks are terrible.
Put in a better dock that doesn't destroy boats at long lake park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
The boat ramp(s) are terrible at Long Lake Park. You charge plenty to use that park, how about reinvesting some back in it!
7. Sunken Lake Park/Campground (Leer Rd)
Sunken lake
8. Beaver Lake Park/Campground (M-65)
Beaver Lake - swimmers itch is a serious problem with no warning when it's running rampant
Beaver Lake dirty water and stinks
Beaver lake park
9. Manning Hill Park (M-32)
Manning Hill park, it needs a place for kids to play
City of Alpena
20. Alpena Bi-Path
Alpena bike path improvement on Bagley street.
Alpena Bi-Path - or lack thereof, along Bagley St between the (nice!) new bridge and Long Rapids Rd. This stretch is used often by myself and others, and it always feels dangerous being right next to so much high speed traffic. A separated pedestrian path would be much better..
Bike path full of goose poop
Having to cross CHisholm/US 23 to access Bike Path when path could go under Chisholm Street Bridge
Maritime Heritage Trail- too many aggressive dogs and dogs off leashes
the fletcher street side of herritage trail. I wish the old paper mill would be tor down or revamp so its not an eyesore!
21. Avery Park (2nd Ave)
Avery park - not very pretty, nothing to do there - would be nice to see it set up for picnic lunches or have an area for the kids to play
22. Bay View Park (includes bandshell, tennis courts and basketball courts) - 19. State Ave
band shell - needs more parking and tables
Bay view - need to mitigate high water damage from several years abo
Bay View -clean up goose mess
Bay view park. Needs bathroom. Needs sand and swimming
Bayview Tennis Courts - I am 76 and played on these courts when I was 12 - they definitely need money put into them and deserve for the time they have already served Alpena.
Downtown tennis courts. They are in need of care and updating. They could be so good!
Kiddie park- needs more updated equipment
Kiddie park needs safer equipment. When we go, there's always a kid getting hurt
Kiddy park
Playground next to bandshell. Could be so nice but it's old and not safe
23. Blair Street Park (State Ave)
Blair St- admittedly I use this frequently, but the water quality always seems poor and there is so much sludge on the shoreline..
Blair Street Park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
24. City of Alpena Marina
City marina launch. To much bird droppings. No view of the lake
City of Alpena Marina
Marina
Marina - needs cleaning up
Marina boat launch. Residents shouldn't have to pay a boat launch fee as we already pay enough in taxes.
The main building at the city marina is pretty worn. The mural helped a bit, but the rest of the building is still pretty rough and needs attention.
The marina. Terrible facilities, outdated. Surrounded by beautiful state run marinas so no one comes to visit purs. And there are no public restrooms in that area. WTH.
25. Culligan Plaza (downtown)
Culligan - Not a very quite place lots of revving cars.
Culligan plaza
Culligan Plaza - Difficult to navigate small children with the steps.
Culligan plaza -needs public restrooms
26. Downtown Parks (Chisholm Street Park or Waterfront Park on Carter St)
Pocket park by Mangos
27. Duck Park (Long Rapids Rd)
All duck parks seem older and seedy
Duck Park. It was so cool when you could take your kids/grandkids there to feed the ducks and geese. You now hunt the geese so not sure why it's a big deal to encourage them to be there. There could be a fence to keep them closer to the water so the goose droppings were minimized in the area people walk on.
28. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch
11th ave boat launch?
29. Island Park (Long Rapids Rd)
Island Park. Add horseshoe pits. Add more areas for viewing/fishing.
30. LaMarre Park (River St)
lamarre park
LaMarre Park - its a parking lot - develop it
Lamarre park - Poor placement in town
31. McRae Park (2nd Ave & Hueber St)
MACRAE PARK - facilities need major improvement
McCre Park
McRae
McRae- always smells like that plant (anything on the North side seems dingy and I can't handle the smell)
mcræ kind of dumpy
Mcrae needs some new playground equipment. The hall is nice
McRae Park - dirty, nearby residents don't seem to take pride or care for the grounds

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
McRae Park - new building, playgrounds, ball facilities
McRae park - ugly, outdated building and park - need updating, more greenery
McRae Park- feels like it attracts a less desirable crowd. Can feel unsafe.
McRae park- it looks like it's in disrepair
McRae Park- So underutilized, perfect size hall for a 50 person gathering. This could be clubs or classes, retreats. The playground could be a fenced in area like Shin-ga-ba Shores. And perhaps a garden/ landscaped area.
McRae park, it is old and dingy, needs to be improved or removed
McRae park. Run down needs repairs
mcræe park....used to be broken glass and trash there all the time
McRae Park: needs a whole new building, it's old and falling apart. Permanent bathrooms for the baseball fields.
McRae Park....the playground and buildings are quite run down. The ball fields are great, but updates would be nice.
McRae. Just really run down
Mcray park getting dated
Mcrea park is a dump...shame for how much it is used.
32. Mich-e-ki-wis Park (State Ave)
Beach area by the splash park. Wow, that beach is so disgustingly black and dirty that I was ashamed to take out of towners there as I had always talked about how clean this Michigan area was. Not so down at the Lake Huron beach!
Bike park at michekewis
Farmers market area paved area parking and vendor area so I is cleaner and easier for seniors to get around..
Mich e queis needs improvement on the beach and make it into a outdoor venue
Mich-e-ke-wis - love the beach, view, and trees/picnic table area, but the rest of the space could be so much more than what it is - could be a great year round public gathering space - parking areas are in poor condition
Michekewis - need to help out the volleyball courts!
Michekewis Beach
michekewis beach area.....city let the best sand beach in the State get run over, gravel roads are dirty and dusty.
Michekewis beach is gross
Mich-e-ki-wis- need updated equipment since farmers market is there, then would draw more people to come
Mich-e-ki-wis Park (area where the farmers market is held) too much open space. Plant trees, camp/rv sites.
Michewkiwis too busy and dirty
Michewkiwis. I love Michewkiwis but a pier like Blair pier would be awesome and some accessibility. I loved going there before I had to use a mobility aid at 35.
Michewkewsi. Needs better beach area
Michikewis park - playground needs updating
Mishekawis - the park looks sad. Needs upkeep & new paint
Mish-e-ki-wis - should put a campground or hotel there. It seems like a waste of water front.
Mish-e-ki-wis Park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
33. Starlite Beach (State Ave)
Starlight beach because it is dirty and unsanitary
Starlight Beach- No guards
Starlight dirty water
Starlight. This beach is beautiful but a mobi mat or another type of ADA beach mat would be amazing.
Starlite Beach
Starlite. Sad that so little is invested in the volleyball courts when they get plenty of use. The road is very sad
34. Splash Pad (State Ave)
Splash pad- not least favorite but needs to be expanded for sure
Splash park- I tried taking my kids there and they dont like it due to the water being cold.
Wish there was a crosswalk with pedestrian light on State St to cross to sidewalk with waterfront parks
35. North Riverfront Park (Fletcher St)
North Riverfront park-there is no seating or indication that this is a "park"
36. South Riverfront Park (Water St)
I'm not sure if it is a recreational facility, but the area along the river behind the laser tag place. That could be used for a nice vendor area; I'm thinking like a board walk area.
South Riverfront park
37. Sytek Park (off Bagley St)
Syteck park. Needs more lighting around trail.
Sytek needs an updated deck and a bathroom
38. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park (9th Ave & Oldfield)
I'd like to see better upkeep of the skate park and somewhere for bmx bikes to go.
I'm old skate parks scare me
Maintain skateparks.
Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park - too many kids whom act out - need to be fenced or controlled so only kids who use the space are there.
Skate park
Skate park - needs lots of improvement
Skate Park - needs updating - concrete?
Skate park on ninth - looks trashy, clean it up
Skate park; don't use it
Skate Park-it is for the youth
Skate Park-looks like a plain eye sore. Please make this nicer for the kids who actually use it.
SKATE PARK-NEEDS TO BE REPAIRED
Skatepark
The skate parks need updating

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
The skatepark needs to be up to date. So many people in the community enjoy going there and it is run down and even unsafe at times. Activities for kids like this are important to keep them doing something and out of trouble. Kids need stuff to do in this town. Maybe even adding extra activities for kids/teens/young adults in that area near the new basketball courts
Water Tower Park
We love the skate park, but it needs to be fixed up
39. Dog Park (Fletcher St)
Dog park-a waste of prime river frontage for general recreation
dog park
DOG PARK - DON'T HAVE A DOG
Dog park - i don't like dogs
Dog park - too small, no dog wash station
Dog Park- Needs a separate play area for certain aggressive breeds
Dog park; don't have a dog; waste of valuable riverfront property
Dog Park-Disrespectful people/dogs/not well-trained dogs
Dog parks
40. Thomson Park (State Ave)
Thompson park - limited parking/busy road
Thompson Park - no real parking
Thompson Park needs identified crosswalks potential for curb parking thatvis set in a bit for safety
Thompson park no parking
thompson park- will not park on that street!@
Thomson Park, parking access
41. Veteran's Memorial Park (Washington Ave)
Veterans Memorial Park, parking access
42. Washington Avenue Park
Park on Washington by the river needs new trees and seating
Washington ave - goose poop everywhere
Washington ave park
Washington Ave park- it is so noisy being so close to M32 with very little buffer with trees/greening. The views are gorgeous but car traffic detracts so much.
Washington ave park too much goose poop to dodge
Washington Ave park, no parking
Washington Ave Park-needs a slightly bigger parking area, and maybe a guard rail or fence for people who like not use the driveway and drive over the grass and onto Washington Ave.
Washington Park, nothing special
Washington Park-too much goose poop

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
43. Rotary Island Mill Park (in Thunder Bay River)
Rotary Island Mill Park - ugly, needs more greenery or flowers
Rotary island, needs more places for sitting
Green Twp
13. Green Township Recreational Facility & Township Hall (M-32)
Green township park
Green township, should be cheaper for residents to rent the facility.
Not On List
Not On List
A more direct way to get to the bike path behind the highschool that goes to Hillman from downtown - sidewalks on 3rd are bumpy/need repair in spots (or even a safe path on M-32 to Tamarack)
all of the ones I didnt name, I dont use them.
All of the small parks because they aren't family friendly. I only run, walk or ride my bike through them but don't ever spend time at them.
All others
Alpena needs Tree Commission!
Also not sure if this is a recreational facility, but the area along the river by the "cellar" building. That path and the parking lot needs maintenance. I would park there and use that path more if it was cleaned up.
Any boat launch
Any boat launches (don't fish)
Any campgrounds (don't camp any longer)
any particular need for improvements.
Any place with lots of people
Anything out of Alpena township - don't really travel for rec opportunities - has to be something specific or and event
Baseball fields need a drinking fountain or water bottle station!! Mister or shade for games. Playground for little siblings is great
Bathroom facilities
Bird watching
Boat launches need clear parking.
Can't think of any least favorite places.
Chippewa Hills; need more trails & benches
City Parks
Cleaning up and improving the pier at Rockport
Dark Sky Viewing - Would be great if you could have LaFarge / Holcim direct their nighttime lights downward or put shades over them so the night sky in Thunder Bay is not washed out by all those lights!
Farmers market needs to be back downtown. Was fun and much nicer there than current location. This should be somewhere in the downtown area
Fishing

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
Hiking
Hiking trails- better marketing/ advertising
Hiking trails. We don't have much for wooded trails with a ADA trail through it. We have the very best area to dive into nature.
I can't say I have least favorites . If it does not fit my activity I just don't go there.
I don't have a least favorite. I love it all just don't go to them all.
I don't have a least favorite. Just places I don't make it to because of my favorites!
I don't use all of them, so I would rather not say.
I don't really have any least favorites, I simply don't use some of the facilities.
I would like to see a place where we can watch the freighters come and go from the shoreline or from the car.
I would love to see collaboration with other communities to connect bike paths. Bike paths are an important part of a community and they bring in tourists. An extensive bike path that connects to other trails and neighboring communities would be beneficial on so many levels. Traverse City, Petoskey, Gaylord, Rogers City come to mind as examples of great bike paths that we are lacking in Alpena.
Ice fishing
In general, would like to see more Pickleball courts with shade
Love Indian Reserve campground and state park area but outhouses are gross
More bathrooms on the hiking trails.
More public restrooms in downtown area
Move the salt pile and replace it with a park
Move the waste treatment plant and replace it with a park
N/a
NA
No complaints
No least favorites
No public restrooms- wish we had these back
Norway Ridge lots of trash
Not sure
Our parks are wonderful
Parking
Partridge Point - does the road ever get grated? The road is terrible to drive with any vehicle.
Paul Bunyan. Needs and update
Shopping
Site seeing
Some of the township parks listed, I've never heard of. Perhaps promotional materials & updates to attract visitors would be nice.
Sporting parks
The beaches are not my favorite - having more of some different form of filtration from the city yuck would be cool

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 7

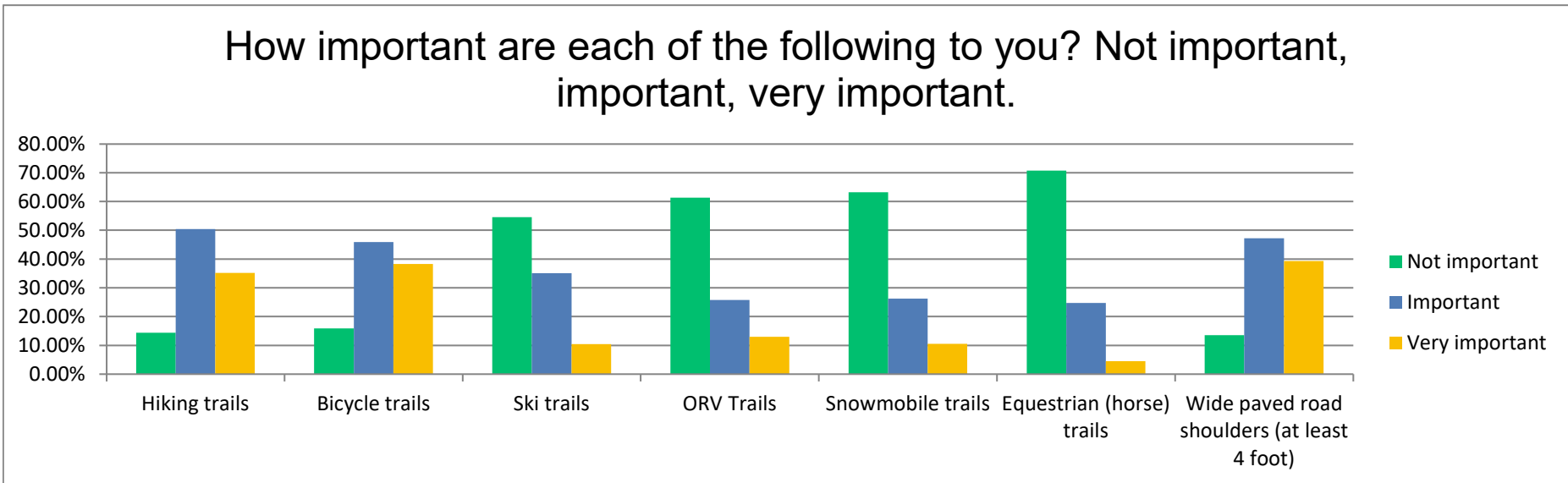
Please list your three **LEAST favorite** recreational facilities and tell us why they are your least favorite and what improvements you'd like to see there.

Least Favorite
The boat launch fees are too much. there are often no envelopes in the stand, then the police write tickets. so frustrating.
The civic theater needs to be made accessible for all.
The facilities I don't use, but this is not because of my age and not
The little red lighthouse at the mouth of the river is surprisingly well known, but badly needs new paint.
The remaining one
There are many in your list I've never even heard of. You should produce a map and distribute it.
There needs to be an accessible boat for all to be able to view the shipwrecks.
Too many people
We need public bathrooms downtown and a parking garage for obvious reasons. It would improve the downtown area.
why don't we have any water/drinking fountains available and more bathroom facilities
Ossineke Twp
14. Hubbard Lake Lion's Park (Hubbard Lake Rd)
Hubbard Lake Lion's Park - so underutilized - this park used to be a nice place to go as a kid - the baseball fields are often not mowed - the buildings are never used and there are really no public events held there. It's very sad to see this park used so little.
Other
44. Trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (off Woodward Ave)
North East trail head I don't see it used often
Northeastern trail woodward
Trail head
47. A-Plex (Woodward Ave)
aplex hours are prohibitive
Aplex - love it but the gym is sorely outdated
Aplex equipment always in disrepair, non paying users always sneaking in.
Aplex needs permanent pickleball courts, inside and out
Aplex, way to expensive. With all the great things inside to utilize it's just not feesable.
Aplex. This facility could be world class but it's not. Would love to see more competitions and sports available.
I love the Aplex but would be nice for more things for teens and toddlers.
The Aplex and NLA overbooks and does not have adequate parking
The Aplex workout room. The workout room is outdated and some (most) of the equipment is broken or unsafe. It's a perfect location for an upgraded workout facility.
48. Mystery Valley Karst Preserve (Leer Rd)
Karst preserves - more publicity, didn't know about these or how to access/use
Leer road
Leer road park

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 8

How important are each of the following to you? Not important, important, very important.

If you are interested in new or expanded trails, which points of interest would you like to access from these trails?



If you are interested in new or expanded trails, which points of interest would you like to access from these trails?

toilets, water sources

Alpena Bi-Path could connect to other trails.

All, safe access for walking and biking

45th Parallel scenic area! Biking access, kayak access, photo and birding access. SAFE area to stop and view Lake Huron.

Northeastern trail head Woodward ave.

Bike path from Princeton Street to Bike/snowmobile trail on US-23 N

Bike path to Birdsong Bay

Birdsong Bay

Birdsong Bay

Anything would be an improvement

I was in favor of a 45th Parallel Park in Birdsong Bay, accessible by an extension of the bi-path, as a notable point of interest. I still hope this can be made possible

all of them

Downtown

I believe the bike trail should be extended north of town, at least as far as the little league complex is not all the way to Rogers City.

The trail that runs the old railroad gets lots of use.

Lake Huron or other bodies of water, including rivers

If you are interested in new or expanded trails, which points of interest would you like to access from these trails?

The bike trails we have now are fine!

The most important trail would be from the Bagley St Bridge to Long Rapids, as the Bi-Path would then be a functional loop around Lake Besser.

Lighted ski trails! Our season is SO short, extending hours in each day to use would be HUGE

Equestrian trails are desperately need in the area

Is there a way to connect trails to town to allow side by sides to travel to restaurants?

I would like to be able to connect to state ORV trails in Montmorency, Presque Isle and Alcona counties

The lake

ORV trails using existing snowmobile trails, Bike paths along Bagley street

Mystery Valley, sink holes, Sunken Lake Park, Long Lake Park, Rails to Trails trails

Lakes, woods, cool stuff

More of the lakeshore and riverfront. The riverfront needs to be better developed for retail and middle income housing. The rundown and decrepit low income housing is an eyesore and a wasteful use of what could be a significant tax revenue producing area.

It would be nice to have a place to park at Squaw Bay and a bike/walking trail along the highway.

Any trails expanding is great thing. Making more trails again ADA that would honestly take me and others anywhere in nature or near water has my interest! Not having many trails available is hard so open to any.

Not sure, but more trails would be great.

Nothing comes to mind

somewhere downtown our by the miejers area to go out of town more

Nature

New trails in Green township would be great. Have to travel to find any nearby.

Werth road to devil lake and walking path

Bikewalking path on west side of Bagley St near high school/shopping, and bike path out Long Rapids Rd to M-65

Lake Huron

Very interested, more access in town!

From Walmart to suburbs, needs beautification, more trees and shade

Entire US 23

I'd like to see the bike trail connect over a bridge.

Would simply like better access to ORV trails from within the city of Alpena. We can legally ride on the side of county roads to get to and from those trails, but cannot get to or from those roads without trailering our ORV because we live in the city of Alpena. It would also be nice if other ORV Riders could get to some of the Alpena businesses to gas up and or stop to eat. Rogers City allows it as do other towns in our area. One would think Alpena could come up with something.

Connect new mountain bike trails, similar to Marquette bike paths. A connection from long lake to presque isle would be great, lots of room for new trails at

Connect DNR trail across deep hole bay with the Alpena Nature Trail on Misery Bay Road

I would like to see more complete sidewalks in residential areas. We live by the high school and can't go more than a block in several directions without running into

Anything water related

Any waterfront trails would be wonderful.

water

If you are interested in new or expanded trails, which points of interest would you like to access from these trails?

SAFE Access across US 23

Park

A trail connection between new and old presque isle lighthouse would be great, so many bikes on the side of the road here, I would not feel safe running on those. More trails near the lakes if possible, and more trails surrounded by nature, a trail on long lake could be nice, more trails at Rockport would be amazing

New preserve, Bird Song Bay, and connecting to bipath

Accessible beach mats places for everyone to be able to enjoy the sand and water.

OTHER ORV AND SNOWMOBILE TRAILS, INTO PLACES TO EAT AND GET FUEL

City of Alpena

Access to water ways, better pedestrian only trail systems, create a true bike pat to leads to downtown.

Connect main areas within the City, commercial districts, downtown,

More nature trails by Lake Huron near Alpena

Snow shoeing.

Bike

Some more hiking , biking trails in Hubbard lake ossineke area!!

More cross country ski trails! I love added trails that have access to the lake, or some lakeside views. Lake Huron is such an asset for our region but so

Presque isle

Dining, bathrooms

Nature/water is appealing for hiking trails. For biking trails, I would like biking in town to be safer, so more specific bike paths or bike lanes; add a safe bike path on M-32 near Meijer down to Tamarack Rd.

Having an area go to a lake or connecting the lakes for more biking opportunities— more of a bike/walking friendly city

Norway ridge trails from tamrack road would be nice to access. The access point where bikers used to get on is all caved in with woods and needs some clearing of

Larger trails

More so for hiking or walking

Connect squaw bay with long lake on bike

Access to go north and south

State land on misery bay rd and north point road

Any orv trails or side by side trails

Remind snowmobiles and ATV's that they are NOT allowed to ride the beaches along Thunder Bay!

Southside of town...werth Rd area by piper rd

US-23 south from Alpena to Ossineke (at least to Squaw Bay)

Orv down train track or near gas stations

The city bi-path was / is super popular. Alpena received statewide attention and praise when that was built. Why has there been no expansion or upgrades for

Unique habitats and points of interest

north point

US-23 headed North. The bike path ends at Perch's and there is ZERO shoulder on either side of road until after the gas station. Would be nice if the bike path was extended or shoulder provider for this short length of road. ---- also M-32 West Rail Trail. Would be nice if it was extended all the

If you are interested in new or expanded trails, which points of interest would you like to access from these trails?

Continued improvement in the bi path

I would love more paved bike paths along the water

ADA trails in all existing trails. Trails to rivers, lakes and hikes through the dense trees.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 9

What improvements would you like to see at **trailheads** in the county? Please indicate the specific trailhead and suggested improvements.

Responses

Bi-path and bike paths need improvement particularly the shoulder of Bagley Street from the river to Island View subdivision- unsafe to walk or ride on this busy street.

Need connector bike paths to Rogers City and Ossineke working with the 23 South Group for development.

Also, the pool needs new management and improvements.

toilets and source of water

Path map signage

The Bi-path along Bagley should be #1 priority to make it safe for the community to use. The trail should not be on the shoulder of a busy street.

While most have very clean bathrooms. The ONE thing that is missing from 90% of every trail is a trash can. Those of us who pick up our dog poop need a trash can in the parking lot at least.

Get through Birdsong Bay area and US 23 South. Join inland routes, with hikers and bikers able to connect the Lake Huron shoreline with inland routes and trails. (and connection to Alpena from the south.

Place to sit and rest along the trail, markers of how far it is to different destinations.

The roads need to be maintained at state minimum standards not below as they are right now.

Having clear signage with a big colorful map at the parking area, so people know where the trails go and how far they are, is a really helpful thing to anyone visiting a trailhead for the first time. It's also very welcoming.

bathrooms - clean ones

Trails like Newagon and the trail through the cemetery and duck park could use better trail markers and maps and light them up! trash cans and doggie bags

Bathrooms, signage

Norway rage better signs and knowledge of who has the right to do what there.. people get mad for hiking in the wrong area, hunting in wrong area and using sleds on the hill with family, also cleanup of goose poop and weeded over of duck Park area

Clear and safe parking, clean drop toilets

Chippewa Hills & Norway ridge trail. More benches and fixed signs on trails. More trails added to both.

I don't see any improvements needed except for maybe the split rail fence by the fairgrounds could use repair.

More groomed trails for skiing and snowshoeing.

Better maps, clear distances for out of towners to use. Information on trail etiquette and pet expectations.

I don't use trailheads. I walk every day on my road.

Clean well maintained bathrooms, dog poop bags and garbage cans

More ORV trails

We are the only county in Northern Michigan with a tiny closed loop for ORV use

BETTER SIGNAGE FOR THE LOCATIONS

Better signage

More Trailheads throughout Alpena County

Hiking walking trails at Sunken Lake and Long Lake County Parks. Trailhead Parking and signage

Maintenance. Not being over grown

Duck Island/Island Park could be expanded for a longer hike; Riverfront needs to be cleaned up to include more retail and nicer housing opportunities.

Signage with maps and distances.

Water station

our trailheads are good just need a few more

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 9

What improvements would you like to see at **trailheads** in the county? Please indicate the specific trailhead and suggested improvements.

Responses
Not into hiking
Updated signage on hiking trails. Some vault toilets are better managed than others.
Devils lake and Indian reserve trails for ATV and ORV rides
Restrooms, water station, maps.
Improved maps and trail markers. E.g. It's not clear how far it is from Sytek to Washington park. the maps on the trail are illegible.
Bathrooms
Not allowing dirt bikes but allowing snowmobiles. That doesn't make sense, and it's exclusionary
Water and bathrooms
North ridge trail - no clear parking seems to be available along the trail
Trailheads are good, spend money elsewhere.
Don't know
Better parking - Alpena Nature Trail and DNR Trail off El Cajon Bay Road
Paving some of these trails would be wonderful.
trailhead behind the apex. bathroom area would be great. markers to destination and mileage
A paved walking trail like tawas has along us 23 heading north from Hinks school.
More signage and larger signage. It would be nice to have maps at trailheads (not sure if you already have them)
Signage to indicate site, quality map on sign (for photograph), listed features at site. Most lack this.
All to be made as accessible to all as possible.
The walking trail from Starlite to Mochekews could be improved. I know there are efforts to improve Michekewis, I hope to see extended walkways and native planting around them.
The Hillman/Alpena Trail doesn't have parking to get onto the trail. It would be a great option to be able to park and bike the 8+ miles into town, but I don't think Herron, King Settlement, or other nearby connections have a parking area to allow you to do that.
More parking
Marked better
More seating to break up a walk
Bathrooms
Good clear signs
Better maps of trails
Better parking at Mystery Valley
More garbages
Maybe some more solar light options for walkers if walking at the darker house. Just a safe feeling to have light when walking on trails
More signage, more eye appealing
We have too many and they aren't maintained the best in my opinion is on the Northside so we drive over there because of the location of McRae. It's less populated and Nowickis is right there for a nice lunch for the family but the road there '2nd Ave' is terrible the city puts no money into the gems it has you are all so hell bent on building new things. Improve what we have and go build some new houses
I just want to know if there are bathrooms along the way
None

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 9

What improvements would you like to see at **trailheads** in the county? Please indicate the specific trailhead and suggested improvements.

Responses

Bathrooms at all. Including some porta potty's at road intersections in between trail heads.

More ORV trails

More bike path

Trash cans

Bathroom, clear signage if needed. I only go once in a while.

It would be great to have a website that lists all trailheads and/or a map to use. A few listed above, I did not know about.

No suggestions

Unknown. I will need to explore more.

Having more and marked for such.

Better restroom facilities at Norway Ridge and parking at the trailhead for the trail leading to the old paxton quarry.

Need orv trails so don't have to travel to go riding.

Paved Parking. Maps. lighting.

Rockport- pave the road- add single track bicycle trails

Norway Ridge- more single track trails

Devil's Lake trails - signage

Trail Heads are awesome in North Eastern Michigan. Alpena, Metz, Millersburg. Very appreciative for having these.

Bike racks, clean restrooms, picnic tables

Continue to offer porta potties

Make everything ADA friendly. Don't leave out individuals because of disabilities.

More marketing/ advertising.

Restrooms

North East State Trailhead - wildlife garden.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
Bathrooms
Bathrooms
Bathrooms downtown and at marina
Bathrooms with flush toilets and running water to wash hands
More public bathrooms!
more water fountains and toilets
Public restroom. Not portapotty
Upkeep on current facilities rather than building new, Bathrooms at parks
Campground
Campgrounds by the lake
Development of a campground on riverside of Fairgrounds
Lake front campground
RV Park, more places to go camping, not just the fairgrounds
Community Center
A YMCA type facility that offers recreation and community programs.
Community center
Community Center to include a new Olympic Size Pool and therapy pool. Concessions or a restaurant/bar that overlooks hockey rink. More things geared towards teens.
Curling
Dedicated curling facilities
Dedicated Curling Ice
Expand Apex/Northern Lights arena, add arcade room to Northern lights arena, add pool with "mini" water park inside, perhaps even have a small hotel attached for traveling customers and hockey players.
I think it would be great to see an actual events complex that include: bigger pool, basketball courts (indoor/outdoor), tennis courts (indoor/outdoor), couple of ball fields, etc. So many counties have large complex centers and it would be great if Alpena could kind of have an all in one.
Indoor basketball courts! We need indoor courts so badly
Indoor facility for large youth tourneys—volleyball, basketball, even indoor softball
Indoor pickle ball courts
Indoor rock climbing!! Also beach volleyball courts, more indoor recreational facilities in general for when it's snowy , and a disc golf course
Indoor volleyball, disc golf course
RACQUET BALL COURT
Recreational facility with things such as public pool, rock wall, indoor baskeball and volleyball courts, racquetball courts, group exercise rooms, etc.
Large sledhill area closer to town for kids in the winter
Swimming pool and dedicated Curling ice at the Apex
Other
- Outdoor Ice Rink again at Mich-e-kewis!
- Public gardens
- Trails for hiking with signage
- More kayak launches + maps
A better community gym with weight circuit. Outdoor ice rink. Dog beach on Lake Huron.
A big community garden!!! How cool would it be for the community to help support in growing a garden. Donating fresh fruits and veggies from the garden to local soup kitchens or the boys and girls club
A big venue for concerts so you could get big named people here rather than having to travel 3 or 4 hours to Mt. pleasant or Detroit for big concerts.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
A gym with childcare
A multi use pump track would be a great addition to the community. These new type of facilities have flourished in communities, often transitioning from outdated skateparks to these very successful, innovative facilities
A nature center and a place for tweens -teens to hang. More nature programs for kids
A new improved pool! Indoor basketball area for the youth, trampoline park, increased areas to cross country ski
A real bathroom at the bandshell and kiddie park area. A real ice rink. Disc golf. A decent City campground not located across the street from a factory but located on the lake.
a regularly maintained and well explained fossil park (new material added at a minimum quarterly and turned frequently) would bring people from a wide area, who are already here to fossil hunt (thousands come annually to hunt for fossils in this area, take advantage of that and build on it!!!)
A walkway across Chisholm street for pedestrians to cross. Especially by the hospital
Add more public rest areas
Anything for kids to do
Anything for younger kids
Beaches handicap accessible Many more bathrooms Small stages for concert performances
Better docks more orv trails
Better pool more up to date. I would also like to see a boat launch out on north piont so smaller boats could access lake Huron. The Indian tribes have a launch that would be nice if it was made public
Better side walks on the south side
BICYCLE PATH on 23 South with a more appealing ENTRANCE to Alpena from the South end. TREES, PLANTS, etc... Promote business growth to 23 South. Enact maintenance codes for businesses to NOT be left VACANT and unpainted. The South entrance to Alpena Township looks terrible except for one or 2 businesses on 23 S. Instead of allowing any more building permits to crown the West entrance to Alpena, ENCOURAGE GROWTH and MAINTENANCE of the South end.
Climbing wall facility, sledding hill
Community Garden/ Greenhouse
Community pools (indoor and outdoor), a larger splashpad (we love using it), and bring back the outdoor ice rink.
Concert venues Community areas for events
Dancing areas for dance fitness at reasonable rent Climbing wall facilities More sandy beaches
Equestrian facility
Exercise park! Outdoor movie theater! Outdoor public pool!
Expand the splash pad to have more options for little ones. Would like an outdoor recreation/exercise area for adults
Golf simulator
Horseback riding would be awesome, longer nature trails that everyone including ADA can utilize, an outdoor theater, live and big screen. It was amazing watching live plays when I lived in St. Louis. Could line up food trucks and have a good turn out. I think having some signs about geocaching kind of like a start here,being at the duck park, family and kids can check it out and get into it, get more folks outside. A wildlife building I thought was going at the duck park would be really nice. Snowmobile rentals from a business, money maker.
I think that having a laser show like Mackinaw City does or having a fireworks show each weekend during the summer would be amazing for our traveling visitors and local residents. I would love to see local theatre do outdoor events each weekend also. We have the music concerts that are amazing but not everyone likes music. Having outdoor theatre would be great. Face painting and other kids events each weekend at Starlite or downtown. Bring in a carnival at least once during the summer.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
I think that there is room for improvements and quality of caretaking for most of the listed facilities. I feel that there are some locations that are heavily focused on improving all the time and then several others do not see any improvements for many many years.
I would love to see an indoor play cafe for parents and children to be able to spend time at in winter months.
I'm hoping that North point will be opened up to foot traffic, and also to kiteboarding, and wind sports. Sports. As it has excellent wind potential from almost every direction.
Improvements to Bi-path in terms of creating better separation from streets. Landscaping along M-32 between the cemetery and Washington Park. The river is such a fantastic resource for the community I hope to see efforts to celebrate it and allow for more people to be able to enjoy it appropriately!
Improvements to the pool, baseball fields and continued improvements at the Apex and Northern Lights Arena
Indoor golf
Indoor play area for small children, ages 3-10.
Indoor trampoline park Children museum
Indoor/outdoor pool with memberships. An exercise park Indoor roller skating for winter
Just a little improvement to what we already have.
Kids' science museum An indoor recreational opportunity for small children
More activity for youth/teens/young adults that encourage them to have a hobbies and to keep them busy and out of trouble.
More bike/walking paths. more kayak launches like the one at the Duck Park. bi-path path needs snow removal in the winter. A sledding hill.
More biking trails. More fishing piers.
More hiking/biking/running trails more disc golf courses.
More housing. Not 50 retirement homes. People want to stay here but look at your census, the population sure took a hit. We have the lake and the nature to be like TC. We have way too many low paying manufacturing jobs. I'd like to see a freeway. I'm tired of driving so long to get on 75 because our speeds are suited for a highway. Get a freeway add stores so we can compete with Traverse City. I'm 32 and tired of living in a community not committing to change. I along with numerous people want things to do catered for people not living in assisted living and we have to travel for work because we don't want to work at Omni. Don't move, improve!
More kid friendly places
More places to gather, have entertainment, and food like the Backlot in Petoskey. Maybe a drive in movie theater somewhere. And PLEASE somewhere to dance!!
New community pool Boardwalk along the shoreline Pavilion and bathrooms at duck Park/ Island Trampoline park Mountain bike track with hills and jumps Children's museum
Outdoor ice rink, more river and lake access for all physical abilities, disc golf
Outdoor winter recreation opportunities within the city...like sledding and ice skating. A new pool...the Plaza Pool is in such poor condition; EVERY child in Northern MI should have an opportunity to take swim lessons...we live around too much water for kids to not know how to swim. Leverage the talents of a high school student swim team to teach little ones how to swim...programs should run year round and be affordable.
pool, improved playground facilities
Pool, more hiking and ORV trails, shooting range
Positive activities for our youth. Teens specifically.
Public outdoor pool, Private beach rental with pavilion, Indoor dog walking/play area during the cold months as well as an indoor walking facility for residents.
rollerrink, area for young children, batting cages

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
Shooting range on west side of development lake made safe and enforce people to clean u after they are done
Shuffleboard, and as previously mentioned, would like more opportunities for ORV'rs to access parts of the city, as far as getting in and out of, with the opportunity of accessing some businesses.
Side by side trails. Rental facilities for boats, pontoons, diving equipment. Disc golf, foot golf (soccer golf hybrid)
Skiing, more advanced pool
Something directed toward middle age children that are to old for a park but aren't old enough to drive
Tennis courts!
The grand stands at the fairgrounds need a wheelchair/handicapped section. People in wheelchairs can't see over the fence to watch events and activities. This day and age, it's odd that it hasn't already been remedied.
Trampoline park Sledding Hill
Unsure. Focus on maintaining existing facilities over expansion
Waterfront trail on North Point Small neighborhood parks w lots of trees
We need more activities for kids, especially during the cold months. We are in desperate need of an indoor playground
Winter sledding/tubing - tube down, tow up Climbing facility ("rock walls" Mountain biking More disc golf
Parks
A park for younger children
A pavilion at michekewis park
Fenced in parks to allow children with special needs (autism) to play without fear of them running off.
I would love to see more play grounds and water parks for kids in our city.
Life guards on the beaches
Maybe so.e horseshoe pits for the public
More areas for the kids to play without goose poo
More dedicated pickleball courts-outdoors
More equipment for kids to play. Not much to offer for kids to play
more green space downtown
More investment in disc golf
More pickle ball outdoor courts.
More pickle ball space, more downtown parks,
More Pickleball courts, pavilions to be able to rent out by the beach.
More skateparks
New kiddie park with rubber pellets instead of wood chips similar to Krossroads Rainbow park in Saginaw
Playgrounds with a walking track around them.
Toddler friendlier parks
Would like pickleball at h.l.lions park,discussion has started with lots of local interest. A grant to help fund is needed to upgrade tennis courts to pickleball
Pool
A new community swimming pool
A new pool

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
A new pool.
A new pool. Another campground--preferably on a lake/river.
a new swimming pool
A public outdoor pool and a new public indoor pool, an indoor kid's playplace would be great too
A public swimming pool and proper gym with steam room and sauna.
Aquatic center with all the bells and whistles to accommodate all aquatic activities.
Better pool facility and updated locker
Community pool.
County Pool
Definitely need a new pool. I always consider getting a membership, but with it getting closed for maintenance so often, I pay the daily fee instead.
Family friendly pool- something like the Midland Community Center. Indoor and outdoor pool
Full aquatic center
Improved pool facility
Large aquatic center
New and improved pool!
New pool
New pool preferably salt water.
New pool would be nice as plaza is aging.
New pool.
outdoor swimming pool
Sauna
Swimming pool with lessons for adults
The plaza pool moved to Aplex
Trails
Bicycling through-fairs. All directions, but the US 23 South area is the most practical reach along Lake Huron. M-32 is too congested.
Bike lanes throughout downtown that are designated.
Forest hiking paths
Hiking
I would like more hiking/biking trails on the north side of town
I would like to see bike repair stations
Improved walking trails. The sytek/Washington park trail and the river trail are fabulous. But something longer with restroom and park facilities available would be great. Something showcasing our beautiful great lake!
Inland waterway trail from Long Lake to Lake Huron
Jogging trails
Like to see more options for equestrian trails or opportunities. Trails with water access or places could meet mid-way if needed, etc.
More ATV And ORV trails
More bike path
more bike paths
More biking trails
More designated Bike lanes on streets and get scooters and electric bikes off the sidewalks
More hiking / biking trails closer to Hubbard lake / ossineke area
More hiking trails

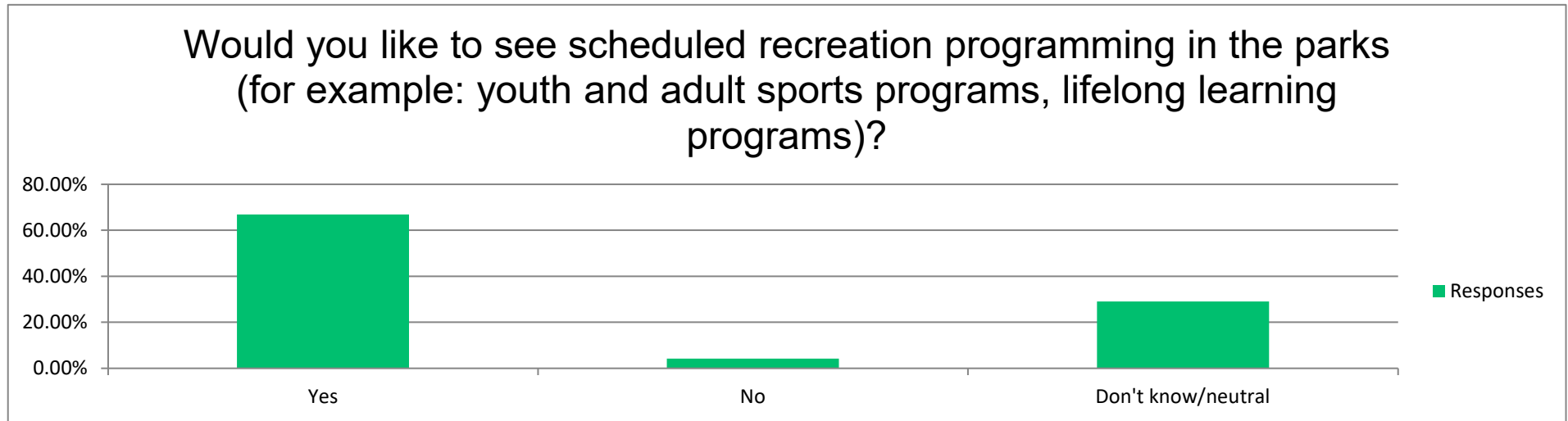
Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 10

What **additional recreational facilities** would you like to see in the Alpena area?

Additional Facilities
More hiking trails and bike paths.
More hiking trails. More to do that's not centralized in Alpena itself. Wilson/Green township residents have to travel farther.
More mountain bike paths
More universally accessible trails
Need orv and atv trails. They can be used year round. And we haven't been getting snow for winter trails
Orv trails and side by side trails
Orv. Trails
Would like to see an ORV trails so you don't have to head over to Montmorency county to ride.
Would like to see more bike trails that don't share the roads wide shoulders are nice but still dangerous with the speed some cars travel
Water access
Bike paths, water access, parks on the water
A few more kayak launches. Syteck park, 11th ave boat launch area or even on rotary island.
Crosswalk for pedestrians crossing from sidewalks on State St to sidewalks facing the waterfront properties and parks. Always scary taking the kids across a busy road just to walk to the park
Having some sort of boat launch in the north point area would be nice. That whole shoreline is generally inaccessible unless you have a vessel large and fast enough to make the run from the city marina out around the point, which is a stretch for most smaller fishing boats and totally out of reach for any paddle craft.
Separately - I used to enjoy all the activities at NOAA on the 4th of July. It's unfortunate they don't seem to do that anymore.
I'd like to be able to walk along the sand portion of the beach from the band shell to Mich-w-us park. As a citizen we have riparian rights and all should have convent access to the water front both visually and physically. There should also be ample parking.
More canoe and kayak launches on river
More water front handicap accessible attractions
Sr Citizen ..those with limited mobility....wheel chair bound... more access to the water front/beaches and water. A nice long fishing pier at Michkewis.
The water is the best asset in this area. Would be great to add more water facilities like fishing decks or kayak launches. Even just a boat launch would be do-able.
Winter Sports
A place for kids that can be used in winter
Ice skating trail in the winter and outdoor ice rink
Indoor kids play facility for the long winters
Indoor sports facility for wintertime use.
Indoor water park, Indoor parks (trampoline park/obstacle courses/ paint ball ect) Things a family could do in the winter months without having to be weather dependant and could be open year round
Indoor winter activities for families
lets put in a sledding and sliding hill for the youngsters.....long, sloped, easy access, close to town and long runout for safety.
Outdoor ice skating in winter, sledding hill area,
Outdoor ice skating rink!!!!!!
Sledding and outdoor ice rink
Sledding hill(s)
Sledding, snowshoe walks
We need a sledding hill and an outdoor ice rink where kids can go without having to pay \$10 to skate.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 11

Would you like to see **scheduled recreation programming** in the parks (for example: youth and adult sports programs, lifelong learning programs)?



Please specify:

See my earlier response, this is a definite need!

Yoga, group bike rides,

Anything consistent would be beneficial

Keeps everyone healthy and active

More opportunities for soccer, basketball after they age out of the rec league. Archery, air rifle, disc golf,

Life long learning programs

Water sports, fishing classes, educational offerings on great lakes

Hiking, shooting, archery, survival classes. Nature classes, boating classes.

How to programs

Something for homeschooled kids would be great!

Kickball league

It would be nice to have programs

Alpena really needs park and rec type programs for kids like bigger communities downstate have. If you can't afford elitest "travel programs" or your kid isn't kid isn't a varsity athlete, there is little for them and they get very little consideration. The one exception is probably TBBA Basketball. More organized tournaments in city parks would be great.

Nature learning like when they did Tinkergarten or teaching kids outdoor tracking and navigating skills

sports and nature clinics

N/A

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 11

Would you like to see **scheduled recreation programming** in the parks (for example: youth and adult sports programs, lifelong learning programs)?

Kids activities

Pickleball for kids, lacrosse,

tennis, pickleball

More examples of this would be great.

Lifelong Learning

footbal, ultimate frisbee, games of skate, ect

Paddle boarding, kayaking, diving

Foraging courses

more baseball PLEAAASE

It'd be great for people to learn how to skate.

More youth activists wild life more free fishing

Conservation education for all ages.

Can be fun to learn something new or find new interest, i think more should be done for adult swimming lessons having so much water around.

More fireworks, community explorations, historical walks etc

Utilize the Association of Lifelong Learners

Organized sport programs would be great. Most of the typical sports are covered pretty well currently.bring in fresh new/alternative ideas like ultimate frisbee, dodgeball, racquetball, outdoor excersize equipment

Beach yoga

Tennis, pickleball, horseshoes, bocce ball

Free programs that are fun for kids and parents

Weekly kids clubs with different activities. I know that Island Park does a group but it would be great to see different activities using different parks each week.

Lifelong learners

Yoga classes, things similar to ice fest and flower fest. People will show up to any festival in town if the area throws it. We love stuff like that and it can be done in areas we already have. Also themed picnics could be done. Like a meeting about community resources that provides a hotdog and drink while informing the community. This would be awesome at the park next to jjs steak and pizza.

Adult sport programs such as Rec leagues

We need activities for people who are between the ages of 35 and 55. There are a lot of youth activities and activities geared to seniors, however, for those with aren't seniors nor youth there is little to do, especially if they do not have children.

YES! Via mailers - not Facebook!

The more kids can learn about and be in nature the better.

We love learning about nature and the great lakes

Most people go to these locations for peaceful outdoor enjoyment. I think Alpena can come up with other locations for these activities instead of taking away from the peaceful tranquility of these parks.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 11

Would you like to see **scheduled recreation programming** in the parks (for example: youth and adult sports programs, lifelong learning programs)?

Partner with the Public School and ACC to put together programs all in one place for adults and youth. Create consistency in signing up for recreational outdoor sports programs, as well as adult programs. Having more information in one place will create awareness and interest. Residents can sign up to teach a class to the community and share their talents.

cross country skying, or free tennis lessons.

Lifelong learning and public exercise classes

I think rock climbing. Would attract a lot more people but the Aplex doesn't have a wall and there

Activities for young children and families.

More walking Areas

Would be awesome to have summer youth and Rex programs for kids and adults - teaching how to fish for kids, intro to all sports so kids can learn to play (often kids at school don't know how to play but want to play but when they aren't involved in Rex league sports it would be fun to have opportunities for kids to learn to

Summer activities like they used to have for kids at Sportsmen's Island.

Cornhole league

Youth and Adult

Youth programming

Guided Star Gazing, yoga, etc

add to fossil and rock hunting opportunities with mini courses, including sponsored fossil hunts, people from outside this area are paying for fossil tours, \$200 per car load of people come from downstate frequently led by enterprising individuals

Any

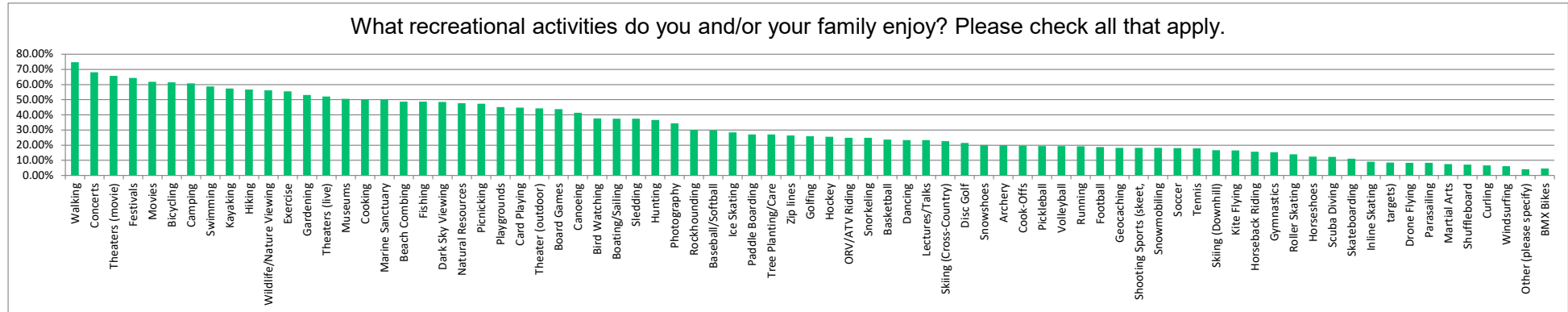
Life long learning, plant, bird, and plant rock identification

Adult recreation and activities. More concerts at band shell

Organized adult and youth sports, group exercise/running events, etc. (Events that help to bring people together and meet new friends while also being active)

Adult soccer league

What recreational activities do you and/or your family enjoy? Please check all that apply.



Other (please specify)

Art-walks, Antiquing, Pub-claw (biking)

clean parks, clean sidewalks, many trash containers, smooth streets, pothole free parking lots and fewer gravel roads and driveways here in town.

We don't play a lot of sports, but do enjoy watching them as spectators. Hockey especially!

Disc golf

Reading

Walking my dog

Baci Ball

Rock Climbing, yoga

Exploring accessible trails in town as well as in nature~

Motorcycling

SUP Boarding

Pickleball

Rock climbing

An indoor play center for kids that doesn't cost a fortune for admittance - trampoline park, bounce houses.

Flea markets! Regular summer vintage/antique flea markets next to the Farmer's Market would be awesome!

Bocce, corn hole

Hi

Kite boarding, painting

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 13

Please use this space to let us know of **improvements you would like to see at specific recreational facilities** and also to make additional comments to help plan for the future of recreation in the Alpena area.

Other Improvements

Alpena County

#44 Possibly something on the garden edge to block wind

A new pool would be nice.

A new pool would welcomed if the old pool can no longer be maintained. A new pool that could offer more programs (lap swim) opportunities. The bike path is in need of improvements such as re-surfacing where roots are exposed, creating a safe portion on Bagley St and creating a trail to connect Alpena to neighboring communities along the water.

a new swimming pool

Bigger community pool with more expanded hours for seniors to do water walking in the evenings.

Clean up North Branch of Thunder Bay River so that it can be traveled via canoe/kayak/ other from Sunken Lake Park to main branch of river near Bolton Road

Cleaning bi path in fairgrounds more regularly

I really do hope the county can help figure out a way to fix or build a new pool for our community. It is so important to many of our lives and for our future children for water safety.

Modern pool for lap swimming

More access at pool during the weekends. My access during the week is limited due to work hours. No opportunities on the weekend sucks.

Need a new pool

NEST trail allow horses and maybe improvements to accommodate that?

New community swimming pool

New pool & upgrade Aplex

Open up some ORV trails in Alpena County

Pool would be wonderful addition to the Aplex. Even though the plaza pool staff does an excellent job, our pool is not sufficient for swim meets or to meet the needs of the community.

Shower room warmer at plaza pool

Support the new pool addition at the Aplex including a new DoJo for martial arts and adequate parking for events held there. Include an outdoor ice rink and sledding hills. Offer more indoor free skating.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 13

Please use this space to let us know of **improvements you would like to see at specific recreational facilities** and also to make additional comments to help plan for the future of recreation in the Alpena area.

Other Improvements

Take care of what you have now.. the neglect of many of the facilities , especially the fairgrounds is disgusting.

1. The fence along the pathway.

2. A little paint on the facia, and repair of the other fencing.

3. Property lit buildings in barns, especially during fair...and, maybe a little support for the fair , itself !!!

The way the county pi**es away money is, in itself, disgusting ,!

And this is one of the stupidest surveys yet, congratulations ,!!

With all the Great Lakes and inland lakes in this area water safety is so important. The Plaza Pool provides swim lessons to so many children who otherwise would have no where to learn to swim. This pool is an invaluable asset in this and surrounding counties. This and surrounding counties need to invest in recreational facilities for its young people and also for families who are looking to settle in this area.

Would like to see a new community swimming pool.

Alpena Twp

Please improve the South end of Alpena Township. BIKE PATH, Squaw Bay VIEWING AREA, better SHOPPING and MAINTENANCE of businesses. TREES, FLOWERS, LANDSCAPING, LIGHTING, FLAGS, something MORE WELCOMING from the south end. FROM SQUAW BAY to RIPLEY traffic light need addressing! If Tawas and Oscoda can upkeep their communities then surly Alpena can do the same.

City of Alpena

At Bayview, between the path in your picture and the basketball courts, there is a lot of grassy, empty space. Some round or square concrete picnic tables would be great. Or outdoor table tennis tables.

Also, the former fountain, now planter in front of the kiddy park is awful. It could be beautiful if flowers were planted and maintained. It would also be nice to have picnic tables on the bandshell side as well and maybe Friday Night Food Trucks on that side, where people could grab some food, listen to live music, enjoy the park if they have littles. The food trucks next to Red Brick are nice but it's an adult atmosphere. A bathroom on the bandshell/marina side would be nice again, too. More outdoor movies would be nice at the bandshell in the summer. Any updates to the lakeshore parks should be tasteful, minimal and not obstructing. It's a beautiful area and overcrowding it with high-profile buildings or too much extra would be unfortunate. But there's much that could be done to make it more inviting.

Hiking, skiing, snowshoeing trails in the township would be great too! The lighted ski/snowshoe/hike event held once each winter at Norway Ridge is awesome....but those should happen more often and in more than just that location.

Bathrooms at the bandshell and somewhere else downtown.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 13

Please use this space to let us know of **improvements you would like to see at specific recreational facilities** and also to make additional comments to help plan for the future of recreation in the Alpena area.

Other Improvements

Bay View Playground "Kiddie Park". Would be nice to have the old wooden structure replaced with a new playground. I was young when the current wood structure playground went in. Never really liked it and now it is showing its age. PLEASE KEEP THE MERRY-GO-ROUND though. Kids through the generations have all loved playing on it. Do not remove or kids will cry! Thank you for all that you do, we really do have nice parks and facilities in the area. Life long resident, now with three young children.

Bay view tennis courts need resurfacing

Boat harbor, fix the north entrance to the marina. I'm sure DPI doesn't want to spend the money, but it's such an eye sore.

Bring back Friday Nights Downtown! This was many years ago but it was some of my best memories from when I was a child. The big slides, games, blow up castles, face painting, all the stores downtown open and welcoming, etc. I would love for my children to experience something like this! As well as the reading program the library did, then at the end they did a huge game day at the fair grounds.

City marina needs a lot of upgrades. Fish cleaning station needs to be bigger, figure out how to make the parking lot bigger to keep winter storage boats away from the launch so people can drive around the parking lot without having to drive around stored boats from over the winter. The marina also needs public bathrooms. The store that is there would be a perfect opportunity for a new outdoor store open year round. This town is full of sportsmen who need a new outdoors store.

Crosswalk for state street for pedestrians, especially by Bay View Park/Boat Harbor and Thomson Parks off state street.

Goose limiting (hunting if necessary) due to the absolutely incredible volume of goose feces near Bay View Park and Michekewis

Everyone wants to use the funding to be used properly and not be poured into Culligan's Plaza so it can just benefit the social District of drinking benefits the local businesses and does not benefit our local children the use of that funds misappropriation and will be thoughts every single step of the way by every member of this town before warned

Fairgrounds could be an amazing riverfront nature park, tie the downtown to marina, and beaches with festivals etc, expand the DDA, clean up the river walk trail and tie into downtown, offering more benches, signage, garbage receptacles

Food court (food trailer) down at starlight a permanent court

I love Michekewis and want it to be developed....

I love the parks along the bike path.

I mainly would like to see Syteck cleaned up and a kayak launch introduces. I really love this park and it has a lot of potential.

I would like to Michele's developed for all ages and all those who have limited mobility. Maybe they enjoy being at the water but cannot go swimming. Sitting benches in the water would be a huge addition to the beaches.

I would love to see improvements made to Bay View. The courts get a lot of use and they are in terrible condition.

I would personally like to see updated play equipment for young kids other than at starlight beach. I also feel there should be more activities and options at such parks like the Duck Park, Sytek Park, and Bay View Park. These are the three main places a lot of people go to just walk, or take their kids to. I think the Bay View Park is in deep need of a huge renovation and upgrade/update over anywhere else.

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 13

Please use this space to let us know of **improvements you would like to see at specific recreational facilities** and also to make additional comments to help plan for the future of recreation in the Alpena area.

Other Improvements

Ice skating at McCray Park

It would be nice if the city could do something about the odor. Who wants to be outside if it stinks? Yuck!

Make it top priority to find money, grants, donations to redirect residential untreated sewage from the storm sewers emptying directly into Lake Huron at Blair Street pier and four outlets into the river, because mistakes were made in the 80's during the separation of residential sewers and storm sewers. People fish, swim in and drink the waters from Lake Huron. Covid and other diseases are found in human sewage waste. It is why we have water treatment plants. Frankly, it is an outrage nothing is being done to test homes to find which ones still have their sewage connected by mistake to the storm sewers.

Make the existing trail and Bipath Safe in areas where cars are. A certified bike path is 6+ feet wide. The bike path needs a stripe painted in the center. Resurface the areas that need to be resurfaced, which is very minimal, I bike it daily. ADA ADA ADA. I want to see more people with disabilities able to enjoy thr areas beyond the parking lot.

maybe we could use grass trimmers a LOT MORE OFTEN around all parks and city facilities, including on our city streets where the asphalt meets the curb. Ya spend thousands of dollars cutting down our big, beautiful, mature trees, then turn around and spend thousands of dollars replanting expensive transplants, only to NOT water them and let them die.....'tree city, huh?'

McRae Park could use some attention. Perhaps a fence around the playground and some playground equipment. Not to mention the Hall could use an update/ rehab. It has a lot of potential for community use.

McRae Park is looking dilapidated.

Maintain what we have in good condition.

McRae park needs an update. It's utilized so much and is so outdated. Half your town works on this side of town and it's a awful drive in, run down and just sad
MCRAE PARK T BALL FIELDS NEED A MAKE OVER.

One of the biggest things I notice especially in the City of Alpena is a growing sense of community building and ownership around park spaces. This has been amazing, and big kudos to the staff who made this happen! I will mention that in a number of City parks the newly planted trees have major damage to the trunks from lawn mowing or weed whipping.

Pocket park is a poorly designed park. All those rocks are not inviting and can be dangerous. The benches are metal so they get hot in the summer Really no place to enjoy the Friday night music. The only people who enjoy friday music are mangos customers

Redo Bayview tennis courts and good location for public bathrooms

Restrooms at the Marina/Bay View. Hose off the goose poop from the Bi bath and marina areas!

Safer and more age appropriate playground equipment at kiddie park

Skateparks need mega improvement / help

Alpena Area Recreation Survey - QUESTION 13

Please use this space to let us know of **improvements you would like to see at specific recreational facilities** and also to make additional comments to help plan for the future of recreation in the Alpena area.

Other Improvements

Super grateful for the opportunity to give some input, thank you! I was really disappointed when I found out I had never heard word of skatepark improvements. I would have loved to be of help on the manner. I love that we have a park but it's been in dire need of changes for a long time. I feel a cheap band aid was slapped on the facility, some of the "repairs" worse than the state they were in. Money wasted, with the same result of a lacking skatepark with low attendance. Wooden skateparks are a thing of the past and the bad idea of outdoor wooden parks in this climate was long ago reflected on as a bad bad idea. Sure it looks good from afar, especially to the people without interest or experience at a skatepark. I don't want to blame or point fingers just offering my opinion. I'd love to specify and go into detail about our skatepark shortcomings. The bike park at michekewis is a total waste of resources, it's embarrassing and goes completely unused.

Many growing communities on the fast track of innovation have had a great success rate with what they call skate plazas, concrete parks incorporated into scenic recreation areas and sometimes even in the heart of their downtown areas. They're not just skateparks, they're often surrounded by other recreational activities, host all types of events, and catch eyes with decorated with nice landscaping as the rest of the town is. The star of the show at these skateparks is a pump track, a very popular, fun to watch track that's hosts riders of all ages on bikes, scooters and skateboards. A skate plaza including a pump track would be a great addition to our community, but at least a pump track is a must! I've got a ton more info I'd love to share! The skatepark and bike park are the two beautiful pieces of property that are most underutilized.

Grant lukitsch 941-448-9610

The Alpena Bi-Path is wonderful; however, much of it is not clearly marked and is frankly unsafe in terms of intersections that need to be crossed or sections that are on a shoulder next to 40+mph traffic. Re-evaluate how and where it can be signed to show people where to go. Make it safer by re-evaluating cross walks and connections.

The City has so many wonderful parks and facilities. I am always amazed how many of them are underutilized for "silent sports" like SUPPING, kayaking, and skiing. As a user, the biggest areas for improvement would be to limit cars proximity to them where feasible. For example, the loop at Mich-e-kew-is is so unnecessary. When I am swimming, SUPping, or grilling, it is so awkward to have people either just staring OR revving their old trucks through the area for fun while I am enjoying nature with friend. Parks that do have a lot of car infrastructure (parking lots, drivethroughs, etc) could also benefit from more trees and greenscaping to soften those effects so you don't just feel like you're walking on the edge of a parking lot. Thank you for your work!

The marina is my biggest heartbreak. I used to work at the Dockside Deli in highschool and the marina was the place to be. It's become so run down. It also seems strange that the public restrooms were not replaced as it provides something for both the harbor and the adjacent parks. I think moving the waste treatment plant is a huge step in the right direction. The fact that our boating visitors have to smell the town's waste is horrifying. That harbor is perfectly placed. It should be a destination and be at least as nice as PI's harbor. There should be a little restaurant in that space again. Ice cream and a deli was a perfect stop right in the middle of town. Walk the break wall, look at the boats, eat lunch outside then head into down town. The fairgrounds are horrid too. I am remiss to take my kids there. It just feels dirty and run down. It could be a better draw. I will say there is a lot of good going on and improvements all around. These two places are big and key to our area, they should represent us better.

Would absolutely love to see an out door skating rink

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Other Improvements
Would love to see more use out of Michekewis park. Even more picnic benches. I always see people eating here on their lunch break and options are limited to sit outside here and at starlite beach. Same applies to any of the parks near downtown. If you're eating at a grab and go restaurant it's hard to find a place to sit down and enjoy a meal outside at a park.
Not on List
The civic theater to be made accessible.
Not Specific
A children's museum would be fantastic.
Adequate additional rest room facilities. Expand millage support beyond youth and recreation to include support for all ages and skill levels.
All benches, garbage cans and any other "fixtures " updated, and then a routine worker to visit each area to quickly address/repair issues. We have wonderful areas, but we don't keep up with the maintenance/repair/ updating.
Better access to popular fishing spots, better maintained disc golf courses, more snowmobile trails?
Clean bathrooms and running water. It is realistic this is needed. The band shell needs a facility. Hand washing stations need to work when there is porta potties.
Continue the offerings for youth. It is so easy for them to go the route of social media and gaming in their spare time. They miss out on healthy movement and face to face social interactions. To make our community attractive to young families, we need to make this a focus. And not just youth, but the health of all our residents. The plaza pool is a great example of this! There is so much potential at the Apex. Just this year, our family utilized the turf there for a party, baseball camp and a school event. Before that, I didn't even know it was there but it is a great space! Making Alpena more comfortably accessible by foot or bike with improvements to our bipartisan and trails. And Culligan Plaza is our little jewel; a central gathering spot for our community for both residents and visitors. Would love to see better/ increased parking at the Complex baseball fields.
Don't overdo hardscapeing in any parks - parks should be GREEN and restful - lots of trees and planting areas. Keep the 'artwork' at a minimum
Expand the wheelchair accessibility to beaches and parks.
Get more options for youth. This town is so limited on things for younger parents
Guided park walks/hikes with specific focus on identification of flora and/or fauna. Historical walks downtown might be fun as well.
I don't have much to suggest but hope to take my family to more of our parks!
I frequently notice just the upkeep of the walking areas and how weeds or crumbling cement are becoming more prevalent. I love that Alpena has so many recreational facilities . I am happy to know that the public's opinion is being sought.

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Other Improvements

I listed improvement ideas through out my survey. Please consider more ADA accessible nature trails and a mobi mat for our area. Our town is beautiful and everyone does such an amazing job keeping it that way! My name is Kayla, I'm 35 years old and using an electric wheelchair an walker, so quite young. I really appreciate all of our town surveys to share feedbackm My email is kayla@sumairafoundation.org if there happens to be any questions, thoughts or ideas with ADA and our fabulous town I'd love to help. Thank you

I think it's all really good so far, I wish I had better input

I would like to see these areas promoted more. Many of them I've not heard of before. More press releases and articles about the areas, promotion on Social Media rather than just on the county website. Marketing needs to come to US (Facebook marketing for example) rather than us having to look for info, like going to the website.

I would love to see more sponsored activities, such as board game nights, lectures, movies in the park, food truck gathering, etc. where people can get together.

I'd like to have an outdoor tennis wall with a line painted to practice on alone like we had at the old TBJH on White st

I'd love to see playground equipment updated. Bathrooms updated. More hiking trails. Better signage at trailheads and on the trails. More to do outside of the city limits.

If we had trees large enough a canopy walk.

IMPROVE ADA ACCESS EVERYWHERE

In order to compete we must have open minds to these improvements in our community.

In this survey I learned about parks I did know we had.

Stop focusing on tourist or we will become Traverse City or Petoskey where the local communities people are not able to afford to live in our wonderful Alpena. Focus on balanced employment and industry. That brings families, singles and seniors to the communities. Mall and shopping centers are dieing across the county. Why would we build them here.

Use the land that is already developed for redevelopment leaving the farm land and beautiful nature trails rustic and available. Stop urban sprawl and the damage it does.

Invest in more disc golf courses!

Investments in recreation improve our quality of life but also help draw tourists which helps our economy and also helps attract professionals like health care professionals. Recreational facilities are not just luxuries, they are investments that pay back to our community.

It seems paddlesports continue to grow in popularity, and our river network is a wonderful resource. However, while a couple parks have excellent facilities for this, most river access points are nothing more than a faint trail near a bridge, with parking along the road. Which is understandable, but a bit of signage and maintenance of these access points... mowed trails and roadsides for instance, maybe a little cleared landing area... would be a nice improvement.

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Other Improvements
Just like to see more bike trails. Love our trails but get a little bored riding the same trails. Expanded trails would be wonderful!
Light existing trails (or new trails!) to extend the hours of use since we can't do much in terms of adding days of use. Lighting the baseball fields and xc ski trails are a big draw that our community would benefit from.
Make it more like traverse city
More access to bathrooms.
More actual bathrooms readily available. I am terrified of portable bathrooms and with kids it makes it even worse. So it would be great for more bathrooms to be available in all the already great spaces we all use for ourselves and children.
More ATV And ORV trails
More bathrooms. Small stages for street performers More trash containers Handicap accessibility
More concert venues More outdoor facilities Develop all our waterfront parks.
More entertainment for young adults instead of just bars. Public restroom (not portable). More catering to younger music style with concerts and music.
More parks to have toddler friendly equipment/toys.
More picnic tables at some sites
More public bathrooms
More rental picnic space for birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Better advertisement of boat rentals/charters (non-fishing charters) available for those who enjoy boating but don't currently own a boat. Concession stand at one of the beaches in Alpena. Jet ski, paddle board, etc rentals by the beach in Alpena. Some night security cameras needed to prevent defacement of public property in areas where this has happened several times.
More turf or gyms
No more stinking, filthy outhouses
Orv trails and a tv trails
Our Sanctuary is a TREASURE! I love our town. I have always said that the Big Lots plaza should be torn down and a new Community Center built there. Activities for all ages, a new pool, ... would be good for the 'south side' of town to have as a focal point. Maybe get a parasailing business going from the marina!
Outdoor movies.
Outdoor shuffleboard areas
Parasailing most definitely

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Other Improvements
Resources are not compiled and well advertised (both on site and broadcast) for the community so this needs to be a priority.
Safe bicycling near the TBJH and AHS campus areas, with access to major trunklines (US 23, N & S), and nature trails.
safety at all of the places
Spend our taxpayer money wisely! We can't always have everything we want, if we can't afford it!
Thank you all so much, I'm so happy with the way things are going in the recreational areas of Alpena. There's very little I can offer you accept my encouragement and all that you do. If I had to make a comment, I would say improving the tennis facilities at Bayview would be a priority. My second would be maintaining water access for wind sports on mich a kee wis park, as it is truly world class.
Thank you for taking the communities thoughts into consideration! Keep up the good work.
The money was for the kids events in town. Not to support the pool the way it does. Too much money spent there. Kids sports and activities. That's it
We desperately need a long nicely paved walking / bicycling trail like roger city has. The old idea of making one south of town is still not a bad idea if something was put in place to attract people. However, the sidewalk leading up to it sucks, biking and scootering is a up-down battle between the driveways. I'm not impressed with 90% of alpena's sidewalks, most are too skinny / broken up. I'm constantly going to RC to theirs, it's awesome.
We need a new pool, more pickle ball courts, a farmers market in downtown alpena, more snow sowing trails where shoes can be rented, a cross country trails where skis can be rented, more primitive and regular campgrounds ares as we have such beauty in the area. Please don't use the area by the volleyball courts. Leave this natural. Would really like to see a beautiful park by the old brewery that hosts lots of activities, food trucks, erc
We need public bathrooms if you want tourists, they need to have access to facilities if you want them to stay long enough to purchases items.
We need things for kids to do outdoors in the winter time.
We would like to see more information/training on Alpena Rec Grants (How to access and apply)
Would just like to see more opportunities for kids. Especially during winter. Not a lot of things for them to do in alpena.
Would like to see more activities for adults/young adults to do in down that dont include a night out of drinking. Also, more family friendly activities/events to take kids to that are also enjoyable for the adults. Need more indoor things to do in the winter, such as a place for indoor sporting activities (pickup basketball/volleyball, etc). In general, need more way throughout the year to encourage people to get out of their homes to keep their minds and bodies active and meet new people.
Would like to see the Water Tower skate park updated, not just patched up. The bleachers at the little league fields on 23 are also neglected to the point of being dangerous.
Would love more actual hiking areas. I didn't know that misery bay was open?
Your map image is incorrect: Long Lake Park is in Alpena Township not Maple Ridge. You would get better response with your tool if you had drop down menus for #6 and #7
Ossineke Twp
Mention earlier,improvement at h.l.lions park to convert tennis courts to be able play pickleball,grant funding is needed. Much local support for this

A zoning moratorium should only be done with caution

Brad Neumann, [Michigan State University Extension](#) - August 03, 2023

Updated from an original article written by Kurt H. Schindler, Michigan State University Extension.

A local government might adopt a moratorium to prevent development until rules are established. This is not without legal risk. Do so with caution and make sure the municipal attorney is directly involved.



Local units of government sometimes adopt moratoria to prevent anyone from developing or building something until regulations concerning the activity are developed and adopted. This has occurred in Michigan with medical marijuana dispensaries, signs and billboards, scrapyards, and wind and solar energy generation systems, to name a few.

In Michigan, local governments do not have the authority to do anything unless the state legislature delegates that authority. Cities and villages have the broadest delegation of authority, townships are in the middle, and counties have the least. With authority often comes restrictions – such as having to follow specific processes or not being able to regulate specific land uses. For other [Michigan State University Extension](#) articles on limitations of authority see: [New requirements for local government regulation of wireless communication](#) | [Can local governments regulate oil and gas development?](#).

The problem in Michigan is that there is no statutory authority for a local government to adopt a moratorium in the first place. This is a problem because there is no specific procedure or process for enacting a moratorium – leading to questions about how it is done.

On the other side of the coin, the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized the legitimate use of moratoria (*Tahoe-Sierra*, U.S. (2002)), and there are appellate level court cases in Michigan that provide support for the idea that moratoria can be done (e.g. *Central Advertising Co. v St. Joseph Township* 125 Mich App 548, 554-555 (1983).) In one case, “a moratorium on the issuance of building permits in a particular district of the city for a reasonably limited time” was not voided by the court (*Heritage Hill v Grand Rapids*, 48 Mich App 765, 768 (1973)). Nor did the Michigan Court of Appeals find it to be legally offensive for a township to declare a “brief moratorium on all sewer connections” (*BPA II v Harrison Township*, 73 Mich App 731, 733-734 (1977)).

While courts have not struck down moratoria in Michigan, there is no appellate court that has upheld a moratorium in Michigan for longer than six months. Moratoria are supposed to be short, tied to a direct threat to the public health, safety and general welfare, given a specific start and end date, and then removed at the end of that date.

An old joke suggests a moratorium should always be shorter than the amount of time it takes for someone to file suit and have the case come up on the court’s docket. The goal being the moratorium should always be shorter than the adjudication of the lawsuit.

The serious and important point is that a local government should never enact a moratorium without the direct involvement of the government's corporate attorney, who should be experienced in municipal and land use law. This is particularly important because there may be question over the government's authority to do so. There may also be question on how it is done. Normally, one would find such direction in enabling legislation, but this is lacking in Michigan. Therefore, it is important that a moratorium is enacted in a way that the attorney is comfortable with, because he or she will be the one to stand to defend the local government if challenged.

Under the doctrine of *legislative equivalency*, an ordinance can only be amended/suspended by another ordinance, meaning a moratorium can only be enacted by adoption of an ordinance. While some Michigan communities have attempted to enact a moratorium by resolution, it is well-established case law in Michigan that an ordinance cannot be suspended by resolution as shown in these examples.

- *City of Saginaw v Consumers' Power Co.*, 213 Mich 460, 469 (1921) ("[A]n ordinance may not be repealed or amended without action of equal dignity to that required in its enactment.")
- *Lee v City of Taylor*, 63 Mich App 221, 223 (1975) ("It is settled that a municipal corporation may only repeal an ordinance by an act of equal dignity and formality.")
- *McCarthy v Village of Marcellus*, 32 Mich App 679, 688-89 (1971) ("An ordinance or resolution cannot be amended, repealed, or suspended by another act by a council of less dignity than the ordinance or resolution itself.")
- *Lorencz v Brookfield Twp.*, Mich App (No. 319235, Apr. 28, 2015, Unpublished) ("[A]n ordinance may only be repealed by an act of equal dignity, which requires the township to repeal by ordinance and not resolution.")

It is important that the text of the moratorium ordinance include specific content on:

- The narrow subject to which the moratorium applies
- An explanation as to how the moratorium is addressing a direct and immediate threat to public health, safety and general welfare.
- Findings of fact that support the public health, safety and welfare threat.
- A specific starting date.
- A specific ending date.
- Anything else the local government's attorney believes is important to convey.

For additional procedural considerations with respect to enactment of a moratorium, see [Caution: Zoning moratorium ahead](#).

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