

# Recreation Plan 2021-2025

City of Alpena, Michigan



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# ALPENA CITY RECREATION PLAN

2021-2025

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## CITY OF ALPENA RECREATION PLAN

### CHAPTER 1: COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

#### *Extent of Plan Focus*

This Recreation Plan addresses recreational facilities and plans within the boundaries of the City of Alpena. The plan will evaluate the surrounding recreational opportunities as well as the socio-economic status of the City and the surrounding area to determine recreational needs of the population and to plan for improvements which fit those needs.

#### *Location*

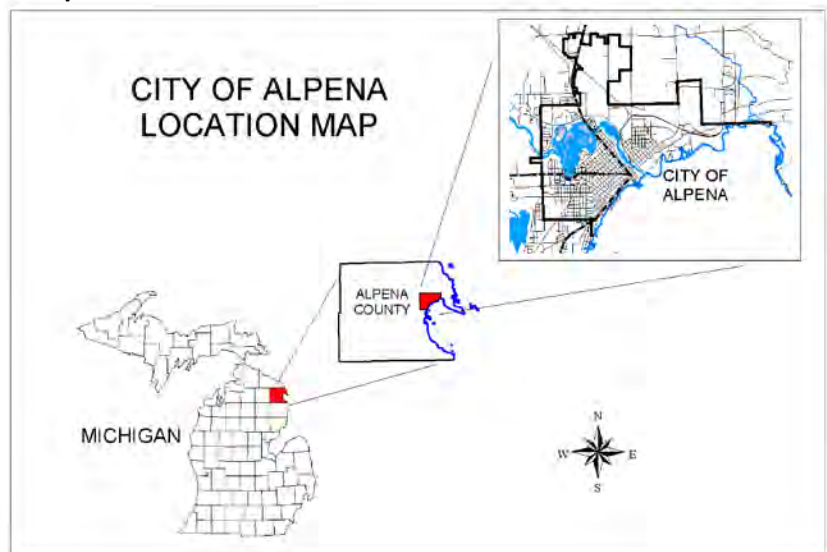
The City of Alpena is situated along the shore of Lake Huron (Thunder Bay) in Alpena County in Northeastern Lower Michigan (See **Map 1**). With a population of 10,483 residents (2010 Census), it is the largest city in Northeast Michigan, as well as the only incorporated place within the County. The nearest city of larger population is Bay City, 129 miles to the south. The City of Alpena is surrounded on three sides by Alpena Township with Thunder Bay situated to the east. Alpena Township, with a population of 9,060 (2010 Census), has a concentration of commercial and residential areas. The City, the Township of Alpena, seven other townships, the unincorporated village of Ossineke, as well as several other unincorporated places combine to make up the County of Alpena with a total population of 29,598.

#### *Background*

The City of Alpena has the unique characteristic of having both a lake and a river within the city limits. The Thunder Bay River divides the city which flows through Besser Lake, located in the northwest section of the City (See **Map 2**). The river was influential in the development of the community and continues to be a primary force in the social, economic, and recreational life of the area.

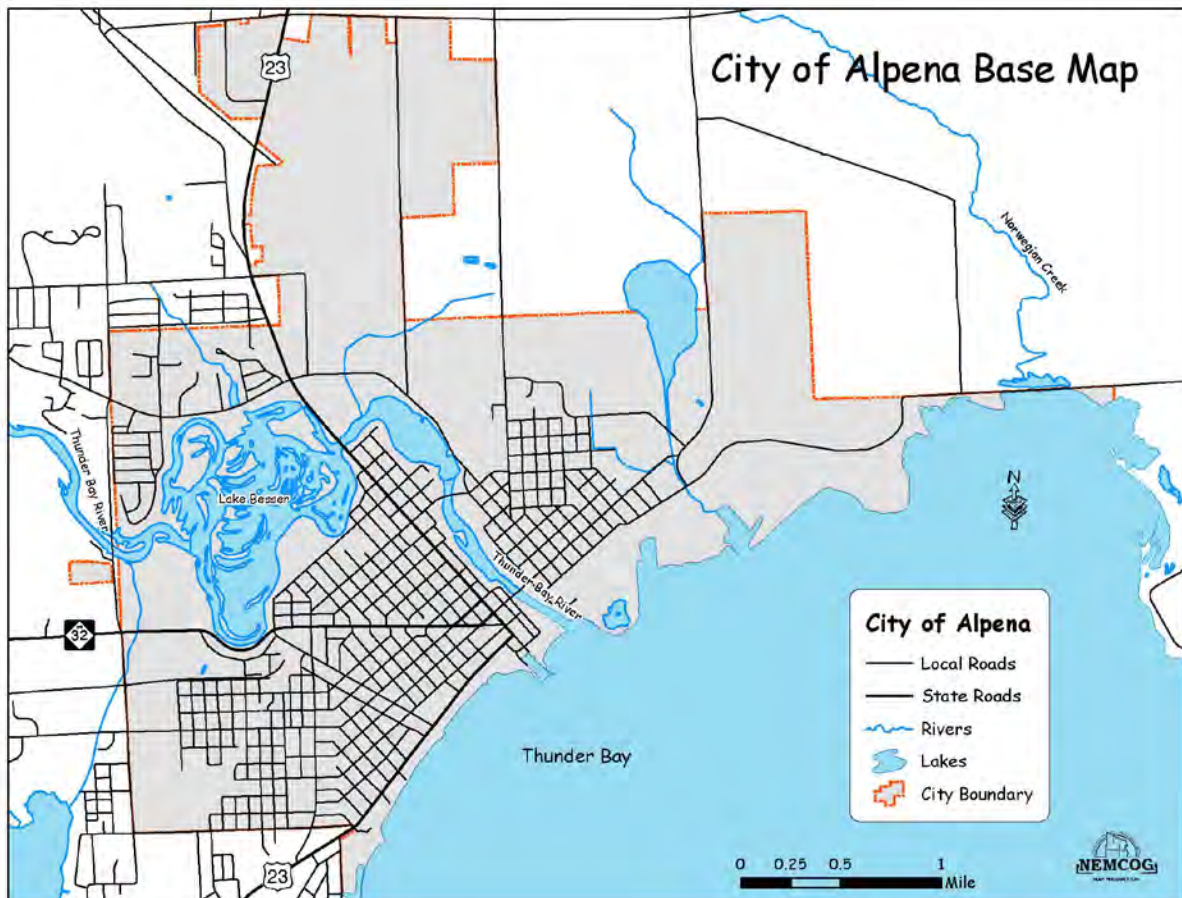
The City of Alpena is considered a popular destination for visitors of all types. The City's position in northeastern Lower Michigan affords its citizens easy access to four seasons of recreation. The area offers hunting, camping, hiking, snowmobiling, cross-

**Map 1**



country skiing, snow shoeing, and golfing for the outdoor enthusiast. Several day-parks offer a pleasant place to relax over a picnic lunch or to take a quick break in the middle of a hectic day. Abundant perch, northern pike, bass, and other pan fish lure avid fisherman to the Thunder Bay River and its many tributaries. Indoor recreational opportunities include bingo, ice skating, roller skating, swimming, movies, and bowling. Stores and businesses located in the City's downtown area offer a wide variety of goods and services, and the major buying opportunities draw shoppers from all over the northeastern Michigan region.

**Map 2**



## *Population*

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population for Alpena in 2010 was 10,483 persons. In reviewing the 2010 Census data, the figures presented for housing characteristics show 5,278 total units and 70 units as seasonal, recreational, or occasional use homes. Based on the average household size in Alpena of 2.13, the expected seasonal increase would be approximately 149 persons. However, there are many more seasonal homes within a 30-mile radius of Alpena - many of whom use recreational facilities in the city. In addition, many seasonal or recreational visitors stay at private lodging places or at the homes of family or friends.

## *Land Use Patterns*

In December 1985, a land use inventory of the County was prepared by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Division of Land Resource Programs. This data was updated in 2018 using aerial imagery and revealed a total area of 5,741 acres made up the City of Alpena. The land area of Alpena is made up of 5,247 acres, while 494 acres is water. The overall land use pattern for the City of Alpena is closely related to major transportation links and the Thunder Bay River. US-23 forms the City's central spine, carrying traffic north and south through the city. M-32 allows access to the City from the west and intersects US-23 just south of the Thunder Bay River. The Thunder Bay River meanders through the Wildlife Sanctuary in the northwest section of the City, then flows southeast through the City to discharge into Lake Huron. Descriptions of Land Use types found in the City of Alpena are listed below:

### *Urban Land*

Urban and Built-up land comprises 3,660 acres of City land. This category consists of areas of intensive use with much of the land covered by structures. Included in this category are strip developments along highways, transportation, power and communication facilities, and areas occupied by shopping centers, industrial and commercial complexes, institutions, and residential areas. When the land use inventory was updated in 2018, approximately one-quarter of the City's land was used for single and multi-family residential housing.

### *Wetlands*

Wetlands comprise 228 acres within the City. This category consists of areas between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is at, near, or above the land surface for a significant portion of most years. Examples of wetlands include marshes, mud flats, wooded swamps and floating vegetation situated on the shallow margins of bays, lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, and reservoirs. The Thunder Bay River Area, especially Island Park, comprises much of this wetland area. Aerial photography used in the Michigan Resource Information System (MIRIS) mapping reveals wetlands and lowlands in a generalized sense. To determine whether potential construction sites are located within such an area, an EGLE inspection is necessary.

## *Open Land*

Open land makes up 342 acres of the City. This category consists of land and structures used for outdoor cultural, public assembly, and recreational purposes. Examples would be fairgrounds, golf courses, athletic fields, and parks. This category may include incidental buildings such as shelters, toilets, beach change areas and similar supporting structures on these lands. Also included in this category are cemeteries, as well as the chapels, mausoleums, and maintenance building associated with the cemeteries.

## *Forest Land*

Approximately 16 percent (922 acres) of City land is considered forest land. This category is comprised of areas that are at least ten percent stocked by forest trees of any size, or formerly have had such tree cover and are not currently developed for non-forest use.

## *Barren Land*

In the City, 3.8 acres are considered barren land. This land has limited ability to support life and has little or no vegetation. Beaches and riverbanks are included in this category.

## *Water*

Nearly ten percent of City acreage is comprised of water. This category includes rivers, streams, creeks, and other linear bodies of water, as well as lakes.

## *Topography*

The City of Alpena is situated on the northwest shore of Thunder Bay, eight miles from the open waters of Lake Huron. Lake Huron and Thunder Bay lie at an elevation of 580 feet above sea level. Generally, the land slopes up westward from the lake shore to 689 feet at the airport. Farther to the west and southwest the land becomes higher and more rolling. A range of hills with tops 1,000 to 1,350 feet is found northwest to southeast of the City.

## *Climate*

The climate is greatly influence by its topography and its proximity to Lake Huron. Temperature data from the Midwest Regional Climate Center indicates the climate along the immediate Lake Huron shore is semimarine in nature and lacks many of the temperature extremes found only a few miles inland.

Summer months are pleasant with considerable sunshine and a daily average of more than 15 hours of daylight for outdoor activities. Summer temperatures as high as 104 degrees have been recorded but are unusual. The following weather data reflects 30-year average (1981-2010) data

collected at the Alpena Wastewater Treatment Plant. According to the Michigan State Climatologist's Office the 30-year average July temperature is 68.4 degrees Fahrenheit, which is .5 degrees higher than the last 30-year average.

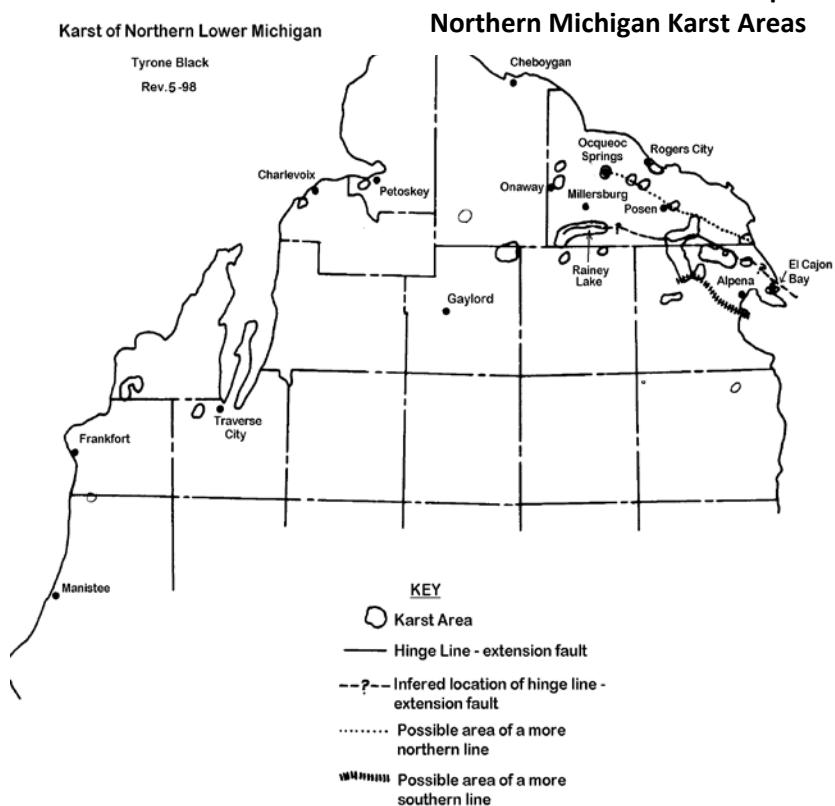
Winters have comparatively uniform day-to-day temperatures. Sub-zero temperatures have been recorded as early as November 22 and as late as April 2 but have their highest frequency during February. Thunder Bay and the Thunder Bay River are usually free of ice by the first week in April, but water temperatures remain low enough to produce diurnal sea breezes during the middle of the day with subsequent reduction in maximum temperatures on many days during the spring and summer. The 30-year average January temperature is 20.5 degrees Fahrenheit, which is 0.6 degrees warmer than the last 30-year average.

Precipitation is well distributed throughout the year. Most winter precipitation is in the form of snow. Most of the summer precipitation is the result of showers or thundershowers, which occur most often during the months of June, July, and August. The 30-year annual average precipitation is 30.03 inches which is 1.71 inches higher than the last 30-year average of 28.59 inches. The precipitation includes the snowfall liquid equivalent. The 30-year average annual snowfall is 57.6 inches, which is 9.6 inches less than the last 30-year average. Prevailing winds are from the northwest except for May and June when southeasterly winds predominate. Generally speaking, the climate is getting warmer with more rain and less snow.

## Geology

The Geology of the City of Alpena, Alpena County and, in fact, the entire State of Michigan and surrounding states, was defined by glacial activity. Each advance and retreat of the continental glaciers took tens of thousands of years. This reoccurring process shaped and reshaped the land; first obliterating and then creating hills, valleys, rivers and lakes, swamps, and marshes. The last glacial period, called the Wisconsin era, created the landscape we know today. The glacier left behind boulders, rocks, cobble, sand, gravel, silt, clay, and loam. In some areas the material was deposited in unsorted masses called till plains, ground moraines and end moraines. Water flowing from the melting glaciers also sorted materials, creating outwash channels, sand deltas, kames, and eskers.

**Map 3**





Fine materials, captured in the fast-moving glacial meltwater, settled to the bottom of expansive glacial lakes creating lacustrine clay and silt plains.

The City of Alpena is situated on the northeastern flank of the Michigan Basin; a depressional bedrock feature centered in Gratiot County. The general dip in this area is toward the center of the basin at less than one degree, or 70 feet per mile. The basin consists of over 5,000 feet of sedimentary rocks that formed sediments that were deposited as ancient seas slowly entered and ebbed from the basin some 400 million years ago. Sand, silt, and clays were carried to the seas. Animals took lime from the sea water to make their shells and build reefs. When they died, their shells were added to the lime mud. At times life was scarce and little sediment was brought from the land. The climate was arid and chemical actions caused the deposition of calcium carbonate, dolomite, salt, gypsum, and anhydrite. As layer upon layer of sediments accumulated, they squeezed together and eventually compacted to solid rock; sandstone from the sands; shale's from the silt; limestone and dolomites from the limy muds; as well as mixtures of these various sediments. Thus, the bedrock of Alpena County formed.

Arguably, the most interesting geologic feature of Alpena County is the karst topography. Karst is defined as a type of topography that is formed over limestone, dolomite, or gypsum by dissolving or solution. Karst is characterized by closed depressions or sinkholes, caves, and underground drainage. Sinkholes are perhaps the most dramatic karst features. Sinkholes and sinkhole lakes are found throughout the northeast part of the county. New sinkholes are constantly being formed, taking several decades to appear on the surface. Where underlying rock dissolves more readily than surface rock, underground cavities form. As erosion continues, the roof rock is weakened and eventually collapses into the cavity forming a steep sided collapse sink. Sinkholes in Alpena County range in size from less than ten feet to more than 1300 feet in diameter.

Karst features are most prevalent in the northern portion of the county (**Map 3**). Geologists believe that a hinge-line fault, serving as a pathway for subterranean drainage, interconnects several sinkholes and sinkhole-controlled lakes before emptying into Lake Huron at El Cajon Bay.

## *Soils*

In the development of a recreation plan, consideration of soil suitability is an important factor. Soil characteristics help define the lands capacity to support certain types of land uses and the ability to support various types of vegetation. Soils most suitable for development purposes are well drained and not subject to a high water table. Adequate drainage is important to minimizing storm water impacts and the efficient operations of septic drain fields. Adequate depths to the water table are necessary to prevent ground water contamination from septic systems. A high water table also limits the construction of basements. Though civil engineering techniques can be employed to improve drainage and maintain adequate separation from the water table, such techniques are expensive to construct and maintain.

Although some areas in the City of Alpena, especially north and west of Lake Besser are not yet mapped, the following preliminary results have been supplied by the Soil Conservation Office.

The dominant soil type mapped in the City is the “Urbanland-Udipsamments, deep water table, 0 to 3 percent slopes.” The Urban-land part of this map unit consists of impermeable surfaces such as paved areas and buildings. The Udipsamments, deep water table part of these areas are sandy soils that have been altered in some way, usually by leveling. In most places the surface layer is very dark gray sand four inches thick. Below this is brownish yellow fine sand and mottled fine sand and sand to more than 80 inches. The water table is usually between 3.5 to 5 feet below the surface year-round. An escarpment or steep slope is adjacent to the Thunder Bay River in most places.

These soils are found in the most populous areas of the City, both north and south of the River, and to the east of Lake Besser. These same soils are found between Long Rapids Road and northern City boundaries, as well as being the predominant soil found south of Lake Besser, between Ripley and Hobbes. The major limitation of Udipsamments for recreational uses is the sandy characteristic of the entire soil profile. Areas may not withstand intensive usage and traffic.

Some scattered areas of the City have soils differing from those described above. At the Island Park, soil limitations are severe because of slope and the soils being too sandy. An area of approximately 80 acres in the southwest corner of the City is an undeveloped area of “Deford muck.” This soil type has a four to six inch muck surface overlying fine sand to a depth of 80 inches. The water table is between one foot above and one foot below the surface most of the year. The major limitation of this soil for recreation uses is due to the high water table.

## *Vegetation*

Forests cover approximately 60 percent of the land area in Alpena County and constitute the largest single land use in the county. In addition to using the forest resources for timber and fiber, woodlands are also used for all types of outdoor recreation. Large expanses of different forest types offer habitat for a wide variety of species. Forest types include northern hardwood, aspen-birch, northern white cedar, and white, red and jack pine.

Historically, the predominate forest types in the area that is now the City of Alpena were northern white cedar and aspen-birch. Today these species, along with elm, cottonwood and several species of oak and maple trees can be found scattered throughout the City, particularly in the City's many parks. Wetland areas in the western portion of the city support healthy variety of vegetation. Species here include cattails, bulrushes, sedges, sweetflag, arrowhead and pickerelweed, as well as tamarack and white cedar.

## *Water Resources*

### *Surface Water*

The most significant surface water resources in the City are Lake Huron, Thunder Bay and Thunder Bay River. A large portion of the City's eastern border follows the shoreline of Lake Huron, which is the second largest Great Lake and the fifth largest freshwater lake in the world. This water resource is used for residential, commercial, and institutional facilities, as well as agricultural operations, industrial processes, electric power generation, sanitation, and recreation. Lake Huron also serves as habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other aquatic organisms, and offers many fishing opportunities. Brown Trout, Lake Trout, and Rainbow Trout are all plentiful. The Small Boat Harbor provides access for boats. Fishing from shore is also possible at this point, as well as from Blair Street Pier. An abundance of boating and other water-related recreation opportunities are also available through this resource. In addition, the portion of Lake Huron adjacent to Alpena County is included in an area that has been designated as *Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve*. The preserve runs between South Point and Middle Island and includes all bottomland and water from the ordinary high watermark along the shoreline out to the 150-foot depth contour. The area within the preserve contains about 288 square miles.

Thunder Bay has one of the highest densities of shipwrecks per square mile of any spot on the Great Lakes. This is due, in part, to the numerous rock shoals and islands in the area. The high number of wrecks gives divers many opportunities for exploring. The local dive club has buoyed some diving sites for offshore diving, while dive boat charter service is available to others. Local divers have applied for a grant to increase the number of buoyed sites.

In 1981, the Thunder Bay was designated as the first State of Michigan Underwater Preserve. In October 2000, the preserve was designated a National Marine Sanctuary and Preserve. The responsibility for the management and protection of its underwater cultural resources is being shared equally by the State of Michigan and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The sanctuary encompasses most of the State preserve lands, with the boundaries extending from the northern to the southern county lines of Alpena County. This area encompasses over 100 shipwrecks. The sculptured limestone bottomland of the Sanctuary forms a complex system of geologic features. A variety of unique birds, fishes, and plants are found there.

In addition to the Lake Huron (including Thunder Bay) shoreline, there are a total of 7.6 miles of Thunder Bay River frontage located in the City. The river is used for recreation and transportation. The greatest use designated for the river is as *parkland*. The next largest use of this river frontage is *residential*, with residential dwellings occupying 12,247 feet. The remaining 15,352 feet are occupied by *institutional*, *industrial*, and *commercial* uses.

According to the City's 1992 River Plan, the water quality of this river can "be considered fair to good and of a quality that will support intensive urban fishing programs and urban recreation."

The Thunder Bay River includes a small impoundment of 45 acres at the Ninth Street Dam known as Lake Besser and another larger area known as the Wildlife Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is actually a bayou or lake surrounded by the Thunder Bay River. It is visually not apparent where the lake ends and the river begins. Long Rapids, Chisholm, Eleventh/Washington Avenues, and Bagley St. bound this water area. Several islands are located here; Island Park, Cow Island, several smaller islands, and a thin strip of land in the river along Washington Avenue shoreline, which extends for almost a mile. The lake area includes approximately 190 water acres, and the river, 160 acres, for an approximate total water area of 350 acres.

The Thunder Bay Power Company currently operates the Ninth Street hydroelectric dam. The power company has converted to a system, which adopts a “run of the river” operation rather than a “peak flow” operation. This type of operation generally keeps a more consistent water level, which benefits recreational usage, such as docks, fishing platforms, and bridges.

### *Groundwater*

In many areas of Alpena County, the depth to groundwater is within a matrix of sand, gravel and clay that is less than 50 feet below the soil surface. Near lakes, streams, and wetlands the depth to ground water is much shallower and commonly can be found a few feet below the soil surface. Because of the abundance of shallow groundwater in the County, many drinking water wells are also shallow; just deep enough to reach the uppermost region of the aquifer. This special combination of factors places the ground water of Alpena County at risk of contamination. For groundwater protection planning it should be assumed that the entire County, including the City of Alpena, is vulnerable to contamination. A wide variety of contaminants have already been discovered in the ground water at sites throughout the County and City, and it is likely that there are a few other sites that have not yet been discovered.

Sinkhole areas are often conduits to groundwater pollution. Historically, many sinkholes have been used as dump sites and some continue to be used in this manner. Agricultural drainage from pastures, feedlots, bean, potato, corn, and small grain fields enters the aquifers through karst features such as swallow holes, sinkholes, and fractures at the ground surface. Water contamination from agricultural byproducts, nitrates, infectious disease, septic systems, and sediment has been documented in this unique karst terrain. These non-point sources of pollution could adversely impact the quality of the City's water in the future and should be monitored closely. The storage and use of pesticides and fossil fuels can also be a threat to groundwater. If stored and used properly, these substances do not pose a serious threat to groundwater. Spills, leaking storage tanks, accidental discharge or misapplication are the greatest concerns. Because of its high solubility in water, road salt is another significant and common threat to ground water. Tons of rock salt are applied to the roads each year. The primary sources of contamination here are from unprotected salt storage facilities and road runoff that infiltrates through recharge zones into ground water.

## *Transportation*

### *Roads*

Alpena County has no interstate highway but is served by US-23 which follows the shoreline of Lake Huron from Mackinaw City to Standish, and by M-32 which runs east-west, connecting Alpena with I-75 and the City of Gaylord. M-65 heads north and south, which bisects the western portion of the County. State and federal highways include approximately 72 miles of M-32, M-65, and US-23. The county also supports approximately 200 miles of local primary roads and 450 miles of local secondary roads.

In and around the City of Alpena, four bridges cross the Thunder Bay River. The bridges are located on Bagley Street, US-23, Ninth Avenue and Second Avenue (**Map 4**, below). The limited number of river crossings in this densely populated area of the county has created heavy traffic volumes on all the bridges but most notably on the Bagley Street Bridge and the US-23 Bridge. These roads are the primary and secondary truck routes through and around the City of Alpena. Significant traffic congestion and delays would develop if one or more of the river crossings were unavailable. The bridges in the County are in better condition than many other Michigan counties. However, the US-23 Bridge restricts the flow of the Thunder Bay River by 3,000 to 4,000 cubic feet per second during river flows of 17,000 cubic feet per second or greater.

### *Air Transportation*

Regional air service is available at Alpena County Regional Airport (Phelps Collins), located in Wilson Township. There is a 9,001 foot and a 5,028 foot runway and state of the art communications and radar systems. The airport can accommodate any type of commercial or military aircraft and is a U.S. Customs Port of Entry. The airport is also home to the Combat Readiness Training Center (CRTC) of the Michigan National Guard. Passenger service connecting to Detroit and Pellston is provided by Skywest an affiliate of Delta. Charter, airfreight, and medivac services, as well as flight training and aircraft rentals are available from a variety of companies.

In 2019, construction was completed on the new airport terminal, parking lot, and ramp improvements. The new terminal is 12,900 square feet and vastly improves the passenger experience. The new terminal improves baggage handling, reduces airliner ground time, more efficient TSA screen and baggage x-ray, and a passenger boarding bridge. The new facility is also energy efficient with all power lines being underground. The former terminal building will be renovated for airport offices and meeting space as well as the airport restaurant.

### *Rail Service*

Freight rail service is provided by the Lake State Railroad Company. Rail service is used to deliver raw materials and products to and from the heavy industrial users in the area. Lake State Railway also services a number of customers via transloading (truck-to-rail and rail-to-truck reloading) at their rail yard in Alpena. No passenger service is offered. Alpena is at the end of the rail line, and Lake State Railroad has only one in-bound and one out-bound train per day, Monday through Saturday. Although the volume of freight is expected to increase, no extension or expansion of the line is anticipated. The rail bridge over the Thunder Bay River was replaced in July 2002, financed partially through a loan from the Michigan Department of Transportation. Additionally, Lake State Railway was a recipient of an FY19 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure & Safety Improvement (CRISI) grant to strategically replace 30 miles of rail on the line. This allows rail users to utilize 286,000 lb. GRL capacity railcars for shipments. Lake State Railway also helps rail customers leverage the Michigan Department of Transportation's Freight Economic Development Program (FEDP) grant, which is a grant program that pay 50% of the costs to construct a rail spur or siding for rail users.

### *Marine Facilities*

The City of Alpena has two channels used for great lakes shipping. One channel is for the port of Alpena, and the other for the Lafarge Corporation. The annual shipping season for Alpena Harbor is from mid-March to mid-December.

### *Transit*

A variety of public transportation options are available in Alpena County and the City of Alpena. Bus transportation is an important service locally for the disabled, as well as other persons needing public transportation. In addition to the public transportation, there are also several automobile rental agencies and charter buses available in the City.

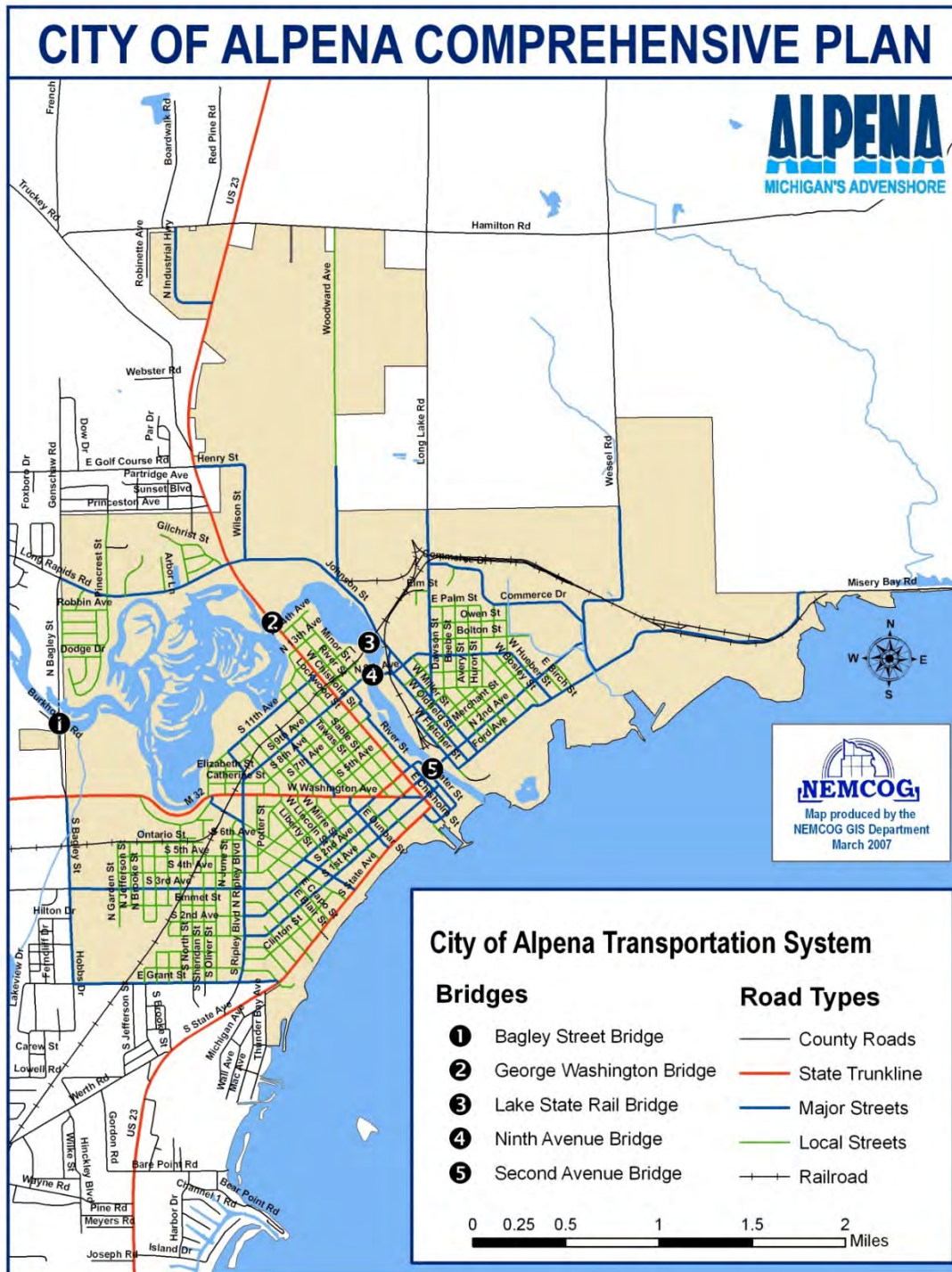
The Thunder Bay Transportation Authority (TBTA) provides scheduled public transportation services to the residents of Alpena, Alcona, and Montmorency Counties, and a small portion of Presque Isle County. The authority operates with a fleet of 40 vehicles and 4 hybrid trolley buses. In 2017, the TBTA completed its new garage and maintenance facility. Alpena Dial-A-Ride Transportation (DART) is operated as an on-demand transportation service by TBTA, which consists of seven wheelchair lift equipped buses.

Indian Trails provides statewide public transportation services on a daily basis. The bus route follows US-23 through Alpena County. Buses operate seven days a week, with a southbound run in the morning and northbound run in the afternoon. Buses are wheelchair lift equipped and have space set aside to accommodate wheelchairs. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) subsidizes this transportation service for areas in northern Michigan. This system serves as a daily link between select cities and allows people to travel outside the area to other parts of the state and country.

Charter bus service is provided by Country Line Tours. The services provided vary by company.

Car rental companies are located within the Alpena County Regional Airport, Cliff Anscheutz Chevrolet, and Thunder Bay Chrysler. These companies offer local, state, and national rentals.

**Map 4: Alpena Transportation System**





## CITY OF ALPENA RECREATION PLAN

### CHAPTER 2: ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

#### *Staff Description and Role of City Council, Planning Commission, and Recreation Advisory Board*

The *Alpena City Council* serves as the policy-making body with respect to recreation services and facilities. It authorizes the financial resources and manpower for the development and maintenance of the municipal parks and recreation facilities. The development, maintenance and administration of these recreational services and facilities are the responsibility of the City administration. The City staff is under the direct supervision of the City Manager. Those positions most directly involved with recreational services along with their specific functions are listed below.

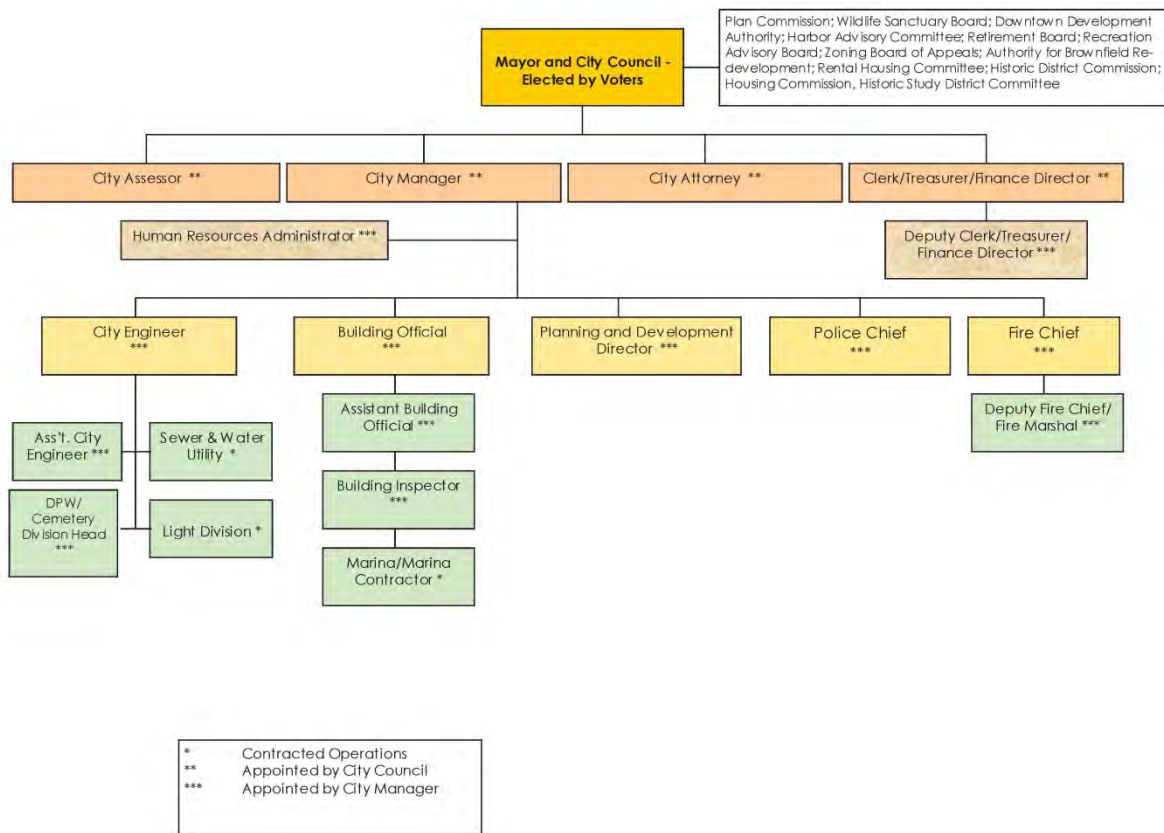
1. *City Planning and Development Director:* Serves as planning staff for the City Planning Commission, staff liaison to Wildlife Sanctuary Board, is responsible for the preparation and updating of various planning studies, including the City Recreation Plan, and solicits funding alternatives, including grants, for the financing of recreational improvements. Coordinates the development of the City's six-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP).
2. *City Engineer:* Responsible for the design, engineering, and construction for the physical improvements to the municipal parks and recreational facilities. In the capacity of a department head, directly oversees the Department of Public Works, which directly handles many of the operational and maintenance needs of the parks and recreational facilities. Responsible for the overall operation and maintenance of the City parks and recreational facilities. Serves as liaison to the Alpena Recreation Advisory Board. Also, administers and monitors contracts with private service providers for operational and maintenance activities related to the City's recreational system, including the City Marina.

The organizational structure for the City park system and recreation facilities is also supplemented by two advisory bodies to City Council. These include the Alpena Recreation Advisory Board and the City Planning Commission.

The *Alpena Recreation Advisory Board* is a seven-person advisory body which makes recommendations to Council on matters of general recreation policy, studies and reports its findings regarding recreation needs, and monitors the recreation programs of the community.

The *City of Alpena Planning Commission* is a nine-member statutory advisory body to the Council responsible for the long-range planning of the overall community. In addition, the Planning Commission is involved in the review and implementation of the City's Capital Improvement Plan, which serves as the mechanism for translating multi-year recreational improvement needs into the annual budget process.

Figure 1: City of Alpena Organizational Chart



## Programming

With respect to recreational programming, the City provides the facilities from which a range of recreational services is provided to the community. The actual recreation programs are primarily offered through the various non-profit organizations, volunteer groups, and educational institutions within the City. Some of these groups are the Alpena Babe Ruth Baseball Association, Alpena Men's Slow Pitch Softball Association, McRae Park Association, Alpena Youth Club, and Alpena Huron Shores Little League.

## *Parks & Recreation Maintenance*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) maintains approximately 100 acres of land that constitutes the City's park system and approximately 1-1/2 miles of Lake Huron shoreline. There are fifteen parks within the City of Alpena including: Avery, Bay View, Blair Street, Duck, Island, LaMarre, McRae, Mich-e-ke-wis, North Riverfront, South Riverfront, Starlite Beach, Thomson, Veterans, Washington Avenue, and Water Tower. In addition, City crews maintain both the City of Alpena's Marina.

The City also has an agreement with the Alpena Rotary Club whereas the Department of Public Works maintains Rotary Island Mill, a private park owned by the Rotary Club but open to the public. Another park, Sytek Park, is owned by the City of Alpena, but managed and maintained by the Alpena County Road Commission through a written agreement. The McRae Park Association is a private service club that also assists the City in the operation and maintenance of McRae Park.

The DPW has been given the maintenance responsibilities to improve the City park system to a showcase level. Irrigation, landscaping and amenities within and throughout the parks are programmed to facilitate these responsibilities. The DPW's goal is to reduce total maintenance costs while improving the general appearance of all parks.

## *Parks & Recreation Funding*

Capital improvements and maintenance activities are funded on an ongoing basis from the City's General Fund. A separate division of the General Fund has been established for this purpose known as Parks and Recreation. Capital improvements and maintenance activities for the City Marina are funded separately from the City's Marina Fund.

The annual and projected budgets and expenditures for projects, operations, maintenance, and capital improvements are detailed in **Tables 1 and 2**.

## *Current Funding Sources*

Funding sources for parks and recreation projects of the City of Alpena include the City General, Equipment, and Marina funds, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the Michigan Department of Environment, Great lakes & Energy (EGLE), and private contributions.

**Table 1: Parks and Recreation Fund  
Current and Proposed Budgets**

DESCRIPTION	2019-20 AMENDED BUDGET	2020-21 PROPOSED BUDGET
<b>Revenue</b>		
STATE GRTS - MISC	0	400,000
MICH-E-KE-WIS PAVILION	13,200	0
STARLITE PAVILION	1,300	1,300
MISC. FACILITIES	400	400
DONATIONS	5,000	0
OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>20,900</b>	<b>402,700</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
SALARIES & WAGES	140,480	144,004
RETIREE HEALTH CARE-OPEB	10,025	11,744
HSA CONTRIBUTION	6,075	6,075
HEALTH INSURANCE	26,308	28,939
DENTAL INSURANCE	2,000	2,060
LIFE INSURANCE	191	193
FICA	10,956	11,230
RETIREMENT	28,676	30,397
RETIREMENT - DEF CONT	181	184
UNIFORMS	1,650	1,650
LONG TERM DISABILITY	475	490
SUPPLIES	8,000	8,000
DEFERRED COMP CITY CONTRI	2,713	2,796
PROF & CONTRACTUAL	7,500	500
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE	8,000	8,000
INSURANCE & BONDS	11,564	11,564
UTILITIES	110,000	110,000
UTILITIES - ICE RINK	7,020	7,580
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	55,000	56,000
MAINT - PARK SHELTER/ICE	1,000	1,000
EQUIPMENT RENT	78,000	79,000
MISCELLANEOUS	500	500
PARK FOUNDATION REC CENT	20,000	20,000
CAP - RIVERFRONT PARK	0	0
CAP - STARLITE BEACH	10,000	0
CAP - BAYVIEW PARK	0	0
CAP - MICH-E-KE-WIS PARK	0	0
CAP - GENERAL PARKS IMP	5,000	0
CAP - ISLAND PARK	5,000	5,000
CAP - BIKE PATH	15,000	15,000
EQUIP FUND ADVANCE - PRIN	0	0
EQUIP FUND ADVANCE - INT	0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>571,314</b>	<b>561,906</b>

**Table 2: Marina Fund  
Current and Proposed Budgets**

DESCRIPTION	2019-20 AMENDED BUDGET	2020-21 PROPOSED BUDGET
<b>Revenue</b>		
BUSINESS LIC/PER	4,000	4,000
STATE GRTS - MISC	42,500	42,500
INVESTMENT INCOME	500	500
MARINA	25,500	25,500
DONATIONS	200	200
INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENTS	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	0	0
FR GENERAL FUND	105,000	130,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>177,700</b>	<b>202,700</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
SALARIES & WAGES	27,732	28,287
RETIREE HEALTH CARE-OPEB	1,999	2,331
HSA CONTRIBUTION	825	825
HEALTH INSURANCE	2,799	3,079
DENTAL INSURANCE	247	254
LIFE INSURANCE	34	35
FICA	2,185	2,229
RETIREMENT	5,550	5,883
UNIFORMS	0	0
LONG TERM DISABILITY	94	97
SUPPLIES	3,000	3,000
DURABLE GOODS	0	0
DEFERRED COMP CITY CONTRI	823	840
PROF & CONTRACTUAL	0	0
CONTINUING EDUCATION	100	200
BEAUTIFICATION	4,000	3,500
INSURANCE & BONDS	4,500	4,500
UTILITIES	42,000	44,000
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	17,500	19,500
EQUIPMENT RENT	8,169	8,334
FIBER OPTIC RENT	1,243	1,281
MISCELLANEOUS	1,400	1,400
CAPITAL OUTLAY	27,000	67,000
CAP – MARINA/REMOVE UST	25,000	25,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>176,200</b>	<b>221,575</b>

## *Relationships with Other Agencies*

Whenever possible, the City of Alpena pools resources with other agencies and organizations when undertaking community projects. This has the dual effect of maximizing resources, while at the same time benefiting a greater share of the population. Some of the agencies the City is currently working in partnership with include, but are not limited to the Alpena Rotary Club, the Alpena Kiwanis Club, the Alpena Optimists Club, the McRae Park Association, the Alpena County Recreation Authority, the Alpena County Road Commission, the Alpena Yacht Club, the Alpena Huron Shores Little League, the Thunder Bay Arts Council, the Michigan Brown Trout Festival, the Alpena Downtown Development Authority, and the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, and the Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan.

## CITY OF ALPENA RECREATION PLAN

### CHAPTER THREE: THE PLANNING PROCESS

#### *Schedule:*

August, 2020	The City of Alpena contacts the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) and asks for assistance in updating their Recreation Plan.
August, 2020	NEMCOG staff created a draft community survey to collect public input on recreation within the City.
September 15, 2020	The City of Alpena Planning Commission met and reviewed the draft online survey to provide comments to NEMCOG staff. Input from the Recreation Advisory Board was also received. The online survey was updated to incorporate comments received.
September 23, 2020	The recreation survey was released online. The survey was advertised in The Alpena News and was available on both the City of Alpena website and the NEMCOG website.
October 8, 2020	The online survey received additional publicity over the True North Radio network and on the TRN website.
November 10, 2020	The recreation survey was closed after 116 responses were received. The results are included in Appendix C.
November, 2020	NEMCOG staff reviewed expiring plan and made corrections with information publicly available.
November 10, 2020	The Alpena Recreation Advisory Board and City of Alpena Planning Commission held a joint meeting to review the survey results and discuss changes to the Action Plan.
December 10, 2020	The draft plan is posted for 30-day public review at Alpena City Hall, and the City of Alpena and NEMCOG websites.
December 10, 2020	Notice of a public hearing on the draft recreation plan appeared in the <i>Alpena News</i> .
January 12, 2021	The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the recreation plan. The Planning Commission also reviewed the draft plan and recommended adoption by the City Council pending any final edits from comments received.



January 19, 2021

The Alpena City Council met and adopted the recreation plan by resolution at their regularly scheduled council meeting.

### ***Public Input: Survey***

The City of Alpena feels that the community that utilizes City recreational facilities was well represented in the survey process. Community members from the City, surrounding areas of the county, and also from neighboring counties responded to the survey. Complete survey results can be found in Appendix C.

The Bi-Path, Island Park/Duck Park, Mich-e-ke-wis Park, Bayview Park, the City Marina, Starlite Beach, Sytek Park, and Washington Avenue Park were reported as the most utilized facilities in the city. The survey also provides information on the activities that citizens are engaging in at each facility. In addition, survey respondents were provided the opportunity to comment on the improvements needed at each of the recreational facilities in the City. Written comments were received for each facility.

## Online Survey Publicity (September 23, 2020)

The Alpena News

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

**CITY/STATE**

THE ALPENA NEWS ■ 3A

### IN BRIEF

#### City seeks input on rec plan

Alpena is requesting public input to help with the update of its five-year Recreation Plan.

To qualify for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the city must have a DNR-approved plan.

The survey is available at the city's website, or a printed copy can be picked up at the Clerk's Office.


#### Presque Isle County board meets Friday

The Presque Isle County Board of Commissioners will meet at 9:30 a.m. Friday via the videoconferencing software Zoom and via telephone.

Login information is on the county's website.

#### Regional gov't meeting

## Neiman's checks out



News Photo by Julie Riddle

Brenda Donajkowski rings up groceries on the last day of business at Neiman's Family Market on Tuesday. Business was brisk on the last day, even as shelves emptied in the nearly bare store. Employees are sad to see the store go, even though many have been offered new positions, Donajkowski said. "It's kind of like a family," she said, affectionately teasing a coworker. "You come every day, and, all of a sudden, you're going to get up and not see these people in the morning."

## Local court ROUNDUP

By JULIE RIDDLE  
News Staff Writer

#### Accommodations sought for young girl

ROGERS CITY — A girl suffering from psychological trauma requires special accommodations at the upcoming trial of her alleged attacker, Presque Isle County Prosecutor Ken Radzibon told the 53rd Circuit Court on Monday.

Thomas Pettit, of Rogers City, is accused of multiple first- and second-degree sexual assaults involving a 6- to 12-year-old girl.

The News does not identify alleged victims of sexual assault.

The girl suffers from depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other debilitating conditions and will need a one-way screen between her and her alleged attacker if she is to testify at trial, Radzibon said.

Judge Aaron Gauthier agreed to hear testimony from counselors as to the girl's mental state — a hearing which will not be open to the public because of its sensitive nature, he said.

A similar screen was requested for use by a young victim in the recent trial of Michael Rigot in Presque Isle County.

That request was denied by Gauthier, who said it stood in the way of a defendant's constitutional right to look an accuser in the eyes.

#### Woman jailed for giving booze to minors

An Alpena woman who gave prescription drugs and alcohol to minors is headed for jail after accepting a plea agreement in court on Monday.

Stacie Elswick was sentenced to nine months in jail and 18 months' probation after an Aug. 11 incident in which she took four underage youth for a ride in her truck, bought them

## NEMCOG Website

discovernortheastmichigan.org/recreation.asp

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MICHIGAN WORKS! PROSPERITY COLLABORATIVE DOCUMENT LIBRARY


DISCOVER  
**Northeast Michigan**  
EAST OF EXPECTED

Business Job Seekers Community Agencies COVID-19 Broadband Data

Home / Community / Planning & Community Development / Recreation Plans

## Recreation Plans

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires communities to have a DNR-approved recreation plan in order to qualify for DNR Recreation Grant programs. Recreation Plans are valid for a five year period. NEMCOG staff works with local communities to create recreation plans as well as assists these communities with the grant application process. There are many steps involved in creating a DNR-approved recreation plan, and NEMCOG staff



Island Park  
Recreation and Future Facilities  
2020-2025

## Recreation Plan News

[City of Alpena Recreation Survey](#)  
Sep 21, 2020

The City of Alpena is updating its Recreation Plan for submission to the DNR. Please take the survey below offer your ideas on park amenities!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/alpenacityparks>

[Program Highlights January 1 - June 30, 2020](#)

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**City of Alpena Releases Survey for Parks Planning**

September 21, 2020 – The City of Alpena, with assistance from the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG), is updating its Recreation Plan.

A Recreation Plan contains plans for the future of all recreational facilities in the city and is required to be updated every five years. Communities are required to have MDNR-approved Recreation Plans in order to qualify for grant funding from the Michigan DNR.

The planning process incorporates a community participation element that encourages input from citizens. The City of Alpena has chosen to gather this public input in an online survey. The survey takes approximately 5-10 minutes to complete and is available on the City website or at <http://www.discovernortheastmichigan.org/recreation.asp>. Those without internet access may obtain a printed copy from City Hall to complete and return.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/alpenacityparks>

The City of Alpena highly values the public's opinion and is encouraging citizens that utilize its parks to fill out and submit this survey within the next few weeks.

## October 8 Survey Publicity: True North Radio Network Website

enorthradionetwork.com/2020/10/08/residents-can-have-input-on-citys-long-range-plans-for-parks-rec/

local news

local sports

thunder rock 100.7 fm

the bay

the wave

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True North Radio Network

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Home » Local News, Rotating Features

### Residents can have input on city's long-range plans for parks & rec

Submitted by Phil Heimerl on October 8, 2020 - 12:40 am

No Comment

Share / Save



Parks and outdoor recreation are invaluable resources in northeast Michigan, and residents in Alpena have an opportunity to have a say in how they are managed in the coming years.

The City is updating its Recreation Plan and is seeking public input during the process.

The document contains plans for the future of all recreational facilities in the City, including parks, and is required to be updated every five years in order to qualify for grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

City residents who want to help in the planning process are encouraged to complete an online survey that can be found on the city's website. Those without internet access may obtain a printed copy of the survey at city hall.

In a press release, city leaders say they "highly value the public's opinion" and are encouraging residents who use parks to fill out and submit the survey within the next few weeks.

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City of Alpena Recreation Plan 2021-2025

3-5

Chapter 3: Planning Process



## Public Review Period Notice

6B ■ Thursday, December 10, 2020 ■ THE ALPENA NEWS

# THE ALPENA NEWS Classifieds

**Classifieds Ads • Call 989-356-2174 • e-mail: clas**

### Make Your Ad Stand Out!

- **\$2.00** per day
- Grey Screen Overprint**
- **\$2.00** per day **Border**
- **\$2.00** per day
- Attention Grabber**
- **\$10.00** per day
- Photo Image**
- We'll help you sell it fast!**

### 5 Lines • 6 Days \$18.00

- For Miscellaneous and Household Items Only
- One Item per ad - cost not to exceed \$500
- Price includes
- The Alpena News and Shoppers' eXpress
- First Day Logo on the Internet
- Private Party Only
- Ad Must Be Prepaid




**HELPING HANDS • \$1.00**

**Up to 3 Lines • 3 Days \$1.00**

1 Item per ad • Cost not to exceed \$50  
1 ad per week. Drop off or mail in.  
Proceeds donated to a community project.


### REAL ESTATE



Real Estate Financing .....2012  
Real Estate For Sale .....3506 - 3544  
Real Estate For Rent .....3002-3028

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday thru Friday


### EMPLOYMENT



Help Wanted ..... 1518 - 1522  
Business Opportunity .....2000  
Work Wanted ..... 1524 - 1536


**DEADLINES:**  
Monday ..... Friday, Noon  
Tuesday ..... Monday, Noon  
Wednesday ..... Tuesday, Noon  
Thursday ..... Wednesday, Noon

### MERCHANDISE




Garage Sale .....  
General Merchandise  
Farm.....

All transient classifieds prepaid. For your convenience, Alpena News accepts personal orders, cash or the following:



## "We Deliver Results Everyday to Thou"

### Earn Extra Cash for the Holidays!



The Alpena News Production Department has evening hours available.

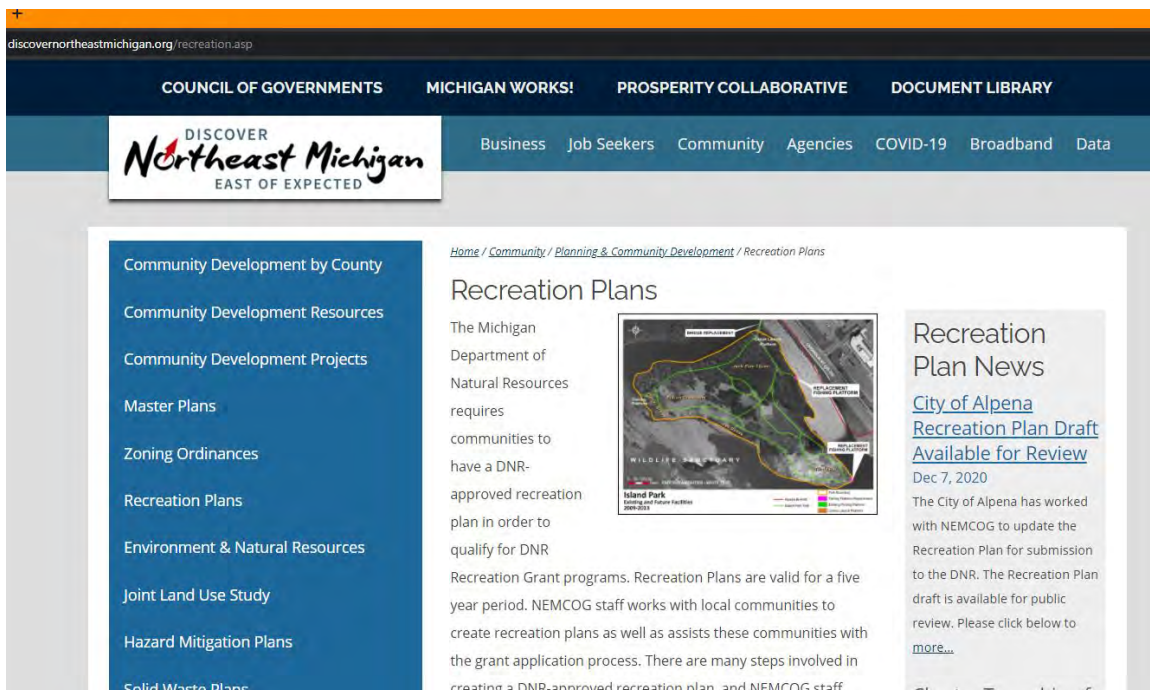
**Applications available at the Front Office.**

**For more information call 354-3111 and ask for Ken.**

**THE ALPENA NEWS**  
130 Park Place, Alpena  
Monday - Friday 8am to 5 pm

10 Announcements	10 Announcements	10 Announcements
<p><b>1000 - Legal Notices</b></p> <p>City of Alpena Recreation Plan</p> <p>The City of Alpena is in the process of updating their Recreation Plan. The Recreation Plan is used as a blueprint to guide the development and improvement of recreational facilities within the City of Alpena.</p> <p>To provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the draft plan, the City is making the plan available for a 30-day public review and comment period. The draft plan can be downloaded from the City's website at <a href="http://alpena.mi.us">alpena.mi.us</a>.</p> <p>or the NEMCOG website at <a href="http://discover.michigan.org/recreation">discover.michigan.org/recreation</a>.</p> <p>Comments can be submitted by January 8, 2021 to:</p> <p>Andrea Kares, Planning and Development Director City of Alpena 208 N. First Ave Alpena, MI 49707</p> <p>Following the public comment period, the City of Alpena Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on the final Recreation Plan on Monday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 208 N. First Avenue, or online via Go To Meeting pending COVID requirements. Go To Meeting can be accessed at <a href="https://www.gotomeet.me/CityofAlpena/planning-commission-meeting-8">https://www.gotomeet.me/CityofAlpena/planning-commission-meeting-8</a>.</p> <p>You can also dial in using your phone by calling +1 (872) 240-3212 and entering access code: 729-045-205. (December 10)</p> <p><b>NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</b></p> <p>Alpena City Planning Commission</p> <p>The Alpena City Planning Commission will conduct two public hearings on <b>Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.</b> in the City Hall Council Chambers, 208 N. First Avenue, or online via Go To Meeting pending COVID requirements, on P.C.</p>	<p><b>1004 - Notices</b></p> <p>seconded by Councilmember Nowak, to approve the agenda.</p> <p>Motion carried 5-0.</p> <p><b>MODIFICATION OF AGENDA</b></p> <p>Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Nowak, to add Property at 402 Washington Avenue to the Report of Officers section of the agenda.</p> <p>Motion carried 5-0.</p> <p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p>The minutes of the regular and closed sessions of November 2, 2020 and the special session of November 10, 2020 meetings were approved as printed.</p> <p><b>CONSENT AGENDA</b></p>	

## Public Review Period Publicity



**Insert Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**



**Insert Planning Commission Resolution**

## Notice of Public Hearing

6B ■ Thursday, December 10, 2020 ■ THE ALPENA NEWS

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Real Estate For Sale .....3506 - 3544  
Real Estate For Rent .....3002-3028

### EMPLOYMENT



Help Wanted .....1518 - 1522  
Business Opportunity .....2000  
Work Wanted .....1524 - 1536

### MER



Garage Sale .....  
General Merchandise  
Farm.....

### OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Monday thru Friday

### DEADLINES:

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Tuesday ..... Monday, Noon  
Wednesday ..... Tuesday, Noon  
Thursday ..... Wednesday, Noon

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Applications  
available at the  
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For more  
information call  
354-3111 and ask  
for Ken.



130 Park Place, Alpena  
Monday - Friday 8am to 5 pm

### 10 Announcements

#### 1000 - Legal Notices

City of Alpena Recreation Plan  
The City of Alpena is in the  
Process of updating their  
Recreation Plan. The Re-  
creation Plan is used as a  
blueprint to guide the  
development and improve-  
ment of recreational facili-  
ties within the City of Alpe-  
na.

To provide the public an op-  
portunity to review and  
comment on the draft plan,  
the City is making the plan  
available for a 30-day pub-  
lic review and comment  
period. The draft plan can  
be downloaded from the  
City's website at

[alpena.mi.us](http://alpena.mi.us)

or the NEMCOG website at  
[discovery@nemcog.org](mailto:discovery@nemcog.org)

Comments can be submitted  
by January 8, 2021 to:

Andrea Kares,  
Planning and Development  
Director  
City of Alpena  
208 N. First Ave  
Alpena, MI 49707

Following the public comment

### 10 Announcements

#### 1000 - Legal Notices

period, the City of Alpena  
Planning Commission will  
hold a Public Hearing on  
the final Recreation Plan  
on Monday, January 12,  
2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the  
City Hall Council  
Chambers, 208 N. First  
Avenue, or online via Go  
To Meeting pending CO-  
VID requirements. Go To  
Meeting can be accessed  
at

[https://www.gotomeet.me/  
CityofAlpena/planning-  
commission-meeting-8](https://www.gotomeet.me/CityofAlpena/planning-commission-meeting-8)

You can also dial in using your  
phone by calling +1 (672)  
240-3212 and entering ac-  
cess code 729-045-203.  
(December 10)

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Alpena City Planning  
Commission

The Alpena City Planning  
Commission will conduct  
two public hearings on  
Tuesday, January 12,  
2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the  
City Hall Council  
Chambers, 208 N. First  
Avenue, or online via Go  
To Meeting pending CO-  
VID requirements, on P.C.

### 10 Announcements

#### 1004 - Notices

seconded by Coun-  
cilmember Nowak,  
to approve the agen-  
da.  
Motion carried 5-0.

#### MODIFICATION OF AGENDA

Moved by Mayor Pro  
Tem Johnson,  
seconded by Coun-  
cilmember Nowak,  
to add Property at  
402 Washington  
Avenue to the Re-  
port of Officers sec-  
tion of the agenda.  
Motion carried 5-0.

#### MINUTES

The minutes of the  
regular and closed  
sessions of No-  
vember 2, 2020 and  
the special session  
of November 10,  
2020 meetings were  
approved as printed.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

**Insert City Council Meeting Minutes**

**Insert City Council Resolution of Adoption**

## **Insert** Copies of Submittal Letters

*This page intentionally left blank.*

## CITY OF ALPENA RECREATION PLAN

### CHAPTER 4: RECREATION INVENTORY

An inventory of recreation facilities available in the City of Alpena was completed and is presented in this chapter. The inventory includes City owned facilities, township and county owned facilities, state and organization owned facilities, and privately owned facilities. City of Alpena owned facilities were evaluated for barrier-free accessibility. A description of the barrier-free accessibility rating criteria is provided below.

**Accessibility Assessments** - An assessment of the accessibility of each park to people with disabilities. This assessment must consider the accessibility of both the facilities themselves (as appropriate), as well as the access routes to them. At a minimum, use the following ranking system for each park:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

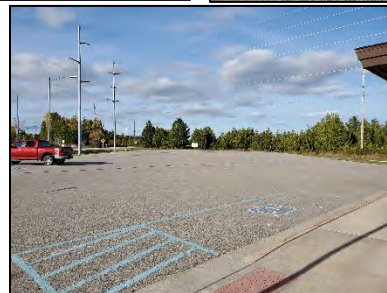
### *City-Owned Recreation Property*

1. **Alpena Regional Trailhead** is located on Woodward Avenue on the north side of Alpena, and at the southern terminus of the North Eastern State Trail. The 2.25-acre site features barrier free modern restrooms, barrier free pavilion, paved parking, bike racks, trail maps and kiosk, and picnic tables and benches. Drinking water is available prior to heading out on the trail. Alpena County owns the property and the City developed and maintains the trailhead on a permanent lease. The trailhead is connected to town by the City Bi-Path.

**Type:**

**Service Area:**

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.





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2. **Arthur Sytek Park** located on the Thunder Bay River at the bridge on Bagley Street. This one-half acre wildflower park was developed by the Thunder Bay Watershed Council. The park has a canoe launch site, a barrier free fishing platform with a roof, a shelter and off-street parking, and serves as a trailhead for the City's Bi-Path. The property is leased by the City to the Alpena County Road Commission, which maintains the park.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



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3. **Avery Park** located on N. Second Avenue, north of the Second Avenue Bridge. This 0.4-acre open green space showplaces a large historic four-faced bronze clock, historic gaslights and historic park benches. The park complements the aesthetics of the adjacent Olde Town Alpena and the historic downtown area.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.





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4. **Bay View Park** located on State Avenue on Lake Huron, adjacent to the Municipal Small Boat Harbor. This is one of the City's largest developed parks with multiple year-round uses. It contains four tennis courts, three basketball courts, and a multipurpose open lawn area. There is an area of shoreline, space for picnics and an open field for low profile activity. There is the Fine Arts Band shell, which is used for summer band concerts, community celebrations and by various groups for other occasions. A fenced, fully equipped young children's playground, developed by and maintained in partnership with the Alpena Kiwanis Club, is another of the facilities available at this site. Public restrooms are located on Harbor Drive. The Bi-Path runs through the park and connects the park to other recreation areas. The Alpena Yacht Club is located within the Park on property leased from the City.

**Type:** Community Park

**Service Area:** Alpena County

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 3.** This facility is generally barrier-free. Much of the park, including the band shell is barrier-free. There are no barrier-free picnic tables, and the tennis courts and basketball courts are not easily accessible from the paved parking lot.



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5. **Bi-Path** is a bicycle and pedestrian pathway system which has been developed throughout the City. This marked bikeway connects with the Alpena Township section that parallels US- 23 from the city limits at Thunder Bay Avenue to Bare Point Road. Inside the City limits, residents and visitors are able to bike, walk, roller blade and skateboard on the 18.53 miles of 8-10' wide paved pathway and can access all the waterfront parks in the city. In a cooperative city/county effort, a section of the bikeway follows the shore of the Thunder Bay River through the Alpena County Fairgrounds.

**Type:** Integrated Type II Park Trail and Type II Connector Trail System

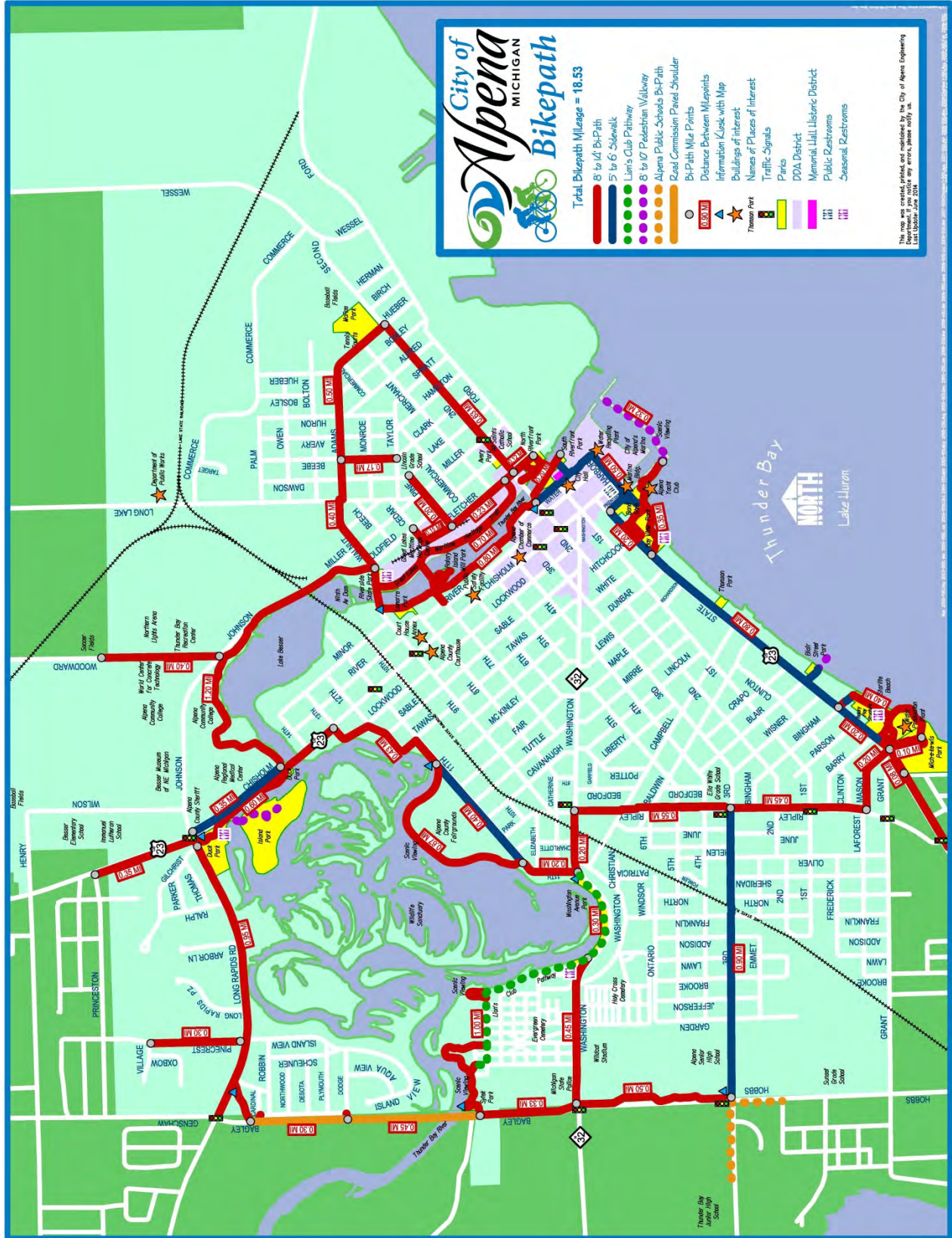
**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.





Map 5: Bi-Path Map



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6. **Blair Street Park** located at the end of Blair Street on Lake Huron. This 0.4-acre park contains 173 feet of Thunder Bay frontage and a refurbished handicapped-accessible pier for fishing, a picnic area with tables and grills, concrete bike paths connecting the State Avenue bike path to the pier and off-street parking.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 3.** This facility is mostly barrier-free.



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7. **City Marina** is located at 400 East Chisholm Street, adjacent to Bay View Park. The City contracts with a private company, Thunder Bay Shores Marine, for day-to-day operations of the Marina.

The City Marina is the only full-service marina in the area. It provides visitors and residents with all necessary, boating-related services, including a full-time staff, a fueling station, 35-ton boat hoist, fish cleaning station, boaters' restrooms, a marina store, and marine repair facilities. A portion of the City bi-path system has been constructed along the top of the break wall.





The City Marina contains 58 seasonal and 77 transient boater slips. Courtesy docks, a launch ramp, and broadside moorage are also available. The Marina also acts as a communications center for boaters in the waters of Thunder Bay and posts severe weather warnings. Dockage is also provided for a MDNR law enforcement boat and the U.S. Coast Guard.

The City participates in the state Central Reservation System. Under this system, transient boaters are able to reserve dockage at the Marina on specific dates via a centralized, statewide system. Twenty-seven (27) transient slips are available for reservation through this system.



**Type:** Special Use Facility

**Service Area:** Variable

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 3.** This facility is mostly barrier-free. Hardware at the Boaters Restrooms needs to be changed and barrier-free signage needs to be installed on both doors at the proper height. There is no barrier-free access to the east side of the fixed dock basin. The Breakwall bi-path is barrier-free. The Fish Cleaning Station is not barrier-free.

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8. **Culligan Plaza** is a small public space located on Chisholm St. at Second Ave. It contains a water fountain and a large public fountain.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 3.** This facility is partially barrier-free. There is barrier-free access from the sidewalk along the perimeter of the plaza, but there is no barrier free access to the fountain.



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9. **Downtown Parks:** Downtown Alpena contains two small "pocket parks" which are maintained by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

- a. **Chisholm Street Park** is located between Second and Third Ave. It contains a walkway, benches, and plantings. A small portion of this park is leased by a local restaurant to provide outdoor dining.
- b. **Waterfront Park** is located between River and Carter St. It contains benches, trees and plantings. Currently privately owned open space, the Alpena DDA is attempting to acquire.

**Type:** Mini-Parks

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 3.** Chisholm Street Park is barrier-free Waterfront Park is mostly barrier-free but lacks barrier-free picnic tables.



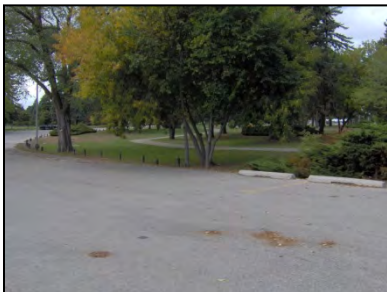
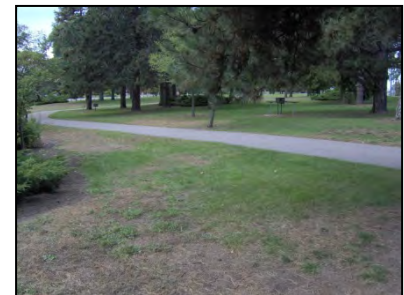
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10. **Duck Park** adjoins Island Park and the Wildlife Sanctuary. This 2.5-acre park has 1,200 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage. It complements the natural setting of Island Park by offering an area for more developed recreational uses and vehicular parking. It is also the proposed site of the River Center and adjoining boardwalk from which a range of recreational and educational activities relating to the river area can be provided. The site includes picnic tables, an area for rest, as well as off-street parking. Ducks, swan, geese, and other wildfowl gather at this site.

Recent improvements to this park include a covered pedestrian bridge to Island Park and a water tower (photo shown within the Island Park description).

**Type:** Community Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 2**





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- 11. Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch** is located at the end of Eleventh Avenue on the Thunder Bay River/lake Besser. It serves as a small craft boat launch but has few amenities at this time.

**Type:** Special Use Area

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 1.** This facility is not barrier-free

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- 12. Island Park** located on the Thunder Bay River, at the corner of US-23 and Long Rapids Road. This 17-acre island is owned by the City and developed and maintained by the Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Board with the help of the Alpena Volunteer Center. The island has 4,400 feet of water frontage. This natural area preserves the rich ecosystems with the flora and the fauna natural to the area. Access to this area is gained by way of a concrete bridge, which is closed to vehicles (a key may be obtained to drive to a handicapped-accessible viewing area). Nature/hiking trails crisscross the Island, providing abundant opportunity for observation and study of nature and wildlife. The opportunity for fishing is provided by fishing platforms at the water's edge. The City of Alpena developed a comprehensive River Plan in 1995, which includes Island Park and the Thunder Bay River Corridor. The **Wildlife Sanctuary** is located adjacent to the Island Park. It consists of 600 acres and is home to a variety of native fauna and flora.



**Type:** 11, 11a, 11b - Natural Resource Areas

**Service Area:** Alpena County

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 2.** This facility has some barrier-free facilities. The parking lot is paved and access to the City bi-path is possible from Duck Park. Many viewing opportunities exist to view the water and wildlife. Barrier-free fishing opportunities exist along the pedestrian bridge and in two areas along the bi-path at the island side of the pedestrian bridge. The majority of the viewing and fishing platforms on the island are not barrier free. There are no barrier-free picnic tables and no barrier free access to cooking grills.



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- 13. LaMarre Park** located at Eighth and River Street intersection on the Thunder Bay River, was acquired by the City of Alpena from Alpena County in 1997. This 1.5-acre site includes 367 feet of river frontage and is a popular fishing location and is frequently used as a trailhead to access the City bi-path system.

In 2004, the City, with the assistance of MDEQ Coastal Management Program grant funds, installed a large barrier free concrete walkway and fishing platform along the river's edge. In 2008, the City purchased and removed a residential home at the corner entrance to the park in order to open the view of the park, increase open space, and visibility.

Other amenities at this park include picnic tables, benches, off-street parking, and passive recreation.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



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- 14. McRae Park** located at the intersection of North Second Avenue and Hueber Street. This park includes four fenced youth/women's ball fields (three 60-foot base fields and one 90-foot base field); two T-ball fields; a children's play area; four tennis courts; two basketball courts; two paved parking lots; a small concession/restroom building; and a park shelter which is used for meetings and social events. General oversight and maintenance of this park is conducted by the McRae Park Association.



In 2008, construction finished on a new 90-foot basepath baseball field. This field was constructed to replace an old Babe Ruth field that was closed when Oxbow Park was abandoned by the City. Some new playground equipment was purchased through grant funds obtained in partnership with the Northeast Community Service Agency (NEMCSA). Funds for installation were obtained from a MSHDA Neighborhood Preservation grant; accessed through the City's participation in a community Vision 2020 program.

**Type:** Community Park

**Service Area:** County of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 2.** This facility has some barrier-free facilities. The parking lot is paved but there is no barrier-free access to the playground, basketball courts, or ballfield bleachers. The restrooms at the Concession Stand are not barrier-free. The driveway to the new Babe Ruth field is not paved and access to the bleachers is limited. The only access ramp to the community building is in poor condition and needs repair. The community building entrance door threshold needs to be lowered to 5/8". Neither restroom in the community building is compliant; each entrance door must be widened, the restrooms enlarged, and barrier-free hardware installed.



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**15. Mich-e-ke-wis Park** is an approximately 20-acre park located on Lake Huron along State Avenue, between Thunder Bay Avenue and Mason Street. The park includes two youth/women's ball fields, playground equipment, a BMX bike park (designed for younger riders), volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, a beach area, picnic area, an enclosed warming/general park shelter building, and off street parking. The park is revered for the natural beauty of its shoreline and scenic views of Lake Huron. Sections of the City's Bi-Path rung through the park along the Lake Huron Shoreline. The warming shelter has been leased to a private business offering fitness programs and recreational equipment rentals.

In 2020 the City of Alpena completed the development of a Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan. The plan was developed with thorough public input and makes recommendations for many park improvements. Some of the new improvements identified include: A multi-use pavilion, quiet area with pedestrian pathway, additional volleyball courts, and a bike pump-track. The plan also calls for rearranged and paved parking areas, upgraded playground equipment, and improved amenities such as picnic tables, benches, bike racks, and site lighting and landscaping. The Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan can be seen in **Appendix D**.

**Type:** Community Park

**Service Area:** Alpena County

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 2.** Some of this facility is barrier free. The parking areas are not paved and there are no barrier free pathways leading to park features.



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- 16. North Riverfront Park** located off Fletcher Street near the mouth of the Thunder Bay River within the City's downtown area, behind the Post Office. This park has 570 feet of river frontage. A parking lot and boat launch is provided on this site. A section of the park is also fenced and dedicated as the Thomas Safford Dog Park.

In 2007-2008, the City implemented a number of improvements at North Riverfront Park aided by a grant from the MDNR. The improvements include the installation of a cantilevered walkway with barrier free access and rail sections allowing fishing for all parties. The improvements also included flower, shrub, and tree plantings and the installation of an irrigation system to ensure the livelihood of plant material and reduce runoff to the river. Amenities were also installed in the park including benches, picnic tables, walkways, water and power access and a drinking fountain. These improvements have opened up this previously unimproved park for expanded and enhanced activities. The project, due to available funding, had to be curtailed and elements originally planned for were deleted from the project with hopes of being able to fund them in the future. These include the resurfacing and restriping of the parking lot, parking lot lighting, and installation of water and power access points throughout the park.

**Type:** Special Use Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena; boat launch serves wider area.

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



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- 17. Riverside Skate Park/Water Tower Park** is located on Ninth Avenue near the Ninth Avenue Bridge. A collaborative effort between a skateboarding/in-line skating group, concerned citizens, and the City resulted in the development of this community recreational skateboarding park. The project began in 1997 by a group of area youth involved in Get Excited And Rally (GEAR), with the help of many community supporters. As the proposal gained recognition, committees were formed and public information sessions were held. In the spring of 1998, this well-planned project resulted in the selection of Water Tower Park on Ninth Avenue as the location for the skateboarding facility. With youth and adults working together, the central location of Water

Tower Park provides recreational opportunities for skateboarding and in-line skating. Stunt bikes are not allowed at the facility. Although the park is youth-oriented, it provides all residents of the City of Alpena with the opportunity to participate in this popular activity in a safe and user-friendly environment. A second mini-skate park for beginners was constructed in 2006.

In 2006, with the assistance of a grant from the MDEQ, improvements to Water Tower Park were installed. A 10' wide section of lighted Bi-Path was extended across the park from Ninth Avenue (which connected to a section of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail that extends to Second Avenue). Additional park improvements undertaken during this project included the construction of a barrier free fishing pier along the waters edge, the installation of an irrigation system and terraced rain garden (to control runoff to the river), landscaping upgrades, and the installation of new picnic tables.

**Type:** Special Use Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



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- 18. Rotary Island Mill Park** is located in the Thunder Bay River between Sixth and Seventh Streets. Owned by the Rotary Club of Alpena, this park was developed for recreational use with fishing sites and pathways. In 2007, a pedestrian bridge linking the island to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail was installed. This bridge established a connected, non-motorized pathway to both sides of the Thunder Bay River. It also effectively integrated the island into the City park system. In 2008, the Rotary Club signed a maintenance agreement with the City of Alpena whereas the City will maintain specified improvements on the island in exchange for a public access easement across the island.

**Type:** Mini-Park (Private Park with Granted Public Access)

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



**19. Starlite Beach** is an approximately 8.5-acre park located along State Avenue between Mason and Bingham Streets. It is one of the premier, and most popular, parks in the City of Alpena. The park offers many features such as: a large sandy beach on Lake Huron, with a beach ramp to offer barrier free access, a beach promenade with sitting wall, three large barrier free playground structures and two small children's playground structures, new modern barrier free restroom facility, new barrier free pavilion, and a barrier free splash pad. There is paved off street parking and sections of the City's Bi-Path run through the park along the Lake Huron Shoreline. There is also a large picnic/open area and benches, picnic tables, and sun shelters throughout the park.

Many of the recent facilities and amenities were installed as part of an approximately \$4-million improvement project designed to make Starlite Beach a premier all-season destination. The park is within easy walking distance of several restaurants and fast food establishments, many retail stores, a miniature golf course, and several other City parks.

**Type:** Community Park

**Service Area:** Alpena County

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier free.



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- 20. South Riverfront Park** located on the south side of the River within the City's downtown area, behind the former Alpena Power Company building, Federal Building, and Memorial Hall. With approximately 850 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage, the site consists of three parcels of land.

The first parcel, owned by the City, is located directly behind Memorial Hall. Uses of this site include dock fishing, passive recreation and broadside moorage for larger watercraft. The second parcel, owned by a private individual, is directly behind the Federal Building. A partial easement has been granted to the City for passive recreational use; including dock fishing, and an open green space area. Broadside moorage exists for federally-operated vessels. The third parcel, owned by the City, is located directly behind the former Alpena Power Company building.

In 2005, the amenities of the entire park were upgraded with grant funds received from the state's *Cool Cities Pilot Program*. A colored, stenciled concrete walkway, the first phase of the City's historic Riverwalk, was constructed. Wrought iron safety railing was installed along the head pier and an irrigation system was installed throughout the park. Historic-style pedestrian lights, gazebo, drinking fountain, and wrought iron benches were also installed. Historic markers detailing the history and use of the Thunder Bay River were developed in partnership with the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve and installed along the new walkway.

Recreational uses of this park include dock fishing, broadside moorage of watercraft and passive recreation. It is also used as the venue for local festivals.



**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.

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- 21. Thomson Park** located on State Avenue on Lake Huron, midway between Starlite Beach and Bay View Park. With 160 feet of Thunder Bay frontage, this park has an excellent swimming beach, which is used quite heavily. Several picnic tables and a bike rack are available. A portable restroom facility is placed at the park during the summer months.

**Type:** Neighborhood Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 1.** This facility is not barrier-free. No barrier-free picnic tables are present within the park and there is no barrier-free access to the beach or lake.





**22. Veteran's Memorial Park** is another small "pocket park" located at Washington and Second Avenue in downtown Alpena. It contains benches and a memorial to local veterans.

**Type:** Mini-Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.



**23. Washington Avenue Park** located on Washington Ave., at Eleventh Ave. This 3.8-acre park has 1,650 feet of scenic frontage on the Thunder Bay River. Picnic tables, an area for rest, fishing access and off-street parking are available. This park is also a gathering place for wildfowl.

**Type:** Neighborhood Park

**Service Area:** City of Alpena

**Barrier Free Accessibility = 4.** This facility is barrier-free.







**TABLE 3: DNR RECREATION GRANT INVENTORY**

YEAR	GRANT #	PARK NAME	ITEMS	STATUS	Grant Amount
1977	26-00985	Mich-e-ke-wis Park	7,000 ft <sup>2</sup> Park Shelter	Closed	\$116,500
1978	26-01060Y	McRae park	Little league field, paved parking, restroom and concession building, landscaping	Closed	\$32,000
1978	26-00842	Riverfront Park	Acquire 2.28 acres of land for public outdoor recreation.	Closed	\$37,288
1982	TF596	Wildlife Sanctuary	Acquire 17-acre island on the Thunder Bay River within the 500 acre Wildlife Sanctuary.	Closed	\$237,500
1983	26-01265	Starlite Beach	Develop entrance area, roadside park, entrance road and paved parking lot, bicycle/pedestrian trail, picnic area, landscaping.	Closed	\$65,000
1984	TF768	Thunder Bay River mouth	Acquire 6.5 acres at the mouth of the Thunder Bay river and Lake Huron. Staging area for underwater park.	Withdrawn	\$720,000
1985	26-01379	North Riverfront Park	Boat launch with paved parking and landscaping	Closed	\$84,000
1987	TF87-016	Small Boat Harbor	Construct new floating dock main pier with 12 finger piers.	Closed	\$80,000
1989	BF89-642	Bay View Park	New parking area, concrete picnic tables, park id and directional signs, concrete sidewalks/bike path, trees, lawn area in front of Bandshell to provide slope.	Closed	\$75,000
1992	TF92-299	Thunder Bay River	Develop hard surface nature trails and pathways, boardwalks, docks, bridge, landscaping and picnic tables.	Closed	\$195,000
1995	TF95-180	River Plan – Phase 2	Pathway system along south side of river, improvements to Island Park and adjoining roadside park.	Closed	\$279,800



**TABLE 3: DNR RECREATION GRANT INVENTORY (Continued)**

YEAR	GRANT #	PARK NAME	ITEMS	STATUS	Grant Amount
1999	TF99-353	Harbor Breakwall Walkway Extension	Develop 700 linear foot extension of walkway atop the harbor break wall, including railing, pedestrian lighting, fishing platform, and benches.	Closed	\$155,685
2000	TF00-275	Harbor Breakwall Walkway Extension	650 linear foot extension of concrete walkway atop the harbor break wall to its terminus, including railing, pedestrian lighting, fishing platform, and benches.	Closed	\$153,481
2005	TF05-014	North Riverfront Park Heritage Improvements	Walkways, parking, pavilions, lighting, irrigation, and site amenities.	Closed	\$214,500
2007	TF07-023	Starlite Beach Promenade Facilities Project	Picnic pavilion, restroom/storage/ concession building, walkway, utilities, landscaping, & site amenities at Starlite Beach on Thunder Bay	Closed	\$443,300
2013	TF13-022	NEST Alpena Regional Trailhead	Develop year-round trailhead along North Eastern State Trail. Restroom/ storage building, pavilion, paved parking lot, snowmobile parking, access paths, drinking fountain, landscaping, all necessary site amenities, security lighting & camera.	Closed	\$245,000
2016	TF16-0174	Starlite Beach Splash Pad and Beach Improvements	Develop a new splash park, access pathways, sun shelters with picnic tables, shoreline sitting wall, landscaping, and a beach ramp to allow persons with mobility issues to access the beach and shoreline. The splash park consists of a number of water features designed for visitors from toddlers to adults.	Closed	\$430,000
<b>Post-Completion Self Certification Reports contained in Appendix B</b>					

## *Other Public Recreational Properties*

### *Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve*

In October 2000, the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve was designated as the nation's first freshwater sanctuary. The 4,300-square mile sanctuary and underwater preserve is located in Thunder Bay off the coast of Alpena, Alcona and Presque Isle Counties. Its boundaries extend from the north Presque Isle county line to south Alcona County line and from the shoreline to the international boundary. Not only is the Sanctuary/Preserve the first freshwater sanctuary, but it is also the first sanctuary to focus solely on a large collection of underwater cultural resources and the first sanctuary to be located entirely within state waters.

The focus of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve is on understanding the region's "maritime cultural landscape." While the shipwrecks of the Thunder Bay region are the most obvious underwater cultural resource, the sanctuary puts the shipwrecks in the larger context of the region's lighthouses, lifesaving stations, shipwreck salvage operations, and maritime economic activities.

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve encourages and promotes recreational activities that include:

- Diving: charter, recreational and commercial
- Fishing: charter, recreational, and commercial
- Boating: recreational and commercial
- Research
- Education

The NOAA protects and manages sanctuaries through the National Marine and Sanctuary System (NMSS). Because the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary and Preserve is entirely within Michigan waters, a Joint Management Committee was established with NOAA and the State participating as equal partners. The involvement of communities and the development of a stewardship ethic in the community is vitally important to the protection of sanctuary resources. To help facilitate community stewardship, a Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) is established which is supported by NMSS. The 15-member council consists of local members from the community representing a variety of disciplines, interests and political subdivisions. Members are appointed by the director of NMSS and mutually agreed upon by NOAA and the State of Michigan. The primary duties of the SAC are to provide recommendations to NOAA and the State of Michigan concerning sanctuary development and to advise the Sanctuary/Preserve manager about management issues. Sanctuary/Preserve activities will focus on resource protection, education, and research. Priority activities include placing mooring buoys at identified shipwrecks, initiating an inventory and documentation of shipwrecks, and developing a maritime heritage education program.

The Thunder Bay Sanctuary/Preserve Maritime Heritage Center has been developed in a refurbished building within the old Fletcher Paper Mill property along the Thunder Bay River. The museum, education and research center generate considerable activity and has become a focal point in the City of Alpena.

### Thunder Bay Island

Thunder Bay Island sits 4 miles offshore from North Point in Alpena County at the northern edge of Thunder Bay. The Island is the outermost island in a group of islands connected to the north point of Thunder Bay by a shallow bank of numerous rocks, most of which are submerged. This 215-acre Island is composed of limestone bedrock and is covered with large boulders and gravel. A thin layer of soil supports a wide variety of plants and the absence of deer allows vegetation to grow without being browsed. The island is an important nesting site for a variety of bird species. Free from major carnivores, except the raccoon, large colonies of ring-billed gulls, common terns, herring gulls and caspian terns can be found raising their young on the island. Federal land use regulations apply to the island and wildlife and wildlife habitats are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Island has been part of the Michigan Islands National Wildlife Refuge since 1965.

One of the oldest light stations on Lake Huron is located on Thunder Bay Island. The light tower was first constructed in 1832 and was built to warn mariners of the dangerous reefs extending from the island. The lighthouse was built on the SE tip of the island with a tower of stucco covered brick, and a spiral staircase. In 1857 it was raised 10 feet and a fog signal added. The light keepers' quarters are attached. From 1832 to 1939 the Station was run by the U. S. Lighthouse Service, thereafter the U. S. Coast Guard manned it until it was automated in 1983. The lighthouse and accompanying buildings have long been abandoned and signs of deterioration are showing. The facility is currently undergoing restoration by the Thunder Bay Island Lighthouse Preservation Society.

Squatters were attracted to the federally-owned island and by 1845; a large fishing community thrived there. One hundred and sixty people lived on the island with thirty-one fishing boats harvesting twelve thousand barrels of fish each year. Faced with government action to remove them from the island, the trespassers picked up their belongings and relocated to nearby Sugar Island, where they stayed for years. Currently the Island is owned by the U.S. Coast Guard and is leased to the Thunder Bay Island Preservation Society. Access to the island is limited to the U S Coast Guard, U S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and members of the Thunder Bay Island Preservation Society. At the present time, the most immediate concern for the Island is the rehabilitation of the lighthouse. Repairs are needed to keep the structure sound and restoration would be needed prior to public viewing. Alpena Township is working to acquire the property around the lighthouse and foghorn house to facilitate the restoration of structures.

### Multipurpose Rail-Trails

Rail-Trail Corridors provide the foundation of a non-motorized dedicated trail system in the region. The North Eastern State Trail (NEST) and Alpena to Hillman Trail are part of a larger network of regional trails that cover over 280 miles throughout Northern Michigan. These trails connect multiple communities, parks, public forests, private forests and water features.

The NEST was completed in 2011. Users can walk, bicycle, horseback ride or snowmobile 71 miles from Alpena to Cheboygan. The trail runs from Woodward Avenue in the City of Alpena to the Lincoln Street in City of Cheboygan where it merges with the North Central State Trail which runs south 45 miles to Gaylord or northwest 16 miles to Mackinaw City. The NEST has a 10' wide packed crushed limestone surface with two-foot shoulders, new safety signs, access control features and mile marker posts. The trail use, determined by the DNR, is for all non-motorized users year-round and snowmobiles from December 1 through March 31. This project was collaboration between two state departments, local governments and a non-profit organization. The Top of Michigan Trails Council (TOMTC) led the effort to help assemble a 3.1 million dollar funding package which included gaining 5% of the project costs from local governments,

individuals and organizations. The Michigan Department of Transportation completed the engineering and project oversight while the Michigan Department of Natural Resources oversaw the project implementation and will continue to manage and maintain the facility. The trail now creates a link across northeast Michigan on the former Detroit to Mackinaw Railroad connecting Alpena, Posen, Hawks, Millersburg, Onaway, Aloha and Cheboygan.

The Alpena to Hillman Trail (also known as the Paxon Spur) is an abandoned rail grade that is 22.3 miles long connecting the City of Alpena to the Village of Hillman. The trail is primarily used by snowmobiles in the winter, although all non-motorized users may use the trail. The surface is dirt, cinder and ballast, and not currently ADA accessible. There are gates on the trail, and they are closed and locked during the summer months. The trails are still opened for non-motorized use, but the user must enter around the gates. There is a private elk farm right along the trail where users can view the elk.

- Improvements and surfacing of the Alpena to Hillman Rail-Trail to allow for expanded year-round non-motorized transportation. This would mirror the North Eastern State Trail, which still supports snowmobile usage during months with adequate snow cover.
- Add amenities and access points along the NEST.
- Improve the surface and accessibility for the Alpena to Hillman Trail.
- Add amenities, trailhead and access points along the Alpena to Hillman Trail.

### Natural Features

Alpena County is blessed with an abundance and variety of natural resources. There are 67 lakes, ponds and rivers covering over 13,000 acres in Alpena County and the County has over 50 miles of Lake Huron shoreline. Forested lands cover almost 60 percent of the county of which over 85 percent is owned privately. The geology and karst features found in Alpena County is unique to northeast Michigan and the County is home to a large number of sinkholes and sinkhole lakes.

While there is a relatively large amount of sensitive and unique natural features in the County, it is recognized that protection and conservation is needed to ensure these natural resources are protected and preserved for future generations. Alpena County supports public and private efforts to preserve and protect unique and sensitive natural resources through the use of smart growth design, conservation easements and procurement. Acquisition of properties to improve public access onto Misery Bay will expand recreational opportunities and complement the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve.

### MidMichigan Medical Center-Alpena Grounds

The MidMichigan Medical Center Grounds are located at 1501 W. Chisholm Street directly adjacent to the hospital parking area. This 2.3-acre site is mostly open grassy area and includes 625 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage. A portion of the Bi-Path is also located along this section of the river.

### Alpena City Housing Commission

The Alpena City Housing Commission has two neighborhood parks under its jurisdiction.

**The Kurrasch Park** is a 1.48-acre neighborhood park located on Fourth Ave. Only partially developed, the park has limited playground equipment and an open field area. The housing

commission office building is situated on the property and has a community room that is suitable for many indoor recreational activities.

**The Eleventh Avenue Park** has a playground utilized by area children.

### *Alpena County Recreational Facilities:*

**Alpena County Fairgrounds** are located on Eleventh Avenue between Charlotte Street and Tawas Street. Situated on 33 acres, this property includes 2,700 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage. Water and sewer services are provided by the City of Alpena. Livestock barns are available for annual fair events. Campground facilities include 69 licensed campsites, with electricity, picnic tables, and a sanitary dump station. A children's playground is equipped with one slide, two swing sets, one merry-go-round, climbing bars, one rocking horse, one bench, one picnic table, and a sand box area. A four foot high chain link fence with a gate encloses the entire playground and protects the children from the River. Maintained by the Alpena Optimist Club, this activity area is available to all children for recreational purposes. Restrooms and showers are available for use by campers and those attending events. An indoor shelter and a storage building for boats and motor homes are also located at this site. Other recreation facilities include a grandstand which seats approximately 5,000 spectators, portable bleachers used to increase seating capacity for major events, an arena and barn for horse riding events, a racetrack, a green park for picnics, two horseshoe courts, a fishing area, and two boat launches. The grandstand area is available year-round for events.

**Alpena Plaza Pool** is located at Alpena High School, 3303 South Third Avenue. The pool building measures 130 feet x 110 feet. The pool can accommodate six lanes, 25 yards long, for swim competition. This pool is located in a centrally accessible area and is the only municipal indoor swimming pool in the County. In addition to being used by high school students and the public, it is a major source of school training and team competition. Senior citizens and area youth also use the pool for family-oriented activities. The pool can be rented for birthday parties. A full-time director schedules and/or supervises the following pool activities some of which include: Red Cross swimming and lifesaving training sessions; Infant/Toddler water adjustment classes; Senior citizen physical therapy programs; and family swimming programs. Specific targeted programming include: Senior Fitness, Splash Aerobics, Aqua Chi, Water Walking/Running, Rehabilitation and Social Swimming, Lap and Exercise Swimming, Open Swims, Learn to Swim Instruction, Aerobic Sculpt, Robotic Competition (underwater ROV), Boot Camp and Poolates.

**Tennis Courts** are located on the grounds of Alpena High School next to the pool building. These four courts are used by students and the public for casual recreation and organized team competition. Recent updates include resurfacing and spectator seating installed.

**Long Lake Park/Campground** is located ten miles north of Alpena, one-half mile off U.S. 23. Situated on the east side of Long Lake, this county park occupies 68 acres. A total of 105 campsites are adjacent to the 5,652 acres of water that make up Long Lake. Water and electricity are available at 80 of these sites with the other 25 sites considered primitive. Park facilities include restrooms/showers, dumping station, concession stand, concrete boat ramp, three docks nature trails, two pavilions (with electricity), picnic tables, two playgrounds, two swimming beaches, and outdoor trailer storage. Long Lake Park is open May 15 to October 15. Camping is permitted after October 1<sup>st</sup> until November 1<sup>st</sup> on a daily rate schedule. A park caretaker is on-site.

**Sunken Lake Park/Campground** is located on Fletcher Park Road at the Presque Isle County line. Adjacent to Sunken Lake's 50 acres of water, this 160-acre county park offers camping, fishing, boating, swimming, and a children's playground. A day use area has picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, and a pavilion. A covered footbridge provides access to an island with nature trails. The camping area offers 60 trailer campsites with water and electricity available. All campsites have picnic tables. There are two bathrooms with showers, a dumping station, a boat ramp and dock, a fish cleaning station, a concession stand, and playground equipment. A park caretaker is on-site.

**Beaver Lake Park/Campground** is located 1.2 miles west of M-65 on Beaver Lake Park Road. This county park is situated on 8.19 acres adjacent to Beaver Lake. With a dam to control lake levels, this natural lake covers 665 acres and offers area residents many water-related recreational opportunities. Swimming, boating, and fishing for pike, bass, and pan fish are popular summertime activities. A pavilion, children's playground, and a fenced-in spring separate the boat launch and camping area from the day use area. The day use area provides an open space with picnic tables, swings, and a swimming beach. Overnight camping is available, and a park caretaker is on-site.

**Manning Hill Park** is located in Lachine on M-32 near the junction of M-65. Situated on one of the highest points in Alpena County, this two-acre site offers a scenic area with a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside. The historic lookout tower has been removed and an easily accessible observation deck was constructed on the former tower pad. A pavilion, three picnic tables, and two grills provide area residents and visitors with summer recreational opportunities. Sledding is a popular winter activity at this park.

**Northern Lights Arena** is a twin-sheet ice facility adjacent to the APlex. It has two NHL regulation-size ice surfaces and is home to the Alpena High School Wildcats, Alpena Hockey Association, Alpena Speed Skating Club, Alpena General Men's Hockey League, Alpena Men's Senior Hockey League, Carhardt Senior Hockey League, Alpena Figure Skating Club, Alpena Thunder Bay Wrecks, and NLA R/C Vehicle Club. The arena has seating for 900, has two concession stands, a pro shop, an indoor walking/jogging track, exercise/fitness rooms and common areas in the lobby. The 85' x 200' ice rink is large enough to host American Speed Skating Union sanctioned events and will have enough space for figure skaters to practice and perform in front of an audience. The Thunder Bay Soccer Association soccer fields are located north of the Arena.

### *School Properties*

**Alpena Senior High School** located at 3303 S. Third Ave. This 50-acre site, owned by the Alpena School District, has an auditorium with a stage, a dance studio, a wrestling and weight room, gymnasium, a football stadium, men's hardball fields, two multipurpose fields, an outdoor track, and off-street parking. A natatorium and five tennis courts are also located there, both of which are owned by the County.

**Besser Elementary School** located at 375 Wilson Street. The four-acre property, owned by the Alpena School District, has a gymnasium, two youth/women's ball fields, a multi-purpose ball field, a playground and off-street parking.

**Ella White Elementary School** located at 201 N. Ripley. This two and one-half acre site, owned by the Alpena School District, has a gym, one ball field for unorganized play, a basketball court, a playground, off-street parking, and a nature study area.

**Lincoln Elementary School** located at 309 W. Lake Street. This two-acre site, owned by the Alpena School District, has a gym, a basketball court, a playground, and off-street parking.

**Sunset Elementary School** located at 1421 Hobbs Drive. The Alpena School District owns this 40-acre site. It has a gym, an area available for nature study, hiking and biking, a youth/women's ball field, a playground and off-street parking. This school is currently closed.

**Hinks Elementary School** is situated on 39 acres on U.S. 23 North at the south end of Long Lake, is owned by the Alpena Public School District. Recreational facilities on the site include a gymnasium, nature trails, baseball diamond, basketball hoops soccer field, and a playground. Although these recreational facilities are principally intended for school use, they are open for public use after school hours.

**Wilson School** is located at 4999 Herron Road. Owned by the Alpena Public School System, the property has a school gymnasium, playground and athletic fields. These recreational facilities are primarily intended for school use, but are available for public use after school hours. Many of the playground structures have been upgraded and safety bark has been installed. Playground structures include: three sets of swings, two wooden climbing structures, two metal climbing structures, several slides, a large play structure, tires, a seating area, hanging loops, a funnel ball game, a four-person teeter-totter, learning stations, and a basketball court.

**Sanborn Elementary School Pukwegee Little League Baseball Diamond/School** is located at the intersection of U.S. 23 and Nicholson Hill Road. The ball field is fenced and includes a backstop, dugouts, one set of bleachers, two restrooms, a concession stand and a storage building. Playground equipment includes a jungle gym, a slide, a teeter-totter, two basketball hoops, two swing sets and a merry-go-round. Double tennis courts with nets and backstops are also provided. Convenient off road parking invites heavy daytime use during the peak summer season and moderate use, mostly by families and community groups during the off-season.

**Thunder Bay Jr. High School** located at 3500 S. Third Ave. The junior high school has a gym, track, tennis courts, ball fields and a football field for school use.

**Aces Academy** is located at 700 Pinecrest and owned by the Alpena School district. Previously used as an elementary school building, this two-acre site has one ball field for unorganized play.

**Alpena Community College, Main Campus** located on Johnson Street, contains 704 acres of property belonging to Alpena Community College. Presently, the central campus buildings are located on this property as well as a 400-acre section devoted to field resource study. Granum Theater is located on campus for performing arts and other events. An athletic campus features softball fields and some nature trails. The property includes 1,600 feet of Thunder Bay frontage and encompasses a portion of the present Bi-Path system. Between Long Lake Avenue and Woodward exists a large area of property, part of that is woodland; the rest is open meadow. There is also a Wellness Center that is open to the public and contains various exercise machines and programs.

Alpena Community College extends its philosophy of shared partnership with the community to its land uses and the functions such land should carry out. The potential uses of these lands present the opportunity for joint planning with other community partners who share ACC's vision of what is most needed and what can best utilize the recreational resources of this property.

The City Bi-Path follows the 1,600 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage along Johnson Street and adjoins the college's main campus. The possibility for other developments utilizing this river frontage is great. Among other options are canoeing, dockage, and other river recreation. The athletic campus contains two



men's softball fields, a skeet range, and some nature trails. Expansion of this area offers many possibilities, as does the 400-acre field resource study area.

**Alpena Community College, East Campus** (Currently Closed) located at the intersection of Ninth Avenue and Walnut Street. This four-acre site contains a gym and five soccer fields, as well as off-street parking. Alpena Community College moved all of its programs to the main campus. The Alpena Youth Soccer still utilize the soccer fields and a Baptist Church utilizes a portion of the space. Planning and fundraising is underway for this site to be renovated and become the Boys and Girls Club of Alpena.

**Pied Piper Opportunity Center** located at 444 Wilson. This two-acre site, owned by the Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District, offers a playground and off-street parking.

**All Saints School** located on N 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. A fully equipped, fenced children's playground, a basketball court, and off-street parking is available.

**Immanuel Lutheran School** located at 355 Wilson. The property includes a children's playground, a volleyball court, a youth/women's ball field, a soccer field, and off-street parking.

### *Alpena Township*

Alpena Township is the largest geographical subdivision in Alpena County. It is comprised of 112.6 square miles of 72,033.0 acres that surround the City of Alpena. Located in the northeast section of the county, it is bordered by Presque Isle County to the north and Lake Huron to the east.

**Alpena Huron Shores Babe Ruth League Fields** is located behind the township municipal building at 4385 U.S. 23 North. The Alpena Huron Shores Babe Ruth League Fields are located behind the municipal building. The site is classified as a sports complex. Current facilities consist of four regulation Babe Ruth League ball diamonds, bleachers, dugouts, scoreboards, restroom/concession building, picnic tables, storage building, well house, two automatic sprinkling systems to maintain the fields, and an enlarged parking area with handicap accessibility. Alpena Huron Shores Babe Ruth League maintains the ball fields, and the Township pays the utilities. The facility is not only used for local Babe Ruth League activities, but is a site for regional tournament games.

**A forty-acre plot** of public land is located on West Long Lake Road in Section 8 of T32N, R8E. This property was formerly used as the Township landfill and is now undeveloped.

**A public access site** is located on .8 acre of land at the Weiss Road bridge in Section 23 of T32N, R8E. The Narrows of Long Lake Creek flow beneath this bridge and the Township Fire Department uses this site to fill water tanks on the fire trucks. An informal boat launch is formed by a graveled slope to the water.

**Alpena Township Office Building** is located at 4385 U.S. 23 North. It contains offices of the Township Building Inspector, Assessor, Clerk, Treasurer and Supervisor. The Township Water Department and Northside Station of the Township Fire Department are also located at this facility. A barrier-free ramp makes entrance to the building readily accessible. Restrooms are also accessible.

**Alpena Township Nature Preserve** is located in Section 15 of T31N-R9E and consists of approximately 140 acres with 10,000 feet of Lake Huron Shoreline. The Nature Conservancy partnered with Alpena Township in acquiring this property to preserve it from extensive lakeshore development and to provide public access to unique natural resources. Alpena Township acquired the property with grant support from The

Nature Conservancy, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and Michigan Coastal Management Program. The property is used for low impact outdoor recreation and enjoyment of the rich coastal resources. Alpena Township received funding to develop a park management plan from the Michigan Coastal Management Program and completed the plan in the fall of 2008. Important natural resources on the property include karst geologic features in and around El Cajon Bay, coastal fens, coastal marshes, dwarf lake iris, shore birds and migratory birds. The Michigan Natural Features Inventory has identified a number of threatened and endangered plants and animals on the property. Future uses for the property include nature and interpretive trails, water access for canoes or kayaks. In addition, the waters off this property are important for diving and are part of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve. The Township is planning to acquire small parcels to provide parking facilities and more direct access to Misery Bay for launching kayaks and canoes.

**VanWormer Field** is located on the corner of Bloom Road and Long Lake Road in Section 27 of T32N-R8E, this 5.46-acre site was the home to the old township hall. The building was sold and removed, and the ball field remains the only use of the site. Huron Shores Little League uses and maintains the field. There is no water on-site, but port-a-potties are provided during the season.

**Rockport Picnic Area** provides gravel parking for use of picnic tables and grills, an access gate, observation benches, signage, and landscaping. This two-acre site was recently developed in partnership with DNR and is adjacent to the Rockport boat launch site in Section 6 of T32N-R9E. Alpena Township has a long-term lease from the DNR for this picnic site.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property within Alpena Township:

**Mackinaw State Forest** covers 8,500 acres in several areas of Alpena Township. The largest acreage is in the southern section of the township. This State-owned land is used for forestry and is designated for multipurpose recreational use. Hunting is the primary recreational use with hiking and nature observation opportunities also available.

**Norway Ridge Pathway** is located 3.5 miles southwest of the City of Alpena on Werth Road. As part of the Mackinaw State Forest, the pathway is maintained by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It has 4.5 miles of groomed trails in section 6 of T30N, R8E. Recreation opportunities include cross-country skiing during the winter months and mountain biking/hiking during the spring, summer and fall.

**Devil's Lake Snowmobile and ORV Trails/Devils Swamp Snowmobile Trail** are located off Werth Road. The trail circles the length of Devil's Lake and includes 26 miles of the Mackinaw State Forest. MDNR owns this land and has developed it for recreational use. The snowmobile trails are maintained by the Alpena Snowmobile Association.

**Devil's Lake Wildlife Flooding Area** is located around Devil's Lake. This site is owned by the MDNR and although it remains undeveloped, it is of interest to those who enjoy nature and wildlife observation in a quite setting.

**A Public Access Site** is located at Partridge Point in Sections 10 and 11 of T30N, R8E. Owned by the MDNR, this site provides access to the waters of Thunder Bay in Lake Huron.

**Thunder Bay Island and Lighthouse** is located in sections 33 and 34 of T31N, R10E and section 3 of T30N, R10E of Alpena Township. Owned by the U.S. Government, this island is situated in Lake Huron's Thunder

Bay and is used as a wildlife refuge. The Thunder Bay Island Lighthouse is being restored by the Thunder Bay Island Lighthouse Preservation Society. Alpena Township is working to acquire the land around the lighthouse to enable the community to pursue grants for restoration and management.

**Middle Island Lighthouse** is located on Middle Island in Lake Huron, approximately 1.5 miles east of Rockport and is operated by the Coast Guard. The rest of the island, the lighthouse keeper's quarters, two privies, and a tool shed are privately owned and are currently being restored.

**Bike Paths:** 1.4-mile paved pathway runs along the east side of U.S. 23 South from the Michigan Department of Transportation to Mich-e-ke-wis Park. Another pathway is located on the north and south side of M-32 from Bagley Street, west one mile to Walter Road. The trail also extends into the City of Alpena with recreational opportunities for bicycling, walking and jogging. The bike paths are owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation and Alpena Township is responsible for the maintenance.

**Gordon School Building** is located south of the City on Gordon Road. Owned by Alpena Public School District, this site has one baseball diamond. A portion of the building serves as administrative offices for the school system and the remaining part of the facility is leased to the Northeast Michigan Community Services Agency.

**Rockport Property** is located about ten miles north of the City of Alpena on Lake Huron. Situated on the Alpena/Presque Isle County line, east of U.S. 23, the property covers nearly six square miles. The DNR maintains a public access/boat launch facility. The Township of Alpena has a lease agreement with the Michigan DNR for 2 acres to provide a picnic site. Site features include an inactive limestone quarry, a deep-water harbor with boat launch, trails, parking and picnic areas, eight large and several small sinkholes, several square miles of forested land and historic sites.

**North Eastern State Trail (N.E.S.T)** is located throughout the Township and offers year-round recreation opportunities such as snowmobiling, skiing, hiking and horseback riding.

### *Green Township*

Green Township is located in the west central portion of Alpena County. Bordered to the west by Montmorency County, Green Township consists of 51,316 acres or 80.2 square miles.

**Green Township Ball Park** is located at the junction of M-32 and M-65 and adjoins the Township Hall. The ball field is fenced and has backstops and two dugouts. It is regularly used for T-Ball, Little League and softball.

**Green Township Fire Hall** is situated on 10 acres at the intersection of M-65 and Moore's Landing Road. A small meeting room is available at this site.

**Green Township Hall** is located on 5 acres at the junction of M-32 and M-65 adjacent to the ball field. The hall has cooking facilities, restrooms and a meeting room. The Hall has the capacity to accommodate 100-150 people and is available for rent year-round. A small outdoor recreational area is located outside the Hall.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property within Green Township

**Manning Hill Park** is located on M-32 near the M-65 junction. This 2-acre site is owned by Alpena County and offers an outlook on one of the highest points in the county. Picnic table, grills, and a pavilion are available for year-round use.

**DNR Public Access** to Fletcher Pond is located off Jack's Landing Road on Fishing Site Road. This site consists of approximately 10 acres and is owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. It has a boat launching ramp, a fishing site, a comfort station and a parking area.

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in several areas of the township. Approximately 1,377 acres of State Forest are in Green Township. These State Forest lands are designated for multipurpose recreational use as well as forestry. Although hunting is the primary recreational use, hiking and nature observation opportunities are also available.

### *Long Rapids Township*

Long Rapids Township is located in the north central portion of Alpena County. Bordered on the north by Presque Isle County, the township is comprised of 35,129 acres or 54.9 square miles.

**Gleason Ball Field** is located three miles north of M-32 on M-65. Situated on the Township Hall property, the field has bleachers, a backstop and limited fencing.

**Long Rapids Park** is located on the Thunder Bay River just south of Long Rapids Road off M-65. The 10-acre natural area is primarily used as a canoe launch. It also serves as a scenic roadside park with a picnic site and outdoor toilet facilities.

**Long Rapids Township Hall** is located on M-65 in Long Rapids approximately 3 miles north of M-32. This building has a capacity of 400-500 people with meeting rooms, cooking facilities and a gymnasium with a basketball court. In the winter months an area outside the building is flooded for use as an ice rink. For more convenient use of the facility, an elevator is being considered to allow easier handicapped access. The hall is available for rent by community residents for social and recreational activities.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property within Long Rapids Township

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the eastern and southeastern parts of Long Rapids Township. Approximately 5,731 acres of this forest are located in the township. Classified as forestland, it is also designated as a multipurpose recreational area. Although the primary recreational use is hunting, opportunities for hiking and nature observation are also available.

**Sunken Lake Campground** is located on Fletcher Park Road at the Presque Isle County line. Adjacent to Sunken Lake's 50 acres of water, this 160-acre county park offers camping, fishing, boating, swimming, and a children's playground. A day use area has picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, a pavilion, and a ball diamond. A covered footbridge provides access to an island with nature trails. The camping area offers 60 trailer campsites with water and electricity available. All campsites have picnic tables. There are two bathrooms with showers, a dumping station, a boat ramp and dock, a fish cleaning station, a concession stand, and playground equipment. A park caretaker is on-site.

## *Maple Ridge Township*

Maple Ridge Township is located in the north central section of Alpena County and is bordered on the north by Presque Isle County. The township consists of 34,519 acres or 53.9 square miles.

**Maple Ridge Township Park** is located on the west end of LaComb Road on the North Branch of the Thunder Bay River. It is comprised of 45 rustic acres with picnic grounds, hiking trails, and a canoe launch. A popular attraction is the picturesque wooden bridge that leads to an island area. Recent improvements to the park include a newly constructed pavilion and additional playground equipment. Other playground equipment includes a teeter-totter and a large sanded area. A storage building is located on site and outdoor toilet facilities are available. Although there is no electricity at the park, improvement plans include the addition of power lines.

**Maple Ridge Ball Park** is located on Cathro Road in Cathro. This township ballpark is used by residents and ball clubs. The facility includes a dugout, backstop, bleachers and fencing.

**A River Access** site is located in section 12 T31N, R7E of the township in lot 5 of the Thunder Bay Village East Shore Subdivision. This property was purchased from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and includes approximately 50 feet of frontage on the Thunder Bay River. Although it is undeveloped, Township plans have targeted it for improvement.

**A River Access** is located at the end of Mabel Avenue in section 15 T32N, R7E provides access to the South Branch of the Thunder Bay River. The access is basically unimproved but small boats or canoes can be launched from this location.

**Maple Ridge Township Hall** is located at 6010 LaComb Road at the intersection of Dietz Road. Facilities include a meeting room, restrooms and a basement kitchen/eating area. A bar area and separate dance floor are located on the ground floor. The hall is available for rent and can accommodate 150-200 people. Maple Ridge Township offices are located at 6000 LaComb Road. The office is attached to the Township Hall and provides office space for Township officials.

### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property within Maple Ridge Township

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the southwest part of the township. With approximately 4,500 acres of land, the State forest is described as forestland with multipurpose recreational use. The land is used primarily for hunting with opportunities for hiking and nature observation also available.

**Norway Point (Seven Mile Dam)** is located in section 12, T31N, R7E in the township. Although the property is owned by Thunder Bay Power Company, there are three sites available for use by the public.

**Site 1** is a one-acre site located upstream from the Dam and offers access to the impoundment. This area is accessible off Long Rapids Road to the west of the Dam on the north side of the Thunder Bay River. This site includes a boat ramp, a restroom, and an area for parking. Thunder Bay Power plans to improve the restroom facilities and the parking area. In addition, a shoreline fishing area is being considered as an addition to the existing boat launch. In 2003 a boat launch and small parking area will be developed on the south side of the impoundment.

**Site 2** is a one-acre site on the north side of the Thunder Bay River at the Dam and offers public access and canoe portage

**Site 3** is a two-acre site on the south side of the Thunder Bay River at the Dam and offers tail water access and a parking area. In 2005 Thunder Bay Power Company plans to enlarge the parking area, provide handicapped accessible restroom and fishing area and improve canoe portage to include car top launch.

### *Ossineke Township*

Ossineke Township is located in the lower western and central sections of Alpena County. It is bordered to the west by Montmorency County and to the south by Alcona County. Ossineke Township is the second largest township in Alpena County with 68,938 acres or 107.7 square miles.

**Ossineke Township Hall** is located on 1.86 acres at the intersection of Wolf Creek Road and Nicholson Hill Road. Although it is used for public meetings and other community functions, the Hall is also available for private rental. Complete kitchen facilities are available for banquets and social activities. Folding tables and chairs are included in the rental charges.

**Hubbard Lake Lion's Park** is located .3 miles north of Hubert Road on Hubbard Lake Road. The 8.1-acre park has ball fields, a horseshoe pit, playground, basketball courts, tennis courts, picnic tables, restrooms, walk-in cooler, water well, concession stand, and pavilion.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property in Ossineke Township

**Beaver Lake Campground/Park** is located 1.2 miles west of M-65 on Beaver Lake Park Road. This county park is situated on 8.19 acres adjacent to Beaver Lake. With a dam to control lake levels, this natural lake covers 665 acres and offers area residents many water-related recreational opportunities. Swimming, boating, and fishing for pike, bass, and pan fish are popular summertime activities. A pavilion, children's playground, and a fenced-in spring separate the boat launch and camping area from the day use area. The day use area provides an open space with picnic tables, swings, and a swimming beach. Overnight camping is available and a park caretaker is on-site.

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the central section of the township at the intersection of Widner Creek and Wolf Creek. This State forest covers approximately 5,000 acres and includes lands formerly designated as the Wolf Creek Public Hunting Grounds. Chippewa Hills Pathway occupies most of the upland parcels within this State forestland. The remaining land includes forested wetlands that are primarily cedar swamps. These lands are managed for wildlife fiber, not commercial timber production. Although deer hunting is the primary use, these State lands are also open for other recreational uses. Fishing, hiking, and wildlife observation opportunities area limited due to the dense growth, wet terrain and a lack of access roads.

**Chippewa Hills Pathway** is located southwest of Ossineke on Kissau Road. With three groomed trails, it is one of Alpena County's major hiking and cross-county ski areas. Trail #1 is 1.3 miles, trail #2 is 2.5 miles and trail #3 is 4.5 miles. These trails have four loops with rolling to hilly terrain and are designated novice to expert. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has proposed improvements at the site, including a track for skate-skiers.

## *Sanborn Township*

Sanborn Township is located in the southeast corner of Alpena County. Consisting of 28,267 acres, the township covers 44.2 square miles of land. It is bordered to the south by Alcona County and the east by Lake Huron. The large Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox are two recognizable US-23 roadside features in the Township.

**Ossineke Park** is located east of U.S.23 South on the Lake Huron shore. Also known as Sanborn Park, it has a day use area with picnic tables, grills and pavilion, playground equipment, changing rooms, restrooms and newly paved parking lot that meets ADA accessibility standards. The park has a sandy beach for swimming, but there is no boat launch.

**Sanborn Township Launching Site** is located off Washington Avenue near the mouth of the Devil's River. The site has a parking area, pit toilets and a paved boat launch. It is a cooperative effort between the Township and the DNR.

**Babe Ruth Ball Field and Ossineke Ball Field** are located at the intersection of U.S. 23 and Ossineke Road. Maintained by Huron Shores Little League and Ossineke Baseball Association, they are used by the Alpena County Baseball leagues and casual baseball teams. The Babe Ruth field is fenced, while temporary fencing is used for the Ossineke Ball Field. Both fields include a backstop, dugouts and bleachers. Other site amenities include a storage building, batting cage, a concession stand and a broadcast booth. Off road parking and two restrooms are provided. This area receives heavy use by the baseball leagues and also by family/friends groups during the summer season.

**Shin-ga-ba Shores Playground** is located on Ossineke Road off of U.S. 23 South and adjacent to the Baseball Fields. The playground was constructed in 1998 by community support and donations. The playground consists of 8,500 square feet of playground equipment that was designed by the children and is a real asset to the Ossineke area. A 26-foot totem pole was added along with picnic tables and a brick walkway with names was installed in 2002. The community maintains the equipment on a yearly basis to keep it looking new.

**Sanborn Township Hall** is located on .32 acres of land at the corner of Nicholson Hill Road and U.S. 23. It has a barrier free entry, barrier free restrooms, a large meeting room and a modern kitchen. There are also two and one-half fire bays attached to the building.

**Sanborn Annex Building** is located adjacent to the township hall. The combined lot size is 236' x 120' x 217.52' x 247.7'. Adjoining property, lot 22 of Ranger Subdivision, is 60' x 107.5' and is also owned by the township.

### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property in Sanborn Township

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the eastern part of the township. These State forestlands are classified as forestry and used for multipurpose recreational activities. Hunting is the primary recreational use with hiking and nature observation opportunities also available.

**Ossineke State Forest Campground** is located on the shore of Lake Huron. It has 42 campsites, picnic tables, fire pits, water pumps and eight toilets. A small picnic area has four tables, fire pits and grills. The campground also has a non-motorized hiking trail and a sandy beach. There is no boat launch site.



**Negwagon State Park** is located in sections 27, 27, 34 and 35 of T29N, R8E in the township. The park consists of approximately 1,720 acres in Alpena County and an additional 1,265 acres is located in Alcona County. The park is a day-use facility with hiking trails, parking and pit toilets, which are located in Alcona County.

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Boat Launch Site** is located off of East Nicholson Hill Road on the shore of Lake Huron. Owned by the MDNR, this four-acre site has one concrete ramp for shallow draft boats. With a parking area for 30 cars, this site would normally receive medium to heavy use, however, Due to the low water levels, this launch has not been used.

**Ossineke Sports Park** is located adjacent to the Sanborn School ball diamond in the northwest corner of section 23 T29N, R8E. Alpena Public Schools owns the property and it is currently leased to the Ossineke Chamber of Commerce. With a grant from Michigan's Neighborhood Builder's Alliance Program, improvements were made that included a soccer field, fenced ball diamond, dugouts, a broadcast booth and restroom facilities.

**Sanborn Elementary School Pukwegee Little League Baseball Diamond/School** is located at the intersection of U.S. 23 and Nicholson Hill Road. The ball field is fenced and includes a backstop, dugouts, one set of bleachers, two restrooms, a concession stand and a storage building. Playground equipment includes a jungle gym, a slide, a teeter-totter, two basketball hoops, two swing sets and a merry-go-round. Double tennis courts with nets and backstops are also provided. Convenient off road parking invites heavy daytime use during the peak summer season and moderate use, mostly by families and community groups during the off-season.

### *Wellington Township*

Wellington Township is located in the northwest corner of Alpena County. It is bordered to the north by Presque Isle County and to the west by Montmorency County. The township has the smallest population in the county and is 34,210 acres and covers 53.5 square miles of land.

**Wellington Township Hall** is located on .5 acres of land at the intersection of Long Rapids Road and Collins Road. Used for public meeting and social events, the hall is available for rent.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Property in Wellington Township

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the eastern portion of Township. Covering of 6,600 acres of land, this State forest is designated for multipurpose recreational use in addition to forestry use. Hunting is the primary recreation with hiking and nature observation opportunities also available.

### *Wilson Township*

Wilson Township is located in the central portion of Alpena County and covers 80 square miles of land with 1,177 acres.

**Wolf Creek Park:** Located off Wolf Creek Road, the Wolf Creek property was acquired by Wilson Township from the Alpena County Road Commission. The property consists of the old Wolf Creek Road right-of-way which varies in width. There are two areas where the right-of-way widens to 100' X 100' both north and south of Wolf Creek. The property leads to Wolf Creek and a portion of an old bridge which formerly spanned Wolf Creek.

**Wilson Township Fire Hall and Township Offices** are located three miles south of M-32 on King Settlement Road. The Township Hall is open all year for community and social functions; the Hall is available for rent with banquet facilities and a dance floor.

#### Other Publicly Owned Recreation Properties within Wilson Township

**Mackinaw State Forest** is located in the north and mid-sections of the east side of the township. These 7,000 acres of State forest land are designated for multipurpose recreational use as well as forestry. Hunting is the primary recreational use with hiking and nature observation opportunities available as well.

**Devil's Lake Snowmobile Trail** is located in the eastern portion of Wilson Township in the Mackinaw State Forest. The trail is 21 miles long with 11 miles of which are located in the Township. The snowmobile trails are maintained by the Alpena Sno-Drifters.

**Alpena to Hillman Trail** traverses the northern portion of Wilson Township south of M-32 until the trail crosses M-32 immediately east of Emerson Road. The trail head is located just outside the City of Alpena. The Alpena to Hillman Trail follows State land and is managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The trail offers opportunities for snowmobiles, hiking, and mountain biking (some sections impassable for mountain bikers). The trail is groomed in the winter months by the Alpena Sno-Drifters.

**Indian Reserve Devils Lake Parking Lot** provides parking for trail users in the area (snowmobile, hiking, biking, skiing, and horse).

**Norway Ridge Pathway** is located in the eastern portion of Wilson Township and the western portion of Alpena Township. As part of the Mackinaw State Forest, the pathway has 4.5 miles of groomed trails and is owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The Thunder Bay Trails Association assists with trail maintenance and improvement. Recreation opportunities include cross country skiing during the winter months and mountain biking/hiking during the spring, summer and fall. The trailhead for the Norway Ridge Pathway is off Werth Road.

**Thunder Bay River State Forest Campground** is located six miles south of M-32 on Indian Reserve Road. Owned by the State of Michigan, this campground is situated in the Mackinaw State Forest on the Thunder Bay River. It covers 20 acres of land and has 17 rustic campsites, well water, picnic tables, fire rings, toilets and a picnic area. This campground offers opportunities for canoeing, fishing, and wildlife viewing. Also, hiking and mountain biking are available on the 1.5-mile Wah-Wah-Tas-See Pathway.

**Wilson School** is located at 4999 Herron Road. Owned by the Alpena Public School System, the property has a school gymnasium, playground and athletic fields. These recreational facilities are primarily intended for school use, but are available for public use after school hours. Many of the playground structures have been upgraded and safety bark has been installed. Playground structures include: three sets of swings, two wooden climbing structures, two metal climbing structures, several slides, a large play structure, tires, a seating area, hanging loops, a funnel ball game, a four-person teeter-totter, learning stations, and a basketball court.

### *Private Recreational Property*

#### *City of Alpena*

**APlex** is located on Woodward Avenue across the street from Alpena Community College's student housing and the World Center for Concrete Technology. The facility has a gymnasium, four indoor tennis courts, a fitness facility, conference space, aerobic areas, as well as a spa & sauna. Initially owned by Besser Company, APlex was gifted in 2005 to the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan. In 2007, Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan granted the facility to the Park Family Foundation, and the Park Family Foundation remains the owner to this day. APlex is home to the Alpena Tennis Association, and has numerous gym rentals for cheerleading/tumbling, karate, basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball and soccer. APlex hosts numerous events, such as trade shows, as well social occasions. In spring of 2009, construction of 4 outdoor beach volleyball courts was completed to accommodate and enhance the growing league that utilizes courts at Mich-E-ke-wis.

**Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan** is located on Johnson Street adjacent to Alpena Community College and is an intricate part of many of Alpena's cultural/recreational opportunities. The Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan is an educational institution dedicated to providing unique and enriching cultural experiences in art, history and science. The museum's 8-acre campus offers a 42,000 square foot facility, an outdoor area, a short interpretive nature trail, an historic village with five original structures over 100 years old, and the Lafarge Fossil Park where visitors can dig and keep Devonian period fossils. The indoor facility features a large collection of exhibits and artifacts, the 1890's Avenue of Shops, a full dome planetarium and a two-story Foucault pendulum. The Great Lakes Fisheries Heritage Exhibit recently received a retired Department of Natural Resources vessel, the Chinook, to add to their collection. The exhibit with its collection of artifacts tells the story of the Great Lakes commercial and recreational fishing industry and it began, grew and matured along the northeast Michigan shores and waters of Lake Huron. The museum offers many shows, classes and events throughout the year that highlight the unique heritage of northeast Michigan and the Alpena area.

**Alpena Civic Theatre (ACT)** is located at 401 River Street. This community-based group presents live theater for area residents from September through May. Special summertime presentations are designed for audiences with children. Children are included in the cast. The building is owned by the City and leased to ACT.

**Thunder Bay Theatre (TBT)** is located at 400 North Second Avenue. Situated in Alpena's "Old Town" area, this professional theater group presents live productions on a year round basis. As the only resident professional ensemble in northeast Michigan, the TBT Company ranges in size from eight to thirty actors. *The building was recently damaged by a fire that destroyed an adjacent restaurant. Plans for renovating and re-opening are unknown at this early stage.*

**Creative Arts Center** is located in the Thunder Bay Theatre. As a part of Alpena's cultural community, it offers professional instruction in drama, ballet, tap, jazz and piano to area residents.

**GKC/Royal Knight Cinema** is located at 101 South Second Avenue. With three movie screens, this theater offers residents many entertainment choices all year round. *This theater closed in 2018 but was recently purchased and the new owner plans to start renovations immediately and hopes to open in the spring of 2021.*

**GKC/State Cinema** is located at 204 North Second Avenue. With five movie screens, this theater offers residents many entertainment choices all year round. *This site closed at the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and has not reopened. It was recently purchased, and the new owner has plans to restore the building to its original look. The site was originally known as the Maltz Opera House and housed an 800-plus seat venue for live performances.*

**Alpena Youth Club** is located on Long Rapids Plaza. As a private, non-profit agency, this facility offers the youth of Alpena a variety of specialized entertainment options. A flexible programming schedule allows for time, space and equipment to be available for unscheduled recreational activities.

**Boys and Girls Club** of Alpena is located at 601 River Street. This private, non-profit organization offers programming, space and equipment for youth recreational and educational activities. *They have recently launched a capital campaign to raise funds for renovating and relocating to a larger facility in order to provide more services and serve more youth.*

**Sky Theater Planetarium** is a permanent part of the Jesse Besser Museum. It offers regularly scheduled, as well as special, showings in a theater-like setting. Available to all area residents over five years of age, the Planetarium is accessed with an admission fee.

**Alpena Yacht Club** is located at 250 Prentiss Street on the Lake Huron shoreline. Situated across from the Small Boat Harbor on leased property within the City's Bay View Park, this private club provides recreational activities for members/guests.

**Thunder Bay Shores Marina** is located at 400 East Chisholm Street at the Small Boat Harbor. The facility provides boating related services for residents and visitors to the Alpena area. Acting as a communications center for boaters in the waters of Thunder Bay, the marina cooperates with the U.S. Coast Guard during search and rescue missions. It also posts severe weather warnings.

**Thunder Bay Scuba** is located on Ripley Street. It offers charter services for recreational shipwreck diving. Dockside air stations and rental diving gear is available. Scuba gear sales and service are on-site with scuba diving lessons available.

**Charter Fishing** boats are available through several private contractors from April through October.

**Lee's Miniature Golf** is located at 1016 South State Avenue. It has a mini-golf course with putting green. Game machines are provided in the small rental equipment area. This recreational opportunity is available from Memorial Day to Labor Day and is well lit for evening players.

**Ninth Avenue Dam** is located at the Ninth Avenue Bridge on the Thunder Bay River. Owned by Thunder Bay Power Company, this one acre site offers fishing access and parking area.

**Bay Athletic Club** is located in the Alpena Regional Medical Center. The center offers numerous exercise, training, fitness, and therapy classes in partnership with ARMC.

**Bay Urban Fitness** is located at 106 River Street in downtown Alpena. The center offers numerous exercise, training, fitness, and therapy classes.

**Lafarge Ball Field** is located at the corner of Ford Avenue and Wessel Road. It is a youth/womens sized field. The site has not been used in recent years but Lafarge Corporation has plans to refurbish the field.

*Alpena Township*

**The Sand Bar and Grill** is located at 9027 Long Lake Road at the south end of Long Lake. While not a true recreational facility, they support recreational users with a deck overlooking Long Lake, and boat docks offering dining access directly from the water.

**Dodge Marina and Storage** is located at 10782 Long Lake Park Road on the southeast side of Long Lake. Recreational opportunities at this facility include paddleboat and outboard motor rentals, fuel, bait, a game room and snack bar.

**Thunder Bowl, Inc.** is located at 2192 U.S. 23 South just outside the City limits of Alpena. It features 24 bowling lanes, a snack bar and bar/grill with billiards tables. League times and open bowling opportunities are available all year long.

**Alpena Golf Club** is located at 1135 Golf Course Road on 150 acres of land. Although this club is owned by its members, it is open to the public. It features an 18 hole regulation golf course with irrigated fairways, a driving range, a practice putting green and rental electric and pull carts. The clubhouse includes a fully equipped kitchen an enlarged dining room and pro shop. A PGA golf professional is on site and available for lessons for the beginner and advanced golfer.

**Four Mile Dam** is located on the Thunder Bay River in T31N, R8E of section 17 of Alpena Township. It is owned by Thunder Bay Power Company and has three recreation areas in the vicinity of the Dam and all of them are accessible to the public.

Access Site #1 is located adjacent to the Dam at the end of Four Mile Road. This 2-acre site provides access to fishing with ample parking near the powerhouse. There is canoe portage around the left end of the Dam. Thunder Bay Power Company Plans to improve the parking and portage areas and provide handicapped accessible toilet facilities

Access Site #2 is located across the Thunder Bay River from the Dam and provides an informal access to the impoundment for fishing opportunities and nature observation

Access Site #3 is located .6 mile to the west of both Site #1 and Site #2. This 6-acre site is accessible to the public from Long Rapids Road and offers fishing opportunities with a gravel boat launch. Occasionally this site is used for overnight camping. Thunder Bay Power Company plans to improve the boat launch and parking area.

**The Arzo Sports and Fun Park** is located at the intersection of US-23 North and Bloom Road just north of Alpena. Amenities include go-kart track, sky high bungee, full-sized indoor carousel, bumper cars, 18 holes mini golf, driving range, 5 multi speed batting cages, ferris wheel, arcades and more. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day, seven days a week.

### *Green Township*

**Bradley's Paradise Lodge Resort** is located at 16991 Taylor Hawks Road in Lachine. This privately owned facility offers access to the waters of Fletcher Pond, 75 camping sites (25 with electricity), bathroom facilities, boat rentals, cabin rentals, a playground and a restaurant.

**Upper South Dam\*** is located on the Thunder Bay River in T30N, R5E in section 2 of the township. The Thunder Bay Power Company owns the property and provides two sites for public access.

**Moore's Landing Campground** is located at 17120 Moore's Landing Road and offers 20 primitive individual sites.

**Killions Landing** is located at 5428 Emils Landing Road and offers 30 modern individual sites.

**Jacks Landing Resort** is located at 20836 Tennis Road and offers a restaurant, 30 modern individual sites and has access to Fletchers Pond.

**Fletchers Landing** is located at 5614 Emils Landing Rd. Fletcher's Landing offers waterfront cabins located on the shores of the 9,000 acre fishing paradise that is Fletcher Pond. Accommodations consist of 14 waterfront cabins and duplexes that sleep three to six persons. Each features its own kitchen and private bathroom. Included is dock space, a campfire pit and picnic table. A boat launch is available or you can rent boats and motors. A tackle shop is also on site for fishing supplies.

**Anglers Hideaway** is located at 5883 Miller Road and has access to Fletchers Pond. The resort has nine cabins and is open year round.

#### **Public Access on Fletchers Pond**

**Site A** is located on 1 acre of land north of the dam. It offers fishing access and parking in the tail water (downstream) section. There is also a canoe portage around the dam. Thunder Bay Power Company has continued plans to organize the parking area, provide handicapped accessible toilet facilities and fishing area, and improve the portage area.

**Site B** is located on 1 acre of land to the south (upstream) from the dam. It offers an informal boat launch and access to Fletchers Pond. The parking area and toilet facilities that were developed in 1997 at Site A also provide services for Site B.

\*The information for Thunder Bay Power facilities (both in this township and in other townships within the county) was obtained from sections of their Recreation Plan dealing with these properties. Information was also supplied by AR Blystra & Associates, Ltd. Consulting Engineers, Valparaiso Indiana.

**Thunder Bay River** access is located at the corner of M 32 and Calcut Rd.

#### *Long Rapids Township*

**Sinkholes** are located west of the intersection of Leer Road and Maple Lane. There are two sinkholes located side-by-side at this site and they are referred to as the Stevens Twin Sinks. Purchased by the Michigan Karst Conservancy through donations and membership dues, both of these sinkholes are approximately 200 feet in diameter. One sinkhole is approximately 60 feet deep and the other is about 80 feet deep. Bruski Sink across Leer Road was donated to the Conservancy and made part of the Thunder Bay Karst Preserves.

The Michigan Karst Conservancy has spearheaded a volunteer effort to clean up debris and refuse which has been dumped into these sinkholes. Long-range goals include signs and parking facilities when the sites are opened for limited viewing by the public. In order to protect the unique vegetation and insure safety of viewers, access will be somewhat restricted and prior permission will be necessary before entering the area. Besser Museum of Northeast Michigan is acting as the point of contact since accessibility will likely be gained through guided tours in conjunction with the museum. The Karst Conservancy also owns other

property in the Township, which encompasses part of another sinkhole that is privately owned. The Karst group may decide to acquire property that encompasses the entire sinkhole and eventually make available for supervised public viewing. The sinkholes are just a few of over 200, which are found in a 50-mile line from Thunder Bay to Black Lake. Alpena Township's Long Lake is actually a sink. Some of the dry sinkholes in Alpena County range from 100 to 300 feet in diameter and up to 150 feet deep. Because these formations are rare in most areas, they are of interest to geologist and geographers as well as to casual visitors. Botanists are intrigued by the unusual flora, especially ferns and mosses that occur in cool and dark climate of the sinks. Since many of the sinkholes are located on private property, visitors should obtain permission from owners before entering the area.

### *Maple Ridge Township*

**Campers Cove Campground** is located at 5055 Long Rapids Road on the Thunder Bay River. It offers campsites for tents and recreational vehicles. Some of the sites have electrical hook-ups. This facility has an indoor pool, sauna, game room, mini-golf and shuffleboard courts. Canoe/paddle boat/kayak rentals, fishing and swimming opportunities are available. Restrooms and laundry facilities are also on site.

**Wes Point Shore** is located at 5315 Long Rapids Road on the Thunder Bay River. The facility offers cabins, camping, boat rental, fishing canoeing and boating.

**Norway Point (Seven Mile Dam)** is located in section 12, T31N, R7E in the township. Although the property is owned by Thunder Bay Power Company, there are three sites available for use by the public.

**Site 1** is a one-acre site located upstream from the Dam and offers access to the impoundment. This area is accessible off Long Rapids Road to the west of the Dam on the north side of the Thunder Bay River. This site includes a boat ramp, a restroom, and an area for parking. Thunder Bay Power plans to improve the restroom facilities and the parking area. In addition, a shoreline fishing area is being considered as an addition to the existing boat launch. In 2003 a boat launch and small parking area will be developed on the south side of the impoundment.

**Site 2** is a one acre site on the north side of the Thunder Bay River at the Dam and offers public access and canoe portage

**Site 3** is a two-acre site on the south side of the Thunder Bay River at the Dam and offers tail water access and a parking area. In 2005 Thunder Bay Power Company plans to enlarge the parking area, provide handicapped accessible restroom and fishing area and improve canoe portage to include car top launch.

### *Ossineke Township*

**Hubbard Lake Lions Park** is located .3 miles north of Hurbert Road on Hubbard Lake Road. The 8.1-acre park has the following facilities: two ball diamonds, horseshoe pit, playground, 2 basketball courts, a double tennis court, picnic tables, restrooms, walk-in cooler, water well, concession stand, pavilion and asphalt driveway.

The Lions Park is used for family picnics, organized softball, and children's sports activities. A 99-year lease between the township and the Lions Club has made an additional 5.2 acres adjacent to the park available for park use. Reservations for community and social events are accepted for the pavilion.



**Turtle Lake Club** is the largest landowner in the township. With more than 9,300 acres, the Club owns more property in the township than the State of Michigan. This land covers 14 whole sections in T29N, R5E, and two half sections and one quarter section. In addition to the entire shoreline of Turtle Lake, the Club owns property in Montmorency County and Oscoda County. As a nonprofit corporation, Turtle Lake Club is the oldest hunting club east of the Mississippi River.

### *Sanborn Township*

**Dinosaur Gardens** is located at 11160 U.S. 23 South. Situated on 40 acres, the property is split by the Devil's River. This prehistoric zoo features life size reproductions of over 25 dinosaurs, birds and other prehistoric animals in a natural outdoor setting. During the warm summer months, an abundance of ferns, wildflowers and many types of trees native to Michigan are found along the picturesque woodland trail. An 18-hole miniature golf course, snack bar and gift shop are also located at this site.

### *Wilson Township*

**Camp Woodlands Girl Scout Camp** is located three miles south of M-32 on Indian Reserve Road and is surrounded by the Mackinaw State Forest. The camp, owned by the Mitten Bay Girl Scout Council, was completed in 1958 and has facilities for 36 people including a complete kitchen, three flush toilets, bunk beds and a large activity room with a fireplace. Camp Woodlands is available for rental and is used for various activities such as Cub Scout Day Camps. It consists of a main lodge building which has restroom facilities.

**Alpena Sportsmen's Club** is located at 4260 W. M-32. This 120 acre site is privately owned and includes Zim Lake. The 9,000 square foot club house is barrier free and is equipped with a 16 point indoor shooting range with an approved ventilating/air exchange system. The building also contains a meeting area, kitchen facilities and indoor rest rooms. A maintenance garage, a 100 yard shooting range, a 600 yard rifle range, and sporting clays are also located on the grounds. In addition to club members, the indoor range is also used by local police organizations, 4-H groups, rifle/pistol leagues, and archery league. The clubhouse is available for rent for community and social functions with a non-member fee.

**Rivers Edge County Club/Golf Course** is located 0.5 mile east of the intersection of Werth Road and Hubbard Lake Road at 6373 Werth Road. This facility is open to the public and offers an 18-hole golf course with water hazards and wooded terrain. Electric and pull carts are available for rent. A clubhouse with a restaurant, lounge and private banquet area is situated on this site as well as a driving range, putting green, pro shop, tennis court and swimming pool.

**The Alpena Sno-Drifters** office is located at the intersection of Herron Road and M-32 (description contained in Chapter 2 – Administrative Structure).

**Alpena Cycle Club** is located three miles south of Werth Road on Spruce Road. The Alpena Cycle Club will have been in existence 60 years in 2018. It began as a road riding motorcycle club but has expanded to include events such as a Motocross, garden tractor pulls, and a Bump and Run.

**Opal's Landing** is located on M-32 West on the Thunder Bay River. It offers fishing and boat rentals. This property and business is currently for sale.

**Paxton Shale Quarry** is located at the intersection of M-32 and King Settlement Road. The former quarry is owned by Lafarge and future plans are to continue to develop the 600-acre area as a wildlife habitat.

The former quarry is now a lake which has been stocked with fish. Lafarge employees use the site, and the general public can use the area by making advance arrangements. In 2001, the area received certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council, a nonprofit that promotes habitat preservation on corporate lands.

**Alpena Optimist Club** has established “**Optimist Acres**” on M-32 at the junction of Herron Road. Located on 43 acres of land donated by LaFarge Corporation, this recreation area is youth oriented and designed to provide year-round activities. With the Optimist motto “Friend of Youth”, this facility offers recreation opportunities that include a 100’ x 100’ ice skating rink, a pavilion and a ball diamond. The five-year plan includes an ATV trail, a cross county running/ski track, a campground area, modern restrooms, portable bleachers and perimeter fencing.

**PK Fletcher Gun Club:** A privately owned Skeet Range located two miles south of M-32 on Indian Reserve Road.

**Horse Facilities:** Two private horse facilities exist within Wilson Township – A horse riding stable is located on Werth Road and an Arabian ranch is located on Spruce Road.

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## CITY OF ALPENA RECREATION PLAN

### CHAPTER 5: GOALS & OBJECTIVES, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BASIS FOR ACTION

The coastal City of Alpena offers a wide variety of cultural, historical and natural resources. At the heart of the City's aesthetic appeal are Thunder Bay, the Thunder Bay River, and the City's maritime heritage. With well over a dozen scenic parks scattered throughout the City, Alpena provides ample opportunity for visitors and residents alike to enjoy the unique combination of recreation and maritime resources. Maintaining a healthy park system by implementing improvements, in addition to regular maintenance will enhance the City's popularity as a great place to spend leisure-time hours.

The following goals and objectives were originally developed in 2009 by the Alpena City Planning Commission and the City Recreation Advisory Board, with additional valuable input from the public. The goals and objectives were reviewed and reaffirmed in 2020 by the Alpena City Planning Commission and the City Recreation Advisory Board.

#### *City of Alpena Recreation Goals*

1. Provide a park and recreation system representative of the broad recreational needs and preferences of all segments of the community's population.
2. Focus upon the long-term maintenance and preservation of existing park infrastructure. Undertake park expansion only when fiscally prudent and supported by park development plans.
3. View parks and recreation as a vital component of the City's overall economic development strategy. Projects should be evaluated as to their contribution to the area's economic development efforts.
4. Investigate ongoing water quality issues at City parks to ensure the public can fully access and appreciate the unique and special natural features of the area.
5. Explore the development of new financing sources for future park improvements (i.e. a land acquisition fund).
6. Provide non-motorized linkages between City parks and recreation facilities utilizing the City Bi-Path system.
7. Promote safety and universal accessibility to the City's parks and recreation facilities by persons of all ages and varied physical and emotional capabilities.
8. Acquire new recreation land, focusing primarily upon in-fill expansion at Bay View and McRae parks, and develop existing parks and facilities so as to take advantage of the

special and unique natural resources and features of the area (Thunder Bay and its shoreline, Thunder Bay River, Wildlife Sanctuary, etc.).

9. Increase the green canopy (trees) within the City park system.
10. Promote and expand the City's Adopt-a-Park program
11. Seek opportunities for public/private partnerships to improve the City's park System.

### **Development Objectives**

The following objectives define general actions to be taken relative to the development, redevelopment, or upgrade of recreation facilities on a citywide basis that are necessary to meet the City recreation goals.

1. Promote projects and/or facilities, which best meet the recreational desires and usage patterns of the overall general population of the community.
2. Upgrade all park and recreation facilities according to approved plans.
3. Research solutions to reduce or eliminate the build-up of organic sediment on City beaches.
4. Fund and promote the development of the Land Acquisition and the McClay Trust funds in order to provide resources for future acquisition, expansion, and development projects.
5. Minimize the duplication of recreation services and facilities.
6. Upgrade or expand existing facilities if physically and financially more practical than acquiring or developing new facilities.
7. Design and operate parks and facilities in a manner that promotes efficient operation, minimizes conflicts, is consistent with the existing development plans for these facilities, and is consistent with the community's ability to support on an ongoing basis.
8. Develop or redevelop parks and recreation facilities so as to reduce general maintenance costs and the potential impact of vandalism.
9. Develop and upgrade facilities that promote and enhance the area's tourism sector, are coordinated with other area tourism/recreation projects, and enhance the community's quality of life.
10. Promote expanded use of the park system to tourists and local residents through improved wayfinding, improved internal signage, and promotion and coordination with

non-local resources (i.e. local marinas, US-23 North Heritage Route, water trails, and state and regional trails and parks).

- 11.** Make full use of all available grant programs to assist in financing recreation development consistent with the recreation goals and objectives of the City.
- 12.** Seek alternative and creative funding for the development, operation and maintenance of City recreational facilities.
- 13.** When practical, encourage local service clubs, user groups, non-profit organizations, etc. to implement approved elements of the recreation plan and discourage inconsistent projects.
- 14.** Promote recreation programming by volunteer recreation organizations.
- 15.** Acquire additional lands or facilities for recreation purposes based on the following criteria. The acquisition:
  - a. Promotes an integrated and complementary system of municipal recreation facilities;
  - b. Enhances public access, use and preservation of the unique and special natural resources of the community; or
  - c. Satisfies an unmet recreational need which cannot be met through existing City or other non-City recreation facilities, adaptive reuse of existing City parks or facilities.

With input from City officials and community members, a list of proposed improvements for park and recreation facilities in the City of Alpena was developed. The proposed developments and improvements will maximize the utilization of the natural resources in the City, meet the recreational requirements of residents, and increase the recreational opportunities for tourists visiting the area. A timetable was developed to guide the implementation process of the recreation plan, and to gauge the progress of the projects over the next six years.

In developing a proposed park improvement schedule, the City of Alpena utilizes a five-year projected project schedule. This project schedule is concurrent with the City's six-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and is designed to ensure that all projects receive resource allocation and are implemented in a manner consistent with other, non-park related City projects. This five-year project schedule is a planning document, which is implemented by the City via an annual, multi-tiered capital improvement and budget planning process.

All projected projects are categorized across each fiscal year of the schedule into four possible priority zones: *On-Going*, *Higher*, *Moderate*, and *Lower*. On-going projects are those projects that are or will be implemented across several fiscal years. On-going projects have no specific priority since they are implemented across multiple fiscal years. The classifications of *Higher*, *Moderate*, and *Lower* are rudimentary classifications of all remaining proposed projects. These



classifications allow for some categorization of long-range projects without restricting the flexibility of the City to respond to and re-prioritize projects based upon unforeseen developments.

Actual project prioritization occurs annually when all proposed projects are reviewed for inclusion in the City's annual CIP plan. Projects included within the CIP are prioritized based upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, established City goals and objectives, available funding, implementation schedule, and coordination with other projects. All CIP projects are consecutively reviewed and approved by City staff, the City Planning Commission, and the City Council. Proposed projects not included within the CIP are re-projected and re-prioritized for upcoming years within the improvement schedule.

### *Basis for Action*

There are several important factors to consider when planning for recreational activities and development in the City of Alpena.

1. The City of Alpena is the largest city in the northeast Michigan region. The City largely serves as the economic hub of the region.
2. Tourism is a vital component to the economy of Alpena and the surrounding areas. Recreational planning needs to consider the influx of people looking to relax and recreate in the area.
3. The City population age distribution varies from 23% aged 19 and under, to 21.3% age 65 and older. The highest percentage of City residents are of adult working age (20 to 54). The age distribution in surrounding communities largely mirrors that of the City of Alpena. However, surrounding areas generally have slightly higher percentages of those aged 65 and older. Recreational facilities need to appeal to a very diverse age group.
4. The issue of improving the local economy by establishing the area as a recreation destination is of utmost importance. Unemployment rates in the City are reported at 6.7% (2018), and all of northeast Michigan remained significantly higher than the State average. The City strives to create a community with a defined sense of place and a high quality of life which will attract young families and entrepreneurs. This quality of life will also help to retain local youth who would otherwise leave the area upon reaching adulthood.
5. The City's median household income is \$37,706 compared with the State's median of \$59,584. In addition, twenty percent of households live at or below the poverty level. To be truly accessible, recreation must also be affordable.
6. Approximately 19% of the City of Alpena population lives with some form of disability. This is largely true for surrounding communities as well, with many having an even higher rate. All recreational development and improvements should strive to be as inclusive and barrier free as possible.

*Figures obtained from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2018 5-year estimates.*

## City of Alpena Proposed Improvements City Parks and Recreation Facilities

The following justifications are being offered for each project listed in the Proposed Park Improvement Schedule for the City of Alpena Master Recreation Plan. It should also be noted that prior to implementation, each proposed project undergoes thorough staff review and is approved by the City Council as an item in the City's annual Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and the City's annual budget.

### 1. General Park System Improvements

This category focuses upon improvements that will impact all parks and recreation facilities within the system or administrative changes that will enhance the efficient operation or expansion of park lands and facilities.

Development and financing of a Land Acquisition Fund has been proposed to set aside funds for the future acquisition of new park lands.

The City has established a goal of increasing the green canopy within the park system.

The City has established an objective to improve overall amenities within the park system; including the installation of bike racks in all City parks, increased use of City logos and information to better inform park users, and the installation of public art within the park system.

The City Council has established another objective actively pursuing property acquisition opportunities for the expansion of all City parks. This objective also includes pursuing properties for waterfront expansion and opening views of the water.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Land Acquisition Fund Development	TBD	Ongoing
Tree Planting Program	\$20,000	Ongoing
General Site Amenity Improvements (Bike Racks; Landscaping; Increased use of City Logo & Promotional Material)	TBD	Ongoing
Public Art Installation	TBD	Ongoing
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	

## 2. Alpena Regional Trailhead

The Alpena Regional Trailhead serves as both a local and regional trailhead on the southern terminus of the Northeastern State Trail. The trailhead sits on Alpena County owned property but was developed and maintained by the City through a permanent recreational lease.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements call for the continued maintenance and upgrades to site amenities such as signage, picnic tables, benches and trash receptacles.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Upgraded Site Amenities (Sign; Picnic Tables; Trash Cans)	TBD	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>		

## 3. Arthur Sytek Park

Sytek Park is a City-owned roadside park along the shore of the Thunder Bay River that is maintained by the Alpena County Road Commission under an agreement with the City.

Administratively, the maintenance agreement with the Alpena County Road Commission should be reviewed upon its expiration in order to consider raising the maintenance level of the park to that of other City-owned parks.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements include shelter upgrades, upgraded site amenities, and improvements to the pedestrian bridge along the Bi-Path that extends to Evergreen Cemetery.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Cancel Sytek Park Agreement	N/A	2021
Shelter Upgrades	TBD	2025+
Upgraded Site Amenities (Sign; Picnic Tables; Trash Cans)	TBD	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>		

#### 4. Avery Park

Avery Park is an underutilized, Victorian-style park in the heart of the City's Downtown Development Authority district. General improvements will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Another City Council objective calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

Proposed improvements include installation of an irrigation system, general landscaping, construction of a decorative perimeter wall, and installation of a water fountain.

Other improvements include the construction of a decorative gazebo, installation of decorative sidewalk, and improvements of other general amenities.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Decorative Wall Construction	TBD	2022/2023
Gazebo Construction	TBD	2022/2023
Decorative Park Sign Installation	TBD	2022/2023
Brick Paver Sidewalk Installation	TBD	2022/2023
Decorative Water Fountain Installation	TBD	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>		

#### 5. Bay View Park

Bay View Park is the City's primary multi-use park, located in the City's Downtown Development Authority district, adjacent to the City Marina and is heavily utilized for community events and festivals, such as Art-on-the-Bay and summer music concerts.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements include upgrades to the tennis court lighting system, general site work, installation of a picnic pavilion, upgrades to existing playground equipment, and construction of a restroom/concession building.

The construction of a new restroom/concession facility will provide additional facilities needed with increased usage of the park for special events as well as by general users.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Tennis Court Lighting Upgrades	\$31,300	2021/2022
Playground Equipment Upgrades	TBD	2024/2025
Picnic Pavilion Construction	TBD	2024/2025
Restroom/Concession Building Construction	\$200,000	2024/2025
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$231,300</b>	

## 6. Bi-Path System

Proposed improvements include upgrading, expanding, and lighting of the system.

The Alpena City Council has established an objective of expanding the Bi-Path system through all areas of the City. The City has also established as an objective the upgrading of those portions of the system that are less than 8 feet in width.

The City has an objective of improving amenities along the Bi-Path system. Immediate improvements call for installation of informational kiosks at all City parks along the system; installation of recycling bins along the system; and installation of improved wayfinding and informational signage along the system.

Lighting of the system will permit extended use by the general public. The City has also established an objective of performing preventative maintenance upon the Bi-Path system to extend its use. Resurfacing of Bi-Path segments will occur on an as-needed basis.

A specific project, the Paxton Spur on the west side of the City) includes obtaining an easement from the MDNR on an abandoned rail spur and the construction of a new segment of the City Bi-Path. The construction of this Bi-Path segment on the easement will provide an additional route through residential neighborhoods and another direct connection to the local high school and its recreational facilities.



Another project will improve the shoreline and open the view of Besser Lake along Bi-Path segments as it parallels Johnson Street between Oldfield and Chisholm streets.

**a. Pedestrian Lighting**

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Downtown Riverfront – 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue (3,300'/44 lights)	\$100,000	2021/2022
Starlite Beach/Water Plant (1,800'/25 lights)	\$ 60,000	2022/2023
Washington Avenue Park to Sytek Park (7,000'/94 lights)	\$200,000	2022/2023
County Fairgrounds (4,000'/54 lights)	\$120,000	2024/2025
US-23 North – George Washington Bridge to Long Rapids Road (1,900'/25 lights)	\$ 60,000	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$540,000</b>	

**b. General Bi-Path Upgrades**

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Informational Kiosk Installation	TBD	Ongoing
Directional & mileage signage	TBD	Ongoing
Recycling Bin Installation	TBD	Ongoing
System Resurfacing	\$30,000	Ongoing
Paxton Spur Easement Acquisition & Bi-Path Construction	\$90,000	2021
Besser Lake Shoreline Improvements	\$450,000	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$570,000</b>	

**7. Blair Street Park**

Blair Street Park is a waterfront mini park located on the shore of Lake Huron between Starlite Beach and Thomson Park.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

Improvements include repair of the existing pier (new decking) and lighting of the pier and adjoining sidewalk.

Planned lighting will enhance the visual character of the pier and park, and provide increased hours of use by the public.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Pier Repair and New Decking	\$130,000	2023/2024
Lighting Upgrades	\$20,000	2023/2024
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	

## 8. City Marina

The City Council has established an objective calling for the development of the City Marina into a showcase for the community and all of Northeast Michigan.

The City currently contracts the day-to-day operation of the marina to a private company, Thunder Bay Shores Marine. Administratively, this contract should be reviewed upon its expiration in order to consider raising the maintenance level of the park to that of other City-owned parks.

The City Marina is heavily utilized, not only by boaters, but also for community events, such as the Brown Trout Festival and several community-fishing tournaments. The Marina is also located within the City's Downtown Development Authority district and is adjacent to Bay View Park and the City Bi-Path.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of the City Marina.

Proposed improvements include replacement of the fixed dock system, light pole replacement and upgrades, safety ladder and fire extinguisher installation on the dock system, sidewalk repairs, installation of a new marina sign and informational kiosk, construction of a picnic pavilion, and maintenance dredging.

Replacement of the fixed dock system will reduce maintenance costs and improve the facility for boaters. Installation of this system has been supported by the Michigan Waterway's Commission.

Planned maintenance dredging at the Marina entrance will reduce the time between extensive dredging of the overall Marina basin.

Construction of a picnic pavilion will provide a needed amenity to the Marina and increase use of the facility by boaters and the general public.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Fixed Dock Replacement	\$449,240	2021/2022
Light Pole Replacement	\$60,000	2021-2025
Sidewalk Installation and Repairs	\$11,000	2021/2022
Breakwall Bi-Path Lighting Upgrades	\$30,000	2022/2023
Sign and Kiosk Installation	\$15,000	2022/2023
Picnic Pavilion Installation	\$35,000	2022/2023
Harbor Dredging	\$70,000	Ongoing
Resurface Parking Lots	TBD	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$670,240</b>	

## 9. Duck/Island Park

Duck Park adjoins Island Park and the Wildlife Sanctuary. It is a 2.5-acre park with 1,200 feet of Thunder Bay River frontage. It complements Island Park and provides more developed recreational uses than the island. Island Park is a 17-acre island located on the Thunder Bay River. It is owned by the City and developed and maintained by the Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Committee.

The Wildlife Sanctuary Committee has established an objective of developing the River Center interpretive center to provide environmental education opportunities for the public relative to Island Park and the Wildlife Sanctuary.

Replacement of the Island Park fishing platforms to facilitate easier access to the water.

Other improvements in Duck Park include upgrades to existing site amenities and parking lot upgrades.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
River Center Construction	\$3,000,000	2023-2025
Site Amenities (Cooking Grills; Drinking Fountain; Trash Receptacles)	\$20,000	2023/2024
Parking Lot Lighting Upgrades	TBD	2023/2024
Replace Island Park Fishing Platforms	TBD	2021-2025
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3,020,000</b>	

## 10. LaMarre Park

LaMarre Park is located along the Thunder Bay River and the City Bi-Path. This park is often used as a trailhead for accessing the Bi-Path.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks. The City Council has established another objective of installing irrigation systems in all City parks.

Proposed improvements include upgraded site amenities, and construction of a picnic pavilion.

Another improvement calls for the terracing and stabilization of a slope that leads down to the Thunder Bay River. This improvement will provide better erosion control and improve the appearance of the park.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Slope Stabilization & Terracing	\$88,000	2022-2024
Site Amenities (Park Sign Relocation; Benches; Trash Receptacles	TBD	2022-2024
Picnic Pavilion Construction	TBD	2023/2024
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$88,000</b>	

## 11. McRae Park

This neighborhood park is well utilized by the public for recreational and community activities.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvement will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements include picnic pavilion construction, upgrades to the community building, upgrades to the ballfield concession stand, and general site and equipment improvements.

Construction of a picnic pavilion will provide a needed amenity to the park and increase use of the facility by the general public.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Upgraded Playground Equipment Installation	TBD	2021/2022
Upgraded Site Lighting	TBD	2021/2022
Parking Lot Lighting Upgrades	TBD	2024/2025
Parking Lot Improvements	TBD	2024/2025
Picnic Pavilion Construction	TBD	2025+
Community Building Upgrades or Replacement	TBD	2025+
Upgraded Site Amenities (Benches; Picnic Tables; Park Sign)	\$20,000	2021/2022
Concession Stand Improvements	TBD	2023/2024
Basketball & Tennis Court Resurfacing and Fencing	TBD	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	

## 12. Mich-e-ke-wis Park

In 2020 the City of Alpena completed the development of a Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan. The plan was developed with thorough public input and makes recommendations for many park improvements. Some of the new improvements identified include: A multi-use pavilion, quiet area with pedestrian pathway, additional volleyball courts, and a bike pump-track. The plan also calls for rearranged and paved parking areas, upgraded playground equipment, and improved amenities such as picnic tables, benches, bike racks, and site lighting and landscaping. The City has set a goal to implement the recommendations identified in the Mich-e-ke-wis Park Master Plan which can be seen in **Appendix D**.

## 13. North Riverfront Park

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements include site amenity upgrades, installation of historic signage, parking lot improvements and installation of water and power access points throughout the park.

The City Council has established an objective of supporting historic preservation efforts. Establishment of an 8' wide, 1850 LF walkway, connecting North Riverfront Park to the historic light station at the entrance to the Thunder Bay River, will facilitate the preservation of this historic light and make it a more accessible cultural resource for the community. The City is also currently investigating the preservation of the light station as a historic/cultural community resource.

<b>IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION YEAR</b>
Parking Lot Improvements	\$25,500	2025+
Electrical & Utility Upgrades	\$5,000	2025+
Decorative Parking Lot Lights	\$30,000	2025+
Upgraded Site Amenities (Banners; Benches; Park Sign; Tree Planting)	TBD	2025+
Lighthouse Walkway Construction	\$37,000	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$97,500</b>	

#### **14. South Riverfront Park**

South Riverfront Park is located in the heart of the City's Downtown Development Authority district. It is located along the Thunder Bay River and broadside moorage is available for boaters.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvement will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

<b>IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION YEAR</b>
Upgraded Site Amenities (Trash Cans; Park Sign)	\$9,000	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$9,000</b>	



## 15. Starlite Beach

Starlite Beach is one of the City's premier, and most heavily used, parks and hosts community events such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the use, appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Proposed improvements call for the continued maintenance and upgrades to site amenities such as signage, picnic tables, benches and trash receptacles, and continued upgrades to the pathways within and connecting to the park.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Pathway Improvements and Connections	TBD	2025+
Upgraded Site Amenities (Sign; Picnic Tables; Benches; Grills; Trash Cans)	TBD	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,290,000</b>	

## 16. Thomson Park

This small park is located on the shore of Lake Huron and contains one of the primary swimming beaches in the City.

Upgrades are necessary to adequately accommodate the large number of users at this small beach park.

The proposed improvements will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

Improvements include upgraded site amenities and construction of a new pedestrian walkway entrance to the park.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Upgraded Site Amenities (Grills)	\$5,000	2024/2025
Pedestrian Sidewalk Construction	\$10,000	2024/2025
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	

## **17. Veterans Memorial Park**

Veterans Memorial Park is located in the heart of the City's Downtown Development Authority district. This small pocket park contains a memorial to American veterans.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

The proposed improvement will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Upgraded Site Amenities (Sign; Benches)	\$5,000	2025+
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	

## **18. Washington Avenue Park**

Washington Avenue Park is located along M-32, near the City's primary western entry corridor. This park is a scenic park, adjacent to both the City's Bi-Path system and the Thunder Bay River.

This park is often used as a trailhead for access to the City's Bi-Path system. The proposed improvement will continue to enhance the appearance, character, and quality of this park.

The City Council has established an objective that calls for the continued improvement, maintenance, and beautification of all City parks.

Proposed improvements include installation of a fishing pier along the Thunder Bay River, parking lot and site amenity upgrades, lighting upgrades, and installation of a gazebo.

IMPROVEMENT	COST	IMPLEMENTATION YEAR
Fishing Pier Installation	TBD	2022/2023
Parking Lot Upgrades	TBD	2022/2023
Lighting Upgrades	TBD	
Upgraded Site Amenities (Water Fountain; Picnic Tables; Benches; Two-Person Swings)	TBD	2022/2023
Gazebo Installation	\$20,000	2022/2023
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	

MAP 7: ALPENA REGIONAL TRAILHEAD





MAP 8: ARTHUR SYTEK PARK



MAP 9: AVERY PARK



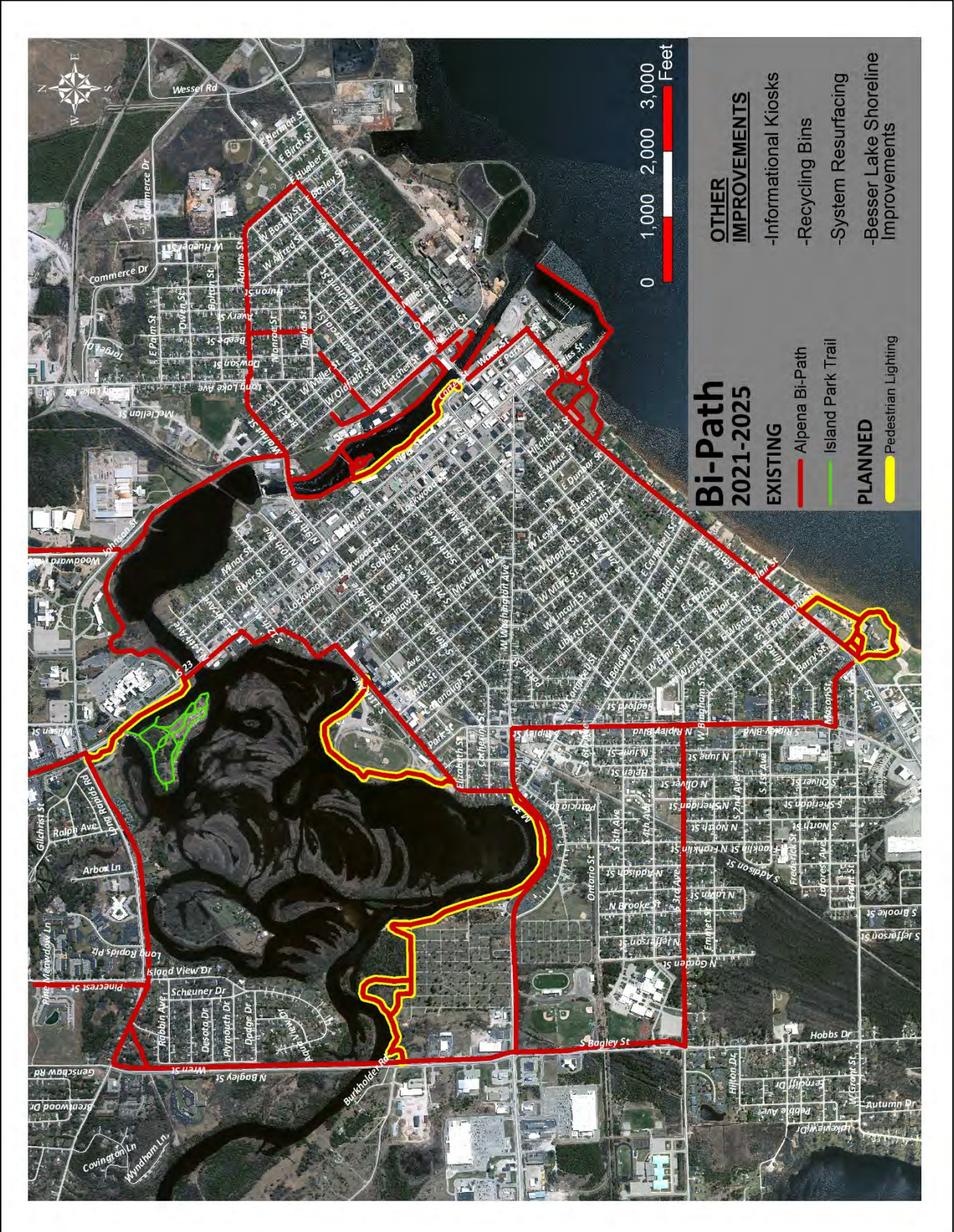


MAP 10: BAYVIEW PARK



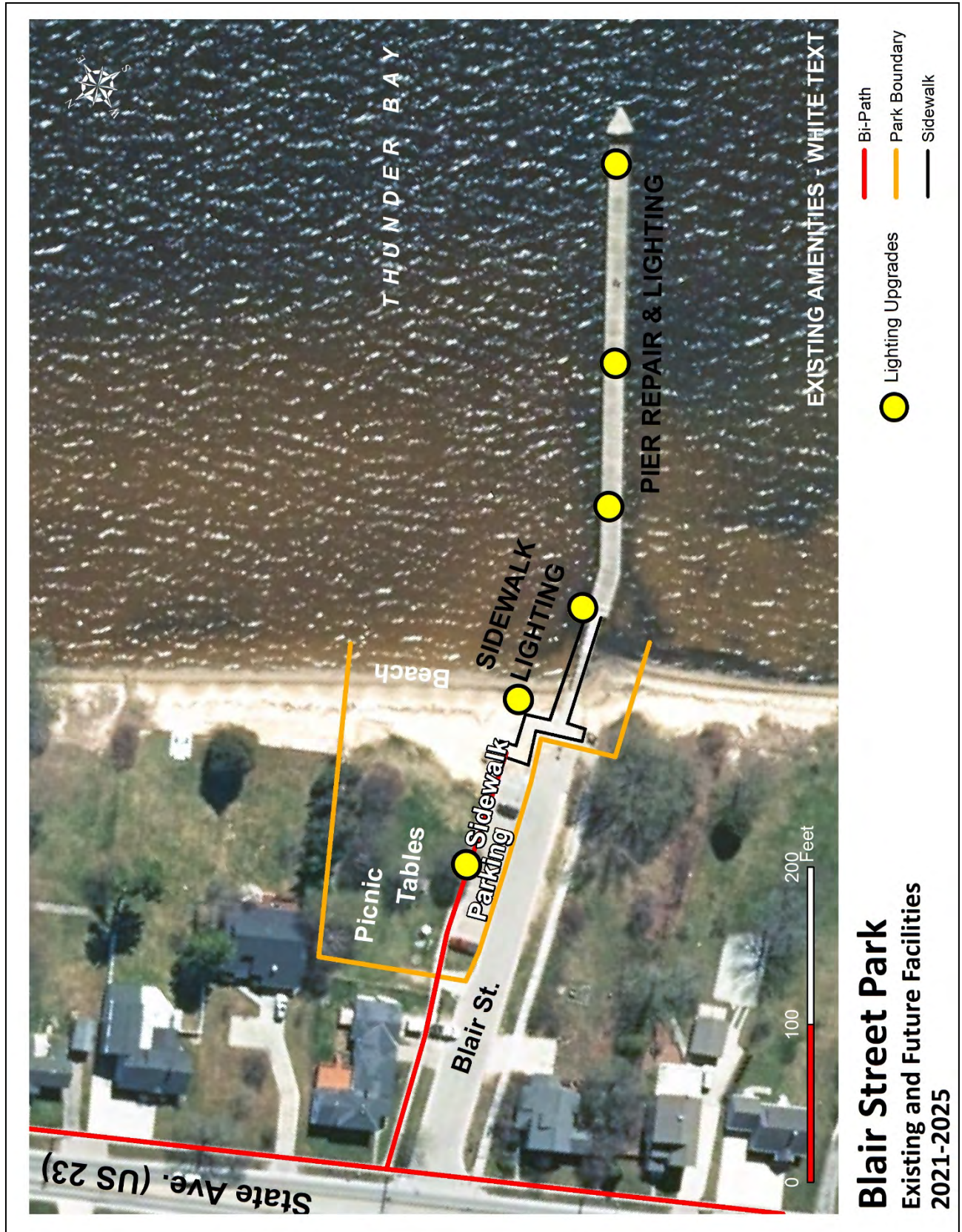


MAP 11: BI-PATH



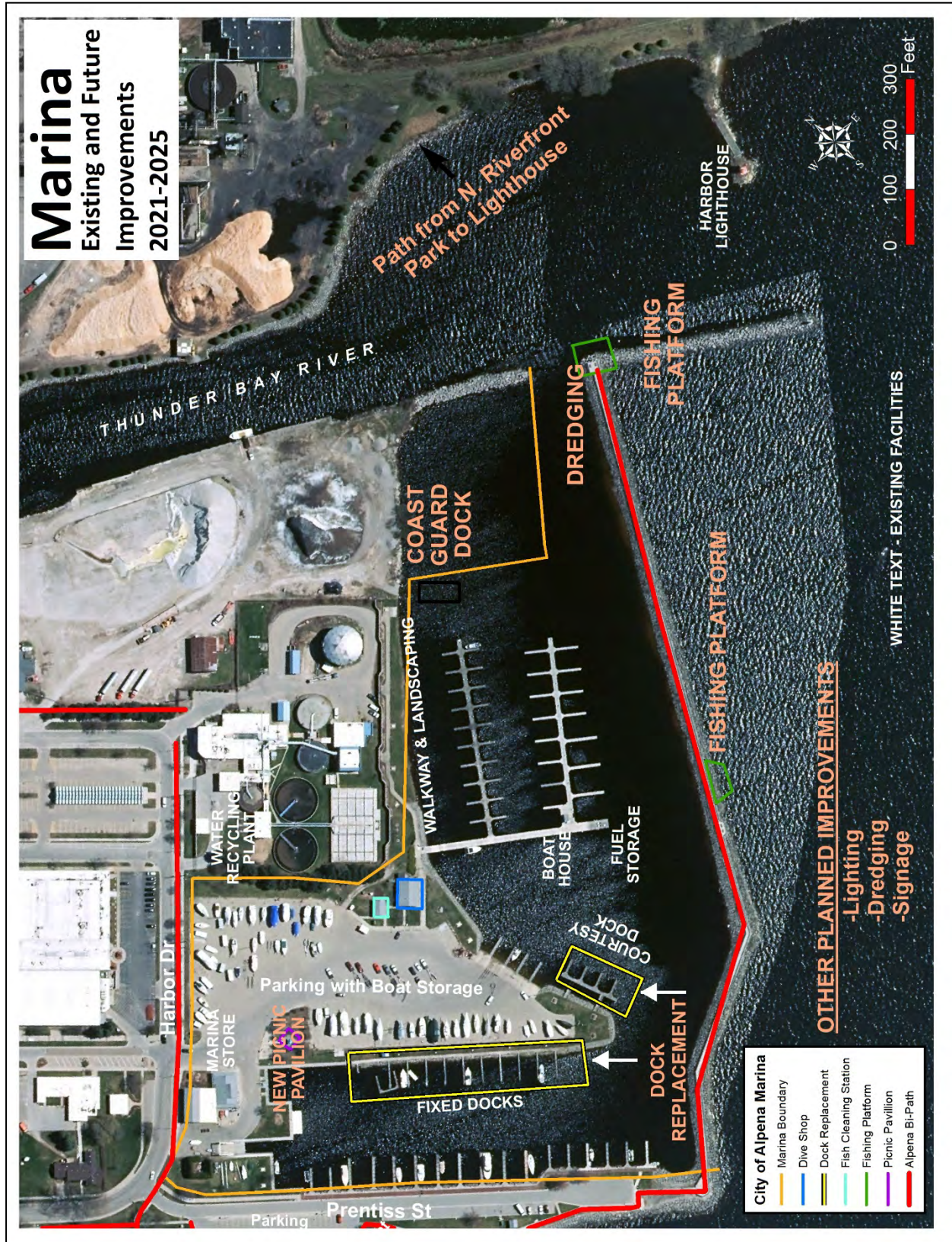


MAP 12: BLAIR STREET PARK



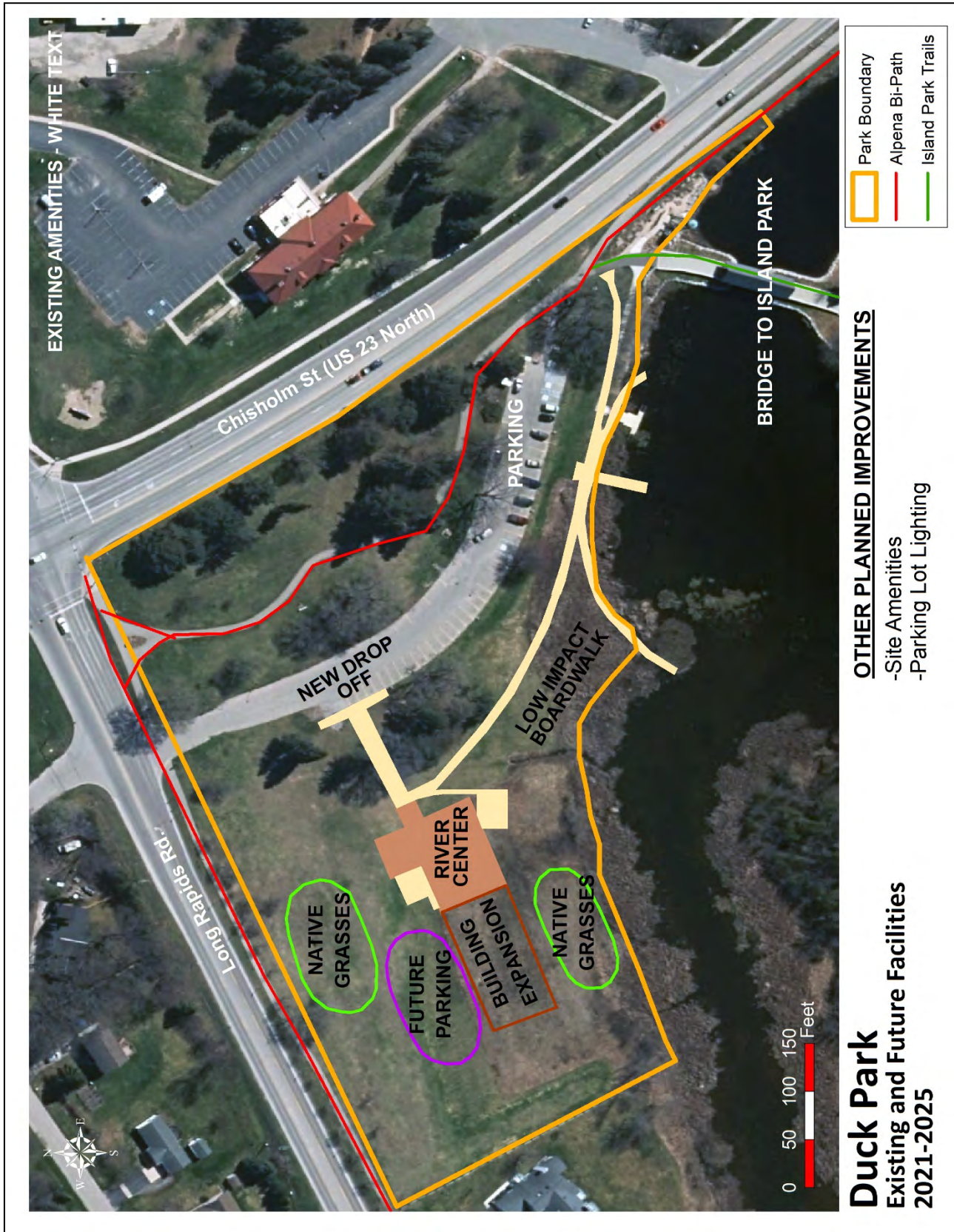


MAP 13: CITY MARINA





MAP 14: DUCK PARK





MAP 15: ISLAND PARK





## MAP 16: ELEVENTH AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH



### ELEVENTH AVENUE BOAT LAUNCH

Existing Facilities  
2021-2025

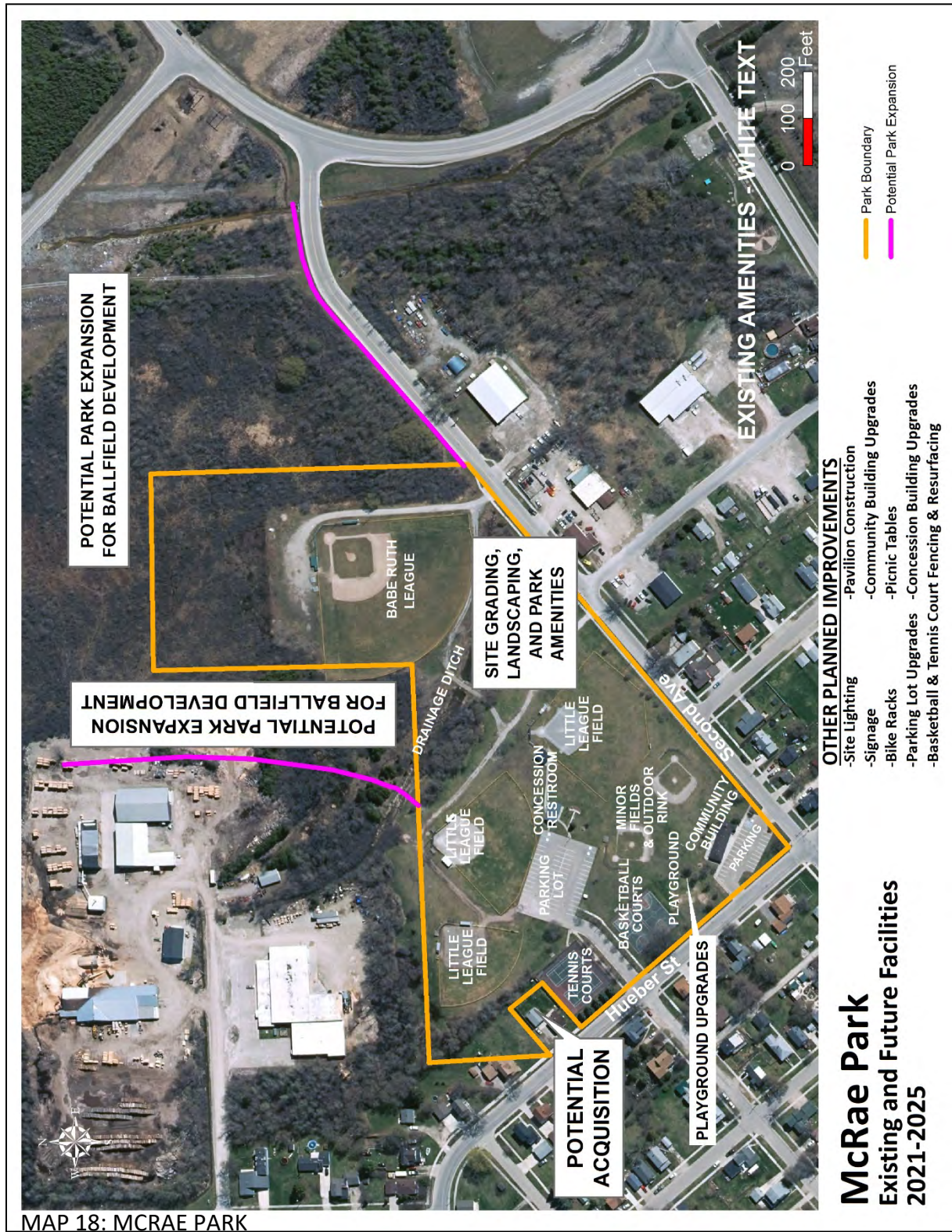




MAP 17: LAMARRE PARK



MAP 14: LAMARRE PARK

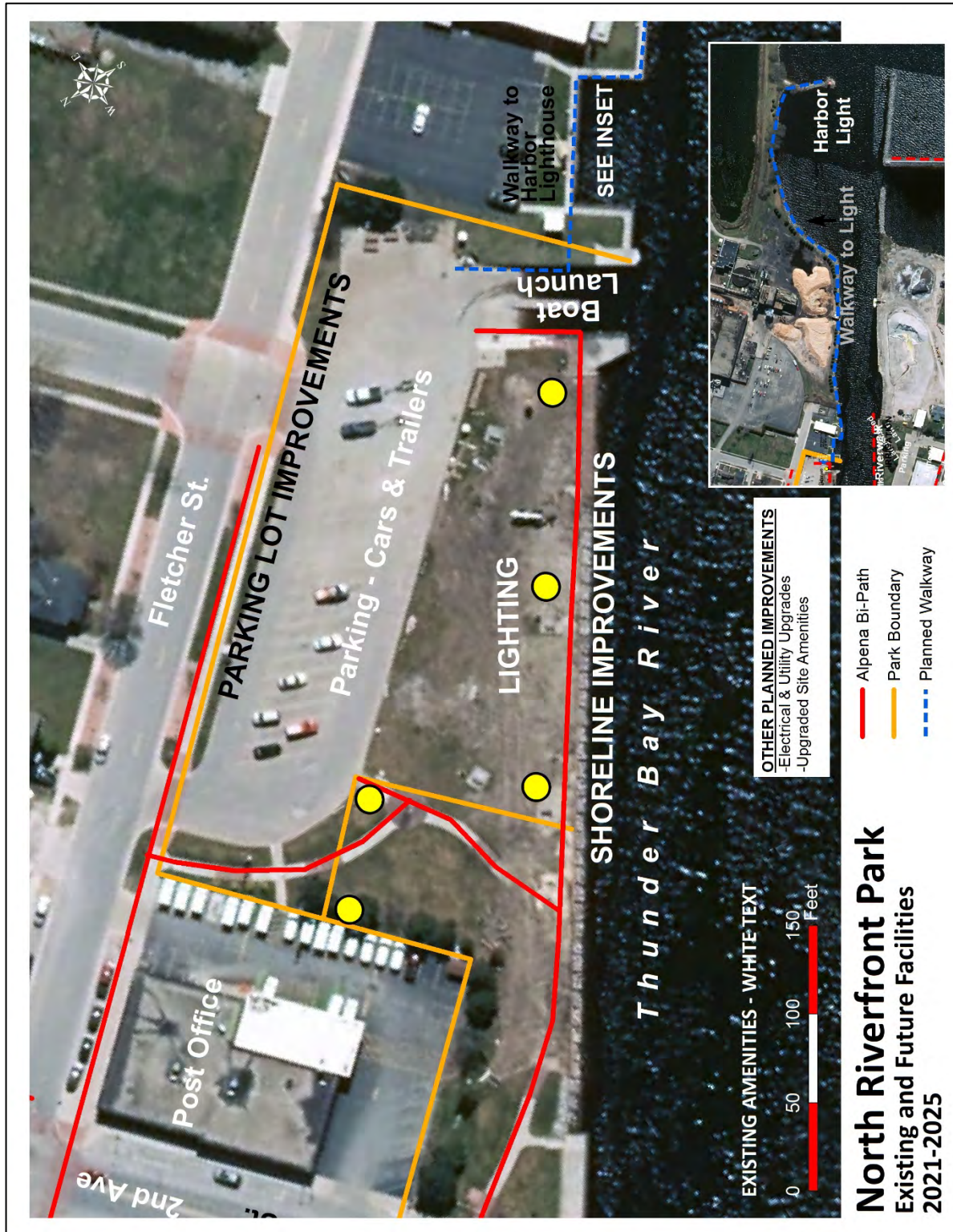


MAP 18: MCRAE PARK







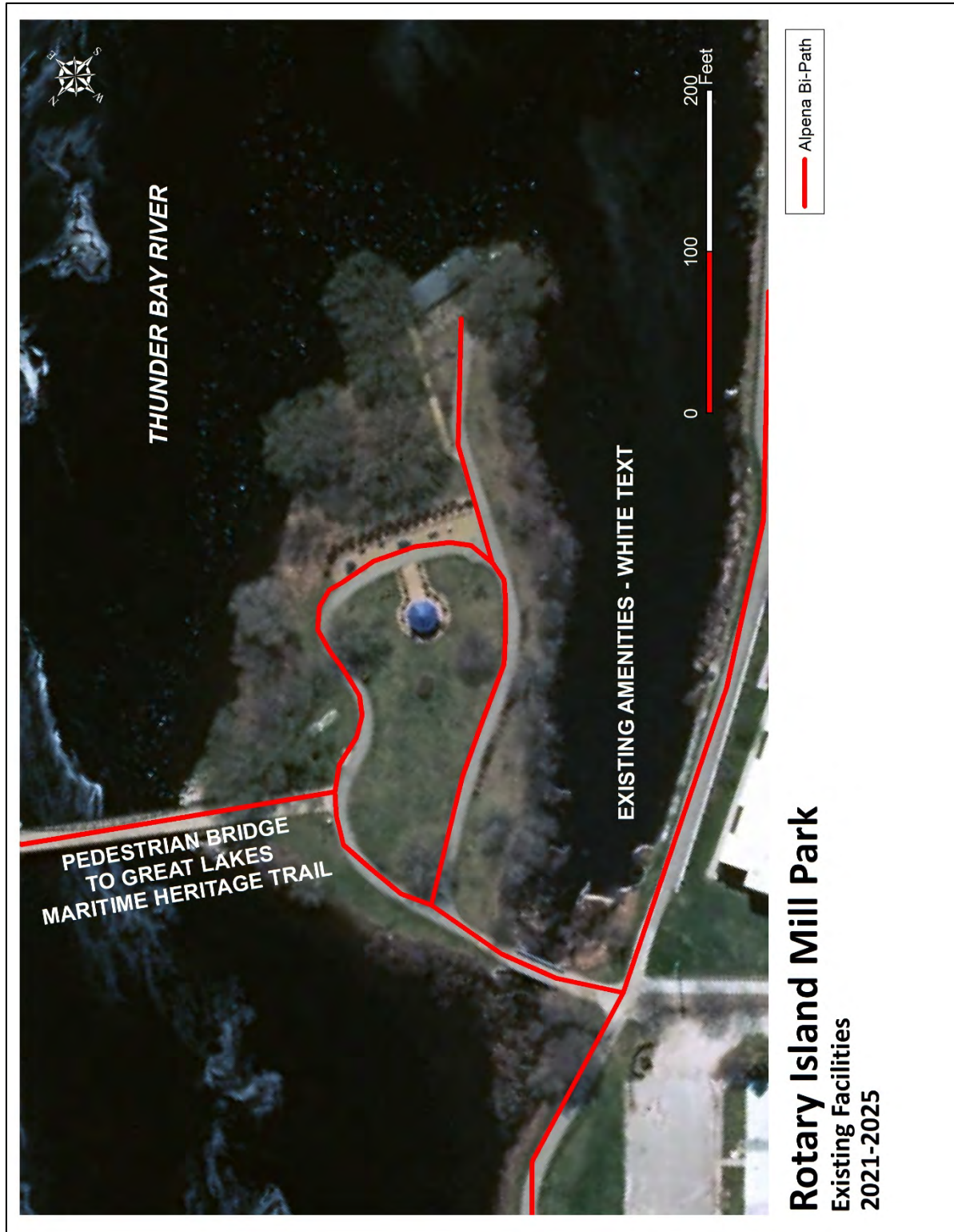


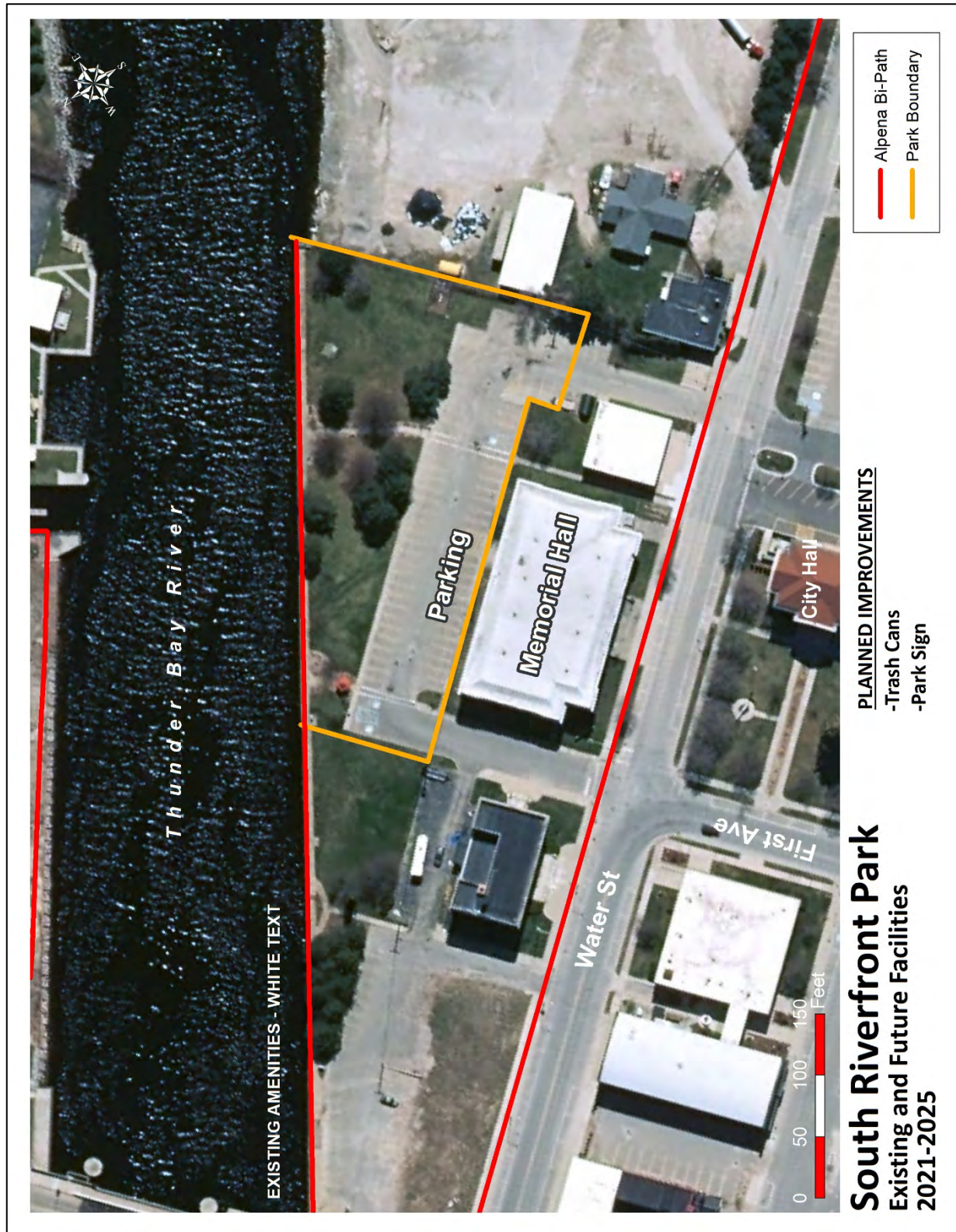


MAP 21: RIVERSIDE SKATE PARK/WATERTOWER PARK







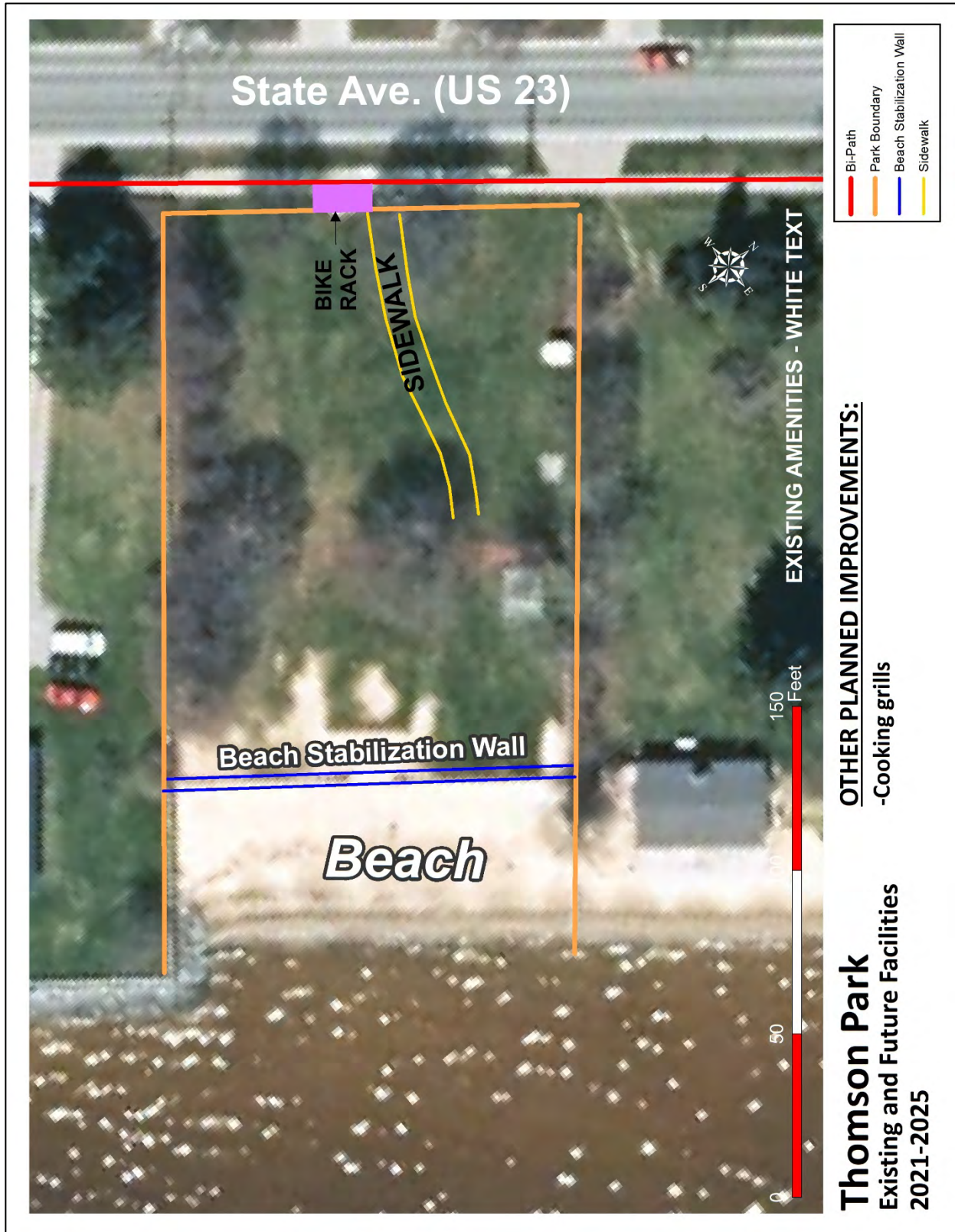




MAP 24: STARLITE BEACH

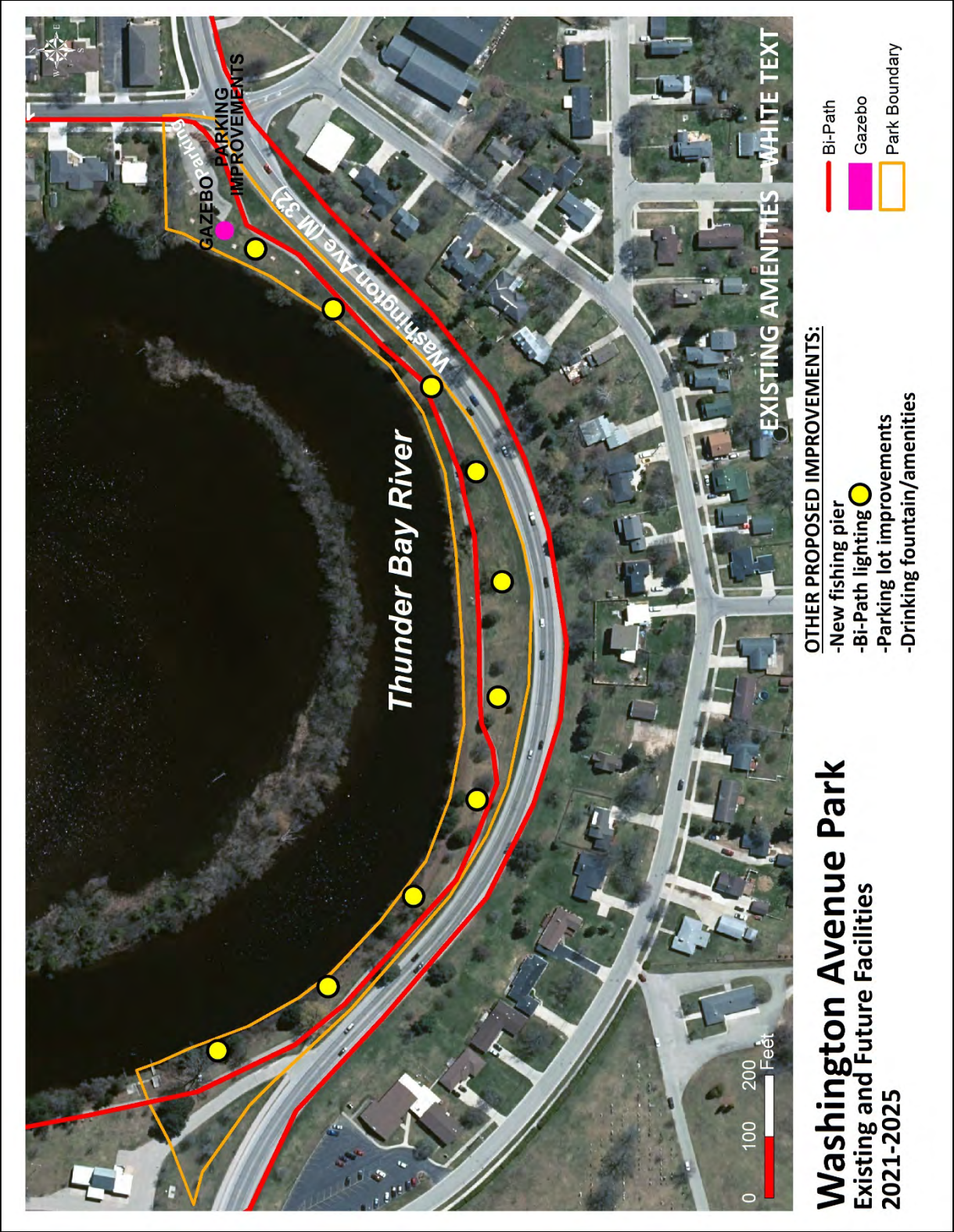








MAP 26: WASHINGTON AVENUE PARK



## APPENDIX A

### CITY OF ALPENA

#### PARKS & REC POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- Parks, Recreational Facilities and City Property Ordinance
- Parks Use Policy
- Large Event Application & Fee Schedule
- Small Event Application & Fee Schedule
- Marina Regulations Ordinance
- Marina Regulations

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### ARTICLE III. - USE OF PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND CITY PROPERTY

#### Sec. 58-61. - Duty of persons using grounds and facilities generally.

Each person using the public parks, beaches and city property shall clean up all debris, extinguish all fires when such fires are permitted, and leave the premises in good order and the facilities in a neat and sanitary condition.

(Code 1971, § 23-1)

#### Sec. 58-62. - Prohibited acts.

It shall be unlawful for any person using such city parks, beaches and city property to either perform or permit to be performed any of the following acts:

- (1) Willfully mark, deface, disfigure, injure, tamper with, or displace or remove any buildings, bridges, tables, benches, fireplaces, railings, paving or paving material, waterlines or other public utilities or parts or appurtenances thereof, signs, notices or placards whether temporary or permanent, monuments, stakes, posts, or other boundary markers, or other structures or equipment, facilities or city property or appurtenances whatsoever, either real or personal.
- (2) Throw, discharge, or otherwise place or cause to be placed in the waters of any fountain, pond, lake, stream, bay or other body of water in or adjacent to any park or any tributary, stream, storm sewer, or drain flowing into such waters, any substance, matter or thing, liquid or solid, which will or may result in the pollution of such waters.
- (3) Bring in or dump, deposit or leave any bottles, broken glass, ashes, paper, boxes, cans, dirt, rubbish, waste, garbage or refuse or other trash. No such refuse or trash shall be placed in any waters in or contiguous to any park or city property, or left anywhere on the grounds thereof but shall be placed in the proper receptacles where these are provided. Where receptacles are not so provided, all such rubbish or waste shall be carried away from the park or city property by the person responsible for its presence, and properly disposed of elsewhere.
- (4) Disturb the peace or use any profane, obscene or vulgar language.
- (5) Endanger the safety of any person by any conduct or act.
- (6) Commit any assault, battery or engage in fighting.
- (7) Violate any rule made for the use of the park or city property or approved by the city manager.
- (8) Prevent any person from using any park or city property or any of its facilities or interfere with such use in compliance with this chapter and the rules applicable to such use.
- (9) Swim, bathe or wade in any waters or waterways in or adjacent to any park or city property, except in such waters and at such places as are provided therefor, and in compliance with such regulations as are set forth in this chapter or as may be hereafter adopted.
- (10) Animals. It shall be unlawful to bring any dangerous animal into any park or on city property, and it shall be unlawful to permit any dog to be in any park or on city property unless such dog is on a leash and under the reasonable control of its owner.
- (11) Sales. It shall be unlawful for any person, other than employees and officials of the city acting on behalf of the city, to vend, sell, peddle or offer for sale any commodity or article within any park or on city property.
- (12) Signs. It shall be unlawful for anyone to paste, glue, tack or otherwise post any sign, placard, advertisement or inscription whatever, nor shall any person erect or cause to be erected any sign whatever on any city property or highways or roads.
- (13) Smoking of tobacco in any form, including vaping, except as noted below:



- a. Two posted designated areas at the City Marina;
- b. Woodward Avenue Trailhead.

This subsection specifically applies to City parks, beaches and recreation areas.

A person who violates this subparagraph is responsible for a municipal civil infraction, and shall be subject to a civil fine of not more than \$50.00 for the first infraction, \$100.00 for the second infraction and \$200.00 for each subsequent infraction.

(Code 1971, § 23-2; Ord. No. 15-433, 7-20-15; Ord. No. 19-444, 6-3-19)

Sec. 58-63. - Violators of sections 58-61 and 58-62 to leave park or beach upon request of authorized personnel.

Any person found in violation of sections 58-61 and 58-62 shall, upon direction of the city manager or any authorized city police officer of the city, or any other authorized person, leave the specific park, beach or city property.

(Code 1971, § 23-3)

Sec. 58-64. - Penalty for violation.

Violation of any of the provisions of this article shall be a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.00 and/or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 90 days.

(Code 1971, § 23-4)

Sec. 58-65. - Authority of city manager to promulgate rules and regulations.

The city manager for the city shall have the power and authority to make any and all necessary rules and regulations necessary to implement the purposes and provisions of this article, to regulate the hours such parks, beaches and city property shall be open to the public and to regulate the activities for which such parks, beaches and city property may be used. Any rule or regulation prescribed by such city manager shall be enforceable as a part of this article.

(Code 1971, § 23-5)



# City Of Alpena Parks Use Policy

The City of Alpena Park System consists of approximately 100 Acres of land with nearly 16.5 miles of bike path, and approximately 1-1/2 miles of Lake Huron Shoreline. There are 18 Parks within the City of Alpena including the following:

Avery Park	North Riverfront Park
Bay View Park	South Riverfront Park
Blair Street Park	Starlite Beach
Culligan Plaza	Sytek Park
Duck Park	Thomson Park
Eleventh Avenue Boat Launch	Washington Avenue Park
Island Park	Water Tower Park
LaMarre Park	Veteran’s Memorial Park
McRae Park	Alpena City Hall
Mich-e-ke-wis	

These Parks are intended for use and enjoyment by residents of the City of Alpena and visitors to our area. The City reserves the right to establish capacities for each park outlined herein. The following standards and requirements have been established by which activities, special events, and large gatherings may be permitted within the Alpena Park System when the requirements have been met and approved by the Alpena City Council or City staff.

## DEFINITIONS

- A. "Applicant" means a person who applies for a use permit.
- B. "Capacity" shall mean the number of people that are allowed to attend an event and remain within the confines of the rental area
- C. "Deposit" shall mean an amount of money paid in advance to the City by the event sponsor and held by the City until the conclusion of the event and inspection by the City of the facilities utilized. The cost of any damages to the facilities or costs of any cleanup required by the City not performed per the policy shall be deducted from the monies held. In the event that the deposit held does not cover all costs incurred, the event sponsor shall be billed for the additional costs.
- D. "Event" means any activity or gathering to be held in a City of Alpena Park, all or any of which includes a theatrical or musical exhibition, public exhibition, public show, display, entertainment, amusement or exhibition including but not limited to, large picnics; reunions; family, club, fraternity or sorority gatherings; races; walking events; youth and adult sporting events; fishing tournaments; day camps or similar gatherings; but does not mean:
  - a. An event which is conducted or sponsored by the City of Alpena on publicly owned land;
  - b. An event, with a valid reservation, held entirely within the confines of a picnic shelter and within the limits of the shelter's rated capacity; or
  - c. Volunteer groups working within the park, with advanced permission from City staff.
- E. "Fees" means any cost, as established by the City, for rental or use of a park, portion of a park, or facilities within a park.
- F. "Large Event" means an event where the expected or actual number of participants is greater than 100. This is not intended to include events not open to the public and family in nature, ie family reunions, weddings, etc. The City does however; reserve the right to incorporate large event requirements upon any event if deemed appropriate by City staff.
- G. "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, group or organization.
- H. "Sponsor" means any person or group of persons who organizes, promotes, conducts, or causes to be conducted, any event or a large outdoor assembly.
- I. "Youth Group" means a group organized for, and whose membership comprises of children 0-18 years of age. The term 'youth group' shall not include any college or university youth group.

## APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

- A. A person shall not sponsor, operate, maintain, conduct, or promote an event in any City of Alpena Park unless the person shall have first made application for, and obtained as hereinafter prescribed, a permit for each such event.
- B. Any person making application for a use permit who is not current in paying City property taxes, is in default to the City, or is in litigation with the City shall have that application denied with no appeal process.
- C. A person shall not conduct an event in any City of Alpena Park unless a permit has been issued for that event.
- D. Application for a permit to conduct any event must be made in writing on such forms and in such a manner as prescribed by the City of Alpena. For small events the initial application shall be made at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the proposed event. For large events the initial application

shall be made at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the proposed event. The City of Alpena reserves the right to allow City staff to waive this requirement provided all information is provided in a timely manner.

## **FEES AND DEPOSITS**

- A. For events taking place within the confines of a park building (within the buildings rated capacity), the normal rental fee and deposit, as established in the fee schedule within the City of Alpena budget document, shall apply and be due upon application for the reservation.
- B. If an event causes any building or facility to be unavailable for rent to the general public, the event shall be responsible for the normal rental fees as established in the fee schedule for that building or facility. The rental fee shall be due upon application for the reservation, regardless of whether the building or facility is being used by the event.
- C. An additional deposit, per the City of Alpena's fee schedule, may be required for a person reserving a shelter or park area, if that person or group has failed to abide by City of Alpena rules and regulations for use of the parks in the past or violated this policy during a previous event at a City of Alpena Park. Deposits, when required, are due upon application for the reservation. Failure to pay any required deposit may result in forfeiture of the reservation and any fees paid to date for the event.
- D. Any deposits required will be retained by the City Clerk's Office to cover any costs incurred for repair or maintenance of the area utilized by the event. In the event the applicant does not comply with cleanup requirements or causes damages to the City owned facilities, the cost for repairs or performing the work shall be deducted from the deposit. The balance of the deposit shall be returned. If costs exceed the deposit amount, the sponsor shall be billed for the difference.
- E. A waiver of fees may be considered by City staff for events that are charitable in nature.
- F. If the event is canceled the deposit and fees paid can be refunded up until two (2) weeks prior to the event.
- G. For Profit entities, those charging a fee to attend the event, payment for services rendered, or those selling goods reserving and utilizing a park or facility shall be required to pay twice the published fee as established in the annual budget.

## **ACTION BY THE CITY**

- A. The application shall be reviewed by City staff for consideration.
- B. The City Manager or his or her designee shall make decisions regarding approval or disapproval of an event permit.
- C. An applicant may appeal a denial of an application by the City Manager within five (5) days of the notice of denial, by submitting a written appeal to the City Clerk's Office. The City Council shall review the appeal at its next regularly scheduled session and shall advise the applicant of its decision in writing, within five (5) days of the meeting at which the appeal was addressed.

## **PERMIT DENIAL – The permit may be denied if:**

- A. The application fails to comply with any requirements of this policy, existing park rules and regulations, or any conditions imposed pursuant hereto, or with any other applicable provisions of state law or local ordinances.



- B. The applicant has knowingly made a false, misleading, or fraudulent statement in the application or in any supporting document.
- C. City staff or the Alpena Municipal Council may deny the permit for any of the following reasons, including but not limited to:
- prior commitments
  - scheduling conflicts
  - facility capacities
  - prior performance of the applicant, person, or sponsor
  - failure to follow park rules and regulations
  - exceeding shelter or area capacities or exceeding the limits of a previous permit
  - A lack of adequate City staff for the protection of the parks and their visitors.

## **APPEAL**

Any individual applicant may appeal a denial by petitioning the Alpena Municipal Council.

## **SOUND PRODUCING EQUIPMENT**

Where the event involves the use of mechanically or physically amplified sounds, the use of such equipment shall not constitute a nuisance or produce excessive amplification which will unduly interfere with the rights and privileges of other park users and/or neighboring residents, or violate the City's Noise Ordinance 54-1. The Alpena Municipal Council shall be the only body with authority to waive any portion of Ordinance 54-1.

## **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

When an event sponsor sells or furnishes beer, wine, or other spirits, a temporary license to do so shall have been obtained from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

## **OTHER PERMITS AND LICENSES**

For events that might include such items as tents, caterers, or open fires local permits and/or licenses may be required. The sponsor shall be responsible for acquiring those permits or licenses and providing a copy to the City of Alpena Clerk at least ten (10) days prior to the event.

## **WAIVER**

The sponsor of the event may petition the City, or its designated representative, for a waiver of one or more of the requirements for a permit under these rules. Upon receipt of such petition, if it appears to the City, or its designated representative, that one or more of the requirements of the policy creates an unnecessary hardship, not created by the action of the sponsor, or that a genuine hardship exists because of the unusual circumstances with regards to the particular activity, such requirement or requirements may be waived. The need to obtain a permit may be waived by the City, or its designated representative, if it is determined it is unreasonable for the size or nature of the activity taking place.

The nature of the event, the number of attendees anticipated, and the past history of similar events and/or sponsoring organizations are factors that will be considered in determining whether a waiver is granted.

## **REVOCATION**

The City, or its designated representative, may revoke a permit whenever the sponsor, its employees, or agents fail, neglect, or refuse to fully comply with any and all provisions and requirements set forth herein or with any and all provisions, regulations, ordinances, statutes, or other laws incorporated herein by reference.

## **VIOLATIONS**

Any violations of this policy shall cause the immediate suspension of any uses, activities, or events authorized by any permit issued. Further penalties may be invoked as violations of State Law or City Ordinances as applicable.

## **TRANSFERABILITY**

No license or permit issued shall be transferable unless specifically authorized.

## **SEVERABILITY**

If any word, clause, sentence, or section of this policy or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be found to be invalid by a court, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions or applications of this policy.

## **RESERVATIONS**

Scheduling of all park facility rentals shall be coordinated through the City Clerk's Office, which shall maintain a master calendar for all parks and facilities. Rentals or use of the park facilities may be granted on a tiered priority basis with long standing events having priority over new or occasional events. Reservations are not transferable. Events submitting their request by the date indicated shall have priority over other events submitted later. Subsequent requests shall be reviewed on a first come first serve basis. The tiers shall be as follows:

### **TIER I (Requests received prior to February 1 of each year)**

All established entities, which have previous permission from the City Council for use of the park facilities, ie, the Michigan Brown Trout Festival, Art on the Bay, True North Radio Summer Concert Series, McRae Park Association, Huron Shores Little League, etc.

### **TIER II (Requests received prior to March 1 of each year)**

Other non-profit groups or organizations, family reunions, weddings, etc. and those for profit entities holding free events for clients, employees, or the public.

### **TIER III (Requests received prior to April 1 of each year)**

Other for profit groups or organizations.

Vendors and businesses wishing to operate within the City parks.

## **RESERVATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All reservations, committed uses, and unavailable times for facilities shall be posted at City Hall and on the City of Alpena website; [www.alpena.mi.us](http://www.alpena.mi.us). Reservations shall also be posted at the facility, if applicable, in advance of the event to ensure availability on the day of the event.

## CITY OF ALPENA NOISE ORDINANCE

### Sec. 54-1. Noise generally.

(a) *Findings and declarations.* It is hereby found and declared that:

(1) The occurrence of loud noises in the city constitutes a detriment to public health, comfort, safety, and welfare of the residents of the city.

(2) As a matter of legislative determination and public policy, the provisions, regulations and prohibitions of this section are in pursuance of and for the purpose of securing and promoting the public health, comfort, convenience, safety and welfare and the peace and quiet of the city and its inhabitants.

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section all acoustical words and terms shall have the meanings set forth in the publication of the United States of American Standards Institute, New York, New York, entitled "Acoustical Terminology," USASI S1. 1-1960; all equipment used in making acoustical measurements shall meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the publication of such institute entitled "Specification for General Purpose Sound Level Meters," USASI S1. 4-1961, and all such measurements so made shall be made in full accordance with the methods and procedures set forth in USASI S1. 2-1962 entitled "Methods for the Physical Measurement of Sound."

(c) *Prohibited sound levels.* No person shall cause to be made, directly or indirectly, by any means whatsoever except vehicles whether mechanical or not, any sound that exceeds the limits set forth for the receiving and use category in table I when measured at or within the property boundary of the receiving land use, which source of sound shall be deemed prima facie to be a noise disturbance.

*Table I. Sound Levels by Receiving Land Use*

TABLE INSET:

Receiving Land Use Category	Time	A-Weighted Sound Level Limit, dBA
Residentially zoned property	10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	60
	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	70
Office zoned property	10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	62
	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	72
Business and parking zoned property	10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	64
	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	74
Industrially zoned property	10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	66
	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	76

(d) *Specific noise prohibitions.*

(1) Unless exempted under the provisions of this section, no person shall cause to be made, directly or indirectly, any loud noise which disturbs, injures or endangers the health, comfort, safety or welfare of others within the city.

(2) The following specific acts are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but such enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive:

a. *Horns, signaling devices, etc.* The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck or other vehicle on any street, road or public place, except as a warning pursuant to the provisions of section 706 of the Michigan Vehicle



Code (MCL 257.706, MSA 9.2406); whistle or other device operated by engine exhaust; and the use of any such signaling device when traffic is for any reason held up.

b. *Radio and television sets, phonographs, etc.* The use of radio or television receiving sets, musical instrument, phonograph or other audio equipment for the producing or reproducing of sound in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with volume louder than is necessary for convenient hearing for the person or persons who are in the structure in which such audio equipment is operated and who are voluntary listeners thereto. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph or audio equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet from the building or structure in which it is located shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

c. *Loudspeakers, amplifiers for advertising.* The use of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound which is cast upon the public streets for the purpose of commercial advertising.

d. *Animals, birds, etc.* The keeping of any animal or bird which by causing frequent or long-continued noise shall disturb the comfort and repose of persons residing in the vicinity.

e. *Exhausts.* The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any internal combustion engine except through an adequate muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom. This includes by way of example and not by way of limitation, internal combustion engines powering motor vehicles, lawn mowers and chain saws.

**State law references:** Mufflers, MCL 257.707, MSA 9.2407.

f. *Loading and unloading.* The creation of a loud and excessive noise in connection with loading and unloading any vehicle or the opening or destruction of bales, boxes, crates and containers.

g. *Construction or repairing of buildings.* The erection (including excavating), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building other than between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector, which permit may be granted for a period not to exceed three days or less while the emergency continues and which permit may be renewed for a period of three days or less while the emergency continues.

h. *Blowers, fans, pumps.* The use of any blower, fan or pump or engine or motor in connection therewith, including by way of example and not by way of limitation, air conditioning systems, compression devices and pool filter systems, if such use creates loud, penetrating or continuous noises that disturb the comfort or repose of persons residing in the vicinity.

i. *Schools, courts, churches, hospitals.* The creation of any excessive noise, adjacent to any school, institution of learning, house of worship or judicial court while such schools, courts, churches or hospitals are in use, or adjacent to any hospital which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institution, or which disturbs or unduly annoys patients in the hospital, provided conspicuous signs are displayed on the adjacent streets indicating that the street is a school, hospital, church, or court street.

**State law references:** Disturbing public gatherings, MCL 750.169, 752.525, MSA 28.366, 28.133.

j. *Hawkers, peddlers.* The shouting and crying of peddlers, hawkers and vendors which disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.

k. *Drums, bell and the like.* The use of any drum, bell, horn, loudspeaker or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance show or sale or display of merchandise by any creation of noise or sound.

l. *Mobile loudspeakers.* The use of mechanical loudspeakers or amplifiers on vehicle or aircraft for commercial advertising purposes.

m. *Yelling, shouting and the like.* Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling or singing on the public streets at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort or repose of persons in any office, dwelling, hotel, motel or other type of residence or of any persons in the vicinity.

(3) If any person who is not exempted under the provisions of this section shall cause to be made any of the noises prohibited under this subsection (d), and if such noises shall be proved to be in violation of the sound levels prescribed under this section, such proof shall be sufficient to prove a violation under this section.

(e) *Exceptions.* The prohibitions contained in this section shall not apply to persons who are engaged in:

(1) The performance of any public or governmental function such as the sounding of a church or school bell, or a police, fire, ambulance, air raid or like disaster warning, alert or alarm, whether such alarm be for an actual emergency purpose or for practice or drilling purposes.

(2) A religious, charitable, recreational, civil or political activity by means of a sound truck or other amplifying device, for nonprofit purposes, provided that such persons shall have first filed with the city council an application for a permit setting forth the sponsorship, date, hours and routes of such activity and the council shall have issued a permit after having ascertained that such activity is not

in conflict in terms of hours, route, traffic volume and like factors, with any other previously scheduled activity.

(3) Any activity specifically permitted or required by any ordinance, resolution, statute or governmental regulation.

(f) *Audio equipment in motorized vehicles.* The use of any radio, audio equipment, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in any motorized vehicle between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in such a manner as to be audible at a distance of 100 feet from the said motorized vehicle is prohibited and shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section. Any person violating this section shall be responsible for a civil infraction and shall be assessed a civil fine not to exceed \$500.00.

(Code 1971, § 22-1; Ord. No. 02-330, §§ 1, 2, 11-4-2002)



# APPLICATION FOR PERMIT/RESERVATION LARGE EVENT APPLICATION (More than 100 People)

City of Alpena  
208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI 49707  
(989) 354-1720 – fax (989) 354-1709

Facility Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ☐ am/pm  
Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Number of People in Party \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ☐ am/pm

Event Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Reservation of a facility does not guarantee full use of other park facilities.*

Mark **ALL** facilities you are requesting the use of

## Parks Available for Reservation

Bay View Park		Mich-e-ke-wis Park	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Four Tennis Courts - \$5/court/hr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building - \$125 plus \$100 deposit (includes 8 tables & refuse receptacles)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Three Basketball Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Band Shell - \$200 deposit		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
McRae Park		Starlite Beach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building – Fees/Rentals through McRae Park Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pavilion - \$50 plus \$100 deposit (includes 20 picnic tables & 4 refuse receptacles)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Two Tennis Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Two Basketball Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
		Culligan Plaza	
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Open gathering area - \$50 per max 4 hour event

Return completed form with fee (by check) to City of Alpena Clerk's Office, 208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI, 49707. All questions can be directed to the City Clerk at (989) 354-1720, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m.to 5 p.m.

**I. The purpose and character of the proposed Event is as follows:**

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**II. The proposed Event is to be conducted at (address):**

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**III. The dates and hours during which the proposed Event is to be conducted are as follows:**

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**IV. Applicant estimates that the maximum number of persons expected at the Event for each day it is conducted is:**

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**V. The applicant hereby agrees to observe and obey the minimum requirements contained in this policy and the laws of the City of Alpena, County of Alpena, and the State of Michigan. The applicant furthermore agrees to cooperate in all manners with law enforcement officials as the need may arise.**

**VI. HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE: The Person shall defend, pay on behalf of, and hold harmless the City of Alpena, its employees, agents, public officials, and volunteers from and against any and all losses, damages, expenses, claims, suits, and demand of whatever nature resulting from damages or injuries, including death, to any persons or property, and including any claim for losses incurred by reason of project delay, impact (soft) costs, or other intangible losses that might result from Person late or defective performance, caused by or arising out of any action, omission, or operation performed in connection with work attributable to this contract; provided, however, the Person shall not be required to indemnify the City of Alpena, its employees, agents, public officials, and volunteers for any damages or injuries, including death, to any person or property caused solely and exclusively by the negligence of the City of Alpena, its employees, public officials, and volunteers.**



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

Received by City Clerk's Office:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact DPW at (989) 354-1780 to make arrangements to pick up the key (Bandshell and Mich-e-ke-wis rentals). Office hours for DPW are Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**IF YOU DO NOT PICK UP THE KEY PRIOR TO YOUR RENTAL DATE, THERE WILL BE A CHARGE FOR A CITY EMPLOYEE TO BE CALLED OUT TO GET YOU A KEY. THE AMOUNT CHARGED WILL BE APPROXIMATELY \$70.00, AND IT WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR DEPOSIT.**

# **LARGE EVENT STAFF REVIEW AND COMMENT**

**(STAFF USE ONLY)**

**CITY STAFF SHALL MARK THE APPROPRIATE ITEMS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE APPLICANT**

- ☐ Police and fire protection
- ☐ Food and water supply and facilities
- ☐ Health and sanitation facilities
- ☐ Medical facilities and services, including emergency vehicles and equipment
- ☐ Vehicle access and parking
- ☐ Camping and trailer facilities
- ☐ Illumination facilities
- ☐ Communication facilities
- ☐ Noise control and abatement
- ☐ Facilities for clean-up and waste control
- ☐ Barrier locations and type
- ☐ Insurance and bonding agreement
- ☐ Attach a detailed map or maps of the overall site of the proposed assembly
- ☐ Waiver of Liability
- ☐ Emergency contact information including name, telephone number, address, and email address

**Attach a detailed explanation, including drawings and diagrams where applicable, of the applicants plan to provide for all of the above checked items.**

## LARGE EVENT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Applications for large events are subject to subsections A through L, and such additional requirements as may be imposed. The information for all those items checked must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office four (4) weeks prior to the event.

- ☐ **A. SECURITY PERSONNEL** – The sponsor shall employ, at its own expense, such security personnel as are necessary and sufficient to provide for the adequate security and protection of the maximum number of persons at the event and for the preservation of order and protection of property in and around the site of the event. No permit shall be issued unless the City of Alpena Police Department is satisfied that such necessary and sufficient security personnel will be provided by the sponsor for the duration of the event.
- ☐ **B. RESTROOM FACILITIES** – The sponsor shall provide additional restroom facilities as needed beyond those regularly provided by the City of Alpena. The numbers and types of facilities required shall be determined, on the basis of the number of persons to attend the event, in the following manner:

<u>Facilities</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Toilets	1:200	1:75
Urinals	1:150	N/A

If Unisex facilities are to be provided, the following ratio is to be followed: 1:75

The sponsor shall provide for liquid waste disposal in accordance with all rules and regulations pertaining thereto by the Alpena County Health Department. An executed agreement shall be provided to the City between the sponsor and a licensed pumper or hauler, which agreement will assure proper, effective, and frequent removal of liquid waste from the premises so as to neither create a nuisance nor menace to the public health.

- ☐ **C. FOOD SERVICE:** If food service is made available on the premises, it shall be delivered only through caterers or vendors licensed and in accordance with provisions of the local health department being District Health Department #4, (989) 356-4507.
- ☐ **D. MEDICAL PERSONNEL/FACILITIES:** The sponsor shall provide for medical personnel and facilities. The kind, location, staff strength, medical and other supplies and equipment of such facilities shall be approved by the Fire Chief for the City of Alpena. An ambulance may be required for events including, but not limited to, running races and triathlons. Such ambulance will be located with unencumbered access to the persons in attendance at the event and a clear route of egress from the event conducive to rapid travel shall be maintained at all times.

- **E. GARBAGE & TRASH DISPOSAL:** The sponsor shall provide for solid waste storage on, and disposal from, the premises. Storage shall be in covered, fly tight and rodent-proof containers, provided in sufficient quantity to accommodate the number of persons attending the event. An executed agreement shall be provided to the City between the sponsor and a licensed solid waste collector, which agreement will assure proper, effective, and frequent removal of solid waste from the premises so as to neither create a nuisance nor menace to the public health.
- **F. ACCESS AND TRAFFIC CONTROL:** The sponsor shall provide for ingress and egress from the premises so as to ensure an orderly flow of traffic onto and off from the premises. Traffic lanes and other space shall be provided and kept open for access by ambulance, fire equipment, and other emergency services as required by the City of Alpena Fire Chief and Police Chief.
- **G. PARKING:** At each park either on-street or off-street parking is provided. Parking shall only be allowed in designated and maintained parking areas. The sponsor shall provide for and ensure orderly parking and shall maintain such parking and traffic patterns within the parking area as to assure that each vehicle shall have a clear route by which to leave the parking area at all times.
- **H. ILLUMINATION:** The sponsor shall provide additional electrical illumination of all occupied areas to ensure the safety and comfort of all event attendees if required by the Police Chief.
- **I. INSURANCE:** Any sponsor, individual, applicant, or entity holding an event in the City of Alpena's Parks shall be required to have liability insurance in the amount of at minimum one million dollars (\$1,000,000) and shall name the City of Alpena as an additional insured.
- **J. BARRIER:** The sponsor may be required to erect a barrier completely enclosing the site. Such barrier shall have sufficient height and strength as will preclude persons in excess of the maximum permissible persons from gaining access and such barrier shall have sufficient gates, properly located, so as to provide ready and safe ingress and egress. The sponsor shall insure that public sidewalks, streets, alleys, and rights-of-way are not blocked or obstructed by the participants at the event, their vehicles, or their activities. The City reserves the right to establish a capacity for the area requested to be utilized by an event.
- **K. MISCELLANEOUS:** Prior to issuance of a permit, the City of Alpena may impose any other condition(s) reasonably calculated to protect the health, safety, welfare, and property of persons attending the event, persons visiting the park, or citizens of the City of Alpena.
- **L. COST RECOVERY:** The City reserves the right to recover costs from the applicant for any and all work incurred by the City resultant from the event and failure on the part of the applicant to comply with this policy. If warranted by City staff, a bond may be required in advance of the event.



## **CITY OF ALPENA EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Reservations for use of the parks and facilities may be taken for the current calendar year or the following calendar year.
2. Reservations may be made by mail or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI 49707, (989) 354-1720.
3. Reservations are not confirmed nor considered until payment and deposit is received with reservation application or confirming letter is sent.
4. All applications will be considered on a first received basis, per the appropriate tier.
5. Persons must be 18 years old or older to reserve a facility.
6. Patrons are responsible for keeping the parks clean by leaving the surrounding grounds free of litter after the event. Trash generated by the event at the pavilion or Mich-e-ke-wis warming shelter may be deposited in the dumpster located near the warming shelter. Additional bags are located in the bottom of the trash receptacle. Further fees may be assessed and/or future access to park facilities through reservations may be prohibited. Any deposit collected is to be returned if patrons have cleaned their area and taken additional refuse with them and no damages are evident.
7. If picnic tables are relocated for the event, they must be returned to their original location.
8. All advertising shall be limited to identification and/or location of the event. All sales of merchandise or other material is prohibited unless allowed by permit.
9. Use of the parks or facilities for profit by any individual, entity, or organization shall be prohibited or allowed by permit only.
10. The permit holder further agrees to pay the City of Alpena for damages to the property caused by any person during the permitted event.
11. The City of Alpena Parks are open from 8 AM to 11 PM, unless otherwise posted at the main vehicle entrance to the park. Variance to this shall be authorized as outlined in the permit.

## **GENERAL PARK RULES**

1. Alcohol is not permitted in City Parks unless the City Manager promulgates rules to the contrary.
2. Glass is prohibited in City Parks.
3. Owners must ensure that their pets are controlled per City of Alpena ordinances and the owners shall be responsible for cleaning up any droppings.
4. All motorized vehicles must remain in designated parking areas unless expressly approved in the application.
5. Park Hours are from 8:00 AM until 11:00 PM each day unless amended by the City Manager.



# APPLICATION FOR PERMIT/RESERVATION

## SMALL EVENT APPLICATION (Less than 100 People)

City of Alpena  
208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI 49707  
(989) 354-1720 – fax (989) 354-1709

Facility Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ☐ am/pm  
Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Number of People in Party \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Time \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ ☐ am/pm

Event Description \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Reservation of a facility does not guarantee full use of other park facilities.*

Mark ALL facilities you are requesting the use of

### Parks Available for Reservation

Bay View Park		Mich-e-ke-wis Park	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Four Tennis Courts - \$5/court/hr	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building - \$125 plus \$100 deposit (includes 8 tables & refuse receptacles)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Three Basketball Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Band Shell - \$200 deposit		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
McRae Park		Starlite Beach	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building – Fees/Rentals through McRae Park Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pavilion - \$50 plus \$100 deposit (includes 20 picnic tables & 4 refuse receptacles)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Two Tennis Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Two Basketball Courts - \$5/court/hr		
<input type="checkbox"/>			
		Culligan Plaza	
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Open gathering area - \$50 per max 4 hour event

Return completed form with fee (by check) to City of Alpena Clerk's Office, 208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI, 49707. All questions can be directed to the City Clerk at (989) 354-1720, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m.to 5 p.m.

**I. The purpose and character of the proposed Event is as follows:**

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**II. The proposed Event is to be conducted at (address):**

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**III. The dates and hours during which the proposed Event is to be conducted are as follows:**

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**IV. Applicant estimates that the maximum number of persons expected at the Event for each day it is conducted is:**

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**V. The applicant hereby agrees to observe and obey the minimum requirements contained in this policy and the laws of the City of Alpena, County of Alpena, and the State of Michigan. The applicant furthermore agrees to cooperate in all manners with law enforcement officials as the need may arise.**

**VI. HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE: The Person shall defend, pay on behalf of, and hold harmless the City of Alpena, its employees, agents, public officials, and volunteers from and against any and all losses, damages, expenses, claims, suits, and demand of whatever nature resulting from damages or injuries, including death, to any persons or property, and including any claim for losses incurred by reason of project delay, impact (soft) costs, or other intangible losses that might result from Person late or defective performance, caused by or arising out of any action, omission, or operation performed in connection with work attributable to this contract; provided, however, the Person shall not be required to indemnify the City of Alpena, its employees, agents, public officials, and volunteers for any damages or injuries, including death, to any person or property caused solely and exclusively by the negligence of the City of Alpena, its employees, public officials, and volunteers.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

Received by City Clerk's Office:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact DPW at (989) 354-1780 to make arrangements to pick up the key (Bandshell and Mich-e-ke-wis rentals). Office hours for DPW are Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**IF YOU DO NOT PICK UP THE KEY PRIOR TO YOUR RENTAL DATE, THERE WILL BE A CHARGE FOR A CITY EMPLOYEE TO BE CALLED OUT TO GET YOU A KEY. THE AMOUNT CHARGED WILL BE APPROXIMATELY \$70.00, AND IT WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR DEPOSIT.**

## SMALL EVENT MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Applications for events are subject to subsections A through E, and such additional requirements as may be imposed. This information must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office two (2) weeks prior to the event.

- ☐ **A. SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL:** The sponsor shall provide for solid waste storage on, and disposal from, the premises. Storage shall be in covered, fly tight, and rodent-proof containers, provided in sufficient quantity to accommodate the number of persons attending the event.
- ☐ **B. PARKING:** At each park either on-street or off-street parking is provided. Parking shall only be allowed in designated and maintained parking areas. The sponsor shall provide for and ensure orderly parking and shall maintain such parking and traffic patterns within the parking area as to assure that each vehicle shall have a clear route by which to leave the parking area at all times.
- ☐ **C. MISCELLANEOUS:** Prior to issuance of a permit, the City of Alpena may impose any other condition(s) reasonably calculated to protect the health, safety, welfare, and property of persons attending the event, persons visiting the park, or citizens of the City of Alpena. The sponsor shall insure that public sidewalks, streets, alleys, and rights-of-way are not blocked or obstructed by the participants at the event, their vehicles, or their activities. The City reserves the right to establish a capacity for the area requested to be utilized by an event.
- ☐ **D. HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT:** The applicant must provide a completed and signed indemnification and hold harmless agreement with the application.
- ☐ **E. COST RECOVERY:** The City reserves the right to recover costs from the applicant for any and all work incurred by the City resultant from the event and failure on the part of the applicant to comply with this policy.



## **CITY OF ALPENA EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. Reservations for use of the parks and facilities may be taken for the current calendar year or the following calendar year.
2. Reservations may be made by mail or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 208 N. First Avenue, Alpena, MI 49707, (989) 354-1720.
3. Reservations are not confirmed nor considered until payment and deposit is received with reservation application or confirming letter is sent.
4. All applications will be considered on a first received basis, per the appropriate tier.
5. Persons must be 18 years old or older to reserve a facility.
6. Patrons are responsible for keeping the parks clean by leaving the surrounding grounds free of litter after the event. Further fees may be assessed and/or future access to park facilities through reservations may be prohibited. Any deposit collected is to be returned if patrons have cleaned their area and taken additional refuse with them and no damages are evident.
7. If picnic tables are relocated for the event, they must be returned to their original location.
8. All advertising shall be limited to identification and/or location of the event. All sales of merchandise or other material is prohibited unless allowed by permit.
9. Use of the parks or facilities for profit by any individual, entity, or organization shall be prohibited or allowed by permit only.
10. The permit holder further agrees to pay the City of Alpena for damages to the property caused by any person during the permitted event.
11. The City of Alpena Parks are open from 8 AM to 11 PM, unless otherwise posted at the main vehicle entrance to the park. Variance to this shall be authorized as outlined in the permit.

## **GENERAL PARK RULES**

1. Alcohol is not permitted in City Parks unless the City Manager promulgates rules to the contrary.
2. Glass is prohibited in City Parks.
3. Owners must ensure that their pets are controlled per City of Alpena ordinances and the owners shall be responsible for cleaning up any droppings.
4. All motorized vehicles must remain in designated parking areas unless expressly approved in the application.
5. Park Hours are from 8:00 AM until 11:00 PM each day unless amended by the City Manager.

## ARTICLE II. - MARINA REGULATIONS

### Sec. 110-3. - Management.

- (a) The marina will be operated under the jurisdiction of the city manager.
- (b) The city manager shall appoint a department head to be the harbormaster. It shall be the duty of the harbormaster to enforce the provisions of this article.
- (c) The city manager may appoint another city staff to assist the harbormaster with the operation of the marina and harbor as may be necessary.
- (d) The assignment of seasonal and transient vessel slips, docks and mooring buoys and anchorage space will be made by the harbormaster or his designee subject to the provisions of this article.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07; Ord. No. 14-426, 5-5-14)

### Sec. 110-4. - Motor vehicles.

- (a) All vehicles servicing or used in connection with any type of vessel must remain in regularly established roads or parking areas. When not in actual use, all cars, trailers, trucks and other motor vehicles must be parked in designed parking areas.
- (b) All cars, trailers, trucks and other motor vehicles shall not park more than a 48-hour period without permission from the harbormaster. Any of the aforesaid vehicles found in violation will be impounded. The owner of the impounded vehicle shall pay all costs involved in removing the vehicle to the impound lot.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

### Sec. 110-5. - Vessels.

- (a) All vessels shall be assigned dock mooring space or storage space by the harbormaster or his designee. Any vessel moored, beached or stored within the marina and/or harbor without permission of the harbormaster or his designee will be impounded. The owner of such impounded vessel shall pay all costs associated with the impoundment.
- (b) Permit holders shall be permitted to moor small auxiliary vessels within the confines of the slip, dock or mooring space allocated to the permit holder by the harbormaster or his designee, upon the condition the auxiliary craft is towed and/or placed aboard the primary vessel when away from the marina for more than 24 hours. In the event any auxiliary craft is left in a seasonal slip or other mooring facility while the primary vessel is away, the permit holder will be assessed applicable transient vessel fees for each day the auxiliary vessel occupies the space.
- (c) The harbormaster, at his discretion, shall require the permit holder to remove any auxiliary craft from the permit holder's assigned slip/dock space if the auxiliary craft fails to comply with subsection 110-5(b), and/or if the auxiliary craft is untransportable or if the auxiliary vessel exceeds the permit holder's slip/dock space.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

### Sec. 110-6. - Launching.

- (a) *Establishment, collection, administration of fees.* The city, from time to time, shall establish, by resolution of the municipal council, a schedule of fees for boat or watercraft launching at any city-

owned or operated boat launch facility. The collection and administration of fees shall be in the manner prescribed by the city manager.

- (b) *Failure to pay launch fees.* Any person or persons who shall fail to pay the established boat launch fee shall be subject to a penalty set forth by the municipal council in the annual fee schedule for each and every violation thereof. Penalties shall be payable at the traffic violations bureau in accordance with section 94-2, subsections 9.6(a) through (e).
- (c) *Violation notice.* Upon issuance of such violation notice, a copy of such notice shall be placed in a conspicuous place on the vehicle attached to the boat trailer or on the boat trailer itself, which conveyed the boat so launched.
- (d) *Parking of vehicle or boat trailer—Payment of launch fee prerequisite.* It shall be unlawful for any person to park on any city-owned property or privately owned property open to the public, a vehicle and/or boat trailer which has launched a boat from any city-owned launching area, without first having paid the establishing launching fee for such launching.
- (e) *Same—Prima facie evidence of violation.* In any proceeding for a violation of this section, proof that the particular vehicle and/or boat trailer described in the complaint or violation notice was parked in violation of this section as recited in subsection (d) of this section, together with proof that the person named in the complaint or violation notice was at the time of such parking, the registered owner of such vehicle, and/or boat trailer, shall constitute prima facie evidence that the registered owner of such vehicle and/or boat trailer was the person who parked or placed such vehicle at the point where, and for the time during which, such violation occurred.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

#### Sec. 110-7. - Marking.

All vessels shall be marked with the owner's identification and shall be registered with the harbormaster or his designee.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

#### Sec. 110-8. - Equipment.

All trailers, cradles and other equipment used by the permit holder to transport and/or store the vessel must be immediately removed from the marina and/or harbor by the permit holder after the vessel is launched or retrieved.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

#### Sec. 110-9. - Speed limit in harbor—Maximum speed on Thunder Bay River and certain flood waters.

It shall be unlawful for the operator of a vessel or a motor boat to exceed a slow no-wake speed on the waters of Thunder Bay River and flood waters within the corporate city limits and 300 feet in any direction from the mouth of the Thunder Bay River.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

#### Sec. 110-10. - Commercial activity.

No commercial activity shall be permitted within the marina or on the lands adjacent thereto unless permission in writing is obtained from the city. This permission will only be granted upon proof that the city

shall not be liable for any bodily injury, property damage, worker's compensation, or other claims arising from or related to the commercial activity. The city may assess charges for any commercial activity, and all revenues shall accrue to the benefit of the marina and or harbor fund.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-11. - Fire prevention.

No activity shall be conducted, and no materials will be stored of such a nature, or in such a manner so as to constitute a fire hazard. The harbormaster or his designee shall be the judge of what constitutes a fire hazard. When approved activity is being conducted which could constitute a fire hazard, it shall be the responsibility of the party involved to have proper fire prevention equipment as specified by the harbormaster or his designee.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-12. - Marina charges.

The city council, by resolution, will determine the charges and fees for the use of the marina services and facilities. Marina charges shall comply with the minimum and maximum state waterways commission fee schedule. A specific list of charges may be obtained from the harbormaster or designee.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-13. - Release of liability.

- (a) Anyone who utilizes, or authorizes someone to utilize marina or harbor facilities will sign a waiver of liability exempting the city from liability from property damage or personal injury resulting from the use of such marina facilities. Failure to execute a waiver will not constitute an assumption of liability by the city. The city assumes no liability for property damage, or personal injury resulting from the use of marina facilities.
- (b) Permit holders shall execute the permit agreement, prior to the vessel occupying the permit holder's assigned mooring space, indemnifying the city against all liability claims. The permit holder shall also have the vessel covered by a marine insurance policy (hull coverage and protection and indemnity liability coverage), provide identification of the permit holder's insurance company, policy number, effective dates of insurance and provide the city with a copy of said policy on demand.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-14. - Allocation of space.

- (a) The assignment of seasonal and transient dock, slip mooring or anchorage space will be made by the harbormaster or his designee pursuant to the provisions of this section.
- (b) Permit holders will have year to year priority for their dock, slip or mooring space provided that the permit holder submits payment for all fees and charges and executes the permit agreement no later than dates set by the harbor master or his designee.
- (c) The harbormaster or his designee shall maintain a waiting list for the future allocation of slip, dock and mooring space within the marina. Vessel owners desiring future slip, dock and mooring space shall notify the harbormaster and complete a waiting list registration form. The harbormaster or his designee shall date receipt of the registration and allocate vacant space in the order registrations are

received by date and by compatible space available. Allocation of space procedures shall be in compliance with state waterways commission regulations.

- (d) In the event of the sale of a vessel occupying a slip, dock or mooring buoy, the new vessel owner will not have priority for the space occupied by the purchased vessel. The permit holder, who originally leased the space, will have priority for the space and shall not transfer space assignment to another individual. Slip, dock and mooring space may only be allocated by the harbormaster or his designee, utilizing the allocation of space procedure described within this section.
- (e) Permit holders may not sublease slip, dock or mooring space. The permit holder must notify the harbormaster or his designee, if the assigned space will be vacated 48 hours or more. The harbormaster or his designee may fill the temporary vacancy at his discretion with the city benefiting from all compensation.
- (f) Allocation of space in the marina will only be made to persons who are the principle owner and user of the vessel.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-15. - Payments of accounts.

Payments for the use of marina services and facilities are due and payable in advance. Any vessel, vessel owner or permit holder delinquent in payment shall not be served by the harbor master or his designee, nor shall the vessel be eligible for the use of marina facilities and the vessel shall be impounded.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-16. - Marina regulations.

The city shall have the authority to promulgate rules, regulations and policies for the safe and efficient operation of the marina, the dispensation of services, use of the marina facilities and hours of operations. These rules and regulations will be posted in a conspicuous place at the marina.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)

Sec. 110-17. - Restricted activities.

- (a) Fishing activities within the boundaries of the marina or the harbor are permitted subject to rules, regulations and policies to insure adequate public access and permit holder's security and privacy. Fishing activities rules, regulations and policies shall be posted where appropriate.
- (b) The use of bicycles, skateboards, in-line skates and other like equipment are prohibited on docks, piers and slips.

(Ord. No. 07-374, § 1, 5-7-07)



# Marina Regulations

**Anchoring/Mooring:** For the safety of boaters, no anchoring or mooring is allowed in or around the marina area.

**Auxiliary Craft:** One dinghy or other auxiliary craft shall be a size suitable to be carried on board the boat leasing the slip. No more than one auxiliary craft per boat is permitted to water store in the slip so long as storage of such watercraft does not extend beyond the limits of the assigned slip or in any other way interfere with the flow of traffic in the marina. Auxiliary craft shall be removed from the slip when the boat is out of the marina for more than one day. No slips shall be leased, or dockage permitted, solely to any auxiliary craft or personal watercraft. The "NO WAKE" speed shall be observed at all times.

**Bicycles, In-Line Skates, Skateboards:** For the safety of all guests and boaters, bicycles, in-line skates, and skateboards are not permitted on the main docks or finger docks.

**Boat Size and Placement:** All boats should be inside the outer piling out of the fairway, and will be assigned accordingly.

**Camping:** Is not permitted on premises.

**Cleanliness of Pier:** everyone shall be asked to keep the pier area clean and free of litter. Nothing shall be stored on the docks or piers without first obtaining permission from the Dock master.

**Cooking on Open Flames:** Charcoal burners are not allowed on any dock. Open flames are prohibited except while cooking on a standard galley stove aboard a vessel. If you wish to cook with a charcoal fire, we have charcoal grills/picnic tables for your convenience, located on the shore near the ends of the docks.

**Cruising the Marina:** Please operate your boat in a safe manner. No "cruising" is allowed in the marina (including auxiliary craft). Boats are expected to leave the marina immediately after checking out. Sail craft are required to enter or leave the marina under auxiliary power only (inboard or outboard motor), no "UNDER SAIL" in the marina.

**Fishing:** Fishing is allowed within the harbor - except where posted. Fish cleaning allowed only in the Fish Cleaning Station.

**Maintenance:** Ordinary light maintenance performed on your vessel is permitted. Boat owners must notify the Dock master in advance of the employment of outside commercial labor to be used on their boat.

**Noise:** Loud music, noises, or other disturbances are strictly forbidden. Persons creating a disturbance or nuisance will be asked to leave immediately.

**On-Board Toilet Facilities:** Shall not be used while the boat is in the marina. Pump-out facilities are available at the fuel dock and toilet/shower facilities are located at the Dock master's office. Keys are available at the fuel dock.

**Parking:** Due to limited parking, please respect the posted regulations governing parking in the marina area. A dockhand can assist you in securing long-term parking if required.

**Proper Lines:** All boats must be equipped with a minimum 1/2 inch diameter twisted or braided nylon line (or approved equal). Boats that do not have this type of mooring line cannot stay overnight, until proper lines are obtained.

**Swimming/Diving:** No swimming/diving is allowed in the marina. Should an emergency arise requiring diving in the marina, check with the dock master first. It's the boater's responsibility to ensure that all proper safety precautions have been taken to protect both the diver and boater.

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## APPENDIX C

### POST COMPLETION SELF CERTIFICATION FORMS

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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;  
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 26-00985

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Mich-e-ke-wis Park Shelter

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Construction of new 7000 square ft support facility & LWCF sign.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
City of Alpena	Andrea Kares	Planning/Dev Director
Address	Telephone	
208 N First Ave	989-354-1771	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
Alpena, MI 49707	andreak@alpena.mi.us	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?

If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

Ice rink is no longer used so shelter is used for a farmers market and was leased to a recreation equipment rental business that recently closed it's doors.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☒ Yes ☐ No

As noted, the shelter building no supports a farmers market. Plans for the future of the building and how it is used are underway.

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Yes, the warming shelter is obsolete as the ice rink no longer exists. Building renovations needed to better accommodate the current and planned use of building.

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?

If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☒ Yes ☐ No

General use of park facilities is free. Potential fees for use of the shelter building will be determined as planning continues.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Shelter hours are dependent upon schedule of events. Park open Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Andrea Kares

Please print



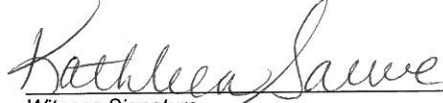
Grantee Authorized Signature

12/11/2020

Date

Kathleen Sauve

Please print



Witness Signature

12/11/2020

Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS  
GRANTS MANAGEMENT  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 30425  
LANSING MI 48909-7925

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;  
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 26-01060 Y

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** McRae Park

LL field, paved lot, restroom & concession building, lanscape LWCF

**PROJECT SCOPE:** sign

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Facilities were constructed in the late 1970's and do not meet today's standards.

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☒ Yes ☐ No

General use of park is free. Pavilioin can be rented for private events.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)




## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Andrea Kares

Please print



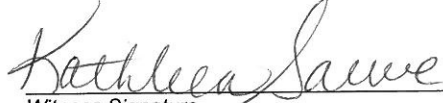
Grantee Authorized Signature

12/11/2020

Date

Kathleen Sauve

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12/11/2020

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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;  
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 26-00842

**PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

**PROJECT TITLE:** North Riverfront Park Acquisition

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Acquisition of 2.28 acres of land for public outdoor recreation.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?

If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

A section of the park has been fenced to create a dog park.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?

If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open from Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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Andrea Kares

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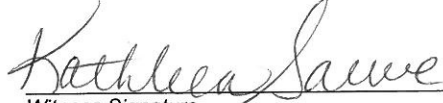
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF00-275

**PROJECT TYPE:** Acquisition

**PROJECT TITLE:** Wildlife Sanctuary

Acquire 17 ac island on Thunder Bay R. within Alpena Wildlife

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Sanctuary

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open from Dawn to Dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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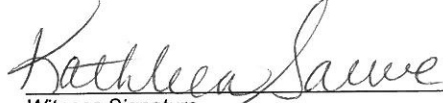
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 26-01265

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Starlite Beach

Entrance, roadside park, paved lot, bike/walk trail, picnic area,

**PROJECT SCOPE:** lands

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?

If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

Many improvements and expansions have occurred over the years. Most recently was the  
construction of a splash pad

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?

If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☒ Yes ☐ No

General use of park is free. Pavilioin can be rented for private events.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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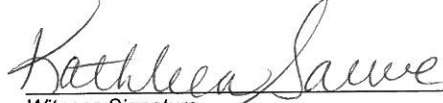
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** 26-01379

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** North Riverfront Park

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Boat launch, paved lot, landscaping, LWCF sign

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

A portion of the park has been fenced to create a dog park.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

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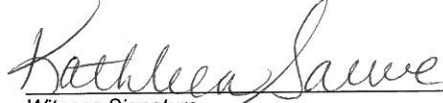
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

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**GRANT TYPE:** ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF87-106

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Small Boat Harbor

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Construct new floating dock main pier with 12 finger piers

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Boat launch \$7.00 per day or \$50 annually. Dockage fees and other boating services in accordance with waterways commission schedule.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

8:00 am to 8:00 pm daily during season, shortened hours in very early and late season.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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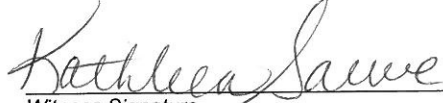
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☒ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** BF89-642

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Bay View park Improvement

Prentiss St parking, picnic tables, signage, concrete paths,

**PROJECT SCOPE:** landscapin

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Playgorund Equipment (which was not a part of this grant).

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

General park use is free. Band shell can be rented for private events.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open Dawn to Dusk year around

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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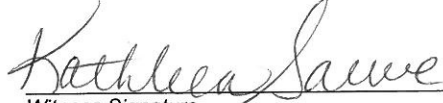
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF92-299

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Thunder Bay River Plan

Hard surface nature trails, boardwalks, docks, bridge, landscape, picnic

**PROJECT SCOPE:** are

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Andrea Kares

Please print



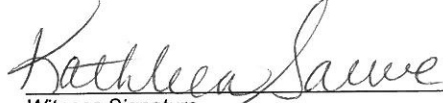
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12/11/2020

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Kathleen Sauve

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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;  
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

**GRANT TYPE:** ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF92-299

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Thunder Bay River Plan

Hard surface nature trails, boardwalks, docks, bridge, landscape, picnic

**PROJECT SCOPE:** are

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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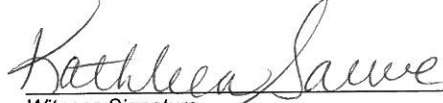
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF99-353

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Harbor Breakwall Walkway Extension

**PROJECT SCOPE:** 700' extension of walkway on breakwall, railing, lighting, benches, fishin

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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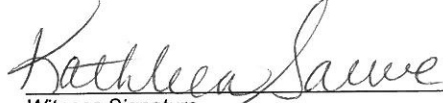
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF00-275

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Harbor Breakwall Pathway Extension

650' extension on breakwall to

**PROJECT SCOPE:** terminus, railing, lighting, benches, fishing

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
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City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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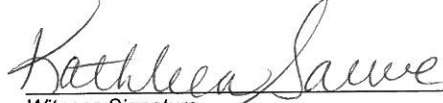
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF05-014

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** North Riverfront Park Heritage Improvements

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Walkways, parking, pavillions, lighting, irrigation, site amenities

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?

If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

A portion of the park has been fenced to create a dog park.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?

If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

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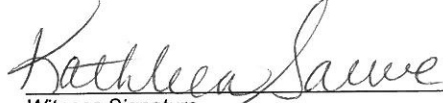
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**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT  
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF07-023

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Starlite Beach Promenade Facilities Project

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Pavillion, restroom/storage, path, utilities, landscape, site amenities.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☒ Yes ☐ No

A splash pad has been added.

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

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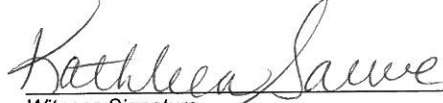
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**GRANT TYPE:** ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE  
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF13-022

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** NEST Alpena Regional Trailhead

Year-round trailhead on NEST.Restroom/storage,pavillion,paved

**PROJECT SCOPE:** lot,paths

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
City of Alpena	Andrea Kares	Planning/Dev Director
Address	Telephone	
208 N First Ave	989-354-1771	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
Alpena, MI 49707	andreak@alpena.mi.us	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No



## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)


## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Andrea Kares

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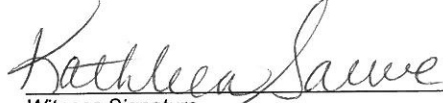
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(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND FUND

**GRANTEE:** City of Alpena

**PROJECT NUMBER:** TF16-0174

**PROJECT TYPE:** Development

**PROJECT TITLE:** Starlite Beach Splash Pad and Beach Improvements

**PROJECT SCOPE:** Construct splash pad,walkways,paths,sitting wall,landscaping,lighting.

**TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)**

Name of Agency (Grantee) <b>City of Alpena</b>	Contact Person <b>Andrea Kares</b>	Title <b>Planning/Dev Director</b>
Address <b>208 N First Ave</b>	Telephone <b>989-354-1771</b>	
City, State, ZIP <b>Alpena, MI 49707</b>	Email <b>andreak@alpena.mi.us</b>	

**SITE DEVELOPMENT**

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?  
If yes, please describe change(s).

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

**SITE QUALITY**

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?  
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism.

☐ Yes ☒ No

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site is inspected regularly and maintenance performed as needed.

### GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Open dawn to dusk year around. Spalsh pad available seasonally.

### COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

## POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

### CERTIFICATION

*I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.*

Andrea Kares

Please print



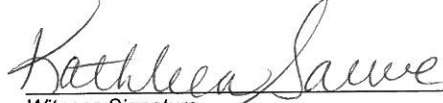
Grantee Authorized Signature

12/11/2020

Date

Kathleen Sauve

Please print



Witness Signature

12/11/2020

Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS  
GRANTS MANAGEMENT  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 30425  
LANSING MI 48909-7925

**026-00985 Mich-e-ke-wis Park 1977**

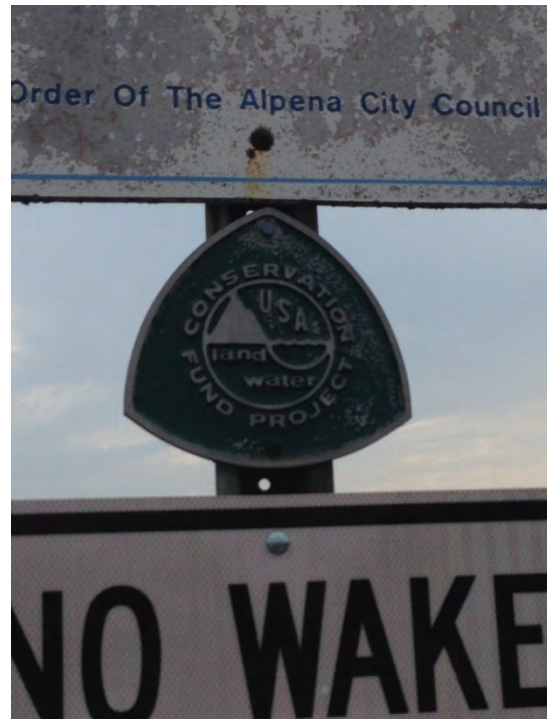


**026-01060 Y McRae Park 1977**





**026-00842 North Riverfront Park 1978**



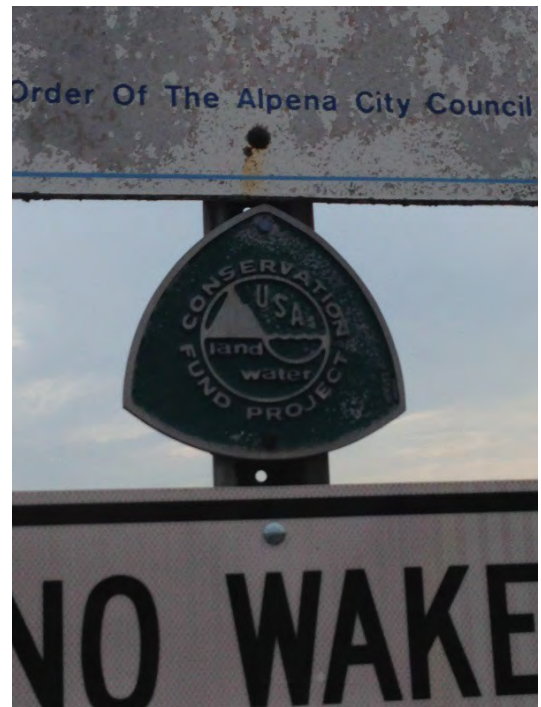
**TF 596 Wildlife Sanctuary 1982**



**026-01265 Starlite Beach 1983**



**026-01379 North Riverfront Park 1985**





**TF87-016 Small Boat Harbor 1987**



**BF89-642 Bayview Park 1989**



**TF95-180 River Plan (Thunder Bay River and Island Park) 1995**



**TF92-299 Thunder Bay River Plan 1992**

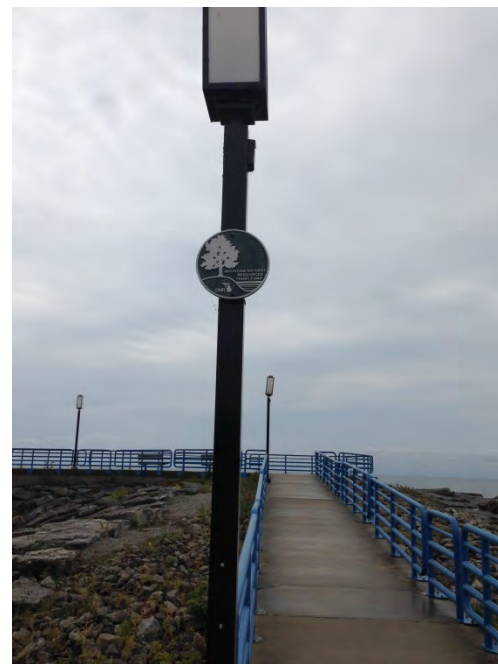




**TF99-353 Harbor Breakwall Extension 1999**



**TF00-275 Harbor Breakwall Extension 2000**





**TF05-014 North Riverfront Park Heritage Improvements 2005**



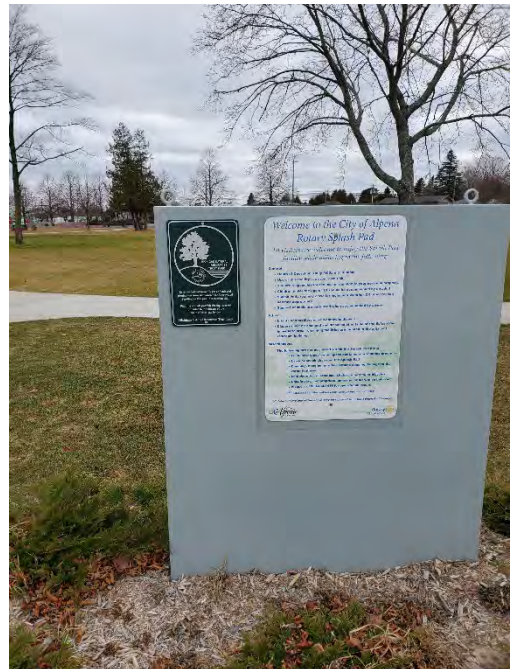
**TF07-023 Starlite Beach 2007**



**TF13-022 NEST Alpena Regional Trailhead 2013**



**TF16-0174 Starlite Beach 2016**



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## APPENDIX C

### CITY OF ALPENA

### ONLINE RECREATION SURVEY RESULTS

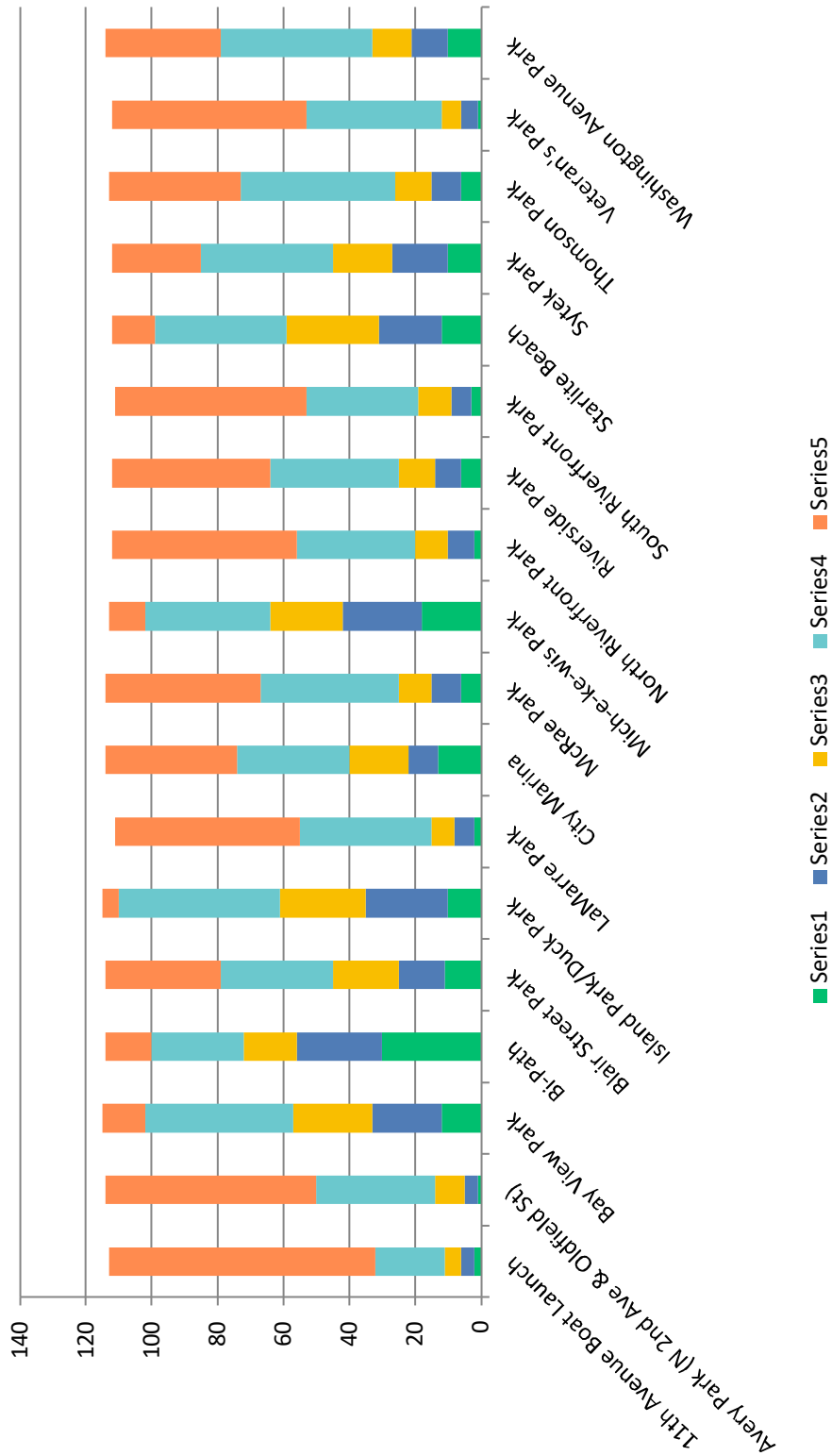
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**Q1: How often do you utilize the following recreational facilities?**

	2+ Times Per Week	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never	Response Count
11th Avenue Boat Launch	2	4	5	21	81	113
Avery Park (N 2nd Ave & Oldfield St)	1	4	9	36	64	114
Bay View Park	12	21	24	45	13	115
Bi-Path	30	26	16	28	14	114
Blair Street Park	11	14	20	34	35	114
Island Park/Duck Park	10	25	26	49	5	115
LaMarre Park	2	6	7	40	56	111
City Marina	13	9	18	34	40	114
McRae Park	6	9	10	42	47	114
Mich-e-ke-wis Park	18	24	22	38	11	113
North Riverfront Park	2	8	10	36	56	112
Riverside Park	6	8	11	39	48	112
South Riverfront Park	3	6	10	34	58	111
Starlite Beach	12	19	28	40	13	112
Sytek Park	10	17	18	40	27	112
Thomson Park	6	9	11	47	40	113
Veteran's Park	1	5	6	41	59	112
Washington Avenue Park	10	11	12	46	35	114
					Answered	115
					Skipped	1

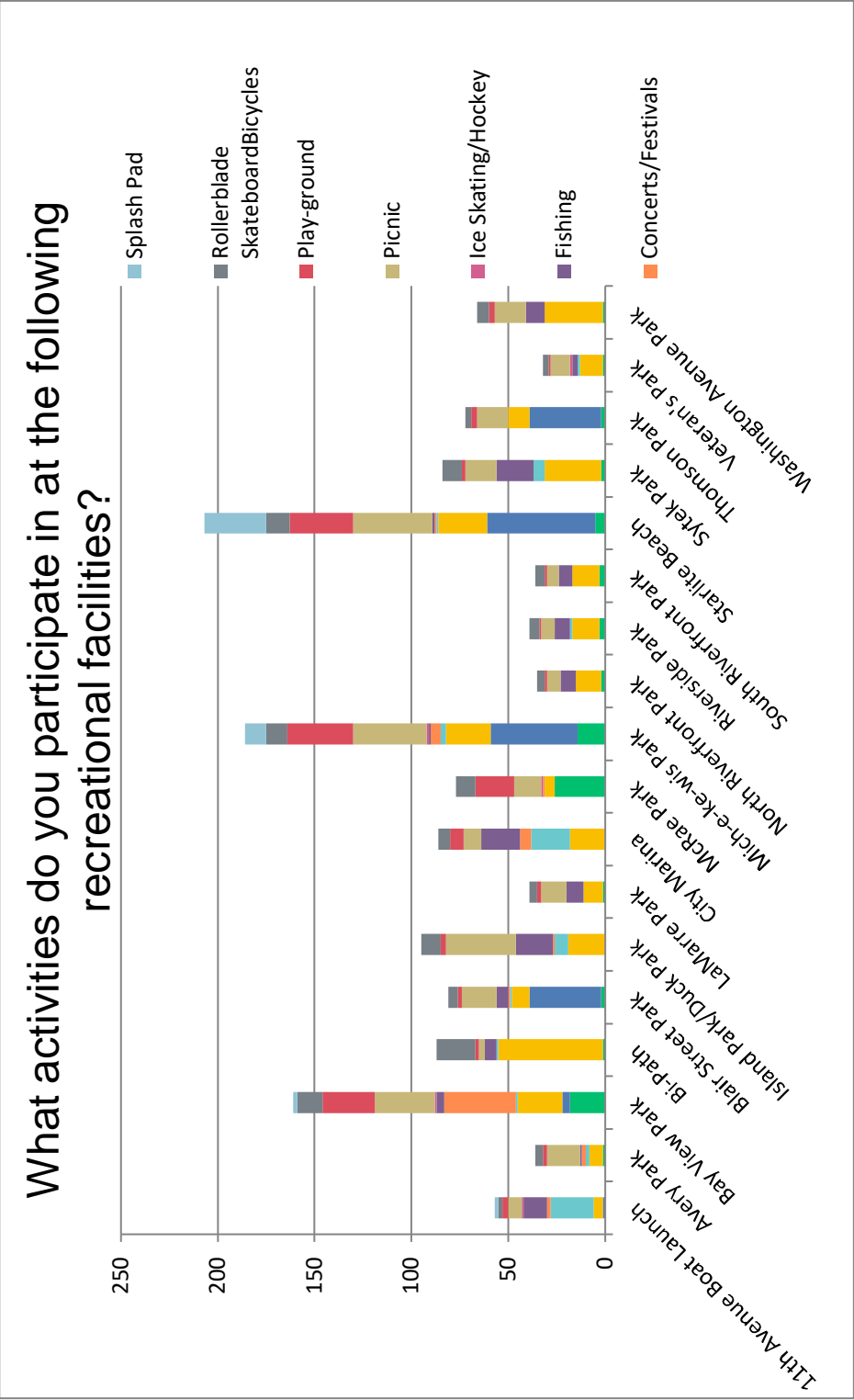


# How often do you utilize the following recreational facilities?



# Q 2: What activities do you participate in at the following recreational facilities?

	Softball/ Basketball/ Tennis/ Volleyball	Beach/S wim	Biking	Boat Launch	Concerts/ Festivals	Fishing	Ice Skating/H ockey	Picnic	Play- ground	Rollerbla de Skate board/Bic ycles	Splash Pad	Total
11th Avenue Boat Launch	0	1	5	22	2	12	1	7	3	2	2	36
Avery Park	1	0	7	2	2	1	0	17	2	4	0	31
Bay View Park	18	4	23	1	37	4	1	31	27	13	2	70
Bi-Path	1	0	54	1	0	6	0	3	2	20	0	64
Blair Street Park	2	37	9	1	1	6	0	18	2	5	0	51
Island Park/Duck Park	0	0	19	7	1	19	0	36	3	10	0	52
LaMarre Park	1	0	10	0	0	9	0	13	2	4	0	28
City Marina	0	0	18	20	6	20	0	9	7	6	0	43
McRae Park	26	0	5	0	1	0	1	14	20	10	0	42
Mich-e-ke-wis Park	14	45	23	3	5	1	1	38	34	11	11	69
North Riverfront Park	2	0	13	0	0	8	0	7	1	4	0	23
Riverside Park	3	0	14	1	0	8	0	7	1	5	0	27
South Riverfront Park	3	0	14	0	0	7	0	6	1	5	0	27
Starlite Beach	5	56	25	1	1	1	0	41	33	12	32	65
Sytek Park	2	0	29	6	0	19	0	16	2	10	0	46
Thomson Park	2	37	11	0	0	0	0	16	3	3	0	47
Veteran's Park	1	0	12	1	0	3	1	10	1	3	0	21
Washington Avenue Park	1	0	30	0	0	10	0	16	3	6	0	38
Other (please specify)												33
												82
												34



## Q 2: Comments

1	I walk with my family at many of these parks.
2	mainly use them for natural photography backgrounds as my wife and I run a photography business
3	Walking was not an option - most of the parks I walk through and enjoy while I'm out getting exercise.
4	I do as much walking as biking. Walking/hiking should have been listed.
5	My family and I enjoy walking, hiking, and riding bikes around all of the parks in town. Would love to see safer road crossings and a more clearly delineated Bi-Path. Some of the shared spaces or corridors located close to the roadways make me nervous having my small children on. Other towns have painted and/or protected bike infrastructure that is much more enjoyable to ride on.
6	Walking. Either on the bike path, or at Sytek park or Island park. Or as a resting point while I am out walking.
7	This is a very poorly designed survey. Including activities not present at a park will yield bad data. Also, not including the location of the park and only giving the official name of the park is not enough information.
8	walking, daily one or more places.
9	Walking
10	Birding, walking, trash pick up, invasive species pulls
11	I walk with my daughter often
12	As a senior who doesn't get into all the athletic stuff much anymore, I drive to the park, get out & walk the beach, or the trails, sometimes park & bring a snack & eat it while I watch the Big lake (Parking lot behind Min. Golf; Blair Street, Marina, Mich e ke wis) or like Sytek Park, just sit & enjoy watching the river flow by or walking the trails.
13	Many of the parks and pathways, such as the Bi-path, Sytek Park, and Washington Ave. park, I use primarily for walks! during the summer, my friends and I use Michekewis park a few times a week for grilling, picnicking, and swimming. We own a sailboat and use the marina to dock there. Any other "boat launch" indicated refers to kayaks or SUP boards.
14	Keep lights on in riverside skate park. It is alot cooler in the evenings rather than skating in the direct sun.
15	Just walking around and enjoying nature with my family
16	Walking
17	Simple maintenance at skatepark would save thousands in repairs but I can see that was neglected and its upsetting.
18	Walking bi-path
19	We enjoy walking through many of the parks on a regular basis
20	I own a sailboat at the marina and visite there often. Wish there were better amenities a quality in infrastructure (I.e. marina lights staying on when dark outside 7pm to 10pm, water levels, better communication from city to boaters, bike racks)
21	Many are used for walking
22	Walking/hiking for all that are blank
23	Running and walking
24	Generally visit parks just to get outside.
25	We use them to for walking or running, just to hang out and gather with friends.
26	Island park hiking not biking no choice for walking hiking

27	Walking. (That should have been an option for all of these)
28	Walking
29	Picnic in the car.
30	Park and eat.
31	Run on the Bike Path everyday -passing through Washington St. Park, Sytek Park, Maritime Heritage Trail, LaMarre Park, Bi-path along Johnson & Long Rapids.
32	I use parks for walking or running.
33	Don't like your survey because on this page I have to keep scrolling UP to see which column I need to check - for that reason - I quit

### Q 3: Please provide us with your general opinion/impressions of recreation within the City of Alpena (be as specific as possible):

Answered 64  
Skipped 52

1	Alpena is beautiful and we love all the different options to play and walk and enjoy nature . Everything is well maintained and labeled and 'decorated' VERY well 😊 With three little kids, more options for kids would always be welcomed . There are many parks in the City that are easy to access, and have good amenities. Some of the parks in the City are old and dated, and need to be updated.
2	
3	I think most of the areas are rather nice but there are a few that are under developed or are lacking in attractions. that is where I would like to see a 9 hole free public disc golf course added to the island / duck park
4	I would like to see upgrades to the volleyball courts as well as the entire Michekewis Park area. Not only will it benefit our community but it has the potential to bring in people from other parts of the state.
5	Needs some work. I think the scooters have been a nice addition. Possible add some more scenic trails like the ones on the river behind cemetery.
6	Regular trash cleanup is needed - there is often liter. Trash receptacles as well as recycling bins are needed. Water fountains where you can refill water bottles would be wonderful.
7	Bike path is excellent! I would like to see a RV park at Michi-ke-wis.
8	Need more safety for bikes/ pedestrians. Love the bike paths in Alpena!
9	We love the variety of small parks located throughout town, but would love to see more emphasis placed on the routes connecting them. Getting from place to place with our small children is difficult and dangerous.
10	Needs to be more things to do
11	bayview is the hangout spot and the courts should get updated
12	A good combo of nature and activities
13	McRae park needs a face lift. There should be more equitable and accessible activities in areas where children live.
14	great facilities and opportunities for activities all through Alpena. One of the crowning jewels of the City is her park systems. One of the reasons we chose to live here over many other options. Access to trails and nature is a gift to city residents.
15	There are things to do, and beautiful parks. I really miss an outdoor skating rink and shelter. I think for the most part Alpena provides plenty of recreational activities. For family, including our dog, we utilize beaches and walking/hiking areas the most. Personally I would like to see city ordinances actually placed into effect...ie: the leashing of dogs in public spaces, I cannot tell you how many times my dog has had loose dogs attack her on our public beaches/parks. People do not follow the leash law and it makes it difficult for those of us that do.
16	
17	It seems to be adequate. However, there could be more youth focused activities: a sledding sight/hill would be great.
18	Easy access
19	The number of parks is ok but some could use some TLC and upkeep but for the most part it works well



- 20 have a lot of facilities that seem to have improved in some areas while slipping in others. Maybe just a COVID year perception.
- 21 More focus should be given to providing publicly available recreation options for older youth. The Skate parks are a great example but require some maintenance. Removing the unsightly fence and everything but the apple and pine trees would improve the visual appeal considerably as well as making it feel more open and accessible. The popularity of Concerts in the Park is very nice to see. Overall, the city does well with park maintenance and upkeep. Having several playgrounds around town is very nice for entertaining young kids but older kids seem to find absurd ways to occupy themselves in the absence of common entertainment options.
- 22 the north end of Starlite beach is best for wave/lake watching; Mich-e-ke-wis is most challenging - avoiding the potholes at the area near the waterworks/volleyball courts & south end of the park. Beach walking is good there however. The little parks (Sytek, Island Mill & along the river are quiet little sites that are gems in unexpected places.
- 23 These areas are gems, crowning jewels of the city. They need to be kept as natural, preserved and protected as possible. No development and building on them.
- Living in the City, my partner and I use the bi-path and sidewalks nearly every day. We try vary where we walk, such as Sytek Park and by the cemetery, Washington Park, or to downtown around the river. Since water levels have raised so much, we primarily use Michekewis park for any beach days and use the grill almost once a week with friends. It is such a gorgeous view, we love the willow trees and how private it feels (especially compared to Starlite). It would be great to get rid of the automobile traffic through that park (the loop area), it can be quite awkward when you're trying to relax or swim and there are people just staring at you (and the lake) in their cars. Besides that, it's one of our favorite parks. We also purchased a sailboat this year, and we keep it at the marina in town. Living in the City, it is truly amazing that we are within five minutes of great recreational opportunities: sailing, going to the beach, grilling at the beach, walking on trails, and having access for SUP boarding. We also use Blair Street or Michekewis to SUP board probably once a week in the summer months.
- 24 Alpena needs more activities for the youth. The skatepark was a great idea. But no one has kept up on it and has gone to waste. It would be nice to have a permanent park that would stand up to the weather and years. Concrete would be a good solution. Alpena being known for its concrete production would be a good way to show off our resources. And it could be designed to blend in with the landscape making it more visually appealing. Instead of wooden boxes dry rotting looking like an eye sore....
- 25 The ones that are well maintained are really nice. The duck island's paths can be a little dangerous if you aren't paying attention, but overall are nice. The tennis courts at Bay View Could be resurfaced. I'd like to see an out door ice rink back at Mich-e-ke-wis. I used to use it all the time and it would be nice to have it back, especially for pond hockey tournaments and tourism. Additionally I would like to see more investment made to that property. I remember it as a winter wonderland when the old ice rink was there and now it just exists.
- 26 We love going for walks in the parks
- 27 Beautiful water and great places to see nature.
- 28 If you put thousands of dollars into a skatepark it should be maintained better than it is. The lights aren't on at night. Why is that? Now that its ideal skating season I can't see after 9pm but theres lights. Turn them on please!
- 29 We need outdoor activities for winter time.
- 30 There is an adequate amount of activities for the residents.
- 31 All the parks are nice done could use some sprucing up, but for the most part are usable and pleasant

33	In terms of parks I use Michekewis and the marina a lot. The Marina I visit/ use around 3-4 times a week. I'd like to see better maintenance of the marina infrastructure I do have to say I'm much more impressed with the marinas that the state operates. Alpena marina adds two-three hours to any boaters travels when sailing north or south on Lake Huron. Therefore boaters have to want to go to alpena and add that extra time to get there. Michekewis is more like 2-3 times a week. Ever since the rising water levels impacted star lite Ive really learned to love Michekewis. I hope to see more development in that area. I will say if the loop drive towards the southeast end of the beach was taken out that would be amazing as many of the cars park there just to look at the beach I've had a couple of friends mention how uncomfortable it is to be there by yourself with them looking at you in a bathing suit. Also a lot of people rip through the parking areas in their trucks. If there was a way to maintain the parking near the now empty building while creating a flow that restricts the ability to drift and race down those gravel areas that would be amazing!
34	There are many opportunities for outdoor recreation. Mostly biking, walking, boating and swimming.
35	We need a longer bike path.
36	Our family enjoys many of the local parks, mostly our daughter rides her bike and we take family walks in many of the areas listed
37	I feel it is important to have places where families can get together and enjoy the weather and have amenities to use. It is important for the children in the area to have places to play at that are safe and they can burn up their energy ! The splash park is a great asset and a nice way for them to cool off without having to go into the water. The bike paths are very nice and offer safe riding without being in traffic. I do feel that porta potty's along the route would be beneficial. Bringing back the ice skating rink at Mich-e-ke-wis would be amazing! I remember skating there when I was young and had hot chocolate from the building we kept our shoes in, it was such a nice seasonal way to appreciate the cold wintery days/nights. Sometimes the old fashioned ways of doing things were the best way..Technology is great but simplicity is always appreciated.
38	Love the art sculptures added near the bi path. Disappointed in the downtown fountain area.
39	Looking to improve the areas of high us in Alpena the tennis courts at bay view have needed to be redone for years now with it being such a high traffic spot the should be a high priority with quality in mind when trying to remodel them and not rush to get them done.
40	I love having the many parks and places to walk and explore. I like that there are quite a few park benches if you just want to sit and read or people watch. We use the Heritage Trail at least 3 times a week for walking and playing Pokemon Go
41	Nice variety of parks and bike/walking paths.
42	Great opportunities to walk, bike, fish, boat, enjoy beach and my grandchildren Love the Splash pad at Starlight!
43	Great
44	Solid options for those who look a little deeper. I think we need to maintain/improve better what we have opposed to adding new
45	Like having lots of outdoor places to go. Why is Island Park not included in this survey?
46	There is still limited recreation for kids. It seems events that are brought in under 'family' events always have alcohol which isn't for children. Playgrounds are fine for littles but what about tweens/teens? And true family events. Updates to the playground parks are needed too. Some equipment isn't fun for kids or it gets damaged. Having more nature areas/education will always be a plus.
47	Theres not very many for kids around
48	I think all of the parks that I've utilized are wonderful. I'm disappointed that the marina/harbor lights aren't ever on and it is dangerous navigating a boat into the marina after dark. I do wish the no smoking policies were enforced as well and that dog owners were ticketed for leaving animal waste wherever.
49	Hunting license fees are ridiculous, and fishing license fees as well. To much garbage at beaches and parks due to constant overflowing garbage cans. People cleaning out their cars into garbages need to be fined. Cameras need installed and monitored for vandals and litter violators.

50	I think there is a good mix of things to do for everyone. Wish bike path by harbour was kept cleaner.
51	Good biggest issue is crossing State st US23 during summer to get to splash park swimming Starlite, and Thompson. UNSAFE no more fixes at mishikewis until that gets figured out
52	My family enjoys the canoe/kayak launch at the duck park. We would utilize more launches if installed at other sites along the river. I think there is alot of opportunity for outdoor recreation and that the city maintains it well.
53	Could be updated a little more and more equipment for younger and older kids to use
54	It beautiful and very welcoming.
55	Love all the parks... Wish they were more utilized. Maybe more activities in the parks such as demos or concerts
56	Lots of general spaces for biking, picnics, walking, etc. but less specifics like concert/festival spaces or specific activities at Mich-E-Ke-Wis. Good playgrounds for kids but less for young adults apart from a couple sports areas.
57	I love so many parks to choose from some of them could use some modernization. Im 46 years old and some of the parks haven't changed in my lifetime. Just basic outdoor areas nothing special very bland and boring. Like restrooms instead of porta-potties. No one likes using porta-potties unless they have no other option. Just something to make them more inviting.
58	Michikiwas park ( where the seagulls hang out) could be leveled and more parking with up to date bathrooms and playground equipment. There are very few places to park where you don't have to walk thru the soggy grass to get to a nice quiet beach.
59	It's getting much better, continue the good work.
	Unhealthy pet rules such as "Mutt Mitts".
60	Kids playing where pets relieved themselves while owners ignored. Watched everyone walking through those areas unaware of the presents left behind. About half of the pet owners picked up. Nothing to be used on the urine? Often the urine was deposited under picnic tables. I cannot imagine how anyone could think this was a good policy? Haven't been to any of the parks recently so I'm not aware of any change.
61	Never used the parks for picnics other than under the covered areas where the ground is paved due to the pet policies. We saw babies crawling through areas where a dog urinated and other children as well as adults walking through like areas.
62	Hopefully you no longer allow pets in the eat and playing areas of the parks. Overall vastly improved over the past 20 years but still could be better (always room for improvement). Would love to see the bicycle pump track plan implemented soon.
63	Lots of opportunity throughout the City to get out and enjoy our lakefront and riverfront. I'd recommend adding an extension of the Bi-path along Bagley north of the bridge to get users off of the Bagley shoulder.
64	OK, could be better. Well maintained, but not a lot of variety.

#### Q 4: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at the 11th Avenue Boat Launch?

Answered 26  
Skipped 90

1	None
2	rebuild docks improve parking Bathrooms need to be rebuilt modern.
3	Paving the area would be helpful.
4	With the dog park being there there has been a few times that people have there dogs playing in the boat launch and it causes hazardous conditions when I see people there I go to the marina
5	It really gets little use compared to duck park. I suppose if there was a canoe and kayak launch there it would see a lot more use.
6	Since We don't have a boat, we don't pay much attention to the boat launches. IDK.
7	Never use.
8	None
9	Never use it.
10	Never use it
11	We don't use this facility
12	It is very rustic and not to appealing.
13	None
14	A new dock. It's falling apart and a little scary to walk on
15	NA
16	Dock needs repair.
17	N/A
18	None
19	Ot sure. I use dont use it often.
20	More benches
21	More fishing platforms.
22	Paved parking lot
23	Pets out.
24	Don't really use it.
25	None as we don't use it except to pass through on the Bi-Path
26	to much goose poop, not ample parking to get to the water. i kayak there daily

### Q 5: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Avery Park (N 2nd Ave & Oldfield St)?

Answered 22  
Skipped 94

1	None
2	Great park as it is currently. Concrete ping pong tables were prototyped at the WCCT in Alpena; it would be a lot of fun to include on at this park for a little physical activity.
3	None
4	It's a nice park
5	None
6	This is a nice place to enjoy nature. I'd not do much to "improve it" as sometimes just a place to sit & just be is all we need. It is not intended as a playground for kids. Rather a place to enjoy being outside & where you can sit & visit with others or just be there.
7	This is such a gorgeous park, I don't think it needs any improvements.
8	None
9	Never use it.
10	More greenery
11	The park is small, but more seating might be beneficial. My daughter's best friend lives two houses from the park and they enjoy just sitting around and talking.
12	Nothing; this place is perfect
13	NA
14	None. Maybe some events.
15	More seating for music
16	Not sure
17	Engagement with the space through community events that are marketed because it's such a pretty and underrated park!
18	Is it really used by anyone?
19	Pets out.
20	None
21	Night lighting
22	parking could be different

## Q 6: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Bay View Park?

Answered 33  
Skipped 83

1	Soccer field with nets. Look to expand the park by buying the three houses near Bayview. Restrooms are needed. Possible look to add kayak stable. The park itself is great, but the connection to the south end of town could be upgraded to an HMA path rather than a concrete sidewalk to emphasize mobility between the two areas.
3	updated courts and places to plug stuff in
4	I love Bay View, we live near there. Improvement is needed on cleaning up the shore flooding.
5	Parking
6	Bathroom facilities remain the need for the larger venues.
7	I think it's under utilized. when the rocks were placed along the entire shoreline, it removed the option of walking along the shore & wading into the water. Granted the sludge (sawdust/bark etc) that washed ashore from its source was unsightly. But it was not always that way. as a kid I swam there often & it was clear. SO it should go away if the source of the stuff goes away. Perhaps a long dock out into the lake? People could walk to the end, toss in a fishing line? Walk to the end & jump in for a swim? But that would mean a place to change. At one time there were shuffleboard courts not far from the shoreline. They are buried in the sand. They were there from the original Bay View Park tha was tucked in between the Woelk (now Currier) property & the house with tourist cabins in the back yard. Bay View was about 1/4 the size it is today. Anyhow, these shuffleboard courts could still be there. IDK Picnic tables & benches are always welcome. It's nice to walk along & sit a spell or have a picnic. landscaping next to the basketball courts, since that large grassy area seems rarely used for anything. Maybe a walkway/garden would be used more?
9	None
10	Never use it.
11	Look into grants to move the bike path back from the water or build it up and a sledding hill in the winter
12	Find a way to keep the sidewalks clear of debris
13	More trees
14	Public bathrooms....not portapotties
15	New updated basketball court
16	Some of the play equipment is outdated. It could also benefit from more seating closer to the band shell and near the tennis and basketball courts.
17	More bbq pits/grills and picnic tables also a pavilion would be great with restrooms
18	Tennis courts are a must and should be done at a high quality in hopes to get an even higher use
19	A breakwall to prevent the amount of flooding there was the last couple years
20	Flooding needs to be addressed
21	Seating. Stands. Picnic tables. Shelter
22	Enforcing the no smoking, more regular litter cleanup.
23	Bathrooms



24	Permanent rest rooms
25	More places for family picnics
26	More benches seating areas
27	Bandshell repairs and weather proofing/maintenance as some materials are peeling toward the top
28	A swim area would be nice
29	Restrooms
30	Pets out.
31	More erosion protection
32	None except repair the shoreline erosion caused by high water levels
33	Rest rooms

## Q 7: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed to the Bi-Path?

Answered 32  
Skipped 84

1	Just more paths, maybe consider something out near the Aplex.	
2	Better and safer bathrooms.	
3	Connect the Bi-Path into a usable network without any shared road routes. These are too dangerous for small children. Increase signage and wayfinding as well. There are many parts of this Bi-Path in which the route is unclear.	
4	None	
5	Signage	
6	Signage and a lot of it. Directions for the route as well as activities along the way. Ask businesses to sponsor signs that benefit there business. It will have to be a comprehensive plan. Also in some areas it is very apparent where the path is , while in others it can be difficult to navigate. This detracts from the path and its potential.	
7	IDK I haven't used it. No bike.	
8	None, we love it as is. Some signage along the bi-path could be updated in places, it appears very faded.	
9	None	
10	New maps posted	
11	Repave bad spots	
12	A way to avoid biking on Bagley. This is of utmost importance.	
13	Seems good as it is.	
14	"Watch for pedestrians" signs near the roads	
15	Is there a way to petition the fletcher family do create an easement to establish a memorial trail with a fence to allow for walkers to stay near the river rather than solely in the cemetery	
16	Longer connected path	
17	Longer	
18	Parts of the bi-path that run through town are not consistently and clearly marked.	
19	Porta potties	
20	Some bush trimming really needs to happen	
21	Nothing whatsoever--it is perfect!	
22	Pretty darn good. Lets just maintain it	
23	None	
24	Signage safe way to cross 23	
25	It could be expanded further west along M-32 and south on us-23.	
26	Expand it	
27	Plow the city sidewalks in the winter before the big path is plowed.	

28 No pets

29 Maintenance needed behind the fair grounds

30 Bi-path needs an extension from the Bagley Street Bridge north to get users off of the Bagley Street shoulder. Very unsafe. It would have been nice to have the Bi-path go under the Chisholm St bridge so users could utilize the complete Bi-path without navigating getting across US-23.

31 Repave

32 lighting at night

## Q 8: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Blair Street Park?

Answered 32  
Skipped 84

1	The pier is in great disrepair	
2	None	
3	Other than pier reconstruction, this is a great little park. Some extra-large Adirondack chairs fastened to the ground would be fun too.	
4	Please keep the pier if at all possible!	
5	None other than repairing the pier...that is a landmark and should be restored.	
6	Pier is closed	
7	Rebuild the pier Great little park that gets a lot of use. Blair Street Park is what I call a Pocket Park. It's where I would go to swim, except the last time I did I ended up with an E-coli infection. After all it IS where the storm water runs out into the lake. We'll have to fix up the 'walk' out into the lake. People enjoyed walking out into the water & it was a good use for that storm sewer pipe. Maybe attaching the picnic tables to spaces back from the water, so folks don't haul them down to the water's edge. (!?!!) & maybe a bench or so not far from the water so those brave souls could sit at the edge of the water... but not so close that the benches get washed out into the lake. IDK would angle parking be useful?	
9	The deck might need to be raised in smidgen	
10	Leave it as natural as possible.	
11	The pier definitely needs to be fixed.	
12	More picnic tables	
13	New pier	
14	Fix the pier with something that can tolerate ice shift.	
15	never use it.	
16	Fix the pier	
17	Fix the pier	
18	Less parking more park	
19	With the high water level, the pier doesn't seem safe and much of the beach is gone. It's not actually something the city can do, but is a concern.	
20	Nothing; we like it :)	
21	The pier needs to be fixed	
22	The pier	
23	Fixing the pier	
24	Fix pier so can walk on it again	
25	The pier needs to be repaired and maintained. It would be better to have a small permanent bathroom even if its unisex.	
26	Repair and expand the pier	

27	Obviously pier repair but understandably this may not be possible for a while with high water levels. Could look a little nicer too compared to other beaches.
28	Fix the pier so it can be used again
29	Repair the pier
30	No pets.
31	Damage to the pier and board walk from water erosion
32	High water has reduced the lake front and submerged the pier making it unsafe.

## Q 9: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Island Park/Duck Park?

Answered 32  
Skipped 84

1	Nothing! It is beautiful!
2	I think a 9 hole disc golf course would do great here. many other cities across America have free public courses within their city parks and this space would be the most fitting.
3	None
4	Properly maintain the invasive species. This park would be a great back drop for a wide array of community projects.
5	None
6	I'd like to see the river center be built. when will they do it?
7	Better trails
8	A plan for continued tree replacement. And further steps to develop the island as a resource. No sure what the status of the river center is but have not seen much lately about it.
9	Change the name. Alpena is going to have to reinvent itself. With all the Victorian building facades downtown, it's a natural. SO let's go back to ouriginal names. The island was Oxbow Island. The land abutting it was the Ox-bow Dairy farm. (when the river was lowered to facilitate repairs on the RR bridge MANY old glass milk bottles were found from Ox Bow Dairy. There's an Island Park in every county it seems. How many Ox-Bow Islands are there? It is beauty & unique. Duck Park? Sad. That is what the kids called it when they were parking there & buying & selling & sharing marijuana. At that time you could drive in off Long Rapids Road & drive out onto US-23. Too many families lost children to drugs in this town & that name has to be salt in an open wound. After all the giving by so many to re-awaken our little island, let's give the park a name that reflects the goodness & kindness & sharing of the people. Hmmm, I wonder what the Ojibway word is for Caring?
10	More pathway signs
11	More picnic tables
12	Garbage cans on the island are needed
13	Stop doing erosion projects ruining all the sledding hills and start quelling the beaver pop becaause thats the cause.
14	The freedom to have ONE sledding hill on the island.
15	OK as it is.
16	Allow sledding in the winter
17	We really love Island Park. The main path is accessible for my husband with limited mobility and the smaller paths around the outside of the island provide much enjoyment for my daughter and myself. It would be nice if some of the smaller paths were more accessible for my husband, but I recognize that this would ruin some of the beauty of the park.
18	enclosed playground and picnic area
19	A private business should not be operating on the property
20	Not a thing!
21	Redo the fishing stands and make them larger



22	Be great if there was more educational opportunities.
23	None
24	Better hiking areas more environmental education so people stop biking and sledding on it. It's not the 70s any more
25	Permanent restroom installed
26	Update the bird feeders
27	More paved paths
28	Just taking measures to ensure protection from erosions
29	Real Restrooms
30	No pets.
31	None
32	Keep mountain bikes off the Island, make it used by pedestrian traffic only. Work on reducing invasive species an algae blooms.

## Q 10: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at LaMarre Park?

Answered 17  
Skipped 99

1	the water to free up all the miles and miles of snagged lines and lures. We lose a lure nearly every cast! Same with the other side of the bridge at the dam.
2	None
3	General site cleanup and emphasize the connection to Riverside Park.
4	None
5	Limited parking
6	Not much to do there , with the steep water access its a challenge to develop. It would take a fair amount of money to develop it right now as a spot where you could access the water with canoes and kayaks and paddle boards, and have some kind of seating right at river level. Have seen it done in other cities and it would be a great way to go.
7	La Marre park is another one of our pocket parks. Granted it is adjacent to our little Mill Island. But it seems to be another spot for people to go to the bi-path & walk up or down river, or fish.
8	None
9	never use it.
10	nothing
11	NA
12	None
13	No idea
14	Not sure.
15	No pets.
16	None
17	None - perhaps better geese control

## Q 11: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at the City Marina?

Answered 24  
Skipped 92

1	Boat rentals, wave runner rentals some time of ice cream sandwich shop.
2	None
3	General site cleanup and maintenance would make the marina more enjoyable for non-boaters to frequent. Upgraded public bathrooms that are properly maintained would be great. We'd love to see the big ALPENA letters out there to generate more social media activity. Some extra-large Adirondack chairs fastened to the ground would be fun too.
4	new bathrooms public access to them better parking lot
5	Because of high water road needs to be raised so people can get to the break wall.
6	None
7	Slip pricing needs to be similar to others....(RC,etc.)
8	The fish cleaning station could use some updates and with the high water getting to the docks can be wet through private dollars . IE the concession. I have told Don I would be interested in doing a long term contract for the concession that would have certain percentage of the profits ear marked for development. That concession has been run into the ground . It could be so much more but we need the right plan and people in place. If I had it there would be a place to eat. The store would be so much more. Shower facilities. Shared space for the Charters to operate in. All this could be done by someone motivated to develop it. But without a long term contract it will never happen.
9	The fear is if you make it into a profitable enterprise, the work will go to waste when someone else comes in and lowballs your bid. You going to have to put some serious thought into what you expect from the person thats comes in next. Or if you run it yourself, find someone that is energetic enough to really run with the development of the sight. But right now it looks like that is not going to happen anytime in the next ten years.
10	Where to start? Because of Nature, serious work is needed at the Marina. the entire road by the Yacht Club is threatened? But the rock berm seems to be holding so that the adjacent stage etc are not endangered. Public Restrooms? Removing the existing plumbing & sandblasting the inside should clean it out. Then seal it with KILZ or another paint & put in new sinks, toilets & urinals. Shouldn't cost as much as building a new one. We all do not have the luxury of starting from scratch. Go back to what our grandparents did Make do, make over, do without. We do not need Cadillac's. The materials being used today are often far less durable than what was used before. ... note the Original City restrooms are still sitting at the corner of Third & Sable Street (Offices & such).
11	We just purchased a sailboat, so this is our first year using the marina as a boat owner. Overall, our experience has been great. It would be nice for it to be cleaned more regularly- especially all the goose droppings that always seem to be on the docks and sidewalks near the docks. Also, having the area closed due to high water levels made it difficult to get to our boat, even on foot. Sailing at night was difficult since none of the marina lights near our boat (or breakwall) were turned on-- assuming that was because of the water levels.
12	None
13	Never use it.
14	Clean up the flower area behind the sewage treatment plant it used to be beautiful and now it's over grown
15	Lighting, water rising issues, electrical and plumbing issues, better cleaning of docks

16	Reinforced/raised docks to represent water level change
17	Flooding issues
18	maintenance
19	Lights for after dark. Regular clean up of the goose feces.
20	No comment
21	Not sure
22	Haven't looked.
23	Boat lift is in need of repairs
24	repair damage done by high lake levels. Make the public restrooms useable. Improve management of the Marina store - make it attractive and a retail must stop.

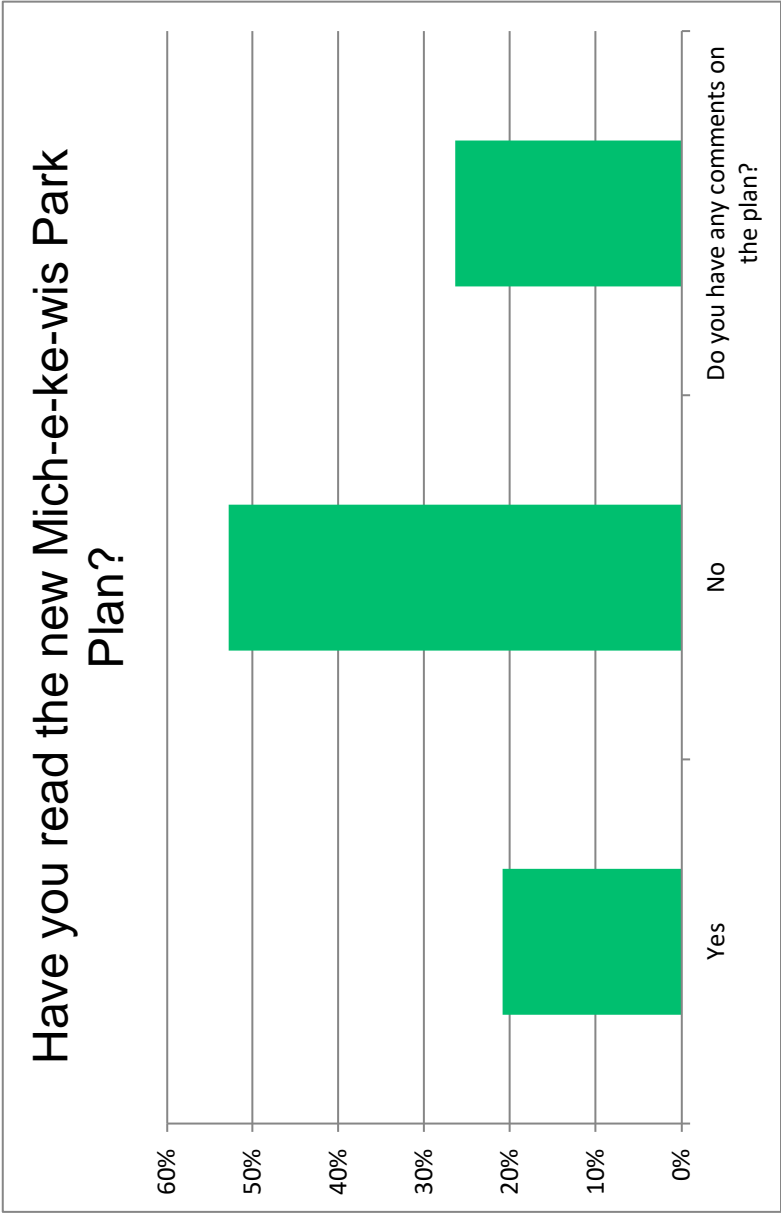
## Q12: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at McRae Park?

Answered 21  
Skipped 95

1	None	
2	This property needs a lot of maintenance, including the playground equipment and building. An interesting mural could make this area more vibrant as well.	
3	Bathroom and kitchen need updates	
4	The Baseball building needs paint, dugouts need paint.	
5	Not applicable	
6	Small playground	
7	McRae park is one I only used as a kid when I wanted to go skating. It was as far from home as Mich e ke wis. I usually sought some place closer to home to use. I don't have much to say about it.	
8	The playground equipment could use a little attention and one of the dugouts is pretty heavily damaged.	
9	More picnic tables	
10	Never use it.	
11	courts	
12	power wash the outside of the bunker building	
13	Maintenance	
14	Updatinf	
15	No idea	
16	The equipment needs to be fixed especially several of the swings.	
17	More playground equipment	
18	Newer playground equipment and a bigger building for get togethers.	
19	No pets.	
20	None	
21	None.	

Q 13: Have you read the new Mich-e-ke-wis Park Plan?

Yes	21%	15
No	53%	38
Do you have any comments on the plan?		
	Answered	72
	Skipped	44





### Q 13: Mich-e-ke-wis Pak Plan Comments

1	I would like a RV park included!
2	No, where is this located? The Alpena News should run a comprehensive story on this to generate public engagement.
3	Mother Nature may have more to say about it than others, high water/lake levels and erosion already taking its toll on "improvements" in many places there.
4	I think the plan, once completed, will draw in more tourism, which is great for our community... however, I like the more natural feel of that area.
5	I think Mich-e-ke-wis has floundered enough, twenty years of good ideas and very slow development. We need to realize that our water front development is what most people measure our city by. And charge into some serious big projects to get it done and done right. I look at Tawas and what they have done in the last twenty years and think why the heck cant we do that.
6	I'd really like to be able to get involved with the plan. I had to leave town for a while because of family issues & must have missed the opportunity to be involved. I hope the door is not nailed shut. As a member of the community who has always sought to be involved in any way I can to aid & abet 'my town'; I view working on Mich e ke wis as dear to my heart. I was there summers & winters growing up. I watched it go from a fine park to its current state over my 70+ years of using it. I know what it was and what it could be. I also know we must consider everyone in our community when we start making changes.
7	Just leave Mich-e-ke-wis alone and allow it to be a natural area.
8	Why do you have to develop everything and destroy natural beauty?
9	I wasn't able to find it online.
10	I haven't been able to find it would it be possible to have it emailed to me dlabarre@alpenalibrary.org
11	It seems like a large investment and I'm not sure how much of return the citizens will see. There are many other parks nearby with beach access and outdoor amenities likes public restrooms, the splash park, playground and beach access
12	The volleyball courts should be moved further away from the water than the existing plan shows. The area that it is specified to be located to is very water logged. <a href="https://www.sportsimports.com/how-to-build-a-beach-volleyball-court/">https://www.sportsimports.com/how-to-build-a-beach-volleyball-court/</a>
13	Do not like proposed changes to the peaceful end, where you can park, or have lunch.
14	I think anything that boosts revenue and brings entertainment and or education for kids and families is great as long as nature is respected and disturbed as little as possible.
15	I think it's great! I love that park and I do hope the feeling of being away from the city and in more of a natural environment is kept.
16	Lots too many for this space make it accessible and insure a way to cross 23 safely
17	I thinks its awesome, might want to reconsider the horseshoe pits, don't think they get used
18	Will read.
19	None - it is the go-to beach now that the lake levels are up. Improve the roadways - huge potholes.
20	Make it a campground.

Q 14:What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at North Riverfront Park?

Answered14

Skipped102

1	None
2	None
3	Not much its a dog park now and a boat launch.
4	Now I am getting confused. Is North riverfront park the skate park on 9th street beyond the bridge (walnut)?
5	None
6	Never use it.
7	Expand the dog park there.
8	If this is the skate park i would say i love it but it needs more police presence
9	Na
10	Not sure
11	More benches maybe signage about the areas history
12	No pets.
13	None
14	None

Q 15: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Riverside Park?

Answered15

Skipped101

1	None
2	Great park! Would love to see community organizers hold competitions, etc. here to attract more attention.
3	None
4	Its a blank slate that should be developed in the same way the other parks are when we get a contiguous plan.
5	Where is Riverside Park? The Dog Park?
6	Lights on til park is closed and desperate need of repairs. Or possibly a new design. I would love to see a concrete bowl design or a snake run would be the best. Something that other cities in the area don't have. Which would bring other skaters to the city to skate.
7	None
8	Turn the lights on at night because why not? Unplug the sewer every spring. Appoint someone to remove ice during melts. Do simple repairs and save the skatepark from going to waste.
9	Never use it.
10	If this is the skate park i would say i love it but it needs more police presence
11	Na
12	Not sure
13	No pets.
14	None
15	None

Q 16: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at South Riverfront Park?

Answered13

Skipped103

1	None
2	Would like to see the old Power Co lot cleaned up into a grassy area for people to enjoy. The old asphalt and gravel parking lot is not conducive to play or eating your lunch.
3	None
4	To be honest now that the buildings are privately owned and falling into disrepair it will be difficult to do much with them other than the bike path.
5	Where is South Riverfront Park? Behind the Old Post Office/Memorial Hall?
6	None
7	Never use it.
8	Picnic tables
9	Na
10	Not sure
11	No pets.
12	None
13	None

## Q 17: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Starlite Beach?

Answered 24  
Skipped 92

1	None
2	Great park!
3	none this park is amazing
4	None
5	Again look at what Traverse City , Tawas , Elk Rapids and others have done. & playground equipment & the pavilion. But how many cars can park near the pavilion? Near the playground equipment? IF you are going to keep the huge lawn & not use any of it for vehicle parking, then add some trees so that in ten years there will be shady places for people to sit & picnic.
7	Since the water line is incredibly high, is there anyway to get more beach?
8	Since water levels are so high, I rarely use Starlite Beach. The splash pad has been a great addition, even though I don't have kids, it seems like it is always used.
9	More picnic tables trash cans
10	OK as it is.
11	Another pavilion or 2 would be great!
12	Fix the sidewalk. Run a skidsteer down it and clean up the sand
13	Nothing; we like Starlite quite a bit
14	Maintenance. Drainage for the pools that form
15	Enforcing the no smoking policies.
16	Stop paying for water at splash park. Not much you can do with high water at this point. Save beach as much as possible lost big dune this year...never to return sad
17	Another restroom added at the north end
18	More playground
19	Trash cans along the beach walkway.
20	maybe food truck lot
21	More beach, sand area
22	Absolutely no pets.
23	Save the beach!
24	None - approve addition of a Born Learning Trail

## Q 18: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Sytek Park?

Answered 18  
Skipped 98

1	None
2	General maintenance and upkeep on the boardwalk.
3	Since we walk there all year round, as many do, it would be helpful to have at least 1 garbage can left out in the winter for pet waste.
4	Wooden structure could use paint and boat launch could use some work too
5	I Love Sytek Park. It is such a peaceful place that one can go & walk, sit or ride a bike through. Not a lot of parking, but one can park at the cemetery end of the path & walk to the park. All parks do not have to have fifty car parking lots. especially when the park is a "Pocket Park" I'd keep an eye on growth. Kudzu or other invasive stuff is busy trying to take over. I have seen what it can do if left unattended. Kill the vegetation along the shore of the river. The trees & their roots are important to hold the riverbank. The vines kill the trees & we all lose.
6	It would be great to have a kayak launch at Sytek.
7	Picnic tables and benches
8	OK as it is.
9	Kayak launch
10	nothing
11	Maintenance
12	None
13	Add a restroom
14	Update the fishing pad
15	No pets. No pets.
16	None
17	Add a kayak launch pad same as at the Duck Park at Island Park
18	easier access to get your kayak in



## Q 19: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Thomson Park?

Answered 19  
Skipped 97

1	Clean up beach
2	Another great location for the concrete ping pong tables that were developed at the WCCT. Or perhaps the extra large Adirondack chairs.
3	This area doesn't have much beach left, but it's a beautiful park. Hope to see it continue as it has, as a swimming beach its a gem. It gets crowded there sometimes. The trees where put in for the adjacent houses privacy just with they would have picked a variety better suited to the purpose. Something more upright along the borders would have been better. A wider path would be better. If you want it pretty put a boulevard sidewalk in. It works well for the Detroit Zoo.
5	Thompson Park is such a nice clean little park! It's biggest problem is NO PARKING. I really cannot see much that can be done about that. I understand the property adjacent to it (south of it?) is on the market. But that is a lot of money for a little land. IDK about any other suggestions.
6	None
7	Off street parking. State street is too narrow for on street parking. Purchase the property next to the park which is for sale now. Make it a parking lot for Thompson park and eliminate on street parking.
8	The beach is pretty much completely gone. Again, I'm not sure how the city could address this, but it is a loss to the city. I would also appreciate picnic tables or other seating closer to the water.
9	A pavilion
10	nothing
11	NA
12	Bathroom
13	Restrooms
14	Benches
15	Parking
16	Restrooms
17	No pets.
18	Save the beach
19	Perhaps close it due to parking issues on State Street that are unsafe when it is a hot day.

Q 20: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Veteran's Park?

		Answered	13
		Skipped	103
1	None		
2	Great park, but not many know it is even there, actually.		
3	None		
4	As a Veteran I guess I should know where it is. I don't.		
5	None		
6	None at this time.		
7	nothing		
8	NA		
9	Na		
10	Unsure		
11	No pets.		
12	None		
13	None		

## Q 21: What improvements do you and your family feel are needed at Washington Avenue Park?

Answered 20  
Skipped 96

1	None
2	Great park, please leave this as-is. This is a great area to maintain the natural feel and not let it get overbuilt. This park is one of the main attractions to the Alpena area.
3	None
4	Continue as is , just upkeep. Seems that in the last few years the amount of trees along the park has really diminished. Managing to sustain it as it is currently will be a challenge.
5	We used to enjoy going out there & drinking the water. We can still SMELL the water, but the faucet has been turned off. It's a nice place to wander through.
6	A water valve for filling bottles and watering the dog
7	More trees between the sidewalk and the street would be great. I love walking along the river, but with cars zooming by on the highway it isn't always the most relaxing. More trees may help with this.
8	More picnic tables and benches
9	Get rid of the geese.
10	Would be nice to have bathrooms as this is in the bi path also and many people use this section
11	nothing
12	NA
13	None
14	Unsure
15	Maybe flowers or lights along the winding road or something highlighting the curved road to make the waterfront look nice to spruce up this area of town
16	A few more benches or picnic tables
17	No pets.
18	None
19	Keep the river open by continuing to remove undergrowth.
20	more parking

## Q 22: What new or expanded recreational facilities do you and your family feel are needed in the City of Alpena?

Answered 50  
Skipped 66

1	Maybe an additional park?
2	Would love to see the improvements at Mich-e-ke-Wis park!
3	A community center would be nice where people of all ages can gather and engage in activities such as games, puzzles, etc. COVID allowing that is.
4	a disc golf course at the island / duck park would be great! not only would it bring more people into the city for business but the added income into the city would be great. on top of having yet more to do within the city of alpena.
5	Outdoor ice rink needs to return and Michekewis. Smaller rink with hockey nets and warming shelter open.
6	RV park
7	Increased walkability and cycling facilities in the city. There are many road crossings and pathways that are not safe for our small children to be on. Would like to see an emphasis placed on the safety of our children and our elderly population.
8	The improvements at Michekewis Plan needs to be top priority
9	Winter activities. Tubing/sledding hill; outdoor ice rink
10	More access to clean public bathrooms. Native pollinator gardens for landscaping.
11	Keeping up in these days of needed economies will be difficult enough, the parks are already well kept and heavily used, over development can be a problem too, leave some nature for people who can't easily get out of town or even from one side of town to the other. Parks and Rec do a great job, something for almost everybody. Keep up the good work.
12	More winter activities, skating, sledding.
13	An indoor walking track that is dog friendly would be awesome in the winter time.
14	Again, I think the river center would be a great addition. It would provide (as I understand) more outdoor walkways near the water.
15	Some fishing locations alone the bike paths in the winter leaving some place to get on the river to ice fish a easier way to get involved with the city goose hunt
16	Parks please continue to develop them in earnest.
17	Outdoor ice skating rink
18	Good Question. Each group of residents needs a place to go to. Youth, adults, older adults. We have a pet park. We have skateboard parks, tennis parks, volleyball parks, the little pocket parks downtown. I recall watching my folks hop in their car & drive to the small boat harbor (the Old SBH) & park & watch the waves beat against the rocks. The new one is not built so people in auto's can do that. Many older people are not able to walk a city block to get up on the walkway (but I love it) at the harbor. Others are not able to walk our great paths. So they must rely on being able to drive & park as long as they are able. I am no longer able to ice skate, but personally, skating at the old football field that bordered Mich e ke wis was THE BEST. We'd skate, go inside & warm up or use the 'loo' & go bavck outside & skate. Perhaps today's people are no longer interested? Somehow, I'd still like to see more 'park like' spaces south of our city. between us & squaw bay. that whole area is just so full of nature goodies & we need to enjoy it. We also must be mindful that Nature still OWNS it all & in high water years, it is not accessible & in low water years we should not build things that will be under water in 20 years. I've lived long enough to have experienced the ebb & flow of our lake cycles to swap stories with the best of 'em. & no our highs & lows cannot all be blamed on Global Warming. It's life.

	The plans discussed for a park on the river at the former Fletcher Paper site is an excellent idea. The city is encouraged the city to consider NOT cutting down the apple trees as kids are often seen looking for good apples to eat. A disc golf course would likely be popular and there could likely be made a place for one near one of the existing parks. Mcrae has some open tract around it (on that topic, there is a used syringe on the culvert at the east end of 2nd Avenue on the north side of the road) and the nice flower park that Lafarge had going seems to have been abandoned or behind the ballfield at Wessel and Ford. I'm aware that these are likely privately owned tracts of land but loan usage agreements are fairly common.
20	None
21	It's not so much of a facility as it is winter events. I would love to see the mich-e-me-wis property turned into outdoor winter event space. Have a real winter carnival, Outdoor beer festivals, have a clear top tent with hot chocolate and board games set up like a cabin during Christmas time-similar to the Cadillac lounge in Detroit. I think we could really create amazing opportunities for jobs and use of the space if it is done correctly.
22	Alpena has amazing recreational options that are so close to the residential areas. So often- whether it's SUP boarding on the lake, grilling at Michekewis, or going out for a sail- we have the whole beach or lake to ourselves! I'm definitely not complaining, but it seems like many of our resources are underutilized even though Alpena is promoted as a recreational destination. Getting rid of the automobile loop at Michekewis would be huge to make that park feel more secluded from cars. More grills and tables could be useful. Also, a public restroom facility near that beach (like Starlite) would also be great. I LOVED the outdoor rink at Michekewis when I was younger. I understand that is expensive to do, but it would be incredible to have a facility like that again for people of all ages, considering how long winters can be here.
23	More stuff for handicapped children and young adults
24	I really feel most amenities are adequate but the Starlite bathrooms need regular bleaching so that the smell is tolerable.
25	As stated previously outdoor winter activity.
26	Can't think of any at this time.
27	Bicycle rentals
28	More kayak launches for Thunder Bay and the river. Maybe a kayak launch in the marina.
29	Maybe a few more pavilions that people can reserve for gatherings
30	Indoor play area for winter for young kids. Roller skating rink drive in theatre
31	I'm happy with the parks and facilities in alpena, but a few areas could use public restrooms. It's not so difficult now that my daughter is older, but when enjoying the area when she was younger, I can't even guess at the number of times we could have used a nearby restroom.
32	Amusement park would be Awesome ! I feel it would do a generate a lot of income and give people something to do as a family and for tourists that come through Alpena. Also a Zoo maybe worth thinking about as well.
33	An affordable pool! The prices are prohibitively high; we also worry that the Apex may go under in which case we'd very much like a place to still go ice and roller skating
34	An outdoor ice rink would be nice
35	Can't think of any?
36	Lights on baseball/softball fields. Bring more kids tournaments to town, these events bring a good clean family atmosphere and a substantial amount of money.

	Buy the parking lot and Alpena Marc building at corner of State on Chisholm, so there is adequate parking for concerts at band shell, marina, and Brown Trout Festival. People do not like getting tickets for parking close but illegally near these locations. Older persons and handicapped have trouble using these sites during events held there. Do not worry about Alpena Marc, they are going to end up owning most of the downtown anyway, some outdoor autumn/winter activities. A education nature center would be awesome too for the lake, river, and forest.
37	
38	
39	An outdoor ice rink, more public art, safer pedestrian crosswalks. More green spaces.
40	We need more ATV trails, hiking trails, and allow road use for ATV owners on all roads.
41	Bathrooms that are handicapped outfitted in marina bayview area...we have facilities not being used.. increase use access if needed
42	An outdoor ice rink
43	Expand the bike path... Have more people utilize the space by holding events and concerts
44	Concert venues or festival spaces, outdoor skating rink, things for young adults, plaza square with stage was an exciting idea because people naturally gather in areas like that and socialization would be fun. Could be flexible for setting up events, festivals, more musicians.
45	A free outdoor ice skating rink like we used to have
46	More kayak launches
47	A quality RV park with strict rules of use in one or more of the current facilities. Initially close to downtown and the Sanctuary .
48	Pump track
49	Expansion of the Bi-Path on the northside and other areas away from the river.
50	be nice to have open gyms for people to use



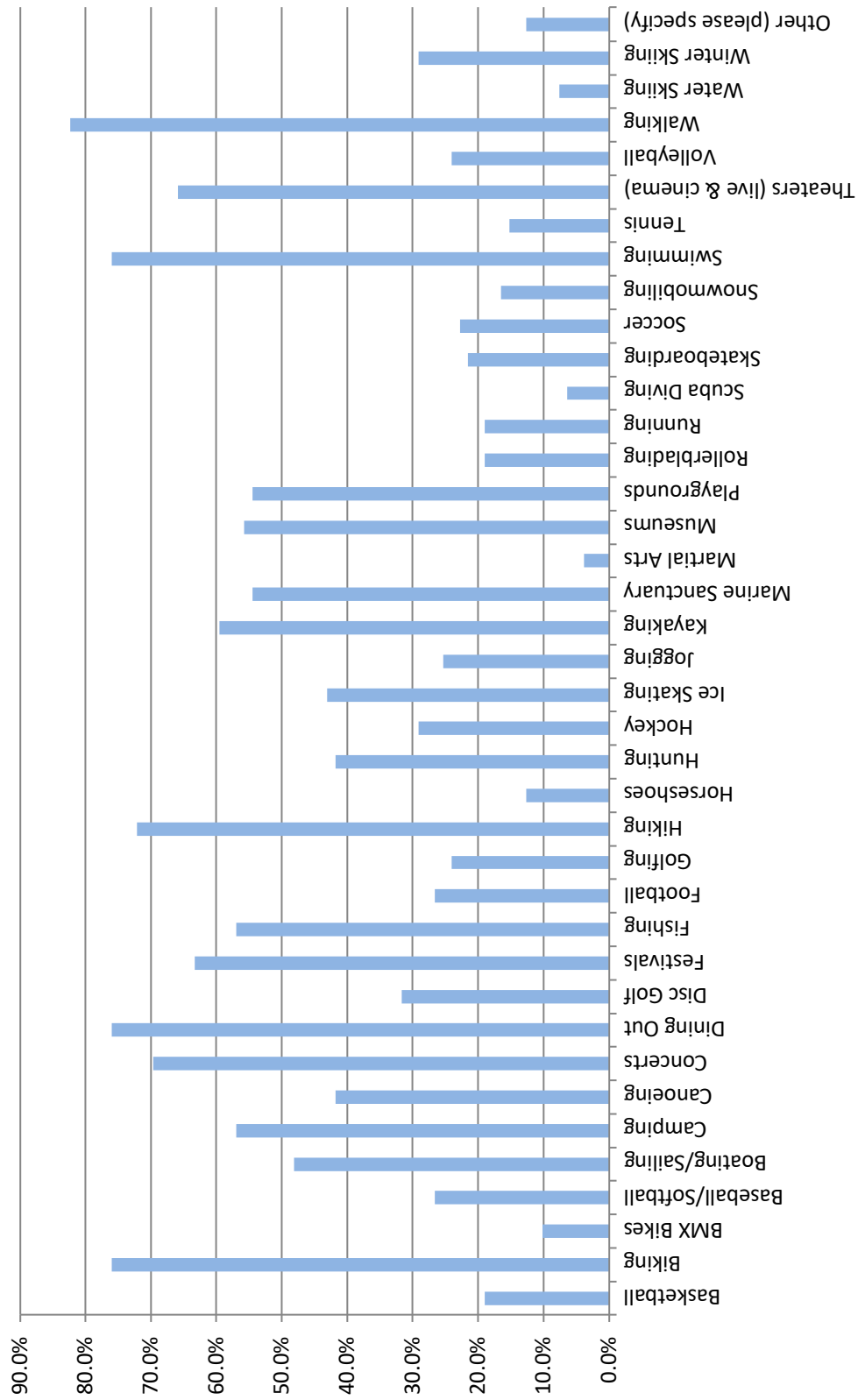
**Q 23: What recreational activities do you and your family enjoy (check all that apply)?**

Basketball	19.0%	15	Kayaking	59.5%	47
Biking	76.0%	60	Marine Sanctuary	54.4%	43
BMX Bikes	10.1%	8	Martial Arts	3.8%	3
Baseball/Softball	26.6%	21	Museums	55.7%	44
Boating/Sailing	48.1%	38	Playgrounds	54.4%	43
Camping	57.0%	45	Rollerblading	19.0%	15
Canoeing	41.8%	33	Running	19.0%	15
Concerts	69.6%	55	Scuba Diving	6.3%	5
Dining Out	76.0%	60	Skateboarding	21.5%	17
Disc Golf	31.7%	25	Soccer	22.8%	18
Festivals	63.3%	50	Snowmobiling	16.5%	13
Fishing	57.0%	45	Swimming	76.0%	60
Football	26.6%	21	Tennis	15.2%	12
Golfing	24.1%	19	Theaters (live & cinema)	65.8%	52
Hiking	72.2%	57	Volleyball	24.1%	19
Horseshoes	12.7%	10	Walking	82.3%	65
Hunting	41.8%	33	Water Skiing	7.6%	6
Hockey	29.1%	23	Winter Skiing	29.1%	23
Ice Skating	43.0%	34	Other (please specify)	12.7%	10
Jogging	25.3%	20			

**Other**

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | paddle boarding  |
| 2  | Engaging with other locals by walking and otherwise 'hanging out' downtown.          |
| 3  | prefer to be in nature rather than fancy manmade facilities, keep the parks natural! |
| 4  | Picnics and public festivals   |
| 5  | Rock collecting  |
| 6  | Kite flying  |
| 7  | Pokemon Go   |
| 8  | Dogs   |
| 9  | Just getting out to the outdoors.  |
| 10 | Kiteboarding   |

# What recreational activities do you and your family enjoy (check all that apply)?



## Q 24: What other public or private recreational facilities do you use in Alpena(example: school playground, township/county park, church recreational facility)?

Answered 36  
Skipped 80

1	School playgrounds, Aplex	
2	Lincoln school playground, Besser school playground	
3	the aces disc golf course	
4	Northern Lights Arena, Alpena City Golf Course, Thunder Bay jr High	
5	School playground - hiking trails in county	
6	County parks.	
7	Trampoline facility.	
8	Culligan Plaza is great. We enjoy walking around downtown and would love to see a downtown loop developed. For example, the small park by Mangos could be connected to the Centre Building alley, which crosses 2nd Ave and then goes behind the State Theatre to the river and loops back. With proper emphasis, this could be a great circle for locals to walk on with their family or on their lunch break. It would provide foot traffic for local businesses and also have a decent amount of 'natural' aspects mixed in as well.	
9	School playground. Township/county park. Thunder Bay River. Campgrounds.	
10	rails to trails /bipath/ snowmobile paths for hiking/walking.	
11	We live in Lake Huron next to a nature preserve	
12	the township and county parks near the river.	
13	Rockport, Besser Bell, Norway Ridge	
14	Township/county parks	
15	We use school playgrounds and the NEST trail often. It would be cool to see a playground at the college. Exposing kids to the facility and the environment early on will make the place less foreign and intimidating later. We used to enjoy the Lafarge flower garden on the regular but that doesn't seem to be a thing anymore. Some of the apartment facilities have fun playgrounds but some are also particular about non-tenant usage.	
16	Long lake park, rockport	
17	We use a lot of the trails outside of the City, such as Norway Ridge and the Golf Course for cross country skiing in the winter.	
18	NOAA museum Jesse besser and rockport is our absolute favorite	
19	School playgrounds, township parks, county parks, state parks, plaza pool, NLA	
20	Golf courses.	
21	Snowmobile trails.	
22	Aplex church school playgrounds	
23	Playground	

24 Since we live very near to Lincoln school my daughter and her friends tend to congregate there to play on the swings, jump rope and just talk and they are all near enough to use our house for snacks and restrooms when needed

25 Besser school playground, Lincoln school playground, Shingoba (sp?) Shores playground, skate park on the north side, heritage trail

26 School play grounds, pool at high school, inland lakes in the area

27 School gyms. Partridge point. Baseball complex. School playgrounds. PUBLIC LAND! High school fields. Junior High fields

28 We take our grandkids to school playgrounds

29 school playground

30 The library.

31 Playground county parks

32 Alpena township park for softball; Hinks school playground, skate park

33 School playgrounds, fair grounds

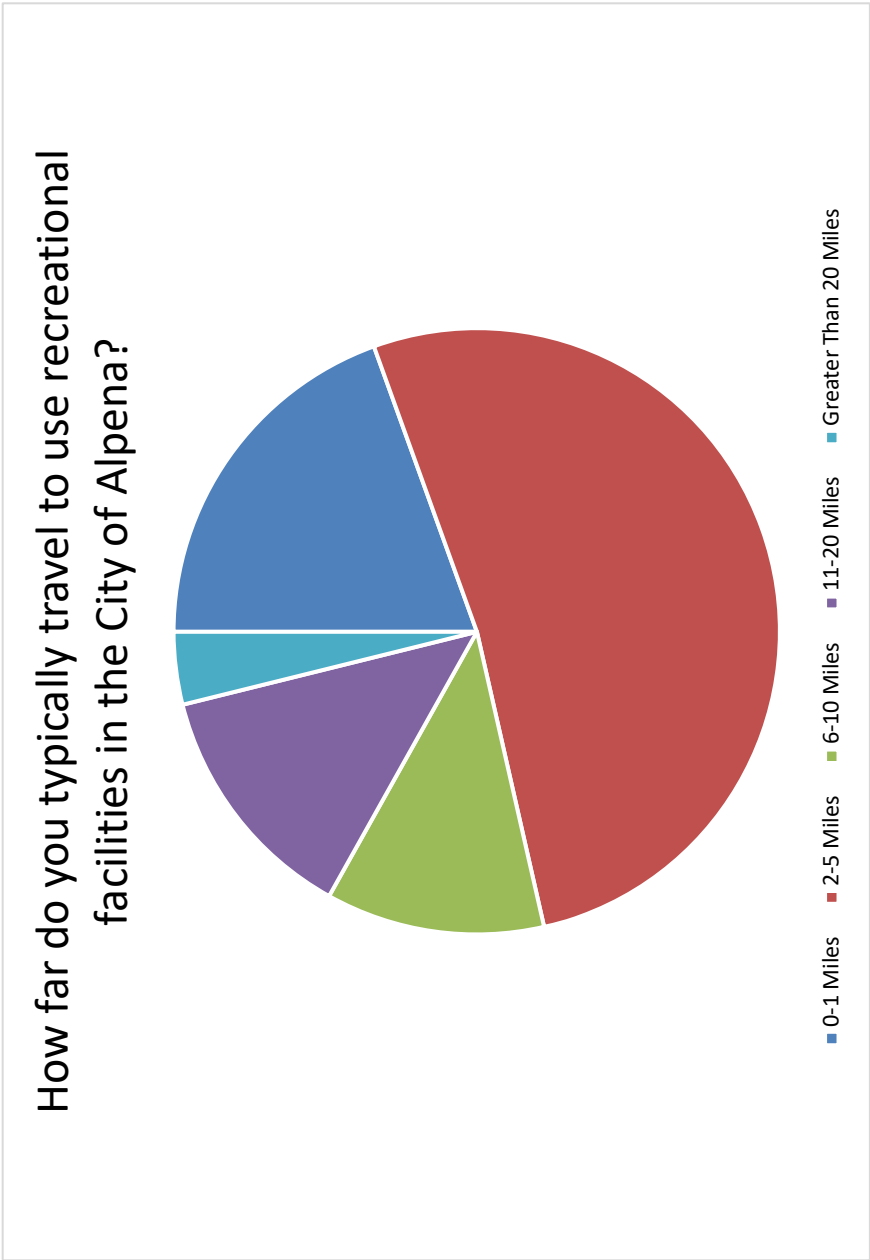
34 APlex/Northern Lights, Tractor Club, Knaebe's

35 Norway Ridge Pathway

36 APlex, Northeast Michigan State Trail, Alpena to Hillman Trail, Norway Ridge, Gentry Trail behind APlex, Plaza Pool, ACC Johnson Wellness Center, Park Arena, Chippewas Hills, ACC disc golf course.

Q 25: How far do you typically travel to use recreational facilities in the City of Alpena?

0-1 Miles	19%	15
2-5 Miles	52%	40
6-10 Miles	12%	9
11-20 Miles	13%	10
Greater Than 20 Miles	4%	3
Answered		77
Skipped		39



## Q 26: What recreational activities do you leave the Alpena area for?

Answered 59  
Skipped 57

1	Sightseeing, hiking	
2	Ocqueoc	
3	ATV trails, swimming in a pool	
4	disc golf, camping	
5	Competitive sports such as travel hockey, soccer, baseball.	
6	Hiking	
7	Hunting, sometimes fishing, sometimes biking	
8	Skiing/ snowboarding.	
9	Better cycling network (paved and unpaved) and safely walkable city centers with interesting touchstones. Petoskey, has a large pedestrian-only corridor that cuts through the heart of the city, for example. Many bigger cities have pedestrian-only circles around their downtowns, similar to the Dutch woonerf philosophy. Would love to see something like this in Alpena, especially given our aging population.	
10	Camping. Exploring new scenery.	
11	Concerts festivals	
12	Concerts	
13	Camping	
14	Sledding, skiing, tubing, camping	
15	Lighthouses, dining, upscale grocery, children's activities	
16	trails in state and county parks, ability to walk in undeveloped areas and more contact with nature	
17	Down hill skiing, golfing	
18	Dog friendly hiking areas, lighthouses, restaurants	
19	None	
20	Fishing, hunting, canoeing/kayaking, hiking and biking.	
21	Hunting fishing	
22	Hiking , Hunting, Boating , Snowmobiles, Skiing , Golf	
23	Hiking	
24	Traveling: day trips, 3 day trips & longer trips. Theater trips; Apple orchard or other seasonal trips (corn Maze at Hillman for example) Trips to nearby parks, campgrounds (we don't camp anymore) & cottages.	
25	Water park activities (the splash pad is supplementary but the SportsPlex in Gaylord has a great facility for both skating and swimming). An octagon at Northern Lights arena would be cool. We like to watch fights (we have a couple of fighters in the family) but don't often get to because of how far we have to travel to do so.	
26	Beaches, sightseeing, festivals, concerts, food truck courts (traverse city)	



27	More hiking options and cross-country skiing. If dining out and cultural festivals count as recreational activities, we travel frequently for those (Traverse City, Detroit, Bay City).
28	Fishing, beaches, exploration
29	Roller derby
30	We say in alpena mostly
31	Snowboarding
32	Camping
33	Golf
34	Mountain biking
35	Cross country skiing and hiking
36	Now movies( when they are allowed again)
37	Roller skating rink long bipath
38	Concerts, theater and the cinema, and DEFINITELY shopping, since there are very little to almost no clothing stores left in Alpena
39	Zoo, Water park, Amusement park
40	Hiking, nature walks
41	Camping, hunting,
42	playgrounds with unusual equipment (like the big seagull slide); mini golf
43	Mountain biking. Hunting. Dog training. Paddle boarding.
44	Concerts
45	Nature hikes,museums,concerts,nature centers,camping,fishing,and playgrounds.
46	Hiking. Eating ethnic food, shopping
47	To presquise for hiking,nature trails and swimming.
48	Beach, disc golf, hiking
49	None
50	Shopping, movie theater, skiing, camping, kayaking
51	The falls
52	Shopping
53	Concerts, festivals, camping, freighter watching, sight seeing, shopping
54	Hiking, fall trails and festivities
55	Dinosaur gardens, Connie's cafe and shingabashore. Also harrisville and Roger city boat harbor, Norway ridge for photo shoots
56	Camping,kayaking and hiking
57	Mountain Biking, Camping, Alpine Skiing
58	kayaking, tubing/float trips, hiking, sailing, backpacking, stand up paddleboarding, concerts, theatre, dining, running races, triathlons, cross country skiing, mountain biking
59	softball, kayaking, biking

## Q 27: Do you have family or friends who travel to the area who use recreational facilities? If so, which facilities?

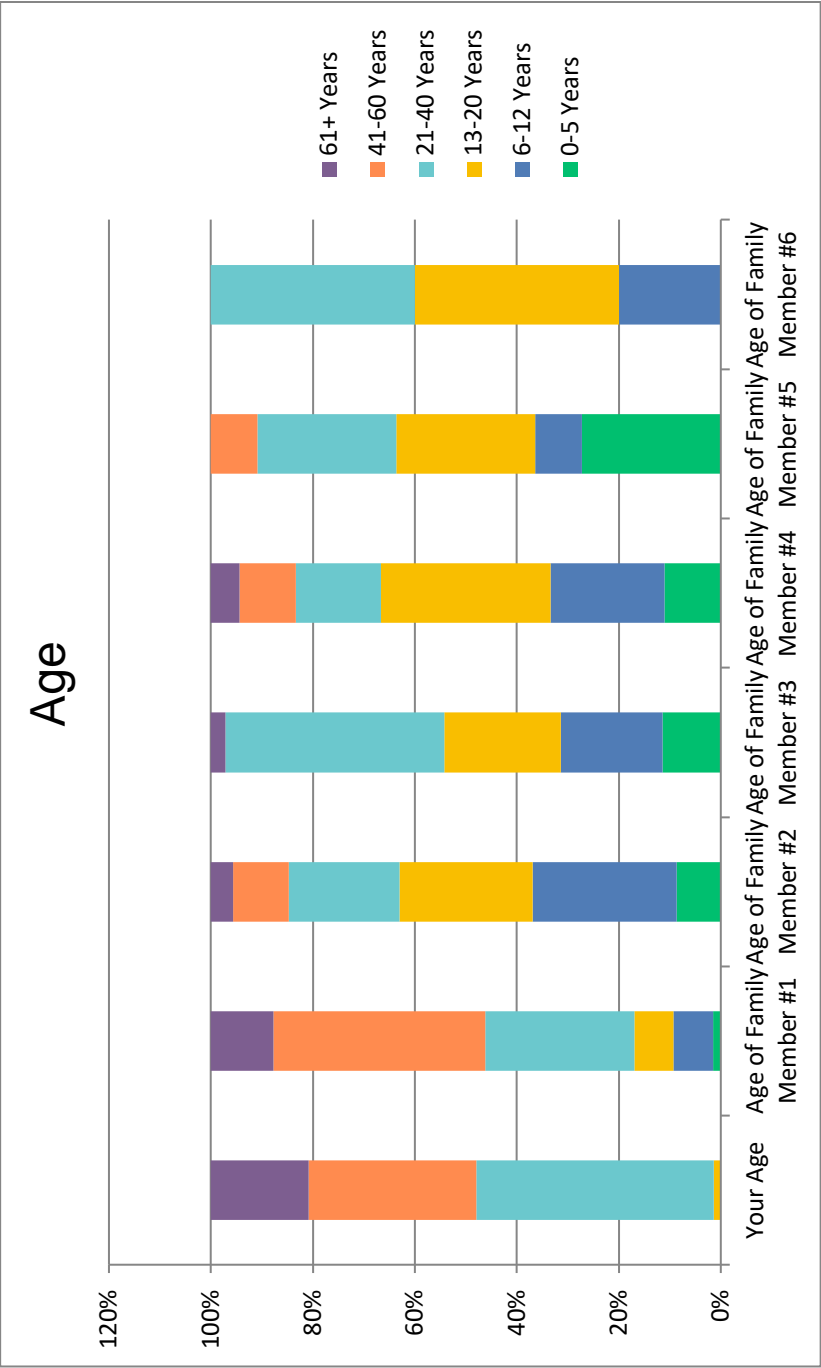
Answered 41  
Skipped 75

1	Parks for walking and playing with my kids, beach volleyball/softball
2	Splash pad
3	Family travels to the area for fishing, and use the boat launches when doing so
4	yes and campgrounds in the surrounding areas
5	no
6	Starlight Beach, bike paths
7	Not many people come to Alpena specifically for recreation facilities, other than for organized events, because there isn't much that sets Alpena apart from other locations. A fun, walkable ring around downtown would draw people in.
8	Yes starlike beach
9	Splash bad and beach
10	we love Rockport for rock and fossil hunting.
11	Yes, starlight water park, mini golf
12	Island and Duck Park mostly.
13	Dnr boat launch and other places to duck hunt and fish
14	Beaches, Marina, Bike path, Bayview Park
15	Yes
16	no
17	My family came from out of state to use the beach
18	Beach , playground, splash park
19	Splash pad
20	Beaches (Starlite & Thomson), Sytek Park (for walking and biking), Marina (for walking and sailing with us).
21	Grandchildren use the aforementioned places
22	Duck park and Island park.
23	Hiking & sailing. Marina and Michekewis
24	No
25	Swimming, fishing, snowmobiling
26	no
27	no
28	Inland lakes, hunting and fishing, bike paths, beaches

29	Mostly baseball and basketball facilities
30	Yes. Beaches, splash pad, river to kayak, walking on island and parks.
31	Just hunters or fishermen
32	No
33	No
34	No
35	Ski in Rockies and out west
36	Softball diamonds, rivers and lakes for boating and kayaking
37	Yes, Starlite Beach splash pad and playground and beach
38	Splash pad and playground behind KFC
39	None
40	Yes, all listed.
41	hockey rink, softball fields

Q 28: What are the ages of you and your family members?

	0-5 Years	6-12 Years	13-20 Years	21-40 Years	41-60 Years	61+ Years	Total
Your Age	0%	0	1%	1	34	19%	73
Age of Family Member #1	2%	1	8%	5	19	42%	65
Age of Family Member #2	9%	4	28%	13	7	23%	46
Age of Family Member #3	11%	4	20%	7	4	33%	35
Age of Family Member #4	11%	2	22%	4	1	27%	18
Age of Family Member #5	27%	3	9%	20%	1	0%	11
Age of Family Member #6	0%	0	20%	1	2	0%	5
	Answered						73
	Skipped						43



Q 29: Where is your residence located?

City of Alpena	56%	41
Alpena Township	30%	22
Green Township	1%	1
Long Rapids Township	1%	1
Maple Ridge Township	3%	2
Ossineke Township	4%	3
Sanborn Township	0%	0
Wellington Township	0%	0
Wilson Township	0%	0
Other (please specify)	4%	3
Answered		73
Skipped		43

Other

- 1
- Presque Isle
- 2
- Just over Presque Isle line
- 3
- Alpena County

## APPENDIX D

### MICH-E-KE-WIS PARK MASTER PLAN



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# Mich-e-ke-wis Park MASTER PLAN



City of Alpena  
Michigan

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# **Mich-e-ke-wis Park Plan 2020**

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## **City of Alpena, Michigan**

Prepared for:

The City of Alpena

Prepared by:

Northeast Michigan Council of Governments  
80 Livingston Boulevard, Suite U-108  
P.O. Box 457  
Gaylord, Michigan 49734

**Adopted** **INSERT DATE**

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## Introduction

The City of Alpena is the steward of some of the most beautiful and cherished public park systems in the region. Mich-e-ke-wis Park is especially revered because of the natural beauty of its shoreline, sandy beach, and peaceful setting. Nearby is another incredibly special park, Starlite Beach. The approximate 20-acre Mich-e-ke-wis Park is the quiet alternative right next door to the splash park and excitement of Starlite Beach. The City recognizes the importance of these parks and their unique characters and believes that a new planning effort was needed to focus on Mich-e-ke-wis Park. This plan provides a framework, with thorough public input, that gives guidance to decision making on park improvements. This plan is intended to supplement the most recently adopted Alpena City Recreation Plan.

In a previous plan for this park, it was lamented that the receding water levels were causing issues with beach quality. In 2019, the area has experienced some of the highest water levels ever recorded. Obviously, change is all that we can count on in this regard and all recommendations in this plan must be sustainable.

## Public Involvement

The City recognizes effective planning involves thorough public involvement to ensure a great community park for the residents. The City sought public input and ideas from area citizens to create this plan and its recommendations for Mich-e-ke-wis Park's future.

The City hosted an event on March 12, 2019 at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Approximately 60 people attended and provided valuable insight into why they like the park and what they would like to see the park look like in the future. The session was well attended, and many great ideas were shared.

## THE ALPENA NEWS

### Future of Mich-e-ke-wis Park discussed



News Photo by Julie Riddle Community members who attended a discussion on the future of Mich-e-ke-wis Park on Tuesday evening mark their favorite suggestions made in an upbeat brainstorming session.

ALPENA –The public was invited to a meeting held Tuesday to discuss the future of Mich-e-ke-wis Park in Alpena.

Questions were posed to facilitate discussion and the responses were noted on the board in the room. The four questions were:

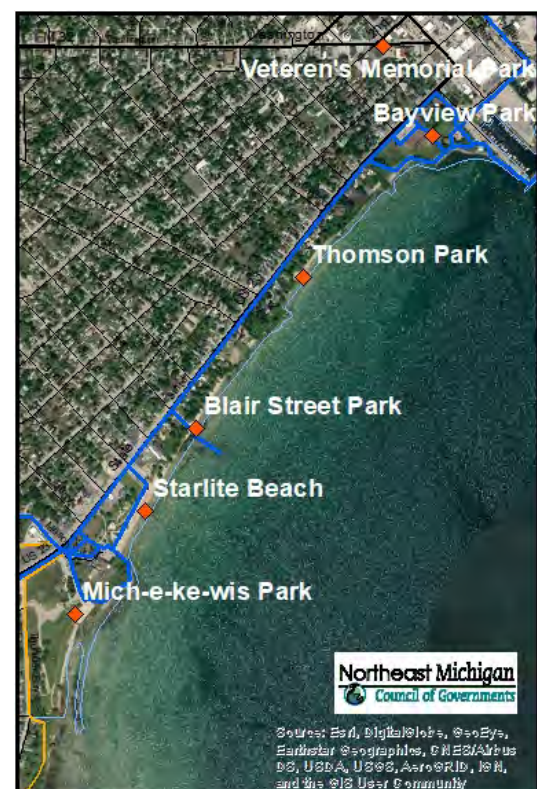
1. What do you like about Mich-e-ke-wis Park now?
2. What is a challenge at the Park right now?
3. What is the best thing that could be done to improve the Park?
4. What should not occur at the Park?

At the end of the event, the participants were asked to indicate the one response they felt was most important to them for each of the four questions. Those responses clearly showed an interest in the quiet experience that the Park provides. The top three “likes” were *water view*, *trees*, and *simplicity*. People enjoy the outdoor sports opportunities that exist in the park and the farmers’ market. Some people mentioned this might be a good park to include some historic displays. The top three challenges were *roads*, *shoreline preservation*, and *beach maintenance*. Desired additions included overwhelming support for a pavilion especially for the farmers’ market. Also, there was strong support for improvements that allowed for more accessibility to the waterfront and views of the water. Overall, keeping it simple seemed to be the theme.

On November 13, 2019, the City hosted another public involvement evening at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary for input on the draft plan drawings and suggested improvements. The public response was incredibly positive, and the final recommendations reflect the comments from each of these public involvement sessions.

## Neighboring Parks

When considering how to make the suggested improvements, it was important to review the existing recreational opportunities in the other city parks. The City of Alpena is rich in recreational resources, such as bike paths, water trails, parks, and shoreline. The parks most similar to Mich-e-ke-wis Park are those along the Lake Huron shoreline to the north that are located within the City limits. These neighboring parks are Bayview Park, Thomson Park, Blair Street Park, and Starlite Beach. Starlite Beach is immediately adjacent to Mich-e-ke-wis Park and many of these parks are a hub of activity on a summer day.



Many of the neighboring parks have their own character and are desired by visitors for different reasons. One of the most desirable waterfront parks along Lake Huron is Starlite Beach. This park includes a splash park that was installed in 2018, which has become a noticeably big attraction. A visit on a summer day will make it clear that Starlite has become a favorite of the Huron shore parks. In 2019, TripAdvisor.com, a popular travel website, listed Starlite Beach as the #5 most popular thing to do in Alpena. It is the third most popular park next to Rockport State Park (#4) and Island Park & Wildlife Sanctuary (#2). Mich-e-ke-wis Park is listed as #11 of the 27 destinations featured. The current status and planned improvements of each of these parks are included at the end of this plan.

The unique nature of Mich-e-ke-wis Park should be considered when planning park improvements. This park is clearly desired for its quiet enjoyment of the outdoors, farmers' market, volleyball, and waterfront viewing. The Park has larger open spaces closer to the heavily traveled state highway.



The view was mentioned as a desirable attraction to the site and a quality to be preserved. Clearly, the view from the main road through the park to the water is limited. However, the view from *within* the park across the water is very appealing. The views that will be the focus of improvements at Mich-e-ke-wis Park will be internal views for visitors within the park.

The adjacent photo is from Google Maps, taken in July 2018. The water is visible but is a small part of the overall viewshed in this area. The traffic along this road is busy and leads to very little sightseeing except to see there is a park in this location. The amenities of Mich-e-ke-wis Park that are located along the road are much more visible.

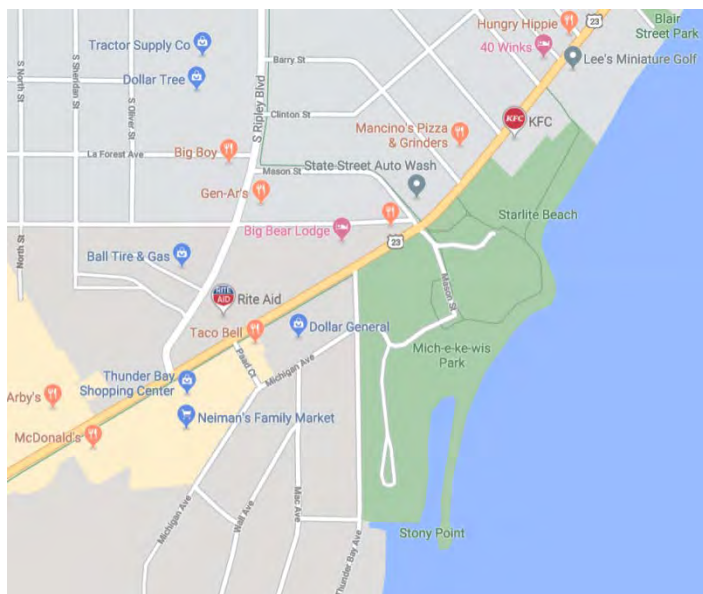
When compared with the viewshed of Starlite Beach, it is clear that Starlite Beach has more waterfront access. In addition, the splash park is clearly visible and even more visible when the crowds enjoying the splash park are present.





## Park Access

Although this plan does not propose any changes to park access, this plan makes note of the opportunities and challenges. As mentioned, the park is accessible by motorized and non-motorized means of transportation. It is located along the Alpena Bi-Path, which is a multi-user



non-motorized pathway connecting many destinations throughout the City for both recreational and daily transportation needs.

U.S. 23, also called the Huron Shores Heritage Route, is well traveled and an excellent means of motor vehicle access to the park. The annual average daily traffic (AADT) along the park's frontage on U.S. 23 in 2018 was 8,930. However, there are limited protected crosswalks. The closest crosswalk to the northeast is approximately 1,100 feet away and 1,200 feet to the southwest. Working with the Michigan Department of

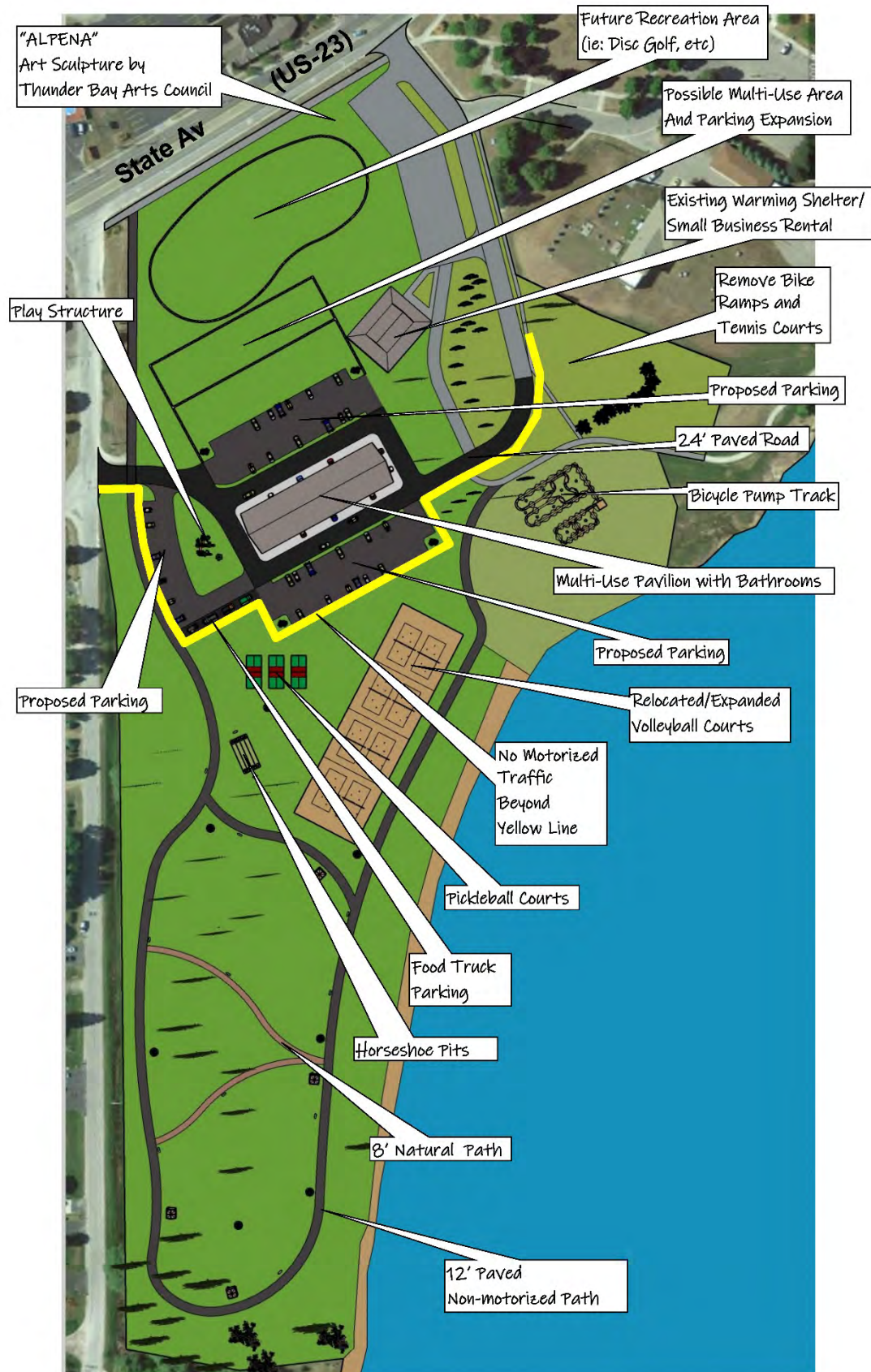
Transportation on possible improvements to park access would be worthwhile. As you can see from the Google map showing other attractions in the area and the proximity of the park, the addition of crosswalks would better connect residents to these potential destinations.

## Recommendations

Although this plan provides a number of recommendations for potential improvements to Mich-e-ke-wis Park, any steps taken will involve additional public input from the City Council, City Staff, and other stakeholders. For instance, a new pavilion was a favorite park addition since it could be used by the farmers' market and other organizations. The design and final location of such a structure would include additional and final planning with engineers and stakeholders. Other improvements should involve similar stakeholder input.

Improvements to parks are often done incrementally. This plan recommends being ready to make any of the improvements listed here by immediately starting dialog with stakeholders for each of the specific improvements. This will allow for immediate action when funding sources are identified.

Specific improvements and potential stakeholders and partners for fundraising efforts are listed in this plan.





## Proposed Amenities

### 1. Multi-use Pavilion

The multi-use pavilion was the highest rated improvement from the first public input session. The pavilion can be used for year-round programming and social events, including festivals, family gatherings, school events, class reunions, concerts and performances, and a potential ice rink. Currently, the Alpena Farmers' Market is a top-rated aspect of the Park and operates two days a week from July through the first week of October. Dependent on design and available funding, the pavilion would provide comfort for merchants and customers, potentially attract more customers, and possibly extend the market's operating season.

### 2. Quiet Area/Pedestrian Pathway

It was clear from the public input sessions that the quietness, simplicity, and water view are some of the most favored aspects of the park. This quiet area proposed, as shown on the map on page 5, provides a pedestrian/non-motorized area of the park for quiet reflection and exercise. In this area, there are many trees and quality views of the water. The pedestrian path replaces a gravel drive, which was one of the criticisms listed at the public input session. Instead of paving the gravel in this section of the park, it is converted to a quiet space for recreation and relaxation. Picnic tables, benches, horseshoe courts, and a play structure could be placed in this area.

### 3. Additional Volleyball Courts

Currently, the beach volleyball courts are in high demand and are in need of protection from rising water levels. Mich-e-ke-wis is already a popular destination for volleyball compared to other parks. There is an opportunity to build on this by creating more and better volleyball opportunities. A new location will be necessary to ensure long-term protection from rising waters but will need to retain the preferred proximity to the beach. There are currently six volleyball courts and four more are proposed.

### 4. Bike Pump-Track

Typically, these types of riding facilities receive high utilization when complemented by additional infrastructure, such as picnic tables, playground equipment, and other developed park facilities, that already draw children and families. An ideal area for a pump track is approximately 0.5-acres. The track could be created with imported clay or purchased prefabricated. The advantages of the former are lower cost (\$35,000 labor plus materials/transport), malleability, and the ability to remove the track easily through regrading. The disadvantages are a need for regular maintenance and, to some, the aesthetics of piles of clay/dirt. For a prefabricated pump track, the advantages are a much lower level of maintenance and polished aesthetics that can be easily landscaped,

while the disadvantages include a higher cost (\$15-20,000 labor and \$75,000-\$100,000 for the track components) and a lack of the ability to alter the design over time.

This type of park pairs well with the skate park that exists at Mich-e-ke-wis Park and would attract similar users.

#### 5. Horseshoe Courts

Horseshoe pitching is one of the few sports that has a national champion for men, women, boys, and girls and can still be played in one's backyard. In this day of weight watching, what better way to exercise than walking, bending, and reaching? These are integral parts of this sport. Game-related injuries are rare, and doctors have repeatedly stressed the beneficial aspects of this sport. Multiple horseshoe courts can be constructed and create an opportunity for league or individual play for all ages. An area of 55'x75' is needed to have six horseshoe courts.



#### 6. Picnic Tables/Benches

These improvements can provide additional comfortable seating to enjoy the water view from inside the park. Locations will be inside the pedestrian quiet area and other specific locations to be determined.

## **7. Bike Racks**

These can be placed around the park near the bike path's intersection with a feature in the park, such as the volleyball courts and proposed pavilion. They are relatively inexpensive and encourage people to ride their bike to the park and know there is a place to secure it.

## **8. Lighting**

A lighting plan is needed for this site to maximize security and convenience and to ensure dark sky lighting practices are followed. The International Dark Sky Association (<https://www.darksky.org/>) is a helpful resource for choosing proper lighting to limit light pollution and protect the night skies.

## **9. Play Structure**

This type of addition can improve a park experience by keeping youth involved in exercise. The type of play structure that is eventually chosen will depend on the number of children expected at any given time, the location and size available for the structure, as well as the budget. The budget for such a structure has been estimated for \$1000 times the number of children that are expected to be playing on it at any given time. The need for proper playing surface and maintenance is also a consideration of such an improvement.



## **10. Parking Area - rearranged**

This new design will improve the southern section of the park and its dusty gravel road as well as the undefined, wider maneuvering space, which has a lot of wasted space and a lack of clarity as to how motor vehicles and pedestrians should move through the space. This should increase parking opportunities and park user safety.

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Public Input Session Summary

Meeting Date: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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The City of Alpena has been listening to the needs of their community and is seeking input on Mich-e-ke-wis Park. The City wants to know what could be improved upon at this favorite park. To start this process the City requested assistance from the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments to seek input from the public and, with the public's guidance, provide some recommendations for the park.

The first step of the process was a public input session, held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, to gather information on what people liked about the park, what they don't like, what they want and what they don't want to see happen at the park. This session was held at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. There were approximately 60 people in attendance at the first public input session.

Questions were posed to facilitate discussion and the responses were noted on the board in the room. The four questions were:

1. What do you like about Mich-e-ke-wis Park now?
2. What is a challenge at the Park right now?
3. What is the best thing that could be done to improve the Park?
4. What should not occur at the Park?

At the end, the participants were asked to indicate the one response to each of the 4 questions which they felt was the most important to them. Those responses are documented exactly as they were documented during the public input session and shown on the following pages. Each item shows the number of stars that were drawn by the participants on each item, indicating the general level of importance of each item to the audience. This information is being used to create site drawings of the park representing different potential development scenarios. NEMCOG is working with staff to draft them.

### **Next Steps**

Various Park development scenarios will be provided for review by the public. These will be discussed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> public input session, which will be announced very soon. At that time, we will be asking for input on the various drafts of future Park site plans. This will most likely be scheduled to occur by June.

### **How to Learn More and Keep in Touch**

Information will be updated on the Park planning process at the following web address:  
<http://www.discovernortheastmichigan.org/michekewis.asp>.

<b>What do you like about Mich-e-ke-wis Park now?</b>	<b># of Stars</b>
Water View	6
Trees	5
Simplicity	4
Farmers' market	3
Sand beach, few rocks	2
Quiet	2
Legacy/history/memories	2
Wildlife	1
Outdoor sports	1
Access to lake (wide open view)	1
Not over-developed (partners/contrasts well with Starlite Beach)	
Open space	
Picnic space	
Sunrise	
Night view	
Volleyball	
Gateway from south	
Continuous use of shore	

<b>What is a challenge at the park right now?</b>	<b># of Stars</b>
Roads, need for pavement	6
Preservation of natural shoreline, challenges	6
Beach maintenance	4
Unfinished bike path	2
Restrooms	1
Different definitions of development	1
Costs (of maintaining and developing park)	1
Racing (of vehicles)	
Universal access	
Safety	
General maintenance	
Lack of parking	
Proper traffic flow	
No traffic? (restrict all traffic)	
Invasive species	
Flooding	

<b>What is the best thing that could be done to improve the park?</b>	<b># of Stars</b>
Pavilion (esp. for farmers' market, with power, possible ice rink)	8
Boardwalk along beach (ADA compatible)	5
Balance of uses without obstructing views	3
Improved water access: docks/movable structures	3
Historic interpretative displays	3
Natural vegetation	2
Paved parking, well-defined	2
Dark sky lighting	2
Bike parking	1
Healthy youth destination	1
Portable ice rink	1
Define what people want	
Unobstructed use by kiteboarders	
Education/Natural interpretative displays	
City employees involved in improvements	
More volleyball courts	
Remove old willows	
Quiet area	
Outdoor winter use	
Year-round use	
Scenic overlook	
The "oval", flexibility for events	
Worldwide examples of park improvements	
Cover up ditch on Thunder Bay Avenue (for more parking?)	
Ensure driveway access from Thunder Bay Avenue	
Gathering space (food truck, garden, etc.)	
Leave it alone	
Fireplace	
Improve safety of playground	
Canoe/kayak storage	
Labyrinth for meditative walk	
Toboggan run	
Pickleball courts	
Curling	



What should not occur at the park?	# of Stars
Duplicate Starlite	8
Over-develop	7
RV park	6
Short sightedness	2
Unintended consequences	1
Community garden	
Flower gardens (unnatural)	

### Other Ideas Shared After the Public Input Session and on Posters at the Session

Keep it simple and natural as possible

Keep it open

Leave it alone - as it is!!

Sledding Hill

Basketball court to go along with baseball & volleyball

Yurts

Fire pits on the beach

Add room for more volleyball courts if needed (big league in-town

Sledding hill

clean bathrooms

Area near volleyball courts, in front of parking area, for kiteboarders/windsurfer launch area

Beach activities (Sandcastles, swim, walk, picnic, various games with balls etc.)

Kite flying

Launching sail boards, kayaks, small watercraft

Family-friendly activities

Shuffleboard

Croquet and other lawn games

Dog park for small dogs

Dog park for large dogs

Handicap walk to the water

Volleyball

Bike Park

Clear view of Lake Huron from US 23

Winter activities

Ice skating rink

Small sledding hill built so it does not obstruct the view. Could be used for rolling down hill in the summer.

(Could it be built of snow cleared from city property? If a season of little snow, the hill would be small. If a lot of snowfall, a bigger hill.)