City of

Clawson

Parks & Recreation Master Plan

2025 - 2029









Adopted: December 3, 2024

Cover Credits:

Fallfest at City Park: Clawson Parks & Recreation

Sand Volleyball at City Park: Clawson Parks & Recreation

Pickleball at Hunter Community Center: Clawson Parks & Recreation

Playground at City Park: CWA



Acknowledgments

Mayor ..... Paula Millan

City Manager..... Joseph Rheker

City Treasurer .....Lisa Rosati

City Clerk.....G. Machele Kukuk

Clawson City Council .....

Susan Moffitt, Mayor Pro Tem

Bruce Anderson

Matt Binkowski

Glenn Shepard

Clawson Planning Commission.....

Gregory Kucera, Chair

Evan Carpenter

Sam Fitzer

Lurant Nushaj

Erin Redmond

Richard Scott

Josh Solomon

Scott Tinlin

Clawson Parks & Recreation Advisory Board .....

Melissa Prowse, Chair

Cleyton Cavallaro, Secretary

Alex Aprile

Lisa Ball

Stephen Trachsel

James Waddy

Clawson Parks & Recreation Staff.....

Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation & Senior Services

Lisa Ball, Assistant Director

Assisted by:

Carlisle | Wortman Associates

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Executive Summary 6

Key Plan Findings 6

What The Plan Contains 7

Chapter 2: Goals & Objectives 8

System-wide Goals 8

Park Specific Goals 10

Chapter 3: Action Plan 13

Action Plan 13

Project Schedule 22

Implementation Strategies 24

Chapter 4: Needs Assessment 28

Comparison To Recreation Standards 28

Ten Minute Walk Initiative 32

Online Survey 34

Chapter 5: Recreation Inventory 39

Local Recreation Facilities 39

Mini-Parks 42

Neighborhood Parks 44

Community Parks 48

Special Purpose Facilities 50

Adjacent Communities Recreation Facilities 53

Private Recreation Facilities 53

Recreation Programs And Services 54

Regional Park Facilities 56

Accessibility Assessment 62

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grant Fund Status 63

Chapter 6: Administrative Structure 64

Funding & Budget 64

Volunteers & Partnerships 69

Chapter 7: Community Background 70

Population 71

Housing 72

Land Use 73

Transportation 73

Climate & Natural Features 75

Related Planning Initiatives 76

Appendix A: Public Notices 82

Appendix B: Minutes 85

Appendix C: Resolution of Adoption 89

Appendix D: Letters of Transmittal 91

Appendix E: Public Input Summary 93

Figures

Figure 1. .....City Park Concept Plan 15
Figure 2. .....Hunter Park & Comm Center Concept...16
Figure 3. .....Grant Park Concept Plan.....17
Figure 4. .....Parkland Park Concept Plan 18
Figure 5. .....Memorial Park Concept Plan.....19
Figure 6. .....Parkland Park Concept Plan 20
Figure 7. .....Rotary Park.....43
Figure 8. .....Memorial Park.....43
Figure 9. .....Grant Park 45
Figure 10. ....Parkland Park 47
Figure 11. ....Parkland Park 49
Figure 12. ....Hunter Park & Community Center 51
Figure 13. ....Hunter Comm. Center Floor Plan 52
Figure 14. ....Organizational Chart.....68
Figure 16. ....Site Context - Oakland County.....70
Figure 15. ....Site Context - State of Michigan 70
Figure 17. ....Site Context - SEMCOG.....70
Figure 18. ....Clawson Age Group Percentages.....71
Figure 19. ....Median Age Comparisons.....72
Figure 20. ....Clawson Bike Route Map.....76
Figure 21. ....Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Route 1 78
Figure 23. ....Iron Belle Trail 79
Figure 22. ....North Country Scenic Trail 79

Maps

Map 1. Clawson Park Service Areas 33
Map 2. Clawson Recreation Facilities 40
Map 3. Regional Recreation Facilities.....58
Map 4. Existing Land Use.....74

Tables

Table 1. Action Plan 22
Table 2. NRPA Close-to-Home Park Guidelines 29
Table 3. Facility Comparison - NRPA Metrics 29
Table 4. Amenity Development Standards.....29
Table 5. NRPA Staffing & Expenditures Ranges 30
Table 6. Sources of Operating Expenditures.....30
Table 7. Distribution of Expenditures 30
Table 8. Targets for Capital Expenditures 30
Table 9. Operating Expenditures.....30
Table 10. Programs Offered 30
Table 11. Top Rec. Activities - NSGA Survey.....31
Table 12. Team Sport Growth - SFIA Survey.....31
Table 13. Top Outdoor Rec Activities Statewide 31
Table 14. Right number of parks?.....34
Table 15. Develop a new community center?.....34
Table 16. Community Center feasibility study? 34
Table 17. How important are the following? 35
Table 18. How satisfied are you with area parks?.....35
Table 19. Rate the physical condition 36
Table 20. How important are these programs? 37
Table 21. Programs would you like to see more?.....37
Table 22. Clawson Park Amenities.....41
Table 23. Regional Recreation Amenities 60
Table 24. Accessibility Assessment 62
Table 25. Grant History 63
Table 26. Parks & Recreation Budget Summary.....66
Table 27. Population Data, Clawson Region 71
Table 28. Age Group Distribution 71
Table 29. Median Age.....72
Table 30. Clawson Housing Values & Gross Rent.....72
Table 31. Oakland County Land Use Data 73

Chapter 1: Executive Summary

The 2025 – 2029 Clawson Parks and Recreation Master Plan articulates a vision for parks and recreation in the City. The Clawson Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (CPRAB) and Parks and Recreation Department (Parks) used information gathered as part of the planning process to re-evaluate the City's recreation needs, obtaining resident input through an online survey to help guide their decision making. This update builds on the ideas set forth in the previous plan, makes recommendations for meeting the community's future recreation needs, and presents an implementation strategy for parks and recreation improvement.

The purpose of this Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts in the City over the next five-year period, through December 2029. Once adopted, the Plan is the official document to be used by the City to guide decisions regarding parks and recreation. This Plan is also intended to meet the State's standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

Key Plan Findings

The City of Clawson is an older, heavily developed community with a small and equally well-developed park system. Almost every square inch of Clawson's six parks are developed. Residents are rightfully proud of their parks, especially City Park, which serves as the centerpiece for both routine, daily recreation as well as special community events. Residents recognize the critical importance of ongoing maintenance, and its role in providing a safe and welcoming park environment.

The major issue identified by Parks staff and residents is the fate of the Hunter Community Center. Built in the 1950s, the building currently serves as the home to the Clawson Senior Center and hosts numerous other recreation activities but faces costly repairs to allow it to remain functional. A new facility could provide many of the residents' desired amenities but finding a suitable space and funding for such an endeavor could be challenging. Residents encouraged preparation of a feasibility study to evaluate all options regarding the Center.

Other proposed improvements are smaller in scale, but could significantly increase usage at Clawson's parks. Ranging in scale from simple playground enhancements to the potential addition of a splash pad, the improvements described in the plan are aspirational and provide a vision for development over the next five years and beyond.

A summary of community needs can be found in Chapter 4 on page 28. A full set of survey data and other community input can be found in Appendix E on page 93.



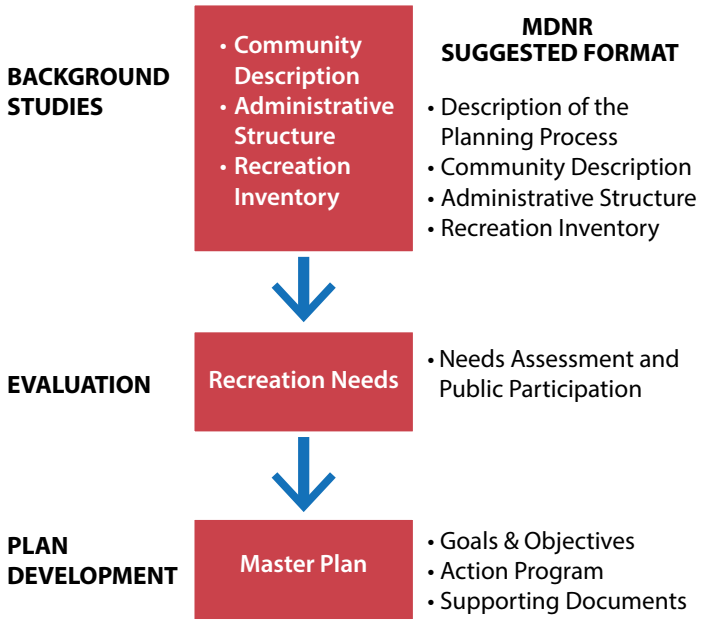
Image Source: Facebook - Team GUTS

What The Plan Contains

This Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans (IC 1924, revised 4-26-2021).

- The plan begins with this ***Executive Summary*** and a description of the processes used to prepare the plan.
- ***Goals & Objectives*** were obtained by compiling input from community members, staff, and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members. They provide a broad set of values which drive recreation development in the City.
- The ***Action Program*** then provides steps and strategies for implementing the Plan.
- The ***Public Participation*** portion of the Plan presents the input received from local officials, staff, and residents of Clawson, which helped the SPRC formulate the Plan's goals and objectives.
- A detailed ***Recreation Inventory*** describes the existing parkland and recreational facilities of the community as well as those of the region and state.
- A description of the City's ***Administrative Structure*** follows, including information on funding and budgets.
- The Plan then presents a ***Community Description***, providing information on both the social and physical characteristics of the community.
- Finally, the appendices include supporting materials, such as a copy of the public input survey, and resolutions and notices that document the Plan's adoption by the Clawson City Council.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the MDNR suggested format described earlier:



This Plan was developed with input from local officials, staff, and residents. An online survey was made available to gather input on needed improvements to the community's recreation facilities and programming. The survey was also available in hard copy form by request.

A Public Hearing was held in front of the City Council on December 3, 2024, after which the plan was officially adopted. The Master Plan was available for public review and comment electronically via Clawson's website and by request in hard copy form at City Hall and the Parks and Recreation Offices for one month prior to the public hearings.

Chapter 2: Goals & Objectives

Developing and articulating goals and objectives is essential to any long-range planning process. Both are equally important aspects of the recreation planning process; goals generally provide long term policy direction, while objectives outline more specific actions that can be taken to accomplish these goals.

The following section has been reviewed by the City for the purpose of assessing their relevancy in meeting the existing and future recreation needs in the community. The problem statement preceding each goal is intended to describe a particular recreation problem that should be addressed. The goals and objectives that follow are meant to provide some general policy directions that should be followed for the purpose of addressing the existing or anticipated problems. These statements of policy will help form the basis for determining recreation deficiencies in Clawson that need to be addressed.

System-wide Goals

Diversity and Planning

Clawson is an established urban community with a diverse population representing a wide variety of individual physical, social, and developmental needs.

GOAL:

Establish and adhere to a long-vision plan which encourages development of an attractive community in which to live, work, shop, age, and recreate for all residents.

OBJECTIVES:

- Offer a variety of activities that meet the needs of all segments of the population including youth, young adults, families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.
- Improve physical accessibility to parks, recreation facilities, and programs.
- Encourage inter-generational facilities.
- Discourage environmental factors that could be detrimental to existing and future development;
- Maintain a balance between the natural and man-made environment; and
- Work with local business leaders in developing an enhanced streetscape environment in the Downtown Development District.

Facility Maintenance

Provide a clean, safe, and enjoyable recreation environment for all park visitors.

GOAL:

Prioritize a robust maintenance and upkeep plan for the park system.

OBJECTIVES:

- Ensure park facilities and equipment are safe, functional, and clean;
- Replace/upgrade park equipment and facilities as needed;
- Ensure safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones;
- Ensure accessibility for residents of all abilities;
- Refurbish athletic fields and game courts as needed;
- Provide appropriate wayfinding, directional signs and park furnishings;
- Develop stewardship plans for the parks and Hunter Community Center with the goal of promoting ownership and community pride while reducing instances of vandalism;
- Continue general park upkeep; and
- Consider the cost of maintenance and operation in designing and locating new recreation facilities and programs.

Administration And Communication

Improved communications in Clawson can yield more effective recreation services that maximize the area's recreation potential. A means of generating revenues through grants, sponsorships, and donations where possible should continue to be a priority to provide park projects.

GOAL

Continue to enhance communications and financial sustainability

OBJECTIVES

- Develop and update the park brochures and pamphlets for promotional purposes;
- Seek grant funding and donations;
- Consider implementation of a recreation-specific millage to provide a secure and stable funding source for existing maintenance and future park development needs; and
- Continue to evaluate and develop public/private partnerships;
- Continue to expand the use of web-based communication tools such as Facebook and Twitter for marketing purposes;
- Provide opportunities for volunteers and community stewardship projects;
- Evaluate fees and charge policies for programs and services and work to increase program cost recovery;
- Participate in state/regional recreation planning organizations;
- Communicate the goals, objectives, and action plan outlined in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan;
- Raise awareness through special events and regular ongoing programming held at different facilities throughout the year; and
- Strive to reduce duplication in recreation services through consideration of existing facilities and programs offered by adjacent municipalities and agencies.

Increase the Parks & Recreation Opportunities

As a built-out community, opportunities for land acquisition for recreation services are very limited. Careful land acquisition and development can help to fill gaps in service and address resident needs.

GOAL:

Expand parks and recreation offerings in a prudent, fiscally sound fashion as opportunities arise.

OBJECTIVES:

- Work with City Council and the Planning Commission to ensure that new developments incorporate recreation elements such as pathways and pocket parks;
- Strategically acquire land where feasible to expand existing park facilities, provide space for active-use amenities, or offer access to natural features and open space;
- Continue to work with the DDA to develop non-traditional spaces in the downtown core that provide resting spaces, beautify the downtown area, and offer other small-scale recreation options; and
- Work with the DDA, DPW, and City Council to implement a Pedestrian and Bicycle plan, with a specific goal of providing non-motorized access to all parks and downtown amenities. A regional pathway plan developed in cooperation with neighboring communities should be considered.

Park Specific Goals

All Parks

While each park property is unique, certain elements should be expected to be present at all facilities.

GOAL

Implement standard design features to all facilities to provide cohesion to the park system, ensure park user expectations are considered, and help with overall City branding.

OBJECTIVES

- Ensure that all features and amenities are ADA compliant, and that accessible routes are provided to all amenities;
- Add dog waste stations and trash receptacles, and ensure that they are regularly emptied and maintained;
- Ensure that landscaping is well maintained. A regular maintenance schedule should be implemented in cooperation with the DPW, and replacement plants should consist of native species and cultivars;
- Provide respite areas with seating and shade in the form of trees or shade structures;
- Provide potable water where possible and include water bottle filling features;
- Provide restroom amenities where feasible; and
- Have consistent signage that clearly identify the property as a Clawson city park.

Clawson City Park

Clawson City Park serves as both a literal and figurative central park for the community, acting as a gathering point for special events and as a casual retreat for residents. Careful attention to the uses and need for this property will ensure the long-term success of the park.

GOAL:

With the understanding that Clawson City Park has effectively reached its development limits, the city shall continue to develop, upgrade and refurbish existing amenities in a manner that best serves all the residents of the community.

OBJECTIVES:

- Provide a welcoming and connected walking space through improvements and expansion of the current walkway network;
- Ensure the existing park equipment is safe and of the highest possible quality;
- Provide the a varied user experience by maximizing the remaining available space, incorporating smaller-scale amenities throughout the park, adding additional sports courts where feasible, and re-envisioning the playground area; and
- Improve visitor safety through implementation of measures such as increased police patrols, upgrades to security cameras, improved lighting, and introduction of blue-light stations to limit negative interactions.

Hunter Park & Recreation Center

The Hunter Community Center provides critical services to the City's seniors, disability community, and residents at large. As the Center ages, its ability to provide the high level of service required by Clawson residents diminishes.

GOAL:

Continue to provide the highest possible level of service to the community while evaluating potential avenues for change.

OBJECTIVES:

- Continue to work closely with the varied communities utilizing the center to establish their needs and desires for the recreation center;
- Perform a feasibility study to perform a cost/benefit analysis on improvements to the existing facility versus construction of a new center, including potential construction of a regional center in cooperation with adjacent communities, and long-term development opportunities for the park space should a new center be constructed;
- Implement short-term park improvements which will improve the functionality of the facility and bring the space into ADA compliance; and
- Ensure that the existing structure is safe and functional, prioritizing immediate needs that will allow the building to continue to operate effectively.

Grant Park

Grant Park's relatively small footprint belies its importance in the Clawson recreation system. Its mix of active and passive uses provide critical services to both the immediate neighborhood and the city beyond.

GOAL:

Realize Grant Park's potential as a neighborhood park with community-wide functionality.

OBJECTIVES:

- Improve accessibility throughout the park via provision of walkways, improvements to bleachers and seating, and other forms of upgrades;
- Upgrade the existing tennis court to include pickleball markings;
- Improve park functionality through the addition of a pavilion, potable drinking water, and upgrades to the existing bathrooms;
- Expand programming options at the park to include concerts, movie nights, or other programs;
- Address drainage issues through introduction of a rain garden; and
- Upgrade the existing play equipment to an ADA compliant structure.

Parkland Park

Parkland Park's development potential is limited by its current relationship with surrounding land uses. Continued cooperation with adjacent land owners will be critical to the success of the facility.

GOAL:

Continue to provide the highest possible recreation experience within the confines of the existing park configuration.

OBJECTIVES:

- Upgrade existing playground equipment;
- Consider introduction of a fitness trail through the wooded area as part of a larger trail network;
- Expand programming options at the park to include concerts, movie nights, or other programs; and
- Continue communication and outreach with adjacent property owners.

Memorial Park

While small, Memorial Park serves an outsized role as gathering point for the City.

GOAL

Examine opportunities to improve the programming functionality of the park.

OBJECTIVE

- Evaluate options for improved participation at special events held at the park; and
- Implement small-scale improvements that will increase day-to-day usage at the park.

Rotary Park

Rotary Park serves as an important communication vessel for Parks & Recreation, but has played a limited role as a true recreation facility to date.

GOAL:

Examine opportunities to expand the role of the park while continuing to function as a communication platform for Parks & Recreation.

OBJECTIVES:

- Add landscaping and signage to better identify the space as a park;
- Upgrade the seating area to incorporate shade and other amenities; and
- Provide a more attractive permanent marketing structure. Consider the addition of electronic signage that can be used to communicate Parks & Recreation events, special alerts, or other communications from the City.

Chapter 3: Action Plan

The City of Clawson action program recommends the continued development of a full range of recreational opportunities for its residents. Included in this section of the plan is a brief identification of the major recreation policy objectives that are being considered in the development of additional recreation projects and the enhancement of existing parks and indoor facilities.

As Clawson matures and evolves, there will be a need for additional recreation facilities. Traditional recreation standards recommend the joint development of school facilities and recreation sites whenever possible. The City has successfully coordinated with the school district in providing recreation and open space facilities in the past, and should continue to do so going forward.

Action Plan

The following outlines a list of specific actions and projects which are recommended to be accomplished during the planning period. Plans showing the parks improvements are included in the appendices to illustrate the proposed projects.

1. **Maintain and improve all Clawson Parks**

   Clawson's six parks help to form the identity of the community as a whole. They provide gathering spaces for some of the most important events in the City, interacting with and complementing the services offered by the downtown area. Improvements and upgrades to Clawson's parks should be implemented accordingly.

   - Maintain play structures and park furnishings/ facilities;
   - Remove dangerous or outdated structures and replace with ADA compliant amenities;
   - Develop updated and consistent signage;
   - Pursue grants, public/private partnerships, millages, and other funding sources;
   - Strive to provide a varied park experience at each of these facilities, with additions that complement the nature of the neighborhoods they reside in;
   - Ensure that all new amenities have appropriately designed access paths;
   - Ensure safety surfaces under play structures meet regulated accessibility, depth and fall zone requirements;
   - Develop and encourage volunteer and "Friends of the Park" style groups to assist with ongoing maintenance needs and improve park security; and
   - Establish a tree management program based on the stewardship plan prescribing appropriate pruning, pest and disease control, and tree removal/replacement.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs, resident input, and City ordinances. They also respond to future parks and recreation trends, in particular environmental and economic trends.

2. **Maintain and improve Clawson City Park**

   - Implement a walking loop and connecting paths that links the various sections the park and to individual amenities;
   - Add lighting along the pathway and at specific amenities including the volleyball courts and skate park;
   - Reconfigure the playground area, adding a new tot lot adjacent to the existing 5 - 12 play structure and adding poured-in-place safety surfacing;
   - Upgrade skate park to improve safety, usability, and to maintain concrete to extend the life of the facility;
   - Consider the addition of a splash pad in the existing tot lot circle area;
   - Upgrade security cameras and add blue-light stations;
   - Upgrade the walking paths to asphalt or concrete;
   - Add small-scale amenities such as cornhole pits, ping pong tables, and other amenities; and
   - Add a basketball court on west side of park and pickleball near the tennis court.

   Justification: These actions respond to facility needs and resident input.

3. **Maintain and improve Hunter Park & Recreation Center**

   - Perform a recreation center feasibility study. The study should include a cost/benefit analysis to compare anticipated costs to bring the current structure up to current building standards versus construction of a new facility, should evaluate land acquisition opportunities within the City, should consider opportunities for development of a regional center in cooperation with adjacent communities, and should consider long-term land uses for the property should a new facility be built;
   - Enhance existing walkways to provide a compliant walkway from the building to the adjacent park space;
   - Replace outdated play equipment with ADA compliant amenities; and
   - Add a picnic pavilion and picnic facilities.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs and resident input. They also respond to future parks and recreation trends, in particular environmental and economic trends.

4. **Maintain and improve Grant Park**

   - Add 6-foot accessible walkways;
   - Upgrade bleachers;
   - Upgrade the existing tennis court to include pickleball markings and improve accessibility;
   - Add picnic pavilion;
   - Add drinking fountain/bottle filling station;
   - Add rain garden with pedestrian bridge; and
   - Upgrade existing play equipment and add poured-in-place surfacing.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs and public input.

5. **Maintain and improve Parkland Park**

   - Upgrade existing park equipment;
   - Add crushed limestone pathways and consider introduction of a fitness trail through the wooded area;
   - Work with Heritage Church of Christ to upgrade parking lot; and
   - Evaluate feasibility of permanent restrooms.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs and public input.

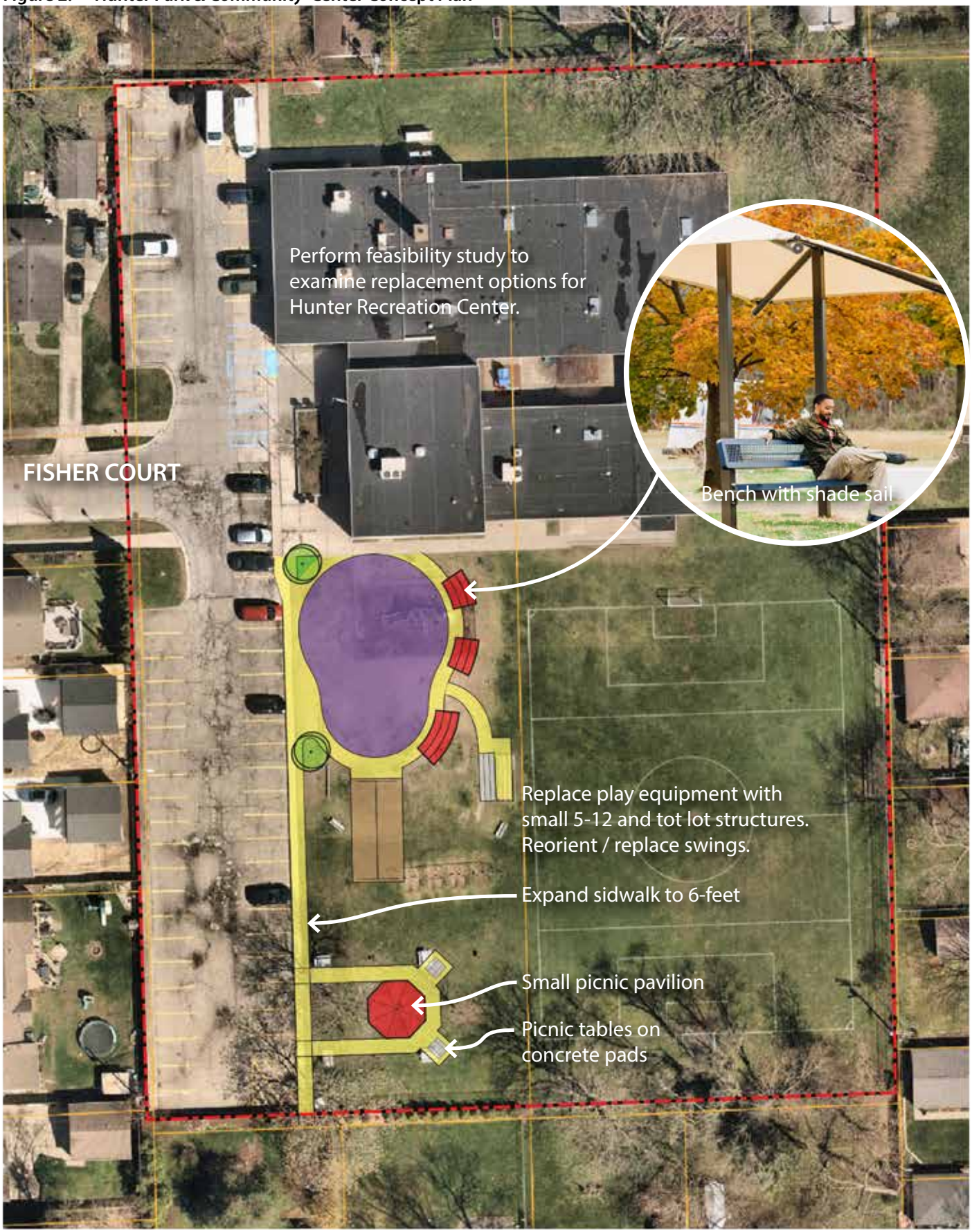
Figure 1. City Park Concept Plan



0 200 400 feet

City Park Concept Plan

Figure 2. Hunter Park & Community Center Concept Plan



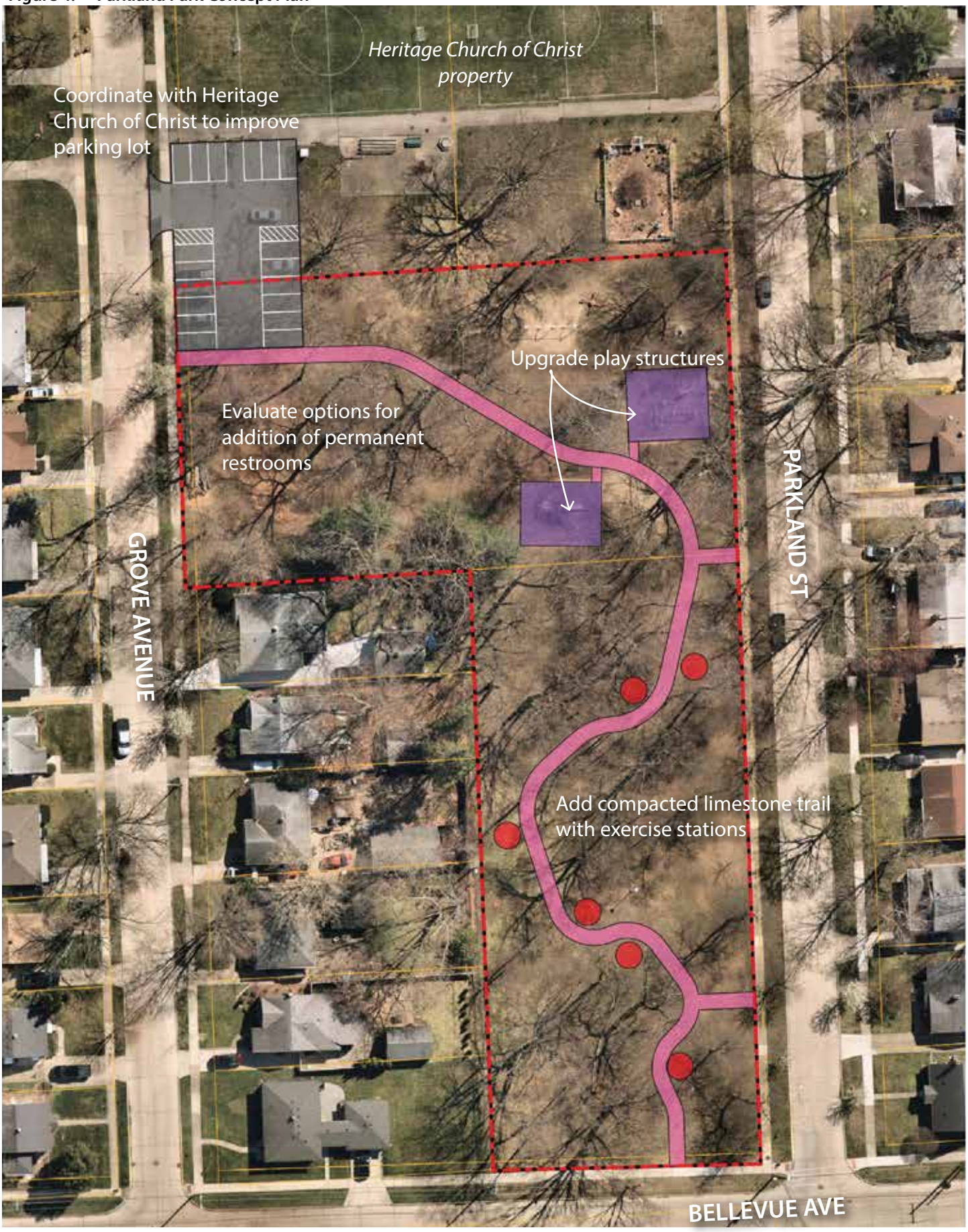
Hunter Park & Recreation Center Concept Plan

Figure 3. Grant Park Concept Plan



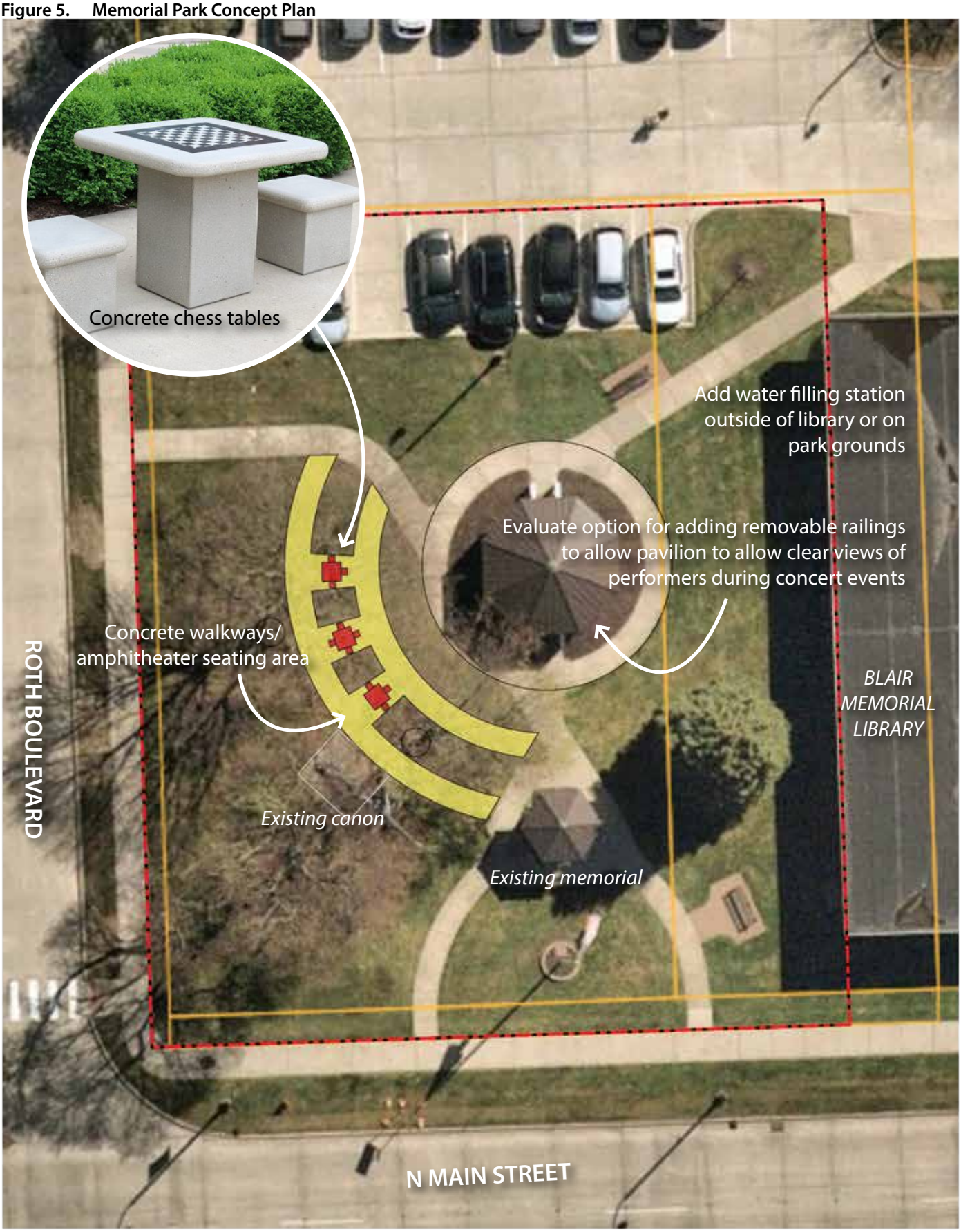
Grant Park Concept Plan

Figure 4. Parkland Park Concept Plan



Parkland Park Concept Plan

Figure 5. Memorial Park Concept Plan



Memorial Park Concept Plan

Figure 6. Rotary Park Concept Plan



Rotary Park Concept Plan

6. **Maintain and improve Memorial Park**

   - Revise gazebo and grounds to improve functionality as an event space;
   - Add chess tables; and
   - Add drinking fountain/bottle filling station.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs and public input.

7. **Maintain and improve Rotary Park**

   - Expand existing concrete sidewalk;
   - Add drinking fountain;
   - Add pergola and benches;
   - Add improved archway signage; and
   - Add kneewall and landscaping.

   Justification: These actions respond to park maintenance and facility needs and public input.

8. **Participate in the development of the City-wide pathway system**

   Interest in non-motorized trail development and interconnectivity between communities and regional attractions remains high. Clawson should take advantage of available funding and work cooperatively with regional development agencies and neighboring communities to develop a trail system through the community.

   - Continue to coordinate with City Council, Planning Commission, and others to establish a trail system; and
   - Pursue funding opportunities through the MDNR, MDOT, and other available resources.

   Justification: This action was identified through resident's opinions and public input. It also responds to national, regional, and economic trends.

9. **Acquisition of Park Properties**

   - Investigate acquisition opportunities to expand existing park facilities, especially for development of a recreation center or for other large-scale amenities.

   Justification: This action responds to identified coverage deficiencies and to land development patterns and trends.

10. **Expand recreation programs**

    - Continue to expand park programming to facilities outside of City Park to include items like movies in the park, yoga, and other activities;
    - Continue to cooperate with Clawson Public Schools to develop programming at school properties; and
    - Strive to maintain core recreation programs.

    Justification: This action responds to national, regional, and economic trends.

11. **Administration and communication**

    - Continue to improve recreation communication and outreach through use of social media, website improvements, park apps, and improvements online program registration systems;
    - Continue to aggressively seek grant funding, sponsors, and donations;
    - Continue to provide opportunities for volunteers and community stewardship projects;
    - Continue to evaluate fees and charges for programs and services and work to increase program cost recovery where appropriate;
    - Continue to participate in state and regional recreation planning organizations;
    - Hold park talks to seek input on resident desires for park improvements; and
    - Communicate the goals, objectives, and action plan outlined in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

    Justification: This action is recommended to implement the current master plan.

Project Schedule

Table 1 lists individual projects along with specific tasks to be accomplished, a rough cost estimate, and potential funding sources. In addition, the projects are listed with a time frame for completion. Short-term (ST) projects are recommended for completion within one to two years while long-term (LT) projects may take longer to be completed, within five to six years. Mid term (MT) projects fall in between, from two to four years. Cost estimates are in 2024 dollars and will likely require adjustment depending on date of implementation, labor and material costs, and other factors.

Note that the Action Plan is considered aspirational; it is not expected that all of the desired actions will be completed within the next five years. Some plan items will depend on the results of studies and may conflict with other actions, while completion of other items will depend on a variety of factors that may be beyond the control of the City. By including all of the potential projects in the Action Plan, we indicate the City's desire for completion, which is a key element when pursuing grant funding through the state or other sources.

Table 1. Action Plan

Project	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
All Parks			
Update signage	$20,000 - 25,000/park	GF	LT
Add dog waste stations and trash cans	$1,000 per station	GF	ST
Add drinking fountains / water bottle stations	$2,000 - $4,000 per station	GF, G, D	ST
Refresh engineered wood fiber surfacing to comply with ADA and fall attenuation requirements	$5,000 - $15,000 per play structure	GF	OG
City Park			
Upgrade wood chip path to 8-foot concrete pathway and add additional connections to all amenities	$330,000 - $660,000	GF, G, D	ST, OG
Add crushed limestone pathways through woods	$13,000 - $17,500	GF, G, D	LT
Add bollard lighting to pathways	$ 35,000 - $70,000	GF, G, D	MT
Reconfigure playscape, add tot lot structure, add poured-in-place rubber surfacing	$200,000 - $300,000	GF, G, D	MT
Construct splash pad / aquatic play feature	$200,000 - $300,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add lighting at volleyball courts and skate park	$60,000 - $120,000	GF, G, D	ST
Upgrade security cameras	$20,000 - $30,000	GF, G, D	ST
Add pickleball courts	$90,000 - $180,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add basketball court	$80,000 - $160,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add trees / landscaping	$40,000 - 50,000	GF, G, D	OG
Hunter Park & Recreation Center			
Prepare feasibility study for potential replacement of Recreation Center	$15,000 - $20,000	GF	ST
Repair existing Recreation Center building	$1.8 - $2.0 million	GF, G, D	ST - MT
Expand existing sidewalk to 6-foot width	$10,000 - 15,000	GF, G, D	ST
Add small picnic pavilion with sidewalk and picnic tables with concrete pads	$40,000 - $60,000	GF, G, D	MT - LT
Update play equipment and add poured-in-place surfacing	$200,000 - $250,000	GF, G, D	LT

GF = General Fund, G = Grants, D = Donations

ST = Short Term, MT = Medium Term, LT = Long Term, OG = Ongoing Projects, TBD = To Be Determined

Table 1. Action Plan (cont.)

Project	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
Grant Park			
Reconstruct tennis courts and include pickleball striping	$80,000 - $160,000	GF, G, D	ST
Update playground equipment and add poured-in-place surfacing	$250,000 - $300,000	GF, G, D	MT - LT
Add picnic pavilion	$40,000 - $60,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add 6-foot walkway	$50,000 - $100,000	GF, G, D	ST, OG
Add rain garden with pedestrian bridge	$50,000 - $75,000	GF, G, D	LT
Parkland Park			
Add crushed limestone pathways	$6,000 - $9,000	GF, G, D	MT
Add exercise stations	$1,000 - $5,000 per station	GF, G, D	LT
Upgrade play equipment and add poured-in-place surfacing	$250,000 - $300,000	GF, G, D	LT
Work with Heritage Church of Christ to repair/upgrade parking lot	TBD	GF, G, D	LT
Evaluate options for permanent restroom facilities	$200,000 - $250,000	GF, G, D	LT
Memorial Park			
Add concrete walkways to form amphitheater/seating area	$5,000 - $10,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add concrete chess table	$6,000 - $10,000	GF, G, D	LT
Rotary Park			
Add concrete sidewalk	$4,000 - $8,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add drinking fountain	$2,000 - $4,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add pergola and benches	$20,000 - $25,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add entry archways	$15,000 - $20,000	GF, G, D	LT
Add knee wall and landscaping	$18,000 - $25,000	GF, D	LT
Add landscaping	$1,000 - $3,000	GF, D	LT
Other Projects			
Participate in regional non-motorized study	TBD	GF	ST

GF = General Fund, G = Grants, D = Donations

ST = Short Term, MT = Medium Term, LT = Long Term, OG = Ongoing Projects, TBD = To Be Determined



Concert in the Park at City Park. Image Source: Clawson Parks & Recreation

Implementation Strategies

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides only a limited amount of funds which is well short of the projected expenses involved in the project schedule. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended to proceed as planned.

Apply for Local Funding

Oakland County Parks and Recreation (OCPR) ***Community Park and Trail Capital Grant Program*** provides assistance to local communities with planning, preliminary engineering, and construction costs related to park improvements and trail projects. Requests for proposals are released in March with applications due by late April. OCP awarded over $600,000 in grants to eleven communities in 2023.

More information can be found at *https://www.oakgov.com/community/oakland-county-parks/get-involved/community-outreach-grant-programs/community-grant-program*.

OCPR allocates millage funds to high-priority invasive species removal projects as part of their ***Community Habitat Improvement Grant Program***. Candidate projects demonstrate best practices, treat high priority species, increase community awareness and/or improve habitat. Funds are not distributed to recipients, but instead are paid directly to contractors for services rendered. Contact Patrick Canniff, Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Outreach Coordinator at canniffp@oakgov.com for more information.

Recreation Assistance Partnership Program (RAPP) is an initiative that creates improved access to recreation experiences for all Oakland County residents by providing mobile recreation units, bus transportation, nature education programming and other services to more than 250,000 participants each year who may not otherwise have had access to these activities. The RAPP programs can supplement existing programming offerings and encourage users to more frequently utilize area parks.

Apply for Federal Funding

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds ***Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)*** activities for community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving cultural, historic, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the transportation infrastructure. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the TAP activities. Activities which may apply to Clawson include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles such as walkways, curb ramps, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses;
- Educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling by providing potential users with education and safety instruction through classes, pamphlets, and signage; and
- Preservation, conversion, and use of abandoned railway corridors for acquisition, development, planning, design, and construction of multi-use trails, as well as purchasing unused railroad property for reuse.

A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis.

The ***Safe Routes to School (SR2S)*** program is a national movement to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need for a healthy lifestyle. In Michigan, the program is sponsored by the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and has gained momentum over the past few years. With the passage of the federal transportation legislation in 2005, Michigan's SR2S program made schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing for infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The purpose of the program, as defined in the federal legislation, is to:

- Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in school areas.

The program provides mini grants for programming and major grants to help communities build sidewalks, crosswalks, and other infrastructure. Up to $200,000 per school is available for infrastructure projects, and $8,000 to build programming around the project. Communities must undergo an in-depth planning process prior to submitting an application. Deadlines are ongoing and awarded on a rolling basis. SR2S funding is 100 percent federal; no match is required.



Clawson Fourth of July. Image Source: Facebook

Apply for State Funding

At the state level, the ***Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)*** and the ***Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)*** continue to be the primary funding sources for parkland acquisition and development.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and/or development of parkland for natural resource based preservation and recreation. Goals of the program are to:

- Protect natural resources and provide for their access, public use and enjoyment;
- Provide public access to Michigan's water bodies, the Great Lakes in particular, and facilitate their recreation use;
- Meet regional, county and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities;
- Improve the opportunities for outdoor recreation in urban areas; and
- Stimulate Michigan's economy through recreation related tourism and community revitalization.

Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request is $15,000 and the maximum is $400,000. Applications are due in April and August for acquisition projects and April (only) for development projects.

LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, who distributes funds to the Michigan DNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has been on trailway systems and other community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. Minimum grant requests are $30,000 and maximum grant requests are $500,000. The match percentage must be 50 percent of the total project cost. Applications are accepted throughout the year, but must be in by April 1 to be considered for the following years grant funds.

The ***Recreation Passport*** grant program offers funding for the development of public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests are $7,500 and maximum requests are $150,000. The local match obligation is 25 percent of the total project cost. Application are typically due on April 1st.

Local units of government may use the ***Forest Stewardship*** program to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. A total of $2,000 may be granted with a 50 percent local match. Applications are due in September. Non-game ***Wildlife Fund Grants*** have also been offered in the past to identify, protect, manage, and restore native plant and animal species, natural communities, and other natural features.

The ***Detroit Edison Tree Planting program*** began as DTE joined the US Department of Energy's voluntary Climate Challenge Program to address greenhouse gas emissions. Cost-share funds are available to municipalities in the Detroit Edison's service area on a competitive basis for tree planting projects. A total of up to $4,000 may be granted to eligible tree planting projects on public and school property with a 50 percent local match. Applications are typically due in February.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

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

The ***Access for All*** and the ***Play is Essential for All*** are small grant programs administered by the ***mParks Foundation***. They are dedicated to increasing accessibility to area parks and recreation facilities. A maximum of $5,000 is available to mParks members in good standing.

https://www.mparksfoundation.org/access-for-all.html

SEMCOG's Planning Assistance Program provides direct funding for local planning projects that move regional plans and priorities forward. The program has awarded over $3.3 million through competitive grants to 90 projects ranging from planning projects on transportation safety and equity, trails and greenways, sustainable infrastructure, electric vehicles, and broadband accessibility.

Further information is provided at https://www.semcog.org/member-services/planning-assistance-program

Created with proceeds from the $1.4 billion sale in of the Buffalo Bills after the death of the late Ralph Wilson, the ***Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation*** began operations in 2015 with a focus on five key values that reflect the vision and philosophies of Mr. Wilson. Operating under a directive that all funds be awarded within a 20-year period, one of the core functions of the Foundation is to improve recreation accessibility in southeast Michigan and Buffalo, New York. In 2018 the Foundation launched its Parks & Trails Initiative with $100 million in commitments for southeast Michigan. $50 million was committed to help make connections and eliminate gaps in regional trail systems, with 20% earmarked for future maintenance and sustainability of these assets.

In 2016, the Foundation established permanent endowed ***Legacy Funds*** in the areas of Caregiving, Youth Sports, Community Assets, and Design & Access. Administered by the ***Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan***, the Legacy Funds are typically smaller grant awards intended to support localized projects. The two Legacy Funds which are most applicable to recreation planning include the Design & Access Fund, which supports projects working to increase the walkability and bikeability of local communities and/or increasing outdoor recreational activities, and the Youth Sports Fund, which supports projects bringing high-quality sports programs to youth.

Additional information is available at https://www.ralphcwilsonjrfoundation.org/

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan (CFSEM) was established in 1984 to provide service for Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Livingston counties. While CFSEM coordinates with the Ralph Wilson Fouincation and other granting bodies, they administer their own grant programs as well, focusing on arts and culture, the environment, and health and human services. Current priorities are sustainability, regional impact, leveraging funds, and collaboration between organizations. Competitive grants range from $30,000 to $75,000. A certified audit is required as part of the application process. Application deadlines are May 15 for a September decision, and August 15 for a December decision.

Full details are provided at https://cfsem.org/for-nonprofits/

Increase Support for Parks

Public support for Parks & Recreation will be crucial in determining the level of services the City will be able to provide in the future. A specific park or project millage over a limited period could be considered in the future for particular projects such as park or trail acquisition, development, or maintenance.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

Clawson Parks and Recreation should continue to search for additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park acquisition and development.

Chapter 4: Needs Assessment & Public Participation

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. The needs provide the rationale for the goals and objectives and identify areas for future improvement. To assess needs, consideration was given to current recreation trends, park talks, a public meeting with public officials, staff, and residents, and other identified needs.

Comparison To Recreation Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has classified parks and recommended a minimum amount of desired parkland for a given population size. Although these guidelines are useful in pointing out minimum requirements, a community's recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community and not just based on national guidelines.

According to the NRPA, parks and open spaces are categorized either close-to-home or regional parks. Mini, neighborhood, and community parks are close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities within a service radius of up to two miles. All of Clawson's parks are considered close-to-home parks. Per the NRPA standards, the recommended amount of close-to-home parkland is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks and preserves are parks that serve a broader area (a service radius of about 40 miles) than community parks and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. This would include the state-owned, HCMA, and County parks and recreation areas described in the preceding pages. Other types of parks including school sites, greenways, and private recreation facilities, which can also contribute to the local park and recreation system. Here the NRPA suggests 171 - 228 acres based on Clawson's population.

According to these acreage standards, Clawson's park system falls short of the recommended minimum acreage for total close-to-home parkland (see Table 2). City residents are exceptionally well-served by regional park facilities, however, which are provided by the state, HCMA, and Oakland County. Adjacent city parks, private, and school recreational facilities are also available. Local park coverage is depicted in Map 2 on page 40.

In recent years, the NRPA has presented data in a format that allows agencies to evaluate their amenities against amenities in comparable jurisdictions. Users are able to evaluate data based on a variety of factors such as jurisdiction size, number of acres managed, population density, and more. In the case of Clawson, the City would fall in the "Under 20,000" category. Table 3 on page 29 shows the comparison to these standards.

By these metrics, Clawson falls in the lower quartile both in terms of the number of residents served per park, and by the number acres of parkland per resident. Clawson's school properties, which usually help to supplement acreage counts, are relatively small with limited facilities available to the public. The City's small footprint and built-out nature mean that it would be difficult to substantially add parkland acreage. The surrounding cities of Troy, Royal Oak, and Madison Heights all provide park facilities in close proximity, helping to offset any shortcomings.

The NRPA recognizes that a "one style fits all" approach is not necessarily the best solution to park planning and suggests that each community develop systems that are best suited for their own needs. While strategic acquisition of land for future park development may be worth considering, Clawson should focus on the quality, not the quantity, of their facilities.

NRPA's metrics further suggest that Clawson's park amenities are close to expected levels (see Table 4 on page 29). Some of the lacking amenities are recommended in this plan, while others such as a golf course and driving range simply are not practical in a city as small as Clawson. One item that was requested by residents is a dog park. Space limitations in Clawson's parks makes implementing a dog park challenging. If the right property were to come available, however, it would be an option worth considering.

Table 6 through Table 10 on page 30 provide a comparison of staffing and expenditure levels for communities with under 20,000 residents. Like the park acreage and amenity standards listed in the previous paragraphs, these values show how disparate the budgets and personnel assigned to recreation can be. As City officials consider budgets for Clawson in the coming years, these comparison points may be useful.

Table 2. NRPA Close-to-Home Park Guidelines

Type of Park	NRPA Standard (Per 1000 pop.)	Required (Based on 11,388 pop)	Existing	Deficiency / Surplus
Close-to-home Parkland	6.25 - 10.5 acres	71.25 - 119.7 acres	46.1 acres	-25.15 acres
Regional Parks	15 - 20 acres	171 - 228 acres	65,000 acres*	+65,000 acres*

Table 3. Facility Comparison - NRPA Metrics

	Existing	Lower quartile	Median	Upper quartile
Number of residents per park	1,898	1,924	1,233	761
Acres of park land per 1,000 residents	4.0	5.2	12.9	21.7

Table 4. Amenity Development Standards

Type of Amenity	% with this amenity	# of residents per amenity	Calculated # of amenities	Actual # of amenities	Deficiency / Surplus
Playgrounds	95	1,986	6	8	2
Tot lots	45	6,642	2	5	3
Multi-use court	48	5,400	2	0	-2
Basketball courts	86	3,750	3	2	-1
Multi-purpose fields	68	4,362	3	3	0
Football field	35	8,004	1	2	1
Multipurpose synthetic field	22	12,962	1	2	1
Baseball - adult	54	7,954	1	2	1
Baseball - youth	79	3,107	4	4	0
Softball field - adult	65	5,667	2	2	0
Softball field - youth	62	5,339	2	2	0
Soccer field - adult	44	8,017	1	2	1
Soccer field - youth	50	3,504	3	4	1
Tennis courts	78	2,723	4	9	5
Pickleball courts	18	3,446	3	1	-2
Ice rink	18	7,997	1	0	-1
Pool (outdoor)	53	8,637	1	0	-1
Community garden	51	8,773	1	0	-1
Skate park	39	11,100	1	1	0
Dog park	67	11,100	1	0	-1
18-hole golf course	29	9,183	1	0	-1
Driving range	26	5,055	2	0	-2

Source: https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/.

Table 5. NRPA Staffing & Expenditures Ranges

Comparison to communities in the United States 20 to 50 thousand residents	Lower quartile	Median	Upper quartile
Park and Recreation Staffing - Full time equivalents	5.4	11.8	23.8
Full time equivalent staffing per 10,000 residents	6.4	11.3	21.1
Annual operating expenditures	$551,925	$1,200,000	$2,443,647
Operating expenditures per capita	$67.73	$117.36	$226.43
Revenues as a percentage of operating expenditures (cost recovery)	11.2%	25%	51.3%
Five-year capital budget spending	$363,250	$1,022,750	$3,872,635

Table 6. Sources of Operating Expenditures

Program	Percent
General Fund Tax Support	61%
Earned / Generated Revenue	23%
Dedicated Levies	8%
Other Dedicated Taxes	3%
Grants	2%
Other	2%
Sponsorships	1%

Table 7. Distribution of Expenditures

Program	Percent
Personnel Services	54%
Operating Expenses	38%
Capital Expenses not in CIP	5%
Other	3%

Table 8. Targets for Capital Expenditures

Program	Percent
Renovation	56%
New Development	30%
Acquisition	7%
Other	7%

Table 9. Operating Expenditures Dedicated to Parks or Recreation

Program	Percent
Parks	45%
Recreation (programming)	42%
Other	13%

Table 10. Programs Offered

Programs Offered	Percent
Themed special events	90
Social recreation	88
Team sports	87
Fitness enhancement	82
Health & Wellness	80
Individual sports	76
Safety training	72
Racquet sports	71
Aquatics	70
Performing Arts	64
Visual Arts	63
Natural & Cultural History	62
Cultural Crafts	62
Trips & Tours	61
Martial Arts	59
Running/Cycling Races	50
Golf	48
eSports/eGaming	12
Targeted Programs for Children, Seniors, and People with Disabilities	
Summer camp	88
Specific senior programs	80
Specific teen programs	62
Programs for people w disabilities	58
STEM programs	50
After-school programs	48
Preschool	37
Before-school programs	20
Full daycare	6

Source: https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/

National Recreation Trends

Recreation trends on national and regional levels provide insights into recreation activities and demonstrate activities with the greatest growth in popularity. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) regularly conducts national surveys to measure participation in physical activities and track changes from previous years. Table 11 lists the top ten recreation activities completed by persons aged seven years and older in the past year (2024).

The study shows a continued trend towards individual-based outdoor activities, with open water sports, outdoor activities, and snow sports all showing increases in participation. Team related sports, with the exception of soccer and lacrosse, have showed a steady decline in popularity in recent years, while trail related sports continue to grow in popularity.

These national trends are consistent with those observed in Michigan. According to the 2023 - 2027 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), 86 percent of Michiganders participate in trail activities and "other" outdoor activities. A list of participation rates for the most popular activities in Michigan is listed in Table 13.

Other highlights from the most recent SCORP include:

- Four out of the top ten most popular activities involve walking or biking;
- 95 percent of Michiganders reported participating in at least one outdoor recreation activity;
- The total net economic value of outdoor recreation in Michigan was $165 billion, while positive health impacts are estimated to save the state around $2.8 billion in annual healthcare costs.

Table 11. Top Recreation Activities - NSGA Survey

Activity	Participation Rate (in millions)			
	National	Overall Rank	East North Central Region	Overall Rank
Exercise walking	110.2	1	15.8	1
Exercising with equipment	52.9	2	8.1	2
Hiking	51.8	3	7.2	4
Swimming	44.9	4	6.1	6
Running/jogging	43.1	5	6.4	5
Bicycle Riding	42.4	6	7.4	3
Camping	40.4	7	5.8	7
Weightlifting	36.8	8	5.0	8
Yoga	30.7	9	4.8	9
Fishing (fresh)	29.9	10	4.2	11
Work out at gym	29.1	11	4.2	10

Source: NSGA Sports Participation in the United States 2024

Table 12. Team Sport Growth - SFIA Survey

Activity	Participation Rate (in millions)		% Change 2022 - 23
	2022	2023	
Pickleball	8.95	13.58	52%
Tennis	23.6	23.84	1%
Basketball	28.15	29.73	6%
Golf	25.57	26.57	4%

Source: Sports & Fitness Industry / Topline Report 2024

Table 13. Top Outdoor Recreation Activities - Statewide

Activity	Participation Rate / (Rank)	
	Statewide	Detroit Metro
Going for a walk on local streets or sidewalks	80% (1)	79% (1)
Going for a walk on local unpaved trails/paths	62% (2)	58% (2)
Visiting the beach but not swimming	60% (3)	54% (3)
Visiting parks or playgrounds	58% (4)	43% (6)
Swimming at the beach	52% (5)	51% (5)
Sightseeing and/or scenic driving for pleasure	47% (6)	52% (4)
Day hiking on non-local, unpaved trails/paths	47% (7)	not rated
Visiting nature centers or historic sites	41% (8)	35% (10)
Motor boating, cruising	38% (9)	41% (7)
Bicycling on paved streets, paths, or sidewalks	37% (10)	37% (8)
Social gathering at park or natural area	not rated	37% (9)

Source: Michigan State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration have published a list of future trends compiled from different sources that will influence the direction of recreation planning and programming. These trends include an increase in:

- Environmentally sensitive lifestyles, natural areas management and water quality protection,
- Concerns for personal and family security, in the importance for wellness activities and a desire to preserve and maintain cultural heritage,
- Public costs, in the provision of leisure services through the public and private sectors and partnerships, a greater recognition of the economic value of parks, open space, and green infrastructure, and
- Senior citizens, fewer traditional family households, greater number of smaller households and an increase in cultural diversity of residents.

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. Conclusions regarding the implication of the trends noted combined with the demographic and physical characteristics of the City of Clawson are summarized below:

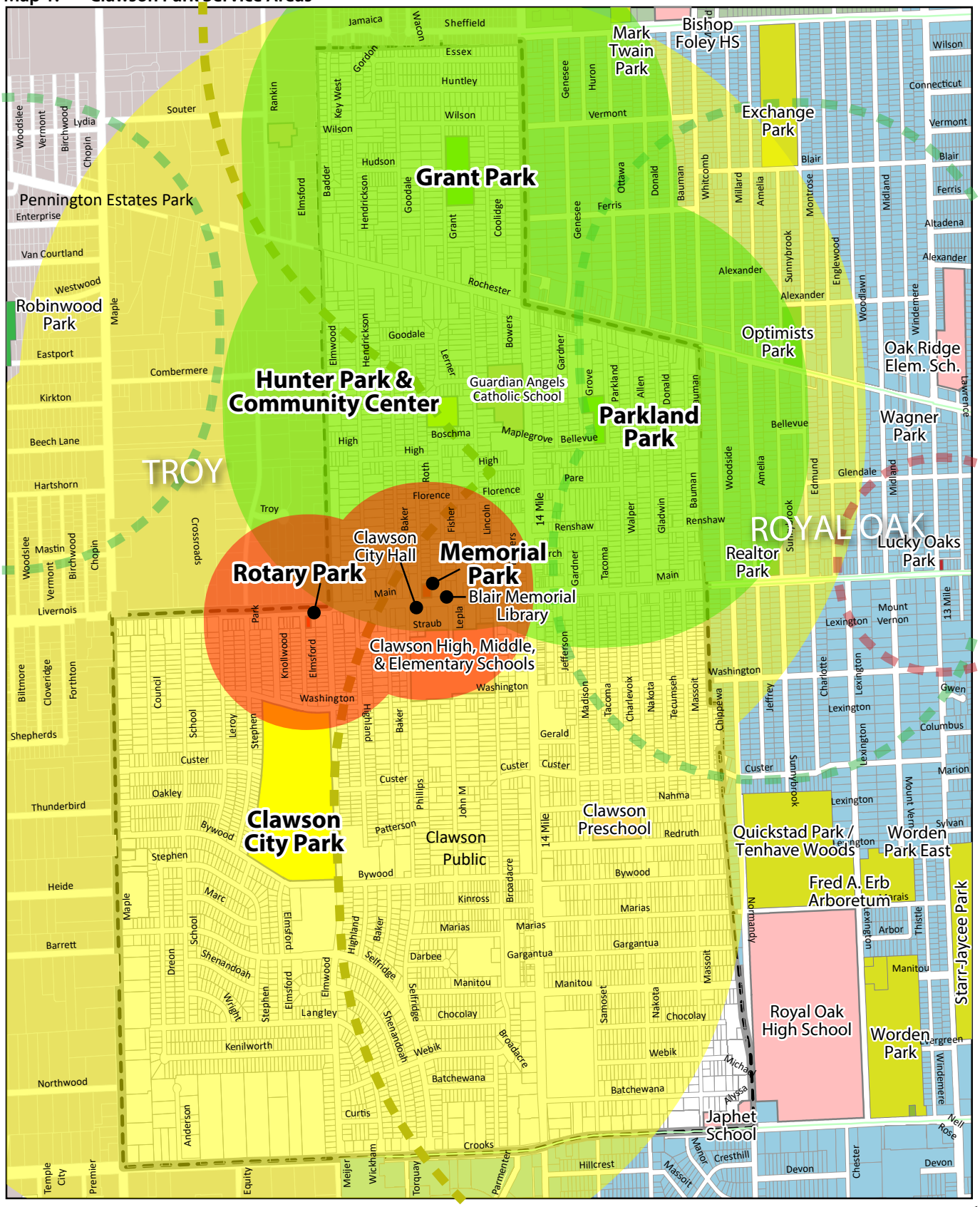
- As population increases, demand for recreation will likely increase;
- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the expected increase of seniors;
- There is and will continue to be a need for more linear parks along corridors to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian pathways for recreation and non-motorized transportation;
- With the increased popularity of exercise walking and fitness related activities, there will continue to be an increased importance on recreation contributing to walkable, livable, and sustainable communities; and
- The continued collaboration and partnerships between public, private, and non-profit agencies as well as with adjacent local municipalities for the provision of parks and recreation programs and facilities will continue to be critical to the future success of Clawson Parks and Recreation.

Ten Minute Walk Initiative

The NRPA, Trust for Public Land (TPL), recreation advocacy groups, and communities across the country have embraced the concept of the Ten Minute Walk Initiative, which states that every American should be within walkable distance to a local park or recreation facility. Numerous studies have shown the psychological, health, and general quality of life benefits provided by improved access to green spaces, but the likelihood of utilizing these spaces decreases as distance to the facility increases. For planning purposes, a service radius of 1/4 mile for mini-parks, 1/4 to 1/2 mile for neighborhood parks, and 1 to 3 miles for community parks is frequently used to demonstrate the effective reach of park systems. For purposes of this plan, the service radius used to evaluate the City's coverage was 1/4 for mini, 1/2 mile for neighborhood, and 1 mile for community parks.

Map 1 on page 33 provides a graphical representation of these service areas. Clawson's parks cover all but a tiny sliver in the far southwestern corner of the City. If Royal Oak parks are considered (dotted lines), the entire City has excellent coverage. Much of the service coverage is due to City Park; without that property, most of the western half of the city would be considered underserved. A neighborhood park in the southwest could benefit residents in that area, and as discussed on previous pages, Clawson's current park system serves a higher number of patrons per park than most park systems across the country. There was little appetite for acquiring land and developing new parks in the plan survey, however (see page 34); any new spaces that are considered would need to have characteristics that make it more than "just another park".

Map 1. Clawson Park Service Areas



Clawson Park Service Areas

Oakland County, Michigan

Data Source: Oakland County GIS
Prepared September 2024
Carlisle / Wortman Associates, Inc.

Service Area Radius

- Mini-park (¼ mile radius)
- Neighborhood Park (½ mile radius)
- Community Park (1 mile radius)

Service areas for neighboring municipal parks represented by dashed lines

N

0 750 1,500 Feet

Online Survey

Clawson Parks & Recreation made an online survey available to residents from June 27 to August 9, 2024, as part of an outreach program for the recreation plan update. The survey was advertised on the City's website and on social media. 361 unique responses were received. The complete set of survey responses is provided in Appendix E beginning on page 93.

Survey participants overwhelmingly identified maintenance as a top priority, with almost 99% describing maintenance as "very important" or "important". Ensuring that parks are safe and accessible (93%) and adding new or updating features at existing parks (87%) similarly had high scores. Of the ten categories presented, most received high scores. The only option that was viewed with skepticism was "Developing pocket parks in/near downtown" (47.3%). "Acquiring and developing new parks and recreation facilities", the second lowest overall score, still had 61% describing it as important or very important. See Table 17 on page 35). When asked, "Does Clawson have the right number of parks?", 66% said the community had the right amount, with another 27% suggesting there are too few.

Satisfaction rates correlated closely with visitation rates. Not surprisingly, City Park had the highest visitation levels, with over half (57%) stating they visit the park 12 or more times per year. 86% of survey participants who said they had visited the park said they were "highly satisfied" or "satisfied" with the facility. Memorial Park had similarly high satisfaction levels (80%), but much less frequent visitation. Among active park visitors, the Hunter Community Center (61%), Hunter Park (60%), and Parkland Park (62%) had the lowest ratings.

Participants were also asked to rate the physical condition of Clawson's parks. Again, City Park was rated the highest, with 50% of active park visitors calling it "Excellent". The majority of park visitors called the remaining properties "Fair", with the Hunter Community Center receiving the lowest scores. For the Recreation Center, almost a third (32%) said the park was in "poor" condition. Table 19 on page 36 provides the responses to that question. Access to aquatic facilities (i.e. pools, splash pad), more trails and pathways, playground updates, and new basketball and pickleball courts were frequently cited as ways to improve the recreation facilities.

Table 14. Does Clawson have the right number of parks?

Category	Number	Percent
Far too many	2	0.6%
Too many	5	1.4%
The right amount	240	66.3%
Too few	99	27.4%
Far too few	16	4.4%
Total Responses	362	

The concerns about the Hunter Community Center were echoed in two questions regarding the potential construction of a new center. When asked, "Would you be in favor of developing a new community center?", 46.1% said "yes", while 46.7% said they would "Need more information to decide". Only 7% said no to the question. The overwhelming majority (83.7%) said they would be in favor of a feasibility study to determine the cost, financing, and physical considerations for construction of a new center.

Table 15. Should Clawson develop a new community center?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	166	46.1%
No	26	7.2%
Would need more information to decide	168	46.7%
Total Responses	360	

Table 16. Shoulc Clawson commission a feasibility study to evaluate construction of new center?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	297	83.7%
No	58	16.3%
Total Responses	355	

Table 17. How important are the following?

Community	Very important		Important		Somewhat unimportant		Not important at all		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Maintaining existing parks and recreation facilities	301	83.4%	55	15.2%	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	361
Ensuring that parks are safe and accessible for people of all abilities	242	67.6%	89	24.9%	22	6.2%	5	1.4%	358
Adding new, updated park features and amenities to existing parks	187	52.1%	126	35.1%	37	10.3%	9	2.5%	359
Access to active-use facilities (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, tennis, etc.)	154	43.6%	134	38.0%	50	14.2%	15	4.3%	353
Access to paths and trails	146	41.1%	169	47.6%	32	9.0%	8	2.3%	355
Access to recreation programming (e.g. special events, classes, sports leagues, etc.)	144	40.2%	140	39.1%	59	16.5%	15	4.2%	358
Access to passive, natural areas	132	36.9%	163	45.5%	49	13.7%	14	3.9%	358
Acquiring and developing new parks and recreation facilities	114	32.0%	103	28.9%	98	27.5%	41	11.5%	356
Access to pavilions for gatherings/picnics	70	19.7%	168	47.2%	101	28.4%	17	4.8%	356
Developing pocket parks in/near downtown	55	15.4%	114	31.9%	123	34.5%	65	18.2%	357

Table 18. How satisfied are you with area parks?

Community	Satisfaction Rate					Visitation Levels			
	Highly Satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat Unsatisfied	Not satisfied at all	Don't know/ Haven't visited	12 or more	6 to 11 times	1 to 5 times	0 - have not visited
City Park	39.4%	45.1%	9.6%	3.7%	2.3%	56.7%	18.9%	20.8%	3.6%
Grant Park	7.1%	25.6%	10.1%	3.3%	53.9%	9.3%	5.1%	24.1%	61.5%
Hunter Rec Center	9.2%	28.6%	14.9%	9.7%	37.5%	13.8%	7.6%	33.5%	45.1%
Hunter Park	4.2%	23.8%	13.3%	5.1%	53.6%	7.9%	6.5%	26.1%	59.5%
Memorial Park	11.3%	24.1%	7.7%	0.9%	56.0%	3.4%	7.1%	29.4%	60.0%
Parkland Park	5.0%	18.0%	11.2%	3.0%	62.8%	3.7%	3.7%	22.9%	69.7%
Rotary Park	6.8%	14.3%	8.3%	1.8%	68.8%	2.0%	3.1%	19.1%	75.8%
Responses - Park Visitors Only ("Haven't Visited" responses removed)									
City Park	40.3%	46.1%	9.8%	3.7%		58.8%	19.6%	21.6%	
Grant Park	15.5%	55.5%	21.9%	7.1%		24.3%	13.2%	62.5%	
Hunter Rec Center	14.7%	45.9%	23.9%	15.6%		25.1%	13.8%	61.0%	
Hunter Park	9.1%	51.3%	28.6%	11.0%		19.6%	16.1%	64.3%	
Memorial Park	25.7%	54.7%	17.6%	2.0%		8.6%	17.9%	73.6%	
Parkland Park	13.5%	48.4%	30.2%	7.9%		12.3%	12.3%	75.5%	
Rotary Park	21.9%	45.7%	26.7%	5.7%		8.2%	12.9%	78.8%	

Table 19. Rate the physical condition of Clawson's parks

Community	Excellent		Fair		Poor		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp.
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
City Park	171	48.7%	156	44.4%	18	5.1%	6	1.7%	351
Grant Park	24	7.4%	99	30.6%	24	7.4%	177	54.6%	324
Hunter Community Center	29	8.6%	113	33.5%	68	20.2%	127	37.7%	337
Hunter Park	16	4.9%	99	30.4%	41	12.6%	170	52.1%	326
Memorial Park	60	18.5%	67	20.6%	13	4.0%	185	56.9%	325
Parkland Park	19	5.8%	83	25.3%	24	7.3%	202	61.6%	328
Rotary Park	35	10.7%	56	17.2%	13	4.0%	222	68.1%	326
Responses - Park Visitors Only ("Haven't Visited" responses removed)									
Community	Excellent		Fair		Poor		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp.
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
City Park	171	49.6%	156	45.2%	18	5.2%			345
Grant Park	24	16.3%	99	67.3%	24	16.3%			147
Hunter Community Center	29	13.8%	113	53.8%	68	32.4%			210
Hunter Park	16	10.3%	99	63.5%	41	26.3%			156
Memorial Park	60	42.9%	67	47.9%	13	9.3%			140
Parkland Park	19	15.1%	83	65.9%	24	19.0%			126
Rotary Park	35	33.7%	56	53.8%	13	12.5%			104

Attitudes towards the Hunter Community Center could be having a negative impact on programming participation levels. 68% of survey respondents had not participated in Clawson recreation programs in the previous year. 88% stated that special events and festivals were "important" or "very important", followed by adult and youth sports and fitness (both 69%), and aquatics (67%).

Senior programming was rated lower than expected, with only 46% considering it important or very important. This result is likely due to the demographic makeup of the survey participants. Despite efforts to obtain input from senior center patrons, only 14% of participants stated they lived in a household with seniors, which is a level significantly below the 29% of households with seniors reported by the US Census (see the demographic information beginning on page 70).

Participants indicated a desire to see more concerts and shows, exercise and fitness classes, and aquatics programming. See Table 21 on page 37 for more information.

Finally, participants frequently mentioned a desire to see trails developed within the City. 39% stated they ran a few times a week, with another 37% running every day. Bicycle usage was significantly lower, however, with 21% cycling a few times weekly, while 46% cycled less than once per month. Participants were evenly split on whether or not to prepare a non-motorized study to evaluate potential treatments and routes within the City (49% yes, 51% no). There was more interest in developing a similar study on a regional level, however, with 58% interested in partnering with Royal Oak, Troy, and Madison Heights to develop a trail study.

Table 20. How important are the following programs?

Community	Very important		Important		Somewhat unimportant		Not important at all		Total Resp.
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#
Special events and festivals	164	46.9%	143	40.9%	32	9.10%	11	3.10%	350
Youth sports and fitness	147	42.9%	89	25.9%	43	12.50%	64	18.70%	343
Aquatics (e.g. swimming lessons, exercise, etc.)	118	34.6%	109	32.0%	63	18.50%	51	15.00%	341
Adult sports and fitness	92	26.6%	147	42.5%	82	23.70%	25	7.20%	346
Senior (50+) programs and trips	68	19.4%	92	26.3%	78	22.30%	112	32.00%	350
Summer camps	56	16.9%	108	32.5%	71	21.40%	97	29.20%	332
Nature education (e.g. stargazing, bird watching, plant identification, etc.)	54	16.1%	127	37.8%	106	31.60%	49	14.60%	336
Skills workshops (e.g. computer education, accounting, etc.)	39	11.4%	121	35.5%	101	29.60%	80	23.50%	341

Table 21. What programs would you like to see more of?

	Number	Percent
Concerts and shows	137	40.40%
Exercise and fitness	117	34.50%
Recreational/open swim	108	31.90%
Special events	82	24.20%
Art programs	78	23.00%
Safety classes (e.g. self defense, CPR, etc.)	70	20.60%
Programs - Adult	60	17.70%
Swimming lessons	56	16.50%
Programs - Senior/50+	52	15.30%
Crafts	51	15.00%
Music	46	13.60%
Gardening	44	13.00%
Travel & excursions	38	11.20%
Summer camp	37	10.90%
Programs - Family	35	10.30%
Programs - After School	34	10.00%
Youth sports programs – elementary school level	34	10.00%
Youth sports programs – middle school level	28	8.30%
Language arts (foreign languages, journaling, etc.)	27	8.00%
Programs - Teen	26	7.70%
Golf lessons	25	7.40%
Baseball	23	6.80%
Basketball	23	6.80%
Programs - Preschool	23	6.80%
Volleyball	22	6.50%
Dance	21	6.20%
Gymnastics	20	5.90%
Babysitting training	18	5.30%
Tennis	17	5.00%
Soccer	16	4.70%
Youth sports programs – preschool age level	16	4.70%
Programs - Persons with disabilities	10	3.00%
Programs - Homeschoolers'	9	2.60%
Bowling	8	2.40%
Therapeutic (special needs) recreation	8	2.40%
Football	7	2.10%
Golf outings	7	2.10%
Karate	3	0.90%
Other (Please specify)	12	3.50%
Total Unique Responses	339	
Total Responses	1,448	



Chapter 5: Recreation Inventory

Clawson residents have access to a variety of recreation options, from local parks to regional amenities. Clawson's park system includes 46 acres of public parkland which provide a variety of recreation opportunities, and serve as important gathering spaces for the community at large. Community school facilities, in partnership with the City, play a key role in providing both outdoor and indoor recreation. Oakland County offers over 7,200 acres parkland, while the Huron-Clinton Metroparks includes an additional 6,200 acres of land, and the State of Michigan operates nearly 2,000 acres of recreation areas in Oakland County alone. These recreation facilities are considered regional recreation resources.

This chapter details the recreation inventory of the City, schools, private, and regional recreation facilities using information compiled from previous recreation plans, a field survey, and City staff.

Local Recreation Facilities

City Parks and Recreation Facilities

Clawson manages 6 different recreation facilities, including 5 parks and the Hunter Community Center. The City's parks vary in size and activities from Rotary Park, a small, relatively unprogrammed mini-park, to Clawson City Park, a large active-use facility which includes a mix of recreation options.

A 1996 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) study recommended placing parks into one of five basic categories:

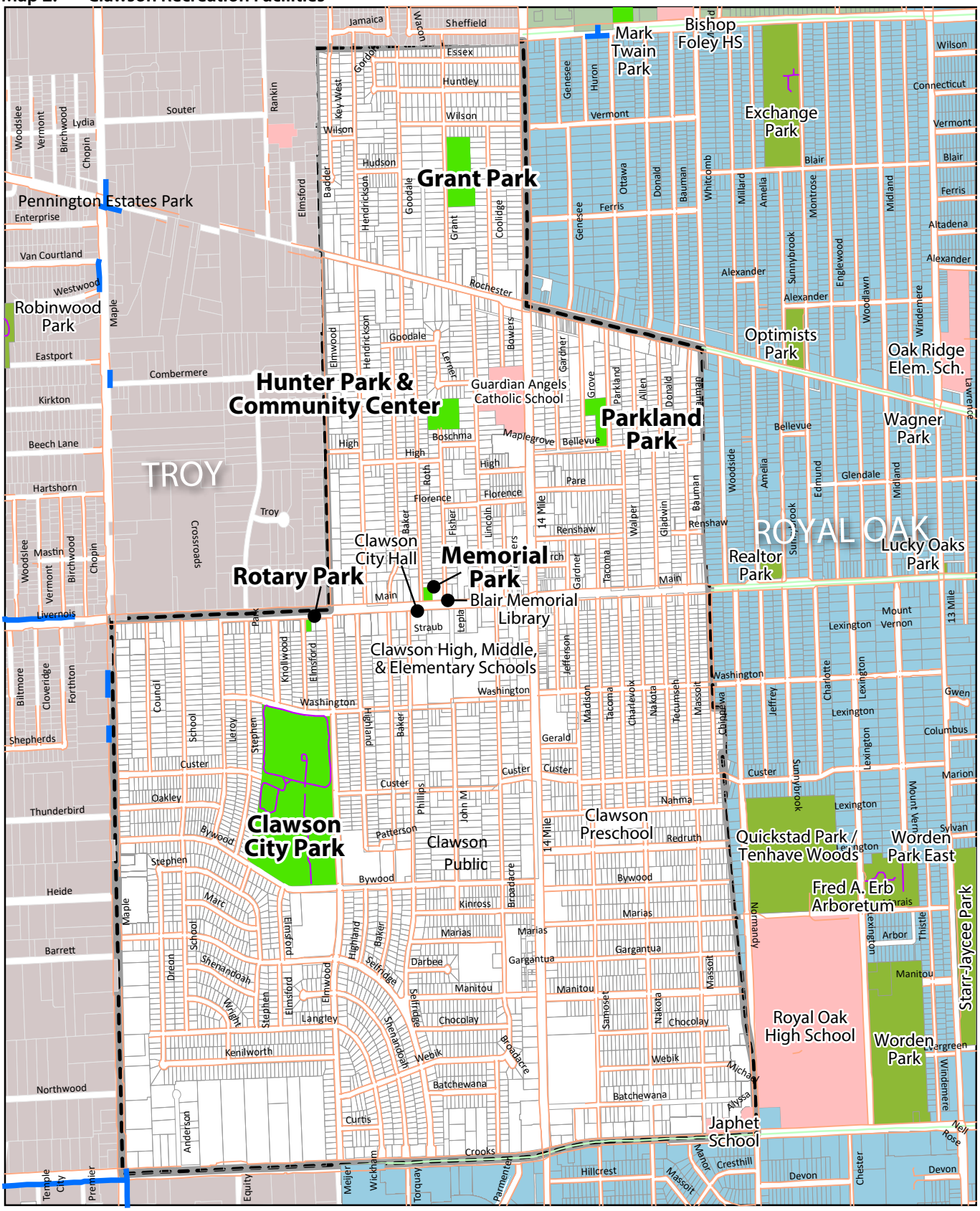
- Mini-parks or tot lots, generally one acre or less, with a service area of 1/4 mile,
- Neighborhood parks, ranging in size from 5 to 15 acres and with a service area of 1/4 to 1/2 mile,
- Community parks are generally larger (25+ acres), service a larger area (up to 2 miles), and often offer facilities suited for more intense recreation (e.g. swimming pools or soccer fields),
- Special use facilities may service one or more communities, and include attractions such as dog parks, ice arenas, and more, and
- Regional parks, which may be 200 acres or more, and service an area up to one hour's drive away (60 miles).

Each park category has an "acres per thousand people" value attached, providing an easy method for planners and parks staff to determine the adequacy of a park system. The NRPA has moved away from this mode, noting that park prescriptions need to be more sophisticated, and consider a range of variables which ensure the recreation needs of the community are being met by the parks system. Despite this disclaimer, the report is still widely referenced for comparison purposes, and offers a general idea of the level of coverage that is considered adequate for a typical park network.

Neighborhood parks serve as social and recreational focal points for neighborhoods and are the basic units of a park system. In Clawson, Grant, Hunter, and Parkland Parks would fall in this category. Mini-parks or tot lots tend to be smaller and often focus on providing amenities for young children or senior citizens. Memorial and Rotary Parks fit this role. City Park would fall under the community park designation, with amenities that are intended to serve the entire City. The Hunter Community Center, which doubles as the City's senior center and provides important programming opportunities for a variety of users, would fall under the special use center.

All of Clawson's recreation properties are depicted in Map 2 on page 40 and described in the following pages. The service areas for each property are shown on page 33.

Map 2. Clawson Recreation Facilities



Clawson Recreation Facilities

Oakland County, Michigan

Data Source: Oakland County GIS
Prepared September 2024
Carlisle / Wortman Associates, Inc.

- Sidewalk
- Park path
- Safety path (10-12'-wide multi-use path
- Clawson Recreation Property
- Other Recreation Property
- School property

N

0 750 1,500 Feet

Table 22. Clawson Park Amenities

	Amenity Type	Mini Parks		Neighborhood Parks			Community Parks	Special Use Facilities
		Memorial Park	Rotary Park	Grant Park	Hunter Park	Parkland Park	City Park	Hunter Community Center
Access	Parking	●	street	●	●	● *	●	●
	Handicap Access	●	●	●	●		●	●
Passive Use	Play Equipment			●	●	●	●	
	Benches	●	●	●	●	●	●	
	Swings			●	●	●	●	
	Picnic Tables			●	●	●	●	
	Pavilion/Gazebo	●					●	
	Drinking Fountain							●
	Grills				●			
	Restrooms	at library		●	at Center		●	●
Active Use	Baseball/Softball			●			●	
	Football						●	
	Running track						●	
	Tennis/Pickleball			●			●	
	Basketball					● *		
	Sand Volleyball						●	
	Soccer / Multi-use Fields			●	●	● *	●	
Trails	Trails/sidewalk (asphalt/concrete)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	Rustic Trails (dirt/ mown grass)						●	
Specialty Use	Senior Center							●
	Skate Park						●	
	Event Space							●
	Memorial	●						

** = Soccer fields, basketball court, and access drive to parking at Parkland Park are owned and maintained by Heritage Church of Christ.*

Mini-Parks

ROTARY PARK

SIZE: 0.2 acres

TYPE: Mini Park (passive)

LOCATION: W Elmwood Ave & N Main St

EXISTING AMENITIES:

- Benches
- Brick pathway
- Little Library





Rotary Park's highly visible position makes it an important communication point for Parks & Recreation activities. The park sign is frequently used to advertise upcoming events. A short brick pathway cuts through the property and includes benches and landscaping.

MEMORIAL PARK

SIZE: 0.3 acres

TYPE: Mini Park (passive)

LOCATION: 416 N Main St

EXISTING AMENITIES:

- Gazebo
- Benches
- War memorial
- Cannon





Located immediately adjacent to the Blair Memorial Library, Memorial Park is used for important events throughout the year, including concerts in the park and the annual tree lighting ceremony. A small gazebo doubles as a stage for music events. The Library's parking lot also serves as event space on certain occasions. The Clawson Historical Museum is located immediately east of the Library on Fisher Court.

Figure 7. Rotary Park



Figure 8. Memorial Park



Neighborhood Parks

GRANT PARK

SIZE: 4.8 acres

TYPE: Neighborhood (passive/active)

LOCATION: 926 Grant Ave

EXISTING AMENITIES:

- Picnic shelter
- Soccer fields
- Baseball/softball field
- Tennis courts
- Play structure
- Parking
- Restrooms





Grant Park provides a balanced mix of active and passive use amenities. Two youth soccer fields take up most of the eastern half of the property, while tennis courts, a play structure, a ball field, and restroom facilities cover the west. Drainage issues to the south of the parking lot make the area wet and unusable during rainy months. Much of the equipment is dated and an overhaul would be needed to make it functional.







Figure 9. Grant Park



PARKLAND PARK

SIZE: **3.1 acres**

TYPE: **Neighborhood (passive/active)**

LOCATION: **469 Parkland Ave**

PARKLAND AMENITIES

- 5 - 12 and tot lot play structures
- Swings & rockers
- Drinking fountain
- Wooded area

OTHER AMENITIES

- Basketball court
- Soccer fields
- Garden
- Parking





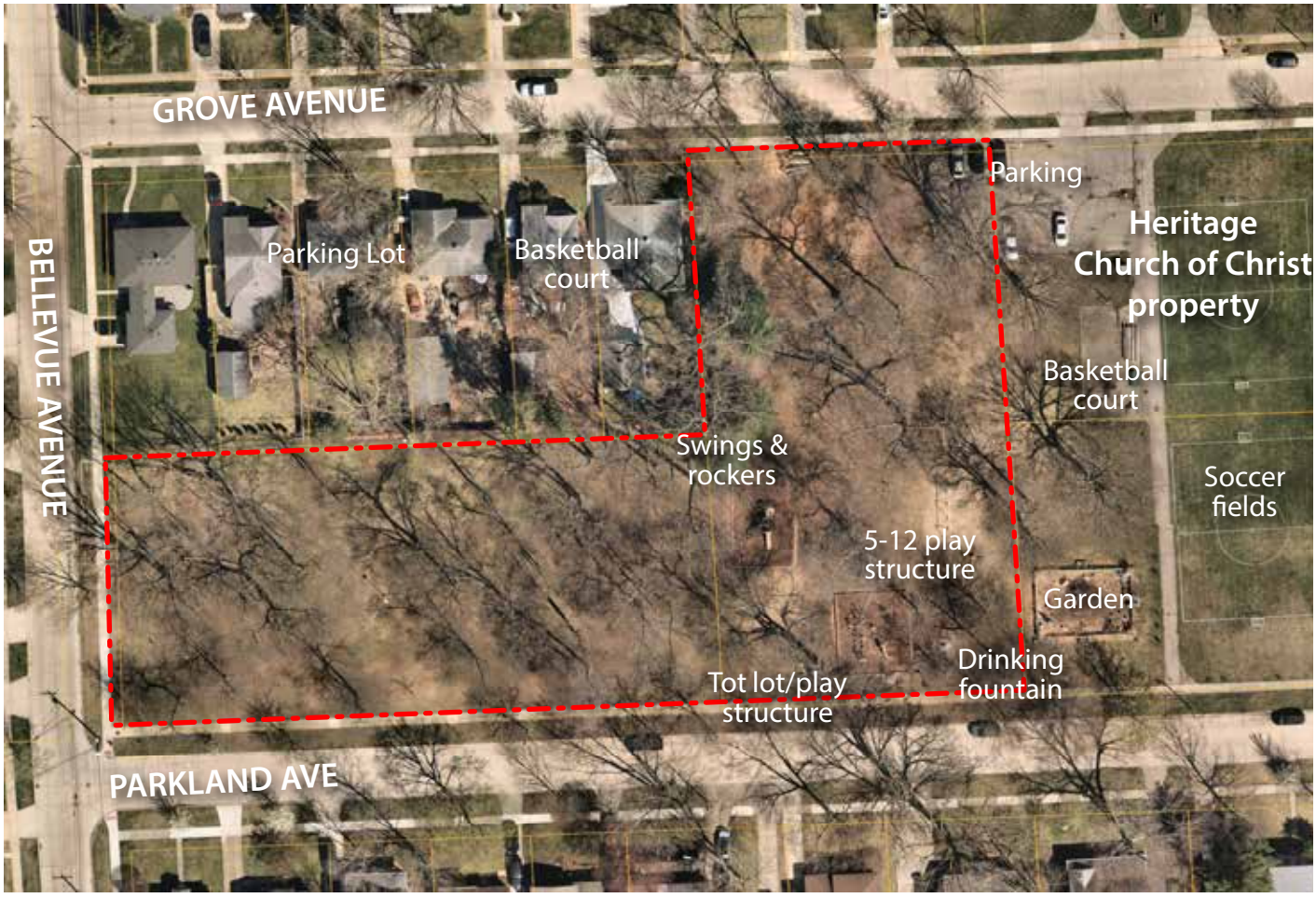


Parkland Park's unique configuration can be a source of confusion for visitors. The park boundary is "L" shaped, sitting on the western end of the block bounded by Grove, Bellevue, and Parkland Avenues. The central portion of the block is owned and maintained by the Heritage Church of Christ, and some of the property's more popular features, including the soccer fields and basketball court are actually owned and operated by the Church. Figure 10 on page 47 shows the configuration of the park and its relationship to surrounding properties.

Perhaps the most distinguishing feature of the park is the mature tree canopy that covers the entirety of the City-owned portion of the property. Play structures and swings are nestled under the trees, providing a serene space for play. The park hosts movie nights in the summer, and has the potential be the location for other park programming at different points in the year.



Figure 10. Parkland Park





Community Parks

CITY PARK

SIZE: 35.3 acres

TYPE: Community park (passive/active)

LOCATION: 935 N Custer Ave

PARKLAND AMENITIES

- 5 - 12 and tot lot play structures
- Drinking fountain
- Wooded area
- Wood chip path
- Picnic pavilion
- Restrooms (2)
- Concession stand
- Skate park
- Tennis court
- Exercise equipment
- Softball fields (2)
- Baseball field
- Synthetic turf field (Football & Soccer)
- Running track
- Track & Field space
- Soccer field
- Sand Volleyball
- Shuffleboard

City Park is one of the most important gathering points for the community. Clawson Stadium serves as the home for Clawson High School's football team and is the stage for numerous events throughout the year. The City's Fourth of July celebrations, Clawsonfest, Fall Festival, and numerous smaller regular gatherings such as the Sunday Summer Park Market and Concerts in the Park all take place at this facility.

As a major gathering point, security is a primary concern. Upgrades to security cameras and improved lighting can make a significant difference in the perceived safety of a facility.

Accessibility is another concern for the park. While individual facilities are all ADA compliant, there is a disconnect between amenities, and there are no direct accessible routes through the park. Fixing sidewalk gaps along the perimeter of the park and adding pathways throughout the facility will make it more functional for all users.

One of the unique features of the park is a large, fenced tot lot circle north of Custer Avenue. The circle includes a variety of different climbers and equipment, but is separated from the 5-12 structure to the north. Reconfiguring the layout of the play structures would encourage interaction between different age groups, and could free up the circle area for other uses.









Figure 11. Parkland Park



Special Purpose Facilities

HUNTER PARK & COMM. CENTER

SIZE: 2.6 acres

TYPE: Neighborhood / Special Purpose (passive & active)

LOCATION: 509 Fisher Court

PARK AMENITIES:

- Play structure
- Swings
- Exercise bars
- Picnic tables
- Soccer / multi-use field
- Parking

COMMUNITY CENTER:

- Parks & Rec. Offices
- Senior Center
- Gymnasium with stage
- Dining room with full kitchen
- Fitness room
- Meeting rooms
- Courtyard/play area

Special purpose facilities include features or amenities which are not typically found in a traditional park, and which serve an entire community or region. While Hunter Park fits the role of a neighborhood park, the Hunter Community Center (HCC) services a variety of different interest groups from across the City.

Built in the 1950s, HCC is the home of the Clawson Senior Center, the Parks & Recreation Offices, and Team GUTS, an organization, "...committed to improving the health, fitness, and overall well-being of those in our community with special needs and disabilities." The Spanish Immersion Montessori School also utilizes the space, offering a Spanish immersion preschool for toddlers.

At nearly 75 years old, the HCC and its grounds are showing their age. Space for additional programming is limited, and necessary infrastructure improvements to keep the center functional is cost prohibitive. The long-term viability of the structure is questionable, but the relative scarcity of land that could accommodate a new facility could pose challenges as well. A feasibility study to evaluate the existing conditions, potential redevelopment of the site, or construction of a new facility elsewhere in the City is highly recommended.





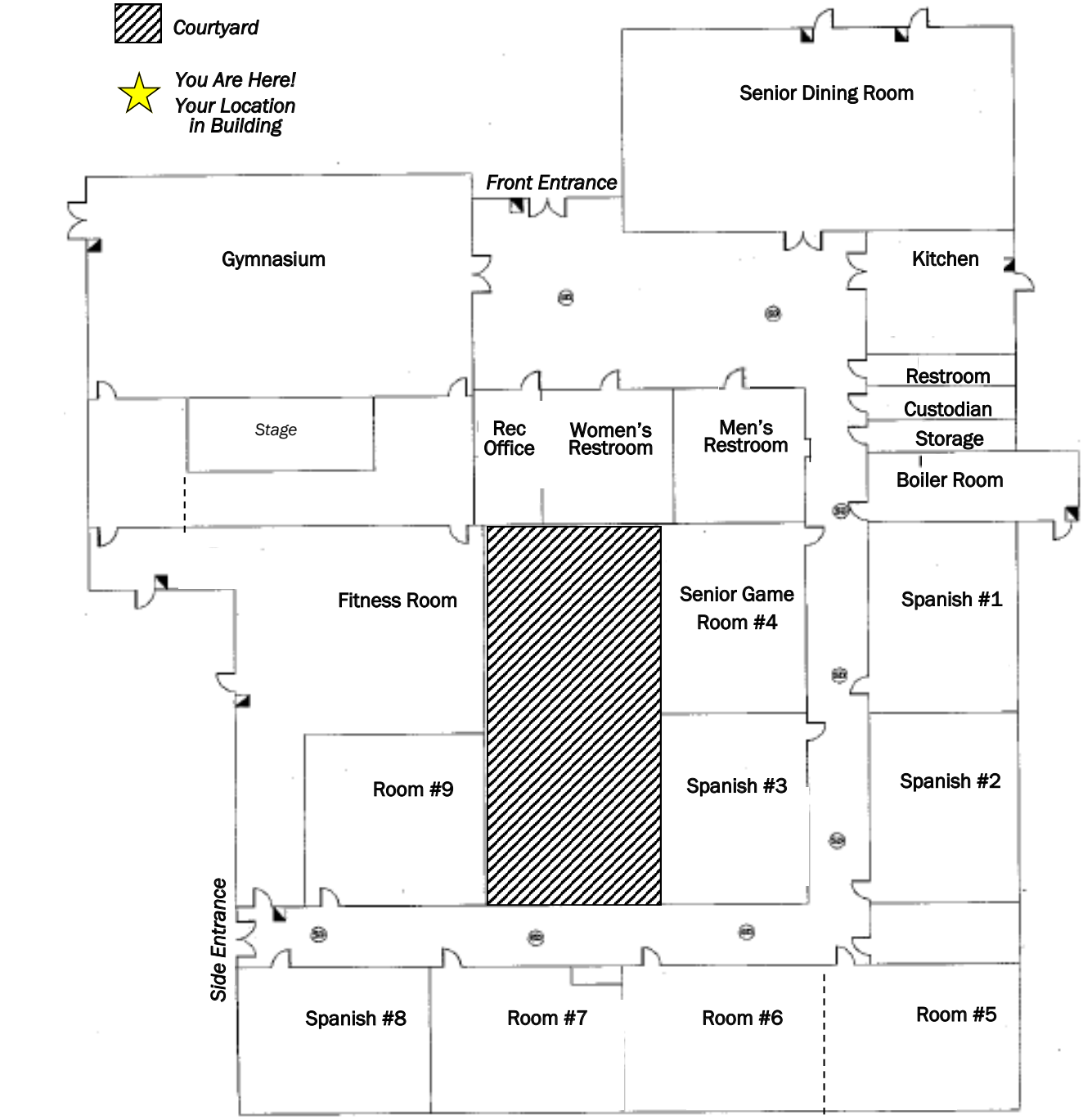




Figure 12. Hunter Park & Community Center



Figure 13. Hunter Community Center Floor Plan







School Facilities

Public school properties traditionally contribute to recreation opportunities in a community, providing both indoor and outdoor recreation space. With the closure and sale of Schalm Elementary School in 2024, some of those options have been lost. Schalm and Kenwood Elementary Schools were consolidated into a new facility on the High / Middle School campus in 2024. The remaining school facilities offer the following outdoor amenities:

- Clawson Middle School includes a softball diamond and six tennis courts
- Clawson High School features "The Backyard", a synthetic turf field striped for football and soccer.
- Clawson Elementary School includes new playground equipment installed in 2024.
- Clawson Preschool (formerly Kenwood Elementary) includes a youth softball field, one playground and one tot lot, and a basketball/multi-use court.
- Administrative building on Phillips Avenue offers playground equipment and a small softball field.
- While not a public school, the Guardian Angels Catholic School includes a playground on the south side of Lincoln Avenue.

All of the public school facilities have limited availability and are closed to the public during school hours. Indoor facilities, such as meeting rooms, gymnasiums, and pools, are available on a limited basis.

Adjacent Communities Recreation Facilities

Clawson's immediate neighbors offer a variety of recreation facilities and programming. While many of the programs offered by these communities are limited to residents, park facilities are generally open to all visitors. Some specialized facilities are available on a fee basis.

- The City of Royal Oak offers 50 parks and preserve spaces totaling over 310 acres. Amenities range from natural areas such as the Tenhave Woods in Quickstad Park to active-use facilities such as Memorial Park on Woodward Avenue and 13 Mile.
- The City of Troy operates eighteen parks and six recreation facilities. The 96-acre Firefighter's Park is the largest facility in the city, while the Troy Community Center and Troy Family Aquatic Center are open to non-residents on a per visit basis.
- The City of Madison Heights operates twelve city parks, with a variety of ball fields, playscapes, and other amenities.

Each of the aforementioned communities provide dog parks which can be used by Clawson residents for a fee.

Private Recreation Facilities

Clawson and surrounding communities feature a number of privately owned and operated recreation facilities. While these facilities are limited to individuals who can afford the associated fees, they do provide necessary services that can augment those provided by municipal parks. It is beyond the scope of this document to list every possible private recreation option, but some of the more notable attractions include the Troy Gymnastics Center, the outdoor swimming facility at Troy Municipal pool and the Red Oaks Waterpark in Madison Heights which is owned by Oakland County.





Recreation Programs And Services

Clawson offers a number of different youth and adult programs for area residents. The recreation department co-ordinates a partnership program with the City of Royal Oak and the City of Madison Heights as well as Oakland County to offer various programs year around. The Blair Memorial Library and Clawson Historical Society offer a variety of program options as well, with some taking place at the Hunter Community Center. A partial list of available programs includes the following:

Special Events

- Demeulenaere Farms
- Sunday Summer Market
- Down on Main Street Lions Club Car Show
- 2024 Summer Gazebo Concert Series at Memorial Park
- Clawson 4th of July
- ClawsonFest
- City of Clawson Parks & Recreation Annual Fall Festival
- Clawson Halloween Trick or Treat Trail
- Trick or Treasure
- Concerts @ Hunter Community & Senior Center
- Buy Nothing City-Wide Giving Event!
- Annual Christmas Tree Lighting – Memorial Park
- Breakfast with Santa

Youth Programs

- Acting & Improv Classes
- Fitness / Youth Open Gym
- Karate
- Reiki
- Babysitting
- Self-Defense
- Clawson Youth Sports (Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Football

Support Groups

- Yoga & Conversations

Team GUTS (Youth & Adult Programs Available)

- Health & Fitness Programs
- Camps
- Martial Arts
- Cardio Dance Fusion
- One-on-One Fitness Training





Adult Programs

- Cooking
- Reiki
- Safety
- Dance
- Inclusive Fitness for Unique Needs
- Karate
- Tai Chi
- Yoga
- Zumba
- Conversational Spanish
- Guitar & Piano Lessons
- Dog/Puppy Training
- Indoor Pickleball
- Chair Exercise
- Indoor Walking
- Mindful Moves
-

Senior Programs

- Bus Trips
- Games (Bingo, Cards, Wheel of Fortune, etc.)
- Health Programs
- Lectures
- Safety Programs
- Meals/Lunches
- Lunch & Learn
- Movies
- Fitness Drumming
- Community Outreach Services
- Chair Exercise
- Zumba Gold
- Indoor Walking
- Chair Yoga
- Tai Chi
- Quilting Group
- Social Groups
- Transportation Services





Regional Park Facilities

In addition to the local recreation facilities, there are a variety of regional recreation facilities and opportunities available to Clawson residents withing roughly a one-hour drive. There are almost 37,000 acres of state-owned parks and recreation areas, nearly 21,000 acres of Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) Metroparks, and over 7,000 acres of Oakland County parks and preserves within an hour drive of the City. These regional facilities incorporate large areas and provide opportunities such as swimming, boating, hiking, hunting, camping, and golfing, which are typically beyond the ability of a local municipality to provide. Map 3 on page 58 depicts the location of the regional parks and Table 23 on page 60 lists the recreational activities they offer.

Michigan State Parks

Clawson residents have access to four state parks within a half hour drive of the city borders, and another thirteen parks within 45 minutes of home. These state facilities provide a variety of activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-county skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding.

The nearby parks include:

- Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
- Belle Isle State Park
- Dodge #4 State Park
- Highland Recreation Area
- Holly Recreation Area
- Island Lake Recreation Area
- Maybury State Park
- Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area
- Ortonville Recreation Area
- Pontiac Lake Recreation Area
- Proud Lake Recreation Area
- Seven Lakes State Park
- Wetzel Recreation Area
- William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor

County Parks

The Oakland County park system consists of 17 parks and more than 6,000 acres of land. The county parks offer year-round recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, swimming, boating, golfing, picnicking, cross-country skiing, and fishing. Oakland County parks include a waterpark and wave pool, two nature centers, three dog parks, five golf courses, a bicycle motocross track, an off-road vehicle park, two campgrounds, and conference and banquet facilities. The two facilities closest to Clawson are:

Catalpa Oaks

Located in Southfield, Catalpa Oaks features four soccer fields, playgrounds, including a universally-accessible playscape and swings for all abilities. A pavilion offers picnic table seating for 100 people. A walking path runs along the perimeter of the 25-acre park.

Red Oaks

Red Oaks County Park in Madison Heights has five unique recreational facilities within its 163-acres. These five facilities include a 5.2 acre dog park, a waterpark, 2,400 square-foot log cabin nature center, a golf course, and a new county park in development at what was formerly the city of Madison Heights' Ambassador Park. New playgrounds, trails and restroom facilities are currently being designed.

In addition these two facilities, Oakland County provides fifteen other parks offering a wide variety of recreation experiences. All are located within a 45-minute drive of the City. They include:

- Addison Oaks
- Glen Oaks
- Groveland Oaks
- Highland Oaks
- Holly Oaks ORV Park
- Independence Oaks
- Lyon Oaks
- Oak Park Woods
- Orion Oaks
- Pontiac Oaks
- Rose Oaks
- Southfield Oaks
- Springfield Oaks
- Waterford Oaks
- White Lake Oaks

Huron-Clinton Metroparks

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) is a regional park district that encompasses the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Livingston. Since its inception in 1940, the HCMA has obtained over 20,000 acres of park land, all located in the metro Detroit region. The parks provide a variety of outdoor recreation and educational activities including picnicking, hiking, golf, biking, winter sports, golf, water-related activities, horseback riding, and special programs. There are no Metroparks located in the immediate region, but five are within easy driving distance. They include:

- Indian Springs Metropark
- Kensington Metropark
- Lake St. Clair Metropark
- Stony Creek Metropark
- Wolcott Mill Metropark

Major Trails

Major trail development continues to progress at a rapid pace across the state of Michigan. Oakland County in particular has a number of notable routes, primarily located in the northern and western communities, which offer miles of uninterrupted off-road walking and biking. Some of the trails of note include:

- Paint Creek Trail
- Polly Ann Trail
- Huron Valley Trail
- I-275 Metro Trail
- Michigan Air Line Trail
- Macomb-Orchard Trail
- Mike Levine Lakelands State Trail
- West Bloomfield Trail

Additional information on trail plans and development in the area is provided beginning on page 78.



Bald Mountain State Recreation Area. Image Source: Tripadvisor

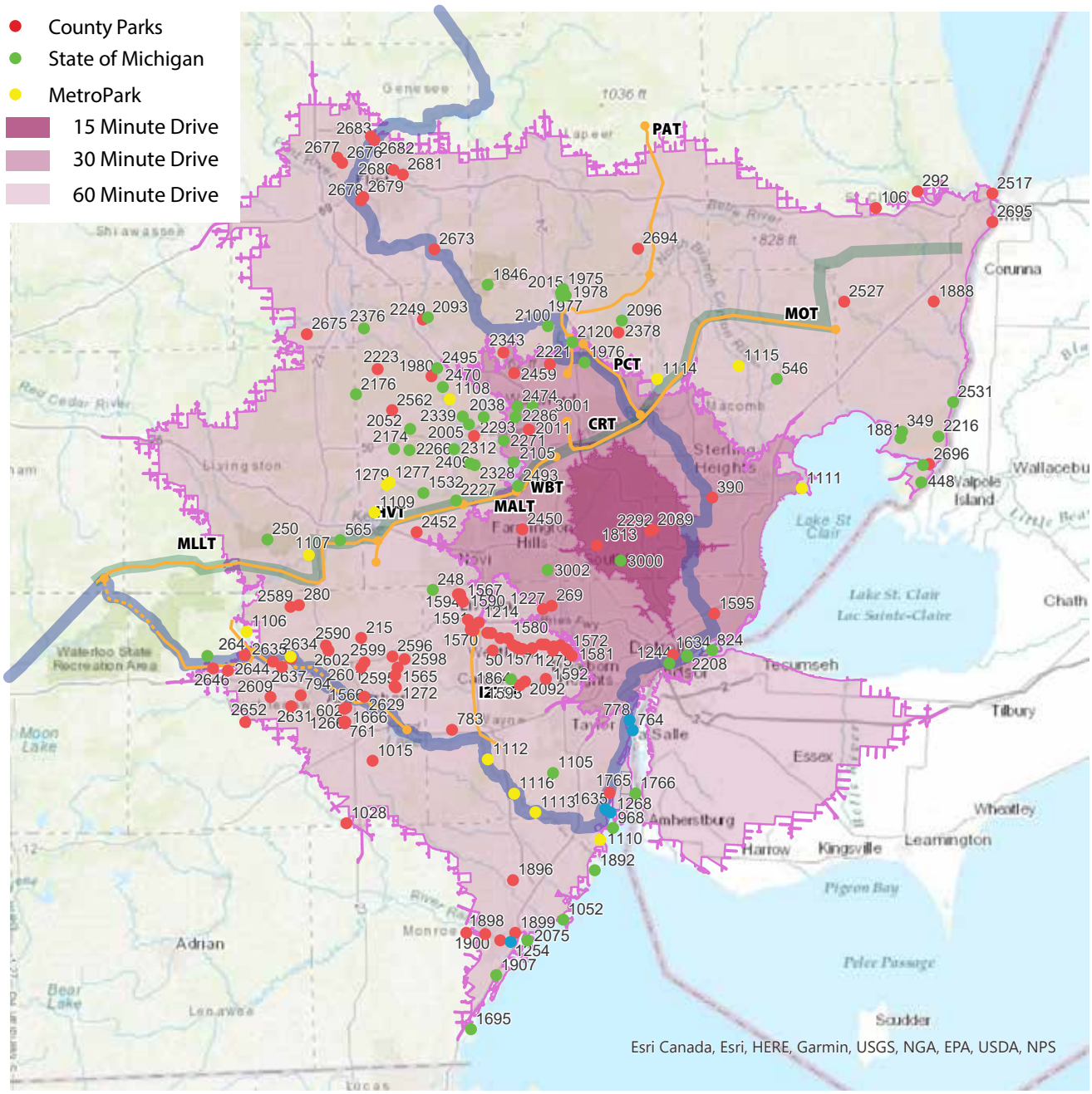


Red Oaks Dog Park. Image Source: Oakland County Parks & Rec



Indian Springs Metropark. Image Source: Tripadvisor

Map 3. Regional Recreation Facilities



MAJOR TRAIL NETWORKS

- Iron Belle Trail
- Great Lake-to-Lake Trail
- Individual Trails

MAJOR INDIVIDUAL TRAILS

B2B	Border-to-Border Trail
CRT	Clinton River Trail
HVT	Huron Valley Trail
I275T	I-275 Metro Trail
MALT	Michigan Air Lines Trail
MLLT	Mike Lavine Lakelands State Trail
MOT	Macomb-Orchard Trail
PAT	Polly Ann Trail
PCT	Paint Creek Trail
WBT	West Bloomfield Trail

0 5 10 20 Miles

Regional Recreation Facilities

City of Clawson
Oakland County, Michigan

Data: State of Michigan, Oakland County
Prepared by: Carlisle/Wortman Associates, Inc.
Date: September 2024

STATE PARKS & RECREATION FACILITIES

PARKS OR RECREATION AREAS

1977 - Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
824 - Belle Isle Park
1244 - Detroit Riverwalk
2105 - Dodge Brothers State Park No. 4
2266 - Highland State Recreation Area
2093 - Holly State Recreation Area
248 - Maybury State Park
1596 - Michigan Outdoor Adventure Center
1846 - Ortonville State Recreation Area
2339 - Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area
1532 - Proud Lake State Recreation Area
2376 - Seven Lakes State Park
546 - Wetzel State Park
1244 - William G. Milliken State Park & Harbor

GAME AND/OR WILDLIFE AREAS

2495 - Davisburg State Game Area
1848 - Horseshoe Lake State Game Area

LAKE ACCESS / BOAT LAUNCHES

2470 - Big Lake
2312 - Cedar Island
2271 - Crescent Lake
2474 - Lake Oakland
2120 - Lake Orion
2096 - Lakeville
2038 - Maceday
2493 - Orchard
2100 - Paint Lake
2005 - Pontiac Lake
2176 - Tipsico Lake
2328 - Union Lake
2052 - White Lake
2227 - Wolverine Lake

HURON CLINTON METROPARKS

1108 - Indian Springs
1109 - Kensington
1111 - Lake St. Clair
1114 - Stony Creek
1115 - Wolcott Mills

COUNTY PARKS

OAKLAND COUNTY

2378 - Addison Oaks
1813 - Catalpa Oaks
2450 - Glen Oaks Golf Course
2249 - Groveland Oaks
2552 - Highland Oaks & Holly Oaks ORV Park
2343 - Independence Oaks
2452 - Lyon Oaks
3000 - Oak Park Woods
2221 - Orion Oaks
3001 - Pontiac Oaks
2292 - Red Oaks
2223 - Rose Oaks
3002 - Southfield Oaks
1980 - Springfield Oaks
2011 - Waterford Oaks
2293 - White Lake Oaks

GENESSEE COUNTY

2673 - Atlas County Park
2683 - Bluebell Beach County Park
2685 - Bluegill Boat Launch
2688 - Buell Lake County Park
2684 - Crossroads Village
2681 - Davison Roadside Park
2677 - Flint Lake Park
2674 - Flushing County Park
2680 - For-Mar Nature Preserve
2690 - Holloway Reservoir Park
2675 - Linden County Park
2676 - Max Brandon Park
2678 - McKinley Park
2687 - Mounds ORV Area
2689 - Richfield County Park
2682 - Stepping Stone Falls Cty Park
2679 - Thread Lake Park

LAPEER COUNTY

2694 - General Squier Memorial Park
2693 - Torzewski County Park

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

2165 - Fillmore County Park
2166 - Lutz County Park

MACOMB COUNTY

390 - Freedom Hill County Park

SHIAWASSEE COUNTY

2668 - Geeck Road County Park
2670 - Kerby County Park
2671 - Lytle Road County Park
2672 - Shiatown County Park

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

1888 - Camp Otsiketa
2527 - Columbus County Park
106 - Goodells County Park

WAYNE COUNTY

1227 - Bell Creek County Park
1594 - Bennett Arboretum
1214 - Hines County Park
269 - Lola Valley County Park
1595 - Wayne County Family Aquatic Center

Table 23. Regional Recreation Amenities

Category	Name	Acres / miles	ACTIVE-USE ACTIVITIES										PASSIVE-USE ACTIVITIES														
			Baseball / Softball Fields	Basketball	Disc Golf	Golf	Horseshoes / Shuffleboard	Sand Volleyball	Skate Park	Soccer / multi-purpose field	Tennis & Pickleball	Zip Line	Banquet Facilities / Spec Events	Visitors Center	Community Center/ Indoor Fac.	Fitness Center / Equipment	Michigan State Park Explorer	Nature Programs	Geocaching	Metal Detecting	Dog Parks / Trial Course	Pet Friendly Area	Playground	Picnic Area	Picnic Shelter	Radio Control Flying	Watchable Wildlife / Birding
STATE PARKS	Bald Mountain Rec Area	4,637			•														•	•			•	•	•	•	
	Belle Isle State Park	982									•							•	•				•	•	•		•
	Detroit Riverwalk	84																									•
	Dodge #4 State Park	139																				•	•	•	•		
	Highland State Rec Area	5,900												•						•	•			•	•	•	•
	Holly State Rec Area	8,000			•												•		•	•		•	•	•		•	
	Maybury State Park	1,000																					•	•	•		•
	Michigan Adventure Center	0.5											•	•				•									
	Ortonville Recreation Area	5,340																									
	Pontiac Lake State Park	3,745															•						•	•	•	•	•
	Proud Lake State Rec Area	4,700															•					•	•	•			
	Seven Lakes State Park	1,434																					•	•	•		
	Wetzel State Rec Area	900																									
	WG Milliken State Park	31															•							•	•		
METROPARKS	Indian Springs	2,547															•	•				•	•	•			•
	Kensington	4,543			•	•	•	•			•		•				•	•				•	•	•			•
	Lake St. Clair	770		•			•				•								•	•			•	•	•		•
	Stony Creek	4,461			•								•														
	Wolcott Mill	2,625																									
COUNTY PARKS	Addison Oaks	300			•		•	•					•						•				•	•	•		•
	Catalpa Oaks	24	•							•									•					•	•		
	Glen Oaks Golf Course	122				•							•														
	Groveland Oaks	361	•				•		•														•	•	•		
	Highland Oaks	302																	•					•			
	Holly Oaks ORV Park	235																									
	Independence Oaks	1,286	•				•						•					•	•				•	•	•		
	Lyon Oaks	1,041				•				•			•						•		•	•	•	•	•		
	Oak Park Woods	17																					•		•		
	Orion Oaks	916																	•		•	•		•			
	Pontiac Oaks	77																					•				
	Red Oaks Golf Course	141				•				•								•			•	•	•	•	•		
	Rose Oaks	640																	•					•			
	Southfield Oaks	39																									•
	Springfield Oaks Golf Course	333				•							•														
	White Lake Oaks Golf Course	195				•							•														
TRAILS	Clinton River	16 mi																									
	Macomb Orchard	24 mi																									
	Milford	8.6 mi																									
	Paint Creek	8.9 mi																									
	Polly Ann	14.5 m																									
	West Bloomfield	6.8 mi																									

TRAILS						WATER / BOATING					WINTER SPORTS					CAMPING AMENITIES										HUNTING			
Hiking	Biking	Bike Rental	Mountain Biking / BMX Course	Equestrian	Off-Road ORV Trails	Swimming / Beach	Splash Pad / Pool / Water Slide	Paddlesports	Boat Rental	Boat Launch	Snowshoeing	Cross Country Skiing	Snowmobiling	Ice Skating / Hockey	Sledding	Equestrian Camping	Electrical Service	Winter Camping	Concession Store / Food	Cabins And Lodges	Rustic Site	Group Use Area	Walk-In / Paddle-In Sites	Vault Toilet	Modern Restrooms	Sanitation Station	Shooting Range	Hunting / Archery	Fishing	Fishing Pier
•			•			•		•	•	•		•	•						•	•				•				•	•	•
•	•	•				•		•	•		•	•																		
•	•						•																						•	
						•		•		•		•												•	•			•	•	•
•			•	•		•		•		•		•				•		•		•	•	•		•	•			•		
•			•			•		•	•	•		•	•				•	•		•		•		•	•	•		•	•	•
•	•		•	•								•										•			•				•	•
																									•					
						•		•		•		•				•				•	•			•			•	•	•	
•			•	•		•		•	•	•		•				•						•			•			•	•	•
•			•	•				•	•	•		•	•				•	•	•	•		•		•	•	•		•	•	
•			•			•		•	•	•		•					•		•					•	•	•		•	•	•
•												•	•												•				•	
•	•														•														•	
•	•			•			•					•			•							•							•	
•	•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•		•		•								•							•	•
•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•		•		•	•										•				•	•
•	•					•	•		•	•											•								•	
				•																		•							•	
•	•			•				•	•		•	•									•							•	•	
											•	•			•															
											•	•																			
•	•		•			•		•	•			•									•								•	
•	•			•				•			•	•																	•	•
					•																									
•	•					•		•	•		•	•									•								•	•
•	•							•			•	•													•				•	
•	•																													
•	•							•			•	•													•				•	•
•	•									•															•					•
•	•						•				•	•																		
											•	•																			
•	•							•				•																			
•	•																													
•	•											•																			
•	•			•								•																			
•	•			•								•																			
•	•											•																			

Accessibility Assessment

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing barrier-free access in order to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Guidelines (2006) was used to evaluate the parks. The ranking system ranges from 1 to 5 and is described as follows:

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

Each of the parks was evaluated using this ranking system. The specific elements considered include parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, activity areas themselves, support facilities such as restrooms, and surfacing. Table 10 provides the results of this assessment.

The City of Clawson continues to works towards making all Parks and Recreation Facilities barrier free in accordance with standards from Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All new construction has been and will continued to be designed with ADA standards in the building specifications. Current deficiencies regarding accessibility are mainly the result of older equipment or facilities which pre-dates ADA standards. It is the intent of the City of Clawson to retrofit these facilities with park upgrades and renovation projects.

Table 24. Accessibility Assessment

Park	Rank	Description
City Park	3	Individual components are accessible, but connections between amenities are lacking.
Grant Park	2	Accessible routes are not provided to most amenities.
Hunter Park & Community Center	2	The Community Center is generally ADA compliant. The park amenities are generally outdated and/or do not have accessible routes provided.
Memorial Park	3	The sidewalks meet ADA regulations. There is no accessible route to access the gazebo.
Parkland Park	2	Individual play structures are compliant, but there are no accessible routes to the structures. No accessible parking is provided.
Rotary Park	3	The sidewalks meet ADA requirements.



Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grant Fund Status

The City of Clawson has received grants from MDNR, Oakland County, and other sources over the years. A list of the MDNR projects and their status is included in Table 25.

Table 25. Grant History

Grant Number	Application Year & Source	Description	Grant Amount	Current Use / Condition
26-00958	1977	City Park: develop 3 tennis courts	$19,140	Courts have been reconfigured; two were replaced with the skate park, and the remaining court resurfaced.
BF89-425	1989 Bond Fund	City Park: add restrooms, renovate tennis courts, new play structure, fitness course, spectator bleachers, & sand volleyball	$111,000	Most of the items have been replaced as they have reached the end of their expected lifespan. The park itself is highly popular and is heavily used.
BF91-115	1991 Bond Fund	Grant Park: Resurface tennis courts, install play structure & bleachers	$21,000	The courts and play structure are in fair condition, and the bleachers are in poor condition. All items have exceeded their expected lifespan.
BF91-116	1991 Bond Fund	Hunter Community Center: Replace boiler	$37,500	The boiler was replaced as it reached the end of its expected lifespan. The building is nearing 75 years of age, and needs significant repairs to remain functional.
CM99-038	1999 CMI	Hunter Community Center: Replace windows	$57,000	The windows are in good condition. The building is nearing 75 years of age, and needs significant repairs to remain functional.
26-01559	2000	City Park: Construct new restroom facilities with adjacent park shelter for picnic area and ADA accessible walkway.	$74,192	Restrooms and shelter are in good condition and highly popular with visitors to the playground and sand volleyball courts.
TF13-051	2013 MNRTF	Grant Park: Restroom and storage building	$50,000	The building is in good condition is regularly used by park users & soccer players.



Chapter 6: Administrative Structure

A full-time Parks and Recreation Department was formulated in October, 1985. Prior to that date, part-time staff supervised the year round senior citizen program along with the summer recreation activities such as softball, T-ball and playgrounds.

The immediate goal of the department was to establish and promote a variety of activities at Hunter Community Center which was a vacant elementary school purchased by the City. The overall objective of the City is to provide indoor and outdoor, year round recreation for residents of all ages.

In May, 1988 the Clawson City Council appointed a five member Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The first goal of the Board was to establish the Master Recreation Plan. The Board is strictly an Advisory Board to the City Administration and City Council. The Parks and Recreation Department currently employs two full time staff members and up to 50 seasonal employees for building supervisor, program leadership, class instruction and special events. Most programs require user fees to help cover program costs.

The Parks and Recreation Department works closely with the Department of Public Works in coordinating the maintenance required at recreation facilities. The department also maintains a good working relationship with the Clawson Board of Education in joint use of recreation facilities.

Clawson utilizes the council–manager form of government, governed by a City Council consisting of a mayor and four council members. The city council appoints a city manager, who manages the day-to-day operations of the city. Clawson's Director of Recreation and Senior Services reports directly to the city manager and City Council. An organizational chart showing the relationship of Parks & Recreation to the City structure is provided in Figure 14 on page 68.

Funding & Budget

In City of Clawson, the operations and maintenance of all City park facilities is by the Parks and Recreation Department which operates under the auspices of the City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The City Council is responsible for levying operational funds for the Department. A breakdown of the budget is outlined in Table 26 on page 66.

Several existing or potential funding sources are available for parks and recreation facility improvements. In addition to the General Fund, user fees, revenue bonds, donation of land and/or easements, and contractual agreements involving privatization are all options for consideration. Following is a brief description of current funding sources and other sources the City may consider:

1. **General Fund**

   General Fund revenues are derived from property taxes, state-shared revenues, federal grants, license and permit fees, charges for services, interest on investments, and court fines or forfeitures. Recreation program user fees are usually channeled through the General Fund.

2. **User Fees**

   Fees can be charged by the Community to the users of specific recreation facilities or for enrollment in recreation programs. User fees can provide substantial support for park facilities. Other communities in southeast Michigan have established user fees for swimming pools, tennis courts, wave pools, use of lighted athletic fields, and use of indoor facilities. User fees are a promising source of funding in the municipality if used selectively for specific facilities and services.

3. **Bond Programs**

   A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities:

   - ***General Obligation Bonds***

     General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid off with property tax revenues.

   - ***Revenue Bonds***

     Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project. For example, revenue bonds could be issued for the renovation of the restroom facility at the Grant Park.

   - ***Special Assessment Bonds***

     Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for projects that benefit a particular segment of the population. For example, recreation improvements that benefit a defined subdivision or neighborhood could be financed using special assessment bonds, in which case the residents who receive the benefit would be assessed.

4. **Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants**

   The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) administers three grant programs specifically dedicated to outdoor recreation. Successful completion and submittal of this recreation plan will make the City eligible for funding through these grant programs. Additional programs, such as the forestry grant, may be of interest to the city. A full description of the available programs and their requirements is provided on page 26.

5. **Community Development Block Grant**

   Revenues obtained through the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program can be used for a variety of community improvement projects, including development of recreation facilities or land acquisition for new parks or athletic fields in low and moderate income neighborhoods that qualify under the program. City of Clawson may be able to use CDBG funds for improvements to recreational facilities serving low income areas of the City.

6. **Donations**

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

7. **Foundations**

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

8. **Lease or Contractual Agreements**

   The City may increase the availability of recreation facilities to its residents by leasing sites and facilities from other recreation providers. For example, the City could agree to help maintain school recreation facilities in exchange for guaranteed availability of the facility to the public. The City could also contract with private entrepreneurs to provide services at City-owned park facilities, such as recreation programming, food service, or facility maintenance. Privatization of services can increase recreation opportunities available to residents, while minimizing Parks and Recreation's administrative costs.

9. **Public Use Conveyances**

   Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, this program provides state lands acquired through delinquent taxes for local government units for public use. Acceptable uses of land acquired under this program include development of local parks.

10. **Historic Preservation Fund**

    The purpose of the Historic Preservation Fund grants is to identify, register and protect resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The funds that are sub-granted are used to help to strengthen preservation at the local level.

Table 26. Parks & Recreation Budget Summary

	FY 2023 -24 Activity	FY 2024-25 Budget	Through 9-30-24
Appropriations: Dept 672 - Senior Programs			
Full-time Salaries & Wages	$43,727.86	$53,560.00	$11,312.34
Part-time Salaries	$52,458.96	$84,500.00	$17,552.74
Social Security	$7,227.60	$10,570.00	$2,208.25
Senior Trips	$250.00	$2,500.00	$0.00
Operating Supplies	$22,075.95	$22,500.00	$3,545.42
Computer Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Gas & Oil	$5,862.32	$7,000.00	$1,506.69
Vehicle / Mileage Allowance	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Vehicle Maintenance	$0.00	$2,000.00	$0.00
Equipment Maintenance	$0.00	$0.00	$767.04
Vehicle Lease	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Seminars & Workshops	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Miscellaneous	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
TOTALS	$87,874.83	$129,070.00	$25,580.14
Appropriations: Dept 751 - Parks			
Salaries & Wages	$172,462.99	$200,000.00	$41,793.85
Overtime	$9,270.82	$10,000.00	$3,958.22
Part-time Salaries & Wages	$8,477.70	$34,000.00	$10,819.50
Social Security – Medicare Taxes	$14,701.33	$17,750.00	$4,251.11
Life & LTD Insurance	$0.00	$10,500.00	$0.00
MERS-DB Retirement Active	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
MERS-DC Retirement	$18,353.36	$24,630.00	$5,940.11
MERS Retirement HCSP	$6,800.00	$9,600.00	$500.00
Worker's Compensation	$1,144.80	$1,500.00	$1,275.00
Dental Insurance	$3,075.92	$4,800.00	$1,189.64
Optical Benefits	$178.02	$400.00	$92.88
Operating Supplies	$17,174.86	$20,000.00	$7,139.84
Cleaning Allowance	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Public Utilities	$13,236.67	$18,000.00	$3,257.71
Building Maintenance	$4,111.20	$2,000.00	$324.06
Equipment Rentals	$486.36	$1,000.00	$0.00
Totals for dept. 751 – Parks	$269,474.03	$354,180.00	$80,541.92

Table 26. Parks & Recreation Budget Summary (cont.)

	FY 2023 -24 Activity	FY 2024-25 Budget	Through 9-30-24
Appropriations: Dept 757 - Recreation			
Salaries & Wages	$93,031.67	$74,000.00	$15,621.30
Part-time Salaries & Wages	$48,953.51	$48,000.00	$5,455.74
Social Security – Medicare Taxes	$10,782.00	$9,340.00	$1,612.42
Life & LTD Insurance	$3,500.00	$3,500.00	$0.00
MERS-DC Retirement	$11,235.01	$9,620.00	$2,212.94
Worker's Compensation	$790.01	$1,000.00	$850.00
Dental Insurance	$1,131.66	$1,400.00	$162.47
Optical Benefits	$20.74	$225.00	$183.52
Postage	$4,307.00	$0.00	$0.00
Operating Supplies	$2,532.28	$10,000.00	$5,168.73
Computer Supplies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Program Subcontractors	$8,205.30	$6,000.00	$1,872.00
Cellular	$6,305.20	$7,800.00	$1,856.53
Public Utilities	$30,143.54	$28,000.00	$7,656.07
Building Maintenance	$32,376.58	$27,500.00	$7,795.21
Janitorial Services	$17,219.46	$17,000.00	$2,966.96
Seminars & Workshops	$0.00	$2,000.00	$0.00
Memberships and Dues	$1,269.00	$2,000.00	$0.00
Miscellaneous	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Totals for dept. 757 – Recreation	$271,802.96	$247,385.00	$53,413.89
Appropriations: Dept 757 - Recreation			
SMART Credits	$126,578.00	$34,689.00	$0.00
Parks Department Programs	$0.00	$0.00	$120.00
Recreation Program Fees	$19,825.05	$25,000.00	$9,222.10
Senior Citizen Program Fees	$24,253.67	$20,000.00	$9,827.07
Rental Income	$55,697.68	$40,000.00	$15,700.00
School Field Maintenance	$26,000.00	$26,000.00	$13,000.00

Figure 14. Organizational Chart

CITIZENS OF CLAWSON

MAYOR
Paula Millan
MAYOR PRO-TEM
Susan Moffitt
COUNCILMEMBERS
Bruce Anderson, Matt Binkowski, Glenn Shepard

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS (Appointed by Council)	CITY MANAGER Joseph Rheker (Appointed by Council)	CITY ATTORNEY Renis Nushaj (Appointed by Council)

FINANCE	BLAIR MEMORIAL LIBRARY	BUILDING & PLANNING	CITY CLERK	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	FIRE DEPARTMENT	HISTORICAL MUSEUM	PARKS & RECREATION	POLICE DEPARTMENT	TREASURER
Mark Pollack Finance Director	Jenni Gannod Library Director	Nikalas Stepnitz Assist. City Mgr/ Dir. of Community & Econ. Dev.	G. Machele Kukuk City Clerk	Trever Zablocki Superintendent	Joan Horton Director	Troy Engel Fire Chief	Leah Davis Curator	Scott Jennex Rec/Sr Services Director	Kellie Bauss Police Chief	Lisa Rosati Treasurer
Part-time Bookkeeper	Kristin Church Youth Services Librarian	Jon Weingarten Admin. Clerk	Vince Smith Deputy City Clerk	Ryan McDonald Assistant Superintendent		Jon Ruthenbeck Fire Marshal		Lisa Ball Assistant Director	Sergeants	Mandi Ciaramitaro Deputy Treasurer
	Part-time Staff	Barbara Chambers Jim McWilliams Code Enforcement	Part-time City Hall Staff	Cathy Thorpe Admin. Clerk III		Firefighters		Part-time Staff	Patrolmen	Michelle Douthard Administrative Clerk
		Inspector Services	Election Workers	Part-time Clerical					Kim Dail Admin. Clerk I	Oakland County Assessing
		Planning Services		General Maintenance					Crossing Guards	
				Park Maintenance						
				Major/Local Streets Maintenance						
				Water & Sewer Maintenance						
				Motor Pool Maintenance						
				Seasonal Laborers						
				Engineering Services						

Volunteers & Partnerships

Clawson Parks and Recreation works cooperatively with the Clawson Community School District and volunteer sports organizations to offer recreation services to area residents. The Parks Department and the school district allow shared use of facilities and operate maintenance agreements which ensures equitable use for both park program participants and school participants utilizing City facilities. Continued cooperation between these two entities provides City residents the best possible access to recreation facilities while minimizing associated infrastructure and maintenance costs.

Parks and Recreation works closely with the Clawson Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to manage and run several large special events, including the Fourth of July festivities and ClawsonFest. Portions of downtown are closed to vehicular traffic to accommodate the events.

Clawson Youth Sports (CYS) was formed to provide a safe and organized environment to promote physical activity, an understanding of teamwork, leadership, good sportsmanship and community involvement through sporting activities. This six sports programs (Clawson Youth Baseball, Junior Trojan Basketball, Clawson Mavericks, Clawson Soccer, Clawson Strikers and Clawson Youth Softball) still operate independently, but under one platform.

Team GUTS is committed to improving the health, fitness, and overall well-being of those in our community with special needs and disabilities. Fitness, dance, and martial arts classes are held at the Hunter Community Center. One-on-one training is offered for those individuals that are not comfortable in a group setting.

A number of other service clubs and community groups exist in or near Clawson. While not all of these clubs currently provide active support to Clawson Parks and Recreation, they do offer the potential for providing volunteer labor and financial support for City parks and facilities in the future. A partial list of groups includes:

Local service clubs:

- Kiwanis Club (Troy)
- Lions Club
- Rotary Club
- Knights of Columbus
- American Legion (Troy & Royal Oak)

Scouting Groups:

- Michigan Crossroads Council
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan



Chapter 7: Community Background

Located in the southeast quadrant of Oakland County, roughly 12 miles northwest of downtown Detroit, Clawson's compact footprint, walkable streets, and close proximity to major urban amenities make it appealing to a diverse set of residents. The City is bounded by the cities of Troy to the north, Royal Oak to the south, and Madison Heights to the east.

Clawson was occupied by the Potowatomi people, who had already interacted with French Canadian and English colonists when the area was settled by European Americans in 1829. Like much of southeast Michigan, farming and lumber were the primary industries in the community for the first decades of its existence. Prior to the official establishment as a village, the City was known as "The Corners" or "Pumachug", a name derived from the sounds made by the lumber and cider mills on the corners of the downtown area. With the establishment of the first post office on August 16, 1880 , village residents chose the name "Clawson". Some accounts suggest that "Clawson" was a misspelling of the name, "John C. Lawson" or "C. Lawson", but those rumors have never been substantiated.

The addition of the Interurban Railway in 1899 gave Clawson residents access to other communities and the opportunity to work in Detroit but live where lots were cheap. The community remained a part of Troy and Royal Oak townships until the Village of Clawson was incorporated in 1920. In 1940, Clawson incorporated as a home rule city.

Figure 15. Site Context - State of Michigan



Figure 16. Site Context - Oakland County

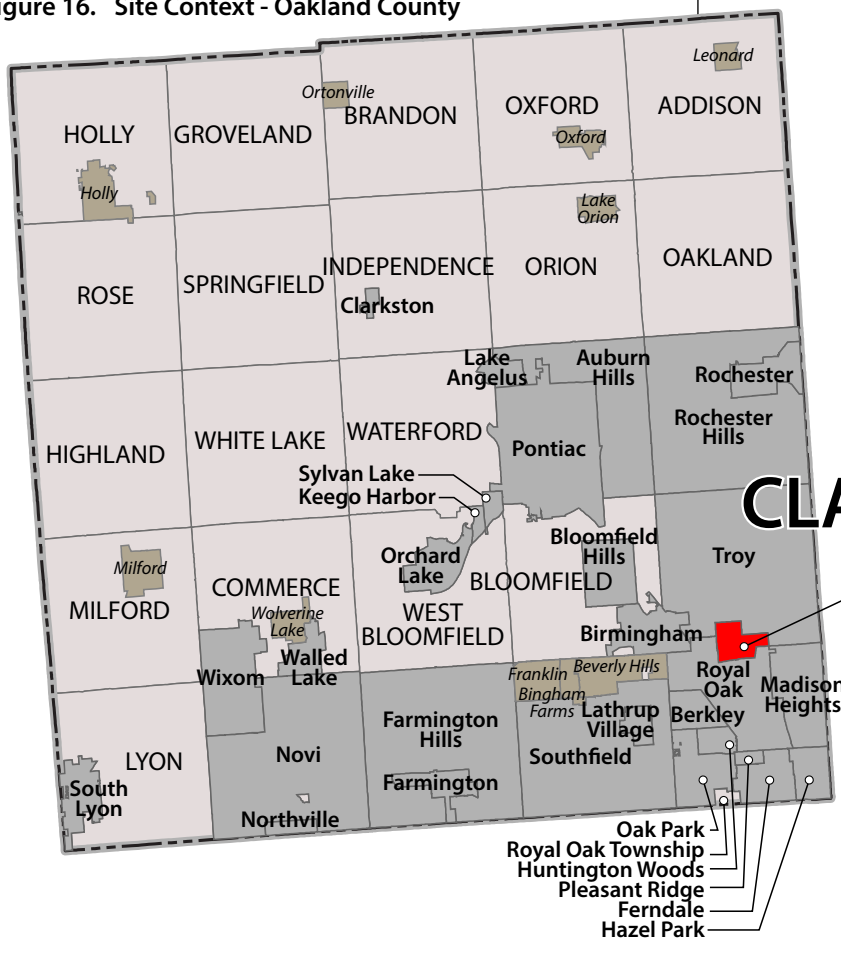


Figure 17. Site Context - SEMCOG

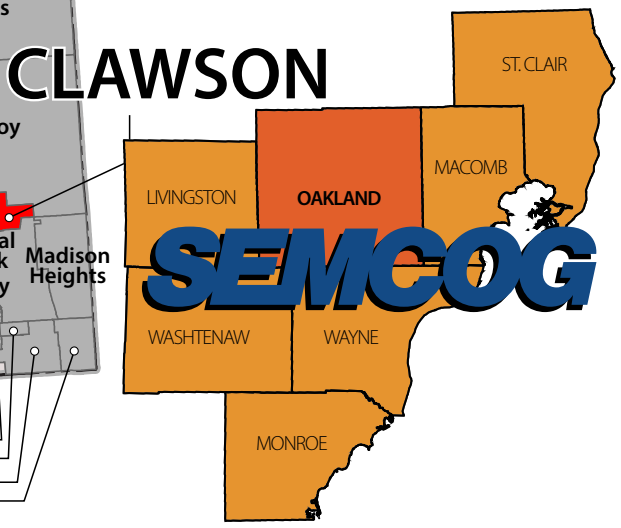


Table 27. Population Data, Clawson Region

Community	1990 Census	2000 Census	2010 Census	2020 Census	2023 SEMCOG Estimate	% Change 2010 - 2023	2050 SEMCOG Estimate	% Change 2020 - 2050
Clawson	13,874	12,732	11,825	11,389	11,388	-3.7%	11,886	4.4%
Berkley	16,960	15,531	14,970	15,194	15,150	1.2%	15,656	3.0%
Birmingham	19,997	19,291	20,103	21,813	21,738	8.1%	23,062	5.7%
Huntington Woods	6,419	6,151	6,238	6,388	6,365	2.0%	6,476	1.4%
Madison Heights	32,196	31,101	29,694	28,468	28,521	-4.0%	29,770	4.6%
Royal Oak, City	65,410	60,062	57,236	58,211	58,053	1.4%	61,090	4.9%
Troy	72,884	80,959	80,980	87,294	87,182	7.7%	95,523	9.4%
Oakland County	1,083,592	1,194,156	1,202,362	1,274,395	1,270,880	5.7%	1,387,838	8.9%
SEMCOG Region	4,590,468	4,833,368	4,704,809	4,830,489	4,804,188	2.1%	5,138,535	6.4%
State of Michigan (7-1-22)	9,295,297	9,938,444	9,883,640	10,034,113	10,037,261	1.6%	10,608,242	5.7%

Source: American Community Survey, US Census, SEMCOG

Population

Clawson's population peaked in the late 1960s, reaching a high of 17,617. With the exception of the City of Troy, Clawson and its neighbors experienced significant losses between 1970 and 2010, with population declines averaging over 15% between 1970 to 1980. While Clawson continued to lose population in subsequent decades, the rate of those losses have steadily dropped, to the point where SEMCOG is projecting no change between 2020 and 2030, and 4.4% population increases through 2050.

The population rebound prediction holds true for Oakland County and the region as a whole. Southeast Michigan has been increasing in size at a steady rate since the 1990s, and according the 2020 US Census, Detroit has seen an increase in population for the first time in decades.

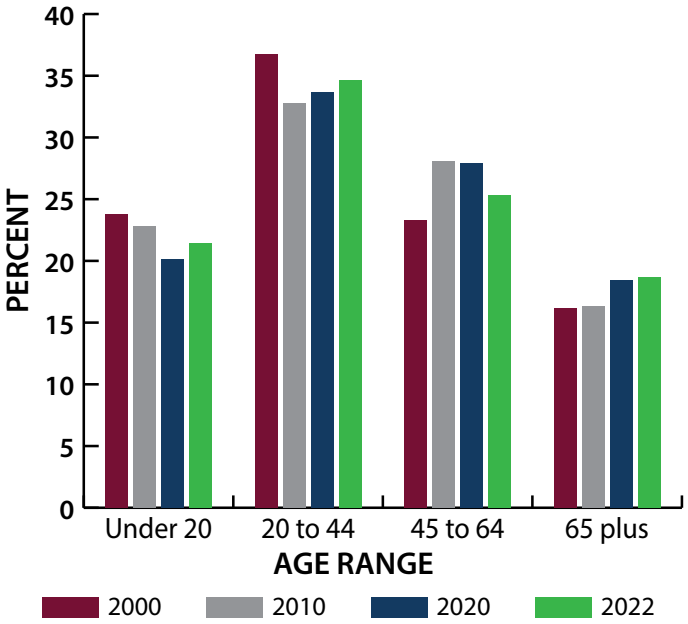
According to the American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, the largest age group in Clawson is young adults ages 20 to 44 (see Table 28). Children under the age of 19 make up 16.3% of the population while seniors age 65 years and over make up 19.4%. Like most of the State of Michigan, Clawson is seeing a steady rise in the size of their senior population. The median age in the city has fluctuated fairly significantly when compared with Oakland County and State of Michigan medians, with a major jump reported in 2021. Overall, the trend appears to show a slow but steady increase in seniors.

Table 28. Age Group Distribution

Age Group	US Census 2000	US Census 2010	US Census 2020	ACS 2022
19 and under	22.8%	19.9%	15.3%	16.3%
20 to 44	40.0%	37.0%	38.1%	38.0%
45 to 64	21.9%	28.3%	27.8%	26.2%
65 and older	15.2%	14.8%	18.9%	19.4%

Source: American Community Survey, US Census, SEMCOG

Figure 18. Clawson Age Group Percentages



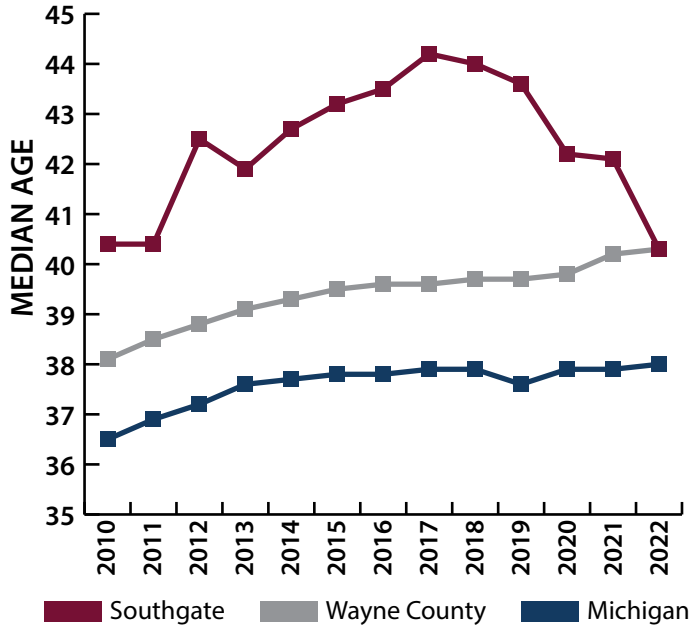
Other indicators confirm the trend towards an older population. The number of households with seniors increased by 30.9% between 2010 and 2022, while the number of households with children dropped by 24.8%. From a recreation standpoint, it is critical to maintain a balance of amenities which appeal to both younger families while addressing the needs older adults.

Table 29. Median Age

Year	Clawson	Oakland County	State of Michigan
2010	39.4	40.2	38.1
2011	40.2	40.6	38.5
2012	40.6	40.7	38.8
2013	40	40.8	39.1
2014	40.4	40.9	39.3
2015	41	41	39.5
2016	39.9	41	39.6
2017	39.6	41	39.6
2018	41.1	41	39.7
2019	40.6	40.9	39.7
2020	42.1	41	39.8
2021	44	41	40.2
2022	41.3	41.1	40.3

Source: American Community Survey

Figure 19. Median Age Comparisons



Housing

According to ACS 2020 estimates, there are 5,819 housing units in the city, an increase of 28 units from 2010. Clawson's housing consist primarily of single-family detached homes (74.2%) with the remaining housing being multi-family residential units (25.3%). Attached units, duplex, and mobile homes account for only 0.5% of available housing.

96% of Clawson's housing units are occupied, with 71% of occupied units owner-occupied and 25% renter-occupied. The percentage of vacant units fell significantly between 2010 and 2021, with just under 4% of units currently unoccupied.

The median housing value in 2022 was $242,200, rebounding from a low of $125,500 in 2014, and surpassing pre-recession values. Gross rent has been relatively constant, increasing at an average rate of 2.2% before a spike of 16.6% in 2022. The median gross rent reaching $1,129 in 2022.

Table 30. Clawson Housing Values & Gross Rent

Year	Median Home Value	Median Gross Rent
2010	$166,000.00	$763.00
2011	$155,400.00	$798.00
2012	$140,900.00	$812.00
2013	$131,200.00	$810.00
2014	$125,500.00	$814.00
2015	$129,900.00	$826.00
2016	$141,900.00	$828.00
2017	$158,000.00	$841.00
2018	$168,500.00	$858.00
2019	$182,300.00	$933.00
2020	$192,900.00	$931.00
2021	$211,200.00	$968.00
2022	$242,200.00	$1,129.00

Source: American Community Survey

Land Use

Categorizing land use change can be challenging as incomplete data, shifting use parameters, and differences in opinion on what constitutes a land use category can all complicate the evaluation process. For purposes of this study, we are using existing land use data as described by Oakland County GIS.

Clawson is effectively completely developed, with only 1% of the total land area remaining vacant. Residential land occupies 59% of the City's total acreage, with single-family detached residential (54.7%) dominating. 48% of housing in the City was built between 1940 and 1959, and 29% between 1960 and 1979. These older homes tend to be smaller than those seen in newer Oakland County communities, laid out in a standard geometric pattern typical of older bedroom communities.

Outside of residential uses, the largest land use category is transportation, communications, and utilities (TCU) and road right-of-ways. Commercial is clustered primarily along 14 Mile Road and Main Street, with smaller groupings along North Rochester and West Maple. Open space and recreation land uses account for less than 3% of the City's land area, totaling 40.8 acres.

There has been relatively little change in land uses between 2015 and 2023. Commercial/office uses and single-family residential increased by 4.6 acres 3.6 acres respectively. Vacant land uses fell by 4.3 acres. The changes represent a fraction of a percent of the total land use area. The majority of remaining vacant area lies along Main Street and 14 Mile. The lack of available land for development highlights the challenge of finding land for recreation development within the city boundaries. Table 31 below and Map 4 on page 74 provide visual representations of current land use conditions.

Transportation

Like most of southeast Michigan's communities, Clawson's transportation network is heavily auto dependent. I-75 lies less than a half mile east of the City, with direct access provided via 14 Mile Road. SMART bus service offers three lines through the City, with additional connections nearby in Royal Oak, Troy, and Madison Heights.

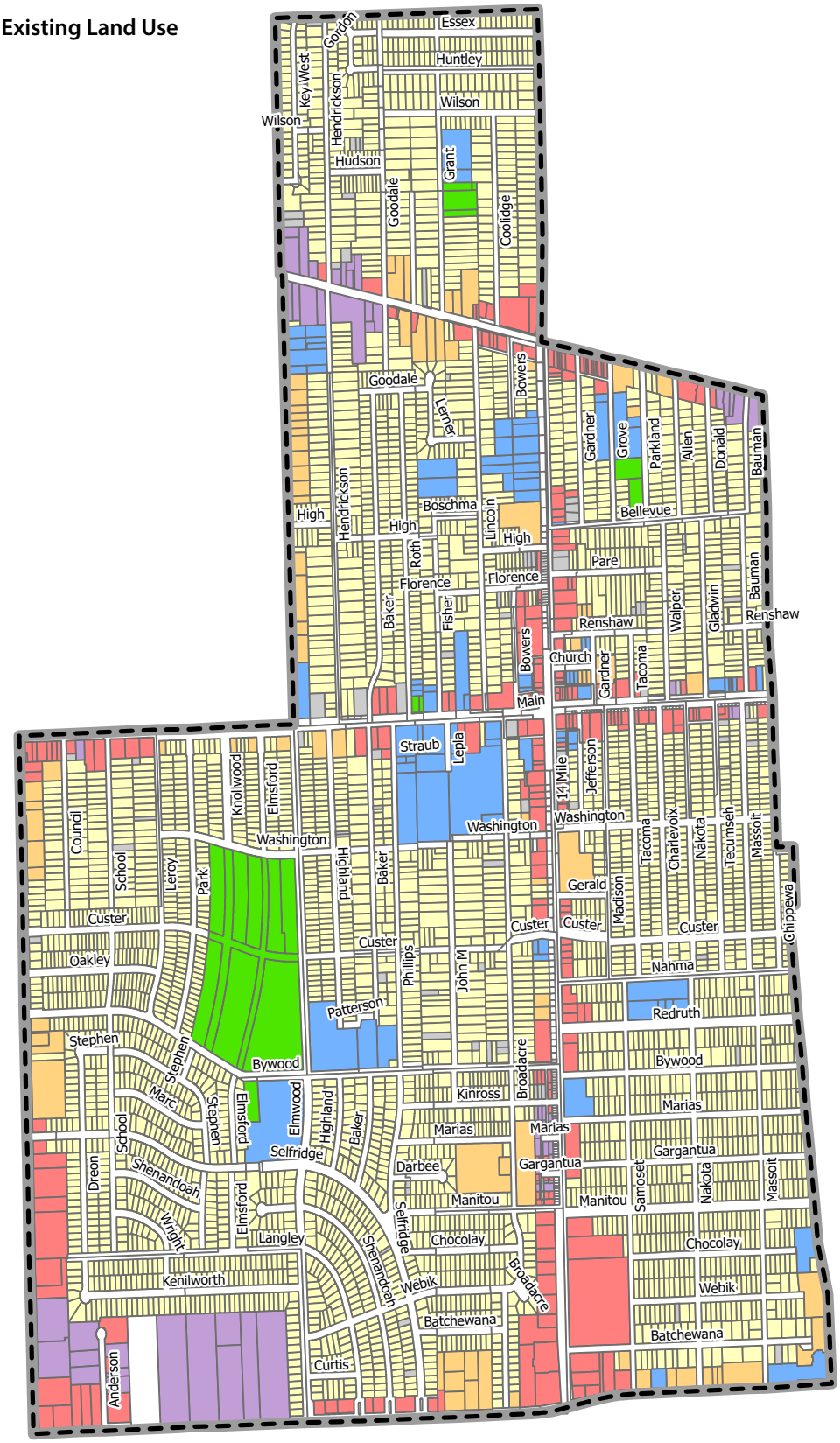
Detroit Metropolitan Airport, located twenty miles southwest of the City, offers direct flights to a number of national and international cities. Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township is a county-owned non-primary commercial service facility. It is the sixth busiest airport in the country without scheduled passenger service.

Table 31. Oakland County Land Use Data

Land Use Category	2015		2023		Difference	
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
Single Family Residential	765.6	54.4%	769.1	54.7%	+3.6	0.3%
Multiple Family Residential	58.8	4.2%	58.7	4.2%	-0.1	0.0%
Commercial/Office	92.0	6.5%	96.6	6.9%	+4.6	0.3%
Industrial	51.9	3.7%	49.3	3.5%	-2.6	-0.2%
Public/Institutional	74.6	5.3%	73.4	5.2%	-1.1	-0.1%
Recreation/Conservation	40.8	2.9%	40.8	2.9%	0.0	0.0%
TCU/Right of Way	305.4	21.7%	305.4	21.7%	0.0	0.0%
Vacant	18.4	1.3%	14.1	1.0%	-4.3	-0.3%
TOTAL	1407.4		1407.4	1		

Source: Oakland County GIS

Map 4. Existing Land Use



Clawson Recreation Facilities

Oakland County, Michigan

Data Source: Oakland County GIS
Prepared September 2024
Carlisle / Wortman Associates, Inc.

Land Use Category

- Single Family Residential
- Multiple Family
- Commercial/Office
- Industrial
- Public/Institutional
- Recreation/Conservation
- TCU/Right of Way
- Vacant

N

0 750 1,500 Feet

Climate & Natural Features

The climate of the region is typical of other Southeastern Michigan Communities. January tends to be the coldest month with average of 26 degrees Fahrenheit, while July tends to be the warmest with an average temperature of 73 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation is approximately 31 inches with the heaviest occurrences during the months of May, June and July. The area's annual snowfall is 42 inches. Snowfall is sporadic, which makes it difficult to sustain outdoor winter activities that require adequate snowfall. Prevailing winds are from the southwest, and tornados, while known to occur occasionally, are not frequent in this area.

Southeast Michigan was heavily influenced by glacial activity that scoured much of the upper Midwest 14,000 years ago. Clawson is relatively flat, especially compared to communities further north in Oakland County where glacial till deposits form rolling hills. 75% of the soil in Clawson is Urban Land-Thetford, which is defined as urban land and nearly level, somewhat poorly drained sandy soils on lake plains and outwash plains. The remaining 25% is Urban Land-Blunt-Lenawee, which is defined as urban land, nearly level and gently undulating, somewhat poorly drained loamy and silt soils, on lake plains and moraines.



Image Source: Clawson Parks & Recreation

Related Planning Initiatives

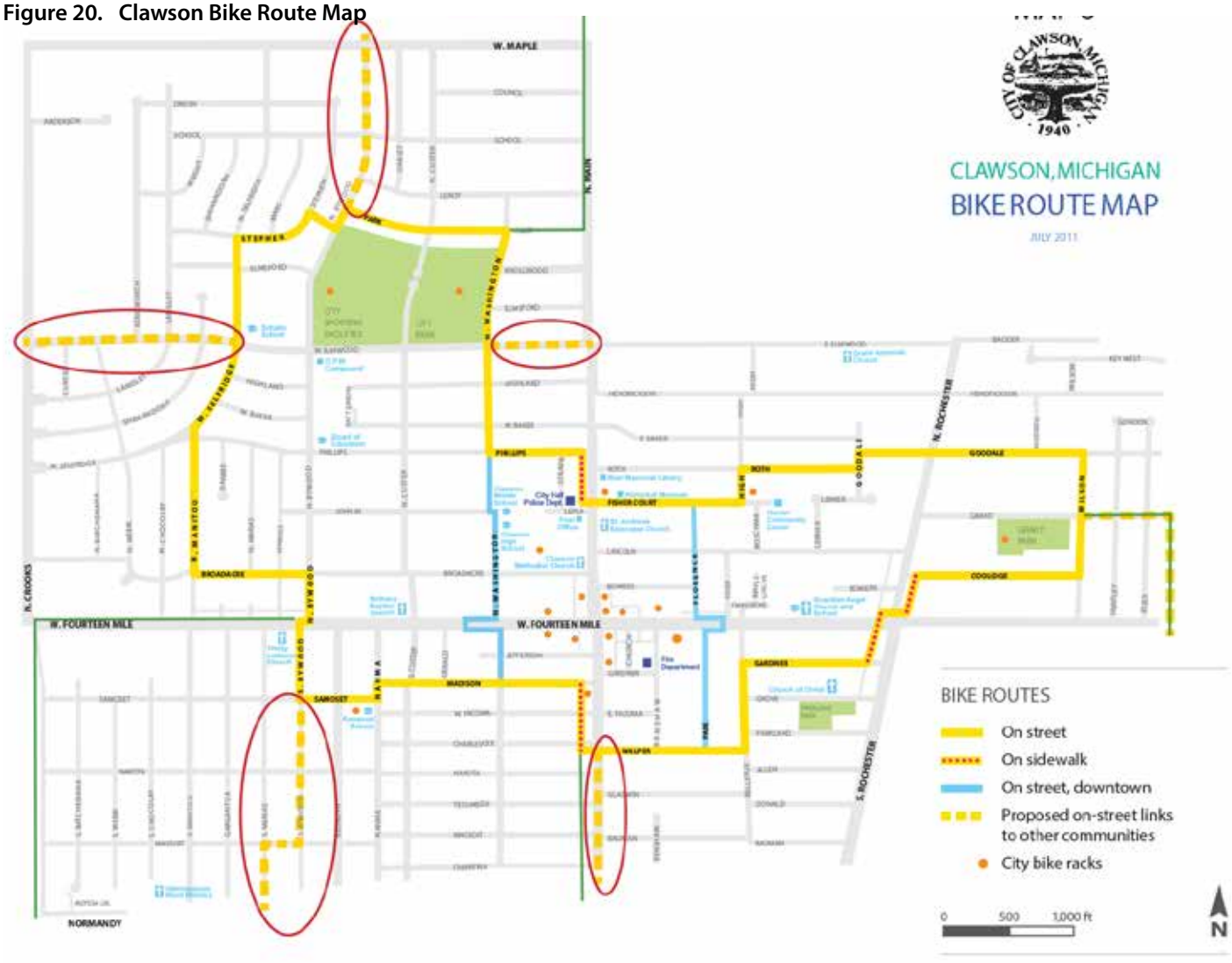
Several significant planning and development efforts have taken place at local levels which have relevance to parks and recreation in Clawson.

Clawson 2017 Master Plan

The 2017 describes a number of elements that are directly related to recreation opportunities within the City. Key concepts include:

- Non-motorized Transportation: The plan highlights a bike route designated by the City with connections to Troy and Royal Oak. Five direct linkages to the surrounding city are indicated, with only limited on-street facilities recommended.
- Complete Street Policy: Complete Streets policy requires all streets to be designed to accommodate all users regardless of their ages and abilities and for all modes of traffic. Clawson City Council adopted a resolution in support of complete streets in 2010.
- The plan suggests that sidewalks be the primary mode for accommodating bicycle traffic, and describes a goal of creating linkages to bike lanes in other communities.
- The plan further describes a goal of developing the Clawson Bike Route throughout the community with appropriate bike wayfinding and pavement markings.
- Input from participants indicated a desire for some form of fieldhouse for indoor recreation opportunities. It recognized that development opportunities are limited unless the City acquired a second lot for cars or the City invested in a public parking structure.

Figure 20. Clawson Bike Route Map



Oakland County 2023 – 2027 Parks Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The 10-member Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission (OCPRC) oversees 17 facilities totaling just over 6,700 acres. Over 200,000 residents visit the parks each year. Oakland County's parks offer a wide variety of recreation opportunities for area residents that are not typically provided at local neighborhood parks, including boating, equestrian facilities, hunting, and more. Catalpa Oaks and Red Oaks County Parks are the two closest facilities to Clawson.

The OCPRC adopted the Plan on January 26, 2023. Some of the key concepts which are directly related to the aforementioned parks include:

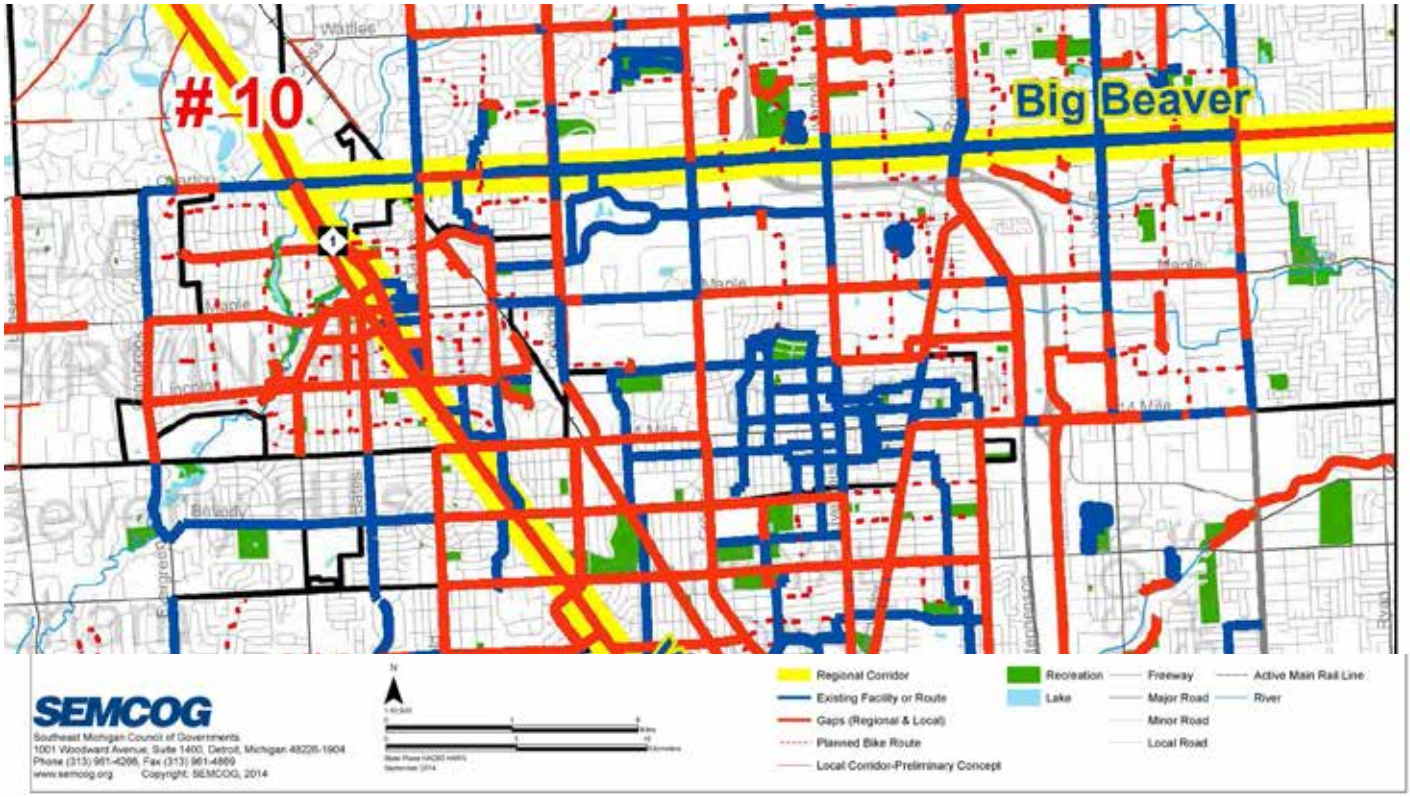
- Catalpa Oaks: Focus investment on increasing opportunities for active outdoor recreation with pickle ball and basketball courts and flexible open spaces. Convert existing baseball fields to other recreational features, e.g., pickle ball, basketball, second pavilion, etc.
- Red Oaks: Continue to implement ADA Transition Plan. Operate within the boundaries of existing property agreements and restrictions. Develop facilities at the new Ambassador Park addition, including potential move of dog park to this area. Potential redevelopment of the golf course to reduce water usage and help meet environmental sustainability goals.

SEMCOG 2045 Regional Transportation Plan / 2014 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for SE Michigan

The 2045 Regional Transportation Plan provides broad transportation recommendations for projects across the seven-county region, with a budget of over $5 billion proposed for transportation infrastructure improvements. While this plan focuses on motorized infrastructure, it does provide a chance to look at upcoming projects and plan accordingly for other related infrastructure improvements. Generally speaking, road infrastructure improvements represent opportunities for adding to bicycle networks and implementing complete street programs.

The 2014 SEMCOG plan is a joint effort between Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The plan provides recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian facilities across 10 regions and incorporating 60 different action items. SEMCOG's larger regional focus places more emphasis on existing non-motorized transportation options, and details several larger trail efforts that overlap efforts in the DLGI plan.

Plans for Clawson are limited in nature. Existing routes are shown throughout the city, but with no clear definition of how they are provided. More important are the potential regional corridors shown along Woodward and Big Beaver. Both have been described as priority corridors in other planning efforts.



Royal Oak 2011 Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, Troy 2009 Trails & Pathways Master Plan

The Royal Oak and Troy non-motorized transportation plans lay a framework for a regional with multiple connections leading into/out of Clawson. Both documents are over a decade old, and significant changes in the communities have lead to adjustments to the recommendations of the plans. They do, however, show a desire for interconnectivity between the various municipalities, and could be used as a starting part for future intergovernmental conversations regarding non-motorized transportation planning.

Major Trail Planning Efforts

The State of Michigan and Oakland County in particular has seen a boom in non-motorized projects in recent years. The projects are often interconnected, and development of one segment can have a significant impact on existing and planned developments in other communities.

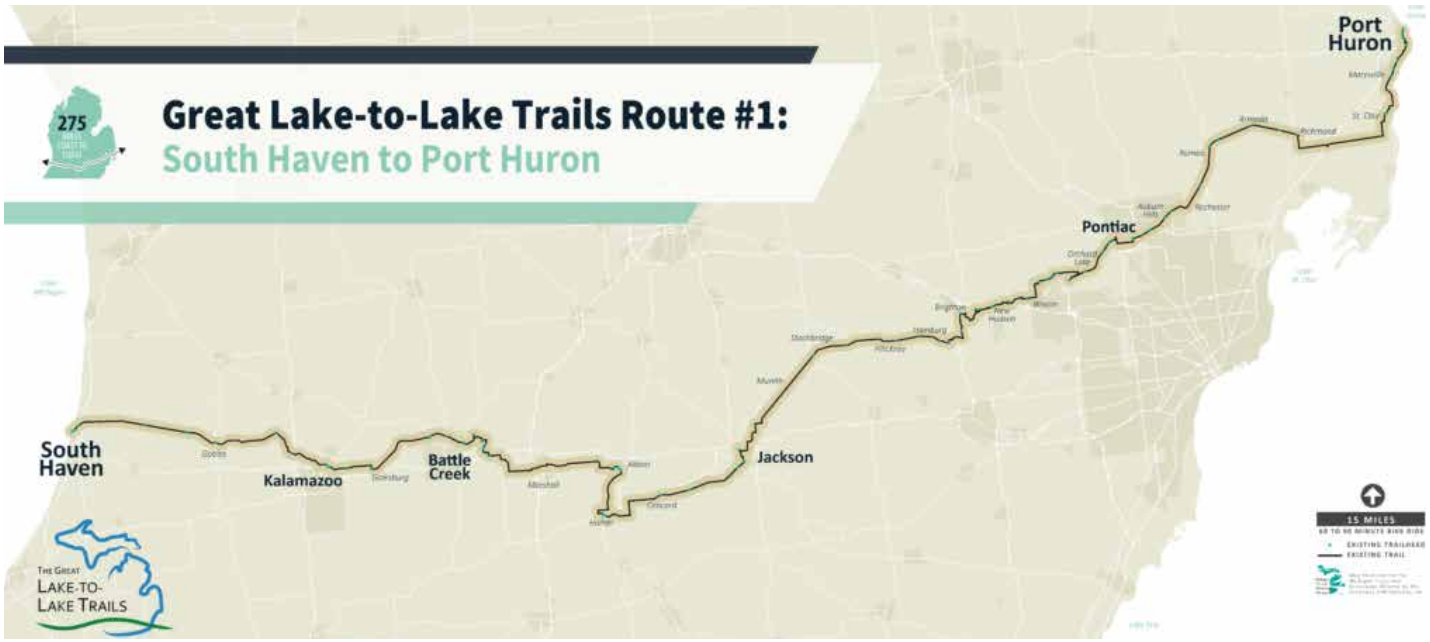
The ***Great Lake to Lake Trails-Route 1***, a 275-mile system which stretches from Port Huron to South Haven, runs through northern Oakland County, utilizing other trail systems including the ***Paint Creek Trail (PCT)*** to form its a portion of its alignment. The PCT continues south to the City of Rochester where it intersects the ***Clinton River Trail***, a 16-mile long route running from Keego Harbor in the west to Rochester in the east. The trail is somewhat unique as it frequently parallels the ***Clinton River Bluewater Trail***, a 72-mile long water trail running from Maceday Lake in Waterford Township to Lake St. Clair in Harrison Township.

The surface trail connects with several other major trails and pathways, including the ***Macomb Orchard Trail*** in Rochester, the ***Shelby Township Trail***, the ***West Bloomfield Trail***, and the ***Michigan Air Line Trail***. This network of interconnected routes combines, along with other alignments, to form the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail. The success of this route has lead to planning for four additional routes running from Muskegon to Bay City, Charlevoix to Alpena, Manistique to Marquette, and Escanaba to the Porcupine Mountains.

The most comprehensive system in the state, however, is the ***Iron Belle Trail (IBT***), a 2,000+ mile network stretching from Belle Isle in Detroit to Iron Mountain in the far western Upper Peninsula. The IBT includes a 1,273 mile long hiking route which winds along the west side of the Lower Peninsula and borders Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula, and a 791 mile long biking trail on the east side of the state and following US-2 in the Upper Peninsula. Since 2012, over $68 million in grant and local funds and $155 million in private donations have been collected to complete the trail. The Paint Creek and Polly Ann Trails are key segments of this larger system.

Finally, the IBT is, in turn, part of the larger ***North Country National Scenic Trail*** which travels from eastern New York to central North Dakota. The trail passes through seven states along the way, with the longest stretch found in Michigan. At approximately 4,600 miles, it is the longest of the eleven National Scenic Trails.. The success of this route has led to planning for four additional routes running from Muskegon to Bay City, Charlevoix to Alpena, Manistique to Marquette, and Escanaba to the Porcupine Mountains.

Figure 21. Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Route 1



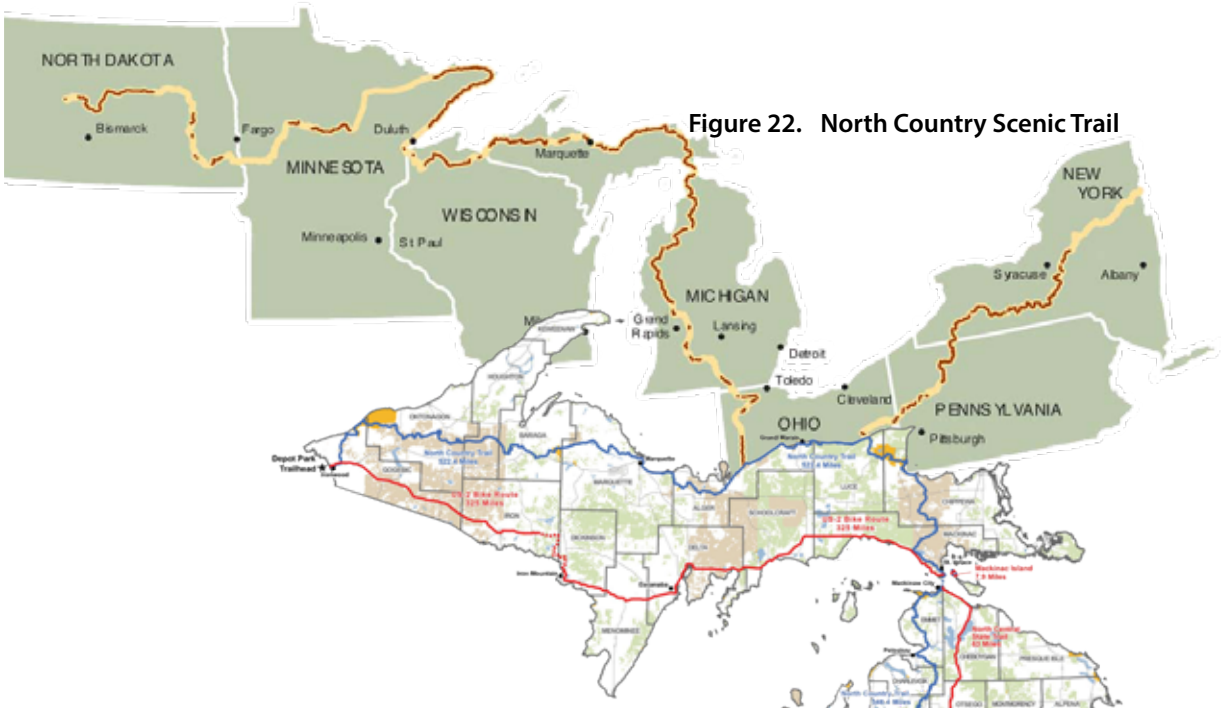
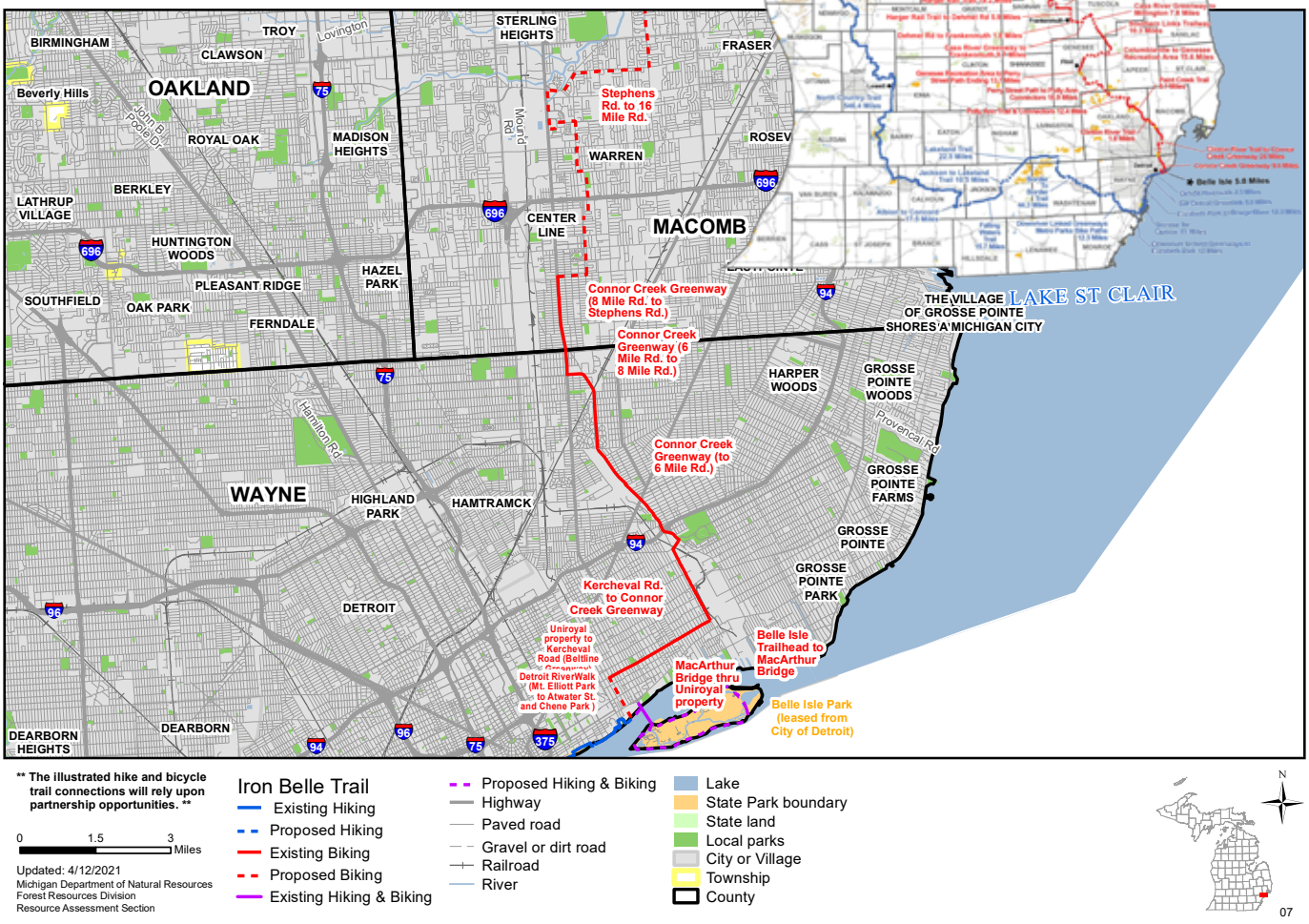


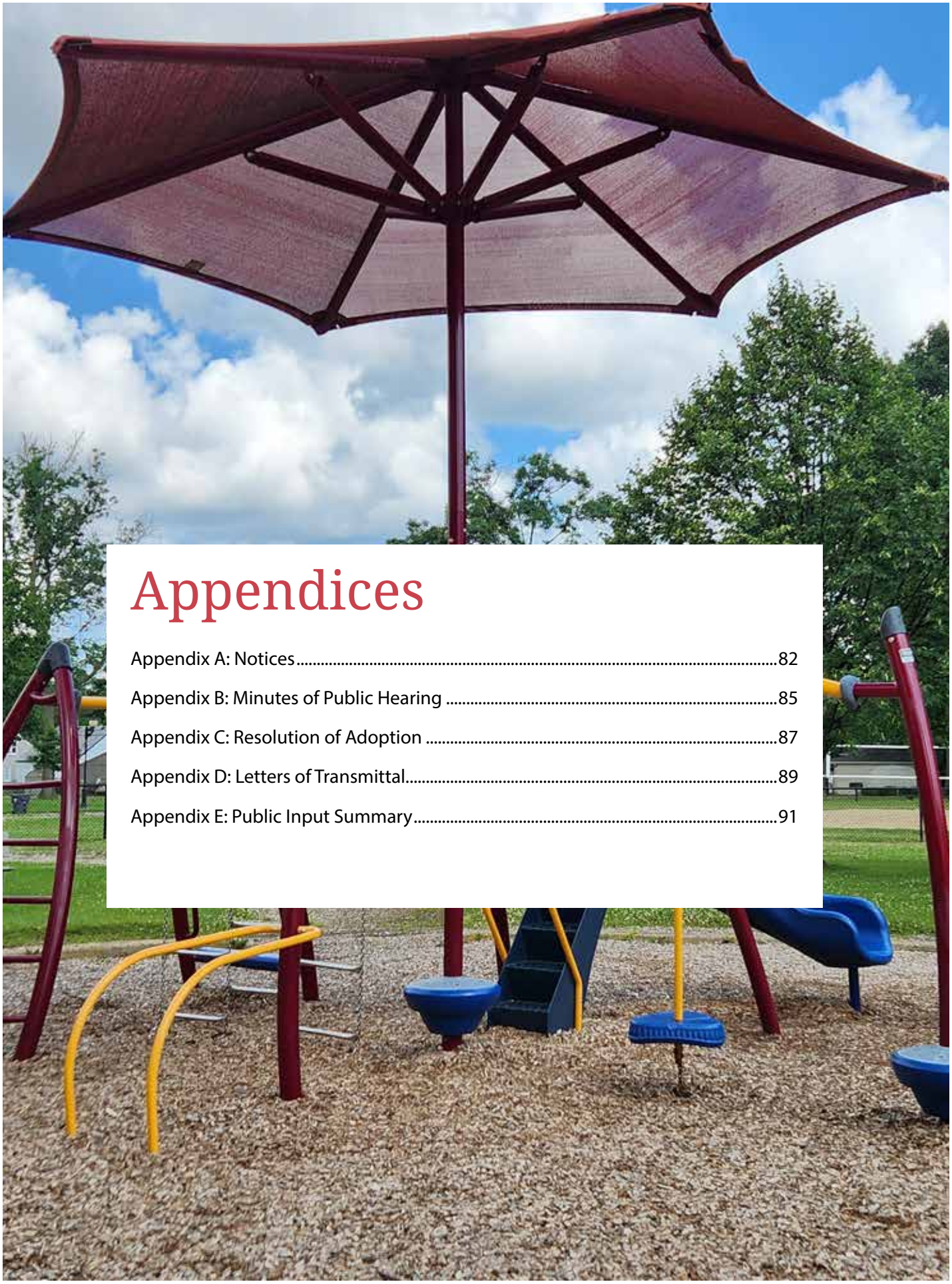
Figure 22. North Country Scenic Trail

Figure 23. Iron Belle Trail



Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

This page intentionally left blank



Appendices

Appendix A: Notices 82

Appendix B: Minutes of Public Hearing 85

Appendix C: Resolution of Adoption 87

Appendix D: Letters of Transmittal 89

Appendix E: Public Input Summary 91

Appendix A: Public Notices

RECEIPT 10/22/24

MediaNews Group

MICHIGAN GROUP

Account:	**532171**
Name:	**CITY CLERK**
Company:	**CITY OF CLAWSON**
Address:	**425 N MAIN ST** **CLAWSON, MI 48017**
Telephone:	**(248) 435-4500**
Fax:	**(000) 000-0000**
Description:	**CITY OF CLAWSON CLAWSON 2025-2029 PA**

Date:	**10/22/24**
Start Date:	**10/24/24** Stop Date: **10/24/24**
Class:	**1201 - Legal Notices**
Ad ID:	**2655558**
Ad Taker:	**CRCSTIMMEL**
Sales Person:	**Celeste Stimmel (200309)**
Words:	**168**
Lines:	**30**
Agate Lines:	**64**
Depth:	**3.5**
Inserts:	**3**
Blind Box:	
PO Number:	

Ad sample

CITY OF CLAWSON
CLAWSON 2025-2029 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN
NOTICE OF PLAN AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW

The City of Clawson Parks and Recreation is seeking public input regarding the Clawson 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires a minimum 30-day public review process as part of the master planning process. A formal public hearing for adoption of the Plan will be held upon completion of the 30-day review period.

A hard copy of the draft master plan is available for review at the following locations:

- Hunter Community Center, 509 Fisher Court, Clawson, MI
- Clawson City Hall, 425 N Main Street, Clawson, MI
- The draft plan is also available online on the City's website at www.cityofclawson.com, or can be directly accessed at https://www.calameo.com/read/005107673216268 6b03bf
- For questions or comments, please call Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services, at (248) 589-0334 or via email at sjennex@cityofclawson.com.

G. Machele Kukuk, City Clerk
City of Clawson

Published: Royal Oak Daily Tribune

Total:	**$140.80**
Paid Amount:	**$0.00**
Amount Due:	**$140.80**

Publication

Royal Oak Tribune, Oakland Press, theoaklandpress.com

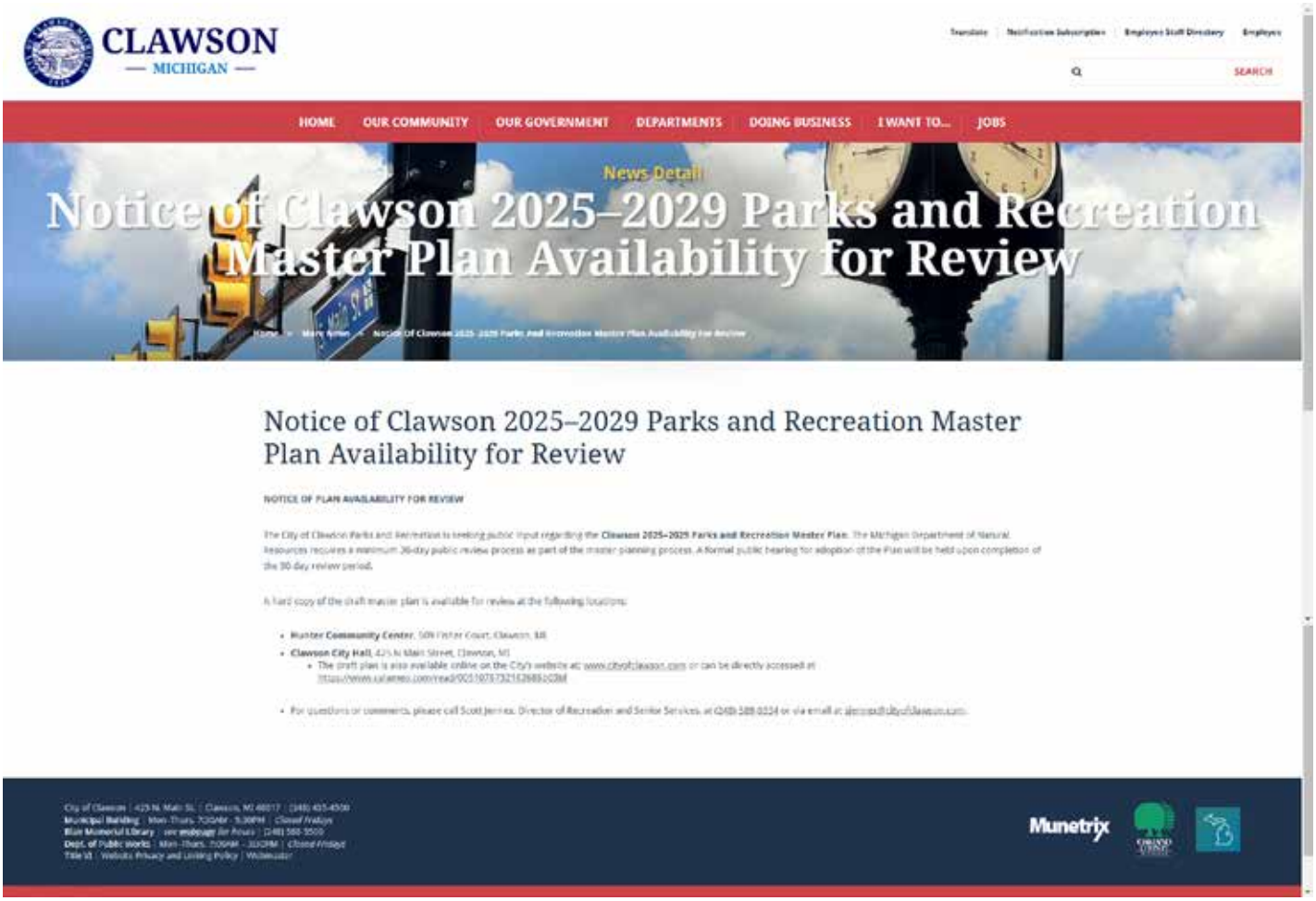
We Appreciate Your Business!
Thank You CITY CLERK!

CONTACT US:

Macomb Daily:	**(866) 288-2989**	Daily Tribune:	**(866) 288-2989**	Oakland Press:	**(877) 271-1272**
Heritage:	**(877) 332-1898**	Morning Star:	**(877) 483-3450**	Voice:	**(877) 463-9893**

Oct 10, 2024

Notice of Clawson 2025–2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Availability for Review



MediaNews Group

MICHIGAN GROUP

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

2125 Butterfield Dr, Suite 102N • Troy MI 48084

CITY OF CLAWSON
425 N MAIN ST

CLAWSON, MI 48017
Attention: Machele Kukuk

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

The undersigned Cyndy Slater Cyndy Slater, being duly sworn the he/she is the principal clerk of Royal Oak Tribune, Oakland Press, theoaklandpress.com, published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character, which are duly qualified newspapers, and the annexed hereto is a copy of certain order, notice, publication or advertisement of:

CITY OF CLAWSON

Published in the following edition(s):

Oakland Press	11/15/24
theoaklandpress.com	11/15/24
Royal Oak Tribune	11/15/24

VICKI ARSENAULT
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
My Commission Expires May 11, 2026
Acting in the County of _____

CITY OF CLAWSON
CLAWSON 2025-2029 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Clawson Parks and Recreation is seeking public input regarding the Clawson 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The hearing will take place as part of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. on December 3, at City Hall, 425 North Main Street, Clawson, Michigan.

A draft copy of the plan has been available for review since October 25 and will remain available through the date of the hearing. The plan can be viewed at the following locations:

- Hunter Community Center, 509 Fisher Court, Clawson, MI
- Clawson City Hall, 425 N Main Street, Clawson, MI
- The draft plan is also available online on the City's website at www.cityofclawson.com, or can be directly accessed at https://www.calameo.com/read/005107673216286b03bf.
- For questions or comments, please call Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services, at (248) 589-0334 or via email at sjennex@cityofclawson.com.

G. Machele Kukuk, City Clerk
City of Clawson

Published: Royal Oak Daily Tribune
Friday, November 15, 2024

Sworn to the subscribed before me this 19 Nov, 2024.

Vicki Arsenault

Notary Public, State of Michigan
Acting in Oakland County

Advertisement Information

Client Id: 532171 **Ad Id:** 2655562 **PO:** **Sales Person:** 200309

Appendix B: Minutes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 **7:30 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the council of the City of Clawson, held in the Municipal Building, 425 N. Main Street, was called to order by Mayor Paula Millan at 7:30 p.m.

The words of wisdom were given by Councilmember Anderson.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmember Anderson, Councilmember Binkowski, Mayor Millan, Mayor Pro Tem Moffitt, Councilmember Shepard

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Joseph Rheker, Assistant City Manager Nik Stepnitz, City Clerk Machele Kukuk, Director Parks & Recreation/Senior Services Scott Jennex, Assistant Director Parks & Recreation/Senior Services Lisa Ball

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

CM 12-222-24 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE AGENDA

MOTION BY: Councilmember Shepard
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

RESOLVED, the Agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

PUBLIC COMMENTS – ITEMS ON AGENDA

Char Larson, Clawson Chamber of Commerce, spoke in favor of the "Clawson Flats" 150 N. Main – Planned Unit Development.

Mary Liz Curtin, Leon & Lulu/Three Cats, spoke regarding the PUD at 150 N. Main – stated that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) voted unanimously voted in favor of this project.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

PROCLAMATIONS | PRESENTATIONS

There were no Proclamations | Presentations.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

CM 12-223-24 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY: Councilmember Shepard
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

RESOLVED, the Consent Agenda be approved as amended.

A. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, as amended.
B. List of Bills in the amount of $1,204,279.98.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CM 12-224-24 CONSIDERATION OF THE CORRECTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024

MOTION BY: Councilmember Binkowski
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Shepard

RESOLVED, the Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, be amended to correct the roll call vote on Item 9.E., be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.A.

CM 12-225-24 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE 2025-2029 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE CITY OF CLAWSON

MOTION BY: Councilmember Shepard
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

RESOLVED, the 2025-2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan for the City of Clawson, be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Scott Jennex, Director Parks & Recreation/Senior Services, gave the presentation on the proposed 2025-2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

Mayor Millan declared the Public Hearing open at 7:50 p.m.

No on present wishing to speak.

Mayor Millan declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:50 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9.B.

ORIGINAL MOTION

CONSIDERATION OF THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT FOR 150 N. MAIN ST. AND 36 LINCOLN

MOTION BY: Councilmember Binkowski
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

The original motion was amended after considerable discussion with the applicant and city council.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

CM 12-226-24 CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING THE ORIGINAL MOTION TO POSTPONE THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT FOR 150 N. MAIN ST. AND 36 LINCOLN FOR NO GREATER THAN 90 DAYS

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro Tem Moffitt
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

RESOLVED, the proposed Planned Unit Development for 150 N. Main and 36 Lincoln as approved by the Planning Commission subject to the preparation of a Planned Unit Development Agreement, be postponed for no greater than 90 days, be approved.

AYES: Mayor Pro-Tem Moffitt, Councilmember Shepard, Councilmember Anderson, Mayor Millan
NAYS: Councilmember Binkowski
ABSENT: None
ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

OLD | UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Old | Unfinished Business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Char Larson, Clawson Chamber of Commerce, complimented the staff that all come together to get things done when needed.

Joe Tangari, Giffels Webster Planner, traffic problems on Lincoln Ave – on the radar for traffic calming – strategies on addressing these issues.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk Machele Kukuk gave the following update:

- Class "C" Liquor License renewals update

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Renis Nushaj gave the following report:

- Status on the Pizza Hut property – potential resolution coming – will be brought before the city council at a later date
- Cannabis establishments litigation- In process with a decision expected on December 4th @ 10:15 a.m. – Writ of Mandamus (prevent the charter from taking effect)

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Joseph Rheker gave the following report:

- Meeting with Finance Director Mark Pollock and PFM to discuss the Infrastructure Improvement Bond Sale (forecasting for late winter or early spring) to review a rough timeline - Pending the CCTV Sewer Results/Cleaning – the plan is to begin on Elmwood (Selfridge to Crooks)
- CCTV should begin next week

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (Continued)

- Focus on Infrastructure website improvements
- Reminded residents of DPW deadlines:
  1. Leaf Pickup December 5th
  2. Yard Waster Pickup December 11th.
- Goodfellow paper sale will be on Saturday, December 7th 9:00am – 2:00pm

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro Tem Moffitt
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Shepard

RESOLVED, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Paula Millan, Mayor

G. Machele Kukuk, City Clerk

Appendix C: Resolution of Adoption

City of Clawson
425 North Main Street / Clawson, Michigan 48017
(248) 435-4500 FAX (248) 435-0515

CITY OF CLAWSON
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE
2025 – 2029 CLAWSON PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

DECEMBER 3, 2024

WHEREAS, the Clawson Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2025 to 2029; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board began the process of developing a Parks & Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation opportunities for the City of Clawson; and

WHEREAS, residents of Clawson were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 3, 2025, at Clawson City Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the Clawson to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the 2025 – 2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Clawson City Council voted to adopt said 2025 – 2029 Clawson Parks & Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the plan serves as a guideline for park land, open space, and recreation planning by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the plan also serves as a planning tool for other Clawson boards and commissions, such as the Planning Commission and City Council; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a five-year plan is mandated by the Department of Natural Resources for eligibility for DNR-administered grants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clawson City Council hereby adopts the Clawson Parks & Recreation Master Plan for the years 2025 – 2029.

CITY OF CLAWSON

425 N. MAIN STREET | CLAWSON, MICHIGAN 48017
PHONE: 248.435.4500 | FAX: 248.435.0515
WWW.CITYOFCLAWSON.COM

CM 12-225-24 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE 2025-2029 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE CITY OF CLAWSON

MOTION BY: Councilmember Shepard
SUPPORTED BY: Councilmember Anderson

RESOLVED, the 2025-2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan for the City of Clawson, be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION MADE, PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL HELD AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 425 N. MAIN STREET, CLAWSON, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 AT 7:30 P.M.

G. Machele Kukuk

G. Machele Kukuk
Clawson City Clerk

POLICE & FIRE
248.524.3477
FAX: 248.435.4847

PUBLIC WORKS
248.288.3222
FAX: 248.288.3973

RECREATION
248.589.0334

LIBRARY
248.588.5500
FAX: 248.588.3114

Appendix D: Letters of Transmittal

Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.
117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

January 7, 2025

Kristen Wiltfang
Administrator Trails, Transportation & Environment
Planning and Local Business Development Division
Economic Development Department
Oakland County, Michigan
2100 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328

Dear Ms. Wiltfang:

The Clawson City Council adopted the City's 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on December 3, 2024. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Council and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Please feel free to contact the Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services, or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA
Landscape Architect

cc. Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Executive Vice President* John L. Enos, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal*
Laura K. Kreps, *Associate* Paul Montagno, *Associate*

Carlisle | Wortman
ASSOCIATES, INC.
117 NORTH FIRST STREET SUITE 70 ANN ARBOR, MI 48104 734.662.2200 734.662.1935 FAX

January 7, 2025

Regional Review Office
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400
Detroit, Michigan 48226
infocenter@semcog.org

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clawson City Council adopted the City's 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at a meeting held on December 3, 2024. The plan has been uploaded to the MDNR website for their review and approval. The plan will be subject to future review and updates as deemed necessary by the Council and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Please feel free to contact the Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services, or myself if you have any comments regarding this plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.
Chris Nordstrom, PLA, ASLA
Landscape Architect

cc. Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services

Richard K. Carlisle, *President* Douglas J. Lewan, *Executive Vice President* John L. Enos, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Benjamin R. Carlisle, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Principal*
Laura K. Kreps, *Associate* Paul Montagno, *Associate*

Appendix E: Public Input Summary

City of Clawson Community Survey Results

The City of Clawson made an online survey available to residents from June 27 to August 9, 2024, as part of an outreach program for the recreation plan update. The survey was advertised on the City's website, via flyers at strategic locations around the city, and on social media. 361 unique responses were received.

The survey responses were analyzed to determine if entries were human generated, i.e. not bots. Several duplicate IP addresses were found, although all appeared to be the result of two or three people from one household entering their opinions. One other instance was the result of Parks Staff entering data from hard copy entries. Based on our analysis, there are no concerns about "ballot stuffing".

The following pages provide a summary of the results. For open-ended questions, responses are provided verbatim; no edits have been made for grammar or spelling errors except to redact identifying answers as necessary. The top result for each question is highlighted in yellow.

1. Are you a Clawson resident?

	Number	Percent
Yes, I live in the city	339	93.9%
No, but I operate a business in Clawson	2	0.6%
No, but I use Clawson parks or have another interest in the city	20	5.5%
Total Responses	361	

2. Where do you currently reside?

QUESTION 2 RESPONSES

- 14 mile/Rochester rd. Ro
- Ferndale
- Madison Heights
- Mount Clemens
- Rochester Hills
- Royal Oak (8 responses)
- Troy (5 responses)
- Troy, just east of Clawson. I also own a house in Clawson although I do not currently live there.
- Warren (2 responses)
- Did not answer

Note: This question was only provided to participants who answered "No" in Question 1.

3. Including yourself, which age groups describe your household members? Choose all that apply.

Category	Number	Percent
Under 5 years	58	16.0%
5 to 9 years	58	16.0%
10 to 14 years	73	20.2%
15 to 19 years	46	12.7%
20 to 24 years	15	4.1%
25 to 44 years	198	54.7%
45 to 54 years	67	18.5%
55 to 64 years	57	15.8%
65 to 74 years	56	15.5%
75 years and up	26	7.2%
Total Unique Responses	362	
Total Responses	654	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

4. Which of the following categories best describe your household? (Choose all that apply)

Category	Number	Percent
With seniors (65+)	51	14.1%
Without seniors (65+)	115	31.9%
Senior citizen (65+) living alone	32	8.9%
Live alone, under the age of 65	37	10.3%
2 persons or more, with children 13 to 18 years	68	18.8%
2 persons ore more, with children under 13 years	126	34.9%
2 persons or more, no children in the household	82	22.7%
Total Unique Responses	361	
Total Responses	511	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

5. What is your gender?

Category	Number	Percent
Male	84	23.2%
Female	265	73.2%
Non-binary / third gender	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	13	3.6%
Total Responses	362	0.6%
Total Responses	179	

6. Please describe your current living situation.

Category	Number	Percent
Single family home	347	95.9%
Apartment	5	1.4%
Manufactured / mobile home	0	0.0%
Attached condominium / duplex	8	2.2%
Other (Please specify)	2	0.6%
Total Responses	362	0.0%

7. How important are the following items to you and your family?

Community	Very important		Important		Somewhat unimportant		Not important at all		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Maintaining existing parks and recreation facilities	301	83.4%	55	15.2%	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	361
Adding new, updated park features and amenities to existing parks	187	52.1%	126	35.1%	37	10.3%	9	2.5%	359
Acquiring and developing new parks and recreation facilities	114	32.0%	103	28.9%	98	27.5%	41	11.5%	356
Ensuring that parks are safe and accessible for people of all abilities	242	67.6%	89	24.9%	22	6.2%	5	1.4%	358
Developing pocket parks in/near downtown	55	15.4%	114	31.9%	123	34.5%	65	18.2%	357
Access to active-use facilities (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, tennis, etc.)	154	43.6%	134	38.0%	50	14.2%	15	4.3%	353
Access to passive, natural areas	132	36.9%	163	45.5%	49	13.7%	14	3.9%	358
Access to pavilions for gatherings/picnics	70	19.7%	168	47.2%	101	28.4%	17	4.8%	356
Access to paths and trails	146	41.1%	169	47.6%	32	9.0%	8	2.3%	355
Access to recreation programming (e.g. special events, classes, sports leagues, etc.)	144	40.2%	140	39.1%	59	16.5%	15	4.2%	358

8. Does Clawson have too many, too few, or the right amount of parks?

Category	Number	Percent
Far too many	2	0.6%
Too many	5	1.4%
The right amount	240	66.3%
Too few	99	27.4%
Far too few	16	4.4%
Total Responses	362	

9. In the past 12 months, how many times have you visited Clawson's recreation facilities?

Community	12 or more		6 to 11 times		1 to 5 times		0 - have not visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	204	56.7%	68	18.9%	75	20.8%	13	3.6%	360
Grant Park	33	9.3%	18	5.1%	85	24.1%	217	61.5%	353
Hunter Community Center	49	13.8%	27	7.6%	119	33.5%	160	45.1%	355
Hunter Park	28	7.9%	23	6.5%	92	26.1%	210	59.5%	353
Memorial Park	12	3.4%	25	7.1%	103	29.4%	210	60.0%	350
Parkland Park	13	3.7%	13	3.7%	80	22.9%	244	69.7%	350
Rotary Park	7	2.0%	11	3.1%	67	19.1%	266	75.8%	351
Responses - Park Visitors Only ("Haven't Visited" responses removed)									
Community	12 or more		6 to 11 times		1 to 5 times		0 - have not visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	204	58.8%	68	19.6%	75	21.6%			347
Grant Park	33	24.3%	18	13.2%	85	62.5%			136
Hunter Community Center	49	25.1%	27	13.8%	119	61.0%			195
Hunter Park	28	19.6%	23	16.1%	92	64.3%			143
Memorial Park	12	8.6%	25	17.9%	103	73.6%			140
Parkland Park	13	12.3%	13	12.3%	80	75.5%			106
Rotary Park	7	8.2%	11	12.9%	67	78.8%			85

10. How satisfied are you with existing Clawson parks & recreation facilities?

Community	Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Somewhat unsatisfied		Not satisfied at all		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	140	39.4%	160	45.1%	34	9.6%	13	3.7%	8	2.3%	355
Grant Park	24	7.1%	86	25.6%	34	10.1%	11	3.3%	181	53.9%	336
Hunter Community Center	32	9.2%	100	28.6%	52	14.9%	34	9.7%	131	37.5%	349
Hunter Park	14	4.2%	79	23.8%	44	13.3%	17	5.1%	178	53.6%	332
Memorial Park	38	11.3%	81	24.1%	26	7.7%	3	0.9%	188	56.0%	336
Parkland Park	17	5.0%	61	18.0%	38	11.2%	10	3.0%	213	62.8%	339
Rotary Park	23	6.8%	48	14.3%	28	8.3%	6	1.8%	231	68.8%	336
Responses - Park Visitors Only ("Haven't Visited" responses removed)											
Community	Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Somewhat unsatisfied		Not satisfied at all		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	140	40.3%	160	46.1%	34	9.8%	13	3.7%			347
Grant Park	24	15.5%	86	55.5%	34	21.9%	11	7.1%			155
Hunter Community Center	32	14.7%	100	45.9%	52	23.9%	34	15.6%			218
Hunter Park	14	9.1%	79	51.3%	44	28.6%	17	11.0%			154
Memorial Park	38	25.7%	81	54.7%	26	17.6%	3	2.0%			148
Parkland Park	17	13.5%	61	48.4%	38	30.2%	10	7.9%			126
Rotary Park	23	21.9%	48	45.7%	28	26.7%	6	5.7%			105

11. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of Clawson's parks?

Community	Excellent		Fair		Poor		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	171	48.7%	156	44.4%	18	5.1%	6	1.7%	351
Grant Park	24	7.4%	99	30.6%	24	7.4%	177	54.6%	324
Hunter Community Center	29	8.6%	113	33.5%	68	20.2%	127	37.7%	337
Hunter Park	16	4.9%	99	30.4%	41	12.6%	170	52.1%	326
Memorial Park	60	18.5%	67	20.6%	13	4.0%	185	56.9%	325
Parkland Park	19	5.8%	83	25.3%	24	7.3%	202	61.6%	328
Rotary Park	35	10.7%	56	17.2%	13	4.0%	222	68.1%	326
Responses - Park Visitors Only ("Haven't Visited" responses removed)									
Community	Excellent		Fair		Poor		Don't know/ Haven't visited		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
City Park	171	49.6%	156	45.2%	18	5.2%			345
Grant Park	24	16.3%	99	67.3%	24	16.3%			147
Hunter Community Center	29	13.8%	113	53.8%	68	32.4%			210
Hunter Park	16	10.3%	99	63.5%	41	26.3%			156
Memorial Park	60	42.9%	67	47.9%	13	9.3%			140
Parkland Park	19	15.1%	83	65.9%	24	19.0%			126
Rotary Park	35	33.7%	56	53.8%	13	12.5%			104

12. Do Clawson's recreation facilities meet your household's recreation needs?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes, completely	50	13.9%
Yes, adequately	218	60.7%
Does not meet our needs very well	83	23.1%
Does not meet our needs at all	8	2.2%
Total Responses	359	

13. What can Clawson do to better meet your recreation needs?

- A city pool for swimming lessons. Better playground climbing equipment/rubberized ground. When there are special events in the park, the large play structure is too overcrowded. There needs to be a play structure for 3-5 year olds. The wood chip path needs to go. Pave it for bikers to use also.
- A community pool and ice rink would be AMAZING
- A community pool that offered lessons to residents would be fantastic. More youth activities offered is needed. I never see anything for youth being promoted outside of football and cheerleading.
- A dog park that would hopefully let those owners who let their dogs run off leash have a space to do that. One reason I don't like to walk park is those off leash "he's friendly" encounters. I would feel more comfortable.
- A DOG PARK WOULD BE BENIFICAL
- A larger variety of options, more trails, green space, tennis, volleyball, the existing parks seem to be a soccer field and a large play structure
- A lot has been done to Grant Park, but I still get an unfinished vibe. The edges and the back right corner seem neglected. Still has some older and dangerous mini-bleachers.
- A lot of deserved and dying trees in the park. Would be nice to have a arborist review the issue to correct it. Drainage would be nice in the park. Create a dog park would be nice. Has been a lot of rain and a lot of puddles in the grass for days creating a lot to f mosquitoes

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- A path around Grant Park wounn on d be a great addition. Also new fencing and pavement for the tennis courts at Grant park are needed.
- A pool. More pickleball courts. More paths. More baseball fields
- A public pool with lap swimming
- A public swimming pool would allow us to stay in the city instead of having to use other cities facilities.
- A splash pad.
- Add a community pool. Updated play structures, maintained landscaping
- Add a dog park and basketball courts to the cut park.
- Add a indoor volleyball facility. Often have to travel 30-40 min to other township to play indoor throughout the year. There is a large quantity of volleyball players that travel to troy / clawson area to play at overpriced, underequipped private facility.
- Add a sandbox to the tot lot , cover the large bolts under the Dino bounce. Make the large climbing structure more enclosed and secure. I'm always concerned my child will back up and fall from the openings. Or get pushed off by other kids
- Add a splash pad or better community center with pool for the community. Add it where calm is being knocked down. Offer a better work out facility for families in the area. And add a reusable water bottle dispenser at the park for families.
- Add an updated community center with a pool that's open all year round.
- Add baseball fields and basketball courts. The usage calendars for Clawson Park turf field should be public and outside teams who use it should pay for it we could make significant improvements with money from Troy Nationals
- Add bike lanes, more green cover along streets
- Add more baseball / softball diamonds!! More basketball courts.
- Add more classes at Hunter for exercise !
- Add more drinking fountains, that work (one downtown doesn't even work).
- Add more things for seniors
- Add more use to the park, example basketball courts
- Add new updated playground equipment with soft area. Area for children of all ages to cool off in the summer.
- Add pickle ball courts to Grant street park
- Add pickleball courts; dedicated bike trails/path
- Add pool or splash pad, update parks, add courts for basketball/pickleball
- Addition of dog park
- All of the parks have broken equipment.. the wood chips are all at an unsafe level and everything is insanely outdated. How do we pay the more taxes than any community surrounding us yet I have to go to those communities for a good park. My family goes to the park 2 plus times a weekend
- Allow bathing suits at volleyball court
- Already great!
- always like well-maintained basketball and tennis courts; also like Clawson not trying to do "too much"; seems like keep a good balance between services and not an overly expansive government
- Another tennis court at City Park, and lights for the tennis courts and volleyball courts.
- Auburn Hills holds concerts in the park on Fridays - well attended by community
- Basketball
- Basketball and baseball/softball fields
- Basketball court
- Bathroom at Parkland Park, update playgrounds at all parks, more walking trails, more pavilions
- Better access to city park. The wood chips are not great for strollers. Newer play structures.
- Better bathroom facility near the fields in Cory oark
- Better lighting for all of Clawson's sports facilities. Better, free, and open access to indoor facilities throughout the winter.
- Better picnic/pacilion maintenance
- Better trail in park
- better waling trail
- Bring back the ice rinks; one for hockey, one for figure skating; or purchase one with chillers
- Build a lap pool PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
- But grab bars in the handicap rest room at the City park. Install accessible paths to the baseball field. Unable to attend our grand son's ball games because of mobility issues. Plz put in paths to the fields.The softball field could use a path from the sidewalk near the restroom to the field..
- Clean bathrooms, clean parks, updated play areas in City Park, more big kid swings/updated swings, more places to park bikes

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- Clean them up. Better grounds maintenance
- Close Hunter. Save money to be used for roads and other city needs. Can senior services be located in our giant new schools, or can seniors go to neighboring communities for services?
- Community pool
- Community pool
- Community pool/splash pad
- Consider adding a dog park near the city park. I see so many dogs off leash and it's not safe for other residents and dogs.
- Create a dog park
- Dog park,public pool with lap lanes
- Dog park.. pool
- Drinking fountains everywhere please.
- Eliminate the Skate Park. It attracts kids who want to cause trouble.
- Enforce the leash laws
- Ensure that green spaces, playscapes, basketball court, and baseball and soccer areas which will be eliminated from schalm are replaced in a meaningful way with fidelity.
- Ensure the leash law is followed for dogs. Far too often I encounter off leash dogs. This ruins the experience, regardless if the dogs are friendly. People and people with their dogs should be able to walk the parks without having to worry about being approached by off leash dogs. No exceptions.
- Evening class options- aquatic center
- Extend fitness center hours to weekends
- Fenced dog area in the city park.
- Fields that dont flood, add more options. Swimming pool!
- Fix Grant park tennis courts and maybe add pickle ball courts
- Fix the air conditioning in the gymnasium at Hunter. It breaks every summer and takes months to get fixed - usually by the end of summer when no longer needed. The fitness class during the summer becomes unbearable. Also the floors are regularly dirty and unswept.
- For Hunter Community Center Park, I believe it would be a great idea to look into the possibility of increasing the size of the parking lot, there have been many times for children soccer games that it is too packed/cramped to get into a spot. If you can't find a spot , you have to reverse out
- Get rid of the skate park and build something new there
- Grant park needs a complete update
- Grant park needs an update, added swings with some baby swings and a new, bigger play structure. Sometimes we walk the extra half mile to the Troy park.
- Greenspace
- Handicap parking at the new soccer field behind High School.UNLOCK THOSE GATES & Create some handicapped parking. Nothing close right now.
- Have an outdoor basketball court. Updated playground equipment at all of the parks.
- Have an outdoor pool
- have more exercise equipment in city park
- Have more things in the afternoon.
- Having some unique offerings might bring more people, what if we had shuffleboard, mini golf, bocce ball courts.
- Host more youth activities year round, not just summer time and work with the schools to help provide "staff" students for community service hours. 4th of July is great and has so many wonderful things, why can't we have other fun activities like that year round? The fall fest has been horrible
- I feel a lot a of the of the organized classes/events are only targeted towards old people or young children and not young adults.
- I like somewhere to let my dogs run.
- I like the way it is
- I would like to see the Kenwood elementary property converted to a park. Currently my kids play there very often when school is not in session as it is the only area on that side of town that doesn't require crossing a major road. We live on Tecumseh. The property is close, convenient, and safe.
- I would love to see a community pool and pickle ball courts.

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- I would love to see the Grant Park tennis courts, which are in need of repair, replaced with pickleball courts. Also add a splash pad somewhere. My son with special needs would love the splash pad.
- I would really like to see the tennis courts at Grant Park improved and nets put up. When deciding to buy a house in Clawson, accessible tennis courts a great feature, so it is disappointing that they haven't been in working order for some time now.
- Improve Highlights and add more recreational facilities iepool,gym
- Improve senior center AC, parking,and update equipment in workout room
- Improve yoga programs offered at Hunter Center
- Increase enrichment classes for individuals of all ages, especially youth. There is an abundance of offerings for older adults as the senior center seems to be organized very well. However, the recreational offerings have been deficient for some years. Youth and adults under 65 are underserved.
- Install outdoor pushup site and hand powered cycle machine like at Troy's Melville Park. I wih you'd make a pocket park where Pizza Hut used to be, and install outdoor gym site there, where seniors from Clawson Manor can do pushups and hand cycling machine.
- Invest in the City Park, modernization, new equipment
- Invest in upgrading equipment in the parks. Some how little to no seating or playground equipment for children.
- It would be great to have a recreation center that offered classes/ activities for kids, as well as more fitness for adults. Having a community pool or splash pad would be amazing. Would love more for bigger kids to do at City Park, along with a paved walking trail there.
- It would be nice to have a proper offleash dog park
- Keep bathrooms open, have more walking trails
- Keep up the good work
- Kids multi-sport classes or activities that teach skills without huge time commitment and costs, casual flag football for older kids, sports for kids who are interested in learning to play for fun and exercise now and then. And skate park lessons.
- Maintain bathrooms in city park and plant more native flowers
- Major upgrades in both facilities and programs needed for Hunter Community Center. Building is old and dated.
- Make the baseball fields assessable for all. Add another field. Add pool. Add basketball courts. Open the concession stand.
- Make the paths at Clawson Park more accessible. Walking on woodchips is not easy for everyone. The gazebo is in poor condition and needs to be addressed. Bathrooms are OK, but could be better
- Many more special event programs like music concert events, themed festivals,, movies in park, a pool and splash pad, walking/hiking and biking trails and paths in cement!
- Minimal recreational action, so my needs are met at Hunter Center
- More accessibility for mobility impaired people, more youth offerings
- More baseball fields so my child can practice and attend games in the city where he lives. More and better playground equipment. The stuff we have is very old.
- More baseball fields, pools
- More baseball/softball diamonds
- More baseball/softball fields,
- More basketball courts, maybe a place to roller skate too
- More basketball courts, splash pad/aquatic center
- More bathrooms at Clawson park! More natural trails, additional parks in downtown (old Pizza Hut)
- More classes (sports or art) for kids at the community ctr like Troy & Royal Oak
- More classes, better facilities, more recreation activities
- More community classes. We sign up for art, rec, swimming and many other classes at the Farmington and/or Troy community center. Many of the classes Clawson does offer are when we are at school/work. We have only ever been able to take advantage of the Kids Acting Up program.
- More features could be added to the city park and make the farmers market larger with more vendors
- More focus on pickleball and social sports for active adult residents, better indoor facilities
- More green space, nature paths, vegetation
- More green spaces downtown, a park closer to crooks and 14 neighborhood would be great!

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- More indoor facilities (such as an indoor volleyball court that can be reserved)
- More lighted tennis courts. Light the tennis courts at the high school, or add lighted tennis courts at grant park.
- More modern playground equipment for children. More shaded playground equipment.
- More nature trails would be great. I enjoy using Royal oak's trails
- More parking at hunter community center, Turn the pizza hut parking lot into a city park
- More parks on the northwest side of Clawson, losing Schalm and Baker playgrounds is a hit to families with younger children on this side of town.
- More parks, more dedicated green space, more trees, more native gardens, updated play areas and equipment
- More pickleball courts at city park
- More Pickleball courts.
- More places for dogs (trails, parks, off leash)
- More programming for kids.
- More programming is needed for young adults. I would love to have access to a pool and a broader variety of evening fitness classes. Other ideas include game nights and sports leagues
- More senior programs, pool access. Splash park for minimal fee i.e $2/pp with picnic and bathroom facilities (check out park in Clarkston). Better parking. The parks would have more usage if there was more parking.
- More shade in certain areas
- more shaded trails, more pedestrian crossings, less parking lots
- More sports opportunities and a better community center
- More tennis courts. Needs a swimming pool
- More toddler focused programs and activities, better maintenance of weeds at clawson Park in the toddler area. There are very pokey weeds in areas my toddler could easily access. Generally just more for young kids for all seasons
- More trees and walking paths would be nice. Many parks don't have wooded areas or are more 'play' parks vs nature parks. Out downtown could use more greenery as well.
- More updates
- More up-to-date equipment, grounds keeping (lots of flooding issues)
- More walking paths or trails would be great!
- More walking trails and outdoor pickle ball courts
- N/A
- N/A
- N/A
- nature trail
- Need a good basketball and paved walking trail at City Park. Also get rid of the skate park do not feel the young kids that hangout there are well behaved they cause problems it needs to go. Need pickleball courts in the city
- Need rec trails free from cars
- New Community Center
- new Gym, Water splash pads, nature plants, playgrounds, toddler playscape, dog park/dog friendly
- Newer playground equipment for kids and possibly a place with water for them to cool off in summer.
- No public parks west of Main Street and south of 14 mile road. Kenwood elementary is the only park we can go to, but my wife is unable to take the kids during the school day.
- Nothing
- Now that Schalm is being torn down we need more playgrounds on this side of town
- Now that Schalm is going away, a basketball court is needed near the park. It's concrete and 2 basketball hoops so it shouldn't be hard. A splash pad would draw a crowd. Even though I don't have kids that age anymore, it'd be beneficial and realistic.
- Offer day bus trips to casinos and other nearby attractions.
- Offer more preschool aged programming
- opening facilities on time
- Overhaul on the bathrooms at City Park
- Padded turf the play areas. Concrete pathway around park instead of woodchips for strollers. Update the play area equipment.
- Parking. Can be an issue at grant and city park. Toilets by the stadium could be upgraded, paved path to walk on instead if woodchips at the park

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- Pave Clawson Park path and enforce leash laws. There has been numerous times we have been charged by an off leash dog and there is never an officer patrolling the area anymore.
- Pave or black top the trail around Clawson Park, I can't walk on uneven wood chips with my knees
- Pave the trail at the park for better access
- Pave the trail with something safer and handicap accessible. Woodchips are for flower beds and landscaping.
- Pave trail, basketball courts, swimming pool, more parks and recs for adults
- Paved biking trails for families
- Paved paths at parks, more sidewalks
- Pickleball courts would be amazing
- Pickleball courts!
- Pickleball courts, basketball courts
- Pickleball courts, more walking paths
- Pickleball, outdoor music/theater venue
- Please pave the path in Clawson City Park. It's hard to walk on mounds of tree parts.
- Pool, Dog park
- Post field usage for all recreation sport leagues. Is the city charging Nationals for using their facilities?
- Public pool would be amazing
- Put in a community pool! Have the farmers market on more than just Sundays so other people that go to church have a chance to go there.
- Put more funding into existing equipment and add a city pool for city residents only
- Renting out the volleyball court to my giant volleyball group so people can't hog the net with 8 people when we have 50 waiting to play. Like they can join us, but playing 2 on 2 10 minutes before our event on both courts is a bit mean, we'll literally pay you to reserve it.
- Replace baseball/Softball diamonds and basketba courts being lost by school right sizing
- Rotary park is too exposed with no shade options; clawson park is not handicap accessible
- Schalm used to have basketball nets. Would be nice not to have to cross a main road to get to one. Somewhere in or around Clawson Park would be great. I can drive them to Parkland or Kenwood. Even Baker school park would work.
- Some of the equipment is older and starting to fall apart, I am concerned about injuries.
- Splash pad or other type of summer activities at the parks.
- splash pad, more different playground equipment, white elephant sale, senior chore program
- Splash pad. Updated playground
- STEM type activities, like 3d printing and ham radio.
- Swimming pool
- Take care of parks better, offer more toddler playground equipment, clean restrooms
- Tennis leagues would be a fantastic, community building idea. Also, updated playgrounds for the kids - City Park is super unsafe for my 2 year old, tripping frequently on the random concrete in the tot lot. It needs to be updated to be safer and more usable.
- The advantage to living in Clawson is that we have access to bigger city facilities nearby, which complements Clawson.
- The city needs/wants has to be scaled to ability for the city to pay for them.
- The city park along bywood is SO dangerous and doesn't have one tree or ounce of shade. The bathrooms are highly embarrassing. All of those things are a reflection of us whenever we have other cities come for games. And also is terrible for us as residents. Id like to see it overall be kid friendly
- The City Park playground equipment needs to be updated/maintained. The skate park area is run down, broken benches, trash/litter everywhere. I even found a condom under the bleachers one day and can provide photo evidence if needed.
- The only public tennis court with a practice wall is in the City Park. We support and would love to continue to see city wide events such as Clawson Fest, the artists' fairs, concerts, movies in the street. Thank you Clawson!
- The playgrounds and tennis courts need to be updated at Grant Park. Also, sometimes the bathrooms are locked when I'm there during the day.
- The toddler park needs updating. Paved trails in the cit park, splash pad
- The volleyball courts have become a location of constant issues between people trying to take over the courts instead of treating it like it's open to everyone at any time. We need sign up sheets and we need some oversight cuz the nets get damaged by people that are negligent.

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- The voted tax updates are wonderful. My main complaint is the walking trail at the city park that I use often. IT should be black topped. Some areas of the wood chips are ok, but too much is weeded and the width is overtaken with weeds. That should have been upgraded with the tax money too
- Things for teens & young adults to do!
- Toilet seats in the bathroom
- Trail options and more greenery
- Update a little. An outdoor community pool would be my number one wish
- Update everything and get better bathrooms and signs
- Update facilities, more bathrooms, need basketball courts now that Schalm is gone, and a dog park or other off leash area would be amazing.
- Update facility's and add additional amenities. Hunter park is boring and the city park could have more things added. Would love to see an updated, outside basketball court.
- Update Hunter Community Center
- Update hunter park, update the community center and fix the parking area at hunter, add more green space to the city, pollinator gardens, splash pad
- Update parks
- Update parks with equipments and benches, put in a splash pad
- Update play equipment at city park, pave the loop trail around city park, update restrooms
- Update playground equipment. Update grounds surrounding playgrounds. Splash pad. Update community center. Have more adult recreational sports clubs (pickleball, dart leagues, softball, bicycling, walking groups).
- Update playgrounds
- update tot lot with shade for grandchildren
- Updated park equipment. More parks to visit not close to business. Facilities that are new, clean and kept. Less tearing down of usuable parks to visit.
- Updated parks, added community areas, splash pad, community pool, another pavilion, open bathrooms at all parks
- Upgrade the facility
- Walking paths in more parks
- walking trails
- Walking trails for dogs, park(s) in southwest portion of city, recreation opportunities for non-senior adults
- Walking trails. Adult rec activities
- We have an infant in our house. With so many younger families / adults entering that phase of their life, it would be good to have more options for the infants through toddler ages - classes, programming, etc.
- We have two kids that play baseball, losing the fields at the middle school and schalm is unfortunate. Hopefully we get to keep baker field but it could use some TLC, either way some effort into fields for the younger leagues would be nice.
- We need a Splash pad
- We need another baseball field or two. A paved walking path at city park is needed.
- We need at least 2 basketball courts! Need updated playground equipment. Just look at all the upgrades at the nearby RO parks. A decent dog park with 8 ft. Fences would be nice, too
- We pay huge taxes for a very poor park playarea Update the parks play ground equipment add drainage into the play area. a splash pad would be nice my kids want to go to different parks so they can go on big tall slides and equipment. Also get better swings and better equipment for under 3 year olds
- We would like adult sports leagues
- What I think we need, we couldn't afford
- Wish the schools worked more with the public on using their facilities. They don't open up their fields and then on top of that take control of the fields at City Park.
- Would appreciate a fenced dog park in the area between the skatepark and fields in City Park. Friendly dogs could get their off-leash exercise while keeping the main park free of off-leash dogs.
- Would like a combo of horseshoe pits, shuffle board, and cornhole boards placed in a designated area towards the back end of the park, these are all very popular games and would be great additions to the park.
- Would love a dog park in wooded area.across from the shuffle board inside the trail. For better use of park along Washington & Elmwood a 9 hole disc golf would bring people into the community. At least one basketball court next to tennis and behind skateboard.

QUESTION 13 RESPONSES (CONTINUED)

- Would love a larger, more equipped facility with indoor track and gym equipment
- Would love a pool.
- Would love to have a place to play outdoor roller hockey in spring/summer and outdoor ice hockey in winter. More tennis courts are needed, preferably with separate courts for the pickleballers.

Question 13 Specific Park Mentions	# mentions
City Park	18
Grant Park	9
Hunter Park/Community Center	11
Parkland Park	2
Pizza Hut site redevelopment	3
Rotary Park	1

Question 13 General Topics	# mentions
ADA compliance	7
Amphitheater/Outdoor theater	1
Aquatics - General	4
Aquatics - Pool	35
Aquatics - Splash pad	21
Benches	2
Community/Rec Center/Indoor	12
Concerts in the Park	2
Courts - Specialty (bocce, horseshoe, shuffleboard, cornhole, etc.)	2
Courts/Fields - Baseball/Softball	12
Courts/Fields - Basketball	22
Courts/Fields - Pickleball	16
Courts/Fields - Tennis	11
Courts/Fields - Volleyball	8
Disc golf	1
Dog park	19
Drainage	4
Drinking fountains	3
Farmers Market	2
Green/Open space	9
Ice and roller rinks	3
Lighting	3
Maintenance - air conditioning	2
Maintenance - equipment	2
Maintenance - general	9
Maintenance - landscape	4
New Parks	9
Parking / Access	7
Pave woodchip path	16
Pavilion/Gazebo	3

Question 13 General Topics	# mentions
Playground - Additional/Update	27
Playground - Safety	5
Playground - Surfacing	3
Playground - Tot structure	6
Programming - Adults	9
Programming - events	3
Programming - Exercise	2
Programming - General	6
Programming - Senior	3
Programming - time of day	5
Programming - Youth	12
Restrooms	14
Safety - Crime	2
Safety - Dog issues	4
Safety - Play equipment	2
Sandbox	1
Satisfied with parks	4
Scheduling / signup sheets	4
Schools	6
Shade (general)	7
Signage	1
Skate park	5
Taxes/Cost	6
Trails/pathways/bike lanes	28
Trees	4
Update (general)	14
Variety (general)	7
Workout / Exercise equipment	4

14. Do you or your family visit neighboring community, county, state, or other regional recreation facilities? Choose all that apply.

Category	Number	Percent
Troy Aquatic Center	106	29.5%
Troy Parks	162	45.1%
Royal Oak Parks	212	59.0%
Madison Heights Parks	77	21.4%
Birmingham Parks	88	24.5%
Oakland County Parks (e.g. Catalpa Oaks, Groveland Oaks, etc.)	146	40.7%
None of the above	53	14.8%
Other (Please specify)	63	17.6%
Total Unique Responses	359	
Total Responses	907	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

15. How do you typically travel to Clawson's parks and community center? Choose all that apply.

Category	Number	Percent
Walk	267	74.6%
Drive	231	64.5%
Bike	107	29.9%
Other (Please specify)	6	1.7%
Total Unique Responses	358	
Total Responses	611	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

QUESTION 15 OTHER RESPONSES

- Attempt to use electric wheelchair or standard wheelchair but parks are not accessible
- driven here
- Motorcycle
- Run
- We live in the southwest area of Clawson so parks are too far to walk with kids
- Would like to bike

16. What type of activities do you or your family regularly participate in? Choose all that apply.

	Number	Percent
Walking/running	281	78.70%
Farmer's market	254	71.20%
Movie nights / concerts in the park	190	53.20%
Water activities	180	50.40%
Nature activities	178	49.90%
Visit playgrounds	161	45.10%
Field sports (baseball, football, soccer, etc.)	154	43.10%
Picnicking	149	41.70%
Court sports (tennis, pickleball, basketball, etc.)	147	41.20%
Canoeing / kayaking	105	29.40%
Dog park	105	29.40%
Educational programming	105	29.40%
Sledding	85	23.80%
Golf	84	23.50%
Painting or photography	82	23.00%
Hunting or fishing	69	19.30%
Senior programs	51	14.30%
Mountain biking	47	13.20%
Community gardening	41	11.50%
Figure skating / hockey	39	10.90%
Kite flying	37	10.40%
Skateboarding	23	6.40%
Geocaching	22	6.20%
Cross country skiing	21	5.90%
Horseback riding	20	5.60%
Snowmobiling	14	3.90%
Other (Please specify)	28	7.80%
Total Responses	2,672	
Total Unique Responses	357	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

QUESTION 16 OTHER RESPONSES

- Adult exercise station for pushups and hand cycling like Troy's Milverton Park.
- bicycling
- Bicycling, splash pads
- Biking
- Biking, hiking
- Camping, ATV, fishing, swimming
- Cornhole
- Dance and gymnastics
- Fitness class
- Grandchildren's baseball, softball, and other school sports..
- Hiking (2 responses)
- Horseshoe, shuffle board, cornhole.
- Indoor Volleyball
- Natural trails
- Off-roading; Ham radio
- Paved trail biking
- Pickleball
- Recreational biking (not offroad)
- Road Cycling
- Rollerskating, reading outside
- Snowboarding
- Ukulele music group practices, group meetings
- Volleyball
- Walk my dog at Raintree park because the trails are paved
- Yoga
- Yoga classes
- Rollerskating, reading outside
- Snowboarding
- Ukulele music group practices, group meetings
- Volleyball
- Walk my dog at Raintree park because the trails are paved
- Yoga
- Yoga classes

17. Which of the following park amenities would you like to see added or see more of? Please choose your top five amenities.

	Number	Percent
Aquatic facilities/features	148	41.90%
Multi-use walking/biking paths (e.g. 10' wide paved pathways)	122	34.60%
Restroom facility	115	32.60%
Natural areas	101	28.60%
Playground structures	94	26.60%
Indoor gym & fitness facility	90	25.50%
Dog parks	85	24.10%
Rustic walking paths (e.g. 8' crushed limestone or wood chip paths in nature areas)	79	22.40%
Picnic areas and pavilions	65	18.40%
Fitness / exercise trails	64	18.10%
Outdoor basketball courts	63	17.90%
Pickleball courts	61	17.30%
Ice rink (outdoor)	53	15.00%
Community garden	45	12.80%
Amphitheater / stage	44	12.50%
Workout/class rooms	43	12.20%
Sled hills	38	10.80%
Baseball fields	37	10.50%
Disc golf	29	8.20%
Outdoor fitness equipment	29	8.20%
Tennis courts	26	7.40%
Soccer fields	19	5.40%
Golf course	14	4.00%
Sand volleyball courts	14	4.00%
Cross-country ski trails	8	2.30%
Skate park	7	2.00%
Other (Please specify)	21	6.00%
Total Unique Responses	353	
Total Responses	1,514	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

QUESTION 17 OTHER RESPONSES

- A pump bike park would be so cool. And something no surrounding city has.. Clawson really needs to attract young families. It's the only way we'll survive so anything to bring families in and make them want to stay.
- Accessibility to all sport fields for handicap individuals. Upgrade handicap restrooms. Add grab bars etc.
- Flower gardens
- Horseshoe pits, shuffle board, cornhole boards
- Indoor courts, for basketball, volleyball, etc
- Indoor Volleyball
- indoor volleyball court at the community center
- In-line hockey rink
- More benches at parks for people who want to sit but aren't eating.
- Outdoor community pool
- Rotary park is kind of desolate. Needs some more trees, shrubs, and plantings to make it feel like a destination instead of like a streetcorner.
- Seating/benches
- Shaded area at pocket park where Pizza Hut was.
- shaded trails
- Softball diamonds currently we only have one
- Some kind of swimming area
- Splash pad (3 responses)
- Sun shelter
- Trees

18. In the past 12 months have you or someone in your household taken advantage of recreation or senior programming provided by Clawson Parks and Recreation?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	113	31.6%
No	244	68.3%
Total Responses	357	

19. How important are the following recreation programs to you and your family?

Community	Very important		Important		Somewhat unimportant		Not important at all		Total Resp. #
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Youth sports and fitness	147	42.9%	89	25.9%	43	12.5%	64	18.7%	343
Adult sports and fitness	92	26.6%	147	42.5%	82	23.7%	25	7.2%	346
Senior (50+) programs and trips	68	19.4%	92	26.3%	78	22.3%	112	32.0%	350
Special events and festivals	164	46.9%	143	40.9%	32	9.1%	11	3.1%	350
Summer camps	56	16.9%	108	32.5%	71	21.4%	97	29.2%	332
Skills workshops (e.g. computer education, accounting, etc.)	39	11.4%	121	35.5%	101	29.6%	80	23.5%	341
Nature education (e.g. stargazing, bird watching, plant identification, etc.)	54	16.1%	127	37.8%	106	31.6%	49	14.6%	336
Aquatics (e.g. swimming lessons, exercise, etc.)	118	34.6%	109	32.0%	63	18.5%	51	15.0%	341

20. Which of the following recreational programs would you like to see more of? Check all that apply

	Number	Percent
Concerts and shows	137	40.40%
Exercise and fitness	117	34.50%
Recreational/open swim	108	31.90%
Special events	82	24.20%
Art programs	78	23.00%
Safety classes (e.g. self defense, CPR, etc.)	70	20.60%
Programs - Adult	60	17.70%
Swimming lessons	56	16.50%
Programs - Senior/50+	52	15.30%
Crafts	51	15.00%
Music	46	13.60%
Gardening	44	13.00%
Travel & excursions	38	11.20%
Summer camp	37	10.90%
Programs - Family	35	10.30%
Programs - After School	34	10.00%
Youth sports programs – elementary school level	34	10.00%
Youth sports programs – middle school level	28	8.30%
Language arts (foreign languages, journaling, etc.)	27	8.00%
Programs - Teen	26	7.70%
Golf lessons	25	7.40%
Baseball	23	6.80%
Basketball	23	6.80%
Programs - Preschool	23	6.80%
Volleyball	22	6.50%
Dance	21	6.20%
Gymnastics	20	5.90%
Babysitting training	18	5.30%
Tennis	17	5.00%
Soccer	16	4.70%
Youth sports programs – preschool age level	16	4.70%
Programs - Persons with disabilities	10	3.00%
Programs - Homeschoolers'	9	2.60%
Bowling	8	2.40%
Therapeutic (special needs) recreation	8	2.40%
Football	7	2.10%
Golf outings	7	2.10%
Karate	3	0.90%
Other (Please specify)	12	3.50%
Total Unique Responses	339	
Total Responses	1,448	

Note: Because multiple answers per participant are possible, the total percentage may exceed 100%.

QUESTION 20 OTHER RESPONSES

- 50+ sports like pickleball and other
- Community swimming pool
- computer and cellphone classes
- Dog park or walk activity
- I would be interested in adult programming about homeownership. As in how to be handy or fix things in a house built in the 1940s like many of ours are.
- I'm always looking for classes for myself and my kids.. I took a hair braiding class in my hometown. And always wanted a daddy/daughter dance or Mother's Day tea type of events. If you need help planning, I'm on the PTO and would love to help!
- Movies in the park. Not just one movie on hot concrete on Main Street.
- None
- Paved walk trails in our parks
- Pickleball
- Pickleball lessons and drop in leagues
- STEM type crafts like 3D printing/Ham radio

21. Should Clawson prepare a non-motorized transportation study to identify potential treatments and routes within the city?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	174	49.1%
No	180	50.9%
Total Responses	354	

22. Should Clawson partner with Royal Oak, Troy, Madison Heights, and regional planning authorities to develop an interjurisdictional non-motorized transportation study?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	202	57.5%
No	149	42.5%
Total Responses	351	

23. How frequently do you walk or run for exercise or recreation?

	Number	Percent
Every day	130	36.5%
A few times a week	139	39.0%
About once a week	24	6.7%
A few times a month	30	8.4%
Once a month	4	1.1%
Less than once a month	29	8.2%
Total Responses	356	15.6%

24. How frequently do you bicycle for exercise or recreation?

	Number	Percent
Every day	12	3.4%
A few times a week	73	20.9%
About once a week	30	8.6%
A few times a month	54	15.4%
Once a month	20	5.7%
Less than once a month	161	46.0%
Total Responses	350	15.6%

25. Do you use regional trails (e.g. Clinton River Trail, Paint Creek Trail, etc.) or trails in neighboring communities?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	179	50.3%
No	177	49.7%
Total Responses	356	

26. The Hunter Community Center was constructed in the 1950s and reaching its capacity limits for providing recreation services for the community. A recent analysis of the building found that it would cost between $1.5 and 2.5 million to address existing problems with the structure. Would you be in favor of developing a new community center?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	166	46.1%
No	26	7.2%
Would need more information to decide	168	46.7%
Total Responses	360	

27. Should Clawson commission a feasibility study to determine the cost, financing, and physical considerations needed to construct a new community center?

Category	Number	Percent
Yes	297	83.7%
No	58	16.3%
Total Responses	355	

28. Are there any other recreation-related items we should be aware of?

- A community pool like Huntington Woods or Troy would be a welcomed addition
- A community pool would be so wonderful for the city and families.
- Add a community pool at new Hunter
- Add pickleball courts to Grant or make the existing court at city park dedicated to pickleball with multiple courts
- Adult softball
- As I keep saying, pave the trail in the parks, also get rid of the uneven bricks at Main and 14 Mile it's very hard to walk on them
- At some point you are going to have to stop wasting money.
- Basketball courts inside and out!!
- Clawson is simply behind in too many of these categories.
- Clawson needs an ADA compliant tot lot at our city park. The current tot lot is a disgrace, a disaster waiting to happen and an eyesore. We can do better than what's currently there.
- Community center needs to be brought into the 21st century. Not enough recreation spaces east of main St.
- Community Pool
- Do not get rid of Hunter. Update or building replacement is Ok but we have no other green space in this part of the city. Hunter provides great services for the community. If it must be moved the area needs to remain a green space and field for sports + ideally add native gardens or other amenities.
- Domed pickleball courts
- Drama and acting type programming would be cool too
- Each city around us is loosing kids and families at an alarming rate. If we want to survive, we need to keep ahead of the game. There needs to be incentives for living here but also, partnering with surrounding cities is economical and beneficial to all.
- Expanding the downtown social district - replace parking lots on main St with parks/pavilions
- Fix the existing building and quit shutting room because of lack of maintance. Better landscaping is needed. Better hours
- fix the roads FIRST
- Hunter needs to stay. It can be updated or reconstructed, but that side of town has no green space for its residents. Developing it would be a mistake.
- I believe if Clawson develops a better recreation center, it will help bring money into the city. Currently, residents like me are spending extra and giving money to the cities of Troy and Royal Oak to use their facilities. This will help keep money in our city, and bring money in from outside. Thx!
- I forgot to add that their needs to be a paved walkway to the tot lot for moms with strollers...and picnic tables in there as well.
- I loathe the creation of bike paths put into city streets, a la Ferndale, and hope Clawson never succumbs to this waste of resources.
- I think all of this is good--but roads fiirstii
- I think it should be built I. The heart of clawson where shalm is being knocked down
- I think the city could start charging outside private for profit teams for field usage
- I think the Hunter Community Center should be demolished.
- I think this survey should have been better tailored to Clawson
- I walk the neighborhood almost every day and there are times when I need to use the facilities. It's so frustrating to find them locked one day and open another day. Can the facilities be open everyday? I see people using the tennis courts, track, parents with kids. They must need them too.
- I walk to many local activities. The library, city hall, post office, church, hallmark and the gym. The downtown area with the pavers are especially dangerous. I have fallen twice due to uneven walkways. Motorized vehicles have no place on sidewalks. majes walking very dangerous.
- I would like an out xoor gym for safely coing pushups and for stand-up hand cycling like at Troy's Milverton park.
- I would like to see the Kenwood Elementary property converted to a park as it's the only recreational area currently on this side of town.
- I would love for as much green space as possible be preserved!
- I would love updates playgrounds, an outdoor city community pool, and nature trails

QUESTION 28 OTHER RESPONSES

- If a community center is not built, Clawson citizens should get discounted rates at royal oak or Troy community centers
- If the community center needs to be replaced, why would the city not purchase a portion of Shalm elementary before it's torn down?
- If we are going to build more play structures, please consider ways to have shaded areas. Most parks are in the straight sun. I like that the tot lot at City Park actually has shaded areas as well as seating in shaded areas.
- I'm SEVERELY disappointed in Clawson's removal of the green spaces, play areas, ball fields and basketball courts with the sale and demo/development of Schalm and Baker facilities. Horrible and infuriating!!
- Inadequate parking at Hunter Community Center.
- Increase in classes for seniors
- Instead of looking at building new community center put current baker budget into another existing center like Troy. Makes it fully accessible without non-resident status.
- It would be nice to have a community pool
- Just like to see more accessible games added to the park as suggested earlier.
- Just more options for toddlers. There is a large senior population and thus focus im clawson but there are also a lot of very young children and stay at home or work from home parents who would like to do more in the community with their children
- Let people rent the volleyball courts if they have a massive group.
- More adult programming during evening and weekend hours
- More baby and toddler friendly areas and events
- More parking at city park, especially with the closing of the school.
- N/A
- Need lap swimming
- need more crosswalks
- Newer resident looking to start a family within the next couple years in Clawson and very excited to get more involved in our community! Excited for the future of the little city with a big heart
- Nice roads to bike on would be amazing. And an outdoor community pool would be GREAT!
- No
- no
- Not in favor of ANY biking along main roads. We senior lap swim/water aerobics. We desperately need a community garden and I am willing to spearhead that whether it's to rent plots or grow for food banks. Please look into an ice rink - check out South Haven's.
- Outdoor bouldering area would be awesome
- Parking
- Pave trials, green space, sports fields
- Please build a lap pool
- Please leave Clawson park with green space, that is the charm and appeal and the only large area we have
- Please pave the path in City Park.
- Pools and ice rink!
- Programs to encourage community
- Schalm would be ideal as a community center; building or property. More trees in tot lot; canopy over tot lot - playground equipment is hot in the summer. Drinking fountains in parks.
- Sell Hunter. Do not build new location. Use other existing city or school buildings. Need to save money for roads and keep taxes at an appropriate level.
- Should have done a land swap with Schalm and made that the new rec center since it's next to the park. Other than that good job. I really like city park.
- Should look into pairing with troy to use their aquatic center at troy rates
- Sidewalks and vegetation bordering sidewalks around the city are in GREAT NEED of attention, repair, trimming, and maintenance to ensure navigability for those in wheelchairs.
- Soccer field usage
- Specifically in the community center I feel a little unwelcome (as a 25 year old without kids) because it seems like all the activities set up by the city are only specifically for seniors
- Take advantage of collecting data from meet up app. The amount of out of towner that are forced to play in under-equipped facility that charges outrageous fee for drop in soccer / volleyball is really high. Can utilize certain facilities for drop in for revenue.
- The skate park is a mess. Get rid of it.
- There are a lot of great facilities in Clawson if we can just maintain them better we would be in a good spot. Painting and repairing brick or replacing bleachers, etc.

QUESTION 28 OTHER RESPONSES

- Tot lot at city park looks to need repairs in places.
- We have lost or will lose many of our baseball fields with the sale of Schalm and upcoming sale of Baker. You need to find and develop new baseball fields. 100% of my sons games were in Madison heights.
- We need a fenced in dog area
- We need a micro public park, perhaps in vacant lots downtown.
- We need a pool
- We need bike lanes
- We need more fields for our kids to play sports (baseball and softball). Most of our games take us out of our community and don't bring anyone to it. Also need adequate parking and bathrooms at all locations.
- When I go to Troy they charge me more because I am not a resident, why doesn't Clawson do this?
- Yes to bikes & non motor transit!! Big fan of walking and biking places vs driving and would love to feel safe biking on road

City of Clawson Parks & Recreation Plan Community Input Survey

Thank you for taking the time to help us better understand the recreation needs of Clawson residents. The results of this survey will be used to inform the recommendations of the 2025 - 2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Your responses will have a direct impact on how parks and recreation services are developed in the area. The survey will remain open until **5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 9, 2024**. Hard copies should be returned to the Hunter Community Center, 509 Fisher Court, Clawson, MI 48017, by the close of business on August 9. Responses received after that date will be reviewed but will not be included as part of the survey results.

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Are you a current Clawson resident?

- ☐ Yes, I live in the city
- ☐ No, but I operate a business in Clawson
- ☐ No, but I use Clawson parks or have another interest in the city

2. If no, please tell us where you currently reside.

3. Including yourself, which age groups describe your household members? Choose all that apply.

- ☐ Under 5 years
- ☐ 5 to 9 years
- ☐ 10 to 14 years
- ☐ 15 to 19 years
- ☐ 20 to 24 years
- ☐ 25 to 44 years
- ☐ 45 to 54 years
- ☐ 55 to 64 years
- ☐ 65 to 74 years
- ☐ 5 years and up

4. Which of the following categories best describe your household? (Choose all that apply)

- ☐ With seniors (65+)
- ☐ Without seniors
- ☐ Senior citizen (65+) living alone
- ☐ Live alone, under the age of 65
- ☐ 2 persons or more, with children 13 to 18 years
- ☐ 2 persons or more, with children under 13 years
- ☐ 2 persons or more, no children in the household

5. What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non-binary / third gender
- ☐ Prefer not to say

6. Please describe your current living situation.

- ☐ Single family home
- ☐ Apartment
- ☐ Manufactured / mobile home
- ☐ Attached condominium or duplex
- ☐ Other (please specify)

PARKS

Clawson operates six parks and the Hunter Community Center. The parks range in size from Rotary Park, a pocket park on the corner of West Elmwood and North Main, to City Park, a 35-acre facility with playing fields, a skate park, playground equipment, and more.

7. How important are the following items to you and your family?

a. Maintaining existing parks and recreation facilities

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

b. Adding new, updated park features and amenities to existing parks

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

c. Acquiring and developing new parks and rec facilities

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

d. Ensuring that parks are safe and accessible for people of all abilities

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

e. Developing pocket parks in/near downtown

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

f. Access to active use facilities (e.g. soccer, football, baseball, etc.)

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

g. Access to passive, natural areas

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

h. Access to pavilions for gatherings/picnics

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

i. Access to paths and trails

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

j. Access to recreation programs (e.g. special events, classes, sports leagues, etc.)

Very important ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat unimportant ☐ Not important at all ☐

8. Does City of Clawson have too few, too many, or the right amount of parks?

☐ Far too many ☐ Too few

☐ Too many ☐ Far too few

☐ The right amount

9. In the past 12 months, how many times have you visited Clawson's recreation facilities?

a. City Park

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

b. Grant Park

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

c. Hunter Community Center

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

d. Hunter Park

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

e. Memorial Park

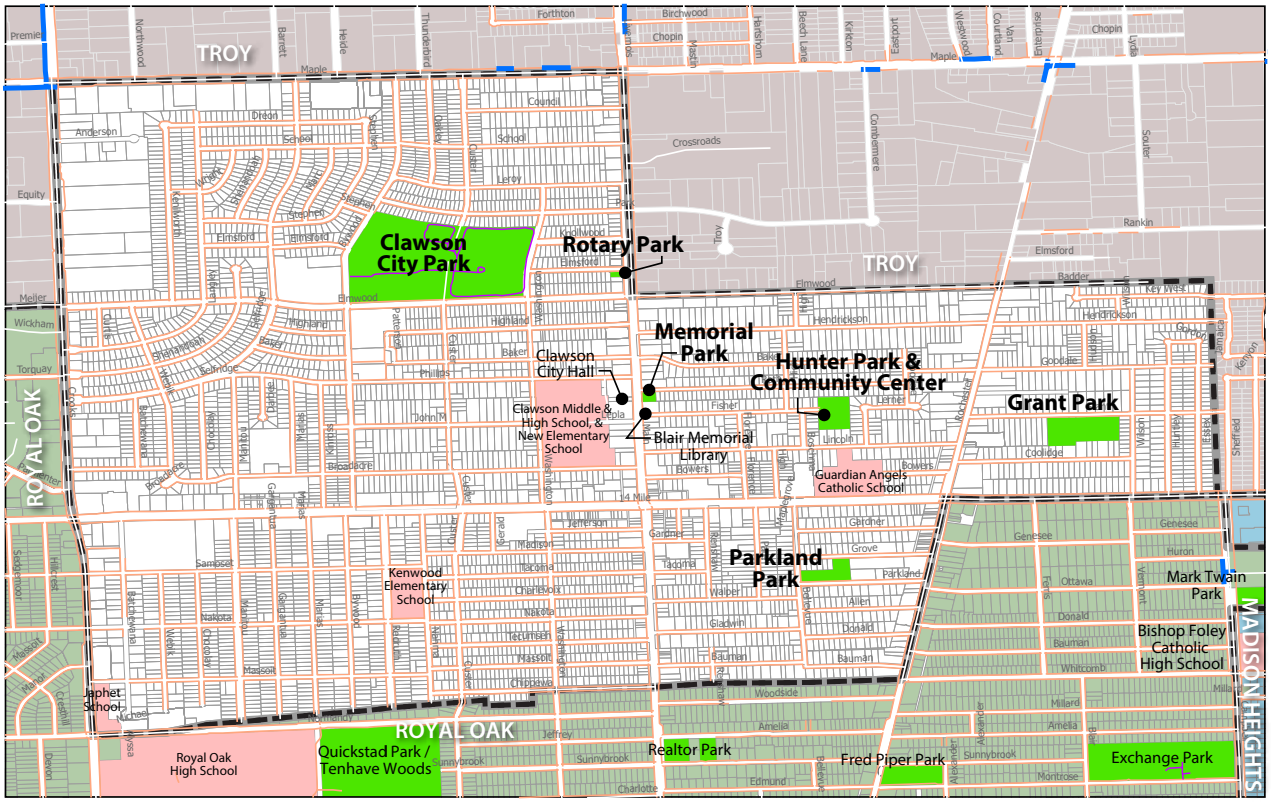
12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

f. Parkland Park

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐

g. Rotary Park

12 times or more ☐ 6 to 11 times ☐ 1 to 5 times ☐ 0 - I have not visited this property ☐


TROY
ROYAL OAK
MADISON HEIGHTS
Clawson City Park
Rotary Park
Memorial Park
Hunter Park & Community Center
Grant Park
Clawson City Hall
Clawson Middle & High School, & New Elementary School
Blair Memorial Library
Guardian Angels Catholic School
Parkland Park
Kenwood Elementary School
Mark Twain Park
Bishop Foley Catholic High School
Japhet School
Royal Oak High School
Quickstad Park / Tenhave Woods
Realtor Park
Fred Piper Park
Exchange Park
Crossroads
Rankin
Elmsford
Elmwood
Coolidge
Gardner
Grove
Genesee
Huron
Ottawa
Donald
Bauman
Whitcomb
Millard
Amelia
Sunnybrook
Woodside
Edmund
Charlotte
Montrose
Parkland
Allen
Gladwin
Taddonia
Madison
Tacoma
Charlevoix
Nakota
Cheyenne
Tecumseh
Massoit
Chippawa
Sarasota
Jeffrey
Lincoln
Bowers
Fisher
Hendrickson
Key West
Badger
Goodale
Wilson
Sheffield
Kenosha
Jamaica
Lynda
Chopin
Maple
Forthton
Birchwood
Beach Lane
Kirkton
Eastport
Westwood
Van Courtland
Dunstable
Combermere
Souter
Rochester
Northwood
Premier
Barrett
Heide
Thunderbird
Dequindre
Coolidge
Equity
Anderson
Dixon
Meijer
Wickham
Torquay
Rochester
Crooks
Livernois
Main
Stephenson
Beaumont
Rankin
Ellwood
Baker
Highland
Phillips
John M
Cepla
Fisher
Bowers
Lincoln

11. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of Clawson's parks?

a. City Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Grant Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

c. Hunter Community Center

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

d. Hunter Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

e. Memorial Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

f. Parkland Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

g. Rotary Park

Excellent	Fair	Poor	Don't know/ haven't visited
☐	☐	☐	☐

12. Do Clawson recreation facilities meet your family's recreation needs?

- ☐ Yes, completely
- ☐ Yes, adequately
- ☐ Does not meet our needs very well
- ☐ Does not meet our needs at all

13. What can Clawson do to better meet your recreation needs?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

14. Do you or your family visit neigboring community, county, state, or other regional recreation facilities? Choose all that apply

- ☐ Troy Aquatic Center
- ☐ Troy Parks
- ☐ Royal Oak Parks
- ☐ Madison Heights Parks
- ☐ Birmingham Parks
- ☐ Oakland County Parks (e.g. Catalpa Oaks, Groveland Oaks, etc.)
- ☐ None of the above
- ☐ Other (please specify)

_____

15. How do you typically travel to Clawson's parks and community center? Choose all that apply

- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Drive
- ☐ Bike
- ☐ Other (please specify)

_____

16. What type of activities do you or your family regularly participate in? Note: These activities may take place anywhere, not just in Clawson city parks. Choose all that apply.

- ☐ Canoeing / kayaking
- ☐ Community gardening
- ☐ Court sports (tennis, pickleball, basketball, etc.)
- ☐ Cross country skiing
- ☐ Dog park
- ☐ Educational programming
- ☐ Farmer's market
- ☐ Field sports (baseball, football, soccer, etc.)
- ☐ Figure skating / hockey
- ☐ Geocaching
- ☐ Golf
- ☐ Horseback riding
- ☐ Hunting or fishing
- ☐ Kite flying
- ☐ Mountain biking
- ☐ Movie nights / concerts in the park
- ☐ Nature activities
- ☐ Painting or photography
- ☐ Picnicking
- ☐ Senior programs
- ☐ Skateboarding
- ☐ Sledding
- ☐ Snowmobiling
- ☐ Visit playgrounds
- ☐ Walking/running
- ☐ Water activities
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

---

17. Which of the following park amenities would you like to see more of? *Choose up to five (5) items.*

- ☐ Playground structures
- ☐ Sled hills
- ☐ Cross-country ski trails
- ☐ Restroom facility
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Golf course
- ☐ Natural areas
- ☐ Skate park
- ☐ Rustic walking paths (e.g. 8' crushed limestone or wood chip paths in nature areas)
- ☐ Baseball fields
- ☐ Fitness / exercise trails
- ☐ Outdoor basketball courts
- ☐ Aquatic facilities/features
- ☐ Workout/class rooms
- ☐ Sand volleyball courts
- ☐ Multi-use walking/biking paths (e.g. 10' wide paved pathways)
- ☐ Ice rink (outdoor)
- ☐ Tennis courts
- ☐ Amphitheater / stage
- ☐ Picnic areas and pavilions
- ☐ Pickleball courts
- ☐ Outdoor fitness equipment
- ☐ Dog parks
- ☐ Soccer fields
- ☐ Disc golf
- ☐ Indoor gym & fitness facility
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

PROGRAMMING

Clawson offers a variety of different programmed recreation opportunities at the Hunter Community Center and at the city's parks, including special events throughout the year.

18. In the past 12 months have you or someone in your household taken advantage of recreation or senior programming provided by Clawson Parks and Recreation?

☐ Yes ☐ No

19. How important are the following recreation programs to you and your family?

a. Youth sports and fitness

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

b. Adult sports and fitness

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

c. Senior (50+) programs and trips

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

d. Special events and festivals

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

e. Summer camps

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

f. Skills workshops (e.g. computer education, accounting, etc.)

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

g. Nature education (e.g. stargazing, bird watching, plant identification, etc.)

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

h. Aquatics (e.g. swimming lessons, exercise, etc.)

Very important	Important	Somewhat unimportant	Not important at all
☐	☐	☐	☐

20. Which of the following recreational programs would you like to see added or see more of? ***Please choose your top five.***

- ☐ Art programs
- ☐ Babysitting training
- ☐ Baseball
- ☐ Basketball
- ☐ Bowling
- ☐ Concerts and shows
- ☐ Crafts
- ☐ Dance
- ☐ Exercise and fitness
- ☐ Football
- ☐ Gardening
- ☐ Golf lessons
- ☐ Golf outings
- ☐ Gymnastics
- ☐ Karate
- ☐ Language arts (foreign languages, journaling, etc.)
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Programs - Adult
- ☐ Programs - After School
- ☐ Programs - Family
- ☐ Programs - Homeschoolers'
- ☐ Programs - Persons with disabilities
- ☐ Programs - Preschool
- ☐ Programs - Senior/50+
- ☐ Programs - Teen
- ☐ Recreational/open swim
- ☐ Safety classes (e.g. self defense, CPR, etc.)
- ☐ Soccer
- ☐ Special events
- ☐ Summer camp
- ☐ Swimming lessons
- ☐ Tennis
- ☐ Therapeutic (special needs) recreation
- ☐ Travel & excursions
- ☐ Volleyball
- ☐ Youth sports programs – elementary school level
- ☐ Youth sports programs – middle school level
- ☐ Youth sports programs – preschool age level
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

_____

_____

TRAILS

The City of Clawson has over 70 miles of sidewalks within its borders, providing a safe non-motorized transportation alternative for pedestrians and cyclists. Other alternatives such as bike lanes and separated safety paths are currently not available within the city borders.

21. Should Clawson prepare a non-motorized transportation study to identify potential treatments and routes within the city?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

22. Should Clawson partner with Royal Oak, Troy, Madison Heights, and regional planning authorities to develop an interjurisdictional non-motorized transportation study?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

23. How frequently do you walk, run, or hike for exercise or recreation?

- ☐ Every day
- ☐ A few times a week
- ☐ About once a week
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Less than once a month

24. How frequently do you bicycle for exercise or recreation?

- ☐ Every day
- ☐ A few times a week
- ☐ About once a week
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Less than once a month

25. Do you use regional trails (e.g. Clinton River Trail, Paint Creek Trail, etc.) or trails in neighboring communities?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

OTHER

26. The Hunter Community Center was constructed in the 1950s and reaching its capacity limits for providing recreation services for the community. A recent analysis of the building found that it would cost between $1.5 and 2.5 million to address existing problems with the structure. Would you be in favor of developing a new community center?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Would need more information to decide

27. Should Clawson commission a feasibility study to determine the cost, financing, and physical considerations needed to construct a new community center?

28. Are there any other recreation-related items we should be aware of?

Thank you again for taking the time to complete this study. Your input will have a direct impact on recreation development in the city!

City of Clawson
2025 - 2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan
Community Input Survey

The City of Clawson is seeking resident input regarding recreation opportunities in the community. The results of this survey will be used to inform the recommendations of the 2025 - 2029 Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The survey is available on the City website or can be accessed directly at:

https://survey.sogolytics.com/r/ClawsonRP

The survey will remain open for responses through close of business on ***Friday, August 9, 2024***. For those who prefer to work with paper, hard copy versions of the survey are available at the Hunter Community Center, 509 Fisher Court, and at Clawson City Hall, 425 North Main Street. Hard copies should be returned to:

Scott Jennex, Director of Recreation and Senior Services
Clawson Parks & Recreation Department
Hunter Community Center
509 Fisher Court
Clawson, MI 48017

Hard copies must arrive at the Hunter Community Center by close of business on August 9. Responses received after August 9 will be reviewed but will not be included as part of the survey results.

Thank you in advance for helping us understand the recreation needs of Clawson residents. Your responses will have a direct impact on the future of parks and recreation services in the city!



509 Fisher Court | Clawson, MI 48017 | Phone: (248) 589-0334 | E-mail: sjennex@cityofclawson.com