

A photograph of a park splash pad with two children playing. A boy in a blue and orange shirt and colorful shorts is on the left, and a girl in a light blue swimsuit and hairnet is on the right. Water is spraying from several nozzles. In the background, there is a green-roofed pavilion, trees, and string lights.

CITY OF
GRAND BLANC
PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

2022-2026 | GENESEE COUNTY, MI

ACKNOWLEDGMENT



A public hearing on the 2022-2026 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was held on January 12, 2022. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the Grand Blanc City Council on January 12, 2022.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

The City of Grand Blanc has developed this Parks and Recreation Master Plan to serve as a guide to future decision-making regarding recreation facilities improvements, and development of new recreation opportunities for the next five years. This document is the basis for policy implementation of improvements and new initiatives that will meet the recreational goals and interest of the City of Grand Blanc.

The City's mission is to foster community excellence, to enhance the quality of life for all people in the community, and to prepare the community for the future by sharing a strategic vision and a plan of action for improvements in economic development, infrastructure (including transportation, water, and sewage & drainage services), public safety (including police and fire prevention & suppression services), education, health care, culture, and recreation.

Before any Recreation Plan is adopted and enacted, it is critical to understand the needs of the current residents, existing recreation opportunities, the demographic characteristics of the area, program initiatives, and projects and facilities that are best suited for the community. This information was compiled from public input and suggestions from City residents, City officials, and other community stakeholders. The community's input was a key component in creating this plan, together all the groups have developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan that will enhance community members' and visitors' experience.

The foundation for the development of the City of Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation Master Plan was based on the following goals:

1. Involve the community throughout the process of updating the Parks and Recreation Master Plan through engagement sessions and surveys.
2. Identify and map existing City owned/operated recreation facilities.
3. Understand residents wants/needs for future recreational development while also identifying the City of Grand Blanc stakeholders' vision.
4. Enable the City to be eligible for financial assistance based on the Recreation Plan.
5. Facilitate interagency coloration in establishing parks and rection goals, objectives, and action items in partnership with Genesee County and surrounding areas.
6. Support the implementation of improvements for barrier-free, universal access to City parks and recreational sites.

In conclusion, the City of Grand Blanc officials intend to use this plan as a guide for their work on all future recreation and parks projected within the City. This document outlines specific goals in inquiring recreation acquisitions and improvement projects. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is developed in accordance with the guidelines for Community Park and Recreation Plans published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This Parks and Recreation Master Plan is written for the City of Grand Blanc and covers all aspects of recreation within the community over a five-year period from 2022-2026.

CHAPTER 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE



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7 Demographics

COMMUNITY PROFILE

REGIONAL LOCATION

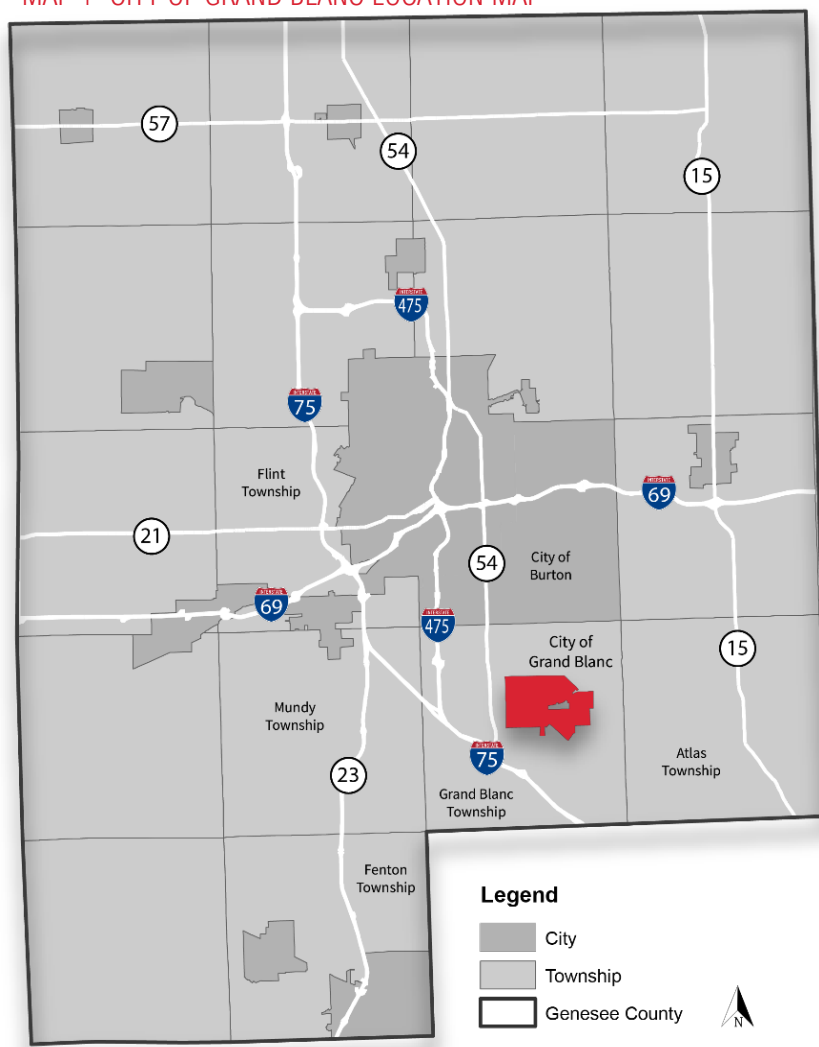
The City of Grand Blanc is located in the southeastern part of Genesee County, 10 miles south of Flint and 60 miles north of Detroit. The region is accessible by I-75 and I-475, and through the City's major transportation corridors, Grand Blanc Road, Perry Road, Holly Road, and Saginaw Road.

The City is surrounded by the Township of Grand Blanc as well as Mundy Township to the west, the City of Burton to the north, Atlas Township and the City of Goodrich to the east, and the Village of Holly and Holly Township to the south.

The name Grand Blanc means Great White and originated from the French traders that arrived in the town before the 1800's. In the 1820's, pioneer families began settling on the abundant farmland, which was later sold off. In 1930, the four-square mile area in the center of the Township was incorporated to become the City of Grand Blanc.

Today the Heritage Museum is an important part of the City. The museum was built in 1885 as the First Congregation Church of Grand Blanc, the building served the congregation for 83 years, and the last service was October 6, 1968. The Grand Blanc Heritage Association was founded in 1972 to discover, document, collect, preserve, and research materials that help establish/illustrate the history of the community and surrounding area. In 1976, the City gave the association one room to display their items; since then, they have grown to fill two floors. The museum hosts events such as, tours, quilting and weaving, the Memorial Day weekend Open House, Old-Fashion Christmas program, and the Bi-Annual Quilt Show.

MAP 1- CITY OF GRAND BLANC LOCATION MAP



Grand Blanc has a strong Downtown District along South Saginaw Road and East Grand Blanc Road. Both have a variety of businesses, commercial shops, and offices. There is also a variety of dining options, expanded sidewalks, lighting, and flowers which create a lively and beautiful downtown streetscape. Just off the main road are the new Chalet Shoppes which support local small business and liven up events like the market and food truck festival.

DEMOGRAPHICS

In this section, background information from the U.S Census was used to analyze the City of Grand Blanc’s current demographic conditions. The following section analyzes Census-based data on overall population trends, housing characteristics, and economic information in the City. This chapter is a summary of the data, presenting an overall demographic condition analysis within the City.

The information presented in this chapter uses the most recent Census Data from the 2010 Census and 2019 American Community Survey (ACS). The City will be compared the Genesee County and the State of Michigan.

Understanding the characteristics of the population is helpful when evaluating parks and recreation facilities and needs. The figures and tables below provide a comparison of key demographic data for Grand Blanc, Genesee County, and Michigan.

FIGURE 1 – HISTORIC POPULATION

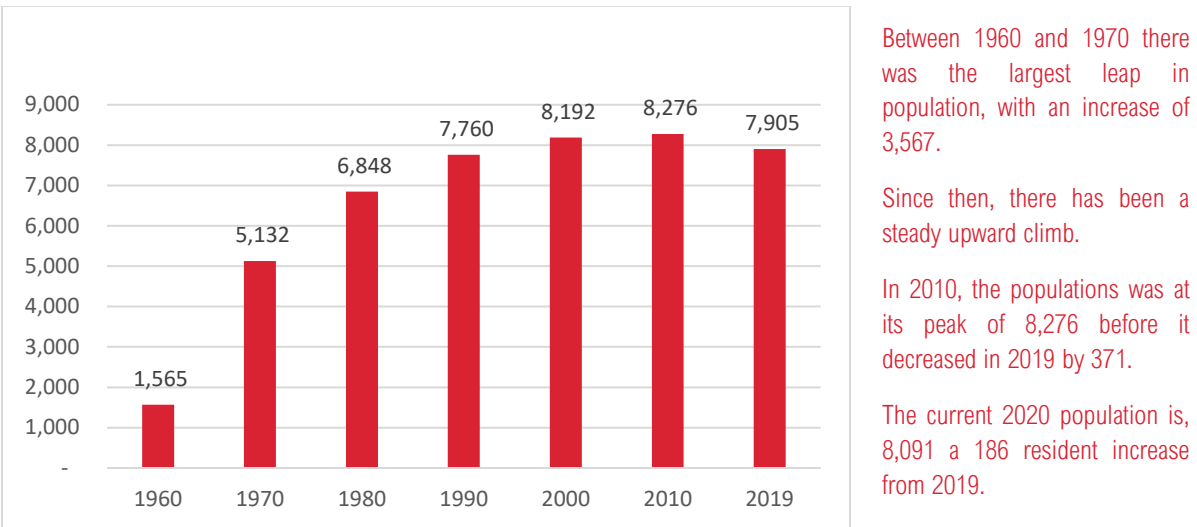


TABLE 1- AGE DISTRIBUTION

	Under 5	Ages 5 - 19	Ages 20 - 24	Ages 25 - 44	Ages 45 - 64	Ages 65 - 84	Ages 85+
Grand Blanc	5.5%	19.0%	6.5%	22.4%	25.8%	17.8%	2.9%
Genesee County	5.9%	19.2%	6.4%	23.8%	27.7%	14.9%	2.0%
Michigan	5.7%	18.5%	6.8%	24.8%	26.5%	15.5%	2.1%

TABLE 2 – DEMOGRAPHICS

	City of Grand Blanc	Genesee County	Michigan
Median age	42.7	40.5	39.8
Percent younger than 18	22.1%	22.7%	21.5%
Percent older than 65	20.6%	17.7%	17.7%
Renter occupied housing units	45%	30%	28.4%
Average household size	3.02	3.27	3.03
Median housing value	\$171,100	\$128,900	\$169,600
Median household income	\$62,673	\$48,588	\$59,584
Percent with a bachelor's degree or higher	45.5%	21.2%	30.1%
Percent of individuals below the poverty line	7.5%	18.9%	13%

Based upon the analysis of social characteristics in the City of Grand Blanc, there are three special population groups who have distinct needs for recreational facilities and programming.

Senior Citizens: Of the three communities in Table 2, Grand Blanc has the largest population of residents older than 65. As the US population ages, this population is also expected to grow. Seniors have different needs in recreation facilities than other ages groups. They tend to prefer more passive recreation options such a pathways and recreation centers versus playgrounds, and often live on a fixed income, therefore, public parks serve as crucial recreation opportunity.

Residents in multi-family housing, apartment dwellers, and renters in general: The City has a moderately equal percent of homeowners vs. renters (55% vs 45%). Grand Blanc has around 15 percent more renters than the County and State. Residents in rental units have a greater desire for open space and recreational facilities due to the lack of yards or open space of their own.

Youth: The younger population makes up 22% of the population in the City, while the percentage is smaller, children and teens are still heavy users of parks and recreation facilities. The youth population benefits from these facilities activities/opportunities whether it's exercise, community engagement, or education opportunities.

Finally, parks have the ability to create a multigenerational link between individuals in these three groups, and across all demographic groups. They provide a gathering place, create exercise opportunities, promote civic participation, and improve the overall quality of life in an area.

CHAPTER 3

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

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ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

INTRODUCTION

The park facilities that are within the City's boundary are operated by the City and maintained by the Department of Public Works, as well as volunteer groups that work to enhance the landscaping in the parks. The City and the Parks Committee work together to generate new ideas around park enhancements and development.

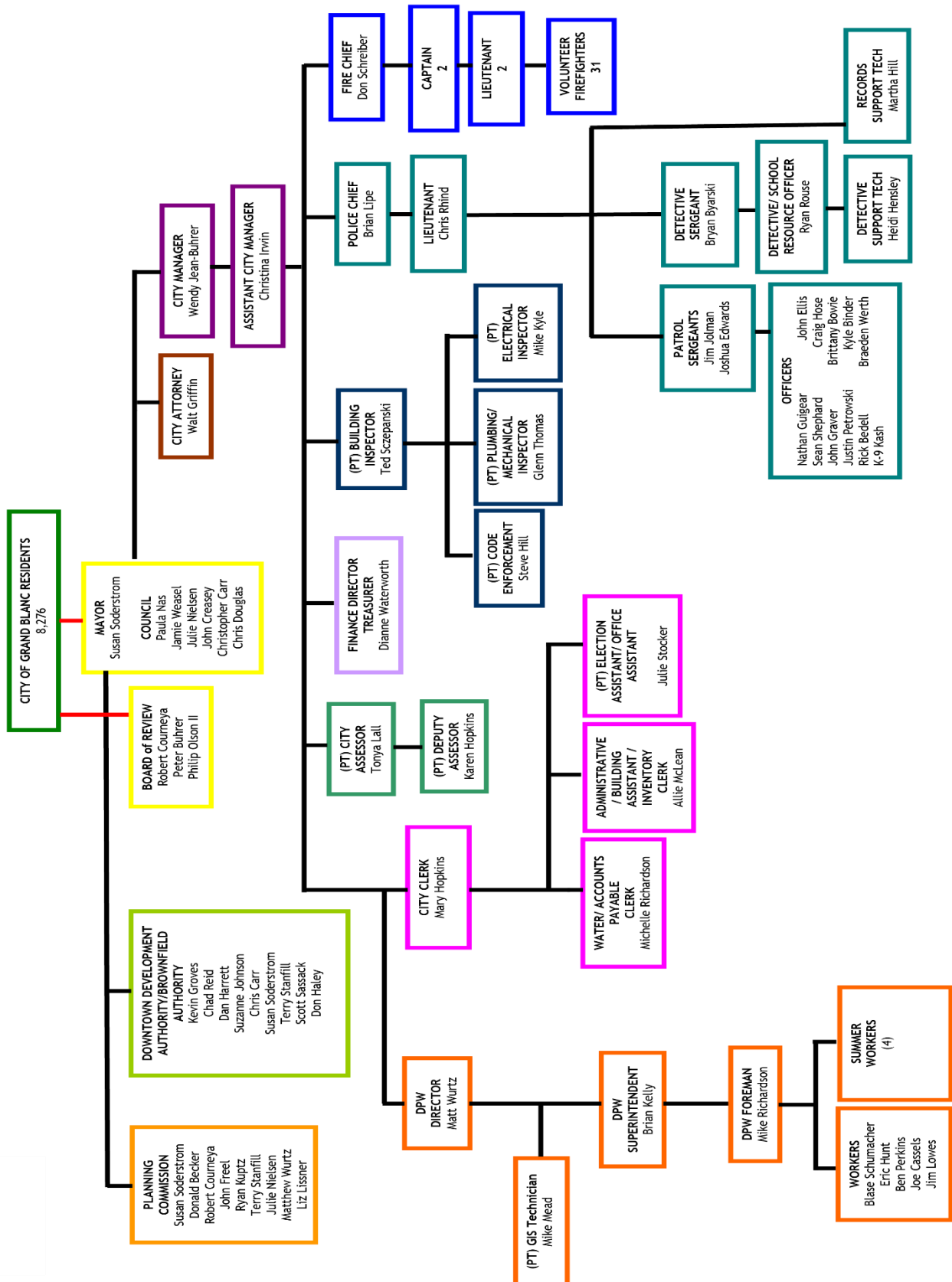
Grand Blanc's recreation facilities provide a wide range of recreational opportunities for residents. A large majority of the facilities are publicly sponsored and administered by the Parks Committee. The City's administrative structure is on the following page (Figure 2). It is crucial to understanding the City's recreation structure and decision-making process.

In the past, Grand Blanc Township and the City of Grand Blanc were one Parks and Recreation Commission. In 2020, the two entities split, the City formed a Parks Committee in place of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The two jurisdictions still work together as they run the Grand Blanc Senior Center. In addition, the Township has a parks and recreation department that administers recreation programming for both the City and Township.

GRAND BLANC PARKS COMMITTEE

The Parks Committee was formed in September 2020 to generate ideas and public involvement for the parks located within the City's boundary. Members of the Parks Committee were appointed by the Mayor. As the Parks Committee is still fairly new, they do not meet regularly, however, they will meet when there is a point of discussion. The Parks Committee is an advisory board used as a tool to help the City generate new ideas on how to improve their parks systems, and to be a sounding board for Grand Blanc resident's recreation wishes. The City Council is the ultimate decision-making body for all parks and recreation changes.

FIGURE 2 - ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE



FUNDING & BUDGET

The City of Grand Blanc's Parks are financed through the City's General Fund Budget. The City charges a service fee for renting park pavilions, but that money does not go directly to the park funds.

All recreation programming, park administration, and maintenance activities are financed through the General Fund.

The funds generated from the Senior Millage go directly to Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation Commission. The millage dollars have been declining each year due to reduced property values. The Senior Center received \$196,505 in Senior Millage funding for FY 2021-2022. The County has estimated that it will remain the same for the next fiscal year. Millage revenues are not part of the operating budget (See table 3). CDBG funds pay for the Senior Center director wages and any public facilities repairs/improvements.

TABLE 3: BUDGET & FUNDING

	Current Year 2021-2022	Next Year 2022-2023
Operation & Maintenance	\$10,000	\$10,000
Programming	\$0	\$0
Capital Expenditures	\$200,000	\$35,000
Total	\$210,000	\$45,000

ADDITIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Volunteers

In the City of Grand Blanc, volunteers have been significant in helping the City maintain their various gardens and plantings throughout the City. The Touch the Earth Garden Club is made up of 40 members, and other individuals in the community who maintain all gardens, flower beds, sign beds, and plants annually.

Grand Blanc Schools

The Grand Blanc School's recreation facilities serve a population beyond just the student body. The Parks Committee relies on their relationship with the schools to use the athletic fields, indoor gymnasium, and pools for City recreation programming. The Parks Committee and the School Board work closely together to provide and maintain the recreation facilities.

The City and the school's relationship extends beyond recreation facilities, the Grand Blanc High School students built the buildings for the Chalet Shoppes. The City hopes to continue their relationship with the schools in the future.

PROGRAMMING

The Grand Blanc Senior Activity Center offers several programs, classes, activities, and volunteer opportunities for individuals over 50. Programing is primarily funded by the County Senior Millage, rentals, grants, fundraisers, membership fees. They City has agreed to pay 11% of the recreation programmer's salary as the annual contribution to the City and Township Parks and Recreation. In addition to the Senior Center, the following programs are hosted by the Township, but are open to all Grand Blanc residents.

Special Events

- Daddy Daughter Dance
- Mother Son Skate
- Pumpkin Painting
- Harvest Fest
- Summer Event (Luau)
- Tree Lighting and Carriage Rides
- Movies in the Park
- Music in the Park
- Easter Egg Hunt

Community Education

- STEM Programs
- Nature Programs with For-Mar
- Fitness Classes (Cardio Drumming, HITT, Zumba)
- Adult and Youth Tennis and Golf classes
- Karate
- TaeKwonDo
- Snow Shoeing

Adult Sports

- Kickball & Softball Leagues

Youth Sports

- 1st Step Programs (Soccer, Baseball, Basketball)
- Youth Soccer Training Programs
- Softball & Flag Football League
- Volleyball Camps

Senior Programing

- Exercise Classes (Zumba, Tae Chi, Yoga, Chair Yoga)
- Line Dancing
- Support Groups (Taxes, Veteran Services, Legal Services)
- Card Groups
- Meal Programs (Meet and Eat)
- Food Distribution
- Educational Classes (Cooking, painting with watercolors)

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)

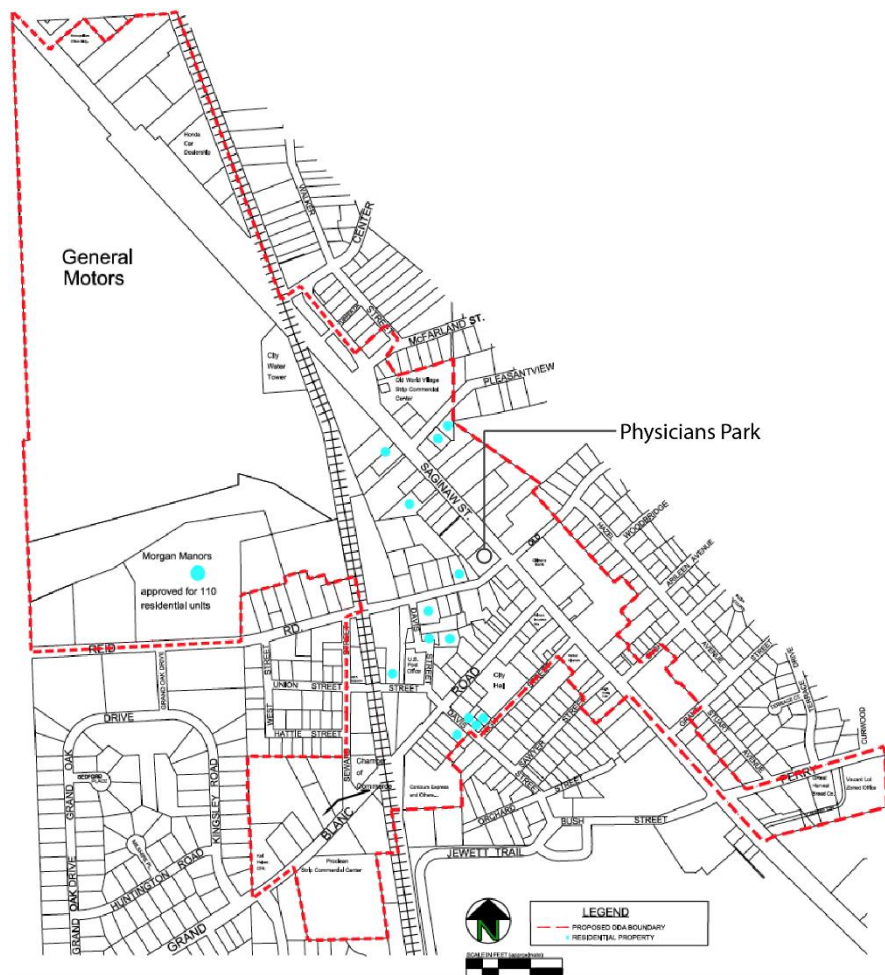
The City established the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in February of 2006 in order to better serve the existing business in Grand Blanc and to encourage and promote new businesses. The other purpose of the DDA is to reverse declining property values, improve overall business climate, and increase employment opportunities. A primary benefit of the DDA is the ability to capture increases in property taxes that result from improvements in the district. Those tax revenues are used to finance public improvements and redevelopment projects within the district.

The DDA is also a partner in the City's recreation events. Over the years, the DDA has planned several improvement projects that support their goal of promoting new business and reversing declining property values. Below list a few projects the DDA has worked on, the full list of project can be found here* .

- Festival of Lights
- August Food Truck Nights
- Flower Baskets
- Concert in the Parks
- Lights on Grand Boulevard

MAP 2 - DDA BOUNDARY MAP

Map 2 depicts the DDA boundary and all potential future development areas. Physicians Park is within the boundary, currently the DDA and the Parks Committee do not have any programming together for the park.



*<https://cms8.revize.com/revize/cityofgrandblancmi/Adopted%20City%20of%20Grand%20Blanc%20DDA%20Plan%2012-30-1919.pdf>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The City of Grand Blanc and the DDA host the following special events for the community throughout the year: Food Truck Festival, Festival of Lights, and concerts in the parks.

Food Truck Festival

There are four food truck nights throughout the month of August. Food truck nights take place on Wednesdays starting at 6pm, on Grand Boulevard. There are an average of nine food trucks ranging from sweet treats to savory barbeque. The food trucks come from all across Genesee County. During these nights there is live music in Physicians Park, the Grand Chalet Shoppes are open, and fresh produce stands are set up,



Festival of Lights

Each December there is a Festival of Lights night that takes place at Physicians Park. The night involves a tree lighting in the park, a holiday market, food trucks and the Grand Chalet Shoppes are open.

Concerts in the Park

Throughout the summer in Physicians Park there are about three to five concerts a year. These concerts are put on by rotating local artists or bands. In the park on concert nights, there are also places to sit and eat from various restaurants surrounding the Physicians Park and roving Disney princesses for the children.



Holiday Light Shows

In 2021, the City and the Rickard Family developed a partnership for the Halloween and Christmas holiday light shows. Grand Boulevard is the site for shows. The shows can be viewed in vehicles or by walking by. The shows can be heard on a radio station and through Wi-Fi. These shows are held for 4 weeks before the holiday.

BEAUTIFICATION MASTER PLAN

The Beautification Master Plan was created in 2018. The purpose is to help plan projects presently and into the future in an efficient manner with the limited resources available. This plan helps to ensure there are available volunteers and staff necessary to follow through with projects after initial funding. Beautification in a city is important in attracting individuals to live, work, and play there. The Beautification Plan is based on a five-year cycle and will be the basis for future projects. See the full Beautification Plan in Appendix A.

Over the five-year period the Beautification Master Plan outlines two to four goals to accomplish each year. Project goals to complete over the next five years are to enhance lower-level planters, add welcome signs to entrances, add wayfinding signs to parks, create art installments on dumpsters, add additional decorative benches throughout the City, improve streetscapes, add decorative lighting, enhance parks, add artwork/sculpture throughout, add larger landing baskets, and improve bus stop functionality.

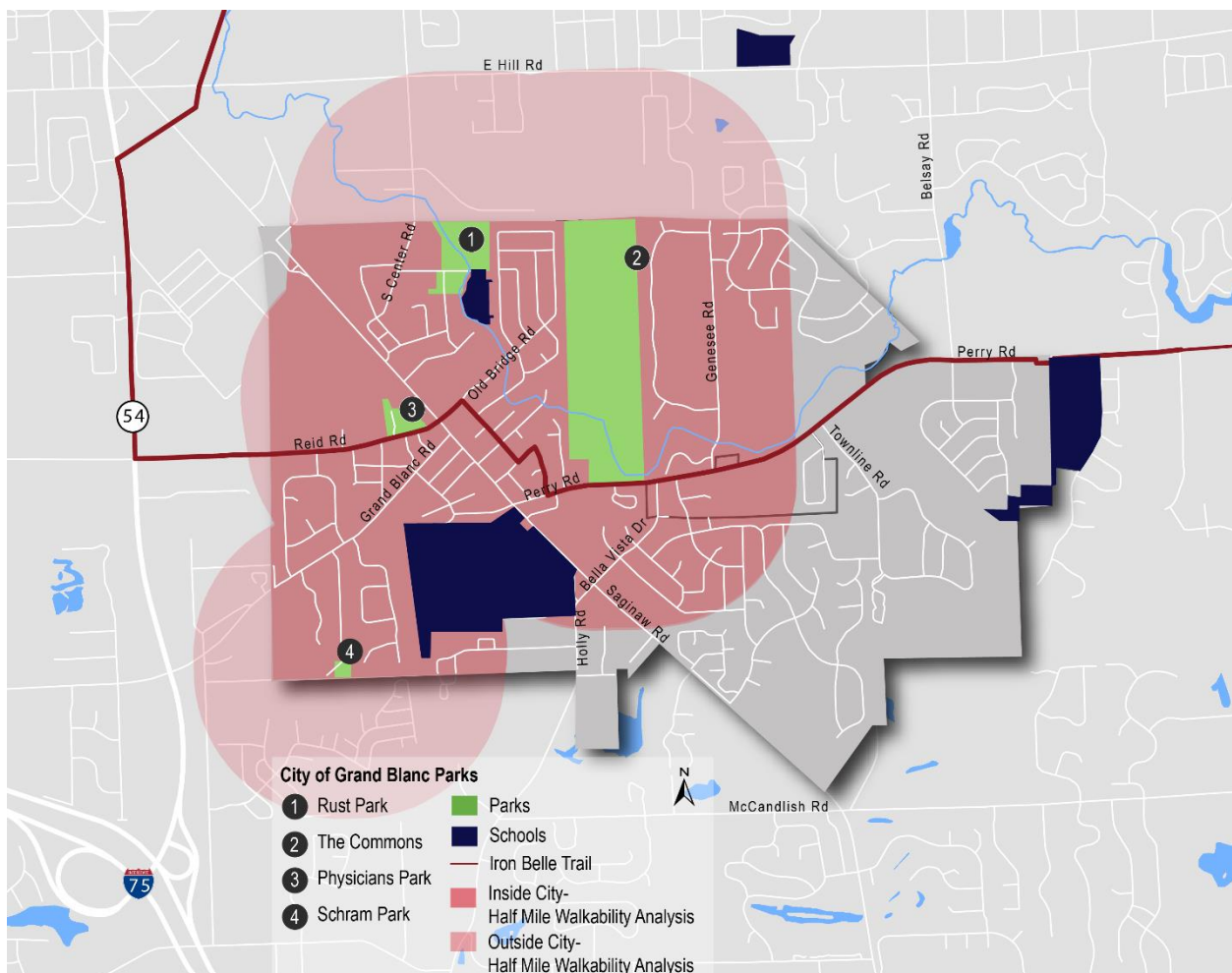
The Beautification Master Plans goals are not all park and recreation based, but still are pertinent to recreation. These improvements and projects will play a key role in how parks and the surrounding areas are maintained and developed, as well as how residents and visitors view these facilities. The wayfinding signage and entrance sign projects are significant because they help park users navigate to the facilities. Art installations and bench enhancements have the ability to change park appearances as well.

10-MINUTE WALK TO A PARK

The City of Grand Blanc's Mayor has pledged to join the 10-minute walk to a park campaign. Since 2017, the Trust for Public Land (TPL), National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and Urban Land Institute (ULI) have been working with municipalities across the country to promote and work towards the 10-minute walk to a park goal. Through this effort, these groups believe that increasing access to quality parks enables an equitable, safe, resilient, and healthy environment for communities to thrive. Parks are a benefit to an entire community and improve the well-being of all residents. They also foster community. The goal of this program is to have a great community space in each neighborhood, so no resident is further than a 10-minute walk from a park. For recreation space, convenience matters and that's why the TPL, NRPA, and ULI have determined that a close park is within a half-mile from a residence on public roads and pathways. The half-mile in 10 minutes is a Department of Transportation standard. According to their research, most people can walk a half-mile in 10 minutes.

Map 3 below shows the half-mile radius around all the parks in the City of Grand Blanc and shows where there are residents who live outside of the 10-minute radius. The map shows that most of the City's residents live within the 10-minute timeframe. The exception would be the residents who live in the eastern portion of the City, due to a lack of parks located in the eastern half of the City.

MAP 3 – 10 MINUTE WALKABILITY ANALYSIS MAP



CHAPTER 4

RECREATION INVENTORY

IN THIS CHAPTER

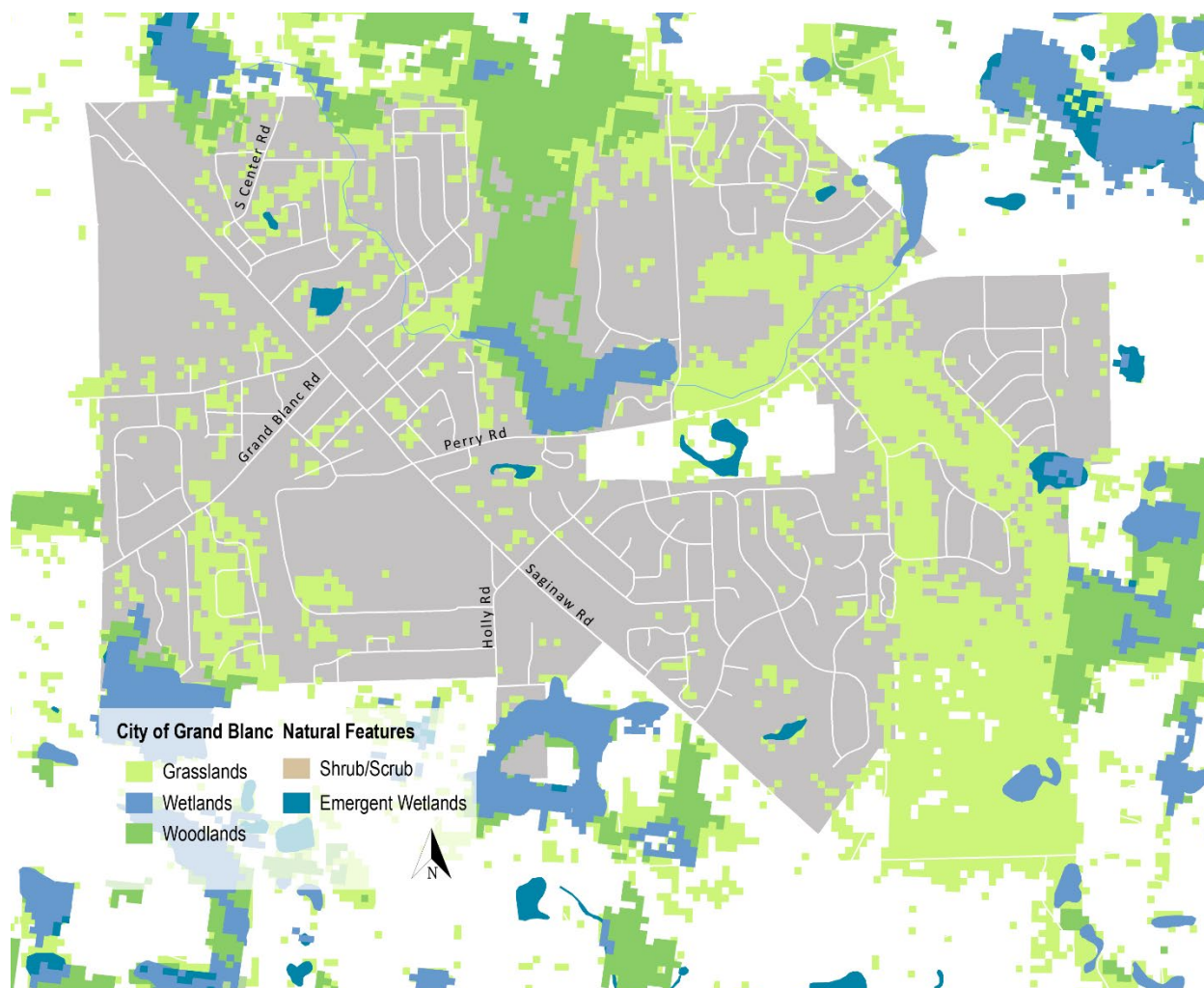
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NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY

The City of Grand Blanc is fortunate enough to have many natural resources located within the City boundary and therefore close to so many residents. A natural features inventory is useful to recreation planning because it highlights existing natural occurrences of resources and also shows where gaps may be located in the City. Natural features include things such as wetlands, water bodies, and wooded land. A natural features inventory can help determine the areas that should be protected from development.

Map 4, below, highlights the existing grasslands, wetlands, woodlands, and scrub/shrub in the City. A large portion of the City is grasslands and deciduous forest with pockets of wetlands and woodlands scattered throughout, and very minimal scrub/shrub. The majority of the grasslands represent urban grasslands such as large lawns or open spaces. The natural features inventory map can be used as a guide for any future park acquisitions or park and trail development.

MAP 4- NATURAL FEATURES



PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY

The following inventory studies the parks in the City of Grand Blanc. This inventory was updated by the planning consultants in the summer of 2021 and verified by the City staff. The text below includes an in-depth description of city-owned parks, park classifications, and ADA accessibility ratings. Table 5, at the end of this section summarizes park amenities in a tabular form. In this chapter, there is a brief description of other recreation facilities within a 10-mile radius of the City of Grand Blanc.

The Grand Blanc community has over 380 acres of parkland provided by the City and Township, combined. Of that 380 acres, the City operates four parks totaling 162 acres. These parks include: Rust Park, Physicians Park, Grand Blanc Commons, and Schram Park. Finally, Grand Blanc Schools provide an additional 191.4 acres of recreation facilities.

ACCESSIBILITY

Creating a park system that is safe, accessible, and usable to all individuals, including those with disabilities, is essential. A grading system has been developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to easily identify those parks and facilities which are most and least accessible, based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. The accessibility grading system uses a five-point system ranging from one (none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines), to five (the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design). See Table 4 for the grading system.

In the summer of 2021, the planning consultants with assistance from City staff, updated the ADA compliance information. Within the City, there are a few sites and areas of undeveloped land that are not ADA accessible. However, the City recognizes the importance of equal access for all park users and is dedicated to improving accessibility at each of its parks when improvements are made. This includes parking, paths, restrooms, activity areas, amenities, and signage.

TABLE 4 - DNR ACCESSIBILITY GRADING SYSTEM FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

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

PARK SERVICE AREA AND CLASSIFICATION

A recreation inventory is the foundation for developing an understanding of the City's recreation needs, deficiencies, and future plans. An inventory provides a snapshot of all the available facilities within a community along with detail about the types of activities and features. The following classification system is adapted from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) guide. It categorizes different types of parks based on size, service area, facilities and use groups. Each park in the City of Grand Blanc is classified as either a neighborhood park, a community park, or a regional park. The NRPA classifies several other park types, but they are not all applicable to the City of Grand Blanc.

Neighborhood Parks

Parks in this classification are the most basic park unit of a system and serve as the recreation and social focus of a neighborhood. Neighborhood parks are easily accessible to neighborhood populations and geographically centered within safe walking distance and bike access. Typically, neighborhood parks are 5 to 10 acres in size and can service a population of approximately 5,000 residents. The parks have a service location of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distance. National standards recommend 1.0 acre of neighborhood parks per 1,000 residents. The national standard is about 8 acres. The City of Grand Blanc provides 2.4 acres of neighborhood park space. This is shy of the standard by 5.7 acres. The neighborhood park in the City of Grand Blanc is:

- Schram Park

Community Parks

Community parks are intended to serve several neighborhoods and usually serve a broad range of uses. The typical park size is 30 acres or more. The City has two parks that are classified as a community park, however, they are smaller than nationally recognized standard of 30 acres. They are included in this category because of the broad population base they serve and the facilities/intended use of the parks. The national classification system recommends 5 acres per 1,000 residents. The Community Parks within the City of Grand Blanc total 23 acres, and include:

- Physicians Park
- Rust Park

Compared to national standards, it appears that the City of Grand Blanc may be deficient in terms of community parks. However, schools can help provide parks facilities in the category of community parks. If schools are included in the community park category, there is a total of 214.4 acres of recreation/park land which is an excess of 173.9 acres, according to the national standards.

Regional Parks

Regional parks are typically classified as serving several communities and being large in size, typically 200 acres or more. They are land that is set aside for preservation, natural resources, environmental significance, use, or historic/cultural interest. While the national standard acreage is large, and Grand Blanc's regional park is smaller, the NRPA does not only categorize parks by size. A regional park can be smaller but still have a regional use or cultural significance. This is the case for the Commons in Grand Blanc. National Standards suggest 5 acres per 1,000 residents. The City owns one regional park:

- Grand Blanc Commons

The City has a total of 137 acres of regional park land, with an excess of 96.5 acres of land. In addition to its regional park, the City also has a regional trail systems. The Iron Belle is a 4.5-mile linear trail within the City that connects many points of interest and townships.

CITY PARK FACILITIES

MAP 5- GRAND BLANC PARKS & SCHOOLS



Physicians Park

Location: 218 Reid Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Acre: 7 acres

ADA accessibility: 4

Classification: Community Park

Physicians Park is one of the more popular parks in Grand Blanc, located in the heart of the City. The park has many entrance points for park users, the main entrance is located off the parking lot on Reid Road, or it can be accessed through the side entrance off Grand Boulevard. Physicians Park is known for its splash pad during the summer months, which is transformed into an ice rink for the winter. The ice rink is used for hockey games as well as open skate. A warming hut is under construction in 2021 for use in the winter season. On-site is a fenced in play structure with a swing area, and a walking path on the perimeter of the park. Located next to the playground area are murals created by children and the Grand Blanc Arts Council. There are restrooms, a large gazebo with picnic tables, and grills available for park users. The City's Scouts are very involved in their parks system and have added benches, a flagpole, a Little Library and a raised viewing deck near the train tracks to the park. Recently, the Girl Scouts have refurbished the raised viewing deck. In addition to the splash pad in the summer, the park hosts the summer concert series, "Music in the Park".



PHYSICIANS PARK



Rust Park

Location: 588 Rust Park Dr, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Acre: 16 acres

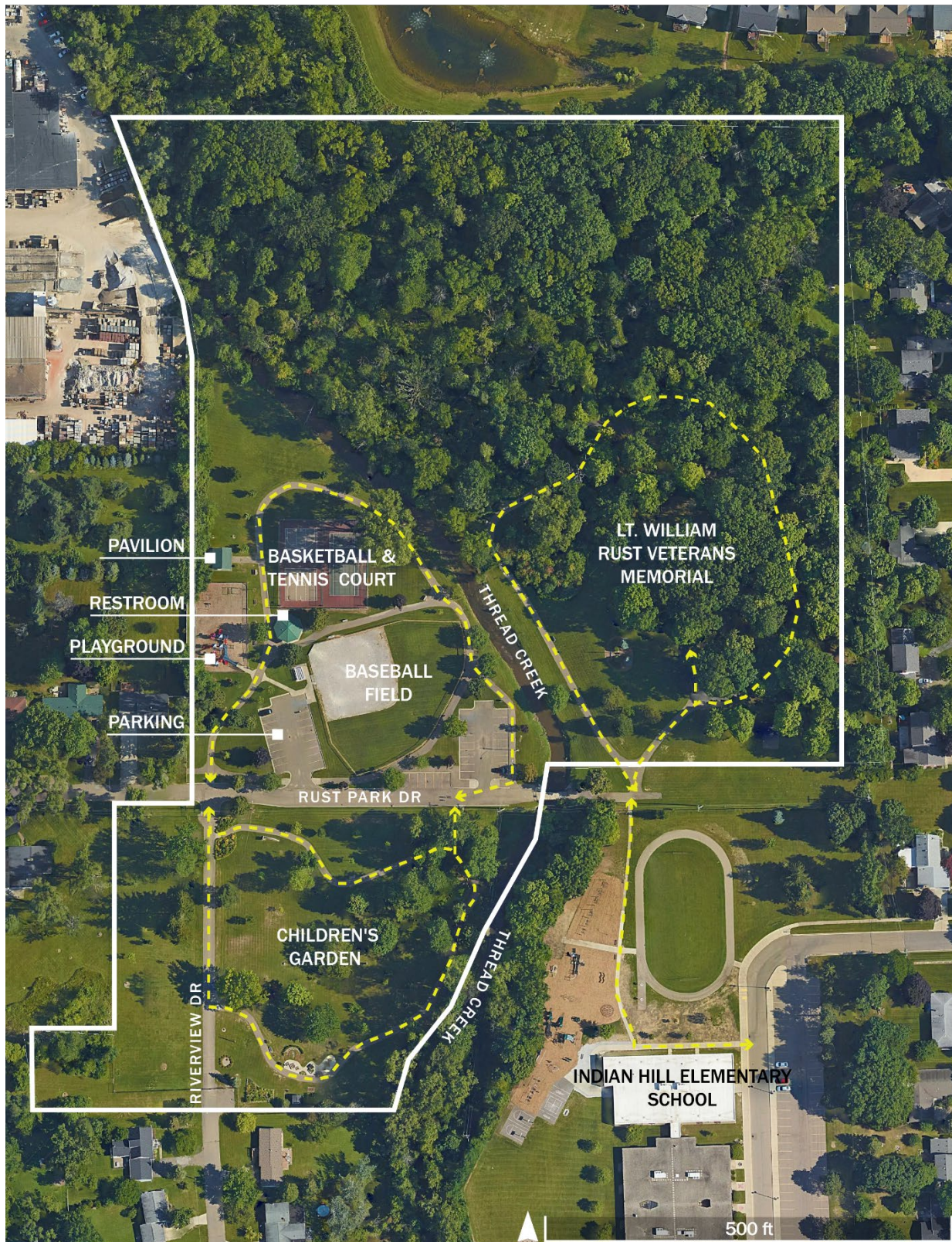
ADA accessibility: 4

Classification: Community Park

Rust Park is located at the end of Rust Park Drive along the northern boundary of the City. The park offers something for everyone, a tennis, pickleball and a basketball court, baseball/softball field, fenced in play structure, a walking trail that runs along Thread Creek and the beautiful memorial garden. The memorial garden is in the southern portion of the park, filled with colorful flowers, beneficial insects, and large trees. There is also a memorial in the park in memory of Lieutenant William H. Rust. The Touch the Earth Garden Club maintains many gardens in the park. Recently, the Garden Club added a certified Monarch Way Station to increase the population of monarch butterflies and has created a human sun dial made of rocks and stones. On-site is a restroom facility, pavilion with picnic tables and grills. The Scouts have built park benches, a Little Library and a storage shed for garden tools for the small children's garden. Each year the Duck Classic is held in Rust Park.



RUST PARK



Schram Park

Location: Schram St, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Acre: 2.4 acres

ADA accessibility: 1

Classification: Neighborhood Park

Schram Park is located on a quiet residential street at the end of a cul-de-sac. Schram Park is currently undeveloped, with just a park bench on site. Schram Park has the potential to be whatever the City residents envision.



SCHRAM PARK



Grand Blanc Commons

Location: 515 Perry Rd, Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Acre: 137 acres

ADA accessibility: 1

Classification: Regional Park

The Commons is located off Perry Road behind the McFarlen Library, with a historical sign at the entrance of the park. As the Commons is mostly untouched, it is filled with many natural trails and the Thread Creek. The park will remain untouched with the exception of the bridge over the Creek allowing visitors to cross easily. Park visitors enjoy canoeing down Thread Creek and bird / wildlife watching. Visitors can soon navigate their way through the Commons with the newest addition of wayfinding signage. The Scouts have continued to groom the trails, clean-up fallen or dead trees from the creek, and have constructed benches, bird houses, and bird baths.

The Commons has a strong history that dates to the 1800's. The Commons was once a working farm owned by Joseph and Elisabeth McFarlen; the farm was acquired by the City of Grand Blanc in 1981. Mrs. McFarlen decided to sell the property in 1978, a purchase agreement was drafted between a local building company and herself contingent on the rezoning of the land to allow the development of office buildings and apartments. When residents opposed the rezoning, it was denied. Residents tried to purchase the property themselves to prevent development. With the help of the Nature Conservancy, a \$185,000 grant from Michigan Land Trust, residents were able to raise enough to meet the hefty price of \$265,000. The process took three years, the land was deeded to the City and a resolution was passed to ensure that it remained a passive park. Mrs. McFarlen made the following statement when the final agreement was made "I'm very happy that it is going to be used as a park. It may not be well known, but this is what I wanted, although I didn't feel I could get it".

The Commons is a passive park, and it will remain as an open, undeveloped, forest, and waterway space that will have minimal development for the health and wellbeing of the public and for the preservation of wildlife and the environment. The Commons will only see natural additions on the pathways, ie, chipped wood, mulch, or other natural items. Only clearing of obstacles from pathways is allowed. Only wildlife observation, walking, biking, and canoeing and activities like this should take place in the Commons.



GRAND BLANC COMMONS



TABLE 5 - CITY OF GRAND BLANC PARK INVENTORY

Grand Blanc Parks Inventory	Rust Park	Grand Blanc Commons	Physicians Parks	Schram Park
Acreage	16	137	7	2.4
Accessibility	4	1	4	1
Classification	Community Park	Regional Park	Community Park	Neighborhood Park
Basketball Court	X			
Tennis Court	X			
Baseball Diamond	X			
Football/Soccer Field			X	
Playground	X		X	
Pavilion/Gazebo	X		X	
Picnic Area	X		X	
Tables	X		X	
Benches	X	X	X	X
Grills	X		X	
Restrooms	X		X	
Hiking/Walking	X	X	X	
Splash Pad/Ice Rink			X	
Creek	X	X		
Canoeing		X		
Bird Watching		X		
Viewing Deck			X	
Garden	X			

COMPARISON TO STANDARDS

The City has committed to taking a steady and consistent approach to developing park facilities that provide lifelong recreation options for the residents of Grand Blanc. When considering level of service, it is important to note that Grand Blanc provides de facto recreation services and facilities to a population greater than its residential population.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has published typical recreation facility standards that specify facility service area, the number of facilities needed to service the population, and the land area needed. These standards can be used in conjunction with the acreage standards to further identify Grand Blanc's recreation needs. Table 6, provides a comparison of the City's public recreation facilities against the NRPA's published recreation facility standards.

In general, the City rates significantly higher (73.3 acres) compared to the NRPA's suggested facility development standards regarding the acreage of park land necessary for their population. Table 6 indicates a 23.2 acreage deficiency between Neighborhood and Community Parks with excess park land in Regional Parks.

In addition to the standards outlined in the table below, more recent park guidelines indicate that officials must also consider the parks and recreation "Level of Service" desired by the residents of a community. If the City's resident needs are met with the existing park land and facilities, then that amount is sufficient, regardless of the standards or acreage suggestions. This is why the community input portion of a recreation plan is so important. While it appears that the City does not have enough recreation land, the community input results indicated few deficiencies in parks. They would like to see improvements such as paved walking trails, accessible play equipment, upgraded equipment, and additional seating. The Parks Committee and City Council need to understand the wishes of the community it serves to provide the appropriate level of service.

TABLE 6 – COMPARISON TO STANDARDS

	Standard	City Park Acreage	Standard Amount	Deficiency / Excess
Neighborhood Parks	1 acres/1,000 residents	2.4	8.1	-5.7
Community Parks	5 acres/1,000 residents	23	40.5	-17.5
Regional Parks	5 acres/1,000 residents	137	40.5	+96.5
Total		162.4	89	+73.3
Table is based on the 2020 Census populations				

REGIONAL FACILITIES

Regional recreation facilities such as local, County and State parks provide additional opportunities to Grand Blanc residents. These additional facilities provide residents with a variety of activities and opportunities that include larger acres of land, lakes, camping, recreation centers, and other recreational activities. A brief inventory of these facilities is below.

Local Parks

Grand Blanc Township Facilities

- **Bicentennial Recreation Complex:** The complex provides year-round walking trails, a baseball diamond, splash pad, pavilion, and a designated dog area.
- **Perry Homestead (McGrath Property):** The park is located on the historic Perry Homestead site, offering over 20 acres of passive recreational space.



- 
- **Senior Center:** The senior center provides a wide range of programs for all Grand Blanc residents 50 and older. The programs offers something for everyone whether that's educational, fitness, socialization, or a trip.

Other Local Recreation Areas

- City of Flint Parks
- Lincor Park
- Broome Park
- Happy Hallow Nature Area
- Kearsley Park
- McKinley Park
- Cook Park / MA Sports Complex
- Longway Park
- Whaley Park
- Forest Park
- Kearsley Lake Golf Course
- Township of Davison Park
- Manford Park
- Ganshaw Park
- Township of Fenton Park
- Bush Park

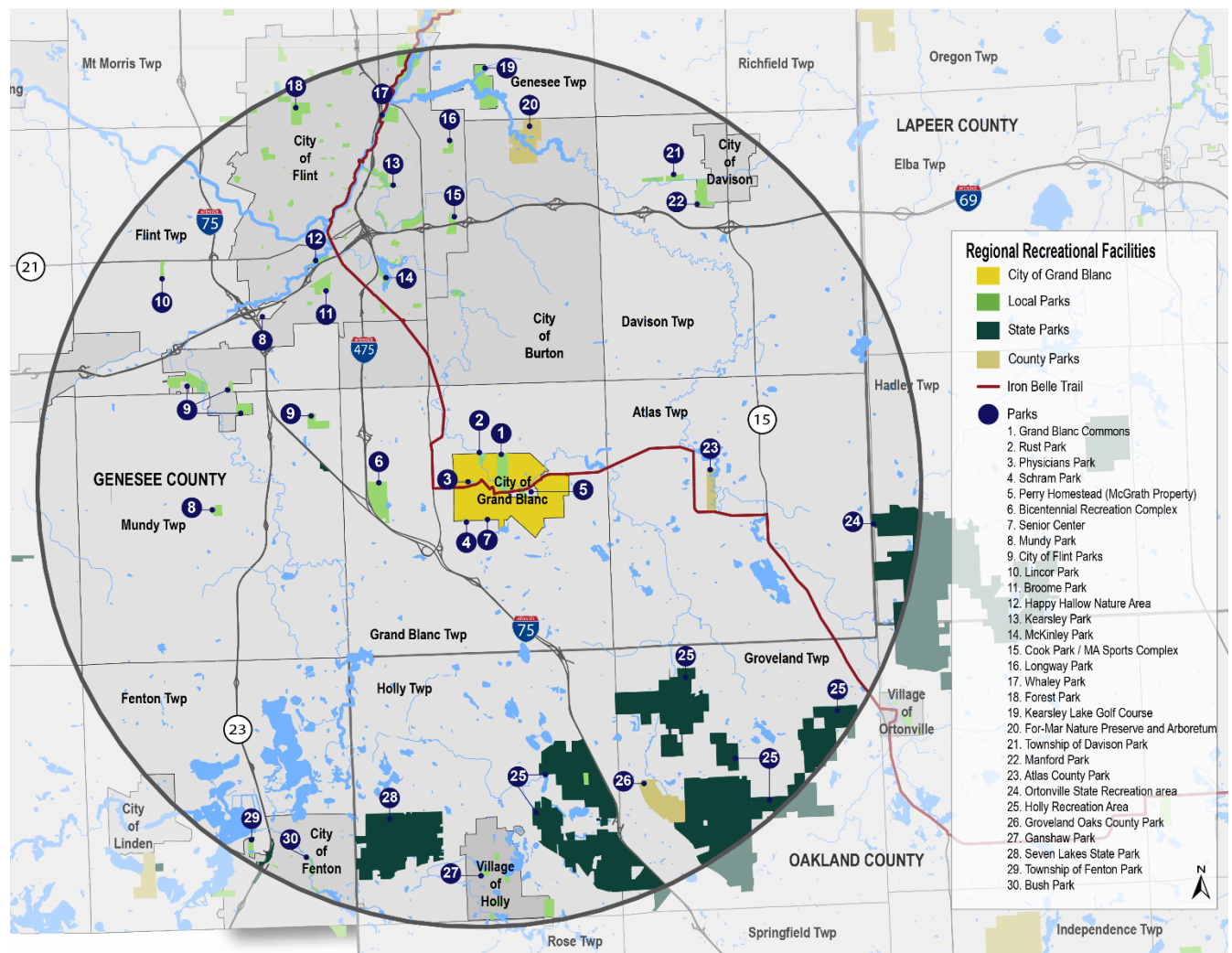
County Parks

- **For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum:** Located in Burton, the facility offers 383 acres of wetlands, ponds, fields, meadows, and forest. Park users can experience educational opportunities through program and events. The preserve provides hiking trails, gardens, and a tree house.
- **Groveland Oaks County Park:** Located in Oakland County, this park provides a wide range of amenities for visitors. The Groveland site has cabins & yurts, swimming, boating, beach, pavilions, miniature golf, pedal boat and kayak rentals, bike rentals, a fishing pier, playgrounds, skateboard park, bike skills course, basketball & volleyball courts, and a walking trail.
- **Atlas County Park:** Located in Genesee County, this park offers 150 acres of natural landscape. Experience the hiking trails, ponds, fields, fishing, kayaking or canoeing on the Atlas Millpond. Goodrich Downtown access through the Gale Road Trail.

State Parks

- **Ortonville State Recreation Area:** Located in Oakland and Lapeer Counties, this park has 5,400 acres of land, 3,700 for recreation usage for cross-country skiing, horseback riding, fishing, hiking, hunting, mountain biking, paddle boarding, snowmobiling, swimming, and a playground. The remaining land has a large campground area with restroom facilities and shelters, and a cabin area south of the campground.
- **Holly Recreation Area:** Located in Oakland County, Holly Recreation Area has over 8,000 acres of land. The park has woodlands, open fields, and lakes with opportunities for camping, disc golf, boating, fishing, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and hiking. The area has over 40 miles of trails ranging from 0.8 miles to 15.5 miles.
- **Seven Lakes State Park:** Located in Oakland County, the recreation area covers 1,434 acres of farmland, rolling hills, and forest. Experience 230 acres of water and miles of shoreline, swimming, paddle boarding, boating, finishing, camping, cross country skiing, hunting, mountain biking, hiking, picnic areas, and a playground.

MAP 6- REGIONAL FACILITIES





NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS

Communities across the United States are creating regional trail systems in both cities and rural areas to provide a higher quality of life for residents. Trails give residents the opportunity to be more active and healthier, safer while walking or biking on the roads, additional ways to experience their community, and give all users the option of increased mobility in different modes of travel.

Why trails are important

While trails can be a challenge to implement, their positive effects on a community cannot be disputed. It has been proven that trails create a place of pride and sense of ownership in Michigan residents. Trails are also an important driver in the local and regional economy, they increase property values, and provide safe and healthy recreation options. The growing trail trend in Michigan is also reflected in the City. Trails and pathways are an asset to every community.

Trail users have a measurable impact on the local economy. Working with the surrounding townships and other jurisdictions is an effective way to connect with existing systems and expand the non-motorized pathway infrastructure. These projects create a long-term, valuable investment in the community and the opportunity to connect the City to others in the region. Which promotes economic vitality, encourages a healthier lifestyle in residents, and creates a safer travel environment.

Iron Belle Trail

The Iron Belle Trail is a set of two trails that traverse the entire State of Michigan from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the Upper Peninsula. The eastern trail, 827 miles, is a bike route that utilizes existing bike paths, bike lanes, and designed bike routes. The western trail, 1,203 miles, is the hiking route that uses the North County National Scenic Trail. The eastern trail traverses the City of Grand Blanc. The route follows Perry Road from Atlas Township west to Terrace Drive in the City of Grand Blanc up to Hazel Ave, onto Old Bridge / Reid Road into the Township of Grand Blanc, the trail through the City is approximately 4.5 miles.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

The Grand Blanc Board of Education operates numerous facilities within the community. The school system contains outdoor facilities that are utilized by youth sport organizations and adjacent neighborhood residents, and indoor school facilities such as gyms, auditoriums, and pool which are used in local recreation programming.

Elementary Schools: The City and Township combined have five elementary schools that offer play structures, basketball courts, gymnasiums, soccer fields, and outdoor painted court games:

Middle Schools: The two middle schools, east and west, offer open fields, outdoor tracks, football fields, ballfields, and gymnasiums:

Central School Complex: Encompasses two high schools, east and west, and an elementary school. The Complex offers ten tennis courts, a baseball field, five practice ballfields, a football field and new stadium, playground equipment, two basketball courts, a softball field, track, a soccer field, gymnasiums, a turf marching band field, and pools with a new aquatic center.

PAST GRANT HISTORY

The following list identifies grant projects that were awarded through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, as reported by DNR Grants Management. This list does not reflect the other grant sources that have been used for recreation projects.

TABLE 7 - PAST GRANT HISTORY: CITY OF GRAND BLANC

Title	Project #	Year	Grant Amount	Description
Warming Hut at Physicians Park	RP20-0048	2020	\$127,500	Installed a warming hut /seating area for visitors
Grand Blanc Commons	TF88-249	1988	\$19,125	Foot bridge and nature trails
Park Acquisition	26-01196	1981	\$142,882	Acquisition of 137 acres
McFarlan Farm	TF205	1979	\$65,000	Purchase of 137 acres for a city park

CHAPTER 5

COMMUNITY INPUT

IN THIS CHAPTER

39 Overview

39 Community Input Survey



COMMUNITY INPUT

OVERVIEW

The City of Grand Blanc believes in solid community input as the basis for decisions and capital improvement projects in the City. Therefore, community input was a focused strategy of the recreation planning process. The input received in the development stage of this plan guides the parks and recreation goals and objectives outlined in this document. The input is crucial to help City staff and leaders understand the wishes of Grand Blanc residents. To comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines for Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans, the City of Grand Blanc offered three public input opportunities including an online community input survey, public open house at a food truck festival, and a 30-day review period and a public hearing.

A compilation of all the input received is located in Appendix B. A Summary of the various methods of input and feedback received is described in the following pages.

The Plan was available for public comment during the required 30-day public review period held between December 2021 and January 2022 and concluding with a public hearing and adoption by the City Council on January 12, 2022.

Open House Meeting

During the August 4th food truck festival, the consultant set up a booth in the Chalet Shoppes. The booth was set up for residents to take the community input survey with informational boards about Grand Blanc Parks. The consultants engaged with residents to discuss current parks conditions, gather feedback, and encourage residents to take the community input survey if they had not already. If residents did not want to take the survey on the at the booth, flyers were available with the QR code to take at home.

COMMUNITY INPUT SURVEY

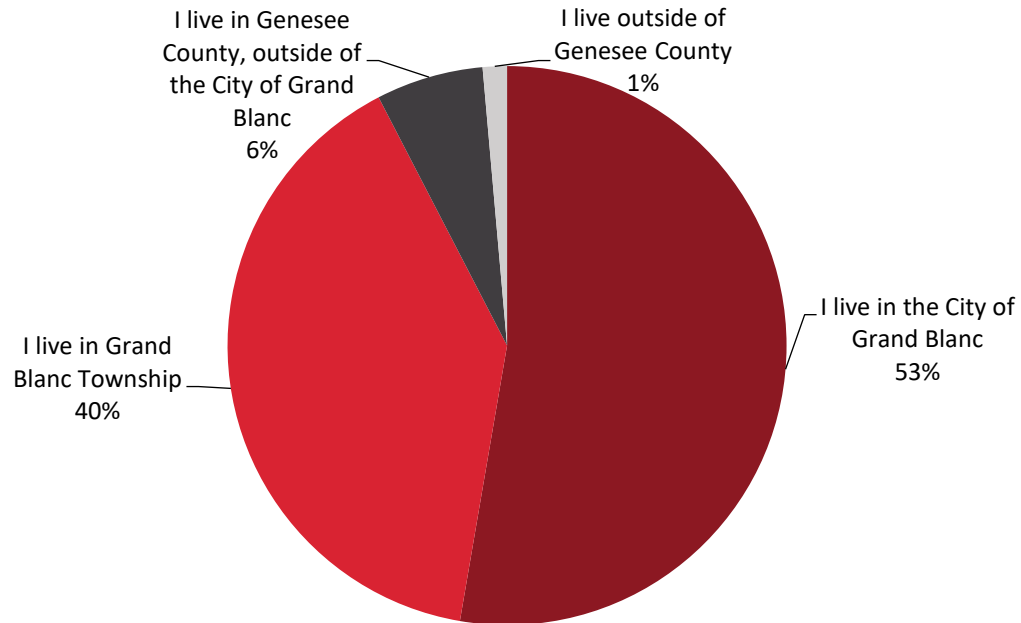
In the winter and spring of 2021, an online survey was available to gather input regarding parks and recreation in the City of Grand Blanc. The online survey included 23 questions regarding public parks, the senior center, trails, ADA accessible equipment, and respondent demographics. The community-wide survey received 554 responses, with 321 complete survey responses from residents within the City and others interested in providing input. The survey was assigned the web domain www.grandblancparksurvey.com, was available on the City's website and social media, and could also be found by scanning the QR code on flyers placed in City Hall and businesses throughout town, or that were handed out at the August 4, 2021 food truck night.

Key points of the survey are summarized on the following pages, and the remaining tables developed for the report can be found in Appendix B.

About the Respondents

At the end of the survey, respondents were asked to provide their relationship to the City and their age. The majority, 53 percent, of the respondents live in the City of Grand Blanc and 40 percent live in the Township. Figure 3 depicts where all the respondents live.

FIGURE 3 - RELATIONSHIP TO GRAND BLANC



To understand more about the respondents, the survey asked respondents to select which age group they fall under. The top respondent age groups were 30-39 (27%) and 40-49 (26%).

TABLE 8 – AGE OF RESPONDENTS

Age Group	Respondents
Under 18	1%
18-29	9%
30-39	27%
40-49	26%
50-59	15%
60-69	15%
70-79	6%
80+	1%

Respondents were also asked who they visit the Grand Blanc Parks with. Out of seven options, the top three answers were the following:

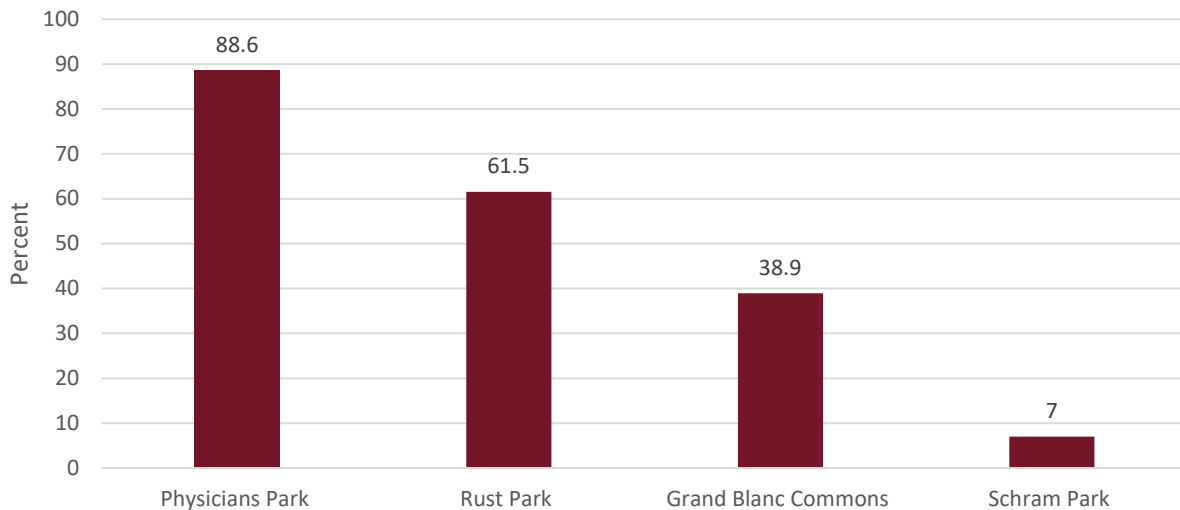
- Children - 63.1%
- Spouse - 60.7%
- Myself - 41.1%

Other options were: friends, pets, and grandchildren.

Park Activity

To grasp a better understanding on what parks are utilized most frequently, respondents were asked which of the following City of Grand Blanc Parks were visited in the past year. Physicians Park is visited the most regularly at 88.6%, followed by Rust Park at 61.5%.

FIGURE 4 – GRAND BLANC PARK VISITATION



For the Parks Committee and the City staff to understand how citizens view all their parks independently, respondents were asked to rank and evaluate four specific categories about each individual park: safety and security, variety of facilities, maintenance and appearance, and handicap accessibility. These responses will help guide City officials in understanding what areas of the parks are successful and what areas need improvements.

Grand Blanc Commons

Respondents were asked to evaluate the following aspects in Table 9, below, for Grand Blanc Commons. In summary, 50% of respondents said safety and security was “very good/good”, and 45% said maintenance and appearance was “very good/good”, in all other categories the most common answer was “don’t know”.

TABLE 9 – FACILITY CONDITIONS

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
Safety & Security	20.4%	29.4%	12.4%	4.7%	1.5%	31.6%
Variety of Facilities	8.6%	19.7%	25.4%	8.9%	1.6%	35.7%
Maintenance and Appearance	11.9%	34.1%	13.0%	6.2%	.05%	34.3%
Handicap Accessibility	4.3%	7.9%	16.0%	5.4%	5.4%	56.5%

Respondents were asked what amenities should be added or improved at Grand Blanc Commons; 10 options were provided. The top five answers included:

- Paved paths - 39.4%
- Paved walking trails - 31.9%
- Nature/interpretive signage - 28.4%
- Disc golf course- 27.1%
- Fishing/River Access - 25.5%

The top write-in responses were:

- Better onsite maps / wayfinding
- Year-round bathroom facilities
- Keep the park its original intent- passive recreation only

Rust Park

Respondents were asked to evaluate the following aspects in Table 10, below, for Rust Park. In all categories but handicap accessibility the most common answer was “good”.

TABLE 10 – FACILITY CONDITIONS

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
Safety & Security	35.1%	37.2%	9.5%	1.6%	0.3 %	16.3%
Variety of Facilities	27.0%	43.3%	10.8%	1.5%	0.3%	17.2%
Maintenance and Appearance	31.1%	40.1%	8.7%	2.9%	0.3%	16.9%
Handicap Accessibility	13.4%	27.7%	14.9%	0.95%	1.5%	41.7%

Respondents were asked what amenities should be added or improved at Rust Park:14 options were given. The top five answers included:

- Walking paths - 36.4%
- Additional / Improved playground - 34.6%
- Restrooms - 33.2%
- Dog Park - 32.1%
- River access/fishing access - 31.1%

The top write-in responses were:

- Handicap accessible play equipment
- Scooter/Skate Park
- Gazebo
- Benches inside play area

Physicians Park

Respondents were asked to evaluate the following aspects of Physicians Park in Table 11, below. For all categories but handicap accessibility the most common answer was “very good / good” of particular note is that almost 50% of responded think safety and security at Physicals park is “very good”.

TABLE 11 – FACILITY CONDITIONS

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
Safety & Security	49.6%	37.2%	7.3%	1.7%	0.3 %	3.9%
Variety of Facilities	31.8%	49.1%	11.9%	2.1%	0.6%	4.5%
Maintenance and Appearance	39.4%	46.8%	7.1%	1.8%	0.9%	4.1%
Handicap Accessibility	21.8%	28.8%	15.5%	0.9%	1.5%	31.5%

Respondents were asked what amenities should be added or improved at Physicians Park, there were 12 options provided. The top five answers included:

- Ice skating rentals - 52.4%
- Additional / Improved playground - 31.1%
- Additional / Improved restrooms - 30.7%
- Cornhole - 30.4%
- Dog Park - 23.6%

Top write-in responses included:

- Band / performances/ concerts
- Handicap accessible play equipment
- Band shell
- Interactive art installment for kids
- Exercise area
- Skate Park

Schram Park

Respondents were asked to evaluate the following aspects of Schram Park, in Table 12, below. In all categories the most common answer was “don’t know”.

TABLE 12 – FACILITY CONDITIONS

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know
Safety & Security	6.0%	6.0%	12.1%	2.5%	1.4 %	72.0%
Variety of Facilities	2.8%	2.5%	9.5%	4.2%	10.9%	70.1%
Maintenance and Appearance	4.3%	7.1%	11.8%	2.5%	3.2%	71.1%
Handicap Accessibility	2.1%	3.2%	11.4%	2.5%	3.2%	77.5%

Respondents were asked what amenities should be added or improved at Schram Park, there were 18 options provided. The top five answers included:

- Restrooms - 52.5%
- Walking paths - 50.3%
- Playground - 41.5%
- Pavilions - 33.3%
- Sledding hill - 33.3%

Top write-in responses included:

- Disc golf
- Handicap accessible play area

Reasons for Visiting the Parks

Positive input regarding why park users visit the parks was collected from respondents regarding the City of Grand Blanc Parks. There were 168 responses, and the most common answers were:

- Cleanliness
- Accessible by car, walking, and biking
- Walking paths/trails
- Variety
- Location, being close to home

Priorities for the Next Five Years

To understand what residents would like to see in the City of Grand Blanc Parks, respondents were asked what is one thing that should be improved in the parks. There were 140 responses, and the top responses were:

- Upgrade equipment
- Add more trails
- Add benches
- Activities for all ages
- Dog parks
- Disc golf course

To understand the priority of the park users over the life of the Parks and Recreation Plan Master Plan, the survey asked respondents to rank three strategies for parks and recreation over the next five years. The ranking was as follows:

1. Upgrade/add amenities to Grand Blanc's existing parks
2. Maintain Grand Blanc's existing parks
3. Acquire additional park land



CHAPTER 6

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

IN THIS CHAPTER

47 Overview

47 Goals

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Parks and Recreation Master plan is to identify effective and achievable goals and objectives as an important part of the parks and recreation planning process. The City of Grand Blanc wants to provide high-quality recreation opportunities for the community. Goals and objectives are based on demographic characteristics of the population, the physical and environmental characteristics of the City, and community input.

The following goals are overarching ideas that the City would like to accomplish. Objectives are more detailed strategies to help carry out the goals. Finally the action plan is more precise and identifies specific projects and programs the City would like to complete over the next five years. Action Plan items can include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, capital improvements, and operations and maintenance actions. The City of Grand Blanc formulated the following goals and objectives.

GOALS

Goal 1: Provide high quality recreation opportunities for all residents based on citizen interest and active living.

Objectives:

- a. Update parks to provide outdoor recreation experiences for people of all ages and abilities.
- b. Utilize the recreation plan survey results as a guide for future park and program development.
- c. Continue focused preventative maintenance at all parks and recreation facilities. Use park facilities to educate on issues such as stewardship, natural systems and healthy/active living.
- d. Work with volunteer groups on invasive species control and best management practices of vegetation.
- e. Monitor new technology and energy-saving methods and apply when applicable to park facilities and operations.



Goal 2: Build on the strengths and opportunities within the existing park system to provide a high quality of life for the Grand Blanc community.

Objectives:

- a. Design sustainable and attractive recreation facilities that contribute to community character.
- b. Develop a management plan for each park that identifies annual, seasonal, monthly, and weekly maintenance needs. This plan should include the human and financial resources required for adequate park management.
- c. Define a mission statement that describes the purpose of each park and share it with the community. Encourage the continued development at the senior center to provide for social interaction of various age groups and residents of all ages.
- d. Encourage creative staffing, education, and maintenance minded design of recreation facilities, landscaping, and equipment to reduce annual maintenance costs.

Goal 3: Improve / provide barrier free access & universal design standards at the parks and recreation facilities

Objectives:

- a. Provide equal access to recreation opportunities to all individuals.
- b. Improvements to existing facilities should be designed to exceed the minimum accessibility requirements.
- c. If feasible, any new facilities should be designed to meet universal accessibility standards.

Goal 4: Develop safe and accessible non-motorized pathways

Objectives:

- a. Advocate for projects identified in the non-motorized master plans developed by Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Organization and City of Grand Blanc.
- b. Explore expansion of existing trails system supported by local or countywide millage.
- c. Support other modes of travel-pathways and transit, while continuing to pursue a comprehensive system of Pathways (interconnected sidewalks, bike paths, and bike lanes) and opportunities for transit.
- d. Update existing trails to be functional year-round.
- e. Close gaps / create opportunities to accomplish the 10-minute Walk to a Park Campaign.
- f. Evaluate potential corridors for new pathway opportunities.
- g. Support the maintenance of the Iron Belle Trail in the City of Grand Blanc.

Goal 5: If deemed appropriate, acquire additional recreational land for potential park facilities.

Objectives:

- a. Identify open space for potential future park land.
- b. If desired, acquire property as it becomes available.
- c. If possible, acquire spaces that are high in natural resources value.
- d. Place priority on acquisition projects that help achieve the 10-minute walkability campaign.

Goal 6: Increase marketing/awareness of the existing park facilities.

Objectives:

- a. Continue promoting the active and passive use of park facilities for a variety of organizations (athletic, social, business community, civic, service clubs, etc.).
- b. Enhance internal wayfinding and mile markers in park trail systems, and maps.
- c. Install monument signs at visitor entrance to parks.
- d. Enhance website and use a variety of advertising and social media tools for promotion of events and programs.
- e. Explore use of park facilities by vendors for short- and long-term contracts to widen programs and services offered without a direct burden on staffing.
- f. Work with schools, government entities, and non-profit organizations to share information regarding Grand Blanc parks and recreation opportunities.

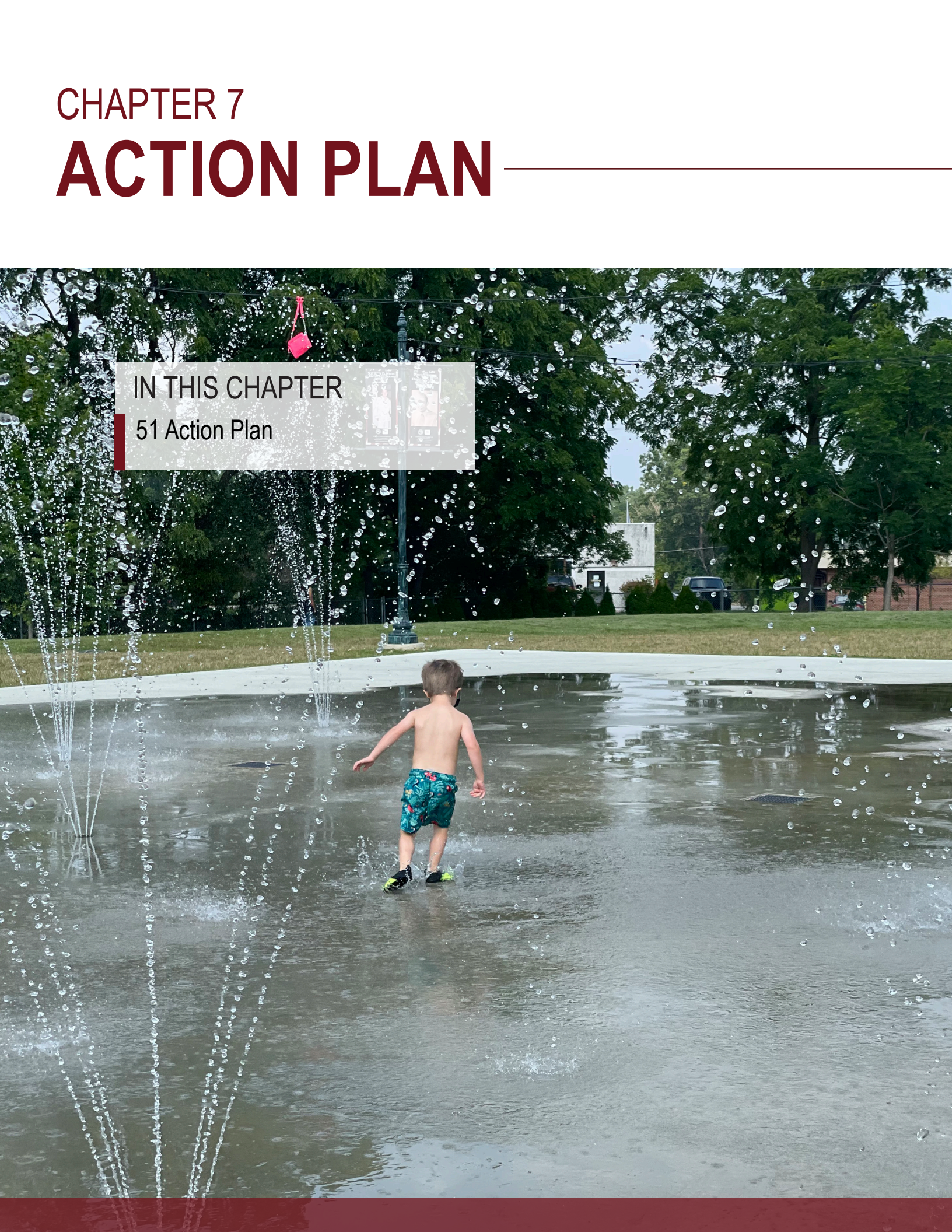
Goal 7: Pursue a variety of funding sources and partnerships to better serve the community's recreational needs within the limited human and financial resources currently available to Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation.

Objectives:

- a. Continue to seek partnerships with other recreation providers, agencies, and neighboring communities to share ideas and provide complementary programs and facilities. Examples include but are not limited to civic groups, community groups, places of worship, scouts, user groups, etc.
- b. Apply for grants, seek donations, endowments and/or sponsorships for maintenance and development of facilities that support the vision of the City of Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation.
- c. Continue coordination with school district on shared use of facilities, and clearly define facility and programming needs.
- d. Evaluate demand and financial feasibility of providing additional community facilities.
- e. Create volunteer programs that clearly define roles and responsibilities, allow for an increase in civic involvement, and recognize volunteer efforts on an annual basis.
- f. Monitor and adjust user fees as appropriate to cover costs while remaining affordable for the community.

CHAPTER 7

ACTION PLAN

A young boy with short brown hair, wearing green patterned swim trunks and black sneakers, is standing in a shallow pool of water at a park. He is facing away from the camera, looking towards several water fountains that are spraying water upwards. The air is filled with many small water droplets, creating a misty effect. In the background, there are lush green trees, a grassy area, and a black lamppost. A pink bag is hanging from a string in the upper left. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

IN THIS CHAPTER

51 Action Plan

ACTION PLAN

With goals and objectives in place, the City of Grand Blanc has developed a five-year Action Plan that will enable the City to move towards accomplishing specific projects. The Action Plan is used to highlight specific projects which will maintain and improve the quality and diversity of parks and recreation opportunities.

Each action item relates to a goal/objective from the previous section. Each item has been assigned to a priority level of 1,2, or 3. The potential capital improvements that are listed in Table 13 have been established to provide a framework for decision makers, and to enable the City to apply for grant funding for those proposed projects.

The project list is not a fixed element, nor is it exhaustive. It reflects the results of the input received from the City staff, the open house, and the online survey. Future circumstances, especially availability of funding, may influence the order in which the projects are completed.

TABLE 13 - ACTION PLAN

Improvement	Related to Goal/Objective	Priority
Measure building revenue while continuing to explore energy reduction opportunities at the Senior Center to help improve the facility.	1	N/A
Expand adopt-a-park or friends of the park program for additional maintenance assistance while managing administrative demands.	1	3
Identify improvements such as seating areas and landscaping to preserve the passive character of Schram Park.	2	3
Develop a Master Site Plan for Grand Blanc Commons to identify future improvements, preservation, use, and management of this property to encourage this park use for passive recreation.	2	2
Continue to support the volunteer maintenance effort through in-kind provision of materials and equipment at Rust Park.	7	1
Continue to develop and install wayfinding/interpretive signage at all the Parks.	6	1
Support the City of Grand Blanc's non-motorized transportation and study the feasibility of expanding the existing trail and sidewalk system.	4	1
Develop/improve pathways and/or boardwalks to allow users to enjoy more areas of the Commons.	4	1
Continue to explore energy reduction opportunities at the Senior Center to help improve facilities.	1	N/A
Investigate the feasibility of a disc golf course in the City Parks.	2	1
Add basic park amenities such as trash cans, recycling bins, dog pick up stations, and benches at all parks.	1	2
Upgrade playground at Rust Park and Physicians Park to improve accessibility with an emphasis on safety surfacing.	3	1
Look at partnerships with local groups for ice skate rentals or skate swaps at Physicians Park.	7	1
Add/upgrade restrooms at all parks.	1	1
Add other types of interactive play amenities for children with disabilities, i.e. sensory garden and activities, communication boards, etc.	3	1

Develop potential future concepts for Schram Park, ie. natural area with more trees, pavilion for events, and/or a community garden.	1	3
Support & encourage completion of the Beautification Plans projects (see attached Beautification Plan in Appendix A).	2	2
Explore expanding/upgrading the Bandshell at Physicians Park.	1	1
Explore adding a Gazebo at the south end of Rust Park and a Veteran's Memorial.	1	1
Add art pieces/murals in all parks.	1	1
Explore the feasibility of vehicle charging stations in the parks and how they could be monitored.	1	1
Upgrade all playgrounds: safety surfacing, new equipment, additional play amenities.	3	1
Acquire land around Schram Park.	5	3
Look into possible acquisition on east side of the City to meet 10-minute walkable goal.	5	1
Develop Thread Creek banks for sustainability and integrate fishing stoop on Thread Creek in Rust Park.	1	1

CHAPTER 8

PLANNING PROCESS



IN THIS CHAPTER

54 Process

54 Review & Adoption

SUMMARY AND ADOPTION

PROCESS

In a continuing effort to provide quality recreational opportunities for its citizens, the City of Grand Blanc has developed this Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a tool to guide the development of community park and recreational facilities over the next five years. This plan is an update of the City's most recent plan which was adopted in 2017. The plan will provide the City eligibility for grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to assist the community in reaching its recreational goals.

The City of Grand Blanc contracted with Spicer Group of Saginaw, Michigan to assist with completion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The consultant met with the City staff and parks committee several times during the development of the plan. The consultant attended a city event food truck night to receive public input. The consultant visited all the parks to complete accessibility assessments and meet with park staff regarding needs at each park.

During the development of the plan, three opportunities for input, participation, and review were provided:

- Online community input survey that was available from February to August 2021
- City food truck event on August 4, 2021
- 30-day review period and public hearing held on January 12, 2022.

The plan was also discussed at several City Council meetings between June and December of 2021.

Based upon the existing information and public input, the City developed the goals and objectives for parks and recreation for the next five years. Then, the City developed an action program to accomplish the goals and objectives of the plan.

REVIEW AND ADOPTION

A draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed and available for the required 30-day review on the City of Grand Blanc website and a hard copy was available at City Hall. The review period from December 2021 to January 2022 was publicized on the City's website, and newspaper. The final opportunity for community input occurred at the advertised public hearing held prior to adoption of this Plan, which was held on January 12, 2022. After this public hearing, the Parks Committee passed a motion recommending the City Council adopt the Plan. Finally, the City Council passed a resolution to adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan on January 12, 2022.

Copies of the Plan were transmitted to Genesee County, and the Region V Planning and Development Commission. The Plan was uploaded to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval in January 2022. Copies of the noticed advertisement, the public hearing minutes, and the resolution are included in Appendix C.

CHAPTER 9

APPENDIX

IN THIS CHAPTER

- Beautification Master Plan
- Community Input Survey
- Adoption Documents
- Grant History





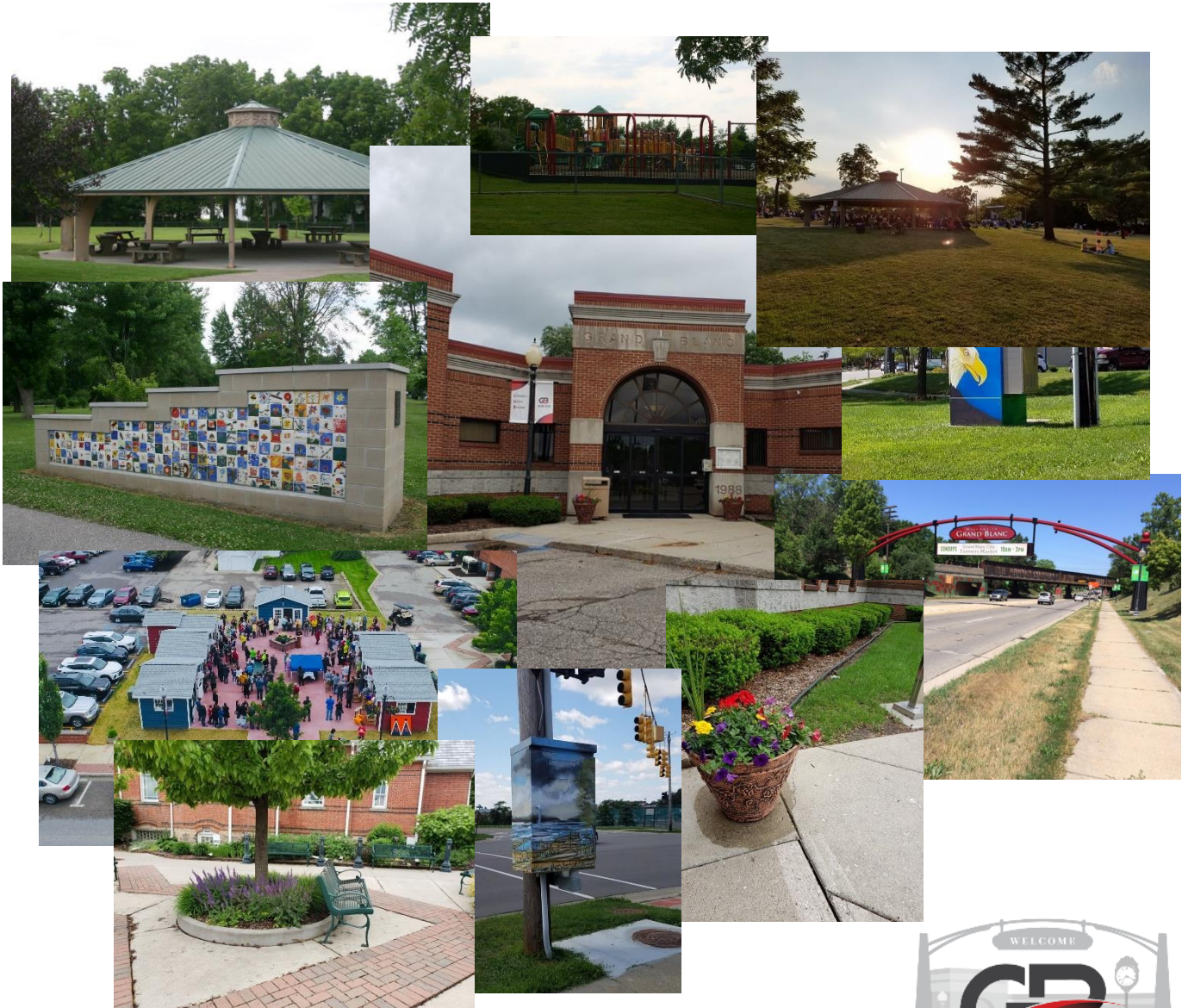
APPENDIX A

Beautification Master Plan

CITY OF GRAND BLANC

BEAUTIFICATION MASTER PLAN

CONNECT GROW BECOME



City of Grand Blanc's Beautification Master Plan

Acknowledgements

This plan has been developed with the collaboration efforts with city staff, many volunteers, planning consultant and the public.



Our Mission

The continuing mission and purpose of the City of Grand Blanc is to foster community excellence, to enhance the quality of life for all people in the community, and to prepare the community for the future by sharing a strategic vision and a plan of action for improvement in: economic development, infrastructure (including transportation, water and sewage & drainage services), public safety (including police and fire prevention & suppression services), education, health care, culture and recreation.

Beautification Master Plan

The City of Grand Blanc has embarked on the journey to a Beautification Master Plan for many reasons. The primary reason is the ability to plan projects presently and into the future, most effectively with the resources available. Many of these projects require funding, whether through grants or the general fund budgeting experience. Another reason to create a Beautification Master Plan is to ensure we have the appropriate volunteers and staff necessary to follow through with projects. Landscape continuity is important to showcase the city's many assets and attractions. The beautification of the city is important to attract individuals to live, work and play here.

This plan will be based on a five-year cycle. The plan will be used as the basis for future projects. During the fourth year, the plan will be evaluated before the planning stages of another Beautification Master Plan cycle. The projects proposed can be shifted within the plan based on funding, volunteer/staff availability, and other unforeseen circumstances. This plan is meant to serve as guidelines for the future.

Beautification Master Plan Goals

YEAR 1

Project – Lower Level Planters

These planters will be utilized to add more color landscaping to the streetscapes. Projects such as moving the current lower level planters to a clustered area and increasing planters will meet the project goal.

Project – Welcome Signs

There are currently at least five major and minor entrances into the city limits. The focus on welcome signs should be primarily on the most frequented entrances and then the remaining entrances. The current signs will be replaced with new signs that will have our new city colors and logos. The goal will be met when all five entrances have new updated signage.

Project – Wayfinding signs

These signs are an important addition to the city. These signs will help navigate visitors and residents to interesting or important areas of the city. The goal will be met when these points have signage. The start of this project will be new signage for the parks. Ultimately, signage will be installed at major intersections depicting the location of major attractions.

Project – Dumpster enclosure painting

The City currently owns a dumpster enclosure that would be revitalized with artwork. The goal will be met once this first dumpster is completed. The next step will be to initialize conversations with local business owners to add artwork to their enclosures as well. The City can help facilitate artist and business owner to create a common nature theme throughout the city.

YEAR 2

Project – Install benches strategically (Phase 1)

The installation of benches at key locations, such as bus stops and other places walkers would require a rest. These other locations will be located and approved by the City Manager and DPW Director. This goal will be met with the placement of new benches at bus stops that have the space and capability.

Project – Improve Streetscapes (Phase 1)

Improving the streetscapes will be completed in multiple phases. The first stage could have projects designed to add color and dimension. The goal will be met with incremental improvements. Projects such as increasing lamp posts, flowers, fixtures, or other various ways streetscapes are designed to look more appealing as visitors and residents engage throughout the city.

Project – Paint benches with artwork

Improving the look and appeal of some benches throughout the City will enhance the area. The goal will be met once some benches have been painted and others are being prepared for artwork.

YEAR 3

Project – Adding Decorative Lights

The addition of lights will create dimension and spark within the city. The project could be an installation of a lighted path in the park, lighted statue, or other various ways of light mediums. The goal will be met with the installation of a decorative light fixture in the city.

Project – Parks improvements

The parks are continually being improved every year. The goal will be met with any major project completion in either park. Examples include, additional gardens, statues, bandshell, or another major project.

Project – Artwork/Sculptures placement

The City has a great appreciation of art and sculptures. The first step is to initiate a conversation with an artist interested in creating or selling a piece of art that meets the needs of the city. The goal will be to acquire a piece of art and install it in a heavily utilized area of the city.

YEAR 4

Project – Install benches strategically (Phase 2)

Installation of more benches throughout the city creates an atmosphere of placemaking and walkability. This goal will be met with the addition of more benches in heavily trafficked areas such as parks, sidewalks, and trails.

Project – Improve Streetscapes (Phase 2)

The improvement of streetscapes in the second phase could use projects such as; increased flower baskets, increased lamp posts, increased lower level planters for flower, statues or other nature themed ideas. The goal will be met with the completion of any of these projects.

YEAR 5

Project – Larger hanging baskets

The larger hanging baskets will be a goal fulfilled with the addition of larger hanging baskets at the main intersections first. This will create dimension and an increase of color.

Project – Bus stop functionality

The bus stops are quick areas of rest. The projects to gain functionality would be to include enclosures or another way of keeping the elements away from someone waiting for the bus. This could be a project with creativity and resourcefulness. The bus stops are traditionally smaller areas holding few people. These creative enclosures would create a unique look while providing a service to the community.



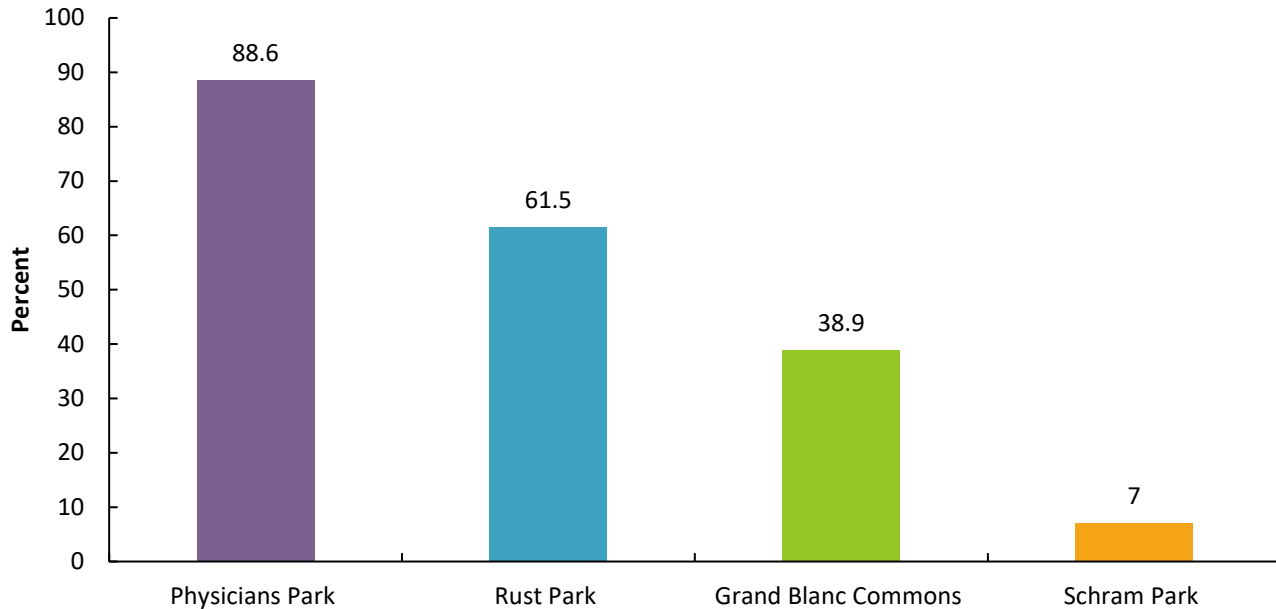
APPENDIX B

Community Input Survey

Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation Survey

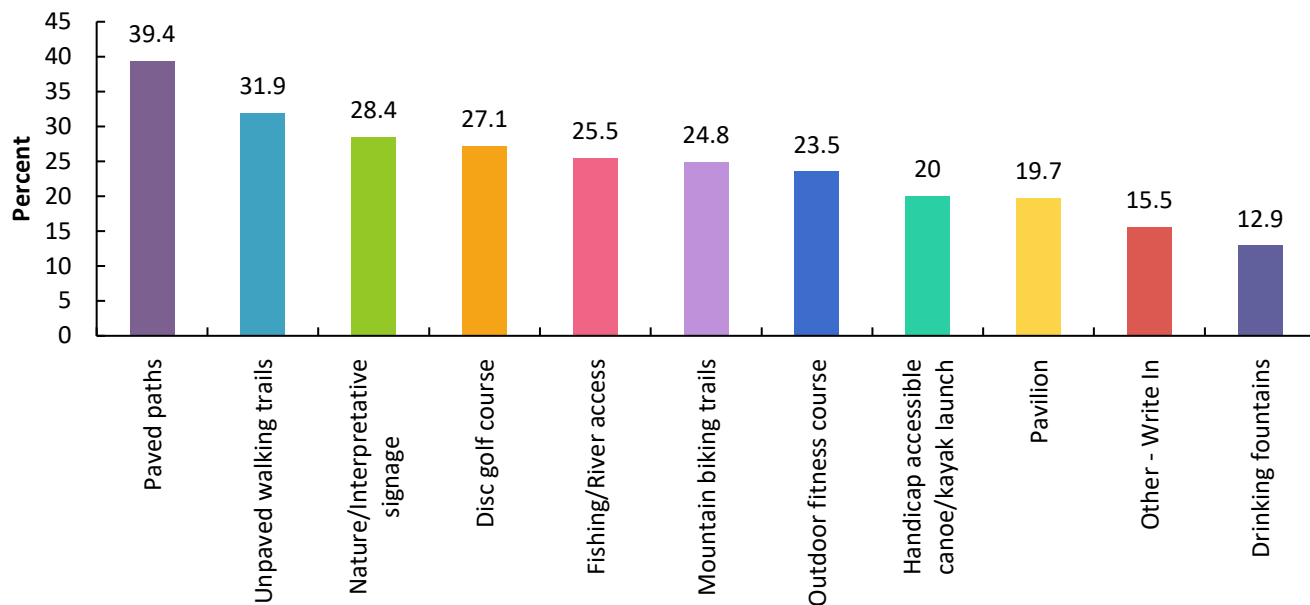
Responses 321

1. Which of the following City of Grand Blanc Parks have you visited in the past year?



2. Please evaluate the following aspects of Grand Blanc Commons.	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know	Responses
Safety and Security							
Count	82	118	50	19	6	127	402
Row %	20.4%	29.4%	12.4%	4.7%	1.5%	31.6%	
Variety of Facilities/Amenities							
Count	32	73	94	33	6	132	370
Row %	8.6%	19.7%	25.4%	8.9%	1.6%	35.7%	
Maintenance and Appearance							
Count	44	126	48	23	2	127	370
Row %	11.9%	34.1%	13.0%	6.2%	.05%	34.3%	
Handicap Accessibility							
Count	16	29	59	36	20	208	368
Row %	4.3%	7.9%	16.0%	9.8%	5.4%	56.5%	

3.What amenities would you like to see added or improved at Grand Blanc Commons? Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In	Count
A better on-site map	7
Year-round bathrooms and located by the entrance.	3
Dog Park	3
Handicap accessible activities/playground/equipment	3
Keep it wild per the original intent!!!	2
Need trail markers	2
Availability for basketball	2
2nd parking lot New Entrance	1
Better access through very muddy sections much of the year.	1
Bigger Christmas light display	1
Clean up trash and graffiti	1
Clear Thread creek for Kayak Navigation	1
Colorful Art in the park, gathering circle and seating, Fountain Circles	1
Control the teenagers that smoke pot back there and give people a hard time	1
I didn't realize this river is deep enough for a canoe.	1
I have been there in the fall, and	1
I was there in the fall and heard gun shots. Pretty sure someone was hunting; I have not been back	1
I would like to see some bike paths/walking paths so that people can walk to the park without the worry of being hit by a car.	1
Need more benches for seniors too walk and sit and walk and sit. I need them myself and when I am out walking especially behind middle school there are no benches to sit and rest. Many people I pass say the same thing.	1
Signage in Grand Blanc Commons, clearing fallen frees, bridges over boggy and flood prone areas	1
Skate board park for the teens	1
Splash pad	1
A sign on Perry as well	1
Veggie Gardens	1
Benches for parents should be INSIDE the fences of playscape areas	1
bike path to library	1
Fallen trees need to be removed from the creek for canoeing/kayaking	1
Trash receptacles other then the library dumpsters	1

4. Do you have any other feedback regarding Grand Blanc Commons? (Responses- 85)

Summary:

- Too many people are letting their dogs run loose when they should be on a leash. Was attacked by a pit bull dog 2 years ago that was not on a leash.
- I LOVE the commons.
- I love Rust Park and walk there most every day when there is no snow! The park is well maintained and the Garden Club volunteer does a wonderful job maintaining the beautiful flower gardens. I have noticed this past year that people are not always picking up their dog's poop. running at the Commons. 2) Keep motorized vehicles off of the commons. Again, signage to that effect at each point of entry is in order. 3) More trash pickup. Some folks eating lunch, etc. leave their trash behind. 4) Keep it wild and use for passive recreation only. There are other parks (Schram, etc.) that can be developed for more organized pursuits, picnicking, etc. 5) We love the commons. Improve maintenance on the footpaths and replace the maps that have been destroyed.
- I've lived in Grand Blanc for several years and never knew about this area.
- Leave it as natural as possible, just improve the trails.
- Wayfinding signs along the various paths/path intersections would go a long way. I like the minimalist feel of the park and would honestly be disappointed to see too many "amenities" or features added
- I live in Applegate Farms and have never seen a sign that this park even existed. I will have to go looking.
- I like it the way it is
- Paved paths or more board walks to help with passage during the wet seasons would be great. Or an improved drainage plan but it's a low area so that may be difficult. It gets flooded and so muddy at times it's not possible to pass without proper gear.
- I've lived in Grand Blanc since 2013 and I've never heard of Grand Blanc Commons. Maybe some advertising or promotion would be helpful.
- Let's advertise it exists. Did even know it exists.
- Keep it simple in the park as required. Better signage at the parking lot entrance behind the library and a sign on Perry.
- Better trail signs
- Need better enforcement of leash laws. The commons are often used as a dog run. We like dogs, but not the kind that corner us growling, with teeth bared. The owners generally walk up without a word, and leash their dogs. My pointing out of leash laws is always poorly received. There should be leash law signage at ALL points of entry (Not that it will prevent this, but it will help with enforcement). 2) Keep motorized vehicles off of the commons trails. Again, signage at all entries. 3) Better trash removal.
- The trails need better signage/maps at trail heads and turns. There is nothing that says how long a trail is or what it leads to. My family and I hike back there often and before we knew the trails well it was difficult with young children to know which paths we should stay on. Not to mention just for overall safety and navigating the woods.
- The commons is too often used as a dog run, where the leash law is ignored. We don't have anything against friendly dogs, but all too often encounter dogs that run up on us growling and with bared teeth (I mean this literally). They hold us at bay until their owner comes up and leashes them (always without saying a word). My polite explanations of the leash laws are never met graciously. If my Grandkids were ever with me when this happened, I'd call the police. There needs to be large signage at each point of entry, including informal entries (ie: Kings Point Greens, the church lot off of Bush St.). It probably wouldn't reduce incidents, but it would assist in enforcement. Perhaps a bark park could be put in at Schram Park to reduce instances of dogs running at the Commons. 2) Keep motorized vehicles off of the commons. Again, signage to that effect at each point of entry is in order. 3) More trash pickup. Some folks eating lunch, etc. leave their trash behind. 4) Keep it wild and use for passive recreation only. There are other parks (Schram, etc.) that can be developed for more organized

pursuits, picnicing, etc. 5) We love the commons. Improve maintenance on the footpaths and replace the maps that have been destroyed.

- Trails not marked as well as they could be and need better maintenance ie woodchipped
- We need a big upgrade to our parks. Some of the other parks in other cities have so much more. Would love to see Grand Blanc have more things as well
- It would be nice if there was an easier way to get down that giant hill that leads to the bridge.
- Need maps of trails throughout the trails
- More planned activities for seniors and kids. At other parks I have done painting classes, photography classes, my grandkids I have taken to parks for making crafts, gnome and fairy crafts, painting pumpkins etc., been given science boxes to do with grandkids which they love from Davison parks, walks looking for clues along the way etc.
- Love the park.
- Please remove the bricks lining the tributary's bottom. It's unnatural and inhibits aquatic life. If erosion is an issue, please invest in natural forms of erosion control. These will make the stream livable for fish, after which you should consider investing in fishing infrastructure.
- I like the fact that it is a natural, passive recreation only park.
- People I have spoken with like it.
- The Commons is sort of "hidden" in the city. Could there be an opportunity to increase signage or add a new parking lot/entrance to the park rather than behind the library?
- Don't over do it here! Keep it natural, wouldn't want to see these paths get paved
- I'm not sure how many of the listed options are allowed in the Commons.
- access path points children's playground outside of entrances to trails on common ground, maybe purchase one of the lots by the 2 ponds on Kings Fairway
- I'm not sure how many of the listed options are allowed in the Commons.
- I've never been there. Honestly didn't know it was there.
- Thank you for fixing the big bridge. One of the smaller wooden walkways is dangerously slanted.
- Restrooms
- I pretty much like it the way it is.
- Homeless and/or party camps are open and obvious. Need to have some sort of security presence to note and rid the area of these semi permanent structures.
- Very thing is just fine, leave it be.
- I cannot figure out where the City can offer kayaking/canoeing and fishing.
- The walking paths that are there get pretty overgrown in late summer/fall. Would love to see them better maintained. I would like to see GBC stay less developed. Physician's Park and Rust Park are already pretty developed. I like that GBC is a little more on the wild side. That being said, more wood chip lined trails in there where the trails already exist would be nice - it gets pretty muddy. I don't think Thread Creek is deep enough for a canoe/kayak launch.
- Perhaps signage throughout the trails, more than just the map at the library entrance. We're new in town and went out the other day to explore and got lost for a bit.
- Great place for nature walks but better maps/trail markings would be nice along with more walking trails.
- I like it the way it is..
- Signage is non existent. Trails need to be built up in many extreme muddy areas. So not used because it does not have decent walking trails.
- Upgrade to walking trails
- Beautiful place - needs minimal development: better all year round walking paths
- Try combining with the township and saving some money.
- I do not want it to be "developed" and lose its nature/woods dominant trait.
- I can't really comment on this area because I didn't go that far in. I was leaving the library one day and took a short stroll. I do plan on going back this spring/summer to check it out more fully. I don't know if a disc golf course is feasible here because I haven't walked it yet, but I would love to help get a course installed somewhere. When I was living in Chandler, AZ, I worked with the city and designed the layout for an 18-hole course on a piece of property they provided (it was right behind one of the high school's

baseball fields). I live in the Kirkridge Condos. If someone wants to speak with me about it, here's my contact info: Dave Cole 480-250-4565 dcole@gbcs.org or oldkingcole8@gmail.com

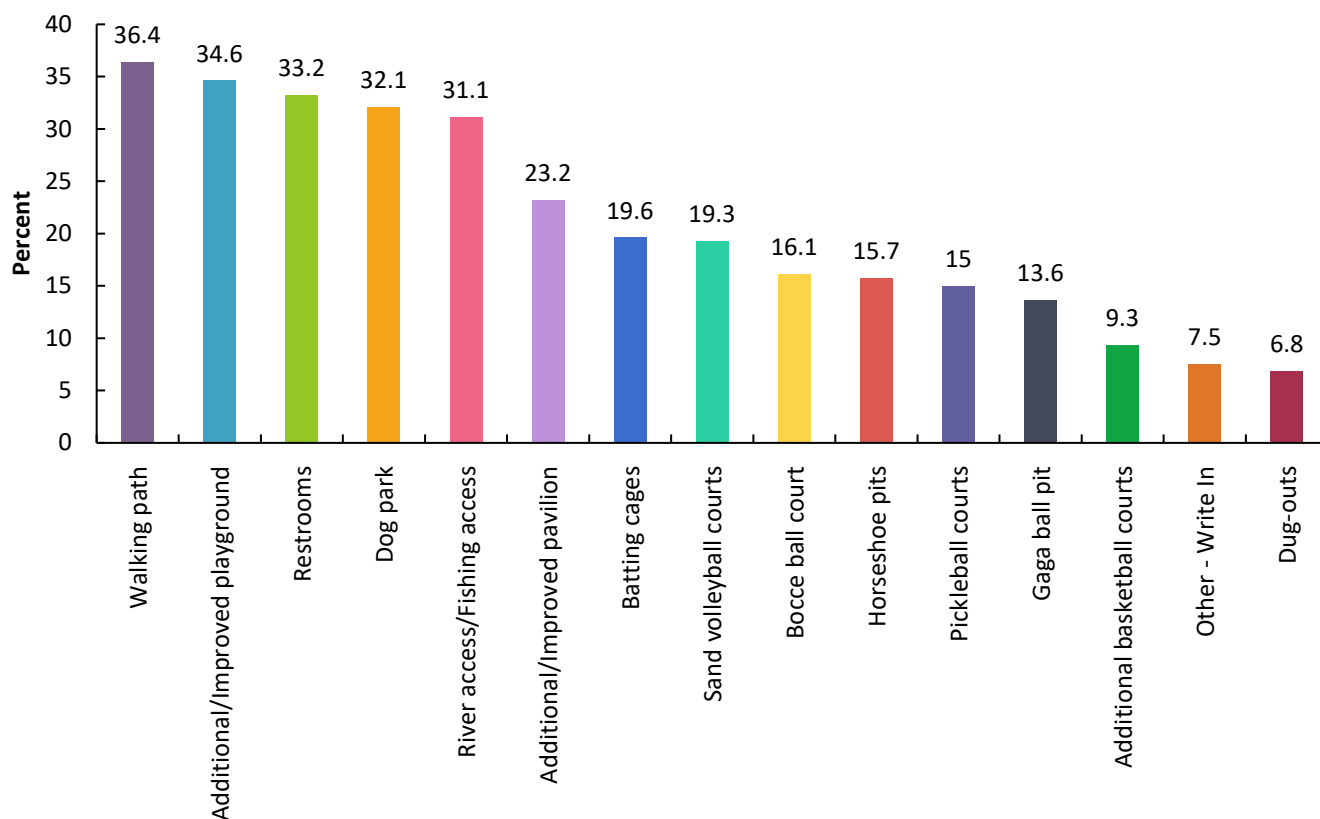
- I wish we would put up recycling and or garbage cans along the paved running paths. Ever since they put in that speedway the running path that goes all the way down Perry Road starting at Belsey to Genesee is disgusting and full of litter and dog feces. There are tons of Slurpee cups, coffee cups and multiple other things that people throw on the ground because they have no access to a garbage can. If we really want to set an example As a community of the future we should follow a clean life style in the city and have not only garbage but recycling and maybe even animal deposit. We need to get into this walking style of a community.
- The wood bridges over the low/wet areas really need some work. Better maps/signage and more distinct trails in the northeast wooded area would be nice also.
- Nothing. Leave alone
- Needs very little upgrades. The sewer/pipe corridor on the western edge could use a better/more stable and defined trail path.
- Love that we have simple nature basically in our backyard!
- Maps and posted information. Dauner in Fenton is a great model to use for the Commons.
- Have never tried wish map was available
- Never heard of it
- I'm unsure where to access this park from.
- Seems to becoming a hangout for teens and young adults that like to smoke and drink. Does not feel as safe anymore
- I would love more walking/biking trails!
- Never heard of it :(
- Bike paths please!!
- We love our parks! Thanks for all you do. We visit local playgrounds and trails regularly year-round, often multiple times per week. Signage is needed at the Grand Blanc Commons on the trails. A bathroom would be nice too, as the library isn't always open. Playgrounds without bathrooms are really stressful to us potty-training parents. Please consider opening them during the winter. I bring a porta-potty for my son, but parents gotta go sometimes too! Thank you
- Just full of dog doo
- Would love the curve slide fixed at physicians and some sort of fencing that won't get ruined from hockey, over by the rink.
- Please pave or gravel the paths, some are starting to disappear and some type of recognizable path would be nice
- Would love a sandbox with trucks for the kids. More shade over the playground areas. New playgrounds.
- The city should stop/prevent people defacing the nature area.
- Paved walking/bike trails
- I've lived in Grand Blanc for 8 years and I've never heard of this park.
- Have not been here
- Don't even know what is there or how to access it
- I think adding splash pad where the ice rink goes in the winter would be a great addition to the park
- Needs better signs on trails
- I'd like to see it kept natural, as it is now
- All handicap accessible equipment.
- Handicap accessible equipment in all areas of the park!
- If hunting is allowed, please stop it, or police during deer season
- I have lived here for 30 years and I went back on the trails last week and it is so disappointing to see how little it has improved in 30 years. I worked on the plan in the 90s for parks and thought a city that has so much wealth has continued to neglect this property. The Creek needs cleaning out of trees and trails need to be widened. I'm retired now and very willing to work on doing these projects like so many other residents.
- Just a dog poop park now.

- The trails get very muddy, would travel them more if they weren't so bad.
- Fountains and Flowers are wonderful ways to make a city more inviting - Plymouth is a wonderful example of this.
- If money was spent on Grand Blanc Commons it could be a draw for families to move to the city. I do not believe many citizens know of its existence. I would suggest the city host a reopening event after updates and infrastructure development.
- Haven't been there in quite awhile. Got lost last time I was there.
- better signage would be good to know where you are at & which direction you are headed. Buy additional property to put up playground next to entrance in Kings Fairway subdivision. Purchase golf course land to put up walking path/outdoor fitness course on Kings Fairway side of Genesee. Need for accessible park in this area!
- The Commons seems like a quiet nature type of park. Canoe and/or kayak access would be nice, but it wouldn't be helpful unless there is a yearly river clean-up to eliminate all of the fallen tree branches and debris and allow for a clear canoe/kayak pathway
- Would like to see a water trail for kayaking on thread creek through the city.

5. Please evaluate the following aspects of Rust Park.

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know	Responses
Safety and Security							
Count	129	137	35	6	1	60	368
Row %	35.1%	37.2%	9.5%	1.6%	0.3%	16.3%	
Variety of Facilities/Amenities							
Count	93	149	37	5	1	59	344
Row %	27.0%	43.3%	10.8%	1.5%	0.3%	17.2%	
Maintenance and Appearance							
Count	107	138	30	10	1	58	344
Row %	31.1%	40.1%	8.7%	2.9%	0.3%	16.9%	
Handicap Accessibility							
Count	45	93	50	3	5	140	336
Row %	13.4%	27.7%	14.9%	0.95%	1.5%	41.7%	

6.What amenities would you like to see added or improved at Rust Park? Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In	Count
Handicap accessible playground/ equipment.	4
Scooter/Skate Park	3
Gazebo	2
Benches for parents INSIDE playscape fenced area	2
Clear Thread Creek for Kayak navigation	1
Cooking/food prep area added to pavilion	1
I don't want to empty my own garbage	1
Keep tennis courts up	1
Picnic tables in the upper part.	1
Tennis walls - Link: https://patchreefpark.org/backboard-wall	1
Tree planting (see comments below)	1
Veggie Gardens	1
Kayak launch if possible.	1
More walking paths	1

7.Do you have any other feedback regarding Rust Park? (Responses: 52)

- I think this would be a good park to add a small pavilion to be able to reserve for cash. Vow renewals, small wedding ceremonies etc
- Canoe and kayak accessibility, fishing
- The playground equipment could be better maintained and cleaned for the season. A date to enter the playground is needed by the pavilion area.
- I love the park would just like to see newer playground equipment.
- Benches for parents inside of the playground would be nice for parents and caregivers. Also, a gate that closes at the entrance of the play area would be wonderful!

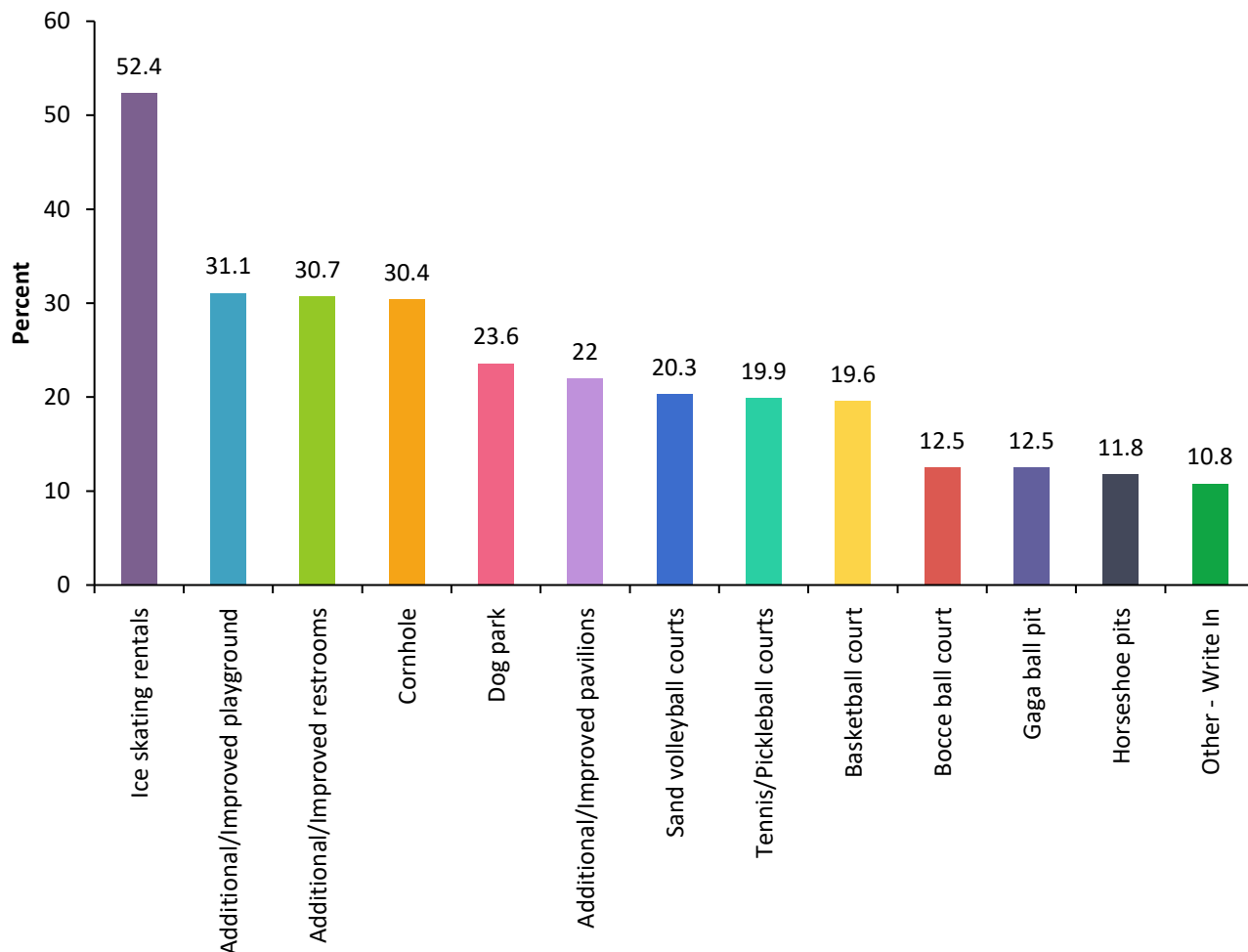
- I love Rust Park! Great place for my daily walk.
- Nice park. Sometimes gets a little loud and profane at the basketball court... Thanks for the porta potty in the winter.
- You don't have to pack every park with stuff!! Sometimes less is more
- Having the baseball field is awesome!!! But it's not in the best condition so improving that would be great! Restrooms are also not in the best condition.
- great park!
- Adult flower groups planting, maybe an area across paved driveway for kids garden area either vegetables or flowers?? Signs how many times around circle for a 1/2 mile or mile and/or up on hill area too. I love how many benches, kids love walking thru and looking at plants and exploring. Like yoga in the park.
- Great Park!
- Really enjoy the colorful gardens!! Just beautiful !
- The Park is named after a soldier. Maybe something to pay tribute to other veterans from the City.
- For a small park, this park has a ton going on. Very well maintained
- One of the classic parks in Grand Blanc, love that it has access up the hill into Indian Hill as well, not much needs to be changed, some things and equipment just feel a little run down and outdated, though.
- More benches for parents to sit near the playground. Improvement of the restrooms.
- Rest rooms need improvement
- I have been every day there now for about 10 years. It can always use a little sprucing up as all things that age do but it is lovely pretty much the way it is.
- The gardens in this park are gorgeous - thank you Touch the Earth! Would love to see sand volleyball courts added if room. If not, this is still a pretty great park! :) Would love to see a beautiful Gazebo added to the garden side of this park near the water. This would be a beautiful spot to rest, reflect, or take prom or wedding pictures. The pavilion is functional, but very plain, which is fine on the "activity" side of the park, but I would absolutely love to add to the beauty of the Garden side.
- I love this park and visit it many times. The upkeep is well kept and the volunteer association that maintains the flowers/plants do an awesome job. I recommend this park to other people. I wouldn't do anything to change it.
- Keep as much green space as u can
- Have not really been there in a while, usually just ride through when out for a bike ride.
- Dog cleanup stations- bags for poop pick up.
- I love that our parks are available to dog owners, but dog owners need to pick up after their pets. Too much excrement in this park this winter.
- more swings.
- I wish we would put up recycling and or garbage cans along the paved running paths. Ever since they put in that speedway the running path that goes all the way down Perry Road starting at Belsey to Genesee is disgusting and full of litter and dog feces. There are tons of Slurpee cups, coffee cups and multiple other things that people throw on the ground because they have no access to a garbage can. If we really want to set an example As a community of the future we should follow a clean life style in the city and have not only garbage but recycling and maybe even animal deposit. We need to get into this walking style of a community.
- It's a great park for families and teens/young adults with the playground, basketball, baseball and tennis courts! Anything that goes along with what is on place but not making it too crowded would be great.
- Our fav.
- Thank you for taking down the gate nearest the park entrance - it makes walking a loop around the park with a stroller much easier, instead of having to go through that tiny gate with a bad sidewalk.
- Skate park ramps
- Bike path to extended
- The entrance to the playground could have a gate to make it easier to keep little kids from running out. Also, benches inside of the fence would be nice as well.
- More benches to watch kids while they play

- Have not been there
- Security could be better. There is a man that is there quite frequently with a pet bird and other animals and will talk to kids and lead them away from their group and take walks alone with them into the back area. It is concerning. The parks should be monitored more closely.
- I haven't been there but will now definitely check it out!
- Rust park is my favorite!!
- More/better parking
- We love rust park and love the fairy gardens and houses on the side away from the playground.
- Any handicap accessible play equipment would be nice.
- Would like to see the snow/ice consistently cleared off, so the park can be enjoyed in the winter.
- Handicap accessible play structures for kids
- Handicap accessible playground
- Tennis Backboards <https://patchreefpark.org/backboard-wall> Seating Fountains <https://romefountains2016.wordpress.com/2016/04/21/the-fountain-in-piazza-dei-quiriti/>
- This park is a treasure - used it weekly when my children were small.
- Rust park is so beautiful. I love the little library touch. The community would love a small dog park. Almost every house in the neighbor has a dog. This would increase the attendance at the park and donors.
- I take my grandchildren to the park to play on the playground equipment.
- I have never been there.
- The gardens across from Rust Park are a nice compliment to the area. The oak trees are starting to age. In order to keep the lovely shade of the park, it may be time to consider planting young trees that will eventually replace the old trees.
- Clear Thread Creek for Kayak navigation

8. Please evaluate the following aspects of Physicians Park.

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know	Responses
Safety and Security							
Count	176	132	26	6	1	14	355
Row %	49.6%	37.2%	7.3%	1.7%	0.3%	3.9%	
Variety of Facilities /Amenities							
Count	107	165	40	7	2	15	336
Row %	31.8%	49.1%	11.9%	2.1%	0.6%	4.5%	
Maintenance and Appearance							
Count	134	159	24	6	3	14	340
Row %	39.4%	46.8%	7.1%	1.8%	0.9%	4.1%	
Handicap Accessibility							
Count	72	95	51	3	5	104	330
Row %	21.8%	28.8%	15.5%	0.9%	1.5%	31.5%	

9.What amenities would you like to see added or improved at Physicians Park? Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In	Count
Band/performance/concerts	4
Handicapped playground equipment	4
Band shell, interactive art installment for kids, exercise area	3
Skateboard park	2
Wifi, outdoor work-place areas, outlets	2
Benches for parents should be INSIDE the fenced areas	1
Batting cage	1
Concession stand for ice rink. And music of some sort during skating (radio would be fine)	1
Full size ice rink with boards for hockey practice and games.	1
Hockey takes over and ruins the ice	1
Make the ice rink bigger.	1
More seating scattered around	1
Out Door Fitness Equipment - Adult Swing	1
Places to hang a hammock	1
Safety paths so that people could ride their bikes to the park without the fear of being hit by a car.	1
Veggie Gardens	1
Walking paths	1
Benches at the edge of the rink for skaters to put on skates	1

10. Do you have any other feedback regarding Physicians Park? (Responses: 58)

Summary:

- Splash Pad
- A walking path to Ziggys. The current path means exposing my children to walking through multiple parking lots which is extremely unsafe!
- Hockey players have taken over the ice rink
- Never any soap in the bathrooms.
- Very nice park. Nicely located. Basketball courts tend to be kinda loud (and sometimes profane). Don't have them at the downtown park, especially one with a splash pad in the summer. One thing that needs mentioning is the ice rink. It is a wonderful addition to the park. However, I have noticed that families that just want to skate are often intimidated off the rink by hockey players. I tend to speak up, but some people just leave. I think that part of their reason is that the hockey players sometimes skate into the skate area in pursuit of a puck, etc. Also - Replace the vinyl fence with a wooden board fence!!!
- Fire pit (similar to downtown Cadillac) and a quiet area with benches. People go to parks for peace too
- Anything additional here would be great! Skate rental & more pavilions would be nice 😊
- Bathrooms tend to be dirty and not stocked with soap and toilet paper on a very regular basis.
- Would love to see a full time stage for concerts and music in the downtown.
- Great park could be developed even further!
- While playground area is nice, some of the areas need repair and updates. There is a plastic tic tac toe board and another game with sounds etc. very faded, broken blocks, and one with the sounds does not work at all.
- Kids like to play on - I forget what it looks like - a stage. They go up and act in it, maybe some kind of built in acting, or play acting pavilion, maybe somewhere a band, singalong could be brought, your chairs, dinner and blankets and listen to music in park in this area when games aren't in session and parking available.
- Beautiful Park!
- Need to supervise the ice rink. Seems to me that there are a lot of hockey players over there and I believe that this was mostly meant for free skating. Due to the hockey players I have not been there. Every time I do, they are there.
- I wish they could do something about people sitting in parked cars. It just doesn't seem safe. When my granddaughter rode her bike ahead of me and reached the parking lot side of the park I have about had a coronary when I observed people watching from parked cars. We don't go there anymore. Also had problems with older kids on the playground rough housing.
- I'd love to see the ice surface's size increase in the future.
- Love physicians more than any other park, just add one maybe two more additions but no more keep it simplistic like it has been, physicians doesn't need fancy
- Seems like with the size of the park, there's a little too much going on. Used to be a great spot to come and play Spikeball but with the addition of the rink area in the middle, it just seems a little crowded now.
- More benches around the playground.
- I also go to Physicians every day (to walk my dog) and I can see that the pavilion is beginning to sink on the west side. I love how it was built and marvel when I study it the way the top center pushes down and the legs are in place the way they are. It makes me sad to think it might not be there one day if it isn't cared for properly. The paved walkway is going to be due for a replacement eventually. I'm always impressed by the grounds crews who care for the place.
- Love this park! Would love to see some type of permanent band shell. Also some type of interactive art installment for kids since this is a very kid-friendly park. Perhaps more benches around the paved

track. An exercise area would be awesome here, as would a sand volleyball court. Perhaps some courts could be built on the land adjacent to the park?

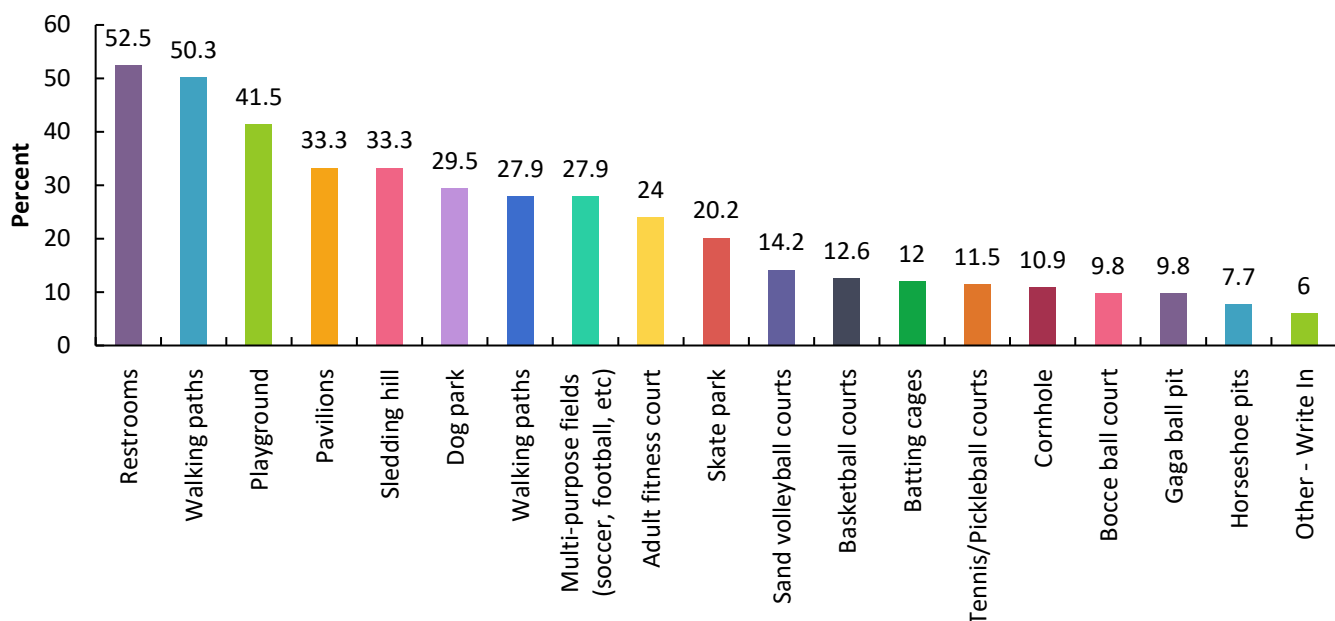
- Something along the side of the ice skating rink to hold onto. I'm not great at ice skating trying to keep my kid up on the ice and not having anything to hold onto is a challenge.
- I love this park and used to attend several concerts. Please bring the concerts back.
- Some of the people that use the pavilion dominate it so you can't use it in the summer I've had to leave.
- Love the ice rink there - skate rentals, a warming hut, and separate hours for hockey/family skating would be great.
- Schedule ice skating only and hockey only times.
- Ice skating rental for sure!!!
- We have always wanted to try the ice skating rink, but can't justify buying skates for kids who outgrow so quickly. Rentals would be fantastic.
- Security is an issue. When I was there last summer with friends having lunch, a group of young adults roughly 15-21 in age were in the main pavilion smoking dope. That tells me they are comfortable doing it and know that it's not a place patrolled often.
- We just went Sunday 3/14. I realize it's March and maybe it's on the list for maintenance but the playground has a lot of things in poor condition. Parts of the play structure are broken (one of the tic tac toe pieces is badly broken with sharp edges). It was very muddy as there are barely any woodchips left in some areas. Also some of the swings need attention. As well as the fence! My husband leaned up against part of it just to the left of where you enter the play structure and it isn't attached together anymore and he almost fell backwards when the fence fell back. With how much our taxes cost to live in the city of Grand Blanc and how "nice" of an area it is supposed to be, the parks for our children could be a lot nicer.
- It's nice to have events but parking is an issue.
- More events like concerts, movies, tree lighting expanded etc.
- We went to the playground Sunday 3/14, it was in poor condition. I realize it is March but it's very muddy, barely any woodchips some places. The tic tac toe board is broken with sharp edges. Some of the swings need attention. And the fence to the left of the playground entrance is broken!! My husband almost fell backwards leaning up against it because parts of the fence are no longer attached together. For living in what is supposed to be such a nice area the playgrounds at our parks could be much improved. We pay a LOT in taxes to live in city limits.
- The bathrooms, my baseball/softball fields need to be updated. It would be nice to have a playground in that area.
- Please fix the fence and curve slide.
- Skateboard/scooter park.
- Complete the ice rink. It looks like you slapped something together. Make things nice & they will come & use it. It's a muddy mess in the winter. Complete the project.
- I would love to see amenities added for a splash pad.
- The skating rink needs set time for free skate and no hockey during that time.
- More benches to watch kids playing on playground & trees to shade playground.
- Love this park and how close it is to me!
- Waterpark.
- Pickleball.
- Any of those would be nice.
- Bring back summer concerts every week! Lots of musicians in area would volunteer to get exposure and build a stage for them.
- Physicians is our least favorite. The playground is not good for small or autistic children.
- Handicapped play equipment.
- Would like to see consistent snow/ice removal from the paths, so the park can be enjoyed in the winter.
- Handicap accessible play structure for kids.
- Love the ice rink!
- It would be nice to have at least electric for pavilion rental. Access to water would be very helpful too.

- I would love to see soap and a diaper changing station in the restrooms! Oh, and I'd love to see the little musical chimes on the playground equipment fixed!
- Do something so there is ice skating times, it seems to be a hockey rink for out of area people. Maybe charge a small fee if not a resident
- get people to clean up after their dogs. poop bags are nice but people need to use them.
- Fountains and Flowers Outdoor Fitness Equipment Adult Swings
- The playground needs new wood chips. There is a need for a play structure that children under the age of 5 could safely use.
- Playground in rough shape, not maintained well
- Use the playground often. Like the art shows.

11. Please evaluate the following aspects of Schram Park.

	Very Good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very Poor	Don't Know	Responses
Safety and Security							
Count	17	17	34	7	4	203	282
Row %	6.0%	6.0%	12.1%	2.5%	1.4%	72.0%	
Variety of Facilities/Amenities							
Count	8	7	27	12	31	199	284
Row %	2.8%	2.5%	9.5%	4.2%	10.9%	70.1%	
Maintenance and Appearance							
Count	12	20	33	7	9	199	280
Row %	4.3%	7.1%	11.8%	2.5%	3.2%	71.1%	
Handicap Accessibility							
Count	6	9	32	7	9	217	280
Row %	2.1%	3.2%	11.4%	2.5%	3.2%	77.5%	

12. What amenities would you like to see added or improved at Schram Park? Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In	Count
Disc golf	2
Handicapped play area	2
Adult Swings	1
Fountain	1
Nature walks or classes	1
Parking, infrastructure	1
Trees/Plants	1

13. Do you have any additional feedback regarding Schram Park? (Responses: 48)

Summary:

- Never been here, or have heard about it.
- Again didn't know it exists even when calling the city about parks
- I was not aware of Schram Park.
- Schram is a non entity as a park. It could also be defined as an opportunity with unrealized potential. I didn't even know it existed until five years ago when it was mentioned in a city newsletter. (I've lived in Grand Blanc (off and on) for 55 years. Put activities in it that are unique to it to take pressure off of the other parks.
- It could be a gorgeous park like some of the parks in downtown Birmingham. Water feature benches gardens a peaceful retreat
- Anything additional to the city would be great here!!
- I didn't know it was there, so any upgrade that people want would be a benefit.
- I think I tried to get in once but chained and locked? I don't know if it is park i tried to get in with a lake area??
- I need to visit. Haven't been yet.
- Didn't even know this property existed.
- I've never been there.
- I think Schram Park might best be used for a playground custom built for children with physical, mental, and sensory disabilities. Please reference Delaware's Can-do Playground: <http://candoplayground.org/about/>.
- Never even heard of it and I've been living in grand blanc for 25 years
- Off the road parking.
- While I've heard of it, I'm totally unfamiliar with it - I've never been there. I believe it needs some additional improvement - walking paths, etc, as well as additional marketing to make sure residents are aware of the amenities (if any) that are available. A park is not a park if there's nothing to do and/or residents don't even know about it.
- This little site is a blank canvas, it can be whatever you want it to be. I do want to know if it is in a flood plain, the area looks low. Is there additional property in this area that is available? This could be a surprisingly good opportunity for a partner project.
- It's one of the weird ones, not sure how I feel about parking and getting out right next to someone's house and driveway. Would be cool to have a sledding hill there but that might be about all that it needs, or could handle at the end of that small street.
- Please do not develop this park further. We do not want increased traffic on our street.
- I haven't been there in awhile but I like it. It is simple and accessible.
- Can't comment since I have never been there and did not even know it existed until recently.
- Definitely needs to be another dog park somewhere besides bicentennial. I enjoy Bicentennial accept that it costs money to use and it can get pretty busy. I also like taking my kids and dog at the same time so it would be nice if there could be a playground and dog park next to each other so i could take the dog while keeping an eye on my kids at the same time

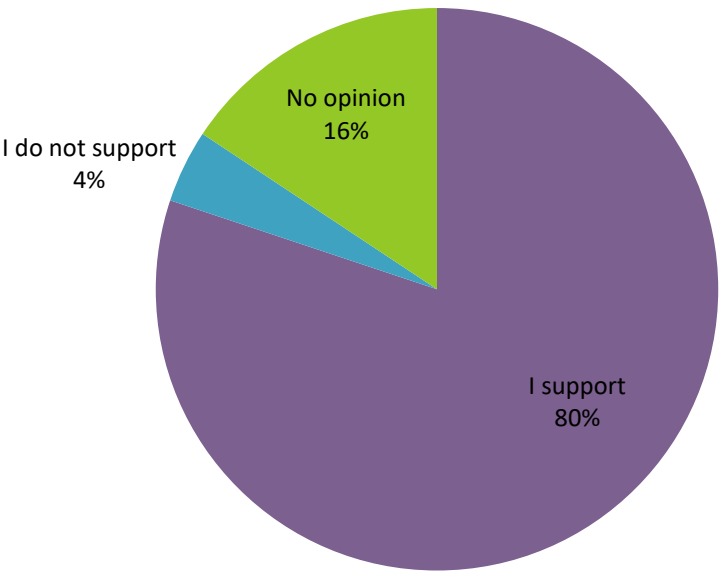
- Lived in GB my entire life, never heard of this park
- Haven't visited this park. Would support any effort to make it more visible and usable
- Put in a pond like Birmingham and Brighton have in their park. You could also put it in physician's park. Put a small deck around half of it. Go look at Brighton's and do it like that.
- I've lived in GB since 1978 and never even heard of Schram Park and I frequent all the other parks all the time.
- I didn't even know there was a park there! Could this be a good place for a disc golf course? I will cruise over there today and check it out.
- I did not even know this was a city park
- I have never heard of this park.
- It's currently a field you mow. Make use of it!
- Never knew it existed.
- Never been.
- Know it's there but never visited
- Did not know it existed
- I live on Schram St. The logistics of having more than a picnic area and some smaller things for local (very local) residents to do is hard to think of as this is a dead end street with no parking. Currently there is trees to enjoy. And a path to be able to look at the wild berries on the trees would be very nice. It would be a nice place for a small gathering to have an outdoor bbq and maybe a couple small (like cornhole) games. The parking isn't something that this street could handle beyond that. So things like multipurpose fields, courts etc is just way out of the question. But something small for our local area to enjoy a nice meal and enjoy the birds and the sun is totally something I could see. Our street is quiet and kind, and it's honestly what we enjoy doing is just going for a walk in the field quietly. I would love to discuss this more. Because it's a dead end street and we have no sidewalks children could get hit as well as adults. So it's something to think about.
- Never heard of from it. Still don't know where it is.
- I wish it was branded more because I lived in the city for 18 years and never heard of it til last year but it looks like a great land to develop
- This is the ideal quiet area for a passive park to sit and enjoy nature by adding trees, comfortable seating and various perennials, with a path meandering through. There are plenty of places to go for playgrounds and tennis/basketball, etc but too few places to get away from all the hustle and bustle of daily life. A beautiful green space filled with trees and flowers to attract birds with comfortable resting places sounds ideal!
- Great open space. Keep it that way
- Have not been here
- Pickle ball and restroom
- I have yet to visit but will definitely check it out!
- Need parking area.
- I have never been but will now
- Not all parks should be filled with stuff. It's nice to have a park in the city that's not developed.
- Tough one, it is so out of the way it would have to be something that would be good for the adjacent neighbors and little else as they would not want the traffic.
- Family Movie Nights Portal Screen
- I think a community garden would be a good use of a small space.
- We have a lot of parks with pavilions, Playgrounds, sports, etc. Since Schram is a quiet neighborhood, would like to keep it very low key. Maybe add a couple park benches, maybe walking paths at the most. Thank you!

14.The City and the Township both own and operate the Senior Activity Center on Pagels Drive. If you are a user of this facility, please explain what would improve your experience here. (Responses:22)

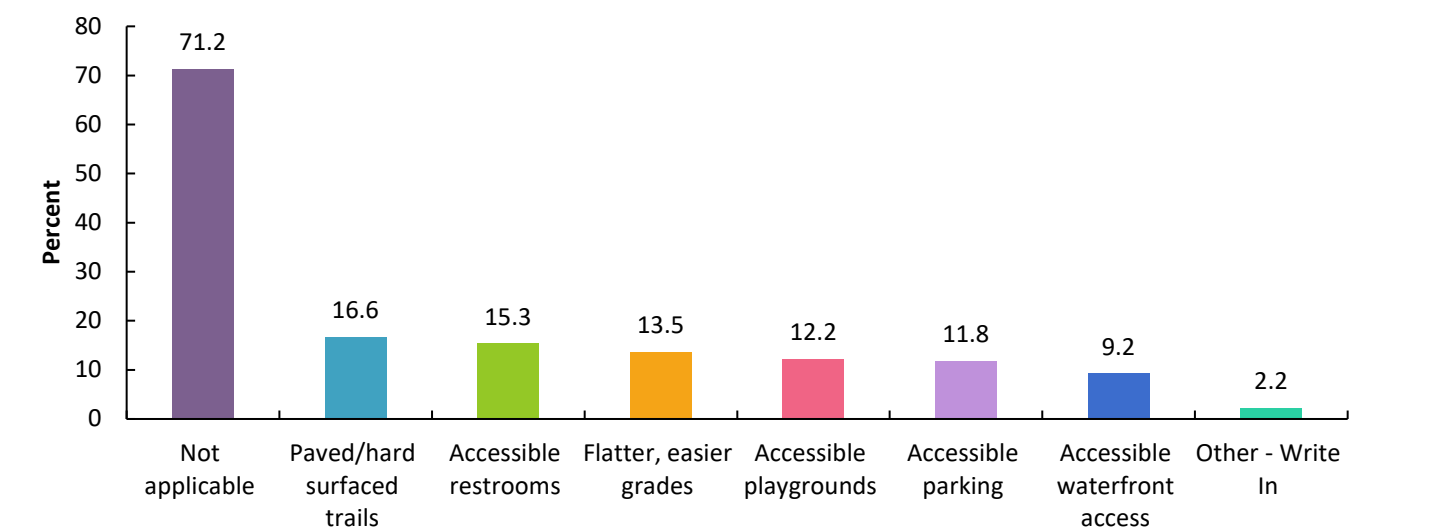
Summary:

- The city being more involved financially. The township operates it and occurs those costs.
- I'm an active senior and have not used the senior center yet. But I did go there to get my pass for the High School football games.
- Longer hours. Nighttime activities. More like Loose center. Occasional great home cooked meals.
- It's a bit outdated. I take a fitness class here & we had our wedding reception here years ago & it's still the same.
- Belong but seldom go.
- Stuff like fused glass, clay, stain glass a little more involved classes instead of just drumming. Things for more active seniors and advertised to specific groups.
- I appreciate this facility and it's staff so much. I have missed it during COVID. The only thing I can mention is just keep up the good work!
- the City needs to take over the Senior Center. It's entirely in the City, correct? Why burden the township tax payers.
- It is great just as it is, but maybe more outdoor space and activities.
- It's a nice center. For the City and Township to work together to keep and improve it.
- The senior center could use technology upgrades and a improved kitchen/serving area. It would be nice to have an outdoor landscape/development project to have outdoor exercise classes, a outdoor dining area, outdoor cooking area.
- Not discriminate against medical conditions to those that can't wear a mask.
- I used to go there to vote but now vote by absentee ballot. I'm 71 now and haven't used it for much over the years but as I am aging, I may end up using it and other than that have no opinion other than I am glad we have one of these in our community.
- Frequently advertise activities as I never know what activities occur.
- More evening classes.
- Regular website info on events & programs there once Covid restrictions are relaxed
- I only use it to vote- maybe better signage? Idk
- I've only been here for voting and it seems really nice
- I need help with knowing what opportunities and activities are available.
- We've have a good experience every time we've used senior center.
- Please add some Handicapped play equipment, every child deserves to be able to play at the park.
- Splash pad that's free to use like in other places...also handicap play area

15.The Iron Belle Trail route, a statewide walking/hiking trail, is planned to pass through the City of Grand Blanc. This trail begins in Belle Isle (Detroit) and crosses the entire state to end in Ironwood (Wisconsin Border of the Upper Peninsula). Locally, the trail will cross through the center of Grand Blanc. Would you support the development of the Iron Belle Trail in Grand Blanc? Click the following link to see a map of the entire trail route: [Iron Belle Trail Map \(DNR\)](#)

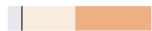
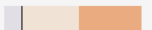


16.If there is a person with a disability in your family, please indicate which of the following would make Grand Blanc parks more user-friendly for you and your family member. Please check all that apply.



Other - Write In
More seating options
Open regular bathrooms. Hard to deal with a portapotty when you are disabled.
Special needs swings at all parks
Use to be Assistant principal at handicap Durant Truro Mott school, may a handicap playground like the school has or a couple swings even handicap accessible

17. Please rank the following statement in order of importance to you.

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Upgrade/Add amenities to Grand Blanc's existing parks	1		689	283
Maintain Grand Blanc's existing parks and recreation facilities	2		626	270
Acquire additional park land	3		355	261


 Lowest Rank Highest Rank

	Overall Rank	Score	Total Respondents
Upgrade/Add amenities to Grand Blanc's existing parks	1	685	281
Maintain Grand Blanc's existing parks and recreation facilities	2	620	268
Acquire additional park land	3	353	259

18. What do you like best about the City of Grand Blanc Parks? (Responses: 168)

Summary:

- Green Space
- The programs grand Blanc parks and rec does is top notch.
- They are all accessible by foot, car or bike.
- Walking trails, peaceful settings, activities
- In various areas of the city
- They are accessible and well maintained. I live in Indian Hill sub and enjoy being able to walk easily walk into Rust Park. It is a beautiful and restful park. I am also very happy to see the memorial in Rust Park getting some much needed updating. It is one of my favorite things about the Park.
- The walking paths
- Easy to get to Clean most.of the time Play equipment maintained
- Clean
- The convenience, and the nicely maintained facilities.
- Cleanliness. Community events at Physican Park.
- Maintained very well Safe
- That we have a park or two
- Parking is great
- I like that they are all different. None of the play grounds are the same. I also like the areas that each park is in. They're safe and easily accessible
- I like they are pretty well kept up nicely!
- They provide outdoor space and activities for families to use.
- Accessibility for bike riding.
- They are safe, clean and easy to walk to
- Rust and Physicians parks are nice usually clean. Never heard of the other two
- They're outside
- Always pretty clean
- It's wonderful having different options and we definitely use them a lot. Not so much this past year, but my 4 year old loves them.
- Easy access
- Playground equipment

- Over all, they are safe, clean, and well thought out. They demonstrate thought and consideration on the part of our parks administration and our city council (ie: the ice rink, the upcoming splash pad, concerts, etc. The commons is near my house, so I run on it, ride my mountain bike, observe nature. It is a real gem.
- Clean and accessible
- The space is for accessibility
- Clean and well maintained.
- Very nice well maintained
- That other than physicians they are always open and accessible
- The playgrounds are nice
- The community feel and safety
- Easy accessibility, clean, safe, variety of activities, lots of walking trails
- Playgrounds for my kids. Access to nature. They are well kept too.
- Being downtown - we need to drive our residents downtown to help local business
- The ice rink and holiday festivities. I also enjoy the walking trails
- Family-friendly, clean, well maintained
- They are safe. Well maintained. I enjoy the new ice rink during the holidays. Great asset to the city!
- Easy access
- Variety and cleanliness
- For the most part I feel safe there with my child.
- Close to home and very accessible
- Nature trails and baseball fields.
- I love the activity. I enjoy walking in them, taking grandchildren, and picnics.
- Walking places
- The cleanliness and variety.
- Love all of the parks. Hiking, skating and biking.
- Rust Park is very serene and nearby. Going to the country, getting closer to nature but right around the corner.
- The parks are well maintained and convenient.
- Didn't even know you had a separate parks department. Why isn't the government just one municipality? Just a waste of money to have a city and township.
- Well taken care of and I like the walking paths
- Easily accessible for walking or riding a bike.
- The abundance of playgrounds, especially during the pandemic, when your goal is to find one with as few people as possible.
- Grew up here and love the people love everything about this town
- There close which makes them Convenient. There Maintained well and clean, with nice benches.
- Great for family activities. Great for local events to bring community together.
- Mixture of natural and improved areas.
- Clean
- Appearance
- They're close
- A nice variety of active and passive recreation opportunities. Refrigerated ice rink is a regional attraction, I am fairly certain, the only one of it's kind in Genesee County. The addition of special events the last 5 years plus seem to have wide appeal. I love the farmers market in late summer and early fall when fresh local produce is available.
- The maintenance. I also enjoy the landscaping
- I like that there are options and that they seem to be well received and well used by the community members.
- close to my neighborhood
- Close to home
- That they are so well-maintained and clean

- Clean and safe
- Concerts at Physician's Park.
- We have been here since early winter and didn't have much time to enjoy anything other than rust park but it was a cute/nice place.
- Location
- The volunteers who maintain the flowers and shrubbery and the maintenance crews who are efficient and friendly.
- i like the commons because it's natural.
- The variety - urban (Physician's), gardens (Rust), wild (Commons)
- A variety of parks to choose from
- I've only been to Physician's park. It is nice looking and we'll maintained.
- They have a great reputation.
- Family friendly and walkable.
- Love the skating rink at Physicians Park!
- They are all very clean and pretty well kept.
- Nearby
- We are fortunate to have these City parks so centrally located. The parks are well maintained and are family oriented.
- Nicely maintained for the most part; readily accessible.
- They are very well maintained and the city appears to really care about keeping them up.
- the location
- The nature, the wildlife, the walking trails, the amenities, the sense of community.
- Nice way to enjoy nature and be active.
- I love how big they are.
- They are free and within walking or biking distance for most city residents.
- They are well maintained, offer a range of activities for age ranges (families, children, etc.), and are easily accessible and reachable.
- I love that there are several different options for our family depending on seasons, weather, ages, and what we want to do for the day. The access to restrooms drinking fountains is very nice and we always feel safe.
- East access and they are clean
- They are very clean.
- Closeness. Good fun when grandkids came to visit while small
- I enjoy the size of Rust Park, and how close it is to my home.
- Physicians park is within walking distance for us
- Clean and easily accessible
- Clean
- Accessible during daylight hours
- Cleanliness and child friendly
- They are well kept and safe
- The park I frequent most is quiet and safe. There isn't a bunch of noise and there isn't a bunch of garbage everywhere. The other park is a nice place for our child to run and play with other kids on the playground.
- There are multiple parks to visit, and they have different features. We love the skating rink. They are easy to get to with good parking. They are well-maintained and safe.
- That we have several in a small area.
- Restful
- Accessibility
- Safe and clean
- paved bike trails
- Small, Not too busy
- Close to home and safe

- Save and well kept
- Each has unique features
- The police are always patrolling
- Locations are good. Provide opportunities many cities don't.
- The hiking trails in the commons.
- A wide variety of activities
- Close, clean
- Accessibility
- There are many to choose from. They are beautiful and kept up well.
- Close to home, clean, safe, bathrooms present
- That they are there for my family to enjoy.
- They are close.
- Just the open green spaces
- They are close to home.
- parking is good..walking distance to stores from playground.
- Nearness to home
- Proximity
- Fun , useful, safe ,
- Fun activities to get the kids outside
- Basketball courts
- Well Taken care of...
- Concerts in the park. Playground equipment. Paved walking trails.
- How close they are to my home.
- They are fenced in. They are open and allow several children to play at once.
- Cleanliness, availability of restrooms and The proximity to my home
- Bicentennial is our favorite, by far.
- I love the variety and nature
- Convenient to get to
- They are in great locations and are beautiful.
- The up keep, the quality
- I like that they are not all the same type of park. For example, If I want to walk in the woods, I can go to Grand Blanc Commons. If I want to take my grandson somewhere to play, I can go to Physicians.
- Well maintained, clean
- That we have several options available
- You the woods right in town.
- Pavilions
- The trails
- Close proximity and availability
- Locations
- Seems like a safe space
- Dedication to the parks to improve and support committees needs.
- They are a great place to take the kids on nice days! I like that the playground equipment is for a wide age range of kids.
- For a small town I love the number of parks, especially Grand Blanc Commons. Having moved here from the Detroit metro area I was very surprised to find a nature preserve this size in an urban area
- Location!
- physicians park is within walking distance. like the walking parh.
- That we have the few that we have,
- I enjoy taking my young daughter to Physicians Park. I think it has a great location.
- Playgrounds
- They are a great feature of the City; the cycling SHARROW signage is good.

- all are within walking distance of my home. easy to watch my grandkids in fenced in parks. clean & inviting.
- They are available to everyone. Safety is so important. Grand blanc police are always in the area.
- Availability of restrooms, shaded area and not overly busy.
- Good variety
- walking distance from home to hike/cross country ski. wooded area to be in nature.
- They are easily accessible, offer different types of activities, and are well-maintained. We appreciate that all of them have walking paths, and two of them have areas for picnics with shaded pavilions or benches.
- Location
- They're well put together and fun for kids, I went there as a kid and take my younger brother and friends there now.
- close, playground
- The parks have been around **since I was young and are a fun memory to return to.**

19.What one thing would you do to improve the City of Grand Blanc Parks? (Responses: 140)

Summary:

- Add more amenities
- More of them!
- More flowers nicely maintained Restrooms clean and open Possibly some security driving through on and off
- A bandshell for concerts, plays, and other musical events.
- Install more playground equipment. Fix broken things like swings
- I would add more activities to some of them
- Help with flooding paths in the commons
- Restroom being unlocked. A walking path to Ziggys
- More activities
- Keep out solicitors/political or religious groups who put tables near restrooms and I have to explain to my children what their posters mean. Don't try to appeal to parents who just want to have fun with the kids
- Upgrade the play equipment
- The Restrooms and the playgrounds
- I've said my piece already...
- More dedicated biking, walking trails.
- Grand Blanc needs a disc golf course.
- Build a disc golf course
- More welcoming entrances and seating or benches and tables they could be spectacular lil parks even themed, kids park nature park garden park, athletic park...appeal to all residents
- Adding so much more!!
- I only go to two parks. Physicians and bicentennial. And really just simple things is cleaning of the bathrooms and making sure they are stocked. I would improve some seating around the play area for seniors with grandkids. My parents are older and like to go with us when in town and typically can't stand or play with the kids long, but really enjoy going. So some more seating at the playground. Maybe even seats inside the fence at physician park.
- Update some parts of the equipment
- Continue upgrading them over time, just as you have been doing!
- Parking. Alot of gravel and tight parking lots cause for many issues
- An ice rink for hockey and an ice rink for public skating with rentals. Hockey takes over the rink which doesn't allow for the general public to enjoy it.
- More things for adults. Corn hole, disc golf, etc.
- Facelifts on the playground equipment

- Maintenance needs improvement
- More baseball training areas.
- More benches at all parks just not Rust park
- Have a park run more along the rivers or creeks in Grand Blanc.
- Improve the muddy areas for better hiking access.
- Additional police patrols.
- I would like to see a real determined effort made to obtain a grant for the purchase of the K-mart property. That location is PERFECT for a central green space for our city. It would definitely transform the appearance of that part of the city. It would provide respite for folks — students, residents, shoppers, and visitors. For the most part, Saginaw St. is not appealing through that part of the city. To add attractive green space would bring welcome and beauty to the city. Even though Grand Blanc has nice parks, they are all rather "hidden" and the city does not offer a beautiful green area along it's main thoroughfare. I believe that there are donors who would want to help achieve this desirable addition for our city.
- Maybe add more lights
- Acquire wilderness tracts of land to remain undeveloped, with the exception of unpaved trails.
- I would LOVE to see disc golf added to GB parks. Please do this!
- Improve their budget so they can keep doing what there doing.
- Create additional items to draw more activity and fun to the parks.
- Add more walking paths.
- more tables
- Add more walking trails and maintain them in the winter so people can excercise safely in the winter too
- Less people
- More paved walking and cycling trails or side walks.
- Make them feel a little more secure, possibly with cameras or fences or gates.
- add children's playground equipment, walking paths as much as possible
- Improve security cameras so you can actually see who people are
- Disc golf
- More tennis courts
- I can't think of anything.
- Dog Parks.
- The city has done a nice job.
- Art in Physician's park and possibly Rust Park, the two most developed parks.
- Adding dog park, ice skate rentals and something around the rink to hold onto, add one more playground, batting cages
- More reasons to visit, such as more walking trails, volleyball courts, or disc golf course.
- Larger areas.
- More skating space, less hockey takeover at the rink at PP.
- Better playgrounds for kids.
- more events for adults and children
- Provide different activities at each park.
- Better trails in the Commons - virtually inaccessible after rains and in the winter because of muddy flooded trails.
- Add dog parks!
- clean them up. put a duck pond in and make it more a part of the city. have the local eagle scout project help.
- Develop the beginning of the commons trail just outside McFarlen library with a play structure and benches. Leave the rest of the commons undeveloped except as suggested in #20.
- It would be great if we could start a master plan to connect the township and the city with safety paths. I moved here from Independence Township and it was so nice to be able to walk or ride my bike to visit the parks and other area of downtown areas safely. This township/city is sorely missing that.

- I wish we would put up recycling and or garbage cans along the paved running paths. Ever since they put in that speedway the running path that goes all the way down Perry Road starting at Belsey to Genesee is disgusting and full of litter and dog feces. There are tons of Slurpee cups, coffee cups and multiple other things that people throw on the ground because they have no access to a garbage can. If we really want to set an example As a community of the future we should follow a clean life style in the city and have not only garbage but recycling and maybe even animal deposit. We need to get into this walking style of a community.
- Keep focus on grand blanc residence. Keep maintained with funds you have- stop asking for more.
- Just make sure maintenance and renewal are prioritized.
- Mountain biking trails and/or a dog park would be a nice feature, as long as the cost isn't passed on to the community.
- A splash pad for younger kids would be nice.
- More city events when allowed.
- More seating
- Better security and feeling of safety
- Physicians park needs a larger play structure. Too many families go there and it is over crowded easily
- I wish all of the walking trails connected
- Splash pad
- More climbing and playing options for older siblings to enjoy
- Add more:)
- Maintain properties. Add amenities
- At least have a little luncheon pavilion to have a small party or to sit under as a family maybe a BBQ area and a path to the nature part with trees. We have a child and there is plenty of places to be on a playground or do sports in this city. We need more places to foster quiet family time that isn't overly stimulating but relaxing and a connection to the environment and nature around you. That's what Schram st park should be A place to foster togetherness and conversation.
- Consider more ages when purchasing equipment. I often feel as if I need to choose between parks that are safe for my toddler, and those that are engaging for my older kids.
- More fishing areas.
- More!!!!
- Clean the snow/ice off the walking paths at Rust Park and Physicians Park in the winter so people can walk on them.
- Add additional restrooms and seating options
- Upgraded playground equipment Batting cages
- expand bike trails
- Add more options for family activities
- Add activities for teens - skate park
- Ensure comfortable resting places within each
- We need better stuff for kids!
- Hold events there so more people become aware. Advertise opportunities within parks more.
- Remove graffiti and litter from the commons hiking trails.
- Restrooms at all of them
- Connect GB bike trail to Mundy Twp park trail
- Add more community events, nature expeditions similar to ForMar for kids/adults
- Cleaner restrooms
- A community pool
- The parks might need some sort of security. Sometimes there are teenagers playing or smoking inappropriately at the basketball courts or on the playground when there are little kids around. Sometimes they are even on the baby swings. They tend to ruin it for everyone.
- Less litter and more signage in the commons. More shade trees near play structures.
- more playground like swings. more shade .
- More wheelchair and dog access

- Improve the restrooms and maintain them.
- Pickle ball courts
- The two that I have visited have been great.
- Add more basketball courts
- Maintain and upgrade current equipment and facilities.
- Bring back the bubble machines!!!
- Add additional items for older kids who do not want to play on swings or structures
- Make schram park and actual park
- Walking/bike paths are getting bad, need to be redone/resurfaced.
- More events. More sensory autism friendly activities
- More things aimed at toddlers and younger children. Splash pad.
- They are beautiful just need better variety for children with physical and mental disabilities. Communication boards would be awesome. Friendship park in lake orion is where I have to go so my child can enjoy a park and it's not fair.
- Add Handicap play equipment
- Clean the ice and snow off the walking paths in the winter.
- Disc Golf Courses
- We need playground equipment for kids in wheelchairs and/or with disabilities
- More community activities in them. We have a lot and I enjoy what is available
- Handicap accessible playground more pavilions
- I would have handicapped accessible playground equipment.
- More handicapped playground equipment
- More varied playground equipment for different ages and abilities
- More pavilion space, handicap accessible playground
- Food trucks! Soap and diaper changing stations in all restrooms. More playground equipment!
- Stop hunting. More open skate less hockey, the flying pucks are dangerous too
- Clean up the commons. Install signage and bridges. Install dog cleanup stations, remove graffiti and downed trees that block the creek and pathways
- Improve Grand Blanc Commons.
- More of them, maybe another near downtown. Need places for older kids to play basketball, pick up baseball, etc. But not hidden where mischief could exists. One right downtown would be great for that.
- open park at 7am
- Better gathering areas for the City Park like a seated fountains, Market Places at the park, Concerts.
- I think store fronts should be developed near Physicians Park. There is a great need for non franchised dinning options.
- Playgrounds - physicians park specifically
- Put benches inside the fenced playscape areas. When I was a parent this was frustrating - you couldn't sit and watch your children - if one fell you have to run around the fence to get to them
- Dog park added in Rust park.
- I think more shade at the Physicians park would be nice. Also restrooms at Rust Park. More things for the kids to do. They like to play but a different variety of activities would be great for all different age groups
- add additional land for walking path, outdoor fitness course, children's playground.
- We would like to see some active forest management in the Commons area to maintain healthy trees, thin when necessary, remove excessive fallen trees when appropriate, and harvest overly mature trees that will no longer thrive but could very well begin to die (rot/fall). Also, a wildlife management consultant could help create a healthy habitat for the wildlife.
- Restrict use of sound equipment - related to youths playing vulgar music at the basketball courts in Rust park.
- I wish we had more restrooms (not portable bathrooms), better paved roads (although expensive) and other things to keep people busy like multi-purpose fields.
- water park or kayaking options

- I would like to see them updated with new amenities that adults and teens can enjoy to increase the amount of people outdoors.

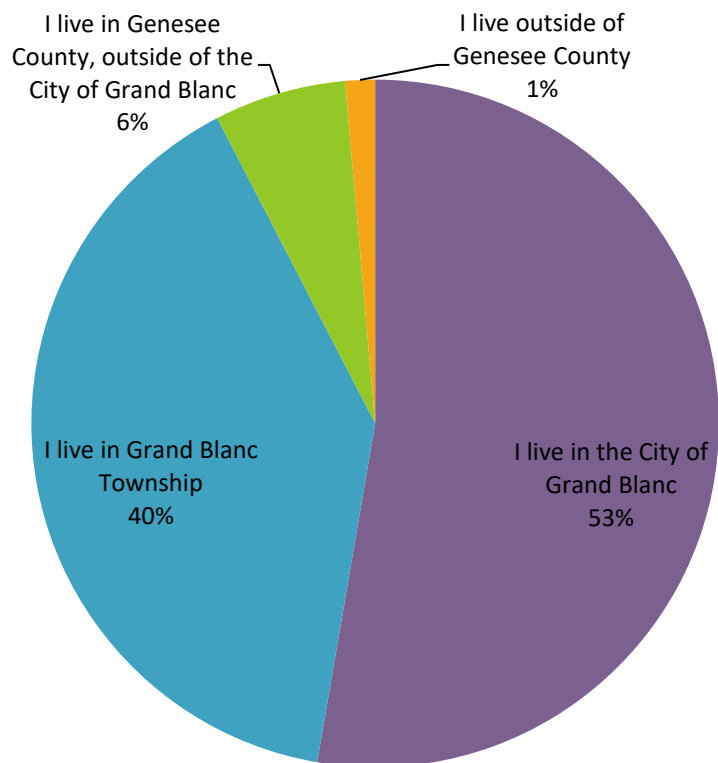
20. Do you have any other feedback regarding the City of Grand Blanc Parks? (Responses: 45)

Summary:

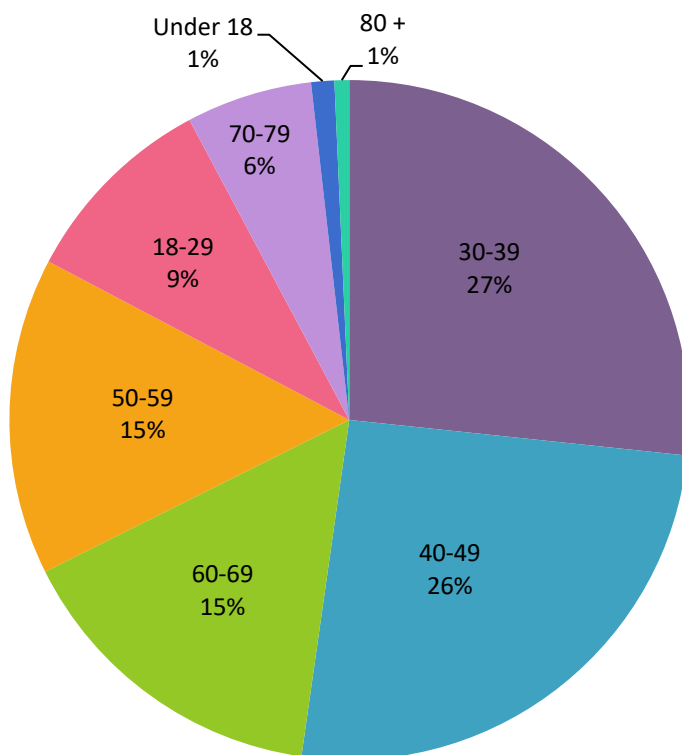
- I have only driven by Schram Park and it looks like whatever you do will be a major improvement.
- Love that they are here let's keep them clean and beautiful
- Love them!
- Advertise all the parks we have when you call the city they only mention Rust and Physicians parks
- I'm unclear as to the state of Parks and Rec since the Township split it off. Perhaps an article for the next newsletter???
- Would love to see more biking trails and ones that connect with other trails in the area.
- Thank you for all that you do!
- Yes the plastic tarp at physicians is awful and tacky! Very ghetto..get something planted in front of fence to protect it..shrubs or grasses....
- Parking on some nights at bicentennial is horrendous
- More activities
- Add a Band Shell to Physicians' Park.
- Thank you for your interest in improving our parks!!
- Keep up the good work!
- My advice is to accommodate the Belle Isle Trail as much as possible. It, more than anything, has the potential to bring tourists into downtown.
- The people I talk with like what we have. It is surprising how many people think we only have one, Physicians Park.
- The City has done a great job with their recent improvements of the parks. Keep up the good momentum.
- Don't sacrifice nature (and walking paths through such areas) just to add amenities like basketball courts and whatnot. While those are important, recognize the value of natural areas. Balance is important. Rust park is a nice balance - both improved (basketball courts and baseball field) are available, but so is a nature walk. Volleyball courts could be added behind the basketball court without sacrificing the natural areas. Maybe some seating or a pavilion on the riverview side, but don't touch the area on the other side of the creek besides maybe some walking paths to connect neighborhoods to the park.
- Maintain walking paths in the winter
- I think it might be time to think about a .33 or .50 millage for Parks, Greenspace, Trails, Acquisition, Maintenance, etc. It has been more than a decade since the last millage expired; playgrounds are getting old & capital projects will be due soon: parking lot paving, update buildings, replace roofs, etc..
- Don't change too much! The more you add isn't always for the better, it can make parks feel cramped and not as inviting. Keep the wide open spaces and the natural spaces natural, especially in the commons. So many birds and wildlife to see right in our backyard that I'm not sure most people even realize is there.
- I would purchase the Jewel Golf Course OR at least a portion of it and make it into bike path area, model airplane flying field, playground, walking path. City of Grand Blanc is too car infested. Have to get into your car to go to bank, post office, drug store. Have main parking area and then walk around downtown, pedestrian friendly.
- Please do not develop Schram St park
- I'd love to have a community splash pad or pool available and would be willing to pay an annual fee to go!
- Thank you for what you have provided so far
- We love our parks! Would love to have more if anyone decides to donate some land...
- I think we need to make the Commons more user friendly.

- Physicians Park and Rust Park are wonderful.
- Thanks for the survey! Hope you guys are able to keep improving our green space!
- why wouldn't you just combine with the township. what a massive waste of money.
- Leave the commons alone, do not develop them except to trim the branches sticking out on the trails, cut the grass on the trails more consistently, and improve the walking trails but leave them unpaved.
- I wish we would put up recycling and or garbage cans along the paved running paths. Ever since they put in that speedway the running path that goes all the way down Perry Road starting at Belsey to Genesee is disgusting and full of litter and dog feces. There are tons of Slurpee cups, coffee cups and multiple other things that people throw on the ground because they have no access to a garbage can. If we really want to set an example As a community of the future we should follow a clean life style in the city and have not only garbage but recycling and maybe even animal deposit. We need to get into this walking style of a community.
- Keep the natural areas we have and try not to be intrusive of nature and wildlife.
- Keep doing a great job.
- Bike trails and sidewalks everywhere, please.
- Hope they continue to improve as place we can go to be with friends & family
- Kids would enjoy a skate park or city pool
- Please PLEASE talk to the residents of Schram Street before moving forward with stuff.
- We use the playgrounds year-round. The bathrooms should be open year-round as well.
- When I have rented a pavilion in the past, I hated that i had to empty the garbage.
- The lawns are kept up very nicely And the take great care of things during the spring and summer months.
- WiFi in city parks, They could offer work out classes, so many things we could do , Park Fairs that rotate between the parks. I would love to join meetings or help out when and if possible (Angela 248-709-1408)
- Maintenance is very important. People want safe, clean and updated facilities.
- Love the music in the summer; wish the Fun Fest could go back to Physician's Park/Reid Road
- We appreciate that dog poop bags have been added to Rust Park. Thank you! We appreciate all responsible pet owners.
- Create a water trail on Thread creek.

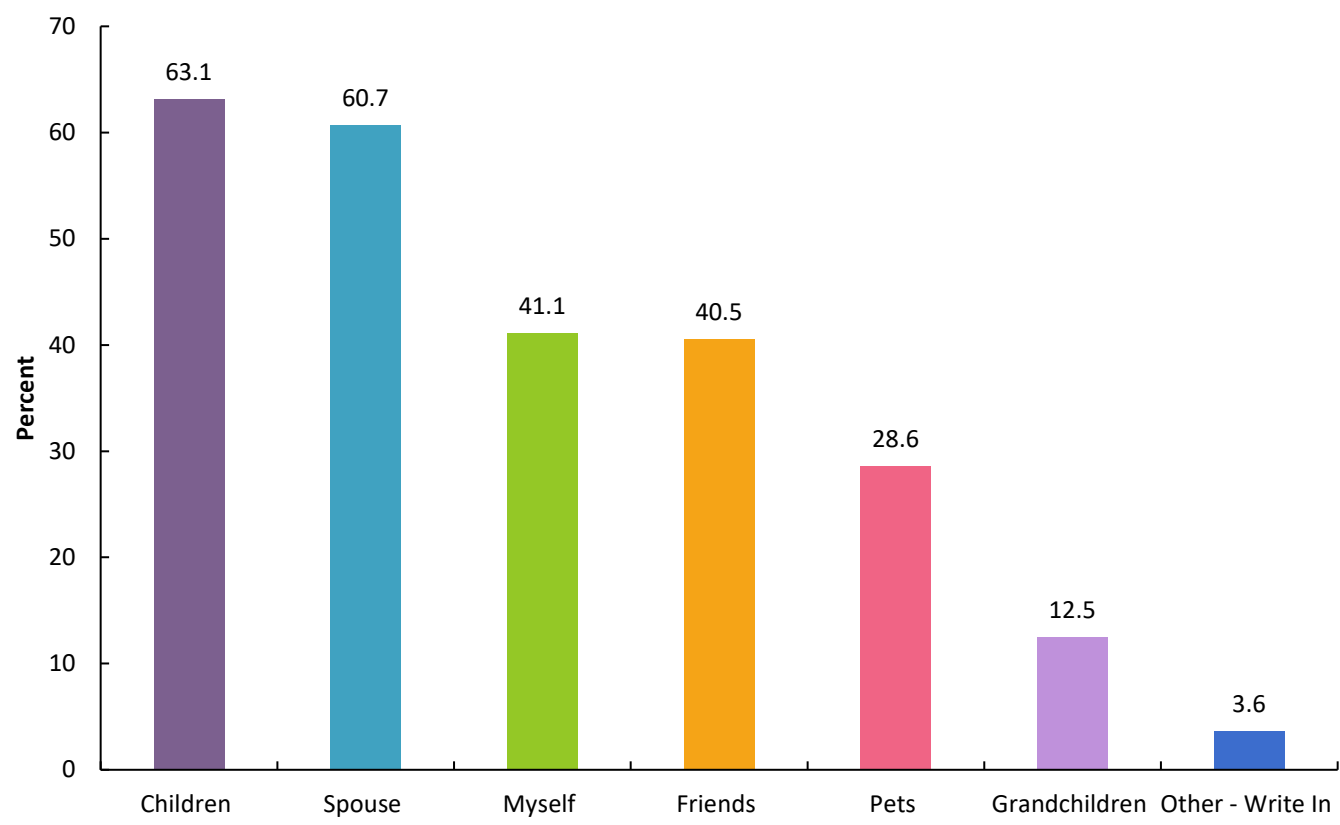
21.What is your relationship to the City of Grand Blanc?



22.What is your age?



23. When you visit Grand Blanc parks, who do you normally visit with? Please check all that apply.





APPENDIX C

Notification & Adoption Documents

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN } SS
COUNTY OF GENESEE

Sarah Osentoski, being first duly sworn, says that (s)he is the Circulation Manager of Grand Blanc View, a newspaper published in the English language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is a duly qualified paper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper, in which the order was published

12/16/21

Sarah Osentoski

KASEY E TYSICK
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Lapeer
My Commission Expires 08-27-2027
Acting in the County of Lapeer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th
day of December, 20 21

Kasey E Tysick
Notary Public, _____ County, Michigan

My commission expires _____

Prepared by Grand Blanc View
1521 Imlay City Rd
PO Box 220
Lapeer, MI 48446

Notice of Review
City of Grand Blanc
DRAFT Five Year Recreation Master Plan

The City of Grand Blanc has developed a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the City wishes to pursue. A copy of the Draft Plan is available for review at www.cityofgrandblanc.com. A copy can also be reviewed at City Hall at 203 E. Grand Blanc Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 during regular office hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send written comments to Christina Irwin, Assistant City Manager, 203 E. Grand Blanc Road, Grand Blanc, MI or cirwin@cityofgrandblanc.com

A public meeting to take input on the draft plan will be held on January 12, 2022 at the Grand Blanc City Hall at 7 p.m.



Notice of Review

City of Grand Blanc

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COUNTY OF GENESEE

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12/23/21

Sarah Osentoski

KASEY E TYSICK
Notary Public, State of Michigan
County of Lapeer
My Commission Expires 08-27-2027
Acting in the County of Lapeer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th

day of December, 2021

Kasey E Tysick
Notary Public, _____ County, Michigan

My commission expires _____

Prepared by Grand Blanc View
1521 Inlay City Rd
PO Box 220
Lapeer, MI 48446

Notice of Review

City of Grand Blanc

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A public meeting to take input on the draft plan will be held on January 12, 2022 at the Grand Blanc City Hall at 7pm.



CITY OF GRAND BLANC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Grand Blanc shall conduct a public meeting on January 12, 2022 at 7 p.m. at Grand Blanc City Hall at 203 E. Grand Blanc Road, Grand Blanc MI. for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed draft of the Grand Blanc Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The plan evaluates existing recreation opportunities, reviews public opinion regarding recreation, establishes recreational goals, and proposes a five-year schedule of improvements and other related items that the City wishes to pursue. A PDF copy of the plan is available for review online at www.cityofgrandblanc.com. or in person at the Grand Blanc City Hall during regular office hours.

If you are interested in submitting comments regarding the Draft Plan, please send written comments to Christina Irwin, Assistant City Manager, 203 E. Grand Blanc Road, Grand Blanc MI or cirwin@cityofgrandblanc.com no later than January 12, 2022. All comments, written and oral, will be noted for the record.

City of Grand Blanc City Council
Minutes of January 12, 2022
7:00 PM

Present: Julie Nielsen Chris Carr Andy Nyquist
Chris Douglas Norm Williams John Creasey

Staff: Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Mary Hopkins, Chief Lipe, Chief Schreiber, Walt Griffen, Christina Irwin, Dianne Waterworth, Matt Wurtz

Guests: Robin & Jay Earhart, Rick & Kate White, Mike Byrne, Greg Streff, Jake & Ashley Mengel, Robert & Theresa Yochim, David & Helen Aurand, Jeanne Pierce, Venkat Vattipally, Kevin Rickard, Martha Gadola, Chris Jones, Jay Holmes, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Soderstrom at 7:01 P.M.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes. Motion by Creasey supported by Carr to approve the minutes contained in the agenda packet of January 12, 2022. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Bills. Motion by Nielsen supported by Douglas to approve bills in amount of \$470,455.49. Motion carried.
4. Holiday Lights on Grand Boulevard Discussion
City Manager Jean-Buhrer thanked Kevin Rickard for all his work on the Holiday light display, and also Firefighter Cody Johnson for volunteering to work numerous evenings.
5. Public Comment
Ashley Menegel – 1540 Kings Carriage
Jeanne Pierce – 1522 Kings Carriage
Mike Byrne – 1413 Kings Carriage
Greg Streff – 1504 Kings Carriage
Chris Jones – 1526 Kings Bridle
Kate White – 11636 Kings Colony
Jake Mengel – 1540 Kings Carriage
Gurjit Ajimal – 16958 Kings Fairway Ln.
6. Communication
 - a) Comcast – Received and filed
7. New Business.
 - a) 11410 S. Saginaw Redevelopment Ready Communities Marketing Packet
City Manager Jean-Buhrer gave an update on the project.
 - b) Sale of 138 Reid Rd Discussion
City Attorney Griffin explained the option of swapping parcels, and the sale of 138 Reid Rd.

Motion by Douglas supported by Creasey to swap parcel A for parcel B and approve the purchase agreement with The Garden Building of Grand Blanc, LLC for the sale of 138 Reid Road in the amount of \$95,000 contingent on the closing of 206, 210 and 216 Reid Road properties. Motion carried.

- c) COVID Leave Discussion
Motion by Nyquist supported by Carr have the COVID leave extended from 1/1/22 through the end of February until the labor attorney Josh Leadford can attend the next City Council meeting. Motion carried.
- d) Resolution #22-0101 Genesee County 911 Exclusive Service Contract Provider Service Agreement
Postponed
- e) Resolutions #22-0102 Adopt Recreation Plan
Mayor Soderstrom closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 7:49 P.M.

Public Comment: None

Mayor Soderstrom closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Motion by Creasey supported by Nielsen to adopt Resolution 22-0102 – Resolution to Adopt Recreation Plan. Roll call vote: Carr, yes; Creasey, yes; Douglas, yes; Nielsen, yes; Nyquist, yes; Williams, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

- f) National League of Cities Membership Renewal Statement
Motion by Nielsen supported by Douglas to approve the National League of Cities membership dues in the amount of \$1,202.00. Motion carried.
- g) Small Cities & Villages Association Membership Renewal
Motion by Nielsen supported by Creasey to approve Genesee County Small Cities & Villages Associations and select Councilmember Christopher Douglas as the Delegate and Mayor Susan Soderstrom as the Alternate. Motion carried.
- h) Committee Reports
None

8. Other Business

- a.) Police Chief Lipe – report received and filed
- b.) DPW Director – nothing to report
- c.) Building Inspector's Report – received and filed
- d.) Fire Chief Schrieber – report received and filed
Chief Schrieber gave an update on receiving the rental truck which should be here in the next few weeks. He also mentioned that he had a meeting with Biddergy regarding selling a truck.
- e.) City Attorney Griffin
City Attorney Griffin gave an update regarding the Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation separation agreement with Grand Blanc Township.
- f.) City Clerk – nothing to report.
- g.) Finance Director/Treasurer – nothing to report
- h.) Assistant City Manager – nothing to report
- i.) City Manager's Report – received and filed
Motion by Nielsen supported by Creasey to approve and provide the match for the grant submitted to MCACA for the McFarlen Library ADA Improvements that was presented at City Council on May 12, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion by Nielsen supported by Creasey to opt-in and to participate in the Genesee County Pay As You Stay (PAYS) Program. Motion carried.

j.) Members of Council

Councilman Creasey– wished everyone a Happy New Year

Councilman Carr – mentioned an email that the Council received from a resident regarding the Starbucks drive thru, and the issue with it backing up and blocking the driveway to the other businesses.

Councilman Williams – Happy New Year, and he is looking forward to the new development within the next year.

Councilwoman Nielson – congratulated DPW on the timely cleanup from the snow storm. She also congratulated City Manager Jean-Buhrer and Chief Schrieber on the three million in grants that they have received already in 2022.

Councilman Douglas – wished everyone a Happy New Year, and thanked everyone who was involved with the Holiday Lights on Grand Boulevard. He also thanked the Fire Department for all that they do

k) Mayor Soderstrom

Mayor Soderstrom wanted to make a clarification of a statement made by Mike Byrne regarding that the City taxpayers paid to have homes removed. She said that was covered by a FEMA Grant.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary B. Hopkins
City Clerk

Resolution #22-0102

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Blanc has undertaken a five-year Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2022 and 2026 and,

WHEREAS, public input was received via an online survey that was available from February 2021 to August 2021, to provide an opportunity for citizens to share ideas, express opinions, regarding the future of parks and recreation in Grand Blanc, and

WHEREAS, the draft plan was made available for review from December 13, 2021 through January 12, 2022, at the Grand Blanc City Hall and at www.cityofgrandblanc.com., and

WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on January 12, 2022, at 7 p.m. at Grand Blanc City Hall at 203 E. Grand Blanc Road, Grand Blanc MI to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Blanc has developed the Recreation Plan for the benefit of the entire community and wishes to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Blanc City Council adopts the City of Grand Blanc 2022 – 2026 Recreation Plan

(Yeas 6 Nays: 0 Absent: 0)

I, MARY B. HOPKINS, City Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by City of Grand Blanc City Council at a Meeting thereof held on January 12, 2022 at 7 pm.

Mary B. Hopkins
Mary B. Hopkins, City Clerk



APPENDIX D

Grant History



Grant History

Grantee

City of Grand Blanc - Genesee County

Project No. TF205	Project County: Genesee	Project Year: 1979
Project Title: McFarlan Farm		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$65,000.00

Project Description: Purchase of 137 acres for a city park.

Project No. 26-01196	Project County: Genesee	Project Year: 1981
Project Title: Grand Blanc Park Acquisition		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

Project Description: Acquisition of 137 acres

Project No. TF88-249	Project County: Genesee	Project Year: 1988
Project Title: Grand Blanc Commons		
Project Status: Grant Closed		Grant Amount: \$19,125.00

Project Description: To construct a foot bridge and nature trails for a 132-acres nature area.

Project No. RP20-0048	Project County: Genesee	Project Year: 2020
Project Title: Warming Hut for Physicians Park Ice Rink/Splash Pad		
Project Status: PA Executed		Grant Amount: \$127,500.00

Scope Item:

Access Pathway 6' wide or more
Bench(es)
Paved ADA Parking Space(s)
Warming Building

Project Description: In September 2019, Grand Blanc City installed a 50 foot by 100-foot ice rink/splash pad with a mechanical building in Physicians Park. Physicians Park is a 5-acre park in the heart of the City's downtown at 218 Reid Road in southeastern Genesee County. Physicians Park is a trailhead park along the Iron Belle Trail. The City invested over \$720,000 with Parks and Recreation millage funds in this all-season recreation water feature in Physicians Park. The completion to this project is the warming hut and will be adjacent to the ice rink/splash pad. The warming hut would also be utilized as a storage area for visitors in the summer. The warming hut will provide visitors with a warm place to rest and change shoes to skates and vice versa. The warming hut will also incorporate a seating area for visitors to rest and recoup. The estimated cost for construction of the Physicians Park warming hut is \$170,000. 61-80% people living near the warming hut are low to moderate income in tract 112.10.

Total Number of Projects:	4
Total Amount of Grant Given:	\$311,625.00