

Charter Township of East China Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

Recommended for Adoption by the Parks
Commission on January 29, 2024

Adopted by the Township Board on
January 29, 2024



Charter Township of East China

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Acknowledgements

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Adopted January 29, 2024

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Introduction

East China Township is committed to providing access to parks and recreation programs for everyone in the community and promoting the natural features that are within and surrounding the township. The commitment to high quality amenities and support for healthy lifestyles goes beyond daily park maintenance. East China Township's location on the St. Clair River and the Belle River offers distinctive natural features.

The 2024-2028 East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Parks Commission and adopted by the Township Board to serve as a guide and decision making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The plan presents an inventory of existing facilities and programs within the township and an evaluation of opportunities and needs. The plan considers the existing facilities in and around the township, the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities and the means for providing those facilities over the upcoming five-year period.



The plan is also intended to enable the township to continue to apply for funding assistance from various agencies to work toward implementing the documented recommendations. This plan provides for five years of grant eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). It is recommended, however, that the plan be reviewed on an annual basis and amended, if necessary, to ensure it is reflective of the needs of the community.

Plan Development Process

The 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Township Parks Commission and adopted by the Township Board after soliciting input through an online survey and a 30-day public review and comment period. As township facilities continue to become popular venues for family and group activities, this Parks and Recreation Plan will provide guidance for prioritizing maintenance and investment. The plan was prepared in accordance with the "Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans" from the MDNR (Rev. 4/26/2021).

The plan includes the following required sections:

- **Community Description:** Description of the jurisdiction covered by the plan and the extent of its focus.
- **Administrative Structure:** Description of how parks and recreation functions are carried out, including current and projected budgets and sources of funding, capital improvements, staffing, volunteers, and partnerships (private and public).
- **Inventory of Existing Parks and Natural Areas:** Map and description of township-owned recreational sites and information regarding previous MDNR funded grant sites.
- **Basis for Action (including a Description of the Planning and Public Input Process):** The rationale and framework for the goals and objectives and recommended capital improvements based on an analysis and consideration of many elements including: citizen opinions as revealed through the public engagement; current recreation trends; comparison of parks to acreage and facility standards; service area gaps; and demographic trends.
- **Goals and Objectives:** Specific goals and objectives that will be taken into consideration when setting priorities, evaluating development proposals and funding opportunities.
- **Action Plan:** Specific work items/tasks that may be undertaken by staff, volunteers, or other partners during the next five years. Where applicable, rough cost estimates may be included for reference purposes only. The current Maintenance Plan is included in the **Appendix** as a reference.

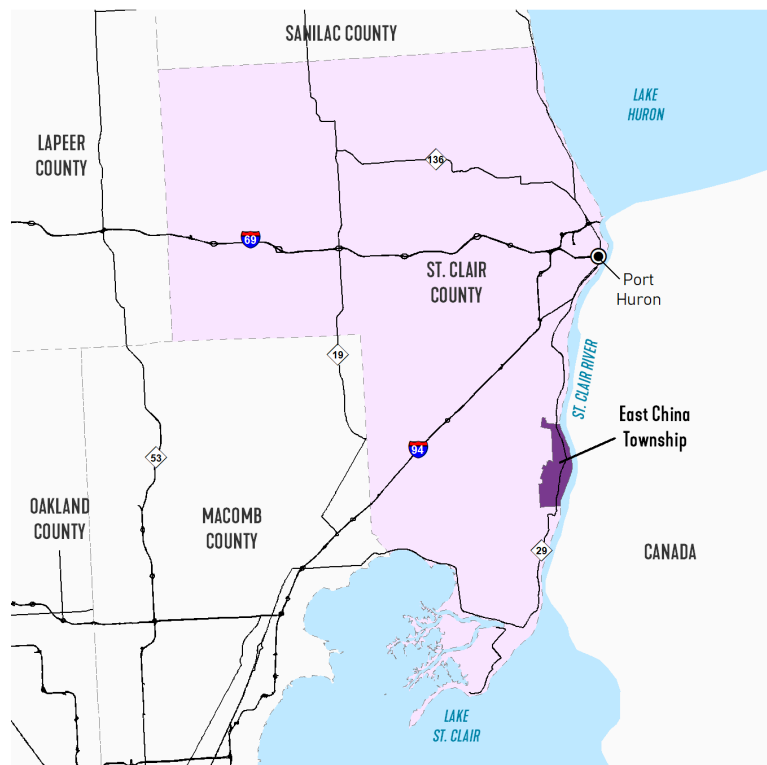
The plan is intended to paint broad strokes for thoughtful review and ideas. It is not intended to be a rigid document without flexibility or alterations to accommodate unforeseen opportunities or needs of the community. It is not a budget, nor a work agreement or an implementation schedule. It is simply a plan for reference and guidance.

Community Description

Containing approximately 4,400 acres of land, East China Township is located along the western shore of the St. Clair River, which serves as an international border with Canada. The township also includes the Belle River and portions of the Pine River. The city and metropolitan area of Detroit is located approximately 45 miles southwest of East China Township. The City of St. Clair borders the township to the north, the City of Marine City to the south, and China Township to the west. The township is located within St. Clair County, which has a total population of approximately 160,000 and an active Parks and Recreation Commission that provides revenue sharing to the township through an annual recreation millage. The population of East China Township is 3,704 as of the 2020 U.S. Census and is expected to grow to 3,886 residents by 2050, according to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

The township is serviced primarily by State Highway M-29, which runs north/south through the township generally parallel to the St. Clair River. Interstate 94 is located approximately 11-miles west of East China Township and is an easy connection via either the Fred Moore Highway or Marine City Highway corridors.

East China Township has a positive reputation as a family friendly, active community that values its proximity to the water and well-maintained open spaces. The relatively small population of the township is deceiving, as the township provides recreation programs and land for many of the neighboring communities and serves several rural areas to the west. The topography of the township is mainly flat and low, with woodlands and waterfront features.



The jurisdiction of this Parks and Recreation Plan includes only township-owned and operated recreation facilities and programs. Other public recreational facilities and private recreational facilities are noted in the plan, as they have an impact on the variety of recreation that is available in the community, but they are not evaluated. The intention of the plan is to inventory existing conditions, recognize opportunities for improvements, establish goals and specific action items to reach those goals during the next five years, and identify potential financial resources. This includes the ability to apply for the competitive grants offered by the MDNR.

Administrative Structure

Parks and Recreation Management

Providing safe and diverse park and recreation services that are well maintained, relevant and inclusive requires three main factors: 1) a dedicated administration; 2) community volunteers; and, 3) a stable funding base. East China Township is fortunate to have a history of all three in place.

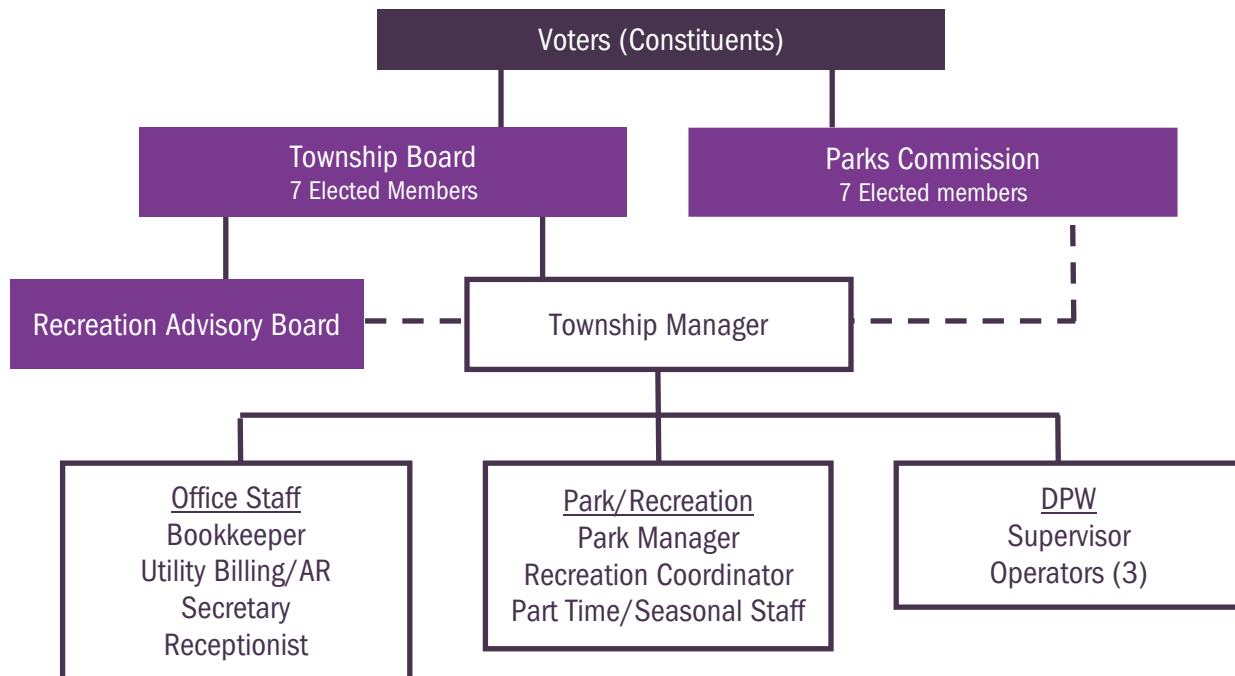
In 1917, Public Act 156 authorized cities, villages, counties, townships, and school districts to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds. In 1956, the Township Board appointed its first Parks Commission members in accordance with Act 271, as amended by Act 33 of 1949. Since that time, East China Township has maintained an elected board that has seven members that serve four-year terms and meet once a month (the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.) to oversee the operations of the public parks, recreation facilities and programs. The meetings are open to the public and posted on the township's website. The Parks Commission has the responsibility of making recommendations for improvements, new developments, programs, grant applications and budgets.

The staff consists of one part-time Parks Manager, and a part-time Recreation Coordinator. Financial, clerical and public works tasks are managed by the township's full-time employees under the direction of the Township Manager. A member of the Township Board is appointed as the liaison to the Parks Commission. The Township Board also appoints a five-member Recreation Committee, whose role is to advise the Recreation Coordinator in the number, type, and scope of recreational and community activities offered to residents. They also engage in fundraising opportunities.

A Maintenance Plan/Policy provides guidance to staff to ensure recreation facilities and parks are safe and well maintained. See the **Appendix** for the Maintenance Plan/Policy.

The Township Board of Trustees ultimately has the authority to approve expenditures and grant applications, enter into contracts, and sell or purchase land on behalf of the community. The Board of Trustees are elected to serve a four-year term and consists of seven members with the Township Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer having rights and responsibilities. They meet twice a month (1st and 3rd Monday at 7:00 P.M.) at the Township Hall and the meetings are open to the public and posted on their website.

An organizational chart is included on the next page.



Budget

The current year budget and projected expenditures are shown below. The Township receives an annual allocation from the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission millage. The millage has been in effect for over 20 years and distributes 25% of the millage funds collected back to the local units of government. The township received \$19,916 in 2023.

Revenues in 2023

County Millage	\$ 19,916.00
Park Facilities Use	\$ 4,610.00
Investment Income	\$ 3,626.35
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 15.00
Transfers In – General Fund	\$ 200,000.00
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 228,167.35

Expenditures in 2023

Wages & Benefits	\$ 83,333.54
General Operating & Maintenance	\$ 56,043.83
Recreation Programs	\$ 2,981.83
Capital Improvement/ Maintenance	\$ 33,713.76
Total Expenditures	\$ 176,072.96

Volunteers

Volunteers programs such as “Adopt A Park” or “Make a Difference Day” are events that could increase the level of oversight for the parks, trails and open spaces. The school district is a wonderful partner to have regarding the use and maintenance of the park areas. Partnerships with the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) allows families from adjacent communities to participate in sport programs at the Township Park and see firsthand the high quality of the facility and what it offers in addition to soccer fields. Pride in these recreation areas is not limited to a zip code or survey boundaries. A number of volunteers offer their time and talents when special events are held, planting and maintaining flower beds at the Freedom Memorial Garden, river clean up events, or similar needs. In fact, a few items in the five-year plan could be accomplished by these volunteers including the donation of materials to paint signs, repair benches or build recycle bins and trash receptacles. School clubs, church groups, service clubs, and interest groups will continue to be an asset to the township and its park and recreation program.

Existing Parks and Natural Areas Inventory

Introduction and Methodology

This chapter includes an inventory of existing parks and recreation facilities and natural areas within and around East China Township. Special emphasis is on the parks and recreation facilities owned and operated by East China Township, including, at a minimum, the park or facility name, size in acreage, description of the park and its general purpose, and the amenities offered at each facility. In addition, maps are provided that illustrate the park locations and service areas.

An evaluation of accessibility factors and recommendations for improvements for each facility was also completed. In total, the township enjoys seven public parks or recreational facilities which cover 86.45 acres of recreation land. The township also features pathways and trails, including the regional Bridge to Bay Trail which runs through East China Township.

Accessibility and inclusive play for everyone is important to the township. This plan highlights areas that have been made accessible and those that are ready for the investment as funds or volunteer services become available. Under the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards for Accessible Design, a ranking system is used. A ranking from 1 to 5 (1 = none of the site amenities meet ADA Standards and 5 = all of the facility/site amenities meet not only ADA, but also the Principles of Universal Design) was used and is given as part of the **Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory Table**.

- 1 – none of the facilities or park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 – some of the facilities or park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 – most of the facilities or park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 – the entire facility or park area meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 – the entire facility or park area was renovated or newly constructed using Universal Design guidelines that exceed accessibility guidelines.

In accordance with MDNR standards, facilities are evaluated to determine their score not as a punishment, but as a means to determine needs and awareness. Consideration of parking lots and access routes to the facilities was made. Reviews at each site did not include inspection, review, or determination in any manner of the condition or safety of any parking lot, facility, playscape or equipment. The following guidelines were used; however, the review is not meant to replace a professional assessment, nor to make specific recommendations that a qualified or certified inspector would determine. While the parks had some degree of accessibility, there are opportunities to improve the sites and encourage inclusive play.

The township is committed to including accessibility and environmental factors when reviewing proposals for improvements and infrastructure at each site. Improvements to existing playscapes, additional walkways to benches/tables and equipment are planned as funding sources become available.

Park Classifications

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) provides standards that suggest park facilities fall into categories based upon size and function. The [NRPA Park Classification Table](#) highlights four park types, along with information about their intended function, service area and size criteria.

NRPA Park Classification Table

Category	Description	Service Area	Size Criteria
Mini-Park	Small, specialized parks serving needs of surrounding residents	< 1/4 mile	< 1 acre
	Provides daily places for those who cannot travel		
Neighborhood Park	Multi-purpose facilities to serve local recreational and social focus	1/4 to 1/2 mile	2-10 acres
	Provides active and passive recreation		
Community Park	Meets larger community needs	1/2 to 3 miles	10+ acres
	Preserves unique landscapes and open spaces		
Linear Park	Generally measured in feet/miles instead of acres	Depends on available resources and location	
	Mostly designed for non-motorized exercise and safe travel		

Source: "A Recommended Classification System for Local and Regional Recreation Open Space and Trails," National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). 1983 and updated in 1995.

In line with the NRPA standards, East China Township's seven public parks have been classified as follows:

- East China Township Park (82.32 ac.) – Community Park
- River Park (0.39 ac.) – Neighborhood Park
- Rivera Park (0.34 ac.) – Mini-Park
- Manor Park (2.58 ac.) – Neighborhood Park
- Bridge-to-Bay Trail – Linear Park (7.27 linear miles)
- Belle River Park (Canoe/Kayak Access) (0.47 ac.) – Neighborhood Park
- Freedom Memorial Garden (0.35 ac.) – Mini-Park

The locations of these East China Township parks are shown on the [Recreation Facilities Inventory Map](#).

East China Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

The following is a summary and description of the seven East China Township owned and maintained parks and recreation facilities. A summary [Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory Table](#) is also included in this section.

East China Township Park

This community park consists of 82.32 acres and is located on the west side of M-29 at the intersection of Recor Road. It is directly across M-29 from the Township Hall and is the largest recreational facility in the township. The park is well maintained and shows evidence of thoughtful design. Amenities include 2 baseball fields, numerous soccer fields, a sledding hill, 3 pickle ball courts, an 18-hole disc golf course, a large and well maintained playscape (but is past life expectancy), sand volleyball court, four pavilions large enough for family reunions and team picnics, large upgraded accessible grills at each pavilion, benches, picnic tables, swings, and slides. There is an aging adult fitness circuit installed near pavilions #1 and #2. Several outer picnic tables and benches are in place but lack an accessible, hard surface walkway.

A large, 2-acre dog park is located east of the activity area and has an additional parking lot within the secure area. The dog park is a heavily utilized facility at the park. Four restroom facilities are in the park and are conveniently located near the soccer field, softball fields, the pay and picnic area and sledding hill.



The Bridge-to-Bay Trail meanders through the park. Within the park, the Bridge-to-Bay Trail was completely resurfaced and portions fully replaced in 2023 with township funds and a grant from the Ralph Wilson Foundation. The township received a grant in 2021 and was one of the first municipalities to install updated Bridge-to-Bay Trail signage, path markers, and a new kiosk at the East China Township Park. The kiosk offers information and mapping on the Bridge-to-Bay Trail, East China Township Park, and other township parks. These improvements increase the flow of foot and bicycle traffic through the area by properly guiding pedestrians along the trail system.

As repairs and maintenance are undertaken, ADA and Universal Design guidelines will continue to be incorporated as feasible. There are also two large signs at Recor Road and M-29 entrance to the park with a planting bed.
























The [East China Township Park Amenities Map](#), included in this section, highlights the park facilities.



East China Township Park Amenities Map

AMENITIES

Year-round unless otherwise stated

-  **Baseball Field** (Seasonal)
-  **Basketball Court**
-  **Bicycle Repair Station**
-  **Bridge to Bay Trail**
-  **Cornhole Court**
-  **Disk Golf Course**
-  **Dog Park**
-  **Fire Pit**
-  **Fishing Area**
-  **Life Trail / Exercise Equipment**
-  **Memorial Garden**
-  **Nature Trails**
-  **Parking** (Seasonal, Except near Sled Hill)
-  **Pickleball Courts** (Seasonal, no nets October 30th - April 30th, Weather Permitting)
-  **Picnic**
-  **Playground**
-  **Restrooms** (Seasonal, Except near Sled Hill)
-  **Sled Hill**
-  **Soccer Field** (Seasonal)
-  **Softball Field** (Seasonal)
-  **Sunscreen Station** (Seasonal)
-  **Volleyball Court** (Seasonal)
-  **Water Bottle Filling Station** (Seasonal)



East China Township Parks and Recreation Facilities Inventory Table

Park	Park Type ¹	Acres	Accessibility Rating	Baseball Fields	Softball Fields	Soccer Fields (Full Size)	Soccer Fields (Junior)	Basketball Courts	Volleyball Courts	Tennis Courts	Pickleball Courts	Walking Trails	Playgrounds	Restrooms	Picnic Shelters	Dog Park
	East China Township Parks															
East China Township Park	C	82.32	3	2	2	3	6	2	1		3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
River Park	N	0.39	3											Yes		
Rivera Park	M	0.34	3													
Manor Park	N	2.58	2					1					Yes		Yes	
Bay-to-Bridge Trail	LP	7.27 mi	3									Yes				
Belle River Park (Canoe/Kayak Access)	N	0.47	4													
Freedom Memorial Garden	M	0.35	1													
	Other Notable Township Facilities															
Township Property (Other Local Facilities)	n/a	13	n/a													
Township Hall Offices (Other Local Facilities)	n/a	1	n/a											Yes		

¹Park type key:

M – Mini Park

N – Neighborhood Park

C – Community Park

LP – Linear Park



Recreation Facilities Inventory Map

East China Township
Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

Recreation Facilities:

- Township Parks
- Public School Facilities
- Private Facilities
- Other Township Properties

Nonmotorized Network:

- Bridge-to-Bay Trail

Base Layers:

- Roads
- Railroads
- Parcel Lines
- Water Bodies
- Rivers
- East China Township
- Municipal Boundaries

December 2023

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library, 2017;
SEMCOG Nonmotorized Network 2018
Parcel Source: St. Clair County GIS



Miles 0 0.5 1



\\dfs\projects\Ech0122\GIS\data\Projects\Recreation Facilities Inventory Map.mxd

River Park

This 0.39-acre neighborhood park is in the southern portion of the township along the St. Clair River. It offers fishing access to the St. Clair River, nine parking spaces, public restroom, picnic tables, and benches. It also features low-level lighting, upgraded seawall railing with ice deterrent guard, railing gate, and emergency swim ladder. The park has a small parking lot (9 spaces) and park signage was added in 2023.

This park offers amazing, picturesque views of passing freighters, boats, swans, aquatic birds, sunrises, and views of Canada across the river. This park underwent construction to retie back the seawall – during the construction process, a portion of the brick-paver walkway that joined the pathway to the promenade, as well as the promenade were removed. This has unfortunately eliminated an accessible pathway to the river's edge and is a project the township will be seeking grant funding to correct. The township is excited for the needed changes and looks forward to upgrading this park for everyone to access and enjoy to the fullest.



Rivera Park

Rivera Park is a mini-park located east of M-29 and tucked into a small neighborhood side street, along the St. Clair River. The park is 0.34 acres in size. It is surrounded by single family dwellings and is another popular spot for quiet enjoyment of the river and nature.

Rivera Park provides fishing access to the St. Clair River, has three paved parking spaces, a concrete walkway, benches, picnic table, grill, accessible porta-potty, and emergency swim ladder. Due to the nature of the park and its location, it only has room for three paved parking spaces. The parking spaces are not striped. Park signage was added in 2023. This park, like River Park, is a quaint little park offering amazing, picturesque views of passing freighters, boats, swans/aquatic birds, sunrises, and Canada across the river.



Manor Park

Manor Park is a 2.58-acre neighborhood park located in the north end of the township within an established neighborhood. The park primarily serves the surrounding neighborhood and includes an accessible pavilion, picnic tables, new playground equipment, a basketball court, open space to enjoy yard games, and two parking spaces. It is located adjacent to a wooded area and has additional potential for development.



Bridge-to-Bay Trail

A portion of the Bridge-to-Bay regional trail runs through East China Township. East China Township's portion of the trail totals 7.27 miles. From the south (Marine City border), the Bridge-to-Bay Trail is a paved off-road trail which connects to Recor Road and the East China Township Park. At that point, the trail route splits to both the east and west. The eastern route runs through the East China Township Park and then north as a paved side path along M-29; this side path route continues north and ends at Bree Road. The western route runs as a paved side path along Recor Road to the township's border with China Township and ultimately continues north as a paved side path along King Road.



When fully completed, the Bridge-to-Bay Trail is intended to link the International Blue Water Bridge to Anchor Bay. Along the way, the trail connects parks, nature centers, and waterfronts. It serves as the hub for auxiliary paths to smaller communities, retail centers and existing trails such as the Wadhams to Avoca Trail or other shared use pathways that encourage biking, hiking, and walking in our communities.

In 2022, a wayfinding kiosk was installed along the Bridge-to-Bay Trail within East China Township Park which offers a bulletin board, Bridge-to-Bay Trail map, a park map and a map with descriptions of the other township parks. Trail signage is being updated in collaboration with St. Clair County.

Freedom Memorial Garden

This is a small community space (classified as a mini-park) at the intersection of M-29 and St. Clair Shores Boulevard in the northern portion of the township. This passive space includes a small statue, a labyrinth and landscaping.

Belle River Park (Canoe/Kayak Access)

Belle River Park is a neighborhood park located along the Belle River near the intersection of Belle River Road and Springborn Road. This 0.47 acre property was recently improved to accommodate an accessible canoe and kayak launch allowing for canoe and kayak enthusiasts to enjoy the Belle River. In addition to the accessible canoe/kayak launch, this park offers a paved pathway to the shoreline and an accessible picnic area offering a picnic table and trash receptacle. The park also features a five space hard-surface parking lot, landscaping, and signage.



Other East China Township Facilities

Township Hall

While not considered a traditional recreation facility, the Township Hall serves as a public meeting place, has ADA restrooms, a paved parking lot with barrier free parking and government offices. The Township Hall is located on a 1-acre site along M-29 and across the street (to the east) of the East China Township Park. During normal business hours, it serves as a convenient location for obtaining information on recreational services, programs, and maps of the area.

Township Property

The township acquired an additional 13 acres of land immediately east of the Township Hall along the south side of Recor Road. There are two former tennis courts (now just a paved surface) on the site and no other amenities. The township is considering utilizing a portion of the property for a new DPW facility. Additional space would remain for future development.



School District Facilities

No public schools are located within East China Township. However, the East China Public Schools Administrative Offices and the ECSD Innovation Center are located on the south side of Meisner Road within the township. This property contains two recreation-related facilities, listed below.

East China Stadium

The East China Stadium is located on the school-district property on Meisner Road. The stadium is lighted, well maintained and hosts football, soccer, and track tournaments. It has bleachers, restrooms, concession stands and parking. Both Marine City and St. Clair utilize the stadium for their events.

Performing Arts Center

The Performing Arts Center is a 635-seat theatre built nearly 15 years ago and is located next to the stadium. The Performing Arts Center is used by not only theatre groups, but also as a venue for concerts, art shows, award ceremonies, and community events.

Private Recreational Facilities

Southeastern Michigan Conservation Club

The Southeastern Michigan Conservation Club, with a meeting space and property on Belle River Road, is a privately operated recreational facility within East China Township. It has an area for picnic tables and a picnic shelter.

Nearby Recreational Facilities

Although not within the township limits, numerous recreational facilities within a short driving distance and provide a variety of specialized services and amenities for the benefit of citizens within the region. These facilities are listed below.

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority's Lake St. Clair Metropark

This park is located 25 miles southwest of East China Township on Lake St. Clair. The 750 acre park includes 7 miles of waterfrontage and a nearly 1,600 foot boardwalk. It offers a boat ramp, fishing access, restrooms and concessions.

Clay Township Boat Launch

This facility is located 12 miles south of East China Township and has boat ramps directly onto the St. Clair River.

Marine City Boat Launch

This facility is located 4 miles south of the township and has large capacity for parking and launching boats directly on the St. Clair River.

Pine Shores Golf Course

This facility is a nine-hole public golf course located in St. Clair along the Fred Moore Highway.

Rattle Run Golf Course

Rattle Run Golf Course is an eighteen-hole public golf course located in China Township on St. Clair Highway.

St. Clair Flats Wildlife Area

This facility is a 6,426 acre wildlife preserve that includes marshlands and hunting areas. It is located 10 miles south of the township.

Algonac State Park

Algonac State Park is located 8 miles south of East China Township along the water. It has 1,500 acres that provide fishing access, playground equipment and picnic areas.

Port Huron State Game Area

This state game area is located 25 miles northwest of the township. The 6,000 acres has room for small game hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Columbus County Park

This park is located along the Belle River west of the township. The 385 acre site is owned by the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission and has developed into a prime site for horse trails, biking trails, hiking and nature walks.

Goodells County Park

This county park is located 20 miles west of the township. The 324 acre site is also owned and operated by the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission. It includes BMX Bike Track, nature education center, splash pad, equestrian facilities, community center, historical museums and shops. It is home to the annual County Fair and many 4H events.

Pine River Nature Center

The St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) owns this 90-acre site. The area is primarily forest and wetlands where educational programs are held regarding environmental sciences.

Fort Gratiot County Park

This is another park owned and operated by the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission. This site is a 30-acre waterfront park along Lake Huron's shore. It maintains permanent restrooms, pavilions with picnic tables and benches, and paved parking with barrier free spaces.

Lakeport State Park

Lakeport State Park is located 20 miles north of the township along the shores of Lake Huron. It offers camping (RV and tent sites), picnic shelters, tables and grills, restrooms and volleyball sand pits. It is also a popular spot for bird watching and canoeing.

Wadhams to Avoca Trail

The Wadhams to Avoca Trail is a regional trail located north of the township. The St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission began the trail in 1999 with the purchase of surface rights to 9.82 miles of

railroad right-of-way. As time went on, additional property was purchased and has resulted in 12 miles of paved trails available to the public for biking and walking.

Accessibility Evaluation/ Considerations

As noted, site visits were conducted at all of the township parks and facilities. However, field inspections were limited to observations of the general condition and location of park amenities only. Reviews did not include inspection, review, or determination in any manner of the condition or safety of any parking lot, facility, playscape or equipment. The reviews are not meant to replace a professional assessment, nor make specific recommendations that a qualified or certified inspector would determine.

East China Township Park

The following are recommended improvements to address accessibility concerns at the park:

- Access walkway to some of the picnic tables and benches with cement pad adequate to place a wheelchair next to a bench or maneuver around a picnic table
- Inclusive play equipment
- Designated barrier free parking
- Add accessible benches along paved trails – all other outer tables/benches are not accessible by paved trails
- Add accessible path to the sled hill restroom, which is the only restroom open in the winter months

River Park

The following are recommended improvements to address accessibility concerns at the park:

- Restroom updates
- Seawall improvements to include new walkway (perhaps stamped concrete rather than pavers)
- An access walkway to one of the picnic tables and bench
- Parking lot designed to clearly designate barrier free space
- Full upgrade for overall accessibility/function

Manor Park

The following are recommended improvements to address accessibility concerns at the park:

- Future paved walkways to include connection to picnic table and bench areas, and around features for accessibility
- Any play equipment to consider inclusive play items
- Paved parking to include barrier free spaces properly striped and signed

Rivera Park

The following are recommended improvements to address accessibility concerns at the park:

- Parking lot designed to clearly designate barrier free space
- Raise parking lot at transition point where it meets the concrete pathway

Belle River Park (Canoe/Kayak Access)

This new park has been designed with accessibility in mind and features an accessible canoe/kayak launch, paved parking area with designated barrier free spaces and a paved pathway from the parking lot to the launch. However, it is recommended to raise the areas of the accessible path that have shifted from previous erosion.

Freedom Memorial Garden

The following are recommended improvements to address accessibility concerns at the park:

- Internal paved walkways to the memorial and benches
- ADA ramps into the park (street curbing exists around the entire perimeter of the park)

Status of Grant Assisted Facilities

The MDNR requires that community who has received state grant funds for recreational programs, improvements and acquisitions continue to manage and evaluate the status of those facilities. A formal Post Completion Self Inspection Report has been completed on the following recreational grants that were received from the State:

Status of Grant Assisted Facilities Table

Grant Number	Amount	Location	Description/Status
TF94-092	\$160,700	Bike Trail	3,300 ft. trail to Meisner Rd, 10,100 ft. trail to Degurse, Drainage/Bridge Improvements. Trail in use and good condition
BF92-143	\$141,600	Township Park	Restrooms, storage, 17,710 ft. trail, bridge, path. Trail and buildings in use and good condition
CM99-008	\$86,454	Township Park	Parking lot paving and improvements. Parking lot in good condition
26-01561	\$83,400	Township Park	Pavilion, parking lot paved. All in use and in good condition

Basis for Action

Introduction

The Basis for Action chapter is intended to continue to analyze various factors within and outside of East China Township that have an effect on the direction of recreation, and ultimately the capital improvements schedule over the next five years. This portion of the plan provides the rationale and framework for the goals, guidelines and recommended capital improvements based on an analysis and consideration of many elements including: citizen feedback as revealed during the public engagement; current recreation trends; comparison of parks to acreage and facility standards; service area gaps; and, demographic trends. Because there are many factors that will ultimately determine needs, caution should be taken to not analyze each piece of information individually, but integrate them all to produce the “big picture”.

Description of the Public Engagement Process and Input Received

The process of public engagement has been ongoing since the previous Recreation Plan was adopted in 2018. Citizens comments, suggestions and criticisms have been gladly received as they are offered. Those issues which could be addressed immediately were; those that required financial resources or long-term investments have been noted and have made their way into this Recreation Plan.

During this recreation planning process, the Township garnered public input primarily through an online recreation opinion survey to help reveal recreation needs within the community. Additionally, a public hearing was held by the Parks Commission after a draft had been prepared and was made available for public inspection for a minimum 30-day period.

Online Recreation Opinion Survey

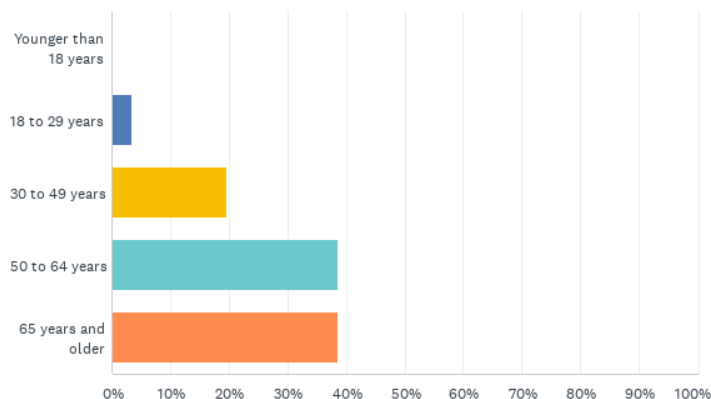
A total of 152 persons responded to the recreation survey. The following is a summary of responses to the parks and recreation questions that were included within the survey.

Respondent Demographics

Most of the respondents to the survey were East China Township residents (96%), while only 4% were non-residents. The majority of respondents fell within the age ranges of 50 to 64 years old (38.5%) and 65 years and older (38.5%). A fair number of respondents were 30 to 49 years old (20%). A small number of respondents were between 18 and 29 years old (3%) and none were less than 18 years old.

Of the 150 total residents who answered a question about length of residency, the largest number and percentage have lived in the township for 20 or more years (66 or 44%). The next largest percentage were residents who have lived in the township for 5 to 9 years (19%), followed by 10 to 19 years (18%). Only 15% of residents have lived in the township for 4 years or less.

Q4 Please indicate the range in which your age falls.



More specifically, township residents were asked if they lived in the northern half or southern half of the Township (with Recor Road as the dividing line). 48 or 32% said they lived north of Recor Road and 95 or 64% said they lived to the south. The remaining 4% was comprised of non-residents.

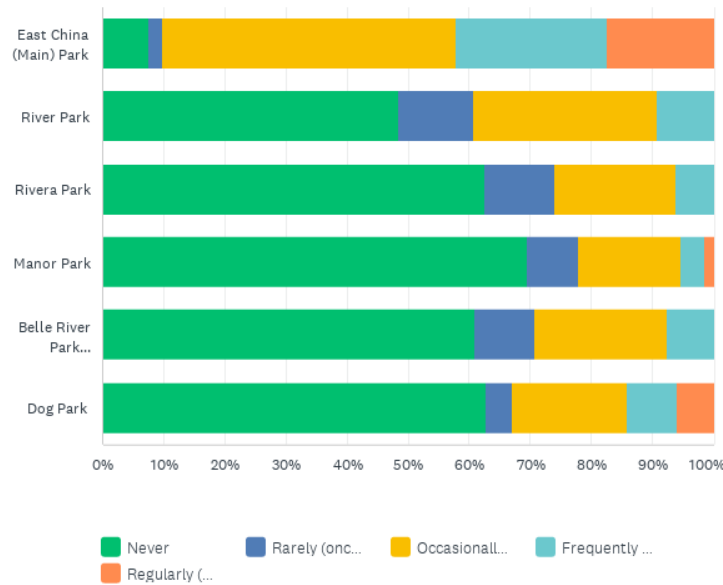
Frequency of Visits

Participants were given a list of six parks operated by East China Township and asked how often they visited each (due to its function primarily as a memorial and not a park, Freedom Memorial Garden was not included in the question). Only East China Township Park is regularly visited by survey respondents. More than 40% of respondents visit East China Township Park weekly, while 17% visit multiple times a week. 48% of respondents visit East China Township Park occasionally (once or twice a season).

When the answer choices of occasionally, frequently and regularly are combined, the following is a ranking of parks based on frequency of visits:

1. East China Township Park (90%)
2. River Park (39%)
3. Dog Park (within East China Township Park) (33%)
4. Belle River Park (30%)
5. Rivera Park (26%)
6. Manor Park (23%)

Q5 How frequently do you visit each of the following East China Township parks?



Number of Programs and Facilities

Respondents were asked to consider the current number of recreational activities and facilities provided within East China Township and to indicate whether more activities and facilities are needed. The largest number of respondents (46 or 34%) indicated that somewhat more activities and facilities are needed, followed by enough activities and facilities are available now (37 or 28%). 19% of respondents felt that many more are needed, while another 19% were undecided. Only 1% of respondents felt that there are too many activities and facilities now. The responses to this question indicate general satisfaction related to the number of activities and programs, but with a desire for modest increases.

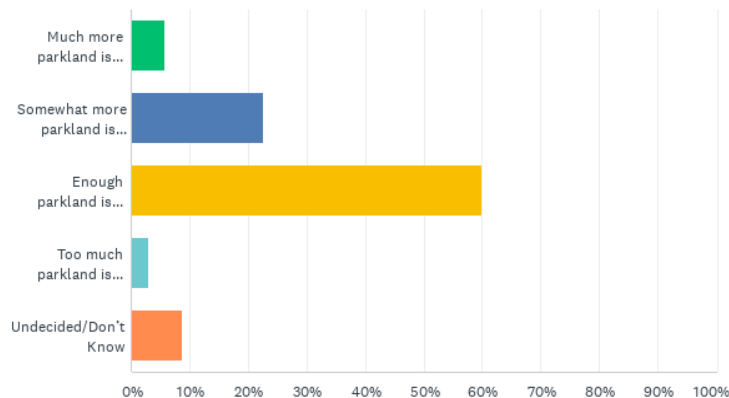
Following-up to this question, respondents were asked to indicate what programs, activities or facilities they think should be provided which are not currently offered. Common responses to this open-ended question included:

- More youth and adult recreation programs such as softball and soccer
- Additional sports facilities to include disk golf, soccer fields, pickleball courts, basketball courts, baseball/softball fields and volleyball courts
- Splash pad

Amount of Parkland

Respondents were asked to consider the amount of parkland within the township and to indicate whether more parkland is needed. The most common response was that enough parkland is available (82 or 60%). A modest number of respondents (31 or 23%) indicated that somewhat more parkland is needed. 6% of respondents felt that much more parkland is needed, while only 3% of respondents felt that too much parkland is available now. 9% of respondents were undecided. Overall, the responses suggest that the amount of parkland available now is meeting basic resident needs.

Q8 Thinking about the amount of parkland in East China Township, do you believe that overall...



As a follow-up to this question, respondents were asked to indicate whether there is a specific location in the township where more parkland should be set aside and developed. Many respondents did not have a particular location in mind. Many respondents expressed a desire for facilities adjacent to water bodies. A common suggestion was to use the recently vacated Detroit Edison plant property.

Access

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement in response to the prompt, “It is convenient and safe for me to access the nearest Township park by walking or biking from home.” 54 or 41% of people said they strongly agreed, 50 or 38% of people said they agreed, 12% said they disagreed, and 6% strongly disagreed. The remaining 3% were undecided.

Similar to the previous question, only this time regarding walking or biking access to nonmotorized pathways, respondents once again overwhelmingly agreed. 53 or 40% indicated they strongly agreed and 44 or 33% said they agreed. 17% disagreed and 7% strongly disagreed. The remaining 3% were undecided.

Next, participants were asked how they most commonly get to parks and recreation facilities within the Township. 54% said car, 23% said walking, and 21% said bike. The remaining 2% used a write-in answer, one of which said “none” while the other stated they used all three aforementioned methods. No one said they used transit.

Following-up the previous question, participants were asked what the most common barriers were when trying to access Township parks or recreation facilities. Most participants skipped the question or indicated there were none. Of those who gave an answer, common responses were difficulty crossing M-29 and parks being closed when they want to go.

Disabilities

The survey asked respondents if they, or any members of their family, had a disability that limits access to Township parks or facilities. If they replied no, they were taken to the next page of the survey. If they replied yes, they were asked to indicate the nature of the disability. It should be noted that respondents were allowed to select multiple answer options for this question. Out of 152 total survey responses, 5 individuals said they or someone in their family had a disability. All five selected the physical disability option. In addition, two selected the hearing impairment option, two selected the illness (heart condition, diabetes, cancer, etc) option, and one cited serious back injuries which limit mobility.

Recreational Facilities

Participants were given a list of 27 recreational facilities that are commonly found within parks and were asked to indicate their opinion about the number of such facilities that are needed. The answer choices were: more should be developed; enough are available now; and, undecided/don't know. The recreational facilities which received the greatest votes for "more should be developed" were (top 5):

1. Spray parks/splash pads (58%)
2. Ice skating rinks (53%)
3. Fishing piers (45%)
4. Hiking/walking trails (44%)
5. Nature areas (41%)

The recreational facilities which the largest percentage of respondents (top 5) indicating "enough are available now" were:

1. Soccer fields (79%)
2. Baseball diamonds (76%)
3. Softball diamonds (74%)
4. Dog parks (71%)
5. Picnic pavilions (71%)

As a follow-up to this question, respondents were allowed to offer any other recreational facilities which were not listed and which respondents would be interested in now or in the future. The most commonly repeated response was the desire for an indoor, multi-purpose recreational facility.

Parks Millage

As the survey concluded, participants were asked if they would support an annual parks millage to allocate money specifically for East China Township parks facility improvements, matching dollars for outside grant funding, and/or new property acquisition. 67 or 52% said yes, 26 or 20% said no, and 36 or 28% were undecided.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held on January 29, 2024 during a joint meeting of the Township Board and Parks Commission. The hearing was opened and closed without public comment.

Parkland and Park Facility Analysis

A combination of sources were used in this section. All requirements and quartile ranges used to measure the township's park and trail inventory were from the NRPA's 2023 Agency Performance Review. The U.S. Census, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, and SEMCOG data were used to determine East China Township's demographic data. National statistics on youth program participation is from the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) and the Aspen Institute Project Play's The State of Play report from 2022. This information helps understand how East China Township is serving their residents' recreation needs at present and may be used to identify potential areas of focus or improvement.

Residents per Park

Based on the NRPA's 2023 Agency Performance Review, the typical park and recreation agency for a small community (less than 20,000 residents) offers one park for every 1,225 residents served. According to SEMCOG data, East China Township's population is 3,727 as of July 2022. Presently, East China Township has six township parks (not including the Bridge-to-Bay Trail). When the Township's population is divided by 6 (the number of parks in the Township), the sum is 621 residents per park. This can be seen as a positive indicator that East China Township is offering more parks than a typical jurisdiction of its size.

Total Parkland by Population

The NRPA's 2023 Agency Performance Review has found that the typical park and recreation agency for a small community (less than 20,000 residents) offers a median of 13.0 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. According to SEMCOG data, East China Township's population is 3,727 as of July 2022. With 86.45 total acres of parkland across its six parks, East China Township currently offers 23.2 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. This is well above the median for a typical jurisdiction of its size and should be seen as another positive indicator for East China Township.

Park Facilities

Based on its 2023 Agency Performance Review, the NRPA has identified a "population per facility" standard for various types of recreation facilities, such as playgrounds and tennis courts. This population per facility standard is included in the [Park Facility Standards Table](#) below and is based on a typical park and recreation agency for a small community (less than 20,000 residents). East China Township's population (3,727) is applied to the standard to determine the recommended number of facilities based on the township's population. Finally, the recommended number of facilities is compared to the current number of facilities to determine whether a surplus or deficiency exists within the township. As shown in the table, East China Township has a surplus in playgrounds, basketball courts, pickleball courts, dog parks, softball fields, baseball fields, and soccer fields, but has a deficiency in tennis courts and field hockey fields.

Caution must be taken when interpreting recommendations based on these guidelines because they may not represent current popular activities and trends. Population-to-facility ratios tend to oversimplify the purpose of recreation planning, which is to address the specific needs of the community, based on its own particular resources and resident preferences/demands so that the plan best suits the community's desires for recreation.

Park Facility Standards Table

Park Facility	NRPA Standard (pop. per Facility)	Recommended (based on Twp population)	Existing (within East China Twp)	Surplus or Deficiency
Playgrounds	2,014	2	3	2
Basketball courts	3,729	1	3	2
Tennis courts	2,805	1	0	-1
Pickleball courts	3,252	1	3	2
Dog park	11,100	0	1	1
Diamond fields: softball- adult	5,800	1	2	1
Diamond fields: softball- youth	5,079	1	2	1
Diamond fields: baseball- adult	7,627	0	2	2
Diamond fields: baseball- youth	3,114	1	2	1
Community gardens	8,178	0	0	0
Swimming pools (outdoor)	9,745	0	0	0
Soccer fields: youth	3,600	1	6	5
Soccer fields: adult	6,955	1	3	2
Skate park	10,726	0	0	0
Football fields	8,637	0	0	0
Field hockey fields	1,800	2	0	-2
Recreation centers	9,745	0	0	0
Community centers	8,829	0	0	0
Senior centers	14,000	0	0	0
Teen centers	14,593	0	0	0
Aquatics centers	11,650	0	0	0
Performance amphitheater	11,100	0	0	0
Ice rink (outdoor)	8,045	0	0	0
Indoor ice rink	8,000	0	0	0

Source: National Recreation and Park Association

Trail Facilities

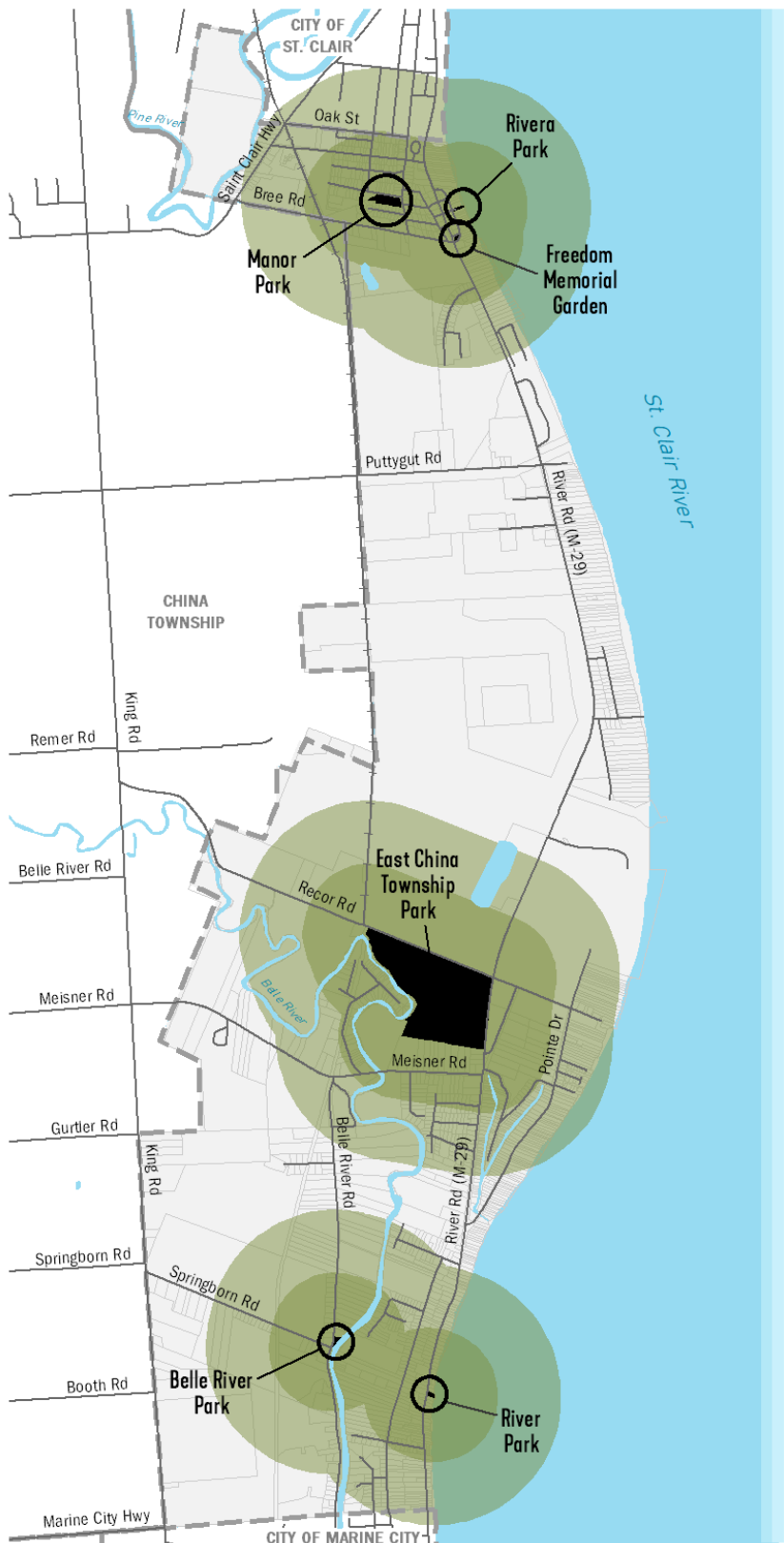
Based on the NRPA's 2023 Agency Performance Review, the typical park and recreation agency for a small community (less than 20,000 residents) offers a median of 4.0 miles of trail. Presently, East China Township has 7.27 miles of trail. East China Township is well above the median trail mileage for a typical community of its size.

Service Area Analysis

It is important to consider the type of parks, their location, and their disbursement throughout the township. When evaluating parks and recreation service areas, it is important to specifically consider where the residents of the community live. The NRPA has established a recommended service area for each park classification, which allows us to determine which areas in East China Township may be lacking easy access to parkland. Regional parks are not included in this analysis because of their large (30 mile) service area. Based on the NRPA standards, the recommended service areas for local park types are as follows:

- Mini Parks ¼ mile
- Neighborhood Parks ½ mile
- Community Parks Up to 3 miles

The service areas associated with these parks are illustrated on the [Local Park Service Areas Map](#) and [Community Park Service Area Map](#). As shown in the maps, although nearly the entirety of East China Township is within the 3-mile service radius of a community park (East China Township Park), there are some notable gaps for the local parks. Specifically, the residents within the north-central portion of the township fall outside of the service radius of an existing park.










Local Park Service Areas Map

East China Township
Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

Recreation Facilities:

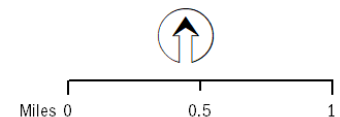
-  Township Parks
-  Quarter Mile Buffer
-  Half Mile Buffer

Base Layers:

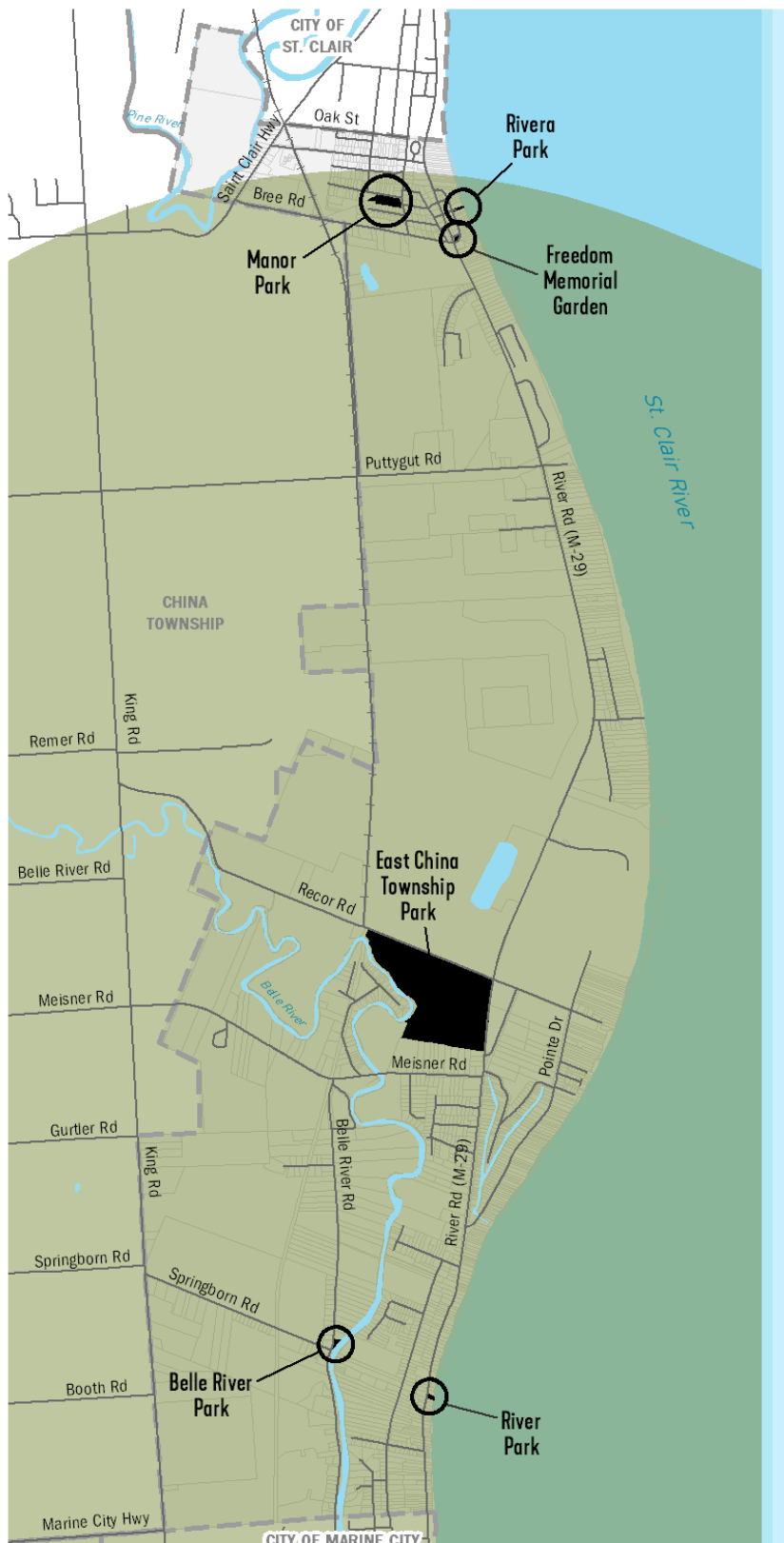
-  Roads
-  Railroads
-  Parcel Lines
-  Water Bodies
-  Rivers
-  East China Township
-  Municipal Boundaries

December 2023

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library, 2017;
Parcel Source: St. Clair County GIS



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Community Park Service Area Map

East China Township
Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

Recreation Facilities:

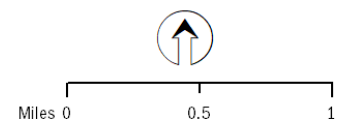
- Township Parks
- 3 Mile Buffer from East China Township Park

Base Layers:

- Roads
- Railroads
- Parcel Lines
- Water Bodies
- Rivers
- East China Township
- Municipal Boundaries

December 2023

Source: Michigan Geographic Data Library, 2017;
Parcel Source: St. Clair County GIS



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National Recreation Trends

Recreation trends occurring nationally may provide insight into activities that have shown the greatest growth in popularity. Organizations such as the National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) and the Aspen Institute Project Play conduct national surveys that measure sports participation across the country. According to the NSGA, based on a 2022 study, the following sports segments experienced growth rates over the past year (ranked by rate of growth):

1. Soccer (Outdoor) (18.6% growth)
2. Flag Football (15.8%)
3. Baseball (9.5%)
4. Cheerleading (9.5%)
5. Gymnastics (7.0%)

Conversely, the sports that saw the greatest decline in youth participation were:

- Wrestling (-6.4% decline)
- Track and Field (-6.0%)
- Golf (-5.6%)
- Lacrosse (-4.1%)
- Swimming (Team) (-3.6%)

Much of the report centers around the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth sports. Low-contact outdoor team sports saw notable growth, while high-contact sports experienced some of the biggest declines (wrestling and lacrosse). According to the NSGA, fitness activities, open water sports, outdoor activities, and wheel sports segments have experienced increases over the last 5 years, while the individual sports and team sports segments have remained relatively flat.

The State of Play report from 2022, published by the Aspen Institute Project Play, provides insights into youth sports (ages 6-12) participation trends between 2008 and 2021 for the United States. According to the report, the most popular sports in 2021, in terms of total youth participation, were:

1. Bicycling (5.2 million participants)
2. Basketball (4.2 million)
3. Baseball (3.6 million)
4. Soccer (Outdoor) (2.1 million)
5. Tennis (1.7 million)

Community Demographics

The socioeconomic characteristics of a community play a role in the demand for certain types of recreation facilities. By examining socioeconomic characteristics such as population, density, age, and household size, municipalities can identify trends and opportunities that may influence future land use and recreation decisions and/or policy choices. For example, if the elementary school enrollment in a particular area is growing, there may be a need to plan for more playgrounds and children's programs. Conversely, if the population of the community is aging, more recreational facilities may be needed for senior citizens. This section provides a brief summary of the socioeconomic characteristics of East China Township that may influence parks and recreation planning decisions.

Population Trends and Projections

Township population trends between 1980 and 2020 exhibit modest population growth in East China Township. The total growth rate over the 40-year span was 15.7%. Between 2020 and 2040, the population is forecasted to continue to grow, but at a slower rate of 6.5%, reaching a total population of 3,960. This forecasted growth indicates a general need for maintenance of the current system in addition to township staff understanding the future wants and needs of the community.

Age Distribution

The following data was collected using the 2020 U.S. Census and 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates unless otherwise noted. The median age in East China Township in 2021 was 55.0 years. When compared to the 2021 St. Clair County median age of 44.1 years, the Township has a significantly older population.

In 2021, 13.6% of households in East China Township included one or more persons age 18 or younger. This value is much lower than the County (28.2%) and State (28.1%). In comparison, 46.0% of households in East China Township had households with at least one person age 65 or older. This value is much higher than the County (32.7%) and State (31.1%). These values reinforce East China Township's need to create more recreation infrastructure geared toward an aging population.

Regional Greenways and Blueways Planning

It is important to understand the recreation-related planning efforts that are happening in and around East China Township to be able to coordinate efforts outlined in the capital improvements schedule. St. Clair County and the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission have a long history of parks and recreation, greenways and blueways planning at the county-level.

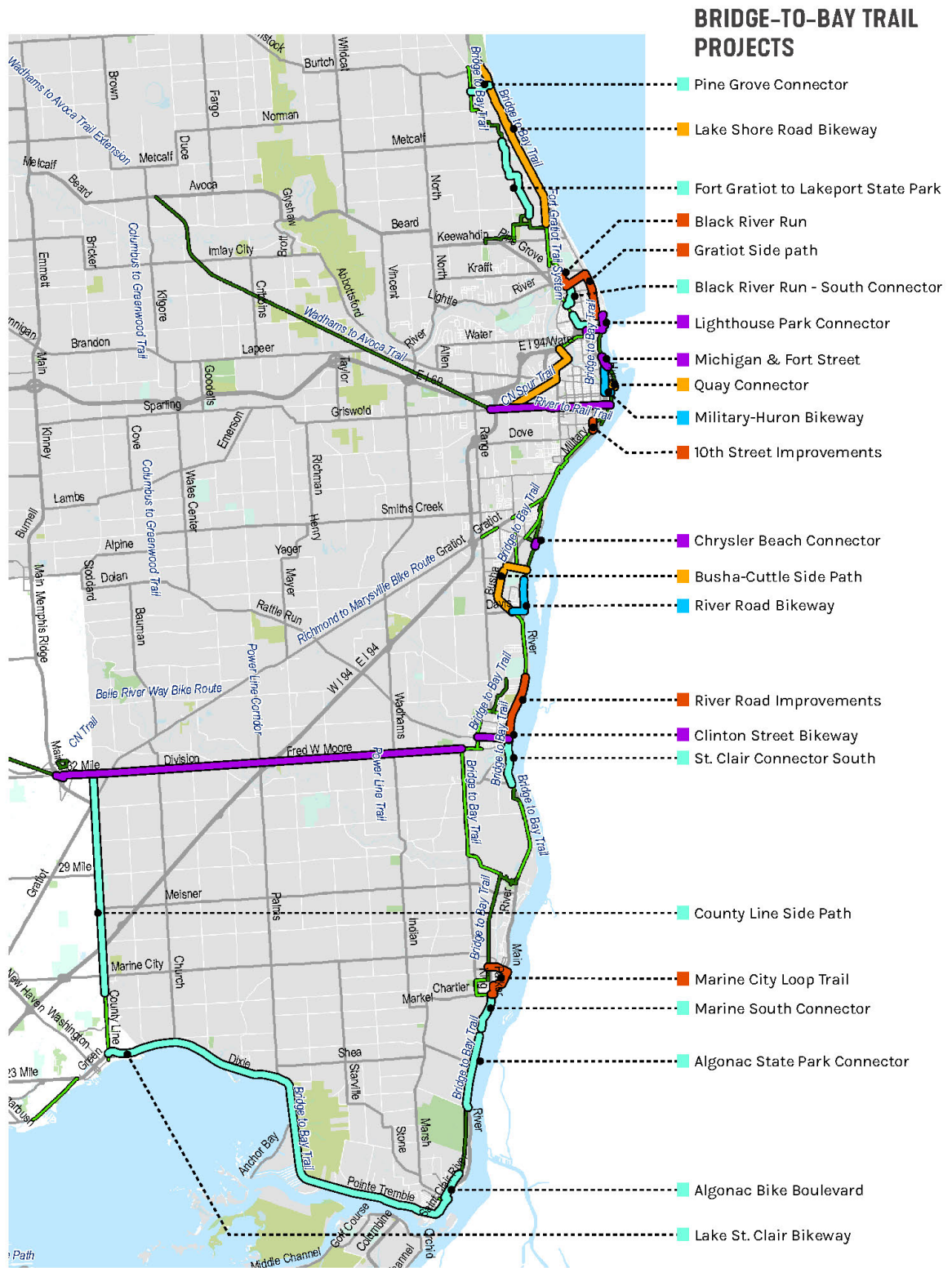
Most recently (2019), the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission prepared and adopted the St. Clair County Trails Plan. The purpose of the St. Clair County Trails Plan is to assess the overall county and its major destinations, inventory the existing trail systems, and understand community desires. These activities supported the adoption of an implementation focused plan that clearly identifies opportunities, needs, and priorities for future trail and bikeway projects. The plan focuses on the completion of three regional trails within the county: Bridge-to-Bay Trail; Wadhams to Avoca Trail; and Great Lake to Lake Trail. The county's plans for the Bridge-to-Bay Trail are most relevant to East China Township, as it runs through the township. The "St. Clair Connector South" project is a recommendation to construct bike lanes within River Road (M-29) to connect from where the Bridge-to-Bay Trail safety path currently ends at Bree Road to Clinton Avenue within the City of St. Clair 1.4 miles to the north.

Population Trends and Forecasts Table

Year	Population
1980	3,122
1990	3,216
2000	3,630
2010	3,788
2020	3,704
2030 Forecast	3,772
2040 Forecast	3,960

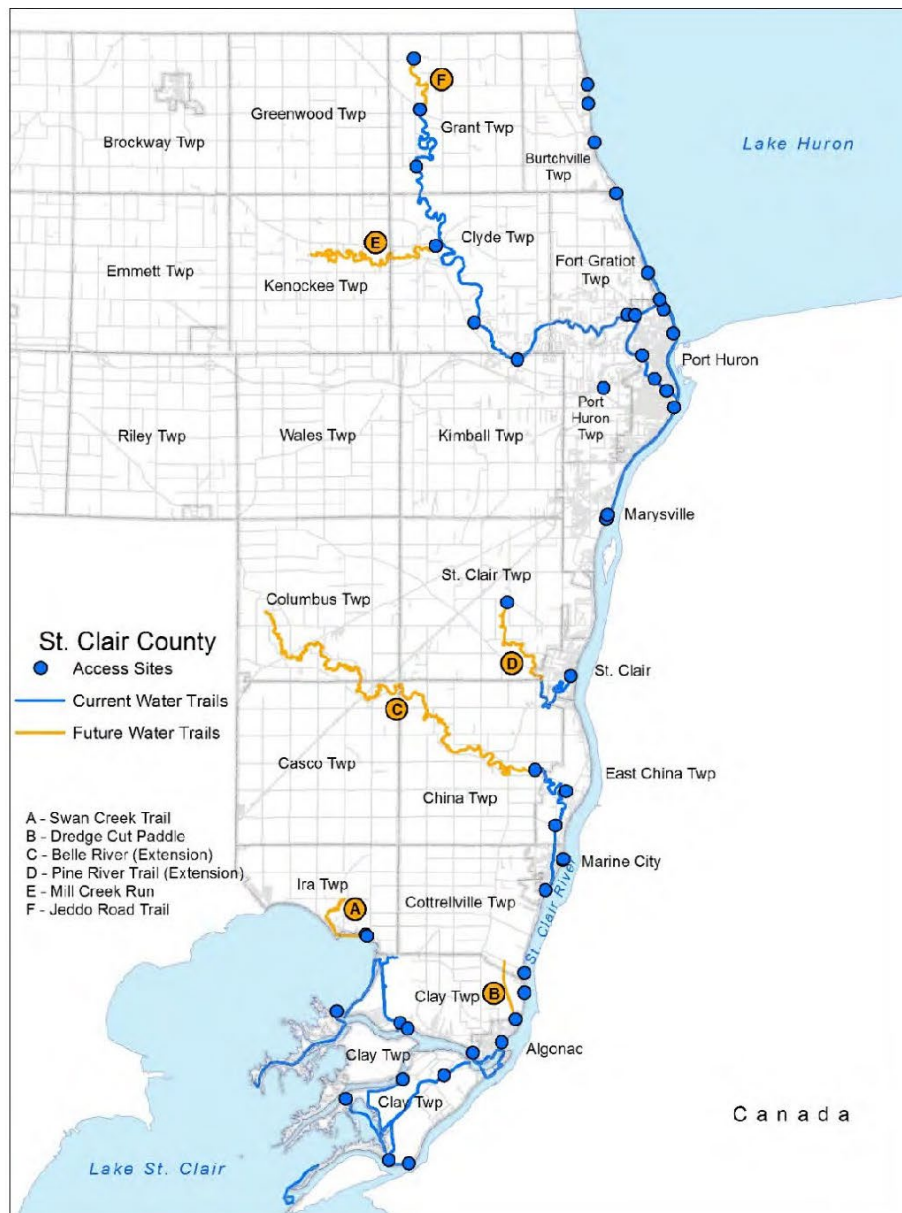
Source: U.S. Census & SEMCOG 2050 Forecast

Bridge-to-Bay Trail Projects From the St. Clair County Trails Plan (2019)



In 2018, the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission initiated a comprehensive planning effort to develop a Strategic Plan for the Blueways of St. Clair. Building off the positive momentum and success of prior blueways planning and improvement efforts, the Strategic Plan provides the framework and direction for the long-term sustainable development and management of the blueways system of water trails. Relevant to East China Township, the Strategic Plan highlights the Belle River as one of the county's blueway routes. The "Belle River Route" is designated as an existing water trail through Marine City and East China Township and is designated as a future water trail through China, Casco and Columbus Townships.

Blueways of St. Clair Strategic Plan Future Trail Extension and Development



Action Program

Introduction

The Action Program details the direction that the township wishes to take over the next five years in order to improve the quality and diversity of recreation opportunities within the community. This includes the establishment of goals and guidelines to direct recreation operation and policies as well as capital improvements to implement the master plan. Factors considered for this recreation planning program are: 1) expected demand and need for future recreational activities; 2) results of the public survey; 3) goals and guidelines of the Park Commission; 4) needs identified and observed by staff and the general public; and 5) funding sources and availability.

Goals and Objectives

The Parks and Recreation Plan provides a consistent goal that best describes East China Township's mission regarding recreation:

"To acquire, develop, maintain and preserve sufficient open space and facilities to serve the needs of the Township's current and future population."

This overall goal may be achieved in a variety of ways that are presented as more specific goals and objectives for the next five years.

GOAL 1. Promote healthy lifestyles and active play for everyone in the community regardless of age, physical challenges or socio-economic status.

Objective: Offer a variety of programs and types of facilities that appeal to all ages.

Objective: Collaborate with local health agencies, service clubs, school district, interest groups and private partners to promote recreation facilities and parks.

Objective: Expand use of social media and website to promote programs and to generate public participation, attract sponsors and potential partners.

GOAL 2. Provide safe, accessible and inclusive public parks and recreation facilities that meet the current needs of the community.

Objective: Inspect, maintain and upgrade safety features at existing parks and recreation facilities.

Objective: Develop a Maintenance Plan that includes weekly, monthly, seasonal and annual maintenance functions, prepare inspection reports and maintain repair records to assist in prioritizing investment funds.

Objective: Investigate and evaluate security measures in use or available.

Objective: Provide a wide range of recreation programs and equipment for all ages, including aging adults.

Objective: Commit to including inclusive play equipment and features and accessible walkways when designing or planning for improvements to the parks and facilities.

GOAL 3. Plan for land acquisition opportunities that increase accessibility, promote diverse recreation, healthy lifestyles, improve water access, or protect natural resources or habitats.

Objective: Prepare site plans for each park and facility that identify and evaluate property in the area that may, if it becomes available, provide added value to the park.

Objective: Review existing non-motorized trails and identify potential gaps or opportunities for additional trails if land were to become available.

GOAL 4. Promote Environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Objective: Use best practices for storm water management, watersheds, draining/dredging when designing improvements to existing parks and facilities; and with design elements for new construction, as feasible.

Objective: Encourage recycling in the parks by providing more recycle bins and educational signage.

Objective: Promote use of energy efficient lighting, water conservation features, natural and solar lighting, amenities made from recycled materials, and encourage use of native plantings and drought resistance landscaping within the parks.

Objective: Encourage educational spaces within the park that include gardens, wildlife habitats, informational display boards, signage and website links.

Objective: Continue to maintain and seek opportunities to expand the non-motorized trails and pathways. Provide bike racks and tire pump/repair stations within the parks.

GOAL 5. Encourage fiscal responsibility and sustainability for parks and recreation facility budgets.

Objective: Develop financial resources beyond existing revenue sources.

Objective: Develop specific projects to market and create a fundraising campaign for private and corporate donations.

Objective: Investigate private and public grant funds, foundations, endowments, and sponsorships for programs and parks and recreation facility improvements.

Objective: Reach out to volunteer organizations to determine overlapping interests and leverage talent.

Capital Improvements Schedule

The capital improvements schedule for this Parks and Recreation Plan has been established not only to provide a framework for decision makers but also to enable the township to apply for grant funding for proposed projects. The capital improvements schedule is not a fixed element and is neither all inclusive nor exclusive. The schedule reflects the results of the public input received through the online survey, Parks Commission's brainstorming and data gathering, and input from township personnel. It is very likely that the schedule and plan will be amended at some point during its' life due to unanticipated circumstances such as private donations, changing recreation trends, funding alternatives, community opinion and/or available grants. The capital improvements schedule should be considered in close conjunction with the goals and guidelines of this plan.

The **Capital Improvements Schedule** details the anticipated acquisition and development for the years 2024-2028. The schedule is organized by year and includes project names, general magnitude of costs as well as possible funding sources. While the projects have been placed into a program year to illustrate a level of priority, the township envisions this schedule to remain flexible and be evaluated on an annual basis. It also should be noted that due to funding availability and applicability, projects that the township anticipates applying for funding assistance are not always identified as the highest priority. The MDNR is not going to fund every project that the township wishes to undertake, and those that are eligible (in terms of scope) are not always the township's overall highest priority project for that fiscal year. Costs associated with the various projects are merely estimates as they are conceptual ideas and plans. More detailed study, engineering, feasibility analysis, etc. is necessary for many of the proposed projects to move to implementation. Cost estimates have been provided for planning purposes only.

Capital Improvements Schedule

Year 1 : 2024			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
River Park	Undertake a full park renovation to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible pathway(s) from parking lot to river • Boardwalk • Shade structures (pavilions/gazebos) • Grills • Firepit areas • Accessible benches/seating/picnic tables • Water bottle filling stations/drinking fountain • Permanent binocular for site seeing • Informational kiosk • Park identification signage • Parking lot upgrade and new tire blocks 	TBD	#1, #2
	Restroom facility upgrade	TBD	#1, #2
	New art installations/sculptures	\$5-8,000	#1, #2
EC Township Park	Accessible pathway and walkway improvements to activity sites, including sled hill restroom, and select picnic tables/benches	\$25-35,000	#1, #2
	Replace/repair/add play equipment (to include inclusive play components)	\$25-35,000	#1, #2
	Kid E-Scape replacement/upgrade	\$15-25,000	#1, #2
	Upgraded park furnishings, to include UD table, bench, recycle and waste bins	\$3-5,000	#1, #2, #4

Year 2 : 2025			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
EC Township Park	Pickle ball court relocation/expansion	TBD	#1, #2
	Dog park upgrades, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocation to higher/dryer area of park or resolve drainage lowland issue at current dog park • Implement new “play equipment” for dogs • Incorporate additional soil to add “fill” and different terrain and textures • Additional trees and/or shade structures • Additional accessible seating and pathways • Separate area for small dogs 	TBD	#1, #2
Manor Park	UD benches/table/access walkway	\$5-8,000	#1, #2
	Install new parking area with designated accessible barrier free spaces allowing for more vehicles to park	TBD	#2, #4
	New sport or hobby activity center	TBD	#1, #2
	Upgrade basketball fencing, court, striping	TBD	#1, #2
	Install additional play equipment, seating, shade trees/structures	TBD	#1, #2

Year 3 : 2026			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
EC Township Park	Relocation/reconfiguration of sled hill, to include installation of graded stairway along walking path up the sled hill	TBD	#1, #2
	Install landscaping, educational nature stations (pollination stations, butterfly gardens, signs)	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	Upgrade horseshoe pit (tournament ready, fence, backstop)	\$3-5,000	#1, #2
	Parking lot accessibility improvements at main entrance and soccer field area	\$20-200,000	#1, #2
	Hardball and softball field repairs, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covered dugouts Upgrade pitcher's mounds Replace all base mounts and bases Install all new infield mix Repair/replace fencing/backstops as needed on softball fields 	TBD	#1, #2
Rivera Park	Install new privacy fence on north side	\$7-10,000	#1, #2
	Upgraded park furnishings, to include UD table, bench, recycle and waste bins	\$3-5,000	#1, #2, #4
	Small pavilion or pergola	\$5-20,000	#1, #2
	Parking improvements	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	Landscaping/beautification/pollinator gardens	\$5-10,000	#1, #2
	Replace seawall gate	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	New art installations/sculptures	\$5-8,000	#1, #2

Year 4 : 2027			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
EC Township Park	Upgrade fitness equipment to stand-alone equipment and/or fitness studio/station/court area	TBD	#1, #2
	Installation of relaxation stations throughout park	TBD	#1, #2
	New fishing dock/pier	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	Disc golf concrete tee pads	TBD	#1, #2
	New large gazebo and/or pavilion for “community event” space	\$50-75,000	#1, #2
	New art installations/sculptures	\$5-8,000	#1, #2
Belle River Park	New fishing area at the kayak launch, including new accessible pathway, seating area, and pier/dock if permitted	TBD	#1, #2, #3
	Land acquisition for parking	TBD	#1, #2, #3
	New art installations/sculptures	\$5-8,000	#1, #2
	Landscaping/beautification/pollinator gardens	\$5-10,000	#1, #2
	Additional park amenities, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade/shelter structure(s) • Solar charging station • Porta-potty/vault toilet/restroom 	TBD	#1, #2, #3

Year 5 : 2028			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
EC Township Park	New fishing dock/pier	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	New splash pad	\$75-150,000	#1, #2
	New tennis courts	TBD	#1, #2
	New RC/bike track	TBD	#1, #2
	New skate park	\$40-75,000	#1, #2
Freedom Memorial	Landscaping/beautification/pollinator gardens	\$5-10,000	#1, #2
	New art installations/sculptures	\$5-8,000	#1, #2
Township Property	Golf driving range	TBD	#1, #2
	Roller hockey court (or Main Park)	TBD	#1, #2
	New tennis courts (or Main Park)	TBD	#1, #2

Ongoing Projects			
Site	Project	Cost Estimate	Goals/Objectives
Non-motorized trails	Repairs/maintenance	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	Extensions to secondary trails	TBD	#1, #2, #3, #4
	Extension west along Bree Road	\$80-150,000	#1, #2, #3, #4
All Parks	Parking lot repairs/maintenance/stripping	TBD	#1, #2, #4
	Bike racks/repair stations	\$800-1,500/ea	#1, #2, #4
	Dredging, drainage	TBD	#4
	Energy efficiency, including LED lighting upgrades	TBD	#4
	Tree planting/removal	TBD	#4
	Signage	TBD	#1, #4
	Universal design and ADA accessibility improvements	TBD	#1, #2
	Sensory upgrades and improvements	TBD	#1, #2
	Wi-Fi for parks operations	TBD	#2, #5
	Security improvements, including gates, locks and cameras	TBD	#2, #5
	Interpretative signage and natural features guides	TBD	#4
	Landscaping improvements	TBD	#1, #2, #4
Other	Property acquisition as feasible for parking, water access, habitat protection, accessibility, environmental concerns, watersheds, or security/safety issues	TBD	#1, #2, #3, #4
	Community center	TBD	#1, #2

Potential Funding Sources

Potential funding sources from outside entities for recreation, non-motorized, and environmental restoration projects change and evolve on a regular basis. Understanding available funding programs, their requirements and deadlines requires continuous monitoring. A few of the more common funding sources have been detailed here as a reference and resource. These are in addition to traditional funding methods such as the general fund, millages, bonds, DDA's, etc.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, offered through the MDNR, provides funding for both the purchase of land (or interests in land) for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty and the appropriate development of land for public outdoor recreation use.

Goals of the program are to: 1) protect Michigan's natural resources and provide for their access, public use and enjoyment; 2) provide public access to Michigan's water bodies, particularly the Great Lakes, and facilitate their recreation use; 3) meet regional, county and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities; 4) improve the opportunities for outdoor recreation in Michigan's urban areas; and, 5) stimulate Michigan's economy through recreation-related tourism and community revitalization.

Any individual, group, organization, or unit of government may submit a land acquisition proposal. However, only state and local units of government can submit development proposals. All proposals for grants must include a local match of at least 25% of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the maximum grant request amount is \$300,000. Applications are due in April.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service who distributes funds to the MDNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. In the past, this program has been used for a variety of recreational development purposes, including trailway systems, playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. The maximum grant request amount is \$300,000, with a minimum match of 50% of the total project cost. Applications are typically due in April of each year.

Recreation Passport

The Recreation Passport grant is a relatively new grant offered by the MDNR. The objective for the program is to provide funding to local units for the development of public recreation facilities. This includes the development of new facilities and the renovation of old facilities. The program emphasizes renovations to existing facilities and providing unmet recreation needs. The maximum grant request is \$150,000, with a minimum match of 25% of the total project cost. Applications are typically due in April of each year.

Transportation Alternatives Program (MDOT)

MDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options. TAP was created by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), signed into law in July 2012. TAP continued as a set-aside to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program with the passage of the Fixing America's

Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act), signed into law in December 2015. Approximately \$24 million is available annually. Of this, \$17 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Economic Development (OED). Another \$7 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000.

Eligible activities that relate to the implementation of this Parks and Recreation Plan include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles. Includes new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, bus racks, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses.
 - Paved shoulders four or more feet wide
 - Curb lane width greater than 12 feet
 - Bike lanes
 - Pedestrian crosswalks, sidewalks
 - Shared use paths 10 feet wide or greater
 - Path/trail user amenities
 - Grade separations
 - Bicycle parking facilities
 - Bicycle accommodations on public transportation
- Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists. Programs designed to encourage walking and bicycling by providing potential users with education and safety instruction through classes, pamphlets and signage.
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian and bicycle trails). Acquiring railroad rights-of-way; planning, designing and constructing multi-use trails; developing rail-with-trail projects; purchasing unused railroad property for reuse.

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

Safe Routes 2 School Program

The Safe Routes 2 School (SR2S) Program is a national movement to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need to succeed. In Michigan, the program is sponsored by the Michigan Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and has gained momentum over the past few years. Michigan's SR2S program makes schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing for infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The purpose of the program as defined in the federal legislation is:

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

To be eligible, schools must be registered, attend a day long training session, and develop a Walking Audit in order to be eligible to apply. SR2S funding is 100 percent federal; no match is required. 70% of the funding must be used for infrastructure projects, 10% for non-infrastructure projects, and 20% for either. For more information, go to: www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Michigan Spark Grant

The Spark Grant is a \$65 million grant program to help local communities that want to create, renovate or redevelop public opportunities for residents and visitors—especially those whose economic opportunities and health were hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Administered by the MDNR, Michigan Spark Grants support projects that provide safe, accessible, public recreation facilities and spaces to improve people’s health, introduce new recreation experiences, build on existing park infrastructure and make it easier for people to enjoy both indoor and outdoor recreation. This grant opportunity is possible because of the Building Michigan Together Plan, signed in March 2022, which included a historic infusion of federal funding in our state and local parks. The purpose of the program as defined in the state legislation is:

- Leverage federal, state, local and private resources toward a sustainable public recreation development program.
- Provide a clear, simple and equitable grants distribution process in support of public recreation.
- Align project partners and community organizations so resources are maximized, and roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined and balanced.

Great Lakes Fishery Trust

The Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) was created in 1996 as part of a court settlement for fish losses at the Ludington Pumped Storage Project hydroelectric facility jointly owned by Consumers Power Company (now Consumers Energy) and the Detroit Edison Company. The GLFT accepts proposals under different funding categories including fish habitat protection and restoration.

Bikes Belong

The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds bicycle infrastructure projects and some advocacy projects, such as:

- Bike paths, lanes, trails, and bridges
- Mountain bike facilities
- Bike parks and pump tracks
- BMX facilities
- End of trip facilities such as bike racks, bike parking, bike repair stations and bike storage
- Programs that transform city streets, such as Open
- Streets Days
- Campaigns to increase the investment in bicycle infrastructure

Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects, but Bikes Belong does not contribute to projects where their contribution would amount to 50% or more of the project budget. Applications are reviewed on a biannual basis, in the spring and the fall. More information can be found at www.bikesbelong.org.

Detroit Edison Tree Planting

The Detroit Edison Tree Planting program is conducted in partnership with the MDNR. The program began as DTE joined the US Department of Energy's voluntary Climate Challenge Program to address greenhouse gas emissions. Cost-share funds are available to municipalities in Detroit Edison's service area on a competitive basis for tree planting projects. Applications are typically due in the summer.

Appendices

- A – Township Maintenance Plan/Policy
- B – Notice/Posting of Draft Plan Availability
- C – Public Hearing Notice
- D – Minutes from the Joint Township Board and Park Commission Public Hearing
- E – Park Commission Resolution Recommending Adoption
- F – Township Board Adoption Resolution
- G – Letter of Transmittal to St. Clair County
- H – Letter of Transmittal to SEMCOG
- I – Recreation Plan Certification Checklist
- J – Post Completion Self Certification Reports

Appendix H – Park and Recreation Division Maintenance Plan and Policies

PARK AND RECREATION DIVISION MAINTENANCE PLAN AND POLICIES

It is important to the community that publicly-owned parks, green spaces, trails and recreation sites are safe, accessible, well maintained and attractive to all who visit and use the townships' attractions. Well maintained and easily accessible recreation facilities are part of the community's quality of life and attributes that are sought by potential investors and home buyers.

Park maintenance activities include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Maintaining baseball and softball fields***
- 2) Maintaining soccer fields and multi-sport fields***
- 3) Installation and maintenance of playground equipment***
- 4) Cutting and trimming of grass, weeding shrubs and flower beds***
- 5) Planting of trees and pruning as necessary***
- 6) Trash and litter pick up***
- 7) Cleaning parking lots at parks and recreation sites, regrading, plowing, repaving and striping as necessary***
- 8) Maintain signage at each site, including instructional signs, ADA parking signs and educational sign boards***
- 9) Building maintenance and repairs, including kayak launch, and walkways, lighting and fencing***
- 10) Install seasonal equipment (tables, play equipment, trash receptacles)***
- 11) Periodic inspection of playground equipment and arrange for repairs as necessary.***

The community has a dedicated employee and part time staff to oversee the inspection and maintenance of each site. Maintenance is scheduled on a daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual basis as necessary.

The annual budget for the Department of Public Works includes costs for maintenance of other public owned sites. An additional amount is set aside annually during the community's budget allocation process for capital improvements in the park and recreation sites.

PARK AND RECREATION MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE GUIDE

DAILY

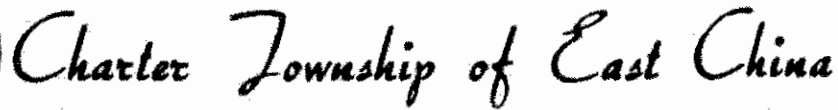
1. Trash Removal – Monday thru Friday in January-April; and Nov-December
2. Trash Removal – Monday thru Sunday during May-October at Township Park;
Weekly pick up at River Park, Rivera Park, Manor Park and Springborn Launch Site.
3. Daily inspections by staff to note damage due to weather or other, gate security and restroom maintenance.
4. Daily Inspections by staff for picnic table placement, parking lot access.
5. Restroom cleaning and maintenance: daily at Township Park; weekly or after special events as necessary at River Park, Rivera Park. This also applies to temporary portable restroom facilities by outside contractor.

WEEKLY

1. Grass mowed once a week by staff and edged/weeded.
2. Sidewalks and parking lots cleared of snow and salted as necessary
3. Park Manager inspects play equipment, recreation equipment and sites for any damage or additional maintenance. Park Manager also responds to any maintenance complaints, special needs due to seasonal events or programs.
4. Park Manager checks supplies and orders as necessary
5. Flower beds and planting areas weeded, watered and adjusted as seasonal conditions determine by staff and volunteers.

MONTHLY OR QUARTERLY

1. Trees and large shrub plantings are inspected and noted for needs such as pruning, fertilizing, mulching, replacement or other work
2. Capital improvements, special repair or replacement requests by the Park Manager or staff are reviewed and authorized by the Park Commission at monthly meetings.
3. Annual Budget considerations and requests are review at the appropriate Park Commission meeting prior to submittal for consideration to the Board of Trustee



Mostly cloudy 9:57 AM 12/22/2023



HOME	FLOODING RESOURCES	PA 202 ACTION PLAN	CONTACTS	ST CLAIR RIVER SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY	
CLERK'S OFFICE	PLANNING & ZONING	BOARDS & COMMISSIONS	SERVICES & DEPARTMENTS ▾	COVID19 PUBLIC NOTICES	
PARKS & RECREATION	HISTORICAL COMMISSION / RED BRICK SCHOOL	YOUR WATERSHED	LINKS	PAY WATER BILL ONLINE	
TREASURER'S OFFICE / TAXES	EMPLOYEE INTRANET	WATER/SEWER PROJECTS	FINANCE AND BUDGET		

PARK & RECREATION PLAN UPDATE PROGRESS
PARKS COMMISSION
RECREATION
PAVILIONS/ RENTALS ▶
RECREATIONAL PARKS
DOG PARK
WINTER/ SEASONAL INFORMATION ▶
BRIDGE TO BAY TRAIL
MEMORIAL BENCH PROGRAM

[Home](#) » [PARKS & RECREATION](#) » PARK & RECREATION PLAN UPDATE PROGRESS

East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - January 29, 2024 7:00pm at Township Hall 5111 River Road East China MI 48054 [DETAILS HERE](#)

Notice of Draft Plan Availability for Review

Notice is hereby given that a copy of the draft East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028 is available for public review at the Township Hall, located at 5111 River Road, East China, Michigan, 48054, as well as on the Township website at www.eastchinatownship.org

A Parks and Recreation Plan assists the Township in identifying recreation needs. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities for improvements. When approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the plan qualifies the Township for recreation grants, which are administered through the MDNR. The proposed plan includes a community description, an overview of the administrative structure of the Township, an inventory of existing facilities, a recreation needs analysis, goals and objectives, and an action program for the next five years.

A public hearing will be held during a joint meeting of the Township Parks and Recreation Commission and Township Board on Monday, January 29, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the Township Hall, located at the above noted address. All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the draft Parks and Recreation Plan. Written comments concerning the draft Parks and Recreation Plan may be submitted to the Township, to the attention of the Township Clerk, up to the time of the public hearing.

Notice Posted at Township Hall: December 22, 2023
Notice Posted on Township Website: December 22, 2023
Draft Plan Uploaded to Township Website: December 22, 2023

The **DRAFT PLAN** is available for viewing and download [HERE](#)

Order Confirmation

Not an Invoice

Account Number:	1186776
Customer Name:	East China Charter Township
Customer Address:	East China Charter Township 5111 River Rd East China MI 48054-4178
Contact Name:	TOWNSHIP EAST CHINA CHARTER
Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:	
PO Number:	

Date:	12/22/2023
Order Number:	9668041
Prepayment Amount:	\$ 0.00

Column Count:	3.0000
Line Count:	25.0000
Height in Inches:	0.0000

[Print](#)

Product	#Insertions	Start - End	Category
PTH Port Huron Times Herald	1	01/10/2024 - 01/10/2024	Public Notices
PTH thetimesherald.com	1	01/10/2024 - 01/10/2024	Public Notices

Order Confirmation Amount

\$111.25

**East China Township Notice of Public Hearing
Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held during a joint meeting of the East China Township Parks and Recreation Commission and Township Board on Monday, January 29, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the Township Hall, located at 5111 River Road, East China, Michigan, 48054. The public hearing is being held to receive comments from citizens and consider the adoption of the draft East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028. A Parks and Recreation Plan assists the Township in identifying recreation needs. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities for improvements. When approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the plan qualifies the Township for recreation grants, which are administered through the MDNR. The proposed plan includes a community description, an overview of the administrative structure of the Township, an inventory of existing facilities, a recreation needs analysis, goals and objectives, and an action program for the next five years.

A copy of the draft East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028 is available for public review at the Township Hall, located at the above noted address, as well as on the Township website at www.eastchinatownship.org

All interested persons may attend the public hearing and comment on the draft Parks and Recreation Plan. Written comments concerning the draft Parks and Recreation Plan may be submitted to the Township, to the attention of the Township Clerk, up to the time of the public hearing.

Sandra Smith
Township Clerk

Published: January 10, 2024, Times Herald
PTH-9574047 12/4/2023

**EAST CHINA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL JOINT BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES & PARK COMMISSION
East China Township Hall
5111 River Road, East China MI 48054**

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

JANUARY 29, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – Supervisor Westrick called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Supervisor Westrick, Clerk Smith, Treasurer Hart, and Trustees Reichle, Blackstock, Knotts, Babel. Also present: Township Manager Cindy Paparelli.

ROLL CALL: Commissioners, Pam Kelb, Ron Miller, Don Wills, Evelyn Toles, Khizran Ali.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Two in the audience.

APPROVE AGENDA – Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Reichle, moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

PUBLIC HEARING – Draft Parks & Recreation Plan 2024-2028.

Trustee Reichle, supported by Clerk Smith, moved to open the Public Hearing at 7:02 p.m. Carried.

Trustee Knotts, supported by Trustee Reichle, moved to close the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

NB 1 – Resolution of the Park Commission adopting Recreation Plan 2024-2028

EAST CHINA TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ADOPTION

2024-2028 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Charter Township of East China

St. Clair County, Michigan

Commissioner Wills, supported by Commissioner Ali, moved to adopt the following Resolution. Roll call vote:
Yea: Kelb, Wills, Ali, Miller, Toles. Carried.

WHEREAS, East China Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, East China Township began the process of developing a recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of East China Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to complete an opinion survey related to parks and recreation needs and opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the public was given notice of an opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 29, 2024 at the East China Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the East China Township Park Commission does hereby recommend adoption of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in East China Township.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

NB 2 – Resolution 04-2024 Adopting 2024-2028 Parks Recreation Plan

RESOLUTION 04-2024

EAST CHINA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

2024-2028 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Charter Township of East China

St. Clair County, Michigan

Trustee Reichle, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to adopt Resolution 04-2024. Roll call vote: Yea: Westrick, Smith, Hart, Blackstock, Babel, Knotts, Reichle. Carried.

WHEREAS, East China Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, East China Township began the process of developing a recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of East China Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to complete an opinion survey related to parks and recreation needs and opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the public was given notice of an opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 29, 2024 at the East China Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation plan, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the East China Township Park Commission passed a resolution recommending adoption of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the East China Township Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the Park Commission and adopts the East China Township 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in East China Township.

Yeas: Westrick, Smith, Hart, Babel, Blackstock, Reichle, Knotts

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

ADJOURN – Trustee Reichle, supported by Trustee Knotts, moved to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. Carried.

Sandra Smith, Clerk

Verne Westrick, Supervisor

**EAST CHINA TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION
RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING ADOPTION
2024-2028 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

Charter Township of East China
St. Clair County, Michigan

Commissioner Wills, supported by Commissioner Ali, moved to adopt the following Resolution. Roll call vote: Yea: Kelb, Wills, Ali, Miller, Toles. Carried.

WHEREAS, East China Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, East China Township began the process of developing a recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of East China Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to complete an opinion survey related to parks and recreation needs and opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the public was given notice of an opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

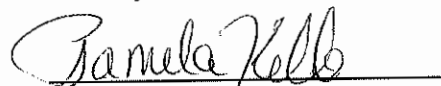
WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 29, 2024 at the East China Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the East China Township Park Commission does hereby recommend adoption of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in East China Township.

Yeas: All Nays: None Absent: None

I, Pamela Kelb, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the East China Township Park Commission at a special meeting thereof held on the 29th day of January, 2024.



Pamela Kelb, Chairperson
East China Township Park Commission

RESOLUTION 04-2024
EAST CHINA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
2024-2028 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

Charter Township of East China
St. Clair County, Michigan

Trustee Reichle, supported by Trustee Babel, moved to adopt Resolution 04-2024. Roll call vote:
Yea: Westrick, Smith, Hart, Blackstock, Babel, Knotts, Reichle. Carried.

WHEREAS, East China Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, East China Township began the process of developing a recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of East China Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to complete an opinion survey related to parks and recreation needs and opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the public was given notice of an opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 29, 2024 at the East China Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation plan, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the East China Township Park Commission passed a resolution recommending adoption of the 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the East China Township Board of Trustees hereby accepts the recommendation of the Park Commission and adopts the East China Township 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in East China Township.

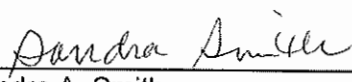
Yeas:

Westrick, Smith, Hart, Babel, Blackstock, Reichle, Knotts

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

I, Sandra A. Smith, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the East China Township Board of Trustees at a special meeting thereof held on the 29th day of January, 2024.


Sandra A. Smith
East China Township Clerk



Letter of Transmittal

WT189-02

500 Griswold Street, Suite 2500 • Detroit, MI 48226
313.961.3650 • 313.961.0898 fax • www.wadetrim.com

If transmitted items are not as noted, notify writer immediately.

To: St. Clair Co. Metropolitan Planning Commission
200 Grand River, Suite 202
Port Huron, MI 48060

Date: January 31, 2024

Attn: To Whom it May Concern

Transmitted By: ☒ Regular Mail ☐ Overnight Delivery
☐ Hand Delivered
☐ Picked Up By:
☐ Other:

Re: East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan
2024-2028

We are transmitting 1 copy of the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate for Payment No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Discs	<input type="checkbox"/> Prints	<input type="checkbox"/> Specs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Change Order No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> Product Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Tracings
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Change Req. No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Measure Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Samples	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Orders No.
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop Drawings	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028			

For your: ☐ Action ☐ As Requested ☐ Information ☐ Review/Comment ☐ Use
☐ Approval ☐ Distribution ☒ Records /Files ☐ Signature

Remarks: Enclosed you will find a copy of the East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028. This plan was adopted by the Township Board on January 29, 2024. In order to promote regional cooperation in providing recreation services, the Township requests that your office keep a copy of this recreation plan on file.

Job No. ECH612201D

By: Adam Young, AICP

cc:



Letter of Transmittal

WT189-02

500 Griswold Street, Suite 2500 • Detroit, MI 48226
313.961.3650 • 313.961.0898 fax • www.wadetrim.com

If transmitted items are not as noted, notify writer immediately.

To: SEMCOG
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400
Detroit, MI 48226

Date: January 31, 2024

Attn: Regional Planning – Courtesy Copy of Municipal
Recreation Plan

Transmitted By: ☒ Regular Mail ☐ Overnight Delivery

☐ Hand Delivered

☐ Picked Up By:

Re: East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan
2024-2028

☐ Other:

We are transmitting 1 copy of the following:

<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate for Payment No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Discs	<input type="checkbox"/> Prints	<input type="checkbox"/> Specs.
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<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Shop Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028			

For your: ☐ Action ☐ As Requested ☐ Information ☐ Review/Comment ☐ Use
☐ Approval ☐ Distribution ☒ Records /Files ☐ Signature

Remarks: Enclosed you will find a copy of the East China Township (St. Clair Co.) Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028. This plan was adopted by the Township Board on January 29, 2024. In order to promote regional cooperation in providing recreation services, the Township requests that your office keep a copy of this recreation plan on file.

Job No. ECH6122 01D

By: Adam Young, AICP

cc:



COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

*By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this
information is required for eligibility to apply for grants*

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than March 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:

East China Township Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028

List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.

County

Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body

East China Township

St. Clair

January 2024

PLAN CONTENT

INSTRUCTIONS: Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.

☒ **1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION**

☒ **2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

☒ Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)

☒ Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart

☒ Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming

☒ Current Funding Sources

☒ Role of Volunteers

☒ Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:

☐ Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities

☐ Articles of Incorporation

☒ **3. RECREATION INVENTORY**

☒ Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

☒ Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

☒ Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)

☒ Accessibility Assessment

☒ Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

☐ Waterways Inventory (if applicable)

☒ **4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)**

☒ **5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS**

☒ **6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

- ☒ Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received

- ☒ Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

Date of the Notice December 22, 2023

Type of Notice Online - Township Website

Plan Location Township Website + Township Hall

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 39 days

- ☒ Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)

Date of Notice January 10, 2024

Name of Newspaper Times Herald

Date of Meeting January 29, 2024

- ☒ Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

☒ **7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

☒ **8. ACTION PROGRAM**

☒ **9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S)**

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION: For multi-jurisdictional plans, **each** local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

- ☒ 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: January 29, 2024
- ☒ 2. Official resolution of the Park Commission Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: January 29, 2024
- ☒ 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: January 31, 2024
- ☒ 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: January 31, 2024

OVERALL CERTIFICATION

NOTE: For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

includes the required content, as indicated

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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

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

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

GRANTEE: Charter Township of East China, St. Clair County

PROJECT NUMBER: CM99-008

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Township Park Parking Lot

PROJECT SCOPE: Paving parking lot, installing drainage

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Charter Township of East China	Larry Simons	Supervisor
Address	Telephone	
5111 River Road	(810) 765-8879	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
East China, MI 48054	supervisor@eastchinatownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please
describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No
Maintenance Plan. Daily, weekly inspections. Monthly, Quarterly repairs as necessary

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?
Park open year round, dawn to dusk.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
CERTIFICATION

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

Larry Simons, Township Supervisor
Please print

Larry J. Simons
Grantee Authorized Signature

12-18-17
Date

Cynthia A. Beaudua
Please print

Cynthia A. Beaudua
Witness Signature

12-18-17
Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925







Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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

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

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

GRANTEE: Charter Township of East China, St. Clair County

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01561

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Township Park Pavilion and Parking Lot

PROJECT SCOPE: Consruction of pavilion, parking lot improvements

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Charter Township of East China	Larry Simons	Supervisor
Address	Telephone	
5111 River Road	(810) 765-8879	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
East China, MI 48054	supervisor@eastchinatownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No
Maintenance Plan. Daily, weekly inspections. Monthly, Quarterly repairs as necessary

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

Park open year round, dawn to dusk

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
CERTIFICATION

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

Larry Simons, Township Supervisor
Please print

Larry J. Simons
Grantee Authorized Signature

12-18-17
Date

Cynthia A. Beaudou
Please print

Cynthia A. Beaudou
Witness Signature

12-18-17
Date

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







Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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

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

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

GRANTEE: Charter Township of East China, St. Clair County

PROJECT NUMBER: BF92-143

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Township Park Restroom & Storage Building

PROJECT SCOPE: Construct new permanent Restroom and Storage facility, park upgrades

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Charter Township of East China	Larry Simons	Supervisor
Address	Telephone	
5111 River Road	(810) 765-8879	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
East China, MI 48054	supervisor@eastchinatownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No
Maintenance Plan - daily, weekly inspections; monthly maintenance, repairs as necessary

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☒Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

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

Park is open year round. Hours dawn/dusk Restroom facilities are open when park is open.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D
CERTIFICATION

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

Larry Simons, Township Supervisor
Please print

Larry J. Simons
Grantee Authorized Signature

12-18-17
Date

Cynthia A. Beaudin
Please print

Cynthia A. Beaudin
Witness Signature

12-18-17
Date

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PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925







Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Grants Management

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

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

GRANTEE: East China Township, St. Clair County

PROJECT NUMBER: TF94-092

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: East China Bike Trail

PROJECT SCOPE: Trail to Meisner Road, drainage and improvements

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Charter Township of East China	Larry Simons	Supervisor
Address	Telephone	
5111 River Road	(810) 765-8879	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
East China, MI 48054	supervisor@eastchinatownship.org	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

Trail is part of the Bridge to Bay Trail, periodic signage occurs along route

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

☒ Yes ☐ No

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. ☒Yes ☐No
Monthly inspection & review of the trail, maintenance as necessary or as issues arise

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) ☐Yes ☐No ☐N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. ☐Yes ☒No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. ☐Yes ☒No

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

Trail is open to public year round as weather permits, and with no time restrictions

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

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

Larry Simons, Township Supervisor
Please print

Larry J. Simons
Grantee Authorized Signature

12-18-17
Date

Cynthia A. Beaudua
Please print

Cynthia A. Beaudua
Witness Signature

12-18-17
Date

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500 Griswold, Suite 2500
Detroit, MI 48226
www.wadetrim.com