

**City of Roosevelt Park  
Five Year Park & Recreation Plan 2010-2014**

Acknowledgements:

The revision of the 2000 City of Roosevelt Park Recreation Plan was conducted during the early part of 2010. This process was a collaborative effort consisting of both elected and appointed officials along with contributions from the local community. The over-arching goal of this endeavor was to call attention towards a healthy and active lifestyle for the City's residents by providing ample recreational offerings.

The document was prepared by the Assistant to the City Manager who is ultimately responsible for any improvements and maintenance of the nine City parks and Community Center on a daily basis. The Assistant to the City Manager is the primary recipient of citizen comments, suggestions, and inquiries regarding the park system. This information is passed on to City Manager W. David Boehm and City Council and from there they become policy that directs the City's park and recreation activities.

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**City of Roosevelt Park  
Parks & Recreation Plan 2010-2014**

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## **INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND**

The City of Roosevelt Park is a community renowned for its abundance of parks situated within the 1 square mile boundary. These parks have been a focal point for families and other residents in deciding to make their home in our City. This large offering of parks and recreation has always been, and will remain an attraction for residents. As a result, a critical component of the 2010 – 2014 Community Park and Recreation Plan is to properly guide the decisions that have a direct influence on the parks and recreational opportunities in the City.

The 2010 – 2014 Plan is an opportunity to set priorities that are vocalized by both the public and the officials that ultimately craft the local policy. The 2010 – 2014 Plan takes into effect the concerns of all age groups and is a reflection of the cumulated input we received through the revision process. The Plan expresses the desires of the next five years while incorporating the hard work and dedication from past generations in maintaining the unique status we enjoy with our parks. Current and future recreational needs will be accommodated and the Action Plan will set in motion the necessary steps to have a successful game plan to administer our parks and recreation program.

The Plan was formulated using regional data with a local perspective incorporating the preferences of the local community. We devised a Plan that would reach out to the neighboring communities by offering a distinctive set of recreational opportunities that are not currently offered on a regional scale. The Plan also anticipates for the changes in demographics and the downturn in the local economy. The previous Plan was reviewed and many of the unfulfilled goals were carried over with recommendation. Each goal was carefully evaluated and adjusted to be more compatible with the present environment. Extensive efforts were made to utilize the input and devise a Plan that would carry our community forward by providing a first-rate park and recreation structure.

Implementation of the plan will be the focus in the years ahead. The goals and ensuing strategies will require constant attention if they are to be realized. The community must also evaluate the direction of the plan and provide guidance as warranted. Dedication towards creating a healthy and sustainable environment coupled with our ability to tap funding opportunities will be imperative for recreation improvements in the City of Roosevelt Park.

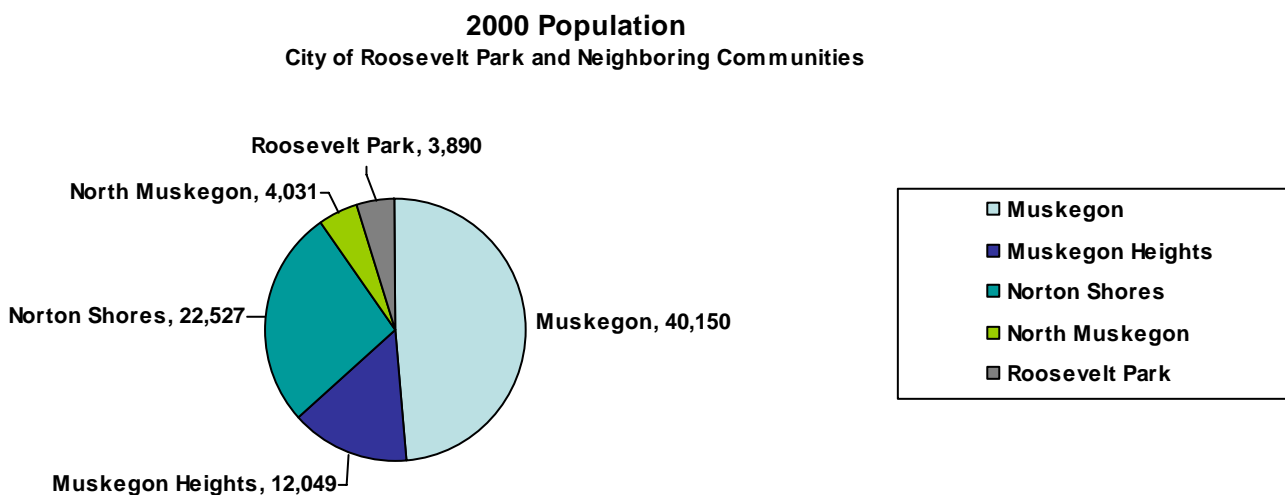
# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## Location

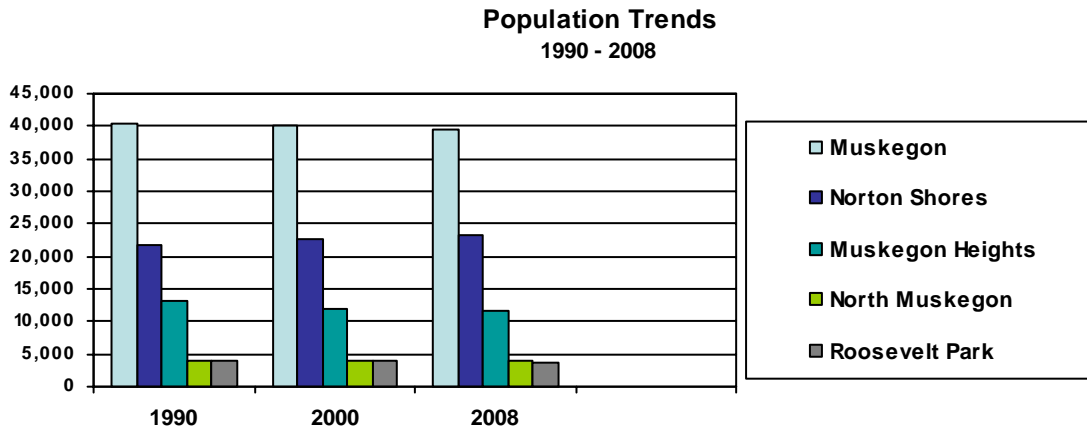
The City of Roosevelt Park is located in Muskegon County roughly one mile inland from the shores of Lake Michigan. Roosevelt Park is bounded by The City of Muskegon to the north and The City of Norton Shores to the west, east, and south. The one square mile of land that contains the City was rural pasture speckled with a few farmhouses for much of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Rapid industrial growth in Muskegon County generated a demand for housing close to the industrial base. The City is named after former president Theodore Roosevelt who passed away around the same time the area was being developed as a residential option for those laboring in the Muskegon industrial sector. The Park portion of the City's name signifies the abundance of public park area that was set aside during the original plotting of the City.

## Population

The 2000 Census recorded the population as 3,890, an increase of 5 persons from the 1990 Census. From a regional perspective, the cities of Norton Shores and North Muskegon experienced modest gains in population. While the cities of Muskegon Heights and Muskegon fell slightly from their 1990 census counts.



The chart that follows illustrates population trends in the City of Roosevelt Park and the before mentioned surrounding communities from 1990 – 2000, and the most recent census estimate from 2008. Annual population estimates released from the Census Bureau would point toward the trend that most growth within Muskegon County’s urban areas has subsided while the suburban townships enjoy modest gains in population.



As the chart above indicates, Roosevelt Park is not unlike its surrounding communities. With the exception of Norton Shores, all neighboring jurisdictions experienced a slight decrease in total population. Roosevelt Park fell from 3,890 persons in 2000 to an estimated 3,769 persons in 2008, a reduction of just over 3 percent.

Muskegon County’s population experienced a nice increase in population (from 158,983 to 170,200 persons) between 1990 and 2000. The most recent census estimate from 2008 has the County’s population expanding to 174,344, an increase of almost 2.5 percent.

## Community Demographics

Characteristics of the local population play a significant role in what types of recreational activities will be utilized. Knowledge of such demographics allows local officials to effectively plan for recreational uses in the community. The following sections profile the related demographics of the City and region.

According to the 2000 Census, The City is comprised of 46.3% as male and 53.7% as female residents. Categories such as age distribution are useful towards determining the City’s adjustment regarding age demographic data and recreational opportunities.

## Race

The 2000 Census indicates that the City’s population is 93.3% white, 3.1% African American, 2% Hispanic, and 1% Asian.

Racial Distribution	Roosevelt Park	Muskegon Co.	Michigan
White	93.30%	83.30%	81.20%
African American	3%	13.40%	14.20%
Hispanic	2%	4.50%	4.10%
Asian	1%	0.50%	2.40%

## Housing

The 2000 Census indicates there are 1,896 housing units located within the City. The housing stock consists primarily of detached, single family homes that comprise 63 % of total housing units. Rental occupied housing units represent 37 % of all housing units, and 6% of the total housing units are considered “vacant” according to the 2000 Census. The City is home to several high density multi-family housing developments that include Lake Crest Apartments, The Shores of Roosevelt Park and Tiffany Woods Apartments.

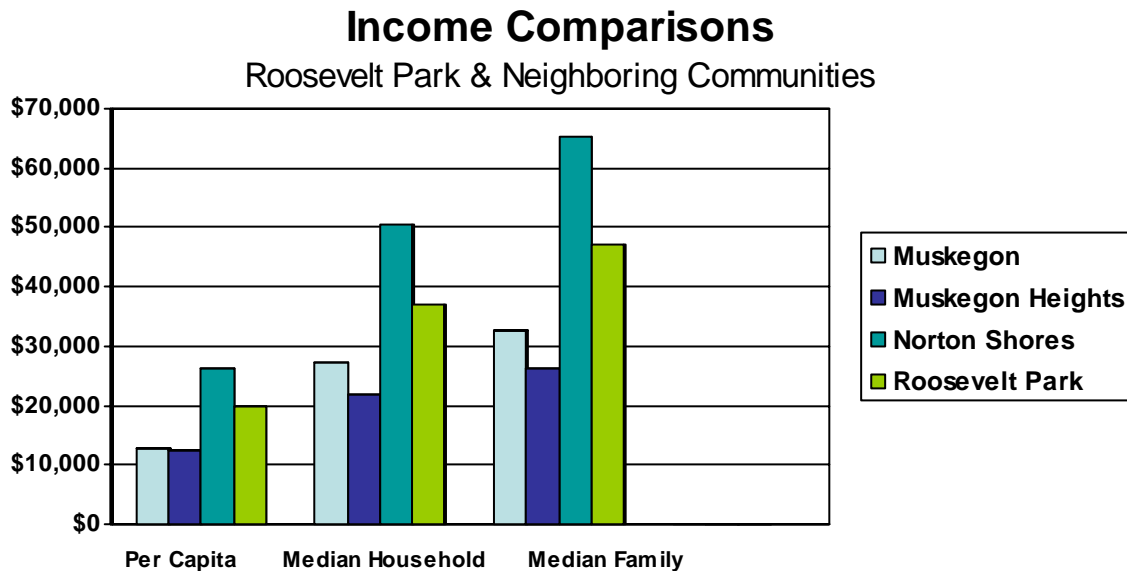
Housing	Roosevelt Park	City of Muskegon	Muskegon Heights	Norton Shores
Total Households	1,896	14,569	5,108	10,642
Avg. Household Size	2.16	2.44	2.66	2.4
Avg. Family Size	2.85	3.28	3.28	2.91
Occupied Housing	1,773	14,269	4,507	9,917
Owner Occupied	1,112	7,777	2,590	8,417
Renter Occupied	661	6,492	1,197	1,500

## Economy

The State and especially Muskegon County have experienced significant declines in economic prosperity. The County unemployment rate has hovered at or above 15 % for several years as a result of the diminished manufacturing and industrial sector of the local economy. Below is a comparison of economic indicators tabulated using the 2000 U.S. Census.

Economy	Roosevelt Park	Muskegon Co.	Michigan
Household Income	\$37,035	\$40,110	\$47,931
Per Capita Income	\$19,825	\$17,967	\$27,168
Persons below Poverty	4.80%	15.70%	13.90%

As stated earlier, the economic downturn has not been kind to the Muskegon area. Over the last decade, Michigan has experienced huge losses in net jobs available to its residents. The State lost a total of 860,000 jobs in the ten year period with 50% of those related to manufacturing. Muskegon has relied heavily on manufacturing for steady employment opportunities that allow families to buy homes and support local businesses. The loss of our manufacturing base has resulted in home foreclosures that further depress the housing market and diminishes property values. This ultimately reduces the property tax collected that in turn is used specifically for general municipal services.



### Comparative Income Levels

The graph above depicts the varying degree of income disparity for the immediate area using data from the 2000 U.S. Census. The four municipalities consist of a diverse range of per capita, household, and family income respectively. Roosevelt Park’s median household income of \$37,035 trails only Norton Shores at \$50,420 (adjusted for 2008 inflation) but exceeds both Muskegon and Muskegon Heights considerably. The national median household income level is \$41,994 and Michigan’s is \$44,667, causing Roosevelt Park to fall below both the national average and that of the State with respects to household income.

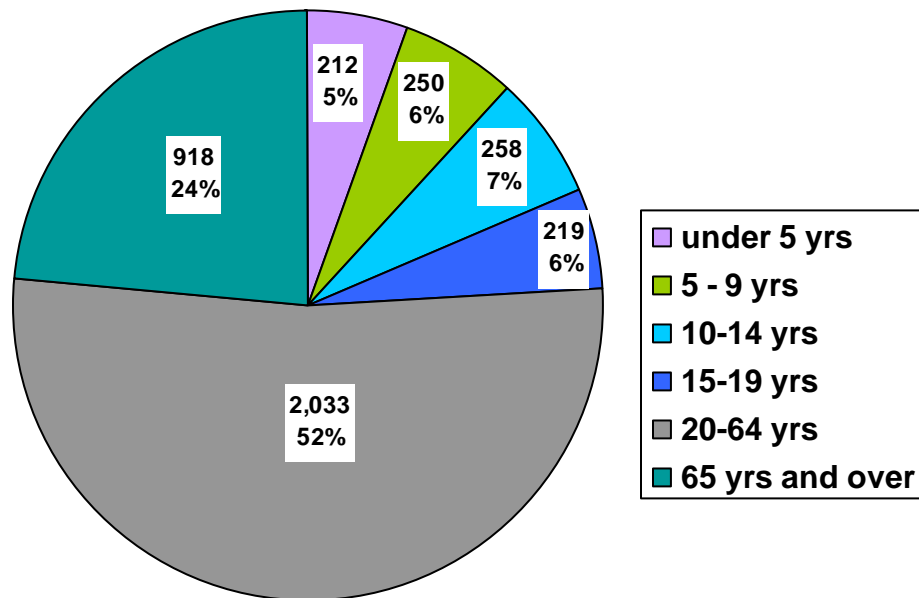
## Age

Population characteristics that deal with age are important when devising a park and recreation plan for future use. You must be cognizant of the age groups that most frequent the parks and be able to accommodate their needs in terms of recreational opportunities. As with many communities in the state, Roosevelt Park and its residents have slowly grown older and this shift plays a pivotal role in determining appropriate recreational goals for the next five years and beyond. The current median age of residents is 41.4 years. Residents 65 years and over comprise 24 percent of the City's total population.

Recreational activities must accommodate all age groups and understanding the age distribution of the local population can be a benefit in terms of recreational planning. Parks and public facilities should offer a suitable lay-out and be considerate of all users regardless of age.

### Distribution of Population Age

Listed in 2000 U.S. Census





## **RECREATION ADMINISTRATION**

### **Administrative Structure**

The City of Roosevelt Park's Department of Public Works staff is responsible for the maintenance and oversight of the public parks and other facilities owned by the City. Three full-time staff and three seasonal workers are in place to monitor and maintain the parks and other recreational facilities. The DPW is supervised by the Superintendent who reports directly to the City Manager.

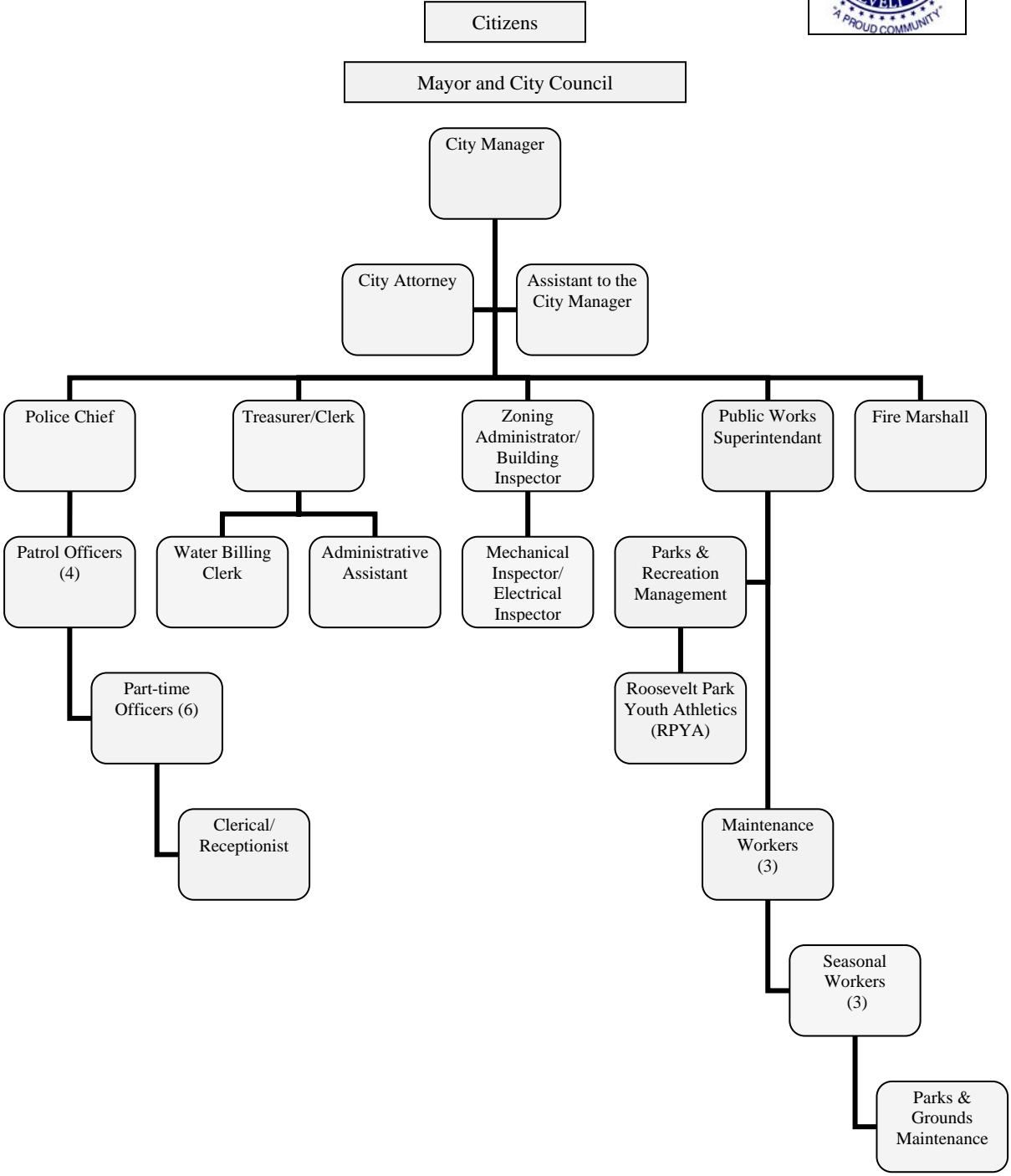
The City does not currently employ a Public Works Committee as was used for the last Parks & Recreation Plan from 1994. The City also does not utilize the services of a park and recreation board, or any committee that the sole focus is based on the parks. The City's Planning Commission has a role in providing guidance with respects to parks and recreation. Roosevelt Park Youth Athletics (RPYA) facilitates many of the recreational opportunities that exist in the City. Ultimately, daily planning with regards to parks and recreation are conducted by the City Manager and the Assistant to the City Manager.

Roosevelt Park residents participate in a wide variety of organized recreation activities that are planned, promoted, and administered by the City of Norton Shores Recreation Department. The City of Roosevelt Park provides funds in the budget to reimburse residents that partake in the recreational activities provided by Norton Shores. The only organized recreation activity administered by Roosevelt Park are the Arts and Crafts program and the Music in the Park offered in the summer month's. The Arts and Crafts program takes place at H.D. Carsell Park and the James V. Wells Playfield. Music in the Park is held at Community Park under the gazebo. The City manages these programs with the assistance of seasonal employees and volunteers.

The Roosevelt Park Youth Athletics (RPYA) group is a private entity that administers several recreational activities for the area. Little League baseball is facilitated through RPYA and they use the three ball fields located at Delmar Park. RPYA utilizes office space supplied by the City in the Community Center building that serves as their main office. RPYA and the City enjoy a long-standing relationship and this partnership benefits the entire community through the programs offered. Maintenance of the three ball fields at Delmar Park during the baseball season is conducted by both entities to ensure a first rate environment is provided to the participants.



**City of Roosevelt Park  
Organizational Structure**



## **LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION**

### **Land Use**

The City of Roosevelt Park has a blend of office, retail, service, professional and industrial land uses. Roosevelt Park began as a “planned city” to accommodate the influx of foundry workers who toiled in the Campbell, Wyant, and Cannon Company Foundry, known today as CWC Textron.

Single family homes still comprise the majority of all residential development in the City. With more recent additions to the southern boundary area that consist of multi-unit condo development. All of the City’s parks and recreational facilities are located in the residential core of the community. This area also includes City Hall and adjacent DPW facility in addition to Campbell Elementary School and three churches.

Commercial development is largely located along the City’s boundary with Muskegon to the north and Norton Shores to the south and east. Developments along these boundaries are characterized by a mix of office, retail, service and professional uses. Industrial development remains along the northern boundary of Sherman Boulevard and the Grand Trunk Western Railroad right-of-way.

Broadway Avenue east of Henry has been transformed into a pedestrian friendly offering that provides the City with a bevy of locally owned businesses. Broadway is complimented with inviting features such as brick paved walkways coupled with pedestrian oriented street lighting that continues west down Broadway and culminates at the Clock Tower Feature that was erected in 2002.

### **Transportation**

The City has a system of roads that is dominated heavily by residential streets that carry the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) classification “City Local”. These local streets service the City’s residential core. Through traffic in the residential core is limited by a system of four-way stop signs and on-street parking which work to slow the traffic down. Through traffic is also restricted by the overall lack of access from the local street system to the major arterials and minor collector streets described below.

According to MDOT, Maple Grove Road, Summit Avenue, Broadway Avenue, Glenside Boulevard, and Roosevelt Road are classified as being “City Major”. Major streets serve as collectors of traffic from the local street network. The major streets also function to allow traffic to flow into the major arterials of Henry, Sherman, and Norton Streets. These three arterial serve to carry the heavy traffic load within and through the urban area. Overall the City consists of 4.51 miles of major streets and 9.49 miles of local streets.

## PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES

### Inventory of Facilities

The City’s park and recreation facilities consist of 12.18 acres of City owned parks including a 3,358 square foot public building used as the City’s Community Center. The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the maintenance of all parks and recreational facilities.

The Facilities matrix shown below is a description of what each park contains in terms of equipment and facilities.

City Park & Recreation Facilities	
James V. Wells Playfield	1 jungle gym, 1 slide, 3 spring toys, 1 swing set, 2 benches
H.D. Carsell Playfield	1 jungle gym, 1 slide, 3 spring toys, 1 swing set, 1 merry go round, 1 bench
Fordham Street Playfield	1 play structure, 1 slide, 3 rocking horses, 1 swing set, 1 tire swing, 1 merry go round, 2 benches
Ashland Street Playfield	1 slide, 3 rocking horses, 1 swing set, 1 merry go round, 1 bench
Greenwich Playfield	1 slide, 3 rocking horses, 1 swing set, 1 merry go round, 1 bench
Delmar Playfield	3 baseball fields, 6 sets of bleachers, 6 dugouts, 1 concession stand, 2 scoreboards
James T. Davies	1 tennis court, 1 slide, 2 swing set, 3 rocking horses, 1 merry go round, 2 benches
Community Park	4 tennis courts, 8 picnic tables, 4 grills, 1 play structure, 1 swing set and slide, 4 benches
Leon J. Lambert Playfield	2 tennis courts, 1 roller hockey area, 1 slide, 1 swing set, 1 merry go round, 3 spring toys
Community Center Building	3,358 sq. ft. building including kitchen, office, multi-purpose room, restrooms, storage
Other Recreational Facilities	
Lutheran Church & School	Playground area with equipment and softball field
Campbell Elementary School	Playground area with equipment

## **Recreation Programs**

The City of Roosevelt Park recreation program is facilitated by the City Manager. A majority of the City's active recreational opportunities take place at the Community Center and adjoining grounds. The City's Community Center building is available for public use for scheduled events and is utilized frequently by not-for-profits as a place to conduct meetings. The building is also used as a regular meeting place for many of the senior citizens who enjoy the shuffle board track on the floor of the main area. Summer arts and crafts programs are offered on site due to the availability of both space and outdoor restroom facilities.

## **Regional Recreation Facilities**

The area immediately surrounding Roosevelt Park contains three state parks. Muskegon State Park, P.J. Hoffmaster State Park, and Duck Lake State Park are located on Lake Michigan and lie within the 20 mile regional recreation service area pursuant to the State recreation standards. These State parks provide an abundance of swimming, camping, and natural areas utilized for recreational purposes. Muskegon State Park is north of the City and includes boat launches to Muskegon Lake with access to Lake Michigan. It is also home to the winter sports complex that will offer an Olympic style luge run being installed in 2010. P.J. Hoffmaster State Park contains the Gillette Sand Dune Visitor Center that functions as an interpretive nature center including programs and other exhibits. Duck Lake State Park is popular with families and includes a large beach area located on Lake Michigan that offers camping, picnicking, and swimming.

Pere Marquette Park is a large public beach area located on Lake Michigan owned and maintained by the City of Muskegon with access to the Muskegon Channel and lighthouse. The park includes several beach volleyball courts that cater to a sizable contingent of avid beach volleyball players. This includes the occasional professional player's series holding national tournaments at the site. Norman F. Kruse Park is located in the City of Muskegon and offers dunes with picnic facilities and a dog run.

The Hart to Montague Trail is a State Park that covers 24 miles of Muskegon and Oceana County and is a converted rail way to a trail for bicycling, walking or running. The Muskatawa Trail heads east from Muskegon and is 26 miles paved used for recreational purposes.

### **Other Local and Regional Recreation**

Muskegon Community College (MCC) and Baker College-Muskegon offer education, competitive and intramural athletics, and cultural activities for the region. The LC Walker Arena located in downtown Muskegon is an indoor arena used for ice hockey & public skating, regional exhibits, and entertainment events. The Lakeshore Sports Centre offers public skating and houses indoor soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey leagues. Muskegon County is also home to 11 public and 2 private golf courses. Extra Innings

located in Norton Shores is a baseball training facility that offers year round use for all ages and types of baseball training and practice with professional instruction available.

The Mona Shores Middle School is part of the Mona Shores School District and is located in the City of Norton Shores but is about 200 yards from the city limit of Roosevelt Park. And because of this proximity, many residents utilize the Middle School for recreational purposes. The Middle School currently offers a ¼ mile track and 6 tennis courts along with supplementary equipment.

## **City Park and Recreation Area Inventory**

### **Community Building**

Size: 3,358 Sq. ft

This building was built in 1977 to serve as a recreational/office center for public meetings and other social gatherings. The building is basically in tact from its origin in 1977 with very little upgrades being made over the years.

Lighting fixtures and shades should be replaced with modern and efficient energy products. The lights date back to the 1970's and an energy audit is necessary to determine efficiency upgrades. Most of the facility meets accessibility guidelines.

#### **Improvements:**

- 1) Replace all lighting with modern and efficient lighting source.
- 2) Replace windows and shades for better insulation.
- 3) Increase size of interior storage areas.
- 4) Renovate office area used by RPYA for their main office.

### **Community Center Park**

Size: 3.93 acres      Classification: Community Park

This is the City's largest park and is heavily used by both residents and visitors alike with its location abutting the Community Center and being across the street from Delmar Playfield. Tennis courts need to be re-surfaced and netting replaced. Fencing around tennis courts and backstop for practicing tennis serve needs renovation. Swing set needs new seating and outdoor grills need replacement. Replace shingles on roof of the gazebo. The entire park meets accessibility guidelines.

#### **Improvements:**

- 1) Re-surface tennis courts and replace all netting.
- 2) Repair practice tennis serving wooden backstop.
- 3) Repair fencing for tennis courts.
- 4) Replace out door grills and improve picnic areas.
- 5) Re-roof the gazebo with new shingles.
- 6) Install pickle ball lines on the existing tennis courts to allow both to be played.

### **James V. Wells Playfield**

Size: 0.43 acre      Classification: Mini-Park

Known by the locals as “tot lot” this park services the No. 3 subdivision located in the NW section of the city. The most recent residential subdivision called Garrison Road was developed in the late 1990’s and is only one block away. This park also benefits from its location on heavily used Glenside Boulevard that adds to both the accessibility and visibility of this particular park.

The saddle mates (spring mounted toys) require continuous maintenance and the area needs play curbs and wood fiber. Current slide is obsolete, non-conforming and replacement parts do not exist. The frame for the swings is a converted monkey bar apparatus that is inadequate for modern swing seats that are presently in production. The entire park area and some of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

#### Improvements:

- 1) Replace existing swing set.
- 2) Replace existing slide with safer composite material (current slide is steel).
- 3) Replace obsolete merry-go-round and install engineered wood fiber around all play features.

### **H.D. Carsell Park (Haverhill)**

Size: 0.40 acre      Classification: Mini-Park

Service area for this park includes the No. 4 subdivision on the West side of the City that extends from Colonial Road to the north and Woodside Road to the south.

Swing sets and climbing equipment is obsolete and replacement parts do not exist. The entire park area and some of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

#### Improvements:

- 1) Replace entire swing set and climbing apparatus with modern and safe equipment.
- 2) Install play curb with wood fiber material.

**Fordham Street Playfield (Germaine)**

Size: 0.42 acre      Classification: Mini-Park

Neighborhood playfield that is located in the southern portion of the City known as the Le Roux subdivision that is home to many recent condo developments.

Play structure is non-conforming and needs replacement with safe and modern play structure. The entire park area and some of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

Improvements:

- 1) Remove current play structure and install new equipment.
- 2) Replace slide.

**Ashland Street Playfield (Post)**

Size: 0.17 acre      Classification: Mini-Park

Mini-park serving the subdivision known as Torrent Homes Garden on the East side of the City located on a residential street and is the City's smallest park in terms of land area. The entire park and some of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

Replace existing playground equipment.

Improvements:

- 1) Replace existing swing set with safe and modern equipment.
- 2) Replace existing climbing equipment with new play structure.

**Leon J. Lambert Playfield (Broadway)**

Size: 0.84 acre      Classification: Mini-Park

Highly visible park and playfield located on Broadway Avenue on the north and surrounded by private residences to the east and west. Cornell Road abuts the park to the South.

Fencing encompassing the park and separating it from private property is inadequate and deteriorated. Entrance gates to the tennis courts are in need of replacement. The surface on the tennis courts need improvements (re-surfaced) and the netting needs replacing. Spring toys and merry go round is non-conforming. The entire park and some of the equipment meet accessibility guidelines.

Improvements:

- 1) Install new fencing.
- 2) Re-surface tennis courts and replace netting.
- 3) Replace existing swing set and playground equipment (merry go round and spring toys).



### **James T. Davies Playfield (Sherwood)**

Size: 1.59 acres      Classification: Mini-Park

Situated within the No.2 subdivision this exceptional park with a magnificent display of century old tall Oak trees help to attract visitors from the entire community. All of the park area meets accessibility guidelines along with some of the facilities presently offered.

Fencing surrounding the tennis courts should be upgraded with new netting installed. A portion of the publicly owned terrace area on Sherwood Road could be paved and designated for a parking area (2-3 vehicles). The Playfield is large enough to accommodate a picnic area and routine maintenance would indicate that occasional picnicking is occurring with out the adequate facilities to handle such activity.

#### **Improvements:**

- 1) Upgrade conforming swing set with new seats.
- 2) Replace fencing on tennis court area and netting.
- 3) Pave portion of the terrace for off-street parking.
- 4) Remove one swing set (non-conforming).
- 5) Re-locate slide to proper distance from swing set.

### **Greenwich Playfield**

Size: 0.25 acres      Classification: Mini-Park

Mini-park that is completely surrounded by residential property with the exception of the sidewalk that serves as a walk-through that provides pedestrian access to Princeton and Greenwich Roads. This walk-through serves as the park's entrance and exit way and is bordered with chain-link fencing. The park is situated in the center of the City and is located directly across the street from Campbell Elementary School. The park area meets accessibility guidelines.

#### **Improvements:**

- 1) Replace benches and upgrade swing set.
- 2) Repair fencing that separates the park from the residential property.
- 3) Replace obsolete merry-go-round.

### **Delmar Playfield**

Size: 4.15 acres      Classification: Community Park

This park contains the popular baseball fields that are used for RPYA Little League games and are routinely frequented on game nights by 400-500 visitors. A parking area could be added to accommodate visitors during baseball games on the City owned terrace located on Greenwich Road.

Dug out areas on all three little league fields have inadequate drainage. The irrigation system needs upgrading with the installation of under drains in the infield areas of the three ball fields. Storage area is under sized and inadequate for storing all necessary equipment and materials. Fence lines and backstop fencing needs replacement with commercial grade posts, line rails, and new protective fabric.

Seating areas need to be increased with additional bleacher sets and benches. The existing bleacher sets are constantly being shuffled around to accommodate spectators. This movement inflicts unnecessary stress to the bleacher sets which in turn reduces the life span and increases maintenance.

Bathroom facility and concession stand needs upgrading to both the interior and exterior. The main sign located on Roosevelt Road (SE side of the park) identifying the park needs replacement. Currently only the pole for a sign exists in that location and a sign would be considered as essential for directional purposes. Some of the park/facilities meet accessibility guidelines.

Improvements:

- 1) Replace backstop fencing on three ball fields and install protective fabric.
- 2) Renovate interior and exterior of existing bathroom facility and concession stand.
- 3) Install permanent bleacher sets for three ball fields.
- 4) Add parking area NE of baseball fields on Greenwich Road.
- 5) The addition of a sign to the pole assembly on Roosevelt Road identifying the park to visitors.
- 6) Replace irrigation system to ball fields.
- 7) Install controls to the scoreboards.

## **PARK & RECREATION BUDGET**

### **City Park and Recreation Budget 2010**

The need to provide core public services has reduced the resources available for park and recreation, other than the general maintenance of the parks and recreational facilities currently in use. The City will also be limited in providing only the arts & crafts program and music in the park held at Community Park for 2010. The City does provide a subsidy for the non-resident fees charged by Norton Shores for those Roosevelt Park residents that participate in their recreation programs.

<b>Parks, Recreation, &amp; Concessions</b>	
Line Item	Fiscal Year 2010
Seasonal employees	\$1,000
Supplies and materials	\$7,000
Contract services	\$4,000
Building maintenance	\$500
Norton Shores subsidy	\$1,500
Playground equipment repair	\$500
Equipment rental	\$14,500
Music in the park	\$1,000
Capital Improvements	\$5,000

### **Capital Improvement Program**

A commitment to park and recreation planning requires a commitment to Capital Improvement Programming (CIP) as a means of allocating limited resources for recreation programs. The City is determined to budget funds into the CIP for facility maintenance and improvements to make a lasting contribution towards enhancing the park system in the City.

Funding for the CIP will come from the City's general fund as well as from donations from civic and service organizations that conduct fundraising activities. Another main source of parks and recreational funding will potentially come from the grant program administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment. This grant program is directed towards improving recreational opportunities and they include: the Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, and the Recreational Trails Program. Below is a breakdown of the four funding sources for proposed improvement projects:

- City General Fund

Improvements for parks and recreation would come from the City of Roosevelt Park General Fund Budget. Currently the general fund FY 2010 budget has \$42,500 allocated under the line item that covers parks, recreation, and concessions. The CIP has forecasted the amounts of \$5,000 in FY 2010 and \$30,000 for FY 2011 for park improvements with \$50,000 set aside for FY 2012 for Community Center improvements.

- Donations

Local civic and service organizations collect donations used to purchase such items as park benches, grills, picnic tables, flowers, and drinking fountains.

- Fundraising

Volunteer groups, leagues, and organizations are consistently raising funds to mitigate the burden of purchasing team equipment such as uniforms and improvements/maintenance of the baseball fields.

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment

The Recreation division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources & Environment administers three programs that offer assistance to local communities that the City is interested in pursuing. These grant programs are directed towards improving recreational opportunities and they include: the Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, and Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Recreation Bond. Funds from these programs are currently on a local match basis subject to the federal and state grant application process of the respective agency.

The application process allows flexibility in the applicant's selection of program in which to seek. Or the applicant may pursue each and every program that offers grant funding, which is how the City will approach this process. Each of these grants funding programs are unique with its own set of requirements and priorities in addition to the limit of funds available. All grants are issued as reimbursement for actual expense put towards park and recreation improvements and require a local match from the participating community.

<b>City Park &amp; Recreation Capital Improvement Program</b>					
City Park	Year of Improvement	Estimated Cost	General Fund	<b>Funding</b> Donations & Fund raising (1)	MDNRE (2)
Community Park/Building	2010	100,000	yes	yes	yes
James V. Wells Playfield	2010	\$17,000	yes	yes	yes
H.D. Carsell Playfield	2011	\$35,000	yes	yes	yes
Fordham Street Playfield	2011	\$25,500	yes	yes	yes
Ashland Street Playfield	2011	\$35,000	yes	yes	yes
Leon J. Lambert Park	2011	\$25,000	yes	yes	yes
James T. Davies Playfield	2012	\$35,000	yes	yes	yes
Dawes/Greenwich Park	2012	\$27,500	yes	yes	yes
Soccer/Softball Complex	2013	\$250,000	yes	yes	yes
Delmar Playfield	2013	\$100,000	yes	yes	yes
(1) Donations & Fundraising		Contributions by civic organizations & foundations			
(2) MDNRE*		Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and Land and Water Conservation Fund			

\* Each park qualifies for funds from both the Natural Resources Trust Fund and Land & Water Conservation Fund programs. The MDNRE will make the decision concerning which program is more conducive with the intended improvements proposed.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Description of the Planning Process**

The process of updating the City's Parks and Recreation Plan materialized in the fall of 2009 with the hiring of the Assistant to the City Manager. This staff person then formulated a plan of action to begin the revision process with the intention of updating the most recently adopted parks and recreation plan from 2000. This allowed for staff to re-evaluate the goals of the community and verify what proposed projects of the past had been successfully completed. The following steps were presented to the City's Planning Commission at the January 25, 2010 meeting.

**Step 1** – Review the existing plans from 1994 and 2000 to analyze the appropriateness of the plans and to gauge if the contents are still applicable, specifically the proposed projects listed in the previous plans.

**Step 2** – Update the Sections that we deem suitable for the community in 2010 and beyond. This will include updating the community's description, including both social and physical features. Physical features may include geographical location, topography,

climate, soil content, hydrology, vegetation, wildlife, and transportation networks. The social aspect should encompass trend data depicting the current population characteristics of the City and metropolitan area. Gender, age, race, housing types, income levels, employment figures, and information on persons with disabilities would be a good start. All the information compiled in this step will become a major component of the 2010 Plan.

**Step 3** – Create an inventory of the current recreation opportunities presented here in the City, including the types, sizes, conditions, and location of the major recreation activities. This section will include the local school district and their participation in local recreation and all other service providers for the City (e.g., RPYA, Norton Shores). We will also need to conduct site visits at neighboring communities to see what other recreational providers are offering. This will provide us with a firm idea of the scale of recreational options from a regional standpoint.

**Step 4** – Determine the recreational needs of the community in the next five years. Take into account all the data and results of the prior reviews including all public input (steering committee, focus group, public survey) to formulate a list of recreational priorities. Compare the more present needs with those from the 1994 Plan and decide on future direction for parks and recreational activity. Draft a plan of action to accomplish the community’s needs and desires relating to parks and recreation. Identify the goals of the community and the specific objectives necessary to achieve such goals. This will be a significant component of the 2010 – 2014 Plan, and we must include all potential funding sources that will be utilized to carry out the Plan as well.

**Step 5** – Staff will prepare the actual 2010 -2014 document by following the guidelines set forth by the MDNRE’s *2009 Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenways Plans*, and with assistance from the Planning Commission for review and approval of the processes involved.

## **Public Input**

The City of Roosevelt Park is interested in providing an abundance of opportunities for recreation. To accomplish this end, City staff and members of both the City Council and Planning Commission were extremely interested in receiving significant community input regarding parks and recreation. A community wide recreation survey was distributed to each household in the City (see Appendix). The very same survey was also made available for pick up at City Hall as well as an option to complete the survey via the City website.

The City received a total of 301 returned surveys that amounts to a return rate of 24%. Of the 301 returned surveys, 121 left additional comments for further public input (see Appendix). Overall, the 2010 community park and recreation survey was a great success and the comments received were incorporated into the 2010-2014 Plan. A Final Draft of the Five Year Park and Recreation Plan was completed and was set up for public review.

A thirty day public review and comment period was established on April 23, 2010. May 24, 2010 was the date selected to hold a public hearing to allow for residents to come forward and offer their comments regarding the Final Draft Five Year Park & Recreation Plan. The public hearing allowed for the community to express their desires and goals for the City's park and recreation program for the years ahead. A notice was posted in the Muskegon Chronicle on March 22, 2010 and was also sent to Campbell Elementary School to inform both the children and their parents of both the public comment period and ensuing meeting.

## **Recreation Goals and Objectives**

The priorities of the community were established into a set of goals that pertain directly to parks and recreation. The goals were very broad and non-specific and therefore required a set of objects to help guide the achievement of such goals. The Action Plan is the phase that illustrates the methods in which to bring the goals toward implementation.

The planning process consisted of an evaluation and analysis for all current and future recreation endeavors for the community. The public input process allowed an opportunity to identify and compile the desires of the residents used primarily as a component of the goal setting procedure. The survey uncovered that 58% of the survey respondents stated they were in favor of developing an area for soccer or softball. Soccer facilities are not currently offered but are addressed in the short term goal section of the Plan. The strong response rate also assisted with addressing the issues relating to safety and liability; including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

The proposed improvements were given final consideration and selected on the basis of how they will contribute to the accomplishment of the City's goals for improving park and recreation facilities. The list of goals primarily reflect the current standards set forth by the public input process and are not intended to be all inclusive. The goals are in place to ensure park safety and to meet the needs of its users. Increasing site legibility that will connect people with place will assure the park areas remain well used. Legibility refers to the clarity of the environment (1). A legible park allows the user to form a clear image of the location, contributing to a sense of security and comfort that leads to a positive image of the place. The list of long and short term goals is as follows:

(1) Excerpted from *Planning, Designing and Maintaining Safer Parks Recreation Guide*

### **Long Term Goals (5 – 10 years)**

1. Maintain and improve existing parks and continue to meet the demands of the community for the enjoyment and benefit of City residents.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Incorporate this goal into the annual work plans of staff.
  - b) Assure that all staffing levels are informed of the plan and are in a position to properly implement the methods of attaining the goals.
  - c) Increase the access and circulation of the areas with proper site design utilizing the accessibility guidelines set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
  
2. Maintain and improve all “active” facilities to provide a safe and pleasurable environment for people of all age groups.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Focus attention on the parks and facilities that are more heavily used per the results of the public input process.
  - b) Conduct a planning process to include the activities that were expressed during public input process.
  
3. To always provide high quality park and recreational programs  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Sustain the momentum from the revised plan to keep parks and recreation activities at the forefront of annual planning sessions.
  - b) Budget for equipment and facility upgrades.

### **Short Term Goals (0 – 3 years)**

1. Upgrade or replace all unsafe and obsolete playground equipment by using modern pieces that feature safe and eco-friendly materials.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Complete upgrade of nearly all existing equipment to meet current standards and ADA compliance.
  - b) Increase maintenance schedule for all existing equipment and facilities.
  - c) Consult with recreation planning firms on methods & approach.
  - d) Develop site plans for each city park that includes new equipment and proper layout of all play areas.
  - e) Upgrade light fixtures to create a “consistency of lighting” and to encourage evening use of park areas.



2. Create more fitness opportunities at the parks and throughout the community.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Provide equipment and facilities that promote an outdoor healthy lifestyle that will attract users to be more active.
  - b) Provide recreational opportunities for all age groups.
  - c) Create an area for pickle ball to be played on an existing tennis court or other suitable area.
  - d) Develop a nature trail in City-owned property located south of the rail road tracks.
  - e) Maintain funding sources to assure that recreation remains a priority.
  
3. Improve all picnic areas by replacing grills and benches.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Provide adequate picnic areas for the parks that are used exclusively for this purpose.
  - b) Improve the landscaping and increase the lighting for all parks.
  - c) Relocate or add benches to areas that attract picnic activity.
  - d) Encourage surveillance in high activity areas.
  
4. Generate interactive entertainment potential and additional recreation facilities at the centralized Community Park.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Increase maintenance levels for existing equipment and facilities.
  - b) Increase entertainment at park pavilion to include bands, symphonies, arts, poetry sessions, and drama presentations.
  - c) Increase informational signage at strategic locations.
  
5. Develop land in northwest corner for public recreational benefit.  
Objectives to achieve:
  - a) Obtain and develop land in NW corner of the City to utilize for recreational purposes (currently an obsolete brown field).
  - b) Develop land along railway right-of-way for recreational trail.
  - c) Coordinate recreation development efforts with Mona Shores Public Schools for possible partnership.
  - d) Coordinate recreation initiatives with Muskegon County to mitigate over saturation of specific activities and to promote a regional location for activities.

## Action Program

The Action program described below is intended to set a specific course of action to assure the accomplishment of the general goals outlined in the previous section.

- 1) Maintain and improve the existing parks – Roosevelt Park is a bedroom community made up primarily of young families with school aged children but with a significant number of senior citizens and retirees. The City’s playfields provide for a safe and convenient recreation outlet while remaining pedestrian oriented with the typical park being no more than 3 blocks distance from any of the residential areas. Many of the parks feature dual street access and serve as a “pass through” for the folks of the neighborhood as part of their daily exercise regime. Residents have asked for additional safe play equipment to improve the safety of our playground equipment. Most of the pieces belonging to the City’s parks are on the verge of being obsolete and irreparable. This is simply a result of age, with many of the pieces dating back to the 1950’s. Existing playground equipment and play structures present a continual maintenance and safety concern. Funds are needed to assist the City with the necessary upgrades. New equipment is essential to eliminate safety problems associated with the current stock of equipment. The addition of new benches will provide space as gathering areas for attending parents and other park users.
  - Improve James V. Wells (tot lot) play equipment – July 2010
  - Upgrade Community Park tennis courts for pickle ball – July 2010
  - Replace lighting components in all parks – July 2010
  - Improve Leon Lambert Playfield play equipment– April 2011
  - Re-surface tennis courts – June 2011
  - Improve play equipment Ashland Playfield – August 2011
  - Improve play equipment James T. Davies Playfield – April 2012
  - Improve play equipment Fordham & H.D. Carsell Parks – July 2012
  - Improvements to Community Center and Park – April 2013
  
- 2) Create more fitness opportunities at the parks – Promote active lifestyle options for our residents through recreational opportunities that encourage residents of all age groups to stay energetic. Provide adequate facilities that will appeal to our residents. Many of the parks are designed with the child in mind, and most are devoid of any middle to senior-aged facilities. According to the 2000 Census, 24% of the population consists of residents 65 years of age or older. Seniors have repeatedly expressed their concerns regarding the parks in the City, and it is our intention to accommodate those requests. The shift in demographics has required the City to think accordingly to these concerns.
  - Install more benches in the parks – June 2011
  - Develop Arts & Crafts program – June 2011

- Add pet waste stations for dog walkers – September 2011
  - Develop outdoor exercise area at Community Park – April 2012
- 3) Develop vacant land in NW section of City for soccer/baseball/softball complex and utilize area along railway for non-motorized trail. Many of the parks are situated within the residential areas of the City. And because of this, most users are City residents. The development of land located in the NW corner of the City that is currently an obsolete brown field area may be available for development of a multi-use recreation facility. A high demand exists for a full-scale soccer complex within the region and such a development would draw recreational users from throughout the greater Muskegon area. The only facility in the immediate area that offers girls softball is located at Trinity Lutheran School in the City’s Southwest section. The current field is over occupied and the need exists for an additional outlet for softball.
- Secure commitments from area stakeholders – April 2012
  - Obtain funding through sources – May 2012
  - Initial site development consultation – July 2012
  - Complete engineering study/assessment – August 2012
  - Secure contractors – October 2012
  - Construction of complex – March 2013

City Park	Projects & (cost estimates)	Costs
James V. Wells Playfield	Replace swing set (\$10,000), Install new play feature (\$25,000)	\$35,000
H.D. Carsell Playfield	Replace swing set (\$10,000), Install new play feature (\$25,000)	\$35,000
Fordham Street Playfield	Install new play feature (\$25,000), new seats for swing set (\$500)	\$25,500
Ashland Street Playfield	Replace swing set (\$10,000), Install new play feature (\$25,000)	\$35,000
Greenwich Playfield	Replace benches (\$2,500), Install small play feature (\$10,000)	\$12,500
Delmar Playfield	Renovate concession stand (\$15,000), Install bleachers (\$25,000), Sign (\$500)	\$40,500
James T. Davies	New seats for swing set (\$500), Fencing and netting for tennis (\$5,000)	\$5,500
Community Park	Re-surface tennis court (\$20,000), New grills and seating (\$5,000)	\$25,000
Leon J. Lambert Park	Fencing (\$5,000), Re-surface tennis courts (\$20,000), Swing set (\$10,000)	\$35,000
Community Center Bldg.	Replace lighting (\$10,000), Renovate office (\$2,000), windows (\$5,000)	\$17,000

## APPENDIX

### Community Survey Results

The City of Roosevelt Park is currently working towards updating its Parks and Recreation Plan that will allow us to become eligible for Grant funding from the State. The intentions for the survey are to gain valuable input from the citizens regarding the parks and recreational opportunities provided here in the City. Residents play a pivotal role in the process by providing insight regarding the overall quality and accessibility of the City's park system. Please take the time to complete this survey so that we can utilize your input to enhance our parks. We truly appreciate your cooperation and if you have any questions or comments please contact Anthony Chandler at (231) 755-3721 ext 108. Thank you for your support.

1. How many years have you lived in Roosevelt Park?  
Avg. length of time is 24 years
2. How many people currently reside in your household?  
Avg. household size is 2.35 persons
3. How often do you or members of your household use the parks located in the City of Roosevelt Park?
  - a. Never (14%)
  - b. Daily (4%)
  - c. Once a week (16%)
  - d. 2-3 times per week (20%)
  - e. More than 4 times per (9%)
  - f. Less than once per month (37%)
4. During which season do you utilize the City parks? (circle all that apply)
  - a. Spring (72%)
  - b. Summer (98%)
  - c. Fall (66%)
  - d. Winter (12%)
5. What activities do you enjoy while using the City parks? (circle all that apply)
  - a. Walking (83%)
  - b. Tennis (24%)
  - c. Picnicking (23%)
  - d. Baseball (19%)
  - e. Playground equipment (53%)
  - f. Walking your pets (35%)
6. Which of the City parks do you most frequently use? (circle all that apply)
  - a. Delmar Playfield (baseball) (28%)
  - b. Wells Playfield (tot lot) (35%)
  - c. Carsell Park (Haverhill) (15%)
  - d. Fordham Park (Germaine) (8%)
  - e. Ashland Park (Post) (3 %)
  - f. Lambert Park (Broadway) (19%)
  - g. Davies Park (Sherwood) (17%)
  - h. Community Center Park (71%)
  - i. Greenwich Park (Hidden) (10%)

7. Has your family participated in the activities sponsored by Roosevelt Park Youth Athletics (RPYA)?  
NO (60%) – YES (40%)
  
8. Would you like to see an area developed for soccer or softball?  
NO (42%) – YES (58%)
  
9. Over the next five years, what would you list has the highest priority regarding the City’s public parks?
  - a. Maintaining or improving existing equipment (63%)
  - b. Upgrading the level of activities offered (17%)
  - c. Development of new park and recreational space (including trails) (20%)
  
10. How would you currently rank the City’s parks and recreational structure?
  - a. Below Average (2%)
  - b. Average (33%)
  - c. Above Average (50%)
  - d. Exceptional (15%)

Additional Comments:

We have received 121 additional comments. See attachment.

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This concludes the City of Roosevelt Park community parks and recreation survey. Thank you so much for participating. ALL responses are important and will remain confidential. Please return the completed survey to:

City Hall  
 900 Oak Ridge Road  
 Roosevelt Park, MI 49441

(There is a night slot located at the front entrance for your convenience)

## Community Survey Comments (additional comments section)

1. I would like to see the roads and water in the basement fixed.
2. Fix the local roads that lead to the parks.
3. Clean slide at Davies Park.
4. Thanks, we love it here.
5. Our parks have always been the envy of other areas.
6. I enjoy the benches for resting during my walks.
7. Our parks are blah! We need to have more for our kids close to home.
8. The community center park is above average and a walking trail would be nice.
9. More garbage cans and doggie bags for people with pets.
10. More enforcement of dog droppings and barking dogs.
11. We have always viewed RP as a great place to raise a family and we hope that the tradition continues. We ride bikes and appreciate the nice sidewalks but need more trash cans.
12. Inline skating area, winter ice skating and small sled hill for kids. Basketball.
13. The fence next to the park is rusty and broken on Glenside and Cornell.
14. We only walk but the parks are wonderful for the children.
15. Nice job with keeping the parks clean, lawns groomed and garbage cans emptied.
16. I have always enjoyed living in RP and the children have always had a place to play and grow.
17. More organized activities for youth.
18. A very good place to live with great services and help when needed.
19. I think as many grandparents use the parks for grandchildren as parents do, especially the play areas.
20. I would like to see a dog park. We have a lot of dog owners so a dog park would be a big plus.
21. Focus on upgrading and providing better quality for a few parks and eliminate the others. A one square mile does not need 9 parks, it is not 1950 anymore.
22. I wish that the sidewalks that run through the parks would be plowed when it snows.
23. Preserve the trees that give the city its character and trails that can be used by everyone.
24. I would like to see pickle ball courts used with the tennis courts on Broadway.
25. More picnic areas. Use a less frequented park and fence it in for dogs. There is a real need for a dog park.
26. Keep graffiti of the equipment.
27. We have always enjoyed the parks and have felt safe living here.
28. Fordham Park needs upgrading. The metal is old and dangerous on the slide, and the merry-go-round is inadequate. The swings are so loud they can be heard two blocks away.
29. Kids need to be kept busy. They need a place to meet and play “sand lot” activities.
30. Thanks to our city workers for their dedication and efforts.
31. It is a joy to walk through the parks. Sherwood Park walkways were not always clear this last winter.
32. More garbage cans. More activities for middle-aged participants (board game tournaments).
33. Broadway park basketball court and pickle ball court.
34. Besides the parks I would like sewers and roads worked on.
35. I really enjoy the close location of the playgrounds, they are within walking distance and well maintained.
36. Would like more arts and crafts and keep the tennis and baseball camps.
37. Would like to see a sign at Delmar Playfield.
38. We are surprised how well the city maintains the parks, streets, and facilities.
39. The parks need a greater police presence because there are too many violations of park rules. More enforcement of the rules.
40. Parks are generally in good shape. Do not add basketball.
41. If we had children we would utilize the parks more often.
42. Tennis courts need maintenance with grass growing through the cracks. Swings are all rusty.
43. It’s wonderful to have so many parks, but it would be nice to fill in the holes that develop beneath the swings.
44. The fact that such a small city contains so many parks is exceptional. Any improvement or expansion would benefit present and future residents.

45. The city should focus on the streets and sewers.
46. You do a great job, and I'm proud to live in Roosevelt Park.
47. New equipment would be nice and better suited toward toddlers and with less metal.
48. Tennis courts need resurfacing.
49. I love Roosevelt Park and think it's a wonderful place to live and raise a family.
50. Close some of the parks and sell the land to bring in more tax dollars. Only keep one.
51. Curb appeal in residential areas need to be a priority. Lawn care, steps, and broken fences need attention and curb appeal can make or break a neighborhood.
52. Keep up the great work!
53. I love Roosevelt Park! Our city rocks!
54. We enjoy the small parks. It was one of the reasons we chose to live here. Walking trails would be a fantastic addition to the park system.
55. Roosevelt Park is a wonderful area to raise a family and retire.
56. I have lived here my entire life and think Roosevelt Park is a great place to live. I hope you keep up the service we have received in the past. Thanks.
57. I am 96 years old and can't use the parks but I enjoyed them in the past.
58. We have more than enough parks; let's work on the rentals and our untidy neighbors.
59. Monitor the parks in the evening for noise and misuse.
60. Close the parks at dusk.
61. Would love to see more walking/bike trails.
62. We love living in Roosevelt Park.
63. I suggest temporary speed bumps during baseball games. Parking is congested with pedestrians crossing streets and cars roaring past.
64. One of the main reasons we moved to Roosevelt Park was for all the parks. My daughter enjoyed them as a kid and now our granddaughter.
65. Too bad we can't use the money for our roads.
66. More all season activities and police presence at Delmar during games.
67. I've lived in Pittsburgh, Traverse City, and several small cities in between and Roosevelt Park has the best playgrounds and parks. We love having our kids grow up here.
68. Has been a great place to live for over 53 years.
69. We love the parks and the community center playground. In the summer and fall of last year we walked down there to play almost every day. Would love to see more crafts and activities for children and adults.
70. Roosevelt Park really needs a dog park. Maybe use a park that is rarely used and make for dogs to run around in.
71. Drinking fountains at all parks and more benches at Community Center Park.
72. Fix water problem.
73. Lambert Park should be sub-divided and sold for homestead, it's never used.
74. We are retired and our children and grandchildren are grown but I think the parks are very important for the young families. We do a lot of walking.
75. I like that there are so many.
76. At 85 years old it's difficult to answer this.
77. We have small grandchildren who love the equipment, but kids playing football are disruptive.
78. Garbage containers should be kept in the back of the house because it looks bad when out walking.
79. Please fix the roads! Too many potholes.
80. Tennis courts and things we already have need more maintenance. Upgrading or improving does not make sense and it's a waste of money if not taken care of. We see city employees riding around in yellow trucks doing what? People park how they want and where they want. Boats, campers, etc. and the city does what? People do not even take care of their property and yet there are rules, but are they enforced? When they are cutting grass they sit on the mowers talking on their cell phones?? Roosevelt Park is not the same anymore.
81. How about a large pool and water slide at the Community Center.
82. More year around activities for adults and youths. Just look around even at city hall/police office and how little activities they do and how they are over weight and out of shape. And what about having police present at Delmar/Community Park when games are being played?

83. We realize the economy has been terrible but it is a travesty what condition a lot of the parks & roads are in. Let's have two Roosevelt Park days, in May & August.
84. The light has been out at Fordham Park for two years, and the swing sets and tire swings need to be dug out and re-filled with sand.
85. When the kids were younger we would use the parks more often.
86. 86 years old.
87. Equipment in many of the parks needs upgrading and maybe some could be used as community gardens.
88. Would rather see money spent on fixing the roads in the park.
89. It seems we have a few residents that do not keep their homes up to Roosevelt Park standards. I would hope the city can get them moving toward a good spring clean-up that includes the back yards and getting rid of leaves, trash, and dog dew. Also, perhaps it would be good to have a date when the Christmas decorations should be put away and not left in the yard or on the outside deck.
90. I would like to improve the arts & craft booth. I have some simple ideas and my husband and I would do the work. I would love to help that program.
91. I use the parks only when the grandchildren visit.
92. For the last 15 years I have taken the grandchildren to our parks and I would like to see the equipment that was taken down at the community center park put back up.
93. I'm a senior so children & grandkids are grown up but when the great grand kids come over they always go to the parks. The parks where here when we moved in and everyone went a lot. They are great.
94. The influx of rental homes is very detrimental to Roosevelt Park, and very discouraging to those of us who take good care of our homes and property. Where is "the pride in the park?" It seems that property guidelines that were once in place do not matter anymore.
95. Would doggy dew bags help people in the park to pick up after their dogs?
96. Although I do not use the parks, I believe that they are a "very important" part of this small community.
97. We have raised our two children in "The Park" for 28 years and have loved every minute of it. The city workers are great and very helpful. A wonderful place to live. Water is high but wouldn't go anywhere else.
98. The parks are the reason we moved here and I'm so glad I did.
99. Love our parks!!
100. An ice rink for the winter would be nice.
101. Put up "stay off" signs on the fences at the ball fields to keep the kids from breaking down the fences.
102. Since I am retired and my family is raised and moved out of the areas this does not apply.
103. Our baseball park looks awful. The main grass and infield area fix the fences and make them playable – edging in the field area.
104. Get water bills down but I like living in Roosevelt Park.
105. We are lucky to live in an area with so many parks. We think that you have always done a great job on the parks and we appreciate how nice the parks usually look. Thanks for placing garbage cans that are great for pet waste bags and keep parks neater. When our kids were young, we would use the parks now we take our grandkids to the same parks.
106. We moved here because of all the parks and the family friendly neighborhood. Thank you.
107. The parks in Roosevelt Park make the city unique. My child is older now but we used the parks weekly. Great idea with the gazebo too.
108. My grandchildren enjoy all of the city's parks.
109. A soccer field would be awesome if space is available! It is such a popular sport and difficult to find an open space large enough for kids to play (including other things like tag football). We also enjoy the arts & crafts in the summer.
110. Nice job maintaining the parks over the years.
111. Much of the equipment seems dated and unsafe. There is a lot of chipped paint that is scary with babies and toddlers.
112. I love all of the small parks around the city but there needs to be rules enforced. Yesterday there was an older (19-20) year old jumping his bike over the hill leading to the community park. There



- is a posted sign for “no bikes” on this area. Dangerous with little ones playing there! Police need to monitor this area more. Gazebo gets damaged often from people just being destructive.
113. One of the reasons we moved here was due to the parks and playgrounds. This city is great for families with children. The service the city provides is second to none.
114. We could have moved anywhere but we stayed mainly for the parks. We love it here.
115. Senior Citizens.
116. Additional unlocked bathrooms at the Community Center.
117. Rest rooms and water at the parks. Outstanding, this is the #1 reason our family has lived here for over 20 years.
118. All are very important and make Roosevelt Park a great place to live with kids.
119. Keep doing a great job in taking care of the park next to my house. Thank you.
120. Some of the park equipment is old and rusty but the newer equipment is beautiful. I would just like to see the older locations updated along with the tennis courts re-surfaced at Broadway Park.
121. The roads continue to get worse year after year.

## **MDNRE Recreation Grant Inventory**

To date, the City of Roosevelt Park has received grant funding a total of four times for park and recreational purposes. The grant funding is listed below.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>GRANT NUMBER</u>	<u>GRANT AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUND</u>
1972	26-00215	\$20,228	Land Water Conservation Fund
1975	26-00639	\$12,088	Land Water Conservation Fund
1978	26-00722	\$14,108	Land Water Conservation Fund
2000	CM00-225	\$140,800	Clean Michigan Initiative Grant

## **Park and Recreation Map**

## Site Plan Design

## **Public Hearing Notification**

**City Council Resolution**