

**Chairperson**  
Teri Banas

**Vice-Chairperson**  
Penelope Tsernoglou

## **Ingham County Trails And Parks Task Force**



**Members**  
Sarah Anthony  
Rebecca Bahar-Cook  
Robin Case Naeyaert  
Bryan Crenshaw  
Kara Hope  
Carol Koenig  
Randy Maiville  
Deb Nolan  
Todd Tennis

THE TRAILS AND PARKS TASK FORCE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5,  
2015 AT 6:00 PM, IN CONFERENCE ROOMS D AND E OF THE HUMAN SERVICES  
BUILDING, 5303 S. CEDAR, LANSING.

### Agenda

Call to Order  
Additions to the Agenda  
Limited Public Comment

1. Long Range Planning
  - a. Overview of Master Plan
  - b. Trailways Component of Master Plan
2. Short Range (2015) Projects
  - a. Known Projects/Challenges (i.e. River Trail)
  - b. Municipal Participation/Partnerships
  - c. Prioritization
3. Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

Announcements  
Public Comment  
Adjournment

Informational Material is Attached

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners will be present.

Ingham County Park Projects / Maintenance		
Park Specific Needs		
Burchfield	Lake Lansing	Hawk Island
Aquatic weed control	Ballfield upgrades	Aquatic weed control
Ballfield upgrades	Beach house renovation	Boardwalk/fishing dock maintenance
Basketball court maintenance	BL & LLN Entrance signs	Boat dock repair/replacement - 508
Bridge/boardwalk repair/replacement (trails)	BL gate replacement	Building mechanicals
Building staining & painting	Boat dock replacement LLS - 508	Dog park dock -508
Disc golf - upgrades - 508	Cross country ski rental - 508	Dog park improvements - 508
Ext. lighting repair	Perimeter fence replacement LLS	Fish stocking
Fish stocking	Playground replacement - LLN - 2	Pathway maintenance
Picnic area drain system	Sidewalk replacement	Pump house structure
Playground replacement	Trail maintenance	Splashpad maintenance/upgrades
Plumbing maintenance	Tree maintenance / reforestation	
Replace entrance gates	Trikes	
Sidewalk replacement	Wedding gazebo - 508	
Signage repair & replacement		
Tree maintenance		
Water line & fountain maintenance		
General Maintenance- All Parks		
Beach maintenance	Parking lot improvements	Turf maintenance
Building mechanicals	Playground maintenance - fibar	Volleyball court maintenance
Landscaping	Roof replacements	Fertilization
Parking lot improvements	Shelter ceiling maintenance - 508/208	
General		
Park Security	Reduce parking fees or # days charged	Boat replacement - 508
Vehicle replacement	Reinstate beach hours	Seasonal staffing -508/208
Equipment replacement	Reinstate free days	Funding for conferences and training
New		
AED's all parks	Cabana - Burchfield - 508	Off road wheelchairs
Archery equipment & instruction -DNR	County stewardship program + FT Naturalist	Pave LLS parking lot
Archery Tag - (508)	Disc golf - LLN - 508	Permanent ski rental building
Assistant Manager I *	Dog park – LLN - 508 (if fees)	POS system for all revenue areas
Beach waterslide - Burchfield	Funding for grant matches	Prairie Restoration - Riverbend
Boardwalk extension - Hawk Island	Improve accessibilty - all parks + dog park pathway	Replace WSB picnic tables with chairs and tables
Bounce house-Burchfield/Hawk Isl-508	Interactive trail signage	Restroom @ Burchfield (Overlook area)
Build yurts for rental - Burchfield	Marketing/outreach budget/ + staff	Eco friendly sealer-new Burchfield dock
Butterfly garden / Concert seating	New type watercraft rental-water trikes	Cabanas (2) – Hawk Island - 508
508 - Enterprise Fund	*Per Budget office Asst. Manager position was eliminated. To establish new position -County process would need to be followed.	
208 - Operating Fund		

**From:** Morgan, Timothy

**Sent:** Thursday, January 22, 2015 9:31 AM

**To:** Carol Koenig; Cypher, Jared; Czarnecki, John; Fraser, Karen; Jonathan Schelke (jonathanschelke31@gmail.com); Kevin Duffy; Matthew Bennett; Michael Rice; Monsma, Ralph; Nicholls, Sarah; Patrick Lindemann; Penelope Tsernoglou; Pratt, Paul; Wallace, Nicole

**Subject:** CDC Took kit for health through Parks and Trails

FYI-

Thought this was very interesting... I have attached the actual toolkit document it references.

See you all again on Monday....

I appreciated everyone's input at the Commission meeting last night. Look forward to the planning process that we are undertaking.

Sincerely,

Tim

Tim Morgan, CPRP  
Director, Ingham County Parks  
121 E. Maple St., Suite 102  
Mason, Michigan 48854  
517-676-2233  
[tmorgan@ingham.org](mailto:tmorgan@ingham.org)  
[www.inghamcountyparks.org](http://www.inghamcountyparks.org)

**For immediate release:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014

**Contact:** [NCEH/ATSDR Office of Communication](#), (770) 488-0700

## Press Release

### [CDC releases new tools to improve community health through parks and trails](#)

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Frederick Law Olmsted, famous landscape architect in the 1800s, said that great public parks, such as his proposed Greensward (New York's Central Park), would function as the "lungs of the city"—green open spaces where city residents could breathe clean air. -

To encourage outdoor activity today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) developed a parks and trails [toolkit](#) that will help communities create parks with expanded health benefits. In addition to Olmsted's observations, access to parks can help kids get the 60 minutes of aerobic physical activity each day recommended to maintain good health. According to the 2014 CDC State Indicator Report on Physical Activity, less than 30 percent of youth (grades 9-12) in the United States get this recommended amount of aerobic physical activity. Additionally, more than 25 percent of adults report no leisure-time physical activity. Being physically active is one of the most important steps Americans of all ages can take to improve their health.

The [Parks and Trails Health Impact Assessment \(HIA\) Toolkit](#) has six components to empower individuals and help community planners address health when designing parks and trails. This

framework allows public health departments, city planners, project managers, community groups, and other stakeholders work together to create healthier environments.

The toolkit includes:

- **Resources** that provide data about health issues in an area, for example, childhood obesity rates, mortality rates, or percent of low birth weight babies
- **Recommendations** from existing HIAs, including ways to improve access by evaluating park entry points and support physical activity that can help improve cardiovascular health
- **Citations** that support the recommendations

“The closer a person lives to a park or trail, the more likely they are to walk or bike to those places; and if they can walk or bike, research suggests they are more likely to use it,” said Arthur Wendel, M.D., M.P.H., head of [CDC’s Healthy Community Design Initiative](#) in the National Center for Environmental Health. “Unfortunately, lack of access, because of distance or dangerous routes, can create a barrier to healthy choices.”

CDC is working with health departments throughout the country to learn about and use the principles of HIA. This tool focuses on how parks and trails can contribute to public health by highlighting key issues such as lack of access to parks and trails and encouraging physical activity.

In Omaha Nebraska, the Douglas County Health Department used funds from a 2011 CDC Healthy Community Design Initiative grant to complete an HIA on the [Adams Park](#) master plan. Before the Adams Park HIA, a park master plan had been completed that called for creating an urban farming and community gardening center in the park; however, the master plan did not address the neighborhood surrounding the park. The Adams Park HIA prompted the City of Omaha Planning Department to identify an oversight agency to implement gardening and food production in a series of empty lots near the park. The HIA also led to an increase in the number of entrances planned for the park, which will make the park more accessible to the 2,000 people living near Adams Park in the years to come.

In partnership with the City of Greenville, the South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health (IMPH) completed an HIA that was used to create the parks, trails, and green space component of the city’s [West Side Comprehensive Plan](#). The plan is part of the redevelopment of an economically depressed area just west of downtown. Recommendations include a park with easy access, walking paths, basketball courts, open grassy areas, playfields, a community garden, and event space. The community anticipates that increased access to the park will improve the area’s low rates of physical activity. The HIA led to stronger local involvement in the planning process; as a result, the design of the park reflects residents’ desires. A potential park site has been identified and the City adopted a park master plan informed by the HIA in 2013.

Parks and trails can be a crucial component of addressing physical inactivity, injuries, mental health, and exposures to pollution. “The toolkit can help communities assess how everyone— regardless of age, ethnicity, race, income, or ability—can enjoy parks and trails often, easily, and safely,” Wendel said.

To learn more about CDC’s new Parks and Trails HIA Toolkit, visit: [http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/parks\\_trails/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/parks_trails/default.htm)

To learn more about CDC’s HIA grantees, visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/stories/default.htm>

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## Potential non-motorized pathways

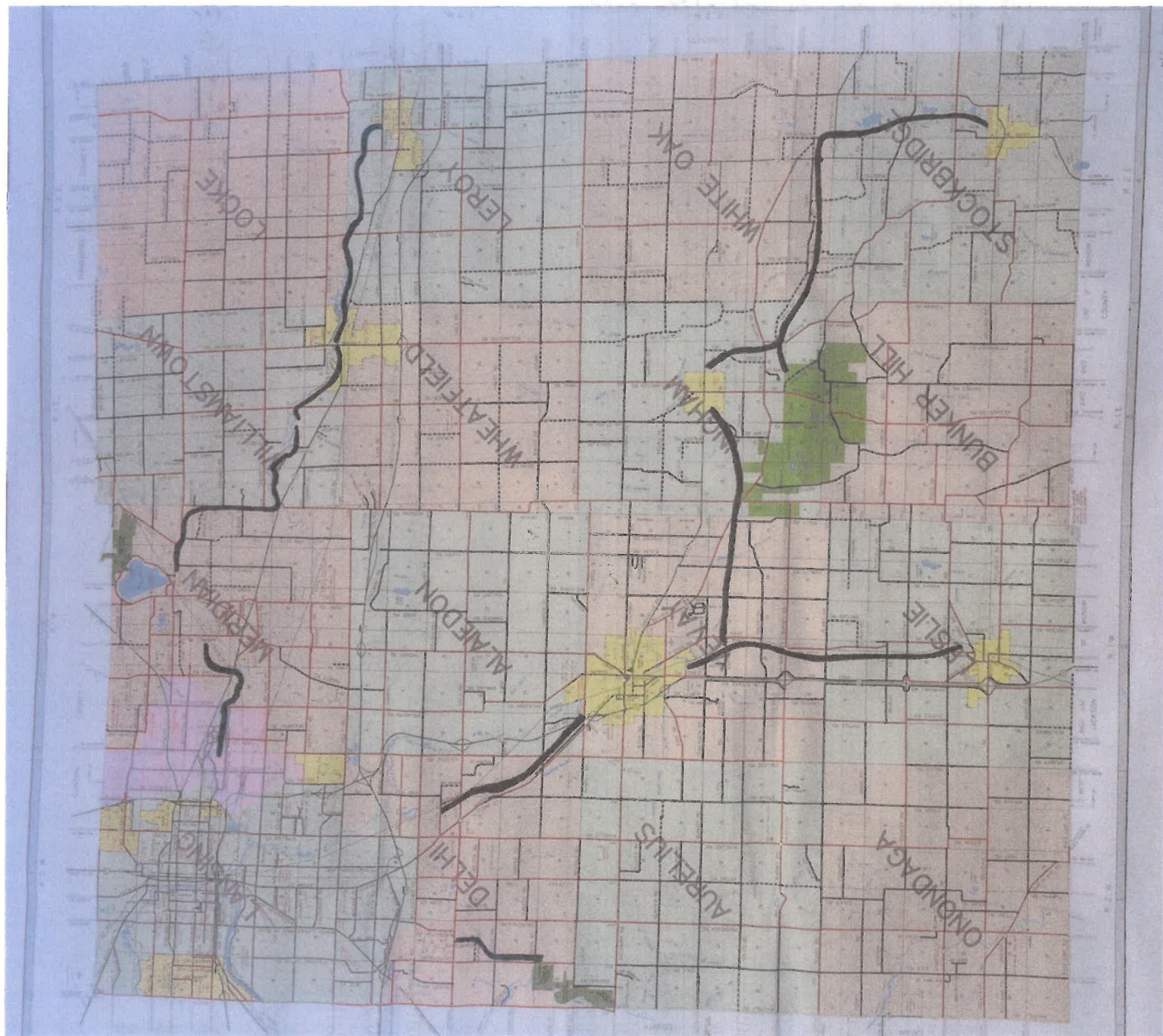
Priority	Location	Approx. Length	*Estimated Cost	**Estimated Completion Date
1	MSU to Meridian Township	3 miles	\$3	2017
2	Delhi Twp. To Mason	5 miles	\$5	2018
3	Holt HS (Delhi Twp.) to Burchfield	2.5 miles	\$2.5	2019
4	Meridian Twp. To Williamstown Twp.	7 miles	\$7	2020
5	Williamstown Twp. to Williamston	4 miles	\$4	2021
6	Mason to Dansville	5.7 miles	\$5.7	2022
7	Mason to Leslie	7 miles	\$7	2023
8	Dansville to Stockbridge	11.5 miles	\$11.5	2024
9	Williamston to Webberville	6 miles	\$6	2025

\* Estimated cost are based upon Delhi Township costs related to their trail currently under construction at \$1,000,000 per mile. Cost estimates include (but not limited to) design and engineering, legal fees/easement acquisition, construction, contingency, etc.

\*\* Estimated completion dates are based upon:

- millage funding available January 1, 2015 and the ability to start the projects in 2015
- grants are awarded for each project
- millage funding is available throughout the pathways schedule





## Bennett, Willis

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**From:** Kaschinske, Brett <Brett.Kaschinske@lansingmi.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 29, 2014 1:53 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Willis  
**Cc:** McGrain, Brian  
**Subject:** Rivertrail Capital Improvements needed

This list would be the issues we currently have or know will be needed soon. This would be in addition to the regular trail maintenance, trash, mowing, plowing, brush clearing, graffiti etc.

1. \$400,000 for bridge replacement in Old Town under Grand River
2. \$90,000 for pavement repairs east of Potter Park towards Clippert/Crego
3. Stairs on North and South sides of Michigan Ave access to the Rivertrail. No costs as of yet
4. Plank replacement over the river by Moores Park. No costs as of yet. We have some patches on there now but this will probably need a total replacement in 5 years and this is a big project. No good way to replace the planks without working from under the bridge
5. \$20,000 in tree removals along the trail
6. Dietrich Park needs the stairs and retaining wall replaced. No estimate on costs
7. Gabion basket retaining walls are failing at E. Grand River Bridge and along GM River bank. No cost estimates
8. Oakland bridge needs total replacement. No cost estimates

Let me know if you have any questions or need further explanation.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**INGHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**121 E. Maple Street, Suite 102, Mason, Michigan 48854**  
**January 21, 2015**

The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission held a Regularly Scheduled Meeting at the Human Services Building, Conference Room A, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

**Board Members**

**Present:** Matt Bennett, John Czarnecki, Kevin Duffy, Commissioner Koenig, Chair Nicholls, Paul Pratt, Mike Rice, Jonathan Schelke, and Commissioner Tsernoglou

**Absent:** Ralph Monsma

**Also Present:** Director of Parks Tim Morgan, Hawk Island Park Manager Brian Collins, Lake Lansing Park Manager Pat Witte, Burchfield Park Manager Jeff Gehl, Financial Coordinator Karen Fraser, Recording Secretary Nicole Wallace, County Commissioner Teri Banas, Peggy Roberts-Board President of Fenner Conservancy, Ron Eggleston-Fenner Nature Center, and Todd Wilson-Meridian Township Park Commissioner Chair

**Call to Order:** Chair Nicholls called the Regularly Scheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:03pm

**Minutes:** **Moved by Mr. Czarnecki and Supported by Mr. Bennett** to approve the December 8, 2014 minutes of the regular meeting as written. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Limited Public Comment:** County Commissioner Teri Banas introduced herself. Todd Wilson, sitting Chair of the Meridian Township Park Commission introduced himself. Peggy Roberts introduced herself as the President of the Fenner Conservancy Board of Directors. She is interested in the discussion about trails and the millage. Ron Eggleston introduced himself, as former Ingham County Park Commissioner and now of Fenner Nature Center.

**Late Items / Deletions:** None.

**Election of Officers:** **Moved by Mr. Bennett; Supported by Mr. Czarnecki** that Sarah Nicholls be nominated to serve as the Chair of the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Mr. Czarnecki; Supported by Commissioner Tsernoglou** that Matt Bennett be nominated to serve as Vice-Chair of the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Mr. Czarnecki; Supported by Commissioner Koenig** that Mr. Monsma be nominated to serve as Secretary of the Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission. **Yes-8; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PARK EXECUTIVE MEETINGS**

Mr. Morgan and Chair Nicholls introduced the idea of forming a new Park Commission subcommittee-an Executive Committee. Discussion ensued regarding the budget, history of per diem and stipends for the Park Commission and



other county departments, communication with the Park Director, and concerns for adding a new committee.

Commissioner Tsernoglou entered the meeting at 6:17pm.

**Moved** by Mr. Czarnecki; **Supported** by Commissioner Koenig to form an Executive Committee comprised of the Park Commission Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. Chair Nicholls stated the Executive Committee should meet prior to the Planning Committee meeting. Discussion. **Yes-8; No-0; Abstain-1** (Mr. Bennett).

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved** by Mr. Czarnecki; **Supported** by Commissioner Tsernoglou that the Park Commissions not be paid for subcommittee meetings. Discussion. **Yes-2** (Mr. Czarnecki and Mr. Schelke); **No-7** (Mr. Duffy, Mr. Rice, Mr. Pratt, Commissioner Koenig, Commissioner Tsernoglou, Mr. Bennett, Chair Nicholls).

**MOTION FAILED.**

### **COMMISSIONERS TO CONSIDER 2015 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

All committee assignments remain the same as previous year.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

### **RESOLUTION #01-15 TO COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT SETTING PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR JANUARY 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 2015**

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the Parks & Recreation Commission to adopt an annual resolution to comply with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of 1976, P.A. 267, as amended, and set dates, time, location and meeting rules and regulations of Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission meetings for 2015, pursuant to the provisions of said Act;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Parks & Recreation Commission adopts the following meeting dates for 2015, time, location and amended meeting rules and regulations, pursuant to provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended:

I. The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission shall conduct meetings the fourth Monday of each month, except for the months of January, May, November, and December of 2015. These meetings shall be conducted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month and the third Wednesday of the month. Meetings commence at 6:00pm and are held at the Ingham County Human Services Building, Conference Room A, Second Floor, 5303 S. Cedar, Lansing, Michigan unless otherwise posted.

January 21, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)

January 26, 2015

February 23, 2015

March 23, 2015

April 27, 2015

May 18, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

June 22, 2015

July 27, 2015

August 24, 2015

September 28, 2015

October 26, 2015

November 16, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

December 14, 2015 (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday)

In the event of a special meeting, rescheduled meeting or cancellation of a regularly scheduled meeting, a notice of same will be posted at the offices of the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, MI 48854 at least 18 hours prior to the time of the meeting or canceled meeting.

II. All regularly scheduled meetings shall be held at the Ingham County Human Services Building, Conference Room A, Second Floor, 5303 S. Cedar, Lansing, Michigan unless otherwise posted. Notice of meeting will be posted at the offices of the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, MI 48854 at least 18 hours prior to the time of the meeting. Requests for information regarding meetings are to be directed to the Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, Mason, Michigan 48854; telephone (517) 676-2233.

III. All meetings of the Parks & Recreation Commission shall be open to the public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting; except a closed meeting may be held in accordance with Sections (7) and (8), as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

IV. This Commission authorizes the Recording Secretary or his/her designee to post all required notices of regular, rescheduled or special meetings of this Commission, or any other postings, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

V. The Recording Secretary or his/her designee shall be responsible for preparation, distribution and storage of all minutes of this Commission as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

VI. The minutes of open meetings shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Recording Secretary, Ingham County Parks Department, 121 E. Maple St., Suite 102, P.O. Box 178, Mason, Michigan 48854, and shall be available to the public at a reasonable copying cost, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

VII. To provide the public its right to address this Commission during any regular or special meeting, any member of the public may address the Commission for up to three (3) minutes per individual as scheduled on the agenda at the beginning of each meeting, and up to three (3) minutes at the end of the meeting at the time scheduled on the agenda for public comment; except that comments on an item scheduled for a public hearing may be made at that time pursuant to Section VIII hereof. At the discretion of the Chairperson, this time may be extended by granting an additional one (1) minute. During an agenda item, members of the public may not address the Commission unless recognized by the Chairperson. To accommodate public comment, the Commission Chairperson, at his/her discretion, may combine an agenda item into the public comment portion of the meeting in order to facilitate input from the public.

VIII. To provide the public its right to address this Commission during scheduled public hearings, any member of the public may address the Commission for up to five (5) minutes per individual, when recognized by the Chairperson. All comments are to be directed to the Chairperson. Comments are to be specific and address only the subject of the public hearing, otherwise the speaker may be ruled out of order at the discretion of the Chairperson.

IX. The Chair may call to order any person who is ruled out of order or who otherwise disrupts the orderly conduct of business at meetings, including speaking without being recognized, interrupting speakers, the Chair, Commission members or staff, exceeding designated time limits, failure to be germane to the issue at hand, use of vulgarities, or otherwise being disruptive. A person may be

prohibited from speaking again at the same meeting, may be asked to leave the premises or may be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the Chairperson and/or may be subject to arrest.

X. Members of the public desiring to speak to the Commission may be required to identify themselves before speaking, as required by the Open Meetings Act of 1976, Public Act 267, as amended.

XI. The Ingham County Parks Department will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at meetings to individuals with disabilities, at all public meetings and public hearings upon ten (10) days notice to the Ingham County Parks Department prior to the date set for the public hearing or meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the ADA Coordinator for the Ingham County Parks Department.

**Moved by Mr. Pratt and Supported by Mr. Czarnecki Resolution #01-15 be approved. Yes-9; No-0. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*Trails & Park Millage Priorities*~ Commissioner Koenig introduced County Commissioner Teri Banas who provided her background and previous involvement with parks. Mr. Morgan stated the Board of Commissioners established a Trails and Parks Task Force who will meet in early February. Commissioner Koenig stated the next phase of the task force is to set priorities for the millage. The task force is comprised of 11 of the 14 Board of Commissioners.

County Commissioner Banas stated it was easy to approve the millage since people have a great desire for recreation and a quality trail system. The hard part is to take that money and make improvements and new developments, not just do maintenance. The total cost of doing lots of new projects could be millions of dollars. It is necessary to plan together and to leverage these dollars that were approved to leverage grants and other money. There is a lot of competition for the 200 million in federal dollars Michigan receives and the money from the DNR. We need money to leverage other money. County Commissioner Banas stated there would be macro management from the Board of Commissioners. County Commissioner Banas said we need to be diligent and thoughtful putting this plan together. As you build out new projects, you have maintenance costs; and we don't have full accounting of maintenance costs. For example we don't have the River Trail maintenance costs.

Mr. Czarnecki thanked County Commissioner Banas for coming to the meeting. He stated Lansing, East Lansing, Delhi Township, and Meridian Township already have trails, how do you deal with a county system that we are going to create? Will there be a county trail through Meridian Township? County Commissioner Banas said it is important to know these questions---what are the responsibilities of local units and the county. This is where the conversation needs to begin. County Commissioner Banas stated she does not know the answer to this question, but this will come in time. If there are other questions, please provide them to County Commissioner Banas.

Mr. Czarnecki stated elected officials from local areas should voice their opinions. Mr. Duffy asked how will we receive input from the public, what is the timeline? Commissioner Tsernoglou said that is something we will be talking about in our upcoming meetings. She stated you can do Survey Monkeys, forum meetings, different specialty groups meetings, and have user groups to discuss their desires. Community input is always key; this is a concern of the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Pratt stated the five-

year Master Plan is being done this year, and the public input for the millage can dovetail with the Master Plan process.

Mr. Czarnecki stated it is critical to know the commitment of the four local units to a county plan. Will these local units commit to maintain a portion of trails? We need to ask these questions.

Commissioner Koenig reviewed a conversation she had with former Board of Commissioner, Mark Grebner. The benefit of having millage dollars is that you can always revisit a project if there is not cooperation. Priorities can change. If we connect trails, another question to ask, is what is their plan to maintain their existing trails? Mr. Czarnecki stated local units should maintain the trails. Mr. Schelke stated the trails don't have to be owned by a city, county, or township; it could be owned by 501(c)3 (this could be a part of discussion).

Mr. Bennett said these are valid questions, but more for down the road. Mr. Bennett stated we should discuss priorities, so the Board of Commissioners can take these ideas to the task force meeting.

Mr. Czarnecki stated he would like to see a map of a county trail system. The question is, who is maintaining the trails? He thinks local units of governments should maintain the trails.

Commissioners Koenig asked if we are ready to discuss the priorities, maybe we need to brainstorm first. Commissioner Koenig said Mark Grebner's idea was to have a list of independent projects ready for the Board of Commissioners to review. Maybe the planning process is for the Park Commission to determine this and the Park Commission could give a list of priorities and the Board of Commissioners could choose a list of five. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated the Board of Commissioners would give the Park Commission direction. Chair Nicholls stated this is two different interpretations of the Board of Commissioners intent. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated the intent of the Board of Commissioners was they did not want the discussion to go to the Park Commission first, but to the Board of Commissioners first. Commissioner Tsernoglou stated we can brainstorm and submit ideas, but we need specific guidelines from the Board of Commissioners to start this process.

Mr. Pratt suggested the Park Commission do a go around about brainstorming ideas we want or items we don't want.

Mr. Pratt said it was his understanding that the Park's Z-list was not approved (sheriff patrols and maintenance supplies), but from the last Park Commission minutes, it stated we have \$50,000. Mr. Pratt asked which is it? Mr. Morgan clarified that if the millage passed, then the money for sheriff patrols and maintenance supplies would be returned to the budget. Mr. Pratt stated he does not want the millage money going to park police. In 2008, the county road patrol was taken out of the county fund. It is inconsistent to have park police, and not road patrols. Local units should provide their own policing. If you don't provide patrols for county roads, why provide patrols for parks?

Chair Nicholls asked the next Park Commissioner to comment. Mr. Rice and Mr. Collins declined to comment.

Mr. Witte stated he understands this train of thought on security. He would like local police to enforce our policies. Mr. Gehl said there has been a murder, suicide, and drowning at Burchfield Park in the past. Mr. Gehl stated having park police is a different issue than road patrols, and law enforcement presence in the

park is important.

Mr. Duffy stated generally speaking, his priority for the millage should be used to trend East in the county, have service to the out-county. We should trend to the East and South, for example, to Mason and Williamston.

Mr. Schelke would like to see the millage build off the trails we already have. For example, the River Trail in Lansing is unique; we should build off this trail. What we want to avoid are the trails to nowhere. We should utilize matching dollars. We should look at filling gaps and creating connections to have an integrated trail system. For example, the trail along the Red Cedar---connect Marsh Road along the Red Cedar to MSU.

Mr. Czarnecki asked about the draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Master Plan and trails planning. Mr. Czarnecki stated he doesn't think the Parks Department has the staff resources to prepare a trail map. He has no priorities on specific trails, but he wants to see a trail map and timeline of how it will be developed over the next 40 years. He would like the plan to include the cost of trails. Mr. Morgan stated he has discussed the RFP with the Controller and there are certain things we can do internally, but we also need to bid out portions of this project.

Chair Nicholls stated her priority is to connect the trails we already have. The amount of money we have is relatively small, and we are competing with others in the state. We need to work on connectivity. We are forgetting that this is a trails and parks millage. Maintenance and safety are two big issues. We should use this money to keep our parks safe. We won't have any visitors if there is concern about safety in the parks.

Mr. Bennett stated he has three priorities. We have a tendency to lose sight that this is a park and trails millage. One priority is park maintenance. The number one priority for trails is interconnectivity. He would like to see all existing trails connected. For example, connect East Lansing and Meridian Township, and have MSU meet up with Delhi Township. We need interconnectivity between the focal points of the county, for example, Hawk Island and Fenner Nature Center---lets connect Fenner Nature Center to the River Trail. The second priority for trails is to extend trails to underserved areas. For example, Mason to Dansville, Leslie to Mason, and trails out to Stockbridge and Williamston. Mr. Bennett stated he would like to get to the point where you could bike from Stockbridge all the way to Potter Park in Lansing. He thinks every point in the community should have an access point to get to anywhere else in the county.

Commissioner Tsernoglou agrees with everyone who wants to connect trails. The Z-list items are in the budget and have already been approved and will not change unless the Board of Commissioners takes action. Ms. Fraser stated this money is coming into the budget in the first quarter adjustment. Mr. Morgan stated we are planning steps for scheduling of police patrols.

Commissioner Koenig stated her priority is to fill in gaps of trails. Matching dollars are important, and we should always have projects on the shelf ready to go and pull off if necessary. Projects should be ready to be executed if the opportunity arises. Commissioner Koenig stated we should be working with the Road Department, and utilize MDOT dollars.

Mr. Rice stated the parks needed to be served first. We need to bring as many people as possible to the parks and then to enjoy trails. Mr. Rice stated we should connect schools to the parks, by non-motorized pathways. \$30,000 is a small chunk of money, and will only get police patrols for high visitation days. If

you look at law enforcement as an attraction in the park, you should choose busy weekends to have patrols. Families with children will enjoy seeing police in the parks.

Mr. Gehl stated he would like to see trail connections from Holt High School to Burchfield Park.

Mr. Witte said he will be interested to hear what Stockbridge wants; maybe they want a trail within their own city, instead of connecting to other cities?

Mr. Bennett stated he supports police patrols in the park. Even if we have limited patrols, it will give the impression there are cops in the parks. In response, to Mr. Gehl's comments, he stated Delhi Township is working on connecting schools and parks.

Mr. Czarnecki said we will have to walk a fine line; he thinks the public's perception of the millage if for trails, not maintenances of parks. We need to demonstrate what trails we will connect, and where their dollars went.

Mr. Schelke said we should integrate our plan with what MDOT can do, for example, on Grand River, they have put in a place a five-foot shoulder for bike paths. Mr. Morgan stated he met with Bill Conklin, Director of the Road Department, and Deputy Controller, Jared Cypher. They agreed we should look at the federal highway monies administered through Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The two programs are Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Mr. Morgan stated the parks are important and the maintenance of the parks are important and thanked the BOC for the funding of the \$50,000 for park police and maintenance supplies. We need to maximize the impact of \$30,000 for park police. Does the amount of millage money for parks vary from year to year, is there a not to exceed annual amount? We need direction from the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Morgan stated he wants to see trails regionally, so we are tied to a state trail system. Trails and parks are both important issues.

County Commissioner Banas stated we need to plan well and seek partnerships with municipalities, non-profits, and corporations. We need a comprehensive trail system that connects trails, takes advantage of water bodies, makes connections to population centers, and schools. We need to discuss how much money should go to maintenance and capital improvement budget (CIP), and do we want to offer grants to local municipalities. Overall, we want a comprehensive trail system that will be a value to the public. This is just a beginning process for planning.

### **CORRESPONDENCE & CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mr. Morgan stated there was one citizen comment in the packet, and he responded by letter, with the help of Mr. Collins. Mr. Collins reported on the snow tubing hill at Hawk Island. There has been 600 hours of snowmaking, 3,000 snow tubing hill users, \$12,000 in ticket sales over the Martin Luther King Day holiday weekend, and there have been several reservations for the hill by school groups and churches. Mr. Morgan stated this Friday at 2pm and the following Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10am we will have snow tubing for park staff, the Park Commissioners and Board of Commissioners.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Bennett inquired about the status of the Delhi Township to Mason connector trail project. Discussion.



**LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Todd Wilson stated he wouldn't be too hesitant to recognize maintenance dollars from the millage, as long as there is an emphasis on identifiable successes. Mr. Eggleston stated the first priority for the Board of Commissioners is to decide how much money to put into parks. We should also be aware that there are existing plans for trails. You will need the support of the out-county and the majority of the population, who live in Lansing. For example, Fenner Nature Center could use \$50,000 and they would connect the trails. Connecting trails is an exciting prospect. Some of the millage money needs to go into maintenance. Peggy Roberts asked if interested citizens can sit on the Trails and Parks Task Force. County Commissioner Banas stated it is only Board of Commissioners.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes submitted by:

Nicole Wallace, Recording Secretary

# **Parks and Recreation Plan**

- I. Community Description
- II. Administrative Structure
  - A. Board of Commissioners
  - B. Parks Commission
  - C. Parks Department
- III. Recreation Inventory
- IV. Resource Inventory
- V. Description of the Planning Process
  - A. Compliance with DNR guidelines
- VI. Description of the Public Input Process
  - A. Contract assistance
  - B. Other resources (MSU Extension, regional trails organizations, etc.)
- VII. Goals and Objectives
- VIII. Action Program
  - A. Annual budget
  - B. Long-range budget
  - C. Includes recreation trail component

**DRAFT (1-12-15)**  
**Scope of Work, Specifications, and Timeline**  
**for Ingham County's Comprehensive "Community Park, Recreation Plan"**  
**2016-2020 and Beyond Update**

**Mission Statement:**

The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission (Commission) and Ingham County Parks Department (ICPD) will provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities for all segments of our population. We will strive to enhance the quality of life for park visitors and county residents through active citizen involvement, planned acquisition, preservation and professional management of park lands.

**Purpose (core values):**

Provide the highest quality park system through effective and efficient use of resources, consistent, fair, and appropriate service delivery. Lastly, provide honest and open communication to the public in delivery of those services.

**Priority:**

Timeline for delivery should be in line with the Ingham County Parks Comprehensive (non-motorized) Trails, Greenways and Blueways Plan. Both shall be completed by January 5, 2016 with adoptions by their appropriate boards no later than February 2016.

**MASTER PLAN**  
**2020**  
**"Vision for Ingham County Parks"**

**Purpose of Master Plan:** *To develop a long-term vision for park and recreation services in Ingham County, establish implementation strategies and examine funding opportunities.*

- **Aspect #1:** Determine the current status of parks and recreation programs, the inventory and condition of parklands, facilities and recreational programs.
- **Aspect #2:** "Trails, Greenways and Blueways" Plan should be integrated and a component of the 2016-2020 Ingham County Parks, Recreation, and Greenways Plan.
- **Aspect #3:** Develop an Action Plan that outlines specific strategies for the initial five-year period and longer term twenty-year vision including a five-year budget projection.

## **Introduction:**

A master plan should provide the framework in providing and parks & recreation opportunities in a community. This plan offers insight on the current trends, needs, and changing events within Ingham County. It is critical that we not just consider present needs within a community, but also projected needs of the community, as determined by local, state, and national surveys and information.

The purpose of this master plan is a guide for addressing Ingham County's diverse park needs and serve as a five-year road map for the park system. It is to provide a sound footing from which logical, orderly, and consistent decisions can be made concerning future park development. The following section should include of key issues, short & long priorities, park development recommendations, park maintenance recommendations, program recommendations, a five-year action plan and budget for the years 2016-2020. The Ingham County Parks and the citizens of Ingham County will be able to use this tool to help achieve the mission, goals, and objectives presented herein.

## **Why Plan the Future:**

Our community is becoming dense and our population more diverse. We want to make sure that our current approach to parks and recreation meets the needs of this changing community and continues to contribute to the richness of Ingham County over the next five to twenty years.

Public parks are critical components of Ingham County's economic and social health. The opportunities offered by the Ingham County Parks allow residents the chance to participate in programs and activities that benefit their physical and mental health. The Ingham County park system represents a large investment, but one that pays enormous dividends by providing recreational areas and opportunities for our residents and visitors.

Parks can also be justified by the economic dividends they contribute to a community. The presence of parks raises property values of an area and is an important asset for attracting industry and visitors. Parks also protect the environment as well as the quality of life that our residents enjoy. Preservation of parkland is critical as Ingham County experiences development and population growth.

We all enjoy the services and opportunities that the Ingham County park system offers. Some of these benefits are obvious and others are not. Obvious benefits include exercise and relaxation, social and family activities, environmental awareness and education, and preservation of our natural resources. Economic benefits that are harvested are not as obvious as other benefits. These may include business relocation and expansion, multiplier effect of money as it travels through the economy, and often serves as a catalyst for visitors and tourists.

Ingham County Parks have the potential to transform and further enrich our County. The key is for community leaders, Park Commission members and others to think of Ingham County Parks and their surroundings as places for social and cultural exchange, business opportunities, and recreational activities for children, teens, adults and seniors, and as the protector of our natural resources and environment. It is critical to broaden the way we think about Ingham County and its parks, or lose an important opportunity for its parks to be a catalyst for the future. To develop *Good* parks, we have to be willing to develop a *Great* vision for our parks.

**It is time to create a Dynamic vision for the Ingham County Parks for our future generations.**

**Scope of Work:**

*Will include, but not limited to, the following key priorities (these must align with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks, Recreation, and Greenways Plan Update)*

**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, Regional Plan Commission, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations

**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

**4. RESOURCE INVENTORY****5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS****6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

***Public input meetings combined with Park Commission meetings at the following County Parks:***

- May 18<sup>th</sup>- Burchfield
- June 22<sup>nd</sup>- Hawk Island
- July 27<sup>th</sup> – Lake Lansing South

***Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan:***

- Website
- Facebook
- Park office
- Park sites
- 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
- Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days)- plan to have available at Public Libraries
- 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 Bodies

*Types of methods to be considered to be used (minimum of two used):*

- Questionnaires
- Social Media (i.e. Facebook, twitter, etc.)
- Community Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Stakeholder Groups
- Citizen Luncheons
- Community Workshops
- Planning Charrettes
- Public Information Resource Groups

## **7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Developing goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. The overall goal of a park and recreation department (or the entity that provides recreation for your community) is, obviously, to provide recreation opportunities for the community and/or region it serves, and possibly for tourists. More specific goals must be based on the demographic characteristics of the population served and the physical and environmental characteristics of the area.

### **Goals and Objectives:**

A goal defines the service to be produced. Objectives are specific statements that can be measured to accomplish the goals.

## **8. ACTION PROGRAM**

The Action Program is the section of the plan where you identify how you intend to meet, or work towards meeting, your goals and objectives over the next five years. Specific projects that are identified during the planning process should be described and an explanation provided as to how they will meet the goals and objectives. You may also include organizational, staffing, programming, public information, operation, capital improvement schedule, and maintenance actions, as well as land acquisition and facility development, if applicable.

## **9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-INSPECTION REPORT**

### ***PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION***

- Plans must be adopted by the highest level governing body (i.e., city council, county commission, township board). If planning is the responsibility of a Park and Recreation Commission, the plan should also include a resolution from the Board or Commission recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body.
- The local unit of government must submit the final plan to both the County and Regional Planning Agency for their information. Documentation that this was done must be submitted with the plan to the DNR.



- Items 1, 3 and 4 below are required and must be included in the plan.
  - 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:
    - 2. Official resolution of the Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated:
    - 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated:
    - 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated:

## **Trails, Greenways and Blueways Plan Priorities**

- Timeline for delivery should be in line with the Ingham County Parks 5-Year Community Park, Recreation, and Greenways Plan update. Both shall be completed by January 5, 2016 with adoptions by their appropriate boards no later than February 2016.
- Early in the planning process (year one 2015), if it is identified to pursue a couple project ready “high priority items” from the planning process, that these items be pulled out and a plan to implement them be priority prior to the adoption of the rest of the plan.
- Expand trails and trail experiences to ensure broader public access to trail systems, outdoor recreation opportunities and Pure Michigan natural and cultural resources.
- Develop funding sources and mechanisms for trail maintenance and fill funding gaps for trail acquisition and development.
- Development of accessible loop trail systems within existing and future Ingham County Park Properties.
- Link trails, trail users and adjoining communities to create memorable trail experiences and enhance local prosperity.
- Develop, enhance and celebrate trail partnerships and collaborations.
- Create and implement a local, regional, statewide and national marketing plan that engages residents and guests in exploring Ingham County’s array of trail opportunities.
- Ensure that all planning processes will accommodate persons of all ages and abilities, and that steps will be taken to engage these persons in the planning process from start to finish.
- Ensure sustainability by maintaining trails according to established guidelines.

**DRAFT (1-12-15)**  
**Scope of Work, Specifications, and Timeline**  
**for Ingham County's Comprehensive (*non-motorized*)**  
**"Trails, Greenways and Blueways" Plan 2015-2020 and Beyond**

**Mission Statement:**

The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission (Commission) and Ingham County Parks Department (ICPD) will provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities for all segments of our population. We will strive to enhance the quality of life for park visitors and county residents through active citizen involvement, planned acquisition, preservation and professional management of park lands.

**"Proposed" Trails Vision:**

Enhance existing trails, and develop new multi-use trails, that connect parks with recreational, residential, cultural and business centers throughout Ingham County. (This came right out Ingham Parks Five Year Plan as Goal 3) Thus, creating a cohesive system of trails, greenways and blueways within Ingham County.

**Purpose:**

For creating and maintaining a county system of recreational trails and adjacent parks trail systems...

**Scope of Work:**

Will include, but not limited to, the following key priorities (*these align with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources State Trails Implementation Plan*): The "Trails, Greenways and Blueways" Plan should be integrated and a component of the 2016-2020 Ingham County Parks, Recreation, and Greenways Plan Update!

**Priority:** *Expand trails and trail experiences to ensure broader public access to trail systems, outdoor recreation opportunities and Pure Michigan natural and cultural resources.*

- Complete an Ingham County trails inventory/analysis and links to seven surrounding counties.
- Develop initial preliminary concept routes, review with owner and stakeholders.
- Identify priority gaps among existing trail connections.
- Develop a system for the coordination of all trail organizations' in Ingham County (MDOT, federal, local and regional and private) processes and programming to maximize trail development and use.
- Identify opportunities to implement a few initial "project ready trail projects/or maintenance and then recommend to county for implementation.
- Create one transparent "trail proposal process for future projects" that includes a system for public involvement. Provide for a series of stakeholder and public input meetings/Charrettes. Coordinate some with Park Master Plan update meetings and Park Commission meetings, May, June, July 2015.
- Complete a park/trail bridge inventory to identify priority infrastructure improvements. This should include all existing built trails with assessment in relation to meeting AASHTO design

standards and noting areas requiring maintenance and or repairs.

- Create an inventory of rivers & waterways with potential for water-trail designation.
- Create development and construction guidelines for all trail types.
- Use innovative design to maximize safety and sustainability.
- Develop priority trails and trail linkages with ranking system for future implementation.
- Develop criteria for identifying and ranking priority trails and trail connections.

**Priority:** *Develop funding sources and mechanisms for trail maintenance and fill funding gaps for trail acquisition and development.*

- Compile costs of maintaining and operating existing trails (including basic infrastructure, programming, interpretation and signs, and acquisition and development of priority trails and trail connections).
- Identify funding sources (private, local, state and federal grants) and gaps to develop a strategy to fill gaps (includes options that would lead to creation of a funding source for non-motorized trails). Emphasis on trails that leverage grant funds for acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of trail corridors, priority trails and trail connections.
- Ensure existing funding sources are targeted toward priority trail development and maintenance needs.
- Develop criteria for corporate sponsors to invest in recreational trails.
- Create a means to evaluate the economic impact of trails.
- Evaluate the equitable sharing of maintenance cost with all partners and communities.
- Through cooperative maintenance agreements with other municipalities, ensure that existing trails are properly kept up and maintained.
- Partner with other organizations (not-for-profit, private and governmental) agencies to explore opportunities to financially support the development and maintenance of new trails systems.

**Priority:** *Development of accessible loop trail systems within existing and future Ingham County Park Properties.*

- Plan for accessible trail improvements that will provide the greatest visibility of the resources available at each property while making the least impact of those resources.
- Plan for connecting all existing and future Ingham County Parks to the trail network.

**Priority:** *Link trails, trail users and adjoining communities to create memorable trail experiences and enhance local prosperity.*

- Primary project/action item from the planning process will be for a robust sign program (wayfinding sign template(s) that provides directional trail signs to adjoining towns, local businesses and other points of interest. Possibly work with Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance to coordinate this action item.
- Identify and remove barriers to locally funded improvements on state-managed trails.
- Provide Bike Rack funding opportunities through an application process that has bike friendly criteria for the communities requesting it. (This may be available already in state and just may need to coordinate this).
- Develop a process for approving events on trails within the master plan.
- Create a toolkit/marketing to help communities leverage their areas' trail systems.

**Priority:** *Develop, enhance and celebrate trail partnerships and collaborations.*

- Partner with the Tri-County Regional Plan Commission, Greening Mid-Michigan and the Heart of Michigan Trail Partnership to utilize existing data, maps and priorities that have been developed over time by Ingham County and its regional partners.
- Conduct planning Charrette with all stakeholders to gather input.
- Define and document roles of “friends” and other trail organizations as they relate to trail development and maintenance. Formalize roles as they relate to individual trails.
- Address obstacles to volunteer organizations' trail development and management on municipal-managed land.
- Create volunteer recognition and incentive programs.
- Develop a standardized application for creating friends organizations for state trails and other municipal-managed facilities.

**Priority:** *Create and implement a local, regional, statewide and national marketing plan that engages residents and guests in exploring Ingham Counties array of trail opportunities.*

- Possibly partner with Capital Area Health Alliance on a project to create a program that links trails with the public health community to promote trail use for healthier lifestyles. Complete, with partners, a trails marketing plan.
- Seek resources and partners to complete an online portal for phone and other online applications to identify trails and related amenities.
- Develop and implement an iconic branding tag line for trails.

- Create an education program to minimize user conflicts and promote trail safety and the “leave no trace” ethic.

**Priority:** *Ensure that all planning processes will accommodate persons of all ages and abilities, and that steps will be taken to engage these persons in the planning process from start to finish.*

**Priority:** *Ensure sustainability by maintaining trails according to established guidelines.*

- Develop a priority trail infrastructure maintenance list and assign responsibility each priority.
- Develop a sign standards/manual for all trail types and trail interpretive signage.
- Adopt development/maintenance guidelines for all trail types and use guidelines in annual inspections.

**Priority:** *Early in the planning process (year one 2015), if it is identified to pursue a couple project ready “high priority items” from the planning process, that these items be pulled out and a plan to implement them be priority prior to the adoption of the rest of the plan. This should be considered into the RFP as a “Key” component.*

**Priority:** *Timeline for delivery should be in line with the Ingham County Parks 5-Year Community Park, Recreation, and Greenways Plan update. Both shall be completed by January 5, 2016 with adoptions by their appropriate boards no later than February 2016.*

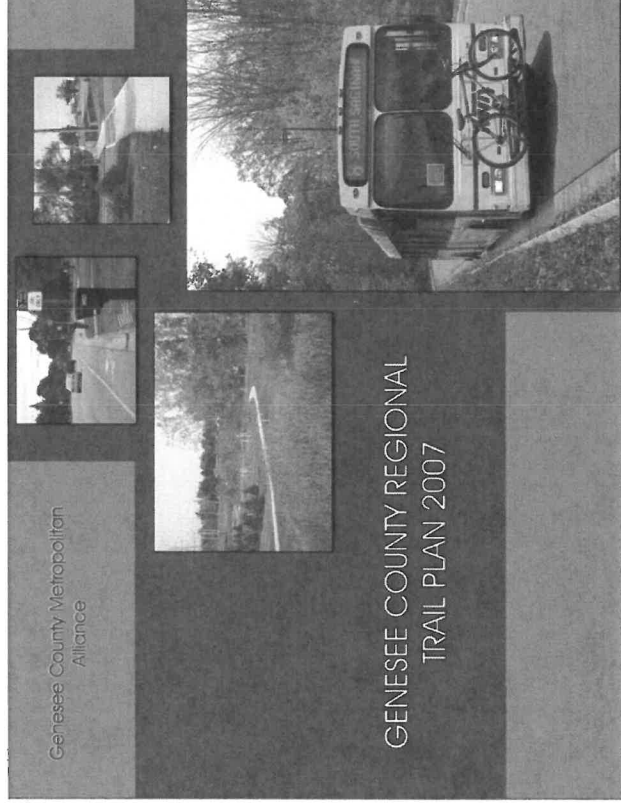


# Following Other Examples in MI

## Genesee County Regional Trail Plan

### Partners:

1. Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
2. Genesee County Parks
3. Genesee County Regional Trails Council (see list)
4. Safe and Active Genesee for Everyone
5. Friends of the Flint River Trail



# The Plan Development

1. Formed an informal stakeholder group to guide development of plan  
(Genesee County Regional Trails Council)
2. Sought the participation of all local governments throughout county
3. Collected inventory of all potential trail connections
4. Developed a scoring system to prioritize routes  
100 points possible spread over 10 criteria:

## What If...

What if we brought together all the communities of Genesee County to form a shared vision for an interconnected trail system,



## Imagine...

Imagine if all the residents and visitors of our area had hiking, biking, and walking trails connecting our cities and villages.

Imagine if you were able to walk to work, school, or the store through a safe and inviting trail system.

Imagine if residents had opportunities to really enjoy and experience their natural environment without having to drive hours up north.



Linking communities to each other,



Linking people to their community and their environment?

## Executive Summary

The Genesee County Regional Trail Plan has been developed to provide a framework for creating an interconnected system of trailways throughout Genesee County.

The Genesee Regional Trail Council, an informal group of trail advocates have proposed a vision that the Genesee County Regional Trail System will provide to a diverse range of residents and visitors a well-maintained, countywide, multi-use trail system that enables non-motorized users to safely access communities and natural areas within and outside of the county.

The goals of this plan and initiative are: trail connectivity, alternative transportation, safety for all users, recreational opportunities, providing resources for implementation and education.

Trails provide many benefits to the community including an improved transportation system, health and safety, environmental preservation and economic vitality for the community. Trailways are an important component of creating a livable community and attracting a talented workforce to Genesee County.

There are trails found throughout most areas of Genesee County, yet they are not interconnected. In this plan you will discover potential trail connections identified by the Genesee Regional Trail Council and developed with help from local communities, trail advocates, transportation planners, educational institutions, and lots of public input. Every area of the county has some potential trail connections outlined in this plan.

Design standards and guidelines for good trail development have been outlined. Funding and implementation strategies are also included.

A new trail wayfinding system for Genesee County is incorporated into this plan with information signage that provides distance, direction and destination information. The signage standards described herein bring uniformity to the trail network while also allowing for personalization for each trail and local community.

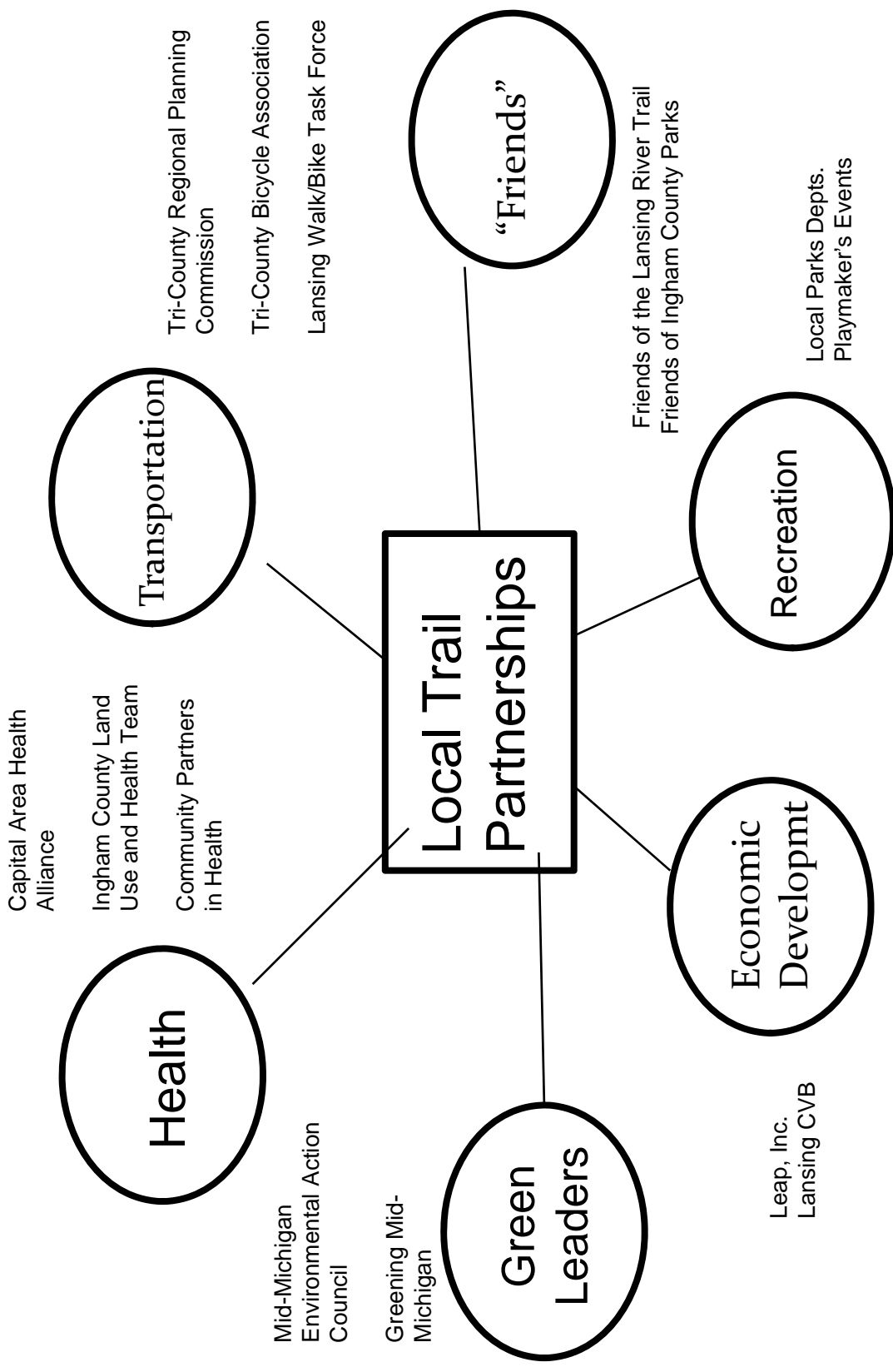
Resources for new trail development are included and contact information on new initiatives locally and statewide that can benefit Genesee County's non-motorized planning efforts.

The Genesee County Regional Trail Plan provides an action plan and next steps to building an interconnected regional trail system. The most important connections have been prioritized and this is where we will focus our efforts to begin developing Genesee County's trail system.

The top ten trail projects for Genesee County are included on the next page.

See you on the trails!

# What Roles Can Ingham County's Partners Play in a Strong Regional Trails Network?



# Prioritization Criteria

Prioritization Factor	Scale	Points
Length of trail in miles	50 – 5 miles	10
	4.9 – 2.5 miles	5
	2.4 – 0.1 miles	1
Population within ½ mile of trail	Over 10,0000	10
	9,999 – 5, 000	5
	4,999 - 1	1
Destinations within ½ mile of trail (schools, colleges, cultural centers golf courses, libraries, markets, orchards, hospitals and senior centers)	Over 10	10
	9 - 5	5
	4 - 0	1
Preliminary design completed	Yes	10
	No	0
In an approved 5-year parks and recreation plan	All of trail	10
	Part of trail	5
	Not in a plan	0
Has a trail group	Yes	10
	No	0
Connects to existing trail	To existing trail/ bike lane	10
	To existing sidewalk	5
	No connections to existing	0
Multi-jurisdictional boundaries	Connects 3+ jurisdictions	10
	Connects to adjoining county	10
	Connects 2 jurisdictions	5
	One jurisdiction	1
Applied for funding previously	Yes	10
	No	0
Access to natural areas (corridors not adjacent to a roadway)	Not adjacent to a road	10
	Partially adjacent to road	5
	Adjacent to road	0



# Ingham County Parks Department

## Mission Statement:

The Ingham County Parks & Recreation Commission (Commission) and Ingham County Parks Department (ICPD) will provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities and facilities for all segments of our population. We will strive to enhance the quality of life for park visitors and county residents through active citizen involvement, planned acquisition, preservation and professional management of park lands.

# Millage Language

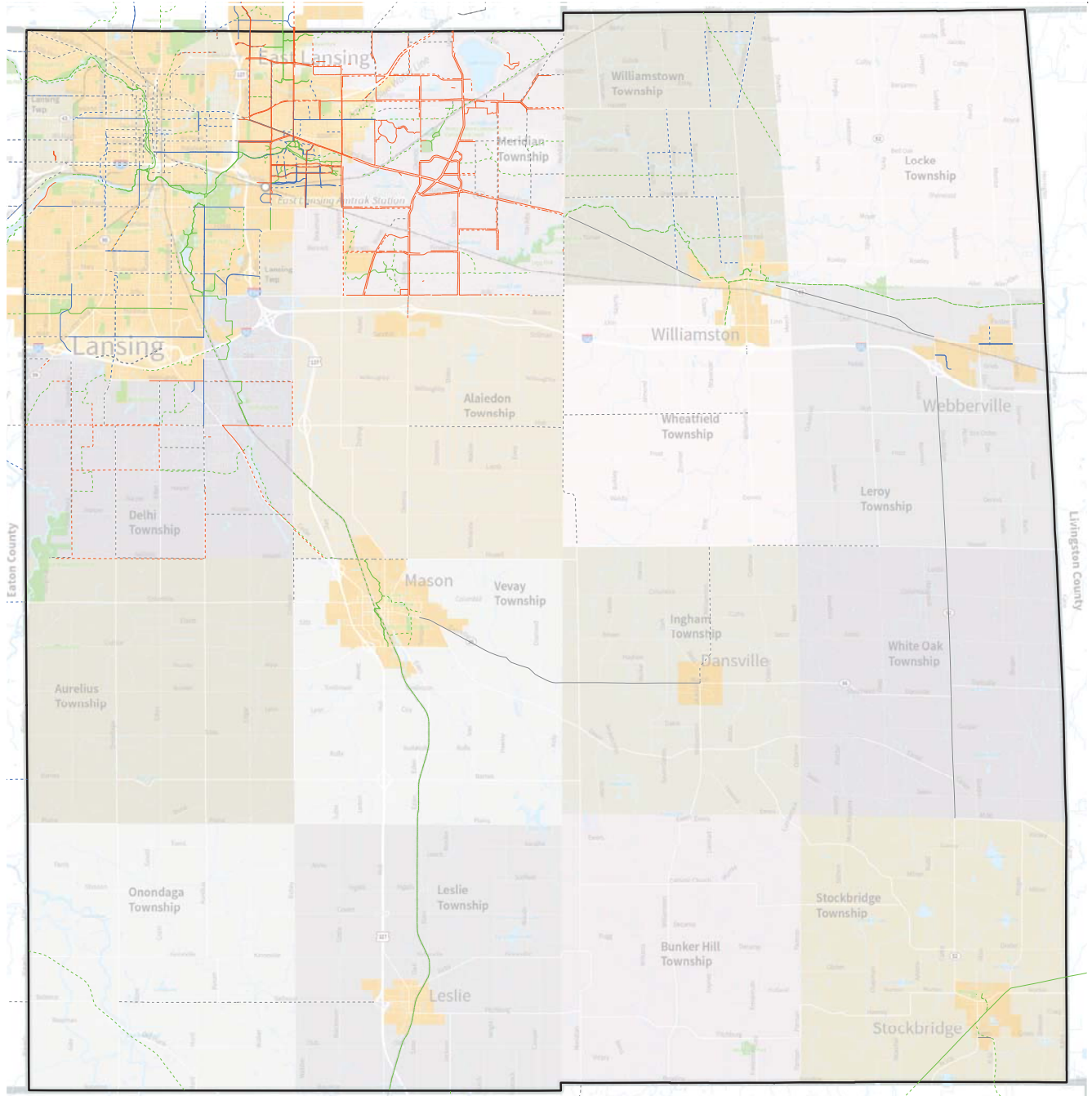
## COUNTYWIDE SYSTEM OF TRAILS AND PARKS MILLAGE QUESTION

For the purpose of creating and maintaining a countywide system of recreational trails and adjacent parks trail system, which may incorporate trails or parks created by local units of government, including Lansing's River Trail, and may acquire rights of way to connect and extend existing trails, shall the Constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Ingham, Michigan, be increased by up to 50/100 (0.50) of one (1) mill, \$0.50 per thousand dollars of state taxable valuation, for a period of six (6) years (2014-2019) inclusive? If approved and levied in full, this Millage will raise an estimated additional \$3,519,041 for the system of recreational trails and adjacent parks in the first calendar year of the levy based on state taxable valuation.

# Ingham County

## Legend

- Existing Bike Lane
- Proposed Bike Lane
- Existing Shared Use Path
- Proposed Shared Use Path
- Existing Paved Shoulders Greater Than 4 Ft
- Proposed Paved Shoulders Greater Than 4 Ft
- Existing Side Path
- Proposed Side Paths
- Existing Marked Shared Lane
- Proposed Marked Shared Lane



# NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL CONNECTION FEASIBILITY STUDY

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DELHI TOWNSHIP TO MASON CONNECTOR TRAIL  
DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP, ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP AND CITY OF MASON  
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

DECEMBER 01, 2014

PREPARED FOR:  
MICHIGAN FITNESS FOUNDATION/  
MICHIGAN TRAILS AND GREENWAYS ALLIANCE  
1213 CENTER STREET  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

PROVIDED BY:



THE MANNIK & SMITH GROUP, INC.  
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ROUTING EXHIBIT

