

Packet
June 23, 2025
Parks Committee
Meeting

Consent

Communications RE: BHNA Grant Approval

Paul, Page
to me

Mon, Jun 2, 4:03 PM (12 days ago) ☆ ☺

My apologies this took so long to get processed. The request was granted. Please send us a final report once completed.

Respectfully,

Page Paul | Legal Affairs Administrator | 231.534.7601 | Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

Paul, Page

From:	Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, May 7, 2025 11:51 AM
To:	Paul, Page
Subject:	2% Allocation Grant Peninsula Township Parks
Attachments:	2 percent Grant Allocation Extension.png; Tribal Council Allocation Grant Application.docx

I, Sandra Witherspoon, GTB Chairwoman authorize the request below as it still fits within the scope of the original grant request.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

X *Sandra Witherspoon* X 06/02/2025



Good Morning,

In November of 2024, the band generously extended the deadline for the 2% Allocation Grant awarded to Peninsula Township Parks for mediation of invasive plants at Bowers Harbor Natural Area. An administration turnover at Child and Family Services had prevented the scheduling and completion of the remediation effort by YouthWork young people and the organization's goats. The extension of the deadline to December of 2025 was and is greatly appreciated.

In March, the new YouthWork Program Director, Ashley Ayala, walked the natural area with me to discuss needs and to develop an action plan. While early in the process, it was exciting to see the project coming together. However, another challenge presented itself; with the freezing/elimination of federal grants, the matching funds from 2024 were no longer available.

From building community involvement and support to the actual mediation work, the committee values the partnership with YouthWork, and the project as a catalyst to the ecological restoration of the Bowers Harbor Natural Area. In the hope that the grant could be retained and the project move forward, the committee met and determined that Peninsula Township Parks could commit \$10,000 in funding. While there will be in-kind work by volunteers assisting with the project, this total will fall below the \$17,900 in matching funds presented in the original grant application.

We are respectfully requesting that the Grand Traverse Band consider maintaining its support and funding of the 2% Allocation Grant with the change in matching funds as described. We are truly grateful

1

for your time, consideration, and patience as circumstances have changed yet again since the grant was initially awarded. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Zebell
Peninsula Township Parks
231-342-6418
mzebell.parks@gmail.com

Budget as of May 31

DEPARTMENT REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR PENINSULA TOWNSHIP
 Balances as of 05/31/2025
 PARKS

Fund 208 - Parks Fund

GL Number	Description	2025-26 Orig Budget	2025-26 Amended Budget	YEAR-TO-DATE THRU 05/31/25	ACTIVITY FOR MONTH ENDED 05/31/2025	Available Balance	% Used
Department 000:							
208-000-580.000	County Funding	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00
208-000-607.EVT	Parks Lg. Event Fee	28,000.00	28,000.00	0.00	0.00	28,000.00	0.00
208-000-664.000	Interest Income						
05/31/2025 GJ	Com INTEREST ALLOCATION - MAY 25			128.59	JE# 2995		
05/31/2025 GJ	Com INTEREST ALLOCATION - MAY 25			0.35	JE# 2996		
208-000-664.000	Interest Income	1,700.00	1,700.00	192.65	128.94	1,507.35	11.33
208-000-667.000	Rental Income						
05/07/2025 CR	PAVILION RENT - 06-15-2025			50.00	Receipt #: 68940		
208-000-667.000	Rental Income	700.00	700.00	300.00	50.00	400.00	42.86
208-000-675.000	Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-675.CAP	Donations/Grants Capital Fund-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-675.DNR	GRANT-DNR KELLEY BOAT LAUNCH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-675.EVT	LARGE EVENT-PARKS DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-675.GNT	Park Grants Received	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-675.NMT	GRANT: NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00
208-000-675.PLK	Donations-Pickleball Court	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-000-676.000	Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total Revenues		63,400.00	63,400.00	492.65	178.94	62,907.35	0.78
208-000-710.WRK	Workers Comp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total Expenditures		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net - Dept 000		63,400.00	63,400.00	492.65	178.94	62,907.35	
Department 751: PARKS							
208-751-703.000	Per Diem						
05/23/2025 PR	SUMMARY PR 05/23/2025			160.00	386		
208-751-703.000	Per Diem	7,490.00	7,490.00	400.00	160.00	7,090.00	5.34
208-751-710.LIB	Liability Insurance						
05/28/2025 AP	EMC INSURANCE			8.73	Inv #: '7002633396' Vendor '0556'		
208-751-710.LIB	Liability Insurance	3,240.00	3,240.00	3,469.38	8.73	(229.38)	107.08
208-751-710.WRK	Workers Comp						

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Department 751: PARKS							
05/27/2025	AP ACCIDENT FUND INS CO OF AMERICA			14.22	Inv #: '1002074865' Vendor '0246'		
208-751-710.WRK	Workers Comp	775.00	775.00	117.50	14.22	657.50	15.16
208-751-715.000	Employer Social Security						
05/09/2025	PR SUMMARY PR 05/09/2025			26.77	385		
05/23/2025	PR SUMMARY PR 05/23/2025			12.24	386		
208-751-715.000	Employer Social Security	775.00	775.00	57.37	39.01	717.63	7.40
208-751-726.000	Supplies	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
208-751-726.PRK	Park Signs	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
208-751-783.000	Seeding and Planting Services	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00
208-751-801.000	Legal Fees						
05/12/2025	AP FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES			261.50	Inv #: '29019' Vendor '0793'		
208-751-801.000	Legal Fees	1,000.00	1,000.00	659.50	261.50	340.50	65.95
208-751-807.000	Audit Fees	525.00	525.00	0.00	0.00	525.00	0.00
208-751-818.000	Contractual Services-R Wilkinson						
05/15/2025	AP ROBERT WILKINSON			3,507.84	Inv #: 'INV#1875' Vendor 'WI04'		
05/15/2025	AP ROBERT WILKINSON			2,500.00	Inv #: 'INV#1875-T' Vendor 'WI04'		
208-751-818.000	Contractual Services-R Wilkins	81,000.00	81,000.00	12,015.68	6,007.84	68,984.32	14.83
208-751-818.010	Recording Secretary						
05/09/2025	PR SUMMARY PR 05/09/2025			350.00	385		
208-751-818.010	Recording Secretary	2,625.00	2,625.00	350.00	350.00	2,275.00	13.33
208-751-818.200	Contract Services						
05/01/2025	CR PMT TOWARDS BENCH FOUNDATION			(100.00)	Receipt #: 68886		
05/14/2025	AP SECURITY SANITATION, INC			810.00	Inv #: 'I23852' Vendor '0377'		
05/21/2025	AP MCKENNA ASSOCIATES			3,052.50	Inv #: '24-106-4' Vendor '0218'		
208-751-818.200	Contract Services	27,000.00	27,000.00	11,810.00	3,762.50	15,190.00	43.74
208-751-818.PLO	Plowing	3,100.00	3,100.00	5,210.00	0.00	(2,110.00)	168.06
208-751-855.DEQ	Noncom. Public Wat. Sup. Fee	1,500.00	1,500.00	215.00	0.00	1,285.00	14.33
208-751-881.000	Community Activities	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
208-751-900.000	Legal Notices	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-900.PNP	Printing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-921.000	Electricity						
05/19/2025	AP CONSUMERS ENERGY			90.11	Inv #: 'APR 2025 V' Vendor 'CO23'		

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Department 751: PARKS							
208-751-921.000	Electricity	2,675.00	2,675.00	179.54	90.11	2,495.46	6.71
208-751-926.000	Street Lighting						
05/14/2025	AP			22.70	Inv #: '204212680350' Vendor 'CO23'		
05/14/2025	AP			34.97	Inv #: '206437066911' Vendor 'CO23'		
05/19/2025	AP			69.76	Inv #: 'APR 2025 V' Vendor 'CO23'		
208-751-926.000	Street Lighting	1,550.00	1,550.00	268.14	127.43	1,281.86	17.30
208-751-930.000	Repairs and Maintenance						
05/14/2025	AP			3,660.00	Inv #: '32021' Vendor '0668'		
05/15/2025	AP			187.92	Inv #: 'INV#1875' Vendor 'WI04'		
208-751-930.000	Repairs and Maintenance	15,000.00	15,000.00	4,113.81	3,847.92	10,886.19	27.43
208-751-958.000	Memberships and Dues						
05/27/2025	AP			683.26	Inv #: '2025-2026' Vendor '0298'		
05/29/2025	AP			(683.26)	Inv #: '2025-2026' Vendor '0298'		
208-751-958.000	Memberships and Dues	700.00	700.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00
208-751-965.000	Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-966.KEL	Grant Cost - Kelley Park	0.00	0.00	24,540.00	0.00	(24,540.00)	100.00
208-751-967.BHP	Grants - BHNA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-967.DTE	Grant Costs-DTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-967.NMT	Grants - Non-Motorized Transpo	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
208-751-970.000	Capital Outlay/MiscExpenditures						
05/07/2025	AP			7,800.00	Inv #: '875474' Vendor 'EL12'		
05/07/2025	AP			43,975.00	Inv #: '875475' Vendor 'EL12'		
208-751-970.000	Capital Outlay/MiscExpenditure	75,000.00	75,000.00	56,079.81	51,775.00	18,920.19	74.77
208-751-970.PKL	Capital Outlay-Pickleball Cour	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total Expenditures		242,955.00	242,955.00	119,485.73	66,444.26	123,469.27	49.18
Net - Dept 751		(242,955.00)	(242,955.00)	(119,485.73)	(66,444.26)	(123,469.27)	
Department 753: PARKS-PELIZZARI NATURAL AREA							
208-753-710.LIB	Liability - Insurance						
05/28/2025	AP			8.74	Inv #: '7002633396' Vendor '0556'		
208-753-710.LIB	Liability - Insurance	405.00	405.00	392.88	8.74	12.12	97.01
208-753-807.000	Audit Fees	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00
208-753-818.000	Contractual Services						
05/28/2025	AP			2,500.00	Inv #: '97428' Vendor '0343'		

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Department 753: PARKS-PELIZZARI NATURAL AREA							
208-753-818.000	Contractual Services	0.00	0.00	7,740.00	2,500.00	(7,740.00)	100.00
208-753-818.PLO	Plowing	520.00	520.00	440.00	0.00	80.00	84.62
208-753-921.000	Electricity						
05/19/2025 AP	CONSUMERS ENERGY			31.07	Inv #: 'APR 2025 V' Vendor 'CO23'		
208-753-921.000	Electricity	415.00	415.00	62.11	31.07	352.89	14.97
Total Expenditures		1,490.00	1,490.00	8,634.99	2,539.81	(7,144.99)	579.53
Net - Dept 753		(1,490.00)	(1,490.00)	(8,634.99)	(2,539.81)	7,144.99	
FUND 208:							
REVENUES:		63,400.00	63,400.00	492.65	178.94	62,907.35	
EXPENDITURES:		244,445.00	244,445.00	128,120.72	68,984.07	116,324.28	
NET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES		(181,045.00)	(181,045.00)	(127,628.07)	(68,805.13)	(53,416.93)	

Business

OMPS Update: DNR Walk June 24

Landscaping at Bowers Harbor Park



**Update at BHNA:
Prioritized map of
species mitigation**

Prioritized list of invasive species mitigation



Map 2: Map of phased or simultaneous prescription areas

Appointment of BHP Pickleball Subcommittee

Creation of Bowers Harbor Park Pickleball Subcommittee

Peninsula Township would like to formalize the relationship between the pickleball players at Bowers Harbor Park (BHP), whose continuous efforts to maintain the courts, create the general schedule, oversee the reservation system, and provide information are gratefully acknowledged.

To that end, the township asks the parks committee to appoint a three-member pickleball subcommittee to the Peninsula Township Parks Committee.

Subcommittee responsibilities are simple and hinge around open communication:

1. Email the township's volunteer waiver to all pickleball volunteers to fill out and return to Becky Chown at clerk@peninsulatownship.com. All volunteers must complete and return the waiver before engaging in volunteer work at the pickleball courts.
2. Email Torey and Becky if using ladders or doing anything beyond a minor fix.
3. Advise Torey and Becky whenever significant work is needed or has been completed at the pickleball courts (such as sweeping or blowing leaves, putting up nets, taking nets down for the season, etc.).
4. Let Torey and Becky know if they notice any malicious damage or mischief at the courts.

No report are required, and appearing at parks committee meetings is not expected.

Thank you very much for your continued assistance in caring for this tremendous community asset.

Volunteer Waiver and Release

Peninsula Township, Grand Traverse County
13235 Center Rd.
Traverse City, MI 49686
Phone: (231) 223-7322

Volunteer Waiver and Release

IMPORTANT: RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS INCLUDED.

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Township: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

Under the age of 18, please list the date of birth: ___/___/_____

Scope of Waiver and Release. All individuals performing volunteer work on behalf of Peninsula Township (the "Township"), regardless of age, must read and sign this Volunteer Release and Waiver for any volunteer work with the Township ("Volunteer Event").

Volunteer Status. As a volunteer, you acknowledge that any duties you perform for the Township are without expectation of compensation.

Duties of Volunteers. You agree to behave in a responsible manner. You will only perform work that you feel you can accomplish safely and are of physical health to complete. You agree to report any unsafe conditions that you encounter to a Township representative.

Assumption of Risk. You understand that there are risks inherent in and incidental to the Township's Volunteer Event so, you hereby acknowledge that you are willing to be a volunteer to perform activities for the Township. You hereby release the Township and its agents and employees from any and all claims that may arise, including but not limited to any expenses, personal injuries, losses, or damages that you may suffer as a Township volunteer.

Consideration and Indemnification. In consideration of you being permitted to partake in the Volunteer Event, you, on your own behalf and on behalf of any persons claiming by, through or under you, hereby waive, release, and forever discharge any and all claims and causes of actions which you or your minor child or ward may have now or hereafter against the Township arising from a Volunteer Event, whether known or unknown, arising out of any injuries or damage that you or your minor child or ward may sustain in connection with any and all participation in the Volunteer Event. Your waiver, release, and discharge extend not only to the Township itself, but also to its officers, directors, managers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors, consultants, affiliates, successors, and assigns.

This Waiver and Release must be signed and returned to Peninsula Township prior to participating in the Volunteer Event.

Name (Printed): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, THE SIGNATURE OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED.

Bowers Harbor Park Restroom Planning



B R i
Beckett&Raeder

New Bowers Harbor Park Restroom Building



New Bowers Harbor Park Restroom Building

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implement

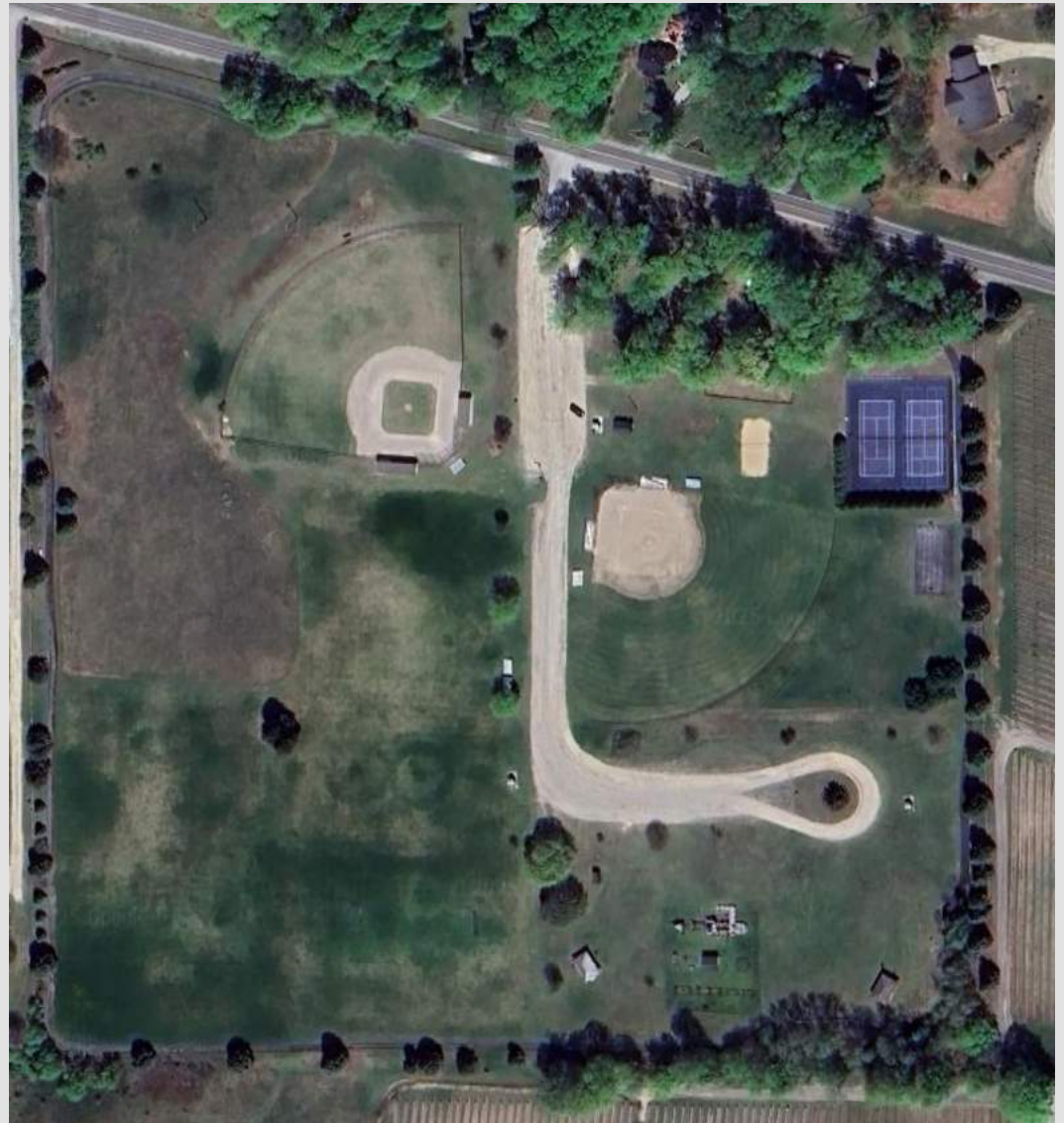
Existing Conditions

Needs Assessment

Waste Disposal Options

Construction Options

Next Steps





Existing Park Uses

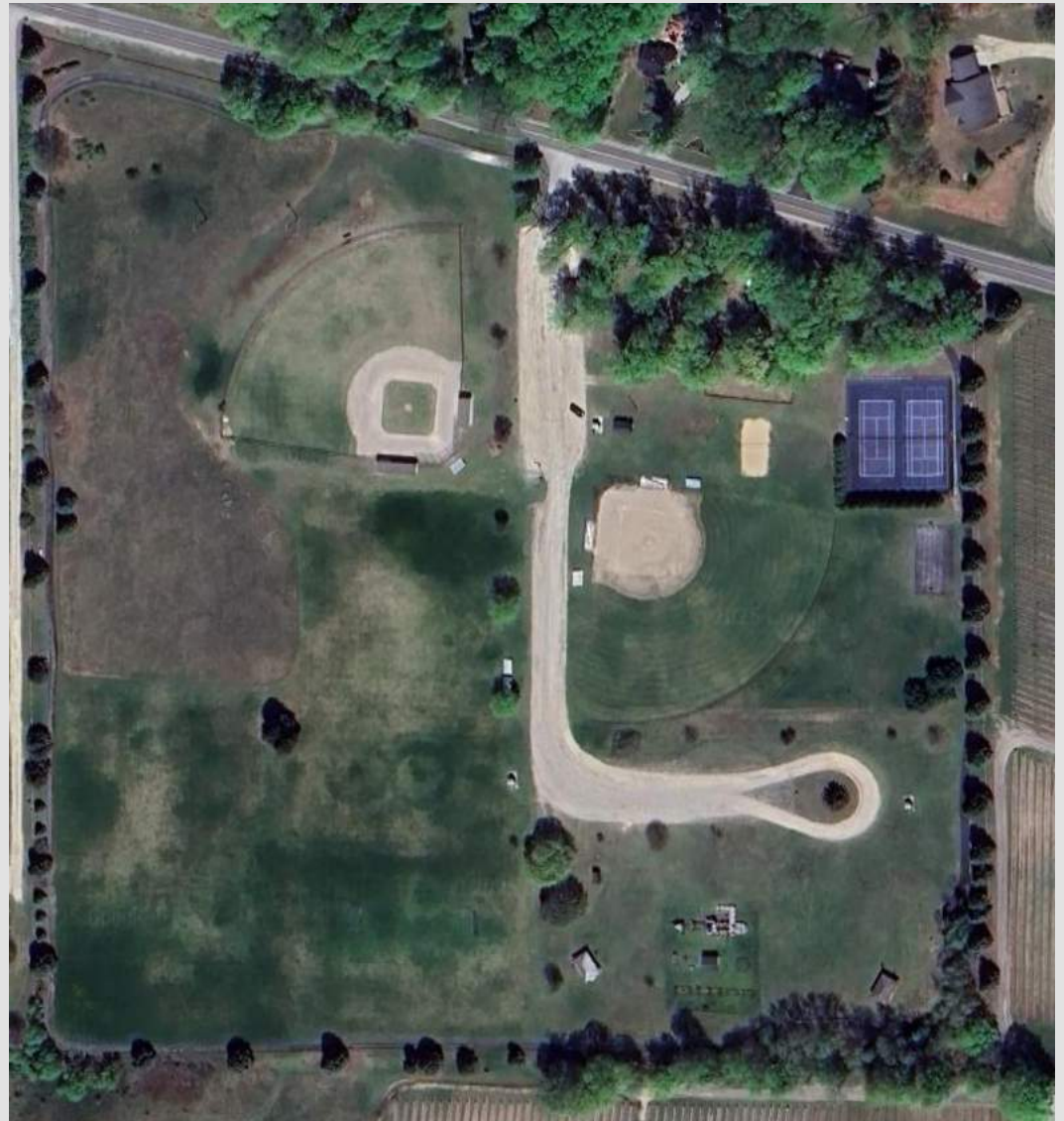
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Recreation

- Tennis, pickleball, and volleyball courts
- Softball, baseball, and soccer fields
- Two playground areas
- Picnic pavilions, grills, and tables
- Walking path
- On-site parking

Public Restrooms

- Three vault toilets





Existing Conditions

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implement

- Existing vault toilets are showing their age
- Park users have expressed dissatisfaction
- Current ADA standard compliance is deficient
- No potable water for washing or drinking
- No diaper changing station

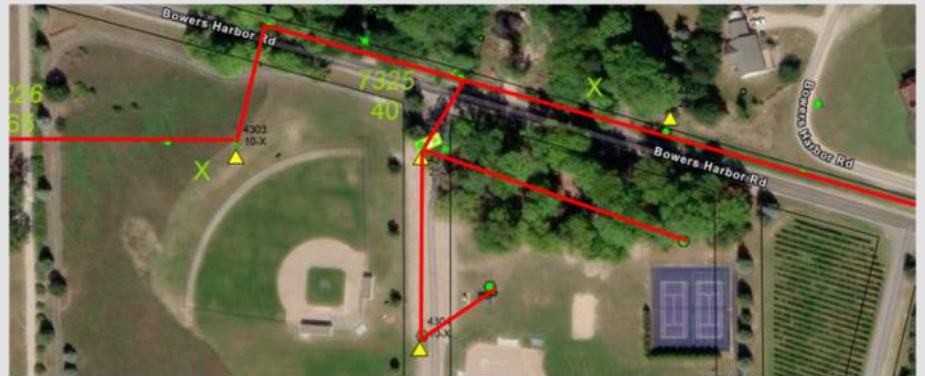
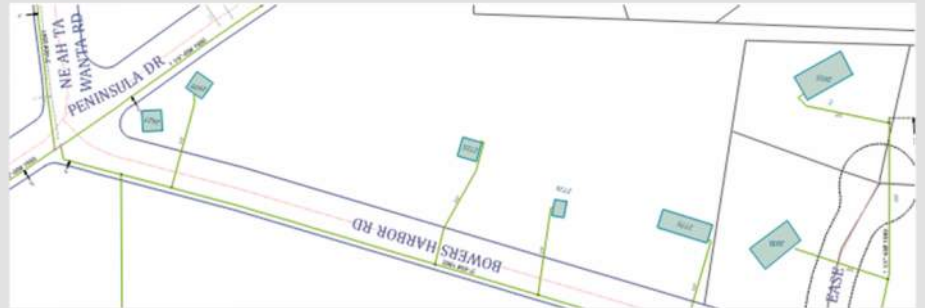




Existing Conditions

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implement

- Natural gas available in Bowers Harbor Road
- Electrical service is available on site
- Potable water is available on site
 - The existing on-site water supply is 4" wall permitted as a type IIa transient non-community public water supply
 - Annual monitoring and quarterly testing required
 - Existing well would support drinking water and flush toilets
 - Well approaching 50 years old and should be considered for replacement



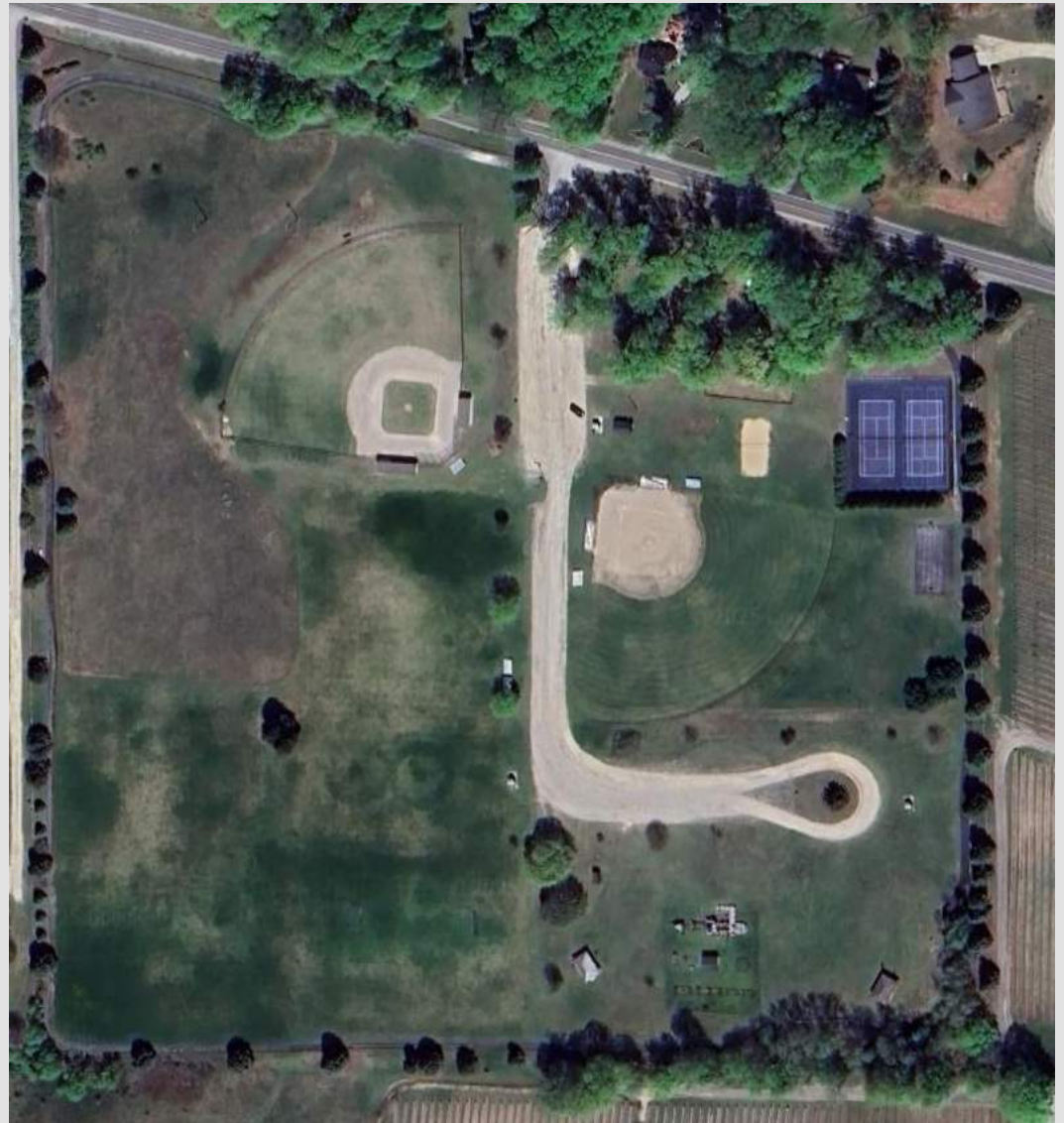
DEE		Water Well And Pump Record			Welogic	
Completion is required under authority of Part 127 Act 368 PA 1978. Failure to comply is a misdemeanor.						
Import ID: 28291021401						
Tax No:	Permit No:	County: Grand Traverse	Township: Peninsula			
Well ID: 28000008021		Town/Range: 29N 10W	Section: 21	Well Status: Active	WSSN: 2001328	Source ID/Well No: 001
Elevation: 613.51 ft.						
Latitude: 44.8933031705						
Longitude: -85.51975337						
Method of Collection: GPS Differential (DGPS)						
Distance and Direction from Road Intersection: 2001328, 1 -- BOWERS HARBOR PARK						
Well Owner: PENINSULA TWP PARK						
Well Address: .25 MI E OF BOWERS HARBOR MI						
Owner Address: TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49686						
Drilling Method: Cable Tool	Well Depth: 88.00 ft.	Well Type: Replacement	Well Use: Type II public	Date Completed: 5/22/1978	Pump Installed: Yes	Pump Installation Date:
Casing Type: Unknown	Casing Joint: Threaded & coupled	Casing Fitting: Drive shoe	Height: 0.00 ft. below grade		Manufacturer: Flint & Walling	Model Number: 4F55b5
					Drop Pipe Length: 50.00 ft.	Drop Pipe Diameter:
					Draw Down Seal Used: No	
					Pump Installation Only: No	HP:
					Pump Type: Submersible	Pump Capacity: 55 GPM
					Pump Voltage:	Drilling Record ID:



Needs Assessment

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implement

- Minimum of two unisex bathrooms
- Sinks and flushing toilets (septic & well)
- Changing table(s)
- Handicap accessible design
- Year-round operation (heated)
- Some storage space
- Architecture similar to existing pavilions (steel roof) and baseball dugouts (split face block)
- Location optimized for park users, construction, and operation





Waste Disposal Options

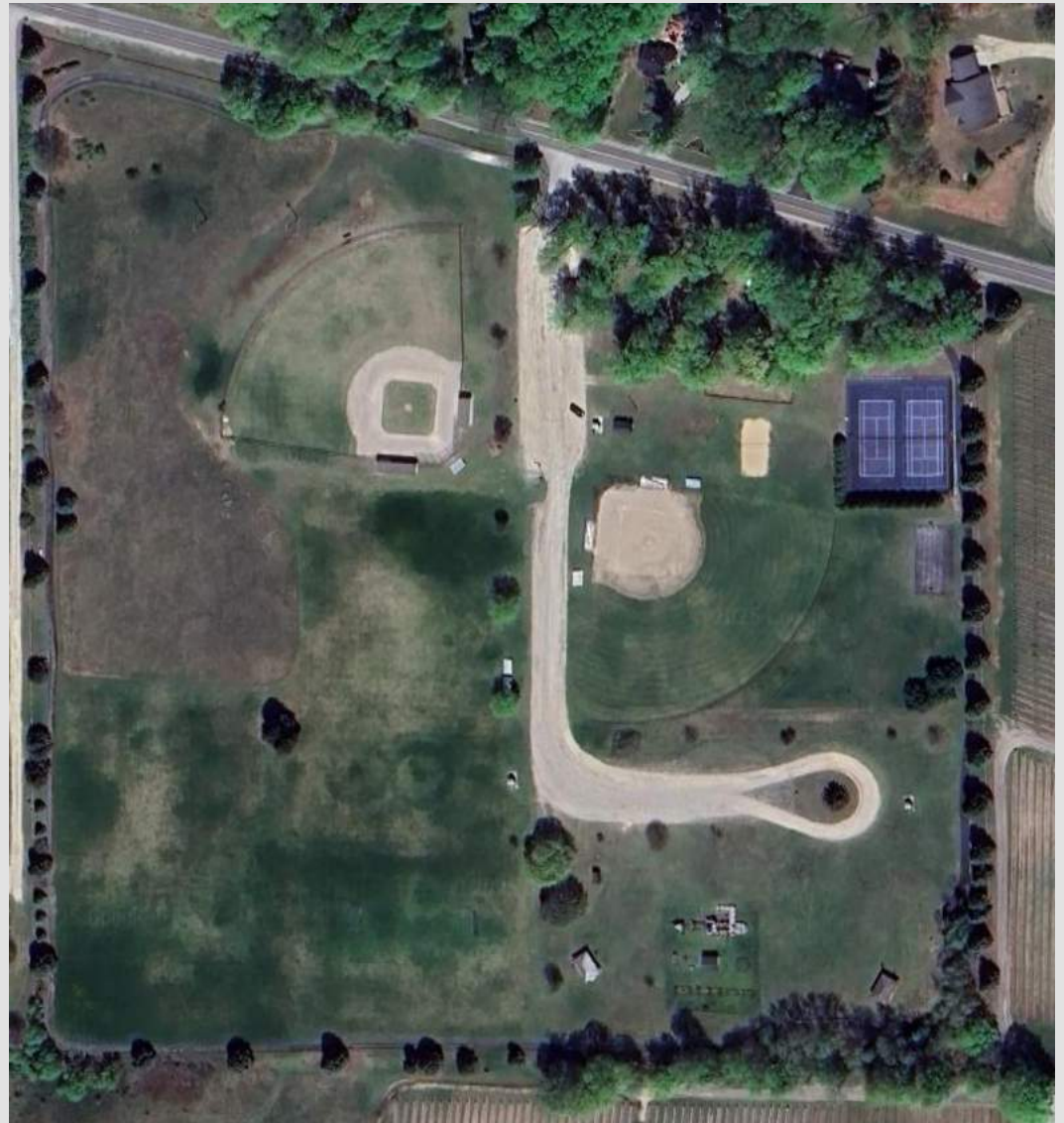
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Vault Toilet

Composting Toilet

Septic System

Public Sewer





Waste Disposal Options – Vault Toilets

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implement

Pros:

- No water needed
- No septic system required
- No energy use
- Township familiar with operation
- Low odor (if properly maintained)
- No heat required for winter operation



Cons:

- Township Users are dissatisfied with the existing vault toilets
- Regular maintenance required for waste removal
- Odor management can be a problem
- All liquid and solid waste stored and removed

Relative Magnitude of Cost:

Construction: Low Operation: Moderate





Waste Disposal Options – Composting Toilet

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implement

Pros:

- Waste converted to usable byproduct
- No energy use
- Low odor (if properly maintained)

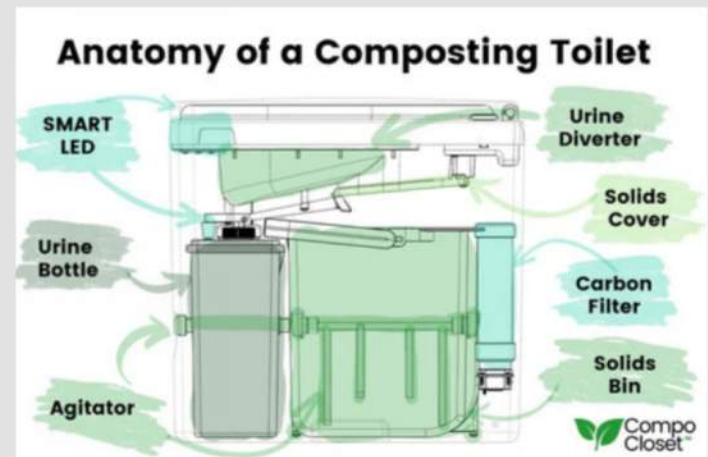
Cons:

- Heavy use of a composting toilet will require daily maintenance to work properly
- Will not effectively accommodate high peaks in use
- Very frequent disposal of waste required
- Requires constant maintenance to ensure best result
- Removing compost can be unpleasant when system is not operating within narrow parameters
- Less effective in winter as biological processes slow down

Magnitude of Cost:

Construction: Moderate

Operation: High





Waste Disposal Options – Septic System

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implement

Pros:

- Waste is treated on-site by biological processes
- Effluent (liquid) is disposed on-site
- Biological processes are undeterred in winter
- Common means of waste disposal in Peninsula Township
- Township familiar with operation
- No odor

Cons:

- Requires water
- Require adequate space for the tank and drain field
- Minimum 75-foot isolation from type IIa well
- Requires heated structure for winter operation

Magnitude of Cost:

Construction: Moderate Operation: Low





Waste Disposal Options – Public Sewer

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Pros:

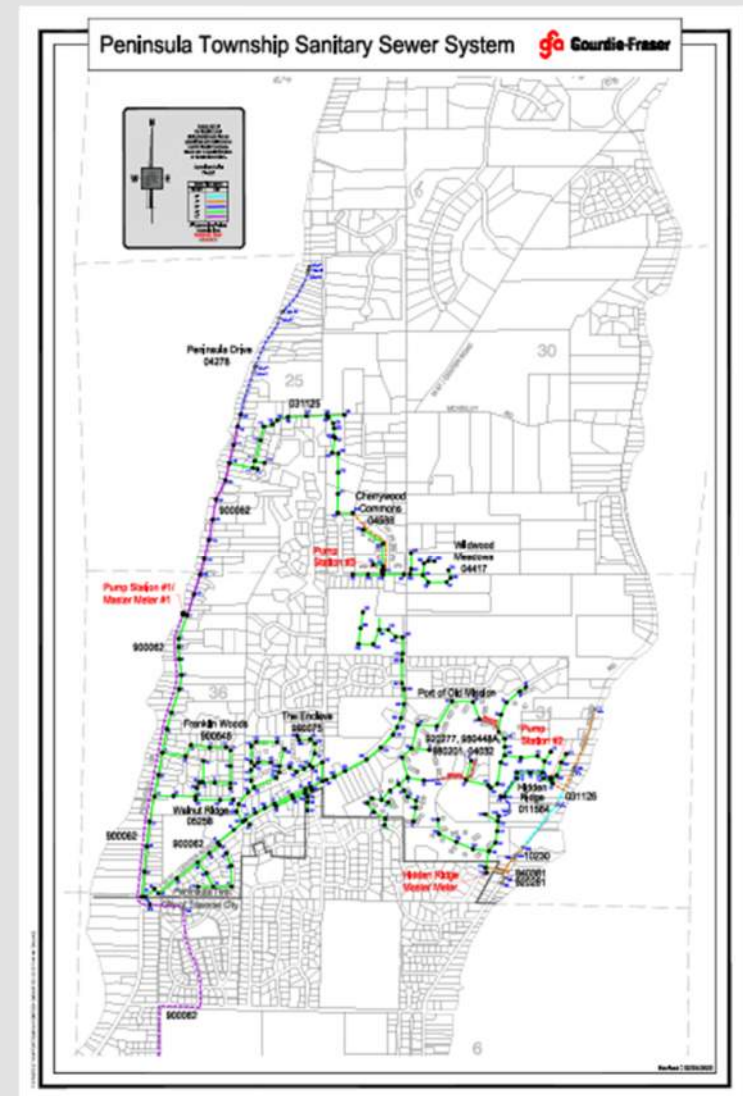
- Waste is transported for off-site treatment
- No problems with winter operation
- Common means of waste disposal in Peninsula Township
- Township familiar with operation
- No odor

Cons:

- Distance to existing sanitary sewer system is 7-miles and the cost and complexity of the infrastructure to transport waste is not justified

Magnitude of Cost:

Construction: Extremely High Operation: Low





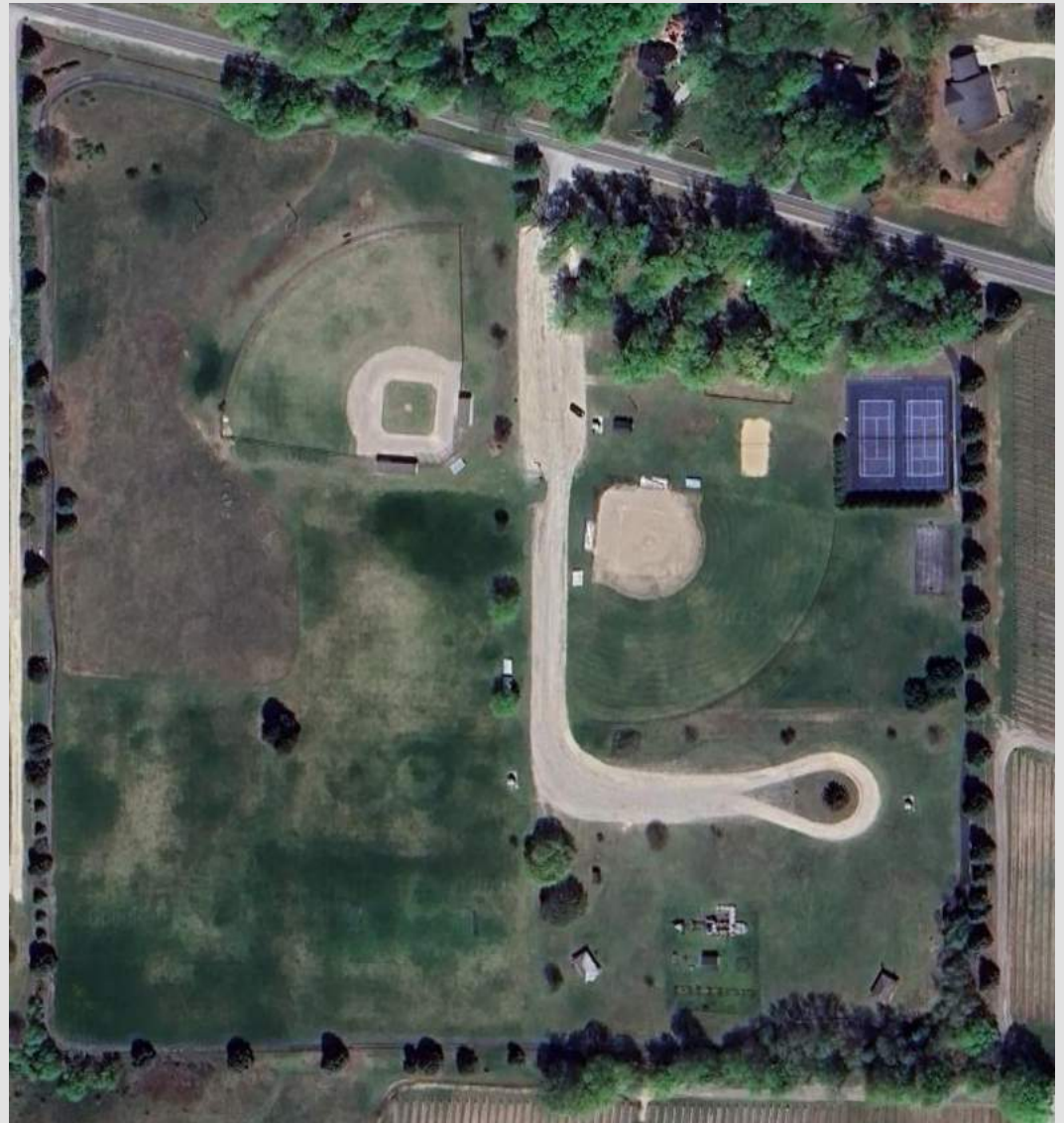
Construction Options

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implement

Proposed Location

Pre-Fabricated Building

Stick-Built Building





Construction Options – Proposed Location

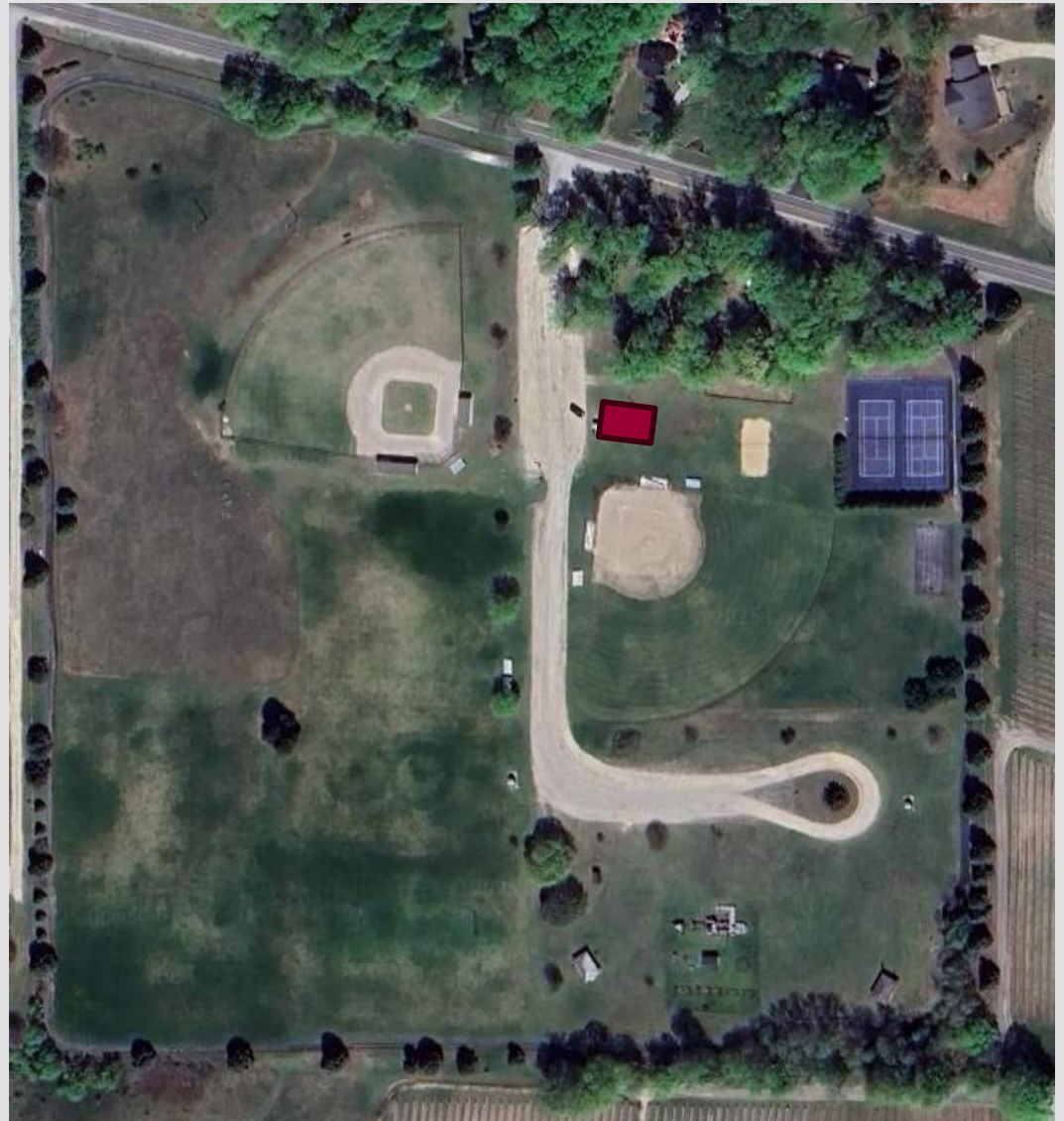
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Pros:

- Centrally located for most activities including, north playground, north pavilion, volleyball, tennis courts, pickleball courts, and baseball fields
- No extension of electrical utility
- Opportunity to reuse existing well
- Replaces aging storage shed
- Easy access for maintenance

Cons:

- Somewhat distanced from southernmost playground and pavilions





Construction Options – Pre-Fabricated

i
implement

Pros:

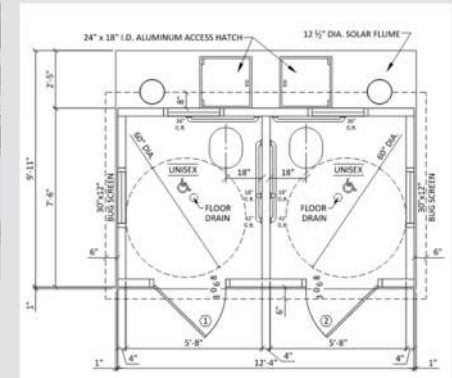
- Cost effective approach offering reduced material waste, and cost savings compared to traditional site-built bathrooms
- Constructed by manufacturer and transported to the construction site
- Pre-fabricated systems are available for all types of waste disposal systems

Cons:

- Limited selection of configuration, construction materials, interior finishes and fixtures
- Typical installations not optimized for heated winter operation.

Examples:

- City of Traverse City Bayfront, Honor Platte River Park, DNR Torch River Boat Launch





Construction Options – Stick Built

i
implement

Pros:

- Unlimited selection of configuration, construction materials, interior finishes and fixtures
- Constructed on-site by a local contractor
- Can be customized to meet Township expectations including heated winter operation
- Stick built building systems are available for all types of waste disposal systems

Cons:

- Requires design services of an architect
- More detailed design and permitting process
- Timelines typically longer for construction





Next Steps



- 1. Prepare conceptual plans**
- 2. Review plans with Township**
- 3. Seek Funding**

Budget Requests

Additional Expense Requests for BHNA Goat Project

Kwik Print \$71.20

11 X 17 Posters & Signs

Quantity: 20

Price: \$21.20

Lamination of 11 X 17

(directional & educational signs)

Quantity: 10

Price: \$50.00

Amazon \$15.20 + shipping

Goat Decals

Quantity: 64

Price: \$7.37

Goat Decals

Quantity: 50

Price: \$3.60

Zip Ties, 8"

Quantity: 100

Price: \$4.23

Shipping: ??

Proposed Citizen Survey Questions

Survey questions

7 messages

Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:04 AM

To: Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>

Cc: Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

Hi everyone,

I thought to get the ball rolling on survey questions, I had Chat GPT generate a list below (I don't know about you, but I needed something to start with). I changed the questions to blue font we may want to consider adding (I realize we may not get that many for parks in the survey, but it's a start). If anyone has any additional questions or edits to the list below, please circulate.

Dave - From the community, did we get any questions specific to parks we would also want to consider? I would imagine the survey consultants may want to reword as well.

Thanks!
Christine

General Usage & Perception

1. How often do you visit a township park or trail?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Rarely
- Never

2. What are your main reasons for visiting township parks? (Select all that apply)

- Walking/hiking
- Exercise/fitness
- Playgrounds
- Sports (e.g. soccer, baseball)
- Events or gatherings
- Nature/wildlife enjoyment
- Other (please specify): _____

3. How satisfied are you with the overall condition and maintenance of the parks?

- **Very satisfied**

- Somewhat satisfied
 - Neutral
 - Somewhat dissatisfied
 - Very dissatisfied
4. Which township park(s) do you visit most frequently, and why? (Open-ended)

Community Needs & Priorities

5. What improvements would you most like to see in our parks? (Select up to 3)
- Restroom facilities
 - Picnic areas
 - Updated playground equipment
 - More walking/biking trails
 - Lighting and safety improvements
 - Dog-friendly areas
 - Water features (splash pad, pond access, etc.)
 - More events or programming
 - Other (please specify): _____
6. Are there specific activities, programs, or events you would like to see offered in our parks? (Open-ended)
7. Do you or your family face any barriers to using township parks?
- No
 - Yes (please explain): _____

Engagement & Vision

8. How important are parks and open spaces to your quality of life in the township?
- Very important
 - Somewhat important
 - Neutral

- Not very important
 - Not important at all
9. Would you be interested in volunteering, attending public meetings, or joining park clean-up events?
- Yes
 - Maybe
 - No

10. Do you have any additional feedback or suggestions for the parks committee? (Open-ended)

Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:36 AM
To: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>
Cc: Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

Christine, these are great. Thank you very much for starting the ball rolling.

Should we add a question reg flush or vault toilets at BHP? Something like this:

We know from past surveys that the community would like to see updated toilet facilities at all our parks and most especially Bowers Harbor Park. Would you prefer/be more inclined to support:

- New vault toilets
- Flush toilets

Rebecca Chown

Peninsula Township Clerk

13235 Center Road

Traverse City MI 49686

phone: 231-223-7321

fax: 231-223-7117

clerk@peninsulatownship.com

Office Hours: Mondays 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays–Thursdays 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and closed Fridays–Sundays and holidays

[Quoted text hidden]

Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:42 AM
To: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>
Cc: Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

I've changed it. See below. It's hard to get all the info in but I'm thinking of what Nancy Heller said at our meeting yesterday...Not sure we need to worry about it so here are two versions of the toilet question. The committee and your EPIC consultant will need to wrestle with it.

We know from past surveys that the community would like to see updated toilet facilities at all our parks and most especially at Bowers Harbor Park. Would you prefer/be more inclined to support:

- New vault toilets (likely three new vault toilets to replace the existing vault toilets at BHP)
- Flush toilets (likely one facility with three or four flush toilets in the general location of the first vault toilet at BHP, just off the main parking lot on the north side)

OR

We know from past surveys that the community would like to see updated toilet facilities at all our parks and most especially at Bowers Harbor Park. Would you prefer/be more inclined to support:

[Quoted text hidden]

Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:42 AM
To: Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>
Cc: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

GREAT questions!

I would maybe amend Becky's question to be these two options:

- New vault toilets (in their current locations)
- Flush toilets (one facility near the baseball fields)

I think that would address the location issue that was brought up last night.

[Quoted text hidden]

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Torey Caviston
Peninsula Township Parks Committee
Bowers Harbor Park
231-223-7322

Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:42 AM
To: Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>
Cc: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

Lol! You beat me to it!

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 9:45 AM
To: Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com>
Cc: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Dave Murphy <davemurphy6943@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

Nice and clean! Much better than my version. Thanks, Torey!

Rebecca Chown
Peninsula Township Clerk
13235 Center Road
Traverse City MI 49686
phone: 231-223-7321

fax: 231-223-7117

clerk@peninsulatownship.com

Office Hours: Mondays 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays–Thursdays 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and closed Fridays–Sundays and holidays

[Quoted text hidden]

davemurphy6943@gmail.com <davemurphy6943@gmail.com> Tue, Jun 10, 2025 at 11:13 AM
To: Becky Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>, Torey Caviston <tcaviston.parks@gmail.com>
Cc: Christine Murphy <cmurphy.parks@gmail.com>, Michele Zebell <mzebell.parks@gmail.com>, Mary Beth Milliken <mbmillikenonpeninsula@gmail.com>, Pete Dahl <peterleedahl@gmail.com>

Thanks very much for getting it started, Christine, & for the other comments so far.

The packet for the upcoming survey meeting is already set, and I'd like to make sure whatever we propose covers all the ground we want, so let's keep working at this & perhaps look at the end of the week to finalize for submission & discussion at the next survey meeting on the 19th. Keep in mind we don't have to have the questions perfectly phrased, but the closer the better. And in the end, the consulting company administering the survey will work to finalize questions so they're objective and clear.

A lot of questions are coming in about various subjects – many about agriculture, structure of government, finances, shoreline, short-term rentals, likely the fire station...we're not going to get a huge number into the survey about parks, but getting a thorough list together & sorting will help.

I'll note these details: It's likely the survey will be both phone and online of registered voters and property owners in case those subsets don't entirely overlap, although I sense the goal will be one response per household, not all registered voters. The consulting company feels confident in being able to secure cell numbers – state that they do it all the time. The company is [EPIC-MRA](#) in case you're curious.

Their methodology will be to call xxx number of households (last time it was 200). All other households will receive a postcard with a unique code allowing one online survey completion per household. The random nature of the phone calls is a quality measure to assure that self-selecting online participation doesn't "load up" a particular perspective. I believe overall participation in 2019 was just under 20%, which certainly isn't exhaustive, but it is statistically valid. Phone & online responses aligned pretty well in 2019, although there were some differences by demographic breakdown from phone to online...which does reveal that people opting to participate online may be more motivated based on certain issues; that, again, is why they like the random nature of the phone surveys as something of a control measure.

My memory from the 2019 survey is that 20 minutes was the max length they recommend keeping people on the line or navigating an online survey. Following up with them yesterday, they say they want to limit it to 18 minutes which means about 45-50 questions including at least a dozen that are demographically related. After that length of time, drop outs/hang ups really increase. The survey results provided by EPIC-MRA includes "stratifications" – how responses relate to factors like age, location on the peninsula, and how people responded to other key questions.

Just making the point that it will be a balancing act to tackle a range of township issues, but parks most definitely merit consideration, and we should help the survey committee zero in on the several matters we most want public feedback about.

My quick response to Christine's question about public feedback is to go to the following study done with LIAA's assistance in 2022 & focus on pages 5 & 6: https://www.peninsulatownship.com/uploads/1/0/4/3/10438394/public_input_summary_for_03-23-22.pdf

I'll note that with the timing, COVID was certainly a limiting factor for participation in 2022.

These thoughts stay with me, but how to economically frame them with some backstory as to needs is a challenge:

- Both the [LIAA feasibility study](#) & Maner Costerisan Report suggest a parks manager. How to ask that question with a proper preamble as to the benefits as well as willingness to pay for such a position are questions I'd like to get at. Preambles to questions are common but obviously have to be lean.
- A separate budget for parks – for both operations & capital improvements – would make sense for the township and the parks committee's work.

Again, thanks for getting the thoughts going about this.

Dave

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