

# Peninsula Township 2023 Parks and Recreation Plan



**Plan Adopted: January 24, 2023**

**2023 plan prepared by:**

Land Information Access Association (LIAA)  
Traverse City, Michigan  
231-929-3696  
[www.liaa.org](http://www.liaa.org)



# Peninsula Township

## 2023 Parks and Recreation Plan

### **Peninsula Township Parks Committee**

Mike Skurski – Chair

Michele Zebell – Vice Chair

Ronessa Butler – Secretary

Pete Dahl – Member

Mary Beth Milliken – Member

Dave Murphy – Member

Becky Chown – Member and Township Board Representative

### **Peninsula Township Board of Trustees**

Isaiah Wunsch – Supervisor

Becky Chown – Clerk

Margaret Achorn –Treasurer

W. William Rudolph – Trustee

David K. Sanger – Trustee

Armen Shanafelt – Trustee

Warren L. Wahl – Trustee

### **Contributors**

Jenn Cram – Township Planner

Lola Jackson – Transcribing Secretary

Ginger Schultz – Lighthouse Manager

Chris Rieser – Peter Dougherty Society/Old Mission Peninsula  
Historical Society

Jane Boursaw – Old Mission Gazette

# Peninsula Township 2023 Parks and Recreation Plan

## Table of Contents

- Introduction ..... 5
- Community Description ..... 7
- Administrative Structure ..... 10
- Description of the Planning and Public Input Process ..... 11
- Budget and Grants ..... 12
- Accessibility Assessment ..... 18
- Recreation Inventory ..... 19
  - Archie Roadside Park ..... 19
  - Bowers Harbor Park ..... 19
  - Haserot Beach ..... 20
  - Robert & Colleen Kelley Park ..... 21
  - Mission Point Lighthouse Park ..... 22
  - Old Mission State Park ..... 23
  - Pelizzari Natural Area ..... 24
- Historic Resources ..... 25
  - Replica Church ..... 25
  - Hessler Log Cabin ..... 25
  - Peter Dougherty House ..... 25
- Non-Township-Owned Recreation Facilities ..... 26
- Maps ..... 28
- Goals, Objectives, and Action Program ..... 34

## Appendices

- A. Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan
- B. Bowers Harbor Park Expansion Plan
- C. Funding Feasibility Study
- D. Summary of Public Comment
- E. Approval Documentation
  - Recreation Plan legal notices and meeting minutes
  - Official resolution of the Peninsula Township Board dated 1/24/2013
  - Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to county board dated 1/25/2023
  - Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to regional planning organization dated 1/25/2023
- F. Mission Point Lighthouse Visitor Numbers
- G. Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports

# Introduction

This 2023 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan identifies the township's highest recreation priorities and provides a road map for the implementation of the recreation goals and objectives identified by the Peninsula Township Parks Committee, the community, and other township boards and committees. The plan was developed according to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans (revised 04/26/2021) and is organized as follows:

- A. Introduction. The intent of a community park and recreation plan is to create an inventory of existing facilities and resources, identify community recreation and open space needs, and set a plan of action for a five-year period. This plan includes information that is required for a plan to be approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Grants Management staff. Information contained in the plan will be used in scoring applications.
- B. Community Description. Community description and planning considerations include information regarding the township's population, natural features, and adopted plans. The intent of this section is to provide a context for the plan that will assist in establishing goals. The description of the planning and public input process summarizes the 2017 and 2022 public input processes for both the previous 2018 plan and the 2023 plan, respectively.
- C. Administrative Structure. This section summarizes the process used to make recreation decisions and discuss budgeting and revenue.
- D. Recreation Inventory. This section itemizes the township's existing recreation facilities and identifies the needs of each park individually.
- E. Goals, Objectives, and Action Program. This section describes proposed recreation goals and improvements and itemizes specific implementation activities as part of a capital improvement schedule.
- F. Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports

## Related Plans

Several adopted plans guide township activities and decision making. These plans were used in the development of goals, objectives, and action items in this recreation plan:

- 2022 Draft Peninsula Township Master Plan
- 2021 Kelley Park Lease
- 2019 LIAA TART Report
- 2019 Citizen Survey
- 2018 Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan
- 2017 Bowers Harbor Expansion Concept Plan
- 2010 Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan
- Old Mission Peninsula Scenic Heritage Route/Pure Michigan Byway
- Mission Point Lighthouse Park Strategic Plan

## Notable Projects

### **Bowers Harbor Park Expansion and Bowers Harbor Park Improvement Project**

In 2016 and 2017, Peninsula Township worked with Beckett & Raeder, Inc., and Gourdie-Fraser, Inc., to design the proposed layout for an expansion area at Bowers Harbor Park. The final approved plan, adopted in June 2017 and amended to the 2018 Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan, includes more formal trails and amenities. Some of those improvements include pavilions, grills, picnic tables, scenic overlooks, bathrooms, etc. as noted on the 2018 and 2019 Bowers Harbor Grant Application Request Maps. Other proposed and board-approved amenities include an expanded trail network, improved parking lot, benches, a signage kiosk, interpretative trail signage, litter/recycling bins, a dog park, pet refuse collection facilities, pickleball courts, basketball courts, and a bicycle rack.

### **Pelizzari Expansion and Formalizing Access to the Hemlock Wing**

Expansion of Pelizzari Natural Area (PNA) is underway. The first phase of the expansion is a purchase option of a 14.24-acre parcel, partially funded through the fund balance from the original millage to secure PNA, with the balance to be raised by the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Although this first parcel is not adjacent to the original PNA, positive discussions are ongoing with the necessary parties to tie the parcels together. An informal and heavily-used access point near the hemlock wing of PNA crosses private property. Discussions here are also underway to formalize legal access.



### **Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Renewal**

As a general law township, Peninsula Township has limited taxing authority, and millage requests are challenging endeavors. The township's Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program is supported by millage and was successfully renewed for a third time in August of 2022. Discussions took place between parks committee members and the PDR committee as to the compatibility of a joint millage effort that would also support parks. Between ballot language complexities and concerns about two millage requests at once, the decision was made to forgo a parks millage in 2022. As the parks committee develops its own funding plan, this recent PDR millage approval must be considered. By state law, a parks millage effort will require an independent ballot committee without township endorsement or engagement, so a citizens' group would have to lead the initiative.

### **Kelley Park Boat Launch Project**

As of this writing, conversations and planning continue regarding the installation of both a motorized and non-motorized boat launch at this location.

### **Mission Point Lighthouse and Nearby Grounds**

In 2018, the elected parks commission was dissolved and a parks committee was appointed that no longer oversees lighthouse operations. In 2019, a committee consisting of members of the township board, Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society, and other community members continued to oversee the restoration of the lighthouse. Based on old photographs, the committee also proposed additional historic renovations to include a replica boathouse and barn plus ADA walkways and toilet facilities, an expanded parking lot, viewing platform, and other toilet facilities. Due to a large increase in visitors, the committee may need to explore additional ADA accessible parking near the area beach.

# Community Description

Peninsula Township is the northernmost township in Grand Traverse County and comprises nearly all of the Old Mission Peninsula, a narrow strip of land extending approximately 16 miles into Grand Traverse Bay. The peninsula is renowned for its rich agricultural heritage and natural beauty, with a wide variety of recreational opportunities for both residents and visitors. These recreation assets — the township's shoreline, water access, public roads affording scenic views, historic resources, natural areas, and other facilities — contribute to the township's high quality of life and its popularity as a desirable place to live and visit.

The township is made up of about 17,755 acres of residential, agriculture, commercial, public facilities, undeveloped and agricultural land. Approximately 1,192 acres, or 6.7 percent, are public, of which 855 acres, or 4.8 percent, are either owned or operated and maintained by the township (the remaining amount is owned and maintained by either the county or the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy). Residential density is highest in the southern one-third of the peninsula, with over half the township's population residing south of Wilson Road. The northern two-thirds of the peninsula are made up of significant areas of orchard, vineyard, forest, and open land, with residential, agricultural, and commercial areas centered around Mapleton. There are only 28.5 acres of commercially zoned land on the peninsula, and they are centered almost exclusively around Mapleton. Meanwhile, parks, designated open space, public facilities, and institutional uses (including the Old Mission Peninsula School, township hall and offices, cemeteries, the community library, and a variety of non-township recreational facilities) are found throughout the township.

## Population

With its 43 miles of coastline, forests, rolling hills, orchards, vineyards, and beaches, Peninsula Township is well known as a thriving agricultural community, vacation destination, seasonal residential community, and high-quality year-round place to live. Driven in large part by these qualities, the township's population has increased over the last several decades. As of 2020 (the latest information available), the township's estimated population was 6,026. ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)).

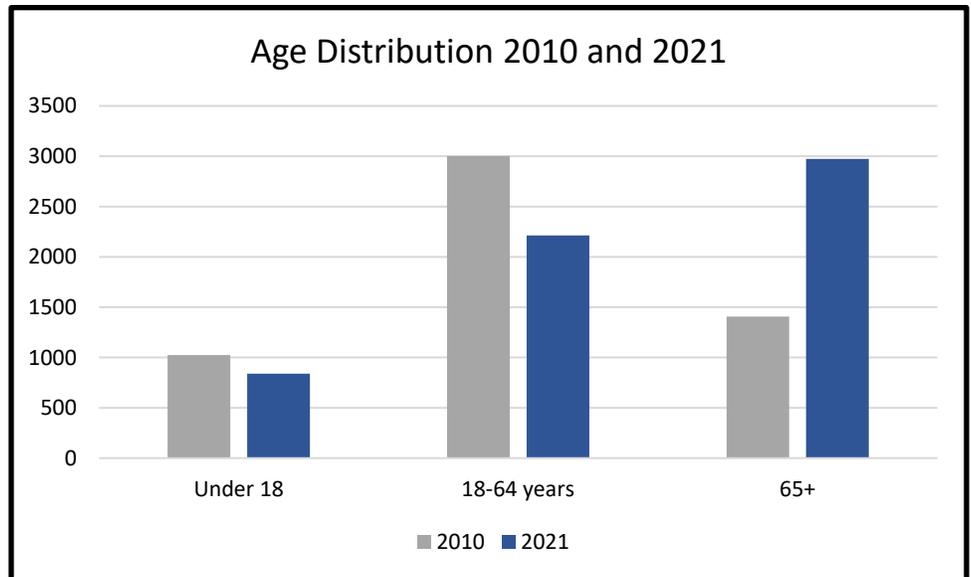
The U.S. Census Bureau shows that Peninsula Township's population differs in several respects from county-wide trends and is markedly different from state demographics.

Statistics suggest professionals and entrepreneurs who work in the Traverse City area, and those who are able to telecommute, are moving to Peninsula Township.

### Quick Demographic Facts (Source: 2021 American Community Survey):

<b>Median Age</b> 57.1	<b>Sex:</b> 54% Female 46% Male
<b>Race:</b> 95% White 3% Two or more races 2% Hispanic	<b>Income:</b> \$59,825 per capita income \$112,375 median household income

	2010	2021
Under 18	1024	840
18-64 years	3002	2213
65+	1407	2973
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5433</b>	<b>6026</b>



When planning for recreation facilities, the community's growth trends, age, and income levels are important to consider. With a growing population, the township's parks experience increased usage. Higher visitation levels mean more frequent maintenance and upkeep, parking concerns, and, in some cases, needs for park expansion. As aged populations increase, recreation needs for this segment of the recreation marketplace must be addressed. Both active recreation facilities like ball fields and beach facilities and passive recreation facilities like walking and boating facilities are popular assets in the community. Barrier-free access to recreation is a high priority for the township and is particularly important for an aging population, as is expanding access to more park opportunities for anyone needing barrier-free amenities.

### Tourism and Seasonal Residents

A special consideration in Peninsula Township is the fact that the population increases substantially over the summer months, with many households and families residing in the township only during this period. Beyond seasonal residents, summer tourism brings additional visitors to the township, including both day-trippers and those on extended visits who come to enjoy the peninsula's recreation facilities, water access, and natural areas.

As noted in the recreation inventory, the peninsula includes a variety of recreation facilities that continue to experience increases in usage from both residents and visitors. Water access, historic facilities, and trail networks are popular destinations for visitors. For example, Mission Point Lighthouse welcomed approximately 46,000 visitors in 2017, and the township is featured in many tourism advertisements.

### Physical Features

Peninsula Township and the surrounding area are primarily rural in nature. Traverse City, which serves as the region's population, employment, commercial, and service center, borders the township on the south. City boundaries extend a short distance onto the Old Mission Peninsula, which ranges from one to four miles wide and extends about 16 miles into Grand Traverse Bay, dividing it into two arms, East Bay and West Bay. The township is surrounded by water on three sides and boasts 43 miles of shoreline within its boundaries. The topography consists of rolling hills, air drainage swales, and ancient sea shelves and wetlands, with steep slopes located throughout the township. The combination of rolling hills, a microclimate arising from the tempering presence of the two bays, and the wide presence of Emmet-Leelanau sandy loams and loamy sands result in ideal conditions for fruit production, primarily cherries, grapes, and, increasingly, apples.

## Transportation

The township's road network consists of some county-maintained roads along with some private roads and one Michigan State Highway, M-37, which is a designated Michigan Scenic Heritage Route.

One of the most popular recreational activities is to drive along M-37 for stunning views of rolling hills, open space, orchards, vineyards, and Lake Michigan. Bluff Road (located along the shore of East Grand Traverse Bay), Peninsula Drive (located along the shore of West Grand Traverse Bay), and East Shore Road (starting on the south end near the Northwestern Michigan College and TC Central High School campuses, extending north to the DNR boat launch) are popular routes for bikers and runners because of their more intimate views of the water.



Personal automobile is the primary means of transportation in the township. However, because of its scenic qualities, the township's road network doubles as a popular route for bicyclists, runners, and walkers.

The township is also served by the Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA) with dial-a-ride (reservation) service, and numerous private taxi and van companies.

The 2019 citizen survey indicates there is a high demand and need for a township-wide non-motorized transportation option. In response to the survey, a non-motorized transportation committee made up of residents and township staff formed with the goal of increasing recreational opportunities that make travel safer and including but extending beyond the parks. Additionally, there is an emphasis to direct non-motorized travelers to destinations closer to the southern end of the peninsula and nearer the city. This overall effort would support efforts to expand recreation opportunities in the area and reduce traffic on M-37.

## Agricultural Preservation

Preservation of the township's scenic views and rural landscape is essential to the recreational opportunities provided by the township, which is a recreation destination for residents throughout the Grand Traverse region as well as for tourists from throughout the state and beyond. In 2017, the Mission Point Lighthouse guestbook recorded visitors from all 50 states and the District of Columbia in addition to visitors from U.S. territories and numerous foreign countries.

In recognition of the need to preserve this landscape, Peninsula Township has identified about 9,000 acres of farmland and scenic views to be preserved or protected in the township as part of its master plan. In 1994, voters approved a millage to fund the Peninsula Township Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) millage for agricultural land and scenic views. In 2002, voters increased the PDR millage to 2 mills. In 2022, they again voted to extend the program for another 20 years through 2041.



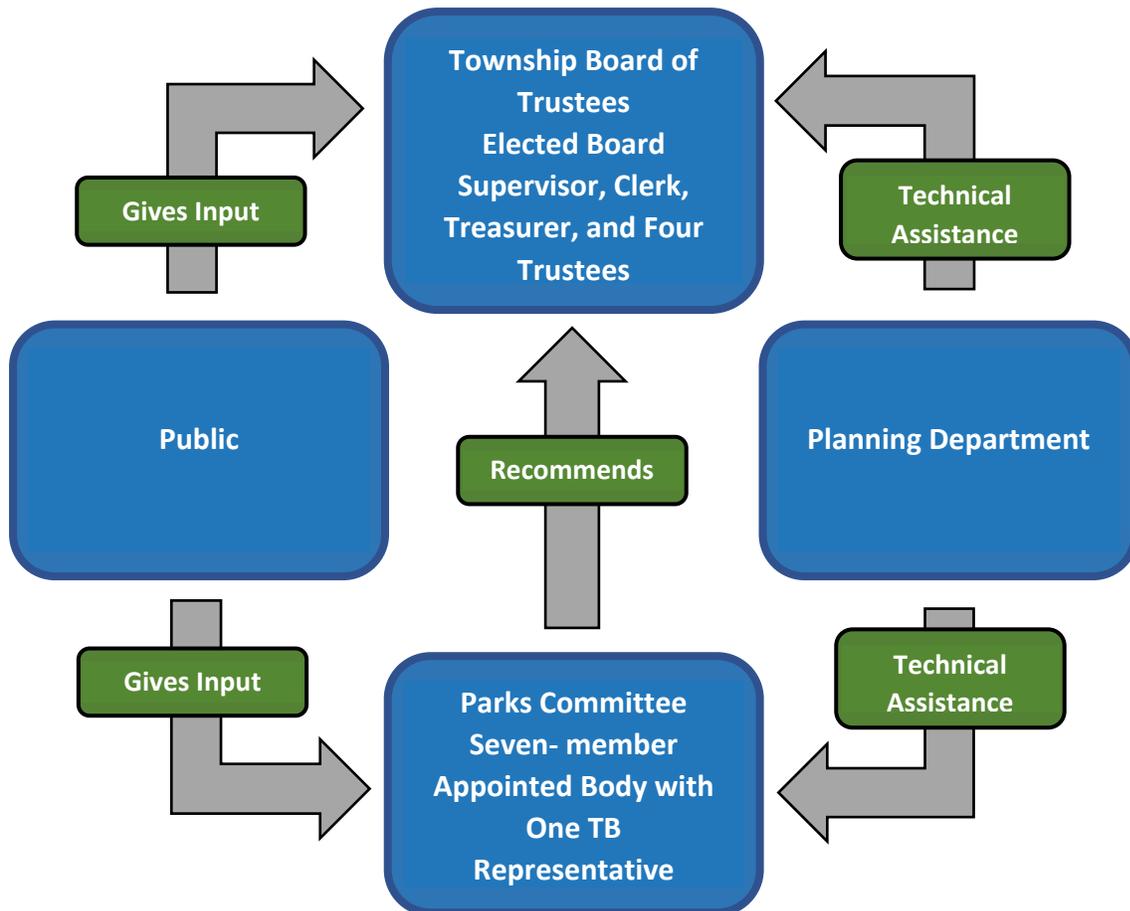
# Administrative Structure

**Role of Commissions, Committees, and the Township Board:** The seven-member Peninsula Township Board is elected to adopt township budgets, approve contracts, adopt policies, and oversee staff. Parks and other township assets are managed in general by the township board, which administers the park budget through its treasurer and clerk.

**Parks Committee:** Peninsula Township has an appointed parks committee that oversees the development and operations of parks in addition to facilitating recreation programs. The parks committee makes recreation programming recommendations and decisions as well as budget recommendations to the township board. The parks committee has an independently managed budget approved once per fiscal year by the township board.

**Planning Commission:** The Peninsula Township Planning Commission is appointed by the township board to develop the township's master plan, develop and administer the township's zoning ordinances, and to make recommendations to the township board on a variety of land use issues.

**Staff:** Parks are maintained by joint parks/township buildings and grounds staff. One year-round contractor and proposed part-time individual staff member offer support when required. Additionally, the director of planning assists with parks committee support and projects as needed.



# Description of Planning and Public Input Process

Recreation Planning Standards used by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) make recommendations for the number, type, and design of active recreation facilities. These standards were considered along with public input and other identified needs in the recreation planning process.

The last Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan approved in 2018 began with meetings held from the summer of 2017 into the winter of 2018 to discuss and develop the plan timeline, content, and goals and encourage leadership participation and public input. The parks committee began to revise the 2018 plan in the first quarter of 2022. This process began with the development of a Funding Feasibility Study (Appendix C) to detail the budgetary needs of the parks system. This process expanded to include public input and to gain a further understanding of parks system needs. The project was discussed throughout the calendar year that followed.

The township's recreation needs were assessed through a variety of avenues, including consideration of demographic trends; review of public input; input from township boards, commissions, and staff; review of past recreation plans and other adopted township plans; site-specific planning efforts; and consideration of state and federal recreation facility guidelines.

Following the review of the 2018 plan and the development of park goals based on the public input received during the creation of the funding feasibility study, the parks committee worked to create an amended draft plan and develop an expanded set of goals, objectives, and action programming.

## **Recreation Plan Comment Period**

The draft 2018 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan was first released for public review on November 1, 2017, at a regular Peninsula Township Parks Committee meeting. Comments were received at the regular meeting of the committee on December 6, 2017, and again at the special meeting on December 20, 2017, in accordance with the Michigan DNR's required 30- day review period.

Public open houses for the amended 2023 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan were held on February 23, 2022 (at the township hall, 8150 Center Road) as well as on March 2, 2022 (at First Congressional Church, 6105 Center Road). Surveys were also available online from February 14–March 15 for public input. The 2023 draft plan was made available to the public on December 14, 2022, and a public meeting was held by the parks committee the same day. Two well-advertised public hearings were held January 10, 2023, during a regular township board meeting, and January 24, 2023, during a special township board meeting.

Comments received for both the 2018 and 2023 plans are on file with the township.

Public input was used to refine the goals, objectives, and activities for the 2023 plan. A summary of these public comments is included in Appendix D.

## **Public Hearing and Adoption**

2018 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan – The parks committee voted in support of a resolution to adopt the plan at a public hearing held on January 8, 2018. The township board acted on the plan at a public hearing on February 13, 2018. Legal notices, meeting agendas, and minutes are included in Appendix E.

Amended 2023 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan – The township board acted on the plan at a public hearing on January 24, 2023. Legal notices and meeting minutes are included in Appendix E.

# Budget and Grants

The township's general fund is the primary source of funding for parks, with approximately \$65,000 budgeted for the 2022 fiscal year to cover maintenance, utility costs, some improvements, and general upkeep. General fund dollars are allocated yearly for recreation usage through the budget process by the township board following consideration of parks committee budget recommendations.

Some parks produce revenue in order to cover maintenance and upkeep costs. Some proceeds can only be used for such activities within the park that generates the revenue. For example, fees charged for special events, tours, and the Lighthouse Keeper Program provide a source of revenue to cover some maintenance costs at Mission Point Lighthouse Park. A gift shop was opened at the lighthouse in 2009 and is a growing source of revenue for lighthouse maintenance and activities. Likewise, pavilion rental at Bowers Harbor Park produces a small revenue stream that allowed for repairs and maintenance at that park. Donations on-site by the public also provide revenue. The purchase of Pelizzari Natural Area was funded by a millage passed in November 2008. The millage provided funding to cover improvements that allowed for safe public access to the park. Funding for additional improvements is expected to come from grants and other fundraising activities.

Further, some fundraising is conducted by volunteers for improvements and upkeep on some sites. The Dougherty Historic Home Site is entirely funded by private 501 (c)(3) fundraising efforts. Grants have been sought and obtained to provide upkeep for the nearby Replica Church in the village of Old Mission. The Mission Point Lighthouse Keeper Association 501(c)(3) organization works to support otherwise unfunded lighthouse needs. The Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society 501 (c)(3) also provides volunteer labor and funds for the upkeep of the Hessler Log Cabin and Replica Church near the Dougherty Historic Home Site. Both the Dougherty Historic Home Site and Mission Point Lighthouse have received significant grants through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

## **Volunteers**

Volunteers play an important role in the development and upkeep of the parks. Volunteers provide assistance at Mission Point Lighthouse Park through the Lighthouse Keeper Program and have also taken responsibility for the long-term maintenance and other needs at the Dougherty Historic Home Site. Volunteers have been instrumental in the planning and ongoing improvements and upkeep of Pelizzari Natural Area, Bowers Harbor Park, Mission Point Lighthouse, and many of the township's other trail systems.

## **Relationship with School Districts, Other Public Agencies, and Private Organizations**

The parks committee has expressed interest in maintaining healthy relationships with these organizations and works diligently to keep communication lines open with the public.

## **Status Report for All Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Peninsula Township has received grant assistance from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The following is a summary and status update:

- TF87-273 – Haserot Beach Park Expansion: the acquisition was successfully completed and the park is open to the public.
- TF95-149 – PDR Easement Acquisition: the acquisition was successfully completed and the scenic viewshed remains open for public enjoyment.
- TF13-086 – Bowers Harbor Park Expansion: the acquisition was successfully completed and the park is open to the public. In 2017, a professional planning consulting firm created a development plan for the area, which has

been partially implemented. The parks committee's annual budget will continue to fund the implementation of the plan. The Bowers Harbor Park plan is incorporated in this document as Appendix B.

**Current Park Budget**

The parks committee hired the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) to conduct a Funding Feasibility Study (Appendix C) that was completed in early 2022. The intent of the study was to establish a baseline for the township’s current operating and maintenance needs as well as to determine what would be necessary to continue to maintain the parks at their current levels. The parks committee also conducted both in-person and online public input surveys to gain insight about what residents would like to see prioritized. The report included:

- Inventory and summary of all parks and recreation facilities (including non-township owned/operated)
- Summary of past planning efforts and studies
- Assessment of current operations and budget
- Recommendation of needed operations and maintenance items to maintain the parks system
- Comprehensive list of potential future capital improvement projects
- Summary of public input survey findings

It was noted in the study that Mission Point Lighthouse Gift Shop generates revenue that can only be spent in that park. Revenues and expenditures for that park are tracked as separate budget items in the township general ledger to assure compliance with statutory requirements that prohibit funds raised through the activities to be spent outside its boundaries. For this reason, the budgets below show revenues and expenditures from all the parks in the township with Mission Point Lighthouse Park broken out separately.

In addition to maintenance and operations, an estimate was prepared for all the potential capital improvement projects the township would like to pursue. ***These improvements are well outside the scope of funding available to the township through taxes and other revenues and will likely require grant funding to complete.*** The summary included in this section shows an estimate for each park (except Mission Point Lighthouse Park). More details about the additional financial resources needed to maintain the day-to-day operations of the parks as well as the potential capital projects and cost estimates can be found in the 2022 Peninsula Township Parks Funding Feasibility Study (Appendix C).

Revenues and expenditures were estimated based on annual averages over two years and are adjusted for an increase or decrease in certain line items in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, it is estimated that parks usage has increased and will continue to do so since the pandemic compelled many people to seek safe outdoor recreation activities.

**Parks Budget**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, some budget numbers were not reflective of a typical year of park usage as revenues were generally down while park usage was higher during that time. The following budget numbers are adjusted annual revenues and expenditures for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The following is a summary of the budget:

<b>Average Annual Revenues for all Parks</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Revenue</b>
Parks & Large Event Fee	\$ 6,200
Interest	\$ 30
Rental Income	\$ 1,100
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 7,330</b>

<b>Average Annual Expenditures for all Parks</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
Per Diem	\$ (6,565)
Liability Insurance	\$ (2,406)
Workers Comp	\$ (78)
Employer Social Security	\$ (602)
Supplies	\$ (323)
Park Signs/Lighthouse Signs	\$ (2,000)
Seeding and Planting Services	\$ (246)
Audit Fees	\$ (475)
Contractual Services	\$ (50,198)
Recording Secretary	\$ (1,500)
Noncom. Public Wat. Sup. Fee	\$ (1,127)
Printing & Advertising	\$ (2,000)
Electricity	\$ (2,243)
Street Lighting	\$ (1,353)
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ (16,000)
Memberships and Dues	\$ (504)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ (87,620)</b>

The following is a summary of the cost if all the proposed capital improvements listed in the 2022 Funding Feasibility Study:

<b>Park</b>	<b>Total Capital Improvements</b>	<b>Total Annual Maintenance Cost (incl. Capital Improvements)</b>
Bowers Harbor Park	\$2,207,140	\$80,310
Archie Park	\$23,400	\$4,454
Haserot Beach	\$30,000	\$9,760
Kelley Park	\$708,000	\$47,788
Pelizzari Natural Area	\$472,575	\$7,542
Old Mission State Park	\$104,450	\$25,240
Hessler Log Cabin	\$11,000	\$2,350
Dougherty House	\$275,000	\$2,667
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,989,115</b>	<b>\$172,771</b>

## Lighthouse Budget

The Mission Point Lighthouse Park budget is managed separately from the rest of the township parks due to several unique factors. The lighthouse offers tours and has a gift shop, both of which generate revenue. No other park in the township generates this type of revenue and the proceeds from any funds raised as a result of these operations must be spent within the property boundaries.

Similar to the numbers provided for the entire parks system, the revenues and expenditures below are estimated annual averages based off of the 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 fiscal years. The nine months of data available for the 2022-23 fiscal year was extrapolated and used in the average estimates shown below as well. This methodology was used due to the unusual decrease in revenues and continuance of regular expenditures seen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<b>Average Annual Revenue (Lighthouse)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Interest	\$ 239
Keeper Program	\$ 6,169
Lighthouse Tours	\$ 95,434
Donations	\$ 11,438
Miscellaneous	\$ 676
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 113,956</b>

<b>Average Annual Expenditures (Lighthouse)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Lighthouse Manager	\$ (19,859)
Liability	\$ (5,773)
Workers Comp	\$ (134)
Medical/Life Insurance	\$ (6,572)
Health Savings Account	\$ (467)
Employer Social Security	\$ (1,316)
Pension	\$ (2,530)
Postage/Shipping	\$ (135)
Supplies	\$ (2,099)
Keeper Quarter Supplies	\$ (223)
Lighthouse Signs	\$ (761)
Grounds	\$ (745)
Museum Displays	\$ (1,201)
Heating Fuel	\$ (1,819)
Credit Card Fees	\$ (225)
Audit Fees	\$ (149)
Contractual Services	\$ (12,557)
Background Checks	\$ (160)
Sanitation Services	\$ (9,461)

Security	\$ (633)
Website	\$ (438)
Com/Telephone	\$ (2,146)
Noncom. Public Wat. Sup. Fee	\$ (159)
Mileage	\$ (1,360)
Community Activities	\$ (1,151)
Legal Notices	\$ (113)
Printing & Advertising	\$ (3,224)
Electricity	\$ (1,710)
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ (4,230)
Memberships and Dues	\$ (325)
Education and Training	\$ (823)
Depreciation / Depletion	\$ (1,517)
Capital Outlay/Misc Expenditures	\$ (949)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ (84,965)</b>

Lighthouse Gift Shop

Average Annual Revenue (Gift Shop)	
Description	Annual
Interest	\$ 359
Gift Shop Sales	\$ 94,776
Lighthouse Sales Tax	\$ 5,686
Memo Sales	\$ 2,020
LHGS Discounts	\$ (1,399)
LHGS Refunds	\$ (621)
Donations	\$ 1
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 100,823</b>

Average Annual Expenditures (Gift Shop)	
Description	Annual
Temporary Employees	\$ (2,920)
Gift Shop Manager	\$ (20,032)
Liability Insurance	\$ (1,589)
Workers Comp	\$ (183)
Medical/Life Insurance	\$ (6,974)
Health Savings Account	\$ (750)
Employee Social Security	\$ (1,534)
LHGS St Pd to MI	\$ (5,805)
Sales Tax Discount	\$ 41
Pension	\$ (2,604)
Supplies	\$ (2,063)

Merchandise for Lighthouse Gift Shop	\$ (51,204)
Banking Supplies	\$ (232)
Credit Card Fees	\$ (3,545)
Legal Fees	\$ -
Audit fees	\$ (163)
Website	\$ (36)
Com/Telephone	\$ -
Cash Short/Over	\$ 6
Postage/Supplies	\$ (97)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ (99,684)</b>

# Accessibility Assessment

An accessibility assessment is used to provide a general review of a park to determine whether or not additional work may be required to make the park more accessible for persons who may not be able to access certain facilities without accommodations. Accessibility assessments included in this document are based on the Michigan DNR's "Barrier-Free Accessibility Requirements for Parks" guidelines.

A review of the facilities in the parks was conducted by the parks committee to assign a grade to each park to indicate the level of accessibility.

The accessibility standards as referenced by the DNR in the "Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans" (revised 04/26/2021) are as follows:

Grade	Condition/Standard
1	Every amenity within the park is accessible
2	Most amenities in the park are accessible
3	Some amenities within the park are accessible
4	Most amenities within the park are not accessible
5	No amenity within the park is accessible

The parks committee followed the DNR recommendation to use the New England ADA center checklist ([ADAChecklist.org](http://ADAChecklist.org)) and the [2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design](#) to apply grades to each park/historical resource.

Grade	Park	Notes
3	Archie Roadside Park	The beach is accessible by stairs but there is no ADA access.
2	Bowers Harbor Park	
3	Haserot Beach	
0	Robert & Colleen Kelley Park	Park not graded
3	Mission Point Lighthouse Park	
4	Old Mission State Park	
4	Pelizzari Natural Area	
2	Replica Church	
2	Hessler Log Cabin	The viewing area allows for wheelchair access.
1	Peter Dougherty House	Historic home has been retrofitted to comply with accessibility requirements

# Recreation Inventory

Peninsula Township offers a number of passive and active recreation opportunities. The following data provides an inventory of existing recreational facilities within Peninsula Township as well as needs or issues that may need to be addressed at each facility. The inventory also includes information on state-funded improvements or expansions to a facility in the past.

Data was gathered from the 2018 Peninsula Township Parks and Recreation Plan, township staff and officials, and site visits. A map of the entire park system is available later in this plan.

## Archie Roadside Park

Archie Roadside Park is a small park located on M-37 near Gray and Bluff roads. The park includes stairway access to East Bay that requires crossing M-37, which at times is a very busy and dangerous road. The park is utilized by a variety of people, including bicyclists, and as a staging area for tours of Old Mission Peninsula. Kayakers and scuba diving classes also use the parking area and carry their gear across M-37 to the shore access. Public input indicates a need for picnic tables at the park as well as some general improvements to the water access stairway and improving the park's overall appearance.

Within township limits, Archie Park provides the only public access to East Bay south of Old Mission, with the exception of the DNR launch site at the intersection of East Shore Road and M-37. Therefore, keeping this beach open to the public is important.

Acres: 1.7

Facilities:

- Pedestrian water access (no ADA access to water), stairs to beach, and safety signage and equipment (rescue ring/rope)
- Accessible vault toilet
- Parking area
- Water pump
- Swing sets
- Grills
- Temporary toilets (during busy season)



## Bowers Harbor Park and Bowers Harbor Park Expansion

Bowers Harbor Park is an 81.6-acre community park. The park was recently expanded as a result of a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant, which added nearly 59 acres to the original 22-acre park. In 2017, the elected parks commission (later dissolved and replaced by the current parks committee in 2019) recommended adoption of the Bowers Harbor Park Expansion Plan, which is included herein by reference as "Appendix B".

This park's paved walking trails are an important universally accessible recreation opportunity. In order to enhance that opportunity, with assistance from the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, the township acquired what is called the Bowers Harbor Park Expansion (included in the

acreage figure) to allow for additional passive recreational uses, including expanded walking/jogging trails and open space. Located adjacent to Bowers Harbor Park on Devil's Dive Road, this addition has sensitive habitat, including wetland areas. A comprehensive development plan for Bowers Harbor Park and Bowers Harbor Park Expansion was developed and adopted in 2017 but has yet to be implemented.

Most of the park's facilities meet accessibility guidelines. Park facilities include:

Acres: 81.6

- Tennis courts (2)
- Volleyball court
- Softball/baseball fields
- Soccer fields
- Playground equipment
- Picnic pavilions (3) with electrical outlets, grills, tables
- Accessible toilets (3)
- Parking area
- Paved walking path
- Well
- Irrigation
- Storage building
- Basketball court



Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- [2017 Bowers Harbor Park Expansion Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.traversecity.com/listings/bowers-harbor-park/448/>

## Haserot Beach

One of two locations for a township-managed improved public beach access is located at Haserot Beach on Old Mission Harbor. This park includes a swimming area, playground equipment, parking, picnic areas, and a vault toilet and is popular for swimming, boating, kayaking, and diving. Usage of the park for these activities continues to increase.

Haserot Beach attracts both residents and visitors for swimming. The deep harbor is also often used by scuba divers as an important archaeological dive site and is popular as a day anchorage for boaters.

Parking is a serious concern at Haserot Beach due to the heavy usage. In public input received for development of the updated parks and recreation plan, parking, high visitation levels, and motorized boat usage conflicts were cited as persistent issues that need addressing. A boat ramp was destroyed in a storm in 2019. Subsequently, the township board voted not to replace this launch and to instead install a new boat launch at nearby Kelley Park.

Because of the demonstrated need for additional access areas and parking, the township has explored the possibility of implementing soft launching, picnicking, parking, and toilets in cooperation with the DNR site at the nearby Robert & Colleen Kelley Park. This property would help accommodate the large numbers of visitors to Haserot Beach during the summer months.

Previous Grants: In 1989, Peninsula Township acquired two parcels to expand to Haserot Beach, with funding provided in part by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The properties are used as an area for playground equipment adjacent to the beach and the (now destroyed and no longer usable) boat landing.

Some of the park's facilities meet accessibility guidelines. Park facilities include:

Acres: 2.2

- Playground equipment
- ADA-compliant vault toilet
- Swimming area
- Waste containers
- Parking area
- Basketball court
- Storage building
- Well



Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>

### Robert & Colleen Kelley Park

Robert & Colleen Kelley Park is a DNR-initiated Trust Fund acquisition project located on Mission Road and Old Mission Harbor in close proximity to Haserot Beach.

With assistance from the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and Peninsula Township, the park was originally purchased by the DNR in order to install a deep-water boat launch, but the DNR subsequently concluded in the summer of 2017 that Kelley Park might be best suited as an improved water access location for non-motorized carry-down boats such as kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards that do not require a dredged channel. However, a strong push from citizens identified Kelley Park as a preferred location for a motorized launch instead of nearby Haserot Beach, which had become a very busy destination for swimming. In 2021, the DNR approved a 30-year lease with the township for a launch for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft at Kelley Park. There is no cost for the lease, but the township will be responsible for property upkeep and improvements.

Acres: 6.9

Facilities:

- U-shaped driveway
- Location for future boat launch
- Buried utilities that will be removed by the township

Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.oldmission.net/2020/09/kelley-park-boat-launch-dnr-rejected/>
- <https://www.traverseticker.com/news/old-mission-gets-its-new-boat-launch/>



## Mission Point Lighthouse Park

Mission Point Lighthouse Park consists of 5.38 acres surrounding Mission Point Lighthouse. It includes a wide variety of recreation facilities, including historic buildings, picnic areas, and trails and is linked through trails with the 679-acre Old Mission State Park, including the Murray Road and Ridgeway Road trailheads. Beach access is available in several locations throughout Mission Point Lighthouse Park.

Because of its location at the tip of the peninsula where M-37 culminates, and as the site of the historic lighthouse, this park is heavily used and continues to welcome increasing numbers of users. The park includes historic buildings and barrier-free trails, which make it attractive as a year-round facility for hiking and skiing.

Usage at the park has increased substantially since Mission Point Lighthouse opened to the public for tours in 2008. A gift shop opened and regular programming began in 2009. The museum and gift shop are open May through October. Volunteers assist with maintenance, tours, and gift shop sales through a Lighthouse Keeper Program.

The beaches adjacent to the lighthouse and in the nearby vicinity are designated by the State of Michigan Coastal Management Program (MCMP) as being within a High-Risk Erosion Area (HREA). This means that the shorelines in this area have been receding over time. Increased usage of the lighthouse area can contribute to erosion in this sensitive area and action is needed to reduce access to these beaches to help mitigate the erosion. Higher visitation levels also create a greater interest and need for improved internal and external access to the lighthouse and grounds.

Renovation of the lighthouse building to historically accurate conditions is in continual progress. Largely through grants from SHPO, the lighthouse building has been repainted (after lead paint abatement), windows have been replaced, and the foundation has been shored up to mitigate the effects of aging and a poorly prepared original foundation. Historic sidewalks have been exposed or resurfaced. In addition, the former concession stand building has been moved to its original site. Its foundation has been strengthened, tower repairs completed and basement insulation installed. The historic exterior restoration of the lighthouse is now completed.

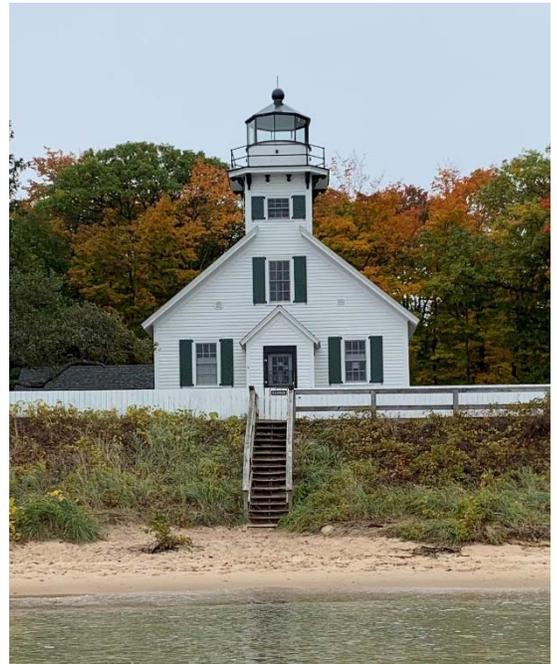
A Historic Structures Report, commissioned through the State Historic Preservation Office, serves as the strategic plan for Mission Point Lighthouse and grounds. This serves as a working document for the committee responsible for overseeing the lighthouse to guide activities relative to the buildings, programs and grounds.

The very large influx of visitors has put stress on the parking lots and vault toilets. Planning for flush toilet facilities is seen as essential.

Most of the park's facilities meet accessibility guidelines. Facilities include:

Acres: 6.7

- Hessler Log Cabin – Located on the grounds of Mission Point Lighthouse Park, this cabin was built between 1854 and 1856 by pioneers Joseph and Mary Hessler
- Cross-country ski trails
- Beach access
- Historic lighthouse with visitor center and gift shop
- Vault toilets (2); proposed accessible vault toilets (3)
- Temporary toilets during busy season: (6)
- Parking lots (2)
- Picnic areas
- Swimming areas
- Hunting (per DNR regulations)
- Building and well house



### Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.omphistoricalsociety.org/>

## Old Mission State Park

Old Mission State Park consists of 679.3 acres that are connected to Mission Point Lighthouse Park through hiking and skiing trails. The State of Michigan DNR owns the property and leases the land to the township. The township is responsible for all maintenance and management of the park. A separate gravel parking area, picnic area, and accessible vault toilet are available at the Ridgewood Road Trailhead. Another parking area is located at the Murray Road Trailhead. Barrier-free trails link these parking areas and trails to Mission Point Lighthouse Park.

This park is by far the largest park under the township's management (comprising nearly 80 percent of all township-managed parkland) and it is not township owned but rather leased from the state and managed at the township's expense.

The majority of trails prohibit motorized vehicles; however, motorized vehicle access is permitted on the east-west two-track that bisects the northern portion of the park. Hunting is permitted in some areas of the park per DNR regulations.

### Murray Road Trailhead

The Murray Road Trailhead is part of Old Mission State Park and provides access to the 12 miles of hiking trails that link Old Mission State Park and Mission Point Lighthouse Park. Trails are for passive use only, and motorized vehicles are prohibited.

Some of the facilities meet accessibility standards.

### Ridgewood Road Trailhead

The Ridgewood Road Trailhead is part of Old Mission State Park and provides access to the 12 miles of hiking trails that link Old Mission State Park and Mission Point Lighthouse Park. Trails are for passive use only, and motorized vehicles are prohibited.

A barn located near the Ridgewood Road Trailhead is currently leased by the township for storage of parks-related maintenance equipment. The lease is due to expire in the near term, and additional storage facilities will be needed.

Some of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines. Facilities available at the trailhead include:

Acres: 679.3

- Parking
- Hiking trails
- Barrier-free trails
- Hunting
- Vault toilet (Ridgewood Road Trailhead)
- Emergency vehicle access (Ridgewood Road Trailhead)



## Pelizzari Natural Area

Pelizzari Natural Area was purchased in 2009 following approval of a millage in 2008 as well as \$500,000 raised in private donations. The funding also assisted in some improvements such as the construction of the parking lot, orchard removal, soil remediation, trail building, informational kiosk, signage, border fencing, invasive removal, and plantings, benches, and multiple Eagle Scout projects.

The park consists of 62 acres of woodlands, meadows, wetlands, and shoreline in the southern end of Peninsula Township. Improvements including trail building, property cleanup, and master planning began in 2009 shortly after the property was purchased. With improvements still ongoing, the natural area now offers about three miles of trails and abundant opportunities for hiking, trail running, snowshoeing, and birdwatching while preserving and maintaining important wildlife habitat, wetlands, and sensitive shoreline areas.

Expansion of PNA is a high community priority due to usage near the densest population center and the desire to protect nearby forested lands for public use. Fundraising is underway for a 14.24-acre parcel under purchase option; discussions on other land acquisitions/easements are in progress.

A future development and management plan for Pelizzari Natural Area was developed in 2010 and is incorporated into this park's master plan as "Appendix A".

An accessible boardwalk in the hemlock wing of the southeast section of the park is planned with work pending grant application outcomes. Accessible trails near the parking lot are also desirable but less appealing to users at this stage until more vegetation returns.

The parks committee has envisioned an accessible trail loop in the upper meadow. Accessible trails are a high priority for future improvements at the park and are a goal identified in its management plan. Facilities include trails and a parking area.

Acres: 61.8

Facilities:

- Parking lot
- Kiosk
- Boundary fencing
- Waste container and dog waste bag dispenser
- Some property line and parking lot fencing
- Wayfinding signage

Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.qtrlc.org/recreation-events/preserve/pelizzari-natural-area/>
- <https://www.oldmission.net/2018/08/pelizzari-family-omp-history/>
- *Dave Murphy, Peninsula Township Parks Committee*



# Historic Resources

## Replica Church

Acres: 0.1

This small historical site owned by Peninsula Township has recently been discovered by the public since the parks committee installed historic markers. Situated across the street from the nearby Dougherty House, this replica church was renovated in 2019, and the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society is in the process of updating the exhibits.

## Hessler Log Cabin

The Hessler Log Cabin is located on Mission Point Lighthouse Park grounds. The cabin was built by Old Mission settlers in the 1850s and was moved to its current location in 1992. The home has been restored as an historical resource and includes a display of furnishings that are historically accurate to the mid-nineteenth century. The log cabin is managed by the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society. Maintenance and upkeep are funded through donations that are managed by the township's parks committee budgeting process.

All of the cabin's facilities meet accessibility guidelines. Facilities include:

Acres: the cabin is located on Mission Point Lighthouse Park property

- Historic display
- Log Cabin days programming

## Dougherty Historic Home Site

Acres: 14.7

This home was built in 1842 by Reverend Peter Dougherty, a Presbyterian minister, with the help of a Chippewa village headed by Chief Aghosa. In 2006, the property was deeded to Peninsula Township and became part of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. In 2011, the home and land were placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The



Peter Dougherty Society, organized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, worked tirelessly to restore, maintain, and display the home and grounds.

Today, the site is an historical, cultural, educational, and community center and museum. The grounds include the Heritage Trail and Disabled Trail as well as gardens that reflect farming in the late nineteenth century. The home and property continue to be maintained by volunteers through the Peter Dougherty Society, but the township is responsible for utilities, insurance and major capital needs.

# Non-Township-Owned/Operated Recreation Facilities

Recreation opportunities in the township include facilities or parks outside of township ownership. The State of Michigan, Grand Traverse County, the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, and the City of Traverse City all maintain land and facilities accessible to the public for hiking, swimming, picnicking, boating, camping, and other activities. State, local, and conservancy-owned recreation areas located within Peninsula Township are as follows:

## **DNR Boat Access**

Two boat launches owned by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are available in Peninsula Township. The first is located on East Bay along Center Road, just north of East Shore Road. The boat launch site includes vehicle parking and an outhouse. The facility is heavily used in the summer months. A second boat launch is available at Bowers Harbor on Peninsula Drive. Vehicle parking is available.

Both the East Bay and Bowers Harbor launches are Boating Access Site facilities as defined by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

## **State of Michigan – M-37 National Scenic Byway**

M-37 has been designated by the State of Michigan as the Old Mission National Scenic Byway. The Scenic Byway offers driving tours, scenic views, and historical site identification/ interpretation for visitors.

The scenic byway creates some opportunities in terms of recreational coordination.

## **County and State Roads**

County and state roads on Old Mission Peninsula are the most heavily used assets in the township for recreation. Whether for walking, running, regionally sanctioned running races, school sports teams in training, or cycling, Peninsula Township's roadways are magnets for recreation, in large part due to the scenic nature of shoreline roads as well as roads affording scenic views and adjacent to farmland. Among the most heavily used roads for recreational purposes are M-37, East Shore Road, Bluff Road, Peninsula Drive, Seven Hills Road, and Smokey Hollow Road. A non-motorized transportation committee was created in 2020 as the result of a mandate from the 2019 citizen survey emphasizing the need for such work. The committee is actively seeking grants and collaborating with a range of stakeholders to emphasize safety and best practices in the use of roadways as well as exploring off-road options.



## **Grand Traverse County – Power Island**

Power Island is a 202-acre property located in the west arm of Grand Traverse Bay about two miles from the Bowers Harbor Boat Launch. The island includes forest and beach areas and is used primarily for its beaches and picnic areas. A primitive campground is located on Bassett Island, which is connected to Power Island via an isthmus. Features include:

- Swimming
- Picnic area
- Restrooms
- Campsites

## **Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy – Pyatt Lake: The Bill Carls Nature Preserve**

The conservancy-owned Pyatt Lake: The Bill Carls Preserve offers hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and bird watching opportunities in a unique habitat consisting of wooded dune and swale with a variety of animal and plant species. The 140-acre natural area is located off Neah-ta-wanta Road in the northwest corner of the township. Activities at the natural area include:

- Hiking, snowshoeing, skiing
- Hunting
- Birdwatching

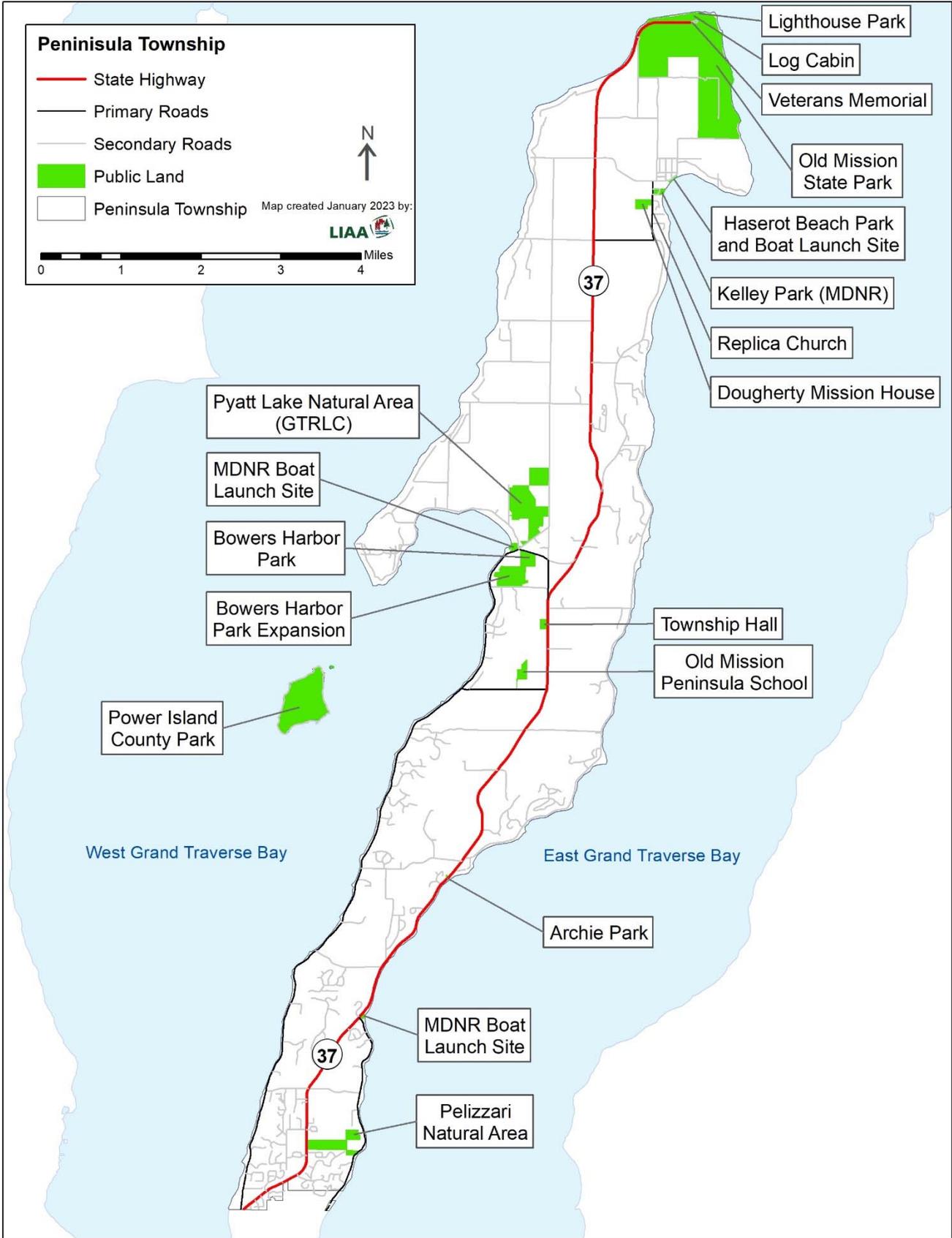
## **Nearby Recreation Opportunities**

Many recreation facilities are available outside of township boundaries within Grand Traverse County, including facilities or parks operated by the City of Traverse City, Grand Traverse County, State of Michigan, and Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, including beaches, playgrounds, downhill skiing facilities, campgrounds, natural areas, and a county-owned civic center that includes a public pool and hockey rink. Private recreation opportunities are abundant as well, including golf courses, marinas, and skating rinks.



© Jane Boursaw | OldMissionGazette.com

# Maps



**Archie Park (1.7 acres)**

-  Park Boundary
-  Property Boundaries



**Peninsula Township**

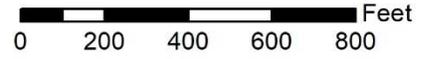


# Bowers Harbor Park (81.6 acres)

-  Park Boundary
-  Property Boundaries
-  Walking Trails



# Peninsula Township

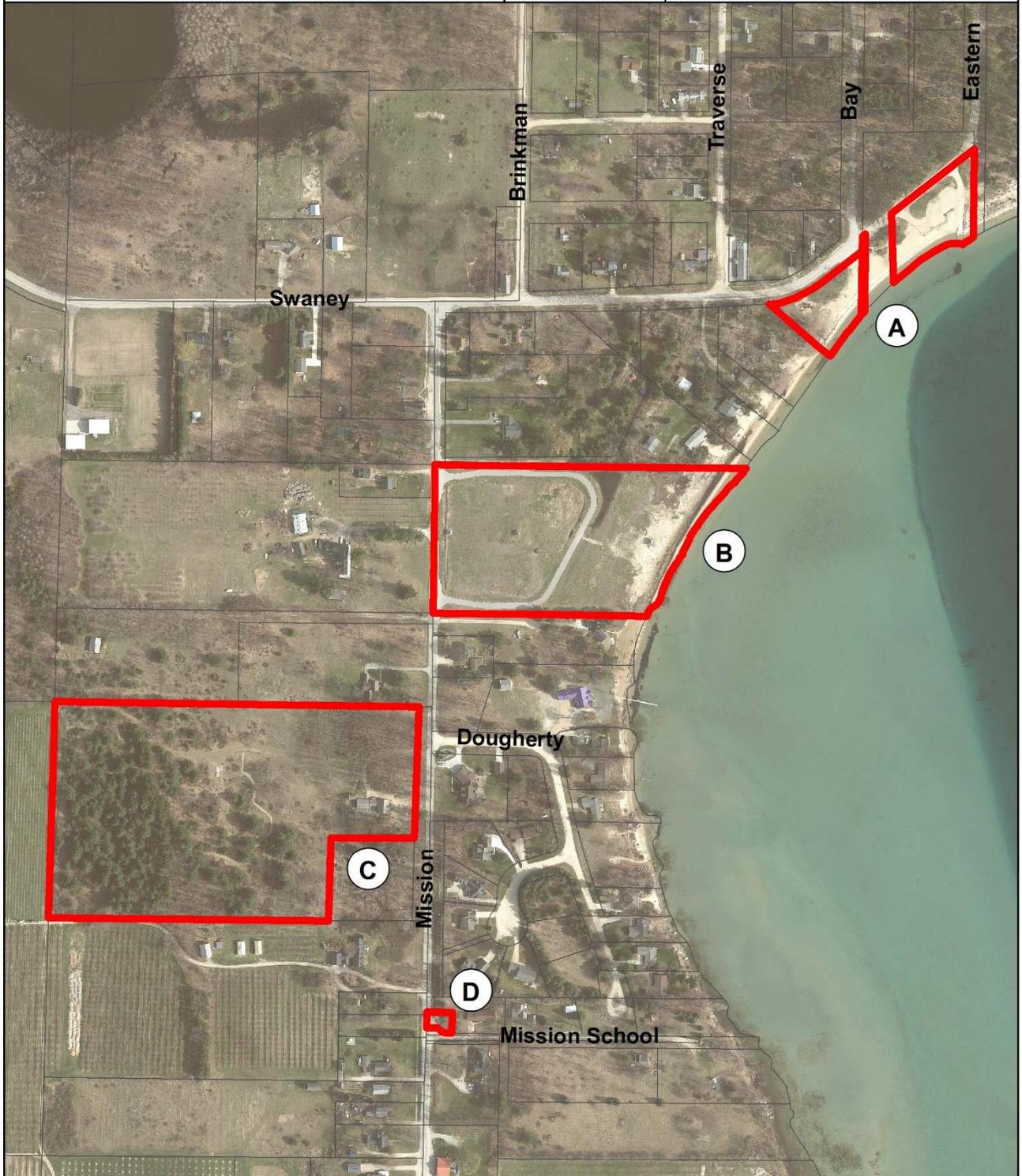
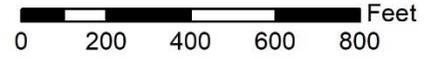


- A) Haserot Beach (2.2 acres)
- B) Kelley Park (7.9 acres)
- C) Peter Dougherty House (14.7 acres)
- D) Replica Log Mission Church (0.1 acres)

 Park Boundary  
 Property Boundaries



## Peninsula Township

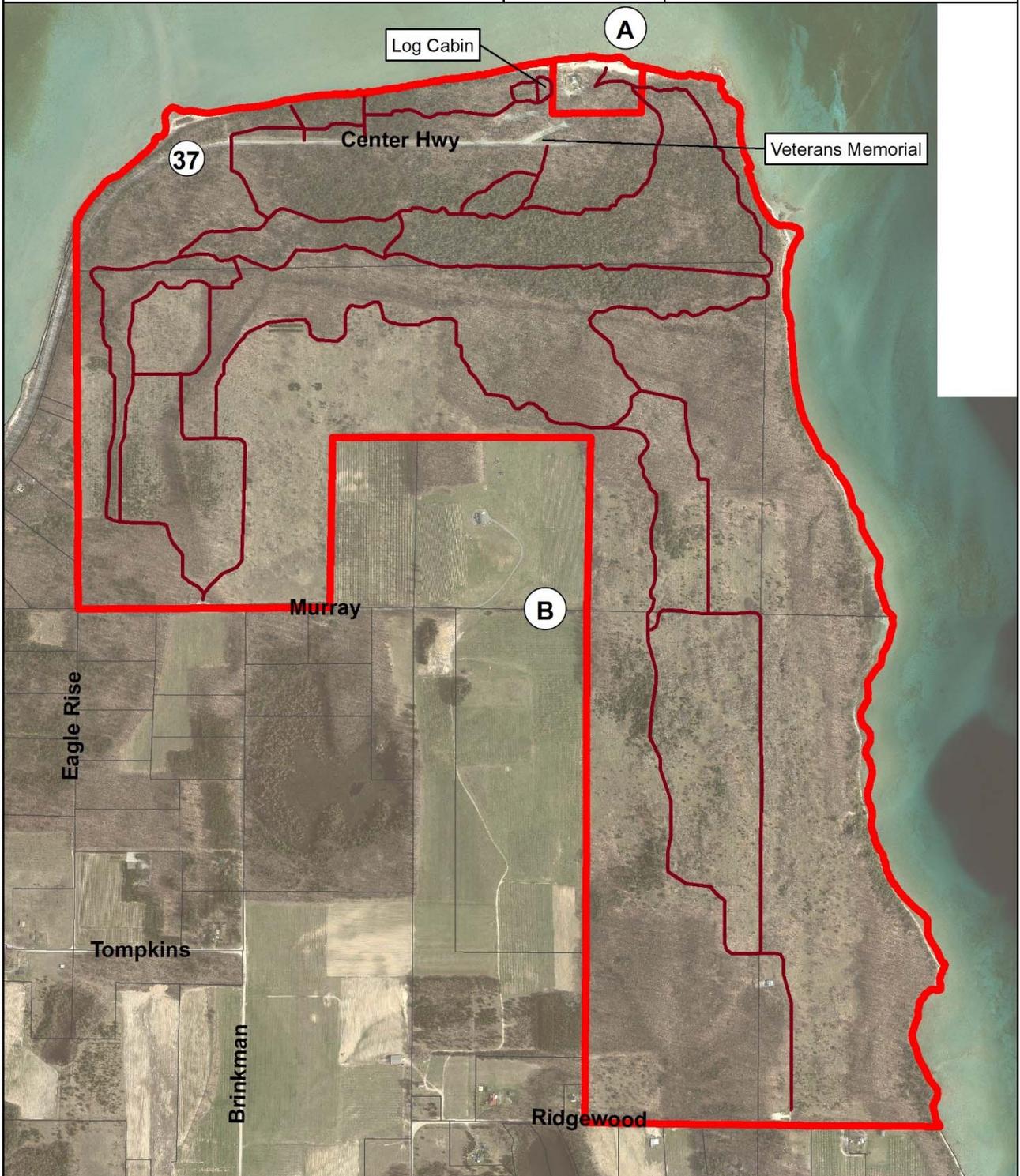
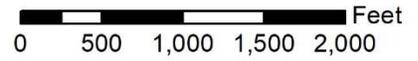


A) Mission Point Lighthouse Park (6.7 acres)  
B) Old Mission State Park (679.3 acres)

-  Park Boundary
-  Property Boundaries
-  Walking Trails



### Peninsula Township

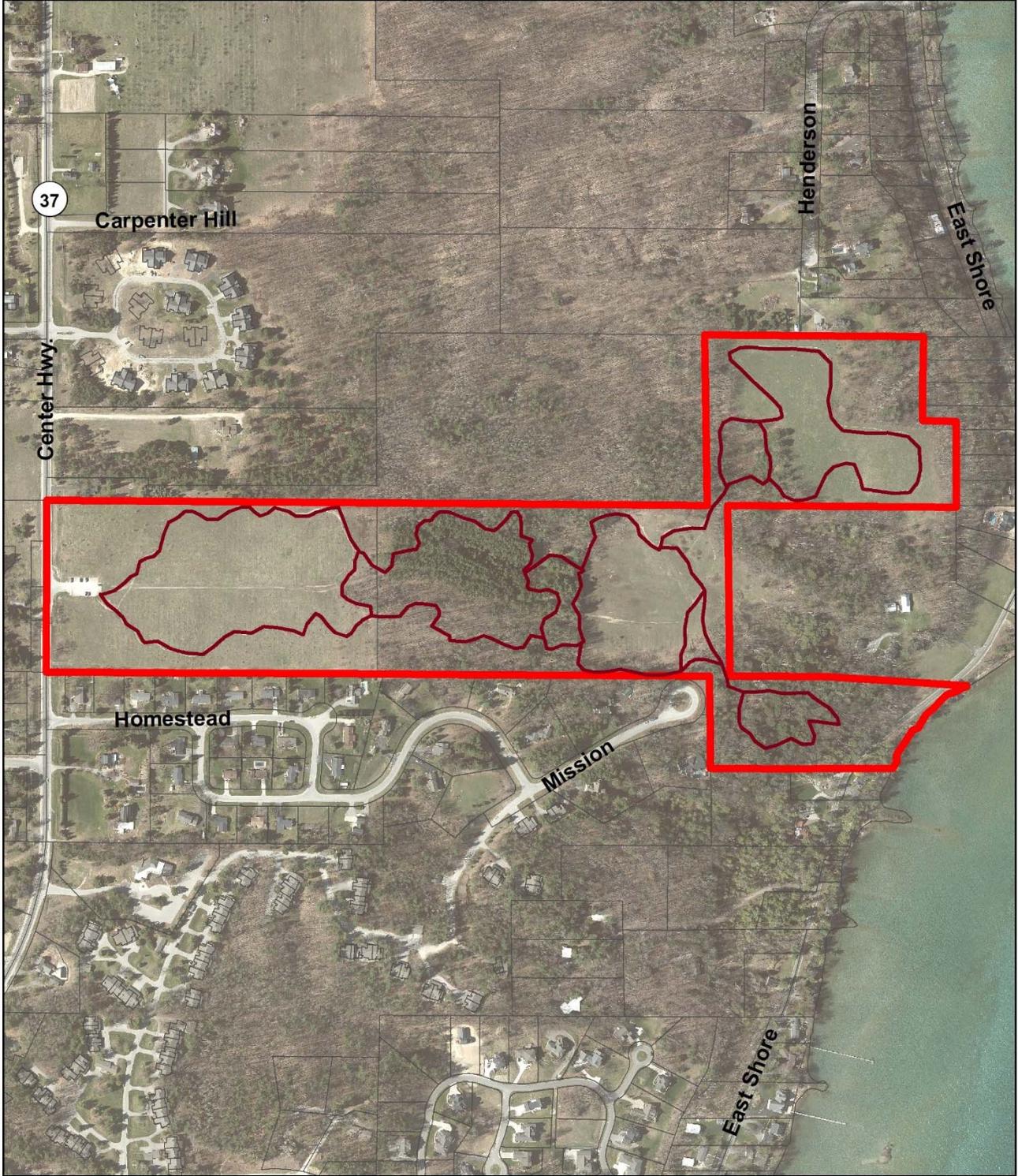
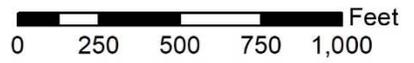


# Pelizzari Natural Area (61.8 acres)

-  Park Boundary
-  Property Boundaries
-  Walking Trails



# Peninsula Township



# Goals, Objectives, and Action Program

## Peninsula Township Parks Committee Mission Statement:

Provide a geographically balanced park system that benefits the health and quality of life of all residents and visitors through careful planning. Support and enhance the recreational, environmental, historic, educational, and restorative experiences at Peninsula Township parks to encourage community use and involvement.

## Recreation Plan Goals and Objectives

### **GOAL #1: Provide a variety of recreation opportunities within the parks for all ages, interests, and abilities.**

Objective 1: Retrofit existing or build new facilities to accommodate accessibility needs, including ADA bathrooms, pavilions/picnic spaces, trails/boardwalks, parking spaces, and signage

Objective 2: Provide year-round recreation opportunities

Objective 3: Upgrade/replace existing or provide new playground equipment

Objective 4: Provide space for pets

### **GOAL #2: Develop and implement a cohesive communication plan.**

Objective 1: Signage – park identification, facilities, and navigation

Objective 2: Continue to develop public engagement opportunities to provide information and gain feedback for continued or new park programming

### **GOAL #3: Achieve a thoughtfully planned, managed, and connected township-wide parks system.**

Objective 1: Develop park management plan for each park in the township

Objective 2: Evaluate and consider appropriate staff/volunteers to manage park system

Objective 3: Continue to develop and maintain well-organized volunteers

Objective 4: Plan for safe, non-motorized, township-wide connectivity of the parks system and transportation routes throughout the township that encourage safe walking and biking

Objective 5: Evaluate, maintain, and address access for emergency vehicles and services

Objective 6: Pursue grant funding when appropriate for construction of new facilities and acquisition of property

Objective 7: Maintain relationships with regional partners such as the Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation (TART) Trails Network and the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy

Objective 8: Evaluate and implement a financial plan for long-term support of park and historic facilities through both public and private funding

### General Parks Actions

- Conduct an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) assessment and develop a transition plan
- Review budget and operational capabilities on an annual basis
- Install new cohesive and improved signage throughout the entire township for all parks and recreation facilities
- Evaluate and manage environmental resilience issues such as non-native species, shoreline development and protection, and forest health
- Work with appropriate groups on connectivity planning
- Document history of each park

### Bowers Harbor Park and Expansion

- Implement the 2017 Bowers Harbor expansion plan, including a one-mile accessible trail/loop
- Update/replace playground equipment
- Construct a new accessible pavilion
- Build new accessible and plumbed bathrooms
- Construct a dog park
- Build new pickleball courts
- Install new basketball NBA half-courts
- Repair and update tennis courts

### Haserot Beach

- Improve existing parking lots (either crushed stone or pavement)
- Remove old boat launch

### Kelley Park

- Add/improve parking (crushed stone or pavement)
- Install new accessible bathrooms
- Construct new gazebos or pavilions
- Install a new boat launch with a hull-washing station
- Install a fish cleaning station

### Archie Park

- Add a bus shelter (in coordination with BATA)
- Install a new bike repair station
- Add pedestrian crossing signage

### Pelizzari Natural Area

- Continue working to add expansion area(s)
- Add accessible trail(s)
- Install boardwalk in hemlock wing (protect sensitive environment)

### **Mission Point Lighthouse Park**

- Explore the installation of a small UA parking area for launching canoes and kayaks
- Build replica barn (site of historic barn) or utility building
- Retrofit existing trail(s) for universal accessibility and sustainability
- Remove trails that are unsustainable or dangerous

### **Old Mission State Park**

- Maintain existing trail system through coordinated effort managed by the township
- Develop and maintain a managed forestry plan
- Maintain/improve emergency vehicle/service access trails
- Improve trail/directional signage

### **Hessler Log Cabin**

- Update/improve interior lighting

### **Peter Dougherty Home Site**

- Restore/build historic barn
- Update museum displays and informational signage
- Investigate development of an antique apple orchard

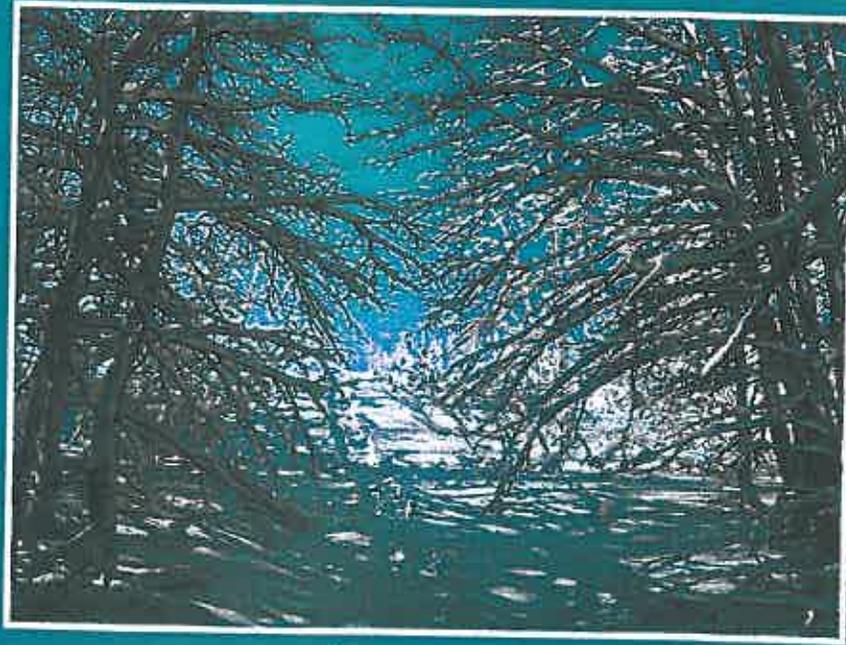
### **Replica Church**

- Update museum displays and informational signage

## **Appendix A**

### **Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan**

# Peninsula Township Recreation Plan



## Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan



### Introduction

The Pelizzari Natural Area encompasses approximately 62 acres of woodlands, meadows, wetlands, and shoreline in the southern end of Peninsula Township. This unique property offers abundant opportunities for the public to enjoy outdoor activities like hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and birdwatching, while preserving and maintaining important wildlife habitat, wetlands, and sensitive shoreline areas.

The Pelizzari Natural Area (formerly known as the "Center Road Natural Area") was purchased by Peninsula Township in 2009, following the approval of a millage by voters in November 2008 that allowed the Township to acquire the property for use as a natural area/park. Site improvement activities began on the park in early 2009, and a master plan was approved by the Township Parks Board, Planning Commission and Township Board in December 2009. Based on public input and site characteristics, a management statement and accompanying goals were developed as follows (see page 22 for complete list of goals and objectives):

Center Road Natural Area will be managed as a low-impact quiet/natural area for the purposes of allowing for passive recreation activities while protecting, conserving, and restoring the natural, scenic, outdoor recreation, and wildlife values of the site, and while minimizing potential impacts to adjacent landowners and neighbors.

Emphasis will be placed on the preservation of the unique natural features of the site, as well as accommodating passive day-use quiet recreation activities such as hiking, skiing, and wildlife observation. The site will provide envi-

## Section 2: Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan

ronmental education and interpretation. Structures will be minimal, primarily designed to support access, parking, and visitor information. Management activities and use will be designed to comply with provisions of the due care plan approved by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) in order to ensure safe public use.

Goals from the Master Plan are as follows:

- Restore, protect, and creatively manage the Center Road Natural Area forestland, meadows, shoreline, and wildlife habitat.
- Provide appropriate public access and recreation opportunities while minimizing potential impacts to the site and to adjacent properties and neighborhoods.
- Promote environmental education and volunteerism.

### Management Plan Purpose & Goals

This management plan is intended to provide guidance for future activities and improvements at the park in a manner consistent with the adopted Center Road Natural Area Master Plan (2009) and management statement. Management objectives are based on the goals of the Master Plan and on focused public input and analysis.

Once the management plan has been approved by the Peninsula Township Parks Board, phased implementation of recommendations will begin, per timelines recommended for goals and objectives (see page 39).

This plan should be reviewed often to ensure that goals are attained and that the park is being managed in accordance with the management statement.

# Pelizzari Natural Area Management Goals

*from the Center Road Natural Area Master Plan, adopted December 2009*

1. **Restore, protect, and creatively manage the Center Road Natural Area forestland, meadows, shoreline, and wildlife habitat.**
  - A. Control and remove invasive plant species to the degree practicable.
  - B. Maintain and protect existing wildlife habitat.
  - C. Continue MDEQ due care plan compliance activities.
  - D. Reforestation and/or managed prairie in former orchard areas.
  - E. Manage the site to protect water quality.
  
2. **Provide appropriate public access and recreation opportunities while minimizing potential impacts to the site and to adjacent property owners and neighborhoods.**
  - A. Encourage resource-based, day use passive recreation activities suited to the natural character of the park, including hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and wildlife observation.
  - B. Work to incorporate barrier-free features into the Center Road Natural area through accessible trail loops, appropriate vehicle parking design and designations, and accessible restroom facilities and other structures, using ADA and Michigan Barrier-Free Design Standards.
  - C. Assess opportunities for additional pedestrian access while minimizing potential impacts on adjacent landowners and neighbors.
  - D. Ensure park activities are consistent with the provisions of the MDEQ due care plan.
  - E. Take corrective action to *limit vehicle access to the established parking area*.
  - F. Ensure that location, size, and scale of improvements for public use and access are suited to the natural features and character of the park.
  - G. Ensure that materials for infrastructure such as signs, interpretive displays, fencing, and restrooms, are harmonious with the natural character of the park.
  - H. Consider appropriate landscaping/screening for parking lot and structures to preserve the natural character of the site and meet the goals of the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route.
  - I. Formally designate and sign trails as the primary public access route throughout the site.
  - J. Continue to work with adjacent landowners to meet park goals and MDEQ due care plan provisions.
  - K. Due to the potential for trail usage conflicts, mountain biking will be precluded unless appropriate trails are established.
  - L. Where boundaries are not fenced, define boundaries with markings or signs to the degree that it is practical.
  - M. Monitor public use and impacts and take corrective action as necessary to ensure minimal impacts to the park's natural features and to neighboring landowners and residents.
  
3. **Promote environmental education and volunteerism.**
  - A. Create public interest and understanding of natural area goals through interpretive signs, exhibits, programs, and information distribution.
  - B. Work with volunteers and interested groups to implement park goals and MDEQ due care plan provisions on activities such as erosion control, removal of invasive plant species, park clean up, patrols, educational activities, and trail maintenance.



## Management Issues, Goals, and Objectives

The Pelizzari Natural Area is a low-impact quiet/natural area located in the southern end of Peninsula Township, just north of the City of Traverse City. The 62-acre park includes a mixture of former agricultural land, woodlands, overgrown field vegetation, and shoreline, with topography that ranges from nearly flat, gently rolling hills to steep slopes. Woodland areas include pine plantation, hemlock, and both mature and newly established hardwoods. Soils are primarily sands and loamy sands, including Alpena East Lake gravelly loamy sands, Emmet sandy loam, East Lake-Mancelona loamy sands, and Lake beach and Eastport sands. The former orchard areas consist primarily of Leelanau-Kalkaska loamy sands. The Natural Area is located on M-37 (Center Road), a state-designated Scenic Heritage Route. To the south the property is bordered by the Homestead Court subdivision. Adjacent properties to the north, east, and west of the park are largely undeveloped forest and open land, with a number of single family homes.

While management planning and activities will generally occur on a park-wide basis, the variation in topography, land cover, and neighboring land uses does create some issues and opportunities that are specific to certain areas of the park. For the purposes of management planning, the Natural Area has been divided into five management areas, based on land cover and location, as follows:

- A. Old Orchard
- B. Middle Woods
- C. Lower Meadow
- D. Hemlock Forest
- E. Upper Field

The site characteristics and other planning considerations, as well as public input and recom-

mended activities/improvements, are identified in detail in corresponding sections of the Management Plan.

### Current Use and Management

The Natural Area has been managed and used for passive recreation since it opened for public use in the summer/fall of 2009. Hiking, dog walking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing are popular activities, and are expected to increase as awareness of the Natural Area grows over time.

Because the park was only recently acquired by the Township, management activities at the park include some ongoing improvements to trails, fencing, and signage. Other activities include maintenance of trails, brush cleanup, etc., as well as informal monitoring of the park to ensure safe and appropriate usage.

The Pelizzari Natural Area is managed with oversight from the Peninsula Township Parks Commission, park staff, and the Township Board. Many of the activities and improvements at the park, including the purchase, planning, trail building, and fencing, have been conducted in large measure by a partnership between Township officials and staff, volunteer groups, and the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC).

### Maintenance

Despite the low-impact, passive character of the park, ongoing maintenance and cleanup will be necessary, particularly in the spring, with litter and brush pickup needed at regular intervals. Ongoing maintenance will also include spring and fall fencing modifications. It may be helpful

to establish a formal schedule for park maintenance for Township parks staff. Installing garbage cans at park entrances and other locations throughout the park could also help in keeping the park clean.

### **MDNRE Reporting**

In response to residual agricultural chemicals on former orchard areas, a due care plan was developed in coordination with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (formerly the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality). To avoid any potential for exposure to the chemicals, the due care plan limited uses at the park to passive recreation activities; and in the interest of ensuring the safest possible public use, additional efforts were made to mitigate the potential for exposure to soils in some areas of the park. Soils in the Upper Field/North Wing (Management Area E) were “encapsulated” with about four inches of topsoil, and hedgerows/fencing were installed between some areas of the site and adjacent residences. The due care plan requires ongoing monitoring and compliance reporting to ensure that mitigation measures remain in place and effective. The GTRLC took leadership in the implementation and initial compliance requirements of the due care plan; compliance reporting has recently transitioned to volunteers.

**Goal: Ensure that park usage and management complies with MDNRE due care plan.**

- Monitor usage and impacts in Upper Field.
- Work with volunteers to continue compliance reporting as required.

### **Park Usage and Monitoring**

Throughout the park acquisition and improvement processes, concerns were identified relative to the potential for trespassing, inappropriate park usage, and DNRE due care plan compliance issues. To determine the extent to which these issues needed to be addressed, and to ensure minimal impacts to the park’s natural features and neighboring landowners, informal efforts to monitor park usage and activities have

been ongoing. A number of issues have been identified as areas of concern and may benefit from focused reporting and enforcement efforts:

- **Dogs.** Dog waste has been a concern at the park; dog waste bag dispensers have been installed at the Old Orchard parking lot.
- **Staying on trails.** Hiking off the designated trails could exacerbate any potential for soil erosion. Problematic areas within the interior of the park could be addressed through the installation of cable fencing, strategic new plantings or additional minimalistic signage.
- **Bikes.** Bikes, due to concerns over soil erosion and usage conflicts, and per the MDNRE due care plan and adopted park master plan, are not permitted on the park property. Some bike usage of the park has been noted and should be addressed.
- **Hours.** In respect for neighboring properties, it may be necessary to enforce standard hours of operation.
- **Parking.** Parking has been observed along East Shore Rd, creating serious safety concerns. The Township has taken action to address immediate concern and will continue efforts to prevent parking in this area.

**Goal: Ensure park usage is in keeping with the quiet, natural, undisturbed character of the park.**

- Continue to work with volunteers and neighboring residents to monitor usage and identify any usage issues or concerns.
- Maintain signage informing users of park rules.
- Work with Sheriff’s Department and Michigan State Police to prevent parking, and take immediate corrective action for parking issues as they arise.
- Consider enforcement options for issues or complaints arising from violation of park rules relative to hours, dog issues, and bike use.

### **Park Improvements**

In keeping with the goals of the adopted Master Plan for the park, and per the public comment received in the recreation planning processes, park improvements at the Pelizzari Natural Area will be limited to those necessary for the maintenance and usage of the site as a natural area.

A number of signs have been installed to inform users of park rules and provide direction. It may be appropriate to review the location, design and content of these signs to ensure that they're meeting their intent effectively. An identifying road sign is also needed for the parking lot area.

There has also been discussion on the possibility of interpretive signs to call attention to various features and enhance the park experience. Per the goals of the CRNA Master Plan, it will be important to ensure that any such interpretive signs are in keeping with the rustic, low-impact character of the park.

Other park facilities that may be necessary include outhouses and trash receptacles. Options for water sources have been discussed as well, as a means to provide irrigation to any plantings installed for landscaping purposes. The use of any such water source will be limited strictly to irrigation purposes.

**Goal: Provide adequate signage and direction while preserving the natural character of the park.**

- Provide entrance signage that meets the guidelines of the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route.
- Identify private property boundaries

**Goal: Ensure that the location, size, and scale of improvements are suited to the natural character of the park, and that they are sited in a manner that minimizes the potential for negative impacts to the park and neighboring properties.**

- Design improvements, including restrooms and signage, to blend with environment and

site structures in least sensitive areas to minimize impacts.

- Trash receptacles should be designed or sited in order to prevent issues with attracting wildlife.
- Consider options for low-impact water source to aid in irrigation of any plantings.

### **Plantings/Reforestation**

The Old Orchard, Lower Meadow, and the Upper Field were historically used for agriculture. Since the purchase of the park, the orchards have been cleared and these areas now consist of open grassland with some naturally occurring reforestation in the Lower Meadow and Upper Field. Natural resource inventories are currently underway. A number of options for vegetation/reforestation have been discussed by the community throughout park planning and improvements, with possibilities including natural, minimally-managed reforestation, gardens (in the Old Orchard), control of invasive species, and the use of native species as part of a managed open space approach. All options, per Master Plan goals, place a high priority on the use of native species and control of invasive species to the extent practicable. Options are discussed in more detail in corresponding sections of the Management Plan.

**Goal: Manage the natural area as a combination of forest and meadow areas.**

- Use completed natural resource inventories, in coordination with local agencies and volunteers, to identify and remove undesirable plant species.
- Work with local agencies and volunteers to manage desired vegetation and maintain habitat.
- Install plantings as recommended by the Old Orchard landscape plan and manage in coordination with volunteers and local agencies.

### **Boundary Delineation—Fencing, Signage, and Screening**

Per the MDNRE due care plan, and in order to address privacy concerns from adjacent resi-

dences, fencing has been installed in several areas of the park (see map). Unfenced or unmarked boundary areas should be regularly assessed to determine where fencing, signage, or other markings are needed.

### Neighboring Property Owners

Throughout the park purchase, planning, and improvements, the Township, GTRLC, and volunteers worked extensively with neighboring property owners to identify and address concerns. Input from neighbors has been an important factor in park activities, and as the Management Plan goals are implemented, careful consideration of the potential impact to neighbors will continue to be a high priority.

**Goal: Continue to work with neighboring property owners to identify and address park issues.**

- Provide regular updates through newsletters and other mailings as needed on park issues, improvements, and activities.

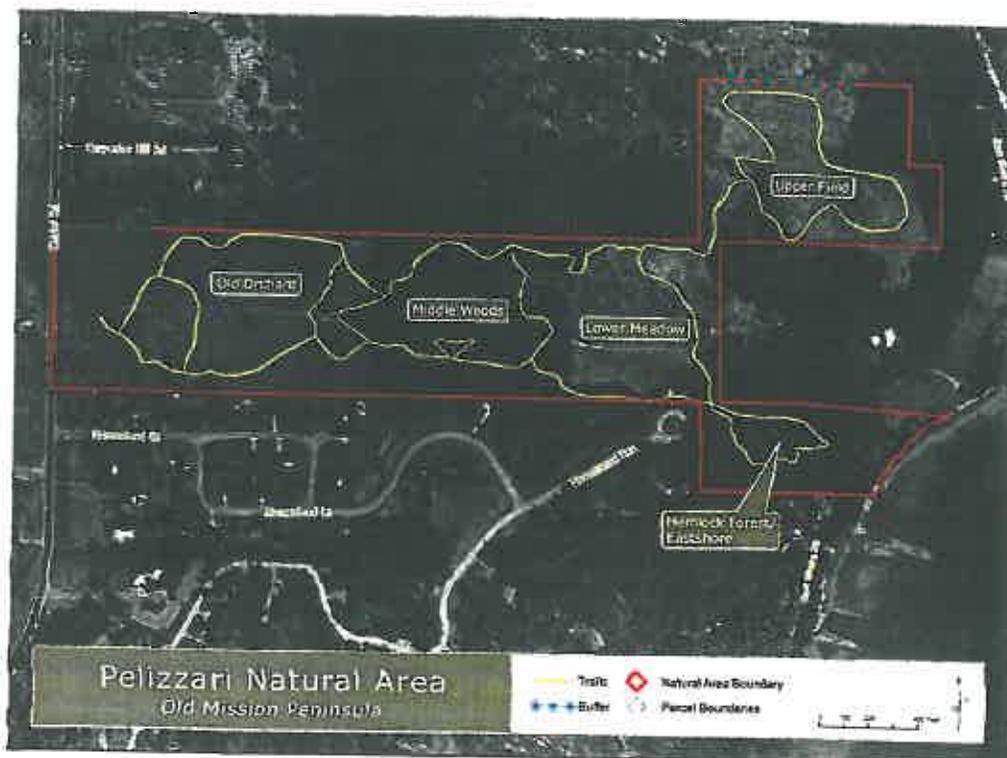
- Obtain input in any trail redesigns or design and development of park facilities.

### Grant Identification

Per discussions and verbal commitments made throughout the park purchase, planning, and improvement process, it is anticipated that any major park improvements will be funded primarily through grants. A number of appropriate funding opportunities exist, including local foundations, private donors, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, National Heritage Route, and Michigan Department Natural Resources and Environment. To implement Management Plan goals and proposed improvement schedules, it will be important to work with appropriate agencies in identifying and pursuing grant opportunities.

**Goal: Work to finance improvements or activities through grants and donations.**

- Identify and pursue grant opportunities to planned park improvements or activities



included in the adopted Management Plan and Capital Improvement Schedule.

- Coordinate with other agencies and initiatives, including the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route Committee, to seek additional grant opportunities.

### **Future Property Acquisitions**

An interest has been expressed in expanding the park through the purchase or conservation of adjacent undeveloped property. Specifics haven't been identified, but the Township may want to consider exploring acquisition opportunities in conjunction with grant investigations, including Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund grants.

**Goal: Explore opportunities to enhance or enlarge the Natural Area.**

- Review adjacent properties for purchase in conjunction with available grant opportunities.
- Include potential property acquisitions in the Peninsula Township Recreation Plan.

### **Resource Conservation**

Goals established in the creation of the park emphasize the protection, conservation, and restoration of natural and scenic features, wildlife habitat and water quality. Flora and fauna surveys are being conducted by volunteers to provide an overall assessment of the park's natural resources. These surveys will help with refinement of management goals for the park and will identify features that warrant special consideration. Public access and improvements to sensitive areas and areas providing wildlife habitat should be planned and implemented in consideration of the potential impacts on these areas.

**Goal: Manage the Natural Area so as to preserve, protect, and restore the site's natural resources.**

- Use flora and fauna inventories to identify areas for special consideration for management activities.

- Assess impact on natural features prior to implementation of any park improvements or management activities.
- Remove non-native invasive species to the extent practicable.
- Conduct management activities to maintain and enhance wildlife habitat.
- Preserve shoreline area in an undeveloped state.

### **Trails**

Approximately 2.5 miles of trails were constructed in the summer and fall of 2009. The trails were designed to maximize privacy for neighboring landowners, minimize trespass, preserve wildlife corridors, take advantage of viewshed opportunities, minimize erosion, and provide a variety of routes and lengths for hikers at all levels of ability. As noted, directional and informational signage has been posted along the trails.

The park has been popular for cross-country skiing; however, because of steep slopes or sharp turns, some trails may be more appropriate than others for skiing. It may be helpful to work with volunteers to develop a ski loop to direct skiers to the most appropriate trails.

**Goal: Maintain and monitor trails to ensure safe and appropriate usage.**

- Provide ongoing maintenance and clean up of trails.
- Work with volunteers to develop a cross-country ski course to accommodate skiers of all abilities.
- Consider trail adjustments as necessary to accommodate natural travel patterns and prevent trespass.

### **Education and Group Activities**

The park presents a tremendous opportunity for nature or wildlife education to citizens, scouts, or other groups. Guided hikes, interpretive signage, kiosks, and the like can provide guidance to those interested in more information on the park's natural features. Educational facilities or

activities should be in keeping with the park's low-impact character; and to ensure that activities minimize any potential disturbances to neighbors, it may be helpful to develop some basic guidance or ground rules for large groups that use the park as part of an educational program.

**Goal: Promote environmental education and volunteerism.**

- Create public interest in management goals and activities through interpretive signage and information distribution.
- Work cooperatively with local groups to promote environmental education and activities that are consistent with park goals.
- Work with volunteer groups to implement management objectives and to promote understanding of natural resource values and management activities.



## Management Area A: Old Orchard Field

The "Old Orchard" field is the most visible portion of the property, with 600' of frontage along M-37, a designated Michigan Scenic Heritage Route. The Homestead Court subdivision is located immediately to the south.

The Old Orchard consists of 19.5 acres of gently rolling meadow land, bordered on its northern and eastern edges by both pine and hardwood forest. Soils are primarily Leelanau Kalkaska loamy sands with slopes ranging from 0-12%.

The Old Orchard serves as the only formal access to the Natural Area.

### Existing Facilities/Improvements

The Old Orchard has been a focus of activity for improvements and access since the park was purchased. Volunteers conducted extensive clean up and constructed trails leading east to the Middle Woods; and some plantings have been installed along the northern property line. A gravel parking lot is located in the center of the site frontage, with cable fencing surrounding the lot to prevent motor vehicle access to the interior of the park. Directional signs and rules are posted at the parking lot entrance. A dog waste bag dispenser is located at the entrance for park users.

### Planning Considerations

- Because of its extensive frontage along the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route, planning and improvements in this area should be done

in coordination with the Scenic Heritage Route Committee. The Scenic Heritage Route frontage also creates some opportunities in terms of potential grant funding or programs designed to enhance the overall appearance of the southern portion of M-37. Goals for the Scenic Heritage Route are as follows:

- ◊ Preserve and enhance the scenic, agricultural, and rural qualities of the route.
  - ◊ Encourage development practices that will not detract from scenic and agricultural qualities, which includes the preservation of the unique and prime agricultural land for present and future generations.
  - ◊ Encourage community involvement in monitoring the route.
  - ◊ Encourage interpretive programs that describe the natural, historic, and cultural features located along the corridor.
  - ◊ Promote the preservation and maintenance of the unique and rural qualities of the countryside along M-37.
- In the interest of maintaining the natural character of the park while meeting the goals of the Scenic Heritage Route, landscaping and screening along M-37 were identified as an important goal in the Center Road Area Master Plan. Landscaping possibilities for this section of the park may in-

clude shade trees along the trails, gardens on the crest of the hill, and reforestation or revegetation with native species along the boundaries moving toward the center of the Old Orchard.

- As the only motor vehicle entrance to the park, the Old Orchard serves as the “staging area” for most park users. As such the Old Orchard Area would be an appropriate place to locate picnic tables, restrooms, and garbage cans.
- Accessibility is a key consideration for this section of the park. Discussion has been held regarding the possibility of universally accessible paved trails, leading to focal points such as a garden, shaded areas, or picnic areas. However, it should be noted that paved trails will likely result in some bicycle usage in this area, which has been precluded as a park activity.
- Regularly high usage of the park may necessitate the expansion of the parking lot at some point. Access is regulated by the Michigan Department of Transportation; as such any expansion must meet MDOT requirements as well as the general vision of the park and landscaping plan. As park use increases, it may be helpful to monitor the use of the parking lot to determine if parking lot expansion is necessary.
- Public comment received on this area stressed the need to address the lack of screening along the Homestead Court boundary, through adjustment of the current trail and/or through screening consisting of faster-growing species of vegetation. Priority was also placed on accessibility, with points of interest being developed such as a naturalistic garden as a focal point or destination. Any structures should be minimalistic, with screening and buffering. Landscaping should allow for a combination of meadow areas and reforestation to allow for

mixed sun and shade.

### **Goals & Objectives**

#### **Goal: Provide screening along Homestead Court boundary and northern property line.**

- Use faster-growing species or install plantings of a size to provide immediate cover.
- Include a mixture of deciduous and evergreen vegetation to provide year-round cover.
- Consider adjusting trails along the southern boundary to direct traffic away from Homestead Court residences and accommodate the timeframe for maturation of any plantings used for screening.

#### **Goal: Conduct landscaping activities that provide focal points and a mixture of open space and forested areas, per the recommendations of the adopted Old Orchard landscape plan.**

- Work with local agencies and volunteers to implement landscape plan recommendations.
- Work with local agencies and volunteers to maintain plantings and remove undesirable vegetation as needed to meet the objectives of the landscape plan.
- Allow some natural reforestation to occur along park boundaries while maintaining significant areas of meadow.

#### **Goal: Coordinate activities with goals of the M-37 Scenic Heritage route.**

- Pursue continuation of M-37 maple tree plantings in coordination with the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route.
- Explore grant opportunities available through the Scenic Heritage Route program for enhancements or improvements along M-37 frontage.

#### **Goal: Provide universally accessible trails.**

- Use hard-packed permeable surfaces that meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

- Consider monitoring and enforcement options to address bike usage of hard-packed trails.

**Goal: Provide limited park furnishings as necessary, while maintaining natural character and appearance of the park.**

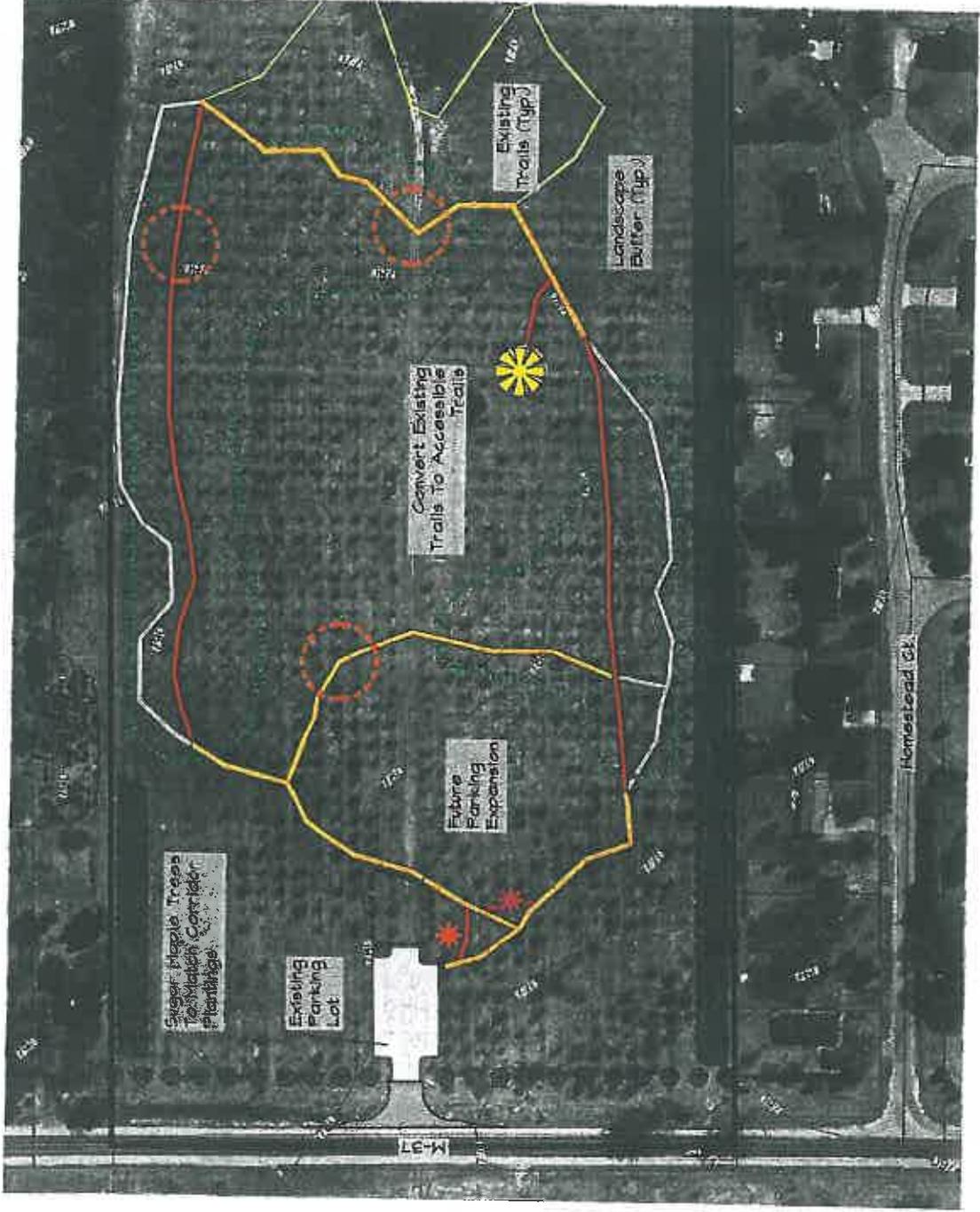
- Provide minimalistic park facilities, including outhouse, garbage cans, and benches. Outhouse should be ADA compliant and consistent with type used in other Township parks. Picnic tables or picnic areas are not recommended for the Natural Area at this time, due to the potential for litter and other nuisance. However, if a demonstrated need arises in the future, picnic areas may be considered for areas that will not impact neighboring properties, as identified in the landscape plan
- Provide screening of all park facilities to ensure they blend with the natural environment.
- Provide for routine monitoring/maintenance to ensure appropriate usage of park facilities and improvements.
- Consider irrigation options for any plantings included as part of landscaping and screening implementation.
- Install identification signage at access along M-37. Signage design should meet M-37 Scenic Heritage Route guidelines.

- LEGEND**
- Existing Trails
  - Existing Trails Converted To Accessible Trails
  - New Accessible Trails
  - Existing Trails To Abandon Due To Proximity To Adjacent Homes
  - Natural Garden / Seating Area
  - Restrooms
  - Picnic Area
  - Shaded Seating / Rest Areas
  - Landscape Buffers
  - Emerging Forest Areas
  - Sugar Maples Along Road To Match Corridor Plantings

**NOTES:**

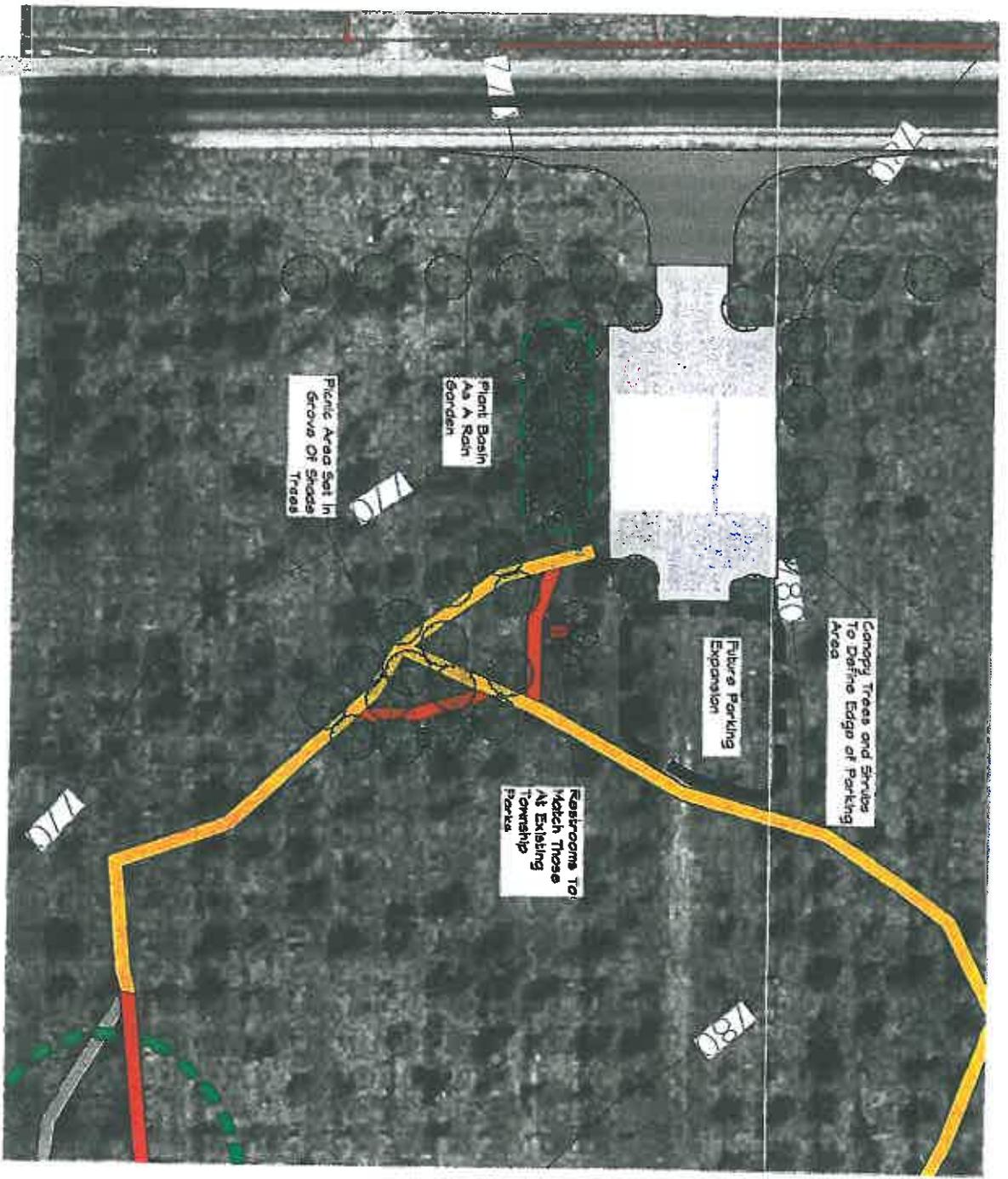
Proposed landscape materials are primarily native species that are well suited to the region once established. When planted, landscape materials will meet regular watering through the hot and dry seasons of their first two years to aid establishment.

Proposed accessible trails will need to be located and built to meet barrier free standards.



# Old Orchard Landscape Master Plan

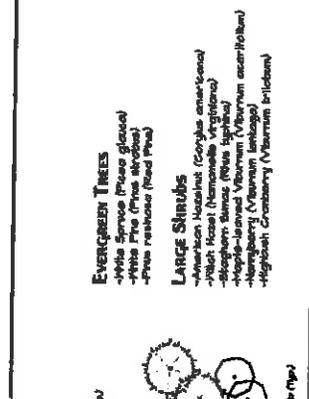




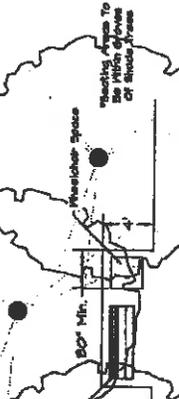
**LEGEND**

- Existing Trails
- Existing Trails Converted to Accessible Trails
- New Accessible Trails
- Existing Trails to Abandon due to Proximity to Adjacent Homes

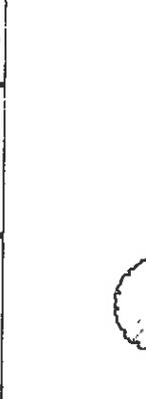
**PARKING AREA LANDSCAPE PLAN**



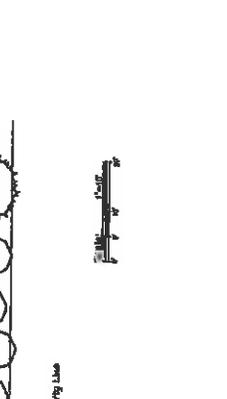
### NATURAL GARDEN SEATING AREA AT VISTA POINT



### TYPICAL WIND BREAK PLANTING



### TYPICAL ACCESSIBLE TRAIL CROSS SECTION



### TYPICAL SHADED SEATING / REST SPACES

- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- Japanese Holly (*Ilex pedunculata*)
  - American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)
  - Hopsack Holly (*Ilex verticillata*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

- Deciduous Trees**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory Trees**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

- Evergreen Tree (Typ.)**
- Large shrub (Typ.)**
- Trail**
- Seating Area**
- 6' Min.**
- 2% Max. Cross Slope**
- 5% Max. Running Slope**
- Accessible Trail Surface**
- Accessible Trail Surfaces (ADA Approved)**
- Pavements (Asphalt, Concrete, etc.)
  - Packed Crushed Stone
  - Compacted gravel Pines
  - Hard Packed Soils

- Evergreen Tree (Typ.)**
- Large shrub (Typ.)**
- Trail**
- Seating Area**
- 6' Min.**
- 2% Max. Cross Slope**
- 5% Max. Running Slope**
- Accessible Trail Surface**
- Accessible Trail Surfaces (ADA Approved)**
- Pavements (Asphalt, Concrete, etc.)
  - Packed Crushed Stone
  - Compacted gravel Pines
  - Hard Packed Soils

- Evergreen Tree (Typ.)**
- Large shrub (Typ.)**
- Trail**
- Seating Area**
- 6' Min.**
- 2% Max. Cross Slope**
- 5% Max. Running Slope**
- Accessible Trail Surface**
- Accessible Trail Surfaces (ADA Approved)**
- Pavements (Asphalt, Concrete, etc.)
  - Packed Crushed Stone
  - Compacted gravel Pines
  - Hard Packed Soils

- Evergreen Tree (Typ.)**
- Large shrub (Typ.)**
- Trail**
- Seating Area**
- 6' Min.**
- 2% Max. Cross Slope**
- 5% Max. Running Slope**
- Accessible Trail Surface**
- Accessible Trail Surfaces (ADA Approved)**
- Pavements (Asphalt, Concrete, etc.)
  - Packed Crushed Stone
  - Compacted gravel Pines
  - Hard Packed Soils

- Evergreen Tree (Typ.)**
- Large shrub (Typ.)**
- Trail**
- Seating Area**
- 6' Min.**
- 2% Max. Cross Slope**
- 5% Max. Running Slope**
- Accessible Trail Surface**
- Accessible Trail Surfaces (ADA Approved)**
- Pavements (Asphalt, Concrete, etc.)
  - Packed Crushed Stone
  - Compacted gravel Pines
  - Hard Packed Soils

- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- Deciduous TREES**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory TREES**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- Deciduous TREES**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory TREES**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

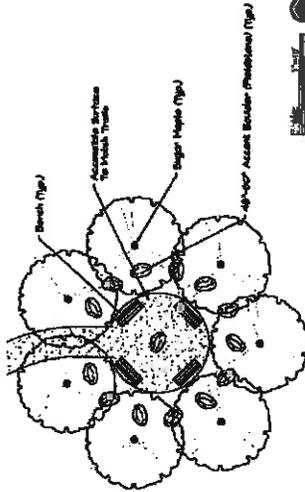
- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- Deciduous TREES**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory TREES**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- Deciduous TREES**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory TREES**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

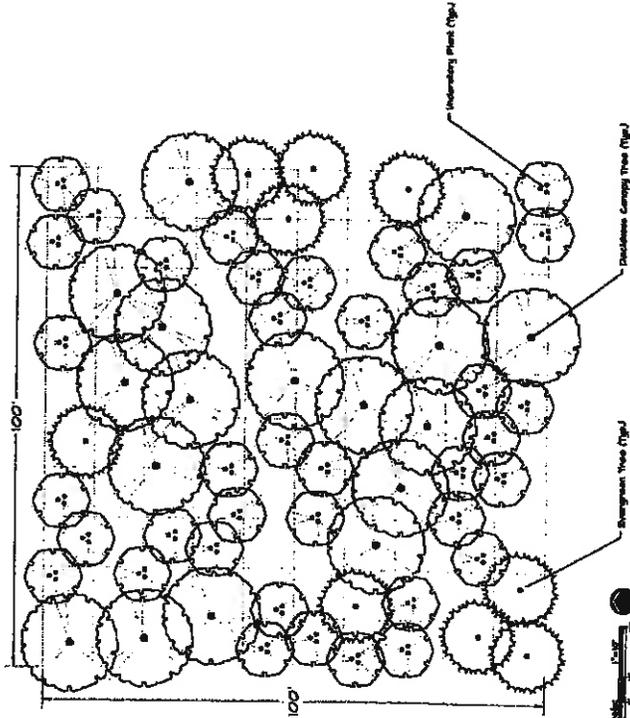
- EVERGREEN TREES**
- White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
  - White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
  - Pine Resinosa (Red Pine)
- Deciduous TREES**
- Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*)
  - Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*)
  - American Bassett (*Fraxinus grandiflora*)
  - Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
  - White Oak (*Quercus alba*)
  - Downwood (*Thuja americana*)
- Understory TREES**
- Starbuckberry (*Acer spicatum*)
  - Storwood (*Osagea virginiana*)
- LARGE SHRUBS**
- American Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)
  - Rough Leaf (*Rhamnus virginiana*)
  - Hopsack-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
  - Highberry (*Viburnum lentago*)
  - Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

**NOTES**

- Alternative design for natural succession native perennials and shrubs, plus gradually reducing the amount of maintenance needed to maintain the landscape.



### SEATING AREA AT VISTA POINT - ALTERNATE DESIGN



### SAMPLE 10,000 S.F. EMERGING FOREST PLANTING

## RECOMMENDED LANDSCAPE PHASING

- 1) Establish landscape buffers along property lines to provide privacy for adjacent property owners.
- 2) Create accessible ball loop in the Old Orchard area of the property and move existing ball away from property lines.
- 3) Plant emerging forest areas in Old Orchard area of the property.
- 4) Plant trees and rock garden near parking lot.
- 5) Plant rockwoods in Upper Field area of property.
- 6) Plant emerging forest areas in the Upper Field area of the property.
- 7) Provide seating areas in Old Orchard area of the property.

#### Deciduous Canopy Trees

- American Elm (Ulmus americana)
  - Black Cherry (Prunus serotina)
  - White Oak (Quercus alba)
- #### EVERGREEN TREES
- White Pine (Pinus strobus)
  - White Spruce (Picea glauca)
- #### UNDERSTORY PLANTS
- Serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis)
  - Trompetter (Thuja occidentalis)
  - American Hazelnut (Corylus americana)
  - Rough Leafed (Rosa rugosa)
  - Virginia Creeper (Vitis rotundifolia)
  - Honeysuckle (Lonicera maackii)

#### EMERGING FOREST PLANTING NOTES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The emerging forest areas have been planted with a variety of deciduous canopy trees, evergreen trees, and understory plants in a variety of sizes. The intent of these plantings is to provide a natural looking, random pattern of different tree sizes and species in order to give the area a head start on any natural succession processes that would normally take place on the cleared orchard site.

It is assumed that gaps, or open areas, within the proposed planting will fill in with species from the existing seed / seedling bank and that any unwanted species (ex. column olive, tree of heaven, etc.) will be removed in order to allow desirable volunteer plants and the planted trees to thrive.

Deciduous like the hickory, the planted canopy tree species will shade out the understory plants and create a forest similar to the maple forest hardwood forests that exist around the region.

It is assumed that irrigation may be necessary to ensure the survival of the planted trees through the first few growing seasons. Fertilizing and mulching, the selected species should be able to survive through periods without irrigation.



## Management Area B: Middle Woods

The Middle Woods/Pine Plantation consists of about 13 acres of hilly terrain largely covered with beech/maple forest and pine plantation. This area includes a two-track that runs between the Old Orchard and Lower Meadow. Soils consist of Kalkaska sand with 25-45% slopes.

### Existing Facilities/Improvements

Hiking trails have been established along the northern and southern boundary. Trails were designed by a contracted professional and were constructed by volunteers and a youth group in the summer and fall of 2009. Directional signage was designed and posted by volunteers. Fencing was installed by volunteers along the northern boundary in 2009, in order to address concerns over the potential for trespassing along the northern boundary of the park.

### Planning Considerations

Questions have been raised regarding future use and management of the two-track, which was historically used to access orchard areas. In its current state, the two-track is not a sustainable trail, as heavy foot traffic could increase the potential for erosion. Winter usage doesn't present the same potential concerns, and the two-track may be considered as part of a ski loop. Public input stressed the value of the two-track for its scenic qualities and accessibility for skiing; residents expressed the desire to retain the scenic aspects while taking measures to prevent erosion.

### Goals & Objectives

**Goal: Maintain open areas in two-track for skiing and scenic aspects**

- Work with local agencies to prevent erosion through plantings or other management activities.
- Incorporate two-track in a cross-country ski loop and post signage accordingly.



## Management Area C: Lower Meadow

The Lower Meadow is largely former orchard land bordered on three sides by hardwoods, with private property located immediately to the east. Areas bordering the hardwoods have begun to naturally reforest with both native and non-native plant species. Soils consist of Kalkaska sands, Emmet Sandy loam with slopes ranging from 25% to 45%. The former orchard areas primarily consist of Richter loams with 2-6% slopes.

### Existing Facilities/Improvements

Since the park was purchased, trails were designed and constructed along the edges of the meadow. Fencing was installed along the property line and signage was put in place along the trails.

### Planning Considerations

- An informal access to the park is located along the southern edge of this section of the park, along the Homestead Court cul-de-sac. The access is primarily used by residents in the subdivision; to avoid additional traffic in the subdivision, there is no intent to publicize this access as an entrance to the park.
- Without management of the existing open space, it's likely that the Lower Meadow area will quickly reforest with both native and invasive species. Public comment showed a desire to maintain the meadow and open view from the hillsides.

### Goals & Objectives

**Goal: Maintain trails and monitor trail usage.**

- Maintain and monitor informal access.
- Consider adjustment of trail to allow a loop course through the meadow in order to accommodate natural travel patterns.

**Goal: Maintain meadow areas.**

- Use completed natural resources inventory to identify desired plant species. Work with local agencies and volunteers to maintain meadow areas and control undesirable plant species.



## Management Area D: Hemlock Forest & Shoreline

Management Area D includes some of the park's most notable natural features, with about 7 acres of hemlock forest and 450' of East Bay shoreline. The Hemlock Forest borders East Shore Rd, a residential road that is heavily used for recreation and is a popular route for bicyclists.

Soils consist of Emmet Sandy loams (25%-45% slopes), Alpena-East Lake gravelly loamy sands (0-2% slopes), and, along the shoreline, Lake beach and Eastport sand with 0-6% slopes.

### Existing Facilities/Improvements

Cable fencing has been installed by volunteers along the northern property boundary. Volunteers have also designed and posted directional and informational signs in portions of this area.

### Planning Considerations

- The East Bay shoreline, per commitments in the adopted Master Plan, is intended to be maintained as natural habitat for water quality, animal habitat, and erosion control. Public access facilities are available to the north and south of the park, and will not be developed along the Natural Area shoreline.
- East Shore Road access has been frequently discussed, both prior to the property purchase and throughout park planning and improvement processes. There is a strong interest on the part of Township residents and park users to create a pedestrian access to this portion of the park. Further, there is a strong concern that the lack of formal pedestrian access in this area will contribute to trespass issues and the development and usage of social trails on nearby properties. As such, consideration has been given to the possibility of a low-impact, pedestrian-only access or stairway from East Shore Rd. A stairway would also provide access from the park to the East Bay shoreline. However, residents have often expressed the concern that pedestrian access will create the need for motorized access or a parking lot at this location, which would increase traffic and alter the character of the road. Commitments have been made, through the master plan process, that a parking lot will not be developed along East Shore Rd; however, in any decisions on pedestrian access, consideration should be given to the potential for issues arising relative to parking along the road. Public input in the management planning process stressed the desire for pedestrian access, as well as the need to address safety concerns relative to parking. Peninsula Township is working with the Michigan State Police and the Grand Traverse County Road Commission to address the parking issues.
- Per the goals of the adopted master plan, pedestrian access should be visually unobtrusive, with minimal impacts to the steep slopes and sensitive features located in this area, as heavy foot traffic through the hemlock forest could create the potential for damaging this sensitive ecosystem.
- Concerns have been raised regarding the potential impacts to neighboring property

owners in terms of access to this area, and in terms of trespass along the property boundaries and through other properties on a route through the park. Neighboring property owners should be a part of any potential pedestrian access from East Shore Rd. Further, it may be helpful to continue to monitor existing fencing/border markings to determine if and where issues exist and if so, how to most effectively address them.

- Given the unique natural features and view along the shoreline, interpretive signage may enhance the park experience in this area.

### **Goals & Objectives**

#### **Goal: Provide pedestrian access to the Hemlock Forest from East Shore Rd**

- Initiate a discussion process with neighbors, volunteers, and others regarding East Shore Rd pedestrian access to identify and address potential safety concerns, design, and other issues and opportunities.
- Obtain input from neighboring property owners throughout design activities for pedestrian access.
- Work with engineer to develop plans for a boardwalk and stairway from East Shore Rd to the trails in the Hemlock Forest. Plans should address the sensitive ecological features in this area. Access design should be visually unobtrusive and located in a manner that creates the least potential for trespass on neighboring properties.
- Address bicycle parking issues in design considerations. Vehicle parking will not be provided on East Shore Rd.
- Pursue grant funding for engineering plans and construction.

#### **Goal: Address parking concerns along East Shore Road.**

- Vehicle parking is not permitted along the shoulder of East Shore Rd. Continue to work with the Michigan State Police and Grand Traverse County Road Commission

to determine both immediate and long term course of action to deter parking on East Shore Rd. Consider enforcement options including routine policing or monitoring of this area.

- Consider potential parking obstacles such as boulders or other prevention mechanisms in design activities for pedestrian access.

#### **Goal: Address trespassing concerns.**

- Identify social trails leading to neighboring properties and remove or revegetate as necessary.
- Regularly seek neighbor input relative to trespassing issues and concerns to identify and address any issues.



## Management Area E: Upper Field

The Upper Field, which includes 14 acres in the northeast corner of the park, consists primarily of gently rolling open fields, formerly an orchard, with hardwood forest areas on the hillsides in the southwest corner and along the east, west, and south. Forested areas consist of Kalkaska sand and loamy sands with 6-45% slopes.

### Existing Facilities/Improvements

As the “remediated” portion of the site, the Upper Field has been the focus of many Township, GTRLC, and volunteer activities. After the property was purchased, the orchard was removed, and the field was encapsulated with four inches of topsoil. Gravel trails, per requirements of the MDNRE, were installed around the perimeter of the field. Signage has been posted instructing park users to remain on the trails.

### Planning Considerations

- Activities and improvements in the Upper Field must comply with the requirements of the MDNRE due care plan. Due care plan compliance reporting, which was initially conducted by the GTRLC, has now transitioned to volunteers.
- Both natural reforestation and managed open space have been discussed as possibilities for the Upper Field. As noted for the Lower Meadow, it's likely that, without a managed open space approach, the area will quickly reforest with both native and non-native plant species.
- Public input stressed the need for screening in the northwest corner and for plantings

that will serve as windbreaks and trail guides, resulting in a mix of meadow and trees.

### Goals & Objectives

**Goal: Maintain trails and encapsulated areas per MDNRE due care plan requirements**

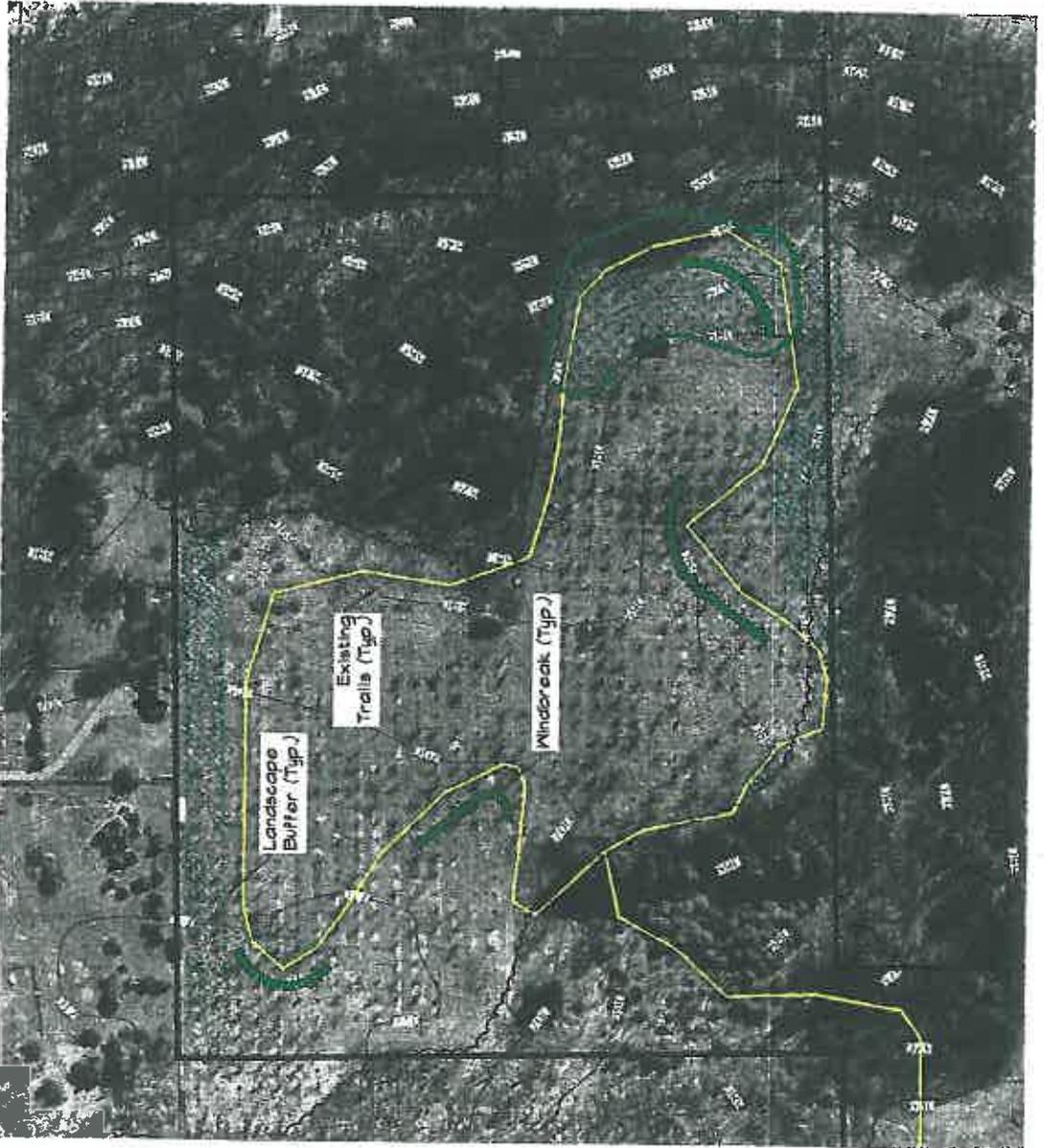
- Manage vegetation to prevent growth within railway.
- Work with volunteers to submit compliance reporting as necessary.
- Maintain signage and use strategic plantings to prevent foot traffic on encapsulated areas.

**Goal: Maintain open areas with mixture of tree cover and meadow.**

- Provide vegetative screening along northwest property line, in a manner consistent with screening for Homestead Court boundary. Screening should consist of a mixture of faster-growing or mature deciduous and evergreen trees to ensure immediate and year-round cover.
- Provide appropriate plantings in strategic areas to provide windbreak for trails.
- Work with local agencies and volunteers to maintain plantings and remove undesirable plant species.

**LEGEND**

- Existing Trails
- Landscape Buffers
- Windbreaks
- Emerging Forest Areas



**UPPER FIELD LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN**



## Pelizzari Natural Area Action Program

Goal/Activity	Timeframe/Start Date
<b>Park-wide</b>	
Ensure that park usage and management complies with MDNRE due care plan	Ongoing
Ensure park usage is in keeping with the quiet, natural, undisturbed character of the park.	Ongoing
Provide adequate signage and direction while preserving the natural character of the park.	2010
Ensure that the location, size, and scale of improvements are suited to the natural character of the park	Ongoing
Manage the natural area as a combination of forest and meadow areas.	Ongoing
Continue to work with neighboring property owners to identify and address park issues.	Ongoing
Work to finance improvements or activities through grants and donations.	2010
Explore opportunities to enhance or enlarge the Natural Area.	Ongoing
Manage the Natural Area so as to preserve, protect, and restore the site's natural resources.	Ongoing
Maintain and monitor trails to ensure safe and appropriate usage.	Ongoing
Promote environmental education and volunteerism.	Ongoing
<b>Old Orchard</b>	
Provide screening along Homestead Court boundary and northern property line.	2010
Conduct landscaping activities that provide focal points and a mixture of open space and forested areas, per the recommendations of the landscape plan.	2011
Coordinate activities with goals of the M-37 Scenic Heritage Route.	Ongoing
Provide universally accessible trails.	2011
Provide limited park furnishings as necessary, while maintaining the natural character and appearance of the park.	2011
<b>Middle Woods</b>	
Maintain open areas in two-track for skiing and scenic aspects.	Ongoing
<b>Lower Meadow</b>	
Maintain trails and monitor trail usage.	Ongoing
Maintain meadow areas.	Ongoing
<b>Hemlock Forest</b>	
Provide pedestrian access to the Hemlock Forest from East Shore Rd.	2010
Address parking concerns along East Shore Rd.	Ongoing
Address trespassing concerns.	Ongoing
<b>Upper Field</b>	
Maintain trails and encapsulated areas per MDNRE due care plan requirements.	Ongoing
Maintain open areas with a mixture of tree cover and meadow.	Ongoing

## **Appendix B**

### **Bowers Harbor Park Expansion Plan**

## **Bowers Harbor Park Enhancement and Expansion – Planning Process Summary**

In late 2015, Peninsula Township, with the assistance of Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant funds, the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, and significant private donations, acquired nearly 60 acres of land adjacent to the original Bowers Harbor Park. At the time of acquisition, the property consisted largely of open fields with sparse tree and shrub growth throughout, a seasonally wet area and a forested corner harboring a small creek. Much of the land had previously been in agricultural use and this history and the associated Environmental Due Care plan would inform the future development of the property due to the presence of common residual agrochemicals. In early 2016, the need to plan for future uses was identified as a priority by the Peninsula Township Park Commission.

A park planning process was initiated in the spring of 2016 and from May of 2016 to March of 2017 a committee of township officials, staff and appointed members of the public carried out an extensive planning and public input process. The committee received the support of both the Park Commission and the Township Board to hire a planning firm to assist in the planning process and facilitate formal public input meetings, and over eleven months a wide-ranging list of possible park elements was evaluated based on public and committee input, site suitability and recognition of the recreation resources already available in the developed park adjacent. Based on the outcomes of numerous committee meetings, all of which welcomed the public to participate, and well-attended public input meeting, a draft concept plan for a cohesive recreation area composed of the original Bowers Harbor Park and the expansion area was drawn by the planning firm and presented to the public for comment in February of 2017. Following final adjustments to the plan, the committee recommended the plan for approval and in June of 2017 the Peninsula Township Park Commission approved the recommended Final Proposed Concept Plan as a guide for future development. The Township Board approved the Final Proposed Concept Plan in August of 2017.



# Next Steps

## Project Implementation

Potential Funding Sources:  
 MDNR Trust Fund, GTRLC, Rotary,  
 Foundations, Private Donations, etc.

<i>Expanded Park Area</i>	<i>Existing Park Area</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Immediate Improvements (2017)</b> .....</li> <li>– Signage / Kiosk</li> <li>– Litter Receptacles</li> <li>– Site Clean-up</li> <li>– Fencing</li> <li>– Mowed Parking Area</li> <li>– Mowed Trail Loop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Signage / Kiosk</li> <li>– Fencing</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Phase I Improvements (2018 – 2020)</b> .....</li> <li>– Accessible Gravel Trails</li> <li>– Gravel Parking Lot</li> <li>– Kiosk</li> <li>– Vault Toilet</li> <li>– Accessible Boardwalk Trails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– North Play Structure</li> <li>– South Play Structure</li> <li>– PIP Safety Surfacing</li> <li>– Kit Ice Rink (60x120)</li> <li>– Relocate Volleyball Court</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Future Improvements (2020 and beyond)</b> .....</li> <li>– All Other Improvements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– All Other Improvements</li> </ul>
	\$30,000 - \$35,000 \$800,000 - \$1,200,000 TBD

## Proposed SOUTH Park Development by Phase

Element	Baseline Improvements:		
	2017	Phase 1: 2018-2020	Phase 2: 2020->
Signage	Yes		
Garbage/doggie bags	Yes		
Site Cleanup	Yes		
Fencing	Yes		
Temporary parking - mowed	Yes		
Temporary trail loop - mowed	Yes		
Pedestrian trails - compacted gravel (UA)		Yes (main loop + north spur)	
Improved parking - gravel		Yes	
Kiosk including trail map sign		Yes	
Vault toilet		Yes	
Interpretive trails / viewing trails		Yes (north/wetland spur)	Yes (stream spur)
Additional natural tree cover			Yes
Meadow/wildflower/native grass restoration			Yes
Picnic pavilion			Yes

## Proposed NORTH Park Development by Phase

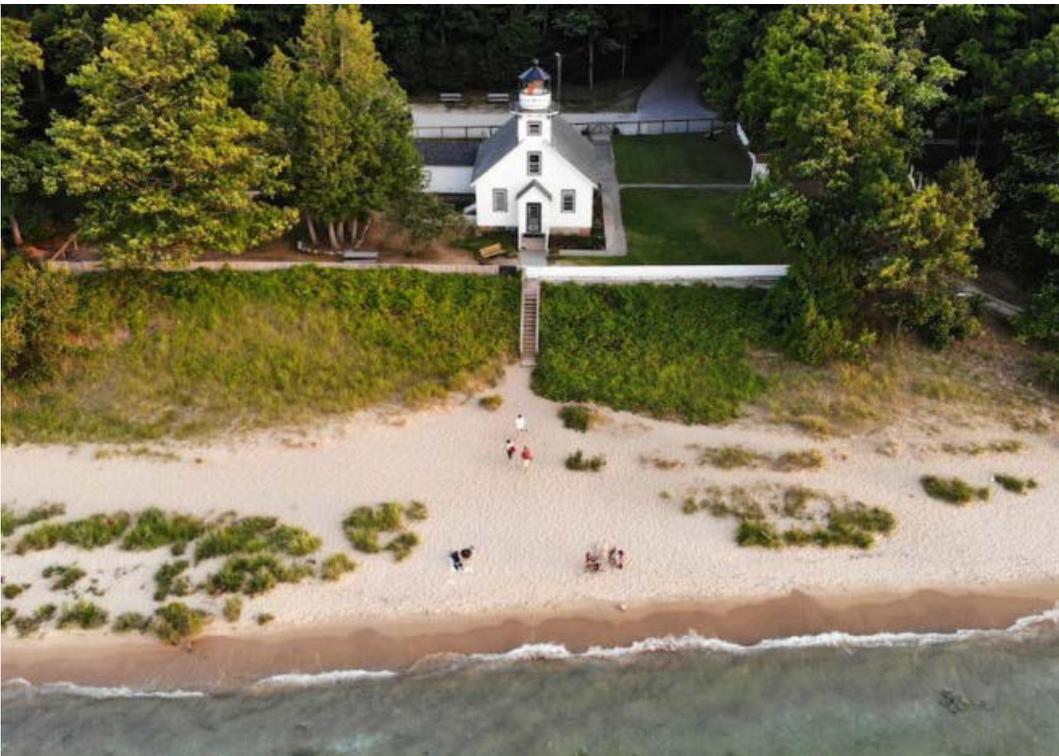
Element	Baseline Improvements:		
	2017	Phase 1: 2018-2020	Phase 2: 2020->
Kiosk including trail map sign	Yes		
Fencing	Yes		
North play structure (small)		Yes	
South play structure (large) and path		Yes	
Poured in place safety surfacing		Yes	
Winter ice rink 60x120 feet		Yes	
Move volleyball court		Yes	
Parking lot redevelopment, expansion & curbing			Yes
Connecting pathways - compacted gravel			Yes

**Appendix C**  
**Funding Feasibility Study**



# Peninsula Township Parks Funding Feasibility Study

March 2022



Prepared by:



*Innovative ideas for sustainable communities since 1993*



Peninsula Township is one of the most beautiful and scenic townships in Michigan, set between East and West Grand Traverse Bays and renowned for its bucolic setting and spectacular views of Grand Traverse Bay on Lake Michigan. The Peninsula Township Parks Committee oversees about 823 acres of public recreational land and facilities scattered across a half dozen park properties. However, with a small tax base of roughly 6,000 residents, parklands do not have a dedicated annual budget in the township. This makes it difficult for the parks committee (and by extension the township) to conduct even basic park operations, much less plan for and execute the maintenance and capital improvements desired by residents.

Township residents have consistently demonstrated support for open spaces and land conservation on the peninsula, evidenced by past voter approvals of a purchase of development rights (PDR) program and a millage to preserve what is now the Pelizzari Natural Area, to name two prominent examples. Rather than pitting parks against other basic public services for scant general fund expenditures, the township wishes to explore the feasibility of additional alternative sources of funding that could support basic park operations as well as provide leverage to attract outside sources of funding for larger maintenance and capital improvement projects at the parks.

In 2021, the township hired the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) to assist with investigating a feasible operating and maintenance budget for the township. LIAA developed a basic description and baseline for each park as well as an analysis of the current township budget and comparable nearby township parks budgets. Parks committee members surveyed the parks and collected information to gain a better understanding of current maintenance needs and other needs that are not being met. This report summarizes these findings and makes a recommendation for operating and capital expenditures. These recommendations are best estimates and may require some adjustments to meet specific needs for the township.

# Park Summaries

## Pelizzari Natural Area (PNA) - management plan included in the 2018 Parks Master Plan



PNA was purchased in 2009, following voter approval of a dedicated millage in 2008. The park consists of 60 acres of woodlands (with potential expansion in the future), meadows, wetlands, and shoreline in the southern end of Peninsula Township, with a main entrance and parking area on Center Road/M-37. Improvements including trail building, site cleanup and master planning began in 2009 shortly after

the property was purchased. With additional improvements still pending, the Natural Area now offers about 3.2 miles of trails and abundant opportunities for hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and birdwatching while preserving and maintaining important wildlife habitat, wetlands, and sensitive shoreline areas. Prior to the township owning the property, the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC) helped with the protection, remediation, and management of the land and continues to provide significant support via consulting and on-the-ground stewardship. At the time of this writing, there is an active effort underway to add additional acreage to this park.

Acres: 60.64

Facilities:

- On-site parking with waste container and dog waste bag dispenser
- Some property line and parking lot fencing
- Wayfinding signage

*Resources:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.gtrlc.org/recreation-events/preserve/pelizzari-natural-area/>
- <https://www.oldmission.net/2018/08/pelizzari-family-omp-history/>
- *Dave Murphy, Peninsula Township Parks Committee*



## Bowers Harbor Park and Bowers Harbor Park Expansion

Bowers Harbor Park and the Bowers Harbor Park Expansion are located near the intersection of Peninsula Drive and Bowers Harbor Road. Combined, the two parcels consist of 81 acres, with the original Bowers Harbor Park hosting most the township's active recreation facilities. The park also includes a variety of programmed recreation activities organized by the community and the township.

This park's paved walking trails are an important universally accessible recreation opportunity. In order to enhance that opportunity, with assistance from the GTRLC and grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, the township acquired what is called the Bowers Harbor Park Expansion (included in the acreage figure) to allow for additional passive recreational uses, including expanded walking/jogging trails and open space. Located adjacent to Bowers Harbor Park on Devil's Dive Road, this addition has sensitive habitat, including wetland areas. A comprehensive development plan for Bowers Harbor Park and Bowers Harbor Park Expansion was developed and adopted in 2017, but has yet to be implemented.

Acres: 81.67

Facilities:

- Tennis/pickleball courts (2)
- Volleyball court
- Basketball court
- Softball and baseball diamonds
- Soccer fields
- 2 playground areas
- Picnic pavilions (3) with electrical outlets, grills, and tables
- Accessible toilets
- On-site paved parking
- Paved walking path
- Well
- Irrigation
- Storage building



*Resources:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- [2017 Bowers Harbor Park Expansion Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.traversecity.com/listings/bowers-harbor-park/448/>



### Archie Roadside Park

Archie Roadside Park is a small park located on M-37, near Gray and Bluff Roads. The park includes stairway access to East Bay. It is utilized by a variety of people, including bicyclists and as a staging area for tours of Old Mission Peninsula. Kayakers also use the parking area and carry their water gear across M-37 to the shore access. Public input indicates a need for picnic tables at the park, as well as some general improvements to the water access stairway in addition to improving the park’s overall appearance.



Acres: 1.69

Facilities:

- Pedestrian water access (no ADA access to water), stairs to beach, and safety signage and equipment (rescue ring/rope)
- Accessible vault toilet
- Parking area
- Water pump
- Swing sets
- Grills
- Temporary toilets (during busy season)

### Old Mission State Park

Adjacent to Mission Point Lighthouse Park is Old Mission State Park, which is owned by the state of Michigan and leased to the township via the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The park can be accessed from the Mission Point Lighthouse Park parking area and features an extensive trail network used for hiking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and, increasingly, biking. Hunting is permitted.

Acres: 649.96

Facilities:

- Ridgewood Road trailhead
  - Toilet
  - Dog station
- Murray Road trailhead
- Trails
- Storage building

*Resources for Archie Park and Old Mission State Park:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>

## Mission Point Lighthouse Park

Mission Point Lighthouse Park includes a wide variety of recreation facilities including historic buildings, picnic areas, and trails and is linked through trails with Old Mission State Park, including the Murray Road and Ridgeway Road trailheads. Beach access is available in several locations throughout the park.



The park is located at the end of Old Mission Peninsula and sees heavy usage throughout the year, particularly in the warmer months. Mission Point Lighthouse was opened for public tours in 2008 and a gift shop was opened along with regular programming in 2009. The lighthouse building includes a museum and Fresnel lens and is open May through November each year.

Acres: 5.38

### Additional Facilities:

- Hessler Log Cabin – Located on the grounds of Mission Point Lighthouse Park, this cabin was built between 1854 and 1856 by pioneers Joseph and Mary Hessler
- Cross-country ski trails
- Beach access
- Historic lighthouse with visitor center and gift shop
- Building and well house
- Vault toilets (2)
- Accessible vault toilets (3)
- Temporary toilets (during busy season)
- Parking lots (2)
- Picnic areas
- Swimming areas
- Hunting (per DNR regulations)



### Resources:

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.omphistoricalsociety.org/>



## Haserot Beach

The only township-managed improved public beach access on Old Mission Peninsula is located at Haserot Beach on Old Mission Harbor in the village of Old Mission. The park is popular for swimming, kayaking, and diving. A boat ramp was destroyed in a storm in 2019. Subsequently, the township board voted not to replace this launch and instead to install a new boat launch at nearby Kelley Park.

Acres: 2.21

Facilities:

- Playground equipment
- ADA-compliant vault toilet
- Swimming area
- Dog waste bag dispenser
- Waste containers
- Parking areas
- Basketball court
- Well



*Resources:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>

## Kelley Park



Robert & Colleen Kelley Park is a DNR-initiated Trust Fund acquisition project located on Mission Road and Old Mission Harbor in close proximity to Haserot Beach.

With assistance from the GTRLC and Peninsula Township, the park was originally purchased by the DNR in order to install a deep-water boat launch, but the DNR subsequently concluded in the summer of 2017 that Kelley Park might be best suited as an Improved Water Access Location for non-motorized carry-down boats such as kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards that do not require a dredged channel. However, a strong push from citizens identified Kelley Park as a preferred location for a motorized launch instead of nearby Haserot Beach, which had become a very busy destination for swimming. In 2021, the DNR approved a 30-year lease with the township for a launch for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft at Kelley Park. There is no cost for the lease, but the township will be responsible for property upkeep and improvements.

Acres: 6.88

Facilities:

- U-shaped driveway
- Location for future boat launch
- Buried utilities that will be removed by the township

*Resources:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.oldmission.net/2020/09/kelley-park-boat-launch-dnr-rejected/>
- <https://www.traverseticker.com/news/old-mission-gets-its-new-boat-launch/>



## Other Recreation Features

- [Replica Log Church](#)

Acres: 0.09

This small historical site owned by Peninsula Township has recently been discovered by the public since the parks committee installed historic markers. Situated across the street from the nearby Dougherty House, this replica log church was renovated in 2019, and the Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society is in the process of updating the exhibits.

*Resources:*

- [2018 Peninsula Township Parks Plan](#)
- <https://www.peninsulatownship.com/parks1.html>
- <https://www.omphistoricalsociety.org/>

- [Dougherty House](#)

Acres: 14.7

This home was built in 1842 by Reverend Peter Dougherty, a Presbyterian minister, with the help of a Chippewa village headed by Chief Aghosa. In 2006, the property was deeded to Peninsula Township and became part of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. In 2011, the home and land were placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Peter Dougherty Society, organized as a 501©(3) nonprofit organization, worked tirelessly to restore, maintain, and display the home and grounds. Today, the site is an historical, cultural, educational, and community center and museum. The grounds include the Heritage Trail and Disabled Trail as well as gardens that reflect farming in the late nineteenth century. The home and property continue to be maintained by volunteers through the Peter Dougherty Society, but the township is responsible for utilities and major capital needs as needed.

*Resource:*

[https://www.record-eagle.com/news/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/old-mission-landmark-to-become-historical-educational-center/article\\_770058ec-a64a-5b07-a490-8c215a20715d.html](https://www.record-eagle.com/news/arts_and_entertainment/old-mission-landmark-to-become-historical-educational-center/article_770058ec-a64a-5b07-a490-8c215a20715d.html)



**Other recreational assets located in Peninsula Township that are not owned or maintained by the township include the following:**

- DNR Boat Launch Sites
  - East Bay
  - West Bay
- Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation
  - Power Island
- Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy
  - Pyatt Lake: The Bill Carls Nature Preserve
  - Brinkman Bog Nature Sanctuary
- All roads are popular with cyclists



## Plan Summaries

- [2018 Five-Year Recreation Plan / Pelizzari Natural Area Management Plan](#)

The 2018 Five-Year Peninsula Township Recreation Plan identifies the township's highest recreation priorities, and provides a road map for the implementation of the recreation goals and objectives identified by the Peninsula Township Park Commission (a predecessor to the parks committee), citizens, and township boards and committees. The plan was developed according to the DNR Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans. The plan covers the township's management and administrative structure, goals and objectives, planning process, and includes a recreation inventory. This plan also includes the 2010 PNA Management Plan, which outlines how to restore and protect the land, provide public access while minimizing potential impacts, and promote environmental education and volunteerism.

*Resources:*

[2018 5-Year Recreation Plan](#)

- [2017 Bowers Harbor Expansion Concept Plan](#)

The 2017 Bowers Harbor Expansion Concept Plan investigates the site's history as mostly agricultural in nature with some environmental contamination that was not out of character with its former use. The plan also summarizes the public input received regarding which elements to include in an update and expansion of the site, such as playground equipment, pedestrian trails, picnic pavilions, and natural tree coverings and native plantings. The township estimates needing approximately \$150,000 to remove the old/existing playground equipment and to install new play equipment, benches, access pathways, recycling bins, and landscaping. Grant application requests of \$75,000 each were submitted to the DNR's Michigan Recreation Passport Grant Program in 2019, with an equal match proposed from the township. The 2019 application was not successful, though the information compiled may be useful for other grant applications.

*Resources:*

- [2017 Bowers Harbor Concept Plan](#)
- [Bowers Harbor 2017-18 Budget Request](#)
- [DNR Grant Application 2019](#)



- Peninsula Township Master Plan

The township is currently updating its master plan. The last major update occurred in 2011. The website [participateoldmission.com](https://participateoldmission.com) provides information to the public and receives feedback throughout the update process. The 2011 master plan generally covered the community setting (including public opinion and demographics), zoning and current land use, future land use, and implementation strategies. In addition to the topics covered in the previous master plan, the current plan update will also include land-use issues such as agri-tourism, shoreline and water quality, alternative energy, the concept of a village center, multi-modal transportation, and history and culture.

*Resources:*

- <https://participateoldmission.com/>
- [2011 Peninsula Township Master Plan](#)

- 2019 Citizen Survey

In September 2019, 200 telephone interviews were conducted with adult residents of Peninsula Township. Additionally, postcards were sent to approximately 3,800 residents with instructions on how to access an online survey containing identical questions to the telephone survey. The online survey was available from October 18 through November 6, 2019. There were 980 usable responses. The survey found that residents supported the taxpayer-funded Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program by a better than 2:1 ratio to help maintain the rural/farm character of the township. The survey also found that most residents supported the preservation of scenic viewsheds and open space instead of more development.

*Resources:*

- [2019 Peninsula Township Citizen Survey](#)

- LIAA TART Report, 2019

In 2019, Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation Trails, Inc. (TART) partnered with the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) to identify and inventory opportunities to create non-motorized pathways throughout the Grand Traverse region. The effort included interviews with local governmental jurisdictions in the region. The report noted that Peninsula Township did not have any designated non-motorized trail routes. The township is now including the concept of implementing non-motorized trail routes as part of its 2021 Township Master Plan update.

*Resources:*

- [LIAA TART Report - Excerpt for Peninsula Township](#)



- Kelley Park Lease, 2021

In 2021, the Michigan DNR entered into an agreement with Peninsula Township to lease the state-owned land commonly known as “Kelley Park” to the township for a period of 30 years. The lease gives the township the option to develop and occupy the site as a park. The township is responsible for obtaining all required permits from the state, and the management and development must be in compliance with PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

*Resources:*

[Kelley Park Lease](#)

- Old Mission Peninsula Scenic Heritage Route/Pure Michigan Byway

The Old Mission Peninsula Scenic Heritage Route/Pure Michigan Byway was not mentioned in the June 2021 meeting with the parks committee, but it was referenced in other related documents and seemed relevant and worth noting here. The designation of M-37 as a Scenic Heritage Route in 2007 allows the Scenic Heritage Route Committee to work with the township board, planning commission, and residents to preserve and maintain the inherent beauty and rural characteristics displayed along this particular stretch of highway. Note that the state now refers to designated Heritage Routes as “Pure Michigan Byways.”

*Resources:*

[Old Mission Peninsula Heritage Route Plan](#)

- Traffic Count Data

This document summarizes traffic count data that was collected between May of 2000 through October of 2016 along various stretches of roads in the township.

*Resources:*

[Peninsula Township Traffic Count Data](#)



# Notable Potential Project Summaries

- Bowers Harbor Expansion/Improvement Project

In 2016 and 2017, Peninsula Township worked with Beckett & Raeder, Inc., and Gourdie-Fraser, Inc., to design the proposed layout for an expansion area at Bowers Harbor Park. The final approved plan, adopted in June 2017 and amended to the Five-Year Recreation Plan, includes more formal trails and amenities. Some of those include pavilions, grills, picnic tables, scenic overlooks, bathrooms, etc. as noted on the two 2018 and 2019 Bowers Harbor Grant Application Request Maps. Other proposed and board-approved amenities include an expanded trail network, improved parking lot, benches, a signage kiosk, interpretative trail signage, litter/recycling bins, pet refuse collection facilities, and a bicycle rack.

*Resources:*

- [2017 Bowers Harbor Concept Plan](#)
- [Bowers Harbor Expansion Area – Conceptual Plan](#)
- [2018 Bowers Harbor Grant Application Request Narrative](#)
- [2018 Bowers Harbor Grant Application Request Map](#)
- [2020 Traverse City Ticker article](#)
- *Jennifer Hodges, PE, Gourdie-Fraser*

- Pelizzari Expansion Project

There is ongoing interest in expanding PNA, and the township is working with local staff, volunteers, and the GTRLC to explore options and raise funds. The township retains nearly \$300,000 from the original millage that created the natural area in the Pelizzari Natural Area Fund Balance (PNAFB). These funds can be used for surveying, appraisals, acquisition, and grant matching dollars. There are no timelines to spend the funding.

*Resources:*

*Dave Murphy, Peninsula Township Parks Committee*



- Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Renewal

LIAA spoke with John Wunsch as a representative of the committee that will seek the public renewal of the township's Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program. John confirmed that a renewal will likely be pursued sometime in 2022. As the parks committee develops its own funding plan, communication with the PDR effort will be important throughout.

*Resources:*

- *John Wunsch, Township Resident*
- *Peninsula Township Planning Commission*

- Kelley Park Boat Launch Project

As of this writing, conversations and planning continue regarding the installation of a motorized boat launch at this location.

- Mission Point Lighthouse and Nearby Grounds

In 2019, a committee consisting of members of the township board, Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society, and other community members continued to oversee the restoration of the lighthouse and renovation of the kitchen, dining area, and keeper quarters. Based on old photographs, the committee also proposed additional historic renovations to include a replica boathouse and barn plus ADA walkways and toilet facilities, an expanded parking lot, viewing platform, and other toilet facilities.



# Operating Budget for Parks in Peninsula Township

LIAA worked with the Peninsula Township Parks Committee to better understand the history of the parks, what committee members feel is working well, and what they feel needs improvement or could be done differently. Several thoughts for consideration were shared and are summarized as follows:

- Current staff are doing everything they can, but they need additional help to keep up with parks maintenance and management, especially as park usage continues to grow and Kelley Park is potentially improved with a boat launch.
- The township would benefit from having a person on the township's staff who is primarily responsible for the coordination of maintenance, volunteers, capital programs, and the continued operation of the parks system.
- Additional funding is needed to bring and keep current facilities up to date on repairs. Opportunities for additional parks funding may include:
  - Reprioritizing park needs and continuing to try to allocate scarce township revenues to maintenance and operations.
  - Considering asking voters to approve a dedicated parks operating millage.
  - Exploring opportunities to fund capital projects through alternative sources such as grants and donations; professional assistance may also be needed to submit and manage grant requests and donations.

## Analysis of Current Funding

LIAA reviewed and analyzed the past two fiscal year (FY) budgets provided by the township deputy treasurer. The two years reviewed covered:

- 04/01/19 – 03/31/20
- 04/01/20 – 03/31/21



In addition to these budgets, LIAA also received documentation on the breakdown of costs for maintenance for each park or facility that is included in the parks budget for each fiscal year.

The township tracks expenditures under two different “Fund” codes (the first three digits) and three different “Department” codes (the last three digits) within its budgeting software:

- 208-751: Parks (BHP/Haserot/Archie/Old Mission State Park)
- 208-212: Pelizzari
- 508-000: Lighthouse

While all three codes have expenditures, only Parks (208-751) and Lighthouse (508-000) have revenues. LIAA worked within the existing township budget framework when making recommendations.

### Adjustments

One-time revenues or expenses may occur during any given fiscal year and could include the awarding of a grant, the installation of new playground equipment, or a major repair due to deferred maintenance or natural causes. LIAA adjusted for these occurrences in both the revenues and expenditures provided to develop an average annual dollar amount that the township currently counts as spending on its parks. This includes all township owned/operated parks. Additionally, some adjustments were made to account for the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused a disruption in the normal revenue stream, particularly for Bowers Harbor Park and Mission Point Lighthouse Park. The assumption was made that revenues would eventually return to pre-pandemic levels.

*Note: profits from the lighthouse gift shop fund half of the lighthouse manager's salary and benefits and the wages of an assistant; the other half is funded from the lighthouse itself via tower tours. Any excess funds in the Lighthouse Gift Shop Fund can and did fund the operating expenses of the lighthouse during the COVID-19 shutdown. If the lighthouse gift shop has excess funds, it can and has used them to fund some lighthouse capital expenditures, but it must keep a reserve in its own account in case the gift shop closes again. During the pandemic, when the lighthouse was closed to visitors, once all the excess lighthouse gift shop funds had already been transferred to the lighthouse, the lighthouse had to borrow \$100,000 from the township's Enterprise Fund to complete and pay for the historical renovations to the lighthouse that were already underway. The loan is still outstanding.*



Another budget outlier is the \$145,000 received annually for a cell tower lease. The assumption was made to remove this item from the parks budget as it is currently dedicated to other township expenses and is not being used in whole to fund park activities.

- Total Estimated Average Annual Revenues for All Parks: \$136,832
  - B/H/A/P \$18,467
  - Lighthouse \$103,365
  - Hessler Log Cabin

\*See appendix A for more details
  
- Total Estimated Average Annual Operating Expenditures: \$150,868
  - B/H/A \$83,604
  - Pelizzari \$4,015
  - Lighthouse \$63,249

\*See appendix B for more details

### Mission Point Lighthouse Park – an Exception

Based on pre-pandemic funding data, the lighthouse gift shop (LHGS) and Mission Point Lighthouse Park generally produce enough revenue to maintain their own operations with a surplus each year. It is LIAA’s understanding that all revenues and expenditures for the LHGS must be used to pay for gift shop expenses and needs within the lighthouse building. Money from tower tours likewise must be used for lighthouse and grounds maintenance and restoration needs. This leaves the remaining parks, including the grounds of Mission Point Lighthouse Park, with average annual total operating revenues of approximately \$18,467 and total expenditures of \$87,619.

For this reason, in the next portion of this analysis, Mission Point Lighthouse Park revenues and expenditures are separated from the remainder of the parks budget to capture a more accurate picture of the budget for the remaining parks.

## Contractual Services and Maintenance Expenditures

Contractual services and repairs and maintenance are the two largest expenditures related to taking care of the parks. Excluding Mission Point Lighthouse Park, the township presently spends about \$50,198\* on contractual services and \$16,000\* on repairs and maintenance (i.e., materials costs and/or maintenance services that fall outside the scope of the main contractual services agreement), for an annual total of \$66,198. This is predominantly for one contractor, who is responsible for all routine and special maintenance in the parks, as well as some additional help from other contractors to complete specific tasks such as snow plowing.

*\*See appendix B – combine “Contractual Services” and “Maintenance and Repairs” line items for B/H/A and Pelizzari*

## Neighboring Parks Budgets

LIAA reached out to nearby townships for information regarding their annual operating and maintenance expenditures for their parks systems. The following chart shows how Peninsula Township’s parks expenditures compare to other similar townships in the Grand Traverse area.

Jurisdiction	Population	Annual Budget	Acres of Parkland
Peninsula Twp (excl. Lighthouse)	6,068	\$87,619	823
Blair Twp	8,994	\$175,000	18
Long Lake Twp	9,956	\$216,000	441

- Population based on 2020 census data
- Annual budget based on 2020 budget data provided by local townships officials
- Acres of parkland provided by local township officials

### **Blair Township**

Blair Township utilizes contractors for the majority of maintenance and spends about \$15,000 annually. In addition, it spends about \$40,000 annually on a “clean-up day” that consists of a coordinated effort between contractors and volunteers to clean the parks. There is also \$30,000 set aside annually for township staff that dedicates time to parks maintenance, such as the supervisor and treasurer for monitoring park conditions and budgeting/tracking expenses. It is common practice for a local jurisdiction to set-aside a portion of a local official’s salary and benefits from several budgets as they may spend a portion of their time working on various projects in several departments. The Supervisor and treasurer are not paid extra for overseeing parks, but a portion of their time and benefits are allocated to the parks budget for the time they spend working on park projects. Some part-time administrative help may be hired in the busy/summer months.

## Long Lake Township

As part of its budget, Long Lake Township has one full-time parks maintenance employee whose annual salary, including benefits, is \$60,000. Additionally, the township dedicates a law officer on Long Lake to patrol boat launch sites throughout the summer. This costs \$50,000 with an additional \$9,000 spent on portable bathrooms in the summer. The township treasurer is in charge of parks and provides staff support to the parks committee.

### Proposed Capital Projects and Maintenance Expenditures

Peninsula Township Parks Committee members visited and assessed each township-owned or operated park during the end of September 2021 and the beginning of October 2021. They consulted with maintenance personal or appropriate professionals when necessary to identify outstanding maintenance items and routine maintenance activities and their associated costs. The committee also tallied known capital project needs (e.g., projects identified in the township's five-year rec plan, among others). Below is a summary of their findings:

Park	Total Capital Improvements	Total Annual Maintenance Cost (incl. Capital Improvements)
Bowers Harbor	\$2,207,140	\$80,310
Archie	\$23,400	\$4,454
Haserot	\$30,000	\$9,760
Kelley	\$708,000	\$47,788
Pelizzari	\$472,575	\$7,542
Old Mission State Park	\$104,450	\$25,240
Hessler Log Cabin	\$11,000	\$2,350
Dougherty House	\$275,000	\$2,667
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,989,115</b>	<b>\$172,771</b>

As noted earlier, the township currently spends approximately \$66,198 on operations for parks outside of the lighthouse (this is the combination of both the Contractual Services and Maintenance line items in the budget). Based on the parks committee's needs assessment above (and detailed in appendix C), the annual cost for maintenance is closer to \$172,771, or an annual maintenance shortfall of \$88,673.



### Other Personnel Needs

No township officer, employee, or contractor is currently tasked with administering the overall park system or performing routine tasks related to its administration (e.g., answering and responding to calls/complaints, securing and coordinating maintenance contractors, performing site checks on parks, writing and managing plans and grants, providing staff support and coordination to volunteers, including the parks committee, etc.). This lack of institutional capacity has been cited by the parks committee and other township officials as a key gap in current park operations.

### Other Professional Services

The township occasionally contracts for some additional professional services related to parks, such as this feasibility study. The township's contracted engineering firm has also assisted with site plans and grant applications. The GTRLC provides nearly constant consultation services and on-the-ground help for free. Recreational grant programs in Michigan are popular and effective ways to augment budgets for park projects and should be a regular part of the township's park processes. Budgeting time and funding to prepare and administer grant applications — whether through staff or an outside contractor — would pay dividends, especially to target the desired capital projects identified in township parks.

### Matching Funds and Contingencies

Most recreational grant programs prefer — or flat-out require — that other funds be committed by the grantee toward the project. These “matching” funds help to demonstrate the commitment of the local community toward the project and give the funder the means to spread its resources to a greater number of communities. Having funds on hand to provide matching dollars for grant applications is an important consideration in pursuing grants. Likewise, a lack of available matching funds will prevent the township from pursuing many of these grants.

One way to build up a fund balance for matching grants over time is to create an annual contingency in the parks budget, generally as a percentage of the overall annual budget (e.g., 10%). Contingency funds can be used for emergencies or other unexpected costs in a given budget year, with the remainder set aside as a source of matching funding for grants.

### Recommended Annual Operating Budget

The first table below is a recommended expenditure budget for all parks except Mission Point Lighthouse Park:

<b>Operations (without Mission Point Lighthouse Park)</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
Current parks contractor and maintenance budget	\$66,198
Additional parks maintenance needs	\$88,673
Current other parks expenditures (all other expenditures, minus the current parks contractor and maintenance budget items)	\$21,421
Additional personnel (part-time administrator/manager)	\$30,000
Other professional services (grant writing, plans)	\$10,000
Contingency/matching funds (10% of overall budget)	\$21,629
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$237,921</b>

As explained earlier, it was useful for this analysis to temporarily exclude Mission Point Lighthouse Park in order to better understand the costs associated with the other parks. Of course, Mission Point Lighthouse Park is still part of the overall township parks system and must be folded back into this analysis for a complete parks picture. The committee conducted the same annual maintenance assessment for Mission Point Lighthouse Park, and the next table below brings recommended annual expenses full circle:

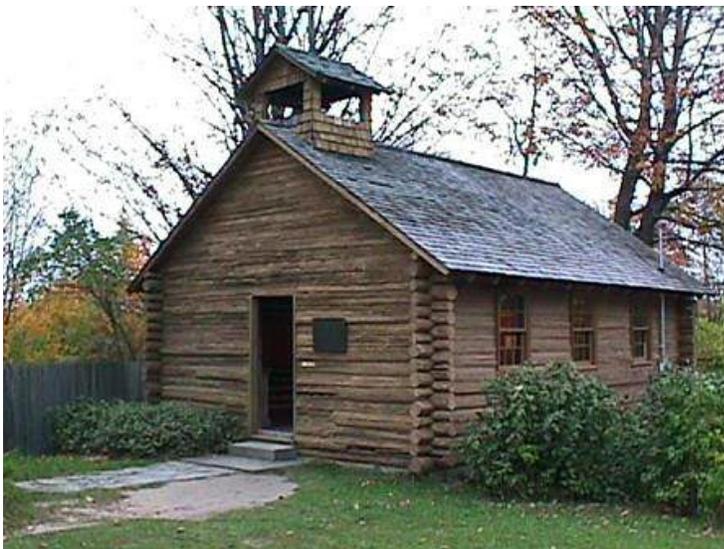
<b>Operations (All Parks including Lighthouse)</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
Current Parks Contractor and Maintenance Budget	\$85,529
Additional Parks Maintenance Needs	\$87,242
Current other parks expenditures (all other expenditures, minus the current parks contractor and maintenance budget items)	\$65,339
Additional Personnel (Part-Time Administrator/Manager)	\$30,000
Other Professional Services (Grant Writing, Plans)	\$10,000
Contingency/matching funds (10% of overall budget)	\$27,811
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$305,921</b>



As noted earlier, opportunities for additional parks funding may include:

- Reprioritizing parks needs and allocating existing township revenues to maintenance and operations.
- Considering a dedicated parks operating millage at a future election.
- Exploring opportunities to fund capital projects through alternative sources such as grants and donations; professional assistance may also be needed to submit and manage grant requests and donations.

Peninsula Township's parks committee, board of trustees, and citizens will need to work together to decide on the right mix of options for ensuring that the township's enviable parks and recreation resources are efficiently preserved, maintained, and improved for generations to come.



# Public Input Study

## Background

After reviewing and analyzing the status of the parks budget and physical condition of the parks, the parks committee identified over 40 potential capital improvement projects that they felt would enhance and improve the township parks, provide a more user-friendly experience, and accommodate the growing and changing needs of the park system. While all the proposed improvements warrant consideration, the committee acknowledges that not all of them may be financially feasible or preferred by the community. The township solicited public input to help identify which projects are a greater priority, collect any additional thoughts or concerns about the proposed projects, and ask residents to identify other projects that may not have been included in the survey.

## Objectives:

- Share the Financial Feasibility Study with residents
- Share potential capital projects that may improve the township parks system
- Gain feedback from residents to help prioritize capital projects in the parks in order to develop a targeted and sufficient budget that allocates adequate resources for updates and improvements in the parks





## Methodology

The parks committee conducted a public survey which consisted of two in-person open houses as well as an online option where people were able to participate. Both methods collected similar information to allow for fair and equitable opportunities to participate regardless of which option was utilized.

In each instance, survey participants were provided with information about 43 capital projects in nine different parks/properties. They were asked to identify up to five projects that they considered to be the most important but were permitted to submit fewer if preferred. Additionally, they were asked to specify which project was their top priority. They were also asked to provide their age and gender, both of which were optional. Room was provided on the survey to also provide general comments.

The opportunity to participate was advertised and noticed at the Township Hall as well as:

- On the township's public-input website, [participateoldmission.com](https://participateoldmission.com)
- On the township's main website, [www.peninsulatownship.com](https://www.peninsulatownship.com)
- In the township newsletter (sent through the U.S. mail Feb. 6, 2022)
- In the Old Mission Gazette e-news magazine (Published Feb. 18, 2022)

All the surveys were compiled into one online database utilizing the “Bang the Table” software platform. This data was used to create the statistics and graphs in this report.

### **Online**

The online survey was live and available to participants from February 14 through March 15, 2022. Users were required to register through the [participateoldmission.com](https://participateoldmission.com) website to take part in the survey.

Number of surveys submitted: 121

### **In-Person**

There was a total of 38 surveys submitted during the public open houses. Five were incomplete and have not yet been included in the results. The in-person open-house sessions were conducted on the following dates/times/locations:



- Wednesday, February 23, 2022 from 4-7 p.m.  
Township Hall, 8150 Center Road, Traverse City, MI  
Number of surveys submitted: 32
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022 from 4-7 p.m.\*  
First Congregational Church, 6105 Center Road, Traverse City, MI  
Number of surveys submitted: 6

*\*Rescheduled from Tuesday, February 22, 2022, due to inclement weather*

Participants were provided with a ballot form and instructions (see appendix D).

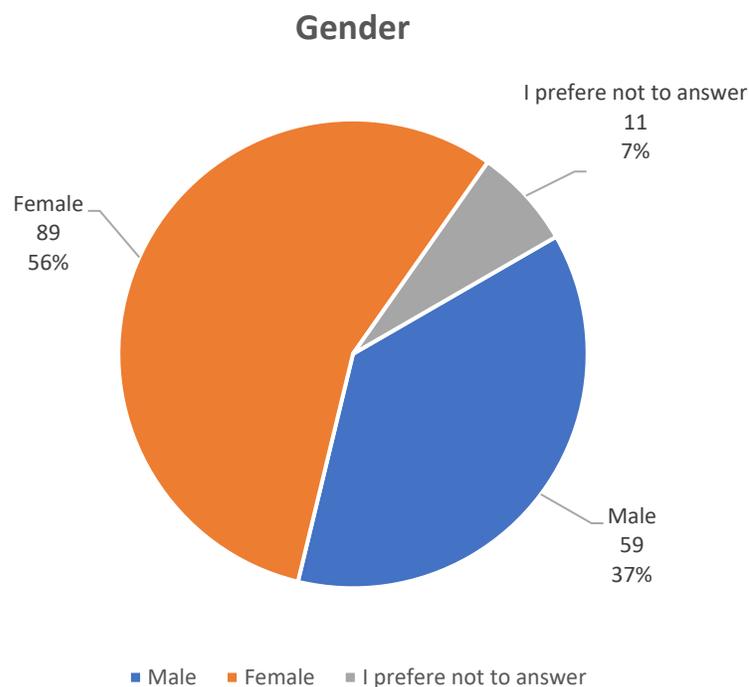
### Results

The following is a summary of the input received throughout the public input period for both online and in-person submissions.

Total number of participants: 159

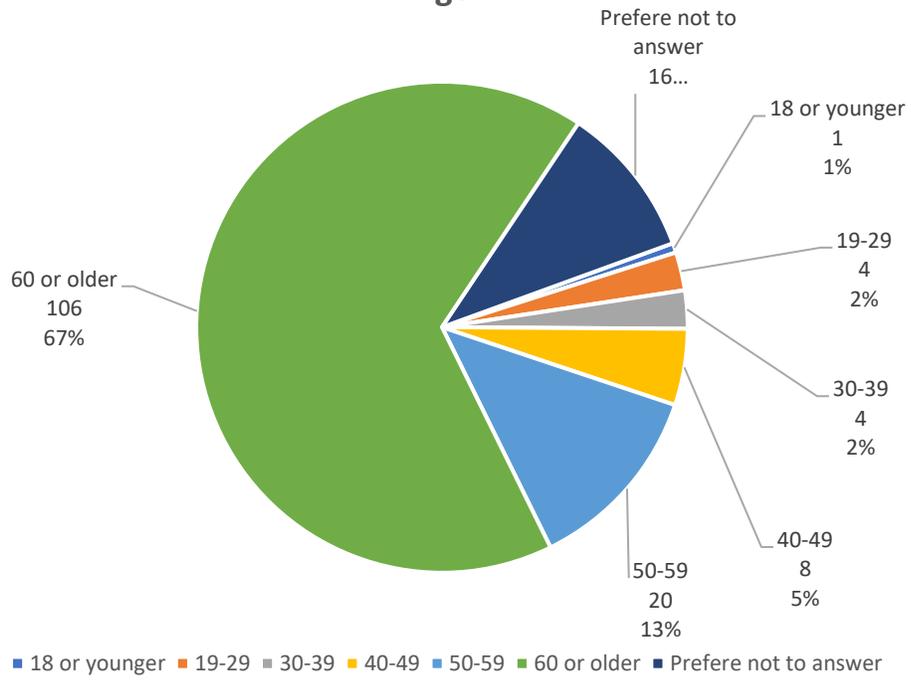
Total number of comments received: 86 (all comments included in appendix E)

The charts below illustrate demographic information that was voluntarily provided by participants:

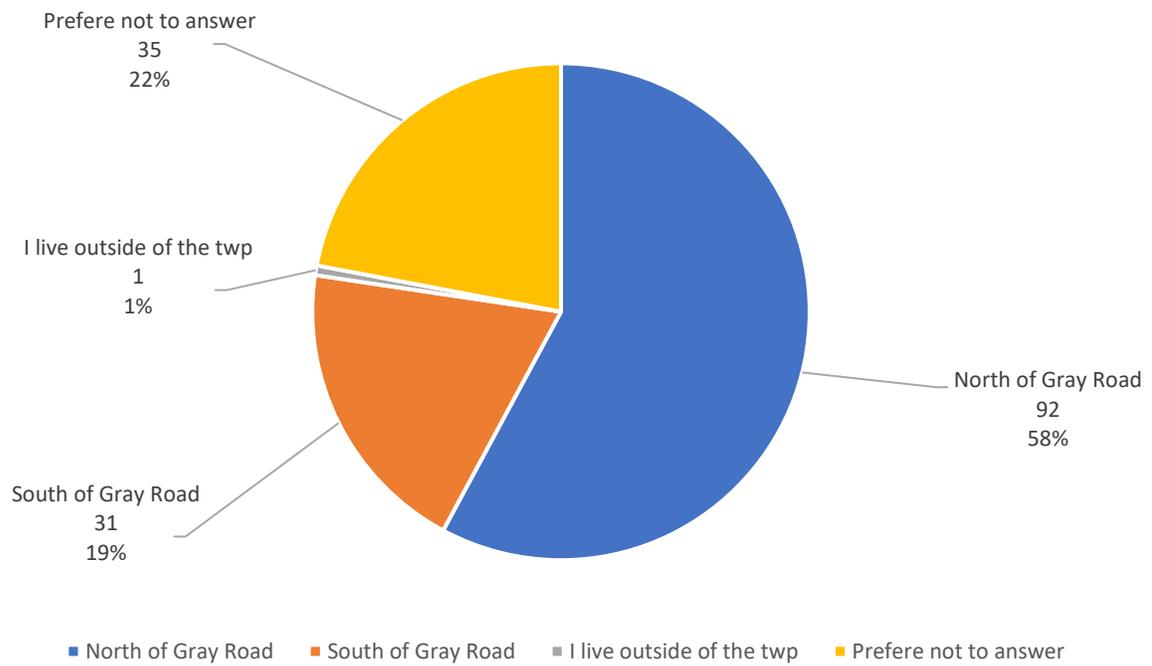




### Age



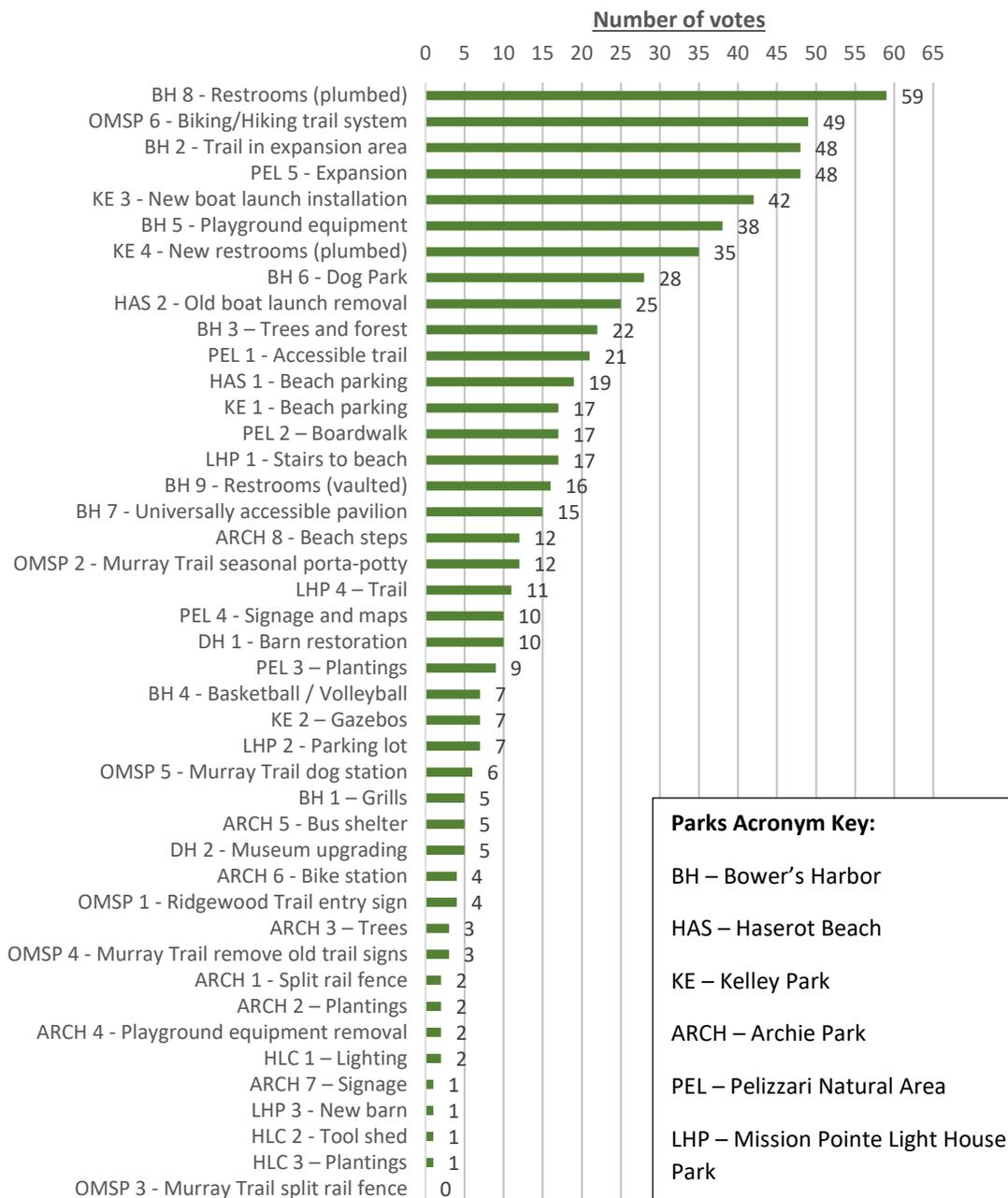
### Residency



The following charts illustrate the responses to the survey questions regarding the projects:

**Question:** Select up to five (5) park projects that you feel should be high priorities

### Total Project Votes

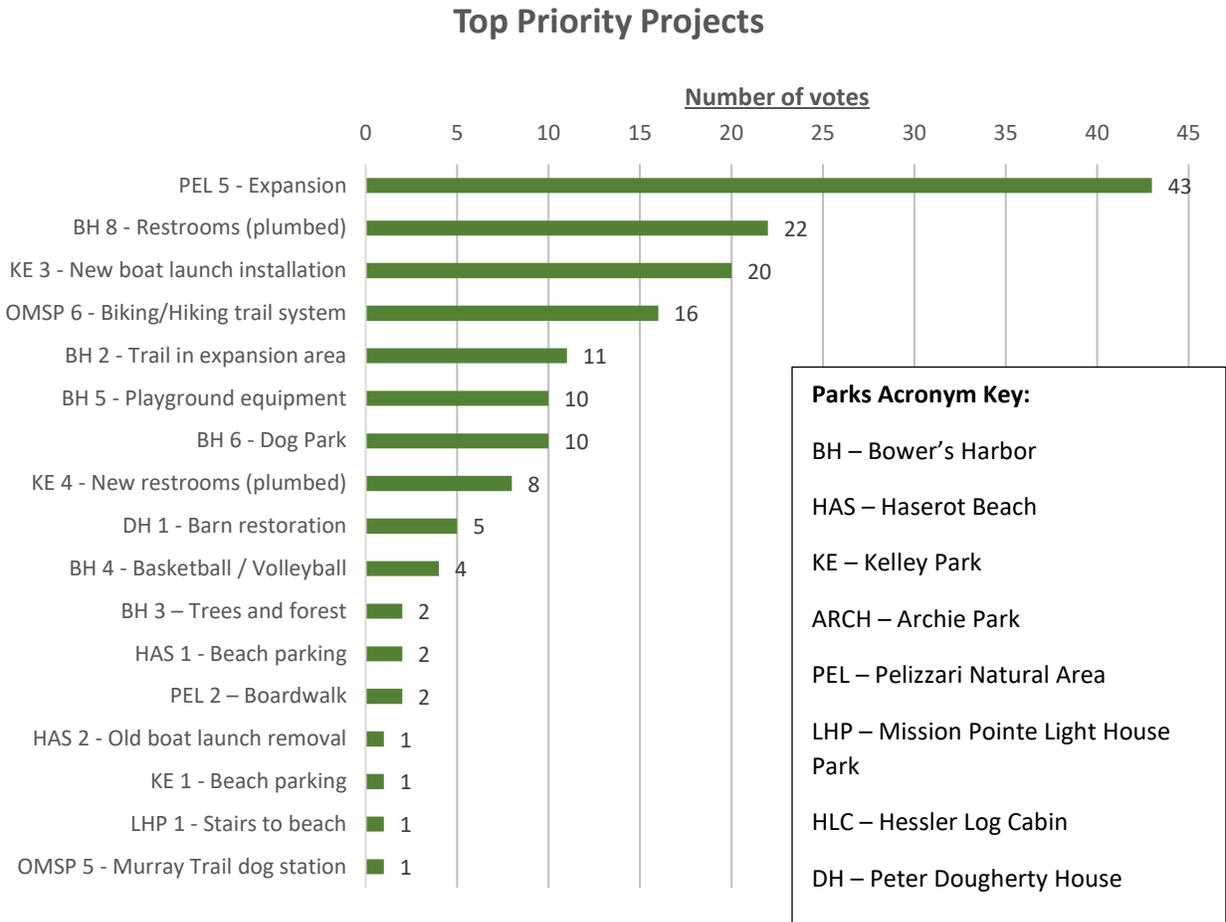


**Parks Acronym Key:**

- BH – Bower’s Harbor
- HAS – Haserot Beach
- KE – Kelley Park
- ARCH – Archie Park
- PEL – Pelizzari Natural Area
- LHP – Mission Pointe Light House Park
- HLC – Hessler Log Cabin
- DH – Peter Dougherty House

**Question:** Identify your #1 top priority project that you feel is the most important (choose one)

**Responses:**





## Survey Impressions

Following the conclusion of the public input study, the parks committee met on March 23, 2022 to discuss their impressions of the feedback.

- Education – there is a need to develop education opportunities for the public regarding how parks are funded through the township. It was speculated that providing a better understanding of where tax dollars are allocated with relation to the amount collected for various taxing authorities may be helpful to explain why resources are limited through the local operating millage.
- Bathrooms – Many residents would like new or improved restroom facilities (preferably plumbed)
- Water – access to water/drinking fountains could be improved or additional fixtures installed
- Open Spaces – there was a general appreciation for natural, open spaces throughout the township.
- Trails – generally residents seemed to favor more/better maintained trails.
- Bower’s Harbor – this park was perceived as a focus point, or “crown jewel” of the township parks system and that the expansion area plans should be developed.
- Maintenance – respondents noted the condition or lack of maintenance in the parks. They also felt several of the projects that had lower dollar values assigned to them should be considered routine maintenance items.
- Dog Park – there were several positive responses to the dog parks, but it was noted by the committee that in the past many residents had expressed that they did not want one.
- Sample Size – the sample size was small and included several respondents that have participated and weighed-in on the parks in the past.



## Outside Funding Resources

The following organizations and programs are just a sampling of potential funding sources for park projects in Peninsula Township. This list is by no means exhaustive, and other funding sources will also be appropriate based on a given project's goals and objectives (some funders specialize in improving universal access, have a particular interest in supporting certain park amenities or activities, etc.). *LIAA does not recommend relying on grants or donations for general park operations and routine maintenance.* Rather, these outside sources of funding can play an important and useful role in executing desired capital projects and even acquiring new parklands.

DNR – Natural Resources Trust Fund: provides grants to local units of government and to the state for acquisition and development of lands and facilities for outdoor recreation or the conservation of natural resources. This is the only DNR grant program for land acquisition.

DNR – Land and Water Conservation Fund: provides grants to local units of government and to the state to develop land for public outdoor recreation such as trails, picnic areas, beaches, campgrounds, boating access, and fishing areas.

DNR – Waterways Program Grant: provides financial and technical assistance for design and construction of public recreational boating facilities, including state-sponsored harbor and mooring facilities. Only local units of government and public universities are eligible to apply.

DNR – Recreation Passport Grants: the objective is to provide funding to local units for the development of public recreation facilities. This includes the development of new facilities and the renovation of old facilities. Criteria emphasize renovations to existing facilities that have outlived their useful life expectancy.

DNR – Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program: funds can be used to address strategic issues of prevention, detection, eradication, and control for both terrestrial and aquatic invasive species in Michigan.

DNR – Community Forestry Grants: provides funds for projects that address the urban forestry needs of local governments, schools, non-profit organizations, and volunteer groups throughout Michigan. These projects may include tree inventories, management plans, tree planting, educational workshops, training materials, and Arbor Day activities.



Rotary Charities of Traverse City – Seed Grant: provides funding for planning, designing, and organizing projects with the potential to make an impact in the community. Helps stakeholders understand the community problem or need.

Rotary Charities of Traverse City – Assets for Thriving Communities Grant: helps provide access to community assets through the development of infrastructure. May be most appropriate to apply after utilizing the Seed Grant. This category is intended for projects that have done significant groundwork prior to application to engage the community, establish working relationships with stakeholders, and execute research to inform strategy.

Oleson Foundation: a local family foundation focused on community development projects (including recreation) along with education, the environment, and health and human services.

Biederman Foundation: a local family foundation focused on civic improvements and preservation efforts, among other interests.

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians: the Grand Traverse Band’s 2% Grant Program is open to local governments twice each year.

Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation: the local community foundation offers a number of grant opportunities across a range of endowments and funds.

EGLE – Michigan Coastal Management Program: the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Water Resources Division (WRD), administers grant funding through the Michigan Coastal Management Program (MCMP). The MCMP’s strategic goals are to plan for growth and change in coastal communities to protect, preserve, restore, enhance, and wisely develop coastal areas for use and enjoyment. EGLE aims to improve quality of life and build partnerships to create networks that strengthen and expand the collective impact of effective and efficient coastal management. As a federally approved coastal program, the MCMP is supported, in part, by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Funds are available for creative coastal planning and implementation projects.



Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (GTRLC): GTRLC protects crucial wildlife habitat and corridors, critical watersheds, unique high-quality farmlands, valuable forestland, and ecologically significant dunes along Lake Michigan's beautiful and endangered shore. The organization can assist local units of government in creating or expanding public parks and natural areas that result in enhanced public access to nature and improved recreational opportunities.

DTE Energy: supports innovative programs and/or organizations focused on environmental leadership and sustainability with an emphasis on air, land, water quality, and wildlife. Funding is primarily allocated to organizations that demonstrate their commitment to underserved populations and vulnerable groups through equitable development.

DTE Energy Foundation: competitive, cost-share (1:1) grants for tree planting projects are available to municipalities, non-profit organizations [501(c)(3)] and tribal governments located within DTE Energy's service area.

### Appendix A - Current Parks Revenues

<b>Adjusted Annual Average Revenues for all Parks</b>			
	<b>B/H/AP</b>	<b>Lighthouse</b>	<b>Combined</b>
Parks & Large Event Fee	\$ 6,200		\$ 6,200
Interest	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 60
Rental Income	\$ 1,100		\$ 1,100
Keeper Program		\$ 6,307	\$ 6,307
Lighthouse Tours		\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000
Miscellaneous		\$ 2,028	\$ 2,028
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL AVERAGES</b>	<b>\$ 7,330</b>	<b>\$ 103,365</b>	<b>\$ 110,695</b>

## Appendix B - Current Parks Expenditures

<b>Adjusted Annual Assumed Average Expenditures for all Parks</b>				
	<b>B/H/A</b>	<b>Pelizzari</b>	<b>Lighthouse</b>	<b>Combined</b>
Per Diem	\$ (6,565)			\$ (6,565)
Liability - Insurance	\$ (2,179)	\$ (227)	\$ (6,000)	\$ (8,405)
Workers Comp	\$ (78)		\$ (150)	\$ (227)
Medical/Life Insurance			\$ (7,000)	\$ (7,000)
Health Savings Account			\$ (650)	\$ (650)
Employer Social Security	\$ (602)		\$ (1,358)	\$ (1,959)
Pension			\$ (2,446)	\$ (2,446)
Postage/Shipping			\$ (100)	\$ (100)
Supplies	\$ (323)		\$ (2,218)	\$ (2,540)
Park Signs/Lighthouse Signs	\$ (2,000)		\$ (486)	\$ (2,487)
Keeper Quarter Supplies			\$ 0	\$ 0
Grounds			\$ (702)	\$ (702)
Museum Displays			\$ (2,231)	\$ (2,231)
Heating Fuel			\$ (1,969)	\$ (1,969)
Seeding and Planting Services	\$ (246)			\$ (246)
Audit Fees	\$ (255)	\$ (220)	\$ (121)	\$ (595)
Contractual Services	\$ (48,000)	\$ (2,198)	\$ (16,000)	\$ (66,198)
Background Checks			\$ (213)	\$ (213)
Sanitation Services			\$ (8,000)	\$ (8,000)
Security			\$ (650)	\$ (650)
Website			\$ (150)	\$ (150)
Recording Secretary	\$ (1,500)			\$ (1,500)
Com/Telephone			\$ (2,137)	\$ (2,137)
Noncom. Public Wat. Sup. Fee	\$ (1,127)			\$ (1,127)
Mileage			\$ (1,500)	\$ (1,500)
Community Activities			\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)
Printing & Advertising	\$ (2,000)		\$ (2,000)	\$ (4,000)
Legal Notices			\$ (680)	\$ (680)
Electricity	\$ (1,872)	\$ (371)	\$ (1,356)	\$ (3,599)
Street Lighting	\$ (1,353)			\$ (1,353)
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ (15,000)	\$ (1,000)	\$ (3,331)	\$ (19,331)
Memberships and Dues	\$ (504)		\$ (400)	\$ (904)
Education and Training			\$ (279)	\$ (279)
Capital Outlay/Misc Expenditures			\$ 877	\$ 877
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL AVERAGES</b>	<b>\$ (83,604)</b>	<b>\$ (4,015)</b>	<b>\$ (63,249)</b>	<b>\$ (150,868)</b>

## Appendix C – Parks Committee Cost A

Park Capital Projects and Maintenance					
Capital (C) or Maintenance (M)	PROJECT	ANNUAL OPERATION/MAINTENANCE DETAIL	TOTAL CAPITAL COST	TOTAL MAINTENANCE COST	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST
<b>Bower's Harbor</b>					
M	Picnic tables, shelters and grills	Paint pavilion #1 every 10 years		\$1,700	\$170
M		Stain pavilions #2&3 every 10 years		\$2,100	\$210
M		Clean and treat pavilion shake roofs every 3 years		\$3,000	\$1,000
M		Wire brush and paint grill firebox and posts ever 2 years		\$360	\$180
M		Paint trash barrels every 3 years		\$500	\$167
M		Replace 1 pedestal grill now (then one every 5 years thereafter)	\$400	\$80	\$16
M	Walking Path	Sealant, crack repair, and replacing asphalt (every 5 years)		\$8,200	\$1,640
C	Trail in expansion area	One-mile UA trail expansion	\$1,300,000	\$15,000	\$3,000
M	Trees and forest	Annual tree maintenance	\$4,100	\$500	\$500
C	Tennis and Pickle-Ball	Install new pickle ball courts	\$150,000		
M		Resurface pickle ball / tennis courts every 4 years		\$4,000	\$1,000
M		Replace pickle ball nets every 4 years		\$680	\$170
M		Replace tennis nets every 4 years		\$380	\$95
M		Net repairs every 2 years		\$180	\$90
C	Basketball / Volleyball	Relocate volleyball courts	\$0		
M		Net repairs / replacements		\$100	\$100
M	Baseball / Soccer	Soccer net replacement every 2 years		\$300	\$150
M		Fertilize and spray grass for both baseball fields		\$5,000	\$5,000
M	Buildings and support buildings	Paint/stain maintenance/utility buildings every 10 years		\$2,400	\$240
M		Paint toilet vault every 3 years		\$800	\$267
M	Signage	Repair and replace signage		\$800	\$500
C	Playground Equipment	Install new playground equipment N&S	\$350,000		
M		Playground wood chips (40 yards per site - 2 playgrounds)	\$3,100		
M		Replenish playground woodchips every 2 years		\$1,500	\$750
M		Sandboxes (replenish sand every 3 years)		\$200	\$67
C	Dog Park	Install new dog park (well, location, construction)	\$60,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
C	Ice Rink	Purchase new kit ice rink (replace liners every 8 years \$470)	\$4,540	\$470	\$59
C	Universally accessible pavilion	Install new universally accessible pavilion with grill	\$50,000		
C	Restrooms	Install plumbed restrooms	\$250,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
M		Install new vaulted restroom	\$35,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
M		Existing restroom facilities		\$8,800	\$8,800
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Maintenance item in current budget		\$15,840	\$15,840
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$14,300	\$14,300
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,045	\$1,045
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$638	\$638
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$902	\$902
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$495	\$495
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,540	\$1,540
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$1,100	\$1,100
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$2,000	\$2,000
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$3,400	\$3,400
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$440	\$440
M		Additional required if expansion is built-out		\$440	\$440
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$2,207,140</b>	<b>\$113,190</b>	<b>\$80,310</b>
<b>Haserot</b>					
C	Beach parking lot	Parking lot across road bordering the VFW & Port Office	\$6,000	\$500	\$500
C		Crushed stone	\$2,500	\$300	\$300
C		marked parking spots (remarked every 2 years)	\$500	\$100	\$50
C		Add split rail fence at road and VFW/PO	\$10,000		
C		Tree cleaning	\$5,000		
C	Remove boat launch	Remove remainder of old boat launch	\$6,000		
M	Restrooms	Maintenance item in current budget		\$4,290	\$4,290
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,320	\$1,320
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$550	\$550
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$550	\$550
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,375	\$1,375
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$0	\$0
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$825	\$825
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$9,810</b>	<b>\$9,760</b>
<b>Kelley</b>					
C	Beach parking lot	Crushed stone		\$100	\$100
C		marked parking spots (remarked every 2 years)		\$200	\$100
C		Fencing: split rail at road and N/S borders of parking lot	\$5,000	\$300	\$300
C	Gazebos	Repair and repaint (annually)	\$3,000	\$500	\$500
C	Boat launch / dredging	Installation of boat launch / dredging every year	\$500,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
C	Restrooms / Showers	Potential capital and maintenance costs if installed	\$200,000	\$1,900	\$1,900
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$3,300	\$3,300
M	Spring Clean-Up	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$220	\$220
M	Fall Clean-Up	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$198	\$198
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$330	\$330

## Appendix C - Parks Committee Cost Assessments (continued)

Park Capital Projects and Maintenance					
Capital (C) or Maintenance (M)	PROJECT	ANNUAL OPERATION/MAINTENANCE DETAIL	TOTAL CAPITAL COST	TOTAL MAINTENANCE COST	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST
M	Snow Plowing	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$730	\$730
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Potential maintenance item (based off Bower's Harbor costs)		\$110	\$110
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$708,000</b>	<b>\$47,888</b>	<b>\$47,788</b>
<b>Archie</b>					
C	Fencing	Repair / add split rail fencing to enclose 3 sides of park	\$5,000		
C	Plantings	Add native hearty shrubs to west side of the park	\$4,500		
C	Trees	Remove 2 very dead trees	\$500		
C	Playground equipment	Remove playground equipment	\$1,000		
C	Bus shelter	Install storm /bus shelter	\$10,000	\$100	\$100
C	Bike station	Install bike repair post	\$1,200	\$100	\$100
C	Signage	Redo signage	\$500	\$100	\$100
M	Beach steps	Fortify footings of steps to beach where there is erosion	\$500	\$50	\$50
C	Life ring	Remove life ring and post	\$100		
M	Water testing	Test water from hand pump & add signage	\$100	\$50	\$50
M	Restrooms	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,375	\$1,375
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,320	\$1,320
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$198	\$198
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$418	\$418
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$165	\$165
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$270	\$270
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$308	\$308
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$23,400</b>	<b>\$4,454</b>	<b>\$4,454</b>
<b>Pelizzari Natural Area</b>					
C	Accessible trail	Universally accessible trail off of Center Road, .7 miles	\$67,575	\$0	\$0
C	Boardwalk	Boardwalk in hemlock wing for accessibility / environmental	\$400,000		
C	Plantings	Plantings near center road	\$3,000		
C	Signage and maps	Signage & maps per common signs/maps in all parks	\$2,000	\$100	\$100
M	Trail clean-up	Routine trail clean-up		\$2,800	\$2,800
M	Parking lot	Parking lot repair and maintenance		\$500	\$500
M	Storm drain inspection	Annual storm drain inspection to assure functioning properly		\$750	\$750
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Increase frequency (from \$900 to \$1,500 annually)		\$1,500	\$1,500
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$297	\$297
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$66	\$66
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Additional trash bin added (increased from 1 to 2)		\$506	\$506
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$440	\$440
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$583	\$583
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$472,575</b>	<b>\$7,542</b>	<b>\$7,542</b>
<b>Lighthouse Park</b>					
C	Stairs to beach	Replace / upgrade stairs to the beach	\$10,000	\$250	\$250
C	Parking lot	Expand parking lot (4 year maintenance cycle)	\$50,000	\$1,000	\$250
C	New barn	Construction of new barn/ utility building	\$200,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
C	Trail	Universally accessible trail	\$0		
M	Veteran memorial	Repair veteran memorial	\$2,000	\$0	\$0
M	Restrooms	Maintenance item in current budget		\$8,140	\$8,140
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Maintenance item in current budget		\$2,750	\$2,750
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$418	\$418
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$550	\$550
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$858	\$858
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$2,700	\$2,700
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$484	\$484
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$262,000</b>	<b>\$18,650</b>	<b>\$17,900</b>
<b>Old Mission State Park</b>					
C	Ridgewood Trail	Paint the vault toilet	\$500	\$0	\$0
C		Update entry sign -- remove massage ad	\$100		
C	Murray Trail	Install at least a seasonal porta potty	\$1,250		
C		Install split rail fencing at entry	\$1,500		
C		Remove old trail signs on metal posts	\$100		
C		Dog station and waste cans	\$1,000	\$300	\$300
C	Biking/Hiking Trail system	Trail repair, remediation, and development	\$100,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
M	Trail clean-up	Routine trail clean-up		\$4,900	\$4,900
M	Dangerous Trees	Assessment and mitigation of dangerous trees		\$5,000	\$5,000
M	Restrooms	Maintenance item in current budget		\$3,190	\$3,190
M	Mowing and Lawn Service	Maintenance item in current budget		\$1,452	\$1,452
M	Spring Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$473	\$473
M	Fall Clean-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$275	\$275
M	Regular Trash Pick-Up	Maintenance item in current budget		\$220	\$220
M	Snow Plowing	Maintenance item in current budget		\$550	\$550
M	Miscellaneous Maintenance	Maintenance item in current budget		\$880	\$880
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$104,450</b>	<b>\$25,240</b>	<b>\$25,240</b>

## Appendix C - Parks Committee Cost Assessments (continued)

Park Capital Projects and Maintenance					
Capital (C) or Maintenance (M)	PROJECT	ANNUAL OPERATION/MAINTENANCE DETAIL	TOTAL CAPITAL COST	TOTAL MAINTENANCE COST	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST
<b>Hessler Log Cabin</b>					
M	Roof	Clean shaker rood annually and replace as needed		\$500	\$500
M	Pest control	Resolve issues with mice, carpenter ants, and porcupines		\$500	\$500
M	Log repair / replacement	Logs need repair / replacement - particularly lower ones	\$2,000		
M	Prevent water damage	Repair gravel, add front porch, or elevate structure more		\$500	\$500
M	Fence	Repair / replace split rail fence as needed		\$200	\$200
M	Renew walkway	Maintain and renew diamond dust walkway as needed		\$100	\$100
C	Lighting	Better interior illumination	\$2,000		
C	Tool shed	Build a tool shed to accommodate tools presently stored in	\$2,500	\$100	\$100
C	Plantings	Identify and plant native trees to protect cabin from wind	\$2,000	\$200	\$200
		Add landscaping and irrigation around cabin	\$2,500	\$250	\$250
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$2,350</b>	<b>\$2,350</b>
<b>Peter Dougherty House</b>					
C	Barn restoration	Capital improvements submitted by Peter Dougherty Society	\$200,000		\$0
C	Museum upgrading	Capital improvements submitted by Peter Dougherty Society	\$15,000		\$0
C	Painting - house and out buildings	Painting - house and out buildings in 20 years	\$20,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
C	Painting - house and out buildings	Painting - house and out buildings in 30 years	\$30,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
C	HVAC Replacement	HVAC will require replacement within 15 years	\$10,000	\$667	\$667
<b>PARK TOTALS</b>			<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>\$2,667</b>	<b>\$2,667</b>
<b>TOTALS FOR ALL PARKS</b>			<b>\$3,989,115</b>	<b>\$206,551</b>	<b>\$172,771</b>

**Appendix D**  
**Summary of Public Comment**

## **Peninsula Township Parks Projects Survey**

### **Background**

The township began working with the Land Information Access Association (LIAA), a non-profit located in Traverse City, in the first quarter of 2021 to explore the feasibility of revamping the current parks budget and to identify additional alternative sources of funding that could support basic park operations. We also researched how to leverage local resources to attract outside funding for larger maintenance and capital improvement projects in the parks. Over the past several months, LIAA analyzed the township parks budget to determine an average annual baseline for current operations as well as to identify expectations for the parks going forward.



Part of the study considered several potential big-ticket maintenance items as well as several new capital expenditures to improve the existing infrastructure in the parks and to provide new facilities where none exist at this time, such as the Bowers Harbor expansion area. The study also identified several funding resources while acknowledging that the township will have choices to make in order to effectively administer park properties and projects. Copies of this study are available for review throughout this public open house or can be viewed online at [participateoldmission.com](http://participateoldmission.com)

### **When taking the survey:**

1. You may vote for up to five (5) of your favorite projects.
2. You may only vote once for a specific project.
3. Please write-in the project that you feel should be the township's #1 priority at the bottom of the ballot.

**If you require assistance, please ask a representative**

# INSTRUCTIONS

## INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND

Feel free to move around the room and visit each station to learn more information about the parks and projects.

For additional background and information, you may also review a copy of the “Peninsula Township Parks Funding Feasibility Study” available on the tables around the room or online at [participateoldmission.com](http://participateoldmission.com)

## VOTING

- Use the attached voting ballot to **select no more than five (5)** parks projects that you would like to see the township pursue.
- Use the “Park Code” and “Project Code” code to identify the projects.
- **Place an “X”** in the empty box ballot box to the left of the project for which you would like to vote.

### EXAMPLE:

	Park Code	Project Code	Project Description
<b>YES</b> (Place an “X”)			<b>Pelizzari Natural Area</b>
	X	PEL 1	Accessible trail
<b>NO</b> (Leave blank)		PEL 2	Boardwalk

- **Write-in** your favorite project that you feel should be the #1 top priority at the bottom of the ballot using the name, “Park Code” and “Project Code”.
- Detach the voting ballot from the instructions and place it in the marked ballot box near the exit before leaving.

Please feel free to ask any representatives questions if you need help or would like to learn more about any of the projects.

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER (Circle One):

M      F

# VOTING BALLOT

SELECT NO MORE THAN FIVE (5) PROJECTS

Bowers Harbor			
	BH	1	Grills
	BH	2	Trail in expansion area
	BH	3	Trees and forest
	BH	4	Basketball / volleyball
	BH	5	Playground equipment
	BH	6	Dog park
	BH	7	Universally accessible pavilion
	BH	8	Restrooms (plumbed)
	BH	9	Restrooms (vaulted)

Haserot Beach			
	HAS	1	Beach parking lot
	HAS	2	Old boat launch removal

Kelley Park			
	KE	1	Beach parking lot
	KE	2	Gazebos
	KE	3	New boat launch installation
	KE	4	New restrooms (plumbed)

Archie Park			
	ARCH	1	Split rail fence
	ARCH	2	Plantings
	ARCH	3	Trees
	ARCH	4	Playground equipment removal
	ARCH	5	Bus shelter
	ARCH	6	Bike station
	ARCH	7	Signage
	ARCH	8	Beach steps

Pelizzari Natural Area			
	PEL	1	Accessible trail
	PEL	2	Boardwalk
	PEL	3	Plantings
	PEL	4	Signage and maps
	PEL	5	Expansion

Mission Point Lighthouse Park			
	LHP	1	Stairs to beach
	LHP	2	Parking lot
	LHP	3	New barn
	LHP	4	Trail

Old Mission State Park			
	OMSP	1	Ridgewood Trail - entry sign
	OMSP	2	Murray Trail - seasonal porta-potty
	OMSP	3	Murray Trail - split rail fence
	OMSP	4	Murray Trail - Remove old trail signs
	OMSP	5	Murray Trail - dog station
	OMSP	6	Biking/Hiking Trail system

Hessler Log Cabin			
	HLC	1	Lighting
	HLC	2	Tool shed
	HLC	3	Plantings

Peter Dougherty House			
	DH	1	Barn restoration
	DH	2	Museum upgrading

**Write-in your #1 top-priority project, including its Park Code and Project Code at right:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Park Code

Project Code



## Public Input Study

### Background

After reviewing and analyzing the status of the parks budget and physical condition of the parks, the parks committee identified over 40 potential capital improvement projects that they felt would enhance and improve the township parks, provide a more user-friendly experience, and accommodate the growing and changing needs of the park system. While all the proposed improvements warrant consideration, the committee acknowledges that not all of them may be financially feasible or preferred by the community. The township solicited public input to help identify which projects are a greater priority, collect any additional thoughts or concerns about the proposed projects, and ask residents to identify other projects that may not have been included in the survey.

### Objectives:

- Share the Financial Feasibility Study with residents
- Share potential capital projects that may improve the township parks system
- Gain feedback from residents to help prioritize capital projects in the parks in order to develop a targeted and sufficient budget that allocates adequate resources for updates and improvements in the parks



## Methodology

The parks committee conducted a public survey which consisted of two in-person open houses as well as an online option where people were able to participate. Both methods collected similar information to allow for fair and equitable opportunities to participate regardless of which option was utilized.

In each instance, survey participants were provided with information about 43 capital projects in nine different parks/properties. They were asked to identify up to five projects that they considered to be the most important but were permitted to submit fewer if preferred. Additionally, they were asked to specify which project was their top priority. They were also asked to provide their age and gender, both of which were optional. Room was provided on the survey to also provide general comments.

The opportunity to participate was advertised and noticed at the Township Hall as well as:

- On the township's public-input website, [participateoldmission.com](https://participateoldmission.com)
- On the township's main website, [www.peninsulatownship.com](https://www.peninsulatownship.com)
- In the township newsletter (sent through the U.S. mail Feb. 6, 2022)
- In the Old Mission Gazette e-news magazine (Published Feb. 18, 2022)

All the surveys were compiled into one online database utilizing the "Bang the Table" software platform. This data was used to create the statistics and graphs in this report.

### **Online**

The online survey was live and available to participants from February 14 through March 15, 2022. Users were required to register through the [participateoldmission.com](https://participateoldmission.com) website to take part in the survey.

Number of surveys submitted: 121

### **In-Person**

There was a total of 38 surveys submitted during the public open houses. Five were incomplete and have not yet been included in the results. The in-person open-house sessions were conducted on the following dates/times/locations:

- Wednesday, February 23, 2022 from 4-7 p.m.  
Township Hall, 8150 Center Road, Traverse City, MI  
Number of surveys submitted: 32
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022 from 4-7 p.m.\*  
First Congregational Church, 6105 Center Road, Traverse City, MI  
Number of surveys submitted: 6

*\*Rescheduled from Tuesday, February 22, 2022, due to inclement weather*

Participants were provided with a ballot form and instructions (see appendix D).

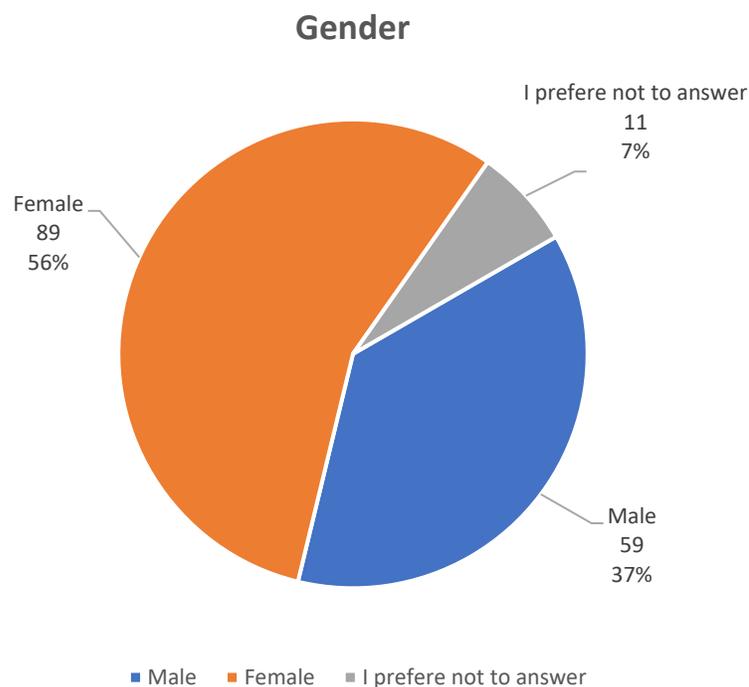
### Results

The following is a summary of the input received throughout the public input period for both online and in-person submissions.

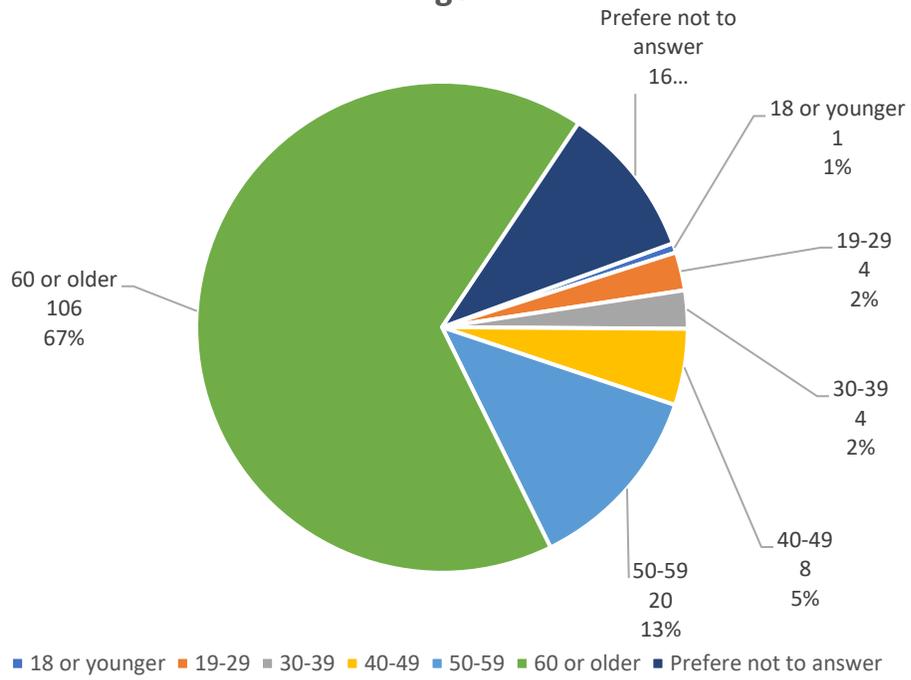
Total number of participants: 159

Total number of comments received: 86 (all comments included in appendix E)

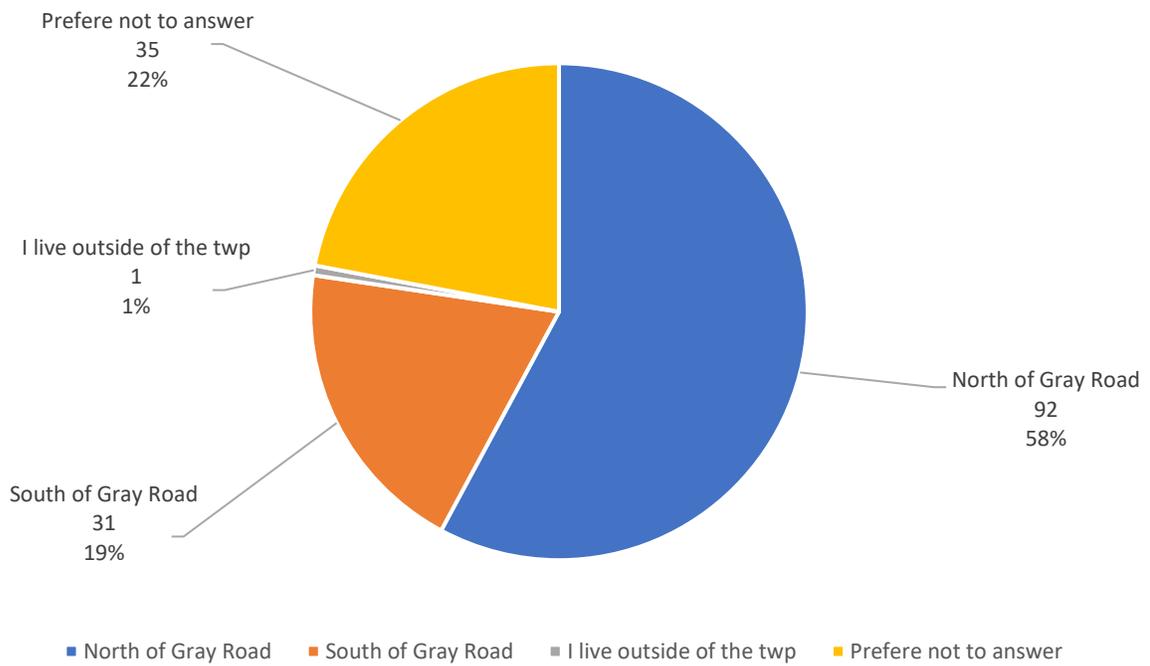
The charts below illustrate demographic information that was voluntarily provided by participants:



### Age



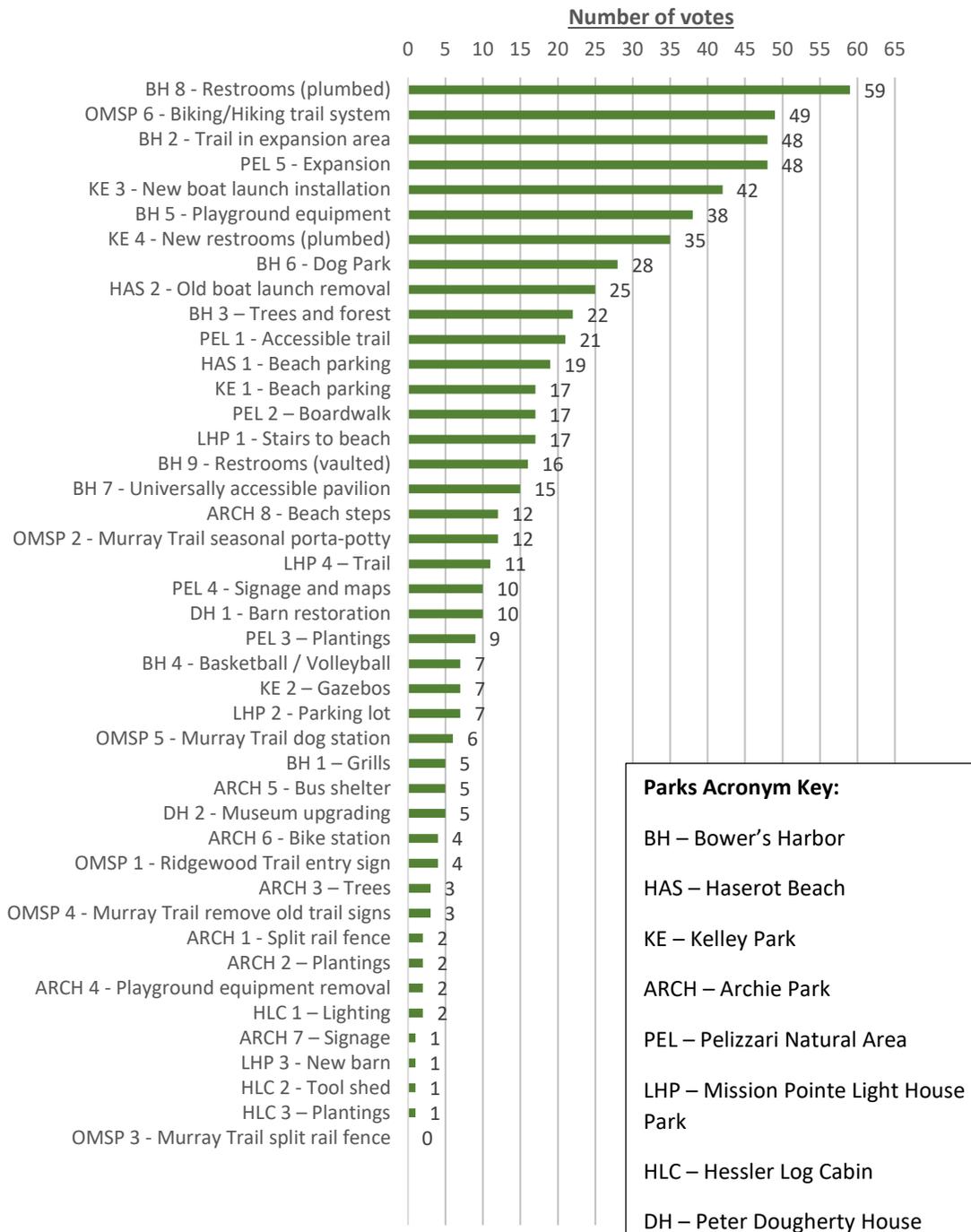
### Residency



The following charts illustrate the responses to the survey questions regarding the projects:

**Question:** Select up to five (5) park projects that you feel should be high priorities

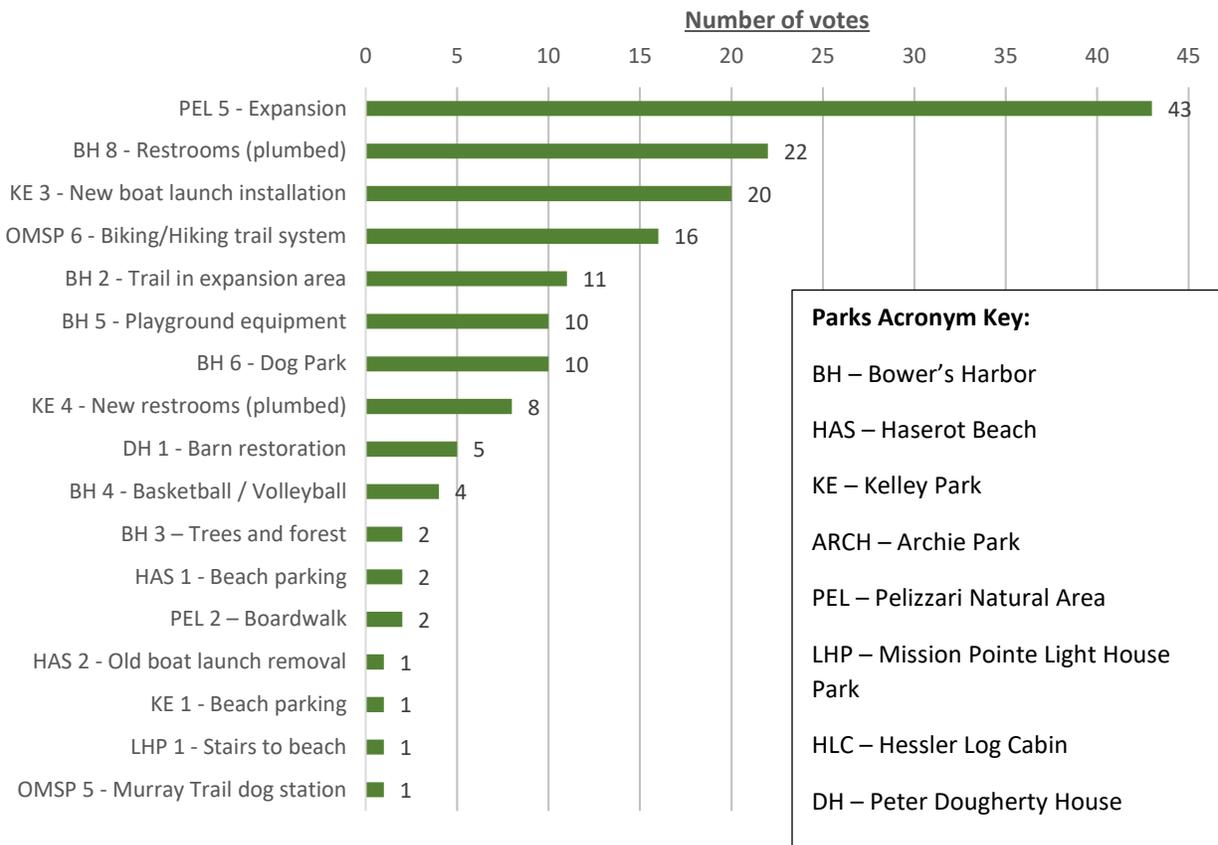
### Total Project Votes



**Question:** Identify your #1 top priority project that you feel is the most important (choose one)

Responses:

### Top Priority Projects



## Survey Impressions

Following the conclusion of the public input study, the parks committee met on March 23, 2022 to discuss their impressions of the feedback.

- Education – there is a need to develop education opportunities for the public regarding how parks are funded through the township. It was speculated that providing a better understanding of where tax dollars are allocated with relation to the amount collected for various taxing authorities may be helpful to explain why resources are limited through the local operating millage.
- Bathrooms – Many residents would like new or improved restroom facilities (preferably plumbed)
- Water – access to water/drinking fountains could be improved or additional fixtures installed
- Open Spaces – there was a general appreciation for natural, open spaces throughout the township.
- Trails – generally residents seemed to favor more/better maintained trails.
- Bower’s Harbor – this park was perceived as a focus point, or “crown jewel” of the township parks system and that the expansion area plans should be developed.
- Maintenance – respondents noted the condition or lack of maintenance in the parks. They also felt several of the projects that had lower dollar values assigned to them should be considered routine maintenance items.
- Dog Park – there were several positive responses to the dog parks, but it was noted by the committee that in the past many residents had expressed that they did not want one.
- Sample Size – the sample size was small and included several respondents that have participated and weighed-in on the parks in the past.

## Appendix E - Comments from Public Survey

Park Survey : Survey Report for 14 February 2022 to 15 March 2022

---

**Q6** Please provide any comments about the parks or projects, including any projects in this survey or others that may not have been identified here (optional).

Anonymous

2/14/2022 12:41 PM

I think you should concentrate on fixing everything you already have in the parks before adding new elements to the parks.

elizabeth a foley

2/14/2022 01:17 PM

I think for hikers and cyclists and boaters all over the entire peninsula, clean and conveniently located restrooms are incredibly important. Right now the options are pretty sparse. We cycle the entire peninsula and hike all the parks on a daily basis year-round.

Marilyn Elliott

2/14/2022 01:22 PM

Plumbed restrooms at LHP are my #1 priority.

Mark Johnson

2/14/2022 04:18 PM

Large scale marina project & fuel dock at Bowers Harbor should be studied.

William Gillies

2/14/2022 10:22 PM

Adding a few disc golf baskets would be nice at Bowers Harbor.

Kent Rabish

2/15/2022 04:19 AM

Bowers Harbor Park is used more than ever. Need real toilets and water to wash hands. Also the pickleball courts situation needs to be improved. Lots of people using the portable courts, need real courts.

Ruth Hoppe

2/15/2022 06:10 AM

Remove poison ivy at various West Bay access points south of Lighthouse Park

Hemmingintc

2/15/2022 06:40 AM

Adding improvements at BH will require better toilet systems to accommodate traffic in all areas.

Teri Gray

2/15/2022 11:56 AM

I will help with any projects I can at Kelley park.

Peg Moen-Rabish

2/15/2022 12:07 PM

Bowers Harbor Park needs new plumbed bathrooms

Eric Bergsma

2/16/2022 06:26 AM

There is nothing about building new pickleball courts, resurfacing and repainting the tennis courts, or revamping the basketball court (new,

same size poles/hoops and resurface/paint the court) at Bowers Harbor Park. All of these should be added to the master plan as they are important to many township residents and would be my top three project choices.

Anonymous

2/16/2022 07:12 AM

Lighthouse trails need better maintenance. Trees frequently block trails, and mowing should be done more regularly.

Anonymous

2/16/2022 07:45 AM

I appreciate the superb leadership of the township parks committee in taking this kind of comprehensive and thoughtful approach to upgrading our fabulous parks system. I predict that township residents will strongly support this, particularly as we are coming out of the pandemic and people are valuing the outdoors more than ever.

PKelley

2/16/2022 03:01 PM

It is LONG past time that the township hired a full-time parks manager.

Jessicamurphy1

2/17/2022 05:55 AM

I believe bowers harbor park needs improvement and updating . It looks tired. Needs landscaping, paving drive and parking, tennis and pickleball expansion, improved common areas. None of the options in the survey would be my priorities. A master plan needs to be developed and followed. Glen arbor accomplished this and developed a fantastic public space. In my opinion, the survey for bowers harbor is a million little bandaids and at the end of the day it is still a tired, dusty, outdated park when it could really be something special.

Dan Terpsma

2/17/2022 06:17 AM

We are missing an opportunity to upgrade Bowers Harbor Park appropriately, and should view Glen Arbor public park as guideline. None of the listed projects for BH should be priorities. We have ample space on peninsula to run dogs, why spend \$1.3MM on a dog park!?! Pickleball and tennis are significant activities enjoyed by all ages of residents. The recent changes with pickleball lines drawn on tennis courts, then a poorly done "fix", have now made these courts an embarrassment. We should fix and resurface tennis courts, and provide separate pickleball facilities. Your approach does not appear to be supported by a Master Plan. We are spending money on plumbing rather than enhance experience of enjoying BH and making it a quality asset on the peninsula. Why are we aiming so low? Let's scrap this initial plan and come back with well thought out approach to enhance our peninsula. Thank you, Dan Terpsma 12850 Peninsula Drive

Lee Christens

2/17/2022 08:00 AM

The Township needs to do a better job of maintaining its parks and trails and I think some additional tax funding is needed as well as redirection of some of the monies for purchasing developmental rights be directed to the parks.

Anonymous

2/17/2022 09:53 AM

Need drinking fountain/bottle refill and plumbed restrooms to accommodate park use going forward.

Dilys Tosteson Garcia

2/17/2022 05:22 PM

Focus should be on preserving forest land and keeping it as close to original state as possible with creation and maintenance of quality non motorized trails. No more tree cutting for parking lots!

Lola Jean Jackson

2/17/2022 05:50 PM

Do not expand any parking if any kind! Buy as much land for conservation rather than development. Why is there not basic money now for the required maintenance? Our parks are sadly underfunded. Expand Pelizzari above all

J Nedlo

2/18/2022 02:46 AM

Too many options to choose from -- nice problem! Always thought a dog park at BH would be great. Plenty of space and off leash option would be nice for dogs. Also, a dog park provides good social interaction for owners and encourages community togetherness. Thanks for listening and thanks for what you do!

Tom verschure

2/18/2022 05:03 AM

Thanks efforts

Dean Francis

2/19/2022 10:27 AM

I wonder if the Replica Log Church should be added to the list of possible projects?

Anonymous

2/19/2022 11:14 AM

Please invest in our playground equipment to keep the park safe and usable.

Anonymous

2/19/2022 11:14 AM

Many of the proposed spending projects outlined in these plans seem truly frivolous and off target in terms of priority. I guess if word goes out for things to spend money on, improve or otherwise alter, there will always be a laundry list of requests but many of these sites have such absolutely limited reach and interaction with the public at large, that it seems a real waste. Please focus on and remember the basics: access, restrooms, trash, long term tree care. Our public spaces are not there to be developed ad naseum with new takes, new ideas, and an endless amount of "amenities" that ultimately disturb the very

simple and elegant natural areas that people actually value and want. Instead of asking what projects people "want most" ask them how to want to use public spaces "most" and establish priorities from the largest user bases - create initiatives and projects to meet those needs, not finding the need after you have a project in mind. Challenge yourselves to edit and prioritize your ideas, instead of expanding them. That's how you'll serve multiple generations of OMP best.

**Karen Stewart Williams**

2/19/2022 02:43 PM

Love all the new trees planted at Bowers Harbor Park

**Anonymous**

2/19/2022 07:18 PM

Keep the parks natural, undeveloped except for handicap access points.

**Anonymous**

2/19/2022 08:37 PM

We love BH pro but the equipment is almost too unsafe for my little ones. Would love to see both ends upgrades like at Haserot.

**Anonymous**

2/19/2022 09:32 PM

I realize this survey is primarily a beauty contest for residents to vote for their favored activity but this really isn't making residents make choices. A basic data digest with usage info on baseball teams, hikers, pickle ball players, boat launches would be helpful. Putting million dollar projects in the same category with ones requiring \$1000 outlays is really strange. I wanted to make good government, common good choices but it is really difficult with varying types of information available.

**Anonymous**

2/20/2022 07:24 AM

I feel toilets are a necessity when hosting tourists.

**Anonymous**

2/20/2022 07:24 AM

Prioritize flush toilets in parks for visitors.

**Lisa Erickson**

2/20/2022 01:41 PM

Bathrooms in parks are a necessity. There are no bathrooms nearby to most of these locations.

**Marcia**

2/20/2022 04:05 PM

I have lived on the Peninsula since August of 1988. The amount of building and the change in land use has created light pollution and traffic congestion. We need our parks and we need to increase their size. I miss seeing the mother deer that used to bring her twin fawns to my yard. I miss the black night sky. Parks will help everyone.

Anonymous

2/21/2022 06:31 AM

My top priority was not on your list - New pickleball courts at BHP!

Claudia Bruce

2/21/2022 12:46 PM

I hike regularly in Pelizzari, Old Mission State and Lighthouse parks. Most of the proposed projects on the entire survey are very worthy of consideration. However, Pelizzari's location close to town draws people from all over the area making it, in my experience, the busiest of the three all year round and in most need of attention.

Anonymous

2/21/2022 01:03 PM

Thanks for the opportunity to voice our priorities.

OldMission

2/22/2022 06:06 AM

We love being able to enjoy walking during every season at Pelasari Park b/c it is so close to town and beautiful. Our whole family enjoys it. Would LOVE to see it expanded. May not have an opportunity to do so later

Rose Skurski

2/22/2022 08:17 AM

OMP needs to provide more for children and the disabled. Children are our most important resource. Bowers Harbor Park needs a new playground with a swing for children with disability. A new bathroom should also be provided. OMP needs to look out for every one in setting priorities, especially our children.

jmkc

2/22/2022 08:46 AM

At BHP please also consider drinking fountains with bottle refill that is filtered and cooled. At BHP a hand washing station if a full rest room is not provided. At BHP add trash containers where activities happen. Such as by the tennis/pickleball courts. At BHP a doggy bag dispenser to the east of the main entrance. There is one to the west but if folks walk east they often don't grab a bag from the other side of the entrance. At BHP some paved parking. I know this is a stretch.

jmkc

2/22/2022 09:01 AM

Most water fountains should include water bottle filling stations.

Liz VerSchure

2/22/2022 12:29 PM

pickleball courts

Mike Query

2/22/2022 12:40 PM

The sooner we get some safer options for bike lanes on our OMP roads, the better. I don't want a section of Bluff Rd or Peninsula Dr. named in my honor, soon after I get run over by a texting tourist taking a sunset selfie over the bay! Lots of my bike friends share this

same sentiment. Thanks in advance.

Anonymous

2/22/2022 01:03 PM

I think a Bowers Park outdoor bandshell to have community concerts, yoga, speakers etc., would be great addition for our community residents and visitors

Lauri Gartner

2/22/2022 02:44 PM

I think expanding the Pelizzari Natural Area is extremely important and shouldn't be delayed because once this vacant land is developed the opportunity is lost and prices keep going up. All the housing density is on the south end of the township so it would be great to have more natural park land for the use of residents, since there's a lot more people living in this area to utilize it. I live on the very south end of the township on East Shore Rd and this is the only park south of Bowers Harbor Park which is 9 miles from my house, except for Archie Park which is tiny and more of a meeting place for bicyclists. I was surprised when looking at the parks survey at how many parks are located in the very north end of the township and are probably used by more visitors than township residents.

Anonymous

2/22/2022 03:31 PM

Kelley Park could be a wonderful attraction with a little bit of help

Anonymous

2/22/2022 03:50 PM

Pelizzari expansion is not just a great parks addition, but also important for traffic concerns and reduction of development build-out.

Pete Meyer

2/22/2022 07:02 PM

How about a gate of some kind to keep unauthorized traffic from using the east/west "road" across the lighthouse park. We have picked up litter, put out fires, and last year started to see tracks of vehicles climbing some of the hills near the end. It's too precious a place to let some fools ruin it for others.

Richard Ward

2/23/2022 09:31 AM

Given all of the discussions with the Township, regarding pickle ball courts, I am truly disheartened to see that it was not even included as an option. \$350k for MORE playground equipment, but no option for the ONLY pickle ball court. For less than \$300k????

Beth Milligan

2/23/2022 11:41 AM

While bathrooms are needed at Kelley Park (especially given the lack of public restrooms on the north end of OMP generally along with the plans for a boat launch at Kelley), I would generally support as a high park priority more trail development and acquisition of land for trails. Aside from the state park and Pelizzari, there aren't many trail opportunities along OMP. Center Road and Peninsula Drive are both

dangerous for walkers/bikers. More non-motorized options - especially connecting points of interest, like wineries, the market, boat launches, etc - would be really helpful out here and reduce the vehicle traffic on the main roads. Having something equivalent to the TART Trail on Old Mission could be a great long-term goal and won't be possible without active planning now to fundraise/acquire ROW over the years.

Andrea Brown

2/23/2022 01:10 PM

As a full-time resident of the peninsula, I would gather that the three most used parks (used by locals) would be Bowers Harbor Park, Pelizzari with the trails at the lighthouse. Since Bowers Harbor Park is in a central location, where both north peninsula residents and south peninsula residents could easily visit and utilize...and because the Bowers Harbor Park is great for all ages, I'd spend the most money in that particular park. Of course, all the parks are amazing but I commend you for creating this survey so that you might prioritize. In a perfect world, I'd take a project from one, a project from another, and just go down the line. Hopefully, that is what you are considering here. So for me...Bowers Harbor Park should be a top priority. Thank you.

Lynn McPhee-Ward

2/23/2022 01:39 PM

It concerns me that there was no mention of dedicated Pickleball courts at Bowers, despite many requests to Peninsula Township. Instead there is fundraiser (more money for taxpayers), to come up with money. Yet the Peninsula could potentially spend \$353,100 for new playground equipment when there are already two playgrounds at this park alone. I would also like the decision makers to take into consideration: 1. Where the dollars would most benefit Peninsula Township taxpayers. 2. We only have two deputies, with limited hours, that serve the Peninsula. If the Kelly Park boat launch alone moves forward, how will they be able to monitor all the activities that the new launch will bring? What about the other projects that will bring more people to the Peninsula. One last question, how will the ultimate decisions be made? Thank you, Lynn

Pam Baumann

2/23/2022 02:53 PM

Please install another porta potty at Haserot Beach. One is not nearly sufficient to handle all the beach goers, plus the boaters that come ashore, and the Kelley Park people who either come over to use it or go in the water or bushes. This is an immediate need.

Deborah Rough

2/23/2022 06:41 PM

So many opportunities and difficult to select only five. Also difficult because funding possibilities not assured.

B Cash

2/24/2022 10:28 AM

Pelizzari will need restrooms of some sort with the increase in usage. Either plumbed or vaulted would be a good addition

Dave Baumann

2/25/2022 12:26 PM

Actually, my number one priority is not Haserot Beach Parking. It is upgrading the toilet situation at Haserot Beach. Since the boat launch as been discontinued and pbecah publicity has increased, more beach-goers are using Haserot. Consequently, the single vault toilet is no longer adequate. I suspect most people are using the lake itself to urinate. Also, powerboats moored near the old boat launch are using the restroom as well. I suggest separate male and female vaulted toilets, with more adequate lighting and better odor control. Also, the garbage pickup at the beach fails to keep up with usage. Many times, the cans are overflowing, attracting rodents and other animals. Lastly, there needs to be a similar toilet structure built at Kelly Park, where I have observed users relieving themselves in the reeds just offshore. On a side note, trying to build a boat launch at Kelly Park is a BAD idea. The dredging alone to get boats out far enough in the shallow waters off that sight will horribly expensive, difficult to maintain and befoul the clear waters of Old Mission Bay. Don't waste the taxpayer's money pursuing this folly.

annikalorenz

2/25/2022 06:23 PM

I would love to see our parks given the attention they need. Plumbed bathrooms in all parks would be wonderful. Also expanded walking trails at Bowers harbor. I frequently drive in to the civic center because of how terribly maintained and awful bathroom conditions that exist at Bowers harbor park, although it would be much closer for me to come and exercise at Bowers Harbor Park.

Joanne Kamper

2/26/2022 06:57 AM

Remove Has. Beach parking lot only after K park launch install

Tom Kamper

2/26/2022 07:29 AM

Frequently use Haserot boat launch. New boat launch is main priority.

Pat.sharpnack

2/26/2022 10:06 AM

I love the parks on OMP even if nothing is done to upgrade them.

Marcy Welburn

2/26/2022 12:22 PM

The playground at Bowers Harbor park are dangerous and desperately need attention.

Julia MacLachlan

2/28/2022 07:45 AM

Water fountains in parks would be useful for refilling water bottles when biking or taking a drink when running in the summer. Pedestrian (only) access to Pelizzari off East Shore Road would allow

people to walk or bike there without having to flirt with death on Center Road

Roderick MacLachlan

2/28/2022 08:26 AM

Water coolers in the parks would be very helpful for warmer days.

Lori Brickman

2/28/2022 09:04 AM

1. Vault toilets at Kelly park are sufficient and more cost effective. 2. Stair repair at Archie is under regular maintenance and should be already budgeted. 3. BH trail expansion does not have to be universal access initially. Cost is too prohibitive.

Joe Heagany

2/28/2022 10:34 AM

In my opinion I believe the most important parks project is to immediately find and purchase beachfront for future peninsula resident use as a public swimming beach, park and parking area. Without a doubt Haserot Beach is so small compared to the resident and non-resident use it receives that garbage on the beach, illegal parking, unsafe driving, etc. are a regular occurrence. With a growing population and more tourists falling in love with our cherished rural (somewhat threatened) and unspoiled (again somewhat threatened) environment, the best answer is to accommodate this unrelenting desire residents and others have for our beautiful shoreline by establishing another township park complete with swimming beach, park area, and parking. If the township does not do this now, it will certainly be too late in the near future.

Chris Smith

2/28/2022 10:40 AM

Top priority for us is safe non roadside biking for the peninsula.

David C Tucker

2/28/2022 04:47 PM

Some of these choices such as the beach steps at Archie Park or a replacement grill at Bowers Harbor seem like basic maintenance rather than capital projects such as trail expansion. Basic maintenance should be addressed regardless of survey results.

Dan Fouch

3/01/2022 05:13 PM

Bowers Harbor Park needs to be upgraded. The basketball court is poorly lined and the baskets are the wrong height. New backboards are needed. The tennis courts and pickle ball courts are a high priority. Bowers harbor park should be a show piece for the township not an embarrassment . The trails at the north end of the peninsula are a great asset and we use them almost daily. The township has done a great job with those and should be proud of them.

Shawna

The top priority for me to see get accomplished , are the 8 new

3/02/2022 04:03 AM

pickleball courts at the Bowers Harbor Park

Beca

3/02/2022 08:00 AM

The parks need to pursue a nonmotorized trail system from the lighthouse to town; connecting in with the TART. This has been on the strategic plan for some time and yet we are investing money in resources to other areas losing this opportunity. Why is this project not prioritized on this list? A connecting trail still would be my number one choice.

Ann Swaney

3/02/2022 09:18 PM

Keep up the good work. Need to get volunteers to do some that work to save \$\$ for other projects.

S.Shipman

3/03/2022 07:48 AM

Projects that have real impact for families and multi-age community (BH Exp. trail, playground kids want to play in, take pressure from Haserot by making Kelley a great park, etc.) will help OMP maintain (grow!?) its community feel, vs. turning into a place dominated by wealthy retirees, second homes and seasonal rental accommodations.

Nathan Lorenz

3/03/2022 04:53 PM

The restrooms at Bowers Harbor have been in disrepair for many years. Many visitors are likely to avoid this park until this problem is solved. It should be a first step to bringing the park into a state of cleanliness and organization.

Sandra Remer

3/04/2022 04:10 PM

Of all walking and bike systems would benefit all. Trails, would encourage physical activities and updating playgrounds for younger children. The purpose of Mission Peninsula should be to provide it's residents and visitors with opportunities to improve health, safety and the environment

Martin Chown

3/08/2022 09:36 AM

Would love to see the speedy installation of a new boat launch at Kelley park!

MJSK

3/08/2022 10:09 AM

Have al lighthouse projects/budgets on another budget system. no milage

Michael Dettmer

3/08/2022 10:36 AM

Thanks for all the important work. It is much appreciated.

Walter William Rudolph

Notice some of the grills at Haserot Beach are in need of repair

---

3/08/2022 02:03 PM

Cristin Hosmer

3/10/2022 07:57 AM

A boardwalk in Pelazzari would ruin the ambiance of the hemlocks, disturb roots and change the over all character of this very special stand of trees! Do NOT put a boardwalk in. ENFORCE LEASH LAW! Thank you for all you are doing

BHS

3/11/2022 07:24 AM

BH Park expansion has been neglected after Township promises at the time of acquisition that BH Park would be completed according to the Beckett & Raeder rendering that was used to secure community support and funding for the acquisition. The trail not being completed especially could open the Township to liability for lack of safe and well maintained trails. Failure to secure grants is not an excuse to break these commitments. The Township needs to deliver on their promises for Bowers Harbor Park.

Morgan61

3/12/2022 12:05 AM

BHP playground equipment is extremely dangerous as is. Safely needs to be #1 concern. Also to be handicap accessible. Very unkept, broken pieces. Would be great to consider putting in skating rink at BHP for winter activities as done in past.

Gloria B

3/14/2022 12:55 PM

Two things: I would love to see a maintained ice skating rink at Bowers Harbor Park. We had a small unmaintained one many years ago. It would be a really nice addition to our park for the winter months. Also, I was part of the group that made the new addition to Bowers Harbor happen. At that time we were advocating for a park left in its natural state and was assured that a dog park would not be added at that location. Please do not add a dog park at Bowers Harbor. Perhaps the open field adjacent to the Pelizzari parking lot would be a better option. The universal access trail is totally acceptable, but not the dog park. That was not the purpose of the purchase for that property.

Leith Butler

3/14/2022 01:11 PM

I donated a considerable amount to the purchase of the expansion of Bowers Harbor park and was assured during and after the planning sessions that there would be no dog park. It would be extremely disappointing to see a dog park installed at Bowers Harbor. Who wants to walk the trails and smell the leavings? Pelizzari is very unpleasant in the summer because of the smell and trail bombs. Maybe you could install a dog park in Pelizzari rather than Bowers Harbor.

Dean Elanges

I have not had a usable boat ramp near Haserot beach for several

3/15/2022 03:41 PM

years now. If you are not going to put in a new ramp at Kelly park I will move out and off of this township. I have contacted the township supervisor over a year ago and was told that the ramp was going in last year. Still no ramp. In my opinion as was stated by Neil, who owns the part of Haserot beach, that the ramp should stay at Haserot and I think the swimmers should be relocated to Kelly park. The amount of dredging at Kelly makes no sense in low water levels. Haserot is the safest and most cost effective way to launch boats and has been since I started coming here back in 1981!

Kennard Weaver

3/15/2022 04:29 PM

The survey is limited to actions or conditions which have been imagined by the Parks Board or Township Trustees. There is no place for new or different ideas.

Sally

3/15/2022 04:57 PM

All of the proposed projects sound great and all seem needed on some level. Guess we need to do some fundraising (I'm not volunteering! Sorry)

John Jacobs

3/15/2022 05:16 PM

Spending money on expanding Park area is an investment with a permanent benefit. The other improvements listed, while desirable, don't provide a permanent benefit.

**Appendix E**  
**Approval Documentation**

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
County of Grand Traverse

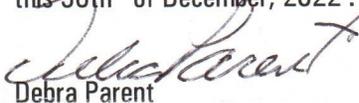
Paul Heidbreder being duly sworn deposes and says the annexed printed copy of notice was taken from the Traverse City RECORD EAGLE, a newspaper printed and circulated in said State and County, and that said notice was published in said newspaper on the following dates:

12/24/2022

that he or she is the agent of the printers of said newspaper, and knows well the facts stated herein



Subscribed and sworn to before  
this 30th of December, 2022.



Debra Parent  
Notary Public, State of MI  
County of Grand Traverse  
04/27/2029  
Acting in County of Grand Traverse

## LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

Joint Public Hearing of the Peninsula Township Board  
and Peninsula Township Parks Committee  
NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

OF  
Peninsula Township Parks Plan Amendments Adoption

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Peninsula Township Board and Parks Committee will conduct a joint public hearing at a joint meeting of the Township Board and Parks Committee concerning the adoption of amendments to the Peninsula Township Parks Plan at the Township Board's regular meeting on January 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Peninsula Township Hall, 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686, (231) 223-7314.

All interested persons are invited to attend this meeting. If you are unable to attend, written comments may be submitted to the Peninsula Township Planning Department, 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686 not later than 12:00 p.m. on January 4, 2023.

If you are planning to attend this meeting and need reasonable auxiliary aids or services, contact the Peninsula Township Clerk at 231-223-7321 or [clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto:clerk@peninsulatownship.com).

A complete copy of the proposed amendments to the Parks Plan can be viewed by the public Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686 and on the Peninsula Township website homepage at [www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com).

TOWNSHIP OF PENINSULA

Jenn Cram, AICP, Director of Planning  
Peninsula Township  
13235 Center Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686

December 24, 2022-1T

595513

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
County of Grand Traverse

## LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

Joint Public Hearings of the Peninsula Township Board  
and Peninsula Township Parks Committee  
NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARINGS  
OF  
Peninsula Township Parks Plan Amendments Adoption

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Peninsula Township Board and Parks Committee will hold two joint public hearings concerning the adoption of amendments to the Peninsula Township Parks Plan. The first public hearing will be held at a joint meeting of the Township Board and Parks Committee at the Township Board's regular meeting on January 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The second public hearing will be held at a Special Joint Township Board and Parks Committee meeting on January 24, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Peninsula Township Hall, 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686, (231) 223-7314.

All interested persons are invited to attend these meetings. If you are unable to attend, written comments may be submitted to the Peninsula Township Planning Department, 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686 not later than 9:00 a.m. on January 23, 2023.

If you are planning to attend these meetings and need reasonable auxiliary aids or services, contact the Peninsula Township Clerk at 231-223-7321 or [clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto:clerk@peninsulatownship.com).

A complete copy of the proposed amendments to the Parks Plan can be viewed by the public Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 13235 Center Road, Traverse City, MI 49686 and on the Peninsula Township website homepage at [www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com).

### TOWNSHIP OF PENINSULA

Jenn Cram, AICP, Director of Planning  
Peninsula Township  
13235 Center Road  
Traverse City, MI 49686

January 8, 2023-1T

595988

Paul Heidbreder being duly sworn deposes and says the annexed printed copy of notice was taken from the Traverse City RECORD EAGLE, a newspaper printed and circulated in said State and County, and that said notice was published in said newspaper on the following dates:

01/08/2023

that he or she is the agent of the printers of said newspaper, and knows well the facts stated herein



Subscribed and sworn to before  
this 9th of January, 2023.



Debra Parent  
Notary Public, State of MI  
County of Grand Traverse  
04/27/2029  
Acting in County of Grand Traverse

# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City  
MI 49686

[www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com)

## Township Board Regular Meeting and Joint Township Board and Parks Committee Special Meeting

January 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

### Township Hall Minutes

1. **Call to Order** by Chown at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call**

Township Board: Sanger, Rudolph, Achorn, Chown, Shanafelt

Absent: Wunsch, Wahl

Parks Committee: Murphy, Dahl, Skurski, Chown, Milliken, Butler

Absent: Zebell

4. **Citizen Comments:** none
5. **Approve Agenda**

**Chown:** I have an update from Cherry Festival director Kat Paye to add. I would like to make that item one under business.

**Rudolph moved to approve the agenda as amended with a second by Sanger. Motion passed by consensus**

6. **Conflict of interests:** none
7. **Consent Agenda:**

1. Invoices (recommend approval)
2. Reports
  - A. Cash Summary by Fund
  - B. Peninsula Township Fire Department
  - C. Peninsula Township Fire Department Annual Report for 2022
  - D. Peninsula Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer Annual Report for 2022
  - E. PDR Monitoring Report for 2022
  - F. Peninsula Community Library
3. Minutes from December 8, 2022, township board special meeting and December 13, 2022, township board regular meeting
4. 2023 Annual Assessment Change Notices

**Sanger:** I ask that item 2E, PDR Monitoring Report for 2022, be pulled.

**Cram:** I would like to make it the second business item.

**Shanafelt moved to approve the consent agenda as amended with a second by Rudolph.**

**Motion passed by consensus**

**8. Business**

1. Presentation by Cherry Festival director Kat Paye

**Murphy:** Kat approached the parks director two plus years ago to discuss possible donations to the parks. That discussion took place on March 11, two days before the COVID shutdown. Kat was kind enough to reach out to me again the other day to say that yesterday was the start of registration for the Festival of Races through the Cherry Festival, and there's a donation opportunity to assist with our parks.

**Paye:** open registration for the Festival of Races began yesterday. The 5k, 10k, 15k, and half marathon are run out here on beautiful Old Mission Peninsula. Donations have begun to come in. We've already raised \$150. When someone registers for the Festival of Races, they have the option to add donations in whatever monetary value they would like. We have specified that donations will go towards the parks and recreation needs of Peninsula Township where we are so graciously allowed to run our beautiful races. Thank you for allowing us to be here for the last 50 years. After the festival, we would cut a check.

**Board applause**

**Chown:** thank you very much. It's a pleasure to meet you, and thank you for circling back.

**Paye:** we do not yet have our full application in for the Festival of Races; it will be forthcoming. We'll go through the normal permitting process, but this was one of the ways we wanted to say thank you. We wanted something that would be permanent out here year over year so we can continue to develop the strong relationship we have with you guys that we want to continue into the future.

**Chown:** so individuals who sign up have an option of making a donation, and we are one of the projects?

**Paye:** you are the only project. When you go to register for the Festival of Races, a pop up says, "By the way, would you like to make an additional donation to Peninsula Township parks?" It's very broad so that the funds can be used for whatever you guys need. We want to make sure we are continuing to support the community that supports us.

**Chown:** I'll include a blurb in the newsletter.

2. PDR Monitoring Report 2022.

**Sanger:** reviewing the report, I noticed that 12 properties have been identified as having a violation or two. Eight properties are listed as having a change in ownership, with the new deed not mentioning the restriction. One has two violations, so essentially there are nine violations of this transfer process, which is nothing new. The auditors have reported two violations of situations where someone has established a dwelling. I wanted to bring to the board's attention a question I don't have an answer for: who is enforcing these violations? The ordinance enforcement officer has been engaged in the last month to enforce a use violation on one property; that situation is under control in terms of court action. It's great to report all this, but what are we doing about it?

**Cram:** as the director of planning charged with helping to manage the program, I had the same conversation with Sally [Murray] and Christina [Deeren] who did the monitoring. There hasn't been a lot of enforcement in the past. Failing to record the deed for the

conservation easement is common and most people come into compliance pretty quickly. But we do have a couple of pretty egregious violations. We need to establish a process for dealing with them.

**Shanafelt:** the new PDR assessment supplies enforcement dollars, right?

**Cram:** correct.

**Shanafelt:** we should be able to leverage that. It's just figuring out how we utilize that money, correct?

**Chown:** the monitoring report says at the bottom, "We would welcome an opportunity to meet with an elected township enforcement official to discuss options for remedy and or further action." I would be happy to have the board give me some direction on how to move ahead with [supervisor] Isaiah not present tonight. Marge, Isaiah, and I make up the personnel committee, and we can discuss this when Isaiah is back. We can also discuss it with our attorney and figure out our next steps. There's no question that we need to pursue this. We're starting the next cycle of purchasing development rights. It's vital that we enforce the easements we have on the books.

**Cram:** the PDR program is voluntary. We want to establish a relationship with all the people who have conservation easements with us. The goal is to try to work in partnership to bring violators into compliance; we want to maintain those relationships. As part of the monitoring process, the conservation easement holders have received a letter letting them know there is a violation. It won't be a surprise when we follow up, but we should discuss how we plan to do that.

**Rudolph:** is there a process now that when somebody enters the PDR program, it gets automatically put on their property deed at the county level?

**Cram:** I'm not sure about the previous ordinance, but amendment #3 outlined the steps for closing and monitoring.

**Rudolph:** it should be recorded in the county, right? So then when property changes hands, it's automatically part of the deed?

**Cram:** it should be but sometimes people just forget.

**Sally Murray:** usually it's not a problem when people initially enter the program and encumber their property. What we see fall by the wayside are the successive transfers. The title companies either don't know or aren't fastidious about entering into the deed the specifics of the conservation easement. There is a standardized little snippet they use: "Subject to any and all easements, if any." They think that's sufficient, but our ordinance is very specific. It says, "Those successive deeds shall specifically reference that PDR." One of the greater violations we have was on a property that did not include that reference. It begs the question, was the buyer aware of the easement?

**Rudolph:** do we need to be talking to the title companies?

**Murray:** I was thinking about that today, maybe putting out a general "Did you know?" I'll often follow up with property owners directly from my office and say, "There is a remedy; here's a sample affidavit you could record to address this." It could be as simple as us having an attorney-drafted template that we automatically file and record ourselves. As soon as something doesn't reference it, we go to the county, file that affidavit, and then it

becomes part of the chain of title. I call those technical violations. They're a big deal but they're easy to remedy. In the past five or six years that Christina and I've been monitors, we haven't had a lot of non-compliance or violations. It does seem as though we are getting a lot of new transactions with people who aren't particularly familiar with the program, and we're seeing greater violations creep in.

**Chown:** I like the idea of keeping it simple. If we learn that an easement hasn't been recorded with the title company, we have that template and can simply take care of it ourselves. It might be easiest to just get it done.

**Sanger:** good discussion. I think the board with staff should adopt a new plan for enforcement. Talking to our township counsel is a good first start. As a board we will accept this report tonight, but that's only the first step. The board should be involved in the closeout of these violations so we can have a clean report for 2022.

**Shanafelt:** should we pass a resolution tonight to have an enforcement plan in place by March 1?

**Sanger:** makes sense to me.

**Shanafelt moved to pass a resolution to have an enforcement plan for the PDR program past, present, and future in place by March 1, 2023, with a second by Chown.**

**Roll call vote:** yes – Shanafelt, Chown, Achorn, Rudolph, Sanger Passed unan

**Chown:** we'll date that retroactively to tonight then.

**Shanafelt:** I had another question. I noticed in the report a number of properties that had no check marks on them.

**Murray:** the PDR reports are more comprehensive than the synopsis. This was more of an internal spreadsheet that Christina and I were using to assure ourselves that we were appropriately reporting to the ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program) coordinator in Lansing. They're for easements that we used state monies for. We share our reports with them, and they also provide some oversight into the easements. Every property owner who participates in PDR gets a report. Those who also use state monies get a report forwarded to the Lansing office.

**Shanafelt:** back to the ones that don't have a checkmark. I took it that those in compliance had a check mark on the left, those not in compliance had a check mark to the right, but they are blank.

**Murray:** every property is in compliance with the exception of those that have information in the detail column.

**Shanafelt:** I see. For the internal spreadsheet, they just happened not to be checked.

**Cram:** all of those full reports are on file in our office if anyone wants to review them.

**Murray:** we've started to scan and send copies of the big PDR easements themselves. Sometimes they're 23 or 56 pages. I thought it was a good idea to keep shooting those out to folks so in whatever spare time they have they can review them and continue to stay familiar with the terms and conditions.

**Shanafelt:** to be clear, those property owners who buy the property not realizing there's an easement on it, it doesn't matter, right? The easement is still there. They have to come into compliance regardless.

**Murray:** yes. they are still subject to it.

**Cram:** that's why the annual monitoring is so important. Things change so quickly. I did have the opportunity to go out and meet with one of the property owners with Sally. It's an opportunity to build that relationship with the property owner and make sure they understand the details of their conservation easement.

3. Update on candidates selected to serve on Peninsula Township's PDR Selection Committee.

**Cram:** this afternoon at 2:30 we conducted interviews. We had 10 very qualified and passionate individuals apply for the five positions. I'm hoping I'll have an opportunity to work in another capacity with those folks who were not selected. There's lots of work to do to make improvements to our zoning ordinance related to agriculture. The five are Dennis Arouca, Rebecca Couch, Eric Dreier, Susan Tarczon, and John Wunsch. I will be reaching out to all the candidates to let them know what the results are, and I'm excited to start working. I hope to have our first meeting in late January, first part of February.

4. Public hearing via joint meeting with the parks committee on the newly drafted and updated Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan with action to be tabled to January 24, 2023, after a second public hearing.

**Chown:** the plan has been available on our website since January 6.

**Rudolph moved to close the regular meeting and the joint township board and parks committee special meeting with a second by Sanger. Motion passed by consensus**

**Murphy moved to close the parks meeting and open the public hearing with a second by Butler. Motion passed by consensus**

**Public hearing opened at 7:27 p.m.**

**Chown:** before we take public comment, I'd like to ask Parks Committee Chair Mike Skurski, Planner Jenn Cram, and Barry Hicks, the community planner from LIAA, Land Information Access Association, to give us an update on the timeline and next steps.

**Skurski:** back in 2017 we had a series of public hearings on the Bowers Harbor expansion. We came up with a lot of projects and a cost analysis. We did a very similar process for this 2023 plan. We used LIAA in early 2022 to query the public on what they're looking for and added more projects. During COVID, we used a web page and got a lot of information on community priorities. We worked with Barry and others to look at the cost structure and spending and revenues in the park system. Tonight is the first of two meetings. We have a document to give comments on. We think we've followed what the public wants. It's bathrooms in all the parks, trail improvements, and new playgrounds. We're also looking at anything else the public has brought forward such as the boat launch, the lighthouse, and some of the historic structures. We really need to have as much public input as we can get. We're trying to bring more into this plan than you see in the 2018 one.

**Cram:** this five-year plan is very important. It allows us to apply for DNR grants. It's important that it continues to stay relevant. In order to meet this next round of grant cycles, we have a tight deadline of February 1. We will conduct the second public hearing on the 24<sup>th</sup>, incorporate public comments or changes, and submit this guiding document. We're very grateful for the work Barry has done to move it forward in a timely manner.

**Barry Hicks, LIAA:** thanks to everyone for the quick turnaround. I'm going to walk through a few highlights. The plan is posted online on the township's website in draft form. The reason we're postponing passing this until the 24th is to be sure we are following proper procedures so that we are eligible for grant dollars this coming April. I was unable to get clarity on whether or not January 1 constituted the expiration of the last plan so I wanted to hold a second hearing on January 24 to give us 30 days from the December 24 posting. We drafted the funding feasibility study last year. That's when we got a lot of public input. We had 121 respondents to the online survey. We've now held at least two more parks meetings where input was received. You can go back and review the funding feasibility study. It has a lot more detail on some of the budget analysis we looked at as well as some of the capital improvement goals. Some of the other things you see on the screen are the administrative and organizational structure, the public input process, and amended goals, objectives, and action plans. These are required by the DNR whenever a parks and recreation plan is submitted.

Hopefully [on] the 24th we will receive a certified resolution from the board of trustees that will allow us to send a transmittal letter to the local planning agencies. Then we can submit everything through MI grants to the DNR for their review and you can apply for grants during the April 2023 round. If you want more detail about specific parks or facilities, accessibility, all that's on the plan. Overall township acres are 17,755, and acres of parkland are 1,192. Not every single one of those acres is under township ownership or operation, but a very significant chunk are. There is information from the 2010 census as well as the 2020 census. There is an aging-in-place population and also increased growth in population overall. The last time we went through this process, the parks had an elected commission. Now it's an appointed committee. For the purpose of your plan and any future grant applications, that doesn't really have any impact.

**Murphy:** regarding the the seven-member appointed parks committee, I would change that to "with one town board representative." Because it's not eight people; it's seven inclusive of Becky [Chown].

**Hicks:** thank you. Looking through the funding feasibility study, part of the appendices include the capital improvement projects. It was interesting to see some of the things that jumped to the top, like flushing bathrooms.

Part of the plan submission is a summary of your budget. Those numbers were already adjusted to account for COVID, which had a significant impact on your parks. Usage increased, but the lighthouse park saw a pretty significant drop in revenue. We adjusted everything in anticipation that it would return to normal going forward. Whenever you see "average annual revenue" or "average annual expenditures," that's an average of I believe the last three years adjusted for COVID. When we did that funding feasibility study, it was interesting to see that the current needs right now are about \$172,000 versus the \$87,620 that is set aside for parks. That's not just maintenance; that's everything. So there's a pretty significant gap. That potential capital improvement project list is at about 3.9 million. There's all kinds of capital improvements people want to see. Going after those grants through the DNR is one way to find some of that extra money. One section that will

get updated when I go back and edit the budget is to add some information specific to lighthouse park. It doesn't change the numbers necessarily but they'll be more specific to Mission Point Lighthouse Park because of the way it operates. It has its own revenue it generates. None of the other parks are like that.

In the plan, you can see where all the parks are located, including public lands that may not necessarily be owned by the township but are owned by other entities like the county or the state. We get more specific about who's responsible for what in the plan.

Some fun facts: six township-owned parks have about 160 acres or more, but there are actually seven parks owned and operated by the township. There's a lease agreement with the state of Michigan for Old Mission State Park that entirely surrounds the lighthouse park at the northern tip of the peninsula. There are three historic sites the township has some form of responsibility for in terms of budget and operation and maintenance. That brings your total acres to about 840.2 acres when you consider all the other land the township is responsible for maintaining. There's Power Island, which is county operated. Also mentioned are efforts with non-motorized plans that may include county or state roads. We didn't get into that in this plan but it's brought up as something to look into. The plan has three major goals that came out of the last two meetings with the parks committee. There are objectives underneath each goal. The idea was to be broad and encompassing; the objectives are much more specific. We then go into an action plan that describes projects park by park. All three of those things are required by the DNR if you want to be eligible to receive a grant.

Next steps: we have a public comment period January 24. Hopefully we'll see a resolution passed. Then the transmittal letters can be sent to the local planning agency and county. Then we'll submit the application online, including minutes from this meeting and the next meeting, so you have all your public input. Then we'll be ready to apply for grants.

**Cram:** if you're not able to attend the January 24 meeting, you can submit comments in writing at [planner@peninsulatownship.com](mailto:planner@peninsulatownship.com).

**Chown:** it's now time to open the floor for public comment.

**No public comment submitted.**

**Chown closed the public hearing at 7:52 p.m. and reopened the joint township board and parks committee special meeting.**

**Chown:** are there any comments or discussion among the two boards after hearing this presentation and reading this very comprehensive plan?

**Sanger:** is there a reason there are no toilets at Pelizzari Natural Area?

**Murphy:** the number one reason is that the town board at the time it accepted Pelizzari said there will never be toilets. The number two reason is there's no budget to maintain them. That park, based on its location, will become a stopping point for tourists just to use the restroom. Number three is that it's so heavily used by locals. The need for bathrooms may be a little bit less because of that. When you have no budget to maintain something that's going to get very heavy use, you're inviting problems trying to put something in that you can't maintain.

**Sanger:** it doesn't make sense. Sanitation is sanitation.

**Shanafelt:** no one's using the woods so we don't have a sanitation issue.

**Sanger:** we don't know that.

**Shanafelt:** have you walked Pelizzari?

**Sanger:** probably three-fourths of it.

**Chown:** many of the folks who use it walk from nearby neighborhoods. People typically are able to make it from their homes to the park and then back again. I actually went round and around with Dave [Murphy] about this years ago thinking we had to have a bathroom, but the more I thought about it, the more I walked that park myself, the more I talked to the folks who use it, the more I realized we really would be biting off an enormous problem because so many folks would just use it as a pit stop.

**Sanger:** my point is, we're concerned about people with handicaps. You might think of a wheelchair, but there are other types of handicaps that would preclude people from using that beautiful park. If it's monetary, then I think we should address it.

**Murphy:** when we achieved Pelizzari, the volunteers and the conservancy wanted a water source to take care of vegetation and to allow for the potential for restrooms. It was a flat-out no by the town board. Our parks have become busier, and we have one contractor who has a hard time keeping up with the needs at all the parks. The conservancy, our partner with Pelizzari, is opposed to a restroom for the reasons just discussed. It would invite use that we couldn't keep up with. The conservancy is not going to run a restroom. It's going to be a township responsibility. Under ideal circumstances, if we had park staff and could maintain it, yes, it should have a restroom.

**Sanger:** why don't you put it in the plan? If it's an issue, we should address it.

**Skurski:** I think there would be enough things ahead of it in priority. You could add it to the list but it's such a low priority that it's not something we need to focus on right now.

**Shanafelt:** the five-year plan is a valid document today that will evolve over the next five years. If and when we actually get a budget to do everything we want to do, then clearly this is going to be a component. It's not something we can solve today.

**Sanger:** we put in a portable toilet in at Archie Park without this concern. I think it's something we should surface because the public is going to ask why.

**Shanafelt:** a bathroom in Pelizzari was not listed by anybody in the survey.

**Chown:** Pelizzari is a natural area. Archie has picnic tables, a grill, a swing set. It's a place for families to come and recreate, and when you have families and small children, you need a bathroom. I see that as a very different usage with different requirements. It might be nice to have a bathroom at PNA but I don't think it's vital.

**Milliken:** you go to Pelizzari to walk around; you don't sit down or anything like that. Also, if you're coming from town, there are facilities close by. If you go a little further [north] past Pelizzari, there's the boat launch, there's Archie. It's not as though there's a huge gap. I think you might invite use having a bathroom there.

**Murphy:** the use pattern is very valid. Not everyone walks the entire park, which is three miles. Archie is a staging area; it has more bathroom needs. I think long term we'll have to look at bathrooms at Pelizzari but we're not going to get there in five years.

**Rudolph:** thank you to Barry for this work. I was happy to see the Kelley Park Boat Launch

on the list. I've heard a lot of public comment wanting that.

**Chown:** Kelley Park is a DNR-owned park that we lease. There are two leases, Old Mission State Park and Kelley Park. That will have to be updated in the plan, Barry.

**Skurski:** I want to point out to the township trustees goal number three, an objective to get a much better handle on the finances and start to make sure our priorities line up. We're limited in our funding. We have to leverage what we have as much as possible.

**Achorn:** I have nit-picking things I can email, but on the map, I think we should add the Dougherty House, the Hessler Log Cabin, and Mission Point Lighthouse. They are discussed but not on the map.

**Skurski:** we'll have to add those.

**Dahl:** we haven't mentioned the Veterans Memorial at the state park. It's not included but it needs maintenance.

**Chown:** yes, that's an oversight. Let's add that.

**Achorn:** can we add that to the map also?

**Chown:** Barry, what is your timeline? When will you need to receive changes so that we can get the draft back out before the January 24 meeting? Would Thursday by 5:00 work for you?

**Hicks:** if you got them to me by Thursday that would be great.

**Murphy:** this plan and the efforts that have gone into it are different from everything I've seen going back to the 1990s. Never before did we have a recording secretary, never did we have a planner involved, never did we have a town board member involved. We have seven appointed citizens who were hand selected by the township board so they could collaborate. I just want to compliment where we've arrived with this work. I hope it's a model for what we continue to do, that we don't take any steps back, that we always have a town board member and planner involved with the parks committee. I look at what we went through with the master plan. We really worked to get parks into that plan. It wasn't really referenced in the past. When you look at the [855] acres of township-managed land and these historical structures that are so important...I think this is a different animal we've created, and it took this kind of appointed group reporting to the town board with staff support and a town board member at every meeting to get there. So thanks for that.

**Chown:** thanks for not giving up on our parks.

**Shanafelt:** my compliments to the committee. I think you've done a great job.

**Achorn:** this is a vast improvement to the 2018 plan. I think we should be proud of it.

**Rudolph moved to table action on this item until January 24, 2023, at which time a second public hearing will be held with the expectation that action will be taken that evening, with a second by Shanafelt.**

**Roll call vote:** yes – Achorn, Chown, Rudolph, Shanafelt, Sanger

**Passed unan**

**Butler moved to table the agenda item until January 24 with a second by Milliken.**

**Motion passed by consensus**

## 9. Citizen Comments

**Grand Traverse County Commissioner TJ Andrews:** I want to check in and raise for your awareness three items. You're probably aware that we've had some changes on our

county commission. While we do not have changes in the leadership, the composition has changed substantially with five new members. The majority of members are new, and we have a bigger board, with nine members up from seven. The new commissioners bring enthusiasm for community service and for this board and the work we have ahead. I see enthusiasm among existing members to hear our voices and have us participate. I think across the board and with staff, there's enthusiasm that our county commission is going to become an effective board that tackles real issues in our community. We moved the meeting time from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. We have asked staff to investigate the possibility of evening meetings at least occasionally so we can increase accessibility of this public body to the community we serve.

One item I anticipate we will spend a lot of time on is mental health and access to mental health services. I understand our county has taken the lead working with a consultant with five other counties that are part of Northern Lakes Community Mental Health to rewrite the operating agreement for that organization. I expect that'll come back to the board maybe in May. Hopefully we'll look at ways to improve how that organization operates. Second, we've reserved \$5 million out of our ARPA funds for mental health services in our community. I expect we will have some discussions in the coming months on how best to allocate those funds to make a meaningful impact. This was already a need before the pandemic; it's now far more exacerbated for people in crisis, for children, for people with chronic mental illness. These are issues we have an obligation to address and have neglected for a long time. I suspect this is going to be a prominent issue on our agenda this term and I would welcome your input, prospective, engagement.

Finally, I'd like to make the point to acknowledge and compliment and also thank the people who volunteer on citizen boards. This evening has been a great example of that. We have lots of committees just as you do, some more ad-hoc for short amounts of time, some permanent. It's a thankless job. It's hard work. It's lots of hours. It's immersion in details in complicated issues. It's rarely compensated. If it is, it's at a stipend level. In my experience and from what I've observed, people who volunteer on local committees do so because they believe in our community and put community first. I sincerely appreciate that. I am aware of a report that came out this week from the ACLU that raises serious concerns about how we treat community members who are appointed to county committees. It's hard enough to recruit people who are willing to give their time and serve. I'm concerned about anything that makes it harder or disincentivizes people. I encourage participation. We have lots of people in the township who are involved, and we have lots of opportunities in the county. I encourage you to sign up, apply, put your application on file. Our community needs to hear your voices. We welcome as much perspective as we can get. I personally am happy to sit down and discuss boards, opportunities, timelines, schedules, and anything else related to our county that will encourage participation and more perspective and voices. Thank you very much for your time. I look forward to partnering with the township in the coming months and to seeing those grants roll in.

**Deputy Mugerian:** I have some statistics. I've been updating the Next Door app and will continue to do so. I'll post our statistics for 2022 shortly. I just want to provide some

important statistics and information from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

Deputy France and I responded to a total of 1,086 calls for service. Complaints within the fourth quarter of 2022 include stolen vehicle, larcenies, shoplifting, crashes with injuries, domestic assaults, natural deaths, frauds, juvenile offenses, suicide attempts, the filing of a false police report, drag racing, and others. In 2022 we performed a total of 293 traffic stops. These stops resulted in 103 tickets being issued. As mentioned previously, local residents are responsible for approximately 80% of the stops we made, so please stop blaming the tourists. Deputy France and I will continue to enforce excessive speed, but we will also transition to different traffic offenses. A major one we've been seeing recently is people passing on the right. That's very annoying and also dangerous. This is your warning: if we see it and we can perform a traffic stop, you will likely get a ticket. Please refrain from passing on the right. Be patient.

Last, I want to touch on 911 calls. Deputy France and I carry department-issued cell phones. Those cell phones should only be used for non-emergency phone calls. We've received a lot of people calling to report a suspicious situation or something that needs an officer presence immediately. Please refrain from doing that. You can either call the 911 number or the non-emergency number. Use our cell phones in the event that you have a question or a non-emergency issue.

The Peninsula Township Fire Department also wanted to me to mention that they've had a lot of people contact their regular phone number to report a crash or smoke. Please call 911 instead. They've also had people drive to the fire department to report something. That wastes a lot of time. 911 response times are a lot better than driving to the department. If you guys have any questions, my phone number is listed on the township website. Feel free to give Deputy France or me a call. Hopefully 2023 is a good year.

#### **10. Board Comments**

**Milliken:** I saw the ARPA funds were distributed. Peninsula Township wasn't listed.

**Chown:** from the county? Yes. We applied but got nothing. We were very dismayed.

**Skurski:** because the normal park meeting would be scheduled on January 23, can we cancel the parks 23 meeting?

**Chown:** yes. If you have agenda items, we can add them to the 24th meeting agenda.

#### **11. Adjournment**

**Sanger moved to adjourn with a second by Shanafelt.**

**Motion approved by consensus**

**Millikan moved to adjourn with a second by Butler.**

**Motion approved by consensus**

**Adjourned at 8:24 p.m.**

# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City  
MI 49686

[www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com)

## Township Board and Parks Committee

### Joint Special Meeting

January 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

### Township Hall

### Minutes

1. **Call to Order** by Chown at 7:02 p.m.

2. **Pledge**

3. **Roll Call**

Township Board: Achorn, Sanger, Rudolph, Shanafelt, Chown

Absent: Wunsch, Wahl

Parks Committee: Murphy, Dahl, Butler, Zebell, Skurski, Chown

Absent: Milliken

4. **Citizen Comments:** none

5. **Approve Agenda**

**Rudolph moved to approve the agenda with a second by Shanafelt.**

**Motion passed**

**by consensus**

6. **Conflict of interest:** none

7. **Consent Agenda:**

A. Minutes from January 10, 2023, Peninsula Township Board Special Meeting

**Sanger moved to approve the consent agenda with a second by Rudolph.**

**Motion**

**passed by consensus**

8. **Business**

1. Second public hearing on the updated parks and recreation plan and consideration of Resolution 01-24-23 #1, Adoption of the 2023 Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan, with action expected to be taken.

**Chown:** the updated plan is available on the website, sans the changes that Marge [Achorn] submitted on Wednesday and that Barry [Hicks] made today.

**Heller:** asked for the changes to be read by Chown.

**Chown:** on page 6, the bottom sentence: Change after the comma to read: "Due to a large increase in visitors, the committee may need to explore additional ADA accessible parking near the area beach."

On page 12 [second paragraph], third line: correction of official name: it should be "The Mission Point Lighthouse Keeper Association..."

Page 22, fourth paragraph, second line: after the parenthesis delete "reinsulated" and the

sentence should read: "windows have been replaced."

Last sentence [page 22, fifth paragraph], delete "in progress." Sentence should read: "Its foundation has been strengthened, major tower repairs completed and basement insulation installed. The historic exterior restoration of the lighthouse is now completed." Sixth Paragraph: delete "pit" and change to "vault toilets." Next sentence: "Planning for flush toilet facilities is seen as essential." Delete "and is in progress."

Page 36, delete first point: "Explore shuttle..."

**Chown opened second public hearing on the newly updated township parks five-year parks and recreation plan at 7:09 p.m.**

**Lisa Coffman, 13664 Heeden Drive:** concerned about the tennis court/basketball court. In the event that we do have somebody playing tennis and basketball at the same time, what is the protocol? Are we putting up a fence so we can have individual spots? How's that going to work with putting the basketball courts where the tennis courts are? **Skurski:** when we looked at the possibility of putting in the basketball courts on the tennis courts, the thought process was that if there is a requirement for some kind of barrier, we can do that. Rather than put something like that up initially, we'll see how the utilization goes and see if it's required. A lot of people play basketball on a half court, which would at least minimize the cross traffic.

**Coffman:** it's hard when the pickleball players want to go across the court with their equipment and people are playing tennis. The tennis court has two doorways that can both be utilized. My sister and I have had this happen a couple of times, where the pickleball people cut across instead of walking around to the other side. I understand that some of the equipment might be heavy but they shouldn't be inconsiderate. Can we put a sign saying, "Please use other door when other games are in progress" or even move it [the lockbox] over to the west corner?

**Skurski:** we're looking at trying to move the lockbox to the other side. Moving the basketball court location isn't going to happen until we put in new pickleball courts, which should alleviate the duplicate use of the existing tennis courts.

**Coffman:** if we can look into moving the equipment over to the northeast corner, that would be great.

**Chown:** if the pickleball court construction is delayed, can we still move the box? That should alleviate the problem. Thank you. We appreciate knowing what is happening.

**Chown closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.**

**Chown:** any discussion on changes before we vote?

**Cram:** page 18 says in the second paragraph, "Township has not completed an Americans with Disabilities Act transition plan." Is this something we need to do? Is it going to look unfavorable that we haven't done it?

**Barry Hicks, LIAA:** it's not required by the DNR guidelines. It's a suggestion. In the future, it's a separate study you could do. The guidelines that are required in the grading system we used in this report are from the DNR guidelines. As far as I am aware, it shouldn't affect your grant application. If you were planning on pursuing more ADA projects, you could consider it in the future.

**Chown:** can you tell us how comprehensive or expensive it is? Does it take a lot of time?

**Hicks:** I would have to look into it.

**Chown:** I can look into it too.

**Murphy:** does that sentence even need to be there?

**Hicks:** I put it in to follow DNR guidelines. I don't know if it will affect you to not have it.

**Skurski:** we've had a lot of ADA-related projects in most of the parks. If it's just a matter of formalizing those targets into a document, I think we could do that pretty quickly.

**Chown:** I think it's important. We should do it. We had a lot of assistance [in the form of letters of support] in the grant applications we've submitted from the disability network and from Susan Odgers, a local columnist and disability advocate. It would make sense for us to follow through on this.

**Cram:** can we add that we plan on looking into it in the future?

**Sanger:** my suggestion would be to go back in the action plan and put it high on the priority list and delete that sentence from page 18.

**Hicks:** on page 34, under goal one, objective one reads, "Retrofit existing or build new facilities to accommodate accessibility needs, including ADA bathrooms, pavilions, picnic spaces, trails, boardwalks, parking spaces and signage." If you want to delete the sentence from p. 18, I'm not sure if it would really impact anything one way or another.

**Cram:** I think we just want to add it under the action plan.

**Chown:** I don't think that causes a problem with the content of page 34.

**Cram:** it's consistent.

**Sanger:** I would submit that for objective one, the first step is to do just that.

**Skurski:** put it first. According to the goal sequence, it would be first.

**Hicks:** I can do that.

**Ginger Schultz, Lighthouse Manager:** on page 18, for Hessler Log Cabin, the chart says, "The entry door is too narrow for wheelchair access." That's not true. The back viewing area has a ramp and you can get a wheelchair there.

**Rudolph:** you can't get into the main cabin.

**Achorn:** no one can.

**Schultz:** you can get a wheelchair to the viewing area, and that's what we open every day when we're open.

**Chown:** is the back area the entry door? Is that the same thing?

**Rudolph:** the main entry door is typically closed and locked. The only way you can actually see into the Hessler Cabin is from the viewing area in the back, which you can access by wheelchair.

**Schultz:** the front door is only open one day a year.

**Chown:** change what it says to, "The back door viewing area allows for wheelchair access."

**Hicks:** how about, "The viewing area allows for wheelchair access."

#### **Board agreement**

**Zebell:** does that change the number that is associated with it?

**Shanafelt:** not technically because the one day of the year that the front door is unlocked, a wheelchair cannot get through that door.

**Chown:** why do we only open it once a year?

**Rudolph:** we open it on Log Cabin Days.

**Cram:** two little things. Page six at the bottom, where you changed “area beach,” there are two periods. Page 12, where you made a change to the Mission Point Lighthouse Keeper Association, there needs to be a space between “Association” and “501(c)(3).” Page 17 has only one line. Is it possible to move that up?

**Hicks:** that’s a formatting issue. I saw that after I printed it. I’ll look at it.

**Achorn:** there’s a space missing on page 13. Under the bullet points, that first sentence, “gift shop” needs a space.

**Chown:** yes and capitalize the “S” too please.

**Zebell:** page 34, formatting under objective 1, needs indentation.

**Shanafelt:** on that page the other indentations have an extra space.

**Chown:** this is a clear indication the content must be pretty good.

**Murphy moved to accept the plan as amended and to recommend acceptance by the township board with a second by Zebell. Motion passed by consensus**

**Chown:** once we pass the resolution, you [Hicks] will input these final changes tomorrow morning?

**Hicks:** yes, and I’ll need is a copy of the minutes from the tenth and from this meeting. I sent transmittal letters to you and Marge today.

**Chown:** I have them here on township letterhead ready to sign.

**Hicks:** I need copies of those letters. When you send them, send a copy of the finished plan.

**Chown:** including all the appendices, the approximately 150 pages?

**Hicks:** everything. To the county and the regional planning agency. I need the resolution when it’s signed back from you.

**Chown:** minutes from the January 10 meeting have not been approved yet.

**Hicks:** other jurisdictions go through this adoption process where they submit the minutes with their plan and, because of the February deadline, they haven’t had the subsequent meeting to approve. The key thing is did you capture accurately the public input that was received.

**Chown:** you also need the minutes from tonight, tomorrow?

**Hicks:** I need to include them in the appendix.

**Chown moved to adopt the 2023 Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan with a second by Shanafelt.**

**Roll call vote:** yes – Achorn, Sanger, Rudolph, Shanafelt, Chown.

**Passed unan**

**Cram:** Barry, do you need the legal notices?

**Hicks:** we need the affidavit of publication from the newspaper.

**Cram:** I have the electronic copy but I can also get you the newspaper copy.

**Chown:** do I need to include that with the material I’m sending to the county?

**Hicks:** yes. Wait to send the transmittal letter until you get the final draft back from me with all the minutes and the publication affidavits. I’m going to take all of the documents you give me, append it back into a document, make any corrections, and then send

everything back to you.

**Chown:** then I make two copies and mail it.

**Shanafelt:** it has to be hard copy?

**Hicks:** let me check the DNR guidelines to see if you can email it. I'm not sure about that.

**9. Citizen Comments:** none

**10. Board Comments**

**Sanger:** thank you to the parks committee and LIAA for the tremendous job. It's very well done. To my fellow residents, members of the parks committee, thank you for your hard work.

**Shanafelt:** I would second those comments. Really nice work.

**Ahorn:** an awesome job. Thank you very much, Barry.

**Rudolph:** thank you to all of you. It's amazing how quickly this all got done.

**Chown:** the parks committee worked very hard on the wording and the sentiments expressed in these goals and objectives. Thank you for your dedication to our parks and our township. This is a beautiful plan.

**11. Adjournment**

**Shanafelt moved to adjourn with a second by Sanger.**

**Motion approved by consensus**

**Skurski moved to adjourn with a second by Zebell.**

**Motion approved by consensus**

**Adjourned at 7:38 p.m.**





## Barry Hicks

---

**From:** Rebecca Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 10:38 AM  
**To:** rhentschel@gtcountymi.gov; commissioners@gtcountymi.gov  
**Cc:** Barry Hicks  
**Subject:** Letter of Transmittal and 2023 Peninsula township Parks & Recreation Plan attached  
**Attachments:** Five-Year P&R Plan Letter of Transmittal to GTCC Rob Hentschel.doc; 2023 Peninsula Twp Parks Plan.html

Good morning,

Attached please find Peninsula Township's letter of transmittal and our brand spanking new parks and recreation plan.

Best wishes,

Becky

### **Rebecca Chown**

*Peninsula Township Clerk*

*13235 Center Road*

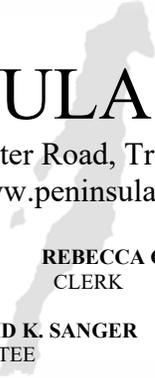
*Traverse City MI 49686*

*phone: 231-223-7321*

*fax: 231-223-7117*

*[clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto: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*



# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI 49686  
www.peninsulatownship.com

ISAIAH S. WUNSCH  
SUPERVISOR

REBECCA CHOWN  
CLERK

MARGARET ACHORN  
TREASURER

W. WILLIAM RUDOLPH  
TRUSTEE

DAVID K. SANGER  
TRUSTEE

ARMEN SHANAFELT  
TRUSTEE

WARREN WAHL  
TRUSTEE

January 25, 2023

Grand Traverse County  
Board of Commissioners  
400 Boardman Avenue  
Suite 305  
Traverse City, MI 49684

**Re: Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Mr. Hentschel,

Enclosed is a copy of the Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan for 2023–2028. The plan was adopted by the Peninsula Township Board on January 24, 2023.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please contact my office at (231) 223-7321 or by email at [clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto:clerk@peninsulatownship.com).

Sincerely,

Becky Chown  
Township Clerk  
Peninsula Township

## Barry Hicks

---

**From:** Rebecca Chown <clerk@peninsulatownship.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 10:36 AM  
**To:** terry.vandercook@networksnorthwest.org  
**Cc:** Barry Hicks  
**Subject:** Letter of Transmittal and 2023 Peninsula Township Parks & Recreation Plan attached  
**Attachments:** Five-Year P&R Plan Letter of Transmittal to Networks Northwest (Regl Planning).doc; 2023 Peninsula Twp Parks Plan.html

Good morning, Terry,

Attached please find Peninsula Township's letter of transmittal and our brand spanking new parks and recreation plan.

Best wishes,

Becky

### **Rebecca Chown**

*Peninsula Township Clerk*

*13235 Center Road*

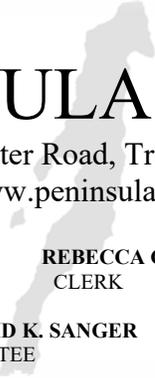
*Traverse City MI 49686*

*phone: 231-223-7321*

*fax: 231-223-7117*

*[clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto: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*



# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

13235 Center Road, Traverse City MI 49686  
[www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com)

ISAIAH S. WUNSCH  
SUPERVISOR

REBECCA CHOWN  
CLERK

MARGARET ACHORN  
TREASURER

W. WILLIAM RUDOLPH  
TRUSTEE

DAVID K. SANGER  
TRUSTEE

ARMEN SHANAFELT  
TRUSTEE

WARREN WAHL  
TRUSTEE

January 25, 2023

Networks Northwest  
Attn: Robert Carson, Community Development Regional Director  
600 E. Front St.  
Suite 104  
Traverse City, MI 49686

**Re: Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Mr. Carson,

Enclosed is a copy of the Peninsula Township Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan for 2023–2028. The plan was adopted by the Peninsula Township Board on January 24, 2023.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please contact my office at (231) 223-7321 or by email at [clerk@peninsulatownship.com](mailto:clerk@peninsulatownship.com).

Sincerely,

Becky Chown  
Township Clerk  
Peninsula Township

## **Appendix F**

### **Mission Point Lighthouse Visitor Numbers**

YEAR: 2017

May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec TOTAL

			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
1	Alabama	AL	15	24	23	5	32	13	0		112
2	Alaska	AK	8	1	8	5	3	4	0		29
3	Arizona	AZ	52	79	114	48	45	30	4		372
4	Arkansas	AR	11	18	36	19	18	10	0		112
5	California	CA	71	119	234	125	132	117	3		801
6	Colorado	CO	35	91	126	69	60	56	0		437
7	Connecticut	CT	4	15	23	27	9	5	0		83
8	Delaware	DE	0	1	1	6	10	0	0		18
9	Florida	FL	119	216	305	227	182	90	19		1158
10	Georgia	GA	40	67	73	44	60	49	0		333
11	Hawaii	HI	37	8	11	13	7	4	0		80
12	Idaho	ID	5	6	11	5	10	12	0		49
13	Illinois	IL	298	504	976	799	615	502	54		3748
14	Indiana	IN	220	485	719	403	513	509	62		2911
15	Iowa	IA	20	67	106	75	80	46	0		394
16	Kansas	KS	12	21	73	47	35	24	0		212
17	Kentucky	KY	21	72	131	68	63	30	3		388
18	Louisiana	LA	6	16	22	34	19	14	0		111
19	Maine	ME	7	2	0	6	4	6	4		29
20	Maryland	MD	18	22	36	62	35	18	0		191
21	Massachusetts	MA	6	17	18	26	27	13	2		109
22	Michigan	MI	2,823	2,618	4,637	4,134	3,840	4,112	768		22,932
23	Minnesota	MN	36	81	89	106	66	33	4		415
24	Mississippi	MS	2	19	18	0	8	15	10		72
25	Missouri	MO	46	132	240	133	102	50	2		705
26	Montana	MT	3	12	11	7	15	8	0		56
27	Nebraska	NE	7	30	26	9	35	18	3		128
28	Nevada	NV	1	18	12	23	6	2	0		62
29	New Hampshire	NH	4	9	9	5	2	4	2		35
30	New Jersey	NJ	13	18	31	41	12	11	0		126
31	New Mexico	NM	2	16	25	17	16	10	0		86
32	New York	NY	27	44	88	105	52	36	11		363
33	North Carolina	NC	27	70	82	53	67	36	2		337
34	North Dakota	ND	2	0	5	13	4	2	0		26
35	Ohio	OH	301	741	958	571	622	363	24		3580
36	Oklahoma	OK	16	20	54	14	31	15	0		150

YEAR: <u>2017</u>			May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
17	Oregon	OR	4	7	23	30	22	16	3		105
18	Pennsylvania	PA	46	91	118	109	88	46	7		505
19	Rhode Island	RI	0	3	2	6	2	3	0		16
10	South Carolina	SC	24	40	34	42	20	8	2		170
11	South Dakota	SD	4	21	8	18	16	4	0		71
12	Tennessee	TN	19	69	103	61	58	35	3		348
13	Texas	TX	70	178	255	218	100	109	9		939
14	Utah	UT	10	7	20	19	14	12	0		82
15	Vermont	VT	2	6	8	3	6	0	0		25
16	Virginia	VA	37	48	108	92	55	33	1		374
17	Washington	WA	21	19	41	21	48	17	2		169
18	West Virginia	WV	2	10	10	6	18	9	0		55
19	Wisconsin	WI	56	108	179	189	169	102	7		810
10	Wyoming	WY	0	0	9	4	11	3	0		27
	Washington DC		4	12	12	28	6	4	4		70

**STATES TOTALS**

4,614 6,298 10,261 8,190 7,470 6,668 1,015 44,516

**COUNTRIES TOTALS**

**GRAND TOTAL**

2017	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	
US State TOTALS	4,614	6,298	10,261	8,190	7,470	6,668	1,015	44,516
Foreign TOTALS	178	246	320	314	256	213	39	1566
Grand TOTALS	4,792	6,544	10,581	8,504	7,726	6,881	1,054	46,082

YEAR: 2017

Month:

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV

Countries	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV			total
Africa, East			1							1
Antarctica			1							1
Argentina	4				2					6
Australia	8	16	9	1	3	3				40
Austria		4	2	5	2					13
Bahamas			1							1
Belgium	1	2	5	2	1					11
Bolivia										
Brazil		11	4		12	10	1			38
Bulgaria	3									3
Cambodia										
Canada	39	48	76	89	90	48	12			402
Chile	2						1			3
China	9	9	8	5	24	21				76
Colombia	1	2	4		3	1				11
Congo										
Costa Rica		4			3	2	1			10
Croatia	1									1
Cuba		1				1				2
Czech Republic		1	2	4		1				8
Denmark			15			2				17
El Salvador		2			2					4
England	11	23	19	43	14	18	2			130
Ecuador					5					5
Ethiopia							1			1
Fiji										
Finland	1	4	1	10						16
France	2	7	10	16	11					46
Germany	32	27	32	59	32	30				212
Georgia, Republic of										
Ghana		2								2
Greece				2						2
Guatemala		1								1
Haiti					2					2
Holland					2					2
Hong Kong	1									1
Hungary										
Iceland		1				1				2
India	4	18	4	3	3	13				45
Indonesia	1				4					5
Iran										
Iraq							2			2
Ireland		2	9	1						12
Israel		2	1	2		3				8
Italy	16	2	2	4		6				30
Japan	5	8		21	3	11				48
Kazakhstan										
Kenya			1		1					2
Lebanon			1							1

Lichtenstein						2			2
Lithuania			2						2
Luxemburg							2		2
Macedonia					1				1
Madrid					2				2
Malaysia			3						3
Malta									
Mexico	3	13	5	4	15	10	1		51
Nepal		4							4
Netherlands		4	3	4	4	1			16
New Zealand	6				1	1			8
Nigeria	1								1
Norway				3					3
Pakistan				3					3
Peru			2						2
Philippines	1		6	3	1	3	1		15
Poland	2		11	4	1	2			20
Romania	1			2		1			4
Russia	2	7				2			11
Scotland		2	13	1	1	5			22
Serbia					1				1
Singapore		2							2
Slovakia									
South Africa		4			1	2	4		11
South Korea	7	3	10						20
Spain	3	3	6	6	1	6			25
Sweden			11	4		1			16
Switzerland		2	16	3	3				24
Taiwan	4	3	9				6		22
Thailand	5					3	2		10
Trinidad					1				1
Turkey									
Turkmenistan									
Ukraine	1		3						4
Uruguay	1								1
Venezuela			6		2	1	3		12
Vietnam				1		2			3
Wales				1					1
Zambia									
<b>U.S. Territories</b>									
Puerto Rico		2	2	4	1				9
Virgin Islands				4	1				5
Guam			4						4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>39</b>		<b>1566</b>

## **Appendix G**

### **Post-Completion Self-Certification Reports**



PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

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

GRANTEE: Bowers Harbor Park Expansion

PROJECT NUMBER: TF13-086

PROJECT TYPE: Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Bowers Harbor Park Expansion

PROJECT SCOPE:

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Peninsula Township, Brian VanDenBrand, Planner, 13235 Center Road, 231-223-7314, Traverse City, planner@peninsulatownship.com

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). [ ] Yes [X] No

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

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [ ] Yes [X] No

SITE QUALITY

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

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [X] Yes [ ] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [ ] Yes [X] No

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

Yes  No

REGULAR MAINTENANCE BY CONTRACTED STAFF

**GENERAL**

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes  No  N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes  No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes  No

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

ALL HOURS / SEASONS

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

**CERTIFICATION**

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

BRIAN VANDEN BRAND

Please print



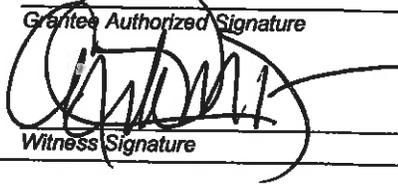
Grantee Authorized Signature

2/7/18

Date

Christina Deeren

Please print



Witness Signature

2/7/18

Date

Send completed report to:

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



PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

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

GRANTEE: PDR Easement Acquisition

PROJECT NUMBER: TF95-149

PROJECT TYPE: Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: PDR Easement Acquisition

PROJECT SCOPE:

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Peninsula Township, Brian VanDenBrand, Planner, 13235 Center Road, 231-223-7314, Traverse City, planner@peninsulatownship.com

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). [ ] Yes [X] No

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

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [ ] Yes [X] No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. THIS IS A VIEWSHED EASEMENT SO NO SIGN IS POSTED [ ] Yes [X] No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [X] Yes [ ] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [ ] Yes [X] No

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

Yes  No

REMAINS PRIVATE PROPERTY SO MAINTENANCE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER.

**GENERAL**

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes  No  N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes  No

PLEASE SEE ABOVE RESPONSES

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes  No

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

N/A

**COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)**

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

**CERTIFICATION**

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

BRIAN VANDENBRAND

Please print

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Grantee Authorized Signature

2/7/18

Date

Christina Deeren.

Please print

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Witness Signature

2/7/18

Date

Send completed report to:

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



PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

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

GRANTEE: Haserot Beach Park Expansion

PROJECT NUMBER: TF87-273 PROJECT TYPE: Acquisition

PROJECT TITLE: Haserot Beach Park Expansion

PROJECT SCOPE:

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Peninsula Township, Brian VanDenBrand, Planner, 13235 Center Road, 231-223-7314, Traverse City, planner@peninsulatownship.com

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). [ ] Yes [X] No

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

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [ ] Yes [X] No

SITE QUALITY

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

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [X] Yes [ ] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [ ] Yes [X] No

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

STAFFED MAINTENANCE

Yes  No

**GENERAL**

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes  No  N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes  No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes  No

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

ALL HOURS / SEASONS

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

**CERTIFICATION**

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

BRAND VANDENBRAND

Please print



Grantee Authorized Signature

2/7/18

Date

Christina Deeren

Please print



Witness Signature

2/7/18

Date

**Send completed report to:**

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