



COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLAN

2019 - 2023



CITY OF NEW BUFFALO

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This plan was prepared with assistance from Abonmarche Consultants.



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A. Introduction

A community's access to resources and activities directly impacts the quality of life of its residents and visitors. Park and recreation facilities engage people in a community and keep them active and healthy while improving their surroundings.

The City of New Buffalo has undertaken this revised plan in an effort to:

- Maintain an updated plan to guide investment in parks, recreation, and open space;
- Assess present community and area recreational facilities and programs;
- Inventory natural areas and open spaces contributing to a green infrastructure network;
- Solicit public input and response regarding parks, recreation, and open space in New Buffalo;
- Identify priority parks, recreation, and open space improvements and acquisitions;
- Establish a course of action for improvements and acquisition for the next five years; and
- Identify potential sources of funding to satisfy the goals of the plan and the needs of residents and visitors.

The City of New Buffalo has developed this plan in accordance with the Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). In order to retain eligibility for State and Federal park and recreation grant programs, the City must have a current five-year plan approved by MDNR. The purpose of this document is for planning purposes and all elements are dependent upon availability of funding.



Image courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Detroit District

B. Community Description

This plan encompasses all parks, recreation, and open space within the city limits (see Map 1). The City of New Buffalo is located in Berrien County, in the southwest corner of the State of Michigan. The city is bordered by Lake Michigan to the west, and is surrounded on three sides by New Buffalo Township. From the Chicago area, New Buffalo is just over an hour away while from South Bend the city is only a 30-minute drive. Likewise, large communities in Michigan such as St. Joseph, Benton Harbor, and Kalamazoo are less than 45 minutes away. The city is approximately two (2) miles from the Indiana State Line.

The City of New Buffalo has an unusually important position in the State of Michigan. Often referred to as the "Gateway to Michigan", New Buffalo is the first city that visitors encounter in the state as they travel from the west on I-94 or US-12. In recognition of this important gateway, the Michigan Department of Transportation constructed its first Visitors Center here. The Visitors Center is now a State Historic Landmark.

Map 1. City of New Buffalo Limits



The City of New Buffalo not only serves as one of the first locations to welcome visitors who pass through the community to reach other destinations in Michigan; its proximity to large population centers, along with its natural features such as Lake Michigan and the Galien River, attract a large number of tourists and summer residents.

The United States Census count for New Buffalo's population is 1,883 in 2010. This is a 33.2% decline from the recorded high of 2,821 in 1980. The reported population has declined in each decennial census from 1980 until the present. However, from 2000 to 2010 there has been the addition of 266 housing units and an increase in the number of vacant housing units. While the year-round population has decreased, the number of total and vacant housing units has increased. Of the vacant homes, 83% are for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use compared to 75% for 2000. This indicates a growth in the number of seasonal or vacation homes.

Figure 1. City of New Buffalo Housing

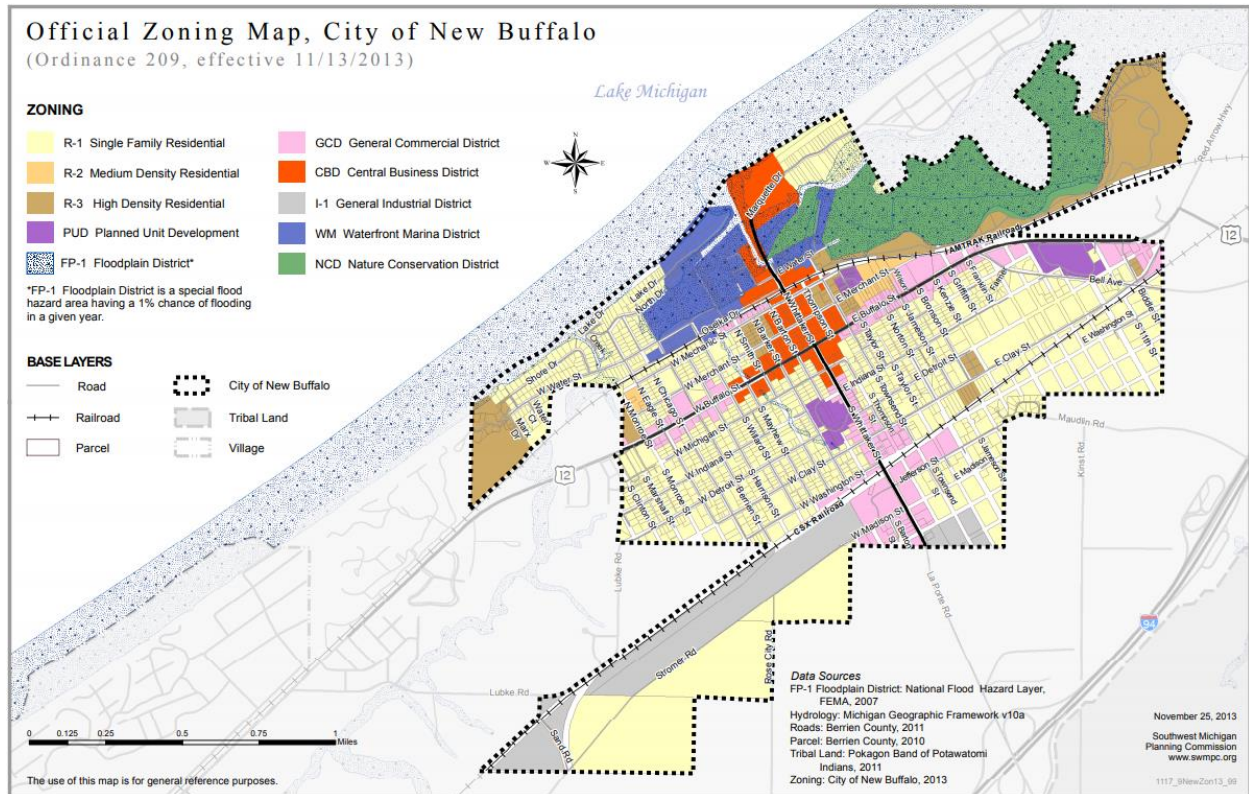
Year	Population	Total Housing Units	Occupied Housing Units	Vacant Housing Units	Percent of Vacant Homes for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use
1970	2,784	1,039			
1980	2,821	1,167			
1990	2,317	1,363	950	413	
2000	2,200	1,426	947	479	75
2010	1,883	1,692	881	811	83
2016*	1,791	1,702			

*estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, all other figures from decennial Census.

New Buffalo's location and its natural features have contributed to the way in which the city evolved. Many homes are in locations that are best suited to take advantage of the natural views and settings offered by this important lakeshore community. A majority of the commercial development, on the other hand, has occurred on major transportation routes.

The physical form of the city is largely a reflection of its lakeside location, its orientation to the Galien River, and the major transportation routes such as US-12, Red Arrow Highway, and the rail lines that connect the community to the larger constellation of cities along the I-94 corridor. New Buffalo's layout follows the traditional grid pattern of most Midwestern cities and towns developed during the mid-1800s. The grid, which is bisected by US-12, is oriented to the lakeshore and consists of condominium development on the lakeshore, modestly scaled residential neighborhoods, and a traditional commercial downtown. While the city is predominantly residential, commercial development is found in the Central Business District, the US-12 corridor,

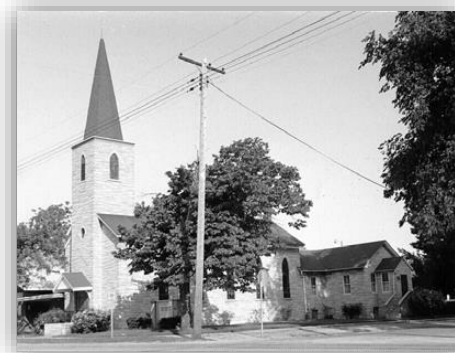
and on Whittaker Street as it leads from one of two interchanges of I-94 which serve the city. In February 2008, Ordinance 175 took effect which made parks and recreation a use permitted by right in all zoning districts.



Berrien County and New Buffalo have a rich cultural history that predates early European settlement. Historians believe that as glaciers receded, hunters followed the animals into the area. In addition, New Buffalo's location at the base of Lake Michigan and at the mouth of the Galien River also served as an important trading area for Native Americans.

More recently, the pioneer history of the community dates back to the end of the seventeenth century when early French missionaries and explorers first settled the area. In 1679, the French explorer LaSalle discovered the Galien River. The fur trade in the early 1700's was followed by more permanent agricultural based settlements. As development continued in the community, its residents began to learn more about the rich history of the area.

Two (2) registered historic sites exist within or near the city - the Saint John German Lutheran Evangelical Church (pictured) and the Tourist Lodge Informational Center on I-94.



The wealth and diversity of natural resources found within New Buffalo and the surrounding area provides an excellent environment for recreation. There are a number of unique ecosystems found within the community that are seldom found in combination elsewhere in the world. The dune ecology found along Lake Michigan, combined with the high quality wetlands alongside the Galien River, further contribute to the diverse ecology in the New Buffalo area.

The varied landscape of the region, in turn, supports a broad range of plant and animal species. In addition, the strategic location of the community is not only important to people, but to migratory birds as well. New Buffalo is located in three different migratory fly-ways. The varied habitats of the area provide ideal settings for birds; the community is a popular destination for avid bird watchers. However, the area is also attractive to geese, which have caused some problems along public walkways near the harbor and lakefront. In 2016, the City introduced a plan using permitted dogs to patrol the waterfront, thusly disturbing the population without harassment or harm.

The estuary of the Galien River and its tributaries serve as important resources to Lake Michigan and the recreational and charter fishing industries of the area. The River and its tributaries provide an ideal setting as a hatchery for a variety of freshwater fish species and provide fishing opportunities during the fall spawning season for salmon and steelhead. The presence of Lake Michigan on the northwestern side of the city is an obvious water resource within the community and the entire state. Lake Michigan is the third largest Great Lake by surface area and the sixth largest freshwater lake in the world. The City Beach provides the primary public access point to the shoreline within the city. There are also several road end access points in New Buffalo and Chikaming Townships.

The Galien River and its large, wooded flood-plain provides natural areas and important wildlife habitat. The river parallels the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern half of the community before emptying into Lake Michigan near the City Beach. The river basin or watershed consists of a main branch and a southern branch. The Galien River Watershed is 112, 222 acres in size, with 82,665 acres in Michigan. A watershed does not respect state, county, township, village or city boundaries. Through the efforts of the Galien River Watershed Project, there is a recognition that watershed communities must work together to improve and protect water resources.

The communities in the Galien River Watershed have expressed concerns about water quality and the impacts on public safety, wildlife habitats, and financial livelihoods. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has included several reaches in the watershed on the Clean Water Act, Section 303(d) list for not meeting water quality standards. In consequence, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process was initiated. The identified pollutants that are impairing those waters include sediment, nutrients, and bacteria. The Galien River Watershed Management Plan identifies the causes and sources of the pollutants and recommends actions to improve water quality.

Further, the water quality of the ground and surface waters is being threatened by growth and development that does not limit impacts on these water resources. If not

planned carefully, growth and development will cause water currently reaching the river through groundwater to be redirected and reach the river through overland flow via runoff from impervious surfaces. This threatens to change the watershed's flow regime, creating flashy streams and rivers with high flows after storm events. The increased runoff will also increase stream bank erosion and result in more pollutants (sediment, nutrients, etc.) reaching surface waters.

In 2008, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) provided grant funds to The Conservation Fund and Chikaming Open Lands to preserve and improve the water quality of the Galien River Watershed. Some of the grant funds were used to provide tools and planning assistance to local units of government within the watershed and to purchase conservation easements in the watershed. For more information on the Galien River Watershed refer to the "Galien River Watershed Management Plan" which can be found at <http://www.swmpc.org/grw.asp>.

Over sixty percent (60%) of the wetlands in the Galien River Watershed have been lost since pre-settlement times. There are many remaining wetland areas surrounding and within the city. Remaining wetland areas provide invaluable functions such as flood protection, pollutant removal, and wildlife habitat. The Department of Natural Resources has identified the Galien River Marsh (located just upstream from where the Galien River enters Lake Michigan) as being one of the best fresh water estuaries in the State of Michigan. There are at least fifteen (15) different types of Threatened or Special Concern plants located within this wetland. In addition, large marsh and wooded wetland areas provide sanctuary for migrating waterfowl such as the American Wigeon, Shoveler, Gadwall, Bufflehead, Goldeneye, Green-Winged Teal, and many others.

C. Administrative Structure

1. City Council, Advisory Boards, and Commissions

The City Council is responsible for approving the City's Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan and decides the parks and recreation budget and policies, with the assistance of four (4) bodies:

The Park and Recreation Board advises the City Council on matters concerning the City's parks and recreational opportunities. They make recommendations to the City Council for improving, planning, and developing outdoor and indoor recreational, educational, and social facilities and programs for the community. It is formed pursuant to the Recreation and Playgrounds Act (1917 PA 156).

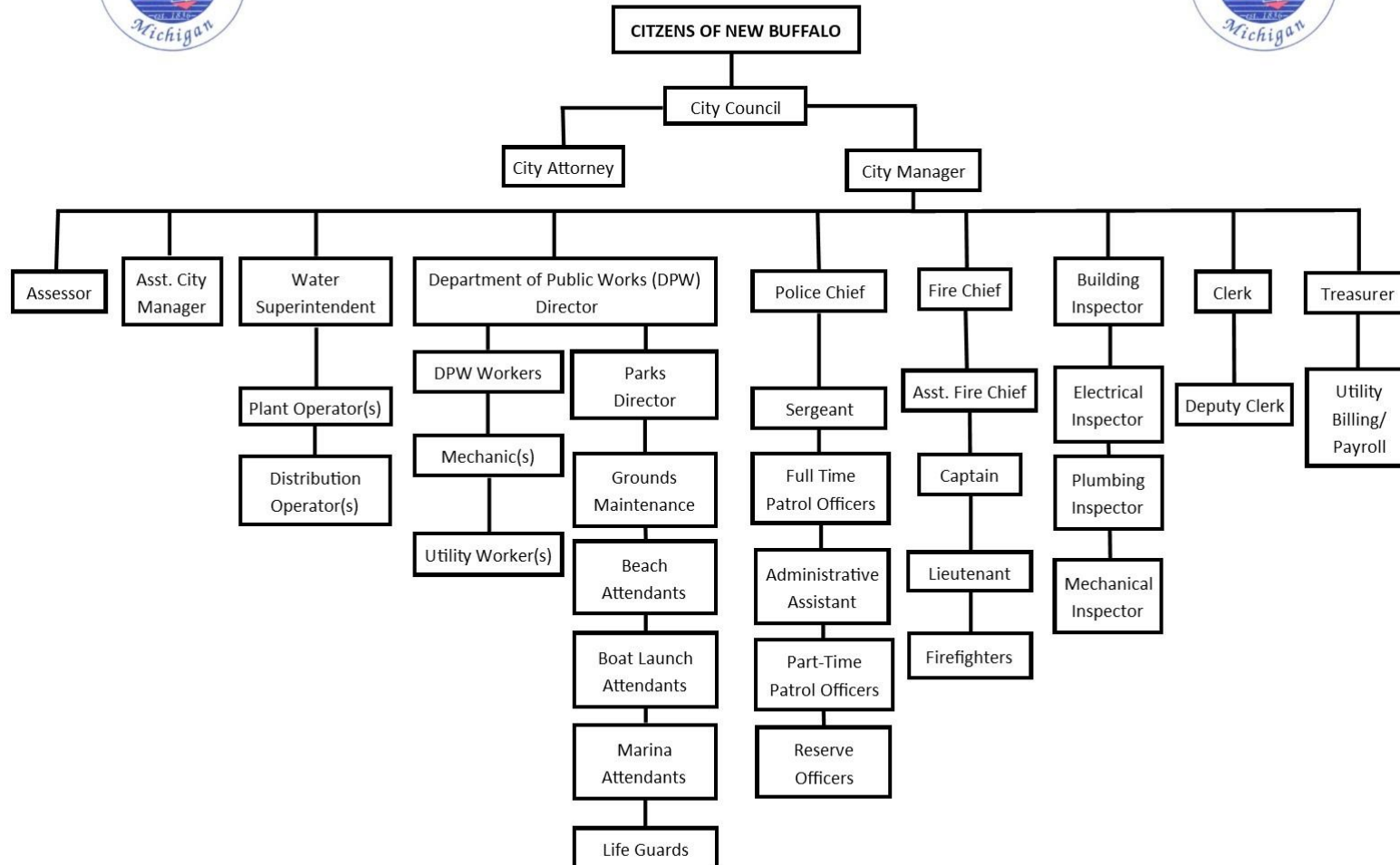
The Department of Public Works provides for the operation and maintenance of City owned or controlled parks, recreational facilities, and other facilities as assigned by the City Manager, to enable the public to enjoy recreational amenities and opportunities, while striving to enhance those facilities. Parks maintenance and operations is managed by the Parks Director. Please see the organizational chart on the following page.

The Planning Commission approves long range land use policies for the City, including the Master Plan, and advises the City Council on planning and zoning related issues.

The Harbor Commission advises the City Council on matters related to harbor access and facilities (City Marina, boat launch and federal navigation channel), and acts as the agency responsible for seeking grant funding for harbor improvements.



CITY OF NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN ORGANIZATION CHART



2. Staff

Under the direction of the City Council, the City Manager and the Parks Director administer all matters concerning City recreational facilities. The City of New Buffalo maintains nine (9) parks, including Turtle Pond Natural Area which is under a conservation lease. The Skate Park is jointly managed with New Buffalo Township and New Buffalo Area Schools. The Recreational Facilities Department is also responsible for the City's Amtrak Station.

Construction projects are authorized by the City Council, and overseen by the City Manager and Parks Director. All construction projects are completed by private contractors under direction from, and under contract with, the City. The City does not administer any recreation programs as of October 2018.

Besides the full-time Parks Director, parks and recreation staff consists primarily of seasonal, part-time employees. During the summer months, individuals are hired as lifeguards, rangers, attendants, and maintenance laborers. Seasonal employees of the City's Recreational Facilities Department perform maintenance of the soccer fields and ball diamonds at Oselka Park.

3. Budget and Sources of Funding

Fund for park construction and maintenance are approved by the City Council on an annual basis. Although General Fund monies are frequently used to supplement park revenues, beach parking, boat launching fees, and mooring fees at the Transient Marina primarily fund the park system.

a. Parks Department and Parks Improvement Fund Budgets

PARK FUND					
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY	AMENDED	REQUESTED
DESCRIPTION			THRU 06/30/18	BUDGET	BUDGET
ESTIMATED REVENUES					
GRANT	17,500	7,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
DONATIONS	50	75			
SERVICE CHARGE	72	195	1,539	800	800
TRANSIENT MARINA FEES	61,761	56,119	49,551	45,000	45,000
BOAT LAUNCHING FEES	55,475	46,139	51,209	50,000	50,000
BOAT LAUNCH FEES-COMMERCIAL	25,410	24,184	27,419	27,000	30,000
CONCESSION	3,709	3,957	5,039	10,000	12,000
VENDING MACHINE REVENUE					
BEACH PARKING FEES	274,478	243,133	261,635	250,000	255,000
FORFEITURE		(250)			
PAVILION RENTAL	525	475	1,150	500	500
INTEREST EARNED	142	222	488	200	200
MISCELLANEOUS	7,879	25,248	4,224		
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL	125,000	74,312	35,000	50,000	30,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	572,001	481,309	440,754	437,000	427,000
APPROPRIATIONS					
SALARIES SUPERVISION	82,317	67,868	88,040	83,560	85,796
SALARIES PERMANENT	68,162	51,417	35,294	29,415	30,297
SALARIES-OVERTIME	2,636	667	399	5,000	5,000
SALARIES-BOAT LAUNCH	22,363	25,442	27,468	28,500	28,500
SALARIES- MARINA	13,541	15,861	10,131	20,000	21,000
SALARIES-BEACH	63,999	61,725	48,766	48,000	52,000
SALARIES PART-TIME				11,000	11,000
PT - LIFEGUARDS			11,311	40,000	
MEDICARE	3,616	3,458	3,166	3,323	3,336
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	15,462	14,788	13,536	13,284	14,266
HEALTH INSURANCE	8,314	20,473	6,925	11,630	12,787
LIFE & DISABILITY INSURANCE	1,432	263	1,537	3,453	3,556
RETIREMENT	3,463	977	3,192	9,038	9,288
WORKER'S COMPENSATION INS	3,158	3,730	4,513	4,882	5,000
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	7,005	5,278	3,471	8,633	8,989
MEDICAL EXPENSE	3,451	1,318	961	2,500	2,500
STIPENDS	200	2,000	1,000		
OFFICE SUPPLIES	154	652	799	800	800
GASOLINE	6,177	5,624	4,471	5,000	6,000
OPERATING SUPPLIES	13,963	12,434	15,425	7,000	8,000
EQUIPMENT/SMALL TOOLS	6,126	2,800	5,249	6,000	6,000
UNIFORMS	2,793	1,460	1,114	2,000	2,000

EDUCATION & TRAINING	1,575	900	1,051	800	800
AUDIT	7,200	7,200	1,500	1,000	1,000
PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTUAL	15,238	17,829	29,488	25,000	25,000
ENGINEERING			500	2,000	2,000
LEGAL					
MEMBERSHIPS & DUES	295	230		400	4,000
TELEPHONE	3,988	3,135	2,786	4,125	4,250
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	1,337	2,150	3,641	2,500	2,500
FIRE INSURANCE	1,534	2,351	1,726	2,000	3,000
FLEET INSURANCE	2,479	3,155	2,966	3,000	3,200
LIABILITY INSURANCE	6,954	9,840	8,095	8,500	8,500
UTILITIES	21,387	24,871	28,453	24,200	24,925
BUILDING REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	1,442	6,654	22,251	8,500	8,500
GROUNDS REPAIR & MAINT	15,934	21,052	10,509	8,500	8,500
EQUIPMENT REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	8,955	9,056	3,094	6,000	6,000
VEHICLE REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	2,811	2,446	4,329	4,500	4,500
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	1,889	1,300		2,500	3,500
REFUNDS		225	400	225	225
MISCELLANEOUS	1,732	2,038	518		
BANK FEES	3,791	6,213	8,277	7,000	7,000
MISC PROJECTS	212	6,809	4,195	7,500	7,500
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS		7,500		5,000	5,000
CASH SHORT/OVER	9	(110)			
EQUIPMENT			128	5,000	5,000
TRANSFER TO DREDGE FUND	35,188				
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	462,282	433,079	420,675	471,268	451,015
NET OF REVENUES/ APPROPRIATIONS					
	109,719	48,230	20,079	(34,268)	(24,015)
	19.18%	10.02%	4.56%	-7.84%	-5.62%
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	67,434	177,152	225,379		118,390
ENDING FUND BALANCE	177,153	225,382	245,458	(34,268)	94,375
Fund 209 - PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND					
ESTIMATED REVENUES					
PROPERTY TAXES	98,735	100,980	102,642	103,000	103,000
PENALTY & INTEREST	192		212		
DONATIONS					
INTEREST EARNED	271	237	500	100	100
MISCELLANEOUS					
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	99,198	101,217	103,354	103,100	103,100
APPROPRIATIONS					
PARK VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT		62,297	42,233	50,000	
TRANSFER TO DREDGE FUND		35,688	35,688	36,000	36,000
ENGINEERING	4,950				
MISCELLANEOUS		5,295	17,424		

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	34,216	20,053	3,900	300,000	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	39,166	123,333	99,245	386,000	36,000
NET OF REVENUES/ APPROPRIATIONS	60,032	(22,116)	4,109	(282,900)	67,100
	60.52%	-21.85%	3.98%	-274.39%	65.08%
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	195,655	255,687	233,571		77,056
ENDING FUND BALANCE	255,687	233,571	237,680	(282,900)	144,156

Fund 225 - DREDGE FUND					
ESTIMATED REVENUES					
GRANT					
CONTRIBUTIONS	36,733	33,543	6,595	36,000	36,000
INTEREST EARNED	315	382	730	225	250
TRANSFER IN	35,188	35,688	35,688	35,600	35,800
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	72,236	69,613	43,013	71,825	72,050
APPROPRIATIONS					
GASOLINE		116			
PROFESSIONAL & CONTRACTUAL		175,102			200,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		175,218			200,000
NET OF REVENUES/ APPROPRIATIONS	72,236	(105,605)	43,013	71,825	(127,950)
	100.00%	-151.70%	100.00%	100.00%	-177.59%
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	279,742	351,978	246,373		10,320
FUND BALANCE ADJUSTMENTS			116		
ENDING FUND BALANCE	351,978	246,373	289,502	71,825	(117,630)

b. Other Funds

As can be seen from the above budget, City revenues do not always cover actual or anticipated expenses. Therefore, the City actively seeks funding from sources outside the City. As noted in the next section, the City has received three development grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to develop facilities at the City Beach, the City Boat Launch, and the Transient Marina. The City also investigates private funding programs, such as the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust, for individual projects and monitors both public and private grant funding sources and submits applications for promising programs. The City also seeks individual and corporate private donors.

Another source of funding is the partnership with the Pokagon Fund, a local foundation formed as a result of the casino, which has funded several recreation related initiatives and projects in New Buffalo and the surrounding area. In addition, the City of New Buffalo receives a percentage of casino revenues and can use this towards recreation projects.

The casino places an additional demand on City infrastructure and facilities, particularly with regard to recreation. The thousands of people drawn to the area by the casino require additional lodging, restaurants, and amusements in the area. In terms of public recreation, the need for additional camping and lake access will likely be acute. The agreement between the Pokagon Band and the City and Township guarantees a percentage of casino revenues and foundation grant funding that can be used to improve parks and recreation opportunities. If the experience of other small cities with nearby casinos is any proof, the casino presents a source of funding to meet the challenges of increased population and visitors.

However, The Pokagon Fund and local revenue sharing should not be viewed as an unlimited source of funding. Most casinos are very popular at the outset, but outside forces often militate against long-term success at the same high level. Therefore, plans for recreation facilities, particularly for capital improvements, should be realistic and not rely strictly on gaming related funding. Those items identified in the Action Program that are dependent on the Pokagon Fund or local revenue sharing for funding may need to be re-prioritized if the casino is no longer able to generate sufficient funds.

c. Volunteers

The City does not directly operate any recreation programs as of October 2018. Summer baseball and softball leagues are managed by the volunteer-led local foundation New Buffalo Sports, Inc. Volunteer committees manage other programs that take place on parks grounds, such as the Ship and Shore Festival, Harvest and Wine Festival, New Buffalo Community Picnic, and Apple Cider Century. The Oselka Park concession stand is operated by volunteers representing the group using the facility for fundraising during events, in particular Bison Band Boosters runs concessions during home varsity football games.

d. Relationships with Other Agencies

The City is continually exploring ideas to improve relationships and develop collaborative and cost-saving partnerships with the New Buffalo School District, New Buffalo Township, and the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians to provide recreation programming and facilities. Currently the City works cooperatively with New Buffalo Area Schools and New Buffalo Township to operate the Skate Park. Further, the City has been active in the development of the Harbor Country Hike and Bike Plan which was funded by the Pokagon Fund. The City Council also appoints a council member to serve on the Friends of Harbor Country Trails Board of Directors which is a non-profit grassroots organization tasked with the implementation of the Harbor County Hike and Bike Plan.

D. Recreation and Resource Inventory

An inventory of the recreational facilities located in and near the City of New Buffalo was conducted by on-site visits to the facilities. The City of New Buffalo owns and operates Oselka Park, City Beach, Boat Launch, Lion's Pavilion Park, Riverfront Park, Transient Marina, and Sari Asher Memorial Park. The City leases the Turtle Pond Natural Area from a private landowner. The City works cooperatively with New Buffalo Area Schools and New Buffalo Township to operate the Skate Park.

The park classification corresponds to the classification system in Appendix B of the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans* published by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in June 2018. Accessibility at each park was reviewed by Abonmarche Staff in September 2018 by comparing it to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. The number listed in the **Accessibility Rating** column (also taken from the *Guidelines*) is as follows:

1. None of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
2. Some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
3. Most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
4. The entire park meets accessibility guidelines
5. The entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design

1. City of New Buffalo Recreation Facilities

City Beach	
Size	15 acres
Classification	Special Use - Public Beach
Ownership	City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	800 Feet of Lake Michigan Beachfront; 7.25 acres of sandy beach, six (6) acres of dunes, 2.1 acres of parking with 207 spaces plus six (6) handicap spaces.
Accessibility Rating	2: Playstructure has transfer deck but is on non-accessible surface. Sand wheelchair available. Need additional van accessible handicap parking.
Facilities/Programs	A swimming beach with a parking lot, a dunewalk nature trail, picnic tables, benches, play structures, fitness equipment, volleyball nets, restrooms, food concession, and kayak rentals.



Image Courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

Lions Pavilion Park	
Size	2 acres
Classification	Mini-Park
Ownership	City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	The pavilion is located at 101 Marquette Drive, which is across the street from the City Beach.
Accessibility Rating	2: concrete surface is accessible however, route needed to access the pavilion.
Facilities/Programs	Pavilion with two (2) fireplaces, picnic tables, and grills. Pavilion can be rented with special use permit.

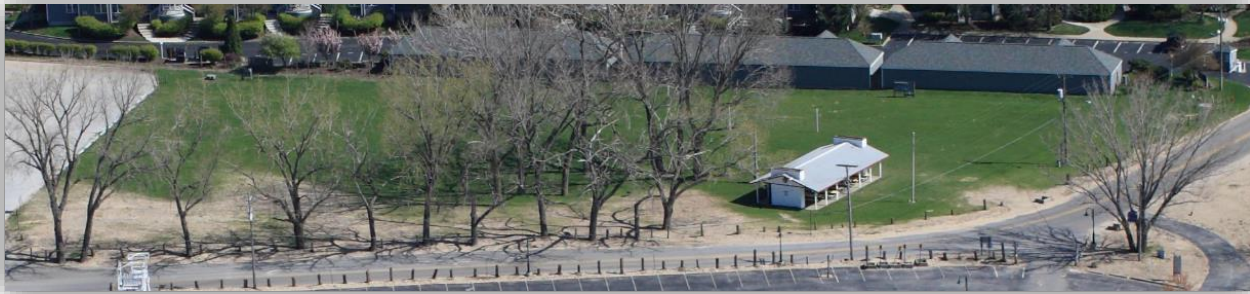


Image Courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers



Riverfront Park	
Size	0.75 acres
Classification	Mini-Park
Ownership	City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	Open space along Galien River with fishing access, five (5) sculpture installations from HCPAI
Accessibility Rating	2: Sidewalk adjacent to the park is accessible
Facilities/Programs	Two (2) fishing decks with picnic tables, benches



Image Courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers



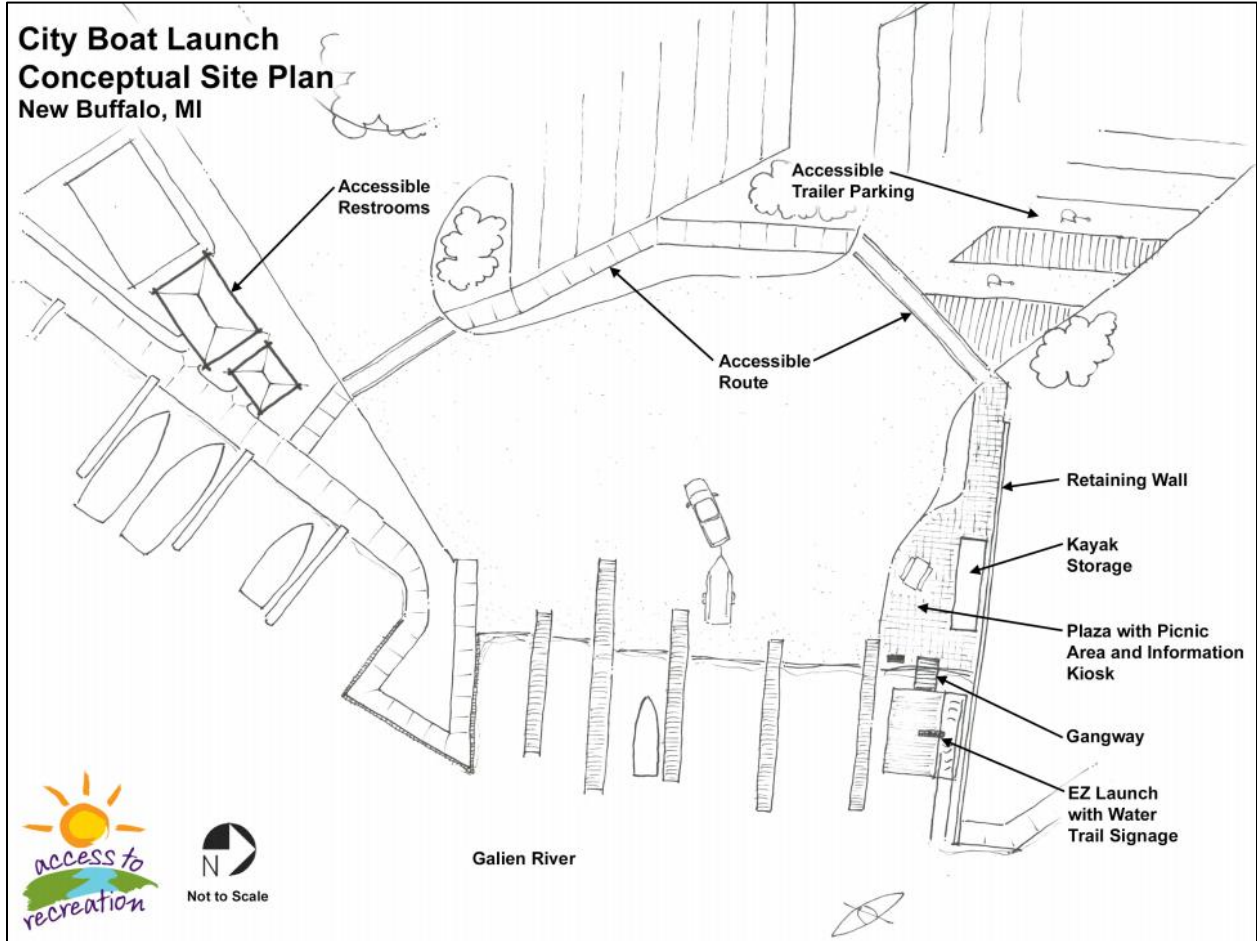
Boat Launch	
Size	4.75 acres
Classification	Special Use - Boat Launch
Ownership	MI DNR, managed by City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	Boat launches and parking lot
Accessibility Rating	2: two (2) accessible boat trailer parking spaces, however these do not have an access aisle
Facilities/Programs	Eight (8) boat launch ramps, parking lot with 140 spaces, one (1) picnic table, one (1) grill; daily fees apply, seasonal passes available.



Image Courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers



The Lake Michigan Coastal Communities Trail Towns Master Plan includes a conceptual site plan for improvements to the City Boat Launch as a trailhead for both Lake Michigan Water Trail and Galien River Water Trail. Improvements proposed include a canoe/kayak launch, paddler's plaza, kayak storage, campsites, and accessibility improvements.



Transient Marina	
Size	3.5 acres
Classification	Special Use - Marina
Ownership	City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	A transient marina for boaters visiting New Buffalo. 1.5 acres of the 3.5 total size is submerged land.
Accessibility Rating	2: one (1) accessible parking space needs to be widened to be van accessible, route from parking to building is accessible but building itself is inaccessible due to walkway issues near entrances.
Facilities/Programs	Thirty (30) transient boat slips, comfort station, picnic tables, electric, water, pump-out station. Marine channels 16 and 9 are manned. Short term docking is available for two (2) hours Sun-Thurs, space permitting.



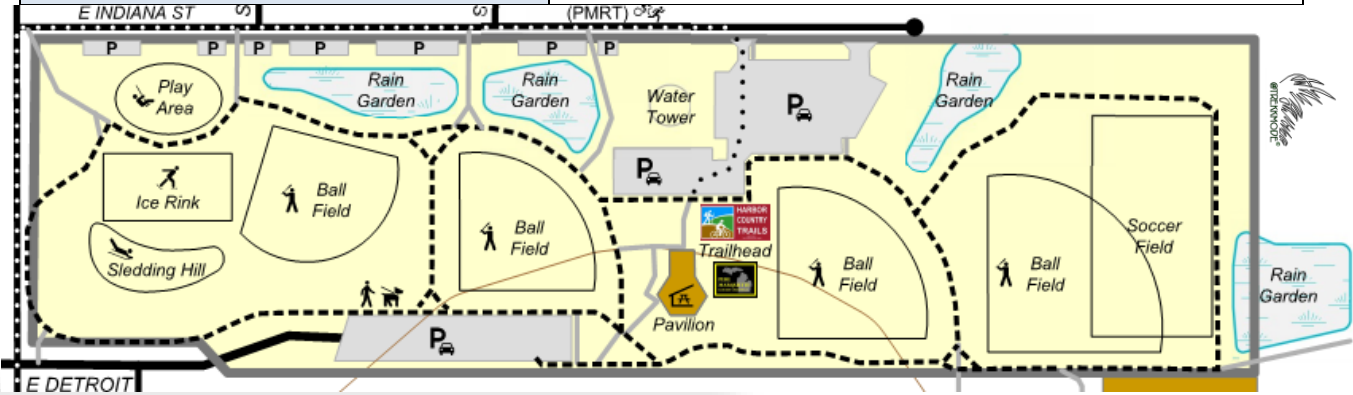
Image Courtesy of: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers



Service Area Map – Lakefront Area



Oselka Park	
Size	17.5 acres
Classification	Community Park
Ownership	New Buffalo City
Facility Description	Multi-purpose community park and sports complex
Accessibility Rating	3: accessible walk connects park to neighboring sidewalks, two (2) playstructures with transient deck (however, surface is non-accessible), pavilion and restroom are accessible, multiple ADA parking spaces.
Facilities/Programs	Two (2) baseball diamonds and one (1) softball diamond with dugouts and bleachers are used by New Buffalo Schools Athletics and New Buffalo Sports, Inc., who run a rec league. Soccer field, picnic area, pavilion with concessions and fireplace, playground, sledding hill, seasonal ice rink. Pavilion can be rented by special use permit.



Skate Park	
Size	0.1 acre
Classification	Special Use – Skateboard, Pickleball
Ownership	City of New Buffalo in partnership with New Buffalo Township and School District
Facility Description	A skate and bike challenge area. Fenced area for pickleball and one (1) half basketball court.
Accessibility Rating	2: access to the facility is barrier free
Facilities/Programs	Half pipe, ramps, and various rails. Pickleball and basketball court markings. Nets are portable.



Sevice Area Map – Oselka Park and Skate Park



Sari Asher Memorial Park	
Size	1.8 acres
Classification	Special Use - Dog Park
Ownership	City of New Buffalo
Facility Description	Dog Park
Accessibility Rating	1
Facilities/Programs	Two (2) fenced-in enclosures for dogs (0.5 acres or 20,000 square feet), picnic shelter, tables and water fountain for dogs and humans. Site has a dog sculpture anonymously donated.

Service Area Map – Sari Asher



Turtle Pond Natural Area	
Size	2 acres
Classification	Natural Resource Area
Ownership	City of New Buffalo has a 25- year conservation lease (2002- 2027)
Facility Description	Forested wetland area.
Accessibility Rating	1
Facilities/Programs	Nature trail, boardwalk and bridges. Improvements are under discussion.



Service Area Map – Turtle Pond Natural Area



2. New Buffalo Area Schools Facilities



New Buffalo Middle/High School	
Classification	School - Park
Ownership	New Buffalo School District
Facility Description	School grounds with athletic fields and indoor facilities.
Accessibility Rating	Not assessed
Facilities/Programs	Indoor track and fitness center open to public 6-8am and 5-9pm M-F and 1-6pm Sat. & Sun., outdoor football field renovated in 2015, baseball field, track, tennis courts, playground, nature trail, two (2) basketball courts, and one (1) soccer field. Shares recreational facilities with Oselka Park.

New Buffalo Elementary School	
Classification	School - Park
Ownership	New Buffalo School District
Facility Description	School Grounds with athletic fields
Accessibility	Not assessed
Facilities/Programs	Playground, nature trail (connects to Turtle Creek Preserve), outdoor classroom, two (2) baseball diamonds, one (1) soccer field, two (2) basketball courts.

3. New Buffalo Harbor Facilities (Private)

Name	Description	Facilities
New Buffalo Yacht	Private club	Clubhouse, bar, restaurant, emergency tie up dock, dingy/jet ski dock for visitors.
Lake Michigan Yacht Club	Private club	Private beachfront clubhouse and marina facility, children's outdoor/indoor play areas, shower and laundry facilities, 48 slips include: water, electric, phone and cable TV, "In-slip" pump-out service, parking at the slip, security gated
Oselka Marina	Full service marina & private docking facility	140 boat slips, boat and jet ski rentals, charter boat cruises, fuel, repair services, valet boating, boat storage
Pleasure Isle	Private docking	28 boat slips

There are also five condominium associations with 703 boat slips in addition to the City Marina with 33 boat slips. There are nine entities located in the harbor who make voluntary contributions to the Federal Channel Emergency Dredging Fund (EDF) each year: Dunewood Condominium Association, Harbor Point Shores and Harbor Landings Condo Associations, Lake Michigan Yacht Club, Oselka Marina, Pleasure Isle Marina, South Cove Condo Association, The Moorings Condo Association, and The Peninsula Homeowners Association, along with a contribution from a percentage of the boat launch fees from the City of New Buffalo.

4. Private and Quasi-Public Recreation Facilities

Private and Quasi-Public Recreation Facilities in and around New Buffalo City		
Name	Description	Facilities
St. Mary's Catholic Church	Former private Catholic school, located in the City of New Buffalo.	Playground, basketball courts, multi-purpose play field, gymnasium and theater.
Calvary Chapel	Not officially available for public use.	Green space, picnic pavilion
Bible Baptist Church	Not officially available for public use.	Playground, volleyball court, soccer goal.
Deer Creek Hunt Club	Sporting clay and hunting facility in Three Oaks on 500 acres	Club house, pro shop, shooting lessons, also hosts the New Buffalo High School Clay Shooting Team

Name	Description	Facilities
Louis J. Sima Great Lakes Marsh Preserve	A preserve owned and managed by Chikaming Open Lands, a local land conservancy. The preserve contains approximately 150 acres of the larger Galien River Marsh.	No parking: accessible only by small boat. Access at DNR Galien River boat launch on Red Arrow Highway or at the New Buffalo City boat launch.
Outpost Sports	Kayak and canoe sales rental.	Offers trips on Galien River and nearby shoreline.
Third Coast	Surf shop and headquarters for New Buffalo Fresh Water Surfers Association	Surfing equipment and lessons, kayak rentals at the City Beach.
Equilibrium Fitness	24 Hour Access Fitness Facility Personal & Group Fitness & Training	24 Hour Access Fitness Facility Personal & Group Fitness & Training
Turtle Creek Preserve	A preserve owned and managed by Chikaming Open Lands, a local land conservancy. Twelve (12) acres of woodland and wetland in New Buffalo just adjacent to New Buffalo Elementary School.	Acquired late 2016: open to the public, non-motorized trails are open.
Camp Sokol	12.4 acre family oriented seasonal camp used by Chicago clientele.	Cottages/bunk houses, picnic tables, tennis court, basketball court.
New Buffalo Rod and Gun Club	Member of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, (MUCC). Site is 25 acres.	Two clubhouses available for rent, archery, trap and skeet ranges.
Schultz Park (Sunset Shores Homeowners Association)	Private/Quasi-Public park that is owned by the homeowners of Sunset Shores.	Playground
Whittaker Woods	Golf complex developed as part of a large Plan Unit Development. Proposed to be annexed to the City.	18-hole pro golf course, club house, restaurant, and pavilion.
Dunes Club Limited Golf Club	Exclusive golf club, not generally available to the public.	9-hole pro golf course club house and helicopter pad.
Merganser Point	Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy Preserve	Nature area on the peninsula jutting into the Galien River east of the Whittaker Street bridge

Recreation Facilities in Adjoining Communities

Name	Description	Facilities
Village of Michiana	One acre site which serves as the village activity area.	Community center with indoor stage, playground, playfield, tennis courts, recycling center, municipal offices, police and fire
Village of Grand Beach	One acre site which services as the village activity area	Community center, municipal offices, playground, playfield, tennis courts, and police station.
Village of Grand Beach Golf Course	Golf Course open to the public and has hosted area schools golf tournaments and cross country meets	9-hole course, driving range
Grand Beach Marsh Preserve	11 acre site managed by Chikaming Open Lands	0.5 mile hiking trail
Galien River County Park (located in New Buffalo Township)	This 87 acre park is owned by Berrien County and is along Red Arrow Highway. It has a mix of wetlands and uplands along the Galien River. It is part of the Galien River Marsh complex.	300' canopy walkway, 60' high marsh overlook tower and a 600' long marsh boardwalk that leads to viewing and fishing platform. Both of these features are accessible via hard surfaced, barrier-free hiking trails and paved parking lot.
Memorial Park New Buffalo Township	Located next to the Township Hall.	Playground, basketball, splash pad, pavilion, picnic tables, grills, trails, events
Glassman Park New Buffalo Township	47 acre parcel bordered on three sides by the Galien River and I-94.	Driveway and parking area, trails, kayak/canoe launch, fishing areas, and a Zen labyrinth
Townline Road Beach Access New Buffalo Township & Chikaming Township	Townline Road beach, a 33 foot stretch of beach at the road ending, next to Chikaming Township which owns an additional 33 feet of frontage	Bike rack, bench, stairs and deck. No parking is available and this site is not accessible to those with mobility limitations.
Robinson Woods and Flynn Woods Preserves Chikaming Township	Two preserves owned and managed by Chikaming Open Lands, a local land conservancy. These forest and wetland preserves have a combined 115 acres open to the public.	Walking trails, parking for 10 cars, laminated trail guides available, no facilities.

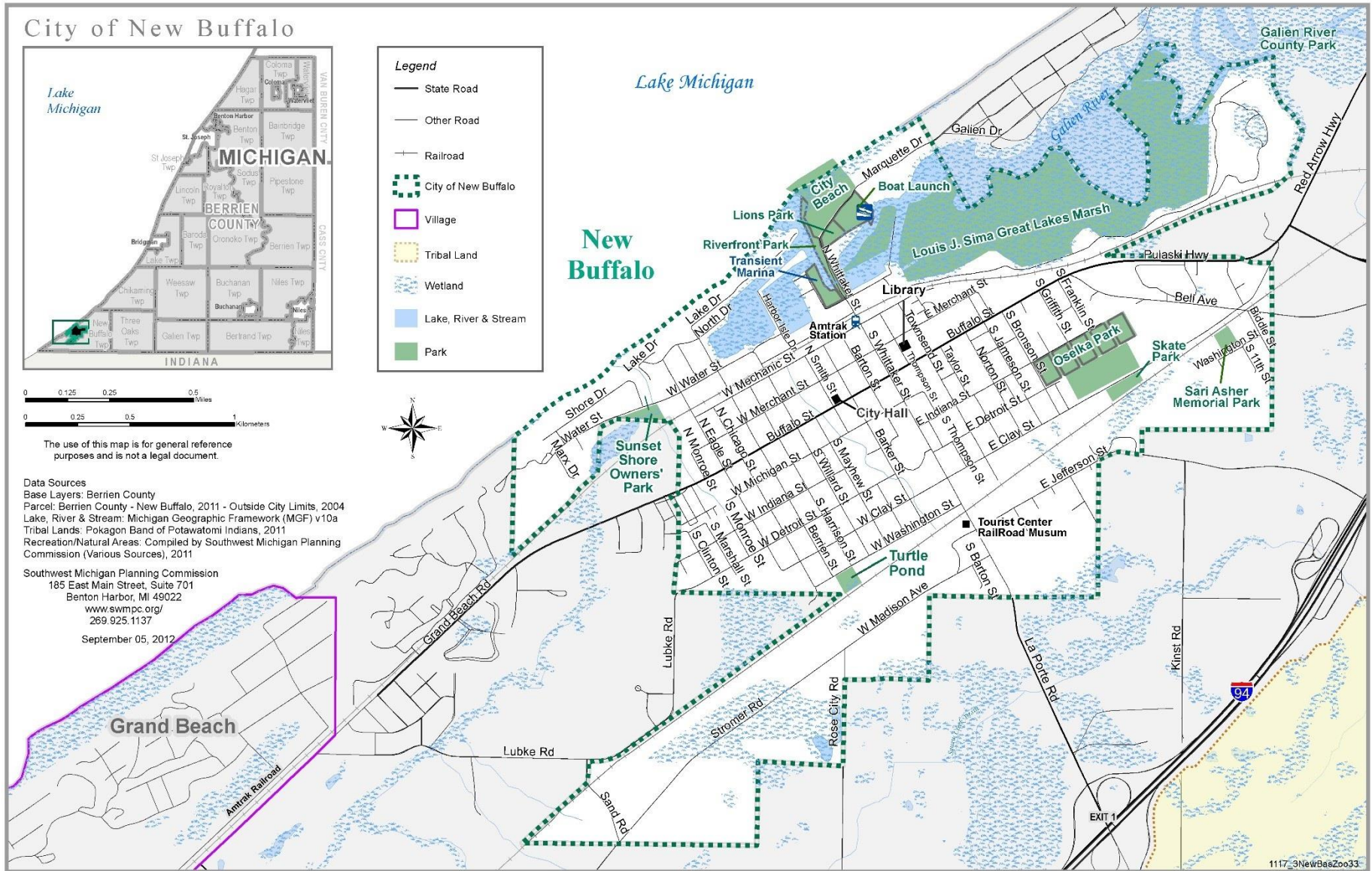
Name	Description	Facilities
Chikaming Township Park and Preserve	263 acre natural resource area on Warren Woods Road. Property has woods, ravines, 5 acre lake, restored prairie, and Galien River floodplain.	2 gravel parking lots, bike rack, 3 miles of trails and interpretive signs, 1.13 miles of rough bike trails, fishing platform, picnic pavilion, grills, drinking fountain
Cherry Beach Chikaming Township	Park and public beach with 253 feet of shoreline.	Observation platform and picnic site that are accessible, parking lot for resident pass holders on weekends and holidays from Memorial Day to Labor Day, stairs to beach
Harbert Community Park Chikaming Township	Located on Red Arrow Highway just north of the Public Safety Building in Harbert.	Pavilion with two grills and 12 picnic tables. For the children there are four swings, a slide, a climber and a fishing pond. Also available is a regulation size Little League Baseball Field with bleachers and a concession stand. The pavilion and/or baseball field can be reserved by Chikaming property owners through Township Hall. Also have ice skating rink in the winter and a separate Dog Park.
River Valley Senior Center Chikaming Township	Senior Center	Senior activities, food service and meeting hall.

State of Michigan Recreation Facilities Outside the City of New Buffalo

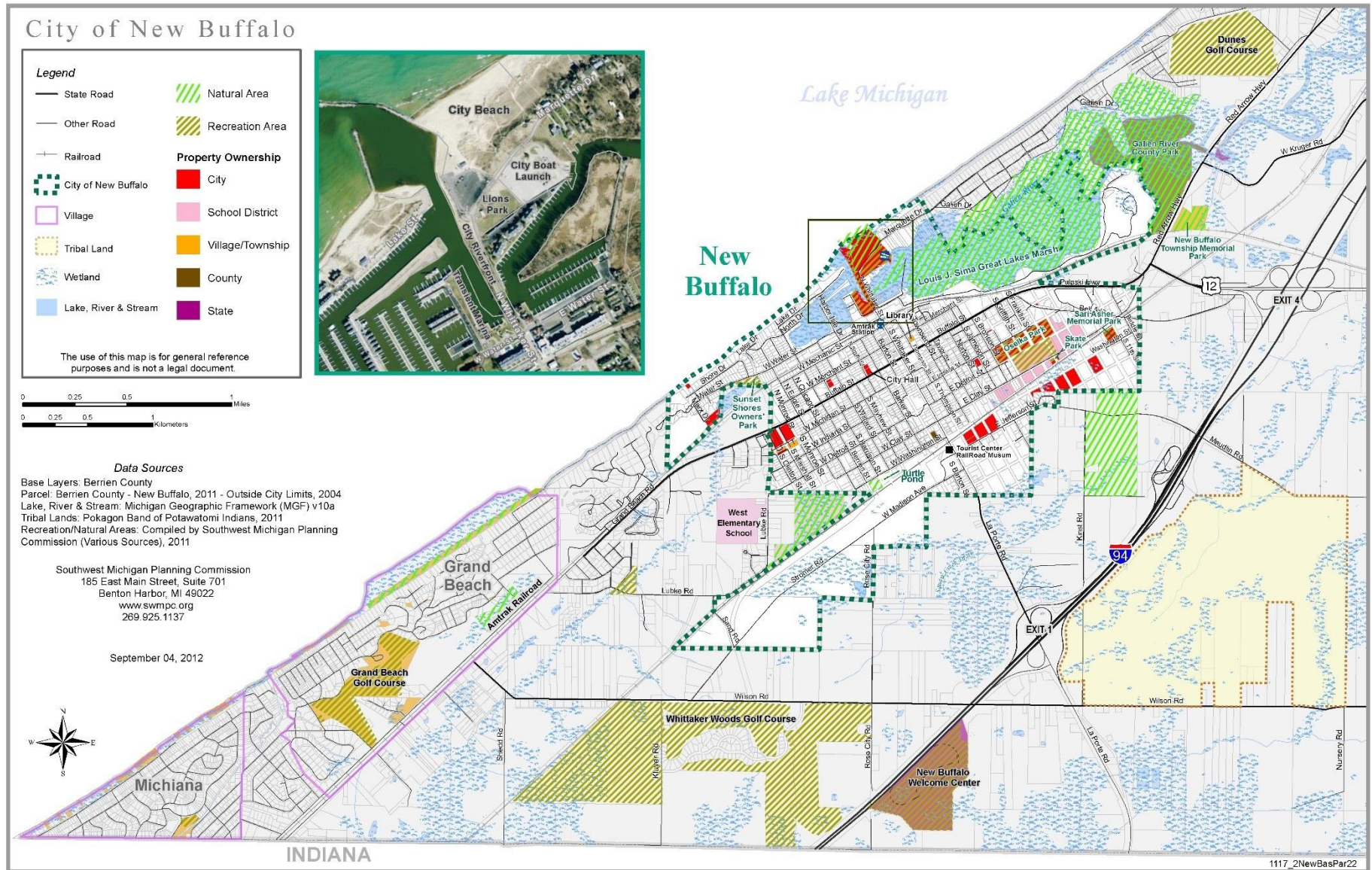
Name	Description	Facilities
Red Arrow Landing - MDNR Access	3.6 acre launch site provides access to the upper portion of the Galien River.	Paved boat launch (small boats), outhouse, and public fishing access trails.
Michigan Welcome Center	Interstate Highway travelers' information center	Information center and restrooms.

Name	Description	Facilities
Warren Dunes State Park	This state park is nearly 2,000 acres in size, with more than 2 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and sand dunes rising 240 feet above Lake Michigan.	Picnic, area and shelter, playground, beach house, interpretive program, hunting, swimming, hiking and skiing, and wildlife areas.
Warren Woods State Park	311 acre state park located in Chikaming Township to the northeast of New Buffalo, on the Galien River	Rare beech/maple climax forest, hiking trail and picnic area.
Grand Mere State Park	Designated as a "National Natural Landmark" by the federal government due to its rarity, this 985 acre park is managed for preservation.	Hunting, fishing, wheelchair accessible picnic shelter, accessible hiking area.

Map 2. City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Areas



Map 3. Surrounding Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Areas



5. Non-Motorized Road and Trail Inventory

Trails, paved shoulders on streets, bike lanes, and sidewalks are not only important for transportation, but also provide recreational opportunities for walking and biking. These facilities bring numerous benefits to a community. The benefits are very diverse and include advantages in economic, social, environmental, health, and overall quality of life.

The streets of our cities are an important part of the livability of our communities and ought to be for everyone, whether young or old, motorist or bicyclist, walker or wheelchair user, bus rider or shopkeeper. New Buffalo City instituted a Complete Streets program ensuring that road projects are designed with all users in mind - including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and riders, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

In 2018, sidewalk access to Oselka Park was greatly improved with a 3.3 mile Safe Routes to Schools project. The \$600,000 project included sidewalk installation along city streets and was funded by the Michigan Fitness Foundation, MDOT, and the City of New Buffalo. These additional sidewalks and safe crossings helped increase connectivity between Oselka Park, the schools, and residential areas of the city.

In 2011, the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission completed a non-motorized plan for southwest Michigan which includes Berrien and eight (8) other counties in the Michigan Department of Transportation's southwest region. There are just over 800 miles of roads with non-motorized facilities in southwest Michigan, with 100 miles in Berrien County.

Local priority routes for bicycling near New Buffalo include US Bike Route 35, connecting to the Marquette Greenway in Indiana and paved shoulders on the entire length of US 12.

a. Marquette Greenway Trail

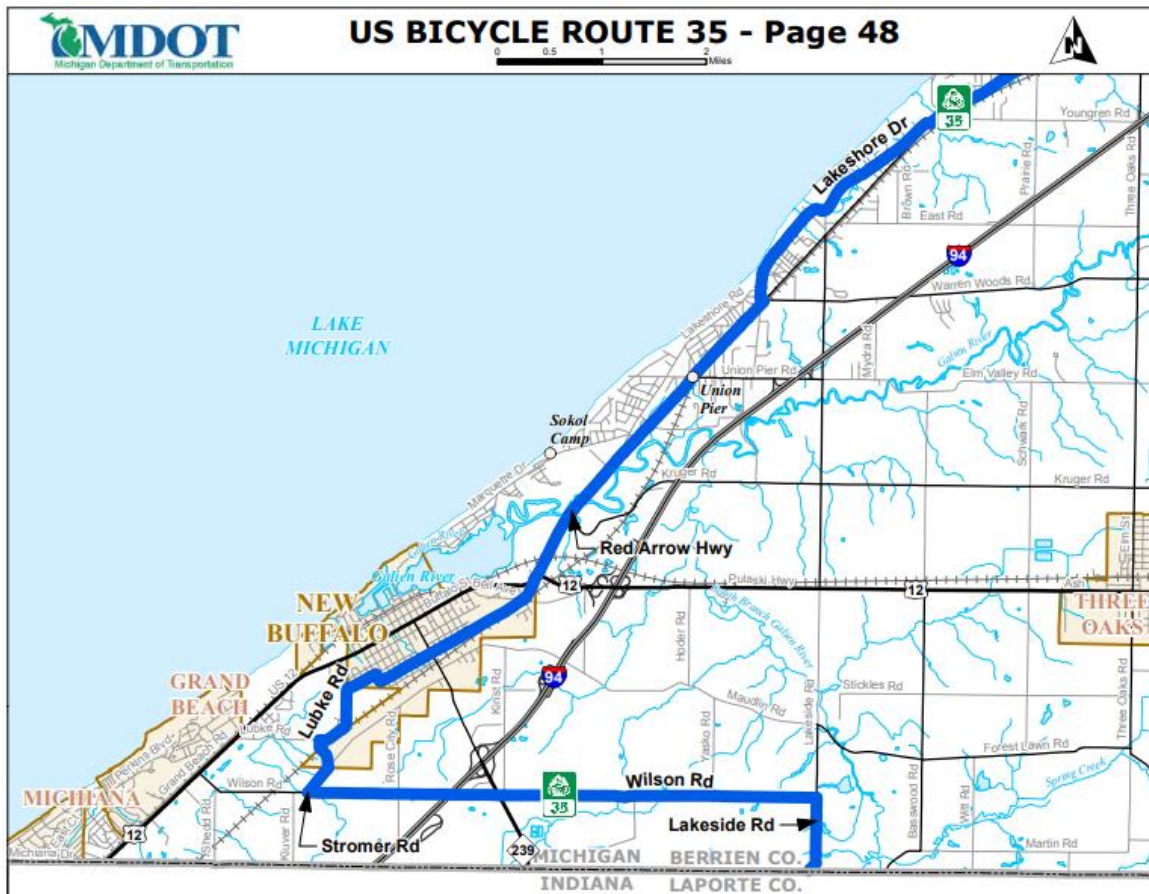
The Marquette Greenway Trail is a non-motorized trail under development that travels from Chicago to the Indiana border. A 3.8 mile portion of the trail is proposed for continuing into downtown New Buffalo with a trailhead in the city limits. Future extensions would see the trail continue even further into Michigan. One 12 mile stretch of trail is also proposed from New Buffalo to Bridgman along Red Arrow Highway.



Source: NIRPC

b. U.S. Bike Route 35

Designated in 2012, USBR 35 is a mapped bicycle route intended for experienced long distance touring bicyclists. It is not a trail and no construction is proposed related to this route. It is meant to be a mapped recommendation as the best route to ride a bicycle long distance along the Lake Michigan coast from New Buffalo to Sault Ste. Marie. USBR 35 attracts bicycle tourists from near and far, providing economic, social, and health benefits to the communities that the route intersects. Approximately 500 miles in length, the route passes through dozens of small lakefront towns, past sandy beaches, scenic and historic destinations, as well as services and cultural attractions. For more information visit https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,4616,7-151-9615_11223_65460---,00.html.



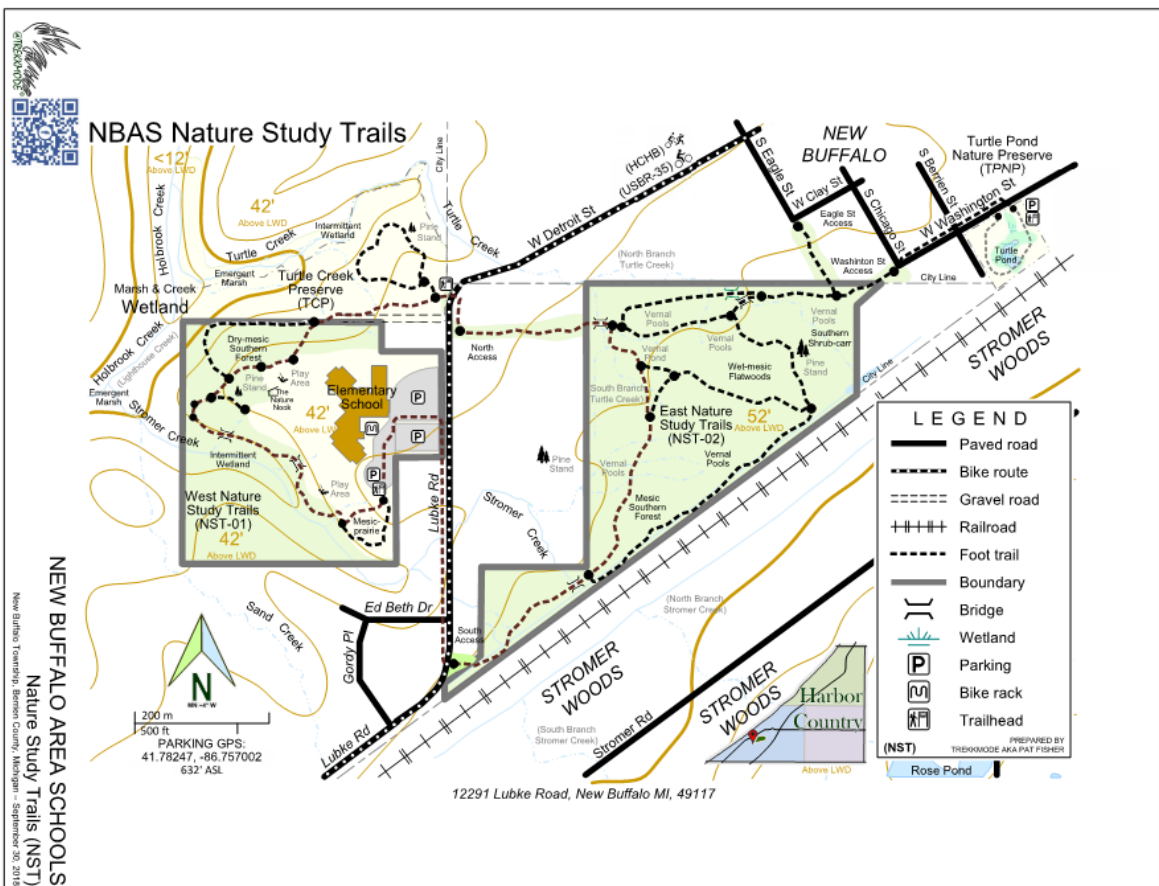
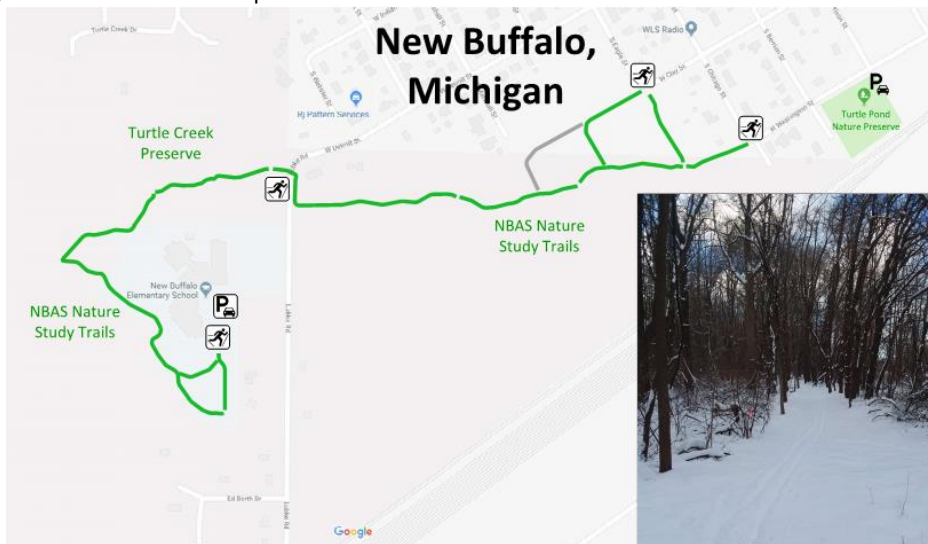
c. Backroads Bikeways

Back road bike routes have been mapped near Three Oaks with 20 self-guided tours on paved area roads ranging in length from 5 to 60 miles. For more information visit <http://www.applecidercentury.com/backroad-bikeways>.

d. Walking Trails

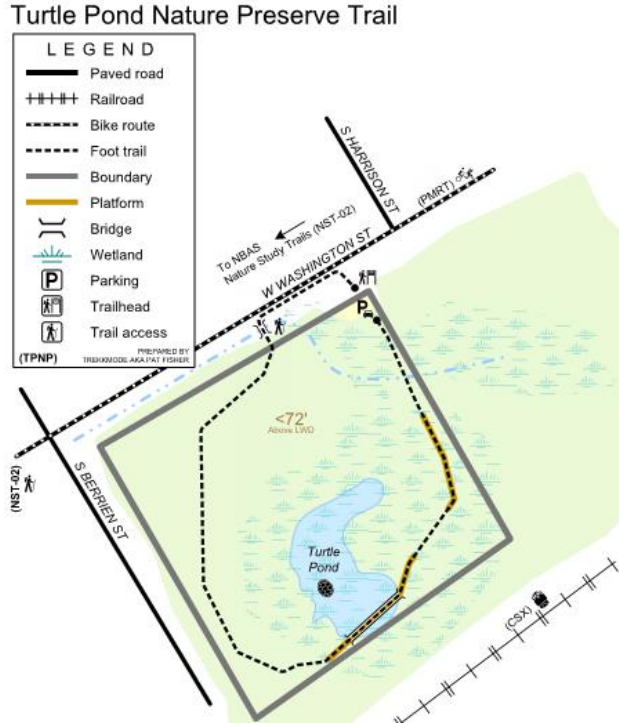
NBAS Nature Study Trails (source: www.naturestudytrails.com)

Our Interpretive Trails and Nature Walks are a part of the Holbrook Creek Watershed (also known as Lighthouse Creek) and pass through prime examples of dune forests and interdunal wetlands. There are over 4.5 miles of trails with markers and plaques scattered along the paths that relate to their natural history. A portion of the trails has been identified as a cross country ski trail in the winter and a 5k course for Cross Country meets has been plotted.



Turtle Pond Nature Preserve

The New Buffalo Turtle Pond Nature Preserve has a 0.15 mile walking trail complete with boardwalks and on-site parking. The trail meanders around and over a natural pond which hosts a wide variety of wildlife. Turtle Pond is only one block away from Nature Study Trails.



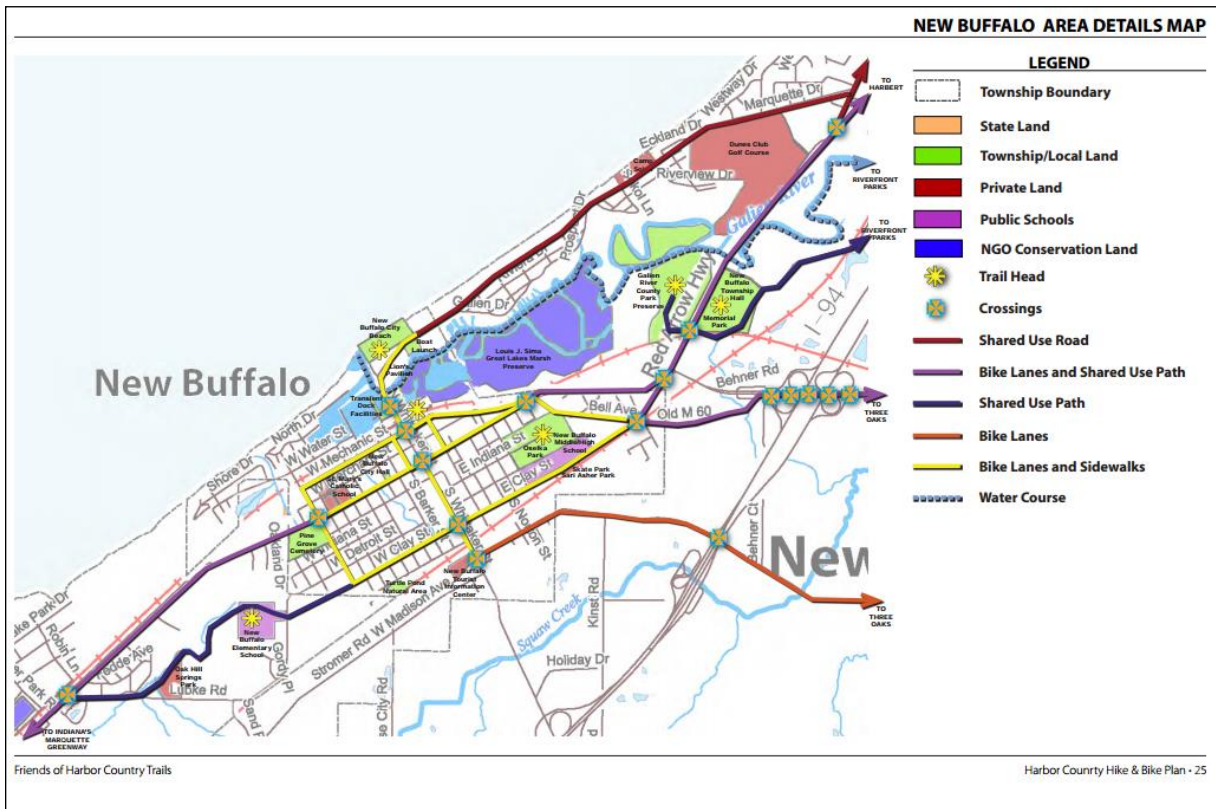
Sesquicentennial Historical Walking Tour

This route highlights sites of historic significance located in the central business district. The sites are marked by bronze plaques.

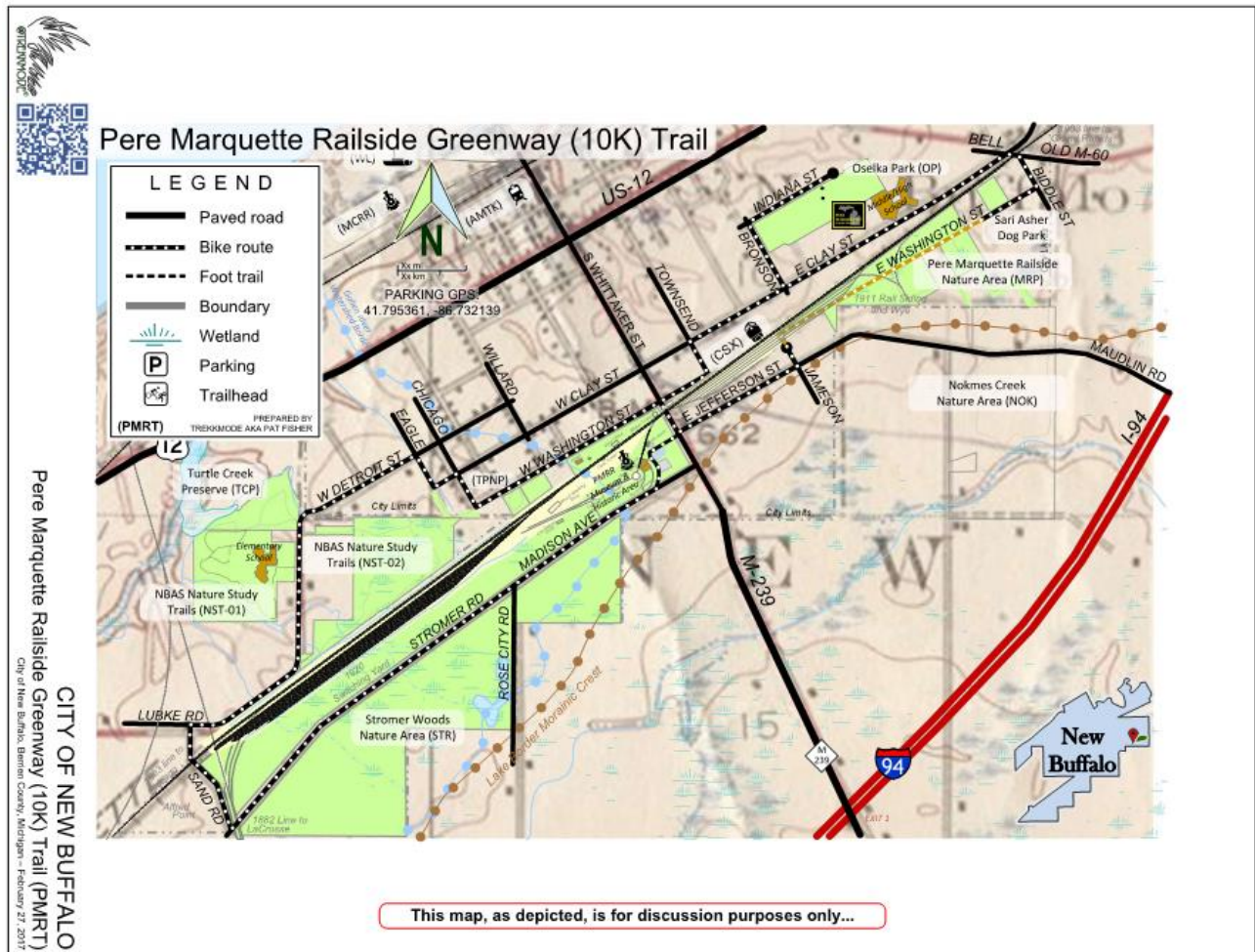


e. Harbor Country Hike and Bike Plan

In 2008, a group of individuals representing interests in the New Buffalo area came together to form a vision for connected on-road and off-road facilities for Chikaming Township, City of New Buffalo, New Buffalo Township, Three Oaks Township, Grand Beach, and the Village of Three Oaks. The Harbor Country Hike & Bike Trail project is a long-term comprehensive project to bring a network of interconnected non-motorized facilities to the corner of Southwest Michigan known as Harbor Country. When complete, the Hike & Bike Trail project will offer bicyclists and hikers the ability to connect between New Buffalo, Three Oaks, Sawyer, Grand Beach, Harbert, Union Pier, Michiana, and points in between using safe, convenient, attractive paths and shared access ways. For more information visit <http://harborcountrytrails.org>.



The Friends of Harbor Country Trails is working to implement the Hike and Bike Plan. The Friends group recently worked with the Berrien County Road Commission to install bike signage and five foot shoulders along Maudlin Road. Currently the Friends group is working with the City of New Buffalo on the Proposed Pere Marquette Railside Greenway Trail which would connect New Buffalo Elementary School and the High School/Middle School campus via a three-mile non-motorized trail. This project provides for multiple in-town connections and utilizes somewhat natural areas or at least undeveloped portions of the city for a more tranquil pathway system. The city has reconstructed Whittaker Street in 2018 which also provides a central spine to connect for walkers and bicyclists. The City of New Buffalo passed a resolution supporting the development of the trail in 2012.



g. Water Trail Inventory

Lake Michigan Water Trail

The Lake Michigan Water Trail is a designated National Recreation Trail, as sanctioned by the U.S. Department of the Interior. It will offer safe, legal and adequate access around the entire 1,200 mile long lakeshore of America's Greatest Lake, Lake Michigan. The trail will be the longest continuous-loop water trail in the world. In 2011, 75 miles (from Chicago to New Buffalo) was designated as the Lake Michigan Water Trail National Recreation Trail by the National Parks Service. For more information visit www.michiganwatertrails.org.

Galien River Marsh Water Trail

The Galien River Marsh Water Trail is approximately three miles between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) boat launch on U.S. 12 (near Kruger Road) and the City of New Buffalo's public boat launch. The trail meanders through woodlands and marsh, including the 156-acre Louis J. Sima Great Lakes Marsh and the 86-acre Galien River County Park Preserve, as well as by a number of privately-owned residential properties, before arriving at the City's harbor and, ultimately, Lake Michigan. Brochures and a sign showing the way along the Water Trail are located at the DNR boat launch, courtesy of Chikaming Open Lands, the American Electric Power Foundation, the National Park Service, and the Michigan DEQ.

Welcome to the Galien River Marsh Water Trail

The marsh represents an ecosystem that was once prevalent along the coast, but is now rare.

Great Lakes Marsh: Synchronized to the Rhythms of Lake Michigan
The marsh ecology and the plants and animals found there are influenced by the climate and water levels of Lake Michigan.

In addition to being closely linked to a great lake, a great lakes marsh has the following communities:

1. A deep marsh with submergent plants, largely under water.
2. An emergent marsh with plants whose roots are in standing water, but whose leaves emerge from the water.
3. A wet meadow whose soil may be inundated with water, but at other times may be dry.
4. A shrub boundary between the marsh and the forest.
5. A city forest containing oaks, hickory, black cherry and other trees.

Additionally, the property includes:

Migration Rest Stop
The coast of Lake Michigan is a migration route for waterfowl, raptors and songbirds. As the birds migrate in the spring and fall, the marsh provides a resting and feeding area. The calm water, protected from storms, serves a vital function for many species.



Water Trail Tips
Length: 2 miles from the MDNRE boat launch to the City launch in New Buffalo.
Time: approximately 90 minutes.
Conditions: The river current is slow and the route has few obstacles and no rapids. Most paddlers will have no problem paddling upstream. Marshy banks make stopping along the route difficult.

Legend:
Forest
Marsh
— Trail Route

6. Open Space and Greenway Inventory

There are features in any community that many residents would readily recognize as important to the character of the area and to their personal quality of life. Some of these features may be cultural, such as a downtown business district, historic buildings, lighthouses, or other similar man-made features. Other features used to connect a community to its residents will be natural resources such as lakes, woods, wildlife, scenic views, and other similar features. How these elements are integrated in the fabric of a community can have a profound influence on their value. Clearly there are some resources, which if lost, would significantly detract from the environment and the community as a whole.

Natural features such as native vegetation, woodlands, wildlife habitat, and wildlife corridors add to the natural features that attract people to the New Buffalo area. Degrading these natural features will not only alter the landscape of a community but it can also lead to water quality issues such as increased runoff, erosion, and flooding.

The Potential Conservation Areas map represents the last remaining remnants of the area's ecosystems and natural plant communities. The map ranks areas where the landscape is dominated by native vegetation that has various levels of potential for harboring high quality natural areas and unique natural features. These areas provide critical ecological services such as maintaining water quality and quantity, soil development and stabilization, habitat for pollinators of cropland, wildlife travel corridors, stopover sites for migratory birds, sources of genetic diversity, and floodwater retention.

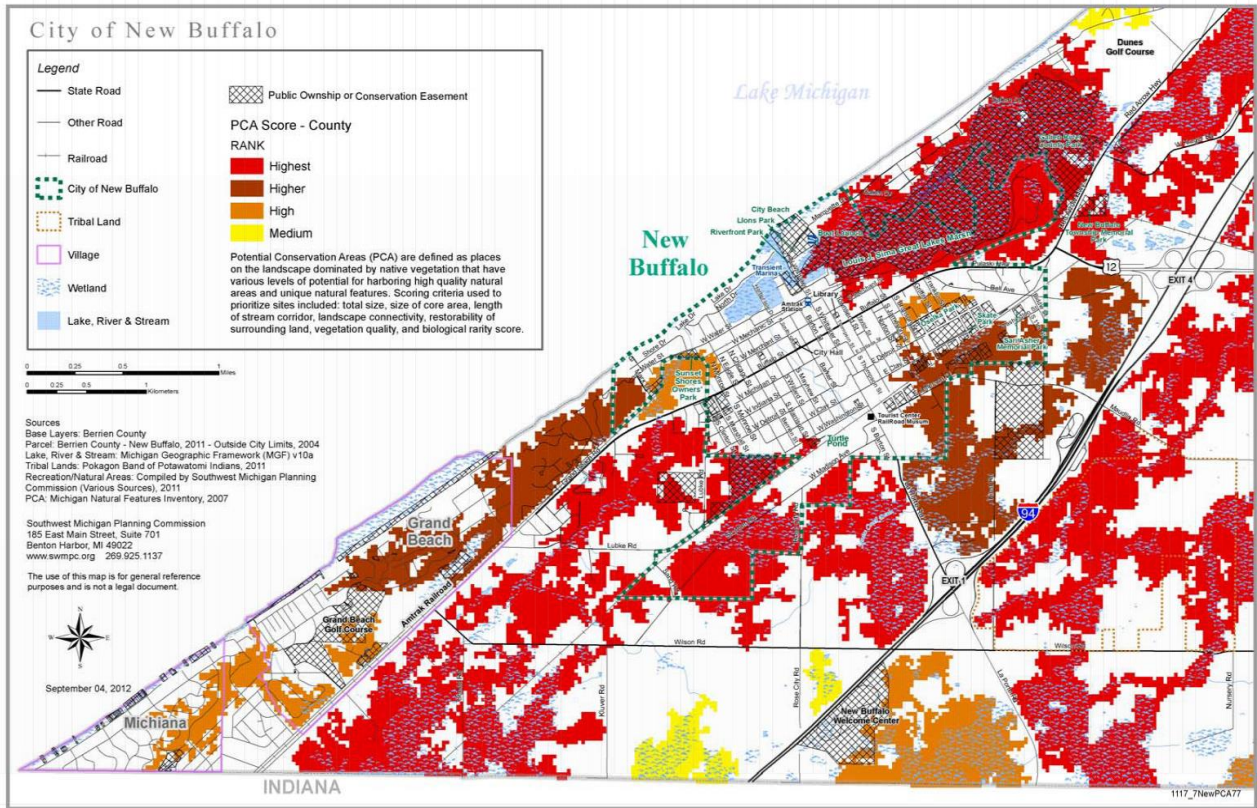
The City is surrounded by large areas of some the highest ranking natural areas in southwest Michigan. It is to a community's advantage that these sites be carefully integrated into the planning for future development. This information can be used to create a connected system of green infrastructure. Striking a balance between development and natural resource conservation and preservation is critical if the New Buffalo area is to maintain its unique natural heritage and offer a high quality of life for residents and visitors.

Green infrastructure is a connected network of natural areas and other open spaces planned and managed to conserve natural ecosystems and the services that they provide. These lands provide multiple benefits to people and wildlife such as maintaining clean air and water, providing areas for recreation and providing wildlife habitat. Green infrastructure elements can be in urban, suburban and rural areas and may or may not be open to the public. Green infrastructure is essential to the health, safety and welfare of the area residents.

Natural resource conservation is a fundamental component of a community's long-term environmental and economic health. Communities that incorporate both the built and natural environment into their future land use map or vision will ensure that the areas that provide important natural functions such as filtering drinking water supplies, recreational opportunities for residents and habitats for wildlife, will be protected. In

effect, the features that the community has grown to enjoy will be there for generations to come. A community with a clean environment, clean water, green spaces and trails will be the community that has a stable, sustainable future and offers a high quality of life for its residents and visitors. Communities that provide this high quality of life will be able to retain talented workers and attract new residents and businesses.

Potential Green Infrastructure Map



The ranking data can be used by local municipalities, land trusts, watershed councils, and other agencies to prioritize conservation efforts and assist in finding opportunities to establish an open space system of linked natural areas in the region.

7. Recreation Programs, Events, and Activities

There are no recreational programs organized by the City of New Buffalo as of September 2018, though discussions are underway to develop low-or no-cost programs through the New Buffalo Park and Recreation Board. Organized baseball, softball, and other programs are administered on an individual basis through area churches, schools, businesses, and recreation organizations. Following is a list of recreational, cultural programs, and activities available to the public:

New Buffalo Public Library

A variety of excellent programs are offered at the New Buffalo Public Library for all age groups.

New Buffalo Railroad Museum

Located on South Whittaker in New Buffalo, the Museum was established to highlight the role the railroad played in the area's development and offers a map of a historical walking tour.

Boat Charters

There are several charter operators providing service from New Buffalo Harbor. They include: Oselka Marina Power Boat Cruises, Salmon Hunters Fish Charters, and New Buffalo Sail Excursions.

Lodging: Hotels, Inns, Bed and Breakfasts and Vacation Rentals

The attractiveness of the New Buffalo area to tourists has encouraged the success of area lodging options.

Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce

Promoting Local businesses, tourism and economic development in Southwest Berrien County. Visit their office at the corner of Three Oaks Road and Warren Woods Road.

Local Color Gallery

This art gallery in Union Pier offers a series of week-long children's summer classes in sculpting, clay, painting and drawing. They also founded and organize the Art Attack even in April.

Shopping at Union Pier

Union Pier is full of small art galleries, unique boutiques, and antique furniture shops. This area located in Union Pier attracts many of the area's seasonal residents and tourists.

Four Winds Casino

Four Winds Casino Resort is located just off I-94 in New Buffalo Township. The Four Winds Casino is over 130,000 square feet with 3,000 slot machines. Connected to the casino is a hotel with 165 rooms and there are several dining options available on the property.

Blue Chip Casino, Lighthouse Place, and Other Attractions in Michigan City

The Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City, Indiana offers various games of chance as well as live entertainment on weekends. Lighthouse Place, also located in Michigan City is a large, successful retail outlet mall that attracts shoppers from long distances.

Vineyards

The unique microclimate of the lakeshore provides a perfect setting for growing grapes used by a number of local vineyards. Michigan's oldest, largest, and most awarded winery, St. Julian Winery, is located in Union Pier and offers free wine tasting.

Distillery

Journeyman Distillery and Putting Green, Three Oaks, MI

Breweries

Several breweries with tasting rooms or restaurants are open to the public in the region.

U-Pick Farms

Fresh fruit, including blueberries, strawberries, apples, cherries, peaches, pumpkins, asparagus, raspberries, nectarines, plums, pears, grapes, as well as other fruit and vegetables in plentiful in the New Buffalo area.

Other Area Museums

Hesston Steam Museum, La Porte, IN; Old Lighthouse Museum; Great Lakes Museum of Military History; Alyce Bartholomew Children's Museum in Michigan City, IN; Door Prairie Auto Museum, La Porte, IN; Region of Three Oaks Museum and Three Oaks Bicycle Museum, Three Oaks, MI

Snowmobiling

The Tri-County Southwest Michigan Snowmobile Council has established a snowmobile staging area at Exit 1 off I-94 in New Buffalo Township, at the intersection of LaPorte and Wilson Roads. A marked State Snowmobile Trail starts just south of Wilson Road on M-239 and travels east to Galien.

Area Film Theaters

Vickers Theater, Three Oaks; Celebration Cinema, Benton Harbor; Wonderland Cinema, Niles, MI; Kerasotes Theaters, Michigan City, IN

Area Live Theaters

Acorn Theatre, Three Oaks; Dunes Summer Theatre, Michigan City IN; Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor, MI; Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, St. Joseph, MI

New Buffalo Sports, Inc.

Youth sports program offering football, cheerleading, baseball, and softball.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Art Attack

On the fourth weekend in April, New Buffalo and Harbor Country offer a celebration of art with gallery receptions, artist's demonstrations, exhibitions, theatre, music, wine tasting and open houses. Celebrating their 25th Anniversary in 2018.

Harbor Country Arts & Crafts Show

On Memorial Day weekend, this show offers a variety of quality art of all kinds, and unique handcrafted items. For more info call (269) 469-2884 or (734) 277-3180.

Memorial Day Parade

An annual tribute to Veterans, the parade leaves downtown New Buffalo and proceeds along US-12 to the Cemetery where a memorial service is conducted.

St. Mary of the Lake Festival

Sponsored by St. Mary of the Lake Catholic Church and held on the church campus. This Festival is the official start to summer activities in New Buffalo. The festival offers fun for the entire family with food, carnival rides, games, a silent auction, and live music.

New Buffalo ARTigras!

This is an open-air, juried art competition held at the corner of Merchant and Thompson streets (downtown) and is presented by the New Buffalo Fine Arts Council and the New Buffalo Business Association. Admission is Free.

Independence Day Fireworks

Independence Day fireworks display at dusk on the beach. Admission is free to the public.

Ship & Shore Festival

The second week in August, New Buffalo hosts the largest street fest in Southwest Michigan. Three days packed with live music, food and kids activities. The highlight of the event is watching the floating parade through the harbor when yachts, sailboats and more are transformed into floating pieces of art decorated with lights. The parade is followed by a huge fireworks display over Lake Michigan.

Michigan's Longest Garage Sale

Michigan's longest yard sale held every year during the second week of August is on U.S. 12 from New Buffalo to Detroit. The highway is the nation's second oldest and stretches along an old Native American trail. The yard sale has been an annual event since 2003. For more information and an online, interactive map showing sale locations, visit www.us12heritagetrail.org.

Greek Fest

This family festival is held on Labor Day weekend and is sponsored by St Paraskevi Greek Orthodox Church. It is held on the grounds of the American Hellenic Center at 17760 Behner Road in New Buffalo.

Apple Cider Century Bicycle Tour

Every fall, Three Oaks hosts a nationally recognized recreational 25, 50, 75 and 100-mile

bicycle tour. For more information visit www.applecidercentury.com.

Annual Harvest & Wine Festival and 5K Run

Organized by the NBBA, the Harvest & Wine Festival is a celebration of the bountiful fall season in Harbor Country. This one day event boasts award-winning wines from regional vineyards along craft beers and hard-ciders at Lions Beachfront Park. Come rain or shine, the event is tented so you can come out and stay all day!

New Buffalo Community Picnic

Held the day after the Harvest and Wine Festival at Lion's Park, the picnic is organized by The City of New Buffalo's Boards and Commissions and is open to everyone.

Fall Arts & Crafts Show

More than 90 arts and crafts booths, baked goodies and luncheon. Located at New Buffalo High School Gym. Sponsored by the New Buffalo Service League. Admission: \$1. Call (269) 469- 3180 for the details.

Youth Fishing Tournament

Organized by Michiana Steelheaders

La Tour de Shore Bike Tour

Two day, 100 mile charity recreational bike ride from Chicago to City Beach in New Buffalo in June which benefits Arts for Kids at Maywood Fine Arts.

New Buffalo Farmer's Market

Every Thursday night from June through September in downtown New Buffalo with over 60 vendors selling fruit, produce, flowers, and other artisanal goods. Organized by the New Buffalo Business Association.

New Buffalo Car Cruise

Classic and vintage cars are on display on N. Whittaker Street on the first Wednesday of the month from June to August. Organized by the New Buffalo Business Association.

Skip's European Farmer's Market

Food and artisanal market open every weekend from May to October at the corner of Red Arrow Hwy and Lakeshore Rd.

New Buffalo Yacht Club Corn and Sausage Roast

The New Buffalo Yacht Club hosts this annual roast on the first Saturday in August. The public is invited to enjoy food, dancing, and live entertainment under a big top tent.

Catamaran Racing Association Michigan Regatta

"Cat Fight VII" catamaran race occurs in June with boats launching from City Beach.

Jazz and Blues Fest

Music festival at Lions Pavilion Park in May.

8. City of New Buffalo Parks and Recreation Grants

The City has received three Development Grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Following is a description of each grant:

Lakefront Park Improvements - Grant # CM99-198

Scope Items and Status:

- Renovate Parking Lots (with lighting): Parking lot surfaces were improved and new lighting was installed and is being maintained
- Landscaping: Landscaping was installed and is being maintained.

Transient Marina - Grant # TF89-236

Scope Items and Status:

- Bulkhead
- Sidewalk
- Landscaping
- Parking lot
- Comfort station
- Water service
- Sanitary sewer
- Pump out station
- Electrical & lighting

All scope items have been installed and are maintained.

New Buffalo Boat Launch - Grant #26-01089

- Parking lot and drive
- Boat launch
- Landscaping

All scope items have been installed and are maintained.

The William J. Deputy Endowment Grant- 2015

- Repair and replace worn sections of the Dune Walk at the City Beach.
- Repairs and replacements were completed by City employees in 2015 and 2016
- Public dedication of plaque in honor of Mr. Deputy was held in September 2016

9. Recreational Boating Facilities Inventory

Name	Boat Launch	Transient Marina
Description	Eight (8) boat launch ramps and parking lot with channel access to Lake Michigan approx. 3,200 feet away	Thirty (30) transient boat slips with amenities adjacent to Federal Navigation Channel with access to Lake Michigan.
Slip Mix	Eight (8) launch ramps with docks	14 - 30' slips 13 - 38' slips 4 - 45' slips 1 - 85' seawall 1 - 60' seawall reserved for pump out service
Right sizing of facility	Appropriate	Occasionally boats are turned away that are too long or draw too much water to be accommodated
Is there a waiting list or are boaters turned away?	No	Occasionally on holiday weekends
Is the entire facility ADA compliant?	No	No
Current ADA compliant features	Launch ramps are accessible	Concrete accessible route from parking lot to building, one (1) ADA parking space (not van accessible)
Items that need to be addressed to become ADA compliant	Two (2) ADA boat trailer spaces need an access aisle, restroom does not have an accessible walk connection to the parking lot, toilet widths do not meet req's, Harbor Master building has step up, vending machines located on gravel surface, picnic table and grill located in grass	One (1) ADA parking space needs to have eight (8) foot access aisle added, reconstruct walkways with accessible route to restrooms
Site Development Plan	None	The City has hired a consultant to conduct a Preliminary Engineering Study in 2018-19 that will determine needed improvements.
Current marketing methods	website, social media, Chamber of Commerce	website, social media, Chamber of Commerce
Current events	None on site	None on site

Name	Boat Launch	Transient Marina
Current partnerships	Property is owned by the DNR and operated by the City	Partner with DNR as part of online reservation system through www.midnrreservations.com ; New Buffalo City Police and Berrien County Sheriff Department dock their patrol craft at the marina
Current dredging needs	None at this time due to elevated water levels	None at this time due to elevated water levels
Dredging cycle	Dependent on water levels, typically every 2-5 years as needed. Dredging of the Launch Access Channel was most recently performed in 2013.	Dependent on water levels, typically every 2-5 years as needed. Dredging of the marina slips was most recently performed in 2017. The Emergency Harbor Dredging Fund (EHDF) was created to provide money for the dredging of the Federal Navigation Channel of New Buffalo Harbor, on an emergency basis and not to supplant the regular maintenance dredging performed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
Approx. volume of dredged material	9,974 cyd removed in 2013 including the marina	6,933.5 cyd
Dredge material disposal method and location	Dredge material tested and taken to an upland disposal site near M-239 and Wilson Road	Dredge material tested and taken to an upland disposal site near M-239 and Wilson Road
Repairs & Maintenance	Routine maintenance as needed. Costs included in Parks Budget on page 12. Large-scale maintenance and replacement recommendations are included in the Action Plan.	Routine maintenance as needed. Costs included in Parks Budget on page 12. Large scale maintenance and replacement recommendations are included in the Action Plan and further recommendations to be determined in 2018-19 Preliminary Engineering Study currently being performed by Abonmarche.

E. Description of the Planning and Public Input Process

1. Statement of Public Representation

The methods used for soliciting public input included an online survey, review and public comment period for the draft plan, and a public hearing held by City Council. These were broad enough to represent the community at large. Participants included members of the public at all age and socioeconomic levels as well as key stakeholders in parks and recreation programs within the City.

2. On-Line Survey

An online survey was conducted in September and October of 2018. The survey contained several questions pertaining to recreation, open space, and parks. There were 286 total responses of which 55% were full-time residents, 26% were part-time residents, 17% were residents of neighboring communities, and 2% were non-residents/visitors. The full results and comments can be found in the Appendix.

3. Public Hearing and Public Review

The final draft of this Plan was made available at the New Buffalo Township Public Library and New Buffalo City Hall from October 19, 2018 to November 19, 2018. It was also available on the City's website. A notice of availability to review the plan was published on the City's main webpage on October 19, 2018. The notice was also posted to their Facebook page and in the New Buffalo Times. Following the public review period, the New Buffalo City Council held a public hearing on the Plan on November 19, 2018. A copy of the public notice for the public comment period and public hearing is in the Appendix, as well as the minutes from the hearing. Two comments were received during the comment period and are included in the Appendix. There were no public comments during the hearing. The City Council approved the plan on January 22, 2019. A copy of the resolution of approval is in the Appendix.

In accordance with MDNR requirements, copies of the final plan were transmitted to Berrien County and to the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission. Copies of the transmittal letters are in the Appendix.

F. Mission, Goals, and Objectives

The information gleaned from the public input process was evaluated and used to formulate a mission, goals and objectives. These goals form the basis of the Action Plan in the next chapter.

Mission: The mission of the Park and Recreation Board is to plan, maintain, develop and acquire, in cooperation with surrounding municipalities, school district, county, state and all interested individuals and groups, a responsive, safe, environmentally sensitive, efficient and innovative community recreation system available to all citizens, seasonal residents and visitors with consideration of age and abilities.

Goals and Objectives

1. Maintain and improve the community recreation system.
 - a. Eliminate **non-barrier free conditions** in the park system when improvements occur.
 - b. Increase marketing efforts and use consistent **signage and way-finding** elements to improve/increase recreational tourism.
 - c. Ensure all maintenance and improvement activities are sensitive to and **protect sensitive lands, water quality and historic and cultural resources.**
 - d. **Annually evaluate** the progress of Action Plan implementation
2. Develop additional recreational opportunities to meet the current and future needs and desires of the community with a geographical balance along with safe and convenient access.
 - a. Develop a **non-motorized system** (including bike lanes, sidewalks, off-road separated paths, water trails, trail heads, etc.) to connect residents, businesses and recreation resources (locally and at the county and regional level).
 - b. Offer **recreational programming** opportunities in coordination with neighboring communities and other partners.
 - c. **Acquire land** or secure conservation easements to expand the recreation system as needed (such as to increase contiguous public land holdings, protect natural resources, increase accessibility to water resources and provide additional recreational opportunities that are geographically balanced in the community)
 - d. Ensure **year-round activities** are available.
 - e. Ensure all new facilities are **barrier-free.**
3. Enhance partnerships and relationships with residents (full-time and seasonal), tourists, youth and adult sports leagues, local businesses, agencies, community organizations, neighboring municipalities, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, Berrien County and the State of Michigan.
 - a. **Involve the community** in anticipating recreational needs and determining priorities.

- b. Utilize City, Township and School District facilities to provide **year round indoor and outdoor recreation** programming and opportunities.
- c. Increase collaboration and **develop partnerships** to fund park improvements and additional recreation opportunities (facilities and programming).
- d. Use local funds to **leverage State and/or federal grants**.

G. Action Program

The following Action Program is intended to implement the Goals and Objectives over the next five (5) years. A number of recreation needs have been identified in conjunction with City staff and officials and through the public input process. The needs identified are distributed among improving and expanding existing facilities and programs and acquiring or developing new ones. The City of New Buffalo hopes to initiate the following improvements as funding and planning allow.

Boat Launch	
Project	Rationale
Improve entryway including new entrance gate machine	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Redesign the ingress/egress and repave the parking area, designate the proper number of boat trailer ADA accessible spaces	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Construct fish cleaning station	Meet Goal 2, additional opportunity
Develop facility to serve users of the boat launch including amenities such as grill area, ice machines, vending machines, and picnic area	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Install ADA accessible EZ Launch for kayaks/canoes	Meet Goal 2, additional opportunity
Explore options for potential expansion of undeveloped City-owned adjacent property for additional recreational opportunities	Meet Goal 2.c

City Beach	
Project	Rationale
Continue repairs to Dune Walk in a phased approach (short-term)	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Reconstruct Dune Walk (long-term)	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Create improved ADA access from parking area to beach and waterfront	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Implement a goose control program	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Assess and make recommendations as it pertains to pets on the beach area	Meet Goal 2, additional opportunity
Construct new concession/restroom facility as existing one does not meet current needs or accessibility standards	Meet Goal 1 and 2, improvement
Assess improvements to breakwall or ways to restrict access in order to improve public safety	Meet Goal 2, safe access
Replace playground equipment and create ADA accessible surface for transfer station and install shade structure	Meet Goal 1 and 2, improvement

Project	Rationale
Extend walkway from north end of Riverfront Park east to connect to restroom/concession building.	Meet Goal 2.a, 2.e
Minimize risk exposure by developing a dedicated seasonal lifeguarding staff as well as incorporating other safety initiatives	Meet Goal 2, safe access
Make capital improvements to the Chuck Ritter Memorial lighthouse structure	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Implement a sand dune protection and restoration program in accordance with Coastal Zone Management guidelines. Restore native plants, install educational signage, and implement dedicated path system.	Meet Goal 1.c

Lions Pavilion Park	
Project	Rationale
Make capital improvements to existing pavilion structure (short-term)	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Install ADA accessible picnic tables and grills on concrete pad in Park with route from pavilion to shaded lawn area; Replace 2 tables within the pavilion with accessible tables.	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Provide connectivity to Riverfront Park and City Beach via walkway with increased safety features across Whittaker Street that continues to pavilion	Meet Goal 2, non-motorized connectivity
Implement policy to restrict/direct parking on lawn areas or pave area for pavilion and beach parking.	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Install ADA accessible drinking fountain with bottle filling	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Install bike rack	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Construct new pavilion and outdoor performance space (long-term)	Meet Goal 2, improvement
Construct public restrooms	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Design site to support markets, fairs, festivals, and events with electrical and water services as necessary	Meet Goal 2
Improve landscaping of the park area with emphasis on planting native species	Meet Goal 1.c

Riverfront Park	
Project	Rationale
Construct ADA accessible route that runs the entire length of the park, connecting it to adjacent parks and sidewalks and existing art sculptures	Meet Goal 1, improvement and Goal 2, non-motorized system connectivity
Implement goose control program	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Replace existing seating with new seating and amenities that meet current accessibility standards	Meet Goal 1, improvement

Project	Rationale
Create accessible viewing and fishing platforms to create a connection between the park and Galien River	Meet Goal 1, maintenance
Construct seawall along Galien River to the beach for shoreline stabilization	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Create and implement landscaping plan to highlight park features, art installations, and viewsheds while inhibiting movement of geese in the park area	Meet Goal 1, improvement

Transient Marina	
Project	Rationale
Upgrade electrical system and pump-out system	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Repave parking lot, expand ADA accessible parking to accommodate vans	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Remodel and potentially expand existing marina building to include new bath-house/showers, laundry and lounge area.	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Construct public bathrooms adjacent to existing office/bath-house	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Add lighting to end caps for navigation	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Replace or construct additional docks which accommodate larger vessels	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Improve site amenities such as games, fire pit, shaded picnic tables, or bench swings	Meet Goal 1, improvement

Skate Park	
Project	Rationale
Install additional equipment	Meet Goal 1, improvement

Sari Asher Memorial Park (Dog Park)	
Project	Rationale
Improve drainage	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Increase enclosed area	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Add dog agility course equipment	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Make accessibility improvements such as paving a portion of parking lot, paving a walkway from entrance gate to existing bench and to drinking fountain, replacing pit toilet with accessible one adjacent to the new walkway	Meet Goal 1, improvement

Oselka Park	
Project	Rationale
Repair and upgrade playground equipment and diversify recreational offerings	Meet Goals 1 and 2
Install new ADA accessible playground equipment (and potential splash pad) in area between parking lot and pavilion with shade structures	Meet Goals 1 and 2
Construct splash pad	Meet Goal 2, additional opportunity
Install paved picnic areas with tables and sun shades	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Beautification - evaluate functionality of rain gardens and remove or trim overgrown plants; plant more trees for shade, flowers and shrubs	Meet Goal 1, improvement
Assess opportunities for greater utilization of concession stand	Meet Goal 2
Make accessibility improvements such as replacing picnic tables with accessible ones, paving route to ballfield entrances and bleachers, install additional ADA parking near pavilion	Meet Goal 1.a

Turtle Pond Natural Area	
Project	Rationale
Repair wooden boardwalk as needed or consider replacement with composite ADA accessible boardwalk sections	Meet Goal 1.a
Cultivate programming partnerships with schools and youth organizations	Meet Goal 3.b

Area	Project	Rationale
TBD City Park	Construct a splash pad	Meet Goal 2
TBD City Park	Construct a tot lot	Meet Goal 2
Channel/Bridge	Provide better non-motorized access over the Galien River to connect downtown and beach area	Meet Goal 2, safe access
Channel/Harbor	Continue maintenance dredging as needed	Meet Goal 1
Federal Navigation Channel	Work with USACE to reconstruct breakwater/north seawall for walking and fishing	Meet Goal 2, safe access
Galien River Water Trail	Install signage or other amenities for human powered watercraft	Meet Goals 1 and 2
Lake Michigan Water Trail	Install signage or other amenities for human powered watercraft	Meet Goals 1 and 2
US Bike Route 35	Enhance US Bike Route 35 by providing bike lanes, paved shoulders, bike parking and other amenities	Meet Goals 1 and 2
City-wide	Establish suitable permanent location for pickleball courts	Meet Goal 1, improvement
City-wide	Improve signage and way-finding elements, including updating the City website with current maps and park information.	Meet Goal 1.b
City-wide	Review and establish policy for advertising in parks	Meet Goal 3
City-wide	Install signage, pavement markings, bike lanes, paved shoulders and trailheads and upgrade sidewalk facilities or street crossings in coordination with the expansion of the Marquette Greenway Trail and other existing or proposed non-motorized trails and pathways to provide linkages between parks, public facilities, and other popular destinations.	Meet Goals 1 and 2
City-wide	Increase awareness and improve linkages between existing walking trails.	Meet Goal 1
City-wide	Add bicycle parking and signage, especially in conjunction with street projects	Meet Goals 1 and 2

Area	Project	Rationale
City-wide	Work with surrounding communities to implement the Hike and Bike Plan	Meet Goals 2 and 3
City-wide	Improve recycling program for park system, City Hall, and downtown	Meet Goal 1.c
City-wide	Acquire land for additional parks with a special interest in Lake Michigan and Galien River frontage, wetlands, and other natural areas	Meet Goal 2.c
City-wide	Develop management plans for each of the City parks and review ordinances.	Meet Goal 1
Lakefront	Implement shuttle service to lakefront from parking area in another part of town	Meet Goal 2
Lakefront	Promote and support efforts to preserve and restore the shoreline	Meet Goal 1
Community	Hire a recreation programming coordinator jointly with surrounding municipalities	Meet Goal 3
Community	Develop a community center	Meet Goals 2 and 3
Community	Develop a community indoor pool	Meet Goals 2 and 3
Community	Develop a cultural museum and offer cultural programming in partnership with the Pokagon Band	Meet Goals 2 and 3

Appendix

Copy of Legal Notice of Plan Availability, Public Comment Period, and Public Hearing



[Home](#) | [Charter & Code](#) | [Council & Boards](#) | [Staff & Departments](#) | [Recreation](#) | [City Projects](#)

- [Amtrak](#)
- [Apps & Info](#)
- [Bids and RFPs](#)
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- [Recycling & Waste](#)
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- [Useful Links](#)

LIVE STREAM OF THE NEW BUFFALO HARBOR

The Harbor Commission and City of New Buffalo are pleased to now offer a live stream of the New Buffalo Harbor. Please click [here](#) to view.

Routine maintenance is being performed today, October 18th, the live stream will be disabled until further notice. Thank you

MICHIGAN FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (revised 7/1/15)

Please find more information listed below. You can also find this on the City Clerk's part of the website. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk at 269-469-1500.

MFOIA REQUEST SUMMARY FEBRUARY, 2018

MFOIA REQUEST SUMMARY 9-21-17 TO 1-29-18

MFOIA REQUEST SUMMARY 6-14-17-

Welcome to the City of New Buffalo: The Gateway of Michigan!

Draft Parks and Recreation Plan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of New Buffalo's five year Parks and Recreation Plan draft is available for public review and comment beginning today, October 19, 2018. The plan can be viewed on the City's website (see link below), at City Hall, or at the New Buffalo Township Library for the next 30 days.

[Draft Parks and Recreation Plan](#)

The Parks and Recreation Plan forms the road map for the decisions to be made in the next five years regarding the provisions of the parks, beaches, and recreational land. This plan has to be submitted and accepted by the MDNR in order to be eligible for recreational grants.

A public hearing for review and comment of the plan will take place during the regular meeting of the New Buffalo City Council on November 19, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will be held at City Hall, 224 W Buffalo St, New Buffalo, Michigan. Concerns and comments are encouraged and comments can be made at the City Council meeting or in writing via email to tbulson@abonmarche.com.

This meeting is an open meeting. The notice is posted in compliance with Open Meeting Act, Public Act 267 of 1976. American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Notice: The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon seven (7) day notice to City Hall. The contact address and phone number is as follows:

City of New Buffalo
224 W Buffalo St,
New Buffalo, MI 49117
(269) 469-1500

City Council Regular Meeting Day Change

The regular New Buffalo City Council meetings will now be held on the third (3rd) Monday of each month at 6:30pm.

The next regular City Council meeting will be **Monday, November 19, 2018 at 6:30pm.**

City Leaf Pickup

Friendly reminder, please don't place sticks or branches within leaf piles that are placed at the street for pickup. Sticks and branches will clog the machine.

City Calendar

October, 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	14	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30	31		

Upcoming City Meetings

Please see calendar above for details:

10/16/18-City Council

10/17/18-DDA-DVI

Other Upcoming Meetings

Please also see calendar above for details

City of New Buffalo Notifications

* indicates required

Email Address

First Name

Last Name

Subscribe

FIREFIGHTERS WANTED

The City of New Buffalo Fire Department is accepting applications for volunteer firefighter. Must complete Firefighter I & II courses within two years of hire. Applications are available at City Hall, 224 W. Buffalo St.,

9/21/17**MFOIA REQUEST SUMMARY**
3/28/17-6/14/17**MFOIA REQUEST SUMMARY**
12/8/16-2/23/17**Michigan Freedom of**
Information Act**FOIA Summary****FOIA Procedures & Guidelines****FOIA Form (revised 3/17)****Affidavit of Indigency****City Utility Bill Auto-Pay**

Auto-Pay is available for City utility bills (water, sanitary sewer, and garbage/ recycling). Please print, fill-out, and return this **Authorization for Withdrawals** form to sign up for auto-pay.

New Buffalo Amtrak Station (NBU), 226 North Whittaker Street, New Buffalo, Michigan 49117, is served by the *Wolverine* and *Blue Water* Michigan Services.

Amtrak's Mich. Services**Mich. Services Schedule****Is Your Train on Time?**

Please contact Amtrak at 1-800-USA-RAIL (1-800-872-7245) for full details on train arrival status.

City's Facebook Page

New Buffalo Weather
Forecast, MI (49117)

Thank you

Draft Master Plan (2018)

The 2018 Draft Master Plan was approved by the Planning Commission on July 24, 2018 and City Council on July 26, 2018. It is now in the distribution process. We will keep you updated as soon as a Public Hearing for adoption is ready to be scheduled. Stay tuned!

2017 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Please click [here](#) for the 2017 Water Quality Report Information. Hard copies of the report are also available at City Hall. To find more information please see the Water Department page under the **Staff & Departments** tab.

City of New Buffalo Current Employment Opportunities**City of New Buffalo Lifeguard**

Please submit a resume and an application to the City Clerk, City of New Buffalo, 224 West Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI 49117.

FOIA GUIDELINES

ALL FOIA requests must go through the proper channels to be received by the City of New Buffalo as per the Michigan Freedom of Information Act. Sending an electronic FOIA request is a **privilege** and delivery will be noted the next business day. FOIA requests are to be sent **only** to our FOIA Coordinator, City Clerk, Lori Vander Clay and FOIA Appeals are to be sent **only** to the City Manager, David Richards. Any FOIA requests and/or FOIA Appeals sent to any others are not considered received by the City of New Buffalo and will not be answered. Thank you for your cooperation.

Chromium Testing Update

Please be advised that the Water Department will be running monthly Chromium Tests and will post them on this page. Please click [here](#) for the seventh round result which indicates "non detected at the reporting limit". To see all the monthly results, please go to the Water Department page under the Staff & Departments tab.

NEW BUFFALO CITY PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

Please click [here](#) for frequently asked questions about general property tax information. It is a helpful tool that also features a website to look up tax information.

2018-2020 BUDGET

Click [here](#) to download the 2018-2020 Budget. Previous years' budgets and annual audits are available on the Treasurer's Office page.

LEAF AND YARD WASTE PICK-UP

Lakeshore Recycling and Disposal will be collecting all yard waste from April 1, 2018- October 31, 2018 every Wednesday. Materials collected include grass, brush, leaves, weeds and limbs up to 4" in diameter and no longer than 4 feet. All material other than limbs should be in biodegradable bags, 32 gallon can or bundle tied with a 50 pound limit. Limbs must be placed in small neat piles or bundle tied, 50 pound limit. Residents may lease a 95 gallon yard waste cart from Lakeshore at a rate of \$3.00/month billed to the resident.

RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES**Bicycle Safety**

Please see our [bike safety](#) page and a [bike safety letter](#) from the Friends of Harbor Country Trails – stay safe!

**The City Needs Your Help**

City residents, if you are interested in serving on any of these board positions, please send a letter of interest to the City Council, 224 West Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI 49117.

For more information, please call City Hall, 269-469-1500.

- [Park and Rec. Board](#)
- [Loc. Off. Comp. Com.](#)
- [Constr. Bd. of Appeals](#)

Lakeshore Recycling and Disposal is the City's recycling and solid waste contractor. They may be reached at 269-231-5623 or 877-LAKE-877

(877-525-3877).

Solid waste collection occurs every Wednesday.

Lakeshore will also conduct recycling collection services every other week on Wednesdays, for 2018:

- January 10 and 24
- February 7 and 21
- March 7 and 21
- April 4 and 18
- May 2, 16 and 31
- June 13 and 27
- July 11 and 25
- August 8 and 22
- September 6 and 19
- October 3, 17 and 31
- November 14 and 28
- December 12 and 27

Please contact Lakeshore Recycling and Disposal with any questions or concerns.

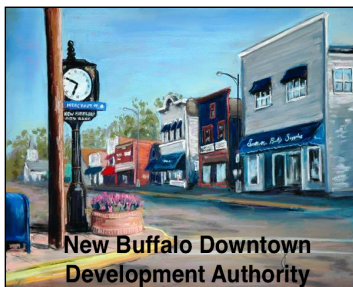
Please click [here](#) for the 2018 Berrien County Recycling Event Schedule.

2017 Audit

Please click [here](#) to view the 2017 City of New Buffalo Audit.

2017 HARBOR SOUNDINGS

Please click [here](#) to see the 2017 soundings of the New Buffalo Harbor. The depth readings are based off the mean lake levels. The water is currently at a gage of plus 3 feet above LWD, so please make sure you add 3 feet to all the depth readings off the soundings map.



Follow the latest news and discussions from the DDA Board on their blog, [click here](#).

THE CITY NEEDS YOUR HELP

City residents, if you are interested in serving on any of these board positions, please [click here](#) to fill out the application. You may also submit a resume with the application and send in to the City Clerk, Lori K. Vander Clay 224 West Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI 49117. For more information, please call City Hall, 269-469-1500.

Downtown Development Authority

(December) 2020

Park and Recreation Board

(May 2019)

Local Officers Compensation Commission

1 Member (May 2019)

Construction Board of Appeals

1 Member (May 2017)

1 Member (May 2018)

New Buffalo Historic Walking Tour

The New Buffalo Parks Department along with friends are proud to bring back the Walking Tour of Historic Interest.

[Click here](#) to view the brochure or stop at the beach and pick one up today. Enjoy the walk!

This page last updated on 10/19/2018.

New Buffalo City Hall | 224 W Buffalo St | New Buffalo, MI 49117 | Telephone: 269-469-1500 | [City webmail](#)

Public Comments Received during Comment Period

Although the new Parks and Recreation plan has many ambitious and exciting improvements that would greatly enhance a city located in an ideal location next to Lake Michigan, the budget information is very concerning and reflects a government leadership that does not put parks and recreation as a priority.

The Parks Budget reflects a \$145,000 revenue reduction from FY 2015/16 to 2019/20. The reduction from the general fund from 2015/16 to 2019/20 is \$95,000 leaving only a \$30,000 allocation in 2019/20. This helps the Council members with their goal to carry a surplus in the general fund but reflects a disinterest in improving our parks.

The Parks Budget also shows a \$31,345 actual decrease in parking lot fees from 2015/16 to 2016/17 with a \$20,000 decrease goal for 2019/20. This is after increasing the daily parking fee from \$10 to \$12 in late 2016. The decrease from 2016 to 2017 came after the city employees changed the cash collection policy in late 2016 that allows them to count cash at the beach in a truck instead of direct deposit at the bank. This policy should be changed back as it might be impacting beach parking revenues.

By the 2019/20 budget, the lifeguard line item is blank. While the Parks and Recreation plan shows strong community support for a lifeguard program that safeguards residents and visitors, the City Council evidently puts no value in that program. Establishing a surplus in the general fund appears to hold top priority instead of allocating funds for popular community programs

It appears that former general fund expenditures are being pushed into the Parks Improvement Fund. This is a voter approved millage fund with specific ballot language that legally requires it to be used for parks improvements only. Since FY 2016/17, the City Council shifted from the general fund to the Park Improvement Fund both the maintenance/purchasing of park equipment \$154,530 and dredging the river \$143,376. These two line items reflect \$297,906 or 60% of the total collection in a five year time period of voter restricted park improvement millage funds. This leaves only 40% of the funds going for actual park improvements. It is illegal for the City to move voter restricted funds from the fund approved by the voters to another fund that is routinely paid through general funds.

The City Council is also increasing the fees for boat launching this coming year. Instead of increasing user fees and transferring expenditures to the Park Improvement Fund, the expenditures should be from the general fund. We are a community dependent on our recreation and beach front so it makes sense to keep user fees low and provide popular programs like lifeguards for our local residents whose taxes should be used for services and programs that serve them. Instead the Council members appear interested in creating a surplus in the general fund that they can use for their pet projects. The residents voted through a millage for parks improvements three times, the council could at least ensure those funds are placed where they are intended. A park and recreation plan requires a commitment from the elected officials, this can be accomplished by replenishing both the Park Fund and the Park Improvement Fund.

Susan Gotfried

New Buffalo, MI

On a quick review, the plan looks wonderful! Looking forward to a more in depth review of the document. Thanks for sharing!

Chris Peccia

Minutes from Public Hearing



**MINUTES of REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2018, 6:30 PM**

City Manager announced the November 6, 2018 City election results for City Council, two-four year terms:

City Council Member four year term (2 winners)

Lou O'Donnell IV 489

Mark Robertson 496

Kevin Huber 221

Ray Kirkus 263

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 PM

Elected Official's Oath of Office: City Manager administered Oath of Office to Mark Robertson and Lou O'Donnell IV.

Roll Call: Elizabeth Ennis, Mark Kroll, Lou O'Donnell, Mark Robertson and Robert Spirito; all present.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Kroll, second by Spirito to approve agenda, deleting items h. and i; motion passed 5/0.

Organizational Meeting: Motion by Ennis, second by Robertson to nominate member O'Donnell as Mayor; motion passed 5/0. Motion by Robertson, second by O'Donnell to nominate member Ennis as Mayor Pro-Tem; motion passed 5/0. City Manager administered Oath of Office to members O'Donnell and Ennis.

Consent Agenda: Motion by O'Donnell, second by Kroll to approve the Consent Agenda; motion passed 5/0.

Public Comment: Donna Messinger complained about nepotism and a potential OMA violation. Planning Commission Chairperson, Paul Billingslea encouraged the Council to approve the City's Master Plan. Anthony Ashbaugh expressed support for the City Manager. Parks Board Chairperson, Stacey LaRocco encouraged the City Council to approve the updated Parks Plan.



Public Hearing: Mayor O'Donnell opened the Public Hearing for the Parks/Recreation Plan Update at 6:45pm. Tony McGhee from Abonmarche presented the plan. There was no public comment. Mayor O'Donnell closed the public hearing was closed at 6:46pm.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Personnel Issue — City Manager: motion by Kroll, second by Ennis to reprimand the City Manager with a written warning for violating the City's firearms policy; motion passed 5/0.

Building Department BS&A Software Proposal: motion by Robertson, second by Spirito to approve the BS&A proposal for Building Department software at a cost of \$8,590.00; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Microsoft Office 365 Software Proposal — Administration: motion by Kroll, second by Spirito to approve the Microsoft Office 365 Software Proposal at a cost of \$9,979.92 over three (3) years; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Parks and Recreation Plan Update: motion by Spirito, second by Robertson to approve the Parks and Recreation Plan Update; motion passed 5/0.

Master Plan Update: motion by Robertson, second by Spirito to approve the Master Plan Update; motion passed 5/0.

NIES Design Proposal for Pressure Reducing/Sustaining Water Valves: motion by Kroll, second by Robertson to approve the NIES design proposal for pressure reducing/sustaining water valves at a cost not to exceed \$7,500.00; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Water Main Replacement Design - NIES Proposal: motion by Robertson, second by Ennis to approve the NIES design proposal for water main replacement at a cost not to exceed \$31,500.00; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Northern Construction Clay Street Change Order #2: motion by Kroll, second by Robertson to approve the Northern Construction change order #2 in the amount of \$3,189.41; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Rieth-Riley Streets Paving Change Order #4: motion by Kroll, second by Robertson to approve Rieth-Riley's change order #4 in the amount of -\$1,805.88; motion passed 5/0.



Rieth-Riley Streets Paving Pay Request #5: motion by Kroll, second by Spirito to approve Rieth-Riley's pay request #5 in the amount of \$1,591.62; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Marijuana Ordinance #233: motion by Ennis, second by Robertson to approve the First Reading of Ordinance #233; motion passed 5/0.

Pajay Construction N. Whittaker Change Order #5: motion by Kroll, second by Robertson to approve Pajay Construction's change order #5 in the amount of -\$57,325.26; motion passed 5/0.

Pajay Construction N. Whittaker Pay Request #11: motion by Spirito, second by Kroll to approve Pajay Construction's pay request #11 in the amount of \$245,336.71; roll call, motion passed 5/0.

Miscellaneous

Motion by O'Donnell, second by Robertson, to re-appoint Stacey LaRocco to the Parks/Recreation Board: motion passed 5/0. No other appointments were made.

LRSB and Cemetery Board meetings are in two (2) weeks. Pokagon Fund Update: Community Needs Assessment meetings are December 11, 2018, 1 PM at the Harbor Country Chamber and 7:00 PM at the New Buffalo Library. The Pokagon Fund continues its focus on education and reading, and a ten (10) year exhibit for The Pokagon Fund is ongoing at the New Buffalo Library.

No subsequent Council action.

No correspondence.

Council Comments: Mayor noted objectives for 2019 include a Zoning Ordinance review; consideration of a "Short Term Rental" ordinance; renewed Code Enforcement efforts; and a downtown snow removal policy. The new website needs pictures. Public was reminded of the annual Christmas parade and tree lighting ceremony. Mary Robertson was thanked for volunteering to serve as the temporary Deputy Clerk and the Mayor apologized for the subsequent drama.

Member Kroll thanked voters for returning members to the Council and reminded the public there is only a very small group of critics who complain about everything.

Member Ennis commented "we are all volunteers" and she is tired of negative comments and will confront the criticism.

Member Robertson thanked the voters and suggested everyone read the OMA.

All the Council members wished everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving."

Adjournment at 7:25 PM.

dpr

Resolution Adopting the Plan



**City of New Buffalo
Resolution No. 19.02**

**A Resolution to Adopt the City of New Buffalo Community Park, Recreation, Open Space,
and Greenway Plan 2019-2023**

Whereas, the City of New Buffalo has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five year period covering the years 2019 through 2023, and

Whereas, the City developed a Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

Whereas, the planning process included public input opportunities through surveys and public meetings, and

Whereas, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of 30 days, and

Whereas, a public hearing was held on November 19, 2018 at City Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions and discuss the plan, and

Whereas, the Park and Recreation Board has recommended the plan to the City Council for adoption.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, the City Council adopts the City of New Buffalo Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan 2019 – 2023.

Dated: January 22, 2019

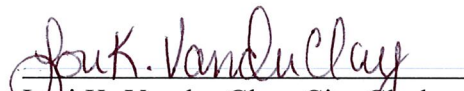
Yeas: Robertson, Ennis, Spirito, Kroll, Mayor O'Donnell

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

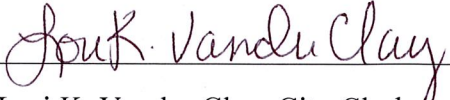
RESOLUTION: ADOPTED


Lori K. Vander Clay, City Clerk



CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the City of New Buffalo, Berrien County, MI, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of Resolution 19.02 adopted by the City Council of the City of New Buffalo at a regular meeting held on January 22, 2019 the original of which is on file in the City Clerk's office and available to the public.


Lori K. Vander Clay, City Clerk

Plan Certification Checklist



COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

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

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

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

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan:

City of New Buffalo Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan 2019-2023

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

County

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

City of New Buffalo

Berrien

Jan. 2019

PLAN CONTENT

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

1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

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

Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart

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

Current Funding Sources

Role of Volunteers

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

Recreation Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:

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

Articles of Incorporation

3. RECREATION INVENTORY

Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory

Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities

Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)

Accessibility Assessment

Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

Waterways Inventory (if applicable)

4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

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

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

Date of the Notice Oct. 19, 2018

Type of Notice City's website post

Plan Location Website, City Hall, Library

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 10/19/18-11/19/18

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

Date of Notice Oct. 19, 2018

Name of Newspaper City's website

Date of Meeting Nov. 19, 2018

Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

8. ACTION PROGRAM

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

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

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

1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: January 22, 2019

2. Official resolution of the _____ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: _____

3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: January 25, 2019

4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: January 25, 2019

OVERALL CERTIFICATION

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

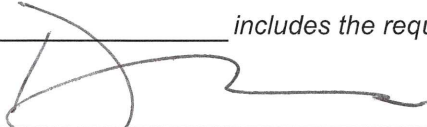
I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

City of New Buffalo

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated


Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

1/25/19
Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.

Copies of Letters to Berrien County and Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

January 25, 2019

Evan Smith, Transportation/Planning Coordinator
Berrien County Community Development Department
701 Main St
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Dear Mr. Smith:

The City of New Buffalo recently adopted the *Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan 2019 - 2023*. This five-year plan reflects the City's commitment to comprehensive recreational planning. It is a mechanism to solicit input from residents, establishes a framework for evaluation of projects, assists in determining long term funding needs, guides annual budgeting, and helps build public support for new project funding initiatives.

Prior to submitting the document to Michigan DNR, the State requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted Recreation Plan. The plan can be found on the City of New Buffalo's website at <http://www.cityofnewbuffalo.org>. If you would prefer to have a paper copy on file, please let us know and one will be provided.

Sincerely,



Tricia Bulson
GIS Specialist
Abonmarche

January 25, 2019

K. John Egelhaaf, Executive Director
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
185 E Main St, Suite 701
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Mr. Egelhaaf:

The City of New Buffalo recently adopted the *Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plan 2019 - 2023*. This five-year plan reflects the City's commitment to comprehensive recreational planning. It is a mechanism to solicit input from residents, establishes a framework for evaluation of projects, assists in determining long term funding needs, guides annual budgeting, and helps build public support for new project funding initiatives.

Prior to submitting the document to Michigan DNR, the State requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted Recreation Plan. The plan can be found on the City of New Buffalo's website at <http://www.cityofnewbuffalo.org>. If you would prefer to have a paper copy on file, please let us know and one will be provided.

Sincerely,

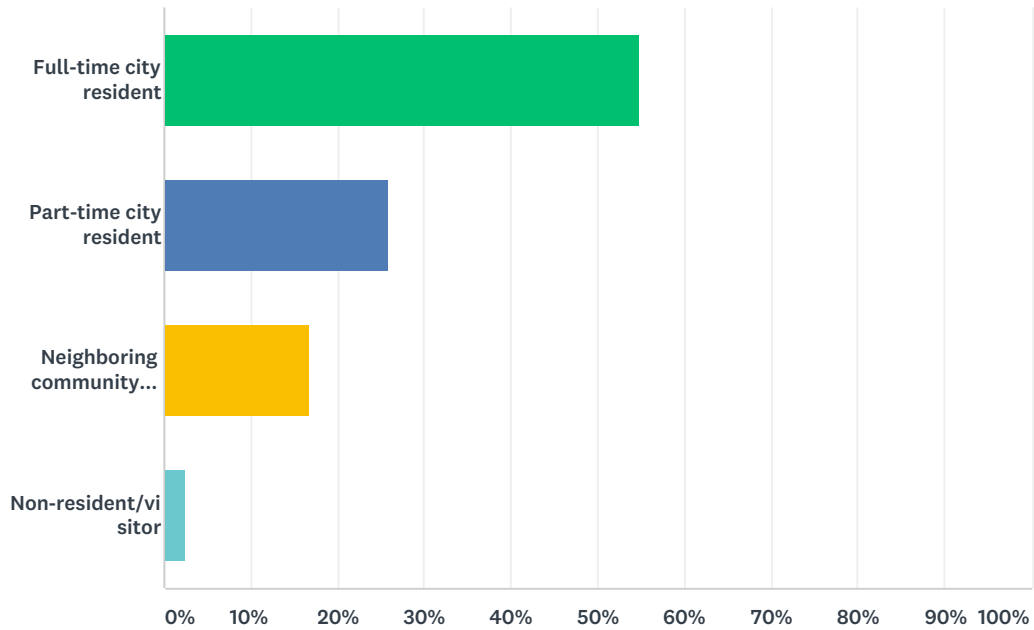


Tricia Bulson
GIS Specialist
Abonmarche

Copy of Public Survey and Results

Q1 Which of the choices represents your residency in New Buffalo?

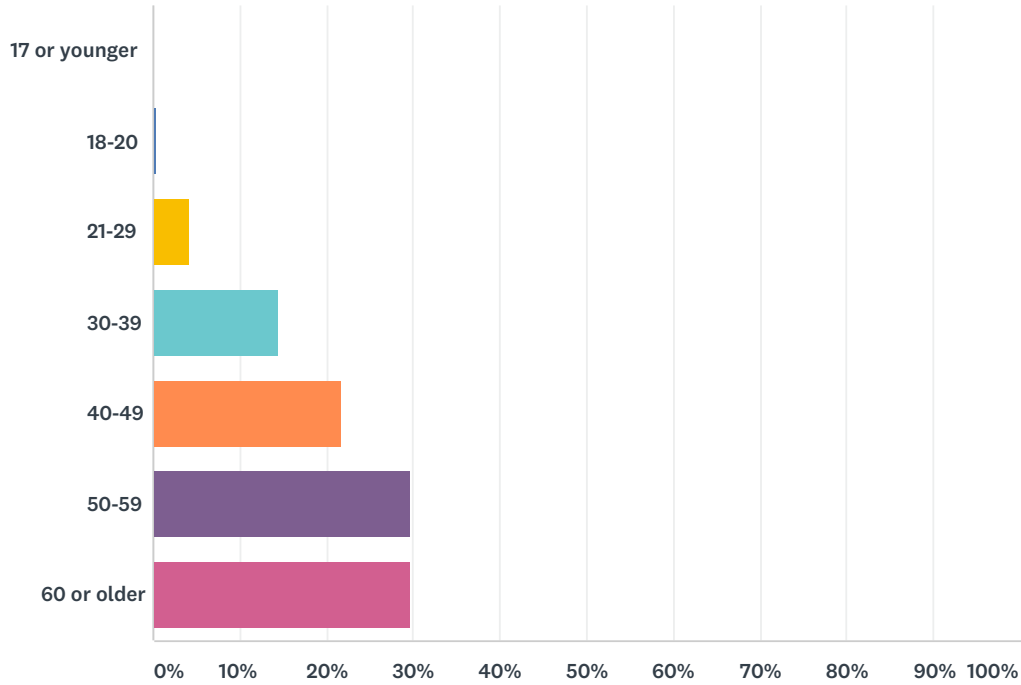
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Full-time city resident	54.90% 157
Part-time city resident	25.87% 74
Neighboring community resident	16.78% 48
Non-resident/visitor	2.45% 7
TOTAL	286

Q2 What is your age?

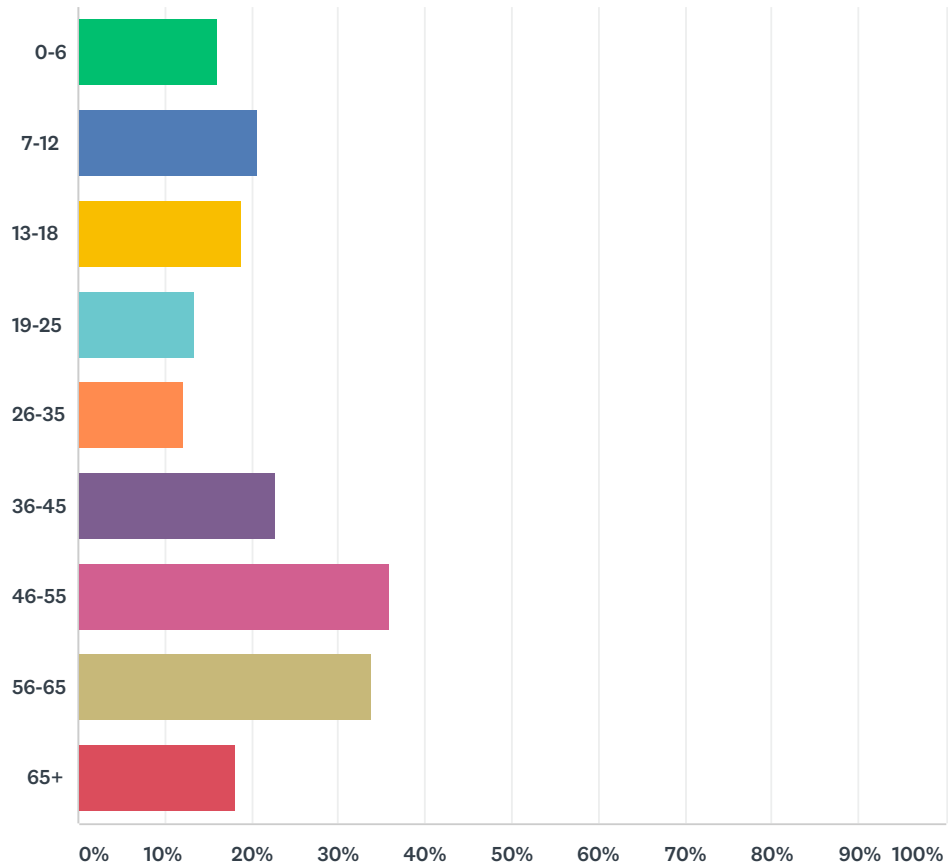
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18-20	0.35%	1
21-29	4.20%	12
30-39	14.34%	41
40-49	21.68%	62
50-59	29.72%	85
60 or older	29.72%	85
TOTAL		286

Q3 Which of the following age groups does your household consist of? Please select all that apply.

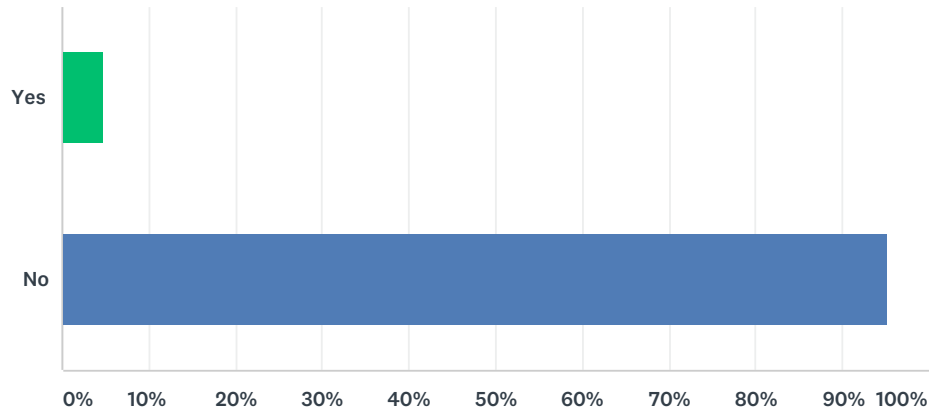
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-6	16.08%	46
7-12	20.63%	59
13-18	18.88%	54
19-25	13.29%	38
26-35	12.24%	35
36-45	22.73%	65
46-55	36.01%	103
56-65	33.92%	97
65+	18.18%	52
Total Respondents: 286		

Q4 Does anyone in your household have special accessibility needs for park amenities?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0

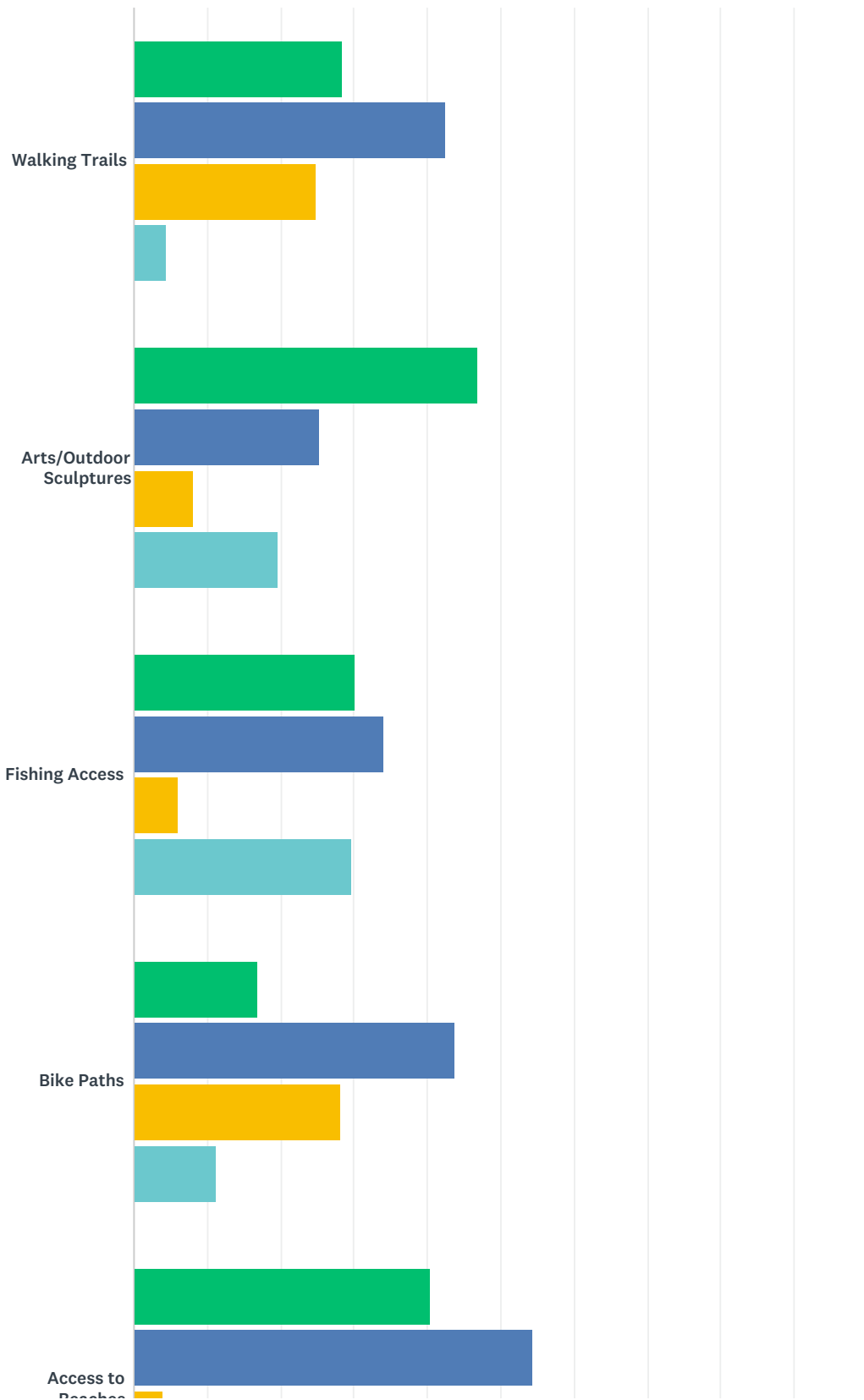


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	4.90%	14
No	95.10%	272
TOTAL		286

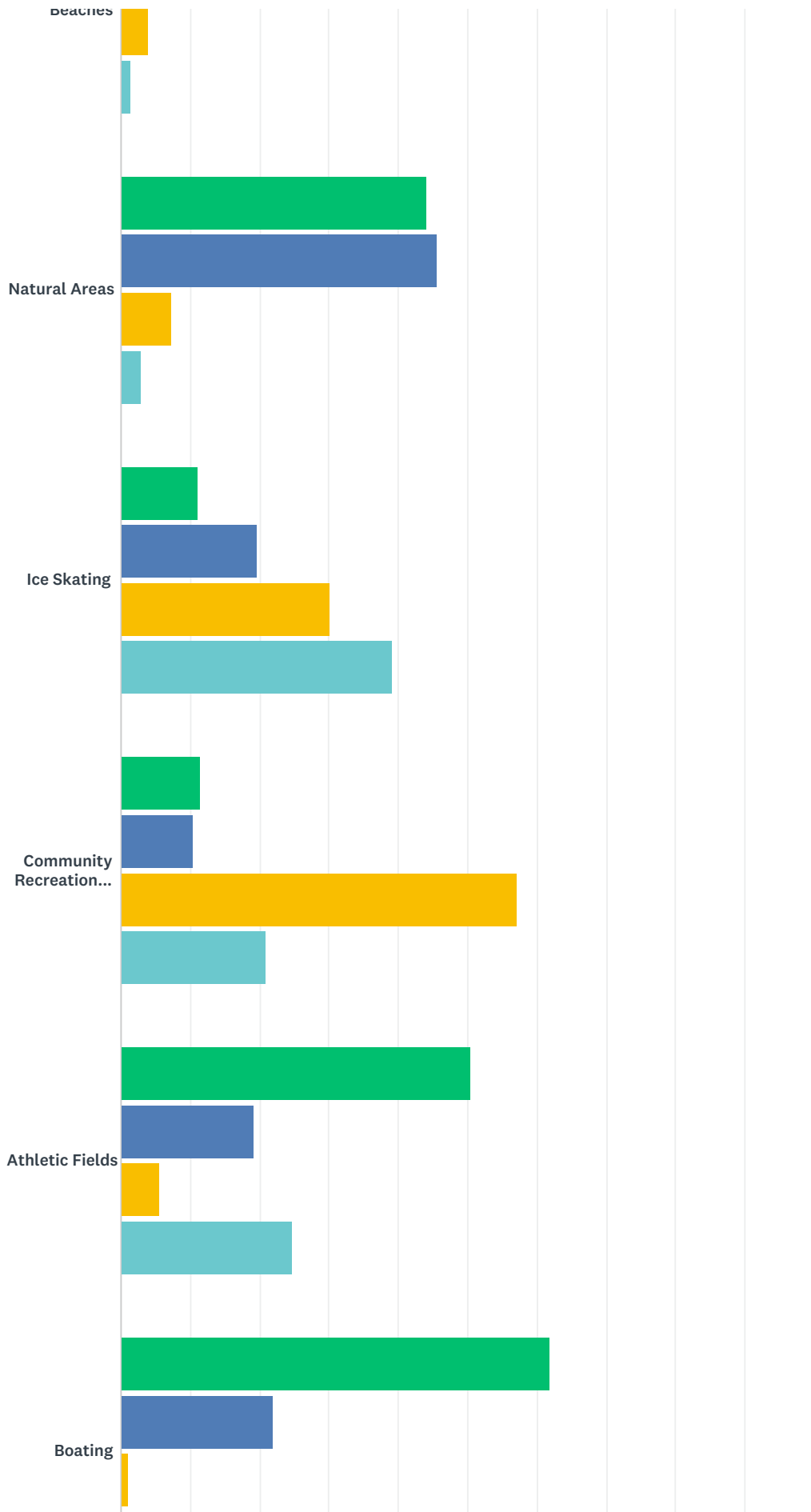
#	IF YES, PLEASE SPECIFY	DATE
1	Handicap access	10/13/2018 12:03 AM
2	Trouble walking to waterfront at beach.	10/9/2018 2:03 PM
3	Knee and hip problems, congestive heart problems. So he has a hard time with stairs and long walks on uneven terrain.	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
4	HANDICAPPED WALER/ CAN E	9/28/2018 4:12 PM
5	No but it would be nice to see some handicapp swings for the disable	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
6	Wheelchair	9/28/2018 2:08 PM
7	Not in my household, but in my family, yes, wheelchair accessible is imperative.	9/28/2018 12:54 PM
8	Difficulty in walking through sand to the beach.	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
9	Problems walking	9/18/2018 9:13 PM
10	Knee problems	9/16/2018 12:11 AM
11	Some difficulty walking and climbing	9/15/2018 12:07 PM
12	Wheelchairs oxygen	9/14/2018 2:11 PM

Q5 How available and adequate are these opportunities in and near New Buffalo? Please choose one response for each item.

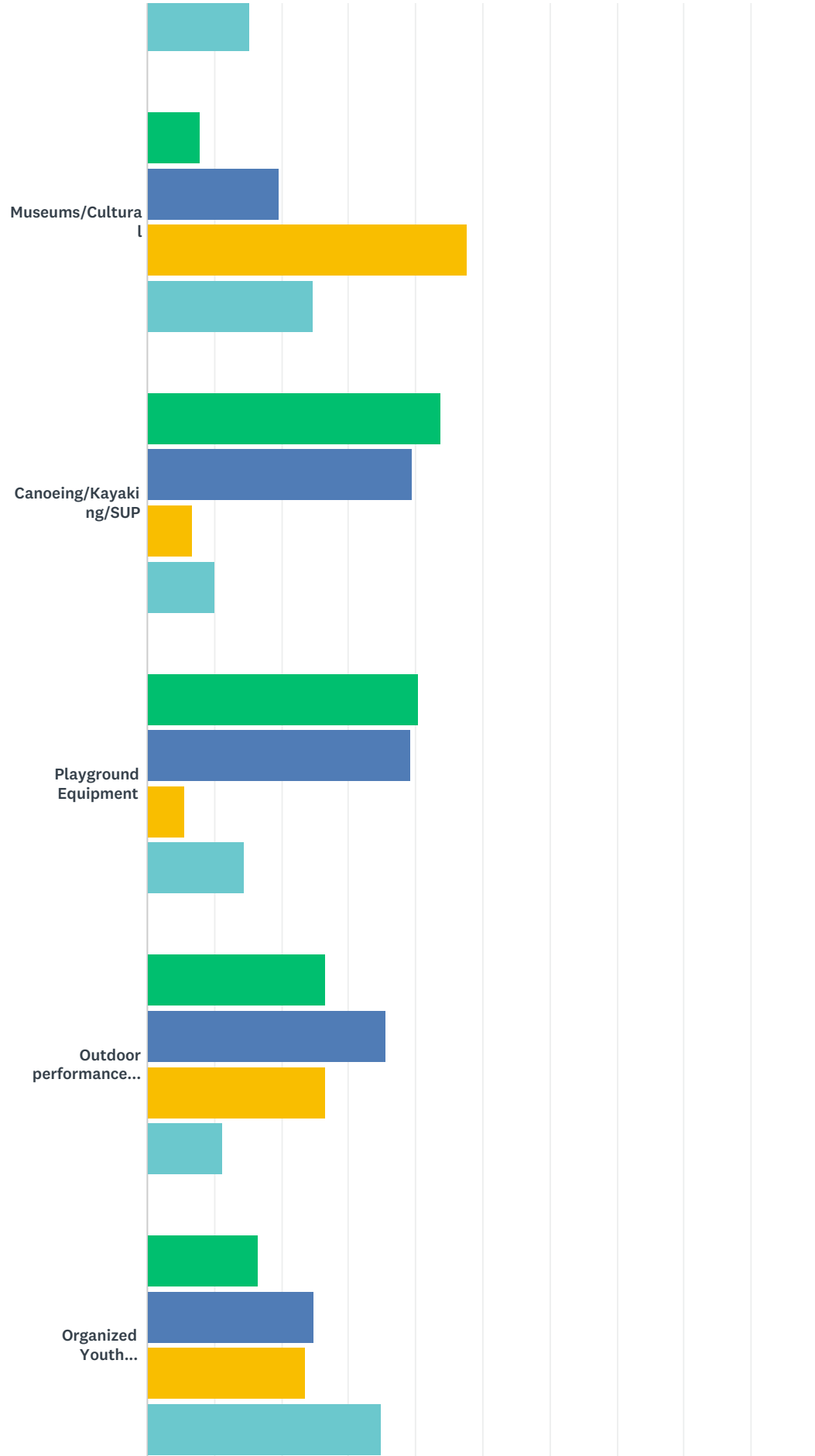
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



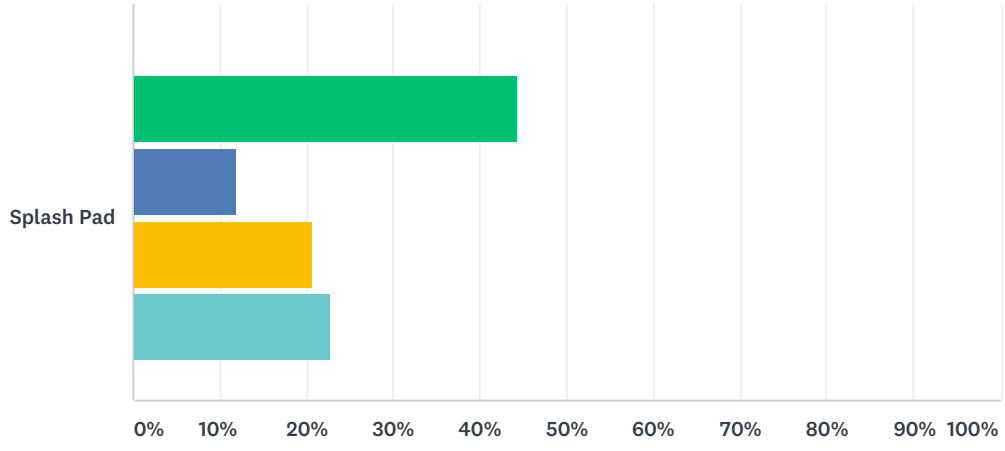
City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



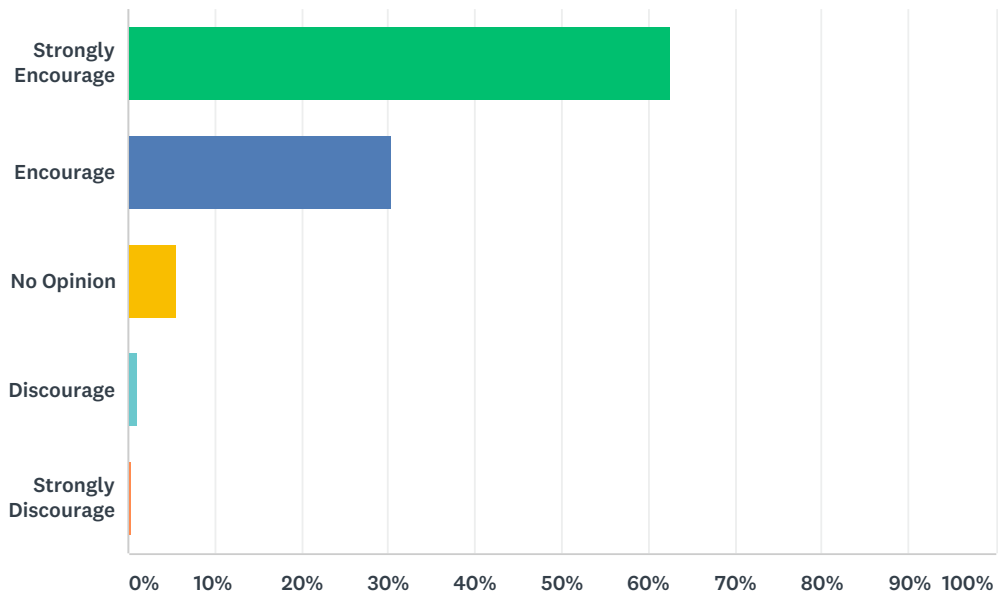
- Available and Adequate
- Available but Needs Improvement
- Not Available (Wanted)
- Not Interested

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

Splash Pad	44.37% 126	11.97% 34	20.77% 59	22.89% 65	284
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Q6 How much should the City of New Buffalo encourage parks and public open space development?

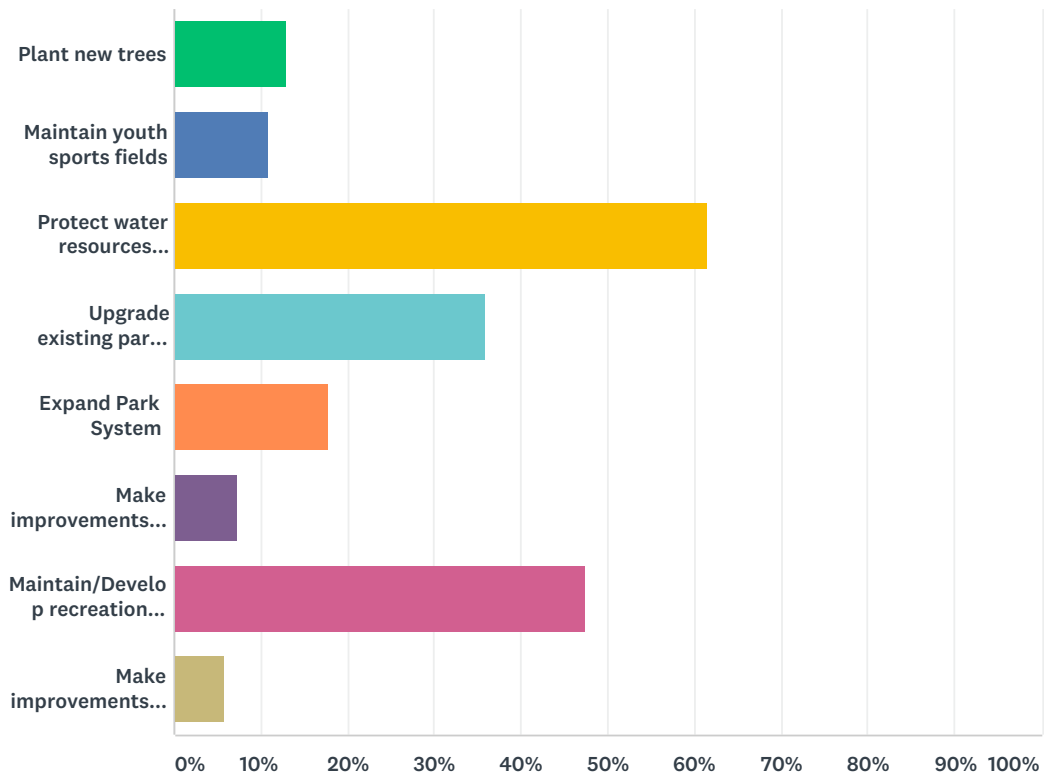
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Encourage	62.59%	179
Encourage	30.42%	87
No Opinion	5.59%	16
Discourage	1.05%	3
Strongly Discourage	0.35%	1
TOTAL		286

Q7 Please select the two actions most important to you from the following choices:

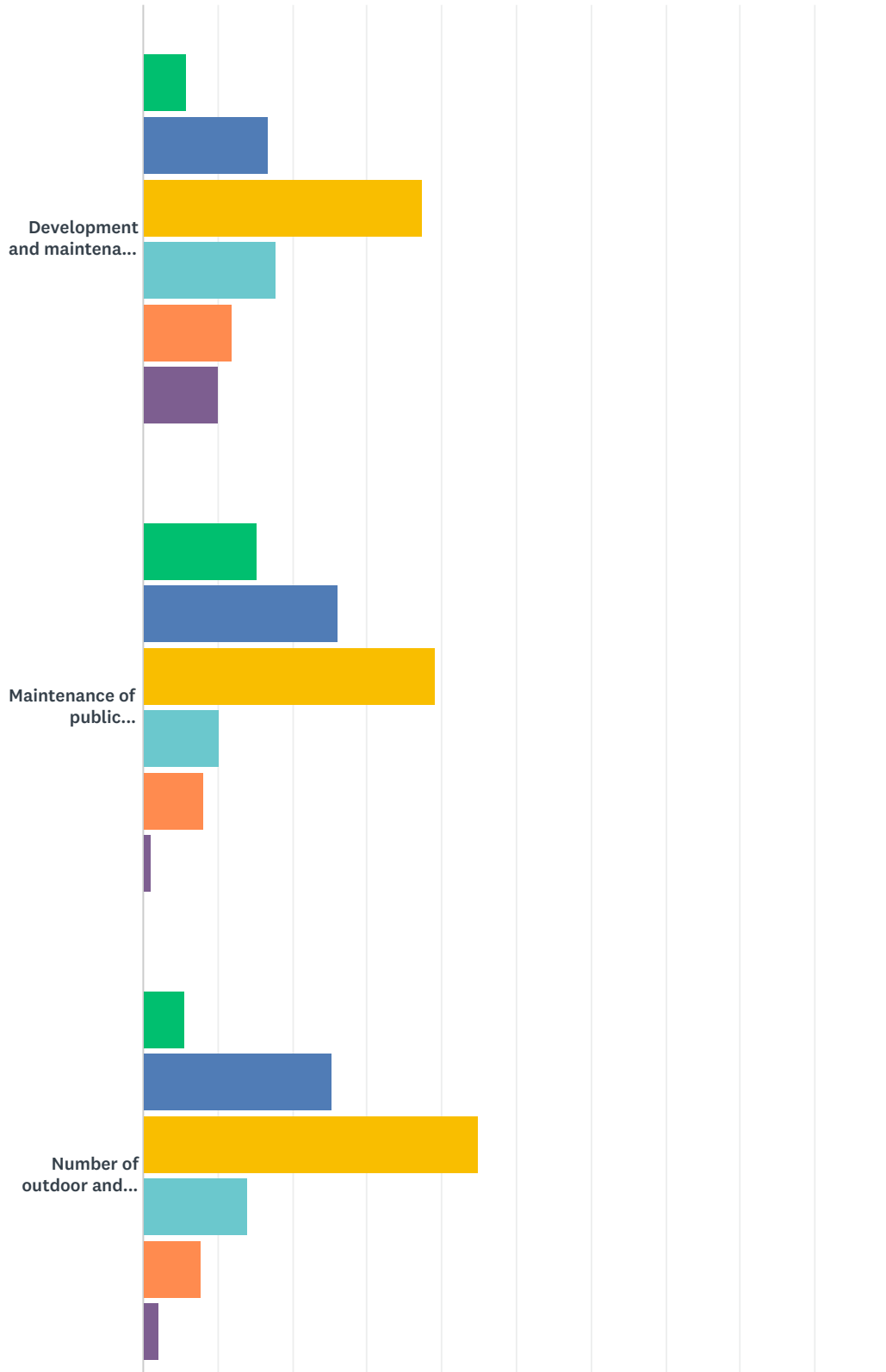
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



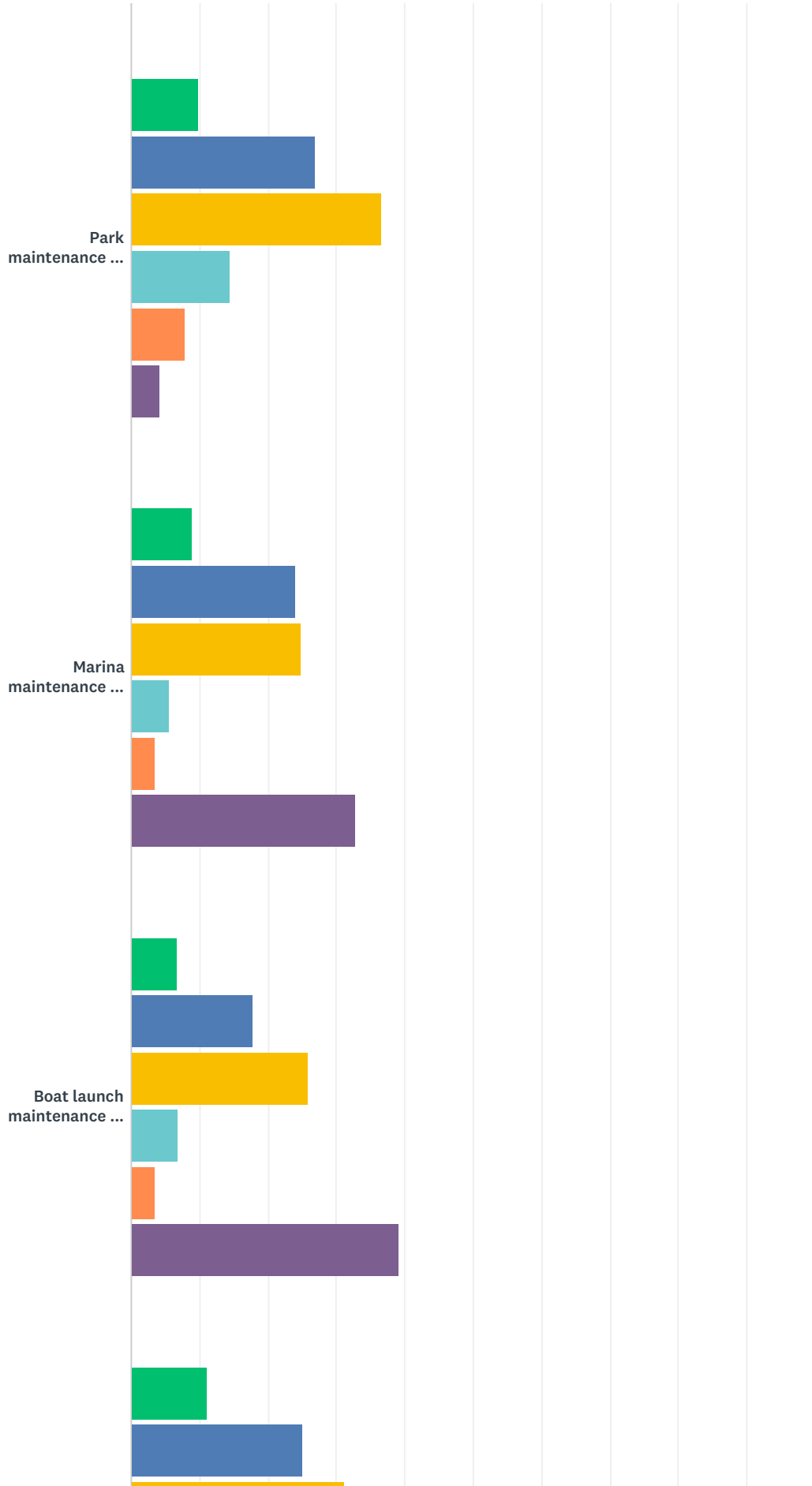
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Plant new trees	12.94%	37
Maintain youth sports fields	10.84%	31
Protect water resources (Streams, rivers, wetlands, Lake Michigan and groundwater)	61.54%	176
Upgrade existing park amenities	36.01%	103
Expand Park System	17.83%	51
Make improvements to municipal marina	7.34%	21
Maintain/Develop recreational trails and bike paths	47.55%	136
Make improvements to boat launch	5.94%	17
Total Respondents: 286		

Q8 From your own experience please indicate how well you think the City has provided each of the services below. Choose from one of the following choices:

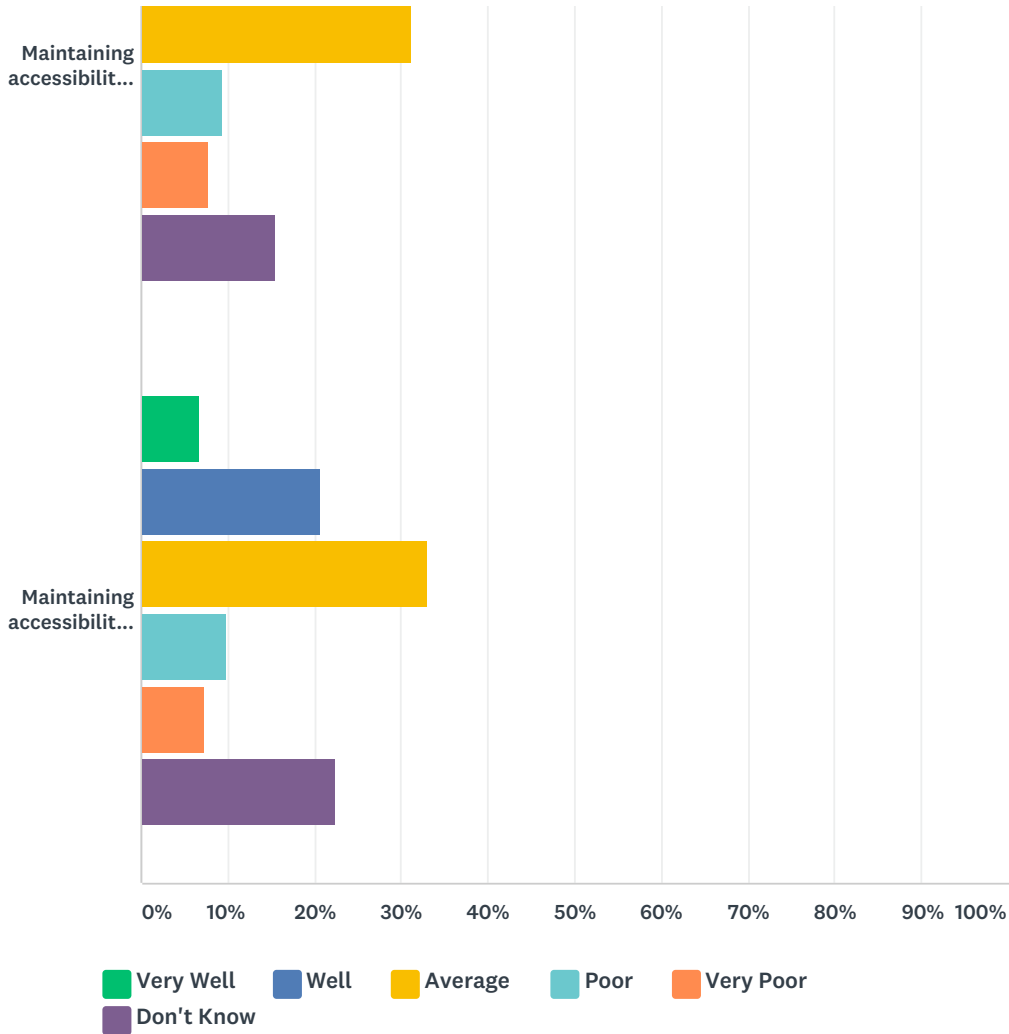
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



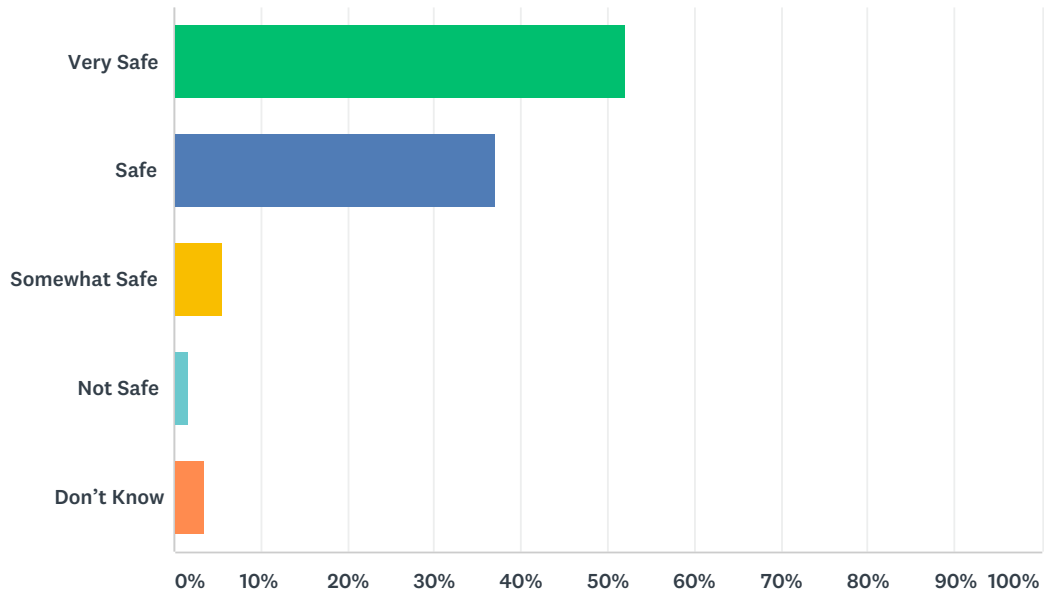
City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



	VERY WELL	WELL	AVERAGE	POOR	VERY POOR	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Development and maintenance of a system of bike lanes and trails	5.94% 17	16.78% 48	37.41% 107	17.83% 51	11.89% 34	10.14% 29	286
Maintenance of public landscaping and street trees	15.19% 43	26.15% 74	39.22% 111	10.25% 29	8.13% 23	1.06% 3	283
Number of outdoor and open space areas	5.63% 16	25.35% 72	45.07% 128	14.08% 40	7.75% 22	2.11% 6	284
Park maintenance and upkeep	9.79% 28	26.92% 77	36.71% 105	14.34% 41	8.04% 23	4.20% 12	286
Marina maintenance and upkeep	9.09% 26	24.13% 69	24.83% 71	5.59% 16	3.50% 10	32.87% 94	286
Boat launch maintenance and upkeep	6.64% 19	17.83% 51	25.87% 74	6.99% 20	3.50% 10	39.16% 112	286
Maintaining accessibility to the park system to persons of all economic levels	11.19% 32	25.17% 72	31.12% 89	9.44% 27	7.69% 22	15.38% 44	286
Maintaining accessibility to the park system for persons of all abilities	6.67% 19	20.70% 59	32.98% 94	9.82% 28	7.37% 21	22.46% 64	285

Q9 Level of personal safety felt in the parks during the day?

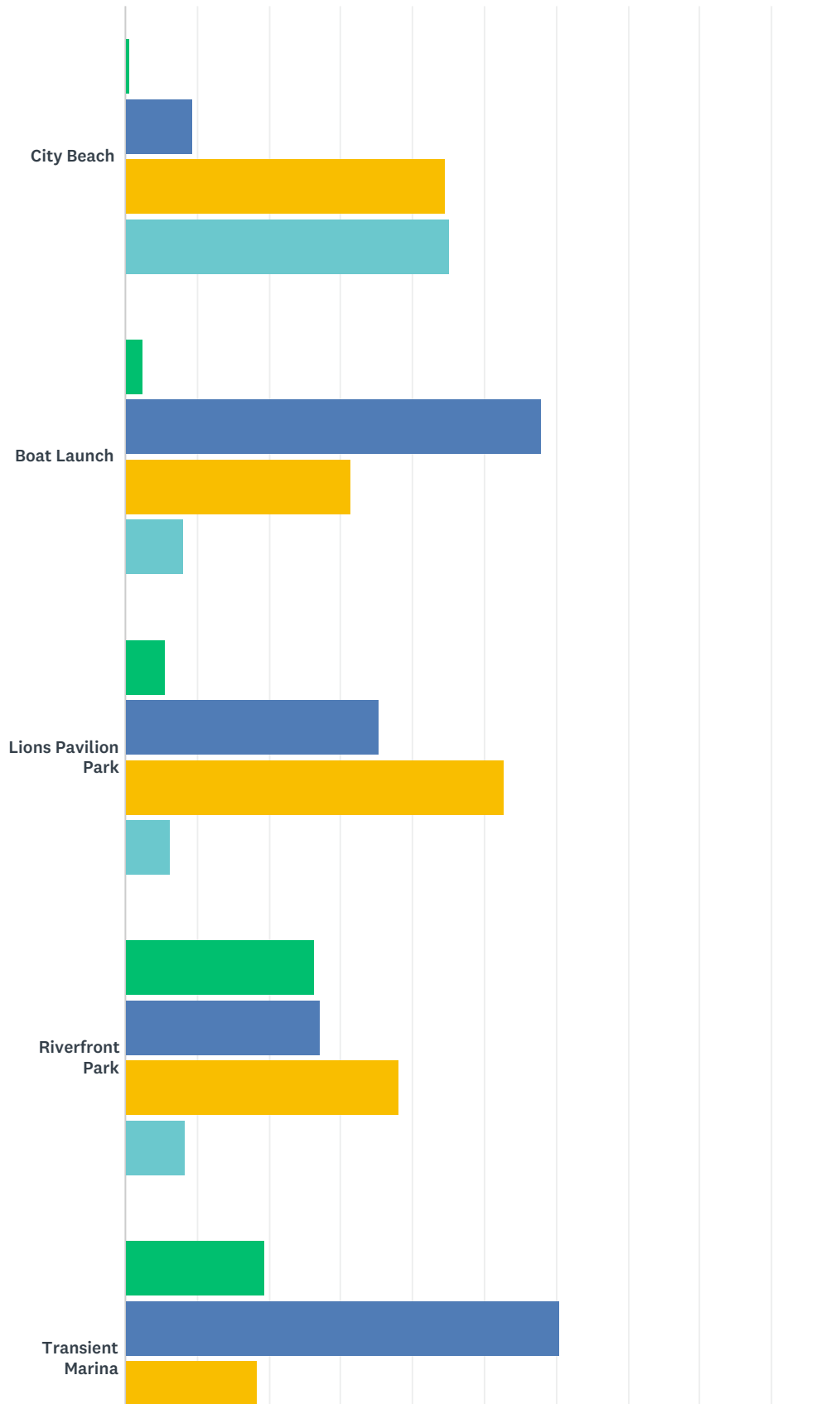
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



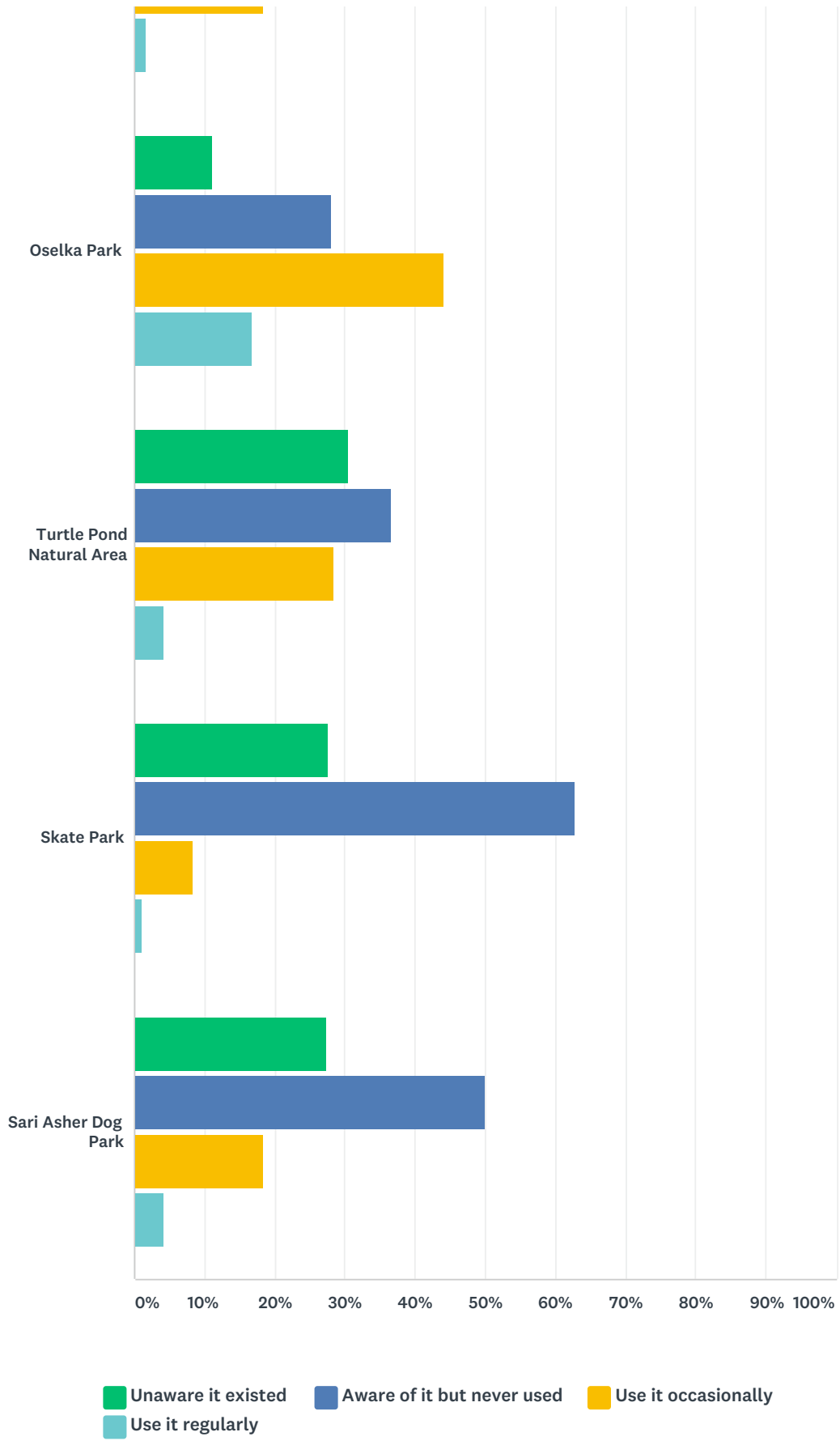
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Safe	52.10%	149
Safe	37.06%	106
Somewhat Safe	5.59%	16
Not Safe	1.75%	5
Don't Know	3.50%	10
TOTAL		286

Q10 What is your awareness/usage of the following parks?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey



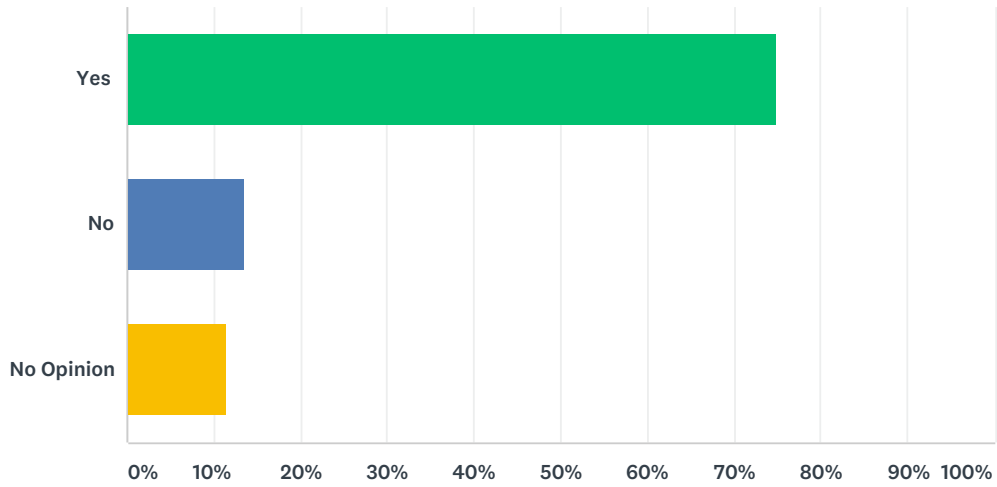
	UNAWARE IT EXISTED	AWARE OF IT BUT NEVER USED	USE IT OCCASIONALLY	USE IT REGULARLY	TOTAL
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City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

City Beach	0.70% 2	9.47% 27	44.56% 127	45.26% 129	285
Boat Launch	2.47% 7	57.95% 164	31.45% 89	8.13% 23	283
Lions Pavilion Park	5.59% 16	35.31% 101	52.80% 151	6.29% 18	286
Riverfront Park	26.41% 75	27.11% 77	38.03% 108	8.45% 24	284
Transient Marina	19.43% 55	60.42% 171	18.37% 52	1.77% 5	283
Oselka Park	11.19% 32	27.97% 80	44.06% 126	16.78% 48	286
Turtle Pond Natural Area	30.63% 87	36.62% 104	28.52% 81	4.23% 12	284
Skate Park	27.72% 79	62.81% 179	8.42% 24	1.05% 3	285
Sari Asher Dog Park	27.46% 78	50.00% 142	18.31% 52	4.23% 12	284

Q11 Would you favor an improved bike network (either non-motorized or on-road facilities) through New Buffalo?

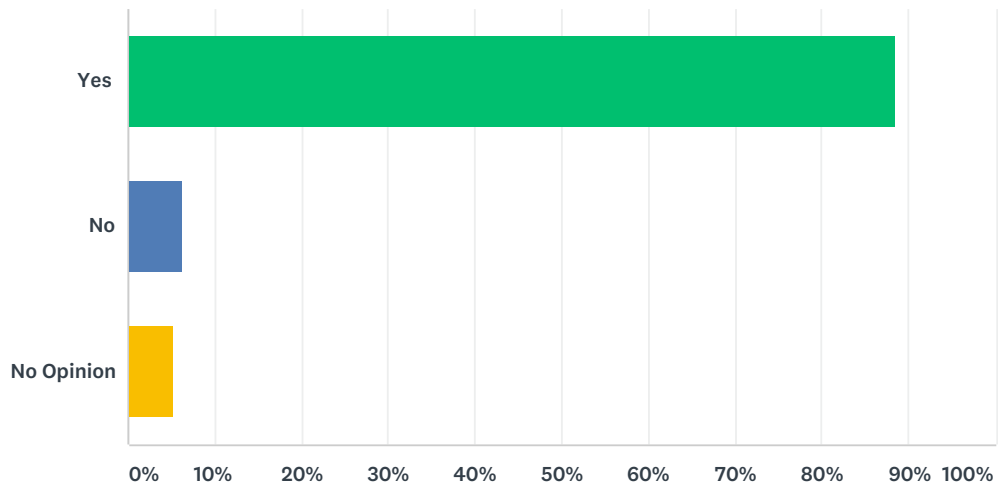
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	74.83%	214
No	13.64%	39
No Opinion	11.54%	33
TOTAL		286

Q12 Would you favor an improved/ expanded trail system for walking and hiking?

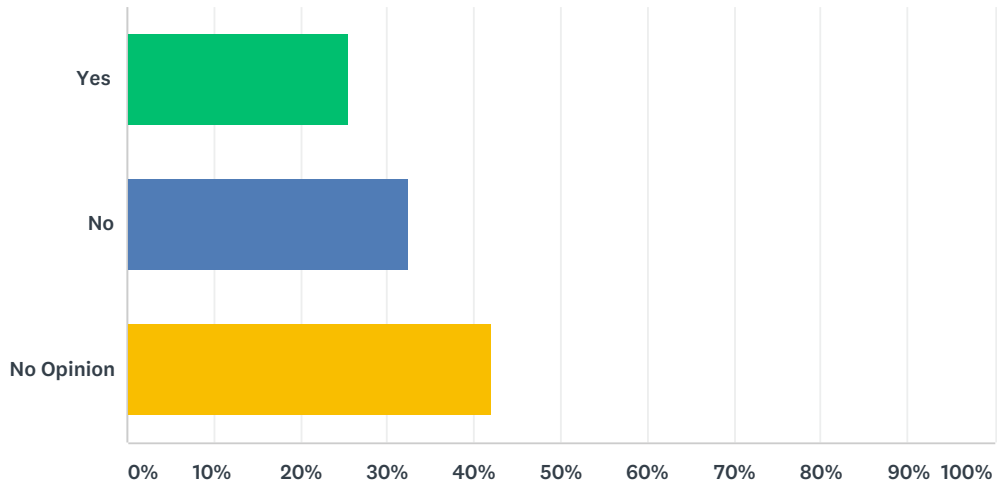
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.46%	253
No	6.29%	18
No Opinion	5.24%	15
TOTAL		286

Q13 Would you like the City to construct pickleball courts in an area other than at the Skate Park?

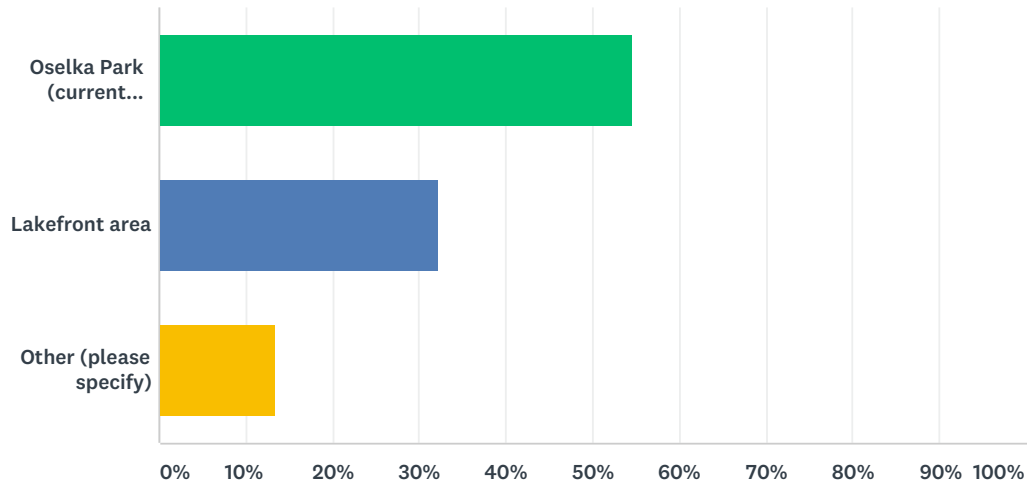
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	25.52%	73
No	32.52%	93
No Opinion	41.96%	120
TOTAL		286

Q14 Where would you prefer to have an ice rink installed?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Oselka Park (current location)	54.55% 156
Lakefront area	32.17% 92
Other (please specify)	13.29% 38
TOTAL	286

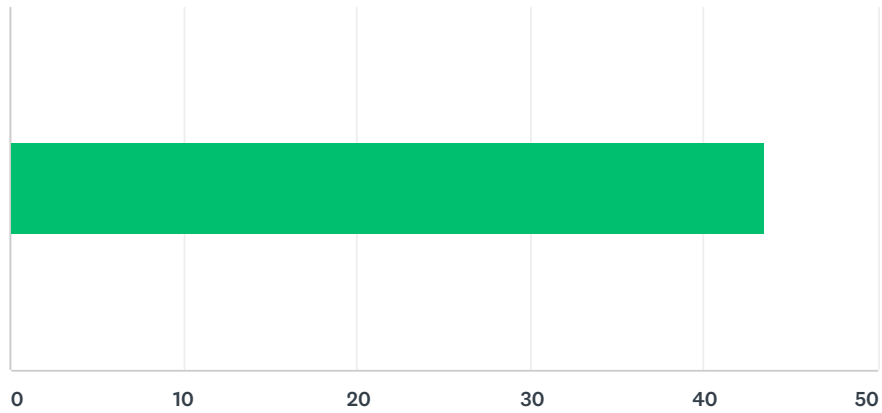
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	X	10/12/2018 11:11 PM
2	lakefront or closer to downtown	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
3	No place	10/9/2018 8:39 PM
4	Do not want skate park	10/9/2018 6:21 PM
5	Maybe, havent visited existing one yet.	10/9/2018 2:28 PM
6	Not important to me	10/9/2018 1:35 PM
7	RIGHT DOWN TOWN	10/9/2018 1:30 PM
8	Downtown area or near Lions pavilion. This would get more people to downtown businesses in the winter	10/9/2018 12:40 PM
9	Don't care	10/9/2018 9:34 AM
10	St Mary's?	10/2/2018 11:07 AM
11	not necessary	10/1/2018 7:15 PM
12	na	9/30/2018 9:00 AM
13	No opinion	9/29/2018 12:01 PM
14	no preference	9/28/2018 2:11 PM
15	Not sure the desire warrants the expense	9/28/2018 2:08 PM
16	Lakefront or where Saint Marys school is or where the old Golds Gym was	9/28/2018 1:16 PM
17	anywhere	9/28/2018 12:54 PM

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18	Do not want !	9/25/2018 2:54 PM
19	no	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
20	Behind Vet Clinic and it should have a roof to then use in the summer months for Farmers' Markets.	9/24/2018 5:56 PM
21	Will not attract people unless you make it a fun activite. Rent out skates, serve beverages, play music, fire to keep parents warm while watching the little ones. Otherwise no one will use the rink and it just kills the grass as shown in the last two winters. So Oselka is ideal becasue of the space for the rink and the conessions to sell items and the fireplace.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
22	Closer to downtown. Boat launch parking lot maybe?	9/20/2018 5:55 PM
23	The township park by the basketball court	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
24	Visible but safe environment, maybe the old St Marys school location	9/19/2018 10:36 AM
25	downtown say empty lot -old Jackson location	9/18/2018 5:23 PM
26	We don't need an ice rink	9/18/2018 2:06 PM
27	Need refrigeration or not worth it.	9/17/2018 7:03 PM
28	Use South Haven as an example. Ice rink's should be located in the heart of the city and used to bring people into the city and to local businesses. Unfortunately, the lack of a good master plan has completely ignored creating small recreational areas within the downtown --	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
29	none	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
30	As part of the downtown area	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
31	No opinion	9/15/2018 1:47 AM
32	Down town - Parking lot across from hardware/drugstore	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
33	Along U.S. 12...vacant lot next to GOLO!!! EYE SORE!!! Would draw Winter tourism and in Summer it could double as a new Skate Park?	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
34	None	9/14/2018 2:42 PM
35	town	9/14/2018 2:37 PM
36	In the space downtown currently undeveloped	9/14/2018 2:20 PM
37	I've never seen the ice rink.	9/14/2018 2:15 PM
38	No need for one in the city	9/14/2018 2:12 PM

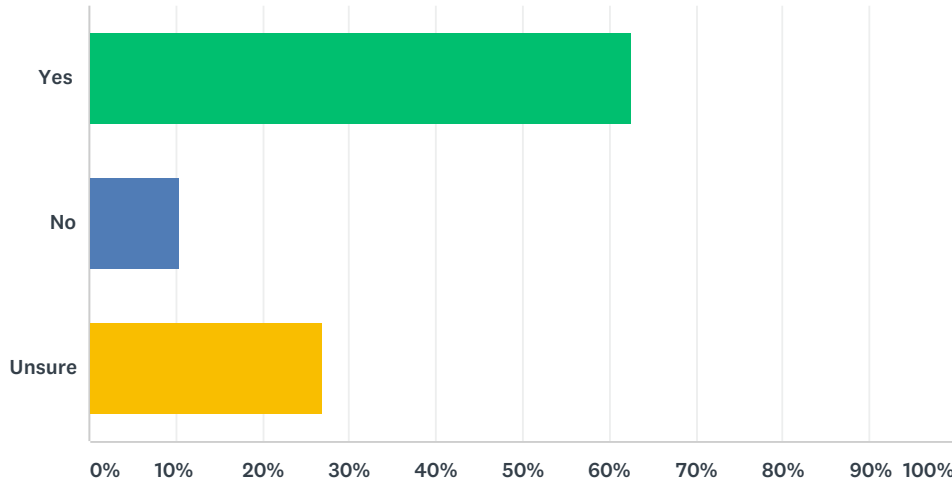
Q15 If parking at the City Beach was full, how likely would you be to park at an off-site lot with a shuttle if it was available?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



Q16 The City's current Park Improvement Millage expires in 2020, would you be in support of renewing this millage? (Current park improvement millage is \$46 per \$100,000 of taxable value on property.)

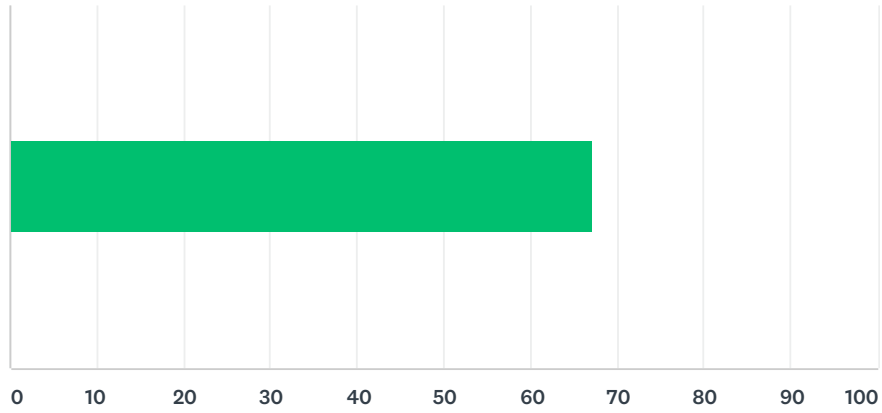
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	62.59%	179
No	10.49%	30
Unsure	26.92%	77
TOTAL		286

Q17 How important is historic preservation for you?

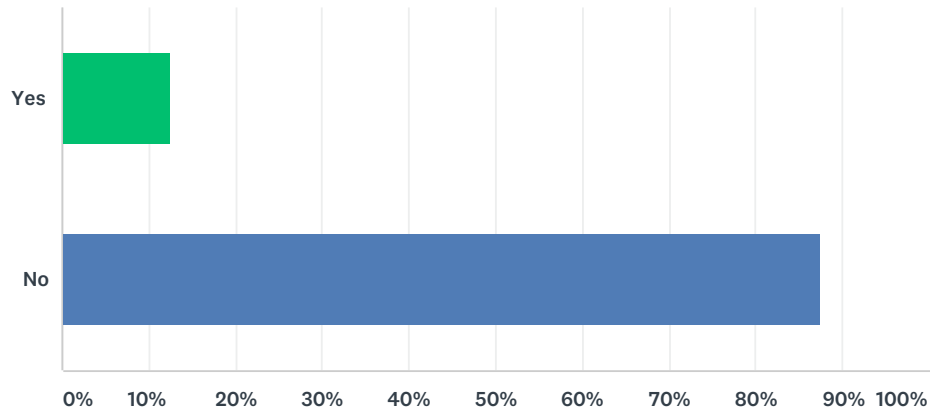
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	67	19,223	286
Total Respondents: 286			

Q18 Are you a boater who uses the New Buffalo Transient Marina?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	12.59%	36
No	87.41%	250
TOTAL		286

Q19 If you answered "yes" to Question #18, how does New Buffalo Transient Marina compare to other transient facilities in Lake Michigan Harbors?

Answered: 74 Skipped: 212

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	my daughter and son-in-law have kept their boat here. adequate facilities	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
2	Shuttle service	10/11/2018 6:33 PM
3	Nice	10/11/2018 5:13 AM
4	Not applicable	10/10/2018 6:08 PM
5	N/A	10/10/2018 1:35 PM
6	We use it occasionally and feel it compares well to other marinas.	10/10/2018 1:12 PM
7	don't know	10/10/2018 11:21 AM
8	It is less than average, amenities are few, shade is lacking, green space is not very inviting and overall the facility is not welcoming.	10/10/2018 11:05 AM
9	Good	10/9/2018 11:28 PM
10	At harbor point very disappointed	10/9/2018 4:17 PM
11	Not a boater	10/9/2018 3:05 PM
12	Could be better	10/9/2018 1:35 PM
13	I don't know for sure, but I think other marinas are a little larger and more welcoming.	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
14	N/a	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
15	Good	10/9/2018 9:51 AM
16	Poor. Other Marinas are far better and nicer than ours. They almost all have wireless and updated fully improved bath houses. They also have attendants that can assist with docking your boat. New Buffalo Marina is in the bottom 10% of Marinas on this side of the lake for sure.	10/9/2018 9:40 AM
17	very poor in comparison to other marinas in Michigan	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
18	Poor facility in comparison w others	10/2/2018 3:50 PM
19	Average to below average	10/2/2018 11:08 AM
20	N/a we have a boat in the marina and have no need for it	10/2/2018 11:07 AM
21	Poor	10/1/2018 5:05 PM
22	None	10/1/2018 4:57 PM
23	Great location. Restrooms need updating and more frequent cleaning.	10/1/2018 3:26 PM
24	rent only	10/1/2018 11:47 AM
25	It's nice	9/30/2018 9:34 PM
26	S	9/28/2018 8:54 PM
27	Difficult to navigate	9/28/2018 6:38 PM
28	No opinion	9/28/2018 5:53 PM
29	N/A	9/28/2018 5:34 PM
30	Unsure	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
31	I'm not a boater. But I think the transit marina is adequate from my understanding of it	9/28/2018 2:08 PM

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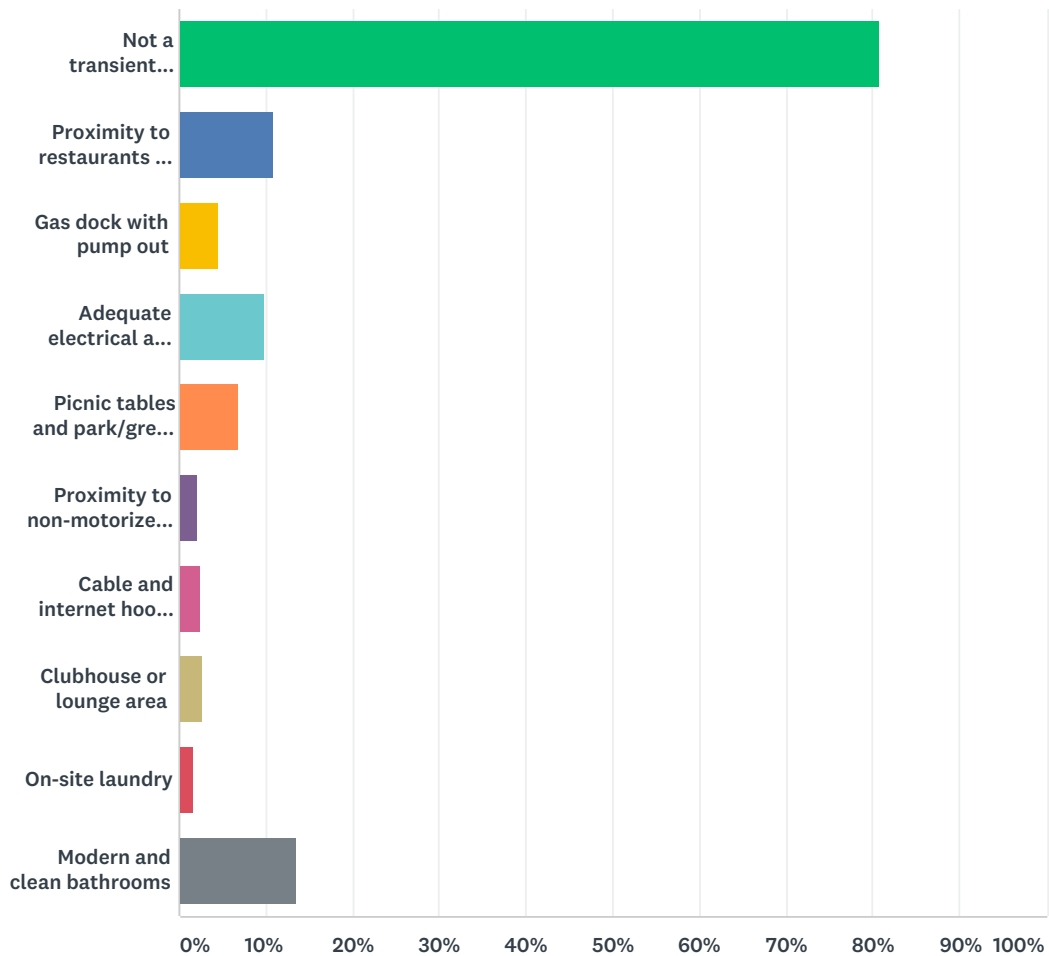
32	Na	9/28/2018 2:07 PM
33	N/a	9/28/2018 1:26 PM
34	Good	9/28/2018 1:12 PM
35	Decent	9/28/2018 1:09 PM
36	Na	9/28/2018 12:53 PM
37	N/a	9/28/2018 12:51 PM
38	n/A	9/28/2018 12:27 PM
39	x	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
40	Need floating docks, to accommodate the change of the water levels. Marina is sufficiently clean, but staff is not very professional.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
41	N/A	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
42	Security if laking, help with handling docking lines is lacking, a friendly welcome is lacking. shaded picnic areas are needed. tables are not attractive, no activities available in the park. No BBQ grills. No inside facilities to relax in.	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
43	there's a typo in this one. should read 'yes' to question #18	9/18/2018 9:11 PM
44	1. Top priority is getting rid of the geese & their unsanitary contribution to the park. You can't walk the park or let your children play without stepping in goose droppings. 2. Construct a "Shoppers Dock" & charge visitors by the hour. 3. Offer Laundry facility for transient boaters.	9/18/2018 2:09 PM
45	Not sure	9/17/2018 7:03 PM
46	Similar to other facilities we have used.	9/17/2018 2:52 PM
47	South Havens facilities are above par and give people a halfway point to stop and use the restroom weather on a boat or on land.	9/17/2018 1:21 PM
48	...	9/17/2018 9:43 AM
49	One of the best accesses to town amenities for transient boaters	9/16/2018 9:13 PM
50	Never used others	9/16/2018 10:23 AM
51	Poor	9/15/2018 10:03 PM
52	Ba	9/15/2018 8:45 PM
53	It needs much improvement -- once again, look elsewhere for examples on how to improve the marina and make it accessible to public boaters.	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
54	needs improvement	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
55	It's nice.	9/15/2018 10:41 AM
56	Smaller	9/15/2018 8:40 AM
57	Didn't answer yes	9/15/2018 8:20 AM
58	N/A	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
59	NA	9/14/2018 10:43 PM
60	Average	9/14/2018 9:30 PM
61	Good	9/14/2018 7:44 PM
62	Good	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
63	I'm not a boater, but our marina looks very neat, and welcoming.	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
64	NA	9/14/2018 4:20 PM
65	n/a	9/14/2018 4:10 PM
66	Never use it but it seems like a very good boat launch. Lions Park however needs a SERIOUS upgrade!! (e.g. New Buffalo Township concert area/playground/splash pad).	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
67	unknown	9/14/2018 3:12 PM

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68	Na	9/14/2018 2:43 PM
69	NA	9/14/2018 2:42 PM
70	Have my own slip in NB. Our marina is very poor when compared to others to the north. No thought given to what a boater wants or needs to make the visit a positive one and a desire to return to harbor.	9/14/2018 2:41 PM
71	Ok, the restroom facilities could use upgrading	9/14/2018 2:37 PM
72	Fair	9/14/2018 2:35 PM
73	Na	9/14/2018 2:19 PM
74	I've never been to another transient marina. I like it and frequent the space when I'm in town. The last time I was there my dog and I got tangled in fishing wire that someone left on the cement. There were hooks but luckily we did not get stuck.	9/14/2018 2:15 PM

Q20 What marina amenities are most important to you as a transient boater? Pick up to three.

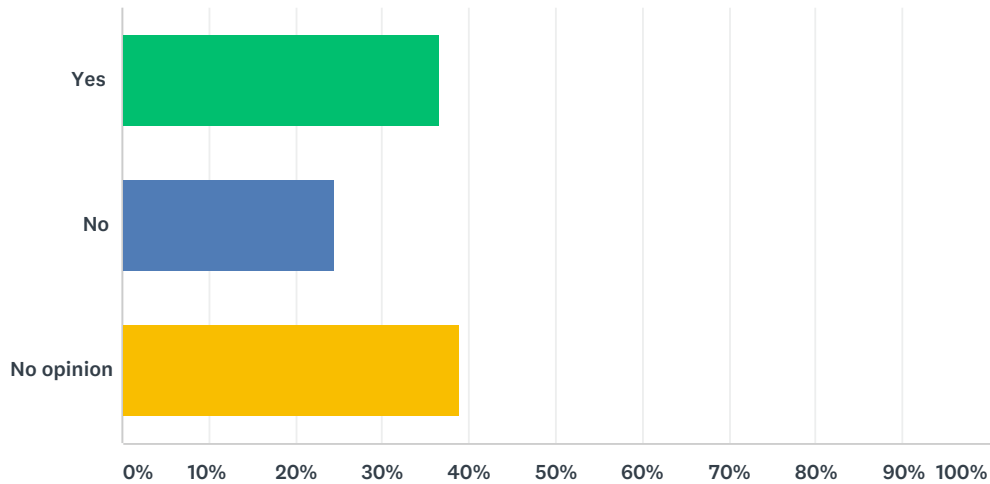
Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a transient boater	80.77%	231
Proximity to restaurants and shops	10.84%	31
Gas dock with pump out	4.55%	13
Adequate electrical and water hookups	9.79%	28
Picnic tables and park/green space	6.99%	20
Proximity to non-motorized trails	2.10%	6
Cable and internet hookup and/or free wifi access	2.45%	7
Clubhouse or lounge area	2.80%	8
On-site laundry	1.75%	5
Modern and clean bathrooms	13.64%	39

Q21 Do you think there are navigation conflicts between human-powered watercrafts (kayaks, canoes, etc.) and sail/motor boats within the channel?

Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	36.71%	105
No	24.48%	70
No opinion	38.81%	111
TOTAL		286

Q22 What I like about the City's Parks & Recreation Opportunities?

Answered: 168 Skipped: 118

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Other than the city beach, there's not a lot to like	10/13/2018 11:10 AM
2	We have many natural resources, lets protect them.	10/13/2018 12:03 AM
3	nice beach. Oselka Park is nicely appointed. Dog park is open and good spot for the pups	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
4	no opinion	10/11/2018 6:33 PM
5	Accessible, easy to get to.	10/11/2018 4:52 PM
6	Very clean and safe	10/11/2018 2:30 PM
7	Need more bike racks at beach. One is deep in sand and in useable	10/11/2018 5:13 AM
8	The community events	10/10/2018 10:00 PM
9	There is opportunity of improvement for full time residents.	10/10/2018 6:08 PM
10	Availability	10/10/2018 4:53 PM
11	Beach	10/10/2018 4:52 PM
12	Beach, trails, tennis courts, bike routes	10/10/2018 4:40 PM
13	It seems that it is kept in good shape	10/10/2018 4:24 PM
14	Public Beach	10/10/2018 3:58 PM
15	Peaceful and available. Wide variety of offerings.	10/10/2018 1:40 PM
16	Not aware of opportunities	10/10/2018 1:35 PM
17	The opportunity to expand non-motorized (kayaks, SUPs) water use is vast.	10/10/2018 1:12 PM
18	They are available and nice	10/10/2018 12:46 PM
19	Oselka park is clean and open. Splash pad, nice short trails. Beautiful athletic facilities.	10/10/2018 11:28 AM
20	River walk and boat launch	10/10/2018 11:21 AM
21	The proximity to the lake.	10/10/2018 11:05 AM
22	For such a small area, there are a park/rec areas.	10/10/2018 8:14 AM
23	Would be nice if there was more signs or a map showing where they are. I would put a nicer pavilion at lions park with an upper deck to sit and look at the lake . Maybe one like the one in Michigan city	10/9/2018 11:28 PM
24	Oselka park exists	10/9/2018 11:02 PM
25	Haven't found a good thing yet, I have been looking.	10/9/2018 8:39 PM
26	Cultural opportunity	10/9/2018 6:14 PM
27	Accessability to beach, dune walk	10/9/2018 4:55 PM
28	Less crowded and no parking fee after !\$@&* 2+ homeowners and tourists LEAVE!!!!!!	10/9/2018 3:05 PM
29	I like the programs that are held in the park. ie chickaming open lands	10/9/2018 2:28 PM
30	Variety of locations and opportunities at each.	10/9/2018 2:08 PM
31	We havegood overall opportunities for all ages at parks	10/9/2018 2:03 PM
32	park facilities are always available (eg bathrooms unlocked)	10/9/2018 1:58 PM
33	Amazing beach that is not being used to produce significant revenue for the city. Needs restaurant, bar, music venue.	10/9/2018 1:35 PM

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34	watching the sunset at the beach	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
35	Convenient	10/9/2018 12:40 PM
36	The summer festivities.	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
37	Public Beach	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
38	Variety	10/9/2018 10:58 AM
39	no opinion	10/9/2018 10:50 AM
40	Tennis courts and hiking/x-country trails	10/9/2018 10:30 AM
41	No comment	10/9/2018 9:51 AM
42	There is an interest and effort in suplying the public these parks	10/9/2018 9:40 AM
43	na	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
44	Need separate bridge for pedestrian and bikes between downtown and beach. Need to move parking lot away from Beach and increase size of public beach and have park continuous with Beach.	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
45	I like the Berrien County Park with the tree walk and lower walk but it may not be part of the city.	10/9/2018 9:34 AM
46	splash pad and Galien River Outlook awesome!!	10/8/2018 5:29 AM
47	I love that there are ball fields for little league, and the beach. I like the Oselka Pavillion, but it needs improvements.	10/6/2018 10:33 AM
48	Not much	10/3/2018 10:25 AM
49	City Beach, Sledding Hill Oselka Park	10/3/2018 9:34 AM
50	Please consider charging visitors to the area for beach use -our town is the laughing stock of the area as everything is free and visitors bring their own cooler seats of food and beverage-they are not supporting the local economy and leaving their trash behind and not their dollars	10/2/2018 3:50 PM
51	Low or no cost	10/2/2018 2:45 PM
52	well maintained	10/2/2018 12:33 PM
53	Summer activities are available for our citizens, the winters leave us with nothing to do.	10/2/2018 11:19 AM
54	Convenient and well maintained	10/2/2018 11:08 AM
55	Play areas for my kids/splash pad	10/2/2018 11:07 AM
56	Updating streets and walkways without compromising the preservation of plants, trees and natural water sources.	10/2/2018 10:55 AM
57	Generally well maintained	10/1/2018 9:11 PM
58	nothing at the moment, it all looks a mess.	10/1/2018 7:15 PM
59	that they are there and kept up	10/1/2018 5:56 PM
60	0	10/1/2018 5:05 PM
61	Time spend with my family	10/1/2018 4:57 PM
62	not much	10/1/2018 3:35 PM
63	Like green space and lakefront area.	10/1/2018 3:26 PM
64	close by and easy to use	10/1/2018 11:47 AM
65	?	9/30/2018 9:34 PM
66	The beach	9/30/2018 7:53 PM
67	Don't use	9/30/2018 2:38 PM
68	Beach is nice, sports fields are close to school, dog park is very nice, new trails off eagle and clay are nice	9/30/2018 12:49 PM
69	The sledding hill	9/29/2018 2:23 PM

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70	Don't use	9/29/2018 12:01 PM
71	I love the park by the Galien river!	9/29/2018 9:02 AM
72	Nothing! Washington Park in Michigan City is a much better well maintained park and it is cheaper for non-residents to use. The New Buffalo beach area is a joke compared to other parks & beaches for our size city	9/29/2018 8:21 AM
73	D	9/28/2018 8:54 PM
74	We need more public space at the beach as well as more parking	9/28/2018 6:25 PM
75	The township park is fabulous! We enjoy everything there.	9/28/2018 6:24 PM
76	Availability	9/28/2018 5:53 PM
77	Love the beach especially to watch sunsets	9/28/2018 5:04 PM
78	There should be a public indoor pool.. For swim teams and recreation..	9/28/2018 4:39 PM
79	accessible	9/28/2018 4:19 PM
80	They are near the lake	9/28/2018 3:35 PM
81	I hate the sand. Would like to see more handicapped access.	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
82	Feel safe when there	9/28/2018 2:27 PM
83	Well maintained	9/28/2018 2:11 PM
84	We have a beautiful town and tons of opportunities to beef up our park and rec system. Please keep the kids in mind most of all. The survey seemed very skewed toward boaters and non-locals.	9/28/2018 2:08 PM
85	Na	9/28/2018 2:07 PM
86	Clean. Free. Natural Areas. Play for kids	9/28/2018 1:28 PM
87	You offer a few free ones for the family	9/28/2018 1:26 PM
88	Very clean and user friendly.	9/28/2018 1:17 PM
89	For the size of our town we have lots of outdoor activities provided	9/28/2018 1:16 PM
90	Variety is adequate for a city the size of NB although a pool would be a welcome asset.	9/28/2018 1:15 PM
91	close together	9/28/2018 1:09 PM
92	I love being able to put in my kayak upstream and take it out at the lake shore.	9/28/2018 1:06 PM
93	anything that entices people to get outside is a good thing.	9/28/2018 1:03 PM
94	love the splash pad, playground and pavilion park	9/28/2018 12:54 PM
95	No opinion	9/28/2018 12:53 PM
96	We love the splash pad though it could be bigger same with the little playground area at the same place.	9/28/2018 12:52 PM
97	Unsure	9/28/2018 12:51 PM
98	Nothing	9/28/2018 12:42 PM
99	Steadily improving	9/28/2018 12:33 PM
100	I like to fish	9/28/2018 12:31 PM
101	We have a few options, they are clean and easy to access.	9/28/2018 12:30 PM
102	Nothing at all	9/28/2018 12:29 PM
103	Good beaches	9/28/2018 12:27 PM
104	I support any beautification project within New Buffalo.	9/27/2018 11:21 AM
105	There isn't anything that comes to mind. After collecting over 1 million dollars in a restricted park improvement millage, it appears that this money has been illegally used for dredging the river instead of using it for improving the parks.	9/26/2018 6:28 PM
106	All are walkable to from downtown.	9/25/2018 3:55 PM

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107	I hate to say there is nothing that is positive in the city's park. The beaches are littered with cigarettes and dirty diapers while the bathrooms are dirty. Oselka Park is covered with weeds and the playground equipment is dangerous since it is so old and the restrooms are never open plus the walkway is rutted and dangerous to walk on.	9/25/2018 1:04 PM
108	I like that we have it.	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
109	I like that you are surveying the public/residents for you Master Plan!	9/24/2018 5:56 PM
110	Lake Michigan is gorgeous the parks, beach and marina should match.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
111	Variety of locations	9/20/2018 5:55 PM
112	I like all of the trails and outdoor space to be with family	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
113	Variety of venues - lakefront, Turtle Pond, Splash Pad, New Lookout area...	9/19/2018 9:54 PM
114	Expanding public event space	9/19/2018 9:19 PM
115	The beachfront and harbor	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
116	It's on the Lake	9/19/2018 10:36 AM
117	watching the sunset at the beach	9/18/2018 9:13 PM
118	walkable from my home	9/18/2018 5:23 PM
119	The opportunity to bring more people to the city is by improving the lakefront area.	9/18/2018 2:09 PM
120	that there is an interest in improvement	9/18/2018 2:06 PM
121	city beach and dune walk	9/18/2018 10:47 AM
122	They have been well maintained this last year	9/17/2018 6:44 PM
123	Natural beauty	9/17/2018 2:52 PM
124	little bike lane..	9/17/2018 9:43 AM
125	Love the street dance and regular Thursday market	9/16/2018 9:13 PM
126	The hiking and bike paths that exist are good	9/16/2018 6:18 PM
127	Looking for ways to improve	9/16/2018 10:24 AM
128	They are safe	9/15/2018 10:04 PM
129	Parks	9/15/2018 8:45 PM
130	The staff seem to really work hard at maintaining our recreation areas.	9/15/2018 7:35 PM
131	improved traffic management at city beach and proactive park staff- cleaning, trash disposal etc	9/15/2018 4:08 PM
132	n/a	9/15/2018 1:17 PM
133	benches and trash cans	9/15/2018 12:08 PM
134	What opportunities??	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
135	?	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
136	They're beautiful & well kept. The City Beach would use a few more toys for children though...more swings, slides, etc.	9/15/2018 10:43 AM
137	They are fine	9/15/2018 8:40 AM
138	Need better foodtrucks	9/15/2018 8:38 AM
139	Simply that they are there	9/15/2018 8:20 AM
140	Good variety. Easily accessible	9/15/2018 7:01 AM
141	I have seen improvements	9/15/2018 6:34 AM
142	I have no children so I walk to the lakefront and sit at the transient marina park or go to the river by the beach parking lot. It's peaceful and fun to watch the birds.	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
143	Love Oselka park, love the sculptures on the way to the beach	9/14/2018 10:46 PM

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144	Love the natural beauty. More bike racks at the beach to encourage biking and bike path over bridge to city beach. It's just ends in town which is silly. I have young kids but once we come to town - we bike everywhere. I want them to hop on bikes instead of in a car.	9/14/2018 10:36 PM
145	The beach, the river and wetlands, but they could be enhanced..	9/14/2018 10:22 PM
146	Not aware any exist	9/14/2018 8:45 PM
147	All good	9/14/2018 7:44 PM
148	New Buffalo has put forth minimal effort to create clean parks and green space. Our focus should be #1 the beach area, with a seawall, comfortable seating, a covered pavilion where the ugly, concrete block eyesore is located for the senior citizens can enjoy the view of the lake and sunset. Remove the horrid bathrooms to the backside of the parking lot, perhaps by the new seawall. BELIEVE ME, if someone needs to use the bathroom, they will walk a mere 100 feet to use the bathroom. NB doesn't have to compete with S.Joe's beach. We want our own natural, uncomplicated park. A pavilion on the beach end of the parking lot could also be used for entertainment, for picnicking, for relaxing in the cool breeze. So many advantages. Oselka Park is magnificent. It needs more equipment for the children with a permanent covering. It sits in the blazing sun heating up the metal to burn children's skin. Turtle Pond doesn't look like a park. The entrance is not inviting. The dog park is a joke. Who would go to a hidden area to let their dogs run? I personally think it's unsafe.	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
149	Don't know	9/14/2018 6:58 PM
150	NEED MORE ACTIVITIES HERE FOR RESIDENT CHILDREN OF ALL AGE GROUPS AND CHILDREN OF TOURISTS ESPECIALLY FOR USE ON NON-BEACH DAYS AND IN ALL SEASONS.	9/14/2018 6:38 PM
151	I like that all of the parks are open, and can be easily walked or biked too.	9/14/2018 5:45 PM
152	They put our local youth to work in the summer under management that cares. Kristen is awesome!	9/14/2018 4:55 PM
153	NA	9/14/2018 4:20 PM
154	available throughout the community	9/14/2018 4:10 PM
155	They are being maintained continuously throughout the day.	9/14/2018 3:43 PM
156	The City is planning on working on them. Turtle Pond needs trail fixing and info signs. The City Beach playground equipment is broken. The dog park is littered with tourist dog poop that is not picked up (our dog picked up a South American worm from there 2 years ago so we don't go anymore).	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
157	Variety; Lakefront areas available	9/14/2018 3:13 PM
158	With the new downtown development, there is more awareness to improve and enhance others areas.to	9/14/2018 2:55 PM
159	Nice amenities	9/14/2018 2:50 PM
160	The endless possibilities	9/14/2018 2:43 PM
161	Variety	9/14/2018 2:42 PM
162	Not much	9/14/2018 2:41 PM
163	There is ample land in the city limits to add new parks	9/14/2018 2:37 PM
164	I rarely use the parks.	9/14/2018 2:20 PM
165	Beach with lifeguard	9/14/2018 2:19 PM
166	They are usually clean when we go.	9/14/2018 2:15 PM
167	Utilize the beautiful Lake Michigan	9/14/2018 2:09 PM
168	Dog Park	9/14/2018 1:00 PM

Q23 What I don't like about the City's Parks & Recreation Opportunities?

Answered: 172 Skipped: 114

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Poor/no upkeep of baseball/softball fields. No walking or biking trails	10/13/2018 11:10 AM
2	Kids are not taken care of	10/13/2018 12:03 AM
3	parks are too remote for regular use (Oselka, Dog Park, Turtle area). Downtown areas are shabby, rundown, unattractive, and inadequate (Riverfront, approaches to beachfront, Lions Park)	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
4	no opinion	10/11/2018 6:33 PM
5	Nothing	10/11/2018 4:52 PM
6	Maybe clean the water a little better	10/11/2018 2:30 PM
7	Bike path from downtown to beach. Encourage healthy lifestyle of walking and biking	10/11/2018 5:13 AM
8	beach (sand) needs consistent maintenance daily	10/10/2018 10:00 PM
9	You choose to only focus on 2nd homeowners	10/10/2018 6:08 PM
10	Should be available in May and September	10/10/2018 4:53 PM
11	No lifeguards	10/10/2018 4:52 PM
12	City should take over the space on Whittaker and Merchant. Would make a great public space.	10/10/2018 4:40 PM
13	We need a community pool	10/10/2018 4:24 PM
14	ok with existing	10/10/2018 3:58 PM
15	More pickle ball. Organized activities to draw in more people.	10/10/2018 1:40 PM
16	Not aware	10/10/2018 1:35 PM
17	NA	10/10/2018 1:12 PM
18	Lack of personnel in the busy months	10/10/2018 12:10 PM
19	Poor condition of beach. Never raked or maintained, overgrown. Old benches and parts of dunewalk damaged. Beach concessions inadequate, always closed, missing the sunset crowd.	10/10/2018 11:28 AM
20	overcrowded beach	10/10/2018 11:21 AM
21	Not enough of them and the overall averageness .	10/10/2018 11:05 AM
22	The city has done a terrible job of upkeep to the park areas. Park millage should go to parks, not dredging as the city manager says is allowed.	10/10/2018 8:14 AM
23	Need to get the word out somehow so people know where there located map signs or like by the lake a billboard with a map showing there location	10/9/2018 11:28 PM
24	Osella Park has broken slide which could injure children but no one has yet fixed this problem that has existed for five years or more! Other broken equipment also needs replacement	10/9/2018 11:02 PM
25	Need something in town as a draw year round. Similar to silver beach	10/9/2018 10:48 PM
26	Weeds, cracking sidewalks, dead trees, geese shit everywhere, beach is really nasty, can you clean it some time?	10/9/2018 8:39 PM
27	The dog park is unacceptably small remote and people often leave Dog waste. With increased density in the city, and with younger people often having dogs, a more recreational dog park with swimming would be ideal. We go to a dog park in Michigan city more often than not. We use hardly any parks in the system and a dog park is important.	10/9/2018 6:21 PM
28	No opinion	10/9/2018 6:14 PM
29	Bike paths not close to downtown area	10/9/2018 4:55 PM

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30	Grossly inadequate handicap accessibility	10/9/2018 3:05 PM
31	No opinion	10/9/2018 2:28 PM
32	Several are in need of renovation and improvement.	10/9/2018 2:08 PM
33	I think the city has done a wonderful job with our parks.	10/9/2018 2:03 PM
34	beach and transient marina area could both be so much better - need a public restroom closer to downtown, need more winter opportunities - eg. ice rink, indoor areas, etc.	10/9/2018 1:58 PM
35	They don't utilize their best asset, the beach. They need to look at it like a business and make it one of the best kept most amazing beaches in the area. Drive revenue and jobs to the city. Could be top notch but feels not well maintained.	10/9/2018 1:35 PM
36	Township residents should be able to get a beach pass also just not city residents	10/9/2018 1:30 PM
37	Inadequate beach parking and restrooms, and lack of smooth walking paths along the river.	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
38	Beach is improving but trash issues. Needs to be raked more often. Seems like a lot of ugly signage.	10/9/2018 12:40 PM
39	The park at the beach could use some improvement. Kids got hurt this summer because of concrete on corners was uncovered by sand. Safety needs to be priority.	10/9/2018 12:00 PM
40	Need more variety in the summer festivities.	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
41	Lack of bike and walking trails	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
42	Poor maintenance beach and Lion's park	10/9/2018 10:58 AM
43	no opinion	10/9/2018 10:50 AM
44	Unsafe bike lanes	10/9/2018 10:30 AM
45	Lack of planned activities	10/9/2018 10:17 AM
46	No comment	10/9/2018 9:51 AM
47	Not kept clean. The beach is horribly maintained.	10/9/2018 9:40 AM
48	there arent any	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
49	Need separate bridge for pedestrian and bikes between downtown and beach. Need to move parking lot away from Beach and increase size of public beach and have park continuous with Beach.	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
50	Not enough trails. Walking on the beach is no longer allowed.	10/9/2018 9:34 AM
51	network of park opportunities not safely available via bike or hiking/walking	10/8/2018 5:29 AM
52	The Pavilion at Oselka Park is disgusting with the bird droppings. We need something similar to what the township has with the amphitheater for entertainment. This park could use a lot of improvements.	10/6/2018 10:33 AM
53	Not well maintained	10/5/2018 10:45 PM
54	Are parks (oselka) kids park need updates! We need more for are kids !	10/4/2018 12:07 PM
55	Not user friendly	10/3/2018 10:25 AM
56	Lack of trees at Oselka Park, need better restrooms at beach	10/3/2018 9:34 AM
57	See above	10/2/2018 3:50 PM
58	No biking or hiking trails	10/2/2018 2:45 PM
59	Need more garbage cans and emptying of them	10/2/2018 1:43 PM
60	n/a	10/2/2018 12:33 PM
61	Nothing for kids.	10/2/2018 11:19 AM
62	Wish Park and Parking Lot at Beach were reversed :-)	10/2/2018 11:08 AM
63	Nothing in particular. Would love to see an upgraded playground on the beach	10/2/2018 11:07 AM
64	Not enough walking trails	10/1/2018 9:11 PM

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65	I would like to see more trees planted, and how about some flowers someplace, Oselka park looks is the ugliest place in town, well except that giant hole downtown that has a fence around it. the bathrooms at the beach is like a third world country, I would rather use a portal potty.	10/1/2018 7:15 PM
66	nothing	10/1/2018 5:56 PM
67	0	10/1/2018 5:05 PM
68	Too crowded or to expensive for locals to use	10/1/2018 4:57 PM
69	no upkeep, no maintenance, terrible green spaces, no paths or benches near beautiful sculptures	10/1/2018 3:35 PM
70	Need nice public restroom in town.	10/1/2018 3:26 PM
71	Not always thinking of the year round residents just the tourist	10/1/2018 11:47 AM
72	Always full- local can't enjoy	9/30/2018 9:34 PM
73	Residents have to pay to park	9/30/2018 7:53 PM
74	Don't use	9/30/2018 2:38 PM
75	Oselka Park needs upkeep. Softball fields are not very well kept, especially the younger girls field.	9/30/2018 12:49 PM
76	The beach area	9/29/2018 2:23 PM
77	What opportunities??	9/29/2018 8:21 AM
78	Sd	9/28/2018 8:54 PM
79	The playground/pavilion area at the beach needs a major makeover	9/28/2018 6:25 PM
80	Hiking trails inadequately available	9/28/2018 5:53 PM
81	Too crowded, too expensive, very limited in parks, goose poop	9/28/2018 5:04 PM
82	There should be a indoor pool..	9/28/2018 4:39 PM
83	I'd like a community indoor/outdoor pool!	9/28/2018 4:19 PM
84	Not accessable for the local people	9/28/2018 3:35 PM
85	What I said in 22	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
86	No swimming pool. Need swimming skillsets for the kids (and myself). Don't like having to drive to Laporte or Michigan City...with the beaches right here, we need to all know proper swimming methods.	9/28/2018 2:27 PM
87	Not away of some of the areas	9/28/2018 2:11 PM
88	Focus on the kids	9/28/2018 2:08 PM
89	Na	9/28/2018 2:07 PM
90	beach is inadequate and costly. Need more bike paths to make riding on streets safer	9/28/2018 1:28 PM
91	The beach is expensive in the summer	9/28/2018 1:26 PM
92	No public playground. Only at schools.	9/28/2018 1:17 PM
93	The restrooms at the beach, wish the boardwalk was a bit longer	9/28/2018 1:16 PM
94	Much of it caters to the tourists vs. the city residents.	9/28/2018 1:15 PM
95	Lack of usage of Lion's Pavilion area...too much green space that isn't used to its full potential. Could add a splash pad and music pavilion to that area, also could add additional parking for the beach in that area.	9/28/2018 1:09 PM
96	The parks are mowed, that's it. Oselka rain gardens look awful! They were pretty a few years ago.	9/28/2018 1:03 PM
97	beach area seems dumpy sometimes	9/28/2018 12:54 PM
98	No opinion	9/28/2018 12:53 PM
99	Some of them are too small. The beach is too busy in the summer and even residents have to pay to park.	9/28/2018 12:52 PM
100	Unsure	9/28/2018 12:51 PM

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101	Lions park at the beach is an embarrassment and an eyesore.	9/28/2018 12:42 PM
102	Lack of trails	9/28/2018 12:33 PM
103	All the tourists	9/28/2018 12:31 PM
104	There is nothing I do not like	9/28/2018 12:30 PM
105	It's made for tourists, it's focus more on the upper class in the community and limits locals in lower classes.	9/28/2018 12:29 PM
106	Want running trails	9/28/2018 12:27 PM
107	The parking lot at the beach is on the wrong side of the street. The beauty of the beach is compromised with vehicles blocking the line of sight. Put parking on the side WITHOUT the water and restore the beauty at the beach. Look at other beaches in Michigan's small beach communities for ideas! This is the MOST important consideration, in my opinion.	9/27/2018 11:21 AM
108	The city employees changed the cash collection policy for the beach parking lot so they can count the cash at the beach while sitting in city vehicles instead of depositing it directly to the bank. This might be where some of the restricted millage money has gone, to hide the fact money is being embezzled.	9/26/2018 6:28 PM
109	No programs, need for improvements at beach/lakefront.	9/25/2018 3:55 PM
110	See above	9/25/2018 1:04 PM
111	The rain gardens at Oselka park look horrible.	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
112	Lack of facilities and programs for young and old, outdated beach amenities, and sadly a lack of community involvement.	9/24/2018 5:56 PM
113	Isn't maintained well at all the facilities are outdated at the beach, marina, and boat launch the beach is not well kept. The beach needs fresh concessions and not a food truck. Serious geese problem poop everywhere! Public beach should have a gatehouse attendant and not a kiosk machine its more personal and welcoming.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
114	The beach bathrooms and concession stand could be so much nicer.	9/20/2018 5:55 PM
115	There's not enough for teens to do. We need to bring back a bowling alley or skating rink. I truly believe this will keep some of them out of trouble and bring in some extra money for the community.	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
116	Lion's Park has a ton of potential and is in need of an overhaul.	9/19/2018 9:54 PM
117	NA	9/19/2018 9:19 PM
118	No experienced qualified person in charge of the Parks Dept	9/19/2018 8:59 PM
119	Poorly maintained playground at the beach. Outdated Concession stand at the beachfront, under repaired dunewalk	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
120	Poor investment of our natural resources, such as park restrooms, food stand and public restrooms in general.	9/19/2018 10:36 AM
121	Once you go over bridge towards beach I feel there could be more. Not sure what that 'more' is but something.	9/19/2018 8:53 AM
122	parking fee at beach and lack of beachgoers parking	9/18/2018 9:13 PM
123	to much signage and no rule enforcement	9/18/2018 5:23 PM
124	Fix the streets before you worry about the parks	9/18/2018 2:06 PM
125	More investment needed in major updates at the beach and the beachfront park	9/17/2018 6:44 PM
126	Pinch at the bridge over the river for walkers	9/17/2018 2:52 PM
127	more bike lanes and better road condition..	9/17/2018 9:43 AM
128	We need more bike paths	9/16/2018 6:18 PM
129	Need more	9/16/2018 10:24 AM
130	In poor condition	9/15/2018 10:04 PM
131	More stuff for kids	9/15/2018 8:45 PM

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

132	I would just prefer to have more dedicated non-developed open spaces.	9/15/2018 7:35 PM
133	congestion at city beach- too many people ruins experience Warren Dunes does it	9/15/2018 4:08 PM
134	n/a	9/15/2018 1:17 PM
135	no poor weather facilities, no senior facilities, poor handicap access to beach water's edge	9/15/2018 12:08 PM
136	The city has failed with regards to parks - Oselka is off the beaten path and isn't used, rain garden is host to invasive species, no one is overseeing parks or proper care and maintenance, the beach is filthy, lack of lifeguards, funding is mismanaged or perhaps misappropriated, lack of attractive park settings, lack of clean public restrooms, lack of green areas, lack of parking, streets now interfere with traffic flow, lack of honest city personnel to oversee parks programs	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
137	?	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
138	Nothing	9/15/2018 10:43 AM
139	Develop Lyons park better, restrooms, better trees, not cottonwood. More family friendly, grills picnic tables. Instead of it being empty space for 90% of the season.	9/15/2018 10:08 AM
140	No fish cleaning station at Boat launch or municipal marina	9/15/2018 8:40 AM
141	Needle c one center	9/15/2018 8:38 AM
142	Nothing I can think of	9/15/2018 8:20 AM
143	Hard to find information in where they are and what's happening	9/15/2018 7:01 AM
144	Better bathrooms needed at beach.	9/15/2018 6:34 AM
145	Need more benches and shady areas.	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
146	Maintenance at beach. Lack of benches and condition at beach. Lions park underutilized. No play area.	9/15/2018 12:35 AM
147	Beach area/ parking lot and concession stand definitely need an overhaul	9/14/2018 10:46 PM
148	The splash pad and basketball courts are so far from the downtown. Much prefer something the kids could safely walk or bike to on the lakeside of 12 and near downtown - maybe by fire station. Soccer fields	9/14/2018 10:36 PM
149	More public restrooms and the one at the beach. I can't rent a sailboat. Lions park pavilion needs to be improved.	9/14/2018 10:22 PM
150	Lack thereof	9/14/2018 8:45 PM
151	Beach bathrooms a disaster	9/14/2018 7:44 PM
152	The beach area is dismal, weedy, overgrown, uncomfortable, dirty and old. The river area is scummy, loaded with duck poop and dilapidated, broken benches with weeds and trash. I've never seen our river area - the entrance to our beach area - look so awful. Why are scrub trees allowed to cover the area by the bridge? That is the entrance to our community "Jewel" the beach, which harbors, trash, uneven paths, animals that could harm children or visitors. It makes me think NB is a LAZY city not spending their money appropriately plus charging an insane \$12. for the look of a dump. The Dog Park is located in a ridiculously, secluded area that I would be afraid to go to by myself. Who's idea was that to locate it in "Nowhere's Ville? I couldn't even direct a visitor where it's located it is so far away from everything. Turtle Pond doesn't look like a park. It's entrance is uninteresting, blah-ish, not an inviting park.	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
153	Don't know	9/14/2018 6:58 PM
154	CONSTANT COMPLAINTS BY TOURISTS THAT THERE IS NO TRUE ACTIVITY OTHER THAN BEACH FOR VISITORS TO DO HERE...I.E. ST. JOE HAS CHILDRENS MUSEUMS, SPLASHPAD AND CAROUSEL	9/14/2018 6:38 PM
155	Some of the parks feel very isolated from each other, or so close to people's homes that it's unclear where to park to use them.	9/14/2018 5:45 PM
156	Too crowded for locals, city and township residents to use. Beach pass for twp residents is \$50+, and a waste of money because there is not enough parking to justify using our local beach. I get a recreational passport for our state park for \$12 a year and use Warren dunes. Cleaner, more facilities and even on the most crowded days, there is still parking!	9/14/2018 4:55 PM
157	Too many signs at beach	9/14/2018 4:53 PM

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

158	NA	9/14/2018 4:20 PM
159	no rec center	9/14/2018 4:10 PM
160	The aging of stairs and other areas.	9/14/2018 3:43 PM
161	See No. 22.	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
162	Need to beautify; add landscaping; add more summer events/festivals	9/14/2018 3:13 PM
163	Available for the kids	9/14/2018 2:43 PM
164	Limited signage	9/14/2018 2:42 PM
165	No one knows where things are if you aren't told by a neighbor. Seems like run by a group of insiders with no concern for the general public.	9/14/2018 2:41 PM
166	not enough	9/14/2018 2:37 PM
167	There is no significant pavilion for outdoor performances. There are relatively few nature trails for walking.	9/14/2018 2:20 PM
168	No public pool or exercise classes for adults	9/14/2018 2:19 PM
169	Not there enough to enjoy!	9/14/2018 2:15 PM
170	Cost to the residents	9/14/2018 2:12 PM
171	Average	9/14/2018 2:09 PM
172	Need more parks with with playground equipment like at Township Park, dedicated bike/walking trails.	9/14/2018 1:00 PM

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

Q24 What improvements or additional services do you suggest for the City's Parks? Please indicate if for a specific park.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 112

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Improved baseball/softball fields with scoreboards and maintained by the city. An indoor/outdoor aquatic center	10/13/2018 11:10 AM
2	Recreational activities led by a naturalist at the lakefront	10/13/2018 12:03 AM
3	Complete renewal and upgrade to Lakefront area should take place. Coordinate Riverfront Park, Lions Park, and public facilities at beach so visitors and residents enjoy a more consistent, upscale look and improved amenities. Existing buildings are inadequate and run-down. park benches and picnic tables are rotting away. concrete sidewalks and street/parking lot are broken and potholed. The entire area - which should be the gem of New Buffalo - is shabby and fails to inspire. A rusty food truck, a pile of broken lamp posts, a non-functional bathhouse -- nothing exists to attract visitors to spend more time -- AND MONEY -- when they are here. ALSO - it is imperative that parking and handling visitors be improved and coordinated. Poorly marked and identified parking areas, and no real plan for how to move people around is a detriment to the town. I have stood out on Whittaker and listened to people complain about parking problems, traffic, etc -- and that should not be an issue. Clear instructions, and roaming parking assistants during the weekends would route traffic more efficiently and minimize the clogging of the streets down closer to Water St, the bridge and beach. We need visitors talking about how great things are in New Buffalo -- and spending more time and money -- while they are here. NOT complaining about how disorganized things are.	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
4	parking	10/11/2018 6:33 PM
5	None	10/11/2018 4:52 PM
6	Would love to see a putt putt	10/11/2018 3:36 PM
7	Nothing	10/11/2018 2:30 PM
8	Develop area by beach. Swing set. Bathrooms. Covered eating area.	10/11/2018 1:13 PM
9	More beach	10/11/2018 5:32 AM
10	Downtown city park w soccer fields, basketball etc. the township one you have to drive to so not accessible to kids that live in downtown. Better bike paths to encourage recreational biking, sidewalks end in us 12 - and other places in city - unite the paths.	10/11/2018 5:13 AM
11	Bi-monthly events at Lions	10/10/2018 10:00 PM
12	Do a much better job keeping baseball fields kept up and place scoreboards at each field.	10/10/2018 6:08 PM
13	Frisbee golf Not sure where	10/10/2018 4:53 PM
14	Create more walking and bike trails/roads. Create safe barriers in harbor for non-motorized watercraft	10/10/2018 4:52 PM
15	We need a community pool	10/10/2018 4:24 PM
16	none	10/10/2018 3:58 PM
17	Safer and connected bike lanes. Clubs or activities for pickle ball, biking, walking, jogging. Sponsored fitness classes.	10/10/2018 1:40 PM
18	Water fountain and toilets	10/10/2018 1:35 PM
19	We would love to see more non-motorized water use access and rental availability. The City's public boat launch would be ideal for a kayak rental concession, where paddlers could go upriver into the marsh, where the river is perfect for paddling and there is limited motorized watercraft.	10/10/2018 1:12 PM
20	?	10/10/2018 12:10 PM
21	General maintenance seems to be lacking, specifically the beach	10/10/2018 11:28 AM

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

22	Allowing Kayak rentals on the Galien at the boat launch	10/10/2018 11:21 AM
23	The use of small pocket park like areas in and around town. Also improvements made at the beach a more extensive area for use by children, bathroom improvements and learning experiences related to the historical value of New Buffalo and the science/nature experience i.e. indigenous wildlife, plants and ecosystem of the lake and beach.	10/10/2018 11:05 AM
24	Oselka park has tremendous possibilities. But city only mows lawn and does not improve, including removal of dead trees. The sled hill could be a reverse amphitheater with movie nights, could have more playground equip there, and detention/retention areas ar a mess and need to be cleaned and maintained.	10/10/2018 8:14 AM
25	Lions park make the praviilion like the one in Michigan city by the beach with an upper deck and have a snack bar . So people can sit and enjoy the lake. Like stray dog restaurant if they didn't have there upper deck not as many people would go to it . So that would be a plus for the park and create money for the town	10/9/2018 11:28 PM
26	Oselka Park has broken slides and other broken playground equipment! Children could be badly injured or even hospitalized!! With all the tax dollars why can't these items be replaced or fixed.	10/9/2018 11:02 PM
27	Pavilion for movie night, dog night, car night, etc. other than beach, nothing in town to draw people	10/9/2018 10:48 PM
28	Love to see a clean beach with out all the paper all over the place.	10/9/2018 8:39 PM
29	Can the beach have an occasional dog swim time? Sundays at 7:30 am for an hour? All this water and nowhere to swim. "Bark on the Beach"!	10/9/2018 6:21 PM
30	N/A	10/9/2018 4:55 PM
31	At the lake I cannot walk far enough to swim in designated area. Why should I need to make an appointment for sand wheelchair (which is probably too narrow for me anyway) to be able to wade and swim? Cannot step up high enough to get up onto the lakefront benches to sit on them. The sand under them eroded away causing a much higher step up required to use the benches, especially all but the one or two benches closest to the parking exit gate. Handicap accessibility is a huge problem in all parks and rec areas. Personally I have more limited walking lengths and durations.	10/9/2018 3:05 PM
32	New playground equipment at public beach. Such an eyesore!	10/9/2018 3:04 PM
33	More bike and hiking trails.	10/9/2018 2:39 PM
34	The beach front, boat launch, Lions park, and riverfront areas need to be re-envisioned to improve visitor/resident experience and function.	10/9/2018 2:08 PM
35	New pavilion at the beach...with larger bathrooms and possible eating area as well as an upstairs viewing deck.	10/9/2018 2:03 PM
36	ice rink, indoor activities for winter or rainy days, public restroom in public marina area	10/9/2018 1:58 PM
37	We need more and better green space closer to downtown in walking distance. The parks by the beach aren't always clean and family-friendly, plus there aren't really any trees, and everything is surrounded by noise and traffic. There are such beautiful park spaces in Kalamazoo, Three Oaks, etc., that offer culture + nature and more privacy and safety for picnics, relaxing, hanging out with friends etc.	10/9/2018 1:41 PM
38	Make the beach amazing, high end restaurant, fire pits at night, music at night, bar, string lights. Extremely well kept. High end quality and style.	10/9/2018 1:35 PM
39	I suggest downtown should have a splash pad - park with shade trees and a PUBLIC BATHROOM not down at the marina up by the businesses	10/9/2018 1:30 PM
40	We need a paved walking path along the channel and down to the shoreline. We also either need to make the breakwater rocks inaccessible or to make a better viewing walkway/viewing platform/fishing spot out there. This would help prevent water emergencies.	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
41	Expand boardwalk on beach. Would be nice if it at the end it went further to the right. Lions park: It would be nice to add boardwalk from street to the pavilion. Just seems messy part sand, part weeds hard for elderly or people with walking issues to get inside the pavilion	10/9/2018 12:40 PM
42	Ice rink would be great.	10/9/2018 12:00 PM
43	Add bike and walking trails	10/9/2018 11:41 AM

City of New Buffalo Recreation Plan Public Input Survey

44	Lion's Park walking to it accessibility and ease of walking. Public Beach same as above plus clean up	10/9/2018 10:58 AM
45	no opinion	10/9/2018 10:50 AM
46	Undeveloped block on Whittaker/Mechanic/Merchant could be made into a beautiful park with water features, a gazebo, green/nature playground. What an eye sore!!	10/9/2018 10:30 AM
47	Planned activities for youth	10/9/2018 10:17 AM
48	No comment	10/9/2018 9:51 AM
49	A far better maintenance plan. Our parks and beaches should be kept pristine. I walk our beaches and at times they are simply disgusting. We also need to resolve the walkway over the bridge to and from the beaches as it is unsafe having that many people on one sidewalk with traffic..	10/9/2018 9:40 AM
50	a boardwalk where the rocks are on the lake	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
51	Need separate bridge for pedestrian and bikes between downtown and beach. Need to move parking lot away from Beach and increase size of public beach and have park continuous with Beach.	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
52	A bike / walking trail would be nice	10/9/2018 9:34 AM
53	1) The sidewalk access to the beach needs to be expanded and improved. 2) Beach front property along the channel needs improvement much like the City of Holland, MI. 3) Sloped grassy area in front of transient marina would be a great place for a sitting area and band shell area. 4) Bike/hiking trails connecting New Buffalo to other trail systems would enhance life in NB and attract others from outside the region.	10/8/2018 5:29 AM
54	Better landscaping from the bridge to city beach.	10/6/2018 5:17 PM
55	Amphitheater type setting or place for music at Oselka Park. Bring in new swings at the beach playground.	10/6/2018 10:33 AM
56	Beach cleaned At sunset Memorial Day till Labor Day play Taps. Done in Bridgeman... awesome! Consistently at concession stand... never open!! Food trucks great idea but never open!! Area along river leading to beach should be landscaped! Look at South Haven!	10/5/2018 10:45 PM
57	Not well groomed ! Nothing to draw people in .	10/4/2018 12:07 PM
58	The City is not a Park friendly place. Major changes need to be made in the priority we put on Parks and their role in making our City an inviting place to live and visit.	10/3/2018 10:25 AM
59	More trees, new public restroom at beach. Updated riverfront park and pedestrian bridge	10/3/2018 9:34 AM
60	Fee base for all amenities	10/2/2018 3:50 PM
61	Better signage, prettier landscaping, hiking trails, bike trails connecting to neighboring communities	10/2/2018 2:45 PM
62	I would love for New Buffalo to have a Community pool for all ages. I would love to see aerobic classes at the beach or library or (even better) in a Community Center for all.	10/2/2018 12:33 PM
63	A facility for winter activities on weekends or anytime	10/2/2018 11:19 AM
64	Improve Bathrooms and Marina	10/2/2018 11:08 AM
65	Better playground at the beach. Possibly a playground at the trasient marina	10/2/2018 11:07 AM
66	We would like to see bathrooms, flowers, trees, something pretty, anything besides pavement.	10/1/2018 7:15 PM
67	none	10/1/2018 5:56 PM
68	None	10/1/2018 5:05 PM
69	To make beach more for locals and easier access for us.	10/1/2018 4:57 PM
70	More hiking/walking trails- bike share program/network. Winter sports (cross country skiing, sledding, ice rink etc	10/1/2018 4:34 PM
71	Beach improvements. Have the Army Corp pay for all the beaches that they ruined south of the Marina	10/1/2018 3:50 PM
72	update Lions park to accommodate more events. Update rivefront to add walkways, landscaping, benches to showcase sculptures.	10/1/2018 3:35 PM

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73	Get rid of huge empty lot in town...an eyesore that is hurting the town.	10/1/2018 3:26 PM
74	a walking path near beach, a map of trails both walking and bike. rollerblading path. a community card just for full time residents for discounts	10/1/2018 11:47 AM
75	?	9/30/2018 9:34 PM
76	There's nothing to do in this town as it New buffalo needs to take notes from three oaks and take a look at timber town	9/30/2018 7:53 PM
77	Public pool for swim lessons.	9/30/2018 7:58 AM
78	The beach needs major improvements from traffic flow, parking, food, bathrooms and the pavilion.	9/29/2018 2:23 PM
79	Lions club pavilion area is a mess. Hardly any maintenance to the this park what so ever. Seems to me that you have a lot of wasted space for parking. You seem to have more trailer parking for boats. Every time I go by there in the summer I do not see that many boat trailers there and could utilize it for more beach parking. When is a decent walkway or sidewalk going to be installed going over the bridge. Should be to walk ways NOT ONE. Surprised no one has got hurt yet or hit by a car walking over the bridge	9/29/2018 8:21 AM
80	Build a indoor pool and rec center with hand ball inside tennis basket ball but most importantly a pool. Bridgeman has one and that's where we have to go for lessons and soccer.	9/28/2018 11:30 PM
81	Better hiking trails	9/28/2018 8:54 PM
82	Lions park needs a new pavilion something similar to the township park would be nice. Charge a fee to rent it, needs restrooms, kitchen area and it's own parking area/concert area for parties and events. Currently people camp out there all day long in the summer	9/28/2018 6:25 PM
83	No opinion	9/28/2018 5:53 PM
84	Beach- keep cleaner Turtle pond- more trails with better walk ways	9/28/2018 5:04 PM
85	Indoor pool.. Either at the high school or on some other new facility.. This town needs a pool..	9/28/2018 4:39 PM
86	Much better landscaping is needed, more flowers, more pretty shrubs, the lakefront looks drab, especially lions park, St Joe is far ahead of NB in attracting tourists because it's so pretty.	9/28/2018 4:19 PM
87	A beach for residents	9/28/2018 3:35 PM
88	-Beach play equipment updated -oselka play equipment repaired	9/28/2018 2:45 PM
89	More handicap equipment.	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
90	Ice rink at lake (didn't know Oselka had one, we became full-time residents this summer)	9/28/2018 2:27 PM
91	I don't have any	9/28/2018 2:11 PM
92	Swimming lessons After school rec activities More rec sports geared towards children/ teens	9/28/2018 2:08 PM
93	Na	9/28/2018 2:07 PM
94	bike paths. Update and advertise dog part	9/28/2018 1:28 PM
95	N/a	9/28/2018 1:26 PM
96	New playground at the beach or swings and a beachfront Cafe	9/28/2018 1:16 PM
97	A rec center with a pool could be developed with the NBAS which would afford many opportunities for local residents not only with offerings but also limited employment opportunities.	9/28/2018 1:15 PM
98	More of a children's park/splash pad, beach parking and music pavilion at Lion's pavilion area. Also allow more businesses to offer food (trucks) /drinks at the beach (use the lion's pavilion greenspace for more.	9/28/2018 1:09 PM
99	I love to bike ride, but not on the roads. I'd love to see more paved off road bike paths.	9/28/2018 1:06 PM
100	Create parks on the big empty lot at light. Do something, anything, with the fenced eyesore snack in the middle of town.	9/28/2018 1:03 PM
101	No opinion	9/28/2018 12:53 PM
102	The park and splash pad area could be a little bigger. It'd be nice if there were some educational places to take young children to year round, more than just the library, that we as adults could have fun at too.	9/28/2018 12:52 PM

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103	Unsure	9/28/2018 12:51 PM
104	Lions Park Pavilion should be demolished, new pavilion built for music venues, splash pad. Right now it is embarrassing. Looks like NB in 1960. Cmon!	9/28/2018 12:42 PM
105	Don't know	9/28/2018 12:31 PM
106	none	9/28/2018 12:30 PM
107	Running trails	9/28/2018 12:27 PM
108	See #23. The beach is our most valuable resource. Beautify the beach. Move the vehicles to the other side of the road.	9/27/2018 11:21 AM
109	Beach front: Keep the beach clean, build new bathrooms with showers. Make the beach accessible by having a boardwalk all the way to the water. Keep lifeguards full time, New playground equipment at the beach and in Oselka Park. Tear down Lion's Park shelter and replace with a shelter that has bathrooms and include a space for outdoor concerts. Fix the sidewalks at Oselka Park. Fill in at least of the "rain gardens" at Oselka Park and then remove all weeds and trees from the ones that are left - installing a fence around them. Put in lots more trees in Oselka Park so that when walking, there is shade. Remove the dead trees and add flowers and shrubs. Make Oselka Park pretty. We should not be asked to give more tax dollars so the employees can embezzle.	9/26/2018 6:28 PM
110	The City needs to plan and run programs, especially at Oselka Park. More Skate Park equipment and move the pickleball courts. Most of all, WE NEED A POOL and to teach swimming and Lake Michigan safety.	9/25/2018 3:55 PM
111	We need Beach and lifeguards and beach patrol. There are continual issues with jet skiers encroaching on swim area within buoys and swimmers jumping off jetty .	9/25/2018 2:54 PM
112	The number one thing that should be done is going back to the way cash was collected at the beach - it was taken directly to the bank for deposited, now the park manager counts the cash at the beach and the city is proposing that park revenue will drop more than several hundred thousands dollars. Ensuring that embezzling can't be done by park employees would be the number on service to the community. When they stop the drain of beach parking lot fees, they should have enough money to continue having full-time lifeguards.	9/25/2018 1:04 PM
113	I would like to see improvements made at Oselka park made, it looks horrible, the rain parks have trees growing in them. I would love to see natural flowers there.	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
114	I think the park system can be expanded to include a Community Center with a nearby Green-space/Amphitheater/Splash Pad and/or an Ice Rink/Multi-Purpose Structure for Farmer's Markets and Events. The City Beach could definitely use improvements: new concession stand/restrooms, more parking or a shuttle service. Maybe the Amphitheater and Splash-pad could be down at Lions Park, one to model off of would be in Valparaiso with their Central Park Plaza. If a Community Center goes in at St. Mary's School (with the help of my business - Equilibrium Fitness and the YMCA) we could set-up a permanent outdoor structure behind the vet office for skating/hockey in the winter and Farmer's Markets/Events in the Spring/Summer (Like Rochester, Ann Arbor, Flint, and Midland). I'd love to see more Rec Sports Programs for young and old as well. It would be nice to also collaborate with all the other existing parks systems in Harbor Country for such a program to flourish. No need to re-invent the wheel. Thank you for all that you do! - Katie Maroney	9/24/2018 5:56 PM
115	Walking and bike trails that are non-motorized. New facilities at all three locations--beach, marina, and boat launch.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
116	Above	9/20/2018 5:55 PM
117	A community pool would be great for those who have difficulty accessing the beach. If it we're indoor it would be a great thing to have in tg winter too. Bridgman has one and I would love to see one here.	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
118	Lion's Park overhaul needed. Parking at boat launch is never full. Open that up for additional beach parking.	9/19/2018 9:54 PM
119	NA	9/19/2018 9:19 PM
120	Hire an experienced qualified person to be in charge of the Parks Dept.	9/19/2018 8:59 PM

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121	Lifeguard at the beach. A new concession stand with restrooms and showers at beach, new restrooms at boat ramp, pedestrian bridge over Galien river. A Riverwalk along harbor. Docking along harbor. Improved playground at beach, spray pool at lakefront area, improvements at Lions Park, including an ice rink and band shell/stage and additional landscaping, & bathrooms. An ADA walkway to the water at the beachfront from the parking lot. Riverfront seating and porch-type swing sets.	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
122	Public restrooms, showers, food/snack stand at city beach. Identified paddle board/kayak locations with storage for them and information boards on where they can walk to or get transportation. Maybe bike rentals there. We need to appeal to the outdoor locals and visitors more. They are going elsewhere for it.	9/19/2018 10:36 AM
123	more music	9/18/2018 9:13 PM
124	Transient Marina: Remove the scrub trees by the bridge that are obstructing New Buffalo's biggest asset, the lake.	9/18/2018 2:09 PM
125	Wi-fi would be beneficial. Like it or not, it's what people, especially young people, are attracted to today	9/18/2018 2:06 PM
126	Lakefront Park redevelopment intentionally designed to support markets, fairs, festivals and events	9/18/2018 10:47 AM
127	Remove decaying playground equipment from public beach and add new equipment at Lions park.	9/17/2018 7:03 PM
128	Beach park and Riverwalk should be updated to include a pedestrian bridge linking downtown. Also an outdoor event facility build to accommodate festivals, music and weddings. Parking put where the pavilion is and event space on the beach side.	9/17/2018 6:44 PM
129	More public bathroom facilities and wider access across the river for walkers, bikers, etc.	9/17/2018 2:52 PM
130	...	9/17/2018 9:43 AM
131	Better Canoe, Kayak and Stand up Paddleboard launch facilities.	9/16/2018 6:18 PM
132	Improvement to restrooms,	9/16/2018 10:24 AM
133	Public washroom	9/15/2018 10:04 PM
134	Paella park needs improving. The beach park is lacking and needs updating.	9/15/2018 8:45 PM
135	Better signage indicating hiking paths.	9/15/2018 7:35 PM
136	shuttle services	9/15/2018 4:08 PM
137	n/a	9/15/2018 1:17 PM
138	Cultural center Heritage center Senior center	9/15/2018 12:08 PM
139	Need a qualified Park Director to oversee Parks & Recreational programs. Need qualified staff to maintain current park (get rid of invasive species) - Oselka. Dog park is unknown. Sculpture on waterfront are ridiculously placed -- there are no paths leading to the sculptures or anywhere to sit (among the geese droppings?). Sculptures are haphazardly placed. Every park needs some form of improvement.	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
140	?	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
141	See 23	9/15/2018 10:08 AM
142	Add fish cleaning stations	9/15/2018 8:40 AM
143	Food trucks or restaurants , better pavilion and visitors centrer	9/15/2018 8:38 AM
144	None	9/15/2018 8:20 AM
145	Weeding needs to be maintained better at most of the parks.	9/15/2018 6:34 AM
146	Transient park needs shade by benches. River walk by parking lot needs benches. Can the farmers market be moved to Lions Park as it is so hot on the street.	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
147	Improve the beach	9/14/2018 10:46 PM
148	I don't know where city parks is located. If it's the beach swingset it's fine and serves a purpose. Oskela Park is too far and across a very busy 12. I like to have my kids bike or walk everywhere.	9/14/2018 10:36 PM
149	More children's activities,	9/14/2018 10:22 PM

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150	Bike trails	9/14/2018 9:30 PM
151	Better beach boardwalk Beach house Outdoor concert area Riverwalk improvements Restrooms	9/14/2018 8:45 PM
152	Water fountain that works... at NB beach	9/14/2018 7:44 PM
153	X-C groomed ski trails	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
154	Oselka Park - more playground equipment for the children. More variety. A covered area needs to be provided for the children in that area so the equipment doesn't get so hot. Comfortable porch swings for the parents to watch their children. After all, it's for young children. NO we don't need a splash pad. The township has one. We aren't in competition with them. We need to make what we have the best it can be. Turtle pond - more signs, benches, markers, parking... just about anything will make it better. The Dog Park is a miserable location mistake. Nothing is going to make that mess better.	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
155	None	9/14/2018 6:58 PM
156	GRAVELY NEED PARKLIKE SETTING RIGHT DOWNTOWN ON N. WHITTAKER..MORE ALL SEASONS LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT ENCOURAGED, MORE SHADE./ZONES/ PROVISIONS,.SOME DAYS ALMOST 100 DEGREES OUT ON HOT 20 FOOT SIDEWALKS AND REFLECTION FROM ALL THE HOT STREET PAVEMENT...VISITORS COMPLAIN THEIR CHILDREN BURN THEIR BEHINDS ON HOT GRANITE STONES AT CORNER SO CARELESSLY POSITIONED ON HOT SIDEWALKS WITH NO SHADE OR UMBRELLAS ETC DONE BY ARCHITECTS, NEW BENCHES INSTALLED IN MAY 2018 ALREADY SPLITTING WOOD/SOME SPLINTERING./SOME PEOPLE REMARKED THAT OCCASIONALLY BROWN COLOR IS COMING OFF BENCHES ON THEIR CLOTHING.FOR ONLY A FEW MONTHS, BENCHES ALREADY LOOK PRETTY BAD.A GOOD DESIGN PLAN COULD HAVE INCLUDED SOME RECREATION ACTIVITY OPPORTUNITY IN THE CENTER OF TOWN, A SMALL SCALE SPLASHPAD(where existing sidewalk is in front of vacant VC lot), AND ACTIVITY AREA FOR KIDS FUN WOULD KEEP PEOPLE IN TOWN...ALL COULD HAVE AND SHOULD BEEN DESIGNED WITH OUR PRESENTED THOUGHTS LAST YEAR.TOURISTS /VISITORS SAY THEY ARE NOT LIKING THE NEW/HOT/ DOWNTOWN STERILE LOOK AND WILL CHOOSE TO GO ELSEWHERE...BETTER THOUGHT THROUGH PLACEMENT OF COMFORTABLE BENCHES (WITH ARMS FOR THE ELDERLY TO STABILIZE BEFORE SITTING)ENHANCED IN A PARKLIKE /SHADED COASTAL CHARMING AND INVITING AMBIENCE WOULD HAVE ENCOURAGED MORE LOCAL RESIDENTS AND TOURIST/VISITORS TO USE AND ENJOY THE DOWNTOWN FOR ALL SEASONS..i.e. NOT ONLY A SMALL SCALE SPLASHPAD DOWNTOWN,COULD HAVE BEEN DESIGNED IN, BUT ALSO BEAUTIFUL FOCAL POINT FIREPLACE FOR ROASTING MARSHMALLOWS /MASSIVE HOLIDAY /STAGED FOCAL POINTFOR THE DECOR/DECORATED TREES OR A WINTER/ HOLIDAY WARMING AREA/CHARMING FOR SHOPPERS WHICH COULD HELP CREATE A MORE WELCOMING POSITIVE,FRIENDLY AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT IN A PARKLIKE CREATED SETTING DOWNTOWN BETTER SUITED FOR ALL SEASONS AND AGE GROUPS.	9/14/2018 6:38 PM
157	They could use more bike racks (the only one I know of is at the beach). Also, it would be nice if there was more of a trail system connecting them, and connecting New Buffalo's parks to the opportunities in the township (especially the County park and the park at the township hall)	9/14/2018 5:45 PM
158	Focus on what LOCAL residents want. Cater to us who live here year round, not the Chicago money that is destroying our beautiful community.	9/14/2018 4:55 PM
159	Beach needs better bath house	9/14/2018 4:53 PM
160	NA	9/14/2018 4:20 PM
161	the parks often look sloppy. more restrooms would also be helpful	9/14/2018 4:10 PM
162	Lakefront are needs more seating for picnics and venues for music.	9/14/2018 3:43 PM
163	Skatepark needs an update. Contact Thrasher magazine to get some ideas. How about a park with a bowl??? More facilities in Lions Park and City Beach. There should be a boardwalk down there that generates revenue for the City.	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
164	Lions Park and Lakefront - beautification, landscaping, more public events/festivals	9/14/2018 3:13 PM
165	Beachfront needs a nice boardwalk.	9/14/2018 2:55 PM
166	Keep updated and clean	9/14/2018 2:43 PM
167	Na	9/14/2018 2:42 PM

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168	A better Parks Director without an attitude. Listen to what the public suggests -- cleaner facilities, food concessions at beach without food trucks and continuous music playing (fine for a short period but after an hour just irritating).	9/14/2018 2:41 PM
169	addition of park in downtown with public restrooms rather than a porta pottie	9/14/2018 2:37 PM
170	Having outdoor exercise classes/yoga classes	9/14/2018 2:20 PM
171	See above	9/14/2018 2:19 PM
172	I suggest a new park in the open space in the downtown area that has been boarded up and unused for years. It could be an open stage with trees and a place for people to enjoy, and an awesome maritime museum to enhance the town.	9/14/2018 2:15 PM
173	None no money left for parks after downtown fiascal	9/14/2018 2:12 PM
174	An upgraded park area at the beach like the NB Township Park.	9/14/2018 1:00 PM

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Q25 Additional Comments

Answered: 105 Skipped: 181

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Need a safe path to the lakefront for bicycles and waking	10/13/2018 12:03 AM
2	Please read number 4 closely. I think I put a fair amount of thought and info there. We are new residents of Michigan, and New Buffalo. We moved here from Illinois 6 months ago. We love the area and are so happy we moved here. Our comments are observations from our first year here. They are meant as a new, fresh look from enthusiastic town supporters who have been regularly bringing in friends and relatives to check the area out. This is a compilation of ours, and others feedback. We don't have any preconcieved position -- we don't know what it was like "in the good old days" or anything like that. Just what we think is needed to make New Buffalo 1) a GREAT place to live, and 2) a GREAT place to visit.	10/11/2018 7:21 PM
3	none	10/11/2018 6:33 PM
4	Focus short and long term plans on a a healthy lifestyle of biking, walking, fishing, hiking etc. it's why we enjoy NB because it lake town and we park and never get in our car until we are leaving town.	10/11/2018 5:13 AM
5	None	10/10/2018 6:08 PM
6	Good job mostly	10/10/2018 4:53 PM
7	none	10/10/2018 3:58 PM
8	Thank you for surveying!	10/10/2018 1:40 PM
9	Hope NB can build walk/bike paths. Hope we can connect to Marquette Path and Michigan's linear paths. Need a community center that offers courses and daycare.	10/10/2018 1:35 PM
10	?	10/10/2018 12:10 PM
11	I love New Buffalo, thank you for making the tough decisions to improve our community.	10/10/2018 11:28 AM
12	Capitalize on the natural beauty of the area.	10/10/2018 11:05 AM
13	The city has been a terrible steward of the park areas in the city limits. They have been wasteful of the funds that they have received thru millage. And I see nothing on the horizon that changes my thoughts on that.	10/10/2018 8:14 AM
14	The city is finally starting to look nice! Great job so far. Just need to fill that empty lot. It's an eye sore. But I think more people are coming sense the redo of the downtown. Also you might need someone by stray dog to keep traffic moving cars are double parking can't get around them also parking on water st and you can't get around them it's a mess	10/9/2018 11:28 PM
15	We need parks that have benches and trees and swings and equipment for all ages to enjoy outdoors near High School	10/9/2018 11:02 PM
16	The new police enforcement of marking tires, giving tickets, and towing visitors is over the top and a nuisance,	10/9/2018 10:48 PM
17	Question 7 required an answer yet I didn't want these improvements	10/9/2018 6:21 PM
18	N/A	10/9/2018 4:55 PM
19	Roads need to be repaved around town for better biking experience. Too many potholes.	10/9/2018 2:42 PM
20	I thought I had taken this survey before? I suggested a maritime museum in the downtown new Buffalo location. Also something should be done about beautifying existing store fronts. Paint or something to spruce it up. The street looks great but the storefronts look tired.	10/9/2018 2:28 PM
21	I use Oselka park regularly and really appreciate the restrooms being open most of the time	10/9/2018 1:58 PM
22	You need to put a couple million into the beach to make it an amazing place for the city. Look to do a public private partnership if you can't afford to make it the best beach in Michigan.	10/9/2018 1:35 PM

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23	I worry about money for the parks being siphoned off to fund other city issues. I also remember the fairly-recent embezzlement by the clerk's office and I want more protections to prevent that happening again.	10/9/2018 1:14 PM
24	Beach area is improving. Kristin works so hard to keep it cleaned up. More raking would be awesome. Streets and parking are so much better. Summer outdoor movies would be fun. May do this already but more often.	10/9/2018 12:40 PM
25	The city needs bike and walking trails!	10/9/2018 11:41 AM
26	Lakefront needs redesign and walking and sitting areas. Lions park desperately needs upgrade and beautification	10/9/2018 10:17 AM
27	Love New Buffalo & have owned a home there for 12 years. Love the small town feel & would like it to remain (I.e. prefer "mom & pop" & small privately owned businesses & opposed to any "big box" or large retailers (I.e. Starbucks, etc.)	10/9/2018 9:51 AM
28	I am a long time part time resident of New Buffalo and have owned property now for 15+ years. The recent downtown renovation is really nice but we need to carry that effort toward the bridges, municipal marina and our beaches. Our Marina is terribly outdated and inadequate for boaters. If the town wasn't so accessible, it would get passed over by many boaters. Our beaches simply need better maintenance. We should also strongly consider putting money into a breaker wall that is safe and accessible to all. As it stands right now walking on the rocks is unsafe especially in rough weather and it is not accessible to handi-cap or the elderly. While it is a big financial effort, the other harbors (Michigan City/St. Joes ect..) all have a concrete breaker walls that are accessible to all. Please consider this improvement.	10/9/2018 9:40 AM
29	na	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
30	Need separate bridge for pedestrian and bikes between downtown and beach. Need to move parking lot away from Beach and increase size of public beach and have park continuous with Beach.	10/9/2018 9:38 AM
31	Thank you for this opportunity!	10/8/2018 5:29 AM
32	See above comments	10/2/2018 3:50 PM
33	Thanks	10/2/2018 12:33 PM
34	When I moved here a couple years back, people loved the town, now my friends go to St Joe to go out, or over to MC. There is nothing here to do with their kids, so why bother to stop, go up to St. Joe, they have a beautiful beach.	10/1/2018 7:15 PM
35	0	10/1/2018 5:05 PM
36	None	10/1/2018 4:57 PM
37	Have the Army Corp pay for all the beaches that they ruined south o the Marina	10/1/2018 3:50 PM
38	NO MORE CONDOS OR HOTELS. They have ruined what used to be a beautiful lakefront, view and access. We do not need anymore of those types of buildings/business.	10/1/2018 3:35 PM
39	please keep in mind the residents of New Buffalo. We feel second to the tourist.	10/1/2018 11:47 AM
40	?	9/30/2018 9:34 PM
41	The public beach needs the restroom/concession area updated/redone. New/more playground equipment and more room to picnic	9/28/2018 6:25 PM
42	None	9/28/2018 5:53 PM
43	There needs to be more options for the kids here for recreation.. A indoor pool...	9/28/2018 4:39 PM
44	NB is looking pretty drab and dull, Whittaker street looks better but the buildings all need a face lift and some color, perhaps a fun color coordinated color scheme and update for all the facades, maybe some tax credits for participating in this coordinated plan. more flowers too!!	9/28/2018 4:19 PM
45	Overall great job!	9/28/2018 2:45 PM
46	Na	9/28/2018 2:36 PM
47	Na	9/28/2018 2:07 PM
48	Would Love an upscale "Welcome to New Buffalo" sign at the main entrance to town.	9/28/2018 1:16 PM

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49	Make things that will entice people to engage in activities outdoors.	9/28/2018 1:03 PM
50	None	9/28/2018 12:53 PM
51	I appreciate the chance that I had to give my opinion about the things to do in the area.	9/28/2018 12:52 PM
52	Non3	9/28/2018 12:51 PM
53	Parks basically suck. Township and Three Oaks have left us in the dust.	9/28/2018 12:42 PM
54	Keep working at it. Things continue to improve!	9/28/2018 12:33 PM
55	None	9/28/2018 12:31 PM
56	Thanks for all you're doing. Let's make a real difference, starting with the beach!	9/27/2018 11:21 AM
57	The city does nothing for the local people, it is all about the downtown and the Chicago crowd. The people who live here deserve better.	9/26/2018 6:28 PM
58	Maybe the City can join forces with the Township on programs and resources.	9/25/2018 3:55 PM
59	Playground equipment at beach and Oselka parks need repair, painting and replacement.	9/25/2018 2:54 PM
60	Very happy that Tony Ashbaugh is gone, he had cost the city too much money.	9/25/2018 9:51 AM
61	Thank you for your time and service with the Parks Dept!	9/24/2018 5:56 PM
62	Hopefully improvements happen in the next five years since this is a five years master plan.	9/20/2018 11:56 PM
63	The Whittaker St improvements are beautiful. Would love to see other roads improved too, especially downtown, and along Marquette and into Riviera and beyond. Marquette is filled with so many potholes, and is so dangerous for walking and biking along.	9/20/2018 5:55 PM
64	N/A	9/20/2018 12:50 PM
65	Downtown looks fabulous! Keep going to bring the rest of town in line.	9/19/2018 9:54 PM
66	Do something about the low level area at the beach next to the canal, more enforcement of people trespassing on the break wall, rules board needs to be posted at the beach, not nearly enough food/drink concessions at the beach. Clean-up the canal water front and add more beaches.	9/19/2018 8:59 PM
67	Continue to update and maintain our assets. I would support an addition park millage if I knew how our park money was being spent and if I saw park improvements, which I have not seen.	9/19/2018 4:27 PM
68	Town in general is being more walkable, need to expand this. Safe bike trails, not riding along with street traffic-half the people are on their phones, I don't want to be next to them. Downtown street looks great. Hope to see up town improved just as well. Need public space for events. Thank you for asking!	9/19/2018 10:36 AM
69	would love to see the beach tidied up (new benches, picnic tables, painted light house, have less 'no' signs about booze, pets, etc. as soon as you enter the beach property from bridge - not welcoming) and move parking across the street so you actually see beach and not a lot full of cars. also knock down the food shack. would also like to see building owners in the downtown be made to maintain/preserve the facade of their buildings - painted, awning, etc. barney's liquor store front looks extremely tacky from the main drag through downtown. nothing like seeing stacks of booze against the windows. sort of kills small town ambiance. snow removal in front of snow fronts is a must too.	9/18/2018 9:11 PM
70	Lakefront Park: Beautiful art sculptures surrounded by goose droppings & weeds. I think we can do better with minimum spending.	9/18/2018 2:09 PM
71	Thanks for taking the time to ask for our opinion. It is very much appreciated.	9/18/2018 2:06 PM
72	Improvement of pedestrian bridge to beach should be a priority. The proximity of the beach to downtown is a unique asset among lakefront communities, but the walkway is very unsafe.	9/18/2018 10:47 AM
73	Rebuild and complete the dune walk. It is a treasure that has been neglected far too long. Then maintain it. Riverwalk should be done to allow boats to tie up and walk into town, fishing and allow for better kayak launch areas. Another big dream would be to have a path to connect from Water Street to the Galien River County Park. This would allow people to explore this amazing preserve and birding area by foot.	9/17/2018 6:44 PM
74	..	9/17/2018 9:43 AM

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75	The Whitaker streetscape project is fantastic! I would love to see more bike trails accessible from the beach/lakefront area	9/16/2018 9:13 PM
76	no additional comments	9/16/2018 6:18 PM
77	Parks management greatly improved last 2 years	9/15/2018 4:08 PM
78	New to the area.	9/15/2018 1:17 PM
79	Too little concern for permanent year-round residents' need and interests! Too little concern for folks who don't live near marina and beach!	9/15/2018 12:08 PM
80	Until honest and qualified personnel is hired, the city will continue to fail in parks and recreation.	9/15/2018 12:02 PM
81	?	9/15/2018 11:34 AM
82	Please do not add public rest rooms at the municipal marina.	9/15/2018 8:40 AM
83	Park on beach is a disgrace	9/15/2018 8:38 AM
84	Would like to see more vendors and/or generally more development of our beach area. Also, most importantly, we would like to see development of that awful undeveloped eyesore in the middle of out town. Believe that the developer should never have been allowed to buy the property without a law in place first to enforce that development take place at least two years after purchase is complete. This applies to any purchase of commercial land. (If developer was not planning to do anything when he purchased it, then he should never have been allowed to destroy Michigan Thyme, which was a bright spot in this town.)	9/15/2018 8:20 AM
85	We need good public restrooms at more places, especially downtown.	9/15/2018 6:34 AM
86	Would love to see the downtown improvements extended up Whittaker St to Exit 1. Would like to see the Gold's Gym area developed for the people's use. A fitness park. Would like a community center. Would like the high school to partner with local colleges to provide credit and non credit fun and interesting courses. Too far and dangerous driving for some to get to LMC or Purdue. Need public bathroom facilities tacked on to Transient Marina private bathrooms.	9/15/2018 3:33 AM
87	I think the downtown is a nice start. A amphitheater for concerts, plays and movie nights with natural seating so no one has to lug chairs. Chicago folks (your main tourist) are use to walking and love anything they can walk to and enjoy.	9/14/2018 10:36 PM
88	Public restrooms on Whittaker. Expansion of farmer's market.	9/14/2018 10:22 PM
89	Thank you for asking	9/14/2018 8:45 PM
90	None	9/14/2018 7:44 PM

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91	<p>Paramount to the community of NB is to have an experienced, knowledgeable, full time park administrator who focuses only on the city's parks. This person should be researching other green spaces, park areas, natural settings, attending seminars about whats new in natural events, meeting with clubs, children and naturalists and to be eager to share knowledge about NB parks, and to be totally engaged in the appropriate direction our city should be headed. There should be a staff. One person alone can not accomplish this task. S/he should have innovative ideas to improve our parks in conjunction the park board and their ideas. The Park Board is made up of NB tax payers who often are stuck "in-between" the park manager and the city council with NOTHING happening once an idea or suggestion is introduced. The Park Administrator should have excellent skills in managing and acquiring money for the park. As a tax payer, I want to see money put back into the beach. I know salaries have to be paid, but there should be some physical evidence of something being done to maintain the area, at the very least, look fresh and clean. What do I hope to see with our amazing beach area? I want SIMPLE. Clean, undamaged benches. No weeds. A seawall. Tear down that yucky, concrete, eyesore of a building on prime viewing area of the lake. A well constructed, beautiful pavilion on the beach side of the parking lot for everyone to enjoy. You bet visitors and the community will enjoy the area. We will boast of this construction. Make it a show stopper building. Bathrooms on the far side of the parking lot. Food? We don't need to provide food. Food trucks are the answer. We're providing serene, peaceful, tranquil, natural beauty. WITHOUT DUCKS please! What should be addressed first? The sea wall. It needs to be special and a design of beauty. People will walk on it, fish on it, view the sunset from it, have morning coffee on it, photo graph it. It is more than a sea wall it is a space of living for everyone. It will be a memory maker..."remember when we were at the beach on the seawall?" from our visitors. What next? The pavilion and bathrooms. Yep, that will be our "draw". A structure that looks like it was meant to be there. It will have to withstand harsh weather conditions. It will have to be comfortable and accommodating. Perhaps music nights, perhaps dances, perhaps picnicking. It would do it all. Last but not least, we need a designated walking park. I would like the city to purchase the grassy area by the railroad museum and develop it as a walking, jogging area. The parking lot is already there. Benches, a mulch, circular walk way and specialty trees planted along the way as a learning experience for NB children and visitors. YES! this can be done with vision and the right person in charge.</p>	9/14/2018 7:01 PM
92	New Buffalo is lucky to have the beach, Lake Michigan, and the river. It's important that we are proactive about protecting them, and our access to these resources.	9/14/2018 5:45 PM
93	Do something for the people who work in our community, who actually have had to survive summer and the fip hell. Put in turn arrows at the light on downtown. It takes too long to make a left turn off Whittaker st in the summer. And ffs enforcement on the pedestrian jaywalking and them not using road etiquette during their bike rides.	9/14/2018 4:55 PM
94	NA	9/14/2018 4:20 PM
95	we appreciate all you do!	9/14/2018 4:10 PM
96	Nope. Keep moving forward with positive actions.	9/14/2018 3:43 PM
97	Keep up the GREAT work!!! Downtown development looks AWESOME!!!	9/14/2018 3:25 PM
98	Keep the positive momentum going! City finally has the right leadership!	9/14/2018 2:55 PM
99	Keep up the good work!!	9/14/2018 2:43 PM
100	None	9/14/2018 2:42 PM
101	The City has spent money in the past for plans and ideas but no one ever follows through with them or even knows where they are. Those funds used to pay for the plans could have made a major difference in the quality of our existing parks, marina and boat launch.	9/14/2018 2:41 PM
102	keep the lifeguards	9/14/2018 2:29 PM
103	None	9/14/2018 2:19 PM
104	We love New Buffalo! And hope people continue to respect the beach, lake, and waterways by keeping it clean of litter and plastics.	9/14/2018 2:15 PM
105	Dog Park is well maintained. It would be nice to have a family park we can walk to south of 12 and west of Whittiker.	9/14/2018 1:00 PM