

## 2017-2021 DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW - JANUARY 23, 2017 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN



## **2017-2021** PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

City of Southfield, Michigan

Prepared by:



McKenna Associates Community Planning and Design 235 East Main Street, Suite 105 Northville, Michigan 48167 tel: (248) 596-0920 fax: (248) 596-.0930

www.mcka.com

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The mission of the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department is to provide excellence and equal opportunity in leisure, cultural and recreational services to all of the residents of Southfield. Our purpose is to provide safe, educationally enriching, convenient leisure opportunities, utilizing public open space and quality leisure facilities to enhance the quality of life for Southfield's total population that might not otherwise be available.

#### **Administration**

Terry Fields — Director, Parks & Recreation Department Doug Block — Manager, P&R Administration Stephanie Kaiser — Marketing Analyst

#### **Facility Supervisors**

Jonathon Rahn — Facility Supervisor, Southfield Pavilion, P&R Building and Burgh Park Nicole Messina — Senior Adult Facility Coordinator Pattie Dearie — Facility Supervisor, Beech Woods Recreation Center

#### **Programmers**

Holly Graves — Youth Programmer David DuChene — Cultural Arts Programmer Christopher Riley — Recreation Programmer, Athletics Claudia Brewer — Programmer Cathy Fresia — Recreation Programmer

#### Golf

Terri Anthony-Ryan — *Head PGA Professional* Kathy Haag — *League Information* 

Parks/Park Services Kost Kapchonick – Park Services, Park Operations

#### **Planning Department**

Terry Croad, AICP, ASLA — Director of Planning Jeff Spence — Assistant City Planner Sarah K. Mulally, AICP — Senior Planner Noreen Kozlowski — Landscape Design Coordinator Rochelle Freeman — Business Development Manager Marilyn Swanson — Secretary III

#### **Elected Officials & Administrator**

The Honorable Kenson J. Siver — Mayor Myron Frasier — Council President Lloyd C. Crews — President Pro Tem Daniel Brightwell — Councilman Donald F. Fracassi — Councilman Michael A. Mandelbaum — Councilman Tawnya Morris — Councilwoman Joan Seymour — Councilwoman Nancy L.M. Banks — City Clerk Irv M. Lowenberg — City Treasurer Frederick E. Zorn — City Administrator John Michrina — Deputy City Administrator

#### **Parks and Recreation Board**

Rosemerry Allen Monica Fischman Brandon Gray Jeannine Reese Ronald Roberts Amani Johnson – *student representative* 

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Acknowledgments	. 1
1.	Introduction	1
2.	Community Description	3
	Demographics Physical Characteristics	
3.	Administrative Structure & Funding	11
	Organization and personnel Parks and Recreation Funding Grant History Partnerships, Volunteer & Sponsorship opportunities	. 13 . 14
4.	Recreation Inventory	21
5.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.41 43 43 44 46 49 .51 54 56 57 <b>61</b>
	Parkland Analysis	
6.	Description of the Planning Process 6	65
7.	Public Input 6	67
	Online Survey Field Day	
8.	Goals & Objectives	71
9.	Action Plan 7	75
	Capital Improvements for existing facilities	75
10.	Appendix A	<b>\:1</b>
	What's Your Wish for Southfield Parks and Recreation?	<b>1</b> :3

#### LIST OF MAPS

Map 1:	Regional Location	. 2
Map 2:	Natural Features	10
Мар З:	Parks and Facilities	23
Map 4:	Regional Parks and Recreation Facilities	47
Map 5:	Green Infrastructure	52

#### LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Population	4
Table 2:	Parks and Recreation Budgeted Revenues / Expenditures	
	for 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year	13
Table 3:	Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Grant History	. 15
Table 4:	Grant details for Parks and Recreation projects	. 16
Table 5:	Accessibility Ratings for Southfield's Parks and Facilities	. 42
Table 6:	Facility Amenities	. 50
Table 7:	Green Infrastructure in Southfield Parks	. 53
Table 8:	Southfield Park Land Acreage Analysis	. 62
Table 9:	Park Facility Analysis	. 63
Table 10:	Five-Year Capital Needs for Existing Facilities.	. 76

#### LIST OF FIGURES

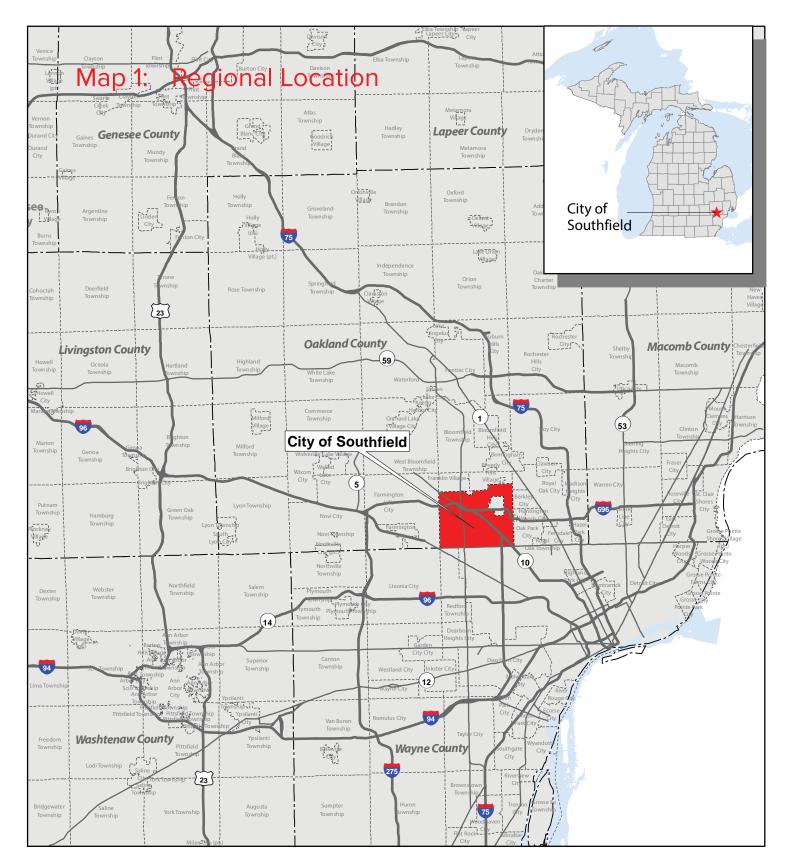
Figure 1:	Population and Households by Decade	5
Figure 2:	Average Household Size by Decade	5
Figure 3:	Median Age in Southfield and Surrounding Communities	6
Figure 4:	Disability Population Percentage	7

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the City of Southfield's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This Plan reflects a vision for the future of the parks, recreational facilities, historic structures, and natural areas of Southfield.

The Parks and Recreation Board coordinated this open, public planning process to create a comprehensive vision for Southfield's parks, satisfying the Michigan Department of Natural Resources requirements for a Parks and Recreation Plan.

A Parks and Recreation Master Plan is a road map for parks and recreation decisions (including facilities and programming) made in the next five years, as well as projected future needs. The Plan includes all of the required elements of a Parks and Recreation Plan and therefore qualifies Southfield for funding through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). The process taken to prepare the Plan gives the City a better understanding of the needs and wants for parks, recreation, historic and cultural facilities, and programming going forward.



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### Map 1 Regional Location

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City of Southfield, Michigan

# COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The City of Southfield is a residential community and business center in southeastern Michigan. Comprised of over 26 square miles, Southfield is bordered by the City of Detroit, as well as several other communities in Oakland and Wayne Counties, including Farmington Hills, Redford Township, Franklin, Bingham Farms, Beverly Hills, Berkley and Oak Park.

With over 780 acres of parkland, two public golf courses, an indoor ice skating rink, and miles of nature and fitness trails, Southfield truly has something for everyone.

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**



The Southfield Parks and Recreation Master Plan was created to determine the needs and opportunities that exist within the City in consideration of how many people will use recreational amenities, which programs they will participate in, and what type of facilities they want and need. By understanding the existing conditions and past trends, the City can appropriate / anticipate and plan for the future needs of the community.

The data presented comes from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, as gathered by the City of Southfield. This survey samples a percentage of the community on topics such as population, economics, housing, etc.

#### **Population**

Trends in the number of people residing in a community are an important indicator for parks and recreation planning. Growing communities have different parks and recreational needs than communities with stable or declining populations. Table 1 shows the relative populations of Southfield and comparison nearby communities.

Population	Southfield	Berkley	Beverly Hills	Bingham Farms	Detroit	Farmington Hills	Franklin	Oak Park	Redford Township
2000	78,296	15,531	10,437	1,030	951,270	82,111	2,937	29,793	51,622
2010	71,739	14,970	10,267	1,111	713,862	79,740	3,150	29,319	48,362
2015	72,859	15,178	10,403	1,158	690,074	80,971	3,198	29,727	47,652

#### Table 1: Population

Source: US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

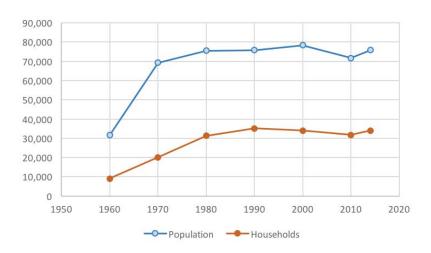
The City of Southfield experienced a decline in population between 2000 and 2010 of approximately 9.1 percent. The decrease in population during this time period was experienced across several municipalities, with the exception of Bingham Farms and Franklin Village. However, the City experienced a higher percentage loss than all surrounding communities, except for Detroit. The population decline across several communities is indicative of the effects of the Great Recession, which saw residents moving out of their communities.

As the nation recovers from the economic crisis, growth has returned. The City of Southfield has welcomed over 1,000 new residents since 2010, a near two percent increase in the population. All surrounding municipalities, except for Detroit, also experienced a population increase after 2010.

#### Households

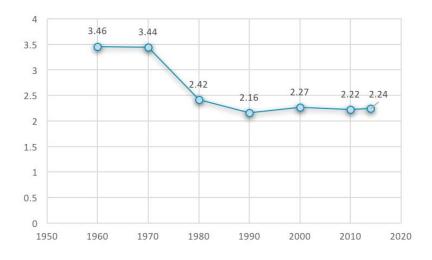
This section analyzes the composition and characteristics of households in Southfield. Household growth has a different impact on demand for recreation services than does population growth. If the population is growing faster than the number of households, this typically suggests that more children are being born to existing households. If households are growing faster than population, this typically suggests that more singles or couples without children (often newly married or older) are residing in the community. Figure 1 shows the total population and households by decade, beginning in 1960.

As a first ring suburb of Detroit, the City of Southfield experienced major growth during the auto-dominated 1960's. As a matter of fact, Southfield was the fastest growing community in Michigan during this period. At the same time as the population increased, so too did the number of households in the City. The number of households and population trending in similar directions indicates that household sizes are stable in the community. As reflected in Figure 2, the average household size has remained relatively steady since 1980.



#### Figure 1: Population and Households by Decade

Figure 2: Average Household Size by Decade





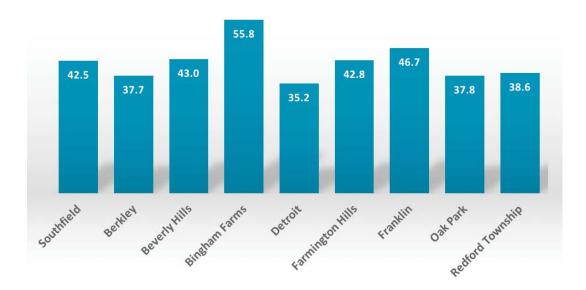
Average household size is another indicator of community composition. Larger average household sizes generally mean more children and fewer single-parent families. Nationally, household sizes have been shrinking as young singles wait longer to get married and life expectancy increases for the senior population.

#### Age

The age of a community's population is extremely important when planning for parks and recreation improvements. Older residents have vastly different needs than childless 20-somethings, or with those who have families with children.

Figure 3 compares the median ages of Southfield residents to surrounding communities (2015). Residents of the City are a healthy mix of all age groups. When combined with the household data above, this indicates that the City of Southfield has a stable and sustainable population base.

The City should plan improvements to its parks and recreational facilities accordingly, ensuring that proposed projects are dispersed equally among all age groups, from toddlers to senior citizens.



#### Figure 3: Median Age in Southfield and Surrounding Communities

Age structure (analyzing which proportions of a municipality's population are in which stages of life) gives a nuanced view of the makeup of a community. To compare age structure, the percentage of the population is divided into the following age groupings:

- Under 5 (Pre School) 5.4%
- 5 to 19 (School Aged) 17.3%
- 20 to 44 (Family Forming) 30.5%
- 45 to 64 (Mature Families) 28.5%
- Over 65 (Retirement) 18.1%

The majority of the population of the City of Southfield are family forming and mature family members. The demographics imply that the City could potentially see an increase in population due to the nature of the age distribution.

#### Income

Understanding the income distribution, employment, poverty level, and number of disabled residents in Southfield is vital to parks and recreation planning because of the need to consider how residents will interact with provided amenities, afford various amenities, and how they will get to parks or other locations that provide recreational opportunities.

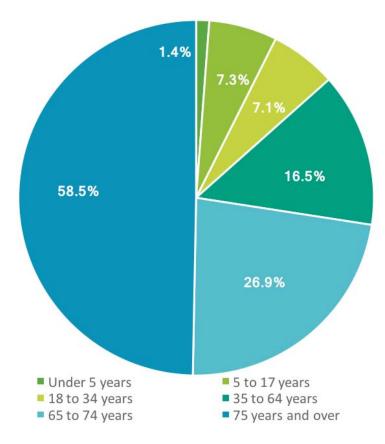
Southfield's residents are primarily middle-class. From 2000 to 2010, the median household income fell approximately 25 percent, causing the City to have a lower median household income than the Detroit metro area. The decline during the early 2000's is reflected in communities nationwide, as the economic crisis affected all communities and demographics.

#### **Disabilities**

The type of disability and number of residents impacted by disabilities will inform the design and accommodations made for them on the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Census Bureau reports that approximately 16.7 percent of residents have a disability of some sort in Southfield, with the most impacted populations being 75 and over subgroup. The most prevalent disabilities within the population are ambulatory and cognitive difficulties, followed by hearing difficulty.

Giving consideration to these difficulties in planning for parks and recreation could result in positive health outcomes for a segment of the population that already experiences great difficulty on a day-to-day basis. Accommodations could include ramps or pavement improvements in order to ease accessibility concerns for those who suffer from ambulatory difficulties, or installing audible and visually assisted cross walks that assist those who may be visually or hearing impaired.

#### Figure 4: Disability Population Percentage



## **PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**



Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve

#### **Topography and Soils**

The topography of Southfield is almost entirely flat, sloping gently to the southeast resulting from its glacial history as a lake plain. The elevation for the City is approximately 575 feet above sea level. The flat character of the lake plain is altered by the valleys of the Rouge River and its tributaries and, to some extent, a series of former lake beaches.

Soils range from silty to clay loams, with some areas of sand and blue clay. Many areas are poorly drained with high water tables being typical. The City's agricultural history has created some areas of deep topsoil, while the rapid development of the 1960's and 1970's caused extensive soil disturbance and topsoil loss.

#### Water Resources

The most significant water resource in Southfield is the Rouge River and its tributaries. The main branch of the Rouge River flows south from the northern border, crossing under I-696 and Telegraph Road and exiting at the southern boundary into the City of Detroit at Eight Mile Road. River tributaries include the Evans Ditch, Tamarack Drain and Pebble Creek. Land adjacent to these waterways is characterized by steeply-sloped valley walls and wooded floodways. Unlike much of Oakland County, no natural lakes exist in Southfield, although some wetlands remain. Artificial drainage of natural wetlands was used to accommodate development resulting in a net loss over time. Remaining wetlands are regulated by the Department of Environmental Equality (DEQ) as well as the City's own local wetlands protection ordinance.

#### Vegetation

The City of Southfield is located within a deciduous eastern forest zone. Due to the rise of urban development and prior history as an agricultural community, few remnants of mature natural vegetation remain. A few properties retain some significant vegetation. Some woodlots have progressed from old field associations to mixed hardwoods.

Many parcels containing woodlands are in public or quasi-public ownership. A degraded wet prairie association located between the Freeway Park and Lincoln Woods has been restored as part of a wetlands mitigation project. Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve, Bauervic Woods Nature Preserve, and Valley Woods Nature Preserve all contain large caliper, native canopy trees and understory. Berberian Woods, within Valley Woods, is an excellent example of near pre-settlement forested valley and is considered botanically significant on a statewide basis. Woodland preservation has also occurred in neighborhoods of large lot development, particularly along the Rouge River floodplain. The remaining woodlands have been mapped and tree removals are now regulated by the City's woodland ordinance.

#### Wildlife

Most common Michigan animal species can be found in Southfield, if in somewhat lesser numbers than rural areas. Deer are plentiful throughout the City and are found on larger tracts and along the river corridors. Other mammal species include fox, raccoons, muskrats, opossum, mink, rabbits, squirrels, and mice. In recent years coyotes have been sighted in Southfield. Garter snakes are common. Snapping turtles are frequent in Carpenter Lake and soft shell turtles bask on the mud banks of the Rouge River in Valley Woods Nature Preserve. Migrating songbirds and waterfowl such as ducks and geese utilize the larger tracts and nature preserves as they travel across metro Detroit. Resident hawks preside over larger tracts, along the river corridor and highways.

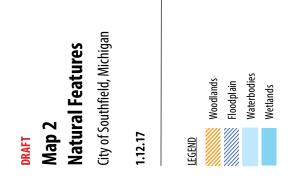
#### Climate

The climate of Southfield and southeast Michigan is influenced by its location with respect to major storm tracks, the overall influence of the Great Lakes and the urban "heat island" of metro Detroit. The most pronounced lake effect occurs in the winter when arctic air moving across the lakes is warmed and moistened producing excess cloudiness and moderated temperatures. Throughout Michigan most winter storms originate to the northwest except in metro Detroit where much of the heaviest precipitation comes from southwest winds. This is a result of the location of the normal wintertime storm track south of Detroit, which brings on average, three inch snowfalls. Occasional heavy snowfalls, freezing rain and sleet are also typical of southern Oakland County.

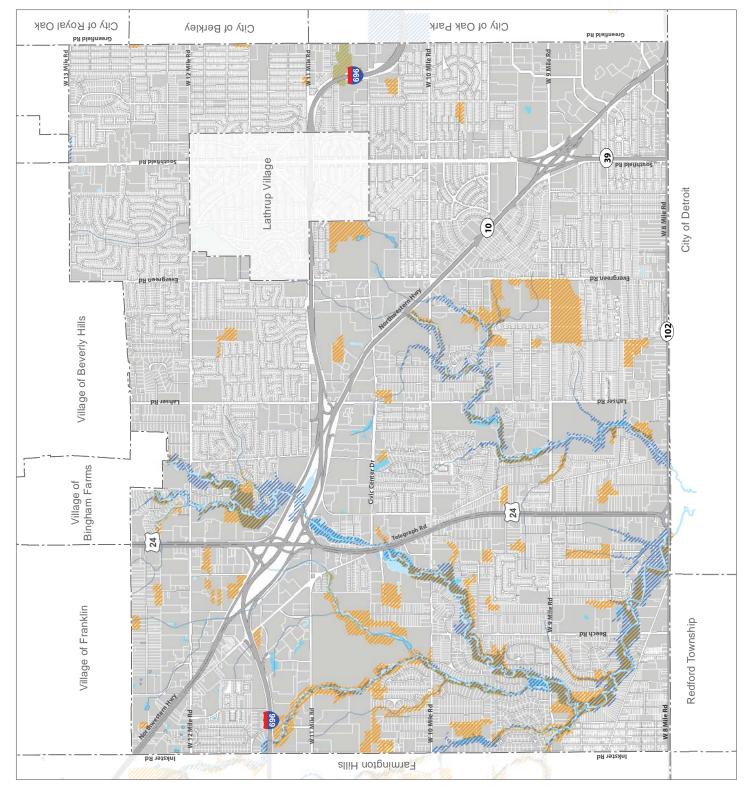
According to U.S. Climate Data (<u>www.usclimatedata.com</u>) the average temperature for Detroit is 48.7°F, ranging from a high/low of 31°F / 19°F in January to 82°F / 63°F in July. The growing season averages 180 days with a last frost date in early May and a first frost date in late October.

In the summer, most storms pass to the north or may dissipate as they approach the City. Summer weather is typified by intervals of warm, humid, sunny skies with thunderstorms followed by mild, dryer weather. Temperatures of 90°F or higher are commonly reached in the summer months, and temperatures below freezing are occurring more frequently during the winter months. The annual average snowfall for the area is 42.7 inches.

During the 2013-14 winter season, 94.9 inches of snow was measured, topping the previous record snowiest season, 93.6 inches in 1880-81.







## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE & FUNDING

PARKS · RECREAT

## **ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL**

Southfield's local government representation is provided by elected City officials. The seven-member Southfield City Council, elected at-large, decides municipal budget and legislative matters. Council members are responsible for determining policy and adopting the annual municipal budget, which provides funding for parks and recreation programs and services. The Council president is chosen by Council members and presides over Council meetings. The mayor, an elected official, is not a voting member of council. The mayor reviews and presents the budget and has the power to veto Council actions, with five affirmative votes required to override a veto. Daily City operations are directed by the City Administrator, who is appointed by and accountable to City Council. The Administrator is responsible for ensuring that Council-mandated policies are implemented by City staff.



By City Charter, the Director of Parks and Recreation oversees the department and receives operational direction from the City Administrator and the Parks and Recreation Board. The fivemember Parks and Recreation Board, which meets monthly, is responsible as an advisory board and for department policy and budget review. Board members are appointed by the mayor for three-year terms. There may also be up to two youth representatives. The Parks and Recreation Department consists of six functional divisions, each with a division head. They are administration, golf, park services, recreation, cultural arts, and seniors.

## PARKS AND RECREATION FUNDING

#### **Budget**

The primary funding source for the Southfield Parks and Recreation budget is a 1.75 mill property tax levy. It is projected to account for 60% of the department's revenues in 2017. The balance is made up largely of rents and charges for service. Historically, capital expenditures have been funded by outside grants and budget carryovers from prior years. The department anticipates that this basic structure will continue during the life of this plan.

Once adopted by Council, the Parks & Recreation Department budget constitutes a legally binding financial plan, in accordance with the Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act. The department's, functional divisions operates out of its own budget and is responsible for coordinating activities between divisions.

The Southfield City Council has adopted the following budget for the Parks and Recreation Fund (Fund 208) for fiscal year 2017.

REVENUES						
Agency	Code	Millage	Service Charges	Rent & Interest	Other	Total Revenue
Administration	551	\$ 4,115,953	\$14,000	\$ 37,313	\$413,212	\$4,580,478
Golf	553		\$573,000	\$130,000		\$703,000
Park Services	554		\$10,000	\$35,395	\$73,035	\$118,430
Recreation	555		\$906,629	\$199,673		\$1,106,302
Cultural Arts	556		\$60,618	\$ 15,000		\$75,618
Seniors	557		\$91,228		\$163,460	\$254,688
Dept. Total	208	\$4,115,953	\$1,655,475	\$417,381	\$649,707	\$6,838,516

#### Table 2: Parks and Recreation Budgeted Revenues / Expenditures for 2016 – 2017 Fiscal Year

EXPENDITURES							
Agency	Code	Operating	Capital	Debt Service	Other	Total Expenses	
Administration	551	\$2,105,230	\$23,600	\$102,769		\$2,231,599	
Golf	553	\$738,864		\$174,369		\$913,233	
Park Services	554	\$2,191,719	\$192,600			\$2,384,319	
Recreation	555	\$982,304				\$982,304	
Cultural Arts	556	\$81,734				\$81,734	
Seniors	557	\$245,327				\$245,327	
Dept. Total	208	\$6,345,178	\$216,200	\$277,138	_	\$6,838,516	

Source: City of Southfield

#### **Fees & Charges**

Southfield park sites are free and open to the general public. Certain facilities: the golf courses, ice arena, and outdoor swimming pool, are fully staffed and require an admission fee. These facilities are open to Southfield residents and persons who have purchased resident leisure cards or business leisure cards. Non-resident fees are nominally higher than resident fees.

While some facilities are available on a "per-use" basis, other facilities are available as rentals by reservation. Such facilities include room rentals in the Parks & Recreation Building at the Civic Center and the Beech Woods Recreation Center. Picnic shelters are available for rental at the Civic Center, Beech Woods, and Pebble Creek Park. The Burgh Church, gazebo, and the Miller Barn are also available for rental for weddings and private parties. Fees are set for the utilization of park facilities by the Parks and Recreation Board and are reviewed annually.

#### Loans & Bonds

In order to fund two major projects the Department of Parks & Recreation has two LIRF loans which are being paid back to the city's General Fund over several years. The first loan was to reconstruct Evergreen Hills Golf Course and the second loan was to pay the department's contribution for the Carpenter Lake Restoration and Park Development Project. These costs were shared with the Department of Public Works and supported by over 1.5 million dollars in state and federal grants for the project. Parks and Recreation has no bonded

## **GRANT HISTORY**

The City of Southfield has received several grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to fund the renovation or development of City parkland and natural areas. These funds include the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust (formerly known as the Michigan Land Trust Fund), and the Clean Michigan Initiative Grant.

#### Table 3: Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Grant History

Project Year / Project Number	Park Name / Project Name	Grant Amount	Project Description		
1975 / 26-00616	Bedford Woods & Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$50,404	Acquire 15.4 acres of land located in northwestern section of Southfield, for public outdoor recreation.		
1977 / 26-00935	Beech Woods Park Tennis Court	\$25,708	Develop 1 acre for lighted and fenced tennis courts, area landscaping, and LWCF sign.		
1981 / 26-01170	Section 25 Mini Park	\$22,680	Acquire 3.81 acres for outdoor recreation.		
1983 / 26-01285	Inglenook Park	\$60,800	Develop: grading and seeding, 2 softball fields, 3 soccer fields, foot paths, play lot/ picnic area, parking lot, boundary fencing, landscaping, and LWCF sign.		
1984 / 26-01354	Section 25 Park (Statford Woods)	\$27,525	Develop: woodform playlot, grading, and seeding an open play field, picnic tables, sitting area, sidewalks, asphalt pathway and tree shrub plantings.		
1986 / TF86-191	Meyer Leib Property	\$108,000	To acquire approximately 10 acres of lightly wooded land in the City.		
1989 / BF89-466	Pebble Creek Park Development	\$376,500	Park development including: tennis, softball, soccer, playlot, entrance road, parking, landscaping, restroom facility, picnic area w/shelter, walking trail, and fitness stations.		
1989 / TF89-237	Section 24 Wetlands	\$218,800	To acquire approximately 13 acres of land as natural open space area.		
1990 / TF90-393	Valley Woods Trail	\$120,000	Construction of trails, benches, fishing/viewing station, pedestrian bridge, stream bank stabilization and landscaping on the Rouge River.		
1991 / TF91-833	Evergreen Woods Park	\$950,000	Acquire 35 acres of land adjacent to 45 acres of City-owned nature preserve. The expanded park would provide additional open space and natural areas for passive recreation use.		
1993 / 26-01530	Civic Center Playscape	\$142,378	Develop adventure playscape for community-wide use utilizing universal design to be accessible to both handicapped and able-bodied children, at the city's major recreation and civic property.		
1999 / CM99-271	Civic Center Tennis Complex	\$455,000	Reconstruct tennis complex at Civic Center site including 9 lighted tennis courts and 3 handball courts, related walks, signage, site furnishings, and landscaping.		
2002 / TF02-148	Berberian Property Acquisition	\$1,753,500	Acquisition in fee single of 16 acres of natural property on the Rouge River to provide fishing access, protect wetland habitat, and complete the trail and wildlife corridor of Valley Woods Nature Preserve.		
2003 / 26-01614	Inglenook Park Playscape Project	\$300,000	Develop new accessible playground at large community park. Work and improvements include new play equipment, resilient safety surfacing, walkways and site furnishings.		
2004 / TF04-112	Carpenter Lake Park Development and Lake Restoration	\$500,000	Development of a new public fishery and park site, including restoration of 6-acre Carpenter Lake, wetlands enhancement, barrier-free trail, fishing dock, and parking.		
2010 - 2012	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$500,000	Nature Interpretive Center		
2014 / 26-01744	Pebble Creek Play Area Project	\$100,000	Renovation of play area including new accessible play equipment, safety surfacing, upgraded drainage, site furnishings, and native landscaping.		
2014 / RP14-0115	Beech Woods Group Picnic Area Improvement Project	\$45,000	Improvement of the large group picnic area adjacent to the Beech Woods Recreation Center. Provide new picnic site furnishings, repair accessible ramp.		
2014 / TF14-0275	Inglenook Park Renovation Project	\$280,000	Renovate Inglenook Park ball field complex. Replace back stops, player's benches, fencing and bleachers. Paved walkways. Construct playlot, restrooms, parking, and central shelter. Native tree plantings and permeable pavements will be incorporated.		
2014 / TF14-0288	Horsetail Woods Acquisition Project	\$99,800	Acquire 5.9 acres of natural land adjacent to the 22-acre Horsetail Woods Nature Preserve.		

Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources

In addition, the City has received a variety of other grants and donations to fund parks and recreation projects. Several were joint projects with the Southfield Storm Water Management Division of Department of Public Works. They are noted with an asterisk in the below table.

Funding Source	Project Year	Park Name / Project Name	Grant Amount	Project Description
Michigan Equity Grant	1986	Burgh Historic Park	\$85,000	Fountain courtyard
Community Development Block Grant	1990	Lincoln Woods Nature Preserve	\$218,000	Land acquisition
Michigan Recreation Board	1991	Pebble Creek	\$376,500	Park development
National Park Service Land for Parks Program Approval for Land Exchange of Optimist Park for 30 acres of Carpenter Lake	2004	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$1,000,000	Acquisition of 30 acres of parkland
GreenWays Initiative Grant	2004	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$95,000	Berberian Woods acquisition
Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan Six Rivers Land Conservancy Donation	2004	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$17,070	Berberian Woods acquisition
Landowner Donation of Land Value	2004	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$520,582	Berberian Woods acquisition
Kellogg Foundation - Able to Play Grant	2006	Inglenook Park	\$25,000	Playscape
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Grant	2008	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$965,000	Restoration and park development
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant (Fish Management)	2008	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$65,000	Restoration and park development
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant	2008*	Beech Woods Golf Course	\$49,250	Stream bank stabilization
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant	2008*	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$63,000	Streamwood Strembank Erosion Mitigation Project
Community Development Block Grant	2009	Miller Park	\$178,768	Play area
Community Development Block Grant	2010	Bedford Woods Park	\$40,000	Park development

#### Table 4: Grant details for Parks and Recreation projects

Community Development Block Grant	2010	Burgh Historic Park	\$90,000	Renovation of Art Center
Alliance of Rouge Communities Gro-Zone Grant	2010	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$5,000	Meadow planting
Walgreens Donation	2010	Simms Park	\$18,500	Play equipment addition
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant	2010 - 2012	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$160,000	Nature Interpretive Center
Denso Donation	2010 - 2012	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	\$140,000	Nature Interpretive Center
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Round IX Grant	2010*	Beech Woods	\$100,000	Greening project, Phase 1
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Round X Grant	2010*	Beech Woods	\$79,000	Greening project, Phase 1
EPA Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant Round IX	2010*	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$63,650	Trailhead and storm water improvement project
Sub-grant from Alliance of Rouge Communities Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant	2010	Valley Woods Nature Preserve	\$270,000	Wetlands restoration project

Source: City of Southfield

In 2010, the City of Southfield received partial funding via a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Grant for the Valley Woods Nature Reserve Wetlands Restoration Project. The primary goal of the project was to restore the natural wetlands by removing invasive species, reintroducing plant diversity and restoring wetland hydrology. A joint effort between the City of Southfield and the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), the project received state-wide recognition and was awarded the 2013 Project of the Year Award from the Michigan Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA).

## PARTNERSHIPS, VOLUNTEER & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Annual Rouge River Clean-Up Day volunteers

#### **Partnerships**

Partnerships between the Department of Parks and Recreation and other entities facilitate and enhance the delivery of services to the public. Other entities may be other departments within the City, other agencies, such as adjacent municipalities, and state and federal agencies, but also non-profits and private businesses.

#### **Non-Profits**

The City has partnered with the Six Rivers Land Conservancy to oversee volunteer stewardship activities within natural areas, such as enlisting an AmeriCorps crew to remove invasive plant species at Berberian Woods, or directing volunteers from Lawrence Technological University in invasive removal along the Rouge River in Valley Woods. A long-standing relationship with Friends of the Rouge fosters community-wide and corporate volunteerism for the annual Rouge River Clean-Up.

Lawrence Technological University (LTU) is located in Southfield and offers its students a variety of recreational facilities for intramural and team sports. Lawrence Technological University's expanded alternate present an interest opportunity for future collaborations. For example, the LTU hockey team uses the City's Sports Arena.

#### **Inter-agency Relationships**

The City of Southfield works with many different agencies to benefit the Parks and Recreation Department. A multi-agency partnership with the City of Birmingham, Village of Beverly Hills, Oakland County Planning and Economic Development (OCPED), Oakland County Water Resources Commission, Six Rivers Land Conservancy and the Friends of the Rouge serve together to manage and promote the resources of the Rouge Green Corridor. The City participated in Oakland County's development of its Green Infrastructure Plan. The City also participates with OCPED and Oakland County Parks groups for Oakland Trails Advisory Council, Natural Areas Advisory Council, and the annual Heritage Conference.

Southfield Public Schools are the primary school district in Southfield. Other school districts, such as Birmingham and Royal Oak, extend into Southfield. Private, parochial, and charter school are also located in Southfield.





#### **Business Partnerships**

At the Beech Woods Golf Course, the City's golf professional operates as a private contractor to provide golf lessons, group and individual classes.

The City has a contract with Little Caesars Amateur Sports Foundation for operations of the ice rink.

Health Alliance Plan (HAP), a Detroit-based HMO, sponsors Southfield's water exercise program. With HAPS's sponsorship, Southfield is able to offer this program to the public free of charge.

#### Volunteers

Volunteers are active throughout the Parks and Recreation Department. Numerous Boy Scout Eagle projects have been constructed on parkland nearly every year and court-appointed workers assist with painting and annual park clean-ups.

"Make a Difference" campaigns focus on clean-up activities at a few parks each year. The Department also offers an Adopt-a-Park program where groups can volunteer to help maintain a park for a duration of two to three years.

#### **Sponsorships**

The Southfield Parks and Recreation Department offers several sponsorship opportunities for individual facilities and special events, from co-sponsorships of concert series to memorial trees and benches in a City park.

Sponsorship packages and opportunities are detailed on the City website and are coordinated through the Parks and Recreation Department.

#### Southfield Sports Arena (left)

Golf Lessons at Beech Woods Golf Course (right) Intentionally left blank

## RECREATION INVENTORY

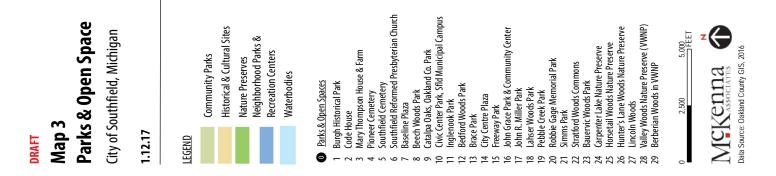
Developing a complete inventory of parks and recreation facilities and programs is an essential component of a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Understanding what parks, facilities, and programs are available to Southfield residents will assist in decision-making and is the basis upon which future improvements and plans will be built.

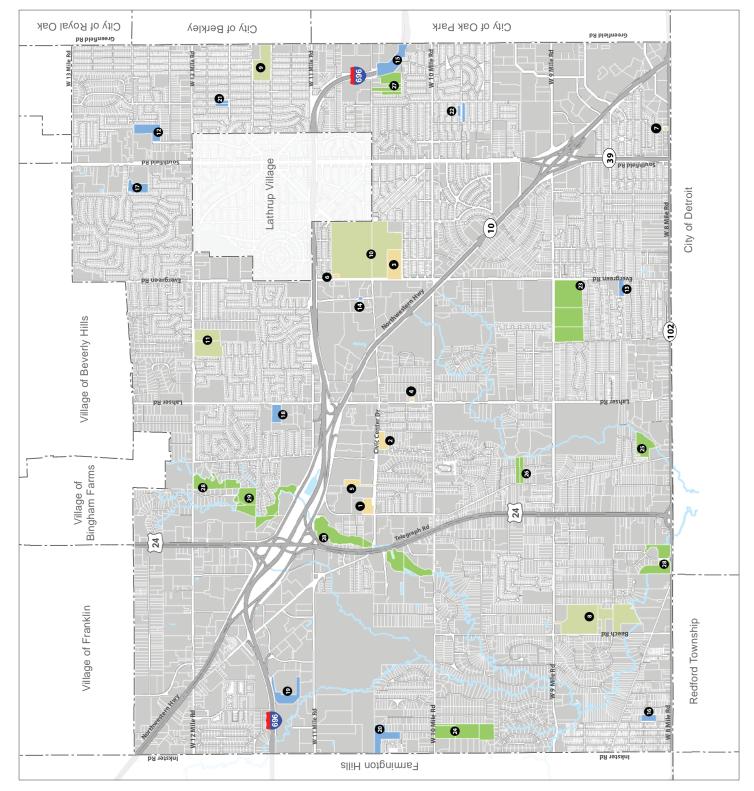
An inventory of park amenities and equipment was developed and reviewed with regard to location, acreage, quantity, quality, accessibility, and condition. The City does not have any regional recreation facilities, yet there are a number of regional recreational areas within an hour drive. These regional facilities offer a variety of recreational opportunities for all ages.



Rouge River and Valley Woods Trail The City is responsible for the management of 775 acres of parkland and historic and cultural sites. Of the total, 407 acres (53%) represent developed park or historic sites and 344 acres (44%) include open space and nature preserves. The remaining 3% contain undeveloped sites. The 126 acre Valley Woods Nature Preserve, the City's flood plain property along the Rouge River corridor, accounts for 37% of all nature preserve properties and 16% of all park properties.

Map 3 details the location of all parks and recreation facilities in the City.





## **CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES**



#### Southfield Sports Arena

The City classifies its parklands into five categories based on their size and function. While particular uses and purposes are described for each category, it is important to bear in mind that any of the City's types of parklands can use an integrated design approach. All of Southfield's parks can incorporate landscaping and green infrastructure features suitable for the types of recreation, conservation or uses in each park, but can also provide water quality, air quality, and resilience benefits. For example, playing fields can be designed and constructed to serve as storm water detention facilities during rainstorms, relieving flooding in adjacent neighborhoods. Parking lots and playing surfaces may incorporate permeable surfacing, and soil amendments can be used to enhance the capacity of lawn areas and fields to retain storm water.

The description of each park or facility includes an assessment of its condition for barrier-free access (see following section).

#### **Community Parks and Recreation Facilities (25 Acres or greater)**

Community parks contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of City residents. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in small or neighborhood parks. The focus of these parks is to meet community-based recreation needs, as well as preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. Community parks are generally 25 acres or greater in area and serve residents within one-half to three miles. Community parks may also include smaller parks that are more specialized in nature and are meant to serve the entire community. The City of Southfield has three parks and facilities that can be classified as Community Parks.



#### Beech Woods Parks and Recreation Center (81.85 Acres)

Accessibility Assessment = 3

Beech Woods Park is an 81 acre park which serves the entire community with its fitness center, sports arena, tennis courts, golf course and driving range, including portions that are heated and lighted year round. The play area and picnic shelter are popular throughout the summer months.

A bioswale and the north porous paver parking lot demonstrate sustainable stormwater features to the public.





#### **Civic Center Park (154.84 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Civic Center Park is on the City's main civic property. Park activities share the site with library, civic and court buildings. The Civic Center is home to the Parks and Recreation Administrative Offices, the Southfield Pavilion, art center, meeting rooms, the pool and ice arena, and park maintenance operations. Outdoor recreational facilities include Evergreen Hills Golf Course, nature area, picnic area with shelter, play lot, sand volleyball courts, and ball fields, including Miracle Field and the lighted handball and tennis complex.









#### **Inglenook Park (42.41 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Southfield's most popular park, Inglenook is heavily used for softball, the fitness trail and the universally accessible play lot. Over 200 parking spaces, restrooms and a concession building support the high levels of use at the park. Miller Barn and a ten-acre wooded natural area are also features enjoyed by residents and visitors.



#### Neighborhood Parks and Community Centers (3-24 acres)

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the focus of recreation activity for the more immediate neighborhood around the park; typically a one-mile square township section, bounded on four sides by major roadways. Facilities may or may not include a small parking lot, playlot, seating, picnic facilities and some athletic facilities such as ballfields or basketball courts.

#### **Bedford Woods Park (14.71 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Bedford Woods Park features a playlot, softball and Little League fields and two large gravel parking lots.



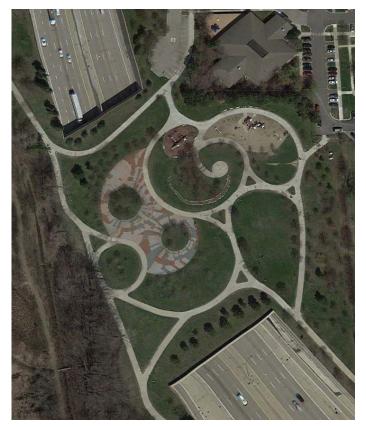


Brace Park (10.36 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 2

Brace Park is owned almost entirely by Southfield Public Schools.







**Freeway Park (11.51 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Freeway Park can be considered one of Southfield's most unique park sites. The 11 acre property is actually an overpass on the I-696 expressway which connects residential neighborhoods to schools, religious institutions and commercial areas along the highway.





## John Grace Park and Recreation Center (4.61 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 3

John Grace Park and Recreation Center is a small neighborhood park with a recreation center in a renovated school building. The building has been primarily used as a regional employment center.



John R. Miller Park (13.56 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 3

John R. Miller Park is a small neighborhood park.





## Lahser Woods Park (15.79Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 2

Lahser Woods has limited development with only a paved walkway and a very small gravel parking lot. The paved walkway is heavily used by the adjacent neighborhood to traverse the site to get to the adjoining school and synagogue.







**Pebble Creek Park (15.42 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 2

Pebble Creek Park is a popular park site for large group picnics and adult soccer clubs.



**Robbie Gage Memorial Park (16.77 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Robbie Gage Memorial Park is located on the City's west border with Farmington Hills.

Robbie Gage was the son of the late Judge Hilda Gage. The park was dedicated in his memory.

The site is wooded and undeveloped.



# **Simms Park (4.04 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Simms Park is a four acre neighborhood park with accessible play areas, picnic shelter and tennis courts.





**Stratford Woods Commons (5.1 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 4

Stratford Woods Commons is a pedestrian only neighborhood park.



# Small Parks (Less than 3 Acres)

Small parks or mini-parks are three acres or less in size and may represent only a single lot. Their purpose is dependent on their location, size and the needs of the immediate area. They may be developed as urban parks, neighborhood play areas, community gardens or as passive green space.

The majority of Southfield's small parks are undeveloped.



**City Centre Plaza (.68 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 5

City Centre Plaza is park of existing road rightof-way on Central Park Boulevard which has been upgraded with landscaping and street furnishings.



**Civic Center Drive Park (2.17 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 2

Civic Center Drive Park is an undeveloped lot.

## **Eleven Mile / Greenfield Park (.72 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Eleven Mile / Greenfield Park is an undeveloped City lot at the intersection of two major roadways in a commercial area.



Mulberry Park (.93 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 1

Mulberry Park is an undeveloped park site on Civic Center Drive.



#### Evergreen / I-696 Park (.38 Acres)

Accessibility Assessment = 1

Evergreen / I-696 Park is a vacant City lot located at the north edge of the City Centre District.



**Seminole Street Park (.63 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Seminole Street Park is in a residential subdivision.



# **Southfield Ten (2.00 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Southfield Ten was once part of the Southfield Ten school site which was converted to office use. The two-acre buffer is bermed open lawn.



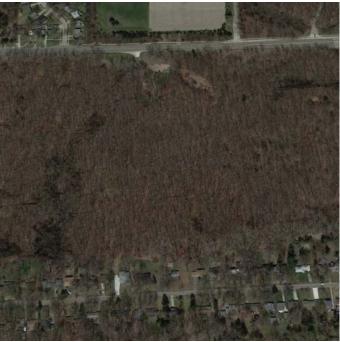
# **Nature Preserves and Open Space**

Nature preserves (e.g. Carpenter Lake) may be of a variety of sizes, and have a primary focus of preserving and protecting natural areas in the City while still providing access to nature by the public. Other recreational facilities may exist on a nature preserve property if they do not conflict with the parks primary purpose, including parking areas, trails, nature centers, wildlife observation areas, fishing piers, picnic areas, rest room facilities, and small play areas. Some natural areas may be left undeveloped and held as open space only for green buffers, wildlife and floodplain recharge areas.

**Bauervic Woods Nature Preserve (80.44 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 3

Bauervic Woods Nature Preserve is one of Southfield's major nature preserves. There are extensive trails throughout the park.





#### **Bridge Street Nature Preserve (24.18 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Bridge Street Nature Preserve is currently undeveloped, located on both sides of Bridge Street and north of Eight Mile. The Main Branch of the Rouge River traverses the property and enters the City of Detroit at this located.





## **Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve (43.58 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 5

Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve features interpretive nature trails and lake fishing access. The parking lot is constructed with porous pavement with a bioswale to handle surface water run off. The lake serves fish and wildlife habitat.



# Horsetail Woods Nature Preserve (23.11 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 1

Horsetail Woods Nature Preserve is located on a Rouge River tributary. The park is heavily wooded.



# Hunters Lane Nature Preserve (22.66 Acres) Accessibility Assessment = 1

Hunters Lane Woods Nature Preserve is a nature preserve on a tributary of the Rouge.



## **Industrial Park Nature Preserve (3.14 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Industrial Park Nature Preserve was created to buffer the Industrial Park from the adjacent residential district.



## **Lincoln Woods Nature Preserve (21.71 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

The Lincoln Woods Nature Preserve is managed by the City but is half owned by MDOT as part of a wetland mitigation project.



## **Valley Woods Nature Preserve (61.46 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 2

Valley Woods Nature Preserve is one of the most significant natural areas in the City. The linear park is located along the Main Branch of the Rouge River.





# **Historical and Cultural Sites**

Southfield historic and cultural sites are primarily utilized for passive areas and specialized recreation such as the gazebo concert series and senior gardens.

#### Burgh Historic Park

Accessibility Assessment = 3

Burgh Historic Park is one of Southfield's most popular destinations for concerts, weddings, and enjoyment of the period gardens. Several restored historical structures are preserved on the property which was the original seat of Southfield Township, including the original township hall, fire hall, and public works garage. Other historical structures have been moved to the property, such as the Simmons House, 1854 Church, and the Parks House.



## **Code House Historic Site** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Code House is Southfield's highest quality historic structure. An example of mid-19th century Green revival architecture, the structure was restored and served as a residence for a recent city administrator. The house does not have a public use.



## Mary Thompson Farm Accessibility Assessment = 2

The Mary Thompson Farm is the 19 acre remains of the original homestead of one of the City's pioneer benefactors. The farm provided the land for the development of the Civic Center in the 1970's. The farmhouse has been restored and the site is used for senior garden plots.



## **Pioneer Cemetery (0.7 Acres)** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Pioneer Cemetery is a <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acre historic cemetery.



# **Southfield Cemetery** Accessibility Assessment = 1

Southfield Cemetery is a historic cemetery which is still available for new burials.



# ACCESSIBILITY

The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreational facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. An evaluation of Southfield's parks and recreation facilities has been conducted. In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following criteria can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- · Has a hearing impairment or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental impairment

A five-point evaluation system was used to rank each facility's accessibility. The system is described below and the accessibility rankings can be found in the table below.

**Level 1.** The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

**Level 2.** The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as ply equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.

**Level 3.** The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may be completely barrier-free.

**Level 4.** The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways are paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are easily accessible.

**Level 5.** The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.



Trail at Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve

#### Table 5: Accessibility Ratings for Southfield's Parks and Facilities

Community Parks	Accessibility Rating
Beech Woods Park & Recreation Center	3
Civic Center Park	3
Inglenook Park	3
Neighborhood Parks	
Bedford Woods Park	3
Brace Park	2
Freeway Park	3
John Grace Park & Recreation Center	3
John R. Miller Park	3
Lahser Woods Park	2
Pebble Creek Park	2
Robbie Gage Park (undeveloped)	1
Simms Park	3
Stratford Woods Commons	4
Small Parks	
City Centre Plaza (ROW)	5
Civic Center Drive Park (undeveloped)	2
Eleven Mile / Greenfield Park (undeveloped)	1
Evergreen / I-696 Park (undeveloped)	1
Mulberry Park (undeveloped)	1
Seminole Street Park	3
Southfield Ten (undeveloped)	1
Nature Preserve and Open Space	
Bauervic Woods Nature Preserve	3
Bridge Street Nature Preserve	1
Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	5
Horsetail Woods Nature Preserve	1
Hunters Lane Woods Nature Preserve	1
Industrial Park Nature Preserve	1
Lincoln Woods Nature Preserve	1
Valley Woods Nature Preserve	2
Historical and Cultural Sites	
Burgh Historic Park (Burgh Historic District)	3
Code House Historical Site	1
Mary Thompson Farm	2
Pioneer Cemetery	1
Southfield Cemetery	2

# **CITY CENTRE OPEN SPACE**



The Southfield City Centre Vision & Redevelopment Plan, adopted in 2016, provides planning guidance related to the 8.15 acre parcel of land the City has acquired across Evergreen Road from the Civic Center complex. It envisions a linear park that is intended to serve as a central gathering place for the new development and the district as a whole, seamlessly integrating architecture and public life. The park provides +/- 28,300 SF of public open space activated by ground-floor retail and regular programming. Opportunities for additional open space within the development include plazas for outdoor seating and dining along the wide sidewalks. A non-motorized, multi-use path, connecting Civic Center north to Corporate Drive, is also envisioned as part of this plan. The City should take all appropriate steps to accomplish this vision.

# NORTHLAND MALL REDEVELOPMENT

In December 2015, the City of Southfield in cooperation with the Southfield Downtown Development Corporation acquired the 125-acre Northland Center with the goal of facilitating the coordinated development of the site. The Northland Redevelopment Plan, adopted in 2016, calls for a 7+ acre central park tying into a linear greenway through several, radial connections. The City should take all appropriate steps to accomplish this vision. Southfield Civic Center

# **PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES**



#### Southfield-Lathrup High School

Although school facilities are designed and intended for school use and are not available to the public all the time, they do satisfy some community recreational needs. The City is served by the Southfield Public School District. Southfield school facilities provide conventional recreation facilities targeted for the specific use and benefit of the enrolled school population. To a limited extent, the school facilities supplement the broader range of recreational opportunities provided to the public by the City.

All school sites provide some recreational facilities on their grounds as well as indoor facilities such as classrooms, auditoriums, and gymnasiums in the school buildings. The grounds serve a neighborhood park function by providing public open spaces for nearby residents to utilize.

The public school facilities located in the City are:

- Adler Elementary (6.00 Acres). Adler Elementary is located on Filmore Street, north of 10 Mile Road and east of Evergreen Road. The school has a playlot, two baseball diamonds and basketball courts, and an indoor gymnasium.
- 2. Birney K8 (19.00 Acres). Birney K8 is located on Evergreen Road north of 11 Mile Road. The school has a fitness trail, gymnasium, ballfield and soccer field.
- Brace/Lederle K8 (17.00 Acres). Brace/Lederle K8 is located on W 9 Mile Road west of Southfield Road. The school has a multi-recreation court, playlot, three athletic fields, one baseball diamond and a gymnasium.
- Bussey Center for Early Child Education (9.01 Acres). Bussey Center is located on Frederick Street, south of W 9 Mile Road and east of Beech Road. The facility has a play lot, a baseball diamond, and a gymnasium.
- 5. Levey Middle School (15.10 Acres). Levey Middle School is located on W 9 Mile Road, east of Beech Road. The school has three athletic fields, three baseball diamonds, gymnasium, an indoor swimming pool, a fitness trail and a track.
- MacArthur K8 University Academy (10.00 Acres). MacArthur K8 University Academy is located on 12 Mile Road east of Evergreen Road. The school includes a play lot, three baseball diamonds, a gymnasium, and basketball courts.



- 7. McIntyre Elementary (7.00 Acres). McIntyre Elementary is located on Saratoga Boulevard, between 11 Mile Road and 12 Mile Road and east of Evergreen Road. The school has a playlot, a Little League field, and a gymnasium.
- 8. **Thompson K8 International Academy (29.49 Acres).** Thompson K8 is located on Lincoln Dr west of I-696. The school has a multi-recreation court, a playlot, three athletic fields, one baseball diamond, two basketball courts and a gymnasium.
- 9. **Southfield High School (44.00 Acres).** Southfield High School is located on Lahser Road south of W 10 Mile Road. The school has an athletic field, three baseball diamonds, six tennis courts, a gymnasium, an indoor swimming pool, a fitness trail and a track.
- 10. **Southfield Lathrup High (42.00 Acres).** Southfield Lathrup High is located on 12 Mile Road east of Evergreen Road. The school has an athletic field, two baseball diamonds, tennis courts, an indoor swimming pool, a gymnasium, fitness trail and a track.
- Stevenson Elementary (8.00 Acres). Stevenson Elementary is located on Lahser Road between 11 Mile and 12 Mile Roads. The school has a playlot, two Little League fields, a gymnasium, and four basketball hoops.
- 12. Vandenberg Elementary (9.45 Acres). Vandenberg Elementary is located on Edwards Ave, north of 12 Mile Road and west of Greenfield Road. The school has a playlot, an athletic field, a baseball diamond and a gymnasium.

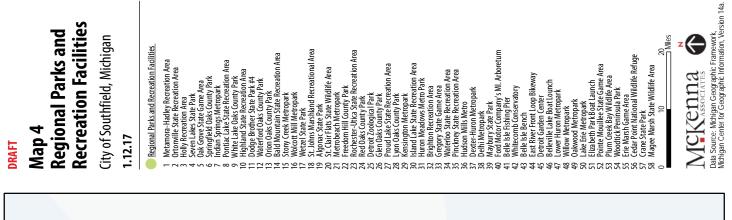
Southfield-Lathrup athletics

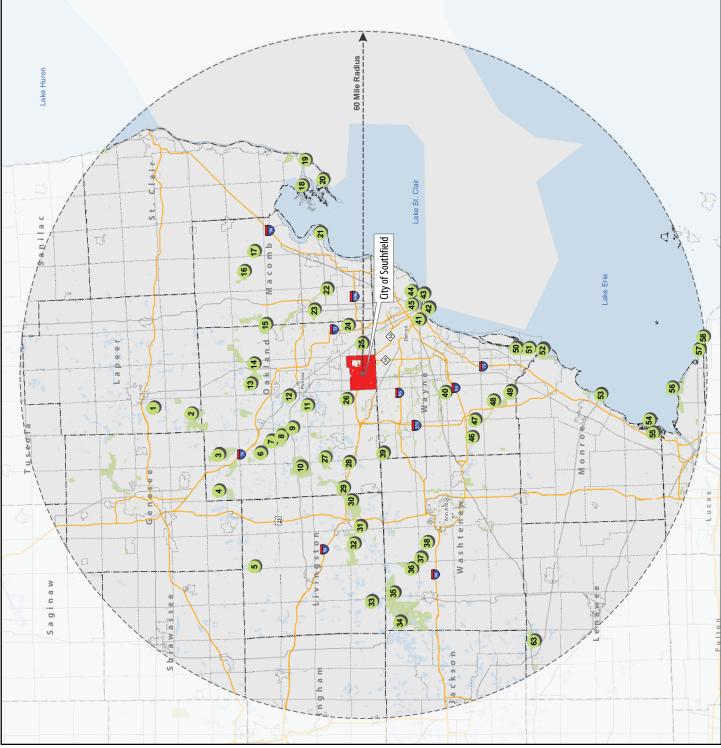
# **REGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES**



#### Catalpa Oaks Play Structure

Regional parks serve a multi-community area and often offer unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also use active play areas such as ball fields or basketball courts. While the City of Southfield does not use these parks for the City's recreation programs, they do provide active and passive recreational opportunities for the residents of the community. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and Oakland County provide regional parks and facilities. The only regional park in Southfield is Catalpa Oaks (see Map 4). Other regional parks within 60 miles of the City are shown on Map 4.





#### 1. Michigan State Parks.

Several Michigan state parks within 60 miles offer recreational opportunities for Southfield residents. These state facilities provide a variety of activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and horseback riding. There are no state parks in the City.

#### 2. Oakland County Parks.

The Oakland County park system consists of 13 parks including 67 miles of paved and natural trails for walking, jogging, skating, biking, and equestrian riding. The County parks offer year-round recreational opportunities including camping, picnicking, fishing, swimming, cross-country skiing, boating/canoeing/kayaking, and golf. Catalpa Oaks is maintained by Oakland County, but is located in Southfield.

 Catalpa Oaks features baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, playscape and swings, and picnic pavilions. Visitors can enjoy various activities, including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, relaxing, and geocaching.

#### 3. Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) is a regional park district that encompasses the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, and Livingston. Since its inception in 1940, the HCMA has obtained over 20,000 acres of parkland, all located in the metro Detroit region. The parks provide a variety of outdoor recreation and educational activities including picnicking, hiking, golf, winter sports, water-related activities, horseback riding, and special programs. There are no metroparks located in the City.

#### 4. Lathrup Village.

Lathrup Village operates four primary parks. Because the Village is located in the middle of the City of Southfield, residents of both communities are able to enjoy these parks. Descriptions of the Village's parks from the Lathrup Village website are provided below.

- a. **Annie Lathrup Park.** Approximately two acres, Annie Lathrup Park's amenities include both active and passive recreation activities; including a walking/jogging asphalt path, two outdoor skating rinks, open green space and benches.
- b. **Goldengate Park.** Approximately 2 ½ acres, Goldengate Park's amenities include both active and recreation activities; including playlots, swings, picnic tables, and grills. The Park also provides trash cans, split rail fencing, and parking availability.
- c. Lathrup Municipal Park. Approximately two acres, Lathrup Municipal Park includes passive recreational activities; including picnic shelter and tables, children's garden, gazebo, brickpaver walkway, and open green space for resting and relaxing.
- d. **Sarrackwood Park.** Approximately <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of an acre, Sarrackwood Park has playground equipment, picnic tables, trash cans, split rail fencing, and a garden area.

# PARKS AND RECREATION AMENITIES



The parks and recreation facilities in the City each have different types of amenities and opportunities for a wide variety of recreational experiences. Amenities such as picnic tables, grills, bike racks, benches, and park signs are enjoyed at several facilities throughout the City. The following table lists some of the amenities currently available at each park and recreation facility:

Play structures can be found in many Southfield parks

#### Table 6: Facility Amenities

Facility Name	Parking Lots	Concessions / Vending	Restrooms (Indoor or Outdoor)	Basketball Courts (Indoor or outdoor)	Skate Park	Tennis Courts	Pavilion or covered picnic area	Stage/Band Shelter/Amphitheater	Ball Diamonds (Ball Fields)	Pathway / Trails	Multiple Purpose Field	Outdoor Pool	Sand or Grass Volleyball Court	Soccer	Play equipment	Fitness Center	Gymnasiums	Ice Skating Rink	Handball	Swings
Baseline Plaza																				
Bauervic Woods Park	Х									Х					Х					
Bedford Woods park	Х								Х						Х					
Beech Woods Park	Х	Х	Х			Х	Х						Х		Х					Х
Berberian Woods in VWNP										Х										
Brace Park	Х								Х											
Bridge Street in VWNP																				
Burgh Historical Park	Х		Х				Х	Х												
Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	Х									Х										
Catalpa Oaks, Oakland Co. Park	Х	Х	Х				Х		Х	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х			Х
City Centre Plaza																				
Civic Center Park Municipal Campus	Х	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			Х	Х	Х
Code House			Х																	
Freeway Park	Х									Х					Х					Х
Horsetail Woods Nature Preserve										Х										
Inglenook Park	Х		Х				Х	Х	Х	Х					Х					Х
John Grace Park & Comm. Ctr.	Х		Х		Х				Х						Х		Х			Х
John R. Miller Park	Х			Х		Х			Х						Х					
Lahser Woods Park	Х									Х										
Lincoln Woods																				
Mary Thompson House & Farm	Х																			
Nature Preserve on Prescott																				
Pebble Creek Park	Х		Х			Х	Х			Х			Х	Х						
Pioneer Cemetery																				
Robbie Gage Memorial Park																				
Seminole Park															Х					Х
Southfield Reformed Pres. Church	Х			Х											Х					
Simms Park				Х		Х	Х				Х				Х					Х
Southfield Cemetery																				
Stratford Woods Common										Х					Х					Х
Valley Woods Nature Preserve (VWNP)										Х										

# **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

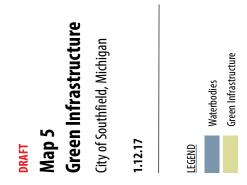


Several parks have been designed utilizing green infrastructure or LID techniques. Green infrastructure is an approach to managing stormwater runoff issues that can negatively impact the environment and provides community benefits. Green infrastructure techniques are intended to soak up rain water where it falls, so as to not overburden the community's water main system.

Green infrastructure practices include pervious pavement, rain gardens, roof gardens, bioswales, planter boxes, and land conservation. Table 2 details the green infrastructure techniques that the City has implemented in its parks.

A bioswale was constructed as part of the Inglenook Park project. A bioswale is a landscape element that aids in filtering silt and other contaminants from stormwater runoff.

Source: http://www.ectinc.com/ inglenook-park-project-award/





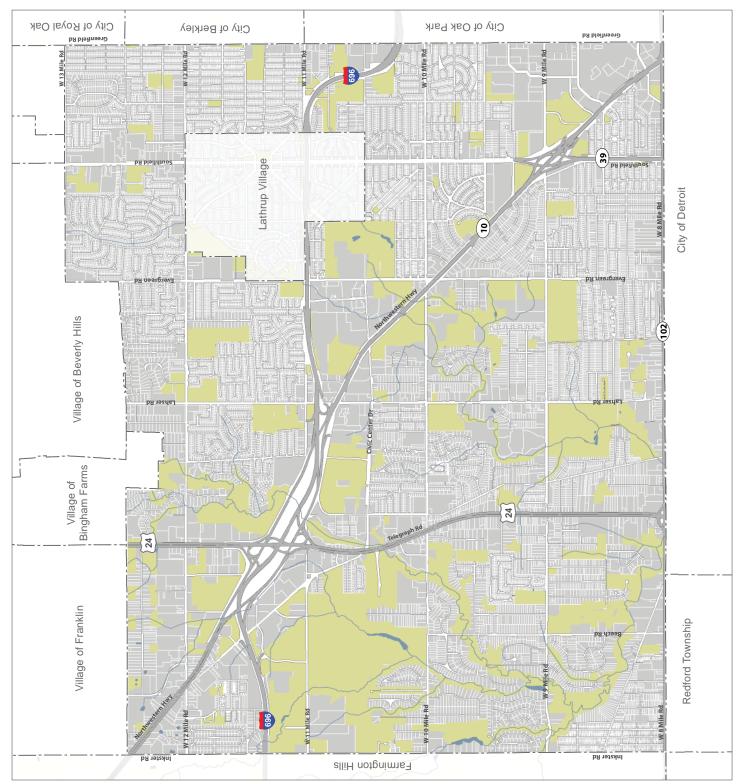




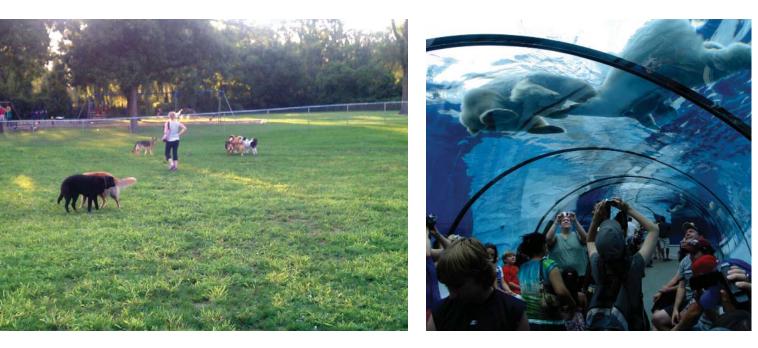
Table 7: Green Infrastructure in Southfield Parks

Facility Name	Wetland/ Vernal Pond	Pervious Paving	Stormwater Features	
Bauervic Woods Park		Gravel		
Beech Woods Park			Bioswale	
Berberian Woods in VWNP	Х			
Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	Х	Pavers	Parking Lot	
Catalpa Oaks, Oakland County Park		Gravel	Rain Garden	
Civic Center Park Municipal Campus	Х	Porous Asphalt		
Code House		Gravel		
Inglenook Park		Pavers	Bioswale	
Lahser Woods Park		Gravel		
Mary Thompson House & Farm		Gravel		
Pioneer Cemetery		Gravel		
Southfield Cemetery		Gravel		

Nearly 5,000-square-feet of pervious pavement was installed to be used as additional parking at Inglenook Park.

Source: http://www.ectinc.com/ inglenook-park-project-award/

# **NEARBY PARKS AND FACILITIES**



Paws in the Hills dog park in Farmington Hills (left) Detroit Zoo, Royal Oak (right) Surrounded by the City of Farmington Hills, City of Farmington, Redford Charter Township, City of Detroit, City of Oak Park, City of Berkley, Village of Beverly Hills, Village of Franklin, and the City of Lathrup Village, Southfield residents benefit from the proximity of neighboring communities' parks and recreation facilities. These parks and facilities supplement those located in the City with offerings such as active recreation, athletic fields, educational programs, golf, nature centers, playgrounds, and swimming. The following local parks and facilities are located within a short distance of the City:

#### **Berkley**

- Berkley Ice Arena
- Jaycee Park
- Kiwanis Tot Lot
- Merchants Park
- Beverly Hills
- Beverly Hills Athletic Club
- Beverly Park
- Riverside Park

#### Farmington

- Franklin Hills Country Club
- George F. Riley Park
- Shiawassee Park

## **Farmington Hills**

- Detroit Tennis and Squash Club
- Farmington Hills Dog Park
- Farmington Hills Golf Club
- Farmington Hills Nature Center
- Forest Park Swimming Pool
- Founders Sports Park
- Heritage Park
- Memorial Park
- Olde Town Park
- Riley Archery Range
- Woodland Hills Nature Park

#### Lathrup Village\*

- Annie Lathrup Park
- Goldengate Park
- Lathrup Municipal Park
- Sarrackwood Park

#### Redford

- Allison Park
- Bell Creek County Park
- Detroit Memorial Park
- Eliza Howell Park
- Glenhurst Golf Course
- Handy Park
- Jaycee Park
- Lola Valley Parkway
- Manning Park
- Phoenix Park
- Redford Park
- Vandenburg Park
- Volney-Smith Park
- Western Golf and Country Club

## **Royal Oak**

- Barton Park North
- Barton Park South
- Bassett Park
- Cummingston Park
- Detroit Zoo
- Dickinson Park
- Dondero Park
- Eagle Plaza
- Elks Park
- Exchange Park
- Franklin Park
- Fred Piper Optimist Park
- Gunn-Dyer Park
- Grant Park
- Hudson Park
- Kenwood Park
- Lockman Park
- Maddock Park
- Marais Park
- Mark Twain Park
- Marks Park
- Maudlin Park
- Meininger Park
- Miller Park
- Realtor Park
- Red Run Golf Club
- Red Run Park
- Royal Oak Golf Center
- Quickstad Park
- Starr Jaycee Park
- Sullivan Park
- Upton Park
- VFW Park
- Wagner Park
- Waterworks Park
- Wendtland Park
- Westwood Park
- Whittier Park
- Worden Park
- Worden Park East

\*(see Regional Parks and Facilities)

Plum Hollow Country

# **PRIVATE RECREATION FACILITIES**



Plum Hollow Country Club

Many of Southfield's local recreational facilities are being provided through the private sector. These facilities may be open to the general public and they may also require a membership fee. The following represents a listing of private recreation facilities in Southfield.

- Franklin Athletic Club. Located on Northwestern Highway between 12 Mile and 13 Mile Roads, the Franklin Athletic Club has facilities for court sports (racquetball, squash, wally ball), as well as personal trainers, swimming lessons, basketball and sports camps. Memberships can be purchased based on type of program or level of interest.
- **Cranbrook Swim Club.** Located on Evergreen Road south of 13 Mile Road, Cranbrook Swim Club offers amenities for swimming and tennis for members of all ages. Memberships are not guaranteed based on interest, but on Club capacity. It is common for potential members to be on a waitlist.
- **Plum Hollow Country Club.** Located on Lahser Road and W 9 Mile Road, the Plum Hollow Country Club is a private membership club with amenities extending beyond the golf course. Members can enjoy swimming, tennis, social events, dining facilities, and snack bar.

# PROGRAMMING



The Department of Parks and Recreation offers over 1,000 different classes, programs and special events throughout the year. Athletics, cultural arts, and senior citizen programming represent major components of Southfield's offerings.

Marshmallow Drop 2016 Source: Detroit Free Press

# **Athletics**

Southfield Parks and Recreation offer many athletic and league opportunities for all ages. They include golf, basketball, softball, baseball, soccer, tennis, football, footgolf, volleyball, ice skating, hockey, swimming; just to name a few. These activities are available for people of all ages and abilities.

The City of Southfield is the home of Michigan's first baseball field for children with any physical or mental disability. The Miracle League is a charitable organization that provides children with mental and/ or physical challenges an opportunity to play baseball as team member in an organized league. Other adaptive programs include wheelchair basketball, golf, and tennis.

In addition to the many athletic programs offered by Southfield Parks and Recreation Department, some programs are made available due to partnering with community youth sports organizations. These programs take place at both City and school facilities.

# **Special Events**

Special events allow opportunities for the community to come together and enjoy various activities. These events also have an economic impact on the Community with so many people gathered in one location and spending monies on food, souvenirs, and lodging. It provides families with activities to share together. Special events promote feelings of being a part of a community and sharing an experience with other participants in a relaxed atmosphere. A great deal of interest in special events to programming has been demonstrated via the public engagement process.



#### Gazeebo Concert at Burgh Historical Park

The vast majority of special events take place on the Civic Center site, either in the Pavilion, at the ball fields or the arena and pool. Other events are held at Beech Woods Park and Recreation Center, Mary Thompson Farm and the Burgh Historical Park. The redevelopment of Northland Mall will provide new space for special event programs.

Many public events are also held at the Pavilion, which are sponsored by outside groups and organizations. They include art exhibits, antique shows, and international festivals, as well as trade shows and charity events. At 28,800 square feet, the Southfield Pavilion represents the 10th largest convention facility in the Detroit metropolitan area.

Some Southfield Parks and Recreation special events include:

- Arbor Day
- Boo at the Burgh
- Burgh Tree Lighting
- Daddy-Daughter Dance
- Eat to the Beat concerts
- EGGS'travaganza
- · Family Movie Under the Stars
- Family Pool Parties
- Fishing Derby
- · Gazebo concerts
- Marshmallow Drop
- Princess & Super Hero Day
- Snow Drop / Ride with Santa
- · Visits with Santa

## **Cultural Arts**

The Cultural Arts Division concentrates its efforts on cultural enrichment programming including classes in the visual and performing arts and special interests. Classes include dance (ballet, jazz, tap, Motown, ballroom, etc.), ceramics, painting, drawing, and creating writing.





# Golf

The Golf Division, in addition to operating two nine-hole courses, a pro-shop, and a year-round driving range with heated tees, offers several programs to area golfers including tournaments, golf leagues, and golf outings. A PGA Professional offers both private and group lessons and golf clinics.

The Beech Woods Golf Course is a 2,778 yard, par 35 course that includes a 50-tee, lighted driving ranges with 30 tees covered and heated, and a PGA Professional on staff. Evergreen Hills Golf Course, located at the Southfield Municipal Complex is a 2,904 yard, par 34 course. Both 9-hole courses offer clubs, pull-carts, and power carts for rent.

FootGolf is available at Beech Woods Golf Course and is one of only 24 courses in Michigan certified by the American FootGolf League. FootGolf is a combination of soccer and golf, with players kicking a soccer ball on a golf course facility with 21-inch diameter cups. Closely resembling the rules of golf, players must make their way down the green in as few shots as possible.

# **Senior Adult Programs**

The Adult Recreation Center offers comprehensive programs for adults aged 50 and up, including classes, trips, nutrition, adult day care center, outreach programs, and other services. The Center, located within the McDonnell Towers complex, is a multi-purpose, barrier-free facility. Facilities at the Center include a branch of the Southfield Public Library with large-print books, a co-op grocery store, a billiards room, and barber and beauty shops.

The lower level area includes coffee in the morning, exercise throughout the day, and the opportunity to play a Wii gaming system. Services such as Medicare/Medicaid assistance, tax assistance, and support groups also take place at the Center.

TOSS (Transportation of Southfield Seniors) provides transportation services five days a week for doctor's appointments, dialysis, shopping, or other outings. The Senior Gardens at the historic Mary Thompson Farm are home to over 100 garden plots for enthusiastic gardeners. Senior golf league, softball league, and two bounce volleyball teams offer 50+ aged residents the opportunity to participate in region-wide athletic competitions.

Southfield Open - City Golf Tournament (left)

FootGolf at Beech Woods Golf Course (right) intentionally left blank

# PARKLAND ANALYSIS & SERVICE AREAS

# PARKLAND ANALYSIS

Table 8 (on the following page) evaluated Southfield's park acreage in comparison to the guidelines set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA, 1983, 1995). However, the standards are general in nature and do not reflect the quality of the facilities, the character of the community, or other local differences that impact community recreation facility needs. Thus in evaluating the results, the actual conditions and trends present in the City must be taken into account.

#### Table 8: Southfield Park Land Acreage Analysis

Park Classification	NRPA Acreage Guideline <sup>1</sup>	Recommended Acreage <sup>2</sup>	Existing Acreage	Surplus / Deficiency		
Small Parks	0.25 acres	17.93 acres	7.3 acres	-10.63 acres		
Neighborhood Parks	2.00 acres	143.48 acres	155.22 acres <sup>3</sup>	11.74 acres		
Community Parks	5.00 acres	358.70 acres	307.80 acres	-50.90 acres		
Regional Park	10.00 acres	717.39 acres	24 acres	-693.39 acres		
Natural Resource Areas	Variable		344.09	N/A		

The guidelines for recommended acreage of park land in a community is based upon population. Southfield has a very large population and not enough acres of park space to accommodate the large population. Private and special use facilities, such as Plum Hollow Country Club and Golf Course are not included in the land acreage analysis.

Development of the City Centre Northland Mall sites will assist in providing park land acreage for Southfield, however, additional parks or expansion of existing parks should be considered in the future in order to accommodate the large population of Southfield.

- 1 Source: Lancaster, R.A., Ed. Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983; Mertes, J.D. and J.R. Hall. Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995. Based on minimum acres/1,000 residents.
- 2 Based on City population of 71,739 as of the 2010 US Census.
- 3 For the purposes of evaluating recommended acreage for Neighborhood and Community Parks, school facilities are counted at one-third (1/3) of their acreage for comparison purposes. Middle School and under are considered Neighborhood Parks and High Schools are considered community parks, due to the increase in size of the campus.

# **FACILITIES ANALYSIS**

The City's existing recreation facilities were compared against the guidelines set by the NRPA and MDNR to determine if the existing facilities are adequate to meet the needs of residents in comparison to national standards. Table 9 identifies the NRPA guideline for each facility type, the recommended number of facilities and the existing number of facilities in the City, and the surplus or deficiency.

#### Table 9: Park Facility Analysis

	MDNR Standard	Recommended Facilities	Existing Facilities	Surplus / Deficiency		
Badminton	1 per 5,000	14	_	-14		
Ball Fields	1 per 5,000	14	16	2		
Basketball Court (indoor)	1 per 5,000	14	3	-11		
Beach Areas	Varies	_	_	_		
Football Field	1 per 20,000	4	—	-4		
Golf-Driving Range	1 per 50,000	1	2	1		
Golf Course (9-hole standard)	1 per 25,000	3	2	-1		
Handball (3-4 wall)	1 per 20,000	4	3	-1		
Ice Hockey (indoor)	1 per 100,000	1	1	_		
Multi-Purpose Athletic Field	1 per 10,000	7	3	-4		
Soccer Field	1 per 10,000	7	6	-1		
Swimming Pool	1 per 20,000	4	2	-2		
Tennis Court	1 court per 2,000	36	14	-22		
Trails	1 system per region	1	11	10		
Volleyball Court	1 court per 5,000	14	7	-7		
Running Track	1 per 20,000	4	_	-4		



#### Tennis courts at Southfield Civic Center

With a large population such as Southfield, a number of amenities are needed to accommodate the residents. As funding allows, the following facilities should be considered based on the public request for additional facilities:

- Swimming Pools. Public input from the online survey and the Field Day engagement indicate that an indoor swimming pool is needed in the City. The outdoor pool receives a great deal of use in the summer months, but an indoor pool would allow children and adults to take swimming lessons all year round.
- Volleyball Courts. Outdoor volleyball courts should be considered in future park developments.
- **Tennis Courts.** The City should consider construction additional tennis courts at existing parks or include them in future park developments. Tennis courts can be adapted for use in pickleball, a sport that is growing in popularity.
- **Basketball Courts.** Indoor/outdoor basketball courts were also listed as "wishes" during the Field Day public engagement. The City should consider development additional basketball courts to meet the demands of the public.
- Football Fields. Several individuals expressed desire for football fields in the City. The City should consider development of multi-use fields on existing or for future development.
- Other Facilities. Other facilities requested during the public input process include, but were not limited to, a waterpark / splash pad, a dog park, a roller skating rink, and charted bike and running trails.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

After the completion of the 2016 Sustainable Southfield Comprehensive Plan, the City undertook an update to its Parks and Recreation Plan. Citizen input played a crucial role in the development of this plan. As an initial matter, attention was paid to the substantial public engagement undertaken by the City's Planning Commission as part of the process of developing the Sustainable Southfield Plan, which contains a number of policies and priorities relevant to this plan. Attention was also paid to other important planning documents that City has developed, that are germane to the scope of this plan. These include the Non-Motorized Pathway & Public Transit Plan adopted in 2012 as well as the Northland Redevelopment Plan and the Southfield City Centre Vision and Redevelopment Plan that were both adopted in 2016. Recommendations described within the action plan reflect the needs and ideas of those stakeholders who have participated throughout these processes and especially those who use the City's parks and recreation facilities. The process for developing this plan included seven tasks that are described below.

**Task One: Community Description.** The first task was to obtain a description of Southfield's physical and social features. These features include land use, community facilities, environmental and natural features, as well as population characteristics including age distribution, household size, and income. The Community Description can be found in Chapter 2.

**Task Two: Parks and Recreation Inventory.** The parks and recreation inventory includes written descriptions of facilities in Southfield. The information includes the acreage, barrier-free accessibility, types of recreation facilities, and other descriptions of the physical attributes of the area's facilities. The Inventory can be found in Chapter 4.

**Task Three: Administrative Structure and Funding.** The administrative structure of the City's parks and recreation facilities and programs, as well as budget and funding information, can be found in Chapter 3.

**Task Four: Public Participation.** The following public participation methods were conducted as part of the process of preparing this plan.

**Master Plan Survey** – Southfield created an online survey which was widely advertised to City residents. The survey included questions on parks, recreation facilities, programs, as well as, preferences and ideas for the redevelopment at the former Northland Mall site. Hard copies of the survey were also available at City Hall. Well over 200 people took the survey. Relevant survey results can be found in Chapter 6.

**Field Day** – A Field Day was scheduled December 10, 2016 in the Parks and Recreation Lobby at Southfield City Hall. The public engagement opportunity was set up in conjunction with a special event at City Hall that was projected to attract over 800 attendees. Two public comment boards were available for attendees to tell us: What is your Big Idea for Southfield Parks and Recreation. Palm cards with the web address for the Master Plan Survey were also distributed. Results from all comment boards can be found in Chapter 6.

**Idea Boards in Multiple Facilities** – Additional public comment boards were set up in multiple recreation and City facilities for further opportunities for residents to express their opinions.

**Review Period** – The Draft Parks & Recreation Master Plan was mad available for public review and comment January 23 to February 23, 2017.

The Draft Plan was available at the Parks & Recreation office as well as the City website.

Public Hearing - February 27, 2017

**Task Five: Analysis.** This process builds upon the foundation laid by the City's Capital Improvement Program, adopted in December 2015, and the 2016 Sustainable Southfield Plan. From that basis, and utilizing the data collected in tasks one through four, relevant information was analyzed in accordance with national and state guidelines, local needs, the experience of City staff and consultants, the desire of the residents, and potential funding sources.

**Task Six: Action Plan.** Taking into account the analysis, goals and objectives and public input results, a five-year plan was created. The Plan provides the City with a checklist of what action is to be accomplished, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it will cost, and potential funding sources. The Goals and Objectives of this Plan can be found in Chapter 8. The Five-Year Capital Improvement List can be found in Chapter 8.

**Task Seven: Plan Completion and Adoption.** The Public Review Period lasted from January 23, 2017 to February 23, 2017. A Public Hearing was held on February 27, 2017 and the Plan was adopted by the City Council.

# **PUBLIC INPUT**

### **ONLINE SURVEY**

In order to garner public input related to Southfield's parks and recreation facilities, the City conducted an online survey of residents, business owners, and frequenters of City facilities. 226 responses were received and its responses have been used to guide the recommendations of this Plan.

The first five questions of the survey were meant to garner a broad overview of the entire Parks and Recreation Department, while the subsequent 23 questions were more specific, but also required more time and attention for completion. Key results of the survey are detailed below with full results included in the Appendix.

Most frequent visits to Southfield Parks

The most frequently visited parks and recreation facilities within the City are listed below.

- Inglenook Park
   44%
- Civic Center Park 27%
- Freeway Park 15%

The following were not used by respondents.

- Simms Park 87%
  John R. Miller Park 82%
  Bedford Woods Park 81%
- Brace Park
   80%

However, the majority (65%) said that there were satisfied with the number and types of recreation facilities available in Southfield. Similarly 91% of respondents supported the amount of property tax

revenue devoted to Parks and Recreation.

The reasons that prevented respondents from using the City's facilities, programs or parks were:

<ul> <li>Facilities are not well maintained</li> </ul>	33%
<ul> <li>I do not know enough about what is available</li> </ul>	31%
Insufficient security	28%
<ul> <li>Lack of programs of interest</li> </ul>	26%

Lack of facility equipment 21%

#### **Recreation Programs**

Respondents were asked to identify the Parks and Recreation programs that are most important to them. Those ranked Extremely Important are listed below.

<ul> <li>Athletics &amp; Leagues</li> </ul>	44%
Special Events	38%
Fitness classes	34%

The level of interest in the above programs is reflected in the Field Day public engagement described in the next section. People were most interested in expanded or updated athletic facilities and equipment, a continuation of city-wide special events, and fitness classes (especially for seniors).

#### **Northland Development**

In light of the recent re-development plans for Northland Mall, respondents were asked to indicate which type of facilities or amenities that the City should consider. They responded:

<ul> <li>Paved pathways for walking, running</li> </ul>	78%
Concerts in the park	56%
<ul> <li>Children's play equipment</li> </ul>	55%

Several write-in requests included an indoor pool and a dog park.

### **Special Events**

As identified above, special events in Southfield are a big draw for those who do not normally frequent parks or recreational programs. It will also bring people from neighboring communities to enjoy what Southfield has to offer. Among the most popular special events that respondents would like to see include: music concerts in the park; winter festivals with ice sculptures, hot cocoa, sleigh rides; fall festivals with hayrides; and movies in the park. All are family events and could be enjoyed at one of several parks in the City.

Several respondents included requests for special events to be held on another day rather than Saturday in order to allow Southfield's Jewish population to enjoy the festivities.

#### **Future Recreational Amenities and Programs**

Participants indicated that they would prefer to the City pursue the following policies / objectives:

<ul> <li>Update existing facilities</li> </ul>	48%
<ul> <li>High quality of park and facility design</li> </ul>	38%
<ul> <li>Securing funding improvements or additions to the parks system</li> </ul>	32%

On December 10, 2016 McKenna Associates attended the Black Santa Photo Experience holiday event at the Southfield Pavilion in order to garner public input regarding the parks, programs, facilities, and overall experiences with Southfield Parks and Recreation. Two poster boards were set up in the Parks and Recreation Department with the overall question: **"What's your Wish for Southfield Parks and Recreation?"** The open question allowed individuals to articulate their hopes or wishes.

### **FIELD DAY**



In addition, attendees were offered palm cards with the website address to the survey, and McKenna staff visited other Southfield Parks and Recreation facilities to distribute the palm cards.

By the end of the event, two boards were filled with people's wishes for Southfield Parks and Recreation. Among the most frequented suggestions were:

- · More special events like Black Santa
- Water park / splash pad
- Mother / son dance
- Toddler park

The event brought families from all over the metro Detroit area, with one family traveling from Cincinnati, OH specifically for the event.

In order to continue to garner public input, two additional boards were delivered to the City and all four were set up at various locations (library, Beech Woods Recreation Center, in front of the Planning and Building department, and one remained in the Parks and Recreation Department). The boards were set up at the facilities during the same period as the online survey (December 10, 2016 – January 3, 2017).

In total, 157 responses were calculated at the completion of the public engagement. All responses are available in the Appendix.

The most frequented responses included:

- Indoor pool, waterpark, splash pad
- More special events, including film festivals, fireworks, mother/son dance, new residents' welcome tours, Autism sensitive events
- Updated parks, building, amenities to include sensory toys at parks, big slide, maintain machines at Wellness Center
- Additional programs, including football, bingo, acting, fencing, senior exercise, coding camps, Segway and bike rentals
- New facilities, such as dog park, toddler park, skating rink, nature, bike, and running trails, and rollercoasters

**Field Day Events** 

# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives formulated by the community are the cornerstone of the recreation planning process as they form the framework for public and private decision making. The purpose of this Plan is to provide a basis for public policy decisions and technical coordination in recreational development and to inject long-range consideration into the determination of short-range actions.

The goals and objectives, as outlined in this chapter, were revised and edited from the 2011-2016 Park Acquisition and Development Master Plan, and developed through the Parks and Recreation Committee and confirmed by the results of the public engagement process. Goals address general needs and establish the basis for setting specific programmed objectives. Objectives measure results that the community works towards accomplishing. The following goals and objectives are numbered for identification purposes only.

Each goal is considered to carry an equal degree of importance.

### **GOAL:** PURSUE THE PARKS AND RECREATION PRIORITIES SET FORTH IN THE SUSTAINABLE SOUTHFIELD PLAN, THE CITY CENTRE VISION AND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, AND THE NORTHLAND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN.

- A. Plan and implement improvements to enhance utilization of undeveloped parks.
- **B.** Development programming appropriate to those locations.
- **C.** Develop funding sources to accomplish this goal.

### **GOAL:** PLAN AND IMPLEMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO ENHANCE UTILIZATION OF UNDEVELOPED OR UNDERDEVELOPED PARKS.

- A. Engage in future visioning sessions related to individual parks needs.
- B. Plan for the improvement of parks and related facilities envisioned by the plans above.
- C. Development of programming appropriate to these locations.
- D. Develop funding sources to accomplish this goal.

### **GOAL:** PROVIDE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES AND DIVERSE EXPERIENCES.

- A. Provide special events and programs that cater to the community.
- **B.** Development of new parks and facilities for the benefit of all residents, such as indoor pool, splash pad, and dog park.
- C. Establish partnerships with organizations and neighboring communities.
- D. Provide affordable opportunities and experiences for all residents.
- E. Maintain fiscal responsibility.
- F. Identify current uses of Southfield's facilities, programs, and events.

### **GOAL:** PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

- **A.** Preserve native species and remove invasive species within natural areas working with Friends of the Rouge.
- B. Educate the public regarding the natural resources within the community.
- **C.** Continue to implement green infrastructure practices in order to manage stormwater runoff at parks and facilities.
- D. Preserve mature woodlands, wetlands, and water resources along Rouge River and tributaries.
- **E.** Develop parks in an environmentally sustainable manner which demonstrates innovative design, including maintaining tree cover on public and private lands.
- F. Follow environmental regulations and utilize green friendly practices.

### **GOAL:** ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS WITH ORGANIZATIONS AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES.

- A. Maintain cooperative efforts between City Departments.
- **B.** Partner with local sports teams (local youth sports organizations, college teams, and professional teams).
- C. Regionalization partner with county, state, and adjacent communities.
- **D.** Partner with local school districts, colleges and universities, private organizations, non-profits, and National programs.

### **GOAL:** CONTINUE BEST BUSINESS PRACTICES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ALL PARKS AND FACILITIES IN SOUTHFIELD.

- A. Maintain first-rate customer service practices.
- **B.** Continue fiscal responsibility by allocating resources properly and seeking alternative funding sources, when applicable.
- C. Incorporate effective uses of technology.
- **D.** Extend professional development of staff to promote training, workshops, classes, conferences, etc.
- E. Ensure the use of quality products to maintain standards with services, staff, and facilities.

### **GOAL:** CREATE AND MAINTAIN ACCESSIBILITY AT ALL PARKS AND FACILITIES IN SOUTHFIELD.

- A. Inventory current buildings, facilities, and parks for accessibility.
- B. Promote current facilities for accessibility.
- C. Update existing facilities using universal design practices.

### **GOAL:** FOCUS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES.

- A. Assess and promote special events that create economic gains for Southfield businesses.
- **B.** Support multi-modal transportation efforts throughout the City, including a community-wide bikeable / walkable trail and mass transit network.
- C. Promote "curb side" appeal by encouraging placemaking efforts throughout the City.

### **GOAL:** MARKET AND PROMOTE SOUTHFIELD'S PARKS AND FACILITIES TO ATTRACT VISITORS OF ALL AGES.

- **A.** Develop annual report to highlight successes, improvements that have transpired during the previous year, as well as promote the value of facilities, parks and events.
- **B.** Develop a Parks and Recreation "branding" strategy that contributes to the overall identity that is unique to Southfield.
- **C.** Promote the department and broaden the parks and recreation outreach through City website and social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- D. Educate the public on existing facilities and potential future developments.
- E. Develop parks and recreation brochure to highlight amenities and services at each facility.
- F. Target market.

### **GOAL:** ENCOURAGE THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC RESOURCES IN THE CITY.

- A. Establish partnerships for historic preservation activities.
- B. Identify and access all historic sites in parks and recreation facilities.
- C. Seek certification for local historical sites for granting opportunities.
- D. Find and maintain adaptive uses for historic buildings.
- E. Promote use of historical sites for rental opportunities such as weddings, banquets, or meeting space.

### **GOAL:** ENCOURAGE METHODS AND PRACTICES THAT WILL IMPROVE RESIDENTS' OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE.

- **A.** Promote total wellness and healthy living lifestyle through special events, programs, and facilities.
- **B.** Support the development / expansion of multi-modal trails that promotes Southfield as a bikeable / walkable community.
- **C.** Encourage increased security at parks and facilities that will reduce crime rates and contribute to increased property values.
- D. Assist and facilitate residents in order to share knowledge and facilitate partnerships.
- E. Develop sense of community through placemaking design.

# **ACTION PLAN**

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR EXISTING FACILITIES

The analysis below summarizes specific improvements to individual parks that are deemed priorities, beyond those separately identified in the City's adopted Capital Improvement Program. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require largely monetary investment. Table 10 identifies infrastructure needs for existing facilities that may require capital spending in the next five years.

#### Table 10: Five-Year Capital Needs for Existing Facilities

Year	Project	Estimated Cost	Funding Sources
	Inglenook Park. Laser level ballfields	\$22,000	GF MDNR
	Civic Center Park. Laser level ballfields, parking lot bin / storage resurface, back stop and fencing	\$102,000	GF MDNR
	Citywide. Recreation software	\$40,000	GF
Year 1 - 2017	Ice Arena. HVAC Boiler, tables and chairs	\$101,000	GF
	Freeway Park. Play structure	\$250,000	GF PD MDNR
	Freeway Park & Burgh Park. Park benches	\$1,352	GF PD SP
	Freeway Park. Playlot woodchips	\$2,000	GF
	Beech Woods. Irrigation heads	\$68,940	GF
	Ice Arena. Zamboni, new skates, front office update (painting, carpeting)	\$110,000	GF PD SP MDNR
Year 2 - 2018	Civic Center. Wash pad	\$15,000	GF
	Beech Woods. Parking lot (arena, golf, driveway)	\$225,220	GF MDNR MDOT
	Senior Center. Update restrooms, replace concrete in front of steps	TBD	GF MDNR
	Civic Center. Resurface tennis courts, cement curbs and road repairs, regrade soil to curb, gas shed, domes over salt bins	\$367,500	GF PD MDNR MDOT
	Evergreen Hills. Bath rooms	\$300,000	GF MDNR
Year 3 – 2019	Inglenook Park. Rubberized surfaces / landing area	\$20,000	GF MDNR
	Burgh Historical Park. Picket fence	\$3,595	GF PD
	Lahser Woods and Stratford Woods Commons. Blacktop walks	\$25,000	GF PD

Year 4 – 2020	Civic Center Park. Replacement of pool lights, pole tops, tennis court / basketball court	\$81,000	GF PD MDNR
	Beech Woods. Sports flooring	\$220,000	GF PD MDNR
	Ice Arena. Front door mechanisms, tiling / footers of showers	\$10,000	GF MDNR
	Carpenter Lake. Re-dress Carpenter lakes; path	\$5,000	GF MDNR
	Senior Center. Power doors at main entrance	TBD	GF
	Evergreen Hills. Cart paths, rinse pads, GPS golf cart tracking	\$230,000	GF PD MDNR
	Beech Woods. Cart paths, rinse pads	\$300,000	GF PD MDNR
Year 5 – 2021	Ice Arena. 80-inch flat screen monitors	\$10,000	GF
	Bedford Woods Park. New backstop	\$2,582	GF
	Civic Center Park. New stage	\$135,000	GF PD SP MDNR

GF = General Fund

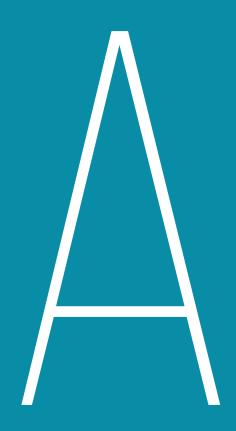
PD = Private Donations

MDNR = Michigan Department of Natural Resources

SP = Sponsorships

MDOT = Michigan Department of Transportation

Projects should be evaluated in the context of the City's overall priorities, especially plans for Northland and Civic Center redevelopment, reviewed on an annual basis, and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are in 2016 dollars and are strictly preliminary. Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements, and engineering plans are developed, as well as further analysis of the proposed improvement. If funding levels are lower than required to implement the Plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years. intentionally left blank



# APPENDIX

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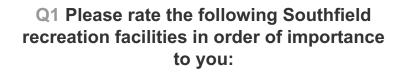
# WHAT'S YOUR WISH FOR SOUTHFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION?

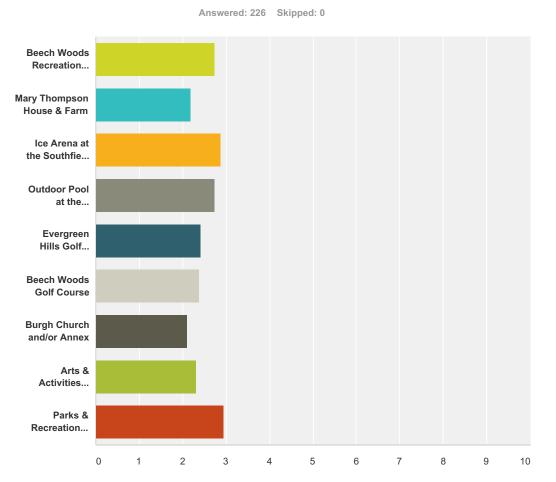
- Things for teenagers to do!
- Things for toddlers fun/educational
- Great events
- Wonderful events like today.
- We love black santa
- For Southfield to continue to bless the community
- I want a water park
- Waterpark
- Karaoke for kids
- Splash Pad
- Basketball Team
- Ice skating
- Mother and son dance
- I love the Southfield Parks and Southfield does not have roller skating rink and they should bring back fireworks
- They should add on waterparks
- Update park at Beechwood location
- Dream house
- Seniors in the Park activities
- I had a great time with Santa
- Football court
- I had a great time at the barn park
- Make a football team
- Snowboard
- Pokemon Playground
- Football court
- Pebble Creek more things to do
- Girl Scout Day in the park
- Put parks and recreation in old target bldg. at Northland pool, senior center, etc. Use old Parks and Recreation for municipal offices.
- Please bring bingo back (I know someone who will call the numbers)
- · Indoor pool for seniors and all ages
- Outdoor camp adventure e.g. connect DNR
- Coding camps please!
- Bingo
- · Programs for teens/youth to give back to their community
- Please bring Bingo back at least 2x/week!!!
- Have acting classes
- To have fencing with swords, for kids
- My wish is for Doug Block to become the Deputy Parks and Recreation Director and get a pay raise for 5  $\frac{1}{2}$  years of filling in. Let's make it happen. Then Southfield can really move forward. Thanks
- Cut deposit checks rather than mail, more jobs.
- Give new resident's a tour around Southfield
- Better open gym hours for 18+ at Beechwood
- Outdoor/Indoor basketball courts

- Bike trails
- Bring fireworks back
- Make a football field
- Indoor pool program (youth and adults)
- To keep up the good work
- ACH-EFT payroll check deposit please for part time or contractors Claudette Bond
- "Music" while walking inside, indoor pool would be so nice
- · Make a good stand and a football field
- · Handicap accessible doors at Parks and Recreation
- Invest in Southfield becoming a food district
- For everyone to live a safe, healthy and prosperous life
- Yes to indoor pool
- New Rec Center with indoor pool and track
- Fireworks
- Daytime senior exercise classes smooth jazz please
- Weekly Bingo Historic Outings
- · Indoor pool, roller skating rink, basketball court
- Splash Pad
- Bring back smooth jazz weekend series
- Remodel entire Parks and Recreation bldg.
- More senior chair exercise classes
- · Repair/replace stairs, Parks and Recreation Bldg.
- Coffee and food place
- Mow lawns in parks regularly
- · Patrol public parks after dark all year
- More flower beds
- More teen events
- · Doo will see this county through for the next 4 years
- Charted Bike and Running Trails. Bike racks located at all shopping malls, city offices, bus stops with maps to show where located. More walkable neighborhoods that are charted and accessible. Indoor running locations.
- Health Conscious Living
- Make the parks like the old parks
- Jazz concerts
- Fireworks
- Renovate and become more updated
- Inglenook Park Repair jogging/fitness trails and new picnic tables
- · Kayak delivery on the Rouge
- Dog parks, bike lanes, more trails
- Need Bingo at least 2x per week
- What about a feasible transportation (mass transit) network that as a sustainable project coinciding with smart runs all night and is quintodian?
- Indoor pool, chess classes for children
- A dog park
- Bike lanes
- Peace on earth, Good will to men
- More trails along the Rouge River
- Dog parks at least two
- Better/stronger ties to Southfield's Corporations
- Southfield games

- For the City to do the "Right Thing"! My wish (what you ask for!) is for the City to promote Doug Block to Deputy Parks and Rec. Director. We have deputies in: City Admin., Human Resources... etc. My wish for Christmas and for Parks and Recreation visioning is what you work. This is the play for wishes if you ask for it. That's the Play for 2017. Doug Block Deputy Park and Recreation
- Nature Trails
- Roller Rink
- New lobby
- My wish that the Parks and Recreation Dept. make Doug block the Deputy Parks and Recreation Director and give him the pay raise he deserves. Let's make Doug Block whole like members of the City's "Friends and Family Plan has been made whole. Parks and Recreation let's do the right thing!!! - Not the venue for this you know better
- More butterflies SaNiya Doctor
- Keep library open at all normal working hours just like Farmington Hills library
- · Let's rename Freeway Park to "Lantz Park" in honor of Councilman Sidney Lantz!!!
- · Continue to expand bike paths and multi-use pathways, especially around Northland Mall site
- More retail, upscale restaurant in Northland
- · A indoor pool is vital for our active community
- Film festival
- · Bike path and club
- Zero depth indoor pool for everyone to enjoy all year!
- · All things made or not made love as love loves you
- · Better advertisement of events to the surrounding cities
- Kid friendly restrooms
- More toddler swings
- · Love it all, shorter lines more them events
- More Christmas events
- More children activities
- · More events where everybody comes together
- Rollercoasters
- Segway and bike rentals
- Splash Pad
- I want to play football
- A place where everyone can come together everyone and all
- Events, like Black Santa event are great
- Indoor waterpark
- Toddler park
- Things to get teens out of the house
- Any toddler events
- Indoor water park
- My children and I had a wonderful time with Santa, hope to see many more events like this.
- Mother and son dance
- · Austism Day with Santa. Autism movie night
- Sensory toys at the park. 12 Mile between Lahser and Telegraph and but all parks.
- I would like to see a big slide
- I would like to see an interactive event related to MLK Day weekend
- Disney World
- New Refs
- Indoor lap pool (4-5 lanes)
- Early hours 5 a.m. 8 a.m.
- Change or remove Wellness Center carpeting
- · Lower the temp. in the gym, it's too hot

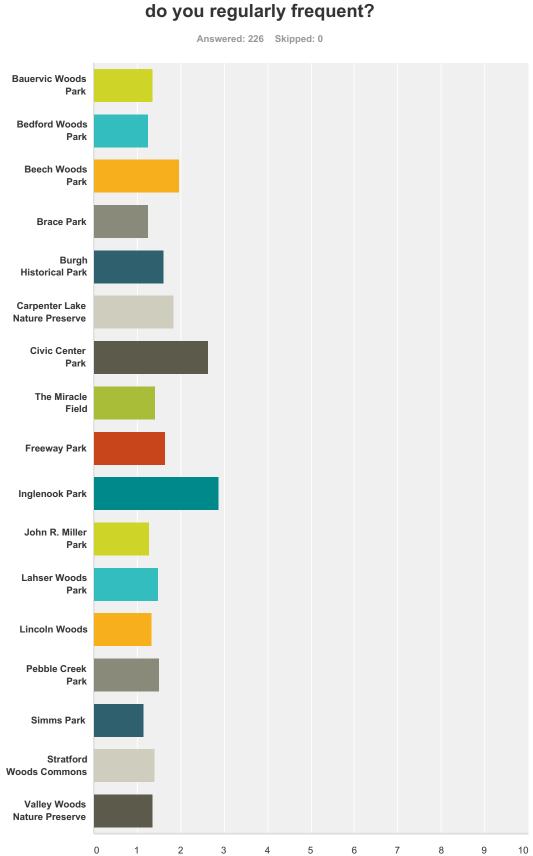
- Early extended hours
- New refs
- New building
- · All-star weekend for b-ball youth leagues
- Pool for all my teams to win
- All men volleyball
- Basketball Program for retirees
- New updated machines
- Keep the machines in the wellness center maintained
- New locker rooms and showers
- Arcade or games room
- Personal trainer on staff everyday
- Fix the broken machines in Wellness Center
- Preferential Parking, big vehicles to perimeter after dark
- Fitness program allowing 10 year olds
- Indoor Pool
- Ref's everybody cheat
- New Refs
- More pickall ball court
- Adult Beginner Volleyball
- More indoor Tennis courts
- · Keep cardio machines in Wellness Center
- New locker rooms and showers





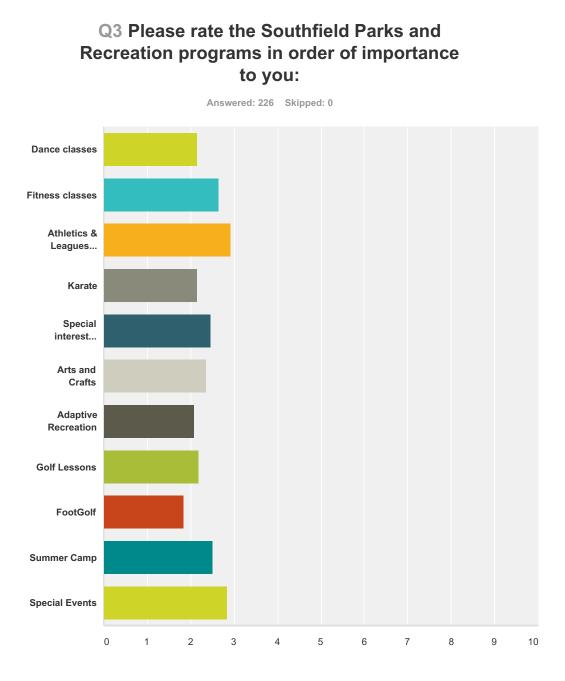
	No Opinion	Not Important At All	Somewhat Important	Extremely Important	Total	Weighted Average
Beech Woods Recreation Center	28.64%	7.27%	25.45%	38.64%		
	63	16	56	85	220	2.
Mary Thompson House & Farm	37.73%	17.73%	32.27%	12.27%		
	83	39	71	27	220	2
Ice Arena at the Southfield Sports Arena	18.55%	11.76%	33.03%	36.65%		
	41	26	73	81	221	2
Outdoor Pool at the Southfield Sports	22.37%	15.53%	28.31%	33.79%		
Arena	49	34	62	74	219	2
Evergreen Hills Golf Course	34.09%	15.00%	24.55%	26.36%		
	75	33	54	58	220	2
Beech Woods Golf Course	34.26%	17.13%	25.93%	22.69%		
	74	37	56	49	216	2
Burgh Church and/or Annex	41.55%	19.18%	26.94%	12.33%		
	91	42	59	27	219	2
Arts & Activities Building	37.61%	14.22%	26.61%	21.56%		
C C	82	31	58	47	218	2

Parks & Recreation Building	23.18%	6.36%	23.64%	46.82%		
	51	14	52	103	220	2.94



## Q2 Which of the following Southfield parks do you regularly frequent?

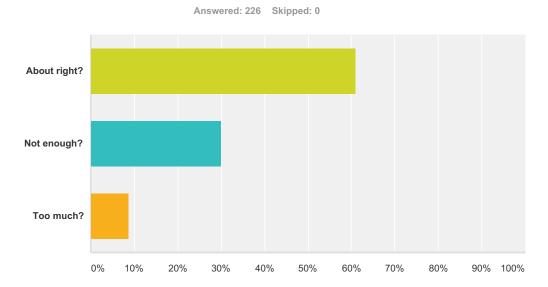
	Never	Occasionally	Fairly often	Very frequently	Total	Weighted Average
Bauervic Woods Park	75.25%	17.82%	3.96%	2.97%		
	152	36	8	6	202	1
Bedford Woods Park	81.00%	13.50%	3.50%	2.00%		
	162	27	7	4	200	1
Beech Woods Park	44.93%	27.05%	14.01%	14.01%		
	93	56	29	29	207	1
Brace Park	80.61%	14.29%	4.59%	0.51%		
	158	28	9	1	196	1
Burgh Historical Park	57.64%	29.56%	8.37%	4.43%		
	117	60	17	9	203	1
Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	50.24%	26.32%	12.44%	11.00%		
	105	55	26	23	209	1
Civic Center Park	14.81%	34.26%	24.07%	26.85%		
	32	74	52	58	216	2
The Miracle Field	70.24%	20.00%	6.34%	3.41%		
	144	41	13	7	205	
Freeway Park	71.72%	8.59%	4.04%	15.66%		
	142	17	8	31	198	
Inglenook Park	17.97%	18.43%	19.82%	43.78%		
	39	40	43	95	217	:
John R. Miller Park	82.05%	10.26%	6.15%	1.54%		
	160	20	12	3	195	
Lahser Woods Park	72.33%	15.05%	5.34%	7.28%		
	149	31	11	15	206	
Lincoln Woods	76.62%	16.42%	4.48%	2.49%		
	154	33	9	5	201	
Pebble Creek Park	66.50%	20.69%	9.36%	3.45%		
	135	42	19	7	203	
Simms Park	87.44%	11.56%	0.50%	0.50%		
	174	23	1	1	199	
Stratford Woods Commons	78.54%	9.76%	4.88%	6.83%		
	161	20	10	14	205	
Valley Woods Nature Preserve	76.33%	14.98%	5.80%	2.90%		
	158	31	12	6	207	



	No Opinion	Not Important At All	Somewhat Important	Extremely Important	Total	Weighted Average
Dance classes	41.67%	18.52%	23.15%	16.67%		
	90	40	50	36	216	2.15
Fitness classes	29.36%	9.17%	27.52%	33.94%		
	64	20	60	74	218	2.66
Athletics & Leagues (basketball, soccer, open gym, tennis,	21.10%	8.72%	26.61%	43.58%		
volleyball, pickleball)	46	19	58	95	218	2.93
Karate	39.72%	18.22%	28.04%	14.02%		
	85	39	60	30	214	2.16
Special interest (computer classes, planetarium series)	34.72%	7.41%	34.26%	23.61%		
	75	16	74	51	216	2.47

Arts and Crafts	36.15%	10.33%	36.15%	17.37%		
	77	22	77	37	213	2.3
Adaptive Recreation	47.57%	11.17%	26.70%	14.56%		
	98	23	55	30	206	2.
Golf Lessons	40.93%	15.35%	27.91%	15.81%		
	88	33	60	34	215	2
FootGolf	46.70%	27.83%	20.75%	4.72%		
	99	59	44	10	212	1
Summer Camp	35.19%	12.50%	18.98%	33.33%		
	76	27	41	72	216	2
Special Events	24.54%	6.02%	31.48%	37.96%		
	53	13	68	82	216	2

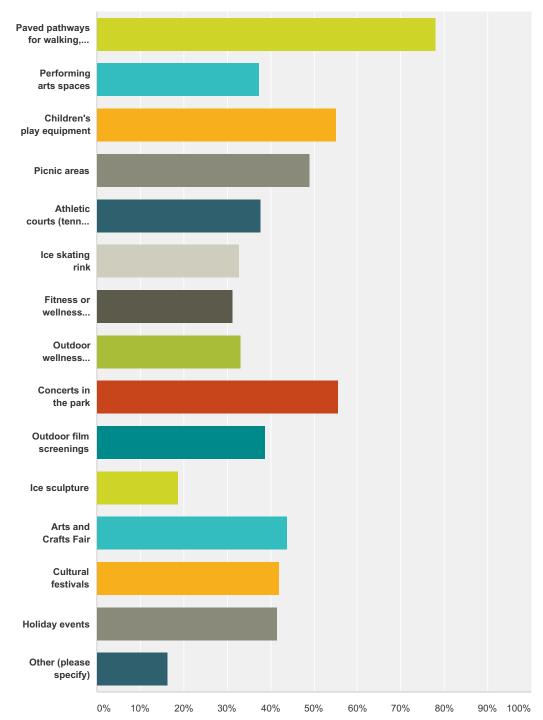
### Q4 Approximately 2.4% of your property tax dollars go to support the City's parks and recreation activities. Do you feel this is:



Answer Choices	Responses	
About right?	61.06%	138
Not enough?	30.09%	68
Too much?	8.85%	20
Total		226

Q5 The City has some significant redevelopment visions and plans for the former Northland Mall site. These include a central park and perimeter greenways. Please let us know which of the following facilities, programs, and special events you would like the City to consider in these public spaces.

Answered: 214 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses	
Paved pathways for walking, running, and biking	78.04%	167
Performing arts spaces	37.38%	80
Children's play equipment	55.14%	118
Picnic areas	49.07%	105
Athletic courts (tennis, basketball, etc.)	37.85%	81
Ice skating rink	32.71%	70

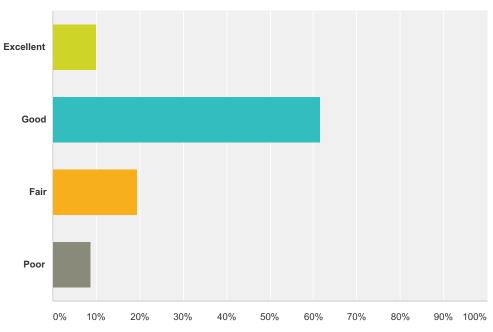
Fitness or wellness equipment	31.31%	67
Outdoor wellness programs (tai chi, yoga, meditation, fitness boot camp, etc.)	33.18%	71
Concerts in the park	55.61%	119
Outdoor film screenings	38.79%	83
Ice sculpture	18.69%	40
Arts and Crafts Fair	43.93%	94
Cultural festivals	42.06%	90
Holiday events	41.59%	89
Other (please specify)	16.36%	35
otal Respondents: 214		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	"appropriately" paved pathways for walking, running and biking;	1/9/2017 9:55 PM
2	farmers market	1/6/2017 9:21 AM
3	Put a 2000 meter bark chip or cinder trail like inglenook but twice the size and we could host college races as well as community events for every age	1/5/2017 4:23 PM
4	City should not have been or be involved in Northland Mall	1/5/2017 2:04 PM
5	Sell it and make a profit as it was claimed when purchased.	1/5/2017 12:52 PM
6	a supervised year round indoor pool with classes for all ages	1/4/2017 11:48 AM
7	no answer	1/4/2017 11:24 AM
8	no answer	1/4/2017 11:04 AM
9	softball fields/camps	1/3/2017 3:35 PM
10	Dog park section for pets to roam freely with other pets.	1/3/2017 3:30 PM
11	Indoor/outdoor pool with separate hours for women & men.	1/3/2017 2:39 PM
12	n/c	1/3/2017 1:41 PM
13	improvement of the Freeway Park and a play structure in the peice of land off of fairfax south of 10 mile by George Washington and New Hampshire	1/3/2017 9:55 AM
14	dog park (not necessarily there but somewhere in Southfield!)	1/2/2017 9:23 PM
15	I think this area should be used as an indoor creative space for practicing and displaying art. I think a lot of the other options will a waste, because people are scared to recreate in an area that has a history of crime. But art classes and art displays usually attract a healthier type of crowd, and are less likely to be a crime target.	1/2/2017 8:21 PM
16	Indoor swimming pool	1/2/2017 8:08 PM
17	fitness center with indoors pool, upscale condos and apartments with security entrances	1/2/2017 1:02 PM
18	Natural areas both landscaped and also areas left to native plants and animals.	12/31/2016 10:11 AM
19	Youth Baseball and Southball Diamonds with covered dugouts for kids 5-14 years old.	12/30/2016 10:53 PM
20	I would like the city to utilize the inside of the old Southfield City building empty space. Could be used as a indoor running track or basketball for kids during the winter months.	12/30/2016 7:18 AM
21	Not likely to use it	12/29/2016 7:03 PM
22	I think they should build good quality, fenced softball fields in this area. Our group could consistently bring youth baseball/softball events to the diamonds. Thanks!	12/27/2016 2:48 PM
23	A separate dog park only area	12/27/2016 4:41 AM

24	stop spending \$ on property that our sthfld residents wont really be using, they all go north & west, you will be fixing it up for detroiters to come in to our town & cause crimes.	12/23/2016 3:46 PM
25	Events not on Saturday only to accommodate the Jewish population	12/23/2016 8:51 AM
26	SECURITY AND SAFETY ISSUES HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED FIRST	12/22/2016 8:59 PM
27	Lit and security	12/22/2016 1:11 PM
28	Indoor handicap accessible pool	12/22/2016 11:02 AM
29	In addition to the above, it would be nice to have a venue in Southfield that caters to both adults and children. More specifically, a restaurant and entertainment business which would offer video arcade type gaming. This would be entertaining for all ages. Residents would not have to LEAVE the city and spend money elsewhere for this type of service.	12/22/2016 11:01 AM
30	pickelball	12/21/2016 12:44 PM
31	Indoor Lap Pool	12/18/2016 10:26 PM
32	Make it like inglenook	12/15/2016 6:40 AM
33	Softball lights at Inglenook	12/14/2016 7:06 PM
34	Lighting for Sports Fields (i.e. at Inglenook)	12/14/2016 11:25 AM
35	community garden	12/13/2016 9:35 PM

## **Q6** How would you rate the condition and maintenance of the City's existing parks ?

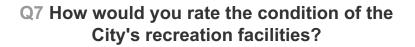


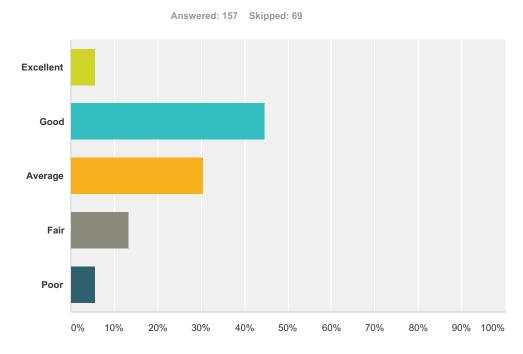


Answer Choices	Res	sponses
Excellent	10.0	<b>06%</b> 16
Good	61.6	<b>64%</b> 98
Fair	19.5	<b>50%</b> 31
Poor	8.81	<b>1%</b> 14
Total		159

#	Comments:	Date
1	I moved to Southfield in 2012 so i'm still getting to know parks & rec spaces	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	need trash can at Inglenook walking trail	1/6/2017 1:06 PM
3	some are great, a few horrible	1/6/2017 9:26 AM
4	The Beauvric(?) park on nine mile needs lighting and more police supervision year round and at all hours to avoid sexual and drug activity	1/4/2017 12:08 PM
5	my first time here	1/4/2017 11:25 AM
6	Some Parks are in need of updates to the play equipment	1/3/2017 1:37 PM
7	Things are falling apart because money wasn't invested back into things over time	1/3/2017 1:34 PM
8	Please update Freeway Park!	1/3/2017 12:05 PM
9	don't know	1/3/2017 11:44 AM
10	Freeway Park is old, rusty, and might be dangerous even though it is used a lot	1/3/2017 9:07 AM

11	There are very nice facilities, but there is grafitti on the equipment of the park on Pierce, south of 10 mile, and there are some equipment that is worn out at the park by Lincoln/696. Also, in the woods by the Lincoln/696 park, there have been incidences of people smoking weed. This also used to be a problem at the Pierce park, and when I called the police to mention it, I was told I should call right then and there, which I felt would then be a safety issue for me. I think there should be some sort of safety patrol in these areas.	1/3/2017 12:32 AM
12	I live near the Freeway Park and it is an eyesore, an embarrassment, and a hideous excuse for a park! My small children would love to enjoy a nice park nearby, but there is nothing good about that particular "park."	1/2/2017 11:13 PM
13	Generally, the Southfield area parks seem pretty well taken care of. The one exception that I've come across is the freeway park, just south of Lincoln. It's in really bad shape. I understand that it gets a lot of use, but isn't that kind of the point? I'd love to see it in better shape.	1/2/2017 8:29 PM
14	Trails don't seem very well maintained. Ice arena is old.	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
15	They all neef updating	1/2/2017 8:06 PM
16	Inglenook is horrible. Needs to be cleaned a lot better than what they do now.	1/2/2017 3:42 PM
17	Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	12/31/2016 4:29 PM
18	Playground, fencing and barriers need repair at some parks	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
19	Don't know never been to one	12/30/2016 7:27 AM
20	They are very dated.	12/28/2016 6:42 PM
21	keep them.	12/27/2016 2:11 PM
22	Mowing schedule and spraying for bugs are not up to par.	12/22/2016 1:14 PM
23	The lights at Civic Center baseball field need to be fixed. The benches at Inglenook softball fields need to be secured to the ground	12/22/2016 1:01 PM
24	no comments	12/21/2016 8:25 PM
25	Ingle nook should be dog free. people don't cleanup after their difs	12/12/2016 3:57 PM
26	My car was broken into at Carpenter Lake Park. There needs to be additional security/cameras there!	12/10/2016 1:52 PM

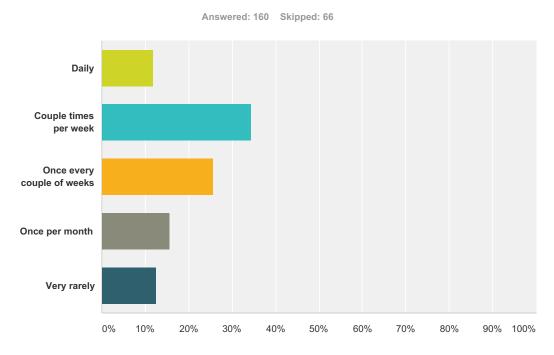




Answer Choices	Responses	
Excellent	5.73%	9
Good	44.59%	70
Average	30.57%	48
Fair	13.38%	21
Poor	5.73%	9
Total		157

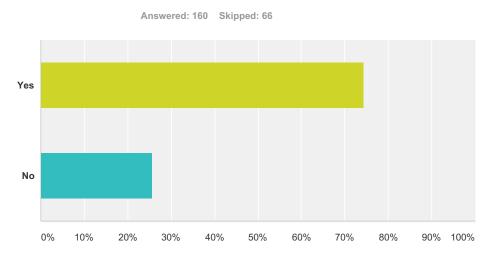
### 14 / 54

## Q8 How often do you frequent one of the City's parks or recreation facilities?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Daily	11.88%	19
Couple times per week	34.38%	55
Once every couple of weeks	25.62%	41
Once per month	15.63%	25
Very rarely	12.50%	20
Total		160

# Q9 Are you satisfied with the number and type of parks available in Southfield?

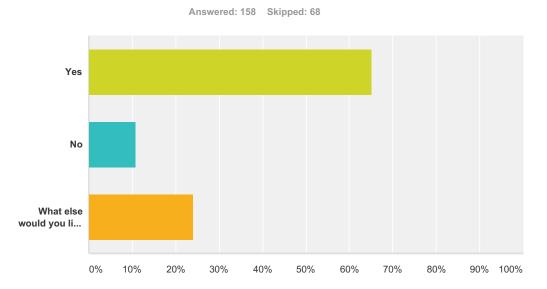


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	<b>74.38%</b> 11
No	<b>25.62%</b> 4
Total	16

#	What else would you like to see?	Date
1	more walk and bike-ability in them.	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	more picnic areas	1/6/2017 11:40 AM
3	2000 meter trail to run races	1/5/2017 4:46 PM
4	no comment	1/4/2017 11:25 AM
5	Utilize the Northland properties	1/4/2017 11:21 AM
6	A park at the Kentfield Manor Island on Fairfax between Addison and Arbor Place	1/3/2017 11:52 PM
7	I would like to see more parks with play equipment for children - especially near Fairfax and George Washington	1/3/2017 10:39 PM
8	A new park in Kentfield Manor. There is an island along Fairfax and New Hampshire that would be a perfect spot.	1/3/2017 8:25 PM
9	I would like to see improvement in the fair fax south of 10 mile and Pierce south of 10 area improved with better lighting, walkway and equipment.also wheel chair accessibility improved. Also would like improvement in the Stafford woods commons with updated play equipment and improved lighting	1/3/2017 3:45 PM
10	Restrooms ,handicap accessible	1/3/2017 2:44 PM
11	have been in southfield over twenty years and never been to any park	1/3/2017 11:44 AM
12	parks in great condition near us	1/3/2017 10:15 AM
13	improvement of the freeway park and play structure on the piece of land off of Fairfax between New Hampshire and George Washington south of 10 MIIe	1/3/2017 9:59 AM
14	Upgrades made to Freeway Park - at least paint and fix it is a sore eye for the city	1/3/2017 9:07 AM
15	In the above-mentioned Freeway Park, I'd like to see new equipment, shady places for parents to sit, drinking fountains, and a suitable material for the playground (not gravel, or sand, or whatever that garbage is!)	1/2/2017 11:13 PM
16	A park on the island by new hampshire and george washington and fairfax	1/2/2017 10:12 PM
17	fewer ball fields and more dedicated actual woodlands	1/2/2017 9:36 PM

18	Fairfax south of 10 mile by george washington	1/2/2017 8:24 PM
19	More racquet Ball quartz	1/2/2017 8:12 PM
20	Clean, well-maintained trails for running and walking.	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
21	Much more climbing structures and updated swing , slides etc.	1/2/2017 8:06 PM
22	More parks in subs	1/2/2017 7:34 PM
23	More "green space" of any type. Too much steel, glass and brick.	1/2/2017 6:06 PM
24	More walking paths that are not paved, more like the surface of the walking path at Ingenook Park. Pavement is not the best surface for running/walking.	1/2/2017 4:40 PM
25	more picnic shelters	1/2/2017 1:19 PM
26	Dog park, interesting walking paths connecting facilities and activities.	1/2/2017 1:08 PM
27	more parks like Carpenter Lake Nature Preserve	12/31/2016 4:29 PM
28	Longer hiking trails in wooded setting, longer walking paths in park setting, native areas in more parks	12/31/2016 10:18 AM
29	Skate Park, biking trails and baseball and softball diamonds with covered dugouts similar to the Civic Center Fields.	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
30	Bicycle path	12/30/2016 9:29 PM
31	Would like a park with a walking patch and maybe a lake to swim in	12/30/2016 7:27 AM
32	More basketball outdoor courts. Indoor swimming pool.	12/28/2016 7:01 PM
33	A Skate Park	12/28/2016 6:42 PM
34	To many little parks	12/27/2016 12:05 PM
35	A separate dog park.	12/27/2016 4:57 AM
36	Splash pad	12/23/2016 7:11 PM
37	More maintenance at our local park. Also there always seems to be one car with a person sitting and it make me suspect something fishy going on. I wish the police would cruise by more often.	12/23/2016 3:58 AM
38	GROUP PLAY IS NOT ENCOURAGED-UNDERSTAND GROUPS WERE A PROBLEM	12/22/2016 9:03 PM
39	Nature trails	12/22/2016 12:06 PM
40	More parks with benches, we'll lighted area ,paved pathway	12/22/2016 11:13 AM
41	I think Carpenter Lake park is excellentwould like to see more like this (walking trails in a nice setting)	12/22/2016 11:12 AM
42	Innovative award winning parks	12/22/2016 8:55 AM
43	Hammock communities, wifi in parks, speaker systems for music in major parks (inglenook)	12/21/2016 8:45 PM
44	I would like to see a park, in my forgotten subdivision Pinewood Manor, located near 13 Mile and Southfield road(between Pierce and Southfield road). There are an abundance of chidren, but don't have anywhere to play.	12/19/2016 1:09 PM
45	more visible and safe walking trails	12/16/2016 10:29 AM
46	Better exercise equipment. More updated	12/15/2016 2:25 AM
47	More basketball courts & improve some softball fields	12/14/2016 11:08 AM
48	An indoor park option	12/12/2016 10:29 PM

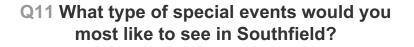
# Q10 Are you satisfied with the number and type of public recreation facilities available in Southfield.

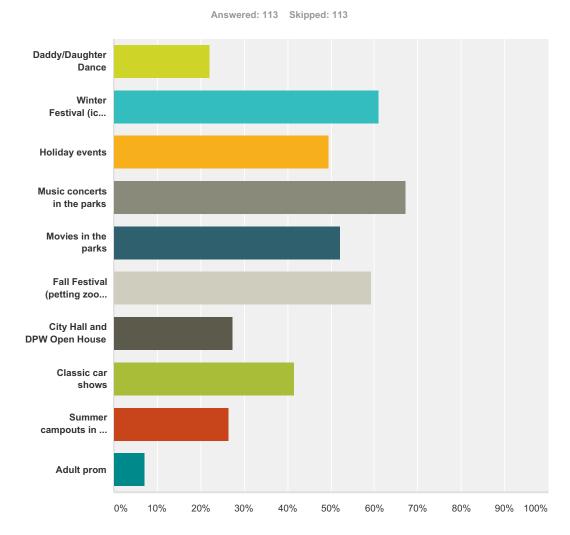


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	65.19%	103
No	10.76%	17
What else would you like to see?	24.05%	38
Total		158

#	What else would you like to see?	Date
1	I think of the library as recreational and want to maintain it as well	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	Would like a performing arts center on Northland site	1/9/2017 5:37 PM
3	more walking, running places	1/6/2017 11:40 AM
4	Indoor pool	1/5/2017 4:46 PM
5	All Inclusive Recreation Center	1/4/2017 12:49 PM
6	I use the civic center for walking daily, because as a 73 year old I do not like to walk outside, because I feel vulnerable to theft and weather. I feel safe there. I feel the Northland area would not work, because it would attract crowds for certain purposes.	1/4/2017 12:08 PM
7	more basketball courts	1/4/2017 11:29 AM
8	no comment	1/4/2017 11:25 AM
9	A community swimming pool with separate swimming hours for men and women.	1/3/2017 8:25 PM
10	I would very much like to see more exercise classes for the elderly. Particularly chair and low impact aerobic classes. It would be nice to see some needlepoint or knitting classes offered for the retired or elderl.	1/3/2017 3:45 PM
11	Indoor Pool. Outdoor bball	1/3/2017 3:39 PM
12	Indoor / outdoor pool with separate hours for women & men	1/3/2017 2:44 PM
13	roller skating rink	1/3/2017 11:45 AM
14	A park on the island by new hampshire and george washington and fairfax	1/2/2017 10:12 PM

15	dog park!	1/2/2017 9:36 PM
16	Indoor pool with gender specific swim hours please	1/2/2017 8:25 PM
17	More picnic areas.	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
18	An 18 hole golf course.	1/2/2017 6:06 PM
19	indoor pool	1/2/2017 1:19 PM
20	Would love to see a reasonably priced rec center like Livonia or Troy. Indoor and outdoor pool.	1/2/2017 1:08 PM
21	I'd like more tennis and pickleball courts	1/1/2017 5:12 PM
22	Indoor swimming facilitycould the pool in the former Lathrup Village high school become a community facility?	12/31/2016 10:18 AM
23	Indoor pool and wellness center, similar to Livonia or Warren Recreation Center.	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
24	Dog park	12/30/2016 7:42 PM
25	indoor swimming pool	12/29/2016 6:34 PM
26	Indoor swimming pool	12/28/2016 7:01 PM
27	An Indoor Aquatic Center	12/28/2016 6:42 PM
28	We homeschool and would like to go to open gym during the day in the winter. We were told children were not allowed during the day at beechwood.	12/23/2016 3:58 AM
29	more areas for biking	12/22/2016 8:21 PM
30	I like to see facilities updated	12/22/2016 6:10 PM
31	More diamonds with lights	12/22/2016 3:37 PM
32	Bike trails (un paved)	12/22/2016 12:38 PM
33	Indoor handicap accessible pool, shower area, handicap accessible family restrooms	12/22/2016 11:13 AM
34	We need more soccer and volleyball fields,	12/19/2016 1:09 PM
35	Shooting range	12/14/2016 7:24 PM
36	An expanded Wellness Ctr. and a second exercise facility on the city's northeast side.	12/14/2016 12:00 PM
37	concerts	12/12/2016 6:47 PM
38	Indoor swimming pool	12/11/2016 3:08 PM

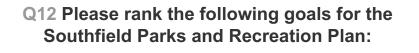


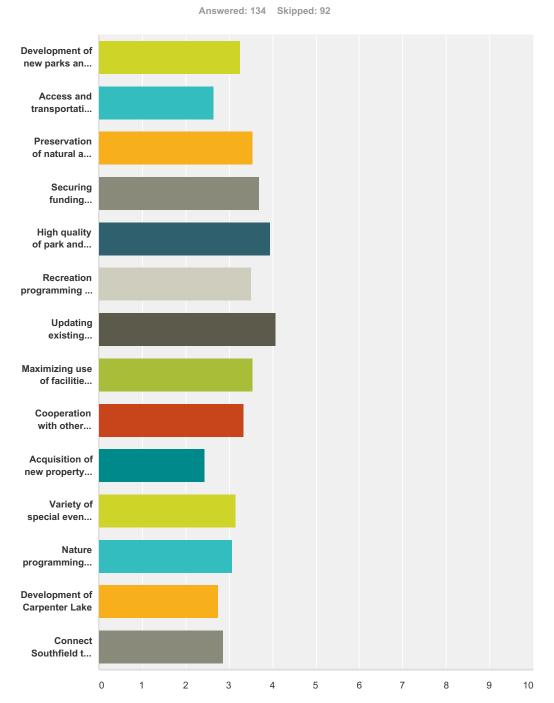


nswer Choices		Responses	
Daddy/Daughter Dance	22.12%	25	
Winter Festival (ice sculptures, hot cocoa, sleigh rides)	61.06%	69	
Holiday events	49.56%	56	
Music concerts in the parks	67.26%	76	
Movies in the parks	52.21%	59	
Fall Festival (petting zoo, hayrides)	59.29%	67	
City Hall and DPW Open House	27.43%	31	
Classic car shows	41.59%	47	
Summer campouts in the parks	26.55%	30	
Adult prom	7.08%	8	

#### Total Respondents: 113

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	1-parade where local high/jr. high school bands can play; 2 -combined activities with Lathup Village	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	more swimming; free exercise	1/6/2017 11:40 AM
3	Runs	1/5/2017 4:46 PM
4	art exhibits and fairs. Please prohibit fireworks at all times, the rules are not being adhered to, and they sound like gunfire. It would be nice to have guided park visits and tours.	1/4/2017 12:08 PM
5	no comment	1/4/2017 11:25 AM
6	Invest in the current Parks	1/3/2017 9:07 AM
7	events on days other than exclusively saturdays	1/2/2017 9:36 PM
8	I'd rather see less money spent on special events, and more on changes that will benefit the community year round.	1/2/2017 8:29 PM
9	Venue for more charity events like runs.	1/2/2017 1:08 PM
10	More kid friendly activities soccer games, volley ball games that's free	12/30/2016 7:27 AM
11	Concerts featuring current locale jazz and R&B artist	12/23/2016 7:11 PM
12	nothing, quiet, no crime.	12/23/2016 3:58 PM
13	Special Events that are not on Saturday's and that offer food choices for everyone such as Kosher Food	12/23/2016 3:47 PM
14	Events that are accommodating to all - on Sunday, kosher food option	12/23/2016 8:57 AM
15	Sunday Funday - which would be a fundraiser for Southfield Neighborhood Associations and Non-Profits. Booths would be provided at a nominal fee where the various groups would have games, food, craft items. There would be kids entertainment, jump rope competitions, pie eating contests, bring in the frog jumping vendor where kids pick a frog and they place them around a bullseye target to see which child's frog gets to the center the fastest. It would be held on the city plaza.	12/22/2016 12:50 PM
16	i think we have a good mix of events today, good work!	12/22/2016 12:38 PM
17	I would like for the city to consider allocating funding to events such as the FIREWORKS and possibly having a parade sponsored by many of our local business. Please review the City of Saline Michigan as it relates to their annual Christmas parade. I would love to see our city offer more family oriented events like the same.	12/22/2016 11:17 AM
18	Zombie runs, color runs, outdoor yoga, bike sharing program	12/21/2016 8:45 PM

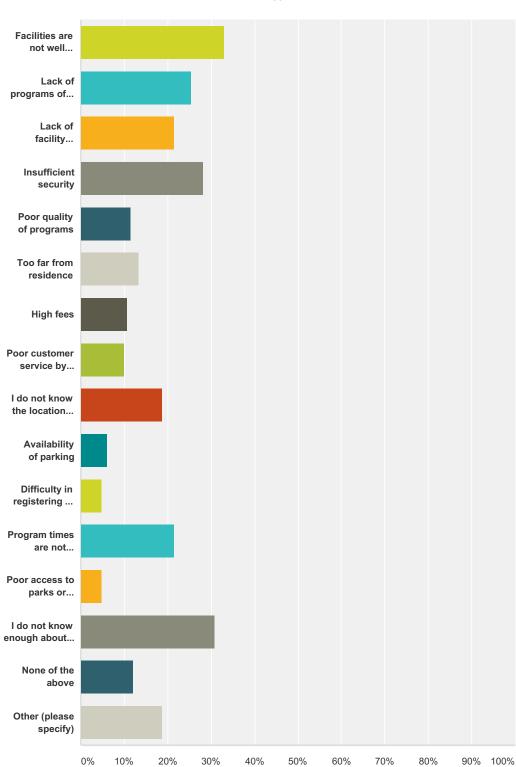




	Of the highest importance	Very important	Important	Somewhat important	Not important	Total	Weighted Average
Development of new parks and recreation facilities	<b>25.95%</b> 34	<b>20.61%</b> 27	<b>20.61%</b> 27	<b>19.08%</b> 25	<b>13.74%</b> 18	131	3.26
Access and transportation to parks	<b>8.59%</b> 11	<b>25.00%</b> 32	<b>16.41%</b> 21	<b>23.44%</b> 30	<b>26.56%</b> 34	128	2.66

Preservation of natural and cultural resources	28.13%	30.47%	19.53%	12.50%	9.38%		
	36	39	25	16	12	128	3.
Securing funding improvements or additions to	32.03%	27.34%	23.44%	11.72%	5.47%		
the parks system	41	35	30	15	7	128	3
High quality of park and facility design	37.69%	33.85%	16.92%	7.69%	3.85%		
	49	44	22	10	5	130	3
Recreation programming for residents	29.01%	29.01%	19.08%	8.40%	14.50%		
	38	38	25	11	19	131	
Updating existing facilities	47.73%	25.00%	18.18%	4.55%	4.55%		
	63	33	24	6	6	132	4
Maximizing use of facilities by both active and	25.20%	28.35%	28.35%	11.81%	6.30%		
passive users	32	36	36	15	8	127	;
Cooperation with other providers of recreation	20.00%	27.20%	31.20%	11.20%	10.40%		
services	25	34	39	14	13	125	
Acquisition of new property for parkland	13.39%	11.81%	12.60%	30.71%	31.50%		
	17	15	16	39	40	127	
Variety of special events at parks faciliteis	16.94%	32.26%	16.94%	16.13%	17.74%		
	21	40	21	20	22	124	
Nature programming activities at parks	11.81%	29.13%	28.35%	14.96%	15.75%		
	15	37	36	19	20	127	
Development of Carpenter Lake	9.84%	22.13%	23.77%	22.95%	21.31%		
	12	27	29	28	26	122	
Connect Southfield to Valley Woods Trail	18.33%	18.33%	18.33%	20.00%	25.00%		
	22	22	22	24	30	120	

### Q13 Please check all the reasons that prevent you and/or members of your household from using any of the City's recreation facilities, programs, or parks.



Answered: 149 Skipped: 77

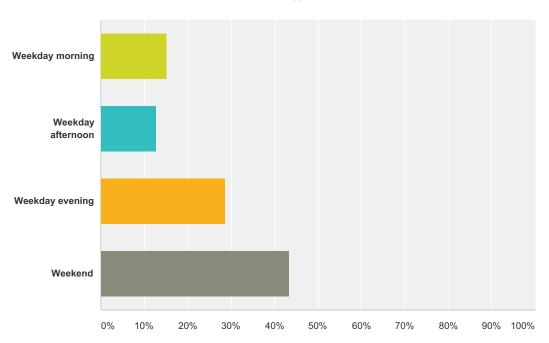
wer Choices	Responses	
Facilities are not well maintained	32.89%	
Lack of programs of interest	25.50%	
Lack of facility equipment	21.48%	
Insufficient security	28.19%	
Poor quality of programs	11.41%	
Too far from residence	13.42%	
High fees	10.74%	
Poor customer service by staff	10.07%	
I do not know the location of parks and facilities	18.79%	
Availability of parking	6.04%	
Difficulty in registering for programs	4.70%	
Program times are not convenient	21.48%	
Poor access to parks or facilities	4.70%	
I do not know enough about what is available	30.87%	
None of the above	12.08%	
Other (please specify)	18.79%	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	1	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	Beechwoods welness center does not have adequate space for the way it is being used. Needs a multi-purpose area where people not using weight machines can exercise.	1/4/2017 4:52 PM
3	Ice skating info not published	1/4/2017 10:55 AM
4	More senior transportation to facilities is needed	1/3/2017 3:45 PM
5	Poorly maintained Freeway Park - also lacks security	1/3/2017 9:07 AM
6	Just like other programs, P&R should send out an e-mail blast or announcements on the intranet about up coming family programs. Giving time enough to register. We don't get the brochures so we don't know what is offered.	1/3/2017 7:27 AM
7	The Freeway Park is poorly lit, and the equipment is old. It is nearby, though, and with improved lighting and structures, we would frequent it often!	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
8	I use facilities frequently	1/2/2017 6:06 PM
9	Little to no maintenance of fitness equipment at Beechwood Wellness Center. Many of the machines are in poor repair or not useable. No trained staff.	1/2/2017 4:40 PM
10	Non Southfield residents (specifically Detroiters) truly just do not know how to behave and they smell like weed	1/2/2017 3:42 PM
11	Beechwoods needs to be upgraded and maintained	1/1/2017 5:12 PM
12	No biking trails.	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
13	Need more activities for teens. 15 older	12/30/2016 7:42 PM
14	NO walking trails parks look dirty	12/30/2016 7:27 AM
15	Older, outdated, equipment	12/27/2016 12:05 PM

16	I use the recreational facilities, however the equipment is outdated as well as the builings	12/27/2016 4:57 AM
17	I cannot attend Saturday programs	12/25/2016 1:48 PM
18	Can't attend Saturday Events or sign up for Saturday programs.	12/23/2016 3:47 PM
19	Religious Jews are not able to participate in Saturday events.	12/23/2016 8:57 AM
20	We live far away from beechwood rec like a 17 min drive. I wish there was and indoor facility in the north part of town for my kids to play indoors.	12/23/2016 3:58 AM
21	Occassionally on the Jewish Sabbath (Friday night, Saturday)	12/22/2016 2:43 PM
22	My kids have hit those teen years where they are less interested in doing the P&R programs.	12/22/2016 12:38 PM
23	I'm noticing an influx of inner city crimes that are happening in Southfield that are similar to the crimes that happens in the city of Detroit. We need more of a police presence in the community.	12/22/2016 11:17 AM
24	I need to visit the parks and see what they are like. I like to walk or bike in a pleasant, peaceful environment (love walking at Carpenter Lake)	12/22/2016 11:12 AM
25	The facilities need a facelift. They were built many years ago and feel old.	12/15/2016 9:23 AM
26	n/a	12/14/2016 10:56 AM
27	Lack of time & energy!	12/11/2016 3:08 PM
28	Not enough publicity for parks and nature trails. Where are they?	12/10/2016 1:52 PM

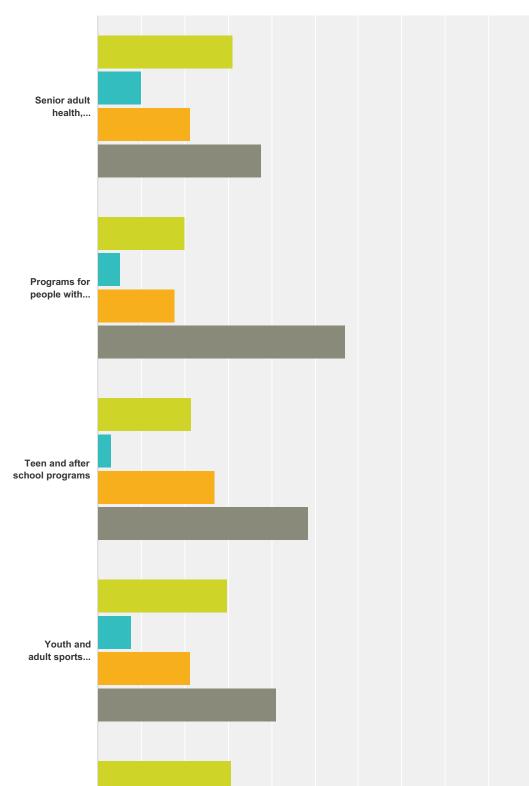
## Q14 What is the most convenient time for you and/or members of your household to participate in recreational programs or activities?

Answered: 150 Skipped: 76

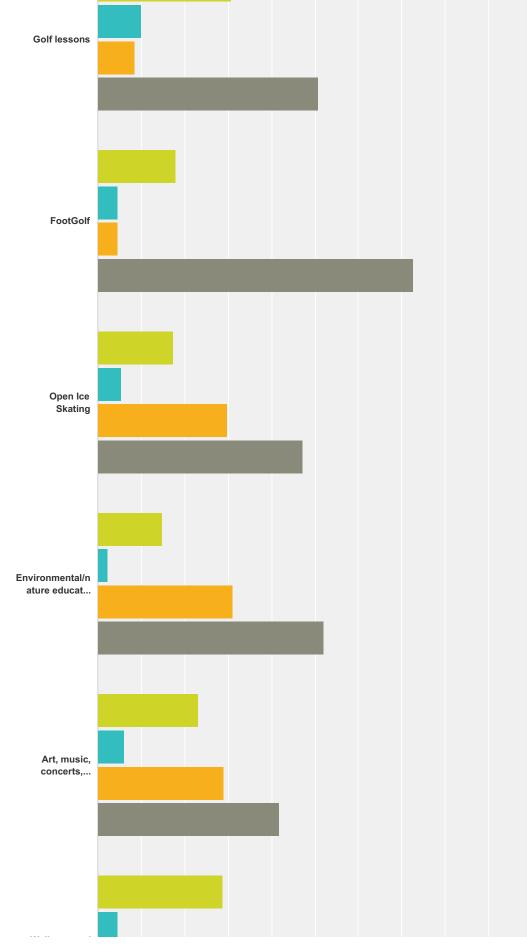


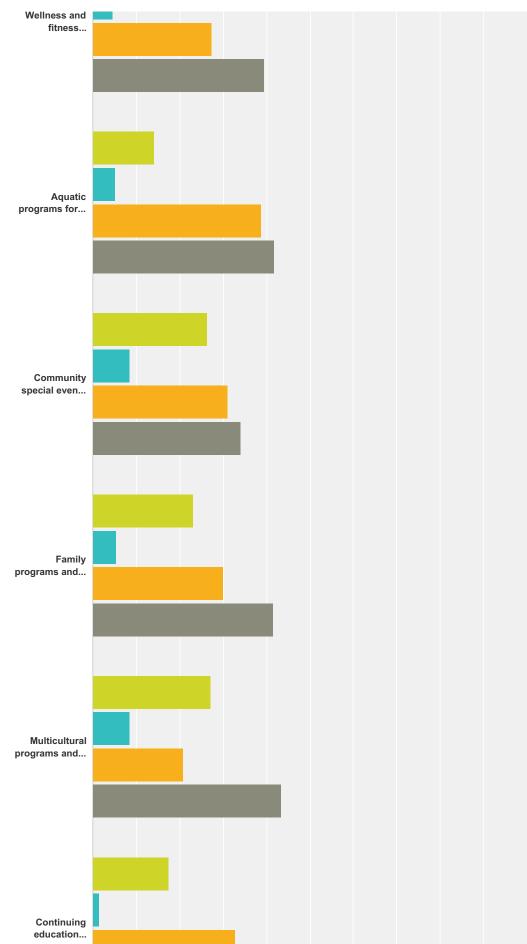
Answer Choices	Responses
Weekday morning	<b>15.33%</b> 23
Weekday afternoon	<b>12.67%</b> 19
Weekday evening	<b>28.67%</b> 43
Weekend	<b>43.33%</b> 65
Total	150

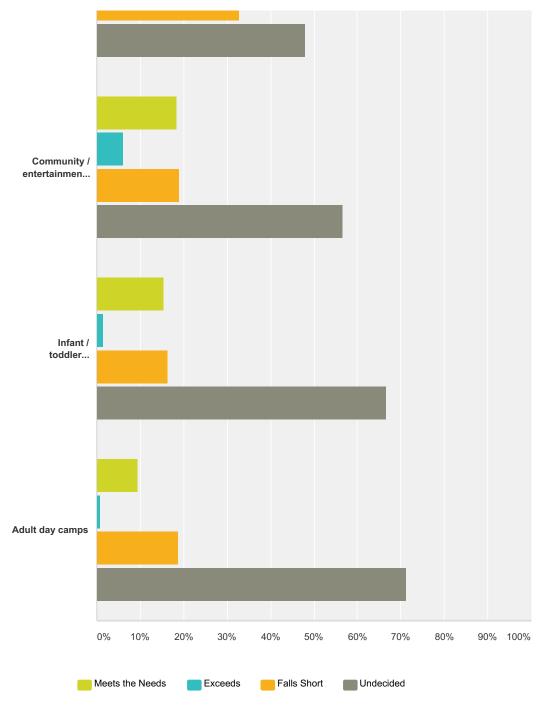
Q15 Please tell us if you feel the programs/activities currently available within the City meet the needs of the community, exceed what is needed, or falls short of meeting those needs.



Answered: 145 Skipped: 81







	Meets the Needs	Exceeds	Falls Short	Undecided	Total
Senior adult health, fitness, social programs, and assistance	31.21%	9.93%	21.28%	37.59%	
	44	14	30	53	141
Programs for people with disabilities/Adaptive Recreation	20.00%	5.19%	17.78%	57.04%	
	27	7	24	77	135
Teen and after school programs	21.54%	3.08%	26.92%	48.46%	
	28	4	35	63	130
Youth and adult sports programs	29.77%	7.63%	21.37%	41.22%	
	39	10	28	54	131
Golf lessons	30.77%	10.00%	8.46%	50.77%	
	40	13	11	66	130

FootGolf	17.97%	4.69%	4.69%	72.66%	
	23	6	6	93	
Open Ice Skating	17.32%	5.51%	29.92%	47.24%	
	22	7	38	60	
Environmental/nature education programs	14.73%	2.33%	31.01%	51.94%	
	19	3	40	67	
Art, music, concerts, theater and dance programs	23.13%	5.97%	29.10%	41.79%	
	31	8	39	56	
Wellness and fitness programs	28.79%	4.55%	27.27%	39.39%	
	38	6	36	52	
Aquatic programs for all ages	14.18%	5.22%	38.81%	41.79%	
	19	7	52	56	
Community special events and festivals	26.36%	8.53%	31.01%	34.11%	
	34	11	40	44	
Family programs and activities	23.08%	5.38%	30.00%	41.54%	
	30	7	39	54	
Multicultural programs and offerings	27.13%	8.53%	20.93%	43.41%	
	35	11	27	56	
Continuing education courses	17.56%	1.53%	32.82%	48.09%	
	23	2	43	63	
Community / entertainment clubs (books, knitting, games)	18.32%	6.11%	19.08%	56.49%	
	24	8	25	74	
Infant / toddler education and socialization programs	15.50%	1.55%	16.28%	66.67%	
	20	2	21	86	
Adult day camps	9.38%	0.78%	18.75%	71.09%	
	12	1	24	91	

# Q16 What could we do to improve existing programming/activities in the City? (Please be specific)

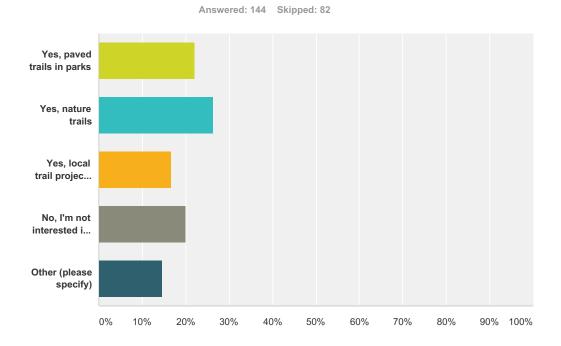
Answered: 59 Skipped: 167

#	Responses	Date
1	More marketing particularly on social media	1/9/2017 10:07 PM
2	Wellness Center at Beechwood could use a facelift. Get rid of the dirty carpet as well as the equipment that sits (for years) in disrepair.	1/9/2017 5:37 PM
3	Love BeechWoods! One of Southfield's best kept secrets!	1/6/2017 1:12 PM
4	Promote Events	1/6/2017 9:26 AM
5	Create running program	1/5/2017 4:46 PM
6	Due to the high # of people using Beechwoods wellness center with a personal trainer, it is difficult for everyone else to get access to the machines. There needs to be a large space for people doing stretches, jump rope, mat exercises, etc.	1/4/2017 4:52 PM
7	Hold programs in safer, cleaner, newer facilities.	1/4/2017 12:49 PM
8	lower the resident fee, increase non resident fee	1/4/2017 12:08 PM
9	Provide gender specific swimming times at the Southfield pool	1/3/2017 10:39 PM
10	Update facilities in Freeway Park (the large color paving area is ridiculous), replace seating in more practical groupings, add walks where actually needed by users, lighting at night for safe transit thru park, equipment for self-directed phys ed, address dead/dying trees.	1/3/2017 4:27 PM
11	Please add more classes particularly chair exercises, needlepoint, computer, low impact aerobic, a game room or cafe geared towards the seniors in the community	1/3/2017 3:45 PM
12	More activities on Sunday	1/3/2017 1:37 PM
13	More cultural, community special events, indoor pool, use the ice rink for roller skating, have cultural festivals, up to date bands at Burgh	1/3/2017 11:45 AM
14	Update facilities- specifically the hockey arena. It is old, cold, and looks run down.	1/3/2017 11:35 AM
15	Improve Freeway Park which we use often but find very old, outdated, and not maintained	1/3/2017 10:15 AM
16	Make a better effort to connect with the residents this is the first survey I have done in just about 17 years in my home and 40 years living in the city - I used to play in Southfield Little League but I take my kids to another city to play as Southfield is so rigid and has no flexability for not playing on the jewish Sabbath - when I was growing up it was respected and the league was flexable	1/3/2017 9:07 AM
17	I am not aware of what the P&R offers so I cannot comment. When we lived in Southfield we took advantage of many of the activities. Including concerts and plays at the Burgh, petting farms at family days, swimming and ice skating.	1/3/2017 7:27 AM
18	Provide programs which include ALL Southfield residents (including the Orthodox Jewish ones). This would also consist of separate gender classes & swim times.	1/2/2017 8:25 PM
19	No comment	1/2/2017 8:24 PM
20	Add picnic tables to multiple parks. Better maintain trails.	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
21	Publicize more.	1/2/2017 6:06 PM
22	Regular schedule of maintenance for all equipment. Currently the maintenance is minimal, mostly limited to cleaning and trash removal.	1/2/2017 4:40 PM
23	Need to hire an outside consultant to revamp the programs and the advertising material. Maybe look at what other cities that are successful with their programs do to make it a success (i.e. Livonia Rec).	1/2/2017 3:42 PM
24	improve appearance of existing facilities; wellness center equipment at Beechwood is old and out dated	1/2/2017 1:19 PM

25	Special needs adult programs. Respite care and activities seems there are programs for physically challenged individuals but not for cognitively challenged.	1/2/2017 1:08 PM
26	Provide more information to residents	1/1/2017 7:35 PM
27	Provide more art classes at affordable rates. Also have gardening, cooking and craft demonstrations for affordable fees. Charge nonresident fees.	1/1/2017 5:12 PM
28	An indoor pool facility would be nice.	12/31/2016 12:44 PM
29	Build a state of the art recreation, community and wellness center.	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
30	Re do inglenook softball fields	12/30/2016 4:24 PM
31	Maintain equipment at Beechwoods wellness center, both aerobic and strength equipment. Better seating for AARP Tax Aide volunteers Feb-April annually.	12/30/2016 10:22 AM
32	We're not really interested in organized activities. We enjoy visiting parks according to our schedule. We wonder if it would be possible to coordinate a fitness/pool facility between the city and high schools (perhaps like Livonia, or Holland?). Years ago, community swim time at the high school used to be one hour on Saturday after swim lessons ended. Summer lap swim at the civic center pool used to be a few days a week early in the morning. Not exactly user friendly. We no longer have a sled hill, or cross country skiing on the golf courses. We find ourselves going to Farmington Hills to do many of those activities. Tennis courts are great when available. More extensive bike trails would make that activity safer, so we wouldn't have to put bikes in the car to drive to a place for biking.	12/29/2016 7:32 PM
33	More adult fitness programs after 6:00 p.m. More adult/kids programs offered at Civic center.	12/28/2016 7:01 PM
34	I would love to take a yoga or pilates class, however most of the classes are offered at times that don't fit with my schedule. I also have not committed to a class yet because I'm hesitant to spend \$45-50 for six sessions without knowing if I like the instructor/workout. Perhaps you could try offering a free session to interested residents? I also took workout classes (such as Zumba) before, outside the city of Southfield, and the classes were closer to \$5 a session, as opposed to \$7.50 - \$8 and were offered either as a membership (6 weeks like you currently have set) or drop-in. It would be nice to have the ability to drop-in to a class when my schedule permits, as opposed to making a 6 week commitment.	12/28/2016 4:07 PM
35	Promotion via Cable 15/City news magazine.	12/27/2016 2:11 PM
36	It would be nice to participate in some of the events on the weekends or utilize the programming for kids but the programs are more often on a Saturday then Sunday which means I can't participate. The events outside of this past year (1) don't have Kosher food options.	12/23/2016 3:47 PM
37	Add more Sunday activities as well as kosher food options at events. Free hot dogs for events is great but some attendees, who are residents, are unable to enjoy.	12/23/2016 8:57 AM
38	The website is hard to access from a phone and makes it hard to find info.	12/23/2016 3:58 AM
39	Ensuring best practices using examples from around the region.	12/22/2016 6:10 PM
40	I like mountain biking, but have to drive out to Novi or Clarkston for a good trail. We don't have the hills for a top notch trail, but a moderate trail could be put in at some of our parks which could get good use due to their convenience. MMBA could help make trails.	12/22/2016 12:38 PM
41	「_(ツ)_/	12/22/2016 11:19 AM
42	I don't feel that this information is reaching the community. I feel that the city should consider sending emails to residents who may have overlooked the publication that advertises the events.	12/22/2016 11:17 AM
43	More playgrounds, update existing playgrounds o	12/22/2016 8:55 AM
44	Keep maintaining the building	12/21/2016 8:25 PM
45	We need more bike paths; especially along 13mile and Southfield road, not just Evergreen. We have a tone of bikers, in our area, but no bike path. This is extremely important for our busy roads, for avoid injuries.	12/19/2016 1:09 PM
46	more safe and secure bike, running and walking trailswider paths with detailed lines.	12/16/2016 10:29 AM
47	The input of the residents is a great start with this survey.	12/15/2016 9:56 AM
48	Fix your softball diamonds, they're in poor condition.	12/15/2016 6:45 AM
49	Enclose the pool and offer year round aqua-aerobics	12/14/2016 4:51 PM
50	Improve softball fields. Lights for softball fields	12/14/2016 2:38 PM

51	1.) The renovation and remodeling of the Beechwood Rec Center should be top priority and focus. It is in dire need of a facelift, from floors to ceilins. 2.) Offer qualified trainers and employees who are actively engaged in the promotion of and the needs of the members of the Beechwood Wellness Center. 3.) Discontinue subcontracting to private trainers to use Wellness Center for personal enterprise. The Center has no control of the clientele of the contractors, if they are not Wellness Center members. People using the facility need to be vetted for the safety of both employees and members. In addition, the Center is not large enough to hold training sessions in the aisles and walkways of the exercise areas.	12/14/2016 12:00 PM
52	develop a teen and after school program at a specific meeting site.	12/14/2016 8:54 AM
53	Get some one who cares about Marketing the City of Southfield. Great place to live, non residents in programming positions don't care.	12/13/2016 10:19 PM
54	More bike paths and trails. Include cross country skiing on golf courses.	12/12/2016 11:24 PM
55	I feel like the option for an i door swimming facility would both benefit the community by way of offering an exercise outlet that could potentially be year round, and if done right could be a lucrative business option in regards to revenue in the winter from residents of neighboring communities.	12/12/2016 10:29 PM
56	Fitness Center - get updated equipment and new type of equipment.	12/12/2016 6:47 PM
57	Groomed trails for XC skiing and snowshoeing at Inglenook Park, Evergreen and Beech Woods golf courses, please.	12/12/2016 3:16 PM
58	Provide more funding for the summer camp programs. If kids can get involved early in life, then I believe they will be more inclined to stay involved with the city programs as they get older.	12/12/2016 12:20 PM
59	The Beech Woods Wellness Center is very beat-up. Carpet is dirty, some equipment is broken. The hours are too limited. It needs an upgrade.	12/10/2016 1:52 PM

### Q17 Would trail initiatives be something that Southfield should invest in as a priority?

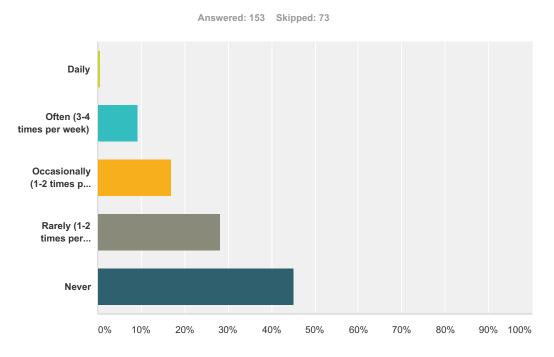


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, paved trails in parks	<b>22.22%</b> 32
Yes, nature trails	<b>26.39%</b> 38
Yes, local trail projects to connect destinations	<b>16.67%</b> 24
No, I'm not interested in trails	<b>20.14%</b> 25
Other (please specify)	<b>14.58%</b> 2 <sup>-</sup>
Total	144

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Our roads really need bicycle lanes!	1/6/2017 1:12 PM
2	Bike lanes needed on roads	1/6/2017 1:06 PM
3	Absolutely again 2000 loop	1/5/2017 4:46 PM
4	All of above	1/3/2017 1:27 PM
5	trails do not necessarily have to be paved, but e.g. at inglenook, it seems the paths are icy or muddy; it is a rare day when one can walk without having to worry about where to step. and speaking about where to step, trying to walk the dog around the civic center complex is a study in frustration. besides all the goose poop on every sidewalk and grassy area, there's no real convenient contiguous walking path.	1/2/2017 9:36 PM
6	Clearer trails with clear markers would be wonderful	1/2/2017 8:10 PM
7	A combination of both paved and unpaved trails, including paved bike trails and enforcement of no bikes on non-paved trails.	1/2/2017 4:40 PM
8	yes very iportant	12/31/2016 4:29 PM

9	Biking trails.	12/30/2016 11:21 PM
10	Yes to any of the 3 suggestions above. Perhaps bike trails as well!	12/29/2016 7:32 PM
11	Most trails venture onto property of residents	12/23/2016 7:11 PM
12	yes but only if it is well lit & security is not an issue ?	12/23/2016 3:58 PM
13	Yes paved trails but ensuring they are secure and not behind trees like Inglenook	12/23/2016 3:47 PM
14	Mt Bike trails	12/22/2016 12:38 PM
15	yes to all 3	12/22/2016 12:30 PM
16	0	12/22/2016 11:42 AM
17	Paved trails, nature trails and local trail projects to connect desitnations	12/22/2016 11:12 AM
18	Add more nature and bike trailes	12/19/2016 1:09 PM
19	Security would be my biggest concern	12/15/2016 9:56 AM
20	As for the question below, I can't ride my bicycle work and my children in my own neighborhood since we don't have sidewalks. Every neighborhood off of Bell Rd., East and West is dangerous for bicyclists	12/15/2016 6:45 AM
21	More bike paths and trails.	12/12/2016 11:24 PM

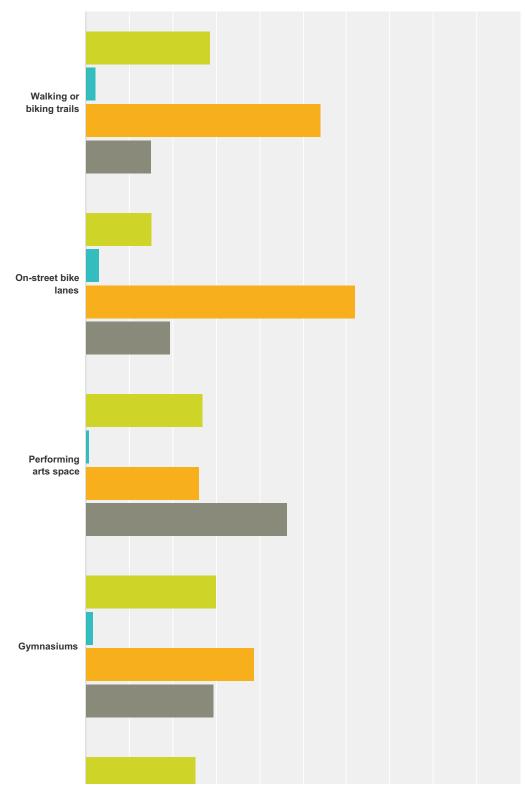
# Q18 How often do you ride a bicycle to get around the City?



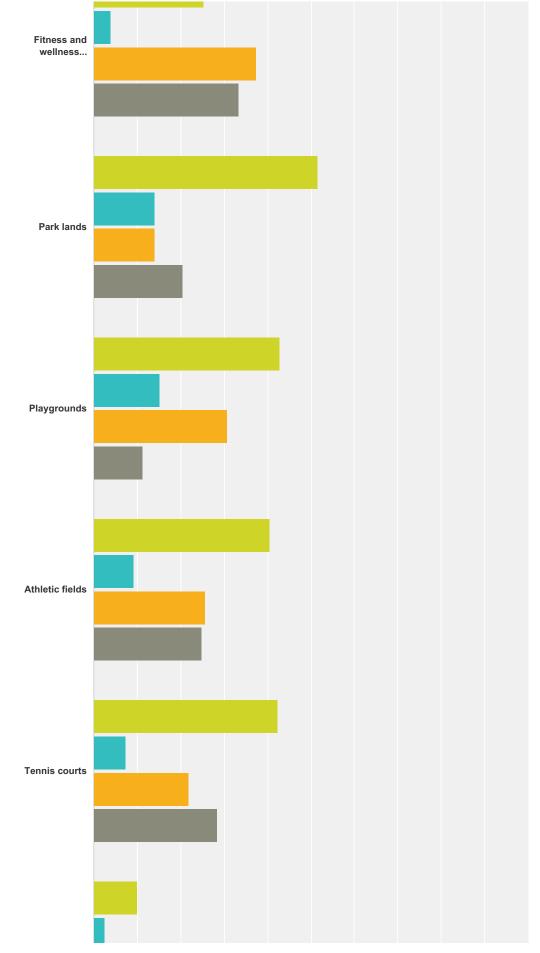
Answer Choices	Responses	
Daily	0.65%	1
Often (3-4 times per week)	9.15%	14
Occasionally (1-2 times per week)	16.99%	26
Rarely (1-2 times per month)	28.10%	43
Never	45.10%	69
Total		153

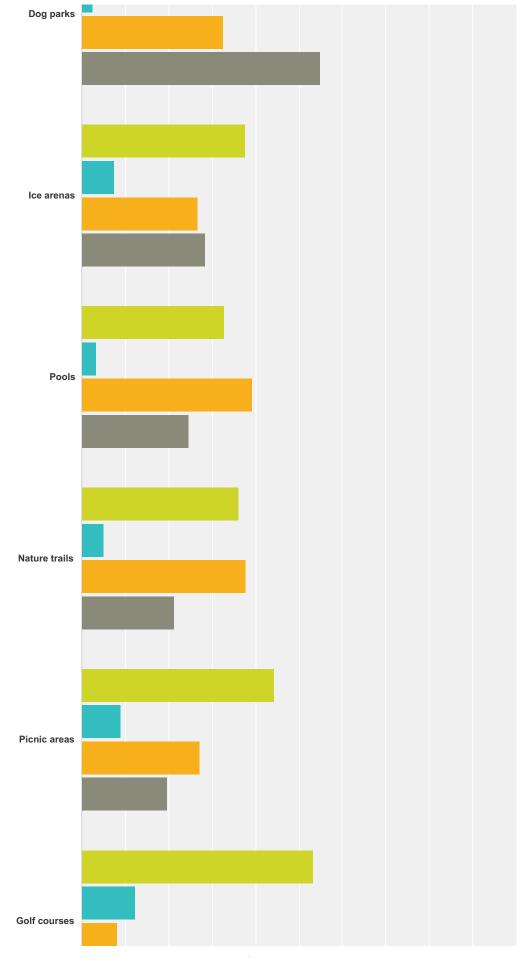
## Q19 Please tell us if you feel the facilities currently available in the City meet the needs of the community, exceeds what is needed, or falls short of meeting those needs.

Answered: 133 Skipped: 93

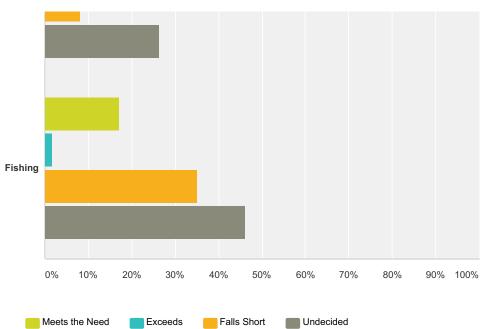


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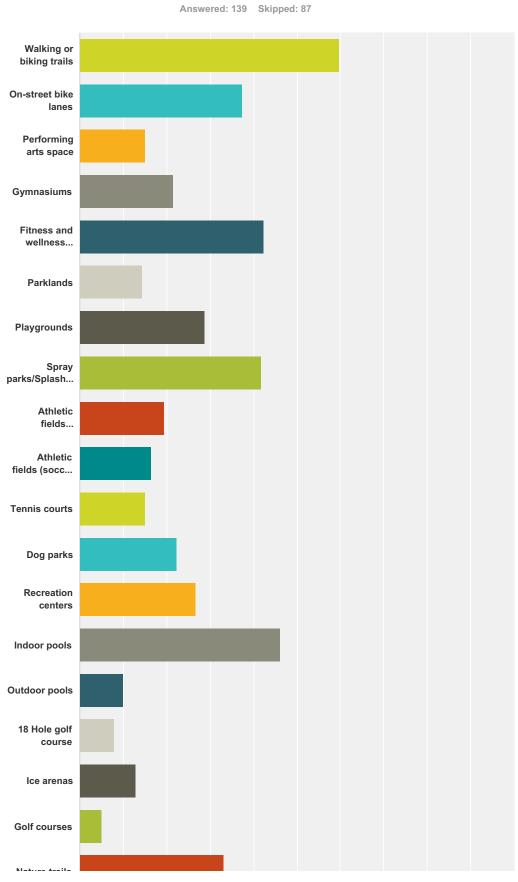
Southfield Parks & Recreation Master Plan

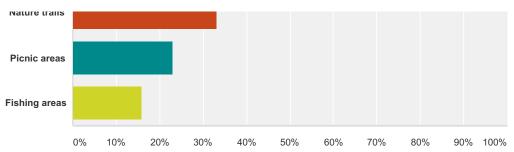


	Meets the Need	Exceeds	Falls Short	Undecided	Total
Walking or biking trails	28.57%	2.38%	53.97%	15.08%	
	36	3	68	19	12
On-street bike lanes	15.32%	3.23%	62.10%	19.35%	
	19	4	77	24	12
Performing arts space	26.83%	0.81%	26.02%	46.34%	
	33	1	32	57	1:
Gymnasiums	30.16%	1.59%	38.89%	29.37%	
	38	2	49	37	1
Fitness and wellness program area	25.20%	4.07%	37.40%	33.33%	
	31	5	46	41	1
Park lands	51.64%	13.93%	13.93%	20.49%	
	63	17	17	25	1
Playgrounds	42.74%	15.32%	30.65%	11.29%	
	53	19	38	14	
Athletic fields	40.50%	9.09%	25.62%	24.79%	
	49	11	31	30	1
Tennis courts	42.28%	7.32%	21.95%	28.46%	
	52	9	27	35	
Dog parks	10.00%	2.50%	32.50%	55.00%	
	12	3	39	66	1
Ice arenas	37.50%	7.50%	26.67%	28.33%	
	45	9	32	34	
Pools	32.79%	3.28%	39.34%	24.59%	
	40	4	48	30	
Nature trails	36.07%	4.92%	37.70%	21.31%	
	44	6	46	26	
Picnic areas	44.26%	9.02%	27.05%	19.67%	
	54	11	33	24	1

Golf courses	53.28%	12.30%	8.20%	26.23%	
	65	15	10	32	122
Fishing	17.09%	1.71%	35.04%	46.15%	
	20	2	41	54	117

# Q20 Which facilities/amenities would you like to see more of in the City?





swer Choices	Responses	
Walking or biking trails	59.71%	
On-street bike lanes	37.41%	
Performing arts space	15.11%	
Gymnasiums	21.58%	
Fitness and wellness program areas	42.45%	
Parklands	14.39%	
Playgrounds	28.78%	
Spray parks/Splash pads	41.73%	
Athletic fields (baseball, softball)	19.42%	
Athletic fields (soccer, football, lacrosse)	16.55%	
Tennis courts	15.11%	
Dog parks	22.30%	
Recreation centers	26.62%	
Indoor pools	46.04%	
Outdoor pools	10.07%	
18 Hole golf course	7.91%	
Ice arenas	12.95%	
Golf courses	5.04%	
Nature trails	33.09%	
Picnic areas	23.02%	
Fishing areas	15.83%	

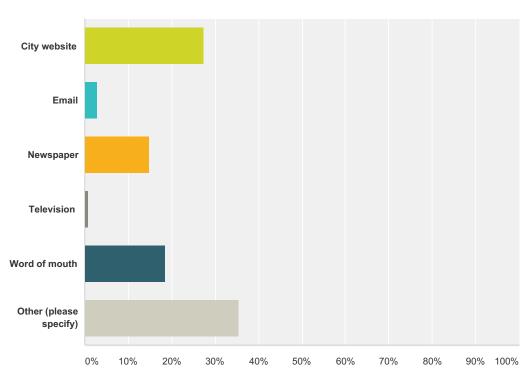
## Q21 Are there any facilities not mentioned that you would like to see offered? (Please be specific)

Answered: 25 Skipped: 201

#	Responses	Date
1	A facility devoted to seniors	1/6/2017 1:34 PM
2	Driving ranges	1/4/2017 12:14 PM
3	Stafford Woods Commons is in need of a major overhaul the park has gone by the wayside for too long	1/3/2017 9:45 PM
4	We would love to see better lighting at parks for evening activities. It would make walking much safer. The freeway park could use some updates too. Thanks!	1/3/2017 2:03 PM
5	roller skating	1/3/2017 11:47 AM
6	No	1/3/2017 11:37 AM
7	One thing that's really important - as far as i can tell from old maps, the woods behind the civic center is the only natural area in Southfield that hasn't been farmed at one point (again, as far as I can tell). This would make it a very rare and precious natural resource, as most wooded areas in the city were previously used as farmland. It would also mean that runoff from the golf course into this area would be particularly damaging to the ecosystem. I'm curious if the city has every had a naturalist look at the site and determine whether or not it's virgin forest, and if so, what the best way to preserve it would be.	1/2/2017 8:35 PM
8	No	1/2/2017 8:25 PM
9	No	1/2/2017 8:12 PM
10	Pilates classes or nice environment for preteens	1/2/2017 3:45 PM
11	improved golf practice facilities	1/1/2017 7:40 PM
12	Lap swimming hours and lanes for adults at pool in summer. Indoor water parksee Farmington Hills and Warren facilities for example with areas for older adults as well as young people and therapy connections to hospitals.	12/31/2016 10:24 AM
13	Bike trail along the river!	12/30/2016 9:34 PM
14	Banquet	12/30/2016 7:45 PM
15	see #18	12/29/2016 7:37 PM
16	Roller skating rink	12/23/2016 7:17 PM
17	The open skate hours at the ice arena at civic center drive is not conducive for residents to enjoy.	12/23/2016 9:00 AM
18	Indoor play area or indoor soccer field. We just went to 2/42 community church in Brighton it was all indoors and pretty awesome.	12/23/2016 4:02 AM
19	Indoor facilities like the Livonia Rec Center with pool, running track, fitness/weightlifting equipment, multi-use gyms, dance, billiards, table tennis, and daycare space.	12/22/2016 6:18 PM
20	No	12/22/2016 11:20 AM
21	no	12/21/2016 8:27 PM
22	Fitness gym, Livonia has a nice recreational center, observe their programs and facility	12/15/2016 9:59 AM
23	More bathrooms at parks	12/14/2016 7:25 PM
24	n/a	12/14/2016 10:57 AM
25	More senior programs.	12/10/2016 1:55 PM

# Q22 How do you find out about the programs, facilities, and special events at Southfield Parks and Recreation?



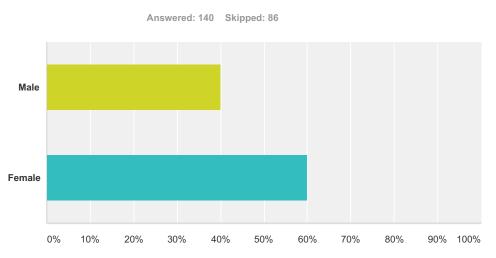


Answer Choices	Responses	
City website	27.41%	37
Email	2.96%	4
Newspaper	14.81%	20
Television	0.74%	1
Word of mouth	18.52%	25
Other (please specify)	35.56%	48
Total		135

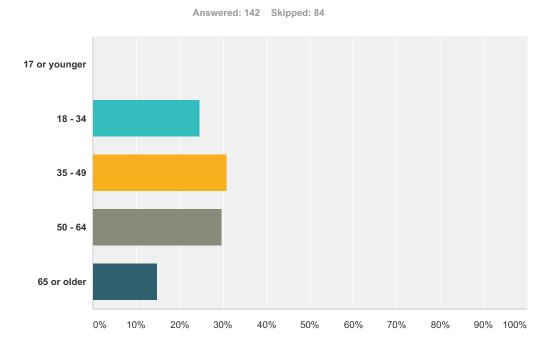
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	City brochure	1/9/2017 5:38 PM
2	OVCA news emails	1/7/2017 10:22 AM
3	Sfld Park/Rec semi-annual booklet	1/6/2017 1:14 PM
4	Southfield Parks and Rec mailing	1/6/2017 1:07 PM
5	Southfield Parks and Rec Book	1/6/2017 11:41 AM
6	Ltu	1/5/2017 4:50 PM
7	Social Media	1/4/2017 12:51 PM

0		1/4/2017 10-EC AM
8	Rec center	1/4/2017 10:56 AM
9	City mailings	1/3/2017 3:47 PM
10	brochure, social media	1/3/2017 11:47 AM
11	Usually see activity to late to register	1/3/2017 7:43 AM
12	The booklet that is mailed to each house	1/3/2017 12:35 AM
13	southfield sun or guide to classes and events mailed to southfield residents	1/2/2017 9:40 PM
14	Social Media	1/2/2017 8:35 PM
15	We don't know what programs are available	1/2/2017 8:29 PM
16	Signs/flyers	1/2/2017 8:12 PM
17	Beechwood	1/2/2017 1:29 PM
18	Parks and rec annual program booklet	1/1/2017 6:12 PM
19	Parks and Recreation program guide	12/30/2016 11:28 PM
20	Mailing	12/30/2016 9:34 PM
21	City of Southfield booklet	12/30/2016 7:45 PM
22	City newsletter, word of mouth.	12/30/2016 10:26 AM
23	Southfield Living Magazine	12/28/2016 4:09 PM
24	Facebook	12/27/2016 7:43 PM
25	Book that's mailed twice a year	12/27/2016 5:03 AM
26	Southfield living	12/23/2016 7:17 PM
27	FB	12/23/2016 3:48 PM
28	Facebook feed	12/22/2016 9:47 PM
29	SOUTHFIELD BOOKLET	12/22/2016 9:05 PM
30	Facebook	12/22/2016 8:28 PM
31	Mailing	12/22/2016 7:04 PM
32	City P&R Guide	12/22/2016 6:18 PM
33	City newsletter	12/22/2016 3:41 PM
34	annual P&R catalog mailed to home	12/22/2016 12:42 PM
35	Facebook	12/22/2016 11:44 AM
36	publication	12/22/2016 11:36 AM
37	City Facebook	12/22/2016 11:20 AM
38	website and southfield annual calendar	12/22/2016 11:14 AM
39	Google	12/21/2016 9:17 PM
40	In passing, signs in the community	12/15/2016 9:59 AM
41	Social Media	12/15/2016 9:25 AM
42	Southfield Living annual publication (Should be made accessible online.)	12/14/2016 12:09 PM
43	n/a	12/14/2016 10:57 AM
44	city brochures and activities book.	12/14/2016 8:58 AM
45	Visit to rec center	12/12/2016 11:27 PM
46	Southfield Guide	12/12/2016 6:52 PM
47	P&R booklet	12/12/2016 3:18 PM
48	City Southfield Living mailer	12/10/2016 1:55 PM

## Q23 What is your gender



Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	40.00%	56
Female	60.00%	84
Total		140

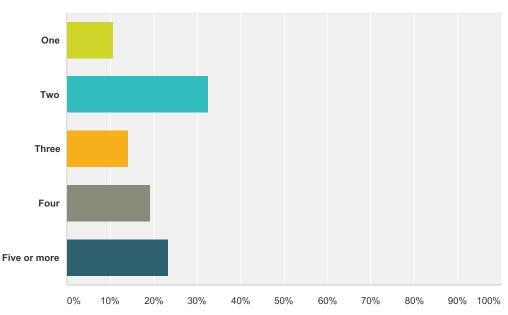


# Q24 What is your age?

Answer Choices	Responses	
17 or younger	0.00%	0
18 - 34	24.65%	35
35 - 49	30.99%	44
50 - 64	29.58%	42
65 or older	14.79%	21
Total		142

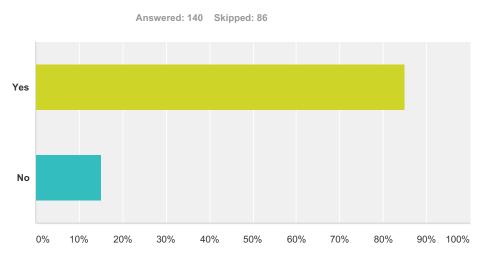
# Q25 How many people live in your household?

Answered: 141 Skipped: 85



Answer Choices	Responses	
One	10.64%	15
Тwo	32.62%	46
Three	14.18%	20
Four	19.15%	27
Five or more	23.40%	33
Total		141

# **Q26 Do you currently live in Southfield?**



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	85.00%	119
No	15.00%	21
Total		140

# Q27 If you do not live in Southfield, where do you live?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 202

#	Responses	Date
1	Clawson	1/9/2017 8:52 AM
2	Farmington but I coach at Itu	1/5/2017 4:50 PM
3	Commerce Township	1/3/2017 11:37 AM
4	Pontiac	1/3/2017 10:57 AM
5	West Bloomfield	1/3/2017 7:43 AM
6	oak park	1/2/2017 10:45 PM
7	I lived in Southfield for 10 years, recently moved to a Berkley senior apartment building.	1/2/2017 4:42 PM
8	23223 Morningside St, 48034	1/2/2017 1:29 PM
9	Bell RdPontchaatrain Estates	1/1/2017 7:40 PM
10	On Bell Rd	1/1/2017 6:12 PM
11	Lathrup Village	12/31/2016 10:24 AM
12	12 and Southfield roads	12/30/2016 7:30 AM
13	Detroit - former resident of southfield	12/27/2016 2:13 PM
14	Live in Livonia, but work in Southfield	12/27/2016 12:13 PM
15	Farmington Hills I grew up in Southfield	12/23/2016 7:17 PM
16	Beverly Hills	12/22/2016 2:50 PM
17	Birmingham	12/22/2016 12:54 PM
18	Pinewood Manor Subdivision, Near 13Mile and Southfield Road. (Between Pierce and Southfield road.) There is absolutely NO excitement in my neighborhood I sit on the board of the Homeowners Association for the Pinewood Manor; therefore, I hear all the complaints, that there is no activities in our area.	12/19/2016 1:15 PM
19	Waterford	12/15/2016 4:59 PM
20	Commute to Southfield from Detroit	12/15/2016 9:25 AM
21	Detroit	12/14/2016 10:57 AM
22	Redford, MI	12/13/2016 5:46 PM
23	Detroit	12/12/2016 11:27 PM
24	Just outside of Southfield	12/12/2016 12:23 PM

## Q28 Thank you for participating in the Southfield Parks and Recreation Master Plan survey! Please provide any additional comments that you have for the Parks & Recreation Plan that are not addressed in the above statements.

Answered: 4 Skipped: 222

#	Responses	Date
1	Would like to have a facility devoted to senior activities.	1/6/2017 1:34 PM
2	I singularly credit the Wellness Center @ the Beech Woods Rec building for maintaining my fitness. The carpet needs changing. Sewage backed up over it a couple years ago. It should have been replaced. Every employee there is knowledgeable and friendly. The turnover is low. Fred is the most engaged and knows every member by name. He is able to coach members re: proper use of the equipment too. Some stationary bikes are in disrepair. Another elliptical machine would be wonderful. Investment in the equipment, the space and the Wellness personnel will pay off in a healthier community. I'd want the good word to be put out about this high potential facility, so it's no longer a secret to Southfield citizens.	1/6/2017 1:16 PM
3	The equipment at the Beech Woods Rec center needs upgrading and repairing. Carpeting in the wellness gym should be removed. Fred should be highly rewarded for his service in the wellness facility. He knows how to use the equipment. He is welcoming. He cleans the equipment when it's not being used. Amazing!	1/6/2017 1:08 PM
4	Bathrooms should be cleaned at night when sports are not in session. Tennis courts at Beech Woods Rec should be lit for evening.	1/6/2017 12:05 PM



McKenna Associates Community Planning & Design 235 East Main Street, Suite 105 Northville, Michigan 48167

www.mcka.com

John Jackson, AICP	President
Paul Lippens, AICP	Project Director
Gregory M. Elliot, AICP	Project Manager
Erin Schlutow	Project Planner
Sabah Aboody-Keer	GIS / Mapping
Carrie Leitner	Senior Graphic Designer