2023-2027

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Washington, Bruce, Romeo
Parks & Recreation Commission

DRAFT · January 13, 2023

UPDATE 1/15/2023

This version needed several corrections. Please note the changes that are missing have been noted on each page.

2023-2027

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Washington, Bruce, Romeo
Parks & Recreation Commission

Adopted by:

Bruce Township	~~February 15, 2022~~
Washington Township	~~February 22, 2022~~
~~Village of Romeo~~	~~February 27, 2022~~

Prepared by:

MCKENNA

235 East Main Street, Suite 105 | Northville, MI 48167 | **mcka.com**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The participation and cooperation of community leaders, community staff, and residents in the preparation of the 2023 – 2027 Washington, Bruce, Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission Parks and Recreation Master Plan is greatly appreciated. In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of the following individuals:

Parks and Recreation Board

Clara Russell — Parks and Recreation Director
Dan Detkowski — Washington Township
Cindy Olsen — Washington Township (Alt)
Mike Fillbrook — Bruce Township
Lisa Craffey — Bruce Township (Alt)

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Our mission is to attract and encourage participation for all age groups and abilities through positive opportunity and quality service for the purpose of enriching our residents' lives.



01

INTRODUCTION

REGIONAL SETTING

Washington, Bruce and Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission

The ~~Romeo-Washington-Bruce Recreation Commission~~ is responsible for guiding existing and future conditions of parks and recreation facilities and programs in the communities. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan must be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) to be eligible for new grant funding. In 2023, the Parks and Recreation ~~Director~~ authorized McKenna, a planning consulting firm in Northville, to prepare a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Commission

The preparation of a Recreation Plan provides the ~~Romeo-Washington-Bruce Recreation Commission~~ with an opportunity to consider the recreation needs of its residents. The preparation of a recreation master plan also qualifies the community for possible State funding for expanding and/or improving the existing recreational areas. Providing recreational facilities and programs has evolved into a widely accepted role for local governments. The decreasing amount of leisure time due to longer hours and longer work weeks places an even greater emphasis on recreation providers to offer a more diverse range of quality easily accessible facilities and programs to satisfy these magnified recreational needs. The availability and type of park and recreation programs provided makes the community more attractive by enhancing the community's overall quality of life.

The Romeo-Washington-Bruce Recreation Commission serves three separate communities with distinct physical characteristics and distinct recreation needs. For example, the Village of Romeo is an established urban area located in the geographic center of the study area. To the south, Washington Township has experienced a substantial amount of residential development over the last decade. North of the Village, Bruce Township features a more rural residential setting, with larger lots and a substantially lower overall population than Washington Township and is much more dispersed. Several factors explain this growth trend in this area of the County, the main factor being the Township's regional location in the path of one of Macomb County's principal growth corridors, the M-53 Growth Corridor.





02

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Washington, Bruce and Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The ~~Romeo-Washington-Bruce Recreation Commission~~ serves three communities, which collectively encompass approximately 74 square miles of land located in the northwest corner of Macomb County. The boundaries of this service area extend from 26 Mile Road on the south to the Lapeer County line on the north (Boardman Road), and from Hayes and Powell Roads on the east to the Oakland County line on the west (Dequindre Road). Two major State transportation corridors, M-53 and Van Dyke, bisect all three communities. These corridors run parallel to one another, approximately ¼ to ½ mile apart. The presence of these highway corridors had had an important influence on the growth and development of this portion of the County.

To analyze the types of recreation facilities and amenities that are needed in a community, it is important to have a thorough description of the area's demographic features. Differences in demographic characteristics may indicate issues or areas in recreation planning; may identify strengths or assets that can be further developed or emphasized; or may identify weaknesses or problems that need to be addressed.

Table 1. Demographic Characteristics

LAND USE	ACRES	PERCENT
Single-family Residential	18,166.8	38.3%
Agricultural	13,119.0	27.7%
Industrial	5,840.3	12.3%
Park, recreation and open space	4,160.0	8.8%
Transportation, utility, communication	3,423.9	7.2%
Water	1,118.4	2.4%
Governmental/Institutional	801.7	1.7%
Commercial	631.9	1.3%
Multiple-family Residential	123.5	0.3%
Airport	0.0	0.0%
Total	**47,385.5**	**100%**

The median income has increased by 9.8% since 2010.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME 2010	POPULATION	%
Less than $25,000	1,825	15.26
$25,000 - $34,999	943	7.89
$35,000 - $49,999	1,521	12.72
$50,000 - $74,999	1,993	16.67
$75,000 - $99,999	1,713	14.33
$100,000 - $149,999	2,328	19.47
$150,000 +	1,633	13.66
Total	**11,956**	**100%**



Population

Population trends for the Village of Romeo, Washington Township and Bruce Township have been increasing since the 1980's. SEMCOG projections indicate that the community populations will increase, however at diff erent rates. The Village of Romeo's population will increase 1.9 percent from 2010 to 2040, while Bruce Township will increase 19.0 percent and Washington Township will increase 32.9 percent.

The rapid increase in population will impact the land usage for each community. New commercial and residential developments will occur as the population increases. In order to ensure that all residents have access to the parks and recreational facilities, it is necessary for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to take into account the population increases throughout all three communities.

Housing

A household is defined as a person or group of people occupying a housing unit. The rate of increase in households is not equal to the rate of increase of housing units.

From 2010 to 2016, the number of households increased in Romeo (2.1 percent) and Washington Township (11.5 percent), however, there was a slight decrease in Bruce Township (-4.5 percent). During that same time period, the number of housing units increased in Bruce Township (5.3 percent) and Washington Township (8.9), but experienced zero change in Romeo. The increase of housing units is due to the increase in construction in Bruce and Washington Townships. There has been a steady increase in construction permits issued as the economy has recovered. The Townships have a large portion of vacant land, while Romeo is almost entirely built out with very little room for new housing units to be built.



Age Distribution

Another important consideration in planning for future parks and recreation needs is the age distribution of residents. In each stage of life, people's activity requirements change, resulting in the need for a variety of recreational facilities and programs.

For each community, there is expected to be an increase in retirees, 30-something's and preschoolers by 2025.

The median age has increased to 41.7 from 2000 to 2010. The increase in median age has become more and more common, as people have been staying home with parents longer before moving into their own homes, and are also waiting longer to have children. The median age for Macomb County (39.9) and the State of Michigan (38.9) follow this trend.

Income

Median income is defined as the income level above which half of all households earn more and below which half earn less. In Romeo-Washington-Bruce, the median income increased 9.8 percent between 2000 and 2010. In 2010, over 33 percent of households earned over$100,000. The percentage of high income is linked with high quality of life and suggests that residents will continue to demand high-quality services and facilities from the Parks and Recreation Department.



Persons with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that all public services, including parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, comply with barrier-free access requirements. Further, public providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities, and services.

As the population ages, the proportion of people who have one of more disabilities steadily increases. Throughout the three communities, 11.6 percent of the population have one or more disability.

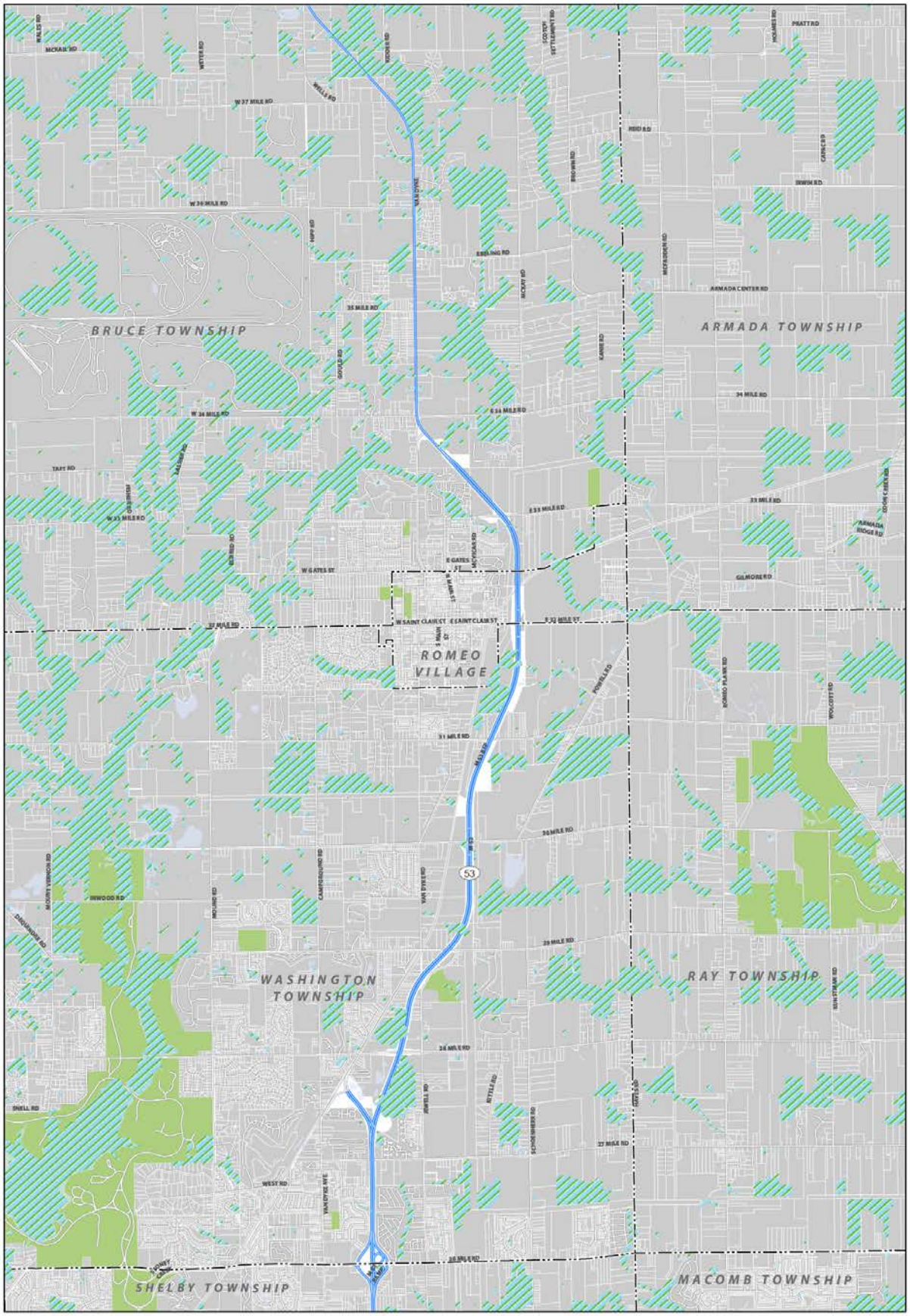


PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The physical setting of a community may influence the availability of recreation opportunities. The presence of varied topography, woodlands, and other natural water features, including lakes and rivers, often provides unique opportunities for diverse recreation activities. A community's land use characteristics also need to be considered in evaluating recreation needs and opportunities. This is a particularly relevant consideration for the Romeo-Washington-Bruce area, which has an abundance of unspoiled natural features.

Topography

The topographic features of the Romeo-Washington-Bruce area are a direct consequence of the glacial action. The combined effects of glaciation and the elastic rebound of the land after continental ice caps vanished created the only area of Macomb County characterized by a rolling landscape. The eastern half of the area is relatively fl at. The western half is characterized by a series of rolling hills.



Identified Natural Features Map

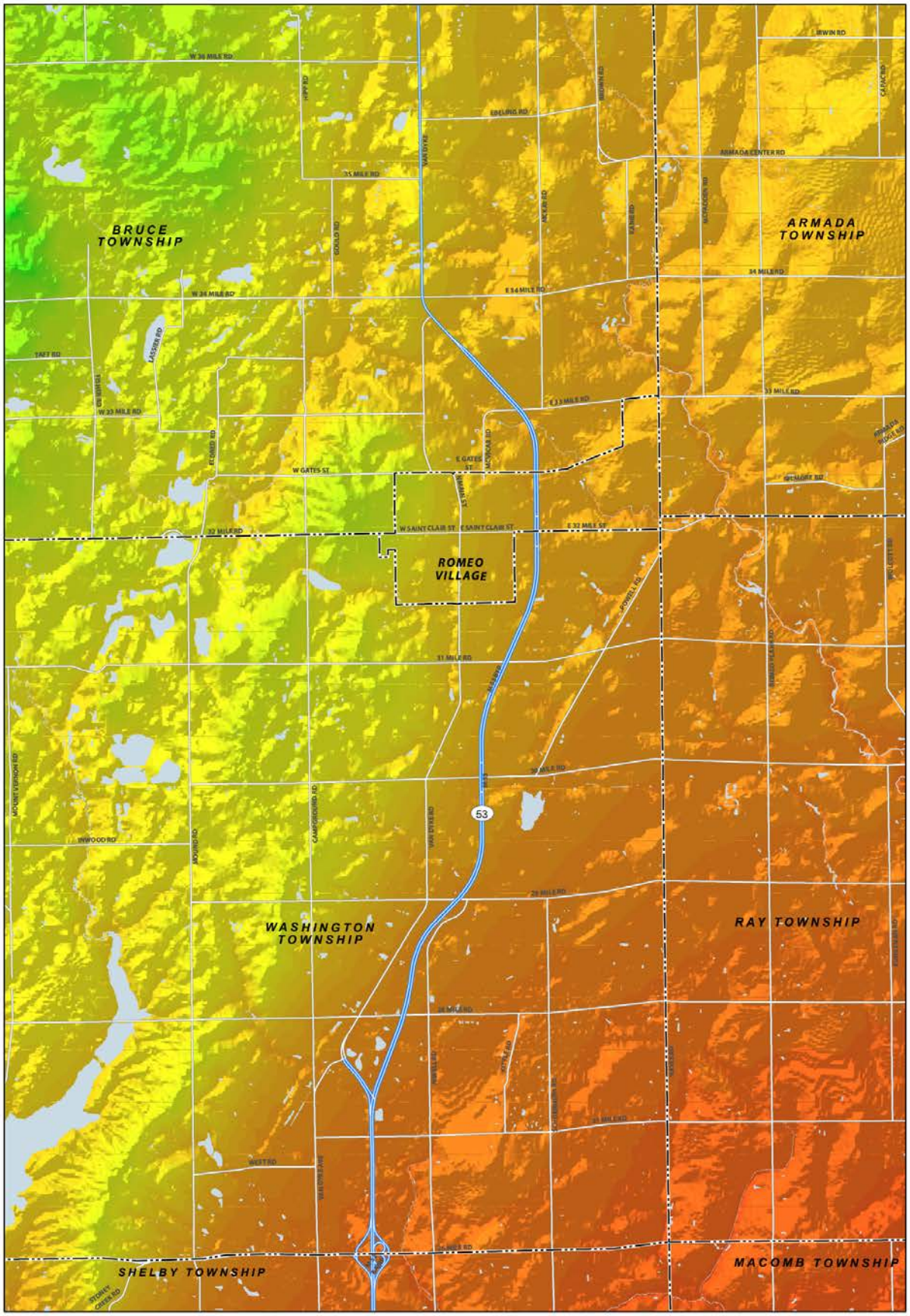
Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan
February 27, 2017

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McKenna ASSOCIATES

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Data Source: Macomb County, 2014
Michigan Geographic Framework, Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Version 12a
Aerial Data: ESRI



Generalized Topography Map

Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan

February 27, 2017

FEET
0 2,000 4,000

McKenna ASSOCIATES

N

Data Source: Macomb County, 2014
Michigan Geographic Framework, Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Version 12a
Aerial Data: ESRI

Water Features

Surface water exists in many forms, such as lakes, rivers, creeks, ponds, wetlands and open storm drains. Both Washington and Bruce Townships contain numerous such features that make a significant contribution to the visual character of the area. These water features off er attractive settings for residential development. They also have an important value for recreational purposes.

Several lakes and streams are located in Washington Township. For the most part, these features are located in the western portion of the Township. The largest of the Township's six lakes is Stony Creek Lake, located in the southwest corner of the community. Several smaller lakes are located to the north, along the Stony Creek Valley. Stony Creek also flows through this area, emptying into the lake of the same name south of 29 Mile Road. On the east half of the Township, the predominant water features are several smaller drains, including Healy Drain, Heide Drain, Yates Drain, Kim Drain and Price Brook.

Several watercourses cross Bruce Township, the most notable of which includes the north branch of the Clinton River and East Pond Creek. Both watercourses meander throughout the Township. The Township also contains several small lakes, which include Hidden Lake, Streeter Lake, Fisher Lake and East Lake, among others.

Woodlands and Wetlands

Undisturbed woodlands and wetlands offer numerous benefits for recreation purposes. For example, these natural features enhance the setting or parks by providing opportunities for picnicking, hiking and nature interpretation. Both communities are replete with these features.

Large wooded areas are distributed throughout Washington Township. Many of these woodlands are located in interior section acreage. These woodlands were measured in 1979. At that time, trees, excluding existing orchards and land within Stony Creek Park, covered approximately 2,000 acres of land (eight percent of the total Township area). Unfortunately, the large amount of development has removed a significant amount of woodlands from the Township.

Extensive portions of Bruce Township are likewise covered with trees. This is especially the case for the western two-thirds of the Township.

Most of the existing wetlands in Washington Township are confined to the western portion of the Township within the Stony Creek Valley, west of Mound Road. Stony Creek and numerous small lakes are located within this area, which explains the presence of these wetlands. The wetlands located in the eastern half of the Township generally coincide with the location of large wooded areas.

Bruce Township's wetlands are widely distributed throughout the community. Most of these wetlands are associated with the Township's numerous watercourses or wooded areas.

The lowest point in Washington Township, at 650 feet above sea level, occurs in the southeast corner of the Township, near the 26 Mile Road and Hayes Road intersection. Elevations between 900 and 950 feet occur in the northwest corner of the Township. The most noticeable changes in topography are found along the Birmingham Moraine and within the Stony Creek Valley.



03

ADMINISTRATION
STRUCTURE AND FUNDING



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Romeo-Washington-Bruce Recreation Department and it's commission is a public agency responsible for providing recreation services to the area residents. The purpose it was created was to promote, plan, coordinate and operate a system of indoor and outdoor public recreation programs and facilities for all residents of those areas encompassed by the boundaries of Washington, Bruce and the Village of Romeo.

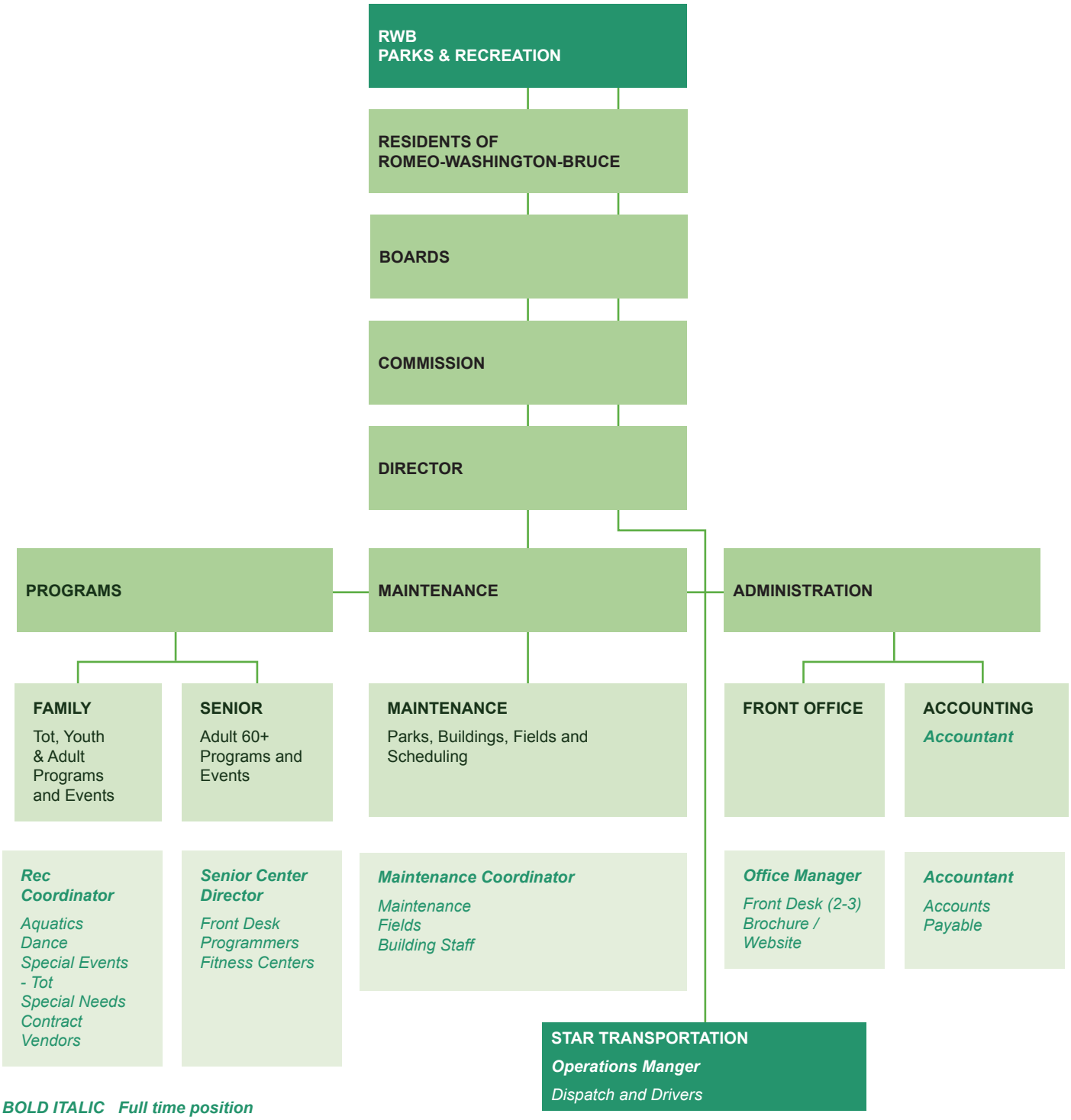
The original Commission was organized pursuant to Public Act 156 of 1917. In 2022 the township of Washington and Bruce entered into a new interlocal agreement establishing the Washington, Bruce, Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission. This is now a separate legal entity and corporate public body as provided in Section 7 of the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967

The Department offers a diverse range of programs at the two Community Activity Centers we operate, the Romeo Community School Gyms and other local business we work with. We feature instructional classes, athletic competition and special events for all age groups. (A sample list of these programs in the form of a RWB Mailer is included in the Appendix.) These programs change from time-to-time to reflect both the needs and preferences of area residents.

Both sites included a Fitness Centers and Senior Activity Center, These centers focus on the needs of our 60+ Adults. Programs offered emphasize the recreational, nutritional and health needs of senior citizens.

Transportation services for seniors and those with disabilities are provided by STAR transportation. This department offers door-to-door transportation for eligible residents. It should be noted that the Director ~~is~~ shared by both Parks & Recreation and STAR to save funds. A separate millage supports this service. and accountant are

Figure 1. Administration Structure



VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Volunteers are used on an as-needed basis. Community residents are willing and able to lend a hand when the occasion calls for it. Local business owners can purchase sponsorships for special events. Advertising sponsorships are also available in the parks and recreation brochure.

Affiliated athletic organizations include:

- AYSO Soccer
- Michigan Flag Football League
- North Macomb Community Youth Soccer
- Romeo Girls Softball
- Romeo Football Club
- Romeo Jr. Bulldogs
- Washington Area Athletic Association - Baseball



Sponsors include:

- Action Insurance
- All the Worlds a Stage
- AndII Plumbing
- Bluewater Trucking
- Bruce-Romeo Fire Department
- Budget Tree
- Campground Pediatrics
- Capital Banquet Center
- Chamber of Commerce
- Cross of Glory Church
- Culligan Water
- Daily Blend
- Don's Lil Johns
- Don Brown,
- Evola
- Fifth Third Bank
- Fresh Look Seal Coating
- Four County Foundation
- Grace Preschool
- Healthy Kids Running Program
- Heidebreicht
- Holy Cross Church
- Heidebreicht
- Henry Ford Health Systems
- Imagination Library
- Keller & Associates
- Knights of Columbus
- Kiwanis Club
- Landscape Direct
- Masonic Temple
- McLean, Mijack & Clark
- Meijer
- MITT TV
- Macomb County Sheriff
- Mike Nicley
- National Flag Football
- NMCYS
- Northend Accounting
- Pradko Gallagher & Slanec Dentistry
- Peoples Credit Union
- Poljan Insurance
- Peter J. Lucido
- Proline Asphalt
- Romeo & Washington Lions Club
- Romeo Accountants
- Romeo Gold Studios
- R. White Services
- Rolling Steam
- Romeo Police
- Summit Bowling
- Starkweather
- State Police
- St. Clements Catholic Church
- Sam Previti
- The Pond Guy
- Total Asphalt
- TNT Martial Arts
- Washington Historical Society
- WC Collins
- Washington Fire Department
- WBRW

FUNDING AND GRANT HISTORY

The funding for operating the Romeo-Washington-Bruce parks and recreation system comes from two primary sources: recreation millage and program fees. Occasional grants and money from other activities supplement these two sources.

Special Millages

Special millages may be used to finance specific recreation-related activities. The amount of money raised through a millage is based on the assessed value in the community. For example, one mil, which is equal to 1/10 of a cent, would raise one dollar for each 1,000 dollars of assessed value per parcel of taxable land in the community. Voter approval is required for the adoption of a special millage beyond that which a community can automatically levy.

The Recreation Commission has relied on revenue raised from a 0.75 millage since 1986. Votes renewed the millage in 1990, 1996, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020. Traditionally two-thirds of the millage has been earmarked for operational/administrative expenses; the remaining one-third is used for facility development.

In August 2020, Bruce and Washington Township votes approved a .75 millage renewal of the previous millage for Parks and Recreation, and will collect $1,439,000. Votes also approved a .25 millage for STAR transportation, and will collect $479,000. Both millages will run from 2020 – 2024.

Program Fees

Municipalities often charge user fees to cover the cost of providing various recreation activities and programs. Fees are frequently charged for instructional classes or athletic events. These fees help defray the cost of providing specific programs or events or for related administrative expenses.



RWB Budget

The Parks and Recreation budget for 2022-2023 is $2,243.961.

Table 2. Millage History

YEAR	MILLAGE REVENUE
2021-2022	$ 1,616,236
2020-2021	$ 1,468,997
2019-2020	$ 1,397,663
2018-2019	$ 1,422,395
2017-2018	$ 1,344,159

Table 3. Revenue and Expenditures

REVENUE	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019	2017-2018
Washington Millage	$1,226,388	$1,108,017	$1,032,116	$1,029,377	$927,720
Bruce Millage	$389,848	$360,980	$365,547	$393,018	$416,439
Programs & Other	$580,219	$134,457	$856,568	$884,987	$829,460
Total	**$2,196,455**	**$1,603,454**	**$2,254,231**	**$2,307,382**	**$2,173,619**
EXPENSES	**2021-2022**	**2020-2021**	**2019-2020**	**2018-2019**	**2017-2018**
Adm. Salaries	$253,352	$311,037	$288,759	$278,893	$277,303
Adm. Benefits	$153,081	$150,767	$167,058	$161,058	$159,797
Adm. General	$165,438	$111,224	$160,885	$158,214	$158,789
Maintenance & Improvements	$728,185	$404,232	$487,144	$513,852	$502,437
Programs	$531,028	$189,964	$835,237	$920,104	$930,389
Total	**$1,831,084**	**$1,167,224**	**$1,939,083**	**$2,032,121**	**$2,028,715**

Grant History

Funding programs administered at either the Federal or State level represent a source of money for capital improvements in park land and/or improvements on a competitive and matching basis. Several years ago, Washington Township received a state grant for the Washington Village Park development project (see Table below).

Table 4. MDNR Recreation Grant History

FUNDING SOURCE	PROJECT NAME	GRANT AMOUNT	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Michigan Department of Natural Resources	BF89-219	$60,600	Washington Village Park	Exercise trail, 2 tennis courts, 2 soccer fields

Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources



04

PARKS AND RECREATION INVENTORY

Developing a complete inventory of the 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 Romeo, Washington, Bruce residents will assist in decision-making and is the basis upon which future improvements and plans will be built. It should be noted that not all facilities listed in this chapter are available to the public full time or charge a fee for use, but they provide additional recreation opportunities for community residents. This chapter covers the following components:

- Park and recreation facilities
- Pedestrian / bicycling trails
- Barrier free access
- Private recreation facilities
- Public school facilities
- Programs
- Regional parks and facilities



PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Parks are divided into four categories based on their size and function. These categories, mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks and natural resource areas, are suggested by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) and meant to aid in determining the primary purposes and uses of existing facilities in the Township. The description of each park or facility includes an assessment of its condition for barrier-free access (see following section).

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks are small, specialized parks that are usually less than one acre in size and serve the needs of the residents in the immediate area, approximately less than one-quarter mile away. These parks usually serve a limited, isolated, or unique population. Residential open space areas often serve as mini-parks.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as fields, playgrounds, picnicking, and trails. These parks are typically between five and ten acres in area and serve residents within one-half mile.



Community Parks

Community parks contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of community residents. Community parks may include areas for intense active recreation as well as passive recreation opportunities not commonly found in mini 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 between 30 and 50 acres 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.

Natural Resource Areas

Natural Resource Areas are generally lands set aside for the preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering. The location of these areas is based on resource availability and opportunity, thus the size varies depending on the property.



Future Possible Park Properties

- **28 Mile & Jewell Rd.** (Forest View) Deeded to Washington Township for park land. It is primarily wetlands. Size: 29.44 acres
- **31 Mile & Powell Rd.** Includes majority of wetlands. Size: 22.79 acres
- **29 Mile East of Jewel, in front of Hevel Elementary.** Deeded from Lombardo. Creek runs through it. Size: 3.527 acres

Can you highlight these or, do they need to be put on their own page?

BARRIER-FREE ACCESS

The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreation facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. To comply with MDNR standards for a parks and recreation master plan, all facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following conditions can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- Has difficulty hearing or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental disorder

A five-point evaluation system was used to rank each facility's accessibility. The system is described below. The applicable accessibility ranking can be found following the description of each park and facility under RWB Parks and Recreation control.

Level 1. The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes few 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 play 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 area paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas area 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.

PARK OR FACILITY	ACCESSIBILITY RATING
Bruce Township Park	3
Orchard Hills Park	3
Crystal Diamonds	2
Village Park	5
Village of Romeo Community Center Building	3
Gilcher-Crissman Park	2
Washington Community Park and Senior Center	5



PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

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 public school facilities located in the three communities are:

1. **Memorial Field.** Memorial Field comprises a total of 10.8 acres. Memorial Field is an active sports complex, with one improved baseball field, bleachers, restrooms, concession building and parking lot. An asphalt-surface running track surrounds the soccer field. A practice football field is located at the southern end of the site.

2. **Croswell Elementary School.** The site includes five baseball fields, two football or soccer fields, a small playground with play structures, basketball courts, picnic areas, and an enclosed kindergarten playground area attached to the school.

3. **Washington Elementary School.** Washington Elementary School occupies a 12.8-acre site in the Washington Village area on Van Dyke Avenue, between 26 Mile Road and West Road. The school grounds contain a large assortment of outdoor play equipment behind the building, two baseball fields, a soccer field and a picnic shelter. The location of the school near the Washington Municipal Building Park offers opportunities for joint use.



4. **Indian Hills Elementary School.** The 10.1 acre site is located on the north side of 29 Mile Road, less than one-quarter mile east of Campground Road. The school contains an assortment of playground equipment commonly found at elementary school sites. It also includes two large wooden climbing structures and two baseball fields. The physical characteristics of this site are somewhat unique. The front half of the site, near 29 Mile Road, is relatively level. Behind the school building, however, the site slopes sharply to the north. Most of the playground equipment is located in the lower half of the site.

5. **Amanda-Moore Elementary School.** Amanda-Moore Elementary School occupies a 14.8-acre site in the northeast portion of Romeo, east of Van Dyke and north of 32 Mile Road. Similar to the School District's other elementary schools, this site contains play structures, climbers, swings, slides, a basketball court, baseball diamonds and a soccer field. Two tennis courts, minus the nets, are also available on site. A large, wooded area adjoins the school site and has been converted by the school to a nature study area. Several pedestrian paths connect the school to the surrounding neighborhood.

6. **Hamilton-Parsons Elementary School.** The 15-acre site is located on the west side of Dequindre Road in Addison Township, on the opposite side of the Bruce Township boundary. This site is somewhat remote and isolated from the more densely settled portions of the same area. The school grounds contain several climbing structures, swings, slides, two baseball diamonds, a soccer field, a basketball court, a sledding hill and a picnic shelter.

7. **Romeo Middle School.** Outdoor recreation facilities available at this site are limited to the skate park, a baseball field and a practice football field. These outdoor playing fields adjoin the baseball diamonds located on the Community Center site. Romeo Middle School also contains an indoor pool and gymnasium that are used for activities sponsored by the Recreation Department.

8. **Romeo High School/ 9th Grade Academy / Barnabo Field.** The 79-acre site is in Washington Township on Jewell Road, south of 29 Mile Road. In addition to the school, the site also contains an athletic complex consisting of a football stadium with turf, the track and 6 tennis courts.

9. **Hevel Elementary School.** Hevel Elementary School is the newest elementary school in the District. The school sits on a total of 23 acres. The site contains two ball fields and a soccer area.

REGIONAL PARKS AND FACILITIES

Regional parks serve a multi-community area and often off er unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, fishing, boating, hiking, and trail use. Many also include active play areas such as ball fields or courts.

State Parks and Recreational Areas

Eighteen (18) state parks and recreation areas are located in the seven-county southeast Michigan region. These parks have a combined area exceeding 75,000 acres that serve area residents.

The only State facility in Macomb County is the undeveloped Wetzel State Park, located in Lenox Township. Eight recreation facilities operated by the State are located to the west in Oakland County and are reasonably accessible to Romeo-Washington-Bruce area residents.

Regional Facilities

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) operates more than one dozen regional recreation areas in southeast Michigan. These parks provide facilities for a wide range of recreational opportunities, which include picnicking, playgrounds, hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, golf, court games, cross-country skiing, ice-skating and sledding, among others.

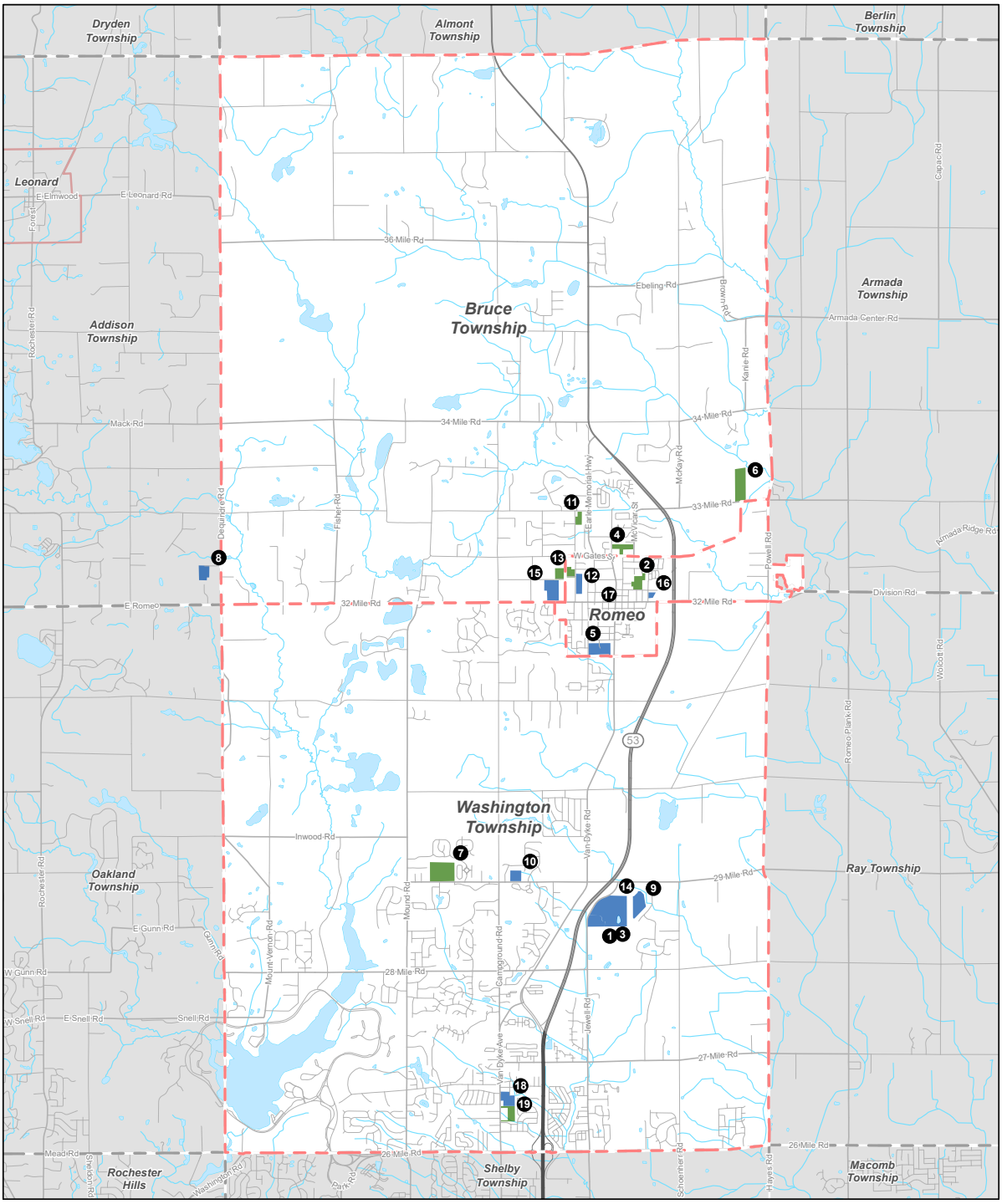
Three HCMA parks are located in Macomb County: Stony Creek Metropark in Washington Township; Metro Beach Metropark in Harrison Township; and Wolcott Mill in Ray Township

Macomb County

Two parks are operated by the Macomb County Parks and Recreation Department, the largest of which is Freedom Hill located on the south side of Metropolitan Beach Parkway in Sterling Heights. This 100+ acre site has an events-orientation, featuring regularly scheduled festivals and an outdoor auditorium. A 10,000-square foot indoor recreation center is located on site. This building is available for group picnics, receptions and other public purposes. A limited amount of other recreation opportunities are also available at this site, including cross-country skiing, basketball, and volleyball.

RWB AMENITIES

The parks and recreation facilities in each community have different types of amenities and opportunities for a wide variety of recreational experiences (see Map 3).



Facility Inventory Map

Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan

November 23, 2022

LEGEND

- Township/Village Parks
- RCS School Facilities
- Romeo + Washington + Bruce Boundary
- Village Boundaries
- Other Municipal Boundary
- Bodies of Water

Map ID	Facility Name
1	9th Grade Academy
2	Amanda Moore Elementary
3	Barnabo Athletic Field
4	Bruce Township Park
5	Crosswell Elementary
6	Crystal Diamonds
7	Glicher-Crissman Park
8	Hamilton Parsons Elementary
9	Hevel Elementary
10	Indian Hills Elementary

Map ID	Facility Name
11	Orchard Hills Park
12	RCS Memorial Field
13	Romeo Community Center Park
14	Romeo High School
15	Romeo Middle School
16	Romeo Village Commission Park
17	Romeo Village Park
18	Washington Elementary
19	Washington Township Park

0 3,000 6,000
Feet

Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a.
Data Source: Romeo + Washington + Bruce 2022. McKenna 2022.

MCKENNA



BRUCE TOWNSHIP

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
20 ACRES

Bruce Township Park

Gates Street
(between Van Dyke and McVicar)

Existing Conditions

- Paved parking
- Play structure
- Gravel parking lot
- Paved pathway
- Swings
- Disc golf baskets
- Pavilion with electric/ lights
- Soccer field
- Fitness trail
- Benches/picnic tables
- Pet stations
- Port-a-johns
- Wifi



BRUCE TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY PARK
14 ACRES

Crystal Diamonds

33 Mile Rd
(between M-53 and Powell Rd

Existing Conditions

- Gravel parking
- Soccer field (Irrigated)
- Baseball diamonds (3)
- Storage shed
- Picnic Area
- Port-a-johns
- Electric/ well water



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY PARK
40 ACRES

Gilcher-Crissman Ball Fields/Park

29 Mile Rd
(between Mound and Campground)

Existing Conditions

- Gravel parking
- Play structure
- Fences
- Pathway (paved)
- Swings
- Soccer field
- Baseball diamonds (2)
- Park irrigation (west)
- Port-a-johns
- Electric/ well/ irrigation
- Municpal water/ sewer



BRUCE TOWNSHIP

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
6 ACRES

Orchard Hills Park

33 Mile Road
(between Morency and Van Dyke)

Existing Conditions

- Gravel parking
- Play structure
- Swings
- Pavilion
- Basketball court
- Pickleball court
- Walking path (paved)
- Port-a-johns



VILLAGE OF ROMEO

COMMUNITY PARK
17 ACRES

Village of Romeo Community Center

Morton
(between St. Clair and Gates St)

Existing Conditions

- Paved parking
- Play structure
- Swings
- Pavilion
- Basketball court
- Ice rink (seasonal)
- Sand box
- Sledding hill
- SMART/STAR bus overhang
- Skate park
- Ballfields (4)
- Practice football (2)
- Barn and storage sheds
- Volunteer athletic group storage sheds
- Port-a-johns
- Water/Electric



VILLAGE OF ROMEO

MINI/NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
0.75 ACRES

Village Park

N. Rawles St
(north of St. Clair, west of Main St)



Existing Conditions

- Sidewalk
- Memorials
- Music pavilion
- Walkways
- Climber
- Memorials
- Port-a-johns
- Water/ Electric



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY PARK
8 ACRES

Washington Community Park and Senior Center

Van Dyke
(between 26 and 27 Mile Roads)

Existing Conditions

- Paved parking
- Play structure (accessible with turf)
- Pathway (paved)
- Swings
- Pavilion
- Soccer field
- Storage shed
- Permanent restrooms inside
- Tennis courts (2)
- Pickleball courts (4)
- Fitness center
- Gaga ball
- Port-a-johns





BRUCE TOWNSHIP

PASSIVE COMMUNITY (PLANNED)
148 ACRES

Bruce Township Vacant Legion Property

Southeast corner of 36 Mile Rd and Hipp Rd

Existing Conditions

- Farmland



VILLAGE OF ROMEO

NEIGHBORHOOD (PLANNED)
1 ACRE

Trail Side Park

North of 32 Mile Rd, east of Clinton St

Existing Conditions

- Road Commission of Macomb County buildings
- Paved parking
- Green space
- Benches
- Tree plantings
- Connection to Macomb Orchard Trail



VILLAGE OF ROMEO

NEIGHBORHOOD - MEMORIAL (PROPOSED)
1.2 ACRES

Village of Romeo Vacant Sisson Property

Sisson
(between 31 and 32 Mile Rds)

Existing Conditions

- Open green space



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

TRAILHEAD/NEIGHBORHOOD (PROPOSED)
5.4 ACRES

Aikman ~~Park~~ PROPERTY

29 Mile Rd and Van Dyke

Existing Conditions

- Paved parking
- Macomb Orchard Trail connection



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

UPDATE REMAINING PROPERTY

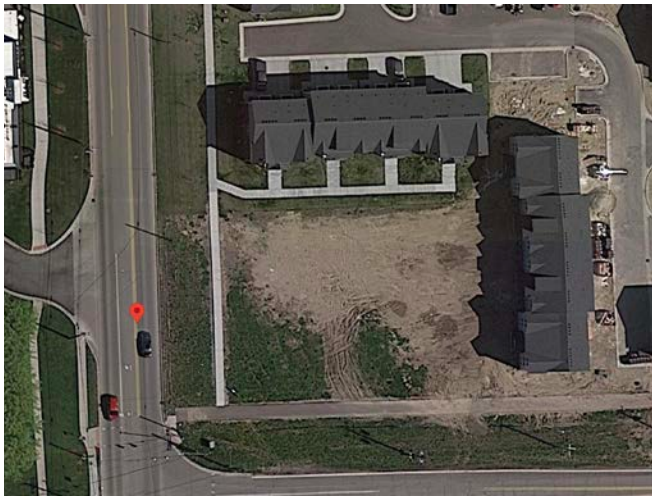
COMMUNITY CENTER (PROPOSED)
~~200 ACRES~~

Washington Township ~~Community Center~~

30 Mile Rd and Van Dyke

Existing Conditions

- Paved parking
- Macomb Orchard Trail connection





WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

MINI NEIGHBORHOOD
0.46 ACRES

Washington Memorial Park

59022 Van Dyke Rd

Existing Conditions

- Open green space

This information is from the last plan, it can all be removed or updated if it need to be part of the plan.

In addition to the current properties that RWB maintains and plans for future development, there has been discussions regarding community building's reuse in the communities.

~~**Washington Township Sewer and Water Department.** The building which housed the Washington Township Sewer and Water Department has been vacated and may become the new home for STAR Transportation. The new location would provide a logical location based on the size and use potential of the current building as well as the existing storage yard. The relocation of STAR to this facility would open up additional space at parking at the Romeo Community Center, as well as the existing property surrounding the Water and Sewer Department Building could be utilized for a small park and/or recreation field.~~

Cable Building. The WBRW Channel 6 building, which is adjacent to the Romeo Community Center ~~will be vacated by the cable group and may allow for the facility to be retrofitted as a fitness center. It is also possible to relocate the police department to this facility, in which case the Village Police and RWB Recreation would share a common space. If this occurs, the fitness facility could be shared by RWB Recreation and the Police Department.~~ has been being used for meeting rooms, storage & a maintenance work room.

Future Buildings. As part of the overall Parks and Recreation Master Plan, any buildings which become available in terms of use should be evaluated in terms of their potential use for recreation or programming purposes. As the communities continue to grow, space for such activities will always be an issue.



PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE TRAILS

Non-motorized transportation trails not only provide recreation, but also have a positive impact on economic and community development. Ultimately, they contribute to the quality of life as a whole in the following ways:

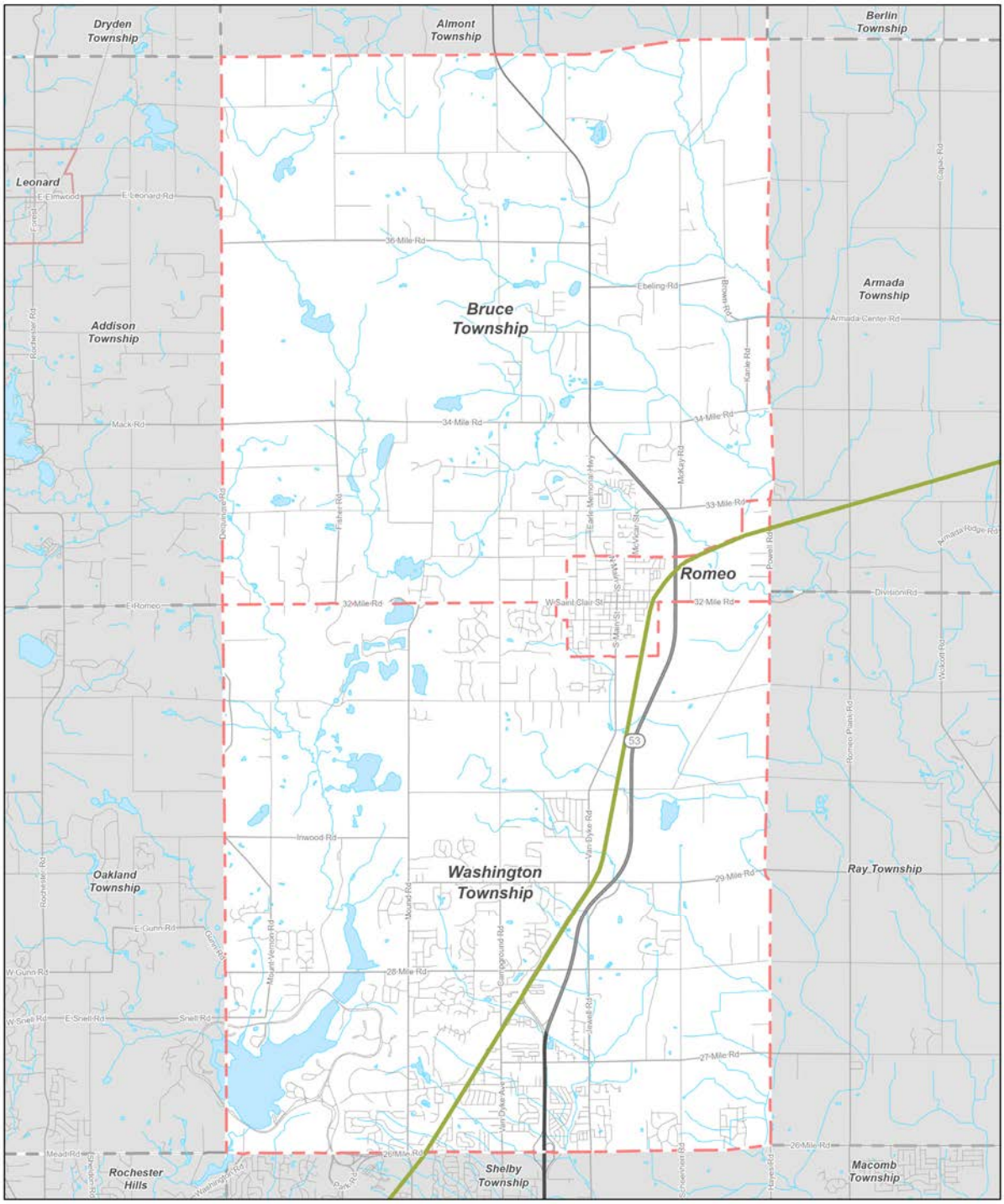
- Encourage exercise, physical fitness, and healthy lifestyles;
- Create new opportunities for outdoor and close-to-home recreation;
- Provide options for non-motorized transportation;
- Strengthen local economies through tourism, recreation expenditures, and increased property values;
- Protect the environment through habitat preservation, improving air and water quality, and preventing soil erosion;
- Offer education opportunities;
- Preserve cultural and historic areas by connecting us to our heritage and providing access to them; and
- Connect to regional and local parks.



Macomb Orchard Trail

According to Michigan Trails (MItrails.org), the Macomb Orchard Trail is approximately 23.5 miles of smooth pavement and beautiful scenery. Built on an abandoned railroad that was originally called the Michigan Air-Line Railway, the trail connects the communities of Shelby Township, Romeo, Armada and Richmond in Macomb County. The southern end of the trail connects with the Clinton River Trail at Dequindre Road.

As the trail heads north, there is a noticeable changing landscape from suburban neighborhoods through wide open spaces, long tunnels of trees, quaint country towns, and an orchard. Along the way there are several exceptional scenic spots to stop and take in the views, as well as visits to neighborhood shops and restaurants.



Macomb Orchard Trail

Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan

November 15, 2022 - DRAFT

LEGEND

- Romeo + Washington + Bruce Boundary
- Other Municipal Boundary
- Bodies of Water
- Macomb Orchard Trail

0 3,000 6,000
Feet

Basemap Source: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, v. 17a. Data Source: Romeo + Washington + Bruce 2022. McKenna 2022.

MCKENNA



Stony Creek Metropark Hike-Bike Trail

Connected to the Macomb Orchard Tail is the Stony Creek Metropark Hike-Bike Trail. The asphalt trail is a circular loop around Stony Creek Lake with access to several nature trails and mountain biking trails.

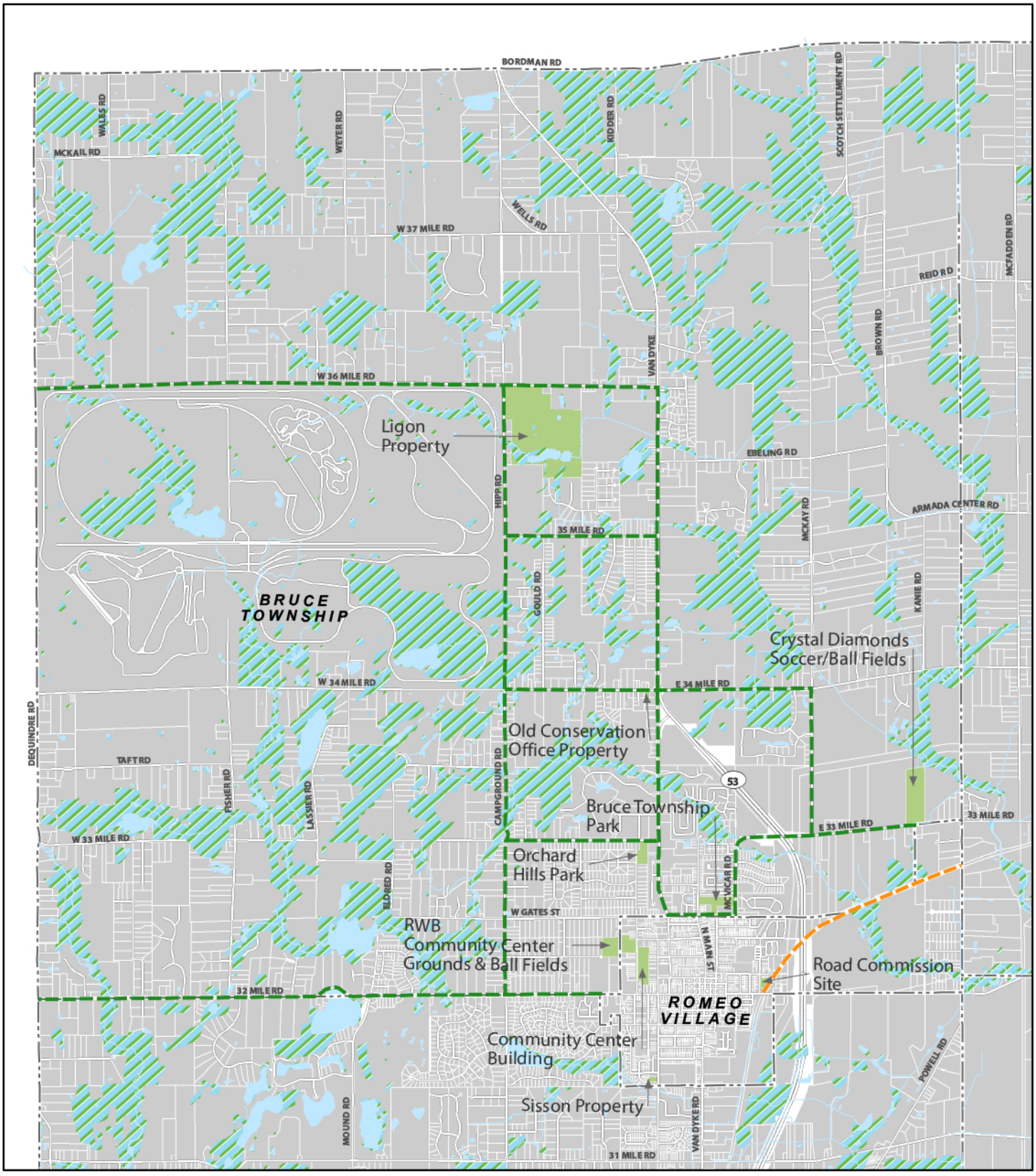
Bruce Township Pathways Plan

The 2016 Bruce Township Master Plan includes planned for a desired pathway system which would service a large portion of the Township and would connect the main public properties, as well as the majority of the Township to the Village of Romeo and the Macomb Orchard Trail. The planned pathways are designed to service walkers, joggers, bike riders, rollerbladers, amongst others in the more rural sections of the Township. This includes pathways in the rural agricultural districts.

The designated planned pathways include the following:

- 32 Mile Road from Dequindre to the Village boundary
- 33 Mile Road from Campground to Van Dyke
- 33 Mile Road from McVicar to Powell Road
- 34 Mile Road from Campground to McKay Road
- 35 Mile Road from Hipp to Van Dyke
- 36 Mile Road from Dequindre to Van Dyke
- Campground from 32 Mile Road to 34 Mile Road
- Van Dyke from the Village boundary to 36 Mile Road
- McVicar Road from the Village boundary to 33 Mile Road
- McKay Road from 33 Mile Road to 34 Mile Road

Within the Township, pathways along exterior roadways have not typically been required. The Township, however, has adopted a new planning philosophy where pathways are desirable between planned developments and Township or other public facilities and destinations.



Bruce Township Pathways Plan

Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan

February 27, 2017

Macomb Orchard Trail
Planned Pathway
Designated Greenways

FEET
0 2,000 4,000

McKenna Associates

Data Source: Macomb County, 2014
Michigan Geographic Framework, Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Version 12a
Aerial Data: ESRI

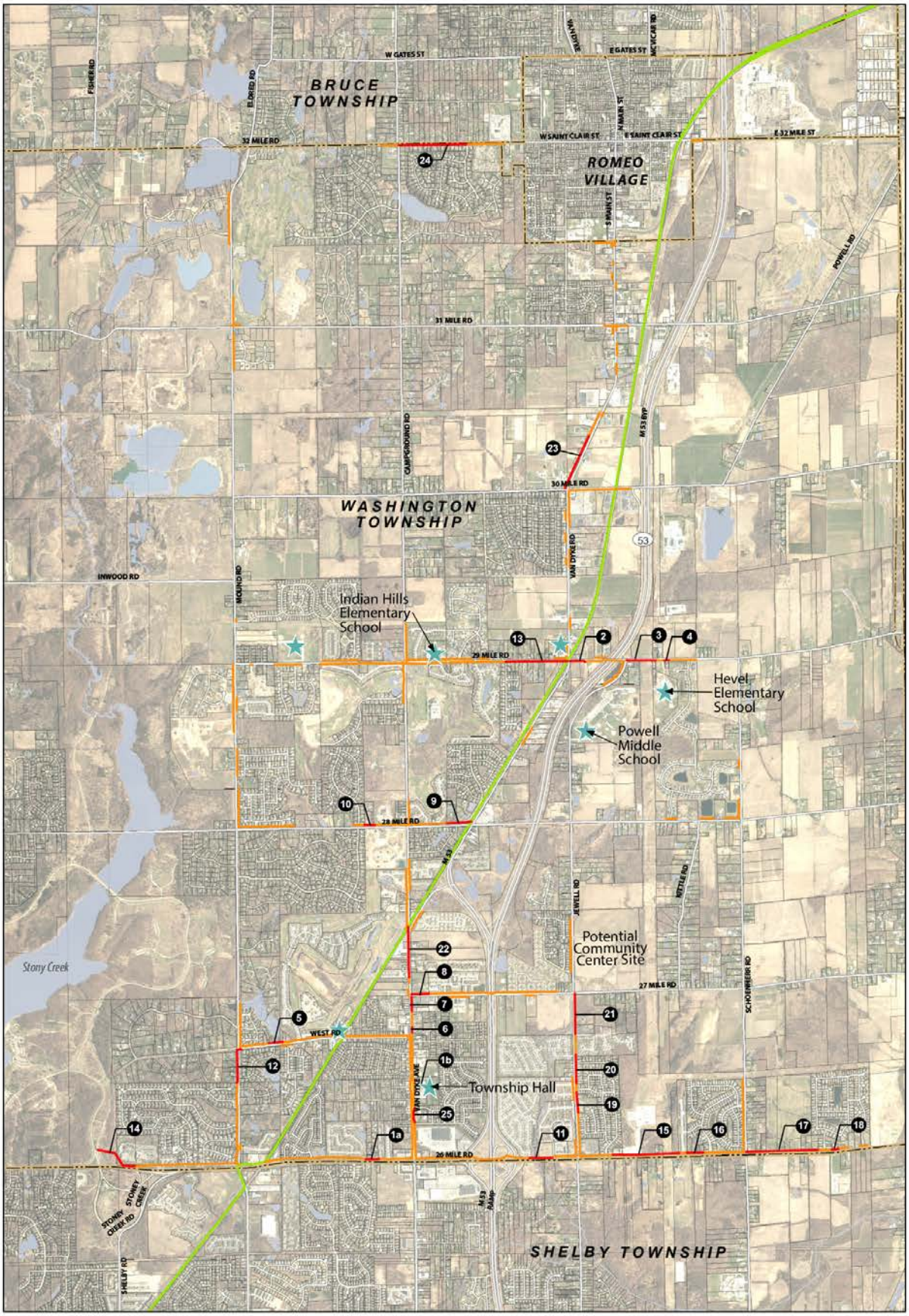
Washington Township Pathway Plan

As detailed in the previous Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Washington Township is a composite of its neighboring two communities. Large portions of the northern and western sections of Washington Township are sparsely developed, with predominately large lots and no sidewalks. The southern and central portions of the Township have a more suburban residential development pattern, with most single-family homes confined to a subdivision setting. Sidewalks are available in most of these developments, particularly the newer developments. There are, however, gaps in the system, with few connections between existing subdivisions along the major road system.

Washington Township has taken considerable efforts to connect and forge the gaps in the sidewalk system throughout the township. In total, 22,729 linear feet of sidewalk has been proposed; including one joint project with the Macomb County Department of Roads.

The project priority list include the following:

Township Hall Connections	Township Hall Campus, 57900 Van Dyke
29 Mile Road East Connector	South side of 29 Mile Road from the RETC Parcel to Van Dyke
Hevel Elementary Gap	South side of 29 Mile Road from west edge of Hevel Elementary to Jewell Road
Autumn Creek Gap	South side of 29 Mile Road from the Autumn Creek frontage to Hevel Elementary
Westlake Gap	North side of West Road from Westlake to Deerfield
First Baptist Drain Crossing	Drain crossing on the east side of Van Dyke just south of First Baptist Church
Alwards Shopping Gap	East side of Van Dyke from Jewell to First Baptist Church
27 Mile Road Gap	North side of 27 Mile Road, west end of Kirkway to Van Dyke
Woodfield Way Connector	North side of 28 Mile Road from Pinehurst to the Macomb Orchard Trail
Carriage Hills Gap	North side of 28 Mile Road from Miriam Drive to St. John and Paul Catholic Church
Beaconsfield Gap	North side of 26 Mile Road, Rudgate to Beaconsfield
Mound Road Gap	West side of Mound Road from West Road to Crystal Creek Court
29 Mile Road West Connector	South side of 29 Mile Road from Hidden Pond Drive to the Macomb Orchard Trail crossing at Van Dyke
TRW Connector	North side of 26 Mile Road from TRW entrance to Stony Creek Metropark Pathway
Brookfield Gap	North side of 26 Mile Road between Nicholas Drive and Brookfield Way
Stonebriar Gap	North side of 26 Mile Road between Brookfield and Stonebriar Drive
Willow Ridge Gap	North side of 26 Mile Road between Schoenherr Road and Willow Ridge Boulevard
Willow Ridge Farms Gap	North side of 26 Mile Road between Willow Ridge Boulevard and Hawthron Drive
Jewell Estates Gap	East side of Jewell from Alicia Lane to Diamond Lane
Liberty Woods Gap	East side of Jewell from Diamond Lane to south of Liberty Woods
Jewell Road Gap	East side of Jewell from Liberty Woods to 27 Mile Road
North Village Connector	West side of Van Dyke from 27 Mile Road to Macomb Orchard Trail
Library Connector	West side of Van Dyke from 30 Mile Road to the Romeo District Library Graubner Branch
Applewood Valley Gap	South side of 32 Mile Road between Campground and Appleview Drive
Octagon House Gap	East side of Van Dyke Avenue between Washington Woods Drive and Carole lane



Washington Township Pathways Plan

Romeo + Washington + Bruce
Macomb County, Michigan

Legend

- Points of Interest
- Existing Walks (Various Width and Material)
- Proposed Pathway
- Macomb Orchard Trail

Proposed Pathway Listing

1a. Rosevere Gap
1b. Township Hall Connection
2. 29 Mile Road Connection
3. Hevel Elementary Gap
4. Autumn Creek Gap
5. Westlake Gap
6. First Baptist Drain Crossing
7. Alwards Shopping Gap
8. 27 Mile Road Gap
9. Autumn Creek Gap
10. Carriage Hills Gap
11. Beaconsfield Gap
12. Mound Road Gap
13. 29 Mile Road West Connector
14. TRW Connector (MCDR Project)
15. Brookfield Gap
16. Stonebrier Gap
17. Willow Ridge GAP
18. Willow Ridge farms Gap
19. Jewell Estates Gap
20. Liberty Woods Gap
21. Jewell Road Gap
22. North Village Connector
23. Library Connector
24. Applewood Valley Gap
25. Octagon House Gap

February 27, 2017

McKenna Associates

Data Source: Macomb County, 2014
Michigan Geographic Framework, Michigan Center for Geographic Information, Version 12a
Aerial Data: ESRI


Greystone Golf Club


Heather Hills Golf Club

PRIVATE RECREATION FACILITIES

Private recreation providers also play a role in meeting the recreation needs of local residents. In many instances, private providers off er services and facilities of a more specialized nature that may not be provided by public sources. These facilities are generally available for a small fee. These facilities include: golf, bowling, roller skating rinks, racquet/health clubs, riding stables, movie theaters, and shooting ranges, among others.

The Romeo-Washington-Bruce area features six golf courses, with 126 golf holes, or the equivalent of seven 18-hole layouts; Bruce Hills, Heather Hills, Greystone, Pine Valley, The Orchards, and Glacier Club. Two golf courses are located in Bruce Township, and fi ve located in Washington Township. Other available recreation facilities available in the area include several riding stables, archery and fi rearms shooting range, bowling alley and golf driving ranges. Many of the orchards located in the area offer outdoor activities and events.

One private park also offers limited opportunity for recreational facilities to the public. Simpson Park, which is located in Bruce Township at the intersection of Campground Road and Gates Street, is a private religious retreat camp. The park offers numerous soccer fields used by the North Macomb Soccer Club.

The Romeo and Washington Lions Clubs both own sites that are used for special community events. The Romeo Lions own a four-acre site in the southeast portion of the Village, which hosts carnival rides. The three-acre Washington Lions Club site is located between Washington Township Park and Washington Elementary School. Part of their additional land is leased for use as a park.

A number of subdivisions in both Townships have private parks or open space areas incorporated into the residential development. These open space areas are typically undeveloped and have some potential for satisfying neighborhood recreation needs as passive recreation sites.

PROGRAMMING

The Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation Department off ers a large variety of programs and special events throughout the year. Among the programs and events offered are:

- Adaptive Rec Program
- Adult Fitness and Fitness Center
- Adult Services
- Archery
- Art
- Babysitting training
- Baseball/ softball
- Basketball
- Bingo
- Bowling classes/ events
- Coed softball
- Craft activities (knitting, quilting, woodcarving)
- Dance lessons
- Fencing
- First Aid/ CPR and AED
- Football
- Golf lessons/ leagues
- Ice skating
- Karate
- Legal aid
- Pickleball
- Running
- Sign language
- Science yoga
- Swimming (lessons and clubs)
- Tennis
- Tot Programs
- Travel
- Veterans aid
- Volleyball
- Zumba

- **Special Events**
- Breakfast
- Cards and game tournaments
- Christmas park parties
- Community Clean-Up
- Euchre tournaments
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Halloween
- Holiday Arts and Crafts
- Luncheons
- Michigan Peach Festival
- Park decoration program
- Princess-Superhero Dance
- Sled hill
- Valentine's
- Water slide





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05

BASIS FOR ACTION PLAN



PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Planning Process

The Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation ~~Committee~~ directed the update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Citizen and community stakeholder input played a critical role in the development of the plan. As a result, recommendations described within the action plan reflect the needs and desires of those who use the community's parks and recreation facilities. The plan preparation process included seven tasks that are discussed on the following page.

Task One: Community Description. The first task was to obtain a description of Romeo, Washington Township, and Bruce Township's physical and social features. These features include location, land use, environmental and natural features, as well as population characteristics including age distribution, people with physical disabilities, household types, employment, and income.

Task Two: Administrative Structure and Funding. The second task was to review the administrative structure of the communities, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Recreation Committee, and other recreation providers. This analysis also includes a review of the current and projected revenues and expenditures, as well as the grant history of funding received from the MDNR and other sources.

Task Three: Parks and Recreation Inventory. The parks and recreation inventory included written descriptions of facilities in each community including parks and facilities, schools, regional parks and facilities, greenways and trails, local parks and facilities, and quasi-public and private recreation facilities. 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 Township's and other recreation providers' programming are discussed in that section as well.

Jamie, concerns about timing?

Task Four: Public Participation. The following public participation methods and events were conducted during the process of preparing the plan:

November 22, 2022 to present (results used to Jan 12, 2022 for Plan)

- **Public Survey** – A public survey was posted online from ~~December 12, 2016 to January 3, 2017~~, asking people for feedback on their experiences and opinions of the current parks and recreation off erings and any improvements they would like to see. The complete results of the survey can be found in Appendix A.
- **30-Day Review Period** – The draft Parks and Recreation Master Plan was available for the 30-day public review starting ~~January 18, 2017 until February 18, 2017. A notice was published in the The Record in the December 21-27, 2016 edition.~~ Dec 14, 2022 to Jan 18, 2022. Notice was sent to residents via NIXLE, Facebook, Website, Broadcast on WBRW during meeting, and posted in The Record Newspaper of Jan 4-10 edition.

Task Five: Analysis. The data collected in tasks one through four was analyzed in comparison to national and state guidelines, specifi c local needs, the experience of the Parks and Recreation Department and consultants, the desires of the residents, and potential funding sources.

Task Six: Action Plan. The analysis resulted in the creation of a fi ve-year plan for prioritized projects and improvements. The Action Plan gives the Parks and Recreation Department a checklist of what action is to be taken, when and where it will occur, who will accomplish it, how much it is expected to cost, and potential funding sources.

Task Seven: Plan Completion and Adoption. Once co~~nsensus was reached among the Parks and Recreation Department and Parks and Recreation Committee, the Plan was recommended for approval at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on _____. The Township Planning Commission held a public hearing on_____, and the Commission recommended adoption of the Plan. Finally, on_____, the Township Board reviewed and formally adopted the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. See Appendices for meeting notices, and adoption documentation.~~ Update after approvals



FACILITIES ANALYSIS

The 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. The analysis takes into account a variety of factors including existing conditions, information obtained from public input, programming desires, and site conditions. Table 5 identifies the NRPA guideline for each facility type, the recommended number of facilities and the existing number of facilities, and the surplus or deficiency.

Table 5. Park Land Acreage and Facility Analysis

		POPULATION		RECOMMENDED SIZE / POP.			
PARK / ACTIVITY	STANDARD	2010	2040	2010	2040	EXISTING ACREAGE / FACILITIES	SURPLUS / DEFICIENCY
Regional Park	5-10 acres per 1,000 residents	31,852	40,292	159 - 318 Acres	202 - 403 Acres	—	—
Community Park	5-8 acres per 1,000 residents	31,852	40,292	159 - 254 Acres	201 - 322 Acres	279 Acres	—
Neighborhood Park	1-2 acres per 1,000 residents	31,852	40,292	31 - 63 Acres	40 - 80 Acres	34.35	—
Children's Playlot	1 lot per 3,000 residents	31,852	40,292	11	13	5	(6)
Basketball Court	1 court per 10,000 residents	31,852	40,292	32	40	2	(30)
Softball/ Baseball Diamond	1 diamond per 5,000 residents	31,852	40,292	6	8	9	3
Running Track	1 track per 20,000 residents	31,852	40,292	2	2	—	—
Swimming Pool	1 pool per 20,000 residents	31,852	40,292	2	2	—	—
Nature Trails	1 trail per 20,000 residents	31,852	40,292	2	2	6	4
Golf Course	1 course per 25,000 residents	31,852	40,292	1	2	6	5
Tennis Court	1 court per 2,000 residents	31,852	40,292	16	20	2	(14)
Soccer Field	1 fi eld per 10,000 residents	31,852	40,292	3	4	12	9
Ice Rink	1 per 100,000 residents	31,852	40,292	0	0	—	—
Volleyball	1 court per 5,000 residents	31,852	40,292	6	8	1	(5)

The RWB Parks and Recreation meets or exceeds the standards for many facility types. However, as funding allows and needs arise, based on the deficiencies above, the following facilities should be considered on a long-term basis:

- **Children's Playlots.** Several facilities already have play structures for young children, however, based on the population there should be development of more playlots, especially for the younger toddlers.
- **Basketball Courts.** Basketball courts can be fairly easy to install and require little maintenance. The need for additional courts will only increase as the population is expected to increase.
- **Tennis Courts.** The RWB Parks and Recreation should consider constructing some 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.
- **Volleyball Courts.** Outdoor volleyball courts should be considered in future park developments.
- **Other Facilities.** Other facilities requested during the public input process include, but were not limited to, a splash pad, updated fitness and community center, swimming pool, and a dog park. These facilities should be evaluated for inclusion in future park developments as they are deemed appropriate.



06

ACTION PLAN

GOALS AND STRATEGIES

A Parks and Recreation Plan should off er the community a series of guidelines or recommendations for making consistent and rational public decisions regarding the delivery of recreation programs and facilities. Goals and objectives off er policy direction and the framework for recreation providers.

The following goals and strategies are intended to provide an operational framework for future decisions related to the provision of parks and recreation for Romeo, Washington, Bruce. These goals and strategies should be reviewed continually and modified as necessary.

General Recreation Goals

1. Recognize the contribution that parks and recreation programs make to the quality of life for the community and its residents.
2. Provide recreation opportunities for all residents, without regard to age, race, religion, physical or mental well-being, gender, or economic circumstances.
3. Encourage continued cooperation with the Romeo School District in providing school facility usage for community recreation programs.
4. Consider the availability and access to private and commercial recreation opportunities available in the area or nearby communities in evaluating future recreation needs.
5. Utilize the areas existing natural features for open space and recreational purposes.
6. Avoid duplicating the development of public and commercial recreation opportunities that are available in nearby communities.
7. Encourage continued cooperation amongst communities regarding the joint use of existing and future recreation facilities.
8. Increase the number of recreation programs and facilities available to meet the pace of the continuous growth of the area and evaluate the equal distribution of recreational opportunities.
9. Increase the overall awareness, participation and usage of recreation programs and facilities to the communities.
10. For planning and administrative purposes, all municipal boundaries shall be nullifi ed. Recreational facilities and programs will be based on needs and demands created by the population within the entire RWB planning area. The Parks and Recreation advisory board should contain residents from both communities.
11. Continue RWB as a collective, functioning recreation entity realizing that RWB can provide services better and more efficiently than if provided separately in each community.

Recreation Facility Goals

1. Expand the range of recreation facilities available to area residents.
2. Encourage the development of community-wide parks offering a full array of both active and passive recreation facilities to be focal points for recreation activities.
3. Provide neighborhood level parks, both public and private, to meet the needs of identifiable neighborhoods.
4. Provide adequate park and recreation space as an integral part of each development including single-family subdivisions, multiple-family developments and manufactured housing communities.
5. Relate the location of future recreation facilities to existing and anticipated population growth areas, as well as to other community facilities and land availability.
6. Encourage the development of a pedestrian / bicycle path system linking residential neighborhoods to recreational facilities throughout the service area.
7. Support the continued development and utilization of the Macomb Orchard Trail as a corridor for a pedestrian / bicycle path linking the Washington area with downtown Romeo as well as the service area to the larger region.
8. Support the continued development of the planned regional bicycle path along 26 Mile Road.
9. Explore the reuse of abandoned mining sites for recreation purposes.
10. Acquire scenic easements reinforcing the open space preservation objectives and community appearance.
11. Utilize appropriate planning and zoning tools that encourage developers to incorporate more open space into new residential developments.
12. Continue to partnership with school facilities to meet both neighborhood and community-wide recreation needs and to limit overlapping recreational opportunities.
13. Continue the development of the sports complexes (Crystal Diamonds and Gilcher-Crissman Park) that serve all three communities as a whole.
14. Work directly with the Townships, the Village, and the Commission in obtaining funding options and recreational sites.
15. Provide adequate recreational facilities within each community that provide a full range of recreational opportunities.
16. Evaluate and meet the need of recreation sites in relationship to the specific growth of individual programs.

Administrative Goals

1. Provide for a full range of recreation programs to meet perceived recreation needs.
2. Monitor and adjust program offerings to reflect changing recreation preferences.
3. Coordinate existing and anticipated recreation programs with those offered by other public and private recreation providers.
4. Maintain existing partnerships with the Romeo School District.
5. Relate recreational program offerings to population concentrations and to the availability of facilities.
6. Work with local communities to establish and renew cooperative agreements for the maintenance of future recreation sites.
7. Continue working with community groups to establish cooperative agreements for the protection, maintenance and use of recreation sites.
8. Provide necessary staffing and administrative infrastructure to support the expansion of recreation opportunities while respecting budget constraints.
9. Provide a consistent level of funding to support improvements to the area's recreation facilities and programs and continued maintenance of these parks.
10. Provide low-income community residents with assistance to provide for their recreational needs.
11. Encourage cooperation with service groups, organizations and individuals by providing service projects through recreation to promote volunteerism to meet the special needs of those in the Romeo, Washington, Bruce area.
12. Continue working relationships with parent-based programs by providing assistance, awareness, and sites for their specific activity.
13. Increase awareness of recreation programs, facilities, and future plans for development.
14. Encourage the revision and enforcement of open space and natural feature preservation ordinances within each Township and Village.

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This section summarizes the overall system recommendations as well as specific improvements to individual parks. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require largely monetary investment. Table 5: Capital Improvement Plan incorporates the top recommendations that require capital improvements organized by priority.

Priorities should be 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 2022 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 if applicable, 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.

It should be noted that the CIP is based on the existing financial resources of the Parks and Recreation Department. This helps to ensure that the projects are aligned with the operational and financial realities of the area's resources and are not simply a reflection of community desires. The Committee has taken a comprehensive approach of preparing the Master Plan to fully evaluate and prioritize projects based on the cost benefit, impact to the community, and operational costs.

NOTE: Updated estimated cost and comparing Cap Imrovement Plant to resident's wants/needs from 2022 survey

Table 6. Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	PRIORITY
Bruce Township Park			
Water bottle & Dog fountain	$5,000	M	High
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	High
Connect Path NW side of park	$10,000	G	Medium
ADA Accessible Play Piece	$10,000	G, MDNR, PD, CDBG	Medium
Tot Playground Piece	$3,000	GF, MDNR	Medium
Turf on Playground	$2,500	G, M	Medium
Permanent Restrooms	$50,000	G, M	Low
Pave Small Parking Lot	$25,000	M	Low

FUNDING SOURCES

G	Grants
GF	General Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
PD	Private Donations
M	Millage
MDNR	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
UF	User Fees

NOTE: Updated estimated cost and comparing Cap Imrovement Plant to resident's wants/needs from 2022 survey

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	PRIORITY
Crystal Diamonds			
Install Lights on Ballfields	$100,000	G, M, PD	High
Cover Dugouts	$10,000	G, M, PD	High
Permanent Cornhole	$2,500	G, M	High
Extend Irrigation to Ballfields	$5,000	M	Medium
Add Small Playground PIECE	$10,000	G, M	Medium
Water Bottle & Dog Fountain	$5,000	M	Medium
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	Medium
Fencing & Gate	$10,000	M	Medium
Permanent Restrooms	$50,000	G, M	Low
Permanent Storage	$30,000	M	Low
Pave Driveway	$100,000	M	Low
Add Walking Path	$20,000	MDNR, MDOT	Low
Concessions (needed if lights added)	$10,000	M	Low
Gilcher-Crissman Park			
Large Pavillion with Warm-up Kitchen	$300,000	M	High
Permanent Restrooms	$50,000	G, M	High
Permanent Storage	$30,000	M	High
Water bottle Filler & Dog fountain	$5,000	M	High
Security Cameras	$2,000	G, M	High
Tot Playground Piece	$7,000	GF, MDNR	High
2nd Driveway	$50,000	M	High
Pave Driveway	$100,000	G, M	High
Permanent Cornhole	$2,500	G, M	High
Senior Activity Center	placed under OTHER		
Medium Install Lights	$60,000	G, M	Medium
Outside Fitness Stations/Pad	$20,000	G	Medium
Update to ADA Playground/Turf	$100,000	G, MDNR, PD, CDBG	Medium
Pickle Ball Courts	$40,000	M	Medium
Add & Update Fencing	$25,000	M	Low
Grass V-Ball Courts	$1,000	M	Low

FUNDING SOURCES

G	Grants
GF	General Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
PD	Private Donations
M	Millage
MDOT	Michigan Department of Transportation
MDNR	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
UF	User Fees

NOTE: Updated estimated cost and comparing Cap Imrovement Plant to resident's wants/needs from 2022 survey

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	PRIORITY
Orchard Hills Park			
Install Electric	$4,000	M	High
Install Lights	$5,000	GF, PD	High
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	High
Fence Athletic Court	$5,000	M	MED
Basketball Standards	$2,000	M	Medium
Tot Playground Piece	$7,000	GF, MDNR	Medium
Turf on Playground	$100,000	G, M	Medium
Additional Parking on West side of Park	$10,000	MDNR, MDOT	Low
Romeo Community Center Building			
Replace Moveable Walls	$60,000	Millage	High
Update Indoor Restrooms	$60,000	G, M	High
Redo Wood Flooring	$10,000	M	MED
Replace all Carpet	$2,000	M	High
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	High
Romeo Community Center Park			
Update/Lengthen Sled Hill	$75,000	M	High
Water Bottle & Dog Fountain	$5,000	M	High
ADA Accessible Play Equipment	$10,000	G, MDNR, PD, CDBG	High
Tot Playground Piece	$7,000	GF, MDNR	High
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	High
Electric Sign	$25,000	M	Medium
Replace Small Pavillion w/Large	$100,000	M	Medium
Storage Buildings/Concession	$15,000	M	LOW
ADA Path Around Fields (goes with Sled Hill update)	$40,000	G, MDNR, PD, CDBG	Medium
Upgrade Fencing & Add Gate	$40,000	M	Low
Asssible Playground Turf	$100,000	G, M	MED

FUNDING SOURCES

G	Grants
GF	General Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
PD	Private Donations
M	Millage
MDOT	Michigan Department of Transportation
MDNR	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
UF	User Fees

NOTE: Updated estimated cost and comparing Cap Imrovement Plant to resident's wants/needs from 2022 survey

PROJECT	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	PRIORITY
Washington Township Park			
Water Bottle & Dog Fountain	$5,000	M	High
Security Camera	$2,000	G, M	High
Electric Sign	Take out Township doing	M	High
Pickle Ball Courts	$50,000	G, M	High
Cement Picnic Pad with Shade	$5,000	M	High
Permanent Restrooms	$50,000	G, M	Medium
Permanent Storage	$30,000	M	Medium
Outside Fitness Stations/Pad	$60,000	G	Medium
Tot Playground Piece	$7,000	GF, MDNR	Low
Walking Path Connections	$10,000	M	Low
Other			
Engineer & Design Company	varies depending on scope	M	High
Splash Pad	$300,000	G, M	High
Dog Park - Dog Run	$20,000	G, M	High
Full-time Maintenance Staff	$40,000	GF	High
Senior Activity Center	TBD if new site	G, M	High
Indoor Gyms & Courts	TBD if new site	User Fees	High
Indoor Walk Path	TBD if new site	G, M	Medium
Enclosed Trailer - Events	$15,000	M	Medium
Portable Lights/Generator	$5,000	M	Medium
Park PA Systems	$20,000	M	Medium
Multi Purpose Rooms	TBD if new site	G, UF, M	Low
Learner/Exercise Pool	TBD if new site	G, UF, M	Low
Central Fitness Center	TBD if new site	G, UF, M	Low
Billboard Rental	$15,000	M	Low
Disk Golf Course	$40,000	M	Low
Permanent Cement Skate Park	$100,000	G	Low

FUNDING SOURCES

G	Grants
GF	General Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
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M	Millage
MDOT	Michigan Department of Transportation
MDNR	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
UF	User Fees



A

APPENDIX

UUPDATE

SURVEY RESULTS

A survey was posted on the Parks and Recreation website ~~from December 12 through January 3~~, asking people for feedback on their experiences and opinions of the current parks and recreation offerings and any improvements they would like to see.

The survey consisted of ~~17~~ questions regarding several aspects of the parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services offered by the Romeo-Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation. The survey received a total of ~~95~~ responses.

Insert Survey Results

http://cms2.revize.com/revize/romeowashingtonbruceparks/Results%20of%20the%20Master%20Plan%20SURVEY%20w%20COMMENTS.pdf

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING
WASHINGTON, BRUCE AND ROMEO PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT ("Agreement") executed on the 17 day of August, 2022, by and between the Charter Township of Washington, a Michigan municipal corporation ("Washington Township"), whose offices are located at 57900 Van Dyke, Washington Township, MI 48094 and the Township of Bruce, a Michigan municipal corporation ("Bruce Township"), whose offices are located at 223 East Gates, Romeo, MI 48065.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Washington Township is a Michigan municipal corporation incorporated pursuant to and in accordance with the statutes and constitution of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Township is a Michigan municipal corporation incorporated pursuant to and in accordance with the statutes and constitution of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Act 156 of 1917 ("Act 156") expressly authorizes townships to operate systems of public recreation and playgrounds, to acquire, equip and maintain lands, buildings and other recreational facilities, employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants and vote and expend funds for the operation of such systems; and

WHEREAS, Act 156 specifically provides that any township may operate a system of recreation independently or may cooperate in its conduct in any manner in which townships may mutually agree and may delegate the operation of the system to a recreation board created by one or more townships; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 1986 Washington Township and Bruce Township adopted Articles of Organization creating the Washington-Bruce Parks & Recreation Commission. The Articles of Incorporation established a Board of Commissioners, set forth the powers of the Commission as well as its duties and provided for the joint planning of recreational activities in the Townships; and

WHEREAS, Washington Township and Bruce Township have continued to jointly provide for parks and recreation since March 26, 1986; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967, being Act 7 of the Public Acts of 1967, as amended, ("UCA") authorizes two or more public agencies, including townships, to enter into an interlocal agreement pursuant to the terms of which they may agree to

exercise jointly any power, privilege or authority that the agency shares in common and that each might exercise separately; and

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the UCA expressly provides that an interlocal agreement may provide for a separate legal entity to administer or execute the agreement which may be a commission, board, or council constituted pursuant to the agreement. Section 7 further provides that the separate legal entity created pursuant to the terms of an interlocal agreement shall be a public body, corporate or politic for purposes of the Act.; and

WHEREAS, Washington Township and Bruce Township agree that the execution of this Agreement to create the Washington, Bruce and Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission as a legal entity pursuant to the UCA will best serve the interests and needs of each community and better utilize the joint resources of each Township for providing quality parks and recreation programs to their residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, Washington Township and Bruce Township hereby enter into this Agreement pursuant to the authority of Resolutions duly adopted by their respective legislative bodies and hereby agree as follows:

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

The parties hereby establish the Washington, Bruce and Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission ("Commission") as a separate legal entity and corporate public body as provided in Section 7 of the UCA.

2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Commission is established for the purpose of providing quality parks and recreation programs, transportation, facilities and services to residents of Washington and Bruce Townships and promoting citizen involvement in parks and recreation programs and activities. The Commission seeks to attract and encourage participation from all age groups within the communities to provide recreational services and opportunities for all residents. In addition, the Townships believe that the establishment of the Commission can best advance the following joint objectives:

(a) Increasing youth, senior and community access to recreational facilities and grounds;

(b) Effectively and efficiently manage the use of the Townships' facilities and grounds for the benefit of all residents within the Townships;

(c) Encouraging joint use of the Townships' respective facilities and grounds to provide effective services to their residents; and

(d) Developing a unified approach to serving the communities' recreation needs and to cooperatively maintain recreational facilities and grounds.

3. **POWERS**

The Commission shall have all of the powers necessary to effect any purpose for which it is formed and which are necessary to implement the purposes, objectives and provisions of this Agreement, including the following:

(a) Accept conveyances of personal property from any other governmental unit or from private third parties;

(b) To sue and be sued in its own name;

(c) Enter into contracts and other instruments necessary, incidental or convenient to the performance of his duties;

(d) Solicit and accept donations, grants, labor, loans and any other aid from any person or governmental agency or political subdivision of the state;

(e) Procure insurance against loss in connection with the property, assets or activities of the Commission;

(f) Contract for goods and services and engage personnel as necessary and engage the services of consultants, legal counsel, engineers, accountants and auditors for rendering personal financial assistance.

(g) Develop and prepare reports and plans the Commission considers necessary to assist it in the exercise of its powers under this Agreement and do all other things necessary or convenient to achieve the objectives and purposes of the Commission that relate to the purpose and responsibility of the Commission.

The Commission shall not possess the power or authority to:

(a) Contract for or expend Commission funds to improve or install capital improvements on private property;

(b) To acquire or own real property;

(c) To levy any type of tax;

(d) To issue any type of bond;

(e) To incur debt on behalf of Bruce Township or Washington Township.

4. ORGANIZATION

4.1 Composition of Commission

Upon execution of this Agreement, the Commission shall consist of all members currently serving as the Board of Commissioners pursuant to the March 26, 1986 Articles of Organization. Within one (1) year of execution of this Agreement, the Commission members, alternates, and Parks & Recreation Director ("Director") shall, by receipt of applications and interviews of potential candidates, select new Commissioners for the Commission consistent with the terms of this Agreement. All appointments to the Commission shall be made by a majority vote of the existing Commission members, alternates and the Director. These appointments may include one (1) elected official from Bruce Township and one (1) elected official from Washington Township. A total of five (5) appointments will be made with three (3) appointments being Washington Township residents and two (2) appointments being Bruce Township residents. The selection of the new Commissioners shall be reviewed and ratified by Bruce Township and Washington Township Boards of Trustees. Commission members shall serve for an initial two (2) year term and one (1) two year extension as set forth in Section 4.3 of this Agreement.

Subsequent to the expiration of the initial term of the new Commission members and alternates as set forth above, the Boards of Trustees of Bruce and Washington Townships shall select replacement members and alternates of the Commission. Any resident residing south of 32 Mile Road in the Village of Romeo shall be considered a Washington Township resident; any resident residing north of 32 Mile Road in the Village of Romeo shall be considered a Bruce Township resident. Those residents may be considered for appointment to the Commission.

Bruce Township and Washington Township shall each appoint one (1) alternate to serve on the Commission when the appointed Commission member is unable to attend a meeting. Alternate members of the Commission may vote at the meeting at which they are selected to attend. Alternates are recommended to attend all Commission meetings but such attendance is not required.

4.2 Compensation

Members appointed to the Commission as well as alternates shall serve without compensation.

4.3 Commission Member Terms

The length of terms for each member of the Commission shall be based on a staggered term. Terms will be staggered one, two and three years as determined by the Washington Township Board of Trustees and staggered one and two years for the Bruce Township Board of Trustees. The staggered terms will be assigned to the individuals at the time of appointment by the Townships.

4.4 Voting

Only Commission members may vote at a meeting. Alternates may vote only when they are appearing in the absence of a regular-appointed Commission member. The Director shall have no vote. A decision of the Commission will be determined by a majority vote of a duly constituted quorum of the Commission.

4.5 Absences

No member of the Commission shall accumulate more than four (4) absences from meetings on an annual basis. In the event of absences in excess of four (4) annually, for reasons other than personal illness, death of an immediate family member, military duty or other unusual circumstances, the Commission member shall be recommended for removal from the Commission by vote of the Township Board appointing the Commission member. Termination of a Commission member must be reported to both Boards of Trustees immediately after the termination with an explanation of the basis for the termination.

4.6 Vacancy, Replacement and Removal of Commission Members

In the event of a vacancy on the Commission, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term of the Commission member in the same manner as provided for in the original appointment. The new Commission member shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term of the Commissioner vacancy.

A Commission member, including an alternate, may be removed from the Commission for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance after a hearing and by a majority vote of each Township Board.

4.7 Responsibilities of Commissioners

Commission members shall act pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and shall:

(a) Abide by the applicable ordinances of the Townships of Bruce and Washington;

(b) Act in an advisory capacity to the Boards of Trustees for the Township of Bruce and Washington and Parks & Recreation staff;

(c) Recommend policies to govern the operation and programs of Parks & Recreation;

(d) Assist in planning and provide guidance for the expansion of Parks & Recreation facilities;

(e) Assist in interpreting the policies and functions of Parks & Recreation to the public;

(f) Encourage the development and advancement of Parks & Recreation; and

(g) Ensure that any hired contractor by Parks & Recreation is competitive in price and is capable of completing the work assigned to them.

4.8 **Selection of Officers**

The officers of the Commission shall be a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. Officers shall be selected by a majority vote of the Commission and serve a one (1) year term as set forth in this Agreement.

(a) **Chairperson**

The Chairperson shall preside over all meetings, appoint committees with the approval of Commission, call special meetings with the support of one additional Commissioner, be the liaison to the Bruce Township and Washington Township Boards of Trustees and Director and shall ensure that proper procedures are adopted by the Commission.

(b) **Vice-Chairperson**

The Vice-Chairperson shall perform all duties of the Chairperson during his or her absence. In the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson at a Commission meeting, the Commission members shall elect a Chairperson Pro-Tempore who shall perform the duties of the Chairperson for that meeting. The Vice-Chairperson shall be charged with the responsibility of assuring that all standing and temporary committees function as provided by the Commission.

(c) **Secretary**

The Secretary shall have custody of all public records of the Commission including all writings prepared, owned, used, in the possession of or retrained by the Commission in the performance of its official function. All records must be kept in a safe and secure location. All public records of the Commission are subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, being Act 442 of 1976, as amended. The Secretary shall cause notice of all regular meetings of the Commission to be posted at least 48 hours prior to a regular meeting and 18 hours prior to any special meeting of the Commission. A public notice of a Commission meeting shall state the date, time and place of the meeting and be posted in a prominent and conspicuous place at both the Bruce Township and Washington Township principal offices, the parks and recreation website, websites for both Townships and all social media platforms approved by the Commission. All minutes and agenda for Commission meetings shall be posted on the parks and recreation website. The

Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation of the agenda with the approval of elected officers on the Commission.

(d) **Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall present all financial reports quarterly to the Commission in writing including details with respect to all investments of the Commission. The reports shall also be provided to the Bruce Township and Washington Township Boards of Trustees and included in all Board meeting packets. The Treasurer shall serve as the Commission liaison to address all financial issues, audits and bookkeeping practices to review and report to the Commission.

All deposits of Commission funds shall be placed in an FDIC insured bank. All checks must be signed by two (2) signers as set forth below. Signers on the accounts must be the Chairperson, Treasurer and one (1) Commissioner representing each Township. The Commission checkbooks shall be open to review by any of the approved signers upon request. All investments by the Commission must comply with all of the requirements of Act 20, Public Acts of 1943, as amended. The Commission shall adopt a written investment policy consistent with Act 20 and such policy shall be submitted to and approved by both Boards of Trustees of Washington and Bruce Townships. The investment policy must be reviewed and approved every four (4) years by the Boards of Trustees of Washington and Bruce Townships.

5. **PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR**

The current Director of Parks and Recreation appointed pursuant to the March 26, 1986 Articles of Incorporation shall assume all responsibilities as Parks & Recreation Director. The Director shall act pursuant to the direction of the Commission. The Director's duties shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) Prepare and recommend short-term and long-range plans to meet the recreational needs of Washington Township and Bruce Township.

(B) Plan, organize, promote and direct the development and organization of recreational activities to meet the needs of the residents of Washington and Bruce Townships.

(C) Recruit, interview and train coaches and volunteers and determine their duties, responsibility and performance standards.

(D) Ensure that space and facilities are available and in proper condition for all recreational activities.

(E) Prepare and disseminate information regarding the programs, facilities and activities provided by the Commission.

(F) Make public presentations to the Washington Township and Bruce Township Boards of Trustees and the Commission regarding the planning and operation of parks and recreation.

(G) Participate and assume responsibility for the preparation of the annual parks and recreation budget.

(H) Assure adherence to all policies, procedures and recordkeeping systems for all parks and recreation programs and activities.

(I) Inform and explain the organization, responsibilities, working relations and objectives of the parks and recreation program to the Commission.

(J) Create and/or update the existing Master Plan, measure and report progress against the Master Plan annually. The Master Plan shall be reviewed and updated every five (5) years.

Within ninety (90) days from the date of execution of this Agreement, the Commission shall create a job description for the position of Director. Within one (1) year from the execution of this Agreement, the Commission and Director will execute an employment agreement setting forth the terms, conditions and compensation relating to the Director's duties and responsibilities, including the Director job description referenced above. Such duties will include Director obligations to provide knowledge transfer to the in-coming new Director in the event of termination.

The Director shall, on a quarterly basis, schedule and attend Washington Township and Bruce Township Boards of Trustees meetings to report on the current operation of the parks and recreation program including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) The financial status of the program.

(b) The projects which have been completed and those which are being initiated in the fiscal year.

(c) The program's compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.

(d) Strategic plans for the program and its impact on both Townships.

(e) Explanation of the budget, budget amendments, and the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

(f) Address all budget concerns, difficulties and items which are or may be over budget for the fiscal year.

(g) Report on employee status, current and future employment needs and related issues.

(h) Description of all current short-term and long-term parks and recreation program projects.

(i) Capital plans and proposed expenditures.

(j) Report regarding program adherence to the parks and recreation master plan.

The Director shall prepare a summary written report of all of the items set forth above and submit the report to each of the Township Boards at the quarterly presentation.

6. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION

All regularly-scheduled meetings of the Commission shall be held on the third Thursday of every month during the year, unless otherwise modified by the Commission. The Commission shall be deemed a public body pursuant to Section 2(a) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, being Act 267 of 1976, as amended ("OMA"). All meetings of the Commission shall be held in strict compliance with the OMA. In addition, all subcommittees appointed by the Commission shall be required to comply with all of the provisions of the OMA. The location of Commission meetings shall rotate on an annual basis between Washington Township and Bruce Township.

Three (3) members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of a meeting so long as one of the members is from Bruce Township. In-person attendance at Commission meetings shall be required absence express provisions in the OMA which would permit remote attendance. The majority of the members present at a duly constituted meeting of the Commission shall have full authority to conduct business.

The Commission shall establish the rules of procedure for all Commission meetings and majority vote of the Commission.

7. FISCAL YEAR AND ANNUAL BUDGET

The fiscal year of the Commission shall be from April 1 through March 31. The Director and Commission shall develop and recommend to the Boards of Trustees of Bruce and Washington Townships an annual budget sufficient to finance the programs of the Commission. The proposed budget shall be submitted by the Commission to the Boards of Trustees on or before January 31 of each fiscal year. The budget of the Commission shall not become effective until approved by the Boards of Washington and Bruce Townships. All budget amendments must be approved by both Washington Township and Bruce Township.

8. FUNDING

Washington Township and Bruce Township currently collect funds for the operation of parks and recreation programs through millages approved by the respective voters in each community. Washington Township and Bruce Township agree to each contribute 100% of all funds collected from their respective parks and recreation millages to the Commission. Washington Township and Bruce Township agree to each submit identical millage proposals, including millage rates, to their respective electors during the term of this Agreement.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement shall become effective upon execution by both parties. Upon execution, the Agreement shall be filed with the Macomb County Clerk and Michigan Secretary of State pursuant to Section 10(4) of the UCA.

10. TERM

This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect for a period of two (2) years from effective date set forth in Section 9 of this Agreement. The Agreement shall automatically renew for an additional two (2) year period unless either Washington Township or Bruce Township notifies the other in writing at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of expiration of the first two (2) year term that it will not agree to an extension. In such an event, this Agreement will terminate two (2) years subsequent to its effective date.

This Agreement shall terminate in the event either Washington Township or Bruce Township voters do not renew their respective parks and recreation millages.

11. DISSOLUTION

The Commission shall dissolve and its affairs shall be wound up upon termination of this Agreement. Upon dissolution, the Commission shall cease carrying on its business and affairs and shall prepare and issue a final report, including a final audit to each Township. Upon dissolution of the Commission, all outstanding debts and liabilities shall be paid and satisfied in full. All assets remaining after the payment of debts and liabilities shall be divided between Bruce Township and Washington Township based on each Township's annual mean average contribution percentage to the Commission over the prior five (5) year period. Each Township shall receive a distribution of the Commission's assets based on the following formula expressed as a percentage:

$$\text{Total Commission Assets} \times \frac{\text{Township's Mean Average Contribution}}{\text{Total of Both Townships' Mean Average Contribution}}$$

12. TRANSFER OF ASSETS

All assets of the Washington-Bruce Parks and Recreation Commission created pursuant to the March 26, 1986 Article of Incorporation shall be transferred to the Commission within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this Agreement.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Notices

Any notice, request, certificate, or other communication required or permitted hereunder shall be given in writing and shall be effective when received if delivered personally, or one (1) business day after being delivered to a reputable overnight delivery service properly addressed, or five (5) business days after being deposited in the United States mail by certified mail, prepaid and properly addressed.

(b) Entire Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and all prior or contemporaneous agreements or understanding with respect hereto shall be deemed merged into this Agreement. Upon execution of this Agreement, the March 26, 1986 Articles of Organization creating the Washington-Bruce Parks & Recreation Commission are rescinded in their entirety and shall be of no further force or effect.

(c) No Oral Amendments or Modifications

No amendments, waivers or modifications hereof shall be made or deemed to have been made unless in writing and executed by the parties hereto.

(d) Severability

If any provision of this Agreement shall be declared invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby and this Agreement shall be construed as if that provision were not contained in the Agreement.

(e) Applicable Law

This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced according to the laws of the State of Michigan.

(f) No Third Party Reliance

Nothing contained in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to confer upon or give any person or entity other than the parties hereto, any right, remedy or claim

under this Agreement. All the terms, conditions or covenants contained herein are for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this Interlocal Agreement establishing Washington, Bruce and Romeo Parks & Recreation Commission as of the first date above written.

The undersigned have affixed their signatures as of the 10th day of August, 2022.

WITNESS:

Dana Bershback

Lisa Hall

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON,
A Michigan municipal corporation,

By: Sebastian Previti
Its: Supervisor

By: Stanley Babinski
Its: Clerk

State of Michigan)
)ss
County of Macomb)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 10th day of August, 2022 by Sebastian Previti, Supervisor, and Stanley Babinski, Clerk on behalf of the Charter Township of Washington.

RACHEL HUNTER
County of Macomb
NOTARY PUBLIC
Expires 02-03-2027
STATE OF MICHIGAN

Rachel Hunter
Rachel Hunter, Notary Public
Macomb County, Michigan
My Commission Expires: 2-3-2027
Acting in Macomb County

WITNESS:

Amie L Kreger

TOWNSHIP OF BRUCE,
a Michigan municipal corporation

By: Mike Fillbrook

Amie L Krieger
Amie L Krieger

Susan Kraft
By: Susan Kraft
Its: Clerk

State of Michigan)
)ss
County of Macomb)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 23rd day of August, 2022 by Mike Fillbrook, Supervisor, and Susan Kraft, Clerk on behalf of the Township of Bruce.

Dorothy Sochowicz
Macomb, Notary Public
County, Michigan
My Commission Expires: 10-25-24
Acting in Macomb County

DOROTHY SOCHOWICZ
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF MI
COUNTY OF MACOMB
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES Oct 25, 2024
ACTING IN COUNTY OF Macomb



235 East Main Street, Suite 105
Northville, MI 48167
mcka.com

John Jackson, AICP	President
Jamie Gorenflo	Project Manager
Hunter Whitehill	Project Planner
Jane Dixon	Project Planner
Lauren Sayre	GIS / Mapping
Erin Raine	Graphic Designer