

**City of South Haven
South Haven Public Schools
South Haven Township**



Recreation Plan
2008-2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

City of South Haven City Council

Dorothy Appleyard, Mayor
Vikke Andersen
Don Bemis
Suzie Fitzgibbon
Ryan McCoy
Scott Smith
Tim Stegeman



City of South Haven Parks Commission

Christine Baner
Don Bemis, City Council Rep
Sandy Fenske
Melinda Graham
Jon Jillson
Jim Ollgaard

City of South Haven Leisure Service Department

Robin Abshire, Leisure Service Director
Brandy Gildea, Parks and Cemetery Supervisor
Staff Members

City of South Haven Harbor Commission
City of South Haven Planning Commission
SHARP Committee

South Haven Township Board

Ross Stein, Supervisor
Kathy Poindexter, Clerk
Hillary Fisher, Treasurer
Michael DeGrandchamp
Mel Jessup
Jean Pioch
Brian Horan

South Haven Township Parks Commission

Maureen Lewandowski
Brian Horan, Board Rep
Paul Gilbert
Olga Stieve
Jennie Stezowski
Joe Stezowski

South Haven Public Schools Board of Education

Annie Brown, President
Bryan Lewis, Vice President
Corey Davis, Treasurer
Claudia Maddox, Secretary
Kathy Gillett, Trustee
Kim Griffin, Trustee
Joe DeGrandchamp, Trustee

South Haven Public Schools Superintendent

Robert Black

Table of Contents

Section 1	Community Description.....	6
Section 2	Administrative Structure.....	24
	• City of South Haven	
	• South Haven Township	
	• South Haven Public Schools	
Section 3	Funding.....	31
	• City of South Haven	
Section 4	Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessment.....	36
	• City of South Haven (separate document)	
	• South Haven Township	
	• South Haven Public Schools	
Section 5	DNR Recreation Grant Inventory.....	79
	• City of South Haven	
	• South Haven Township	
Section 6	Public Input and Planning Process.....	83
	• City of South Haven	
	• South Haven Township	
	• South Haven Public Schools	
Section 7	Action Program and Capital Improvement Schedule.....	87
	• City of South Haven	
	• South Haven Township	
	• South Haven Public Schools	
Appendix		

Community Description

Section 1

Community Description

Location

Located on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan at the mouth of the Black River, the area offers an abundance of recreational activities year round. Whether your greatest moments are spent beach combing, boating, sailing, golfing, hiking, biking, fishing, in-line skating, skateboarding, kayaking, canoeing, wine tasting, visiting u-pick farms, horseback riding, camping at private or state run campgrounds, playing at the local park or attending festivals, the area continues to offer the best activities for families, seniors, rural residents and city dwellers. Also, due to it's location on the Great Lakes, the city is a major attraction to visitors and second-home owners, especially during the summer months.

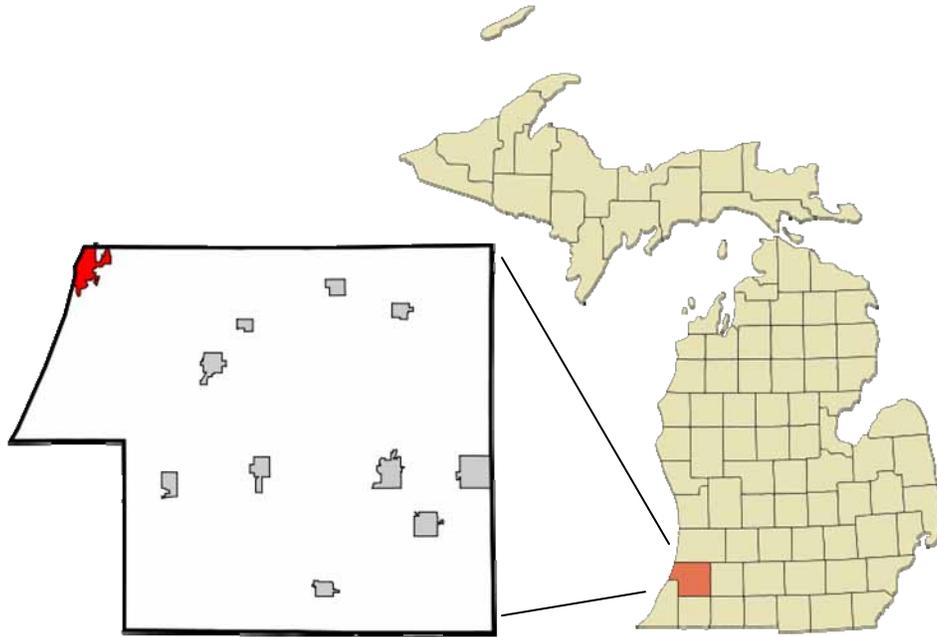
The Harborwalk is a two-mile walking tour around the harbor serving people of all abilities. Historical signs tell of the rich history along the harbor. The Kal-Haven Trail, stretching from Kalamazoo to South Haven, is used by hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, cross-county skiers, and snowmobilers. Several campgrounds have been developed along the trail due to its popularity. Nearby is the Van Buren State Park offering camping, hiking trails, and a beautiful beach. Adjoining the State Park is North Point, a County-owned 17 acre park, which also offers hiking, bird-watching, and Lake Michigan frontage. The Van Buren Trail runs from Hartford to South Haven on old railroad tracks. The Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail flows from Bangor to South Haven. Winter brings ice skating activities to the downtown South Haven Ice Rink.

Summer is the most popular season bringing with it a flurry of activities. Beach fun, fishing, golfing, boating, windsurfing, and shopping are highlights of the season. South Haven is a shallow draft/recreational harbor and is blessed with a variety of natural resources, historic background, and an abundance of publicly-owned property. South Haven provides a variety of recreational resources not only to its local residents, but to the residents of the immediate surrounding area and acts as a regional base for recreation for people throughout the state and the Midwest. In addition to over two miles of frontage on Lake Michigan, South Haven has the Black River running through the city limits which, during the summer months, acts as a port with over 1,100 boat slips.

The City of South Haven is located in the northwest section of Van Buren County, Michigan. The City is about 48 miles north of the Michigan-Indiana border, about 38 miles west of Kalamazoo, 30 miles south of Holland, and 20 miles north of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor. With a year-round population of approximately 5,021,¹ it is essentially a small urban community that is surrounded by a large rural-based farming community also known as the "Blueberry Capital". The City is conveniently located with three exits off I-196.

¹ U.S Census Bureau, 2000 Census

South Haven Township encompasses approximately 173.6 square miles of the land in the northwest corner of Van Buren County, Michigan. The Township surrounds the City of South Haven on two sides (south and east). The Township is bordered on the north by Casco Township in Allegan County, Geneva Township in Van Buren County borders the east, Covert Township borders the south and Lake Michigan to the west. The Black River runs east to west through the northern mile of the Township.



Physical Character

A. Topography

The topography of South Haven beginning with its west side starts as sandy beaches leading to clay bluffs up to 50 feet high. There are many ravines through the City, most of which are wooded. The Black River valley makes up the center of the City with downtown established on a bluff overlooking the river.



B. Climate²

The following information was taken from the Soil survey of Van Buren County, Michigan. Prepared by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Climatology Division, East Lansing, Michigan.

Winter in Van Buren County

In winter, the average temperature is 25.5 degrees Fahrenheit and the average daily minimum temperature is 17.8 degrees. The lowest temperature on record occurred in Bloomingdale on three occasions - February 10, 1912, February 5, 1918 and February 7, 1978, and was -22 degrees. The average seasonal snowfall is 91.4 inches. The greatest snow depth at any one time during the period of record was 45 inches, on December 12, 1962. On the average, 64 days of the year have at least 1 inch of snow on the ground. The number of such days varies greatly from year to year. The highest seasonal snowfall was 158.8 inches, during the winter of 1962-1963. The lowest seasonal snowfall was 21.2 inches, during the winter of 1905-1906. The heaviest 1-day snowfall on record was 20 inches, on December 10, 1962.

² Michigan Department of Agriculture, Climatology Division, East Lansing, Michigan.

Summer in Van Buren County

In summer, the average temperature is 69.1 degrees Fahrenheit and the average daily maximum temperature is 81.1 degrees. The highest recorded temperature, which occurred in Bloomingdale on July 5, 1911, was 105 degrees. The total annual precipitation is 38.28 inches. Of this, 21.31 inches, or about 56%, usually falls in April through September. The growing season of most crops falls within this period. Two years out of ten, the rainfall in April through September is less than 17.3 inches. The heaviest single day rainfall on record was 9.78 inches in Bloomingdale on September 1, 1914. This is the greatest single day precipitation total ever recorded in the history of Michigan climatological observations. The 9.78 inches fell in only 6 hours. Thunderstorms occur on about 36 days each year.

Humidity, Sunshine and Wind

The average relative humidity in mid-afternoon is about 62%. Humidity is higher at night and the average at dawn is about 82%. The sun shines 62% of the time in summer and 32% in winter. The prevailing wind is from the west.

C. Water Resources

The City of South Haven is blessed with both Lake Michigan and the Black River, which provide the bulk of natural resource recreational opportunities within the planning area. Swimming, fishing, boating, jet skiing, kite boarding, surfing, wind surfing, and visiting the beach are just a few of the recreational opportunities that the City's water-based facilities provide for not only the local residents, but for much of Southwest Michigan and the City's growing tourist trade.

South Haven city has over two miles of Lake Michigan frontage. Of this frontage the City owns over seven tenths of a mile. While North and South Beach provide the majority of public frontage on the lake, the City has eleven public access points to the lake dispersed throughout the City within the right-of-ways of public streets. Of those eleven access points, six are currently improved to provide access to Lake Michigan. Continual efforts are needed to protect these access sites.

The Black River meanders through the City providing a port for over 1,150 boat slips, three full service marinas with boat sales, and charter-fishing opportunities for the general public. In addition, the river provides launching facilities for trailerable boats. There is over eight-tenths of a mile of river frontage that is public, most of which is downstream of the Dyckman Avenue Bridge over the Black River. With the completion of the Harborwalk, the public can enjoy a walk from the North Beach pier to South Beach pier. This walk is approximately two miles, and is provided through publicly-owned lands, easements through private property and access next to privately-owned river frontage. It provides excellent views of the river and its activities for the land-based public. The Black River is an extremely valuable natural and economic resource for the City.

D. Vegetation and Soils³

According to the Soil Survey of Van Buren County, Michigan as compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture/Soil Conservation Service, the soils and topographic conditions of South Haven are primarily, “Nearly level to hilly, somewhat poorly-drained and well-drained, loamy and sandy soils on till plains, moraines, and lake plains.”

More specifically, along the Lake Michigan coastline on the north side of the Black River, the City’s soils and topographic makeup is of sandy loam with a one to twelve (1-12%) slope running toward Lake Michigan. On the south side of the Black River along the Lake Michigan coastline, the soils are once again of sandy loam with a minimum of 12% inclining slope from the coastline. The area is within the high erosion area of the Shorelines Protection and Management Act.

Off the coastline in the southern sections of the City, the soil conditions are primarily Selfridge loamy sand with a very low slope of Urban land-berms coupled with no or very small slope. There are several ravines that run through the southern section of South Haven that provide much of the drainage for the area.

In the northern section of the town, the soil conditions are comprised mostly of Selfridge loamy sand with little slope.

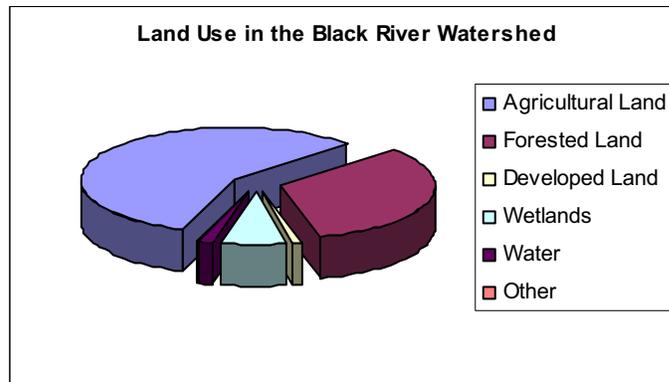
All of these conditions describe moderate or severe soil conditions for Recreational Development. Moderate conditions mean “that the limitations for development can be overcome or alleviated by planning, design or special maintenance.” Severe means “that soil properties are unfavorable and that limitations can be offset only by costly soil reclamation, special design, intensive maintenance, limited use, or by a combination of these measures.”⁴

³ SOIL SURVEY OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN – United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. September 1986. Page 50.

⁴ SOIL SURVEY OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN – United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. September 1986. Page 50.

E. Environmental Issues⁵

The Black River flows through Allegan and Van Buren Counties, into Lake Michigan at South Haven. The entire watershed contains 183,490 acres. The Black River Watershed contains a variety of land use.



The Black River is intensively used for recreation, especially near South Haven with its new harbor facilities. Primary recreational uses are boating and fishing. The high sediment and nutrient loading from the Black River are adversely impacting the fishery in the lower portion of the river. Sediment and turbidity reduce the quality of the fish habitat. Turbidity also reduces the aesthetic appeal of the river. Opportunities for fishing are reduced when sediment deposition causes a decline in the number of sport fish, such as trout, salmon, walleye pike and perch.

Non-point source water quality problems existing in the watershed are caused from, but not limited to, the following three main sources:

1. Soil loss, erosion and sedimentation from agricultural land, stream bank, county drain, urban construction and roadside erosion.
2. Nutrient loading is suspected from animal waste runoff, poor fertilizer management on cropland, urban lawn treatment and inadequate on-site septic systems.
3. Potential chemical contaminants, including pesticides from both residential and agricultural sources are suspected in surface waters.

⁵ Black River Watershed Management Plan, April 2005

The County Board recently instituted a ban on phosphorus within fertilizers to help preserve this County's great water resources.

F. Transportation

An important consideration in recreation planning is the network of transportation facilities that services and facilitates travel to the community. Means of transportation to the community are summarized below:

The City of South Haven is easily accessed by interstate expressways and state highways. I-196 (US 31), M-43, and M-140 all intersect at South Haven. The City can be accessed from three exits off I-196: Exits 18, 20, and 22. South Haven is only two hours from Chicago and within 45 minutes of the cities of Kalamazoo, Holland, and St. Joseph.

Since 1979, the Van Buren County Public Transit has been providing public transient service to the South Haven area. Currently, the service provides demand response, which allows door-to-door service to anyone within the South Haven area. In addition, there is a twenty-four hour call-ahead reservation service for those who need to be at a particular place at a scheduled time.

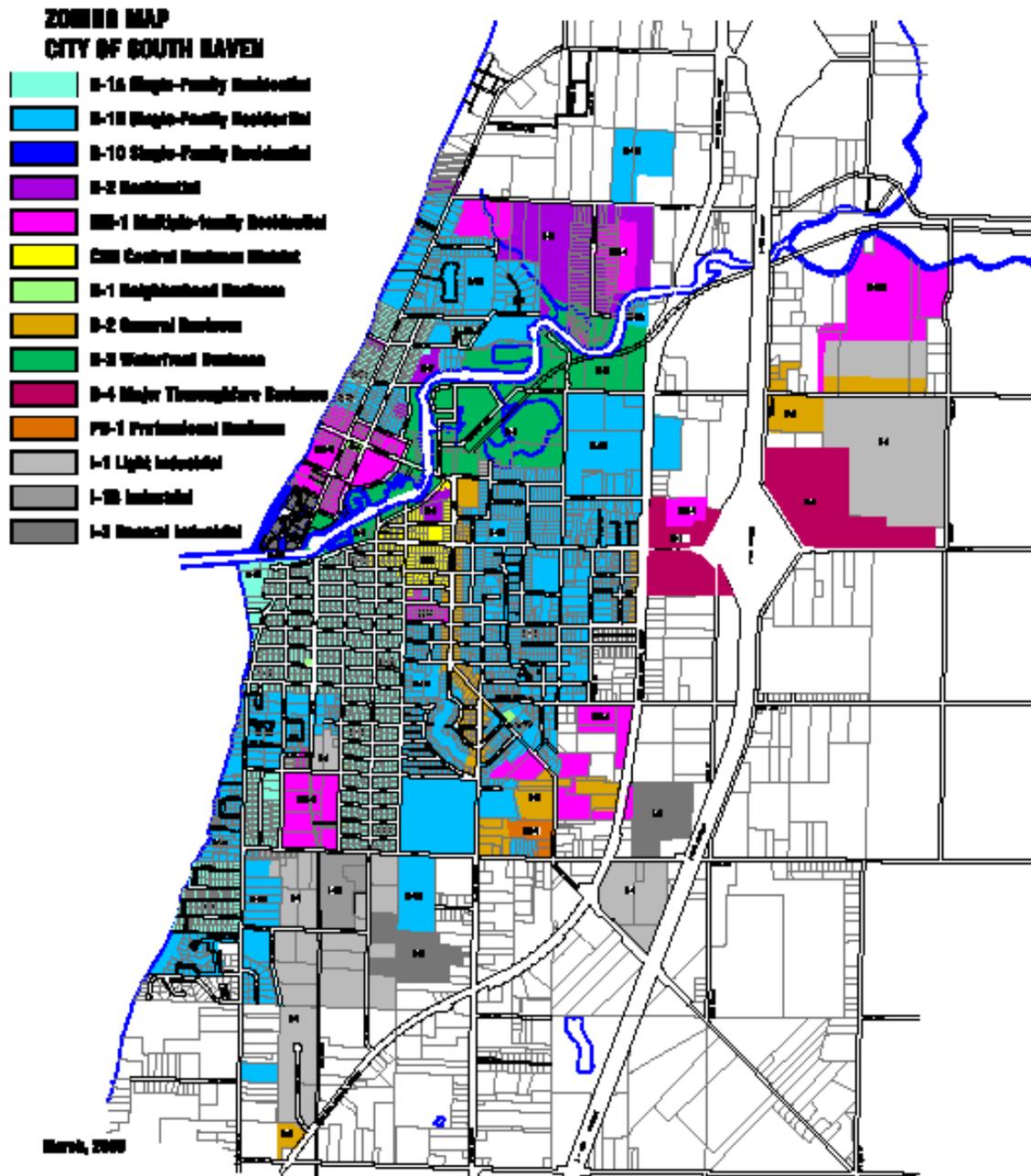
The City has a total of 229 municipal boat slips in the harbor which attract boaters from various locations.

South Haven Regional Airport, located on County Road 380, is four miles south of the City, located in South Haven Township. The airport offers two runways, including a 4,300 foot paved runway with pilot-controlled lighting, precision approach path indicator and instrument approach. The airport is maintained and operated year-round with no landing fees. Fuel is available along with a lighted runway, a PAPI System, and REIL System for instrument approach. Commercial air service is available through the Southwest Michigan Regional, Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International or Kent County International Airports, all within an hour drive.

Amtrak train service offers a stop in Bangor (10 minutes east of South Haven). Indian Trails Bus Lines provides daily bus service from South Haven and privately-owned taxi services and rental car facilities operate throughout the City.

G. Land Use⁶

City of South Haven



South Haven is primarily a residentially-centered community with sufficient area for commercial and industrial growth. A brief breakdown of significant land use is as follows:

⁶ City of South Haven Records, Planning Dept

Residential

The City of South Haven incorporates approximately 2,220 acres of land.

Residential dwelling units are the predominant type of land use within the City. There are 1,562 acres developed for residential use, which represent approximately 71% of the land use within the City of South Haven. Multi-family condominium units have been built along the Black River and the northern section of the Lake Michigan shoreline within the City limits. These units are primarily owned by non-residents who use the dwellings on a seasonal basis.

Commercial

The City has five commercial areas: the Central Business District (the downtown Phoenix St. and Center St. business area), a commercial “strip” area along the Broadway-LaGrange corridor; the commercial development running along Blue Star Memorial Highway; the Phoenix St/I-196 interchange commercial zone; and the area on M-43 around the hospital. Commercial use represents approximately 24% of the total land use. Immediately outside of the City limits, commercial development is primarily located along Blue Star Memorial Highway, M-43, M-140, and Phoenix Road which are the primary roads leading into the City from I-196, Kalamazoo, and other destinations.

Industrial

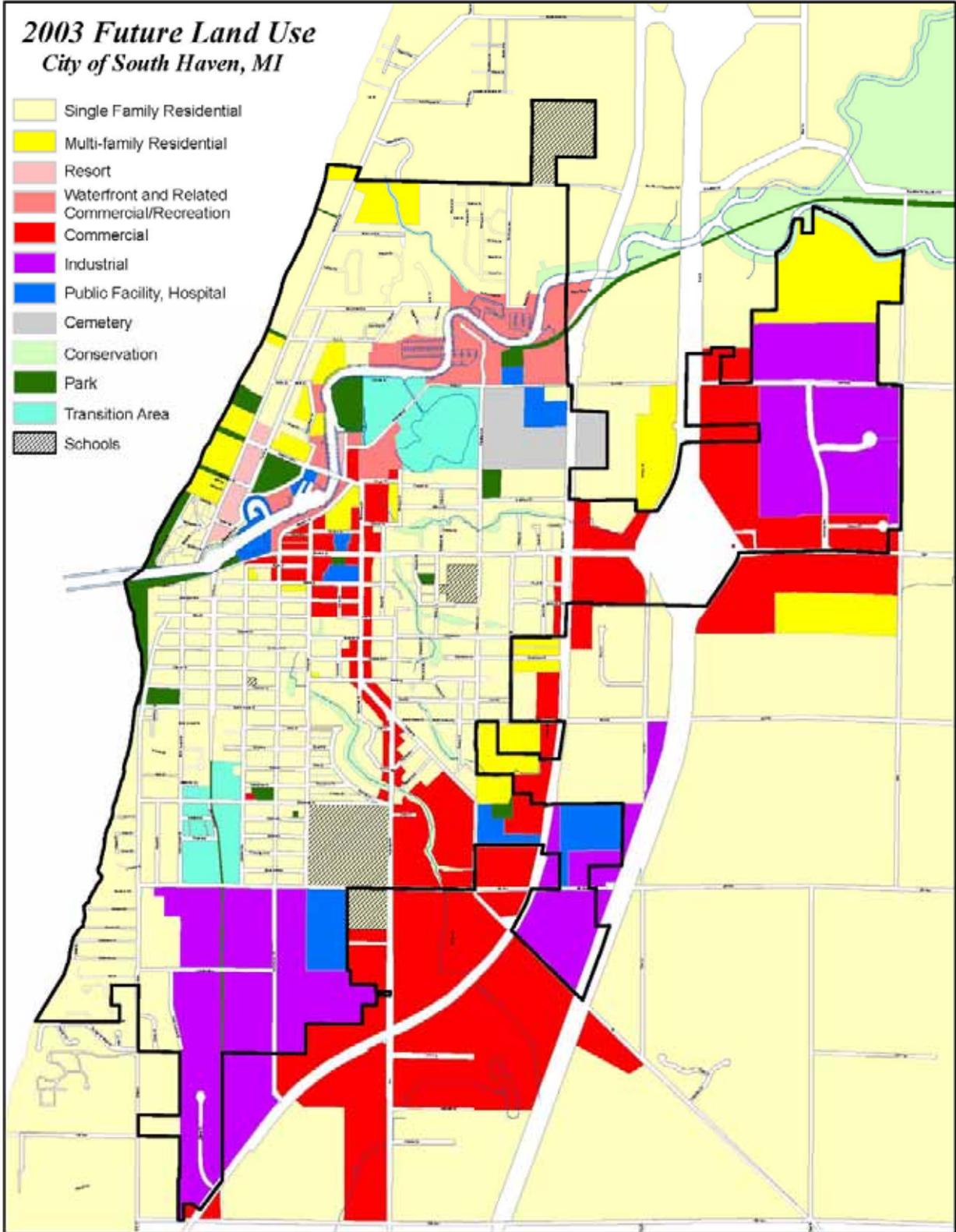
Industrially zoned property (including vacant industrial property) occupies approximately 5% of the total land use. Most of the developed industrial areas are located on the south side of the City, and east of I-196.

City of South Haven Future land Use

Future Land Use Acreage	
	Acres
Cemetery	38.9
Commercial	201.7
Conservation	41.1
Industrial	341.0
Multi-family Residential	126.2
Park	54.6
Public Facility, Hospital	66.5
Resort	12.7
Schools	66.5
Single Family Residential	794.4
Transition Area	83.2
Waterfront and Related Commercial/Recreation	84.3

2003 Future Land Use
City of South Haven, MI

-  Single Family Residential
-  Multi-family Residential
-  Resort
-  Waterfront and Related Commercial/Recreation
-  Commercial
-  Industrial
-  Public Facility, Hospital
-  Cemetery
-  Conservation
-  Park
-  Transition Area
-  Schools



South Haven Township

South Haven Township has approximately 11,000 acres of land area. As zoned, about 70% is residential, 22% agricultural/open space, and 8% industrial and commercial. As used, closer to 55% of the total area is still in agriculture, vacant or open space. Much of the commercially-zoned districts are still undeveloped or in residential use. Up to a quarter of the industrially-zoned land is actually used for residential purposes.

Zoning came late to South Haven Township (1990). Due to the uncontrolled nature of previous development, most zoning districts have pre-existing nonconforming uses. Development was stymied for many years due to the deep clay soils and sub soils which dominate the Township. The clay soils are typically unsuitable for septic systems. These soils also tend to pond water at the surface, creating drainage problems. Finally, the clay soils are so deep (up to 90 feet) that it is often impossible to find water for a well.

With the extension of public sewer and water services to the Township after 1995, large areas of the Township which were previously not suitable for development, due to septic system limitation or the inability to hit water with a private well, are now beginning to develop. The bulk of the year-round population of the Township remains within a two-mile radius of the City limits. Virtually all of the new development is within this two-mile radius and is totally dependent upon the extension of city sewer and water services.

Agricultural

The Agricultural zoning districts are now confined to the southwest four square miles of the Township. However, agricultural uses are still found in all areas east of I-196. West of I-196 agricultural uses are limited to the area along Blue Star Highway south of 12th Avenue and east of 77th Street. The main agricultural commodity is fruit, mainly blueberries. The Township offers u-pick blueberry farms, horse riding stables and many farm vegetables/fruit stands.

Residential

There are a number of very old residential plats dating to before World War II. These are characterized by very small lots, which typically cannot support a septic system. Since 1996 the Township has approved 12 site condominiums, all adjacent to the new sewer and water lines. There have also been a few private roads developed with unplatted lots. These are not always dependent upon public utilities and thus have large one acre or larger lots. Virtually all of the Township's seasonal dwellings are west of I-196. Most seasonal units are south of the City along the lakeshore, but there are a few along the river between Blue Star Highway and I-196. The Township, due to its availability of rural vacant land, offers affordable housing units/apartments

Commercial

Commercial development is largely confined to the Phoenix Road and M-140 corridors. The Phoenix Road commercial area extends from just east of C.R. 689 to the city limits. The M-140 commercial area extends from I-196 to the city limits and spreads out along Blue Star Highway in both directions. Blue Star north of M-43 also has commercial development, which extends north to Phoenix.

Industrial

Industrial development is limited to two small areas along Blue Star Highway, one south of Phoenix and the other along Kalamazoo Street. There is also Industrial zoning at the airport. At this time the Township is partnering/working with the city via “lending” for a period of time some of the Township’s industrial space for city use.

Population⁷

A. General Trends

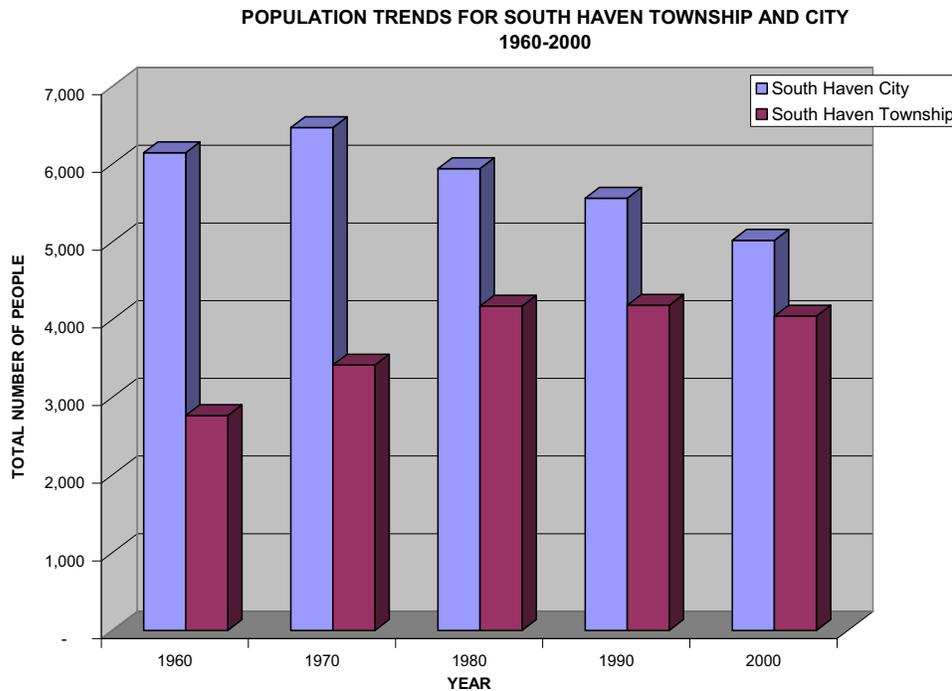
South Haven experienced a slight decline in population between 1990 and 2000. In 1990, the population of the City was 5,563 and it was 5,021 in 2000, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census. South Haven Township also saw a slight decrease in population from 4,185 to 4,046 persons. Other surrounding townships and Van Buren County as a whole, experienced population increases from 1990 to 2000. See Table 1-1, Chart 1-1.

Table 1-1

POPULATION TRENDS FOR SOUTH HAVEN TOWNSHIP AND CITY					
1960 - 2000					
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
South Haven City	6,149	6,471	5,943	5,563	5,021
South Haven Township	2,766	3,416	4,174	4,185	4,046
Van Buren County	48,395	56,173	66,814	70,060	76,263

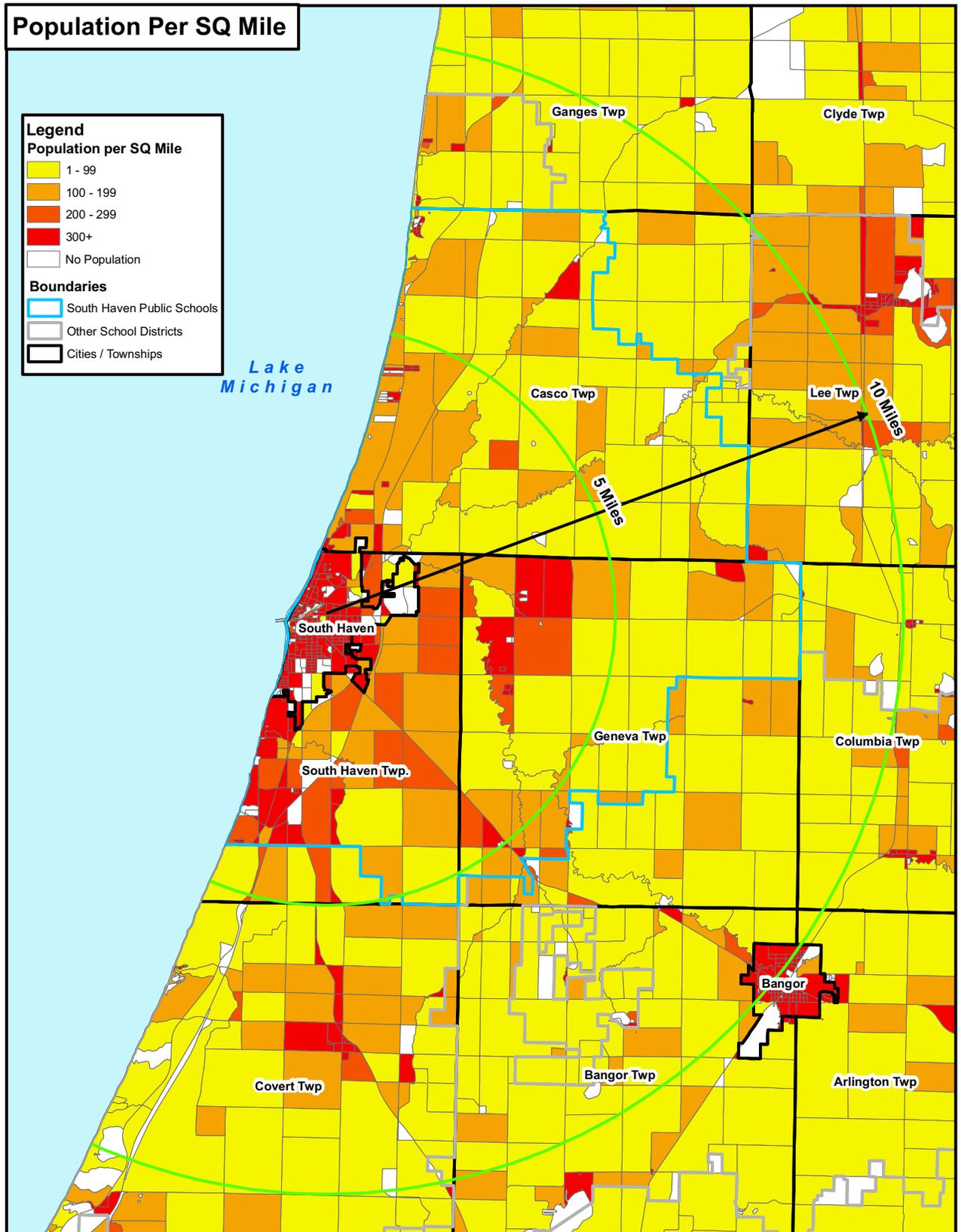
Source: Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Chart 1-1



⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census

B. Population Density



C. Population Distribution by Races

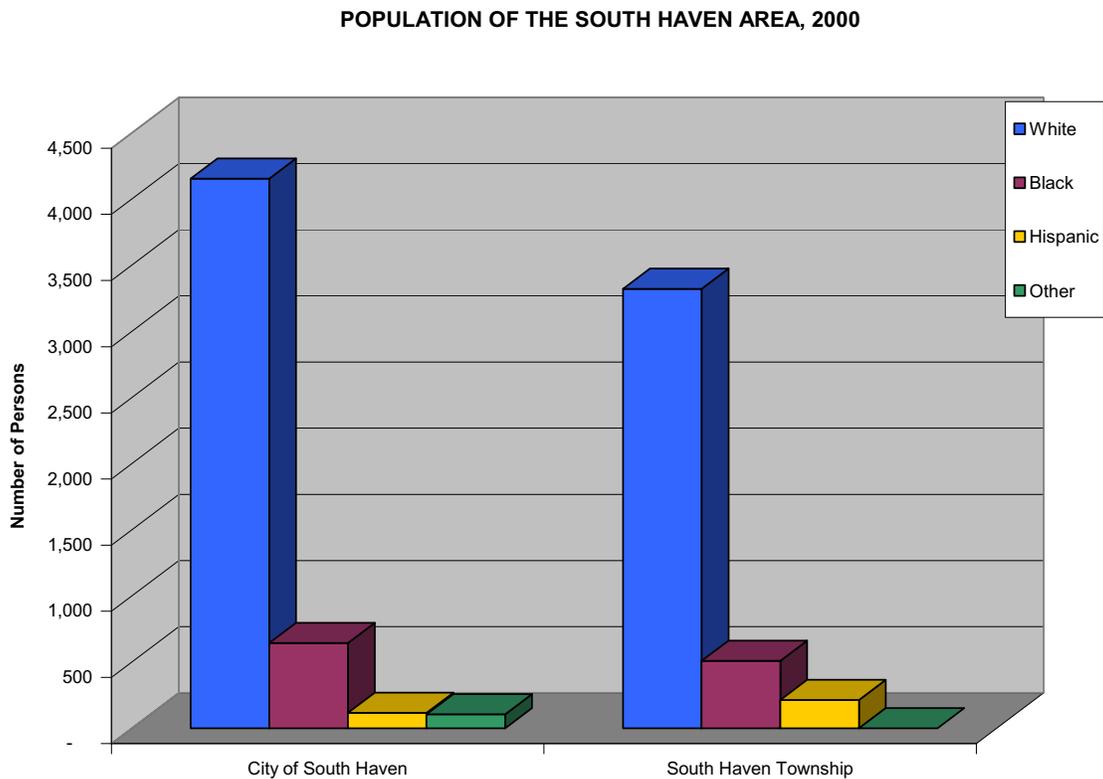
The population of the City of South Haven and South Haven Township is largely white. Of the minority groups, the African American population is the largest, with 688 in the City in 2000 and 561 in South Haven Township. The number of persons of Hispanic origin has increased in the years between 1990 to 2000. There are 117 Hispanic persons in the City of South Haven, and 216 Hispanic persons in South Haven Township. The trend between 1990 and 2000 was that the number of African American persons declined in nearly all jurisdictions, with the exception of South Haven Township, in which the number of African American persons remained fairly steady. During the same period, the number of Hispanic persons in nearly all jurisdictions increased See Table 1-2, Chart 1-2.

Table 1-2

POPULATION OF THE SOUTH HAVEN AREA, 2000					
	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total
City of South Haven	4,155	644	117	105	5,021
South Haven Township	3,322	510	214	-	4,046

Source: Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000

Chart 1-2



D. Gender and Age Profiles

The City of South Haven and South Haven Township had a slightly higher median age than that of the State in 2000. The median age for the State was 35.5 and for the City of South Haven, it was 42.1 and for the surrounding Townships it ranged from 37.8 to 37.9. This is somewhat typical of smaller communities in Michigan, as younger persons leave the community in search of employment. Implications of this trend include an increasing need for medical services for older persons, a less rapid growth of schools, and greater economic success for businesses catering to older persons. Also, there is a larger female population in both the city and the township. See Table 1-3, Chart 1-3, and Table 1-4, Chart 1-4.

Table 1-3

AGE COHORTS* IN SOUTH HAVEN TOWNSHIP AND CITY, 2000					
	Township	City		Township	City
Under 5	261	270	Under 5	6.45%	5.38%
Under 18	840	913	Under 18	20.76%	18.18%
18-24	305	318	18-24	7.54%	6.33%
25-44	1087	1214	25-44	26.87%	24.18%
45-64	974	1287	45-64	24.07%	25.63%
65 and Over	579	1019	65 and Over	14.31%	20.29%
	4046	5021		100.00%	100.00%

*Cohorts are groups with similar characteristics, in this case, a close range in age.

Source: Census of Population, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000

Chart 1-3

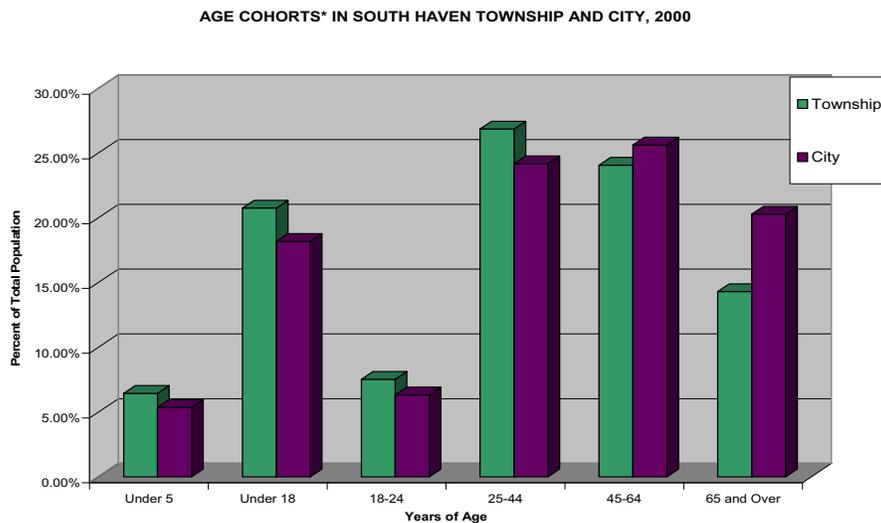
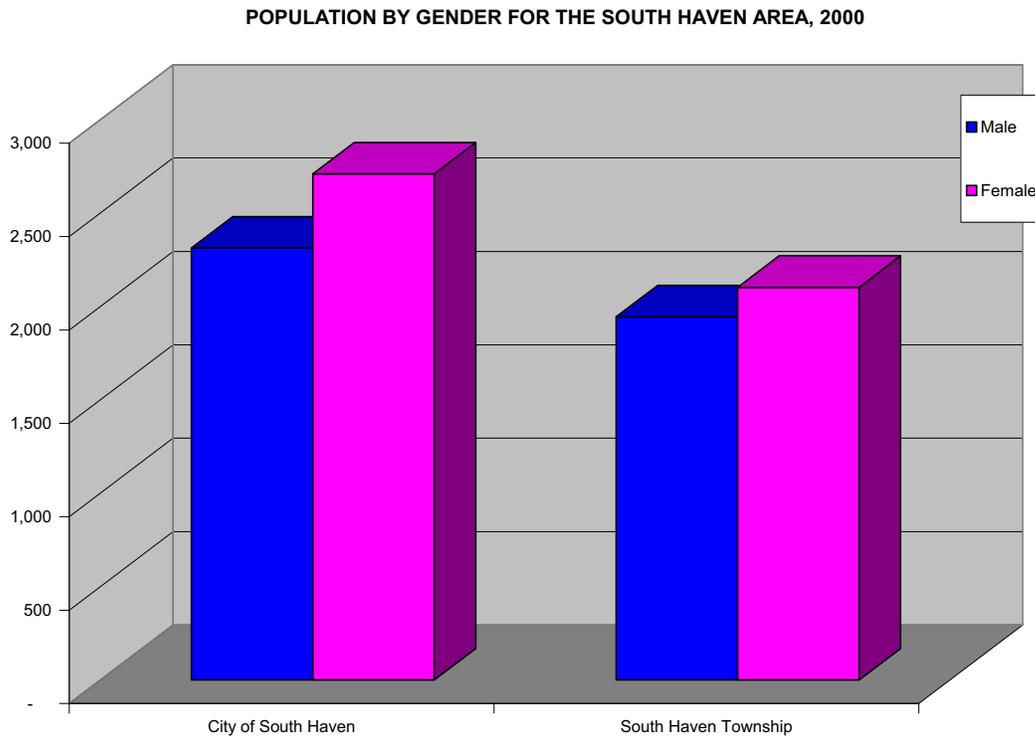


Table 1-4

POPULATION BY GENDER FOR THE SOUTH HAVEN AREA, 2000			
Community	Male	Female	Total
City of South Haven	2,312	2,709	5,021
South Haven Township	1,944	2,102	4,046

Source: Census of Housing, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000

Chart 1-4



E. Economic Information⁸

Table 1-5

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS FOR VAN BUREN COUNTY						
2002 - 2007	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Labor Force	39,152	39,496	40,235	40,849	41,472	41,008
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	7.3%	6.6%	6.4%	6.5%	6.6%

Source: Michigan Department of Career Development: Employment Service Agency - Labor Market Information

⁸ Michigan Department of Career Development: Employment Service Agency - Labor Market Information

Administrative Structure

Section 2

Administrative Structure

A. City of South Haven

Mayor/City Council/City Manager

A City Manager/Council form of government governs the City of South Haven. The City Manager administers the day-to-day operations of the City. The mayor is elected to a two-year term and is a voting member of the seven person Council. Council members serve a four-year term. The City Council appoints a seven person Parks Commission, one of which is a council representative and a seven person Harbor Commission, one of which is a council representative, to serve as an advisory group.

Harbor Commission

The Harbor Commission was created in accordance with City Ordinance Section 38-27. The duty of the Harbor Commission is to review and make recommendations regarding all development of waterfront properties in the City, to make recommendations regarding the management, operation, and maintenance of city owned and operated waterfront properties, to make recommendations regarding ordinances governing traffic and safety on waters within the city, and other duties as requires by the City Code and Zoning Ordinance.

Parks Commission

The Parks Commission was created in accordance with the provisions of State Legislation (Act 156 of 1917).The seven person board conducts monthly meetings for the purpose of making recommendations to the City Manager and or/parks superintendent and public officials of the City regarding the operation, maintenance, caretaking, rehabilitation, and capital expenditures for the city park facilities and property, including playgrounds, beaches and other recreational facilities. The Parks Commission also acts as the cemetery board of trustees. The Parks and Cemetery Supervisor serves as a staff representative for the Parks Commission.

Leisure Services Department

The Leisure Services Department has one Director who also serves as the Harbormaster and Marina Manager. This position is the only full-time position in this department. All the other employees, approximately 27, are part-time/seasonal, including the Parks and Cemetery Supervisor.

The Riverfront concert series is another Leisure Services Director responsibility. This is a weekly event held on Thursdays and consists of fourteen different performers during the summer, locally sponsored and truly enjoyed by everyone.

All special event applications are processed through the Leisure Services Department so that the dates, locations and anticipated crowds can be entered

onto a calendar. Each Department Head is given an opportunity to provide comments on every special event application so they will be prepared for the event.

The Leisure Services Director also serves as the City's Harbormaster. The Harbormaster is responsible for four municipal marinas and any dredging operations that take place on the Black River. The City has a total of 229 boat slips in the harbor, with three of the marinas located west of the drawbridge, making municipal slips very desirable. The fourth marina is just up stream of the drawbridge at Black River Park, which is also the location of ten public launch ramps.

The Parks Department reports directly to the Parks and Cemetery Supervisor, which is a direct report to the Leisure Services Director. The Parks Department is responsible for the maintenance of ten public parks and nine public beach access sites. Currently, the City maintains these parks but does not offer any programmed activities. The Parks Department works closely with the Public Works Department who clean sand from the parking lots and operate the beach cleaner. The Van Buren County Health Department conducts the water sampling test each Monday. In the event that the bacteria are elevated, the County Health Department would advise the City, and the City would take necessary steps to close the beach and prepare the news release.

The Leisure Services Director serves as a staff representative for the Harbor Commission and the Parks and Cemetery Supervisor serves as a staff representative for the Parks Commission. Any capital improvements involving the parks and beaches must first go through the Parks Commissions, with the Parks Commission serving as an advisory board. They in turn make recommendations to City Council and parks staff regarding the operation, maintenance, caretaking, rehabilitation, and capital expenditures for the City park facilities and property, including playgrounds, beaches, and other recreational facilities. The Parks Commission also acts as the Cemetery Board of Trustees.

Any capital improvements to the marinas must first go before the Harbor Commission who in turn make recommendations to the City Council. The duty of the Harbor Commission is to review and make recommendations regarding all development of waterfront properties in the city, to make recommendations regarding the management, operation, and maintenance of City owned and operated water front properties, to make recommendations regarding ordinances governing traffic and safety on waters within the City, and other duties as required by the city code and zoning ordinance.

Volunteers

The City has several local organizations that volunteer on a regular basis.

Relationships with other Agencies

The city works very closely with several different agencies. Below is a list of many of the agencies that we have daily contact with, or maintain an ongoing relationship with.

Local Agencies

- a. Michigan Maritime Museum
- b. South Haven Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- c. Chamber of Commerce
- d. South Haven Center for the Arts
- e. South Haven Public Schools
- f. Youth and Company
- g. Historical Association of South Haven
- h. Housing Commission
- i. The non-profit Organizations that sponsor special events such as Harborfest Committee, National Blueberry Committee, Fourth of July Committee, Steelheaders Association.

State and County Agencies

- a. Van Buren State Park
- b. Van Buren Marine Control Patrol
- c. Van Buren County Health Department
- d. Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- e. Michigan Soils, Erosion and Sediment Control
- f. Michigan Waterways Commission
- g. Michigan Department of State
- h. Michigan State Police
- i. Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

Federal Agencies

- a. United States Army Corp of Engineers
- b. United States Coast Guard
- c. United States Environmental Protection Agency

B. South Haven Township

The Township Board makes all property acquisitions and maintenance decisions. The Township Planning Commission acting under authority of the Township Planning Act performs long-range planning. The Township Board hires maintenance staff on a contractual basis.

Any park or recreation facility established within South Haven Township would have to meet the requirements of the Township's Zoning Ordinance. Public and non-profit facilities are special uses with conditions in the residential, agricultural, and resource development districts. Any facility, such as a ball field, would be required to submit a site plan to the planning commission for review to ensure adequate parking, screening, drainage and safe ingress/egress.

The Planning commission meets on a monthly basis. Special use site plans require a public hearing and generally require two to four months for approval. All plans are transmitted to:

- Van Buren County Drain Commission
- Van Buren County Road Commission
- South Haven Area Emergency Services
- A Civil Engineer hired by the Township to review plans
- If appropriated, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for impacts on floodplains, wetlands, sand dunes and high risk erosion areas

In June 2007, the Township formed a five member Parks Commission to discuss and make recommendations to the Township Board regarding parks in the Township. The Township relies heavily on volunteers for different projects with their parks.

Volunteers

Garden Club

All special events are run by volunteers

Friends of Kal-Haven Trail

Friends of Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail

Friends of North Point

Friends of Deerlick

Relationships with other Agencies

The Township works very closely with several different agencies. Below is a list of many of those agencies that the Township has daily contact with or maintains an ongoing relationship with.

Local Agencies

- a. South Haven Convention and Visitors Bureau
- b. South Haven Public Schools
- c. Youth and Company
- d. COSY-Local Radio Station
- e. Housing Commission
- f. The non-profit organizations that sponsor special events such as Harborfest Committee, National Blueberry Committee, Fourth of July Committee, Steelheaders Association.

State and County Agencies

- g. Van Buren State Park
- h. Van Buren Marine Control Patrol
- i. Van Buren County Health Department
- j. Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- k. Michigan Soils, Erosion and Sediment Control
- l. Michigan Waterways Commission
- m. Michigan Department of State
- n. Michigan State Police
- o. Michigan State University Extension
- p. Van Buren County Drain Commissioner
- q. Van Buren County Road Commission
- r. Southwest Michigan Planning Commission
- s. Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy
- t. Van Buren County Commission Board

Federal Agencies

- u. United States Army Corp of Engineers
- v. United States Coast Guard
- w. United States Environmental Protection Agency

C. South Haven Public Schools

School Administration Structure

Board of Education (Seven members)

- The South Haven Public School District is served by a seven-member Board of Education. The Board elects annually a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and three Trustees.
- The Board is responsible for selecting and appointing a Chief Executive Officer who serves as a Superintendent of Schools.
 - The Board meets as a body to:
 - Set or amend policies
 - Develop educational goals
 - Review and approve district budgets
 - Act on the recommendations of the Superintendent

Superintendent

Director of Operations

Director of Special Education/Curriculum

Five Principals

Two Assistant Principals

Funding

Section 3

Funding

A. City of South Haven

City of South Haven Budgeted Expenditure Report for Recreational Activities

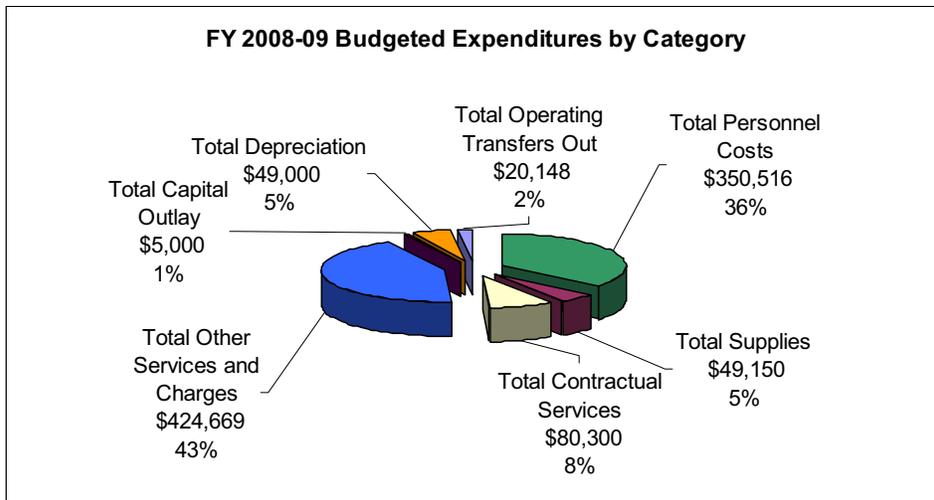
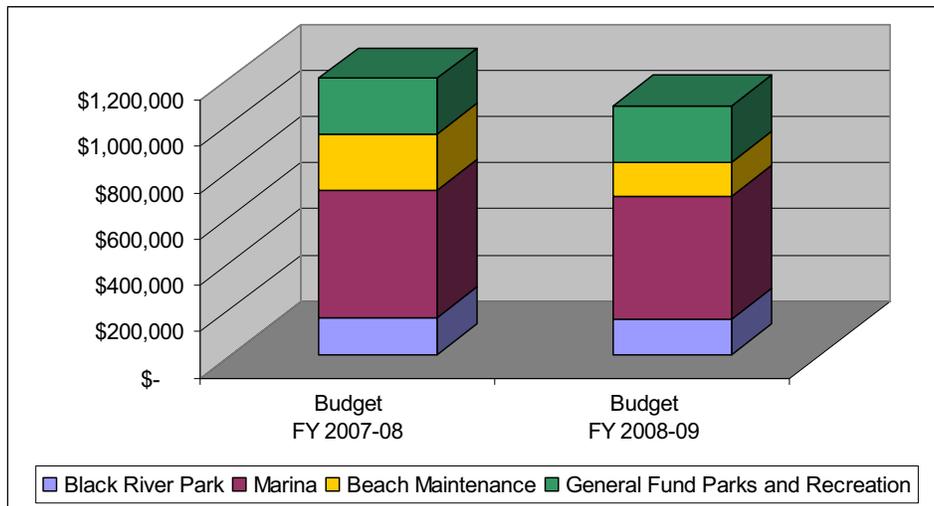
	Budget FY 2007-08	Budget FY 2008-09
Personnel Costs		
Black River Park	\$ 59,426	\$ 59,054
Marina	\$ 111,673	\$ 112,297
Beach Maintenance	\$ 67,642	\$ 62,572
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 123,701	\$ 116,593
Total Personnel Costs	<u>\$ 362,442</u>	<u>\$ 350,516</u>
Supplies		
Black River Park	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Marina	\$ 10,750	\$ 11,450
Beach Maintenance	\$ 8,323	\$ 8,300
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 24,312	\$ 27,600
Total Supplies	<u>\$ 45,185</u>	<u>\$ 49,150</u>
Contractual Services		
Black River Park	\$ 8,829	\$ 4,100
Marina	\$ 70,617	\$ 53,000
Beach Maintenance	\$ 18,400	\$ -
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 22,000	\$ 23,200
Total Contractual Services	<u>\$ 119,846</u>	<u>\$ 80,300</u>
Other Services and Charges		
Black River Park	\$ 38,402	\$ 38,663
Marina	\$ 247,172	\$ 240,046
Beach Maintenance	\$ 77,293	\$ 77,770
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 65,244	\$ 68,190
Total Other Services and Charges	<u>\$ 428,111</u>	<u>\$ 424,669</u>
Capital Outlay		
Beach Maintenance	\$ 71,000	\$ -
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Total Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 76,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Depreciation		
Black River Park	\$ 49,176	\$ 49,000
Marina	\$ 97,259	\$ 97,259
Total Depreciation	<u>\$ 146,435</u>	<u>\$ 146,259</u>

Operating Transfers Out

Black River Park	\$ 4,215	\$ 4,171
Marina	\$ 14,146	\$ 15,977
Total Operating Transfers Out	\$ 18,361	\$ 20,148

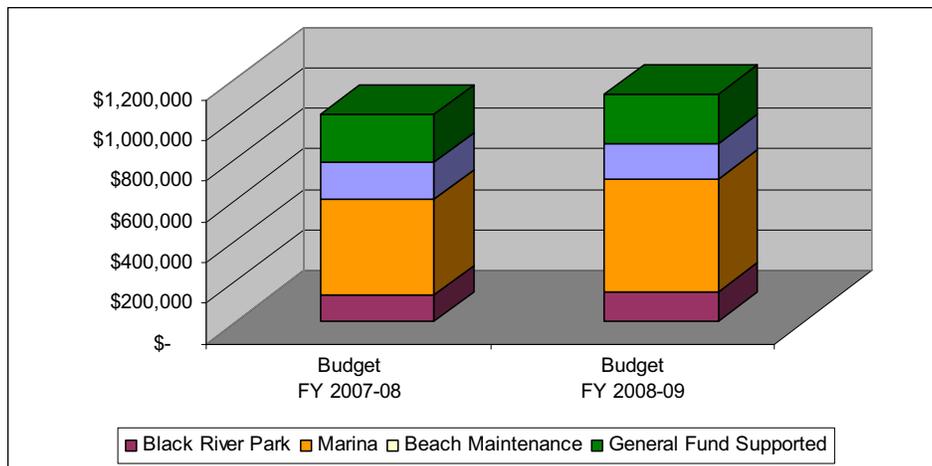
Summary by Activity

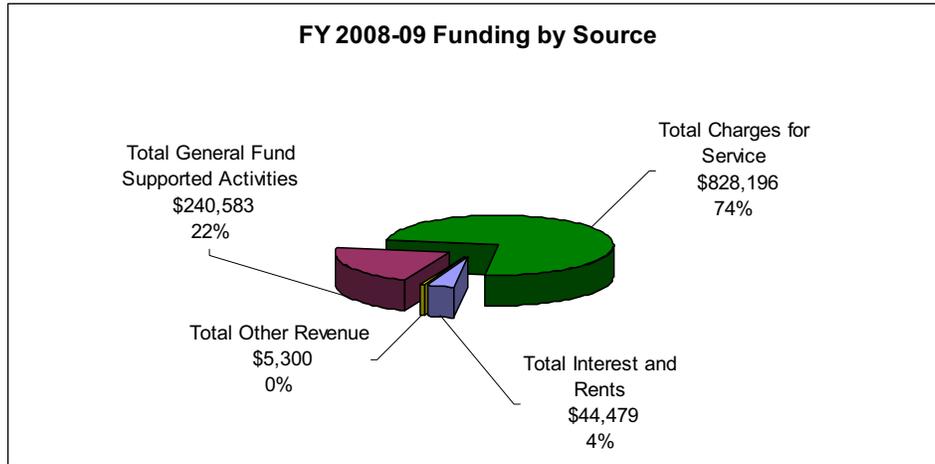
Black River Park	\$ 161,848	\$ 156,788
Marina	\$ 551,617	\$ 530,029
Beach Maintenance	\$ 242,658	\$ 148,642
General Fund Parks and Recreation	\$ 240,257	\$ 240,583
Total Budgeted Expenditures - Parks and Rec Activities	\$ 1,196,380	\$ 1,076,042



City of South Haven
Budgeted Funding Report for Recreational Activities

	Budget FY 2007-08	Budget FY 2008-09
Charges for Service		
Black River Park	\$ 128,000	\$ 140,125
Marina	\$ 443,640	\$ 532,580
Beach Maintenance	\$ 158,500	\$ 155,491
Total Charges for Service	<u>\$ 730,140</u>	<u>\$ 828,196</u>
Interest and Rents		
Black River Park	\$ 2,500	\$ 4,500
Marina	\$ 20,979	\$ 18,979
Beach Maintenance	\$ 23,000	\$ 21,000
Total Interest and Rents	<u>\$ 46,479</u>	<u>\$ 44,479</u>
Other Revenue		
Marina	\$ 6,900	\$ 5,300
Total Other Revenue	<u>\$ 6,900</u>	<u>\$ 5,300</u>
General Fund Supported		
Parks Activity	\$ 225,257	\$ 225,583
Youth and Company	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Total General Fund Supported Activities	<u>\$ 240,257</u>	<u>\$ 240,583</u>
Summary by Activity		
Black River Park	\$ 130,500	\$ 144,625
Marina	\$ 471,519	\$ 556,859
Beach Maintenance	\$ 181,500	\$ 176,491
General Fund Supported	\$ 240,257	\$ 240,583
Total Funding for Parks and Recreation Activities	<u><u>\$ 1,023,776</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,118,558</u></u>





B. South Haven Township

The South Haven Charter Township uses General Funds for operation/maintenance expenses for their parks.

Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments

Section 4

A. City of South Haven

The Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments section for the City of South Haven is included as an attachment to this plan.

B. South Haven Township

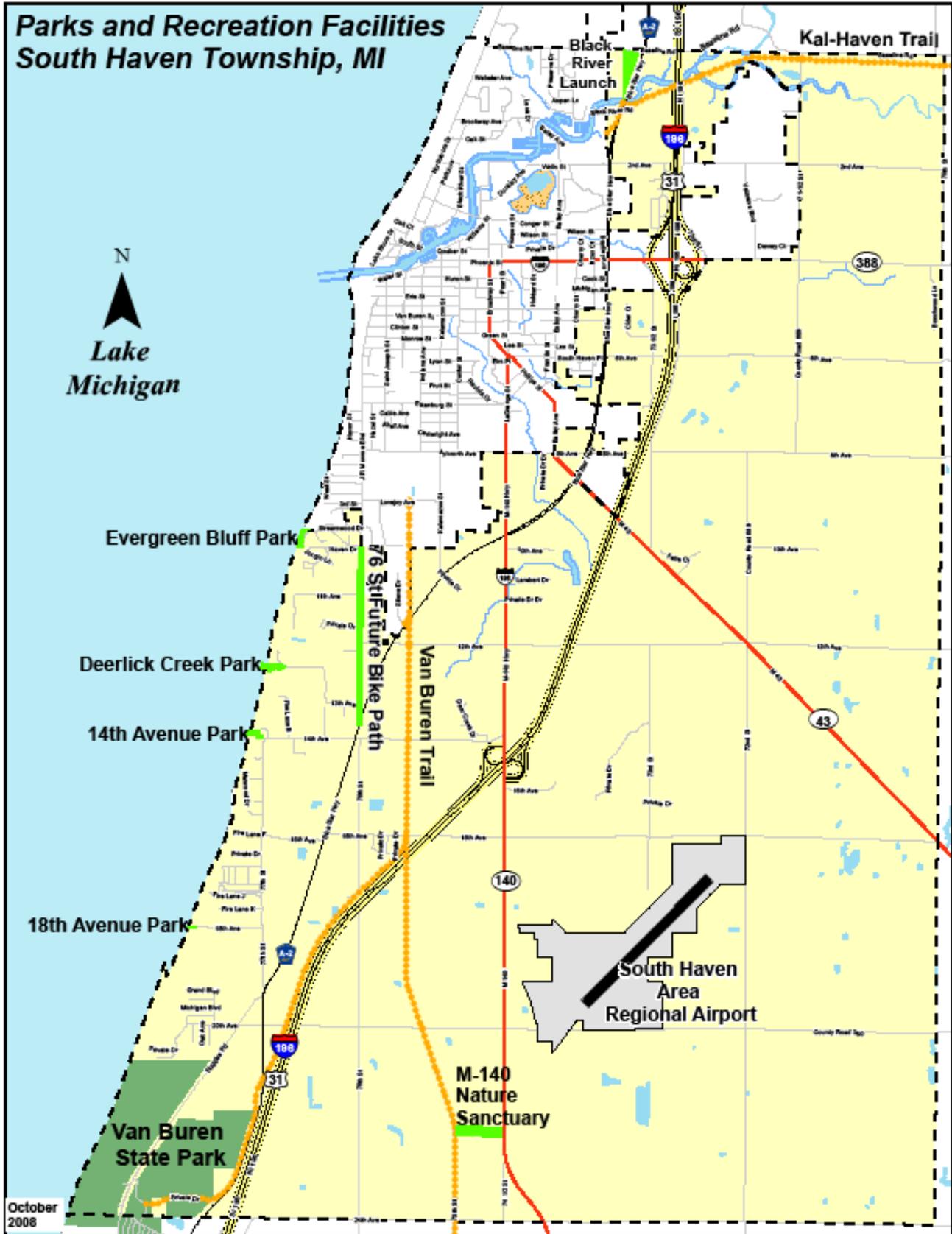
The Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments section for the South Haven Township is found on the following pages.

In this section you will find the South Haven Township's Recreation Inventory, along with the accessibility assessment, an aerial shot and pictures of each park. A map of the area with the locations of all the parks has also been inserted into this section.

The accessibility assessment was done on the rating scale listed below:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

Parks and Recreation Facilities South Haven Township, MI



14th Avenue Park

Location

At the end of 14th Avenue, where it intersects with 77th Street.

Size 1.5 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Signage with rules posted

General Information

No entrance fee

Free parking in dirt ground parking lot – space for approximately 20 cars

Overview

Located on the end of a residential street, this park has been a Township Park for a number of years. The parking lot is inviting with its mature deciduous trees that shade on a hot, sunny day. A primitive trail leads to the top of a sand dune that overlooks Lake Michigan. The path down the dune is steep – requiring a certain level of physical fitness and coordination for the descent and ascent of the dune. The pathway is worn, exposing the roots of trees that help stabilize the dune, with shifting sands along the trail as it is utilized. The beach is approximately 132 feet in width having huge cement blocks placed at the north and south boundaries with lettering depicting the boundaries. The beach is sandy and rocky. It is frequented by rock hounds, as it is known for its variety of rocks and endless supply of them. The area at the top of the dune is grassy with deciduous trees, allowing enough room for a picnic and beautiful views of the sunset. This site is rustic. 14th Avenue Park is within one mile of the Van Buren Trail and the bike path along Blue Star Highway.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1= none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Signage

14th Avenue Park Aerial





Entering park



Parking lot



Signage



Head of path



Path





Path down bluff





The beach



18th Avenue Access Site

Location

At the end of 18th Avenue

Size 0.3 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

None

General Information

No entrance fee

Free parking along the sides of the street

Overview

This street right-of-way gives views and access to Lake Michigan. The slope is steep and sandy. The beach is sandy. Currently there are to be no “No Trespassing” signs posted at this access site as ordered by the Van Buren County Road Commission. There is signage concerning where to park along 18th Avenue.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1= none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

18th Ave Aerial





18th Avenue entrance





The Beach



Black River Launch

Location

The corner of Baseline Road and Blue Star Memorial Highway

Size 6.0 acres

Park Type

Kayak/canoe launch

Park Amenities

None – this site is undeveloped

General Information

No entrance fee

Parking is non-existent, although cars have parked in the field off Blue Star Memorial Highway

Overview

Located off from Blue Star Memorial Highway, this site has been used for years as a kayak/canoe launch site to the Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail. This six acre site is rustic and overgrown with a worn, rutted dirt car path from Blue Star Memorial Highway to the riverbank. The view from the river's edge is peaceful. One can view the highway bridge from the river's edge. Directly across from the proposed launch site one can view the Kal-Haven Trail as it enters into the City of South Haven. The gentle slope offers easy access to the river. Many have expressed interest in seeing this site developed as a kayak/canoe launch site.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1= none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Reinforce/improve 'driveway'

Reinforce/improve 'launch-site'

Black River Launch Aerial





Launch entry





The launch



Deerlick Creek Park

Location

At the end of 13th Avenue

Size 2.1 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacle (1) - Good Condition

General Information

No entrance fee

Free parking on street

Overview

Located on the end of a residential street, this park has been used for generations as a public beach. In 2007, after four years of input/help from the community, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, and various State agencies/officials, the Township was able to secure the needed funds, via grants and grassroots fundraisers, to ensure that this property would remain a public beach for all future generations. Funding to purchase Deerlick will be from the following sources: \$273,000 from South Haven Township (bank loan), \$18,000 (approximately) from the Friends of Deerlick, \$1 million DNR grant, \$111,000 Fisheries Grant. All of these funds are for land acquisition. A one lane bridge going over Deerlick Creek is at the entryway to the Park. Deerlick Creek Park has 172 feet of Lake Michigan frontage. Deerlick Creek, a designated trout and smelt dipping stream, runs from the north along the east edge of the property under the road right-of-way and along the south edge of the site approximately 700 feet until it empties into Lake Michigan. On the north edge of the property is a rock jetty. About 0.82 acres of wetland are on the site along with a large stand of deciduous trees and a sandy/rocky beach. Deerlick Creek Park is noted to be one of nine sites along the shores of Lake Michigan, for its variety and unique rocks. It is famous for its lightning stones (septarians). Off shore of Deerlick Creek Park is the Southwest Michigan Underwater Preserve (a portion of it), designated by the State of Michigan in 1993 with a shipwreck from 1887 (City of Green Bay) less than 50 feet off shore. Deerlick Creek Park is within one mile of the Van Buren Trail and the bike path along Blue Star Highway. At this time, Deerlick Creek Park is rustic. It offers beautiful views of the Lake from the parking area. The gentle slope allows for those with physical challenges or small children to access the beach and Lake.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2= some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Extra garbage can

Vault toilet (handicap accessible)

Signage with park name and park rules

Signage for educational/environmental purposes

Doggie feces bag receptacle

Handicap ramp to the Lake/along the creek/ramp for fishing

Park fence with electric closer/opener at park entrance

Redo parking lot with lines for parking and handicap spaces

Redo guardrail with benches along both sides

Deerlick Creek Park





Entrance





View of creek from bridge



Path to beach



Beach



Beach and jetty

Evergreen Bluff Park

Location

At the end of Evergreen Bluff Drive

Size 1.3 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan beach

Park Amenities

Community donated bench (1)

General Information

No entrance fees

Free parking on street

Overview

Evergreen Bluff is located at the end of Evergreen Bluff Drive. It consists of six connected home sites located in the Evergreen Bluff neighborhood. The park is located on a critical dune. Due to its fragile nature, its use as an access site to Lake Michigan is discouraged. The bluff has historically lost approximately seven feet per year to the Lake. The bluff has vegetation that has been cut back (not by the Township), presumably, to offer an unobstructed view of the lake. Wooden pallets are arranged (not by the Township) over natural springs emerging from the bluff to assist one along a pathway to the lake. The beach has cement blocks and large boulders that add to its rustic ambiance. The view of Lake Michigan from the top of the bluff is breath-taking as one can see the lighthouse and views north and south along the coastline. No parking signs are posted on the west side of the street. Removal/cutting of vegetation has been discouraged.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1= none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Install 'Blue Stairs'

Configure/develop parking spaces

Install a bicycle ramp

Evergreen Bluff Park











M-140 Nature Sanctuary and Van Buren Trail Parking

Location

22036 M-140 and adjoining property 22100 M-140.

Size 8.0 acres

Park Type

Parking for Van Buren Trail and nature sanctuary

Park Amenities

None

General Information

No entrance fee

Free parking in driveway

Overview

This is an eight acre site that is located on M-140. The front part of the property is mainly grass and the remainder of the property is thick, wooded and marshy. The Township acquired this property in September of 2008 so no improvements or changes have been made at this time. The west perimeter of this property borders the Van Buren Trail. The rich, untouched state of this property could lend itself to an educational/environmental outdoor classroom – with signage and nature paths.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1= none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Install a parking area

Install signage -- rules and educational

Install a path to the Van Buren Trail

M-140 Nature Sanctuary and Van Buren Trail Parking







Monroe Blvd/76th Street bike path (Proposed)

Location

A bike path in the Township along the road –Monroe Blvd/76th St.

Size Not determined at this time – to extend from the City/Township boundary to Blue Star Memorial Highway

Park Type

Bike path along a road

Park Amenities

None

General Information

Not in existence at this time – wanting to align with the City of South Haven's bike path

Overview

South Haven and the Township are popular tourist destinations. Monroe Blvd/76th Street has numerous neighborhoods/condos. Many residents as well as tourists utilize Monroe Blvd/76th Street to access different destinations around the area. Currently Monroe Blvd/76th Street is a two way street having parking on one side, as well as sidewalks intermittently spaced within the City limits. The south side of the City limits, and the Township portion, (on Monroe Blvd/76th Street) offer no sidewalks and the road narrows with deep drainage ditches that prohibit safe parking/walking/biking. This does not deter people from parking, walking, or biking on this stretch of Monroe Blvd/76th Street while dodging vehicular traffic. Widening the road with a bike path would allow for pedestrian and bicycle transportation. This road is within a block of the Van Buren Trail and ends at the Blue Star Memorial Highway bike path. Widening the road for a bike/pedestrian pathway would also be in-line with the Michigan Department of Transportation initiative 'Safe Routes to School'.

ADA Accessibility Rating

Non-existent at this time

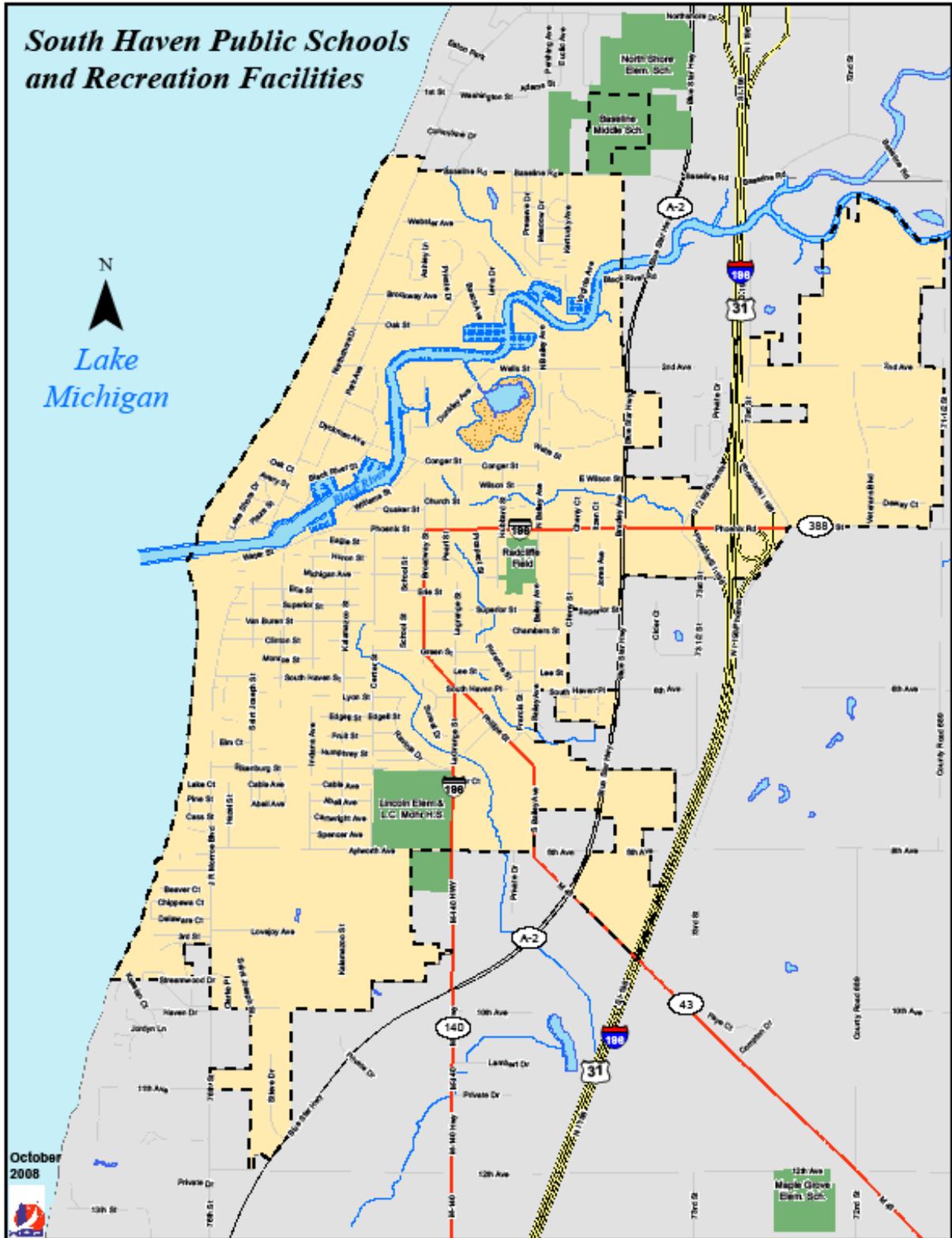
Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

The South Haven Charter Township Board should investigate joint funding of this project with the City of South Haven.

Monroe Blvd/76th Street



C. South Haven Public Schools



The Athletic fields located at LC Mohr High School are located at the south central section of the City. The area provides the primary athletic recreation area for the City and surrounding townships. The approximate 20 acres of land provide four baseball diamonds and associated bleachers, dugouts, bathrooms and concession stand. The remaining areas provide for a football practice field, five tennis courts and soccer fields. The entire area is heavily used for high school athletics and band practices, youth football practices, youth and community soccer practices and games and youth and community softball and baseball games. The high usage allows little time for the maintenance and recovery of the facilities and fields. The tennis courts are insufficient for a quality high school tennis program and have an inappropriate contour for proper court surfacing.

South Haven High School

The high school houses the City's swimming pool facilities. It is one of the community's favorite facilities, beginning at 11:00 AM and ending at 9:00 PM daily. The gym, when not used by the school, is utilized by the community.

Baseline Middle School

The middle school provides additional recreation facilities for the community with its four tennis courts, outdoor basketball courts, a softball diamond, and soccer field. The school also houses a full-length basketball court and adjacent locker rooms. The lack of additional facilities to support the school facilities places a tremendous demand on the existing courts and fields. Use of these facilities by external groups is by fee, which now means not open to the community.

Ratcliffe Field

The public school's football stadium, an area of six acres of land located in the southeast section of town is used for competitive high school football, soccer, and Rocket football. A track is included here, along with a field house, bleachers, press box, concession stand and restrooms.

Nature Center

The South Haven Public Schools recently received a donation of twenty acres of land off 16th Avenue. Referred to as the McClendon Property, it has the potential to be developed into a school and community nature center. Although the potential has been discussed and some student groups have done some classroom work in this area, no specific program has been established.

Elementary Schools

There are three elementary schools in South Haven. All have playground facilities that may be used by the public. All three elementary schools have gyms that may be scheduled by the community at the end of the school day. The three elementary schools are either new or substantially remodeled. These buildings provide real potential for the South Haven area as all three gyms are spacious.

Listiak Auditorium

This facility seats approximately 575 people for various community performances. Our Town Players, a local theater group uses this facility throughout the year. The new auditorium was opened in September of 2006. It is an up-to-date facility that can accommodate plays and concerts.

Baseline Middle School

Located on 20 acres of property in the north end of the City, it offers a combination football/soccer field, one small softball diamond, two outdoor basketball courts, and four tennis courts. The school building provides a full size gym with seating for 800 people. The cafeteria offers a small stage and an excellent location for community meetings.

South Haven has historically relied on the South Haven Public Schools to provide for athletic recreational space and facilities. While this approach was sufficient in the past, the community's utilization of these facilities far exceeds their ability to support programs and allow for even minimal maintenance. Additionally, the use of school facilities requires the operation and maintenance to be supported from the limited operating budget of the school system with some revenues obtained on a fee basis.

South Haven has additional needs for athletic recreation that are not typically provided by school systems. These include winter activities such as skating, indoor soccer and tennis, cross country skiing, and multi-season activities such as jogging, walking, rollerblading, biking and weight training.

1. Soccer - South Haven Schools provide the only facilities in this area for soccer programs. At separate locations, there is one fully developed soccer field and one fully developed combination soccer and football field. These fields are used for High School Varsity and Junior Varsity practice in the fall for men and in the spring for women. The Schools utilize the football stadium for regulation High School Varsity and Junior Varsity soccer games. The facility is not available for community soccer programs during the Fall and Spring soccer seasons. The school allows local soccer programs to use an undeveloped area adjacent to the high school for

additional field space. This area is equivalent to two full-size and two half-size fields. The area is poorly drained, not irrigated, and has no service facilities such as bathrooms or concessions. Parking is limited and traffic flow is uncontrolled. Youth soccer is provided by two distinct organizations to the City of South Haven, adjacent townships and other nearby communities such as Bangor and Coloma. The AYSO program provides open soccer for multiple age groups with a current enrollment of about 300 youth participants. The MYSA program provides a more dedicated and limited selection program with a current enrollment of 60 youth participants. Both provide fall and spring programs. The community does not provide organized adult soccer programs. There is a very active use of the facilities by the area Hispanic community on most evenings starting in the early spring and continuing through the fall. This usage is difficult to document, but is typically from 20 to 40 players, with families and other spectators and is found to be very active on all days of the week. One local adult Hispanic team is sponsored privately and competes in the Battle Creek area and regionally in interstate competition. South Haven has no facilities for indoor soccer. The nearest facilities are in Holland and in Kalamazoo. South Haven does participate in these winter leagues at both the youth and adult level.

2. Baseball/Softball – South Haven Schools provides the majority of facilities for baseball and softball. There are four developed fields at the High School to support the Varsity and Junior Varsity baseball and softball seasons. The facility is used for community programs in the spring and early summer months. Other fields are located at city facilities and at other school locations, but have very limited applications due to size or adjacent park facilities. The High School facility does provide for concessions and restrooms. However, these facilities are not adequate to support the number of persons that are at the site during the normal season. The structure is dated and the upper announcing/scorekeeping area is not accessible for physically challenged individuals. Youth baseball and softball is provided primarily from the local South Haven Junior Youth League organization and by the American Legion baseball program.

These organizations support almost 600 youth during the spring season. Generally, all available fields are utilized to implement scheduled games with no available sites for practice. Junior leagues play on the adjacent football/soccer practice field space. Adult organizations are not strongly active in softball or baseball. Generally, some churches do provide opportunities. Most adults play in other communities due to the lack of open facilities or supporting organizations

3. Football – South Haven Schools provide the only facilities for football programs. The practice fields are utilized concurrently for Varsity and Junior Varsity football and soccer practice as well as High School

Marching Band practice. The Rocket Football program provides community youth football for the South Haven area. Current enrollment in this program is at 100 players and cheerleaders. Games may be played at the High School Stadium or at the combination football/soccer field at the Middle School. The Middle School facility does not provide concessions or restroom facilities. Practices occur at the High School facilities in an area that is concurrently used by youth soccer, High School football programs, and the High School marching band.

4. Tennis – South Haven Schools provides the only available tennis facilities in the community. There are five courts at the High School and four courts at Baseline Middle School. The High School facility is normally locked and not available for open community access. The facility is used for a summer instructional program provided by the High School tennis coach. The court was inappropriately designed for dual use as a winter time skating rink resulting in a difficult surface to maintain for tennis. The Middle School facility does not provide services such as restrooms, water or lights. It is open for recreational use during after-school periods. South Haven does not currently provide an adult recreational tennis program.
5. Basketball/Volleyball – South Haven Schools provides the facilities for indoor basketball and indoor volleyball for community recreation. The facilities are available on a fee basis. Beach volleyball is available in the waterfront parks and is very popular with summer visitors. Outdoor basketball courts are provided at a variety of locations on school and City property.
6. Swimming – South Haven Schools provides the only swimming facility in the South Haven area. The facility is open on a fee basis for community programs. The School provides all maintenance and supporting facilities.
7. Youth services and Winter Sports – One present need in South Haven is summertime and after-school drop-in-programs for school age youth. Youth & Company runs a successful summer afternoon program at Kids Corner Park. Yet there is still a lack of recreational opportunities for youth when school is not in session. This is especially true for lower-income families. Although soccer, baseball, softball and rocket football provide athletic opportunities for youth during warm weather times, there is a lack of activities available during the winter months. Rams Athletic Club operates a competitive swimming program, and the school introduced a youth basketball league in 2006, but most area youth are not involved in athletic activities in wintertime beyond physical education class. One solution for both of these issues is the creation of a Boys & Girls Club or similar program. Boys & Girls Clubs of America is one of the largest youth service agencies in the country and can help a local group organize, but funding for a program would have to come from local fundraising. Creating

a Boys & Girls Club facility would not only increase wintertime recreation for youth, but also relieve some of the burden felt by the South Haven Public Schools facilities. A local group developing a facility on a similar model could achieve the same results. Perhaps Youth & Company, South Haven Public Schools, or some other existing or new entity could develop a plan for filling these voids.

8. Storage – There is inadequate storage for athletic equipment. Because of the increase in activity at all sports levels, both youth groups and the school district have trouble storing equipment adequately. Therefore, equipment, supplies and materials often end their useful life earlier than expected.
9. Walking, jogging, and exercising – Other than the Kal-Haven Trail there is not really a place for people to exercise without being subjected to other activities. The development of a park, nature center or other facility that would allow older persons to be able to exercise out of doors in an environment that would promote these activities would help promote the community of South Haven.

DNR Grant Inventory

Section 5

DNR Recreation Grant Inventory

A. City of South Haven

The City of South Haven has previously received several DNR recreational grants for park development, listed in Table 5-1, below. These grants came from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (26), Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF), and the 1988 Recreation Bond Fund (BF). In Table 5-2 is a list of the Waterway Grants the City has received.

Table 5-1

Grant	Park Name	Type	Status	Scope
26-00420	Black River Park	Development	Closed	Boat launch area, picnic Area, Playground equipment, Lighting, Site Improvements
BF93-158	South Beach/Riverfront Park	Development	Closed	Picnic Shelter, Lighting, Landscaping, Restroom Facilities
TF887	South Shore Recreational Area	Acquisition	Closed	
TF95-093	Dyckman & Packard Park	Development	Closed	Asphalt Parking Lot, Handicap Ramp constructed, Recreation Deck, Landscaping

Table 5-2

Park Name	Type	Purpose	Date
North Side Municipal Marina	Eng. Agreement	eng. Survey	5/7/1962
North Side Municipal Marina	Eng. Agreement	eng. Survey	5/13/1968
North Side Municipal Marina	Agreement	p.l. & m.f., Trans. Sha-Dra	4/8/1969
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	con. & improv fac. (4/8/69)	5/6/1970

North Side Municipal Marina	Eng. Agreement	eng. Survey	10/5/1970
North Side Municipal Marina	(eng.) agreement	launching & parking fac.	10/19/1970
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	con. & improv fac. (4/8/69)	6/5/1972
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	con. & improv fac. (4/8/69)	11/20/1972
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	con. & improv fac. (4/8/69)	8/5/1974
North Side Municipal Marina	(eng.) agreement	eng. Survey	10/7/1974
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	road improvement (4/8/69)	11/4/1975
North Side Municipal Marina	Supp. Agreement	con. & improv fac. (4/8/69)	2/6/1978
North Side Municipal Marina	(eng.) agreement	upgrade facilities	9/16/1997
North Side Municipal Marina	Agreement	Emergency - Dredging	9/13/1999
North Side Municipal Marina	Agreement	construction/boat launch	10/4/1999
North Side Municipal Marina	Agreement	upgrade facilities	10/6/2003
North Side Municipal Marina	Engineering Study	New clubhouse facility	5/2008
Black River Park	Agreement	launching facilities	9/5/1972
Black River Park	Supplemental Agreement	road surfacing	12/16/1974
Black River Park	Supplemental Agreement	road surfacing	11/18/1975
Black River Park	Agreement	repairs/upgrading	3/7/1983
Black River Park	Engineering Study	repair of failed seawalls	6/17/1998
Black River Park	Engineering Study	repair of failed seawalls	10/4/1999

B. South Haven Township

Below is a listing of the grants received by the township. Table 5-3 is a list of the grants the Township has received.

Table 5-3

Grant	Park Name	Type	Status	Scope
06-210	Deerlick	Acquisition	closed	To acquire the land

Public Input and Planning Process

Section 6

Public Input and Planning Process

A. City of South Haven

The draft Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Leisure Services Department staff. Complete inventories of the recreational facilities were completed prior to the development of the plan. The draft was first presented to City Council for authorization to distribute. After completion of an initial review and discussion with City Council, any requested changes were made, and the plan was presented to the Parks Commission and made available for public review (**Appendix A** – Copy of the Notice of Availability for Public Review and Comment).

Publicly announced open meetings were held with the Parks Commission for public input. The public notice was published on the city website and in the South Haven Tribune. (**Appendix B** – Copy of the Notice for Public Meeting Held) Based on comments, the draft plan may be revised. Parks Commission will then make a recommendation to City Council regarding approval of the plan.

Additionally the plan was presented to the Harbor Commission, the Planning Commission, and the SHARP Committee for comments. The draft was sent to South Haven Township and South Haven Public Schools for completion of their part of the plan.

City Council then reviewed the plan and made certain revisions prior to adoption. Upon City Council approval, the plan would be presented to the Master Plan Review Committee for inclusion in the Master Plan. A letter will also be mailed to the Van Buren County Planning Department (**See Appendix G**) and the Southwestern Michigan Commission (**See Appendix H**)

The process of public hearing, review and approval proceeded as follows

1. City Council review, authorization to distribute: 09/02/08
2. Parks Commission review of Recreation Plan: 09/09/08
3. Harbor Commission review for comments: 09/16/08
4. SHARP review: 09/22/08
5. Planning Commission review for comments: 10/02/08
6. Parks Commission public hearing and review 10/14/08 (See minutes in **Appendix C**)
7. Parks Commission approval of Recreation Plan, recommendation to City Council: (12/09/08) (See minutes/motions in **Appendix D**)
8. South Haven City Council final review and adoption of the plan: (02/16/08) (See Minutes in **Appendix E**) (See resolution in **Appendix F**)

B. South Haven Township

The draft Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Leisure Services Department staff and was distributed to the Township. City staff worked closely with the Township to edit/reformat the townships section of the plan.

The plan was presented to the Township Parks Commission and Planning commission for review of the plan. The plan is then presented to the Township Board to begin the public hearing process. After the public hearing, the Township Board will approve the plan

The process of public hearing, review and approval proceeded as follows:

1. Parks Commission to review
2. Planning Commission review for comments
3. Township review, authorization for public hearing
4. Public Hearing at Township Board meeting (12/10/2008) (See minutes in **Appendix I**)
5. Township Board final review and adoption of the plan (12/10/2008) (See resolution in **Appendix J**)

C. South Haven Public Schools

The draft Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the Leisure Services Department staff and was distributed to the School. City staff worked with the school to edit/reformat the schools section of the plan.

The public hearing was held in conjunction with the City's public hearing. The plan was then approved by the school board.

The process of public hearing, review and approval proceeded as follows

1. Public Hearing 10/14/08 (see **Appendix C**)
2. South Haven Public Schools final review and adoption of the plan: (11/19/2008) (See minutes in **Appendix K**)

Action Program and Capital Improvement Schedule

Section 7

Action Program and Capital Improvement Schedule

A. City of South Haven

This action program section identifies needs and wants of the facilities that relate to the overall delivery of the park and recreation services. The major objective of the five-year capital improvement plan is to maintain existing facilities in a way that they meet the needs and expectations of the residents, while still providing a great recreational use for visitors. The improvement of all park land to accommodate a variety of uses that serve all age groups and levels of ability is extremely critical. Emphasis will be placed on upgrading all existing parks to current ADA and Play Equipment Safety Standards.

Below is the list of possible capital improvements and projects that city staff and the Parks Commission have identified. The conclusions for this list of projects came from staff and the commissions identifying what was needed to best meet the needs of the community. Input was taken from other commissions and a public hearing. Their rationale for the project and action to be taken is also listed.

Dyckman Park

- Update restrooms (need more)

Rationale: Not enough restrooms compared to the amount of users.

Action: Have a blueprint created and then budget for this project with City funds, ie: possible addition into skate rink office.

Elkenburg Park

- Develop Master Plan

Rationale: A master plan will help get the community involved in making a plan which will assist the City in developing the park.

Action: Budget for this project and hire a Landscape Architect to develop plan.

- Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Rationale: The play structures don't meet the National Playground Safety Institute Standards and need to be replaced to meet those standards.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations, and budget City funds.

- Have sidewalks installed at park (in accordance with the City's Pedestrian Plan)

Rationale: Sidewalks improve accessibility and keep people from walking in the street.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with City funds.

Kids Corner

- Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Rationale: The play structures don't meet the National Playground Safety Institute Standards and need to be replaced to meet those standards.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget city funds.

- Have sidewalks installed at park engineered so trees will not be lost (in accordance with the City's Pedestrian Plan)

Rationale: Sidewalks improve accessibility and keep people from walking in the street.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with city funds and research grants

Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum

- Replace existing roof on the museum building

Rationale: The roof is in a state of disrepair and needs to be replaced before it starts leaking and doing additional damage to the inside as well as the outside structure of the museum

Action: In the spring when weather permits, bids will accepted and the actual work can be performed. This repair has already been included in the budget

- Construct a new barn on the museum grounds

Rationale: An additional barn is necessary to provide additional space to display exhibits that no longer fit in the museum. A new barn would also be used to house master gardener classes. It would also house antiques donated to the museum.

Action: When ready to construct the barn, accept bids, present the plans to the Parks commission, Planning Commission and then City Council. Grants will be looked into for supplemental funding for this project.

- Build a greenhouse on the museum grounds

Rationale: Having a green house on campus would provide an opportunity for the master gardeners to grow their own flowers to be used in the wildflower trail on site. Also will provide hands on experience with cultivating plants and living the horticulture experience that Dr. Bailey was famous for.

Actions: When ready to construct the greenhouse, accept bids, present the plans to the Parks commission, Planning Commission and then City Council. Seek funding through grants.

Optimist Tot Lot

- Replace bathroom facility with facility that meets ADA standards

Rationale: The current facility is very small and is not ADA accessible.

Action: Have a blueprint created and research grants, seek private donations and budget with city funds.

- Replace slide to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Rationale: The slide doesn't meet the National Playground Safety Institute Standards and needs to be replaced to meet those standards.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with city funds.

SHARP Park

- To encourage the SHARP Committee in their efforts to fund and develop athletic fields to serve the South Haven area.

Rationale: SHARP Park will provide regional athletic recreation opportunities.

Action: To continue to assist SHARP with administrative support and encourage the SHARP Committee to plan and fund athletic fields to serve the South Haven area.

Stanley Johnston

- Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Rationale: The play structures don't meet the National Playground Safety Institute Standards and need to be replaced to meet those standards.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Update current infrastructure

Rationale: Infrastructure needs to be updated.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Increase bathroom facilities

Rationale: Not enough restrooms compared to the amount of users.

Action: Have a blueprint created, then budget for this project with City funds and look at donations from the Special Event sponsors that use this park for their event.

Newcome Beach Access

- Have public walkway placed from road to stairs

Rationale: To make an easily identified access from the road to the stairs.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with city funds.

North Beach

- Replace concession stand/restrooms

Rationale: Existing facility is not in good condition.

Action: Have a blueprint created, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Repave parking lot/Lakeshore Dr.

Rationale: Road is in poor shape.

Action: Coordinate with street plan, and when ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with City funds.

- Add a climbing structure

Rationale: North Beach does not have an adequate amount of climbing structures for children.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Replace existing handicap accessible walkway

Rationale: The City's current handicap accessible walkways are in poor condition.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

Packard Park Beach

- Reconstruct retaining wall and steps that lead to restroom
 - Make steps into an ADA ramp.
 - Reconstruct/widen sidewalk from this new ramp to restroom
 - Extend this sidewalk to the North side of the park/parking lot

Rationale: Currently there is not ADA accessibility from parking lot to restroom facility.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Add handicap accessible walkway to beach

Rationale: This will provide easier access to the beach/water

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Parking lot reconstruction

Rationale: Parking lot is in poor shape.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with City funds.

South Beach

- Make Improvements to park in accordance to South Beach Master Plan

Rationale: A Master Plan has been created for South Beach and now move to implementation of these improvements.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

- Replace existing handicap accessible walkway

Rationale: The City's current handicap accessible walkways are in poor condition.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

Harborwalk

- Trail improvements
 - Area from North Shore Drive to South Street
 - Area crossing Dyckman Bridge
 - Enhance trail markers (i.e. signs, sidewalk markers)

Rationale: These improvements would make the trail more user-friendly.

Action: When ready to move forward with this project, research grants, seek private donations and budget with City funds.

Black River Park Marina

- Develop a Master Plan, including linear park

Rationale: A Master Plan will help get the community involved in making a plan which will assist the city in developing the park.

Action: Budget for this project and hire a Landscape Architect to develop plan.

- Replace fish cleaning station with a larger capacity pump in order to accommodate all fish

Rationale: Current fish cleaning station does not accommodate large fish.

Action: Install larger capacity fish cleaning station, when ready to move forward with this project, proceed to budgeting with marina funds.

- In 2006, City Council voted to add a linear park along the edge of the Black River, east of the existing park. This linear park will eventually connect the Kal-Haven Trail to the downtown area, providing visitors a trail along the Black River.

Rationale: This linear park will eventually connect the Kal-Haven Trail to the downtown area, providing visitors a trail along the Black River.

Action: Obtain a legal description of the land and ask City Council for approval to Incorporate into City's park system.

Northside Municipal Marina

- Efforts to complete final phase of a 3-phase Capital Improvement Project have already begun and include building a public facility to include a club house with a common meeting area (a place for boaters to escape inclement weather), ADA showers and restrooms, laundry facilities and a newly equipped office, in addition to public restrooms to serve the users of the Harborwalk.

Rationale: Current facility is in poor condition.

Action: Continue efforts to complete Phase 3.

Miscellaneous Areas

Pedestrian, Bike and Paddle Plan

- The focus of this plan is to enhance the overall pedestrian, bicycling and paddling experience and to encourage healthy lifestyles benefiting from non-motorized transportation.
- The goal is to make the City of South Haven a location where it is possible for people to go through daily routines of work, shopping and recreation without being required to use a motor vehicle.
- The purpose of the paddle plan is to explore ways of making the Black River accessible and convenient for dinghies and paddlecraft.

Rationale: To enhance the pedestrian, bicycling and paddling experience around the City.

Action: Obtain approval and implement plan.

Skate Park

- Need permanent location for park
- Update park

Rationale: To find a permanent location for park.

Action: Continue search for best location.

Extension of bike path from Baseline to Kal-Haven trail

Rationale: To provide an easy and safe access to the Kal-Haven Trail.

Action: Develop a plan with Kal-Haven Trail Association, obtain approval and implement.

Kal-Haven extension to Downtown

Rationale: To provide an easy and safe access from the Kal-Haven Trail to the downtown.

Action: Develop a plan with Kal-Haven Trail Association, obtain approval and implement.

Watering system for city trees

Rationale: To protect the city's investment into planting trees, during times of minimal or no rainfall, we need a system to keep all trees watered, particularly the newly planted.

Action: To develop plan, obtain approval and implement.

Trail Signage

Rationale: Clarify trail locations.

Action: Work with trail organizations and Implement.

Following is the capital improvement schedule:

**City of South Haven
Capital Improvement Schedule**

Name of Park: *Dyckman Park*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Update restrooms (need more)	2012	\$100,000	General Fund, DDA	High

Name of Park: *Elkenburg Park*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Develop master plan	2009	\$15,000	General Fund	High
Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards	2010-2011	\$30,000-\$50,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Have sidewalks installed at park (in accordance with the Pedestrian Plan)	2009+	-----	General Fund, Public Works Dept	Medium

Name of Park: *Kids Corner*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards	2010-2011	\$7000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	Medium
Have sidewalks installed at park engineered so trees will not be lost (in accordance with the Pedestrian Plan)	2009+	-----	General Fund, Public Works Dept	High

Name of Park: *Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Replace existing roof on the museum building	2009	\$15,000	City fund balance	High
Construct a new barn on the museum grounds	2010	\$200,000	Grants, local fundraising,	Medium
Build a greenhouse on the museum grounds				

Name of Park: *Optimist Tot Lot*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
New Bathrooms (ADA)	2012	\$100,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Replace slide to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards	2011	\$4000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	Low

Name of Park: *SHARP Park*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
1. Land acquisition	2009	\$430,000	Donations, Grants	High
2. Phase 1	2010	\$600,000	Donations, Grants	Medium
3. Phase 2	2011	\$600,000	Donations, Grants	Low

Name of Park: *Stanley Johnston*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards	2010	\$3000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	Medium
Update current infrastructure	2012	\$50,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Increase bathroom facilities	2012	\$150,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High

Name of Park: *Newcome Beach*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Public Walkway	2012	\$15,000	General Fund	Low

Name of Park: *North Beach*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Replace Concession stand/Restrooms	2012	\$750,000	Grants, Private Donations. Beach Parking	High
Add a climbing structure	2011	\$25,000	Grants, Private Donations. Beach Parking	Medium
Repave Parking Lot/Lakeshore Drive, in conjunction with city street plan	2011	\$100,000	Beach Parking, General Fund, Public Works Dept	High
Replace existing handicap accessible walkway	2010	\$30,000	Grants, Private Donations. Beach Parking	High

Name of Park: *Packard Park*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Add handicap accessible walkway to beach	2010	\$30,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Redo retaining wall and steps that lead to restroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make steps in to an ADA ramp. • Redo /widen sidewalk from this new ramp to restroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extend this sidewalk to the North side of the park/parking lot 	2010	\$60,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Parking lot redone	2012	\$70,000	General Fund, Public Works Dept	High

Name of Park: *South Beach*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Make Improvements to park in accordance to South Beach Master Plan	2009+	-----	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Replace existing handicap accessible walkway	2010	\$30,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High

Name of Park: *HarborWalk*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Trail improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area from North Shore Drive to South Street • Area crossing Dyckman Bridge • Enhance trail markers (i.e. signs, sidewalk markers) 	2009+	-----	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High

Name of Park: *Black River Park*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Develop a master plan	2009	-----	General Fund, Marina Fund	High
Begin Improvements of Master Plan	2009+	-----	General Fund, Marina Fund	High
Linear Park - linear park along the river's edge, east of the existing park	2009	-----	-----	High
Replace Fish Cleaning Station	2011	\$10,000	Marina Fund	High

Name of Park: *North Marina*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Build new club house	2010	1.5 million	Marina Fund, MDNR Waterways Grant	High

Name of Park: *Miscellaneous Areas*

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Possible Funding Source	Priority
Extension of bike path from baseline to Kal-Haven trail	2010+	1.7 million	Grants, DDA, Private Donations. General Fund	Low
Kal-Haven extension to Downtown				Low
Skate Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find a permanent location for park • Update park 	2010	\$30,000	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	High
Pedestrian, Bike and Paddle Plan	2009+	-----	Grants, Private Donations. General Fund	Medium
City watering system for city trees	2010+	-----	General Fund	High
Trail Signage	2009	-----	General Fund	High

B. South Haven Township

Below is a list of possible improvements that the Township has identified. There rationale of the project and action to be taken is also listed.

14th Avenue Park

- Signage

Rationale: To inform the public of park ownership, name, hours and rules.

Action: Present signage is sufficient at this time.

Black River Launch

- Reinforce/improve 'driveway'

Rationale: To have a common driveway for entry and parking that is safe and easy to access.

Action: To have the driveway/parking area done professionally when monies are available.

- Reinforce/improve 'launch-site'

Rationale: To have an easy access site for kayaks/canoes to the Black River Heritage Water Trail.

Action: To partner with the Bangor/South Haven Heritage Water Trail Association members and have the launch site done professionally when monies are available.

Deerlick Creek Park

- Garbage can

Rationale: To have an easy access method that the public can use to keep the park clean.

Action: To continue to have a weekly garbage pick-up.

- Vault toilet (handicap accessible)

Rationale: To have an easy access facility to utilize when enjoying the park.

Action: To research and have the facility done professionally within ADA guidelines when monies are available..

- \$273,000 from the Township (loan from bank), \$18,000 (approx., from the Friends of Deerlick) \$1 million DNR grant, \$111,000 Fisheries grant – all for land acquisition

Rationale: The monies are to acquire the land for a public park on Lake Michigan and Deerlick Creek Park.

Action: To continue to do fundraisers with the Friends of Deerlick, etc and the Township to make monthly payments to the bank until the loan is paid in full.

- Signage with park name and park rules

Rationale: To inform the public of park ownership, name, hours and rules.

Action: To gather public input and be guided by Township officials to agree on wording and placement of the sign. Erect when monies are available.

- Signage for educational/environmental purposes

Rationale: To educate and inform the public of the unique features, facts about Deerlick Creek Park.

Action: To research and work with the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission to agree on wording/placement of signs. Erect when monies are available.

- Doggie feces bag receptacle

Rationale: To have easy and accessible tools for public to use with their canine friends and decrease E. coli levels on beach.

Action: To work with the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission to agree on product and placement when monies are available.

- Handicap ramp to the Lake/along the creek/ramp for fishing

Rationale: To provide easy access to the lake and fishing opportunities for those having physical challenges and getting in line with ADA guidelines.

Action: To work with the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission to have this professionally done within ADA guidelines when monies are available.

- Park fence with electric closer/opener at park entrance

Rationale: To reinforce the park hours.

Action: To have the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission agree on a product and have it professionally installed when monies are available.

- Redo parking lot with lines for parking and handicap spaces

Rationale: To update the parking areas and make it easy for the public to see where the parking is.

Action: To have the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission agree on the layout and have professionally installed when monies are available.

- Redo guardrail with benches along both sides

Rationale: To update the guardrails and create seating for the public to utilize when visiting the park.

Action: To have the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission agree on a plan and have it professional done when monies are available.

Evergreen Bluff Park

- Install 'Blue Stairs'

Rationale: Evergreen Bluff is fragile; to offset erosion a set of stairs could be installed.

Action: To have the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission agree on a product and have it professionally installed when monies are available.

- Configure/develop parking spaces

Rationale: To have easy and accessible parking for the public.

Action: To work with the South Haven Township Board, Parks Commission and Van Buren County Road Commission to configure parking when monies are available.

- Install a bicycle ramp

Rationale: To have an easy and accessible tool for the public to park their bikes when using the park.

Action: To have the South Haven Township Board and Parks Commission agree on a product and placement when monies are available.

M-140 Nature Sanctuary and Van Buren Trail Parking

- Install a parking area

Rationale: To have an easily accessible area to park cars for public use of the Sanctuary.

Action: To have parking lot professionally constructed when monies are available.

- Install signage -- rules and educational

Rationale: To inform public of park ownership, name, hours, and rules and educate/inform the public of the unique features/facts found at the Sanctuary.

Action: To research and agree on wording and placement when monies are available.

- Install a path to the Van Buren Trail

Rationale: To provide easy access to the Van Buren Trail that borders the west side of the Sanctuary.

Action: To research and agree on a path on the Sanctuary and have it professionally constructed when monies are available.

Following is the capital improvement schedule:

**South Haven Township
Capital Improvement Schedule**

Name of Park: 14th Avenue Park

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Priority
Signage	2008	\$0	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Done/Low

Name of Park: Black River Launch

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Priority
Reinforce/improve driveway	2011	\$6000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Medium
Reinforce/improve launch-site	2011	\$2500	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Medium

Name of Park: Evergreen Bluff Park

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Priority
Install 'Blue Stairs'	2012	\$35000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Configure/develop parking spaces	2012	\$5000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Install a bicycle ramp	2012	\$800	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low

Name of Park: Deerlick Creek Park

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Priority
Garbage can	2009	\$400	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Vault toilet (handicap accessible)	2009	\$1500	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Signage with park name and park rules	2009	\$500	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Medium
Signage for educational/ environmental purposes	2010	\$1200	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Doggie feces bag/receptacle	2009	\$350	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	High
Handicap ramp to the Lake/along the creek/ramp for fishing	2011	\$5000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Medium
Park fence with electric closer/opener at park entrance	2009	\$5000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	High
Reconstruct parking lot with lines for parking and handicap spaces	2009	\$60000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Renovate guardrail with benches along both sides	2009	\$2500	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Medium

Name of Park: M-140 Nature Sanctuary and Van Buren Trail Parking

Description of Project	Projected Construction Year	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Priority
Install a parking area	2012	\$10000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Install signage -- rules and educational	2012	\$1200	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low
Install a path to the Van Buren Trail	2012	\$6000	Grants/ Fundraisers/ Donations	Low

Appendix

Appendix A	Copy of the Notice of Availability for Public Review and Comment
Appendix B	Copy of the Notice for Public Meeting Held
Appendix C	Parks Commission Minutes - Public Hearing and Review
Appendix D	Parks Commission Minutes – Approval of Plan, Recommendation to City Council for Adoption
Appendix E	City Council Minutes – Adoption of Plan
Appendix F	City Council Resolution - Adoption of Plan
Appendix G	Copy of Letter to Van Buren County Planning Commission
Appendix H	Copy of Letter to Southwestern Michigan Commission
Appendix I	Township Board Meeting Minutes – Public Hearing
Appendix J	Township Board Resolution - Adoption of Plan
Appendix K	South Haven Public Schools Minutes - Approval of Plan

Appendix A

**Copy of the Notice of Availability
for Public Review and
Comment**

9-7-08

CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN
Van Buren and Allegan Counties

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of South Haven's five year Recreation Plan draft is available for public review and comment. The plan can be viewed on the city's website www.south-haven.com or at City Hall.

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

The Parks Commission will be discussing the plan at the September 9, 2008 meeting. A public hearing for review and comment of the plan will be scheduled at a later date. Concerns and comments are encouraged and comments can be made at the Parks Commission meeting or in writing to the City of South Haven's Park Supervisor.

Brandy Gildea
Parks and Cemetery Supervisor
City of South Haven

The South Haven Tribune
Published: 09/07/08

Appendix B

**Copy of the Notice for Public
Meeting Held**

Affidavit of Publication

State of Michigan
County of Van Buren) SS

TARA WILKINSON, being duly sworn and says that she is the advertising consultant of The South Haven Tribune, a newspaper published, printed and circulated in the County of Van Buren, State of Michigan; That the affixed printed notice has been printed and published in said newspaper 2 times. Same being on the following days, to wit:

10-5-08

SH Tribune

Signature

Tara Wilkinson

Subscribed and sworn to me this

10 Day of Oct A.D. 2008

Cheryl Watson

NOTARY PUBLIC, Van Buren County, MI
My commission expires 3-31 2011

Bill amount _____

The South Haven Tribune
255 Center St.
South Haven, MI 49090
269-637-1104
classifieds@southhaventribune.com

CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN
South Haven Public Schools
Van Buren and Allegan Counties

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing for the City of South Haven and South Haven Public Schools five year Recreation Plan will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 during the Parks Commission meeting at City Hall.

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

Public participation is encouraged.

Brandy Gildea
Parks and Cemetery Supervisor
City of South Haven

Appendix C

**Parks Commission Minutes
- Public Hearing and Review**

EXCERPT OF MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of South Haven, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, held in City Hall located at 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan, on the 14th day of October, 2008, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Baner, Bemis, Fenske, Graham, Jillson, Ollgaard
Absent: None

After concluding certain matters of the agenda, Chairman, Ollgaard announced that the next order of business was Item 6: Public Hearing for Recreation Plan

Motion by Bemis, second by Jillson to open the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

John Frost, 372 Pearl Street stated he is a member of the SHARP committee. He stated he grew up in South Haven and options were limited for organized physical activities. Since leaving South Haven in 1992, he has lived in several different communities in different states and almost all had a regional park with playing fields for several sports. He stated this is great for kids and for the community. These fields bring communities together; it's a good place to get together even when there's not a game. He encouraged the Parks Commission to continue to support the concept of SHARP.

Suzie Fitzgibbons, 511 Lena Drive, South Haven. SHARP member. She mentioned a feasibility study, a few years old, which indicated that 92% of the community supports a regional park. She noted that South Haven and Casco townships have written supportive resolutions and monetary support, and Geneva Township has written a resolution in support, and she expects monetary support will be forthcoming. She stated that they have over \$100,000 in pledges to pay the city back; their deadline is July 2009. She noted that they are aware that times are touch but they want to get the land paid for and the first field in; you'll see development then. She stated that the need hasn't changed; at an AYSO meeting last week, they are desperate for an area to have sports events. This is good for the city as a whole and will bring revenue into the city. She pointed out that when families go out of town for tournaments they stay in hotels, eat out, and run to the store for supplies. She stated that their supporters include Joe DeGrandchamp of DeGrandchamp Blueberries; Mark McClendon of Do-It Corporation; and Dana Getman of Getman Corporation. These are all business men who see this as an asset for their businesses, she stated. She commended the Rec Plan as a tool to apply for grants, and noted that is why they are in it. She noted that she wanted to be here and let it be known that the SHARP committee is still working on the project and that they appreciate the Parks Commission.

There was discussion regarding how the SHARP park would be administrated, which Fitzgibbons explained would be similar in structure to SHAES, with a member from each township and a member from the city to administer it. She pointed out that with a concession stand the park could be self-supporting. There was discussion of the initial cost of the land; Fitzgibbons pointing out that cost of development would be on top of that. She pointed out that no development can be done until it is paid for.

Lee Utke, 556 North Shore Drive, #20, South Haven. Involved with SHARP for the last two years. He requested support from the Parks Commission to write this into their plan and from the City to write it into the Master Plan, so they can obtain any and all support for funding.

Ollgaard noted that the Parks Commission has always supported the plan and he doesn't see that changing. There was some discussion of liability, which was explained as the same for any park. It was pointed out that league players would carry insurance through their team. Ollgaard commented on insurance pools, such as those that school districts have, spreading the liability. Ollgaard thanked those who had attended the public hearing.

Motion by Bemis, second by Baner to close the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

The foregoing is a true and exact excerpt of minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 14th day of October, 2008.

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTIES OF ALLEGAN AND VAN BUREN)

I, Amanda Sleigh, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of South Haven, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete excerpt of minutes of the City Council at a regular meeting held on October 14, 2008, the original of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my official signature this 21st day of October, 2008.



Amanda Sleigh, City Clerk

Appendix D

**Parks Commission Minutes
– Approval of Plan,
– Recommendation to City Council
for Adoption**

EXCERPT OF MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of South Haven, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, held in City Hall located at 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan, on the 9th day of December, 2008, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Bemis, Fenske, Jillson, Ollgaard
Absent: Baner, Graham

After concluding certain matters of the agenda, Chairman, Ollgaard announced that the next order of business was Item 6: Public Hearing for Recreation Plan

Abshire noted that at the November meeting commissioners requested that staff make changes and present the plan this month. Jillson stated that the commission appreciates all that Gildea did, although it was frustrating at times, she did a wonderful job.

Motion by Lewis, second by Jillson to recommend that City Council consider adopting the recreation plan as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

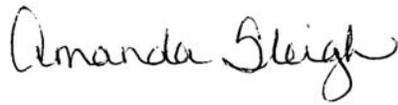
The foregoing is a true and exact excerpt of minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council held on the 9th day of December, 2008,

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss.
COUNTIES OF ALLEGAN AND VAN BUREN)

I, Amanda Sleigh, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of South Haven, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete excerpt of minutes of the City Council at a regular meeting held on December 9, 2008, the original of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my official signature this 21st day of January, 2009.



Amanda Sleigh, City Clerk

Appendix E

**City Council Minutes
– Adoption of Plan**

EXCERPT OF DRAFT MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of South Haven, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, held in City Hall located at 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan, on the 16th day of February, 2009, commencing at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Andersen, Bemis, Fitzgibbon, McCoy, Smith, Stegeman, Appleyard
Absent: None

After concluding certain matters of the agenda, Mayor Appleyard announced that the next order of business was Item 7: City Council will be asked to consider Resolution 2009-04: A Resolution adopting a 5-year recreation plan for the City of South Haven.

1. City Council will be asked to consider Resolution 2009-04: A Resolution adopting a 5-year recreation plan for the City of South Haven.

Background Information: The draft five-year Recreation Plan for the City of South Haven is available on the City's website. Staff recommends approval of the plan, so that the plan can be submitted to the State of Michigan for their review. In order to be considered eligible for the various recreation grant programs offered by the State of Michigan, communities are required to submit their recreation plan for review. The review process ensures that all potential grant funded projects have been discussed at the local level and are included in the five year recreation plan.

The draft Recreation Plan was jointly prepared, in partnership with South Haven Township and South Haven Public Schools. We recently received the necessary information from our partners which allows completion of the draft plan.

An original draft of this plan was submitted to the City Council in August of 2008, at which time comments and edits were provided and implemented. At the February 3, 2009 meeting of the City Council, the elected officials issued concerns about the document. Staff has made changes to the draft document. Those changes include; 1) insertion of up to date information on the local airport, 2) correction of type-o's and tense errors, 3) insertion of the SHARP project description, 4) insertion of council and staff recommended changes (see attached staff memo).

The plan has been to the Harbor Commission and Planning Commission for their review. Additionally, the Parks Commission has edited the plan and held the necessary public hearings. It is now complete and ready for council consideration and possible approval.

Moved by Bemis to approve Resolution 2009-04: A Resolution adopting a 5-year recreation plan for the City of South Haven. Seconded by Fitzgibbon.

Moved by Stegeman, seconded by Bemis to amend the motion to include adding the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum as a park within the capital improvements plans and to modify the plan by inserting or modifying the following language:

On page 26 Modify

South Haven Area Regional Park (SHARP)

A volunteer group that is working with the City and the surrounding community is the South Haven Area Regional Park (SHARP) committee. The SHARP volunteers are working to create a regional park with facilities for a variety of athletic fields and facilities.

On page 26 Insert

EXCERPT OF DRAFT MINUTES

SHOUT for South Haven

SHOUT for South Haven is a non-profit organization whose members are dedicated to improving the community through a variety of projects. Those projects include placing flowers on the drawbridge, installing benches for the beaches, adding the sculpture park at City Hall, and donating the Harborwalk clock.

On page 26 Insert

South Haven Garden Club

The South Haven Garden Club was first organized in 1930 by a group of plant enthusiasts who were members of the Scott Club. The club's objective is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening among amateurs; to aid in the protection of native trees, plants and birds; and to encourage civic planting. Through the years, the club's volunteers have been involved in community beautification projects throughout the City of South Haven.

On page 64 Modify

SHARP Park

- To encourage the SHARP Committee in their efforts to fund and develop athletic fields to serve the South Haven area.
- **Rationale:** SHARP Park will provide regional athletic recreation opportunities.
- **Action:** To continue to assist SHARP with administrative support and encourage the SHARP Committee to plan and fund athletic fields to serve the South Haven area.

Voted Yes: Bemis, Fitzgibbon, McCoy, Smith, Stegeman. Voted No: Andersen, Appleyard.
Amendment carried.

Moved by Bemis to amend the motion to include "to allow editorial corrections be made that do not change the intent of the document." Seconded by Smith.

Voted Yes: Andersen, Bemis, Fitzgibbon, McCoy, Smith, Stegeman. Voted No: Appleyard.
Motion amended.

Moved by Andersen to amend the motion to strike the volunteer groups: SHARP, SHOUT, and Garden Club from being mentioned in the plan (amendment made in previous motion).
Seconded by Bemis.

Voted Yes: Andersen, Bemis, Smith, Stegeman, Appleyard. Voted No: Fitzgibbon, McCoy.
Amendment carried.

Mayor Appleyard called the motion as amended:

to approve Resolution 2009-04: A Resolution adopting a 5-year recreation plan for the City of South Haven with the following amendments:

- Add the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum as a park within the capital improvement plans.
- On page 64 make the following modification:

SHARP Park

- To encourage the SHARP Committee in their efforts to fund and develop athletic fields to serve the South Haven area.
- **Rationale:** SHARP Park will provide regional athletic recreation opportunities.

Appendix F

**City Council Resolution
- Adoption of Plan**

CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN
VAN BUREN AND ALLEGAN COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-04

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A 5-YEAR RECREATION
PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of South Haven, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, held in the City Hall, 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan 49090 on February 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: Andersen, Bemis, Fitzgibbon, McCoy, Smith, Stegeman, Appleyard

ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Member Bemis and supported by Member Fitzgibbon.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the city of South haven have reviewed the City of South Haven Recreation Plan and Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Haven Recreation Plan and Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments has been reviewed by the Harbor Commission and Planning Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Parks commission has held a public hearing to discuss the City of South Haven Recreation Plan and Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments on October 14, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the council Chambers, City Hall, city of South Haven, 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan 49090; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of South Haven adopts the City of South Haven Recreation Plan and Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments.

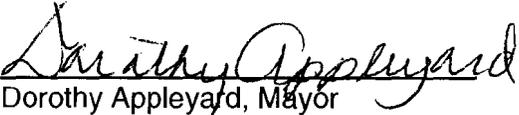
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon passage by the City Council.

RECORD OF VOTE:

Yeas: Andersen, Bemis, Fitzgibbon, McCoy, Smith, Stegeman, Appleyard

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Dorothy Appleyard, Mayor


Amanda Sleight, City Clerk

Appendix G

**Copy of Letter to Van Buren County
Planning Commission**

February 17, 2009

Van Buren County
Planning Department
219 Paw Paw St. Ste 202A
Paw Paw, MI 49079-1423

Dear Planning Commission

The City of South Haven, in conjunction with South Haven Public Schools and South Haven Township just recently adopted the Five Year Recreation Plan.

The intent of this document is to provide information that the City, Schools and Townships can use while developing recreation plans. It is a mechanism to solicit input from residents on their recreation wants and needs, establishes a framework for evaluation of individual project ideas, assists in determining long-term funding needs, guides the annual budget allocation process and helps build public support for new project funding initiatives.

Additionally, a five year recreation plan is required to be eligible to apply for recreation grants administered by the Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Grants Administration Division under the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) programs.

Enclosed is a copy of the approved Five Year Recreation Plan. Prior to submitting the document to MDNR, the State requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted Recreation Plan. If after reviewing this document and questions arise, please don't hesitate to contact me at 269-637-0771.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin M. Abshire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robin Abshire
Leisure Services Director
Harbormaster

Appendix H

**Copy of Letter to
Southwestern Michigan Commission**

February 17, 2009

Southwestern Michigan Commission
185 East Main St.
Suite 701
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Attention: SWMC

The City of South Haven, in conjunction with South Haven Public Schools and South Haven Township just recently adopted the Five Year Recreation Plan.

The intent of this document is to provide information that the City, Schools and Townships can use while developing recreation plans. It is a mechanism to solicit input from residents on their recreation wants and needs, establishes a framework for evaluation of individual project ideas, assists in determining long-term funding needs, guides the annual budget allocation process and helps build public support for new project funding initiatives.

Additionally, a five year recreation plan is required to be eligible to apply for recreation grants administered by the Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), Grants Administration Division under the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) programs.

Enclosed is a copy of the approved Five Year Recreation Plan. Prior to submitting the document to MDNR, the State requires that we provide your agency a copy of the adopted Recreation Plan. If after reviewing this document and questions arise, please don't hesitate to contact me at 269-637-0771.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin M. Abshire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robin Abshire
Leisure Services Director
Harbormaster

Appendix I

**Township Board Meeting Minutes
– Public Hearing**

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FOR
SOUTH HAVEN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2008

PRESENT: Jessup, DeGrandchamp, Stein, Bertorelli, Fisher, Pioch, Dopp

ABSENT: None

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of 11/12/08 were approved with the following changes: the spelling of Dr. Cosgrove's name and Jessup's motion to review and approve for distribution the Master Plan.

Minutes of 10/29/08 Special Meeting were approved.

No Correspondence was presented.

Sgt. Schmitt of the Van Buren County Sheriff Dept. informed the Board of a 10 week Police Academy class for public information on police procedures that starts January 21st.

Tom Erdmann reported the County is still working on the language for the easement for North Point, but progress is being made.

Friends of Deerlick had no comments other than questions about the deed being filed. There was conversation about keeping the Deerlick project active on the agenda for future fund raising and development plans.

The public hearing was open for the adoption of the Recreation Plan. Hearing no public comment or conversation it was moved by Jessup and supported by Pioch to adopt Resolution #08-07 South Haven Township Recreation Plan. Voting in favor: Jessup, DeGrandchamp, Stein, Bertorelli, Fisher, Pioch and Dopp. None opposed. Motion carried.

Moved by Jessup and supported by DeGrandchamp to Distribute the Master Plan. Motion carried.

Moved by Stein and supported by Fisher to appoint the 2009 Board of Review members: Larry Carlson, Alfred Dubuisson III, Cindy Compton and Paul Kiry. Motion carried.

Moved and supported to adopt the 2009 Township Board meeting dates. 2009 meetings will be held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

2008 Budget amendments were presented with explanations. It was moved by Pioch and supported by Fisher to amend the 2008 Budget as presented. Motion carried.

The following reports were given and placed on file: Building/Elec./Mech., Fire/Ambulance, Library, Planning Commission, Park Commission, Road Commission.

The Treasurer's report was presented as a motion by Fisher, supported by Pioch to approve payment of bills due in December in the estimated amount of \$68,682.25. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Brenda Bertorelli, Clerk

C. Ross Stein, Supervisor

Tentative minutes for Board approval at the 1/14/09 meeting

Prepared 12/16/08

Appendix J

**Township Board Resolution
- Adoption of Plan**

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HAVEN

RECREATION PLAN

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

RESOLUTION NO. 08-07

SOUTH HAVEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HAVEN

WHEREAS, the Township Board of the Charter Township of South Haven has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2008 and 2012, and

WHEREAS, a public comment session was held December 10th, 2008 at the South Haven Township Hall to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board of the Charter Township of South Haven has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, after the public meeting, the Township Board of the Charter Township of South Haven voted to adopt said Recreation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Township Board of the Charter Township of South Haven hereby adopts the Charter Township of South Haven Recreation Plan as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the Charter Township of South Haven.

Offered by: Jessup and seconded by: Pioch

Yeas: Jessup, DeGrandchamp, Stein, Bertorelli, Fisher, Pioch, Dopp Nays: Absent:

Supervisor declared motion passed.

I, Brenda Bertorelli, South Haven Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the South Haven Township Board at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 10th day of December, 2008.

Brenda Bertorelli

Brenda Bertorelli, South Haven Township Clerk

Appendix K

**South Haven Public Schools Minutes
- Approval of Plan**

SOUTH HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SOUTH HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
November 19, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of South Haven Public Schools of Van Buren Counties, Michigan was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at L.C. Mohr High School.

The meeting was called to order by Annie Brown, President at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Annie Brown, Claudia O. Maddox, Bryan Lewis, Joe DeGrandchamp, Kathy Gillett, Kim Griffin, Corey Davis.

Motion by Corey Davis supported by Bryan Lewis to approve the agenda as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

Community comments were made.

Superintendent's Report:

- Mr. Black gave a report on the activities of the Dave Besemer Day and thanked everyone for the presentations made at the schools.
- Mr. Black announced that the State Police gave South Haven Public Schools a Certificate of Excellence for receiving 100% for School Bus Safety Inspections.
- Mr. Decker, Band Director, gave a presentation to the Board regarding the current conditions of Band uniforms and instruments. Mr. Decker recommended a solution to purchase uniforms and instruments and stated that the Band Boosters have helped a lot.
- Mr. Campbell gave a report to the Board on recent Curriculum Alignments that have been produced by the teachers for Lincoln and Maple Grove. The teachers at North Shore will start working on the Curriculum Alignment for 4th and 5th grade and will have it by the end of the year.

Mr. Campbell also discussed the District School Improvement efforts.

- Mr. Crandall, from LCA Consulting, Inc. presented to the Board the results of the Bond Survey. There was close to 800 surveys that were returned.

Motion by Bryan Lewis supported by Corey Davis to adjourn at 9:51 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Claudia O. Maddox
Claudia O. Maddox, Secretary
Board of Education
South Haven, Michigan

Ann Raue
Ann Raue
Secretary to the Superintendent

City of South Haven



Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments

Recreation Inventory, Maps and Accessibility Assessments

A. City of South Haven

In this section you will find the City of South Haven's recreation Inventory, along with the accessibility assessment, an ariel shot and pictures of each city owned park, marina and trail way. A map of the city with the locations of all the parks, marinas and trail ways has also been inserted to this section. The recreation inventory was conducted by the Leisure Service Department.

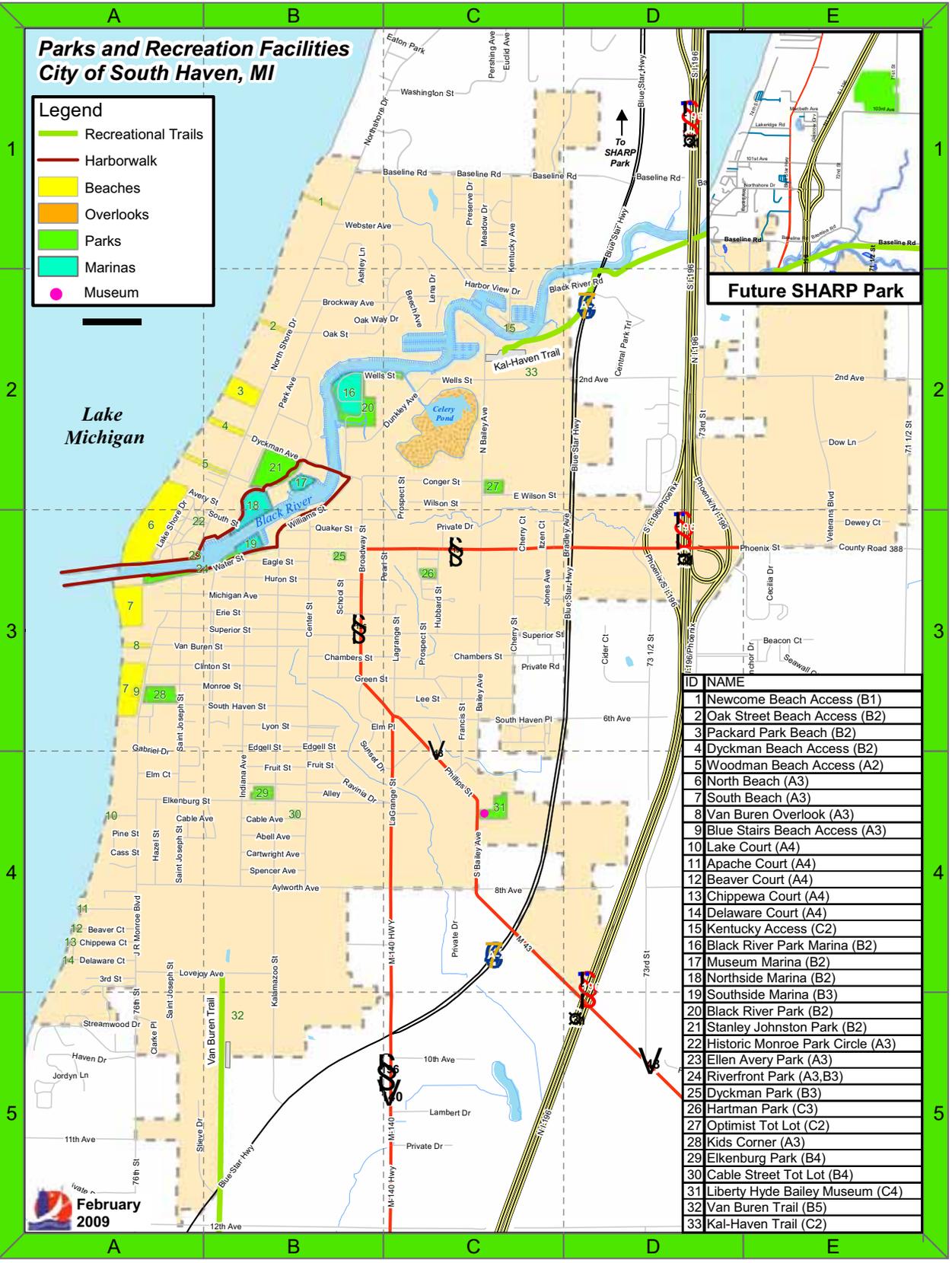
The accessibility assessment was done on the rating scale listed below:

- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

Parks and Recreation Facilities City of South Haven, MI

Legend

- Recreational Trails
- Harborwalk
- Beaches
- Overlooks
- Parks
- Marinas
- Museum



ID	NAME
1	Newcome Beach Access (B1)
2	Oak Street Beach Access (B2)
3	Packard Park Beach (B2)
4	Dyckman Beach Access (B2)
5	Woodman Beach Access (A2)
6	North Beach (A3)
7	South Beach (A3)
8	Van Buren Overlook (A3)
9	Blue Stairs Beach Access (A3)
10	Lake Court (A4)
11	Apache Court (A4)
12	Beaver Court (A4)
13	Chippewa Court (A4)
14	Delaware Court (A4)
15	Kentucky Access (C2)
16	Black River Park Marina (B2)
17	Museum Marina (B2)
18	Northside Marina (B2)
19	Southside Marina (B3)
20	Black River Park (B2)
21	Stanley Johnston Park (B2)
22	Historic Monroe Park Circle (A3)
23	Ellen Avery Park (A3)
24	Riverfront Park (A3,B3)
25	Dyckman Park (B3)
26	Hartman Park (C3)
27	Optimist Tot Lot (C2)
28	Kids Corner (A3)
29	Elkenburg Park (B4)
30	Cable Street Tot Lot (B4)
31	Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum (C4)
32	Van Buren Trail (B5)
33	Kal-Haven Trail (C2)

February 2009

Table of Contents

Parks

Cable Street Tot Lot	5
Dyckman Park.....	10
Elkenburg Park	17
Ellen Avery Park	26
Hartman Park	31
Historic Monroe Park	35
Kids Corner	39
Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum.....	49
Optimist Tot Lot.....	53
Riverfront Park.....	62
SHARP Park	68
Stanley Johnston Park.....	70

Beaches – Accesses

Blue Stairs Access	77
Dyckman Access	82
Kentucky Access.....	88
Newcome Access	91
North Beach	95
Oak Street Access	103
Packard Park Beach	109
South Beach.....	121
Street Accesses.....	132
Van Buren Stairs Access	141
Woodman Access.....	147

Trails

Harborwalk	152
------------------	-----

Marinas

Black River Park Marina.....	166
Museum Marina	177
Northside Marina	182
Southside Marina.....	187

Cable Street Tot Lot

Location

421 Cable St.

Size 0.17 acres

Park Type

Neighborhood Park

Park Amenities

Swing Set (1) [Good Condition](#)

- 1 baby swing
- 1 adult swing

Playground Structure (1) [Good Condition \(1999\)](#)

Trash Receptacle (1) [Good Condition](#)

Sidewalk [Good Condition](#)

Benches (2) [Good Condition](#)

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Free Parking on street

Overview

In 2001 new play equipment for tender age children was installed. This was a joint effort between the City and the Community Development Commission (CDC) and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). In addition to the new play equipment, this project also included a newly installed sidewalk with curb cuts, which ran from East to West, extending the whole length of the block. There is no shelter or restrooms.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add park entry sign which is consistent with park signage

Needs a picnic table

Portable Potty

As needed/ replacement

Picnic table

Benches

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Play structures/equipment

Cable Street Tot Lot Aerial



Cable Street Tot Lot



View looking north at park



Swing Set

Cable Street Tot Lot



View looking northwest at park

Dyckman Park

Location

536 Phoenix St.

Size 0.64 Acres

Park Type

Community Park

Park Amenities

Picnic Tables- [Fair Condition](#)

- 4 permanent

Restrooms - [Fair Condition](#)

- 2 unisex rooms with sink/hand dryer

Gazebo (1) - [Good Condition](#)

Trash Receptacles (2) - [Good Condition](#)

Sidewalks

Benches (9) - [Good Condition](#)

Bike Rack (1) – [new in 2007](#)

Sprinkler System

General Information

No entrance fee

Free Parking

Restrooms open year round

Overview

Dyckman Park is located within the downtown area of the City, directly across from City Hall. This park has gone through extensive study to better accommodate the multiple uses this park provides. The newly renovated park is now the gateway of a very large pavilion which houses the outdoor ice rink in the winter and the farmers market in the summer. It is also the back up location for the Riverfront Concert Series in the event of inclement weather. An anonymous donor funded the majority of this pavilion. During this renovation, the old restrooms were removed and new restrooms were built, which are ADA compliant. The renovations also included an upgrade of the Huron Street parking lot adjacent to the park. This parking lot is now highly visible as a result of the new landscaping in Dyckman Park and provides free parking..

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Update restrooms (need more)

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add park entry sign which is consistent with park signage

As needed /replacement

Picnic tables

Bike rack

Benches

Trash receptacles/trash bags

Gazebo parts

Restroom facility items

Sprinkler System

Dyckman Park Aerial



Dyckman Park



View looking southwest at park



View looking south at park

Dyckman Park



View looking west at gazebo



View looking west from middle of park

Dyckman Park



Restroom



Dyckman Park



View looking northwest at park

Elkenburg Park

Location

309 Elkenburg St.

Size 1.46 acres

Park Type

Community Park

Park Amenities

Restrooms - **Good Condition**

- Men's
 - 1 room with sink/hand dryer
- Women's
 - 1 room with sink/hand dryer

Picnic Table (1) **Good Condition**

Baby Swing Set (1) **Outdated, (*NPSIS)**

Adult Swings Set (1) **Outdated, (*NPSIS)**

Slides (2) **Outdated, (*NPSIS)**

Climbing Structure (1) **Outdated, (*NPSIS)**

Trash Receptacles (3) **Good Condition**

Basketball Courts (3) **Good Condition**

Drinking Fountain (1) **Good Condition**

Picnic Shelter/Pavilion **Good Condition**

Bleachers (1) **Good Condition**

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Free Parking on Road

Restrooms open mid-April through mid-October

Overview

Located in the southwest section of town, the park contains over 1.5 acres of property. The park consists of basketball courts, playground equipment, and public picnic area with bathroom facilities.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Have sidewalks installed around park (in accordance with the Pedestrian Plan)

Develop Mater Plan

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Needs bike rack

Bleachers

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Basketball nets/hoops/backboards

Play structures/equipment

Bleachers

Restroom facility items

Elkenburg Park Aerial



Elkenburg Park



View looking south at restroom facility/pavilion



View looking north at restroom facility/pavilion

Elkenburg Park



View looking west at restroom facility/pavilion

Elkenburg Park



Women's Restroom



Elkenburg Park



Men's Restroom



Elkenburg Park



View looking west at park



View looking south at park

Elkenburg Park



View looking southeast at backstop/fence



View looking west at basketball courts

Ellen Avery Park

Location

End of North Shore Drive

Size 0.16acres

Park Type

Neighborhood Pocket Park

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacles (1) [Good Condition](#)

Sidewalk [Good Condition](#)

Benches (3) [Good Condition](#)

Sprinkler System

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Free Parking on street

Overview

Ellen Avery Park is located at the end of North Shore Dr. The park became a reality in 2003 when the city conducted improvements to the infrastructure in that vicinity and quickly recognized an opportunity to create additional green space once the upgrade was complete. The city was also awarded a grant from the Great Lakes fishery Trust fund to secure public access along the Black River. Ellen Avery Park also provides complete accessibility for people using the Harbor Walk. It currently houses a four sided clock provided by SHOUT. This pocket park or neighborhood park is very scenic and has been the location for many weddings. The city currently has an agreement with adjoining property owners for the maintenance and upkeep of this park.

ADA Accessibility Rating

4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

None

As needed/ replacement

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Sprinkler System

Ellen Avery Park Aerial



Ellen Avery Park



View looking southwest at park



View of clock in park

Ellen Avery Park



View looking northwest at park

Hartman Park

Location

347 Prospect St.

Size 0.86 acres

Park Type

Neighborhood Park

Park Amenities

Grill (1) - [Good Condition](#)

General Information

No entrance fee

Free Parking

Overview

Located on Hubbard Street in the southeast portion of the City. A canopy of mature trees covers the park, and creates a natural setting.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add park entry sign which is consistent with park signage

Add "around a tree" bench to park

Needs picnic table

Needs Trash receptacles

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables (when added)

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Grill

Hartman Park Aerial



Hartman Park



View looking northwest



View looking west

Hartman Park



View looking northeast

Historic Monroe Park Circle

Location

Intersection of Plaza St, Grand Blvd, Kalamazoo Ave and Esplanade Pl.

Size 0.085 acres

Park Type

Pocket Park

Park Amenities

Fountain - [Good Condition](#)

Trash Receptacle (1) – [Good Condition](#)

Concrete Benches (3) - [Good Condition](#)

General Information

No entrance fee

Overview

Located in the Monroe Park neighborhood near North Beach, the Circle is a small open green area. Presently, there is a small water fountain placed there by residents in memory of a loved one. Local residents maintain this.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

None

As needed/ replacement

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Historic Monroe Park Aerial



Historic Monroe Park



View looking west at park



View looking west at park

Historic Monroe Park



View looking south at park



View looking east at park

Kids Corner

Location

563 Monroe Blvd

Size 2.77 acres

Park Type

Community Park

Park Amenities

Grills (4) - Good Condition

Picnic Tables - Good Condition

- 3 Permanent
- 17 movable

Picnic Shelter/Pavilion - Good Condition

Restrooms (with 2 storage areas) - Flooring in bathroom needs to be replaced

- Men's
 - 1 Stall
 - 1 urinal
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
 - 1 changing station
- Women's
 - 2 Stalls
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
 - 1 changing station

Baby Swing Set – Outdated, (*NPSIS)

Adult Swing Set - Outdated, (*NPSIS)

Slide - Outdated, (*NPSIS)

Large Wooden Playground Structure (with :) - Good Condition

- Baby Swing Set
- Adult Swing Set
- Slides (3)
- Tire swing
- Seating area

Baseball field- Good Condition

Mutt Mitts - Good Condition (2007)

Drinking Fountain - Good Condition

Trash Receptacles (4) - Good Condition

Benches - Good Condition

- Around the tree (1)
- Regular (1)

Bleachers (1)- Good Condition

Bike Rack (1) - Good Condition

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park
No entrance fee
Free Parking on street
Restrooms open mid-April through mid-October

Overview

With over 2 acres of land, the playground is located on the bluff above South Beach. Access to the beach is provided by the blue stairs. Efforts of local citizen groups built a large wooden play structure with donations they received of over forty thousand dollars. This play structure provides a wonderful recreational opportunity for the users. Sections of the play structure are ADA compliant. Other facilities at the park include a ball diamond, miscellaneous small playground equipment, picnic shelter, restrooms, and a fantastic view of Lake Michigan.

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards

Have sidewalks installed at park engineered so trees will not be lost (in accordance with the Pedestrian Plan)

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables
Bike rack
Benches
Trash receptacles/Trash bags
Play structures/equipment
Bleachers
Restroom facility items
Grills
Mutt Mitts

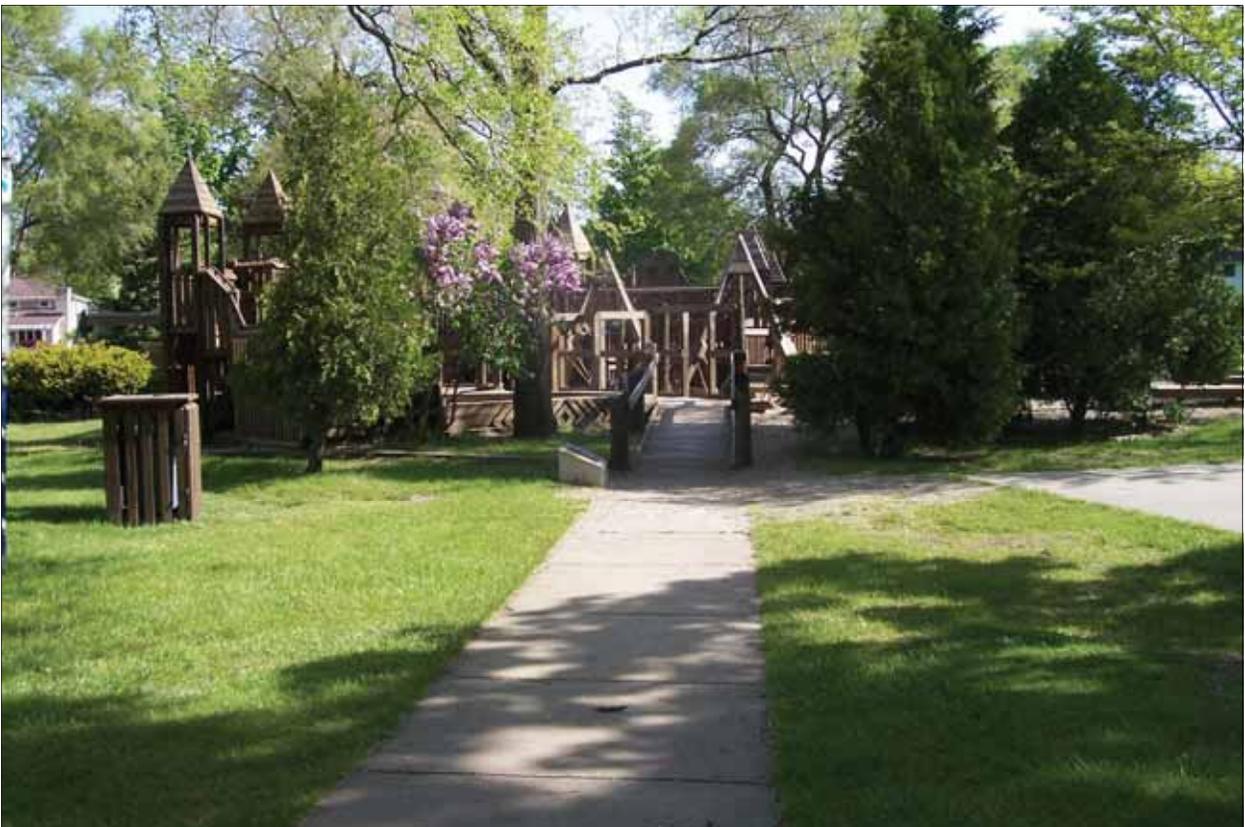
Kids Corner Aerial



Kids Corner



View looking northeast at wooden play structure



View looking north at wooden play structure

Kids Corner



View looking northwest at wooden play structure



View looking south at wooden play structure

Kids Corner



View of baby swing set



View of adult swing set

Kids Corner



View of bleachers



View of backstop

Kids Corner



View of pavilion/ restroom facility



Another view of pavilion/ restroom facility

Kids Corner



Men's Restroom



Kids Corner



Women's Restroom



Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum

Location

903 Bailey Ave

Size 2.37 acres

Park Type

Public Museum

Amenities

Public Gardens

Wildflower Trails

Garden Benches

Smokehouse

Carriage Barn

Shed

General Information

Free Admission

Group Tours Welcome

Donations accepted

Restrooms within the museum

Overview

Constructed in 1857, the Liberty Hyde Bailey museum is one of the oldest standing homes in South Haven and was the principal building of the 80-acre Bailey farm that pioneered peach and apple farming along Michigan's Fruit Belt. It was in this rural setting that America's preeminent horticulturalist, ecologist and poet Liberty Hyde Bailey was born (1858-1954). In his youth, this home in South Haven served as an open-air scientific arboretum, leading him to ponder man's relationship to nature. The author of sixty-five books, Bailey organized the Horticulture Department at Michigan State University and became Dean of the College of Agriculture at Cornell University in New York. Bailey's goal was to improve the life of the small farmer, wherever they lived. Dr. Bailey's birth site was presented to the city of South Haven in 1937 as a memorial to him. This National Historic Site honors the work and family of Liberty Hyde Bailey and chronicles South Haven's rich agricultural heritage. The house also has an extensive library of Bailey's writings.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations

Construct a barn to display exhibits and hold classes

New roof for the museum

Construct a greenhouse on the campus

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace roof

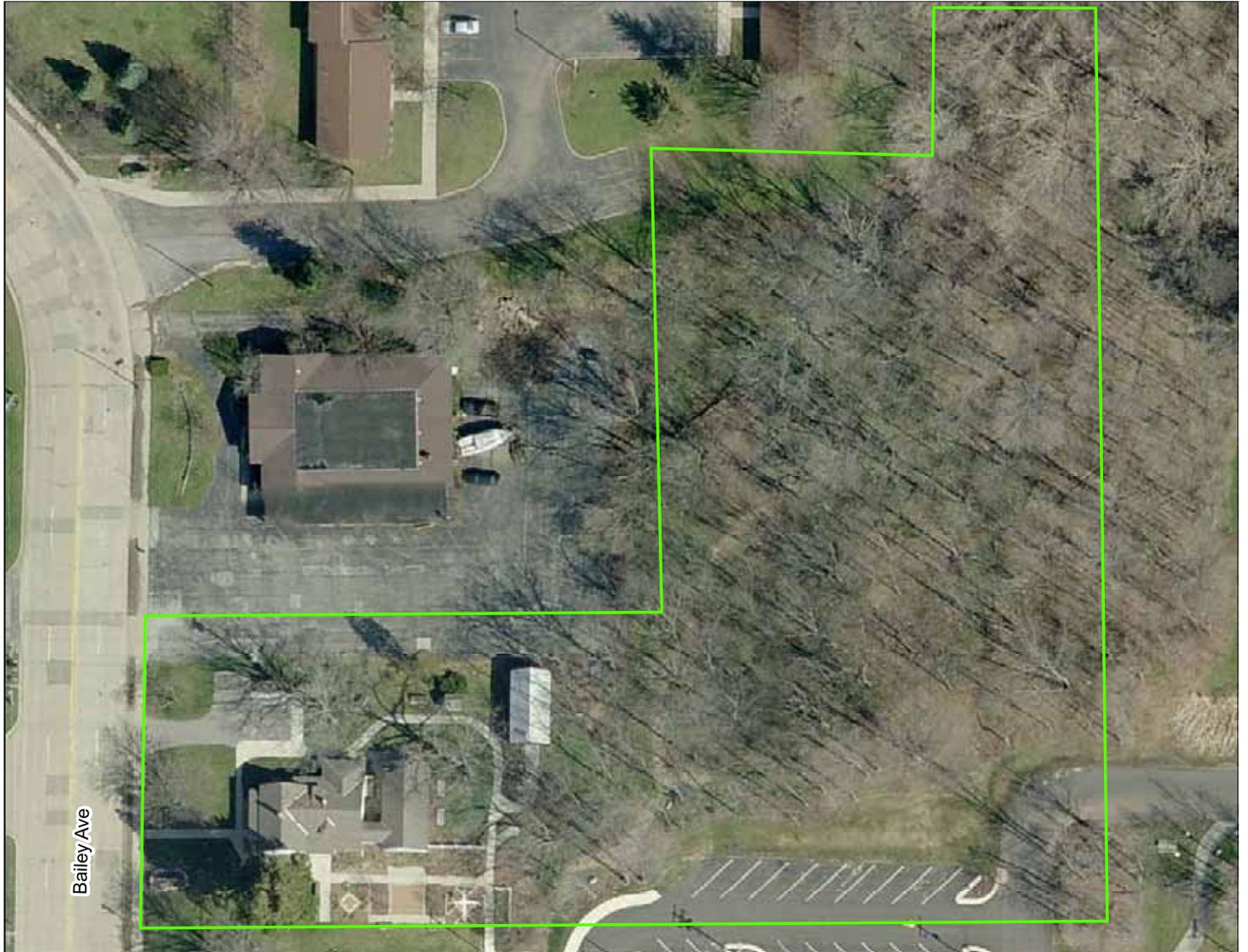
As needed replacement

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Woodchip surface of wildflower trail

Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum Aerial



Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum



View of front of facility facing east.

Optimist Tot Lot

Location

191 Bailey Ave

Size 1.09 acres

Park Type

Neighborhood Park

Park Amenities

Grills (2) – Good Condition

Picnic Tables (4) - Good Condition

Restrooms

- 2 unisex rooms with sink/hand dryer

Baby Swing Set – New 2007

Adult Swing Set – New 2007

Slide – Outdated, (*NPSIS)

Playground Structure - Good Condition

Basketball Court – Corner of concrete keeps breaking

Baseball field - Good Condition

Drinking Fountain - Good Condition

Trash Receptacles - Good Condition

Sandbox - Good Condition

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Overview

Located in the northeastern section of the City is a neighborhood park which caters to children 12 and younger. New swing sets for both infants and all ages were installed in 2007; also the park was re-landscaped to include additional grassy areas and a large area of sand creating a safe play surface and fall zone. The ball field was also replenished with moon dust. The park does provide restroom facilities but they are not ADA compliant.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace bathroom facility with facility that meets ADA standards

Replace slide to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards Standards

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

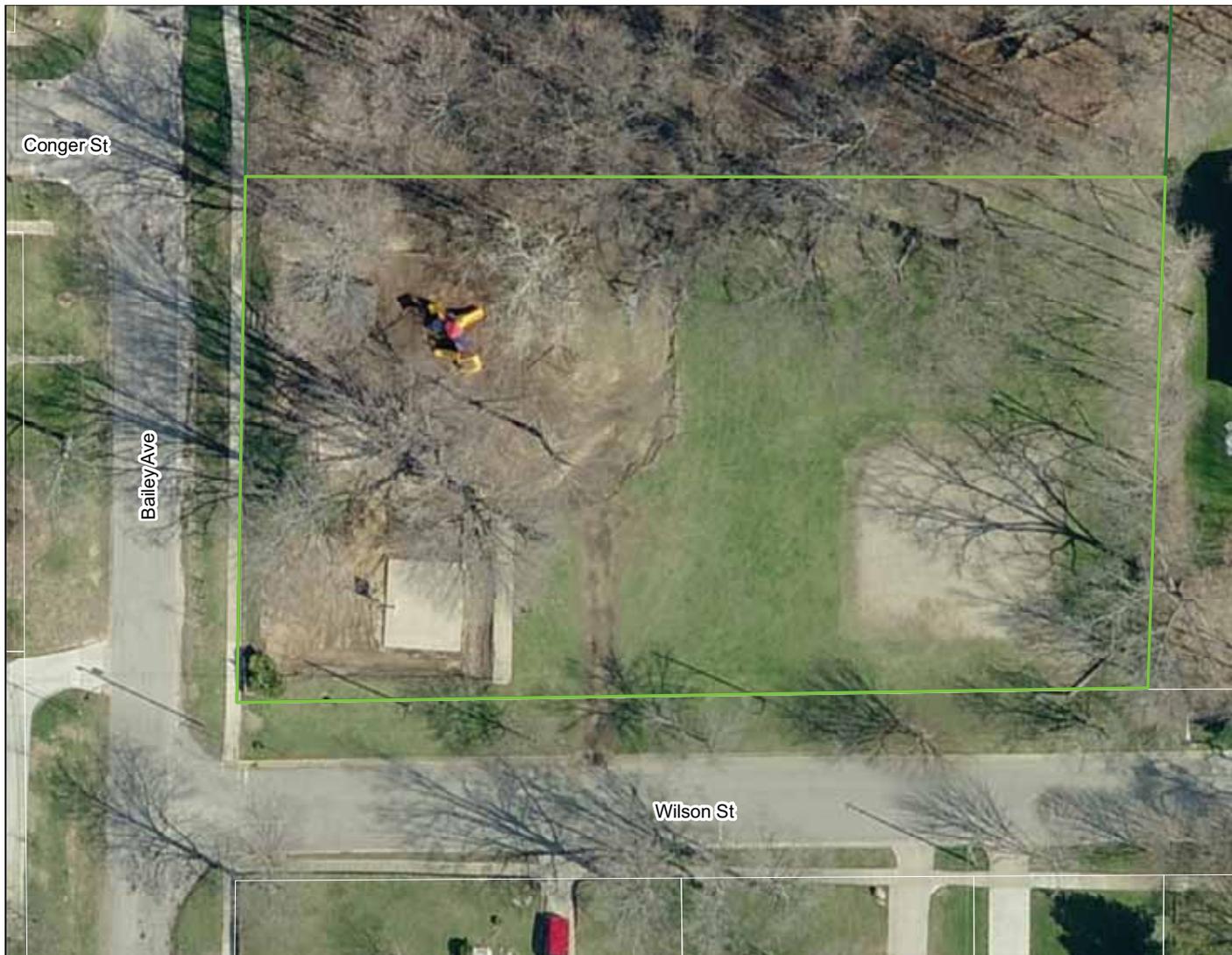
Budget Item

Needs Bike Rack
Replace worn signs
Bleachers

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables
Bike rack (when added)
Benches
Trash receptacles/Trash bags
Basketball nets/hoops/backboards
Play structures/equipment
Restroom facility items
Baseball field items
Grills

Optimist Tot Lot Aerial



Optimist Tot Lot



View looking east at park



View looking north at park

Optimist Tot Lot



View looking east at stairs in to park and restroom facility



Play structure

Optimist Tot Lot



Restroom facility



Optimist Tot Lot



Swing sets



Optimist Tot Lot



Slide



View looking southwest at baseball field

Optimist Tot Lot



View of tot basketball court

Riverfront Park

Location

101 Water St.

Size 2.64 acres

Park Type

Community Park

Park Amenities

Grills (3) - Good Condition

Picnic Tables

- 6 permanent - Fair Condition
- 6 movable - Good Condition

Benches (13)- Good Condition

Restrooms - Fair Condition

- 2 unisex rooms with sink/hand dryer

Drinking Fountain (1) - Good Condition

Trash Receptacles (5) - Good Condition

Mutt Mitts - Good Condition (2007)

Sidewalks

Picnic Shelter (1) - Good Condition

Sprinkler System

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Free Parking at some locations

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Restrooms open mid-April through mid-October

Overview

This park contains 1,800 linear feet of river frontage along Black River directly contiguous to the City's downtown. The park provides the public with pedestrian access from the downtown to the City's South Beach and offers very scenic views of Lake Michigan. The park includes picnic areas, fishing areas, public restrooms, and an excellent view of the harbor. This park is also the location of the summer Riverfront Concert Series and the primary location for Harborfest and the National Blueberry Festival.

ADA Accessibility Rating

5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Restroom facility items

Mutt Mitts

Grills

Sprinkler System

Riverfront Park Aerial



Riverfront Park



View looking east at park



View of rip rap along river

Riverfront Park

View looking west
at park



View looking east of east end of park

Riverfront Park



View of pavilion

SHARP Park
South Haven Area Regional Park

Location

103 & 71st St.

Size 96 acres

Park Type

Athletic Complex

Park Amenities

Soccer fields

Ball diamonds

Tennis courts

Walking trails

Concessions

Restrooms

Picnic areas

General Information

In 2008 the city purchased this land for the designated regional park site. The SHARP committee is in the campaign stage raising the money to repay the city for the land purchase. After the funds have been raised to cover the cost of the land, then SHARP can enter into phase one of development.

Overview

Existing parks and school ball fields have served the community well over the years. As participation grows in league sports the demand for additional fields increases and the existing fields which are experiencing excessive wear from overuse can no longer meet the current demand.

Hundreds of area children, teens and adults are involved in community athletic programs in South Haven and the surrounding townships. This park will meet the current and future needs of all the athletes in the region.

ADA Accessibility Rating

5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design.

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

To assist SHARP with administrative support, to encourage the SHARP committee to begin phase 1 of development.

SHARP Park Aerial



Stanley Johnston Park

Location

202 Dyckman Ave

Size 6.7 acres

Park Type

Community Park

Park Amenities

Grills (2) **Good Condition**

Picnic Tables (13) **Good Condition**

Picnic Shelter/Pavilion **Fair Condition**

Restroom Facility- **Fair Condition**

- Men's -
 - 1 stall
 - 3 urinal
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
- Women's -
 - 2 Stalls
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer

Baby Swing Set (2) **Outdated, (*NPSIS)**

Adult 3 Bay Swing Set **Good Condition**

Basketball Court (1) **Fair Condition**

Drinking Fountain (1) **Fair Condition**

Trash Receptacles (5) **Good Condition**

Benches (3) **Good Condition**

Gazebo

Walking Path

Sprinkler System

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Free Parking

Restrooms open mid-April through mid-October

Overview

Located on a bluff above the Black River, this park has extremely dense areas of mature trees, yet it also provides excellent views of the City's harbor, downtown South Haven and even Lake Michigan. In 2007 a portion of the Harbor Walk was completed along the Southside of the park lending beautiful views of the moored vessels and the river traffic. The park contains a picnic structure with bathroom facilities, playground equipment which includes swings, basketball courts, and

tree-lined walks that meander throughout. The Park is the location of the City's major arts and craft fairs including the Fourth of July, Blueberry Festival and the All Crafts Fair during Labor Day Weekend. In 2008 the South Haven Community Foundation granted a gift for improvements to include an ADA walking path, gazebo, picnic area and landscaping that reflects Stanley Johnston's work.

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace existing play structures to meet National Playground Safety Institute Standards
Update current infrastructure
Increase bathroom facilities

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

None

As needed/ replacement

Picnic tables
Benches
Trash receptacles/Trash bags
Basketball nets/hoops/backboards
Play structures/equipment
Restroom facility items
Grills
Sprinkler System

Stanley Johnston Aerial



Stanley Johnston



View looking south at park



View looking south at park

Stanley Johnston



View looking west of park



View looking northwest of park

Stanley Johnston



Views of pavilion/restroom facility



Stanley Johnston



Restroom

Blue Stairs Beach Access

Location

562 Monroe Blvd

Size 1.39 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacles (1) - Good Condition

Benches (7) - Good Condition

General Information

No entrance fee

Free Parking on street

Overview

The Blue Stairs provide access to Lake Michigan near Kid's Corner from Monroe Blvd. The Stairs are of steel construction and descend a steep bluff from Monroe Blvd. to the beach. Without the stairs this area would be severely eroded. The stairs are old and in constant need of repair, replacement with new stairs would be the ideal situation.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Flatten/dig out area at bottom of stairs

Paint stairs

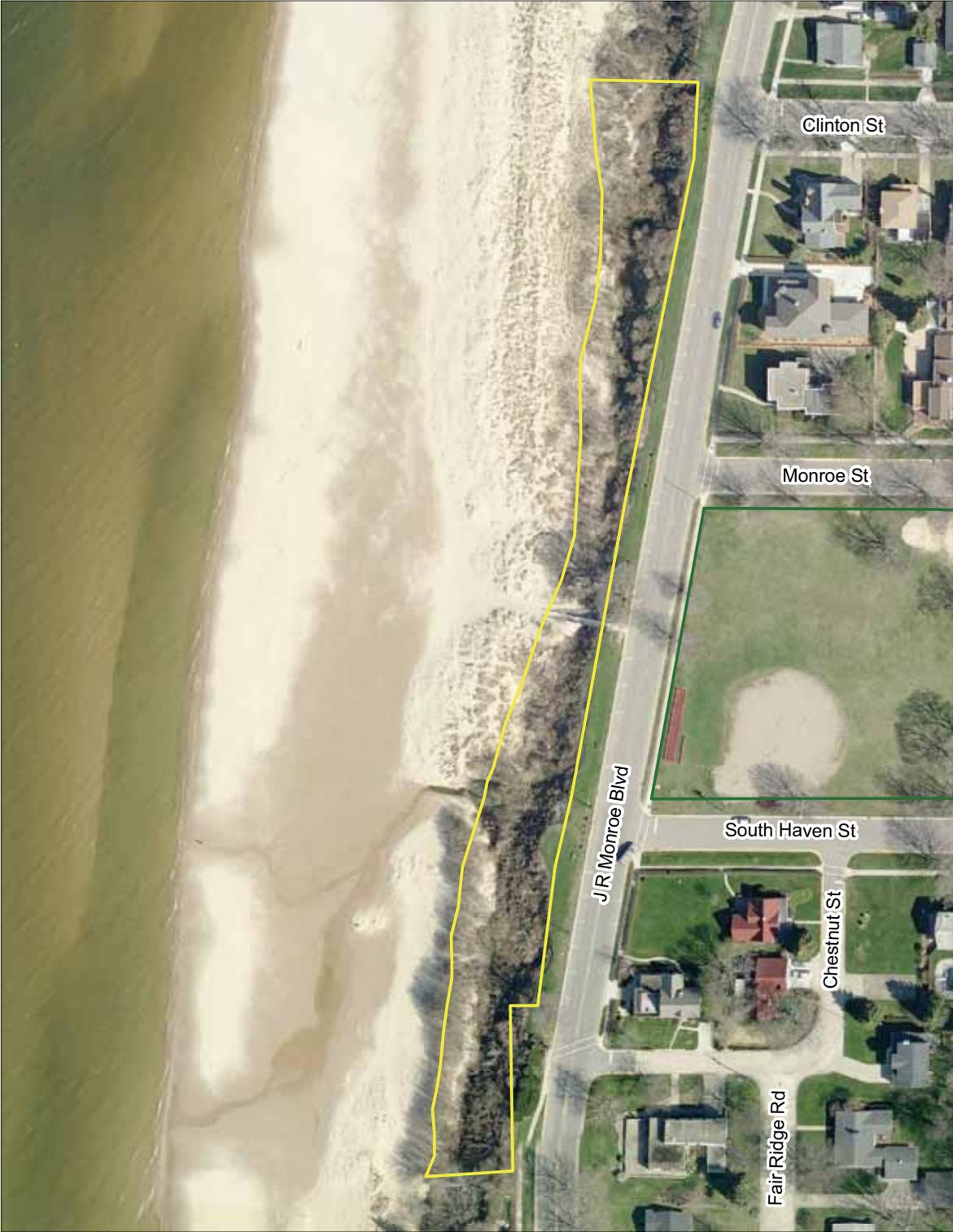
Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Benches

Blue Stairs Beach Access Aerial



Blue Stairs Beach Access



View looking south at top of Blue Stairs



View looking west at top of Blue Stairs

Blue Stairs Beach Access



Views walking down the stairs



Blue Stairs Beach Access



View looking east, from bottom of stairs

Dyckman Beach Access

Location

175 North Shore Drive

Size 1.18 acres

Park Type

Beach Access

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacle (1) – [Good Condition](#)

Boardwalk with seating overlook at end - [Good Condition](#)

Non –motorized watercraft launch site

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Overview

Dyckman Access is a public access point located on the north side of town that provides an access to Lake Michigan.

Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Re-landscape area between road and parking lot (remove fence)

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Dyckman Beach Access Aerial



Dyckman Beach Access



View looking west at Dyckman Access



View looking east at parking lot

Dyckman Beach Access

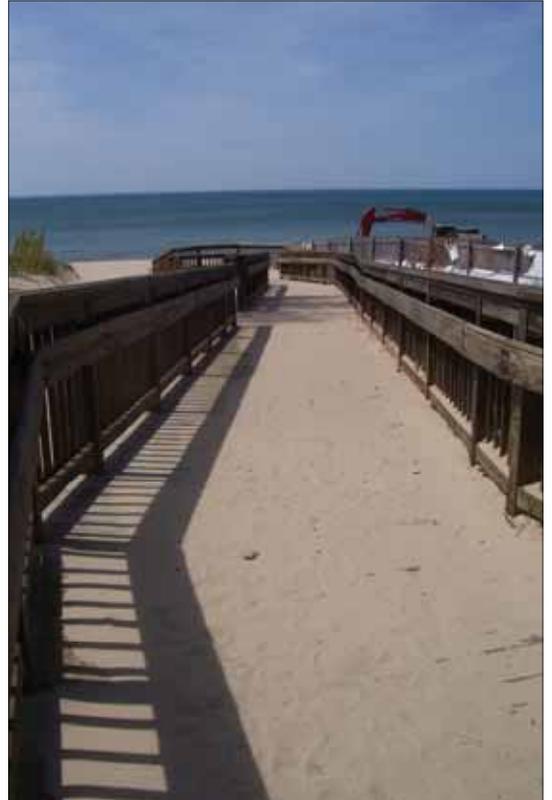


View looking west at boardwalk



View looking south at stairs from boardwalk to beach

Dyckman Beach Access



Boardwalk Views



Dyckman Beach Access



View looking west at beach from boardwalk

Kentucky Access

Location

End of Kentucky Ave.

Size 0.21 Acres

Park Type

Neighborhood Park

Park Amenities

Non –motorized watercraft launch site

Overview

Non –motorized public access to the platted park on the Black River, road owned by residents, access granted to city vehicles. Possibly the site for off- loading dredge material for future dredging operations.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

None

As needed replacement

None

Kentucky Access Aerial



Kentucky Access



Looking south at end of Kentucky

Newcome Beach Access

Location

725 North Shore Drive

Size 0.48 acres

Park Type

Beach Access

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacle (1) – [Good Condition](#)

Stairs - [Good Condition](#)

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

No parking is available except along Northshore Dr.

Overview

Newcome access is a public access point located on the north side of town that provides an access to Lake Michigan. Some residents in this area requested that stairs be built to enhance the lake access, and slow down the erosion that is taking place. The City and local residents combined efforts and were able to hire a contractor to build stairs to this beach site. This project was completed in 2002.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Have public walkway placed from road to stairs

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Newcome Beach Access Aerial



Newcome Beach Access



View looking west at park from North Shore Drive



Newcome Beach Access

View looking east at stairs from beach



View looking west at beach from bottom of stairs

North Beach

Location

45 Lakeshore Dr.

Size 13.91 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Picnic Tables (5) – Fair Condition

Concession with Restroom Facility- Whole building needs replaced

- Men's -
 - 2 stall
 - 1 urinal
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
- Women's -
 - 5 Stalls
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer

Baby Swing Set (1) -Good Condition

Adult Swing Set -Good Condition

Trash Receptacles - Good Condition

Slide (1) - Fair Condition

Sidewalk

Benches (13) - Good Condition

Bike Rack (1) -Good Condition

Foot Shower (1) - Good Condition

Swim area buoyed off by MDNR permit

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Pay and Park Program (May 15 – September 15)

Restrooms open mid-May through September

Overview

The City's North Beach continues to receive heavy use by the community and visitors. It has over 1600 lineal feet of Lake Michigan frontage beach for the public to enjoy. The beach, located adjacent to the Monroe Park residential area, has ninety-eight parking spaces, a bathroom, concession stand, play equipment, and access to the north pier. The existing bathroom facilities were renovated in 1990, however, still receive heavy use, require a lot of maintenance and still do not meet the demand that the public places on them. Efforts to obtain a grant in 2001 were unsuccessful. City Council has approved reapplying for grant monies

in the future. Plans would most likely include demolishing the old and construct all new restroom/concession facilities. Additional parking could enhance this area; however, the limited space prohibits this.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace concession stand/restrooms

Repave parking lot/Lakeshore Dr.

Add a climbing structure

Replace existing handicap accessible walkway

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Needs drinking fountain

Needs more picnic tables

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

Bike rack

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Play structures/equipment

Restroom facility items

Foot Shower

North Beach Aerial



North Beach



View looking southwest at beach



View of footwash

North Beach

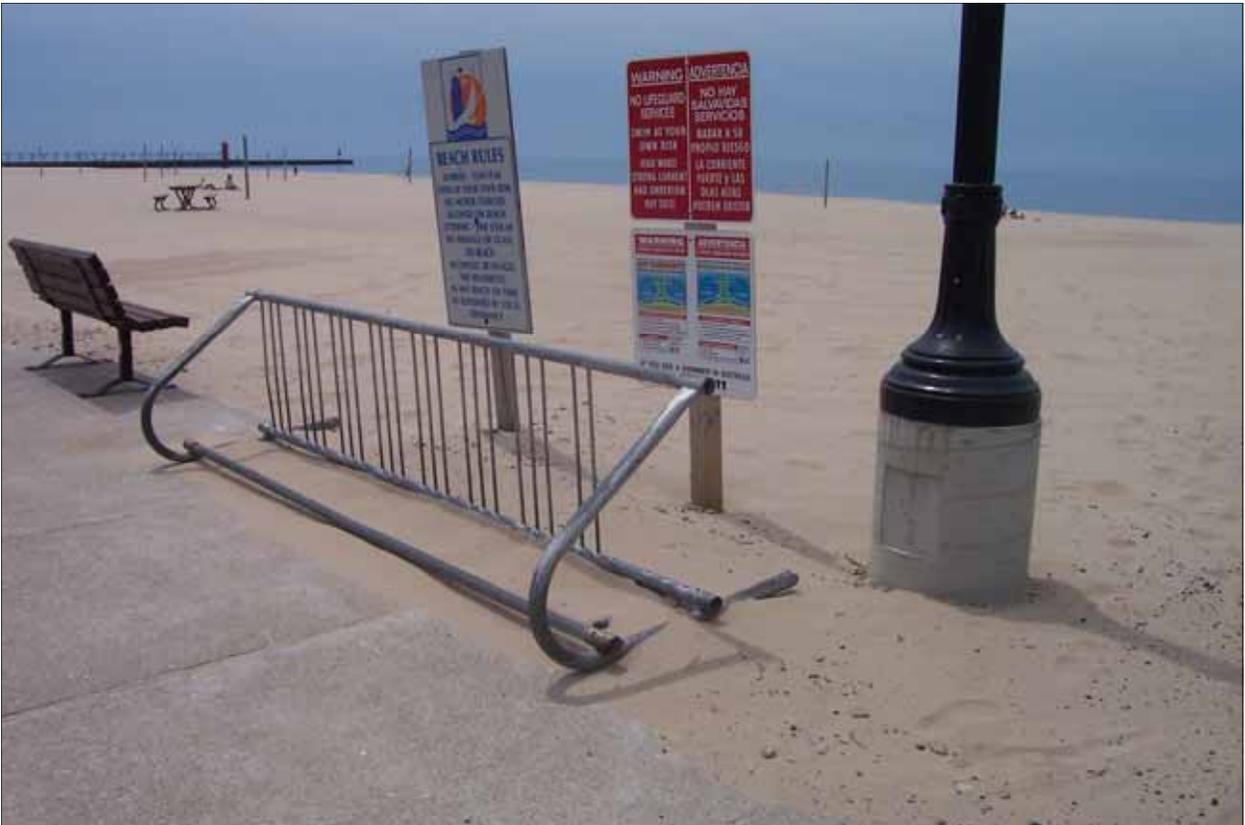


View looking west at handicap accessible boardwalk

North Beach



View looking south at beach



View looking southwest at beach

North Beach



View looking northwest at beach



View of baby swings at North Beach

North Beach



View looking west at the south end of North beach

Oak Street Beach Access

Location

725 North Shore Drive

Size 0.59 acres

Park Type

Beach Access

Park Amenities

Trash Receptacle (1) – Good Condition

Sidewalk - Good Condition

Concrete Stairs – Steep (but in 2007 added railing)

Boardwalk - Good Condition

Benches – (3) Good Condition

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Overview

Oak Street Access is a public access point located on the north side of town that provides an access to Lake Michigan.

ADA Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

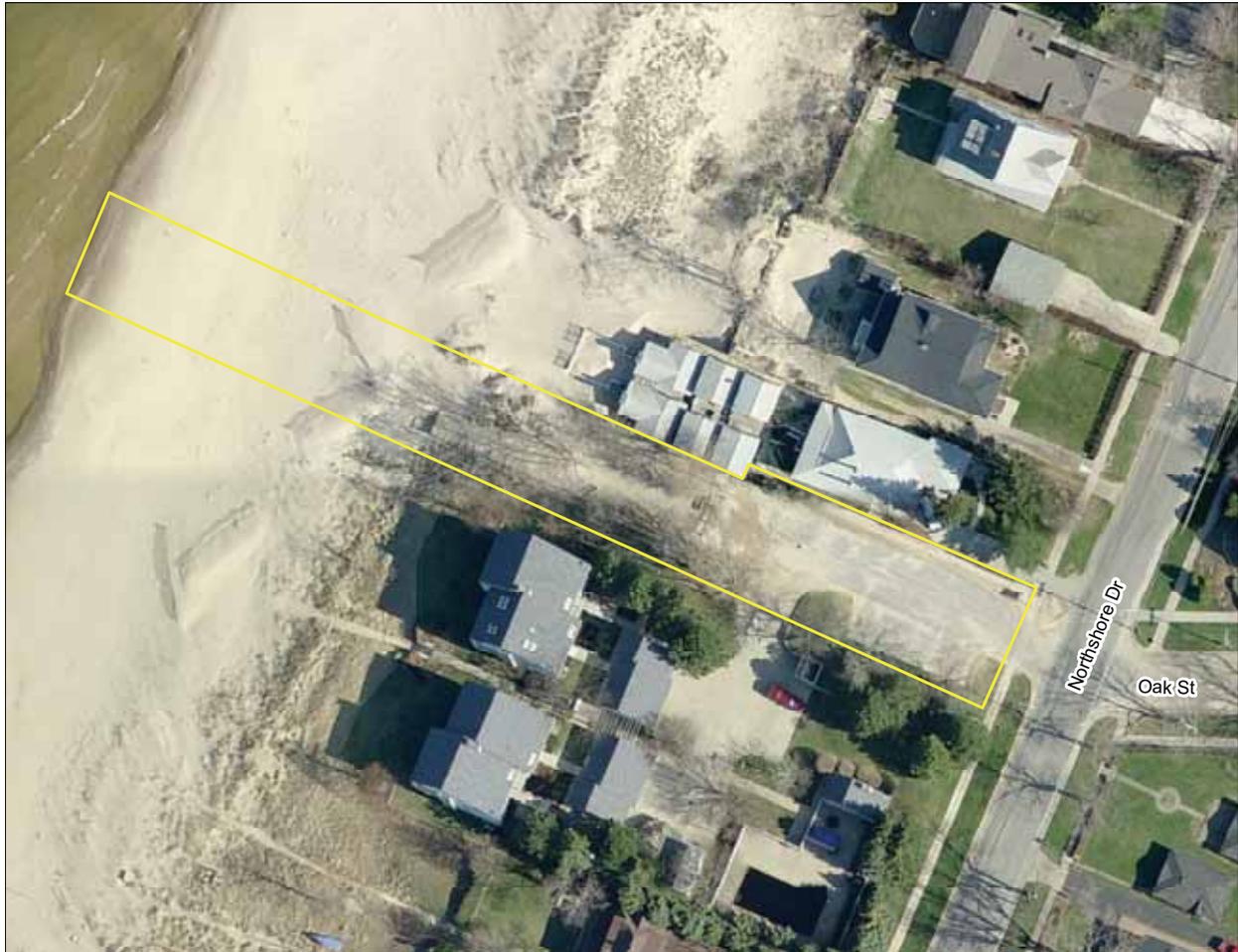
Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Benches

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Oak Street Beach Access Aerial



Oak Street Beach Access



View looking west from North Shore Dr.



Looking east at wall along sidewalk that would look nice with a mural upon it

Oak Street Beach Access



Looking east down concrete stairs with new railing that was installed in 2007



Looking south at part of the board walk and two of the benches

Oak Street Beach Access



Looking west at more of the boardwalk



Looking north at stairs from board walk to beach

Oak Street Beach Access



View looking east at stairs/boardwalk from beach

Packard Park Beach

Location

231 North Shore Drive

Size 3.82 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Grills (3) - **Good Condition**

Picnic Tables (7) – **Good Condition but not handicap accessible**

Restroom Facility- **main doors could be replaced**

- Men's - **Good Condition**
 - 1 stall
 - 1 urinal
 - 2 changing rooms
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
 - 1 baby changing table
- Women's - **Good Condition**
 - 2 Stalls
 - 2 changing rooms
 - 1 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
 - 1 baby changing table

Trash Receptacles (2) - **Good Condition**

Sidewalks

- From road sidewalk to building - **Good Condition**
- From building to back parking lot - **Sidewalk squares are uneven and have stairs (non ADA accessible)**

Concrete Climbing Structures - **Good Condition**

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Free Parking on street

Restrooms open mid-April through mid-October

Overview

This park is owned by the Public School System but through an agreement with the City, the City provides the upkeep and maintenance of the park through its Parks Department. Packard Park has over three hundred feet of frontage on Lake Michigan. Restrooms, picnic tables and grills are available along with 68 parking spaces, which is incorporated in the beach pay and park program.

Landscaping has been done along the northside of the parking lot in an effort to camouflage the privacy fence and also aesthetically improve the site.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Redo retaining wall and steps that lead to restroom

- Make steps in to an ADA ramp.
- Redo /widen sidewalk from this new ramp to restroom
 - Extend current sidewalk to the North side of the park/parking lot

Parking lot redone

Add handicap accessible walkway to beach

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Landscaping (around building and along wall)

Needs a bike rack

Needs drinking fountain/footwash

Needs 2 handicap accessible picnic table

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

Bike rack (when added)

Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Restroom facility items

Grills

Packard Park Beach Aerial



Packard Park Beach



View looking west at park from North Shore Dr.



View looking southwest at park



View looking northwest at park

Packard Park Beach



View looking west at wall along northside of parking lot/
park.



View looking west at boardwalk

Packard Park Beach



View looking west at stairs from boardwalk to beach



View looking west at natural walkway to beach

Packard Park Beach



View looking east from beach at stairs and natural walkway



View looking south at parking lot

Packard Park Beach



View looking east at parking lot, retaining wall and back of park.



View looking east at stairs from parking lot to the park

Packard Park Beach



View looking east at sidewalk from stairs



View of sidewalk (between bathroom facilities and stairs) that is being pushed up by tree roots

Packard Park Beach



Bathroom Facility



Packard Park Beach



Women's Restroom



Packard Park Beach



Men's Restroom



South Beach

Location

60 Water St.

Size 8.5 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Picnic Tables

- 15 movable
- 5 permanent

Restrooms -Fair Condition

- Men's -
 - 2 stall
 - 2 urinal
 - 2 sink
 - 1 hand dryer
- Women's -
 - 4 Stalls
 - 2 sink
 - 1 hand dryer

Shower (backside of restroom facility) -Fair Condition

2 Bay Baby Swing Set (1) -Good Condition

2 Bay Adult Swing Set (1) - Good Condition

Drinking Fountain (1) -Good Condition

Concession with some inside seating - Fair Condition

Climbing structures (2) - Fair Condition

Picnic Shelter/Pavilion (1) - Fair Condition

Trash Receptacles (9) -Good Condition

Sidewalks

Benches (4) -Good Condition

Skate Park - Fair Condition

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Restrooms open mid-May through September

Overview

The South Beach has over two thousand lineal feet of frontage on Lake Michigan for the public to enjoy. South Beach is located next to and connected to the downtown by the City's Riverfront Park. The play equipment has been replaced

with new equipment that meets National Playground Safety Institute Standards. Existing facilities include a concession building which is located at the Northeast end of the parking lot, it is a very old facility, yet well maintained. However, this facility would be much safer if relocated to the riverside of the street. Additional facilities that serve both visitors to the beach and Riverfront Park include a picnic shelter with grills and tables, restroom facility with an outside shower for rinsing off sand.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Replace existing handicap accessible walkway

Make Improvements to park in accordance to South Beach Master Plan

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Needs drinking fountain

Needs more picnic tables

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

Bike rack

Benches

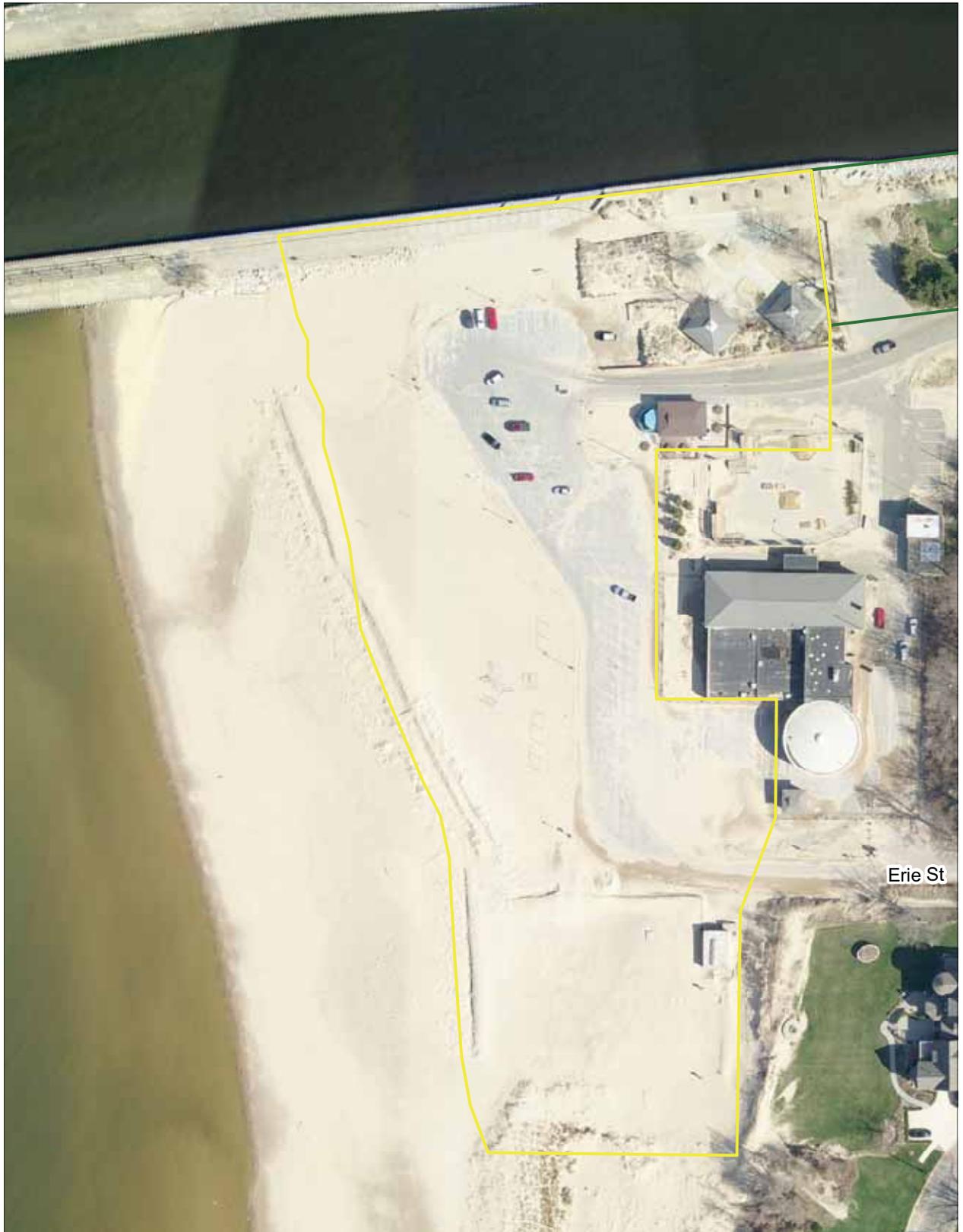
Trash receptacles/Trash bags

Play structures/equipment

Restroom facility items

Shower heads

South Beach Aerial



South Beach



View looking west at south entrance



View looking northwest at parking lot and beach

South Beach



Views of play equipment on beach



South Beach



View looking northeast at concession stand



View looking northwest at pier/lighthouse

South Beach

Views of boardwalk looking west



South Beach



View looking south at beach



View looking east

South Beach



View looking east at path leading to bathrooms /pavilion



View looking east at pavilion

South Beach



Women's Restroom



South Beach



Men's Restroom



Street Access's

Location

Apache Court – end of street
Beaver Court – end of street
Chippewa Court – end of street
Delaware Court – end of street
Lake Court- end of street

Size

Apache Court	0.08 acres
Beaver Court	0.11 acres
Chippewa Court	0.069 acres
Delaware Court	0.107 acres
Lake Court	0.12 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Apache Court – Benches (3) – [Good Condition, rebuilt in 2008](#)

Overview

These street's right-of-ways give view to Lake Michigan, currently slope constraints prevent access to the beach.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Benches

Apache Court Aerial



Beaver Court Aerial



Chippewa Court Aerial



Delaware Court Aerial



Apache Court



Looking west at end of Apache Court



Benches at Apache Court

Beaver Court



Looking west at end of Beaver Court

Chippewa Court



Looking west at end of Chippewa Court

Delaware Court



Looking west at end of Delaware Court

Van Buren Stairs Beach Access

Location

526 Monroe Blvd.

Size 0.60 acres

Park Type

Lake Michigan Beach

Park Amenities

Drinking Fountain with footwash (1) - Good Condition (2002)

Trash Cans (1) - Good Condition

Sidewalks

Benches (3) - Good Condition

General Information

No entrance fee

Free Parking on street

Overview

This area is on Monroe Boulevard and provides beautiful overlook of Lake Michigan, the lighthouse and the harbor. In 2002, efforts were combined and volunteers built an overlook deck accessible to wheelchairs. The project was spearheaded by a local resident in memory of her handicapped daughter. The city installed a handicap accessible drinking fountain to complete this site.

ADA Accessibility Rating

2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Needs bike rack

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

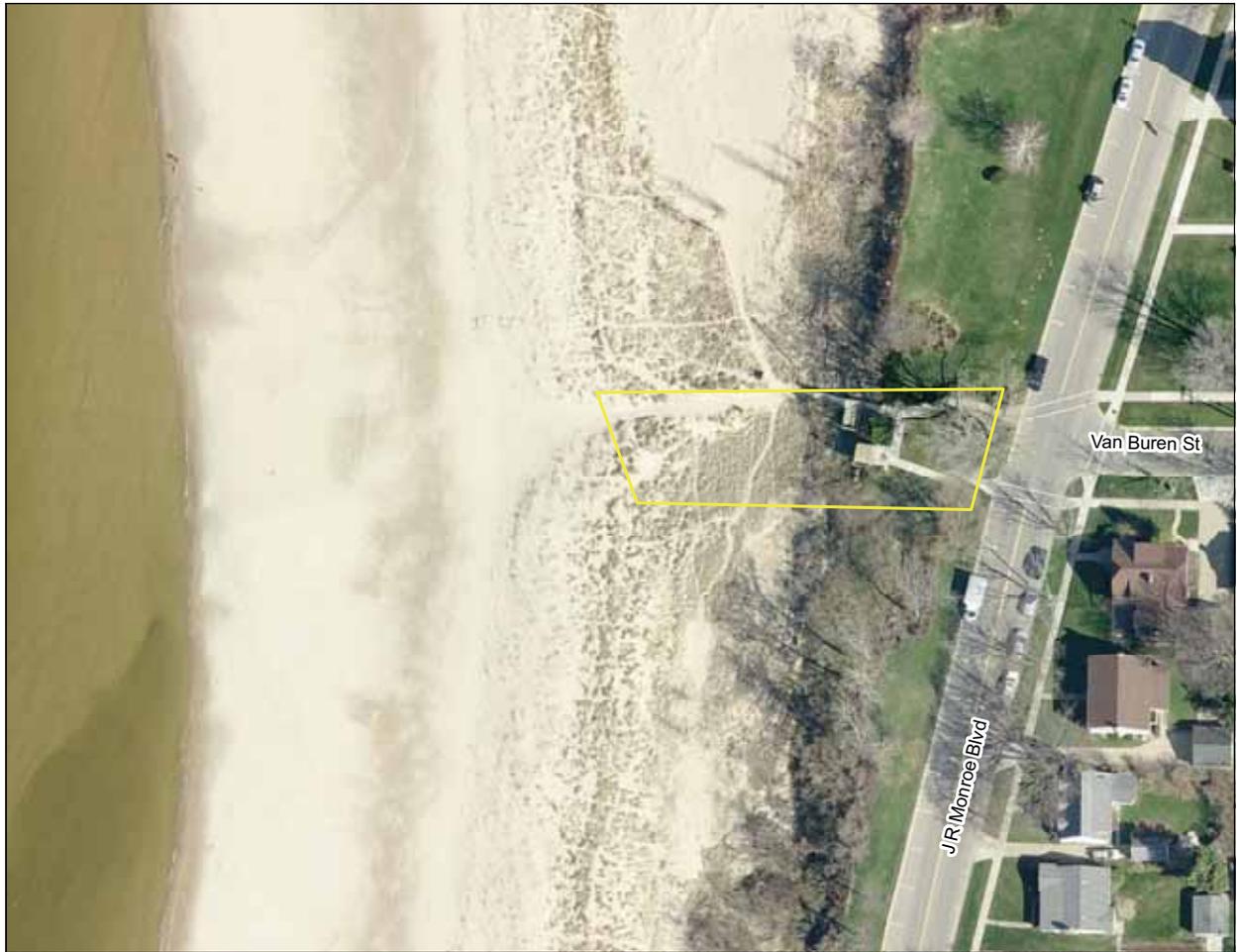
As needed replacement

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Benches

Drinking Fountain with footwash

Van Buren Stairs Beach Access Aerial



Van Buren Stairs Beach Access



View looking west at park



View looking northwest at park

Van Buren Stairs Beach Access



Handicap accessible drinking fountain



View looking west at wooden overlook

Van Buren Stairs Beach Access



View looking west at top of stairs



View looking down stairs

Van Buren Stairs Beach Access



Views looking east at stairs



Woodman Beach Access

Location

375 North Shore Drive

Size 1.13 acres

Park Type

Beach Access

Park Amenities:

Trash Receptacle (1) – [Good Condition](#)

Non –motorized watercraft launch site

General Information:

Park hours/rules posted at park

No entrance fee

Park and Pay Program (May 15 – September 15)

Overview

Woodman access is a public access point located on the north side of town that provides an access to Lake Michigan.

Accessibility Rating

1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Replace worn signs

Filter the water from storm drain that flows into Lake Michigan

As needed replacement

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Woodman Beach Access Aerial



Woodman Beach Access



View looking west from North Shore Dr.

Woodman Beach Access



View looking west at parking

Woodman Beach Access



Views looking west at beach



Harborwalk

Location

Trail along the Black River, connecting the North and South Pier

Size 1.989 miles

Park Type

Park Trail

Park Amenities

Interpretation plaques

Access to public restrooms

Trash receptacles

Overview

In 2001 the city initiated the Harborwalk project to serve as a public walkway for pedestrian use. The Harborwalk connects the north pier to the south pier crossing over the Dyckman Bridge. The Harborwalk serves as the focus for all waterfront activities found in the city. Walking along the Harborwalk you will find information about the diverse history of the community as well as the dynamic vision of the people of South Haven today. The Harborwalk is designed to be safe, accessible, well maintained and self guided. It provides a wide variety of waterfront activities and also accesses two city parks.

ADA Accessibility Rating

4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Trail improvements

- Area from North Shore Drive to South Street
- Area crossing Dyckman Bridge
- Enhance trail markers (i.e. signs, sidewalk markers)
- Lighting

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

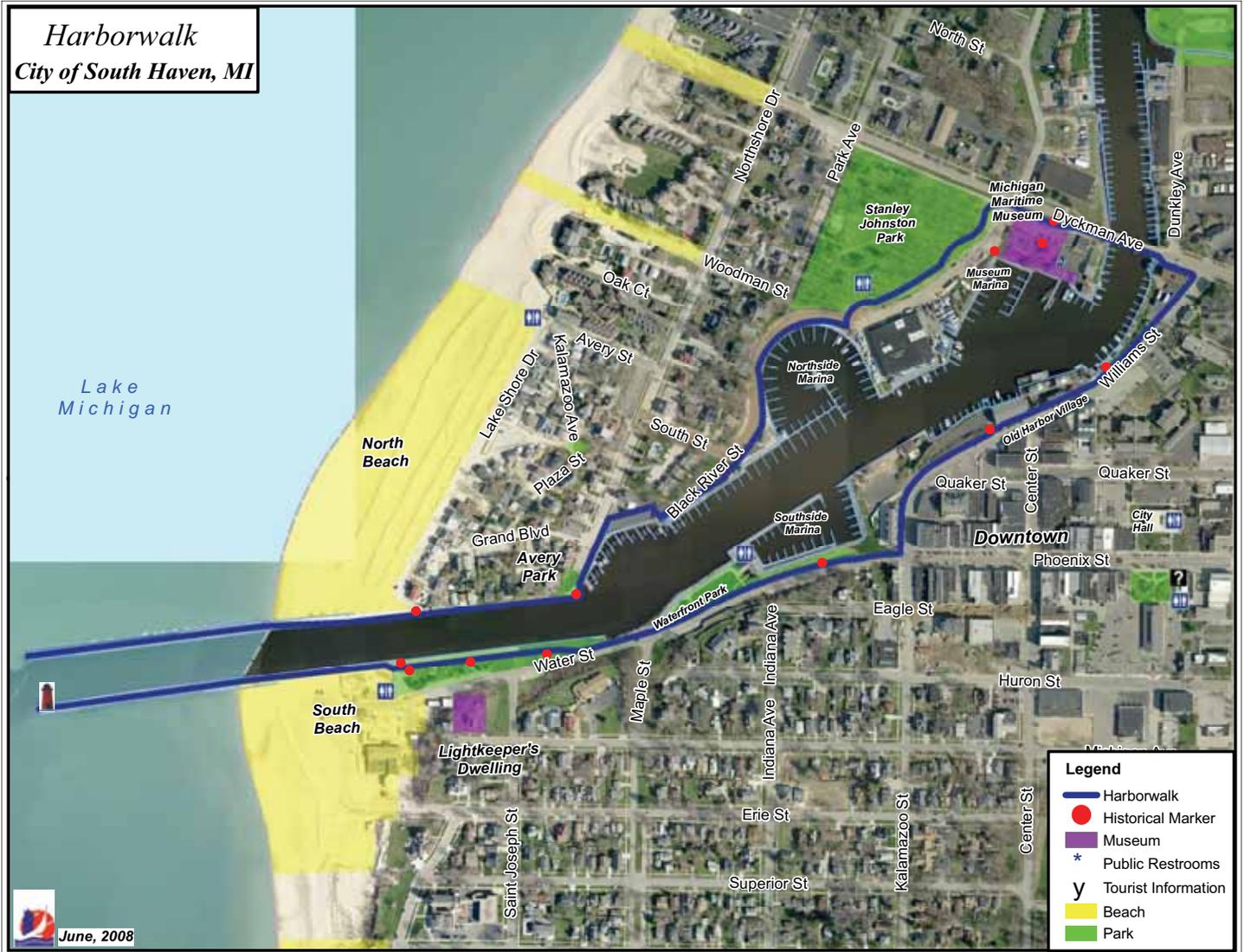
Budget Item

None

As needed replacement

None

Harborwalk Aerial



Harborwalk



View looking west at Harborwalk/North Pier

View looking east at Harborwalk along the north side of river



Harborwalk



View looking west at Harborwalk along the north side of river

View looking northwest at Harborwalk near Ellen Avery Park



Harborwalk



View looking east at Harborwalk along North Shore Drive

Harborwalk area from North Shore Drive to South Street



Harborwalk



Harborwalk area from
North Shore Drive to South
Street

Harborwalk area from
North Shore Drive to South
Street



Harborwalk



Harborwalk area from
North Shore Drive to South
Street

Harborwalk area from
North Shore Drive to South
Street



Harborwalk



View looking northeast at Harborwalk near the Northside Marina

View looking northeast at Harborwalk near the Northside Marina



Harborwalk



View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.

Harborwalk crosswalk



Harborwalk



View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.

View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.



Harborwalk



View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.

View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.



Harborwalk



View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.

View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Black River Street.

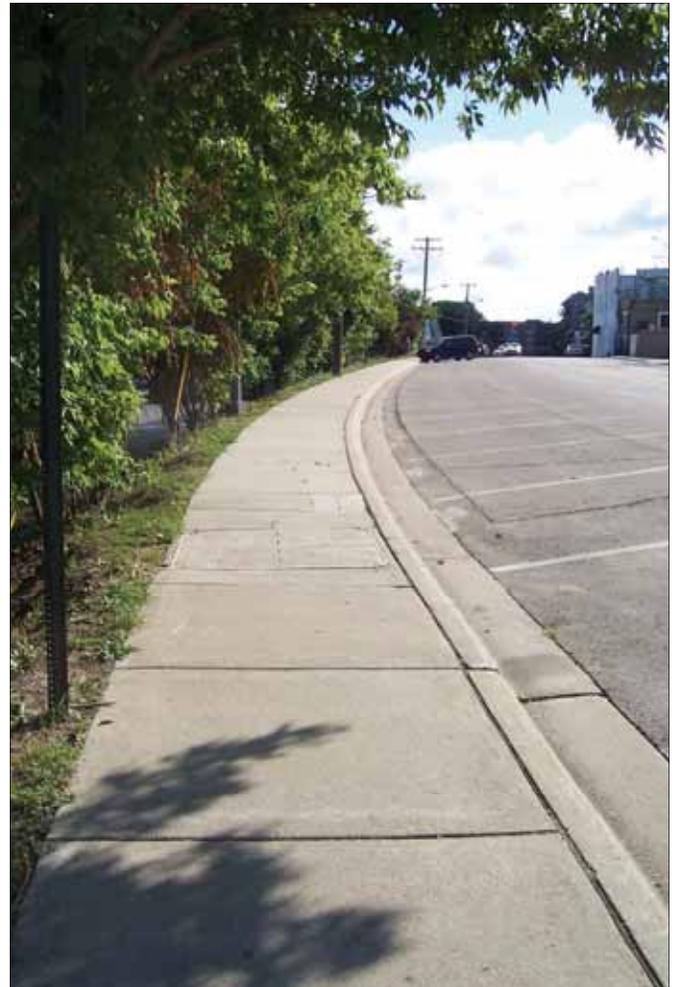


Harborwalk



View looking east at Harborwalk crossing over Dyckman Bridge

View looking northeast at Harborwalk along Williams Street

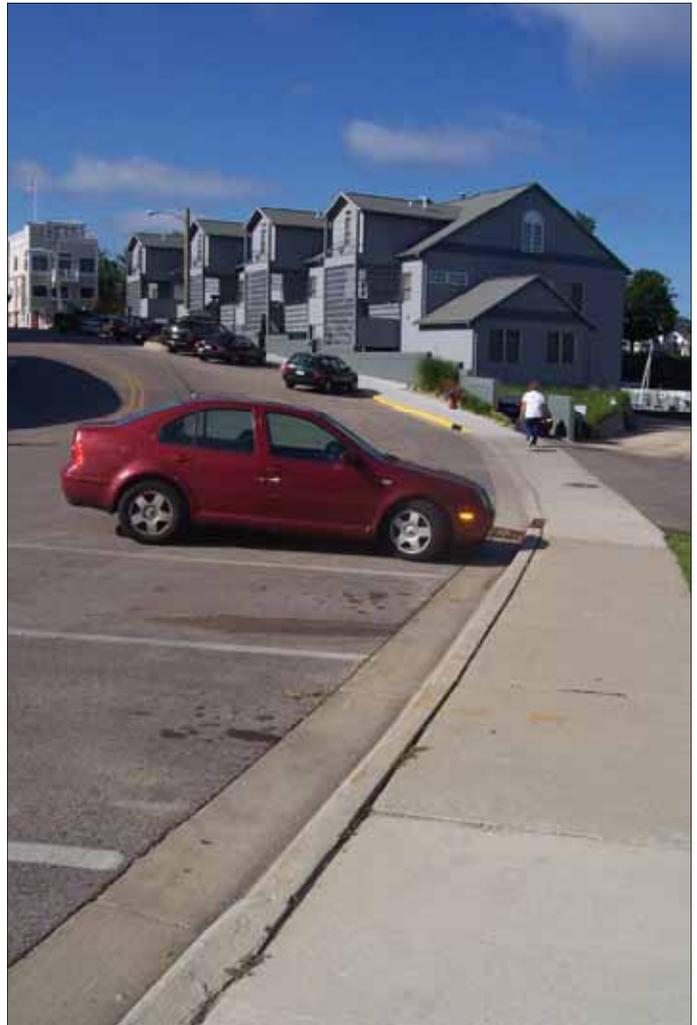


Harborwalk



View looking west at Harbor walk along Water Street

View looking southeast at Harborwalk along Williams Street



Black River Park Marina

Location

132 Dunkley St.

Size 8.92 acres

Park Type

Marina/Boat Launch/Community Park

Park Amenities

60 docks with 30 Amp electric and water hook ups at docks

10 Lane Launch Ramp

Picnic Shelter

Trash Receptacles

Fish Cleaning Station

Dumpster

Grills

Boater / Public Restrooms

Showers

Free Kayak & Canoe Launch Ramp (official access site for Bangor/South Haven

Heritage Water Trail)

Public fishing Access

Benches

Mutt Mitts

General Information

Park hours/rules posted at park

\$7 entrance launch fee

Open April 15- October 15 (Marina)

Overview

This municipal marina also serves as a park which is located upstream of the draw bridge. The facility provides 10 launch ramps for trailored boats, two of which are designed for personal watercraft only. The City received a grant from Waterways Commission in 2000-2001 to add the personal watercraft launch ramps, and additional parking and landscaping. There are 60 existing boat slips, 1 thru 20 are 24' in length and 21-60 are 30' in length. In 2002, the City rebuilt docks 20-60, added the steel sea wall and upgraded the marine pedestals to each slip. Also at this time in conjunction with the local Steel Headers Association the city applied for and received a grant from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust Fund to build a fishing area just east of the slips at Black River Park. With this grant we were able to install approximately 270 feet of steel seawall, 10 foot concrete fishing platform, new parking with curb and gutter, appropriate lighting, and landscaping to camouflage the sewage treatment plant, which is immediately south of this fishing area. Additionally, a unisex restroom has been built.

ADA Accessibility Rating

4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Develop a master plan

Replace fish cleaning station to a larger capacity in order to accommodate all fish

In 2007 City Council voted to add a linear park along the rivers edge, east of the existing park. This linear park will eventually connect the Kal-Haven Trail to the downtown area, providing visitors a trail along the Black River.

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add park entry sign which is consistent with park signage

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

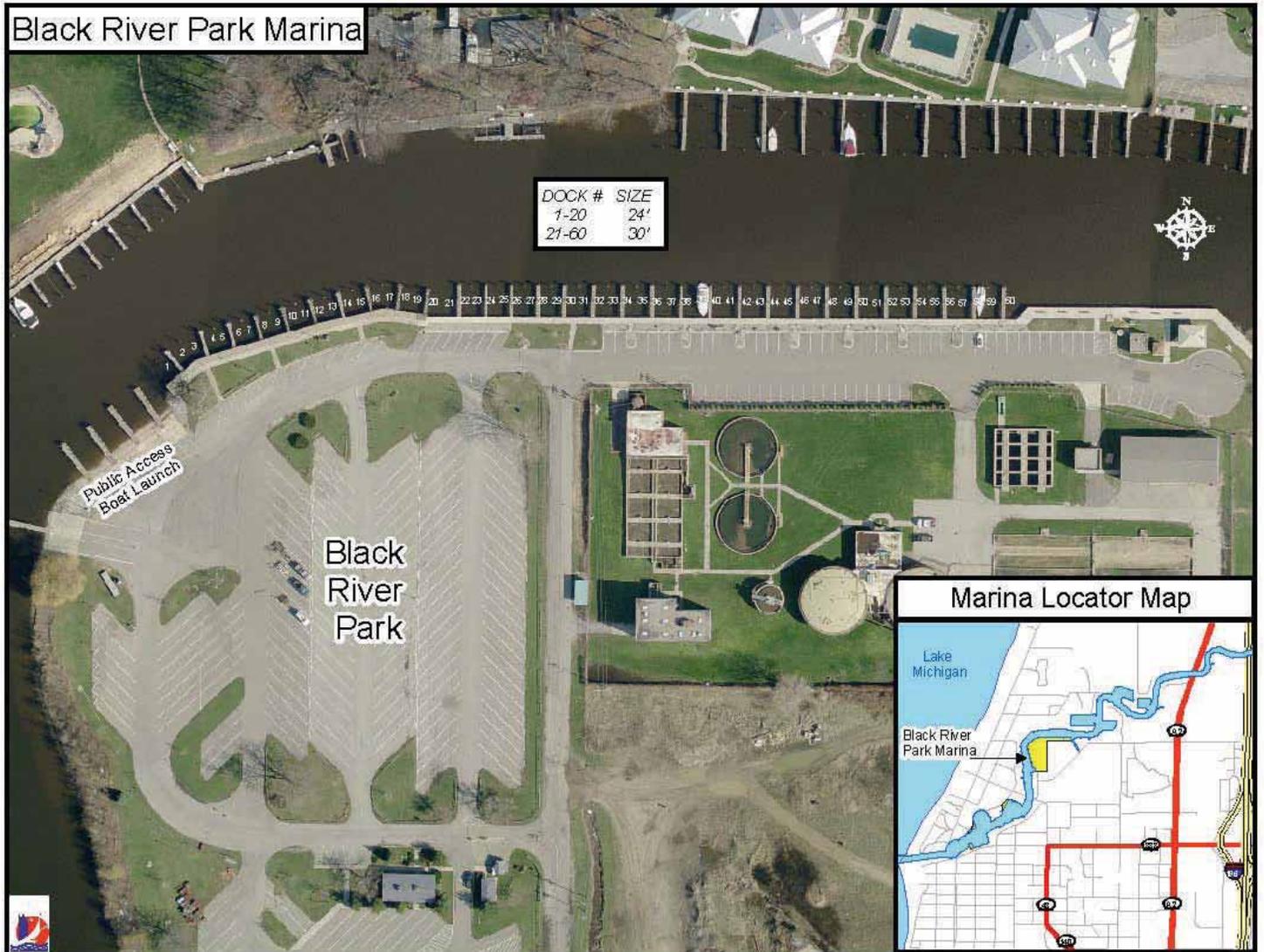
Benches

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Grills

Mutt Mitts

Black River Park Marina Aerial



Aerial of linear park along the Black River



In 2007 City Council voted to add a linear park along the rivers edge, east of the existing park. This linear park will eventually connect the Kal-Haven Trail to the downtown area, providing visitors a trail along the Black River.

Black River Park Marina



Black River Park Entrance



Black River Park



Restroom/shower facility



Fish cleaning station

Black River Park



Restrooms and showers



Black River Park



Parking Lot



Non-motorized boat launch

Black River Park



Launch Ramps



Black River Park



View looking east at park



View looking west at exit gate

Black River Park



Picnic Shelter and Public Restroom

Museum Marina

Location

148 Black River St.

Size 1.65 acres

Park Type

Marina

Park Amenities

26 docks available with an additional 300 feet of head wall for broadside dockage

30 Amp electric @ docks

Water hookups @ docks

Parking

Picnic Shelter

Grills

Benches

Trash Receptacles

Restrooms

Showers

Mutt Mitts

General Information

Open April 15- October 15

West of draw bridge so sailors don't have to wait

Just minutes from Lake Michigan

Close proximity to parks and beaches

Overview

Has a total of 26 slips with 300 feet of headdock for broadside dockage. All slips at this marina are 40' in length. In 2001, the electric and water was replaced with new utilities meeting current code. The facility was built in what used to be the turning basin. In 1990 Congress deauthorized this basin and turned ownership over to the City so this marina could be built. There are restrooms and shower facilities for boater use only.

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add more grills in a variety of locations, not just near shelter

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

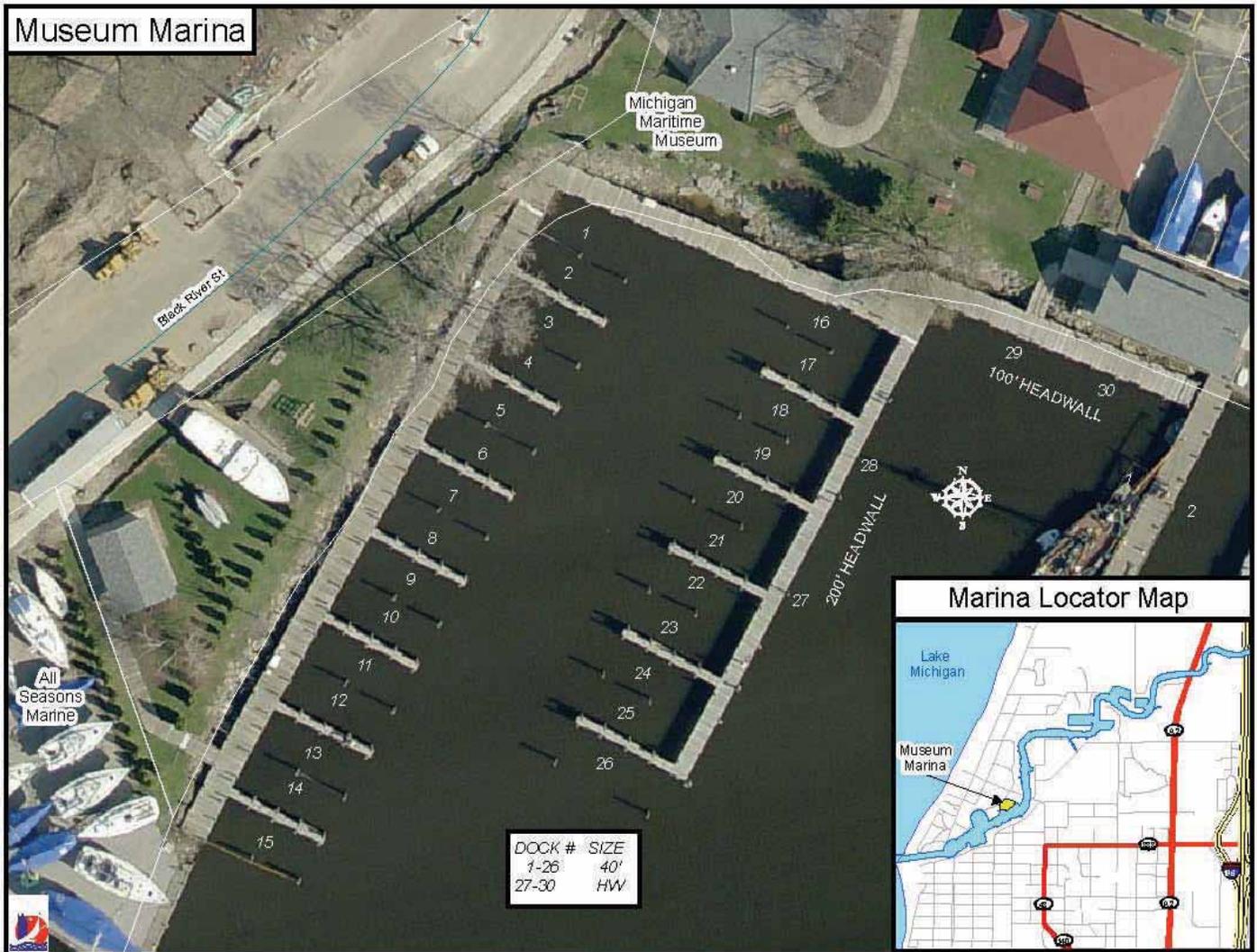
Benches

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Grills

Mutt Mitts

Museum Marina Aerial



Museum Marina



Restroom/shower facility



View looking west at park

Museum Marina



Docks

Northside Municipal Marina

Location

52 Black River Street

Size 4.41 acres

Park Type

Marina

Marina Amenities

97 docks of various lengths

30 & 50 Amp electric @ docks

Water hookups @ docks

ADA Dock

Assigned Parking

Picnic Shelter

Trash Receptacles

Fish Cleaning Station

Dumpster

Grills

Restrooms

Showers

Mutt Mitts

General Information

Open April 15- October 15

West of draw bridge so sailors don't have to wait

Just minutes from Lake Michigan

Close proximity to parks and beaches

Overview

The City is fortunate to have four Municipal Marinas. The northside marina is a Grant-In-Aid facility with 97 slips. This marina was built in the 1960's. The repairs to this facility were so extensive the city decided to make the improvements in three phases. The first phase was completed in 2002. The city in conjunction with MDNR and the Waterways Commission was awarded a grant to replace the old docks, upgrade the utilities, replace the picnic shelter, and install new landscaping. In 2006-2007 phase two of the project was completed when the city replaced Black River Street. This street doubles as the marina parking lot. This included adding curb and gutter, proper drainage, and placing of the utilities underground. The third phase of this project will be to construct a new club house for the boaters. Currently the administrative office, restrooms and showers are all one facility. The office is very small, boaters have to wait outside to register, showers are not ADA compliant and there are not enough. Future plans include the construction of a new club house facility to include an office for the Harbormaster, administrative office for boaters to

to register, new showers and restrooms, laundry facility and lounge with full kitchen. A facility of this nature can be used by the city for meetings and common gathering spots.

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)

Efforts to complete phase 3 have already been began and include building a public facility to include a club house with a common meeting area (a place for boaters to escape bad weather), ADA showers and restrooms, laundry facilities and a newly equipped office, in addition to public restrooms to serve the users of the Harborwalk

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

As needed replacement

Picnic tables

Benches

Trash receptacle/Trash bags

Grills

Mutt Mitts

Northside Municipal Marina Aerial



Northside Municipal Marina



View looking northeast at marina



Picnic area

Northside Municipal Marina



Grills



Showers

Southside Marina

Location

345 Water St.

Size 2.02

Park Type

Marina

Park Amenities

40 transient slips including 330 feet of broadside dockage

30 & 50 Amp electric @ docks

Water hookups @ docks

Parking

Picnic Shelter

Benches

Trash Receptacles

Laundry Facility

Dumpster

Grills

Viewing Deck

Restrooms for boaters and public

Showers

Boater Lounge

General Information

Open April 15- October 15

West of draw bridge so sailors don't have to wait

Just minutes from Lake Michigan

Close proximity to parks and beaches

Overview

This marina is the transient marina with 330 feet of broadside dockage and 40 slips which vary in size. This marina is adjacent to the central business district. Construction was completed in 1991 and facilities include an office, lounge, restrooms, shower and laundry facilities, picnic shelter with grill, public restrooms and a deck for viewing vessels in the harbor. The pedestals along the headwall had to be upgraded to provide 50 amp services to the larger vessels. Other than routine maintenance to include painting, pressure washing the docks etc. the facility remains in good shape.

ADA Accessibility Rating

3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines

Capital Improvement Recommendations (made in 2008)
None

Operational Recommendations (made in 2008)

Budget Item

Add additional 50 Amp service to some docks

As needed replacement

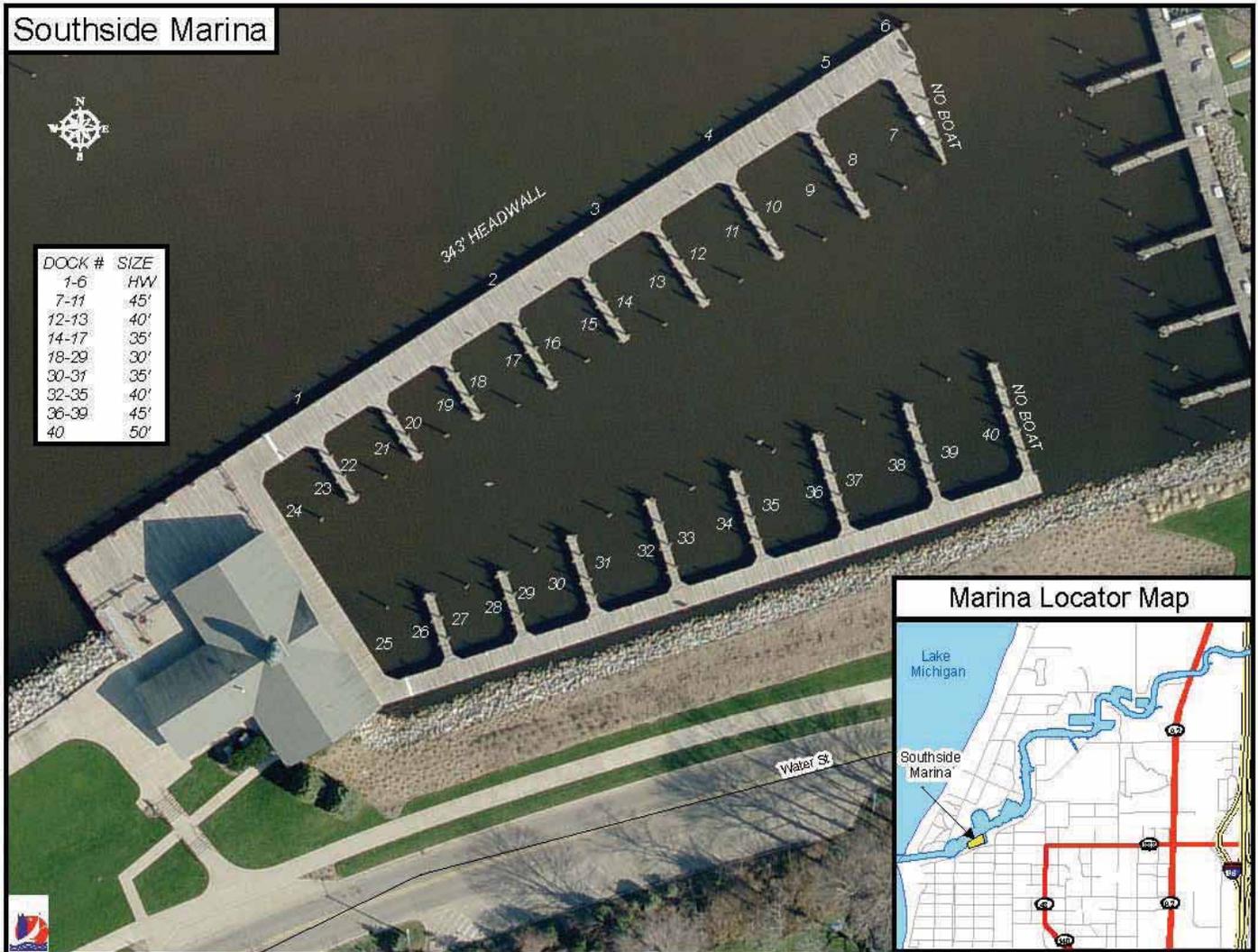
Picnic tables

Benches

Trash receptacle/trash bags

Grills

Southside Marina Aerial



Southside Marina



View looking north at Southside Marina



View looking southeast at Southside Marina

Southside Marina



Boaters lounge areas



Southside Marina



Laundry Facility



Restroom



Shower

Southside Marina



Docks