

# CITY OF ST. CLAIR

## PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN 2023-2027

ADOPTED: JANUARY 16, 2023





# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Bob Bieth, Pine Shores Golf Manager

*Assisted by the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission*

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# CHAPTER 1

# COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION



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## INTRODUCTION

Recreation and open space play an important role in the lives of the residents of St. Clair. The most recent Parks and Recreation Plan was updated in 2018. It included both short and long-term goals, some of which were accomplished in the following years. Significant accomplishments realized since the last plan have included the installation of a new Imagination Station playground, development of the Wildlife Landing at Rotary Park, completion of the Broadside Dock Study, and the start of the Clinton Avenue Bike Path that is being funded with assistance through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

The purpose of the current St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of the Recreation Department over the next five-year planning period, through 2027. The updated plan is intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning, which is necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

## WHAT THIS PLAN CONTAINS

This Plan follows the format suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans (2021)*. This first chapter provides a description of the community, including a summary of both the social and physical characteristics of the area, as well as a discussion of current planning initiatives affecting the area. The Administrative Structure chapter includes a description of how parks and recreation services are administered in the City, including budget and funding information. The Recreation Inventory chapter describes the existing parks and recreation facilities in the community, including state and regional recreation amenities. The inventory also includes an accessibility assessment and an inspection of previously grant-assisted park projects. The Planning Process and Public Input chapter presents the input received from local officials, City staff, and residents - all of which helped in formulating the Goals and Objectives and Action Plan chapters. The Action Program chapter outlines an action plan with strategies for implementation. Following these main chapters is an appendix which includes various supporting documents gathered throughout the planning process, as well as the official resolutions and notices documenting the Plan's adoption by City Council.

## PLANNING PROCESS

The process used to generate this five-year parks and recreation plan consisted of three phases: background studies, evaluation, and plan development. Background studies involved gathering and updating data from existing documents, plans, and surveys. The information is organized under the first three chapters: Community Description, Administrative Structure, and Recreation Inventory.

The second phase in the planning process included an evaluation and analysis of the gathered data and included garnering input from City officials and residents to determine recreation facility and program needs.

Finally, the last phase in the process involved plan development and adoption. Goals, objectives, and an action program were formulated based on the input gathered.



The City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Master Plan was developed from input from members of the City Council, the Recreation Commission, the Harbor Commission, the Recreation Department, City officials, and the residents of St. Clair.

## PLAN JURISDICTION: ST. CLAIR, MICHIGAN

The City of St. Clair is the jurisdiction of this plan. It is located in St. Clair County, Michigan, along the St. Clair River. The river has played a major role in the settlement, growth, and development of the county and the city. Early settlers used the river as a means of transportation. The City of St. Clair developed and prospered through waterborne commerce. Shipbuilding was a major source of employment during the early years until the 1920s when an increased reliance on rail and automobiles, as well as changing economic needs, caused a shift away from water transportation. Today, salt products and plastics remain as the City's major employment source and source of tax revenue.

The St. Clair Recreation Department serves not only the recreation needs of the city's residents, but also the needs of residents throughout neighboring communities. Therefore the service area considered throughout this document consists of the City of St. Clair, St. Clair Township, China Township, and East China Township.

## POPULATION AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

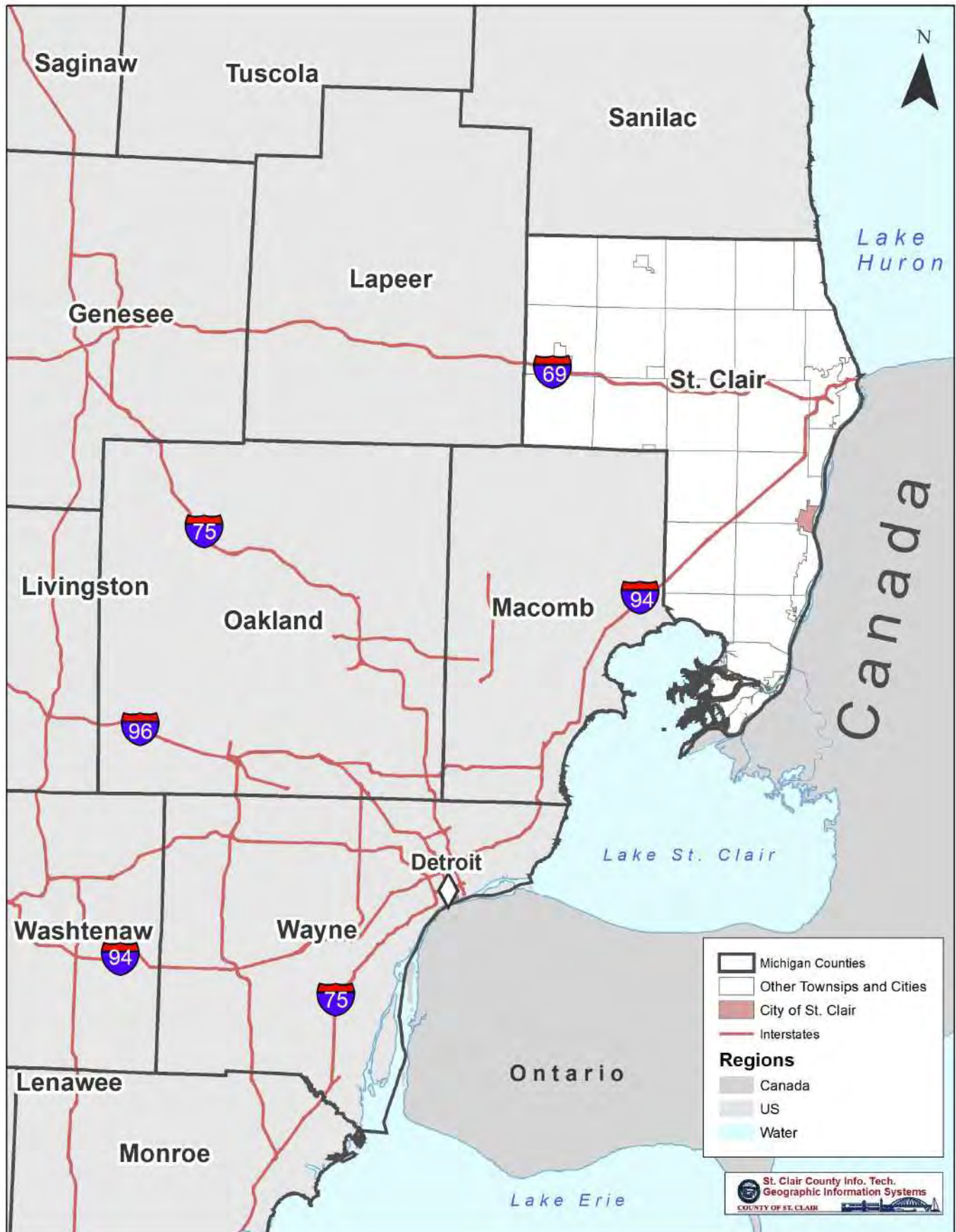
Since 2000, the population of St. Clair has seen a steady decline with the rate of decline greater than that of St. Clair County. The surrounding townships continue to see population growth. Projections provided by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) indicate St. Clair will continue to see a larger population decline than St. Clair County and the surrounding townships.

In addition to examining the number of people in St. Clair, it is important to understand the characteristics of the community. These qualities can suggest a need for certain types of recreational facilities or programs. The following tables present basic information about city residents based on the most current Census and SEMCOG data.

TABLE 1-1: HISTORICAL POPULATION, CITY OF ST. CLAIR AND ENVIRONS					
Community	1990	2000	2010	2020	% Change 2000-2020
City of St. Clair	5,116	5,802	5,485	5,464	-5.8%
St. Clair Twp	4,614	6,423	6,817	7,085	10.3%
China Twp	2,644	3,340	3,551	3,509	5.1%
East China Twp	3,216	3,630	3,788	3,704	2.0%
City + Townships	15,590	19,195	19,641	19,762	3.0%
St. Clair County	145,607	164,235	163,040	160,383	-2.3%
Region	4,521,177	4,833,493	4,704,743	4,830,489	-0.1%

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

MAP 1-1: CITY OF ST. CLAIR AND SURROUNDING REGION





**TABLE 1-2: POPULATION PROJECTIONS, CITY OF ST. CLAIR AND ENVIRONS**

Community	2040	2045	% Change 2040-2045
City of St. Clair	5,710	5,651	-1.0%
St. Clair Twp	7,240	7,277	0.5%
China Twp	3,844	3,835	-0.2%
East China Twp	4,384	4,399	0.3%
St. Clair County	166,922	166,185	-0.4%
Region	5,055,893	5,104,922	1.0%

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

**TABLE 1-3: AGE CHARACTERISTICS, 2020-2045, CITY OF ST. CLAIR**

	2020		2045	
	Number	%	Number	%
Preschoolers, up to 5 years	288	5.1%	258	4.6%
School aged, 5-17 years	749	13.4%	798	14.1%
Young adults, 18-24 years	408	7.3%	369	6.5%
Families, 25-64 years	2,992	53.5%	2,725	48.2%
Seniors, 65 years and over	1,160	20.7%	1,501	26.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,597</b>		<b>5,651</b>	

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

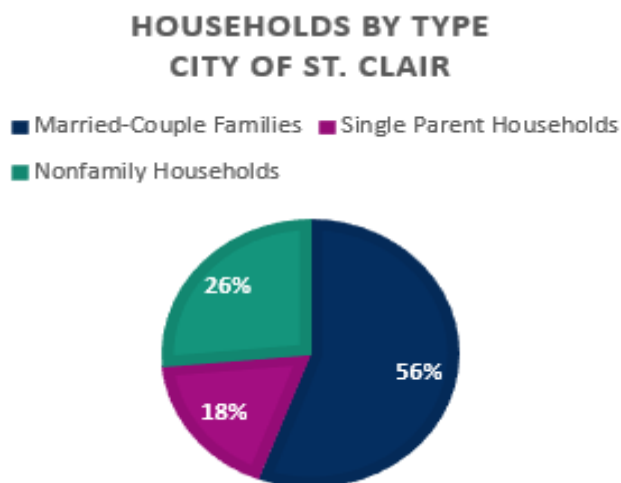
Children below the age of 18 make up about 19% of the total population in St. Clair. The proportion of children in the City is projected to remain stagnant at about 19% of the total population in 2045. Seniors will be the fastest growing segment of the population through 2045. The proportion of the population over 65 years of age is projected to increase by 341 in St. Clair, to represent an increase in the proportion of seniors in the City from 21% to 27%.

Approximately 74% of the City's population is living in family households and most of these are married-couple families (56%). The remainder of the City's population is made up of non-family households (26%). Non-family households are households which comprise a group of unrelated persons or one person living alone. The City has attracted more family households than non-family households since the last plan update, which is a deviation from the trend in the county towards more non-family households. Approximately 32% of the City's households have children under 18 years and 30% of households have seniors 65 years or older.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 median household income was \$82,674 for St. Clair residents, which is an 83% increase between 2010 and 2020. St. Clair has experienced a greater growth rate to its income than St. Clair County (20%) and the State of Michigan (22%).

Residents of St. Clair are employed in a range of occupations with sales and office, and service occupations being the largest categories.

FIGURE 1-1: HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE, CITY OF ST. CLAIR



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

TABLE 1-4: HOUSEHOLDS IN THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR, 2020

Households	2020	
	Number	%
Total Households	2,114	100%
Households with children	678	32%
Households without children	1,436	68%
Households with seniors 65+	632	30%
Households without seniors	1,482	70%

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

## HOUSING AND BUILDING TRENDS

The number of housing units in St. Clair has decreased from 2,689 in 2010 to 2,249 in 2020. The housing stock consists of single-family homes (76%), apartments (16%), and single-family attached or duplex units (8%). The median house value for the City in 2020 was \$162,500, up from \$158,700 in 2010. The majority of the housing units were built before 1960 (55%).

Table 1-6 shows there have been a relatively low number of issued building permits in the city except for a permit spike in 2019.

## LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

Land use patterns in existence today are largely the result of the early platting of St. Clair. The oldest section of St. Clair is bounded by the St. Clair River to the east and the Pine River to the south. The City generally developed north and south of this area. Settlement can be traced back to its desirable location on the St. Clair River, which was the means of transportation in and out of the City.

Today, the predominant land use in St. Clair is residential with single-family residential land uses at 39%. Multi-family homes make up another 3%. Industrial, commercial, and institutional land uses amount to 20% of the City's land area. Finally, outdoor recreation amounts to 8%.

Recreation and parks are important catalysts for City growth. Combined with arts, culture, and preserving history, recreation programming, and quality parks are essential features that can attract new residents.

## NATURAL FEATURES

The natural features of the City of St. Clair have played a major role in influencing and attracting growth and development in the area. Like much of Michigan's southern lower peninsula, the city's landscape was formed through glacial action. The glacier's movement shaped the topography and

**TABLE 1-5: HOUSING UNITS IN THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR, 2000-2020**

Housing Type	2000	2010	2020	Change 2010-2020
Single-Family Detached	1,793	1,837	1,701	-136
Duplex	105	155	54	-101
Townhouse/Attached Condo	64	133	128	-5
Multi-Unit Apartment	475	551	366	-185
Mobile Home/Manufactured Housing	17	13	0	-13
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,454</b>	<b>2,689</b>	<b>2,249</b>	<b>-440</b>

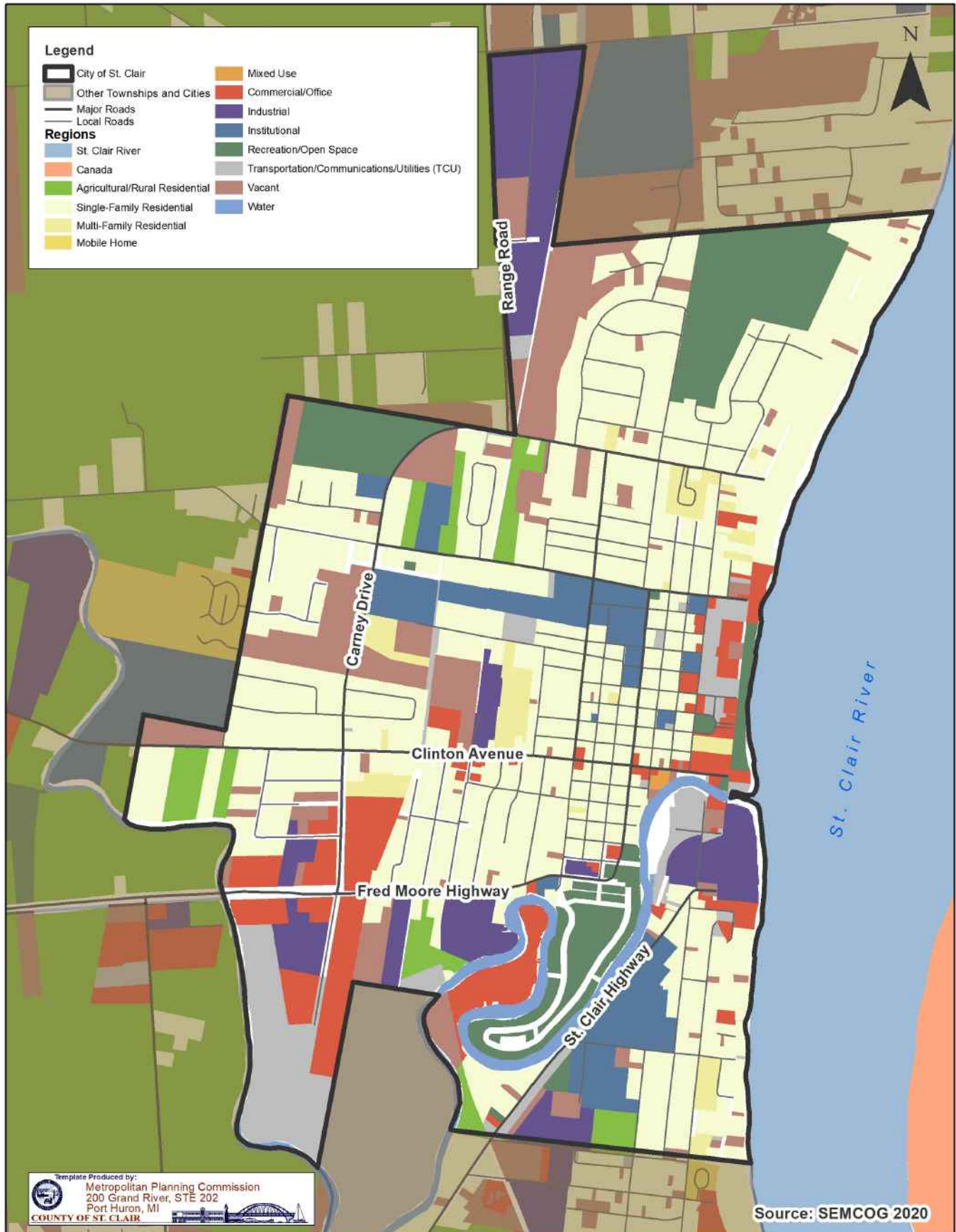
Source: US Census Bureau, 2016-2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

**TABLE 1-6: BUILDING PERMITS, CITY OF ST. CLAIR, 2000-2021**

Year	Single Family	Two Family	Attach Condo	Multi Family	Total Units	Total Demos	Net Total
2000	7	0	0	0	7	1	6
2001	9	14	10	5	38	1	37
2002	4	4	33	0	41	2	39
2003	7	0	22	0	29	0	29
2004	19	0	0	0	19	1	18
2005	14	0	0	0	14	3	11
2006	4	0	0	0	4	1	3
2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2011	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
2012	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
2013	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
2015	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
2016	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
2017	2	0	0	0	2	1	1
2018	4	0	0	0	4	0	4
2019	3	0	0	108	111	0	111
2020	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
2021	3	0	0	0	3	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>273</b>

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

## MAP 1-2: LAND USE





**TABLE 1-7: CITY OF ST. CLAIR 2020 LAND USE ACREAGE**

	Acres	Percent
Agricultural/Rural Residential	68.5	4%
Single-Family Residential	741.5	39%
Multi-Family Residential	64.6	3%
Commercial	83.2	4%
Industrial	141.6	8%
Government/Institutional	147.7	8%
Park, Recreation, and Open Space	147.6	8%
Transportation, Communication, and Utility	90.9	5%
Water	40	2%
Vacant	263.5	14%
Not Parceled	92.3	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: SEMCOG Community Profiles, 2022.

created many different types of soils. Plant communities, in turn, developed in response to soil conditions.

#### **TOPOGRAPHY**

St. Clair is located in an area which is characterized by relatively flat to gently undulating topography. The County's land surface consists of a broad, clay-based glacial lake plain with several end moraines that are one to three miles wide and which have been reshaped by water and runoff. Elevations throughout the City range from approximately 580 feet to 605 feet above sea level. The highest natural point is located northwest of the City and the lowest area is located along the St. Clair River shoreline. The land is gently sloping from the northwest to the southeast.

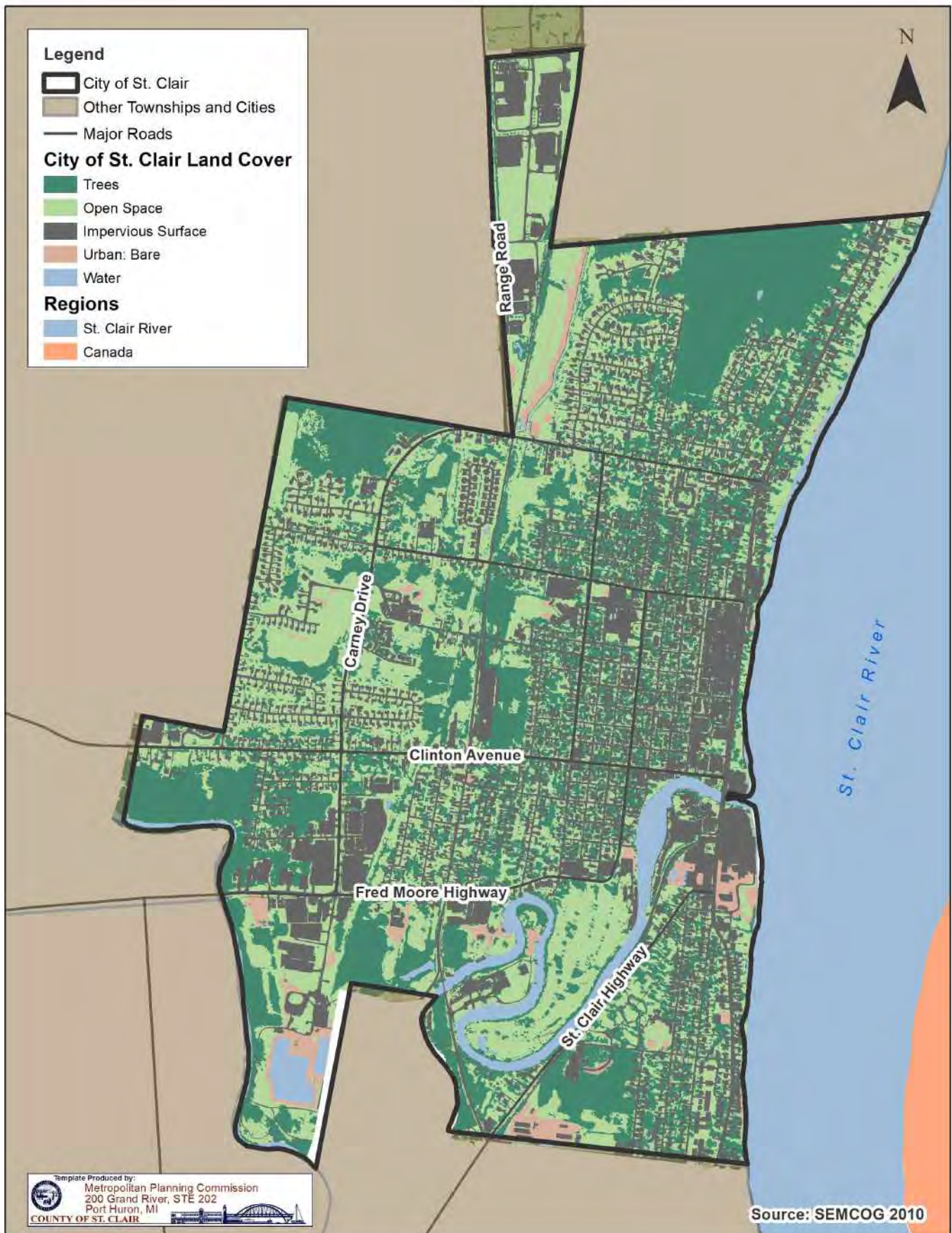
#### **SOILS AND VEGETATION**

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the soil types found in the City are composed of clays and loamy sand over clay which exhibit poor drainage. Old beach ridges and old dunes run parallel to the Lake Huron and the St. Clair River shores. Evidence of this type of terrain can be seen at Greig Park.

#### **WATER RESOURCES**

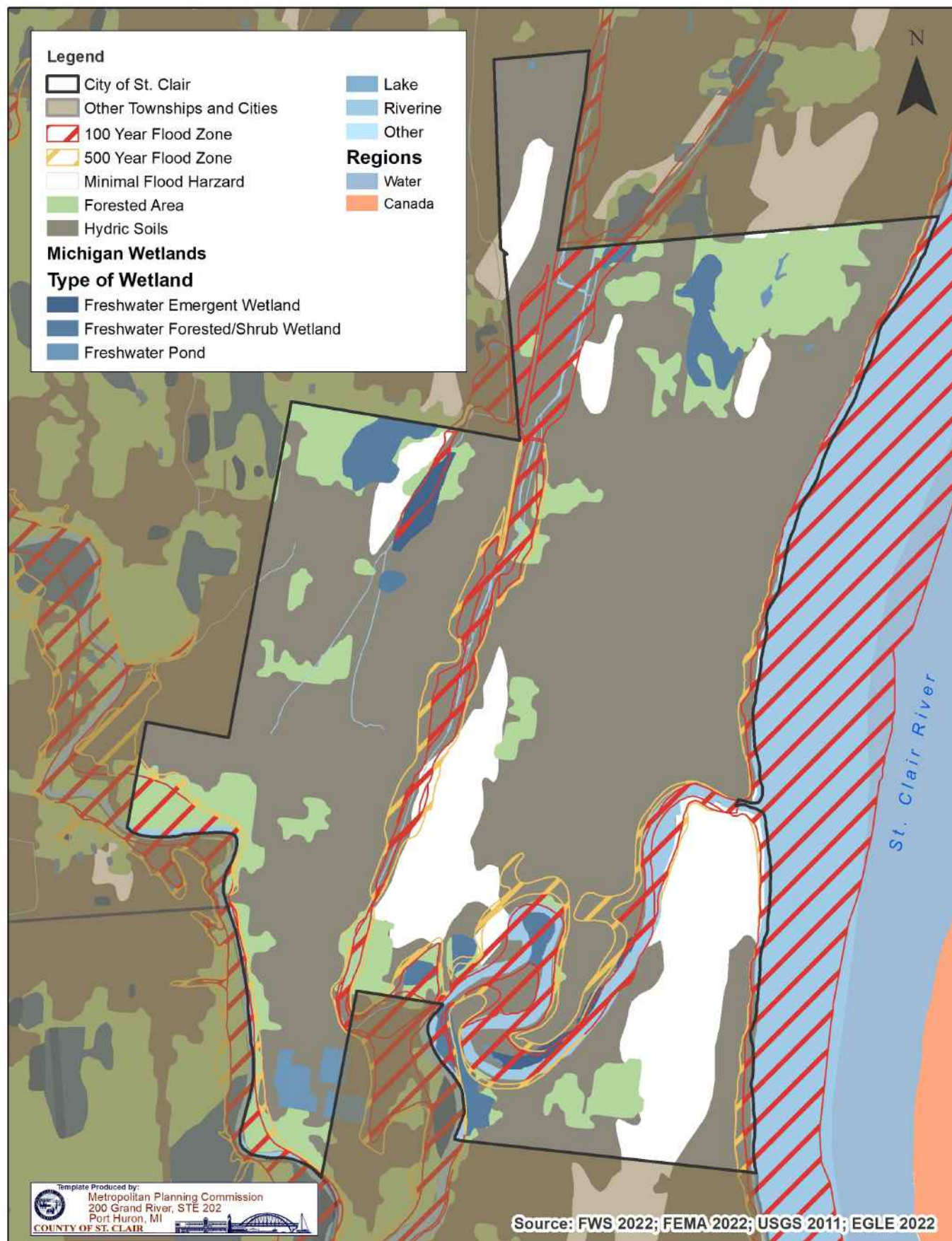
The most important water feature of the community is the St. Clair River. It extends from Lake Huron to Lake St. Clair for a distance of 34.3 miles. The River provides fishing opportunities for anglers and a great location for sailboarders when the winds are strong. It is lined by some parkland and older buildings which provide a pleasant place for people to stroll and enjoy a close look at Great Lake freighters that pass along the waterway. The Pine River, a tributary of the St. Clair River, also runs through the City of St. Clair and includes the largest watershed fully contained within St. Clair County (126,110 acres).

## MAP 1-3: LAND COVER





## MAP 1-4: HYDRIC SOILS, WETLANDS, AND FLOOD ZONES



## **FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

Both the St. Clair and Pine Rivers are good fishing areas. They provide fishing opportunities for brown trout, lake trout, steelhead, salmon, smelt, walleye, perch, bass, pike, muskellunge, carp, catfish, and pan fish. These open waters and varied ecosystems support a wide variety of wildlife resources. Wildlife species in St. Clair County include whitetail deer, cottontail rabbit, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, beaver, muskrat, badger, opossum, pheasant, quail, ruffed grouse, crow, woodcock, wild turkey, and others. The Great Lakes Basin is also a major flyway for thousands of North American waterfowl and bird species. Bird watching is an extremely popular recreational activity in St. Clair County.

## **PLANNING INITIATIVES**

While change is inevitable and growth in both population and development will occur, the City of St. Clair is committed to managing that growth to enhance recreation opportunities and overall quality of life for all residents. A number of planning initiatives related to parks and recreation have taken place in the city and the region that have relevance to the current plan. They include:

- ◆ City of St. Clair Master Plan (2021)
- ◆ St. Clair County Master Recreation Plan 2022-2026
- ◆ St. Clair County Trails Plan (2019)
- ◆ M-29 Corridor Analysis
- ◆ Downtown Vision Plan
- ◆ City Pool Feasibility Studies

### **CITY OF ST. CLAIR MASTER PLAN**

The City of St. Clair Master Plan was updated and adopted in 2021. The plan includes a Parks, Recreation, History, and Culture chapter that integrated the goals and objectives of the previous Parks and Recreation Plan to ensure synergy between the two planning documents. The master plan also highlights the city's thriving arts, culture, and history community and provides an overview of the recreational amenities throughout the city.

### **ST. CLAIR COUNTY MASTER RECREATION PLAN 2022-2026**

The County's Master Recreation Plan has identified several goals and objectives that relate to parks, trails, and recreation facilities and services in the city. They include:

- ◆ Continue to distribute 25% of the annual millage revenues to local units of government for planning, maintenance, and development of parks and recreation facilities and programs;
- ◆ Maintain grant programs for local units of government to assist in the acquisition of small parcels for waterfront preservation, skate parks, dog parks, trails, and canoe/kayak launches;
- ◆ Connect the Bridge to Bay Trail to the Macomb Orchard Trail along Fred Moore Highway as part of the statewide Great Lake to Lake Trail;
- ◆ Work with partners to implement the St. Clair County Trails Plan. Assist local communities in filling identified gaps in the Bridge to Bay Trail;
- ◆ Work with transportation agencies to provide non-motorized access to trail, parks, and greenways consistent with local, county, and regional non-motorized plans; and
- ◆ Continue to develop and promote the Blueways of St. Clair and partner with local units of government to provide additional canoe and kayak launches along the Blueways.





### **ST. CLAIR COUNTY TRAILS PLAN**

St. Clair County, along with the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and numerous local and regional partners, developed an updated countywide trails plan in 2019 that identifies existing gaps in countywide non-motorized trail networks, identifies preferred alternatives to eliminate those gaps, and prioritizes the timing and sequencing for completing needed connections. The overarching goal is to complete the Bridge to Bay Trail and Wadhams to Avoca trail networks, which includes connecting to the Macomb Orchard Trail and the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Route #1, which runs from South Haven in the western part of the state to Port Huron in the eastern part of the state. More information about this plan, including the routes identified in the City of St. Clair can be found in Chapter 3.

St. Clair County also works at promoting the Blueways of St. Clair. The Pine River Paddle in the City is one of the identified routes. This Blueway extends from the St. Clair Municipal Marina to Turtle Beach, a picnic area located south of Fred Moore Highway on the BP property.

Locally, the City of St. Clair had formulated a bicycle plan in 1998 which recommended an interconnected network of bicycle routes and design treatments from separate multi-use pathways to bike and wide curb lanes.

### **CITY OF ST. CLAIR DOWNTOWN VISION PLAN**

Local initiatives have included a downtown development plan prepared by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) in 2007. The plan includes several improvement projects affecting parks and recreation in St. Clair. Some of the priorities of the plan include beautification, walkability, and connectivity:

- ◆ Realignment and improvement of Fred Moore Highway and Riverside Avenue;
- ◆ Addition of safe pedestrian crossings;
- ◆ Street tree plantings;
- ◆ Cohesive streetscape enhancement with uniform design elements – hanging baskets, banners, lights, paving;
- ◆ Riverview Plaza renovation; and
- ◆ Connections to the Pine River and the natural area on the Dome Petroleum Property.



## **M-29 CORRIDOR ANALYSIS**

In the fall of 2017, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) began working with an engineering consultant to study the M-29 corridor through the City of St. Clair to assess how the road functions, identify safety concerns, and identify a preferred alternative for enhancing pedestrian safety and mobility in connecting Palmer Park to the downtown plaza. These safety enhancements are more critical than ever as the iconic St. Clair Inn has been redeveloped into a mixed-use destination hotel. This study looked at a variety of treatments, including new pedestrian crossings, pedestrian-activated crossing lights, and restriping M-29 to convert it from four lanes to three lanes - also known as a “road diet.”

The M-29 corridor has been studied carefully in past years, including during the City’s Master Plan update in 2011 and a corridor study that was prepared in 2010, which called for a divided boulevard section with on-street parallel parking and eight-foot sidewalks along both sides of the street.

## **MUNICIPAL POOL FEASIBILITY STUDIES**

In 2006 and 2007, the City has explored the feasibility of replacing the existing City pool with an updated aquatic facility including enhanced features, such as zero depth entry, waterslide, and other features. Scenarios were examined for renovating the existing pool, replacing and enhancing the pool at the same location, and a new aquatic facility which could be built at Greig Park. The studies included an examination of the target market, financial projections, and a potential development program with rough costs.



# CHAPTER 2

# ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE







## INTRODUCTION

The St. Clair City Council is the governing elected body which has authority over all City operations including parks, recreation, municipal golf course, and the harbor.

In 1975, the Council created a Recreation Department and an Advisory Recreation Commission under the authority of P.A. 156 of 1917. In 2008, it was officially renamed by the City Council to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Parks and Recreation Commission is a seven-person advisory group which is responsible for policy matters and physical development. It meets on a monthly basis.

## ADMINISTRATION

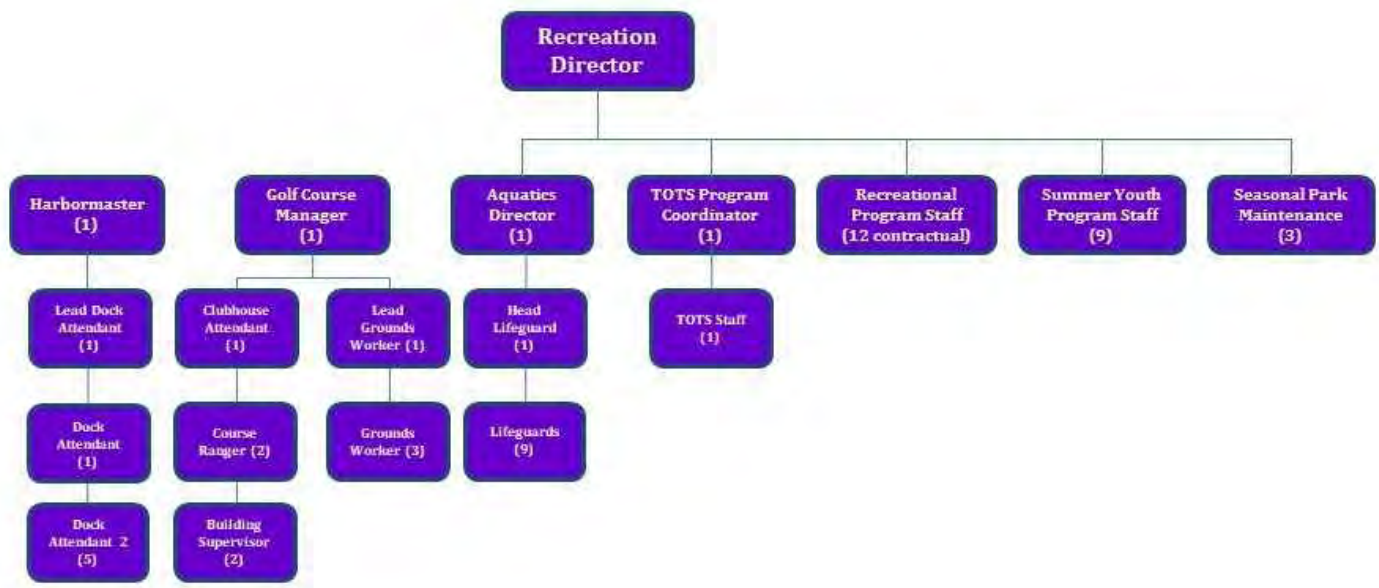
The Recreation Department is responsible for the overall planning and management of the City's recreational services. The Recreation Director is responsible for the development, planning, and programming of parks and recreation facilities. The Director serves as the liaison between the Recreation Commission and City Council. The Director reports to the City Superintendent. Figure 2-1 shows the organizational chart for parks and recreational services in the City of St. Clair.

Park maintenance functions are carried out through the Parks Division of the Department of Public Services.

## FUNDING AND BUDGET

The Recreation Department is supported by the City's general fund and by user fees, grants, and donations. A summary of current year revenues and expenditures is presented in Table 2-1.

FIGURE 2-1: PARKS AND RECREATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



<b>TABLE 2-1: CITY OF ST. CLAIR RECREATION BUDGET SUMMARY, 2022-2023</b>	
<b>Revenues - Recreation</b>	
County Contribution	\$25,000
Recreation Class Fees	\$52,500
Swimming Pool Fees	\$15,000
Tots Program Fees	\$27,000
Community Center Rental	\$1,000
Pavilion Rental	\$750
Contributions – Private	\$7,500
Contributions – Rec Concerts	\$8,000
Transfers In/Fund 101	\$90,000
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>\$226,750</b>
<b>Expenses – Recreation</b>	
Wages & benefits	\$118,610
Operating Supplies	\$11,000
Contractual Services	\$37,500
Travel	\$600
Printing & Publishing	\$4,000
Education & Training	\$500
Membership & Dues	\$500
<b>Total Recreation</b>	<b>\$172,710</b>
<b>Expenses – Swimming Pool</b>	
Wages & Benefits	\$32,690
Operating Supplies	\$3,500
Contractual Services	\$3,500
Liability/Property Insurance	\$350
Public Utilities	\$6,500
Repair & Maintenance	\$7,500
<b>Total Swimming Pool</b>	<b>\$54,040</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$363,500</b>



### St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Millage

The St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) has a countywide millage for parks and recreation in St. Clair County. PARC dedicates 75% of the millage revenues to parks and recreation facilities that serve a countywide audience. PARC distributes the remaining 25% of the County Parks and Recreation Millage revenues to local units of government to enhance or expand local parks and recreation programs and facilities. Since 1995, the amount of money distributed to local communities has totaled more than \$12.6 million. This distribution has had a positive impact on the delivery of local parks and recreation services in every community in St. Clair County. The amount of local distribution is based on the number of residents living in each municipality or township. From 1995 to 2022, a total of \$621,076.26 has been distributed to the City of St. Clair for parks and recreation activities.

In order to receive these funds, communities must submit an annual report and show evidence of “maintenance of effort” to assure the funding is used to expand opportunities rather than to supplant existing local funding. In effect, local units of government must document that they have maintained their local financial support for parks and recreation services at a level equal to or greater than the amount they spent prior to the 1994 millage election.

## **VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The City of St. Clair Recreation Department recognizes the importance of developing successful long-term and strategic relationships in the community. Current partnerships include: government agencies (townships, County, and State), area recreation departments, private and public schools, volunteers, service clubs, professional organizations (Michigan Recreation and Parks Association), community groups, and private businesses.

The East China School District athletic fields, game courts, and indoor facilities including the pool, gymnasiums, and classrooms are used for programming by the Recreation Department through a facility-use agreement in effect since 2005. The agreement allows the Recreation Department to use the facilities in coordination with the schools schedule of activities. Volunteer parent organizations run some of the youth sports. They include the American Youth Soccer organization (AYSO), St. Clair Little League, St. Clair Junior Football, and Blue Water Swim Club. These organizations use the facilities offered by the City and the schools.

Private businesses contribute to community, recreation, and special event programs through sponsorships and donations. Service clubs and community groups also play an active role in supporting parks and recreation. They include:

### Civic Organizations:

- Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
- Beautification Committee

### Local Service Clubs:

- Community Foundation of St. Clair County
- Lions Club
- Boy/Girl Scouts
- Rotary Club of St. Clair

- National Honor Society
- St. Clair High School Student Council
- St. Clair Women's League
- St. Clair Chamber of Commerce
- St. Clair Art Association
- St. Clair County ARC
- St. Clair County Council on Aging
- St. Clair Garden Club

## GRANT ASSISTED PROJECTS

Since 1989, the City of St. Clair has been awarded five Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) grants. Grant funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund has been instrumental in developing recreation facilities on park properties. Table 2-2 presents a description of all MDNR grants received.

In addition to MDNR and MNRTF grants, the City has also received funding assistance from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The City received a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant in the amount of \$437,115 through the Michigan Department of Transportation in 2020 to develop the Clinton Avenue Bikeway. The matching funds in the amount

**TABLE 2-2: MDNR GRANT ASSISTED PROJECTS IN THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR**

Grant Number	Description	Grant Amount	Current Use/Description
<b>2016 MNRTF TF-16-0154</b>	<b>Palmer Park:</b> Removal and replacement of the Palmer Park Boardwalk along the St. Clair River.	\$225,000	Work on removal and replacement of the Boardwalk will begin in 2018.
<b>2004 MNRTF TF04-168</b>	<b>Greig Park:</b> Property acquisition of 7-acre adjacent wooded property	\$100,000	The expanded parkland has been developed as a skate-bike park.
<b>1993 MNRTF 26-01544TF</b>	<b>Klecha Park:</b> Accessibility improvements; safety surface for playground/pavilion area, picnic tables, bathroom, parking, and handicap signage.	\$11,444	The park features developed with these funds are in good condition.
<b>1992 BF92-046</b>	<b>Greig Park:</b> Development of picnic pavilion with picnic tables, grills, sand volleyball, free play area, environmental kiosks, natural ice rink, and warming shelters.	\$386,720	The ice rink has been replaced with a roller hockey rink; the park features developed with these funds have been maintained in good condition.
<b>1989 BF89-190</b>	<b>Greig Park:</b> Development of a nature and fitness trail, cross-country ski trails, signage, and landscaping.	\$219,724	The park features developed with these funds have been maintained in good condition.

of \$291,410 includes funding assistance through the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation and the Community Foundation of St. Clair County. The trail will be constructed in 2023.

## ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR

The St. Clair Boat Harbor - located on the St. Clair River, at the mouth of the Pine River - is a 107-slip harbor and campground with electric, water, and a pump-out station. Boat slips are available to seasonal boaters as well as transients. There are 54 transient boat slips and 53 seasonal boat slips, as well as ten personal watercraft docks. The Harbor has floating wood docks and a staff of dock attendants to service boaters. The Harbor is open from April 1 through October 15. The fuel dock offers boaters gas, diesel, pump outs, and a limited supply of oil and other boating needs.

The Harbor also has an ADA-accessible canoe/kayak launch ramp, as well as canoe and kayak rentals onsite. There is also a daily launch ramp and fish cleaning station for anglers. The Harbor is a short walk to many local restaurants and shops. A free shuttle is also available to take people into downtown.

The Harbor features nine campsites with power and water, as well as four covered pavilions that are used for boater and community events. It also hosts many local events, such as the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, Marble Eye Fishing Contest, model boat races, Wertz Warriors, RiverFest Boat Races, and the Mardi Gras party for residents and boaters.





### Budget

Total operating revenue for 2022-2023 was \$727,400 and total operating expense was at \$818,565.

### Dredging

Due to the high water levels, the St. Clair Boat Harbor has not dredged since 2011. The Harbor does have a dredge plan that supports obtaining grants or other funding that becomes available for harbor dredging or other safety improvements. This includes documentation that the dredge spoils will be deposited within a United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). Due to high water, it is not anticipated that dredging will be required in the near future.

### Marketing/Partnerships

The St. Clair Boat Harbor is marketed online via the city's website, along with a standalone website at <http://stclairboatharbor.com/>, which includes information on rates/fees, a calendar of events, information for visitors, and contact information. Additionally, the Boat Harbor is featured on its own page through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Pure Michigan site, <http://www.michigan.org/property/st-clair-boat-harbor>.

The Harbor also has a standalone Facebook page with over 1,900 followers. The Facebook page includes event information, rate/fees, photos and videos, and other general information.

All of the Harbor's community functions are sponsored or partnered with a local business or community group, including Cargill, Foster Oil, River Credit Union, Burger King, State Farm Insurance, Murphy Inn, Nieman's Family Markets, AAA, the River Crab, Grace Performance, Wertz Warriors, the Special Olympics, and SC Landscape and Irrigation.

### Annual Maintenance

Each year, approximately \$25,000 is budgeted for repair and maintenance. Each season varies as far as what needs are addressed. Examples include dock repair due to ice damage, seawall maintenance, driveway and boat launch sealcoating.

### Right-Sizing of Harbor

The St. Clair Boat Harbor meets the demand of the boating public. Seasonal wells fill up each year with a small number of boats on a wait list. Transient boaters find the Harbor is a popular destination that is full on weekends in June through September. There is typically a wait list for popular weekends such as RiverFest, the Art Fair, and holidays. Dockage is available throughout the weekdays and to boaters who use the MDNR Reservation system and reserve up to six months in advance. The Harbor is bordered by a private marina to the south and Biewer Lumber to the east. Any expansion, if needed, would have to be on the west bank of the River by Pine Shores Golf Course.

### ADA Accessibility

Most of the amenities at the Harbor are ADA-accessible including an ADA-accessible canoe/kayak launch, accessible restrooms, an accessible parking lot, and transportation that meets ADA requirements. The floating docks are accessible by ramps.

# CHAPTER 3 RECREATION INVENTORY



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## INTRODUCTION

The residents of the City of St. Clair are able to take advantage of a variety of recreational resources at the regional, county, and local levels, as well as through privately-owned facilities. This chapter describes those resources.

## LOCAL PARKS AND RECREATION

### CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES

The City operates over 150 acres of parks, bicycle/walking paths, a community center, a public outdoor pool, a municipal golf course, and a boat harbor. St. Clair includes four community parks: Greig, Klecha, Palmer, and Legacy parks. Greig Park, located on Carney Drive, includes both active and passive activities. Klecha Park, on the south part of the City, includes the former Little League ball fields. Palmer Park is a passive riverfront park on the St. Clair River. Legacy Park, on Fred Moore Highway, is the current home of the Little League ball fields and has access to the Pine River. Legacy Park has an additional 26 acres of undeveloped parkland. The City owns 1.7 acres of undeveloped parkland along the Pine River.

In addition to those amenities, the City owns and maintains three smaller pocket parks: Diamond Point, Patrick Sinclair, and Rotary Club Park, which include landscaped and seating areas. The City also maintains multi-use paths along Carney Drive, Fred Moore Highway, and a segment connection to St. Clair Middle School.

The Community Center includes a multi-purpose room used for senior and youth programs, and is available for public/private use. The Historical Museum, located on the upper floor, occupies most of the building for display and storage. An annex and customs house is also on-site. The outdoor pool provides swim lessons, competitive and synchronized team, open, and family swim for City residents during the summer. Year-round aquatic programs are offered by the Recreation Department at the school's indoor pool.

### Accessibility Evaluation

In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Guidelines for Recreation Plans, an accessibility evaluation was completed for each park within the City. The evaluation was conducted by planners from the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission.

Each City facility was compared to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and given a ranking from 1-5, where:

- 1 = none of the site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 2 = some site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 3 = most site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design
- 4 = all site elements meet 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, and
- 5 = the facility meets the Principles of Universal Design



## MAP 3-1: COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN ST. CLAIR



**TABLE 3-1: CITY OF ST. CLAIR FACILITIES**

**GREIG PARK**

<b>Acreage</b>	36.5 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	“Imagination Station” play structure, sand volleyball, roller hockey rink, basketball courts, picnic shelter, paved pathways, nature trails, skate-bike park, BMX pump track, portable restroom, artwork

**KLECHA PARK**

<b>Acreage</b>	4.9 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	2 ball fields, playground, restrooms, picnic pavilion, paved pathway

**PALMER PARK**

<b>Acreage</b>	5.9 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	4
<b>Amenities</b>	World’s longest freshwater boardwalk, paved pathway, art sculptures, seating areas, freighter watching, downtown access

**LEGACY PARK**

<b>Acreage</b>	52 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	9 ball fields, 4 picnic shelters, concession/fieldhouse, pine river access, permanent restroom facilities, 26 acres undeveloped

**TABLE 3-1: CITY OF ST. CLAIR FACILITIES (CONTINUED)**

<b>ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR</b>	
<b>Acreage</b>	6 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	120 boat slips, boat launch, ADA-accessible canoe/kayak launch, canoe/kayak rentals, fish cleaning station, restrooms, picnic shelter, camping, water/electric/pump out station

<b>PINE SHORES GOLF COURSE</b>	
<b>Acreage</b>	51 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	9 hole golf course, clubhouse facility

<b>DIAMOND POINTE PARK</b>	
<b>Acreage</b>	0.7 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	1
<b>Amenities</b>	Landscaped area, art sculpture

<b>PATRICK SINCLAIR PARK</b>	
<b>Acreage</b>	0.6 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	2
<b>Amenities</b>	Landscaped area, walkway, art sculptures, picnic table, seating areas

<b>ROTARY CENTENNIAL PARK</b>	
<b>Acreage</b>	6 acres
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	0.3 acre
<b>Amenities</b>	Boardwalk, boat mooring on Pine River, Pine River access, picnic tables and grills, ADA-accessible fishing pier, art sculptures



**TABLE 3-1: CITY OF ST. CLAIR FACILITIES (CONTINUED)****PINE RIVER ACCESS**

<b>Acreage</b>	0.7 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	1.2 acres
<b>Amenities</b>	Undeveloped Pine River Access

**PALMER/OAKLAND ACCESS**

<b>Acreage</b>	0.1 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	1
<b>Amenities</b>	Undeveloped, St. Clair River access, park bench, freighter watching

**ST. CLAIR COMMUNITY CENTER AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

<b>Acreage</b>	0.1 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	Landscaped area, walkway, art sculptures, picnic table, seating areas

**ST. CLAIR COMMUNITY POOL**

<b>Acreage</b>	0.7 acre
<b>Accessibility Rating</b>	3
<b>Amenities</b>	Public outdoor pool, restrooms

## ADJACENT TOWNSHIP PARKS

St. Clair Township includes a five-acre park with active and passive areas, as well as boat and fishing access.

Four parks are located in China Township: Indian Trail Road Park, which includes sports fields and nature trails; Administration Park, which includes a community center with sports fields and more; the King Road/Belle River park, which includes a new ADA-accessible canoe and kayak launch; and the Recor Road park.

East China Township has a total of six parks and recreation facilities. Four of these are neighborhood parks including fishing access, picnic areas, and play equipment. East China Park includes a large number of sports fields and other facilities, while the Township Administrative Building is the location for a variety of recreation programs. In addition, East China Stadium is a school-owned property where football programs take place.

## SCHOOL FACILITIES

The East China School District includes a High School and Middle School located on the outskirts of the City. One public elementary school and other private or parochial schools are located within St. Clair. These schools provide recreation facilities for City residents and include playgrounds, athletic fields, open space, and indoor facilities for both students and residents. There are other closed public and private schools within the City which are being redeveloped, but may provide recreational opportunities.

## PRIVATE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Private recreational facilities in St. Clair include a marina, a bowling alley, the 3.2-mile St. Clair Nature Trail along the Pine River, and the Alice W. Moore Woods Nature Sanctuary.

## ADJACENT TOWNSHIP PARKS

**TABLE 3-2: CHINA TOWNSHIP**

Facility	Acreage	Amenities
Indian Trail Road Site	62	Playground, ballfields, soccer fields, restrooms
Neiman Park	3.5	Playground, ballfields, soccer fields, basketball courts, picnic areas, community center, horseshoe pits, restrooms
King Road/Belle River Site	14	Playground, river access, fishing access, trails, picnic areas, fire pit, restrooms
Recor Road Site	5.3	Undeveloped

**TABLE 3-3: ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP**

Facility	Acreage	Amenities
Fred Meiselbach Park	5	Playground, ballfields, basketball courts, river access, fishing access, picnic areas, pavilion, restrooms

**TABLE 3-4: EAST CHINA TOWNSHIP**

Facility	Acreage	Amenities
East China Park	81	Playground, ballfields, soccer fields, basketball courts, river access, fishing access, ice skating/inline skating, trails, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, picnic areas, dog park, restrooms, pavilions, freighter watching
River Park	0.2	Playground, river access, fishing access, picnic areas
Manor Park	1.6	Playgrounds
Springborn Park	0.2	River access, fishing access, picnic tables, ADA accessible, kayak launch
Township Hall Site	13	

## OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

**TABLE 3-5: SCHOOL FACILITIES**

School	Acreage	Amenities
Gearing Elementary (Scheduled to be Closed)	12	Playfields and gymnasium
St. Clair High School	40	2 ball fields, 1 softball field, 7 tennis courts, outdoor track and field, indoor pool, and 2 gyms
Solis Field		1 football/soccer field
St. Clair Middle School	54.8	2 ball fields, 1 football/soccer field, 1 football practice field, 400 meter track, basketball hoops, seating, and 2 gymnasiums







## RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING IN THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR

The City is one of the largest providers of recreation programs in St. Clair County. The Recreation Department offers outstanding youth and adult team and individual sports opportunities, as well as special events to City residents and non-residents. The following programs are offered by the St. Clair Recreation Department:

### Recreation Programs

- Adult Tennis
- Adult Dance
- After School Rallyball (Indoor Tennis)
- Casino Trips
- Co-Ed Volleyball
- Creative Tots
- Fitness Classes
- Golf Instruction
- Indoor Soccer
- Lacrosse
- Learn to Play/Drop-in Bridge
- Men's Basketball
- Pickleball
- Pi-Yoga
- Safety Town
- Senior Social Card Play
- Summer Dance



- Tae Kwon Do
- Travel-Bus Trips
- YAPS (Youth Activities for Summer)
- Youth Dance-Jazz/Ballet/Tap
- Youth Tennis

### **Special Events/Services**

- Summer Outdoor Concert Series
- Family Outdoor Movies
- Kids Bike Parade
- Classic Car Show
- All-American Kids Fishing Derby
- Daddy-Daughter Valentine Dance
- Kids Garage Sale
- Mother-Son Bowling
- Skate-Bike Summer Jam & Fall Grind

### **Aquatic Programs**

- Lessons
- Competitive Swim Team
- Open Swim
- Adult Swim
- Lap Swim
- Swimmercise



Other community events are sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), the Chamber of Commerce, Riverview Mall Association, and service groups. They include craft shows, 5K running races, the St. Clair Art Fair, farmers' market, fireworks, concerts at Riverview Plaza, and the offshore boat races.

City walking routes have been mapped out. They include the Pine River Trail, the Riverview Run, Joellyn's Stroll Around Town, the St. Clair Loop, and the Historical Home Walk.

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

St. Clair County currently owns nine properties devoted to parks and recreation activities that total 1,060.5 acres. These are:

- |                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Goodells County Park              | 405 acres                 |
| • Columbus County Park              | 411 acres                 |
| • Fort Gratiot County Park          | 30 acres                  |
| • Woodsong County Park              | 33 acres                  |
| • Fort Gratiot Light Station        | 5 acres                   |
| • Blue Water River Walk County Park | 6.5 acres                 |
| • North Channel County Park         | 10 acres                  |
| • Marine City Dredge Cut Access     | 34 acres                  |
| • Wadhams to Avoca Trail            | 160 acres (12 miles long) |







For the purposes of comparing the County's parks and recreation property inventory with the recommended standards, it is also valuable to mention the St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency's 111-acre Pine River Nature Center, which is adjacent to Goodells County Park. By adding that acreage to the parks and trails inventory above, PARC property totals 1,171.5 acres.

### **GOODELLS COUNTY PARK**

Facilities at the park include the Visitors Center, two playgrounds, river and fishing access, a seasonal ice skating rink, trails, four picnic shelters, a community center, historic buildings, a BMX track, a radio-controlled model airplane airfield and truck track, a butterfly garden, five special events buildings, the "Splashpad," equestrian facilities, and areas for outdoor events.

The "Splashpad" has 11 spray features that include two water cannons, five dumping buckets, ground geysers, and a rainbow water tunnel. The "Splashpad" is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and admission is free.

The Historic Village at Goodells County Park contains the Lynn Township Schoolhouse (1885), and the C.C Peck and Company bank (1908). Visitors will also see the Columbus Bible Church (1860), the Murphy/Ryan farmhouse (1872) and the Mudge Log Cabin (1863). The latest addition to the Historic Village is the Columbus Bible Church. The Church was moved to the park and restored, complete with its twelve-foot tall windows and spectacular bell tower.

### **COLUMBUS COUNTY PARK**

Facilities at the park include mountain biking trails, walking trails, horse trails, fishing access, and permit-only hunting. The Belle River runs through the park, totaling 1.6 miles of frontage. A historic gambrel roof barn is located at Columbus County Park near Bauman Road and is used for maintenance and storage. The barn was restored by Columbus Township. In the winter, visitors can enjoy winter sports such as sledding and cross country skiing. In September 2021, the Will Bendik Memorial Disc Golf Course opened at the park.

Construction of an energy efficient park Lodge with modern restroom facilities, a picnic pavilion, offices and storage rooms was completed in 2012.

Activities at the park include picnics, weddings, educational programs, and meetings.

## MAP 3-2: ST. CLAIR COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES



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## **FORT GRATIOT COUNTY PARK**

Fort Gratiot County Park is located in the northeast part of St. Clair County, just off M-25 on Metcalf Road. This 30-acre park offers breathtaking views of Lake Huron and 852 feet of shoreline and beach. It also includes picnic areas, restrooms, a children's playground, and paved walking trails.

Fort Gratiot County Park is also home to the 1971 Tunnel Explosion Memorial which commemorates the construction accident that took the lives of 22 men working on the water intake tunnel located beneath the park. The 1971 Water Tunnel Explosion committee raised funds for the memorial which was erected in 2007. The Michigan Historic Commission dedicated a State Historical Marker at the site to mark the 40th anniversary of the tragedy.

Other improvements at the park include ADA-accessible restrooms and a playscape in 2007, as well as an overflow parking area in 2008. In early 2009, two picnic pavilions were completed and additional sections of boardwalk were installed on the beach.

## **WOODSONG COUNTY PARK**

In 2008, St. Clair County purchased the 33-acre Camp Woodsong site from the Michigan Waterways Council of the Girl Scouts of America. The property is located off of Abbottsford Road, at the east end of Rynn Road, in Clyde Township.

Woodsong is a passive park with rustic trails that traverse along scenic, steep slopes that travel down to 2,800 ft of Black River shoreline. The park is the ideal place to nature watch. The rustic trails follow the natural terrain. Additionally, The Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association (CRAMBA) continues to rapidly develop mountain bike trails at Woodsong County Park. These trails are a combination of two track and single track that follow the steep ridges next to the Black River. At present, about three miles of designated mountain bike trails are completed, with a goal of completing an additional mile when fully built out.







In 2017 a canoe and kayak launch was added, using a \$50,000 grant from EGLE. While the launch itself is fully accessible, it is important to note that steep trail leading from the parking lot to the launch is not ADA accessible. Future plans include trail improvements to make the trail easier to use.

Woodsong County Park provides opportunities for nature study, hiking, biking, and water activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, and fishing on the Black River.

### **FORT GRATIOT LIGHT STATION**

The Fort Gratiot Light Station is the oldest lighthouse in Michigan. As the shipping needs on the Great Lakes increased in the 1820's, so did the need for a navigational aid at the mouth of the St. Clair River. In August of 1825 the first lighthouse in Michigan was built at Port Huron. The original tower was located near the base of the present day second span of the Blue Water Bridge. It was 32 feet high above ground level, 18 feet in diameter at the base, and tapered to nine feet across at the top.

The Coast Guard maintained the Fort Gratiot Light Station from the 1930's until they moved next door into the new station that was built in 2004. The property was officially transferred to St. Clair County in 2010. Restoration of the lighthouse was completed in 2013, and other property repairs and additions have been made using Michigan Coastal Zone Management Grant funding. The restoration of the tower was made possible by the "Save America's Treasures" grant program and a match from the City of Port Huron. The tower reopened for tours in the summer of 2012. The Port Huron Museum serves as a partner in leading tours of the site, programming, and private reservations. Friends of the Fort Gratiot Light Station raise funds for building restoration projects and provides volunteers.

### **BLUE WATER RIVER WALK COUNTY PARK**

Blue Water River Walk County Park is a former railroad switch yard that has been partially restored to a coastal wetland. The wetlands feature three ponds, marshland and native plants. The habitat is home to amphibians, such as frogs and toads, and is a popular nesting and feeding spot for migratory birds. A boardwalk allows park visitors to get close to the wetland habitat without

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disturbing the natural features and interpretive signs help explain how the wetlands work. Just north of the wetlands is a picnic pavilion, a shade trellis, walkways, landscaping, an artificial lawn activity area, picnic tables, grills and benches. Future developments will include a children's playground, restrooms and a second pavilion.

Traveling through the park is the Blue Water River Walk. The River Walk is a paved pathway that begins at Desmond Landing to the north and travels southwest to 10th Street. The Blue Water River Walk is part of the Bridge to Bay Trail System. The Blue Water River Walk is owned by the Community Foundation of St. Clair County. St. Clair County Parks leases and maintains the grounds.

### **NORTH CHANNEL COUNTY PARK**

In December 2020, St. Clair County was awarded funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for an acquisition grant to purchase four parcels of land on the North Channel of the St. Clair River in Clay Township. The four parcels, totaling approximately 10 acres, are located between the Algonac Harbour Club and the MDNR Boat Launch on M-29. The project was a partnership with Six Rivers Land Conservancy, Clay Township and the City of Algonac. The new County Park will be developed in phases and will include a swimming beach, a kayak launch, shoreline fishing, walking trails, pavilions, a children's playground and a paved parking lot. It will also be one of the designated locations along the new St. Clair-Macomb Birding Trail, created in 2021.

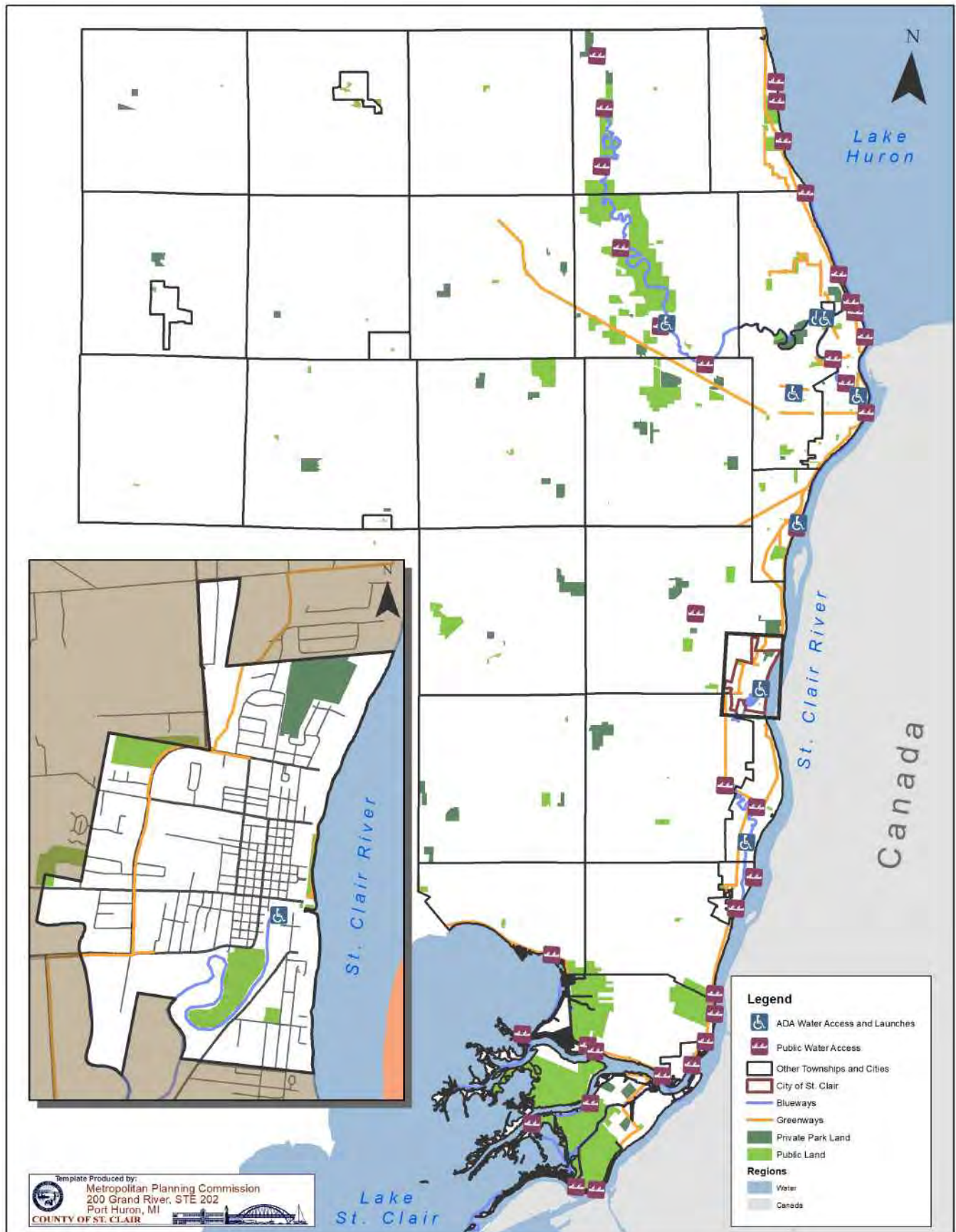
### **PINE RIVER NATURE CENTER**

The St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency's Pine River Nature Center is an educational facility whose mission is to promote the awareness, understanding and stewardship of the Blue Water Area's natural and cultural heritage. The center provides programs for local schools to enhance their science and mathematics curricula with outdoor-based field studies correlated with the Michigan Curriculum Framework and offers outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities for area residents.

The Pine River Nature Center opened to the public in the May of 2003. The Nature Center sits on 111 acres of property, with over 4,800 feet of the Pine River meandering through it. Since opening, over 21,900 students from around St. Clair County have visited the center for programs. Activities and events at the center include the following:

- Opportunities to hike over two miles of trails (open daily from dawn to dark).
- Browse the indoor displays and live animals.
- Read about nature or do research in the library.
- Attend public programs, including star gazing parties and nature walks.
- Volunteer to help with special events and school programs.
- Adopt-a-Trail.
- Visit the universally-accessible (ADA) tree house.

## MAP 3-3: REGIONAL RECREATION





**TABLE 3-6: STATE OF MICHIGAN RECREATION FACILITIES**

Facility	Acreage	Amenities
Algonac State Park	1,450	Cottrellville & Clay Townships
Lakeport State Park	1,215	Burtchville Township
Port Huron State Game Area	6,627	Grant, Clyde, & Kimball Townships
St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area	10,300	Clay Township
St. Johns Marsh Recreation Area	2,477	Clay & Ira Townships
Mini Game Area	109	St. Clair Township

## STATE OF MICHIGAN RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The State of Michigan owns and manages 22,178 acres of resource-based facilities in St. Clair County, including Algonac State Park, Lakeport State Park, the Port Huron State Game Area, the St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Refuge, the St. John's Marsh Recreation Area, and a mini-game area in St. Clair Township. See Table 3-6.

## GREENWAYS AND TRAILS

Greenways are corridors of land recognized for their ability to connect people and places together. According to the EPA, greenways promote outdoor recreation, catalyze economic development, increase adjacent property values, celebrate historical and cultural assets, promote conservation and environmental education and improve quality of life.

Greenways have multiple purposes, but from a recreation perspective they have two major functions:

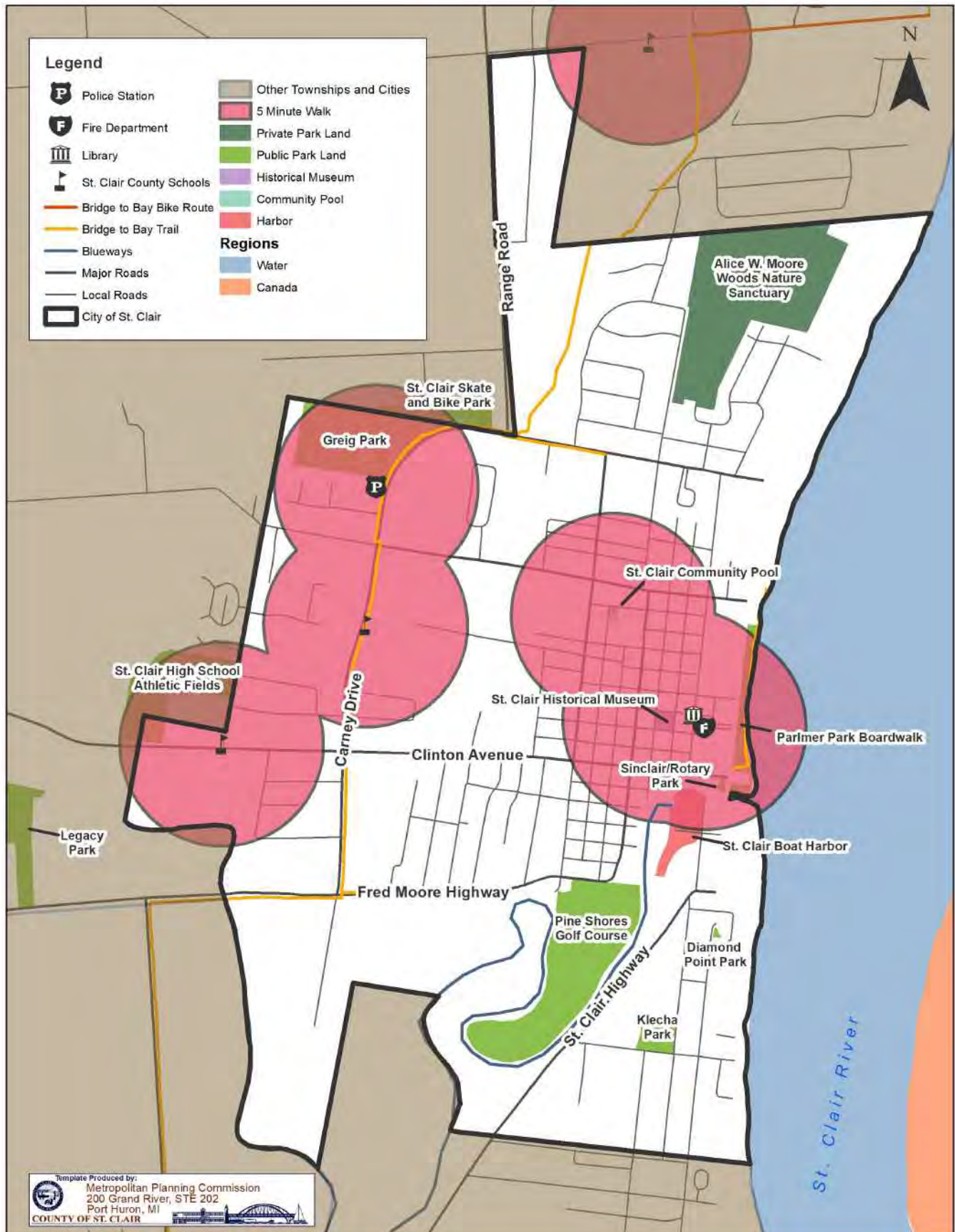
1. To link and facilitate hiking and biking access between residential areas and parks.
2. To provide opportunities for the linear forms of outdoor recreation (i.e. hiking, jogging, bicycling, equestrian riding, and walking) in which many St. Clair County residents engage today. These recreation activities require the development of trails along the greenways.

There are two primary trail systems within St. Clair County: the Wadhams to Avoca Trail and the Bridge to Bay Trail.

### WADHAMS TO AVOCA TRAIL

In 1999, St. Clair County PARC purchased the surface rights to 9.82 miles (100 acres) of right-of-way from CSX Railroad and began developing it as the Wadhams to Avoca Trail. In 2001 and 2004, PARC purchased two additional properties totaling 17.65 acres adjacent to the trail north of Imlay City Road for a trailhead and parking. In 2003, PARC purchased the surface rights to an additional two and a half miles of CSX Railroad right-of-way totaling 17.66 acres from Wadhams Road to Griswold Road. The trail is over 12.4 miles long and contains 160 acres.

## MAP 3-4: WALKABLE ST. CLAIR - FIVE MINUTE WALKING MAP







To date, the 640-foot Mill Creek Trestle has been decked and railed for pedestrians and bike riders. Three acres of land southeast of the Trestle was purchased to create a horse crossing at Mill Creek.

At the south end of the trail in Kimball Township, over five miles of trail have been paved starting at McLain Road running southeast to Griswold Road. The paved section of the trail passes through a developing residential area and is heavily used by residents.

In a joint effort with the St. Clair County Road Commission, a hybrid pedestrian signal was installed in 2010 where the trail crosses Wadhams Road. It was the first time this type of signal has been used for a trail crossing in Michigan. The signal prompts flashing lights to stop traffic when a pedestrian wishes to cross the road.

Designated parking areas are located at the Wadhams Road, Imlay City Road, Lapeer Road and Avoca Road trailheads. The non-motorized trail is open to walkers, bicyclists and equestrians.

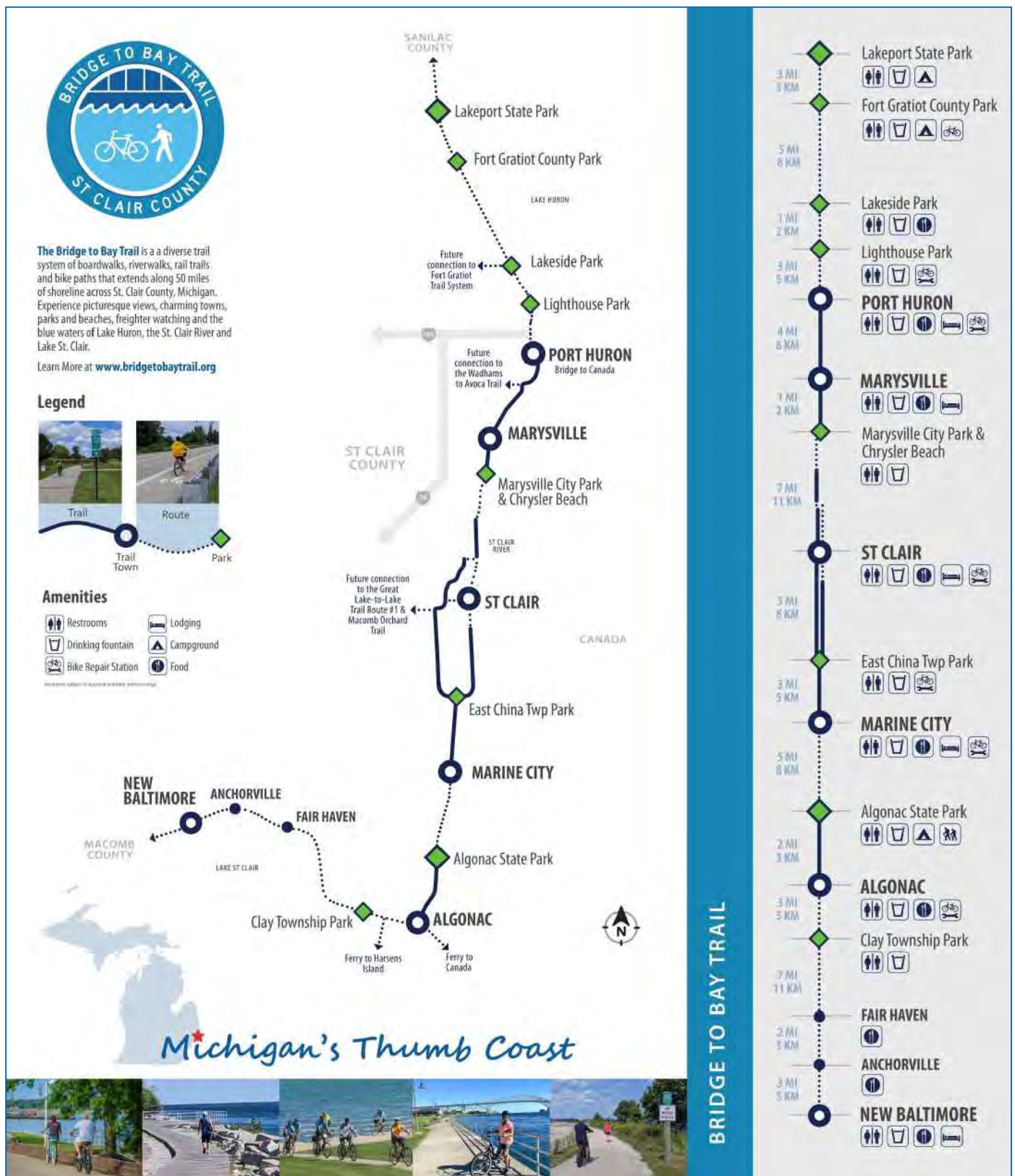
There are plans to extend this trail northwest to Yale, as well as to connect it to the Bridge to Bay Trail through Port Huron Township and heading east toward the St. Clair River.

### **BRIDGE TO BAY TRAIL**

The St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) is working in conjunction with 13 local units of government, Friends of the St. Clair River, the Metropolitan Planning Commission and the St. Clair County Community Foundation to develop a 54-mile paved trail from Lakeport State Park to New Baltimore. A regional trails governing board helps to plan and promote the trail, while each local unit of government is responsible for constructing their section of the trail. Even though PARC plays an instrumental coordinating role in the development of the Bridge to Bay Trail, the property that makes up that trail is owned by various municipalities and townships. Most trail



## MAP 3-5: BRIDGE TO BAY TRAIL



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construction projects are funded by grants. PARC usually helps to fund the local match required for trail construction grants.

The Bridge to Bay Trail extends from St. Clair County's northern border, under the Blue Water Bridges; through Port Huron, Marysville, St. Clair, Marine City, and Algonac; and past state and municipal parks, museums, gazebos, and lighthouses. Sometimes the trail is within reach of the water's edge and sometimes a few miles inland. It connects communities together for walkers, joggers, strollers, and bicyclists of all ages. The trail varies from a ten-foot wide separated paved pathway in the right of way along a road, or a five-foot wide dedicated bike lane.

Community partners have a primary goal of connecting the Bridge to Bay Trail to the Wadhams to Avoca Trail within St. Clair County, the Macomb Orchard Trail in Richmond (Macomb County), and the St. Clair Parkway Trail in Lambton, Ontario, Canada via ferry. As of 2021, roughly 26 miles of the 54-mile Bridge to Bay Trail is complete.

Funding for the Bridge to Bay Trail comes from the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Millage, local government funds, and state and federal grants, and philanthropic grants. Grant money for the trail has been provided by the United States government through federal transportation grants, and by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).

## **US BIKE ROUTE 20**

US Bike Route 20 is an established bicycle route in Michigan from the Walpole Island/Algonac Ferry in Downtown Algonac, where it connects to local trails in Canada, to Ludington, Michigan, where the route continues across the car ferry S. S. Badger to Manitowoc, Wisconsin. The Michigan segment operates on bicycle paths, county roads and state roads, favoring paved roads that have either low to moderate traffic or paved shoulders. Bicyclists on the route will encounter historic small towns like Marine City and Vassar, the old-world Bavarian charm of Frankenmuth, and the Manistee National Forest.

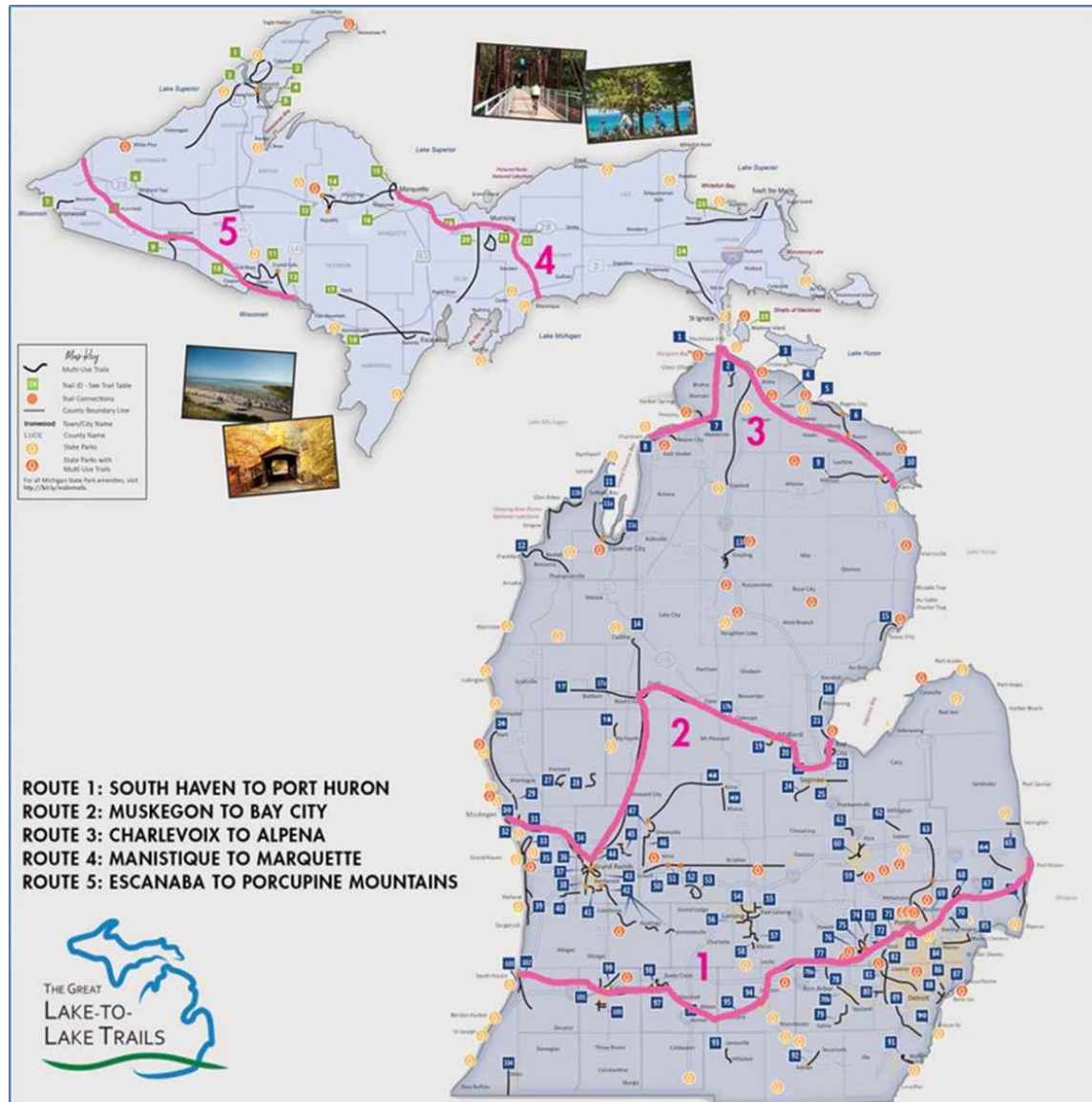
At present, US Bike Route 20 follows the Bridge to Bay Trail along Carney Drive in the City of St. Clair.

## **THE GREAT LAKE-TO-LAKE TRAIL, ROUTE #1**

The Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Route #1 is a 275-mile shared use trail across Michigan's southern Lower Peninsula that links Lakes Michigan and Huron while featuring pastoral farms and woodlots mingled with small towns and major cities. The linear destination trail connects visitors to nature while fostering healthy, sustainable and prosperous communities from South Haven to Port Huron. Route #1 is one of five Great Lake-to-Lake Trails that the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance (MTGA) intends to develop.

The Great Lake-to-Lake Trail offers Michigan's trail users a unique opportunity to experience quiet rural pathways and urban excursions as it winds its way across the southern lower portion of Michigan from shore to shore. The MTGA began the Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Project in 2009 with a grant from the Kresge Foundation to accelerate the development of cross-state trails while enhancing tourism and economic development opportunities.

## MAP 3-6: GREAT LAKE-TO-LAKE TRAILS







## **GREAT LAKES WAY**

The purpose of the Great Lakes Way is to build upon the groundwork laid by so many others to strengthen and define the greenways and blueways of the Huron-Erie corridor and ensure that people of all ages, backgrounds, ethnicities and interests feel welcomed and share in its benefits. The Great Lakes Way is a regional trail that builds upon existing assets and mapping and ensuring broad equity.

Creation of the Great Lakes Way brings together the collective assets of Monroe, Wayne, Macomb, and St. Clair counties. By designating these greenways and blueways as the Great Lakes Way, the region can focus on the important linkages still to be developed, while delivering a clear brand and message that will be recognizable to its residents. The goal is to link residents and visitors to the impressive collective of natural, educational, and recreational assets throughout the region. More information about the Great Lakes Way can be found online at <https://cfsem.org/initiative/greatlakesway/>.

## **ST. CLAIR COUNTY TRAILS PLAN**

St. Clair County, along with the Community Foundation of St. Clair County and numerous local and regional partners, developed an updated countywide trails plan in 2019 that identifies existing gaps in countywide non-motorized trail networks, identifies preferred alternatives to eliminate those gaps, and prioritizes the timing and sequencing for completing needed connections. The overarching goal is to complete the Bridge to Bay Trail and Wadhams to Avoca trail networks, which includes connecting to the Macomb Orchard Trail and the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Route #1, which runs from South Haven in the western part of the state to Port Huron in the eastern part of the state.

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The City should collaborate with partners, including St. Clair County, the Community Foundation of St. Clair County, and Friends of the St. Clair River, to implement the St. Clair County Trails Plan and assist in developing a fully-connected regional trail network. The County Trails Plan identifies four main trail gaps and recommended connections in the City of St. Clair:

#### **CLINTON STREET BIKEWAY (GAP #10) - IDENTIFIED AS A CRITICAL CONNECTION**

The Clinton Street Bikeway is critical for providing an east-west connection from the existing Fred Moore side path trail and connected trails/side paths through the center of town east into the downtown commercial area. Section 10A in the residential zone is relatively straightforward given the lack of on-street parking and overly wide travel lanes with unused pavement areas. Section 10B, going through a more commercial area, will be trickier to construct but provides a connection.

The City received a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant in the amount of \$437,115 through the Michigan Department of Transportation in 2020 to develop the Clinton Avenue Bikeway. The matching funds in the amount of \$291,410 includes funding assistance through the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation and the Community Foundation of St. Clair County. The trail will be constructed in 2023.

#### **RIVER ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (GAP #9) - IDENTIFIED AS AN IMPORTANT CONNECTION**

Planned improvements in St. Clair along portions of Riverside Drive and extending into River Road include a road diet and establishing bike lanes. Road diet plans indicate adequate width for creating buffered/protected bike lanes, and/or consolidating bike lanes into a protected two-way bikeway, especially in the commercial sections (9C). Section 9A is a priority for a side path continuation or buffered bikeway via shoulder widening.

The second gap proposes the following facilities:

- Off-street path that connects Griswold to Lapeer diagonally along a CN rail spur.
- Protected bike lanes from Lapeer to Water Street
- Protected bike lanes on Water Street
- A side path on 32nd Street
- Side path on the Lapeer Connector

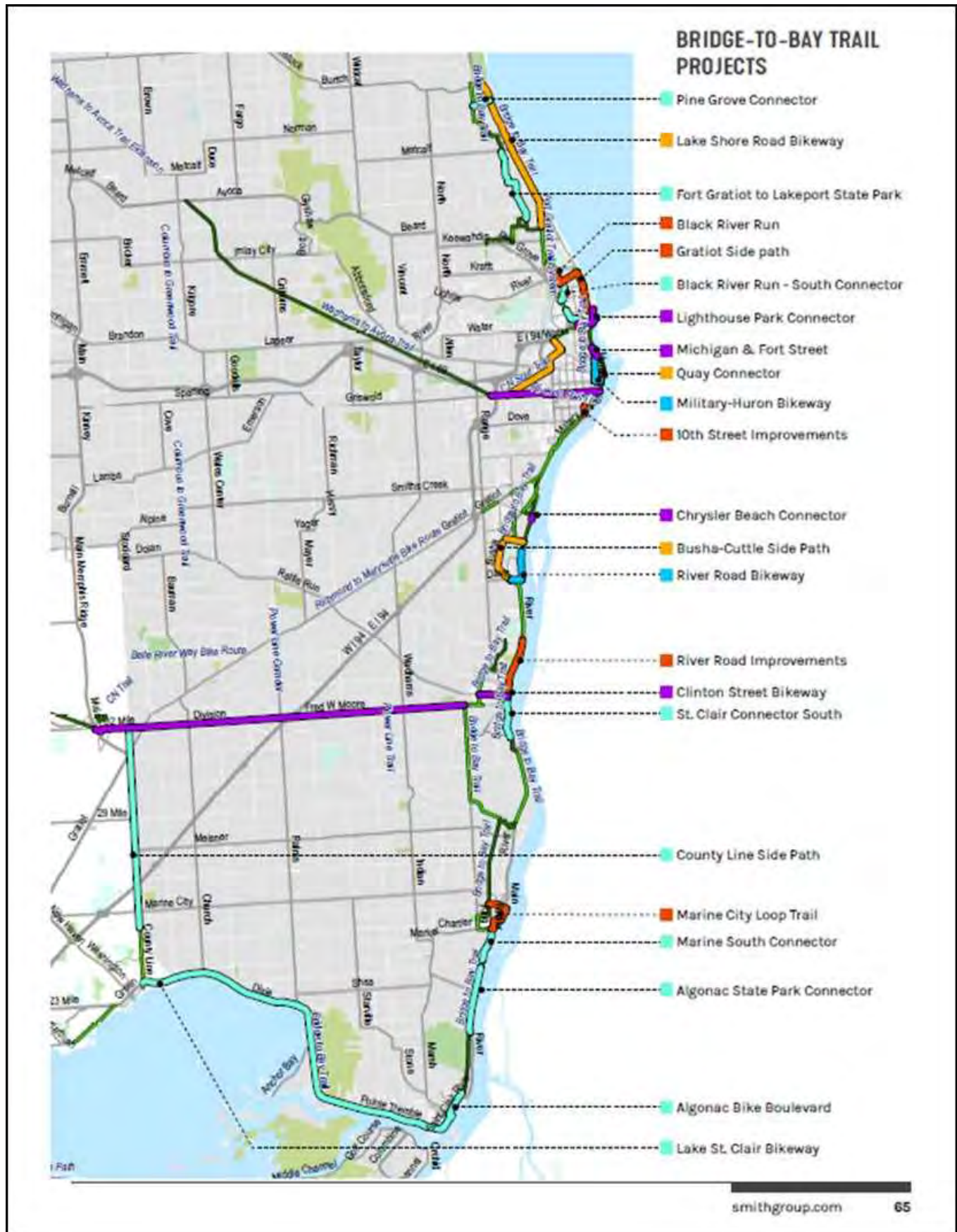
#### **ST. CLAIR SOUTH CONNECTOR (GAP #9) - IDENTIFIED AS A SECONDARY CONNECTION**

The St. Clair South Connector is an on-road route utilizing conventional bike lanes and short segments of buffered bike lanes where feasible. The right-of-way is narrow and of limited width for more extensive facilities. The side path on King Road provides a higher level facility (and is already built) and should be used as the main connection south from St. Clair.

#### **FRED MOORE HIGHWAY TRAIL (GAP #17) - IDENTIFIED AS A CRITICAL CONNECTION**

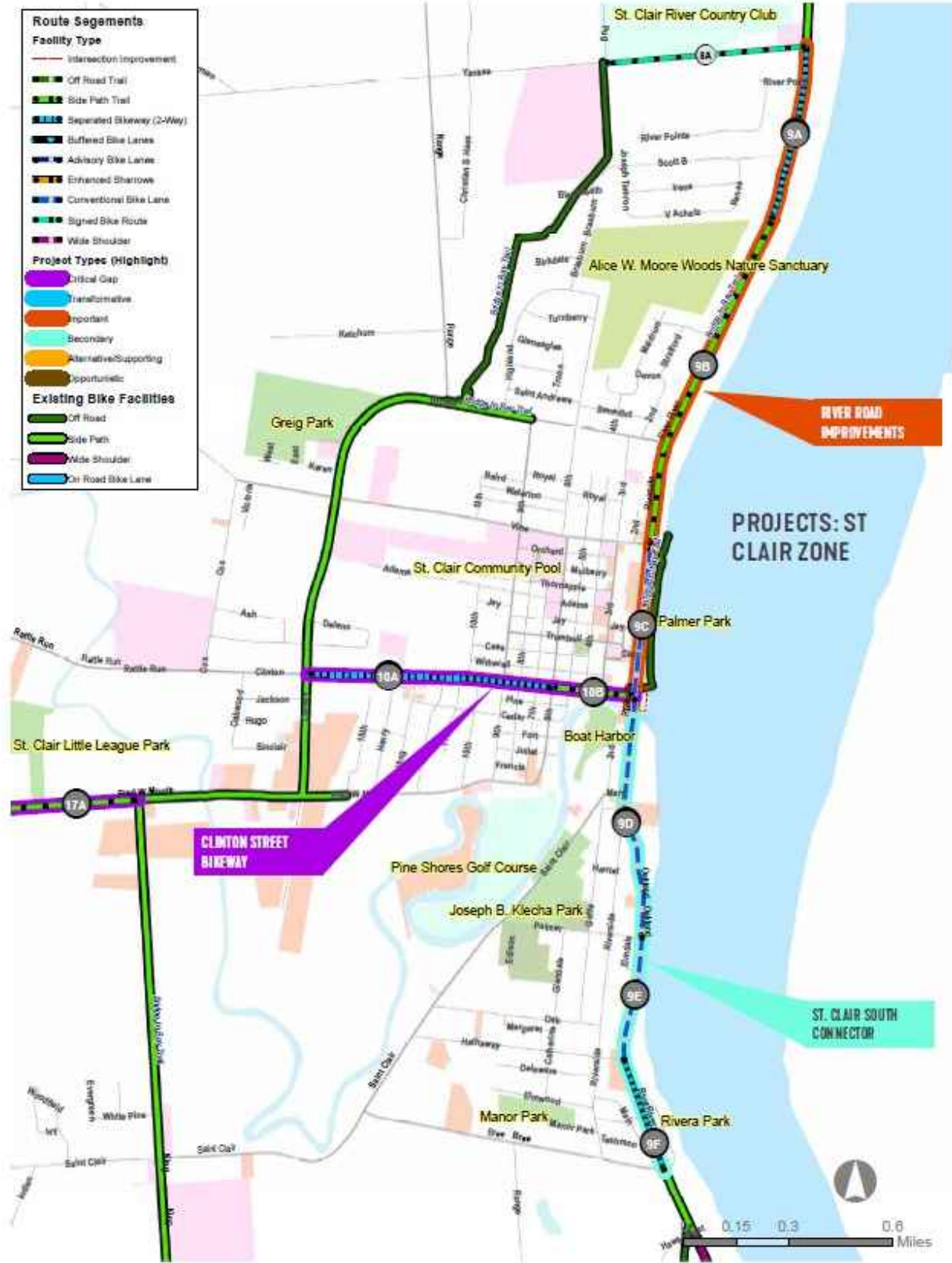
Gap 17 reflects a preferred route for extending the Great Lake to Lake Trail Route #1 east from its current end point in the City of Richmond (as part of the Richmond Trail Extension described above). Segment 17A provides a side path connection on the south side of the Division Street and Fred Moore Highway from Richmond eastward to the existing side paths at King Road and Fred Moore Highway in St. Clair. Large portions of Fred Moore Highway have an additional 80 feet of right-of-way on the south side of the road, providing opportunities to establish a side path trail well removed from the road way. Road bridges over streams and/or I-94 are wide enough to

## MAP 3-7: ST. CLAIR COUNTY TRAILS PLAN - BRIDGE TO BAY TRAIL





## MAP 3-8: ST. CLAIR COUNTY TRAILS PLAN - CITY OF ST. CLAIR CONNECTIONS



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accommodate transitioning to a buffered bikeway in some locations, but in others may require a separate boardwalk or non-motorized bridge. Fred Moore Highway was selected, in working closely with the Steering Committee, as the preferred route given its relatively lower cost of construction and, more importantly, that it provides a direct connection to the City of St. Clair and other shoreline communities. See Map 3-7.

## THE BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR

The Blueways of St. Clair is a system of 17 water trails, totaling 151 miles, in nine unique bodies of water. The Island Loop National Water Trail, the Fort Gratiot Sojourn, and the Lake Huron Paddle run within the township or along its border. More information can be found at [www.BluewaysOfStClair.org](http://www.BluewaysOfStClair.org).

### Pine River Paddle

The Pine River Paddle is the one water trail that is part of the Blueways of St. Clair within the city. This is a beautiful paddle along the Pine River that begins at the St. Clair Boat Harbor, where paddlers can rent kayaks by the hour. The Pine River Paddle is identified as route #9 on the Blueways map (Map 3-9).

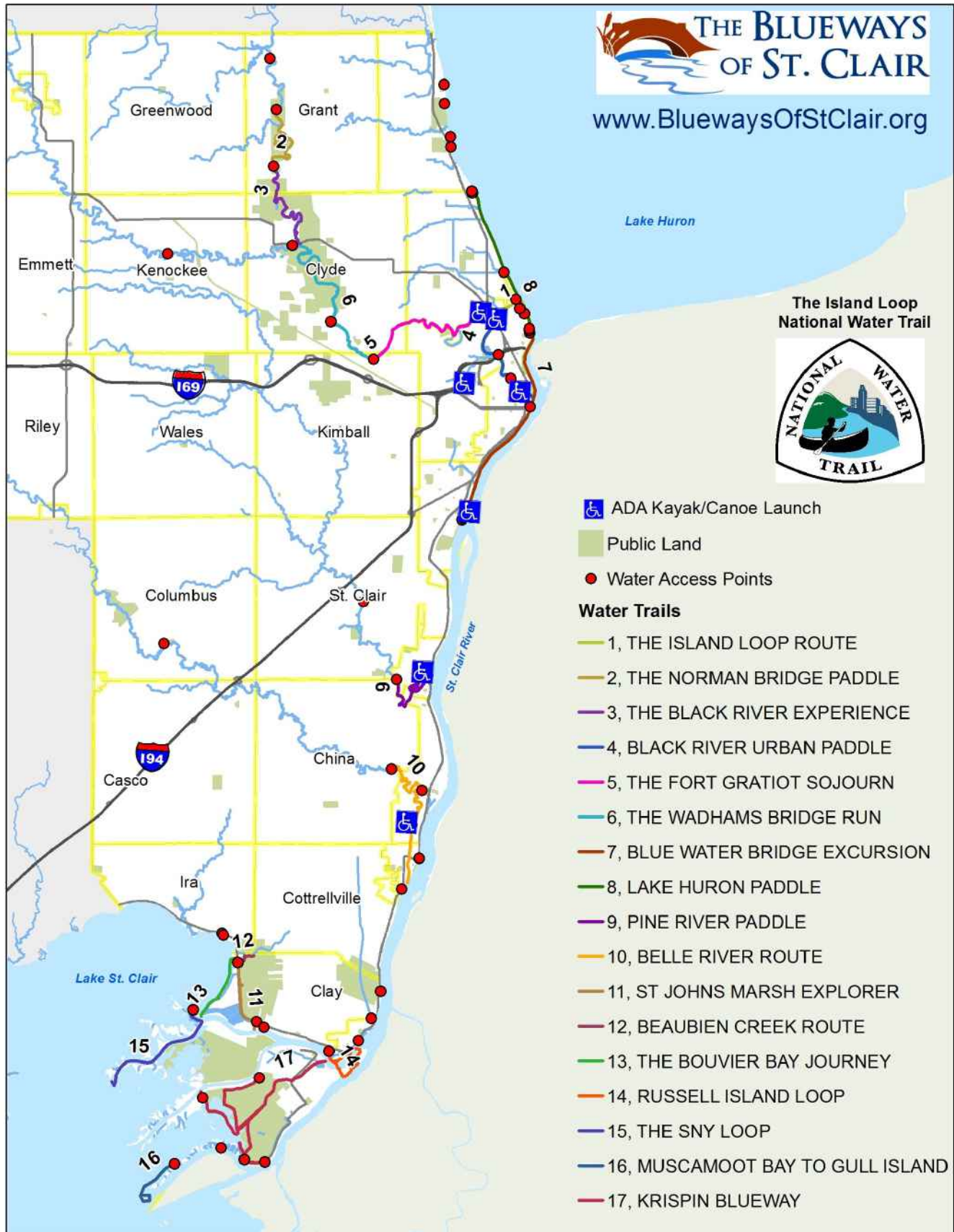
### Island Loop National Water Trail

The 10.2-mile Island Loop National Water Trail was the first national water trail to be designated in Michigan and the 14th in the United States. It navigates between the United States and Canada for 2.5 miles and meanders through Fort Gratiot Township, Port Huron Township, and the City of Port Huron. The trail makes a loop from the Black River to the Black River Canal to Lake Huron into the St. Clair River and back to the Black River. It also passes the oldest lighthouse in Michigan, the Thomas Edison Museum, the Huron Lightship Museum, and the Acheson Maritime Center.





## MAP 3-9: BLUEWAYS OF ST. CLAIR









# CHAPTER 4 PLANNING PROCESS & PUBLIC INPUT



## THE PLANNING PROCESS

The success of any planning process is reliant upon stakeholder involvement. The City of St Clair has committed itself to pursue a proactive public outreach effort throughout the development of this plan. Efforts focused on soliciting community involvement to maximize awareness of the recreation planning process.

### 2023-2027 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The process that led to the development of this five-year Parks and Recreation Plan included:

- A decision by the St. Clair Recreation Commission to update the City's five-year recreation plan.
- Contracting the services of the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission to manage the project and complete the update.
- A review of existing City planning documents by the St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission.
- A survey of 5th through 8th graders at St. Clair Middle School in March 2022.
- An online leadership survey distributed to members of the St. Clair City Council, Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, and other key stakeholders in City administration.
- An online communitywide survey that was available the entire month of October 2022.
- Drafting of the Parks and Recreation Plan.
- A presentation of the Parks and Recreation Plan to the City Council on December 19, 2022.
- Review of the Parks and Recreation Plan document by the Recreation Commission and the City Council.
- A 30-day public review and comment period that began on December 7, 2022 and ended on January 7, 2023. The 30-day public review and comment period is required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in order for a community to be in compliance for grant applications.
- A public hearing held on January 16, 2023 to receive additional citizen comments.
- Adoption of the Parks and Recreation Plan by the St. Clair City Council at its January 16, 2023 meeting.
- Transmission of the adopted 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Plan to St. Clair County.
- Transmission of the adopted 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Plan to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).
- Submittal of the adopted 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Plan to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

## OVERVIEW OF STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Input from citizens and local leaders was essential for the development of the Parks and Recreation Plan for St. Clair.

### LOCAL LEADERSHIP SURVEY

At the start of this planning process in July 2022, members of the City Council, Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, City Administration, and other members of City boards and commissions were given an online survey to establish a framework on the key planning issues related to the update of the City's Parks and Recreation Plan. A summary of input from the leadership survey can be found below.



#### Summary of input on parks and recreation issues from July 2022 Leadership Survey

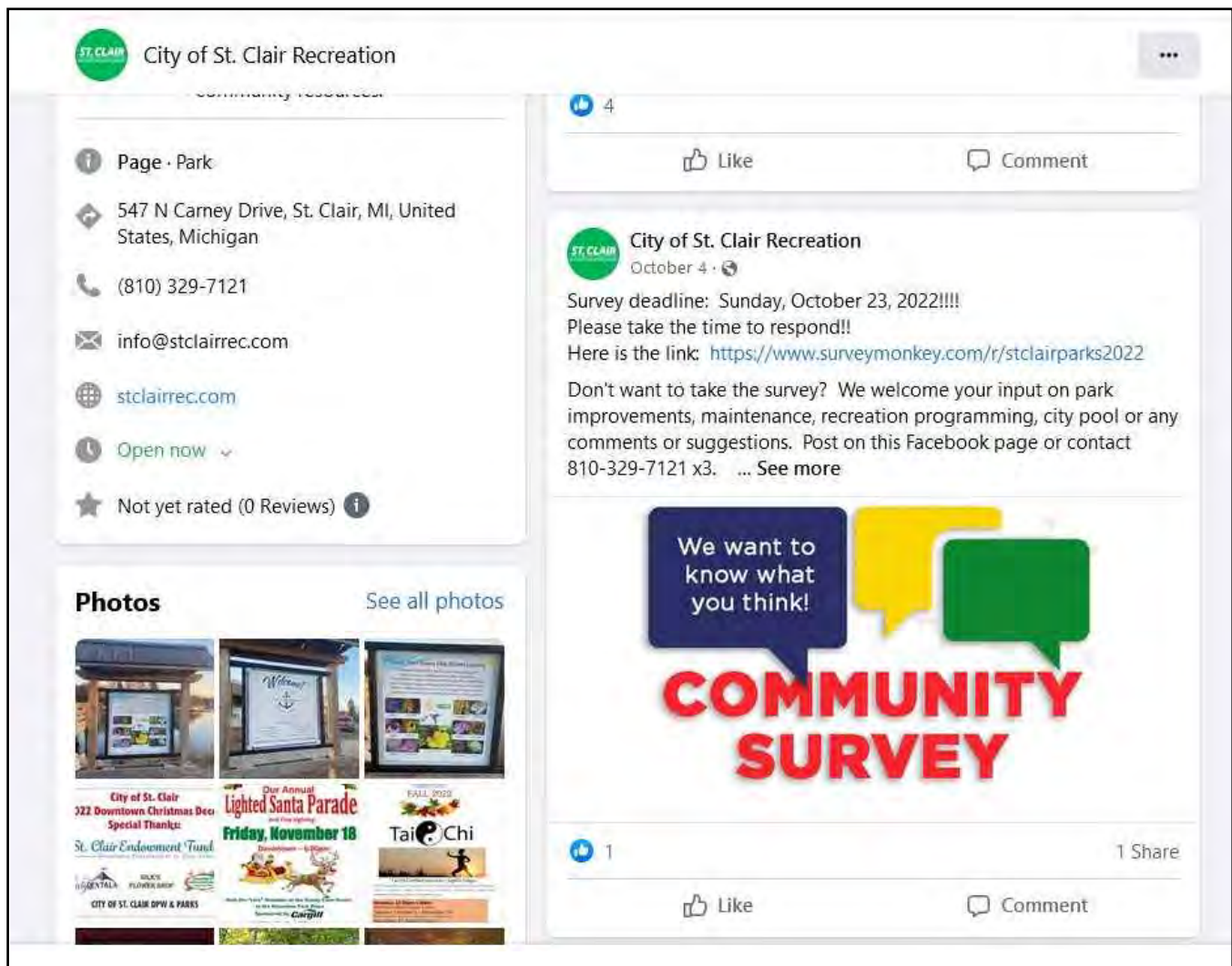
- More programs for the growing elderly population, including outdoor programs.
- Continue to maintain, improve, and invest in non-motorized transportation options.
- Would like to see more outdoor pickleball courts.
- Klecha Park desperately needs some attention. New playground and skating rink?
- The City needs a new aquatic center.
- The swimming pool needs to be rebuilt.
- Actual bathrooms, not portable toilets.
- Improvements to Klecha Park and Diamond Point Park.
- Better maintenance of the kayaks at the boat harbor.
- The harbor needs sea wall replacement.
- More outreach, inclusion of local people that use facilities.
- Replace deck boards on docks and relocate the kayak launch.
- Repair drainage issues at the golf course.
- The City needs to have programs/leagues at the golf course, including lessons for kids.
- Develop a splash pad at Klecha or Greig Park.
- The City should continue to operate a community pool and should identify a location for a new pool.
- The south end is lacking proper playground equipment. Families load up their kids to take them to Greig Park because there is little for children to do at Klecha Park.
- Would like to see a bike trail to the St. Clair Little League (Legacy Park).

#### Summary of what Local Leaders like best about parks and recreation in St. Clair

- Access to the St. Clair River and Pine River.
- The City's parks and recreation offerings are good for all age groups.
- Having a community pool.
- The parks are in good locations.
- The Boat Harbor.
- Palmer Park and the boardwalk downtown.
- The variety of parks - some are active and others are not.
- The City offers a diverse array of quality recreation programs.
- Biking/walking paths.
- Greig Park nature trails.
- Accessible pathways and trails.
- Proximity to residential areas.
- The parks are clean and well-maintained.
- A source of pride for the City of St. Clair.
- Children have a place to play.
- Beautiful views at Palmer and Rotary parks.

#### Summary of what Local Leaders like least about parks and recreation in St. Clair

- Bike paths aren't connected to each other.
- Limited activity south of the Pine River.



- Most of the kids' park area is in the northern part of town.
- Not enough parking.
- There is no recreation center for kids.
- Need more activities for teens.
- There are still some dead trees in some of the parks.
- Lack of year round restroom facilities.
- Need a dog park to run dogs in town.
- Present condition of the City pool.
- No online payment option for programs.
- It is time for a new pool.

### ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

During the month of October 2022, a community input survey was available online for residents and other stakeholders to provide input on specific questions, as well as ideas and suggestions on open-ended questions. The community survey provided the planning team with valuable feedback on parks and recreation issues in the City of St. Clair. In total, 68.75% of the respondents were St. Clair residents and the other 31.25% lived outside of the City - predominantly in St. Clair Township.

Roughly 56% of respondents indicated they visited a City park at least once a month and another 12.5% said they visit once a week. Over 56% said they were satisfied with the recreational programming offered by the City, while about 32% were unsure about the programs offered by the City, suggesting more marketing and promotion of recreational programs is necessary.

Community Survey: Summary of input regarding Greig Park

- Walking path needs updated.
- Splash pad like Goodells Park.
- Lower basketball nets for younger kids.
- Better restroom facilities.
- Security cameras.
- Additional nature/science activities for young children/toddlers. Could be guided walks or scavenger hunts in the nature area.
- A new pool either at the existing site or at Greig Park if there is room.

Community Survey: Summary of input regarding Palmer Park

- Fix the depressions in the ground.
- Love the river access near the St. Clair Inn, can we add one to the area near the Voyageur?
- Restrooms and drinking fountains.
- Sometimes music through speakers is too loud.

Community Survey: Summary of input regarding Klecha Park

- Add a splash pad.
- The park needs an overall update.
- Updates to play structures.

Community Survey: Summary of input regarding Community Pool

- Year-round aquatics center.
- Larger pool area with grass/trees and better amenities.
- Pool is not family friendly.
- Community recreation center like Macomb Township - courts, gym, pool, etc.
- Pool and splash pad in same location.
- "I had no idea we have a community pool."
- Relocate pool to Klecha Park and include a splash pad.
- Lack of shade in current location.
- Splash pad would be better fit at Greig Park or Palmer Park than at current location.
- Whether existing pool is upgraded or a new pool is built elsewhere - the City needs to have a community pool.

Community Survey: What people like best about parks and recreation in St. Clair

- Palmer Park.
- Greig Park.
- Open spaces to sit.
- Friendly parks and recreation staff.



- Parks are well-maintained.
- Cleanliness.
- Imagination Station playground.
- Walkability.
- Age appropriate facilities.
- A lot of play structures for kids.
- Wide range of activities for different seasons.
- Skate park.
- Bike paths - but they need repairs.
- Walking paths.
- Sitting by the water at Palmer Park.
- Landscaping/gardens.
- Affordability.

Community Survey: What people like least about parks and recreation in St. Clair

- The condition of the golf course.
- Lack of community drinking fountains.
- Nothing geared toward young professionals.
- Walking path needs to be updated.
- Pool hours are too short.
- Old playground equipment at Klecha Park.
- The pool is pretty rough.
- No community restrooms.
- No basketball at Klecha Park.
- No ongoing tourist activities like frog ponds/rose gardens.
- No activities that make it easy to meet new parents.
- Trees sometimes need to be trimmed.
- The pool should be better advertised. People who live in town do not realize there is a community pool.

Community Survey: Summary of other comments and suggestions

- Importance of pool and strong desire for a splash pad at either Greig or Klecha Park.
- The boardwalk at Rotary Park needs improvements.
- Freshen up existing parks, they look tired and worn.
- Expand the pool season and expand programming hours.
- The golf course needs drainage improvements.
- Better care of fairways and greens at the golf course.
- Look into creating a frog and turtle habitat for the public to enjoy.
- Would love a pool with a splash pad, slides, and other kid-related amenities.
- The pool should be in a central location in the city to allow children to ride bikes or walk to the pool.
- We really need a new pool. Swimming has been an integral part of our kids' success at swimming and navigating the St. Clair River as swimmers.

## SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS SURVEY

A survey of middle school students at St. Clair Middle School was conducted by a teacher in March 2022. The student council - 5th grade through 8th grade - were represented through an online survey. Additionally, 6th through 8th graders in a Positivity class were able to provide a list of pros and cons about the City. Below is a summary of their input.

### Summary of activities kids would use if the parks had them (38 responses):

- Rock climbing: 71.1%
- Obstacle course: 68.4%
- Music in the park (student musicians): 52.6%
- Photography class: 50%
- RC car racing: 31.6%
- Nature classes: 31.6%
- Gardening: 28.9%
- Organized flag football: 23.7%
- Workout path: 18.4%

### Summary of activities they currently do at the parks:

- Zip lines.
- Swings and monkey bars.
- Play/hang out with friends.
- Play baseball.
- Play basketball.
- Walk on the trails/paths.
- Run at the park.
- Play tag.
- Walk along the boardwalk.
- Play on the playground equipment.

### Summary of activities they wish they could do at the parks:

- Tire swing.
- Dodge ball.
- Swimming pool.
- Play volleyball.
- Play spike ball.
- Some kind of water activity in the summer, like a splash pad.
- Biking hills.
- More playground equipment.
- More climbing stuff.
- Trampoline.
- Monkey bars where "my feet don't touch the ground."
- Wish there was a water park.
- Not always enough swings.
- More basketball courts.

- More trails.
- Vending machines.
- RC car rink.
- Clean bathrooms at Greig Park.
- More zip lines.

Summary of activities or programs they would join if offered by the City:

- Rollerblading.
- Dog walking.
- Painting class at some of the parks.
- Clean up the parks.
- Arts and crafts.
- Photography.
- Something athletic or drawing classes.
- Nature class.
- RC car racing.
- Graphic art classes
- Summer swimming school.
- Any sports like basketball, volleyball, softball, etc.
- Nature trails,
- Bird watching.
- A race.

**SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS' LIST OF PROS ABOUT PARKS AND RECREATION:**

- Greig Park is great.
- Palmer Park is nice to go on walks.
- River is nice.
- Parks are clean.
- A lot of things downtown for fun.
- Palmer Park.
- There are a lot of trees.
- Entertainment for kids.
- Space to hang out.
- The fountain.
- Beautiful library.
- The plaza.
- The parks.

**SUMMARY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS' LIST OF CONS ABOUT PARKS AND RECREATION:**

- No place to recycle.
- Not many things for kids/teens.
- Parking lots are horrible.
- Not enough basketball courts.
- Not enough swings.
- You can get bored at the plaza.
- Mats are beat up in Greig Park.
- Graffiti/vandalism on equipment.
- Portable toilets.
- Not enough bike park things to do.
- No security cameras.
- Dirty bathrooms.
- Not enough decorations.
- Ticks in the weeds at Greig Park.
- Trash in the parking lot.
- Bigger City pool.



TABLE 4-1: COMPARISON TO SUGGESTED PARKLAND ACREAGE STANDARDS			
Type of Park	NRPA Standard Acres/1,000 Population	Acreage per NRPA Standard Based on 20,000 Population	Existing
Close to Home City Townships Total	6.25 to 10.5 acres	130 to 218 acres	159 acres 186 acres <b>352 acres</b>
Regional Parks	15 to 20 acres	312 to 415 acres	35,208 acres
Public Schools	-	-	122 acres
Linear Parks	-	-	1.8 miles
Special Use Facilities: Boat Harbor & Golf Course	-	-	58 acres
Conservancy Sites: Alice Woods	-	-	66 acres

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND FACILITY COMPARISON

An essential task in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan. This task can be accomplished not only by asking people what they desire, but also by comparing the City to established recreation standards based on the size of the community and its service area. In addition, the Recreation Commission can simply make observations of what is needed to improve the community's park system.

### PARK ACREAGE AND FACILITY COMPARISON

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum amount of park land and park facilities to adequately serve a given population size. The purpose of the NRPA guidelines is to provide minimum park land and facility development standards that are applicable nationwide for recreation planning purposes. While the NRPA standards are a helpful guide in determining minimum needed park acreage and facility, it should not be interpreted to be the only measure of whether the City's needs are being met. A parks and recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community.

According to the NRPA, parks are categorized as mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and regional parks. The mini, neighborhood, and community parks are the close-to-home parks, designed to satisfy the recreational needs of local communities. All the City parks are considered close-to-home parks. According to NRPA standards, the suggested amount of close-to-home parkland is 6.25 to 10.5 acres for every 1,000 residents.

Regional parks serve a broader area (about one hour drive or 40-mile radius) and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique areas. For the City of St. Clair, regional parks include the state and county-owned parks and recreation areas described in the Recreation Inventory (Chapter 3). The NRPA also recognizes other types of parks such as special use facilities, schoolyards, and private recreation facilities, which can contribute to the local parks and recreation system. This would include the municipal harbor and golf course as well as the public school and private recreation facilities in St. Clair.

TABLE 4-2: COMPARISON TO SUGGESTED FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS						
Activity/Facility	NRPA Standard Unit/Population	# per NRPA Standard	City	School	Townships	Total
Swimming Pool (Outdoor)	1/20,000	1	1	-	-	1
Swimming Pool (Indoor)	None	N/A	-	1	-	1
Baseball Fields	1/5,000	4	11	4	7	22
Softball Fields	1/5,000	4	-	1	-	1
Soccer Fields	1/10,000	2	-	2	12	14
Football Fields	1/20,000	1	-	3	1	4
Roller Hockey Rink	-	-	1	-	-	1
Tennis Courts	1/2,000	10	-	7	-	7
Basketball Courts	1/5,000	4	1	2	3	6
Volleyball Courts	1/5,000	4	1	-	-	1
1/4 Mile Track	1/20,000	4		2	-	2
Golf Course	1/50,000	1	1	-	-	1

Source: Lancaster, R.A., Ed. *Recreation Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1983; Mertes, J.D. and J.R. Hall. *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*. Alexandria, VA: NRPA, 1995.

Table 4-1 presents a comparison of the NRPA suggested park land standards with existing area parks based on a combined population of about 20,000 which includes the City of St. Clair and the adjoining townships of St. Clair, China, and East China. According to these standards, the area currently meets the needs for total local "close to home" and regional park land both at the City and the area levels.

Table 4-2 presents a comparison of the City's park facility standards against some of NRPA's suggested park facility standards. Using these standards, the area generally appears to meet and exceed most of the suggested minimum standard for recreation facilities.



## RECREATION TRENDS: 2022 TOPLINE REPORT

Recreation trends provide insight into activities that show the greatest growth in popularity and may affect the future direction of parks and recreation. The Outdoor Foundation publishes the *Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report* each year to provide a snapshot of American participation in outdoor activities, with a focus on youth and young adults. The 2022 report is based on an online survey of 18,000 Americans ages six and older. The following graphics summarize key findings from the report.



## KEY FINDINGS

Participation in outdoor recreation is healthy and robust. **The outdoor recreation participant base grew 2.2% in 2021 to 164.2 million participants.**



**More than half (54%) of Americans ages 6+ participated** in at least one outdoor activity in 2021.

**The outdoor recreation participant base grew again in 2021.** The outdoor participant base has increased 6.9% since the COVID pandemic began in early 2020. Although many of the official restrictions on indoor entertainment including restaurants, bars, and sporting events ended in 2021, Outdoor recreation participation continued to grow.



**The number of kids participating in outdoor recreation is up, but they are participating less frequently.**

**New outdoor participants are more diverse than the overall outdoor participant base** and are driving increasing diversity not only by ethnicity but also across age groups.

**High-frequency, or "core" participation, in outdoor recreation is declining.** The outdoor recreation "core" participant, who participates 51 times or more in outdoor recreation activities annually declined from 71.9% of the total outdoor recreation participant base in 2007 to 58.7% in 2021. In fact, the number of core participants declined from 99.5 million in 2007 to 96.4 million today.

**The number of participants 55 years and older increased more than 14% since 2019,** and senior participants ages 65 and older were in the fastest-growing age category, with 16.9% growth since the pandemic began.



Despite increases in the number of participants, total outdoor outings are declining significantly. **Outings have been in decline for the past decade** and the increased number of participants are not stemming the tide.

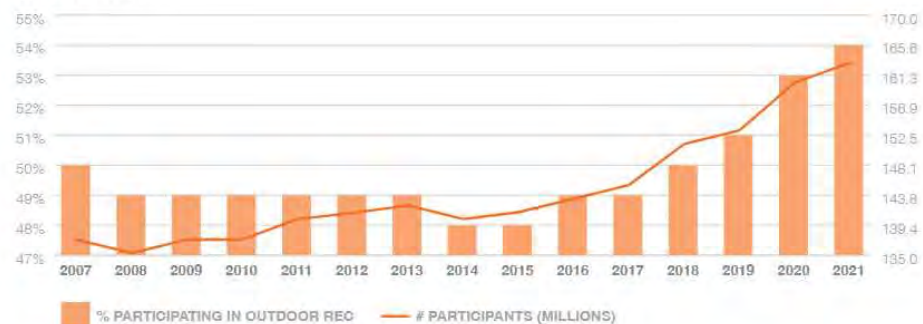
## KEY FINDINGS

Since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March of 2020, the number of new and returning (lapsed) outdoor participants has increased 26%. The growth in new participants and returning participants in 2021 was the highest ever recorded.

There was a reasonable expectation that during 2021, the second year of the pandemic, outdoor participation would return to 2019 levels as indoor activity including, dining, sporting events, and fitness centers and gyms, reopened. **The 2021 data indicates that participation in outdoor recreation retained momentum in 2021. This data indicates that outdoor recreation is "sticky;" once someone begins to participate, they are likely to continue to participate.**

## OUTDOOR PARTICIPATION GROWTH TRENDS

2007 TO 2021



## TOTAL, NEW/LAPSED, & LOST PARTICIPANTS (MILLIONS)

2021



2015 - 2021



## INTEREST LEVEL OF OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Growth in outdoor recreation slowed in 2021 in many categories but gains made since 2019 were not lost. Compared to 2020, 14 categories of participation grew, two were flat, and 38 categories declined. Despite slowed growth, outdoor recreation gained a net total of 3.5 million more participants in 2021. Additionally, 6.8 million Americans, a record number, tried outdoor recreation for the first time in 2021. Survey respondents, both outdoor participants and nonparticipants, were asked to choose which of 122 team, individual, and outdoor activities they intended to participate in during the next 12 months. Outdoor activities ranked highly on that list. **Activating non-participants and retaining current ones should remain a key priority for every outdoor company and organization.**

## MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

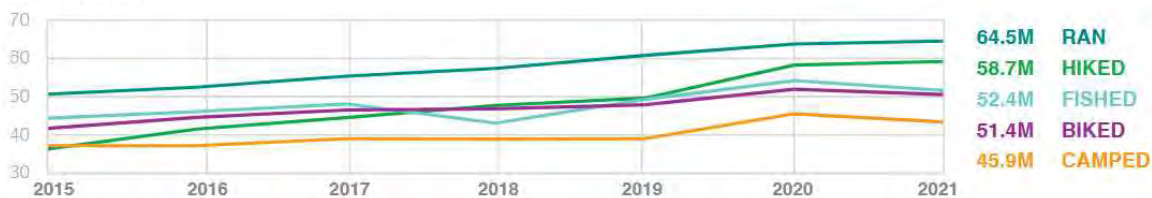
ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS (MILLIONS)	CHANGE 2020 TO 2021
	58.7	+889 thousand
	45.9	-2 million
	52.4	-2.3 million
	64.5	+739 thousand
	51.4	-1.4 million

## LEGEND

	CAMPING
	BIKING
	FISHING
	HIKING
	RUNNING

## TOP FIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES (MILLIONS OF PARTICIPANTS)

2015 TO 2021



## MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

### BY PARTICIPATION RATE

AGES 6 TO 17

ACTIVITY	PARTICIPATION RATE	# OF PARTICIPANTS (MILLIONS)
	29.9%	14.9
	26.2%	13.1
	25.6%	12.8
	21.3%	10.7
	20.2%	10.1

### BY ANNUAL FREQUENCY

AGES 6 TO 17

ACTIVITY	# OF OUTINGS	AVE ANNUAL OUTINGS PER PARTICIPANT
	622,320	33.7
	497,092	41.2
	170,301	13.9
	167,376	43.5
	123,831	9.2

Source: 2022 Outdoor Participation Trends Report, Outdoor Foundation.

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## CHAPTER 5

# GOALS & OBJECTIVES/ STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN







## INTRODUCTION

The City of St. Clair Recreation Commission has formulated the following goals and objectives for the next five-year planning period. The goals and objectives are broad enough to encompass the needs expressed by the public, City officials, and staff, as well as respond to the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources. They also consider current demographic and economic trends and projections, the area's physical resources, and recreation trends.

## PARKS AND RECREATION GOALS

The City of St. Clair is committed to providing recreational opportunities for persons of all ages and abilities.

The focus of parks and recreation in St. Clair should continue to be on the maintenance and improvement of existing parks and trails, as well as continuing to provide outstanding programming for residents and non-residents alike.

## PLANNING OBJECTIVES

The Recreation Department has five overarching planning objectives to guide its strategic action program:

### 1. MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE EXISTING PARKS.

The continued maintenance and update of park facilities is important to the quality of parks and recreation in St. Clair. Park facilities should be safe, functional, and well-maintained. This includes upgrading aging facilities, removing barriers to accessibility, and maintaining the parks. There is also a desire to continue improving park facilities to respond to the changing needs of residents, such as renovating or relocating the City pool, renovating Klecha Park, updating Greig Park, installing permanent restrooms at City parks, and improvements at the boat harbor.

### 2. ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS CITYWIDE BIKE/WALKWAY SYSTEM.

The establishment of a network of bike and walk ways to form a continuous system tying parks, schools, neighborhoods, businesses, and community facilities is a continued priority for the City. This system should be tied to the regional trail system planned for the area and to a complete streets policy for the City of St. Clair. Coordination with City Council, the Planning

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Commission, and the Downtown Development Authority will be necessary to develop and implement the system.

### **3. ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP NEW PARKS.**

Potential land acquisition and parkland dedication should focus on providing areas for active recreation use and community gathering. Coordination with City Council and the Planning Commission will be necessary to acquire new parkland.

### **4. CONTINUE TO IMPROVE RECREATION SERVICES AND PARTNERSHIPS.**

The Recreation Department strives to provide quality and diverse recreation programs which respond to residents' desires and interests. The Recreation Department has maintained a high level of services that is well-appreciated by residents.

The continued coordination with area recreation providers including adjacent townships and the St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as the schools, civic groups, and business organizations, is important to maximize the City's recreation potential. The Recreation Commission should play a role in the coordination of such services by focusing on increasing public awareness and support for park development projects and meeting community recreational needs for recreation programs.

The City should also encourage and participate in discussions with neighboring jurisdictions and St. Clair County on a potential regional community recreation center in an appropriate location to serve residents.

### **5. PROVIDE FOR THE EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING OF PARKS AND RECREATION.**

The continued maintenance and update of park facilities is important to the quality of parks and recreation in St. Clair. Park facilities should be safe, functional, and well-maintained. This includes upgrading aging facilities, removing barriers to accessibility, and maintaining the parks. There is also a desire to continue improving park facilities to respond to the changing needs of residents, such as renovating or relocating the City pool, renovating Klecha Park, updating Greig Park, and improvements at other existing parks and the boat harbor.

In order to receive these funds, communities must submit an annual report and show evidence of "maintenance of effort" to assure the funding is used to expand opportunities rather than to supplant existing local funding. In effect, local units of government must document that they have maintained their local financial support for parks and recreation services at a level equal to or greater than the amount they spent prior to the 1994 millage election.





## STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAM

The Action Program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of specific improvement projects, as well as strategies for implementation.

The following outlines a list of specific projects and strategic actions which are recommended for accomplishment during the five-year planning period. They are based on the needs identified in the community-wide survey, discussions with the project steering committee, and input from City staff and commissions.

### 1

## Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities

This action includes replacing or repairing old equipment and facilities that are in a state of disrepair, are outdated, or dangerous. It also includes improving the appearance of the City parks through appropriate landscaping and maintenance. All upgrades must meet safety and accessibility standards. Proposed actions include:

- Remove/replace play equipment;
- Maintain safety surfaces under play structures to regulated depth and fall zone;
- Refurbish athletic field and multi-use surfaces as needed;
- Make ADA-accessibility improvements at all facilities as needed;
- Refurbish parking area, walkway, and court game pavement surfaces as needed;
- Replace/add park furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles, and signs;
- Explore the development of a field house or other shared use facility to host pickleball and other activities.
- Identify opportunities to adaptively reuse closed or underutilized facilities, such as school buildings or churches.
- Maintain buildings, structures, and picnic shelters in good condition with roof repair, exterior painting, and other improvements;
- Manage existing plant materials with the removal of dead trees and replace with tree/shrub plantings; and
- Work with the DDA, Beautification Commission, and other civic groups to continue to add attractive landscaping by park signs, park entrances, and at other locations.
- Create an inventory of invasive species at all City parks and work with community partners to manage and/or eliminate problem areas.

### 2

## Improve Greig Park

Greig Park is the main active park in the City of St. Clair. Proposed improvements include:

- Install a permanent restroom building;
- Maintain the multi-use surfaces and replace equipment as necessary;
- Improve, reorganize, and resurface the parking area;
- Prepare a stewardship plan for the management and enhancement of the wooded area;
- Improve and maintain the nature trail; and
- Redesign the non-motorized bicycle track and add components to the skate park as needed.

### 3 Improve Palmer Park

Because of its primary location along the St. Clair River, Palmer Park is a high priority for future park improvements. Proposed actions include:

- Develop a master plan for Palmer Park that includes plans for signage, utilities, lighting, landscaping, and events.
- Provide a community gathering space for special events;
- Promote the park's access to the river, highlight community events at the park, and market the park's amenities, such as the bollards for boater access;
- Explore providing active and passive recreation facilities, including opportunities for outdoor fitness and physical activity;
- Promote the area's maritime history through interpretive displays and enhanced tools to enjoy the river and its variety of boating and shipping activities;
- Continue to improve and maintain safe pedestrian access from Riverview Plaza to Palmer Park, leading to the Boardwalk;
- Explore options for working with community partners to provide appropriate areas within the park for food trucks.
- Add permanent restroom facilities.
- Ensure proper and regular maintenance of the boardwalk.

### 4 Improve and add small parks and open spaces

Diamond Point, Patrick Sinclair, and Rotary Club parks should be maintained and improved by providing walkway connections to the citywide walkway system. Other small public open spaces could also be added on vacant or underutilized lots. Proposed actions include:

- Continue to improve and maintain the Wildlife Landing at Rotary Park;
- Create seating areas and continue to incorporate artwork along with pedestrian amenities;
- Continue to maintain and add attractive landscaping; and
- Add walkway connections to the citywide bike/walkway system.



## 5 Develop the Legacy Park property

Legacy Park is an important addition to the City's park system, providing ball fields for the area's baseball and softball leagues. Additional land acreage remains undeveloped. Proposed improvements include:

- Develop a master plan for the undeveloped land at Legacy Park;
- Provide nature trails and paved walkways around the park;
- Further develop the sledding hill through enhanced design and improvements, including lighting.
- Work with partners to develop a trail connecting Legacy Park to the Bridge to Bay Trail;
- Support the St. Clair Little League's development and maintenance of the existing and planned ball fields, including
  - ⇒ The addition of support facilities and park furnishings, including a picnic shelter, tables, restrooms, benches, drinking fountains, etc.;
  - ⇒ The development of playground facilities; and
  - ⇒ Making improvements to the parking and driveway areas.

## 6 Renovate Klecha Park

With Legacy Park housing the Little League ball fields, Klecha Park can be transformed into a neighborhood park by implementing the Klecha Park Master Plan, which includes:

- Maintain one ball field and replace the others with a multi-use court and open grass areas;
- Remove and relocate the play structure and pavilion;
- Develop a splash pad or other water feature at the park;
- Remove the storage building;
- Add walkways, seating areas, shade trees, and shrubs; and
- Develop a new parking area with ADA-parking and accessible sidewalk connections to restroom facilities.

## 7 Acquire parkland and open space

Work to acquire and dedicate new parkland and open spaces as significant parcels and acquisition opportunities occur.

- Acquire land for the development of parks adjacent to existing parks, providing access to the Pine and St. Clair rivers, and land that provides linkages and opportunities for both active and passive recreation; and
- Work with City Council and the Planning Commission to ensure parkland dedication is considered in development proposals.



## 8

### Maintain high quality recreation services and provide efficient/effective administration

Financing the development of new facilities will have to be supported by grants, donations, and other funding sources. Recreation Department staff should continue to provide outstanding customer service and recreational opportunities for citizens. Recommended actions include:

- Continuously evaluate and monitor recreation programs;
- Stay abreast of current recreation trends at the regional, state, and national level;
- Ensure that City recreation programs have safe, up-to-date equipment and supplies;
- Evaluate fees and chargers for programs and services to increase cost recovery;
- Continue to pursue state and federal grants for parkland acquisition and development;
- Continue to maintain and develop volunteer opportunities;
- Expand use of web-based communication tools such as Facebook, Twitter, E-mail blasts, and other online services for registration and communication;
- Increase marketing efforts to promote the City's parks and recreation programs and ensure that all citizens are aware of City facilities, programs, and events; and
- Establish a memorial bench/tree planting program.

## 9

### Improve the St. Clair Boat Harbor

The St. Clair Boat Harbor is an asset to the City of St. Clair and the larger region. Pleasure boating is hugely popular throughout the Metro Detroit area and the Boat Harbor provides excellent amenities for boaters looking to take advantage of the area's beautiful water resources. Recommended actions include:

- Refurbish and upgrade pavilions #2 and #3.
- Construct a new launch dock.
- Improve the boardwalk on the west wall from Pine Street to Cedar Street.
- Install floating docks and a kayak/small boat launch south of Juliet Street.
- Reconstruct the boardwalk and replace power stanchions along the north wall at Rotary Park.
- Replace the water fountain with a water bottle filling station.
- Improve wi-fi and security cameras. Add coverage to include the south wall and west wall.
- Relocate dumpsters and add a stage/amphitheater by Campsite #1; and
- Pursue dredging grant funds and carry out dredging as needed.



# 10

## Actively support and participate in the continued development of bicycle and walking trails/pathways

Work with City Council, the Planning Commission, and other partners to continue developing the multi-use pathway system by developing missing links, providing connections in and outside of the City, and adding complete streets features. Proposed actions include:

- Continue to partner with MDOT, St. Clair County, Friends of the St. Clair River, and other stakeholders to promote and develop a system of non-motorized trails within St. Clair;
- Provide safe pedestrian crossings along primary arteries in conjunction with pedestrian refuges, enhanced crosswalks, pedestrian-activated signals, and other features;
- Install site amenities along the bike/walk system to include kiosks, maps, benches, trash receptacles, mile markers, bike racks, and a wayfinding system;
- Work with St. Clair County and other partners to implement recommendations and design treatments outlined in the Blue Water Trail Towns Master Plan;
- Develop a marketing strategy to attract support and sponsors including the development of a walking brochure and club;
- Encourage the creation of a U.S. Bike Route 20 alternate route through downtown St. Clair;
- Utilize St. Clair County recreation millage funds to repair and maintain pathways throughout the City;
- Work with community partners to implement the St. Clair County Trails Plan, including the connection to the Macomb Orchard Trail in Richmond along Fred Moore Highway to help complete the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail Route #1;
- Continue working with community partners on implementing the Bridge to Bay Trail wayfinding plan; and
- Develop the following pathway connections:
  - ⇒ Fred Moore Highway/King Road multi-use pathway to Legacy Park,
  - ⇒ Carney Drive to St. Clair High School,
  - ⇒ Pine River Corridor River Walk,
  - ⇒ M-29/Riverside Drive segment, and
  - ⇒ Brown Street from existing path end point to M-29.

# 11

## Improve the City's community pool and develop a splash pad

Two important takeaways from the community survey are that residents love the community pool and wish for it to remain - whether renovated in its current location or constructed new at another location. They also have a strong desire for a splash pad to be developed somewhere in the City. Recommended actions include:

- Make improvements to the community pool at its current location or identify an appropriate location to develop a new community pool;
- Look for ways to partner with neighboring townships on a community pool;
- Establish an advisory community pool committee to explore funding and promotion; and
- Develop a splash pad at an appropriate location in an existing City park.



## 12

### Work with community partners to further improve and promote water trails

The City of St. Clair is fortunate to be located in an area that offers phenomenal opportunities for water-based recreation and enjoyment. Paddling sports have seen enormous growth in popularity in St. Clair County due in large part to the establishment of the Blueways of St. Clair, a countywide system of water trails. With the Pine and St. Clair Rivers, there are tremendous opportunities for water trail recreation in the City. Recommended actions include:

- Continue to work with the Blueways of St. Clair to promote area water trails and increase marketing efforts for City-specific water trails;
- Identify an optimal location for an additional ADA-accessible canoe/kayak launch;
- Enhance signage for water trails, river access, and connectivity to downtown and other City amenities;
- Develop fishing and canoe/kayak access on the Pine River; and
- Implement the recommendations of the Blue Water Trail Towns Master Plan.

## 13

### Maintain partnerships to enhance parks and recreation opportunities for citizens

Facilitate and promote the use of City parks and recreation facilities by community groups including seniors, sports leagues, and public schools. Parks and Recreation Commissioners must continue to advocate and promote the social, economic, and environmental values and benefits of parks and recreation by reaching to the community and the region. Recommended actions include:

- Stay involved in local and regional efforts to promote tourism and recreation opportunities in the City of St. Clair, St. Clair County, and the Thumb Coast.
- Continue to coordinate the shared use of facilities and programs with area sports organizations, public schools, adjacent communities, regional recreation providers, and other recreation groups;
- Explore partnership opportunities with private and nonprofit entities for key regional impact projects, such as the redevelopment of the ECSD Education Center as a potential recreation/education/arts center;
- Continue to seek public/private partnerships including adjacent communities, St. Clair County Parks and Recreation Commission, or private groups for the area's parks and recreation services or for implementing a particular project such as a regional community center and work with those partners to identify appropriate locations and funding opportunities; and
- Provide opportunities for volunteers and promote park stewardship opportunities.



# 14

## Continue to maintain and promote Pine Shores Golf Course as a recreational destination

The City operates the Pine Shores Golf Course, a nine-hole course that offers lessons, league play, and banquet facilities. The community survey revealed that many residents are not aware of the various services the golf course offers.

- Maintain the clubhouse facility and improve the parking lot as necessary;
- Improve and maintain the irrigation system;
- Explore options to provide additional waterfront opportunities such as fishing, kayaking, boating or other activities at the golf course;
- Work with partners to manage invasive species and protect habitat in the Pine River;
- Look into other community uses for the parking lot across from the clubhouse; and
- Maintain and replace golf course equipment on an ongoing basis.



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## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides a limited amount of money for parks and recreation facilities. Therefore, the following strategies are recommended in order to proceed as planned.

### APPLY FOR FEDERAL FUNDING

At the federal level, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) funds the federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). To be eligible, a project must be an eligible TAP activity and relate to surface transportation. A minimum 20% local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Additionally, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) also holds an application process, giving the City two opportunities to apply for TAP funding. Activities which may apply to the City of St. Clair include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles including new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges, and underpasses;
- Provision of safety and educational programs for pedestrians and bicyclists designed to encourage walking and bicycling; and
- Acquisition, planning, designing and constructing abandoned railway corridors.

### APPLY FOR MDNR GRANT FUNDING

At the state level, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) offers a number of grant programs for parks and recreation acquisition and development, including the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Recreation Passport grant program, and Michigan Spark Grants.

The MNRTF provides funding for the purchase and development of parkland for natural resource-based preservation and recreation. Grant proposals must include a local match of at least 25 percent of the total project cost. There is no minimum or maximum for acquisition projects. For development projects, the minimum funding request is \$15,000 and the maximum is \$500,000. Applications are typically due April 1 each year.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the MDNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. Minimum grant requests are \$30,000 and maximum requests are \$75,000. LWCF grants require a 50 percent match of the total project cost. Applications are typically due April 1 each year.

The Recreation Passport program provides grants up to \$75,000 for development projects and requires a 25 percent match. The program is focused on renovating and improving existing parks, but the development of new parks is eligible. The minimum grant request is \$7,500. Applications are typically due April 1 each year.

The Michigan Spark Grant program was created in 2022. The Spark program is a \$65 million grant program to help local communities that want to create, renovate or redevelop public opportunities for residents and visitors - especially those whose economic opportunities and health were hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Administered by the DNR, Michigan Spark Grants will

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support projects that provide safe, accessible, public recreation facilities and spaces to improve people's health, introduce new recreation experiences, build on existing park infrastructure and make it easier for people to enjoy both indoor and outdoor recreation.

Other funding conducted in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Inland Fisheries Grant) and the Forest, Mineral, and Fire Management Division (DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grant and Forest Stewardship – Outreach and Education Grant). The Inland Fisheries Grant program considers projects that enhance habitat and fisheries, riparian property for public fishing use, water quality, and ecology.

### **APPLY FOR MICHIGAN WATERWAYS COMMISSION FUNDING**

Waterways Program Grants are funded through the Michigan State Waterways Fund from state marine fuel tax and watercraft registrations. These grants provide funding assistance for design and construction of public recreational harbor/marina and boating access site/launch facilities throughout the state. Only local units of government and public universities are eligible to apply. On-site investigation by MDNR, Parks and Recreation Division staff may be required to determine suitability of proposed work. Greater priority is typically given to projects for which the applicant documents matching funds equal to or greater than the percentage of the project cost they are required to provide. The local match can include in-kind services. These grants provide funds for engineering services (i.e. preliminary design/engineering, feasibility studies, market analysis, soil borings, utility surveys, bathymetric surveys, and many more) and construction components for boating facilities (i.e. utility work, dredging, breakwater and seawall work, dock/pier work, boat launch work, paving work, fueling system work, ice suppression, lighting, entrance/parking lot work, pump-out system work, and more). Applications are typically due April 1 each year.

Additionally, the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) program through the MDNR provides funding assistance for the construction of recreational boating facilities in the state that meet the following goals:

- Create dockage for transient recreational boats 26 feet or larger in order to provide access to recreational opportunities and safe harbors;
- Provide navigational aids for transient boaters using these facilities;
- Enhance access to recreational, historic, cultural, natural, and scenic resources;
- Strengthen local ties to the boating community and its economic benefits;
- Promote public/private partnerships and entrepreneurial opportunities;
- Provide continuity of public access to the water, and
- Promote awareness of transient boating opportunities.

Grant funding covers 75% of the total approved project costs for construction of infrastructure improvements. Applications for the Boating Infrastructure Grant program are also due by April 1 each year.

### **SEEK OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING**

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/pathways or greenway-related facilities. Additionally, the City of St. Clair should investigate additional sources of funding, such as donations, attracting sponsors, holding fundraising events, and exploring other revenue sources to raise funds for park acquisition and development.



# APPENDIX A

# ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR

IMPROVEMENTS SCHEDULE, DREDGING INFORMATION, AND SITE PLAN



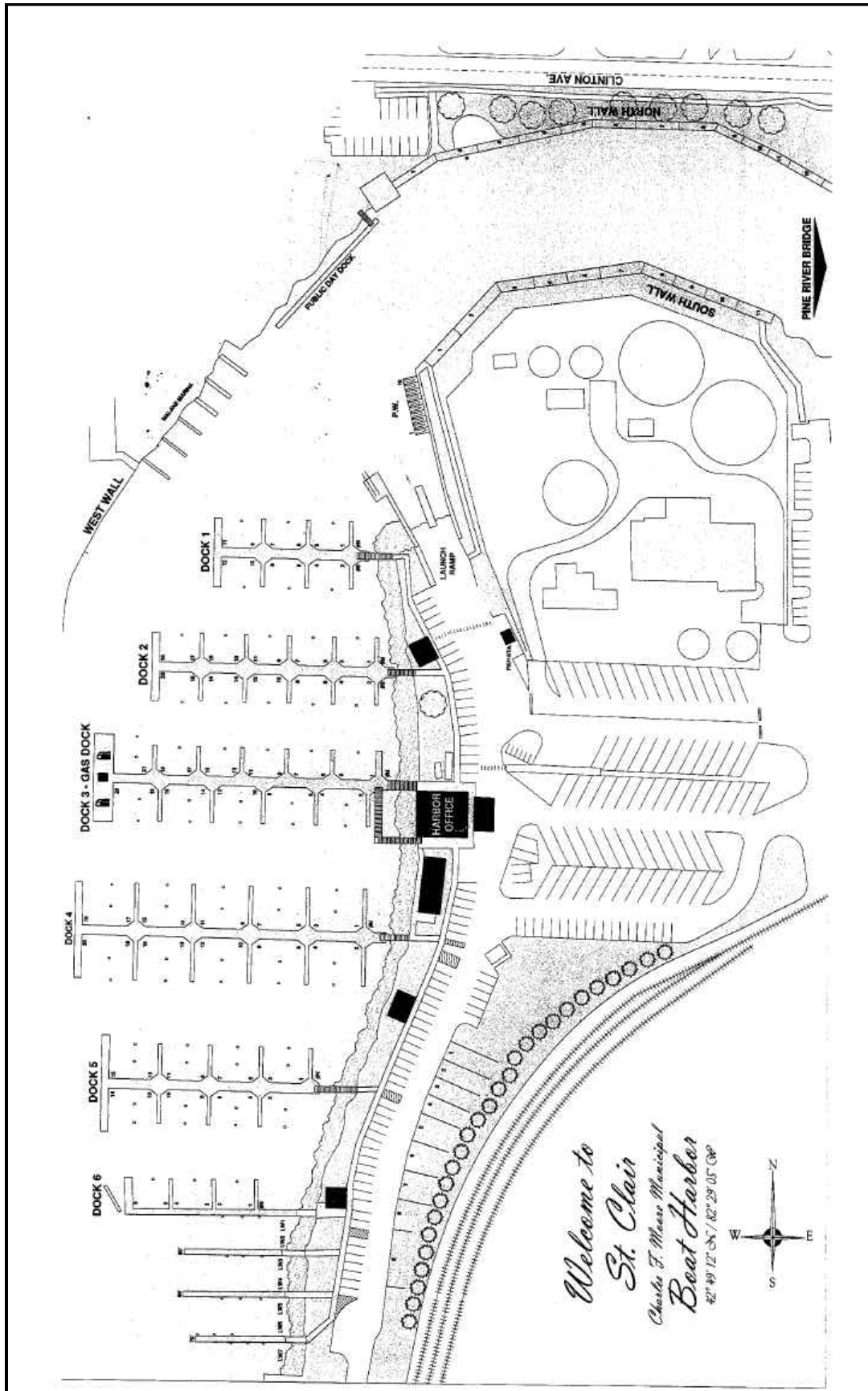
## ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR: IMPROVEMENTS SCHEDULE 2023-2027

IMPROVEMENT/PROJECT	
Dredging as required	2023-2027
Refurbish and upgrade pavilions #2 and #3.	2023-2024
New launch dock	2023
Improve boardwalk on west wall from Pine Street to Cedar Street	2024-2025
Floating docks and kayak/small boat launch south of Juliet Street	2024-2025
Reconstruct boardwalk and replace power stanchions along north wall at Rotary Park	2024
Replace water fountain with water bottle filling station	2023
Improve wi-fi and security cameras. Add coverage to include south wall and west wall	2023-2024
Relocate dumpsters, add stage/amphitheater by Campsite #1	2024-2025
Dock decking replacement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Docks #1 and #3</li> <li>• Docks #2 and #4</li> <li>• Docks #5 and #6</li> <li>• Long wells</li> </ul>	2023 2024 2025 2026

### DREDGING AT THE HARBOR

The last dredging at St. Clair Boat Harbor was in 2011-2013 when 1,200 cubic yards were removed by Malcolm Marine Inc. This project was supported by a DNR matching grant. Dredging will be carried out as needed depending on water levels, sedimentation, and other factors.

## MAP A-1: ST. CLAIR BOAT HARBOR SITE PLAN

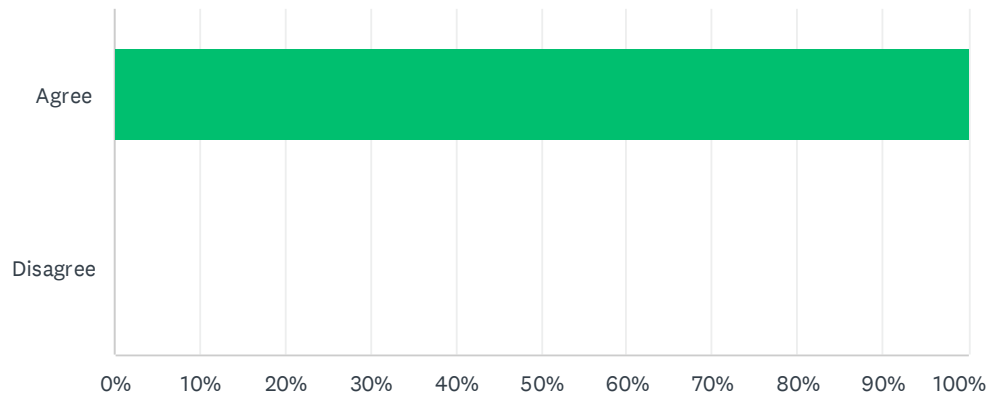




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## Q1 Parks are important to the overall quality of life in the City of St. Clair.

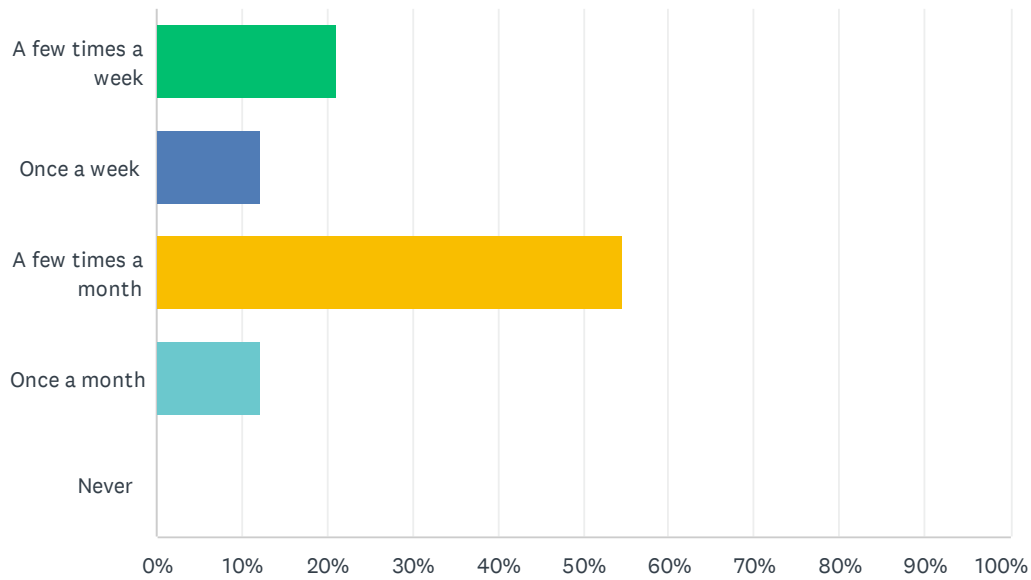
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	100.00%	33
Disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		33

## Q2 How often do you visit a park in St. Clair?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0

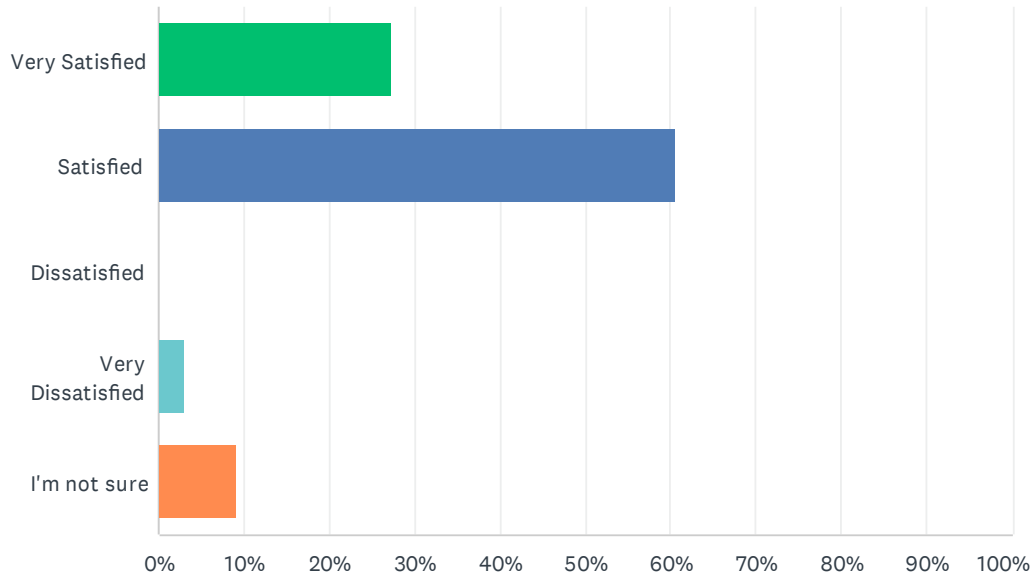


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A few times a week	21.21%	7
Once a week	12.12%	4
A few times a month	54.55%	18
Once a month	12.12%	4
Never	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>33</b>



### Q3 How satisfied are you with the recreational programs offered by the City of St. Clair?

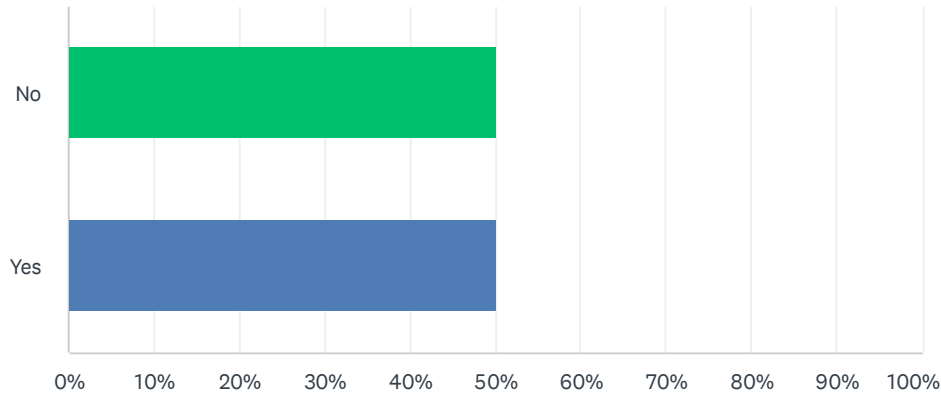
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Satisfied	27.27%	9
Satisfied	60.61%	20
Dissatisfied	0.00%	0
Very Dissatisfied	3.03%	1
I'm not sure	9.09%	3
TOTAL		33

## Q4 Do you feel the City of St. Clair should offer more recreational programs in addition to current offerings?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 3

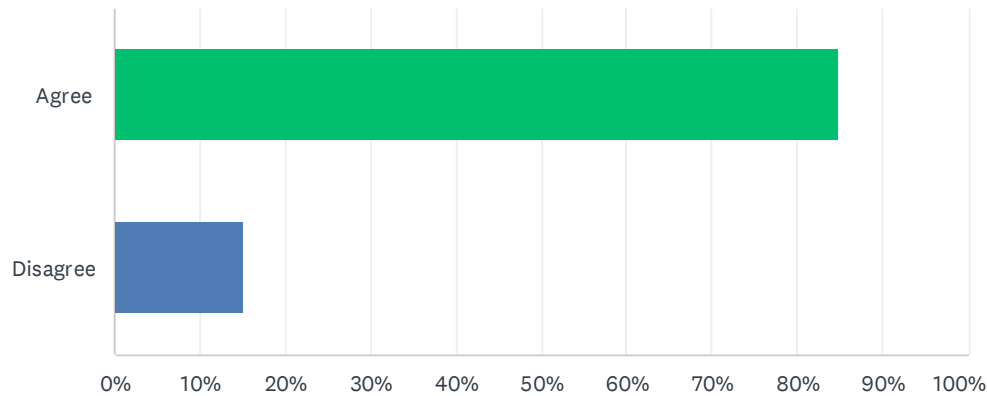


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	50.00%	15
Yes	50.00%	15
TOTAL		30

#	IF YES, WHAT PROGRAMS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?	DATE
1	After school/evening programs for young teens	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
2	Adult dancing	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
3	zumba and/or weight trainint	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
4	I really don't have any ideas. We have a growing population of the elderly, over 65! I wish I had ideas, but there should be some more programs for that age group. There should be more that one tiny pickle ball court available to them. There should be more indoor walking areas in the winter beside the High School. More areas available for indoor gatherings and communication and games for them.	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
5	Yoga in the evening for people that work. Cooking, specifically, knife skills.	4/26/2022 2:04 PM
6	Junior golf and bowling	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
7	Knitting, crocheting club	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
8	Drop in youth basketball Sledding	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
9	I would like to see more outdoor programs geared towards seniors. There are a lot of very active 60 to 75 year olds that live in St. Clair. Don't forget about us!	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
10	Softball and basketball recreational leagues for men and for women. A coed volley ball league would be fun.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
11	Family oriented	4/22/2022 3:31 PM

## Q5 I am satisfied with the recreational opportunities available to City of St. Clair residents.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



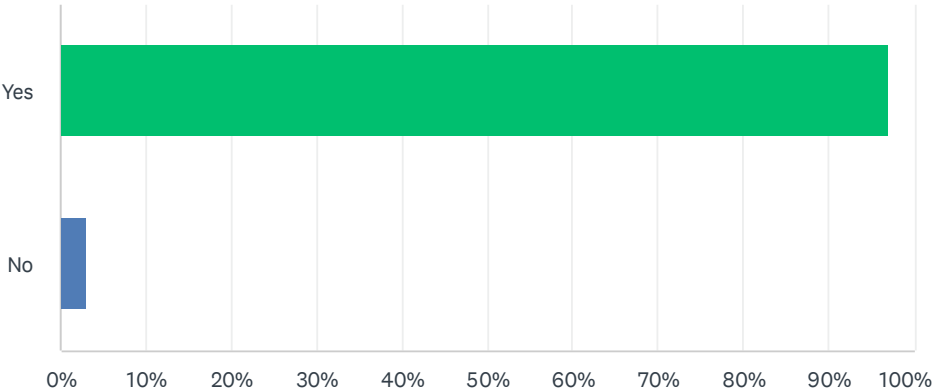
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	84.85%	28
Disagree	15.15%	5
TOTAL		33

#	IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS, WHAT SUGGESTIONS DO YOU HAVE TO CREATE MORE OPPORTUNITIES?	DATE
1	I'd like the bike path from the middle school to extend down Yankee Rd and meet with the river path, for safety reasons.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
2	with the above additions for the older citizens Programs for teenagers. They seem to be completely forgotten in our community	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
3	I would like to see more community wide opportunities.	4/27/2022 8:52 AM
4	Outdoor Pickle-ball Courts!!	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
5	The city should repurpose one of the old schools or at least buy or lease the gym and some office space into a rec center so that people would have a place to play Pickle Ball and basketball every day indoors. It is time for a new pool to be built. The children of St. Clair deserve to have the same swim lessons as the kids in St. Clair were taught 40 or 50 years ago. Learning to swim is a life saver for kids.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
6	Continue to maintain, improve, and invest in non-motorized transportation options. That is pathways and accessible options.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM



Q6 Do you feel the parks in the City of St. Clair are in good condition and well-maintained?

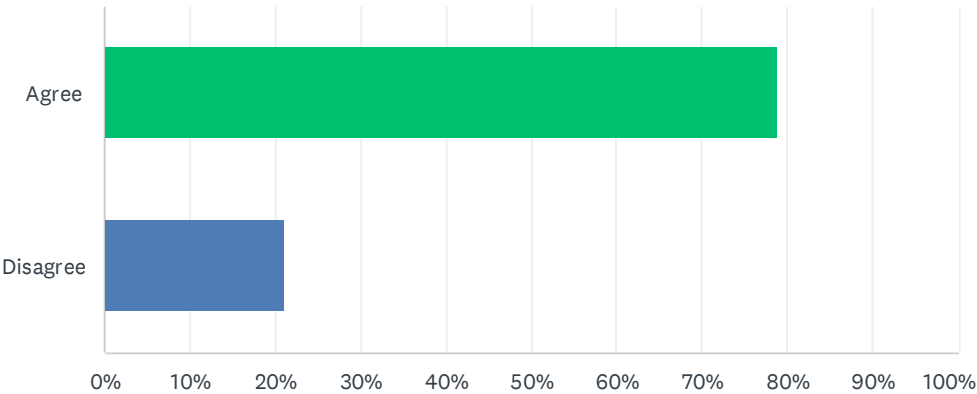
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	96.97%	32
No	3.03%	1
TOTAL		33

Q7 I am satisfied with the overall amount of parkland in the City of St. Clair.

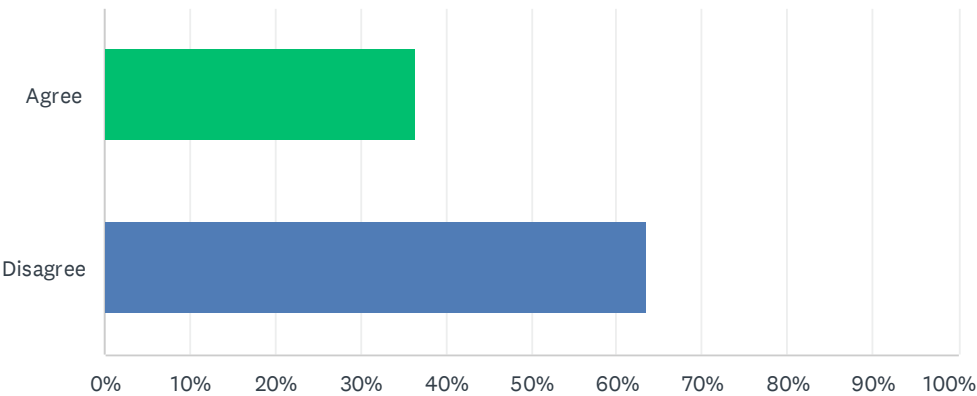
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	78.79%	26
Disagree	21.21%	7
TOTAL		33

Q8 The City should develop an additional park in an appropriate location.

Answered: 33    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Agree		36.36%	12
Disagree		63.64%	21
TOTAL			33



## Q9 What improvements would you like to see in City of St. Clair parks, if any?

Answered: 16   Skipped: 17

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	A new aquatic center	6/20/2022 3:15 PM
2	splash park	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	All parks in the city are all very well maintain	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	Swimming pool needs to be rebuilt	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
5	maybe community gardens	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
6	South end Klecha park desperately needs some attention. New playground and skate rink?	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
7	Currently very satisfied	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
8	Permanent bathrooms and a splash park	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
9	Perhaps a few more picnic tables	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
10	I would love to see outdoor Pickle Ball courts added. I think the old Klecha little league park would be a great place for them too! I would also like to see outdoor exercise equipment for Seniors added as well at Klecha Park. Both are wonderful and much needed improvements for our communities recreation plan.	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
11	The city has lost much wood land lately, anything that can be done to save green space and open space in town needs to be done ASAP.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
12	Actual bathrooms, not portable toilets	4/22/2022 3:31 PM
13	Improvements to Klecha Park and Diamond Park on the corner of Oakland/Riverside	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
14	If possible, could the City arrange to maintain the BP trail especially with additional wood chips? I understand that this is private property but I'd be surprised if the owners wouldn't allow it	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
15	Accessible pathways. New swimming pool.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
16	Maybe another area in the downtown that would have basketball activities.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

## Q10 What improvements would you like to see at the boat harbor, if any?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 21

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	better kayak maintenance	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
2	Motor boat rentals	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
3	none	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
4	Sea wall improvement	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
5	More outreach, inclusion of local people and encouragement to use that facilities.	4/26/2022 2:04 PM
6	None	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
7	N/A	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
8	Boat Harbor looks great!	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
9	I think citizens of SC should be able to launch a boat without paying a fee. They subsidize the employees with property taxes. The launch fee should be raised to make sure that non-citizens using the launch site cover the costs.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
10	Replace deck boards on docks. Replace dock at launch ramp. Relocate kayak launch. Update bathrooms Add a swimming pool and splash pad	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
11	None	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
12	Just maintain what we have.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

## Q11 What improvements would you like to see at the golf course, if any?

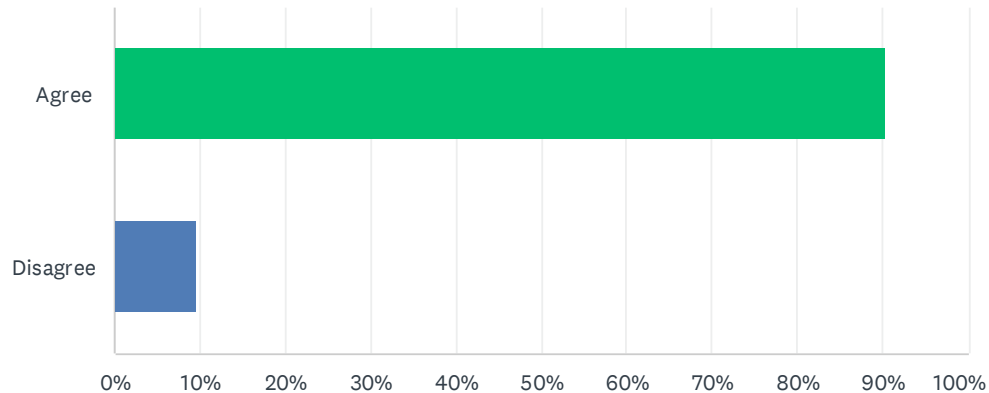
Answered: 14 Skipped: 19

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	nono	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
2	None	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
3	The tees and greens need to be made bigger	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
4	improvement on some of the greens destroyed by the water	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
5	9 holes not 4 holes twice	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
6	Wetness control	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
7	None	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
8	The addition of a putt putt and a beverage cart	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
9	The city needs to invest in the golf course in several ways. First by repairing drainage issues so holes #4 & 5 don't have to be closed when it rains. This issue has impacted the reputation of Pine Shores, When golfers can't count on being able to golf the entire course then they just choose to golf somewhere else. Also new golf carts are needed desperately. The ones we have now feel like they are on their last leg. Also you need to hire a Ranger on the course when it's busy. One person stuck inside can't properly run a golf course. I also think it would bring in more business to the golf course if you had a Friday night fun night for couples or partners. Maybe have a special price like two golfers and a cart for \$25 on Friday nights. Have it start at 5:00 pm. Maybe have little prizes. Nothing too formal just fun. That might draw more people to Pine Shores. Maybe start a children's golf clinic on Saturday Afternoons and possibly tie it with the High School Golf teams. They could be the instructors. Similar to the Biddy basketball programs and T ball. Pine Shores is such a beautiful little golf course but I believe it could be so much more than it is. I think it could be as busy as Marysville's golf course if the City would just commit to making the investment. Then it would pay for itself.	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
10	The golf city golf course needs a recreational program to help to get children and parents golfing. The golf course has no way to run programs to bring in new children golfers. The recreation program could do this in coordination with the golf course.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
11	A spot for first time golfers to learn and practice	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
12	Elevate the holes that have been flooding out during high water events to allow consistent 9-hole play.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
13	Open the bar/ restaurant for golfers. Hire full-time golf manager. (Bob would be great once he retires from dpw)	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
14	Ilike the drainage work they just completed at the back of the course.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM



Q12 The Recreation Commission, City Council and City Administration have proposed forming a Splash Pad Steering Committee. Your input on the following would be appreciated. There is a need for a separate splash pad in the parks.

Answered: 31 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	90.32%	28
Disagree	9.68%	3
TOTAL		31

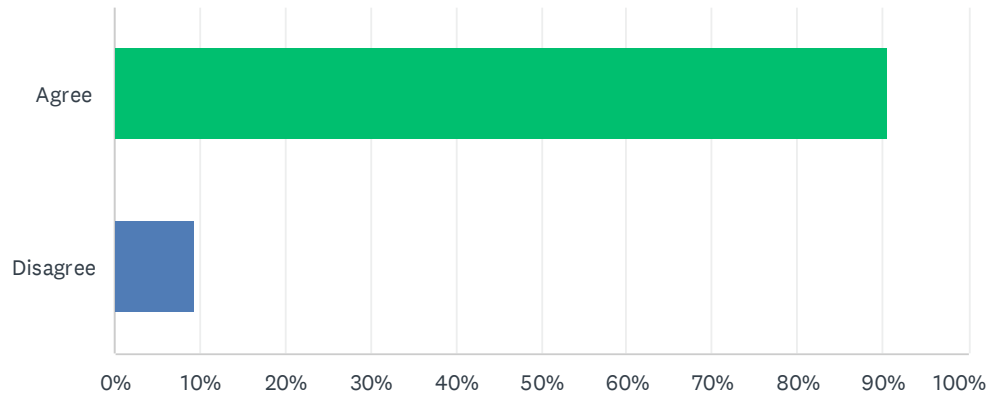
## Q13 Where do you think is the best location for a splash pad? Please specify the location (park name, location, etc.)

Answered: 27    Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Would like to see a stand alone at Klecha	6/20/2022 3:15 PM
2	Kletcha Park	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
3	Either where the ice skating on Brown St. or Klecha Park	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
4	Greg park east of hockey rink	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
5	Close to the city pool.	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
6	Near the skate park perhaps.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
7	Next to a new pool	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
8	Greig park	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
9	Greig park	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
10	Klecha Park	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
11	near Grieg park	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
12	Baseball little league park Carney Park	4/27/2022 8:52 AM
13	There's the one in the mall but the one that makes the most sense is Palmer for accessibility or the one along Clinton for ease of piping from the Pine River.	4/26/2022 2:04 PM
14	need to see options	4/26/2022 12:56 PM
15	Klecha Park	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
16	Is Range and Brown available?	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
17	Gregg park	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
18	Grieg Park	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
19	Greig Park	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
20	Put it where the old city hall was - kids could walk there.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
21	Palmer Park and Greig Park	4/22/2022 3:31 PM
22	Klecha Park	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
23	Boat Harbor	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
24	In front of Senior Citizen housing between Burger King & Gas Station along with skating rink. As long as you can address parking . if not, Greig Park	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
25	Unsure. Greig Park is popular but is already full of various ammenities.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
26	South end in Kluta park	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
27	Maybe in the front of memorial park.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

Q14 The current Master Plan identified a need for improvements at the City's community outdoor pool. Your input on the following would be appreciated. The City should continue to operate a community outdoor pool.

Answered: 32 Skipped: 1

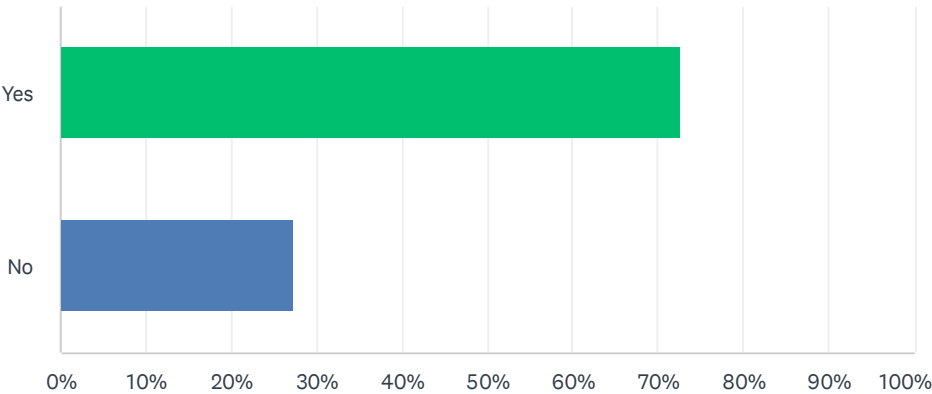


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Agree		90.63%	29
Disagree		9.38%	3
TOTAL			32



Q15 The City should identify an appropriate location to develop a new community pool?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	72.73%	24
No	27.27%	9
TOTAL		33

## Q16 Where do you think is the best location for a community outdoor pool if the current location is no longer available?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Greig Park	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	Not sure	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
3	As close to the current location as possible. Many kids/families walk or five their bikes to the pool.	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
4	Maybe in the Grieg Park area.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
5	Greig Park seems to be the only available property the ciy owns	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
6	School on Yankee road	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
7	Greig park	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
8	It would make sense to locate the splash pad and pool together so that parents with different age group children can easily move between the two. Klecha park could be modified for this and would have more parking then any other location	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
9	Eddy	4/26/2022 2:04 PM
10	I'm not certain I am able to make a recommendation.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
11	Expand Greig park or Klecha park near the splash pad	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
12	Is there space near the golf course?	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
13	Near current location or use Joe Klecha park in Goffe	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
14	Grieg Park	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
15	Grieg Park	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
16	Where the old city hall could be a spot for the new pool.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
17	If enough land at St Clair Little League Park	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
18	Harbor	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
19	I don't know	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
20	Possible property available across from Greig Park	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
21	South end, Kluta park	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
22	At the Gearing school area.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

## Q17 The three things I like the most about parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair are:

Answered: 25   Skipped: 8

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Favorite #1	100.00% 25
Favorite #2	100.00% 25
Favorite #3	84.00% 21

#	FAVORITE #1	DATE
1	Places for the family to spend time	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	varied programming	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	Good for all age groups	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	Inclusivity	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
5	Bike and walking paths.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
6	Location of the parks	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
7	Parks are local	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
8	Access	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
9	clean	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
10	programs	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
11	Readily available.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
12	Easy access	4/26/2022 12:56 PM
13	Community pool	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
14	Trees	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
15	Variety	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
16	Well kept	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
17	Clean and safe parks	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
18	Pickle ball	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
19	They are maintained well	4/22/2022 3:31 PM
20	The landscaping and trash pick up are very well maintained	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
21	Greig park nature trails	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
22	Accessible	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
23	Greig Park	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
24	Well maintained	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
25	Our beautiful waterfront parks.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM
#	FAVORITE #2	DATE
1	Children have a place to play	6/16/2022 3:18 PM



## City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan Update - Local Leaders Survey

2	quality of the parks	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	Well maintained	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	Location	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
5	Palmer Park and boardwalk.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
6	The gardens in the parks	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
7	No fee to park	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
8	How they are maintained	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
9	well maintained	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
10	parks	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
11	Normally ample parking.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
12	Great Staff	4/26/2022 12:56 PM
13	Palmer park - it's well maintained	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
14	Seating	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
15	Price	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
16	Good programs	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
17	Many different choices for everyone	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
18	Grieg park	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
19	A source of pride for the City of St. Clair	4/22/2022 3:31 PM
20	The flowers are very well kept up and attract visitors to come back	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
21	Boardwalk	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
22	Clean	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
23	Accessible pathways and trails	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
24	Beautiful views (palmer and rotory)	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
25	Greig park with all its activities.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM
#	FAVORITE #3	DATE
1	There is a park for everyone.	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	facilities	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	Safe environment	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	They are beautiful!	5/5/2022 1:06 PM
5	Green area in front of mall.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
6	Diverse offerings	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
7	locations	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
8	playgrounds	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
9	Well maintained.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
10	Always Clean	4/26/2022 12:56 PM
11	The dance program	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
12	Play area for kids	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
13	Time's	4/25/2022 4:29 PM

## City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan Update - Local Leaders Survey

14	Trice and her staff	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
15	Commitment by everyone involved to make it the best!	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
16	the ice rink	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
17	We have very good programs for residents and non residents	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
18	Utilized	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
19	Palmer Park	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
20	Grandkids love greg park	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
21	The plaza is great for the city.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

## Q18 The three things I like the least about parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair are:

Answered: 18   Skipped: 15

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
#1	100.00% 18
#2	66.67% 12
#3	27.78% 5

#	#1	DATE
1	Most of the kids park area is in the north area of town.	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	limited activity south of the Pine River	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	None	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	Bike paths aren't connected to each other.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
5	Several of the gardens should be redesigned	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
6	Not enough parking	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
7	the childrens play area	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
8	parking	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
9	N/A	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
10	There is nothing I least like about parts and recreation.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
11	There's no splash pad	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
12	there is no recreation center for kids	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
13	Need more activities for teens	4/22/2022 3:31 PM
14	Not enough parking at the current location of pool	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
15	Kayak launch location	4/22/2022 2:07 PM
16	Deferred maintenance of assets	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
17	Skate park needs supervision	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
18	Not enough kids activities downtown.W	4/22/2022 9:41 AM
#	#2	DATE
1	Lack of space for indoor programs	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	None	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
3	Boat races, carny (although I don't think that's the purview of parks and Rec	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
4	There are still some dead trees in some of the parks	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
5	It costs more if you don't live in city limits	4/28/2022 6:49 PM
6	the community pool	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
7	lack of year round restroom facilities	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
8	Bees at Greig park	4/25/2022 7:40 PM

## City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan Update - Local Leaders Survey

9	need a dog park to run dogs in town	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
10	Would be nice to have a restroom at Imagination Station	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
11	Present condition of the city pool	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
12	Skate park has potential for bad stuff	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
#	#3	DATE
1	None	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
2	New trees should be planted to replace the dead trees	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
3	the openess of the parks	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
4	No online payment option for programs	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
5	time for a new pool	4/22/2022 6:50 PM



## Q19 In your opinion, what are the most important issues or biggest needs pertaining to parks and recreation facilities or programming that need to be addressed in the updated Recreation Plan?

Answered: 23   Skipped: 10

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Space for indoor activities. Winter is long and most programs need to be indoors. Community pool is old. A new community pool that is family friendly would be great.	6/16/2022 3:18 PM
2	splash pad, rec programs for south side residents	5/18/2022 4:46 PM
3	None our recreation Director is doing a great job	5/5/2022 6:15 PM
4	Keeping the river for all to enjoy; having places and activities for kids and teens.	4/30/2022 12:45 PM
5	More funding	4/30/2022 9:01 AM
6	to maintain and keep the parks in good condition More things for the elderly Programs for the teenagers	4/28/2022 6:18 PM
7	A community pool that teaches how to swim.	4/28/2022 4:22 PM
8	The south end lacking proper playground equipment, families load up the kids to take them to Grieg park because there is so little for the children to do at klecha	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
9	Status quo	4/27/2022 2:09 PM
10	More programming for people that work.	4/26/2022 2:04 PM
11	The cost of upgrading and maintenance.	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
12	Programs should continue and maintenance of current parks and equipment is very important	4/26/2022 12:56 PM
13	Inclusion of a splash pad	4/25/2022 7:40 PM
14	Update city pool	4/25/2022 5:20 PM
15	Insuring appropriate parking	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
16	Pool	4/23/2022 9:16 AM
17	I truly believe the golf course needs attention. It may cost a lot to make repairs and purchases, properly maintained and managed our little golf course should pay for itself.	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
18	A rec center that would serve seniors, kids, dance and everything is way over do.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
19	I would like to see some sort of golf lessons offered to enhance the use of the golf course.	4/22/2022 2:44 PM
20	Maintaining Bike trails. Bike trail to St Clair Little League	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
21	Provide activities and opportunities for all ages and all abilities.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
22	Continue to maintain properly	4/22/2022 10:22 AM
23	We just need to be able to fund the up keep and maybe to partner with the townships to develop an indoor activities complex.	4/22/2022 9:41 AM

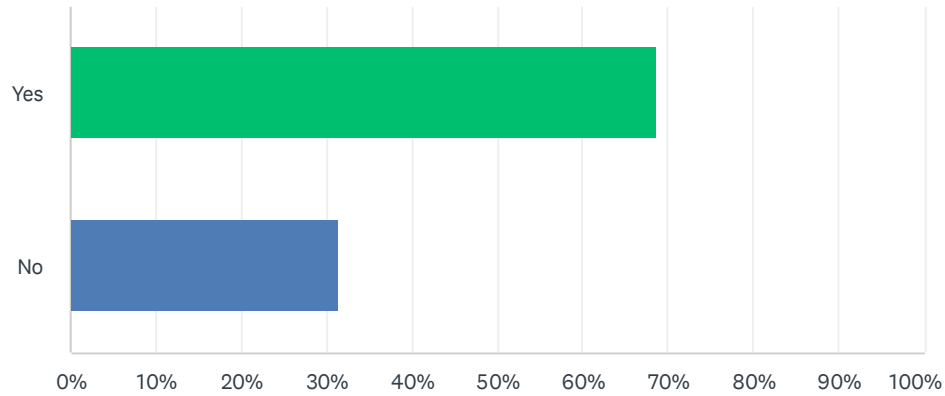
## Q20 Please share any other comments or suggestions you may have related to parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair.

Answered: 8   Skipped: 25

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	St. Clair is the jewel of the Blue Water area largely due to the efforts of our recreation department, you should be very proud of all your accomplishments.	4/27/2022 4:42 PM
2	None	4/26/2022 1:24 PM
3	Continue the Yaps program	4/25/2022 4:29 PM
4	I think we are very lucky to have such a wonderful Recreation Department...Keep up the great work!	4/22/2022 7:49 PM
5	City needs better ice ponds. A seasonal ice rink with a cooling system would give SC the best out door ice skating/hockey rink in Michigan.	4/22/2022 6:50 PM
6	Good job!	4/22/2022 11:37 AM
7	Continue to staff parks and recreation to maintain the programs and facilities we currently enjoy.	4/22/2022 11:01 AM
8	Keep doing a great job!	4/22/2022 10:22 AM

## Q1 Are you a resident of the City of St. Clair?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0

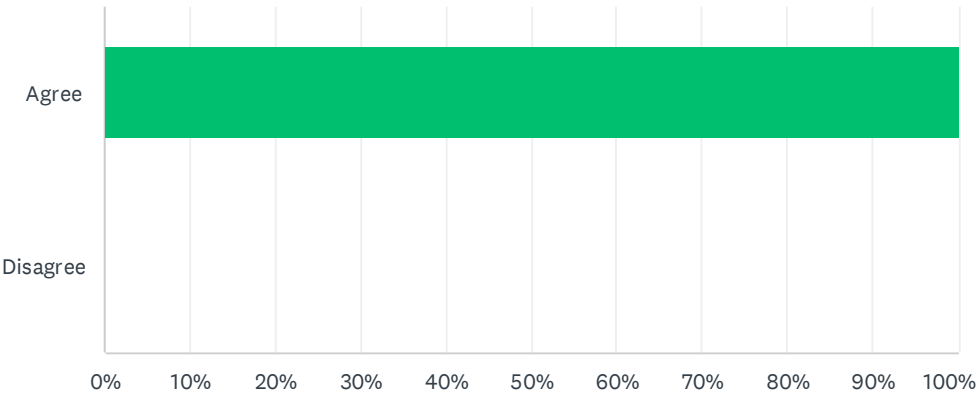


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	68.75% 11
No	31.25% 5
TOTAL	16

#	IF YOU ARE NOT A RESIDENT, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?	DATE
1	St. Clair Twp.	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
2	Marysville	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
3	St Clair Twp	10/6/2022 1:48 PM
4	St. Clair Township	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
5	St Clair Twp	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

Q2 Parks and recreation are important to the overall quality of life in the City of St. Clair.

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0

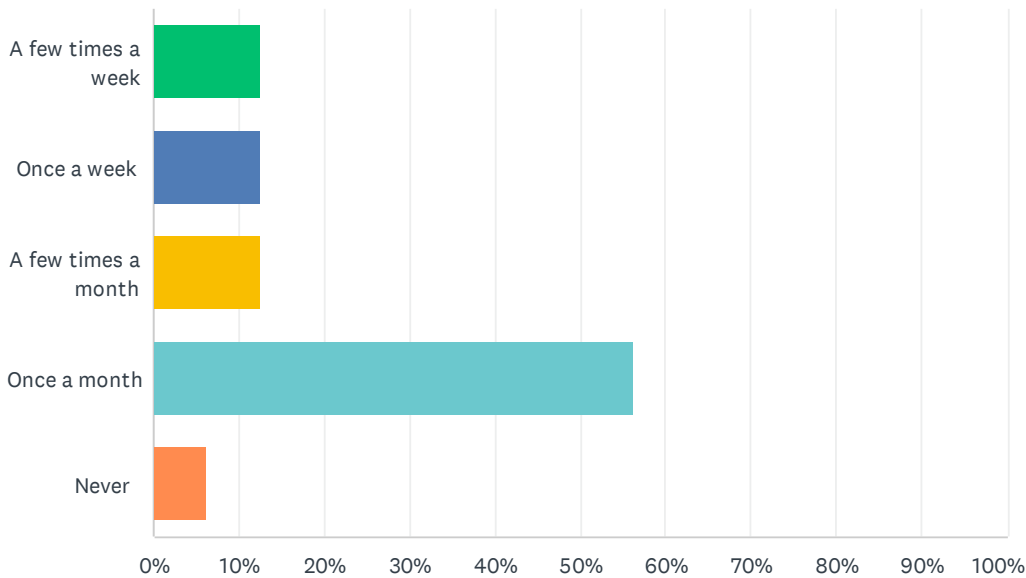


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	100.00%	16
Disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		16



### Q3 How often do you visit Palmer Park?

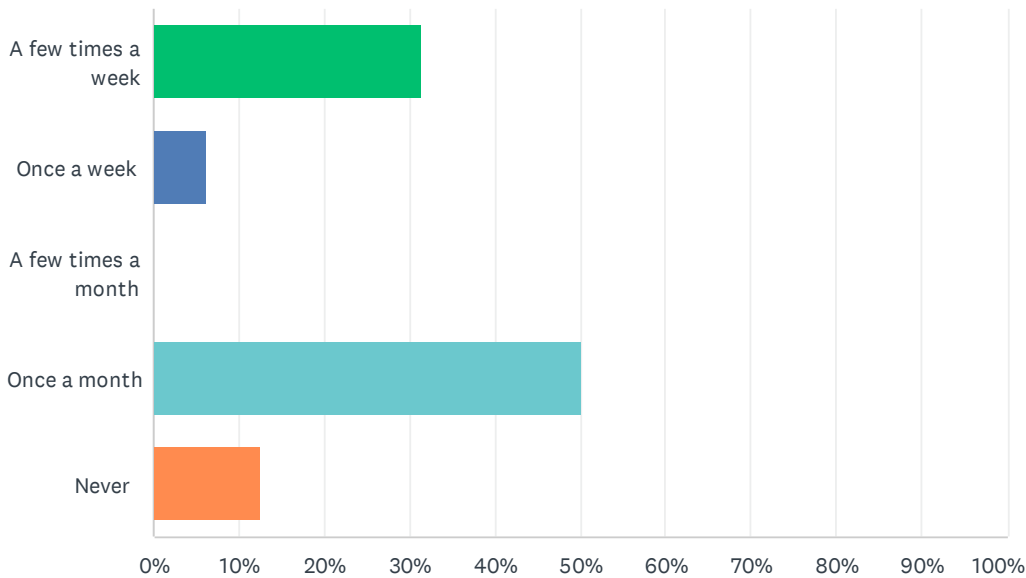
Answered: 16    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A few times a week	12.50%	2
Once a week	12.50%	2
A few times a month	12.50%	2
Once a month	56.25%	9
Never	6.25%	1
TOTAL		16

## Q4 How often do you visit Greig Park?

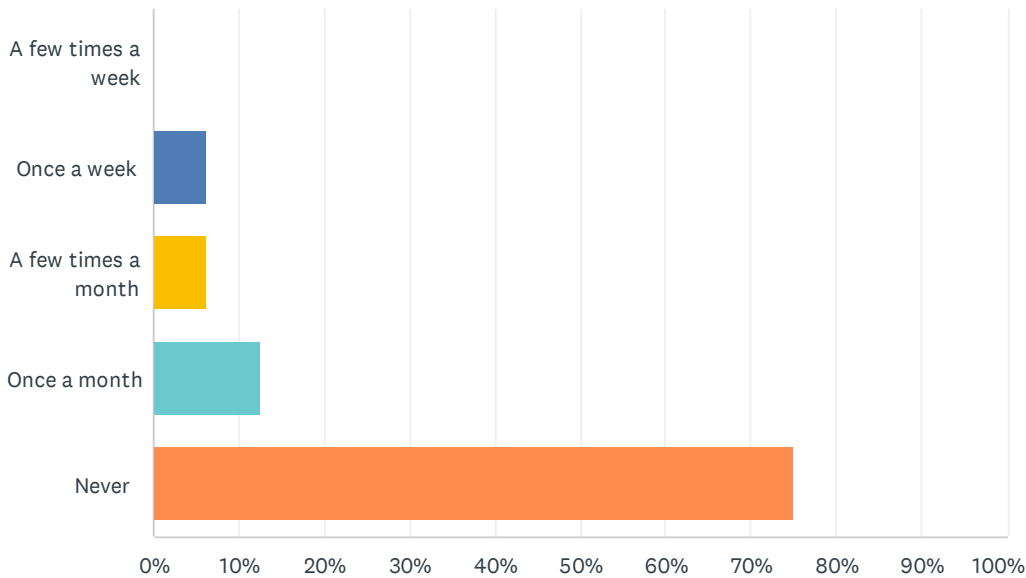
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
A few times a week		31.25%	5
Once a week		6.25%	1
A few times a month		0.00%	0
Once a month		50.00%	8
Never		12.50%	2
TOTAL			16

## Q5 How often do you visit Klecha Park?

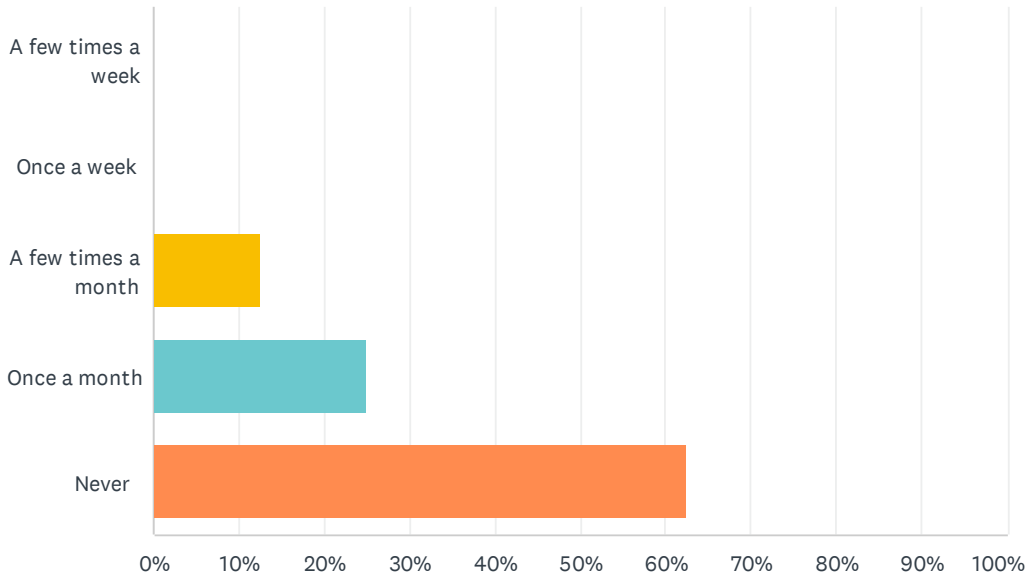
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A few times a week	0.00%	0
Once a week	6.25%	1
A few times a month	6.25%	1
Once a month	12.50%	2
Never	75.00%	12
TOTAL		16

## Q6 How often do you visit Rotary Park?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A few times a week	0.00%	0
Once a week	0.00%	0
A few times a month	12.50%	2
Once a month	25.00%	4
Never	62.50%	10
TOTAL		16



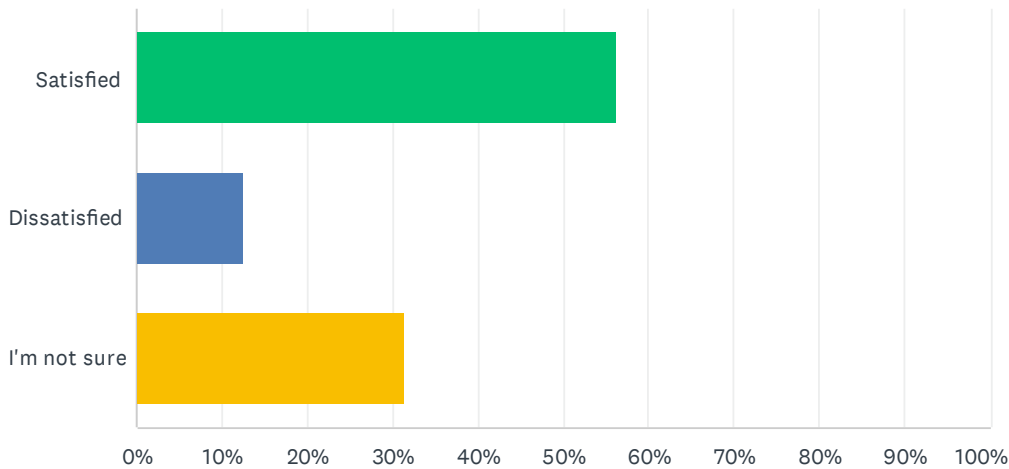
## Q7 What other City parks do you visit that are not listed above?

Answered: 5   Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	None. I'd probably visit more if I had little kids or grandkids but I'm in that in between phase. Or if my two suggestions were reality- then I'd visit those sites regularly!	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
3	Memorial Park for the parade	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
4	St.clair Little League Park	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
5	N/A	10/4/2022 4:47 PM

## Q8 How satisfied are you with the recreational programs offered by the City of St. Clair?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Satisfied	56.25%	9
Dissatisfied	12.50%	2
I'm not sure	31.25%	5
TOTAL		16

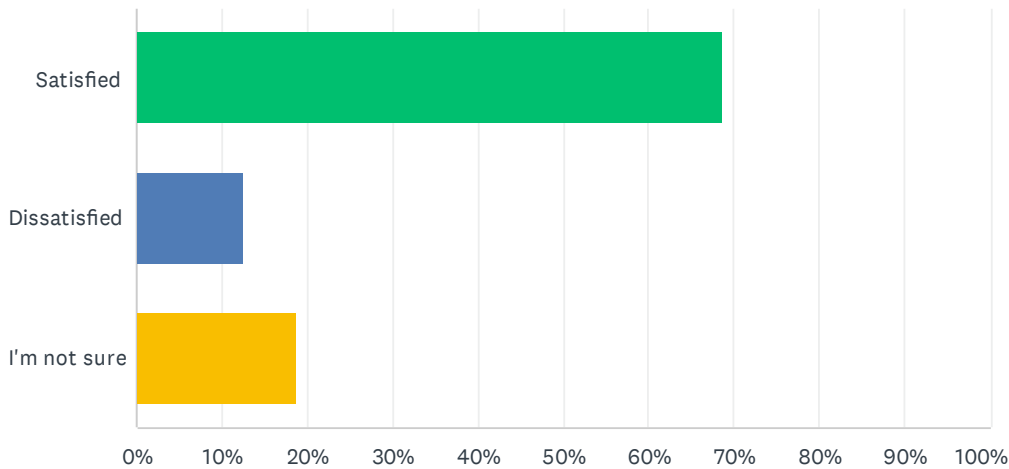
## Q9 What new or expanded recreational programs do you feel are needed in the City of St. Clair?

Answered: 11    Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Hear me out: this is a recreational activity for a lot of people... A Rose garden like the one at Tacoma (WA) point defiance rose garden. Hundreds of varieties, each with a stake naming it. It was wonderful! People travel far specifically to enjoy a rose garden such as that ( ie: going to the botanical gardens in England). It could be the area in front of city hall. I say this because the garden will need to be able to be locked at night so no one cuts off the roses. Using the building as the "fourth" fence eliminates the expense of that section of fencing. Parking/bathrooms are already available at Greig and City Hall. It would add security to the building because now the front side would be less"attackable" due to the tall fencing. Visitors are usually quiet enjoying the beauty of the roses and reading the names of the varieties. The smell would be nice if it enters the building. This would be a place residents would want to go and also bring their out of town guests to visit ( like my sister took me to the Tacoma one when I visited and I LOVED it; spent a lot of time enjoying all the varieties). The city hall marker could stay where it's at or be moved to the very front. I'm sure if you order 500 varieties from a nursery you could get them at greatly reduced costs or maybe a local one would facilitate the purchase at cost. It would be a destination "must see" adding to the attractiveness of living in the city or visiting the city!!! Another idea is in the next box.	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	swimming,mens basketball,mixed volley ball,improvedd pickellball, splSH PAD FOR KIDS	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
3	A splash pad	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
4	Expanded Library services similar to the Richmond for children.	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
5	The City offers a lot	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
6	Mommy and me stroller walks or strength training programs.	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
7	winter Indoor soccer	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
8	Need a new pool or a splash pad	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
9	Something for adults. Basketball, softball, volleyball	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
10	More swim time in winter.	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
11	More activities for little kids including more swimming lessons	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

Q10 How satisfied are you with the recreational facilities and activities offered by the City of St. Clair?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Satisfied	68.75%	11
Dissatisfied	12.50%	2
I'm not sure	18.75%	3
TOTAL		16



## Q11 What new or expanded recreational facilities and activities do you feel are needed in the City of St. Clair?

Answered: 10    Skipped: 6

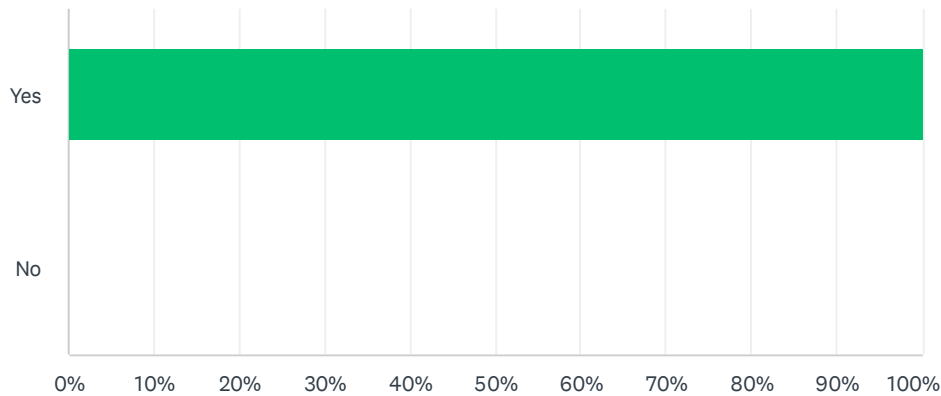
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	<p>Ok again, hear me out! Frogs are disappearing everywhere, they are also great entertainment for people to watch and it seems to me that instilling caring for our environment is best taught to children when they are young. If they visit the local frog ponds when young they will grow up wanting frogs/wildlife to continue to exist in the world. Where? Behind or off of city hall where they used to exist. It doesn't have to be creating a huge marsh that will want to fill in/dry up like the last marsh back there did ( I don't believe you have any standing water left except after spring rains- I might be wrong but...) anyway, those plastic ponds could be put in, 10 of those near each other with solar panels to keep filter pumps and tiny waterfalls going would be plenty. I know in NYC's Central Park myself and every other tourist were staying and photographing and enjoying the turtles in the water - so add turtles to the mix. A few hummingbird feeders nearby ( they would like the tiny waterfall features to bathe in if you install the right kind ( shallow water level shelf before it spills off into the pond). That plus the rose garden out front is going to have city residents want to use the parks, bring visitors to them and make them very proud of what our city offers to residents and the world. Btw, if we still own our home next year, I can supply you with two kinds of tree frogs ( or maybe it's one tree frog and toads) we haven't uncovered our pool for five years and frogs come, lay eggs in the water on top of the pool cover and we have tadpoles most of the summer resulting in lots of little frogs that need a better home. I worry that the next owners will open up the pool and the chlorine will kill off the next generation of frogs. The adults frogs will die off and yet another small ecosystem will cease to exist. I believe that is why bird and frog populations are plummeting- we think there is one big system for them but it's really small ones and one by one they are disappearing- every city needs to take it upon themselves to sustain and support wildlife. If you can't provide good breeding grounds/habitats your killing off millions of future of "critters" by eliminating just dozens (even) of present day ones. We owe it to our kids and grandkids a world with wildlife and it has to start small but everywhere! At 57 I remember going outside and there were always little sparrows around, always bird noise outside- well I can open my back door and it's super quiet- no birds anywhere, none to be seen or even heard! And I live on a street with tons of tall trees. And I'm talking about during the summer- not just now. Btw, the Pinery condo is going to eliminate their pond! They think it grows mosquitoes and they don't like the algae. Adding a aerator/s and tadpoles would eliminate the algae and the tadpoles would eat the mosquito larvae. Someone needs to change their mind before the spring!!! Yet another habitat lost and another reason to think of habits as small in size ( I mean frogs haven't found it yet because they don't travel far which is why when one habitat is lost, millions of future critters won't exist. The displaced adults wind up spreading out into other dead-end places and can't lay eggs or raise young. We are creating dead zones, void of wildlife. I'm asking you, please help change their minds about the pond. Please help create a wildlife safe space! And, please create a safe frog space behind city hall! Every city should have one or in 40 years or less- frogs may become endangered. ( don't forget every country pond owner now wants it stocked with tadpole eating fish. A trend that's only happened in the last few decades).</p>	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	Pickle ball. New pool.	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	Expand the city pool. Add a splash pad/childrens area. Need continued focus on utilizing activites in the boat harbor.	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
4	Recreation center	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
5	Additional nature/science activities for young children/toddlers (similar to the clean up moth activity). Could be guide walks or scavenger hunt in the nature area of Greig park etc.	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
6	splashpad	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
7	new pool or splash pad	10/5/2022 3:00 PM

## City of St. Clair Five-Year Recreation Plan Update - Community Survey 2022

8	New handicapped accessible pool!	10/4/2022 9:25 PM
9	A new pool either at existing site or at Grieg Park if room. Zero entry, splash pad, overall modern day locker rooms, etc. option to make indoor pool during winter???	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
10	Gymnastics Dance for both boys and girls Small kids sports 4-6 year olds	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

Q12 Do you feel the parks in the City of St. Clair are in good condition and well-maintained?

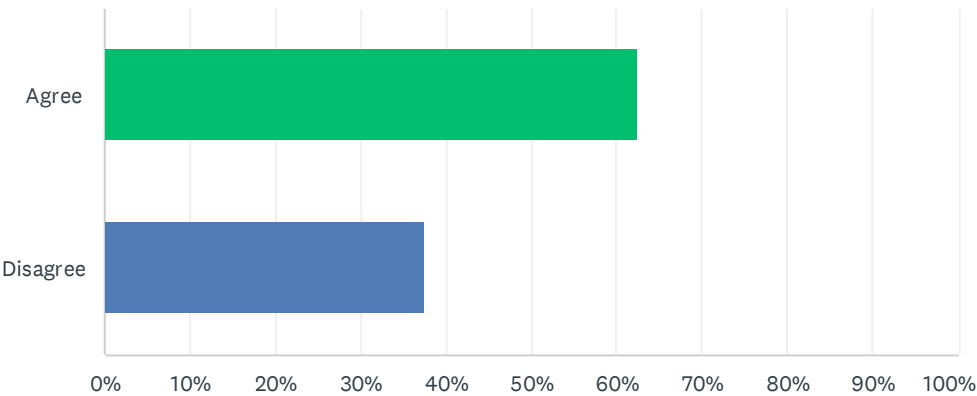
Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		100.00%	16
No		0.00%	0
TOTAL			16

Q13 The City should develop an additional park in an appropriate location.

Answered: 16    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	62.50%	10
Disagree	37.50%	6
TOTAL		16



## Q14 What improvements would you like to see at Greig Park, if any?

Answered: 10   Skipped: 6

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Please read my two other suggestion boxes.	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	Indoor toilet facilities	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
4	Better bathrooms	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
5	Security Cameras Sand box	10/6/2022 1:48 PM
6	None	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
7	none	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
8	Walking path needs updated	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
9	A new community pool. At Greig Park. See above.	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
10	Splash pad like Goodells Lower basketball nets for younger kids	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

## Q15 What improvements would you like to see at Palmer Park, if any?

Answered: 8   Skipped: 8

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Fix the depressions in the ground. An art fair artist stepped in one and twisted an ankle and that could be anyone at any event.	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	Love the river access near Inn. Can we add one to area near voyager	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	Bathrooms	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
4	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
5	Drinking fountains	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
6	None	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
7	none	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
8	Sometimes music coming through speakers is too loud.	10/4/2022 4:47 PM

## Q16 What improvements would you like to see at Klecha Park, if any?

Answered: 7   Skipped: 9

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	SPLASH PAD, OVERALL UPDATE	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	water park	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
3	splashpad	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
4	Updates to structures	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
5	none	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
6	N/A	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
7	Splash pad	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

## Q17 What improvements would you like to see at Rotary Park, if any?

Answered: 6   Skipped: 10

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
2	None	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
3	None	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
4	new boardwalk	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
5	The boardwalk needs improvements. Some areas aren't as level as others anymore.	10/4/2022 9:25 PM
6	None	10/4/2022 4:47 PM



## Q18 What improvements would you like to see at the boat harbor, if any?

Answered: 5   Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	NONE	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
3	None	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
4	none	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
5	None	10/4/2022 4:47 PM

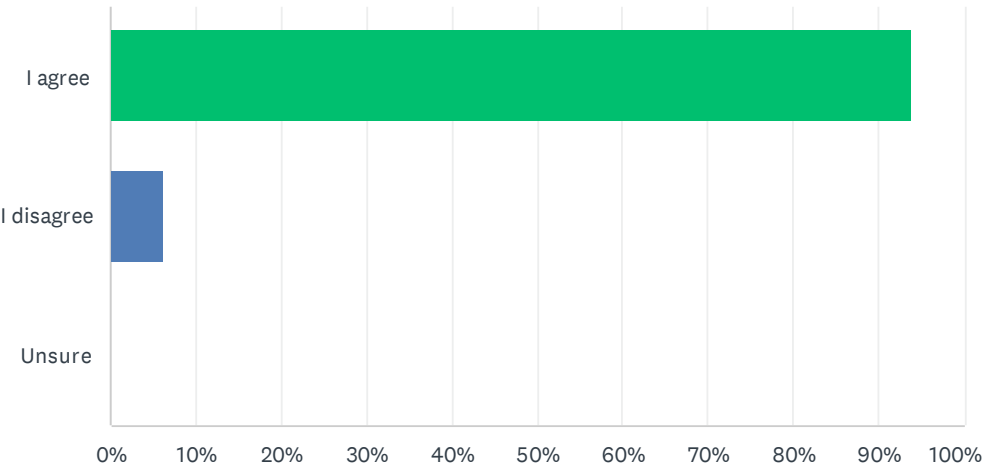
## Q19 What improvements would you like to see at the golf course, if any?

Answered: 6   Skipped: 10

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS IN DRAINAGE AND OVERALL CONDITION	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	Better care of fairways and greens. But. Currently more to play at pine shores than it does at rattle run. Not right.	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	golf simulator for more income during the winter months	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
4	Putt putt course	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
5	none	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
6	None	10/4/2022 4:47 PM

Q20 I support the City of St. Clair in seeking project and maintenance funding to add a separate splash pad in the parks.

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
I agree		93.75%	15
I disagree		6.25%	1
Unsure		0.00%	0
TOTAL			16

## Q21 Where do you think is the best location for a splash pad? Please specify the location (park name, location, etc.)

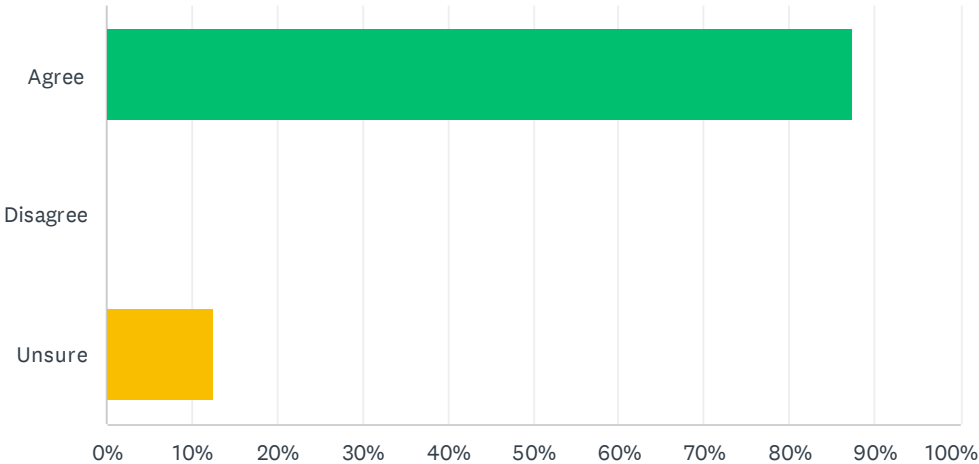
Answered: 15    Skipped: 1

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I think my suggestions should take priority. They offer more to residents of all ages and their visitors. What happened to people just using a garden hose with a sprinkler on the end. Any/every city has splash pads - old trend- old news- yawn! But, a frog and turtle habitat- that's new, that should be trending and our city could be at the forefront. That's more usable ( you don't need a hot summer day compared to a spring, summer, fall activity for everyone if all ages.)	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	Klecha Park	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
3	Gregg park	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
4	Greig Park. North of the parking lot	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
5	Greg park, or across from greg park (City pool + splashpad) Maybe city pool inside?	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
6	Kletcha	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
7	Greig or near the skatepark.	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
8	Klecha Park or adjacent to Greig Park	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
9	Greig Park	10/6/2022 1:48 PM
10	Grieg	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
11	Kletcha, Boat Harbor	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
12	Greig park	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
13	Greig Park	10/4/2022 9:25 PM
14	Greig Park along side a new community pool or in Palmer Park.	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
15	Grieg park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM



Q22 The current Master Plan identified a need for improvements at the City’s community outdoor pool. Your input on the following would be appreciated. The City should continue to operate a community outdoor pool.

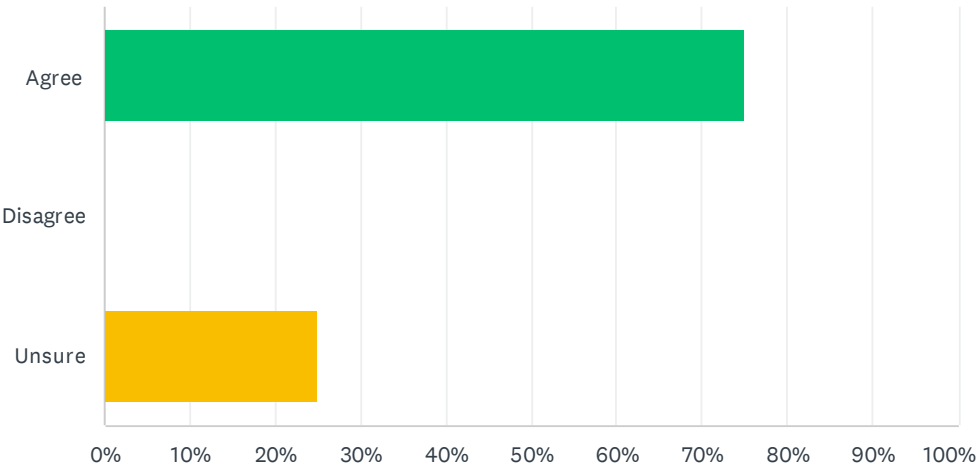
Answered: 16    Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	87.50%	14
Disagree	0.00%	0
Unsure	12.50%	2
TOTAL		16

Q23 The City should identify an appropriate location to develop a new community pool.

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Agree		75.00%	12
Disagree		0.00%	0
Unsure		25.00%	4
TOTAL			16

## Q24 Where do you think is the best location for a community outdoor pool if the current location is no longer available?

Answered: 12    Skipped: 4

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Greig Park or new location	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	in the lots accross from Greg park.	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
3	between the skate park and Greig park	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
4	Would love a pool with splash pad, slides and other kid related amenities. Maybe even a grill/ice cream stand.	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
5	Klecha park	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
6	In between Greig Park and the skate park	10/6/2022 1:48 PM
7	Not sure	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
8	unsure, but after 50+ years we still need a pool	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
9	Anywhere I guess if the current location doesn't work	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
10	Greig Park Behind old Eddy Building???	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
11	Central location in the city to allow children to ride bikes or walk to the pool.	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
12	Klecha park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

## Q25 The three things I like the most about parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair are:

Answered: 13    Skipped: 3

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Favorite #1	100.00% 13
Favorite #2	92.31% 12
Favorite #3	76.92% 10

#	FAVORITE #1	DATE
1	Palmer Park	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	Gregg park	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	Location	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
4	Open Space to sit	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
5	availability	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
6	Friendly staff	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
7	walkability	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
8	Kids programs	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
9	well maintained	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
10	Greig park is awesome	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
11	Peaceful	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
12	Cleanliness	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
13	Imagination playground	10/3/2022 3:52 PM
#	FAVORITE #2	DATE
1	Imagination station	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
2	Palmer park	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
3	Age appropriate	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
4	Lots of play structures for kids	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
5	Wide range of activities for different seasons	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
6	programs for all ages	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
7	Cleanliness	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
8	clean and up to date	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
9	Skate park	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
10	View of water	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
11	Location	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
12	Walking trail at Grieg park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM
#	FAVORITE #3	DATE



# City of St. Clair Five-Year Recreation Plan Update - Community Survey 2022

1	Bike paths - but they need repairs	10/19/2022 7:01 PM
2	Cleanliness	10/19/2022 2:35 PM
3	Affordability	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
4	affordability	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
5	Acess	10/6/2022 9:45 AM
6	easy access	10/5/2022 3:00 PM
7	Walking paths	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
8	Landscaping/gardens	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
9	Accessibility	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
10	Sitting by water at Palmer park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

## Q26 The three things I like the least about parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair are:

Answered: 10    Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
#1	100.00% 10
#2	80.00% 8
#3	40.00% 4

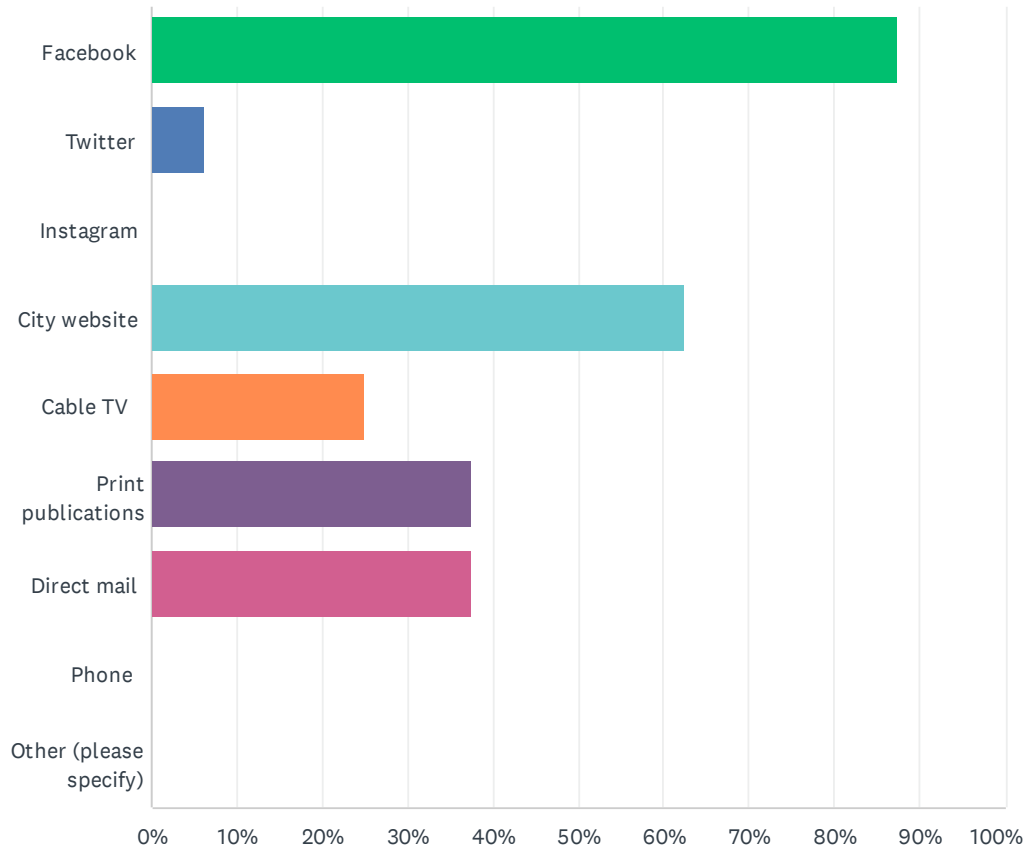
#	#1	DATE
1	No roses	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	condition of the golf course	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
3	More community drinking fountains.	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
4	n/a	10/7/2022 2:42 PM
5	Nothing geared towards young professionals	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
6	pool should be open on sundays	10/6/2022 4:16 PM
7	Walking path needs updated	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
8	No volleyball	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
9	Pool hours too short	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
10	Old playground equipment at Klecha park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

#	#2	DATE
1	No frog ponds	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	pool	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
3	Community restrooms	10/14/2022 8:05 PM
4	Not that many toddler young children activities	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
5	Pool is pretty rough	10/5/2022 2:56 PM
6	The bus stations are dirty and windows filthy	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
7	Pool closes early (not weather related)	10/4/2022 1:59 PM
8	No basketball at Klecha Park	10/3/2022 3:52 PM

#	#3	DATE
1	No ongoing tourist ( visiting family) activities like frog ponds/rose gardens	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	No activities that make it easy to meet new parents	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
3	Trees sometimes need to be trimmed	10/4/2022 4:47 PM
4	Pool should be more exposed/advertised. People who live in town don't realize there is a community pool.	10/4/2022 1:59 PM

## Q27 How would you like to receive parks and recreation program information (check all that apply)?

Answered: 16 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Facebook	87.50%	14
Twitter	6.25%	1
Instagram	0.00%	0
City website	62.50%	10
Cable TV	25.00%	4
Print publications	37.50%	6
Direct mail	37.50%	6
Phone	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 16		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
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There are no responses.

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## Q28 Please share any other comments or suggestions you may have related to parks and recreation in the City of St. Clair.

Answered: 4   Skipped: 12

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Please read my other suggestion boxes	10/23/2022 8:32 AM
2	needs better funding	10/20/2022 10:01 AM
3	We moved to the area a year ago and have two small young kids. We have taken part in the dance classes, summer, fall and winter activities and have been very impressed. The staff is friendly and respectful and the activities are geared towards a wide range of interests. I think the department is really well organized and ran. I fully support the direction the parks and recreation department is going and recommend to everyone I meet their programs and activities.	10/6/2022 4:28 PM
4	We really need a new pool. Swimming has been an integral part of our kids' success at swimming and navigating the St. Clair River as swimmers. Swimming is great exercise and bring the community together. People make great memories at a community pool!	10/4/2022 4:47 PM

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State of Michigan, County of Livingston

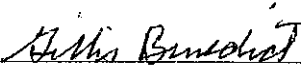
IN THE MATTER OF:

CITY OF ST. CLAIR - LSJC  
547 N CARNEY DR  
SAINT CLAIR, MI 48079

Being duly sworn, says that he/she is authorized by the publisher of The Times-Herald,  
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2. Has a bonfide list of paying customers or has been  
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3. Has been established, published and circulated at least  
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year in the community where the publication is to occur.

The Times-Herald, 12/08/22

  
GILLIS BENEDICT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 9th DAY OF December, 2022

  
GINA ANNE HUFF  
Notary Public State of Michigan  
County of Livingston  
My commission expires March 9, 2023

Acting in the County of Livingston

0005514619, LSJ-126801PT

LSJ-PTH-The Times-Herald

Public Notice - 30-Day Review Period for City of St. Clair Parks and  
Recreation Plan 2023-2027

Notice is hereby given to any and all interested parties that the City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 will be available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning December 8, 2022 at the City of St. Clair Municipal Building, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Municipal Building is located at 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, MI 48079. A copy of the plan is also available on the City of St. Clair website at <http://www.cityofstclair.com>.

The St. Clair City Council will hold a public hearing on January 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers at the City of St. Clair Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, MI 48079 to hear comments on the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027.

The City is preparing an updated five-year Parks and Recreation Plan in accordance with Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) guidelines. When completed, the plan will serve as a guide for the acquisition and development of parks and recreation facilities over the next five (5) years.

All interested parties may submit comments in person or in writing to Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, MI 48079. Please contact Trice Hawkins at 810-329-7121 with questions or comments.

PTH-5514619

12/08/2022



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

**Monday, December 19, 2022 – 7:00 pm**

**\*\*Council Chambers • Municipal Building\*\***  
547 N. Carney Drive • St. Clair, Michigan 48079  
(810) 329-7121

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

- 
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bill Cedar, Jr.
  2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  3. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Bill Cedar, Jr., Councilmembers Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz.
  4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
    - A. City Council Minutes of December 5, 2022 Regular Meeting: Approve
    - B. Planning Commission Minutes of October 12, 2022 Meeting: Receive
  5. **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**
  6. **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**
    - A. City Superintendent
    - B. City Attorney
    - C. City Departments
      - a. Parks and Recreation Master Plan-St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission
    - D. Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative
  7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  8. **NEW BUSINESS**
    - A. Schedule public hearing for Parks and Recreation Master Plan
    - B. Approve 2023 Board, Commission and Authority appointments
  9. **CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:** December 8 & December 15, 2022
  10. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** (Limit of Three (3) Minutes for Any Non-Agenda Item)
  11. **MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  12. **CLOSED SESSION** Request for Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussing Confidential Attorney-Client Communication.
  13. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (810) 329-7121 or via e-mail at [asturdy@cityofstclair.com](mailto:asturdy@cityofstclair.com) at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.*

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022- 7:00 P.M.**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:00pm by Mayor Cedar in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, Michigan, 48079.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cedar, Members Kindsvater, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul

**ABSENT:** Member Klieman, Volz (both excused)

**ADMINISTRATION:** James T. Downey, Kane, Clemons, Joachim & Downey; Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director; Morgan Hustek, Deputy Clerk; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk/Interim City Superintendent.

**AUDIENCE:** There were 20 people in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Kuffa moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda items A. and B. as presented.

A. City Council Minutes of December 5, 2022 Regular Meeting: Approved

B. Planning Commission Minutes of October 12, 2022 Meeting: Received

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS** - None

**REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**City Superintendent** – Report heard on the PASER study schedule, concerns on 2<sup>nd</sup> street, M29 bridge work 12/2022-4/2023 & holiday office closures 12/23, 12/26, 12/30 & 1/2/23. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, 1/3/23. Thank you Councilmembers Klieman & Kindsvater for your service.

**City Attorney**- None

**City Departments-**

Parks and Recreation Master Plan-St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission-Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director, stated the Master Plan public notice process, including the 30 day public notice requirement. The plan is available in City Hall, City website and Recreation Facebook page. A summary of previous projects and proposed projects was provided. David Struck, St. Clair County Planning Director/Deputy County Administrator, shared an overview of the plan (powerpoint).

**Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative** – None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Schedule public hearing for Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Kindsvater moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to schedule the public hearing for January 16, 2023 @7pm as recommended.

Approve 2023 Board, Commission and Authority appointments -Mayor Cedar recommended the following appointments: **Board of Review** - Reappoint Blake Eitniet and Judith Shaune for one-year terms expiring December 31, 2023. **Cemetery Board of Trustees** – Reappoint Timothy



Distelrath for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2025. **Harbor Commission** – Reappoint Dennis Bucholtz and Chuck Harder each for a three -year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Golf Commission-** Reappoint Peter Tinsey, St. Clair Lions Club Representative, for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023. Kindsvater moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments as recommended.

**CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS** – December 8 & December 15, 2022

Check registers listing the bills for the period ending December 8, 2022 (check numbers 55909-55946) in the amount of \$159,262.29, for the period ending December 15, 2022 (check numbers 55947-55994) in the amount of \$280,918.70 and the credit card register were presented for review. LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of December 8 & 15, 2022 Claims and Accounts and credit card register as presented.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** – Bob Carrier, BWORA, presented Councilmember Kindsvater with a Board Resolution and thanked him for his decades of volunteer service.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Mayor Cedar extended sympathy to the Cavis family. Mayor Cedar and members of Council recognized and thanked Councilmembers Klieman and Kindsvater for their years of elected service. No change to Waste Management services during the holidays. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

**CLOSED SESSION** Kuffa moved, LaPorte seconded, CARRIED, to grant request for a closed session for the purpose of discussing Confidential Attorney-Client Communication.

Ayes: Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Kindsvater, Cedar

Nays: None

At 7:33pm, Council recessed into closed session and resumed regular session at 7:44pm. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:45pm

Morgan Hustek, Deputy Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor



**CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA**

**Monday, January 16, 2023 – 7:00 pm**  
\*\*Council Chambers • Municipal Building\*\*  
547 Carney Drive • St. Clair, Michigan 48079  
(810) 329-7121  
[www.cityofstclair.com](http://www.cityofstclair.com)

- 
1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bill Cedar, Jr.
  2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  3. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Bill Cedar, Jr., Councilmembers Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt.
  4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
    - A. City Council Minutes of January 3, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approve
    - B. Planning Commission Minutes of December 14, 2022 Meeting: Receive
  5. **PUBLIC HEARING**
    - A. Parks and Recreation Master Plan
  6. **PRESENTATION**
    - A. Water Treatment Plant Improvement funding-Miller Canfield
  7. **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**
    - A. Resolution (23-02) Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027
    - B. Resolution (23-03) MDOT Street administrator
    - C. Resolution (23-04) Approve Poverty Exemption policy and guidelines
  8. **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**
    - A. City Superintendent
    - B. City Attorney
    - C. City Departments
    - D. Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative
  9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  10. **NEW BUSINESS**
    - A. Approve 2023 Authorities, Boards and Commissions Appointments
    - B. Approve special event permit approval East China Educational Foundation Chili-Heart 5k Run/Walk
    - C. Approve special event permit St. Clair Art Association Art Fair & St. Clair Jazz Fest
  11. **CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:** January 5 & January 12, 2023
  12. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** (Limit of Three (3) Minutes for Any Non-Agenda Item)
  13. **MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  14. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (810) 329-7121 or via e-mail at [asturdy@cityofstclair.com](mailto:asturdy@cityofstclair.com) at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.*

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023- 7:00 P.M.**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:00pm by Mayor Cedar in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive, St. Clair, Michigan, 48079.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cedar, Members Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt

**ABSENT:** None

**ADMINISTRATION:** Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; Delos Boulier, Building Inspector; James T. Downey, Kane, Clemons, Joachim and Downey; Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk.

**AUDIENCE:** There were 6 people in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – Kuffa moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda items A. and B. as presented.

A. City Council Minutes of January 3, 2023 Regular Meeting: Approved

B. Planning Commission Minutes of December 14, 2022 Meeting: Received

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027- Mayor Cedar opened public hearing at 7:02pm. Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director, summarized the public notice requirements and various opportunities for input. No comments heard. Closed at 7:04pm.

**PRESENTATION**

Water Treatment Plant Improvement funding-Miller Canfield-Tom Colis, Miller Canfield, summarized the current Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, DWSRF, awards and explained Bond Counsel's role in the funding process. The water treatment plant improvement project is approximately \$11mil. The City was awarded a grant for 25% of the project and a DWSRF low interest rate loan for approximately \$2.7mil. There is a gap remaining of approximately \$5mil after applying the grant and loan. The schedule for closing the loan is August 2023. City administration will continue to work with bond counsel on the bond issuance process in order to be prepared at that time. Discussion occurred on credit rating and other funding options/scenarios. Upon request, the financial advisor, who is part of the bond counsel, will provide a perspective for future investments.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution (23-02) Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027- **RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN 2023-2027 WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair has undertaken the update of its five-year recreation plan which describes the community's physical and social characteristics, existing parks and recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve the parks and recreation facilities during the period between 2023 and 2027; and **WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair Recreation Commission reviewed the *City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan* during the course of several public meetings; and **WHEREAS**, the *Parks and Recreation Plan's* goals and objectives were developed in response to needs and deficiencies identified by public input from a survey and work sessions; and **WHEREAS**, the *Park and Recreation Plan* has been made available for public review for at least 30 days and all comments from the public have been considered by the

City of St. Clair Recreation Commission; and **WHEREAS**, the plan was recommended for Council's adoption by the City of St. Clair Recreation Commission; and **WHEREAS**, the plan was developed for the benefit of the entire community and a public hearing was held on January 16, 2023 to provide another opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the *Parks and Recreation Plan*; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Clair City Council hereby adopts the *City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027*.

Volz moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-02) as presented.

Ayes: LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Kuffa, Cedar

Nays: None

#### **RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

Resolution (23-03) MDOT Street Administrator- **RESOLUTION FOR DESIGNATION OF STREET ADMINISTRATOR** **WHEREAS**, Section 13(9) of Act 51, Public Acts of 1951, provides that each incorporated city and village to which funds are returned under the provisions of this section, that "the responsibility for street improvements, maintenance, and traffic operations work, and the development, construction, or repair of off-street parking facilities, and construction or repair of street lighting shall be coordinated by a single administrator to be designated by the governing body and shall be responsible for and shall represent the municipality in transactions with the State Transportation Department pursuant to this act." **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Clair City Council designates Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent, as the single street administrator for the City of St. Clair in all transactions with the State Transportation Department as provided in Section 13 of the Act.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-03) as presented.

Ayes: Paul, Volz, Watt, Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Cedar

Nays: None

#### **RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

Resolution (23-04) Approve Property Exemption Policy and Guidelines- **A RESOLUTION FOR THE ANNUAL ADOPTION OF GUIDELINES FOR POVERTY EXEMPTIONS** **WHEREAS**, the adoption of guidelines for poverty exemptions is required of the City Council; and **WHEREAS**, the principal residence of persons, who the Board of Review determines by reason of poverty to be unable to contribute to the public charge, is eligible for exemption in whole or part from taxation under Public Act 390 of 1994 (MCL 211.7u); and **WHEREAS**, pursuant to PA 390 of 1994, the City of St. Clair, St. Clair County, adopts the following guidelines for the Board of Review to implement. The guidelines shall include but not be limited to the specific income and asset levels of the claimant and all persons residing in the household, including any property tax credit returns, filed in the current or immediately preceding year; To be eligible, a person shall do all the following on an annual basis: 1. Be an owner of and occupy as a principal residence the property for which an exemption is requested. 2. File a claim with the Assessor or Board of Review, accompanied by federal and state income tax returns for all persons residing in the principal residence, including any property tax credit returns filed in the immediately preceding year or in the current year or a signed State Tax Commission Form 4988, *Poverty Exemption Affidavit*. 3. File a claim reporting that the combined assets of all persons do not exceed the current guidelines. Assets include but are not limited to, real estate other than the principal residence, personal property, motor vehicles, recreational vehicles and equipment, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement funds, etc. 4. Produce a valid driver's license or other form of identification if requested. 5. Produce, if requested, a deed, land contract, or other evidence of ownership of the property for which an exemption is requested. 6. Meet the federal poverty income guidelines as defined and determined annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or alternative guidelines adopted by the governing body providing the alternative guidelines do not provide eligibility requirements less than the federal guidelines. 7. The application for an exemption shall be filed after January 1, but one day



prior to the last day of the December Board of Review. The filing of this claim constitutes an appearance before the Board of Review for the purpose of preserving the right of appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. 8. The Board of Review shall follow the guidelines of the local assessing unit in granting or denying an exemption. 9. Persons applying for a hardship exemption will be encouraged to meet in person with the Board of Review in order to answer any questions relative to their application. Applicants or their authorized agents may have to answer questions regarding such subjects as financial affairs, health and/or the status of people living in their home at a meeting that is open to the public. 10. A person who files for a hardship exemption is not prohibited from also filing an appeal on the assessment and/or taxable value. 11. The applicant must also meet the Asset Guidelines in accordance with PA 390 of 1994 as previously adopted by the City of St. Clair Council. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Assessor and the Board of Review shall follow the above stated policy and federal guidelines in granting or denying an exemption, unless the Board of Review determines there are substantial and compelling reasons why there should be a deviation from the policy and federal guidelines and these reasons are communicated in writing to the claimant.

Paul moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution (23-04) as presented.  
Ayes: Volz, Watt, Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Cedar  
Nays: None

### **RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

### **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**City Superintendent** – Report heard on departmental meetings of staff, city engineer and other city partners, CBH/Industrial Drive grant, IPP program fees, EPA grant for the water treatment plant, public meeting to create the St. Clair LDFA 2/14/23 @8am in Flint & MEDC grant for infrastructure in the Industrial Park.

**City Attorney**- None

**City Departments**- None

**Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative** – None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** -None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Approve 2023 Authorities, Boards and Commissions Appointments -Mayor Cedar reported recommendations for appointments of residents to various city authorities, boards, and commissions as follows: **Building Authority**- Appoint Quentin Bishop to fulfill a six-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Cemetery Board of Trustees**- Reappoint Jennifer MacDonald for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Dangerous Building Commission**- Reappoint Judy Shaune for a two-year term to expire December 31, 2024. **Historic District Commission**-Reappoint Bill Cedar, Jr and Robert Freehan each for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **Recreation Commission**- Reappoint Karen Foley for three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. **I-69 International Trade Corridor --Michigan (Next) Development Corporation Board Members**: Appoint Quentin Bishop and Alternate, Dan Casey, each for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023. **Southeast Michigan Council on Governments (SEMCOG)**: Appoint Quentin Bishop and Mike LaPorte each for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023. **Council representatives for a 1 year term: Historical Commission & Library Commission**-Councilmember Volz, **Golf Commission**-Councilmember Paul, **Harbor Commission & DDA**-Councilmember Kuffa, **Planning Commission and Fire Authority**-Councilmember LaPorte, **Cemetery Board of Trustees**-Councilmember Gottler, **Recreation Commission**-Councilmember Watt

Kuffa moved, Volz seconded, CARRIED, to approve appointments as recommended.

Approve special event permit approval East China Educational Foundation Chili-Heart 5k Run/Walk-Council received a memorandum from Police Chief Raker requesting that Council approve a special event permit from the East China Educational Foundation to conduct their annual Chili-Heart 5k Run/Walk on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The route will begin and end at the St. Clair Middle School and use parts of the bike path and local roads. The applicant has complied with the necessary requirements of the Special Events Ordinance and issuance of the permit is respectfully recommended.

Kuffa moved, Paul seconded, CARRIED, to approve the special event permit as recommended.

Approve special event permit St. Clair Art Association Art Fair & St. Clair Jazz Fest- Council received a memorandum from Police Chief Raker requesting that Council approve a special event permit for the St. Clair Art Association to hold their annual Art Fair in conjunction with the St. Clair Jazz Festival Saturday and Sunday August 19-20. The applicant has complied with the necessary requirements of the Special Events Ordinance and issuance of the permit is respectfully recommended. A lease of Palmer Park for the St. Clair Art Association is included in the approval as well as a road closure from Clinton to Brown.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve the special event permit as recommended.

#### **CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – January 5 & January 13, 2023**

Check register listing the bills for the period ending January 5, 2023 (check numbers 56047-56079) in the amount of \$36,510.32 and for the period ending January 13, 2023 (check numbers 56080-56138) in the amount of \$616,263.78 was presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payment of January 5 & January 13, 2023 Claims and Accounts as presented.

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – None**

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Special event: Icy Bazaar 1/19/23-1/22/23. Fireworks 7:45pm 1/21/23.

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:50pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr., Mayor

**CITY OF ST CLAIR, MICHIGAN  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SYNOPSIS  
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023**

**Meeting Called to Order** at 7:00pm by Mayor Cedar in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 547 N. Carney Drive. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cedar, Members Gottler, Kuffa, LaPorte, Paul, Volz, Watt

**ABSENT:** None

**ADMINISTRATION:** Quentin Bishop, City Superintendent; Delos Boulter, Building Inspector; James T. Downey, Kane, Clemons, Joachim and Downey; Trice Hawkins, Recreation Director; Timothy Raker, Police Chief; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

**Consent Agenda** – Approved City Council minutes of 1/3/23 regular meeting and received Planning Commission minutes of 12/13/22.

**Public hearing-** Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. No public comment heard.

**Presentation-** Miller Canfield presented funding awards and other options for Water Treatment Plant Improvement project.

**Ordinances and Resolutions** – Adopted Resolution (23-02) Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027, Resolution (23-03) MDOT Street administrator and Resolution (23-04) Approve Property Exemption Policy and Guidelines.

**Reports from Administration-**Report heard from City Superintendent on development and road projects.

**New Business** – Approved Authorities, Boards and Commission appointments for residents and Council, approved special event permits for ECED Chili-Heart 5k run and St. Clair Art Association Art Fair 8/19-8/20 & St. Clair Jazz Fest 8/19.

**Claims and Accounts** – Approved payment of bills for 1/5/23 & 1/13/23 as presented.

**Public Comment-** None

**Mayor and councilmember comments and Announcements** -Special event: Icy Bazaar 1/19-1/22. Fireworks 1/21/23 @7:45pm

**Adjourned** at 7:50pm

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-02  
CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
ST. CLAIR COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN 2023-2027**

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair has undertaken the update of its five-year recreation plan which describes the community's physical and social characteristics, existing parks and recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve the parks and recreation facilities during the period between 2023 and 2027; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Clair Recreation Commission reviewed the *City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan* during the course of several public meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Parks and Recreation Plan's* goals and objectives were developed in response to needs and deficiencies identified by public input from a survey and work sessions; and


**WHEREAS**, the *Park and Recreation Plan* has been made available for public review for at least 30 days and all comments from the public have been considered by the City of St. Clair Recreation Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the plan was recommended for Council's adoption by the City of St. Clair Recreation Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the plan was developed for the benefit of the entire community and a public hearing was held on January 16, 2023 to provide another opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the *Parks and Recreation Plan*; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the St. Clair City Council hereby adopts the *City of St. Clair Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027*.

**RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED**

  
Bill Cedar Jr., Mayor  
City of St. Clair, Michigan





January 24, 2023

David Struck, Planning Director  
St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission  
200 Grand River Avenue, Suite 202  
Port Huron, MI 48060

Dear Mr. Struck:

The City of St. Clair is pleased to enclose a copy of the City's Park and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. We will be submitting this plan to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for certification.

The Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 was approved by the St. Clair City Council on January 16, 2023.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 810-329-7121

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trice Hawkins', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Trice Hawkins, Director  
City of St. Clair Recreation Department



January 24, 2023

Amy O'Leary, Executive Director  
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments  
1001 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1400  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

The City of St. Clair is pleased to enclose a copy of the City's Park and Recreation Plan 2023-2027. We will be submitting this plan to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for certification.

The Parks and Recreation Plan 2023-2027 was approved by the St. Clair City Council on January 16, 2023.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 810-329-7121

Sincerely,

Trice Hawkins, Director  
City of St. Clair Recreation Department