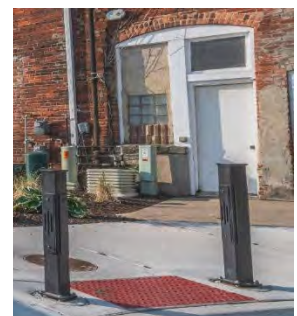
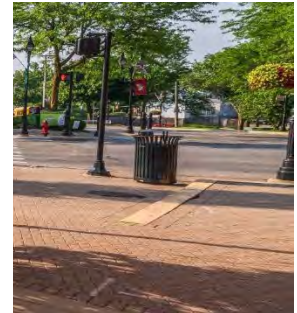
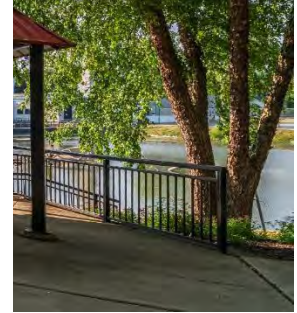




VILLAGE OF DUNDEE

PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN



2025 - 2029

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Village Council

Tim Bordine, President

Stephen Carr, Trustee

George Wilkins, Trustee

Lindsay Cross, Trustee

Ryan Zink, Trustee

Jesse Wilson, Trustee

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Village of Dundee Parks and Recreation Commission

Peter Kepler, Chairman

Jacob Lechlak, Vice-Chair

Doug Steinman, Secretary

Richard Arecheja, Member

George Wilkins, Council Representative

Adopted by the Dundee Village Council on January 7, 2025



Assisted by The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.

Photographs from the Facebook pages for Dundee Parks and Recreation, Dundee Area Business Association, and the Village of Dundee and by The Mannik and Smith Group, Inc.

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INTRODUCTION

Parks and recreation in Dundee provides a wide range of community benefits. Recreation contributes to the mental and physical health of Village residents, providing a place for exercise, physical activity, relaxation, play, and sports. Parks provide valuable open space and help to protect environmental resources.

The purpose of the Village of Dundee Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of the Village over the next five-year period, through 2024. The Plan identifies existing parks and recreational opportunities, assesses the need for future recreational needs, provides direction for the future development of the Village parks, and presents strategies to meet the recreational needs of a growing population.

Past parks and recreation plans for the Village of Dundee were adopted in 1994, 2000, 2009, 2014, and 2019. These plans guided the development of Ford Park along the River Raisin, the redevelopment of Wolverine Park, as well as many other park improvements. The purpose of this new updated Plan is to guide recreation planning and development efforts of the Village over the next five years. The current Master Plan is intended to meet state standards for community recreation planning that are necessary to gain eligibility for grant programs.

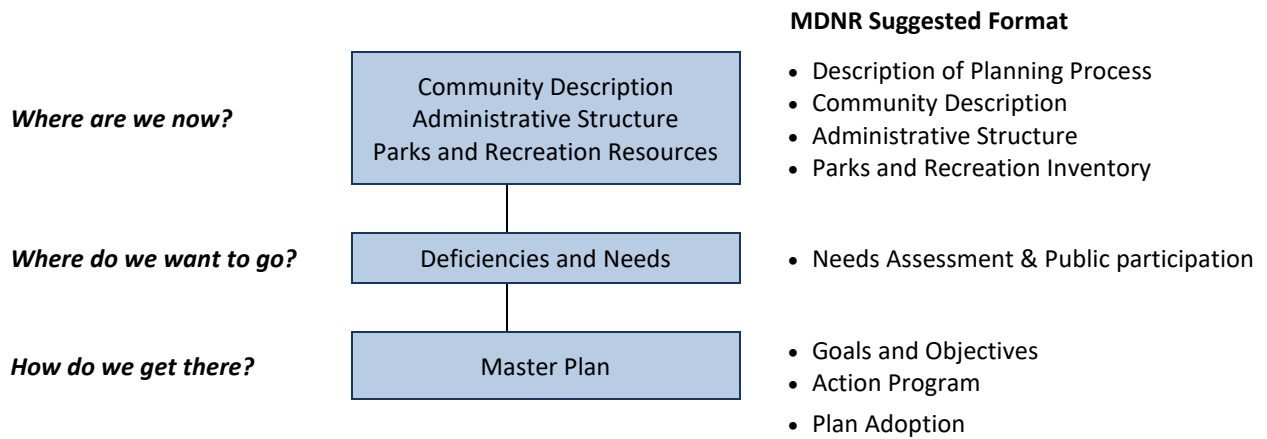
PLANNING PROCESS

The process used to generate the Plan consisted of three phases which are described below.

1. **Where are we now?** In this phase, the community's demographics and the administration of parks were reviewed and updated. The Village parks were examined and mapped to document the existing resources. The information is organized into three main categories: community description, administrative structure, and parks and recreation resources.
2. **Where do we want to be?** The second phase in the planning process consisted of an analysis of the community's parks to determine deficiencies and needs. Public input was sought to solicit ideas and suggestions about recreation preferences and desired improvements through an online questionnaire and at a public open house meeting. Input was also solicited from Village officials, community stakeholders, and staff.
3. **How do we get there?** Once needs were identified, the final phase involved the development of an action plan to support the community's vision for the parks and recreation system and provide for park development projects. Recommended projects were summarized in a capital improvement schedule, along with strategies for implementation. This phase also included preparation of a full draft of the Plan, which was presented to the Village Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the public for review and comment prior to adoption.

The following diagram illustrates the planning process and how it corresponds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) suggested format described earlier.

Figure 1. Planning Process



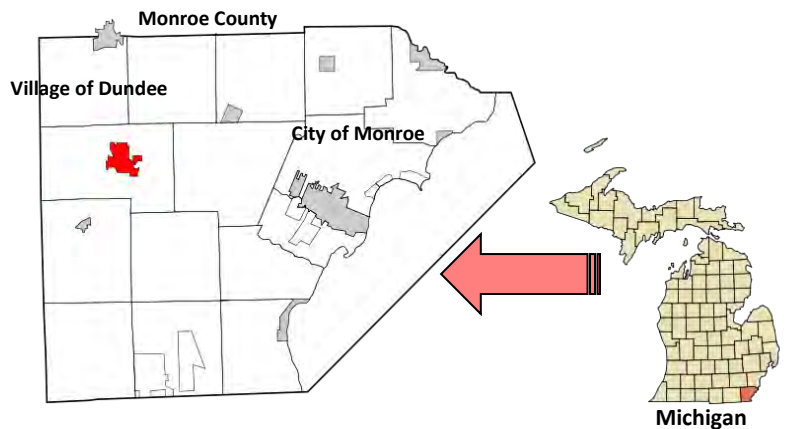
WHAT THIS PLAN CONTAINS

The Village of Dundee Parks and Recreation Master Plan follows the format suggested by the MDNR in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans* (IC1924, Rev. 4/16/2021). The first chapter, **Community Description**, includes a summary on both the social and physical characteristics of the Village. The **Administrative Structure** chapter includes a description of how parks and recreation services are managed in the Village including budget and funding information. The next chapter, **Parks and Recreation Resources**, describes the existing Village parks as well as those of the County and other parks located nearby. This chapter also includes an accessibility assessment and a description of the grant-assisted park projects. The **Needs Assessment** portion of the Plan presents the input received from local officials, staff, and residents, which helped in formulating the **Goals and Objectives** and **Action Program** chapters, which outlines an action plan with strategies for implementation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AREA

The Village of Dundee is located in the northwest area of Monroe County about 15 miles west of the City of Monroe in Southeast Michigan. Known for its location at the intersection of M-50 and U.S.-23 as the *hub of the highways*, Dundee is located approximately 17 miles north of the Ohio border and 17 miles south of Ann Arbor. Dundee has seen tremendous growth since 1990 due in part, to the situation of Cabela’s, a major outdoor retail outfitter, which draws shoppers from across the region and the nation.

Figure 2. Regional Setting



COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

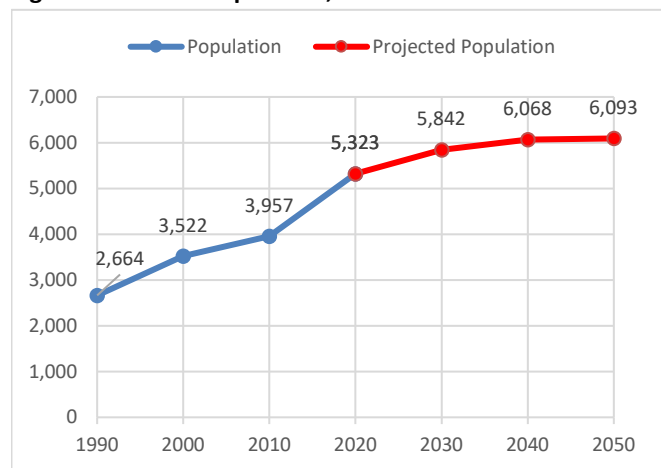
The Village of Dundee encompasses a historic downtown, established neighborhoods, newer residential developments, thriving industrial and research parks, and a centralized school system. In planning for the Village's future parks and recreation needs, it is essential to understand the community being served—both the residents and the recreational resources available. The opening chapters of the Master Plan offer an overview of Dundee's demographics and recreational assets, aiming to highlight the Village's unique features and opportunities.

POPULATION TRENDS

Anticipated changes in the size, distribution, and age composition of the population will affect the need for future recreational facilities. According to the most recent census information (2020), Dundee is home to 5,323 people, an increase of more than a third (1,366 people) from its 2010 population of 3,957. The most recent population estimate for the Village is 5,758 (July 2023, SEMCOG), indicating continued growth.

Population projections for Dundee predict continued growth in population, with the number of persons growing at 14% to 6,093 between 2020 and 2050 and the number of households increasing by 24.9% from 2,213 to 2,647. These projections, which were developed by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), indicate that the Village's population and household will continue to grow. As a result, the recreational needs of Village residents will most likely continue to grow in the future.

Figure 3. Dundee Population, 1990-2050



Source: US Census Bureau & SEMCOG 2045 Regional Development Forecast

Table 1. Dundee Village and Township Population and Households, 2010 and 2020

Community	Population			Households		
	2010	2020	% change	2010	2020	% change
Village of Dundee	3,957	5,323	34.5%	1,539	2,213	43.8%
Dundee Township	2,802	2,822	0.7%	1,026	1,032	0.6%
Monroe County	152,021	154,809	1.8%	58,230	62,152	6.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2010 and 2020)

Table 2. Dundee Youth and Older Adults Trends, 2020 and 2050

	2020	2050	% Change		2020	2050	% Change
65 to 84	584	827	41.6%	Under 5	352	357	1.4%
85+	70	216	208.6%	5 to 17	943	1,051	11.5%

Source: SEMCOG 2050 Regional Development Forecast

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

In addition to examining the number and distribution of people, it is important to understand something of the population characteristics of the community. Table 3 presents information on race, age, education, employment, income, disability status, and housing characteristics of the Village.

Table 3. Census Profile, 2020/2022

	number	%		number	%
TOTAL 2020 POPULATION (Census 2020)	5,323	100.0%			
TOTAL 2022 POPULATION (ACS 2022)	5,408	100.0%			
AGE (ACS 2022)					
Under 5 years	215	4.0%	45 to 49 years	387	7.2%
5 to 9 years	288	5.3%	50 to 54 years	513	9.5%
10 to 14 years	254	4.7%	55 to 59 years	166	3.1%
15 to 19 years	338	6.3%	60 to 64 years	319	5.9%
20 to 24 years	391	7.2%	65 to 69 years	212	3.9%
25 to 29 years	507	9.4%	70 to 74 years	137	2.5%
30 to 34 years	368	6.8%	75 to 79 years	141	2.6%
35 to 39 years	532	9.8%	80 to 84 years	137	2.5%
40 to 44 years	445	8.2%	85+ years	58	1.1%
MEDIAN AGE (years) (ACS 2022)	37				
OLDER ADULTS & YOUTH (Census 2020)					
65 and over	654	12.3%	Under 18	1,295	24.3%
65 to 84	584	11.0%	5 to 17	943	17.7%
85 and over	70	1.3%	Under 5	352	6.6%
POPULATION & HOUSEHOLDS (ACS 2020)					
Group Quarters Population	21				
Household Population	5,302				
Housing Units	2,344				
Households (Occupied Units)	2,213				
Residential Vacancy Rate	5.6%				
Average Household Size	2.40				
HOUSEHOLD TYPES (ACS 2022)					
With Seniors 65+	579		Live Alone, 65+	333	
Without Seniors	1,979		2+ Persons, With children	576	
Live Alone, <65	686		2+ Persons, Without children	963	
			Total Household – ACS 2022	2,558	

	number	%		number	%
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN (ACS 2022)					
Non-Hispanic	4,971	91.9%			
White	4,758	88.0%			
Black	22	0.4%			
Asian	21	0.4%			
Multi-Racial	170	3.1%			
Other	0	0%			
Hispanic	437	8.1%			
Total	5,408	100.0%			
HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (ACS 2022)					
Graduate / Professional Degree		7.5%	Some College, No Degree		21.0%
Bachelor's Degree		21.9%	High School Graduate		31.9%
Associate's Degree		13.7%	Not High School Graduate		4.0%
JOBS BY INDUSTRY (Census 2020)					
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	91	2.5%	Admin, Support, Waste Services	58	1.6%
Manufacturing	1,278	35.4%	Education Services	223	6.2%
Wholesale Trade	71	2.0%	Healthcare Services	168	4.7%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	47	1.2%	Leisure & Hospitality	559	15.5%
Retail Trade	785	19.7%	Other Services	101	2.8%
Information & Financial Activities	132	3.7%	Public Administration	62	1.7%
Professional & Technical Services	111	3.1%			
			Total	3,608	100.0%
POVERTY (ACS 2022)					
Persons in Poverty	352	6.5%	Households in Poverty	164	6.4%
INCOME (ACS 2022)					
Median Household Income (in 2022 \$)	\$73,641		Per Capita Income (in 2022 \$)	\$48,334	
ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME (ACS 2022)					
\$200,000 or more	160	6.3%	\$40,000 to \$44,999	37	1.4%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	252	9.9%	\$35,000 to \$39,999	112	4.4%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	147	5.7%	\$30,000 to \$34,999	189	7.4%
\$100,000 to \$124,999	346	13.5%	\$25,000 to \$29,999	84	3.3%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	349	13.6%	\$20,000 to \$24,999	17	0.7%
\$60,000 to \$74,999	221	8.6%	\$15,000 to \$19,999	28	1.1%
\$50,000 to \$59,999	386	15.1%	\$10,000 to \$14,999	105	4.1%
\$45,000 to \$49,999	103	4.0%	Less than \$10,000	22	0.9%
			Total Household (ACS 2022)	2,558	100.0%

	number	%		number	%
HOUSING TYPE (ACS 2022)					
Single Family Detached	1,445	53.2%			
Multi-Unit Apartment	957	35.2%			
Mobile Home or Other	315	11.6%			
Total Housing Units	2,717	100.0%			
HOUSING TENURE (ACS 2022)					
Owner occupied	1,599	58.9%			
Renter occupied	959	35.3%			
Vacant	159	5.9%			
Total Housing Units	2,717	100.0%			
HOUSING VALUE (ACS 2022)					
Median Housing Value – in 2022dollars	\$231,100				
Median gross rent	\$1,075				
HOUSING VALUE (ACS 2022)					
\$1,000,000 or more	37	2.3%	\$100,000 to \$124,999	152	9.5%
\$500,000 to \$999,999	30	1.9%	\$80,000 to \$99,999	37	2.3%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	328	20.5%	\$60,000 to \$79,999	35	2.2%
\$250,000 to \$299,999	278	17.4%	\$40,000 to \$59,999	29	1.8%
\$200,000 to \$249,999	335	21.0%	\$30,000 to \$39,999	12	0.8%
\$175,000 to \$199,999	49	3.1%	\$20,000 to \$29,999	87	5.4%
\$150,000 to \$174,999	55	3.4%	\$10,000 to \$19,999	84	5.3%
\$125,000 to \$149,999	51	3.2%	Less than \$10,000	0	0.0%
			Total Owner-Occupied Units	1,599	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020) & 2020 and 2022 American Community Survey (ACS)

NATURAL FEATURES

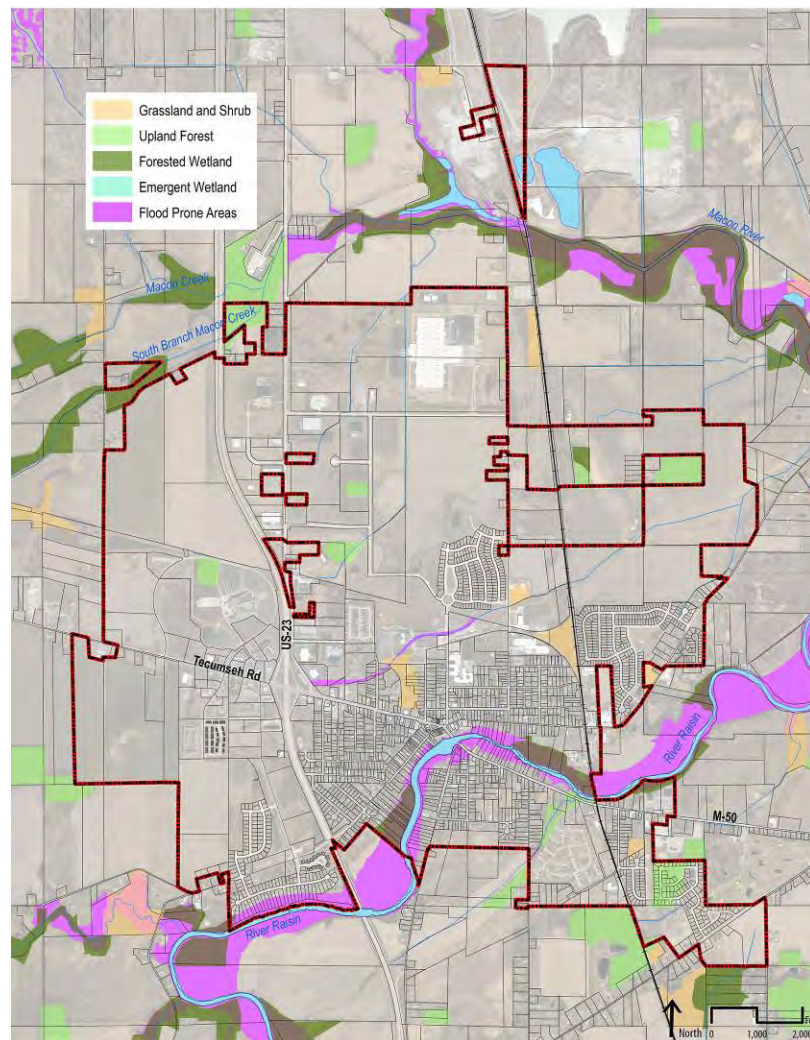
Like much of Michigan’s southern Lower Peninsula, the landscape of the Dundee area was formed through glacial action. The glacier’s movement shaped the topography and created the different types of soils. The glacial geology of the area has resulted in topography that ranges from nearly level to gently rolling with the exception of the River Raisin corridor and land along Stowell Road, which are flanked by steep slopes in several areas. Fertile agricultural soils are found across much of the outlying township. Land elevations range from a height of 650 feet along the river to a height of 670 feet in the northern and eastern segments of the Village. The soils of the region are generally silt loams and clay loams which are well suited for agricultural use, but often present challenges for development due to wetness and poor drainage.

Wooded areas are found along the entire edge of the River Raisin within the Village and extending east and west into Dundee Township. Many of the larger wooded areas are located in the Township along the River Raisin and other drains. They provide protective buffers for the waterways and protect the watershed from siltation and soil erosion damage caused by stormwater runoff. The wooded areas also serve as a valuable wildlife corridor.

Surface waters in the Village of Dundee consist of the River Raisin, the South Branch of Macon Creek, as well as the Macon Drain/River located in the north side of the Village. The presence of these waterways in conjunction with their location determines the type and extent of floodplain within the community. In general, wetlands occur in association with these waterways at many locations.

While the soil’s poor drainage and wetness present some limitations for the development of recreation facilities, the River Raisin provides great opportunities for outdoor recreation, particularly fishing and canoeing.

Figure 5. Natural Features



LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

The Village of Dundee’s history dates back to 1823 when William Remington made a land entry which included both sides of the River Raisin. A rope ferry to cross the river was at the site of the present bridge to bring the early settlers across. A bridge was built in 1833. On June 5, 1832, Sybrant Van Nest founded the Village and platted the land on the north side of the river with his friend Ebenezer Dustin. Mr. Dustin is given credit for naming the Village of Dundee, remembering his native Scotland. The Village was incorporated in 1855.

The commercial section of the downtown is located just above the north bank of the river. The layout was largely determined by the informal pattern of the five roads that met there. Dundee’s form evolved like a New England town, defined by the existing Indian trails, early roads, and natural features. The roads came together at the intersection of Tecumseh, Monroe, Riley, Main and Ypsilanti Streets to form Dundee’s distinctive downtown layout. The angled intersection in the downtown commercial district resulted in a triangular open space, which was given to the Village in 1865 by its early owners, Israel Drew, as a public space, with the stipulation that there was to be no place of business on the site and that it remained a site of beauty and a gathering place for the community. The present memorial bandstand was built in 1913. The commercial section of Dundee has slowly progressed down Tecumseh Street towards U.S. 23.

Since 1990, Dundee’s successful economic development strategy has resulted in the development of industrial and research parks attracting international attention, the establishment of Cabela’s, and many other new businesses. Development also included the revitalization of the river and downtown areas, streetscapes, parks, the expansion of the Village municipal boundaries, and the development of new residential developments. The Village has more than doubled its municipal limits since the 1990s.

Figure 6, on page 11, illustrates the Village existing land use. The historic downtown, located at the center of the Village, includes many historic two and three-story buildings and a small number of newer buildings. The central business district is surrounded by mature stable neighborhoods with sidewalks and tree lined streets. Other business areas include the industrial development on the northern segment of the Village, the commercial development located along M-50 in proximity to U.S.-23, and the older commercial area along M-50 at the east end of the Village. This development pattern differs from the downtown because of larger lot sizes, individual parking lots, and newer buildings.

As presented in Table 4, the Village of Dundee has seen healthy growth from 2010 to 2022. This trend continues to prevail with the number of new residential permits for the period since 2019 is 379.

Table 4. Housing Units

Housing Type	ACS 2010	ACS 2022	Change 2010-2022	New Units since 2019
Single Family Detached	849	1,445	596	145
Multi-Unit Apartment	557	957	400	236
Mobile Home/Manufactured Housing or Other	165	315	150	0
Total Housing Units	1,571	2,717	1,146	381
Units Demolished				-2
Total Net Housing Units				379

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile

Public utilities, extractive operations, disposal sites, industrial parks, and transportation facilities occupy large areas of the Village. The pattern of land uses in Dundee is predominantly made up of residential, industrial, and agricultural land uses. A large portion of the Village is vacant and ready for new development.

Table 5. 2020 Land Use Acreage

	Acres 2020	Percent
Single-Family Residential	464.9	13.7%
Attached Condo Housing	2.3	0.1%
Multi-Family Residential	67.1	2.0%
Mobile Home	60.0	1.8%
Agricultural/Rural Residential	669.6	19.7%
Mixed Use	2.0	0.1%
Retail	163.8	4.8%
Office	35.2	1.0%
Hospitality	32.3	1.0%
Medical	11.1	0.3%
Institutional	86.4	2.5%
Industrial	475.1	14.0%
Recreational/Open Space	45.5	1.3%
Parking	11.9	0.4%
Extractive	34.4	1.0%
Transportation, Communications, Utilities	106.5	3.1%
Vacant	806.9	23.8%
Water	27.5	0.8%
Not Parceled	289.1	8.5%
Total	3,391.50	100.0%

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile

1. **Agricultural / Rural Res** includes any residential parcel containing 1 or more homes where the parcel is 3 acres or larger.
2. **Mixed Use** includes those parcels containing buildings with Hospitality, Retail, or Office square footage and housing units.
3. **Not Parceled** includes all areas within a community that are not covered by a parcel legal description.
4. Parcels that do not have a structure assigned to the parcel are considered vacant unless otherwise indicated, even if the parcel is part of a larger development such as a factory, school, or other developed series of lots.

Table 6. 2020 Land Cover

	Acres	Percent
Impervious (buildings, roads, driveways, parking lots)	659.5	19.6%
Trees (woody vegetation, trees)	247.3	7.4%
Open Space (agricultural fields, grasslands, turf grass)	2,108.9	62.8%
Bare (soil, aggregate piles, unplanted fields)	301	9.0%
Water (Rivers, lakes, drains, ponds)	43.9	1.3%
Total	3,360.6	100%

Source: SEMCOG Community Profile

SEMCOG Land Cover data was derived from SEMCOG's detailed data and imagery. Acreages are approximate and have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

PLANNING INITIATIVES

While change is inevitable and growth in both population and housing will occur, the Village of Dundee is committed to managing that growth to enhance economic benefit, recreational activities, and overall quality of life for Village residents.

Various initiatives and organizations have relevance to the current plan. They include:

- The 2020 Master Plan update for the Village of Dundee;
- Initiatives led by the Downtown Development Authority;
- Efforts led by the Downtown Area Business Association; and
- Events run by the Dundee Old Mill Museum.

Village of Dundee Master Plan

The Village Master Plan is the foundation for future land use and planning decisions in the Village. While the Future Land Use categories and map were updated in 2020, the 2014 plan included several community goals and actions that relate to parks and open spaces in the Village, which still have relevance to the current plan:

- Provide safe and accessible areas for recreation and social interaction within each neighborhood;
- Maintain and enhance Downtown public areas for community events and gatherings;
- Pursue fishing area and pier improvements Downtown along the River Raisin;
- Improve the City sidewalk network and pedestrian/bicycle opportunities;
- Adopt a complete streets policy that promotes walkable developments, non-motorized use and natural areas preservation, and increases safe and accessible transportation opportunities for all motorized and non-motorized users;
- Look at ways to improve the safe interaction of bicyclists, pedestrians, and cars on city sidewalks and streets and fill in the gaps of the sidewalk system;
- Explore the potential to study feasible locations for an additional river crossing for pedestrian and vehicular traffic;
- Install new bike racks and facilitate new paving improvements;
- Maintain and upgrade existing parks based on the recommendations of the Village recreation plan;
- Add new recreational opportunities on the west side of U.S.-23 to compliment new residential growth in this area; and
- Seek grants from the MDNR to help implement the Village recreation plan.

Downtown Development Authority

The Dundee Downtown Development Authority (DDA) District incorporates commercial properties along both sides of Tecumseh Street, Main Street, Riley Street, Park Place, and Monroe Street. Originally adopted in 1988, the DDA Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan were amended in 1992 and 2006.

The mission of the Dundee Downtown Development Authority is to undertake public improvements and

other activities that have the greatest impact to strengthen the downtown area, attract new investments and encourage residents to visit downtown. The DDA functions to assist businesses and homeowners in the district. To serve this mission, the Dundee DDA is dedicated to combining public and private resources for the physical and economic development of properties located within the district borders.

Improvements to the riverwalk and parks and open spaces located within the district as well as the lights, flower baskets, banners, Village entrance, signs, and other beautification projects are funded in part with DDA funds.

Dundee Area Business Association

The Dundee Area Business Association (DABA) was organized in 1999 to bring together business and the community through events, publications, fund-raisers and projects to enhance the vitality and growth of the area and promote a quality business environment for the greater Dundee area. DABA goes beyond the Village of Dundee and Dundee Township to include surrounding communities.

The Dundee Area Business Association produces and presents the Annual Mayfly Music Festival in Wolverine Park, the Annual Downtown Halloween Bash co-sponsored with The Independent Newspaper, sponsors and organizes the Annual Home for the Holidays Craft and Vendor Show, Parade and Community Tree Lighting ceremony. In 2011 the first Annual DABA 5K Scholarship Fun Run/Walk was conducted with proceeds going to DABA's scholarship programs, DABA provides two scholarships each year, the Dundee Area Business Association and the Mayfly Music Festival Scholarship, DABA also contributes to various community organizations and their activities to ensure community growth and a high quality of life for our residents.

Dundee Old Mill Museum

Dundee's Old Mill, the most prominent landmark in the Village, was restored during the 1980's by a group of volunteers known as the Old Mill Restoration Committee. The building, owned by the Village of Dundee, houses a museum and banquet hall/community center. The museum includes permanent and changing exhibits on fashion, furniture, farm life, Native Americans, and the legacy of Henry Ford. The Old Mill, now part of the Ford Heritage Trails, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. The Historical Preservation Society of Dundee has been very successful in attracting successful programs to the museum such as the Smithsonian exhibit in 2008 and 2019. Many community events take place at the Old Mill including the annual Fishing Derby, lunch with the Easter Bunny, the Mayfly Festival and Trash/Treasure Sale, the Haunted Old Mill, Parafest, lunch with Mrs. Claus, and others.



ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The Village of Dundee is chartered as a Home Rule Village and is governed by an elected Village President and Council. The Village President and Council appoint a Village Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Village. The Village President and Council also appoint the Planning Commission and a Parks and Recreation Commission, as described under local ordinance No. 5-72.

Dundee's Parks and Recreation Commission is composed of five to seven members who are Village residents and serve three-year terms. The Commission's goal is to increase recreational activities within the Village through increased programming or facilities. They meet monthly and their responsibilities include:

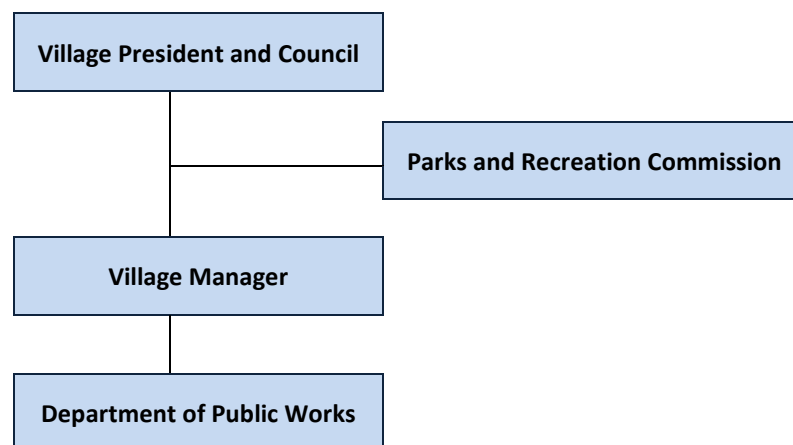
- Operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds;
- Acquire, equip, and maintain buildings or other recreation facilities;
- Prepare an estimate of the funds needed for support and maintenance of recreation areas;
- Submit an annual budget to the governing body;
- Make and adopt bylaws and rules and regulations for the use of recreation facilities; and
- Supervise, care, and serve as custodian of the grounds and buildings.

ADMINISTRATION

There is no Parks and Recreation Department or staff designated to deliver parks and recreation services in Dundee. The Village Manager currently manages the administration of parks with guidance from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

As shown on the organizational chart below, while parks are administered and operated by the Village Council, maintenance is the responsibility of the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Figure 7. Organizational Chart



FUNDING AND BUDGET

Funding for parks and recreation is appropriated from the Village general fund. Park improvement projects are also supported by the DDA and DPW funds.

Expenditures for equipment replacement and capital improvements are financed through the Village capital improvement fund and not part of the parks and recreation budget shown in Table 7. The Old Mill, Ford Park, and Wolverine Park are located in the DDA district. Funds for improvement of these facilities is included in the DDA Development Plan. Other funds are designated for street tree planting and maintenance. Additional revenues also come from gifts, sponsorships, and donations.

Table 7. Parks and Recreation Budget Summary

	2021-22 Actual	2022-23 Actual	2023-24 Actual	2024-25 Original Budget	2024-25 Amended Budget	2024-25 Activity (7 Months)
Revenues						
Interest On Investment		2	2			
Miscellaneous Income	(25)					
Program Revenue	16,127	18,568	23,123	50,000	50,000	20,662
Transfer From General Fund	129,000	100,000	173,550	86,000	110,000	45,500
Total Fund Revenues	145,102	118,570	196,675	136,000	160,000	66,162
Expenditures						
Wages - General	33,979	32,189	33,704	22,800	22,800	1,910
Wages - DPW Maint. Park-Rec	(80)					
Fica	2,110	1,947	2,023	1,770	1,770	145
Medicare	493	455	473			
Benefits	203	191	7,167	6,840	6,840	29
Retirement	1,430	2,224	2,223	690	690	56
Audit Fees			92			
Contractual	59,529	15,896	61,380	40,000	40,000	18,196
Utilities	1,584	1,349	435	500	500	276
Building Maintenance	187	6,759	9,023	5,000	5,000	
Sanitation	3,790	5,153	5,665	6,000	6,000	4,919
Park Maintenance	5,056	13,154	39,824	40,000	40,000	36,080
Equipment Rental	20,940	26,460	23,782			
Miscellaneous Expense		277		500	500	480
Programs	15,760	12,758	10,468	11,000	11,000	12,379
Total Fund Expenditures	144,981	118,812	196,259	135,100	135,100	74,470
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	121	(242)	416	900	24,900	(8,308)
Beginning Fund Balance	4,335	4,456	4,214	4,630	4,630	4,630
Ending Fund Balance	4,456	4,214	4,630	5,530	29,530	(3,678)

VOLUNTEERS & PARTNERSHIPS

Volunteers, service clubs, community groups, government agencies, and private businesses play an active role in supporting parks and recreation in the Village of Dundee.

Dundee Community Schools include a number of sports fields and recreation facilities that are used by the schools' athletic programs. The Village runs a youth soccer program (Pre-K through 6th Grade) and uses the soccer fields at Reggie's Park. The Dundee Recreation Ball League (DRBL) runs a baseball/softball program and uses the fields at Rod Park.

Service clubs and community groups also play a significant role in providing volunteer labor and financial support for park and recreational facilities and programs. They include:

Civic and Other Organizations:	Dundee Area Business Association (DABA) Old Mill Museum Association Village of Dundee DDA Village of Dundee LDFA
Recreational Organizations:	Dundee Junior Vikings Dundee Recreation Ball League
School Service Organizations:	Interact Club Future Farmers of America, Dundee Chapter
Local Service Clubs:	Dundee Jaycees Dundee Kiwanis Dundee Veterans Memorial Dundee Rotary Club Senior Citizens Lions Club
Fraternal Organizations:	American Legion Post #72 Oddfellows
Scouting Groups:	Boy Scouts of America #511
Recreation Use Groups:	Monroe Cycling Club Sportsman Club and Auxiliary



PARK AND RECREATION INVENTORY

The residents of the Village of Dundee have a variety of available parks and recreational resources. These facilities vary in terms of ownership (Federal, State, County, local, schools, and private), size (small neighborhood playgrounds of less than one acre to large nature preserves and State Game Areas with thousands of acres), and type (playgrounds, sports facilities, community parks, nature preserve, etc.). The purpose of this chapter of the plan is to describe the full range of recreational facilities in and around Dundee.

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES WITHIN DUNDEE

The Village owns and operates seven parks and open spaces totaling about 15 acres of land. In addition, many private parks are located within residential subdivisions to serve the needs of their residents. There are also public schools, churches, and privately owned recreational facilities both within Dundee and in surrounding areas.

Village Parks

The Village of Dundee currently includes community and neighborhood parks with play equipment, picnic facilities, sports fields, and landscape areas. The community parks include: Memorial (Triangle) Park, the Riverwalk and Ford Park, Wolverine Park, Waterworks Park, and Reggie’s Park. In addition, there are two neighborhood parks in the Village serving the needs of the residential areas located near them: Arbor Chase Subdivision Park and Westside Park. Viking Park, located in front of the High School, is an undeveloped park property which will be improved in 2025 providing a much needed access from Tecumseh Street (M-50) directly to the High School. The Village of Dundee also owns and maintains more than 20 acres of land which includes the Village Hall, open spaces in the downtown and around the Village, the Department of Public Works building, and the wastewater and water treatment facilities.

Figure 8. Dundee Village Parks



Memorial (Triangle) Park

Memorial Park is the historic triangular-shaped Village town square comprising 0.2 acre of land. Facilities include:

- The historic memorial bandstand;
- Historic marker, flagpole, and cannon; and
- Walkways, benches, and landscaping.



The Village also owns and maintains two small open spaces downtown including Village Hub North, the vacated end of Ypsilanti Street at Main Street, and Village Hub South, the land at the corner of Main and Tecumseh streets. These spaces are used as passive public open spaces for community gatherings with seating and landscaped areas.



Riverwalk and East/West Ford Park

Located along the River Raisin, this park was established as part of the streetscape improvement and downtown renovation project which took place in the late 1990s. The park extends on both sides of the River and M-50 and comprises a total of about one acre. Facilities include:

- Two small picnic shelters with picnic areas and tables;
- Fishing access to river;
- Boat launch; and
- Walkways, benches, picnic tables, River viewing areas, and landscaping.



Wolverine Park

Wolverine Park is a community park located in the center of the Village along the River Raisin. The park includes about 3.2 acres of land and has been renovated in the late 1990s. It incorporates the site of the Historic Old Ford Mill and Museum and includes the following facilities:

- 98-space parking lot;
- Two picnic shelters;
- Two play structures (toddler and 5-10 year olds) and a swing set;
- Two pickleball courts;
- Picnic tables, grills, benches, and trash receptacles;
- Walkways and landscaping;
- A boat launch;
- 2 portable toilets;
- A Community Center with banquet hall and kitchen facilities; and
- Old Ford Mill Museum.



Waterworks Park

Waterworks Park is a 1.5-acre property located at the corner of Ypsilanti and Van Nest streets in the center of the Village. It used to include the Village water tower. When the tower was demolished, the park was re-developed. Facilities currently include:

- Play structure and swing set;
- 2 basketball courts;
- A drinking water fountain;
- Picnic tables and trash receptacles;
- 1 portable toilet; and
- A vacant building.



Reggie's Park

Located in the west part of town at the end of Strawberry Street, this 6-acre park was established in the early 2000s as a soccer complex. Facilities include:

- 80-space parking lot;
- 3 soccer fields;
- Bleachers, benches, and trash receptacles;
- Portable toilets; and
- A small storage building.



Viking Park

The property contains about 5 acres of land which was formerly owned by the Ann Arbor Railroad. It is located along Viking Drive and will include a multi-use path from Tecumseh Street north to Viking Drive, thereby providing a principal access route to Dundee Schools. Additional improvements will include a small parking area, site amenities, signage, and restored habitat.



Arbor Chase Subdivision Park

Located in the north part of the Village, Arbor Chase Subdivision includes a neighborhood playground and open space containing more than 3 acres. It was transferred to the Village in 2009 and includes:

- A picnic shelter, and
- Play structure and swing set.



Westside Park

This neighborhood park contains 0.3 acre of land and is located on the west part of the Village at the intersection of Plank Street and Carney Drive. Facilities include:

- Play structure and swing set; and
- Picnic shelter with picnic tables, trash receptacle, and grill.



Subdivision Parks and Open Spaces

Dundee Ridge Subdivision

Located on the northeast part of the Village, this subdivision incorporates a 9.2-acre park including the subdivision stormwater management area. Future phases of this subdivision are planned to have other parks and open spaces. The 9.2-acre park includes a half basketball court with two hoops, a tennis court, a volleyball court, a play structure, and walkways.



River Ridge Subdivision

Located on the southwest part of the Village along the River Raisin, this subdivision incorporates several open space areas, one of which is located along the River and includes 7.67 acres of land with a walking path.



Stonebrook Subdivision

Located in the southwest part of the Village, this subdivision includes a 6.85-acre open space with a picnic shelter, walkway, and a retention pond.



Schools and Churches

In addition to the Village parks and other parks described previously, there are school, church, and private properties and open spaces offering recreation opportunities to the residents of Dundee. The following is a brief overview of these facilities.

Public School Facilities

The Dundee Community Schools complex includes the High School, Middle School, and Elementary School located on Viking Drive and Adams Street on the north part of the Village. The school complex contains about 52 acres of land with the following recreation facilities:

- 1 softball field;
- 1 baseball field;
- 1 football field;
- 1 soccer field;
- Track;
- Practice fields;
- 1 tennis court;
- Playground areas; and
- Two indoor pools, two gymnasiums, and a track and weight room.



Dundee Area Churches

The Dundee area includes eight churches, some of which incorporate recreation facilities such as playgrounds, picnic areas, and open grass areas. Dundee Methodist Church, located on the south part of the Village, houses a preschool and childcare facility. Dundee area churches include:

- Calvary Baptist Church;
- Dundee Baptist Church;
- Dundee Assembly of God;
- Dundee Community Church of the Nazarene;
- River of Life;
- Dundee United Methodist Church;
- St. Irene Catholic Church; and
- St. John's Lutheran Church .



Rod Park

The Dundee Recreation Commission, a non-profit 501 c3 organization, owns and maintains the 19.1-acre property located immediately east of the Village boundaries. The park includes a wooded area and the following facilities:

- Large gravel parking lot;
- Six ball fields;
- Two volleyball courts;
- Two tennis courts;
- Playground; and
- Picnic shelter and concession.



Other Private Recreation Facilities

Cabela's grounds incorporate a pond with fishing access and walkways.



Splash Universe Water Park, an indoor water park located in the Village of Dundee includes a zero entry pool, lazy river, water slides, and a family spa.

Recreation Programs

A variety of recreation programs and community events are sponsored by the different civic and community groups. They include:

Village of Dundee:

- Mayor Exchange Day
- Christmas parade
- 4th of July Celebration
- Soccer Program

Village of Dundee DDA:

- Pumpkin Palooza

Village of Dundee Parks and Recreation:

- Music & Movie in the Park

Dundee Recreation Commission:

- Dundee Recreation Ball League

Old Mill Museum:

- German Festival
- Old Mill Craft Fair & Brunch
- Candle Light Home Tour
- Herbal Lunch

Dundee Area Business Association:

- Mayfly Festival
- 5 K & Fun Run
- Small Business Saturday
- Other Events



PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AROUND DUNDEE

Monroe County Parks

Located east of Dundee, West County Park is the closest County Park to Dundee. It contains 60 acres of land along the River Raisin on Rightmire Road in Dundee Township. The park, formerly farmed, was enrolled in the U.S.D.A. Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in 2002. It was planted with a mixture of native trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers. The addition of nature trails, small shelters, parking areas, and benches have made this site an attractive nature preserve. A Native American memorial was developed and consists of a small gathering space and tribute area. The River Raisin National Battlefield Park has also added exhibits and signs providing information on the Macon Reserve. Additional trails and river viewing areas were recently constructed.



Figure 9 depicts the location of the West County Park and other parks and recreation facilities located around Dundee. Tables 8 and 9 list the facilities that area offered in those parks and recreation areas.

Table 8. Monroe County Parks and Recreation Facilities

Park	Location	Facilities	Acres
Heck Park	City of Monroe	Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum, parking, restrooms, pavilion (seating approximately 30 adults), paved trails, playground, basketball court, parking, sled hill, grills, playground, exercise court.	15.0
Nike Park	Frenchtown Township	Picnic area, soccer fields, playground, model aircraft area, dog training area, soccer fields, grills, horseshoe pits, parking, portable toilets, 2 picnic pavilions (13 total picnic tables).	80.0
Vienna Park	Bedford Township	5 ball diamonds, soccer fields, natural area, picnic areas, playground, 18-hole disc golf course, grills, horseshoes, parking, portable toilets, 5 picnic pavilions (38 picnic tables).	57.0
Waterloo Park	Monroe Township	Paved walking path, accessible fishing pier, river access, canoe landing, exercise court, picnic shelter, grills, playground, horseshoes, parking, portable toilets, 2 picnic pavilions (21 total picnic tables).	9.0
West County Park	Dundee Township	Natural habitat, trails, river access, benches, shelters, parking area.	60
Loranger Square	City of Monroe	Downtown plaza with a large pavilion, a fountain, picnic tables, seating and open space.	1.5
River Raisin Access Site	Raisinville Township	Canoe/kayak launch.	2.0
St Antoine Cemetery	City of Monroe	Monument and walking path.	1.2
Navarre-Anderson Trading Post & Territorial Park	Frenchtown Township	Restored and re-created historic structures, school house repurposed as a country store, interpretive information, parking and canoe/kayak landing.	5.6
Total			231.3

Federal and State Parks and Recreation Areas

The United States government owns and operates two important outdoor recreational facilities in Monroe County. In 2010, the U.S. Department of Interior’s National Park Service took over land formerly owned by Monroe County, as well as other property, to form the River Raisin National Battlefield Park. This site commemorates the 1813 battle, which took place on this location. Recreational facilities include an interpretive museum and outdoor displays and open space. In 2013, a Master Plan for the area around the National Battlefield Site was prepared through a partnership between the Monroe County Historical Society and the City of Monroe with input from the National Park Service and the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Foundation. Updated in 2020, the plan envisions a larger National Battlefield Site with distinct activity zones including a visitor center, a recreated French Town settlement, a reenactment zone, and other features tied to Downtown Monroe and the greater Monroe County region through Elm Avenue, Front Street, and the River Raisin.

Another federal site, the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge was established in 2001 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). It consists of nearly 6,000 acres of unique habitat, including islands, coastal wetlands, marshes, shoals, and waterfront lands within an authorized boundary extending along 48 miles of shoreline, including all of Monroe County’s Lake Erie coastal areas. Units within Monroe County include the Brancheau, Strong, Fix, Lagoon Beach, Ford Marsh, Plum Creek Bay, Lady of the Lake, Holloway, Erie Marsh Preserve, and Gard Island. Not all units are open to the public.



State of Michigan facilities around Dundee in Monroe County include Sterling State Park, State Game Areas (Erie, Petersburg, and Pointe Mouillee), and public access sites. Sterling State Park is one of Michigan’s most heavily used State Parks, with a campground, swimming beach, hiking trails, fishing, boating, and nature study opportunities. The three State Game Areas (Erie, Petersburg, and Pointe Mouillee) offer hunting and fishing, as well as opportunities for hiking and nature study. Other State-owned properties, which are used for recreation, include the rest areas on U.S.-23, I-75, and I-275, as well as public access sites on Bolles Harbor and Swan Creek. The MDOT rest area at Otter Creek contains a playground, which was designed to meet universal accessibility standards.

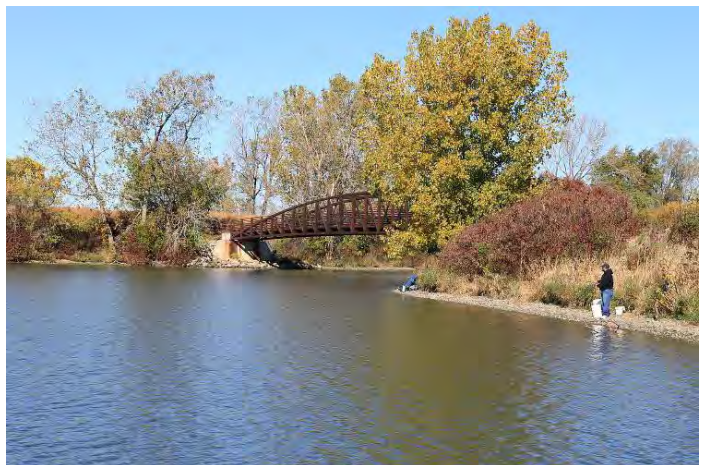


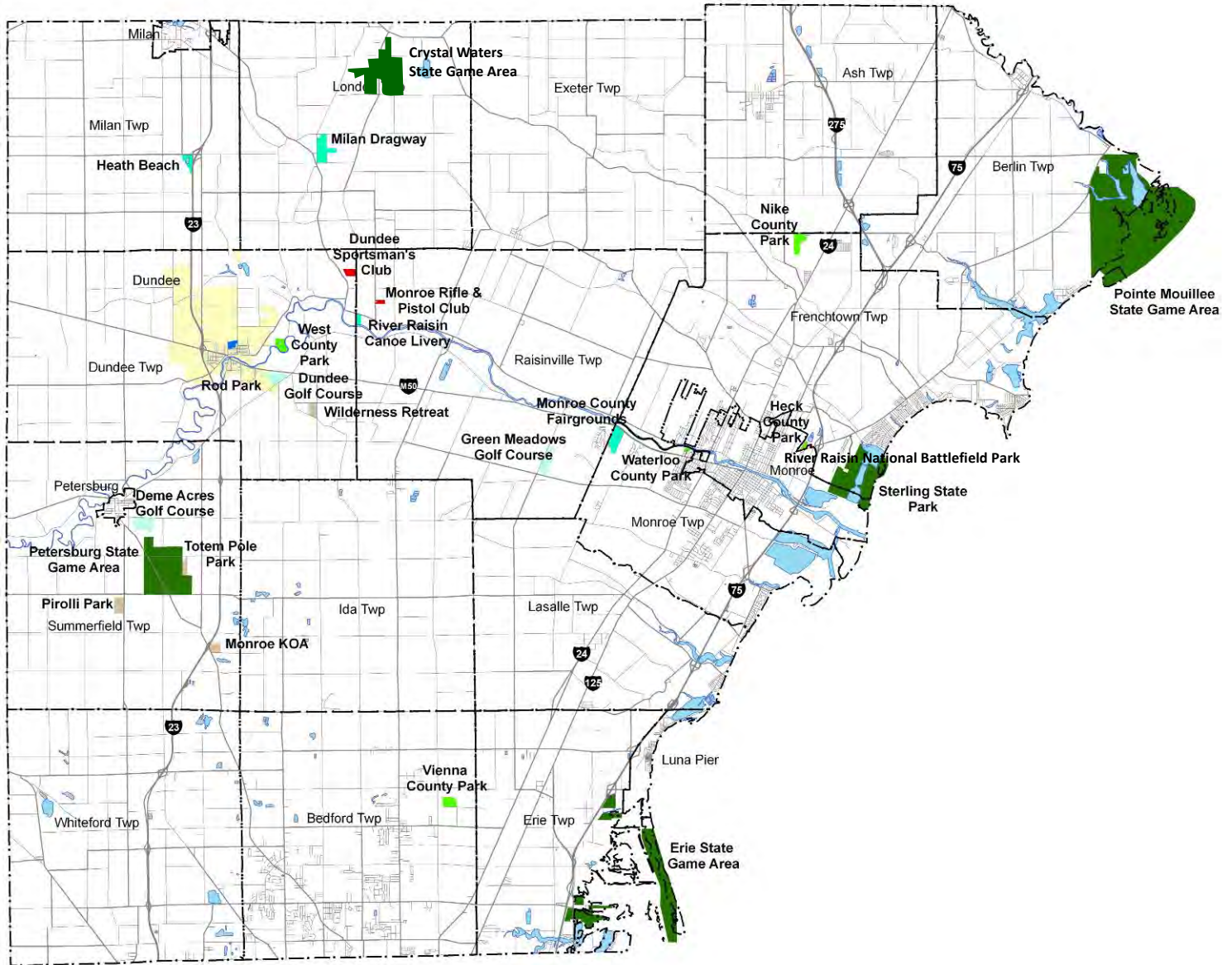
Table 9. Federal and State-Owned Sites in Monroe County

Park	Location	Facilities	Acres
Crystal Waters State Game Area	London Township	Hunting, fishing, boat ramp, hiking trails.	680
Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge	Erie, Berlin, & Frenchtown Township + City of Monroe	Visitor center, picnic pavilions, boat dock and pier, trails, hunting, fishing, nature interpretation, wildlife viewing.	6,000
Erie State Game Area	Erie Township	Hunting, boat launch.	1,519
Petersburg State Game Area	Summerfield Township	Hunting.	935
Pointe Mouillee State Game Area	Berlin Township	Hunting, fishing, shooting range, boat ramp.	3,466
River Raisin National Battlefield Park	City of Monroe	Visitor center, picnic shelter, memorials, interpretative signs, open space.	40
Sterling State Park	City of Monroe & Frenchtown Township	Lake Erie beach, boat launch, campground, playground, nature trails.	1,300
I-75 Rest Area	Monroe Township	Rest rooms, picnic area, tourist information.	25
US-23 Rest Area	Summerfield Township	Restrooms, picnic area, tourist information.	28
I-275 Rest Area	Ash Township	Restrooms, picnic area, tourist information.	35
Bolles Harbor Access Site	Monroe Township	Boat launch, fishing, restrooms, parking.	77
Otter Creek Access Site	LaSalle Township	Lake Erie access, fishing pier, restrooms.	26
Swan Creek Access Site	Berlin Township	Boat ramp, fishing, restrooms.	2
Total			14,133

Other Private Recreation Facilities in the Dundee Area

- Covered Wagon Camp Resort, a 19-acre campground in Whiteford Township;
- Deme Acres, a 160-acre 18-hole golf course located in Summerfield Township;
- Dundee Golf Club, a 70-acre 9-hole golf course located east of the Village limits;
- Dundee Pheasant Farm and Dog Training Preserve, including over 900 acres of land with tower hunts, grass hunts, and dog training in Dundee Township;
- Dundee Sportsman's Club, a 48-acre property including a shooting range in Dundee Township;
- Farmer J's Corn Maze, a 15-acre property with mazes in Dundee Township;
- Getaway Bay, a 53-acre old quarry in Milan Township with a pond popular for swimming;
- KC Campground, a 20-acre campground on Sherman Road in London Township;
- London Sportsmen Rod and Gun Club, a 20-acre property in London Township;
- Milan Dragway, a 136-acre property located on Plank Road in London Township;
- Monroe County KOA, a 42-acre campground located in Summerfield Township on US-23 with swimming facilities;
- Monroe Rifle and Pistol Club, a 15-acre property located in Raisinville Township;
- Pirolli Park, a 69-acre campground in Summerfield Township;
- River Raisin Canoe Livery, a canoe, kayak, and paddleboat rental and launch site including 25 acres of land in Raisinville Township;
- Sexy Pheasant Hunting Preserve, a 40-acre property located Milan Township;
- Totem Pole Park, a 35-acre campground in Summerfield Township; and
- Wilderness Retreat, a 51-acre campground in Dundee Township.

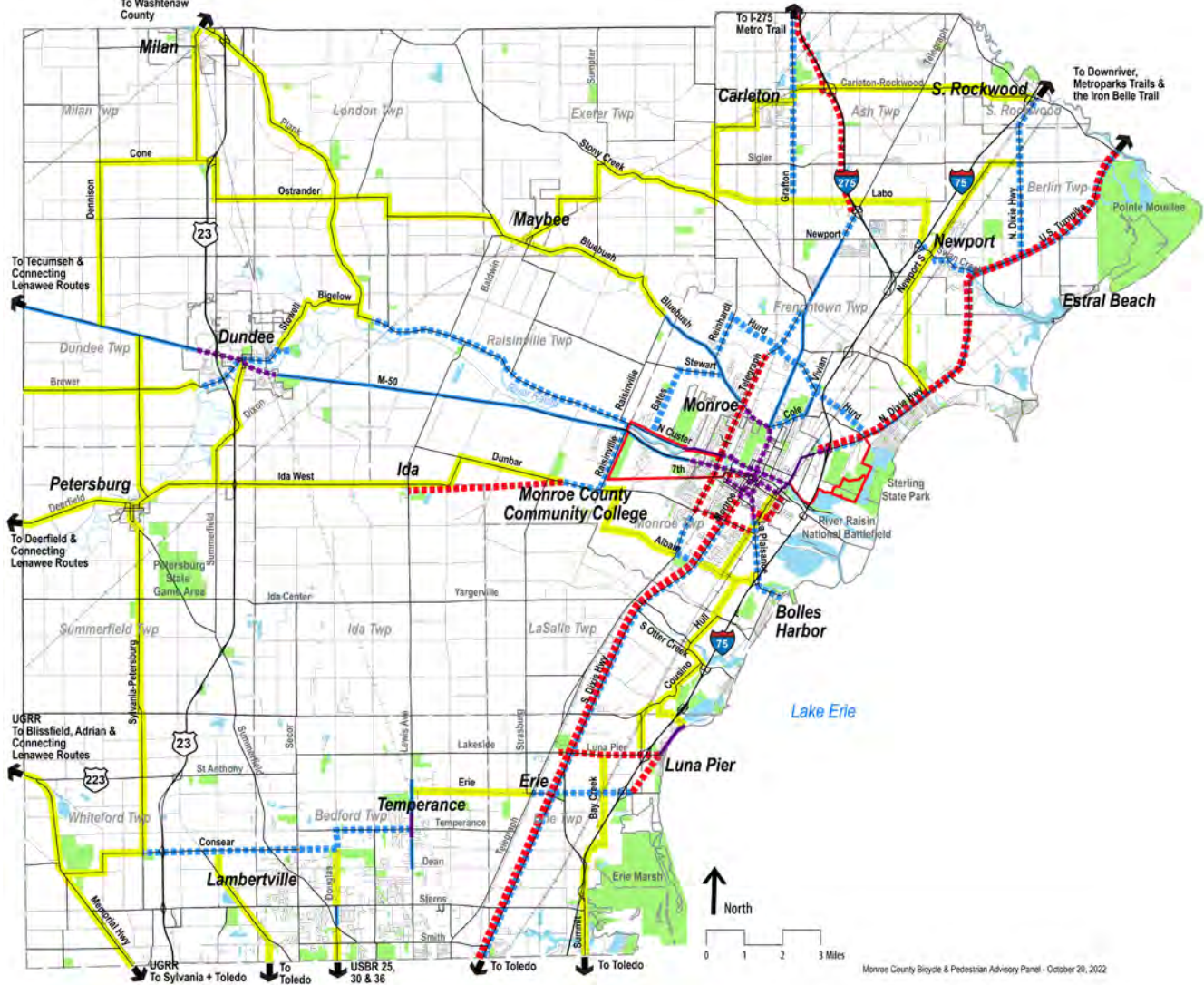
Figure 9. Regional Parks and Recreation Facilities around Dundee



LAND AND WATER TRAILS

Non-motorized trail systems in Monroe County are limited to the River Raisin Heritage Trail and pathways within existing parks. The Monroe County Plan for bicycle, trails and non-motorized transportation corridors has evolved to include a system of on and off-the-road facilities. Figure 10 illustrates the network developed by the Monroe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Panel adopted in 2021. Monroe County’s network connects west to Dundee through the bicycle paved shoulders marked along M-50. The dashed line shown for Dundee on Figure 10 indicates the need for the paved shoulders to become bike lanes within the Village of Dundee limits where the roadway has curbs and gutters.

Figure 10. Monroe County Regional Nonmotorized Network



Source: Monroe County Trail and Bicycle Plan, 2021

Water trails have become an important recreation resource in Michigan. Water trails are designated routes along a river, lake, canal, or bay specifically designed for people using small boats like kayaks, canoes, single sailboats or rowboats.

Monroe County developed a comprehensive master plan for water trails along the River Raisin and Lake Erie in 2014. The Plan identifies specific recommendations for possible launch sites and other improvements. The existing landing areas at the Village-owned properties along the River Raisin are identified. Figure 11 depicts the overall water trails planned for Monroe County and shows where dams are located as they impede the water trail routes.

Figure 11. Monroe County Water Trails



Source: Monroe County Water Trail Master Plan, 2014

ACCESSIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND GRANT-ASSISTED PROJECTS

The Village park system is intended for use by all persons, regardless of their disability status. It is the intent of the Village to comply with the appropriate accessibility standards and guidelines for play areas, outdoor developed areas, parking areas, and other facilities, which fall under the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All recent improvements to the Village parks have been designed to comply with or exceed accessibility guidelines and standards, and to retrofit, when appropriate, those facilities which pre-date ADA standards.

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing access to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the MDNR Guidelines was used to evaluate the accessibility of the Village parks. The ranking system ranges from 1 to 5 as follows:

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

Each of the parks was evaluated using the MDNR ranking system noted. The elements evaluated include parking areas, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, the activity areas themselves, and support facilities such as restrooms and surfacing. Table 10 presents the results of this evaluation.

Table 10. Accessibility Assessment

Park	Rating	Description
Memorial (Triangle) Park	3	Most of the park facilities meet accessibility guidelines (the historic bandshell is not accessible).
Riverwalk and Ford Park	2	Some of the facilities or park areas meet accessibility guidelines (steps along the Riverwalk limits accessibility).
Wolverine Park	4	The entire park was renovated to meet accessibility guidelines.
Waterworks Park	3	Most of the facilities meet accessibility guidelines (an accessible route is needed to the play structure).
Reggie's Park	2	Some of the park facilities meet accessibility guidelines (accessible pathways are needed to the park elements including the parking, bleachers, fields, and concession stand).
Westside Park	2	Some of the facilities meets accessibility guidelines (an accessible route from the street sidewalk is needed to the play structure, swing set, and shelter).
Arbor Chase Subdivision Park	2	Some of the facilities meets accessibility guidelines (an accessible route is needed to the play structure and swing set).

It is the intent of the Village of Dundee that current and future park projects comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. Deficiencies will be corrected with park renovation and improvements.

The Village of Dundee has received two grants that have been used to develop and improve the Village parks. Table 11 lists the grants which have been awarded to Dundee. Post-completion self-certification reports are being submitted as part of the recreation plan submittal.

Table 11. Grant Assisted Projects

Park	Year/ Grant #	Amount and Type of Grant	Project elements	Condition
Riverwalk by Old Mill/ Ford Park	1992 TF92-257	\$72,750 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund	Bank stabilization and development of river access site and fishing pier along the River Raisin	Good condition
Wolverine Park	1999 CM99-192	\$75,000 Clean Michigan Initiative	New playground equipment, pavilion shelter, and pathway along the River Raisin	Good condition



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A critical component in the recreation planning process is determining the needs and desires of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs and preferences provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives that lead to an action plan. To assess needs and desires, consideration was given to current recreation trends and input from community stakeholders, public officials, and residents of Dundee.

PARK ACREAGE COMPARISON

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends a minimum amount of parkland to adequately serve a given population size. The NRPA guidelines provide minimum recommended parkland and facility development standards that are applicable nationwide for recreation planning purposes. While the standards are useful benchmarks addressing minimum park acreage, a parks and recreation system should be tailored to meet the needs of the community it pertains to.

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 as described on the right. Close-to-home parks would include all the Village 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 (40-mile distance) and focus on meeting the recreation needs of the region as well as preserving unique areas. Regional parks would include the County parks as well as the federal and state-owned recreation areas described in the preceding chapter. The NRPA also recognizes other types of parks such as school properties that can contribute to the parks and recreation system.

Table 12 presents a comparison of the NRPA suggested parkland standards with existing parks based on a Village population of 5,323 in 2020 and 6,093 in 2050. According to these standards, local parks do not meet the recommended acreage for total *close-to-home* parkland. Dundee residents, however, are well-served by the regional park facilities provided by Monroe County, federal, and state governments that are located nearby.

Table 12. Comparison to Suggested Parkland Acreage Standards

Type of Park	NRPA standard Acres/ 1000 Pop.	Suggested 2020 Pop. 5,323	Suggested 2050 Pop. 6,093	Existing
<i>Close to Home</i> Parkland	6.25 - 10.5 Acres	33 – 56 Acres	38 – 64 Acres	20 Acres
Regional Parks	15 - 20 Acres	60 – 80Acres	67 – 89 Acres	13,684 Acres
Public Schools	-	-	-	52 Acres
Private & Other Facilities	-	-	-	60 Acres

NRPA Close-to-home Parkland:

Mini-Park: Addresses limited recreational needs; serves an area less than ¼-mile distance.

Neighborhood Park: Is the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreation and social focus of a neighborhood; focus is on informal active and passive recreation; serves an area ¼ to ½ mile distance and is uninterrupted by non-residential roads or other physical barriers.

Community Park: Serves a broader purpose than neighborhood parks; focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs and preserving unique landscapes and open spaces; usually serves two or more neighborhoods at ½ to 3-mile distance.

STATE AND NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS

In 2023, the outdoor recreation participant base grew 4.1% to a record 175.8 million participants: 57.3% of all Americans aged six and older. The number of participants increased across demographics and activities as new, more casual participants began hiking, biking, camping, running, and fishing. In 2023, 7.7 million Americans tried one or more outdoor recreation activities for the first time. New and young outdoor recreation participants are driving growth and increased diversity in the outdoor recreation participant base, including increasing numbers of women, people of color, and seniors. The growth that began in 2016 and accelerated during the COVID pandemic is showing few signs of slowing.

Table 13. National Sports Participation, 2023

Activity	Participation Percent
1. Hiking	20.0%
2. Fishing	18.2%
3. Running, Jogging, and Trail Running	17.9%
4. Camping	17.7%
5. Bicycling	17.2%

Source: Outdoor Participation Report, 2024, the Outdoor Foundation

These trends are consistent with trends observed in Michigan. According to a survey of Michigan residents conducted as part of the 2023-2027 Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Michigan’s overall outdoor recreation participation rate is 95%. Eighty-six percent of Michiganders are involved in trail activities and “other” outdoor activities. Water activities logged 80% participation, snow activities 40% and wildlife activities 52%. The top 10 activities by frequency were ranked (see appendix B), with the percentages of Michigan residents participating and total annual occasions of participating included. From this list, the top three, in ascending order, were visiting the beach but not swimming (60% – 49,959,236), going for a walk on local unpaved trails or paths (62% – 380,532,847) and going for a walk on local streets or sidewalks (80% – 1,156,390,531).

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. The implication of the trends noted above along with the demographic and physical characteristics of the Dundee area can be summarized as follows:

- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the high number of young families with children currently living in Dundee as well as the expected increase of seniors in the future.
- There is a need for more parks as well as additional pathways and trails to accommodate both bicycle and pedestrian use and to contribute to a healthy and walkable community.
- The River Raisin is the greatest natural asset of the Village. Encouraging its use for recreation while maintaining its ecological functions should be a priority.



PUBLIC INPUT

A critical component in the recreation planning process is to determine the needs and desires of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. Needs and preferences provide the rationale for the formulation of goals and objectives that lead to an action plan. To assess needs and desires, consideration was given to current recreation trends and input from community stakeholders, public officials, staff, and residents of Dundee.

Online Survey

Residents were invited to provide ideas and suggestions for the Village parks and recreation system through an online survey available on the Village’s website early during the development of this plan during the month of July and August 2024. The survey was advertised on the Village’s website and through social media. The online questionnaire was designed to solicit feedback on suggestions for improvements to the Village park system. 136 surveys and comments were received and compiled. Key findings from the survey are outlined below and are compared to the 2019 survey to highlight any differences or similarities, as applicable.

Park Visitation

The most visited Village parks are:

	2024 Survey	2019 Survey
1	Wolverine Park	Wolverine Park
2	Riverwalk & Ford Park	Reggie’s Park
3	Waterworks Park	Riverwalk & Ford Park
4	Arbor Chase Subdivision Park	Memorial (Triangle) Park
5	Farmers’ Market	Waterworks Park

The most visited nearby parks are:

	2024 Survey	2019 Survey
1	Rod Park	Rod Park
2	Munson Park	Munson Park
3	West County Park	Splash Universe
4	Dundee Golf Course	Sterling State Park
5	Sterling State Park	Dundee Golf Course

Park Facility and Program Preference

Respondents top five choices for preferred recreation activities in order of importance are:

	2024 Survey	2019 Survey
1	Sidewalks/paths for walking	Walking/running/bicycling paths or trails
2	Splash pad	Playground structures
3	Playground structures	Nature areas with nature trails
4	Nature areas with nature trails	Ball fields (soccer, baseball, softball, etc.)
5	Sport Courts (tennis, pickleball, basketball, volleyball, etc.)	Splash pad

Respondents top five choices for preferred recreation programs in order of importance are:

2024 Survey		2019 Survey
1	Children programs	
2	Family programs	
3	Playground program	
4	Teen programs	
5	Exercise & fitness programs	

Park Improvements

Top choices for improvements at selected Village parks are summarized below.

Reggie's Park	
2024	2019
Tree Planting for Shade	Additional seating and bleachers
Walkway around the periphery of the park	Bathroom facilities
New playstructure	Better field grading and drainage
More seating and bleachers	More shade
Picnic shelter	
Improvements of the fields	
Permanent Restroom	

Wolverine Park	
2024	2019
Splash pad	Extend riverwalk
Walkways system connectd to Village sidewalk	Aditonal play equipment
Tree planging for shade	Splash pad
Seating areas	Skate park
More play equipment (corn holes, ping pong tables, chess tables)	Permanent restrooms
Permanent restrooms	Additional benches and seating areas
	Additional shade
	Tennis
	Basketball
	Volleyball courts

Waterworks Park	
2024	2019
Splash pad	Better swing set
More playground equipment	Water refill station for pets
Seating and picnic shelter	Permanent restrooms
Water refill station for pets	
Renovation of existing building	
Skate park	
Add/replace building	

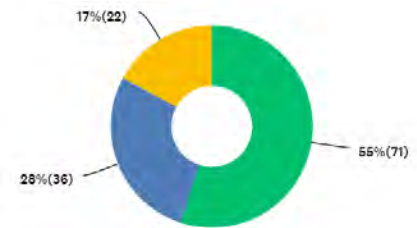
Park Priorities

Respondents top priorities for general park improvements in order of importance are:

	2024 Survey	2019 Survey
1	Maintain/renovate existing Village parks	Maintain/renovate existing Village parks
2	Develop new facilities at existing parks	Develop a Village-wide pathway system
3	Develop a Village-wide pathway system	Develop more walking/bicycle paths within Village parks
4	Develop more walking/bicycle paths in the parks	Develop new facilities at existing parks
5	Develop more access sites on the River Raisin for Canoeing/kayaking	Develop more access sites on the River Raisin for canoeing/kayaking
6	Acquire land for future park development	Acquire land for future park development

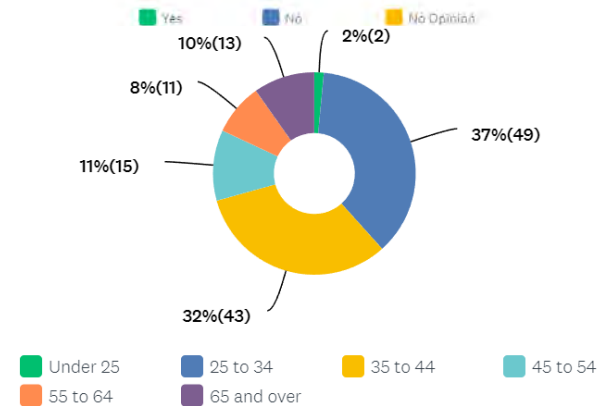
Support

When asked whether they would support the development of a new outdoor sports field complex for Dundee, 55% of respondents indicated yes, 28% indicated no, and 17% had no opinion.

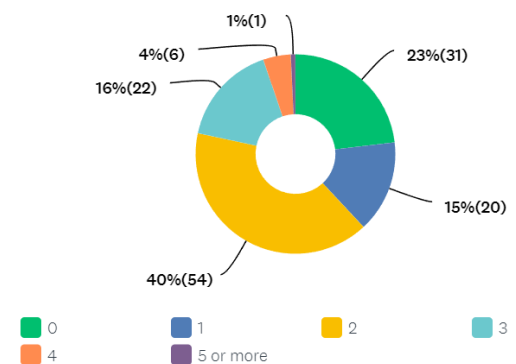


Demographics

Most respondents are within 25 to 44 years old. The age distribution of respondents is illustrated on the right.



Most respondents have two children under 18 living in their households. The distribution of how many children live in respondents' households is illustrated in the pie graph to the right.



Eighty-six percent of respondents (116) reside in Dundee while the remaining 14% primarily reside in adjacent areas.

Town Hall Meeting

A town hall/Open House meeting took place on October 10, 2024. Potential improvements derived from the online survey, current park conditions and needs were presented at a public meeting for both in-person and social media feedback.

Suggestions were received from meeting attendees and via Dundee’s FaceBook page. They included general improvements to Wolverine Park, replacement/repair of existing outdated park equipment, re-use of the Scout building, splash pad, dog park, fishing docks, small boat launch around dam, roller blading and/or skate boarding pad.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING

Once a draft Parks and Recreation Plan was completed, it was made available for the required 30-day public review from November 19, 2024 to December 19, 2024. The availability of the draft plan for public review was advertised in The Dundee Independent and posted on the Village website. A copy of the draft plan was available for consultation at the Village Hall and the draft was also posted on the Village website.

After the Parks and Recreation Commission considered the comments received from the public at a rescheduled meeting on December 19, 2024, minor changes were made to the document and the plan was recommended for adoption by Village Council. The public input into the plan culminated in an advertised public hearing held on January 7, 2025 at a meeting of the Village Council. The Village Council subsequently adopted the Plan.

Copies of the Parks and Recreation Commission and Village Council resolutions, as well as the public notices regarding plan availability and public hearing, the minutes of the public hearing, and letters of transmittal are uploaded to the MDNR MiGrants website as required.



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals and objectives were formulated to provide direction and a long-term vision for the Village of Dundee's park system. They are broad enough to encompass the suggestions expressed from the public, Village officials, staff, as well as to meet the observed deficiencies in the recreation resources of the area. They also consider demographic changes, current and anticipated growth and development, the area's existing conditions, and recreation trends.

GOAL 1. PARK MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT

Maintain and improve the Village parks to ensure clean, safe, attractive, and high quality recreational experiences.

It is important to maintain and improve existing park facilities to ensure public safety and continued enjoyment. This includes upgrading aging equipment, removing barriers, and general park upkeep. This also includes developing new recreation facilities to meet the changing recreational needs of Village residents.

- 1.1 Upgrade or repair aging play equipment, paved surfaces, park structures, and furnishings as needed;
- 1.2 Improve the parks' accessibility by removing barriers to universal access;
- 1.3 Implement the improvements envisioned for existing parks and Village park properties; and
- 1.4 Recommend an annual capital improvement budget and maintenance program for the Village Council's budgeting process.

GOAL 2. RIVER RAISIN CORRIDOR

Capitalize on the River Raisin for land and water recreation.

The River Raisin corridor serves as the primary natural asset and recreation corridor for the Village. It connects several parks and the downtown and is the community's focal point. It provides a framework for developing land and water trails to connect parks and community facilities thereby serving to promote active lifestyles and enhancing the health and well-being of Village residents.

- 2.1 Plan and implement an extended riverwalk along both sides of the River Raisin;
- 2.2 Continue to develop and promote water recreation with new canoe/kayak landings, creation of a dam bypass for both fish and small boat passage, and additional opportunities for fishing; and
- 2.3 Work with the River Raisin Watershed Council, Monroe County, other state and regional agencies to protect the water quality of the River Raisin, remove invasive species, and restore natural habitat.

GOAL 3. PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE NETWORK

Make it safer and easier for more residents to walk and bike in the Village.

There is an opportunity to plan for and continue to develop an interconnected network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities that provide safe and efficient travel between key places within Dundee including parks, neighborhoods, schools, downtown, and neighboring communities.

- 3.1 Ensure parks are bicycle friendly with pathways that are sufficiently wide, available bicycle parking, and appropriate amenities such as drinking fountains, fix-it stations, and rest areas;
- 3.2 Implement the pedestrian and bicycle improvement recommended in the 2019 Road Safety and Operation Study;
- 3.3 Develop a Village-wide non-motorized plan containing a mix of on-street and off-street bicycle accommodations to connect the Village parks, neighborhoods, and community facilities; and
- 3.4 Support the adoption of a “complete streets” policy for the Village and implement complete streets infrastructure with street construction and improvement projects.

GOAL 4. PARK LAND ACQUISITION

Plan for the long-term development of both neighborhood and community parks to meet the recreational needs of Village residents.

Fundamental to a community-based parks and recreation system is the provision of neighborhood and community parks. The Village is deficient in both these types of parks. Land acquisition should focus on satisfying the Village park deficiencies to meet the needs of residents.

- 4.1 Seek opportunities for parkland acquisition particularly properties that would present opportunities for neighborhood and community park development as well as land that would serve for pathway development; and
- 4.2 Encourage the preservation of open space and natural areas associated with the River Raisin.

GOAL 5. COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Seek opportunities to collaborate with a variety of partners to ensure the efficient development, operation, maintenance, and stewardship of Village parks.

Improve coordination between the Dundee Community Schools, the Downtown Development Authority, the Dundee Area Business Association, the Historical Preservation Society of Dundee (Old Mill Museum and Banquet Hall), the Dundee Recreation Commission, Dundee Township, civic groups, and other area recreation providers to maximize the community recreation resources.

- 5.1 Continue to provide opportunities for recreational programs within Village parks and partner with community groups that have common recreational goals supported by the Village;
- 5.2 Increase volunteer partnership efforts to use and improve the Village parks; and
- 5.3 Participate in statewide (Michigan Recreation and Park Association) and regional parks and recreation groups (SEMCOG Parks and Recreation Task Force) for advocacy, resources, and professional development opportunities.

ACTION PROGRAM

The following describes the specific projects and actions which are recommended to be accomplished during the planning period. Illustrations and plans showing the proposed park improvements and actions are also included to depict the proposed actions.

1. Maintain and upgrade existing Village parks (all parks)

This action includes replacing old equipment which is in a state of disrepair, outdated, or is dangerous, as well as improving the appearance of the parks and properties through appropriate landscaping and upkeep. All upgrades must be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and efforts should be taken to remove all existing barriers to universal access. Proposed projects include:

- A. Replace or upgrade aging play equipment as needed.
- B. Remove barriers to universal access.
- C. Ensure safety surfaces under playground equipment meet regulated depth and fall zones.
- D. Refurbish parking, walkways, sports courts, and other concrete and paved surfaces as needed.
- E. Replace and add park furnishings such as benches, trash receptacles, pet waste dispensers and signs.
- F. Maintain buildings, structures, and picnic shelters in good condition with roof repair, exterior painting, and other renovations.
- G. Manage and improve existing tree canopy and vegetation.

2. Maintain and improve Memorial (Triangle) Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add interpretive signage to bolster the historic and memorial themes.
- B. Coordinate with the Dundee DDA to facilitate programming such as live music, educational displays, and Farmers' Market.
- C. Support efforts to improve the enhanced crosswalks of Tecumseh Street, Park Place, and Riley Street.
- D. Improve general maintenance and landscaping.

Figure 12. Memorial (Triangle) Park Improvements

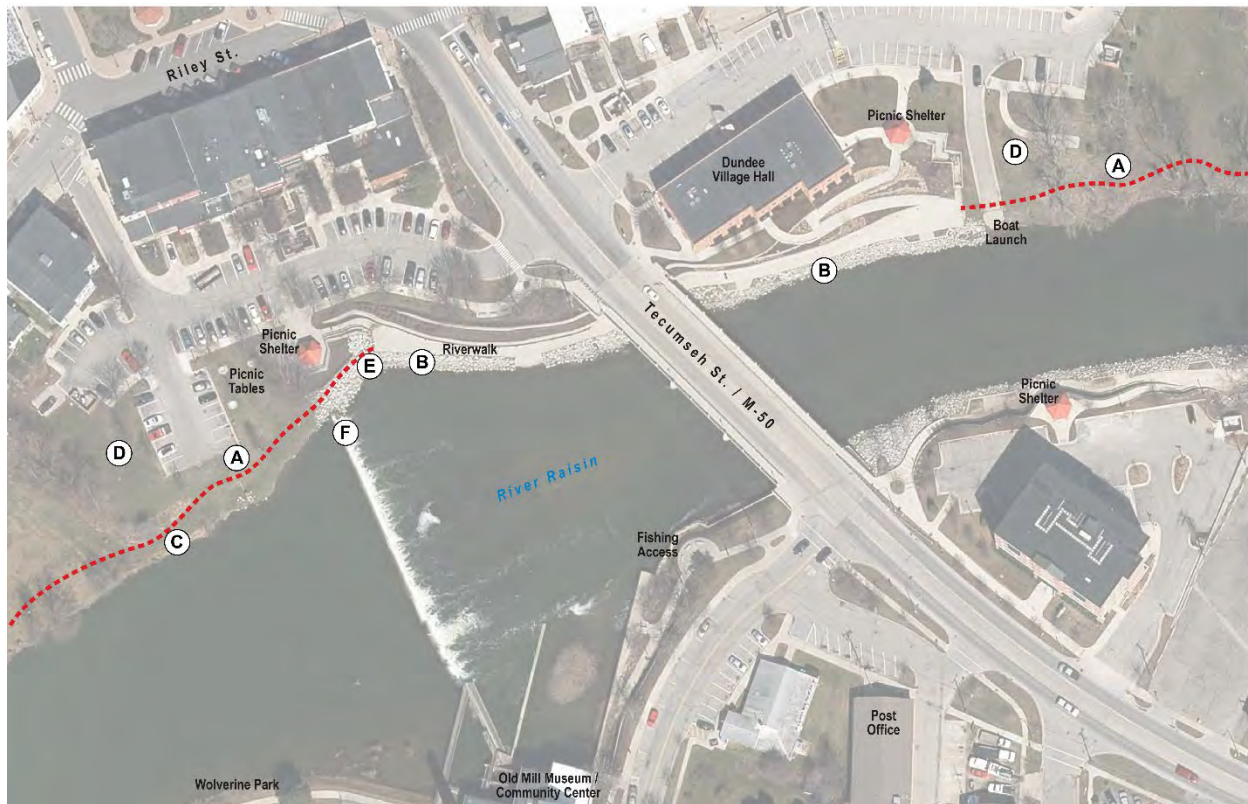


3. Maintain and improve Riverwalk and East/West Ford Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Extend riverwalk as feasible.
- B. Add a fishing dock/station along the shoreline.
- C. Install a landing along the river's north side and upstream of the dam to accommodate a portage to the Village Hall property boat launch.
- D. Add seating areas with benches.
- E. Improve general maintenance (clean out the rocks & trash).
- F. If feasible, construct a fish ladder to facilitate fish and small boat passage at the dam.

Figure 13. Riverwalk and Ford Park Improvements



4. Maintain and improve Wolverine Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add play equipment (such as additional swings, sensory board, permanent corn holes, chess game tables, or other).
- B. Replace bumper barrier along parking lot with a raised sidewalk curb.
- C. Provide an accessible route to the pickleball courts.
- D. Add fishing dock/station along the shoreline.
- E. Enclose pickleball courts and potentially add shade structure with benches.
- F. Add seating areas with benches (bench swings).
- G. Add a drinking water with bottle refill, fountain, & pet levels.
- H. Consider installing permanent restrooms.
- I. Consider adding a splash pad or other park activity area leaving the large open space open for events.

Figure 14. Wolverine Park Improvements

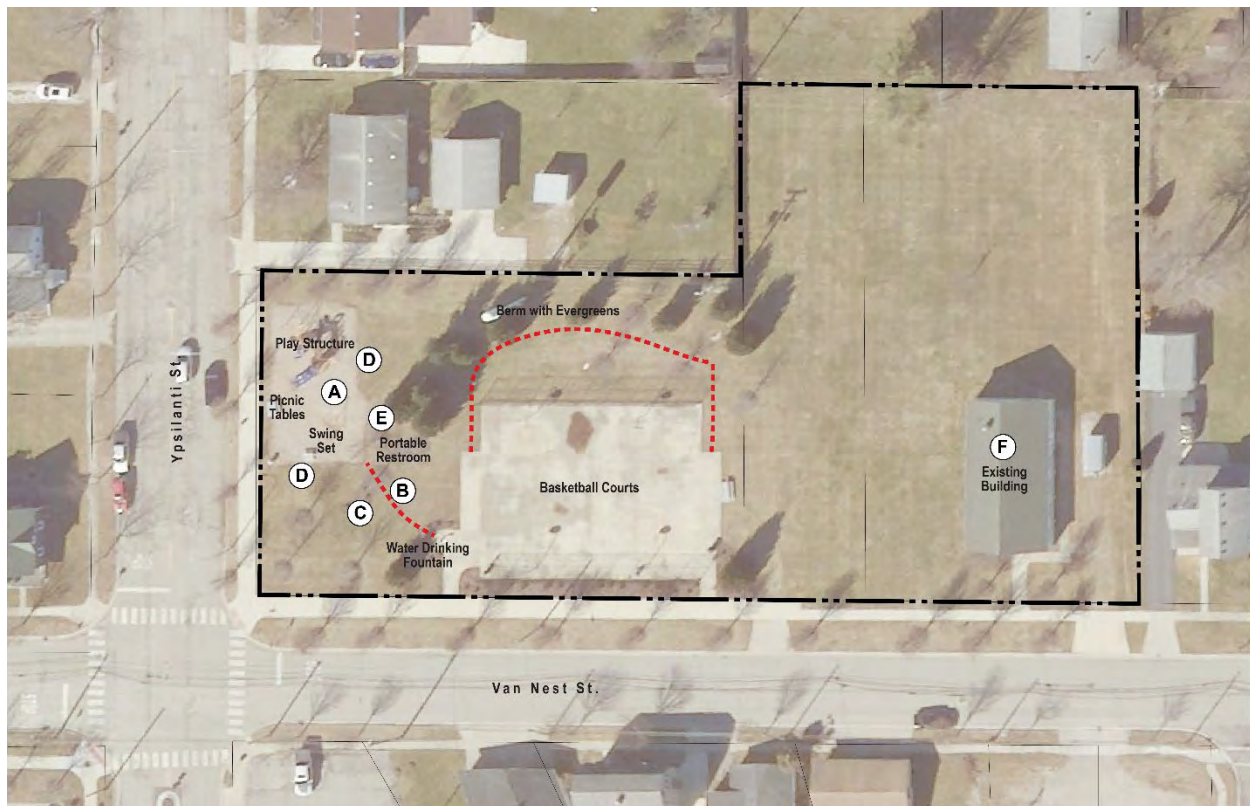


5. Maintain and improve Waterworks Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add swings and other play equipment.
- B. Provide accessible routes to the park activity areas.
- C. Add a signature Dundee picnic shelter.
- D. Add seating areas with benches.
- E. Add a drinking water with bottle refill, fountain, & pet levels.
- F. Once plans for the existing building are finalized, develop a site plan for the east part of the property that may include walkways, a splash pad, and other park amenities.

Figure 15. Waterworks Park Improvements



6. Maintain and improve Reggie's Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add accessible routes to the park's activity areas.
- B. Provide a concrete pad by storage building for the portable restrooms.
- C. Continue to improve the fields as needed (drainage and grading).
- D. Consider building picnic shelter.
- E. Maintain the tree buffer along the property boundaries.

Figure 16. Reggie's Park Improvements

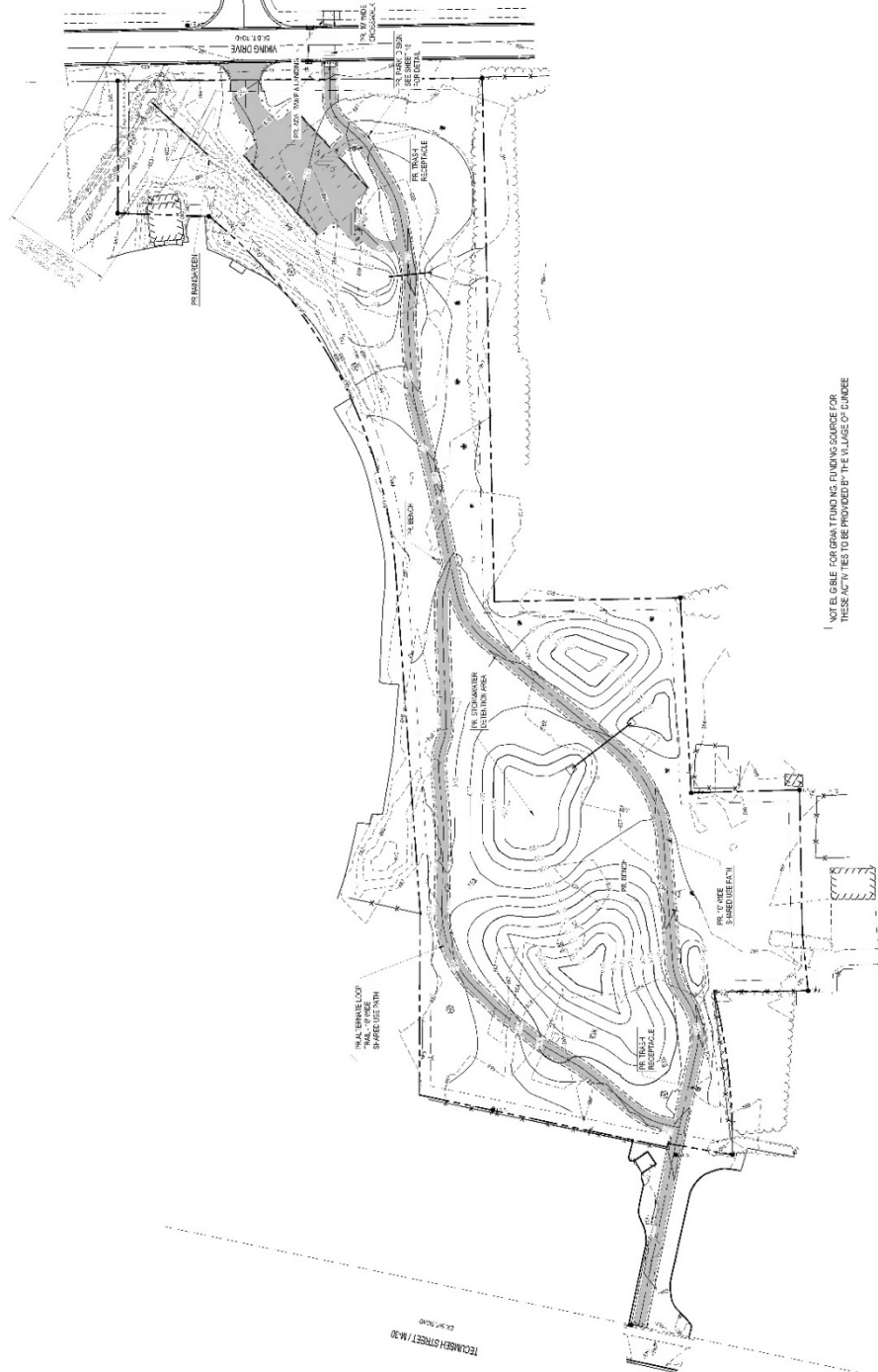


7. Develop Viking Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Construct the planned shared-use path, small parking area, and install park amenities.
- B. Restore the remainder of the park as a natural area.
- C. Develop an outdoor classroom in a natural setting along the park's north side.
- D. Develop additional walkways, fitness stations, and equipment.
- E. Add a picnic shelter with tables and benches.
- F. Consider the addition of a fenced-in dog park.

Figure 19. Viking Park Improvements



8. Maintain and improve Arbor Chase Subdivision Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add an accessible route to playstructure
- B. Work cooperatively with the Arbor Chase Subdivision homeowner's association for any addition to the play equipment and park activity areas

Figure 17. Arbor Chase Subdivision Park Improvements



9. Maintain and improve Westside Park.

Suggested improvements include:

- A. Add accessible routes to the park activity areas.
- B. Add seating areas with benches.
- C. Consider adding portable restroom.

Figure 18. Westside Park Improvements



10. Continue to develop an interconnected system of pedestrian pathways and water trails.

This action includes:

- A. Continue to develop and promote water trails with new canoe/kayak landings, creation of a dam bypass for both fish and small boat passage, and additional opportunities for fishing.
- B. Determine the feasibility of an extended Riverwalk along both sides of the River Raisin.
- C. Ensure parks are bicycle friendly with pathways that are sufficiently wide, available bicycle parking, and appropriate amenities such as drinking fountains, fix-it stations, and rest areas.
- D. Develop a Village-wide non-motorized plan containing a mix of on-street and off-street bicycle accommodations to connect the Village parks, neighborhoods, and community facilities.
- E. Support the adoption of a “complete streets” policy for the Village and implement complete streets infrastructure with street construction and improvement projects.

11. Acquire and develop future parkland for the long-term development of both neighborhood and community parks to meet the recreational needs of Village residents.

- A. Seek opportunities for parkland acquisition particularly properties that would present opportunities for neighborhood and community park development as well as land that would serve for pathway development.
- B. Encourage the preservation of open space and natural areas associated with the River Raisin.

12. Seek opportunities to collaborate with a variety of partners to ensure the efficient development, operation, maintenance, and stewardship of Village parks.

- A. Continue to provide opportunities for recreational programs within Village parks and partner with community groups including the Dundee Area Business Association, the Downtown Development Authority, the Historical Preservation Society of Dundee (Dundee Old Mill Museum and Banquet Hall), the Dundee Area Senior Citizen Center, the Dundee Recreation Commission (Rod Park), as well as the Dundee Community Schools, area churches, and others that have common recreational goals supported by the Village.
- B. Increase volunteer partnership efforts to use and improve the Village parks.
- C. Work with the River Raisin Watershed Council, Monroe County, other state and regional agencies to protect the water quality of the River Raisin, remove invasive species, and restore natural habitat.
- D. Participate in statewide (mParks, Michigan Recreation and Park Association) and regional parks and recreation groups (SEMCOG Parks and Recreation Task Force) for advocacy, resources, and professional development opportunities.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Table 14 lists the individual projects along with the specific tasks to be accomplished, the project objective reference, a cost estimate, and potential funding sources. In addition, the projects are listed in a sequential order and a time frame for completion has been assigned. Short-term (ST) projects are recommended for completion within one to two years while long-term (LT) projects may take longer to be completed, within five to six years. Mid-term is between the two (MT). On-going projects (OG) include activities occurring on a regular basis.

Table 14. Capital Improvement Schedule

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
Memorial (Triangle) Park				
Add interpretive signage.	1	\$1,000	Gen. Fund	ST
Riverwalk and East/West Ford Park				
Conduct a feasibility study to extend Riverwalk east and west along the north side of the River Raisin.	1 + 2	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	MT
Add fishing stations.	1	\$5,000	Gen. Fund	ST
Add canoe/kayak launch along north side of the River.	1 + 2	\$50,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Add seating areas.	1 + 2			
If feasible, construct a fish ladder for fish and small boat passage at the dam.	1 + 2	\$170,000	Gen. Fund & Grant	MT
Wolverine Park				
Install additional play equipment such as a sensory board, permanent corn holes, ping pong tables, and chess tables.	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Replace bumper barrier along parking lot with a safer alternative.	1	\$175,000	Gen. Fund & Grant	ST
Provide an accessible route to pickleball courts.	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Add a fishing dock along the River.	1 + 2	\$75,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	LT
Add seating areas and a water drinking fountain.	1	\$5,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Install permanent restrooms, if determined to be feasible.	1	\$250,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	MT
Consider adding a splash pad.	1	\$150,000 to \$350,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	MT
Plant trees for shade and restore native vegetation buffer along the riverbank.	1 + 2	Tbd	Gen. Fund & Grant	OG
Waterworks Park				
Add swings and other play equipment.	1	\$50,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Provide accessible walkways to the park's activity areas.	1	\$150,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	MT
Add seating and a trademark Dundee gazebo/picnic shelter.	1	\$100,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Add a water refill station for pets.	1	\$10,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Develop other park facilities once future plans for building are determined.	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	LT

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
Reggie's Park				
Add accessible walkways to the park's activity areas.	1	\$150,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Add concrete pad for portable restrooms.	1	\$120,000	Gen. Fund & Don.	MT
Improve the fields (leveling and drainage).	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund	MT
Consider building a picnic shelter.	1	\$25,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Enhance the sound and visual barrier from the highway and residential neighborhood.	1	\$10,000	Gen. Fund & Don.	OG
Viking Park				
Construct Phase I site improvements including the multi-use pathway, secondary walkways connecting to activity areas, small parking area, benches, signage, and general site landscaping and site restoration.	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Install additional park facilities including, but not limited to, a fenced-in dog park, fitness stations, an outdoor classroom, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, and benches.	1	\$125,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Install fitness stations along walkways.	1	\$150,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	
Arbor Chase Subdivision Park				
Provide accessible walkways to the park's activity areas and add more seating.	1	Tbd	Gen. Fund & Grant	ST
Westside Park				
Add accessible walkways to park's activity areas along with a few benches.	1	\$25,000	Gen. Fund	ST
Consider adding a portable restroom.	1	\$5,000	Gen. Fund	MT
Pedestrian/Bike Network and Water Trails				
Ensure parks are bicycle friendly with bicycle parking, drinking fountains, fix-it stations, and rest areas.	3	Tbd	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	OG
Develop a Village-wide non-motorized plan .	3	\$15,000	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Support the adoption of a "complete streets" policy for the Village and the implementation of complete streets infrastructure with street construction and improvement projects.	3	-	Gen. Fund, Grant & Don.	ST
Park Land Acquisition				
Acquire land which offer a location, setting, and size appropriate for neighborhood and community parks and for the Riverwalk extension.	4	Tbd	Gen Fund, Grants & Don	OG
Encourage the preservation of open space and natural areas associated with the River Raisin.	2 + 4	-	Gen Fund, Grant & Don	OG

Project/Tasks	Goal	Cost Estimate	Funding Source	Time Frame
Collaboration, Partnerships, and Administration				
Continue to provide opportunities for recreational programs within Village parks and partner with community groups	5	- -		OG
Increase volunteer partnerships	5	- -		OG
Work with the River Raisin Watershed Council, Monroe County, other state and regional agencies to protect the water quality of the River Raisin, remove invasive species, and restore natural habitat	5	- -		OG
Participate in statewide (Michigan Recreation and Park Association) and regional parks and recreation groups (SEMCOG Parks and Recreation Task Force) for advocacy, resources, and professional development opportunities	5	- -		OG
Develop an annual capital improvement budget and matenance program for Village Council’s budget process	1	- -		OG

Tbd: To be determined, Gen. Fund: General Fund, Don.: Donations
 Cost estimates are for budgetary purposes only.



IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

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, MDOT, in conjunction with SEMCOG, funds Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). A minimum 20 percent local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted online on an on-going basis. Activities may 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 State Funding

At the state level, the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) continue to be the primary funding sources for park land acquisition and development. The Recreation Passport grant also offers some state funding to local units of government.

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% 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 \$400,000 in 2024. Applications are typically due by April 1st each year.

The LWCF is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service, which distributes funds to the MDNR for development of outdoor recreation facilities. The focus of the program has recently been on meeting community recreation needs such as playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields, and walking paths. Minimum grant requests were \$30,000 and maximum grant requests were \$500,000 in 2024. The match percentage is 50% of the total project cost. Applications are due by April 1st each year.

The Recreation Passport grant program offers funding for the development of outdoor public recreation facilities for local units of government. Minimum grant requests are \$7,500 and maximum requests are \$150,000 in 2024. The local match obligation was 25% of the total project cost. Applications are usually due by April 1st each year.

Other funding programs conducted in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Fisheries Habitat Grant Program) and the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grant Programs).

Other funding conducted in partnership with the MDNR is available through other state government divisions, such as the Fisheries Division (Inland Fisheries Grants) and the Forest Resources Division (Community Forestry Grants). The Inland Fisheries program considers projects that enhance habitat and fisheries, riparian property for public fishing use, water quality, and ecology. Minimum grant requests are \$25,000 and maximum requests are \$1.6 million depending on the theme in 2025. The local match obligation is 10% of the total project cost. Applications are due on January 10, 2025.

Municipalities may use Community Forestry grants to develop a management plan for a municipal forest which would include a component targeting outreach to private landowners. Grant requests range from \$5,000 to \$30,000 depending on project category. Applications for fiscal year 2025 were due on September 20, 2024.

DTE Energy Foundation and Consumers Energy (CE) also offer tree planting grants for up to \$4,000 for DTE and \$3,000 for CE to local municipalities in its service areas. Applications are due in October (DTE) or July (CE) with awards announced in June for the DTE Energy Foundation program.

Apply for Other Grant Funding

There are also a variety of smaller grant programs available for the establishment of greenways/ pathways or greenway-related facilities such as PeopleForBikes. PeopleForBikes is sponsored by the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories: facility, education, and capacity building. In the past, requests for funding could be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and safe routes to school. Applications for 2025 are not yet announced.

The DALMAC Fund also contributes grants to expand bicycling in Michigan. A total of \$130,000 were awarded in 2024 with typical grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000. The next round of applications will be due on March 1, 2025 with final decisions made by May 15, 2025.

Seek Other Sources of Funding

The Village of Dundee should investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should continue to be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park acquisition and development.