

Parks and Recreation Plan

City of Linden

GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016
Adopted April 23, 2012

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Letter of Transmittal to Genesee County

Letter of Transmittal to GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission

Recreation plays a major role in the lives of the residents of the City of Linden. The community was formed around a natural waterway on the Shiawassee River. The River and Mill Pond have become a destination place for residents of the City and citizens in the region.

Purpose of the Plan

The 2012-2016 City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan was prepared by the City to serve as a guide and decision making document for future recreation facilities and programs. The Plan presents an inventory of existing facilities and programs within the community as well as an evaluation of opportunities and needs. The Plan considers the existing facilities in and around the community, as well as the anticipated demand for additional or improved facilities and programs. The Plan also includes goals, objectives and a 5-Year Action Plan.

The jurisdiction of this Recreation Plan includes the geographical limits of the City of Linden.

The Plan is also intended to enable the City to apply for funding assistance from various agencies to work toward implementing the documented recommendations. This Plan provides for five years of grant eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

The most recent Parks and Recreation Plan was adopted in 2003. It included long term goals, some of which were accomplished in the following years. Accomplishments in the last five (5) years included:

- Construction of sidewalks on East Broad Street,
- Improvements to the Mill Pond area by installing enhanced landscaping and benches,
- Construction of sidewalks on Tickner Street,
- Construction of sidewalks on North and South Bridge Street.

Planning Process

The process used to generate the Master Plan consisted of three (3) phases:

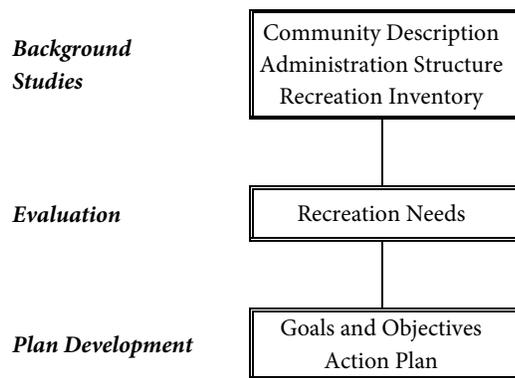
1. *Background Studies*
2. *Evaluation*
3. *Plan Development*

Background studies involved gathering and updating information from existing documents and plans such as the 2010 United States Census Bureau data. The information is organized into three (3) main categories:

1. *Community Description*
2. *Administrative Structure of the Parks and Recreation Commission*
3. *Recreation Inventory*

The second phase in the planning process involved evaluation and analysis of the gathered data and included community input to determine recreation facilities and program needs. The Parks and Recreation Plan was developed following the update of the City’s Master Land Use Plan. Community input was sought through several public meetings early in the process. A recreation needs survey was also conducted in December 2010 to analyze the view of City residents on issues pertaining to parks and recreation.

Finally, the last phase in the process entailed plan development and adoption. Goals, objectives, and a 5-Year Action Plan were formulated based on the input gathered. The following diagram illustrates the process and the corresponding requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

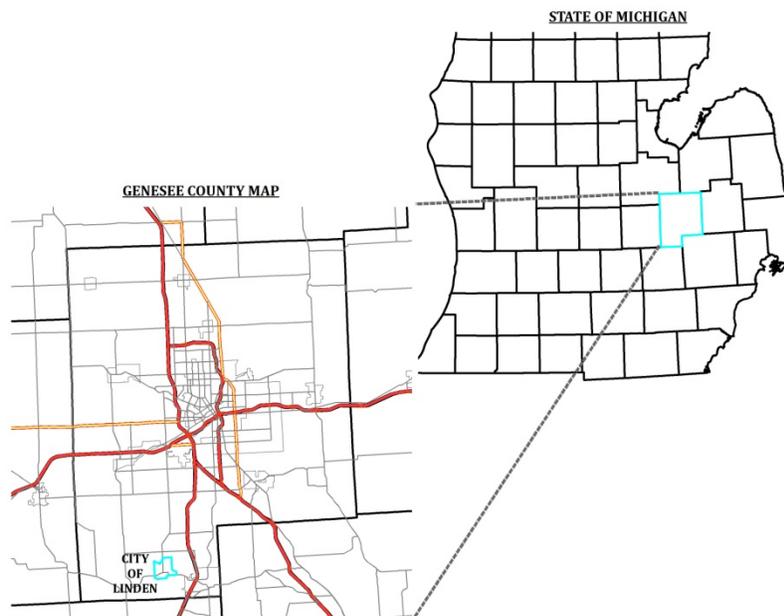


The Linden Parks and Recreation Plan was developed with input from members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, City staff, and the residents of Linden. All meetings were open to the public and input was sought during all phases of the planning process. The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed future goals and specific action steps regarding the Recreation Plan at many meetings throughout 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Community Description

The Village of Linden was officially incorporated in 1871. The name Linden came from the Linden trees that were dominant in the area. In December 1988, the Village was officially incorporated as a City.

The City of Linden is situated in southwestern Genesee County, approximately 22 miles southwest of the City of Flint. The City is surrounded by Fenton Township, while other nearby regional communities include the City of Fenton, Argentine Township, and Tyrone Township in Livingston County.



Map 1
Regional Context

The allure of the City of Linden is that it still maintains its small town charm of the past. As the trend to return to traditional small towns grows in the United States, the charm of Linden’s downtown commercial/residential area, along with its high quality of life, will continue to attract people to Linden. Maintaining the character of the City will be an important issue for the future of the community.

Historical Background

The southern tiers of Michigan’s counties already were being settled by the beginning of the nineteenth century, but the land between Detroit (to the south) and St. Ignace (to the north) remained a virtually untouched wilderness of woods, swamps and rivers. During the 1820s and 1830s, however, settlers began moving north in search of good farm lands and thick stands of marketable hardwoods and softwoods. The settlers’ need for water power generally led the settlers to select town sites along rivers which could be

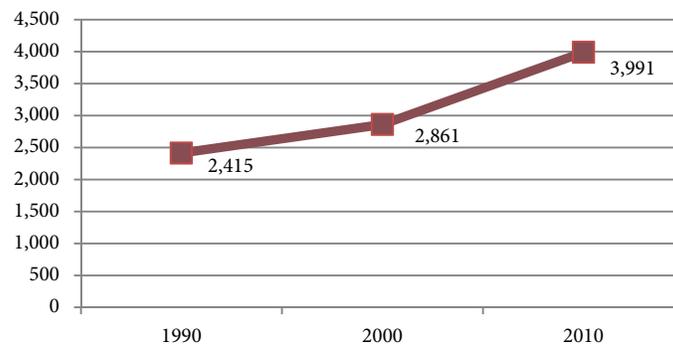
channeled and dammed. Such was the beginning of Linden, located at a convenient bend in the Shiawassee River.

Mills were constructed along the Shiawassee in Linden to support the lumber industry. In the 1840s, a fire destroyed many of the original buildings. The grist mill was rebuilt in the 1850s and still stands as the signature landmark of the community. The area around the mill continued to grow. In the 1800s, the primary products being produced in Linden were buggies and barrels. After World War II, the factories in Flint needed workers and Linden quickly became a bedroom community. The mill ceased operations and was eventually converted into a community building, which now houses a local library, museum and the City Council Chambers.

Demographics

The City of Linden’s population has increased steadily since 1990 due to a substantial amount of new housing starts and development in the City. Between 1990 and 2000, the City’s population grew by 15.6%. Between 2000 and 2010, the population increased by 39.5%. As of 2010, the City’s population stands at 3,991 residents. Linden’s population growth between 2000 and 2010 was exceptional when compared to other municipalities in Genesee County and the State. No other municipality in Genesee County grew at a faster rate than the City of Linden between 2000 and 2010. Additionally, Linden’s 39.5% growth places it as the 5th fastest growing City or Village in the State of Michigan. Figure 1 below illustrates the growth that has occurred over the last thirty (30) years. The City’s significant population increase over the past two decades generally points to the need to develop new parks and recreation facilities to accommodate a growing population.

Figure 1
Population Growth



Over the years, the City of Linden’s median age has been steadily increasing. In 2010, the median age of Linden’s residents was 39.5 years. This represents an increase of 2.9 percent from its median age in 2000 (38.4 years). Significantly, the City’s percentage of the population over 65 years increased from 16.7 in 2000 (478 residents) to 19.9 percent in 2010 (795 residents). These statistics generally point to the need for recreational facilities that are desired by, and accessible to, an aging populace.

Based on the United States Census information in 2010, the City of Linden had a total of 1,695 housing units, which represents an increase of 38.3% from the total housing units in 2000 (1,226 units). Of the 1,552 occupied housing units, 1,289 or 83.1% were owner occupied versus 263 or 16.9% that were rental units.

Housing types and styles vary in the City. Close to the downtown, homes were predominantly built prior to 1940. The core neighborhoods still maintain the small-town character and charm attributed to Linden. Newer developments have occurred on the outer edges of the City which result in more modern development patterns. The recently constructed Caretel Inns of Linden assisted living facility, located just south of downtown, added more than 100 units to the City’s housing stock.

Traditionally, the unemployment rate in the City of Linden has been low due to many residents working in neighboring communities. However, in recent years, due to the downturn in the State of Michigan’s economy, unemployment has been increasing. The unemployment rate for Genesee County currently stands at 11.9% (December 2010 as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics). The following table indicates employment statistics for people over the age of 16, as reported in the Census Bureau’s 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates:

**Figure 2
Employment by Occupation**

OCCUPATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Managerial & Professional	710	47.4%
Service	128	8.5%
Sales & Office	344	23.0%
Natural Resources, Construction & Maintenance	117	7.8%
Production & Transportation	199	13.3%
TOTAL	1,498	100.0%

Natural Features

Even though the City of Linden is largely developed, the City contains many valuable natural features that contribute to the character and quality of life for the residents in the City. These areas, as described below, should be considered during the process of identifying new lands for recreational development and when considering new or expanded recreational facilities.

Topography

The City of Linden is predominantly flat with elevations ranging from 850 feet to 910 feet above sea level. Elevations increase north of the railroad tracks but not significantly. Vacant parcels that remain in the City do not contain elevation restraints that would discourage future development.

Wetlands and Watercourses

The Shiawassee River and its associated wetlands serve as the predominant water body in the City of Linden. The river is controlled by a dam, which has created the Mill Pond just east of Bridge Street. Houses border the Mill Pond, which provides an opportunity for fishing and canoeing.

Located on the southwestern edge of the City is Byram Lake, which is 132 acres in size. Byram Lake is an all-sports lake with a maximum depth of fifty (50) feet surrounded by residential homes. Swimming is also available through the Linden County Park, located on the east side of the lake. However, the lake does not have public boat access.

The City of Linden has several wetland areas, located primarily in the western and northeastern portions of the City. All of these wetlands are regulated by the State of Michigan. A regulated wetland is defined as any wetland over five (5) acres in size that is connected to a river or other body of water. The City does not currently have a wetlands protection ordinance that further regulates wetlands.

Woodlands and Street Trees

Although Linden is almost fully developed, several areas remain heavily wooded. The Shiawassee River corridor remains in its natural setting with dense vegetation surrounding the river. A large woodland is located just east of Linden Elementary School off of Stan Eaton Drive. This property is owned by the Linden School District.

Road Network

In the City of Linden, nearly all of the roads are under the City's jurisdiction. Therefore, the City is responsible for all maintenance of the road and its right-of-way, which includes utilities, snow clearing and paving. Genesee County has control over two (2) small portions of the road network on Silver Lake Road, from Ripley Road to the eastern City limits, and Ripley Road, from E. Rolston Road to the northern City limits.

Nearly five (5) miles of the road network are classified as major roads. These include Bridge Street, Broad Street, Hickory Street, E. Rolston Road and Ripley Road. The major roads are in good condition and were repaved in the late 1990's. The remaining roads are classified as local streets. A major construction project was completed in the Fall of 2007 known as the Ten Streets Project. All ten (10) streets are located north of the Mill Pond and east of N. Bridge Street. The streets were all repaved and storm water controls were installed.

There is only one (1) major route for east-west and north-south traffic through the City of Linden. Therefore, circulation and traffic is mainly limited to Bridge Street and Broad Street. As population increases and housing developments continue to be built in neighboring communities, traffic counts will continue to increase and will place an increased burden on these roads.

Complete Streets

Complete Streets is a planning and design concept that provides safe access for all road users across the entire right-of-way. Users include motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders of all ages and

abilities. During the planning and design of a road project, the complete streets concept would require the consideration of any relevant accommodations that are necessary or appropriate to serve these users. The many benefits of a complete street design include improved safety, quality of life, mobility, economic development, public health and active living. To promote complete streets and recognize these benefits within the City of Linden, the City Council recently passed a complete streets resolution. Presently, North Bridge Street and West Broad Street generally include the necessary components of a complete street, including sidewalks and bike lanes.

Community Facilities

The City of Linden has more than 13 acres of City-owned recreational property, including four City-operated parks.

In regard to City-owned facilities, the City Hall is located on E. Broad Street in the downtown. The City Hall contains the City Administration, Police Department and Fire Department. The Public Works Garage is located west of N. Bridge Street, north of the Shiawassee River. The Linden Mill Building houses the library, historical society museum and City Council Chambers.

Linden Community Schools operates two elementary schools within the City: Linden Elementary and Hyatt Elementary.

Existing Land Use Pattern

The below narrative presents a generalized picture of existing land uses in the City. The City of Linden Existing Land Use Map, as developed for the City of Linden Master Plan, is included at the end of this chapter.

Single Family Residential

The predominant land use in the City is single family residential. The large number of single family homes adds to the diversity in the City. Construction of housing spans many years and creates a variety of architecture that adds to the appeal of Linden. Some houses were built during the time when the mill was rebuilt. The historic homes are located in the downtown area while modern single family homes are being developed in outer areas of the City on formerly vacant land.

Attached Single Family Residential

Although only a small portion of the housing stock, the City has seen a recent increase in the construction of attached single family residential dwellings. These units are sometimes confused with duplex structures but the key difference is that each unit is independently owned. This type of unit is typically a site condominium and has proven attractive to people that desire less yard maintenance than with a single family home.

Two-Family Residential

Two-family residential structures are buildings with two units under single ownership. The duplexes in Linden are generally older structures, are scattered throughout the community, and are intermingled with single family housing.

Multiple Family Residential

Only a small portion of the City's remaining housing stock is multiple family. Multiple family buildings are located near the southern city limits (one of which is federally subsidized), the eastern city limits, and the northern city limits.

Manufactured Housing

The Shiawassee Shores Community, located in the northwest portion of the City, accounts for all two hundred sixty-four (264) units of manufactured homes in a land-lease development in Linden. The community is well maintained and offers an exceptional quality of living for the residents. The homes are placed upon foundations (some upon basements), providing an added benefit to the homes. Additional amenities include a private executive golf course and a pavilion for the residents.

Public and Semi-Public

Several areas throughout the City are utilized for public use. The historic Linden Mill Building, which houses the local library and museum, is the focal point of the City located on the banks of the Shiawassee River. Other public areas include Fairview Cemetery (owned and maintained by the City).

Commercial

Other than the immediate downtown area, commercial districts are located near the western city limits on W. Broad Street and near the northern city limits on N. Bridge Street. These commercial districts are separated from the downtown area by traditional residential neighborhoods. Most of the businesses within the City are small, locally-owned businesses, but a few national franchises have established operations within the City as well.

Office

Low-intensity office uses are found along S. Bridge Street and Main Street. These are primarily medical and dental offices in one-story buildings, located in close proximity to adjacent residential neighborhoods. Although office uses are also found downtown, offices requiring larger amounts of off-street parking are located in the Office Zoning District.

Central Business District

The Central Business District encompasses the historic downtown Linden. This area consists of several small, locally-owned businesses occupying the street level of historic buildings. Some buildings contain second-story residential apartments. City Hall and the Fire Department are also located in the downtown.

Industrial

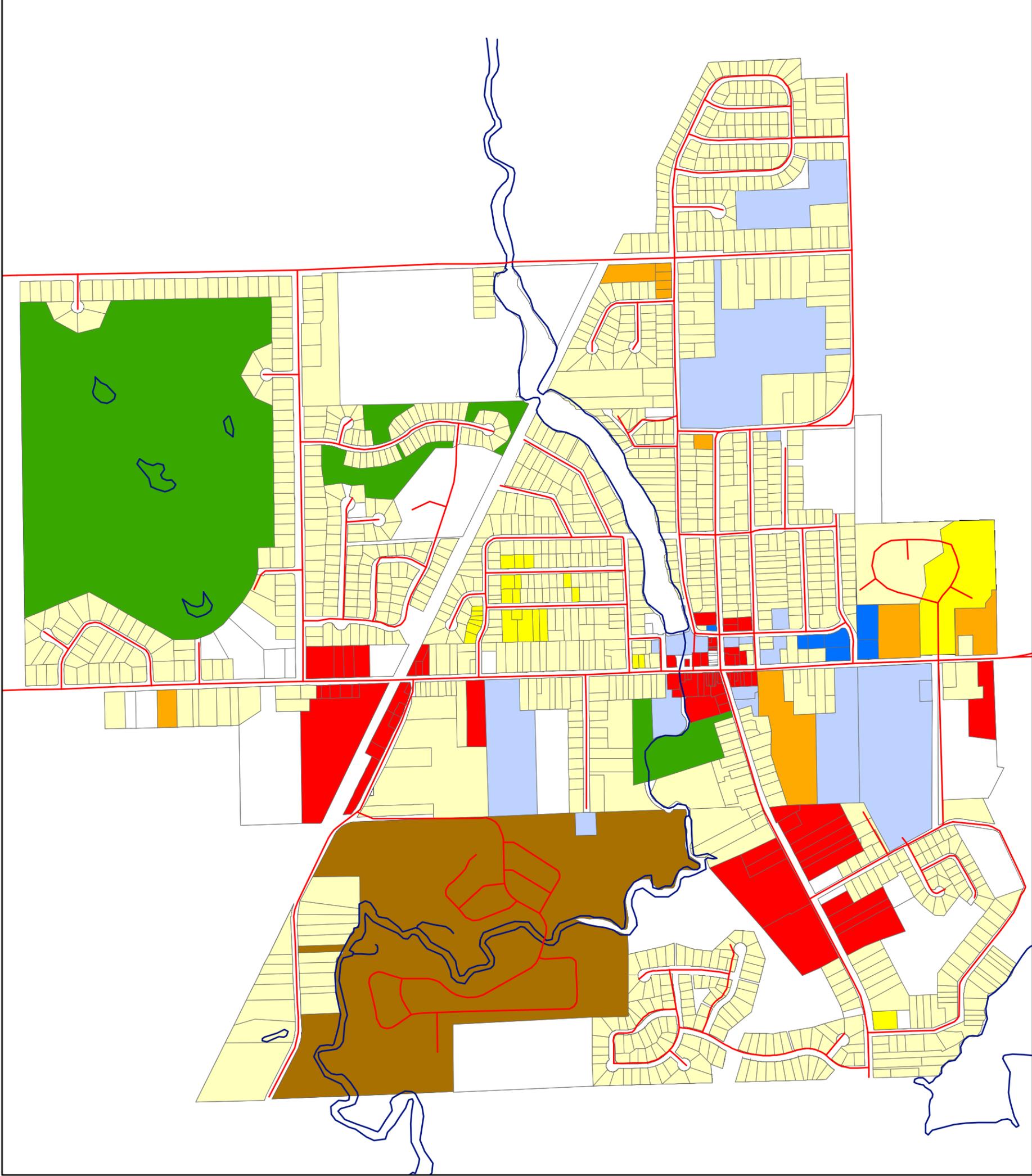
No industrial operations are present in the City, due primarily to the limited availability of suitable land and close proximity to industrial developments in neighboring communities.

CITY OF LINDEN

MASTER PLAN

- Vacant
- Single Family Residential
- Two Family Residential
- Multiple Family Residential
- Mobile Homes
- Office
- Commercial
- Public-Semi Public
- Open Space
- Industrial

MAP 3 EXISTING LAND USE



Administrative Structure

The following describes how parks and recreation facilities, activities and resources are governed and administrated within the City of Linden. The function of the various entities with recreation responsibilities and the overall administrative hierarchy of the City is outlined. Additionally, City expenditure and revenue trends are summarized.

Public Act 156 of 1917 (Local Government, Operate System of Public Recreation) authorizes cities, villages, counties, townships, and school districts to operate local recreation facilities and recreation systems. The Act states that a city, village, county or township may operate a system of public recreation and playgrounds, acquire, equip and maintain land, buildings or other recreation facilities, employ a superintendent of recreation and assistants and vote and expend funds for the operation of systems.

City Organizational Structure

The Linden City Council, elected by the residents, is the primary authority in the City. As the legislative body of the City of Linden, the City Council is responsible for adopting all policies, rules, regulations and ordinances relating to the operation, maintenance, facility development and financing of parks and recreation programming and facilities. Additionally, the City Council has the ultimate responsibility for recreation and is responsible for the adoption of this Parks and Recreation Plan.

Linden has a “Strong Manager/Weak Mayor” form of government. The City Manager serves at the pleasure of the City Council and runs all day-to-day activities in the City. The City Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer of the City, and as such, oversees the daily administration of parks and recreation facilities and programs. The City Manager is appointed by the City Council. He is responsible for making recommendations to the City Council on parks and recreation programming, development and financing in accordance with the Master Plan and city budget constraints. The City Manager is also responsible for the proper procurement and administration of grant funding and grant programs related to parks and recreation.

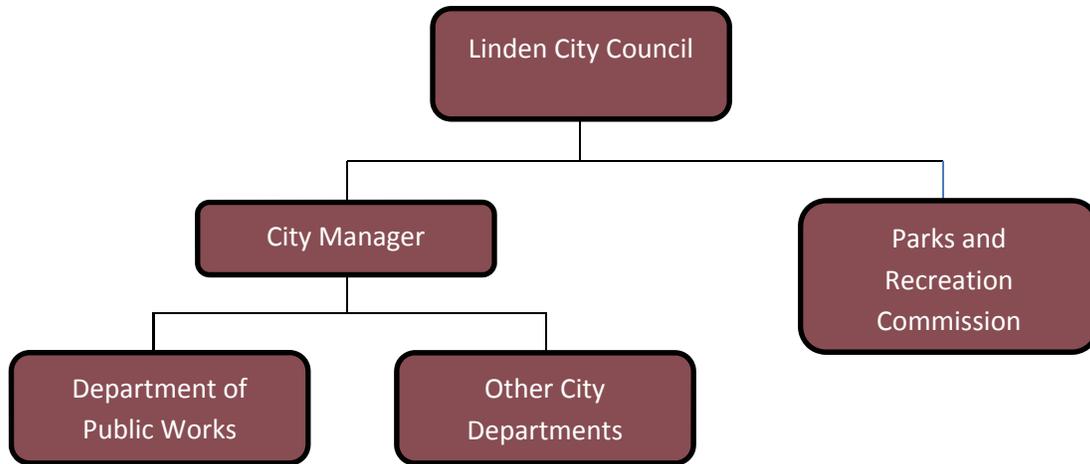
The Parks and Recreation Commission consists of 7 members including 1 City Council liaison and 6 residents. Members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the City Council. The Commission is responsible for advising the City Manager and City Council on parks and recreation policies, projects and programs. Its mission is to ensure facilities and programs provide the maximum benefit to the community and individual.

The City’s Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the daily maintenance and upkeep of park grounds, buildings and equipment. The DPW oversees maintenance activities and reports to, and takes direction from the City Manager.

Volunteer groups are an integral part of the City’s efforts to maintain and conduct special projects in park areas on a yearly basis. These include spring clean-ups, playground maintenance and even construction of additional facilities in the City’s parks.

The organizational structure of the City is outlined in the chart below:

**Figure 3
City Organizational Chart**



Recreation Funding and Budget

Parks and recreation facilities and services are supported primarily by the Linden general fund. Major improvements and construction funding have been through private donations and the procurement of grants such as The Land Trust and Community Development Block Grants. A breakdown of the budget is as follows, by year:

**Figure 4
Parks and Recreation Budget**

	Fiscal Year		
	08-09	09-10	10-11
<i>Salaries</i>	\$8,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
<i>Parks Maintenance</i>	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$7,000
<i>Parks Commission</i>	\$0	\$4,000	\$2,500

The residents of the City of Linden are able to take advantage of a variety of local and regional recreational resources. In addition to the parks and recreation facilities available in the City, the Linden School District and private entities also play a key role in providing recreational opportunities.

This section details the recreation inventory of the City, schools, private and regional recreation facilities using information compiled from previous recreation plans, a field survey and City staff.

City Parks Facilities

The City has four parks facilities inside its jurisdiction, all of which are owned by the City of Linden. They are as follows:

Linden Mills Park

This 2.19 acre community park is located immediately behind the Historic Linden Mill on the Shiawassee River in downtown Linden. The park features a natural amphitheater built into a hillside, gazebo, an operating waterwheel, canoe launch and fishing opportunities. Walkways over the dam link the Library and Historical Museum to the park. The park is served by a hard surfaced parking lot, with access provided from Mill Street.

The park is frequently used for community-wide events. These include the popular Music by the Mill and Movies by the Mill events. Additionally, a Farmers' Market is set up at the park and is open one day a week for ten weeks during the summer.

Mill Pond Park

This 0.23 acre mini-park is located on the south shore of the Mill Pond adjacent to Linden Mills Park. This park features a volunteer-built and maintained butterfly garden, picnic table and benches. No parking area serves the park; however, the park is in close proximity to a City-owned parking lot.

Triangle Park

Located along Silver Lake Road in the southeastern portion of the City, this 1.26 acre neighborhood park is currently utilized for casual picnicking and other passive activities. Aside from a "welcome to Linden" sign, this open space area does not include any recreational facilities. No parking lot serves the park; however, a gravel access drive does offer some space for vehicular parking.

Walmar Park

Walmar Park is the largest of the City parks at 9.68 acres in size. This neighborhood park features a large play structure and picnic pavilion. Additionally, the park features boardwalks along the Shiawassee River that provide opportunities for the enjoyment of the natural river ecosystem. The park is served by a gravel parking area with access provided from W. Broad Street. The City Recreation Commission has recently been discussing the potential for renaming the park.

Photos of the City parks are included on this page and the following pages.

Linden Mills Park Photos



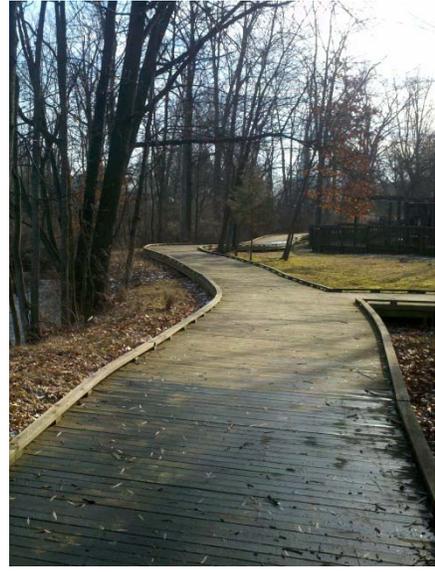
Mill Pond Park Photo



Triangle Park Photos



Walmar Park Photos



Recreation Inventory Map

Parks and Recreation Plan

City of Linden GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

2 City Parks:

1. Linden Mills Park
2. Mill Pond Park
3. Triangle Park
4. Walmar Park

- Private Recreation Facilities
- School Facilities
- Cemeteries
- Major Roads
- Other Roads
- Rivers and Streams
- Water Bodies
- Parcels
- City of Linden

Source: Wade Trim Field Survey, January 2012
January 2012



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School Facilities

The public school grounds in the City of Linden provide valuable recreation opportunities for residents. Public access to these facilities is dependent on school policies and is limited to when the facilities are not in use for school related activities. The following recreational facilities are located at the Linden Elementary School property:

- Gymnasium
- 4 baseball/softball fields
- 4 basketball hoops and ball shoot court
- Playground

The following recreational facilities are located at the Hyatt Elementary School property:

- Gymnasium
- 4 basketball hoops and ball shoot court
- 2 youth baseball fields
- Soccer field

Private Recreation Facilities

In addition to City and School-operated recreational facilities, several recreational facilities are operated by private institutions and are generally available for use by the general public. A description of these privately operated facilities is provided below.

Spring Meadows Country Club

Spring Meadows Country Club is a private country club located in the northeastern portion of the City. Established in 1957, the club has over the years seen dramatic growth and improvements to both the golf course and clubhouse. In 2007, Spring Meadows celebrated its 50th anniversary of providing its members with an ideal family oriented setting in which to entertain and relax with family, friends and business clients.

Loose Senior Citizen Center

Loose Senior Citizen Center (LSCC) is a community-based nonprofit organization that is firmly committed to addressing the needs and interests of the rapidly growing population segment of the Southern Lakes region 50 and over. LSCC provides or coordinates responsive programs and services that enhance dignity, support independence, and provide stimulating educational and recreational opportunities. In addition, LSCC is a trusted source of information about, and is an advocate for, programs and services that are important to adults over 50 years of age.

LSCC provides a broad range of high-quality programs and services, within a welcoming atmosphere, at both the Center's facilities and at other accessible locations throughout the service area. Because LSCC is committed to excellence, it subjects itself to national standards for senior center accreditation.

LSCC is open to all segments of the population age 50 and over, including the very old, the disabled and those of limited means. Further, LSCC serves those who are part of the social support system for adults age 50-plus, such as family caregivers.

Shiawassee Shores Golf Course

The Shiawassee Shores manufactured housing community, located in the northwest portion of the City, offers an executive golf course and a pavilion for use by its residents. This golf course is located among heavy woodlands near the Shiawassee River.

Faith Baptist Church

Significant to this Parks and Recreation Plan, the Faith Baptist Church site along the north side of Silver Lake Road offers one baseball/softball field.

Nearby Recreation Facilities

The City of Linden is surrounded by Fenton Township while other nearby regional communities include the City of Fenton, Argentine Township, and Tyrone Township in Livingston County. All of the surrounding communities offer a variety of recreation facilities that are generally accessible for residents of the City of Linden. These facilities are summarized in the following chart:

Figure 5
Nearby Recreation Facilities

NAME	ACRES	FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES	PUBLIC/ PRIVATE
Spring Meadows Country Club	160	18-hole golf course, swimming pool	Private
Tyrone Hills Golf Club		18-hole golf course	Private
Fenton Farms Golf Club	115	18-hole golf course, driving range	Public
Linden County Park	135	Swimming, picnicking, play areas, tennis, ball diamonds, newly-constructed bike/hike trail	Public
Myers Lake Resort	2.9	Boating, fishing, swimming, camping	Public
Linden Sportsman Club	20	Trap shooting, hunter safety classes, rifle range	Private
Swartz Creek Sportsman Club	40	Fishing, hunting	Private
Flint Bowman's Club	34	Archery	Private
Grand Blanc Golf Club	245	36-hole golf course	Public
AYSO Deer Run Soccer Park	40+	Soccer fields	Public
Silver Lake Park	40+	Swimming, picnicking	Public
Shiawassee Shores Golf Course	N/A	9-hole Par-3 golf course	Private
Mt. Holly Ski Area	N/A	14 downhill ski runs, 7 chairlifts	Public

Holly State Recreation Area	7,817	Camping, fishing, skiing, hiking, swimming, hunting, snowmobiling, Holly Woods Disc Golf Course, Holdridge mountain bike trail system	Public
Groveland Oaks County Park (Oakland County)	362	Picnicking, swimming, camping, waterslide, trails, mini golf course	Public

Shiawassee River Heritage Water Trail

Upstream from Linden, between the cities of Holly and Fenton, the Shiawassee River Heritage Water Trail provides the opportunity for canoers and kayakers to enjoy the natural habitat of the Shiawassee River. Presently, the water trail begins at WaterWorks Park in Holly and extends seven river miles to Strom Park in Fenton. The river in this area is shallow and slow moving, but features many twists and turns to add challenge for canoers and kayakers. The volunteer organization Headwaters Trails has added mile markers, interpretive signage, launch sites and trailhead parking. Future development of this Heritage Water Trail will enable extended trips to the west through Fenton, Linden and Byron in Genesee County and further northward toward Saginaw. It is hoped that future development of this Heritage Water Trail will enable extended trips to the west through Fenton, Linden and further into Shiawassee County.

Genesee County Recreational Facilities

Genesee County offers a variety of regional parks facilities that can be enjoyed by the citizens of Linden as well as the entire region. The closest county park, Linden County Park, is located just south of the City limits on Linden Road. A listing of the facilities provided at each park is provided below, while a map showing the county park locations follows this section.

Linden County Park

- Ball diamonds
- Beach
- Cross-country ski trails
- Paved multi-use trail
- Intermediate sledding and toboggan hill
- Pavilions
- Picnic areas and playground
- Snowmobile area
- Tennis courts

Flushing County Park

- Ball diamonds
- Cross-country ski trails
- Pavilion
- Picnic areas and playground
- Tennis courts

Bluebell Beach

- Pavilions
- Walking trail
- Beach

Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad

- Historic village and railroad

Stepping Stone Falls

- Man-made waterfall feature
- Picnic areas

Bluegill Boat Launch

- Boat launch
- Snowmobile areas

Buell Lake County Park

- Ball diamonds
- Pavilions
- Picnic areas and playground.
- Fishing site
- Radio-controlled model airplane field
- Snowmobile area

For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum

- Nature preserve
- Arboretum
- Hiking trails

Davison Roadside County Park

- Sledding hill
- Picnic area
- Pavilion

Everett A. Cummings Center

- Equestrian complex
- Waterfowl hunting
- Snowmobile area

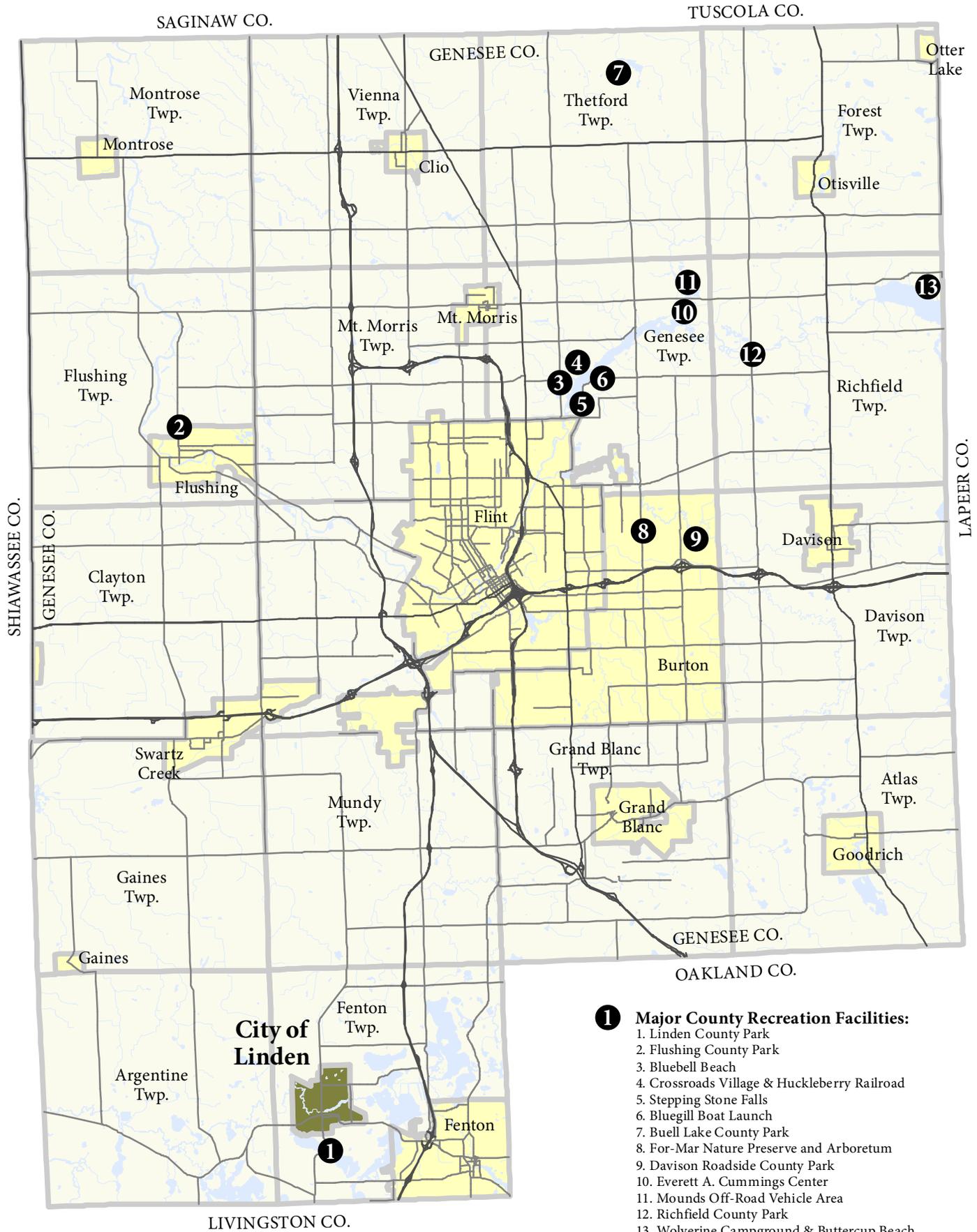
Mounds Off-Road Vehicle Area

- ORV area

Richfield County Park

- Ball diamonds
- Bicycle motocross track (BMX)
- Canoe launching site
- Cross-country ski trails
- Pavilion
- Picnic areas and playground
- Snowmobile area
- Tennis courts

County Recreation Inventory Map



- 1 Major County Recreation Facilities:**
1. Linden County Park
 2. Flushing County Park
 3. Bluebell Beach
 4. Crossroads Village & Huckleberry Railroad
 5. Stepping Stone Falls
 6. Bluegill Boat Launch
 7. Buell Lake County Park
 8. For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum
 9. Davison Roadside County Park
 10. Everett A. Cummings Center
 11. Mounds Off-Road Vehicle Area
 12. Richfield County Park
 13. Wolverine Campground & Buttercup Beach

Wolverine Campground & Buttercup Beach

- Campgrounds
- Beach
- Outdoor activities

Recreation Programs and Services

Most programs available to City residents are either provided through the Linden School District, the Loose Senior Citizen Center, or the Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation Commission.

School District Programs

In the case of the School District, the District either directly sponsors the activity or, as in the case of the Boy/Girl Scouts and Little League, provides space for the programs to meet. Indoor activities typically take place inside of the Linden Elementary School building or the Hyatt Elementary School building. A summary of the School District programs are as follows:

Figure 6
School District Recreation Programs

PROGRAM	SPONSER	NUMBER SERVED
Scouting (Boy & Girl)	Scouts	240
Little League	Linden Complete Auto	+250
After School Sports/Seasonal Sport Activities	School	30-40
Men's Basketball	School	15-20
Arts/Crafts (Summer Recreation)	School	30-40
Enrichment Classes (Adult/Various)	School	150
Hunter Safety	Linden Sportsman Club	150-200
Soccer	AYSO	+300
Co-ed Volleyball	School	20-30
Karate (Adults/Children)	School/Tang So Do	20-30
Boaters Safety (Adults/Children)	School/Sheriff's Department	30

Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation

The Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation Commission (SLP&R) was formed in 2000, when the cities of Linden and Fenton, and Fenton Township voted a perpetual millage of .4 mills to operate a year-round Metropolitan Parks and Recreation District. Since that time, the Commission has worked diligently to offer a variety of recreational programs from citizens of all ages and backgrounds within the three communities. The following programs are currently being offered through Southern Lakes:

- Academics
- Art
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Baton Twirling
- Cheerleading
- Child Development
- Cooking
- Dance (SLP&R Shutterfly Dance)
- Engineering (LEGO Engineering classes)
- Equestrian
- Fencing
- Fitness
- Football (youth tackle football and youth flag football)
- Golf
- Gymnastics (Gym Stars Gymnastics)
- Kayaking
- Martial Arts
- Music
- Safety
- Soccer
- Swim
- Tennis
- Volleyball (AAU)

Loose Senior Citizen Center

The Loose Senior Citizen Center (LSCC) provides or coordinates responsive programs and services that enhance dignity, support independence, and provide stimulating educational and recreational opportunities. The center provides a broad range of high-quality programs and services at both the Center's facilities and at other accessible locations throughout the service area. The LSCC is open to all segments of the population age 50 and over, including the very old, the disabled and those of limited means. Further, the LSCC serves those who are part of the social support system for adults age 50-plus, such as family caregivers.

Comparison to Planning Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association provides a recommended park classification system which recognizes that open space has various functions. The system categorizes open space as either mini-parks, neighborhood parks or community parks. The desirable characteristics relative to size, function, amenities and acreage provisions per 1,000 people (where available) are identified in Figure 7.

According to the population standards for the three types of parklands, 0.25 to 0.5 acres of mini-parkland should be provided for every 1,000 persons, 1.0 to 2.0 acres of neighborhood parkland should be provided for every 1,000 persons, and 5.0 to 8.0 acres of community parkland should be provided for every 1,000 persons. Based on these standards, the City of Linden, with a total population of 3,991 (2010 Census), should provide the following amount of parkland:

- Between 1 and 2 acres of mini-parkland
- Between 4 and 8 acres of neighborhood parkland
- Between 20 and 32 acres of community parkland
- Between 25 and 42 acres of total parkland (all types)

Currently, the following parks are found within the City of Linden:

- Linden Mills Park (Community Park) – 2.19 acres
- Mill Pond Park (Mini-Park) – 0.23 acres
- Triangle Park (Neighborhood Park) – 1.26 acres
- Walmar Park (Neighborhood Park) – 9.68 acres

Thus, based on the NRPA acreage standards, the City of Linden is deficient in terms of mini-parkland and community parkland, but has a surplus of neighborhood parkland. For total parkland, based on the NRPA standards, the City of Linden would be considered deficient and in need of additional parkland. Therefore, the City should consider acquisition of additional parkland, where future opportunities arise.

However, it should be noted that other types of parks, including regional parks, school sites, greenways, and private recreation facilities, can also contribute to local park and recreation system. For example, the Linden County Park, located just outside of the City limits provides more than 100 acres of parkland within easy reach of Linden residents.

**Figure 7
Park Classification System**

Mini-Parks	
General Description	Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs.
Location Criteria	Less than a ¼ mile distance in residential setting.
Size Criteria	Between 2,500 sq.ft. and 1 acre.
Acres per 1,000 Population	0.25 to 0.5
Neighborhood Parks	
General Description	Remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation
Location Criteria	¼ to ½ mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads & physical barriers.
Size Criteria	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal size
Acres per 1,000 Population	1.0 to 2.0
Community Parks	
General Description	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.
Location Criteria	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and ½ to 3 mile distance
Size Criteria	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Between 30 and 50 acres.
Acres per 1,000 Population	5.0 to 8.0

Source: National Recreation and Park Association

Accessibility Assessment and Grant-Assisted Projects

A critical component in planning for recreation facilities is providing barrier-free access in order to accommodate the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. The ranking system suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources guidelines was used to evaluate the parks. The ranking system, from one (1) to five (5) is described 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 were evaluated using this ranking system. The specific elements considered including parking, paths of travel from parking to activity areas, activity areas themselves, support facilities such as restroom, and surfacing. The figure below provides the results of this assessment:

Figure 8
Accessibility Assessment

PARK	RATING	COMMENTS
Linden Mills Park	2	Parking lot and all pathways are ADA compliant. Barrier-free access is not provided to the gazebo and amphitheater.
Mill Pond Park	1	No barrier-free access is provided from the sidewalk to the bench and picnic table.
Triangle Park	N/A	No facilities are located at the park.
Walmar Park	2	The pavilion, playground and boardwalk facilities are ADA compliant; however, the routes from the parking lot to these facilities are not barrier-free.

To-date, the City of Linden has not received any grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). However, the City anticipates applying for grants in the future to assist in improving the parks and recreation facilities for the residents of the City.

An essential component of the recreation planning process is to determine the needs of the community as a basis for an action plan to improve the parks and recreation system. The needs provide the rationale for the goals and objectives and identify areas for future improvement. To assess needs, consideration was given to current recreation trends, a recreational needs survey, public meetings with the Parks and Recreation Commission, residents, City staff and public officials.

National Recreation Trends

Recreation trends occurring nationally may provide insight into activities that can be expected to draw a large number of participants and activities that have shown the greatest growth in popularity. The National Sporting Goods Association (NSGA) conducts national surveys that measure activities by participation and percent change from the previous survey. The definition of participation includes those persons seven years and older who have participated in the activity more than once during the year of the survey.

Figure 9 lists the top sports by total participation in 2010 and 2000, percentage change from 2000 to 2010, and rank by percentage change.

In 2010, the top five sports in which people participated were:

- Exercise Walking (95.8 million)
- Exercising with Equipment (55.3 million)
- Swimming (51.9 million)
- Camping (vacation/overnight) (44.7 million)
- Bicycle Riding (39.8 million)

In terms of change over the past ten years, the top five fastest growing sports were:

- Target Shooting - Airgun (76.7%)
- Hockey (ice) (73.7%)
- Running/jogging (55.7%)
- Hiking (55.1%)
- Workout at Club (50.6%)

**Figure 9
National Sports Participation Trends**

Sport	Participation in Millions		Percent Change 2000 to 2010	Rank by Change
	2010	2000		
Exercise Walking	95.8	86.3	11.0%	14
Exercising with Equipment	55.3	44.8	23.4%	11
Swimming	51.9	60.7	-14.5%	27
Camping (vacation/overnite)	44.7	49.9	-10.4%	23
Bicycle Riding	39.8	43.1	-7.7%	21
Bowling	39.0	43.1	-9.5%	22
Aerobic Exercising	38.5	28.6	34.6%	7
Hiking	37.7	24.3	55.1%	4
Workout at Club	36.3	24.1	50.6%	5
Running/Jogging	35.5	22.8	55.7%	3
Fishing	33.8	49.3	-31.4%	37
Weight Lifting	31.5	24.8	27.0%	9
Basketball	26.9	27.1	-0.7%	20
Billiards/Pool	24.0	32.5	-26.2%	35
Golf	21.9	26.4	-17.0%	30
Boating, Motor/Power	20.0	24.2	-17.4%	31
Target Shooting	19.8	14.8	33.8%	8
Hunting with Firearms	16.3	19.1	-14.7%	28
Soccer	13.5	12.9	4.7%	17
Baseball	12.5	15.6	-19.9%	32
Tennis	12.3	10.0	23.0%	12
Backpack/Wilderness Camp	11.1	15.4	-27.9%	36
Softball	10.8	14.0	-22.9%	33
Volleyball	10.6	12.3	-13.8%	26
Football (tackle)	9.3	7.5	24.0%	10
Skateboarding	7.7	9.1	-15.4%	29
Scooter Riding	7.4	11.6	-36.2%	38
In-Line Roller Skating	7.4	21.8	-66.1%	39
Skiing (alpine)	7.4	7.4	0.0%	19
Mountain Biking (off road)	7.2	7.1	1.4%	18
Paintball Games	6.1	5.3	15.1%	13
Snowboarding	6.1	4.3	41.9%	6
Target Shooting - Airgun	5.3	3.0	76.7%	1
Hunting w/Bow & Arrow	5.2	4.7	10.6%	15
Water Skiing	5.2	5.9	-11.9%	24
Hockey (ice)	3.3	1.9	73.7%	2
Muzzleloading	3.1	2.9	6.9%	16
Wrestling*	2.9	3.8	-23.7%	34
Skiing (cross country)	2.0	2.3	-13.0%	25

*No data in 2000; figures from 2006 utilized for participation and percent change.

Source: National Sporting Goods Association, 2010.

The NSGA also projects sports participation on a state-by-state basis for certain sports. According to NSGA data, Michigan residents are more than twice as likely as the average American to participate in water skiing, in-line roller skating, snowboarding, play softball, and hunt with bow and arrow.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration have published a list of future trends compiled from different sources that will influence the direction of recreation planning and programming. These trends include an increase in:

- Environmentally sensitive lifestyles, natural areas management and water quality protection
- Concerns for personal and family security, in the importance for wellness activities and a desire to preserve and maintain cultural heritage
- Public costs, in the provision of leisure services through the public and private sectors and partnerships, a greater recognition of the economic value of parks, open space, and green infrastructure
- Senior citizens, fewer traditional family households, greater number of smaller households and an increase in cultural diversity of residents.

Monitoring parks and recreation trends is important in determining how parks and recreation services should evolve. Conclusions regarding the implication of the trends noted combined with the demographic and physical characteristics of the City of Linden are summarized below:

- As population increases, demand for recreation will likely increase
- Recreation facilities and programs should respond to the expected increase of seniors
- There is and will continue to be a need for more linear parks along corridors to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian pathways for recreation and non-motorized transportation
- With the increased popularity of exercise walking and fitness related activities, there will continue to be an increased importance on recreation contributing to walkable, livable, and sustainable communities
- The continued collaboration and partnerships between public, private, and non-profit agencies as well as with adjacent local municipalities for the provision of parks and recreation programs and facilities will continue to be critical to the future success of Linden Parks and Recreation

Needs Assessment

During the course of several public meetings, the Parks and Recreation Commission has identified suggested improvements for each of the parks in the City of Linden. Those comments are as follows:

City-Wide Recreational Improvements

- Walkability improvements/connections
- Provide trail connections from downtown to the Shiawassee River, Walmar Park and Linden Mills Park
- Extend the Shiawassee River Heritage Water Trail through Linden
- Benches along sidewalks and trails
- Provide youth-oriented facilities at City parks
- Encourage year-round use of City parks through the addition of winter activities and facilities

All City Parks

- Uniform park entry signage

Linden Mills Park

- ADA access to the gazebo and amphitheater
- Benches
- Improvements to the water wheel
- Gazebo upgrades
- New dock to the Mill Pond and/or Shiawassee River
- Canoe/kayak access to the Mill Pond and/or Shiawassee River
- Shoreline stabilization improvements (south bank)

Mill Pond Park

- New canoe/kayak access to the Mill Pond
- Shoreline improvements
- New fishing dock

Triangle Park

- Develop a Veteran's honor roll and/or memorial
- Establish passive picnic area
- Parking improvements
- Provide crosswalk and sidewalk connection to Fairview Cemetery

Walmar Park

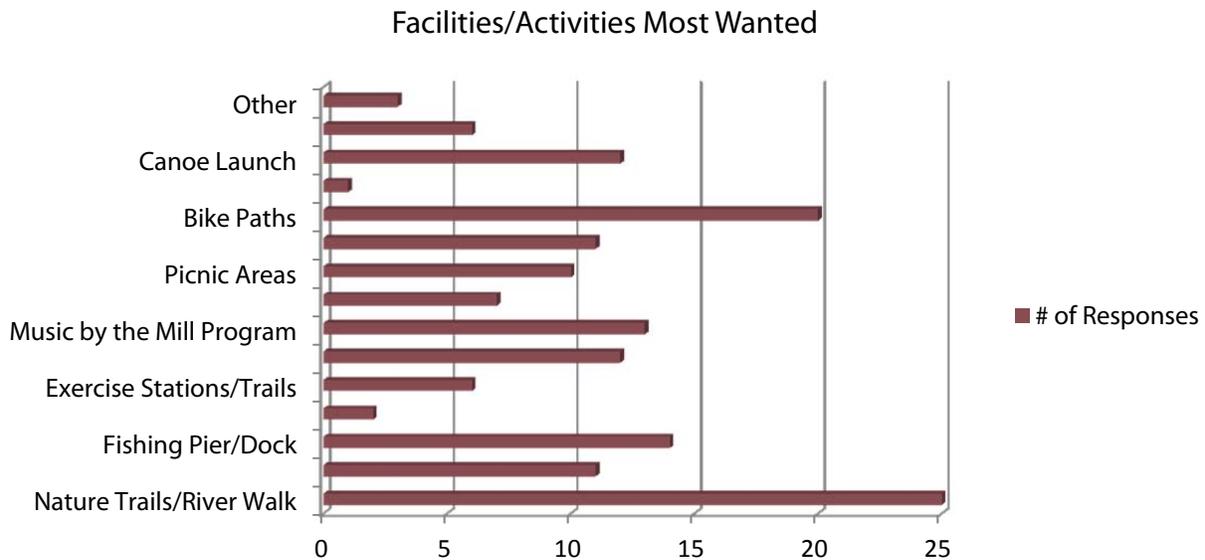
- Improve park security/lighting along boardwalk
- Provide barrier-free access to park facilities
- Provide new ADA accessible bathroom facilities
- Improve playscape surfacing
- New benches
- Provide trail connection to downtown

2010 Recreational Needs Survey Analysis

A survey was conducted in December 2010 to analyze the views of City of Linden residents on issues related to parks and recreation in the City. The survey was sent to ten percent (10%) of the households in the City (170 households). The City received approximately twenty percent (20%) of the surveys back (35 surveys). Of the returned surveys, eighty-seven percent (87%) were from households headed by individuals over the age of 55. Just over thirty percent (30%) had children under 16 years old, and residents between the ages of 22 and 55 resided in thirty-seven (37%) of the households.

A copy of the survey form and the full survey results are provided in the appendix for reference. Respondents were asked to select 5 recreational facilities/activities they would like to see developed in Linden. Of the 14 choices given, the most are as follows: nature trails and river walks (25 votes); bike paths (20 votes); fishing pier or dock (14 votes); Music by the Mill program (13 votes) (see Figure 10).

Figure 10
2010 Recreational Survey Results



Even though only 7 respondents indicated that they used the Walmar Park’s community playground often, 17 of them use it occasionally, and the majority of voters believe that Walmar Park could use bathrooms, as well as improvements on the walking trails and parking area.

The Music by the Mill and Movies by the Mill programs, both held at Linden Mills Park, were shown to be widely appreciated by Linden residents. Nearly all voters (97%) expressed that they believe the program should be continued. Although less than half of respondents believe that Linden Mills Park needs to be improved, some suggestions for improvement were to add bathrooms, install picnic tables and benches, build a concession stand, and to make the pond more suitable for fishing and canoe launching.

The recreational needs survey provided Linden residents the opportunity to express their interests, and serves as a solid reference for the City when considering future recreational improvements. Although the individuals who responded to the survey were mostly over the age of 55, many of them expressed desire for more activities that will appeal to children within the City. Suggestions were made to build a community pool, skate park and a community center.

Regional Planning Efforts

This plan recognizes the efforts of many groups that continually strive to provide recreational opportunities for the residents of the entire region, including the greater Flint area (Genesee County) and Southeast Michigan.

Genesee County Regional Trail Plan (2007)

Of particular interest to this Parks and Recreation Plan are the efforts of the Genesee Regional Trail Council, Genesee County Parks and the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission in developing a regional trail system. Through the effort of these groups, a Genesee County Regional Trail Plan was developed and adopted in 2007. This Plan outlines a vision for an interconnected system of non-motorized trails, bike lanes and sidewalks throughout Genesee County. Specific recommendations for the City of Linden were outlined in the Plan, including the development of bike lanes and trails extending through the City. Provided on the following pages is the County-wide Potential Connections Map and the specific plan for the Linden, Fenton and Fenton Township area. Both maps are taken directly from the Regional Trail Plan.

Shiawassee River Heritage Water Trail Planning Efforts

As was noted earlier in this report, the volunteer organization Headwaters Trails has worked diligently to develop a water trail along the Shiawassee River between the cities of Holly and Fenton. Efforts to expand the water trail through Linden and further downstream. The City of Linden seeks to support these water trail development efforts along the Shiawassee.

POTENTIAL CONNECTIONS Genesee County, Michigan

- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Municipality
- Parks
- Highways
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- Lake, River, or Stream

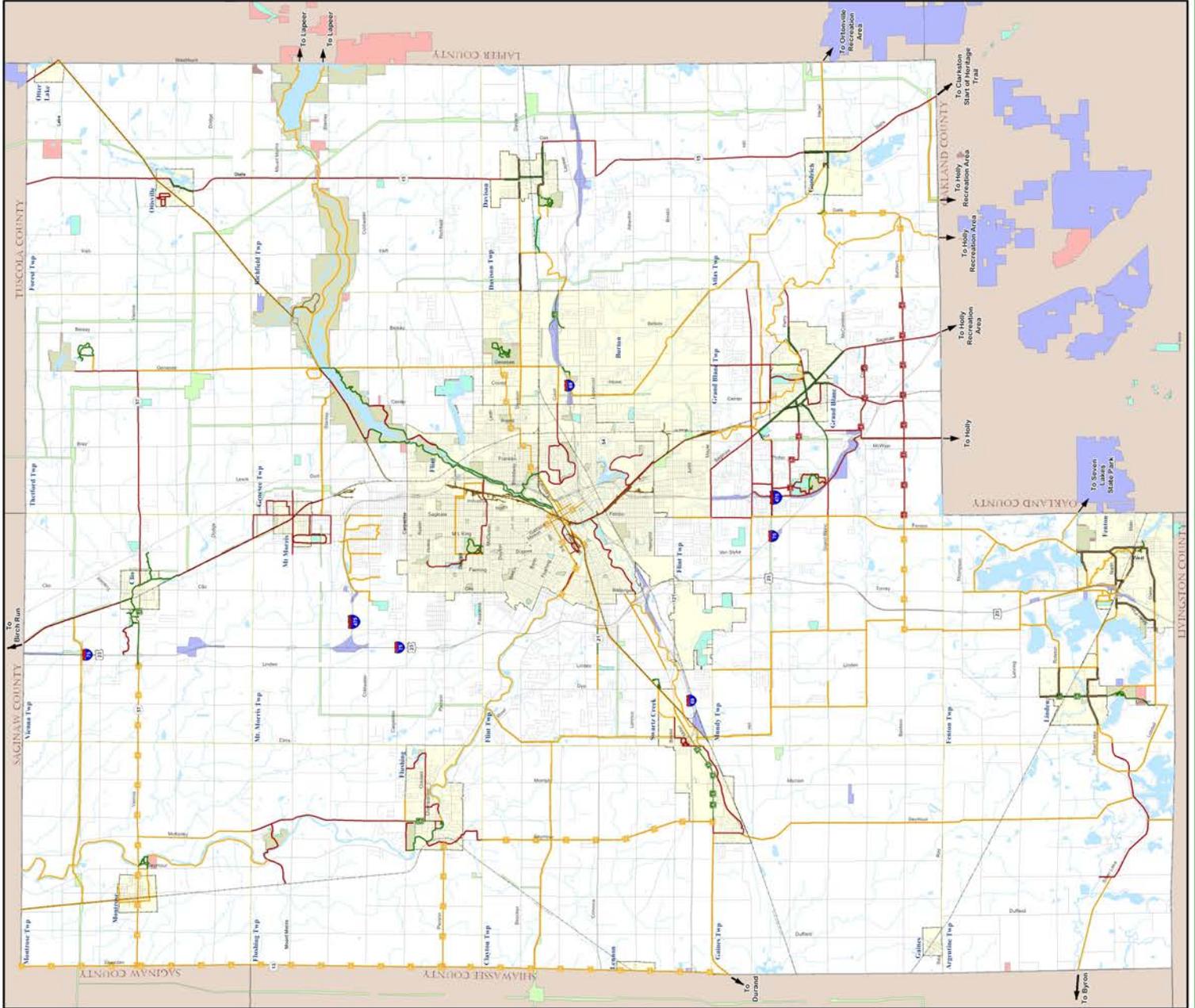
- Existing Trail
- Existing Trail with Sidewalks
- Existing Bike Lanes
- Existing Bike Lane with Sidewalk
- Trails Identified in an Approved Plan
- Trails Identified in an Approved Plan with Sidewalks
- Bicycle Lanes Identified in an Approved Plan
- Potential Trails
- Potential Trails with Sidewalks Existing
- Potential Bike Lanes
- Abandoned Railroads

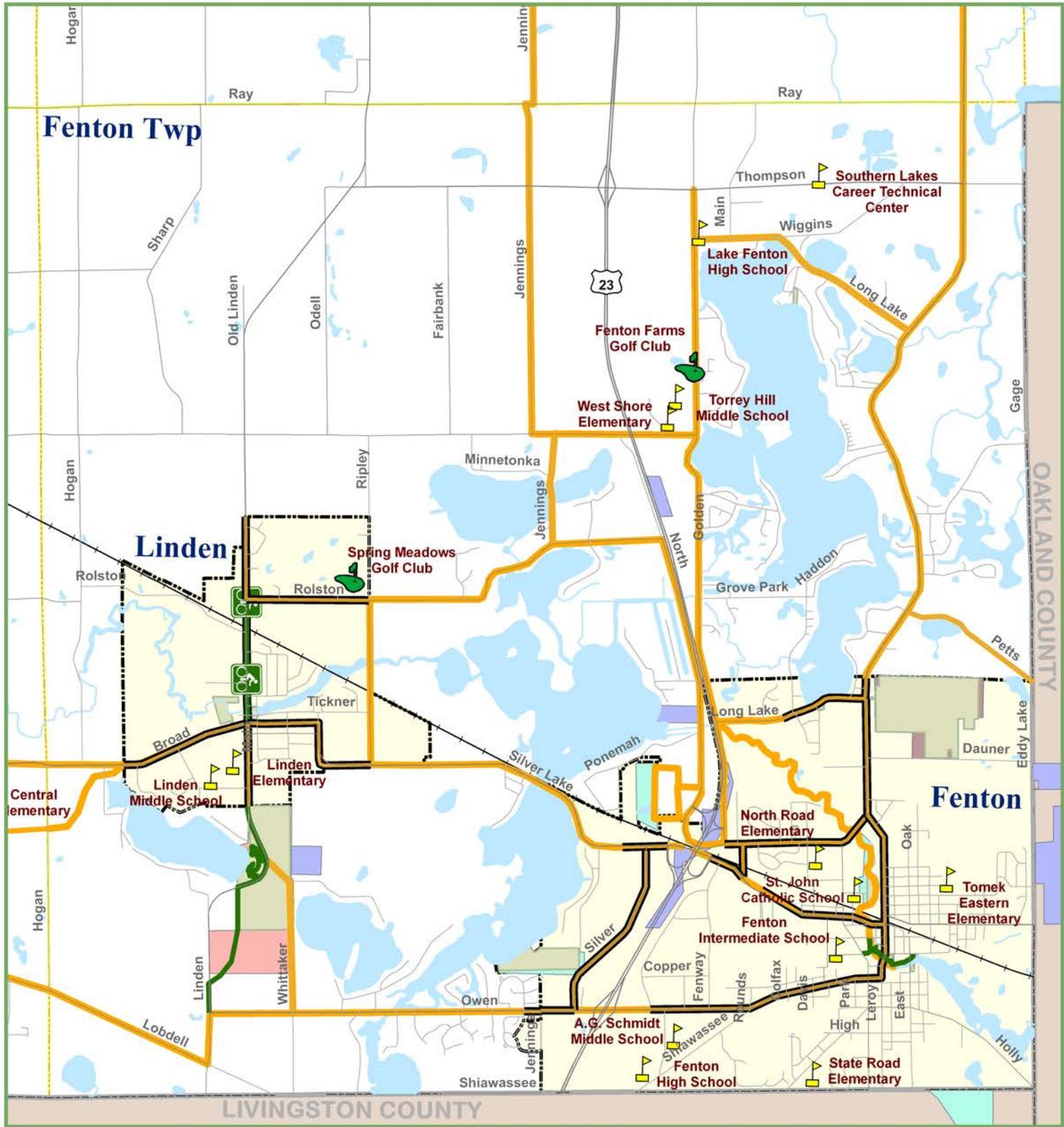
Existing Green Infrastructure

- County
- City, Township, or Village
- Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
- State
- Consumers Energy



Sources: Michigan Geographic Framework Version 5a
 Green Infrastructure - Greenlinks sagbay_caridd_ver2
 State Plane, Michigan South, NAD83, International Feet
 Date: October 2008
 Map by: Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
 d:\maps\transportation\Trails\RegTrailPlan08\report\Maps\Pot_Connections_small.mxd

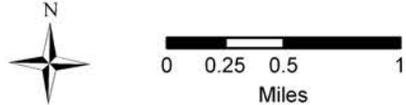




- Existing Trail
- Existing Bike Lanes
- Existing Trail with Sidewalks Existing
- Existing Bike Lane with Sidewalk
- Potential Trails
- Potential Trails with Sidewalks Existing
- Potential Bike Lanes

- County Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Municipality
- Parks
- County
- City, Township, or Village
- Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
- State
- Consumers Energy
- Roads
- Railroad
- Lake, River, or Stream
- Abandoned Railroads

- Destinations**
- School
 - College
 - Cultural
 - Golf
 - Library
 - Market
 - Orchard
 - Hospital
 - Senior Center



Goals and Objectives

The City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan identifies goals and objectives for the next five years. They are broad enough to encompass the needs expressed by residents, Parks & Recreation Commission members, City officials and staff, as well as address the observed deficiencies in the parks and recreation resources of the area. They also consider demographics, current and anticipated growth and development, the area’s physical resources and general recreational trends.

Goals can best be broken up into general categories of *Development, Cooperation, Diversity, Preservation and Conservation, Accessibility and Connectivity* and *Community Development*. They are as follows:

Development

Goal: *Develop a recreation system within the City of Linden which will provide for the full range of recreation and open space needs of City residents.*

Objective: Renovate, improve, and where possible and appropriate, expand existing and future parks and recreation facilities.

Objective: Continue the development of Walmar Park as a unique community park by making various park improvements.

Objective: Encourage developers of new subdivisions to provide dedicated open space.

Objective: Look for opportunities to acquire land that: is adjacent to or near existing parks; could provide increased and enhanced recreation opportunities; and/or will help to ensure protection and access to the natural features in the community.

Objective: Develop and implement consistent signage within parks and along access roads to raise the level of awareness of park locations and facilities.

Cooperation

Goal: *Promote cooperation between all groups, individuals, organizations and neighboring communities that are involved with recreation planning for area residents.*

Objective: Study, in conjunction with Linden Schools, the possibility of further utilizing schools facilities to meet the needs of area residents.

Objective: Promote coordination of common goals with neighboring municipalities.

Objective: Foster, promote, and encourage cooperative relationships with other public recreational entities and interests such as: Linden DDA; Linden Schools; Senior Center; Genesee

County Parks; Genesee County Regional Trail Council; Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission; Genesee County Road Commission; Headwaters Trails; and, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Balance and Community Health

Goal: *Develop a balanced year-round recreation program for Linden that will encompass a full range of facilities and activities, serve individuals of all ages and abilities, and promote healthy living.*

Objective: Provide a variety of activities that can occur in each season of the year.

Objective: Promote recreation activities that will allow all residents to take part, including disabled and senior citizens.

Objective: Promote the planning and design of complete streets to ensure safe and efficient access for all road users.

Objective: Support the operation of a farmers' market within the Linden community.

Objective: Support and promote various community events throughout the year, such as parades, festivals and races.

Preservation and Conservation

Goal: *Dedicate and preserve sufficient and suitable land for recreation and open space.*

Objective: Locate and preserve passive recreation facilities and to take advantage of natural features.

Objective: Preserve irreplaceable wetland resources within the City through the use of the Michigan Land Trust Fund.

Accessibility and Connectivity

Goal: *Ensure that parks and recreation facilities are accessible, and provide non-motorized links to promote a walkable and connected community.*

Objective: Develop linkages between residential neighborhoods/developments to all City Parks.

Objective: Ensure connectivity between the downtown area and nearby parks (including Walmar Park) through paths, trails, and non-motorized bridges.

Objective: Ensure barrier free accessibility to all parks within the community, including paths, transfer points, resilient surfacing, picnic tables, play equipment, curb cuts, parking, etc.

Objective: Ensure connectivity between the City of Linden and adjacent communities and destinations (nearby parks and schools) through sidewalks, multi-use paths, bike lanes and water trails (Shiawassee River).

Objective: Promote the development of a multi-use trail along Silver Lake Road to the Linden High School.

Community Development

Goal: ***Implement recreation projects and programs which complement other federal, state, local and private investments being made in the community and which further the City's development strategy.***

Objective: Plan and locate needed recreation facilities in such a manner as to complement existing resources and reinforce other investments which have been made in the City's historic downtown area.

Objective: Plan and locate needed facilities in such a manner as to compliment and reinforce the City's strategy for neighborhood preservation.

Objective: Plan and locate facilities in such a manner to promote an attractive living and working environment and to foster community identity and community pride.

Objective: Consider the conversion of the City DPW yard to a City park to provide additional recreation land and facilities for City residents.

Action Program

The action program details the manner in which the goals and objectives will be met. It includes a list of suggested capital improvement projects along with a sequence and strategies for implementation.

Capital Improvements Schedule

Potential capital improvements for this Parks and Recreation Plan have been established not only to provide a guide and foundation for decision makers, but also to enable the City to apply for grant funding for proposed projects. The capital improvements schedule is not a fixed element and is neither all inclusive nor exclusive. The schedule reflects the results of discussion with the Parks and Recreation Commission, City staff, and input from the recreational survey, public meetings, and public hearing.

As a complement to the Capital Improvements Schedule, an Action Plan map has been developed and is included in this chapter to highlight the locations of the proposed improvement projects.

It is very likely that the schedule and plan will be amended at some point during its life due to unanticipated circumstances such as private donations, changing recreation trends, community opinion, and/or available funding. The schedule should be considered in close conjunction with the goals and guidelines of the plan. The following capital improvements schedule provides an outline and guide as to the desires of the community.

Year 1 – 2012

Project	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Walmar Park Access Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish barrier-free access to park facilities • Improve playscape surfacing 	\$15,000 - \$30,000	GF; CDBG
Provide benches at strategic locations along City sidewalks	\$1,500 per bench	GF; DDA
Key: TBD = To Be Determined; NA = Not Applicable; GF = General Fund; DDA = Downtown Development Authority; CDBG = Community Development Block Grant; TF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; RP = Recreation Passport; TE = Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Program; SR2S = Safe Routes to School Program		

Year 2 – 2013

Project	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Uniform Park Signage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install new uniform park signage at all park entrances 	\$5,000 per sign	GF; DDA
Walmar Park to Downtown Non-Motorized Connection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop new non-motorized connection from Walmar Park to Downtown • Includes 10' wide asphalt trail section 	\$50,000	GF; DDA; TF; LWCF; TE
Walmar Park Bathrooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct new ADA accessible bathrooms 	\$35,000	GF; CDBG
Walmar Park Boardwalk Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security and lighting • New benches 	\$15,000	GF; TF; LWCF; RP
Provide benches at strategic locations along City sidewalks	\$1,500 per bench	GF; DDA
Key: TBD = To Be Determined; NA = Not Applicable; GF = General Fund; DDA = Downtown Development Authority; CDBG = Community Development Block Grant; TF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; RP = Recreation Passport; TE = Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Program; SR2S = Safe Routes to School Program		

Year 3 – 2014

Project	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Triangle Park Veteran’s Honor Roll Development Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Veteran’s Honor Roll • New picnic areas (tables & grills) • New water fountain feature • Improved parking areas • Crosswalk and connection to Fairview Cemetery • Service Branch Flags • Lighting for Honor Roll • Flowers and Plantings • Decorative sponsor bricks 	\$50,000 - \$100,000	GF; TF; LWCF; RP; American Legion/VFW Partnerships; Private Donations
Provide benches at strategic locations along City sidewalks	\$1,500 per bench	GF; DDA
Key: TBD = To Be Determined; NA = Not Applicable; GF = General Fund; DDA = Downtown Development Authority; CDBG = Community Development Block Grant; TF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; RP = Recreation Passport; TE = Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Program; SR2S = Safe Routes to School Program		

Year 4 – 2015

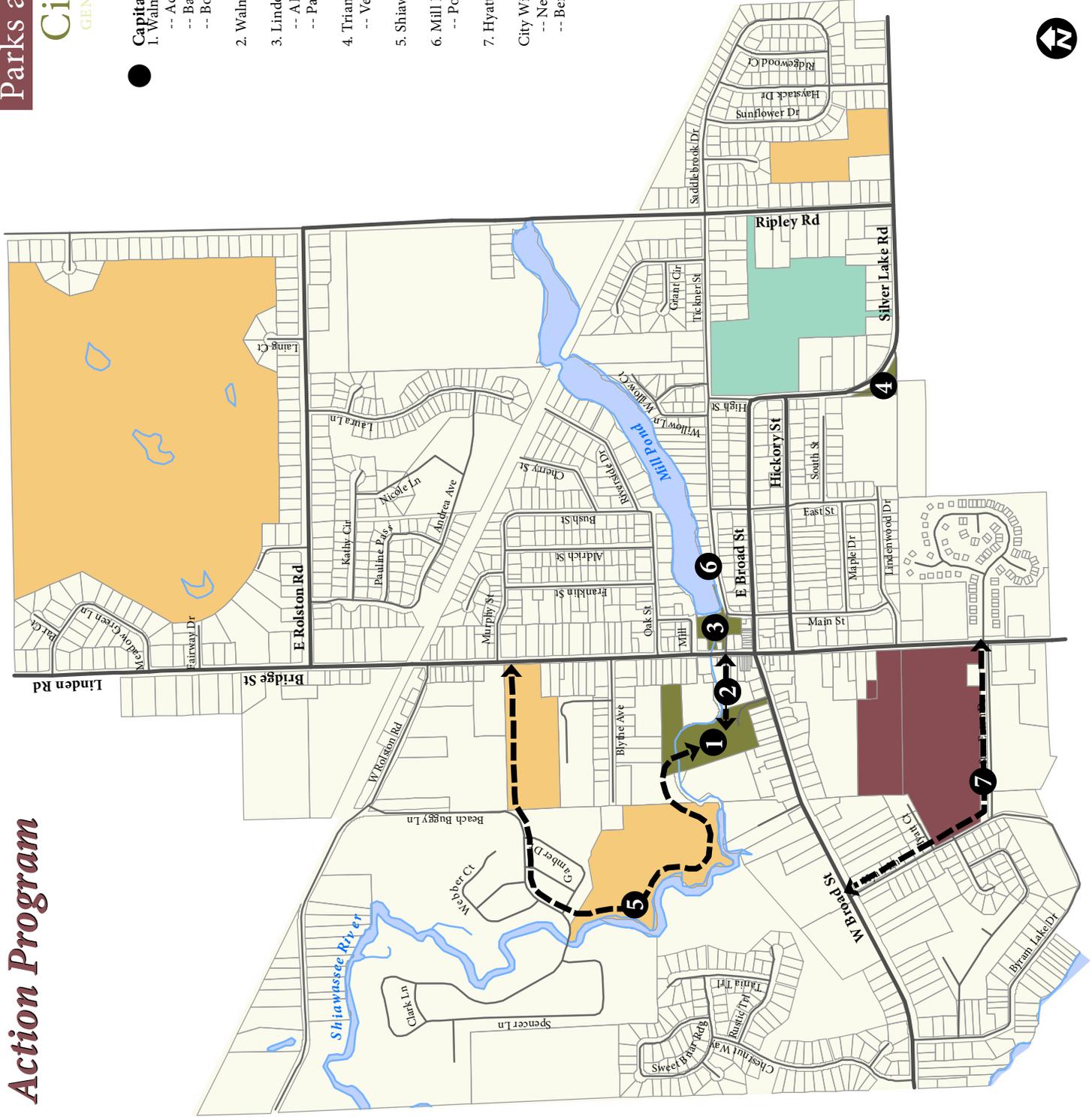
Project	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Linden Mills Park ADA Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA access improvements to the gazebo and amphitheater 	\$25,000	GF; DDA; CDBG
Linden Mills Park and River Access Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gazebo and water wheel upgrades • New benches • Stream bank stabilization • New fishing dock • New canoe/kayak access 	\$75,000	GF; DDA; TF; LWCF; RP
Hyatt/Stan Eaton Trail Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct new multi-use trail along Hyatt Street and Stan Eaton Drive, providing safe pedestrian routes for students to and from Linden and Hyatt Elementary Schools 	\$150,000	GF; SRTS; CDBG
Key: TBD = To Be Determined; NA = Not Applicable; GF = General Fund; DDA = Downtown Development Authority; CDBG = Community Development Block Grant; TF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; RP = Recreation Passport; TE = Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Program; SR2S = Safe Routes to School Program		

Year 5 – 2016

Project	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources
Shiawassee River Multi-Use Trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop new multi-use trail from Bridge Street to Shiawassee Shores, following the Shiawassee River to Walmar Park • Includes 10' wide asphalt and 14' wide boardwalk sections • Includes 80' bridge span over the Shiawassee River 	\$700,000	GF; DDA; TF; LWCF; TE
Mill Pond Park Access Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New canoe/kayak launch • Stream bank stabilization • New fishing dock 	\$40,000	GF; DDA; TF; LWCF; RP
Key: TBD = To Be Determined; NA = Not Applicable; GF = General Fund; DDA = Downtown Development Authority; CDBG = Community Development Block Grant; TF = Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund; LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; RP = Recreation Passport; TE = Michigan Department of Transportation Enhancement Program; SR2S = Safe Routes to School Program		

Capital Improvement Projects:

1. Walmar Park:
 - Access Improvements
 - Bathrooms
 - Boardwalk Improvements
 2. Walmar Park to Downtown Non-Motorized Connection
 3. Linden Mills Park:
 - ADA Improvements
 - Park and River Access Improvements
 4. Triangle Park:
 - Veteran's Honor Roll Development Project
 5. Shiawassee River Multi-Use Trail
 6. Mill Pond Park:
 - Pond Access Improvements
 7. Hyatt/Stan Eton Trail Project
- City Wide Projects:
- New Uniform Park Signage
 - Benches along City Sidewalks



April 2012



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Funding Opportunities

In order to accomplish the recommended actions during the next five (5) years, it will be necessary to secure adequate funding. The current budget provides only a limited amount of funds for park development and improvements. The amount is well short of the projected expenses involved in the project schedule.

Potential funding sources from outside entities for recreation, non-motorized, and environmental restoration projects change and evolve on a regular basis. Understanding available funding programs, their requirements and deadlines requires continuous monitoring. A few of the more common funding sources have been detailed here as a reference and resource. These are in addition to traditional funding methods such as the general fund, fees, millages, bonds, DDA's, etc.

Transportation Enhancement Funds

MDOT's Transportation Enhancements (TE) activities are federally funded, community-based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of the transportation infrastructure. To be eligible, a project must fall into one of the 12 TE activities and relate to surface transportation. Activities that relate to the implementation of this Parks and Recreation Plan include:

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.
 - Includes new or reconstructed sidewalks, walkways, curb ramps, bike lane striping, wide paved shoulders, bike parking, bus racks, off-road trails, bike and pedestrian bridges and underpasses.
 - Paved shoulders four or more feet wide
 - Curb lane width greater than 12 feet
 - Bike lanes
 - Pedestrian crosswalks, sidewalks
 - Shared use paths 10 feet wide or greater
 - Path/trail user amenities
 - Grade separations
 - Bicycle parking facilities
 - Bicycle accommodations on public transportation
 - Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
 - Programs designed to encourage walking and bicycling by providing potential users with education and safety instruction through classes, pamphlets and signage.
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian and bicycle trails).
- Acquiring railroad rights-of-way; planning, designing and constructing multi-use trails; developing rail-with-trail projects; purchasing unused railroad property for reuse.

A minimum 20% local match is required for proposed projects and applications are accepted on an on-going basis.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, offered through the MDNR, provides funding for both the purchase of land (or interests in land) for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty and the appropriate development of land for public outdoor recreation use. Goals of the program are to: 1) protect Michigan's natural resources and provide for their access, public use and enjoyment; 2) provide public access to Michigan's water bodies, particularly the Great Lakes, and facilitate their recreation use; 3) meet regional, county and community needs for outdoor recreation opportunities; 4) improve the opportunities for outdoor recreation in Michigan's urban areas; and, 5) stimulate Michigan's economy through recreation-related tourism and community revitalization.

Any individual, group, organization, or unit of government may submit a land acquisition proposal. However, only state and local units of government can submit development proposals. All proposals for grants 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 \$500,000. Applications are due in April and August for acquisition projects and April (only) for development projects.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal appropriation to the National Park Service who distributes funds to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for development of outdoor recreation facilities. In the past, this program has been used for a variety of recreational development purposes, including trailway systems, playgrounds, picnic areas, skate parks, ball fields, soccer fields and walking paths. The minimum grant request is \$30,000 and the maximum grant request is \$100,000. The match percentage must be 50% of the total project cost. Applications are typically due in April of each year.

Recreation Passport

The Recreation Passport grant is a relatively new grant offered by the MDNR. The objective for the program is to provide funding to local units for the development of public recreation facilities. This includes the development of new facilities and the renovation of old facilities. The program emphasizes renovations to existing facilities and providing unmet recreation needs. For 2012, the dollar amount available is expected to be \$7,500 to \$45,000 for each grant. Applications are typically due in April of each year.

Community Development Block Grant Program

The City of Linden participates in Genesee County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as a sub-recipient community. Each year, the City receives an annual allotment of CDBG funding from the County to be used for eligible activities that benefit low- and moderate-income citizens and other special needs groups. Related to recreation, the CDBG program could provide funding assistance for the following activities:

- ADA accessibility improvements
- Public facilities improvements (Senior Centers, etc.)
- Recreation facility development within designated low- and moderate-income eligible areas

- Sidewalks within designated low- and moderate-income eligible areas
- Programming (which serves low- and moderate-income citizens or other special needs groups)

Bikes Belong

The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by members of the American Bicycle Industry. Their mission is to put more people on bikes more often. The program funds projects in three categories:

- Facility
- Education
- Capacity Building

Requests for funding can be up to \$10,000 for projects such as bike paths, trails, lanes, parking, and transit, and safe routes to school. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis. More information can be found at www.bikesbelong.org.

Safe Routes To School Program

The Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program is a national movement to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. When routes are safe, walking or biking to and from school is an easy way to get the regular physical activity children need to succeed. In Michigan, the program is sponsored by the Michigan Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and has gained momentum over the past few years. Michigan’s SR2S program makes schools eligible for transportation enhancement funds, providing for infrastructure improvements and education campaigns. The purpose of the program as defined in the federal legislation is:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools.

To be eligible, schools must be registered, attend a day long training session, and develop a Walking Audit in order to be eligible to apply. SR2S funding is 100 percent federal; no match is required. 70% of the funding must be used for infrastructure projects, 10% for non-infrastructure projects, and 20% for either. www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Other Sources of Funding

The City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission should investigate additional sources of funding. Seeking donations, attracting sponsors, holding fund-raising events and seeking out other revenue sources are methods that should be pursued aggressively to raise funding for park acquisition and development.

Appendix

1. 2010 Recreational Needs Survey
2. 2010 Recreational Needs Survey Results
3. Draft Plan Availability Public Notice
4. Public Hearing Public Notice
5. Minutes from the Public Hearing
6. City Council Adoption Resolution
7. Parks and Recreation Commission Resolution Recommending Adoption
8. Letter of Transmittal to Genesee County
9. Letter of Transmittal to GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission

City of Linden
Parks & Recreation
2010 Recreation Needs Survey

1. Please select five of the recreational facilities/activities that you would like to see developed in the City of Linden.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Natural Trails/River Walk | () | Ice Skating Rink | () |
| Recreation Center | () | Bike Paths | () |
| Fishing Pier/Dock | () | Horseshoe Pits | () |
| Volleyball area | () | Canoe Launch | () |
| Exercise Stations/Trails | () | Tennis Courts | () |
| Public Beach | () | Other _____ | |
| Music by the Mill Program | () | _____ | |
| Movies by the Mill Program | () | | |
| Picnic Areas | () | | |

2. In 1995 volunteers built a playground on 6 acres of city property known as the Walmar site, accessible from Broad St. next to Fairbanks Marathon. Several things have been suggested for further development. How would you like to see this site further developed? Please select two.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| Leave as is | () | Improve driveway/parking | () |
| Add walking trails | () | Bathrooms | () |
| Add pavilion | () | Other _____ | () |

3. Approximately 1 mile south of the city is the Genesee County Park. How often do you use these facilities?
NEVER () OCCASIONALLY () OFTEN ()

4. How often do you use the Community Playground?
NEVER () OCCASIONALLY () OFTEN ()

5. The City currently offers a music program (Music by the Mill & Movies by the Mill) during the summer months. The expense is covered by a Fine Arts grant and some local moneys.

- | | | |
|---|---------|--------|
| Are you aware that these programs take place? | Yes () | No () |
| Do you attend them? | Yes () | No () |
| Would you like them to continue? | Yes () | No () |

6. Are you in favor of development of "Neighborhood parks?" (for example a picnic area within a subdivision)

- Yes () No ()

7. Should there be any further recreational development around the Gazebo/Millpond area?

- Yes () No ()

If yes, do you have a suggestion? _____

8. Please make other suggestions that we may not have thought of. Use back of survey if necessary.

9. Please list the number of people in your household and their ages.

- Under Age 10 () 10-15 () 16-21 () 22-30 () 31-40 () 40-55 () Over 55 ()

Thanks for your assistance in this survey!!!

*Please mail or return form to the City of Linden, P.O. Box 507, 132 E. Broad, Linden, MI 48451 by
December 13, 2010.*

For your convenience, there is a drop box behind City Hall.

City of Linden 2010 Recreational Needs Survey Analysis

Demographics:

A survey was conducted in December 2010 to analyze the views of Linden City residents on issues regarding Parks and Recreation in the city. Of the 35 surveys that were returned, 87% were from households headed by individuals over the age of 55. Just over 30% had children under 16, and residents between the ages of 22 and 55 resided in 37% of the total households.

Results:

Respondents were asked to select 5 recreational facilities/activities they would like to see developed in Linden. Of the 14 choices given, the most are as follows: Nature trails and river walks at the number one spot with 25 votes, bike paths with 20 votes, a fishing pier or dock with 14 votes, and the next most popular is the Music by the Mill with 13. Even though only 7 respondents indicated that they used the community playground often, 17 of them use it occasionally, and the majority of voters believe that the park could use bathrooms, as well as improvements on the walking trails and parking area. The Music by the Mill and Movies by the Mill programs were shown to be widely appreciated by Linden residents. 97% of voters expressed that they do believe the program should be continued. Although less than half of respondents believe that gazebo and Mill Pond areas need work, some suggestions for improvement were to add bathrooms, install picnic tables and benches, build a concession stand, and to make the pond more suitable for fishing and canoe launching. Most voters deemed neighborhood parks as unnecessary additions to the city, as they believe resources should be spent on

programs that will benefit all city residents rather than individual neighborhoods. Thanks to the responses from the survey participants, this survey proved the needs and concerns of the city as a whole.

This survey gave Linden residents the opportunity to express their interests, and the results explain the activities in which Linden dwellers are most interested. The top scoring activities are the programs that the city should invest the most time and money in, as they are most important to our residents. Although the individuals who responded to the survey were mostly over the age of 55, many of them expressed desire for more activities that will appeal to children of the community. Suggestions were made to build a community pool, a skate park, a community center, and one resident stated that the city needs anything that will involve its teen population. Through the results of this survey, the needs and concerns of the community are clearly displayed. The city should take these results into consideration when making decisions about how resources are spent to improve the parks and recreational facilities of Linden in order to provide festivities that will benefit the city as a whole.

Total number of respondents: 35

1. Respondents were asked to select 5 recreational facilities/activities they would like to see developed in Linden.

Nature Trails/River Walk:	25
Recreation Center:	11
Fishing pier/Dock:	14
Volleyball Area:	2
Exercise Stations/Trails:	6
Public Beach:	12
Music by the Mill Program:	13
Movies by the Mill Program:	7
Picnic Areas:	10
Ice Skating Rink:	11
Bike Paths:	20
Horseshoe Pits:	1
Canoe Launch:	12
Tennis Courts:	6

Other suggestions: Clean the walking trails (get rid of dog poop), skateboard park, swimming pool for all ages

2. Respondents were asked to indicate two improvements to the playground that they see as necessary.

Leave as is:	3
Add walking trails:	21
Add pavilion:	4
Improve driveway/parking:	15
Bathrooms:	22
Other suggestions: Better signs, expand play area	

3. Respondents were asked how often they use the Genesee County Park.

Never:	5
Occasionally:	19
Often:	11

4. Respondents were asked how often they use the community playground.

Never:	11
Occasionally:	17
Often:	7

5. Respondents were asked about the Music by the Mill and Movies by the Mill programs.

Aware?	
Yes:	31
No:	4
Attend?	

Yes:	20
No:	15
Continue?	
Yes:	34
No:	1

6. Respondents were asked if they were in favor of development of “Neighborhood parks.”

Yes:	15
No:	20

7. Respondents were asked if they thought there should be any further development of the Gazebo/Millpond area.

Yes:	13
No:	21

Suggestions: Wooden concession booth near the VFW parking lot, bathrooms, canoe launch, picnic tables, fishing pier, improve launch site, benches

8. Other suggestions:

The drains need cleaning along the street, sweeping streets is a waste of resources, resources should be spent in ways that benefit all residents rather than individual neighborhoods, anything to involve teenagers, a community center for children, Red Lobster restaurant, clean the sidewalks during the winter months.

9. Demographic

Households with:

Children under age 10:	9
Children ages 10-15:	2
People ages 16-21:	0
22-30:	1
31-40:	6
41-55:	6
+55:	26

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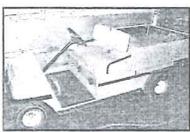
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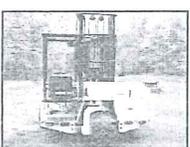
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF LINDEN

PARKS & RECREATION 2012-2016 DRAFT PLAN

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers located at 201 N. Main Street, Linden, Michigan 48451. The public hearing is being held to receive comments and consider the adoption of the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016.

A Parks and Recreation Plan will assist the City in identifying recreation needs within the community. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities for improvements. While a Parks & Recreation Plan assists the community in determining its goals and needs, if approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), it also qualifies the community for recreation grants which are administered through the MDNR Grants Administration Section. The proposed plan includes a community description, an overview of the administrative structure of the City, an inventory of existing facilities, a recreation needs analysis, goals and objectives, and capital improvement priorities for the next five years.

The hearing is intended to provide an opportunity for interested citizens to express their opinions regarding all aspects of the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan.

Copies of the draft City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016 will be available for public review at the Linden City Hall, located at 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, Michigan, 48451 on February 6, 2012, as well as on the City's website at www.lindenmi.us.

Synopsis of The Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting January 30, 2012

Call to order @ 7:00 p.m.
Supervisor Cole led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Graves, present, Schmidt, present, Cole, present, Hallman, present.
Absent: Ciesielski.
Motion to adopt the minutes as printed of December 19, 2011 Regular Board Meeting and the minutes of the January 4, 2012 Special Board Meeting. Motion passed.
Motion to approve the budget adjustments as submitted by the Clerk. Motion passed.
Motion to approve payment of the invoices and expenditures as printed in the amount of \$186,911.14. Motion passed.
Reports: Police- A written report was submitted.
Fire Dept.- A written report was submitted.
Motion to allow Chief Reid to attend The Fire Inspectors Society Conference February 7-10th. Motion passed.
Motion to adopt policy # 126 a.12 on Photography, Video and Audio Recording and Social Media Policy. Motion passed.
Motion to hire Tacoma Curtis as firefighter effective February 23, 2012, pending physical and drug screening passage and a 1- year probation period. Motion passed.
Motion to accept the resignation of firefighter Angela Brown upon the recommendation of Chief Reid. Motion passed.
Building Department- 3 permits were issued in the amount of \$1,285.00.
Planning Commission- Cole gave an oral report.
Attorney Report- Mr. David Lattie gave an oral report.
Old Business: Open bids for Fire Truck. Motion to accept the highest qualified bid on the fire truck and allow the Clerk to accept the next bid in the event anyone declines their bid. Motion passed.
Open bids for property: Motion to accept the highest qualified bid for the lease of farm property. Motion passed.
Markley Road Property- Motion to allow the Clerk to solicit bids for the sale of Markley Rd. property until February 24th at 4:00 p.m., to be sold as-is. Motion passed.
New Business: Appoint to Metropolitan Planning Alliance: Motion to appoint Robert Cole as the representative and Jane Lefler as the Citizen Representative to the Metropolitan Planning Alliance. Motion passed.
Medical Marijuana Dispensary Moratorium: to extend the Medical Marijuana Moratorium for 1 additional year. Motion passed.
Agreement for Summer Tax Collection: Motion to sign the agreement for Summer Tax Collections with GISD and Linden Schools. Motion passed.
Delegates to the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee: Motion to appoint Cole to the Water and Waste Services Advisory Committee and appoint Graves as the Alternate Member. Motion passed.
Pension Plan Resolution 2012-1: Motion to adopt Resolution 2012-1 to amend Argentine Township's existing 401 (a) Plan.
Roll call: Schmidt, Yes, Cole, Yes, Hallman, yes, Graves, yes, Ciesielski: Absent. Motion passed.
Lobdell Lake/ White's Landing Agreement: Motion to allow Supervisor to sign the License Agreement with White's Landing & Marina LLC. Motion passed.
Lobdell Lake /Aquatic Service Contract- Motion to authorize Supervisor to sign the Aquest Proposal for Services Contract and the Aquatic Plant Management Services Contract. Motion passed.
Motion to solicit bids for the removal of the Oakwood property structure after the Fire Department is through with a training exercise in mid June 2012. Motion passed.
Motion to enter Executive Session with Attorney to discuss pending litigation. Motion passed. Entered Executive Session @ 7:56 p.m.
Motion to return to Regular Session. Motion passed. Returned @ 8:25 p.m. to Regular Session. No motions or decisions were made in Executive Session.
Meeting adjourned @ 8:26 p.m.

Submitted by Denise Graves, Clerk

NOTICE OF PROPERTY FOR SALE

The Argentine Township Clerk is accepting sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. February 24, 2012 on the following property:

01-05-300-008, 11481 Markley Rd, Gaines - Improved - minimum bid \$30,000
Property will be transferred by Quit Claim deed and will be sold "as is".
Property information is available at the Argentine Township Hall
Property will be shown by appointment only. 810-735-5050
The Township has the right to accept and/or refuse any and all bids.

Please send sealed bids to: Denise Graves, Argentine Township Clerk, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451.

NOTICE ROSE TOWNSHIP 2012 ANNUAL SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP DAYS

Rose Township will hold its annual Roadside Clean-Up for residents and property owners on the following date:

Saturday May 19, 2012 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Residents and township organizations are encouraged to participate in the clean-up of the roadsides.

Dumpsters will be located in the Rose Township Park located on the northwest corner of Milford Road and West Rose Center Road. Refuse to be disposed of must be transported to the dumpsters. **THERE IS NO ROADSIDE PICK UP.** No commercial dumping will be allowed.

Constable Emile Bair will be on duty to verify residence and/or property ownership. Fire department personnel will be there to assist with loading materials into the dumpsters. Propane tanks will be accepted. No barrels, gas or fuel oil tanks, stumps, brush or concrete will be accepted. Paint cans must be empty or filled with sand or cat litter. Each household will be permitted four (4) car tires; additional tires will be accepted at a price of \$4.00 per tire and \$25.00 per tire for tractor or large truck tires.

Burning permits to allow the burning of leaves and brush are available by telephone at (248) 634-2620.

Bags for cleaning roadsides will be available at the Rose Township Offices, 9080 Mason Street, Holly, Michigan beginning April 23, 2012 until May 17, 2012 and also at the clean-up day location on clean-up day.

Rose Township's regular recycling date is May 5, 2012. Residents may call 248-634-7551 with any questions.

Debbie Miller
Rose Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TUESDAY MARCH 27, 2012 AT 7:00 PM BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF FENTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AT 12060 MANTAWAUKA. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

HO12-0048 Diane Tushim 3332 Horrell Ct. requesting home occupation permit to operate a pet service establishment in residence. Parcel 06-15-501-013

HO12-049 Carl Savage Jr. 2477 Davis St. requesting home occupation permit to operate a consulting firm in residence. Parcel 06-02-554-006

ZBA12-004 Peter Van Driessche 7389 Newberry Rd. Durand requesting land area, road frontage and lake frontage variances to repartition platted lot back to original lot size, property is located at 4277 West Four Lakes Dr. Parcel 06-21-527-014

ZBA12-005 Benjamin Carriere 1500 Triple Oak Dr. requesting sight line variance to add additional height to accessory building on lake side of property. Parcel 06-12-552-010

ZBA12-006 Harry Brink 6050 Birch Rd. Flint requesting front setback, side yard setback and sight line variances to construct new residence on vacant property at 13500 Wenwood Pkwy. Parcel 06-13-577-008

COPIES OF THE ABOVE LISTED APPLICATIONS AND THE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE FOR YOUR REVIEW. YOUR OPINIONS MAY BE EXPRESSED VERBALLY AT THIS HEARING OR IN WRITING TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS PRIOR TO THIS HEARING. THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ENCOURAGES YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE APPEALS.

This notice is published in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

Fenton Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days notice to Fenton Township.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Fenton Township by writing or calling the following: Robert Krug, Fenton Township Clerk, 12060 Mantawauka Drive, Fenton, MI 48430, (810) 629-1537.

Ordinances, meeting schedules and other Township information are also available at www.fentontownship.org.

ROBERT KRUG,
FENTON TOWNSHIP CLERK

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- Many more amenities

Qualified applicants bring in this ad and receive a \$100 Gift Certificate for furniture purchase.

Located off Fenton Rd. 1500 N. Towne Commons Blvd.

810-750-7200

Certain restrictions apply-on lined units only

Rooms/ Apartments For Rent 23

MARCH MADNESS - \$348 moves you in! Free rent until May 1st. 3 or 4 bedroom homes with 2 baths starting at \$929, including appliances, washer/dryer, Hartland Schools. Call Sun Homes at Cider Mill Crossings. 888-703-6652. Offer expires 3-31-12. Located off US/23 and Clyde Rd. Fenton, MI. www.cidermillcrossings.com. EHO

Misc. Wanted 27

ALL SCRAP metals picked up including appliances. We buy scrap cars/trucks, farm equipment/motor homes. 810-730-7514, 810-449-0045.

I NEED your scrap metal, washers, dryers, water heaters, furnaces, refrigerators, aluminum, copper piping, etc. Please call 810-735-5910.

NICE FAMILY looking for beautiful home to lease long term in Fenton/Linden area. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Need availability on June 1st. 810-429-1440.

Misc. Wanted 27

TURN YOUR SCRAP STEEL into cash. Scrap and vehicles accepted! Certified scales. **Will pay \$5 over scale price with this ad.** We also carry a full range of new and used automotive parts. Free towing under 25 miles (heavy equipment excluded). Bridge Lake Auto and Truck Parts Inc., 9406 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston, MI. 248-625-5050. M-F, 9-5p.m., Saturday, 9-2p.m. www.bridgelakeautoparts.com.

Lost & Found 31

FEMALE SILVER TEACUP poodle. Lost Leroy and S. Holly Rd. area. Reward for information or return. 989-321-1806.

Pets 34

PUPPIES FOR sale. Mixed labs, 6 weeks old. \$75. 734-895-5728.

ALASKAN MALAMUTE pups born 1/11/12; 3 male, 3 female; vet checked & first shots; puppy collar/leash/food each included. Asking \$500 each. Call 12-8p.m., 810-519-3120.

Boats & Motors 40

BOAT SLIPS for rent on Lake Fenton. \$1600 annually. 810-629-2591.

Heavy Equipment 45

SKID STEER with implements. Only 500+ hours. \$35,000 or best offer. Serious offers please. 810-965-3586.

Need an idea for dinner?
FIND RECIPES AT
www.tctimes.com/living/food_for_thought

BY TRIBUNE MEDIA

Sunday Sudoku

7	3					6		2
			4	7		1		
					5		9	
	1			3			8	
			4	5	1			
	7			2			1	
	2		6					
		5			9	8		
3		6					2	1

ANSWER KEY LOCATED IN THIS EDITION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF LINDEN

PARKS & RECREATION 2012-2016 DRAFT PLAN

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers located at 201 N. Main Street, Linden, Michigan 48451. The public hearing is being held to receive comments and consider the adoption of the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016.

A Parks and Recreation Plan will assist the City in identifying recreation needs within the community. The plan will serve as a guide to document priorities for improvements. While a Parks & Recreation Plan assists the community in determining its goals and needs, if approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), it also qualifies the community for recreation grants which are administered through the MDNR Grants Administration Section. The proposed plan includes a community description, an overview of the administrative structure of the City, an inventory of existing facilities, a recreation needs analysis, goals and objectives, and capital improvement priorities for the next five years.

The hearing is intended to provide an opportunity for interested citizens to express their opinions regarding all aspects of the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan.

Copies of the draft City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016 will be available for public review at the Linden City Hall, located at 132 E. Broad Street, Linden, Michigan, 48451 on February 6, 2012, as well as on the City's website at www.lindenmi.us.

1 CITY OF LINDEN
2
3 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 201 N. MAIN STREET
4

5
6 **CALL TO ORDER**

7
8 The special meeting of the Linden Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order at
9 7:00 p.m. by Barb Thibodeau, Chairperson.

10
11 **ROLL CALL**

12
13 PRESENT: Barb Thibodeau, Amanda Adams, Marguerite Plumb, Danielle Dixon

14
15 ABSENT:

16
17 OTHERS

18 PRESENT: Adam Young, of Wade Trim; Vic Lukasavitz
19
20

21 **PUBLIC HEARING**

22
23 Chairperson Thibodeau opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. stating that the purpose of
24 the hearing is to hear citizen's comments on the proposed Parks and Recreation Plan 2-
25 12-2016.

26
27 Adam Young, of Wade Trim, presented the draft document for the City of Linden's Parks
28 and Recreation Plan 2012-2016.

29
30 Vic Lukasavitz, 809 E. Rolston Rd, said he currently sits on the board for the League of
31 Michigan Board of Cyclists. They advocate and support the development of trails.
32 He reviewed the draft document and wanted to make the following comments:

33
34 He suggested modifying the plan to get money so the current DPW yard off N. Bridge
35 Street could be converted into a park. He suggested the city target the complete streets
36 program because there is money available which can be combined with park projects. He
37 would like to see more information on the potential trails. The stretch from S. Bridge
38 Street to the Linden High School could be a bike trail and could be funded in part with
39 Safe Routes to Schools funding programs. There are a lot of creative things you can do
40 with farmer's markets. Bike races could be held and become a way to attract visitors to
41 the area. He suggested that some of the verbiage refer to active healthy living. He
42 pointed out that a good example of partnering is the Coleridge State Bike Trail in the area
43 of Oakland County Camp grounds. The paved trail at the County Park just south of town
44 could be expanded and connected to the City of Linden. He suggested that on the map,
45 sidewalks be proposed for E. Rolston and we need a trail between Linden and Fenton
46 along Silver Lake Road.

1 A trail from the west side of Linden through Fenton Township and Argentine Township
2 has been designed. Phase I would connect the Linden High School and the Linden
3 Middle School. They were turned down in their first attempt but they are going back to
4 try again for funding.

5
6 On page 36, he wants to see what we have planned for connectivity to other
7 municipalities.

8
9 On page 37, we should include active living and health as the last objective.

10
11 On page 40, plan in year five is to establish a 10 foot wide trail. He said a fourteen foot
12 wide trail is OK if it has a rail. In Shiawassee County they have a non-motorized trail
13 that is multi universal and ADA inclusive of everybody.

14
15 Mr. Lukasavitz hopes that the Parks & Recreation Commission will now develop a short
16 term and long range plan of action to implement and or complete the plan.

17
18 The public hearing was closed at 7:30 p.m.

19
20 **COMMENTS**

21
22 Adam Young said we should incorporate changes into a report and bring them back to the
23 Parks & Recreation Commission. He will add the DPW property. The City of Linden
24 has already adopted a complete streets plan. In regards to potential trails, they do not call
25 them sidewalks they are called trails. He will add the health objective, the parades and
26 events, and the three parks.

27
28 He will bring the revisions back to the next meeting for final consideration by the Parks
29 & Recreation Commission.

30
31 The commission discussed the vacancies on the Parks & Recreation Commission and
32 asked Mr. Lukasavitz if he were interested in serving on the commission.

33
34 Mr. Lukasavitz said he would be interested in serving on the commission.

35
36 **Passed motion by Plumb, second by Adams, to recommend the City Council appoint**
37 **Mr. Vic Lukasavitz to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Motion carried by full**
38 **yea vote.**

39
40 **ADJOURNMENT**

41
42 The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

43
44 *Martha A. Donnelly*
45 Martha A. Donnelly, City Clerk

Approved: 5-17-12

Resolution No. 956
Resolution of Adoption
Linden City Council
Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Commission is an appointed body and establishes direction and policy regarding parks and recreation facilities, projects and programs; and

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for overseeing and guiding the development of a Parks and Recreation Plan; and

Whereas, said Parks and Recreation Commission has made investigations and surveys of the existing recreation resources and probable future need for recreation facilities and services; and

Whereas, in order to gather input from the public, the Parks and Recreation Commission held several public meetings and distributed a recreation needs survey; and

Whereas, a draft Parks and Recreation Plan was completed and made available for public review on February 6, 2012, and a public hearing was held before the Parks and Recreation Commission on March 22, 2012 to enable additional comments from the public; and

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Commission passed a Resolution Recommending Adoption of the Plan at their April 19, 2012 meeting;

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the City Council of the City of Linden does hereby adopt the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016.

Be It Further Resolved that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in the City of Linden.

Ayes: Culbert, Dixon, Adams, Swan, Ross, Lossing

Nays:

Absent: Ciesielski

Adopted April 23, 2012

I, Martha Donnelly, Clerk of the City of Linden, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution that was adopted by the Linden City Council at a meeting held on April 23, 2012.


Martha Donnelly, City Clerk

Resolution Recommending Adoption
City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission
Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Commission establishes direction and policy regarding parks and recreation facilities, projects and programs; and

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for overseeing and guiding the development of a Parks and Recreation Plan; and

Whereas, said Parks and Recreation Commission has made investigations and surveys of the existing recreation resources and probable future need for recreation facilities and services; and

Whereas, in order to gather input from the public, the Parks and Recreation Commission held several public meetings and distributed a recreation needs survey; and

Whereas, a draft Parks and Recreation Plan was completed and made available for public review on February 6, 2012, and a public hearing was held before the Parks and Recreation Commission on March 22, 2012 to enable additional comments from the public;

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission does hereby recommend adoption of the Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016, with inclusion of the revisions as noted in the minutes of this meeting.

Be It Further Resolved that the Parks and Recreation Plan shall serve as a guide to future recreation development in the City of Linden.

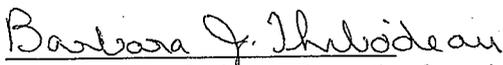
Ayes: Dixon, Plumb, Thibodeau, Beith, Lukasavitz

Nays: none

Absent: Adams

Adopted April 19, 2012

I, Barb Thibodeau, Chair of the City of Linden Parks and Recreation Commission do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution that was offered by the Linden Parks and Recreation Commission at a meeting held on Thursday, April 19, 2012.


Barb Thibodeau, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair



If transmitted items are not as noted, notify writer immediately.

To: Genesee County Metro. Planning Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502-1470

Date: June 11, 2012

Transmitted By: [X] Regular Mail [] Overnight Delivery
[] Hand Delivered
[] Picked Up By:
[] Other:

Attn: To Whom it May Concern

RE: City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

We are transmitting [1] copy(s) of the following:

- [] Certificate for Payment No. [] Discs [] Prints [] Specs.
[] Contract Change Order No. [] Drawings [] Product Literature [] Tracings
[] Construction Change Req. No. [] Field Measure Plans [] Samples [] Work Orders No.
[] Copy of Letter [] Plans [] Shop Drawings
[X] Other: City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

For your: [] Action [] As Requested [X] Information [] Review/Comment [] Use
[] Approval [] Distribution [] Records /Files [] Signature

Remarks: As is required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and on behalf of the City of Linden, we are forwarding you a copy of the approved City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan for your information and files.

Job No. LDN6006-01D

By: Adam Young, AICP

cc:

PW/PROJECTS/L/LDN6006/01D/DOCS/TRANSMIT REC MASTER PLAN GENESEE CO.DOC

25251 Northline Road 734.947.9700
P.O. Box 10 800.482.2864
Taylor, MI 48180 734.947.9726 fax
www.wadetrim.com



If transmitted items are not as noted, notify writer immediately.

To: GLS Region V Planning & Dev. Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502-1470

Date: June 11, 2012

Attn: To Whom it May Concern

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[] Picked Up By:
[] Other:

RE: City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

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[] Copy of Letter [] Plans [] Shop Drawings
[X] Other: City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan 2012-2016

For your: [] Action [] As Requested [X] Information [] Review/Comment [] Use
[] Approval [] Distribution [] Records /Files [] Signature

Remarks: As is required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and on behalf of the City of Linden, we are forwarding you a copy of the approved City of Linden Parks and Recreation Plan for your information and files. Please copy the Grants Section of the MDNR, if you should have any comments on the enclosed plan.

Job No. LDN6006-01D

By: Adam Young, AICP

cc:

PW/PROJECTS/L/LDN6006/01D/DOCS/TRANSMIT REC MASTER PLAN GLS COMMISSION.DOC

25251 Northline Road 734.947.9700
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www.wadetrim.com



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Detroit, MI 48226
313.961.3650

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Parks and Recreation Plan

City of Linden

GENESEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

