



# **CITY OF MANTON**

## PARKS & RECREATION PLAN



JANUARY 2024



# Acknowledgements

Adopted by City Council

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# 1. Community Description

## DEMOGRAPHICS & SOCIOECONOMIC REVIEW

### Community Description

The City of Manton is located in Wexford County in the northwest portion of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. It is approximately 16 miles north of the county seat, Cadillac on Old US-131. Two townships (Cedar Creek and Liberty) surround the city. The area, which has been settled since the 1840’s, is famous for its tree farms and rural landscapes. Residents enjoy the remote small-town atmosphere while still being close to bigger cities like Cadillac and Traverse City. Data that informs this chapter was gathered from the United States Census Bureau.

### Population

Estimates from the U.S. Census show that in the 30 years between 1990 and 2020, Manton has seen a population growth of 8.3% percent from 1,161 residents in 1990 to 1,258 in 2020. This 30-year population growth in the city follows a similar trend across Wexford County and Cedar Creek and Liberty Townships. Data shows that Wexford County saw a growth of 27.7% (26,360 in 1990, to 33,673 in 2020) in the same period. Similarly, Cedar Creek Township’s population grew by 83% (1,013 in 1990 to 1,855 in 2020), and Liberty Township grew by 47% (637 in 1990 to 936 in 2020).<sup>1</sup> Between 2010 to 2020, Manton lost 2.3% or approximately 29 residents, though more recent

information from the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year estimate shows that Manton has likely rebounded from this.<sup>2</sup> There is also an Amish population numbering approximately 250 with 40 families living in the area surrounding Manton and are present throughout the community.

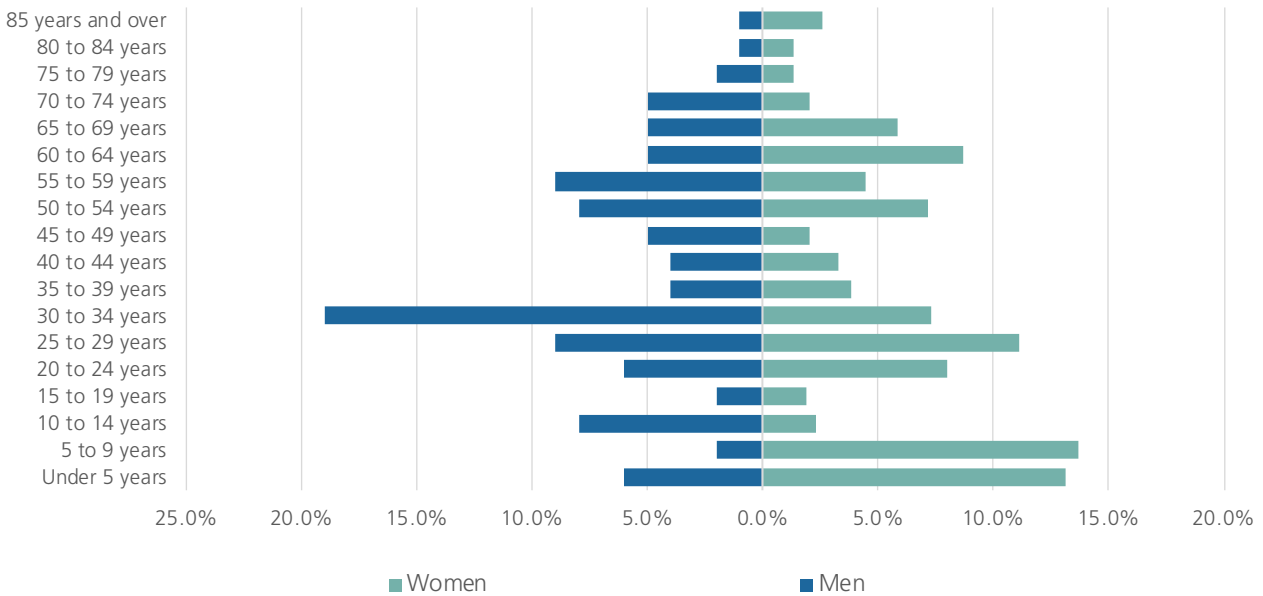
From 2011 to 2021 the total number of households in Manton increased marginally from 510 to 519. When considering that the population is close to what it was in 2010, this increase in households may indicate a shift in household type for residents.<sup>3</sup> One explanation could be that more young adult residents are living in homes with fewer people. Just under 30% of the city’s residents make up the early-career workforce ages 20-34.<sup>4</sup> The average household size in 2011 was 3.01 for the city. By 2021, the average household size in Manton was just 2.47 which would substantiate that increase in the number of households. Additionally, Manton is following a common national trend of householders living alone. From 2011 to 2021 residents living alone rose from 14.5% to 31% of total households which likely created the largest change in this statistic. Liberty Township followed a similar trend with the average household size reducing while experiencing a population increase. Meanwhile, Cedar Creek Township saw a slight overall reduction in households but followed the others in the shrinking average household size.

Table 01: Population Change Over Time

Municipality	2010		2020	
	Count		Count	Growth
Manton	1,287		1,258	-2.3%
Cedar Creek Township	1,757		1,855	5.6%
Liberty Township	861		936	8.7%
Wexford County	32,735		33,673	2.9%

Source: U.S. Census

**Figure 01: Population Pyramid (2021)**



Source: U.S. Census

### Age

Manton’s age distribution is unique in that its population makeup is skewed toward younger age cohorts. The median age of a Manton resident was just 33.1 years old in 2021, lower than the State of Michigan average (39.8) as well as Wexford County (41.7). The surrounding Townships (Cedar Creek and Liberty) both have a higher average Liberty was being 39.7 and Cedar Creek was the next youngest at 35.7 years old. The figure titled “Population Pyramid” shows Manton’s age distribution for men and women compared to that of the State of Michigan. At the top of the pyramid are the older age ranges. For all cohorts over the age of 65 (except for men 70 to 74) the State of Michigan has a higher percentage of distribution than the City of Manton. This low percentage of elderly residents relative to the State of Michigan is one reason for the very young median age for the city. The other notable reason is the distribution of the young population in the city. The bottom of the pyramid shows the youngest cohorts on the chart. Women in the two youngest groups (Under 5 Years and 5 to 9 Years) are distribution outliers with 27% of the total female residents falling into the youngest age cohorts.<sup>5</sup> There is a significant dip in this distribution in the teenage range for both males and females where these cohorts’ sizes are small compared to the state average. One theory for such a young population has to do with Manton’s proximity to Traverse City. As the cost

of living in Traverse City has gone up and housing has become more expensive, many have begun to move to Kingsley and Manton, and commute for work. In recent years, as Manton’s older population aged out, they sold homes to younger residents that found the prices more attainable than those closer to Traverse City. The large distribution of younger residents will soon age into these teenage and young adult cohorts, which is great for Manton as a robust group of young residents will soon start their careers and go on to higher education. If Manton retains these people, they will contribute to the local economy and raise families there. The large distribution of residents in the 20 to 34 age range implies that Manton residents often stay in the city in their early adulthood. Michigan residents in this demographic tend to be oriented towards outdoor recreation, and maintaining these natural amenities for residents will lead to increased interest in what the city has to offer and a stronger community.

### Disability

Disability is an important factor in community planning because disabilities can significantly impact how and what assets people can access. About 15% of Manton’s residents have a disability. The most common disabilities are ambulatory (mobility) difficulty (9.5%), cognitive difficulty (9.1%), and independent living difficulty (8.3%).<sup>6</sup> Additionally, there is a positive correlation between

age and disability with the highest rates of disability found in residents who are 65 years old and over. The most common senior disabilities are ambulatory difficulty (66.9%), cognitive difficulty (28.6%), and hearing difficulty (27.9%).<sup>7</sup>

### Income and Earnings

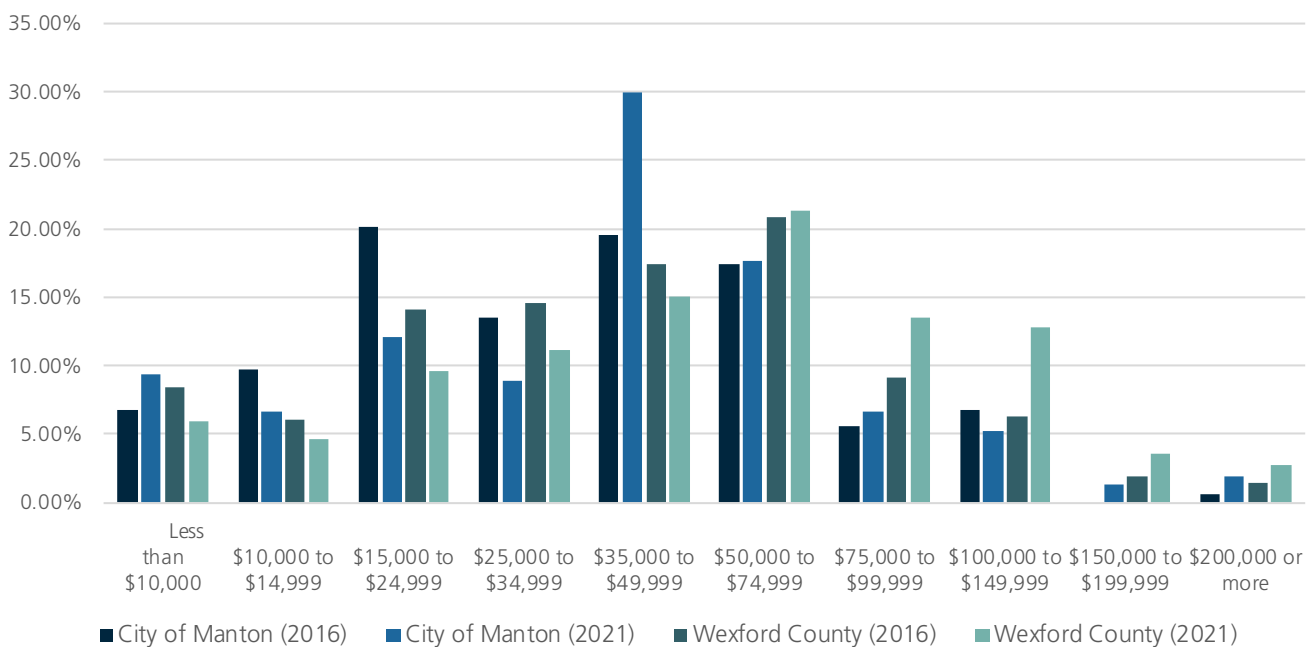
The 2021 median household income for the City of Manton was \$41,039, which is much lower than the State of Michigan with \$63,202 and Wexford County with \$54,114.<sup>8</sup> When compared to the County, Manton had a lower percentage of residents in each income bracket above \$50,000 in both 2016 and 2021. From 2016 to 2021, the share of residents in the lower income brackets decreased. The Manton median income increased from \$34,926 to \$41,039 during this period, which is a positive trajectory but may not be enough to make a noticeable impact on a monthly budget. Households in the \$35,000 to \$49,999 range were 19.5% of the total households in 2016 and in 2021 they were 29.9% of the total, showing that low-to-middle-income jobs have increased in pay.<sup>9</sup> The number of higher income households has remained relatively unchanged, indicating a limit to higher paying jobs for Manton residents. Additionally, data from Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) by United Way shows that of all residents in Wexford County over 16 years of age almost

43% are not currently members of the workforce. This proportion of residents not in the workforce is large enough to bring down the average salary, compared to if it were a smaller proportion.<sup>10</sup>

Additionally, ALICE data shows that many households are financially burdened even with a steady income. A household may show an income too high to be considered below the poverty line for a specific area, but still be constrained by their income. This occurs because their incomes level places them above the poverty line, causing them to not receive government assistance but the wages still cannot keep up with the costs of basic living necessities. In 2021, 14% of Wexford County residents were below the poverty line while 31% of Wexford residents were below the ALICE threshold while being above the poverty line.<sup>11</sup>

The proportion of residents with a bachelor's degree is a good indicator of the strength of economy for a given area. People with a bachelor's degree earn between \$630,000 and \$900,000 more in their lifetime than someone without a bachelor's degree on average.<sup>12</sup> 4.6% of Manton residents over 25 years of age had a bachelor's degree in 2021, whereas the State of Michigan has a rate of 30.6%.<sup>13</sup> While higher education does not guarantee a positive life outcome, the data shows that average earnings have significantly increased

Figure 02: Household Income Distribution (2016 & 2021)



Source: U.S. Census



with advanced degrees. One reason that the proportion of residents with degrees is low is that a large proportion of Manton’s workforce (40%) work in construction and manufacturing. These jobs are more available in the region, some of which pay high salaries without the need for higher education. Not all jobs in these fields are necessarily higher paying however, which is why average income remains relatively low.<sup>14</sup> This discrepancy in lost wages compounds over time and produces measurable differences in outcome of for cities. This underlines the need for the City of Manton to work to attract good paying wages so that they can retain their most talented residents.

### Poverty

The US Census Bureau determines poverty status by comparing annual household income with the number of individuals in the household. The City of Manton’s overall poverty rate (13.1%) is the same as Wexford County (13%), and the State (13%).<sup>15</sup> Furthermore, overall poverty has decreased in the community since 2016, following the same trends in Wexford County and the State of Michigan. Though the overall outlook for poverty in the community has improved it varies by group. The populations most affected by poverty are single mothers and the elderly. Both of these groups increased in poverty from 2016 to 2021. The poverty rate for single mothers in Manton increased by 30% during the five-year period,

while both the County and State experienced a decrease.<sup>16</sup> Additionally, seniors in poverty more than doubled (5.1% to 11.8%) from 2016 to 2021. The County and State also saw this increase though to a lesser extent. It is noteworthy that the population of elderly residents and single mothers are a small proportion of the total population, so these numbers are prone to large fluctuations.<sup>17</sup> As seniors age, the burden brought on by increased expenses in healthcare and housing can often put them into precarious financial situations. Conversely, for single mothers the cost of raising children, compounded by recent inflation puts increasing pressure on them to make ends meet.

### Conclusion

The City of Manton boasts a very young average age with 55.1 % of its residents younger than 35 years.<sup>18</sup> This is an advantage as a younger population is a healthier one overall. These are the groups that should be considered when creating a parks and recreation plan because they will be most likely to take advantage of these amenities and be affected by the long-term outcomes of community improvements. The data shows that incomes have increased in recent years and overall poverty has seen a reduction, though median incomes are lower than much of the state. Creating a group that is financially burdened though still above the poverty line. As recreation opportunities improve and new economic opportunities are attracted

**Table 02: Poverty Rates**

Jurisdiction	2016	2021
<b>City of Manton</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Single female headed households with children	27.1%	57.4%
Children	24.7%	13.3%
Seniors	5.1%	11.8%
<b>Wexford County</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>13%</b>
Single female headed households with children	55.4%	40.1%
Children	29.9%	18.4%
Seniors	6.3%	8.5%
<b>State of Michigan</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>13%</b>
Single female headed households with children	44.3%	36.0%
Children	22.8%	18.2%
Seniors	8.1%	8.7%

Source: U.S. Census

there will be more opportunities for better outcomes for these residents in the most need.

## BUILT AND NATURAL SYSTEMS

The City of Manton possesses various natural resources, with Manton Creek traversing the city and Lake Billings, the Mill Pond, and smaller ponds scattered throughout, allowing residents to enjoy scenic views and water recreation year-round. There are woodlands in the southeast and northwest of the city where paths meander through for all to enjoy; they connect into the city pathway system connecting homes to these spaces. It is easy to see the value that residents place on these natural systems in how they have intertwined the built world with these natural resources so residents can easily move between the two. This section examines these connections and how the city's stewardship of these features will allow their continued enjoyment.

### Land Use Trends

The City of Manton is 1.61 square miles in area. Water accounts for .05 square miles of this area. The 1.56 square miles of land area has a variety of land uses listed below:

- » **Residential:** Residential uses comprise approximately 39.00% (406.4 acres) of Manton's total area
- » **Commercial:** Commercial land accounts for 10.94% (112.8 acres) of Manton's total area.
- » **Industrial:** Industrial land uses account for only 2.44% (25.1 acres) of the city's total area.
- » **Public/Semi-Public:** These properties are exempt from the City of Manton's tax base and account for 27.89% (287.37 acres) of the total area.
- » **Parks:** These properties account for 7.71% (79.5 acres) of the city's total area.

The remaining land area not represented in the percentages above is made up of rights-of-way and water bodies.

### Regional Trail Networks

#### *Michigan Cross County Cycle Trail (MCCCT)*

The MCCCT is a 1,200-mile trail running

throughout the lower peninsula's northern portion. The trail runs just north of Manton in the Pere Marquette National Forest (in Liberty Township), where a 99-mile section traverses the forest. The trail is available for use by highway-legal motorcycles that are 40 inches wide or less.<sup>19</sup>

#### *All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trails*

Many trails for ATVs and ORVs are north of the city in the Pere Marquette National Forest. The stretch of MCCCT allows ORVs as long as they are licensed and have a trail permit.

#### *Wexford County Roads*

Wexford County Board of Commissioners passed Ordinance No. 41 in 2009, which allowed motorists to operate ORVs on the side of dirt roads and the shoulder of paved roads within the county. They are allowed to cross the roads at 90-degree angles if they can do so safely and come to a complete stop before.<sup>20</sup> The City of Manton is not included in this Ordinance, so these vehicles cannot operate on the side of roads in the city, but residents still own and use them beyond the limits, especially to access trails.

### Trails in the City

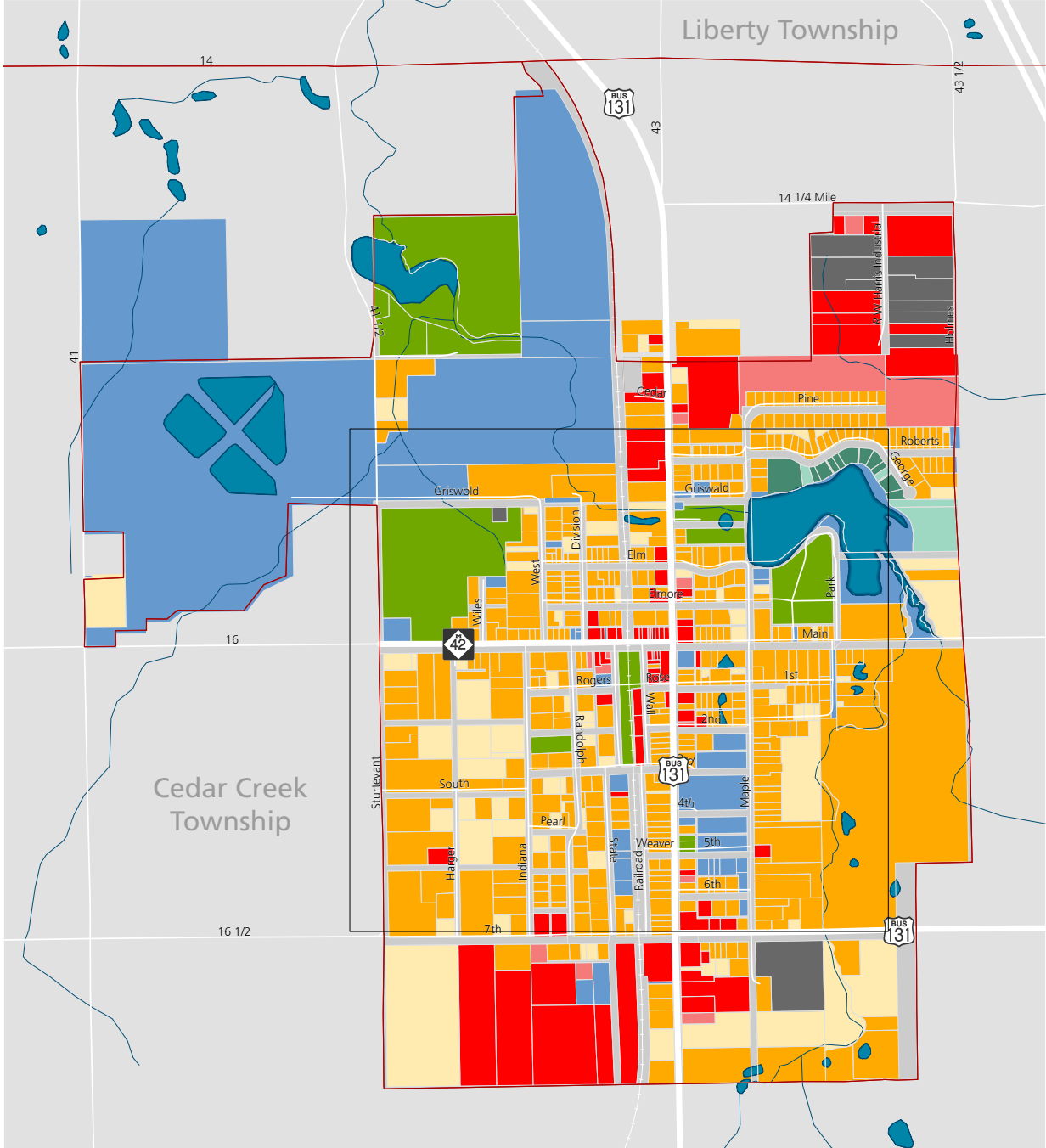
There are sidewalks along some of the streets throughout the city however, there is not enough coverage to be accessible, specifically to individuals with varying levels of mobility. There are also walking trails throughout the wooded areas in the city that are accessible to residents so they can experience nature close to home.

### Natural Features

#### *Topography*

Manton has an average elevation of approximately 1,130 feet.<sup>21</sup> The region's geology is made up of Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks, just like the rest of Michigan's lower peninsula. The city's topography is relatively flat because of the continental glaciers that shaped the surface with repeated advances and retreats that deposited and leveled off sediments.<sup>22</sup> The lowest-lying part of the city is the area around Mill Pond at approximately 1,066 feet above sea level, and the highest elevation is in the southwest area by Fairview Cemetery and is about 1,240 feet above sea level.

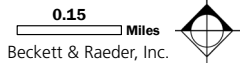
# Map 01: Existing Land Use



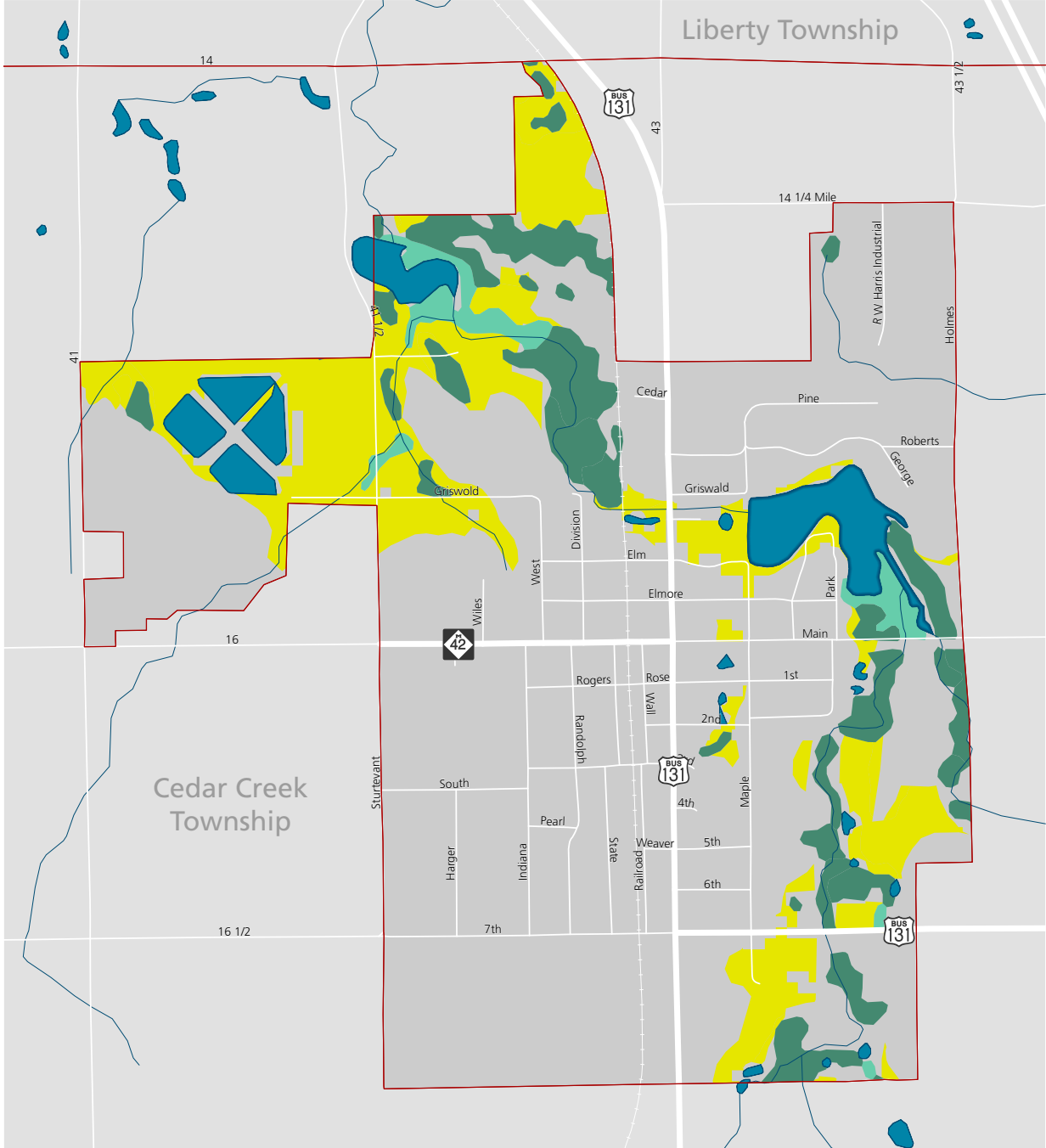
## Existing Land Use

Sources: Michigan Open Data Portal, City of Manton

- Improved Commercial
- Vacant Commercial
- Improved Industrial
- Improved Residential
- Vacant Residential
- Improved Waterfront Residential
- Vacant Waterfront Residential
- Parks/Recreation
- Exempt



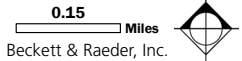
# Map 02: Wetlands



## Wetlands

Sources: Michigan Open Data Portal, City of Manton

- City of Manton
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetlands
- Freshwater Emergent Wetlands
- Restorative Wetlands
- Open Water



## Forests

Timber played a pivotal role in the early history of Manton, as a great deal of the early economy was based around wood and timber mills. Manton is a Mesic Hardwood Forest area where hardwoods grow in the moist soils between wetlands and dryer areas. The dominating hardwood tree species in the city are Hickory, Ash, Maple, Oak, Poplar, and Birch. Additionally, conifers like Hemlock and White Pine can also be found.<sup>23</sup>

## Wetlands

Two types of wetlands are present in Manton: forested and emergent. Wetlands provide numerous benefits to fish, wildlife, people, and the landscape such as stormwater management, water purification, and habitat. Forested wetlands account for much of the tree canopy. They can be found in most areas that experienced glacial activity and are, therefore, common throughout Michigan.<sup>24</sup> Emergent marshes are shallow

wetlands located along the border of lakes and streams. They are characterized by narrow and broad-leaf plants and floating leafy plants.<sup>25</sup>

## Flood Plains

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the City of Manton is not located within a floodplain.<sup>26</sup> When looking at the Wetland Map (above), the viewer can see areas in the city that are low lying. According to First Street Foundation, an organization that assesses climate risk in America including flood risks, says that 14% of properties in Manton are in a 1% floodplain. A 1% floodplain means that there is a 1% risk of flooding each year. Over 30 years, there is a 26% chance of flooding in a 1% flood zone.<sup>27</sup> First Street Foundation's flooding models identify about 70% more areas within a floodplain than FEMA. The areas that are the most flood prone in the city are the land bordering Manton Creek, and in the northwest sector of the city in the area around Mill Pond and the Manton Athletic Complex.

## Sources

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*Manton City Signage*



*Lake Billings RV Park & Campground*

# 2. Administrative Structure

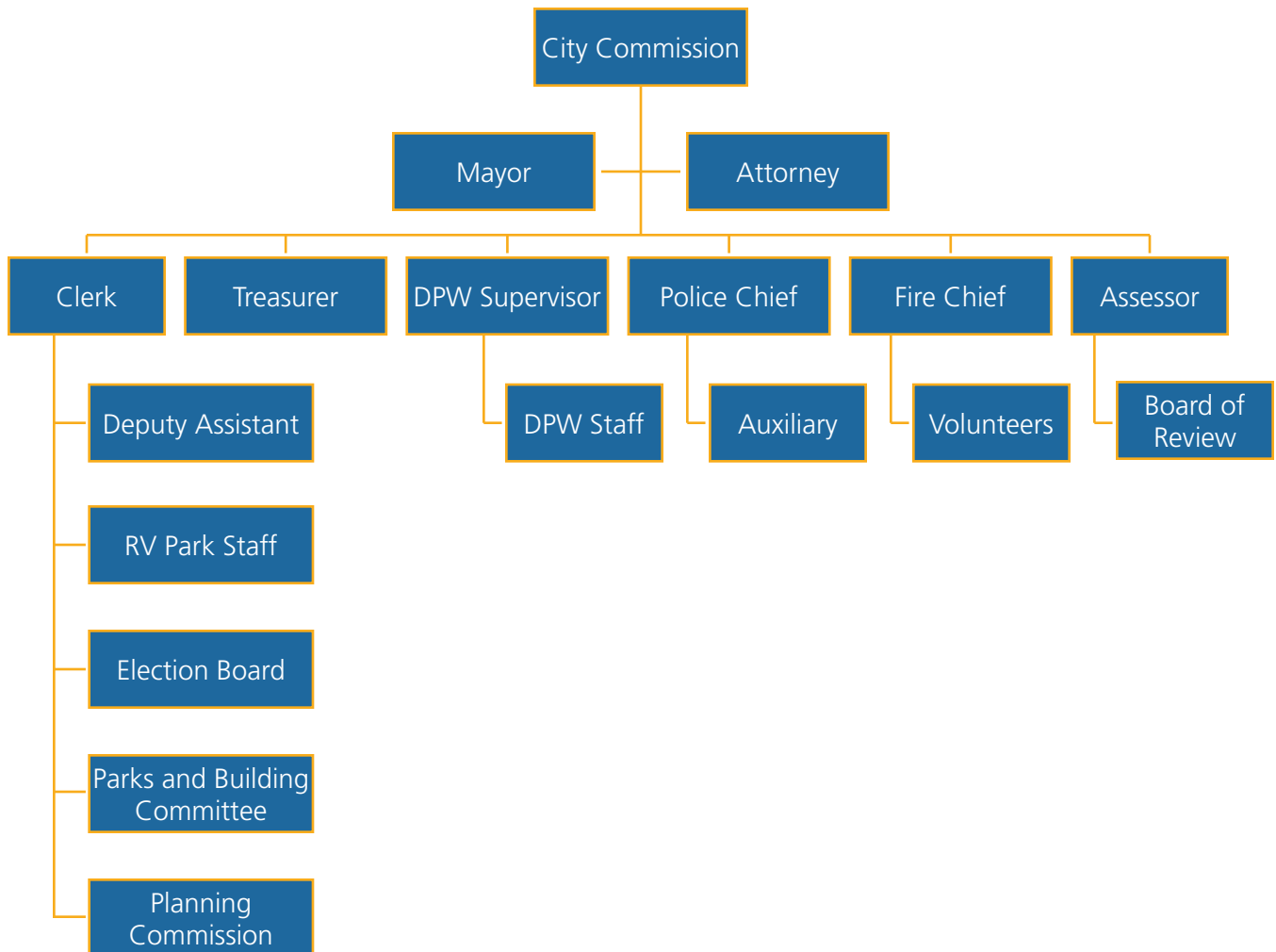
## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Planning and administration of Manton’s recreational assets and programming, as well as the facilities associated with parks and recreation, rests with the following:

- » Manton City Commission
- » Parks and Buildings Committee

The City Commission makes all final decisions regarding funding, maintenance, and programming for all city-related matters, including parks and recreation. The Parks and Buildings Committee meets when they deem appropriate to discuss and make recommendations to the City Commission. The City Commission is the approving body for when and how to implement these recommendations. The Rotary Club of Manton does a portion of the upkeep for Rotary Park as volunteers and is not a part of the organization chart for Manton.

Figure 03: Administrative Structure





## Rotary Park

Rotary Park is owned and maintained by the city. The Rotary Club of Manton does assume some responsibility for this park; they provide some maintenance and some programming. This is the only park that has maintenance provided by a group separate from city staff.

## Overlap With Other Organizations

Manton’s City Commission is only superseded by Wexford County and the State of Michigan. There is no significant overlap with either entity.

## CITY BUDGET

During the 2022-2023 financial year (FY 22-23) Manton appropriated \$185,950 for its Parks and Recreation Budget. Lake Billings RV Park &

Campground received most of this budget, with \$151,750 allocated during the financial year. This allotted budget covers city employees who operate the RV park, improvement, repairs, and utilities for park users that includes all services used by campers at the 85 sites and people who visit for recreation. The rest of the parks (Railroad Park, Rotary Memorial Park, and Mill Pond) were allocated \$34,200 during FY 22-23. This allocation covered utilities, repairs, and miscellaneous supplies.

Table 03: Grant History

GRANT HISTORY		
<b>Lake Billings Campground</b>		
BF92-239 (MDNR)	1992	\$55,275.00
Components		
Basketball Landscaping Lighting Road Construction	Service Building Site Preparation Utility Extension	
<b>Railroad Park (Extension)</b>		
MEDC - Public Gathering (PGSI)	2023	\$1,010,800.00
Components		
Splash Pad and Equipment New Playground Equipment Walking Paths Resting/Gathering Area		

# 3. Recreation Inventory

The City of Manton possesses great recreational assets for a city of its size. Assets allow for year-round opportunities for enjoyment in both public and private spaces. Within each recreational space there are a variety of amenities that make the space a desirable space for all. The following is an inventory of existing recreational facilities within the City of Manton, as well as some general information on regional public facilities that are easily accessible from the city. These regional facilities are under the control of the State of Michigan and the United States.

Overall, the City of Manton exceeds the acres of park and open space per 1,000 population when compared to National Recreation and Park Association metrics. The median acres of parkland per 1,000 residents for communities with a population less than 20,000 is 13.0 acres. The upper quartile is 21.1 acres. The City of Manton has 24.65 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.<sup>1</sup>

## TYOLOGY OF PARKS IN THE CITY OF MANTON

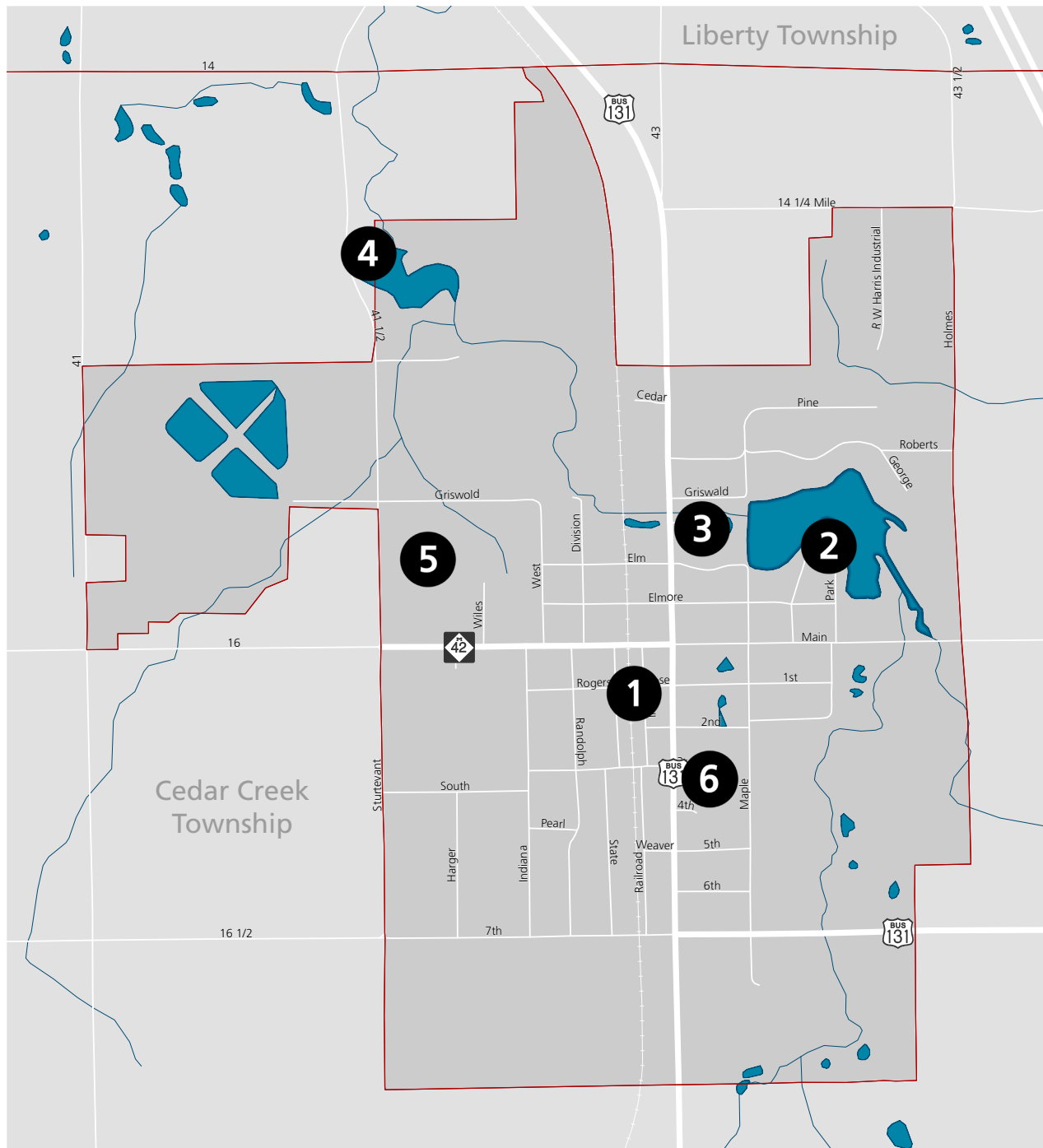
When determining what types of features and amenities belong in a particular park, it is useful

Table 04: Typology Of Parks in the City of Manton

Park Type	Characteristics	Example
Natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Minimally developed</li> <li>» Low-impact design features such as woodchip paths, grass, or gravel parking lots</li> <li>» The goal is to preserve the natural beauty of the landscape or natural features</li> <li>» Typically includes interpretive signage and walking paths.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Mill Pond Park</li> </ul>
Passive Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provides recreational amenities for small to medium gatherings in a natural setting</li> <li>» Typically includes playgrounds, shelters, restroom facilities, outdoor grills, benches, picnic areas, and campgrounds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Lake Billings Park and Campground</li> <li>» Rotary Park</li> </ul>
School Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provides facilities for active and athletic competitions.</li> <li>» Typically includes football, soccer, and track facilities, bleachers, restrooms, and parking facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Rangers Field</li> </ul>
Urban	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provides recreational amenities for a wide range of users Located in the town core.</li> <li>» Universally accessible amenities used throughout</li> <li>» It can be used for larger gatherings and community events</li> <li>» May include concrete paths, pavilions, play structures, pools or splash pads, plazas, amphitheaters, lighting, restrooms, and a wide variety of other recreational facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Railroad Park</li> </ul>

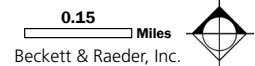
Source: Michigan Department of Recreation

# Map 03: Parks & Recreation Facilities Inventory



## Recreation Facilities

Sources: Michigan Open Data Portal, City of Manton



- ❶ Railroad Park
- ❷ Lake Billings Park and RV Campground
- ❸ Rotary Park
- ❹ Manton Mill Pond
- ❺ Rangers Field (Manton Consolidated Schools)
- ❻ Manton Consolidated Schools Campus

to first determine the classification of the park in question. The Michigan Department of Recreation has created "A Recommended Classification System For Local And Regional Recreation Open Space and Trails," which outlines 16 types of open spaces and their descriptions.

For use in the City of Manton, a classification system has been devised that consists of just four types of open spaces: Natural Parks, Passive Parks, School Parks, and Urban Parks. Each type of park has a different use and subsequently different types of amenities typically found in them. This is useful for determining what kinds of features should be planned for and developed in each park, which maintains a diversity of uses between parks. In this way, each park can develop a unique character and identity within the community.

## PARK OWNERSHIP

Within the City of Manton there are three types of recreational facilities:

- » **Public:** Facilities that are owned and operated by the city.
- » **Semi-Public:** This refers to the grounds and equipment that are owned and maintained by Manton Consolidated Schools.
- » **Private:** Facilities for recreational use that are privately owned and operated. Use of the facility is fee-based.

## PUBLIC FACILITIES

### MANTON RAILROAD PARK

*Urban Park - Area: 3.48 Acres*

Located in Manton's downtown on the south side of Main Street (M-42) between State and Wall Streets, it is the primary gathering area for the community. This park serves as a primary point in the community, where you will see people enjoying it any time the weather permits. Manton Station, an outdoor performing arts pavilion is in the southwest corner of the park. Concerts are held there throughout the summer and are available to all. It is also ADA accessible as there is a sidewalk leading to a large concrete pad in front of the stage. The Great Lakes Central Railroad passes through the park.<sup>2</sup>

**Accessibility Rating: 4**

#### Park Amenities:

- » Pavilion
- » Benches and accessible pad for watching performances
- » Gazebo
- » Restrooms
- » Skate park

- » Fire Hall
- » Picnic tables throughout
- » Multiple drinking fountains.



*Manton Station*

## LAKE BILLINGS RV PARK & CAMPGROUND

Passive Park - Area: 14.03 Acres

This park is a popular camping area in the region where locals and tourists both enjoy. Residents of Manton, surrounding townships, and visitors from even further distances come to the park to spend time as well as camping out during the warm months. This park is one of the most widely known attractions in the City of Manton.

**Accessibility Rating:** 3

### Park Amenities:

- » 85 Campsites; several of them are handicap accessible
    - » 37 with full hook-ups
    - » 48 with electric and water
  - » Dump station for RV waste
  - » Restrooms
- » Showers with hot water
  - » Two separate pavilions with tables
  - » Charcoal grills
  - » Picnic tables throughout the park
  - » Playground
  - » Horseshoe pits
  - » Washer and dryer
  - » ½ basketball court
  - » Tennis Courts
  - » Fishing
  - » Beach



RV Park Office



Pavillion

## ROTARY MEMORIAL PARK

Passive Park - Area: 3.76 Acres

This park is located to the west of Billings Lake and east of Old US 131, along Manton Creek. This park attracts primarily residents of Manton and is known as a popular gathering place for bird watchers. The Manton Area Historical Museum and the Manton Veteran Memorial Museum are adjacent to this park, and there is some military equipment for viewing in the park for those with historical and military interests. In addition to Manton Creek and Billings Lake, there is also a small pond with an island.<sup>3</sup>

**Accessibility Rating: 3**

### Park Amenities:

- » Parking
- » Creekside Pathway that connects to the rest of the cities path system
- » Benches
- » Pavilion with picnic tables
- » Bridges to cross Manton Creek
- » Historical display of logging and military equipment
- » Monuments
- » Charcoal grills



*Historical Display*



*Military Museum*



*Bridge to Cross Manton Creek*

## MANTON MILL POND

Nature Park - Area: 9.73 Acres

This has been a popular recreation destination for Manton residents for years. There are many scenic views throughout the park. In 1919, Manton Creek was dammed in this area to create the Mill Pond which ran a grist mill.<sup>4</sup> This dam was first documented in poor condition in 1986 and was first proposed for removal in 2001. The removal was completed between 2010 and 2012 in a multi-step process under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the former Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and a construction consultant to make sure the removal did not have unforeseen environmental repercussions.<sup>5</sup> There is still a pond at the location though it is much smaller than it was prior to dam removal. The city has invested in this area to make it great for recreation and to connect it to the city for ease of access. Some properties around the mill pond are privately owned but have trails that connect to Mill Pond Recreation Area. If the City of Manton were to acquire these properties trail coverage could be expanded and fulfill some of the community needs related to connectivity.

**Accessibility Rating: 2**

### Park Amenities:

- » Parking
- » Bridge over Manton Creek
- » Pond
- » Lake Billings access
- » Fishing



Pond



Park Signage



Picnic Tables

## SEMI-PUBLIC FACILITIES

### MANTON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

*School Park*

This district serves students in the City of Manton, Liberty, Cedar Creek, Greenwood, Caldwell, and Colfax Townships in Wexford County. The district also has coverage in Bloomfield Township in Missaukee County. The district possesses facilities that can be used by the public when it does not conflict with the school schedule.

#### Facility Amenities:

- » Playgrounds
- » Basketball courts
- » Playing fields
- » Indoor basketball court/gym
- » Library
- » Other rooms that can be used for various purposes

This complex serves Manton Consolidated



*Athletic Complex*

### MANTON RANGERS FIELD ATHLETIC COMPLEX

*School Park*

Schools as well as various other schools, youth organizations, and community groups.

#### Facility Amenities:

- » Football Field with all-weather track and bleachers
- » Four baseball fields
- » Cross-Country Track
- » Restrooms
- » Concession facilities
- » Parking



*Playing Fields*



## INDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

### Manton Area Cultural History Museum

Located at 102 Griswald Street, this museum showcases the history of Manton and the surrounding region. It is open during the summer months to visitors and educates them on the history of local businesses, leaders, and the people who originally settled in the area.<sup>6</sup>

### Manton Veteran's Memorial Museum

This nationally recognized museum is located at 310 N. Michigan Avenue and is adjacent to the cultural history museum. It is filled with many military artifacts and attracts visitors from all over the region.<sup>7</sup>

### Manton Public Library

The library provides many services to the community besides its access to books and other forms of media. It has various programs for children to promote literacy and provide opportunities for interaction outside of school hours. It is currently located at 404 W. Main Street in Manton but will soon be relocating to the current site of the VFW Hall at 603 State Street.

### Manton Area Retiree Center

This building is located at 302 W. Main Street in the heart of downtown. It provides programming to elderly residents in the region including activities, exercise, and hot meals five days a week. Residents come here to feel connected to the rest of the community.

## PRIVATE RECREATION FACILITIES

### Blue Pin Bowling Alley

The bowling alley is located at 304 W Main Street, next door to the Retiree Center. It primarily serves residents of Manton and the surrounding townships.

#### Amenities:

- » 6 lanes bowling alley
- » Arcade games
- » Pool tables
- » Seating area



Blue Pin Bowling Alley

### Emerald Vale Golf Club

This golf club is located at 6867 E 16 Road approximately two miles west of downtown Manton on M-42.<sup>8</sup>

#### Amenities:

- » 18-hole Golf Course
- » Pro shop
- » Full-service restaurant and bar

### Manton Christian Camp

Located at 9528 E. 16 Road on Manton's eastern border, it is a private campsite ran by the North Michigan Conference of the Free Methodist church.<sup>9</sup>

## STATE AND FEDERAL FACILITIES

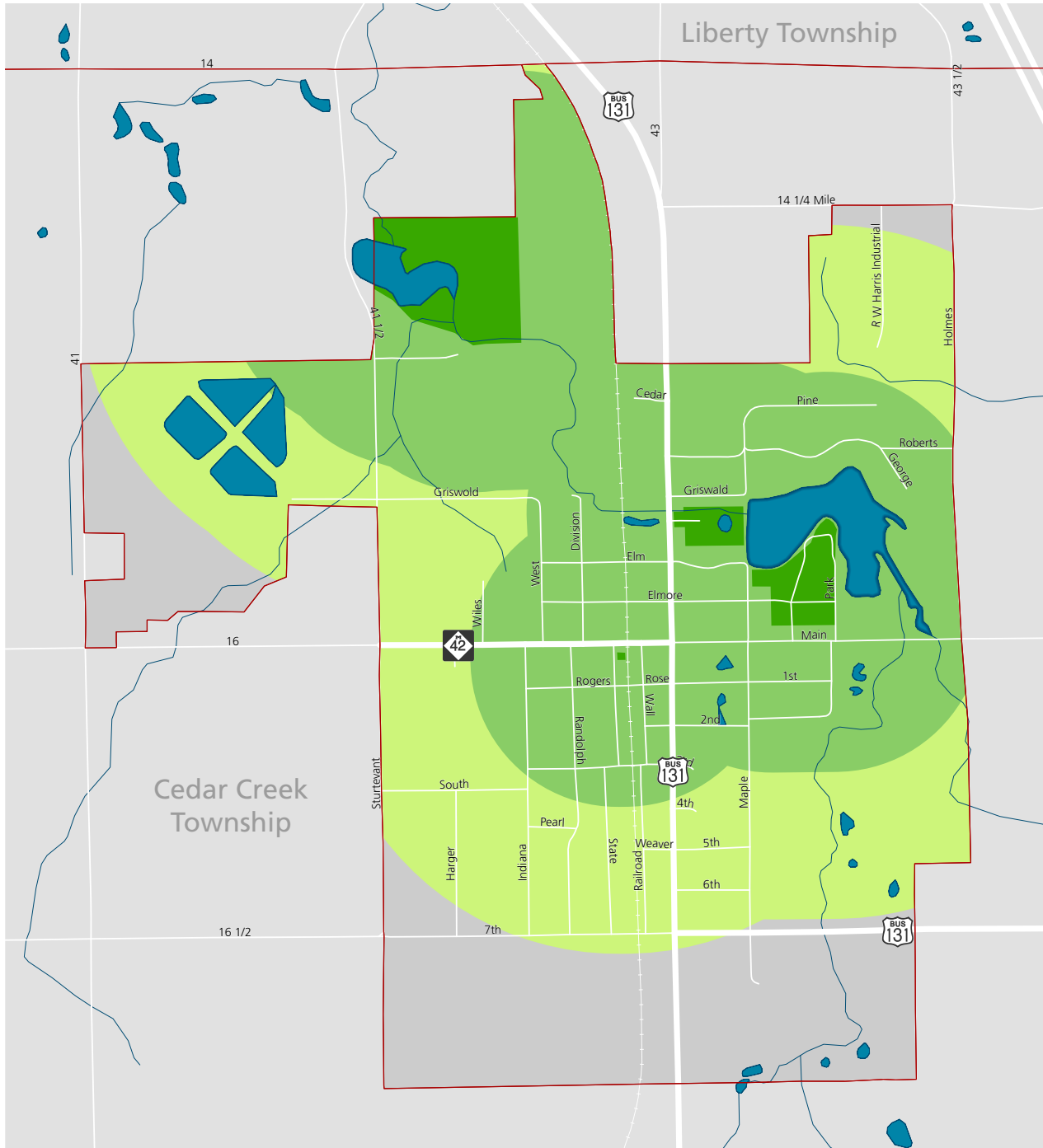
### State of Michigan

The Pere Marquette State Forest is located north of Manton where it covers thousands of acres. The forest is open to the public for hiking, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, and skiing. The MDNR maintains snowmobile trails and camp sites throughout the forest.

### National

The Manistee National Forest's northeast extent lies just a few miles from the City of Manton. It boasts over 540,000 acres of woodlands. The public land is available for skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and hiking.<sup>10</sup>

Map 04: Park Shed based on Walkable Distance



## Park Shed

Sources: Michigan Open Data Portal, City of Manton

- City Recreation Facility
- 0.25 Mile Walking Distance
- 0.5 Mile Walking Distance



## Sources

- 1 NRPA Agency Performance Review, <https://www.nrpa.org/publications-research/research-papers/agency-performance-review/>
- 2 Manton Area Chamber of Commerce, Railroad Park, <https://mantonmichigan.com/>
- 3 Manton Area Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Park, <https://mantonmichigan.com/>
- 4 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Dam Safety Inspection Report, 2011
- 5 Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Status of the Fishery Resource Report – Manton Creek, 2014
- 6 Clio Foundation, Manton Area Historical Museum. <https://theclio.com/entry/22632>
- 7 Manton Area Chamber of Commerce, Veteran’s Memorial Museum. <https://web.archive.org/web/20151214192629/http://www.mantonmichigan.org/veterans.html>
- 8 Emerald Vale Golf Club. <https://www.emeraldvale.com/>
- 9 North Michigan Conference of the Free Methodist Church, Manton Christian Camp. <https://www.fmcnorthmich.org/manton-christian-camp/>
- 10 United States Department of Agriculture, Huron-Manistee National Forest. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/hmnf>



*Bridge Connecting to Walkway at Lake Billings RV Park & Campground*

# 4. Community Engagement

Manton’s recreational and cultural assets are highly regarded. Users of parks and recreation facilities have ideas on how they can be improved for future use that include more accessibility for those with disabilities, trail connection that links the city to regional resources, protection of cultural heritage, and offering more recreation opportunities and programming to all but specifically for younger age groups. If Manton makes improvements based on these recommendations the city will become more desirable as a place where individuals can exercise and enrich themselves. These improvements would pay off over time as the city would be more likely to retain and attract new residents, which would bring more economic vitality.

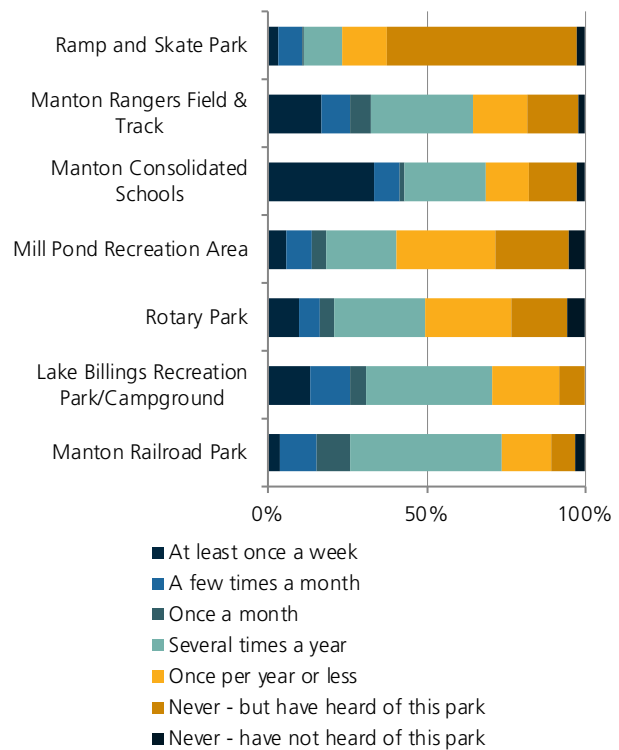
The recreational amenities available to a community should be reflective of the residents’ needs and preferences. Community surveys allow respondents to have a say in the parks and recreation planning process. To make sure the views were as representative as possible, city officials promoted the survey through Facebook and at the Manton Public Schools. The City of Manton Survey was open to the public from August 15, 2023 through October 31, 2023. There were 18 questions that covered topics related to preferred activities, frequency of visits, and what they would like to see improved. On October 31, 2023 the survey closed and received 199 responses (20.1% of the adult population), a good response rate for the city. The following is a summary of the respondent’s answers.

## SURVEY RESULTS

### Question 1: How often do you use the following recreational facilities?

This question gauged both usage patterns and awareness of parks. Responses show that several parks in the community are used very heavily. Approximately one third (33.1%) of respondents said that they use the Manton Consolidated School facility at least once a week. Manton Rangers

Field & Track and the Lake Billings Recreation Park & Campground also experience a high amount of traffic with 16.8% and 13.2% of respondents saying they visit these facilities once a week, respectively. Manton Railroad Park has a lower weekly usage rate when looking at the lower frequency visits like “a few times a month” (11.7%), “once a month” (10.7%), and “several times a year” (47.5%). However, these lower frequency visits to Railroad Park still outrank other parks, underscoring its value as a gathering place in

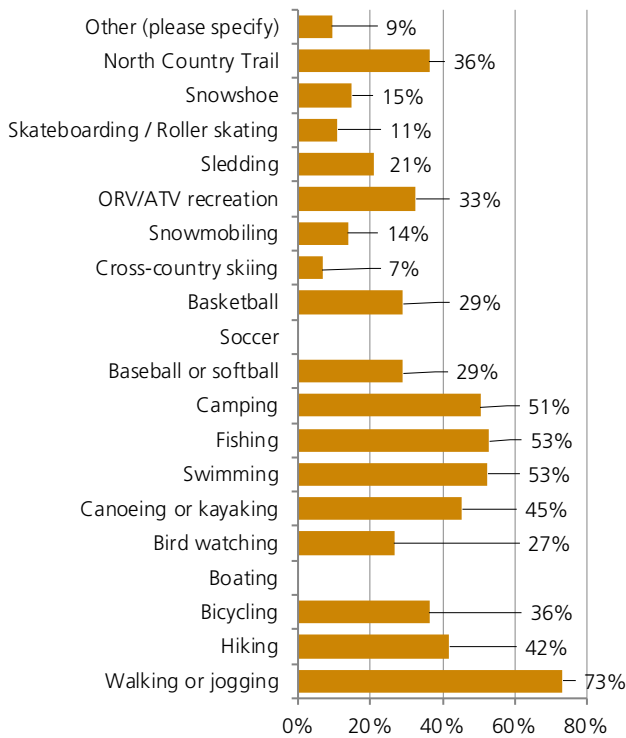


the community for various events.

### Question 2: Please select all recreational activities you enjoy doing in the City of Manton.

Walking or jogging and hiking are the most popular recreational activities in the city and are consistently mentioned by park and recreation users as a priority for recreation planning. Swimming, fishing,

and camping were all activities mentioned in more than 50% of responses. These are all activities that predominantly take place at Billings Park.

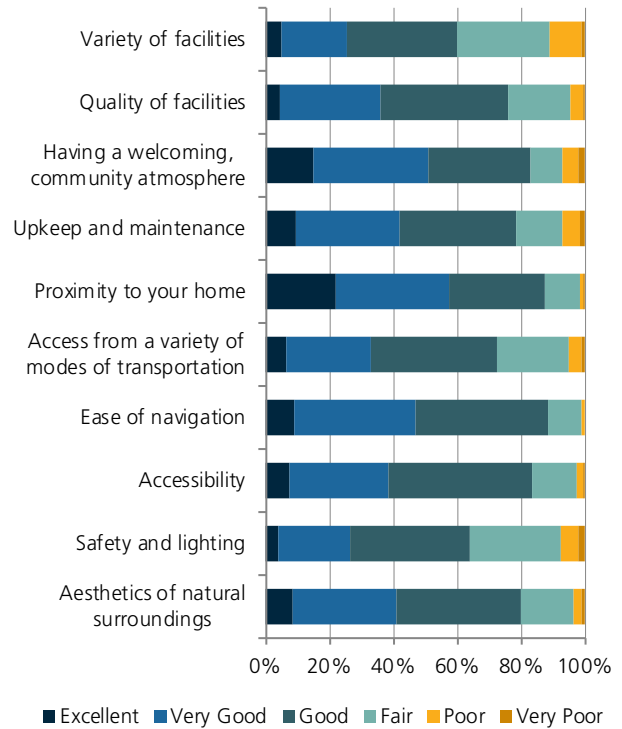


Responses generally favor activities that require trail use.

*Question 3: Please rate Manton's current parks and recreation offerings, from your own experience, with regard to the following elements.*

Overall, respondents had positive perceptions of current recreation facilities. Respondents rated the current recreational facilities' proximity to their homes most positively out of all the categories, with 57.1% of respondents rating it as excellent or very good. Having a warm and welcoming atmosphere was also rated highly; 51% of respondents rated the surroundings as excellent or very good. The category of "Ease of navigation" was rated third highest, with 46.9% rating it as excellent or very good.

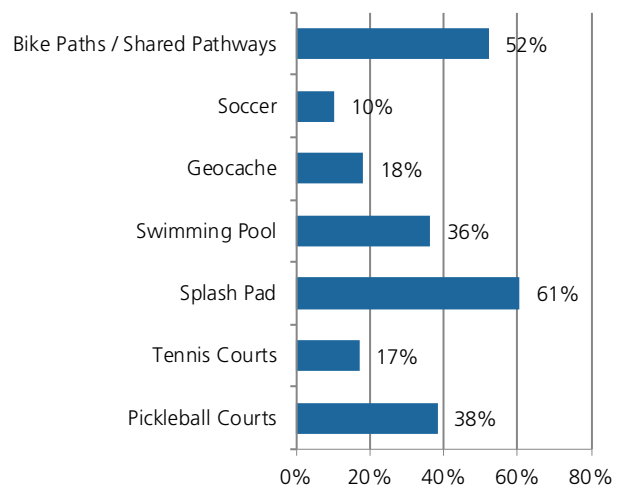
The most negatively rated category was the variety of facilities. About one in ten respondents (11.2%) rated the variety as poor or very poor. Overall, few categories received any "very poor" ratings which



adds to the overall good perception of the park system.

*Question 4: Please describe the activities you do at the following parks.*

Across all parks walking, hiking, and jogging are popular activities. The Mill Pond Recreation Area is where people walk, hike, and jog at the highest rate (90.4%). At Manton Railroad Park, 80% of survey responses reported that they like to attend outdoor concerts. At Lake Billings (55.5%), Manton Schools (59.3%), and the skate park (41.1%) playground equipment use received a high percentage of responses.

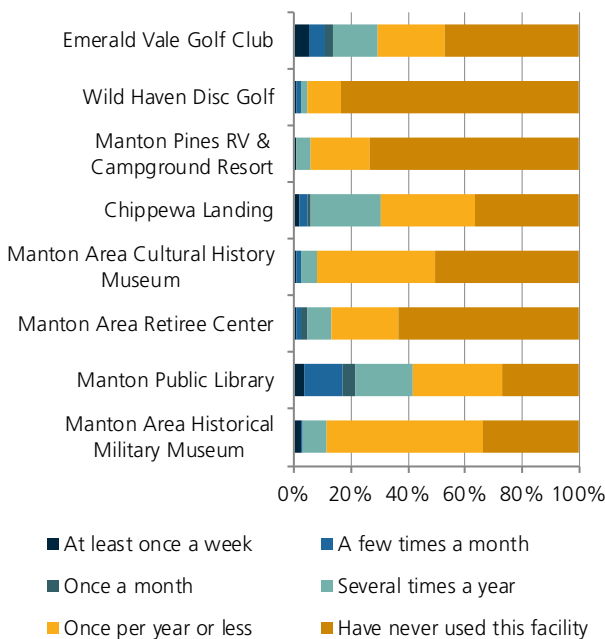


**Question 5: What recreation facilities do you feel are missing in the city?**

A splash pad was the most requested facility; 60.6% of respondents feel it is a missing asset. This addition would likely be most useful for Railroad Park as it is already a popular gathering place. The second most voted for response was shared pathways for bicycles, reiterating the need for greater connection to regional networks. This question provided space for survey-takers to add additional thoughts. A common comment was the need for an indoor gathering spot with accommodation for all age ranges.

**Question 6: Please select any additional cultural/recreational facilities that you utilize within or near the city as well as how frequently you utilize them.**

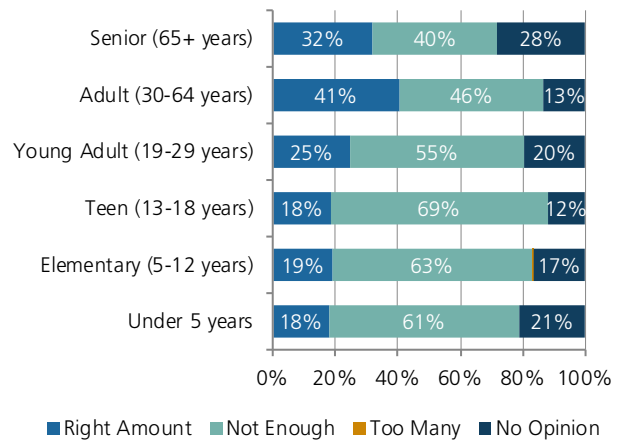
Across the board, cultural and recreation facilities are underutilized according to survey-takers. All locations had high rates of responses that said they have never used the facility or do once per year or less. The Manton Public Library had the highest frequency of visitors; 17% said that they visit a few times a month or more. The military museum had the lowest frequency of use with 3.1% saying that they visit a few times a month or more, museums by nature are specialized and do not attract many repeat visitors. One way this museum could attract more visitors is to add new programming or displays to bring in past visitors to see different materials. More should be done to raise awareness of the recreation and cultural enrichment available



at these places, as it could address at least some of the variety missing from respondents who said the city does not have enough.

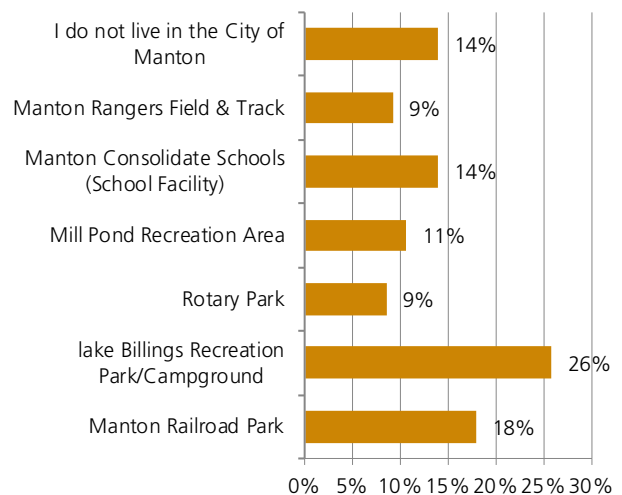
**Question 7: Please rate the availability of recreation facilities and activities within the city for the following age groups.**

The results show that the community is not satisfied with the available activities at recreation facilities. In all age groups, a higher percentage of respondents said there “were not enough” when compared to those who said the “right amount.” All three age groups below 18 years old had the worst average assessment, with no less than 60% of respondents saying that there are not enough.



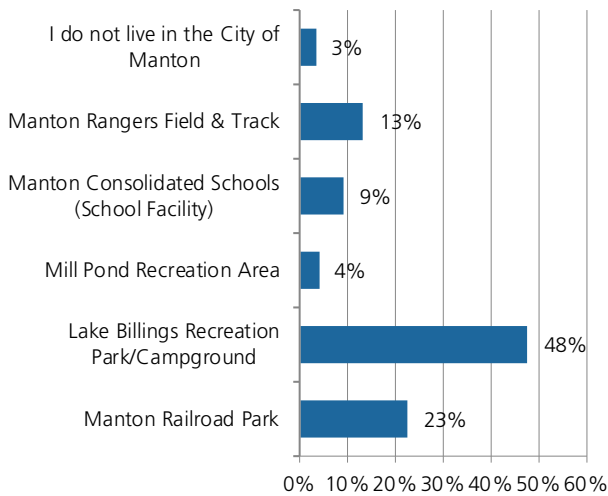
With the population of Manton being so young, it is important that these resources are satisfactory to the youth so they will be enticed to stay in Manton into their adult life.

**Question 8: Which city park is closest to your house?**



The park with the highest rate of respondents living closer to it than the other parks is Lake Billings RV Park & Campground (25.8%). Overall parks users are distributed reasonably close to each of the parks.

*Question 9: Which park do you visit most frequently?*



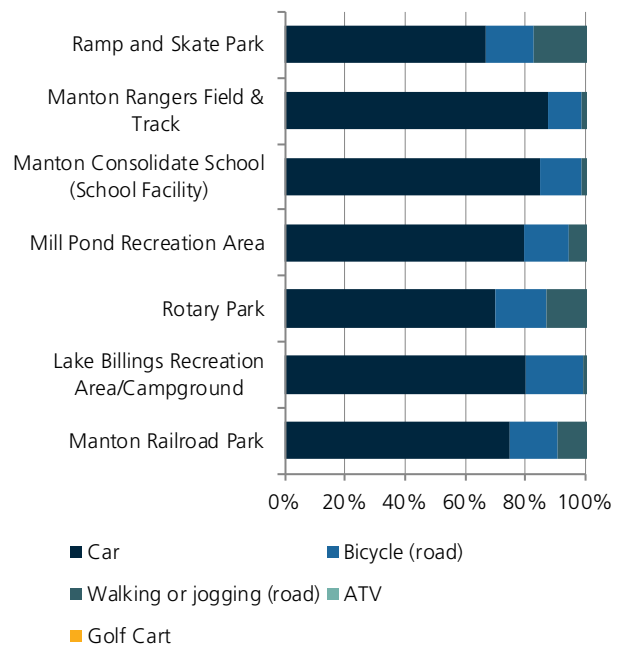
Railroad Park and the Lake Billings Campground are the most visited parks. It is noteworthy that an even higher proportion visit these parks compared to the proportion of survey-takers who live by them. This reinforces the fact that these two parks are the biggest draws in the city.

*Question 10: If the park you visit most frequently is different from the one closest to your house, why do you prefer this park?*

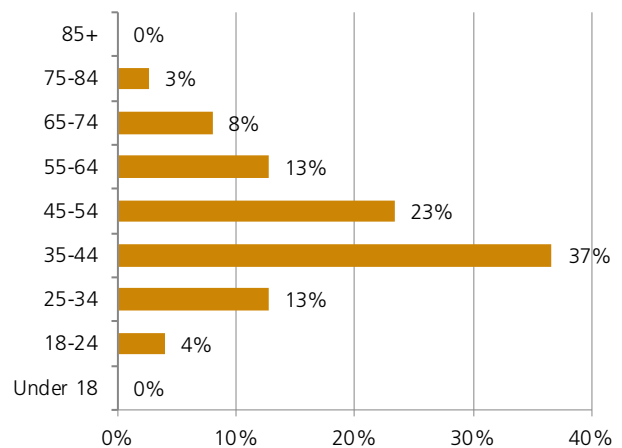
This question was a follow-up to question nine and is intended to gather insight into why respondents are willing to go to a park further away. Many who responded cited nature as their reasoning for choosing one park over another. They enjoyed a specific aesthetic that led them to a location. Another common mention was related to activities available at that park. Many responses mentioned camping, fishing, and swimming at Lake Billings Park.

*Question 11: Please describe the method of transportation you use to get to the following parks.*

For each park, most attendees said that they use an automobile as their chosen form of transportation



with 67% to 87.8% of attendees driving to each park. The bicycle was the second most common answer. The other options received a much smaller portion of responses. This underlines the car dependency in the city and the need to fill the



community desire for more trail connectivity.

*Question 12: Please select age from the following categories.*

Most respondents to the survey are in the 35-44 age range, and the respondents follow a normal distribution of younger and older age groups.

*Question 13: How many members of your household*

### are under the age of 18?

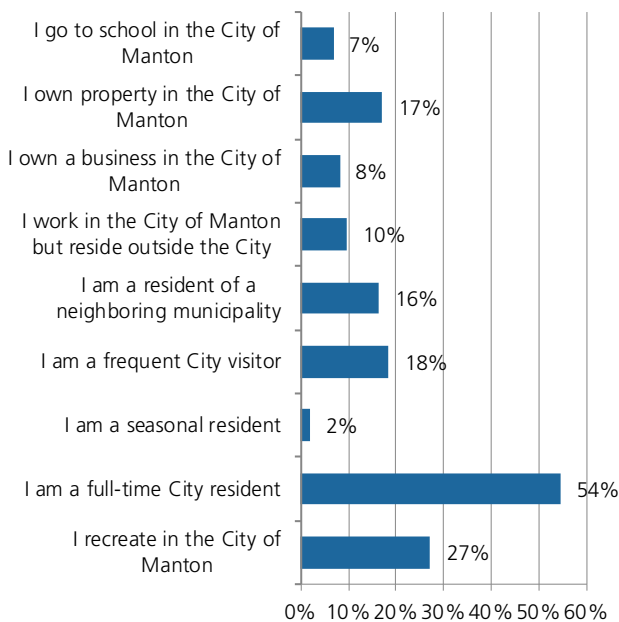
Approximately one-third (34.7%) of respondents had no one under the age of 18 in their home. Households with one and two kids accounted for 17.3% and 25.3%, respectively. Households with 3 or more children have much less frequent responses.

### Question 14: How many members of your household are over the age of 65?

Most households (82.7%) said that no one over the age of 56 was present. Households with one, two, or three members over the age of 65 accounted for 5.3%, 9.3%, and 2.7%, respectively. These figures are not surprising considering the very young median age of responders to the survey.

### Question 15: How many members of your household have a disability?

A relatively low rate of disabilities are present among survey-takers. Households with no disabled members were present in 82.7% of respondents.



### Question 16: Please describe your relationship to the City of Manton.

This question gathers insight into the survey-taker's connection to Manton's recreational and cultural resources. Manton residents and property owners accounted for most of the responses. Unsurprisingly, people who use the city's facilities for recreation are another large portion.

### Question 17: In what ZIP code is your primary (homesteaded) place of residence?

Almost all (92.2%) zip codes mentioned were the City of Manton zip code 49663. The other zip codes mentioned were from surrounding areas including Lake City, Cadillac, and Cedar Creek Township.

### Question 18: Feel free to share any additional recreational elements or facilities you would like in the city.

This question was added to allow respondents to voice any final thoughts on how recreation could be improved in Manton. Twenty-five respondents gave their input to this open-ended question and there were four themes present in the comments:

- » Aquatic facilities
- » Improved accessibility
- » Trail connectivity
- » Cultural preservation

Comments related to aquatic facilities often requested a splash pad be added. Comments related to accessibility requested more ADA accessibility in the parks, as well as activities for children with various disabilities. Trail connectivity requests involved connecting the city to regional networks. Some requests were also made to fix various sidewalk sections in disrepair. The final theme, cultural preservation, was related to maintaining historic elements in the city. One example of this mentioned in survey responses was converting the old Phelps Brother Mill into a community center so that the historic location could provide more benefits to Manton residents.

## ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

In the City of Manton, the largest segment of the population comprises Millennials and Gen Z. These two groups, Millennials born between 1981 to 1998 (25.7%) and Gen Z born between 1999 to 2016 (23.3%) comprise 49% of the population in Manton.<sup>1</sup> The next-largest group, the GenXers (born between 1965 to 1980), make up 17.5% of the City population. As the Millennials come of age, they will have a greater impact on the economy, and they are quite different than the generations that came before. Park attendance has declined since the rise of the GenXers, who visited parks as



**Table 05: Characteristics of Millennials and Gen Z as it relates to Recreation**

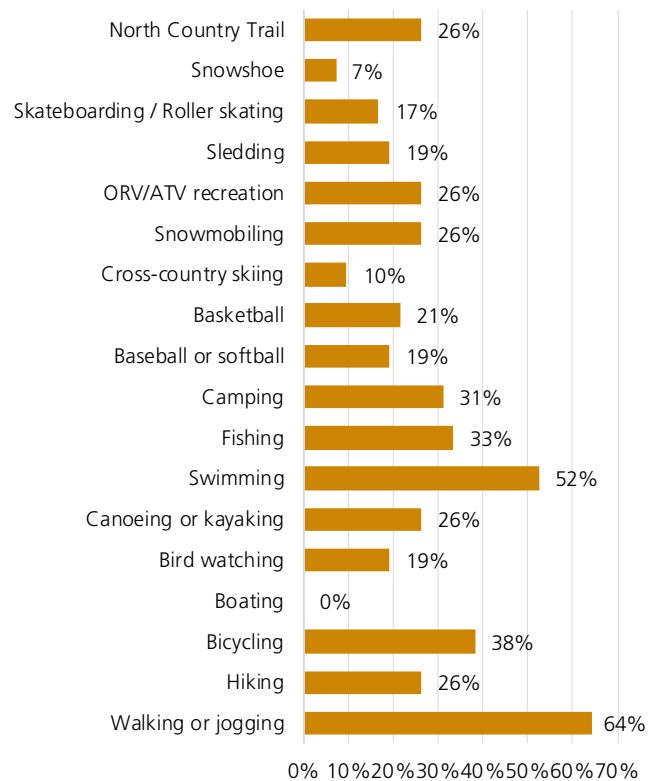
Characteristic	Traits	Ways to Engage Millennials
Special	Used to receiving awards, strong relationships with supportive parents	Give rewards for participating in projects or completing tasks or challenges
Team Oriented	Value teamwork, belonging, collaboration, and service	Offer opportunities for volunteer service and encourage social and sporting groups to hold events at parks
Sheltered	Led structured lives as children, enjoy spending time outdoors and socializing with friends and family	Encourage use of electronic tools such as GPS and the Internet, feature safety and structure in park literature
Confident and Tech Savvy	Optimistic, upbeat, believe that they can improve the world	Share information freely, allow information sharing, survey visitors online, provide audio tours and promotional videos
Pressured	Feel pressured to achieve and behave, avoid personal risk, not as interested in history or reading	Relate historical events to current events, include objects, visuals, and sounds for interpretation, minimize need for reading
Achieving	Expected to do great things, make the country a better place	Use electronic tools to communicate and encourage community involvement, offer challenges and quizzes
Conventional	Respectful of authority, civic-minded, respectful of cultural differences because they are diverse	Promote benefits of parks to healthy work/life balance, design facilities for diverse users and volunteers

Source: National Recreation and Parks Association

children but are less likely to do so in adulthood. Millennials are even less likely to visit parks because they prefer socialization and indoor activities. Key characteristics used to describe Millennials are special, team-oriented, sheltered, confident and tech-savvy, pressured, achieving, and conventional. Knowledge of the characteristics and values of Millennials can be used to engage them in park settings.

### Manton Consolidated Schools Student Survey

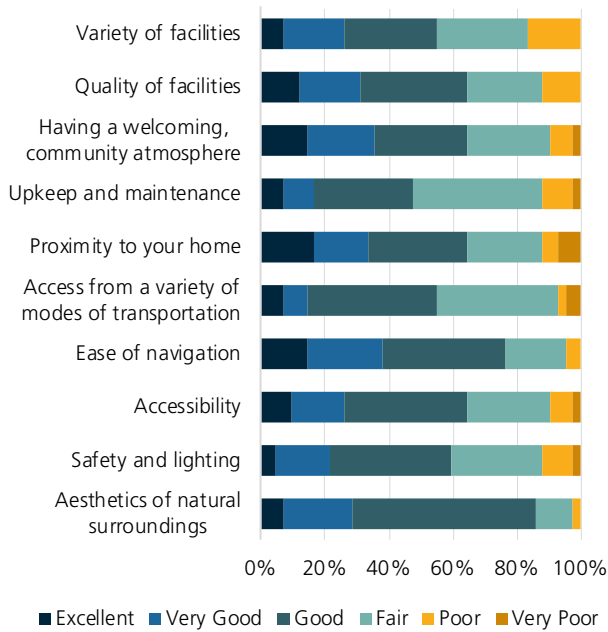
The same survey that was available for adult community members to complete was made available to students at Manton High School. A total of 42 responses were collected from these students and were analyzed separately from the main survey responses. Responses from students who completed the survey show that they generally use Manton’s parks at a higher rate than adult survey responders. with Mill Pond Recreation Area being used by 23.8% of respondents monthly.



Question two from the survey asked respondents to Please select all recreational activities you enjoy doing in the City of Manton. Students show that they participated in a variety of activities with Walking or Jogging being the most popular activities. Manton's younger age groups appear

to be more active on average and with a high proportion of young residents overall it can be expected that these activities will remain popular as these groups age into adulthood.

When asked to rate the current offerings at Manton's Parks and Recreation facilities based on their experiences in a variety of categories. Respondents ranked all categories of parks and recreation offerings (chart below) in the Fair to Good range on average.



Students were also asked what recreation facilities they feel are missing from the list of amenities. Of all options listed the two most requested to be added to the list in Manton are a swimming pool and increased bike path coverage, with both being asked for by 47.6% of respondents. Increased pathways and trail coverage is a common theme that comes up when residents are asked about what is lacking in the parks and recreation system. This should be considered a priority for the city as it will connect the city more and encourage more community members to be active.



Regional ORV and Snowmobile Trails

Overall satisfaction with Manton’s recreation amenities is approximate to that of the adult population. The questions related to what park was the closest to home and which was used most frequently was the same as well, with Railroad Park and Lake Billings being closest to the most students and most visited. This input from young community members is valuable to making sure the plan represents the desires of all, as well as giving insight into what is most important as Manton moves forward and works to make itself an enticing place for people to work and grow.

## Community Open House

On November 28, 2023, the City of Manton held an open house at the Manton High School Library to solicit community input on recreation priorities and opportunities. Advance notice of the community open house was issued through the Cadillac Newspaper, the City website and Facebook page, and the informational message board at the Manton High School.

The Community Open House was a self-guided tour of six (6) boards, which included a welcome sign, local socio-economic dashboard, key survey question results, parks and recreation framework, priorities, and opportunities. Participants were asked to review the boards, select three top priorities from the preliminary action plan, and provide any additional input on the opportunities board. During the self-guided tour, the project consultant and Planning Commission members were present to answer questions and discuss the rationale behind the projects identified on the priority board.

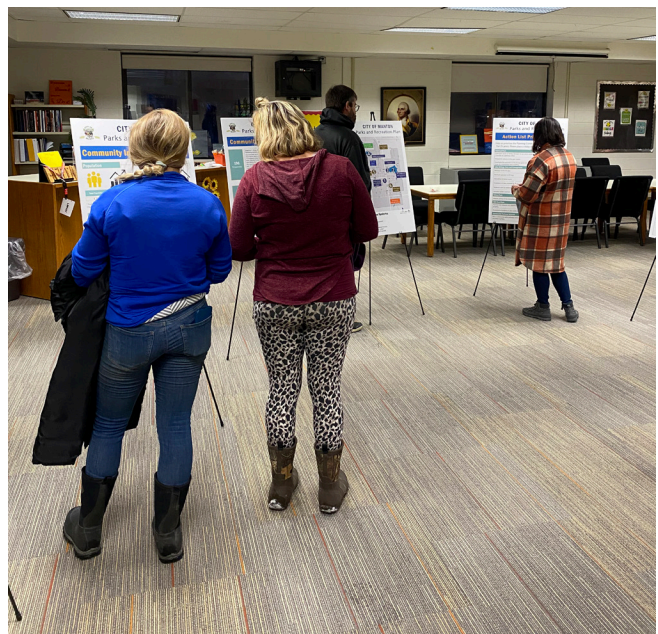
Key priorities selected by community participants included:

- Development of a community-wide pathway network that connects all recreation facilities.
- Installation of new tennis and pickleball courts.
- Replenish the sand at Lake Billings beach and swimming area.
- Demolish and replace the public restroom building at Lake Billings.

Comments offered by residents included on the opportunities board included:



Manton High School Message Board



Community Open House 11-28-2023

- Partner with adjacent local governments to link the White Pine Trail, which is south of town, to the North Country Trail north of Manton.
- Provide an enclosed dog park.
- Indoor pool and track, and
- Installation of a water slide at Billings Lake.

Figure 04: Community Open House Boards

## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan WELCOME!

The City of Manton is in the process of preparing a five-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan that will qualify for Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants.

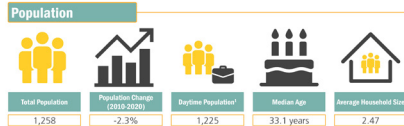
We welcome your input in this process and appreciate your opinion on priorities and potential recreation-related projects. The draft plan will be available at the web site below for review.

Thank you for participating in our park and recreation plan process!

[www.mantonmasterplan.org](http://www.mantonmasterplan.org)




## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan Community Indicators Summary



<sup>1</sup> Daytime population, refers to the number of people who are present in an area during normal business hours, including workers. This is in contrast to the resident population who are typically present during the evening and nighttime hours.



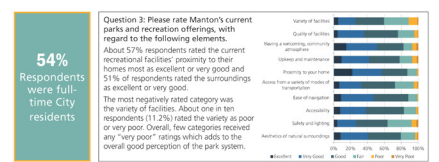
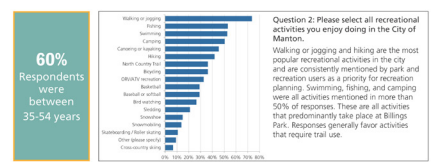
<sup>2</sup> Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) is a measure that captures individuals who may be above the federal poverty level but still struggle with regular expenses and costs.



<sup>1</sup> Industry segmentation profiles are select consumer groups developed by ESRI, defined by shared traits such as demographics, socioeconomic status, and behavior.

<sup>2</sup> The ALICE report can also be downloaded from the Behavioral Economics Research Center (BECR) website: [www.becr.org](http://www.becr.org)

## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan Community Survey Highlights



## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan



## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan

### Action List Prioritization

Help us prioritize the Planning Commission's Action List for the next five (5) years. Please place a sticky dot on your top three (3) items.

<b>Railroad Park</b>	Investigate reuse of former fire barn for an event center and Chamber of Commerce office
	Restore the exterior of the park shelter
	Investigate the acquisition of the former grain mill for adaptive reuse as a community event building.
<b>Lake Billings Park and Campground</b>	Redesign of the RV sites
	Electrical upgrades to RV sites
	Demolition of tennis courts
	Installation of new pickleball & tennis courts
	Replenish sand at swimming beach
	Demolish public restroom
<b>Rotary Park</b>	Replace several of the horseshoe pits with cornhole
<b>Mill Pond Park</b>	Improve trail network into adjacent school and City-owned property.
	Acquisition of property to the north of Mill Pond property.
<b>Community Pathway Network</b>	Plan a community-wide pathway network that connects all recreation facilities.

## CITY OF MANTON Parks and Recreation Plan

### Opportunities

What other Opportunities should be considered for our parks and recreation system?

Please use a sticky note to provide your answer, and remember to tell us what park these ideas are for!

### Sources

1 Population Trends and Key Indicators; Beckett & Raeder, ACS (2017-2021), Esri (2023, 2028)



*Playground at Lake Billings RV Park and Campground*

# 5. Action Plan

## NATIONAL RECREATION TRENDS

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) published a list of future trends for 2018 that will influence the direction of recreation planning and programming. The three pillars of NRPA include Health and Wellness, Conservation, and Social Equity.

Local Park and Recreation agencies can provide crucial health and wellness opportunities for all populations in communities across the county. We need to protect open space, connecting people to nature and engaging conservation practices. Providing all people with access to the benefits of parks and recreation is an essential service.

The following trends should be considered in the development of the Manton Parks Master Plan.

### Health and Wellness

- » America faces serious health issues that include rising rates of chronic disease, sedentary lifestyles, and poor nutrition.
- » Offer an affordable and accessible solution.
- » Promote healthy eating and physical activity.
- » Expanding access to parks and trails.

### Conservation

- » Play a vital role in the protection of our environment through green infrastructure, conservation of public lands, providing wildlife habitat, and more.
- » Connecting to nature and local parks is essential in creating environmental stewards who will advocate for and protect our most precious public resources – our land, water, trees, open spaces, and wildlife.
- » Protect resources, including significant open spaces and natural habitats, original landscapes,

wetlands and natural drainage courses, water and energy resources.

- » Encourage environmentally sensitive lifestyles

### Social Trends

- » Provide access to parks and recreation programs and facilities for all people regardless of age, race, income level, or abilities.
- » Building parks builds community and brings all people together.
- » Desire to preserve and maintain cultural heritage.
- » Volunteer—making more effective and efficient use of volunteers.

### Economic Trends

- » Park and Recreation Departments are significant employers, and their operations/capital spending generate significant economic impacts on local communities.
- » High quality of life attracts workers, which attracts employers, which attracts more investments and jobs.
- » High-quality parks and recreation services can play a role in retaining quality businesses.
- » Key partners to drive greater parks and recreation involvement include schools, transit agencies, developers, downtown development districts, and metropolitan planning organizations.

### Demographic/Urban Pattern Trends

Aging of society—by 2030, baby boomers will be senior citizens (1/3rd of the population). As the number of retirees increases, so will the demand for midday recreation opportunities.

- » Increasing demand for less active outdoor

recreation pursuits and facilities (golf, walking, gardening, etc.).

- » Proportion of middle-aged Americans—sharply increased in the 1990s.
- » Increasing cultural diversity.
- » Greater number of smaller households.
- » Mobility of residents—residence by choice with diminished emotional/social attachment to service providers.
- » In the 1950s, 50% of households had children. Today, 75% of households have no children. By 2030, 86% of all households will have no children.
- » Traditional single-breadwinner families make up less than 15% of all households.

### The New Economy

- » Talented and well-educated people choose where they want to live and then find work there instead of following jobs (66% of 25- to 34-year-olds say this).
- » Desirable places to live are high-quality, clean, green, and close to open space for recreation.
- » Talent becomes concentrated in these high-quality areas, which attracts businesses.

### IMPLICATIONS OF TRENDS OF PARKS AND RECREATION

- » Greater emphasis on comprehensive open space planning and preservation.

- » More greenway planning along corridors, bikeways, pathways, and passive recreation.
- » More emphasis on historic and cultural resource planning.
- » Increased importance of recreation and open space, contributing to more walkable, livable, and sustainable communities.
- » More stakeholder involvement, as in adopt-a-park projects, park watch, and community volunteering.
- » The legitimization of parks and open spaces as part of the urban land use planning and development process.
- » More collaboration between parks and schools through joint acquisition, development, and use of lands, and joint construction and use of facilities.
- » Family-oriented recreation centers, with facilities geared to “one-stop shopping.”

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives for the City of Manton are derived from the inventory of existing recreation facilities, public input, and community demographics, and they serve as a guide for future planning decisions.

The last parks and recreation plan has a total of eight goals with specific objectives laid out to help achieve them. Some of these objectives and overall goals have been achieved, and some have not. Goals that are still relevant will be incorporated into this parks and recreation plan.



Pavillion at



## GOAL 1: ENHANCE THE LAKE BILLINGS PARK EXPERIENCE

Vision: Improve this valuable community resource for year-round and seasonal users.

### Objectives for Success

- » Redesign the RV Park
- » Improve the campsites with full utility hook-ups, especially electrical.
- » Demolish tennis courts.
- » Install four (4) pickleball courts and two (2) new tennis courts.
- » Demolish and replace public bathroom building, and include universal design.
- » Purchase Kaivac equipment to maintain the restrooms and shower facilities efficiently.
- » Replenish the sand in the beach area and monitor for replenishment annually

### Support from the Public

- » 55% of survey respondents use the playground facilities at the park.
- » 49% of survey respondents use the camping and RV facilities.
- » 38% of survey respondents noted pickleball as a missing activity in the community.
- » Written comments recommend the demolition of the tennis courts.



## GOAL 2: PROMOTE WALKABILITY, CONNECTIVITY AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS

Vision: Provide a network of sidewalks, shared pathways, and trails within the City.

### Objectives for Success

- » Include ADA and universal design in all park improvement and renovation projects.
- » Develop a trail network through sensitive lands on City-owned property north of Griswold and west of the Great Lakes Central rail line.
- » Plan a tiered approach to install sidewalks throughout the City to great an accessible pathway connecting community parks and facilities.
- » Evaluate a Safe Routes to School program with Manton Schools.
- » Ensure that people of all abilities are able to travel to the downtown businesses without having to depend on a motor vehicle.

### Support from the Public

- » 74% of survey respondents selected walking or jogging as a recreational activity.
- » Survey respondents noted that accessibility to recreational facilities was good to fair.
- » 90% of respondents noted using the Mill Pond area walking, hiking, and jogging.



Lake Billings RV Park and Campground





### GOAL 3: POSITION RAILROAD PARK AS THE COMMUNITY “GATHERING PLACE.”

Vision: Railroad Park is centrally located on Main Street in the center of downtown and serves as a cultural and social venue for the City.

#### **Objectives for Success**

- » Buildings in or adjacent to the park reflect the historical development of the City as a center of commerce and agriculture.
- » Adaptively reuse the former fire barn as a year-round visitor center and welcome center.
- » Construct a splash pad adjacent to the basketball courts.
- » Acquire the former grain mill and adaptively reuse that space for a community events center.
- » **Support from the Public**
- » 47% of survey respondents use this park several times per year.
- » The park is the second most frequented park in the city.
- » The park is frequented for outdoor concerts and local festivals.



### GOAL 4: RETAIN AND UTILIZE OPEN SPACE

Vision: Expand the Mill Pond to include other city-owned Manton School and private properties.

#### **Objectives for Success**

- » The recent acquisition of property by Manton Schools on the north side of Griswold Street for an athletic field and open space creates an opportunity for the City and School to collaborate on the development of a unique trail network on approximately 115 acres.
- » Acquisition of private property surrounding the city-owned Mill Pond property.
- » Installation of a series of paved and unpaved trails for walking, hiking, and cross-country track events.
- » Create venues to observe natural features and habitats for educational purposes and personal enjoyment within the park.
- » **Support from the Public**
- » 74% of survey respondents selected walking or jogging as a recreational activity.
- » 36% of survey respondents selected bicycling as a recreational activity.
- » Snowshoe and cross-country skiing were identified as activities.
- » The Manton Schools use this general area for cross-country sports events.



Rotary Park



## GOAL 5: CONNECT THE COMMUNITY

**Vision:** Change the mode of access to local recreation facilities from vehicular to nonmotorized.

### **Objectives for Success**

- » Reverse the mode of transportation to local parks from vehicular to bike and walking.
- » Establish an active mobility plan that uses low-volume streets and designated bike-marked lanes to encourage bicycle transportation within the community.
- » Install expanded sidewalks as part of the network to encourage walking and biking.

### **Support from the Public**

- » 74% of survey respondents selected walking or jogging as a recreational activity.
- » 36% of survey respondents selected bicycling as a recreational activity.
- » 80% to 88% of survey respondents chose the car as the preferred transportation to Manton Rangers Field and Lake Billings, respectively.

## MANTON PARKS MASTER PLAN

The City of Manton is a small northwest Michigan community with a population of 1,258 residents. The city has a land area of 1.61 square miles or 1,031 acres. Historically established as a rail stop called Cedar Creek in 1872, the community was later named after George Manton, the first community postmaster.

Railroad Park is appropriately named because the park is divided by the Great Lakes Central rail line that runs through the downtown and central part of the community. Other community parks, such as Rotary Park and Lake Billings Park, are located on the community's east side. Mill Pond Park is located in the northwest quadrant of the city.

Active recreation facilities are found in Railroad Park at the skatepark and the basketball courts and, to some degree, at Lake Billings Park, where a playground exists for smaller children. The tennis courts at Lake Billings Park are in disrepair, and most agree that they need to be demolished and replaced with pickleball courts. Lake Billings also has an RV and rustic campground, which is popular with local residents and tourists. The campground is open from May through October. However, the campground needs to be updated, especially the electrical system, to handle newer RV's with enhanced power demands. In addition, due to the size of newer RV's, the campground is crowded without much open space between campsites.

Mill Pond Park, which historically had a mill pond, has evolved into a wetland complex since removing



Railroad Park

the dam that created the waterbody. However, the property around the property has a series of informal trails that residents often use for walking, hiking, and winter snowshoeing. As noted, there are different wetland complexes throughout the Mill Pond area and the city's parcel to the east adjacent to the railroad. These habitats create the opportunity for habitat interpretation but call for the installation of boardwalks to enhance this experience and access.

Rotary Park is a mix of active and passive recreation. It is adjacent to the Manton Area Historical Museum and the Manton Veteran Memorial Museum. The park has a shelter, picnic tables, and a concrete pathway that connects to Lake Billings Park. This connection allows residents in the central portion of the community to walk or ride a bike to Lake Billings Park.

The thrust of the master plan is to create a broad array of park and recreational assets for the community. The location of existing parks creates a unique array of offerings. On the east side of the community, there is Lake Billings Park and Rotary Park, which both border Lake Billings. These two parks could easily be integrated into one facility. In the center of town is Railroad Park, which provides outdoor cultural activities at the bandshell and active recreation facilities at the skatepark and basketball courts. In the future, a new splash pad will join the list of park activities.

On the west edge of the community is the Manton School Rangers Field, which hosts the sports fields for the public school. Adjacent to this facility is recently acquired property, the school system for new baseball and softball fields, and event parking. The Mill Pond and other city-owned open spaces are north of these facilities, which can be consolidated into a large passive, open space with trails and shared pathways.

The overall recreation strategy is to enhance and connect. Enhance existing facilities through maintenance and upgrades, and connect recreation facilities with shared pathways, sidewalks, and trails. In combination, these community and school parks create a recreation system for the Manton community.

The City of Manton and the Manton Consolidated School have a close working relationship resulting in both outdoor and indoor recreation facilities.

The Parks and Recreation System illustrates the community's relationship to the City and Manton Consolidated School recreation facilities. Due to the City's size it is realistic to expect that all of these park and recreation facilities could be connected by a series of on-street and off-road shared pathways. Most of the connections would be on-street and accommodated through demarcated bike lanes. In the northwest portion of the city where Rangers Field and Mill Pond Park are located, a combination of off-road shared pathways and boardwalks would be the preferred mode. The pathway network provides the conduit to connect the park and recreation facilities, creating a cohesive system of publicly owned recreation offerings.

## **ACTION PLAN JUSTIFICATION**

The inventory of recreational facilities has noted that Manton's park system is equitably dispersed throughout the community. The Action Plan focuses on an overall recreation strategy to enhance and connect the various community parks.

Lake Billings Park and Campground provide facilities for local and county residents and tourists who frequent the RV park. The key focus is to enhance the RV park through a redesign RV and campsites and upgrade of infrastructure, replenishment of sand at the community beach, and resolving the condition of the public restroom. Residents are asking for pickleball courts, and the demolition of the tennis courts with their replacement to pickleball addresses this need.

Mill Pond Park, which receives a moderate level of users, is underutilized as a recreation resource. This park combined with adjacent City and School properties, can be repositioned into a natural and open space park on the west edge of the community.

The community is asking for a splash pad to serve the younger population in the community. Demographic data indicates that the community has a fair number of youth based on the percentage of Millennials and Gen Z population groups in the City. Sixty-three (63%) percent of survey respondents indicated there were not enough recreation facilities for children between the ages of 5 and 12 years. Plans to place a splash pad in Railroad Park will help address this community need.

Although the community is small, 1.61 square miles, it lacks a defined pathway network to connect the various recreation facilities. Seventy-one (71%) of survey respondents indicated that the quality of recreation facilities was very good to good. Sixty-two (62%) of survey respondents noted that accessibility to the community was only good to fair, and the preferred transportation to visit these recreation facilities was overwhelming by car. As a result, a community pathway and trail network is needed to connect facilities.

## ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is based on a five-year time horizon commencing in 2024. The Action Plan identifies the park, the project within the park, and the timeframe. Some of the projects will be eligible for state and federal funding, while others may rely on local sources of funding and facility revenues. The focus of the Action Plan is implementation.

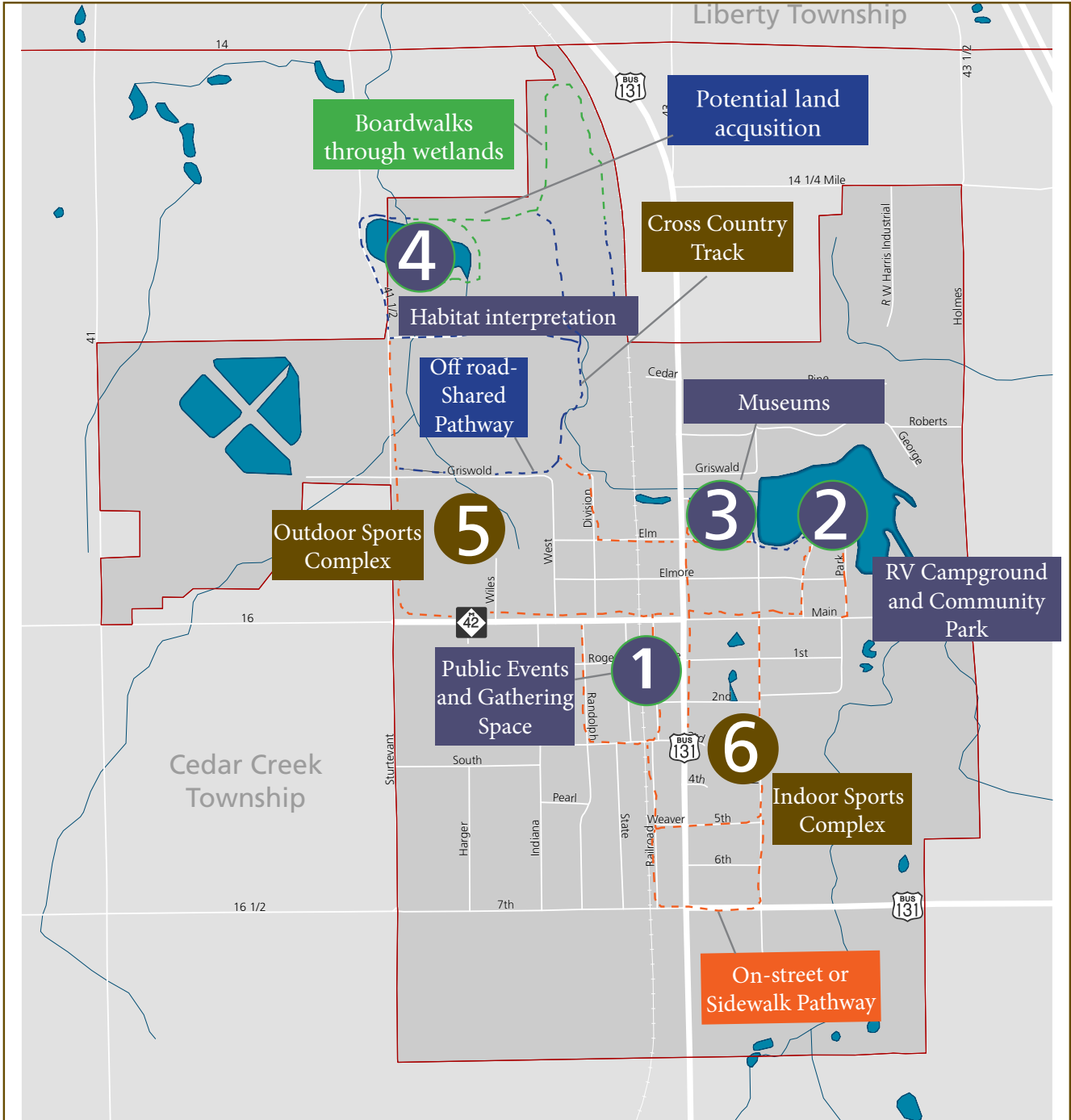
There are several key funding sources that the City should monitor on an annual basis.

**Table 06: Action Plan**

Park Number	Park and Recreation Facility	Local Goal	SCORP Goal*	Timeframe
1	<b>Railroad Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Install new fountain that replicates the former historic fountain.</li> <li>» Investigate reuse of former fire barn for event center and and community welcome center.</li> <li>» Restore the exterior of the park shelter.</li> <li>» Investigate the acquisition of the former grain mill for adaptive reuse as a community event building.</li> </ul>	3	2,4	2024 - 2027
2	<b>Lake Billings Park and Campground</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Redesign of the RV sites</li> <li>» Electrical upgrades to RV sites</li> <li>» Demolition of tennis courts</li> <li>» Installation of new tennis and pickleball courts</li> <li>» Replenish sand at swimming beach</li> <li>» Demolish and replace public restroom and include universal design and ADA requirements</li> <li>» Purchase Kaivac equipment</li> </ul>	1	2,3	2024-2028
3	<b>Rotary Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Add cornhole play areas</li> </ul>	5	3	2024
4	<b>Mill Pond Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Improve trail network into adjacent school and City-owned property.</li> <li>» Acquisition of property to the north of Mill Pond property.</li> </ul>	2,4	2,3	2025-2026
5	<b>Community Pathway Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Plan a community-wide pathway network that connects all recreation facilities.</li> </ul>	2		2024-2028

\* SCORP Goal - based on Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2023-2027 (SCORP)

Map 05: Park & Recreation Systems



# Park and Recreation Systems

Sources: Michigan Open Data Portal

0.15 Miles  
Beckett & Raeder, Inc.

- 1 Railroad Park
- 2 Lake Billings Park and RV Campground
- 3 Rotary Park
- 4 Manton Mill Pond
- 5 Rangers Field (Manton Consolidated Schools)
- 6 Manton Consolidated Schools Campus
- Pathway Network (Existing and Proposed)

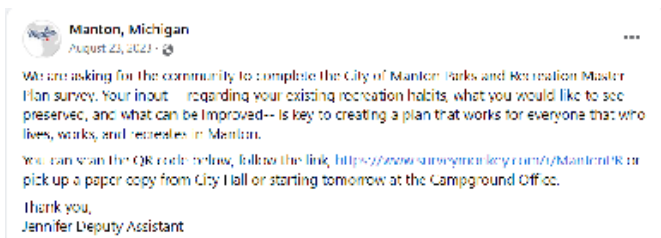
These include the following:

- **Natural Resources Trust Fund** which is administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This fund provides grants for park development and acquisition of land that would be used for public parkland. Deadline for this program is April 1 and requires the submission of an MDNR approved 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Maximum grant amount is \$300,000.
- **Recreation Passport Grant** is derived from the license plate passport fees. The focus of the program is development of new recreation facilities and the renovation of existing facilities. The grants are submitted by April 1 and requires the submission of an MDNR approved 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The maximum grant amount is \$150,000.
- **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** is administered through the Michigan Department of Transportation. Funds can be used to construct bicycle and pedestrian facilities. TAP requires a minimum cash match of 20 percent of the construction cost with a minimum project size of \$200,000. However, due to the competitiveness of the program local match amounts are usually in the 35% to 45% of construction costs.
- **Revitalization and Placemaking Program (RAP)** is administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Eligible applicants are individuals or entities working to rehabilitate vacant, underutilized, blighted and historic structures and the development of permanent place-based infrastructure associated with traditional downtowns, social-zones, outdoor dining and place-based public spaces.

Table 07: Example of Project Eligibility by Funding Source

	MDNR Trust Fund	MDNR Recreation Passport Grant	MDOT TAP Grant	MEDC RAP Grant
Railroad Park shelter repair	✓	✓		
Railroad Park historic fire barn repair and welcome center		✓		✓
Billings Lake RV campground upgrade (Redesign and new utility hook-ups)	✓			
Lake Billings demolition of tennis courts and installation of new tennis courts and pickleball courts	✓	✓		
Billings Lake demolition and replacement of public restrooms	✓	✓		
Mill Pond land acquisition	✓			
Pathway and sidewalks along MDOT rights-of-way			✓	

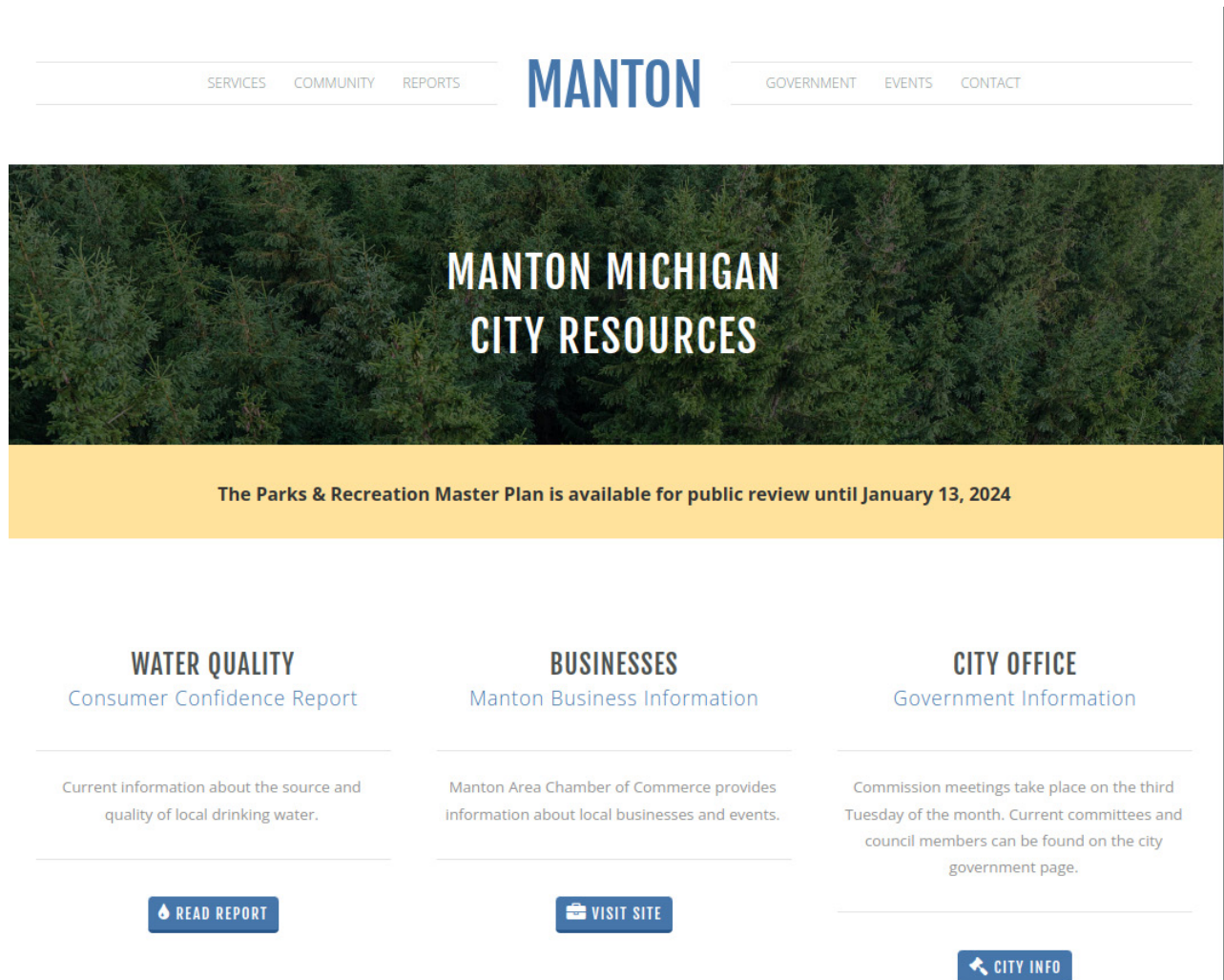
# Appendix



Survey Announcement on City Facebook Page



Parks & Recreation Open House Message Board



30-Day Public Review posted on the City of Manton Web Site December 8, 2023





Diners and workers interact at Atelier in Chicago. Employment in leisure and hospitality helped drive payroll gains in November.

## U.S. labor market defies slowdown forecasts in broad strengthening

BY MOLLY SMITH  
BLOOMBERG NEWS

The U.S. labor market unexpectedly strengthened in November, with pickups in employment and wages, deflating bets the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates early next year.

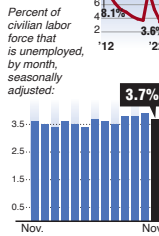
Nonfarm payrolls increased 199,000 last month following a 150,000 advance in October, a Bureau of Labor Statistics report showed Friday. The return of striking auto workers helped boost the count by 30,000. The unemployment rate fell to 3.7% and workforce participation edged up. Monthly wage growth rose more than forecast.

Health care, leisure and hospitality, and government hiring, in addition to the pickup in manufacturing upon the resolution of the United Auto Workers strike, drove the payrolls gain. Other categories showed rapid growth or outright declines, such as retail.

The acceleration in payrolls is at odds with recent reports that have depicted a softer hiring pace, an outcome favored by the Fed as it will help rein in demand and tame price pressures.

Fed officials are widely expected to keep borrowing costs at the highest level in two decades when they meet next week. Chair Jerome Powell has repeatedly pushed back against growing bets of rate cuts early next year, stressing that policymakers will move cautiously but retain the option to hike again. Treasury

### Jobless rate



Graphic: TNS  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

yields rose sharply after the figures.

"All in all, expectations of many cuts next year that begin in the first quarter will be pared back," said Derek Tang, an economist with LH Meyer Monetary Policy Analytics. "Fed policymakers will seize on this to call for patience and a longer hold."

The solid labor-market figures shift focus to inflation numbers as Fed officials gauge how long to maintain interest rates at this cycle's peak. A further cooling of price gains would likely help

push the central bank toward rate cuts as long as the job market averts a more sustained re-acceleration.

"The totality of the data will allow the Fed to remain patient to make sure inflation is moving back to target," said Yelena Shulyatyeva, senior U.S. economist at BNP Paribas.

Average hourly earnings rose 0.4%, matching the biggest monthly advance this year, and were up 4% from November 2022. Earnings for nonsupervisory employees, who make up the majority of workers, also increased 0.4%.

The participation rate — the share of the population that is working or looking for work — rose to 62.8%, driven by men. For those ages 25-54, participation was unchanged. A further increase in the labor supply could help alleviate wage gains.

The jobs report is composed of two surveys: one of households and one of businesses. The household survey showed a 747,000 surge in employment, far offsetting a decrease in the prior month. A large number of people previously not in the labor force, as well as those previously unemployed, were able to find jobs.

The gain in payrolls, combined with stronger wage growth and a pickup in hours worked, led a broad measure of labor market health to jump 0.7% last month, the most since June. Moreover, a gauge of take-home pay rose 0.3%.

## Stocks tick up as Wall Street weighs whether economy is too warm

BY STAN CHOE  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Stocks are ticking higher Friday after a report showed the U.S. job market isn't slowing as much as expected. The S&P 500 was 0.4% higher in late trading and close to extending its weekly winning streak to six. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 142 points, or 0.4%, as of 3 p.m. Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite was 0.5% higher.

Yields rose more sharply following the report, which said U.S. employers added more jobs last month than economists expected. Workers' wages also rose more than expected, and the unemployment rate unexpectedly improved.

The strong data keep

### Wall Street roundup

Index	Change	Close
Dow Jones Industrial Average	+62.95 (+0.2%)	36,117.38
S&P 500	+36.25 (+0.8%)	4,585.99
Nasdaq	+193.28 (+1.4%)	14,339.99

Source: AP  
come down enough from its peak two summers ago

## COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICES CITY OF MANTON PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN PLAN REVIEW

The draft City of Manton 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be available for a 30-day public review beginning December 11, 2023. A copy may be reviewed at the City of Manton City Offices located at 306 West Main Street, Manton, MI, during regular business hours or digitally at [www.mantonmasterplan.org](http://www.mantonmasterplan.org).

Please submit your comments in writing or via email to:  
City Clerk, 306 West Main Street, Manton MI 49663

[clerk@mantonmichigan.us](mailto:clerk@mantonmichigan.us)

### PUBLIC HEARING January 16, 2024

The City of Manton City Council will hold a public hearing on the City of Manton 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan on January 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM, at the VFW Hall located at 603 State Street, Manton, MI. Accommodations and modifications for people with disabilities are available upon request. Please contact the City Clerk by January 10, 2024, at 231-824-3572.

### Clare County Livestock auction

Auction for Monday, Dec. 4:  
Butcher Cattle: choice colored steers, \$150 to \$169; choice colored heifers, \$120 to \$149; good colored steers and heifers, \$115 to \$145; choice Holstein steers, \$115 to \$155; heavy bulls, \$94 to \$120; heifer cows, \$85 to \$110; commercial utility cows, \$75 to \$85; thin lean cows, \$10 to \$80; cow/calf pairs and bred females, (0 head), \$750 to \$1,300. Feeder Cattle: colored feeder steers 500 pounds and under, \$110 to \$200; colored feeder steers 600 pounds and over, \$100 to \$190; colored feeder heifers 500 pounds

and under, \$80 to \$150; colored feeder heifers 600 pounds and over, \$100 to \$140; Holstein feeder steers 500 pounds and under, \$75 to \$150; Holstein feeder steers 600 pounds and over, \$70 to \$120; colored feeder bulls 800 pounds and under, \$100 to \$155; Holstein feeder bulls 800 pounds and under, \$50 to \$120. Calves: heifer calves, \$100 to \$200; Beef calves 300 pounds and under, \$200 to \$310; calves 1, \$200 to \$310; calves 2, \$150 to \$250; calves 3, \$10 to \$100. Sheep and Goats: lambs, \$150 to \$180; ewes, \$50 to \$75; rams, \$50 to \$80; goats, \$50 to \$250. Hogs: butcher hogs (200-299 pounds), \$55 to \$105; fleshy sows, \$35 to \$60; boars and stags, \$5 to \$10; feeder pigs, \$35. Hay and Straw: (75) 1st cutting hay (per bale), \$2.25 to \$5; (144)

### Auction

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think CHRISTMAS  
**Sensory Items**  
FUN FOR AGES 0-122!  
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• SQUISH  
• SQUEEZE  
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M: 231-775-1707  
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 12:30-4:30  
231-775-8697  
REED CITY  
M Sat. 10:30-5:30  
231-680-5003

**COMBINED PUBLIC NOTICES  
CITY OF MANTON  
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN  
PLAN REVIEW**  
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Please submit your comments in writing or via email to:  
City Clerk, 306 West Main Street, Manton MI 49663  
[clerk@mantonmichigan.us](mailto:clerk@mantonmichigan.us)  
**PUBLIC HEARING  
January 16, 2024**  
The City of Manton City Council will hold a public hearing on the City of Manton 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan on January 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM, at the VFW Hall located at 603 State Street, Manton, MI. Accommodations and modifications for people with disabilities are available upon request. Please contact the City Clerk by January 10, 2024, at 231-824-3572.

**Everyone Is Welcome at The Y**  
**Financial Assistance Available**  
**Join the Y**  
When you join the Y, you become part of our family.  
Cadillac Area YMCA • 9845 Campus Drive, Cadillac  
231-775-3369 • [cadillacareymca.org](http://cadillacareymca.org)

CITY OF MANTON  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
January 16, 2024 @ 7:00PM  
VFW HALL 603 State Street  
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL: BATES, FULLERTON, JOHNSON, RAYMER, WILKINS – Present ATWOOD - Absent
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER MEETINGS  
Commissioner Fullerton moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Raymer.  
Voice Vote Carried
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
Commissioner Raymer moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Bates  
Voice Vote Carried

\*\*\*\* PUBLIC HEARING – City of Manton Parks & Recreation Plan \*\*\*\*

I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE CITY OF MANTON FIVE-YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN AT 7:04PM ON JANUARY 16, 2024.

IF ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT AND OFFER SUGGESTIONS ON THE PLAN PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.  
NONE

SEEING THAT THERE ARE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS, I WOULD LIKE TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:04PM ON JANUARY 16, 2024.

5. PETITIONS, COMMUNICATION
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – 3 MINUTE LIMIT
7. CONSENT AGENDA:  
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
BUDGET AMENDMENTS  
Commissioner Fullerton moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins. Roll Call: Bates, Fullerton, Johnson, Raymer, Wilkins – YES  
Motion Carried
8. INTRO/ADOPT OF ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS  
Resolution 2024-1 – Fire Department Cost Recovery Service  
Commissioner Bates moved to approve Resolution 2024-1 – Fire Department Cost Recovery Service, seconded by Commissioner Fullerton. Roll Call: Fullerton, Johnson, Raymer, Wilkins, Bates – YES  
Motion Carried  
Resolution 2024-2 – Parks & Recreation Plan  
Commissioner Fullerton moved to approve Resolution 2024-2 – Parks & Recreation Plan, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins. Roll Call: Johnson, Raymer, Wilkins, Bates, Fullerton – YES  
Motion Carried

**CITY OF MANTON  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-2**

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CITY OF MANTON PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN.

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Manton, Wexford County, Michigan, held in the City Hall, at 306 W. Main Street, in said City, January 16, 2024.

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS: *Bates, Fullerton, Johnson, Raymer, Wilkins*

ABSENT: COMMISSIONERS: *Atwood*

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner *Fullerton* and supported by Commissioner *Wilkins*.

WHEREAS, the City of Manton has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, the City of Manton has entered into this planning process and

WHEREAS, the City of Manton began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Manton were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, a joint public notice was published in the Cadillac News in their December 9-10 edition notifying the public of the 30-day plan review period and announcing the date for the Public Hearing, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days both in print and digitally via a project web site, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 16, 2024, to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the City of Manton Parks and Recreation Plan and

WHEREAS, the City of Manton has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the community and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the City of Manton City Council voted to adopt said City of Manton Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, that the City of Manton City Council hereby adopts the City of Manton Parks and Recreation Plan.

AYES: COMMISSIONERS: *Johnson, Raymer, Wilkins, Bates, Fullerton*

NAYS: COMMISSIONERS:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Jessica Schisser  
City Clerk

*Schisser, City Clerk*

**CERTIFICATION**

The forgoing resolution was certified at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Manton held on January 16, 2024

January 18, 2024



**Networks Northwest**  
Robert Carson – Community Regional Development  
600 East Front Street, Suite 205  
Traverse City, MI 49686

**Regarding: City of Manton 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Mr. Carson,

Please find enclosed a copy of the City of Manton 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan for your information and records. A PDF version of the plan can also be downloaded from [www.mantonmasterplan.org](http://www.mantonmasterplan.org). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



John Iacoangeli, FAICP, CNU-A, LEED-AP

encl.

**Beckett & Raeder, Inc.**  
535 West William, Suite 101  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Petoskey Office  
113 Howard St.  
Petoskey, MI 49770

Traverse City Office  
128 E. Front St. Suite 207  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Toledo  
419.242.3428 ph

734 663.2622 ph  
734 663.6759 fx

231 347.2523 ph  
231 347.2524 fx

231 933.8400 ph  
231 944.1709 fx

www.bria2.com

January 18, 2024



**Wexford Joint Planning Commission**  
Robert Hall - Planning and Zoning Administrator  
c/o Cherry Grove Township  
4830 E. M-55 Cadillac, Michigan 49601

**Regarding: City of Manton 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Mr. Hall,

Please find enclosed a copy of the City of Manton 2024-2028 Parks and Recreation Plan for your information and records. A PDF version of the plan can also be downloaded from [www.mantonmasterplan.org](http://www.mantonmasterplan.org). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



John Iacoangeli, FAICP, CNU-A, LEED-AP

encl.

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PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.

GRANT TYPE: [ ] MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND [ ] CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) [ ] LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND [ ] RECREATION PASSPORT [x] BOND FUND

GRANTEE: City of Manton

PROJECT NUMBER: BF92-239

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Lake Billings Campground

PROJECT SCOPE: Utility extension, service building, site preparation and road construction

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Values include City of Manton, Jessica Schisser, Clerk, 306 W. Main Street, 231-824-3572, Manton, MI 49663, clerk@mantonmichigan.us

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided? If yes, please describe change(s). [ ] Yes [x] No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) [ ] Yes [x] No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [x] Yes [ ] No
The utility hook-ups need to be updated to accommodate new RV power requirements. The public restroom needs to be demolished and replaced. Overall, the RV campground needs to redesign trailer pads to accommodate larger RV's.

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area? If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. [x] Yes [ ] No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. [x] Yes [ ] No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. [ ] Yes [x] No

**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain. Yes No

**GENERAL**

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants) Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain. Yes No

Only, the RV Bathroom and shower facility.

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure. Yes No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Park is open year-round. The RV Park is open from late April to mid-October.

**COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)**



**POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D**

CERTIFICATION		
<i>I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.</i>		
Jessica Schisser		11/30/2023
Please print	Grantee Authorized Signature	Date
Martene Lott		11/30/23
Please print	Witness Signature	Date

**Please be sure to upload the completed Post Completion Report and plaque photographs to the 5-Year Recreation Plan in MIGrants.**





## COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

### CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

By Authority of Parts 19, 703 and 716 of Act 451, P.A. 1994, as amended, submission of this information is required for eligibility to apply for grants

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete, obtain certification signatures and submit this checklist with a locally adopted recreation plan.

All recreation plans are required to meet the content and local approval standards listed in this checklist and as outlined in the *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park and Recreation Plans* provided by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Plans must be submitted to the DNR through MiRecGrants **with** a completed checklist that has been signed by an authorized official(s) of the local unit of government(s) submitting the plan. Plans may be submitted at any time of the year, but no later than February 1 of the year the local unit of government is applying for grants.

PLAN INFORMATION		
Name of Plan: City of Manton Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2024-2028		
List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
City of Manton	Wexford	January 2024
PLAN CONTENT		
<b>INSTRUCTIONS:</b> Please check <u>each</u> box to certify that the listed information is included in the <u>final</u> plan.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current Funding Sources		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Role of Volunteers		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations		
<b>Recreation Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Articles of Incorporation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>3. RECREATION INVENTORY</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessibility Assessment		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Waterways Inventory (if applicable)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS</b>		

**6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS**

Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received

Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment

Date of the Notice December 9, 2023

Type of Notice Newspaper (Cadillac News) City Website and Facebook

Plan Location City Clerk office and Project Web Site

Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) 30 days

Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)

Date of Notice December 9, 2024

Name of Newspaper Newspaper (Cadillac News) City Website and Facebook

Date of Meeting January 16, 2024

Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

**7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**8. ACTION PROGRAM**

**9. POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT(S)**

**PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION**

**APPROVAL DOCUMENTATION:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, **each** local unit of government must pass a resolution adopting the plan. Prepare and attach a separate page for each unit of government included in the plan.

- 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: January 16, 2024
- 2. Official resolution of the City of Manton City Council Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: January 16, 2024
- 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: January 18, 2024
- 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: January 18, 2024

**OVERALL CERTIFICATION**

**NOTE:** For multi-jurisdictional plans, Overall Certification must include the signature of each local unit of government. Prepare and attach a separate signature page for each unit of government included in the plan.

*I hereby certify that the recreation plan for*

City of Manton, Wexford County *includes the required content, as indicated*  
(Local Unit of Government)

*above and as set forth by the DNR.*

Jessica Schisser, City Clerk 01-18-2024  
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government Date

**This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.**