2014-2019
City of Williamston
Parks and Recreation Master Plan
Ingham County, Michigan

Michigan DNR
SEP 02 2014
Grants Management
Finance & Operations Division

ADOPTED: August 25, 2014
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Acknowledgements

City Council

James DeForest, Mayor
Noah Belanger, Mayor Pro-tem
Sandy Whellton, Council Member
Michael Moody, Council Member
Benjamin Stiffler, Council Member
Kent Hall, Council Member
Scott VanAllsburg, Council Member

Alan Dolley, City Manager

Williamston Parks and Recreation Commission

Earl Wolf, Chair
Phillis Chirico, Vice-Chair
Howard Dahlstrom, Commissioner
Patricia Pratt, Commissioner
Teri Nelson, Commissioner
Jane Reagan, Planning Commission Representative
Kent Hall, Council Representative
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I – Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of the 2014 – 2019 City of Williamston Park and Recreation Plan is to set the direction for Williamston over the next five years in the acquisition, development, renovation, and provision of outdoor recreation opportunities. It takes into account the views of residents through a 2004 survey sent to 700 registered Williamston voters, builds on recent efforts to create a “walkable community” as evidenced in the 1999 “Park Corridor Plan” (Gove Associates 1999), a survey by WHS sociology students in 2012, local service club initiatives and citizen input over the last 5 years. The plan builds upon the recommendations of the 2010 -2014 park plan and links with current improvements to McCormick Park, accounts for the upgraded school facilities, addresses the southern part of the City along the Williamston Road Corridor, oversight over Old Mill Park/Island, and reflects the property deal between the City and schools.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources requires an updated park and recreation plan to be submitted for approval every five years to be eligible for state and federal park and recreation grants such as those from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. This updated plan will act as an outline for enhancing the park and recreation opportunities in Williamston and will maintain eligibility for certain funding sources.

Methods

This document was developed by the City of Williamston Parks and Recreation Commission. The Commission was established as an outcome of the 2005-2009 park master plan. The commission met monthly beginning in 2005 and has been the point of contact for citizens to share their ideas and opinions. The current master plan represents the ideas and opinions shared by the citizens of Williamston to the commission. It reflects input obtained during two public workshops held on November 7, 2013 and March 4, 2014. A working draft of the master plan was made available to the public on April 10, 2014 with request for feedback, and a public hearing was scheduled on April 10, 2014 by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The plan was available for the required 30-day public review period from May 18, 2014 through June 18, 2014. After commencing the public review period, the Parks and Recreation Commission held a public hearing on June 18, 2014 and provided a resolution recommending adoption on August 13, 2014. Finally, on August 25, 2014, the City Council reviewed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and formally adopted the plan. See Appendices A and B for adoption documentation and meeting minutes.

Plan Preparation

The 2014-2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the City of Williamston was prepared by the City of Williamston Parks and Recreation Commission.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan Timeline</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005-2014</td>
<td>Monthly Parks and Recreation Commission meetings for public input on issues associated with parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2013</td>
<td>Work Session of Parks and Recreation Commission to update parks and recreation master plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4, 2014</td>
<td>Work Session of Parks and Recreation Commission to update parks and recreation master plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10, 2014</td>
<td>Working draft of master plan made available to public for comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18, 2014–June 18, 2014</td>
<td>30-day Public Review Period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 18, 2014</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Commission public hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 13, 2014</td>
<td>Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation of adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 25, 2014</td>
<td>City Council review and formal adoption of plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II – Community Description

Location and Size

The City of Williamston is located in north central Ingham County. The City encompasses 2,842 acres and was incorporated as a village in 1877 and as a city in 1944.

Williamston is east south east of the Lansing/East Lansing metropolitan area. The corridor from East Lansing/Meridian Township to Williamston through Williamstown Township (Ingham County) is rapidly developing both for residential and commercial purposes with a subsequent decline in agricultural and wild land uses. On the south, the City of Williamston reaches to I-96. This corridor along the expressway access to the City is also poised for rapid development. The area currently is only well-linked to the downtown, the Red Cedar River and the city parks by roadway. There is a lack of non-motorized trail linkage. The township directly north and northwest of the City (Williamstown in Ingham County) is growing, with significant development taking place and more planned for the Grand River/M-43 corridor. Further to the north (Woodhull Township in Shiawassee County), the northwest (Bath Township in Clinton County) and to the south (Wheatfield Township in Ingham County) are shifting from primarily agricultural/wild land uses to increasingly residential areas. This is especially true of Bath Township. To the east, Locke Township (Ingham County) is still primarily agricultural and wild land, while south of that and south east of Williamston are Leroy Township and the City of Webberville (Ingham County), which are experiencing more rapid growth due to their proximity to I-96.

To the southeast of Ingham County along I-96 is Livingston County, the fastest growing county in the state from 1990 to 2000 (36% growth in population). In total, this suggests that the demand for park land in and near Williamston is likely to sharply increase as population rises and the amount of nearby wild land and open space declines, making way for development.

Natural Features

Topography
Topography in Williamston has little relief, but the Red Cedar River and its tributaries do have a defined floodplain. This lack of topographic change minimizes concerns about water erosion due to slope. However, it also makes areas of higher elevation especially valuable, such as the sledding hill in Deer Creek’s Park.

Water Resources
The principal water resource in Williamston is the Red Cedar River. It is fed by a number of tributaries, including Deer Creek, which is the most extensive tributary in the City, flowing from the southwestern part of the City (adjacent to the City well field property) northward through Deer Creek Park. McCormick Park provides the principal public access to the Red Cedar in Williamston. Wetlands are found in the Red Cedar floodplain and in the southern part of the City near Linn Road, both east and west of
Williamston Road. The Tobias-Linn Drain (an Ingham County Drain) also traverses the southern part of the City of Williamston.

Soils
The Soil Survey of Ingham County indicates that three predominate types of soil (Marlette, Oshtemo and Capac) are found in Williamston. The Marlette and Oshtemo soils are found in the well-drained areas, and the Capac soils are found in the more poorly drained areas especially in the floodplain and wetland areas.

Climate
The Michigan State Climatologist reports that Williamston’s climate is sub-humid temperate. In January, the typical daily temperature is 20.1 degrees and in July the typical daily temperature is 70.5 degrees. The total annual precipitation is 29.7 inches with most falling between April and September in the form of rain. The average seasonal snowfall is 40.2 inches. Williamston’s four distinct seasons provide the opportunity for many seasonal recreation activities, including snow and ice activities such as sledding and skating.

Vegetation
The vegetation in Williamston is typical of south central Michigan, dominated by deciduous trees where other land uses (e.g. agriculture, turf, development, etc.) do not preclude the typical forest species. This is especially apparent in the Red Cedar floodplain where silver maple, American elm, cottonwood and green ash are common. There are many street trees in Williamston and they provide valued shade in the spring and summer, vibrant fall color and habitat for birds and other wildlife year round. Key street tree species are sugar and Norway maple, red and white oak, white ash and honey locust. A key vegetation concern is the emerald ash borer, which dooms all green, white or exotic ash (e.g. mountain ash), regardless of size unless expensive insecticide treatments are regularly applied. Except for large specimen trees, the City should continue to identify and remove ash from the landscape. In public park areas, dead and dying ash trees could present a safety hazard. As a result of the 2007 tornado, 39 trees (including many ash trees) were removed from McCormick Park.

Wildlife
The Red Cedar River floodplain provides some of the most valuable wildlife habitat in the City. Mammals found there include whitetail deer, gray and fox squirrel, raccoon, coyote, red fox, muskrat and mink. A wide variety of birds also use the floodplain, highlighted by waterfowl. Fish species in the Red Cedar include rock bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike and bluegills, as well as catfish, carp and suckers. Turtles include the common map turtle, musk turtle, Blanding’s turtle, and eastern painted turtle and spiny softshell. The floodplain is important habitat for reptiles and amphibians including northern watersnake, eastern garter snake and blue racer.

Across the rest of the city, especially the developed central and northern areas, many songbirds are common, providing many residents the opportunity to enjoy bird feeding and observation. South near I-96, there is still open land that has the potential to benefit a
wide variety of open space wildlife species. As this area is developed, creating habitat corridors along Deer Creek, the Tobias-Linn Drain, non-motorized trails/pathways and at retention/detention basins holds out the promise of a city with abundant wildlife that all residents, visitors and workers can enjoy.

**Land Use**

Table 1 shows the land use within the City of Williamston. Most of the undeveloped lands currently lie in the southern portion of the city. The land is broken down into the following categories as described in the Williamston Comprehensive Plan:

**Public/Exempt**
This class contains property that is tax exempt. Typically, that is land that is in public ownership such as parks, schools, or other public properties.

**Commercial**
The commercial category includes areas with or without structures, where goods are distributed or personal business services are provided. This includes the retail sales of goods and services to local residents and consumers attracted from outside the community. The downtown commercial district, as well as single lot or highway, retail, wholesale and office space are included in this category.

**Industrial**
Industrial includes areas where raw or unfinished materials or commodities are used to produce a product. This includes industries whose manufacturing processes may cause emissions that are potentially detrimental to surrounding land uses.

**Residential**
These are areas where dwellings and their accessory buildings occupy the major portion of the land.

**Developmental**
Parcels in this category have been designated for future development.

The southern less-developed area provides potential opportunity for the creation of future recreation opportunities that require larger space, or are more conveniently located for the southernmost Williamston residents.
Table 1: Land Use, City of Williamston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Number of Parcels</th>
<th>Areas (acres)</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public/Exempt</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developed</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>14.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developed</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developed</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,464</td>
<td>1,252</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: City of Williamston GIS Database

Transportation

Several significant transportation corridors intersect or border the City of Williamston. State highway M-43 (Grand River Ave.) bisects the city running east-west. Interstate 96 served by interchange 117 (Williamston Road), provides a direct expressway link on the southern part of the city. Crossing the Red Cedar River to the north from Grand River Avenue, Williamston Road/Putnam Street is the lone vehicular/pedestrian link for north-south traffic. The desire for a “walkable” community was clearly expressed in the 1999 Park Corridor Plan (Gove Associates 1999) and the draft Williamston Road Corridor Plan (Community Planning Associates 2004). In particular the 2004 plan calls for “pedestrian circulation ..... to enable future and existing neighborhoods to be linked with sidewalks, hiking/biking trails and other pedestrian friendly designs”. It also calls for “connecting all existing and proposed residential developments to the downtown area”. This was reinforced in the planning process through the recreation needs assessment. The walkability of McCormick Park has been completed, but Memorial Park needs a similar hard surface pathway. However, for truly sustainable development, pedestrian connections should be available not only for neighborhoods but also for commercial and industrial areas as workers, visitors and residents need to better connect. Sidewalk improvements have been recently undertaken, but expansion toward Plymouth Landing and the industrial park or pedestrian/bike connections to other communities has not progressed significantly. Pedestrian/bike access will promote more healthy lifestyles such as walking to work, lunch or shopping or using a bicycle for exercise during work breaks instead of sitting.
Demographic Characteristics

All demographic characteristics cited are based on data provide by the US Bureau of the Census.

Overall Population
There were 3,854 people residing in Williamston in 2010. This is a 12% increase from the 2000 census population of 3,441, influenced to a large measure by the expansion of the Williamston City limits during the late 1990’s. However, with Williamston being a hub for the neighboring townships for goods, services and education, it is likely that the population pressure on City facilities will be considerably greater than that illustrated by the census of the City population levels. Of the population over 4 years of age, 14.4% are reported to have a disability by the US Census of 2000.

Households
There were 1,605 occupied housing units in Williamston in 2010. Of these, 66% were owner occupied and 34% were in rental units. This is an increase in owner occupied/decrease in rental occupied from 1990 where the Bureau of the Census reported that 59% of households were owner occupied and 41% in rental properties. The median household income in 2010 for City households was $61,840, above the median of $42,469 for households across Ingham County. Single-person households make up 32% of all households.

Age, Sex and Race
The age distribution of Williamston’s population is gradually getting older with the single greatest population increase in the 45-64 age groups over the past two (2) decades (Table 2). Somewhat surprisingly, the proportion of elementary and middle school aged residents has stayed relatively constant. The largest decline continues in the 25-34 year old group, likely reflecting people who relocating for employment reasons.

Females comprise the majority of Williamston residents 52 % while 48 % are males. The racial make-up of the City is predominately Caucasian with 94.45% reporting their race as white to the US Bureau of the Census in 2010. In summary, every age category and men and women are well represented across the population. Hence, the City needs to take into account the full range of residents in their provision of outdoor recreational opportunity. Further, it is likely that the population will diversify as the nation’s population does, making it important to continue to assess the recreational needs of a changing population. The City does not have enclaves of population with disproportionately high levels of persons with disabilities, seniors, those with lower incomes or specific ethnic identities.
**Table 2: Age Distribution of Population, City of Williamston, 1990 and 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>1990 Percent</th>
<th>2000 Percent</th>
<th>2010 Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>8.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>7.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>7.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-24</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>11.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>13.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>15.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>13.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>10.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
<td>5.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 and over</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>6.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: USA.com

**Education**

The population of Williamston is well educated according to the State of Michigan statistics, with 73.29% of adults 25 and over having attended college. Of these over half having earned a bachelor’s or graduate college degree. Further, the voters of the Williamston school district in a 2004 special election approved a bond issue which significantly upgraded the K-12 system in the district. One aspect of the bond was to renovate and improve the high school gymnasium and some associated athletic facilities. These amenities are available for use by the general public through a fee for use program.

**Regional Considerations**

The populations of the adjacent townships of Williamstown Township, Wheatfield Township, Leroy Township and Locke Township are growing. Respectively, they have grown by 3%, -1%, -3% and 7% between 2000 and 2010. Residents of these areas use Williamston as a hub for goods, services and education. It is also reasonable to suggest they use city parks, which along with the Williamston Community Schools (also in the city) provide the venue for youth and adult sports leagues. With the exception of Williamstown Township, the other adjacent townships also lack a park and recreation infrastructure. In total, almost 12,000 people were reported in the adjacent townships in the 2010 Census. Coupled with Williamston’s 3,854 residents, it is reasonable to picture Williamston’s park and recreation infrastructure and programs serving more than 15,000 potential users.

**Zoning**

Williamston is a zoned community. A zoning map is found on page 9.
Zoning Map
City of Williamston, Michigan

CERTIFICATION
I, Holly Thompson, City Clerk, City of Williamston, do hereby certify
that this is a true copy of the map adopted by the City Council for
City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan,
on the 22nd day of March, 2010, as well as those amendments
made as of the revision dates shown.

Holly Thompson, Clerk, City of Williamston

February 29, 2012

Mckenna Associates

REVOLUTION DATES

Date
U/23/2012

Cert.
259

The parcel lines of this map are representative of the actual parcel lines
and are not intended to be substituted for an official survey or used
to pass or convey title or to determine boundaries. Council officials/Williamston
records for precise distances, boundaries and areas of parcels.

Legend

C-1 Central Business District
C-2 General Business District
C-3 Mixed Business District
C-4 Interchange Business District
R-10 One-Family Residential District
R-1S One-Family Residential District
R-2 One and Two-Family Residential District
R-3 Multiple Dwelling Residence District
Rivers and Lakes
Municipal Boundary
Industrial Park
Local Street
Collector Street
Planned Streets
Mobile Home District
Light Manufacturing/Offices/Research/Laboratory District
Light Industrial District
Professional Office District

1000
500
0

FEET
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III – Administrative Structure

Administration

The following shows the organization structure of the City of Williamston. All city expenditures for parks and recreational purposes are approved by the City Council. The City of Williamston has a weak mayor form of government with a city manager.

City Council
Legislative body appropriating money for park and recreation function and passing park and recreation related ordinances. The council also directly supervises the city manager.

City Manager
The City Manager is the CEO of Williamston City Government. The manager directly supervises department heads, including Planning and Zoning and Public Works. Alan Dolley is the City Manager.

Community Development
This department is responsible for park and recreation planning. McKenna Associates serves as the Community Development Department.

Department of Public Works
This office is responsible for park maintenance. Scott DeVries is the City’s Engineer/Superintendent of Public Works.

Parks and Recreation Commission
The commission is a volunteer board of Williamston residents who fulfill an advisory role to the City Council on all matters pertaining to the City of Williamston parks and youth recreation.

Programming, Volunteers, and Relationships

All park and recreation programming is provided by cooperating governmental units and non-profit entities in the community. The various programs include volunteers to make them possible.

Source: City of Williamston
Figure 1: City Organizational Structure
Parks and Recreation Budget and Grant History

Table 3 summarizes the 2011 – 2014 actual and budget for parks and recreation within the City of Williamston.

Additionally, Table 4 summarizes the state recreation grants awarded to the City. Further descriptions of each facility are included in Section IV.

Table 3: Parks and Recreation Budgets, City of Williamston, 2010 – 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Wages</td>
<td>$20,533</td>
<td>$19,520</td>
<td>$16,281</td>
<td>$19,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>$10,053</td>
<td>$10,160</td>
<td>$6,683</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Supplies</td>
<td>$7,336</td>
<td>$6,384</td>
<td>$3,970</td>
<td>$6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Services</td>
<td>$10,845</td>
<td>$38,309</td>
<td>$4,744</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance – Liability/Property</td>
<td>$252</td>
<td>$231</td>
<td>$237</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Festival/Flamingo Fest</td>
<td>$4,075</td>
<td>$3,193</td>
<td>$10,115</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>$3,529</td>
<td>$4,792</td>
<td>$3,977</td>
<td>$5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs &amp; Maintenance/Building</td>
<td>$3,031</td>
<td>$14,394</td>
<td>$15,557</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rental</td>
<td>$15,013</td>
<td>$16,806</td>
<td>$12,693</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$74,667</strong></td>
<td><strong>$113,789</strong></td>
<td><strong>$74,257</strong></td>
<td><strong>$104,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: City of Williamston

Table 4: Recreation Grant History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source/Project Number</th>
<th>Project Year/Name</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Project Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LWCF – 26-00305</td>
<td>1972 – McCormick Park Improvement</td>
<td>$1,106.17</td>
<td>Lighted croquet court, horseshoe and shuffleboard area, picnic storage, conversion of pool into play area, play equipment, LWCF sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LWCF – 26-00314</td>
<td>1972 – Memorial Park Improvement</td>
<td>$41,289.92</td>
<td>Renovation of existing swimming pool, improvement ball field, tennis court, lighting, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe courts, winterize warming house, site improvement, picnic area, boat livery and footbridges, LWCF sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNRTF – TF616</td>
<td>1982 – Williamston Recreation Corridor</td>
<td>$105,000</td>
<td>Acquisition of 3 parcels totaling 2.53 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNRTF – TF95-121</td>
<td>1995 – Red Cedar River Rapids</td>
<td>$342,700</td>
<td>Develop artificial rapids course in the Red Cedar River for recreation and to control water levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNRTF – TF08-081</td>
<td>2008 – McCormick Park Improvements</td>
<td>$391,100</td>
<td>Paved pathway system, parking, canoe/kayak launch, fishing/observation structures, landscaping, and lighted pathway, concession/accessible restroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Michigan Department of Natural Resources
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Section IV – Recreation Inventory

Recreation Facilities

The following inventory lists all of the public, semi-public and private recreation facilities located within Williamston and many of those in nearby communities. It also assesses problems of existing public recreation facilities in Williamston.

City of Williamston Park Inventory and Assessment

All parks are inspected annually by members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Below are the assets and problems associated with each of the parks. Due to the relatively small area of Williamston, all of the parks service most all residents and many residents of neighboring towns.

Additionally, a barrier-free accessibility assessment has been included for each facility. The passage of the American Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires all areas of public service, including parks and other recreation facilities, to have barrier-free accessibility. An evaluation of Williamston parks and recreation facilities has been conducted as part of the inventory. In accordance with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) standards, facilities were evaluated to determine if a person with any of the following criteria can safely and independently access and use the park or facility:

- Has limited sight or is blind
- Uses a wheelchair
- Has a hearing impairment or is deaf
- Uses a walking aid
- Has a mental impairment

A five-point evaluation system was used to rank each facility’s accessibility. The system is described below and the accessibility rankings can be found under the description of each park.

- **Level 1.** The park is not accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. The site includes little paved areas and the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- **Level 2.** The park is somewhat accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Either the parking area or pathways are paved, but not both. Many of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are not easily accessible.
- **Level 3.** The park is mostly accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Most of the parking areas and pathways are paved, and some of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas are accessible but may be completely barrier-free.
- **Level 4.** The park is completely accessible to people with a broad range of physical disabilities. Parking areas and pathways area paved, and most of the facilities such as play equipment or picnic areas area easily accessible.
- **Level 5.** The entire park was developed or renovated using the principles of universal design, a design approach which enables all environments to be usable by everyone, to the greatest extent possible, regardless of age, ability, or situation.
1. **McCormick Park**  
McCormick Park is centrally located within the City of Williamston on North Putnam Street. Inventory suggests the following park assets and challenges:

**Assets**
- Two picnic shelters  
- Several picnic tables and grills  
- Recreational sporting field  
- Significant public river frontage (almost 1/4 mile)  
- Two play structures  
- Playground equipment that involved community support  
- Access to the Red Cedar River including facilities for carry-in watercraft and fishing  
- Accessible Restrooms  
- Centrally located with the City of Williamston  
- Bandshell  
- Concession building  
- Parking availability  
- Interpretive Signage  
- Ash Tree Chainsaw Sculpture Art (10)  
- Lighted paved pathways  
- Wall of Honor (American Legion)  
- Park benches  
- Renovated historical gazebo

**Problems**
- Limited shade  
- (wood) play structure maintenance  
- Vandalism

**Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 3.5-4.0**

2. **Memorial Park**  
Memorial Park is located on Highland Street next to the Elementary School.

**Assets**
- Almost ¼ mile natural frontage on the Red Cedar River  
- Linked to area south of river by pedestrian bridge  
- Adjoins Williamston Community Schools property  
- Sports fields  
- Accessible picnic tables with grills

**Problems**
- No pathways or facilities  
- Limited parking
- Limited access to riverfront
- Blighted outdoor swimming pool facilities and tennis court

*Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 1*

3. **West End Park**
West End Park is a wetland/retention area that is located off Grand River Ave. The area serves as wetland habitat and provides an area for wildlife watching. The area is lacking a sense of identity and is not clearly linked to the Williamston park system. There is no parking and a lack of any interpretive information. Public access is currently only available through a 12 foot wide easement out to Grand River Avenue.

*Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 1*

4. **Old Mill Park**
West of Putnam Street Bridge including the river boardwalk, informational signage, historical plaza and gazebo. Gazebo and garden plots are maintained by the local Red Cedar Garden Club. The man-made island has an extensive management plan focused on enhancing the visual appeal and natural habitat.

**Assets**
- almost ¼ mile natural frontage on the Red Cedar River
- 100 yard-long boardwalk
- scenic views of Red Cedar River/rapids
- Blue Star Veterans marker
- butterfly garden

**Problems**
- maintenance of wooden boardwalk
- accessibility problems for picnic table/viewing platforms
- identity signage

*Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 2*

5. **Williamston Community Schools Recreation Resources**
The Williamston Community School District operates two elementary schools (Discovery and Explorer), one middle school and one high school. All of these schools are located within the City of Williamston. These school sites are designed primarily to meet the needs of the students, but do provide extensive recreation facilities and opportunities for school district residents, which includes all City of Williamston residents. The schools have indoor and outdoor recreational facilities such as gymnasiums, basketball courts, baseball diamonds, football fields, a track, a pool, sand soccer fields. High school and the middle school athletic directors all provide significant community recreation service. School facilities are used by community members on many occasions when not in use for school functions.
Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 5

6a. Williamston Area Community Center
The Community Center fills a variety of recreational and community programs needs. It currently is host to the library and senior center. Meeting rooms and classrooms are used by the community education department, the community foodbank, boy and girl scouts, exercise classes, etc. Rooms can be reserved by any community groups or individuals. External to the community center is a large play area and the Williamston Schools Sports Complex.

Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 5

b. Community Center Play Area

Assets
- adjacent to community center
- Trent Allen Memorial Basketball courts (2008)
- young children’s play area

Problems
- playground maintenance issues

Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 2

7. Deer Creek Park

Deer Creek Park is located on Mechanic Street. The park is linked to a football field and track that is owned by the school district.

Assets
- lighted sledding hill
- multi-use open space
- wooded area located on the West boundary
- adjoins Williamston Community Schools property including sports complex
- ample recently-paved parking
- small covered pavilion
- gated access
- signage

Problems
- There is minimal shelter or tree cover at the park other than on the western boundary
- no restroom facilities

**Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 3**

8. **Well Field**
   The current well field located off of Linn Road is a large piece of land owned by the City. Although not currently use for any recreational purpose, this area of land provides potential for future development with convenient access for the residents of the Plymouth landing area. One major drawback to development of this area for recreational purposes is the current inaccessibility to these lands by pedestrians or bicycles accompanied by its relative distance from downtown.

**Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 1**

9. **Miscellaneous City Land**
   A pocket park is currently located at City Hall. Another is planned for land owned by the Downtown Development Authority east of the bridge over the Red Cedar River on the north side of Grand River Avenue. These can provide islands of relaxation adjacent to development and can assist in channeling visitors from parking to local businesses. Additionally, Thurlby Park (a small strip of land) provides minimal public access downstream of the downtown area.

**Barrier-Free Assessment – Level 1**
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Neighboring and Regional Park and Recreation Facilities

Williamstown Township Hall
Located at the corner of North Zimmer and Germany roads, the Township Hall lands are available to township residents for recreational use and for meetings of community clubs and organization. This land includes a pavilion, soccer field and baseball diamond.

Williamstown Township Park
Williamstown Township Community Park was built in 1996 and consists of 132-acres located approximately 3 miles west of downtown Williamston off Grand River Ave. The park lies on the banks of the Red Cedar River and currently has a sledding hill, nature trails, wildflower prairie, two soccer fields, a baseball field, dog walk, an open turf area for various activities an informational kiosk and a parking area (includes port-o-john facility.)

MDOT Roadside Park
The Michigan Department of Transportation roadside park is located at the intersection of Grand River Avenue and Meridian Road. It is located on the banks of the Red Cedar and is a 1.8 acre park with picnic tables, grill units, restroom facilities and canoe launch facilities.

Meridian Township Parks
Meridian Township has eighteen parks and natural areas available for recreational use. There are three parks that provide active interpretation: the Nokomis Learning center (a Native American Cultural Center), Harris Nature Center (an environmental education center) and Meridian Historic Village, which offers people the opportunity to experience the nineteenth century lifestyle.

Ingham County Parks
Ingham County Parks has a park system of more than 1,400 acres that includes seven main parks and two smaller parks in southern Ingham County. The closest parks to Williamston are Lake Lansing Park North and Lake Lansing Park South. Lake Lansing Park South (once a popular amusement park) is located on the southeast shore of Lake Lansing, the largest body of water within 30 miles of Lansing. The 30 acre-site includes a sandy beach bordered by four acres of grass. Besides swimming, fishing and paddle boats are available for water recreation. For land based recreation, the Friends of Ingham County Parks have funded the construction of a band shell providing a community performance space for music and community entertainment and events. In addition, there is picnicking, volleyball, horseshoes and other opportunities for general recreation. Lake Lansing North is larger with over 400 acres of land providing non-motorized trails, picnicking, softball diamonds, and volleyball. At the waterfront, a well developed boat launch for trailer and carry-in boats is available.

The other notable Ingham County Park is the Potter Park Zoo. This 85 acre park has housed animals since 1920 and its control recently moved from the City of Lansing to
Ingham County. The park consists of the zoo, picnic area, pavilions, a portion of the City’s river trail system, canoe rentals and significant riverfront lands.

Ingham County Fair and Exposition Center
The Ingham County Fairgrounds are located in Mason and are best known for hosting the ten-day Ingham County Fair. The fairgrounds are used continuously from early spring through early winter. The primary use of the fairgrounds is for equestrian shows. Other uses include livestock shows, pet shows, automobile shows and events such as circuses, swap meets and bicycles races. Throughout the winter months (November through March), the fairgrounds provide winter storage for boats, campers, motor homes and cars.

City of Lansing
The City of Lansing has over 100 park and recreation facilities. Those of exceptional regional importance that serve Williamston residents include:

- Fenner Nature Center: contains primarily natural areas and offers environmental education, summer day camps and nature walks.
- Rivertrail: an urban trail system that borders the Red Cedar and Grand Rivers. The river trail offers sites for picnicking, links to many attractions (e.g. Impressions 5 Museum, Lansing Community College, Lansing Farmers Market, Michigan State University, etc.) and also adjoins park and recreation facilities with a large amphitheater and festival grounds.

City of East Lansing
The City of East Lansing has 24 parks. Four key regional parks are:

- Abbott Road Park: 130 acres of partially wooded areas and wetland areas linked to the paved Northern Tier Trail.
- The Family Aquatic Center: on Abbot just north of Lake Lansing Road.
- East Lansing Soccer and Softball Complexes: on Abbott Road at the north end of the City near the Family Aquatic Center.

Michigan State University
MSU is located approximately eleven miles west of Williamston. It offers a large variety of recreational opportunities on campus including trails, natural woodlot areas, a planetarium, performing arts venues, Big Ten sporting events, and several gardens.

State of Michigan Facilities

- Rose Lake Wildlife Research Area: Located in Bath Township in Clinton County is the closest State of Michigan facility to Williamston. It is an 873-acre farmland and wildland site used for wildlife research also provides wildlife oriented recreation such as hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing. In addition, many use the area for non-motorized trail activities such as hiking, cross-country skiing and bicycling.
- Sleepy Hollow State Park: Located in Clinton County 12 miles northwest of Williamston is a 2,700-acre park that offers camping, picnic facilities, playgrounds, a
beach house, boat launches, swimming, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling and cross-country skiing.

- Three other state facilities offering outdoor recreation that are located within a thirty-mile radius of Williamston are the Dansville State Game Area (southern Ingham County), the Pinckney and Brighton State Recreation Areas, both located in Livingston County.

**Commercial and Non-Profit Recreation Facilities**

There are several private sector organizations that address the recreation needs of some segments of the population. These commercial recreation facilities may not be accessible to all residents because they do charge user fees. The following list summarizes the types of commercial recreation facilities that are available in Ingham County and within thirty miles of Williamston.

- **Williamston Community Fitness Center & Walking Track**
- **Williamston Senior Center**
- **Golf Courses** (21)
- **FunTyme** (water park, putt-putt golf and go-kart facility)
- **Harris Nature Center**
- **Woldumar Nature Center**
- **Campgrounds** (Lansing Cottonwood, Moon Lake, PJ Family, Wheel Inn, Ingham County Fairgrounds)
- **Athletic Clubs** (Yoga and cycling center, Curves, YMCA, Court One, Gold's Gym, Powerhouse Gym and The MAC, Williamston High School Fitness Center)
- **Roller Skating** (Edru Roller Skating Arena)
- **Theater/Stage** (Williamston Theatre, Lansing Civic Players Guild, The Riverwalk Theatre, Wharton Center for Performing Arts)
- **Dance Studios**
- **Baseball Fields** (Cooley Law School Park)
- **Movie Theaters** (Sun Theatre, Celebration! Cinemas, NCG Theaters, AMC Theaters, Lansing Mall 6)
- **Bowling Alleys** (Pro Bowl, Marvel Lanes and MSU Union)
- **Shopping Centers** (storefronts along Grand River Avenue, Frandor, Meridian Mall, Lansing Mall, and Eastwood Town Center)
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V – Background

Overview

Fulfilling one of the first recommendations of the 2005-2009 parks master plan, the City established a 7-member citizen Parks and Recreation Commission in 2005. This body meets monthly and has oversight for the park lands and plays an advisory role to the City Council on all matters pertaining to the parks. The commission provides a venue for citizens to share input or criticism about the parks.

In October 2007, a tornado swept through the city of Williamston and caused significant damage in both Deer Creek and McCormick Parks. Adding to that, the park’s lost all of its ash tress to the Emerald Ash Borer, causing significant loss of shade. Much of the focus by the commissions subsequent to this event was the reconstruction of the damage and planned replacement of lost trees and other assets.

The following sections provide specific background for the developments surrounding each of the major parks.

McCormick Park

In 2006, the parks commission worked with Capital Consultants to develop a master plan for McCormick Park. This plan would integrate existing facilities; future funded facilities and proposed additions. Public hearings were held, plans reviewed and a finished plan was submitted to city council for approval during 2006 and 2007.

The commission worked with the Williamston Kiwanis Club and the Williamston Area Beautification Fund (WABF) Committee to begin to fulfill some of the envisioned items in the McCormick Park plan. During spring 2007, the Kiwanis Club donated and constructed a “Tot-Lot” playground, replacing a set of aging structures. During 2008, the WABF had raised enough money to initiate the installation of a bandshell within the park in accordance with the park plan. An initial concert/fundraiser was held in September 2007. The project was completed and dedicated as The American Legion Bandshell in June 2008.

During 2007, the American Legion proposed a new veteran’s memorial be installed within McCormick Park. This project had considerable public support, so the McCormick Park plan was adjusted to include the proposed structure. On Memorial Day 2008, the American Legion dedicated the Wall of Honor Memorial, near the Putnam Street bridge.

In the fall of 2007, the commission voted to complete a proposal for a Natural Resources Trust Fund grant as a means to help raise the money to fulfill the vision set forth in the Capital Consultants plan. This was completed and filed to the state in April 2008. The plan requested nearly $400,000 with a 40% match by the city and the city was informed that the proposal would be funded in December 2008. The McCormick Park Renovation Project was completed in 2011, and dedicated Memorial Day 2012. The project included natural
riverfront landscaping, lighted pathways, accessible restrooms, concession, fishing pier and canoe/kayak access.

In 2009, the City organized a Tree Sculpture Festival to utilize the large, dead ash trees in the park. Carvers were sponsored to create chainsaw sculptures. Eventually the sculptures were repositioned in the park as permanent art pieces.

**Memorial Park**
The sporting fields are used by the Community Recreation Association. In 2013, a Scout project constructed an accessible picnic site with tables and grills.

**Deer Creek Park**
This downtown park is primarily used by the Lion’s Club during Jubilee, for winter sledding and parking for High School football games. The “pit area” used for Jubilee’s Demolition Derby, was filled in and a temporary area was erected for use during the Jubilee, allowing other use of the land throughout the rest of the year. In 2008, the parking lot was expanded and repaved, with improvements to the fencing and gate. The pavilion was also rebuilt due to damage by the 2007 tornado.

**Old Mill Park**
In 2006 the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) requested the Parks and Recreation Commission to take oversight of this area including the river boardwalk, island and gazebo. In 2008, the Park and Recreation Commission renamed the area Old Mill Park (a name recommended by one of the city residents through an open call for names) to recognize the historical significance that the area played in the city of Williamston. In 2006, a Historical Plaza was built which includes the historic millstone (encased in concrete) and wayside display panels with interpretive information about the mill and bridge. The informational panels were donated by the Williamston Sunrise Rotary Club.

The landscaping around the gazebo has been maintained by annual planting and upkeep by the Red Cedar Garden Club. In 2012, the Club donated the Blue Star Veterans Memorial marker.

In 2008, a long-term management plan for the island and riverbank areas was created and the initial stages implemented by Wildtype, Mason MI. The plan is designed to achieve the desire expressed by the public of creating an attractive and manageable natural area. The plan further limits invasive species and focuses on long-term management. Floodplain shade trees were hand-planted on the bank and island. The goal is a future “glade” habitat to evolve. The management plan includes yearly maintenance, including herbiciding (which is vital to control invasive species) tree thinning and limbing promoting proper tree growth. Future plans call for periodic burns offering an educational opportunity for the community about the vital role fire plays in the natural life cycle. The contract was renewed in 2012.
Community involvement with the island has been high to date. During multiple fall 2008 work days, 30+ volunteers cut and removed logs from the island. The result is a cleaner habitat featuring flood-tolerant native riparian trees and plantings.

**Update on 2009-14 Action Program**

1. A citizen park and recreation advisory committee should be formed to work with the City Council and appropriate personnel in the executive branch of Williamston city government. Completed.

2. Non-motorized trail expansion to link community assets including parks, schools, businesses, the Red Cedar River and neighborhoods should be a top priority.

   Initial work completed on paths in McCormick Park. Repairs of sidewalks continues in disrepair. Inter-connecting bike paths continue to be a focus of the park plan. Coordination with DDA, City Planner, adjacent communities continues.

3. The quantity and quality of recreation opportunities related to the Red Cedar River needs to be improved by enhancing opportunity for water-based recreation (fishing, canoeing/kayaking) and adjacent non-motorized trails with universal access features that connect aesthetically pleasing public recreation spaces and community schools.

   Renovation of McCormick Park completed. Future access improvement is a goal along Memorial Park’s riverfront and a Red Cedar Pathway from Putnam Street bridge to Deer Creek Bridge.

4. Each park (including linear and pocket parks) should be clearly designated, with an attractive entrance sign, appropriate parking, non-motorized trail opportunities, proper access for the disabled and a distinctive, inviting character.

   Not all completed. A sign is needed identifying Old Mill Park. Improved signage at all park locations in needed. Improved parking at Deer Creek Park.

5. Williamston needs to better use existing public lands such as the well field area in the southern part of town, Thurby Park near the Red Cedar River and other publicly owned spaces to create important park land, maintain open space and link people to nature. Some, such as the well field may provide the opportunity for developed recreation facilities needing a large land base (athletic fields, nature trails, etc.).

   No significant progress on this.

6. Williamston needs to use water management features associated with new development (e.g. retention/detention basins) as ecological assets by using wetland plant species, irregular shorelines, varying depths and other techniques to maximize the aesthetics and wildlife value of these necessary aspects of development.
Water and ecological management is a key aspect completed in McCormick Park riverfront and its rain garden basin. River front and island is ongoing at Old Mill Park.
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VI – Basis for Action

The current recreation needs assessment, the 1999 Park Corridor plan, McCormick Park Master Plan, the current recreation inventory and assessment of Williamston and nearby jurisdictions and the Michigan State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2008-2012 constitute the basis for the action presented in Section VI, Action Plan. Regarding the Michigan SCORP, the following Williamston action plan helps Michigan address the key state priorities of resource conservation, trails, community recreation, universal access, green technology and cooperation and coordination among governmental units. This alignment with state priorities make the City of Williamston eligible for federal Land and Water Conservation money administered by the State of Michigan.

In the past, National Recreation and Park Association standards prescribing a minimum level of recreation land or infrastructure (e.g. 10 acres of locally owned public parkland per 1,000 residents) were used in a prescriptive approach to define community recreation needs. This approach is not used in this plan. Rather, a more modern level of service (LOS) approach is adopted. In LOS, the community is fully engaged in the process. Acquisition and development are tailored to meet community identified needs and link with recreation opportunities provided in neighboring jurisdictions. For example, the older standards approach would not take into account that the City of Williamston is defined by more than political boundaries. It is a community, public school, and recreational hub for 15,000 people, only 3,854 of which live in the City.

Key resources to assist in the proposed actions are funding sources administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. These include the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF), one time monies derived from the sale of leases and royalties on state owned hydrocarbon resources and protected by the Michigan Constitution to provide perpetual funding to support the acquisition and development of Michigan public outdoor recreation opportunities. Another source is the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, the precursor to the MNRTF. This fund has been in place since 1965 and is also derived from hydrocarbon resources, those on federal lands and the outer continental shelf, through the sale of leases and the resulting royalties from extraction.

This plan will be continually reviewed and amended as necessary by the City of Williamston.
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VII – Goals and Objectives

The goals of the parks master plan is to create an environment that will allow local residents access to recreational activities and remove barriers to individuals living an active lifestyle. The goals include the following:

1. **Provide recreation opportunities.**

   Recreation opportunities need to be developed for residents of all ages and abilities. There are currently limited local recreation opportunities for many different age ranges. Specifically, the plan seeks to increase the number of outdoor activities for children and adults including those with disabilities. Additionally, the plan will encourage further development of both public and private recreational opportunities such as adult recreational sports leagues (sand volleyball, pickleball, bowling alley, winter sports).

2. **Encourage an active lifestyle including walking, biking, skating.**

   The community has expressed a desire to invest in a walkable community. Developing a network of paths will help remove accessibility as a barrier to maintain an active lifestyle and will lead to a decrease in obesity and an overall improvement in health.

3. **Build a strong community through social interactions.**

   Community can only be built through social interactions. The parks plan seeks to create an environment where residents have space and motivation to interact and develop as strong a supporting community. The renovation of McCormick Park is one major step toward providing a central community gathering location.

4. **Offer recreational access to and appreciation of the Red Cedar River.**

   The renovation of McCormick Park and the enhancement of Old Mill Park focus in part on creating an appreciation of the Red Cedar River through education and access. A Red Cedar Pathway access, from Old Mill park, adjacent the business district to Deer Creek bridge and a Memorial Park riverfront pathway are future goals.

5. **Offer environmental education opportunities**

   The parks plan recognizes that support for the natural environment begins through education. The parks play a key role in helping residents of all ages understand the impact that humans have on the environment and how individuals’ decisions can help minimize negative impacts on the environment. The natural riverbank management, the island management and the park rain garden are excellent examples of demonstration plots that serve as a passive environmental education experience.
6. Enhance community/citizen park maintenance opportunities

Parks offer a framework for volunteer opportunities for landscaping, grounds and building maintenance. These projects should be under the supervision of city staff.
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VIII – Action Program

The following items represent the key targets for progress during the timeframe of this masterplan. The order listed is not meant to denote a hierarchy, but simply a list of important goals.

1. **Ongoing McCormick Park Improvement.**

McCormick Park is the jewel of the City of Williamston Parks. The receipt of the MNRTF 2008 grant provided both motivation and support for fulfilling the McCormick Park planned upgrading into a premier park providing significant public benefit and educational opportunity. Future improvements, such as sand volleyball, are planned.

2. **Continuing to develop the walkability of Williamston**

Promote projects that connect residents of the city to the downtown and parks via walkable and bikeable pathways.

3. **Expand recreation opportunities for children and families.**

Access to recreation is the first step in partaking in a healthy lifestyle and a strong community. Available activities need to be expanded and increased. These may include increased bicycle pathways, usage of the band shell, development of the well field, or the creation of new city assets such as the creation of a community ice rink, sand volleyball, skate park, or by encouraging private investment in the form of the creation of recreational opportunities such as a new bowling alley.

4. **Increase universal access to parks.**

Continue to increase accessibility to the Red Cedar River and natural resources of Williamston. Specifically the increase of access in Memorial Park and the improvement of the Old Mill Park Boardwalk location should all be primary goals.

5. **Continue to incorporate green technologies.**

The City of Williamston should continue to focus on increasing green technologies throughout the city and specifically in the parks. Parks should continue the use of environmentally friendly materials, LED lighting, permeable pavement as well as water control mechanisms such as rain gardens to minimize erosion and damage.

6. **Environmental Education.**

The park system should also encourage environmental awareness and education. The access to natural resources, provided by the park, provide ideal settings and opportunity to educate the public through signage, demonstration areas and partnerships with other
city groups including the schools.

7. Develop distinct Park Donation Policies.

The park system should have clear policies in place for donations, donation maintenance and memorials. Other policy issues include environmental issues such as designated natural areas (native vs. non-native plants).

Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

This section summarizes the overall system recommendations as well as specific improvements to individual parks. Some are multi-year efforts that will involve time and coordination, while others are park improvements that require largely monetary investment. Table 5: Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan incorporates the top recommendations that require capital improvement in the next five years and beyond for planning purposes.

Priorities should be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted to respond to updated findings and identification of funding opportunities. In particular, costs should be closely monitored, as the proposed plan estimates are in 2014 dollars and are strictly preliminary. Actual costs for each project will be more specifically determined as site surveys, programming elements, and engineering plans are developed if applicable, as well as further analysis of the proposed improvement. In funding levels are lower than required to implement the Plan based on the schedule provided, the implementation could be stretched over additional years.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>SHORT TERM</strong></td>
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<td>2014-2016</td>
<td>Demolition of condemned pool, etc at Memorial Pk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Annual Park tree replacement/addition budget</td>
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<td>Park Identity signage for all parks including</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Upgrade playgrounds and facilities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>McCormick Park additions (sand volleyball, pickleball, tetherball, etc)</td>
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<td>Continuation of Old Mill Park/island/McCormick Park riverfront/rain garden WildType maintenance plan</td>
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<td>Bandshell security door/cameras</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Red Cedar Bike/walk paved pathway from Old Mill Park</td>
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<td>To Deer Creek Bridge; replace boardwalk with accessible pathway link</td>
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<td><strong>MEDIUM TERM</strong></td>
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<td>2016 - 2018</td>
<td>Recreation Improvements/landscaping of Deer Creek Park</td>
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<td>Create paved pathway along Memorial Park riverfront, linking Highland St. to pedestrian bridge</td>
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<td><strong>LONG TERM</strong></td>
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<td>2019 and Beyond</td>
<td>Develop well field area (e.g. dog park, or sport field complex, disc golf)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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</table>

*Source: City of Williamston*
Suggested Funding Sources

1. City Funds
2. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)*
3. Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MDNR) or other State grants*
4. Private Funds (Service organizations, community groups, donations, etc.)
5. Inland fisheries, Waterways Grants, etc. (MDNRE)*

* Local match required (minimum 25% for MNRTF; 20% for MDOT). Match for acquisition can include cash or bargain sale during the grant period. Match for development can include billable in-kind services performed during the grant period. (note: MDOT and DNR grants for pathways can be each other’s match)
Appendix A – Resolutions of Adoption
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
CITY COUNCIL

At a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan
held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 161 E. Grand River Avenue, Williamston, Michigan
on Monday, August 25, 2014, there were:

PRESENT:  Noah Belanger, Benjamin Stiffler, Scott VanAllsburg, and Kent Hall.

ABSENT:   Sandy Whelton, Michael Moody, and James DeForest.

The following resolution was offered by Hall and supported by VanAllsburg.

Resolution Adopting the City of Williamston
2014 – 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

WHEREAS, the City of Williamston has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation
Master Plan which describes the physical and social features, existing parks and recreation
facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during
the period between 2014 and 2019, and

WHEREAS, Parks and Recreation Commission has developed the plan for the benefit
of the entire community and will use this document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of
the community; and

WHEREAS, multiple opportunities for public comment were made available, suggestions were solicited, two public workshops were held with the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 7, 2013 and March 4, 2014; an updated draft of the plan was made available to the public on April 10, 2014; comments were sought during the 30-day review period from May 18, 2014 to June 18, 2014, which were incorporated into the plan; and

WHEREAS, at a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission and after the
public hearing on June 18, 2014, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended
adoption of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan on August 13, 2014 by resolution; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Williamston, hereby
adopts the City of Williamston 2014 – 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guideline
for improving recreation for the residents of the City of Williamston and directs that this plan,
along with a copy of this Resolution, be filed with the Michigan Department of Natural
Resources and Environment, the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, and the Ingham
County Board of Commissioners.

VOTE ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

YES:  Belanger, Stiffler, VanAllsburg, Hall.
NO: None.

THIS RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

CERTIFICATION

I, Holly M. Thompson, the undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a Regular Meeting held on Monday, August 25, 2014.

Holly M. Thompson
City Clerk
City of Williamston

Dated: August 26, 2014
At a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 161 E. Grand River Avenue, Williamston, Michigan on Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., there were:

PRESENT:  Phillis Chirico, Teri Nelson, Jane Reagan, Howard Dahlstrom, Kent Hall, Patricia Pratt, and Earl Wolf.

ABSENT:  None.

The following resolution was offered by Dahlstrom and supported by Hall.

Resolution Recommending Adoption of the City of Williamston 2014 – 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

WHEREAS, the City of Williamston has undertaken a Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan which describes the physical and social features, existing parks and recreation facilities, and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities during the period between 2014 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, two public workshops were held with the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 7, 2013 and March 4, 2014; a draft of the plan was made available to the public on April 10, 2014; comments were sought during the 29-day review period from May 18, 2014 to June 18, 2014, which were incorporated into the plan; and

WHEREAS, this plan meets the requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment as the document must be filed with that agency if the City is to be eligible for state and federal recreation grants; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission of City of Williamston has reviewed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and finds itself in accord with the basic plans and strategies outlined in this document; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Williamston, recommends that the City of Williamston City Council adopt the City of Williamston 2014 – 2019 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and directs that this Plan, along with a copy of this Resolution, shall be forwarded to the City of Williamston City Council.

VOTE ON THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:


NO:  None.
THIS RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

CERTIFICATION

I, Holly M. Thompson, the undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Williamston, Ingham County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission at a Rescheduled Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, August 13, 2014.

Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk
City of Williamston
Appendix B – Notices and Meeting Minutes
NOTICE

THERE WILL BE A PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION WORK SESSION ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013 AT 8:30 A.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 161 E. GRAND RIVER AVENUE, WILLIAMSTON. THE MEETING WILL BE TO DISCUSS UPDATES TO THE PARKS MASTER PLAN. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. PLEASE CALL 517-655-2774 WITH QUESTIONS. THANK YOU.
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
City Hall Council Chambers
161 E. Grand River Avenue
Williamston, MI 48895
(517) 655-2774
www.williamston-mi.us

Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2013
7. Action Items
   a. Consideration of 2014 Meeting Dates & Times
   b. Concept for Pickleball and Tetherball
   c.
8. Discussion Items
   a. Bandshell/Concession Area Camera Security Proposal
   b. River Pathway Discussions/Grant Proposals
   c. Master Plan
   d. Playground Improvements Update
   e.
9. Correspondence Received / Information Only
   a. Community Development Director Report
   b.
10. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
11. Member Comments
12. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair

Outstanding Projects – Other Grants
City Progress/Plans for Easement Rights along Red Cedar River for Riverwalk
Bandshell Entertainment Committee
Skate Board Park
Grist Wheel Turbine
Community Center Park

In Accordance with Public Act 267 (Open Meetings Act) Posted and Copies Given to Newspapers
Individuals with disabilities requiring special assistance who are planning to attend the meeting should contact the Office of the City Clerk for accommodations. This request must be made two (2) business days in advance of the meeting.

The next regular Parks & Recreation Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 161 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, MI 48895
NOTICE

THERE WILL BE A PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION WORK SESSION ON TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 AT 3:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 161 E. GRAND RIVER AVENUE, WILLIAMSTON. THE MEETING WILL BE TO DISCUSS UPDATES TO THE PARKS MASTER PLAN. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. PLEASE CALL 517-655-2774 WITH QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU.
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
City Hall Council Chambers
161 E. Grand River Avenue
Williamston, MI 48895
(517) 655-2774
www.williamston-mi.us

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2014
7. Action Items
   a. 
   b. 
   c.
8. Discussion Items
   a. Sand Volleyball Court Update
   b. Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update
   c. Riverwalk Planning Update
   d. 
   e.
9. Correspondence Received / Information Only
   a. 
   b. 
   c.
10. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
11. Member Comments
12. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair

Outstanding Projects — Other Grants
City Progress/Plans for Easement Rights along Red Cedar River for Riverwalk
Bandshell Entertainment Committee
Skate Board Park
Grist Wheel Turbine
Community Center Park

In Accordance with Public Act 267 (Open Meetings Act) Posted and Copies Given to Newspapers
Individuals with disabilities requiring special assistance who are planning to attend the meeting
should contact the Office of the City Clerk for accommodations. This request must be made two
(2) business days in advance of the meeting.

The next regular Parks & Recreation Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the
City Hall Council Chambers located at 161 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, MI 48895
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
APRIL 9, 2014
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:
Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Phillis Chirico, Commissioners Teri Nelson, Peter Schall, Kent Hall, and Patricia Pratt. Absent: Howard Dahlstrom.

Also Present: City Manager Alan Dolley, & Mayor James DeForest.

Motion by Hall, second by Pratt, to excuse Dahlstrom. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. Approval of Agenda:
Add item 8e. Township Parks.

Motion by Chirico, second by Nelson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Audience Participation:
Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time and there was none.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2014:
Motion by Nelson, second by Chirico, to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of February 12, 2014 as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

7. Action Items

7a. Parks & Recreation Master Plan:
Motion by Hall, second by Pratt, to set the public hearing for the Parks Master Plan for the next meeting for public comments for the proposed Parks & Recreation Master Plan. Motion passed by voice vote.

8. Discussion Items

8a. Sand Volleyball Court Update:
Member Nelson commented there will be a fundraiser held at Sunnyside Café on Saturday, April 19th. They are working on finding out how much it is going to be
to remove the dirt for the courts. They are also working on getting the permits required from the state. Everything is on track to be done before Jubilee.

**8b. Riverwalk Planning Update:**
Manager Dolley has discussed the idea of the riverwalk with the DDA and they are in support of the concept. He will continue to work on this with the business owners.

**8c. Annual Commission Park Inspection:**
The Parks Commission asked the City staff to set up a park walk through work session within the next month.

**8d. Playground Safety Update:**
A list of materials to make repairs to the wooden play structure at McCormick Park has been sent to the DPW Director.

**8e. Township Parks:**
Member Chirico commented she was surprised to read in the paper that the township is going to be putting in a sand volleyball court in their park.

Member Nelson was also surprised to see this being proposed by the Township when it is well known the City is putting on in McCormick Park.

**10. Audience Participation:**
Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time and there was none.

**11. Member Comments:**
Member Pratt commented the parks are already crawling with kids.

Member Hall commented the American Legion is having a joint spaghetti dinner this Saturday from 5pm-8pm for $5 all you can eat.

Member Nelson reminded everyone to add the sand volleyball court fundraiser dinner on April 19th to their calendars.

Chairman Wolf commented the Bandshell Concert Series Fundraiser is April 26th at the Brookshire Inn with many performances going on.

**12. Adjournment:**
Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

*THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.*
Respectfully Submitted by: Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Date Approved: June 18, 2014
ALL THE SATISFACTION
OF HITTING THE SNOOZE BUTTON.
NONE OF THE GUILT.

START BUILDING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON REQUESTED VARIANCE FROM THE ZONING ORDIANCE

CITY OF WILLIAMSTON, MICHIGAN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Williamston Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, 33 E. Grand River Avenue, Williamston, MI 48895.

The hearing is being held to consider a request for a variance from the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Williamston, as amended. The request is for a variance to build a two-story residential building on property located at 124 E. Grand River Avenue, Williamston, MI 48895.

Anyone interested in making a presentation in support or opposition to the variance may do so. Written comments may be submitted in writing to the City Clerk, PO Box 327, Williamston, MI 48895, prior to the hearing.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk at 517-655-2774.
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
Parks and Recreation Commission
Rescheduled Regular Meeting Agenda
City Hall Council Chambers
161 E. Grand River Avenue
Williamston, MI 48895
(517) 655-2774
www.williamston-mi.us

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2014
7. Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2014 Public Hearing
8. Action Items
   a. Parks & Recreation Master Plan
   b. Wall of Honor Bench
   c. Wildtype Contract
   d.
9. Discussion Items
   a. Pickleball/Tetherball Update
   b. McCormick Park Concession Issues
   c. Commission Committee for “Donation/Gift” Policy
   d. Long-term Budget Needs
   e. Sand Volleyball Court Update
   f.
10. Correspondence Received / Information Only
    a.
    b.
    c.
11. Audience Participation – Maximum 5 minutes per presentation. Subject matter on non-agenda items only.
12. Member Comments
13. Adjourn to the Call of the Chair

Outstanding Projects –
   Other Grants
   City Progress/Plans for Easement Rights along Red Cedar River for Riverwalk
   Bandshell Entertainment Committee
   Skate Board Park
   Grist Wheel Turbine
   Community Center Park

In Accordance with Public Act 267 (Open Meetings Act) Posted and Copies Given to Newspapers
Individuals with disabilities requiring special assistance who are planning to attend the meeting should contact the Office of the City Clerk for accommodations. This request must be made two (2) business days in advance of the meeting.

The next regular Parks & Recreation Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 161 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, MI 48895
1. Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:
Chairman Earl Wolf, Commissioners Teri Nelson, John Bisard, & Kent Hall. Absent: Howard Dahlstrom, Phillis Chirico, & Patricia Pratt.

Also Present: City Clerk Holly Thompson, Mayor James DeForest, and citizens Danny & Gwen Hulbert.

Motion by Hall, second by Bisard, to excuse Dahlstrom and Pratt. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. Approval of Agenda:
Add items 8d. John Pratt Recognition, and 9f. Sculpture Grant Information.

Motion by Nelson, second by Bisard, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Audience Participation:
Mayor DeForest announced for years' past the City has participated in the Winter Warm-Up program through Blue Cross Blue Shield and were notified that this year the City will be receiving $1,000 from Blue Cross Blue Shield to go towards recreation.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2014:
Motion by Nelson, second by Hall, to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission minutes of April 9, 2014 as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

7. Parks & Recreation Master Plan 2014 Public Hearing:
Chairman Wolf opened the public hearing for the 2014 Parks & Recreation Master Plan at 7:19 p.m.

Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time for the drafted 2014 Parks & Recreation Master Plan and there was none.

Chairman Wolf closed the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

8. Action Items

8a. Parks & Recreation Master Plan:
Motion by Hall, second by Nelson, to approve the drafted 2014 Parks & Recreation Master Plan and forward it the City Council for final approval. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8b. Wall of Honor Bench:**
Motion by Nelson, second by Bisard, to accept the donation from the American Legion of an additional bench to be placed opposite of the current bench at the Wall of Honor, contingent on City Engineer review and approval. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8c. Wildtype Contract:**
Motion by Nelson, second by Bisard, to table this, get more information, and come back with it. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8d. John Pratt Recognition:**
Motion by Bisard, second by Hall, to ask the City staff to prepare a certificate of appreciation for John Pratt as past Parks Commission Chairman. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

9. Discussion Items

**9a. Pickleball/Tetherball Update:**
Chairman Wolf reported the pickleball/tetherball court is on hold until MISS DIG marks the space for it.

**9b. McCormick Park Concession Issues:**
Commissioner Nelson commented that the refrigerator was removed from the concession stand because of items being left in there and rotting and causing the fridge to mold. She believes there should be a $50 deposit taken by the City before it is rented and only given back when it is checked to be cleaned. She also feels guidelines on what can/cannot be served in the concession stand should also be given to renters. She will come up with the guidelines and present them at the last meeting.

**9c. Commission Committee for “Donation/Gift” Policy:**
Chairman Wolf commented he has found an example of a “Donation/Gift Policy” and would recommend a committee be formed to discuss adopting a similar policy.

This will be on the next agenda.

**9d. Long-term Budget Needs:**
Chairman Wolf came up with a list of long-term budget needs for parks and recreation. He commented other areas are using millages to maintain their parks.

The Commission discussed the need for the pool building to be removed as it has been planned for many years, but has not happened. They also discussed the deteriorating playground at the Community Center. The current wooden play structure at McCormick Park needs around $20,000 in repairs.
Commissioner Nelson asked if grants are available for parks.

**9e. Sand Volleyball Court Update:**
Gwen Hulbert submitted a written listing of installation costs for the sand volleyball courts.

The Commission discussed the possibility of dumping the excavated dirt in the old pool area to be used as fill.

Kiwanis will look into asking the City to help with the dump truck hauling of the dirt to save money.

**9f. Sculpture Grant Information:**
Chairman Wolf commented a custom butterfly sculpture was done in Holt that was received through grants. He would like the City to be looking into getting these kinds of grants.

**11. Audience Participation:**
Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time and there was none.

**12. Member Comments:**
Commissioner Bisard commented this will be his first and last meeting with the Parks Commission because he will not be renewing his term on the Planning Commission. He likes the direction the Commission is headed, and if they need help, please let him know. He brought up the parking issue at the schools being a huge problem. He would like to see some kind of memorial put up at Memorial Park.

Chairman Wolf reminded everyone of all the great stuff happening in the City with the festivals, and concerts. More trees have been committed for the park, with one of them being for Cheryl Topliff. He wants to make sure John Pratt is acknowledged in some way for his work with the City.

**12. Adjournment:**
Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.**

Respectfully Submitted by: Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Date Approved: August 13, 2014
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Appendix C – Literature Cited


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Appendix D – Ordinance Creating Parks & Recreation Commission
§ 2-339  WILLIAMSTON CODE

(2) Budget (as amended from time to time) for the then current fiscal year with descriptions of the projects and expenditures made to date pursuant to the budget.

(3) Summary of the projected tax increment revenues to be received by the authority during the next succeeding fiscal year broken down by taxing jurisdiction, initial assessed valuation, estimated current assessed valuation, estimated captured assessed valuation and estimated millages.

(Ord. No. 273, § 5, 9-10-2001)

Secs. 2-340—2-360. Reserved.

DIVISION 5. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION*

Sec. 2-361. Establishment; composition.

There is hereby created a parks and recreation commission charged with advising the city council on the management of city park and recreation functions as allowed by PA 156 of 1917 (Recreation and Playgrounds Act, MCL 123.51-54). The parks and recreation commission shall consist of seven members, who shall be residents of the city, except that one member may be a non-resident of the city. One member shall be a representative of the planning commission. One member may be member of the city council. Members shall represent a broad range of interests beneficial to the city's parks, recreation programs and facilities. Members may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in parks and recreation commission activities.

(Ord. No. 295, § 1, 8-8-2005; Ord. No. 305, § 1, 1-28-2008; Ord. No. 343, § 1, 5-13-2013)

Sec. 2-362. Term; appointment.

Each member of the commission shall serve for a term of three years, except of the members first appointed, two shall be appointed for a term of one year, two for a term of two years, and two for a term of three years. The member who is a representative of the planning commission shall be appointed on a yearly basis. Any member who is also a member of the city council shall be appointed on a yearly basis. The members of the parks and recreation commission shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council prior to July 1st of each year. Members of the parks and recreation commission may be appointed to subsequent terms.


Sec. 2-363. Vacancies; removal.

Any vacancies occurring in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the manner provided for original appointment to such commission. The parks and recreation commission shall actively recruit members when vacancies occur, screen potential commissioners and forward recommendations to the mayor. The city council may remove any member of the parks and recreation commission for misconduct or neglect of

*Editor's note—Ord. No. 295, §§ 1—9, adopted August 8, 2005, did not specify manner of inclusion; hence, inclusion as division 5, §§ 2-361—2-369 is at the discretion of the editor.
duty. The city council may remove from office any member of the commission who is absent from three consecutive meetings, unless the commission excuses the absences and enters the reasons for such absences in its official minutes.

(Ord. No. 295, § 3, 8-8-2005)
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