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MISSION STATEMENT

**City of Mackinac Island
Recreation Board**

To provide the community of Mackinac Island year-round recreational opportunities that encourage, support and convey a healthy, active lifestyle for all.

HISTORY and SIGNIFICANCE

Due to its strategic location in the center of the Great Lakes system and the Straits area, Mackinac Island is one of the oldest inhabited places in the State of Michigan and the Midwest. Before European occupation, the Straits area was home to Ojibwe (Chippewa), Odawa (Ottawa), and Potawatomi tribes. Collectively referred to as the Anishinabeg people, these tribal groups migrated from the Atlantic coast during the Woodland period (1000 B.C. to 1650 A.D.). The Island's name derives from the native word Michilimackinac, meaning, "Land of the Great Turtle." The name alludes to the Island's humped profile, like a huge turtle rising out of the water. The Native American style of life in the Straits was semi-nomadic. Archaeological studies show evidence of summer fishing camps on Mackinac Island, where plentiful stocks of trout, pike, sturgeon, herring, and whitefish were harvested. The Straits also functioned as a center of inter-tribal communication and trade. The Island is regarded by Native Americans as a place of great spiritual importance; the first land to appear after the Great Flood, and the place of origin for Native peoples.

European settlement in the Straits began in the late seventeenth century, with the exploration parties, Jesuit missionary outposts, and French fur trading villages. In 1670, Father Claude Dablon established a mission on Mackinac Island to re-settle and protect his followers, a small band of displaced Huron's. The following year the group relocated to St. Ignace, to take advantage of better agricultural land. In 1690, the French fort was constructed in the Straits at St. Ignace to guard French commercial fur trading interests in the region. Throughout the late 1600s and early 1700s, the area grew in military and trade significance. The French built Fort Michilimackinac at what is now Mackinaw City in 1714. In 1761, the British took control of the fort, as a result of the Seven Years War.

By 1781, the British re-located the fort to the more defensible Mackinac Island, on land purchased from the Ojibwe. Ste. Anne's Church, along with other buildings, was hauled to the Island across the frozen Straits, to encourage re-settlement of the non-military mainland community to the Island. The new fort, Fort Mackinac, was located on the bluffs overlooking the harbor. The civilian community settled below and west of the fort, along what today are Main and Market Streets. A wooden palisade wall was constructed around these streets for further protection.

At the end of the Revolutionary War, the Treaty of Paris, negotiated in 1783 between Great Britain and the new United States, technically ceded Mackinac Island to the Americans. Due to the remote location and lack of adequate troops, Americans did not actually take control of the fort until 1796. Meanwhile, by the 1790s, settlement began to occur beyond the palisade wall perimeter. Several farms were developed on the Island, including 110-acre farm of Dr. David Mitchell (at what is now Harrisonville and the upper part of the Grand Hotel Jewel Golf Course), the George Schindler farm on the southwest bluff, the Ambrose Davenport farm in the present-day Hubbard's Annex area, and the Simon Champaign farm near the present-day Stonecliffe and Woods Golf Course.

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The British captured the fort at the beginning of the War of 1812. The assault was launched by night from the unprotected north side of the Island (British Landing). British cannon was placed on high ground behind the fort. The overwhelming force and strategic location forced a quick American surrender. Several attempts were made by American forces to displace the British. In 1814, the British constructed “Fort George” on the hill north of Fort Mackinac, to guard against another rear attack. A significant attempt on August 4, 1814, known as the Battle of Mackinac Island, ended in defeat for the American forces. In December 1814, the Treaty of Ghent gave control of the Fort back into American hands. In July 1815, the last British troops left the Island, and “Fort George” was re-christened “Fort Holmes.”

With military matters resolved, the fur trade at Mackinac Island flourished, under the leadership of John Jacob Astor and the American Fur Company. Astor’s warehouse on Market Street (now the Community Hall) functioned as industry headquarters. It is interesting to note that the permanent Island population in the 1820s was about 500 persons, including French Canadians, Native Americans, Metis (of French and Indian heritage), and Americans; very close to the permanent Island population at the time of the 2010 Census. During the summer trading season, the number increased to approximately 2,000. During the 1820s, a religious revival movement brought about the founding of the Mission School (1823) and Mission House (1825), in an effort to convert French Catholics, Native Americans, and Metis to Protestant Christianity.

In 1836, a U.S. treaty with the Ojibwe and Odawa bands specified that payment for purchased Native American lands in Michigan be made over a twenty-year period in provisions as well as cash. Mackinac Island was designated as the payment distribution point, drawing 4,000 Native Americans to the Island each September. This increased the Island’s importance as a provisioning center and commercial hub, as well as focal point for Native American culture and crafts. In turn, this sparked the interest of American and foreign tourists and travelers to the region. The “Indian Dormitory” was built under one clause of the 1836 treaty, intended to serve as temporary Native American housing during provisioning visits. In fact, the structure was largely used as the office for agent Henry Schoolcraft and as a payment distribution center.

By 1840, over trapping and changes in fashion brought the Island’s fur era to an end. Gradually, furs were replaced by fish as items of trade. Commercial fishing operations took over harbor dock space, and by 1845 more than 20,000 barrels of processed fish were shipped annual from the Island. The disposal of fish entrails became a major sanitary issue, and ordinances were passed against such disposal in the (then) Village limits. The “Borough Lot” in front of the current Grand Hotel, was designated as the disposal area. Later, this area became a squatter’s haven, a so-called “Shanty Town.”

The advent of railroads on the mainland increasingly replaced water-born transportation, decreasing the Island’s importance as a fishing and general shipping headquarters. Tourism had then begun to supplement the Island economy. The American Fur Company buildings were converted into the Astor House Hotel as early as 1836: Mission House began accepting tourists by the 1840’s: the Island House opened in 1852; and the Lake

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View House in 1858. But tourism and summer construction really got underway after the Civil War. In 1875, American's second National Park was established on Mackinac Island. The same year, two areas within the park were set aside to lease cottages and summer homes. These lots on the East and West Bluff were not actually surveyed and available for construction until 1885. Meanwhile, Gurdon S. Hubbard and built "The Lilacs" cottage in 1870. He subdivided and sold adjacent lands as "Hubbard's Annex to the National Park" beginning in 1882. By the late 1800s, Mackinac Island had become a nationally known summer retreat, outstanding for its clean air, beautiful scenery, and high society. As well-to-do families flocked to the Island, modest carpenter-gothic cottages were frequently replaced by or remodeled into elaborate Queen Anne style mansions. The signature project of this era was construction of the Grand Hotel in 1887. The Grand joined the Murray (1882), Chippewa (1902), and Iroquois (1902) hotels in hosting an ever-increasing array of summer residents and guests.

Tourism development stimulated a wide variety of support services, both on the Island and mainland. Rail lines and passenger ships increased in number and service frequency. Retail trade adapted quickly to tourism. The Murdick family began making fudge in the 1880s. The decision to ban automobiles from the Village in 1898, and from the Park in 1901, protected the horse-drawn carriage and bicycle businesses that continue to give the Island its special charm and niche in the region's tourism industry.

A recreation task force, composed of Mackinac Island residents, met for the first time on August 5, 1994. It was formed to identify the recreational needs of the Mackinac Island community. This group, with input solicited from the community at large through public hearings and written surveys, recommended that a full-time recreation professional be hired and that the city go about the task of creating a recreation department.

A recreation ordinance was adopted by the City on January 17, 1996. With the acceptance of this ordinance, the City established a recreation department, which is overseen by a five (5) member recreation board, that are appointed by the Mayor. The Board of Recreation hires a full time Recreation Director.

Prior to the formation of a recreation department, any recreational facilities and program developments were carried out by Mackinac Island Recreational Development, Inc., (MIRD). MIRD, an all-volunteer group, was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1979. With the cooperation of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the City of Mackinac Island, and Mackinac Island Public School, MIRD designed and implemented long range recreation plans and year round recreation programs. MIRD was a driving force behind the planning and building of Great Turtle Park.

Mackinac Island Recreation Department works closely with the Mackinac Island State Park, MIRD, and the public school to utilize resources, both in personnel and facilities, in developing programs and activities for all residents of the island. An example of this would be Great Turtle Park, which was built on property that is leased to the City by the State Park.

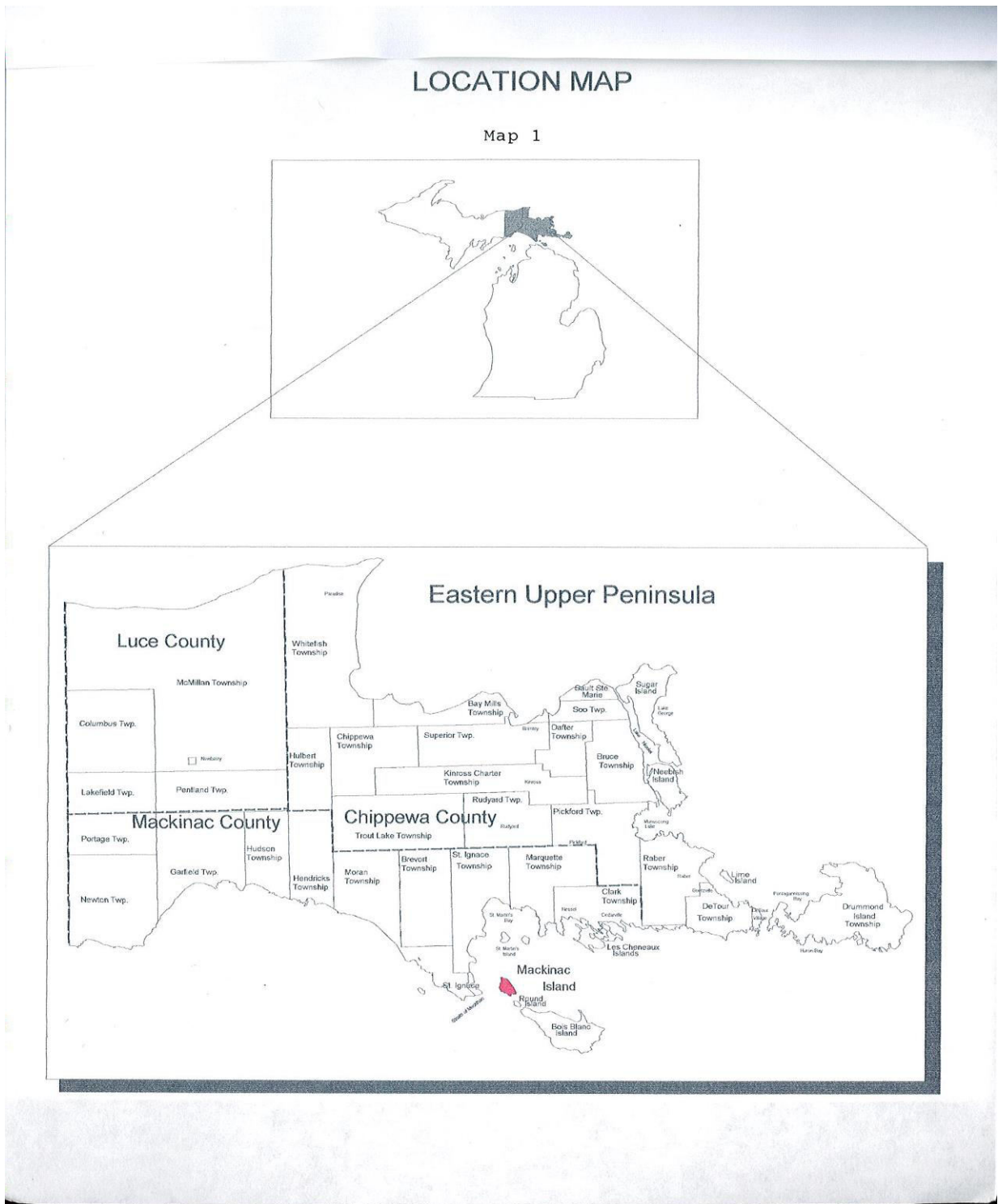
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Location and Regional Context

The City of Mackinac Island is located in the Straits of Mackinac between Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, three miles east of the City of St. Ignace. According to the City charter, the City includes the land areas of Mackinac Island and Round Island and the navigable waters adjacent to the islands for a distance of one mile off shore. The total area of Mackinac Island (not including Round Island) is approximately 2,221 acres (3.5 square miles) including about 8.5 miles of Lake Huron shoreline. Only 400 acres on Mackinac Island are under private ownership, and the remaining 1,821 acres (approximately 82 percent) are owned by the State of Michigan.

For reference, **Figure 1-1** shows the regional location and transportation facilities while **Figure 1-2** provides a parcel line and base map of Mackinac Island.

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Mackinac Island is not only a regional tourist destination, but draws visitors from all over the world. The island has a tremendous appeal, as a community that has changed little since well before the automobile. Mackinac Island is a premier tourist destination and has a significant impact on tourism and economics throughout the region. The economies

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of the communities in the Straits area are interdependent with the tourist economy of Mackinac Island. Retail businesses, motels, and restaurants have been attracted to both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City to serve the tourists visiting the Island and surrounding areas. Two ferry companies that serve the Island operate out of Mackinaw City and St. Ignace from April until the end of October. One ferry service continues to the Island from St. Ignace. Weather and ice permitting. When the boats quit, public access is then limited to air travel based at Mackinac County Airport. They provide year round service to the Island from St. Ignace. Additionally, air service is frequently coordinated with commercial and charter flights arriving at the Pellston regional Airport, as well as other points. Mackinac Island State Park maintains the airport on the Island with private and commercial traffic. A number of people reach the Island by private boat, enjoying the updated facilities at the State of Michigan marina.

The primary tourist season is the summer months of June, July and August, with July being the peak. A series of activities and events occur throughout the summer months on the Island. The spring and fall seasons are also popular, but to a lesser extent. Many political, professional, and civic organizations hold working conferences on the Island. State and federal dignitaries are visitors as well. There are coordinated promotional efforts to boost tourism during the spring and fall, offering packages including reduced hotel rates, ferry tickets, carriage tours, and shopping specials. Packages are also used to promote special events on the Island or in nearby Mackinaw City or St. Ignace. The winter season has its special charm, although accommodations, restaurants and retail services are limited. The beauty and the serenity of the Island make for an unforgettable experience. Community events and those sponsored by the State Park are enjoyed by all. Outside activities pursued throughout the winter include cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating and quiet hikes on snow covered trails.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The City of Mackinac Island is a unique Michigan community with special circumstances and concerns. The Island is one of the country's premier tourist destinations, and a highly desired vacation and retirement home location. Yet, the Island is also a tightly small town with close family relationships and a sense of shared history.

The City of Mackinac Island is located near the Straits of Mackinac on Lake Huron, three miles east of the City of St. Ignace. According to the City charter, the City includes the land areas of Mackinac, Round Island and the navigable waters adjacent to the islands for a distance of one mile off-shore. The total land area of the two islands is approximately 2,745 acres (4.3 square miles) including about ten miles of Lake Huron shoreline. Only 500 acres on Mackinac Island are in private ownership, and the remaining 1,865 acres (approximately 80%) is State owned (Mackinac Island State Park). Existing development on state land consists of Fort Mackinac, the Governor's Summer Residence, the State Park Commission offices and approximately 43 acres of land leased for private residential, hotel or organized recreational purposes.

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Mackinac Island is not only a regional tourist destination, but draws visitors from all over the world. The community has tremendous appeal, as an island community that has changed little since well before the automobile. Mackinac Island is one of the premier tourist destinations in Michigan, and has a significant impact on tourism and economics throughout the region. Most notably, the economies of the local communities in the Straits area are interdependent with the tourist economy of Mackinac Island. The two ferry lines that serve the island operate out of Mackinaw City and St. Ignace from April until November, with approximately 55% of the ferry passengers coming from Mackinaw City. The vast majority of the people traveling to the Island utilize the ferry service. Retail businesses, motels and restaurants have been attracted to both St. Ignace and Mackinaw City to capitalize on the tourists visiting Mackinac Island. Direct charter air service is provided from St. Ignace. Additionally, air service is frequently coordinated with commercial and charter flights arriving at the Pellston Regional Airport, as well as other points. Mackinac Island State Park maintains an airport on the Island with private and commercial traffic. A number of people reach the island by private boat, enjoying the updated facilities at the 80 slip marina.

DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

A-AGE DISTRIBUTION AND RACIAL COMPOSITION

Information on age distribution within a population can assist the community in matching public services to community characteristics and in determining what, if any, special needs specific resident groups might have.

At the time of the 2020 Census, median age for residents of the City of Mackinac Island was 45.6 years (up from 42.5 years in 2010). Mackinac County's median age was older at 52.8 years (up from 49 years in 2010). The median age of the State at 39.7 years (up from 38.9 years in 2010) is younger than the Island and much younger than County. It is difficult to get an accurate gage of the age distribution of the tourists and seasonal residents. In the past, the seasonal employee population was primarily comprised of college age persons, averaging 19-20 years of age. However, in recent years, seasonal employees tend to be older, and more are foreign born.

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Mackinac Island's year-round population is somewhat racially diversified. Of the 601 permanent residents in 2020, 59.07% were listed as White. Native Americans (classified by the Census as American Indian and Alaskan Native) are an important resident minority group at 14.11% percent of the Island's population. Black or African Americans were listed at 22.68% of the year round population.

B- HOUSEHOLD AND DISABILITY STATUS

Most of the demographic information has come from the 2010 census. There is no specific information that came out of the 2020 census. There are no detailed data about Mackinac Island from the 2020 census. Numbers here represent information from the 2010 census. The 2010 census shows a total of 240 households in the City of Mackinac Island. Non family households represent 128 or 46.7% of all the households on the Island as of 2010; if trends continue, nonfamily households on the Island will soon outnumber family households.

Of the 128 total family households on the Island as of the 2010 Census, most (94) were husband-wife families. The remainder were either female-headed family households (18) or male-headed family households (16). Of the 112 nonfamily households, 90 were comprised of a householder living alone, while the other 22 were nonfamily households.

In 2010, the Census recorded an average household size of 2.05 persons for the City. The average was down slightly from 2.08 as of the 2010 Census and significantly from 2.25 as of the 1990 Census. This decline is not unique to the Island; the general decline in the number of persons per household has been felt throughout the country. The Census Bureau reported a national decline in the number of persons per household from 2.63 persons in 1990 to 2.59 persons in 2000 to 2.58 persons in 2020. A relatively recent phenomenon characteristics of today's population, it has not been uncommon for communities to register a net increase in the housing supply while simultaneously recording a decline in population. This trend has evolved due, to a large extent, to the declining family size and acceptance of one person households.

The City's 2020 average household size of 2.05 is somewhat lower than the County as a whole, at 2.19 persons per household.

Previously available within the 2000 Census, statistics on citizen disabilities are not available from the 2020 Census. According to the 2000 Census, the percentage of individuals in the 5 to 20 years' category with mobility and self-care limitations on Mackinac Island is relatively low when compared to the County of the State (6.1 percent for the Island, 9.1 percent for the County, and 8.5 percent for the State). In the 21 to 64 years' category, 18.1 percent of Islanders are listed with a disability, as compared to 21.4 percent for the County and 18.1 percent for the State. It should be noted, however, that nearly 38 percent of the Island disabled population in this age group are employed. In the 65 and over category, 42.9 percent of the Islanders have mobility and self-care limitations, while County and State statistics are listed as 43.6 and 42.3 percent,

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respectively. The City wishes to accommodate this special population, as well as the number of visitors from across the State and elsewhere that may have mobility limitations.

Statistics from the 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates reveal that of the total City population, approximately 12.2 percent have some kind of disability. This is comparable to the disability as of the 2000 Census, which was 14.3 percent.

C- INCOME, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Generally speaking, income levels for the Northeast Lower Michigan Region and the Eastern Upper Peninsula, including Mackinac County, fall below those found in the State as a whole. Mackinac Island reflects per capita income statistics comparable to the State, however the household income is slightly higher than for the County, and significantly lower than the State.

Approximately 29 percent of the households on the island are considered low to moderate income, with income which is less than 39 percent of the median household income (49,019).

Education is an important factor in analyzing the capabilities of the local work force and in the economic vitality of a community. The U.S. Census Bureau tracks educational attainment. Statistics from the 2010 Census indicate that a smaller proportion of Island residents (25 years of age or older) are high school graduates or higher, as compared to Mackinac County and the State as a whole.

The reverse is true for persons holding bachelor's degrees or higher. Island residents with a bachelor's degree or higher 31.1 percent for a bachelor's degree or higher and 13.4 percent for a graduate or professional degree of the population, while county and State have 14.9 and 25.3 percent college graduates. It should be noted that these numbers apply only to the Island's year-round population. A large number of the Island's summer employees are college students from other parts of the state and nation.

The Michigan Employment Service Agency of the Jobs Commission publishes monthly and annual employment data. As would be expected in an area where tourism is the primary industry, the major employment category on Mackinac Island is service producing jobs. The unemployment rate for Northeastern Lower Michigan and Eastern Upper Michigan has traditionally been somewhat higher than that of the State. However, the unemployment rate for Mackinac Island is considerably less than that of Mackinac County and is only slightly higher than for the State.

It is also important to remember that the unemployment rate for the Island is higher during the winter months and lower during the summer months, reflecting the nature of tourism's seasonal work. Because of the area's tourism character, the majority of

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employment is in lower paying service producing industries rather than in a goods producing industries. In 2012, service jobs of Mackinac County accounted for over 28 percent of the work force, typical for employment in the tourism industry. The purpose of reviewing these employment statistics is to stress the important role of the island as a major employment center for Mackinac County and the region during the summer session.

D-YEAR-ROUND POPULATION TRENDS

The City of Mackinac Island's year-round population has changed little over the past several decades. U.S. Census figures for 2010 indicate a population of persons (259 males and 232 females). In discussing the Census data for the City it is important to note the Census tally, taken on April 1 does not count residents who reside elsewhere in the winter. The figures presented in the 2010 Census do not reflect the actual number of persons residing on the Island in the summer months. Although this situation is seen throughout northern Michigan, there is an extreme difference on the Island. This is evident by the fact that about 55.6 percent of the housing units were classified as either seasonal or vacant.

The voter registration list is another gage of population. The current (2013) registration list for the City of Mackinac Island has 760 registrants, which exceeds the 2010 Census count of 491 residents. The State of Michigan has an extensive procedure for removal of names from the registered voter list, which limits the accuracy and usefulness of the voter list for population count purposes.

E-SEASONAL AND TOURIST POPULATION

For most communities, a discussion of the year-round population would be sufficient when planning for community needs. The City of Mackinac Island is different from most communities in that respect. Tourism is the City's major industry, the community experiences a tremendous influx of visitors during the summer months. Without an actual census count, it is difficult to calculate the City's seasonal population. Some factors to consider when trying to determine the seasonal population are: tourist related employment, vacation homes, available hotel rooms, State Park attendance, and ferry service to Mackinac Island. Estimates suggest the Island experiences an average seasonal population of approximately 10,000-15,000 persons, of which 2,500 are seasonal employees.

Most Island businesses, including hotels, restaurants and retail establishments, operate only during the tourist season of May through mid-October. These seasonal operations employ approximately 2,500 during the prime tourist time (mid-June through August). Some of the major Island employers are the Mackinac Island State Park, Grand Hotel, Mission Point Resort, and Carriage Tours. Although the two ferry lines employ a

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significant number of people, the Michigan Employment Service Commission (MESC) lists the number of employees where the main office is located. Consequently, many ferry employees are counted in Mackinaw City or St. Ignace. The employment numbers reported by the MESC are based on self-reported numbers, employers provide on quarterly tax returns. The completeness of the information is reliable.

For some visitors the Island provides the perfect setting for seasonal or vacation homes. At the time of the 2010 Census, 708 of the 1002 housing units (nearly one-third) were listed as seasonal, recreational or occasional dwellings. Visitors in this category may stay as long as the entire summer, while others may only stay a few weeks. Using the same average household size as the year-round Island population, 2 persons per household, yields a conservative estimate that 1416 additional persons who may reside in these units during the summer months. Another 22 housing units are classified as "other vacant", including 762 for sale and the remainder classified as migrant or seasonal employee housing units. It is estimated that the average population per unit (PPU) of seasonal housing is higher than other housing. This conservative estimate of 2 PPU results in an additional estimated summer population of at least 1524 persons residing in these "other vacant" housing units. It should be noted that this estimate of 2 PPU does not account for all the seasonal employees residing on the Island.

The Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau reports that the Island guest room figure includes bed and breakfast facilities as well as hotels. According to the Bureau, occupancy rates of nearly 100 percent are recorded during the peak months of July and August. The slower months of May, June, September and October generally experience occupancy rates of 80 to 95 percent.

Another determinant in estimating the summer population is to review attendance figures from the Mackinac Island State Park Commission. Fort Mackinac, one of the Island's major attractions, receives approximately 225,000 visitors during the season. While there has not been any tremendous increase in recent years, the figures show a steady and significant level of tourist attraction to the Island. The number of visitors to the Fort peaks from early July to mid-August.

Finally, it is important to look at the number of tourists who use the air and ferry services to visit Mackinac Island. Fresh Air is a charter services, generally flies 60 to 80 persons to the Island from St. Ignace and Pellston on a peak travel day during July and August. They also will arrange special charters from other locations in the state. The two Island ferry boat services (Shepler's and Mackinac Island Ferry Company) handle a combined total of more than 850,000 passengers a year, although none of the operators will provide an exact passenger count. The City collects a 2 percent franchise fee on ferry ticket sales, however, due to different rates for adults, children and commuters, the summary of fees cannot be directly correlated to a specific number of passengers. The total annual franchise fees have increase every year since 1990, but this is primarily attributable to an increase in fare rates. The ferry operators indicate that the number of passengers varies slightly year to year, but overall has been relatively stable over the last ten years. Approximately, 55 to 60 percent of the passengers travel from Mackinaw City; the

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remaining passengers travel from St. Ignace. While all of these factors still cannot accurately calculate the Island's exact seasonal population, it is important to remember that the figure increases many times over the year-round population. The City of Mackinac Island therefore wishes to consider this special population, in addition to year-round population, during the process of planning for the community.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Land Use- Existing and Future

Existing

The City of Mackinac Island's land area is 4.4 square miles and approximately 2,720 acres including Round Island. A consultant mapped existing land use in August and September of 1998. The map of existing land use shown as **Map page 22** illustrates the distribution of land uses on Mackinac Island. Michigan Resource Information Systems (MIRIS) land cover/use classification categories were used to map the existing land use. The original state-wide MIRIS mapping (1978) was updated in 1997 with aerial photographs in combination with extensive field checking conducted both by Planning Commission members and Wade-Trim staff. The updated information was computerized to produce the existing land use, map and statistics. **Map page 22** presents the land uses in current rank order, showing the number of acres and percent of the Island in each of the land use categories. The table presents the statistics for both Mackinac Island and Round Island, however, the Chapter discussion focuses only on the land use for Mackinac Island. For ease of understanding, the discussion of each of the land use categories is presented according to the land use type, such as forest and open land, residential and commercial. Many of the properties in the downtown area have more than one use, such as retail on the first floor and residential or employee housing above.

Future

The City of Mackinac Island is a unique Michigan Island community, with limited land available for private development. The future land use plan specifies appropriate land use categories for all land located within the Charter boundaries of the City of Mackinac Island. Through careful land use planning and zoning techniques, the city of Mackinac Island wishes to ensure the protection of the historic and scenic features of the island while allowing for some additional development in select areas.

The Mackinac Island Master Plan Steering Committee, with the assistance from the planning consultant, developed the following future use plan. The future use categories and locations are based on an analysis of several factors including the pattern of existing land use, local social and economic characteristics, environmental conditions and

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available community services and facilities, along with the communities expressed goals and policies.

The future land use plan proposes locations for ten primary land use classifications:

- Conservation/Park
- Recreation/Open Space
- Shoreline Residential
- Cottage Residential
- Single Family Residential
- Mixed Residential
- Hotel/Resort
- Historic
- Commercial
- Planned Unit Development

Map page 23 illustrated the location and extent of the proposed future land use areas on Mackinac Island.

Topography

The topography of Mackinac Island is wedge shaped, with a high point of greater than 850 feet above sea level (see **Map page 24**). The low elevation, located along the shoreline, less than 590 feet. The significant bluffs are primarily located on the southwest edge of the Island and along the eastern and southeastern edges of the Island. These bluffs areas are comprised of the St. Ignace-Rock Outcrop Complex soil type, with slopes between 35 and 75 percent (see **Map page 24**). Round Island's topography is similar to Mackinac Island with steep slopes on the northeast side of the Island and a single high point with an elevation of approximately 680 feet.

WATER RESOURCES AND FISH AND WILDLIFE

Water Resources

Although the Island is located in Lake Huron at the Straits of Mackinac, there is very little surface water located on the Island. The only surface water visible on the United States Geological Survey topographical maps is a pond associated with Grand Hotel Golf Course. Additionally, a small creek on the west side of the Island, Brown's Brook, is fed by underground springs and flows year-round. There are a number of seeps with water trickling out of limestone slopes on the east side of the island. A small spring also feeds into the Croghan Water on the northwest side of the Island. The water quality surrounding the Island is considered excellent. The lake water is the source for all drinking water which is filtered for use on the Island.

Fish and Wildlife

The wildlife species found on the Island are typically smaller mammals, including squirrels, chipmunks, hares, raccoons, minks, river otters, beaver and fox. During the winter, when the Straits of Mackinac is frozen, other larger mammals occasionally cross the ice from the mainland or neighboring islands. These can include coyote, bobcat and white tail deer. Due to the significant influx of summer tourists and limited amount of wilderness area, very few larger mammals remain on the Island year round.

A variety of bird species can be viewed on Mackinac Island, including species which reside on the Island year-round, summer breeding and nesting species and those which stop briefly during migratory flights. The year-round permanent species include: Chickadees, Nuthatch, and Purple Finch. The summer breeding species include the American Robin, the Yellow Warbler, Black Throated Green Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Oven bird, American Redstart, Chimney Swift and many others.

Mackinac Island provides the appropriate habitats to support five species of eastern swallows during the summer. Birds which are occasionally spotted on the Island include the Broadwing Hawk, Osprey and Canada Goose. Mackinac is on the flyway for migrating hawks and eagles. Thousands pass over every spring and fall. Mackinac Island State Historic Parks has a checklist of the bird species found on Mackinac Island.

Fishing in the Straits area has been significant part of the Island's history. Mackinac Island was one of the earliest fisheries in the upper Great Lakes. At the peak, in the middle part of the nineteenth century, the Island exported as estimated 25,000 barrels of fish annually. Within the Straits there are perch, small mouth bass, pike, walleye, whitefish, lake trout, brown trout, and Chinook salmon. Although the Michigan Department of Natural resources (MDNR) does not stock the Straits of Mackinac, there are some other stocking programs around the area which may influence the fishing around the Island. The local tribe of Native Americans is stocking one half million Chinook salmon at St. Martin's Bay annually. The DNR also stocks Chinook salmon and brown trout at DeTour. Today fishing from the Island is primarily recreational, with a few companies providing charter fishing excursions in the Straits area. The predominant fish caught is the King Salmon and the season is best during June, July and early August.

SOILS AND WOODLANDS AND FLORA

SOILS

One important determinant of land use is the soil's suitability for development. The physical and engineering properties of a soil type should be considered before development occurs.

Map page 25 shows the distribution of soil types throughout Mackinac Island. St. Ignace silt loam (70B) and Alpena gravelly loam (124D) are the two most predominant soil types on the Island. While the soil association information presented in **Map page 25**

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

can be used as a general guide for management of large undeveloped tracts of land, it should not be used for development of specific sites. The following is a brief description of the soil associations found on Mackinac Island. The soil survey for Mackinac County shows 14 different associations for Mackinac Island.

27B-Greylock Fine Sandy Loam: (1 to 6 percent slopes)- Nearly level and undulating areas on ground moraines, end moraines, and drumlins.

27D-Greylock Fine Sandy Loam: (6 to 15 percent slopes)- Gently rolling and rolling areas on ground moraines, end moraines, and drumlins.

33-Pits, Sand and Gravel

35-Histosols and Aquents, ponded: Depressions, beaver dam areas, and marshes.

36-Markey and Carbondale Mucks: Depressions on ground moraines, lake plains, and outwash plains

52A-Ingalls Fine Sand: (0 to 3 percent slopes)- Nearly level areas on lake plains and outwash plains.

61B-Paquin Sand: (0 to 6 percent slopes)-Nearly level and undulating areas on outwash plains and lake plains.

70B-St. Ignace Silt Loam: (0 to 6 percent slopes)- Nearly level and undulating areas on bedrock-controlled ground moraines and lake benches.

70D-St. Ignace Silt Loam: (6 to 15 percent slopes, rocky)- Gently rolling areas on bedrock-controlled ground moraines and lake benches.

70F-St. Ignace-Rock Outcrop Complex: (35 to 75 percent slopes)- Very steep areas on bedrock-controlled ground moraines and lake benches.

116-Udipsamments and Udorthents: (Nearly Level)- Flat areas that were excavated for borrow material, or cut and fill areas.

124D-Alpeana Gravelly Loam: (0 to 15 percent)- Nearly level to rolling areas on glacial lake beach ridges.

Soils Map.

163B-Esau-Zela Complex: (0 to 3 percent slopes)- Ridge-swale complex on beach ridges; Esau- on low ridges with slopes of 0 to 3 percent; Zela- in swales with slopes of 0 to 2 percent.

164A-Moltke Loam: (0 to 3 percent slopes)- Nearly level areas on lake plains and outwash plains.

WOODLANDS AND FLORA

The Island provides a variety of habitats and supports a broad diversity of plant species. Island habitats include the northern mixed hardwood forests, unplanned conifers, lowland conifers, meadows, beaches and marshes. The forest types briefly discussed in this section are also included in Chapter 4- Existing Land Use, and mapped on the existing land use map (**Map page 18**).

Northern hardwoods are the predominant forest type on the island, which includes sugar maple, beech, basswood and red oak. The other forest types include upland conifers, such as white-cedar, white spruce, balsam fir, white spruce, eastern larch and paper birch. A belt of predominantly northern white cedar surrounds the Island, as is typical of islands in the Western Great Lakes.

Mackinac Island is located in a floral transition zone, between the boreal forests of the north, and the mixed hardwoods further south, and supports over 600 species of plants. A recent study of the Island flora found some previously resident native species missing, and many new introduced species.¹

The State of Michigan recognizes rare plants and classifies them according to the level of protection granted: endangered, threatened or special concern. Some of the protected plants found on the Island include all orchids, some ground pines (*Lycopodium* species) and Pitchers Thistle. Additionally, the Dwarf Lake Iris (*Iris lacustris*), a State threatened species, is no longer found in the wild on the island. One plant listed as rare is the Twisted Whitlow Grass (*Draba arabisans* Michaux) which grows on large boulders and outcrops of limestone. Mackinac is one of only four counties in Michigan to have this plant. Approximately 20 percent of the plant species on the Island are introduced species. Mackinac State Historic Parks has a checklist of wildflowers found on Mackinac Island, organized by family and species which species are introduced.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

The transportation system is a key element of the community's infrastructure. Transportation issues are different from mainland communities, and can be discussed in terms of the transportation access to the Island and on-island transportation. Passengers and freight transportation to the Island is primarily provided by two privately operated ferry lines and one freight line during the spring, summer and fall. The Island ferry docks for each of the ferry operators are located in the downtown and are close to each other causing increased congestion in these areas of downtown at peak times. Ferry service is provided from both Mackinaw City and St. Ignace. Air service is available to the Island year-round, using the State Park airport located near the center of the Island.

¹ Martin, Patricia L., *A Floristic Study of the Vascular Plants of Mackinac Island, Michigan*. Masters Thesis, Central Michigan University, 1995.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Motor vehicles have been banned on the Island since the turn of the century. Due to the lack of cars and trucks, the transportation issues facing the Island are very different from other communities. Horse-drawn carriages, taxis or drays, on horseback, by foot, bicycle or cart are the only means for the movement of people and goods. An exception is made for emergency vehicles and vehicles granted a special permit during limited times of the year. During the winter snowmobiles are allowed by permit in some areas of the island.

Horses continue to be a significant part of the transportation history of Mackinac Island. The Mackinac Island Carriage Tours has been providing continuous livery service on the Island since 1872, making the company the oldest and largest livery service in the world.

During the summer, Mackinac Island is home to approximately 600 horses. Well over two-thirds of these are associated with the Mackinac Island Carriage Tours the remaining third are associated with the other commercial and service companies, or with private owners. Horse drawn vehicles provide sight-seeing tours, taxi service, deliveries, and shuttle services along with recreational use. The majority of the horses are taken off the Island in the fall to winter on the mainland. Winter horse use for taxis, tours and freight is growing along with the winter tourism business. The horses brought to the Island are trained for the unique situation of Island duty.

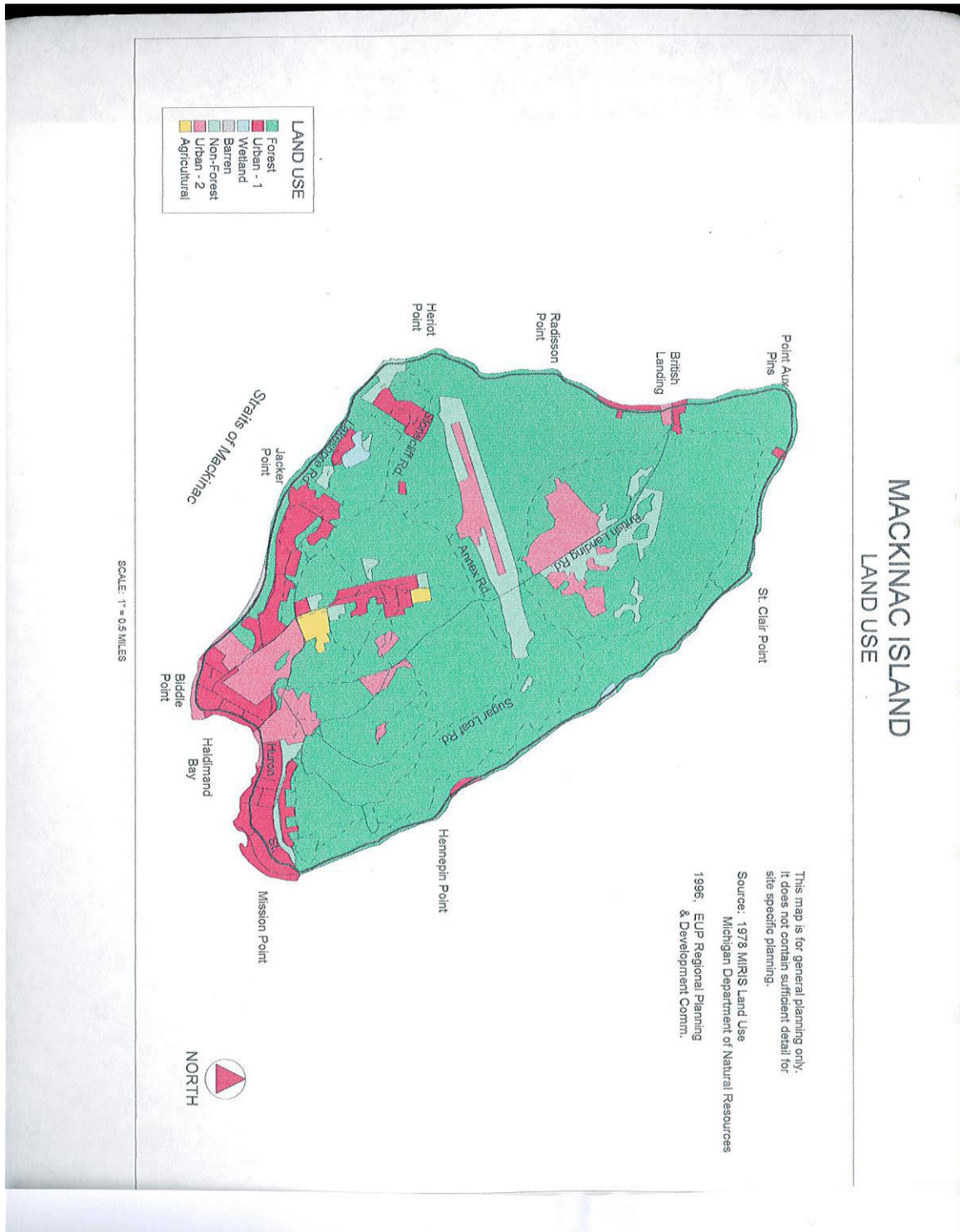
CLIMATE

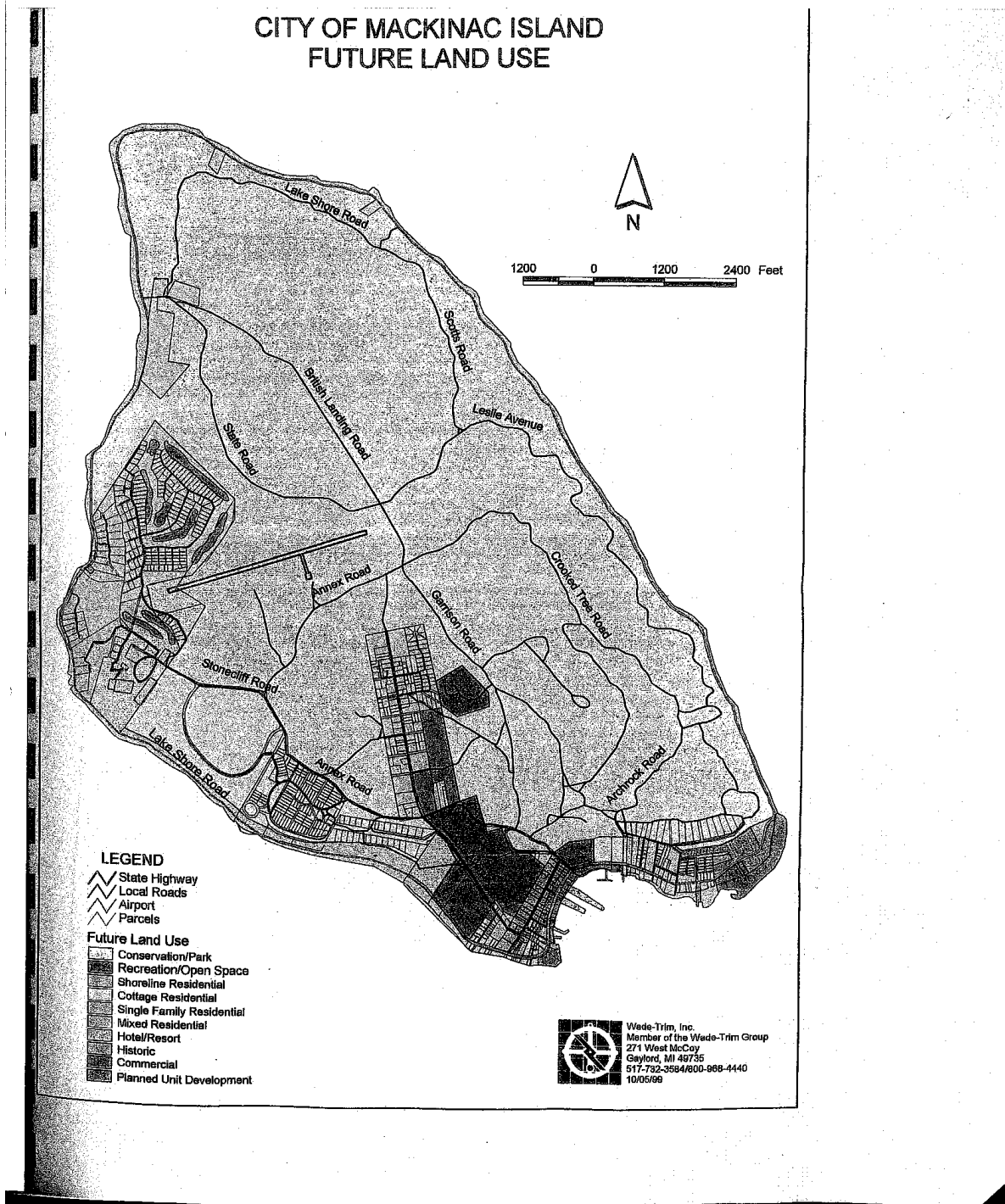
The climate of the Island is similar to that of other parts of the Eastern Upper Peninsula, particularly those areas near the Straits of Mackinac. Generally the summers are very pleasant and enjoyable, with the average May-September temperature in the 70s (F). The season of above freezing temperatures on the Island typically lasts about four and one-half months from mid-May to early October. During the winter, the temperature typically hovers around freezing for December, January and February with temperatures occasionally dipping to 15-20 degrees below zero. Snowfall averages about 75 inches annually, with seasonal variation ranging from 40 to 120 inches. Annual precipitation averages about 30 inches.

Climate conditions significantly influence the operation of municipal services and the environment of the area, as well as the economic development. The climate is particularly important on Mackinac Island because of its direct bearing on tourism.

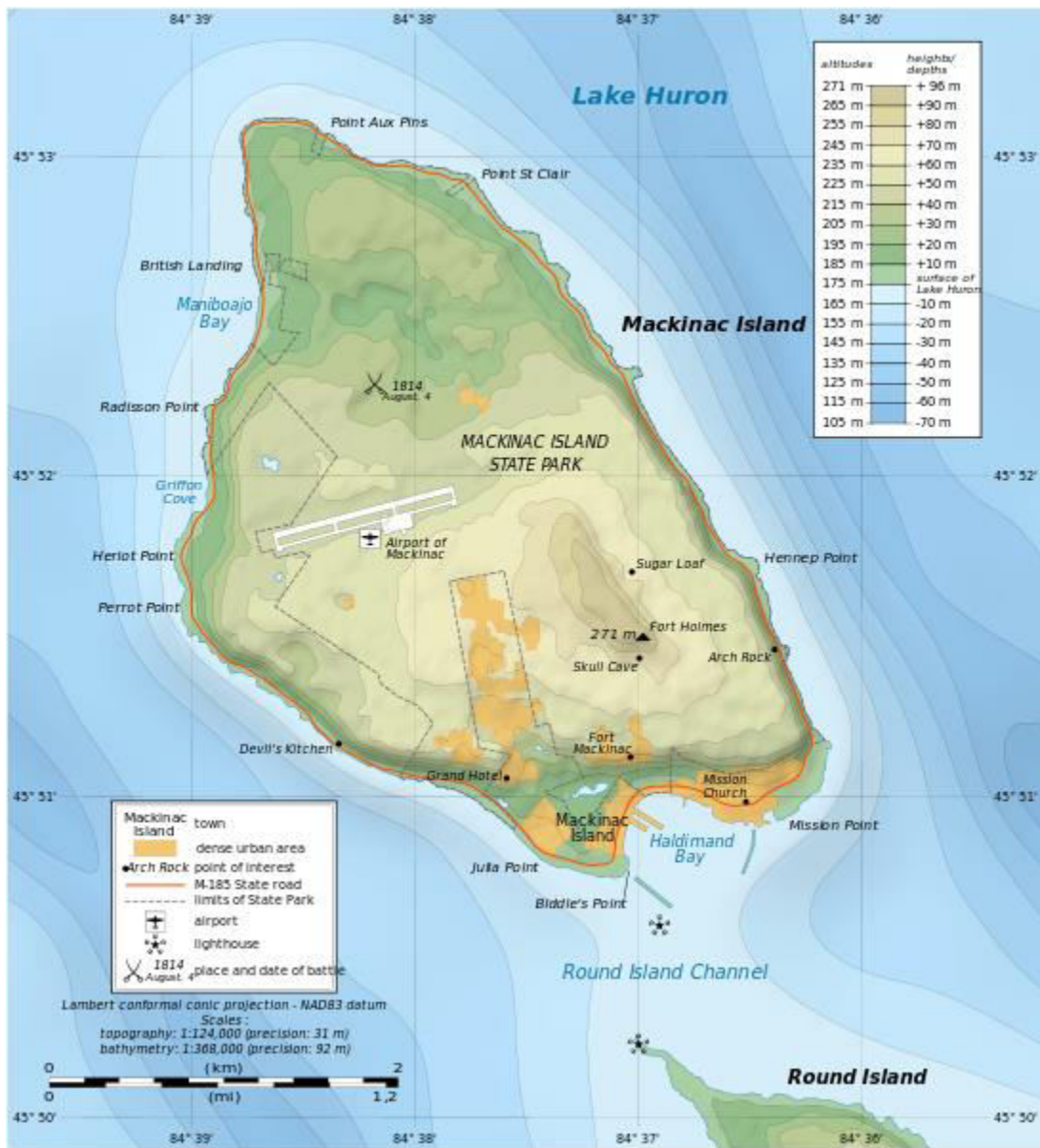
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan







City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan





GOVERNMENT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Mackinac Island's first form of governmental organization was that of a military garrison. Although later established as a Borough in 1817 and a Village in 1875, Mackinac Island was established by charter as a City in 1899. The City Council, headed by the mayor, serves as the legislative or governing body for the City. The day-to day administration of the City is primarily handled by the Mayor, City Clerk, City Treasurer, and support staff.

Because the majority of the Island land area is State owned and designated as State Park, the influence of State policy is great. The Mackinac Island State Park is administered by the seven-member Mackinac Island State Park Commission, with members appointed by the governor. Existing development on State land consists of the State Park Commission offices, residences and support facilities, the Mackinac Island airport, property leased to the City of Mackinac Island for public utilities and recreation (resource recovery center, waste water treatment plant, water reservoirs, Great Turtle Park), Wawashkamo Golf Course, Grand Hotel's Jewel golf Course, Mackinac Community Equestrian Center and approximately forty-three acres of land leased for private purposes.

Recreation Administration Structure

In 1980 the City of Mackinac Island recognized the importance of recreation as a benefit to its unique community by adopting a recreation ordinance in 1996, appointing a Board of Recreation and hiring a year-round Recreation Director.

The Board of Recreation consists of three community members, one member of the Mackinac Island State Park and one member of City Council. The Board meets once a month year-round. The Board maintains its own budget, submitted and adopted by the City Council, schedules and develops recreational programs for all residents, purchases necessary recreational equipment to support programs, hires instructors as needed, encourages and supports volunteerism, and writes grants to supplement the recreation budget. The City of Mackinac Island Recreation Department has its own budget to maintain the Parks under the City's care.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Organizational Chart

MACKINAC ISLAND CITY COUNCIL

^

MACKINAC ISLAND RECREATION BOARD

^

City Recreation Director

Standard Operating Procedure

The City Recreation Director plans, schedules, promotes, and recruits for recreational programs within the fiscal City budget with approval of the Board of Recreation. Day to day programming is left to the Board for approval. The Board of Recreation suggests the development of grants, plans, projects and recommends approval by the City Council for capital improvements.

Staff Description

The City of Mackinac Island hires one year-round person to fill the position of the City Recreation Director. The City Recreation Director must have the skills to organize recreational activities, plan and schedule events, enlist paid instructors or volunteers as needed, follow guidelines and goals of the City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan, fundraise and write grants to supplement budget, and promote the City of Mackinac Island Recreation Board's Mission Statement.

The City of Mackinac Island's Recreation Director is required to attend all Recreation Board meetings, act as representative to the City Council meetings with recommendations from the Board of Recreation, follow through on all grant activities and account for all budget activities.

2022 APPOINTMENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Public Safety | Moskwa, Bailey, Myers |
| Ordinance/Licenses | Myers, Moskwa ,Chambers |
| Finance/Insurance | Myers, Bailey, Corrigan |
| Transportation | Moskwa, Myers, Sehoyan |
| Medical/Fly Control | Corrigan, Bailey, Sehoyan |
| Building/Lighting & Public Grounds | Bailey, Moskwa,Chambers |
| SWOT | St.Onge, Moskwa, Chambers |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | |
|---|---|
| Streets/Sidewalks | Corrigan, Sehoyan, Chambers |
| Compost/Solid Waste | Moskwa, Sehoyan, Corrigan |
| Tourism/4th of July/Lilac | Bailey, Sehoyan, Corrigan |
| Mayor Pro Tem | Anneka Myers |
| City Marshal | Doug Topolski |
| Mayor's Assistant | Trista France |
| City Attorney | Erin Evashevski |
| FOIA Coordinator | Danielle Wightman |
| Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator | Dennis Dombroski |
| City Foreman | Mike Ruddle |
| Librarian | Anne St.Onge |
| Fire Chief | Jason St.Onge |
| 1 st Deputy Chief | Larry Rickley |
| 2 nd Deputy Fire Chief | Ben Mosley |
| Captain | Tony Brodeur |
| Lieutenant | Ken Hardy |
| Chief Engineer | Dusty Coleman |
| Sergeant | Myron Johnson |
| Fire Marshal | Dennis Bradley |
| Contracts and Policies | Corrigan, Bailey, Myers |
| EMT Representatives | Richard Linn Sam Barnwell |
| Cemetery Board | Candace Smith Kay Hoppenrath Sam Barnwell Kathi Wightman Dennis Bradley |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Dept Public Works Board | Jim Pettit Neal Liddicoat Andrew Doud Steve Moskwa Andrew McGreevy |
| Planning Commission | Anneke Myers Jim Pettit Lee Finkel Patricia Martin Michael Straus Ben Mosley Mary McCourt Dufina |
| Historic District Commission | Andrew Doud Lorna Straus Nancy Porter Lee Finkel Alan Sehoyan |
| Master Plan Committee | Anneke Myers Dennis Bradley Trish Martin Mary McCourt-Dufina Barb Fisher Lorna Straus Jack Dehring |
| Construction Board of Appeals | Ryan Johnson James Granger Richard Neumann Richard Clements |
| Library Board | Kathi Wightman Kathleen Hoppenrath Pete Olson David Levy Christine Rollins |
| Recreation Board | Kathleen Rickley Eric Cowell Anneke Myers Jody Chambers Myron Johnson |
| Traffic Control | Brian Bailey Andrew Doud Brad Chambers Doug Topolski Alan Sehoyan |
| Veteran's Committee | Ed Pfeiffelman Sid DeHaan |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | |
|--|---|
| | Ken Thompson Roy Bessell Jim Ball Ben Horn Charlie Jansen |
|--|---|

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Housing Committee | Margaret Doud Jason St.Onge Jack Dehring Neal Liddicoat Anneke Myers Alan Sehoyan Jim Pettit Richard Chambers Mark Ware |
|-------------------|---|

| | |
|----------------|--|
| SWOT Committee | Jason St.Onge Steven Moskwa Dennis Bradley |
|----------------|--|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Historic District Study Committee | Brad Chambers Sam Barnwell Nancy May Mary McCort-Dufina Brian Findley |
|-----------------------------------|---|

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Island Summit Committee | Anne St. Onge Rick Linn Dennis Bradley Christine Rollins Stan Antkoviak |
|-------------------------|---|

| | |
|--------------|--|
| IT Committee | Sam Barnwell Tom Corrigan Allen Burt |
|--------------|--|

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Transportation Committee | Sam Barnwell Robert Brown Steve Moskwa Andrew McGreevy Brad Chambers |
|--------------------------|--|

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Budget

Expenditures- General Fund

| <u>Culture & Recreation</u> | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|
| RECREATION DEPARTMENT (751) | | |
| 702 | Salaries | |
| 714 | Fringe Benefits | |
| 740 | Operating Supplies | 6,500.00 |
| 760 | Program Expenditures | 12,050.00 |
| 860 | Transportation | 1640.00 |
| 900 | Printing | 150.00 |
| 902 | In-Service Training | 2,200.00 |
| 930 | Repairs and Maintenance | |
| 958 | Dues | 675.00 |
| 960 | Miscellaneous | 100.00 |
| 962 | Fireworks | |
| 963 | War Memorial | |
| 980 | Grant Expenditures | 21,080.12 |

Total Culture & Recreation

Revenue

| | | |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|
| 3.708 | Grant Revenue | 21,080.12 |
| 3.620 | Recreation Fees | 2750.00 |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Recreation Director Report to the City Council- 2013-2022

Accomplishments:

Water Treatment Plant- Kayak Storage
Great Turtle Park-Lighting
Great Turtle Park-ADA staging area
Great Turtle Park- Disc Golf Course
Great Turtle Park- fire ring
Great Turtle Park-renovation of sand volleyball court
Great Turtle Park- ADA Path
Great Turtle Park-Bathrooms- New Roof
Great Turtle Park-Pavilion-Curtains added for weather protection
Great Turtle Park- Soccer Scorbord
Skate and Hockey Programs with Mackinac Island State Park
Total amount is grants received-\$92,199.75

PROGRAMS

Adult Enrichment;

Exercise Class- Mary Patay
Archery-Mary Patay
Cross Country Ski Group
Walking Club- Mary Patay
Intramural Soccer
Indoor and Outdoor Volleyball
Softball League
Ball Room Dancing-Heather May
Pottery- Jay Barch
Adult Basketball
Paint and Pour
Woodworking
Stain Glass Class
Barre Class
Kickboxing Class
Craft Club
Painting Class
Pilates
Gallopig Gazelles
Kickball
Broomball

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Cookie Exchange and Tea
Bullet Journaling
Yoga
Wreath Making Class

Youth Programs:

Arts & Nature in the Park
T-Ball/ Youth Softball
Volleyball Camp
Basketball Camp
Soccer Camp
Youth Golf- Wawashkamo Golf Course/ Grand Hotel
Youth Tennis
Swim Lessons
Giddy-Up and Go Lessons- 5 to 8 years old
Galloping Glider Lessons- 9 to 18 year old
Summer soccer program
Summer basketball program
Summer kickball program
Teen night
Sailing School
Holiday Celebrations
Fort Hide and Seek
Toddler Open Gym
Lacrosse
Tumbling
Come out and Play
Ice Skating
Hockey
Sporties for Shorties
Flag Football
Tae Kwon Doe
Open Gym
Letterboxing
Kayaking Program
Dance
Cheerleading
Pottery
Painting
Tennis

Other Programs

4th of July Kid's Games at Windermere Point
Halloween Events
Community Tree Lighting & Kid's Hay Ride
Santa's Arrival and crafts

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Christmas Bazaar Kid's Games
Volunteer of the Year Award
New Year's/Halloween 5K Fun Runs
X-Country Skiing

Partnerships

Mackinac Arts Council
Mackinac County 4-H Extension Service
4-H Community Club
Mackinac 4-H Horse Clubs
Mackinac Island Recreational Development, INC (MIRD)
Mackinac Island Community Foundation
Mackinac Horseman's Association
Department of Natural Resources
Mackinac Island Public School
Mackinac Island State Park
Mackinac Island Medical Center
Mackinac Island Public Library

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMS

City of Mackinac Island Recreation Department
Dr. Mary Patay, Recreation Director
P.O. Box 455
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-298-0333

Mackinac Island Community Foundation
Stephanie McGreevy, Executive Director
P.O. Box 1933
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-847-3701

4-H Community Club
Carrie Kaminen, 4-H Leader
P.O. Box 340
Mackinac Island, MI 49757

Mackinac 4-H Horse Clubs
Leanne Brodeur, 4-H Leader
P.O. Box 484
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-847-3853

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Mackinac Horseman's Association
Steve Rilenge, President
P.O. Box 462
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-847-3853

Mackinac Island Public School
Amy Peterson, Superintendent
P.O. Box 340
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-847-3376

Mackinac Island Recreational Development, Inc. (MIRD)
Brenda Bunker, President
P.O. Box 421
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
www.mackinac.com/mird/index/html

Mackinac Arts Council
Dr. Philip Rice, Program Director
P.O. Box 1834
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
906-984-4124
info@mackinacartscouncil.org

RECREATION INVENTORY

| NAME | OWNERSHIP | FACILITIES |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Grand Hotel | Private | Two 18 hole golf courses, outdoor swimming pool, hot tub, 4 outdoor tennis courts, 18-hole putting green, fitness gym |
| 2. Mission Point Resort | Private | 3 outdoor tennis courts, outdoor swimming pool, 4 par outdoor putting green year-round fitness club |
| 3. Stonecliffe | Private | Outdoor swimming pool, 2 tennis courts |
| 4. Wawaskamo Golf Course | Public | Oldest continuously played links course in Michigan |
| 5. Mackinac Island Public School | School District | Small and full court indoor gyms, 3 indoor volleyball courts, outdoor basketball court, outdoor open play space |
| 5A. Play Safe Playground Borough Lot | City of Mackinac Island | Slides, climbers and swings (ADA compliant) |
| 6. Mackinac Island State Park | State of Michigan | 2 outdoor tennis courts, bicycle, walking, snowmobile cross-country ski and horseback riding trails |
| 7. Roadside Rest Area | State of Michigan | Accessible Restrooms |
| 8. East End Cove | Private, City and State | Open Space |
| 9. Community Hall | City of Mackinac Island | Large hall used for a variety of community events (ADA compliant) |
| 10. Mackinac Island Harbor of Refuge | State of Michigan | 76 transient slips, water, holding tank, pump out, |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | VHF-FM radio, ADA compliant restrooms |
| 11. Arch Rock | State of Michigan | Natural feature, scenic area, ADA compliant restrooms |
| 12. Visitor Center | State of Michigan | Displays, information, ADA compliant restrooms |
| 13. Veteran's Memorial City Park | City of Mackinac Island | Memorial display, benches, ADA compliant restrooms |
| 14. Windermere Park | Private | Open area with concession stand |
| 15. Marquette Park | State of Michigan | Open area, ADA compliant playground |
| 16. Fort Mackinac | State of Michigan | Historical Attraction |
| 17. Great Turtle Park | City of Mackinac Island | Softball and soccer field, basketball court, sand volleyball court, horseback riding arena, skate park, covered pavilion, concession stand, park benches, barbecue grills, ADA compliant playground |
| 18. Kayak Launch (kayaks | City of Mackinac Island | Non-motorized boat launch, Storage for 36 vessels Paddleboards, canoes). |

Numbered facilities correspond to the Recreation Resource Map.

There are recreational resources of a more mobile nature on Mackinac Island. Horseback riding and horse drawn carriages, which may be hired for directed or self-guided tours, are not only a primary means of transportation, but also afford resident and visitor alike, the opportunity to travel the many roads and trails of the Island. Touring and moving throughout the Island on foot and by bicycle, is also a popular means of seeing the many sights and observing nature on Mackinac Island. In addition, much of the Island's shoreline is public and provides opportunities for swimming and wading.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

During the winter months snowmobiles, with a permit, are allowed on City streets and specifies State Park roads. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing is excellent, offering a variety of groomed and/or untouched trails for the novice and expert alike.

Recreation Resource Map- 34

Play Safe Parks Map- 35

Street and Trails Map- 36

Snowmobile and Trails Map- 37

Groomed Cross-Country Ski Trails Map- 38

Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

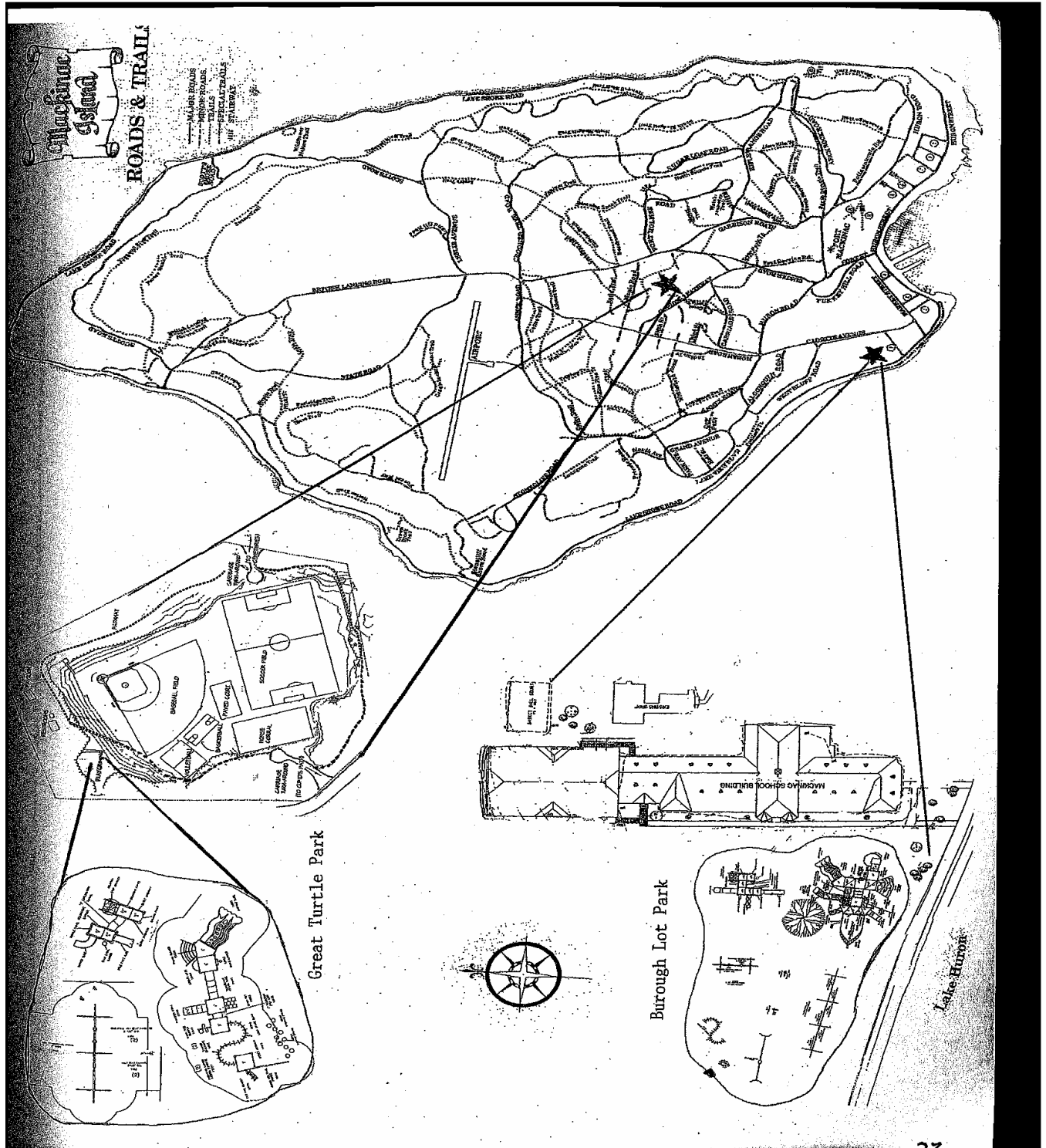
MACKINAC ISLAND RECREATION AREAS

Map 8

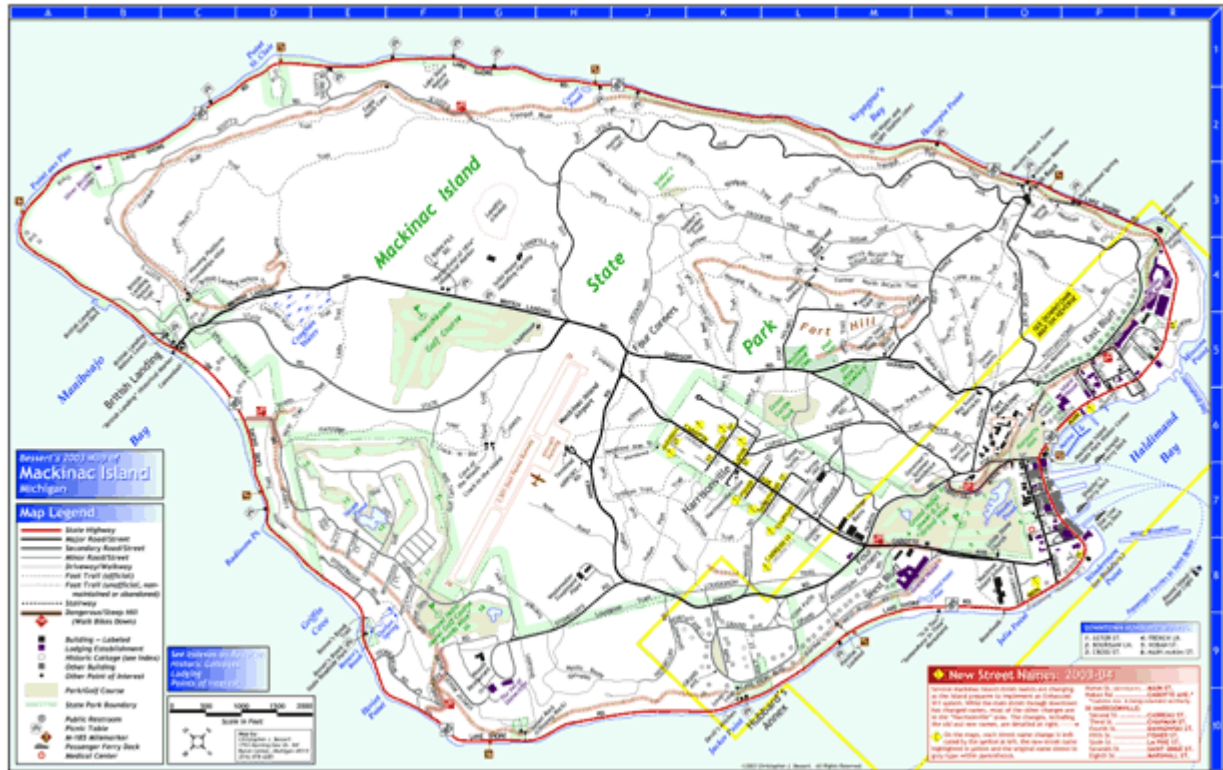
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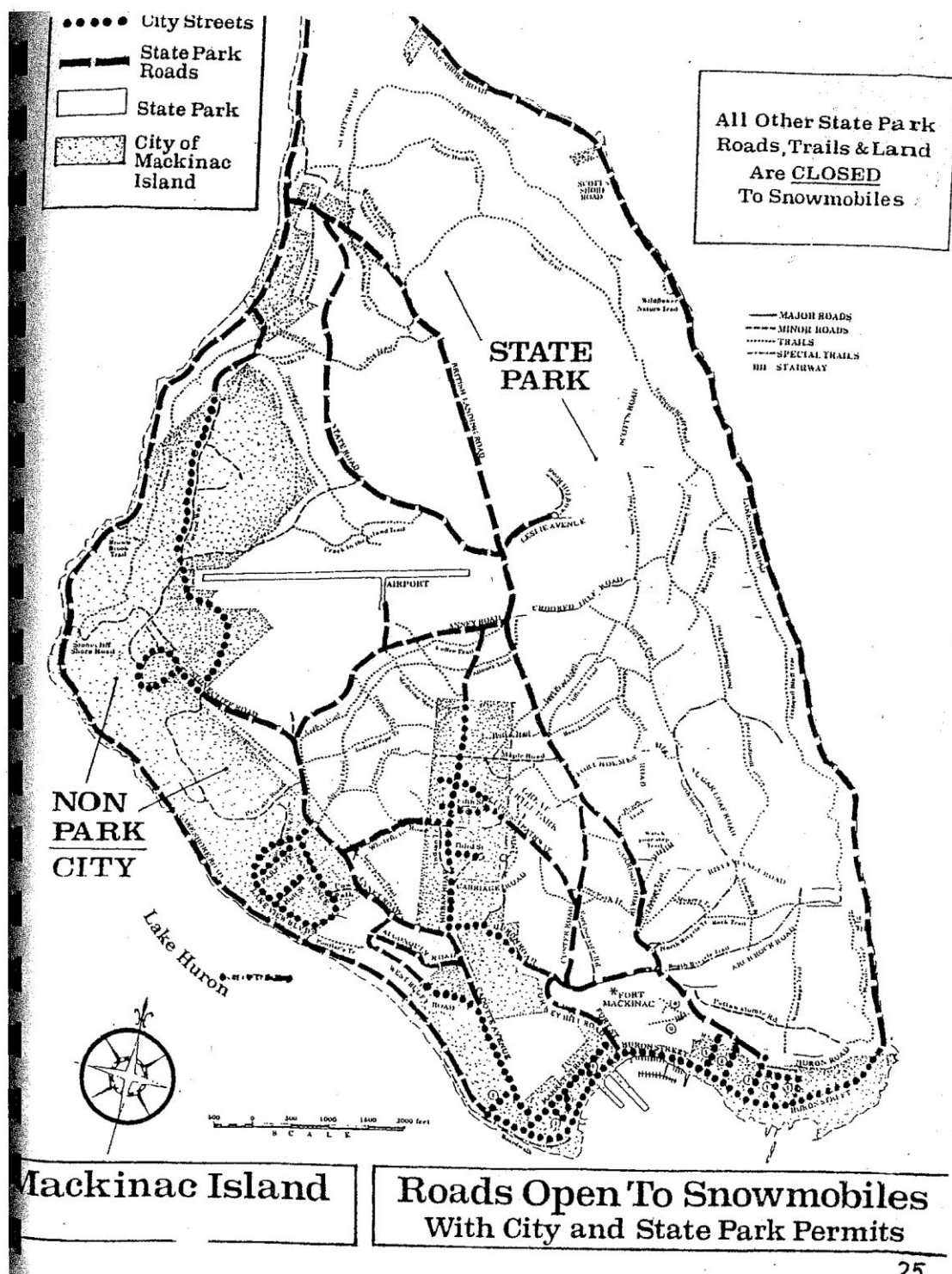
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



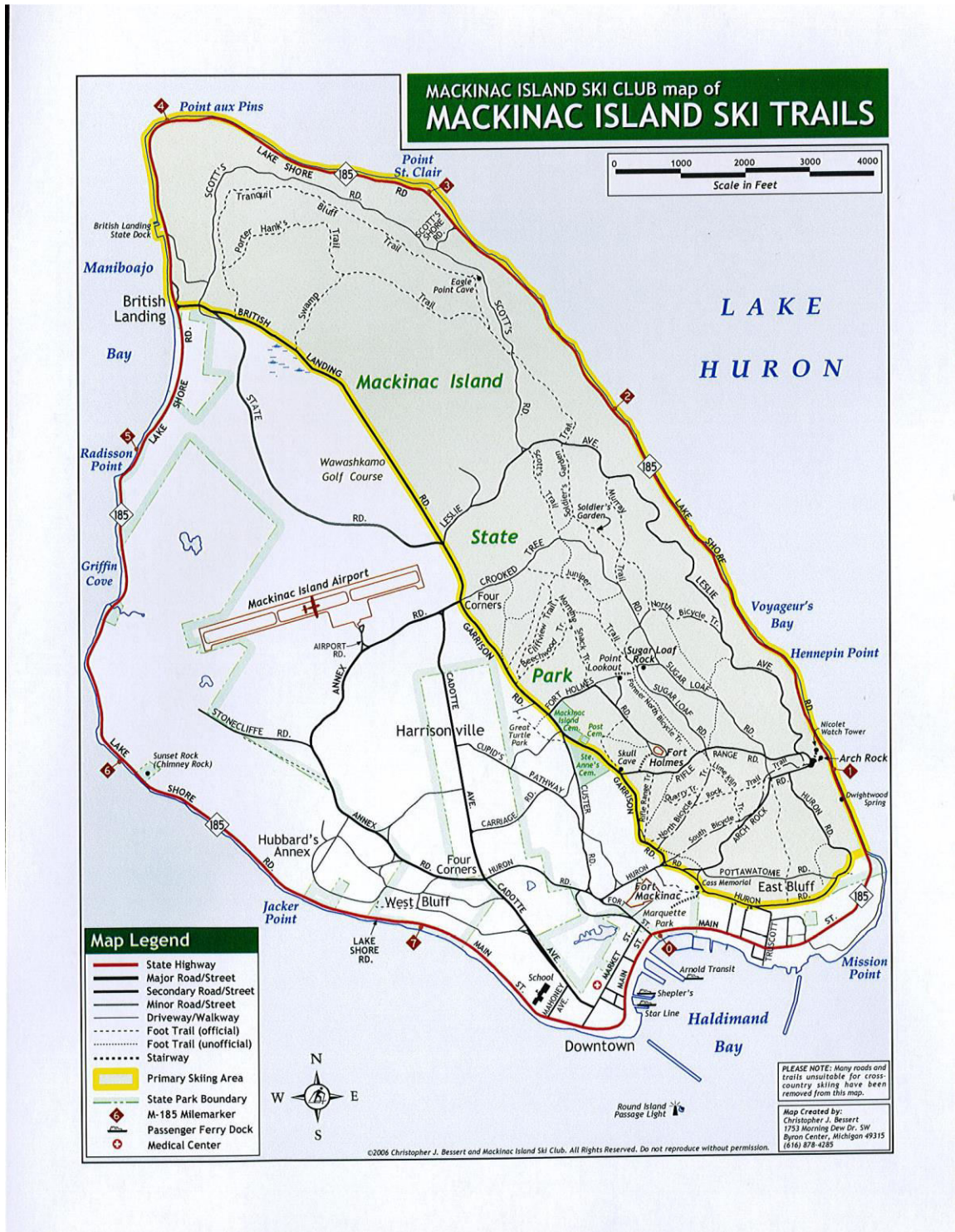
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City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



Community Recreation Barrier-Free Compliance Status

The City of Mackinac Island and the City of Mackinac Island Recreation Board have worked for many years to provide barrier-free access to the Island's many historic buildings, public restrooms and natural sights. Great Turtle Park has barrier-free restrooms and pathways. The public restrooms in the City Veteran's Memorial Park are handicap accessible, as well as are all sidewalks in the Downtown area. The Borough Lot Park has accessible sidewalks from Lakeshore Drive (M-185) and there are accessible restrooms available in the Mackinac Island Public School. As with any small city with historic significance, Victorian construction, and natural ruggedness, it is important to preserve and to accommodate where ever possible. A worthy challenge to the City of Mackinac Island and the City of Mackinac Island Recreation Board.

According to the 2010 Census, the percentage of individuals in the 16-64 category with mobility and self-care limitations on Mackinac Island is relatively low when compared to the County or the State (none of the Island, 3.1 percent for the County and 4.6 percent for the State). In the 65 years and over category, 35 percent of the Islanders have mobility and self-care limitations, while County and State statistics are listed as 15.7 and 20.2 percent. The City wishes to accommodate this special population, as well as, the number of visitors from across the State and elsewhere who may have mobility limitations.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

01-120, Mackinac Play Safe Parks 2001

1992 Quality of Life Grant

1980, 1985 and 2017 LWCF grants for Great Turtle Park

Past Grants Discussion

The Mackinac Safe Play Parks funds were used to update two playgrounds. The school playground has added several pieces of equipment over the last few years to keep in step with the demands of the local youth. The bedding is replaced/added to approximately every two years. Some minor repairs have been needed due to use and vandalism.

The construction and development grants for Great Turtle Park were used to add shelter, restrooms, trails and ball fields. The shelter has received curtains to increase the use of the park in poor weather and a new roof. The restrooms have been painted and a new roof was also added (due to a fallen tree). During the summer of 2021 heaters were added to the restrooms and a new drinking fountain which included a bottle filler.

There was also a regulation sized soccer field added to Turtle Park. In the spring of 2021 a lighting project was completed that updated lights on the softball field and added lights to the soccer field. The summer of 2022 brought a new electronic scoreboard was added to the soccer field.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Status Reports for 5 previous grants will go here.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

PLANNING PROCESS

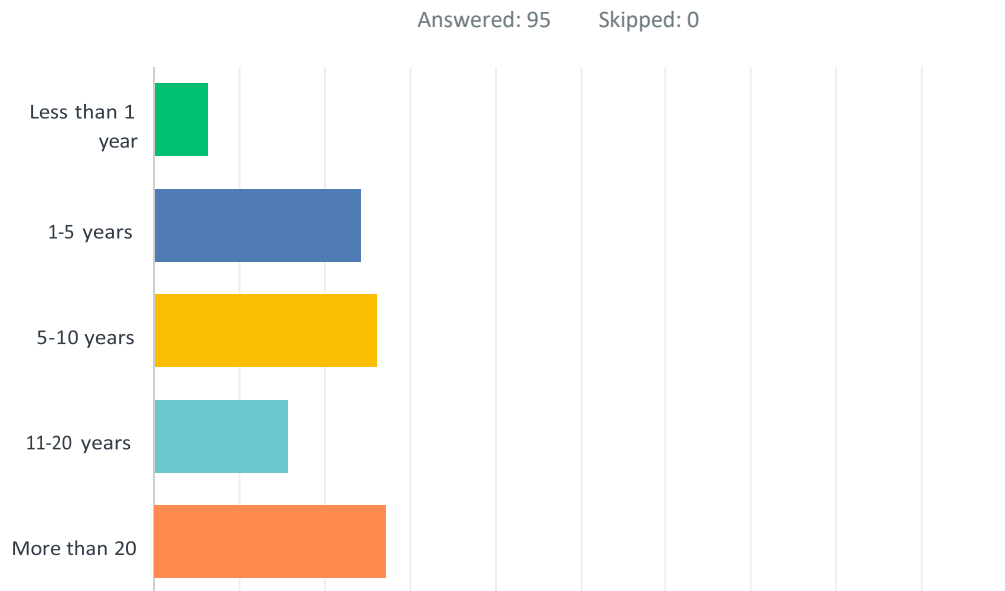
A recreation plan for Mackinac Island was developed in cooperation with the Eastern Upper Peninsula Regional Planning Commission in 1980, revised in 1984, and updated in 1989. The plan was amended in 1996, again in 1998 and updated in 2001. The Recreation Board has reviewed and renewed its Municipal Master Plan in 2017 to bring it to current requirements of the Department of Natural Resources.

MIRD (Mackinac Island Recreation Development, Inc.) on behalf of the City of Mackinac Island, conducted a survey every four years since 1980. This was done in order to determine the recreational needs of the residents of the Island. Results of these surveys, along with public input at the City Council and Recreation Board meetings, have helped determine Mackinac's recreation project priorities.

The purpose of this Recreation Plan is:

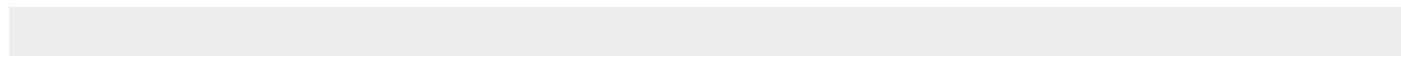
To provide the City of Mackinac Island a plan to follow and use as a tool to provide the community of Mackinac with a variety of recreational programs and facilities.

Q1 How long have you been a resident of Mackinac Island?



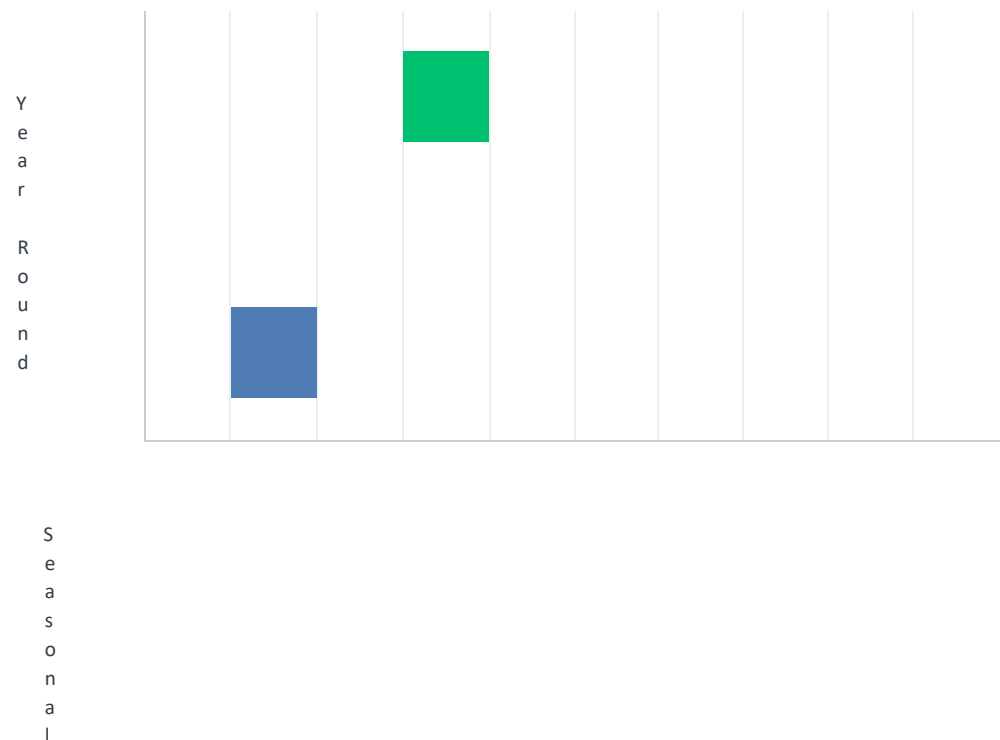
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

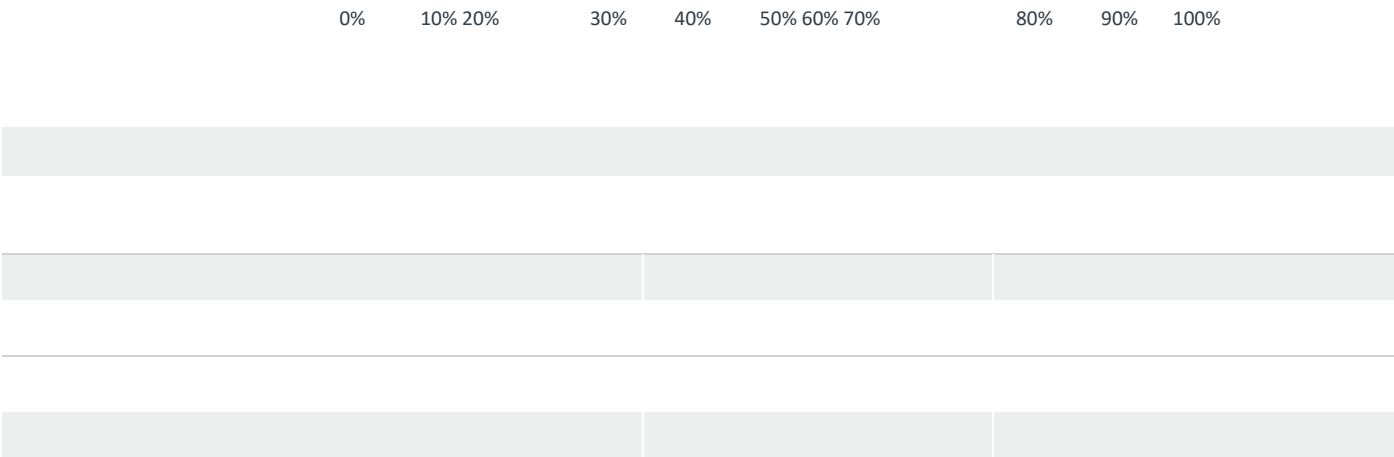


| ANSWER CHOICES | SCORE | RESPONSES |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|
| 3 Less than 1 year | 1/1 | 6.32% |
| 3 1-5 years | 1/1 | 24.21% |
| 3 5-10 years | 1/1 | 26.32% |
| 3 11-20 years | 1/1 | 15.79% |
| 3 More than 20 | 1/1 | 27.37% |
| TOTAL | | |

Q2 Which kind of resident are you?

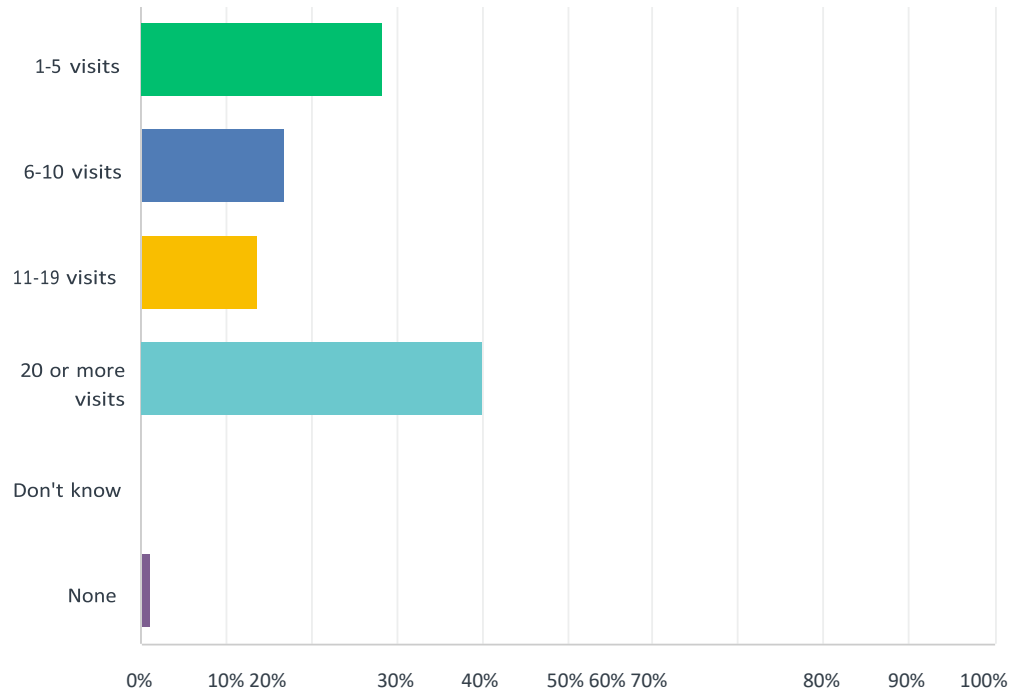


City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



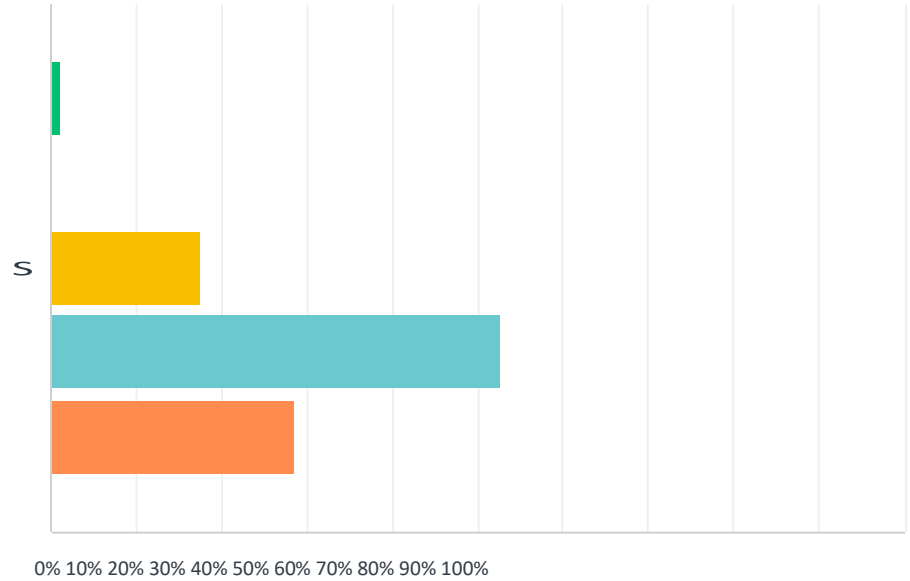
Q3 Approximately, how often during the past 36 months, did you or a member of your household visit Great Turtle Park?

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 3 1-5 visits | 28.42% |
| 3 6-10 visits | 16.84% |
| 3 11-19 visits | 13.68% |
| 3 20 or more visits | 40.00% |
| 3 Don't know | 0.00% |
| 3 None | 1.05% |
| Total Respondents: 95 | |

Q4 Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of Great Turtle Park.



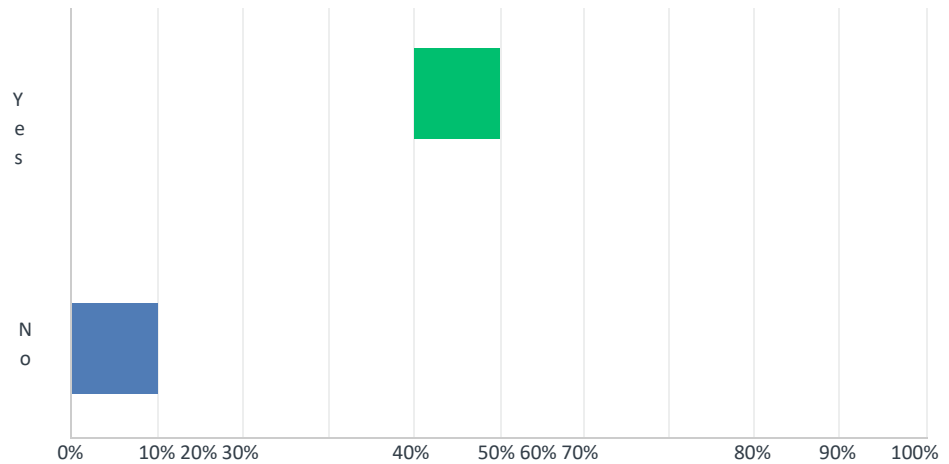
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City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q5 Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the City of Mackinac Island recreation department during the past 36 months?

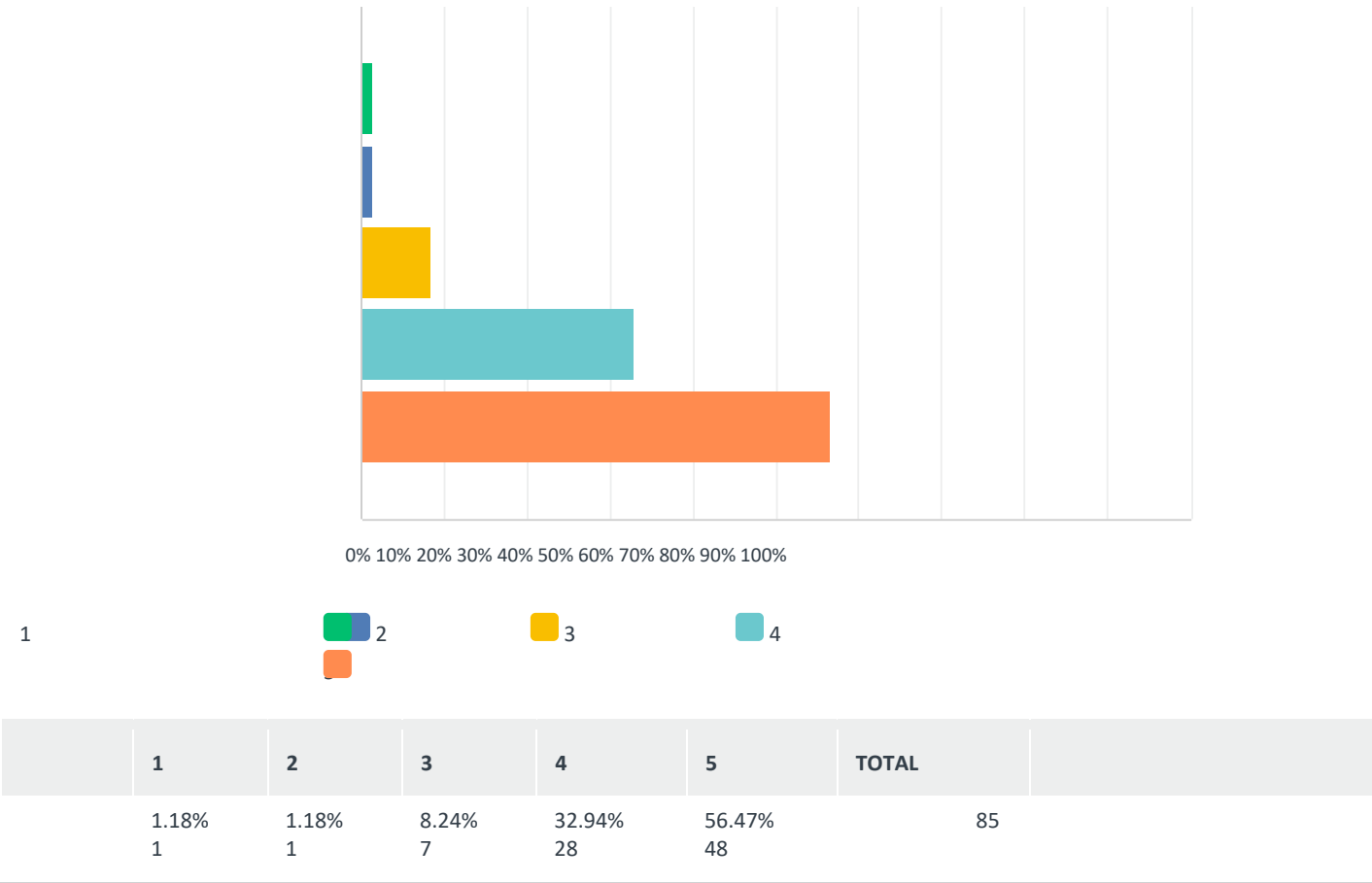
Answered: 95 Skipped: 0



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |
|----------------|-----------|
| 3 Yes | 86.32% |
| 3 No | 13.68% |
| TOTAL | |

Q6 How would you rate the overall quality of the programs that you and your household have participated?

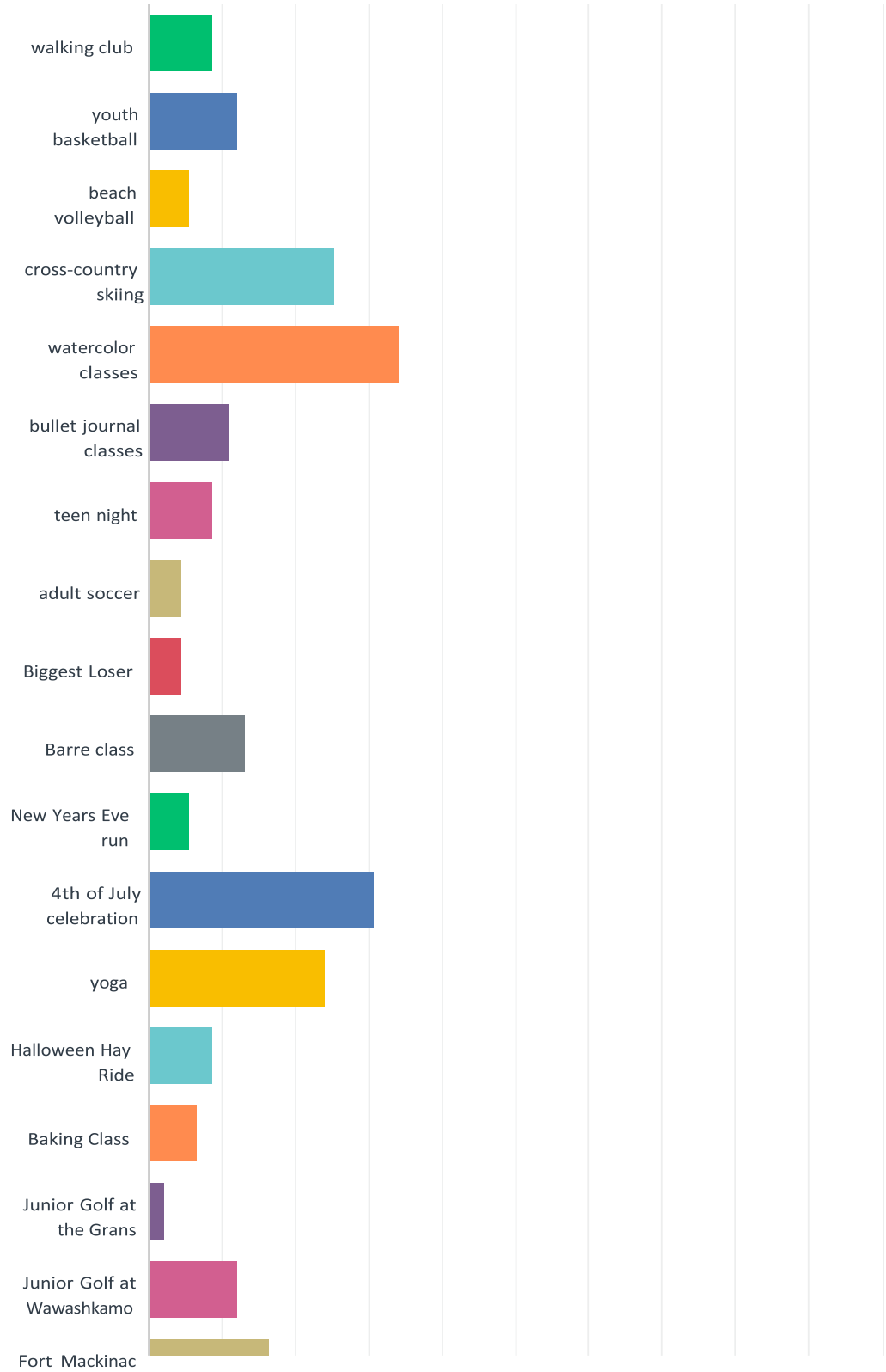
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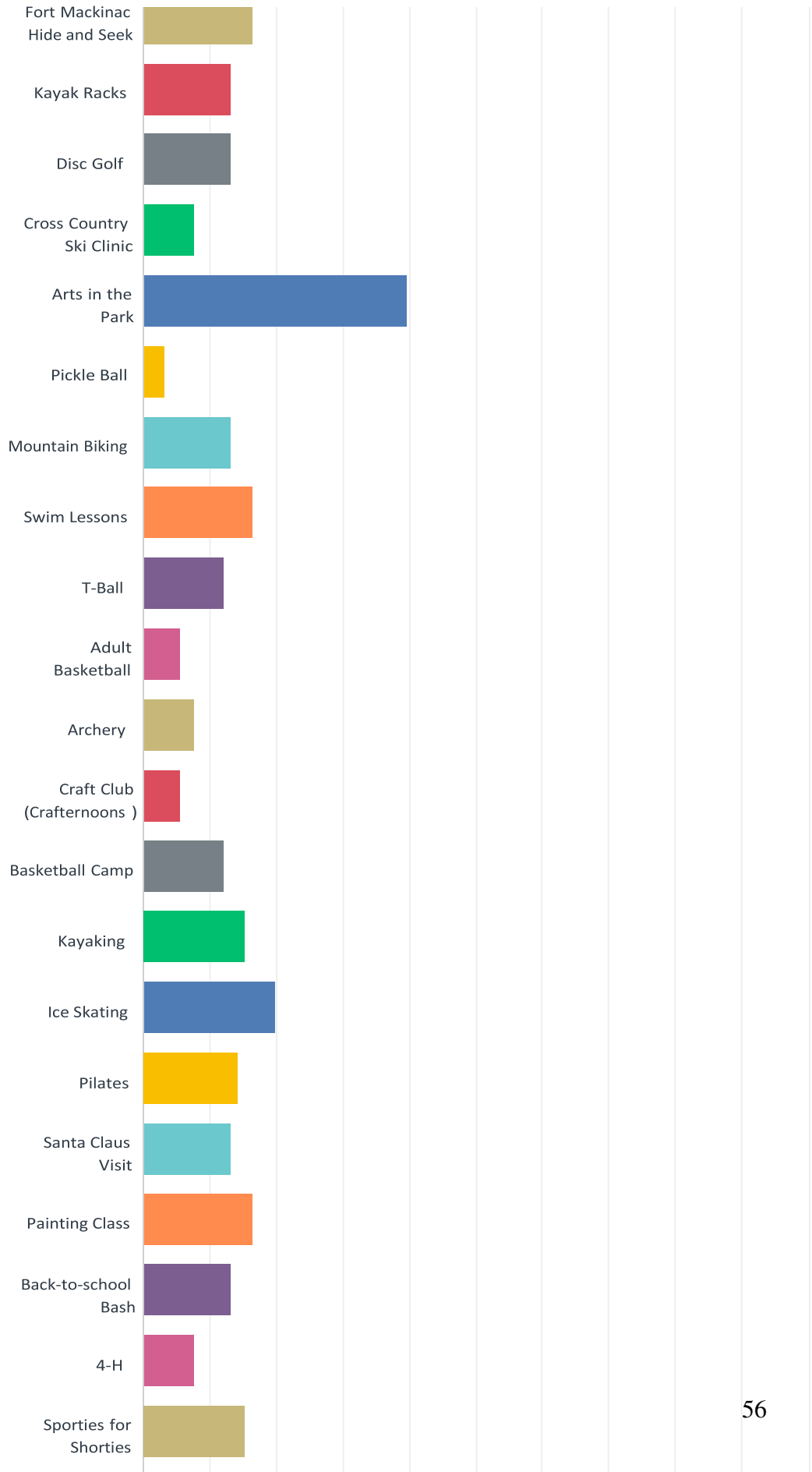
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q7. From the following list, please check ALL the recreation programs you or a member of your household have participated in over the past 36 months.

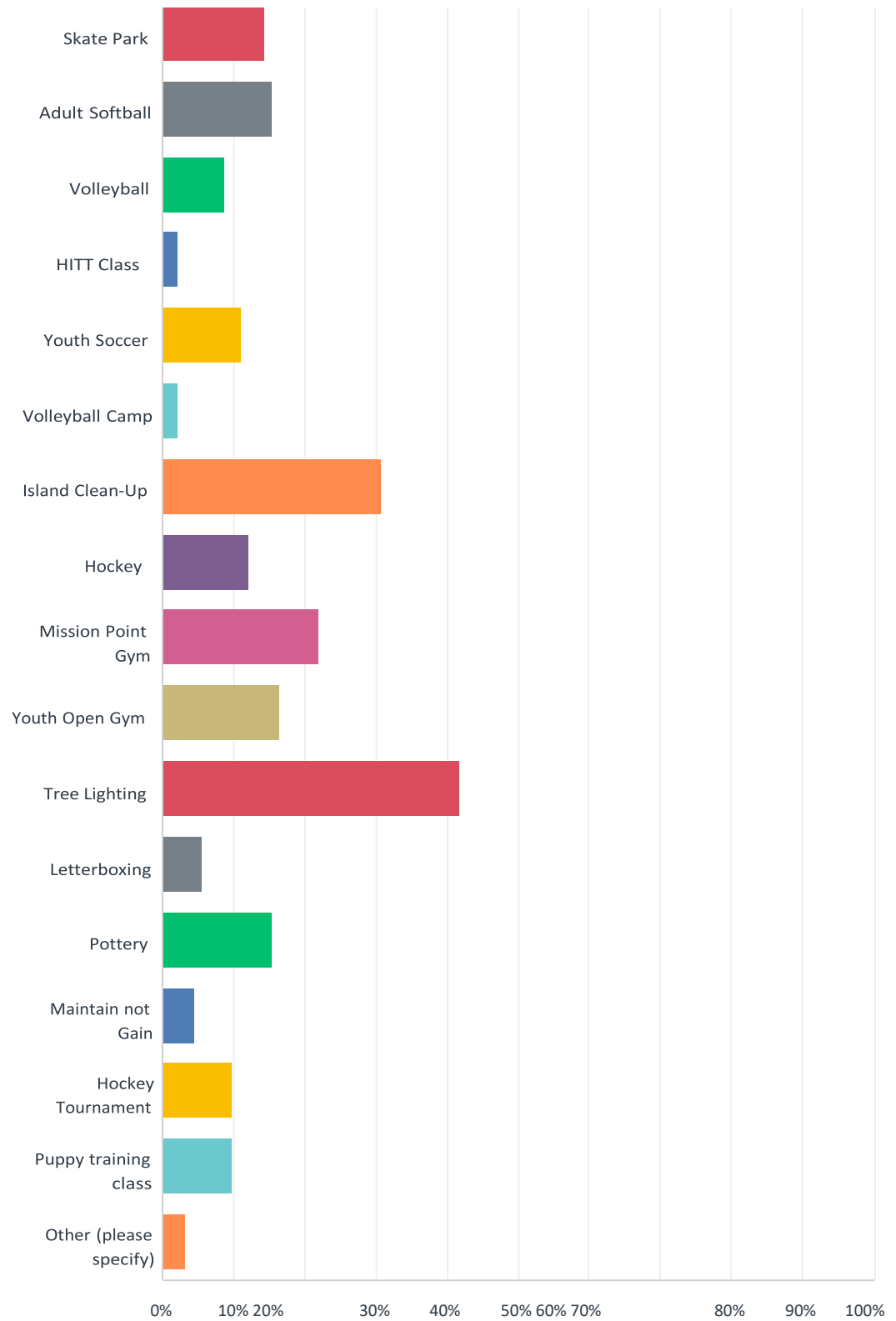
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City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



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| ANSWER CHOICES | | RESPONSES |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 3 walking club | | 8.79% |
| 3 youth basketball | | 12.09% |
| 3 beach volleyball | | 5.49% |
| 3 cross-country skiing | | 25.27% |
| 3 watercolor classes | | 34.07% |
| 3 bullet journal classes | | 10.99% |
| 3 teen night | | 8.79% |
| 3 adult soccer | | 4.40% |
| 3 Biggest Loser | | 4.40% |
| 3 Barre class | | 13.19% |
| 3 New Years Eve run | | 5.49% |
| 3 4th of July celebration | | 30.77% |
| 3 yoga | | 24.18% |
| 3 Halloween Hay Ride | | 8.79% |
| 3 Baking Class | | 6.59% |
| 3 Junior Golf at the Grans | | 2.20% |
| 3 Junior Golf at Wawashkamo | | 12.09% |
| 3 Fort Mackinac Hide and Seek | | 16.48% |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------|
| 3 | Kayak Racks | 13.19% |
| 3 | Disc Golf | 13.19% |
| 3 | Cross Country Ski Clinic | 7.69% |
| 3 | Arts in the Park | 39.56% |
| 3 | Pickle Ball | 3.30% |
| 3 | Mountain Biking | 13.19% |
| 3 | Swim Lessons | 16.48% |
| 3 | T-Ball | 12.09% |
| 3 | Adult Basketball | 5.49% |
| 3 | Archery | 7.69% |
| 3 | Craft Club (Crafternoons) | 5.49% |
| 3 | Basketball Camp | 12.09% |
| 3 | Kayaking | 15.38% |
| 3 | Ice Skating | 19.78% |
| 3 | Pilates | 14.29% |
| 3 | Santa Claus Visit | 13.19% |
| 3 | Painting Class | 16.48% |
| 3 | Back-to-school Bash | 13.19% |
| 3 | 4-H | 7.69% |
| 3 | Sporties for Shorties | 15.38% |
| 3 | Skate Park | 14.29% |
| 3 | Adult Softball | 15.38% |
| 3 | Volleyball | 8.79% |

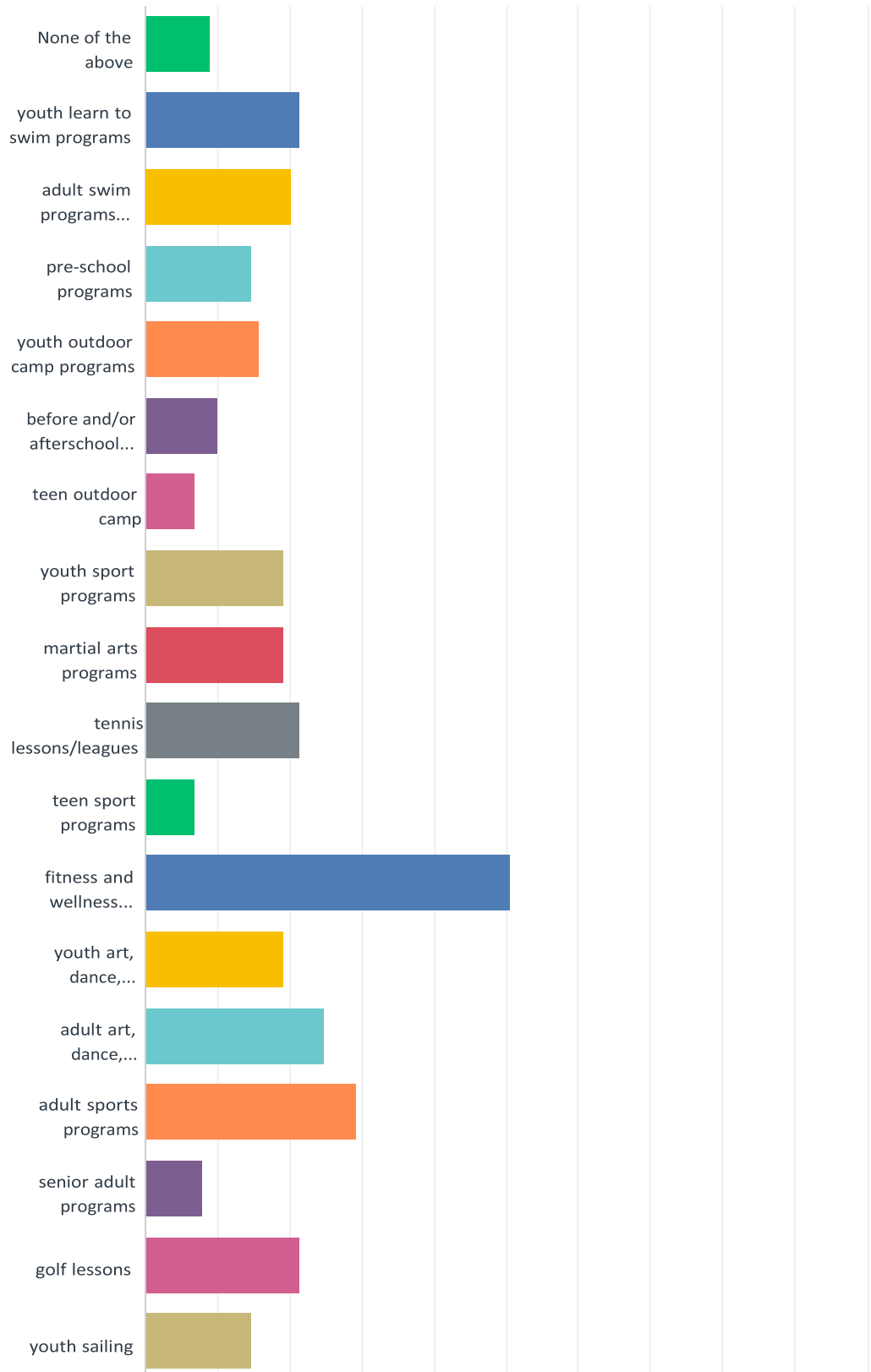
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|
| 3 | HITT Class | 2.20% |
| 3 | Youth Soccer | 10.99% |
| 3 | Volleyball Camp | 2.20% |
| 3 | Island Clean-Up | 30.77% |
| 3 | Hockey | 12.09% |
| 3 | Mission Point Gym | 21.98% |
| 3 | Youth Open Gym | 16.48% |
| 3 | Tree Lighting | 41.76% |
| 3 | Letterboxing | 5.49% |
| 3 | Pottery | 15.38% |
| 3 | Maintain not Gain | 4.40% |
| 3 | Hockey Tournament | 9.89% |
| 3 | Puppy training class | 9.89% |
| | Other (please specify) | -- 3.30% |
| | | |

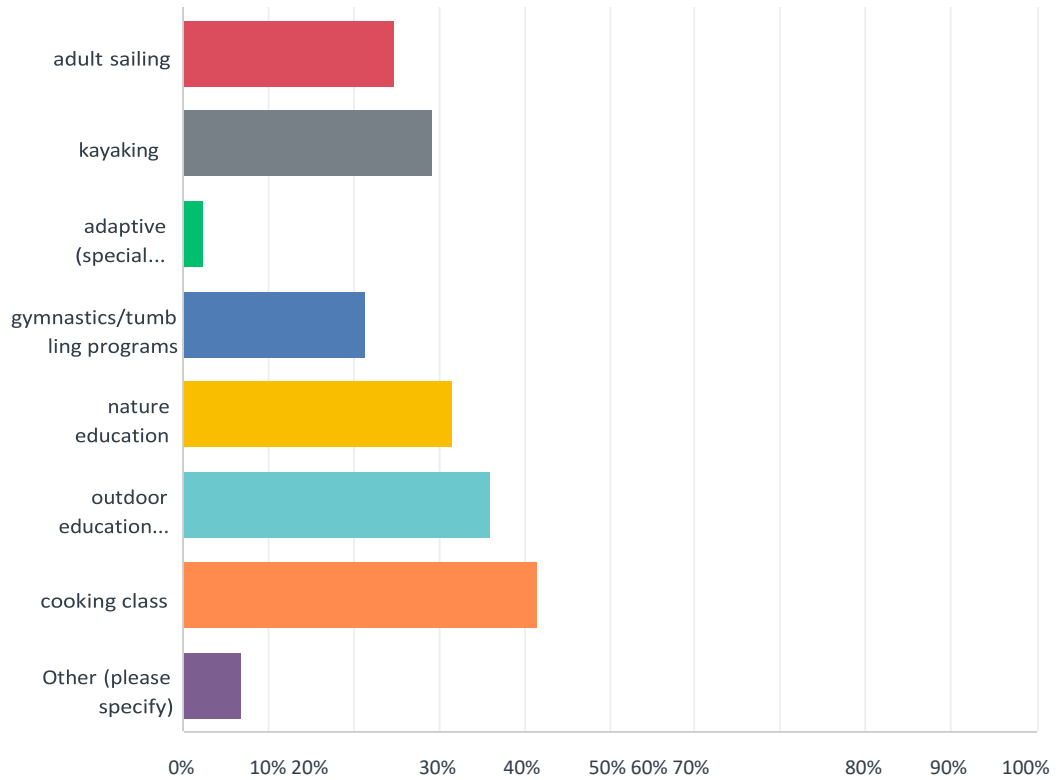
City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q8 Please indicate if you or any member of your household has a need for any of the recreation programs listed below.

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |
|--|-----------|
| 3 None of the above | 8.99% |
| 3 youth learn to swim programs | 21.35% |
| 3 adult swim programs (swimming, water aerobics, etc.) | 20.22% |
| 3 pre-school programs | 14.61% |
| 3 youth outdoor camp programs | 15.73% |
| 3 before and/or afterschool program | 10.11% |
| 3 teen outdoor camp | 6.74% |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----|--------|
| 3 | youth sport programs | | 19.10% |
| 3 | martial arts programs | | 19.10% |
| 3 | tennis lessons/leagues | | 21.35% |
| 3 | teen sport programs | | 6.74% |
| 3 | fitness and wellness programs | | 50.56% |
| 3 | youth art, dance, performing arts programs | | 19.10% |
| 3 | adult art, dance, performing arts programs | | 24.72% |
| 3 | adult sports programs | | 29.21% |
| 3 | senior adult programs | | 7.87% |
| 3 | golf lessons | | 21.35% |
| 3 | youth sailing | | 14.61% |
| 3 | adult sailing | | 24.72% |
| 3 | kayaking | | 29.21% |
| 3 | adaptive (special populations) programs | | 2.25% |
| 3 | gymnastics/tumbling programs | | 21.35% |
| 3 | nature education | | 31.46% |
| 3 | outdoor education (camping, climbing, hiking) | | 35.96% |
| 3 | cooking class | | 41.57% |
| | Other (please specify) | -- | 6.74% |
| Total Respondents: 89 | | | |

Q9 What programming would you like to have available?

More winter programming since the summer is so busy

Different art classes and the dog training classes

After 6pm activities would be great! I would love to do more activities but struggle to participate during standard work hours.

More involvement from the tribe.

Youth dance / gymnastics

More winter programming since the summer is so busy

Different art classes and the dog training classes

After 6pm activities would be great! I would love to do more activities but struggle to participate during standard work hours.

More involvement from the tribe.

Youth dance/ gymnastics

Swim lessons and dog agility course

Pickle ball lessons, sport water board lessons and/or availability

Music classes

Tumbling

Computer programming classes for dummies

Curling/Pottery

Paddle boarding, photography classes, hip hop dance, karate, cake decorating

Snowmobile maintenance

Would love to see more youth sports camps! Things that kids can't get in a normal town...like sailing, golf, mountain biking

Disc golf

Barre/Yoga

Weight lifting for women. Cycling Club

Pickle ball

We do a good job of programming. Perhaps, make it better known on the employee forums for maximum attendance?

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Special speakers in the park, like music in the park. But with lecture. For dog behavior and balanced training. Emergency pet care. Carriage rides and a bike/walking tour about the different rocks and gems found here. An adult budgeting class would be great

Pilates. Yoga

Jui Jitsu

Gymnastics!!!

Adult rec leagues, lots of opportunities for kids

Mostly gymnastics. But dance would be great

Water aerobics, or regular aerobics

Programming for preschool and elementary is the main priority in our household

Wellness programs

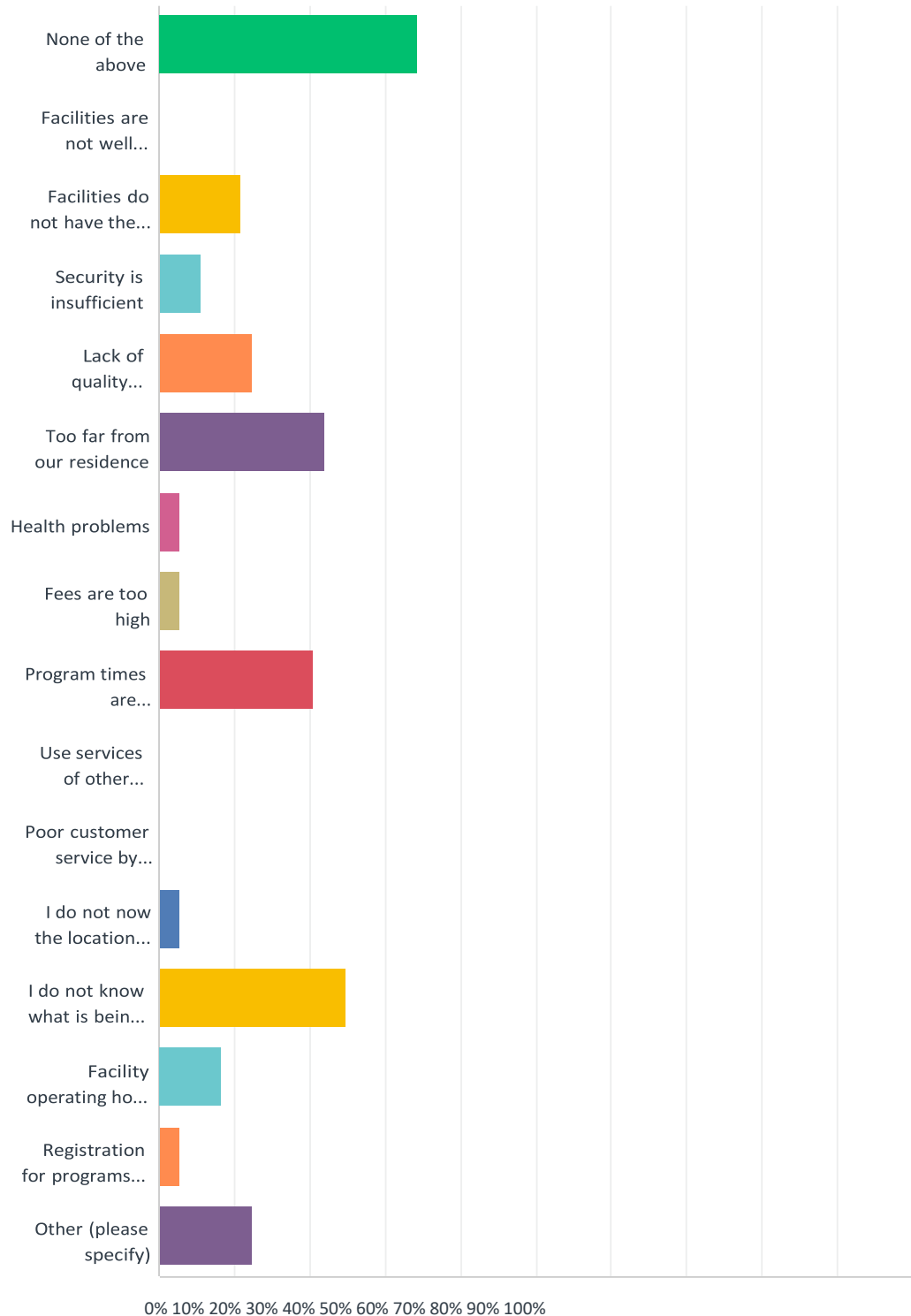
Open gym for adults

We would love to see a gardening program for foods and flowers, etc. Anything art related. Outdoor activities are great!

I would like to see volleyball and tennis options

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q10 Please check all the reasons that prevent you or members of your household from using Great Turtle Park and recreation programs.



City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| ANSWER CHOICES | | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| 3 | None of the above | 34.25% |
| 3 | Facilities are not well maintained | 0.00% |
| 3 | Facilities do not have the right equipment | 10.96% |
| 3 | Security is insufficient | 5.48% |
| 3 | Lack of quality programs | 12.33% |
| 3 | Too far from our residence | 21.92% |
| 3 | Health problems | 2.74% |
| 3 | Fees are too high | 2.74% |
| 3 | Program times are inconvenient | 20.55% |
| 3 | Use services of other organizations | 0.00% |
| 3 | Poor customer service by staff | 0.00% |
| 3 | I do not know the location of the facilities | 2.74% |
| 3 | I do not know what is being offered | 24.66% |
| 3 | Facility operating hours not convenient | 8.22% |
| 3 | Registration for programs is difficult | 2.74% |
| | Other (please specify) | -- 12.33% |
| Total Respondents: 73 | | |

Q11 What types of facilities would you like to see on Mackinac Island?

Better access to pool. Nice area set aside for playing with dog

Splash water park like other city parks offer

Year-round public swimming pool & fitness center

Pool

Dog agility course at Great Turtle Park; it doesn't have to take up a lot of space

One to entertain every one

Indoor rec center with courts, kitchen, small auditorium, weight room and gathering spot for youth

Another public restroom facility somewhere along the island, maybe down by Mission Point or marina area

Band shell for outdoor venues

Outdoor gym

Rec center

Curling

Community Pool/gym

A better disc golf course

Lights on the soccer field

Interested in gym/weight room type facility, pool facility

An outdoor fitness area with multiple equipment stations. A smaller area for winter residents would be great too.

Pickle ball court

Ultimately, the island could use a gym facility at Great Turtle Park, that has membership fees that cover upkeep and support someone to oversee operations

Weight room

Two things that would be a dream would be a day care center and year-round gym

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Additional bathrooms, outdoor basketball court near the school, rock climbing wall

A building for winter programs for adults. Most residents have more time in the winter for recreation. Painting lessons by different guest artists. Wild animal tracks, dog grooming. Basic horse safety for residents that don't know about horses. A lecture on organizing and reducing clutter. And maybe something on antiques.

Dog park

Public Pool

Use of hotel gyms with more partnership from local government. Indoor winter golf simulator

Curling rink. Snow sculpture contest

A gym for residents to use year round

Recreation center with climbing wall. Lap pool

I would love to see an indoor gym at Turtle Park, It would be great to play basketball, volleyball, pickle ball and do other things in the winter without having to abide by times and rules of the school gym. Let's get rid of the horse corral and build an indoor gym.

Community garden

Movie theater available for regular resident use during the winter. An indoor rec center for the kids available for regular use during all seasons. A community nursery center available for residents to use for gardening and programs for kids

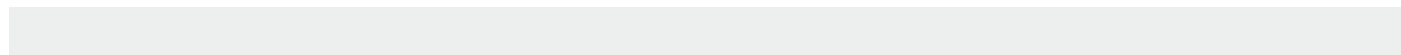
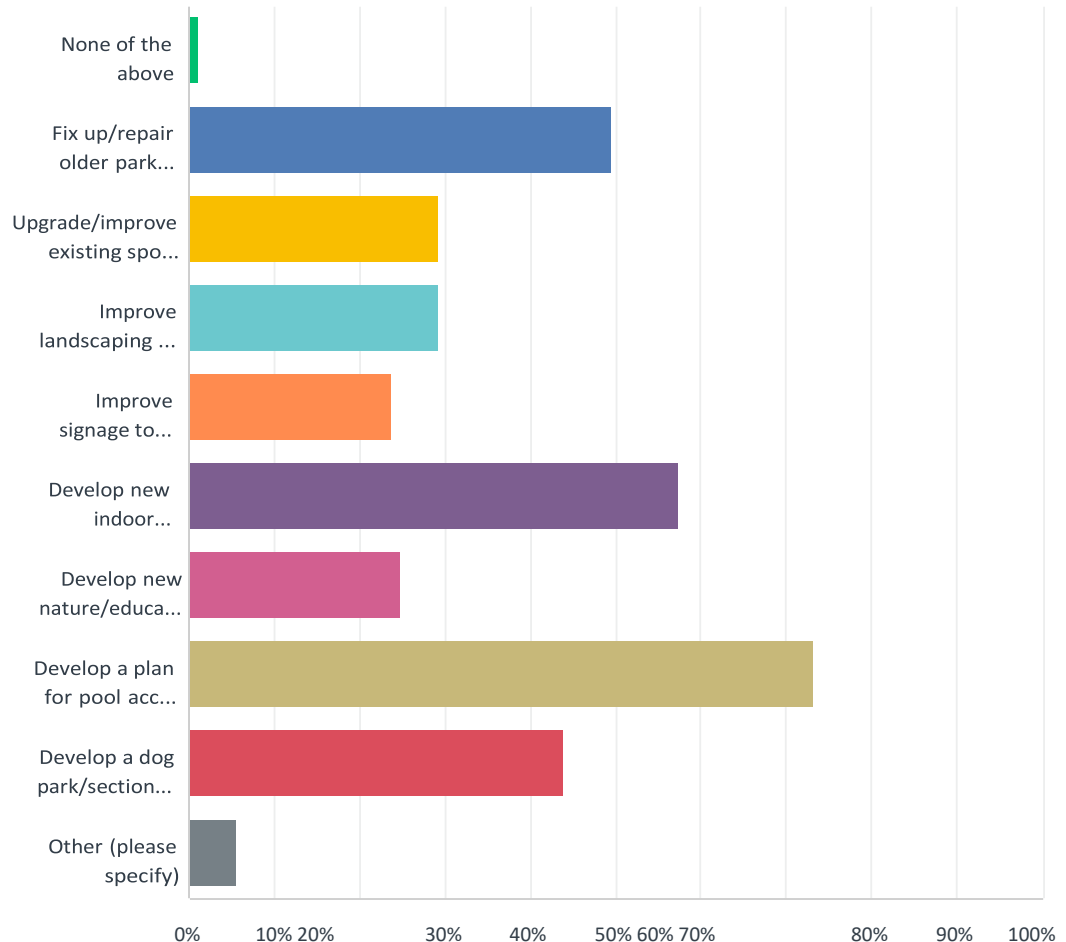
Splash pad

I would love to see a swimming pool for laps and a full gym

Indoor gym. Sailing program for all ages

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q12 Below is a list of actions the City of Mackinac Island could take to improve the Parks and Recreation system. Please check all that you would support.



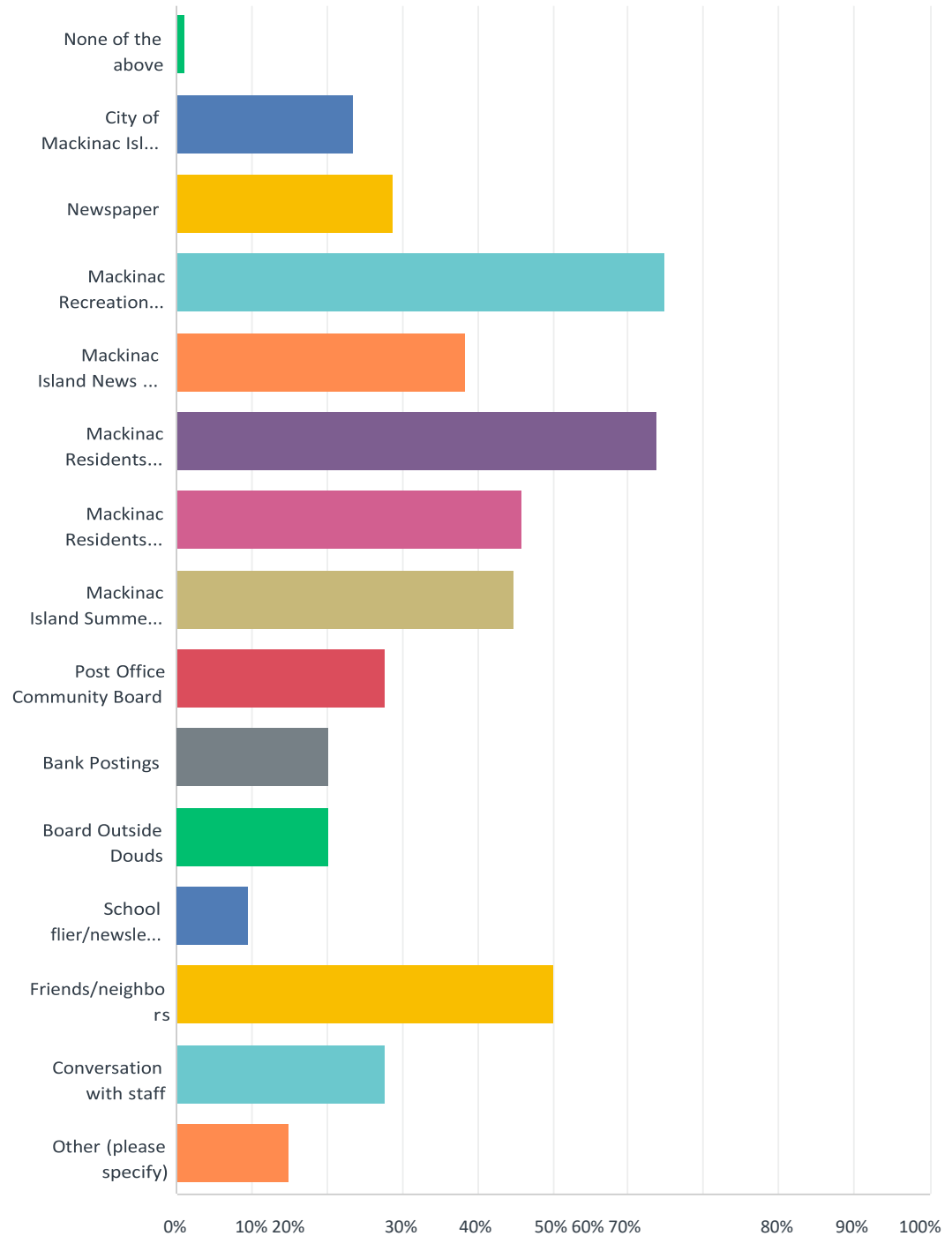
| ANSWER CHOICES | | RESPONSES |
|----------------|--|-----------|
| 3 | None of the above | 1.12% |
| 3 | Fix up/repair older park facilities/shelter/playground | 49.44% |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------|
| 3 | Upgrade/improve existing sports fields | 29.21% |
| 3 | Improve landscaping and trail ways at Great Turtle Park | 29.21% |
| 3 | Improve signage to Great Turtle Park | 23.60% |
| 3 | Develop new indoor recreation center | 57.30% |
| 3 | Develop new nature/education trails | 24.72% |
| 3 | Develop a plan for pool access within the community | 73.03% |
| 3 | Develop a dog park/section of park | 43.82% |
| | Other (please specify) | 5.62% |
| Total Respondents: 89 | | |

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Q13 Please check all the ways you learn about City of Mackinac Island Recreation Department programs and activities.



City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

| ANSWER CHOICES | | RESPONSES |
|------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 3 | None of the above | 1.06% |
| 3 | City of Mackinac Island website | 23.40% |
| 3 | Newspaper | 28.72% |
| 3 | Mackinac Recreation Facebook page | 64.89% |
| 3 | Mackinac Island News and Views Facebook page | 38.30% |
| 3 | Mackinac Residents Facebook page | 63.83% |
| 3 | Mackinac Residents (information only) Facebook page | 45.74% |
| 3 | Mackinac Island Summer Employees Facebook page | 44.68% |
| 3 | Post Office Community Board | 27.66% |
| 3 | Bank Postings | 20.21% |
| 3 | Board Outside Douds | 20.21% |
| 3 | School flier/newsletter | 9.57% |
| 3 | Friends/neighbors | 50.00% |
| 3 | Conversation with staff | 27.66% |
| | Other (please specify) | -- 14.89% |
| Total Respondents: 94 | | |

Q14 Please make comments of suggestions for the City of Mackinac Island Recreation Department.

I would like to take Pilates, yoga or barre classes but can't do mornings

Keep up the good work. We appreciate it.

I was surprised to see the amount of offerings listed in this survey! I had no clue that this many options were offered and it is amazing

Broaden our horizons and expand our community

Nice atmosphere

I appreciate the work and effort of Dr. Mary Patay. She has been committed to the residents of the island and encourages improvement of health and activity

We are grateful and blessed to have Mary Patay as our Recreation Dept. Director. She goes above and beyond, anticipating the islands needs even before we are aware of them. Her expansive knowledge and genuine love for our home shows in her everyday actions. She deserves every bit of praise we can give her and more!

More youth programs

A better, more challenging disc golf course. Maybe a more wooded course with better tee pads

Y'all are awesome- keep up the good work

I would suggest a mail-chimp style newsletter for weekly events for the week. This info could easily be shared on the residents. I would also like to propose working with the school to use their gym facilities then could be used longer than 3 months.

Pickle ball court

I think you are doing a great job overall. Good questions, and one thing we could try to recreate would be softball with island and summer employees asking businesses to sponsor teams and encourage employees...we'd have to try to discourage drinking during the games.

Doing great!

We LOVE all that the Recreation Department has to offer! Thank you for all that you do!

Jewelry making classes would be fun. There is just so many things we could be doing to raise money and promote community. Ethnic cooking classes taught by different foreign nationals that work/live here.

Dog Park

Mary does a super job keeping our community active!!

Thank you for all of your efforts to offer programs for our community!

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan



MP 2023 Public Notice.pdf

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

City of Mackinac Island

**Board of Recreation
P.O. Box 455
Mackinac Island, MI 49757
Phone: 906-298-0333
Fax: 906-847-3982
recdept@cityofmi.org**

**Jody Chambers
Eric Cowell**

Anneke Myers, Chairperson

**Kathleen Rickley
Myron Johnson**

**Mary Patay, Ph.D., CPRP
Recreation Director**

City of Mackinac Island Recreation Board

RECREATION MASTER PLAN ACTION PLAN UPDATE

LONG RANGE GOALS

Continuation of present recreation programs and activities with the goal of expanding offerings to include a wider variety of activities

Development of City owned land known as East End Cove for future recreational needs.

Golf driving range

Restrooms by Burough Lot Playground and Water Filtration Plant

Design and build a recreational facility

Build a pool

Boardwalk maintenance and improvements

Street end improvements and maintenance

Playground equipment- upgrades and maintenance

City of Mackinac Island Municipal Recreation Master Plan

Workout Facilities

Splash Pad

Greenhouse development, placement and maintenance

Archery Shooting Range

Dog park

SHORT TERM GOALS

Continuation of present recreation programs and activities as well as developing new programs and activities to fill the need of an ever changing population

Completion of landscaping and trail ways at Great Turtle Park.

A covered area to accommodate a winter ice skating rink and summer protection from inclement weather or sun.

Playground Improvements and Updates at Great Turtle Park

Great Turtle Park Projects

- A. Finish landscaping sledding hills
- B. Soccer Field Upgrades
- C. Improve signage at entrances to the park
- D. Add more gardens
- E. Playground Upgrades
- F. Softball field upgrades
- G. Adding a Pickle Ball Court
- H. Adding an adult workout area at Great Turtle Park

Develop a plan for pool access within the community

Provide a year round activity center for the Island youth

Children's Day Camps

Development and maintenance of a kayak/canoe launch

Improve entrances to Turtle Park

ACTION PROGRAM

The City of Mackinac Island Recreation Department has continually used community surveys as a means of providing beneficial programs. We also post all meetings and scheduled activities on social media, by poster, e-mail, the city website, and the community calendar. Our most current survey has indicated a need for fitness facilities, swim lessons, pickle ball, additional evening adult programming, computer programming classes, summer youth camps and updating our disc golf course.

We continue to provide many of our popular youth programs during the summer-soccer, volleyball and basketball camps, as well as, t-ball, softball, golf, tennis and horseback riding lessons.

Currently we have been able to secure swim lessons through both the Grand Hotel and the Island House Hotel at the end of the school year in June. This program is open to all students who attend Mackinac Island Public School. Both hotels been very generous and allows us to use their facility free of charge. Our swim instructor comes from the lower peninsula and also offers her expertise free of charge for one week of classes. In addition, we have a local instructor that provides lessons throughout the summer.

The City of Mackinac Island Recreation Board, along with the Mackinac Island Public School, the Mackinac Island Community Foundation, the Mackinac Island State Park, the Mackinac 4-H Horse Clubs, Mackinac Arts Council, 4-H Community Club and the non-profit group, Mackinac Island Recreational Development, Inc. work as a team to collaborate on many of our programs.

Proposed Park Improvement Projects

1. Updating and adding equipment to the playground at Great Turtle Park
2. Adding sprinklers and improving the footing of the softball field
3. Adding sprinklers and improving the footing of the soccer field
4. Replacing the fencing and backstop around the softball field
5. Replacing the goal posts on the soccer field
6. Replacing the skate park with pickle ball courts
7. Adding an outdoor workout area at Great Turtle Park

