City of Clawson
Parks and Recreation Master Plan
2018-2022

Approved by the City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Board on February 5, 2018

Adopted by the City of Clawson City Council on February 20, 2018
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Prepared By:

The Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Clawson, Oakland County, Michigan
and

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Acknowledgements
The participation and cooperation of community leaders, residents, and members of civic organizations in the preparation of the City of Clawson Recreation Master Plan is greatly appreciated. In particular, we acknowledge the efforts of the following individuals:

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# Table of Contents

Acknowledgements ........................................................................................................................................... i

Table of Contents ........................................................................................................................................... iii

List of Maps ....................................................................................................................................................... iv

List of Figures .................................................................................................................................................... iv

List of Tables ..................................................................................................................................................... iv

I. Introduction ......................................................................................................................................................... 1
   A. Description of Planning Process ...................................................................................................................... 1

II. Community Description ................................................................................................................................. 3
   A. Location ......................................................................................................................................................... 3
   B. History ......................................................................................................................................................... 3
   C. Physical Characteristics ............................................................................................................................... 3
   D. Implications for Recreation Planning ........................................................................................................ 8

III. Administrative Structure ............................................................................................................................... 9
   A. Administrative Organization ....................................................................................................................... 9
   B. Parks and Recreation Funding ............................................................................................................... 11
   C. Funding Sources .................................................................................................................................... 12

IV. Inventory of Recreation Facilities and Programs ........................................................................................ 15
   A. Overview .................................................................................................................................................. 15
   B. Municipal and School Facilities .............................................................................................................. 15
   C. Private Recreation Facilities .................................................................................................................. 22
   D. Regional Recreation Resources .............................................................................................................. 22
   E. Recreation Programs .............................................................................................................................. 22

V. Basis for Action Plan ....................................................................................................................................... 25
   A. Summary of Public Input Process ........................................................................................................... 25
   B. Analysis of Existing Facilities and Service Areas .................................................................................. 27
   C. Recreation Deficiencies .......................................................................................................................... 37

VI. Goals and Objectives ................................................................................................................................... 39
   A. Long Range Goals ................................................................................................................................... 39
   B. Parks and Recreation Objectives .......................................................................................................... 40

VII. Action Program ............................................................................................................................................ 41
   A. Recreation Priorities ................................................................................................................................. 41
   B. Action Program ....................................................................................................................................... 42

VIII. Appendix ..................................................................................................................................................... 43
List of Maps
Map 1: City Location and Regional Recreation Facilities .......................................................... 5
Map 2: Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities with Service Areas ........................................ 17

List of Figures
Figure 1: City of Clawson Operational Flow Chart .................................................................. 10

List of Tables
Table 1: City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Budget .............................................................. 11
Table 2: Existing Recreation Facilities Inventory ......................................................................... 19
Table 3: Recreation Programs: ................................................................................................... 23
Table 4: Existing Regional Recreation Facilities within 30 Miles of the City of Clawson ............. 24
Table 5: Recreation Facilities Evaluation – City of Clawson ..................................................... 33
Table 6: Comparison to Accepted Standards – City of Clawson .................................................. 34
Table 7: Analysis of Existing Facilities – City of Clawson ............................................................ 34
Table 8: Recreation Priorities ....................................................................................................... 41
Table 9: Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements Program – City of Clawson ....................... 42
I. Introduction

A. Description of Planning Process

This analysis is the most recent planning document pertaining to parks and recreation in the City of Clawson. The City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is responsible for guiding existing and future conditions of parks and recreation facilities and programs for City residents. The previous Master Recreation Plan was prepared by the City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Department and McKenna. The plan was submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and approved in 2013.

The City's Newest Master Plan will be adopted in 2018. In the Master Plan visioning process, quality of life for the citizens of the community was an important component. The process identified parks and recreational opportunities as an important consideration. In order to make improvements to the City’s parks and be eligible to obtain new grant funding, it was determined that an update to Parks and Recreation Master Plan is required. In September 2017, the City Manager authorized McKenna, the City's long-standing planning consultants, to assist in preparing a five year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The 2018-2022 Recreation Master Plan was prepared with the assistance of McKenna, a planning consulting firm located in Northville, and with the active involvement of the City and all aspects of planning. Citizen input, through online and paper community survey and focus groups also contributed to this plan. The recreation inventory and community background information was contributed by the Parks and Recreation department Staff.

Following initial reviews by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the plan was submitted to the Clawson City Council for review and adoption. Throughout the process, all meetings were open to the public. Notices were posted beforehand, and advertised in the newspaper, as required by the Open Meetings Act.
II. Community Description

A. Location
The City of Clawson is located in the southeast quadrant of Oakland County about one mile west of the Interstate 75 expressway. The community is 2.4 square miles in area and is bounded by the cities of Madison Heights, Royal Oak and Troy (See Map 1).

Clawson is a second ring, established suburb centered in a highly populated and prosperous portion of Oakland County. Since incorporation as a home rule city in 1940, Clawson has fully-developed, leaving limited areas for new growth, but redevelopment opportunities remain. Clawson features a number of small town amenities, including, affordable housing, a variety of downtown shops and restaurants, a stable government and high quality community services, a volunteer participation in community programs, while maintaining desirable access to state and interstate road networks as well as job centers in the Detroit metropolitan area. Many infrastructure improvements have been made and others are planned for the future.

B. History
The following summary is based on information from past Historical Museum curator Deloris Kumler’s pictorial history of Clawson, published by Arcadia Publishing in its Images of America series.

The area now known as Clawson was first established in the 1820s when settlers purchased certain sections of land that was part of Bloomfield Township. By 1827, the area which is now Clawson was known as Troy Township. Troy Township encompassed the area from 8 Mile Road (Baseline) to South Boulevard and from Dequindre to Greenfield (in Royal Oak) and Adams in Troy. In 1832, the area south of Townline Road (14 Mile) became Royal Oak Township. The community remained in Troy and Royal Oak townships until the Village of Clawson incorporated in 1920.

During the first 100 years after settlement, farming was the primary industry. Small businesses and industry, including two (2) sawmills began to arrive in Clawson in the 1830s with the construction of roads. The first road, now known as Main Street (previously Niles Road) was built in 1827. In 1829, Paint Creek Trail, now Rochester Road, was made a plank toll road from an existing Indian trail. Townline Road, later known as Clawson Road, and now known as 14 Mile, was finished in 1874.

The first post office was opened on August 16, 1880 and was named “Clawson”. Although accounts vary on the origin of this name, with the post office, the area became known as Clawson. After the Interurban Railway was built through Clawson in 1899, developers began to subdivide Clawson. The railroad gave Clawson access to other communities and residents the opportunity to work in Detroit but live where lots were cheap.

In 1940, Clawson incorporated as a home rule city and really began to grow. By 1949, 500 new homes were built and there were also new factories, new commercial buildings and a weekly newspaper. In the 1950’s and 1960’s additional homes, commercial buildings, schools, churches and municipal buildings were built. Population peaked by the 1970’s, and when population began to decline some schools were closed. During this decade, the City built a new Fire Station. A community activities center was added to the Municipal Building.

C. Physical Characteristics
1. **Environmental Features**
The City is relatively flat. The City is located at an elevation of 666 feet. 75% of the soil in Clawson is Urban Land-Thetford, which is defined as urban land and nearly level, somewhat poorly drained sandy soils on lake plains and outwash plains. The remaining 25% is Urban Land-Blunt-Lenawee, which is defined as urban land, nearly level and gently undulating, somewhat poorly drained loamy and silt soils, on lake plains and moraines.

2. **Climate**
The climate of the region is typical of other Southeastern Michigan Communities. January tends to be the coldest month with average of 26 degrees Fahrenheit, while July tends to be the warmest with an average temperature of 73 degrees Fahrenheit. Annual precipitation is approximately 31 inches with the heaviest occurrences during the months of May, June and July. The area’s annual snowfall is 42 inches. Snowfall is sporadic, which makes it difficult to sustain outdoor winter activities that require adequate snowfall. Prevailing winds are from the southwest, and tornados, while known to occur occasionally, are not frequent in this area.

3. **Existing Land Use Characteristics and Zoning**
The City has a mix of land uses, although the predominant use is residential. The land along major thoroughfares is typically used for commercial activities, while industrial uses are limited to a few parcels in the northeast quadrant of the City. Several existing underutilized office and industrial zoned parcels have been recently rezoned by the City to business renewal areas to facilitate more neighborhood oriented businesses. The gateway entrances into the City have received special attention to create a welcoming entrance into the City and take advantage of regional developments and improvements in infrastructure and transportation.

The City also places an emphasis on preservation of the existing residential areas. Some of the residential areas are characterized by parcels with areas greater than 20,000 square feet. The City has adopted ordinances to protect these parcels in their current state.

4. **Transportation**

**Roads**
Located in metropolitan Detroit, the City is served by a developed street network. The periphery of the city is lined by the major thoroughfares of Maple Road, Crooks Road and Rochester Road, with Livernois and 14 Mile Road traversing through the middle of the City.

The street network of the City is laid out on the grid system which allows efficient access to internal City streets as well as the regional street network.
There is no State or Interstate highway running through the City of Clawson. I-75 runs within one (1) mile to the north and east of the City and Woodward Avenue runs within two (2) miles southwest of the City. The Road Commission of Oakland County (RCOC) has administrative jurisdiction over the following County primary roads within the City of Clawson:

- Maple Road
- Crooks Road north of 14 Mile
- Rochester Road north of 14 Mile
- 14 Mile east of Rochester Road

The remaining streets in the City of Clawson are under the jurisdiction of the City of Clawson.

Buses
The City partners with SMART and has two buses providing service to senior residents and those with disabilities.

Railroads
There are no railroad tracks within the City. Amtrak service is provided in the City of Royal Oak, located to the south and west of City of Clawson and also in Troy, located to the north and west of the City of Clawson.

Airports
The Oakland–Troy Airport is located in the City of Troy within 1/2 mile of the City of Clawson. The airport is used primarily by private and corporate-owned airplanes.

Pedestrian Circulation
The City is served by a good network of sidewalks.

Non-Motorized Transportation
As shown in Appendix J, the Downtown Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, a system of bike routes currently exists within the City of Clawson. Improvements have been made in recent years to connect routes to parks and other community amenities. Sidewalks are provided along all streets within Clawson affording good pedestrian access to parks, local schools, and other community resources.

Improvements have been made in recent years to address American Disability Act (ADA) standards.

5.   Historic and Cultural Features
The City Hall represents a major focal point within the City. Built in 1963, the City hall occupies a 1.4 acre site on the west side of N. Main Street, two blocks north of 14 Mile Road. The site contains a number of civic and governmental; activities, including City Offices, Council Chambers and Police Department.

Located across from City Hall is the Blair Memorial Library and Clawson Historical Museum. The City also owns and maintains the Hunter Community Center located at the end of Fisher Court. The center is used for adult education courses, recreational programming and houses the Senior Citizens Center as well as rental space for a Montessori Bilingual Pre-School.

The City has a volunteer fire department which operates out of 2 fire stations. One station is located on Gardner Avenue, within the central southeast portion of the City. The second fire station is contained within the City’s Public Works site located at Elmwood within the City’s central northeast portion. Most homes within the City are within 1 mile of a fire station.
The largest park is the City Park with an area of 36.9 acres, located in the central northwest portion of the City and serves as a community-wide park.

**D. Implications for Recreation Planning**

Clawson is a predominately residential community with a significant senior population. Projection for population for the future indicate almost a doubling of the senior (65+) age group population and a slight growth in the households with children. The major age group currently is and will continue to remain in the 35-64 age group. Such a wide age range requires access to various recreational facilities to contribute to their physical well-being and overall quality of life. Access to adjacent community facilities is available but limited to some extent due to physical barriers such as major thoroughfares and political boundaries.

1. **Identification of Persons with Disabilities**

Although persons with disabilities make up a small portion of the City’s total population, other citizens may face some form of temporary disability during their lifetime: seniors, young children, pregnant women, individuals with broken bones, and individuals using crutches.

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which took effect on January 26, 1992, prohibits discrimination, both intentional and unintentional, against individuals with disabilities in all programs, activities and services provided by public entities. It applies to all state and local governments, their departments and agencies and any other agencies or special purpose districts of state or local governments.

Public recreation providers must eliminate any eligibility requirements for participation in programs, activities and services that screen out, or tend to screen out, persons with disabilities; unless they can establish that the requirements are necessary for the provision of the service, program or activity due to legitimate safety requirements. Furthermore, individuals with disabilities may not be excluded from services, programs and activities because existing buildings or park facilities are inaccessible.

In order to comply with the ADA, municipalities have the following alternatives: alteration of existing facilities, acquisition or construction of new facilities, relocation of services or programs to an accessible facility, or provision of services at accessible sites.

While the City has been active in bringing several sidewalk areas and other amenities into compliance with the ADA standards, other recreation facilities must be examined to determine if their design creates barriers that prevent use by all segments of the population, including seniors. Programs must also be examined to be certain they provide recreation and leisure opportunities to all residents regardless of their social, economic, or physical status.

In essence, the ADA and MDNR policies mandate that communities work toward developing "inclusive recreation programs." Inclusive recreation programs identify residents’ interests and needs, then address these interests and needs with facilities and programs that are not only barrier-free, but also are adaptable so that everyone can have a pleasant recreation experience together.
III. Administrative Structure

A. Administrative Organization
A full-time Parks and Recreation Department was formulated in October, 1985. Prior to that date, part-time staff supervised the year round senior citizen program along with the summer recreation activities such as softball, T-ball and playgrounds.

The immediate goal of the department was to establish and promote a variety of activities at Hunter Community Center which was a vacant elementary school purchased by the City. The overall objective of the City is to provide indoor and outdoor, year round recreation for residents of all ages. Since many of the recreation facilities were built several years ago, many are in need of repair or replacement. Since Clawson is a fully developed community, land acquisition is not a logical alternative.

In May, 1988 the Clawson City Council appointed a five member Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The first goal of the Board was to establish the Master Recreation Plan. The Board is strictly an Advisory Board to the City Administration and City Council. The Parks and Recreation Department currently employs two full time staff members and up to 50 seasonal employees for building supervisor, program leadership, class instruction and special events. Most programs require user fees to help cover program costs.

The Parks and Recreation Department works closely with the Department of Public Works in coordinating the maintenance required at recreation facilities. The department also maintains a good working relationship with the Clawson Board of Education in joint use of recreation facilities.
Figure 1: City of Clawson Operational Flow Chart
B. Parks and Recreation Funding

In City of Clawson, the operations and maintenance of all City park facilities is by the Parks and Recreation Department which operates under the auspices of the City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Board and the Department of Public Works (DPW). The City Council is responsible for levying operational funds for the Department. A breakdown of the budget is outlined below.

Table 1: City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Budget

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<td>101-672-950.000</td>
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<td>101-672-955.000</td>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>Totals for dept. 672 – Senior Programs</strong></td>
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<table>
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<th>Appropriations: Dept. 751 – Parks</th>
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<td>101-751-711.000</td>
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<td><strong>Totals for dept. 751 – Parks</strong></td>
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program user fees are usually channeled through the General Fund. 

There are several existing or potential funding sources available for parks and recreation facility improvements. In addition to the General Fund, other sources of funding for parks and recreation are user fees, revenue bonds, donation of land and/or easements, and contractual agreements involving privatization. Following is a brief description of current funding sources and other sources the City may consider:

1. General Fund

General Fund revenues are derived from property taxes, state-shared revenues, federal grants, license and permit fees, charges for services, interest on investments, and court fines or forfeitures. Recreation program user fees are usually channeled through the General Fund.
2. **User Fees**
Fees can be charged by the Community to the users of specific recreation facilities or for enrollment in recreation programs. User fees can provide substantial support for park facilities. Other communities in southeast Michigan have established user fees for swimming pools, tennis courts, wave pools, use of lighted athletic fields, and use of indoor facilities. User fees are a promising source of funding in the municipality if used selectively for specific facilities and services.

3. **Bond Programs**
A number of bond programs can be used to finance construction of parks and recreation facilities:

**General Obligation Bonds**
General Obligation Bonds are issued for specific community projects and may not be used for other purposes. These bonds are usually paid off with property tax revenues.

**Revenue Bonds**
Revenue Bonds are issued for construction of public projects that generate revenues. The bonds are then retired using income generated by the project. For example, revenue bonds could be issued for the renovation of the restroom facility at the Grant Park.

**Special Assessment Bonds**
Special Assessment Bonds are issued to pay for projects that benefit a particular segment of the population. For example, recreation improvements that benefit a defined subdivision or neighborhood could be financed using special assessment bonds, in which case the residents who receive the benefit would be assessed.

4. **Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants**
Following is a summary of the three viable recreation grant programs now available through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for communities that have an up-to-date recreation plan:

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**
Eligible projects include community recreation and trail way improvements. These are grants of $10,000 - $250,000 to local units of government for development of facilities such as ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds, trails and picnic areas; and including support facilities; renovation of existing facilities and retro-fitting of existing facilities to make them accessible to persons with disabilities. Funds are provided through Federal appropriations. Grant match basis is 50 percent MDNR/50 percent local.

**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)**
Eligible projects include acquisition of land or rights in land for recreational uses or for protection of the land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, including additions to existing parks, forest lands or wildlife areas. Development of public outdoor recreation facilities is eligible (such as picnic areas, beaches, boating access, fishing and hunting facilities, winter sports areas, playgrounds, ball fields, tennis courts, and trails). Funds are provided through sale of oil and mineral leases on State land. Local contributions equal to at least 25 percent of the project cost are required.

There are three special initiatives approved by the Trust Fund City Council. Proposals will receive special attention if they:

- Are located within U.S. Census Bureau Metropolitan Statistical Areas;
- Increase environmental education facilities statewide; but particularly in urban areas; and
- Acquire land or develop trail ways that contribute to the development of a statewide trail network.
Michigan Department of Natural Resources Passport Grant
Eligible projects will have the primary purpose of providing public recreation opportunities or facilities and infrastructure to support public recreation activity. The Passport grant program may only be used for local development projects. The program is focused on renovating and improving existing parks, but the development of new parks is eligible. Funds are provided from the sale of the Recreation Passport which replaces the resident Motor Vehicle Permit (MVP) — or window sticker — for state park entrance. The passport will be required for entry to state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites. Local contributions equal to at least 25 percent of the project cost are required.

5. Community Development Block Grant
Revenues obtained through the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program can be used for a variety of community improvement projects, including development of recreation facilities or land acquisition for new parks or athletic fields in low and moderate income neighborhoods that qualify under the program. City of Clawson may be able to use CDBG funds for improvements to recreational facilities serving low income areas of the City.

6. Donations
Businesses, corporations, private clubs, and community organizations will often contribute to recreation and other improvement programs to benefit the communities in which they are located. Private sector contributions may be in the form of monetary contributions, the donation of land, the provision of volunteer services, or the contribution of equipment or facilities.

7. Foundations
A foundation is a special non-profit legal entity that is established as a mechanism through which land, cash, and securities can be donated for the benefit of parks and recreation services. The assets are disbursed by the foundation Board of Directors according to a predetermined plan. Funding for recreation facilities through foundations is very limited.

8. Lease or Contractual Agreements
The City may increase the availability of recreation facilities to its residents by leasing sites and facilities from other recreation providers. For example, the City could agree to help maintain school recreation facilities in exchange for guaranteed availability of the facility to the public. The Parks and Recreation Board could also contract with private entrepreneurs to provide services at City-owned park facilities, such as recreation programming, food service, or facility maintenance. Privatization of services can increase recreation opportunities available to residents, while minimizing Parks and Recreation Board’s administrative costs.

9. Public Use Conveyances
Administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, this program provides state lands acquired through delinquent taxes for local government units for public use. Acceptable uses of land acquired under this program include development of local parks.

10. Historic Preservation Fund
The purpose of the Historic Preservation Fund grants is to identify, register and protect resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The funds that are sub-granted are used to help to strengthen preservation at the local level.
IV. Inventory of Recreation Facilities and Programs

A. Overview
An inventory of existing local and regional recreation facilities was conducted by personnel from the City’s Recreation Department in September 2017, with additional input on regional facilities from McKenna. The regional inventory consisted of review and compilation of regional park facilities, brochures. The inventory of local facilities consisted of site inspections to all City recreation, school district sites and adjacent community recreation facilities. An inventory of playground equipment and park facilities was recorded and reviewed with regard to location, acreage, quantity, quality, accessibility, and condition.

The City of Clawson City Hall, City Park, Hunter Park, Parkland Park, Grant Park, Baker Park, Rotary Park and Memorial Park comprise the City of Clawson parks facilities (See Map 2). There are indoor and outdoor recreation facilities located at Kenwood and Schalm elementary schools, the middle school and high school.

The City does not have any regional recreation facilities, yet there are a number of regional recreational areas within an hour drive. These regional facilities offer a variety of recreational opportunities for all age groups. Four public golf courses and a number of inland lakes are also within a short drive of the City. In addition, there are private and commercial recreation facilities that fulfill certain recreational needs.

B. Municipal and School Facilities
Municipal and public school recreation sites within the City are located on Map 2. The City of Clawson owns 44.33 acres of park land. The community facilities within the City range in size from 0.16 acres at Rotary Park to 36.9 acres at Clawson Park.

The following table describes the existing conditions at all recreational facilities, public and private, within the City. The City owns five of the inventoried park facilities. Most of the play equipment in these parks meets current safety and accessibility standards. There is potential to work within the confines of the existing facilities to upgrade the opportunities in these parks to greater serve the needs of City residents.
City of Clawson, Michigan

Map 2
Existing Parks and Recreation Facilities with Service Areas

December 27, 2017

KEY
1. City Park / City Sporting Facilities
2. Grant Park
3. Parkland Park
4. Rotary Park
5. Hunter Community Center
6. Blair Memorial Library / Historical Museum / Memorial Park
7. City Hall
8. Clawson Middle School
9. Clawson High School

LEGEND
1/4 Mile Radius
1/2 Mile Radius
Park, Recreation, Open Space
Public/ Semi Public

Data Source: Oakland County GIS, 3rd Quarter Update, 2006.
<table>
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<th>FACILITY NAME – Major / Community Parks</th>
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<th>HARD SURFACED AREAS</th>
<th>PASSIVE AREAS</th>
<th>PLAY AREAS</th>
<th>PLAY STRUCTURES &amp; GROUNDS</th>
<th>INDOOR FACILITIES</th>
<th>MEMORIAL (LAKE / Pond / Wetland)</th>
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36.9 NP/CP | Os | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | City Park | 
2 | 1 2 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good to poor 2 | 
Also includes shuffleboard courts, roller hockey courts. The full size football/soccer field with track needs replacement and review of artificial turf; tennis courts need repair/replacement. |
| Hunter Park | 
2.7 NP/CP | Os | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Hunter Park | 
1 | 1 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good 4 | 
Senior citizen activity room with kitchen facilities. Park is accessible however community center needs minor improvements. |
| City Hall | 
On site | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | City Hall | 
• | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good 5 | 
Community center activity room with kitchen facilities. |
| Parkland Park | 
NP/CP | Os | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Parkland Park | 
1 | 1 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good 4 | 
| Grant Park | 
1.2 NP/CP | Os | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Grant Park | 
• | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good 2 |
| Memorial Park (at Library) | 
CP | On site | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Memorial Park (at Library) | 
• | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good 5 | 
Part of the Blair Memorial Library. |
| Rotary Park | 
0.16 NP/CP | Os | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Rotary Park | 
• | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | Good | 
Recently constructed small park at corner of Elmwood and Main. |

Legend:
A = Amphitheater  
L = Lake  
Pv = Paved  
CP = Community Park  
F = Fair  
Li = Lighted  
P = Pool  
LP = Linear Park  
Fb = Fiber  
Os = On-street  
S = Sand  
NP = Neighborhood Park  
Fh = Fishing  
Pd = Pond  
Up = Unpaved  
SU = Special Use / Conservancy Park  
G = Good  
Pl = Pool  
Wi = Woodchips  
Gr = Gravel  
Pj = Porta John  
Wt = Wetland  
- One or more units  

Based on Field Observations in September 2017  
1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines  
2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines  
3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines  
4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines  
5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principles of universal design
In addition to municipal facilities, the schools facilities serve the residents of the neighborhood. The combined middle and high school facilities sometimes serve a broader population base. Two elementary schools, one middle school and one high school in Clawson fulfill some recreational needs of City’s residents.
C. Private Recreation Facilities
Several privately-owned recreation facilities are also located adjacent to City of Clawson. Although use of these facilities is limited to those who can afford the fees, they do address certain recreation needs. Private recreation facilities include the Troy Gymnastics Center in the City of Troy, the outdoor swimming facility at Troy Municipal pool and the wave pool in Madison Heights which is owned by Oakland County. Several neighboring communities including Troy, Madison Heights, and Royal Oak have dog parks which can be used by Clawson residents for a fee.

D. Regional Recreation Resources
Regional recreation areas are large facilities serving people within a broad geographic area. The region has been defined as the area within roughly an hour driving radius of City of Clawson. Table 10 summarizes these regional facilities. The size and type of facilities vary, but in general these facilities are 200 acres or more in size. The regional park facilities closest to City of Clawson include the Detroit Zoo, Belle Isle Park and a number of public golf courses.

E. Recreation Programs
The City of Clawson Recreation Department, located at the Hunter Community Center, offers a variety of programs available to City Residents. The recreation department co-ordinates a partnership program with the City of Royal Oak and the City of Madison Heights as well as Oakland County to offer various programs year around. Although a variety of programs are offered, assessing the number of participants in each program and the associated fees collected is difficult to determine as records are not kept on a regular basis. Accurate tracking of participants is important in order to recognize trends in programs offered and which programs are cost effective based on the number of people enrolled.
The Clawson School District maintains recreation facilities at its four schools (2 elementary, one middle and one high school). The school facilities contain a variety of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, including an artificial turf field and six outdoor tennis courts, all of which are available to school district residents either at no charge or for a nominal fee. Use of these facilities are first available to school athletic teams and scheduled programs, then open to the general public on a request basis.

**Table 3: Recreation Programs:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Swim</td>
<td>Royal Oak High School Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn to Swim Classes</td>
<td>Royal Oak High School Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinics/Workshops</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Classes</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Sport Leagues</td>
<td>City Park/Various Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>Various Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting Classes</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Day Camp</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Trips</td>
<td>Various Sites in Metro Detroit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerobic Classes</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Camps</td>
<td>Various Sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Concert</td>
<td>City Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Adult Classes/Speakers</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Nutrition Program</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Trips</td>
<td>Various Sites throughout the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Errand/Medical Transportation</td>
<td>Local Merchants/physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Room</td>
<td>Community Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4: Existing Regional Recreation Facilities within 30 Miles of the City of Clawson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Recreation Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Addison Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bald Mountain State Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Belle Isle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Belleville Lake Boat Launch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Detroit Zoological Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dodge Brother State Park #4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Freedom Hill County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Glen Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Highland State Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Horshoe Lake State Game Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Independence Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Indian Springs Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Island Lake State Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Kensington Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Lake Erie Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Lower Huron Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Lyon Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Macomb Township Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Maybury State Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Metro Beach Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Oakwoods Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Orion Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Proud Lake State Recreation Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Red Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>River Rouge County Park System (Hines Parkway)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Springfield Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>St. Johns Marshland Wildlife Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Stony Creek Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Tercentennial State Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Waterford Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Wetzel State Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>White Lake Oaks County Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Willow Metropark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Wolcott Mill Metropark</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
V. Basis for Action Plan
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has adopted a set of standards, based upon those developed by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA), to determine the need for recreation facilities in each community. These standards establish 1) the specific recreation facilities such as tennis courts or soccer fields, which should be available based upon the population of the community; and 2) the “service areas,” or number and type of parks that should be available to residents within a certain distance of their homes. Each of these standards will be applied to the existing inventory of City-wide and school district recreation facilities to determine if deficiencies are present. The results of this analysis will be incorporated, in part, into the Action Plan that follows.

A. Summary of Public Input Process
During October 2017, the City issued a survey that was made available to City residents via Survey Monkey and hard copies available at Hunter Community Center, City Hall and the Library. There were a total of 456 respondents.

Preparation of the Clawson Recreation Master Plan involved the input from several community groups including the following:

- Clawson Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Senior Citizen Advisory Board
- Clawson City Council
- Clawson Public Schools
- Clawson Youth Sport Associations
- Clawson Department of Public Works
- General Public

Each group participated in various elements of the plan. A Facebook request was put to the community to offer suggestions on what future recreation and park amenities they would like to see. Emails were sent to the schools and each youth sports program requesting input. A survey was designed and available for the month of October in hard copy and on Survey Monkey to get public input. A public meeting was advertised in the local newspaper and the meeting was held to discuss future recreation improvements, as well as local recreation needs and deficiencies.

The Parks and Recreation Board and recreation department staff were directly responsible for the development of the Recreation Plan. Board sessions were directed to establish capital improvement priorities and budgeting. It was from these sessions and from the guidance of the recreation department staff that the Action Plan was developed. The recreation inventory and community description segments were developed by recreation department staff and McKenna.

During the survey period and throughout the planning process the Parks and Recreation Director received comments and input from citizens with regard to existing and future parks and recreation facilities and programs in the City. The highlights of the survey results and focus groups are summarized below.

1. Survey Results
The Clawson Parks and Recreation Master Plan survey received 456 total responses. Of these, about 96% had visited any of the parks in Clawson during the past year. Most people visit City Park, with 42% having visited the park at least once per week during the past year. The most popular activities in City Park were walking (54%), playground (51%), youth sports (35%), and health and recreation (33%). Other answers included the Clawson Farmer’s Market.
About 39% of respondents rated the physical condition of parks they had visited as “Excellent,” with 52% saying “Good,” 8% saying “Fair,” and 1% saying “Poor.” Open-ended comments for this question were mostly positive, but also included several critiques of issues in specific parks.

Only 17% of survey respondents had participated in youth programs during the past year and 37% said they had participated in youth programs supported by the Recreation Department. Only 23% said they had participated in adult programs and 14% in senior programs during the past year. The most popular community programs included the 4th of July events (82%), Farmer’s Market (75%), Fall Festival (53%), Down on Main Car Show (47%), and Trick or Treat Trail (43%). Only 6% of all survey respondents said they did not participate in any community programs in the past year.

Finally, people were asked to indicate their top 5 most important future project possibilities. The most popular answers included a splash pad (44%), community pool (39%), a dog park (34%), converting the wood chip trail to more user friendly material (35%), free concerts in the park (27%), and sitting areas around play structures (26%).

2. **Focus Groups**

   **Clawson Parks and Recreation Board**
   The Board members have been discussing recommendations for park improvements for over a year at their monthly meetings. They were instrumental in identifying the needs of the city parks in Clawson and then setting project priorities based on input from various community groups.

   **Clawson Youth Sport Groups**
   Recreation staff contacted youth sport current league presidents to request their input for the plan. Clawson Youth Baseball stated they needed covers over the dug outs at the north baseball field, suggested artificial turf for the hardball field and a portable pitching mound for the hard ball field.

   **Clawson Public Schools**
   The Athletic Director for the Clawson Public Schools was asked for input since the school utilizes the City Park in Clawson for their baseball games, track and football games. No response was received.

   **Clawson Senior Citizen Advisory Board**
   The Advisory Board meets on a monthly basis and they have indicated their highest priority is additional parking at Hunter Community Center. Also high on their list, is to continue to provide transportation for: medical appointments, shopping, the community center and day trips.

3. **City Council Public Hearing**

   On February 6, 2018 at 7:30 p.m., the City Council held a Public Hearing to hear comments on the 2018-2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan at City Hall located at 425 N. Main Street. The minutes of this public hearing are included as an appendix to this document.

   The meeting was noticed in a newspaper of general circulation and available for City residents as well as put on the City of Clawson Facebook page multiple times. The Parks and Recreation Director, City Clerk, Mayor, City Council members, City Manager, City Attorney, the Planning Consultant and 12 members of the public were present.
The top 5 amenities that people would like to see in Clawson Parks based on the survey are:

1. Splash pad
2. Community pool
3. Converting woodchip trail
4. Dog park
5. More concerts in the park

During Public Hearing residents expressed concern about costs for construction and maintenance for the top 4 items pointing out there is a splash pad and community pool and dog parks nearby that can be used for a fee.

After the public hearing was closed it was decided the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would discuss via email the public input and add items to the plan. The as soon as the plan is updated it will be available on line and presented at the City Council meeting on February 20, 2018 for approval.

B. Analysis of Existing Facilities and Service Areas
Recreation facilities serving the City of Clawson residents are compared to the MDNR standards in Tables 4 and 5. These comparisons provide a general idea of deficiencies, but it must be understood that the MDNR standards are not intended to be followed to the letter. The needs of the population vary from one community to the next.

The analysis of existing recreation facilities is summarized in Table 6. Map 2 provides general service area boundaries based on national standards for mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks. The City is served by neighborhood parks and one major community park.

The City Park is located reasonably central to the entire City and serves as a community park with a multitude of recreation facilities and amenities. The remaining parks such as Baker, Hunter, Grant, Parkland, Rotary and Memorial park too offer recreational opportunities on a smaller scale and to a limited extent.
Hunter Community Center

Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2018-2022
City of Clawson, Oakland County, Michigan

McKenna
Clawson Park / City Sporting Facilities

Grant Park
Parkland Park

Rotary Park
# Table 5: Recreation Facilities Evaluation – City of Clawson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Recommended Standard†</th>
<th>Existing Municipal/Public Facilities</th>
<th>Existing School Facilities</th>
<th>Total Existing Public Facilities</th>
<th>Recommended Need² ¹</th>
<th>Surplus/ (Deficiency)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Courts*</td>
<td>1/5,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Courts</td>
<td>1/2,000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball Courts</td>
<td>1/5,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball Fields</td>
<td>1/5,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Lighted Fields</td>
<td>1/30,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>1/5,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football Fields</td>
<td>1/20,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soccer Fields</td>
<td>1/10,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Courses*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 9 hole</td>
<td>1/25,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 18 hole</td>
<td>1/50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving Range*</td>
<td>1/50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Pool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Indoor</td>
<td>1/20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Outdoor</td>
<td>1/40,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice Rinks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Indoor</td>
<td>1/50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Outdoor</td>
<td>1/20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archery Range*</td>
<td>1/50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running Track (1/4 mile)*</td>
<td>1/20,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>1/3,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Areas</td>
<td>None Published</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-Country Ski Trails (miles)§</td>
<td>1/10,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Trails (miles)§</td>
<td>1/20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sledding Hills*</td>
<td>1/40,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle Trails (miles)§</td>
<td>1/40,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseback Riding Trails (miles)§</td>
<td>1/50,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Footnotes:**

1. Recommended number of each facility per unit of population (National Recreation and Park Association/Michigan Recreation Opportunity Standards).
2. Based on U.S. Census 2010 population count of 2,419.
3. Two backboards were considered to be equal to 1 court for the purposes of this analysis.
4. Rounded up to the nearest whole number.
5. Not regulation courts.
6. May be satisfied by regional facility.
X. Not determined.
Table 6: Comparison to Accepted Standards – City of Clawson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clawson Community Comparison to Accepted Standards</th>
<th>Recommended Minimum Acreage per 1,000 Residents¹</th>
<th>Existing Acreage²</th>
<th>Recommended Acreage for Proposed Population³</th>
<th>Surplus (Deficiency) Based on Proposed Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Parks²</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(2.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(3.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Parks²</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>(23.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Parks²</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use Facilities</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Hunter Community Center</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Parks</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>0 miles</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes:

1. Based on National Recreation and Parks Association recommendations.
2. Includes all existing public acreage excluding school acreage.
4. The need for mini-parks is also addressed partially by apartment and condominium recreation areas and school recreation facilities (acreage not determined).
5. It would be misleading to assess the adequacy of a community and regional park resources based on recommended acreage for the City of Clawson’s population, since the regional resource must serve a much broader segment of the metropolitan area.

Table 7: Analysis of Existing Facilities – City of Clawson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Facility</th>
<th>Recreation Standards¹</th>
<th>City of Clawson Facilities</th>
<th>Comments / Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini-Parks</td>
<td>Mini-Parks are small, specialized parks, usually less than an acre in size, that serve the needs of residents in the surrounding neighborhood. A mini-park may serve a limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens.</td>
<td>Memorial Park, Parkland Park, Rotary Park and Grant Park qualify as mini-parks. Each of them provides for limited recreational amenities in the form of benches, picnic areas and/or some play equipment. Grant Park does have a soccer field used by small leagues.</td>
<td>The NRPA recommends 0.25 to 0.50 mini-park acreage per 1,000 residents. Resilient surfacing must be installed or replaced as needed at all playgrounds and the play equipment upgraded, if required. Memorial Park was recently upgraded when the gazebo was refurbished. Grant Park would benefit from the refurbishing of the softball field and additional play structures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Facility</td>
<td>Recreation Standards</td>
<td>City of Clawson Facilities</td>
<td>Comments / Recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks</td>
<td>Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that provide areas for intensive recreation activities, such as field games, court games, crafts, playgrounds, skating, picnicking, etc. Neighborhood parks are generally 15 acres or more in size and serve a population up to 5,000 residents located within ¼ to ½ mile radius from the neighborhood they serve.</td>
<td>Hunter Park is a good example of a neighborhood park even though it is just under 3 acres in size. The park provides a soccer field, picnic benches and modular play equipment. The community center provides a fitness center and gymnasium for the use of all residents. The Clawson middle school and high school grounds provide 6 tennis courts a baseball field and artificial turf field.</td>
<td>One to two acres of neighborhood parks are recommended per 1,000 residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Parks</td>
<td>Community Parks typically contain a wide variety of recreation facilities to meet the diverse needs of residents from several neighborhoods. Community parks may include areas for intense recreation facilities, such as athletic complexes and swimming pools. These parks usually contain other facilities not commonly found in neighborhood parks such as nature areas, picnic pavilions, lighted ball fields, and concession facilities.</td>
<td>The City Park with an area of 36+ acres and a variety of recreational amenities qualifies as an excellent community park.</td>
<td>The NRPA's standard requirement for community parks is 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 residents. While the City park does not meet the size requirements to serve all of the residents, the location of tennis court, baseball fields, soccer fields, track, skateboard park, picnic areas, play structures, walking trail and two sand volleyball courts makes this a central facility for the residents. The Park also hosts many special events. Some barrier free improvements are needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional/Metropolitan Parks</td>
<td>Regional parks are typically located on sites with unique natural features that are particularly suited for outdoor recreation, such as viewing and studying nature, wildlife habitats, conservation, swimming, picnicking, hiking, fishing, boating, camping and trail use. Many also include active play areas.</td>
<td>The City does not have any regional recreational facilities within the City boundaries. However, many regional facilities offering a variety of recreational opportunities exist within a one hour drive of the City.</td>
<td>Regional parks typically serve several communities within a one hour drive. The Detroit Zoo, Belle Isle, etc. are examples of regional facilities used by City residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Use/Conservancy Parks</td>
<td>Special use recreation facilities are typically single-purpose recreation facilities, such as golf courses, nature centers, outdoor theaters, interpretative centers, or facilities for the preservation or maintenance of the natural or cultural environment. Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment may be the primary focus with recreation use as a secondary objective.</td>
<td>There are no special use recreation facilities within the City, although the Hunter Community Center does serve as a senior center also.</td>
<td>Existing nature centers and dog parks in the adjoining communities of Troy and Madison Heights are available to the residents of Clawson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Facility</td>
<td>Recreation Standards</td>
<td>City of Clawson Facilities</td>
<td>Comments / Recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passive Parks</td>
<td>The primary purpose of passive areas is to provide relief from highly developed residential and commercial neighborhoods. Facilities may include sitting areas and other pedestrian amenities, landscaping, monuments and fountains, and historical features.</td>
<td>Memorial Park located within the Blair Memorial library can be considered a passive park. With a gazebo, picnic benches and a war memorial, the place provides for a quiet gathering place.</td>
<td>The Gazebo at Memorial Park was recently upgraded and will host summer concerts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Parks</td>
<td>A linear park is any area developed for one or more modes of recreation travel, such as hiking, bicycling, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, canoeing, horseback riding, and pleasure driving.</td>
<td>Currently, the City does not have any linear park systems. The City does have a bike pathway system that provides a mapped route around the City using sidewalks and streets and identifies potential points of connection to Royal Oak and Troy.</td>
<td>Built along natural corridors, such as utility rights-of-way, abandoned railroad easements, bluff lines, vegetation patterns, and roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities, such as schools, libraries, commercial areas, and other park areas and desirable site characteristics may be developed into linear parks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes:

C. Recreation Deficiencies

Table 4 compares the existing community park land acreage to recommended standards, based on current and projected population. The figures indicate that, the community has a deficiency in total land area needed to serve the population in terms of mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks.

According to accepted standards, the City should contain about 3 acres of mini-parks, 12 acres of neighborhood parks and 60 acres of community parks.

The raw numbers do not address the quality of existing parks and recreation facilities. Upon closer examination, deficiencies or limitations are apparent because of the location, accessibility, maintenance, level of development and individual size of existing park lands. These include:

1. Reliance on School Sites
Cooperation between the City and the City of Clawson school district (1 high school, 1 middle school, 2 elementary schools and early childhood center) provides for the use of additional recreational facilities for the citizens. The school district facilities are primarily used by the students and are available occasionally for use by other citizens.

2. Accessibility Assessment
While the smaller parks are designed to provide access to children with disabilities, some improvements are required to Grant Park, Hunter Community Center and the City Park to make them fully accessible to disabled children and adults. City Park needs barrier free access provided to the tennis court, and baseball fields.

3. Program Deficiencies
Program deficiencies identified by recreation staff and community residents include, team sports for girls, educational and entertainment programming for youth especially middle school and high school age.

4. Facility Deficiencies
Hunter Park is in the greatest need of repair from parking to accessibility and play structures. Grant Park needs the softball field refurbished and deteriorating tennis courts removed. Clawson City Park is in good shape after major upgrades through the 2014 Park Improvement Bond.

5. Conclusions
Table 4 compares facilities available to recommended standards, based on a 2010 population of 11,825 persons. The table reveals some deficiencies, some of which are being addressed by recreation resources in the adjacent communities. The city needs to continue to provide consistent maintenance on all existing parks, fields, equipment and facilities. A primary focus on improving accessibility at all playgrounds, parks and athletic fields should be addressed and completed each year as funding is available. The City has worked with the DDA on developing a bike route throughout the City, too.
VI. Goals and Objectives

This Chapter of the plan is the culmination of a comprehensive planning effort that began with the thorough analysis of the physical and demographic attributes of the City. Existing parks and recreation facilities and programs were inventoried and evaluated. An assessment of need was then developed that considered both accepted recreation standards and the specialized needs of persons with disabilities. Finally, these needs were analyzed and reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission with input from the public.

The results of this effort are presented in the following statement of Long Range Goals, Parks and Recreation Objectives. Goals should be broad and address general needs and establish the basis for setting specific programmed objectives. Objectives are measurable results that the City works toward accomplishing.

A. Long Range Goals

1. Address Residents’ Preferences
Provide parks and recreation facilities and programs that are based on the preferences of City of Clawson residents.

2. Maintain Fiscal Responsibility
Develop parks and recreation facilities and programs based on a sound fiscal policy. Consider the use of sponsorships, state and federal funding programs, and other private funding sources.

3. Reduce Duplication of Services
Strive to reduce duplication in recreation services. Overall recreation planning should consider existing facilities and programs offered by adjacent municipalities.

4. Consider Maintenance Needs
Consider the cost of maintenance and operation in designing and locating new recreation facilities and programs. Projections of costs should be compared to future revenue projections.

5. Provide Recreation Opportunities
Offer Clawson residents a variety of activities that meet the needs of all segments of the population including youth, young adults, families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

6. Promote Community Involvement
Work toward increasing the number of people involved in recreation, including young adults, parents and senior citizens.

7. Promotion
Develop and promote an aggressive marketing program for all classes, programs, special events including the use of social media and outreach.

8. Improve Accessibility
Improve the accessibility to parks, recreation facilities, and programs by residents of the City particularly for youth, young adults, families, elderly, and persons with disabilities. Encourage inter-generational facilities.
B. Parks and Recreation Objectives

1. Clawson City Park (Community Park)
Continued proper maintenance to the improvements made with the Parks and Recreation Bond; skate park, volleyball courts, tennis court, track, turf field and ball fields. Improve remaining existing facilities and expand the recreational opportunities at the city park. Improvements to play equipment, replacing the woodchip walking trail with a more user friendly surface, lighting the sand volleyball courts, covers for the north field dugouts, shade for play areas and a splash pad are identified as desired improvements. The city park has always been the jewel of the city and has seen an expansion of special events such as the Relay for Life, Farmer’s Market, Fall Festival, Easter Egg Hunt, the Halloween Trick or Treat Trail, and Concerts in the Park.

2. Grant Park (Neighborhood Park)
The softball field refurbishing needs to continue until the field can be used for game play and not just practice. The two deteriorated tennis courts need to be removed allowing the space to be used for other recreational opportunities deemed important to the community such as picnic area, playground, basketball court, or other.

3. Hunter Community Center (Recreation Center)
The center accommodates a variety of programs and groups including a senior citizen facility, youth and adult classes, fitness room, and rental space for community groups. In order to expand programs at the Center it is imperative to expand the parking at the Center. The existing playground area is in dire need of upgrading as well.

4. Parkland Park
Explore the possibility that a 3-hole disc golf course could be added at Parkland without much disruption to the park as it is.

5. Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan
A main goal of the city is to make Clawson a more walkable and bike able community to help people attend functions in the city. Another priority is working to connect to surrounding community trails. The Recreation Department is coordinating efforts with the Downtown Development Authority.

6. Optimize Park Use
Optimize the use of all parks and recreation facilities through multiple use of park space, adequate maintenance, and timely repair and replacement of facilities.

7. Recreation Programs
Continue to support and expand recreation programs in cooperation with residents and the business community.
VII. Action Program

The following describes the Recreation Priorities for Clawson, and a detailed list of Recreation Project Recommendations with a related Capital Improvement Program and General Recommendations. While resident input via survey included large items such as splash pad, dog park, redoing the woodchip trail and the Skate Park Committee requesting additions to the current skate park, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has taken into consideration realistic available funding necessary to accomplish these and the fact these amenities are currently available nearby. These items will be listed in the Master Plan should funding become available but will not be listed specifically in the Action Program at this time.

A. Recreation Priorities

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board established the following priorities for the next five years:

Table 8: Recreation Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Priorities</th>
<th>Policy Priorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Steadfast maintenance of all recreational fields, facilities and equipment.</td>
<td>a. Develop maintenance schedules for fields.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Improve accessibility at all parks.</td>
<td>b. Develop inspection schedule for playground equipment and park items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Offer a diverse mix of recreational opportunities.</td>
<td>c. Prioritize areas of the parks for accessible upgrades as funding is available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Seek resident input and implement as funding is available.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B. Action Program

**Table 9: Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements Program – City of Clawson**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Facility/Program</th>
<th>Proposed Improvements</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>Improve accessibility from north parking lot to south side parking lot and from parking lot to north athletic fields</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>CDBG, PRGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>Covers on dugouts at north baseball field</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
<td>PD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>Replace damaged tot lot equipment</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>FOTP, PD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Grant Park</td>
<td>Continued refurbishing of softball field</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>PD, PRGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Hunter Community Center</td>
<td>Upgrade playground</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>PD, PRGF, RPG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Hunter Community Center</td>
<td>Resurfaced parking lot</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CCI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>Lights for Sand Volleyball Courts</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>RPG, PRGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Hunter Community Center</td>
<td>Replace Hallway Flooring</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>CCI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>City Park</td>
<td>Upgrade play equipment</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>CDBG, FOTP, PRGF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Grant Park</td>
<td>Remove damaged tennis courts and evaluate for alternate recreational use</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>CCI, PRGF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY**

- **CDBG**: Community Development Block Grant Funds
- **CS**: Corporate Sponsor
- **PS**: Public Schools
- **LWCF**: Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund
- **MNRTF**: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Program
- **PD**: Private Donations
- **PRGF**: Parks and Recreation General Fund
- **RPG**: Recreation Passport Grant
- **FOTP**: Friends of the Park
- **CCI**: City Capital Improvements
VIII. Appendix
References

City of Clawson

City of Clawson Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

City of Clawson Master Plan

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

National Recreation and Park Association

2010 U.S. Census

Oakland County Parks and Recreation

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority

Wayne County Parks Department

City of Detroit Parks and Recreation Department

State of Michigan Historic Preservation Department