



ALMONT FIVE-YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

2018-2022

Village of Almont and Almont Township

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INTRODUCTION

This Plan is the product of the Almont Community Parks and Recreation Board in cooperation with the Almont Village Council, the Almont Township Board of Trustees, and residents of the Village and Township who participated in this effort. The Plan is an update of the 2013-2017 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Its composition and adoption process comply with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Plans. The Plan's adoption will qualify the Village and Township to apply for MDNR grants for a total of five years after its adoption.

More importantly, the Plan will provide a road map for the Parks and Recreation Board as it works to improve recreational opportunities in the community. This Plan was established by identifying community needs in the Almont Area, holding discussions during public meetings, considering State recreational standards, and input from the Parks and Recreation Board. Neither the Village of Almont nor Almont Township are financially obligated to complete any of the future projects proposed by the Parks and Recreation Board. However, both political jurisdictions support community amenities that reflect the best qualities of the Village and Township.



COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

The Village of Almont is in Almont Township, in the southeast corner of Lapeer County, approximately 40 miles from downtown Detroit and 35 miles from downtown Flint. The population of Almont Township, which includes the residents of the Village of Almont, was 6,685 in 2016 (based on the U.S. Census Population Estimates); this is an increase of 102 (1.54%) from the population in 2010 of 6,583.

The geography of Almont Township and the Village of Almont is roughly 37.1 square miles of land and 0.1 square miles of water. The Village is only 1.42 square miles located inside the Township. The land around the Township and Village is relatively flat with farming areas located away from the Village.

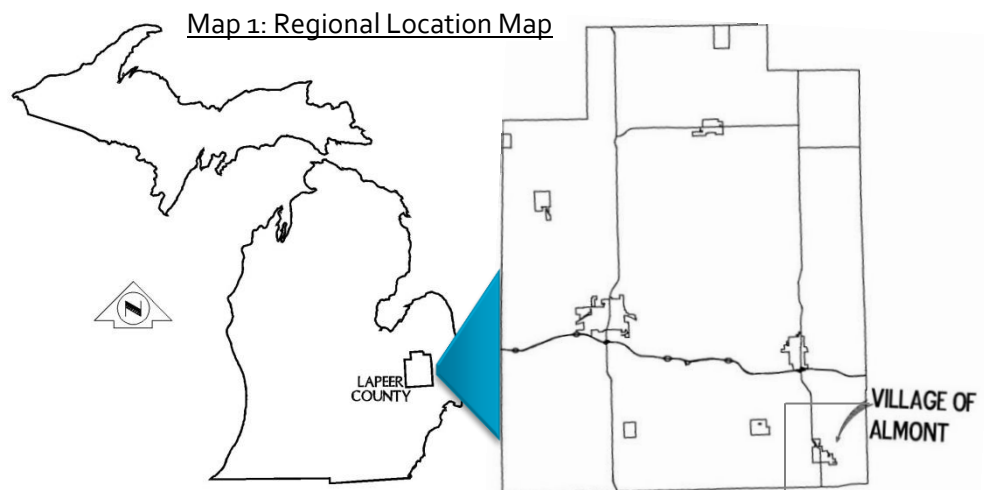
Almont Township and the Village of Almont are within a small residential community setting. Most of the Township is designated as an agricultural or residential use on acreage (based on the Comprehensive Plan). Many of the commerce in the community is based within the area. There are regional amenities that exist in Lapeer County that are available to the residents of the Almont and Almont Township.

Both the Township and Village are bisected by State Highway M-53, which runs north and south through the community. The highway links the City of Detroit to Port Austin, at the northern tip of the "Thumb," on Lake Huron. A considerable number of residents in the Village of Almont and Almont Township utilize their own method of transportation to get around. Throughout the community, there are options for promoting healthy living through the downtown area.

Table 1: Age Distribution	
Age Distribution – Village of Almont	
Under 18	30.3%
18-24	7.1%
25-44	33.7%
45-64	19.7%
65 and over	9.2%
Age Distribution – Almont Township	
Under 18	29.0%
18-24	6.8%
25-44	32.4%
45-64	23.2%
65 and over	8.6%

The majority age group for the Village of Almont is from 25 to 44 at 33.7 percent. The second largest age group is under 18 at 30.3 percent. In Almont Township, the majority age group is from 25 to 44 at 32.4 percent. The second largest group is under the age of 18 at 29.0 percent. Table 1 lists the age distribution for the village of Almont and Almont Township.

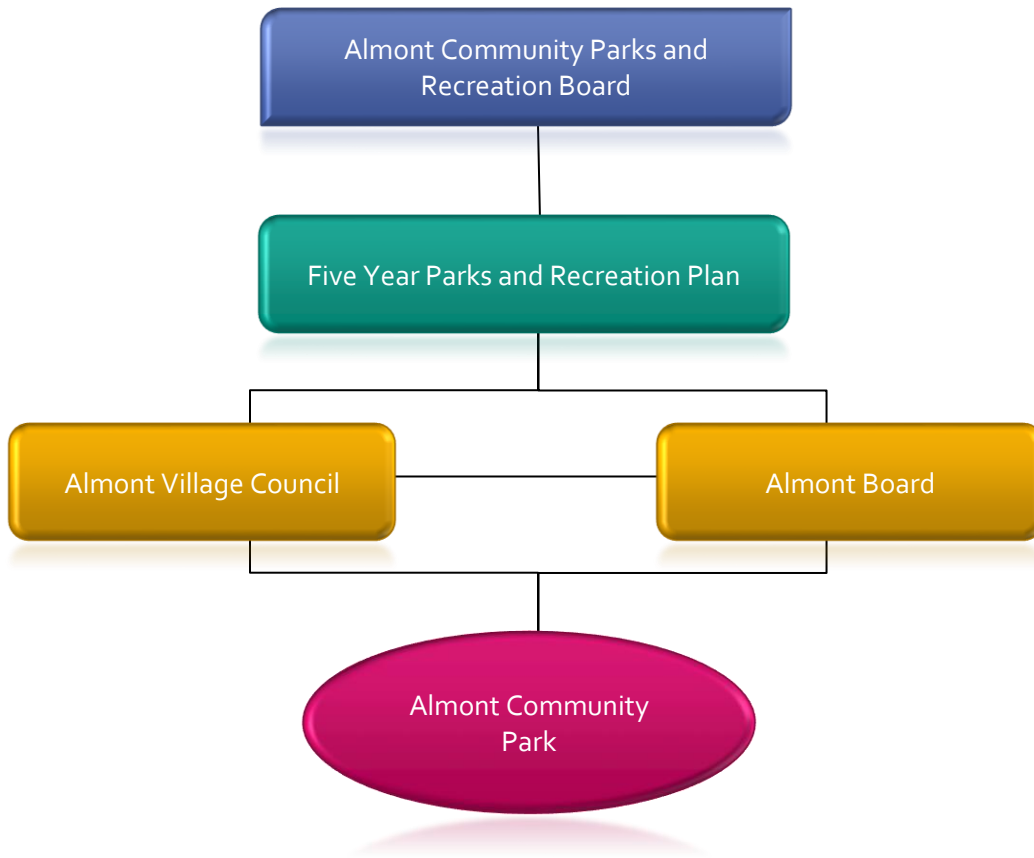
The north branch of the Clinton River runs through the southern half of Almont Township, flowing northeasterly through the Village. The Village Master Plan indicates that much of the land along the river in the Village is comprised of wetlands and woodlands.



ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Village / Township / Parks and Recreation Board

Any resident of the Village of Almont or Almont Township is considered a part of the general membership of the Almont Parks and Recreation Board by simply attending a meeting of the Board. The general membership elects the Executive Board at the first meeting of the Board each year. The Executive Board consists of a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and the number of trustees determined by the general membership. The Parks and Recreation Board is responsible for developing the Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which serves as the vision for the future.



Almont Village Council:

Steve Schneider, President
Tim Dyke, Vice President
Mary L. Ligon
David Love
Gary Peltier
Melinda Steffler
Steven C. Schneider

Almont Township Board:

Paul Bowman, Supervisor
Carol Hoffner, Clerk
Roberta Kudsin, Treasurer
Gary Groesbeck
Clay Stroup
Scott Stroup
Kim Streeter

Almont Community Parks and Recreation Board

Gary D. Peltier, Chairman
Terry Roach, Vice Chairman
Rick Tobias, Treasurer
Roberta Kudsin, Secretary/Twp. Representative
Wes Wagester
Kim Schall
Kristina Todaro

Staff

The park is maintained by the Village of Almont Department of Public Works (DPW), with a staff of four full-time employees. The staff is charged with general up-keep of the park property such as lawn mowing/leaf collection, minor repairs to equipment, tree removal, and brush clipping.

Budget

The Almont Community Park is one of the main recreation facility owned by both the Village and Township (the Village also owns Burley and Murphy Parks, two small memorial parks). For this reason, this facility serves as the focus for recreational development in the Plan. The facility is shared by the Village and Township, which also share the costs for development and maintenance in the park. The Township also has 13.7 acres of former school property that is used for recreational fields. The park fund is billed by the DPW for maintenance work performed. The Village and Township each contribute one half of the annual budget. Table 2 below shows the 2016-2017 budget (not including revenues or funding sources) for the Almont Community Park:

Table 2: Parks and Recreation Budget (Fiscal Year 2017-2018)

Operating Supplies	\$1,000
Maintenance and Service Contracts	\$6,000
Picnic and Festival	\$4,000
Liability Insurance	\$400
Electrical	\$500
Water Utilities	\$625
Equipment/Building Repairs	\$4,500
Total	\$17,025

Funding Sources

Recreation is funded through the allocation of general fund revenue by the Village and Township. In addition, the Village and Township also receive donations from time to time from local organizations to help with the funding of specific improvements. Finally, the Village and Township also collect revenue by renting the park pavilion and kitchen to residents and guests throughout the year.

Some of the improvements in the park have been covered through MDNR grants that the community has applied for previously. The latest grant was awarded in 2014.

Status Report of All Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities

To date, the Village of Almont and Almont Township have received three grants from the MDNR for park developments and improvements. Table 3 displays the recreation grant history for the Almont Community.

Table 3: Recreation Grant History

Village of Almont/Almont Township Recreation Grant History				
Year	Project Name	Description	Amount	Status
1981	Almont Community Park Project No. 26-01187	Development will include tennis courts, foot bridge and LWCF sign.	\$21,500	Closed
1999	Almont Community Park Pathway Project No. CM99-352	Construction of paved pathway in the Almont Community Park to provide access to the Clinton River.	\$21,656	Closed
2014	Almont Community Park Improvement Project Project No. RP14-0069	The 'Almont Community Park Project' seeks to improve the community park by renovating site pavilions, adding barrier-free parking, universal accessibility throughout the park, walking trails and receptacles.	\$44,800	Closed

Table 4: Parks and Recreation Funding Sources (Fiscal Year 2017-2018)

Revenue	
Township	\$10,000
Village	\$10,000
Park Rentals	\$1,200
Donations	As Received

Volunteer Activities

The Village and Township rely on volunteers from a range of local organizations to assist with recreational activities and park beautification efforts. These groups contribute greatly to the quality and quantity of such events. These organizations also promote other recreational activities within the community, as listed below:

- **Almont Lions Club** –Sponsors an annual Easter egg hunt in the park, participates in the Spooky Town Bash, supports the Music in the Park program, and recently contributed to the painting of the park pavilion and construction of the community ice rink.
- **Almont Chamber of Commerce** – Helps sponsor the annual Easter egg hunt in the park and sponsors the Lapeer Symphony’s participation in the Music in the Park program.
- **Almont American Legion Post** – Conducts Memorial Day services at Veterans Park.
- **Almont Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts/Cub Scouts** – Undertakes service projects in the park, including trash pick-up and bench painting events.

- **Almont Masonic Lodge** – Sponsors girls’ softball teams and participates in the Homecoming parade.
- **Almont Youth Baseball Association** – Coordinates baseball, softball, and tee-ball leagues for children from 3 to 16 years old in the community, in conjunction with Almont Township and the Park Board.
- **Downtown Development Authority (DDA)** – Provides spring clean-up of all parks.

Relationship with Almont Community Schools and the Almont DDA

The best relationship exists between the Township and the Village as they share the fiscal responsibility and maintenance of the park property in the Almont community. Both municipalities are represented on the Parks and Recreation Board by members of their respective communities and they make decisions for the parks programming and operations in the community.

The Village and Township work closely with the Almont Community Schools system as well as the Almont DDA to provide quality recreational opportunities in the community.

The Almont Community Schools system also provides recreational and personal enrichment programming for its own facilities, which include several outdoor facilities, gymnasiums and its administration building. Programs other than school sport teams include:

- Tennis
- Karate/Martial Arts
- Boys Basketball
- Zumba
- Yoga
- Indoor Soccer
- Volleyball
- Cheerleader Clinics

The Almont DDA was established by the Village of Almont as a quasi-independent organization to promote development within the Village’s downtown. In keeping with its mission to cultivate development, the DDA organizes or supports several events to promote the community, including:

- The Heritage Festival
- The Spooky Time Bash (sponsored by the Lions Club)
- The Holly Day Light Parade
- The Almont Holly Day Reindeer Run

Prosperity Region Designation

In 2012, Governor Rick Snyder divided the State up into various regions identifying them as Prosperity Region Destinations. The designation allows for State and Federal funding to provide for quality of life improvements in the counties within the region. As residents and business locate to these regions, the State would provide resources to provide amenities that would promote the region. The Almont community is within the Eastern Michigan corridor with Genesee and Shiawassee County.

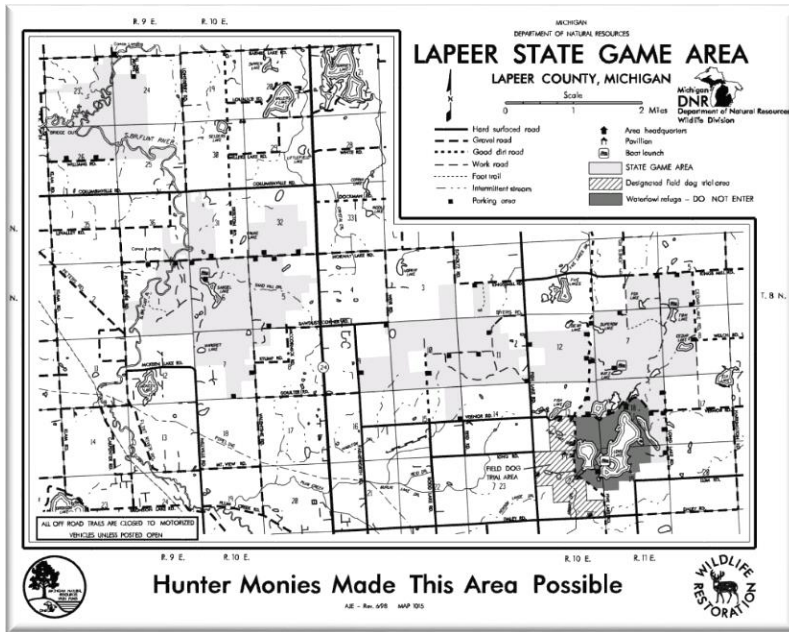
RECREATION INVENTORY

Regional Facilities

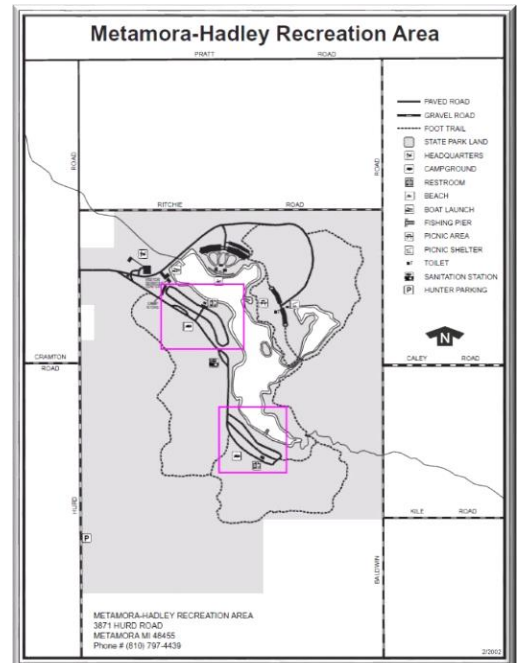
On a regional level, the Village of Almont and Almont Township are located within a 30-mile radius of several State and Lapeer County recreation areas and game areas.

1. State Parks

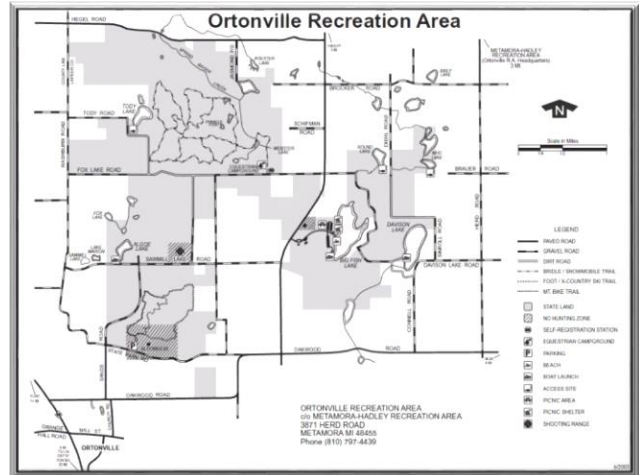
- A. The Lapeer State Game Area covers over 13,000 acres in Oregon, Mayfield, and Arcadia Townships, in northern Lapeer County.



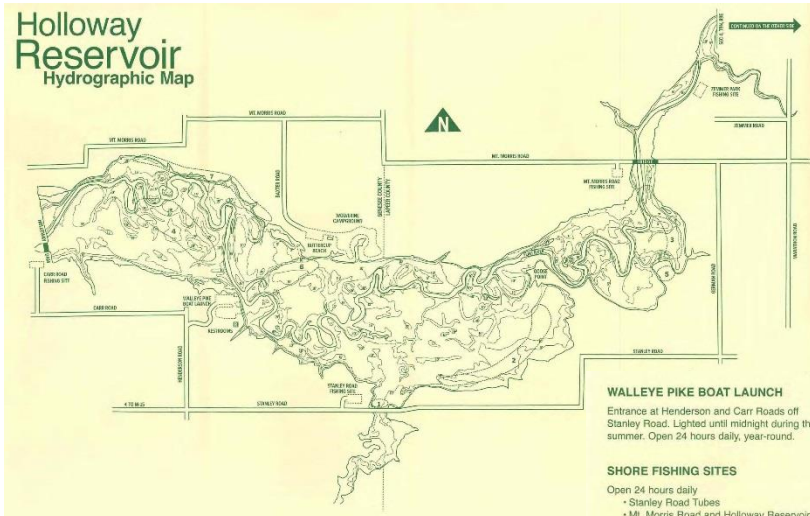
- B. The Metamora–Hadley Recreation Area is 723 acres in size and provides beach facilities, camping, mini-cabins, a picnic area, picnic shelters, restrooms, showers, 6 miles of hiking trails, a beach, concessions, 214 campsites, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, and a store.



C. The Ortonville Recreation Area is a 5,400-acre facility that is under the jurisdiction of Oakland County, although a portion of the park is in Hadley Township. The area provides a wide range of facilities including 25 campsites, a bathroom and showers, a picnic area, a boat launch, fishing, swimming, cross-country skiing, nature trails, playgrounds, and hunting.



D. A portion of the Holloway Reservoir is in Oregon Township. The reservoir is a heavily used facility for boating and water skiing. The boat launch facilities on the reservoir are under the jurisdiction of Genesee County.



WALLEYE PIKE BOAT LAUNCH
Entrance at Henderson and Carr Roads off Stanley Road. Lighted until midnight during the summer. Open 24 hours daily, year-round.

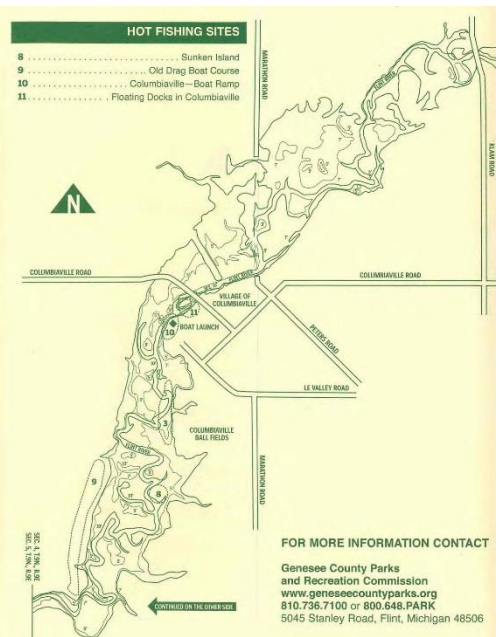
SHORE FISHING SITES
Open 24 hours daily
• Stanley Road Tubes
• Mt. Morris Road and Holloway Reservoir
• Below Holloway Dam
• Carr Road Fishing Site

CANOE LAUNCH SITES (FLINT RIVER)
• Located off Carr Road between Henderson and Oak Roads below the Holloway Reservoir Dam.
• On the north side of Richfield County Park. Entrance off Irish Road between Mt. Morris and Coldwater Roads.

BUTTERCUP BEACH
Located at 7130 N. Baxter Road off Mt. Morris Road.

RANGER ASSISTANCE
For Park Ranger assistance, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM, call 810.736.7100, ext. 0. For all emergencies call 911.

WATER LEVEL OF HOLLOWAY RESERVOIR
Use of Holloway Reservoir for fishing and other recreational purposes is made possible through the cooperation of the City of Flint. The water level of the Reservoir is controlled by the Water and Sewer Division, City of Flint.



2. County Parks

A. Torzewski County Park



Torzewski County Park in Oregon Township provides a wide range of facilities including a children's play pool, water slides, boat rentals, a picnic area, nature trails, a ball diamond, fishing, cross-country skiing, sledding, an amphitheater, and pavilions.



B. General Squire Park

General Squire Park in Dryden Township provides a baseball diamond, a water play area, a picnic area, cross country skiing, nature trails, sledding, fishing, restrooms, and meeting halls.



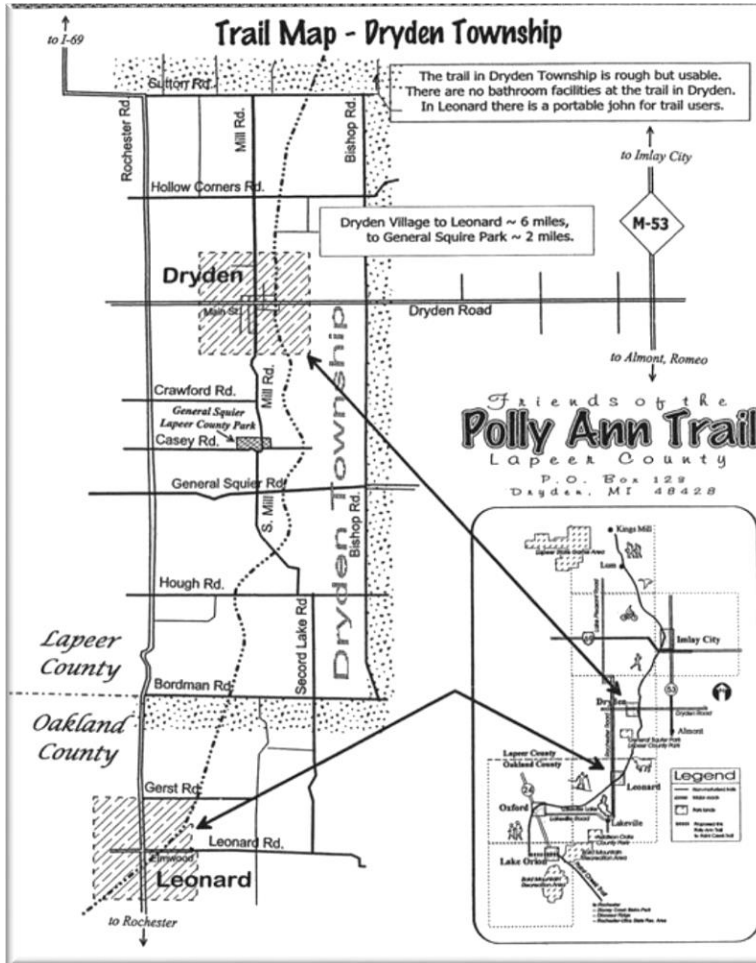
3. Other Parks

A. The Seven Ponds Bird Sanctuary and Arboretum

The Seven Ponds Bird Sanctuary and Arboretum is a 188-acre facility located west of Rochester Road in Dryden Township.



B. Polly Ann Trail



Technically two trails, the Polly Ann Trail in Lapeer County and the Oakland County Polly Ann Trail, runs a total of 36 miles from Orion Township north through the Village of Dryden and Imlay City to Kings Mill. The trail crosses General Squier Road less than 4 miles west of downtown Almont.

Almont Community Recreation Facilities

The following Recreational Inventory is a comprehensive list of public and private recreation areas and facilities in the Almont Community (see Map 2). This inventory will be used as a basis to determine the need for specific recreational facilities in the community. Grant history of each park is included. Post Completion Forms for MDNR funded projects are included in the appendix. The summaries also address the accessibility of parks and recreation facilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). In general, all construction since 1991 was required to comply with these guidelines.

A general ranking for each park was determined through site visits as follows.

- 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 principals of universal design

Village Owned:

1. Almont Community Park

Size: 14 Acres

Purpose: Community Park

Service Area: Almont Community

Facilities:

- Playground equipment
- A picnic pavilion with kitchen and bathroom facilities
- Picnic tables, benches, and barbeque grills
- A ball-diamond
- Swing sets
- Tennis courts (Currently, tennis courts are in poor condition)
- A large sledding hill

Accessibility: **Accessibility Rating - 2:** Some but not all facilities are accessible.

Previous Grant Assistance: **Project No. 26-01187 - Awarded 1981, \$21,500:** Funded tennis courts and foot bridge. Foot bridge recently rehabilitated with new boards.
Project No. CM99-352 - Awarded 1999, \$21,656: Funded 1,760' of paved pathway. Pathway is well used and needs some maintenance due to tree roots at east end.
Project No. RP14-0069 - Awarded 2014, \$44,800: Funded renovations to the pavilion, adding accessible parking, walking route, picnic table, recycle bin, and landscaping.





2. **Burley Park**

Size: 0.5 Acres
Purpose: Memorial
Service Area: Almont Community
Facilities: • Flag Pole
Accessibility: 1: Does not meet accessibility guidelines
Previous Grant Assistance: No DNR grants to date

3. **Murphy Park**

Size: 0.5 Acres
Purpose: Memorial
Service Area: Almont Community
Facilities: • Flag Pole
Accessibility: 1: Does not meet accessibility guidelines
Previous Grant Assistance: No DNR grants to date

Township Owned:

1. Township Recreational Property

- Size:* 13.7 Acres
- Facilities:* • Baseball diamonds
- Accessibility:* 1: Does not meet accessibility guidelines

Almont Community Schools Facilities (85 Acres)

As in many Michigan communities, the local school districts provide a valuable resource of facilities and programs for local community recreation.

1. Orchard Primary School

- Facilities:*
- Soccer fields
 - Playground
 - Indoor gymnasium



2. Almont High School and Middle School

- Facilities:*
- Ball diamonds – 4 (3 softball, 1 baseball)
 - Tennis courts – 4 regular courts (2, lighted courts)
 - Football field
 - Running track
 - Basketball nets
 - Indoor gymnasium





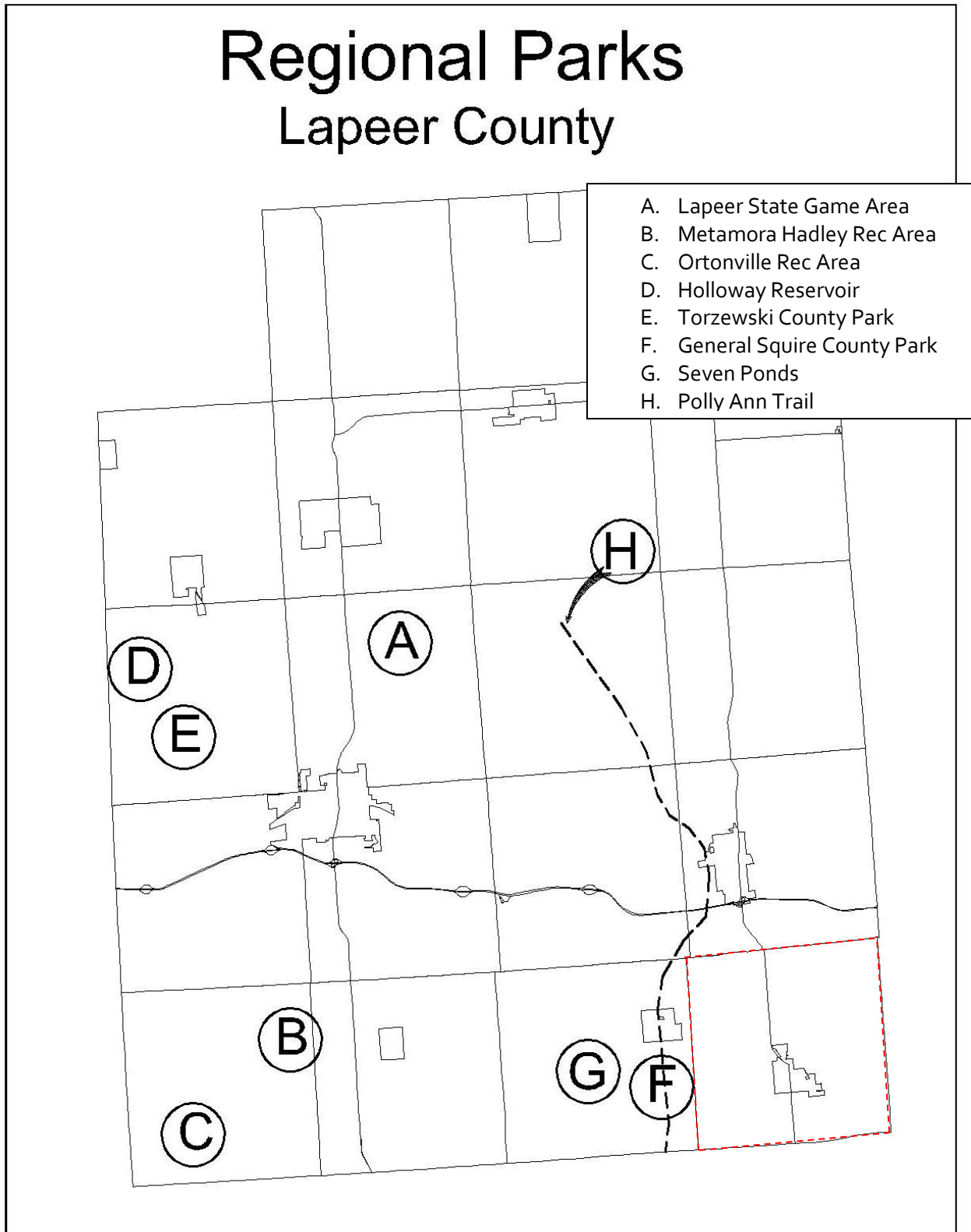
Private Recreation

There are private recreational facilities that are located within a 30-mile radius of the Almont community that provide recreational activities for residents. These facilities are privately operated and, in some cases, require a user fee for admittance. They are included in the recreation analysis because they meet a specific need in the community. These private facilities include:

- **Bowling Alley:** Hideway Lanes
- **Fitness Clubs:** First Generation CrossFit, Anytime Fitness, At Your Pace Fitness, Curves
- **Golf Courses:** Heather Hills Golf Club, Greystone Golf Club, Bruce Hills Golf Club, Cooper Hills Golf Club
- **Dance:** Jocelyn's Dance Academy, The Dance Studio, Inc., Oxford Academy of Dance and Performing Arts, Orion Oxford Dance Arts
- **Martial Arts:** Jeet Kune DO Martial Arts, TNT Martial Arts, Martial Arts, Pska Oxford
- **Miscellaneous Facilities:** Skyline Conference Center, Simpson Park Camp, Echo Grove Camp and Conference Center

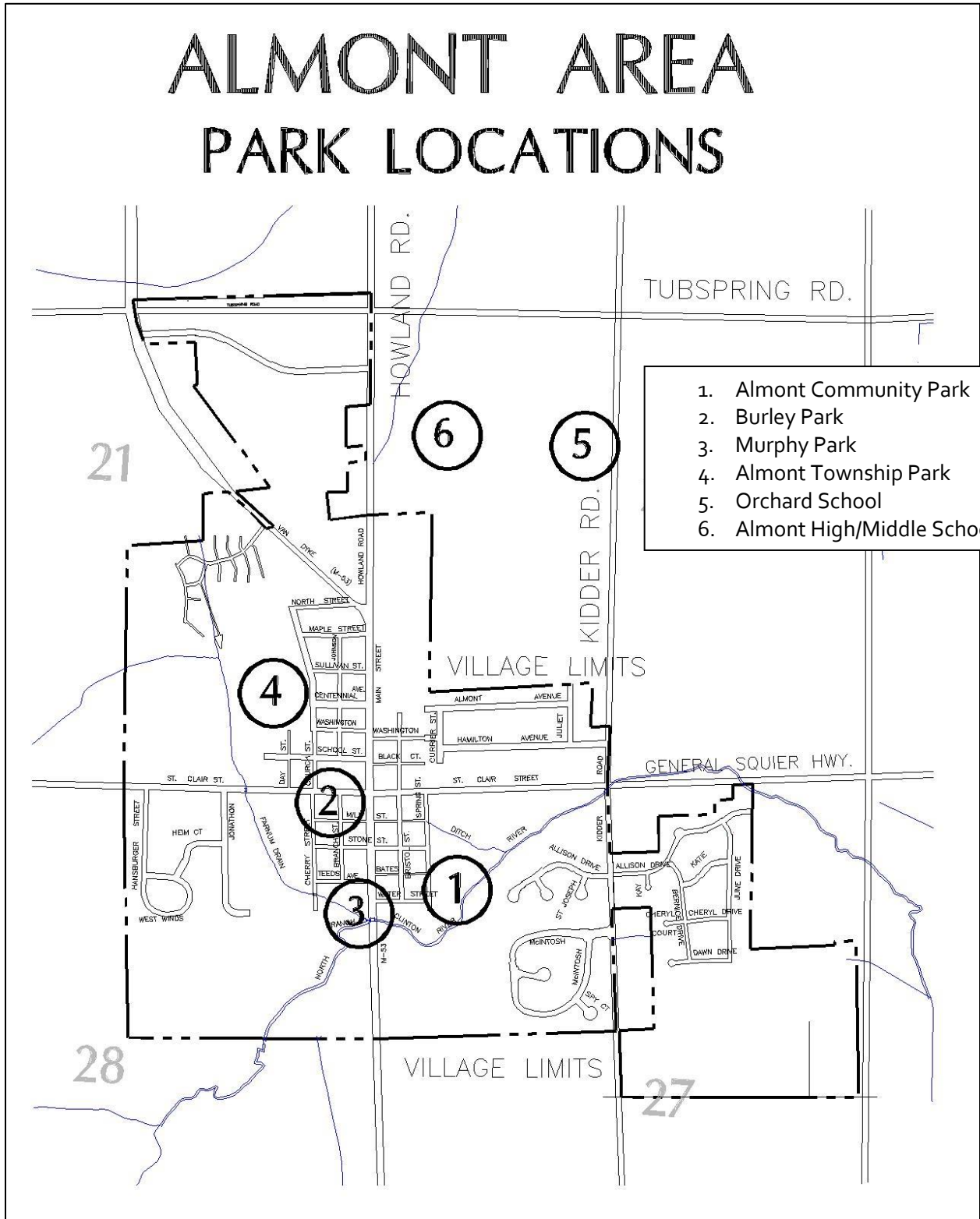
Map 2: Regional Park Location Map

Regional Parks Lapeer County



Map 3: Park Location Map

ALMONT AREA PARK LOCATIONS



PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Public Input

The Almont Parks and Recreation Board was formed to oversee park improvements in the Village and Township. The Board is comprised of representatives of the Village and Township, active citizens, and volunteers. In 1999, the Board developed, and the Village and Township adopted a Parks and Recreation Plan for the community; this Plan expired in 2017. In 2017, the Village and Township decided to update the Plan. The planning process began in October 2017. Representatives of ROWE Professional Services Company met with the Almont Community Parks and Recreation Board to discuss the intent of the planning process and develop a schedule for the planning effort. The Board laid out a list of potential projects that the community could be engaged in in improving the current facilities that exist.

Public input was solicited primarily through Park Board meetings to gather information about potential projects that the community would like to see the Board promote. The meetings were advertised to the community and residents were invited to attend. The Parks and Recreation Plan action items were addressed on August 24, 2017, and January 25, 2018. The input from the Plan meetings is included in this Parks and Recreation Plan.

After the information from the meetings was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board, the goals and objectives and action plan were developed based on what were high priority items to address in the parks and programming. The goals and objectives were drafted by ROWE Professional Services Company and were presented to the Board and comments were held to define other potential amenities to the parks program. Once the goals and objectives were reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board, the Draft Plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Board to begin the 30-day review process. The dates for the 30-day review were January 24 – February 24, 2018 and the Plan was available at the Almont Village Offices.

After the 30-day review in the community, the public from the Almont community was invited to participated in the public hearing for the draft on February 27, 2018. After the public hearing, any comments were reviewed and anything that needed to be adjusted in the Plan was reviewed. After this review, the Plan was forwarded to the Township Board and Village Council for review. The Village Council reviewed and adopted the Recreation Plan on February 27, 2018; the Township reviewed and adopted the Plan on February 27, 2018. Copies of the public hearing and recommendations for adoption from both municipalities are included in the Recreation Plan.

The final copy of the Plan was uploaded to the MDNR with a transmittal letter noting that copies had been send to the local and regional planning agency for acceptance.

Standards for Need

The MDNR has adopted a set of standards to determine the need for certain recreational facilities, based on the population of the community. Table 5 compares the facilities located in the Almont Community as identified in the Recreation Inventory to the State's recreational standards.

Table 5: Almont Community Recreational Inventory, 1997 And State Recreation Standards

Item	Public Facilities	School Facilities/ Others	State Standards	Village/ Township Standards	Need 2018
Park Land (acres)	28.7	85	10/1,000	66	37.6
Soccer Field (A)	—	1	1/20,000	1	1
Hiking Trails (mi.)	—	—	1/5,000	1.5	1.5
Playground (A)	1	1	1/3,000	3	2
Ball Field (A)	4	3	1/3,000	3	-
Outdoor Basketball Court (A)	—	1	1/5,000	2	2
Ice Rink (outdoor)	1	—	1/20,000	—	—
Fishing Access (ft.)	—	—	1,000/1,000	6,000	6,000
Picnic Areas (tables)	15	—	1/200	33	18
Outdoor Swimming Pools	—	—	1/40,000	—	—
Swimming Beaches	—	—	1/25,000	—	—
Sledding Hills	1	—	1/40,000	1	—
Bicycle Trails/Walkways (mi.)	0.3	—	1/40,000	1.5	1.2
Tennis Courts (A)	0	6	1/4,000	2	—

(A) Recreational facilities on school grounds or private property are not counted toward meeting local recreational needs.

1. Summary of Table 5

Table 5 identifies the types of recreational facilities (Column #1) owned by the Village of Almont or Almont Township (Column #2) as well as those owned and operated by private interests, schools, or regional authorities within Almont Township (Column #3). The State Recreational Standards are listed in Column #4. These standards have been adopted by the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources to serve as a measurement of need for recreational facilities. Column #5 shows the present demand for each facility, assuming State standards are to be met. Column #6 illustrates the deficiencies in the current number of facilities within the Almont Area, assuming a 2016 combined Village and Township population 6,685 people.

It must be noted that facilities determined by the Parks and Recreation Board to be in poor condition were not included in the above analysis.

Table 5 indicates there is a significant demand for most of the recreational facilities listed in Column #1. An additional 13.7 acres has been provided to the Township by the school district for use as a recreational destination for the communities. While efforts are made to encourage Village and Township residents to utilize school facilities whenever possible, during school hours and extracurricular activities, the availability of these facilities for public use is limited. For this reason, it appears that there is demand for recreational park land that is owned, developed, and maintained by the Village and/or Township. The intent would be to develop available space in the community to be used as parks land for various programming in the area.

Table 5 indicates the need for the following: 1 soccer field, 1.5 miles of hiking trails, 2 playgrounds, 2 outdoor basketball courts, 6,000 feet of fishing access, and 18 picnic tables. The State standard for Bicycle Trails/Walkways is 1 mile per 40,000 population. This appears low, particularly given the recent list of recreational priorities established by the MDNR, which emphasizes the development

of pedestrian pathway systems throughout the State. A standard of 1 mile per 5,000 people appears to be more appropriate. Based on this observation, it appears that there is a need for about 1.2 miles of bike trails in the Village and Township.

As noted, most amenities and programming revolve around the Almont Community School system. To make up the deficiencies that exist in the area, the community must be proactive in providing these services and recreational activities that are accessible to all the residents.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

An overall guide for the recreation goals for the Village and Township of Almont will be to focus efforts on developing additional recreational programming and defining key opportunities for developing vacant properties in the area. The information for the goals and objectives was also collected from the data collected from the comprehensive plan developed for the Township and Village. Of the goals and objectives listed, the top priorities ranked in order include:

- Upgrade and renovate existing park properties to meet the current needs and requirements for ADA-accessibility.
- Expanding program opportunities for park facilities in the service area.
- Replace or renovate existing athletic fields or surfaces.
- Construct new facilities where necessary to provide additional amenities for residents.
- Acquire additional vacant properties that could potentially serve as future park properties.

The overall theme for improving recreation will be to develop and maintain recreational programming that will support the growing needs of Almont Township and the Village of Almont.

The following goals support this (not listed in any order of priority):

Goal 1

Provide a variety of activities and recreational opportunities for residents of every age group, including youth, families, and senior citizens.

Discussions among Board members and input received from recreation providers highlighted the fact that some age groups within the community are under served. In addition, it was recognized that facilities that have activities for all ages increase the potential for use by families playing together, and strengthening families is a community priority.

- Build upon new ice skating and provide a wider range of winter outdoor activities.
- Expand facilities for very young residents and incorporate a seating area for parents adjacent to those facilities.
- Improve barrier-free accessibility of facilities to increase the ability of the elderly to use them.
- Ensure ADA-accessibility at all park amenities.

Goal 2

Promote community ownership in the provision of recreational services and provide a transparent and accessible process through which individuals can offer feedback for continuous improvement.

Existing volunteer efforts in recreation in the community as well as enthusiastic participation by recreation providers and other members of the public in the recreation planning process indicate public interest in recreation. Ensuring continued public support is critical for on-going improvements, and responsiveness to public comments and concerns is a key element of maintaining that support.

- Provide ongoing opportunities for public input on recreation issues through the Village, Township, and DDA websites.
- Identify opportunities for citizen involvement in recreation, recruit volunteers to undertake those tasks, and provide a method of public acknowledgment for their contributions.
- Increase public awareness of the Community Park by purchasing property adjacent to Main Street and extending park facilities to that property.
- Promote and maintain existing partnerships that exist in the community that aid in recreational programming and opportunities (i.e. Girls Scouts, Boys Scouts, Lions Club, etc.).
- Pursue acquisition of properties throughout the Township and Village to be used for park properties.

Goal 3

Enhance the overall appearance of the Community Park, with a specific focus on using durable materials to maintain smaller park amenities (grills, benches, etc.) while maintaining a broad focus on land acquisition and facility construction or enhancement.

In the previous Plan, the community expressed concerns about the condition of Community Park. As the park grows and programming grows, the community should seek to make the improvements to the park attractive to residents and promote safety and visibility.

- Conduct an inventory of existing equipment and create a priority list for repair or replacement.
- Establish minimum standards for future equipment purchases or construction.
- Provide park amenities that provide recreational access for youth of all ages.
- Create a "hit list" of property or easements for purchase. Contact current owners to determine availability/conditions and monitor future opportunities.

Goal 4

Expand recreational activities with an emphasis on drawing visitors from the broader thumb region and throughout the State into the Community Park.

Recreational facilities and activities have the potential to attract people to the Almont Community. These visitors have the potential to enhance the community's local economy by serving as customers for local businesses and possibly as future residents.

- Work with the DDA, Chamber of Commerce, and other organizations in identifying marketing opportunities for facilities and events outside the community.

- Identify opportunities for building on existing facilities and activities that have the potential for attracting visitors within the region.
- Identify regional recreational needs and work to provide them through government or private sector investments.

Goal 5

Continuously analyze opportunities to enhance modes of recreation transportation throughout the park (including the expansion of the walking trail and creation of a children’s bicycle path).

Promoting physical activity is key to promoting long-term health in our community. According to the Centers for Disease Control, Lapeer County is the 11th unhealthiest in Michigan with an adult obesity rate of 34 percent and a rate of 17 percent for children 2 to 19. Providing opportunities for walking and biking can help people of all ages improve their physical fitness.

- Prioritize the recommendations of the Village/Township Master Plan’s complete streets report.
- Identify potential non-sidewalk pathways that could connect the Community Park to the surrounding community.

Basis for Action Plan

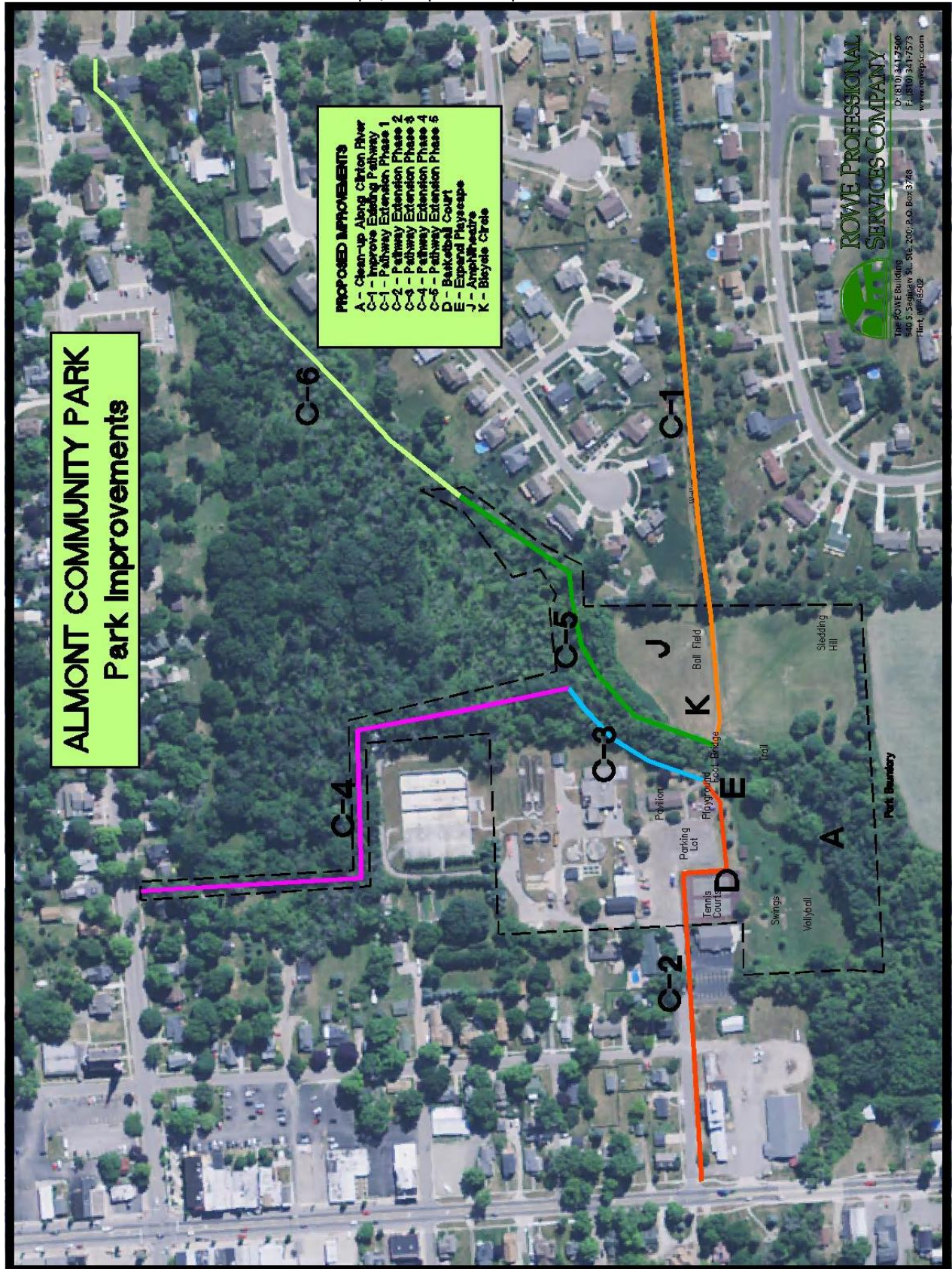
The basis for this action plan is the Parks and Recreation Board's review of its goals and objectives, along with the previous Plan's action plan, improvements undertaken since 2013, and improvements proposed by recreation providers and the public.

Action Plan

The following is a list of recommended parks and recreation improvements for the Almont Community, along with justifications for each. Cost estimates for each improvement are included in this Plan.

Proposed improvements are shown on Map 4, which shows the Almont Community Park and areas around it. The Almont Community Park is the largest park facility in the Almont Area. The park is jointly-owned and maintained by both the Village of Almont and Almont Township. Note that while specific locations have been identified by the Board as preferred locations for improvements, the map is intended to be conceptual in nature. It is possible that some of the property proposed for acquisition and development may not become available to the Village or Township. The Plan is to be considered flexible in terms of specific parcels and facility location.

Map 4: Proposed Improvements



1. *Improve Park*

The Clinton River is a significant natural feature. It has significant potential as an educational and interpretive recreational facility. There is an established dirt footpath southwest of the bridge along the south side of the river; however, the area is overgrown with trees and shrubs. This area slopes upward from the river to the south. If the area were to be cleaned up, it could be an attractive nature trail and would improve accessibility to the Clinton River. The State recreational standards indicate a need for 1.5 miles of nature trails in the Village and Township.

Actions towards improving the park includes:

- Clean brush and weeds from river banks and obstructions, cut dead trees, and plant new trees where necessary.
- Improve site amenities around the park to include new BBQ grills, benches, and athletic equipment (i.e. volleyball, basketball court).
- Update and expand playground area.
- Renovate restroom facilities.
- Repurpose or recondition tennis courts.
- ADA accessibility to all park amenities (playground equipment, picnic tables, and restrooms).

The Township acquired ballfields from the school district. Within this property, the Township would like to develop soccer fields or practice football fields for public use since the only other facilities in the community are programmed by the school.

2. *Acquisition of Property*

Per the recreational inventory, the Township and Village have some deficiencies in the park properties in Almont. While there is over 30 acres of park property in the Village and Township, much of this is either wooded, hilly, or lies in the floodplain. Except for pathways, the potential for facility development is limited. Acquisition of property adjacent to the park or a new site would expand the potential for park facility development and would allow the Village and Township to address a wider range of recreational needs. Also, as the population of the Township and Village continues to increase, it would be beneficial for the Parks and Recreation Board to review new parcels of land and areas that could serve as recreational lands.

3. *Recreational Trail Connections*

The State standards indicate a need for a 1.2-mile bicycle trail/walkway system in the Village and Township. An expanded, paved pathway system would provide a safe, multi-use pedestrian pathway that could be used year-round. Accessibility to the Clinton River would be improved. The facility could be used by residents of all ages and interests. The asphalt surface would be suitable for walking and running, wheelchairs and strollers, bicycles and inline skates.

Also, the Parks and Recreation Board should also seek to:

- Provide walking paths along west side of the Clinton River to downtown Almont.
- Expand options for other trail locations throughout the community to other locations.
- Provide trail connections to the Polly Ann Trail at General Squier Park.
- Provide bike racks along the trail to promote non-motorized transit in the area.
- Develop safe bicycle area for residents to ride; area to have pedestrian seating.

- Identify a “champion” within the schools to pursue a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant.

By incorporating the above renovations and expanding the trail network through the community, the Township and Village will meet or exceed the recreational inventory standards.

4. Expanding Current Programming, Promotions and Partnerships

Presently, the communities of Almont Township and the Village of Almont have developed great relationships with various community partners and volunteer organizations. As the new Plan is implemented, it would be best to continue to support the current programming and allow for innovative programs and recreational amenities.

Also, as new programming and partnerships are introduced to the community, the Township and Village should seek to develop innovative ways of marketing certain programs and projects through the parks program. The more residents that are aware of the programs and amenities that exist in Almont, the more people that will take advantage of utilizing park facilities locally. With the increase in technology, it would be ideal to begin distributing information about parks programs and promotion via social media outlets (i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, SnapChat) to raise awareness of the parks and additional programs.

With programming, it also becomes important that the Parks and Recreation Board and school district do not duplicate services and where the need to collaborate for programs exist that the Board and School District are actively engaged in doing so. Also, to stay current with the residents of both communities in what the desires of the community are towards certain recreational amenities and programs.

5. Safety and Security

The Parks and Recreation Board should ensure that the amenities and recreational structures are safe and reliable. Currently, around the playground equipment it is not accessible for residents with disabilities to engage in the recreational activities in the park. By adding safety surface, we provide surfaces that allow for easy transitional access between the pavement to the playground equipment. Other elements that would need to be addressed would be providing access to the pavilions for accessibility.

Also, the community members around the park play a significant role in providing a safe environment. Residents can assist in park monitoring and informing the Parks and Recreation Board when playground equipment or park amenities need repair or have been damaged. Also, all playground equipment that is installed should be vandal-resistant.

6. Facilities

Along with renovations and improvements to the existing park, the Board also intends on additional facilities for parks and recreational programming. Currently, the Township and Village do not have a facility to convene programs that is enclosed without using school property. As the park program expands, it would be necessary to review potential opportunities through acquiring property to construct other facilities that would promote recreational activities in the community. Some of those facilities include:

- Construction of a community center that would be multi-use and would provide athletic and programming opportunities for all ages. The facility also could be a revenue stream for the

community for rentals by residents for various programs. Some of the amenities to include would be swimming pool, weight rooms, meeting space, and indoor basketball courts.

- The development of an amphitheater would help promote outdoor activities in the park; with this park land being in Almont Community Park. Natural seating would be encouraged and locations for ADA-accessibility would be ideal.

7. Funding

Various grant opportunities and programs exist that are useful in leveraging funding for projects and property acquisition. A summary of funding resources in the State of Michigan include:

- **Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF)** – Provides funding assistance for the purchase of land (or interest in land) for recreation or protection of land because of its environmental importance or scenic beauty, and the development of recreation facilities. This assistance is directed at creating and improving outdoor recreational opportunities and providing protection to valuable natural resources. The improvement grants are between \$15,000 and \$500,000 with a required minimum local match of 25 percent. Acquisition grants vary depending upon the value of property and local match amount; therefore, there is not a minimum or maximum amount. This grant is ideal for implementing Community Park Plans and for land acquisition in the future. Applications are due in April and September of each year for acquisition projects and April of each year for development projects.
- **Michigan Recreation Passport** – Provides Capital Improvement Plans and development projects in communities throughout Michigan. Projects must be in public recreation use for the life of the project rather than perpetuity. Indoor recreation facilities and existing park locations are eligible for the grant. The primary focus is on improving and renovating existing parks. The application deadline is April 1st, with a November grant award announcement. Duration of the grant usually runs three years. Minimum grant request must be \$7,500 with a maximum request of \$75,000; there is a 25 percent match by the local municipality or organization. The 25 percent match can either be cash/credit (for locally assumed costs including labor and equipment) donations of goods and services from non-government entities, cash donations from non-governmental entities, or repurposed land.
- **Special Millage** – A property tax millage can be used to finance specific park and recreation projects such as park land improvements and facility upgrades. A millage is an effective method to divide costs over time amongst all the taxpayers in the community to provide matching grant funds or finance projects out-right. A millage allows more flexibility in how the money is utilized than a bond.
- **Community Forestry Grants** – To provide information and technical assistance to municipal governments, schools, nonprofit organizations, and volunteer groups for urban and community forest activities such as tree inventories, management plans, planting and other maintenance activities. Criteria: Projects that develop or enhance urban and community forestry resources in Michigan. Project categories are: Management and Planning, Education and Training, Library Resources and Tree Planting. Applications are announced each summer (June-July), submitted to the Forest Resources Division and then reviewed by Division staff. Applications are approved, adjusted, or denied. Applicants are notified, and agreements signed. Grant requests may be up to \$20,000, depending on the project type. Contact Forest Resources Division/Kevin Sayers (517-284-5898) sayersk@michigan.gov.

- **DTE Energy Tree Planting Grants** – To increase the number of properly planted, established, and maintained, trees within the service territory of DTE Energy. Applications are due annually each Fall. Visit www.michigan.gov/ucf. Grant requests may be up to \$3,000 each.
- **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** – LWCF provides funding assistance for communities to acquire and develop land for outdoor recreation. The minimum award is \$15,000 and the maximum of \$500,000 with a 50 percent local match. The eligibility criterion emphasizes preservation of natural resources such as waterways. This grant is ideal for implementing Community Park Plans for land acquisition in the future.
- **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** – TAP is a competitive grant program that funds projects such as non-motorized paths, streetscapes, and historic preservation of transportation facilities that enhance Michigan’s intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options. These investments support place-based economic development by offering transportation choices, promoting walkability and improving the quality of life. The program uses federal transportation funds designed by Congress for these types of activities. TAP grant funding requires matching funds of at least 20 percent of the eligible project cost.
- **Public-Private or Public-Public Partnerships** – Reduced funding at the public and private sector has created a need for various partnerships between public and private entities as well as between two or more public entities, to accommodate specialized large-scale recreation demands. Crowd funding on-line has been a growing source to reach individuals as well. Several examples are provided below:
 - <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/take-action/apply-grants>
 - <https://kaboom.org/grants>
 - <http://homedepotfoundation.org/page/grants>
 - <http://www.tgci.com/funding-sources/michigan>
 - <http://www.crowdfundingmi.com/1-2/>
- **The Michigan Municipal League** has launched a website, www.crowdfundingmi.com, which will provide extensive background information, how to get started, as well as highlight successful funding projects and serve as a clearing house for Michigan Investment crowdfunding projects as they develop. The website will also act as a portal to “Fundrise” and Localstake, two existing leading crowdfunding platforms. Although they both serve as web portals for crowdfunding investment, “Fundrise” lets you invest directly in local real estate. It will connect investors directly to individual properties online. Localstake helps connect businesses looking for capital with local investors.
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Community Development Initiatives; contact Ryan Kilpatrick, rkilpatrick@michigan.gov
- **The Lapeer County Community Foundation**, henceforth known as the Foundation, builds and manages permanent endowment funds from a wide variety of donors to provide grants that enhance the quality of life in Lapeer County, now and for future generations.
 - Several types of permanent endowment funds, often referred to simply as “funds,” are entrusted to the foundation by donors throughout Lapeer County. The Foundation invests and manages these funds with the goal of increasing their principal and returning part of the earnings to the community through grant making.
 - Donors establish designated funds for a wide variety of purposes, such as providing scholarships, benefiting specific charities, or supporting a purpose. Grants from designated

- funds are awarded considering input from the donor(s) or a committee which advises the fund.
- Discretionary funds are earmarked for an area of philanthropic interest (e.g., the arts, human services, or environment), or created for unrestricted grant making purposes. In the case of area of interest and unrestricted funds, the donor entrusts the Foundation with the task of awarding grants that address current or emerging community needs.
 - Lapeer County Community Foundation, 264 Cedar Street, Lapeer, MI 48446.
 - (810) 664-0691 – awhite@lapeercountycf.org
 - The Four County Community Foundation is committed to serving the current and emerging needs of our local community, continuing the tradition of philanthropy begun generations ago.
 - The foundation is dedicated to bringing together human and financial resources to support progressive ideas in education, health, community, youth, and adult programs.
 - The Foundation provides a secure, flexible vehicle for individuals, families, foundations, and organizations to positively impact the quality of life in our community.
 - Funds are available for a variety of charitable purposes for non-profit organizations, public schools, and governmental agencies.
 - Four County Community Foundation, 231 East St. Clair, PO Box 539, Almont, MI 48003
Phone: (810) 798-0909; Fax: (810) 798-0908.
 - Deadlines: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

LOCAL ADOPTION

RESOLUTION NO. 18-02-03

VILLAGE OF ALMONT, LAPEER COUNTY, MICHIGAN
2018-2022 ALMONT FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Council Member Dyke and supported by Council Member Ligon.

WHEREAS, the Village of Almont and Almont Township established the Parks and Recreation Board to advise the Village and Township on recreation matters, and;

WHEREAS, the Almont Parks and Recreation Board has prepared a draft update to the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the goals and objectives of the draft version of the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan were developed in response to needs and deficiencies which were identified through public meeting, recreation provider interviews, and recreation inventories, and;

WHEREAS, the Almont Parks and Recreation Board reviewed a draft version of the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan at a regular meeting held on January 25, 2018, and;

WHEREAS, the public hearing held on February 27, 2018 was duly published in the *Tri-City Times* and was published in order to solicit input on the draft version of the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Almont Parks and Recreation Board has voted to approve the plan and recommend its adoption by the Village of Almont Council and Almont Township Board, and;

WHEREAS, the Almont Village Council reviewed a draft version of the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan during a public hearing held on February 27, 2018 and said public hearing was duly published in the *Tri-City Times* in order to solicit public input on the draft version of the plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Almont Village Council hereby adopts the 2018-2022 Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan and authorizes the Almont Parks and Recreation Board to execute and submit all necessary documents to Lapeer County, GLS Region V, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for approval of the plan.

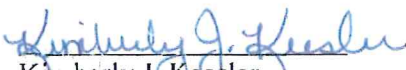
AYES: Steffler, Dyke, Ligon, Love, Peltier, Schneider

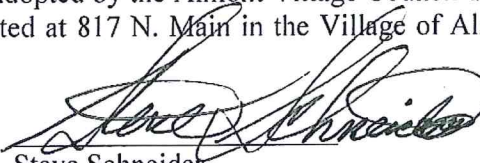
NAYS: None

ABSENT: Steven C. Schneider

ABSTAIN: None

THIS RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED THIS 27th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2018. I, Kimberly J. Keesler, Clerk/Treasurer of the Village of Almont, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that the forgoing Resolution No. 18-02-03 was duly adopted by the Almont Village Council during its regular meeting held in the Municipal Building located at 817 N. Main in the Village of Almont on February 27, 2018.


Kimberly J. Keesler
Clerk/Treasurer


Steve Schneider
President

- **Notice of Public Recreation Plan Review**
- **Notice of Public Hearing**
- **Meeting Agenda**
- **Notice of Special Meeting**
- **Minutes from Public Hearing/Special Meeting**
- **Post Completion Self-Certification Form**
- **Transmittal Letters**
- **Checklist Form**

Affidavit of Publication

IN THE MATTER OF:

Almont Village & Township
STATE OF MICHIGAN


COUNTY OF Lapeer

Being duly sworn, deposes and says the annexed copy of a notice was taken from The Tri-City Times community newspaper published and circulated in said State and County and that said notice was published in said newspaper on the

24th day of January
A.D. 2018, that he/she is the Publisher (and or with authority of publisher) of said newspaper and know well the facts stated herein.



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of January A.D. 2018


Notary Public in and for said St. Clair County

My Commission expires January 27 2019

VILLAGE OF ALMONT and ALMONT TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ALMONT FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

The joint planning effort of the Village of Almont and Almont Township is providing a draft version of the 5 Year Recreation Plan for public review for a 30-day period. The

document is available for review at the Almont Village Offices, 817 N. Main St.; Almont, MI 48003 during regular business hours between the dates of January 24, 2018 and February 24, 2018. Comments on the plan can be provided at this location or by contacting Village Manager Michael Connors at 810-798-8528, by e-mail at mconnors@almontvillage.org or by mailing comments to Parks and Recreation Plan Comments c/o Village of Almont, 817 N. Main, Almont, MI 48003.

Affidavit of Publication

IN THE MATTER OF:

Village of Almont


STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF Lapeer

Being duly sworn, deposes and says the annexed copy of a notice was taken from The Tri-City Times community newspaper published and circulated in said State and County and that said notice was published in said newspaper on the

14th day of February

A.D. 2018, that he/she is the Publisher (and/or with authority of publisher) of said newspaper and know well the facts stated herein.



Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of February, A.D. 2018



Notary Public in and for said St. Clair County

My Commission expires January 27 2019

TRI-CITY TIMES-FEBRUARY 14, 2018

VILLAGE OF ALMONT and ALMONT TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ALMONT FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

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Two public hearings will be held on the plan. The first will be held by the Almont Township Board on February 27 at 8:00 a.m. at the Township offices at 819 N. Main Street. The second will be held by the Almont Village Council Special Meeting on February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Almont Village offices. The public is welcome to attend any or both of these hearings.

**VILLAGE OF ALMONT and ALMONT TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARINGS
ALMONT FIVE YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

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SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

ALMONT TOWNSHIP
819 N MAIN ST
(810) 798-8521

NAME OF BOARD Twp. Brd
DATE OF MEETING 2-27-18
TIME OF MEETING 8:00 am
PLACE OF MEETING 819 N Main - Almont, MI
PURPOSE OF MEETING Purchase ambulance
Approve 5 yr. Park Plan

SIGNATURE OF TOWNSHIP CLERK Carol Hoffner
DATE AND TIME OF POSTING 2-23-18 9:00 am

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

The Almont Township Board will provide necessary-reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting of public hearing upon five (5) days notice to the Almont Township Board.

A copy of this notice is on file in the office of the clerk.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act 267, Public Acts of 1967, effective March 31, 1977, the Almont Village Council, County of Lapeer, State of Michigan, with offices located at 817 N. Main Street, Almont, MI 48003, files this Notice of Special Meeting.

Meeting Date, Time and Place

February 27, 2018 7:00 p.m. Almont Municipal Building, 817 N. Main Street, Almont, MI

This is a:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Meeting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canceled Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Continued or Reconvened |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rescheduled Regular Meeting | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing |

Remarks:

The purpose of this public hearing is to hear public comment regarding the proposed Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The purpose of the special meeting is to adopt the Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

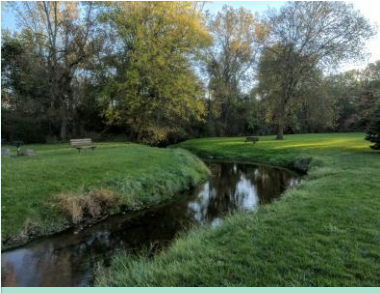
NAME OF PERSON REPORTING:

Name (Type or Print) Kimberly J. Keesler

Title Clerk/Treasurer

Signature 

Date 2/8/2018 7:37 AM



January 25, 7:00 pm OPEN HOUSE

Almont Community Recreation Plan (817 N main St)

The 5 Year Plan that identifies potential improvements for parks and recreation within the Almont Community is being updated.

This event will give you a chance to provide input to the Parks and Recreation Board on improvements you would like considered within the village and township over the next 5 years.

Items to be considered include:

- Maintenance of existing facilities
- Improving existing parks
- Development of pathways
- Adding new park features
- Coordination with stakeholders

AGENDA

- Review schedule
 - Review existing goals and objectives
 - Review proposed improvement ideas
 - Provide comments
 - Understanding next steps
-

**MAKE AN IMPACT
ON YOUR
COMMUNITY**

ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT

Gary Peltier, Parks and
Recreation Board Chairman
Councilman
810-798-8528

Municipal Offices:
(810) 798-8528
(810) 798-3397 FAX
www.almontvillage.org

Village Manager:
Michael Connors

Village Clerk/Treasurer:
Kimberly J. Keesler

Village of Almont
817 North Main Street
Almont, Michigan 48003

Village Council:
Steve Schneider, President
Tim Dyke, Pres. Pro-Tem.
Mary Ligon
Dave Love
Gary Peltier
Steven C. Schneider
Melinda Steffler

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALMONT VILLAGE COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 27, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: The Special Meeting of the Almont Village Council will be called to order
February 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Almont Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan

REGULAR AGENDA:

1. Resolution 18-02-03 2018-2022 Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan

ADJOURN:



"We're growing in the right direction."

DRAFT

ALMONT TOWNSHIP BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Meeting called to order by Supervisor at 8:00 a.m. at 819 N Main St., Almont, MI. Members present were Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hoffner, Treasurer Kudsin, and Trustees Groesbeck, and Clay Stroup. Absent were Trustees Streeter, and Scott Stroup.

MOVED BY HOFFNER, SUPPORTED BY KUDSIN TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF A 2001 FORD E-450 7.31 DIESEL CHASIS WITH WHEELED COACH FIRE MEDIC BOX AT A COST OF \$22,000.00 FROM BAKER COLLEGE. CARRIED.

Public Hearing opened at 8:09 a.m. No comments concerning the Almont Five Year Parks and Rec. Plan.
Public Hearing closed at 8:14 a.m.

MOVED BY HOFFNER, SUPPORTED BY CLAY STROUP TO APPROVE 5 YEAR PARKS AND REC PLAN AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: GROESBECK-YES, KUDSIN-YES, CLAY STROUP-YES, HOFFNER-YES, BOWMAN-YES. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

Carol Hoffner
Almont Township Clerk

Municipal Offices:
(810) 798-8528
(810) 798-3397 FAX
www.almontvillage.org

Village Manager:
Michael Connors

Village Clerk/Treasurer
Kimberly J. Keesler

Village of Almont

817 North Main Street
Almont, Michigan 48003

Village Council:
Steve Schneider, President
Tim Dyke, Pres. Pro-Tem
Mary Louise Ligon
Dave Love
Gary Peltier
Steven C. Schneider
Melinda Steffler

ALMONT VILLAGE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 27, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

President Schneider called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Schneider led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Dyke, Ligon, Love, Peltier, Steffler, Schneider

Councilmembers Absent: Steven C. Schneider

Staff Present: Village Manager Michael Connors
Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly Keesler

Guests Present: 3 Students

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Almont Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan

President Schneider opened the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Councilmember and Park Board Chairman made a presentation on the updated Park Master Plan, which is needed to apply for state grants. He stated the park board had identified some new goals and objectives. Some of them were to update the park's restrooms, install a new playscape and refurbish the tennis courts. There were also some minor language changes. Discussion was held regarding the tennis court ownership subject. Manager Connors stated he will follow-up with Mr. Michael Bohm as to the status.

President Schneider closed the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Resolution 18-02-03 2018-2022 Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan

President Pro-Tem Dyke moved, Councilmember Ligon seconded, **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**, to adopt Resolution #18-02-03, 2018-2022 Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Steffler, Dyke, Ligon, Love, Peltier, Schneider
Nays: None
Absent: Steven C. Schneider
Abstain: None



"We're growing in the right direction."

Councilmember Peltier thanked Council for adopting the resolution. President Schneider congratulated Councilmember Peltier and the Park Board Members for a job well done.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Kimberly J. Keesler
Clerk/Treasurer

Steve Schneider
President

Approved Date:



"We're growing in the right direction."

ALMONT COMMUNITY PARKS AND RECREATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 25, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Peltier called meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Gary Peltier	Chairman/Village Representative	YES
Terry Roach	Vice-Chairman	YES
Rick Tobias	Treasurer	YES
Roberta Kudsin	Secretary/Twp. Representative	YES
Kristina Todaro	Member	YES
Wes Wagester	Member	YES
Kim Schall	Member	YES

GUESTS PRESENT: 2 **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** NONE **ADDITIONS:** NONE

COMMUNICATIONS: Ribbon cutting for Lil' Bit of SAS 3/20/18 11:00 am;
DDA Heritage Festival set for 9/14 & 15/18 Peltier was asked to hire bands for festival;
DDA resignation of Chairman Terry Roach

ELECTION OF 2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD: Open for nominations for Chairman: Schall nominated Peltier for Chairman, supported by Roach. Nominations closed. Moved by Schall supported by Roach to elect Peltier for Chairman of the 2018 Park Board. **MOTION CARRIED.** Open for nominations for Vice Chair: Wagester nominated Roach for Vice Chairman supported by Tobias. Nominations closed. Moved by Wagester supported by Tobias to elect Roach for Vice Chairman of the 2018 Park Board. **MOTION CARRIED.** Open for nominations for Treasurer: Schall nominated Tobias for Treasurer supported by Roach. Nominations closed. Moved by Schall supported by Roach to elect Tobias for Treasurer of the 2018 Park Board. **MOTION CARRIED.** Open for nominations for Secretary: Todaro nominated Kudsin for Secretary supported by Schall. Nominations closed. Moved by Todaro supported by Schall to elect Kudsin for Secretary for the 2018 Park Board. **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Moved by Schall supported by Wagester to approve the consent agenda and the Minutes from the regular meeting of Nov. 30, 2017 and the special meeting of Dec. 4, 2017 as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

1) MUXLOW INVOICE : Chairman Peltier stated the Muxlow Surveying invoice for the Bohm property survey was a total of \$1275. Board previously approved an amount not to exceed \$1200. Moved by Roach support by Schall to approve the additional \$75 bringing the total invoiced to \$1275. **MOTION CARRIED.**

2) NEW SIGN: Chairman Peltier asked the board to look over the different size signs & costs as presented. Board looked over and picked two. Discussed partnering the cost with the Lions/DDA/Chamber. Peltier to get total cost of sign & shipping and bring to February agenda to approve.

3) MUSIC IN THE PARK: Chairman Peltier stated he's going with 9 concerts and he has 6 booked at \$400 stating 4 of them are new groups. One new group "SURF ZUP", a theme band will perform for \$600, which may either be divided by sponsors, or the park board will have to pay all or partial. He stated he should have all concerts sponsored by the end of February. Doug Skyllis of ROWE Engineering stated they would sponsor a concert, and Schall stated she will possibly sponsor ½ from her real estate business, as well as Roach from Gear Masters.

CONCERTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	
JUNE 14	ALTAR OF STONE	
JUNE 21	HATWELLS	
JUNE 28	DOUBLE PLAY	
JULY 12	SAINTS & SINNERS	
JULY 19	LAPEER SYMPHANY ORCHESTRA	
JULY 26	2NUTTS	DATE NOT SET
AUGUST 2	ROCK OF AGES	
AUGUST 9	THIRD DEGREE BURNS	
AUGUST 16	SURFS UP	DATE NOT SET

Peltier discussed Movies in the Park possibly going to 3 months June/July/August
Peltier asked Wagester to let him know if the Lions Club will sponsor the Bounce House; work the concession stand; allow the concerts to be held in the Lions hall if inclement weather.

4) PARK MASTER PLAN: Doug Skylus of ROWE Engineering addressed the adoption of this master plan to be time sensitive to apply for grants. Mike Connors Village manager addressed the time line of submitting the approved plan to the DNR for grants by March 1st. He stated that both entities agreed to approve the plan the week of Feb. 26th. 2018. Peltier allowed Kudsins to go through the errors on the draft plan along with input & questions from other members of the board. Main concerns for renovations in the next plan are: renovate play scape/bathrooms/ tennis court, which we need to obtain estimates for these items. Moved by Roach supported by Wagester to approve the new 5 year plan with proposed changes approved, and recommend to the Village Council & Township Board to adopt the Almont Five-Year Parks & Recreation Plan as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OPEN DISCUSSION: Discussions: Removal of hay bales by the ice rink & where did they go? New ice rink liner has been received & stored in the park shed; how to get new members for this board; the board receiving the meeting packets before the meeting, Kudsins stated she would email all members their packets with agenda. Roy at the DPW has been great help in keeping the ice rink cleaned off and Peltier asked if we could get him a gift card. Board consensus was Peltier could purchase a \$50 gift card as a thanks to Roy.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Peltier closed the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M. IN MUNICIPAL HALL

Roberta C. Kudsins- Secretary

Gary D. Peltier- Chairperson



PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

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

GRANTEE: Village of Almont

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01187

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Almont Community Park Pathway

PROJECT SCOPE: Landscape, 1,760 pathway

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Village of Almont, MI, Michael Connors, Village Manager, 817 N. Main Street, (810) 798-8528, Almont, Michigan 48003, mconnors@almontvillage.org

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

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

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [] Yes [X] No

SITE QUALITY

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

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

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

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

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

Yes No

Maintenance to park is based on "as-needed"

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes No

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

Hours: 24 hours/7 days a week - Open Year-Round

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

MICHAEL CONNORS, VILLAGE MANAGER

Please print

Michael Connors

Grantee Authorized Signature

03/01/2018

Date

Kimberly J. Keesler, Clerk/Treasurer

Please print

Kimberly J. Keesler

Witness Signature

03/01/2018

Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**





PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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(Please select one) [] LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND [X] RECREATION PASSPORT [] BOND FUND

GRANTEE: Village of Almont

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01187

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Almont Community Park Improvement Project

PROJECT SCOPE: BF parking, pathway, landscape, picnic tables, pavilion renovation

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Villge of Almont, MI, Michael Connors, Village Manager, 817 N. Main Street, (810) 798-8528, Almont, Michigan 48003, mconnors@almontvillage.org

SITE DEVELOPMENT

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

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

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. [] Yes [X] No

SITE QUALITY

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

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

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

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

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

Yes No

Maintenance is conducted in the park on an "as-needed" basis.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

Yes No N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

Yes No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

Yes No

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

Hours: 24 hours/7 days a week - Open Year-Round

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

MICHAEL CONNORS, VILLAGE MANAGER Michael Connor 03/01/2018
Please print Grantee Authorized Signature Date

Kimberly J Keebler, Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly J. Keebler 03/01/2018
Please print Witness Signature Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**





PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT

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

GRANTEE: Village of Almont

PROJECT NUMBER: 26-01187

PROJECT TYPE: Development

PROJECT TITLE: Almont Community Park

PROJECT SCOPE: Tennis Courts, foot bridge

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Table with 3 columns: Name of Agency (Grantee), Contact Person, Title, Address, Telephone, City, State, ZIP, Email. Row 1: Village of Almont, MI, Michael Connors, Village Manager, 817 N. Main Street, 810-798-8528, Almont, Michigan 48003, mconnors@almontvillage.org

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

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

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

Maintenance is coordinated through the DPW and is done based on need.

GENERAL

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

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

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

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

Hours: 24 hours/7 days a week - Open Year-Round

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

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MICHAEL CONNORS, VILLAGE MANAGER

Please print

Michael Connors

Grantee Authorized Signature

3/01/2018

Date

Kimberly J. Keebler, Clerk/Treasurer

Please print

Kimberly J. Keebler

Witness Signature

03/01/2018

Date

Send completed report to: **POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**





ROWE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY

Large Firm Resources. Personal Attention.™

February 28, 2018

GLS Region V Planning and Development Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502-1470

RE: Almont Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan
2018-2022

Greetings:

On behalf of the communities of Almont and Almont Township please find attached for your use a copy of the recently adopted Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan. The plan has been adopted by the Village Council (February 27, 2018) and the Township Board (February 27, 2018).

The communities will be submitting a final document to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for acceptance before the March 1st deadline.

Please contact the village at (810) 798-8528, the township at (810) 798-8521 or myself at (810) 341-7500 with any questions.

Sincerely,
ROWE Professional Services Company

Blake D. Strozier
Graduate Landscape Architect

Attachment

R:\Projects\17C0100\Docs\Correspondence Out\Clearing House Transmittal Letter 2-28-18.doc

Engineering | Surveying | Aerial Photography/Mapping | Landscape Architecture | Planning

Lapeer: 128 N. Saginaw Street • Lapeer, MI 48446 • O (810) 664-9411 • F (810) 664-3451

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www.rowepsc.com



ROWE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY

Large Firm Resources. Personal Attention. sm

February 28, 2018

Lapeer County Planning Department
255 Clay Street
Lapeer, MI 48446

RE: Almont Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan
2018-2022

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COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

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

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

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

PLAN INFORMATION

Name of Plan: Almont Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan		
List the community names (including school districts) that are covered under the plan and have passed a resolution adopting the plan.	County	Month and year plan adopted by the community's governing body
Village of Almont	Lapeer	February, 2018
Almont Township	Lapeer	February, 2018

PLAN CONTENT

INSTRUCTIONS: Please check each box to certify that the listed information is included in the final plan.

- 1. COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION**
- 2. ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**
 - Roles of Commission(s) or Advisory Board(s)
 - Department, Authority and/or Staff Description and Organizational Chart
 - Annual and Projected Budgets for Operations, Maintenance, Capital Improvements and Recreation Programming
 - Current Funding Sources
 - Role of Volunteers
 - Relationship(s) with School Districts, Other Public Agencies or Private Organizations
 - Regional Authorities or Trailway Commissions Only:**
 - Description of the Relationship between the Authority or Commission and the Recreation Departments of Participating Communities
 - Articles of Incorporation
- 3. RECREATION INVENTORY**
 - Description of Methods Used to Conduct the Inventory
 - Inventory of all Community Owned Parks and Recreation Facilities
 - Location Maps (site development plans recommended but not required)
 - Accessibility Assessment
 - Status Report for all Grant-Assisted Parks and Recreation Facilities
 - Waterways Inventory (if applicable)
- 4. RESOURCE INVENTORY (OPTIONAL)**
- 5. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS**

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

- Description of the Method(s) Used to Solicit Public Input Before or During Preparation of the Plan, Including a Copy of the Survey or Meeting Agenda and a Summary of the Responses Received
- Copy of the Notice of the Availability of the Draft Plan for Public Review and Comment
 - Date of the Notice January 16, 2018
 - Type of Notice Newspaper Article
 - Plan Location Village Offices
 - Duration of Draft Plan Public Review Period (Must be at Least 30 Days) Jan. 24- Feb. 24, 2018
- Copy of the Notice for the Public Meeting Held after the One Month Public Review Period and Before the Plan's Adoption by the Governing Body(ies)
 - Date of Notice February 14, 2018
 - Name of Newspaper The Tri-City Times
 - Date of Meeting February 27, 2018
- Copy of the Minutes from the Public Meeting

7. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

8. ACTION PROGRAM

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

PLAN ADOPTION DOCUMENTATION

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

- 1. Official resolution of adoption by the governing body dated: February 27, 2018
- 2. Official resolution of the _____ Commission or Board, recommending adoption of the plan by the governing body, dated: _____
- 3. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to County Planning Agency dated: February 28, 2018
- 4. Copy of letter transmitting adopted plan to Regional Planning Agency dated: February 28, 2018

OVERALL CERTIFICATION

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

I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

Almont Twp

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated

Carol Woffner

Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

2-27-18

Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.



COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLAN CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

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I hereby certify that the recreation plan for

Almont Village

(Local Unit of Government)

above and as set forth by the DNR.

includes the required content, as indicated

Kiribuly J. Kusler
Authorized Official for the Local Unit of Government

2/27/2018
Date

This completed checklist must be uploaded in MiRecGrants.