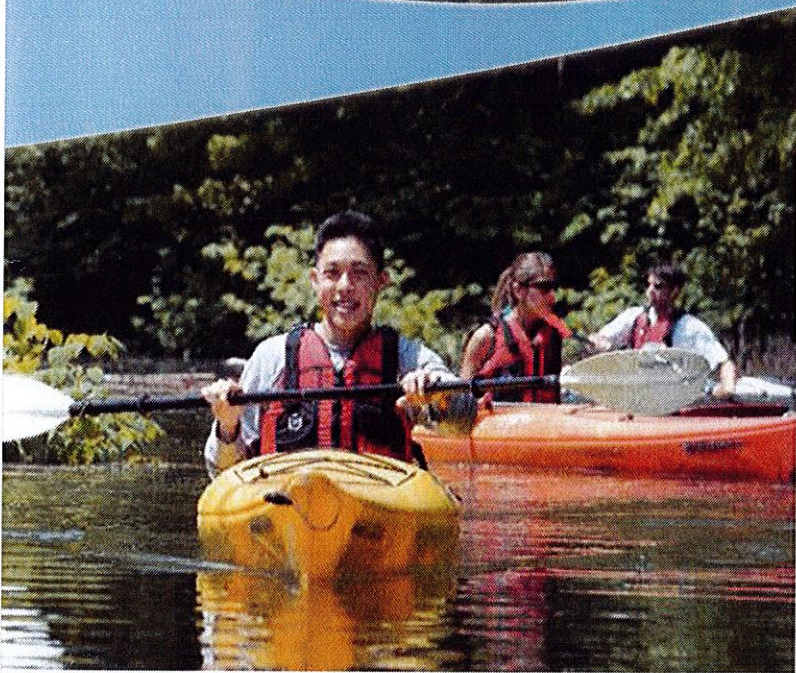
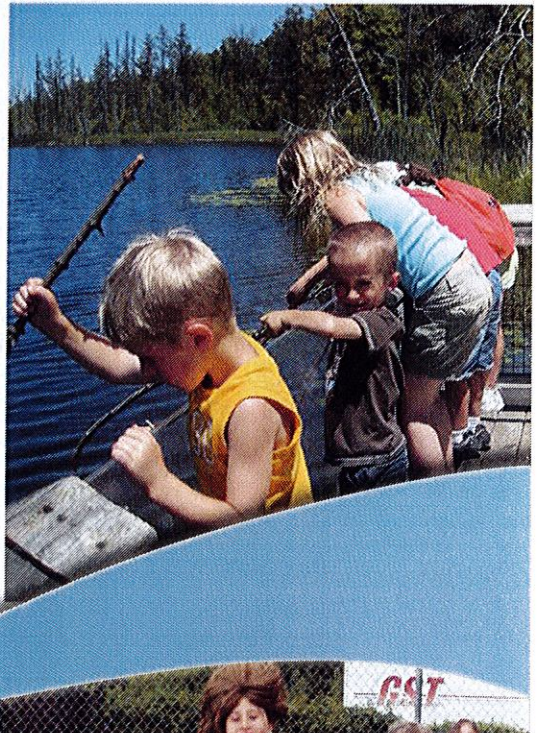
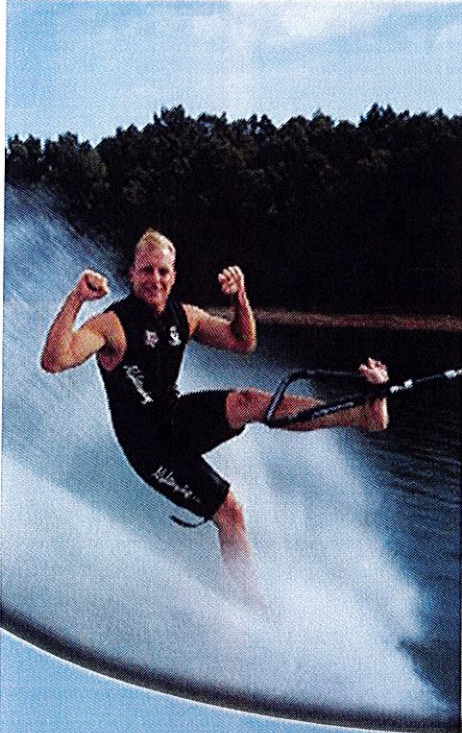


ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP / LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan
2015 to 2020



PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This 5 year Parks and Recreation Plan has been developed under the Michigan Department of Natural Resources- Grants Management "GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY PARK, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE, AND GREENWAY PLANS" dated September 03, 2014.

To assist in the development of this plan, a Parks and Recreation Plan Committee was established. A diversified cross section of community members, this committee provided assistance, input, and final decisions related to future parks and recreation improvements within the community. Both the Argentine Township Board and the Linden Community School Board have the authority to make decisions regarding parks and recreation expenditures within the community. The planning commission has the responsibility to review and approve all new development and ensure that it is in compliance with local codes zoning ordinance standards.

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP / LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE:

Kevin Cleaver, Planning Commission Chairman
Robert Cole Jr., Township Supervisor
Ed Koledo, Superintendent L.C.S.

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Robert Cole, Jr., Supervisor
Denise Graves, Clerk
Norman Schmidt, Treasurer
Teresa Ciesielski, Trustee
Thomas Hallman, Trustee

LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD

Scott Maker, President
Steve Murphy, Vice President
Michael Murphy, Treasurer
Steven Losey, Secretary
Peter Ponzetti, Trustee
Jason Rowden, Trustee
Michelle Shayna, Trustee

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Kevin Cleaver, Chairman
Tom Hallman, Trustee
Roger Kelley, ZBA Chairman

Evan Lapinski
Cyrus Spiegel

PLAN PREAPRED WITH ASSISTANCE BY:



FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC.

9475 N. HOLLY ROAD
SUITE 201
GRAND BLANC, MI 48439



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INTRODUCTION

Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools have recognized a need for improving the community's parks and recreation options and promoting Argentine as a quality sustainable place to live and play. This stems from the growing trends in recreation and the desire to be active, healthy and conscious of the environment. A comprehensive and sustainable parks and recreation system is vital to a community's physical and mental health, social interaction, protection of natural resources, and economic growth.

In a collaborative effort, Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools have chosen to update their Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan. This document is intended to serve as a planning tool over the next 5 years for township officials and the school board to make decisions related to future park and recreation amenities and improvements. It identifies attainable goals and objectives as well as an action plan that can then be used to focus on key areas for more specific design and budgetary purposes. It has been created under the guidelines established by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Management.

To aid in this process and assure that this plan was completed in an efficient manner, a Parks and Recreation Plan Steering Committee was established to coordinate the planning process, help facilitate public input, and oversee development of the plan. This steering committee consisted of a representative from the Planning Commission, Township Board and Linden Community Schools.

This plan begins with a **community description** to better understand the landscape and demographics of the township. The **administrative structure** is then outlined which describes the governmental and jurisdictional methods by which future decisions will be made. This is followed by a description of the **planning and public input process** and survey results which were used in assembling the goals and objectives. The existing **recreation inventory** and **natural resource inventory** are then described in narratives, charts and maps. This is followed with a series of **goals and objectives** that were established using recommended planning



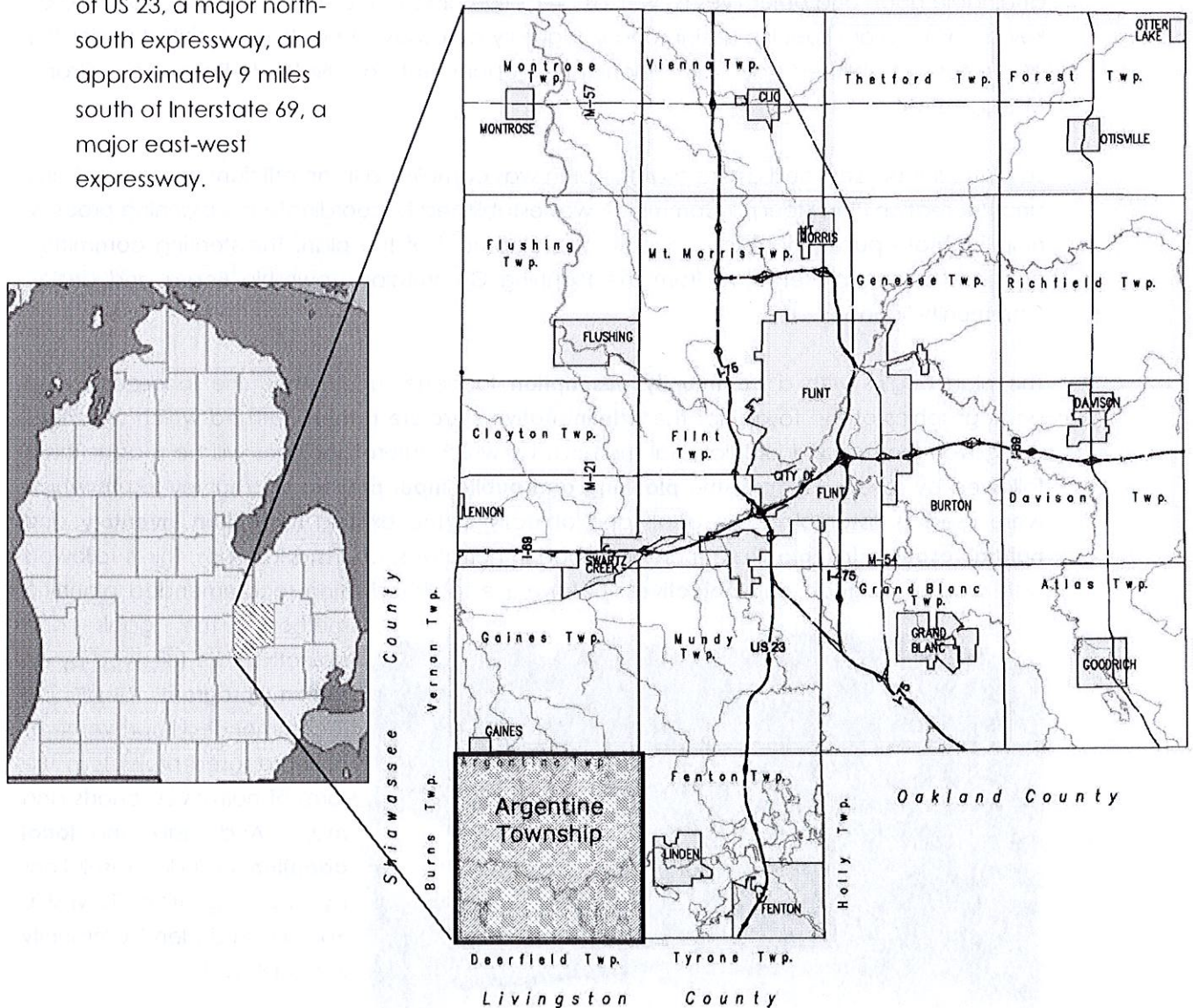
methods. The goals and objectives are followed by an **action program** describing recommended improvements and proposed projects in the form of narratives, charts and maps. And lastly, the **local adoption** includes resolutions by the Argentine Township Board and Linden Community School Board.



COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location

Argentine Township is located in southeast Michigan, in the most southwesterly corner of Genesee County. Established in 1836, the entire township covers a land area of approximately 36.3 square miles (or 23,232± acres) and is approximately 15 miles southwest of the City of Flint, with the unincorporated Village of Argentine located within its southern region. As shown on the map below, the township is bordered by Gaines Township, the Village of Gaines, and Fenton Township in Genesee County. The City of Linden is also located approximately one mile to the east, within Fenton Township. Being at the edge of Genesee County, Argentine adjoins townships of two other counties: Deerfield Township in Livingston to the south and Burns Township in Shiawassee County to the west. The township is located approximately 6 miles west of US 23, a major north-south expressway, and approximately 9 miles south of Interstate 69, a major east-west expressway.



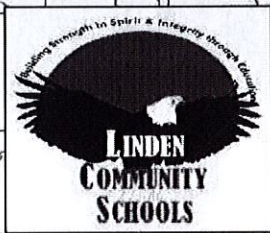
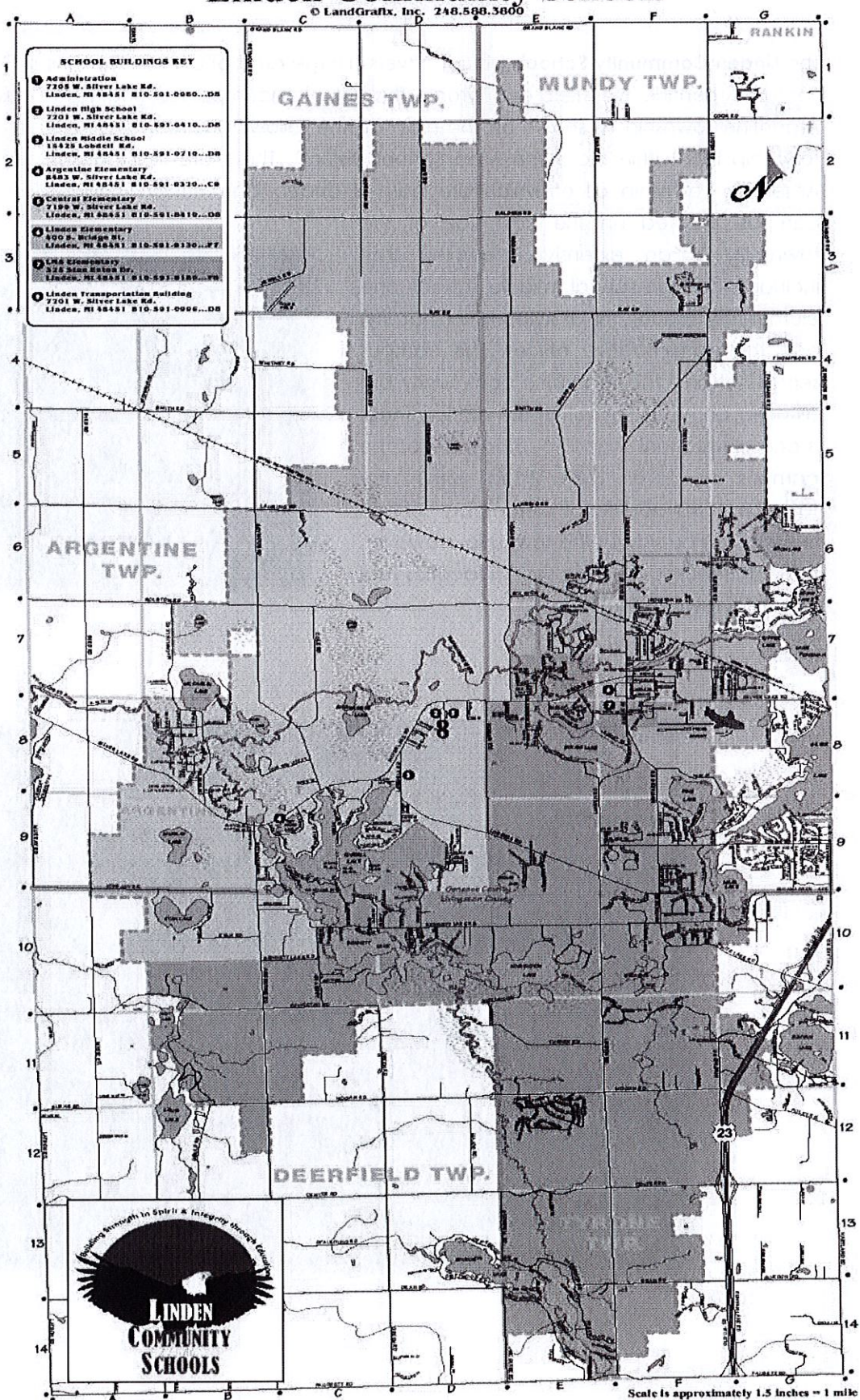


The **Linden Community Schools** District covers a large area of over six townships: Gaines, Mundy, Fenton, Argentine, Deerfield and Tyrone. This district encompasses roughly the east two-thirds of Argentine Township as shown on the map on the following page. The westerly portion of the township falls within the Byron Area School District. There are four public schools located in Argentine Township all of which are part of Linden Community Schools. The schools main campus, located on the east side of the township, is an extensive complex that includes the high school, middle school, one elementary school, the transportation facility, and the administrative offices. This campus serves not only the Argentine community but all other communities within the district. There is one elementary school located west of the campus on Silver Lake Road within the township. Two additional elementary schools are located outside of the township. However, this plan focuses on those school facilities that fall within township limits.





Linden Community Schools





Population and Social Characteristics

Census data provides most of the information under this section. Much of it was taken from the 2010 Census although, the recent economic recession has had an effect on the accuracy of these figures as it has had a direct effect on population, income and housing statistics. It is anticipated that these figures will change in an upward direction as the economic conditions continue to improve. Therefore, this section is brief and only a generalized reference.

Argentine Township has a population of 6,913 per the 2010 Census data. Table #1 shows the Population trends since 1970.

Table #1: Population Trends

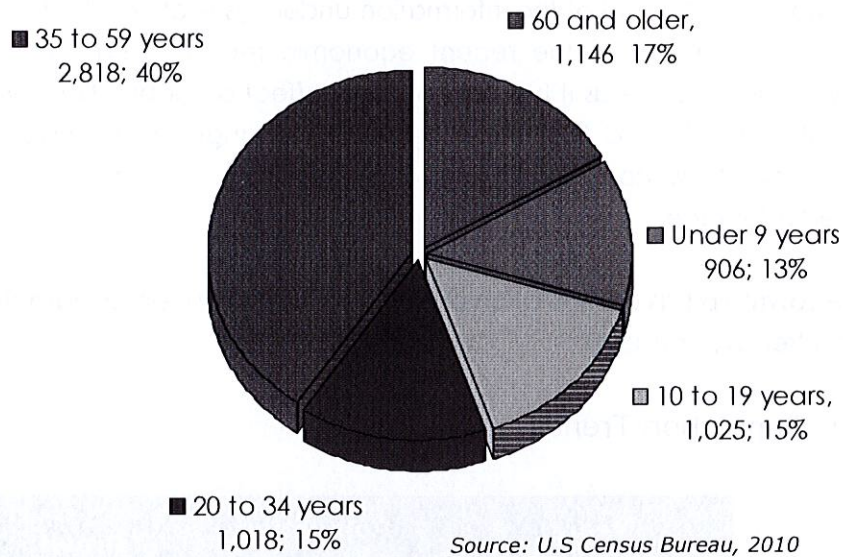
Year	Population	Growth Rate
1970	2,901	
1980	4,180	31%
1990	4,651	10%
2000	6,521	29%
2010	6,913	6%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, 1970-2010

The majority of the township population falls between the ages of 35 and 59 years of age (see figure #2). This group makes up a significant 40 % of the township population but is only a 1% increase from the 2000 census. Younger adults between the ages of 20 and 34 are 15% of the population which is a slight decline from 19% in 2000. Older children ages 10 to 19 make up 15% which is the same as in 2000 but the number of children 9 years and younger has decreased to 15% from 17% in 2000. What was once the smallest population in the township, the number of 60 and older folks has increased from 10% to 17% per the 2010. The median township age is 40.3 (34.4 years in 2000).



Figure #2: Argentine Township Age Distribution (2000)



Another perspective that demonstrates the changing trends in population is the table that compares life stages. Table #3 shows the changes in population between 1990 and 2010 by life stage. This can be helpful to represent the percent of change and potential recreation demands by user groups. The figure shows little change in most groups except in the late career and retirement age groups (ages 45+). As the population ages, future data will most likely show a further increase in the retirement age group as members of the late career age group get older and move into this category.

Table #3: Life Stage Comparisons (1990 – 2010)

Age Group	Group Characteristics	% of 1990 pop.	% of 2000 pop.	% of change 1990 to 2000	% of 2010 pop.	% of change 2000 to 2010
Under 5	Preschool	7.5	8.4	0.9	5.5	-2.9
5-17	School-aged	21.4	21.3	-0.1	20.0	-1.3
18-24	College/pre career	9.0	7.1	-1.9	6.8	-0.3
25-44	Early Career age	35.7	34.4	-1.3	25.3	-9.1
45-64	Late Career age	18.9	21.7	+2.8	31.8	+10.1
65+	Retirement Age	7.5	7.1	- 0.4	10.6	+3.5



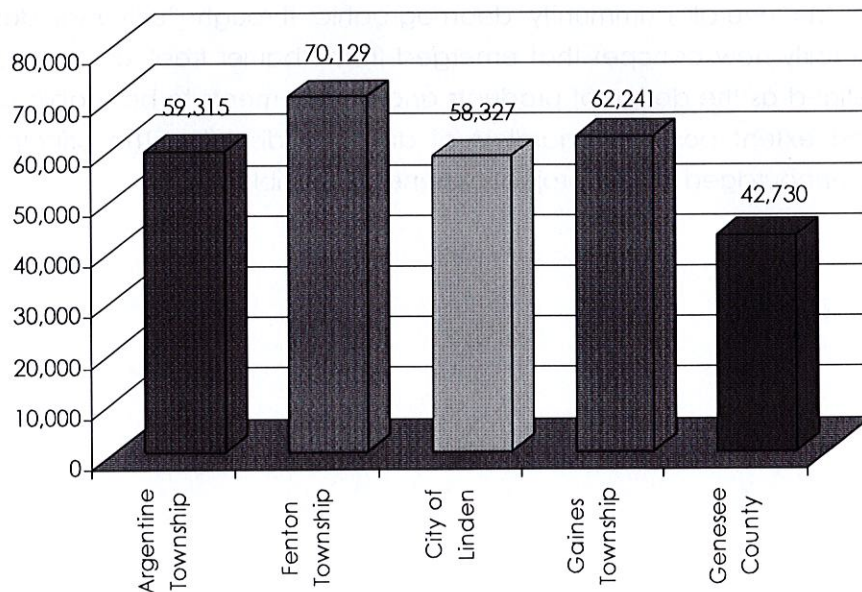
Table #4: Argentine Township Household Comparisons (1990 to 2000)

Category	1990	2000
Total number of households	1,614	2,293
Percent of household with children	44.1%	43.2%
Average family size	3.16	3.18

The 2010 Census shows the total housing units within the township to be 2,848, an increase to that of 2,293 in 2000. Of that number, 2,306 (89.9%) are owner-occupied while renter occupied housing constitutes 260 units (10.1%).

According to the 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, the median household income for Argentine Township was \$59,315. On each end of the scale, there were 5.0% earning less than \$10,000 and 1.6% earning \$200,000 or more. This census gives the median household incomes of adjoining communities as shown in table #5, with the exception of Fenton Township. It is important to note the recent volatile economic conditions on both a local and national level may affect the accuracy of current figures.

Figure #5: Median Household Income in dollars (2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate)



*note Fenton Township info taken from 2009 Census



Table #6: 2000 Disability Status of Argentine Township non institutionalized population

Age group	Population	Highest disability class within age group	% within age group
Ages 5 to 20 years	101	Mental	5.1%
Ages 21 to 64 years	334	Employment	7.9%
Age 65 +	255	Physical	40.2%
Total	690		10.1%

Disabilities include sensory, physical, mental, and employment disabilities. Generally employment disability was the highest type in ages 18 to 64 years. Mental disability was the highest type of those between the ages of 5 and 17 years and physical disability was the highest type of those 65 or older.

According to the 2008-2012 American Community Survey the percent of total population for those with disabilities was 10.1% which is a decrease from the total in 2000 at 14.1%. It is unclear exactly why this number would lower since life expectancy continue to rise and modern medicine continues to increase the survival rate of those with significant injuries, illnesses and birth defects. With this in mind, as well as Michigan's building code requirements and the requirements of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, all development, including recreational and park improvements, must provide reasonable access for those with disabilities. To take that one step further, the most effective approach is to reach an overall community demographic through "universal design." Universal Design is a fairly new concept that emerged from "barrier free" or "accessible design." It can be defined as the design of products and environments to be usable by *all* people, to the greatest extent possible regardless of ability or disability. The principals of Universal Design are encouraged in new projects whenever feasible.



Table #7: Past and Projected enrollment for Linden Community Schools

Year	Past and Projected Enrollment
2007-2008	3,077
2008-2009	3,070
2009-2010	3,022
2010-2011	2,975
2011-2012	2,966
2012-2013	2,961
2013-2014	2,929
2014-2015	2,902
2015-2016	2,825*
2016-2017	2,808*
2017-2018	2,775*
2018-2019	2,679*
2019-2020	2,625*

Table #7 shows the past and projected(*) enrollment within the entire school district. These figures imply that enrollment will slightly decrease over the next 3 to 5 years. If this is the case, it may affect future student programming. However, due to a projected increase in older populations and growing trends in outdoor physical fitness and recreation, the school board is committed to providing the general public with open access to their network of recreational facilities to help service the community, whenever feasible.



Land use

The land use character of Argentine Township can generally be described as rural residential and agricultural with a small mixture of retail trade and services primarily located along Silver Lake Road.

Land use data provides basic information as to the character of a community by breaking the uses down into categories of residential, agricultural, commercial, and so on. The 2013 Argentine Township Master Plan shows the township land uses in Table #9 below. The Future Land Use Map shown in the Mater Plan is shown on page 2.10:

ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP LAND USE		
Use	Acres	Percent of Total Land Area
Developed:		
Residential	1234	5.0%
Commercial/Institutional	59	.27%
Industrial	3	.001%
Transportation/Utilities	190	.82%
Extractive	35	.15%
Recreation	36	.16%
Subtotal, developed acres	1557	6.4%
Non-developed:		
Agricultural	13040	56.1%
Open	2303	9.9%
Forest	4496	19.3%
Water	844	4.0%
Wetlands	1009	4.3%
Subtotal non-developed acres	21692	96.6%
TOTAL	23249	100%

Source: 2013 Argentine Township Master Plan

A 2003 land-use study prepared by the University of Michigan Flint - Center for Applied and Environmental Research identified a predominance of agricultural farmstead land and rural residential property in the north and northwest portions of the township (see map on page 2.11). Small local retail and neighborhood businesses are located along Silver Lake Road primarily between Seymour Road and Seymour/Argentine Road. There are a number of county-owned properties being used for various infrastructure-related purposes such as waste water treatment lagoons and the road commission maintenance yard. There is very little in the way of industrial and office uses. The remaining areas, particularly to the south, are higher density residential and waterfront home sites.

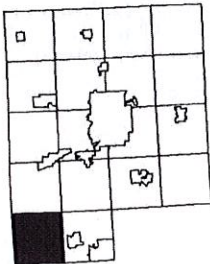


Argentine Township - 2003 Land Use / Cover



0 0.35 0.7 1.4 2.1 2.8 Miles

Genesee County



Legend

Argentine Class

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Multi-family, low rise | Under construction / construction sites | Reservoirs |
| Single family / duplex | Cropland | Shrub swamps |
| Manufactured home park | Orchards, bush-fruits | Non-forested wetlands |
| Shopping center / malls / retail centers | Confined feeding operations | Barron |
| Secondary / neighborhood or rural business | Permanent pasture | |
| Institutional | Other agriculture | |
| Office park | Farmsteads | |
| Industrial | Grasses and forbs | |
| Air transportation | Shrubs | |
| Road transportation | Central hardwoods | |
| Utilities | Lowland hardwoods | |
| Extractive | Pine | |
| Outdoor recreation | Other upland conifers | |
| Cemeteries | Lowland conifers | |
| Vacant | Upland hardwoods and pine associations | |
| | Lowland conifers with hardwood associations | |
| | Lakes | |



© Center for Applied Environmental Research

Source: 2003 Land Use Downloads www.oursoutherlakes.com

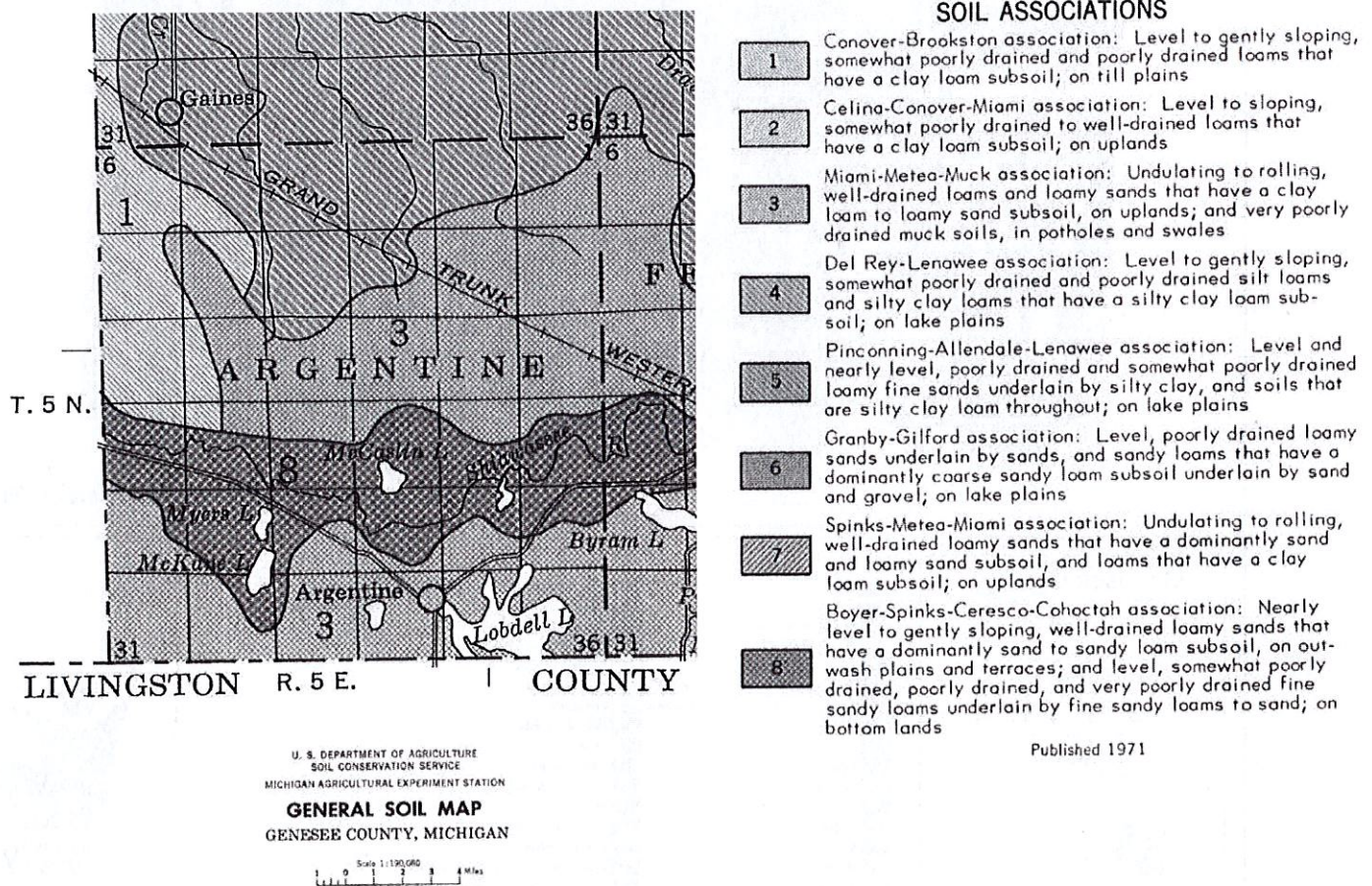


Soils

Topography in the township is relatively flat to slightly rolling terrain. The 1972 soil survey for Genesee County, completed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, shows 4 types of general soil classifications within Argentine Township (Figure #9).

Generally, the northerly portion of the township is described as level to gently sloping with somewhat poorly drained soils typical of farmlands. The southern portion is described as undulating to rolling with well drained soils in its uplands and very poorly drained soil in depressed areas and swales. There is also a well defined strip of land area running along the Shiawassee River that is described as nearly level to gently sloping with well drained soils on outwash plains and terraces and poorly drained soils on bottom lands typical of river beds fringed with floodplain and wetlands. Having an understanding of the communities' soil characteristics can help in the efforts to manage natural resources and plan for recreation on a broad based scale around what could be considered difficult soils to develop.

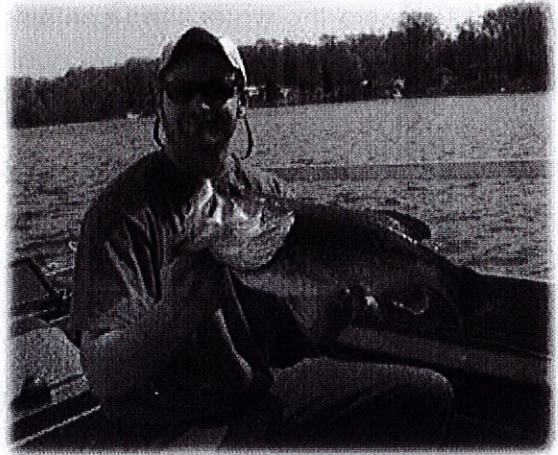
Figure #9: Soils Map for Argentine Township





Water Resources

There are a number of open water lakes within the township, the largest being Lobdell Lake at 545 acres. Other large and widely used lakes in the area include McCaslin Lake, McKane Lake and Myers Lake. Also Shiawassee Lake is a large lake located off the navigable portion of the Shiawassee River. However, an upland public access to this lake is not directly available at this time. All of these lakes, including Lobdell, are located in the south portion of the township and have been heavily developed with single family housing.



All but McCaslin Lake are considered all sports lakes offering a wide variety of water sports and boating recreation to residents. The only public access site is on Lobdell Lake. Bennett and Hoisington Lakes, are all sports lakes and located in Livingston County just south of Lobdell Lake. These two lakes are attached to Lobdell Lake by a boat-accessible channel that runs under Bennett Lake Rd.

There are also numerous wetlands found in the lower three-quarters of the township. The natural features inventory map found in this plan identifies wetland areas as prepared by



View of Lobdell Lake from Silver Lake Road

the Michigan Natural Features Inventory of May 2006. Wetland soils are frequently saturated and contain heavy concentrations of organic material such as peat, marl and decomposed vegetation. They may be unsuitable for certain types of development but play an important role in protecting water quality, wildlife habitats, and migration habits. A permit from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) is required prior to performing any activity such as dredging, draining,

or filling of a regulated wetland. Regulated wetlands are often found along the edges of lakes, rivers, streams, and in low lying drainage areas, to name a few; therefore, a wetland delineation is highly recommended during the planning and design stages of development.

The township is primarily located within the Shiawassee River Drainage Basin. This river has several tributaries that have headwaters located in northern Livingston County and the northwest corner of Oakland County. It flows through Fenton Township before reaching



Argentine Township where it then runs through Shiawassee County and continues to flow north to the Saginaw River and ultimately out letting into the Saginaw Bay. Within Argentine Township this water shed contains numerous miles of rivers, creeks, and drains, providing many values including water quality, and recharge points, wildlife habitats and recreation opportunities. There are several areas where access is available to the public.

Portions of the Shiawassee River, North Ore Creek, Porter Drain and Jones Creek, and some lake areas are within the 100 year floodplain as established by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA). These floodplain areas are shown on the Natural Features Inventory Map found in this plan. They are used to control the floodwaters of an adjacent stream, river, or lake and are critical to water quality as well as the quality and diversity of various ecosystems. Wetlands are often



View of the Shiawassee River

found to be overlapping or intermingled with floodplain areas. As with wetlands, a permit to fill or construct within a floodplain requires a permit from the MDNRE and/or FEMA.

Climate

Argentine Township is located in a region with cold winters and warm summers. The annual rainfall is 30 inches per year compared to the US average of 37 inches. The annual snowfall is 46 inches compared to the US average of 25 inches. On average there are 171 sunny days with a July high temperature of 82° and January low of 15°. This provides the community with wide range of weather patterns to consider for recreational planning purposes.

Transportation

There are two major transportation routes through the township. Silver Lake Road runs in an east west direction across the township from Byron to the City of Linden and Fenton area. This route also leads to US 23 / I-75, a major north-south expressway to communities such as Ann Arbor or Flint. Seymour Road runs in a north-south direction though the township and leads to Swartz Creek and Flushing. It also allows access to I-69, a major expressway that leads to communities such as a Lapeer and Lansing. Taking Seymour/Argentine Road to the south allows access to M-59, a state route that leads to Howell and the I-96 expressway which leads to Lansing, to the west, and the Metro Detroit Area to the east. Other highly traveled thoroughfares within the township are Duffield Road, Lahring Road and Ray Road. All public roads within Argentine Township are under jurisdiction of the Genesee County Road Commission.



ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Township and Schools

The Argentine Township Board has final authority related to development and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities on township-owned property under Act 157 of the Public Acts of 1905. Currently, the township owns two properties that are considered undeveloped but are allocated for future park improvements. The township also continues to pursue acquisition of properties as needed to develop a cohesive parks system that concurs with the overall parks and recreation goals and objectives. The Planning Commission will play an advisory role to the Township Board by reviewing projects in relation to this plan's goals and objectives and by seeing that they are being met. The Board has authority over the progress the township takes toward implementing the action program and approval of financial expenditures. The Township understands the economic burdens with which families are presently faced. Therefore, plans for future development are intended to incorporate volunteer opportunities and fundraising efforts as much as possible. The township strongly intends to seek funding through various federal, state, local, and philanthropic sources, as well. When necessary, funds may be included as a line item in the township's budget for recreational planning, improvements, and maintenance of township facilities, as needed.

Like the Township Board, the Linden Community School Board has final authority over financial expenditures related to school-owned property. The board seeks the guidance of their Facility Needs Committee who, like the Planning Commission, serves as an advisory committee to the school board. This committee and the school board meet on a regularly scheduled basis to review and discuss needed improvements and new development. Presently the school uses their "sinking fund" and in-kind donations as the funding source for many recent and proposed improvements. The schools 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 "sinking fund" budget can be found in the Appendix. Maintenance of the schools recreational facilities is taken out of the contracted services line item of their budget which is \$350,000 for 2014-2015. This line item is used for a host of services from waste removal to mowing. As with the township board, the school board is not opposed to applying for funds through various federal, state, local, and philanthropic sources.

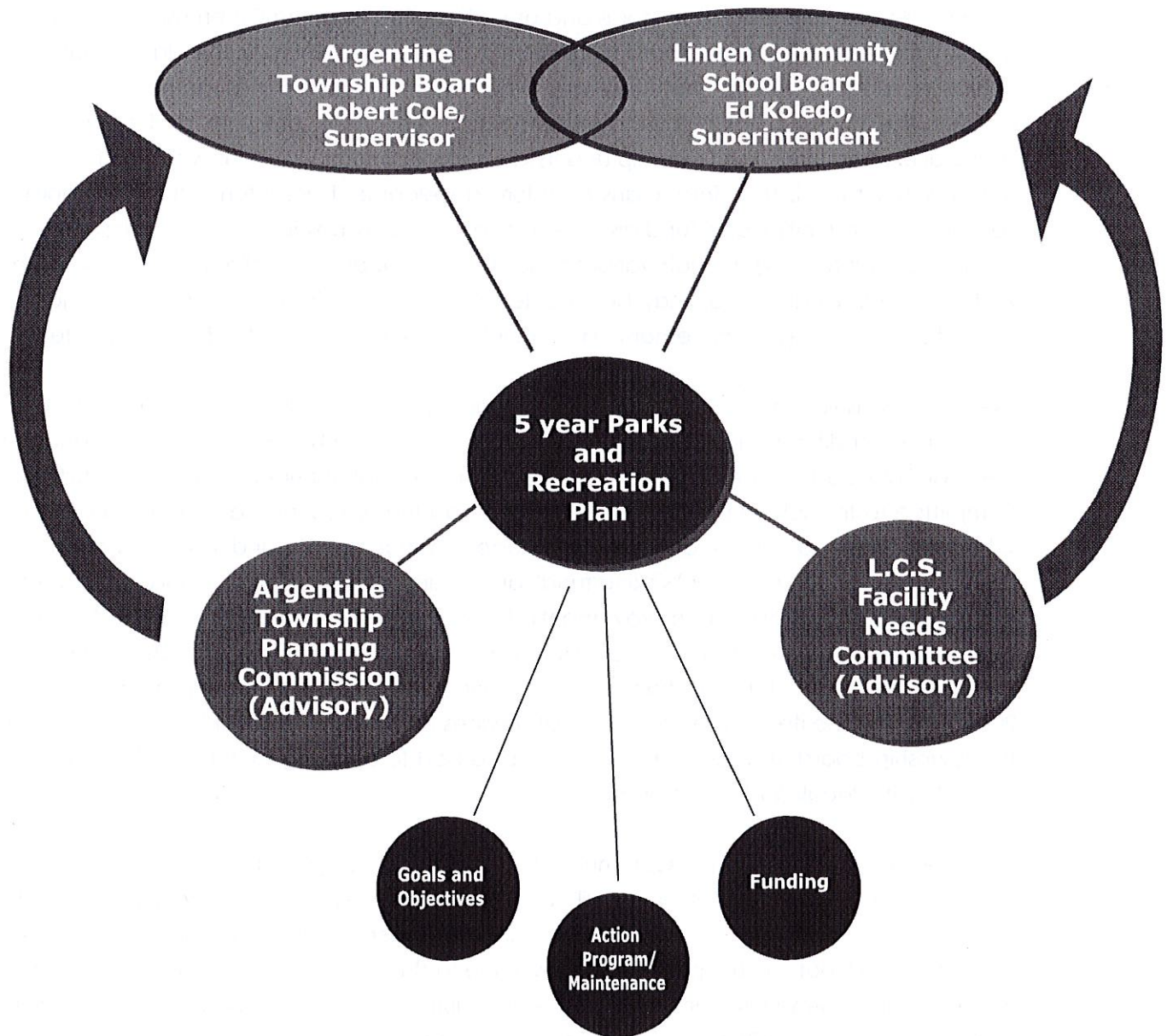
Both the Township and Linden Community Schools have recognized early on in this process that collaborating with one another will achieve the best results for the overall community. As in the past, both are committed to working together toward reaching the goals and objectives laid out in this plan. Both have the authority to make decisions related to recreational expenditures in their respective jurisdictions. Therefore, communications between the Township Supervisor and School's Superintendent will be on-going and



coordinated in an efficient manner by consulting their advisory committees and combining resources and ideas whenever appropriate. Continual reference will be made as to the goals and objectives and action program specified within this document.

The following figure is a graphical representation of the administrative structure.

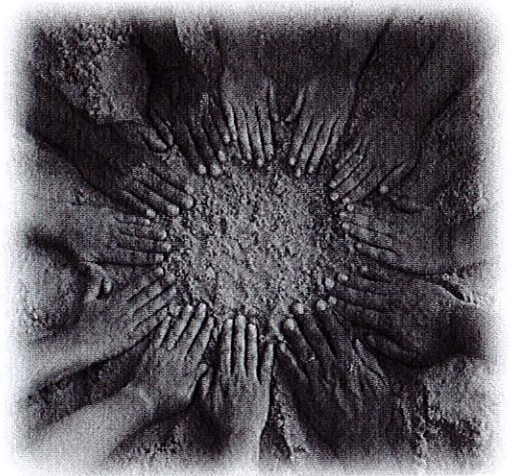
Figure #10 Administrative Organization Chart





Community Partnerships

Community partners provide support, insight, technical, and "hands on" assistance for future planning and implementation. Both Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools recognize the valuable resources these groups are to the community. They are committed to building on existing relationships and cultivating new ones so that a sustainable parks system can be developed. This is also an important component toward building positive social interactions and economic growth within the community and on a regional scale as well.



Current Partnerships include:

Genesee Regional Trail Council (Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission)
SAGE (Safe and Active Genesee for Everyone)
Headwaters Trails Inc.
Shiawassee River Trail Group
Fenton Area Paddlers
Lions Club
Swartz Creek Schools
Byron Schools
Michigan Nature Association
Southern Lakes Parks and Recreation
Loose Senior Center
Fenton Community Foundation
Linden Argentine Fenton Area Trails Coalition (formerly known as: Southern Lakes Trail Coalition)
CAER - Center of Applied and Environmental Research (University Outreach, UM-Flint)

Potential Partnerships include:

Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance
League of Michigan Bicyclists
Keep Genesee County Beautiful
Ruth Mott Foundation
Genesee County Conservation District
For-Mar Nature Preserve – Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission
Regents of University of Michigan Ann Arbor
Disability Network
Local Boy Scout Clubs
MSU Master Gardeners – Genesee County



PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Current Planning Efforts

This Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan was developed to coincide with current ongoing efforts related to multi-use pathway and river trail development in Genesee County and along the Shiawassee River, respectively. The following describes 3 groups that have been working towards these goals. Understanding these initiatives assures that this mater plan does not conflict with currently established goals and is complementary to other plans already set into motion.

Genesee County Regional Non-Motorized Plan

There are numerous pathway development projects on-going throughout Genesee County. This initiative was spearheaded by the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission (GCMPC) when they created the Genesee County Regional Trail Plan in 2007 and is currently being updated in 2014 for final adoption in 2015. This document provides the framework for creating an interconnected system of paved trail ways throughout Genesee County. It identifies existing and



potential routes through each community in Genesee County based on public surveys, research, on-site evaluations, and connectivity to adjoining communities and counties. For Argentine the plan identifies two major regional routes through the township. The First being along Silver Lake Road from the west to east limits of the township connecting with Burns Township in Shiawassee County to the West and the City of Linden and Fenton Township to the east. The second major proposed route runs along Seymour Road from the north to south township limits. This regional route would lead into Gaines Township and the City of Swartz Creek to the north and with Livingston County to the south. The plan categorizes all of the proposed trails throughout the county into 3 tiers with Tier 1 having strongest priority and Tier 3 having longest term priority. The Silver Lake Road route received a Tier 1 rating for that portion from the east limits to Seymour Road and a Tier 2 rating from Seymour to the west Township limits. The Seymour road route received a Tier 3 rating. This is exciting news for the community as it will provide non-motorized connections to six surrounding communities



Shiawassee River Water Trail

In the township this water trail is approximately 7 miles long, extending in an east west direction through the middle to southerly portion of the township were it continues to flow west and north to the Saginaw River. This water trail--sometimes referred to as a paddling trail or a blue trail --would essentially identify part of the Shiawassee River as a navigable waterway that could accommodate low-impact, human-powered watercraft such as canoes and kayaks.



Canoes and kayaks typically create "no wake" and embrace the "Leave No Trace" code of outdoor ethics, which would promote the responsible use and enjoyment of the ecologically-sensitive marsh areas along the river. The trail would provide educational and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts and can also serve to create economic opportunities in supporting existing business as well as creating new businesses that cater to river paddlers.

In Argentine, a grass roots effort has resulted in the formation of the "Shiawassee River Cleanup Committee." This committee organizes an annual event in which volunteers clean debris and remove obstacles in and along the river for safe enjoyable use by area paddlers and fishermen.

There are several other groups that serve as stewards of the Shiawassee River Water Trail. These include: Southern Lakes Park and Recreation, Keepers of the Shiawassee, Friends of the Shiawassee and Headwater Trails Inc. These groups cover a large three county regional area all working toward the same goals - advocating safe canoe/kayak use while protecting the waters of the Shiawassee River. The geographic area of this group stretches from Holly in Oakland County through Fenton Township, the City of Fenton, the City of Linden, Argentine Township, and Shiawassee County. Past funding through Community Foundation of Greater Flint - Fenton Community Fund and the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative has assisted with funding for the design and placement of signage and mile markers along the river, as well as improvements to the undeveloped McCaslin Lake Road launch site in Argentine. Although the remaining funds were not enough alone to fully implement improvements to this launch site, the Parks and Recreation Plan Committee are fully aware of the direct benefit this has to recreation in the community and is strongly in favor of pursuing supplemental funds to see that this project is developed.

Additionally, the 2015 GC Non Motorized Plan also includes water trails since they serve a



similar function as land trails by providing a network of outdoor recreation and transportation routes not to mention they facilitate paddling which is one of the fastest growing recreational segments in the industry. The plan discusses the importance of proper access points, support facilities, maintenance, signage, etc... It names the Shiawassee River as one of only two water trails in Genesee County which includes the undeveloped launch site at McCaslin Lake Road.

Linden-Argentine-Fenton Area Trails Coalition

The Linden-Argentine-Fenton Area Trails Coalition is a grass roots movement that strives for the development and maintenance of non-motorized trail facilities within the southern regions of Genesee County. This group coordinates trail planning efforts with the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission and individual communities to see that future plans properly align with each other to establish a cohesive network. The coalition is in the process of setting up two funding programs: one, to assist these communities in development of trails by providing matching funds for grants and two, for the maintenance of trails.

Since Argentine Township is one of the three communities that make up this coalition it is considered a very valuable resource and partnership for future implementation of trails in the community.

Southern Lakes Metropolitan Parks and Recreation (SLPR)

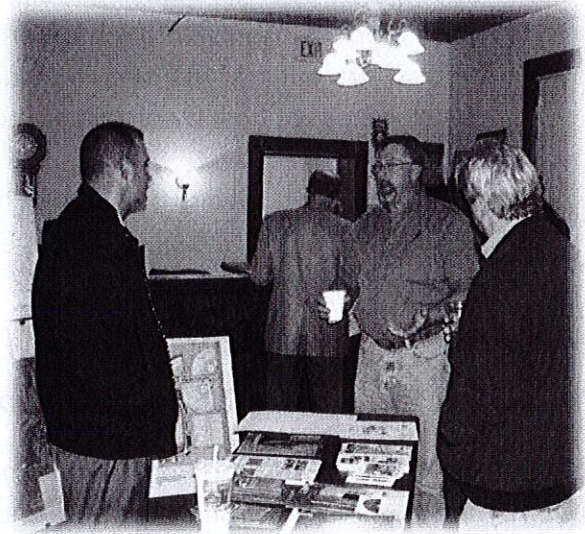
The SLPR is a Park and Recreation organization that serves City of Linden, City of Fenton and Fenton Township and is charged to operate and provided recreational opportunities and programming to these southern Genesee County communities. Due to its close proximity to Argentine Township and the overlapping service area of Linden Community Schools it is important to coordinate efforts between the Township, Schools and SLPR. One recent effort by the SLPR is the potential development of a canoe and kayak launch site on the County Drain Commissioners property on the south side of Rolston Road just west of Hogan Road. The current position of the Township is that this project compliments the Township's McCaslin Lake Road launch project by providing another access point on the Shiawassee River of ample distance between the two. These two launch sites can offer the opportunity for an enjoyable afternoon river experience for both novice and skilled paddlers.



Planning / Public Input Process

In an effort to establish this Parks and Recreation Plan in an expeditious and most efficient manner, a steering committee was formed that represents both the Township and Schools. Several meetings were held with the committee throughout the plan development process. After the initial kick off meeting, this committee assisted with the public input session and review of the public comment and survey results which provided them with supporting data to develop the goals and objectives list and action program. Once developed, a draft copy was presented to the township planning commission and board, school board, local MPO, and the public for a thirty day review period. After recommendation by the Planning Commission the Township Board and School Board approved the final plan and adopted it by resolution. See page 8.1 for resolutions.

Along with understanding current local planning efforts, other planning tools used to assist the committee in developing the goals and objectives included public input such as comments, surveys and workshop results, and a comparison of local facilities to national recreational standards developed by the National Recreation and Park Association. The public input process is described below; comparisons to the national standards are listed on pages 5.15 and 5.16.



Public Input Process

There were three opportunities for public participation prior to adoption of this plan. **First**, a public **survey** was developed that consisted of 9 questions related to recreation and current facilities. This survey was made available on both the township and schools websites. **Second**, a **public workshop** was held to inform the public and gather their comments by way of planning activities. A notice in the local newspaper and on the Argentine-Linden-Fenton Area Trails Coalition facebook page informed residents of the survey and public workshop. **Third**, a presentation was held at a regularly scheduled Township Board meeting to report the plan's progress and gain additional public comment. The draft plan was presented at this meeting to initiate the 30 day review period to allow the public time to review the plan and make comments prior to adoption. Lastly, the final plan was presented to the township board and school board for final adoption.



Survey Questionnaire

A survey questionnaire was developed to gain the public's thoughts related to current recreation facilities and improvements they would like to see. The survey also included questions related to activities they currently participate in and what type of funding sources they would likely support for future improvement projects. The format of the questions was compiled using other surveys prepared for similar parks and recreations plans in the area and customizing them to fit the Argentine community. The committee reviewed and commented on the questionnaire before making it available to the public. The survey was created using the online services of surveymonkey.com. It was posted on both the township and school websites from November 24, 2014 to December 12, 2014. Paper copies of the survey were also available at the township and school administrative offices as well as at the public workshop. Results of the survey are shown in the appendix.

Public Workshop

On December 9, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm a public workshop took place at the Argentine Township Hall. This workshop was well attended. Informational displays were setup and a presentation was made to inform the attendees of the purpose for this project, the process involved, and of other planning efforts taking place in the area. The workshop consisted of four planning activities to engage public participation. Results of the workshop are shown in the appendix.



- Activity 1) Using the township's Existing Recreational Facilities Map and corresponding chart, residents were asked to mark on the chart which facilities they have used and list any that are not shown. They were also asked to make comments and/or suggestions about those facilities.

Also, participants were given a map of the unimproved Silver Lake Road Township park property with a general overview of the sites characteristics and asked to list potential uses, amenities or site improvements they would like to see at this site. The results of this activity are provided in the appendix.



- Activity 2) Using the map from activity 1, residents were asked to identify new multi-use trail routes they feel would complement the township's non-motorized trail system, considering the information they gave in activity 1. They were then asked to prioritize them by number. It's important

to note that Silver Lake Road and Seymour Road routes were already shown on this map as they have already been prioritized. Residents were asked to establish new routes that would ideally connect to these two prioritized routes and to other assets in the community.

- Activity 3) Using the Township Natural Features Inventory Map from the 2010 plan residents were asked to prioritize what natural features areas they would like preserved using a numbering system. One being priority one, two being priority two and three being third priority.
- Activity 4) Residents were asked to complete paper copies of the survey and were also given the opportunity to comment publicly about parks and recreation in the community.

Some Public Comments made:

- 1) The newly formed Linden Argentine Fenton Area Trails Coalition is a resource the township may be able to use for possible funding support of trail development and trail maintenance. They also advocate trail development in southern Genesee County in making sure that community plans align with each other and the county wide plan.
- 2) The Fenton Community Fund has allocated funds toward the McCaslin Lake canoe launch that may go toward a MDNR grant local match along with various volunteering opportunities.



2014 Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools Parks and Recreation Master Plan

We need your input!



Recreational funding is out there and we want to go after it! But, to be eligible we need an updated Parks and Rec Master Plan. One of the first steps in this process is to hear from you... What recreational and open space amenities do you want to see in the Argentine Community?

Please join us for a Public Workshop

Tuesday, December 9, 2014
from 6:00 to 8:00 pm
at the Township Hall
9048 Silver Lake Road
(next to the Fire Station)



Can't make it? Take our online survey

Please visit www.argentinetownship.com
or www.lindenschools.org

You can also pickup a survey at the township office,
local schools, churches, or key Argentine businesses

Your comments are important to us!





Published Public Notices

11-30-14

SSIFIEDS www.tctimes.com

NOTICE
ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
PARK AND RECREATION PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Argentine Township is working with Linden Schools on a Parks and Recreation Plan Update. A workshop is scheduled for December 9, 2014 at 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road, Linden MI 48451. Residents are encouraged to attend. Residents can take an on-line survey at www.lindenschools.org or www.argentinetownship.com or you can pick a paper copy of the survey at the Township Office, Linden Schools or various businesses throughout the township.

Denise Graves
Argentine Township Clerk

Tri County Times: November 30, 2014
 (Also posted on the LAF Trails Coalition Facebook Page)

12/13/14

Notice
Argentine Township Residents

Argentine Township has been working cooperatively with Linden Community Schools to develop an updated five year Parks and Recreation Plan. A presentation of the Draft plan will be given on Monday December 22 at 7:00 pm at the Argentine Township Hall, 9048 Silver Lake Road. This plan reviews public comments related to parks and recreation, evaluation of existing facilities, defines goals and objectives, and a proposed five year plan for improvements. Residents are encouraged to attend. This meeting will begin the 30 day public review period. All comments must be received by January 21, 2015. A copy of the draft plan is available for review and comment at the Township Office or by visiting the Township's website at www.argentinetownship.com or the Linden Community schools website at www.lindenschools.org.

Tri County Times: December 13, 2014
 (Also posted on the LAF Trails Coalition Facebook Page)

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP BOARD

The Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on January 26, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Argentine Township Hall located at 9048 Silver Lake Road to discuss the 2015 Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan. Comments may be made during the public comment portion of this meeting after which the Township Board will consider approval and adoption of this plan prior to submitting it to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Denise Graves, Clerk
 Argentine Township

Tri County Times: January 11 and January 18, 2015



RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORIES

Information regarding **existing recreational facilities** and their locations was obtained through research of the previous parks and recreation plan, evaluation of adjoining community and county parks master plans, evaluation of aerial imagery, geographic information system data, on-site evaluations, information provided by the Parks and Recreation Plan Committee, Linden Community Schools, and from public surveys and public input. The geographic range of facilities was broken down into three levels: a **local level** (all facilities within the township limits), a **regional level** (all facilities located in a 6 mile radius of the township) and a **county level** (Genesee County-owned parks).

Local Facilities:

The local facilities map (page 5.3) was created using base data provided through Genesee County's Geographic Information System (GIS) to depict property lines, roads, water bodies, rivers, and streams. The location and name of all existing recreation facilities within the township were plotted on this map. The Genesee County Drain Commissioner owns several tracks of land in the township and has expressed an interest to use portions of county land for parks in a cooperative effort with the township. As well, the township owns property on Oakwood Drive and on McCaslin Lake Road that has been reserved for park development. Therefore, for future planning and coordination purposes, all public, semi-public or county-owned lands are highlighted on this map.

The **Local Facilities Inventory Chart** (page 5.4) is a quick reference to the types of public, semi public, and privately owned recreation areas currently available to the Argentine community. Facilities are listed in the following order: **public** (owned by a governmental agency with full access to the public), **semi-public** (owned by a school, club, or non profit organization but intended to be accessible to the public) and **private** (privately owned and do not allow unauthorized public access). The inventory chart identifies each site's location and acreage which corresponds to the existing facilities map on page 5.3. The chart also lists the classification, property owner, site description, the types of recreation offered, and the ADA accessibility rating as well. The ADA accessibility rating is described on page 5.13.

In terms of **current public facilities**, only two of the sites are under ownership of the township. The unimproved canoe/kayak launch site on McCaslin Lake Road and the undeveloped park on Silver Lake Road. It should be noted that the township is in the process of improving these sites which is further discussed under the Goals and



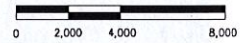
Objectives section. The public access boat launch on Lobdell Lake is owned by the Michigan State DNR. Although this site is limited in terms of amenities, it is very well maintained and does offer public boating access to Lobdell Lake which connects to Bennett Lake and Hoisington Lake. This access serves a large number of boaters outside the township area which contributes greatly to the local economy during summer months.

Linden Community Schools owns and operates two areas in the township: Argentine Elementary and the main school campus which includes Linden High School, Linden Middle School and Central Elementary. As with most rural communities not having a formal parks and recreation commission, these school grounds play an important role in relieving the demand for local recreational options. Their southerly location within the township does make it difficult to accommodate all residents, particularly those of low income or with limited transportation.

Other sites listed in the chart are semi-public or privately-owned but offer (or have the potential to offer) recreation to the public such as camping, nature trails, picnicking, soccer fields, and ball fields. Semi public and private facilities are important to a public parks system in that they can relieve the burden on public facilities. They are often used to compensate geographic gaps and, in a coordinated effort, can provide amenities and programming that complement the overall system.



Local Existing Facilities Map



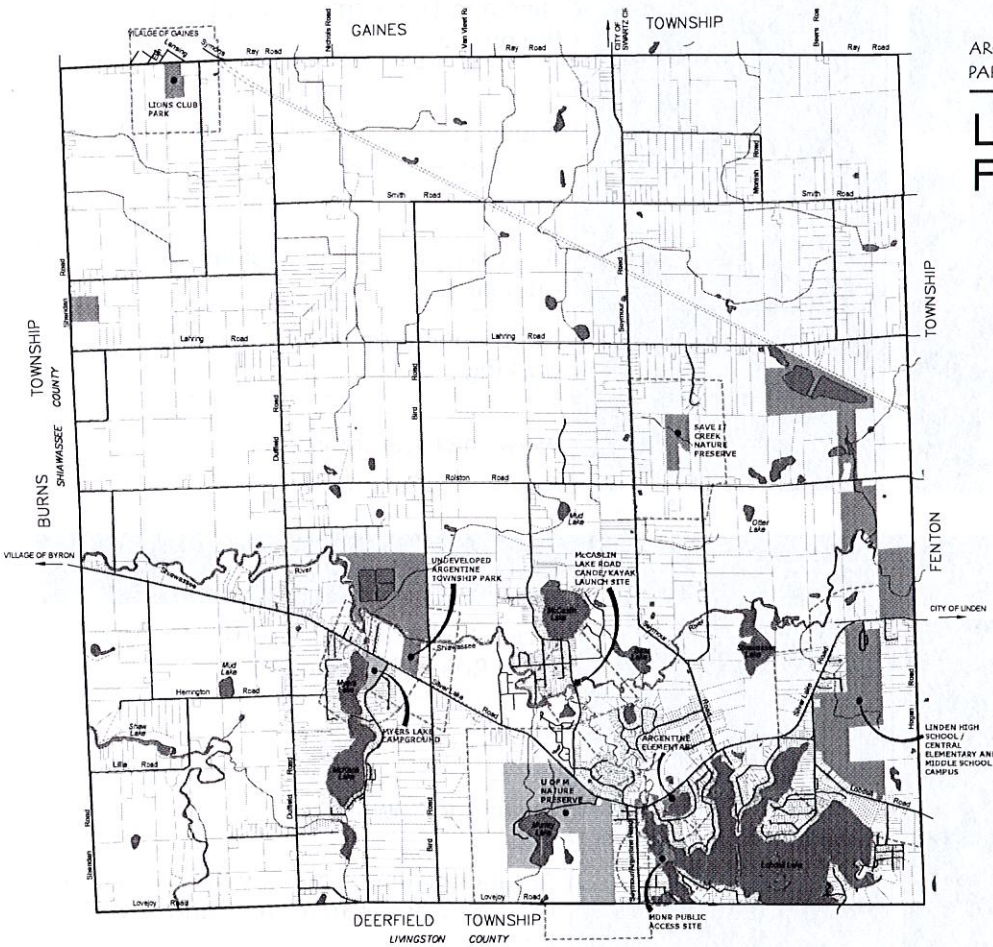
Legend

- LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS
- PUBLIC, SEMI PUBLIC OR COUNTY OWNED LANDS
- PRIVATE LANDS WITH RECREATIONAL AMENITIES
- NAME EXISTING RECREATION FACILITY
- 1/4 MILE WALKING BOUNDARY AROUND FACILITY

SEMI PUBLIC REFERS TO PRIVATE LANDS WITH RECREATIONAL AMENITIES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC


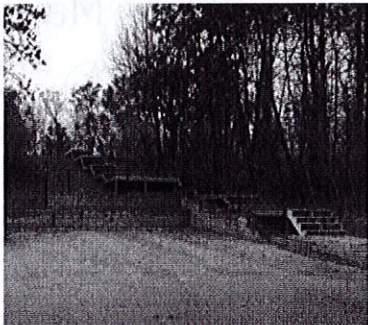
BASE MAPPING DATA PROVIDED BY THE GENESEE COUNTY GIS DEPARTMENT

THE WALKING BOUNDARY IDENTIFIES THE AREA IN WHICH WALKING TO THE FACILITY IS OF A REASONABLE DISTANCE





LOCAL FACILITIES INVENTORY CHART

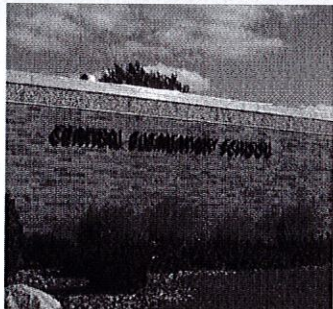
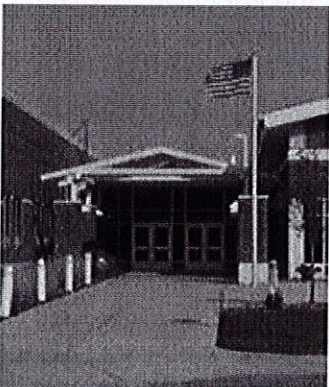
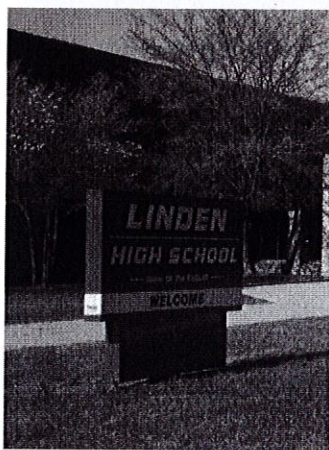
FACILITY NAME : MDNR Public Lake Access Site		
 	LOCATION AND SIZE	Seymour/Argentine Road, South of Silver Lake Road (11.5± Acres)
	CLASSIFICATION	Public / Special Use
	OWNERSHIP	Michigan Department of Natural Resources
	FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Public access to Lobdell Lake which is an all sports lake.
	ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	4 (facility meets accessibility guidelines)
	FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	Boat launch, dock, restroom and parking
	WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.michigan.gov/dnr

FACILITY NAME : McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak Launch		
	LOCATION AND SIZE	McCaslin Lake Road, North of Silver Lake Road (1.2± Acres)
	CLASSIFICATION	Public / Special Use
	OWNERSHIP	Argentine Township
	FACILITY DESCRIPTION	An undeveloped, quiet water launch on the Shiawassee River for canoes and Kayaks
	ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	1 (undeveloped site. Future improvements should consider barrier-free accessibility including universal design)
	FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	Access to Shiawassee River. Plans for Improvements are in process
	WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.headwaterstrailsinc.org and www.shiawasseeeriver.org

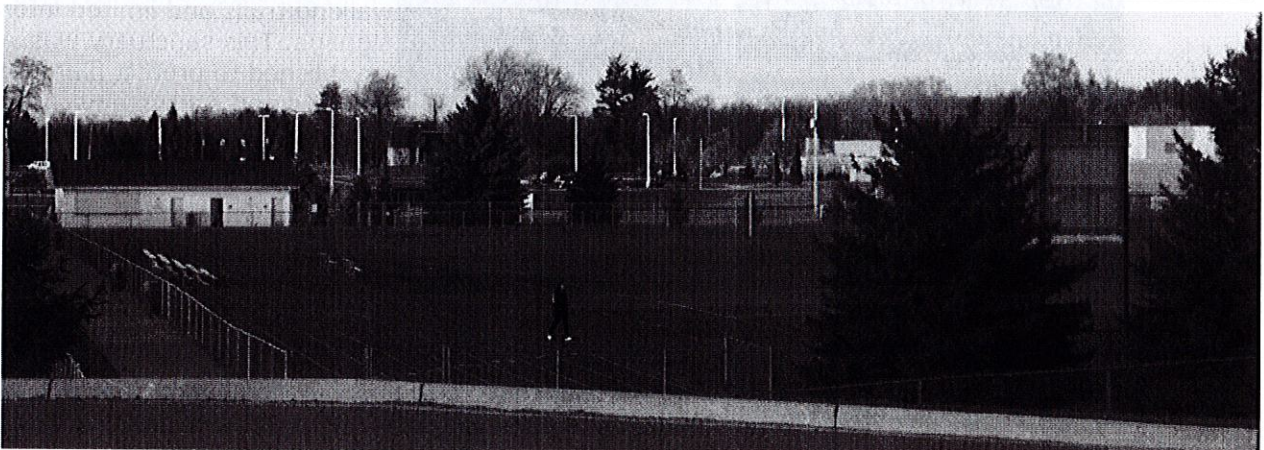
*Note: See page 5.13 for a description of the accessibility rating scale.



FACILITY NAME: Linden High School, Central Elem., & Middle School Campus



LOCATION AND SIZE	Silver Lake Road, West of Hogan Road (236± Acres)
CLASSIFICATION	Semi Public / School-Park / Community Park
OWNERSHIP	Linden Community Schools
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	3 public schools are located on campus: Central Elementary, grades K - 5 Linden Middle School, grades 6 - 8 Linden High School, grades 9 - 12 Outdoor recreation facilities are open to community 7 days a week. Managed under Linden Community Schools System.
ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	Central Elementary: 2 (some of facility meets accessibility guidelines) Middle and High Schools: 4 (facility meets accessibility guidelines)
FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	3 Softball fields 2 Baseball fields 3 Basketball courts 1 Practice soccer field 4 Football fields (1 playing and 3 practice) 4 Volleyball courts (indoor/gymnasiums) ¼-mile oval running track Cross country walking and running trail 1 Playground Indoor gymnastics programming Multi purpose room Programming: athletics such as basketball and soccer, exercise classes, football camp, and three 5 K races held each year on campus.
WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.lindenschools.org



*Note: See page 5.13 for a description of the accessibility rating scale.



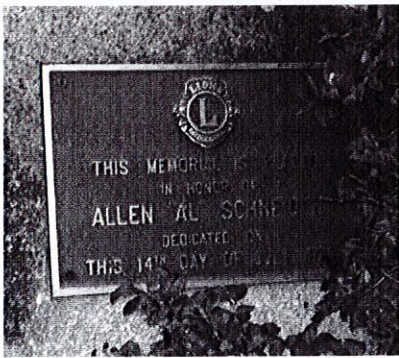
FACILITY NAME : Argentine Elementary		
	LOCATION AND SIZE	Silver Lake Road, East of Seymour/Argentine Road(4.7± Acres)
	CLASSIFICATION	Semi Public / School-Park
	OWNERSHIP	Linden Community Schools
	FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Public elementary school serving age 0 to preschool. Managed under Linden Community Schools System.
	ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	3 (most of this facility meets accessibility guidelines with the exception of power assisted doors)
	FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	1 Playground 1 Basketball court Programming: Preschool Plus, Eagle Club, Skip to Great Start, Discovery Day, Eagle Club Summer Camp, Jazercise, parent/child yoga and tumbling.
	WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.lindenschools.org

FACILITY NAME : Save It Creek Nature Preserve		
 	LOCATION AND SIZE	Rolston Road, East of Seymour Road (35± Acres)
	CLASSIFICATION	Semi Public / Natural Resource Area
	OWNERSHIP	Michigan Nature Association
	FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Passive nature park with undeveloped walking trails and limited informational signage. This sanctuary was established to protect plant and wildlife habitats and ecosystems. There are no paved parking lots, trash receptacles or wide, clearly defined trails.
	ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	1 (future improvements should consider barrier-free access)
	FACILITIES / PROGRAMS	Open to the public for nature education walks and school field trips.
	WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.michigannature.org

*Note: See page 5.13 for a description of the accessibility rating scale.

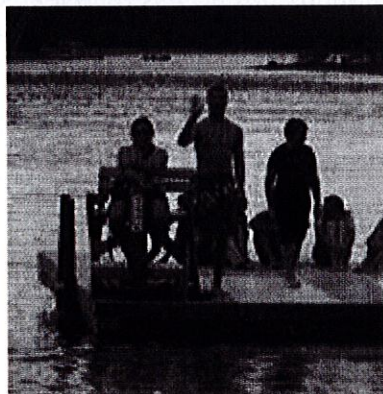
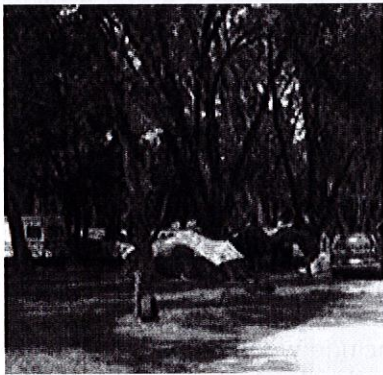


FACILITY NAME : Lions Club Park / Swartz Creek Schools



LOCATION AND SIZE	Off Elms Street, South of Ray Road (20± Acres)
CLASSIFICATION	Semi Public / Neighborhood Park
OWNERSHIP	Swartz Creek Schools/ Gaines Lions Club
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	This facility adjoins the Gaines Elementary school playground. According to county records, the north 7 acres is owned by Swartz Creek Schools and the south 13 acres is owned by the Gaines Area Lions Club
ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	3 (most of the facility meets accessibility guidelines with the exception of parking space signage)
FACILITIES / PROGRAMS	Pavilion, soccer fields, ball fields, parking, restrooms and annual rodeo
WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.swartzcreek.org/gaines.html

FACILITY NAME : Myers Lake Campground (United Methodist Church)

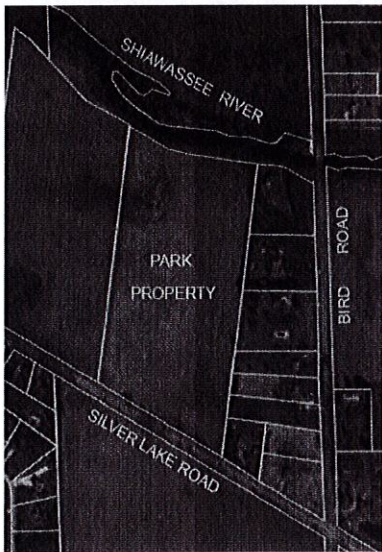


LOCATION AND SIZE	Sliver Lake Road, between Bird and Duffield Roads (18± Acres)
CLASSIFICATION	Private / Recreation Facility
OWNERSHIP	United Methodist Church
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Family campground w/ approx. 1400 lineal foot of access to Myers Lake.
ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	Unable to access entire facility. It was closed for the winter season when this on-site evaluation was performed.
FACILITIES / PROGRAMS	Camping, boating, swimming, & other water sports, beach area, basketball and volley ball court, ball Field, pavilion rental, playground, beach, boat and bike rentals, laundry facilities, restrooms, Harvest Festival in October, free camping weekend, grandparents/grandchildren weekend
WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.myerslake.com

*Note: See page 5.13 for a description of the accessibility rating scale.



FACILITY NAME : ARGENTINE TOWNSHIP PARK



LOCATION AND SIZE	Silver Lake Road, West of Bird Road (18± Acres)
CLASSIFICATION	Public/ undeveloped Community Park
OWNERSHIP	Argentine Township
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Undeveloped open space that is currently cultivated field with direct access to Silver Lake Road and potential access to the Shiawassee River.
ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	1 (future improvements should consider barrier-free access)
FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	undeveloped
WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.argentinetownship.com

FACILITY NAME : University of Michigan Nature Preserve



LOCATION AND SIZE	Silver Lake Road, West of Seymour/Argentine Road (325± Acres)
CLASSIFICATION	Private / Natural Resource Area
OWNERSHIP	Regents of University of Michigan – Ann Arbor
FACILITY DESCRIPTION	Undeveloped open space with access to Murray Lake. Natural resources also include woodlands, farmlands, wetlands. An access road leads from Silver Lake road to Murray Lake. Currently not open to public use.
ACCESSIBILITY RATING *	1 (future improvements should consider barrier-free access)
FACILITIES/PROGRAMS	Nature Preserve and Lake
WEBSITE RESOURCE:	www.regents.umich.edu

*Note: See page 5.13 for a description of the accessibility rating scale.

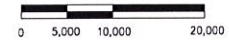
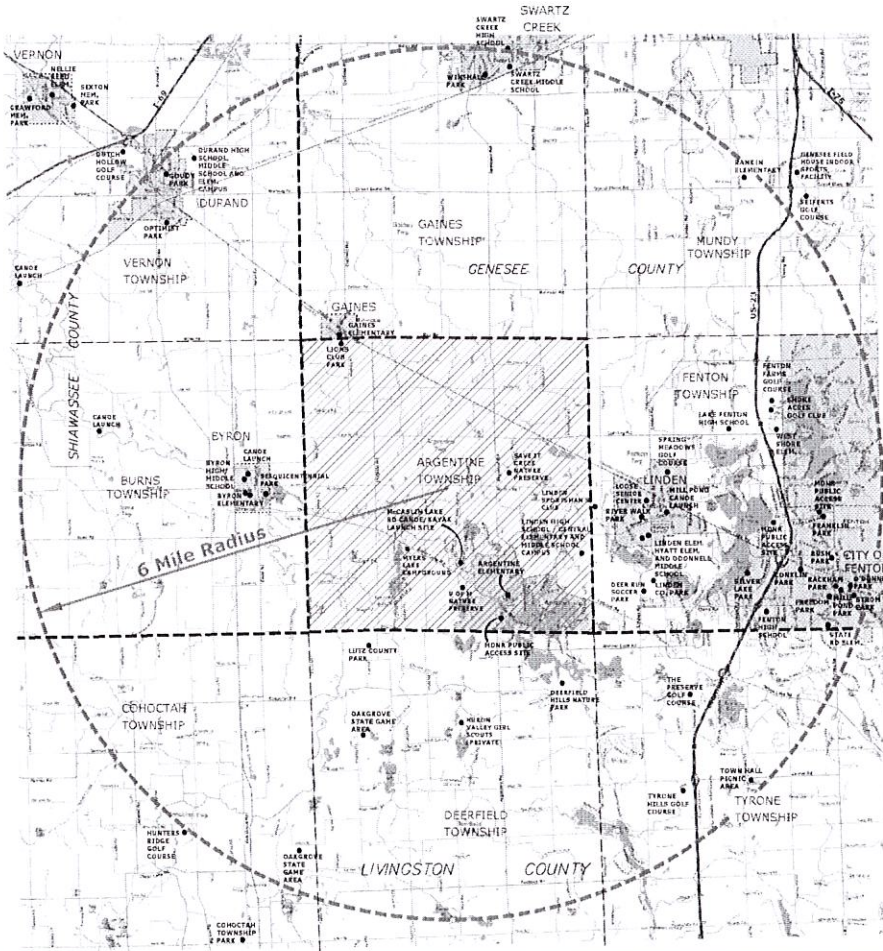


Regional Facilities:

Being located in the very southwest corner of Genesee County allows residents close access to a number of state, municipal, and private recreation opportunities not only located in Genesee county, but also in the adjoining Shiawassee and Livingston Counties. The Regional Facilities Map on page 5.10 shows Argentine Township and the surrounding townships with all recreational properties Argentine residents have access to in a 6 mile radius. These sites include state game areas, nature parks, municipal parks, golf courses, senior center, sportsman club, campgrounds, and schools. There are also several public canoe/kayak launch sites located along the Shiawassee River. The sites shown on the map are a combination of public, semi-public and private land and offer a very wide range of recreation and programming options for all ages.



Regional Facilities Map



Legend

- TOWNSHIP LIMITS
- COUNTY LIMITS
- PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- PUBLIC PARKS / STATE LAND
- GOLF COURSES
- NATURE PRESERVES
- OTHER FACILITIES

PREPARED BY:
F&W FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC.
9475 N. HOLLY ROAD | SUITE 201
GRAND BLANC, MI 48439 | PH. 810-743-9120
www.fveng.com

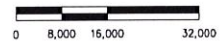
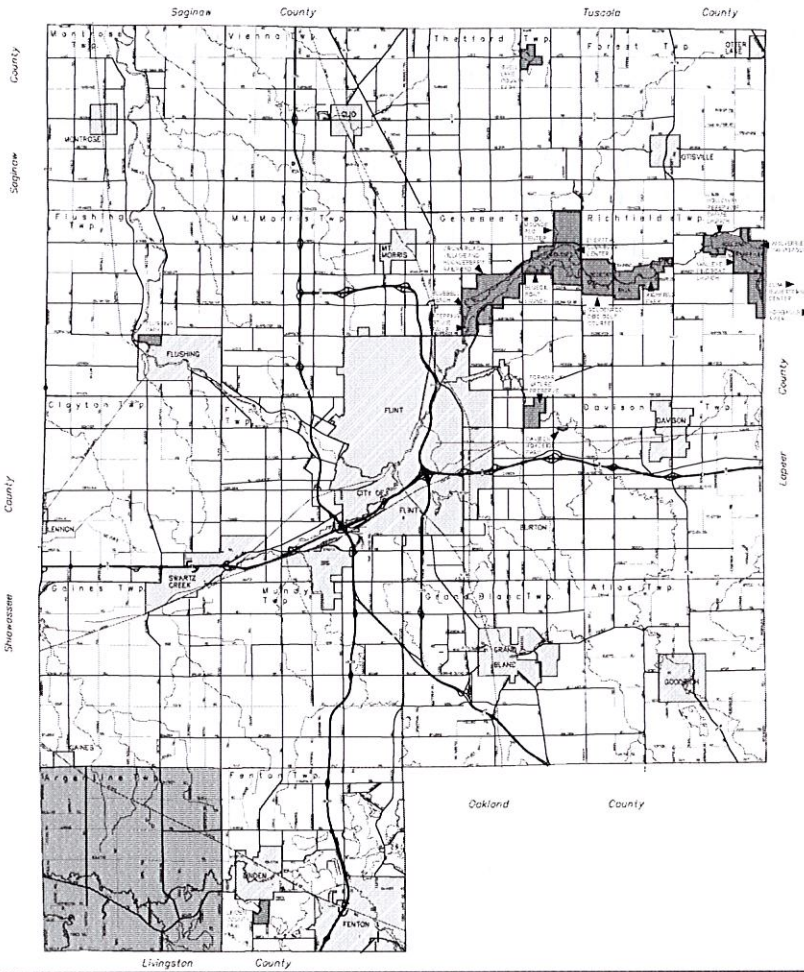


Genesee County Owned Park Facilities:




Being located within the limits of the Genesee County parks system, residents have access to over 10,000 acres of county owned parks (see Genesee County Parks Map on page 5.12). These parks offer a large number of amenities including swimming, fishing, hiking, bicycling, ball fields and courts, cross country skiing, and playgrounds. All of these facilities are owned and operated by the Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission. The drawback for Argentine residents is that over 9,500 acres of these county parks are located in the northeastern portion of the county at the Genesee Recreation Area and Holloway Reservoir Regional Park. From a geographic standpoint, the ability for these parks to accommodate Argentine residents, particularly those of low income or with limited transportation, is significantly reduced. However, Livingston County, to the south, does provide a nearby nature park and state game area. Also, the nearby Linden County Park provides pavilions, picnic areas, playground, a non-motorized pathway, ball fields, cross country skiing, swimming beach, and tennis courts.



Genesee County Parks Map



Legend

-  TOWNSHIP LIMITS
-  CITIES / VILLAGES
-  GENSEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FACILITY (WITH NAME)

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www.fveng.com



Accessibility Assessment

Many communities are becoming more aware of the large numbers of persons with disabilities and the challenges they face on a daily basis. This growing population is due in part as life expectancy rises and modern medicine continues to increase the survival rate of those with significant injuries, illnesses and birth defects. It is essential for social structure, awareness and economic growth, that communities recognize this growing population and make a commitment to provide safe and accessible recreation to residents of all ages and abilities.

Generally, disabilities include mobility impairments, cognitive impairments, hearing impairments, and visual impairments. But recreation should not be limited to a certain group. The most effective approach to reach an overall community demographic is through universal design. Universal design is a fairly new concept that emerged from "barrier free" or "accessible design". It can be defined as the design of products and environments to be useable by all people, to the greatest extent possible regardless of ability or disability.

The MDNR has established a ranking system to determine the accessibility status of each recreation facility in the township. This ranking system uses points 1 through 5 to rate a facility based on the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG). A visual inspection was conducted of each site as well as interviews with school staff to determine compliance with ADAAG standards in regards to routes of travel, ramps and stairs, parking and drop off areas, entrances, doorways, vertical relationships, signage, and restrooms. The MDNR rating system (below) was then applied to each site as shown in the facilities inventory chart on page 5.4.

Accessibility Rating	Definition
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 facility/ park meet accessibility guidelines
5	The entire facility/park was developed/renovated using the principle of universal design

As noted in the inventory, not all sites meet the standards of accessibility. However, as sites are improved, the township will continue its efforts towards improving accessibility and is strongly encouraged to focus on the concepts of universal design whenever feasible.



MDNR Recreation Grant Inventory

To date, neither Argentine Township nor Linden Community Schools has received grants through any of the following MDNR funding sources:

- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (development or acquisition)
- Recreation Passport Grant
- Any other DNR grants

Currently, there is limited funding for improvements to the McCaslin Lake Road Shiawassee River Canoe/Kayak Launch site recently awarded through the Community Foundation of Greater Flint – Fenton Area Fund. However, the amount available is very minimal to accomplish the project scope. Additional funding, donations, and/or volunteer efforts will be required to implement these improvements.

Funding assistance for development of non-motorized pathways and trails may also be sought after through the Community Foundation of Greater Flint – Fenton Area Fund and through the LAF Trail Coalition, and other trail funding sources in addition to MDNR sources.



Current Park Comparison to Recommended Standards

Park Classifications and Area Comparisons

The MDNR recommended park classification system identifies 6 types of parks that apply to Argentine. **Neighborhood parks** are generally 5 – 10 acres and serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. **School parks** can vary in size and can fulfill the space requirement for other classes of parks. **Community Parks** serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. They are usually 30 to 50 acres and serve two or more neighborhoods in a ½ to 3 mile area. In Argentine, the main school campus also serves as a community park due to its service area, public access, and number of amenities offered. **Natural Resource Areas** are lands set aside for preservation and natural open space. The **Special Use** class covers a broad range of facilities orientated toward a single purpose/use. And lastly, the **Private Park/Recreational Facility** class consists of facilities that are privately owned yet contribute in some form to the public park and recreation system. However, for the purposes of the comparative chart below, private parks are listed separately as they do not allow unauthorized access to the public.

Park Classification	Total Acres
Neighborhood	20
School Park	4.7
Community Park (also a school park)	254
Natural Resources	55
Special Use	12.7
Total Park Land ^[1]	346.4
Recommended Standard: 10 acres /1,000 population^{[2],[3]}	69
Private Park/Recreation Facility (includes one natural resource area)	343

^[1] Using only public and semi-public park lands

^[2] Based on a 2010 census population of 6,913

^[3] Recommended standard derived from "Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines", R.A. Lancaster, (1983).

The above data suggests that the Argentine community has an abundance of park land available. However, only 19.2 acres of this total falls under Township control and is, for the most part, all undeveloped land; therefore, it is essential for the township to work in a cooperative effort with the schools and other providers to reach the goals and objectives of this plan and to seek assistance in developing park property that will fill the voids in amenities and programs not fulfilled or over-burdened at other facilities.

The following Level of Service chart is a comparison of recreational types in Argentine with the recommended national standards. This and the above data should be viewed only as a guide. It is highly recommended that these comparisons be used in conjunction with other sources to determine recreation interests and demands, deficiencies and priorities specific to the community.



Level of Service Comparisons

Facility/ Activity	Public and Semi Public Facilities ^[2]	Linden Community School Facilities	Recommended Standard (in units per population) ^[3]	Standard for Argentine ^[1]	Surplus (+) Deficiency (-)
Football	0	1	1 field/ 20,000	1	0
Soccer	0	0	1 field per 10,000	1	-1
Softball	0	3	1 field per 5,000 if also used for youth baseball	2	+1
Baseball Official Little League	0	2 1	1 field per 5,000 1 field per 3,000 (lighted)	2 3	0 -2
Volleyball	0	4	1 court per 2,000	4	0
Tennis	0	0	1 court per 2,000	4	-4
Basketball	0	4	1 court per 5000	2	+2
Playground	0	2	1 per 3,000	3	-1
Picnic Areas	0	0	N/A	0	0
¼ mile running track	0	1	1 track per 20,000	1	0
Swimming pool	0	0	1 per 20,000	1	-1
Beach area	0	0	1 per 3,000	3	-3
Boat Launch	1	0	N/A	0	+1
Ice skating rink	0	0	1/20,000	1	-1
Sledding hill	0	0	1/40,000	1	-1
Trails	1	1	1 trail system per region	4	-2

^[1] Based on a 2010 census population of 6,913

^[2] Those facilities that are private and do not allow unauthorized public access are not included in this comparison.

^[3] MDNR Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans, 2006. And the 2005 – 2010 Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan.

Note: This is not an inclusive amenities list. It is only a guide to be used with other planning data. It is based on the NRPA Standards list and lists existing amenities or those that have been requested by the public.



Natural Resource Inventory:

The Natural Resources Inventory Map (page 5.18) is a compilation of several layers of data. Property lines, water bodies, rivers, streams and the 100 year floodplain were provided through Genesee County's Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Other features such as woodlands, swamps farmland, grasses, pastures, etc. were prepared through Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) and provided through the University of Michigan Flint – Center for Applied and Environmental Research (CAER) as part of their GLS Greenlinks "Potential Conservation Areas Assessment" project. This project encompassed three counties - Lapeer, Genesee and Shiawassee and was conducted to evaluate and prioritize remaining potential conservation areas in these counties.

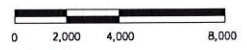
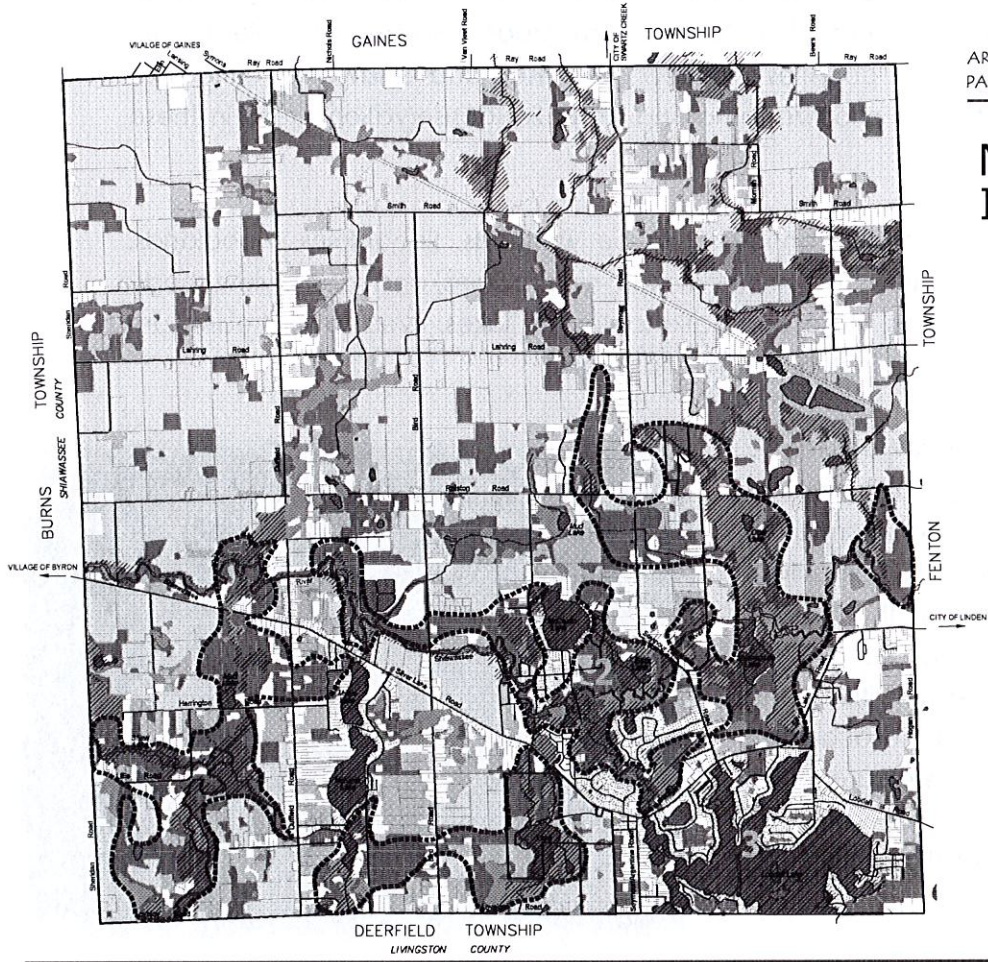
Natural resources are generally considered to be wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, farmlands, wildlife habitat areas, environments with rare species, and scenic view sheds. Public land, recreation areas, state and national forests, lakes, rivers, and streams are also natural elements that are included in this category.

The areas that are considered to be potential high priority conservation areas were developed from information provided through the GLS Greenlinks project and are shown on the Natural Resources Inventory Map as orange dashed lines. One of the activities in the public workshop involved the discussion and prioritization of these areas for future greenway and conservation consideration. Results of this activity are shown in the appendix.



What is the reason for this? Recreation and natural resources go hand in hand: By nature, these greenways are ideal landscapes for active and passive recreation, education and enjoying the great outdoors. They also serve the areas wildlife by protecting their habitats and maintaining natural wildlife corridors. Prioritizing these areas allows the township to identify potential land acquisitions and conservation opportunities that will ideally result in a system of greenways that connect open spaces throughout the township and to other communities.

Natural Resources Inventory Map



Legend

- LAKES
- RIVERS, STREAMS
- 100 YEAR FLOODPLAIN AREAS
- WOODLANDS
- SWAMPS AND WETLANDS
- CROPLAND, FARMS, AND ORCHARDS
- GRASSES, FORBS, SHRUBS AND PASTURES
- PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS*
- CURRENTLY ESTABLISHED CONSERVATION LANDS
- TOP 3 PRIORITIZED AREAS ESTABLISHED THROUGH PUBLIC WORKSHOP

* PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS WERE TAKEN FROM THE GLS GREENLINKS "POTENTIAL CONSERVATION AREAS ASSESSMENT" PROJECT BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN FLRY - CENTER FOR APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (CAER)

THE LIMITS OF PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO INCLUDE HOME SITES WITHOUT PROPERTY OWNER CONSENT.

BASE DATA PREPARED BY THE MICHIGAN NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY - MAY 2006 AND CENESEE COUNTY GIS DATA.

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives were developed by the Parks and Recreation Plan Committee after discussions and analysis of various sources of data. These sources of data included **community characteristics, future land use** and **demographics** of the township, results of the **community survey** and **public workshop activities**, a comparison of the township to **national standards for parks and recreation**, and the **schools facilities needs plan, regional trail plan, and local group initiatives**. The goals and objectives listed below were largely, yet not entirely, based on comments from the public. Other factors such as available funding for recreation projects already set into motion were highly considered, particularly those types of recreation most desired by the community. There was also discussion of how the school's strategic plan can correlate with recreation demands of the community. Below is a list of the goals and objectives.

Goal #1) Continue efforts to develop non-motorized pathway/trail systems throughout the Township and provide connections to adjoining communities.

Objectives:

- Pursue funding opportunities to construct non-motorized multi-use pathways along Silver Lake Road (including McCaslin Lake Road to the canoe launch) and Seymour Road that will serve as the two main pathway arterials through the township and to adjoining communities.
- Solicit volunteers to serve on a "Friends of Argentine Trails" Group
- Explore the options of improving walking/hiking trails at the Save It Creek and U of M Nature Preserve and promoting the use of these facilities to the public.
- Seek additional grant opportunities that may be available through MDNR, MDOT, CMAQ, Safe Routes to School, etc...
- Develop a non-motorized transportation plan to identify potential routes and obstacles to overcome for development such as location, pathway types, easements, costs, permits, etc...





Goal# 2) Continue to promote canoeing, kayaking and fishing along the Shiawassee River while being conscious of its water quality, drainage integrity, and wildlife and aquatic ecosystems.

Objectives:

- Continue cleanup and restoration efforts through Argentine's Shiawassee River Clean Up Committee.
- Continue with development plans for the McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak Launch.
- Solicit volunteers to assist with implementation of McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak Launch.
- Continue existing partnerships and cultivate new ones with local and regional advocates in the current efforts to place mile marker and road crossing signage that promotes safe and accessible use of the river.
- Endorse the efforts of SLPR to develop a canoe/kayak launch at the County Drain Commissioner Property on the south side of Rolston Road and work cooperatively with all groups in developing a cohesive water trail system.
- Develop a detailed water trail plan within the township to identify trail improvements and support facilities such as parking facilities, restrooms, handicapped access, fishing and picnicking areas; removing litter and fallen trees for navigability; installing wayfinding and educational signs; and improving underpasses or providing safe portaging areas with durable paths and crossing signs.
- Seek additional funding to implement improvements identified in the water trail plan.



Goal # 3) Continue to promote safe, diversified, and accessible recreational facilities and programming for the students and residents within the Linden Community School District at the existing school properties.

Objectives:

- Improvements to the football stadium, track and field, and varsity softball field to address the demands on these facilities.
- Place lighting in the band practice area.
- Construct a large pavilion with barbeque grills and horseshoe pits near the middle school. The pavilion will be used for cross country running events and



outdoor classroom use. These amenities will also be available for public use to address the desire for more picnic areas in the community.

- Place in-ground vault toilets near the middle school to address community use of the facility during evenings and weekends. This will also address the increasing demands of the cross county trail use during the day.
- Work with the township to initiate a public awareness campaign and promote the schools recreational facilities in conjunction with the promotion efforts mentioned in goal #1.

Goal # 4) Community Park development, Beautification, and Community program Development

Objectives:

- Develop a master plan of the Silver Lake Road property as a community park that might include amenities such as picnic areas, nature trails and/or pathways, Ball Fields, Splash Pad, Farmers Market, Frisbee Golf, and an additional canoe/kayak launch on the Shiawassee River.
- Establish more community programs such as a Wounded Warriors Hunting Program. Investigate the opportunity to hold this event on the County Drain Commissioner property off Rolston Road.
- Research the Genesee County Parks - "For-Mar on the Road" program to incorporate nature and environmental learning programs into the schools current programming.
- Solicit volunteers to explore implementing a community beautification program and develop a partnership with Keep Genesee County Beautiful, Ruth Mott Foundation, MSU Master Gardener Volunteers, Michigan Nature Association, Linden Community Schools, and/or Boy Scout Groups.





ACTION PROGRAM

Action Program Rationale

The following describes the rationale use to establish each goal and the objectives to reach them. They are broken out into four categories that correspond to the four goals listed in the previous section.

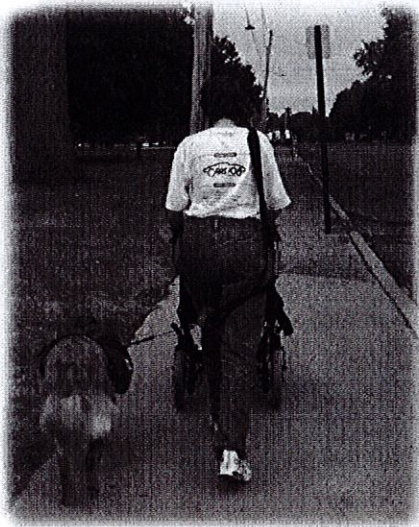
Trails and Non Motorized Pathways

The development of non motorized trails and pathways is recommended throughout the township as shown on the proposed recreational facilities map on page 7.11.

There are a number of benefits non-motorized trails and pathways can bring to a community. They promote healthy lifestyles, safe transportation, social interaction, recreational and educational opportunities, and economic growth for local businesses. These attributes enhance one's quality of living and the overall value of the community.



According to the community survey, the number one reason residents do not participate in recreation is due to lack of pathways and sidewalks near their homes. Additionally, the number one recreational improvement requested were trails and pathways, with nature trails and paved non-motorized pathways being the top two types.



A successful pathway/trail system not only accommodates multiple modes of non-motorized transportation but also multiple types of users including those of all ages as well abilities and disabilities. Additionally, there are many types of trails and pathways to accommodate the pedestrian, bicyclist, jogger, walker, in line skater, and so on. These types include paved surface pathways, stone pathways, sidewalks, paved shoulders along roadways, boardwalks, and natural hiking trails. Now, in communities across the country, a movement is growing toward the development of "complete streets." This term can simply be defined as designing



a transportation system within the entire road right of way that is safer, more livable, and welcoming to everyone. It considers all forms of transportation, not just the automobile. Complete streets aligns with the concept of universal design and should be considered in future roadway improvement projects, whenever feasible, as it coincides with goal #1 – to develop non motorized pathway systems throughout the community.

In 2010, the Township began to focus on development of the Silver Lake Road pathway by preparing preliminary plans of phase one in a multi-jurisdictional effort with the City of Linden and Fenton Township. The first phase actually begins outside the township at the west line of the City of Linden and runs west into the township, through the schools main campus. Approximately 0.5 miles of this route (directly east of Argentine Township)



separates the Township from the City of Linden. This stretch falls within Fenton Township and will require collaboration with Fenton Township as well as the County Road Commission to see that this pathway is constructed properly and efficiently in a multi- jurisdictional effort. There are also some physical obstacles along this route in terms of grading and wetlands; however, cooperation from the Linden Community School Board, has allowed the route to be located along an existing roadway through the school campus to avoid these obstacles. Tentatively, phase one is shown on the proposed facilities map on page

7.11 and would connect the Argentine Community and School Campus to the City of Linden and Fenton Communities.

Two major destinations in Argentine Township along Silver Lake Road are the Linden Community School's main campus and the business area near the Township hall. Therefore, tentatively, phase two could be a pathway connecting these two destinations and, essentially, the Argentine business area with the City of Linden and Fenton area.

With development of the McCaslin Lake Canoe Launch projected in the near future, it becomes a third destination point and an obvious choice for a pathway connection from the business area at Silver Lake Road to the launch site. This could be considered phase three as indicated on the map on page 7.11. The fourth phase would then run along Silver Lake Road, from McCaslin Lake Road to the west township limits, providing a connection to Shiawassee County and the Village of Byron. After that, the next targeted route will be along Seymour Road from Silver Lake Road north to the township limits.



It is possible that funding could be available for phases one through three over the next several years. To successfully apply for these grants, conceptual planning and engineering should be prepared in order to develop preliminary cost opinions and demonstrate that the township is committed to the project. This effort has already begun for phase one by preparing preliminary plans, cost opinions (which should be updated yearly) and granting of some easements. The Township is currently in the process of acquiring the additional necessary easements so that all are in place prior to applying for funding assistance.

As mentioned above, there are several sources that provide funding for pathway and trail development projects. Some of the various sources include:

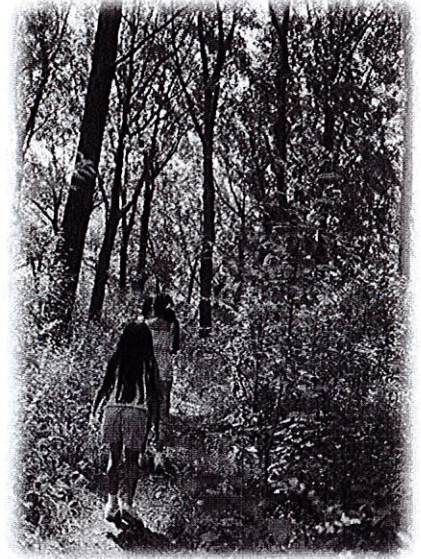
- MDNR Trust Fund Grants
- MDNR Land Water Conservation Fund
- MDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TIP)
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)
- Linden Argentine Fenton Area Trails Coalition (LAF)
- Ruth Mott Foundation
- Community Foundation of Greater Flint
- Fenton Community Fund
- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Safe Routes to School (SR2S)
- DALMAC Bike Trail Grants
- And future federal grants as opportunities arise...

Typically, these agencies award funds for only a percentage of the project costs with the premise that the community contributes what's referred to as a "local match." However, with creative planning, the local match can come from other funding agencies for "combined resources" at very little or sometimes no cost to the community. The township and schools will be seeking combined resources whenever possible.

The township will also solicit volunteers to form a "Friends of Argentine Trails" group. This group could act as a liaison between the township/schools and other county wide groups to share and gather information and coordinate efforts related to pathway development. Often times a friends group also organizes bike riding events, fundraising, and clean up of the pathways.



Nature trails received the second highest interest by the community when asked what types of amenities they wanted. Therefore, it is important the Township builds on the relationships with the Michigan Nature Association and Regents of University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, to improve and promote the use of "Save It Creek" and "U of M" Nature Preserves. These two areas are the most likely candidates to provide natural walking trails as they have some trails already established. Based on public comment, most residents do not realize these facilities exist; therefore, the township should also work with the two property owners to explore promoting and community awareness of these sites. The township will communicate and collaborate with the Linden Community Schools in this effort as these facilities provide excellent educational nature walks and field trip opportunities for students.



And lastly, with pathway and trail development a high priority throughout the township, it is important recognize the need to develop a "Non-Motorized Transportation Plan" within the five year life of this Parks and Recreation Plan. It is true, there have already been several initiatives researching, analyzing and planning pathways within the overall county and southern region (i.e.: the 2007 and 2014 Genesee Regional Trail Plan and 2008-2009 Southern Lakes Planning Initiative). Fortunately for Argentine Township, these plans (completed or in draft form) identified the Silver Lake Road and Seymour Road routes as priority connections to adjoining communities. This data will be very useful for the Argentine Community in working towards development goals in the very near future. However, deciding what types and where to place future routes leading off of these arterial routes raises many valid questions and concerns. Therefore, within the next five years, the township should consider developing a "Non-Motorized Transportation Plan" that will map a network of future pathways and trails throughout the township.

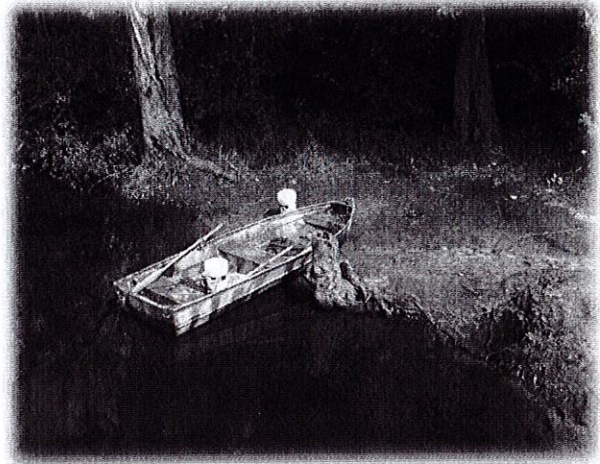
This plan will involve a review of existing conditions, suggestions for location and pathway types, projected costs, and design considerations to overcome various challenges. It will lay out a development schedule for the next several years and what processes are required to reach development goals. It can also identify where easements and/or land acquisition might be needed as well and where on-road connections can be achieved through coordination with Genesee County Road Commission Projects. The township can use this document as a planning tool to coordinate pathway development with road improvement projects and to seek funding for design and construction.



Shiawassee River Water Trail

Advocating the use of the Shiawassee River as a recreational water trail is highly recommended.

Development of the water trail through Argentine Township is an expansion of the 10 mile water trail system already developed to the east from the Village of Holly through the City of Fenton and City of Linden. By continuing efforts through Argentine Township, a total of 30 miles of water trail will be created from the Village of Holly to the Village of Byron in Shiawassee County and extending into Saginaw County. The Argentine Shiawassee River Clean Up Committee is a local volunteer group



that has made tremendous strides to remove debris and clear areas for safe navigation of the river. They are considered stewards of the river and are strongly encouraged to continue their efforts of protecting and promoting safe and appropriate use of the water trail.

Currently, the 'rustic' McCaslin Lake Road canoe/kayak launch site provides the only access to the 10 mile stretch between the City of Linden and the Village of Byron. The establishment of this unimproved launch is strictly the result of heavy use by local canoeists and kayakers. Fortunately, the township recognized this growing population and acquired land at this site for future improvements. Engineering plans for these improvements have been completed and a MDEQ permit has been issued for construction. These improvements will provide safe access to the water, nearby parking, improved staging and traffic circulation, signage, benches and trash receptacles, with ADA features where feasible. The township also owns 18 acres on Silver Lake Road for township park development that may provide additional access to the river with a unique universal access approach not currently available to the area. This would provide another launch opportunity midway between the launches at McCaslin Lake Road and the Village of Byron.

Important factors for establishing a water trail are the provision of safe and convenient access to a navigable waterway with unobstructed passageways. The water trail between McCaslin Lake Road and the Village of Byron is un-navigable in some locations. Therefore, other trail improvements should include removing litter, clearing log jams for navigability, installing way finding and educational signs, and providing safe



portage areas where needed. Should it be necessary, narrow or low underpasses (i.e. small culverts or low bridges) should be replaced with larger openings. However, bridges or overpasses are costly to reconstruct; therefore, an alternative is to provide safe portage areas. A durable path should be provided for carrying watercraft, which should consider natural materials to help retain the natural river bank appearance,

along with providing proper roadside signage forewarning motor vehicle traffic of potential portage crossings. All construction along the river, within the floodplain and/or wetlands, is subject to approval by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE).

A detailed "Shiawassee River Water Trail Plan" would help officially designate and delineate a Shiawassee River Heritage Water Trail route, and identify trail-related facilities that should be constructed and improvements that should be implemented to establish a safe and navigable trail corridor for both recreational and educational pursuits in an ecologically sensitive manner. The designation of an official water trail may further instill a sense of trail stewardship among canoeists/kayakers to respect the quality of the water and become good caretakers of the river. Specific trail improvements and support facilities that should be identified on the plan may include providing parking facilities, restrooms, handicapped access, and picnicking areas; removing litter and fallen trees for navigability; installing way finding and educational signs; and improving underpasses or providing safe portaging areas with durable paths and crossing signs.

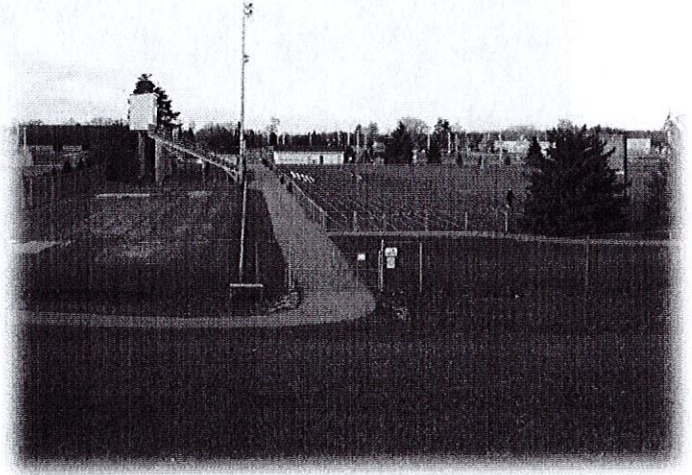




Linden Community Schools

Linden Community Schools "Facility Needs Committee" meets regularly to discuss various ways of improving the schools and programming for its students. They are witnessing an increased use at the main campus with the on-going development of their outdoor facilities and are discovering the need to add certain amenities that will improve or benefit its users, being both the students and public.

Currently, the football stadium has received some recent renovations including new bleachers and press box. However, several improvements are needed to expand the athletics including synthetic turf, a new team room facility, relocating long jump and pole vault, new score board and reconstructing the varsity softball field.



The public survey showed a strong interest in nature and environmental learning programs. The elementary schools continue to benefit from the "For-Mar on the Road"

programs. This program is organized by staff of the county owned For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum. It's a mobile, one day outdoor classroom program offered to schools and other youth groups to teach kids about nature and the environment. The Save it Creek Nature Preserve also offers their property for these purposes. Although there are no instructors on site, it would be an ideal setting for field trips. The school staff will be exploring these options.



The Facilities Needs Committee also recognizes the need to place a Pavilion near the middle school. Picnic areas were identified in the community survey as the second highest priority for needed amenities. A pavilion with barbeque grills and horse shoe pits will help address this demand. It is

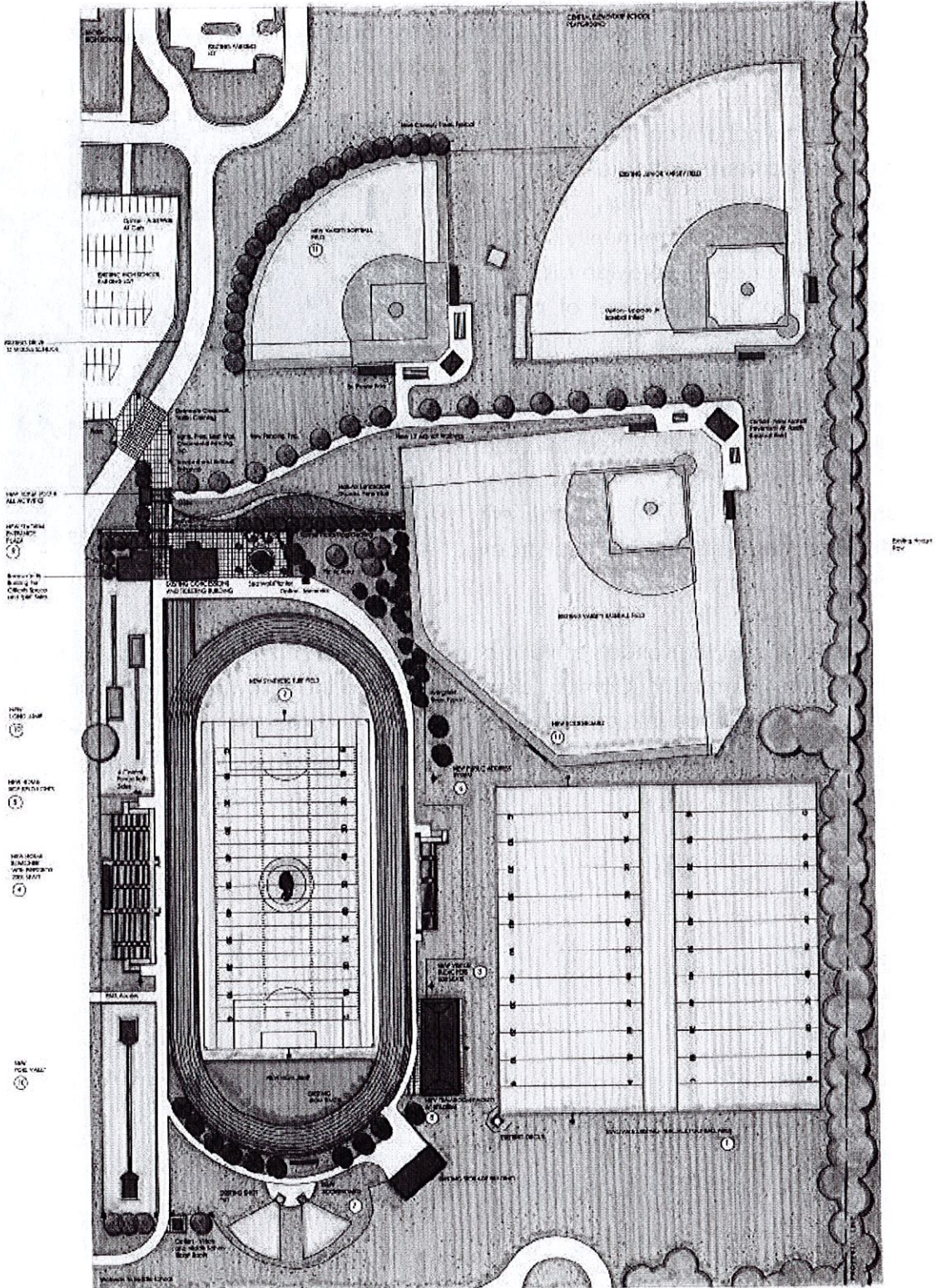


anticipated the pavilion will be available to the public on a reservation basis. It will also serve as an additional outdoor classroom and for cross country events.

At the main school campus, the oval track and cross country trail near the middle school are heavily used by students and the community. This is creating the need to provide restroom facilities nearby. Placement of picnic facilities in this area will only add to the demand for restrooms. Therefore, the school will be placing in-ground vault toilets near the middle school for users of the entire campus during evenings and weekends. They will also benefit the daytime users of the oval track and cross country trail.

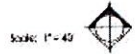


A master plan of the schools athletic campus located at the high school, middle school and Central Elementary Campus can be found on the following page. Some of these elements have been implemented. The school most recently completed construction of the visitor and home side bleaches which are barrier free accessible.



- Potential Projects**
- ① New Gymnasium
 - ② New Baseball Field
 - ③ New Softball Field
 - ④ New Tennis Courts
 - ⑤ New Parking Lot
 - ⑥ New Walkways
 - ⑦ New Landscaping
 - ⑧ New Security
 - ⑨ New Fencing
 - ⑩ New Signage
 - ⑪ New Lighting
 - ⑫ New Seating
 - ⑬ New Restrooms
 - ⑭ New Concessions
 - ⑮ New Office
 - ⑯ New Storage
 - ⑰ New Maintenance
 - ⑱ New Security
 - ⑲ New Fencing
 - ⑳ New Signage
 - ㉑ New Lighting
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 - ㊼ New Maintenance
 - ㊽ New Security
 - ㊾ New Fencing
 - ㊿ New Signage

Preliminary Master Plan
 Linden High School - Athletic Complex
 Linden Community Schools
 March 2008





Community Park and Beautification

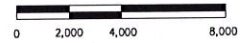
The Silver Lake Road property, mentioned previously, is located on the north side of Silver Lake Road, just West of Bird Road (see Recreational Facilities Map on page 7.11). This property is slightly more than 18 acres and is currently farmed of which the proceeds will go toward future park development. It is open land that slopes from the south to the north with about 700 foot of frontage on Silver Lake Road and potential access to the Shiawassee River. The elevation change is about 9 foot across the site.

According to the community survey, establishing a centralized community park was considered "somewhat important" to the majority. Therefore, the township will continue, at a moderate pace, to look at developing this property as park land. The first step will be developing a conceptual park plan of the site which can then be used to seek grants for funding improvements. Potential amenities that have been identified by public input include picnic areas, trails and/or pathways, ball fields, playground, Frisbee golf course, splash pad, farmers market, to name a few. The conceptual park planning process will include a public input process in which various types amenities will be further explored and discussed.

In 2009, a mini grant through the Ruth Mott Foundation was awarded to the township for annual plantings at the township hall and fire department. Beautification projects are not only a form of outdoor recreation, they also can be educational. The Parks and Recreation Plan Committee recognizes this and the benefits of enhancing the communities image through beatification and clean up programs. These elements create character and bring life to main business corridors such as Silver Lake Road. Creating inviting landscapes for visitors who will want to return contributes greatly to economic growth within the local community. To continue and expand on the 2009 project, the township may be soliciting volunteers to explore implementing a community beatification program. There are several volunteer organizations to partner with that can provide assistance. These groups include Keep Genesee County Beautiful, Ruth Mott Foundation, MSU Master Gardener Volunteers, Michigan Nature Association, and/or Boy Scout Groups.

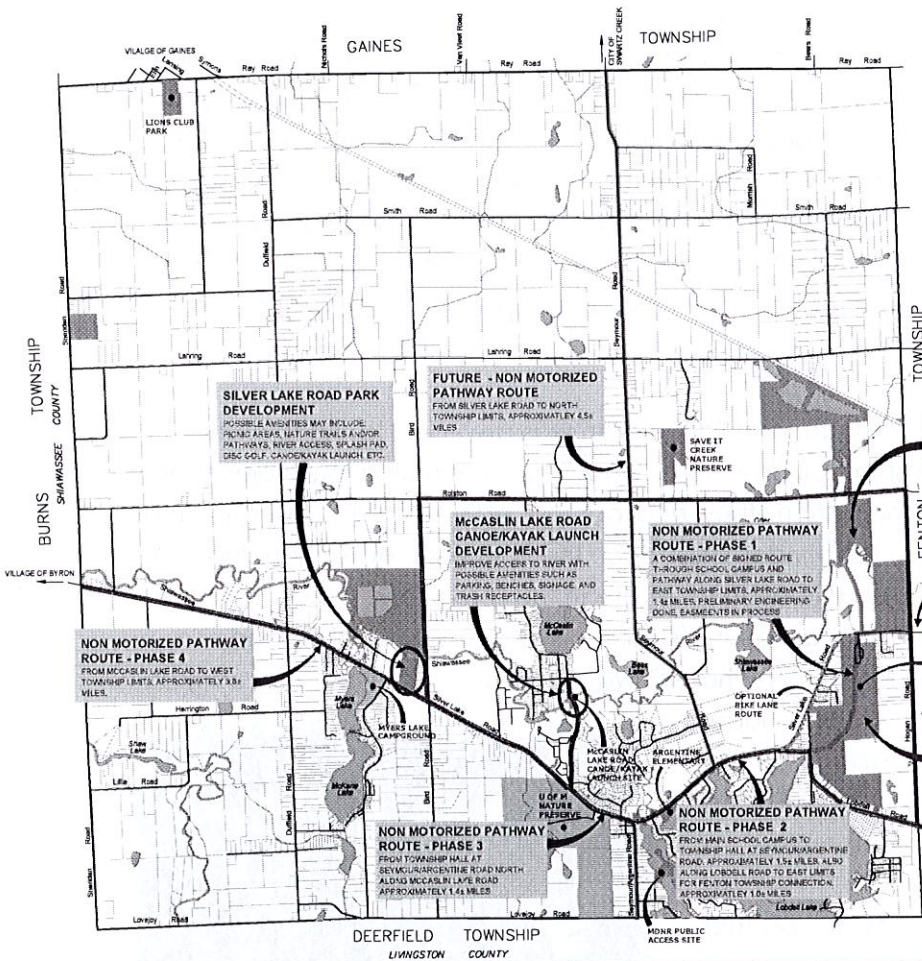


Proposed 5 Year Recreational Facilities Improvement Map



Legend

- LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS
 - PUBLIC, SEMI PUBLIC OR COUNTY OWNED LANDS
 - PRIVATE LAND WITH RECREATIONAL AMENITIES
 - NAME EXISTING RECREATION FACILITY
 - PRIORITY PATHWAY ROUTES (ALSO IDENTIFIED IN THE GENESEE COUNTY NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL PLAN)
 - OTHER FUTURE PATHWAY ROUTE CONSIDERATIONS (APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS)
 - SEMI-PUBLIC* REFERS TO PRIVATE LANDS WITH RECREATIONAL AMENITIES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
- BASE MAPPING DATA PROVIDED BY THE GENESEE COUNTY GIS DEPARTMENT



PREPARED BY:
F&V FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC.
8475 N. HOLLY ROAD | SUITE 201
GRAND BLAINE, MI 49831 | PH: 810-743-9120
www.fveng.com



PARTNERSHIP COORDINATION SCHEDULE

The following task assignments will be coordinated through the Planning Commission with the Township Supervisor and School Superintendent acting as liaisons to the Township Board and School Board, respectively.

Township	School	Task Assignment
✓	✓	Collaborate to develop a marketing campaign to promote parks and recreation areas in the community including school owned facilities
✓	✓	Create a "Friends of Argentine Trails" Group
✓	✓	Solicit volunteers to assist with improvements to the McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/ Kayak Launch
	✓	Contact Genesee County Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the "For-Mar on the Road" Program
✓		Contact Michigan Nature Association and Regents of U of M regarding potential nature preserve facility improvements
	✓	Contact Michigan Nature Association and Regents of U of M regarding use of their facilities for nature and outdoor educational programs
✓		Contact Genesee County Drain Commissioner regarding use of County property for Wounded Warriors Hunting Program. Solicit volunteers to head up event committee.
✓	✓	Solicit volunteers to explore local beautification program
	✓	Explore Safe Routes to School Program and Communicate progress to Township Board
✓		Post a "Call for Volunteers" on the Township website and through other advertising methods



FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE

The following schedule is a 5 year guide of various construction projects for planning, funding, and budgetary projections. The figures given are approximate and must be re-evaluated as projects progress into design and development stages.

Year 2015		
Project	Approximate Cost	Potential funding sources
McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak launch Apply for grant to MDNR	\$2,400	Community Foundation Township General Fund
Silver Lake Road Pathway Continue to obtain easements for pathway from remaining property owners	\$1,000 (Consulting Services)	Township General Fund
Shiawassee River River Cleanup	Depends on project scope	In-kind service/donations Township School

Year 2016		
Project	Approximate Cost	Potential funding sources
McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak launch Construction of Launch site	\$35,000??	Community Foundation MDNR Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network In-kind donation/service
Silver Lake Road Pathway – cont. Continue to obtain easements for pathway from remaining property owners	\$1,000 (Consulting Services)	Township General Fund
Shiawassee River River Cleanup	Depends on project scope	In-kind service/donations Township School



Year 2017		
Project	Approximate Cost	Potential funding sources
Silver Lake Road Pathway-Phase 1* Apply for DNR grant for phase I pathway from school campus to east Township limits. 1.4± miles. Consider multi-jurisdictional grant application	\$2,400	Township School City of Linden Fenton Township Community Fund
Shiawassee River Water Trail Plan A detailed plan identifying water trail related facilities, improvements, wayfinding, and implementation strategy	\$6,000 - \$8,000	Community Foundation Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network River trail groups In-kind donation Township
Shiawassee River River Cleanup	Depends on project scope	In-kind service/donations Township School
Linden School Property Synthetic turf in stadium	\$775,000 - \$925,000	School in-kind donations
Linden School Property New stadium scoreboard	\$35,000 - \$50,000	School in-kind donations

Year 2018		
Project	Approximate Cost	Potential funding sources
Master planning of Silver Lake Road Township Park Public input, master planning and cost opinions for community acceptance and potential grant applications	\$5,000 - \$7,000	Township Community Foundation
Silver Lake Road Pathway-Phase 1 Engineering and bid documents	TBD	MDNR MDOT - TAP CMAQ SAGE and SR2S In-kind donation Township LAF Trails Coalition
Shiawassee River River Cleanup	Depends on project scope	In-kind service/donations Township School

Argentine Township

Resolution 2015-1

WHEREAS, the Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Parks and Recreation Plan Steering Committee prepared the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan", and

WHEREAS, the Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Parks and Recreation Plan Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools, and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements in the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan" were developed in response to the needs and deficiencies which were identified through public meetings, on-line website survey, and local recreation inventories, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board has reviewed the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan" and has determined that the plan is consistent with the Township's long-range vision of recreational facilities, and will improve the number and quality of recreational opportunities within the area, and

WHEREAS, Argentine Township is not fiscally responsible to complete any of the improvements recommended in the Plan.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Argentine hereby, at their regular Township Board Meeting held on Monday January 26, 2015, adopted the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan."


The foregoing resolution was offered by Graves, seconded by Ciesielski.

Upon roll call the following voted:

	Aye	Nay
Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graves	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schmidt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hallman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ciesielski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

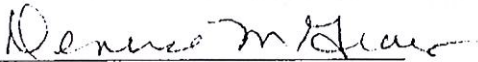
The supervisor has declared the resolution adopted

Denise M. Graves
Denise M. Graves, Clerk


Robert W. Cole Jr., Supervisor

Clerk's Certification

I, Denise M. Graves, duly elected and acting Clerk of Argentine Township, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and complete copy of the resolution for adoption of the Argentine Township/ Linden Community Schools Parks and Recreation Plan as approved by the Township Board of said township at the regular meeting held on January 26, 2015, at which a quorum was present.



Denise M. Graves, Clerk

Argentine Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2015

Call to Order @ 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Cole led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Ciesielski, present, Hallman, present, Cole, present, Schmidt, present and Graves, present Absent: None.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of David K. Allen, Virginia Stuart, Laura Leff and Joe Rodgerson.

Motion, Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to approve the minutes of December 22, 2014 Regular Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Correspondence is available to view.

Motion, Ciesielski, seconded by Hallman to approve payment of expenditures as presented in the board package. Motion passed.

Public comment:

Martin Vyskocil- Last October, engineering was approved on Peninsular Drive. Do you have any more information regarding this?

Roger Kelley-Any updates for the easements on Whitehead Dr.?

Richard Burnette- Why is there a bill listed for \$83,511.14 on Haviland Beach Dr.?

Reports: Police Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Allen was not in attendance.

Fire Department- A written report was submitted. Chief Reid was not in attendance. Cole reviewed the report.

Motion, Cole, seconded by Graves to adopt Resolution 2015-2, the 2012 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC). Motion passed.

Cole, Yes, Schmidt, Yes, Graves, Yes, Ciesielski, Yes and Hallman, Yes.

Chief Reid expressed concern for public safety at the Chili Cook-off.

Motion, Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to instruct Chief Allen to schedule an additional police officer on duty for the Chili Cook-off on Lobdell Lake. Motion Passed.

Building Department- No new permits.

The Planning Commission – Trustee Hallman- Lisa Easterwood from Fleis & Vanderbrink is in attendance this evening.

The PC would like a copy of the canoe launch plans.

There is a grant available if we apply by April 1st. We have a good chance of being awarded the grant.

We need a new zoning map for the office wall.

A question came up about the leased property and the money being designated for future development of a park.

Motion, Hallman, seconded by Schmidt to designate monies collected from leased land once it is paid off, be placed in a Park & Recreation account to be used for future development of a park. Motion passed.

Assessor Report- Assessor Cash submitted a written report.

Attorney Report: David Lattie said the proposed Police Contract has not been accepted and ratified.

I am requesting that you reserve time later for a closed session to discuss a written attorney opinion.

Schmidt informed attorney Lattie that the Parker property has been resolved.

Cole said we are going to convene a public Hearing for the 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan.

Public comments are now open for comments from the floor.

Are there any comments? Are there any public comments? Does anyone have a comment?

No public comments were heard.

Written comments are in the back of the board packet.

Cole closed the public hearing.

Old Business: Resolution 2015-1 newly revised Park and Recreation Plan Adoption-Motion, Graves, seconded by, Ciesielski to adopt Resolution 2015-1 Argentine Township /Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan. Cole, Yes, Graves, Yes, Schmidt, Yes, Hallman, yes and Ciesielski, yes.

Motion Passed unanimously. Resolution 2015-1 is adopted.

New Business: Lovejoy Road- Seymour to Murray –

The resident that own parcels on the portion of Lovejoy Road that is serviced by Livingston County have been paying for the Road Project and Chloride. It has been brought to the attention of the Treasurer that they should be refunded since Livingston County services their road. This includes 23 parcels and the refund for three years would amount to \$8,234.00. The Chloride fund can absorb the cost.

Motion, Cole, seconded by Hallman to authorize Treasurer Schmidt to refund the assessment from the Chloride fund that was collected for these services. Motion passed.

Public comment: None.

Business from Board Members:

Schmidt- I appreciate Mr. Parker taking the imitative on the demolition of the former Carr home.

Clerk Graves said we did not receive any bids for the police vehicle.

Motion, Schmidt, seconded by, Cole to authorize Chief Allen to trade the 2006 Tahoe for \$1,400.00 value of work done on new vehicle as payment. Motion passed.

Hallman- None.

Ciesielski- None.

Graves- I will be attending the MTA Conference in Grand Rapids Wednesday–Friday.
Health Care plan packages were distributed to all employees that enrolled.

Cole- None.

Motion, Graves, seconded by Ciesielski to enter closed session. Motion passed.
Entered closed session @ 7:30 p.m..

Motion, Schmidt, seconded by Hallman to reconvene regular board session @8:15 p.m.
Cole said no motions were made in closed session.

Adjournment at 8:16 p.m.

Denise Graves, Clerk

Robert Cole Jr., Supervisor

LINDEN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT
LINDEN, MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF GENESEE

SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Ad Hoc Parks and Recreation Committee prepared the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan", and

WHEREAS, the Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Ad Hoc Parks and Recreation Committee is comprised of representatives of Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools, and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements in the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan" were developed in response to needs and deficiencies which were identified through public meetings, recreation provider interviews and local recreation inventories, and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Linden Community Schools has reviewed the Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan" and has determined that the plan is consistent with the School's long-range vision of recreational facilities, and will improve the number and quality of recreational opportunities within the area, and

WHEREAS, Linden Community Schools is not fiscally responsible to complete any of the improvements recommended in the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School board of Linden Community Schools hereby adopts the "Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan".

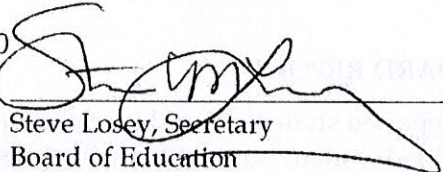
Moved by: S. Murphy

Supported by: Rowden

Date: 2-18-15

Resolution declared adopted.

All Yea Votes. Motion Carried 6-0


Steve Losey, Secretary
Board of Education

LINDEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Linden High School
7201 W. Silver Lake Road
Linden, MI 48451
(810) 591-0410
February 18, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Scott Maker, Steve Murphy, Mike Murphy, Steve Losey, Jason Rowden, Pete Ponzetti

Members Absent: Michelle Shayna

Student Representatives: Megan Losey, Courtney Cates

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Rowden to adopt the agenda as presented.

All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0

SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Superintendent Koledo reported:

- The Grow Linden committee met on Friday and we are working to bring a car show to Linden on Friday evenings and possibly having a movie showing located near Caretel the weekend of the Gus Macker.
- Attended the Priority Breakfast this past Friday where two LHS students were recognized.
- Linden City Council meeting this week and FARR meeting this week as well. FARR is working to help people find resources for health care.
- Tuesday we met about kindergarten registration and new this year we will have a pre-registration.
- The music program fundraiser last week was a great event and he and assistant superintendent performed with Mr. Schartow.
- On Wednesday he attended the Three District Board Meeting that was well attended by our board members.
- MEA leadership meeting happened recently and Mr. Koledo wanted to thank our LEA for being recognized as having a great relationship with our administration.
- Shared an email to Mrs. St Clair from a previous student who has earned a film degree and doing well in part by being a part of the Fenton Area Consortium Television (FACT) program when he attended Linden.
- Also shared another email from a parent complimenting the preschool program at Argentine.

STUDENT BOARD REPORTS

Megan Losey reported student council is celebrating Chinese New Year tomorrow with the spirit week theme. Next Monday many student council representatives will be attending a leadership conference at Cleary College. Also, student council is going to be guest readers for March is reading month and also helping organize the senior bachelorette.

Courtney Cates

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Eagle Coin Presentation to Loose Senior Center

Carl Gabrielson from Loose Senior Center was present to receive the Eagle Coin and certificate from Mr. Maker and Supt. Koledo. Mr. Maker commented on the close relationship Loose Senior Center and LCS have. He thanked them for their involvement with our community, as well as their support with our school buildings.

Central Elementary Student Recognition - Cheryl Thomas

Cheryl Thomas introduced Brooke Durkac and Caden Ball who were recognized as the first students of the month at Central. She shared that Brooke is an outstanding academic student, VP of student council and is a peer tutor. Mrs. Thomas then spoke about Caden and shared his talents as a piano player, also an all "A" student, who is respectful and is a planner for the future. They were presented with cards, award certificates, and gift certificates to Mancinos.

Linden Middle School National Junior Honor Society Recognition - Julie Brown

Julie Brown introduced National Junior Honor Society and commented on the efforts of these students. They volunteer, have academic achievements, and shared some of their accomplishments. Some items of charitable contributions are visits to seniors at Lockwood, fundraiser for Special Olympics, collection for soldiers, and collection for Christmas Express. Cassidy McKissic, Louis Walterhouse and Cole Wiknich were each recognized for their outstanding leadership efforts.

Mr. Maker thanked all the students and families present to honor these kids for the extra efforts.

Curriculum Updates - Julie Brown

Julie presented a PowerPoint on curriculum items LCS is working on. She talked about Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and wanting to move forward with implementing. The biggest challenge will be aligning with the common core standards. She shared the annual curriculum review for each core areas, LA, Science, Math, SS, and Fine Arts. She spoke about the annual reporting including our school improvement plan. Mrs. Brown also spoke about RtI (At-Risk/Title I) support especially at the elementary buildings, which allowed our district to have social skills facilitators to support students and families. Illuminate is a program that we may utilize next year to help house all the student testing pieces and collect data in one place.

Board members asked questions about common core and curriculum that Mrs. Brown responded to.

President Maker called a brief recess at 7:40 p.m. to allow students and families to leave. Meeting reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

***CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by M. Murphy to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting 01-21-15
2. Minutes of Work Session Meeting 02-04-15
3. Invoices for the Month of January, 2015
4. Approval of Personnel Summary Sheet

Roll call vote taken. All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

***1. Third Reading and adoption of New Policy 8325-Receipt of Legal Documents**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Ponzetti to adopt the New Policy 8325-Receipt of Legal Documents as presented.

Public Comments: None.

All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***2. GCASBM Proposed Amendment to Bylaws and Ballot**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by M. Murphy to approve the GCASBM Proposed Amendment to Bylaws and Ballot as presented.

Public Comments: None.

All yeas votes. Motion carried 7-0.

***3. Interim Superintendent Proposal**

Moved by Maker, supported by M. Murphy to approve the Interim Superintendent Proposal as presented.

S. Losey asked questions about the cost savings which Mike Engelter stated it is clear on the breakdown shown. Then, Mr. Losey expressed concern about a substitute filling in for Mr. Enders.

S. Murphy also commented on bringing in a substitute is a concern. He expressed concerns about the salary increases for internal people and he would like to see an outsourced superintendent step in when Mr. Koledo leaves.

J. Rowden opposes having an outsourced superintendent and knows the cost would be more. He does have some concern about the increases and would like to see them consistent.

Mr. Engelter addressed the non-equality of steps due to the nature of contracts, specifically Mr. Enders moving from the teacher contract to the aligned administrator, and explained contracts must be followed.

Mr. Ponzetti does not see bringing someone new into the district and feels Mr. Ciesielski already has the benefit of knowing the district and Mr. Koledo's vision. He wants everyone to understand that these individuals are stepping into positions with a lot of responsibility, but also sees a concern with the teacher substitute.

Mr. Maker does not want to see an outsourced superintendent and would not support that. He also spoke about the substitute coming in and having some concern. He wants to see a smooth transition as Mr. Koledo leaves and would like to consider looking at a teacher being hired.

Supt. Koledo spoke about the length of his absence and the cost of hiring an outsourced superintendent. He suggested looking at options such as using Mark Madden and the board could postpone the decision.

Moved by J. Rowden, supported by S. Losey to postpone the approval of the Interim Superintendent Proposal until the next meeting.

Public Comments: None.

All yea votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***4. Volleyball Proposal**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Ponzetti to approve the LHS Volleyball Proposal as presented.

Public Comments: None.

All yea votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***5. Argentine Twp/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks & Recreation Plan**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Rowden to approve the Argentine Twp/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks & Recreation Plan as presented.

Mr. Losey would like a copy of the book to share.

Public Comments: None.

All yea votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***6. LMS Washington DC Trip 2015 Request**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Ponzetti to approve the LMS Washington DC Trip 2015 Request as presented.

There was some discussion from the board concerning cost and participant numbers.

Public Comments: None.

All yea votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***7. Cost Containment Recommendations - Ed Koledo**

Mr. Koledo shared the cost containment possibilities by starting with reviewing the questions from the Board. He then explained how either moving a random amount of students from LE to other buildings or moving to grade level centers which would impact people one time and not have to make these shifts every year with the K-5. He spoke about options of staggering start times for transportation if we looked at Grade Level Centers (GLC) and stated the bus costs are about the same for either option. Some items shared were questions parents asked including; costs, savings, and data supporting K-5 vs. GLC which both sides have support. Mr. Koledo explained the student count numbers are going down in the future years and shared the per pupil loss, plus presenting teacher retirement offset. Mr. Koledo shared the state funding levels that claim a \$75 per pupil increase, but taking away the best practice money actually leaves us with a \$15 cut per pupil. He asked the board to make a decision to go in either the direction of staying K-5 with adjustments presented or going to GLC. Mr. Koledo does not want to ask staff for concessions because they

have given so much in the past. He also does not see moving from trimesters to semesters as a cost savings idea.

There was discussion about student counts among board members as well as adjusting teaching staff as student numbers go down. S. Murphy also talked about moving students from Linden El for 2nd grade may result in them being able to return in 4th grade.

Public Comments:

Becky McCormick, 1001 S. Bridge St., Linden is a veteran teacher and wanted to talk about the K-5 alignment and the GLC when she first started in Linden. She felt at risk students were not identified and curriculum was difficult as they did not collaborate with other grade levels. She pointed out 5 high school teachers being hired with a loss of 60 students and is concerned the cost savings is being placed on the elementary. Staff support K-5 and she sees a continuum of student growth. She feels the relationships between teachers and students, administrators and staff, and staff and parents are created by the K-5 buildings. She believes the grade level centers would be a loss to the district and result in long term effects.

Kim Shattuck, 16162 River Ridge Trail, Linden commented about the proposed realignment that would not affect her children, but feels compelled to talk about the transitions. She knows this would have negatively impacted her youngest son and is concerned the transitions will be difficult for students and parents who have become a K-5 family. After school activities would be difficult to juggle and manage for families. She hopes the board will listen to the staff and parents who oppose the grade level centers.

Jason Kosofsky, 9046 Pine View Lake Ct., Linden would be affected by this GLC realignment as a parent of kids at Central. He sees after school activities would be a challenge for parents who have several students in different grades.

The board consensus is to look at moving forward with adjusting K-5 sections that include moving some students from Linden Elementary to other buildings at second grade next year and future planning.

Mr. Maker expressed how thankful the board is to receive feedback from staff and parents. He appreciates the involvement which helps the board to make decisions. He understands how difficult it is for staff and parents to worry about these cost savings consideration.

A brief recess was called at 9:07 p.m. to excuse high school students. Meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

***8. Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy 8330-Student Records**

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Rowden to adopt Revised Policy 8330-Student Records as presented.

Public Comments: None.

All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

***1. MASB Board of Directors Election Candidate Selection**

Moved by S. Murphy supported by S. Losey to vote for Mr. Lynn Hopper to represent Region 5 MASB Board of Directors.

Public Comments: None.
All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0.

***2. Linden and Fenton Lacrosse Teams**

This is a cost neutral proposal to have the opportunity for our students to participate in Lacrosse.

Moved by S. Murphy, supported by Rowden to approve Linden and Fenton Lacrosse Teams proposal as presented.

S. Murphy appreciates the efforts of the administrative staff to seek these opportunities.

Board members all concurred this is a great opportunity for students as a club co-op program. Mr. Losey hopes we can make it a school sponsored sport in the future.

Public Comments: None.
All yeas votes. Motion carried 6-0

BOARD REPORTS/ RECOMMENDATIONS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS

S. Losey attended the Three District Board Meeting and found the consortium special education programming fascinating.

Mr. Rowden learned a great deal from the Three District Board Meeting including information about FACT, special education programming and more. He also feels our district is good at being proactive when it comes to planning for future budget issues. He hopes staff and community get information first when it comes to these topics instead of reacting.

S. Murphy thanked Mr. Koledo and Mr. Engelter for taking the time to research cost savings plans.

S. Maker also attended the Three District Board Meeting and appreciates the video production and FACT as his own kids have benefited from this program. He also took some CBA classes and hopes the new board members will take advantage of classes in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

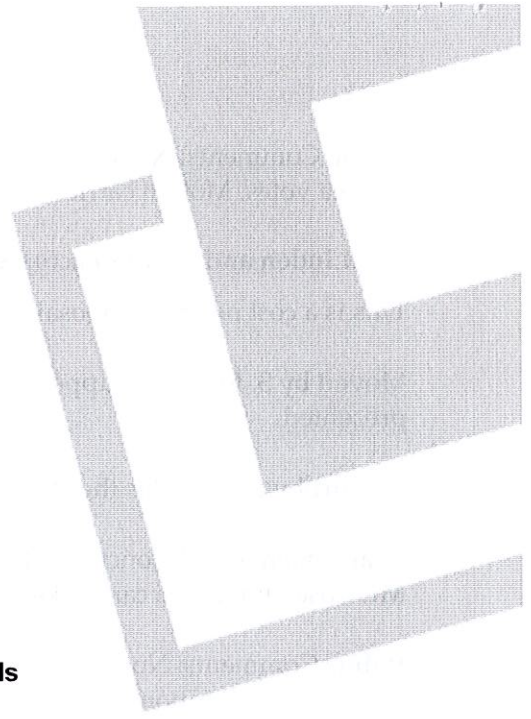
None.

ADJOURNMENT

President Maker adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Losey, Board Secretary



February 25, 2015

Derek Bradshaw, Director, Coordinator
Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502

**RE: Adopted 2015 Argentine Township / Linden Community Schools
Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Derek:

On behalf of Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools, we are pleased to provide you with a copy of the adopted 2015 Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan for your files.

Should you have any questions or need additional copies, please contact me at 810-244-1732 or at leasterwood@fveng.com

Sincerely,

FLEIS & VANDENBRINK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Easterwood".

Lisa M. Easterwood, ASLA
Project Manager

LME/dl

9475 Holly Road, Suite 201
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
P: 810.743.9120
F: 810.743.1797
www.fveng.com



February 25, 2015

Derek Bradshaw, Executive Director
GLS Region 5 Planning and Development Commission
1101 Beach Street, Room 223
Flint, MI 48502

**RE: Adopted 2015 Argentine Township / Linden Community Schools
Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan**

Dear Derek:

On behalf of Argentine Township and Linden Community Schools, we are pleased to provide you with a copy of the adopted 2015 Argentine Township/Linden Community Schools Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan for your files.

Should you have any questions or need additional copies, please contact me at 810-244-1732 or at leasterwood@fveng.com

Sincerely,

FLEIS & VANDENBRINK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Easterwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa M. Easterwood, ASLA
Project Manager

LME/dl

9475 Holly Road, Suite 201
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
P: 810.743.9120
F: 810.743.1797
www.fveng.com



APPENDIX

- Linden Community Schools "Sinking Fund" Budget
- Community Survey Questionnaire and Results
- Public Workshop Results
- References
- Additional Resources

Linden Community Schools
 Sinking Fund
 Capital Projects
 Subject to Change

2015-16

SINKING FUND BUDGET

Completed Summer 2015

REVENUES

Local Taxes \$ 740,441
 Interest on Investments \$ -
Total Revenue \$ 740,441

EXPENDITURES

CE Roof Replacement \$192,000
 HE Multi Zone AHU and Condenser Replaced \$203,070
 2-LE Multi Zone AHU's Rebuilt \$50,000
 HE Gym HVAC Unit Replacement \$201,800
 ARG Multi Zone AHU Rebuilt \$25,000
 LHS Multi Zone AHU's Rebuilt \$100,000
 LE Driveway Widening \$35,000
 Admin Parking Expansion \$65,000

2016-17

SINKING FUND BUDGET

Completed Summer 2016

REVENUES

Local Taxes \$ 777,469
 Interest on Investments \$ -
Total Revenue \$ 777,469

EXPENDITURES

LMS Pavilion, Pit Toilets, BBQ Grills and H-Shoe Pits \$20,000
 LHS Stadium Field Turf \$850,000
 Stadium Team Rooms \$250,000
 New Stadium Scoreboard \$50,000
 Relocate Long Jump and Pole Vault \$30,000
 Reconstruct/Reorient Varsity Softball Field \$300,000

Total Expenditures \$ 871,870

Excess Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures \$ (131,429)

Audit Fund Balance - July 1, \$ 350,392

Total Expenditures \$ 1,500,000

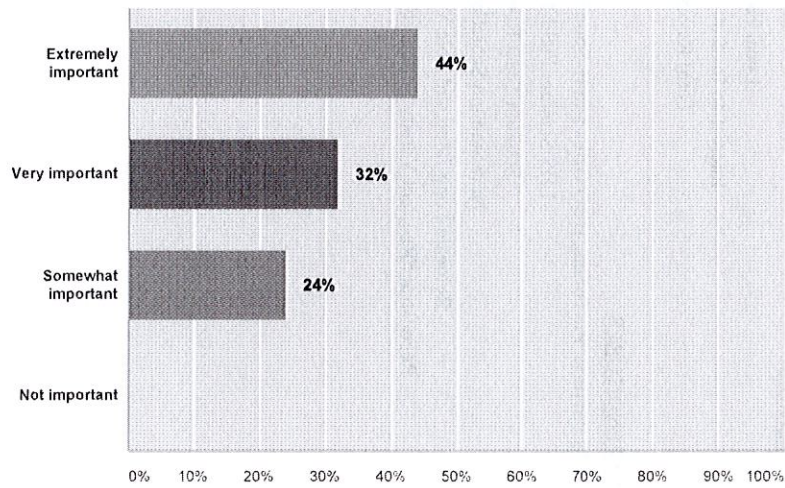
Excess Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures \$ (722,531)

Audit Fund Balance - July 1, \$ 218,963

Park and Recreation Community Survey Results

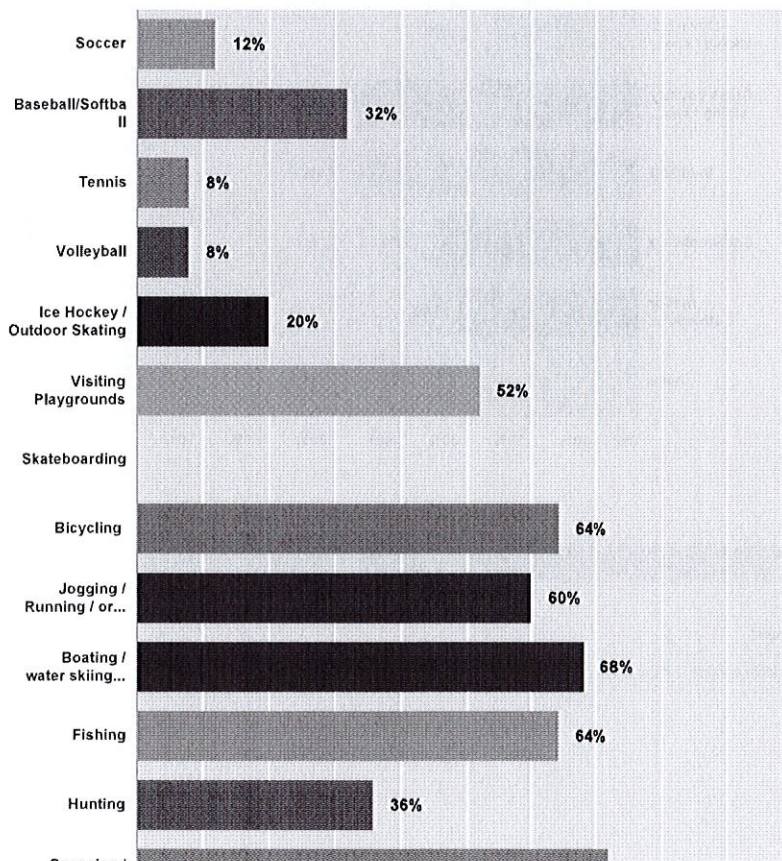
Q1 How important is having access to safe, public recreation opportunities to your family?

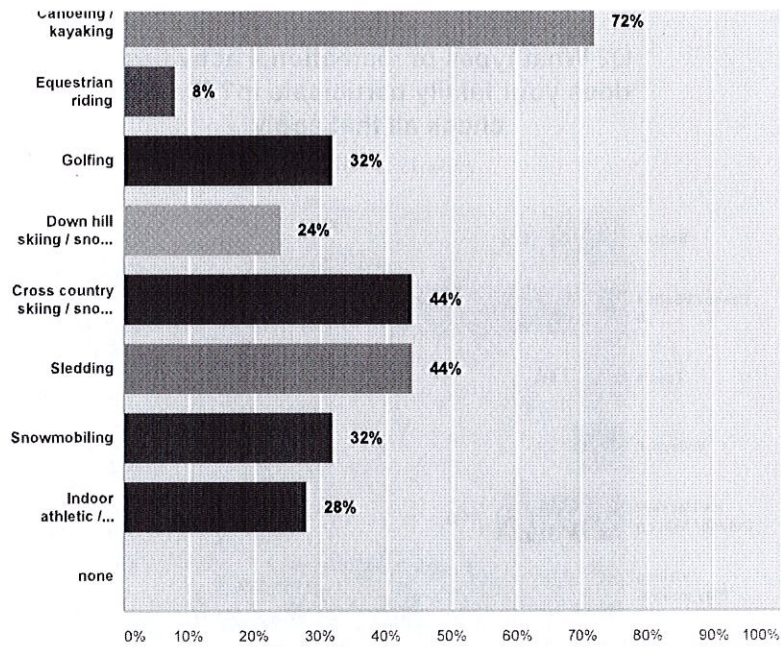
Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



Q2 What types of recreational activities does your family participate in? Please check all that apply

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

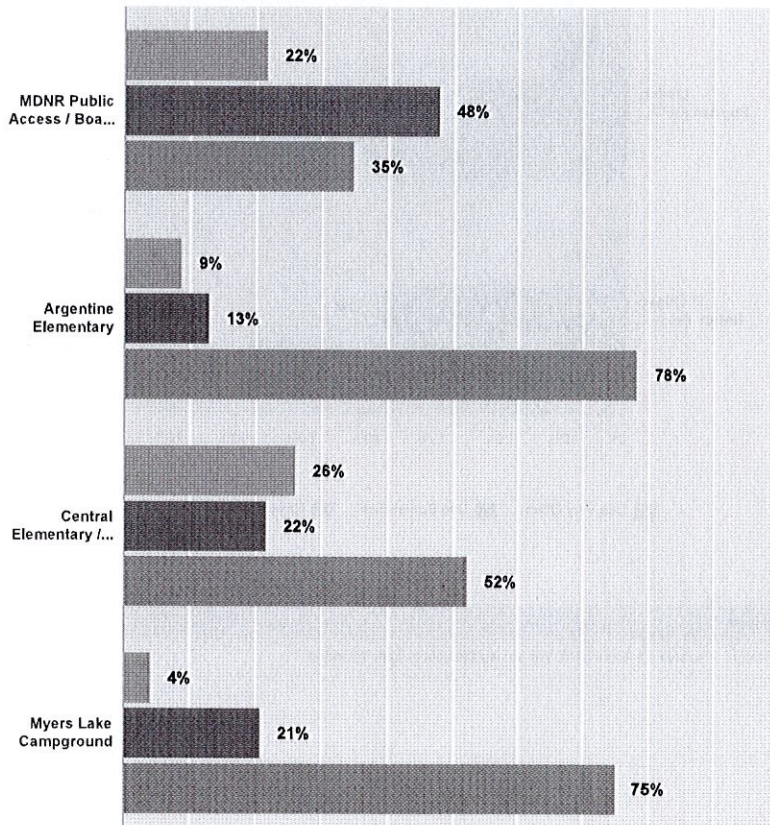


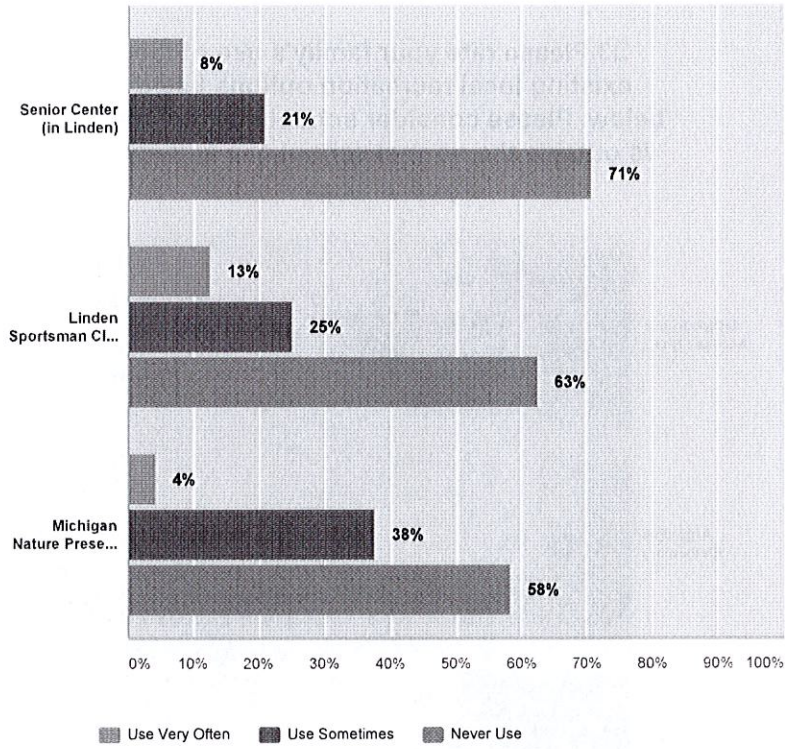


#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Disc golf, ice boating	12/9/2014 11:47 PM
2	Would love to see a dog park!	12/8/2014 8:57 AM
3	Outdoor festivals and outdoor concerts , indoor plays	11/26/2014 8:13 AM

Q3 Please rate your family's use of the existing local recreation options listed below. Please consider school site use that is outside the normal school day activity.

Answered: 24 Skipped: 1

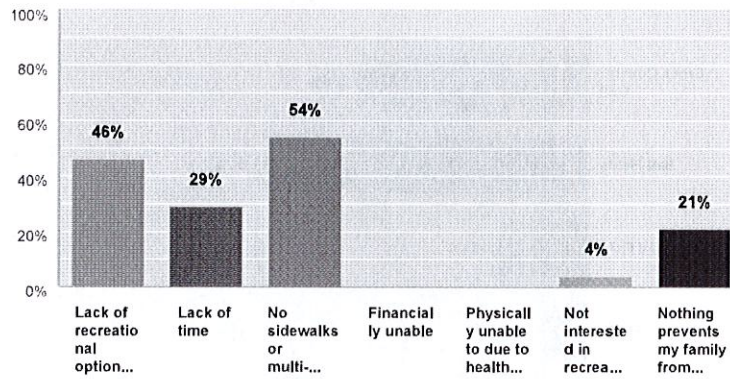




#	Any comments to the above?	Date
1	I didn't know there was a Nature Preserve off Rolston Rd. We do use the county park in Linden.	12/9/2014 10:12 PM

Q4 What prevents you and your family from doing the recreational activities you enjoy most?

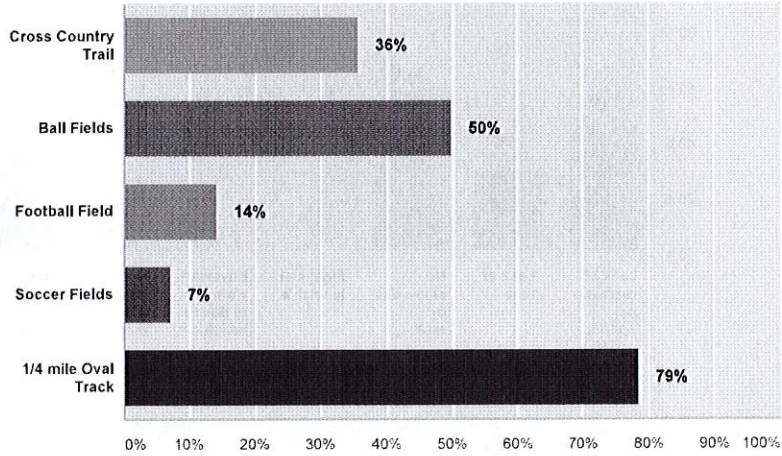
Answered: 24 Skipped: 1



#	Other reason?	Date
1	No equestrian trails in the area.	12/9/2014 10:37 PM
2	It is too scary to ride bikes on the main roads, Silver Lake Rd, Lobdell and Seymour.	12/9/2014 10:12 PM
3	I would like to have more walking trails. If we could pass a millage to get a recreation area at the High School that would be awesome. Although if Argentine Township residents can't pass a millage to have mosquito control I have my doubts.	12/7/2014 11:03 AM

Q5 If your family uses the main School Campus, what facilities do you use there (outside the normal school day) and what would you like to see improved.

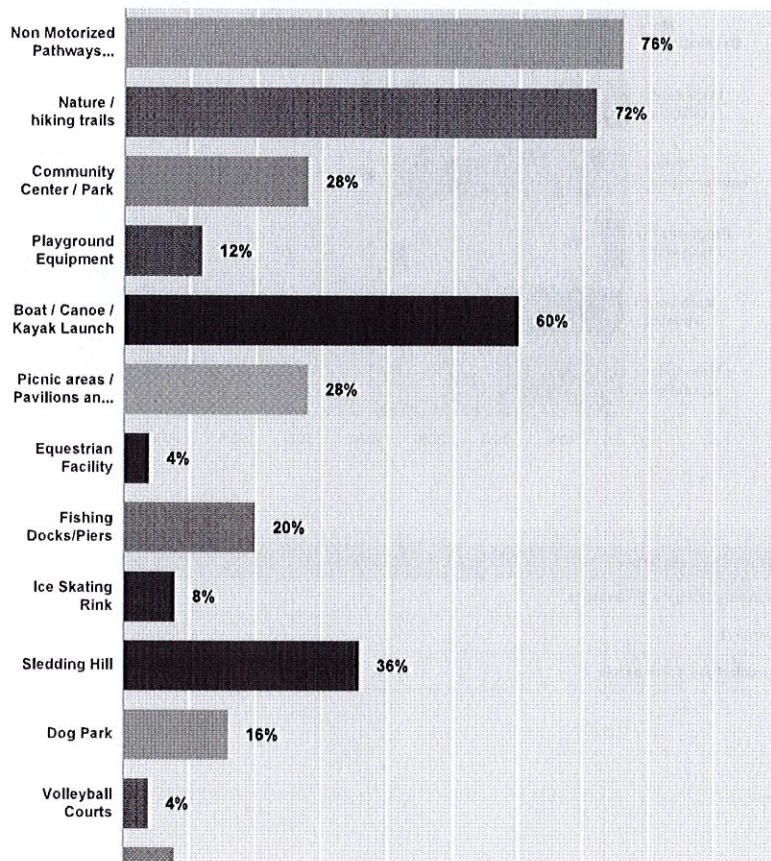
Answered: 14 Skipped: 11

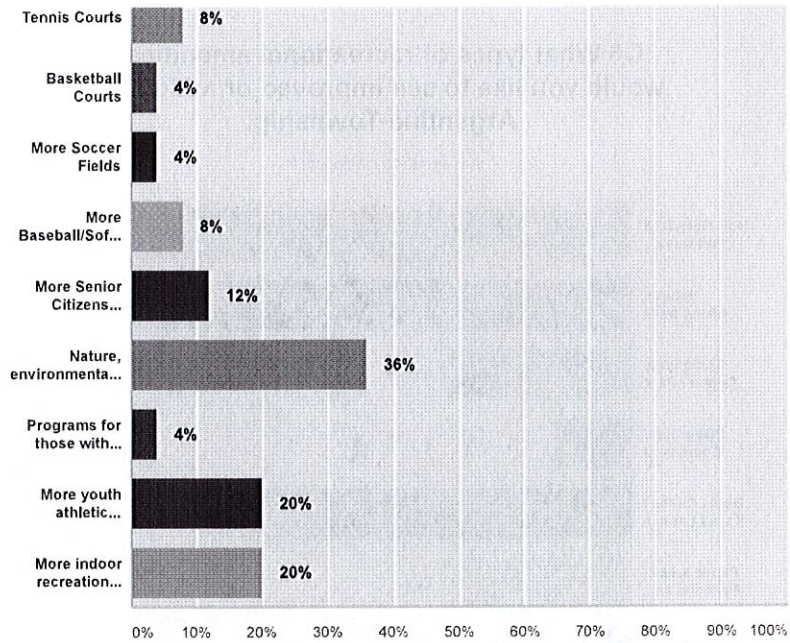


#	Please provide any comments to the above or suggested improvements.	Date
1	I need to use the walking track at the football field more. It is nice. I would love to have more kids play baseball/softball at the fields at Hyatt Elementary during the summer. I would love to help out with that to volunteer some time. Dave Johnson 810-618-7440	12/7/2014 11:03 AM
2	We don't use this facility.	11/30/2014 9:02 AM

Q6 What types of recreational amenities would you like to see improved or added in Argentine Township

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0

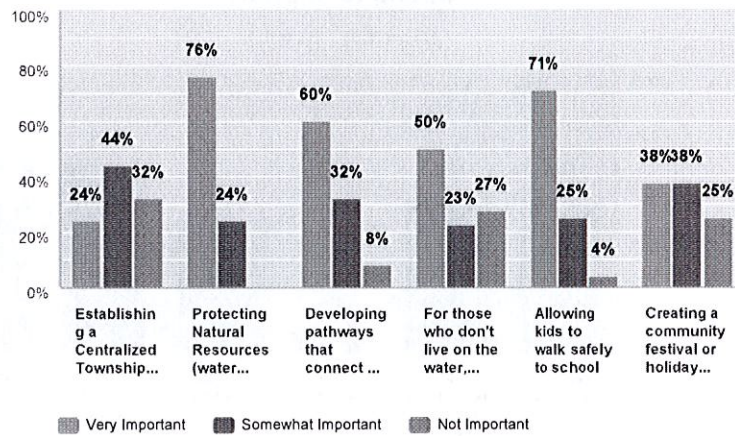




#	Other suggestions or elaborate on the above	Date
1	more accessible canoe launches along the Shiawassee.	12/9/2014 11:47 PM
2	Biking lanes along the roadways.	11/30/2014 9:02 AM
3	More things available to middle aged active people	11/11/2014 11:25 AM

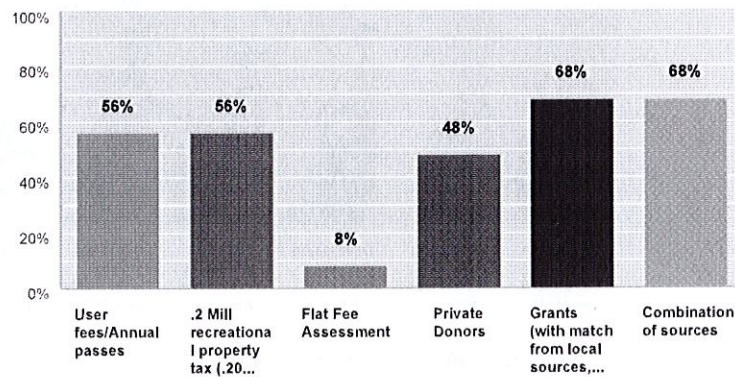
Q7 Please rate the following

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



Q8 What source of funding for park and recreational improvements would you be willing to support

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



#	Other suggestions (please specify)	Date
1	No millage or tax increase. Should be a user fee	11/26/2014 8:13 AM

Q9 Please state any other comments , suggestions, or ideas you have for parks and recreation in Argentine Township:

Answered: 2 Skipped: 23

#	Responses	Date
1	I would love to have a local pool club that people can pay for. I would also love to see more walking trails to connect with the schools and Linden. I am willing to pay some money and donaye time for this. Dave Johnson 810-618-7440	12/7/2014 11:03 AM
2	The southern communities really need to be better connected with pathways so they can share recreational resources amongst communities	11/11/2014 11:25 AM



PUBLIC WORKSHOP ACTIVITY 1 RESULTS

“EXISTING PARK FACILITIES – WHAT DO YOU THINK?”

There were 10 residents that participated in this activity.
All comments are listed as provided by participant.

# / 18 USE	FACILITY	STRONG POINTS	WEAKNESSES
7	MDNR Public Lake Access Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good, Ample parking, ▪ Easy public access to huge chain of lakes ▪ Nice boat ramp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staging area for ramp could be larger ▪ Cost to maintain police/fire ▪ Not enough parking ▪ Lack of control of boats ▪ No control by DNR staff ▪ Often no parking left ▪ More could be done with site
3	McCaslin Lake Road Canoe/Kayak Launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Great Location ▪ Lots of potential ▪ Great pickup and launch area ▪ Good access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited parking ▪ Cost to maintain driveway access ▪ parking
4	Linden High School, Central Elem. & Middle School Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Well maintained ▪ Open areas ▪ Walking areas ▪ Easy access ▪ Numerous indoor/outdoor activities ▪ Variety of recreational opportunities ▪ Great for family walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update playground equipment ▪ No turf
2	Argentine Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playground for younger families ▪ Convenient for public ▪ Central to township 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Playground locked ▪ Limited public access ▪ Small kids only ▪ Access to play equipment
3	Save It Creek Nature Preserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remote location ▪ Scenic, quite, good hiking ▪ Natural area – some trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More awareness ▪ Road and parking lot is overgrown ▪ Improve access - Parking area ▪ Is program or tour of facility available?



# / 18 USE	FACILITY	STRONG POINTS	IMPROVEMENTS
11	Myers Lake Campground (United Methodist Church)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scenic setting ▪ Lake access ▪ Family oriented ▪ Allows good camping site with water and sports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Needs improvements/upgrades ▪ Not public ▪ People don't know about it
1	Lions Club Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Easy access for Gaines residents ▪ Work in partnership with Village of Gaines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Needs improvements & upgrades ▪ Not a lot of use ▪ Mostly used by Gaines Township
0	University of Michigan Nature Preserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location, location, location ▪ Nature area good for birding and wildlife viewing ▪ Large area ▪ Public road frontage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Not well advertised ▪ Limited access ▪ No public access ▪ No trails ▪ No access-parking ▪ Not open to public ▪ Would like to see public use ▪ Program or tour of facility available?

SILVER LAKE ROAD TOWNSHIP PARK PROPERTY:

Types of Uses, Amenities, or Site Improvements suggested: (bolded items were suggested by multiple participants)

- Bridge to GCDC property for trails
- **Soccer, baseball/softball fields (5 votes)**
- **Walking paths (3 votes)**
- **Playground (2 votes)**
- Rest area along river
- Rest area for bike path
- Splash pad
- Fence maze
- Water slides
- Picnic Areas
- Fishing access
- Shooting range
- Community garden areas
- **River Access for Launch/roads (3 votes)**
- Farmers Market / Flea Market Area
- Motocross Track
- Dog Park
- Hot Air Balloon Launch
- Helicopter Landing Pad
- Orv/ATV Park
- Plant trees
- River walk connecting other paths
- Rustic Campground
- Horse Shoe Pits
- Parking
- Frisbee Golf Course
- Don't maximize river frontage



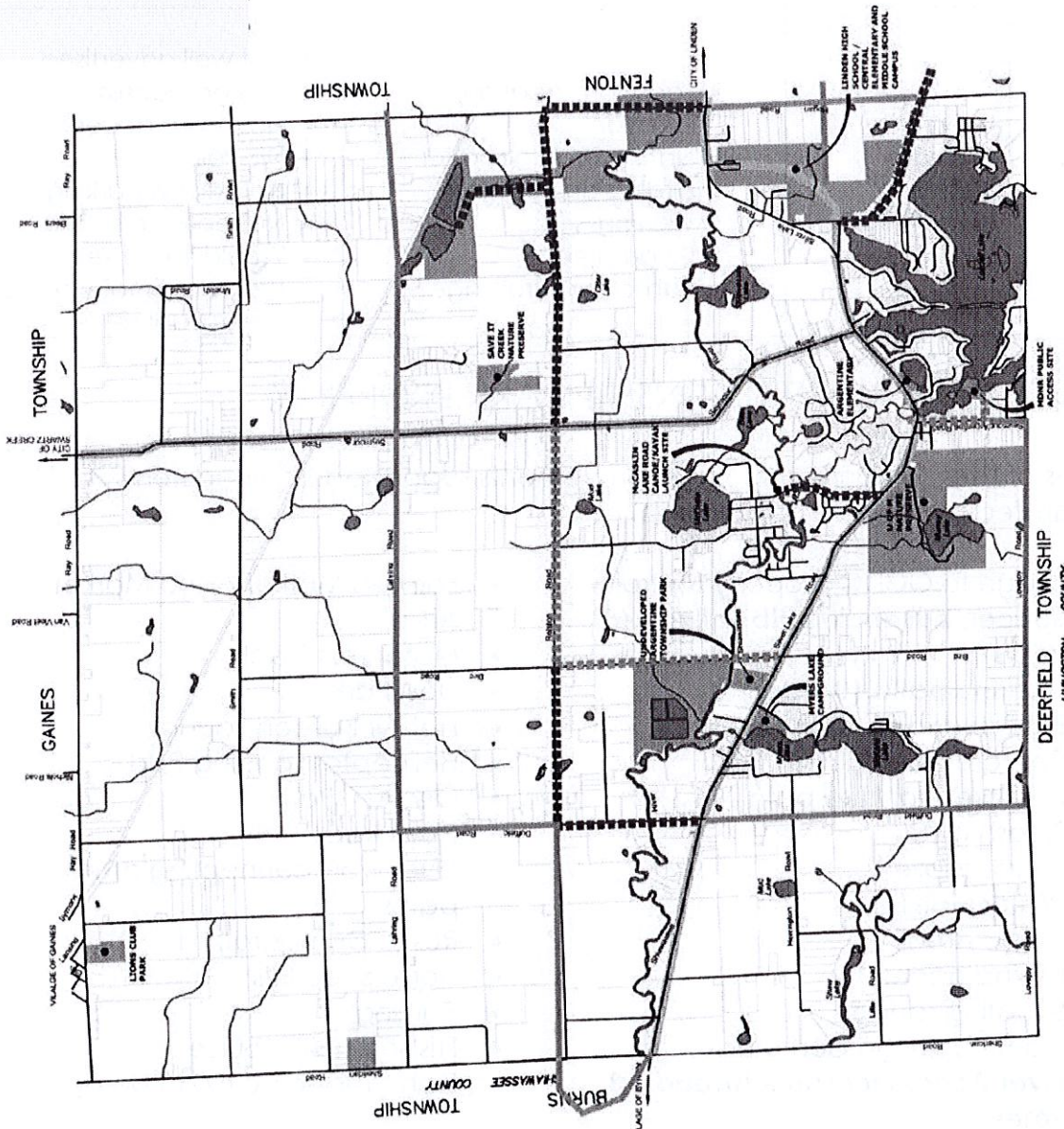
**PUBLIC WORKSHOP
ACTIVITY 2 RESULTS
"BLAZING NEW TRAILS"**



Legend

- LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS
- PUBLIC, SEMI PUBLIC OR COUNTY OWNED LANDS
- NAME
- EXISTING RECREATION FACILITY
- PROPOSED PRIORITY PAVED MULTI-USE PATHWAY ROUTES*

* PROPOSED PRIORITY PATH-WAY ROUTES ARE TAKEN FROM THE GENESSEE COUNTY REGIONAL TRAIL PLAN AND SOUTHERN LAKES PLANNING INITIATIVE WORKSHOP.
BASE MAPPING DATA PROVIDED BY THE GENESSEE COUNTY GIS DEPARTMENT.





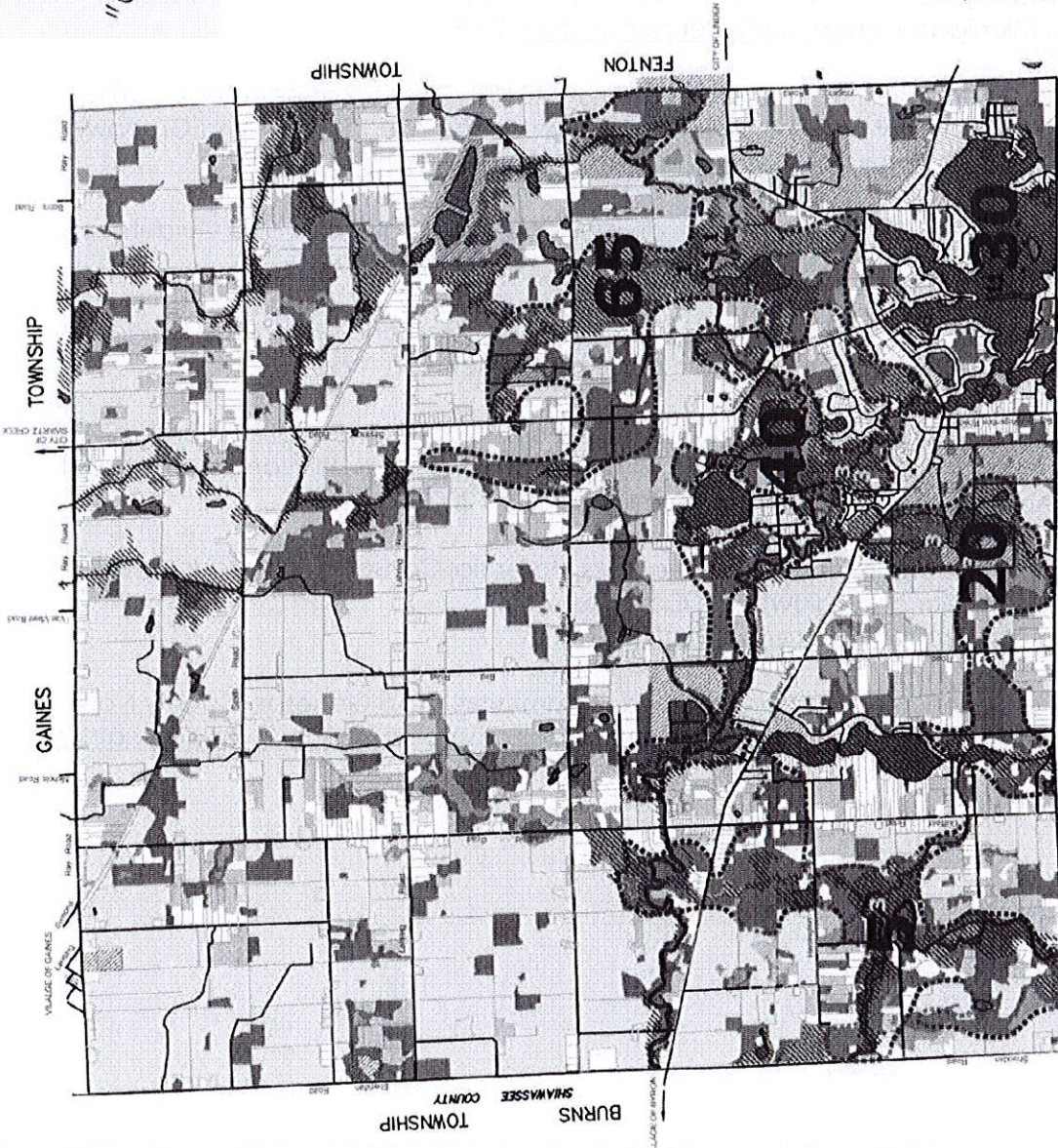
**PUBLIC WORKSHOP
ACTIVITY 3 RESULTS
"CONSERVING YOUR RESOURCES"**



Legend

- LAKES
- RIVERS, STREAMS
- 100 YEAR FLOODPLAIN AREAS
- WOODLANDS
- SWAMPS AND WETLANDS
- CROPLAND, FARMS, AND ORCHARDS
- GRASSES, FORES, SHRUBS AND PASTURES
- PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS*
- CURRENTLY ESTABLISHED CONSERVATION LANDS

* PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS WERE TAKEN FROM THE GIS GREENLINKS "POTENTIAL CONSERVATION AREAS ASSESSMENT" PROJECT BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN FLINT - CENTER FOR APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (CAER). THE LIMITS OF PRIORITY ONE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO INCLUDE HOME SITES WITHOUT PROPERTY OWNER CONSENT. BASE DATA PREPARED BY THE MICHIGAN NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY - MAY 2006 AND GENESSEE COUNTY GIS DATA.



Public, Semi Public or County Owned Lands or Private Lands with Recreational Amenities

= Total Points Received

3 = Third Priority (worth 5 points)

2 = Second Priority (worth 10 points)

1 = First Priority (worth 15 points)



References

- U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2010, Profile of General Demographic Characteristics, Argentine Township, Genesee County, Michigan - www.factfinder.census.gov, 2009
- U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2010, Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics, Argentine Township, Genesee County, Michigan - www.factfinder.census.gov, 2009
- U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2010, Income Distribution of Households and Families, Argentine Township, Genesee County, Michigan - www.factfinder.census.gov, 2009
- U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2010, Profile of Selected Economic Characteristics, Argentine Township, Genesee County, Michigan - www.factfinder.census.gov, 2009
- U.S. Census Bureau: Census 2010, Disability Status by Sex , Argentine Township, Genesee County, Michigan - www.factfinder.census.gov, 2009
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Grants Management – *Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans*, 2006 - www.michigan.gov/documents/IC1924_149265_7.pdf
- Lancaster, R.A., Ed. *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1983
- Mertes, J.D. and J.R. Hall. *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*. Alexandria, VA: National Recreation and Park Association, 1995
- University of Michigan Flint – Center for Applied and Environmental Research (CAER)- Southern Lakes Planning Initiative, Land Use 2003 downloads, PDF and shape Files for Argentine Township - www.oursouthernlakes.com , 2009
- University of Michigan Flint – GLS Greenlinks, Potential Conservation Areas Assessment for Genesee, Lapeer and Shiawassee Counties, 2006
www.assuregreatplaces.org/publications.html
- Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, 2015 Genesee County Non-motorized trail plan - www.co.genesee.mi.us/gcmplc-plan/trailnewplanandmaps.htm



Additional Resources

Safe Routes to School “SR2S” www.saferoutesmichigan.org

Safe Routes to School (SR2S) is a federal program to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. A federal Safe Routes to School program was authorized as part of the surface transportation bill signed into law in August 2005. As a result, every state now has dedicated dollars to help with infrastructure improvements (e.g. new sidewalks and traffic calming projects) and non-infrastructure activities to encourage and enable students to walk and bicycle to school. Michigan's Safe Routes to School program is managed by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), with training, logistical, administrative, and technical support from the Michigan Fitness Foundation.



Safe and Active Genesee for Everyone (SAGE) www.crim.org/activeliving/Sage/

SAGE is a collaborative of local advocates, non-profit, private and government organizations working together to advocate for and support active living initiatives that promote safe opportunities for people to be physically active throughout Genesee County. They provide expertise in Active Living to help you create change in your community, connect communities with other partners and organizations leading Active Living initiatives across the county, provide use of “Share the Road” (sharrow) pavement marking stencils, and help with advocacy efforts for complete streets in your community.

Michigan Recreation and Parks Association www.mrpaonline.org

Founded in 1935, the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) is a statewide non-profit association representing the parks and recreation industry. MRPA represents the interest of recreation professionals and citizen advocates throughout Michigan, providing advocacy, knowledge, and programs to enhance the parks and recreation field, as well as the skills of our individual members

GLS GreenLinks Reference Manuals: www.assuregreatplaces.org

Formed by the Flint River Watershed Coalition and the University of Michigan – Flint's Center for Applied Environmental Research (CAER), GLS Greenlinks is a planning program that identifies land best suited for conservation and recreation throughout Genesee, Lapeer, and Shiawassee counties. This is a group of representatives from national, state, and local governments, non-profit organizations, and concerned citizens who advocate for: Wildlife, Water Quality, Non-motorized Transportation, Recreation, Urban and Land Use Planning, Tourism and Economic Development. Reference manuals found on their website include:

- Close to Home: Conservation Planning for Communities
- Moving Waters: A Guide to Help You Protect, Restore and Promote Local Waterways
- The Wayside Companion – signage and wayfinding guidelines



GLS GreenLinks



Transportation Improvement Program www.co.genesee.mi.us/gcmpr-plan/TIP.htm

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), prepared by Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission is a three-year schedule and budget of proposed federally funded and regionally significant transportation improvements within Genesee County. The TIP is typically updated as needed through a multi-step process in association with the Transportation System Management (TSM) Committee, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and final approval by the Metropolitan Alliance. The TIP addresses transportation projects and programs to include: federal, state and local highways, transit, ride sharing, bike paths, and pedestrian facilities.

MDOT - Bicycle and Pedestrian Program www.michigan.gov/mdot

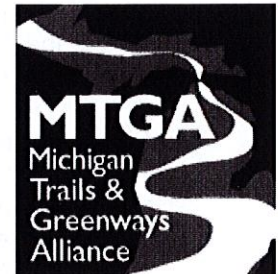
The bicycle and Pedestrian Program of the Michigan Department of Transportation provides assistance with various grant programs, as well as resources and maps related to non motorized transportation. Contact: Joshua DeBruyn, AICP, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, Bureau of Transportation Planning at (517) 335-2918 or DeBruynJ@michigan.gov to learn more.

American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, 4th Edition, 2012 www.bookstore.transportation.org/home.aspx

This is the primary design manual used for project funded through federal, state and many local agencies. It provides specifications related to the development of facilities to enhance and encourage safe bicycle travel.

Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance www.michigantrails.org

MTGA is a non-profit organization that fosters and facilitates the creation of an interconnected statewide system of trails and greenways for recreation, health, transportation, economic development and environmental/cultural preservation purposes. MTGA works at both the state and local levels by assisting public and private interest in trail and greenway planning, funding, development and maintenance. MTGA builds public support for trail and greenway development through events, membership, education, information and advocacy activities.



Michigan Complete Streets www.michigancompletestreets.wordpress.com

Michigan Complete Streets is a coalition of individuals and organizations working toward the development of complete streets policies throughout Michigan. Local communities such as Lansing and Flint are actively working to make our roadways safer for *all users that move people not just automobiles*. Instituting a complete streets policy ensures that transportation planners and engineers design *entire* roadways with *all users* in mind – including bicyclists, public transportation vehicles and riders, and pedestrians of *all ages and abilities*. In addition to local policie smaking efforts, twenty jurisdictions nationwide adopted policies in 2008 and 12 have done so in 2009.

United States Access Board: A Federal Agency Committed to Accessible Design
<http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/index.htm>

Sidewalks, street crossings, and other elements of the public rights-of-ways present unique challenges to accessibility for which specific guidance is considered essential. The Board is developing new guidelines for public rights-of-way that will address various issues, including access for blind pedestrians at street crossings, wheelchair access to on-street parking, and various constraints posed by space limitations, roadway design practices, slope, and terrain. The draft guidelines are being revised based on the input received from the public and will be available for public comment once published.