



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: February 9, 2021

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual Meeting on Zoom available to the public at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89742883424>

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order / Moment of Silence**
- 2. Roll Call and Announcement of Location**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes –**
 - A. January 12, 2021 Meeting (attached, pp. 1-5 /action item)
 - B. January 27, 2021 Special Meeting (attached, pp. 6-7 /action item)
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. Communications, Projects & Activities** (attached, pp. 8-26 /action item)
 - A. Summer '21 Update – Camps & Water Parks
- 6. Consent Agenda**
 - A. Dominican Meadows Update (attached, pp. 27-28 /action item)
 - B. NAPP – Rouse Sales Contract (attached, pp. 29-32 /action item)
 - C. NAPP – Northfield Hills Sales Contract (attached, pp. 33-43 /action item)
- 7. Financial & Recreation Reports – January 2021**
 - A. Financial Reports (attached, pp. 44-46 /action item)
 - B. Recreation Reports (attached, p. 47 /action item)
- 8. Old Business**
 - A. Project Updates – Parking (presentation at meeting/informational)
 - B. Preliminary North Side Site Plan – Staebler Farm (presentation at meeting/informational)
 - C. NAPP – Bassett and Deloof Final Approval (attached, pp. 48-53 /action item)
 - D. NAPP – Kidder Final Approval (attached, pp. 54-59 / action item)
 - E. Other Old Business
- 9. New Business**
 - A. LED Lighting Project (presentation at meeting/informational)
 - B. NAPP – Stillwood Farm Partnership (attached, pp. 60-65 /action item)
 - C. Other Old Business
- 10. Commissioners / Directors Comments**
- 11. Adjournment**

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Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: January 12, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom Digital Meeting

Members Present: Robert Marans, WCPARC President (attending from Ann Arbor Township, MI); Patricia Tupacz Scribner, WCPARC Vice President (attending from Pittsfield Township, MI); Janis Bobrin (attending from Glen Arbor Township, MI), Daniel Ezekiel (attending from Ann Arbor City, MI), Ricky Jefferson (attending from Ypsilanti Township, MI), Robert Joerg (attending from Ann Arbor City, MI), Jo Ann McCollum (attending from Ypsilanti Township, MI), Brenda McKinney (attending from Superior Township, MI), Jason Morgan (attending from Ann Arbor City, MI), and Evan Pratt (attending from Scio Township, MI)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Trocchio, Superintendent of Park Planning and Natural Areas; Jason Brooks, Manager of Finance and Administration; Rosie Pahl-Donaldson, Park Planner; Peter Sanderson, Park Planner; Hannah Cooley, Management Analyst

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order/Moment of Silence

Mr. Marans called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. with a moment of silence in appreciation of first responders.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 8, 2020 regular meeting were included with the agenda material.

Mr. Ezekiel mentioned that on page four, staff should change, "Ms. Ezekiel" to "Mr. Ezekiel."

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Mr. Pratt to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 meeting, as amended. Ayes all, the motion was approved.

3. Public Comment

Paul Berry, stated that he wanted to see Dominion Meadows become more accessible to the public and asked how to go about making the request. Mr. Marans recommended he reach out to staff. Mr. Berry stated that he would email Mr. Vaughn, who agreed to follow up.

Diane O'Connell, Ann Arbor Township Supervisor, stated that she supports the Stiles-Kaldijan item on the agenda and would like to see the property become part of the Ann Arbor Township portfolio. She added that the county's share would be 16% of the purchase price.

Eric Kaldijan stated that he appreciates the county's commitment to preservation and he looks forward to continued work with the county. He added that the Stiles-Kaldijan property has some valuable aspects.

4. Communications, Projects & Activities

Mr. Vaughn reported on the December communications which were included in the packet.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin and seconded by Mr. Pratt to accept and file the Communications for the month of December 2020, as submitted. Roll call vote: 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion was approved.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Mr. Ezekiel to accept and file the Projects and Activities update for the month of December 2020, as submitted. Roll call vote: 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion was approved.

5. Consent Agenda

None.

6. Financial & Recreation Reports – December 2020

A. Financial Reports

Mr. Brooks reported and stated that the total for the claims for the month of December was \$1,202,254.84.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Ms. McKinney to accept and file the Financial Reports for the months of December 2020 as submitted. Roll call vote: 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion was approved.

B. Recreation Reports

Mr. Brooks reported on recreation reports for the month of December 2020. He also provided a summary of the natural areas special revenue fund and December budget and transfer adjustments.

It was moved by Ms. Bobrin and seconded by Ms. Tupacz Scribner to accept and file the Recreation Reports for the month of December 2020 as submitted. Roll call vote: 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion was approved.

7. Old Business

A. NAPP – Buesser Partnership

Ms. Trocchio stated that this NAPP partnership was originally approved in 2019 but was being brought back to the Commission due to a landowner request to amend the size of the building envelope from 2 acres to 4 acres. She also stated that she would like to receive direction from the Commission as to how these changes are handled in the future. Ms. Bobrin stated that she understands the rationale for requesting the building envelope expansion but added she does not recall the initial discussion because it occurred a while back. Ms. Trocchio stated that it is somewhat important for the owners to be able to live where they farm and that they intended use building envelope for a residential building and farm buildings, if needed. She added that it was allowed in the original approval because it was along the road and was consistent with the previous discussions with the Commission.

Ms. Bobrin stated that the Buesser property situation is a pragmatic one given that the parcel is rendered unusable if they cannot put in a septic field.

Mr. Pratt seconded by Ms. Bobrin moved to offer a friendly amendment to the original motion to authorize staff to work with the property owner to define exactly how much land is needed for the septic field, not to exceed four acres, and request staff return to the Commission with an update. No objections were raised to the friendly amendment.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Ms. Bobrin to authorize staff to work with the property owner to define exactly how much land is needed for the septic field, request staff return to the Commission with an update, to continue to partner with the City of Ann Arbor Greenbelt program and Legacy Land Conservancy on the purchase of the conservation easement on the Buesser property and to allow a building envelope of up to 4-acres to be incorporated into the conservation easement. Roll call vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (McCollum), the motion was approved.

B. NAPP –Stiles-Kaldijan 2 Partnership

Ms. Pahl Donaldson reported that the lack of an envelope at the outset was lapse in communication and not brought to WCPARC initially, but she added that an envelope was the intention at the outset. She stated that there is a preference for a building envelope when it comes to agricultural properties because it allows for a steward to live on the property. Ms. Pahl Donaldson stated that the score does not change overall. She added that she would have had no problem recommending this item if it had come to us this way previously.

Ms. Tupacz Scribner stated that she is not comfortable with building envelopes coming to the WCPARC after initial approval. Mr. Ezekiel stated that it seems that we are looking at smaller and smaller properties with more building exclusions and the worry was that we were using public funds to protect estates. Ms. Bobrin stated that she feels it is a bit of a stretch that a farmer has to live on the property to farm. She added that she is starting to get concerned that we are using public funds for private benefit. She added that it may be necessary to firm this issue up with drafting a policy and to work with staff and other partners to develop a consistent approach. Mr. Ezekiel asked how everyone would feel about setting up a working session with the Greenbelt to get their thoughts on building exclusions on protected properties. Ms. Bobrin stated that bringing in other partners is a longer-term approach but that the decision on these items is needed soon. Mr. Joerg asked if similar projects were going to be coming up in the next couple of months. Ms. Pahl Donaldson stated that there is one coming up with a complex structure in the next couple of months but nothing like this one. Mr. Morgan asked if this project complies with policy on whether it can be supported. Ms. Trocchio stated that we typically like any envelope to be along the road rather than in the middle or back of the property. Mr. Pratt stated that it was helpful to hear that there was always an intent to include an envelope with Stiles-Kaldijan. He added that it has been upwards of a couple of years since we talked about our criteria. Mr. Pratt stated that he would not be uncomfortable moving forward right now but that it sounds like some people would like a little more time. Mr. Marans stated that it makes sense that there would be a cutout for some sort of building in agricultural easements but that he is concerned about people getting public money to acquire a large part of their property without anyone having access to that parcel.

Mr. Ezekiel stated that he would like to suggest having a working group on building envelopes with some members of WCPARC and some members of staff as well as outside groups if they are interested.

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Ms. Bobrin to continue to partner with Ann Arbor Township for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Stiles-Kaldjian 2 property in Ann Arbor Township and approve the 2-acre building envelope that will be included with the conservation easement. Roll call vote: 5 Ayes, 4 Nays (Marans, McKinney, Morgan, and Tupacz Scribner), 1 Absent (McCollum), the motion was approved.

C. Other New Business

None

8. New Business

A. Election of Officers

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Ms. McKinney to nominate Patricia Tupacz Scribner to serve as President of the Commission, Janis Bobrin to serve as Vice President of the Commission and Daniel Ezekiel to serve as Secretary of the Commission. Roll call vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (McCollum), the motion was approved.

B. Trail Clearing Award

Mr. Sanderson reported that there are several upcoming projects for the Border-to-Border Trail. He stated that in order to comply with environmental regulations that it is recommended that any tree clearing work be conducted between October and March. Mr. Sanderson stated that staff is recommending doing this work out of a general contract and has released RFP 8015 which received three bids. He reported that the railroad corridor requires different insurance which is why the bid was split up. Mr. Sanderson stated that the project around the Dyer property was added after the bid and after Dyer was closed.

Mr. Joerg asked if the other two companies commented on why they did not bid on the second phase of the contract. Mr. Sanderson stated that he believed it was because they are smaller companies that could not meet the insurance requirements. Mr. Joerg stated that he does not love the fact that we would go with a contractor that is based out of metro Cleveland when we have a smaller company based in Washtenaw County that has bid. He asked if there was any way to work with the Chelsea based firm. Mr. Sanderson stated that Davey was able to provide lower pricing than he has ever seen on tree clearing services. Mr. Vaughn stated that he agrees with Mr. Joerg and that WCPARC tries to be sensitive to local vendor concerns. He added that when the bids are close that staff tries to seek additional justification but that in this case the bids were not close.

Ms. McKinney stated that she agrees with Mr. Joerg. She added that Davey does do a lot of work in the area. Mr. Sanderson stated that Davey is already a pre-qualified railroad contractor to do this type of work.

It was moved by Ms. McKinney and seconded by Ms. Tupacz Scribner to award RFP 8015 to Davey Tree Experts for the amount of \$188,016.20 and authorize an additional ten percent (10%) contingency of \$19,000. Roll call vote: 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (McCollum), 1 Abstention (Joerg), the motion was approved.

C. Renaming Request – Scio Woods Preserve

Mr. Vaughn presented a renaming request for Scio Woods Preserve. He stated that Lew Kidder has gone above and beyond working on the B2B trail and was a key figure in establishing the road and trails millage. He added that should this item be approved that Scio Woods Preserve would be called the Kidder-McKeachie Scio Woods Preserve

It was moved by Ms. Ezekiel and seconded by Ms. Bobrin to approve the proposed remaining of the Scio Woods Preserve to now be Kidder-McKeachie Scio Woods Preserve to honor the Kidder-McKeachie family based on significant financial contributions and their outstanding civic contributions to WCPARC and the residents of Washtenaw County. Roll call vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (McCollum), was approved.

D. NAPP – Lippert Sales Contract

Ms. Trocchio reported that the Lippert Property is adjacent to Whitmore Lake Preserve, which was purchased from a number of different landowners. At the time of the original purchase, the one parcel owned by the Lippert family was not purchased. The family re-nominated the property in 2020 and it contains additional shoreline to Lawton Lake and will provide an opportunity for trail expansion on the property. Ms. Trocchio also commented that the property scores on the higher end of NAPP scoring criteria.

It was moved by Ms. Tupacz Scribner and seconded by Mr. Pratt to authorize a sales contract for the Lippert property in the amount of \$297,000, contingent upon completion of all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval of the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Roll call vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent (McCollum), the motion was approved.

E. B2B – Green Lake Statue Proposal

Mr. Sanderson reported that HWPI would like to install a bronze statue along the Border to Border Trail on the eastern shore of Green Lake within the Waterloo Recreation Area. He added that the statue is of an indigenous woman that is based on clothing dating to the pre-20th century. He added that a small plaza constructed from natural materials and that it would be accessible. Mr. Sanderson stated that long-term maintenance and stewardship would be the responsibility of the Commission.

9. Commissioners/Directors Comments

Mr. Jefferson stated that Ms. McCollum had a problem getting back onto the meeting and that we may have a bandwidth problem.

Mr. Vaughn thanked Mr. Marans for his years serving as president of the Commission.

10. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Pratt and seconded by Mr. Jefferson to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; the motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Date: January 27, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom Digital Meeting

Members Present: Patricia Tupacz Scribner, WCPARC President (attending from Pittsfield Township, MI); Janis Bobrin, WCPARC Vice President (attending from Ann Arbor, MI); Daniel Ezekiel, WCPARC Secretary (attending from Ann Arbor, MI); Ricky Jefferson (attending from Ypsilanti Township, MI); Robert Joerg (attending from Ann Arbor City, MI); Robert Marans (attending from Ann Arbor Township, MI); Jo Ann McCollum (attending from Ypsilanti Township, MI); Brenda McKinney (attending from Superior Township, MI); and Evan Pratt (attending from Scio Township, MI)

Members Absent: Jason Morgan

Staff Present: Coy Vaughn, Director; Meghan Bonfiglio, Deputy Director; Ginny Trocchio, Superintendent of Park Planning and Natural Areas; Rosie Pahl-Donaldson, Park Planner;

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order/Moment of Silence

Ms. Tupacz Scribner called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. with a moment of silence in appreciation of first responders.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. NAPP - Botsford Project Update

Ms. Trocchio updated the commission on the Botsford purchase. The City of Ann Arbor holds a Right of First Refusal on the property that must be completed soon. In the City and County's completion of the due diligence, title work identified that the adjacent office complex, Forest Cove, holds a parking easement over 2 acres of the Botsford property. Staff wanted to bring this back to the Commission, as it is significant change from the original approval, and in light of the building envelopes discussion on conservation easements. The county attorney has a letter dated in 2016 from the Township attorney stating that the parking easement does not comply with the Township zoning and would likely not approve a parcel in the township to provide parking for a parcel within the City limits. In addition, county staff reached out to the City of Ann Arbor planning staff that noted the site plan for the Forest Cove office complex expired in 2012 and would have to be resubmitted if the parking easement was exercised. Given all of this, it is the opinion of the county attorney that there is little risk of the parking easement being exercised. By general discussion, the commission expressed their support for the preservation of

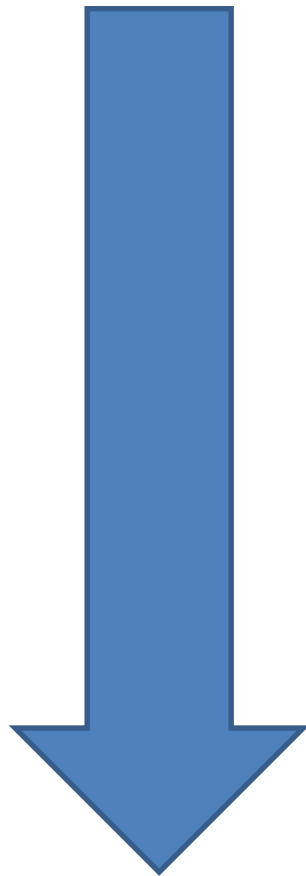
the property and directed staff to continue the partnership with the City of Ann Arbor as originally approved.

4. Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Marans and seconded by Mr. Jefferson to adjourn the meeting. Ayes all; the motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Communications, Projects & Activities



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Six Short January Excursions in Washtenaw County



[Doug Marrin](#) [Editor](#) [The Sun Times News](#)

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Tracks tell hidden stories. Image by Del Green from Pixabay

From Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation

Below are six fun winter events hosted by Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation

[River & Prairie Hike](#)

January 23, 2021, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM @ Burns-Stokes Preserve

Hike the diverse habitats that line the banks of the Huron River, appreciating their winter beauty and learning about the wildlife that they support. We hike through oak woodland, sedge meadow, tallgrass prairie, and floodplain forest, searching for signs of beaver, deer, coyote and other wildlife. Hike led by Shawn Severance. This hike is geared for ages 12 and up. Please wear a mask and dress warmly. Pre-register is required, please email severances@washtenaw.org.

[More Details](#)

[Junior Naturalist: Winter Fire Building](#)

January 23, 2021, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM @ Independence Lake County Park

Vehicle entry fee required Learn how to build a campfire with only materials you find in nature. Fire lays, tinder bundles and kindling will all be demonstrated and practiced. Learn the rule of 3's and how they relate to fires. Led by Elle Bogle and Kelsey Dehring. Pre-registration is required, maximum of 20 people, 10 people per naturalist. For ages 7 - 11. One adult may accompany each child. No unregistered siblings, please. To register your child, visit parksonline.ewashtenaw.org (registration #821004)

[More Details](#)

[Winter Forest Mindfulness Hike](#)

January 24, 2021, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM @ Scio Woods Preserve

Winter is an excellent time to practice mindfulness. In the beauty of stillness, we are able to listen to the silence between sounds, breathe in the aromas of the forest, feel the distinct texture of each tree's bark, and taste the snowflakes melting on our tongues. This hike will be at a slow to moderate pace through the woods with period stops for quiet reflection and connection with our senses. Co-led by Parks Naturalist Elle Bogle and Julie Woodward of Mindful City Ann Arbor. Please bring a mask, wearing a base layer is recommended, and bring a mug for optional hot tea at the end of the hike. This hike is limited to 10 people and pre-registration is required. Email ellebogle@washtenaw.org to register for this program.

[More Details](#)

[Full Moon Night Hike](#)

January 29, 2021, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM @ Independence Lake County Park

January's full moon is the Wolf Moon and it marks the beginning of the year as a wonderful time to start again and tune into the cycles of nature. Come discover winter wonders under the light of the full moon and learn why our indigneous peoples named this moon for the mysterious wolf. Led by Naturalist Elle Bogle. There will be a campfire, s'mores and hot cocoa at our Beach Center Pavilion after your hike. 5 slots for 2 sections 6:30-7:30pm and 7:30-8:30pm. Program fee is \$5.00 per family/household, up to 4 members per family/household. Only one person is needed to register, as the fee is per

family/household. Dog walkers welcome. The check in counter will be at the Beach Center Pavilion. Register at parksonline@ewashtenaw.org. Registration # IL461100

[More Details](#)

[Family Nature Adventures – Animal Tracks & Signs](#)

January 30, 2021, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM @ Fox Science Preserve

Explore the gravel pit in winter, searching for clues of winter survival. We will learn how to identify common animal tracks in snow, mud and sand as well as search for interesting rocks and other finds. This program led by Shawn Severance. Program is limited to 10 people total. Pre-registration is required for everyone attending over the age of 2. Register online at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. Registration #821002

[More Details](#)

[Family Nature Adventures – Animal Tracks & Signs](#)

January 30, 2021, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM @ Fox Science Preserve

Explore the gravel pit in winter, searching for clues of winter survival. We will learn how to identify common animal tracks in snow, mud and sand as well as search for interesting rocks and other finds. This program led by Shawn Severance. Program is limited to 10 people total. Pre-registration is required for everyone attending over the age of 2. Register online at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. Registration #821002

[More Details](#)

A complete listing of WCPR events are listed at <https://www.washtenaw.org/288/Parks-Recreation>

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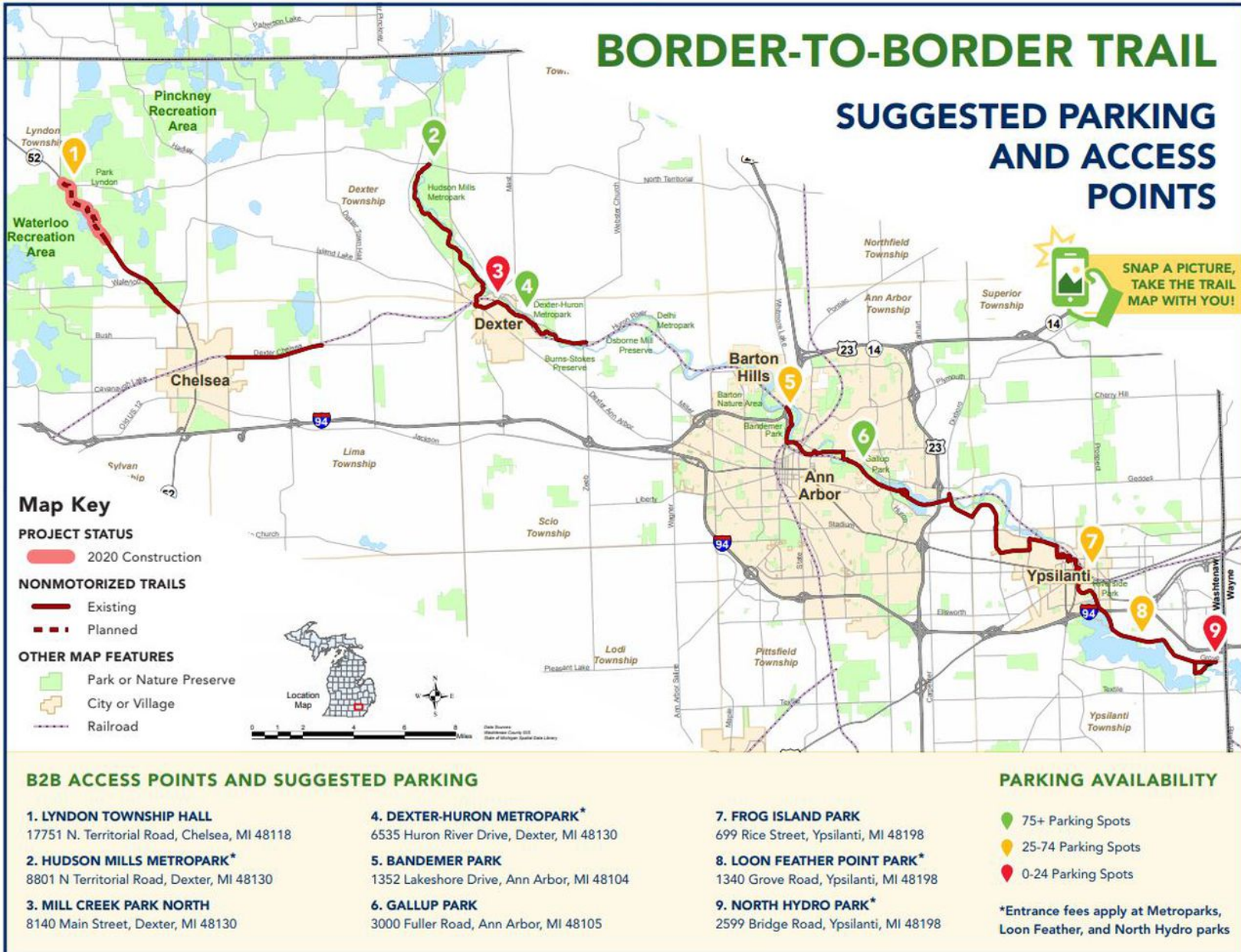
Updates continue along non-motorized Border-to-Border trail in Washtenaw County

Updated Jan 27, 2021; Posted Jan 27, 2021



BORDER-TO-BORDER TRAIL

SUGGESTED PARKING AND ACCESS POINTS



Map of the 70-mile cross-county, non-motorized Border-to-Border trail. Courtesy of Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative

By [Dana Afana | dafana@mlive.com](mailto:dafana@mlive.com)

WASHTENAW COUNTY, MI -- Progress continues along a non-motorized public pathway expected to total 70 miles.

The latest segment of the Border-to-Border trail to open was in November 2020 at the Huron River in Delhi Metropark. Another stretch of the trail segment, from Zeeb to East Delhi roads, will begin in the winter, with a planned opening in summer 2021. The project also involves moving [Skip's Huron River Canoe Livery](#) to a new spot within the park to make room for the trail's extension.

New segment opens along Border-to-Border trail in Ann Arbor area

Project partners have recently added to the Zeeb Road to Dexter trail segment, including pedestrian

At Frog Island Park in Ypsilanti, crews are installing new lights, due to the limited fixtures by the amphitheater, according to a news release. The segment extends along the south and west sides of the park, parallel to the Huron River, and connect to East Cross and East Forest Streets.

New segments open along non-motorized Border-to-Border trail

Pandemic has not slowed Border-to-Border trail progress, officials say

Partners on the trail project include the Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, Washtenaw County Road Commission, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and the state Department of Natural Resources.

The updated map is available [online](#).

Marcus Lemonis gives Zingerman's \$50k to feed the community

Blue LLama Jazz Club to host livestream shows

Williams-Sonoma store at Ann Arbor's Briarwood Mall closes

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1-29-2021 1:44pm

B2B Trail getting a new segment between Chelsea and Dexter

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[Lonnie Huhman](#) [Reporter](#) [The Sun Times News](#)





Those who enjoy riding, walking or running on the Border-to-Border Trail can expect to see a new segment of the non-motorized pathway completed this year between Chelsea and Dexter.

The segment will be a 1.4 mile trail from Dancer Road to Wylie Road.

This latest trail project is a partnership between the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, Washtenaw County Road Commission and Huron Waterloo Pathways initiative.

A public informational meeting about this was held virtually on Jan. 27 through Zoom.

According to Roy Townsend, a project manager with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, this new segment will begin at Dancer and Dexter-Chelsea Road in Lima Township and will end at the intersection of Wylie and Dexter-Chelsea.

The trail segment is planned to begin on the north side of Dexter-Chelsea and head east through private easements and road rights-of-way to reach Wylie.

During the meeting, Townsend took questions from the public, which included some of the property owners along or near the proposed trail segment. They asked about trees, liability, signage, parking and exact alignment.

The general conclusion from these questions is that Townsend was going to connect and meet with property owners to further discuss their specific concerns and questions.

One property owner is concerned about some longstanding oak trees on their land, which Townsend said they would look to work with them so they could maybe slightly adjust the alignment in order to keep the trees standing. Another property owner asked about the trail crossing his dirt driveway, which Townsend said the homeowners are held harmless for liability issues.

Townsend described the route as still being in the rough alignment stage, so it had not yet been finalized and further discussions/planning still needed to be done.

One change that has already occurred with the alignment route saw it moved from the south side of Dexter-Chelsea to the north. Townsend said a partner of the project purchased some farm land on the north side that allowed it to be switched over.

These were just two of the questions.

The trail is expected to be 10 feet wide with 2 feet shoulders on both sides. Work will



Qunitez Tomlin uses the Huron Street median to cross I-94.

Doug Coombe

Ypsilanti

Long-awaited pedestrian pathway over I-94 in Ypsilanti to begin construction in 2021

SARAH RIGG | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

The project will establish a paved, shared-use, non-motorized pathway, including physical barriers separating cars from pedestrians and cyclists, along a heavily traveled intersection.





Doug Coombe

The footpath along Huron Street looking south by the eastbound I-94 exit.



After at least 20 years of discussion and planning, funding has been secured to build a safe pedestrian crossing over I-94 at Huron Street in Ypsilanti by the end of 2022.

The project will establish a paved, shared-use, non-motorized pathway, including physical barriers separating cars from pedestrians and cyclists, along a heavily traveled intersection where pedestrians have currently worn their own paths along the side of the road.

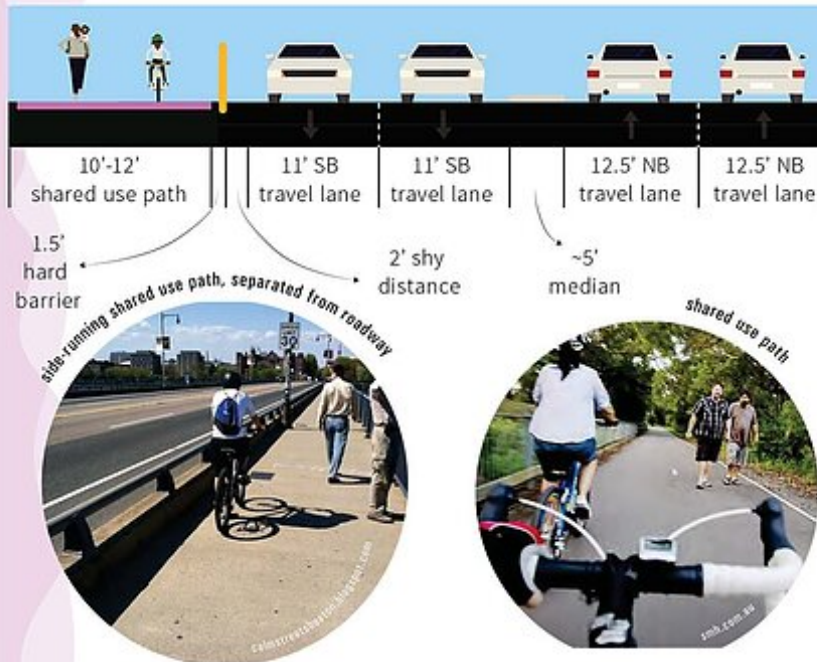
Preferred Alternative

Shared Use Path on West Side

Key Improvements

- 10'-12' shared use path
- Hard barrier on outside of path
- Pedestrian signals
- Reconfigured southwest on-ramp
- Better sidewalk connections

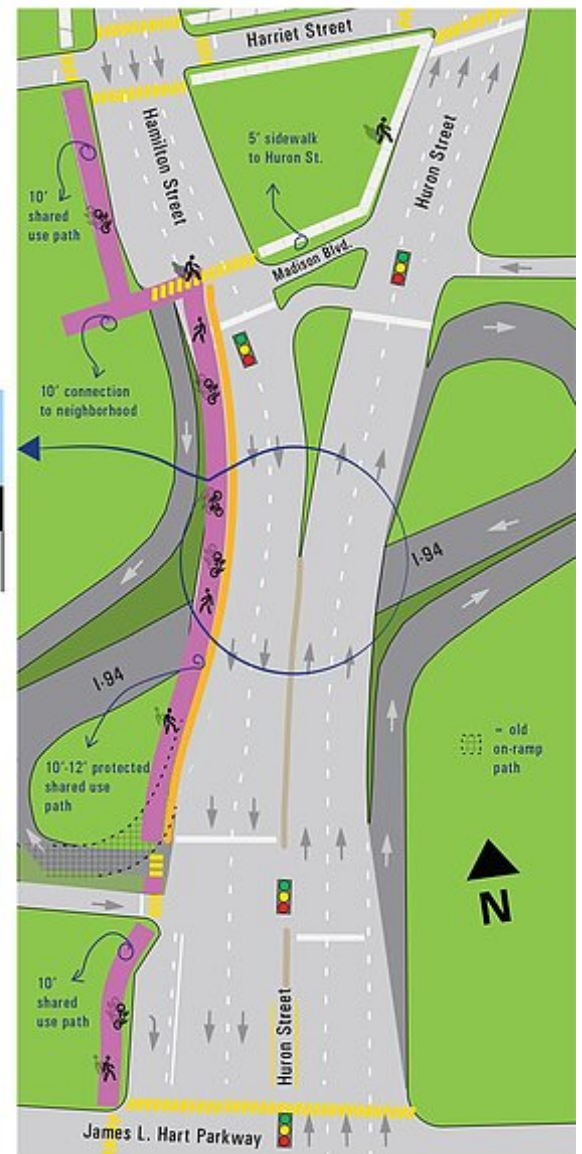
Cross section at center of bridge



Washtenaw Area
Transportation Study
miwats.org



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



A planning map for the pathway project.

Ypsilanti Mayor Lois Richardson, who lives near the intersection on the Southside of Ypsilanti, says the move is "long overdue," noting that officials had been discussing such a project since before she joined Ypsilanti City Council.

Richardson remembers seeing her friends and acquaintances trying to navigate the crossing on foot and feeling afraid for them.

"I would always shudder, because the cars go so fast there, and there is no protection between the walkway and the cars," she says.



Qunitez Tomlin uses the Huron Street median to cross I-94.

Bonnie Wessler, project manager for Ypsilanti's Department of Public Services, says she doesn't have any official documentation of pedestrians or cyclists being hit in the area. But it's known as a dangerous intersection for those who want to cross from the city of Ypsilanti to Ypsilanti Township or vice versa to jobs, shopping, the library, or the post office.

"Anecdotally, I know there are a lot of near misses, and near misses don't get reported," Wessler says. "We would like to enable people to cross that bridge without taking their lives into their hands."

One reason the project has been so long in the making is that it required approval from multiple entities: the city of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, the Washtenaw County Road Commission, and the Michigan Department of Transportation. DTE Energy, a recent addition to the partnership, will install lighting along the pathway.

Richardson says getting all parties to the table wasn't the only problem, though, noting that funding for the project was also a sticking point. She also says that, while there was general agreement that the crossing had to be made safer, "we couldn't always agree on what was wanted or how to do it."

Peter Sanderson, park planner with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (WCPRC), notes that there are "a lot of paths of desire" worn into the grass from people walking and biking through that space, so he thinks a formal path will get a lot of use.

"It's a complex project that's going to involve reconfiguring the highway entrance ramps, building a pathway across that space, and tying it into the city of Ypsilanti's non-motorized pathway to the north and the township's to the south," Sanderson says.



The end of the sidewalk on Huron Street before the westbound I-94 onramp.

However, all parties are now in agreement about the plan and several grants have been secured to make it a reality. WCPRC gave the city \$60,000 for engineering, which will be matched by Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and other state funds. WCPRC also gave the township \$150,000 for construction. Additionally, a \$300,000 grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund was recently secured for the project.

Michael Hoffmeister, residential services director for Ypsilanti Township, says it's "exciting" that the project will kick off this year. He says the project also contributes to the township's goal of connecting a series of hike-bike trails in the township and the city into "one connective trail."

He notes that the project will also provide benefits to those who use public transportation.

"There's also a bus stop along that route, but there's no [pedestrian path] connectivity to the bus stop," Hoffmeister notes. "This will create a connection there for people who want to go to the grocery stores and restaurants."

He says the project will also provide a safe path for anyone staying at the Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti Eagle Crest hotel, in the township near I-94, who wants to visit nearby shops and restaurants on foot. It will also create a path to a YMCA development planned in Ypsilanti Township in the coming years.



A footpath in the median of the Huron Street I-94 overpass.

"It's an economic development opportunity as well," Hoffmeister says.

While some of the preparatory work on either end of the project will start this fall, local officials don't believe residents will be able to start crossing safely over the I-94 bridge until some time in 2022. Hoffmeister says that after township officials secure several easements, they hope to break ground and do some grading and construction near the intersection of James L. Hart Parkway and Huron Street before 2021 is out.

Wessler says the city's portion of the pedestrian pathway project has been "bundled" with a couple of other projects that need to happen first, including water main work and a road maintenance project that includes Huron Street that MDOT already had planned for budget year 2022.

"This kind of collaboration lets us fill in these important gaps so we can have a completely non-motorized path that works for everybody," Sanderson says. "The Huron Street project is a perfect example of these partnership-based projects, because it's on the border of Ypsilanti and Ypsi Township, but it's owned by MDOT. This partnership will really make a big difference for the community."

More information about the Huron Street pedestrian pathway and related projects is available through the [city of Ypsilanti's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan](#) and the [Ypsilanti Township Non-Motorized Transportation Plan](#).

Sarah Rigg is a freelance writer and editor in Ypsilanti Township and the project manager of [On the Ground Ypsilanti](#). She joined [Concentrate](#) as a news writer in early 2017 and is an occasional contributor to other [Issue Media Group](#) publications. You may reach her at sarahrigg1@gmail.com.

All photos by [Doug Coombe](#). Construction planning map courtesy of the city of Ypsilanti.

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- REGIONS
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 - ROUTE BAY CITY
 - SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN
 - UPPER PENINSULA
 - THE KEEL - PORT HURON
 - THE LAKESHORE
 - METROMODE - METRO DETROIT

FOCUS AREAS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| ARTS AND CULTURE | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT |
| DIVERSITY | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT |
| ENTREPRENEURSHIP | EQUITY |
| HEALTHY COMMUNITIES | KIDS AND EDUCATION |
| SUSTAINABILITY | TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION |
| TRANSPORTATION | |

- ABOUT CONCENTRATE
- CONTACT US
- HAVE A TIP FOR US?
- PRIVACY POLICY
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- TERMS OF USE



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: February 9, 2021
RE: Project and Activities Update – January 2021

Park Facility Events and Projects

Independence Lake

- Staff is in the process of updating the park's Master Plan.
- Annual vehicle pass sales have increased nearly 300% compared to the same time in 2020 (2021 – 231; 2020 - 82). Bag tag sales have increased from 28 in 2020 to 35 in 2021.
- The COVID health screening check-in process for programs at the facility has been streamlined. Patrons continue to provide positive feedback on small outdoor activities.
- More than 17 families registered for the self-guided night hike on January 8. Participants trekked the lantern-lit trail and enjoyed a campfire, hot cocoa, and music at the Beach Center.
- Both sessions of the Kid's Ice Fishing Clinics held on January 23 reached maximum capacity.
- Maintenance staff continue with disc golf course improvements and other winter projects, including cutting down trees and brush.
- Staff has begun interviewing and hiring seasonal employees.
- Work on Blue Heron Bay Spray Park continues. Demolition has been completed and the drainage system installed. Feature piping is set to begin soon.

Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center

- The Winter Virtual Fitness Session began January 10 and will run until March 27. All registered participants have access to 26 different classes, including yoga, Zumba, Pilates, and tai chi.
- Staff held an open house on January 28 to bid farewell to supervisor Katie King. Two new facility supervisors are expected to begin in February.

Pierce Lake Golf Course & Park

- Reconstruction of cart paths on the "Back 9" with Anglin Civil, LLC is nearing completion with only punch list items and some additional restoration elements remaining.

Rolling Hills Park

- Annual vehicle pass sales have increased 400% compared to the same time in 2020 (2021 - 460; 2020 - 113)
- Bag Tag sales have increased 300% compared to the same time in 2020 (2021 – 27; 2020 - 9)
- Staff finalized winter park COVID procedures for the tube/ski rental room, and maintenance installed plexiglass partitions on the service counter.
- Three new benches were installed at the park including one tribute bench and two benches outside the water park.

- Staff have been recruiting returning seasonal staff members, and they will be interviewing and hiring new seasonal staff in February.
- Work continues on generator installation at the concession stand.
- Staff has begun outlining plans for operating day camp within LARA and Washtenaw County Health Department guidelines.
- 96 patrons already registered for the upcoming “Hunt for the Yeti” event on February 20.

Staebler Farm Park

- Consultants continue to develop of a business plan for potential Michigan Folk School acquisition and cost-benefit analysis for developing the farmhouse and multipurpose building.
- Consultants from The Collaborative are finalizing the draft Master Plan. The final plan is expected to be complete in early spring.
- January MFS classes: 34 students attended classes including Blacksmithing 101, Bladesmithing, Homesteading, and Knife Sharpening.

Special Initiatives

Border-to-Border Trail (B2B)

- Staff conducted three virtual meetings to inform the public and seek feedback regarding upcoming projects anticipated to be constructed in 2021: 1) Zeeb Road to Delhi Metropark (Scio Township); 2) Dancer Road to Wylie Road (Lima Township); 3) Werkner Road to Veterans Park (Sylvan Township/City of Chelsea). In total, approximately 75 members of the public attended.
- Staff hosted a virtual Public Hearing on a proposed statue of a Native American women near Green Lake, along the B2B. Three members of the public attended; no objections were raised.
- Consultants from The Collaborative Inc. continue to develop designs and graphics for the B2B wayfinding project.

Natural Areas Preservation Program (NAPP)

Acquisition

- WCPARC closed on the Moehrle easement, a Round 18 ALPAC property led by Ann Arbor Township.

Stewardship

- Field mowing was completed at West Lake Preserve and at Park Lyndon.
- Invasive plant management was conducted at Miller-Smith, Burns Stokes, Fox Science, and Northfield Woods preserves.
- Based on vegetation assessments from the spring, the maple removal in Scio Woods Preserve was expanded.
- A small boardwalk structure was placed at Devine Preserve to allow access to the northern fields.
- For January’s Stewardship Saturday event, volunteers assisted in removing invasive shrubs in the area being reforested at Sharon Mills County Park. Volunteers are also helping to remove brush at Rolling Hills Park and Harwood Heritage Preserve.

Interpretive Programming

- 158 patrons attended interpretive programs in January. Events included family “Tracks and Signs” hike, and “Building a Winter Habitat.” Other programs included mindfulness Hike, winter survival with a homeschool group, and Junior Naturalists hike on fire building.



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: February 9, 2021
Re: Dominican Meadows Preserve– Parking Area, Driveway & Approach Contract – Contract Amendment

Background

Acquired through fee simple purchase in 2018, Dominican Meadows contains 81 acres of grasslands and forests in Ann Arbor Township. WCPARC also owns a conservation easement protecting habitat along the Fleming Creek's western shoreline. The preserve includes quality wetlands and forests, and varied topography to create a compelling public trail system.

An entry design, including approach and parking lot was completed by staff and a bidding process conducted. A recommendation was presented, discussed, and approved during the WCPARC Commission Meeting in September 2019. The contract (#51796) was awarded to Carver Construction and required the project to be completed by June 30, 2021.

Discussion

After the contract was awarded, additional requirements from the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) increased the length of the deceleration lane along the western side of Dixboro Road. Based on WCRC recommendations, a final design was submitted, and permit issued in June 2020. All necessary permits and approvals of the design have been received.

Based on contract pricing for additional asphalt required to meet Road Commission requirements, the deceleration lane will increase cost by \$17,000. The original contract award was for a total of \$106,554 which included a 10% contingency.

Recommendation

Based on Washtenaw County Road Commission requirements, the contract requirements history with WCPARC, and the overall desire to open Dominican Meadows Preserve, it is my recommendation that WCPARC increase the service contract to the amount not to exceed \$123,554 to Carver Construction which includes \$9,687 in contingencies. We look forward to seeing this preserve opened this summer.



2230 S. Platt Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.971.6337

Project Name

Dominican Meadows
Preserve

Sheet Title

Site Plan with
Aerial Photo

Notes



Legend

- Road Centerlines
- Right of Way
- Parking lot
- Hiking trail
- Existing Elevation

Index Contour

Intermediate Contour

New Contours
- Material

Activity

Gravel

Asphalt

Sign & Kiosk

Seeding





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: February 9, 2021
Re: NAPP – Recommendation for Sales Contract on Rouse property, Scio Township

Background

As part of Round 21, NAPP received a nomination for the Rouse property, an approximately 4.3-acre parcel of land adjacent to the Kidder McKeachie Scio Woods Preserve along Scio Church Road. The property is currently listed for sale and NATAC decided the acquisition was a priority given its adjacency to an existing preserve, so an appraisal was completed.

Discussion

The Scio Woods Preserve is one of the most popular nature preserves owned by Parks. Scio Woods offers a variety of habitats including oak and hickory forest in the drier soils with the wetter woods dominated by sugar maple and beech trees. Spring wildflowers are abundant in the preserve, and the wooded habitat is home to some uncommon birds including barred owls and pileated woodpeckers. NATAC identified this property as a priority due to its adjacency to the existing Scio Woods Preserve and its clear continuation of Scio Woods' high-quality habitat. This property was not eligible for evaluation by the Assessment and Prioritization Mapping. The Commission's scoring system yields 55/100 points. Because a driveway runs along the east edge of the parcel (west edge of the preserve), trails would likely not be extended from Scio Woods to this small expansion.

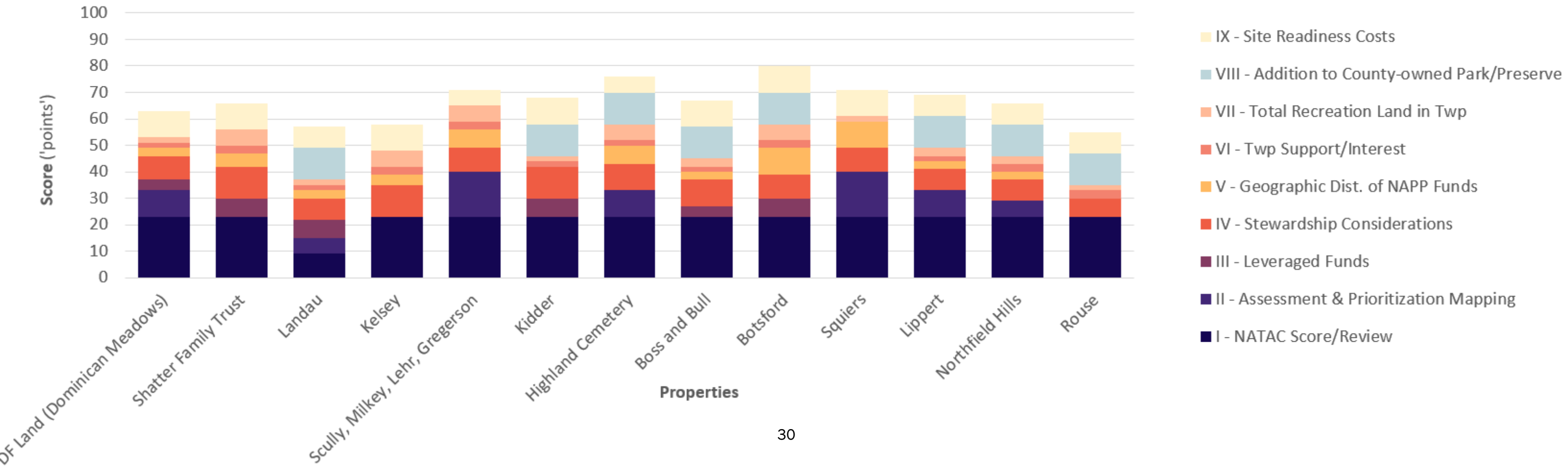
An appraisal was received in December 2020 and the value was determined to be \$95,000 for approximately 4.34-acres. NATAC reviewed the appraisal and recommended to the Parks Commission to move forward with the acquisition at their February 1, 2021 meeting. Staff will request participating funds from the Ann Arbor Greenbelt and Scio Township. The final acquisition budget will be brought back to the Parks Commission for final approval.

Recommendation

Based on the Natural Area Technical Advisory Committee and staff review of the property, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize preparation of a sales contract in the amount of \$95,000 as outlined above for the fee simple purchase of the Rouse Property in Scio Township, contingent upon completion of all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

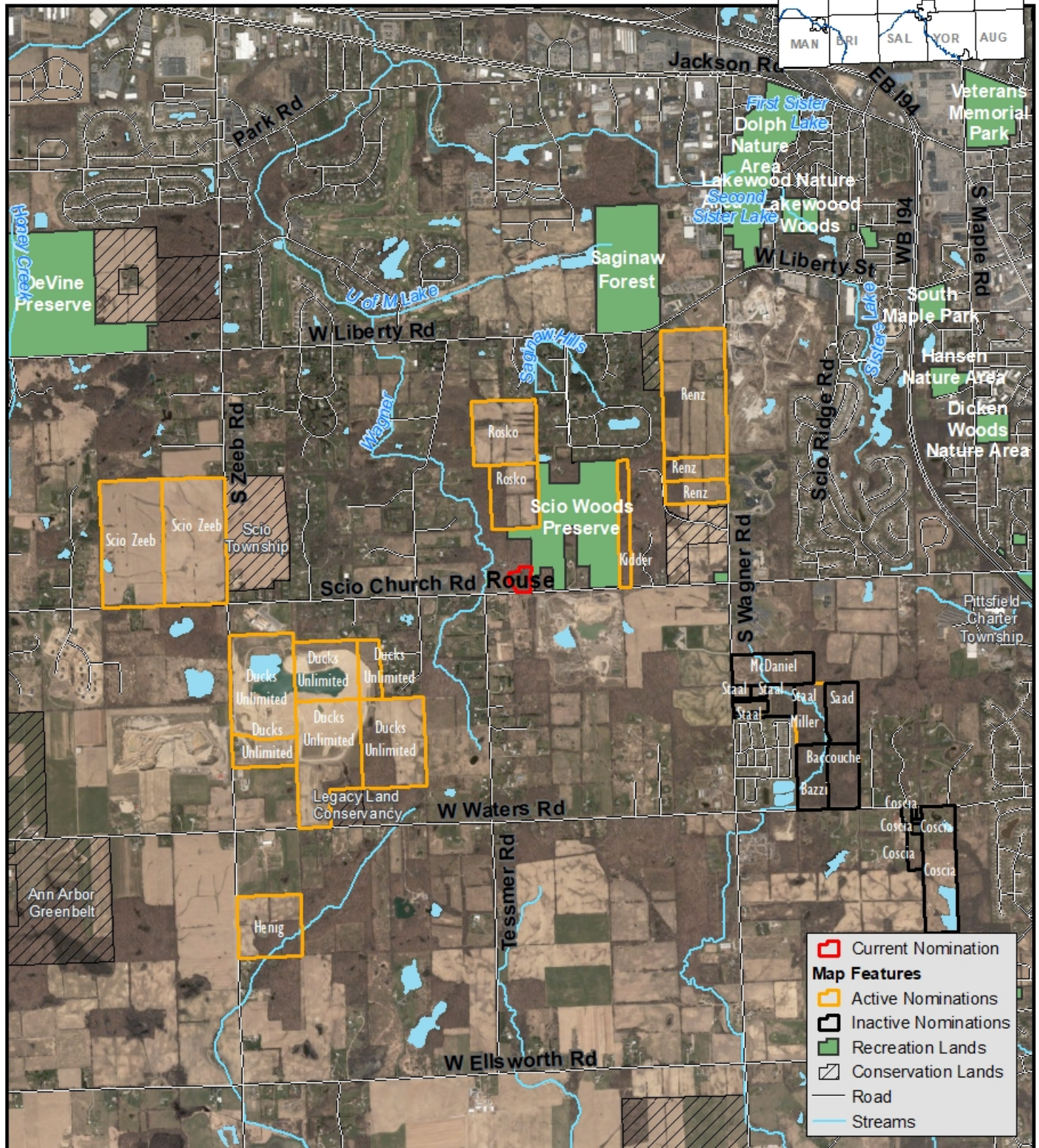
Attachments

Parks Commission Scoring - Fee Simple



Township
+/-5 Acres

A map of the New York City Metropolitan Area divided into a grid of counties. The counties are labeled with three-letter abbreviations: LYN, DEX, WEB, NOR, SLM, SYL, LIM, SEN, ALB, SUR, SHA, FRE, LOD, PIT, YPS, MAN, BRI, SAL, WOR, and AUG. A red square highlights the Seneca County (SEN) area, which is part of the Greenbelt. The word "Greenbelt" is written in bold black text across the top of the map, covering the Seneca and Albany counties.



Rouse Property: Aerial & Soils

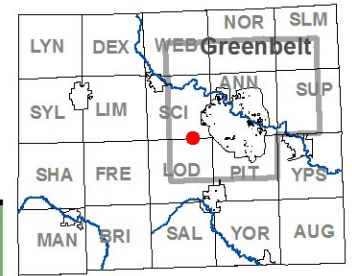
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 21.333

Scio Township

+/-5 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: February 9, 2021
RE: Recommendation for Sales Contract: Northfield Hills – Northfield Township

Background

In 2012, several contiguous properties located in Northfield Township were nominated to the Washtenaw County Natural Areas Preservation Program as part of Round 12 for consideration of acquisition. In 2013, those parcels were purchased and became what is now known as the Whitmore Lake Preserve. Counters installed along the trail at the preserve in 2020 show that the preserve is a popular destination. As part of Round 20 nominations, the Northfield Hills property was nominated for consideration and was designated as a Tier 1 priority by NATAC.

Discussion

The roughly 39-acre Northfield Hills property currently under consideration is in close proximity to the existing Whitmore Lake Preserve, with possibilities of future direct connection to the preserve. The property would be managed as part of Whitmore Lake Preserve, although suitable areas exist for parking if necessary in the future. Some trails already exist on the land. The property is currently listed for sale with a realtor for \$595,000.

Whitmore Lake Preserve currently consists of 235 acres with 2.7 miles of trails. NAPP staff, with additional work completed by contractors, have completed prairie restoration in a portion of the preserve. In addition, in January 2021 the Commission approved a sales contract (Lippert Property) for an additional 24-acre addition to the preserve in the northeast corner of the preserve.

The Assessment and Prioritization Mapping identified the property as medium-high quality and prioritized it based on stream protection. NATAC visited the site in 2020 as part of their evaluation of Round 20 nominations. Their evaluation showed a plethora of habitat types for such a small property. Buttonbush swamp and maple forested swamp, as well as large old growth oak and maple trees were noted on the property. The property was identified as a Tier 1 priority for Round 20 nominations. The Commission's scoring yielded 66/100.

An appraisal was completed in December 2020. The appraised value was determined to be \$575,000 or roughly \$14,700/acre. The landowner has reviewed the appraisal and is willing to move forward at that price. NATAC recommended at their February 1, 2021 meeting to move forward with a sales contract.

Recommendation

Based upon the Natural Areas Technical Advisory Committee and staff review of the property, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize preparation of a sales contract in the amount of \$575,000 as outlined above for the fee simple purchase of the Northfield Hills property in Northfield Township, contingent upon completion of all necessary due diligence investigation and final approval by the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Attachments

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Northfield Hills Fee Simple or Easement (circle one)
 Location: Northfield Township Size (acres): 39
 Current Use: Natural Area Date of Visit: 07/03/2020

NATURAL AREA MAPPED PRIORITY

[] Yes - Patch Expansion [] Yes - New Patch Establishment [] Yes - Lake Plain Ecoregion
 [] Yes - Corridor [x] Yes - Stream Protection [] No

NOTES:

PROXIMITY TO OTHER WCPARC LAND

[] not proximal [] in general vicinity
 [x] adjoins land that has the potential to be protected, and that property adjoins protected land [] would be expansion of existing preserve

NOTES: Stewardship Manager comfortable with owning it as part of Whitmore Lake Preserve w/o necessarily putting trails on it

PROXIMITY TO OTHER OWNED PRESERVED LAND

[] Yes - Township [] Yes - Greenbelt [] Yes - Other
 [] Yes - Legacy Land Conservancy [] Yes - SMLC [x] No

NOTES:

PROPERTY COMPLICATIONS

[] Access requires other private land; removing significant trees; paving wetlands; or other undesirable actions [] Trails require full boardwalk [] Building envelope or exclusion complications
 [] Site has debris too costly to remove

NOTES:

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Names of Assessors: Sylvia + Catherine

ECOSYSTEMS

Please check all that apply:

Palustrine
 [x] Submergent marsh
 [x] Emergent marsh
 [x] Wet meadow
 [] Wet/mesic prairie
 [] Lakeplain forest or prairie
 [] Fen
 [] Bog
 [x] Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush)
 [] Southern shrub-carr
 [] Floodplain forest
 [x] Other forested wetland

Terrestrial
 [] Dry prairie
 [] Oak savanna
 [] Mesic southern forest (beech-maple)
 [] Dry southern forest (oak-hickory)
 [x] Other upland forest mixed
 [x] grassy areas

Other
 [x] River/Lake/Pond/Creek
 [] Old farm fields
 [] Active farm fields
 [] Evidence of restoration

How many veg communities are present?
 Include all, not just ones listed to the left.

8

Do we already have a preserve with a similar set of ecosystems?

yes but very diverse set of habitats w/in area

List rare, threatened, or endangered species; evidence thereof; or critical habitat present:

DEBRIS

Describe debris found on the site: small old dump site w/ tires, shoes, electronics, debris

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

INVASIVE SPECIES

Distribution	Associated Species	NOTES
☐ pervasive		
☐ within interior		
☐ large monotypic stands		
☐ primarily along trails and edges		
☐ isolated pockets		

INVENTORY

List all wildlife species seen	List plant species seen, to the best of your ability
Frog deer RW Blackbird	NW corner - Am. Swamp: Elm, Silver + Red Maple, Button bush, Red/ green ash standing water - very nice, few invasives Wet Meadow - Swamp Thelthwaite, water horehound Many Sedges, S. fern, bedstraw; Ash, Autumn olive Dogbane Upland - Q. Aspa, Red/Black oak, Black-eyed Susan Pond Cattail, Reed canary grass, SW oak, Buckthorn along edge Yellow loosestrife, Some purple loosestrife, Butterbush Purple Sassa Upland white, red/black Oaks, native grasses (Big bluestem), Geum Pond Intermittent channel between wetlands Nettle Cut grass

FIELD NOTES

According to your area of expertise, what is important about this site?

- * Predominantly native vegetation
- Good quality undisturbed wetlands [pond + swamp]
- Upland area has more invasive understory
- * Dense wildlife habitat

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Northfield Hills	Fee Simple or Easement (circle one)
Location: Northfield Township	Size (acres): 39
Current Use: Natural Area	Date of Visit: 07/03/2020

NATURAL AREA MAPPED PRIORITY

☐ Yes - Patch Expansion	☐ Yes - New Patch Establishment	☐ Yes - Lake Plain Ecoregion
☐ Yes - Corridor	☒ Yes - Stream Protection	☐ No

NOTES:

PROXIMITY TO OTHER WCPARC LAND

☐ not proximal	☐ in general vicinity
☒ adjoins land that has the potential to be protected, and that property adjoins protected land	

NOTES: Stewardship Manager comfortable with owning it as part of Whitmore Lake Preserve w/o necessarily putting trails on it

PROXIMITY TO OTHER OWNED PRESERVED LAND

☐ Yes - Township	☐ Yes - Greenbelt	☐ Yes - Other
☐ Yes - Legacy Land Conservancy	☐ Yes - SMLC	☒ No

NOTES:

PROPERTY COMPLICATIONS

☐ Access requires other private land; removing significant trees; paving wetlands; or other undesirable actions	☐ Trails require full boardwalk	☐ Building envelope or exclusion complications
☐ Site has debris too costly to remove		

NOTES:

FIELD ASSESSMENT

July 3, 2020 Names of Assessors: Bob Grese, Tony Poznicko

ECOSYSTEMS

Please check all that apply:

Palustrine ☐ Submergent marsh ☒ Emergent marsh ☒ Wet meadow ☐ Wet/mesic prairie ☐ Lakeplain forest or prairie ☐ Fen ☐ Bog ☒ Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush) ☒ Southern shrub-carr ☐ Floodplain forest ☒ Other forested wetland	Terrestrial ☐ Dry prairie ☐ Oak savanna ☐ Mesic southern forest (beech-maple) ☒ Dry southern forest (oak-hickory) ☒ Other upland forest Other ☐ River/Lake/Pond/Creek ☒ Old farm fields ☐ Active farm fields ☐ Evidence of restoration	How many veg communities are present? Include all, not just ones listed to the left. 6-8 Do we already have a preserve with a similar set of ecosystems? Not really List rare, threatened, or endangered species; evidence thereof; or critical habitat present: none seen
---	--	---

DEBRIS

Describe debris found on the site:

old dump site with tires, etc

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

INVASIVE SPECIES

Distribution	Associated Species	NOTES
☐ pervasive		
☐ within interior		
☐ large monotypic stands		
☐ primarily along trails and edges		
☐ isolated pockets		

INVENTORY

List all wildlife species seen	List plant species seen, to the best of your ability
	Nice tract with dissected terrain, numerous wetland pockets, and drier uplands with Oak Hickory. - extensive Buff for bush stands - oth shrub wetlands - some sedge meadows. - widely varied woodlands, - small forests probably once tilled.

FIELD NOTES

According to your area of expertise, what is important about this site?

with the varied terrain, even though not especially hilly, there is a lot of diversity due to a lot of edge and transitional habitats.

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Project Name: Northfield Hills	Fee Simple or Easement (circle one)
Location: Northfield Township	Size (acres): 39
Current Use: Natural Area	Date of Visit: 07/03/2020

NATURAL AREA MAPPED PRIORITY

☐ Yes - Patch Expansion	☐ Yes - New Patch Establishment	☐ Yes - Lake Plain Ecoregion
☐ Yes - Corridor	☒ Yes - Stream Protection	☐ No

NOTES:

PROXIMITY TO OTHER WCPARC LAND

☐ not proximal	☐ in general vicinity
☒ adjoins land that has the potential to be protected, and that property adjoins protected land	☐ would be expansion of existing preserve

NOTES: Stewardship Manager comfortable with owning it as part of Whitmore Lake Preserve w/o necessarily putting trails on it

PROXIMITY TO OTHER OWNED PRESERVED LAND

☐ Yes - Township	☐ Yes - Greenbelt	☐ Yes - Other
☐ Yes - Legacy Land Conservancy	☐ Yes - SMLC	☒ No

NOTES:

PROPERTY COMPLICATIONS

☐ Access requires other private land; removing significant trees; paving wetlands; or other undesirable actions	☐ Trails require full boardwalk	☐ Building envelope or exclusion complications
	☐ Site has debris too costly to remove	

NOTES:

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Names of Assessors: Kris and Rosie

ECOSYSTEMS

Please check all that apply: <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Palustrine ☐ Submergent marsh ☐ Emergent marsh ☐ Wet meadow ☐ Wet/mesic prairie ☐ Lakeplain forest or prairie ☐ Fen ☐ Bog ☒ Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush) ☐ Southern shrub-carr ☐ Floodplain forest ☒ Other forested wetland maple swamp </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Terrestrial ☐ Dry prairie ☐ Oak savanna ☐ Mesic southern forest (beech-maple) ☐ Dry southern forest (oak-hickory) ☐ Other upland forest Other ☐ River/Lake/Pond/Creek ☐ Old farm fields ☐ Active farm fields ☐ Evidence of restoration </td> </tr> </table>	Palustrine ☐ Submergent marsh ☐ Emergent marsh ☐ Wet meadow ☐ Wet/mesic prairie ☐ Lakeplain forest or prairie ☐ Fen ☐ Bog ☒ Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush) ☐ Southern shrub-carr ☐ Floodplain forest ☒ Other forested wetland maple swamp	Terrestrial ☐ Dry prairie ☐ Oak savanna ☐ Mesic southern forest (beech-maple) ☐ Dry southern forest (oak-hickory) ☐ Other upland forest Other ☐ River/Lake/Pond/Creek ☐ Old farm fields ☐ Active farm fields ☐ Evidence of restoration	How many veg communities are present? Include all, not just ones listed to the left. Do we already have a preserve with a similar set of ecosystems? List rare, threatened, or endangered species; evidence thereof; or critical habitat present:
Palustrine ☐ Submergent marsh ☐ Emergent marsh ☐ Wet meadow ☐ Wet/mesic prairie ☐ Lakeplain forest or prairie ☐ Fen ☐ Bog ☒ Inundated shrub swamp (buttonbush) ☐ Southern shrub-carr ☐ Floodplain forest ☒ Other forested wetland maple swamp	Terrestrial ☐ Dry prairie ☐ Oak savanna ☐ Mesic southern forest (beech-maple) ☐ Dry southern forest (oak-hickory) ☐ Other upland forest Other ☐ River/Lake/Pond/Creek ☐ Old farm fields ☐ Active farm fields ☐ Evidence of restoration		

DEBRIS

Describe debris found on the site:

Can we get tree list

NATAC NOMINATION - FIELD REVIEW WORKSHEET

INVASIVE SPECIES

Distribution	Associated Species	NOTES
☐ pervasive		
☒ within interior	garlic mustard	
☐ large monotypic stands		
☒ primarily along trails and edges	barberry	
☐ isolated pockets		

INVENTORY

List all wildlife species seen	List plant species seen, to the best of your ability
--------------------------------	--

wood frogs (lots of babies)
green frog
mourning dove

red maple
red oak
azalea
violet
horse gendian

FIELD NOTES

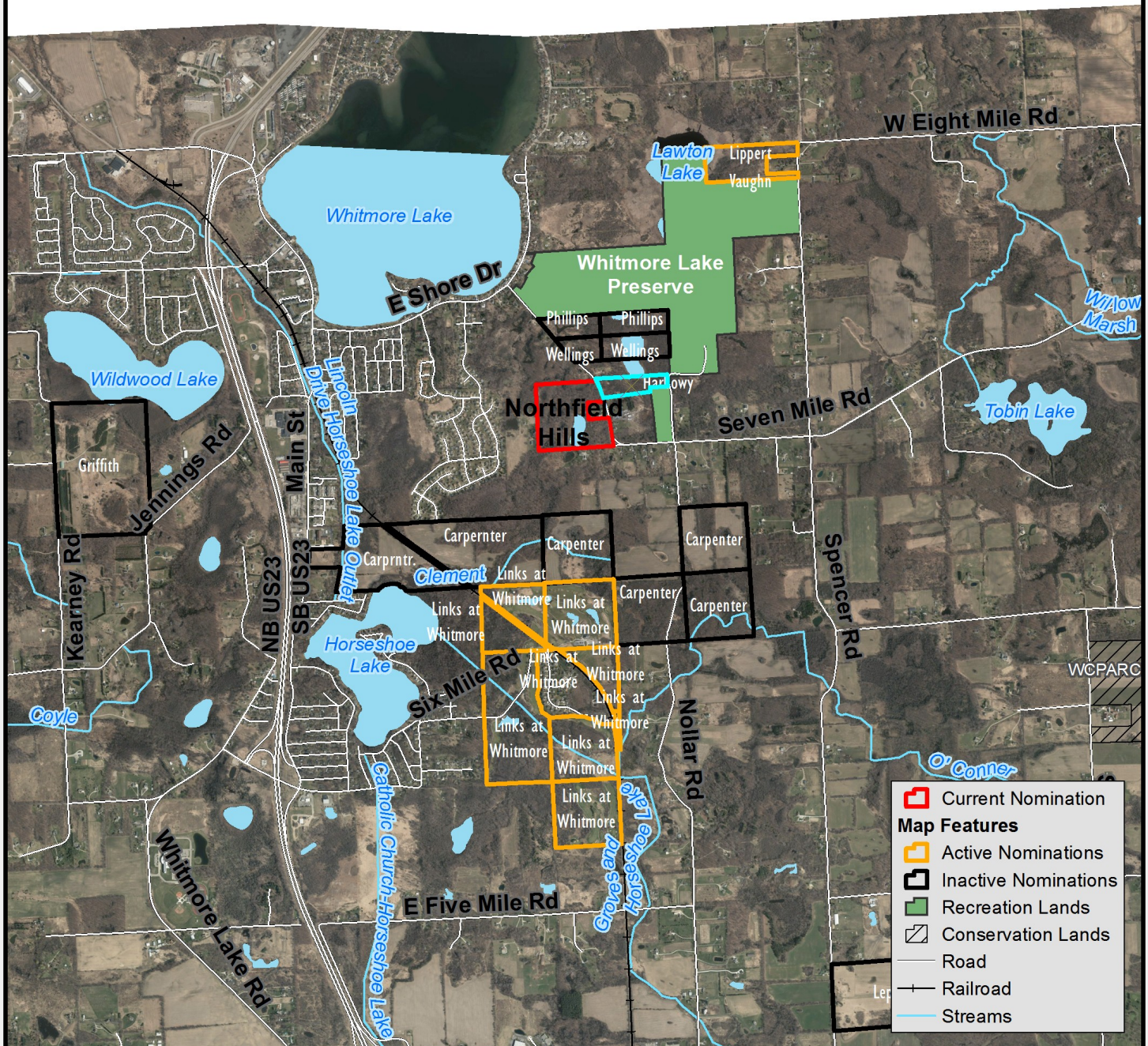
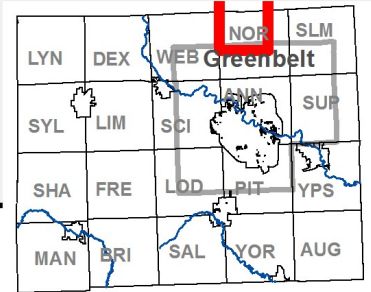
According to your area of expertise, what is important about this site?

Some truly big trees

Northfield Hills Property: Local Area Aerial

Natural Areas Preservation Program
 Nomination ID: 20.320
 Northfield Township
 +/-39 Acres

Washtenaw County
 Locator Map



Northfield Hills Property: Aerial & Soils

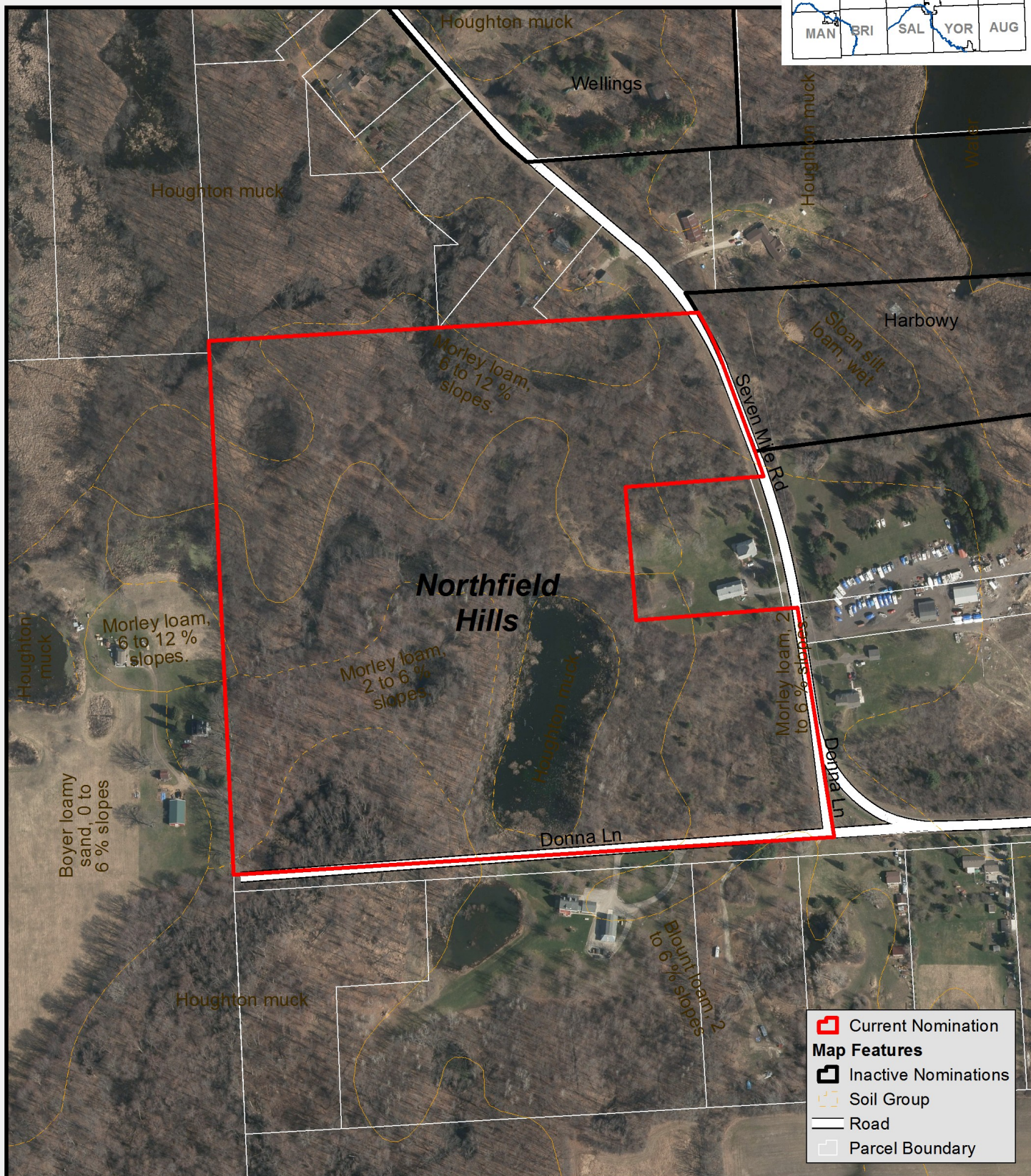
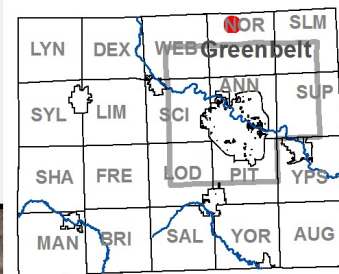
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 20.320

Northfield Township

+/-39 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Northfield Hills Property: Assessment & Prioritization Mapping

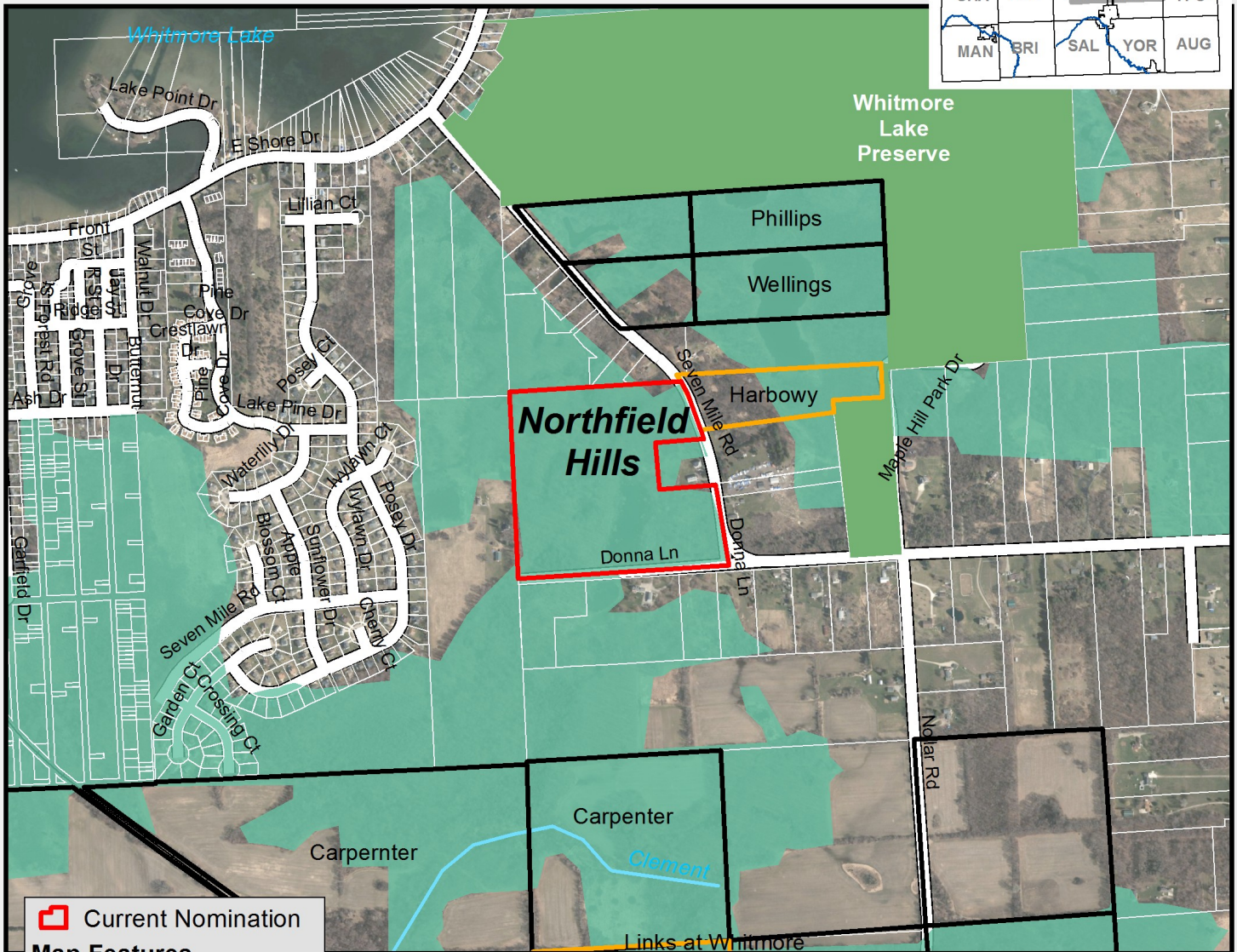
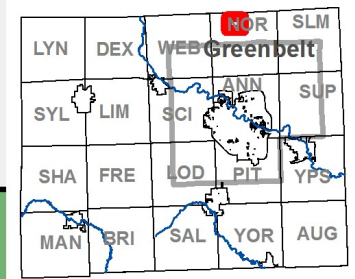
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 20.320

Northfield Township

+/-39 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



At least one parcel or area on this property was prioritized based on:

Patch Expansion: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof enlarges the footprint of existing protected land.

New Patch Establishment: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof helps preserve land where none is currently preserved, in a manner that still offers "stepping stone" connectivity.

Corridor: Protection of this site protects land within an identified path of linear habitat connectivity.

➔ **Stream Protection:** Protection of this site preserves or is ecologically connected to a site that preserves creek frontage.

Lake Plain Ecoregion: Protection of this site preserves land in the lake plain ecoregion, much of which has been developed and is significantly underrepresented in NAPP's portfolio.

Not prioritized





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

January 2021 - Claims Report

PARK / FACILITY / FUNCTION	UTILITIES	DIRECT PURCHASES	OTHER	TOTAL
Administration	\$ 680.02	\$ 1,891.45	\$ 23,613.40	\$ 26,184.87
Recreation Center	3,561.70	1,432.76	23,392.37	28,386.83
Park Maintenance	1,937.41	5,719.37	959.82	8,616.60
Pierce Lake Golf Course	1,673.21	1,911.97	2,025.49	5,610.67
Independence Lake	2,732.43	2,957.17	1,248.07	6,937.67
Rolling Hills	6,382.63	2,192.24	46,590.71	55,165.58
Parker Mill	51.05	542.44	1,062.25	1,655.74
Sharon Mills	245.35	-	939.60	1,184.95
Staebler Farm	275.08	157.79	1,592.71	2,025.58
Swift Run Dog Park	-	-	-	-
Capital Improvement	-	-	397,592.56	397,592.56
Committed Funding Partnerships	-	-	-	-
Commission	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ 17,538.88	\$ 16,805.19	\$ 499,016.98	\$ 533,361.05
Road Millage Fund	-	-	479,285.18	479,285.18
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 479,285.18	\$ 479,285.18
Natural Areas Preservation Program				
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,618.35	\$ 34,618.35
Preserve Management	-	678.42	4,434.50	\$ 5,112.92
NATAC	-	-	-	\$ -
Acquisition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 196,773.00	\$ 196,773.00
Annual Monitoring	-	-	-	\$ -
ALPAC	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL	\$ -	\$ 678.42	\$ 235,825.85	\$ 236,504.27
TOTAL	\$ 17,538.88	\$ 17,483.61	\$ 1,214,128.01	\$ 1,249,150.50

It was moved by _____ and supported by _____
to approve payment of claims in the amount of.....

\$ 1,249,150.50

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - JANUARY 31, 2021

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/21)	17,612,810 (unaudited)	8%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)		Revenue (Actual)		Variance
Property Tax	7,949,931	615,057	8%	(7,334,874)
State Grant Funds	-	-		-
Fees & Services	3,560,000	57,525	2%	(3,502,475)
Interest Earnings	150,000	-	0%	(150,000)
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>	0%	<u>(30,000)</u>
Total Revenue	11,689,931	672,582	6%	(11,017,349)
Expense (Budget)		Expense (Actual)		Variance
Personnel Services	(6,231,847)	(403,374)	6%	5,828,473
Supplies & Other Services	(2,390,854)	(29,684)	1%	2,361,170
Internal Service Charges	(940,957)	(79,541)	8%	861,416
Capital				
John Deere Lease	(84,246)	-	0%	84,246
Land Acquisition	-	-	-	-
CIP/Development	(3,100,000)	(160,377)	5%	2,939,623
Contingency	(400,000)	-	0%	400,000
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(172,300)</u>	<u>-</u>	0%	<u>172,300</u>
Capital Subtotal	(3,756,546)	(160,377)	4%	3,596,169
Total Expense	<u>(13,320,204)</u>	<u>(672,976)</u>	5%	12,647,228
Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,630,273)	(394)		
Operating Reserve	(7,832,444)	(7,832,444)		
Funding Commitments (Partnerships)	<u>(3,397,546)</u>	<u>-</u>		
	(11,229,990)	(7,832,444)		
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/21)	<u>4,752,547</u>	<u>9,779,972</u>		

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
NATURAL AREAS PRESERVATION PROGRAM
FUND BALANCE STATEMENT - JANUARY 31, 2021

Beginning Fund Balance (1/1/21)	6,662,301	unaudited	8%	YTD % Budget	
Revenue (Budget)					Variance
Property Tax	3,936,536			8%	(3,631,955)
Federal Revenue	-				-
Interest Earnings	50,000			0%	(50,000)
Other Revenue & Reimb.	<u>5,000</u>			0%	<u>(5,000)</u>
Total Revenue		3,991,536	304,581	8%	(3,686,955)
Expense (Budget)					Variance
Personnel Services	(675,600)			6%	632,710
Supplies & Other Services	(332,600)			1%	328,691
Internal Service Charges	(22,840)			5%	21,747
Capital					
Land Acquisition	(2,550,000)			7%	2,363,500
Land Development	-				-
Machinery & Equipment	<u>(5,000)</u>			0%	<u>5,000</u>
Capital Subtotal	(2,555,000)		(186,500)	7%	2,368,500
Total Expense		<u>(3,586,040)</u>	<u>(234,392)</u>	7%	3,351,648
Surplus/(Deficit)		405,496	70,189		
Projected Fund Balance (12/31/21)		<u>7,067,797</u>	<u>6,732,490</u>		

**RECREATION CENTER
YEAR-TO-DATE PARTICIPATION & REVENUE REPORT
JANUARY**

#7B

MEMBERSHIPS

	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
INDIVIDUAL RESIDENT	147	196	69	\$ 30,570	\$ 33,450	\$ 5,714
INDIVIDUAL NON-RESIDENT	4	3		1,290	1,370	
S/Y/D RESIDENT	230	216	23	38,710	37,670	3,226
S/Y/D NON-RESIDENT	1	-		260	-	
FAMILY RESIDENT	33	103	55	14,845	19,736	3,330
FAMILY NON-RESIDENT	1	-		743	-	
FAMILY - ADDT'L MEMBER	2	12		112	408	
SENIORS OVER 80	49	67	8	2,940	3,780	520
PERSONAL TRAINERS	2	2	-	550	1,225	-
MILITARY PASS	-	-	1	-	-	186
30-DAY PASS	125	127	68	5,535	5,026	3,015
SEASONAL PASS	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPLACEMENT PASS	18	13	2	18	9	2
SUB-TOTAL	612	739	226	\$ 95,573	\$ 102,674	\$ 15,994
PASS FACILITY USE	17,294	17,727	4,961			
PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:	1.44%	0.58%	0.00%			

DAILY ENTRIES

	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
INDIVIDUAL RESIDENT	1,078	1,080	-	\$ 8,624	\$ 8,640	\$ -
INDIVIDUAL NON-RESIDENT	134	84	-	1,206	756	-
S/Y/D RESIDENT	852	939	-	5,112	5,634	-
S/Y/D NON-RESIDENT	34	45	-	238	315	-
INDIVIDUAL FITNESS RESIDENT	4	30	-	32	168	-
INDIVIDUAL FITNESS NON-RESIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-
SENIOR FITNESS RESIDENT	38	69	-	228	402	-
SENIOR FITNESS NON-RESIDENT	-	3	-	-	14	-
DAILY PASS/GIFT CERTIFICATE SALES	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUB-TOTAL	2,140	2,250	-	\$ 15,440	\$ 15,929	\$ -
PERCENT OF NON-RESIDENTS:	7.85%	5.87%	#DIV/0!			

OTHER REVENUE

	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
DAYCAMP	55	-	-	\$ 1,478	\$ -	\$ -
RECREATION PROGRAMS	3,637	3,429	476	20,874	22,205	2,164
FACILITY RENTALS	-	80	-	-	1,911	-
POOL/STUDIO/GYM	-	-	-	-	-	-
PARTY PAVILION	-	-	-	-	-	-
MISC. RETAIL	-	32	-	-	893	-
LOCKERS	2,155	3,554	560	539	889	140
VENDING	-	-	-	930	289	-
SUB-TOTAL	5,847	7,095	1,036	\$ 23,821	\$ 26,186	\$ 2,304

	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
YTD TOTAL PARTICIPATION & REVENUE:	25,893	27,811	6,223	\$ 134,833	\$ 144,789	\$ 18,298



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
DATE: February 9, 2021
RE: Final Approval: Bassett and DeLoof Conservation Easement – Freedom Township

Background

The Bassett and DeLoof property, located in Freedom Township, was nominated to NAPP and reviewed by the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee as part of the Round 18 nominations. At the time, the property was identified as a priority for the purchase of a conservation easement based on review of all the applications received in Round 18. It was also agreed that it was a prime candidate for receiving federal funding through the USDA Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). In February 2019, WCPARC submitted an ACEP application for the farm.

Discussion

The approximately 164-acre property is located on the east and west side of Ernst Road, just south of Bethel Church Road. The property is in active agriculture with corn/soybean/wheat rotation. A portion of the farm is also enrolled in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), administered by NRCS. Approximately 80% of the property consists of prime or locally important farmland soils. Based on the Agriculture Assessment & Prioritization mapping, part of the property was assessed as medium – high quality and prioritized based on patch expansion and stream protection. The Commission's scoring system gives this project 60/100 points.

The 164-acres that will be placed under the conservation easement and excludes about 10 acres surrounding the existing building sites and septic field.

An appraisal of the property was completed in October 2019 and the conservation easement value was determined to be \$494,179 for 164.118 acres. ALPAC recommended to pursue the purchase of the property at their November 2019 meeting. An ACEP-ALE grant was awarded for this property, which the Commission accepted in August 2019.

In December 2019, the Parks Commission approved a sales contract for the purchase of the property. Per the terms of the sales contract, due diligence has been completed including:

- An appraisal was completed for the property.
- A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment noted an area that had an old orchard on the property was completed and no Recognized Environmental Concerns were identified.
- A boundary survey including legal description has been prepared.

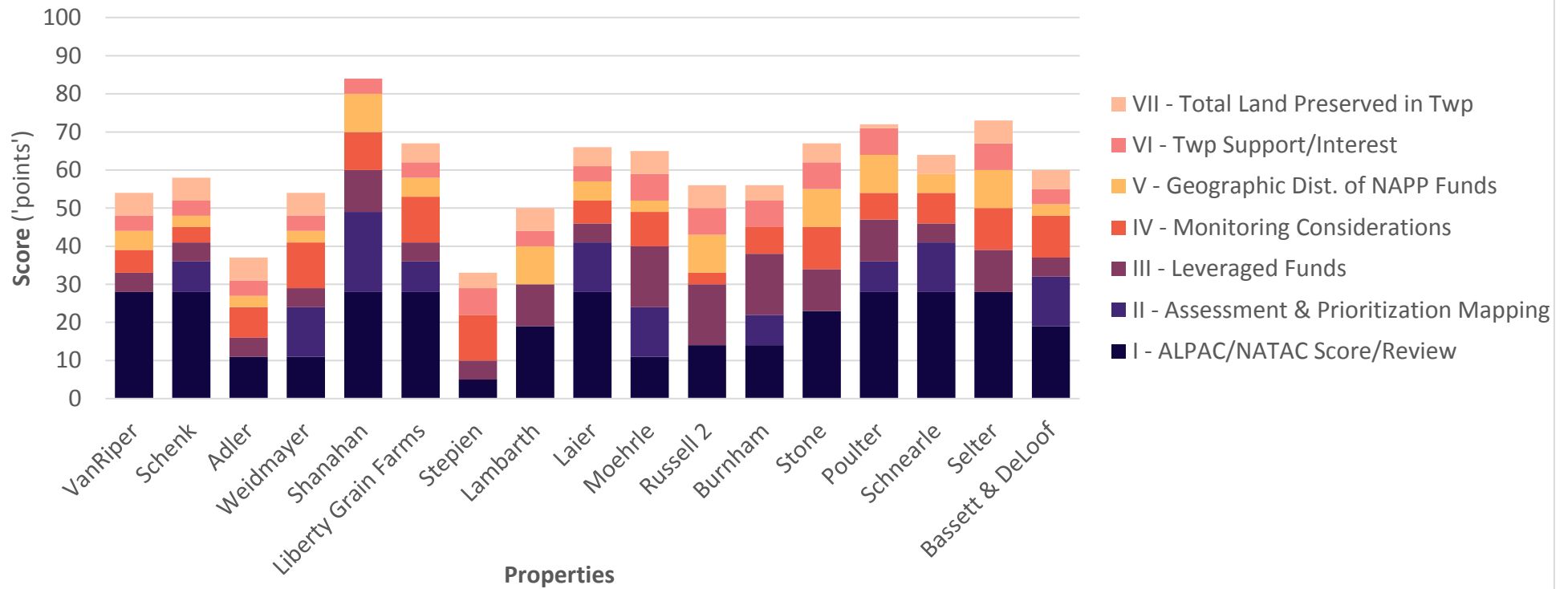
ACEP-ALE	\$216,825 (44%)
WCPARC	\$277,354 (56%)
TOTAL	\$494,179

Recommendation

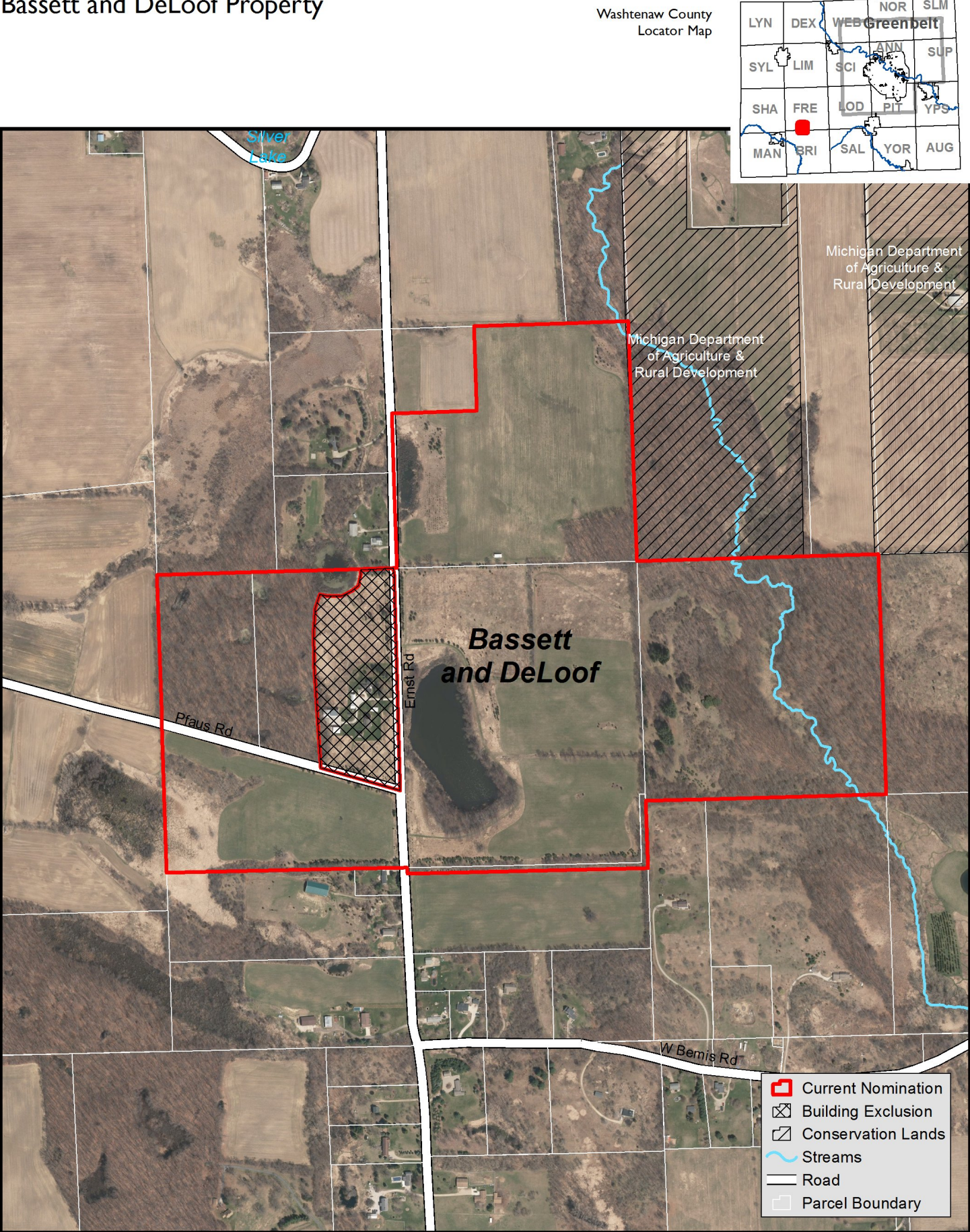
Based upon the review by the Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Committee and staff, it is my recommendation that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize the purchase of a conservation easement on the Bassett and DeLoof property in Freedom Township in the amount of \$494,179, contingent upon attorney approval of final documents. I further recommend that \$15,000 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue fund for the future monitoring and enforcement of the conservation easement.

Attachments

Parks Commission Scoring - Easements



Bassett and DeLoof Property



Bassett and DeLoof Property: Local Area

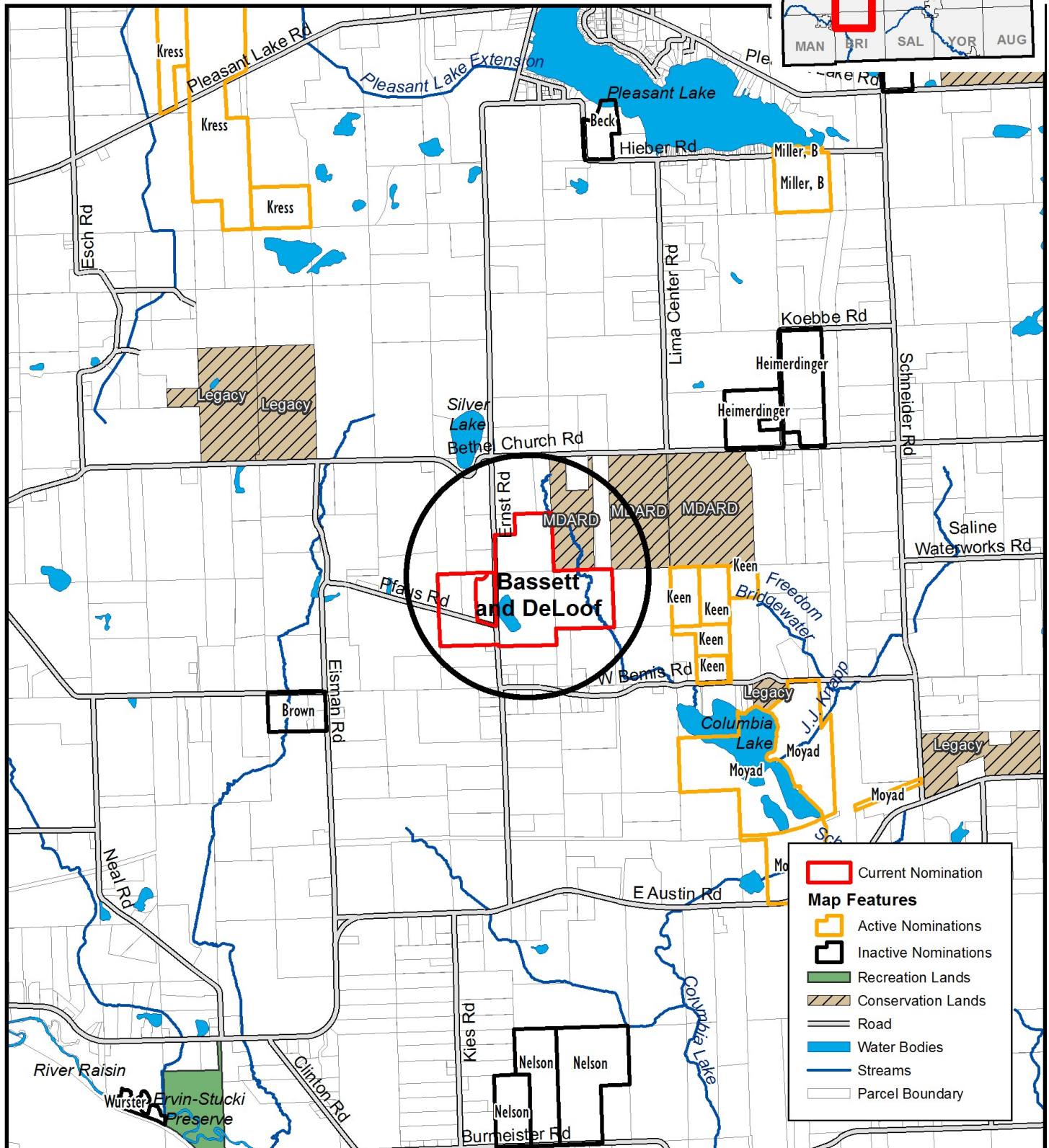
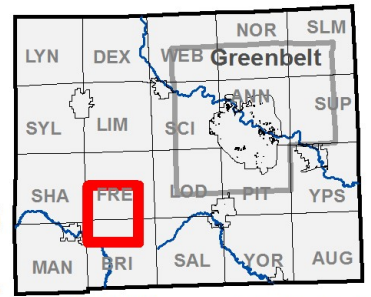
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID:A12.034

Freedom Township

+/-177 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles



Property: Assessment & Prioritization Mapping

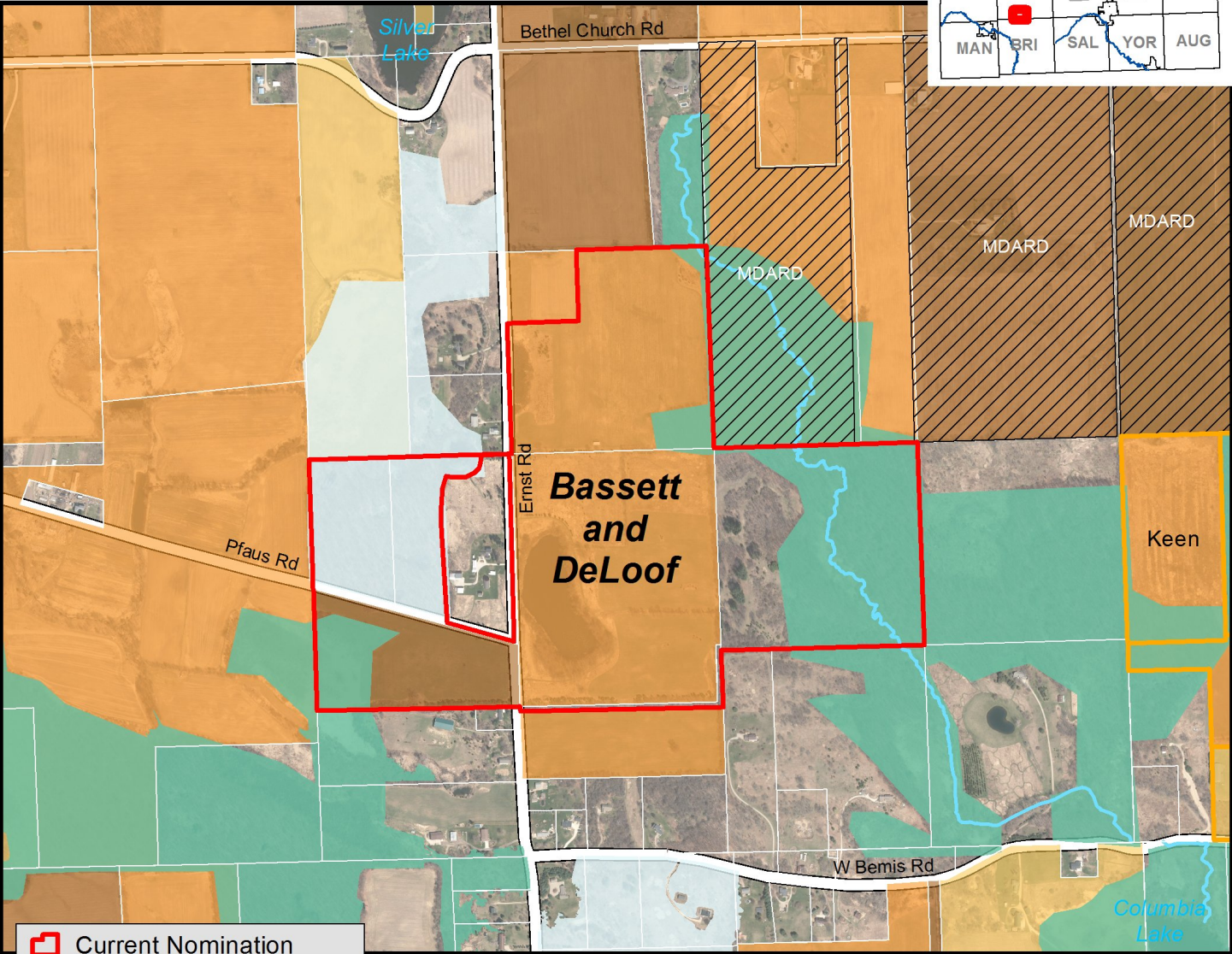
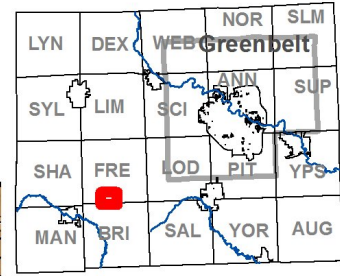
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID:

Township

+/- Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Current Nomination

Map Features

- Active Nominations
- Conservation Lands
- Streams
- Road
- Parcel Boundary

Natural Quality Assessment

- Low Quality
- Medium-High Quality

Ag Quality Assessment

- Medium-Low Quality
- Medium-High Quality
- High Quality

At least one parcel or area on this property was prioritized based on:

➔ Patch Expansion: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof enlarges the footprint of existing protected land.

New Patch Establishment: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof helps preserve land where none is currently preserved, in a manner that still offers "stepping stone" connectivity.

Corridor: Protection of this site protects land within an identified path of linear habitat connectivity.

➔ Stream Protection: Protection of this site preserves or is ecologically connected to a site that preserves creek frontage.

Lake Plain Ecoregion: Protection of this site preserves land in the lake plain ecoregion, much of which has been developed and is significantly underrepresented in NAPP's portfolio.

Not prioritized



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Coy P. Vaughn, Director
Date: February 9, 2021
Re: Final Approval: Purchase of Kidder property, Scio Township

Background

In October 2019, NAPP received a nomination from Lew Kidder for an approximately 13-acre parcel of land adjacent to the Kidder McKeachie Scio Woods Preserve. The parcel was originally nominated in 2008 when the parcels that now make up Scio Woods were purchased, but it was not part of the original acquisition. Mr. Kidder recently purchased the parcel and nominated it to NAPP for consideration of fee simple purchase as an addition to Scio Woods Preserve.

Discussion

The Scio Woods Preserve is one of the most popular nature preserves owned by Parks. Scio Woods offers a variety of habitats including oak and hickory forest in the drier soils with the wetter woods dominated by sugar maple and beech trees. A wetland system located in the eastern portion of the preserve continues onto the proposed addition and includes a buttonbush swamp and wetland plants such as pawpaw trees, spicebush, and bladdernut. Spring wildflowers are abundant in the preserve, and the wooded habitat is home to some uncommon birds including barred owls and pileated woodpeckers. NATAC identified this property as a priority due to its adjacency to the existing Scio Woods Preserve, continuation of high-quality habitat, contains a portion of the seasonal stream that meanders on Scio Woods Preserve property and black gum trees found on the property.

An appraisal was received in April 2020 and the value was determined to be \$351,000 for the 13.4 acres. NATAC reviewed the appraisal and recommended to the Parks Commission to move forward with the acquisition at their May 4, 2020 meeting, contingent upon securing partnerships from the City of Ann Arbor and/or Scio Township, who were contributors of the original acquisition of Scio Woods. The City of Ann Arbor and Scio Township have since both agreed to contribute one-third of the purchase price, equaling \$117,000 each. The remaining \$117,000 will be contributed out of NATAC funds.

Ann Arbor Greenbelt	\$117,000 (33%)
Scio Township	\$117,000 (33%)
WCPARC	\$117,000 (33%)
TOTAL	\$351,000

On May 12, 2020, the Parks Commission approved a sales contract for the purchase of the property. Per the terms of the sales contract, due diligence has been completed including:

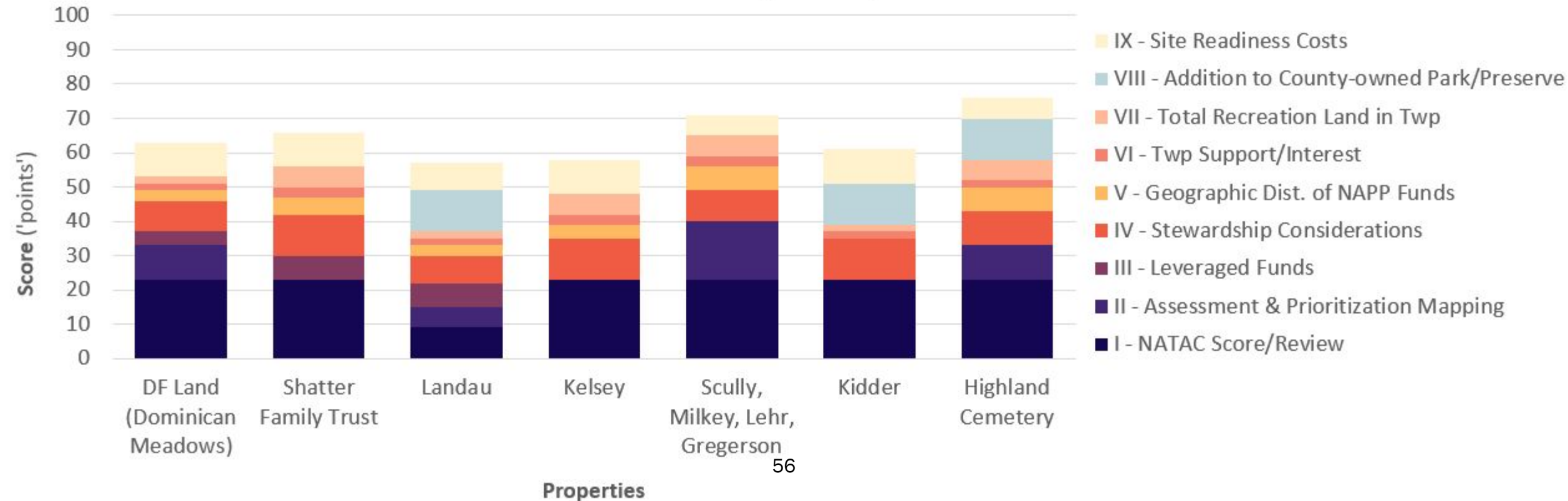
- An appraisal was completed for the property, identifying the value of the property at \$351,000.
- A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment noted an old orchard previously on the property.
- A boundary survey including legal description has been prepared.

Recommendation

Based on the Natural Area Technical Advisory Committee and staff review of the property, I recommend that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission authorize the purchase of the Kidder property the amount of \$351,000 as outlined above contingent upon attorney approval of final documents. I further recommend that \$6,700 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue funds for the future maintenance and management of the property.

Attachments

Parks Commission Scoring - Fee Simple



Kidder Property: Local Area

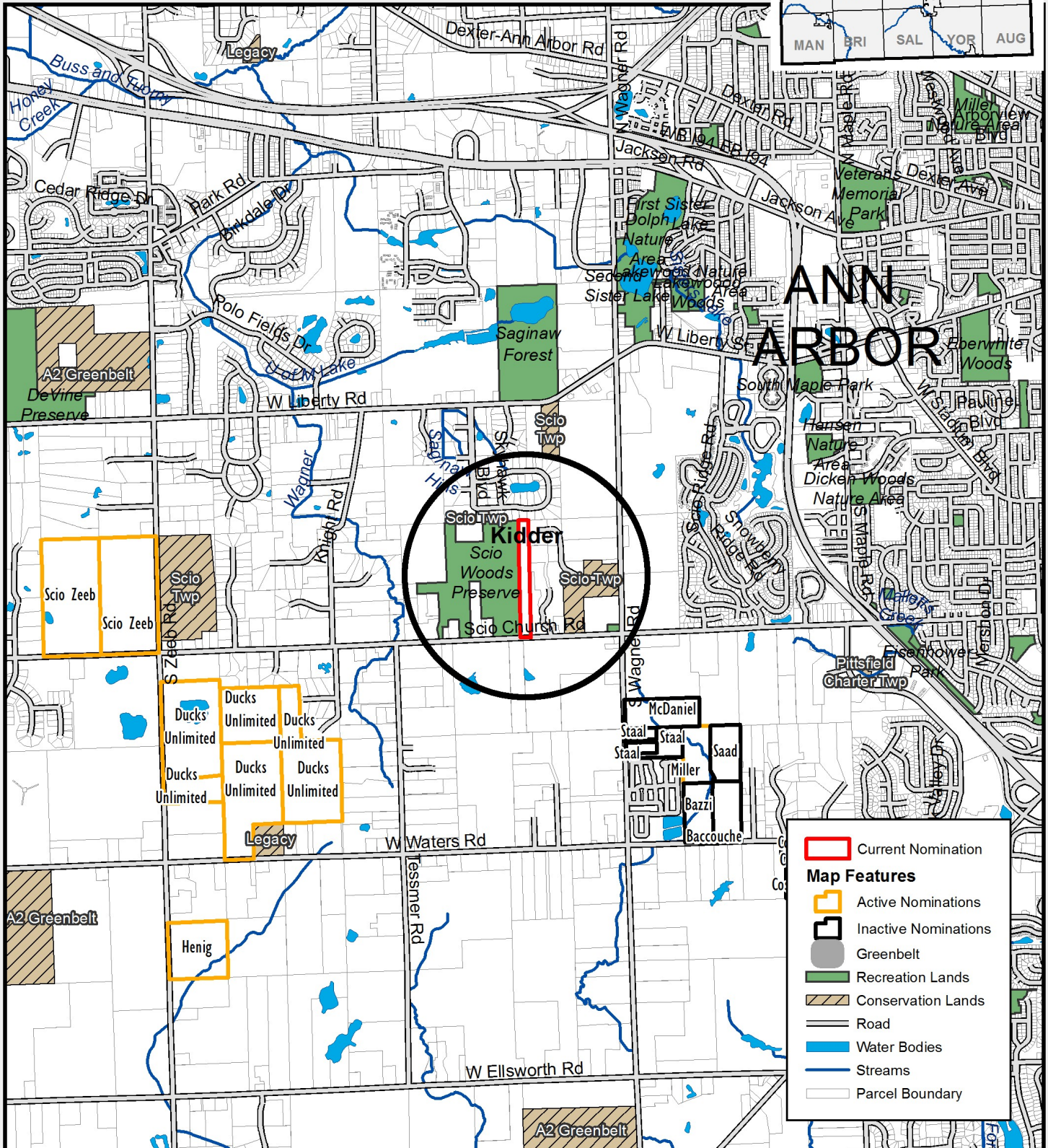
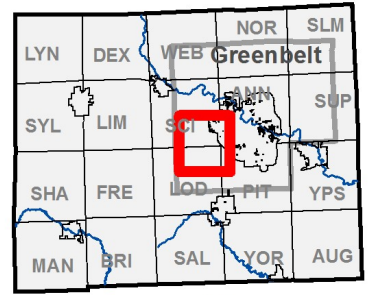
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 20.324

Scio Township

+/-13.51 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles



Kidder Property: Aerial & Soils

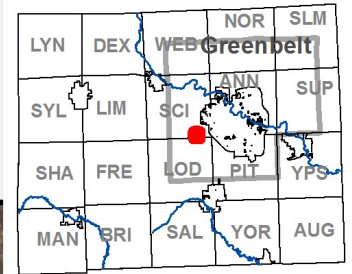
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 20.324

Scio Township

+/-13.51 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



Kidder Property: Assessment & Prioritization Mapping

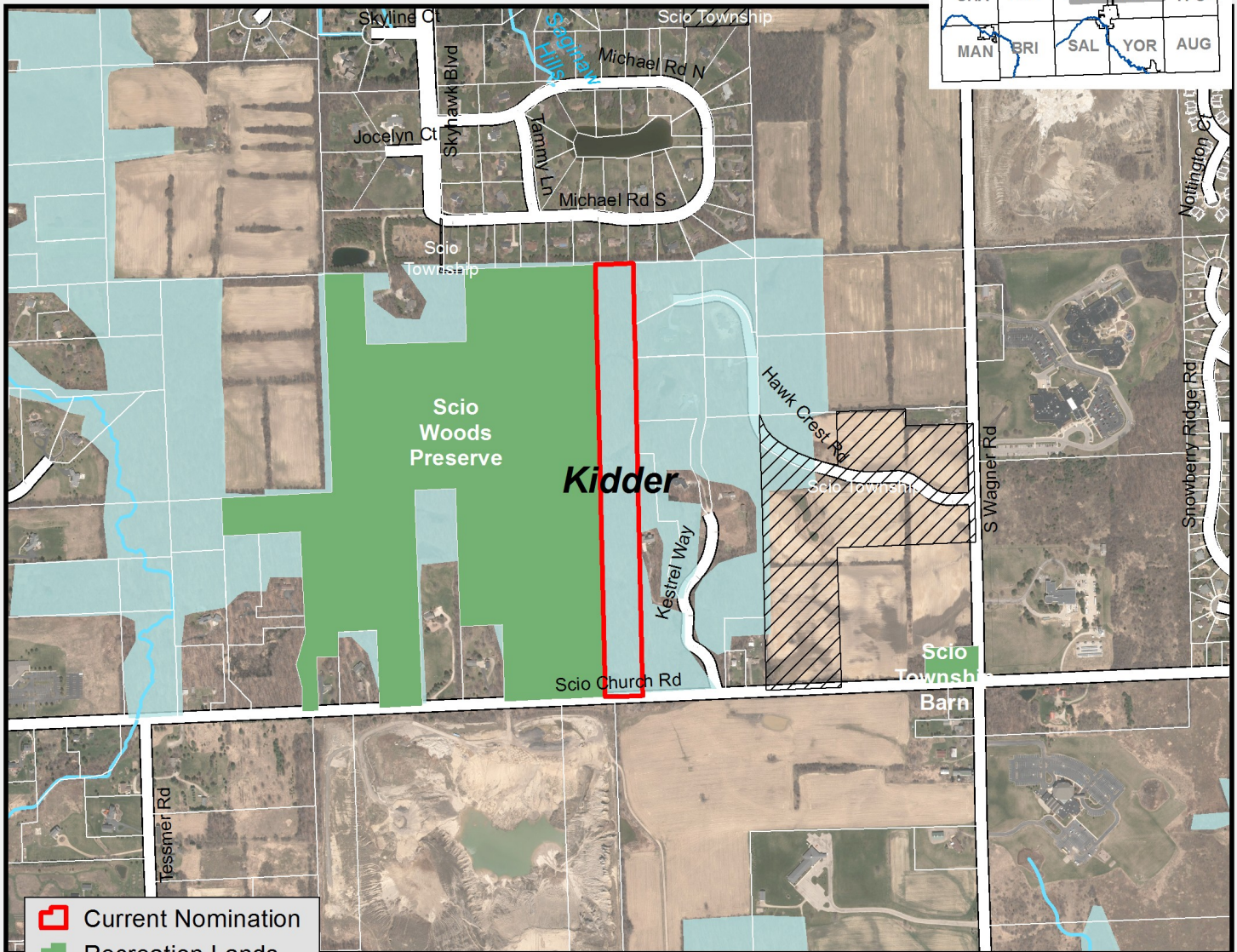
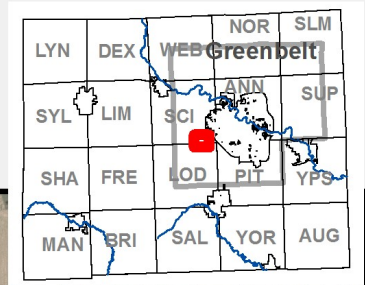
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID: 20.324

Scio Township

+/-13.51 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



- Current Nomination
- Recreation Lands
- Conservation Lands
- Streams
- Road
- Parcel Boundary
- Natural Area Quality**
- Medium-Low Quality

At least one parcel or area on this property was prioritized based on:

Patch Expansion: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof enlarges the footprint of existing protected land.

New Patch Establishment: This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof helps preserve land where none is currently preserved, in a manner that still offers "stepping stone" connectivity.

Corridor: Protection of this site protects land within an identified path of linear habitat connectivity.

Stream Protection: Protection of this site preserves or is ecologically connected to a site that preserves creek frontage.

Lake Plain Ecoregion: Protection of this site preserves land in the lake plain ecoregion, much of which has been developed and is significantly underrepresented in NAPP's portfolio.

➔ Not prioritized





Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

TO: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Coy Vaughn, Director
DATE: February 9, 2021
RE: Recommendation for Partnership – Stillwood Farm, Webster Township

Background

In 2018, Webster Township received an application for the Stillwood Farm property for the purchase of a conservation easement. Webster Township subsequently forwarded the application to NAPP for review in anticipation of requesting a partnership contribution. The property was included in ALPAC's Round 18 (2018) review of properties.

Discussion

Stillwood Farm is on the south side of Gregory Road just east of Hudson Mills Metropark. Seven other easements are within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the property, two of which involved WCPARC funds (Sullivan and Mast farms)

The Agricultural Assessment and Prioritization Mapping identified the property's tax parcels as medium-high and high quality and prioritized them for its nearness to (Patch Expansion) existing protected land. The Stillwood Farm property received 53/88 points on ALPAC's scoring system. Their established minimum points for consideration for NAPP is 55 points, but they may accept lower points for partner-led projects dependent upon the specific request and available funds. Notable high scoring categories for this property include quality of soils (94% prime/important ag soils) and its overall size. ALPAC specifically indicated their support for this project because of its proximity to several other conservation easements. The Commission's scoring system for NAPP properties yields 38/100 points. The Commission's low score is due to ALPAC's low score and monitoring considerations (building arrangements).

No land divisions or building envelopes will be allowed within the easement. The 120-acre easement area excludes some parts of the full tax parcels, as shown in attachments.

An appraisal was completed in March 2020 and identified the value of the 120-acre conservation easement at \$768,000 or \$7,500/acre. Webster Township applied for and received an ACEP-ALE grant for 49% of the fair market value (FMV). ALPAC recommended to partner with Webster Township and contribute \$115,200 at their April 2020 meeting. Webster Township will cover the remaining FMV value, as well as closing and due diligence. The Township will also be responsible for monitoring and enforcing the conservation easement.

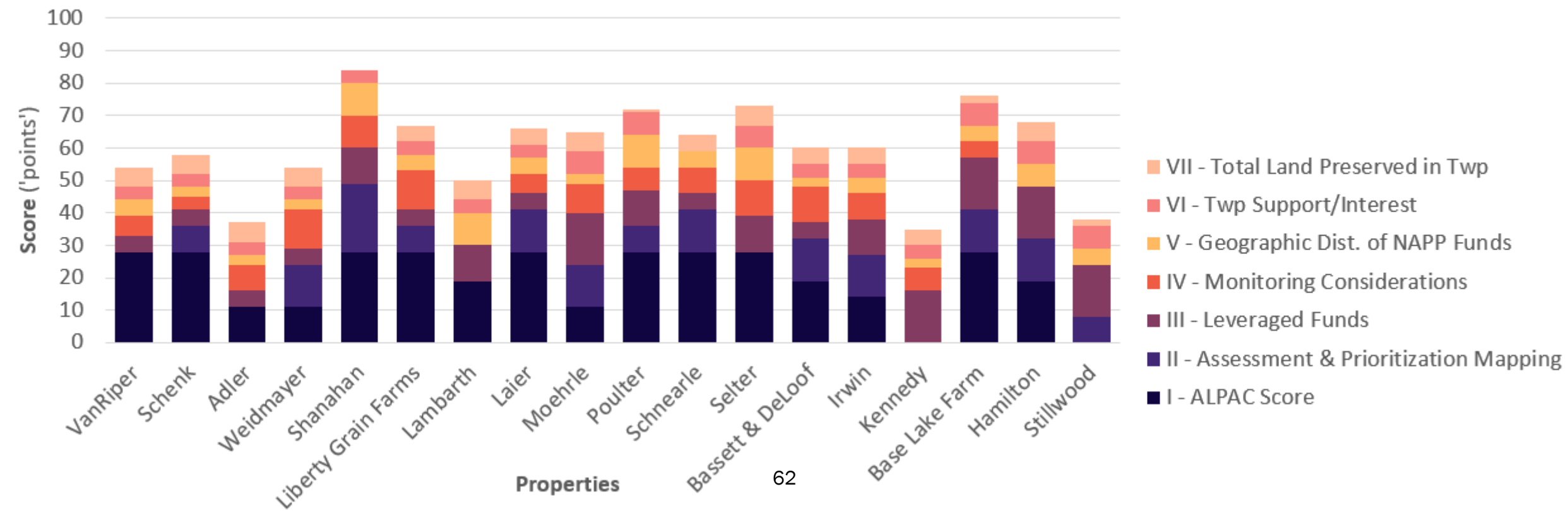
ACEP grant	\$376,320 (49%)
Webster Township	\$276,480 (36%)
WCPARC	\$115,200 (15%)
FMV	\$768,000 (6,400/acre)

Recommendation

Based upon the review by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Advisory Committee and staff, it is my recommendation that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission partner with Webster Township for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Stillwood Farm property in Webster Township, as identified in the attached map, and contribute \$115,200 toward the purchase, contingent upon attorney review of documents and execution of participation agreement. I further recommend that \$7,500 be contributed to the stewardship special revenue fund to cover potential future costs associated with monitoring and enforcement of the conservation easement,

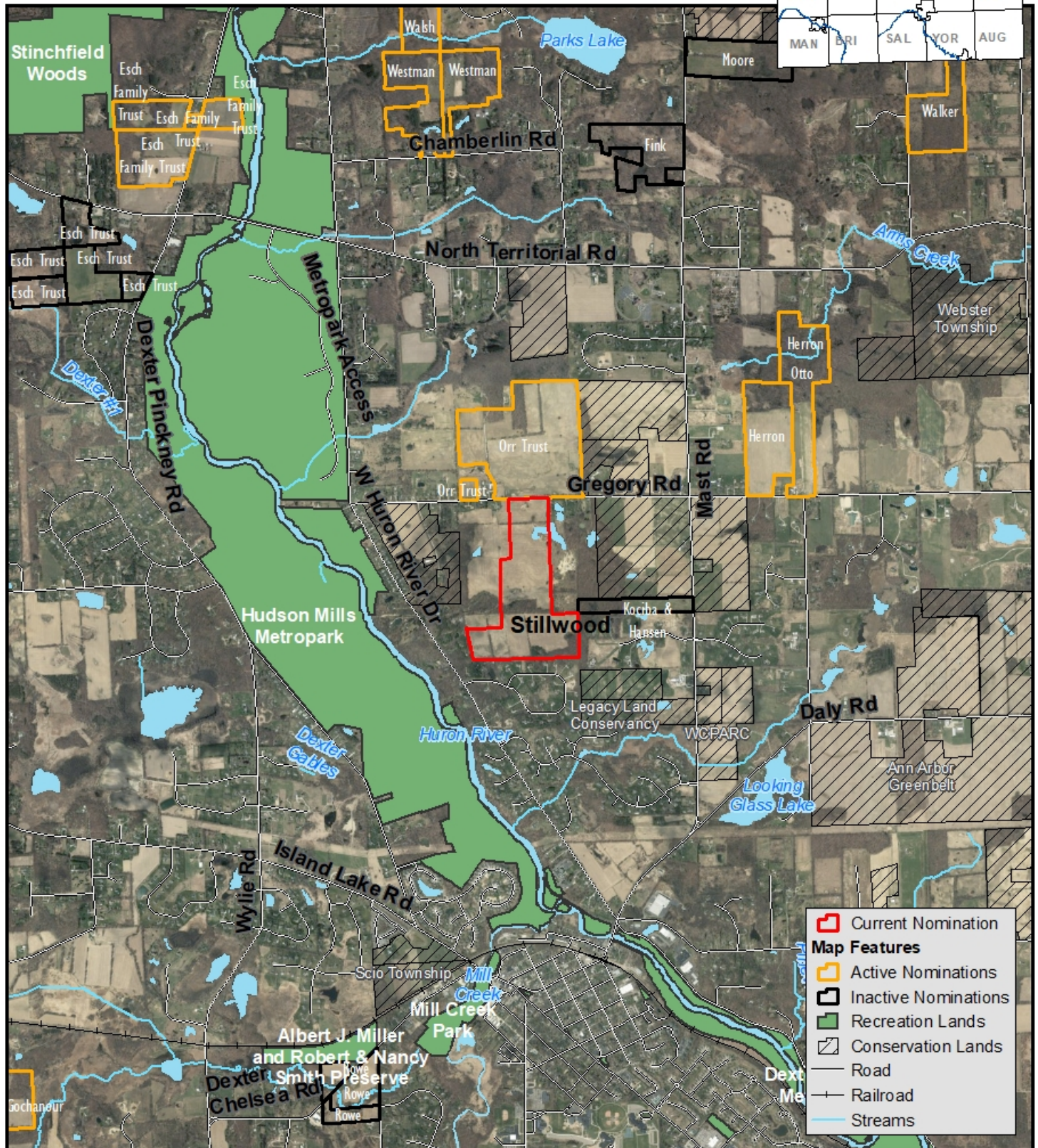
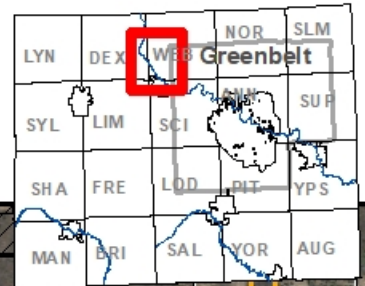
Attachments

Parks Commission Scoring - Easements (ALPAC)

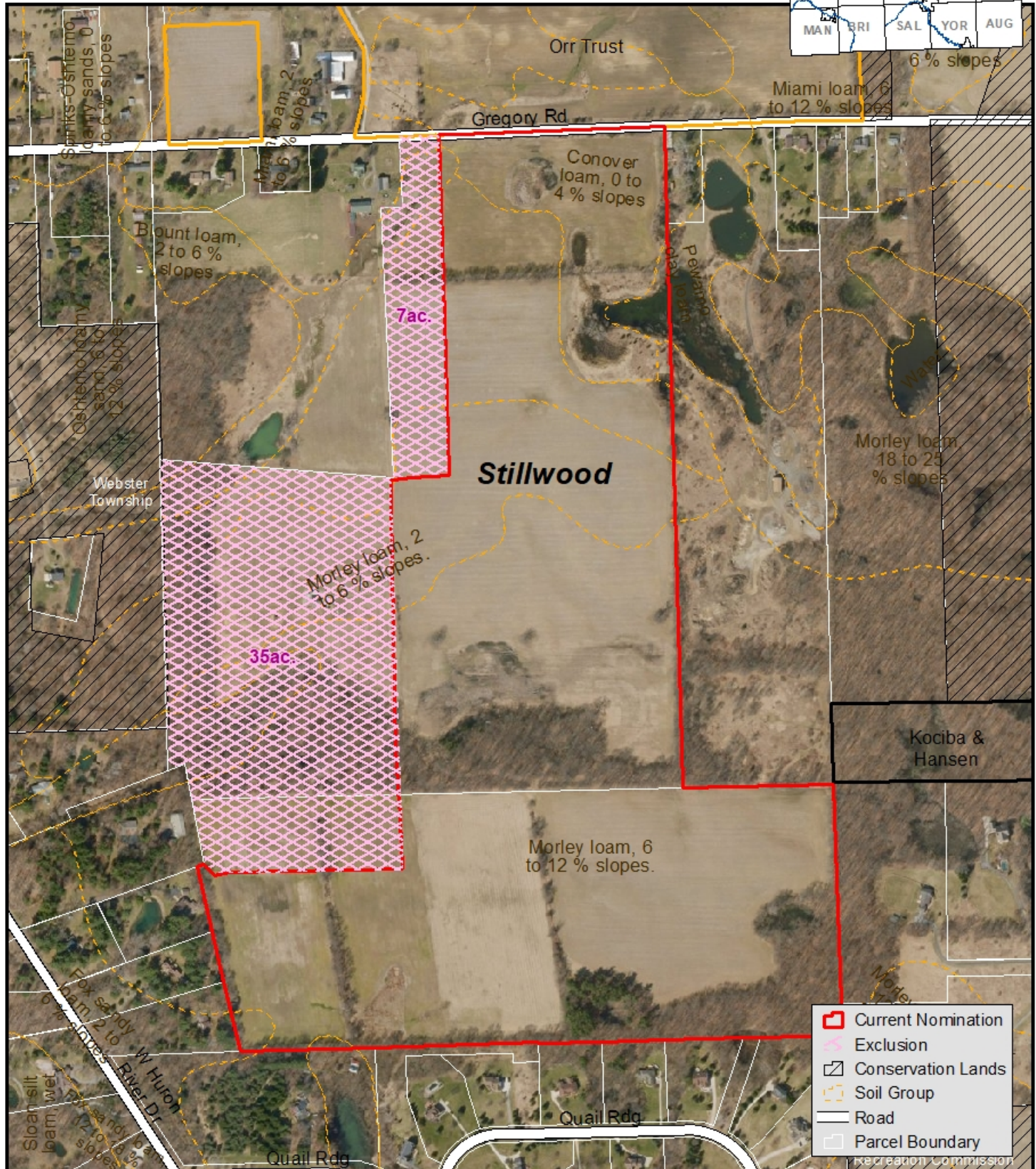


Stillwood Property: Local Area Aerial
 Natural Areas Preservation Program
 Nomination ID: A18.121
 Webster Township
 +/-120 Acres

Washtenaw County
 Locator Map



+/- 120 Acres



A horizontal number line representing distance in feet. It has four major tick marks labeled 0, 250, 500, and 1,000. The word "Feet" is written at the right end of the line.



Stillwood Property: Assessment & Prioritization Mapping

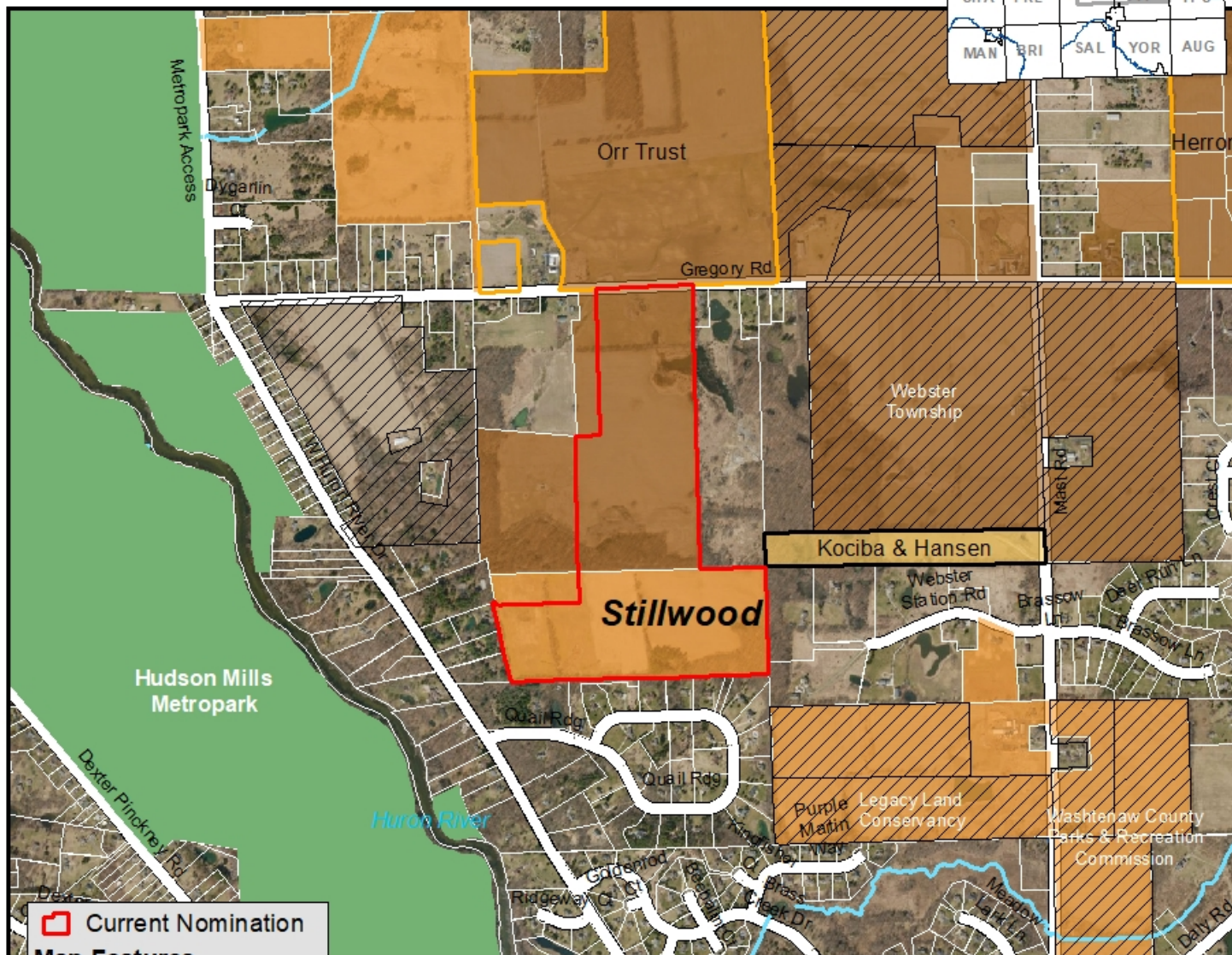
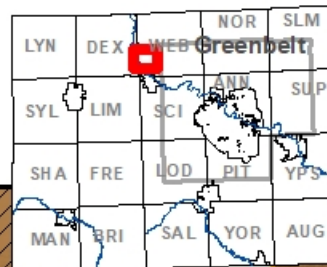
Natural Areas Preservation Program

Nomination ID:A18.121

Webster Township

+/-120 Acres

Washtenaw County
Locator Map



- Map Features**
- Current Nomination
 - Active Nominations
 - Inactive Nominations
 - Recreation Lands
 - Conservation Lands
 - ~~~~~ Streams
 - Road
 - Parcel Boundary
- Ag Quality Assessment**
- Medium-Low Quality
 - Medium-High Quality
 - High Quality

At least one parcel or area on this property was prioritized based on:

- ➔ **Patch Expansion:** This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof enlarges the footprint of existing protected land.
- New Patch Establishment:** This site is located in a dense area of higher quality land and protection thereof helps preserve land where none is currently preserved, in a manner that still offers "stepping stone" connectivity.
- Corridor:** Protection of this site protects land within an identified path of linear habitat connectivity.
- Stream Protection:** Protection of this site preserves or is ecologically connected to a site that preserves creek frontage.
- Lake Plain Ecoregion:** Protection of this site preserves land in the lake plain ecoregion, much of which has been developed and is significantly underrepresented in NAPP's portfolio.

Not prioritized

